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The

Mark Lane Express

and

Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXIII. No. 3588. LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 2, 1900. THIRTY-TWO PAGES AND PLATE. PRICE 3D.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June, 1894.)
PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.
HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, ESQ., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE.

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS BILL.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL.

A SPECIAL MEETING of the COUNCIL of the CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE will be held for the purpose of discussing the Agricultural Holdings Bill, as amended by the Standing Committee on Trade (including Agriculture), &c., on Tuesday, July 10th, 1900, at 3 30 p.m., in a Committee Room at the House of Commons.

Members of Council representing either the Central Chamber or Associated Chambers are requested to attend.

Subscribing Members of the Central Chamber are invited to be present, and may speak by permission of the Chairman, but are not entitled to move resolutions or to vote.

Members are requested to assemble in St. Stephen's Hall at the House of Commons a few minutes before the time fixed for the meeting.

ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary.
Broad Sanctuary Chambers,
Westminster, S.W.
June 25th, 1900.

OXTED and GODSTONE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

The ELEVENTH ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL SHOW will be held at OXTED, two minutes' walk from the station (L. B. & S. C. and S. E. R.), on

MONDAY, AUGUST 6TH, 1900,

when the Shire Horse, Hunters', and Hackney silver medals, together with prizes to the value of £400, will be offered for HORSES, HORN STOCK, SHEEP, etc., etc. Jumping and Driving competitions, good band, cheap rail fares.

ENTRIES CLOSE SATURDAY, JULY 14TH.

Rules, Lists of Prizes, and Forms of Entry may be obtained of the Secretary,

J. STANLEY, Tandridge, Oxted.

N.B.—When applying for Schedule of Prizes, please state whether for Stock, Poultry, etc., or Fruits, Flowers, Vegetables, etc., that the right one may be sent.

TRING AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1900.

Tring Park, Tring (L. and N.W.R.), Herts.

Enlarged Prize List. £220 Milk and Butter Tests. £217 Shire Horses. £240 Hunters, Harness Horses and Polo Ponies, etc. £500 other classes. Cattle, Sheep, Goats, Pigs, Butter, etc.

Schedule of Prizes now ready.
ONE DAY SHOW.
Apply, F. J. BROWN, Hon. Sec., Tring.

SOCIETIES.

Patron: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.
President: COLONEL C. M. ROYDS, M.P.

ROYAL LANCASHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL SHOW AT ROCHDALE,

JULY 26TH, 27TH, and 28TH, 1900.

£2,532 IN PRIZES,

Exclusive of a large number of Gold and Silver Cups and Special Prizes.
Entries Finally Close July 2nd.
Prize Lists and full particulars from JAMES BIRCH, Secretary.
34, Castle Street, Liverpool.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

MEETING AT PRESTON PARK, BRIGHTON,

JULY 25TH AND 26TH, 1900.

The entries for Hunters, Hackneys, Hacks, Jumping and Driving Competitions, Butter-making Competitions, Agricultural Implements, Machinery, etc., close on July 5th.

Prize schedules on application.

F. B. DYER, Secretary.
2, St. Andrew's-place, Lewes.

EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW SOCIETY.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL SHOW
will be held at
MAIDENHEAD, BERKS,
on the
23rd AUGUST, 1900.

Nearly £300 in Prizes.

Silver Medals of the H. I., S. H., and H. H. Society's class for Shires, Hackneys, and Hunters, also for Riding and Driving.

JUMPING COMPETITIONS.

Entries close 2nd August, post entries (double fees) 9th August.

Schedules and further particulars of C. H. W. DIXON, Secretary, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, Telephone No. 5148 Gerrard; or P. THOMSON, Local Hon. Secretary, 65, High Street, Maidenhead, Berks.

DURHAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL SHOW of the above Society will be held on the RACECOURSE at WEST HARTLEPOOL on WEDNESDAY, JULY 25TH, 1900, when upwards of £1,000 will be given in Prizes for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Implements, Riding, Driving, Leaping, Butter, Cheese, Eggs, Dressed Poultry, etc.

Entries close July 9th.

Prize lists on application to
WM. CHRYSTAL, Secretary.
Houghton-le-Spring, R.S.O.

SOCIETIES.

COTTENHAM FOAL SHOW.

The above Show will be held on
THURSDAY, JULY 19TH.

ENTRIES CLOSE MONDAY, JULY 9TH.

IVATT SMITH, Secretary.

CLEVELAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW
at Middlesbro', JULY 11, 1900.
In IVESON'S FIELD, at LINTHORPE.
Increase in Leaping Prizes.
Fireworks by Pain and Co. at night.
Entries positively close JUNE 30, 1900.
For schedules, apply T. S. PETCH, Secretary, Liverton Lodge, Loftus R.S.O.

BELFAST HORSE SHOW.

(NORTH-EAST AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION'S.)
25th, 26th, and 27th JULY.

EXTENSIVE CLASSIFICATION.
TROPHIES and PRIZES to the value of £1,200.
Entries close 30th June. Double fees, 7th July.
KENNETH MACRAE, Secretary.
37, Donegall Place, Belfast.

SHIRES, HACKNEYS, HUNTERS, JUMPING

GREAT CHESTERFORD COLT and FOAL SOCIETY.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL ONE DAY SHOW will be held at Great Chesterford, JULY 26th.

Entries close July 13th.

Hon. Secs.
C. EDWARD E. COOKE, Hinxton Grange, Saffron Walden,
and
WM. C. EMSON, Strethall Hall, Littlebury, Saffron Walden.

BIRKENHEAD SHOW.

AUGUST 3, 4, and 6.

PRESIDENT:—W. H. LEVER, ESQ.

PRIZES EXCEED £2,800.

ADDITIONAL CLASSES FOR HORSES & CATTLE.

PRIZES INCREASED IN ALL SECTIONS.
ENTRIES POSITIVELY CLOSE 19 JULY (POST).

By order of the Executive,
ARTHUR H. EDWARDSON, Secretary.
6, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.

1900.

ADLINGTON (CHESHIRE) AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The EIGHTH ANNUAL SHOW will be held in ADLINGTON PARK, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1st, 1900.

For HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, PIGEONS, DOGS, BUTTER, CHEESE, PRODUCE, HONEY, IMPLEMENTS, TURNOUTS, JUMPING, PONY RACES, etc.

Entries close Monday, July 16th. Late entries at double fees, Saturday, July 21st.

Schedules now ready,
W. J. TROTTER,
Secretary.
4, Church Street West, Macclesfield.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURE COURSE, EDINBURGH.—For Prospectus, including Regulations for Degree of B. Sc., apply to Clerk of Senatus.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,

UCKFIELD, SUSSEX,

With Farm and Complete Equipment for Home and Colonial Farming. Successful preparation for outside examinations.

PRINCIPAL - - - W. J. MALDEN.

ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.
SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION.

Trustees: The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council of the City of Edinburgh. An Examination in General Knowledge will be held on July 5, 6, and 7, and September 18, 19, and 20, 1900.

Next SESSION commences WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3.

Further particulars will be given on application to PRINCIPAL DEWAR.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF KENT—COUNTY COUNCIL OF SURREY.—South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, near Ashford, Kent.—This Residential College gives a complete Scientific and Practical Training to future Farmers, Land Agents, etc. Preparation for the Examinations for the National Diploma in Agriculture and the Surveyors' Institution. Resident Staff of seven Professors and Lecturers. Farm of 260 acres. Next Term begins October 1st.—For Prospectus and all particulars apply to the Principal, A. D. HALL, M.A., late Scholar of Balliol College Oxford.

BANKS, INSURANCES.

BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1835.)
4, Threadneedle Street, London.
Paid-up Capital, £1,600,000.
Reserve Fund, £835,000.
Reserve Liability of Proprietors under the Charter, £1,600,000. Letters of Credit and Drafts issued on any of the numerous Branches of the Bank throughout Australia and New Zealand.
Bills negotiated or sent for collection.
Telegraphic Transfers made.
Deposits received in London at interest for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.
E. W. JEANS, Manager.

NORWICH UNION FIRE INSURANCE SOCIETY.
FOUNDED 1797.
Head Office—Norwich: Surrey Street.
London Offices:—
50, Fleet Street, E.C.; 71, 72, King William Street, E.C.; 31, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.; 195, Piccadilly, W.; 81, Edgware Road, W.; and 1, Victoria Street, S.W.
Amount Insured £387,000,000
Claims Paid £14,600,000
Agents wanted in Metropolitan Districts. Applications to be made to either of the above London Offices.
Norwich, June 24th, 1900.

SPECIAL ADVANTAGES TO PRIVATE INSURERS.

THE IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED. FIRE. Established 1803. 1, Old Broad Street, E.C., 22, Pall Mall, S.W., and 47, Chancery Lane, W.C. Subscribed Capital £1,200,000. Paid up £300,000. Total Funds over £1,500,000.—E. COZENS SMITH, General Manager.

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE.
19, Lombard Street, and 57, Charing Cross Road.
Established 1782.
LOWEST Current Rates.
Liberal and Prompt Settlements.
Assured Free of all Liability.
Electric Lighting Rules supplied.
F. B. MACDONALD, Secretary.

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REGISTER OF BRITISH LIVE STOCK BREEDERS.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. — Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners; yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

HACKNEYS. — JOHN N. ANTHONY, Sedgeford, near Lynn, Norfolk, breeder of Pedigree Hackneys. On hand, Colts and Fillies by most of the leading sires.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede,'Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions, at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath Station, L.B. and S.C. Railway) on application to the owner, as above.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some good Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

TAUNTON, H. PERCY, Redlynch, near Salisbury, Wiltshire. hire-bred STALLIONS, MARES, FILLIES, nd GELDINGS of the most fashionable breeding always for sale at moderate prices. The animals are kept entirely out of doors and n natural condition.

PONIES.

THE LARGEST STUD of SELECTED WELSH PONIES IN WALES.—Dinarth Hall Pony Stud Farm, Colwyn Bay, North Wales. Over 120 Ponies now on hand, including forty Brood Mares of the pure Welsh type, and several high-class Ponies, great goers, with style and action. 150 prizes won in 1898 and 1899. Ponies purchased from this Stud have won first prizes at Manchester, Birmingham, and Maidstone Royal Shows, also first and medal Crystal Palace, 1899. Sale in 1900 included two Entire Ponies purchased by the Government for Cyprus, several to America and France. Stud Horse JULIUS CÆSAR II 5666, sire of first prize two-year-old pony filly, the first of his produce exhibited London Hackney Show, 1900.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, S. Wales, extensive Breeder and Exporter of the best class of WELSH MOUNTAIN PONIES and COBS. References and particulars on application.

MONTEFIORE, REV. D. B., Marsley, Winslow, Bucks.—POLO PONY STALLION "MOOTRUE" (Polo Pony Society 32); winner of many prizes; three times reserve champion; service fee, £3 3s., and 5s. the groom.—Particulars on application.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY PARK SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.— Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

PHILO L. MILLS, Ruddington Hall, Nottingham, offers Pure-bred Pedigree SHORTHORN BULLS and HEIFERS, reds and rich roans, at moderate prices.

SHORTHORNS.

IMPORTANT to FARMERS and STOCK BREEDERS.—For SHORTHORN CALVES from 14 to 28 days old, apply BRIGGS GILL, Central Meat Market, Leeds.

LANGFORD HOUSE ESTATE HERD of pure and highly-bred SHORTHORN CATTLE, the property of Mr. Sidney Hill, J.P. All bred from the best and leading herds in the Kingdom. Sires now in service: Wiltshire Victor, 71,883 (roan), by Count Victor, 66,877. Puck, 73,333 (roan), by Alto, 68,147. Count Valiant, 74,307 (roan), by Count Arthur, 70,194. Langford Lavender, 74,819 (roan), by Wiltshire Victor, 71,883. Bulls and heifers always on sale, also registered flock of Southdown sheep. Inspection invited. Telegrams, Langford Station, Congresbury, G.W.R. Particulars from J. D. LOVELESS, Estate Office, Langford, Bristol.

GARNE, R. & W. T., Aldsworth, Northleach, Glos., breed SHORTHORN CATTLE of great size, thick flesh, good milkers. Young Bulls and Heifers on sale. Stock Bulls: Wrestler, 66,582, Lord Harry, 65,180, and Now or Never, 67,544. Inspection invited.

HEREFORDS.

SALTMARSHE CASTLE ESTATES, HEREFORDSHIRE, Prize winning pure bred HEREFORD CATTLE. Champion Happy Hampton in service. Inspection invited. Good selection for sale.— Apply, J. W. MILLYARD, Estate Office, Littlebridge, Bromyard.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton, Williton, Taunton, breeder of pure breed Devon cattle. Breeding animals always on sale; some are prize-takers, others deep flesh, good form animals of the best milking strains and beef producers.

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

DALMENY PARK ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

OSENTON, GEORGE. Mariners, Westerham. Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.

JERSEY.

HEASELANDS HERD of PEDIGREE JERSEYS, COWS and HEIFERS of the best blood at moderate prices.—Pedigrees, etc., on application to the owner, WALTER LLOYD, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

ILMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS. — Choice about 100 finest quality Cows and Heifers in profit and calving all seasons; prices moderate; inspection invited; shipper to all parts.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

KERRIES.

KERRIES — DEXTERS. — KERRIES. — The undersigned has always on hand Kerries or Dexters for Breeding or feeding purposes. Prices quoted. Delivered any part of the Kingdom.—D. M. RATTRAY, Gortaskehy, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry. Telegrams "Rattray, Ballybunion."

BLACK POLLED.

BLUNT, H. LAYTON, Orton Longueville, Peterborough.—Breeder of Black Polled Cattle. BULLS and HEIFERS for sale, also GRAZING STEERS.

PIGS.

BERKSHIRE.

SMITH, C. C., Kingstone Common, Wantage.—Pedigree Berkshire BOARS and GILTS for Sale. Eligible for Herd Book.

BERKSHIRE.

BURBIDGE, EDWARD, Wraxhall, Bradford-on-Avon. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, bred from Royal and Bath and West Champion blood. Acknowledged one of largest type of Berkshires in England. Purchasers met by appointment.

YORKSHIRES.

WALTON HERD of PEDIGREE PIGS, owned by SIR GILBERT GREENALL, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington; unsurpassed for purity of breed, size, and general excellence, as proved by the numerous championship and class prizes won at all the leading shows. Large, Middle, and Small White Yorkshires. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale. Stock carefully shipped. For particulars, apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

DALMENY HERD OF LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.—Apply MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Improved Pedigree Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest Herds of pure-bred Pigs in the United Kingdom. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford, pedigree LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS. Also few BERKSHIRES for sale. All bred on farm. 200 to select from. One champion, 28 firsts, 24 seconds, 15 thirds won this year.

BY SPECIAL ROYAL PERMISSION.

MR. SANDERS SPENCER, Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, offers LARGE AND MIDDLE WHITE BOARS AND YELTS from the oldest established and largest herd of the breeds in the world. Pigs exported to 40 Foreign Countries and Colonies.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTH PIGS. [illegible] w young boars and gilts from prize-winning strains, for sale.—Apply, Farm Bailiff, Middleton Hall, Barnsley.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for [illegible]tion and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Ulceby Cross Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Ulceby."

HOYLES, GEORGE, Manor House, Skidby, near Hull.—Pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP. Registered Flock 136. Sires used: Skidby Constitution 3069, sire Skidby Conservative 1346, g. sire Old Constitution 308; Skidby Tory 1583, sire Riby A 358; Leconfield Fride, sire Casswell (16) 1753; Skidby Friar, sire Abbot 1—from the celebrated flocks of Messrs. Henry Dudding, J. Casswell, Hy. Smith, jun., etc. Heavy-wool Sheep for export. Also prize and prize-bred Polled Angus, Shire Horses, and English Ponies for inspection and sale.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

T. C. DIXON, Brandesburton, Hull.—Pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, of best blood. Wool a speciality, with quality and size combined. F.B. 69. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for Sale. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Chapel Farm, Barton-on-Humber, Lincolnshire. Breeder of pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP. Flock Book 106. These sheep are noted for having hardy constitutions, true character, and long, lustrous wool.—Telegrams: "John Anderson, Barton-on-Humber."

FIELDSEND, C. S., Belmont, S. Willingham, Lincoln. Flock No. 59. Pedigree RAMS and EWES for SALE.

HAMPSHIRE DOWN.

FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Undoubtedly the leading flock of the day; in show yard records at all the largest shows, including the Challenge Cup at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair six years in succession; also highest average for same period for 100 ram lambs at annual sale, at Britford Fair, August 12.

The Flock is one of the oldest existing, combining fine quality, strength, constitution, and true character.

"Fossil," sire of the highest-priced Hampshire Down Ram ever sold, was bred at Chilmark, and in service there last two seasons.

COLES, CARY, late C. and T., Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury.— Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prizewinners at the Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and other shows. Sheep of all ages for sale; selections from 1,000.

OXFORD DOWNS.—For Sale, from the old established registered flocks of George Street, of Maulden, Ampthill, Shearling Ewes, Ram Lambs, and Ewe Lambs. Many prizes have been won by this flock during the last 30 years.

SHROPSHIRE.

COOPER, WILLIAM, AND NEPHEWS, "Cooper's Dip" Works, Berkhamsted, England. Breeders and Exporters of pure Shropshire Sheep. First and Third Prize for Ewes, Royal Show, 1898. Five hundred breeding Ewes. The largest export flock of Shropshires in England. The sires used present season include 310 Guinea Champion "Royal Record," Two First, One Second, and One Third Royal Show Prize winners.

LIVE STOCK AGENTS.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Agent, Ellandonan, Inverness, established 1870, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK. He attends all the leading markets to purchase Stock at lowest rates. References can be given if desired to customers who have been annually supplied. All orders are personally attended to. List of classes and approximate prices sent on application. Reference required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." J. A. is now booking orders. N.B.—Polled Angus or West Highland Heifers for crossing or feeding, in truck loads, at moderate prices. Fat Stock of all classes also purchased.

LARGEST Live Stock Agency.—Practical farmers in 57 counties (whose testimonials will be sent on application) testify their complete satisfaction with the live stock with which they have been supplied by E. GOODWIN PREECE, who attends leading fairs and sales to buy on commission CATTLE and SHEEP, for feeding, dairy, or wintering. Personal buying.—Address, Portland House, Shrewsbury.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PURE ENGLISH RAW and STEAMED BONES, Superphosphate, Special MANURES for all Crops, FARM SEEDS and IMPLEMENTS.—Try our CALF FOOD, CATTLE SPICE, and HORSE CONDIMENT. Best values. Lowest prices.—Write for quotations to THE CANNOCK AGRICULTURAL COMPANY, LIMITED (Henry R. Hart, Managing Director), Cannock.

VESICO SUDORIFIC.—No Blemish! No Rest! No Cradle! Vesico Sudorific is the quickest, safest, and most famous cure for Splint, Spavin, Ringbone, Sidebone, Capped Hock and Elbow, curb, Windgall, Tumours, and for Strengthening the legs of Horses. Price 2s. 6d. or 5s., of Chemists, or post free, GREGORY and Co., Temple, Bristol.

895,800 YARDS WIRE NETTING.—Galvanised, new. Cash prices per roll of 50 yds.: 3-in. mesh, 2 ft., 3s. 9d.; 3 ft., 5s. 6d.; 4 ft., 7s. 6d.; 2-in mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 6d.; 3 ft., 6s. 9d.; 4ft., 9s.; 1⅛-in. mesh, 2 ft., 5s. 6d.; 3 ft., 8s. 6d.; 4 ft., 11s.; 1-in. mesh, 2 ft. wide, 8s. 3d.; 3 ft., 12s. 5d.; 4 ft., 16s. 6d. Any other size or width equally cheap. Warranted very best quality. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING, 50-yd. rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4-in. mesh with centre strand, 8s. 3d., 9s. 3d., and 11s. 6d. per roll. Carriage paid on lots of 50s and upwards. Wrought Iron Stakes for fixing netting, 9s. 6d. per dozen, carriage paid. Iron Hurdles, 6 ft. long, 4 bars, 36s. 0d. per dozen; 5 bars, 39s. Extra strong, 51s. per dozen. Challenge Field Gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 24s. each.—JOHN PRIEST and SON, Limited, Tower Hill, Bristol.

WIRE NETTING. — Galvanised, in rolls of 50 yards; carriage paid on 50s. lots and over; 3in. mesh, 2ft., 3s. 9d.; 3ft., 5s. 6d.; 4ft., 7s. 6d.; 2in. mesh, 2ft., 4s. 6d.; 3ft., 6s. 9d.; 4 ft., 9s. Sheep Netting, 3ft. wide, 4in. mesh with centre stand, 8s. 3d., 9s. 3d., and 11s. 6d. per roll.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., Limited, Reading. (Name Paper.)

GALVANISED CORRUGATED SHEETS.—All perfectly sound and strong.—5ft., 1s. 7d.; 6ft., 2s.; 7ft., 2s. 4d.; 8ft., 2s. 6d.; 9ft., 2s. 11d.; 10ft., 3s. 5d.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., Limtd., London Works, Reading. (Name Paper.)

GARDEN NETTING. — Small mesh, 105 yards by 1 yard wide, 3s.; by 2 yards wide, 6s.; and so on to any width, carriage paid on all orders over 5s.—From H. J. GASSON, Garden Netting Works, Rye.

BASIC SLAG or Thomas Phosphate Powder. The cheapest and most efficacious fertiliser for grass land. Please note guarantee 38 to 45 per cent. Phosphates. Order early. Purchasing agents wanted. THOMAS BRADBURN, Wolverhampton.

NETTING. — Large quantity of cast-off Herring Netting; excellent covering strawberry and seed beds, etc.; 7s. per half cwt.—KNIGHT, Arcade, Lowestoft.

WATERPROOF COVERS, made from very best Navy canvas, 12ft. by 9ft., 15s.; 15ft. by 9ft., 18s. 9d.; 15ft. by 12ft., 25s.; any size at 1s. 3d. per square yard can be sent on approval.—From H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

OLIVOLINE.—A perfect Lubricating Oil, durable and non-gumming. Thirty years in use. Agents required in districts unrepresented. — DUNCAN, WATSON, and Co., Oil Refiners and Wagon Sheet Manufacturers, Dashwood House, New Broad Street, London, E.C.

FOR SALE, for cash, or on easy terms, upwards of fifty second-hand TRACTION and PORTABLE ENGINES, Ploughing Tackle, Traction Waggons, Threshing Machines, Elevators, etc.; all at Reading. Monthly lists free. We are always buyers of any class Machinery for prompt cash.—HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Ironworks, Reading.

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CANVAS STACK COVERS.—Guaranteed made from the best qualities Canvas, woven specially, complete with lettering, tie-ropes, etc.; carriage paid to any station; write for free samples. FIRST QUALITY, made from best heavy Flax Canvas, bound round edge with stout hemp rope:—8 yds. by 6 yds., 72s.; 8 yds. by 7 yds., 84s.; 8 yds. by 8 yds., 96s.; 10 yds. by 8 yds., 120s.; 10 yds. by 10 yds., 150s.; 12 yds. by 10 yds., 180s.; 12 yds. by 12 yds., 216s. SECOND QUALITY, similar to first, complete with tie topes, but not bound with rope:—8 yds. by 6 yds., 64s.; 8 yds. by 7 yds., 75s.; 8 yds. by 8 yds., 85s.; 10 yds. by 8 yds., 107s.; 10 yds. by 10 yds., 134s.; 12 yds. by 10 yds., 160s.; 12 yds. by 12 yds., 192s. THIRD QUALITY, made from strong double-warp Canvas:—8 yds. by 6 yds., 32s.; 8 yds. by 7 yds., 37s. 4d.; 8 yds. by 8 yds., 42s. 8d.; 10 yds. by 8 yds., 53s. 4d.; 10 yds. by 10 yds., 66s. 8d.; 12 yds. by 10 yds., 80s.; 12 yds. by 12 yds., 96s. J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Tarpaulin Works, Wigan.

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WATERPROOF OIL SHEETS.—Improved, flexible, made from pure flax canvas, hand dressed, lettered, with tie-ropes complete. Actual measurement, when made, 8 ft. by 6 ft., 9s.; 9 ft. by 7 ft., 11s.; 10½ ft. by 8 ft., 14s.; 12 ft. by 9 ft., 18s.; 12 ft. by 10 ft., 20s.; 15 ft. by 8 ft., 20s.; 15 ft. by 9 ft., 22s. 6d.; 15 ft. by 10 ft., 25s.; 15 ft. by 12 ft., 30s.; 16½ ft. by 10 ft., 28s.; 16½ ft. by 12 ft., 33s.; 18 ft. by 12 ft., 36s.; 21 ft. by 12 ft., 42s.; 21 ft. by 15 ft., 53s.; 24 ft. by 18 ft., 72s. These and all other sizes in stock at proportionate prices, carriage paid; immediate delivery; thoroughly seasoned. Every cover guaranteed flexible, thoroughly waterproof, and neither to stick nor crack.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Wigan. Established 1808.

CHEMICALLY DRESSED "Peck" Cloth Sheets.—Waterproof and Rotproof, the foundation of which is Pure Flax Canvas, lettered and roped complete, at 1s. 9d. per square yard.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Wigan. Est. 1808.

POULTRY HOUSES!! NOTE PRICES!!! To hold 12 fowls, 20s.; 20 fowls, 25s.; 30 fowls, 27s.; 50 fowls, 40s. Illustrated lists free.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., Limtd., London Works, Reading. (Name Paper.)

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WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of ICHABOE GUANO, the highest Ammoniacal Guano, also for high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS and CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

CLERK WANTED, used to Corn and Seed trade; must be efficient; good references.

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ENERGETIC and well-educated GENTLEMAN (28) seeks SITUATION on an estate as STEWARD, or if desired PRIVATE SECRETARY. Nine years present position.—JOHN C. LORD, Victoria Terrace, Broad Lane, Rochdale.

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FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., & Sevenoaks, Kent.

NEW HOUSE FARM.

EASTDEAN, near EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

TO BE LET, from MICHAELMAS next, the above FARM, comprising about 250 acres of arable land, 34 acres of meadow, 174 acres of down pasture, being a total of 458 acres, in the parish of Eastdean, with excellent Farmhouse, suitable buildings and labourers' Cottages, and about 85 acres of the rich pasture land of Pevensey Marsh, in the Parishes of Hurstmonceux and Bexhill, together 543 acres.

For particulars apply to Mr. WHITLEY, Manor Office, Eastbourne, or to Messrs. DRAKE and LEE, Solicitors, Lewes.

Farms, etc., continued on page 4.

AUCTION SALES.

SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

THURSDAY NEXT, JULY 5.—Large portion of the prize Herd of SHORTHORNS, belonging to Miss ALICE DE ROTHSCHILD, at Waddesdon, Aylesbury, Bucks.

FRIDAY NEXT, JULY 6.—Mr. A. J. SHERRIFF'S Herd of SHORTHORNS, at Leaside, Hatfield, Herts., including several prize-winners.

FRIDAY NEXT, JULY 6.—The EARL OF CARNARVON'S BERKSHIRE PIGS, at High Clere, Newbury, Berks.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11.—Messrs. ROBERTSON'S Annual Sale of KERRY and DEXTER CATTLE, at Church Farm, Babraham, Cambridge.

FRIDAY, JULY 20.—Mr. W. H. MULLEN'S herd of KERRIES, in a paddock close to the Tunbridge Wells Show Ground.

TUESDAY, JULY 24.—Mr. HENRY DUDDING'S SHORTHORNS and LINCOLN SHEEP, at Riby Grove, Stallingboro', Grimsby, Lincolnshire.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 (not July 27 as previously announced).—The late Mr. HENRY WYATT'S SHORTHORNS, at Walton Grange, Aylesbury.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes-street, Hanover-square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

DOWNHAM, ESSEX.

Equidistant, about 3½ miles from Wickford and Billericay Stations on the Great Eastern Railway, and 7 miles from the county town of Chelmsford.

MR. T. W. OFFIN is instructed to SELL by AUCTION at the Mart, London, E.C., on MONDAY, JULY 16TH, 1900, precisely at 2 o'clock, first as a whole, and if not so sold, then in six lots, the VALUABLE FREEHOLD ESTATE known as CROWSHEATH FARM, comprising capital dwelling house, three cottages, ample farm buildings, and 410 acres 0 roods 15 perches of highly productive mixed soil, arable, pasture, and woodland. Excellent shooting on estate, which is in good hunting neighbourhood, within easy reach of three packs.

Possession on completion.

Particulars, with plan and conditions of sale, may be obtained at the Mart, of H. R. B. TWEED, ESQ., Solicitor, Devereux Buildings, Devereux Court, Temple, W.C., and of the Auctioneer, Rochford and Southend-on-Sea.

AUCTION SALES.

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FINE INVESTMENT. VALUABLE MERCANTILE PROPERTY, well situate in the Town of Ware, near good wharfage upon the River Lea, comprising Three Well-built Maltings, with 210 quarter steeps, substantially erected, brick and tile built, and in excellent repair, with barley stores, outbuildings and garden ground, as now in the occupation of Messrs. C. and E. H. Hitch, at a rental of £400 per annum, under lease dated 1889 for 21 years, determinable at the end of 7 or 14 years; also adjoining a valuable piece of Accommodation Pasture Land, ripe for building purposes, containing 3 acres, 3 roods, 5 perches, with early possession.

ALFRED PRESTON is favoured with instructions from the Exors. of the late Richard Oakes, Esq., to SELL by AUCTION, at the Saracen's Head Hotel, Ware, on WEDNESDAY, the 18th day of July, 1900, at 3 o'clock precisely, the above Valuable Properties, in Two Lots.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale may be obtained of Mr. Sydney Matthews, Solicitor, Swaffham, Norfolk; and of Alfred Preston, Worlingworth, Wickham Market, and Ipswich, Suffolk.

IMPORTANT SALE

of Pedigree Hackneys.

The Grange Stud,

BISHOPS STORTFORD

the property of

JOHN BARKER, Esq., J.P.

The FIRST SALE of

PEDIGREE HACKNEYS

will be held on TUESDAY, JULY 24th, 1900, by Messrs. SEXTON, GRIMWADE, and BECK.

When all the Fillies up to and including the Four-year-olds and the Foals will be offered. The Stud comprises the best and most fashionable strains in the country, and the lots include the well-known prize-winners Princess May, Lady Milly, Lady Winnie, Comedy, Miss Keyingham, Woodtontan, and Love Song.

Catalogue from Owner, or of Auctioneers, Peterborough.

AUCTION SALES.

ON FRIDAY NEXT, JULY 6TH.
(Twelve o'clock.)

MANSELL'S STORE STOCK SALE in the SHREWSBURY SMITHFIELD.

850 CATTLE (all breeds and ages), including some well bred POLLED ANGUS CROSSES, SHORTHORNS, HEREFORDS, WELSH, and CROSSBREDS.
SPECIAL ENTRY.
50 Good Two and Three-year-old Galloway and Blue-grey Bullocks and Heifers.
250 SHEEP. — SHROPSHIRES, CLUNS, and CROSS-BREDS.

All Cattle weighed before entering the Sale Ring.
Commissions faithfully executed.
Full particulars from ALFRED MANSELL AND CO., Live Stock Salesmen, Shrewsbury.

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TO MILLERS, MANUFACTURERS, and OTHERS requiring Water Power. Early possession. 1½ miles from Sawbridgeworth Railway Station.

G. E. SWORDER and SONS have received instructions from the Proprietor to SELL by AUCTION at Bishop's Stortford, Herts, on THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1900, at 4.30 o'clock precisely,
THE VALUABLE FREEHOLD MODERN WATER CORN MILL situate upon the River Stort, known as the SILK MILL, with complete Roller plant by Turner, of Ipswich, 3 pairs Stones, and other Machinery in capital working order, Modern Dwelling House with garden, stabling, outbuildings, Granary, and 3 closes of Pasture Land, the whole comprising about 4 acres.
Particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained 14 days previous to the sale of the Auctioneers, Bishop's Stortford.

WOODCHESTER, near STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

MESSRS. FULLER, HORSEY, SONS, and CASSELL will (unless previously sold as a whole) offer for SALE by AUCTION, in five lots, on the Premises, on TUESDAY, JULY 24th, at 11 o'clock precisely, the valuable FREEHOLD PROPERTY known as
THE SOUTHFIELDS AND CHURCHES WOOLLEN MILLS,
situated within two miles of Stroud, and containing an area of about 10½ acres, upon which are erected mill buildings, engine and boiler houses, manager's house, etc. At the same time and place will also be offered in lots in detail the
PLANT AND MACHINERY,
including a steam boiler, beam engine, 14 carding engines, eight picking and cleaning machines, Willey's and dusting machines grinding, balling, and spooling machines, etc., thread condenser, fire mules, two doubling frames, warping mills, 18 power looms, size mixing and sizing machines, brushing machines four Fuller's hydro-extractor, dye copper and becks, tentering machine, hydraulic press and pumps, engine boiler, and other effects. May be viewed by orders and particulars of the property and catalogues of the machinery had of Messrs. SNOW, FOX, and HIGGINSON, Solicitors, 7, Great St. Thomas Apostle, Queen-street, London, E.C.; of Messrs. WINTERBOTHAM and SON, Solicitors, Stroud; and of FULLER, HORSEY, SONS, and CASSELL, Auctioneers, 11, Billiter-square, E.C.

BRADWELL-ON-SEA.

About 8 miles from Southminster, a market town on the Great Eastern Railway.

MR. T. W. OFFIN is instructed by Mr. J. W. Porritt to SELL by AUCTION at the Mart, London, E.C., on MONDAY, JULY 16TH, 1900, precisely at 2.30, the VALUABLE FREEHOLD ESTATE known as SANDBEACH FARM, comprising capital dwelling house, farm premises, and about 220 acres, 3 roods, 2 perches of exceptionally fertile deep soil, arable and pasture land, in a first rate state of cultivation.
Possession on completion.

Particulars, with plan and conditions of sale, may be obtained at the Mart, of MESSRS. TURNER and TURNER, Solicitors, Ipswich, of MESSRS. COZENS-HARDY and JEWSON, Solicitors, Norwich, and of the Auctioneer, Rochford and Southend-on-Sea.

TO FLOCKMASTERS AND OTHERS.

CHILWORTH, near GUILDFORD, SURREY.

Important Sale of a draft from the well-known Albury Park Flock of pure-bred Southdown Sheep, the property of His Grace the Duke of Northumberland.

MESSRS. HEWETT and LEE are favoured with instructions to SELL by AUCTION, in a Field near Chilworth Station, S.E.Ry.,
On TUESDAY, JULY 17th, 1900,
at Two o'clock precisely,
A selected draft from the Albury Park Flock of Pedigree SOUTHDOWNS, comprising:—
163 FLOCK EWES (all ages),
8 RAMS,
82 EWE LAMBS,
18 RAM LAMBS, and
65 WETHER LAMBS.
The Albury Park Flock enjoys an excellent reputation as one of the most noted pure Southdown Flocks in the kingdom. It has been established with great care by judicious selection from the best and purest strains in the country, and has invariably received favourable notice whenever exhibited in the showyards of the principal Agricultural Societies both at home and abroad.
Catalogues may in due course be obtained of A. PEEBLES, Esq., Estate Office, Albury, near Guildford, and of Messrs. HEWETT and LEE, Auctioneers and Estate Agents, Guildford, Surrey.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC. *(continued).*

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LAND AGENTS,
FARM AND TIMBER VALUERS, SURVEYORS, HOUSE AGENTS, AND AUCTIONEERS,
Undertake valuations of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE, either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.
MORTGAGES arranged, also Railway and other Compensations, Dilapidations, Division and Apportionment of Tithe Rent Charges, etc.
PREPARATION of PLANS, Superintending the Erection or Repairs of Farm Buildings, and Laying-out of Estates for Building, Planting, Drainage, etc.
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FARM. — WARWICKSHIRE. — To be LET, from Lady-day, 1901, the most useful DAIRY and SHEEP FARM, known as "THE HEATH FARM," Meriden, about two miles from Hampton-in-Arden Station (L. and N.-W. Railway), now in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Steedman, and containing about 367 Acres.—For further particulars, apply to WALTER P. EVANS, Estate Offices, Nuneaton.

FOR SALE, cheap, FARMS, NORFOLK and SUFFOLK.
House, two sets Buildings, etc., 27 acres excellent land, and two cottages.
House, buildings, and 48 acres excellent land.
House, buildings, and 85 acres of fertile land, near Norwich.
House, buildings, and 11 acres of excellent land.
Residence, two farmhouses, and two sets buildings, cottages, etc., and 250 acres.
Apply, FARMER WESTWOOD, Eaton Norwich.

POOLEY'S PATENT
CATTLE WEIGHBRIDGES
FOR AUCTIONEERS, FARMERS, &c.
Sole Makers: HENRY POOLEY & SON, Ltd., Weighing Machine Makers, ALBION FOUNDRY, LIVERPOOL.
Branches at London, Newcastle, Manchester, Newport, Derby, Glasgow, and Birmingham. Weighbridges readily and cheaply converted into cattle Machines.

MACKINDER'S LAMB FOOD
Used on the Royal Farms and by Large Flockmasters everywhere.

Mr. Jas. Bennett, Aure, Glos., writes:—"I have never had any Food of any sort or kind on which lambs did so well."

Mr. F. Jakeman (agent for C. T. Hoare, Esq.), Bicester, writes:—"I find it capital food both for lambs and cattle."

Hundreds of Testimonials, Samples, Pamphlets, etc., free through agents, or direct.

MACKINDER'S LAMB FOOD MILL LINCOLN.

THE MOST SUCCESSFUL MILL OF THE CENTURY.

S. CORBETT & SONS'

"PATENT PLYMOUTH" ROYAL FIRST PRIZE

GRINDING MILLS

TO THE FRONT AGAIN! HAVING BEATEN

BARFORD & PERKINS, H. BAMFORD & SONS, WOODROFFE & CO., NICHOLSON & SONS, BLACKSTONE & CO., R. A. LISTER & CO., E. R. & F. TURNER, WOOD, & CO., C. BURRELL & SONS, J. WILLIAMS & SONS, ANDREWS & CO., AND OTHERS, AT THE GREAT R.A.S.E. TRIALS AT PLYMOUTH, 1890, being the MOST SEVERE AND EXHAUSTIVE TRIALS Ever Held at Home or Abroad.

VICTORIOUS OVER ALL
THE WORLD'S BEST
GRINDING MILLS
GAINED THE 1st PRIZE OF £20 AT THE
BEATING ALL THE LEADING MAKERS
GREAT R.A.S.E. TRIALS AT PLYMOUTH 1890

They will Grind into the Finest Meal all kinds of Grain, Chemical, Vegetable or Mineral Substances.
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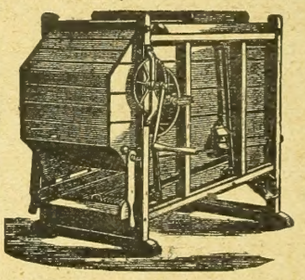

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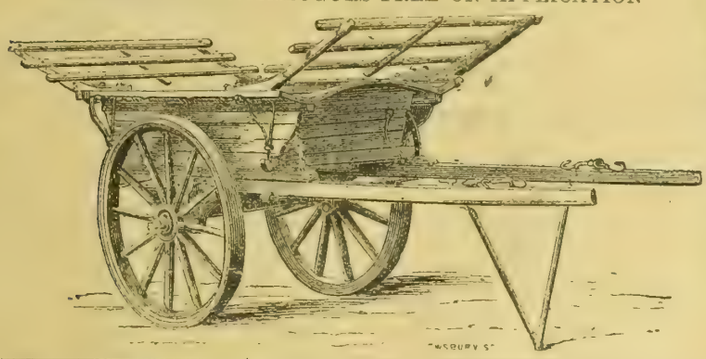

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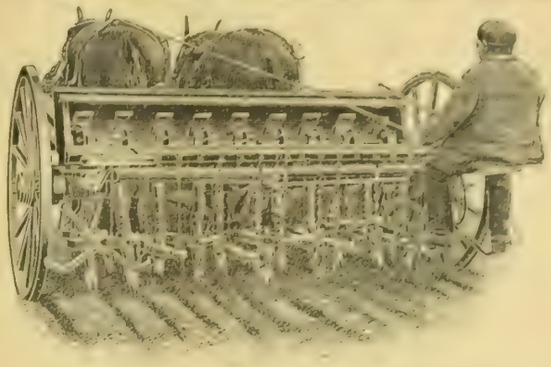

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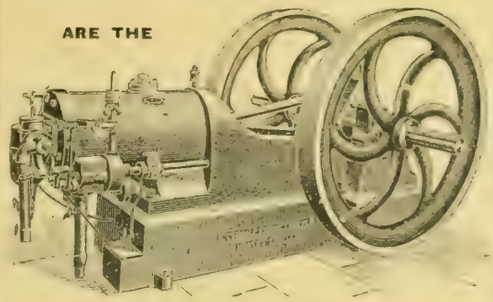

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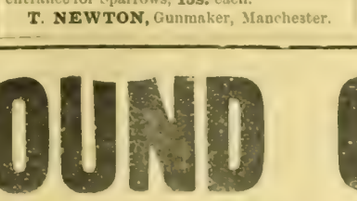

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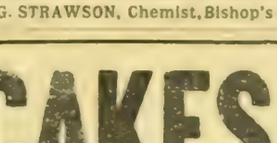

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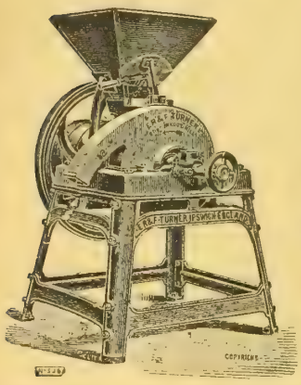

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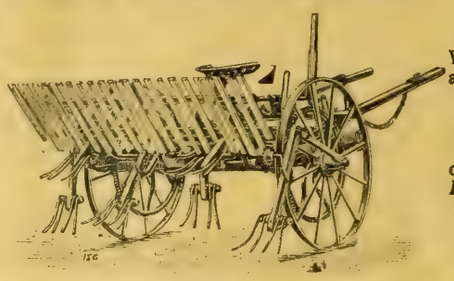

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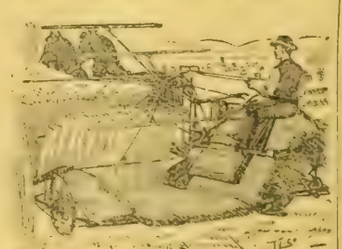

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We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

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MONDAY, JULY 2, 1900.

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INTERNATIONAL LIVE STOCK CONFERENCES.

Convening a sheep-breeders' conference at the Royal York Show, and inviting the flockowners of all foreign countries to attend it, was a happy idea, for the cordiality with which the invitation was accepted by shepherd kings from all parts of the world, and the highly important proceedings of the conference itself, thoroughly prove that such a convention was urgently needed. If no other good had been the outcome than that of making the flockowners of different lands better known to one another, the conference would not have been held in vain, but several valuable resolutions were passed, calculated to prove mutually advantageous to our home breeders and to those numerous foreign sheepowners accustomed to improve their flocks by drafts from this country. Pre-eminently desirable it is that the identity of animals exported hence should be perfectly preserved—an object apparently which the foreign delegates who spoke at the conference had most at heart. Mr. Austen, of Victoria, stated that he could vouch for the fact that "animals had been imported into his country from England as pedigree animals which were not so." Mr. Abrahams and Mr. Cohen, both from New Zealand, spoke in favour of tattooing as a means to insure identity which should not be overlooked, whilst Mr. R. Miller, from Ontario, suggested a reformed system of registering animals, which our various breed societies will no doubt duly take into consideration.

The details connected with such a magnitudinous subject cannot, of course, be settled offhand. Easy enough is it to declare that this or that ought to be, but very difficult often will be found the determination of the best possible measures for securing the desired object. There is an old maxim that "In the multitude of counsellors is found wisdom," and our breeders have no doubt gained great advantage by having learned the opinions of the foreign gentlemen mentioned and others as to how the perfect identification of sheep sent from one country to another can be ensured. But, fortunately, this is not to be the only international conference we are to have, for a resolution was carried unanimously that there shall be one held every year in conjunction with the Royal Agricultural Society's Show. Thus, if the work sought to be accomplished by this conference should fall short of perfection owing to the varied usages of Flock Book Societies, the latter will have ample time before the conference reassembles at Cardiff next year to see if they cannot bring their rules and regulations more into conformity with those of other societies. Moreover, the disposition on the part of foreigners to regard tattooing as a safeguard against fraud will no doubt be paid due attention to by the National Sheep-breeders' Association.

This was not the only matter, however, dealt with by the conference. Sanitary certificates are to accompany export certificates, which are to declare that the animal or animals are not affected by any disease, and, what is still more important, the vendor is to furnish a sworn affidavit that no contagious disease has existed on his farm for three months, and that the exported sheep have not been in contact with any diseased animals during that time. Thus it will be seen that our home breeders are desirous to give foreign buyers every security that when they buy they can make sure of having animals perfectly healthy.

Exceedingly desirable would it be to have an International Cattle Breeders' Conference annually, for a great many more or less urgent reasons, but it is to be apprehended that this point of furnishing health certificates would be rendered impossible without a previous application of the tuberculin test, to which so many of our Shorthorn breeders unreasonably have strong objections. Fresh will it be in remembrance that a few years since French breeders, through their Minister of Agriculture, made an application, which came before the English Shorthorn Society, that measures should be taken to stamp out the tuberculosis pest, or that French buyers should be guaranteed against loss when they buy English Shorthorns which afterwards are found to be affected by it. The result proved that British and some foreign cattle breeders hold extremely opposite views as to the utility of the tuberculin test, as well as on the prevalence of tuberculosis, consequently were a conference convened, it is to be feared the same unanimity of feeling would scarcely characterise it as was exhibited at the York Conference of Sheep-breeders.

Nevertheless, matters are continually cropping up which could be far better adjusted in a friendly convention of those interested than in any other way. We have only to turn to the Shorthorn Society's annual meeting, held on the showground at York, to prove this. There are restrictions both in the American and Canadian Shorthorn Herd Books preventing the entry of any cattle therein which do not trace to the first twenty volumes of Coates' Herd Book. The Council of the English Society wishing this to be modified, made application to secure that object, and sent invitations to both Transatlantic societies to send over delegates to confer with them at the annual meeting. These invitations were not accepted, but if an international cattle conference had been convened to discuss anything and everything of importance, the foreign breeders would no doubt have responded just as numerously as did the sheep-breeders.

There continues a good foreign demand for Shorthorns. The report presented at the annual meeting stated that 1,149 certificates were issued last year, which was a larger number than had been required for the export of animals in any previous year. The South Americans, at any rate, do not fear to buy British Shorthorns, nor do the Canadians, for 715 of the above certificates were for animals sent to the former, and 334 of them for exports to the latter. Besides this, the foreign trade on the Royal showground was reported exceedingly good both for Shorthorns and Herefords. Nor were the leading sheep-breeders wanting foreign customers.

The Revenue returns for the first quarter of the financial year show a net decrease of £1,144,372, compared with the corresponding quarter of the preceding year. The principal decreases are—Customs, £989.532; Excise, £440,129; and Stamps, £280,000. Against these must be placed the following increases on the quarter: Estate, etc., Duties, £233,433; Property and Income Tax, £330,000; and small increases from the Post Office, Telegraph Service, and Crown Lands. The total revenue for the past quarter was £26,630,226, of which £1,939,592 was paid to the local taxation account.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

My attention has been called to an inaccuracy in last week's article on the discussion upon the amendment moved by Colonel Milward on Clause 2, Sub-clause (4), of the Agricultural Holdings Bill. This amendment, the effect of which, as was stated, was to provide that an arbitration should be before two arbitrators unless the parties agreed to a single arbitrator, was *not* accepted by Mr. Long. The right hon. gentleman pointed out that a main feature of the Bill was to cheapen and simplify the procedure, and if this desirable object was to be obtained, he thought a great deal depended upon the adoption of the single arbitrator. He explained that the Bill followed the principle laid down in the Arbitration Act, that a single arbitrator should be employed in the absence of agreement to the contrary, and the amendment was negatived by the Committee without a division. I am sorry this error occurred; but I am very glad Mr. Long did not accept the amendment.

The Bombay Department of Land Records and Agriculture has now issued its final memorandum on the wheat crop in the Bombay Presidency for the season of 1899-1900. The latest reports show the area sown at 1,617,000 acres, or 43 per cent. below last year's, and 42 per cent. below the average of the preceding ten years. Except in parts of Belgaum and Dhárwár, where rains for sowing were favourable and an increased area was placed under wheat, the decrease is general in the Presidency proper, being most marked in Gujarát and the Deccan. Of the total area sown in the British districts of the Presidency proper, about 55 per cent. is reported to have failed altogether to produce any crop. The whole of the surviving area is assisted by irrigation in Gujarát, about 65 per cent. in the Deccan, and only a little over 2 per cent. in the Karnátak. As a natural result of the very large decrease in area and abnormal season, the total outturn on the whole is very unsatisfactory, being only about 24 per cent. of last year's and 23 per cent. of the average.

The Queen has been pleased to issue a Commission under Her Royal Sign Manual, appointing Earl Egerton, Lord Revelstoke, the Hon. Alfred Lyttelton, Q.C., Sir Robert Giffen, Sir John Wolfe Wolfe-Barry, Sir John Hext, and Mr. John Edward Ellis to inquire into the present administration of the Port of London and the water approaches thereto. The Commissioners are also to consider the inadequacy of the accommodation provided for vessels, and the loading and unloading thereof; the system of charge for such accommodation, and the arrangement for warehousing dutiable goods; and to report whether any change or improvement in regard to any of the above matters is necessary for the promotion of the trade of the port and the public interest. Power is given to the Commissioners to examine books and records, to personally inspect such places as they may deem expedient, and to employ such persons as they may think fit to assist them in their inquiries.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to June 23rd, 1900, were £23,156,305 against £24,850,763 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £35,896,910, against £22,440,005 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on June 23rd, 1900, amounted to £3,536,442, and at the same date in 1899 to £8,054,931.

Mr. Channing and some of the Liberal county members are anxious that the report stage of the Agricultural Holdings Bill should be postponed until the special meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture which has been called to consider the Bill in its amended form. The hon. member will put a question to Mr. Balfour to-day (Monday) on the subject.

I hear from Wakefield that, owing to his advanced age and failing health, Mr. John Jackson has retired from business, but the firm will be continued under the old style of Dunns and Co. by the remaining partner, Mr. Geo. G. Hein.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

It has been the duty of agricultural politicians of late, to somewhat vigorously criticise certain agricultural appointments. No criticism is possible of the nomination of Professor Campbell, of the Yorkshire College, Leeds, to the assistant-secretaryship of the Irish Board of Agriculture. It is lauded by every section of politicians. It is hailed as one of the best appointments made since the initiation of an attempt to give a disciplined character to the natural interest in agriculture. His work at Edinburgh, Leipsic, Berne (where, by the way he studied under that famous botanist, Professor Freudenrush), and Leeds, has been reviewed with the utmost satisfaction. It has been remembered by Scotchmen that he has done a great work in connection with the improvement of the cheesemaking industry in their country; and it has been asserted by northern men, who remember his work in connection with the Lancashire County Council (of whose agricultural department he had brief charge) and who know of the valuable experiments he has conducted on the Yorkshire county farm, that his departure from their district will be a great loss to it. It would be impossible to conceive a more enthusiastic chorus of praise.

Shall we have the report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation this year? The matter is one of the gravest importance to agriculturists. That the report has been under consideration during the last five or six weeks I personally know; but this, however, does not inevitably mean its early presentation. When it is presented it will remove from politicians, and, more particularly, from certain Ministers, the chief ground which they have urged as a justification for evading the promises to seek the reform of the existing system of local taxation.

What is more, the report will enable a definite electoral platform to be formulated. The approaching expiration of the Agricultural Rates Act will lend an added significance to such a platform. I, myself, allude to the matter chiefly because of the last two facts. I thus urge all taxation-reformers not to allow their political interest to be exhausted by exuberant laudation of the war policy. I warn them that it is possible that the report of the Commission will be presented this year.

Sir William Harcourt is moved by all his old antagonisms and fire. The attack on the Irish Tithe Rent-Charge Bill was quite in the style which a few years ago so sorely perturbed the then Sir Richard Webster, and brought the Government perilously near disaster. We had the old visions of a landlordism which is ever avaricious and always grasping presented to us; we had the old story of a Government which is naught but a conspiracy to pilfer on behalf of this same landlordism repeated.

The Bill is not of much importance to the English land interest beyond that it reflects an evident resolve to continue on the line of more generous treatment of that interest which was initiated by this Government three years ago. As I listened to the speeches on Thursday night I wondered whether the same generosity would be exhibited by the Government when the local taxation report comes before the House. This is the matter to which the Parliamentary sympathisers with the agrarian interest would be wise to devote attention. It is well to be anticipatory in these political days.

But for the fact that the affairs in China and in South Africa now absorb political interest and attention the Government would have made a great mistake in persisting with this Irish Bill. The measure would have served to revive all the bitter feeling and prejudiced assertions made in connection with the English Bill, and with the Bill which I need not name (I am sickened unto death at the frequent repetition of its title), which it is asserted takes money brutally out of the pockets of the poor innocent towns for the advantage of the bulky-pursed farmers. It would have served, in a word, to give what Mr. W. S. Gilbert describes an artistic verisimilitude to a used-up election cry.

The old attempt to divide town and country into rival camps, the old assurance that the Government's main purpose is to put money into the pockets of the squires and the parsons, would have been resuscitated in all its unadorned brutality. The Government and the Irish landlords may thus regard the present as a suitable moment for such a legislative endeavour. The infamy of the effort—thus it would have been described under other circumstances—will be neglected because of more lurid political incidents.

Have we heard the knell of the policy of free trade? Naught more significant from the political point of view has happened for many years than the discussion at the congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire upon the fiscal policy which ought to be pursued within this Empire. Should not the Zollverein be enacted?—in other words, should not a customs' union of the Empire be created? This was the point at issue. Had a definite answer been made in the affirmative, it would have meant that, in the opinion of the commercial organisations of the country, the day has come when the policy of free trade, which is applied to a non-reciprocating world, should be restricted only to our own colonies.

This definite answer was not given, but the resolution asking the Government to appoint a Royal Commission to inquire into the wisdom of the policy is scarcely less significant. It indicates a doubt. Will the Chambers of Agriculture appreciate this? Will they seek to strengthen this demand by their own adherence to it? Will they see to it that, if this Commission be appointed, agriculture is represented in its membership? It would be criminal to neglect so excellent an economic opportunity.

Had this demand originated with agriculture it would not have had one tithe of the importance now attaching to it. It would have been declared to be an attempt to reimpose the tax on corn, to raise the price of bread, and to give landlords an opportunity of imposing higher rents. The demand now actually represents the very towns which, had the proposal a rural authorship, would be represented as about to be plundered. It represents, in fact, the artisans.

Of course, Manchesterism is greatly irate that the demand should have been preferred at all; but Manchesterism is no longer the economic Sir Oracle of this country. It is about to meet the fate of Dagan. It sees its supremacy not merely endangered, but nigh to an inevitable doom. I am glad of it, because it has used its opportunities—the opportunities which Cobden's free trade as originally concerned would have given it—for a selfish purpose. Protection may not be near, but I repeat that one-sided free trade—one-sided in that it cared for only one of two national interests—is approaching death. Will the Chambers of Agriculture, I again ask, take advantage of an occasion so unexpectedly and excellently created?

Now, I hope those of my Hampshire correspondents who rejoiced—rejoiced, I am sorry, because they were able to exhibit their political animosity—at the conviction of Colonel W. Woods, of Warnford Park, on the charge of starving his sheep are convinced that I was right. I now declare that it will be a poor day for agriculture when agriculturists can rejoice at a conviction on an unfair charge simply because the object of it is a political antagonist. Colonel Woods is the Radical candidate for a northern constituency; but Radical though he be, he was at the moment when this alleged offence was committed engaged in the patriotic duty of sending off to South Africa one of the finest body of Yeomanry cavalry that has done doughty deeds at the instigation of Lord Roberts. He knew no more about the alleged starving than the man in the moon.

Absent from home, with every hour of his time given to his patriotic task, with all his personal business neglected—how could he know whether every ounce of fodder he would himself desire his sheep to have was given them? I am glad that the Colonel has succeeded in quashing what I held at the time to be a very mistaken and unfair conviction. No, my dear Hampshire friends, agriculture will have a better legislative prospect before it when you refuse to chortle over an infliction imposed upon a man who in his own party may render your interest good service. I am certainly not hide-bound by any Radical sympathies, but I shall be glad to be able to welcome Colonel Woods to the House of Commons. At this moment he has all my congratulations.

I am glad to be able to announce that there is a prospect of the local taxation report being presented at an early date. A member of the Committee tells me that he and some of his friends are doing all they can to hurry it forward. There are differences as to certain clauses—differences suggested by the suspicions of men who rather represent the urban than the rural districts. However, they are not unsurmountable, and will be overcome by the exercise of a little patience.

What, however, is more gratifying—and this is the best answer that can be made to one of the questions I have asked in an earlier paragraph—is that already an attempt is being made to secure a dispassionate consideration of the report in the House of Commons. The proposals embodied in the report will not mean a revolution. "But," said to me the member of the Commission to whom I have alluded, "you will find that they are inspired by a genuine desire to remove the taxation anomalies of the counties."

IN PARLIAMENT.

House of Commons.

Compensation for Agricultural Labourers.

On Wednesday Mr. H. S. Foster moved the third reading of the Workmen's Compensation Act (1897) Extension Bill. The measure extended the benefits of the principal Act to agricultural labourers. At the time the 1897 Act was passing through the House it was sought to bring agricultural labourers within its scope; but the proposal was resisted, on the ground that agricultural labourers did not ask for it, and that it would impose a heavy burden on agriculture. Events had disproved those statements as to the burden it would impose on agriculture, by the fact that an employer could insure against its liabilities by 3s. to 3s. 6d. per £100 of wages. He believed that the changes made in the Bill since the second reading were improvements, and that the Bill which they were now asked to finally pass was a better measure than the skeleton introduced to them in second reading. When it went to another place, he trusted Her Majesty's Government would take the same interest in it that they had taken in this House, and that it would be able to finally take its place on the Statute Book as one of the Acts of the present Session.

Mr. Broadhurst desired to join in cordially supporting the third reading of the Bill, and hoped that it would realise the hopes of its friends in its administration. It was a measure belonging to no Party. He hoped that next Session the Government would bring in a measure to consolidate all the laws relating to compensation to workmen, and that they would also include all the industries at present left out. All sailors and fishermen, and a large portion of the building trade were at present beyond the scope of the law of compensation, and he trusted that in view of a General Election these defects would be speedily remedied.

Mr. Grant Lawson, in supporting the third reading, referred to a misunderstanding as to the scope of the Bill. There was an impression that all labourers were not included. That was not so. The Bill only limited the liability of small employers who did not habitually employ labourers. He still did not like the Limitation Clause, and hoped to see some alteration made in that clause in its passing through another place.

Mr. J. Lowther and Mr. Galloway continued the discussion.

Mr. Gedge heartily supported the third reading.

Captain Pretyman repudiated the suggestion that those who voted against the extension of the Act of 1897 to agricultural labourers, were now supporting that proposition in view of a General Election. They had desired in the interests of employer and employed to gather experience, and the result had proved the wisdom of their waiting for two or three years. The fact that the premiums for insurance had fallen from about one pound to three shillings was alone worth waiting for. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Strachey, Colonel Kenyon-Slaney, and Mr. J. Wilson (Falkirk) having spoken,

The Bill was read a third time amid general cheers.

Spalding June Cattle Fair. — This fair took place on Tuesday, and was largely attended. There was a good supply of cattle. The best bullocks realised about 8s., and inferior quality 7s. 3d. to 7s. 6d per stone. There was not a large show of stores, but for the best trade was good. Bullocks two and two and-a-half years old, made £12 to £15; year and a half old, £9 to £12; maiden heifers for grazing, £13 to £15; in-calf heifers, £15 to £18; and milch cows, £16 to £20 each. Best fat sheep realised up to 60s. a head, and half-bred shearlings 43s. to 50s.; but for lambs there was only a poor trade. Horses of a useful stamp were in demand at high prices.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

An Experimental Farm for Cambridge University.

The new Chair of Agriculture at Cambridge University is to have an experiment farm attached to it. This is the result of private munificence, the history of which is told in a letter addressed to the Vice-Chancellor of the University by Mr. Macfarlane-Grieve, of Impington Park, near Cambridge. In this letter Mr. Macfarlane-Grieve says:—

"On the foundation of the professorship and the organisation of the department I felt very strongly that there was one principal thing still wanting to its prosperity—a farm. I found that Professor Somerville shared my views as to the extreme desirability of such an appendage to his chair, and, as a farm on this estate of about 145 acres, within three miles of Great St. Mary's, will fall vacant at Michaelmas next, I invited him to inspect it with a view to my placing it at the disposal of the University, for the purposes of the Department of Agriculture. Professor Somerville's report was favourable, but before any action could be taken the question of obtaining the funds necessary for stocking a farm had to be solved. Professor Somerville has met with a liberal response to his appeals, and that sufficient funds for this purpose are now practically assured. I am now prepared to offer the farm in question to the University free of rent till Michaelmas, 1909, the term for which the existence of the chair and department is in the meantime guaranteed."

The offer has been accepted, and the donor of the farm duly thanked for his munificence.

The Cost of Tilling the Soil by Various Means.

Engineering reports trials as to the energy expended on land cultivation. It varies from 20 millions to 159 millions of foot-pounds per acre, according to the nature of the crop in rotation. A close approximation of the expense of producing this energy by different means is as follows, the unit taken being 100,000 kilogrammetres, or about 725,000 foot-pounds:—

Pence.			
From 13	to 18·5	if produced by	hand labour.
,, 5·2 ,, 7·1		,,	horse-power (team).
,, 2·9 ,, 4·0		,,	,, (one).
,, 2·1 ,, 2·4		,,	ox teams.
,, 1·2 ,, 1·9		,,	oil engines.
,, 1·3 ,, 2·0		,,	steam engines.
,, ·5 ,, 1·1		,,	hydraulic motor

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.

Australian Irrigation Farms.

Some irrigation experiments of an interesting and most remarkable character are at present being conducted in New South Wales. As is generally known, there is an immense inland region, used exclusively for pastoral purposes, embracing an area of several thousand square miles, and graphically described as a waterless country, the rainfall being slight, and the water supply extremely precarious. Yet it was not until within the last few years that it was definitely shown that abundance of water could be obtained, not only from the cretaceous formation, but also from other rocks underlying the soil in this part of the colony.

Artesian boring in New South Wales commenced in 1879, in which year operations were begun at Kallara, a station lying between Bourke and Wilcannia. The supply was tapped at a depth of 140ft., and the effluent water rose to a height of 26ft. In 1884, the Colonial Department of Mines put down its first bore in search of water, a small supply of which was reached at 89ft. Since then much work has been done, both by the Government and by private enterprise. On the 30th November, 1899, there were seventy-three completed Government bores, while twelve were in progress, and contracts had been let for others. Of those completed, there are forty-eight flowing, yielding a supply of approximately 29,000,000 gallons per diem, and sixteen from which a supply of 750,000 gallons per diem can be pumped; but in the remaining eight bores the search for water suitable for drinking purposes has been unsuccessful.

The deepest bore sunk in the colony is that at Dolgelly, on the road from Moree to Boggabilla, which is down 4,086ft., yielding a flow of 745,200 gallons per diem. The next in depth is the Bancanya bore on the Silverton-Cobham road, being 3,615ft. deep. The largest flow has been obtained at the Toolora bore, on the road from Walgett to Coonamble, which yields approximately 3,000,000 gallons per diem. The water from the Government bores, over and above that required for travelling stock and domestic use, is being used for irrigation purposes, and much has already been accomplished in this direction.

At the Pera bore, eight miles from Bourke, on the Wanaaring road, an area of 68¾ acres has been reserved for an experimental farm. The remainder of the land has been cut up into 20-acre blocks, all of which have been let under the homestead selection provisions of the Crown Lands Act of 1895. Good results have attended the work of irrigation at this place, as well as at other bores, especially those on the Bourke to Barringun road, but the work is still largely in the experimental stage. Should future results realise the anticipations formed by those who have carefully studied the question, it is possible that the vast expanse of treeless, waterless country, at present given up to sheep, and which is a source of heavy loss to pastoralists during prolonged periods of drought, may become studded with richly fertile spots, each an oasis in the wilderness, and assisting in changing the whole face of the country. The primary idea was to encourage the cultivation of drying fruits, such as apricots and raisins, but a couple of years were lost in experimenting with Californian methods of irrigation, which proved futile, the periodical flooding of the land causing it to cake down to the subsoil.

The system of soil aeration now adopted has proved successful in every respect, and where, only a few years ago, there was nothing but dry, burnt-up country, may now be found beautiful gardens, filled with the choicest flowers, growing in luxuriant profusion, and orchards filled with healthy trees giving the rich promise of future abundant crops. But there have been varying results on the irrigation farms. Several have been successful, and others only partially so. This, however, has been occasioned largely by the character of the tenants.

Those possessing real agricultural experience, and willing to turn it to the best account, have found irrigation-farming a remunerative enterprise. Where such experience is lacking, there will inevitably be disappointment. Now that the principles on which irrigation agriculture in the New South Wales dry country can be most effectually conducted are becoming better understood, it is probable that the number of irrigation farms will become considerably increased, and many million gallons of water at present unavoidably running to waste, become utilised in a most advantageous manner.

The Crops in Germany.

The subjoined report of the growing crops throughout the Empire was issued in the middle of June by the Imperial Bureau of Statistics. No. 1 represents very good; No. 2, good; No. 3, an average; No. 4, below an average; No. 5, bad.

	Wheat.		Rye.		Barley.	Oats.	Potatoes.	Clover.	Lucerne.	Hay.
	w.	ts.	w	ts.						
Prussia	2·7	2·7	3·2	3·3	2·6	2·6	2·6	3·6	2·9	3·5
Oldenburg	2·6	2·7	2·7	2·8	2·5	2·4	2·5	3·3	2·7	3·2
Saxony	2·1	2·2	3·2	2·1	2·1	2·2	2·3	2·2	2·4	2·3
Hesse	2·6	2·4	2·6	—	2·1	2·2	2·2	3·0	2·8	3·0
Bavaria	1·8	2·0	2·1	2·0	1·8	1·9	1·8	2·1	2·3	1·8
Wurtemberg	2·8	2·5	2·5	2·6	2·4	2·4	2·3	2·9	2·8	2·7
Baden	2·6	2·4	2·4	2·3	2·3	2·4	2·2	2·9	2·9	2·9
Alsace-Lorraine	3·0	3·3	2·6	—	2·7	2·6	2·3	3·6	3·2	3·6
German Empire, June	2·6	2·5	3·1	2·6	2·4	2·5	2·5	3·2	2·8	2·9
May	2·7	2·6	3·2	2·5	2·6	2·7	—	3·0	2·8	2·8
April	2·7	—	2·9	—	—	-	—	3·0	2·7	2·8
1899 June	2·2	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·6	2·7	2·8	2·7	2·5	2·6
1898 ,,	2·1	2·5	2·2	2·4	2·5	2·6	2·7	—	1·9	2·1
1897 ,,	2·2	2·5	2·3	2·4	2·4	2·6	2·6	1·9		2·0
1896 ,,	2·4	2·5	2·4	2·6	2·5	2·6	2·6	2·9		2·5
1895 ,,	2·4	2·5	3·1	2·4	2·4	2·5	2·4	1·7		1·7
1894 ,,	2·3	2·4	2·3	2·3	2·3	2·3	2·5	3·0		2·3
1893 ,,	2·8	3·1	2·9	3·1	3·0	3·3	2·6	4·1		4·0

* Winter. † Spring.

The weather has been favourable to the development of the crops since our last report. Cool weather intervened, and about the end of May frost occurred, causing much damage in places. Since then it has been warm. Rain fell plentifully about the beginning of June, followed by dry weather, which increased to drought in the eastern provinces of Prussia. Reports are therefore very varied, but on the whole slightly improved against last month for winter and summer wheat and rye, summer barley and oats. The note for summer rye and lucerne is the same, but not so good for clover and hay. In comparing the June note for the seven years from 1893 to 1899 we find the prospects for winter wheat, winter rye, clover, and hay were better. Prospects for oats and potatoes are better than in five out of the seven years. Complaints of ravages of field mice have ceased, but injury from hailstorm and waterspouts are reported.

The rain which fell at the end of May was too late to improve the condition of winter rye; the haulm is short, but the period of bloom went off well, and grain is well formed. Reports from Alsace-Lorraine are not satisfactory with regard to summer rye and oats. Summer crops are likely to be a failure in Prussia and Posen. They are generally well developed in South Germany. There are many complaints of weeds. Potatoes were not yet up in Prussia and Saxony, also in some districts of South Germany, in the middle of June. The condition is generally good. Clover fields are quite dried up in East and West Prussia, and had to be used as pasture. In places where rain fell, it came too late to improve the condition. It is very thin and short, owing to ravages of field mice, drought, frosts, and cold winds. The yield will be very small. The quality was good in Hesse and Wirtemberg, although a small crop. Clover fields are well developed in Bavaria and Thuringia. Lucerne has suffered much from cold, ravages of mice, and droughts, and is not well developed. The first crop will be small but of good quality. The condition is more favourable in Bavaria and Thuringia.

Some meadows will yield well, while others which suffered from night frosts in May will yield only a small crop. Hay harvest has begun in many places, and the hay was carried dry in June.

French Agriculture.

Engineering, in dealing with agricultural exhibits at the Paris Exhibition, states that the entire area of France is 132,500,000 acres, of which 125 million acres is cultivable lands; this includes about eighty-seven million acres actually under cultivation, the remainder being occupied by woods and forests. The estimated value of the land, exclusive of buildings, is £5,600,000,000, and the annual revenue it yields is about £280,000,000 sterling. This represents an average return of about 2½ per cent. Agricultural buildings throughout France represent a further value of 400 millions sterling, and agricultural machinery is estimated at 140 millions. There are in France about 64 million acres under the plough, 37½ millions being under cultivation for cereals, 21 million acres specially devoted to growing forage, not including pasture lands; over 6 million acres devoted to growing roots; while the vine cultivation occupies about 5½ million acres. An average year's production is 259,000,000 tons of cereals, 940,000,000 tons of grain, 165,000,000 tons of straw, 155,000 tons of hay, and 150,000,000 tons of roots, not including the crops sold direct to factories, sugar works, and distilleries. The inventory of agricultural implements in France shows a minimum 3,670,000 ploughs, 3,000,000 harrows, scarifiers, and cultivators; 52,000 drills and other sowing machines, 251,000 horse hoes, 38,000 mowers, 51,000 horse-rakes, 23,000 reapers, 234,000 threshing machines, and nearly 6,000,000 carts and other appliances for transport. On an average, there is thus one plough for each 17.5 acres of cultivated land; one drill for each 830 acres put down to cereals or roots; one hoe for 22.5 acres in roots; one mower to every 530 acres of grass field, not including pasture; one reaper for every 1,400 acres of cereals; and one threshing machine for every 150 acres of cereals, exclusive of maize. The agricultural population is recorded at 18 millions, of whom about 7 millions are farm labourers. In France (as in most other countries), this class of labour is steadily diminishing.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.) Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

10632.—Adam Carlisle Bamlett, London, for an invention of "Improvements in mowing and reaping machines."

10721. Isidor Podwinetz, London, for an invention of "Improvements in manufacturing a food for cattle."

10759.—George Leadbeater, Manchester, for an invention of "Improvements in garden shears."

10802.—Williams Hornsby and John Lawson, London, for an invention of "Improvements in or connected with ploughshares."

10823.—William McBride, Cork, Ireland, for an invention of "A turnip and mangold gapping and thinning machine."

10871.—Francis Fordham, King's Lynn, for an invention of "Improved cultivator."

10922.—Amos Burson, Henry Miles Thompson, William Mathew Harrison, and Samuel Gamble, London, for an invention of "Improvements in lawn weeders."

10954.—Alfred Lewis, King's Lynn, for an invention of "A machine for 'cutting out' turnip plants and the like."

10997. Dietrich Otto Julius von Gerlach, London, for an invention of "Improvements in potato digging and ploughing machines."

The Great Northern Railway Company announce many important alterations in their train service, commencing July 1st, among the most important of which are the running of additional dining car express trains (first and third class) on weekdays, leaving London at 11.20 a.m. for Edinburgh, Glasgow, Perth, Aberdeen, etc., and at 6.15 p.m. for Wakefield and Bradford direct. Additional express trains for the East Coast watering places will leave King's Cross on weekdays at 10.15 a.m. and 1.10 p.m. for Sheringham, Cromer, and Mundesley-on-Sea, and 11.30 a.m. for Scarboro', Whitby, Filey, Bridlington, etc. A through train will be run from London to Harrogate *vid* York, leaving King's Cross at 1.50 p.m. A special Highland sleeping car express will, from July 25rd to August 10th (Saturdays excepted) leave King's Cross at 7.45 p.m. for Perth and Inverness. It is also announced that commencing on August 1st, dining accommodation will be given on the 10 a.m. express from King's Cross to Edinburgh and other parts of Scotland. A special express for Norway tourists leaves King's Cross for Hull at 10.55 a.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays until August 18th.

HOPS.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Condition of the Plantations

and the prospects of the new crop occupy the first place in the minds of all who are interested in the hop trade. Therefore I give preference this week to the reports I have received, from which I condense the following:—

HORSMONDEN.—Recent rains have at last made the hops grow faster than the aphis can bleed the bine, so that a slight improvement can be noticed, but in spite of washing fresh fly keep coming, and honeydew is to be seen in most plantations, which are in a critical state.

PEASMARSH.—The prospects for 1900 are not over bright. I have washed my hops, but the fly has returned as bad as before, and there is also mould. This weather is much against the hops.

BENENDEN.—Washing is in full operation, but the attacks of the fly are repeated. The downfall of rain has enabled the bine to make progress, except in gardens which are backward. The vermin remains in great quantities, and the prospect of a crop is far from good.

ASHFORD.—We have had sufficient rain, and should welcome fine weather to enable us to persevere in washing, which is rendered necessary by the persistent presence of vermin. Mould is also becoming serious, and the general appearance of the gardens is hardly so good as a week ago, growth being very slow.

BIDDENDEN.—While the hops have benefited by the rain, the low temperature at night checks advancement of growth. In many gardens the bine looks weak and unhealthy, but some are in better condition. As the fly attack is serious and persistent, washing must be continued, or the results will be disappointing.

LAMBERHURST.—A large proportion of the bine is weak, and grows very slowly. The heavy crop of last year appears to have almost exhausted the roots, and this, added to the sharp attack of aphis blight, from which all the gardens are now suffering, makes the probability of a full crop very remote.

TEYNHAM.—Though the gardens are all infested with fly the bine is generally strong, and is giving signs of healthy growth. The backward bine is being stimulated by the rain where the land has been properly cared for.

BRENCHLEY.—Unless the condition improves very soon, there can be but slight prospect of even an average crop. Vermin is most persistent, and does not yield to repeated washing, and mould has appeared in some places.

CANTERBURY.—Dry, warm weather is now needed, as the state of the ground renders necessary operations very difficult, and the increase of blight calls for perseverance in washing. The appearance of mould also creates further anxiety, although recent rains have strengthened the bine, and growth is very perceptible during the last week.

MAIDSTONE.—The bine is growing rapidly, and looks fairly well in most gardens in Mid Kent, although the young shoots are still covered with fly, which return apparently undiminished by copious washing. All the plantations now require warmer weather, and if this does not soon arrive our outlook cannot be satisfactory.

WORCESTER AND HEREFORD.—In the best cultivated yards the bine is making rapid progress, despite the increase of aphis blight, which is everywhere evident. Washing is now general, and must be persisted in, or the condition of the plants would soon become very serious. The effects of the sharp attacks by wireworm and flea in the spring are seen in the weakness and backwardness of some yards.

A General Survey.

of the information before me induces me to conclude that, while the present condition of the English plantations is sufficiently risky to create anxiety and to arouse every grower to action, there is thus far no permanent injury, and if we are favoured with suitable weather during the next two months, we may anticipate a crop somewhere about the average, which may be set at 7cwt. to 8cwt. per acre, or about 350,000cwt. for our total. Such a yield will be quite sufficient for the market, and should remunerate planters, as, if quality is good and the hops are well managed in the kiln, the market of 1900 will probably be much more satisfactory to my country friends than they have experienced for some time past.

In the Borough.

the demand was quiet during the early part of the week, but inquiries are again numerous today (Saturday). Though prices have not been tangibly influenced by the unfavourable news from the plantations, a strong tone of firmness is maintained, and the tendency of the trade is certainly in favour of holders. The amount of business done during the past month or so must have reduced stocks to a considerable extent, and have brought them into so small a compass that their capacity for supply for the next two months can be fairly estimated. I hold the opinion (which is supported by the views of several hop traders) that all the sound hops now in hand will be disposed of before the new growth is available, and that if holders are firm in demanding advanced prices, they will be able to realise them. There is no evidence of speculative buying, as merchants operate only from hand to mouth, their purchases being in proportion to their sales. There is some advantage in this state of affairs, as thereby the market is kept steady, and we are able to gauge the actual requirements of consumers more correctly. Growers who have hops to sell, should therefore carefully watch the transactions of each week and shape their course accordingly.

A Rumour is in the Air

that the attention of certain capitalists is being directed towards our present position, and I am informed that it is not unlikely that we shall hear of a clean sweep being made of all unsold hops of good brewing quality, by which process the small remaining stocks will be concentrated, and their value raised by the complete control which will thus be established. I cannot vouch for the correctness of this information, but it is not improbable that advantage may be taken of the favourable opportunity now presented. I have long ago pointed out the possibility and advisability of such action, and have urged growers themselves to imitate it. If, however, they decline to do so, I hope that outsiders may step in to accomplish the same result.

It is gratifying to hop growers to know that

The 14th Battalion of Imperial Yeomanry,

commanded by our President, Colonel Brookfield, has been doing good work in South Africa. In the course of an action near Kroonstad, reported on June 11th, Surgeon Captain Vidler, of Rye, who is on the Battalion staff, was unfortunately captured by the enemy, and although it was expected that his imprisonment would only be temporary, no further intelligence has since been heard of him. Colonel Brookfield himself was all right a few days ago, a telegram having then been received from him to that effect. He had the satisfaction of leading his command to the relief of Colonel Bullock, when the latter was surrounded the other day by the Boers at Honing Spruit. Our Colonel has been promoted to the command of a Brigade, and we may safely assume that this step has been given him in recognition of valuable service, which we were all confident he would render when opportunity offered.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The diminution of stocks in the hands of dealers, and the practical impossibility of obtaining further supplies, naturally limit the volume of business in the markets. But there is sufficient enquiry to make it quite clear that all the hops at present available will be exhausted before the new crop arrives. Brewers are fully aware of the position, and are willing purchasers of any lots that meet their ideas of quality. But their choice is now much reduced, and as holders are not anxious to sell, values of all kinds are gradually increasing. It is confidently expected that an important upward movement will shortly be developed, and that the opening of the trade in the new growth will be marked by extensive operations at much higher rates than the present currency.

Recent Quotations

may be approximately given as follows:—Marktwaare, 80s. to 100s.; Alsace, 90s. to 105s.; Baden, 100s. to 110s.; Wurtemberg, 105s. to 115s.; Hallertau, 110s. to 120s.; Wolnzach, 115s. to 125s.; Spalt, 125s. to 135s.; Saaz, 145s. to 155s.

The New Growth

has profited by the showers, alternated with sunshine, which have recently visited the plantations. The backwardness and weakness of the bine, which was general a short time ago, have to a great extent disappeared, being replaced by strength and vigour, which promise well for further development, although it must be admitted that the plant as a whole is yet in arrear of its normal growth at this period, and still requires all the help that favourable climatic conditions can afford.

Spalt (Bavaria).

Weather having improved since the beginning of the month, there is perceptible development in most hop grounds. The young shoots were attacked in some places by flea, and much of the foliage is perforated by these pests, but most of the bine is growing well, and a good yield is anticipated.

Hersbrucker.

The bine has grown fairly regular, and is climbing the poles at a rapid rate. High winds have hindered tying, and rain is much needed.

Aischgrund.

The condition of the plants is generally good, the bine being well advanced by recent favourable weather. Some grounds have suffered from the ravages of flea, and are consequently rather backward.

Wolnzach.

The growth is progressing well, owing to the genial influence of warmer weather. The attacks of flea have now ceased, and no other insect hindrances have as yet appeared; therefore the plants are healthy and the prospect is fairly good.

Au (Lower Bavaria).

The hop plant seems to have outgrown the checks caused by the cold weather in May, and the attack by the flea. The condition is now generally satisfactory.

Kindinger.

There is much variation in this district. Some of the plants are very backward owing to the flea pest, which was very severe, but in other grounds the bine is growing strongly, and presents a healthy appearance.

Wurtemberg.

Much damage was done in the early stages of growth by the persistent attack of flea; consequently the plantations are far from uniform in their present state, but the warm weather is doing much to remedy the evil, and the general condition is improving daily.

Siebenburgen.

A good yield is promised, if there should be a continuance of suitable weather. The plants stood the winter well, and the spring cultivation was not delayed. The bine is sound, the foliage of good colour, and no vermin has thus far appeared.

Upper Austria and Styria.

The plants are somewhat backward in their growth, in consequence of the long continuance of cold, wet weather. They have not made normal progress, and their development appears to be very slow. Fortunately, there is no disease, insect pests being absent, but there is much need for more congenial atmospheric conditions.

Belgium.

The hop market remains exceedingly firm for 1899 growths. Alosts are now quoted and sold at 63 to 65 francs per 50 kilos (51s. to 52s. 6d. per cwt.), and holders are not pressing thereat, as they are looking for still higher prices as the summer progresses. Offers are being made for the coming crop at 72½ to 75 francs, but growers are not at present disposed to contract at these figures.

Although the plantations give evidence of progress during the past fortnight, the weather having been helpful to the growth of the bine, their general appearance is not by any means satisfactory, as much irregularity is apparent, and the plants are still in arrear of the usual condition for the season. They are also hindered by the presence of the aphis blight, which is causing great anxiety amongst growers, who, being mostly of the smaller or peasant class, have not the means of applying remedies which are used by men with larger capital. It is hardly expected that an average yield will be gathered this year.

America.

There is not much tangible improvement in the hop trade in New York, although a slight enlargement of demand has given a firmer tone to the market. The receipts of hops at New York from September 1st, 1899, to June 5th last totalled 102,549 bales, compared with 142,575 bales during same period last year. Exports to Europe have fallen from 102,332 bales in 1898—1899 to 43,377 bales this season, while imports have more than doubled. These figures demonstrate that there could not have been an excessive production last year, and point to the possibility of a complete clearance of old stocks by the time the new crop is brought forward.

Concerning the Present Growth

I have but very limited information. The old yards in New York State are reported as showing signs of weakness, but the younger plantations appear to be coming on fairly well. Much depends on the cultivation. Where attention has been given to it, good progress in the plant is evident, their strength having been assisted by recent rains. A report from Cobleskill says that an annual large acreage has been ploughed up, and growers are so much discouraged by their unprofitable experience of late years that they refuse to pay the advanced prices now demanded for twine and other necessaries, and that consequently many yards will be entirely neglected. I have no further news from the Pacific Coast districts, but have reason to believe that general good progress is being made, and that the present prospect of the probable yield is sufficiently favourable.

From the Plantations.

THE FARLEIGHS.—There is a decided improvement in the look of the bine, notwithstanding the present ungenial weather; hot sun is much required. There is less vermin than there was, but still there is too much hanging about to be pleasant, and mould may appear at any time; in fact, spots can be found now, and it will be very dangerous to sulphur. The bine grows but very slowly, and the healthy grounds do not make the growth they ought to this time of year. Unless we get a hot July and August the crop must be a short one.—June 30th.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 15, 17.)

* *All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the Society.*

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Crops at the Royal.

The Royal Show at York possesses a melancholy interest, as it has practically settled the question of the proposed cessation of the existing arrangement of showing. To many people the annual show is the chief end and aim of the Royal Agricultural Society, and for such a delusion the action of the executive of the Society is chiefly to blame.

To anyone carefully noting the steps now being taken as they follow one by one, it is evident that a very large proportion of the members are lethargic and apathetic, whilst a small minority is active and working for a set purpose.

Is that aim for the good of the Society and of agriculture in general?

It seems a pity to have to refer to the matter in such a manner that the question is raised, but the responsibility rests with those whose action causes the query not with the critic.

Frank Criticism of the Society

must not be confounded with condemnation of the officials, permanent or otherwise.

A very grave change in the general conduct of the most prominent feature in the Society's action has been proposed. This is now generally understood to be accepted if not irrevocably fixed, but in such a way that the opinion of the members has not been taken. Many, indeed, are found to complain that no attempt has been made to ascertain the real opinion of members, and much dissatisfaction is expressed that the opportunity was not offered at York of free discussion.

To practical men it seems incredible that so grave a point should be determined piecemeal. It is first settled after singularly inadequate discussion, that the time-honoured practice of showing in carefully selected centres shall be abandoned. It is now under consideration if the new practice shall be located in the Provinces or in the Metropolis, but as to the nature of the new practice, as little seems to be known as of the suggested centres (if any) or the

Frequency of Occurrence

or period of the year during which the show or shows shall be held.

With permanent buildings and offices at a fixed point it would be very undesirable to continue holding one show a year only, and the sad onesidedness of the Society's action must most certainly disappear. It is very curious that with a Society so alive to the importance and value of competition that arable cultivation of land has not had the stimulus of full shows and varied but rich prizes offered to corn and corn-growers. Improvements in grain involve the application of the best rules and practices of agriculture generally, and from every point of view are fully as important as any of the matters now approved and encouraged by the Society.

It is probably impossible to ascertain how far the neglect of barley growing by the Society contributed to the falling away in numbers of visitors to the show at York.

Our greatest Barley County

is occupied by a large class of most intelligent farmers, to whom successful barley culture means a great deal. It is quite obvious a good many of these kept away from the show, as did also numbers of others who would have attended had there been something to learn about improved barley culture other than the things shown by the various seedsmen who held stands.

All this points to the necessity for the show to embrace grain on a liberal basis. The absurdity of an agricultural show of almost any type ignoring cereals would have been manifest to everyone long ago but for the pernicious example of the Royal. As it is now considering the desirability of adopting a new policy and improving practices, on of the most useful and necessary reformations it can possibly effect will be the fullest utilisation of its great power for effecting good to the sundry sections depending upon grain-growing.

There are many reasons both natural and artificial why

Barley-growing should Flourish

in Great Britain. The downward tendency of prices is a distinct disadvantage, which can only be combated by the growth of first-class barleys fit for the maltster's use. This is a national industry in which we ought never to be beaten excepting in those rare seasons when the elements are against us.

Thoughtful men tremble to think of what will happen to us the next time we meet with a distinctly bad season. It is disheartening, as it is, to find that even in such a season as the one just ended the price has had so persistent and uniform a drop of nearly half-a-crown a quarter. It is quite certain that when so large a proportion of the grain marketed is fit for malt that the average price ought not to fall under 25s. per qr. Yet that figure has only twice been reached since February last. Naturally the average prices are affected by the ratio of grinding to malting sorts, so when we get a large proportion of inferior grain there will be a fall which will bring out the dangers of the whole position in an alarming manner.

One of the chief bulwarks against this danger should be its recognition forthwith by the Royal Agricultural Society.

FRANK RICHARDSON AND CO., successors to J. TOPHAM RICHARDSON BROS. AND CO., Importers of Selected Foreign Malting Barleys, 6, Duke Street, Southwark, London, S.E. Telegrams, "Escourgeon, London." Telephone, 787, Hop, London; and at Liverpool and Burton-on-Trent.—[ADVT.]

LITERARY NOTICES.

"The Reclamation of Land from Tidal Waters," a handbook for engineers, landed proprietors, and others interested in the work of reclamation, by Alexander Beazeley, M.I.C.E., has just been issued by Messrs. Crosby Lockwood and Son, 7, Stationers' Hall Court, Ludgate Hill. The author states in the preface that it was contemplated to issue a new and revised edition of the late Mr. John Wiggins's book (which is now out of print) on "The Practice of Embanking Lands from the Sea"—the most important work in English dealing exclusively with that subject published since Dugdale wrote—but that in view of the extensive alterations of the text needful in order to bring it even fairly into line with present knowledge and practice, the publishers invited him to prepare a new work, which while retaining such of the matter in the former one deemed to be of permanent value, should bring the subject thoroughly up to date, and be of a severely practical character. The result of the author's labours is an octavo book of some three hundred pages, containing much information on the subject. It is published at half a guinea nett.

At a very opportune moment Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., has written a book on "Small Horses in Warfare," in which he puts forward some facts which go to prove the peculiar suitability of small horses for campaigning work which requires animals of staying power, hardiness, and independence of high feeding. Sir Walter Gilbey makes some remarks on the horses used in the Crimean war, and on the ponies of India, Northern Africa, Morocco, Eastern Asia, Australia, America and Texas, and in the Soudan; whilst he describes the post horses of Siberia and the war horses of the future; but perhaps the most important chapter of all is that in which he gives some sound and practical advice on the breeding of small horses. Sir Walter points out that we possess in England foundation stock from which we may be able to raise a breed of small horses equal to or better than any that we are now obliged to procure from abroad. The book, which is nicely illustrated and bound, should be in the hands of all horse breeders and others interested in the subject. Messrs. Vinton and Company, Ltd., 9, New Bridge Street, London, E.C., are the publishers.

From the Government of India Department of Revenue and Agriculture there has come to hand a large volume of about seven hundred foolscap pages of tables showing the trade carried by rail and river in India in the official year 1898-99 and the four preceding years. It is compiled under the supervision of the Director-General of Statistics, and is published at the office of the Superintendent of Government Printing, Calcutta.

The Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's Journal for 1900 has just been issued. The greater part of it is taken up with a list of the awards at last year's show, and the list of prizes for the exhibition to be held at Rochdale on July 26th, 27th, and 28th. The Council's report for the year ending October 31st last is given, and also the Adulteration Inspector's report for 1899. He states that he submitted 90 samples of butter and margarine for analysis, and obtained 74 convictions (two of which were for fraudulent excess of water in margarine, viz., 19 per cent. and 21 per cent.) out of 78 prosecutions. A list of the names and addresses of shopkeepers, the county analyst's report of analysis, and the result of the prosecution is given. The Journal also contains an interesting account of Lancashire farming in 1899, a paper on "Variations in the Composition and Feeding Value of Purchased Feeding Stuffs," by Alfred Smetham, F.I.C., F.C.S., and an article on "The Art of Butter-making," by Frederick J. Lloyd. There are seven capital portraits of the horses and cattle which won the principal special prizes at the Society's last show.

A paper on "The Relation of the Ash to the Height of Plants," by Messrs. E. J. Mills, D.Sc., F.R.S., J. Imrie, A.I.C., and Archibald Gray, which was read before the Philosophical Society of Glasgow, has now been published in pamphlet form by the Society mentioned.

The annual report of the field experiments carried out by the Agricultural Department of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, during 1899, has just been issued. It was written by Mr. J. Alan Murray, B.Sc., Lecturer on Agricultural Chemistry, and Mr. T. H. Middleton, B.Sc., Lecturer on Agriculture, who conducted the experiments.

We have received a copy of a pamphlet entitled "The Revival of British Agriculture," which is a reprint of the discussion which appeared in the *Echo* (London) on a letter written by Mr. Thomas C. Read.

The Technical Instruction Committee of the East Sussex County Council have published a report on the valuation of manures, based on the analyses and unit value, written by W. J. Malden, Principal of the Agricultural and Horticultural College, Uckfield. The report is in the form of a pamphlet consisting of some twelve pages, and a copy can be had on application to Mr. Malden or the Organising Secretary for Technical Instruction, County Hall, Lewes, Sussex.

A translation by W. Arnold of the Maritime Code of the German Empire has just been published by Mr. Effingham Wilson, 11, Royal Exchange, E.C. It is a neatly printed and bound work of about two hundred pages, and is published at six shillings nett.

Mr. Effingham Wilson, of 11, Royal Exchange, E.C., has lately published "Food and Drugs," which is a manual for traders and others, being a consolidation of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, Sale of Food and Drugs Act Amendment Act, 1879; Margarine Act, 1887, and the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899. The compiler of the work is Mr. Charles James Higginson, of the Inner Temple, barrister-at-Law, who has taken the Act of 1875 as a basis, and the provisions of the subsequent Acts he has embodied in it, so as to show at a glance in how far they modify or enlarge its operation. In the introduction there is a short summary of the more important provisions of the Act of last year, whilst the four Acts are printed *in extenso* at the end of the book, as well as the general orders issued by the Local Government Board regarding the registration of manufactories and premises and the regulations as to competency of public analysts. The work, which is published at 2s. 6d. net, should prove a most useful one to all who are in any way affected by the Acts mentioned.

There has just come to hand a copy of the fifteenth statistical report of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, Tokio, Japan, for 1900. It is rather a bulky volume, and is printed in Japanese.

We have received a copy of a pamphlet entitled "Agriculture in Canada," written by William Saunders, LL.D., Director of the Canadian Experimental Farms. This pamphlet, which gives some interesting facts, accompanied by illustrations, concerning farming in Canada, is being distributed at the Paris Exhibition, by the direction of the Canadian Commissioners.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended June 23, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	10,308	10,795	Wheat ..	1,157,000	1,787,500
Sheep ..	18,107	4,749	Flour ..	228,400	146,800
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	288,100	364,500
			Oats ..	260,500	449,300
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	39,300	28,000
Beef ..	68,336	87,482	Beans ..	31,600	13,400
Mutton ..	48,477	84,777	Maize ..	840,500	753,100
Pork ..	8,305	3,939		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	94,598	140,098	†Bananas	—	30,295
Beef, salt	2,005	3,793		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	39,054	40,429	Apples ..	15,292‡	518
Pork, salt	5,530	4,182	†Apricots & Peaches	—	450
Meat, salt & fresh	8,681	9,039	†Cherries	31,279‡	30,237
Do. pres.	7,232	16,899	†Currants	—	1,637
Butter ..	53,243	68,921	†Gooseb'r's	—	5,094
M'rg'rine	15,918	15,275	Grapes ..	1,295‡	129
Cheese ..	50,562	80,587	Lemons	20,653‡	36,483
Con. Milk	11,253	20,171	Oranges	44,143‡	34,185
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	80	271	Pears ..	222	18
			Plums ..	2,871‡	—
			†Straw'b'r's	—	12,413
			Oth'r Frt	49,066	612
	No.	No.		Tons.	Tons.
Eggs ..	386,470*	365,52.*	Hay ..	2,018	1,747
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	46,119	11,819
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£2,498	£6,465	Hops ..	384	564
			Potatoes	350,388	351,182
	Cwt.	Cwt.	§Tomtoes	—	2,755
Rabbits	2,943	10,219	Other Veg'bles	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	21,042	39,048		£9,000	£10,000

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

Outbreak of Anthrax near Inverness.—An outbreak of anthrax has occurred near Inverness. Four Highland cattle were missing from the farm of Balvonie, Leys, tenanted by Mr. Alexander Cameron, and in course of a search their dead bodies were found in a wood near the farm. Mr. Logan, V.S., examined the carcases at the request of the authorities, and he has reported that the animals had died of anthrax. The bodies were immediately destroyed by fire, and Mr. Cameron's herd has been isolated.

Visit of Agricultural Students to Lord Wantage's Farms.

About thirty students of the Agricultural Department of Reading College, accompanied by Mr. Douglas Gilchrist (Director of the Agricultural Department), Mr. P. Hedworth Foulkes, Mr. Frank P. Walker (Agricultural Department), Dr. Luxmoor (Chemistry), Mr. M. Benson (Dairy Institute), etc., paid a visit to the farms of Lord Wantage, at Lockinge, on the 22nd ult. The day was fine and bright, and the students had a most pleasant time of it, and they doubtless saw and heard much that should help them in their study of agriculture.

The party was met at the station by Lord Wantage and his farm steward (Mr. C. H. Eady), and were first conveyed to Grove Wick, close to the station, where some two-year-old horses and "Elephant" cattle were inspected. At Grove Park, a broad expanse of pasturage, a herd of over 100 fine Hereford beasts engaged the attention of the company. Mr. Eady answered questions respecting the cost, keep, condition, and worth of the animals. It was explained that the water from the soil on this spot was salt, so that the cattle were supplied by Wantage Waterworks Company from the chalk hills three and a half miles away. On the way through the park some more Shire horses and store cattle were examined. Herds of cattle could be seen scattered in different meadows. A fine group of bullocks feeding on excellent pasturage came in for inspection, and descriptions were given by Lord Wantage and the farm steward. Continuing the drive through meadows full of fine crops of mowing grass, the party soon reached Ardington, around which place, in the meadows, horses, foals, and cattle were feeding. Here are a number of labourers' cottages, and also covered yards and feeding stalls, where the cattle are kept in winter. Situated in the midst of a range of grazing meadows, the boxes, although empty during the summer, sometimes serve for the shelter of young foals when there is promise of a wet night. Towards Ardington exceptionally fine crops of corn and roots were seen.

Reaching the village, where they were joined by Lady Wantage, the party entered a field just above the Shire horse stables, where, peacefully grazing with their foals, were the magnificent mares Buscot Queen, Tatton Flower, Blackpool Breeze, Forest Queen, Blush Rose, and Bounce. These animals were very much admired. In an adjoining meadow a magnificent yearling, Forest King, son of Forest Queen, by Lockinge Manners, came in for admiration. It was a handsome animal, and took second prize at Northampton Show, where several offers of £500 were refused. The handsome mare Blythwood, by Gilda Rose, which took third prize at Winchester recently, was also admired. Passing to the stables, the company took a hasty look round. Buscot Park, a most noble animal, with proud bearing, was brought out in the yard. The last animal brought out was the famous Prince William, which was for so many years the champion Shire stallion of England, and which finished his show-yard career by winning the gold medal given by the Queen for the best animal of the Shire horse breed at the Windsor Show in 1889.

Leaving the stables, adjoining which are the estate works, where a large number of hands are employed and a steam-saw was humming through a massive tree, the party next inspected the stores and the dairy, and then drove to Lockinge House, the beautiful home of Lord and Lady Wantage, which is just now surrounded with a wealth of foliage and beauty. Here the party were entertained in the dining-room to lunch. At the conclusion Mr. Gilchrist, in thanking Lord and Lady Wantage, on behalf of the students, for their kind hospitality, said they highly valued the privilege of being able to visit a farm like Lord Wantage's, to see the practical working and co-operation, and to inspect such high-class animals. They had witnessed a practical demonstration of what could be done on a large farm, which would help them to understand it better. They all knew the great interest which Lord Wantage, as President, took in their College, and how much he has done for it. He therefore desired, on behalf of the students, most heartily to thank Lord and Lady Wantage for their kindness. (Applause.)

Mr. A. T. Judd seconded, and the motion was carried with applause.

Lord Wantage, in responding, said they would understand that his object in inviting them to Lockinge was for the benefit of those interested in agriculture, and especially those young people who were preparing themselves for their future vocation in life in the agricultural profession. He very much wished that Reading College had been more kindly understood by the University of Oxford, and that certain men of the College might be able to get into the University. They had not had that support which was was given by the University of Cambridge, which appeared to have realised more speedily than Oxford had done the importance attached to agriculture, and had given it its foremost place in the teaching of this country. (Hear, hear.) For, in his opinion, there was nothing more important than the teaching of agriculture, on which most of the commercial and agricultural greatness of the country depended. Therefore he was pleased to see at Lockinge those who were seeking to go forth into life properly equipped as farmers and agriculturists. He believed that observation through one's own eyes was far more useful than knowledge gained from books. He advised them to acquaint themselves with things, to study the difficulties, and see how they could be overcome. They had practical men in that room. They had Mr. Gilchrist, the head of their staff, and also his friend Mr. Eady. (Applause.) The more they could learn from them the better. He might say without exaggeration that they had that day seen some of the best Shire horses in England. (Applause.) That particular breed of Shire horses was the most paying for farmers and agriculturists to take up. They had seen their merits, qualities, and drawbacks. They had seen their magnificent qualities, for the breeding of which England was specially adapted. They could not walk through the streets of London without seeing those strong horses in drays and vans, as people preferred to have their work done by one horse rather than two. With all the facilities for breeding in England, he would strongly recommend farmers to rear one or two mares and see what could be done. A good breed must have a good hold, and if they could raise such animals they would get a good market for them. £70 or £80 would not be at all an extravagant price. He congratulated the students on their prospects in life, and wished them every success. (Applause.)

After lunch and a walk round the grounds the party took a two-mile drive through waving corn fields to the north side of the ridge of the Downs, where at an altitude of about 700ft. some experiments on Down pasture are being carried out. Several plots were laid off in January, 1896. The object of the experiments is to test how far it is possible to improve pastures on this poor, exposed land by various top-dressings of artificial manures. Another half-mile drive along the breezy Downs, where a magnificent view was obtained, brought the party to the highest point of this elevated spot, where Lord Wantage showed his guests a large reservoir which he has had made at great expense. A large sheet of water 40yds. square and 12ft. deep in the centre, lies between chalk banks, and is pumped up from the valley by a windmill, except when replenished by dew and rain. Pipes and drinking fountains are provided, and 3,000 acres are supplied from this source, all the outlying farms, cottages, and farm buildings being dependent on it. The water is pure and good. The return journey to Lockinge was then made by way of Betterton, where tea was provided. Cheers having been given for Lord and Lady Wantage, the party returned to Reading.

THE GARDEN.

The warm, showery, and very forcing weather mentioned in my last continued up to Sunday last (the 24th), when a heavy storm of wind and rain prevailed all day, and continued during Monday and part of Tuesday. This has knocked about peas, and even potatoes badly in many places, the growth having been very rapid of late. It has also laid the hay rather badly, and will probably render cutting a difficult matter.

We are now past the longest day, and soon—too soon—the evenings will begin to "draw in" again—the forerunner of autumn. The spring work of sowing and planting is, or ought to be, all done now, and most of the necessary operations in the vegetable garden will now be of a routine character. At any rate the "rush" is over, and though there is still plenty to do in this as in other departments the work will not be quite so hard or constant, and already the ingathering of at least some crops is commencing, and this I always think is easier and usually more satisfactory work than the out-putting, or preparing and sowing, or planting operations.

Celery for the main winter and early spring supplies should be planted out at once now, in well-manured trenches. Leeks also ought to go out as soon as possible, as the plants, if sown in good time, will be quite strong enough by this time. There are various ways of planting and growing leeks, but if large and well-blanched stalks of the finest quality are desired, the best way is to set them out in well-manured trenches prepared in the same way as for celery, but scarcely so wide or deep. In these the plants may be placed about 9in. apart, or rather more to obtain extra large leeks for exhibition, etc., but for ordinary purposes two rows may as well be got in each trench as one, and in this case let the rows be 10in. or 12in. apart, and the plants 8in. or 9in. A rather easier way is to draw V-shaped drills about 6in. deep in some good, well manured ground, and put the plants out in the bottom of these at 8in. or 9in. distance. In either case the plants must be earthed up as they grow, in order to blanch the stems, but do not cover the growing point of the heart.

Yet another way is to make holes 3in. to 4in. in diameter, and 10in. or 12in. deep, with a large, blunt dibber, in some good ground, dropping a plant in each, with just enough earth after to cover the roots and give it a start. As the plants grow, fill up the holes, supposing that this does not occur by other means. Some cut off the long, sharp points of the leaves now and then during growth. I cannot say whether this is really advisable or not, but it does not appear to check the growth of the plants in any way. Lastly, however rich the soil, the more liquid manure, etc., they get in dry weather, the finer will the stalks be.

Finish thinning beds of onions, carrots, both of the long and short or stump-rooted kinds, parsnips, etc. Beet should also be ready for thinning by this, and should be left at about 9in. apart. Egyptian or turnip-rooted beet, if sown early, will soon be fit for use. Turnips, too, will need thinning, and more seed should be sown. The plants are growing grandly now, and there is scarcely a sign of the troublesome flea or beetle.

Plant out Autumn Giant and other cauliflowers of this type—the Walcheren is good—for use during the late autumn months; also more broccoli of sorts, savoys, and kale. Brussels sprouts ought to be all out ere this. The others may be planted, in part at least, on the space vacated by early potatoes, as these are dug. More lettuce had also better be planted out for succession, and a good batch of endive also; sow more seed of this last, of both the curled and Batavian kinds.

The potato crop still appears to be unusually late, and the tubers are scarce and dear. Hereabouts the haulm is unusually fine and strong, even where the soil is by no means rich, but so far there is very little in the way of tubers beneath. Warm, dry weather is wanted now for this crop.

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (June 25th).—The weather was very stormy and unsettled in many parts of our islands, and gales occurred at several places on our west and south coasts. Rain was measured in the morning over the entire country as the result of the fall in the previous twenty-four hours, and in many places the fall was heavy. The weather was generally cool, and in London the highest temperature was sixty-three degrees, or ten degrees below the average. A sharp thunderstorm passed over London shortly after one o'clock in the afternoon, accompanied by a hail squall and a heavy downpour of rain.

TUESDAY (June 26th).—Fine weather prevailed generally over the British Islands, but there was still a great deal of cloud in most parts of the country. The winds were north-westerly and light over the whole of the United Kingdom. Rain was measured in the morning as the result of the fall in preceding twenty-four hours at all but a few of the western stations, but the amounts were small, except in the east of England. In London the day was fine, although the sky was for the most part cloudy, and the temperature did not exceed sixty-four degrees.

WEDNESDAY (June 27th).—The weather was fine over the British Islands, but there was still a good deal of cloud. In most parts of the country no rain had fallen in the preceding twenty-four hours, and the conditions had generally become more settled than of late. The type of weather was anticyclonic, and the barometer readings were fairly high, and had recovered considerably since the previous day. The winds were mostly northerly, and they were everywhere light. The temperatures were rather low during Tuesday night in many parts of the country, and the midday readings were much below the average. The day was fine, but rather cloudy in London, and the highest temperature was sixty-six degrees.

THURSDAY (June 28th).—The weather was fine over our islands, and the air was generally warmer than on several previous days. Slight rain was measured at a few places in the morning, as the result of the fall on Wednesday, but in most parts of the country the weather had been dry. In Great Britain the winds were light and variable. The morning was dull and cloudy in London, but the sky cleared considerably in the afternoon, and the shade temperature rose to sixty-eight degrees.

FRIDAY (June 29th).—Fine weather prevailed over the greater part of England, but the conditions had become unsettled again in Scotland and Ireland, where rain fell in places during the day. The winds had everywhere become southerly, and had freshened somewhat on the west coasts. The midday readings were somewhat low in many places, owing to the prevalence of cloud. The morning was very fine in London, and the sheltered thermometer rose to 71deg., but the sky became overcast in the afternoon.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (June 30th and July 1st).—Cloudy weather prevailed over our islands during the two days, and rain fell in nearly all parts of the country. The amounts measured in the morning on both days were large in many places. It was only in the extreme east of England that the temperature on Saturday touched seventy degrees, while Sunday was generally cooler. The wind was everywhere south-westerly, and it blew strongly in places on our coasts. A thunderstorm occurred at Wick on Saturday, and the sky on Sunday was very threatening at times in places. No appreciable rain fell in London, but there was a great deal of cloud, and the temperature for the two days did not exceed sixty-seven degrees.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Denbigh.

In the Vale of Clwyd we have had a long spell of dry weather, so much so that all the crops are suffering. Root crops are about at a standstill, very few turnips having been singled. Those done are making no headway until they get a heavy soaking. The clover hay crops where cut need a continuation of fine weather, while I have

An Exceptionally Heavy Crop

of clover and rye grass on highly manured land which was not grazed during the spring, all up in big cooks, which we started to carry this afternoon, but have been stopped by a heavy downpour, which is much needed by turnips and grass land.

Cattle

are keeping healthy and doing well. Beef finds a ready market at 7d. and 7½d. Store cattle are a slower trade in consequence of the dry and cold season. Sheep have had a most trying winter and spring, and there have been a good deal above the average losses, many deaths from pneumonia, and on the whole it will not be a profitable sheep season throughout the district; 108 of my Shropshire ewes brought 180 lambs.

The Labour Question

is becoming more serious as the harvest advances. Railway companies, the Army, and others are taking many of our men, and in other ways the ranks of agricultural labourers are being seriously seen, so that it is difficult to see where it is going to end. Farming is becoming more troublesome each year, and the patience and forbearance of farmers generally have been put to the severest tests.

Corn Harvest Prospects

are not favourable at present, unless this rain is sufficient to fetch up the crops. Wheat is 20 per cent. less than last year, barley 25, and oats 50. Roots have scarcely made a start; very few singled, and those that are have been quite at a standstill. The same may be said of potatoes, and it will be a long time before any field potatoes are ready for raising. Hay crops on all the drier lands are very short, not more than half a crop.—T. W. B. (June 29).

East Suffolk.

About a week of showery and stormy weather has proved good for our light lands. Barley especially is very promising and roots are flourishing. On the heavy land the rain has been too much. Barley is looking yellow and can hardly recover. Wheat is more independent, but much is not looking well. There is a good plant of roots, but in danger of being smothered by weeds. A good crop of clover has been cut, only to be hopelessly damaged by wet. A little of the early grass and sainfoin has been secured in the last day or two. Plenty of patience is a fine thing for a farmer to be endowed with. Every now and then things unexpectedly come all right, and anyhow he has the same luck and the same weather as his neighbours. Wheat has had a sudden rise in price, but soon down again. Yankee reports seem not to be trusted. The Royal Show did not attract a full number from East Suffolk. The railway companies would do better to put on special trains for the half-crown days rather than invite people into the crush of the cheap days. Wheat is blossoming well, and the wild roses are out, so that it should be about six weeks to harvest. The prospect now is of plenty of labour. Machines are now so common that with the master riding the machine twenty or twenty-five acres a man are talked of as a rule for harvest work.—J. Y. (June 29th).

Mid Staffs.

The month ends under conditions which show a marked improvement in our crops of almost every kind. The rains of June have filled up the grass in all meadows in good condition so much that we are likely to have an average bulk of hay, a thing which seemed improbable a fortnight ago. It is true that we are beginning to cut our seeds and grass at a period later by some ten days than has been usual of late years; but, as the seed-bearing grasses are as late comparatively as the undergrowth, the quality of the hay, if saved in good condition, will be satisfactory. Some of the earlier-sown fields of swedes were so damaged by fly that they are deficient in plant. Their condition appeared almost hopeless before the late spell of showery weather. Mangolds and cow cabbage—the latter being a favourite crop with the dairy farmers of the district—are now doing well. Until the last days of June corn was not only late, but was very slow in shooting. With the warm sunshine which has now come, the ears are making their appearance rapidly. As we are in the habit of reckoning six full weeks between the time of shooting and ripening, it is fair to expect that it will need a plentiful allowance of forcing weather during July in order to have our corn ready for cutting by the middle of August. It is some years since our pastures were as full of grass as they now are.—T. C. S. (June 28th).

Northamptonshire

Unsettled weather still prevails, though in this immediate neighbourhood (Kettering district) we escaped the terrific hailstorms which did such fearful damage in many places. I can truly say that with the exception of winter beans every single corn crop will be

Much Under an Average.

Wheat, which at one time promised well, may be the best (next to winter beans), but barley everywhere here has a sickly hue and a weakly growth. Oats are a very light crop. Mangolds, as a rule, are a good plant, and there is every prospect of a full turnip crop. Clovers have come down very light, and the same remark applies generally to the hay crop. Beef and mutton make a good price, but stores will be very dear.

Wool is Lower

in price than has ever been known, the average at our wool fairs being about 17s. per tod. Certainly there is just now nothing pleasant to say as to agricultural prospects, excepting that about here stock are healthy and doing fairly well.—June 29th.

North Somerset.

Nearly too busy to write. Haymaking, delayed, has now come on with a rush; a few of the early cut pieces are stained, but not much damage done as yet, unless it is rushed in to rick too quickly, and some have done this to have the pleasure of turning. Better spoil in the field than in the rick. Pastures are rather bare considering the rainfall, but the hay crop will be a good one, except on hillsides, where all the finer grasses were killed by last year's drought. Wheat is rather short, but looking well, though it was backward in coming into ear. Oats are badly patched by wireworm, whilst barley is rather late. Potatoes, though late, are strong, whereas mangels are variable, some of the fields being very shardy. Swedes will soon be showing above ground, and, judging by early experiences, the fly is quite ready to receive them. Fruit trees are much blighted, and the pear trees promise to yield a very light crop. Apples, though not over thick on some trees, are very large considering the lateness of the blossom. With farmers busy haymaking, the store trade for all kinds of stock is naturally dull. The only business now that is thriving is that of the implement agent; but, singularly, the run is not on mowers or horse rakes, but on haymakers and swath turners, orders for 103 of which were booked in the Bath Showyard. Elevators of the less expensive kind are also much in request. It will be noticed that the run is on essentially labour-saving appliances. Wages, considering the scarcity of labour, are not over high, ranging from 20s. to 22s. per week, with cider, for the harvest quarter of thirteen weeks.—North Somerset.

North Wilts.

Cost of Haymaking.

In this district, which consists principally of pasture land, the beneficial showers have had the effect of producing a most excellent crop of grass, but of late have much hindered its conversion into hay. Hands are scarce, and the price of labour has increased so much as to render it an expensive affair, and but for the ingenious labour-saving machines, which are now so much in use, the process for all of it would be next to impossible. The writer can remember when there were a few farms without any of these appliances in this district, the work being all done with the fork and rake; but in those days labour was plentiful and cheap, but the more elaborate process then was somewhat expensive. According to a record presented as to the cost of a little over ninety acres on a farm in this district, the expense in 1817 of mowing, haymaking, and ricking (also including beer) was £94 16s. 10d.; in 1820 it cost £84 10s., and in 1821 £105 5s. 6d. As might be expected in such an abundance of keep and cool weather, stock of all kinds, whether dairy, grazing, or store, have done surprisingly well, but the prices have been somewhat disappointing as regards beef; still, altogether there is much to be thankful for. The cereal crops do not appear to be equal to those of the last two years. There is a most wonderful crop of apples in this district, and a fair quantity of other fruit.—W. F. P. (June 29th).

Shropshire.

Weather fine, but cloudy. After the showers and the sunshine, some growing weather. Yet the crops are rather disappointing, but may pluck up yet with more heat.

West Cornwall.

Owing to a cold spring and so much rain in June all crops are late. Wheat is looking fairly well, but below the average. Oats and barley are all right, and the straw will be a big crop. Hay is a fair crop, but not heavy. A lot has been out in the rain for a fortnight, and the quality will be bad. Farmers are now very busy cutting, and a few days' hot sun are badly wanted to save it. Beef selling very well, 58s. to 60s. per cwt. The early potato crop is about finished; crops have been fairly plentiful and prices good. On the whole, it has been a good season. Most of the broccoli are planted. The fruit crop is late, but a fair yield all around. Strawberries are in full swing, and prices are fair. Gooseberries are a drug in all markets. Apples and pears are a good crop.—F. C. (June 29th).

York.

The tropical heat and drought of a fortnight ago have been succeeded by a series of thunderstorms, copious rains, and cooler weather. Crops have improved, and harvest prospects, so far as can be judged at this early date, are very promising. Turnips have had a trying time, but, on the whole, they are doing fairly well, though there has been extensive resowing. Potatoes are coming up strong and healthy.

Prices of beef and mutton have been good, but have fallen off a little of late, particularly the last-named. Grain is still low. There is not much wheat in farmers' hands, and the recent rise has only as yet (June 27th) affected local markets to the extent of 2s. per qr.

Many are discussing the attendance at the recent Royal Show. The consensus of opinion is that the society has failed to adapt itself to the times, and is out of touch with its members. No misgivings are felt as to the attendance at the coming Yorkshire Show.—W. P. (June 27th).

Foreign Prospects.

France.—At the weekly Paris market, the opinion was expressed that a remarkable improvement has taken place in wheat crop prospects during the past fortnight.

Holland and Belgium.—Crop prospects, in the main, are regarded with satisfaction. The markets have moved in sympathy with American fluctuations.

Germany.—Weather lately has been propitious and crop prospects are better. After considerable activity the markets of Berlin, Hamburgh, etc., have become quieter, for, supplies being ample, there is no special object to be gained in providing for autumn requirements before they can be ascertained.

Hungary.—The wheat crop, with slight exceptions, presents a favourable appearance, and a good harvest is expected. After responding to the rise in foreign markets, wheat, at Budapest, became easier, in consequence of large offerings.

Spain.—The condition of the wheat fields continues to be very favourably spoken of, and cutting will soon begin in the southern latitudes. The barley crop is yielding better than was expected.

Italy.—During the last ten days the weather has been favourable to agriculture, and the condition of the crops has much improved. Wheat, generally speaking, has a promising appearance, and reaping has begun in many localities, while the harvesting of barley and oats is in full progress. The maize fields look in satisfactory condition.

Roumania.—Wheat cutting will begin next week. Recent rain has improved the cereals in Upper Moldavia. The appearance of the crop is said to be fairly good. Rye will yield a middling result.

Russia.—Advices from Southern departments indicate crop results as likely to exceed the average. Weather continues moderately warm and favourable.

United States.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says the spring wheat crop will not be over 200 million bushels, and possibly somewhat less. The winter wheat crop indicates a total yield of 350 million bushels. The reserves now equal those of a year ago. These reserves, with new crops, will furnish a quantity equal to the past year's consumption and the exports. The world's wheat crop will practically equal last year's production, and will be 5 per cent. over the five years' average.—*Dornbusch.*

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Belfast, June 28, 1900.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb	£ s. d.
1	Bullock (prime) ..	22 0 0	10 2 7	2 1 8
1	,, ,, ..	22 0 0	11 0 21	1 19 4
1	,, ,, ..	23 0 0	12 0 14	1 17 11
1	,, ,, ..	19 0 0	10 1 7	1 16 10
1	,, (very good) ..	15 15 0	8 3 17	1 15 4
1	,, (good) ..	13 12 6	8 1 24	1 13 2
1	Heifer (prime) ..	12 5 0	6 1 0	1 19 2
1	,, ,, ..	14 10 0	8 0 7	1 16 0
1	,, ,, ..	13 15 0	7 3 0	1 15 6
1	,, ,, ..	15 0 0	8 2 3	1 15 2
1	,, (very good) ..	12 0 0	7 1 0	1 13 1
1	,, ..	14 5 0	8 2 21	1 12 10
1	Cow ,, ..	14 15 0	8 3 14	1 13 3

Scottish Chamber of Agriculture.—A meeting of directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture will be held within No. 5, Saint Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, 4th inst., at 10.30 a.m. The agenda is as follows:—(1) Agricultural Holdings Bill: letters from Mr. Long and other members of Parliament. (2) "Louping ill": letter from Mr. C. J. Grieve. (3) Letter from Mr. J. M. Martin, of Auchenlearan. (4) Evidence before Agricultural Returns Committee: report by witnesses. (5) Agricultural Seeds Committee: witnesses. (6) Damage by sparks from railway engines: letter from Mr. J. B. Young. (7) Importation of cattle at Liverpool: letter from Mr. C. Rintoul.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: We continue to have a slow trade. Barley advanced 3d to 6d per qr. Wheat was 4s per qr dearer on the week. Oats made 6d per qr more money. Maize improved about 1s per qr. Flour, 2s to 3s per sack dearer.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Home-grown wheat now comes up in rather better supply, and the quality continues all to be desired, but sales were found difficult to effect, even at a decline of 6d since last Monday. Fine white, 33s 6d, and good heavy red, 32s 63lb delivered. American descriptions 6d to 1s easier during the above period, without inducing operators. No. 1 Northern Spring quoted at 34s ex ship, 35s landed. No. 1 hard Manitoba, 34s 6d; and hard Duluth none offering. Although holding for same, sellers of flour were rather more inclined to entertain consumers' views and accept rather less money, in order to induce business. The London Millers' Association kept prices at last Monday's advance. Grinding barley steady, with attention still centred upon Persian, Black Sea being seemingly unobtainable, and American very scarce. Maize rather easier since last Monday, but the supply is kept down.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Country millers take most of the English wheat on offer, very little being submitted here to-day, with only a slow trade passing. Quotations were again reduced 6d, making the decline 1s 6d from the recent highest. Fine white, 33s; and good red, 32s 6d per qr 63lb, delivered. American descriptions shared in a further reduction of 6d, but holders were not pressing. The flour market was again less regulated by sellers while ruling 6d lower. The London millers kept quotations at last Wednesday's advance. Town household, 26s 6d; whites, 29s 6d per sack. English patents quoted at 25s 6d to 27s 6d; whites 23s 6d to 24s 6d; stone, 21s 6d to 22s 6d. American first patents, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; second ditto 24s 6d to 25s 6d. First bakers, 22s to 23s: and second, 19s 6d to 20s 6d. Hungarian up to 31s per sack. Australian nominal. Among feeding stuffs, grinding barley unaltered, and Persians still forms the chief source of supply, with Black Sea unobtainable. The supply of maize is still kept down, and the present situation favours holders, a rather steadier tone pervading flat. American mixed held for 21s ex ship, and 21s 6d landed; Odessa, 25s 6d landed. Beans and peas remain featureless markets. Egyptian splits, 20s 6d ex mill; Mazagans, 20s landed. New Zealands, 32s 6d to 33s 6d ex store, 504lb. Of peas, Maples, 35s to 36s, 504lb ex store, and Canadian white 29s 6d ex ship, and 30s ex granary. The supply of maize germ meal is now in a very small compass, and holders remain indifferent. American, £4 17s 6d ex mill; English, £4 15s per ton, ex wharf. Arrivals of grain this week: English and Scotch: Barley 800; oats, 210; beans, 180 qr. Foreign: Wheat, 37,020; oats, 126,760; peas, 3,200; beans, 490; maize, 4,660 qr. Flour, 78,460 sacks.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat rose pretty well 4s more, and white samples were quoted at 32s to 34s, and red at 30s to 33s per qr. Maize was also dearer on the week, flat corn making 23s to 24s and round 27s to 28s per qr. All other sorts of corn remained without change, and the amount of business passing was very small.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—The wheat trade ruled slow, and prices were not so good by 1s per qr. All other articles without change in price. Wheat, 28s to 30s per qr.

Boston, Wednesday.—A small show. Wheat, 30s to 31s; grinding barley, 24s 6d; oats, 20s to 22s; beans, 31s; maize, 23s. to 25s; flour, 22s to 28s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been rather more trade since our last, but there was little business at to-day's market, the attendance small, farmers being busy haymaking. There was little English wheat offering, 2s to 3s advance being asked by dealers, which prevents business. Foreign 1s to 1s 6d higher. Grinding barley and round maize without change. Flat maize and oats 3d dearer. Flour 2s 6d dearer.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been irregular. Farmers are unwilling sellers and supplies are very limited. The weather is very unsettled, and haymaking is protracted. At this market to-day there was only a small supply, and farmers held out for higher prices. A small business was done at about 1s over last Saturday's rates. Red wheat, 20s to 31s; and white up to 32s per 504lb. Oats firm. Beans 6d. dearer.

Chester, Saturday.—There were few samples of English grain offered at this market. The increase in wheat was again maintained, but oats and beans were quiet. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 75lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb; beans, 4s 8d to 5s 6d per 80lb; oats, new, 2s 8d to 2s 11d; old, 2s 9d to 3s per 46lb; Indian corn, 10s 9d to 11s 9d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was again a very short supply of wheat, and though prices have dropped from the highest point, a rise of from 2s to 3s per quarter on the week was recorded. Flour also moved upwards in sympathy with wheat. Feeding stuffs met a quiet trade at unaltered prices.

Colchester, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering, and the market was firm at fully last week's prices. Beans, peas, and oats scarcely offered, and rather more money obtainable.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—There was less buoyancy in the wheat trade, in which there has been a marked reaction since last week, accompanied by a corresponding decline in prices. Other articles underwent but trifling change.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat held for fully 1s advance, but the demand is slow. Flour from 2s to 2s 3d per sack more money asked. Indian corn met a fairly good demand at an advance of 1½d per boll. Canadian peas held for 3d advance on spot and to arrive. Grinding beans firm and 1½d to 3d dearer. Canadian oats unchanged, but held for 3d advance for shipment. Barley, oatmeal, and home oats firm but quiet.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat held for fully 1s per boll advance on the week, but the demand is slow. Flour from 2s to 2s 3d per sack more money asked, but the advance checks sales. Indian corn meets a fairly good demand at an advance of 1½d per boll. Canadian peas held for 3d per boll advance, both on spot and to arrive. Grinding beans firm, and 1½d to 3d per boll dearer. Canadian oats unchanged on spot, but held for 3d per boll advance for shipment. Barley, oatmeal, and home oats firm, but quiet. Bran and thirds firm and unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Very few farmers' parcels of wheat on offer. The collapse in the American market caused buyers to somewhat hold aloof, and values are hard to fix. Barley, nothing doing. Oats steady, without quotable change. Maize quotations nominal, delivery being unobtainable in consequence of the dockers' strike in the Bristol Channel. Wholesale prices: Wheat—white, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; and red, 3s 5d to 3s 8d; barley, 3s to 3s 6d; oats, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; beans, 3s 9d to 4s; maize, 3s to 3s 3d; vetches—winter, 4s to 6s; and spring, 3s 6d to 5s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Fair supply of wheat. Trade slow, at an advance of fully 3s per qr. Reds, 31s to 32s 6d; white, 34s. Grinding barley firm. Oats, 31, and maize 9d to 1s dearer. Beans and peas firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There has been a great deal of excitement in the trade during the past week, with rapid fluctuations of values, but the tendency has been mainly to a higher el. Millers have been less free buyers of wheat than speculators, and although the demand is less pronounced to-day, an advance of 2s to 3s on the week is paid on the business doing. Maize, 1s; beans, 9d; and oats, 3d dearer. Flour has been raised 4s per sack from the lowest point.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—There is no further advance in prices of wheat from Tuesday's quotations, which are with difficulty maintained, the feeling of buyers being that for the present top prices have been reached, and that they have nothing to gain thereby in speculation. Flour also remains without change from the late advances of 4s per sack. Peas, beans, oats, maize, and barley firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday.—Small attendance, and only a small quantity of wheat on offer. A fair trade was done at an advance of 1s on the week—reds, 32s to 33s; and whites, 33s to 34s per quarter. Small supply of oats, at an advance of 1s per quarter. Beans 6d per quarter advance. Flour: Superfine, 28s; fine, 26s; seconds, 23s per sack.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English wheat. Scarcely anything doing. Prices may be quoted firm at last week's rise. Reds, 30s to 31s; whites, 31s to 32s. Foreign wheats 1s dearer on the week. Maize 1s higher. Oats, beans and peas firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat firm at a decline of 3d to 4d from Tuesday's prices, at which a fair business has been done. Flour is only in small demand at about 1s per sack under last Tuesday's prices for foreign. Maize has had a moderate inquiry at ½d decline since last market day. European and Plate steady at unchanged prices. Barley quiet and little doing for malting; feeding firm at a ½d advance, with a moderate demand. Beans firm, and fully 3d per qr dearer with a fair inquiry. Peas firm but quiet. Oats are firm with rather more doing for English; foreign steady with a quiet trade. Oatmeal firm, but quiet. Oilcake firm, but only a moderate demand at about unchanged prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Our trade to-day at the market was not of an excited character; the advance in wheat during the last week at Mark Lane and various parts has just about put the increased value to-day at 2s to 3s per qr rise from last report. Barley and oats are about as before. Maize 6d to 1s, per qr over previous value. No other alteration of importance in the cost of other grain.

Manchester, Thursday.—Owing to the upset in the States, this market has been very irregular during the past week. To-day's rates for English wheat show that sellers require from 1s to 1s 6d per qr more money, whilst foreign is quoted 4d to 6d more. Flour is firm, indeed strong, at last week's rates, but any advance is unworkable. Foreign oats are ½d per bushel dearer. Beans and peas unchanged.

Newark, Wednesday.—Only a very small show of wheat, farmers asking an advance of 3s a quarter, which buyers are unwilling to give. Oats and beans are scarce, and fine oats are worth more money.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—The holidays this week have had the usual effect on business. To-day's market was fairly well attended, and wheat, which has had a pretty good time of it these past ten days, received a partial check in the way of advancing prices, and at the close lower figures were necessary to meet buyers' views. Flour a shade down. Oats steady—unchanged. Beans and peas nominally the same. Maize remains firm, but not active.—GEO. W. WATSON AND CO.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—English and foreign wheat exchanged hands at 1s per 504 lb over last Saturday's prices. Maize firm at 6d advance. Oats, pease and barley steady at late rates. Beans scarce and 1s per 504 lbs dearer. Flour made 1s per 280 lbs over last week's prices.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—There was but a thin attendance of farmers, and the supply was limited, and demand quiet, at about 30s to 32s. Millers only bought for immediate wants. Flour, 24s to 28s; oats dearer; and beans, 30s to 32s. The impression is that wheat will fall in value.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a moderate supply of wheat on offer to-day with an upward tendency. The weather still remains dull and unsettled, and bright sunshine is much desired for the hay making which is now in full swing. Wheat, red, 29s to 31s per qr weight, 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending June 25, 1900: Wheat, 1716 qrs, at 25s 11d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Oxford, Saturday.—Wheat in good demand, at 1s to 2s over last week, 30s to 33s. Oats and beans good demand, at rather more money.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has again been very little wheat on offer, prices were 6d to 1s dearer than last week but trade slow at the advance. Oats and beans both the turn dearer.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—The market to-day was fair. Wheat, 34s; maize, 22s 6d; Irish oats, 17s 3d; Libau oats, to arrive, 16s; barley, 21s 6d to 21s 9d, very scarce.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—Business to-day ruled very quiet, and where sales took place they were at a still further increase in price than those of the last market, best samples selling at 1s to 2s per qr more money. The supply of wheat was small, and the demand for other sorts of corn also limited.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat is generally shooting forth well-formed ears of above the average size, and with favourable blooming time will no doubt produce a good crop of well-developed berries. Three-fourths of the barley is putting out heads of unusual length, and looks healthy and strong, but the remainder is too short in the straw to produce a full crop, and in places the wire-worm has been very destructive. Oats in many instances are very deficient in straw, and at the best cannot but be a poor yield, although they may yet receive every encouragement from atmospheric conditions. Peas and beans look well, and the roots and pastures, when compared with their parched condition at the same time last year, are encouraging to the farmer. Trade has been quiet, and the recent rise in wheat has been partly lost. Oats have remained firm, and for milling offals the demand has been active and prices steady.—W. L. BROWNE AND CO.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Trade was excited, owing to the boom in wheat. There was a very small show of corn, and that sold changed hands at 31s to 32s per qr, which was an advance of 2s to 3s on the week. Farmers having stocks were disinclined to sell, believing that prices will go higher. During the past two weeks there have been 1s and 1s 6d advances in price, and compared with the prices current three weeks ago there has been an increase of 6s per qr. Oats have advanced 1s, selling at 21s 6d, whilst for all other articles more money is asked.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Very few samples of farmers' wheat were showing, and these made 1s per qr advance farmers refraining from offering in anticipation of higher prices. During the week the trade in foreign wheat has been more or less influenced by the reports from America, and as high as 2s per qr advance over last Wednesday was asked, but with quieter advices from America prices were somewhat easier. Oats and maize 6d per qr dearer.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Wheat firm at last week's full prices. Little doing in spring corn. Arrivals coastwise: oats, 400 qrs; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Steady trade for wheat, prices about 1s per qr. higher than last week, and very little offering. All feeding stuffs quiet. Very poor market, the farmers of the district being busily engaged in haymaking.

Wakefield, Friday.—Our market is generally quiet to-day. We quote American wheats 2s, and others 6d to 1s per quarter dearer since our last report, and there has been a brisk trade doing during the past week. Maize 6d per quarter dearer, and other feeding stuffs firm.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—The trade has become very unsettled since Tuesday, being apparently dominated by speculators both in this country and America, and under these circumstances it is only natural that millers prefer to look on until the future is more clearly defined, when wheat can again be dealt in on its own merits.—DUNNS AND CO.

Winchester, Saturday.—Slow trade for English wheat at 1s to 2s advance on the week.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LIMITED.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A short supply of grain. A few lots of wheat changed hands at 1s advance on the week. Red, 30s; white, 31s; oats, 19s to 22s; beans, 31s to 33s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a moderate attendance, and a flat market. Foreign qualities of wheat were 2d lower in price. The following were the quotations:—Oats, 13s to 14s; beans (new), 12s 9d to 13s 6d; beans (old), 14s to 15s per 196lb; flat maize, 21s 6d to 22s per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Wheat was sparingly offered, and holders asked more money than buyers were prepared to pay. English and foreign qualities sold at a small advance on last Saturday's prices. Flat maize and oats 3d higher; round maize and barley unchanged. Wheat, white, 28s to 29s; red, 26s to 28s 6d.

York, Saturday.—The excitement has about gone out of the wheat trade, and prices are scarcely as good as last week. Fine white wheat realised 29s to 31s., and red and mixed 29s to 30s per qr of 36 stones. Feeding barley, 20s to 25s per qr of 32 stones. Oats rather dearer; white Tartary, 18s to 19s; black ditto, 19s to 20s; and short oats, 20s to 23s per qr of 24 stones. Rye 8d to 8½d, and beans 10d to 11d per stone.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has ruled firm, there having been a regular current of business on consumptive account. The weather during the last few days has been favourable for the French crops, and the wheat ears are now stated to be well filled. There have been occasional rain storms, and these have been highly beneficial. The harvest is about to commence in the Bouches-du-Rhône, the Vaucluse, the Gard, and some parts of the Drome. Notwithstanding the improvement in the French agricultural situation, wheat quotations have hardened upon the French country markets, as earlier estimates as to the American crops are not now likely to be realised. Business in wheat has been quiet at Paris, but holders have secured an advance of 2½d per quintal. Flour for consumption has also been tending upwards at Paris. The Konigsberg wheat market has been quiet and unchanged; at Dantzic, also, business has exhibited a quiet tone. The condition of the Spanish wheat crops is favourable, and harvest will commence shortly in the south of Spain. The Russian provincial wheat markets have presented, upon the whole, a quiet aspect; in the Baltic ports prices have shown little change. Rains have fallen in the south-west of Russia, and the crops exhibit a more promising appearance. The quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is returned at 1,760,000 qrs, as compared with 1,580,000 qrs at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,760,000 qrs representing the quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is made up as follows: France, 445,000 qrs; Belgium, 365,000 qrs; Holland, 380,000 qrs; Germany and the North, 235,000 qrs; and Italy, Spain, etc., 335,000 qrs.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report: There has been a good deal of rain now all over Germany, and in Austria and Hungary it has been unsettled too. Fine sunny days are now rather badly wanted to ripen the crops, the appearance of which so far is satisfactory. In Hungary cutting will commence first part of next month, and will be general towards the end. The result will probably be behind that of last year as regards quantity, whilst quality entirely depends upon the further course of the weather.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday.—We had much rain this week, which, if it continues, will deteriorate our already deficient crops of wheat and rye. Potatoes look well. Animating reports from foreign markets caused holders to raise their prices, but buyers in general acted with caution and hesitatingly followed the advance. The imports during the week amounted to:—5,685 tons wheat; 1,246 tons rye; 4,513 tons barley; 17,743 tons maize. Fine red Holstein and Mecklenburg wheat is held at 30s 6d to 31s 3d; Saal wheat at 30s 6d to 31s per 504lb f.o.b.; fine River Plate, 28s 6d to 29s; Hard Winter 2, 28s to 28s 9d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye quiet; spot parcels move off slowly. 60-61 Ka. South Russian floating is offering at 24s per 480lb. c.i.f. The growing crop of barley has benefited from the wet weather, and so far looks promising, but now farmers wish for more dry and sunny weather. There is no business doing in malting sorts, stocks being about cleared. Feeding firm: 60-61 Ka. South Russian floating is held at 19s 9d 48lb; American prompt shipment at 18s 6d per 400lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed maize in fair request; prompt shipments are selling at 20s 3d. July held at 20s 6d, River Plate floating at 26s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

June 22nd to 29th, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	78,885 qrs.
Flour	63,300 ,,
Total	142,185 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Surplus	36,185 ,,

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

June 23rd to 30th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	2,014	..	..	76,871	78,885
Barley	1,300	..	..	8,309	9,609
Malt	22,236	..	..	..	22,236
Oats	800	..	..	63,000	63,800
Rye	..	..	..	..	..
Beans	375	..	..	709	1,084
Peas	7	..	..	15	22
Maize	..	..	..	9,000	9,000
Tares	48	..	..	..	48
Lentils	..	..	..	..	..
Linseed	..	..	..	40,470	40,470
Rapeseed	24	..	..	4,500	4,524
Cottonseed	..	..	..	470	470
Farm Seeds	2	..	..	757	759
Flour { Barrels		..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	20,800	..	..	63,628	84,428

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.

Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.		,, 8	133,261 qrs	
,, 14	108,380 ,,		,, 15	101,518 ,,	
,, 21	128,902 ,,		,, 22	70,984 ,,	
,, 28	51,234 ,,		,, 29	68,573 ,,	
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,		May 6	96,343 ,,	
,, 11	82,912 ,,		,, 13	72,852 ,,	
,, 18	204,974 ,,		,, 20	101,429 ,,	
,, 25	108,273 ,,		,, 27	108,772 ,,	
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,		June 3	73,846 ,,	
,, 11	63,103 ,,		,, 10	126,781 ,,	
,, 18	122,541 ,,		,, 17	160,574 ,,	
,, 25	86,309 ,,		,, 24	101,205 ,,	
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,		July 1	152,500 ,,	

1900.					
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	April 7	48,302 qrs.		
,, 13	95,064 ,,	,, 13	131,085 ,,		
,, 20	114,928 ,,	,, 20	82,357 ,,		
,, 27	124,652 ,,	,, 27	43,783 ,,		
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,	May 4	104,535 ,,		
,, 10	75,000 ,,	,, 11	52,859 ,,		
,, 17	66,804 ,,	,, 18	97,412 ,,		
,, 24	62,191 ,,	,, 25	71,390 ,,		
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,	,, 31	177 744 ,,		
,, 10	63,702 ,,	June 8	93,117 ,,		
,, 17	162,985 ,,	,, 15	86,125 ,,		
,, 24	111,409 ,,	,, 22	196,116 ,,		
Mar. 31	69,356 ,,	,, 29	142,185 ,,		

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1899.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
July 1 ..	56,972	25	7	1,340½	24	2	3,779¼	18	0
,, 8 ..	44,599¾	25	7	265½	21	9	4,149¼	18	1
,, 15 ..	40,428½	25	5	574½	20	4	6,573¼	17	11
,, 22 ..	46,159¼	25	5	108⅝	21	10	4,806¾	18	0
,, 29 ..	41,692⅜	25	2	257⅝	22	5	4,240	18	2
Aug. 5 ..	51,149⅞	24	10	246½	20	9	6,645⅜	18	
,, 12 ..	37,177¼	24	8	184½	22	6	5,554⅜	17	9
,, 19 ..	33,399⅜	24	7	437⅞	26	11	6,120⅜	17	4
,, 26 ..	34,523½	24	7	1,594½	26	5	9,205⅜	17	1
Sept. 2 ..	47,572⅜	25	0	6,709⅜	25	10	15,958½	16	7
,, 9 ..	67,996¾	25	5	17,408¾	26	5	16,195	16	6
,, 16 ..	80,281¼	25	4	33,143⅞	27	1	19,291⅞	16	2
,, 23 ..	85,104¼	25	4	77,678¾	27	4	22,128	16	1
,, 30 ..	79,612⅛	25	6	97,917⅜	26	11	23 193	16	5
Oct 7 ..	71,152⅜	26	0	160,315½	28	0	21,440¼	16	5
,, 14 ..	63,040⅜	27	3	191,901⅞	27	9	18,024¼	16	5
,, 21 ..	64,242	28	2	192,268½	27	6	18,983½	16	10
,, 28 ..	85,178¼	28	1	219,75[illegible]		..	20,064¼	16	3
Nov. 4 ..	82,769⅜	27	2	203,071⅛	27	2	17,895½	16	7
,, 11 ..	66,741⅛	26	7	166,786⅞	26	9	15,216⅜	16	5
,, 18 ..	65,470¼	26	1	163,915½	26	4	16,313¼	16	7
,, 25 ..	67,308½	25	8	161,362⅜	26	2	17,047⅜	16	7
Dec. 2 ..	72,974⅞	25	7	163,441⅜	25	10	22,575½	16	6
,, 9 ..	10,982⅛	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421⅜	16	5
,, 16 ..	78,772½	25	4	135,344⅜	25	7	22,889½	16	1
,, 23 ..	67,102⅞	25	6	116,757½	25	10	16,417⅜	16	0
,, 30 ..	47,685¼	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,463⅜	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6 ..	40,086	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅝	16	2
,, 13 ..	57,021¼	25	11	83,121⅜	25	5	19,703	16	3
,, 20 ..	68,463¼	26	0	100,925⅛	25	8	23,122⅜	16	2
,, 27 ..	65,381½	25	10	108,357⅜	25	9	17,814½	16	4
Feb. 3 ..	73,796⅜	25	8	90,769¼	25	4	22,061¼	16	6
,, 10 ..	71,482⅜	25	10	80,543⅜	25	3	20,822⅜	16	5
,, 17 ..	76,611⅜	26	1	80,414⅞	24	11	20,986⅜	16	8
,, 24 ..	69,534½	26	3	63,931⅜	25	1	21,132½	16	11
Mar. 3 ..	68,153½	26	4	51,727½	24	6	18,499½	16	10
,, 10 ..	58,703¾	25	11	44,921¼	24	8	16,224	16	11
,, 17 ..	76,435⅝	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,104½	16	11
,, 24 ..	69,944½	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042⅝	17	1
,, 31 ..	72,762	25	10	34,387¾	24	11	15,200⅝	17	0
April 7 ..	67,743⅞	25	10	20,402⅜	24	10	13,757⅜	17	2
,, 14 ..	66,412⅝	25	11	19,519⅝	24	5	9,672½	17	8
,, 21 ..	54,977½	26	0	11,673⅜	24	9	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28 ..	70,006⅜	26	0	7,755½	25	2	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5 ..	75,410½	25	11	8,159⅜	25	3	8,658½	18	0
,, 12 ..	82,190⅝	25	11	10,417⅞	24	10	12,245½	17	11
,, 19 ..	83,941½	25	7	5,638⅝	24	5	9,942	18	5
,, 26 ..	95,574⅜	25	5	3,521¼	23	11	7,350⅜	18	2
June 2 ..	68,906⅜	25	5	1,752⅞	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9 ..	64,747½	25	3	990⅛	23	8	6 053⅜	18	8
,, 16 ..	55,340½	25	6	1,486⅞	23	8	7,228⅛	18	11
,, 23 ..	54,324⅜	25	9	1,312¼	23	5	5,344⅛	18	11
,, 30 ..	44,920⅜	26	11	495⅛	23	4	4,706½	19	3

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	May 26.	June 2.	June 9.	June 16.	June 25.	July 2.
26s. 1d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
26s. 0d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
25s. 11d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
25s. 9d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
25s. 7d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
25s. 6d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
25s. 5d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
25s. 3d.	..	..	..	..	..	..

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890 ..	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891 ..	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892 ..	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893 ..	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894 ..	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895 ..	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896 ..	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897 ..	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898 ..	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899 ..	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900 Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 10	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	..	..	..
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	..	..	..
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	..	..	..
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	..	..	..
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended June 30th, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	44,920⅜ qrs.	26s. 11d.
Barley	495⅛ qrs.	23s. 4d.
Oats	4,706½ qrs.	19s. 3d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to June 30th, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

Years.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896	14,099¾	24	9	893¼	16	2	4,075½	15	0
1897	19,873¾	27	1	944	18	10	1,701	18	7
1898	9,506¾	38	3	414¾	23	4	2,598½	20	8
1899	59,972	25	7	1,340½	24	2	3,779¼	18	0

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, June 26th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	2,081	4	2,951	3	0	1	8	4
Barley	55	0	62	13	6	1	2	9
Oats	983	3	955	6	3	0	19	5

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	384,000	211,000	290,000	31,000	110,000
Russia	191,000	—	38,000	65,000	261,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary ..	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	35,000	—	35,000	—	—
Argentina	199,000	5,000	87,000	—	—
Chili	7,000	—	—	12,000	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	17,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ..	25,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	858,000	231,000	460,000	131,000	321,000

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1899.

	London Whites.			Town Households.		
		s.	d.		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	26	6	(per sack)	23	6
,, 4	,,	26	0	,,	23	0
,, 25	,,	26	6	,,	23	6
October 2	,,	27	0	,,	24	0
November 20	,,	26	6	,,	23	6
,, 27	,,	26	0	,,	23	0
December 11	,,	25	6	,,	22	6
,, 18	,,	26	0	,,	23	0
May 14	,,	25	6	,,	22	6
June 18	,,	26	0	,,	23	0
,, 20	,,	26	6	,,	23	6
,, 25	,,	28	6	,,	25	6
,, 27	,,	29	6	,,	26	6

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	..		21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	..		21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	..		22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	..		23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov. ..	..		22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	1	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June ..	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July ..	..		27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	..		27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	..		25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	..		24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	..		24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec. ..	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Av'rage	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

LONDON TOP FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

		s.	d.
January 1, 1900	(per sack)	28	0
April 2, ,,	,,	27	0
June 22, ,,	,,	30	0
,, 27, ,,	,,	31	0

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale : 1s to 1s 3d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough : 1s per lb. Leeds : Danish, 108s to 115s per 112lb ; York lump, 12s to 12s 9d per stone ; ditto long rolls, 11½d, 1s 3d to 1s 6d ; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 11d per lb. Settle : 9¾d to 10½d per lb. Sheffield : 1s 3d per lb. Spalding : 1s per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley : 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Boston : 10d to 1s per lb. Colne : 1s per lb. Goole : 11d per lb. Keighley : 1s per lb. Kirbymoorside : 8d to 9d per lb. Knaresborough : (wholesale). 1s to 1s 1d ; ditto (retail), 1s 2d to 1s 4d per roll of 24oz. Louth : 10d per lb. Market Weighton : 10d per lb. Masham : 1s to 1s 1d per roll of 24ozs. Northallerton : 1s to 1s 2d per 24oz. Stockton : 11d to 1s per lb. Whitby : 9d to 10d per lb. Worksop : 11d per lb.

Thursday.—Liverpool : The advance in the official quotation for Danish was not obtained in this market, prices for best qualities ranging from 114s to 116s. Values of Irish creamery have declined, whilst dairy butter remains unchanged. Bristol : Butter is dearer, and the market is certainly not overstocked. Best Irish centrifugal is worth about 108s ; best Waterford creamery about 105s. Cardiff : There is an excellent demand for Irish, and the supplies coming forward are scarcely sufficient to meet all demands, with the consequence that prices are about 2s higher than last week. Dorset butters range from 94s to 100s and Welsh from 88s to 96s. In Danish there has been an advance of 2s, best brands being from 115s to 116s, and unbranded 2s less. Brigg : 11d to 1s per lb. Driffield : 9d per lb. Penistone : 10d per lb. Ripon : 1s 1d to 1s 6d per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough : 10d to 1s per lb. Wetherby : 10d to 1s per lb.

Friday.—Altrincham : 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Crewe : 1s per lb. Chester : 1s per lb. Easingwold : 8d to 9d per lb. Helmsley : 8d to 9d per lb. Leeds : Danish, 112s to 115s per 112lb ; York lump, 12s to 12s 9d per stone ; ditto long rolls, 11½lb, 1s 3d to 1s 6d. Leyburn : 1s to 1s 1d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln : 11d to 1s per lb. Otley : 1s to 1s 3d per roll of 24oz. Manchester : The market was dragging, and at the close a moderate quantity was left over. Irish creameries were in more plentiful supply, and did not quite clear. Birmingham : A slow market, the recent advances having checked the demand and large stocks have to be carried over. Irish creameries have experienced a dragging sale at from 5s to 6s decline. Newcastle-on-Tyne : The market has been decidedly slow, buyers only taking for their immediate requirements and prices really very little advance has been made on last week's prices ; quotations now are 111s to 113s. Glasgow : Late advances have checked demand for Danish, and market not cleared at last week's prices ; choicest, 109s to 111s ; secondary, 106s to 108s ; Irish creameries quiet and easier. Leith : The advance for Danish and Swedish tended to limit the sales this week, and as arrivals were comparatively small there was not much left over. Finest Danish, 112s to 115s ; fine, 98s to 108s.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale : 17 for 1s. Gainsborough : 15 to 18 for 1s. Leeds : Yorkshire, 8s 9d to 9s 3d per 120 ; Irish 6s 6d to 7s ; Danish, 6s 6d to 7s ; Settle : 16 to 17 for 1s. Sheffield : 12 to 15 for 1s. Spalding : 15 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley : 12 or 13 for 1s. Boston : 14 or 15 for 1s. Colne : 1s 3d per score. Goole : 15 for 1s. Keighley : 13 for 1s. Kirbymoorside : 16 for 1s. Knaresborough : 13 or 14 for 1s. Louth : 16 for 1s. Market Weighton : 16 for 1s. Masham : 16 or 17 for 1s. Northallerton : 15 or 16 for 1s. Stockton : 14 for 1s. Whitby : 13 for 1s. Worksop : 1s 3d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg : 15 to 16 for 1s. Driffield : 17 for 1s. Penistone : 14 for 1s. Ripon : 15 or 16 for 1s. Scarborough : 14 for 1s. Wetherby : 14 or 15 for 1s. Liverpool : Supplies continue plentiful, there is a fair demand, and prices remain unchanged. Cardiff : Prices have advanced 1d, selected Irish being from 6s 6d to 6s 8d ; Welsh, 6s 6d to 6s 10d.

Friday.—Crewe : 14 to 15 for 1s. Easingwold : 16 or 17 for 1s. Leeds : Yorkshire 8s 6d to 9s per 120. Danish 6s 6d to 7s. Leyburn : 16 for 1s. Lincoln : 14 or 15 for 1s. Otley : 14 or 15 for 1s. Manchester : Finest goods are in fair demand, and prices have kept firm. The cheaper kinds have given way slightly. Manchester : Finest goods are in fair demand but prices for others is irregular. Newcastle-on-Tyne : Best Danish are offered at 6s 3d to 7s per 120. Glasgow : The demand continues on a moderate scale, and supplies being large quotations are easier. Irish 5s 10d to 6s 0d. Danish 6s to 7s ; Russian, 4s 3d to 5s 3d. Leith : Prime Danish, 6s 3d per 120 for 16lb.

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Although supplies were larger this morning, an improved demand prevailed, and the market cleared with firmer tone. Quotations :—Fowls : Yorkshire, 2s 9d to 3s 6d ; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s ; Surrey, 3s 6d to 5s ; Boston, 2s 3d to 3s ; Welsh, 2s to 2s 6d ; Irish, 2s to 2s 9d ; Russian, 1s 3d to 1s 9d ; Sussex, 3s to 4s 6d ; Aylesbury ducklings, 3s to 3s 6d ; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s ; goslings, 4s to 5s ; Egyptian quail, 10d to 1s 3d ; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d ; feathered ditto, 7d to 8d ; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 4d ; wild ditto, 7d to 9d each ; Australian ditto, 7s 6d to 9s 6d per dozen.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—More cheese coming forward than going out, and as a consequence prices are again easier. Quotations, 50s to 56s per cwt. Fine grass Canadian and States cheese now forward ; inquiry moderate ; prices fair.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon.—Under improving cable advices from Chicago, the market has a firm tendency, but demand is still of a retail character. Hams are in moderate request at a shade easier values. Lard is somewhat dearer and in good demand. Beef rules steady at recent quotations. Pork firm, with good trade passing. Cheese.—The demand has been less active, and with liberal arrivals and cables reporting lower markets in America and Canada, values are reduced, but the tone is now steadier. Butter.—Finest qualities are a slower sale, and rather easier to buy.—Hodgson Brothers.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Good arrivals of vegetables were in fair demand. Moderate supplies of potatoes experienced good support. A fair supply of fruit met a fair inquiry. Greenstuffs : Cabbages, 4s to 5s ; beet, 2s 6d to 3s ; cauliflowers, 7s 6d to 10s per tally ; spinach, 2s per sieve ; greens, 1s 6d to 2s per bag ; leeks, 3s per dozen bunches ; horseradish, 1s to 1s 6d ; asparagus, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per bundle. English spring onions, 5s to 6s per dozen bunches ; Egyptian onions, 4s 6d to 5s per bag ; peas, 2s 6d to 3s per sieve. Old potatoes : Maincrops, Reading Giants, Bruce, and Up-to-dates, 120s to 130s per ton. New potatoes : New Jersey, 10s to 10s 6d ; Teneriffe, 6s to 7s 6d ; Canary, 5s to 6s per cwt ; Lisbon, 4s 3d per case. Fruit : English grapes, 1s to 3s ; Belgian, 9d to 1s 6d per lb. English cherries, 1s to 2s ; French, 4s to 8s per half-sieve ; English strawberries, 6s to 8s per dozen punnets ; French, 1s 6d to 3s per basket ; gooseberries, 2s to 3s per half-sieve ; Valencia oranges, 12s to 15s ; Murcia, 12s to 16s ; lemons, 9s to 10s per case.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals of old potatoes almost nil, but stocks on hand sufficient for demand, with prices rather better. English Up-to-dates, 100s to 110s ; ditto Belgian Giants and Browns, 105s to 115s per ton. German and Belgian Magnums, 4s to 4s 6d, ditto ; and 3s 9d to 4s per bag.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The crack of opics begins sometimes very severe, and a great deal of washing is now going on. Where this is not prevented by the plant is threatened with black blight. The hops have improved [illegible] and fine weather is needed.

Worcester, Saturday.—There has not been much doing in hops this week, but prices are very firm. Reports from the plantations are not so favourable ; the cold weather at the beginning of the week checked the growth of the bine, which in most places is covered with vermin, and washing is now becoming general.—Pierce and Co.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—[illegible] Best clover, 95s to 100s ; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s ; [illegible] packed hay, 75s to 85s ; and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] 38s per load.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—Our market this week has been very quiet and little passing. Straw is still [illegible] [illegible] are low and prices asked are above [illegible] —Canadian mixture, 90s ; Dutch and [illegible] 82s 6d to 85s. Dutch and French [illegible] good Dutch hay, 90s to 95s ; inferior [illegible] large bale French wheat straw, 47s 6d ; small bale wheat and oat straw, 44s. All these prices are per load [illegible] side.—Fuller and Prentis, 9 and 10, Great Tower Street, E.C.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The wheat fields are coming nicely into bloom in Hampshire, Sussex, and the Isle of Thanet. The weather is propitious, and more hopefulness is manifest among farmers than has been seen since Easter. The crop will be a full fortnight late, even if there be no lack of temperature in July, but the yield should, with five to six weeks' real summer weather from now, attain thirty bushels to the acre. In France the aspect of affairs is also better than it was a fortnight ago, though we doubt if the very eminent authority quoted by a daily paper on Saturday really did state that no wheat imports would be required by France on the year's production. What he may have said seems to be that, *with stocks of old wheat*, which are very good, the crop of 1900 might suffice. But this is very different from stating that a crop estimated at the most at 38,000,000 qrs. would suffice for the wants of a country eating 43,000,000 qrs. at least. The news from the American north-west indicates that the yield of spring wheat will not be nearly an average, and we fear that Manitoba is likely to have not more than two-thirds of last year's yield. On the other hand, the American winter wheat States have full average crops.

The excited market at Mark Lane on Monday, June 25, was so fully reported by us that further details are needless, but since the excitement has been mainly due to America and to American influences our readers will probably appreciate a full account of changes there. The community of languages does not prevent a use of different weights, money, and standards, rendering prompt comparisons impossible, and the Governments of the two countries unhappily make no effort to take steps for an uniformity which would do more than anything else to make the two branches of the Anglo-Saxon people feel as one nation. Meanwhile we convert bushels, cents, and centals into English market equivalents as nearly as may be, though the daily fluctuations in the value of the dollar in English pence render such quotations approximate only.

American changes daily have been as follows :—

NEW YORK PRICES.

	Spring wheat.	Winter wheat.
June 25	32s 8d per qr.	32s 10d per qr.
,, 26	32s 4d ,,	32s 7d ,,
,, 27	32s 1d ,,	31s 6d ,,
,, 28	31s 9d ,,	31s 10d ,,
,, 29	30s 9d ,,	30s 0d ,,
,, 30	30s 6d ,,	30s 6d ,,

Before the rise winter wheat was at 30s. 6d., and spring at 30s. per quarter. The actual advance with which the week began was 2s. 4d. on winter and 2s. 8d. on spring wheat. The advance on spring wheat is 6d. net, but winter wheat in unchanged. Wheat freights from Atlantic ports average 2s. 6d. per quarter. Maize at New York is steady at 17s. to 17s. 6d. per quarter. San Francisco prices have been as follows :—

	Cal. Wheat.	Brewing Barley.
June 26	21s 4d per qr.	16s 0d per qr.
,, 28	23s 4d ,,	15s 6d ,,
,, 30	23s 0d ,,	16s 6d ,,

Freights are about 8s. per qr. from California.

The American visible supply, in millions of bushels, is cabled as follows :—

	June 28 : 1900.	1899.
Wheat	58	44
Maize	22	18
Oats	12	10

This increase on the year has had a sobering effect upon trade in the three staples indicated. The totals, however, do not include California, Oregon, Canada, or Manitoba, from which regions advices come, somewhat irregularly, to hand.

The English market sales of wheat have been :—

	Qrs.
Foreign wheat	417,000
,, flour	135,000
,, breadstuffs	552,000
English wheat	122,000
Total	674,000
Wants	567,000
Surplus	107,000

These figures are for the United Kingdom.

The following return shows that during the recent excitement at Mark Lane English wheat and oats were almost "sold out"; in fact, old stores were called upon. But for English barley the demand continues dismally small.

LONDON TRADE IN BRITISH PRODUCE.

	Deliveries. Qrs.	Sales. Qrs.
Wheat	2,014	2,081
Barley	1,300	55
Oats	889	983

The country markets with their excess of sales over requirements of fully one-sixth seem to have been proportionately busier than London, but the figures for London in the absence of foreign wheat sales are fallacious. A weekly Government return of *all* sales at Mark Lane is a crying need.

The London supplies of breadstuffs for the third week of June were expected to "cut the record," but this did not actually occur, as the following figures will show :—

	Qrs.
June 22, 1900	196,116
Feb. 18, 1899	204,974

But it is probable that the fortnight's record has been surpassed, as

	Qrs.
June 15-29, 1900	338,301
February 11-25, 1899	313,247

are figures which show that the work of unloading was accomplished more quickly a year or so back. The partial strike at the docks caused some slight delay last month.

The details of imports into London as received from Government inspectors are as follows :—

LONDON FLOUR IMPORTS, JUNE 18-23.

	Cwts.
Wheat flour	211,100
Maize flour	1,050
,, germ meal	11,000
Rye flour	125
Rice flour	560
Oatmeal	2,300

The "London arrivals," a private venture, only give the receipts of wheat flour, and other forms of flour and meal are not regarded. This used to be of very little consequence, but such is no longer the case. The Government figures, unfortunately, are five days later than those of the private list, but the fuller detail and the verification of items render the delay inevitable.

The imports of spring corn into the United Kingdom last week were as follows :—

Maize, 176,000 qrs.—a moderate supply.
Barley, 85,000 qrs.—a small supply.
Oats, 165,000 qrs.—a good supply.

Maize is 1s. dearer for round and yellow, and 2s. for flat corn, but barley has failed to respond to the situation. Oats are a trifle dearer, despite the good arrivals, but liberal offers in June seldom fail to cause slackness in this trade, and the feeling to-day is not strong.

The following quantities of spring corn are on passage :—

Maize : 485,000 qrs ; less than usual.
Barley : 225,000 qrs ; less than usual.
Beans : 7,500 qrs ; extremely small.

These figures should help holders of all these staples.

Pressure on our space forbids the usual details of prospective breadstuffs' supplies being given, but the total on passage June 30 was 2,080,000 qrs. of wheat and 366,008 sacks of flour.

Some special sales of secondary staples may be signalised. Egyptian split beans have made 21s. per 320lb.; mutter from India has been quoted at 24s. per 504lb.; fine German mawseed, 24s. per cwt.; rubsen, 50s. per 416lb.; Saffi canaryseed, 33s. per 464lb.; Dutch carrawayseed, 33s. per cwt.; La Plata Sorghum, 23s. per qr.; Canadian buck wheat, 25s. per qr.; sago flour, 9s. per cwt.; tapioca flour, 10s. per cwt. French Lucerne has been selling in handy bales at 72s. 6d.; Dutch hay at 65s.; Friesland at 60s.; and inferior at 57s. 6d. Large bales of French wheat straw are to hand, and make 50s.; small bales, 45s. The finest Belgian rye straw makes 65s. The rise in wheat has not helped potatoes, but prices are substantially higher from last year. Fine Spanish lentils have touched 17s. per cwt., but split Egyptian are to be had at 10s. 6d. to 11s. per cental.

In reply to inquiries from buyers whose operations are not so wholesale as those dealt with in the Mark Lane quotations, we may mention that where small quantities are purchased, wheat is now selling at 4s. 6d. per bushel of 60lb., feeding barley at 3s. per bushel of 50lb., old tick beans at 24s. per sack of 264lb.; split beans, English, at 12s. 6d. per bag of 160lb., round maize at 3s. 6d. per bushel of 60lb, pigeon mixture at 21s. per sack of 224lb., condiments for horses at 10s. to 14s. per cwt., and barleymeal at 12s. per bag of 168lb. We do not wonder at country gentlemen who do not keep a regular bailiff grumbling at the extraordinary diversity of weights and measures. But the remedy is with the Legislature. Poultry mixture (we may answer a fancier) should weigh 336lb. to the quarter. The price should be from 20s. to 24s. per quarter. It may also be observed that the difference between ordinary and crushed oats is usually 2s. per qr. The crushing of the oats is recommended by the best authorities.

THE INDIAN WHEAT CROP.

[BY CABLE.]

CALCUTTA, June 30.

Following special figures are published to-day :—

	Qrs.
1900 crop	22,987,000
1899 ,,	29,798,000

The 1900 yield is the smallest on record since the English rule was established. It is 1,100,000 qrs. smaller than that of the famine year, 1897. At the same time it is not so small as had been expected from the exceedingly gloomy reports.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The gloomy and unsummerlike weather, together with the serious news from the Far East, unite to make the market firmer from Friday last. English wheat has made 34s. for 64lb. white and 32s. 6d. for 63lb. red. The demand is not very brisk, but holders are exceedingly firm. There was a certain reaction on the 29th ult., but the feeling to-day is to hold old grain of the home crop. Some fine wheat from Victoria has fetched 34s. per qr., but for the majority of foreign wheat samples the prices of last Monday are no longer obtainable. The demand is very moderate. Canadian barley at 21s. 6d. is in some request, but English and Russian sorts are neglected. Oats are not so strong as on Friday. The obsolete policy of publishing no returns of supplies on passage has been abandoned by other branches of business, but in oats it still prevails, and the result is that figures are much exaggerated. The quantity "nearly due" from Russia is said to be "extremely large," and few buyers will do anything. English oats are held for rather high prices, but the same are not often obtained. Caucasian maize early to-day made 23s., and there are still buyers at this price. American is irregular, 20s. 6d. to 21s. 6d. per qr. Round is also irregular, with a still wider range. Fine Italian millet to-day made 55s. per qr. Best English peas (Marrowfat) command 75s. per qr., while Wisconsin come at 48s. and finest Australian at 42s. per qr. The market for beans, rye, and lentils is firm but not active. Liverpool telegraphs Manitoba wheat at 6s. 9d. per cental, Argentine at 6s. 4d. Maize at 4s. 1d., for American, 4s. 5d. for Argentine, and 4s. 11d. for Odessa.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

JULY 2, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN.

			s.	s.
WHEAT,	White	(per 504 lb.)	33	— 34
	Red	,,	31	— 33
BARLEY,	Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30	— 37
	Brewing		25	— 30
	Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT,	English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
	Scotch	,,	36	— 38
	Brown	,,	29	— 32
OATS,	English (old crop)	,,	20	— 23
	,, (new crop)	,,	19	— 20
	Scotch	,,	22	— 24
	Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 19
RYE,	British	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 25
BEANS,	Old Tick	,,	38	— 52
	,, New	,,	33	— 35
	,, Pigeon	,,	43	— 45
	,, Winter	,,	30	— 34
PEAS,	Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
	,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	— 76
	,, Dun	,,	32	— 34
	,, Maple	,,	38	— 40

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	35	— 36
American Spring	34	— 35
,, Winter	34	— 35
Hard Manitoba	34	— 35
White Canadian	34	— 35
Red ,,	33	— 34
Californian	34	— 35
Walla Walla	33	— 34
Australian	33	— 34
New Zealand	32	— 33
Argentine	32	— 35
Danzig	34	— 35
Saxonka	33	— 34
Azima	32	— 33
Ghirka	31	— 32
Persian	30	— 31
MAIZE, per 480lb. :		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Roumanian	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 25
Caucasian	24	— 25
Argentine	23	— 25
American	21	— 22
OATS :		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	16/6	—17
American (320lb.)		
,, White	16/6	—17
,, Mixed	15/9	—16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	— 17
,, (304lb.)	13/6	—15
Libau white (304lb.)	13	—13/9
,, black ,,	15	—15/3
BEANS, per 480lb. :		
New Zealand	32	— 33
BEANS (*continued*).		
Konigsberg	28	— 29
Egyptian	29	— 30
Smyrna	28	— 29
Barbary	27	— 28
LOCUST BEANS, per ton :		
Cyprian	106	— 112
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
New Zealand	40	— 44
Canadian, Blue	36	— 40
,, White	30	— 31
Indian, White	28	— 30
,, Green	25	— 27
Barbary	26	— 28
Dutch	41	— 43
LENTILS, per 504 lb. :		
Egyptian	29	— 31
Indian	36	— 38
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	26	— 27
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb. :		
French	28	— 29
Russian	25	— 26
BARLEY :		
Calif. Chev. (448 lb.)	28	— 29
Calif. Brew. (448 lb.)	26	— 28
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 24
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Persian (400 lb.)	18	— 19/6
American (400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb. :		
Californian	34	— 37
Smyrna	33	— 36

OIL SEEDS

LINSEED.	per 416lb. s.	s.
English	55	to 56
Dutch	53	to 55
Argentine	52	to 54
Canadian	55	to 56
Russian	50	to 51
Calcutta	53	to 55
SESAME.	per 424lb.	
Bombay	50	to 52
Kurrachee	53	to 54
COTTON SEED.	per ton.	
Egyptian	122	to 124

RAPESEED.	per 416lb. s.	s.
English	55	to 57
Dutch	52	to 54
French	46	to 48
Cawnpore (yellow)	45	to 46
,, (brown)	42	to 44
Calcutta (brown)	42	to 44
Guzerat	46	to 47
Ferozepore	43	to 44
Ravison	29	to 31
POPPYSEED.	per 377lb.	
Indian	47	to 48

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

The market closed about 1s. lower for wheat from the best prices at the excited close of Monday last. These prices were about 4s. up, so that the net rise on the fortnight averages about 3s. per qr. Other staples were not changed from our earlier advices.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, July 2.

The market for flour is not nearly so good as it was on Monday last, but it is better from Friday, when reaction seemed likely to set in. To-day fine London white flour is held for 27s., and households for 25s.; for the latter 24s. 6d. is offered by bakers. American sorts show extreme variation, and the prices are individual to each patent and the advices received by the agents from America. We may quote Pillsbury's best at 25s. 6d. per sack, Washburn's superlative at 26s. 3d., Morrison's superlative at 26s., Ceresota at 27s., Gold Medal at 26s., Gold Medal at 27s. 6d., and Kansas Dazzle at 26s. 3d. per sack. These are the finest qualities of American. Good secondary qualities realise about as follows:—Ceres 21s., Iron Duke 21s. 6d., Bread Winner 20s. 6d., and Improved Nicollet 20s. 9d. per sack. The commonest kinds come at 16s. 6d. for Phœnix, 19s. for Manhattan, and 16s. 9d. for Violet. Hungarian flour is worth over 30s., but how much is difficult to say. Perhaps 32s. would be a fair average to quote. French flour is not much dearer, but 1s. net rise on the week may be regarded as current. Milling offals are 1s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. per ton dearer on the week. The flour market closed 1s. to 1s. 6d. below the 3s. to 4s. rise of Monday last, but still substantially dearer on the week.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)		— 31
Town Whites	„		— 28
„ Households	„		— 25
No 2	„	23	— 24

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)		— 27
Fine Roller made	„		— 26
Ordinary Roller made	„		— 25
Best Stone made	„		— 24
Ordinary Stone made	„		— 23

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	27	— 28
„ Second Patents	„	25	— 26
„ First Bakers'	„	23	— 24
„ Second Bakers'	„	21	— 22
Milwaukee Patents	„	26	— 27
„ Bakers'	„	23	— 24
Kansas Patents	„	26	— 27
Oregon	„	25	— 26
Californian	„	24	— 25
Hungarian	„	30	— 33
French	„	21	— 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	170	—172
Wheat Germ Meal	„	107	—109
Bran, London Broad	„	97	—102
„ Fine	„	76	— 82
„ Country Flake	„	106	—108
„ Broad	„	94	— 96
Pollard	„	76	— 82
Fine Middlings	„	104	—110
Coarse Middlings	„	92	— 96
Oat Meal	„	212	—272
Oat Flour	„	337	—362
Maize Flour	„	130	—132
Maize Meal	„	112	—122
Maize Cones	„	142	—146
Maize Germ Meal	„	94	— 96
Pea Meal	„	128	—158
Bean Meal	„	152	—172
Rice Meal	„	87	— 92

THE BALTIC, Monday, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

Cargoes are firmly held. Wheat is 3d. better from Saturday. Argentine maize cargoes are held above buyers' ideas, but for barley, oats, and oil-seeds there is a fair agreement between parties. American maize cargo holders are ready to meet buyers at former terms.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Walla Walla, 29s 6d on passage; Duluth, 32s, on passage; No. 1 Northern spring, 32s 6d Aug. shipment; New Zealand, 31s, August shipment; Odessa Ghirka, 32s 6d, August shipment; hard Manitoba, 33s, July shipment.

Maize.—American, 21s, July shipment; Roumanian, 21s 9d, July shipment.

Barley.—Persian, 17s 6d on passage; Azoff, 18s, October shipment.

Oats.—Clipped white American, 15s 3d, August shipment; South Russian, 14s 6d, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 55s 3d, August shipment; Bombay, 58s 3d, August shipment.

Rapeseed.—Ferozepore, 43s 9d, July shipment; Guzerat, 46s, July shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £6 2s 6d, due; Egyptian, £5 18s 9d, December shipment.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that the close of the half year finds stocks of red cloverseed in surprisingly moderate compass, and values all round exceedingly firm. Indeed, the general outlook of the seed trade has lately much improved, and an early advance in prices for all descriptions is confidently expected. Trustworthy accounts just received from the United States indicate an exceedingly bad promise for the new crops of red seed. The market for mustard and rapeseed is quiet, but steady. Canaryseed, whilst more talked about, is not quotably dearer. Hempseed, meantime, favours holders. Some saffior seed is now obtainable on very low terms. Haricot beans being in strong demand and small supply, are dearer; whilst blue peas find buyers at full prices.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 3,206 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 7,488 bales bacon. Although more doing in the bacon market last week at moderate rates, clearances did not keep pace with the arrivals, and there was a fair stock left over at the close of the week. Irish, 54s to 60s up to 68s; Danish, 46s to 58s up to 66s; Canadian, 50s to 54s up to 60s; American, 47s to 50s. The butter market was steady, but quiet, the trade waiting for easier rates, prices having been pushed too high. French, 88s to 104s; Danish, 100s to 114s; Russian, 88s to 104s; Dutch, 98s to 100s; Irish, 90s to 104s. Lard steady. Irish, 43s to 50s; Danish, 46s; American, 37s to 38s.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour.—A quiet trade at 1s. to 1s. 6d. under last Monday's prices.—T. S. Medill, Mark Lane.

The demand for all qualities of milling offals is on a liberal scale, and prices are strong.—Richard Doggett, Mark Lane.

Wheat to-day had a slow sale, and prices were 1s and 2s. per qr. lower than last Monday. Flour 1s. and 1s. 6d. per sack lower. Maize 3d. per qr. lower. Barley and oats unchanged.—Coventry, Mark Lane.

Only a limited trade in foreign wheat to-day, at 1s. to 1s. 6d. below the inflated values of last Monday. Maize and barley are unchanged in value, and oats tend in favour of buyers. In flour patents are 1s. 3d. and bakers 9d. cheaper on the week.—W. P. Wood and Co., Mark Lane.

There is very little now doing in seeds for present use, but Continental and American advices about the growing crops of red cloverseed are so unfavourable as to lead to a continuance of speculative purchases at improving prices. Alsike and trefoil are also inquired for. Canaryseed continues dull. Haricots and blue peas are in very small compass and firm.—John Picard and Co., Mark Lane.

Bran and feeding stuffs in moderate request. Prices are firmer owing to the increased speculative demand. Weather continues showery.—Greenhill Brothers, Belfast, June 30.

Wheat firm at the decline of 3d. to 4d. per cental from Tuesday's prices, at which a fair business has been done. Flour is only in small demand at about 1s. per sack under last Tuesday's prices for foreign. Maize has had a moderate inquiry at ¼d. per cental decline since last market day. European and Plate steady at unchanged prices. Barley quiet and little doing for malting; feeding firm at ½d. per cental advance, with a moderate demand. Beans firm, and 6d. per qr. dearer, with a fair inquiry. Peas firm but quiet. Oats are firm with rather more doing for English; foreign steady with a quiet trade. Oatmeal firm, but quiet. Oilcake firm, but only a moderate demand at about unchanged prices.—Ross T. Smyth, Liverpool, June 30.

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day at South Sea House, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

Wheat.—	June.	Aug.	Oct.	Dec.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
June 25 noon	7 2	7 3	7 4	7 4
4 p.m.	7 2	7 3	7 4	7 4
June 26 noon	7 1	7 2	7 3	7 3
4 p.m.	7 1	7 2	7 2	7 3
June 27 noon	7 0	7 1	7 1	7 2
4 p.m.	7 0	7 0	7 0	7 2
June 28 noon	—	7 0	6 11	7 1
4 p.m.	—	7 0	6 10	7 0
June 29 noon	—	7 0	6 9	6 10
4 p.m.	—	7 0	6 9	6 10
June 30 noon	—	7 0	6 9	6 10
To-day noon	—	6 9	6 10	6 10

Maize makes 4s. 3d. for July delivery. June sales of wheat were 29,000,000 centals for future delivery, and 187,000 centals for actual June supply.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Market tending dearer, owing to shortness of supplies and rise in linseed; cotton cake, decorticated, unchanged, ordinary rather dearer. Linseed firm and 1s. up.

English linseed cake	£7	15	0	to	7	17	6	ex mill
American Western linseed cake	7	7	6	to	7	10	0	ex quay
Russian oil cake	7	5	0	to	7	7	6	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 p.c. oil)								ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	6	5	0	to	6	7	6	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6	7	6					ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	4	5	0	to	4	7	6	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4	2	6	to	4	5	0	ex quay
Burton decorticated ale grains (bags included)	4	6	0					on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4	5	0					ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2	15	0	to	2	17	6	ex warehouse

—Robt. and John Hewetson

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington

Monday, [illegible]

	British.	Foreign.
Beasts	1,140	10
Sheep and lambs	5,440	240
Calves	154	13
Pigs	170	15
Milch cows	14	2

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

	English. Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	3 4 to	4 2 to	4 10
Sheep	3 2 to	5 6 to	6 4
Lambs	5 4 to	5 8 to	6 0

Milch cows [illegible] head [illegible].

British arrivals include as follows: [illegible] Counties, 318; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 655; Devon, 69; and Ireland 1.

The supply of [illegible] being practically [illegible] the middle [illegible] rates were [illegible] bulls met with a [illegible] were in [illegible]

The following are [illegible] offal):—

	Last day.	Last week.
Herefords	4s 8d to 4s 10d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Norfolks	4s 7d to 4s 8d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	[illegible]
Irish	—	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat cows	[illegible]	[illegible]

In the sheep market [illegible] sorted about [illegible] Eastern counties. [illegible] fair demand and late rates were [illegible] were slow of [illegible] being in excess [illegible] decline of fully [illegible]

Undermentioned [illegible] offal), and are for the best of each [illegible]

	Last day.	Last week.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	6s 2d to 6s 4d	[illegible]
9-stone ditto	6s 0d to 6s 2d	[illegible]
10-stone half-breds	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10-stone Lincolns	5s 4d to [illegible]	[illegible]
10-stone Irish	5s 10d to [illegible]	[illegible]
10-stone Down ewes	[illegible]	[illegible]
11-stone half-bred ditto	5s 2d to 5s 4d	[illegible]
5-stone Down lambs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	6s 2d to 6s 4d
6-stone half-bred ditto	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 10d to 6s 0d

Calves and pig trade [illegible]

London Central, Monday.—Short supplies; trade slow. Beef (carcases) 3s 11d to 4s [illegible] 4s 8d; roastings, 5s to 5s 4d. Sheep: Ewe, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; wether, 4s 10d to 5s 4d; [illegible] weaner, 5s 10d to 6s 3d. Pigs: Large, [illegible] to 4s 8d.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 64, sheep and lambs 1,386, pigs 311, horses 121. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s; mutton, 7s to 9s 6d; lamb, 9d to 10d; pork [illegible] cattle and sheep slower trade for [illegible] Milch cows fair show, and trade prices £13 to £20.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,509. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed a slight [illegible] sisted of 760 from the United States, and 749 from Canada, trade for which was of a steady nature, a clearance being made earlier than usual, last week's rates being fully maintained; the best States beasts on offer, to dress about 270lb, made 4d and [illegible] 4s 2d. Best Canadians 4s 3d; second ditto, 4s. Sheep, 190, consisting of Canadians [illegible] the supply not being sufficient to [illegible] petition; quotations were given at [illegible] 4s 4d per 8lb, offal given [illegible]

The following were the [illegible] ing day last year, with the [illegible] Is to 5s 1d per 8lb, to-dress from [illegible] 4s to 4s 2d in the wool.

Liverpool, Monday.—Cattle, sheep, [illegible] larger numbers. Better demand for cattle, and fair demand for sheep at late rates. Beef [illegible] Lamb 9½d to 9¾d per lb. At market [illegible] sheep and lambs [illegible]

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: The trade in the Borough is quiet. [illegible] anything an upward [illegible] tions are on the whole unfavourable. Hops have grown during the last week, but the vermin still hang about, and better weather is required for the goldings.

CORK BUTTER.

	Ordinary. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	Mid. Cork Firkins. Superfine.	Fine.	Mid.	Fresh Firkins.
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.
Monday	83	80	78	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	94	104
Tuesday	83	82	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wednesday	83	82	81	76	91	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Thursday	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	76	[illegible]	[illegible]	94	[illegible]
Friday	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Saturday	[illegible]	[illegible]	81	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Professor John R. Campbell, [illegible] Agricultural Department of the [illegible] Leeds, has just been appointed [illegible] Assistant Secretary of the Board of Agriculture for Ireland. [illegible] years [illegible] Chief Inspector [illegible] Leeds. Mr. [illegible] this week [illegible] Preston.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

We note during the week a much smaller supply at the Islington Market, this being due to shorter arrivals from Norfolk, as well as from the south-western counties, these latter chiefly consisting of middling quality cows, with a few fat bulls and rough cattle. Trade for fat beasts of both prime and second quality ruled rather slower, though no alteration in regard to value can be noted, a practical clearance on the chief market day being made. On the second day very few transactions were recorded. Fat bulls and butchering cows, with a light supply, met with a readier sale at a slight advance in value, though Thursday's sales were of a very limited nature. At the Foreign Cattle Market (Deptford) the number on offer was rather smaller, business being rather disorganised through holding three market days instead of the usual two, and was of a rather slower nature, with a downward tendency in value, clearance on each sale day being more or less forced. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 2,938, consisting of 990 British (decrease 530), and 1,948 foreign, these latter comprising 1,844 from the United States and 104 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—95-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 9d.; 100-stone Shorthorn ditto, 4ss. 6d. to 4s. 7d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 4d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 4d.; 95-stone Canadians, 4s. 2d.; 90-stone fat cows, 4s.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d. So far as sheep and lambs were concerned, trade confined to the Islington market was of a slower nature, wethers upholding last week's quotations, whilst ewes were bought on easier terms. Rates for lambs on Monday were firm, with a slight advance on all Thursday's transactions. On both market days all on offer found buyers; the total number penned was 12,240, as against 12,010 during the preceding week. Best pens of sheep made per 8lbs. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 6s. 4d.; 9-stone Downs, 6s. 2d.; 8-stone Scotch, 6s. 4d.; 10-stone Downs, 6s.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 4s. 6d.; 5-stone fat grass lambs, 6s. 4d. to 6s. 8d.; 6-stone halfbred ditto, 6s. to 6s. 2d. Calves were rather stronger in number and met a duller trade; they numbered 115, best of which were quoted at 5s. to 5s. 2d. per 8lbs.

Trade in the West.

Pastures having come on rapidly, a great stimulus has been given to the store stock business, barreners almost of every kind going up from £1 to £2 apiece. The milch beast trade was affected almost to a similar extent, the best classes advancing from £1 to 30s. each, and in some few cases bringing £20 to £22 apiece, the greatest difficulty being still experienced in meeting the demand for town dairies. More ordinary runs of dairy beasts now sell from £16 to £20. In-calvers are likewise in request at from £18 to £24 per pair. Fat bullocks have likewise been influenced by the upward trend of prices, and with a very keen demand best beef has again touched 12s. per score (or from £22 to £24 apiece for the best heifers), secondary grades making about 11s. to 11s. 6d. Store sheep are still marketing very well, prices at this week's fairs being fully maintained with, if anything, a slightly hardening tendency, good ewes making from 35s. to 42s. apiece, and lambs from 22s. to 29s., with a very brisk sale at the quoted prices, whilst fat sheep are as dear as they have been at any time this season, the best class of ewes and wethers bringing fully 8d. to 9d. per lb. in most cases, and lamb from 9½d. to 10½d., and in many cases even more. Veal is a good steady trade, though prices are scarcely so high, from 7½d. to 8d. being the best market values at present, but pigs are quite as firm as they have been at all, especially the best weights, which bring 9s. to 10s., according to quality, and other grades 8s. to 8s. 6d.

Trade in Ireland.

Thursday's market in Dublin was a very large one, and if it had not been for increased supplies it would have been a very dear one. As it was cattle were a turn higher, while prices for sheep were well maintained. The trade for well-meated heifers and bullocks was a strong one, with prices favouring sellers, and in some instances from 10s. to 20s. per head of a rise was obtained. Butchers complained of the "soft" quality of the beef lately bought, as beasts weigh deceptively. A large number of fat cows met with rather a dragging sale, at a shade under last week's figures. All classes of cattle were satisfactorily cleared out early. Prime ox and heifer beef made from 62s. 6d. to 65s. per cwt.; second quality, 55s. to 60s.; inferior, 44s. to 52s. 6d. The market of sheep and lambs was the largest of the season, or it may be said for the last couple of years, so that it speaks well for trade that there was no fall in price on average sheep, while for mountain wethers and good hoggets the turn was in favour of sellers. Prime wether mutton made 7½d. to 7¾d. per lb.; prime ewe, 6½d. to 7d.; inferior, 5d. to 6d. Medium hoggets were worth from 32s. to 42s., and heavy from 44s. to 52s. each. There was a very strong enquiry for good lambs, and prices for best were fully 2s. per head up, though there was no change to note in medium or inferior qualities; the latter having to be sold at low figures to effect a clearance. Choice fat lambs made from 28s. to 37s. 6d. for some extra good lots; medium sorts fetching from 20s. to 26s. Veal calves in small supply with good demand for prime quality at from 8d. to 8½d. per lb. The milk department was fairly well supplied, and with a good enquiry for best springers and fresh calved cows these were worth from £18 to £21 per head, while inferior and middling could be had from £9 upwards. An average market of hogs, but though there was a fair attendance of shippers, buying was of a cautious and weak nature, prices having again to be written down from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. on heavy pigs; the nicer qualities of baconers maintaining last week's terms. A good demand for stores.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, in their weekly report on above, give the following:—There have been much shorter supplies of fat cattle offered throughout the country this week. There has been an exceedingly sharp local demand, and plenty from England. Trade has been quite the highest of the season, and all classes of cattle have been remarkably dear, those of the best quality in some cases making over the extreme rates of last week. Fat sheep and lambs have also been forward in fewer numbers, and there has been a decided improvement in quality of those offered. For young sheep and good lambs trade has been good, at prices generally a little higher than last week. Fat ewes, however, have met no improvement. A smaller number of calves, but a good show, met a dearer market, while an average lot of pigs would sell similarly to last week. In the store market there has been an exceedingly small number of sheep forward, and, with a good demand, prices still keep high. Cattle, however, have been sent in larger numbers, the majority being Irish. There is plenty of inquiry, and most of the best sorts, both bullocks and stirks, have been sold; but though prices are good, the excessive cost at the other side tends to check ready sales. There have been fewer milch cows on offer, and these met a very good trade. Quotations:—Top price best beef, 9s. 3d. to a little over 9s. 6d.; current, 8s. 6d. to 9s. per stone. Mutton from 8½d. to 9¾d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies offered, and trade ruled rather firm. Arrivals of beef included 340 Liverpool sides, 2,400 hindquarters, and 900 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations:—Beef: English, 4s to 4s 2d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American Deptford killed, 3s 10d to 4s; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; forequarters, 2s 5d to 2s 6d. Mutton: Scotch, 6s to 6s 4d; English wethers, 5s 8d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; English lamb, 5s to 5s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d. per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Good supplies offered, but trade ruled generally slow. Arrivals of beef, included 80 tons Scotch, 500 Liverpool sides, 3,500 hindquarters, and 2,500 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations.—Beef: Scotch, short sides, 4s 10d to 5s 2d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 3s 10d, average 3s 8d; forequarters, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s 2d to 5s 6d; English wethers, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 8d to 4s; Canterbury, 3s 1d to 3s 4d: Wellington, 3s to 3s 2d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Lamb; English, 4s 8d to 5s 4d; New Zealand, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d. Pork, English, 3s 8d to 4s; and Dutch, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Supplies principally consisted of fat bulls and rough cattle. Sheep entries were heavier than on Thursday last, by 810 head, and trade for wethers ruled quiet at late rates, ewes, however, meeting with fair support. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 6s 2d to 6s 4d; 9-stone, 6s to 6s 2d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10-stone ewes, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; 11-stone half-bred, 4s 4d to 4s 6d. Lamb trade steady. 5-stone fat Downs, 6s 2d to 6s 4d. Calves met a slow sale. Top price, 5s 6d per 8lb, to sink the offal.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade quiet in most departments. Mutton was nominally unaltered, but sales were rather difficult after the first hour in the morning. Small neat half-bred wethers made up to 5s 6d per 8lb, and barrens 4s to 4s 8d. Beef was a little over-supplied, and trade was dull. Best steers and heifers made 11s to 11s 6d per score, but rough cows and bulls were unsaleable. Pork sold at low rates, but store pigs of good quality commanded higher prices than last week. Store sheep sold fairly well.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a fair attendance of buyers, to meet a supply of 38 fat beasts, 64 calves, 495 fat sheep and lambs, 196 pigs, and 110 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £15 to £23 10s; fat calves, 80s to £5 10s; smaller, 25s to 55s; fat wethers, 39s to 59s; fat ewes, 30s to 38s; fat lambs, 26s to 48s 6d; fat porkers, 30s to 55s; small, 24s to 32s; store pigs, 8s 6d to 15s 6d; dairy cows, £9 to £22 15s. The show of fat beasts included some prime quality Devons, Aberdeens, and Shorthorns, for which there was a good enquiry at fully late rates. Prime quality Devons were sold at £23 10s and £21 5s; prime young Shorthorn steers reached £22; young polled Aberdeen heifers, £18 10s, etc., etc. Fat sheep and lambs realised full figure and a clearance made. Half fat and inferior sheep and lambs were worse to sell and prices lower. Prime Hampshire Down wethers and ewes made 52s 6d, 59s, 39s 6d, 44s, 42s. 43s 6d, 61s 6d, 52s 6d, 44s 6d; eighteen months old ditto, 52s, 41s, 51s, 50s. 59s, 52s 6d, 46s 6d, 50s. 43s: Southdowns, 46s. 40s, 48s; black fair Scotch, 27s, 35s 6d; Dorset ewes, 36s; old ewes, 34s, 34s 6d, 33s 6d, 30s, 37s, 38s; six months old lambs, 40s 6d, 38s, 48s, 37s, 40s; three months old sucking lambs, 32s, 19s, 34s, 26s, 32s, 25s 6d, 30s. 29s 6d, 27s, 32s. With a small entry of dairy cattle on offer trade ruled brisk for all the best quality milch cows and heifers. Store cattle of the better class met a good enquiry. Fat calves are making less money. The pig trade throughout was of a quiet tendency. Ruling values:—Prime Devon and Aberdeen beasts, 7d to 7¼d; ditto Shorthorn ditto, 6¾d to 7d; bulls, cows, and inferior ditto, 5½d to 6d per lb. Best quality sheep and big lambs, 9d to 9½d; second ditto, 8d to 8½d per lb; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 7d; choice fat sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb. Fat calves, 5½d to 8d per lb. Porkers, 8s to 10s per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—A poor show and a slow trade. Stores, £10 to £13; growing stores, £7 10s to £9 10s; drapes, £9 to £11; milch cows, £16 10s to £20 10s; in-calf heifers, £16 10s to £18 10s; calves, 60s to 65s each; best beef, 7s 9d; and cow beef, 7s to 7s 3d per stone. Wether mutton, 8d; ewe mutton, 6d; and lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under..	9s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in.	9s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	8s 6d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge. Monday.—Beast, 290; sheep, 499; pigs, 149; horses, 5. Beef, 7s 9d to 8s 6d; mutton, 5s 2d to 6s; pork, 5s 3d to 6s. Small show store beast, owing to horse fair. Fat beast, a fair show and prices unchanged. Fat sheep, a good number to hand, and prices quite up to last week. Stores, very few shown. Fat and store pigs short supply.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Sheep in short supply. Strong tegs forward in condition made from 40s to 44s; rough barren ewes, 19s to 21s; and a few ewes and lambs, 34s. Among the bullocks some good heifers sold at from £9 to £10 17s 6d; small rough yearlings, £4 to £6 10s; and useful cows and calves from £14 to £17 10s. Trade generally slow.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish store cattle was similar to that of last week, between 500 and 600 heifers of a good description being offered. There was a large attendance of buyers, and a fairly brisk sale was experienced at £5 5s to £3 10s for small beasts, and from £10 10s to £12 10s and up to £17 for the best specimens. Young pigs were a large show and met a slow sale at 21s to 25s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Rather small supply of fat sheep and cattle, and with business quiet there was no change in prices. The recent improvement in feeding prospects led to a better inquiry for store sheep, and a good business was transacted in this department at rising prices.

Dorchester, Saturday.—With a good delivery, prices were again well maintained both for fat and store stock. Milch beasts met a capital demand at full prices. Mutton maintained late rates.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 1,727; increase, 339; sheep, 12,450, increase, 2,706; calves, 51, decrease. Fair trade for all classes of cattle, prices showing scarcely any variation from last week. Stores in good demand at this day's auction, the improvement in the weather conditions seeming to have an appreciable effect on buyers. Sheep and lambs in better demand, best qualities favouring sellers; others easier sold. Cattle (best), 34s to 38s per cwt; other descriptions, 30s to 33s per cwt. Mutton, 6½d to 7½d per lb. Lambs, 17s to 40s each.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Average supplies of beef, and good demand at late rates. Polled bullocks, to £19 10s; horned bullocks, to £19 5s; horned heifers, to £16 15s; Galloway bullocks, to £18 5s; blue-grey bullocks, to £17 10s; Ayrshire bullocks, to £21 10s; cows, to £12 10s. Small show of sheep, which made fully late prices.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Smaller supplies of sheep, larger of cattle, and good demand. Half-bred hogs (clipped), best, 32s to 33s; grey-faces, to 31s; polled bullocks, £11 11s to £15 15s; stirks, £9 9s to £11 11s; best shorthorn cows, to £26; secondary, £20 to £23; Ayrshires, £18 10s; and Irish, £21.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies short and prices firm. Best Scotch cattle maintained extreme prices of last market day quotations, 67s to 70s. per cwt; secondary, 64s to 66s; top Irish, 62s to 64s; States and Canadians, 58s to 62s, with choice descriptions up to 64s. Sheep firm, with prime lambs in demand. Best sheep, 9d to 9½d per lb; lambs, 10d to 1s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 410, calves 160, sheep 1,348, lambs 1,071, pigs (fat and sows) 10, sucking pigs 55, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 235, pigs (stores, more than ten) 88, horses 3, colts 2. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb: bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robt. Bond and Sons report a large supply of fat cattle, for which the trade was somewhat slow and prices a trifle lower, the best animals making up to £21 15s. The fat sheep pens were well filled and sold much on the same lines as last week. Trade was slow for store sheep and lambs. Calves were fairly represented; the best bred animals for weaning were very dear, up to 55s; those for killing were slow and cheaper. Several lots of well bred stores were well competed for. Fat swine were short. Cows and heifers showing milk were in demand and dearer, up to £21 10s. A good entry of store cattle for the season and plenty of buyers, which caused a fair trade at rather more money. Numbers at sales and market: Beasts, 666; calves, 40; sheep, 3,146; pigs, 1,355; horses, 56.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There was a fair average number of cattle penned to-day—526, against 511 last week, which included several choice pens from Norfolk, together with some well finished animals from Scotland, Ireland, and the North of England. A good demand was experienced for all classes of beef, the primest quality meeting with a ready sale at firm prices. Choicest heifers and bullocks made 7¼d to 7¾d per lb; good useful beef realised 6¾d, and cow and inferior beef about 6d. Sheep supplies were on a fair scale, but below those of last week, numbering 2,390, compared with 2,840. There was an improved enquiry for all classes of sheep, prices having a firmer tendency all round, good quality realising rather more money. Choice small shearlings fetched 8½d to 8¾d; large and heavy sheep, 7¾d; and ewes, etc., 6d per lb. Prime lambs were in request, and met with a ready sale at 9d to 9½d per lb, prices having a hardening tendency. Calves show an increase compared with last week, the best veal qualities making about 8d per lb. Dairy cattle were an average show, a fair amount of business being done. The best milkers realised from £15 to £21. Numbers at market:—Cattle 526, sheep 2,390, calves 14.

Leicester, Saturday.—Very heavy supplies of stock. In excellent condition. Good attendance and trade brisk at firm prices. Milch cows, £15 to £22; cows, £13 to £22 per head. Bullocks £11 to £20 per head. Young stock a slow trade.

Lincoln. Tuesday.—The supply of fat stock was not so large, and prices were higher. There was only a moderate show of beasts, but a fair trade was experienced. Good beef, 7s 6d to 8s 6d; inferior, to 7s 0d per stone. The number of sheep was less, and trade was good. Mutton, ewes, 7d to 7½d; wethers sold to 8d. lamb, 9½d to 10½d per lb.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good show, but only trifling trade. Milch beasts, £14 to £20; drapes, between £8 and £12; three-year-old bullocks realised up to £16; two-year-old, from £8 to £12; and yearlings, £5 to £8. No sheep penned. In pig department trade a little more satisfactory. Suckers sold at from 14s to 19s, and stores from 27s to 47s each.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Larger supply of cattle, slow trade. Pork slow and heavy. Prices (sinking offal): —Beef, 5s 6d to 8s 9d; pork, 5s to 7s 6d per stone; mutton, 6d to 10d; lamb,

9d to 11d; veal, 5d to 8d per lb. In market:—Cattle, 1,850; sheep and lambs, 6,782; calves, 99; pigs, 727.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts here to-day was large, and in excess of the demand, and a complete clearance was not made; prices showed no material change, but were, upon the whole, slightly in favour of buyers. The supply of fat beasts was somewhat larger than usual; trade was scarcely so firm at 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. Store sheep and lambs were in large supply, and trade was generally quiet; lambs brought 18s to 32s, and ewes 25s to 55s per head. Fat sheep, which were in moderate supply, made 9s to 10s per 14lb. Keep prospects are fairly good in Norfolk.

Preston, Wednesday.—Good attendance, and average supplies of both cattle and sheep. Trade was somewhat quiet. Beef, heifers and bullocks, 7d to 7½d; cows and bulls, 5d to 6d; mutton, hogs, 7¾d to 8d; tups and ewes, 5d to 6d; lambs, 7½d to 8d; calves, 7d per lb. At market: 170 cattle, 2,350 sheep, and 106 calves.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The show of milch beasts was small, and trade was quiet. The best lots made from £17 to £21; secondary, £12 to £15.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Mutton and lamb slightly lower. Pigs steady all round. Store cattle ditto. Fat cattle brisk at high prices. Cows with calves good. Small supplies all round. Quotations:—Lamb, 7d to 9d; beef, 6d to 7½d; mutton, 6d to 7½d; and veal, 7d to 8d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s; and bacons, 8s 6d to 9s per score. Cows, with calves, up to £20 12s 6d. Hay up to £2 10s, and straw up to £2 per ton. Beef made up to 42s per live cwt. Number offered:—485 lambs, 451 cattle, 64 cows with calves, 1,173 sheep, 116 calves, 32 fat, 101 porket, and 337 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Best beef to 8s per stone; secondary, 7s 3d to 7s 6d. A good trade for stores, at £10 to £15. Milch cows and in-calf heifers in demand. In the sheep market there was a fair show, and a brisk trade. Best mutton, 7d to 8d per lb. Poor trade for lambs.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 173 cattle, 3 calves, 320 sheep, 100 lambs, and 264 pigs. Only a few customers for a small show of best cattle, and trade was very slow, at 8s 6d to 9s per stone; rougher kinds, 7s to 7s 6d; calves, 6d to 8d; young sheep, 8½d; lambs, 9½d; ewes, 7d; tups, 5d to 6d per lb.

Thame, Tuesday.—The market was full of life on Tuesday, and with a large supply of stock, and an excellent attendance of buyers, including the principal riverside butchers (Henley Regatta being near at hand), trade throughout was very fast at improved prices all round, being the best selling trade this season, and a clearance was quickly effected. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 74 fat beasts, 426 fat sheep and lambs and stores, 65 fat and weaning calves, 267 fat and store pigs, and 3 horses. Fat bullocks made £17 to £23; fat heifers, £15 to £20 15s; fat wethers, 48s to 60s; fat ewes, 37s to 50s; fat lambs, 29s to 40s; store lambs, 26s 6d to 30s; fat calves, £3 to £4 17s; cow calves, 28s to 32s; bull calves, 23s to 60s; fat pigs, 10s 6d per score. Stores easier.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Smaller supplies of all kinds of stock, but even these were quite equal to the demand. Better trade in mutton and lambs, the former making from 6d to 8¾d per pound, and the latter 9d to 10d. Beef moved off slowly at 6d to 7½d per pound. Numbers at market: Beasts, 1,345; sheep, 487.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a fair supply, but trade slow. Sheep a fair supply, but a bad trade. Lambs a moderate supply, and trade good. There was a small number of calves on offer, and trade was quiet. Milch cows a very large supply, a clearance being made. Dairy cows were very cheap. Beef, 5½d to 7½d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8¾d; lamb, 8¾d to 9½d; veal, 6½d to 8d; bacon pigs, 9s 6d per score; porkets, 9s 6d to 10s; sows, 7s.

Worcester, Saturday.—The market was well supplied with cattle, sheep, and pigs, but trade ruled quiet all round. Except for best qualities, beef was scarcely so dear. Mutton sold slowly at late rates. Fair trade for fat calves and lambs. Pig trade quiet, except for stores, which sold well.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very fair supply of stock. Good trade for best beef, at 8s to 9s; inferior, 7s to 8s per stone; best shearling mutton, 8d to 8½d; ewe and other mutton, 5d to 6½d; lamb and veal, 8d to 9d per lb.

York, Friday.—Calves, 8d to 8½d; small sheep, 8½d; large sheep, 8d; and ewes, 6d to 7d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d ditto; small pork pigs, 6s 6d; and large ditto, 6s to 6s 3d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Thursday.—Only a small number of beasts from the United States were offered, and met a firm sale at 4s 3d to 4s 4d per 8lb, to sink the offal.

Yorkhill, Monday.—The weekly sale of American cattle was held in the afternoon, when there were in the lairages 249 cattle landed by the Salacia (s), from Baltimore. Bullocks, as is generally the case, formed the greater proportion of the total number, but there were also a number of bulls. The cattle as regards quality were rather above the usual standard, many of the bullocks being prime beasts in a well-finished condition. Bulls were fully up to the average, and showed well. There was a good attendance of buyers, both wholesale and retail, and business during the sale was of a very satisfactory character. The deadweight quotations are as follow:—Best bullocks, 66s per cwt; secondary, 63s; bulls, 54s to 57s, according to quality and finish.

Yorkhill, Monday.—At a sale of Canadian sheep there were penned in the sheds 629 sheep landed by the Tritonia (s), from Montreal. The sheep were of a very handy sort, good, useful weights, and were very suitable for the requirements of the trade. There was only a small attendance of buyers, and trade was very slow throughout. The deadweight quotations may be given as follows:—Best yearlings, medium weight, 7¾d per lb; secondary, 7¼d; best wedders, 7¼d; secondary, 7¼d; best tups, 5½d; secondary, 8d.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per pack of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £7 10s; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb: Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; scoured good, 1s 10d to 2s; scoured average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy average to fair, 11d to 1s; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; greasy average, 9d to 10d; South Australian, greasy average, 7d to 8d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 6½d to 1s 7½d; greasy average, 9d to 10d; Cape scoured superior, 1s 8d to 1s 10d; fleece average, 10d to 11d; greasy average, 7½d to 8d; Natal, scoured, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d; greasy average, 8d to 8¼d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 11¼d to 1s 0½d; New Zealand fine, 10d to 10½d; ditto medium, 8½d to 9d; ditto coarse, 5½d to 7d.

Bradford, Thursday.—Practically no business to-day in fine wools. With the recent fall in prices and the approach of the London sales, both holders and users hold aloof, and the position is one of extreme caution all round. English wools remain very cheap, with few transactions, despite the stiffness of sellers at country auctions. Mohair and alpaca continue firm, with steady consumption.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A considerable trade doing, notwithstanding the low prices. Kent wool is quoted up to 6½d per lb, but seldom makes more than 6d; lambs' wool, 4d to 5d; half-bred wool ranged up to 7¼d; and Downs from 8d to 10d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—The wool market continues in a quiet state, in view of the London colonial wool sales, which open to-morrow. The general feeling is that there will be a drop in prices.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed has continued to improve and the market closes firm; it is reported that American shippers are buying back their contracts. Calcutta to London spot 54s 9d, near 54s 9d, June-July 55s 3d, July-August 55s 3d. Hull.—Calcutta, afloat, 56s. Azoff, Black Sea, September-October, 49s. Duluth, October-November 43s. To the Continent we quote Bombay, June-July, and July August 55s. Calcutta, June-July 54s 6d. Linseed oil. Spot and near positions remain steady, and forward oil is in good demand at improved rates. We quote spot pipes £34 10s, barrels £34 15s, July-August £34, September-December £30 15s, January-April £28 2s 6d. Hull spot naked month £34 12s 6d, July-August £33 15s, September-December £29 12s 6d, January April £27 5s. Linseed cakes quiet and unchanged. Rapeseed continues to be firmly held, but busines is not very active. Brown Calcutta to London, 43s 6d sellers, 42s 6d buyers. To the Continent, we quote, yellow Cawnpore, July-August 46s 3d; brown Cawnpore, 44s 6d; brown Calcutta, April-June 43s 6d. Danubian, July-September 41s. Ravison, October-November, Hull, 29s. Cottonseed continues neglected in London, but Hull continues firm. London, June £6 2s 6d sellers, July £6 2s 6d, August £6 3s 9d, November-January £5 18s 9d. Hull, spot £6, passage and June £6, July £6 2s 6d, August £6 3s 9d, November-January £5 17s 6d buyers.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: The market continues to be only sparingly supplied, and, with a better demand, values are again higher, and have a tendency to further improve. Russian offers are scarce and beyond the views of buyers, but landed parcels meet a good enquiry at last week's full prices. Americans: There are very few obtainable either in warehouse or to arrive with the result that spot holders are asking more money. London made are in better request, and crushers have raised their limits 2s. 6d. per ton. Cotton cakes: There is a check to the downward tendency, and a fair trade has been done in spot Egyptian, while in forward positions an advance of 2s 6d per ton is now asked. English remain unchanged and steady. Decorticated are getting into a small compass, and the limited quantity on hand is firmly held. Rape cakes: Quiet. East India still offering; price unchanged. Maize germ meal: Supplies continue extremely small, and American is again fully 5s. per ton dearer, while English finds a ready sale at 2s 6d per ton more money. Rice meal: Rangoon in warehouse is dearer, and July-August shipment offers at an advance of fully 1s 3d per ton.

LINSEED CAKES.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
London made ..... per ton ex mill	7 10 0	to	7 15 0
American in bags ..... ex dock	7 0 0	„	7 2 6
Russian in mats ..... „	7 3 9	„	7 5 0
Russian in bags ..... „	7 8 9	„	7 10 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	4 5 0	„	4 7 6
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 2 6	„	4 5 0
Decorticated ..... „	6 2 6	„	6 5 0
Meal, on spot	—	„	6 5 0
„ June-July	—	„	6 10 0
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 5 0		—
Ravison ..... „	4 2 6	„	4 5 0
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American) ..... ex dock	4 17 6	„	5 0 0
Germ meal (American) ..... c.i.f.	4 12 6	„	4 15 0
„ (English) ..... ex mill	4 15 0	„	4 17 6
MANURES.			
Nitrate of soda ..... ex dock	—	„	8 0 0
Bone Compound ..... per ton on rails	2 17 6	„	—
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	4 5 0	„	4 7 6
Rangoon, July-August	4 0 0	„	4 2 6

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed.—The market is firm to-day at the advance on the week of 2s to 3s per qr on both home-grown and foreign wheat, but buyers are less eager to go into stock at the advanced prices demanded. Barley unaltered. Oats command full prices. Beans, 6d per qr. dearer from scarcity. Maize in less compass, and both flat and round are 1s per qr. dearer than last Tuesday. Linseed.—Market has been firm throughout the week, with a gradual improving tendency. Cottonseed has shown more activity since our last, and good business done in old and new crop at improved prices. Linseed Cakes: Firm spot, and dearer forward.—Cotton Cakes, are 2s 6d cheaper spot, and 2s 6d dearer forward. Hemp.—Firm fine qualities scarce.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 12s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 17s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 15s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 7s 6d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—The market for fertilisers and feeding stuffs is inactive, as is usual at this period. Values are unchanged, excepting American linseed cakes, which are slightly higher on account of the firmness of holders at the ports of shipment in America; quotations subscribed. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £8 to £8 5s per ton; East India bone meal, in bags, £4 15s per ton; kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 8s 9d per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, fair to prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 10s per ton; ditto, English, prime, in bulk, £8 to £8 2s 6d per ton; ditto, foreign round, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £7 17s 6d to £8 per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, fairly soft, in bags, £6 11s 3d to £6 15s per ton; ditto, English, decorticated, prime very soft, in bags, £6 16s 3d to £7 per ton; ditto, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d per ton; cottonseed (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £6 15s to £6 17s 6d per ton; maize germ meal, English, prime, in bags, £5 to £5 2s 6d per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 11s to 11s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 18s to £3 per qr. 416lb; N.A. cloverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags; D.N.S. brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags; ditto, ditto, 30 to 31 sol., in bags; ditto, ditto, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, per ton, nominal.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Winsford (Cheshire), Saturday.—Current prices for salt at the works:—Common white salt, 11s per ton; fine screened rock salt, 8s 6d per ton, for truck loads in bulk.—THE SALT UNION, LIMITED.

Destructive Farm Fire.—Early on Sunday morning last a disastrous fire occurred at Mollanbowie Farm, situated about a mile north-east of Balloch Station, and occupied by the Misses Miller. On the north side of the farm steading is the stable, in which were four horses. The hayloft was above, and at the east gable end the bothy occupied by the man servant. About 4 a.m. the crackling of the woodwork of the stable and hayloft awoke the man servant. By this time three of the horses were suffocated.

THE BALTIC.

A supplementary committee election at the London Corn Trade Association has resulted in the return of Mr. Alexander Blyth. The Association has made up four standards of Argentine wheat. As the quality and state of wheat from the River Plate have been a matter of much concern to millers, we strongly advise them to keep these type samples in their bureaux. They may be bought at the Association offices, 2, Lime Street Square, at a moderate price.

The work at Jeffreys Square is going on very rapidly, and the new "Baltic" will be a feature of St. Mary Axe from the beginning of the new century.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports of call for the week were nil.

The sailings of grain and seed laden vessels from ports of call for the week were:—7 wheat (1 Birkenhead, 1 Dublin, 2 Glasgow, 1 Hull, 1 Laurvig, 1 North Shields), 1 flour (Sligo), 1 bean (Irvine); total, 9.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been 180 wheat, 13 wheat and barley, 6 flour, 8 maize, 1 maize and oats, 21 barley, 13 beans, 6 locust beans, 1 linseed, 2 canary-seed, 5 valonea; total, 256.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 148 wheat, 8 flour, 3 maize, 6 barley, 1 barley and beans, 6 beans, 1 locust beans, 4 linseed, 4 canary seed, and 7 valonea; total, 188.

Wheat cargo sales of the week include Californian at 31s. 3d. on passage, 32s. 3d. July shipment; Walla Walla, 30s. 3d. on passage, 30s. 6d. July shipment; Argentine, 29s. 6d. July shipment; No. 1 Northern, 33s., July shipment; Manitoba, 33s. July shipment; Odessa Ghirka, 32s. 6d. July shipment; and fine Azima, 34s., also July shipment.

Maize cargo sales embrace Roumanian at 22s.; American, 21s.; Argentine at 21s. 6d.; and Caucasian at 21s. 9d., all for July shipment. For American nearly due 20s. has been accepted. Sales of other cargoes have been inclusive of Persian barley, 17s., July shipment; Saida beans, 27s.; July clipped white American oats, 15s. 3d., July; Calcutta linseed, 54s., July; American linseed, 49s. 9d., Oct.; Bombay linseed, 57s. 9d., July; Guzerat rapeseed, 46s., July; Egyptian cottonseed, £5 17s. 6d., Nov.; Azoff rye, 24s. 6d., Aug.; Azoff barley, 18s., Sept.; Syrian dari, 22s. July; and Wisconsin peas, 47s. July. The name of the month indicates shipment to be made before the last day thereof.

POULTRY.

The Management of Game Chickens

There are more Game chickens die when brought up in confinement than perhaps is the case with any other breed; not because they are delicate chickens, but because they are not managed properly. Game chickens require feeding rather differently from other breeds; if not they grow too much feather, which becomes very loose and fluffy. When they have a good range Game chickens should not be fed upon soft food, unless it is once or twice a week, and they are better without any. It is given them sometimes for the sake of putting a little bonemeal in the food, which often prevents them from getting weak in the leg, and, of course, the bonemeal cannot be given unless it is mixed in a little soft food.

French buckwheat and barley are the two finest grains for Game chickens, and a little hemp seed occasionally. The former should be used far more than the barley, as nothing tends to harden the feathers more. When Game chickens are brought up in confined runs almost every grain they eat ought to be buried in the soil so that they will have to scratch for it; as no chicken requires so much exercise to get them in good form as do Game. They are almost sure to go wrong when they are brought up in confined runs and fed as most people feed them, as they are so long in the legs, which get very weak unless they get plenty of exercise.

Some professional Game breeders, even where they have plenty of room, put them in long, narrow, wire runs, to give them a deal of walking about. They have the wire runs from 2ft. to 36in. high, and often feed them through the top of the wire to make them reach up. They will hold little pieces of dry bread along the top of the run as they walk up the side, the birds following them, always on the look out with their head right up to the sun, which gives them a very upright appearance. Those who visit the exhibitions are surprised to see how erect the Game birds stand. This is greatly owing to training them for that purpose from the time when they are quite young chickens. Game chickens should always have a little meat when kept in confinement; when they are not they can and [illegible] as they range so widely.

LIVE STOCK.

OUR PLATES.

For our plate this week we give a portrait of the first prize Longhorn bull at the show of the Royal Agricultural Society at York last month. Wootton Wonder, who is the property of, and was bred by, Mr. Jasper Selwyn, Kenilworth, is a dark brindle, born on January 30th, 1897, his sire being Pretender 2nd, and his dam Pink, by Baddesley.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

At a Council meeting of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society, held on Thursday, it was decided to accept the invitation of the Mayor of Bradford to hold the society's show at that town next year. The society had also been invited to Scarborough, but in consequence of the great expense of dealing with the traffic at that town, it was considered impracticable to accept the invitation. The testimonial to Mr. Marshall Stephenson, the late secretary, was considered, and it was stated that the subscription list will close on July 31st.

"It is reported that Wollaton Park is likely to be selected as the permanent show ground of the Royal Agricultural Society. It is the property of Lord Middleton, and Wollaton House is one of the finest mansions of the Holland House type in England; but the great manufacturing town of Nottingham is now almost at its doors, and hence it has been deserted by both Lord Middleton and his father before him. Its probable fate is to become to Nottingham what Aston Hall is to Birmingham, and some arrangement could probably be come to between the Royal Agricultural Society and the town of Nottingham by which the people of Nottingham should enjoy the place, save on the rare occasions when needed by the society." Thus says the *Birmingham Post*.

Messrs. John Thornton and Co. have just issued a new number of their Record of Shorthorn Transactions, which contains particulars of sales from January 1st to March 31st of this year, and particulars of forthcoming sales of Shorthorns.

Bertram, considered to be one of the best light weight hunters in England, was bought by Mr. J. N. Grey, of Peterstone, Cardiff, at the Peterborough Show on Wednesday for 1,000gs. Bertram, who was shown by Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Great Bowden, Market Harborough, won the first prize in his class, and was reserved for the championship to Gendarme, the Richmond champion, who is also now the property of Mr. Grey, who purchased him recently from Mr. T. D. John for £800.

Messrs. John Thornton and Co. will sell by auction on Tuesday, September 11th, at Trescowe, four miles from Bodmin and four from Wadebridge Station, both on the Great Western and London and South-Western Railways, Mr. R. S. Olver's extensive and old-established herd of pure-bred Hereford cattle, numbering about 100 head, as Mr. Olver's declining health compels him to retire from active work. The two-year-old and yearling steers, as well as the dairy cows and cross-bred stock of about fifty head, will be sold afterwards. This famous herd was founded in Mid-Cornwall by Mr. Olver's father about 1844, from stock of the Hewer blood brought into the county by the Earl of St. Germans. Mr. G. Lobb's herd, of Lawhitton, in the county, also supplied some good animals by Rory O'More 1711, a celebrated bull bred by Mr. Philip Turner, of the Leen, Herefordshire, the blood of whose excellent stock has been continued in the herd to the present day.

The strain of old Walford 871, first prize bull at the R.A.S.E. at Windsor, 1851, and winner of the first prize and the gold medal for the best bull of any age or breed at the International Show at Paris in 1855, was brought in with stock obtained from Mr. T. Longmore, of Walford, Ludlow. Daisy, bought from Mr. R. Davey, of Polsue House, Grampound, was by J. Rea's Zippor 2354, who was a son of the celebrated bull Sir Benjamin 1387. The herd now almost entirely consists of these strains, and will be found entered in the Herd Book from the fourth volume, when females were for the second time recorded.

First-class bulls were selected from eminent breeders, and if they proved good sires, were kept for many years. The herd is remarkably even and uniform, true to type, and of a very high character. Disease is unknown on the farm. Prizes have been always won at the county show, but it has not been the custom to exhibit elsewhere.

Trescowe is not alone famous for its herd of Hereford cattle. A breed of large black lop-eared pigs have been kept since the family occupied the farm in 1842. Their history is unknown. Mr. Olver's father used to speak of them as the long Leicesters, and as Leicester sheep were kept in the county since the last century, it is presumed they may also have had a Leicestershire origin. They are numerous in the county and have been as carefully and judiciously bred as the cattle, so that whenever exhibited they have been prize winners. Their hardy nature, early maturity, prolific character, and great feeding properties—pigs nine months old having been killed weighing upwards of 350lbs.—have made them fashionable Cornishman, first prize and champion boar at the Royal Cornwall Show, is now in service. A select stud of Shire horses and a first-class stallion have been kept on the farm for many years. Prizes have been won at the Royal Cornwall and local shows, and rarely have they been exhibited without honours. The horses and pigs will be sold on Tuesday, September 18th, and the sheep, poultry, and farm implements on the following day. The tenancy expires at Michaelmas. Catalogues will be issued in due time, and may be had of Mr. Olver, Trescowe, Washaway, R.S.O., Cornwall, or of the auctioneers, 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London.

The Oxford Down Sheep-breeders' Association have just issued Vol. XII. of the Oxford Down Flock Book. It contains the entry of seventy-four flocks, as against seventy-seven in Vol. XI., and individual entries of 247 rams—Nos. 3088 to 3335, and 121 ewes—Nos. 1187 to 1308. In the preceding volume there were entries of 346 rams and 134 ewes, so that the entries of both males and females have this year fallen off.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., the well-known live stock exporters of Shrewsbury, shipped on June 14th, per ss. "Westphalia," from Hamburg, eighteen Rambouillet Merinos, viz., nine rams and nine ewes, personally selected from one of the leading flocks of Merinos in France, which took the premier position at the recent Paris Exposition. These were consigned to Messrs. George Harding and Son, of Waukesha, Wis.

The entries for all stock and horses, butter, poultry, etc., of the Tring Agricultural Society's show will close on Friday next, July 6th, and as the amount of prize money offered is far in excess of anything yet put before the members, it ought to be a strong inducement to make a good entry, especially in the local classes for which the committee cater so liberally. There are first, second, and third prizes in all classes, and in some more important ones four prizes are offered. The secretary (Mr. T. J. Brown, 41, High Street, Tring) points out that there is still an opportunity to become a member of the society, and make entries for this year's show on August 9th, if attended to at once.

In reply to a question by Mr. Runciman as to the cost of conveying horses to South Africa, Mr. Macartney, in the House of Commons on Monday evening, stated that in the few cases in which it has been possible to arrange for the conveyance of horses from this country to the Cape on freight, the cost has averaged £25 10s. per horse landed. The charge of the Union Castle Line for the passage of a horse to Capetown was £35. Owing to the difference in the ships as to the rate of time, speed, consumption of coal, cost of fitting, the number of horses and men respectively which they carry, and the number of voyages which they make, it is impossible, without elaborate and lengthy calculations, to say what has been the average cost of conveying horses by transport.

The Highland and Agricultural Society have drawn up an attractive programme, which has just been issued, for their show at Stirling on Tuesday, July 17th, and three following days. The first day is devoted entirely to the judging of the stock and exhibition of implements. On each of the following days there will be parades of the prize animals, and also jumping. The general meeting of members will take place in the pavilion on the second day of the show at 12.30 p.m. The showyard will open each day at eight o'clock and close at 6.30 p.m., except on the last day, when the proceedings will be brought to an end at six o'clock. To add to the enjoyment of visitors, there will be a band, and also pipers.

The eighth annual sale of Messrs. Robertson and Son's Kerry and Dexter cattle will take place at the Church Farm, Babraham, Cambridge, on Wednesday, July 11th. Messrs. Robertson's herds are so well known all over the country that it is needless to give a descriptpion of them. As is well known, of late the animals have been exhibited with great success. In 1898 the herd achieved the great honour of winning, among many other prizes, both the fifty-guinea challenge cups presented by Lord Ashburton for the best Kerry bull and the best Dexter bull at the Royal Counties Show at Portsmouth (the sire and dam to be entered in the Royal Dublin Society's Herd Book), and as these cups had been won three years in succession, they both became the property of Messrs. Robertson. Last year, at the Bath and West of England Show at Exeter, first prize was won with the Kerry cow Eyvind-an-Treas; she was sold at the sale last year, and again won a first prize at the Oxfordshire Show this season, although eleven years of age. At the meeting of the Royal Counties Society at Windsor no less than four firsts, one champion prize, and the silver challenge shield offered by the Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society were obtained. This year at the Royal Bath and West and Royal Counties Shows numerous prizes have again been won. The catalogue includes the bull La Mancha Union Jack, which has carried everything before him this year, winning first and championship at the Royal, Royal Counties, and Bath and West exhibitions. The sale will commence after a one o'clock luncheon, and will be conducted by Messrs. J. Thornton and Co.

The third large consignment of boars and sows for Riga, Russia, left the Millwall Docks, London, on the 25th ult., instead of on the day following, owing to the dockers' strike. Mr. Sanders Spencer also shipped four fine young Large White sows on Thursday from Dover for France. These were some of the best specimens from the Holywell Manor herd.

For the convenience of those attending the sale of Miss Alice de Rothschild's Shorthorns at the Home Farm, Waddesdon, Bucks, on the day of sale the Great Central Railway will stop the following trains at Waddesdon Manor Station: The 8 a.m. from Leicester and the 8.15 a.m. and the 4 p.m. from Marylebone.

CATTLE.

Sale of Shorthorns and Southdowns at Sandringham.

On Friday a number of Shorthorn cattle and Southdown sheep from the Sandringham herd and flock, the property of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, was held at Wolferton, Norfolk. As usual at the periodical sales of the live stock productions of the Royal estate in Norfolk, there was a very large and influential attendance, not only from various parts of the country, but from the Colonies, for whose comfort and convenience every possible arrangement was made, on each side of the ring being a temporary canvas covering with tiers of seats, while on the left was a special marquee for the Prince of Wales and his guests. The sale was fixed for two o'clock, and at that hour the Prince of Wales entered the enclosure, and was lustily cheered by the large number of visitors who had already assembled. His Royal Highness was accompanied by a number of distinguished people, amongst those having a seat in the Royal Pavilion being the Maharajah of Cooch Behar, the Marquis of Waterford, the Earl of Feversham, the Earl of Crewe, Lord Rathdonnell, Lord Brougham, Lord Lilford, Sir Nigel Kingscote, Sir Jacob Wilson, Sir John Gilmour, Sir Oswald Mosley, Captain Duncombe, Sir Saville Foljambe, Mr.

Gordon, Mr. Russell Colman, Sir Ernest Clarke, and Mr. Crutchley.

Mr. John Thornton, in opening the sale, remarked that on the occasion of the last Shorthorn sale they had the honour of congratulating the Prince of Wales on the great success of Persimmon. This year another Shorthorn sale was taking place, and they had again to congratulate his Royal Highness upon the success of Diamond Jubilee—(applause)—a double event, both horses bred upon that estate, bearing out the truth of the old adage, "Good blood will tell."

The sale opened with the Shorthorns, of which there were catalogued forty-one cows and heifers, two calves, and thirteen bulls. The highest price obtained was 250gs., paid by Her Majesty the Queen for Moss Rose, a handsome red, calved in March, 1897, of which Pensive was the sire and Red Rose the dam. The next highest price was 230gs., given by Sir John Gilmour for Spring Rose, the sire being that famous bull Celt and the dam Rose of Brougham. The Queen was a purchaser for 47gs. of Ruling Beauty, a roan, calved last December. In the bull classes Ringmaster, calved last November, fetched 200gs., being acquired for exportation to South America. Following upon the disposal of the Shorthorns came the turn of the Southdowns. The 140 yearling ewes offered produced £454 10s., or an average of nearly £3 5s. Ten yearling rams subsequently put under the hammer realised £159, or an average of £15 18s. The highest price paid in this class was 52gs., given for a magnificent animal purchased by Mr. Drummond for exportation to Canada. Ewes and rams together fetched just under £4 2s. per head.

COWS AND HEIFERS. Gs.

Charmer, red, c Feb., 1893, s Duke of Barrington 34th 60662
Lord Crewe 60

Red cow calf, c March, 1900, s Carlyle 65226 ..Lord Crewe 20

Duchess of Appleton, roan, c June, 1896, s Celt 66798
Mr. Victor Cavendish 155

Red-and-white bull calf, c April, 1900, s Carlyle 65226
Mr. Victor Cavendish 20

Lady Norah, white, c July, 1896, s Celt 66798
Hon. F. J. S. Foljambe 35

Clear Star, red, c Oct., 1896, s Celt 66798
Sir J. Gilmour, Bart. 33

Rare Valentine, roan, c Feb., 1897, s Celt 66798
Mr. W. Warren 20

Spring Rose, red, c Feb., 1897, s Celt 66798
Sir J. Gilmour, Bart. 230

Moss Ross, red, March, 1897, s Pensive 67585
H.M. The Queen 250

Crystal Valley, roan, c June, 1897, s Crystal Prince 70221
Mr. A. M. Gordon 42

Wild Rose, roan, c June, 1897, s Leonidas 59260
Mr. J. Thorley 48

Crystal Queen, roan, c Aug., 1897, s Crystal Prince 70221
Lord Lilford 50

Dolly Varden, red roan, c Jan., 1898, s Hillington 70622
Mr. W. M. Mason 18

Kinship, roan, c Jan., 1898, s Crystal Prince 70221
Mr. Batty (Canada) 40

Star of Hope, c March, 1898, s Townsma n69712
Lord Feversham 35

My Favourite, red, c April, 1898, s Townsman 69712
Lord Crewe 42

Glisten, rich roan, c May, 1898, s Stephanos 71688
Marquis of Waterford 60

Empress Queen, white, c May, 1898, s Crystal Prince 7 0221
Lord Brougham and Vaux 60

Sappho, red, c May, 1898, s Stephanos 71688
Mr. A. M. Gordon 27

Lady Meg, roan, c June, 1898, s Crystal Prince 70221
Mr. H. Lewis 23

Princess Cinderella, roan, c July, 1898, s Crystal Prince 70221 ..... Mr. A. Henderson 125

Crystal Honey, roan, c July, 1898, s Crystal Prince 70221
Capt. Duncombe 135

Lady Delight, roan, c Dec., 1897, s Penguin 71136
Abbott Bros. 21

Scottish Duchess, red and little white, c Nov., 1898, s Stephanos 71688 ..... Mr. Victor Cavendish 70

Florrie Girl, roan, c Nov., 1898, s Crystal Prince 70221
Sir Oswald Mosley 115

Clipper Lass, white, c Dec., 1898, s Townsman 69712
Mr. J. Deane Willis 50

Fortune's Favour, light roan, c Feb., 1899, s Stephanos 71688 ..... Marquis of Waterford 41

Helpmate, roan, c April, 1899, s Crystal Prince 70221
Sir O. Mosley 30

Sweet Fragrance, red and little white, c April, 1899, s Stephanos 71688 ..... Lord Calthorpe 52

Herdsmand's Fancy, road, c April, 1899, s Stephanos 71688
Mr. J. Wainwright 41

Fortuna, roan, c April, 1899, c Crystal Prince 70221
Lord Rosebery 100

Queen of the Ring, roan, c April, 1899, s Stephanos 71688
Lord Waterford 81

Rose Wreath, red and little white, c May, 1899, s Stephanos 71688 ..... Mr. E. Piggot 37

Queen Clipper, white, c June, 1899, s Crystal Prince 70221
Capt. Duncombe 71

Queen of Clippers, roan, c Aug., 1899, s Crystal Prince 70221
Lord Calthorpe 165

Lady Florrie, roan, c Oct., 1899, s Crystal Prince 79221
Sir O. Mosley 40

Sweet Beauty, road, c Oct, 1899, s Crystal Prince 70221
Duke of Northumberland 52

Dona, roan, c Nov., 1899, s Crystal Prince 70221
Lord Waterford 40

Queen Stephanos, roan, c Nov., 1899, s Stephanos 71688
Lord Feversham 51

Lady Ollie, roan, c Nov., 1899, s Crystal Prince 70221
Mr. W. E. Balston 40

Spring Flower, roan, c Nov., 1899, s Crystal Prince 70221
Duke of Northumberland 72

Ruling Beauty, roan, c Dec., 1899, s Regent 73398
H.M. the Queen 47

Lady Annette, roan, c Dec., 1899, s Crystal Duke 72307
Marquis of Waterford 70

BULLS.

Crystal Duke 72307, roan, c Aug. 1897, s Crystal Prince 70221 ..... Sir Oswald Mosley 37

King Mun 2nd 74792, roan, c Jan., 1898, s Crystal Prince 70221 ..... Mr. W. M. Mason 30

King Boaz 74785, roan, c May, 1898, s Crystal Prince, 70221 ..... Mr. F. Miller 45

Crystal Quality 74329, roan, c July, 1898, s Crystal Prince 70221 ..... Senor M. J. Cobo 100

Crystal Bloom 74328, roan, c Dec., 1898, s Crystal Prince 70221 ..... Mr. E. T. Madeley 80

Prince Dolly 75278, roan, c Dec., 1898, s Crystal Prince 70221 ..... Mr. J. Christy 30

Enchanter, red and little white, c Jan., 1899, s Herdsman's Choice 68789 ..... Mr. Jonas Webb 28

Senator, roan, c May, 1899, s Celtic Prince 70116
Mr. H. Harvey 22

Royal Oak, roan, c May, 1899, s Crystal Prince 70221
Marquis of Waterford 135

Crystal Quentin, roan, c July, 1899, s Crystal Prince 70221
Mr. R. Blezard 47

Kentucky Lad, r, c Sept., 1899, s Crystal Prince 70221
Mr. P. Willett 22

Ringmaster, roan, c Nov., 1899, s Crystal Duke 72307
Senor M. J. Cobo 200

Bright Star, red, c Dec., 1899, s Crystal Duke 72307
Sir Oswald Mosley 17

Sale of Jersey Cattle at Ashwicke Grange.

The entire choice herd of Jerseys belonging to Mr C. H. Bramley Firth were sold by auction on Wednesday, at Ashwicke Grange, Marshfield, Chippenham, by Messrs. John Thornton and Co. A few animals from the old-established herd bred by Mrs. Peel at Pembridge, Herefordshire, were also sold. The cattle had never been exhibited, but were a hardy and well-grown lot, mostly greys and fawns, several of the cows being in full profit. The average for thirty-six head was just over £16.

The following is a list of the principal prices realised:

COWS AND HEIFERS. Gs.

Brown Bet 2nd, Vol. vi., p. 76, whole colour, c May, 1892, s Rosy's Duke 3738 ..... Mrs. Kennedy 21

Mermaid, Vol. vi., p. 406, nearly whole colour, c Dec., 1894, s Don 4067 ..... Mr. W. S. Baker 25

Kitty's Lady, Vol. x., p. 269, whole colour, c Jan., 1896, s Lord of the Southern Isles 4916 .. Mr. W. S. Baker 15

Flora, Vol. ix., p. 219, whole colour, c May, 1895, s Flora's Lad 4098 ..... Mr. C. C. Tudway 16

Carita, Vol. ix., p. 198, whole colour, c Nov., 1895, s Marmion 4929 ..... Col. Shaw Hellier 23

Sister Clare, Vol. ix., p. 296, whole colour, c Nov., 1895, s Marmion 4929 ..... Mrs. Earp 25

Mistletoe (Mrs. Peel's), Vol. x., p. 236, whole colour, c Jan., 1896, s B. Major 3988 ..... Mr. W. S. Baker 24

Sheila (Mrs. Peel's), Vol. viii., p. 241, whole colour, c Feb., 1896, s Orelio 4958 ..... Mr. W. S. Baker 19

Leyland's Meerut, Vol. x., p. 279, whole colour, c April, 1896, s Crystal 5127 ..... Mrs. Earp 25

Crystal's Rosy, Vol. xi., p. 224, whole colour, c May, 1896, s Crystal 5127 ..... Mrs. Kennedy 23

Siren, whole colour, c Oct., 1897, s Baron Dawish 5405
Mr. J. F. Hall 23

Golden Penny, whole colour, c March, 1898, s Golden Lad 5567 ..... Mr. J. F. Hall 17

Dame Mary, whole colour, c March, 1898, s Marius 5270
Mr. C. C. Tudway 15

Milky Way, whole colour, c April, 1898, s Dairyman 5517
Mr. W. S. Baker 25

Negress, whole colour, c June, 1898, s Dairyman 5517
Col. Shaw Hellier 17

Ettie (Mrs. Peel's), whole colour, c Oct., 1898, s Harry Butterwick 5925 ..... Mr. J. Kenworthy 15

BULLS.

Flying Fox 6552 (Mrs. Peel's), whole colour, c March, 1899, s Harry Butterwick 5925 ..... Rev. E. T. Williams 16½

Purseproud, whole colour, c Feb., 1899, s Persimmon 5693
Mr. J. F. Hall 17

Sale of Mr. Antony Gibb's Jerseys.

An important sale of Jersey cattle took place on Tuesday at Tyntesfield, near Bristol, when Messrs. John Thornton and Co. offered nearly all the entire herd belonging to Mr. Antony Gibbs. The animals were a good, useful lot, and included a number of prize winners at the Royal, the Bath and West, Devon County, and also local shows. Moreover, prizes have been won for butter, and two years in succession the first prize for butter had been won at the Royal Show at Maidstone and York. The fact that butter could be sent from a farm such as that to two such different districts as Kent and Yorkshire, and take first prize in each case, proves that it must have been a good class article. There was a good attendance of buyers, but the majority of the animals were obtained at cheap prices, and the forty-three head only realised a total of £656 15s. 6d., or an average of £15 5s. 6d. The top figure of the sale was 30gs., paid by Lady de Rothschild for Matilda, the winner of several awards at various shows. Below will be found particulars of the principal lots sold, together with their purchasers, prices, etc.:—

COWS AND HEIFERS. Gs.

Mayfair 2nd, Vol. x., p. 291, nearly whole colour, c April, 1893, s Frivol 2454 ..... Mr. C. C. Tudway 15

Matilda, Vol. x., p. 290, whole colour, c Jan., 1896, s Director 5524 ..... Lady de Rothschild 30

Rose of Weston 7th, whole colour, c May, 1896, s Blackie 5478 ..... Mr. A. Baker 29

Arlina 2nd, Vol. xi., p. 197, whole colour, c Nov., 1896, s Visitor 5763 ..... Mr. H. J. Savory 16

Lady Blanche, whole colour, c Dec., 1896, s Skip Jack 5397 ..... Mr. W. P. Bridgman 17½

Patchwork 2nd, broken colour, c Dec., 1896, s Kruger 5615 ..... Mr. T. Dyke 27

Apothecaire 4th, whole colour, c Sept., 1897, s Kruger 5015 ..... Mr. J. F. Hall 15

Buttercup 6th, broken colour, c Sept., 1897, s Defiance 4520 ..... Mrs. Harford 18

Mayfair 3rd, whole colour, c May, 1898, s Defiance 2nd 5847 ..... Sir J. H. Greville Smyth 28

Clee Lass 5th, whole colour, c May, 1898, s Skip Jack 5397 ..... Sir J. Blyth 22

Matilda 2nd, whole colour, c June, 1898, s Skip Jack 5397
Mr. C. C. Tudway 22

Clee Lass 7th, whole colour, c Feb., 1899, s Skipper 6711
Mr. C. C. Tudway 23

Clee Lass 9th, whole colour, c Nov., 1899, s Skipper 6711
Mr. C. C. Tudway 18½

BULLS

Skipper 6711, whole colour, c April, 1897, s Skip Jack 5397 ..... Mr. W. Foord 15

Lord Beurton, whole colour, c Nov., 1898, s Defiance 2nd 5847 ..... Mr. C. C. Tudway 23

Joubert, whole colour, c April, 1899, s Oxford Beau 5855
Mr. Jarratt 17½

Good Prices for Jerseys in America.

Some splendid prices were obtained for Jerseys at a sale of animals belonging to Mr. T. S. Cooper, of Coopersburg, Pa., U.S.A., held on May 30th. The animals were a grand lot, and the bidding for them was very keen, eighty-three realising an average of over £70 each. The top figure of the sale was 1,600 dols., or about £320, and this was paid for a heifer calved on February 1st 1898, named Golden Sultana, by Mr. S. H. and H. Scott, who also paid £200 each for Lady Vista and Velasquez, calved June 20th 1898, and Golden Lad's Solid Gold, calved February 25th, 1897. Golden Lad's Pretty Rose, calved in June 1897, realised £265, the purchaser being Mr. M. S. Beltzhoover. Several other animals were sold at prices well over £100, and below we give particulars of them, together with purchasers' names etc.

COWS AND HEIFERS. £

Lady Vista 149[illegible] c Dec., 1897, s [illegible]
Mr. S. H. and H. Scott [illegible]

Lady Belle of Beechwood 149145, c Sept., 1893, s Prince of Beechwood
Mr. M. S. Beltzhoover, 1000 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa. 140

Sultana's Rosette 149[illegible], c Jan., 1897, s [illegible]
Mrs. N. M. Patterson, Port Kennedy, Pa. 180

Golden Sultana 149[illegible], c Feb., 1898, s Golden Lad's Last
Mr. S. H. and H. Scott [illegible]

Golden Lad's Solid Gold 149[illegible], Feb. 1898, s Golden Lad
Mr. S. H. and H. Scott [illegible]

Golden Rose 149[illegible], c May, 1897, s Golden Lad
Mr. M. S. Beltzhoover 170

Golden Bell of St. Peter's 149[illegible], Dec. 1897, s Golden Lad
Mr. M. S. Beltzhoover 130

Handsome Gold Phillis 149160, c Jan., 1897, s Sergeant Major ..... Mr. W. W. Harrison, Glenside, Pa. 125

Golden Queen of St. Peter's 149[illegible], Aug. 1897, s Golden Lad
Mr. M. S. Beltzhoover 141

Golden Lad's Pretty Rose 149[illegible], c June, 1897, s Golden Lad
Mr. M. S. Beltzhoover 200

Golden Lad's Jeannette 149153, c Jan., 1896, s Golden Lad
Mr. W. W. Harrison 100

Golden May of St. Peter's 149[illegible], c May 1897, s Golden Lad
Mr. [illegible] 150

BULLS

Rosette's Golden Lad 57498, c Dec., 1899, s Orlando
Messrs. Scott and Hogan 100

Golden Lad's Champion 57222, c June, 1897, s Golden Lad
Mr. E. A. Darling, New York City 150

General Tom Scott 59242, c Jan., 1899, s Great Scott
Mr. F. G. Crane 125

Victoria's Golden Lad 59243, c March, 1899, s Mon Parent
Mr. J. M. Sears, Southboro' Mass. 120

Shorthorn Sales in the United States.

Shorthorns still continue to make good prices in the United States. In the first week of June a sale of Shorthorns from the herds of various well-known Indiana breeders—the first of its kind—was held at Indianapolis, and very good results were obtained. The animals were mostly young ones, and were all of good quality. The highest price reached was £150, for the imported Cruickshank cow Sunflower, purchased by Mr. E. E. Souers, Warren, Ind., whilst the highest price bull, Cherub of Ashburn, was bought by Mr. L. E. Jones, Rob Roy, Ind., the figure being £100. No other animal made three figure prices, but several realised over £60, the nearest approach to the century being £96, which was given for a yearling heifer named Marshal Abbotsburn. Altogether fifty-four animals were sold for an aggregate of £2,294, or an average of about £42 10s.; forty-one females realised £1,837, and thirteen bulls £457.

On the day after the above sale (June 7th), a number of Shorthorns belonging to Mr. J. W. Harper, La Fontaine, Indiana, were disposed of, but though there was a good attendance of buyers, who were eager to purchase, prices did not rule so high as on the preceding day. Here the top figure was £60, given for Miss Lancaster, a red cow calved in August, 1896, and her calf. Only one other animal realised £50 or over, and that was also a female—Gilberta, a red, calved December 14th, 1893. £41 was the top price for bulls, this being given for Baron Success, a red, calved on January 15th, 1896. Forty-one head were sold altogether, for a total of £1,165, thirty-one females making £963 and the ten bulls £202.

The Foot-and-Mouth Disease Restrictions.

At a meeting of the magistrates of the Loddon Petty Sessional Division held at the Town Hall, Loddon, on Wednesday morning, the following resolution in reference to the recent foot-and-mouth restrictions was unanimously adopted:—"That in view of the serious loss sustained by farmers during the late outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease, by reason of whole Petty Sessional Divisions being included in the prescribed area instead of a circle of parishes surrounding the infected place, and of the extreme stringency of the Orders made, the Government be earnestly and respectfully requested that in view of any future outbreak of cattle disease the Committee of the County Council should be consulted both as to the area and nature of the proposed restrictions before they take action in the matter." The Justices present were Messrs. Henry Smith, George Holmes, John Holmes, J. G. Kenyon, E. T. de Poix, and R. H. Denny. A copy of the resolution was ordered to be forwarded to the Prime Minister, and also to the Clerks of the various Petty Sessional Divisions in the county affected by the recent restrictions.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*]

There was only a small supply of both cattle and sheep at Elphin Fair, co. Roscommon, on Monday. The cattle met a good demand, especially for calves, but sheep sold poorly. Prices:—Calves, first class, £3 5s. to £6 5s.; second class, £2 10s. to £4 10s. Yearlings, first class, £8 10s. to £9 10s.; second class, £7 to £8. Two-year-olds, first class, £12 to £12 15s.; second class, £9 to £11 5s. Springers, first class, £18 to £21. Lambs, first class, £1 5s. to £1 8s.; second class, £1 to £1 4s. Hoggets, first class, £2 to £2 5s.; second class, £1 12s. to £1 14s. Two-year-olds and over, second class, £2 3s.

At Wicklow Fair, which was held on Tuesday, there was a medium supply of cattle. A fair demand prevailed for two-year-olds in condition, but a number of younger cattle which were mostly in poor condition remained unsold. Prices:—Yearlings, second class, £5 5s. to £7 5s. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 5s. to £13 10s.; second class, £8 to £11 5s. Three-year-olds, second class, £13. Springers, second class, £14 15s.

At Navan Fair (co. Meath), held on Monday, there was only a very small supply of cattle. A good demand prevailed except for springers, a number of which remained unsold. Prices:—Calves, first class, £6 5s. to £7; second class, £5. Yearlings, first class, £8 15s. to £9 5s.; second class, £6 17s. 6d. to £7 15s. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 to £12; second class, £9 5s. Three-year-olds, first class, £15 10s. Springers, first class, £14 10s. to £16 10s.; second class, £11 15s. to £12 10s.

HORSES.

Sale of Hunters at Albert Gate.

Some remarkably good prices were obtained for hunters at Messrs. Tattersall's sale at Albert Gate, Hyde Park, on Monday. Two belonging to Mr. C. E. Hay changed hands at 280 guineas each, whilst one of the Belvoir Hunt horses, sent up by Sir Walter Greenall, made 270 guineas. Of the Irish horses from the stud of Mr. J. C. Dun Waters M.F.H., Becky's Boy, by Delight, realised 250 guineas. Another owner that sold off was Mr. H. Cumberland Bentley, a talented writer of sporting prose and sonnets, who obtained 200 guineas respectively for Black Prince and Baronet. As showing the value of a good horse from the Emerald Isle, an offer of 270 guineas was accepted for Mr. H. Lindsey Fitzpatrick's Killeen, a brown gelding by Deramfield.

SHEEP.

Wool Fairs and Sales.

Birmingham.

The annual wool sale, conducted by Messrs. Lythall and Walters, in conjunction with the Butchers' Hide, Skin, and Wool Company (Limited), was held at their extensive warehouses on Thursday. There was a large attendance of buyers. Competition for the better class wools was very brisk. Both Shropshire and Southdown sold up to 9¼d. per lb., while the majority of the lots sold at 9d., 8¾d., and 8½d. Unwashed made up to 7½d., Welsh and Cheviot 6¾d., and Scotch 4¾d. A thorough clearance was effected.

Wool Sale at Loughborough.

The annual wool sale at Loughborough took place on Monday on the Nottingham Road Football Ground, Messrs. German and German being the auctioneers. There were about 5,000 fleeces on offer, comprising Shropshires, crossbreds, and longwools. The highest price obtained was 8¼d. per lb., and the lowest 4¼d. per lb. The chief contributors were Lord Belper (Kingston Hall), the Rev. J. Martin (Charley Hall), Messrs. S. Wells and Sons (Kegworth), J. W. Taylor (Shelthorpe), A. Martin (Stanford), Collington (Sileby), J. Griggs (Mountfields), J. Tansley (Long Whatton), W. Hayes (West Leake), H. Beeby (Quorn), W. E. Porter (Normanton-on-Soar), Farmer (Belton), J. Sim (Hoton), J. H. Bowley (Donington Park), J. Handley (Barrow), Frekelton (Shepshed), Spence (Park Grange), W. H. Blunt (Belton), F. Keightley (Hathern), G. Hibbert (Rempstone), Holwell (Wymeswold), Moody (Longcliffe), Sharp (Seagrave), and Green (Springbarrow Lodge).

Ipswich Wool Sale.

Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons' June wool sale took place at the Drill Hall, Ipswich, on the 22nd ult., when about 45,000 fleeces were entered. The attendance of buyers was the largest ever attracted to the town, and the bidding was very brisk, the catalogue of nearly 400 lots being run through in just two hours. The top price of the day was 11½d., given by Messrs. William Walton and Sons, of Halifax, for two sheets of Southdown hogget from Mr. W. E. Long, the same consignor's Southdown ewe going at 11¼d. to Messrs. J. and T. Beaven, of Holt, Trowbridge, who also gave the like figure for the like breed of wool from Sir Savile B. Crossley, Bart. Southdown ewe from Mr. J. A. Hempson, Mr. William Biddell, and Mr. F. Penn realised 10¼d., as did Southdown hogget from Sir S. B. Crossley, Mr. C. H. Berners, and Mr. William Biddell; whilst Southdown ewe from Captain E. G. Pretyman, M.P., Mr. A. H. E. Wood, and Mr. C. T. Partridge fetched 10d. Black-faced hogget from Messrs. Flick and Son, Mr. R. Stedman, Mr. H. Hurren, Mr. C. Sewell, and the executors of Mr. W. N. Waller, made 9¾d.; black-faced ewe and hogget from Mr. P. J. Read, 9½d.; and black-faced ewe from Mr. J. J. Creasey, 9½d. The black-faced variety of wool, of course, formed much the largest portion of the consignment, and it was a matter of remark that a much greater proportion of the wool than in some former years was sent in its unwashed state. The top prices for half-bred wool were: Ewe 9d. and hogget 8¾d., a material advance on the corresponding sale of last year. It will, indeed, be seen by reference to the table of comparison which we give below that all descriptions of wool showed a very appreciable rise since June, 1899.

The following table shows the prices realised this year and the three preceding years for the principal washed and unwashed wool:—

	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	Washed.			
	d. d.	d. d.	d. d.	d. d.
Southdown hogget ..	10½ to 8½	10 to 7¼	10 to 7½	11½ to 8¾
Southdown ewe	9½ to 8½	9¾ to 8	10 to 7¾	11½ to 8¾
Black-faced hogget....	9½ to 7¾	8½ to 7¼	8½ to 7	9¾ to 6¾
Black-faced ewe	8¾ to 6½	8½ to 7¾	8½ to 7	9½ to 6½
Half-bred hogget.....	9 to 8¼	8½ to 7¾	8 to 6¼	8¾ to 7¼
Half-bred ewe	9 to 8¼	8¼ to 7¾	7½ to 6¼	9 to 6
	Unwashed.			
Black-faced hogget ..	6 to 5½	5¾ to 5½	6 to 5½	7 to 5¾
Black-faced ewe	5¾ to 5½	5¾ to 5½	6 to 5½	6¾ to 5¾
Half-bred hogget	6½ to 5½	6 to 5½	5¼	6¼ to 5½
Half-bred ewe	6½ to 5¾	5¾ to 5½	5½ to 5½	6 to 5½

Southdown unwashed wool sold as follows:—Hogget 7d. to 6d., and ewe 6¾d. to 6¼d.

Northampton.

The annual wool fair in connection with the Northamptonshire Agricultural Society, was held in the Market Square, Northampton, on Thursday, when the pitch was not up to that of last year. The number of fleeces pitched was 24,342 against 28,600 last year. In 1898 it was just over 23,000, in 1897 25,383, and in 1896 26,630. The chief contributors were Messrs. Whiting Brothers, Castlethorpe, 1,933; Messrs. Fairey and Sons, Harrold, 1,168; Mr. W. Whitehead, Shelton Hall, 1,112; the Exors. of Mr. G. Savage, Stoke Bruerne, 1,038; Mr. J. O. Adams, Whitehall, Weldon, 774; Mr. J. H. Pike, Haversham, 600; Mr. R. Britten, Abington, 576; Mr. T. W. Montgomery, Woodford, 494; and Mr. C. Sargeant, Brafield, 420. Though the pitch was not nearly so large as last year, the prices showed a splendid and gratifying advance. The highest price obtained was 20s. per tod against 18s. 9d. last year, and the lowest price 12s. 9d. against 8s., while the average price was 18s. 5¾d. against 16s. 8d., or only 3¾d. less than the highest price last year. The auction sale was, as usual, conducted by Mr. T. C. Woods (Messrs. Woods and Co.), who offered about 15,000 fleeces, and the bidding was generally brisk and the prices good.

Huntingdon.

The wool fair at Huntingdon was held on the Commons, on Wednesday, and was well attended. Trade was brisk, and prices in advance of last year. A larger number of graziers and farmers exhibited, but the weight of wool proved below the average. Total quantity shown, 981 tods 27lbs., the average price being from 16s. 9d. to 18s. per tod. There was a good sprinkling of buyers from the north and midland counties at the sale.

Leicester.

Leicester wool fair took place on Tuesday, in dull weather. There was an average attendance of buyers, and the total pitch was 32,000 fleeces, or upwards of 8,000 tods. The quality was the poorest for some years past, and the wool was not in good condition. Longwools made from 6d. to 7d. per lb., half-breds 7d. to 8d., and Shropshires 8d. to just over 9d. per lb. for the best. The demand was active.

PIGS.

Mr. Long on the Stamping Out of Swine Fever.

In the course of the debate on the Civil Service Estimates in the House of Commons on Friday week, some remarks were made respecting swine fever and cattle disease. Mr. Price criticised the restrictions enforced by the Board of Agriculture in places where disease among animals broke out, and moved to reduce the vote of £11,028 for salaries and expenses of the Board by £100.

Mr. Strachey asked what success the Government had had in their endeavour to stamp out swine fever, and Mr. Martin urged the necessity of greater care being exercised in the feeding of the animals.

Dr Farquharson defended the restrictions of the Board of Agriculture in connection with the outbreak of disease among cattle. Isolation, he said, was the only way to stamp out foot-and-mouth disease. Hydrophobia had been practically stamped out by the Muzzling Order, and he congratulated the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Long) on the vigour, tenacity, and courage with which he had carried out an unpopular policy. Mr. H. Foster also heartily supported the policy of the President of the Board of Agriculture.

Mr. Long said there had been a considerable decrease in the cases of swine fever, especially during the past sixteen weeks of the present year, and he believed that if his Department was supported by the local authorities the disease would be as satisfactorily dealt with as had other diseases affecting animals. The disease was more insidious than any other disease. As to the character of the disease there was no doubt. The remarks of magistrates upon the legislation which they had to administer in dealing with these cases had been referred to. No one more deprecated such remarks than he did, and it was deeply to be regretted that when magistrates found infectious diseases of this kind prevalent in their districts they seemed disposed to shirk their responsibilities on account of the unpopularity they were likely to incur in carrying out the law. (Cheers.) These magistrates seemed desirous of throwing all their responsibilities on the officers of the Department. There was no country in the world at this moment which stood in such a satisfactory position in regard to diseases of animals as did the United Kingdom, and this was due to the vigorous policy of the officers of his Department, who had done their work most admirably. (Cheers.) He regretted that farmers were called upon to make such sacrifices in the loss of their stock by disease; but the loss was infinitely less than it would be if disease was allowed to run riot among their flocks or herds. If hon. members could induce the Treasury to give larger compensation he should be delighted, but he feared that any effort in that direction would be useless, no matter which party was in power. (Cheers.)

Mr. Channing congratulated the Board of Agriculture upon the vigorous manner in which their policy for stamping out cattle disease had been carried out, but thought that there should be greater promptitude in dealing with fresh outbreaks.

The amendment was negatived without a division, and the vote was then agreed to.

Some Experiments in Pig-Feeding.

In continuation of the reports of various experiments on pig-feeding for bacon which have recently appeared in this Journal,* it may be interesting to notice here the results of an experiment undertaken by the Agricultural Department of the Yorkshire College, and also some practical observations made by Mr. John M. Harris, in an article published in the Journal of the British Dairy Farmers' Association, on the results of a series of experiments in pig-feeding carried out by a local committee at Calne, Wilts.

The object of the experiment carried out at Garforth under the direction of Professor Campbell, of the Agricultural Department of the Yorkshire College Leeds, was to determine the value as flesh formers of sharps and maize respectively mixed with barley meal, and also the effect of feeding the rations in a sloppy and in a dry condition. To one lot of pigs gluten was also given with the ordinary food for the purpose of determining the effect of a higher albuminoid ration. Before entering upon the main experiment the pigs were tested over a certain period in order to secure as far as possible uniform lots. On August 10th last, twenty-four pigs, each about seven weeks old, were separated into lots of six each and fed uniformly for 124 days on a mixture consisting of one part barley meal, one part bran, and two parts sharps, served with about four times its weight of water in which it had been previously steeped. At the conclusion of this preliminary test it was found that, taking the whole period of 124 days into consideration, the average live weight increase per head per day was practically the same for each lot. From this result it appears that, on the whole the individuality of the animals may be overcome by taking a sufficient number in each lot, and by exercising due care at the outset in their selection. The practice of making preliminary tests of the character described is therefore commended by Professor Campbell to all engaged in experimental work in the feeding of animals; that such precautionary trials are necessary is, he thinks, amply proved by the merited scepticism with which reports on feeding experiments have been so often received by farmers.

The main experiment began on December 19th last, when the pigs in each lot were fed on the following rations:—Lot 1, two parts barley meal, two parts sharps, and one part gluten; Lot 2, one part barley meal and one part maize; Lot 3, one part barley meal and one part sharps. In each of these three lots the ration was given with four times its weight of water. In the case of Lot 4 the ration was similar to that of Lot 3, one part barley meal and one part sharps, but it was given with only twice its weight of water, so that while the food given to Lot 3 was in the usual sloppy condition, that given to Lot 4 was of the consistency of oatmeal porridge. The pigs in each lot were given as much as they

* From the "Journal" of the Board of Agriculture for June

LONGHORN BULL, "WOOTTON WONDER."

THE PROPERTY OF AND BRED BY MR. JASPER SYLVYN, KENILWORTH.
WINNER OF FIRST PRIZE AT THE YORK ROYAL SHOW, 1900.

would eat. The experiment was continued for eight weeks, and the principal results are shown below :—

—	Lot. I.	Lot II.	Lot III.	Lot IV.
	c. q. lb.	c. q. lb.	c. q. lb.	c. q. lb.
Weight on Dec. 12	9 2 12	9 2 0	9 3 14	10 0 0
Weight on Feb. 6	12 3 6	12 1 4	12 3 12	14 0 10
Total increase in live weight during experiment	3 0 20	2 3 4	2 3 26	4 0 10
Increase per head per day	1·1	0·9	1·1	1·4
Total pork, in stones of 14 lbs.	77·1	74	77·9	85·2
Lbs. food consumed during the experiment	1,904	1,904	1,904	2,254
Lbs. food consumed per head per day	5·7	5·7	5·7	6·7
Lbs. food for 1 lb. increase in live weight	5·3	6·1	5·7	4·9

The effect of adding maize and sharps respectively to the ordinary ration of barley meal is shown by the results obtained with Lots 2 and 3. The pigs receiving sharps yielded a higher percentage of pork, and each pound of increase in live weight was obtained with 0.4lb. less meal than when maize was substituted. If Lot 1 is contrasted with Lot 3, it will be seen that the higher albuminoid ration given to the former yielded a greater increase in live weight, but the total pork was about the same in each case.

The most marked feature of the experiment is, however, the contrast in the results obtained with Lots 3 and 4. The pigs in each of these lots received the same kinds of food, but the quantity of water mixed with the ration of Lot 3 was double that given with the food of Lot 4. It will be noticed that the pigs which received the drier ration yielded 124lbs. more increase in total live weight, 7.3st. more pork, and produced each pound of increase with a consumption of 0.8lb. less meal. The extra food taken by Lot 3 was therefore, as Professor Campbell points out, evidently wasted in heating up the large supply of water which the pigs were obliged to consume.

The conclusions drawn from the experiment are "that the mixture of barley meal and sharps is better than barley meal and maize; that the latter mixture may be somewhat improved by the addition of a highly nitrogenous meal; and, finally, that a great deal of food may be wasted, particularly in winter, when pigs are fed upon food containing more water than is necessary for the requirements of the body."

It appears that the ration given to Lot 4 cost about 19s. more during eight weeks than that given to Lot 3, but the value of the increased weight of pork of Lot 4 was 42s. 6d., thus leaving a balance of 23s. 6d. in favour of the drier food. Professor Campbell points out that the period during which the pigs were on different diets was only eight weeks, and that had the experiment been prolonged the results would undoubtedly have been more marked.

The feeding experiments with which Mr. Harris' article deals were caried out at Calne with the aid of the Wilts County Council and with other local assistance. Up to the present sixty-four experiments, involving twenty-four diets, have been undertaken with 640 pigs, and of these twenty-four diets nine have been employed on an average three times each, so that the results obtained, which are embodied in the table given below, may be regarded as fairly reliable.

In a few prefatory remarks, Mr. Harris expresses the opinion that the breed of pig which has been found by bacon curers most suited for the production of lean bacon is the Large White Yorkshires, either pure or crossed with pure Berkshires; and that a pig for profit should weigh at six or seven months of age from 130lb. to 170lb. dressed weight.

Rations.	Cost of Producing 20lbs. Increase — Dressed Weight.	Value of Diet as Determined by	
		Suitability of Flesh Produced for Bacon.	Suitability and Quantity of Flesh Produced, and by rate of Increase in Dressed Weight.
	(1) s. d.	(2) Points.	(3) Points.
Barley meal ad lib., separated milk and 3 lbs. potatoes per diem	4 7½	967	1,000
Barley meal and separated milk	5 3	988	903
Maize meal and separated milk	4 2	945	877
Three parts of maize meal, one part bean meal	4 11	951	590
Barley meal	5 1¾	974	519
Three parts of maize meal, one part pea meal	4 7½	908	486
Maize meal	4 6¾	939	484
Two-thirds barley meal, one-third bran	5 0¾	990	449
Two-thirds maize meal, one-third bran	4 5½	964	404

The separated milk was fed at the rate of one gallon per pig per diem.

The first column of the table shows the actual cost, as shown by the Calne experiments, of obtaining 20lb. increased dressed weight, irrespective of the quality of the flesh and the rate of increase, the prices of food being taken at the following rates, viz. :—Barley meal, £5 ; maize meal, £4 10s. ; bran, £4 ; pea meal, £6 3s. 4d. ; and bean meal, £7 15s. per ton ; separated milk 1d. per gallon ; and potatoes, 2s. per sack of 240lb. In the second column the diets are compared solely from the point of view of the suitability of the flesh obtained for the production of the best bacon : the best quality being indicated by 1,000 points. In the third column the foods are compared from the point of view not only of the quality of the increased dressed weight, but also of the time required for its production, 1,000 points being assigned to the diet which gave the best results.

It will be seen from the third column that, judged from the standpoint of general efficiency, the three diets first mentioned were found to be more profitable than any of the others. The chief factor in determining the position of the different foods when compared for their general efficiency is the rate of increase in dressed weight ; thus, while the average weekly increase in dressed weight with a diet of barley meal, separated milk, and potatoes, was 15½lb., that with barley meal and separated milk was 10¾lb., with maize meal 7lb., and with maize meal and bran only 4¾lb. Hence it arises that bran, while standing first among the supplementary foods for the production of the best bacon (see column 2), occupies a low position for general efficiency (col. 3) on account of the slow rate at which the pigs fed on it increased in live weight, and because a high percentage of the increased live weight was lost when the pigs were killed and dressed.

Arranged in order of merit for cheapness, in conjunction with efficiency, the nine diets mentioned above fall as follows :—

Barley meal, separated milk, and potatoes.
Maize meal and separated milk.
Barley meal and separated milk.
Maize meal and bean meal.
Maize meal and pea meal.
Barley meal,
Maize meal.
Maize meal and bran.
Barley meal and bran.

The net results of the experiments show, in Mr. Harris's opinion, that it is advisable to use barley meal, soaked in cold water, as a staple food, and to supplement this as far as possible by fresh, separated, skim, or butter milk, at the rate of one gallon per pig per day, and when procurable by boiled potatoes also, not more than 3lb. or 4lb. for each animal ; while barley meal and whey (where cheese is made) might be usefully supplemented by about 1lb. of bean or pea meal per day. As regards the comparative values of barley and maize, the experiments are held to have demonstrated that the former is rather more valuable than the latter as a staple food for pigs intended for lean bacon ; though when barley is much dearer than maize—say, 10s. per ton—maize may prove to be more economical, especially when fed in conjunction with a suitable proportion of food rich in albuminoids, such as separated milk or bean meal. Where dairying is not carried on, bran, toppings, bean meal or pea meal may, it appears, be used with care as a substitute for milk, but the dairy farmer is held to possess a great advantage in the profitable production of the class of pig required for making the best quality lean bacon.

Sale of Mr. J. P. King's Berkshires.

On Thursday, Mr. J. P. King's famous herd of pure-bred Berkshire pigs, one of the oldest established and most noted breeds in the kingdom, was submitted to public auction by Messrs. Franklin, Gale, and Newton, and the sale brought together most of the leading breeders of Berkshire pigs, as well as many of the principal agriculturists of the immediate neighbourhood. On the farm buildings were displayed some dozens of prize cards, showing the many honours the herd had taken at leading shows in all parts of the country. Some 300 Hampshire Down sheep were also penned, which were also offered for sale after luncheon.

Mr. J. J. Gale, who officiated at the sale ring, in a terse and business-like speech, said the fame of Mr. King's pigs was known not only in every part of the United Kingdom, but also in every part of the inhabited globe, and he called attention to the remarks that well-known judge, Mr. Heber Humfrey, has written respecting the herd, which accompanied the catalogue. Very many prizes had been won by the herd during the last forty years, and it was with a feeling of deep regret that Mr. King was dispersing it. He felt, however, that the keeping up its standard of excellence was too great a strain on his health, and that if he could not do it in its entirety he should give it up altogether, and every pig he possessed was in the catalogue, except one or two that had met with accidents. Speaking of the celebrated Ruby strain, which was the foundation of the herd, Mr. Gale said the whole tribe was before them that day, of the sixty-nine pigs on offer only eleven being of other blood. He remarked upon the special features of the sale and the great importance of preserving a strain that had furnished first prize winners not only at the leading shows at home, but also in Canada and America.

The different lots were then submitted to competition, with the following result :—

		£	s.	d.
Lot 1, sow, 8 years old	Mr. A. D. Wells	3	3	0
Lot 2, ditto, 6 years	Mr. A. D. Wells	3	3	0
Lot 3, boar, 4 years	Mr. Kimber	5	.	0
Lot 4, sow and 11 pigs	Mr. Barnes	12	12	0
Lot 5, sow, 5 years	Rev. G. Moore	6	16	0
Lot 6, sow, 6 years	Mr. Austen Legh	11	11	0
Lot 7, boar, 2 years	Mr Benjafield	4	14	0
Lot 8, boar, 2 years	Herr A. W. Brauer	7	7	0
Lot 9, sow, 2 years	Mr. Barnes	21	0	0
Lot 10, sow and ten pigs	Mr Bevan	11	11	0
Lot 12, young sow	Mr. Midwood	10	0	0
Lot 13, ditto	Mr Richards	12	12	0
Lot 14, ditto	Mr. Midwood	7	17	0
Lot 15, sow	Mr Palmer	14	14	0
Lot 16, young boar	Mr Carter	10	10	0
Lot 17, ditto	Mr. Fawcett	10	10	0
Lot 18, ditto	Mr Palmer	7	17	0
Lot 19, young sow	Mr. King, jun.	5	5	0
Lot 20, ditto	Mr. Hope	4	4	0
Lot 21, sow	Mr. McCalmont	5	15	0
Lot 22, ditto	Mr. Hayter	7	7	0
Lot 23, ditto	Mr. Bevan	6	16	0
Lot 24, young boar	Duke of Westminster	6	16	0
Lot 25, ditto	Mr. Bevan	6	16	0
Lot 26, sow	Mr Pilling	5	15	0
Lot 27, ditto	Mr Pilling	3	13	0
Lot 28, ditto	Mr. Bevan	7	17	0
Lot 29, ditto	Mr. de Vitre	9	9	0
Lot 30, boar	Mr. King, jun.	3	3	0
Lot 31, sow	Mr. Bevan	4	14	0
Lot 32, ditto	Mr. Austen Leigh	6	6	0
Lot 33, ditto	Mr. Bevan	3	3	0
Lot 34, boar	Mr. Pilling	7	17	0
Lot 35, sow	Sir Wm. Ingram	4	4	0
Lot 36, ditto	Mr. Fawcett	6	6	0
Lot 37, boar	Mr. Jas. Lay	2	12	6
Lot 38, sow	Mr. McCalmont	12	12	0
Lot 39, ditto	Mr. Ninis	3	13	6
Lot 40, ditto	Duke of Westminster	4	4	0
Lot 41, ditto	Mr. Bevan	2	2	0
Lot 42, ditto	Rev. G. Moore	5	5	0
Lot 43, boar	Mr. Barnes	4	14	0
Lot 44, sow	Duke of Westminster	5	15	0
Lot 45, ditto	Admiral Brand	8	8	0
Lot 46, ditto	Mr. Green	4	4	0
Lot 47, ditto	Mr Bevan	7	7	0
Lot 48, boar	Mr Hope	3	13	6
Lot 49, sow	Admiral Brand	5	5	0
Lot 50, boar	Mr. McCalmont	4	14	6
Lot 51, sow	Admiral Brand	4	14	6

From the above it will be seen that the first fifty lots realised the most satisfactory average of £7.

The very young pigs fetched from three to one guineas. As will be seen, very excellent prices were made, and the biddings were well maintained till the end, the sale being very successful.

In sheep the shearling rams made from £3 to £4 5s. ; two-tooth ewes from 40s. to 47s. 6d. ; four-tooth, from 37s. to 44s. 6d. ; six-tooth, from 37s. to 42s. 6d. ; full-mouth, from 31s. to 40s. 6d. ; ewe lambs, from 18s. to 25s. 6d. ; and wether lambs, 22s., the principal buyers being Messrs. T. W. Finch, J. P. Franklin, F. Shrubb, J. Blake, Beaven, and the Rev. J. W. Gedge.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending June 23rd, 1909 :—

			Week ended June 23, 1909	Corresponding week in 1908	Total for 25 weeks 1909	Corresponding period in 1908	Corresponding period in 1907
Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	67	98	1,156	11,812	18,430
				1,156	1,136		5,982
				1,136			20,764
	Outbreaks.	No.	76	71	31	1,145	1,460
							1,009
							1,134
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Other Animals	No.	:	:	:	:	:
							10
	Cases Reported. Dogs.	No.	:	:	29	:	1
							134
							97
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughtered. Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	:	15	:	330
							630
	Diseased.	No.	:	:	9	:	39
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	:	:	:	1
							5
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	29	14	21	917	566
					35		687
							772
	Outbreaks.	No.	17	9	13	524	307
					22		351
							416
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	:	:	:	123	:
							:
							:
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	:	:	9	:
							:
							:
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	26	31	16	187	345
							180
							137
	Outbreaks.	No.	10	9	11	96	213
							97
							87

N.B.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

For the small supply of cattle at Clifden Fair, co. Galway, on Monday, there was a brisk demand and a good clearance effected. Prices :—Calves, second class, £3 to £3 15s. ; third class, £1 6s. 3d. to £2 5s. Yearlings, second class, £5 2s. 6d. to £5 15s ; third class, £3 5s. to £4. Two-year-olds, second class, £7 15s. to £8 12s. 6d. ; third class, £4 5s. to £6 10s. Three-year-olds, second class, £9 7s. 6d. to £10 ; third class, £6 15s. to £8 10s. Springers, third class, £6 15s. to £8 15s.

SHOWS.

Peterborough Show.

The Peterborough Agricultural Society's summer exhibition is usually one of the most successful country shows, and that which has been held during the past week proved no exception to the rule. The handsome sum of £1,400, exclusive of numerous specials, was offered for competition, and drew the record entry of 918, an increase of 104 on last year, whilst the numbers for the preceding five years, commencing with 1898, were 780, 685, 773, 802, and 892 respectively. The last-mentioned figure, obtained in 1894, is the nearest approach to the record of this year. The increase was evenly distributed over each department, with the exception of the sheep section, where there was a decline of three. Horses always constitute the main feature at Peterborough, and this year they numbered 635, against 568 in 1899. There were 125 cattle (principally Shorthorns), compared with 97; 60 sheep, against 63; and 90 pigs, or four more.

The following gentlemen officiated as judges:—Hunters (breeding and young classes): Mr. E. H. Barlow, Sigsworth, Pateley Bridge, Yorks., and the Rev. Cecil Legard, Cottesbrooke, Northampton. Hunters (riding classes): The Earl of Orkney, Leighton Buzzard, and Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Hackney, harness horses, and ponies: Mr. A. Fewson, Hedon, and Mr. Joseph Morton, Stow, Downham Market. Polo ponies: Mr. John Hill, Church Stretton, Salop. Shire horses: Mr. F. B. Barling, Amberley Court, Monmouth; Mr. John Nix, Alfreton, Derbyshire; and Mr. Henry Smith, Cropwell Butler, Notts. Shorthorn cattle: Mr. J. P. Terry, Berry Field, Aylesbury; and Mr. Robert Wright, Nocton Heath, Lincoln. Aberdeen Polled Angus cattle: The Rev. C. Bolden, Preston Bissett, Buckingham. Sheep: Mr. J. R. Kirkham, Biscathorpe House, Lincoln (Lincolns); Mr. P. A. Evans, Sherlow, Wellington, Salop (Shropshires); Mr. William Newton, Crowmarsh Battle, Wallingford (Hampshires); and Mr. F. N. Webb, Babraham, Cambs. (Southdowns). Pigs: Mr. R. Fowler, Broughton, Aylesbury.

Hunters.

The catalogue commences with the hunters, mares with foal at foot, up to 14 stone and upwards, being the first class. There were seven entries of these, and Mr. Barker's Stella had a good look in for the first place, Mr. Swallow's Beatrice, and Mr. Linnell's Snowflake, a fine class of hunter brood mare, taking the second and third places. Mr. Barker's foal, by Swallowfield, also proved to be the best in his class, Mr. Harold Martin providing a good well bred second in a foal by his good-looking thoroughbred stallion Upsilon. The lighter weight (14 stone) class of mares brought out thirteen entries, nine of these coming forward. Mr. Wilkinson's Lady Grosvenor, a charming mare in quality, and certainly able to breed stock well up to the weight, was the winner here, as at York. Mr. John Cooper, who always has some good mares of this kind, came second with the old favourite, Sweetbriar, and Mr. Wilson's Anxiety was third, several others receiving honours. The best foals in this class were Mr. Sedgeley's, by Mountain Dew, and Mr. Wilson's, by The Dale. Mr. Roe, Mr. Steward, and Mr. Carter won in the tenant farmers' classes, and a colt foal of Mr. Percival's, by Foscano, was the best in the class. The Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal went to Mr. Wilson's Anxiety. The young stock classes, yearlings, two-year-olds, and three-year-olds were exceptionally good both in quality and growth, some of them very big for age. Mr. Barker, Mr. Fenwick, and Mr. Wickham were the winners in yearlings, the animals being by Herbertstown, Craig Royston, and Havoc respectively. Mr. Lett's Eclat was the best two-year-old, Mr. Ward, Mr. Wilkinson, and Mr. Kelway Bamber following close up in a nice class; and in three-year-old geldings Messrs. Ward's Blackthorne, Mr. Brigham's Conrad, and Mr. Darrell's Silverdale carried off the money. There were a lot of strong good geldings. Three-year-old fillies were a small class. Mr. Wickham's Victoria, Mr. Darrell's Golden Ruby, and Mr. Long's Lady Smith had matters to themselves, and were placed as named. The champion prize for the best hunter in these classes was awarded to Messrs. Ward's Blackthorne, Mr. Lett's Eclat being the reserve.

The made hunters were a rattling good lot. Space will not admit of referring to all the leaders, but amongst the best were those well-known horses of Mr. Stokes's, Ironstone and King Bronze, Mr. Clarke's Ruby, Mr. Gray's Gendarme, once more champion, Mr. Stokes's Good Health, Briton, Benedictine, and Bertram, Mr. Hanbury's Goldmint, Mr. Drage's gelding by Coco, and many others. The tenant farmers' classes were very strong in this section, as many as nineteen entries being made in one class.

Hackneys.

These classes contained a few useful animals, but generally speaking there was a want of size, the majority being more of the cob stamp than harness Hackneys of size and carriage horse stamp. Mr. T. Hall's St. Thomas, by Garton Duke of Connaught, was the best two-year-old stallion, Mr. Livesey's Dessater being second best, the position of these two horses being reversed from London. Mr. Galbraith's Atbara was reserved. Mr. Livesey's Surprise (London winner), Mr. Johnstone's Alert, and Mr. John Rowell's Bury Belle were the winning mares, the second possessing certainly a little more substance than the first, but perhaps less of quality. The best foals were Mr. How's by Gentleman John and Mr. Rowell's by Bury Connaught. Lord Middleton's Daisy Belle, by the champion Rosador, won the first prize in the two-year-old filly class. Like many of the others, she lacks size, though her action is pleasing. Mr. Johnstone's Qui Vive, placed second, a daughter of Garton Duke of Connaught, is also a showy, nice class of filly. Mr. Hussey's Puzzle, by Alwick Surprise, Mr. Edmondson's Knowle Bronde, and Mr. John Rowell's Bury Danegelt were the winners in the yearling colt class of nine entries. There were in addition to the classes mentioned some very good entries of weight-carrying cobs, Hackneys in saddle, etc., and ponies suitable for polo.

Harness.

The harness classes were also capitally supported, and included many of the stars of this class to be found in the country to-day, but the judging of these classes being made more an opportunity for increasing gate money than for encouragement of breeding harness horses causes the time of making the awards to extend over three days, and therefore does not admit of visitors from a distance remaining to witness the judging.

Shires.

This breed of horses has long been the great attraction at Peterborough Show, since the days when Shire breeding first began, and people from other parts of the country made long journeys to select brood mares out of the farmers' teams. Up to the present time both the tenant farmers and other breeders in the district have entered into the pursuit with so much enthusiasm that at the present time the show of this breed at Peterborough is only equalled annually by that at the Agricultural Hall at Islington in February. The stallion classes are first on the list, and are quite the weakest part of the display, as, to begin with, classes were only scheduled for yearlings and two-year-olds, and these were not over well filled, though the quality could not be complained of, upon the whole. Two-year-olds were judged first, and Lord Egerton's colt, showy and stylish, with size (Tatton Victorious), came well to the front, other very good ones being shown by Mr. James Forshaw (second), Mr. P. A. Muntz (third), and Mr. Hudson, Mr. James Eadie, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

Yearling stallions were rather numerous, the open and restricted classes together bringing out over twenty entries. Some, however, were in duplicate. Mr. John Parnell, Mr. Muntz, and Mr. Griffin were the winners in the open, and Mr. Griffin, Mr. Rowell, and Mr. Topham in the tenant farmers' class. The first colt was bred by Lord Wantage, and is of the Prince William make and character; the other colts are growing and classy, with plenty of time before them and a good deal to do in it.

Geldings did not make a big show, two-year-olds having five representatives, and older horses but two. The young ones were certainly of good class, and were shown by Mr. Hudson, Capt. Duncombe, and Mr. Andrew, and the older ones included that magnificent horse of Mr. James Eadie's, Bardon Extraordinary, whose size, weight, feet, and general character are proverbial, and have certainly not been excelled if equalled. The second horse in this class was a good quality and weighty one for his age, and would have shown to much greater advantage farther away from such a horse as the leader.

Yearling fillies had a total entry of thirty-one in their two classes, and several of these were quite of tip-top calibre. The winner in the open was Lord Egerton's Lockinge Athenia, bred by Lord Wantage and sired by Prince William, a superb class of filly both in shape, quality, and Shire character, and also a capital mover. Sir W. H. Wills came second with the very good filly that was first in her class and gold medallist at Bath, and Mr. P. A. Muntz was placed third. Very good fillies and rewarded with honours were also shown by Mr. Parnell, Sir J. B. Maple, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Mr. Hudson, and Mr. Griffin, the latter second in the restricted class, where the first honour was carried off by Mr. Bradley. Mr. Howell was also third and reserve with very good fillies. Two-year-olds were perhaps the class of the day; they were big, full of weight, quality, and character, and calculated to commend the breed to the notice of strangers in a more than ordinary manner. Sir J. B. Maple, Mr. Yerburgh, Mr. P. A. Muntz, Captain Duncombe, Mr. Crisp, Mr. Towgood, Mr. Bradley, Mr. Frier, and Mr. Griffin were amongst the chief; Mr. Topham, Mr. McTurk, and Mr. J. Rowell also.

Three-year-olds were not as numerous as the twos, but they were fillies of immense substance and good quality. Sir J. B. Maple, Lord Egerton, and Mr. James Forshaw were the judges in the open classes as named, and Mr. Topham, Mr. Griffin, and Mr. Bellamy in the tenant farmers' class.

Mares with foal at foot had sixteen entries in each class, and competition was very keen. Sir J. B. Maple, Mr. P. A. Muntz, Mr. Forshaw, and Mr. Smith Carrington were the best in the open class, and Mr. Griffin, Mr. Bradley, and Mr. Poles in the tenants. Foals were generally of very good class, though not quite as forward as usual, perhaps. The best of these were Lord Rothschild's by Anchorite, Captain Duncombe's by Duke of Worsley, and Mr. P. A. Muntz's by Dunsmore Combination. Mr. Neaveson, Mr. Griffin, and Mr. Bradley had the winning foals in the restricted class by Lockinge Harold, Stroxton Tom, and Markeaton Royal Harold.

The class for pairs of mares was altogether remarkable for its great excellence. Mr. Crisp's Southgate Charm and Queen of the Shires, a magnificent pair for size, weight, and quality, carried the day, Sir J. B. Maple having a big and weighty pair second in Grand Duchess and Cui Bono, both well known. Then Mr. Forshaw, Lord Rothschild, and Mr. P. A. Muntz were capitally represented. In the single class for the best mare or filly in the yard Southgate Charm again came to the top easily, Lord Rothschild being second, Lord Egerton third, and Mr. Crisp's entry and a grand mare of Lord Wantage's also receiving h.c.'s.

The Shire horse gold medal and Messrs. Barford and Perkins's champion prize were both awarded to Mr. Crisp's Southgate Charm, Lord Rothschild being second; and the tenant farmers' champion was Mr. Topham's Thorney Floss, with Mr. Bradley's Halstead Violet as reserve.

Cattle.

The show of cattle was a most creditable one, but there was some grumbling with the judging. Miss A. de Rothschild, of Aylesbury, won in the class for bulls between two and five years, with Bashful Youth, by Brave Archer, and Mr. Deane Willis, of Codford, Wilts, scored in the class for younger animals with Granite Chip, by Granite City, but in this case the opinion prevailed that a great mistake was made, and that Mr. Philo L. Mills, of Ruddington Hall, Nottingham, ought to have been first with St. Swithin, by Best of Archers, which took honours at the Notts show. Mr. Willis was again in front in the bull calf class with Bapton Marquis, by Proud Duke of Gloucester, but the champion prize went to Bashful Youth. In the class for cows Miss de Rothschild again secured the premier award with Miss Belladrum 6th, by Lord Violet, a capital cow; but the second, Mr. Willis's White Heather, by Merry Mason, is more of the Smithfield than the breeding type. Mr. Willis was also successful with Victorine, by Bapton Victor, in the class for heifers between one and two years, Lord Middleton's Lady Waterloo B 2nd, by Merry Merlin, being second. Mr. Atkinson, of Weston St. Mary, Spalding, was fortunate with his heifer calf Weston Surprise 2nd, by Pippin's Pride, and it is hard to understand how it was that Mr. Mills's Countess Farewell 5th, by Best of Archers, which carried off two first prizes at the Notts show, was passed over.

Sheep and Pigs.

There were not many sheep, but they were of excellent quality. In the classes for Longwoolled sheep Mr. Dudding, of Riby Grove, Stallinborough, appropriated all the prizes, and the placings for shearling Shropshire ewes were as at the Royal, Mr. Inge, of Tamworth, being first, and Mr. Mills second. The pig classes were strong numerically as well as in quality, nearly all the well-known breeders being represented.

Prize List.

HORSES.

HUNTERS.

Mare, up to 14st. and upwards, suitable for hunting purposes, with foal at foot, got by a thoroughbred stallion or registered hunter sire: 1, J. Barker, Bishop's Stortford (Stella); 2, W. B. Swallow, Wootton Lawn, Ulceby, Lincs (Beatrice); 3, G. Linnell, Sulby, Ruzby (Snowflake).

Foal in Class 1: 1, J. Barker; 2, H. Martin, Wainfleet, Lincolnshire.

Mare, up to between 12st. and 14st., suitable for hunting purposes, with foal at foot, got by a thoroughbred stallion or registered hunter sire: 1, F. B. Wilkinson, Edwinstowe, Newark (Lady Grosvenor); 2, J. Cooper, East Haddon, Northampton (Sweetbriar); 3, H. M. Wilson, The Kennels, Ledbury (Anxiety).

Foal in Class 3: 1, J. H. Sedgley, Church Langton, Market Harborough; 2, H. M. Wilson

To tenant farmer residing within thirty miles of Peterborough, for mare for hunting purposes, with foal at foot, got by a thorough-bred stallion or registered hunter sire: 1, H. R. Roe, Cranoe, Market Harborough (Finale); 2, J. S. Steward, Barrow, Oakham (Countess); 3, W. Carter, Ailesworth, Peterborough (Georgiana).

Foal in Class 5: 1, F. Perceval, Thornhaugh, Wansford; 2, J. H. Sedgley; 3, H. R. Roe.

Yearling (colt or filly): 1, J. Barker; 2, R. L. Fenwick, Wymondham, Oakham; 3, H. Wickham, Barnwell Castle, Oundle (Hannah).

Two-year-old (gelding or filly): 1, J. Lett, Rillington, York [illegible]; 2, T. and H. Ward, Pinchinthorpe, Great Ayton, Yorkshire (Blackbird); 3, F. B. Wilkinson

Three-year-old gelding: 1 and champion, T. and H. Ward, Blackthorne; 2, T. S. Brigham, Harpham Grange, Burton-Agnes, Driffield (conrad); 3, J. S. Darrell, West Ayton, Yorkshire (Silverdale).

Three-year-old filly: 1 and silver medal H. Wickham (Victoria); 2, J. S. Darrell (Golden Ruby); 3, R. Long, Upper Stanton, Sheffield, Bedfordshire (Lady Smith)

Weight-carrying hunter (mare or gelding), of any age, calculated to carry 12 st. 7 lbs. and not less than 15 stone: 1, J. H. Stokes (Great Britain), Market Harborough (Ironstone); 2, J. H. Stokes (Bertram); 3, C. E. Clark, North Ferriby, Yorkshire (Ruby)

Mare or gelding, any age, calculated to carry 12 st. 7 lbs. and not less than 13 stone and under 14 stone: 1, J. N. Gray, Peterborough, Cardiff (Gendarme); 2, J. H. Stokes (Good Health); 3, J. H. Stokes (Briton)

Mare or gelding, any age, calculated to carry not less than 12 stone and under 13 stone: 1, J. H. Stokes (Benedictine); 2, E. Hanbury, Braunston, Oakham (Goldmint); 3, J. E. Drage, Chapel Brampton, Northampton

Four-year-old mare or gelding: 1, J. H. Stokes (Treasure); 2, E. Hodgson, Bridlington, Yorkshire (Volunteer); 3, J. N. Gray (Huntsman)

[illegible] the winner (being a bona fide tenant farmer residing within the limits of the Essex, Suffolk and North Pytchley Hunts, of the best mare or gelding four years old and upwards which has never taken a first prize at any show previous to June 22nd, since it was three years old: 1, F. W. Cooley, Brightlee

Lodge, Market Harborough (Huntsman); 2, W. J. Chaney, Gidding Grove, Peterborough (Cribbage); 3, H. Burgess (Big Gun).

HACKNEYS.

Two-year old registered hackney stallion: 1, T. Hall, Langton, Malton, Yorks (St Thomas); 2, H. Livesey, Rotherfield, Sussex (Dissenter).

Hackney mare with foal: 1, H. Livesey (Surprise); 2, E. J. Johnstone, Rougham Hall, Suffolk (Alert); 3, J. Rowell, Bury, Huntingdon (Bury Belle).

Foal in previous class: 1, A. B. How, Broughton, Huntingdon; 2, J. Rowell.

Hackney mare with foal at foot, owner being a bona fide tenant farmer residing within thirty miles of Peterborough: 1, J. Rowell (Bury Belle); 2, A. B. How (Limasol).

Foal in previous class: 1, A. B. How; 2, J. Rowell.

Two-year-old hackney filly: 1, Lord Middleton, Birdsall House, York (Birdsall Daisy Bell); 2, E. J. Johnstone (Qui Vive).

Yearling hackney colt or filly: 1, R. Hussey, Eastfield, Lichfield (Puzzle); 2, E. Edmondson, Knowle, Birmingham (Knowle Brounley); 3, S. Flanders, Burnt Fen, Soham, Cambs (King Forest).

Weight-carrying cob, between 13½ and 14·3 hands: 1, F. J. Batchelor, Alvechurch, Worcestershire; 2, W. Lawson, Blackpool; 3, H. T. Parke, Chorley.

Tenant farmers' hackney mare with foal at foot: 1, J. Rowell, Bury, Huntingdon; 2, A. B. How, Broughton, Huntingdon.

Foal: 1, A. B. How; 2, J. Rowell.

Two-year-old hackney filly: 1, Lord Middleton; 2, E. J. Johnstone, Rougham Hall, Suffolk.

Yearling hackney colt or filly: 1, R. Hussey, Eastfield, Lichfield; 2, E. Edmondson, Knowle, Birmingham; 3, S. Flanders, Burnt Fen, Soham, Cambridge.

Hackney mare or gelding, in saddle: 1, E. A. Evans, Wrexham; 2, A. L. Goodson, Heathfield, Knutsford; 3, E. Godsell, Stroud.

Pony, stallion, mare, or gelding, adapted for polo: 1, W. Staplee, Peterborough; 2, J. A. Bouverie, Northampton.

HACKS.

Hack (of the hunter type, and to be judged by the hunter judges), mare or gelding not over seven years old, not to exceed 15.2 hands or less than 14.2 hands: 1, J. H. Stokes, Market Harborough; 2, T. Stokes, Oundle.

HARNESS CLASSES.

Horse, mare or gelding: 1, E. Godsell, Stroud, Gloucestershire; 2, H. T. Parke; 3, E. A. Evans.

Pair of horses, mares or geldings, in double harness: 1, G. C. Waud, Baildon; 2, G. J. Johnson, Woodbridge, Suffolk; 3, F. J. Batchelor.

Horse, mare or gelding, not less than 14 hands, being the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer or tradesman residing within thirty miles of Peterborough, exhibited in harness: 1, W. Flanders, Ely; 2, J. H. Dennis, Boston; 3, G. S. Johnson, Whittlesea.

Tandem team: 1, E. Godsell; 2, F. J. Batchelor.

PONIES.

Pony, not exceeding 14 hands, to be driven: 1, G. E. Franklin, Derby; 2, E. Godsell; 3, A. S. Day, Crewe.

Pony, not exceeding 14 hands, to be ridden: 1, E. Godsell; 2, G. E. Franklin.

Pony, not exceeding 13 hands, to be driven: 1, A. S. Day; 2, G. C. Waud; 3, Mr. Hollins, Mansfield.

Pony, not exceeding 13 hands, to be ridden: 1, A. S. Day; 2, G. C. Waud.

JUMPING.

Horse, mare or gelding, 15 hands or upwards, which shall jump the artificial fences in the best manner, to carry not less than 11 stone: 1, Mr. Grange, Chester; 2, Mrs. Blockley; 3, F. W. Foster, Brailsford.

SHIRES.

Stallion, foaled in 1898: 1, Earl Egerton, Tatton Park, Cheshire (Tatton Victorious); 2, J. Forshaw, Carlton-on-Trent, Newark (D'Arcy Albert); 3, P. A. Muntz, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby (Dunsmore John o' Gaunt).

Two-year-old gelding: 1, R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Great Marlow, Bucks (Danesfield Meteor); 2, Capt. W. H. O. Duncombe, Waresley Park, Hunts (Waresley Prince).

Gelding, three years old and upwards; 1, J. Eadie, Barrow Hall, Derby (Bardon Extraordinary); 2, A. Fuller, Ramsey, Hunts.

Yearling entire colt: 1, J. Parnell, Rainsbrook, Rugby (Lockinge Lord); 2, P. A. Muntz, M.P.; 3, F. W. Griffin, Boro' Fen, Peterborough (Boro' Warrior).

Yearling entire colt (open to tenant farmers residing within thirty miles of Peterborough): 1, F. W. Griffin (Boro' Warrior); 2, J. Rowell (Bury General White); 3, J. Topham, Thorney Park, Peterborough (Thorney Royal).

Yearling shire filly: 1, Earl Egerton (Lockinge Athena); 2, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., Coombe Lodge, Blagdon, Somerset (Rickford Lass); 3, P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Luck).

Yearling shire filly, the owner being a tenant farmer residing within thirty miles of Peterborough: 1, J. Bradley, Halstead, Tilton, Leicester (Halstead Violet); 2, F. W. Griffin; 3, F. W. Horrell, The Grange, Thorney, Peterborough (Heroine).

Two-year-old shire filly: 1, Sir J. Blundell Maple, Bart., M.P., Childwick, St. Albans (Saxon Talent); 2, R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., Woodfold Park, Blackburn (Lily of the Valley); 3, P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Dunsmore June Rose).

Two-year-old shire filly, the owner being a tenant farmer residing within thirty miles of Peterborough: 1, J. Bradley (Halstead Lady Harold); 2, G. Frier, Deeping St. Nicholas, Spalding (Deeping Jewel); 3, F. W. Griffin, Peterborough (Girton Lucigen).

Three-year-old shire filly: 1, Sir J. Blundell Maple (Grand Duchess); 2, Earl Egerton (Tatton Godiva); 3, J. Forshaw (Whaplode Countess); r, J. Parnell (Rokeby Judith).

Three-year-old shire filly (the owner being a tenant farmer residing within thirty miles of Peterborough): 1, J. Topham (Thorney Floss); 2, F. W. Griffin (Boro' Charm); 3, W. Bellamy, Doddington (March).

Shire mare, with foal at foot: 1, Sir J. Blundell Maple (Stanney Commotion); 2, P. A. Muntz, M.P. (Lady Franklin); 3, J. Forshaw (Daisy).

Foal in previous class: 1, Lord Rothschild; 2, Capt. W. H. O. Duncombe; 3, P. A. Muntz; 4, Lord Middleton.

Shire mare, with foal at foot: 1 and special, F. W. Griffin (Boro' Model); 2, J. Bradley (Duchess 2nd); 3, S. Poles, Thorney, Peterborough (New Cut Wonder).

Foal in previous class: 1, S. Neaverson, Glinton, Market Deeping; 2 and 4, F. W. Griffin; 3, J. Bradley.

Pair of shire horses, mares or geldings, three years old and upwards: 1, F. Crisp, Girton Stud Farm, Cambridge (Southgate Charm and Queen of the Shires); 2, Sir J. Blundell Maple (Grand Duchess and Dunsmore Cui Bono); 3, J. Forshaw (Whaplode Countess and Daisy).

Pair of shire horses, mares or geldings, three years old and upwards, the owner being a tenant farmer residing within thirty miles of Peterborough: 1, J. Topham (Thorney Floss and Thorney Star); 2 and 3, J. Rowell, Bury, Huntingdon.

Shire horse, mare or filly, of any age: 1, champion, gold medal, Childwick cup, and challenge cup, F. Crisp, Girton Stud Farm, Cambridge (Southgate Charm); 2, Lord Rothschild (Alston Rosy); 3, Earl Egerton (Tatton Godiva).

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Bull, above two years: 1 and champion, Miss A. de Rothschild, Waddesdon, Aylesbury, Bucks; 2, D. A. Green, Fingringhoe Hall, Colchester.

Bull, above one year: 1, J. D. Willis (Baron Mereer, Cirencester, Wilts; 2, P. L. Mills, Ruddington Hall, Nottingham.

Bull, not to exceed two years old, the property of a tenant farmer residing within thirty miles of Peterborough: 1, W. G. Atkinson, Weston St. Mary's, Spalding; 2, J. L. Stockburn, Kettering.

Bull calf: 1, J. D. Willis; 2, T. Stokes, Warmington, Oundle; 3, Lord Middleton, Birdsall House, Yorkshire.

Cow: 1, champion, and special, Miss A. de Rothschild; 2, J. Deane Willis.

Heifer, above one year and under two years old: 1, J. Deane Willis; 2, Lord Middleton.

Heifer, above one year and under two years old, the property of tenant farmer residing within thirty miles of Peterborough: 1 and special, J. A. Preece, Dereham, Thrapston; 2, W. G. Atkinson.

Heifer calf: 1, W. G. Atkinson; 2, Marquess of Exeter, Burghley House, Stamford.

Shorthorn cow or heifer for dairy purposes: 1 and 2, J. T. Spencer, Hornsey Lane Farm, Highgate, London; 3, Mrs. E. R. Nutt, Peterborough.

ABERDEEN POLLED ANGUS.

Bull, calved on or after December 1st, 1897, and before December 1st, 1898: 1, Sir J. B. Maple; 2, W. B. Greenfield.

Bull, calved on or after December 1st, 1898: W. B. Greenfield, Haynes Park, Bedford; 2, J. F. Johnson, Goscote, Leicester.

Cow (in calf or in milk), calved previous to December 1st, 1898: 1, and cup, F. Crisp, New Southgate, London; 2, W. B. Greenfield.

Heifer, calved on or after December 1st, 1898: 1, F. Crisp; 2, R. W. Hudson.

SHEEP.

Long-woolled shearling ram: 1 and 2, H. Dudding, Riby Grove, Stallingborough, Lincolnshire.

Pen of three long-woolled shearling ewes: 1 and 2, H. Dudding.

Shearling Shropshire ram: 1, Mrs. M. Barrs, Odstone Hall, Atherstone; 2, R. P. Cooper, Shenstone Court, Lichfield.

Pen of three shearling Shropshire ewes: 1, W. F. Inge, Thorpe Hall, Tamworth; 2, P. L. Mills, Ruddington Hall, Nottingham.

Hampshire ram lamb: 1 and champion, T. F. Buxton, Waters Place, Ware, Herts; 2, C. A. Scott Murray, Hambledon, Henley-on-Thames.

Pen of three Hampshire ewe lambs: 1, T. F. Buxton; 2, C. A. Scott Murray.

Southdown shearling ram: 1, Earl of Ellesmere, Stetchworth Park, Newmarket; 2, Earl Cadogan, Culford Hall, Bury St Edmunds.

Pen of three Southdown shearling ewes: Earl Cadogan.

Pen of three cross-bred lambs: 1 and 2, F. J. Matthews, Bircham Newton, Lynn.

PIGS.

Boar of the Large White breed: 1, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington; 2, J. Barron, Borrowash, Derby.

Breeding sow of the Large White breed: 1, F. Allmand, Wrexham; 2, D. Gibson, Harbury, Leamington.

Pair of young boar pigs of the Large White breed (farrowed in 1900: 1, S. Spencer; 2, D. R. Dayhell, Bottesford, Nottingham.

Pair of yelts of the Large White breed, farrowed in 1900: 1 and 2, T. Diggle, Ewerby, Sleaford.

Boar of the Middle White breed: 1, Sir Gilbert Greenall; 2, S. Spencer.

Breeding sow of the Middle White breed: 1 and 2, Sir Gilbert Greenall.

Pair of young boar pigs of the Middle White breed, farrowed in 1900: 1, Sir Gilbert Greenall; 2, S. Spencer.

Pair of yelts of the Middle White breed, farrowed in 1900: 1 and 2, S. Spencer.

Boar of the Berkshire breed: 1, R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Great Marlow, Bucks; 2, J. Jefferson, Peel Hall, Chester.

Breeding sow of the Berkshire breed: 1 and 2, R. W. Hudson; 3, Sir H. de Trafford, Bart., Hill Crest, Market Harborough.

Pair of young boar pigs of the Berkshire breed, farrowed in 1900: 1, P. L. Mills; 2, J. Tindall, Louth.

Pair of yelts of the Berkshire breed, farrowed in 1900: 1, R. W. Hudson; 2, P. L. Mills.

To owner, being a tenant farmer or tradesman, residing within thirty miles of Peterborough, of breeding sow in pig or suckling, of any breed: 1 and 2, S. Spencer.

Ashton-under-Lyne.

The Ashton-under-Lyne Agricultural Society's Show took place at Hurst, near Ashton-under-Lyne, on the 23rd ult., in beautifully fine weather, and was attended by a very large number of people. The number and quality of the exhibits were quite up to the average, and altogether it was a most successful show. The cattle were a useful collection, with a few animals that stood out from the rest by reason of their superior merit. The silver cup, offered by Messrs. J. Barlow and Sons, Droylsden, for the best animal in the local classes, was won by Mr. G. Bowers's handsome dairy cow, but the medal for the best dairy cow went to a beast with rare scale and quality, owned by Mr. W. S. Bardsley. The open class for bulls was won by Mr. W. S. Bardsley's Captain Webb, by Rupert, and a useful sire came next for Mr. Jos. Saxon. Mr. Edwin Clayton, however, beat Mr. Bardsley in the in-milk cows, and in the local competition Mr. Saxon's bull headed the line, with Mr. E. Saxon's representative next. Mr. Bardsley could only again get second honours in the barren cows, first card being secured by Mr. Frank Gee, but Mr. Bardsley's three-year-old heifer was at the top, with that entered by Mr. Thomas Fogg next. Mr. Frank Gee won with a useful yearling heifer, to which Mr. George Bowers's heifer stood second, but Mr. Gee's two-year-old was beaten by that owned by Mr. Ernest Saxon, who also showed the successful yearling bull. Mr. R. Travis took second honours. The heavy horses displayed great improvement on that which was seen at Ashton a few years ago. In the over 16-hands class Mr. Sam. S. Raingill, Altrincham, won easily with Rednal Lass, by Regent II., which won the championship at Darwen, and which was now awarded Mr. Kenworthy's challenge cup as the best carthorse in the show. Next to her stood Desford Pride II. by Sopwell Duke, owned by Mr. A. Nicholson Leek, a mare on a smaller scale. As Rednal Lass had previously won the Shire Horse Society's medal, these honours were now given to Desford Pride II., which was considered the next best on the ground, although the raw looking three-year-old Cumbleforth Snip, by Faceur II., which won for Mr. Raingill in her class, might, in the opinion of some, fairly have received the trophy. In the three-year-olds, the nearest rival to Cumbleforth Snip was Mr. Robert Jeff's Horbling Duffield by Horbling Conqueror. In the under 16 hands class three useful horses, owned respectively by Mr. S. Holden, Messrs. I. Greenhalgh and Sons, and Mr. T. Ogden, were the winners, and in brood mares Mr. John Whalley's Ringway Mignonette, by Royal William II., was preferred to Mr. Eli Pennington's Emblem, another daughter of Royal William II. Mr. E. Gee's mare by Surprise came next. In the class for two-year-olds a rangy roan won for Mr. Robert Dodd, Mr. Pennington's Adlington Emblem, by Moor's Confidence, following. In yearlings, Mr. J. Sutcliffe and Mr. C. F. Day were the winners, and in foals Mr. Eli Pennington won easily with a sappy youngster by Bury Victor Chief, which had more weight than Mr. John Whalley's foal by Conquering Harold. A number of classes were devoted to carthorse turnouts, the finest show in which was made by Mr. J. W. Pollitt's pair, Bowler and Thumper, fresh from the success at the Royal Show at York. The light horses made a good show. Mr. Harris-Thompson's Lord Balmain was an outstanding winner in the stallions, for he was more in accordance with Hackney tradition than any of his rivals. The second horse was Mr. M. E. Shaw's fiery little black Duke of Bardsley, and next came Mr. W. H. Cresswell's Watton Squire, by Garton Duke of Connaught. Mr. T. B. Sykes's Poulton secured the first card in brood mares with Florina, by General Gordon, which went better off her hock than Mr. R. M. Birley's Lady Maud, a daughter of Danegelt, from the Breeze Hill stud. Mr. A. Winterbottom's piebald mare was third. In the three-year-olds Mr. Cresswell's Garton Charity went with her usual liberty, and was placed above Mr. J. W. Bousfield's Duffield Squire, whilst in two-year-olds the advantage of height gave precedence to Mr. R. Byrom's Mafeking, by Monk, over Mr. Mr. E. Shaw's son of Duke of Bardsley. Mr. R. Berry's chestnut by Duke of York led the yearlings, with Mr. W. H. Munro's bay by Dr. Syntax next. Great interest centred in the open competition for roadster mares or geldings, in which, after a fine struggle, Mrs. Fred Holmes's chestnut Pickwick was placed before Mr. Sykes's Zaisan, Mr. A. H. Dixon's Acidity being third. Mrs. Holmes's well-known bay, Love Letter, had no difficulty in winning in the cobs, her nearest rivals being Mr. M. E. Shaw's Daisy Bell and a representative of Mr. Harris-Thompson's; but in the under 14 hands class Mr. Shaw won with Young Swell and Acquisition, both of which moved more attractively than Mr. Harris-Thompson's Belmain Empress. Daisy Bell also won in the roadster saddle class, in which Mr. J. Wrigley took second prize and Mr. S. Milward third for Lady Peggy, by Goldsmith.

Pocklington Horse Show.

The annual Horse Show, at Pocklington, took place on Friday, and in the opinion of one of the judges, who has attended for over ten successive years, it was one of the best yet held. As heretofore, the show was open to the United Kingdom, but by one of the conditions of the schedule animals that had won a £10 prize were debarred from the ring. This restriction applied to the whole of the classes, with four exceptions, and as a consequence the "Royal" element was not in great force. All told, there were 247 entries (in thirty-seven classes), as compared with 221 a twelvemonth ago, and the money prizes amounted to £250, while two silver trophies were also presented. The weather was not all that could be desired, a heavy shower of rain falling just as the judges were about to start their work, but the remainder of the day was fine, though somewhat cloudy. It is to be hoped the show proved a financial success as the committee decided to give the surplus to one of the War Relief Funds, an example which might well be followed by other societies who have a good balance in the bank.

The quality of the young stock was particularly pleasing. The first attractive hunting class taken in hand was that for yearling colts and fillies. Two rivals met in Mr. R. Hornsey's Shancrotha colt and Mr. J. E. Wray's bay gelding, by Gordon, and they were placed in the order named, thus reversing the positions which they held here last year as foals. The two-year-olds were of the right calibre, and the hunters of any age were likewise meritorious. The leading winner, Mr. T. Hall's four-year-old gelding, sired by Gordon, is a beautiful horse, and own brother to Johnnie Roe. Brood mares, showing all the signs of maternity, formed a nice ring picture, the central figure in which was Mr. H. Brown's chestnut daughter of Sherbrooke. There was a capital show of coaching horses. The foals constituted a fair class, of the yearlings the pick was Messrs. Beckett's unnamed Barnaby colt, which has size, quality, and action to aid it in any company; while in a good lot of brood mares the principal winner was a deep, wide, short-legged dam, with plenty of quality, the property of Mr. J. Hulse, of Brough. Mr. R. Tasker's bay Kuniss, the second prize taker, is also a taking mare. The three-year-old bay Elegance, belonging to Mr. S. Leaf, of Beverley, had no difficulty in

winning, the bay son of Stour-on-Avon combining in an exceptional degree rich quality with fine action.

The Hackneys brought out upheld the reputation of Pocklington and surrounding country. Good material was found among the colt foals, but the quality was a trifle better in the filly foal class. The leaders of the two sexes were entered by Mr. R. Brigham, of Millington, and Mr. C. Moore, of Upper Helmsley. The latter breeder had forwarded a most promising yearling colt, which not only headed his class, but also won a ten guinea silver bowl, given as a special prize by Mr. A. P. Woodruff for the best yearling roadster colt or filly bred within a radius of ten miles of Pocklington. The yearling fillies, like the colts, were well up to the average, and the two-year-olds of Mr. J. Jebson and Mr. F. H. Carr, first and second respectively, commanded attention. The young stallion class was one of the strongest of the day. A successful début was made by Mr. F. W. Buttle's Garton Sirdar, by Rosador—Miss Connaught Cook, and this handsome chestnut was in every way worthy of the prominence assigned to him in the prize list. Mr. W. T. G. Young came second with Garton Grand Duke, a well-developed son of Connaught, and Mr. G. A. Brown supplied the third winner in Lord Kipling, sired by Domby. The Rillington stud again asserted itself in the class for stallions of any age, Mr. Buttle's Rosinous beating two formidable opponents in Mr. H. Moore's Bridlington and Mr. A. A. Haley's Merry Pioneer. Mrs. F. Holmes was successful in a driving class with the pony mare Love Letter, and the chief lady's Hackney was a good looking chestnut mare, possessing fine quality and nice manners. That the attention of breeders in the district is not wholly occupied with hunters and Hackneys was apparent by the excellent display of cart horses.

Prize List.

Hunting colt or filly foal: 1, F. J. and H. Grainger, Thornholme, Burton Agnes; 2, W. Nutt, Aughton, York; 3, H. Brown, Strensall.

Coaching colt or filly foal: 1, J. Hulse, Brough; 2, Smith Brothers, Sand Hutton.

Roadster colt foal: 1, R. Brigham, Millington; 2, W. Richardson, Bonwick, Seaton, Hull.

Roadster filly foal: 1, C. Moore, Upper Helmsley; 2, J. Oxtoby, Millington.

Pony colt or filly foal: 1, J. H. Wheelwright, Gribthorpe, Howden; 2, H. Illingworth, Shipton Thorpe; 3, G. Overend, Harrogate.

Agricultural colt or filly foal by either of the Pocklington Shire Horse Company's horses: 1, G. English, Pocklington; 2, R. Nutt, Selby; 3, C. Atkinson, Melbourne.

Yearling hunting colt or filly: 1, R. Hornsey, Bishop Burton; 2, J. E. Wray, Breighton, Howden.

Yearling coaching colt or filly: 1, Beckett Brothers, Deighton, Escrick; 2, J. Reader, Holme.

Yearling roadster colt: 1 and silver bowl, C. Moore; 2, J. Scott, Burnby; 3, J. Brigham, Yapham.

Yearling roadster filly: 1, D. Nicholson, Watton, Cranswick; 2, H. Watson, Newton Kyme; 3, G. A. Brown, Middleton-on-the-Wolds.

Yearling agricultural colt: 1, T. Burton, Felliskirk, Thirsk; 2, S. Leaf, Escrick; 3, J. J. Dunnington-Jefferson, Thicket Priory.

Yearling agricultural filly: 1, T. Bentley, Skerne Road, Driffield; 2, W. and J. Webster, Warthill; 3, J. J. Dunnington-Jefferson.

Two-year-old hunting gelding or filly: 1, G. A. Brown; 2, W. M. Harrison, Stamford Bridge.

Two-year-old harness gelding or filly: 1, J. Jebson, Yapham Grange; 2, F. H. Carr, Kexby.

Two-year-old agricultural gelding: 1, A. Bristow, Wilberfoss; 2, R. Smeeton, Bolton Grange, Scorton; 3, J. Houlden, Barmby Moor.

Two-year-old agricultural filly: 1, R. and J. Davison, Welham, Malton; 2, T. W. Allison, Gowthorpe; 3, W. and J. Webster, Warthill.

Agricultural colt or filly foal, by a Stud book Shire stallion: 1, T. H. Sowden, Clifton, York; 2, J. T. Wright, Great Hatfield, Hull; 3, A. Bell, Burn, Selby.

Hunter, any age, to be ridden in the ring: 1, T. Hall, Langton, Malton; 2, J. Y. Catton, Routh, Beverley; 3, A. J. Brown, Marr Grange, Doncaster.

Hunter, under four years, to be shown in hand: 1, W. Blyth, Huggate, York; 2, Sir J. H. Walker, Sand Hutton.

Hunting brood mare: 1, H. Brown, Strensall; 2, F. J. and H. Grainger, Thornholme.

Roadster stallion, under three years: 1, F. W. Buttle, Rillington; 2, W. T. G. Young, Garton, Driffield; 3, G. A. Brown.

Roadster gelding or mare, under six years, to be ridden in the ring: 1, T. Bentley, Driffield; 2, A. Fewson, Hedon; 3, Exors. of late J. H. Clark, Tibthorpe, Driffield.

Roadster gelding or mare: 1, W. P. Kirby, Watton; 2 and 3, Exors. of late C. Hutchinson, Sancton.

Roadster brood mare, that has produced a foal: 1, H. Brown; 2, J. Taylor, Low Catton, Stamford Bridge; 3, J. Allan, Waplington.

Roadster stallion, any age: 1, F. W. Buttle; 2, H. Moore, Burn Butts; 3, A. A. Haley, Holmfield, Wakefield.

Carriage horse (gelding), under four years, to be shown in hand: 1, S. Leaf, Escrick; 2, Beckett Bros.; 3, J. Jebson.

Lady's hackney, to be ridden in the ring: 1, F. J. and H. Grainger; 2, Mrs. Syd. Powell, Pocklington.

Coaching brood mare: 1, J. Hulse, Brough; 2, R. Tasker, Naburn; 3, J. Reader, Holme, York.

Agricultural stallion, any age: 1, T. H. Bland, Roall Hall, Whitley Bridge; 2, Pocklington Shire Horse Company.

Agricultural gelding or mare, any age, the property of a tenant farmer occupying not less than eighty acres: 1 and 3, R. and J. Davison, Welham, Malton; 2, R. Wilson, Youlthorpe.

Agricultural gelding or mare, under four years, the property of a tenant farmer residing within a radius of ten miles of Pocklington: 1, A. Bristow, Wilberfoss; 2, W. and J. Webster, Warthill, York; 3, T. W. Allison, Gowthorpe, York.

Pony, not exceeding 14 hands 2ins., to be ridden in the ring: 1, F. Coverdale, Beverley; 2, T. Hall.

Pony, not exceeding 12 hands 2ins., to be ridden in the ring: 1, R. Whitworth, Londesborough Stud, Market Weighton; 2, F. J. Fawcett, Bolthorpe; 3, H. Jessop, Northolme, Cottingham.

Pony, not exceeding 14 hands 2ins., to be driven: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes, Staveley Grange, Shipley; 2, F. Coverdale, Beverley; 3, F. Riley-Smith, Saxham Hall, Bury St. Edmunds.

Jumper of any description, open to the world: 1, C. Tomlinson, Cliffe, Selby; 2, W. Holmes, Selby; 3, Mr. Waddington, Easingwold.

Stands at the Royal Show.

Owing to great pressure on our space last week we were unable to print the whole of our remarks on the principal stands at the Royal Show at York, and those left over we give below.

At Stand No. 73, Messrs. Joseph Fison and Co. Limited, of Ipswich, were showing samples of their special fertilisers for all crops, agricultural, horticultural, and tropical; they also had on view photographs of some record crops grown by their use and samples of Canary guano, Union disinfectants, fluids, powders, etc. Their samples of first prize barleys from fourteen different counties, produced with their extra quality barley fertiliser last season, attracted much attention.

Among the many firms exhibiting oil engines was that of Messrs. R. Cundall and Sons, Limited, Airedale Iron Works, Shipley, Yorks, who had at Stand No. 339, a 4, 10, and 20 brake horse power Cundall's patent oil engine, a combined oil engine and pump, and a 10 brake horse power portable oil engine, all of which are well known to agriculturists and others.

What is claimed to be the oldest drill manufactory in the world, namely, that of Messrs. James Smyth and Sons, at Peasenhall, Suffolk, was represented at Stand No. 257. The firm are the manufacturers of the celebrated Nonpareil corn-drills, which now contain all the valuable improvements which a century's experience has suggested, and among them are the following:—The patent hoppers can be tilted aside, consequently do not require to be removed when the cup barrel has to be taken out, and obviate all danger of hoppers being torn out by the cup wheels; the cup barrel is reversible, and can be changed in two or three minutes, and drill ready for work again. The patent cog work avoids the necessity of raising or lowering the box when changing cog wheels, is exceedingly simple and gives a much larger range of seeding than formerly attainable with a larger number of cog wheels; the patent telescopic conductors effectually exclude all dirt and wet, and being cylindrical are much better adapted for peas and beans than old-fashioned conductors. Also, being made of tinned metal do not rust. The coulter blades are extra long and have a far greater clearance fore and aft than ever before attained, and the levers are of wrought iron and so formed that the coulter blade is bolted directly thereto, thus avoiding the expense of wrought iron coulter-stalks.

Prominent amongst Messrs. Blackstone and Co.'s exhibits was their new patent Swath Turner. In this machine, as in the older swath turner made by this firm, the forks work at an angle to the line of draught, and have practically the same motion, although it is obtained in a different and simpler way. The two turning forks in the new implement are suspended from the opposite extremities of an oscillating beam, which works at a suitable angle to the main axle, giving the forks their necessary vertical motion. The horizontal movement of the fork is obtained by connecting each of them by means of rods attached at a suitable distance from their point of suspension to two of the pins of a three-throw crank, the third pin of which by similar means is made to oscillate the beam. The two movements described above, combined with the forward motion of the machine, result in an action of the tine bars eminently suited to turn the swath in an efficient manner. The frame of the machine is very compact, as the working parts only require support at one point, and the whole of the movement is derived from one crank shaft driven by a single pair of bevel gears. They also had a good display of horse rakes and haymakers, corn grinding mills, etc., of their well-known patterns.

Among the exhibits of Messrs. Drake and Fletcher, Kentish Engineering Works, Maidstone, who occupied Stand No. 243, was their famous "Drake" oil engine. The extreme simplicity of this engine is very marked, and makes it specially suitable for use on the farm. The engine works with the same ease and regularity as a gas engine at less cost, and it makes its own gas, a rich oil-gas, more powerful than ordinary coal gas. The oil-fuel is more easily carted and stored than coal, whilst it is cleaner, and there is no waste, dirt, ashes, nor stoking required. The exact quantity of oil required is regulated by a screw down sight-feed valve, through which the oil is drawn by the suction of the piston, causing a partial vacuum in the vaporiser. This is an important advance on the usual methods of oil-feed, and accounts partly for the extreme simplicity of the engine. The feed is controlled by the governor, and can only be drawn in when required, so that there is no waste of oil, and the combustion is so perfect that the exhaust is quite invisible. The vaporiser and ignition tube are heated and kept at the required temperature by a self-acting blow-lamp, which is a fixture to the engine and not a movable lamp such as is commonly used, when once started it requires little or no more attention, and is absolutely safe. The "Drake" portable oil engine has all the special features and improvements of the fixed type, and is compact, simple, and well designed. It is perfectly self contained, with cast iron oil tank forming the base of engine bed, and self-acting lamp, which, being a fixture prevents all risk of fire. The framing is of steel girder construction, with water tank enclosed, mounted on stout steel road wheels of ample size. The leading wheels, instead of being mounted on the usual fore carriage, are hung on swivel axles, connected with the shafts, allowing the weight to be placed low down for stability. Clips are provided, fixed to the framing, by means of which the wheels can be firmly bolted to the body when the engine is at work, thus preventing oscillation.

Stand No. 325 was a very interesting one, Mr. J. Wallis Titt, Woodcock Ironworks, Warminster, Wilts, exhibiting one of his Simplex wind engines for pumping. The Simplex wind engines are used for numerous purposes, and are most useful for the farm and also driving farm machinery. We may mention that one of Mr. Titt's thirty feet diameter Simplex wind engines and set of pumps are in use for the supplying of water to the villages of Great and Little Brington, in Northamptonshire. It has been in use for several years, and it has proved in every way satisfactory, and has sustained but trifling damage even from the strongest winds. One of the principals of the waterworks mentioned states that in the days when the water was by horse power for a part only of Great Brington the cost was £28 per annum, but since using the wind engine the supervision and oiling does not cost more than 1s. 6d. per week. When there is sufficient wind the engine works days, nights, and Sundays if required. The same gentleman further states that "At the time our pumps were put down my belief in wind-power was not what it is now, and I had a driving wheel put on to the driving shaft of the pumps, so that in case the wind failed us we could pump by steam power. We have never yet had to resort to this power, and unless anything very unforeseen happens we never shall." This goes to prove that wind power is much better than steam power.

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A haystack of this season's growth, belonging to Mr. Jesse Finch, builder, of Haywards Heath, and situated on land at the back of the Mill Green Road, was almost totally destroyed by fire on Wednesday. A quantity was saved, but it will only be fit for litter. The damage is estimated at about £20, which is not covered by insurance.

COMING SHOWS.

Norfolk Agricultural Association at Downham Market.

The annual summer show of the Norfolk Agricultural Association will take place at Downham Market, on Wednesday and Thursday next, July 4th and 5th, under the presidency of Mr. Thomas Leigh Hare, M.P., when it is expected a big company will assemble to view the various attractions which will be carried out under the auspices of this popular Society.

The Society's visits to Downham have been very few and far between, in fact only two shows have been held there since the Society started. The show which opens there next week will be the third occasion, and the growth of the Association is at once made apparent on referring to the difference as shown in the comparative statement of entries given below. For the sake of comparison last year's entries are given as well:—

Year.	Town.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total.
1868	Downham	243	163	82	23	511
1880	Ditto	202	146	102	34	584
1899	Diss	277	127	273	53	730
1900	Downham	320	140	249	49	758

The Society's prize list has been greatly increased this year, and considerably over £1,200 will be offered. The Local Committee, which include all the principal residents of Downham and the neighbourhood, with Mr. L. Hawkins as hon. sec., are working very energetically to give the Society a warm welcome, and are doing everything possible to make the visit of the Society a success. The townspeople are also combining their efforts to give the town as gay an appearance as possible by displaying as much bunting as they can.

The show will open at nine o'clock a.m. each morning—admission, first day, 2s. 6d.; second day, 1s.—and judging will commence in all sections punctually at that hour on Wednesday, at which time also catalogues may be obtained at the stand, inside the entrance. The public luncheon (at which the President of the Association, Mr. Thomas Leigh Hare, M.P., will preside, and to which ladies are invited) will take place on the opening day at 1.30 o'clock.

A very convenient and particularly pleasing ground has been secured by the Lynn Road and within easy distance of the station. On entering the grounds, the public are led by various avenues through the implement and machinery departments, on the left being found the machinery in motion, on each side of the central avenue the farm implement manufacturers have their stands, and on the right are various manufacturers' tents. To the end of the right avenue will be found the secretary's, Press, and reporters' and judges' and stewards' offices, and on entering a meadow to the right of this one faces the big horse ring, against which is erected a large grand stand capable of accommodating several hundred people. This meadow is encircled on the west and north fences by the shedding for Hackneys and hunters, whilst on the east and south are long ranges of covered shedding, in which the manufacturers of cattle food, animal medicines, etc., etc., from all parts of England have their stands. In the adjoining meadow, at the end of the covered shedding on the south fence of the meadow before-mentioned, one finds onseself amongst long ranges of cattle, sheep, and pig shedding, and another long range of horse shedding. Here also are the several judging rings for the various breeds of horses and cattle. The Technical Education Committee of the Norfolk County Council's horse-shoeing and butter-making competitions will also be carried on in separate buildings in this meadow. The entries for these competitions are very numerous, and in excess of previous years. In addition to this, the Technical Education Committee have also arranged for demonstrations and lectures, to be given by experts in their respective professions on butter and cheese-making, poultry-fattening, trussing, cramming and dressing, bee-keeping, driving, etc., during each day of the show. By kind permission of Col. Hyde and officers, the band of the 3rd V.B.N.R. will play selections of music during each day. The Great Eastern Railway Company are running special trains at special fares to and from the show both days.

Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultura Society.

The fifty-eighth annual show of this society has been fixed to take place on Friday, Saturday, and Monday (Bank Holiday), the 3rd, 4th, and 6th August, at Bidston. The president for the year is Mr. W. H. Lever, of Thornton Manor, Cheshire, while Mr. Walter Glynn, of Bromborough, is the vice-president. The committee have now issued the prize list, which includes many new classes for implements, machinery in motion, etc., for which valuable cash prizes are offered, in addition to the Society's medals, for machinery in motion. In consequence of the prevalence of swine fever, no classes are provided for pigs, but many additional classes are included for sheep, cattle, and horses. The prize money in all sections has been considerably increased, besides which several new challenge bowls are offered for competition for the first time. As usual, prizes are offered for pigeons, poultry, dogs, butter, cheese, eggs, honey, and bee appliances, in addition to the

horticultural section, which is always one of the most popular features of this society's exhibition. The valuable prizes offered for leapers on each day, including a champion prize of £20, which will be competed for on the Bank Holiday, ought to attract a record entry. The total prizes for this year's show exceed £2,800. Extensive alterations are now in progress at the society's show-yard, and the two adjoining fields will also be utilised. The band of the Queen's Own Royal Yorkshire Dragoons and the Widnes Prize Band have been engaged to play. Messrs. Milburn and Company, St. Anne Street, Liverpool, have been again entrusted with the catering. Messrs. Peck and Company, Wigan, have secured the contract for canvas, and Messrs. Eldred, Mottram, and Co., Shrewsbury, will supply the whole of the tents. Messrs. Wilkinson and Co., Liverpool, provide the decorations, and the cloak-rooms, parcels office, and cycle stables will, as usual, be in charge of Mr. Barlow, of Huddersfield. Messrs. Spratts Patent, London and Liverpool, will bench, pen, and feed the dogs, poultry, and pigeons, and the Sanitas Disinfectants Company will disinfect the showyard, under the superintendence of Mr. Gamble, of Liverpool, and a smoke's supply stores, provided by Mr. Nicholls, also of Liverpool. An open-air service will be held in the showyard for the herdsmen on the Sunday afternoon, when a collection will be made in aid of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Fund for assisting deserving farmers in reduced circumstances. A supper will be provided for those remaining in the yard in charge of stock, etc., on both the Saturday and Sunday evenings. The various railway companies will issue cheap tickets to Liverpool and Birkenhead on each day of the show, and season tickets of admission to the yard and other information will be supplied on application to the secretary, Mr. Arthur H. Edwardson, 6, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead. Entries for implements, machinery, etc., close on July 14th, and for all other sections on July 19th.

Additional special prize of £5 presented by F. Johnson, Esq., of South Grove Nurseries, Woodchurch, R.A. Oxton, for the best Shire filly foaled in 1898 belonging to a tenant farmer in Wirral.

SOCIETIES.

Bath and West.

Council Meeting.

The Council of the Society met on the second day of the show in the Council Pavilion in the showyard, under the presidency of the Marquis of Bath, and approved of their report, which was to be presented at the annual meeting on the following day. In their report the Council congratulated the members upon meeting once more at Bath, the birthplace and headquarters of the Society, and where it has always been sure of a cordial and hospitable welcome. The closing days of 1899, fraught with sorrow to the nation generally, brought a special sadness to the Society in the death of Sir John Lennard. As a trustee and vice-president, as a chairman of committees, and especially as senior steward of stock, he rendered invaluable service, and the Council desire to place on record their deep sense of the great loss which the Society has sustained by his death. The Council have appointed the Marquis of Bath as a trustee of the Society, in succession to Sir J. F. Lennard. Death has also deprived the Society of two other of its vice-presidents, viz., the Marquis of Winchester, who died fighting for his Queen and country in South Africa, and Sir G. S. Stucley, an old and staunch supporter of the Society. During the past year the Council have continued their efforts for the promotion of technical education in agriculture by organising and conducting, on behalf of the Somerset County Council, a cheese and a farriery school, which are being continued during the current year. The Council have also followed up the practical and scientific investigations, initiated by the Society a few years since, in connection with cider making, the experience of previous years having fully satisfied them of the value of these researches. The experiments upon the improvement of grass land, which were set on foot in 1895, are in progress, and attention is especially being directed to the cause and effect of "teartness" in land. The Board of Agriculture has once more borne testimony to the utility of the experimental and research work of the Society by awarding a grant in aid of it. The Council have arranged to carry out, in conjunction with the Board of Agriculture, an additional experiment having for its object to show the influence of various manures upon the production of mutton. The Council believe that such an experiment is likely to be an extremely useful one.

During the past year the Society's research work in dairying, which had for some years been conducted at the joint expense of the Society and the Board of Agriculture, has been in abeyance, owing to the Board not having been prepared to make a further grant in aid. The matter is still under the consideration of the Board, and as the utility of these investigations has been so generally acknowledged, and as the Cheese School carried on by the Society provides so excellent a field for observation, it is to be hoped that the Board may be induced to give such financial support as may enable the Society to continue its researches in this direction. The value of them has been recognised by the Somerset County Council, which recently passed a resolution expressing its desire to support the Society in urging the Government to continue its grant in aid of such work.

The Council acknowledges the friendly co-operation in promoting the success of the Bath meeting of the Somerset County Agricultural Association, who have suspended their show for the year, and have contributed £100 in prizes. They also gratefully acknowledge the receipt of special prizes from other societies, etc. His Royal Highness the Duke of York, K.G., has kindly consented to honour the Society by accepting the office of president for the ensuing year. The Council recommended that Mr. E. J. Saunders be elected a vice-president of the Society; and that the gentlemen named on the agenda paper be elected members of the Council for the years 1900-1902, in room of those retiring by rotation.

Annual General Meeting.

The annual general meeting of the members was held in the Council Chamber on the third day of the show, the Marquis of Bath again presiding. His Lordship proposed the adoption of the Council's report, and referred to the loss the Society had sustained by the death of Sir John Lennard and the Marquis of Winchester. He thanked the Council for the honour they had done him in electing him a trustee of the Society in succession to Sir John Lennard, though he regretted the occasion for it. A paragraph in the report dealt with a fresh experiment which the Council had undertaken at the invitation of the Board of Agriculture. He only wished to assure the members of the Council that, although it was worded in the form that they were carrying on additional experiments, having for its object "to show the influence of various manures upon the production of mutton," they did not intend to feed the sheep with that valuable article. (Laughter.) It was to be applied to the land, but they had accepted the definition which had been given them by the highest authorities in the country. (Laughter.) With regard to the paragraph dealing with the Society's research work in dairying, they would notice that the matter had been lately in abeyance owing to the fact that they had yet not a further grant in aid, but he was glad to be able to announce that since the report had been circulated a conference between the Society's scientific representative and the scientific experts of the Board of Agriculture had been held, and a scheme was in course of being formulated, so that he hoped the research work would not be entirely dropped. (Applause.) He thought he might take it upon himself to congratulate the Society upon the show now being held. (Hear, hear.) He trusted that the excellence of the exhibits and their number would be correspondingly backed up by the receipts. (Hear, hear.) They owed their thanks to the County Association for the steps they took to meet them on their again coming into Somerset. It would, he thought, be extremely regrettable in the interests of agriculture if any real or serious rivalry were to exist between the different agricultural societies. Their area was not the same, and he most sincerely trusted that the good feeling which had hitherto existed between them might long continue. (Applause.) They also gratefully acknowledged the receipt of special prizes from a large number of associations, and also from individuals, including the Duke of Marlborough, Captain Best, Sir James Blyth, and Colonel Helyar. They had received a most cordial welcome from the city and Corporation of Bath, and it was only what they would expect, knowing the intimate connection which existed between the Bath and West of England Society and that ancient city. (Applause.) They regretted that owing to failing health Mr. E. J. Sanders was unable to continue his services as a steward, and the proposal to elect him a vice-president was only a suitable recognition of his valuable work for many years. (Hear, hear.) Now he came to that portion of the report which he thought under the circumstances was perhaps the most important. The Society had been greatly honoured by the fact that the Duke of York had graciously consented to allow his name to be brought forward for election as president next year. (Applause.) He knew that every member of the Society would most cordially welcome his Royal Highness in that important office. (Applause.) Might he venture to urge upon them the desirability of increasing the membership? He trusted that every member would do his best in that direction in that memorable year, and make the Duke of York's term of office one of the greatest success, both in the showyard and also with regard to membership. (Hear, hear.) They had reason to be thankful to the members of the Bath and West Society for the interest they showed in their operations. The expenses of the Society were constantly increasing. He hoped they would continue to do so, as it would be an evidence of an increase in the valuable work which the Society had done now for so many years past, but of course to carry on the work with increased expense meant also the necessity of increased membership. (Applause.)

Mr. J. E. Ward seconded the motion, and said thanks were due to the secretary for the obituary notice of Sir John Lennard, published in the Society's journal.

Mr. Geoffrey Howard said he believed there had been a correspondence between the Agricultural Engineers' Association and the Council with reference to the curtailment of the number of days of the show. The matter was one of great importance to exhibitors that the Society should reduce the number of days to four, so that they might not have to keep the members of their staff in the yard over Sunday. He believed the stock exhibitors shared the views of the implement exhibitors in that respect. He hoped the matter would receive careful consideration, and he did not think the Society would suffer financially.

The President said the matter had been brought before the Council, and referred to the Finance Committee, who, after careful investigation, recommended that no alteration should be made. The Council subsequently unanimously endorsed the recommendation.

Mr. Harrison endorsed the remarks of Mr. Howard, and suggested Tuesday and Friday as the period during which the show should remain open

Mr. J. G. S. W. Stroud supported the action of the Council.

Mr. Algernon S. Ayre was of opinion that Monday was a bad day for closing, and suggested that the show should not be continued over the Sunday.

Captain Best said that for many years he had been on the Show Dates Committee, which had to settle the matter. He was, personally, strongly in favour of the old plan of opening on the Monday and closing on the Friday, but he had on every occasion seen the necessity of adhering to from Wednesday to Monday when the matter had to be determined.

The President said the Council were glad at all times that matters of this kind should be ventilated, and they would always pay due respect to the views expressed.

The report was then adopted.

The President next moved that His Royal Highness the Duke of York, K.G., be elected President of the Society for the ensuing year, mentioning that His Royal Highness had been graciously pleased to accept the position. (Applause.)

Sir R. H. Paget, in seconding the motion, said it would be a matter of the greatest satisfaction to the Society to have such direct evidence that a leading member of the Royal Family took such a lively interest in the greatest industry of the country. They were, however, unable to excuse His Royal Highness from the ordeal which so many of them had had to go through, viz., the ordeal of an election. (Laughter.) It was an ordeal which he could approach in this case without the slightest fear, and he ventured to predict that the election would be unanimous. (Applause.) He emphasised the noble President's remarks, and urged that a special effort should be made during the year to increase the roll of members.

The motion was carried by acclamation.

On the motion of Mr. G. E. Martin, seconded by Mr. Story-Maskelyne, Mr. E. J. Sanders, of Stoke House, Exeter, was elected a vice-president.

On the proposition of Sir Thomas Acland, seconded by Mr. Lloyd Thomas, a number of Councilmen were then elected.

Mr. G. E. Lloyd Baker proposed: "That the thanks of the society be presented to the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Bath and to the members of the local committee for the cordiality with which they had received the Society, and for their efforts to promote the success of the meeting."

Mr. T. Dyke seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Thanks were voted to the judges, on the proposition of Mr. J. E. Ransome, seconded by Mr. W. B. Roderick. The latter said that as an unsuccessful exhibitor he was quite satisfied with the awards. (Hear, hear.)

On the proposition of Captain Best, seconded by Mr. H. B. Napier, a vote of thanks was passed to the directors and officials of the railway companies who had afforded facilities in connection with the exhibition.

Mr. E. T. D. Foxcroft, in moving a vote of thanks to the retiring president, said that they knew how well Lord Bath continued the honourable traditions of his family for useful public work, and, after his zeal and assiduity in the interests of the society, it was only natural that he should have been elevated to the distinguished position which he had occupied during the past year. (Applause.) He could only say that the choice of the society in electing Lord Bath had been abundantly justified, and that his lordship had filled the office to the satisfaction of everyone. (Applause.)

Mr. R. Neville Grenville seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation.

The President, in reply, said his term of office had been one of real pleasure.

Hunters' Improvement Society.

Mr. J. C. Straker, M.F.H. (President), occupied the chair at a meeting of the Council of this Society, held in the Royal showyard at York on Wednesday, June 20th. The secretary presented the financial statement since the last meeting as follows: Balance at bank, £220 11s. 3d.; receipts, £20 5s. 6d.; arrears of subscription, £86 2s.

Army Remounts.

The secretary submitted the correspondence which has passed between the War Office and himself with

reference to encouraging the breeding of horses suitable for the Army, and it was resolved to ask the Inspector-General of Remounts to kindly receive a small deputation from the Council with a view of considering the whole question and submitting several suggestions made by members of the Council.

The Council then adjourned till Tuesday, October 16th.

Hackney Horse Society.

A meeting of the Council of the Hackney Horse Society was held (by permission) in the large tent on the R.A.S.E. show-ground at York, on Tuesday, the 19th ult., Mr. F. Wrench in the chair.

The secretary announced the receipt of a letter from Mr. James Fulton, of Strathbungo, Glasgow, accepting the invitation of the Council to act as steward of the London Show for the ensuing three years. It was also reported that the following medals had been applied for to date by various societies, under the terms of the different schemes under which they are offered, viz., seventeen gold medals for Hackney stallions and mares of the value of £10 each, three gold medals for harness horses, and eighty-five silver medals.

Prefixes.

The exclusive right to the use of the following prefixes was granted to the various applicants:—

Prefix.	Applicant.
Hilden	Benjamin Oakes.
Langford	Sidney Hill.
Leek	Arthur Nicholson.
Sandall	George Clark.
Saughall	James Storrar, jun.
Stourton	Walter Showell.
Swinfen	Col. Swinfen-Broun.

Future Meetings.

It was arranged to hold a special meeting of the Horse Show Committee at the London offices on Tuesday, October 11th, at 11 a.m., to consider in detail suggested improvements in the classification at the next London show, the Finance Committee to hold a meeting prior to that hour to report concerning the financial aspect of the question. The next meeting of the Council was fixed for Wednesday, November 7th.

Shire Horse Society.

Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P. (past president), occupied the chair at a meeting of the Council, held in the Royal Showyard at York, on Tuesday, June 19th. Mr. Salt stated that Sir Walter Gilbey had been re-elected chairman of the Finance Committee for the ensuing year. The balance on current account at the bank was £416 13s. 7d., with accounts for payment amounting to £831 8s. The report was adopted.

Editing Committee.

Mr. Kenworthy reported that Mr. A. C. Duncombe had been elected chairman, with himself as vice-chairman. The committee had approved the photographs of the 1900 champions at the recent Spring Show, and passed the following prefixes and affix:—

Prefixes and Affix.

Prefix.	Applicant.
Adforton	Richard Hughes.
Apethorpe	E. Lucas.
Appleby	C. T. Moore.
Ashley	H. Cottrell.
Bennington	W. H. Bingham.
Besthorpe	W. Roe.
Biddulph	T. Walley.
Bingham	Hardstaff and Brown.
Branston	W. Wrench.
Buttington	W. Edwards.
Cayton	W. P. Crosland.
Cockerington	J. W. Needham.
Connington	W. Selby.
Crankwell	Walter Ward.
Flint Mill	J. T. Moore.
Gayton	C. Bloor.
Gifford's [and Affix.]	J. W. Brittain.
Grendon	C. Raven.
Grindley	S. H. Allen.
Guthram	T. S. Gray.
Harkstead	W. Wrinch.
Hinton	C. C. Church.
Hollies	G. Lomas.
Houndhill	Joseph Cottrell.
Huntsham	J. Gunter.
Ingestre	J. W. Shelley.
Kelvedon	Maj.-General Sir Henry Ewart.
Marney	J. C. Peache.
Newboro'	John Sisson.
Oakenhurst	J. Smith.
Overa	F. W. Bernard.
Plumpton	Hugh Tomasson.
Priory	W. Oxley.
Rainton	J. Bailey.
Roothing	H. Turner.
Rosewood	N. Thompstone.
Roughwood	J. Colclough.
Shotley	H. W. Packard.
Southdown	C. R. W. Adeane.
Springs	T. Lea.
Styrrup	W. Camm.
Thornhaugh	Walter Close.
Toucham	J. Hopper.
Tythby	R. Henshaw.
Vale	J. Hopkins.
Wensley	Lord Bolton.
Wildsworth	R. Waterhouse.
Worlick	Mrs. Everitt.
Wrekin	W. H. Davies.
Yorton	S. F. M. Nevett.

Horse Show Committee.

Mr. Kenworthy reported that Sir Walter Gilbey had been re-elected chairman for the ensuing year. The Judges Selection Committee had been reconstituted as follows:—Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Lord Hothfield, Mr. Joseph Martin, Lord Middleton, Mr. Parnell, Mr. W. Cecil Salt, and Mr. Joseph Topham. Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beak were re-elected auctioneers, and the committee recommended the offer of a gold medal under Scheme A to the Montgomeryshire Agricultural Association.

This report was adopted.

Next Council Meeting.

The Council then adjourned till Tuesday, November 8th.

Suffolk Horse.

A meeting of the Council of the Suffolk Horse Society was held at the Town Hall, Ipswich, on Tuesday, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., occupying the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, and remarked, with regard to the fixing of the date for the annual sale, that that matter was referred back to the Committee on the understanding that they were to fix some date before the 1st of September. It was thought that the matter could be arranged without calling a Council meeting by fixing the 31st of August, but subsequently it transpired that a prominent member of the Society and supporter of the sales would be unable to be present, and it was thought that a Council meeting should be called to deal with the matter.

In the course of a good deal of conversation, the Chairman observed that it was necessary, as far as possible, to secure the attendance at the sale of gentlemen most concerned and interested in the Suffolk horse. This was a sale that needed the active and general support of breeders and owners of Suffolk horses. From the remarks which had been made in the papers in reference to the Royal Show at York, and at other exhibitions, it was pretty evident the Suffolk horse was making satisfactory progress. It had been stated, amongst other things, that of all the Suffolks which underwent veterinary examination at the York Royal Show, there was not a single case of unsoundness. (Applause.) That was a fact upon which all interested in Suffolks might congratulate themselves. (Hear, hear.) He had seen a good many notices in the papers with respect to the prominent position which the Suffolks took at the Richmond Show, and the great amount of praise bestowed upon them as a distinctive breed. All this must be very satisfactory to them, and patent to anybody outside who was unprejudiced, that, at any rate, the Suffolks had held their own during the past year. (Hear, hear.) As to the date of the proposed sale, it had been suggested that there should be two sales each year, one in the early autumn and the other in the spring. He did not know whether the suggestion would meet with the approval of the Council.

In the discussion which took place, several dates were proposed, strong feeling being expressed in favour of September 7th, but it was eventually left to the chairman to decide later on whether it should be held on Thursday, August 30th, or Friday, September 7th. As to the question of the advisability of holding a second sale for Suffolks of all kinds in the spring, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Alfred J. Smith, seconded by Mr. Edward F. Quilter, to refer the matter to the Sale Committee for them to report to the Council.

The Chairman brought forward the question of the rules and regulations adopted by the Council in May in respect to the Produce Stakes. The proposals were published at the time, and it will be remembered that it was resolved that the Produce Stakes should be limited to foals entered by members of the Society, the subscription for each foal entered being £1 5s., the payment to be made by instalments. It was also resolved that each year members wishing to enter should forward to the secretary the name of the mare, the name of the sire used, and the first payment; all foals entered for the Produce Stakes to be put up for public auction at the Society's sale, subject to the usual conditions, and judged by the judges appointed by the Council of the Suffolk Horse Society. It was also provided that three-fourths of the total stakes subscribed should go to the first-prize foal, while the owner of the second-prize foal would have his fees returned. Sir Cuthbert Quilter added that this scheme, if it did not directly tend to the improvement of the breed, would add greatly to the interest of the annual sale. There were several gentlemen who would doubtless be proud of being the winner of the Produce Stakes.

Mr. W. Toller considered that it would be advisable to have more than one prize.

Several gentlemen expressed their concurrence with this suggestion, and on the motion of Mr. Herman Biddell, seconded by Mr. W. H. Hewitt, it was resolved to adopt the report, and that the question of the number of prizes should be left to be decided later on.

We are asked to state that an issue of special war stamps, to celebrate the first appearance of Victorian troops on the battlefield, has been sent for disposal to the office of the Agent-General for Victoria, 15, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W., to whom application should be made. There are two varieties, penny and twopenny, the prices of which are 1s. and 2s. respectively.

National Pig-Breeders' Association.

The annual general meeting of this Association was held, by permission of the Council of the R.A.S.E., in the large tent of the showground, York, on Tuesday, June 19th, Mr. P. L. Mills in the chair. There were also present Sir O. Mosley, Messrs. Ascroft, Barron, Daybell, Duckering, A. S. Gibson, Hall, Hallas, Hanson, Ibbotson, Lawson, Norman Philip, Howard-Taylor, George White, and the Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed and the report and balance-sheet adopted.

In the course of their report the Council state that the membership of the Association consists of twenty-two life and 109 annual members. The financial position of the Association still continues satisfactory, the balance in hand being £153 1s. 4d., with the sum of £410 4s. 6d. invested in securities; only five members being, at the present time, in arrears with their subscriptions for 1899. A further purchase of stock has been made at a cost of £102 8s. 6d.

The entries for Vol. XVI. are very satisfactory, viz., 594. Eighty-two breeders and 149 owners are represented. The entries, 215 boars and 379 sows, are divided as follows:—Large White, boars 140, sows 243; Middle White, boars 26, sows 29; Small White, boars 4, sows 9; Tamworth, boars 36, sows 86; Berkshires, boars 8, sows 9; Small Black, boar 1, sows 3.

The conditions of entry for Vol. XVII. are as follows:—That the sire and dam are registered, or that the pig proposed to be entered, if a boar, has five crosses of registered blood, viz., that the sire, sire of dam, sire of grand dam, sire of great-granddam, and sire of g.g.granddam are registered boars; and if a sow has four crosses, viz., that the sire, sire of dam, sire of grand dam, and sire of great-granddam are registered boars. Also that the produce of sows be accepted (which produce must be by a registered sire) if the said sows have produce entered in Vols. XI., XII., XIII., XIV., XV., or XVI. The name, age, and breeder of the dam, granddam, greatgranddam, and g.g.-granddam, when not registered, must be given.

The Council again wish to call particular attention to Bye-law 32, which reads thus:—"It shall be incumbent on all members desirous of entering their stock, to make a return of the birth of all pigs born, alive or dead, during the month of January in each year, within one month of the date of birth of such pigs, and of all other pigs born during that year as soon as possible, but in any case on or before the 31st December, on birth forms, to be supplied by the secretary, who will forward the same on application."

The scrutineers declared the following gentlemen duly elected members of the Council, viz., Lord Moreton, Messrs. P. L. Mills, P. Ascroft, Henry Smith, and C. Howard-Taylor.

Mr. P. L. Mills was elected president, Sir O. Mosley president-elect, and Mr. Henry Smith auditor for the coming year. Mr. Gibson moved the following resolution:—"That Bye-law 2 be altered as follows: Life members shall pay on election a subscription of £15 15s., but members of five years' standing may become life members by a payment of £10 10s., members of seven years by a payment of £8 8s., and members of ten years and upwards by a payment of £5 5s." This was seconded by Mr. Barron, and after some discussion was carried unanimously. The Secretary was instructed to call an extraordinary general meeting at the Smithfield Show to confirm the resolution.

Mr. Daybell brought forward the question of dentition of pigs at county and other shows, and suggested that the Association take some action in the matter. After considerable discussion Mr. Philip proposed, and Mr. Daybell seconded, that the Secretary write to the principal societies asking them to enforce the dentition regulations.

Mr. Barron then moved:—"That no entries for the Herd Book be received from any member who had not complied with Bye-law 32." Mr. Hall seconded.

Mr. Ibbotson moved that it be referred to the Council for further consideration, and to this Mr. Barron agreed and withdrew his motion.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman for his services, and to the Council of the R.A.S.E. for the use of the tent.

Council Meeting.

A meeting of the Council was held at the conclusion of the general meeting, the president, Mr P. L. Mills (in the chair), Messrs. Ascroft, Barron, Daybell, Duckering, A. S. Gibson, Hallas, Ibbotson, Philip, C. Howard, Taylor, and the Secretary being present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and Mr. R. P. Cooper and the Rev. W. H. Illingworth elected members.

Messrs. Barron, Heaton, and Norman were elected the Finance Committee; and Messrs. Barron, D. Gibson, A. S. Gibson, Ibbotson, Norman, and Henry Smith were elected the General Purposes and Editing Committees.

The revised entry form was examined and passed and ordered to be printed.

A letter was read from the secretary of the Great Yorkshire Agricultural Society saying that in consequence of the Swine Fever Regulations pigs would not be exhibited at their forthcoming show.

The next meeting will take place at the Smithfield Show.

FARM.

Soiling and Ensilage.*

"Soiling" is the title of a second and revised edition of "Soiling, Summer and Winter," by Frank Sherman Peer. In this work the author, who farms not for pleasure, but for a livelihood, relates his experience, and gives in an interesting manner some of the latest and most economical methods of summer and winter feeding and management of farm stock. The subject of soiling, which is dealt with in a practical manner, occupies most part of the volume, but there are interesting chapters on ensilage and some useful hints on barn construction and stable management, whilst instructions are given for building a silo. The work is really for American farmers, but there is a great deal in it that will also prove of great service to agriculturists on this side of the Atlantic, and it will well repay them for a perusal of its pages. It appears that American farmers are also suffering from the scarcity of labourers, for this work is dedicated to the farmers' sons of America, "with the hope that within its pages they may find encouragement to pursue agriculture as a business, instead of leaving the farm for some so-called higher pursuits."

We make the following extract from a chapter showing the better condition and greater comfort of farm stock when animals are soiled:—

"On this question there is no chance whatever for argument. The difference in the condition of cattle soiled and those at pasture is decidedly and positively in favour of soiling. In the first place, all animals that chew the cud are particularly adapted to the soiling system, for several reasons. The very nature of their digestive organs shows that they are best provided for when they can have their feed in abundance and near at hand. Their habit is to collect their food quickly until the first stomach or paunch is full. This first stomach is used as a basket or receptacle into which they store their food. When full, they lie down, and it is then that the feeding proper begins. When a cow or sheep or other ruminating animals are grazing, they are not, as many suppose, in the act of eating. They are simply gathering or collecting their food. The sooner they can do this collecting the better, because they do not like to begin eating until the basket is well filled. Besides, the less time it takes to fill the basket, the more time they have to eat and convert it into the desired product.

"Again, if they must waste a lot of energy and muscular force carrying themselves about, as they do when required to fill their baskets from a scanty pasture, that wasted energy, which is all at the expense of the food, might better be employed in producing milk or butter. After the animals have filled this first paunch or basket, their habit, as before stated, is to lie down and then the feeding proper begins by bringing up from this first stomach a cud at a time, which they proceed to masticate thoroughly, after which it is sent to the second stomach, and so on to the third and fourth stomachs, where it becomes digested and assimilated with the blood until the basket is emptied, when the cow is ready to collect it full again. Looking at the cow as a machine, it will be seen that when she does not have to seek her food by walking miles for it in the hot sun, annoyed by the flies, etc., she is able to convert the largest amount of feed into the product her owner requires at the least possible outlay of her strength, and the more basketfuls of grass or forage she can make way within a day the more profitable a machine she must become.

"A few years ago, when the Mohawk Valley was the principal dairy section of the State, we are told that it was the custom of the farmers and dairymen to cut down all the shade trees in their fields, so that the cows would not be wasting time lying under them, when, as their owners thought, they should be up and at work. They also had boys going about to drive their cattle up when they attempted to lie down. They said truthfully that milk was made from grass, and a cow was a machine, and she must eat so much to supply her own wants. The more she can be induced to eat in a day the greater will be her returns to her owner. But they based their reasoning on a mistaken notion—*i.e.*, that a cow was feeding or eating when she was grazing or collecting her food. While they were perfectly correct in assuming that their cattle were machines, and the owners' profit depended upon the amount of food the animals could be made to consume above what they required to heat their blood and supply their waste, they were entirely wrong in supposing that a cow was serving their best interests by being kept on her feet. The next thing is to provide them with the greatest possible comfort, so that when a cargo is ready for the mill, the mill will be in as perfect running order as possible. That is to say, when the cow lies down and the milling begins, she will have a comfortable resting-place, clean, dry, and easy. No one would think of starting a factory without first oiling the machinery, and so adjusting its parts that it will run with the greatest possible ease. The tie should be such as will enable her to lie in a perfectly natural condition.

"When you have provided the raw materials and everything is oiled and ready, your cow then is in the best possible position to do business as a profitable member of the farm household. With a well-contented mind and a well-filled stomach, she can work up several times as many cargoes a day as if her time was being spent chasing about the pasture, looking for sweets and fighting flies. At any rate, you, as manager and proprietor of the mill, have done your part, and there is no excuse whatever for the cow, and no inclination, you will find, except to do her best and attend strictly to business. Nor is the question of the collection of their food with the least possible labour and a good, comfortable place in which to lie down, the only thing which adds to the greater comfort and better condition of stock soiled. By keeping them in their stables daytimes they are protected from the enervating heat of the sun. They are also sheltered from storms, secured from jumping into fields of growing grain or fruit orchards. They are protected from drinking muddy, impure water and against thirst.

"This last is an item that is not, as a rule, given the attention it deserves. Milk is 84¼ per cent. water, and a supply of good, fresh water, close at hand, is a very important item, because, when a cow is turned to pasture, and has to go to a distant part of the field to help herself, she waits until great thirst drives her to it. Finally, when she does go, instead of getting a drink and returning to business, she overloads her stomach with water, and stands about in the stream or pond until absolute hunger drives her out again. So she lives on from day to day, eating only when she is very hungry, and drinking only when she is very thirsty. The soiling system, with a good well or spring at the barn, prevents all this annoyance, and is no small matter in adding to the comfort and also to the credit account of the animal.

"Lastly, and, perhaps, most important of all, so far as the animal's comfort is concerned, by a proper system of soiling the cattle are protected from flies, those awful pests that sap their blood and drive them to a state little short of frenzy. How can cattle so tormented be expected to do a good day's work? Living in the best of pastures after the middle of June is simply living to exist. To show sceptical people that cattle preferred being shut up in their stables in fly-time to roaming at will in pastures, I have turned my cattle out—away they would go, with their tails over their backs, until the flies got after them, when back they came to their stalls as fast as they went.

"If the reader could see the difference in the condition of cattle soiled and those pastured after the beginning of fly-time, he would see such a contrast as would require no further argument to convince him of its value. Look at that poor, gaunt cow, as she comes from a pasture field after a hard day's work, fighting flies until she is desperate, and sometimes until she has given up in despair, too exhausted to battle any longer against them, or attempt to dislodge them as they cluster on her neck and back undisturbed. Notice her shuffling gait and melancholy face, the picture of despondency, her hair standing on end. Turn out into the same barnyard a cow that has been properly soiled in stables darkened to exclude the flies. She is as plump as partridges after wheat harvest. She acts like a schoolboy from his books—eyes bright, head erect, step sprightly, hair sleek, stomach full, and ready for a frolic. This is no fancy sketch; indeed, I feel as if I have failed fully to represent the great contrast, as I have often witnessed it. I feel safe in saying that no candid farmer, however prejudiced he may be against stabling his cows in summer, would need any other proof to convince him that, so far as the greater comfort and healthy condition of his stock is concerned, the soiling system affords the most gratifying results, and adds materially to the profits."

* "Soiling: Soiling Crops, and Ensilage: Barn, Stable, and Silo Construction," by Frank Sherman Peer. New York: Mr F. Mansfield; London: Messrs Laughton and Co., 1, Essex Street, W.C. Price 5s.

THE DAIRY.

Preston Cheese Fair.

The June Cheese Fair at Preston was held on Tuesday. There was a large attendance of farmers and buyers, and a clearance was effected within an hour from the opening of the fair, a brisk demand being experienced at the extreme prices of last fair. The pitch consisted of 129 lots, comprising 1,803 cheeses, a decrease of one lot and 19 cheeses compared with the corresponding fair last year. Quotations:—Common, 37s. 6d. to 42s. 6d.; medium, 45s. 6d. to 50s. 6d.; and best, 52s. 6d. to 57s.

Bath and West and Southern Counties Society.

The first draft (29cwt.) of this year's cheese made from March 27th to the end of April at the Cheese School, carried on by the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society for the Somerset County Council, at Vale Farm, Batcombe, near Evercreech, has just been sold to Messrs. Hill Bros., of Evercreech, at 63s. per cwt. of 112lbs. 3,651 gallons of milk made 3,505lbs. of green cheese, which when sold weighed 3,292lbs., showing a shrinkage of about 6 per cent. Twenty-four students have already entered for instruction at the school, and other applications are being received.

Where shall we Spend our Holidays?

This is a question which is probably interesting many of our readers at the present time, and to assist in solving this problem the Great Eastern Railway are again to the fore with their series of useful holiday pamphlets. Those unacquainted with the East Coast may be tempted to try it after reading some of the eulogiums heaped upon it for its bracing air and general attractions. "Holiday Haunts on the East Anglian Coast" is a collection of articles from the pens of various writers (including that well-known contributor to *Punch* and the *Daily Telegraph*, Clement Scott); a host of other useful information for intending visitors is also given as to places of interest in the neighbourhood of each resort, hotel, and boarding house accommodation and other facilities. "The Waterways of Norfolk and Suffolk" describes a holiday cruise on the "Broads." East Anglia's lake district, with particulars of the facilities for yachting and fishing, including list of yachts and boats for hire. Those preferring a quiet country holiday "far from the madding crowd" should consult the list of "Farmhouse and Country Lodgings," it is prefaced by an article descriptive of the principal places of interest in the Eastern Counties, well illustrated, and includes also a list of whole houses to be let furnished at the watering places and country villages, and the names of house agents at the seaside places. All should be able to find some place or other to suit their particular tastes; "pony and trap," "near sea and golf links," "large garden, lawn tennis," "garden and orchard," "bathing river," "good fishing," "boats to let," are a few of the remarks taken at random from its pages. Then there is a leaflet describing "Quiet Nooks on the North Coast of Norfolk," and yet another neatly got up booklet is now in the press, entitled "East Anglian Golf Links." All the above are issued gratuitously, and can be obtained of the Superintendent of the line, Liverpool Street Station, London, E.C., by sending a post-card stating which is required. And if our readers do make up their minds to visit Cromer, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Clacton, or other of the east coast resorts, then we would advise them to obtain an annotated time table of the journey to the place they intend visiting; it will serve to while away the time and interest them in the passing objects as they whirl along in the express which carries them to rest and change and bracing air. If, on their return, they would like to have their eggs, poultry, fruit, and vegetables direct from the country, the "Farm and Dairy Produce" pamphlet will give them the names of farmers and others willing to supply them.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

July.

3 Sale of Suffolk Lambs and Ewes, at Gippeswyk Park, Ipswich.
4 Malton Agricultural Society's Show, at Malton.
4 Scunthorpe Agricultural Society's Show, at Scunthorpe.
4 Sale of Sussex Cattle belonging to Mr. Saillard, at Horsham.
4 and 5. Leicestershire Agricultural Society's Show, at Leicester.
4 and 5. County Cork Agricultural Society's Show, at Cork.
4 and 5. Norfolk Agricultural Association's Show, at Downham Market.
4 and 5. Boston Show Society, at Boston, Lincs.
4 and 5. East Kent Agricultural Society's Show, at Canterbury.
4, 5, and 6. Sale of Horses at Cheshire Repository, Crewe.
5. Thorney Shire Foal Show.
5. Sale of Shorthorns belonging to Miss Alice de Rothschild, at the Home Farm, Waddesdon, Bucks.
5. Wickhambrook and South Suffolk Colt Show Association's Show, at Ickworth Park.
5. Sale of Dorset Sheep, at Blandford.
6. Ripon and District Agricultural Society's Show, at Ripon.
6. Sale of Shorthorns, the property of Mr. A. J. Sherriff, at Leaside, Hatfield, Herts.
6. Sale of the Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon's Berkshire Pigs, at High Clere, Newbury, Berks.
6. Sale of Dorset Sheep, at Dorchester Fair.
6. Sale of Store Stock, at Shrewsbury.
10 Bishop Auckland Agricultural Society's Show.
11. Southmolton Agricultural Association's Show, at Southmolton.
7. Western District of Fife Agricultural Society's Show, at Urquhart Race Park, Dunfermline.
7. United East Lothian Agricultural Society's Show, at Annsfield Park, Haddington.
7. Sale of Arabian Horses, belonging to Mr. Wilfrid Blunt, at Crabbet Park, Three Bridges, Sussex.
11. Mid Kent Agricultural Association's Show, at Maidstone.
11 Sale of Kerry and Dexter Cattle belonging to Messrs Robertson, at Church Farm, Babraham, Cambridge.
11 Cleveland Agricultural Society's Show, at Middlesbrough.
11, 12, and 13. Lincolnshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Spalding.
12 Brenta at Horse Show.
12 Northumberland Agricultural Society's Show, at Morpeth.
12. Sale of Suffolk Lambs and Ewes, at Saxmundham Station.
12. Sale of pedigree Hackney and Harness Horses at Peterborough Repository.

The fair at Milford, co. Donegal, on the 23rd ult., was a small one, at which a good demand prevailed for cattle in condition. There was a small supply of sheep, which met a good demand. Prices:—Calves, second class, £3 to £4; third class, £2 to £2 10s. Yearlings, second class, £5 7s. 6d. to £6; third class, £2 17s. 6d. to £3 19s. 2d. Two-year-olds, second class, £7 10s. to £9 5s.; second class, £5 to £5 10s. Three-year-olds, third class, £7 5s. to £7 10s. Springers, second class, £11 5s. to £12 7s. 6d.; third class, £7 5s. to £9 2s. 6d. Lambs, second class, 17s. 6d. to £1. Hoggets, second class, £1 5s. to £1 11s.; third class, 15s. to 17s. Two-year-olds and over, third class, 19s. to £1 1s.

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MANURING OF POTATOES.
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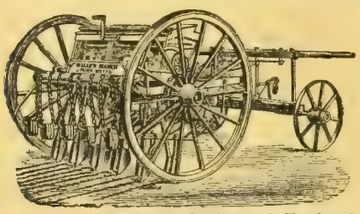

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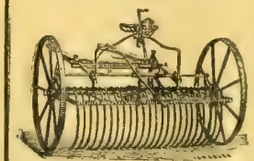

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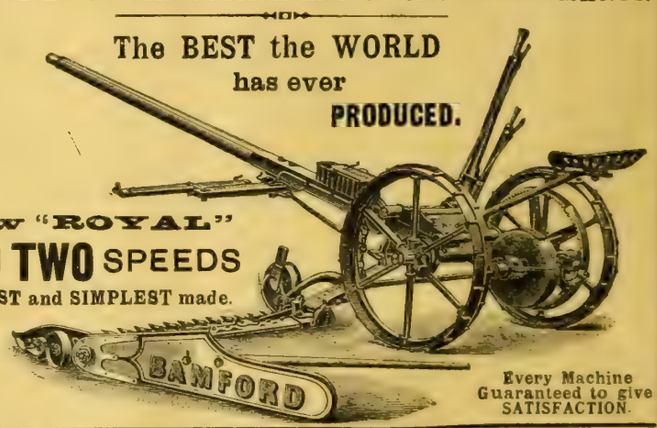

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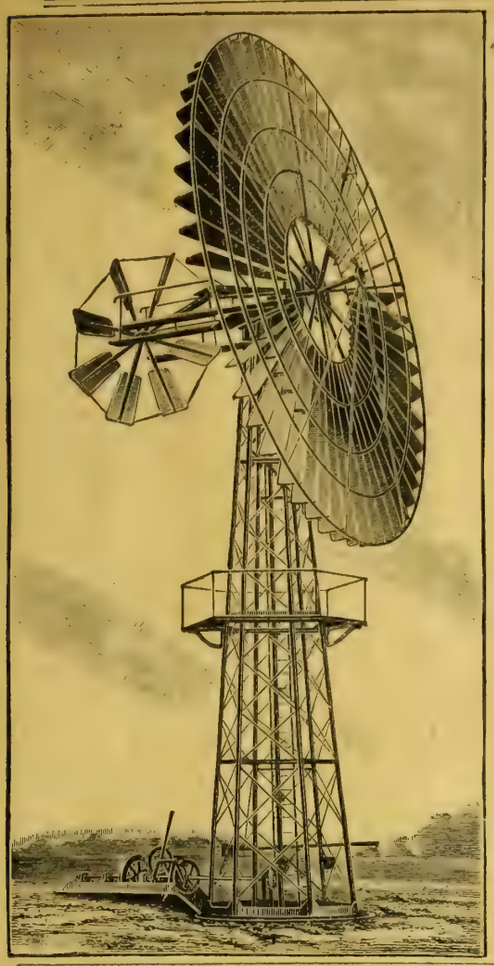

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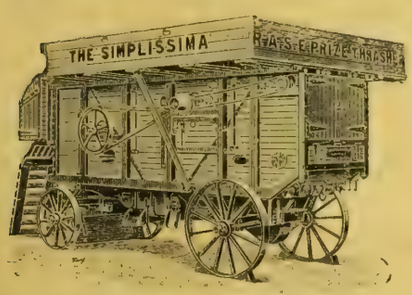

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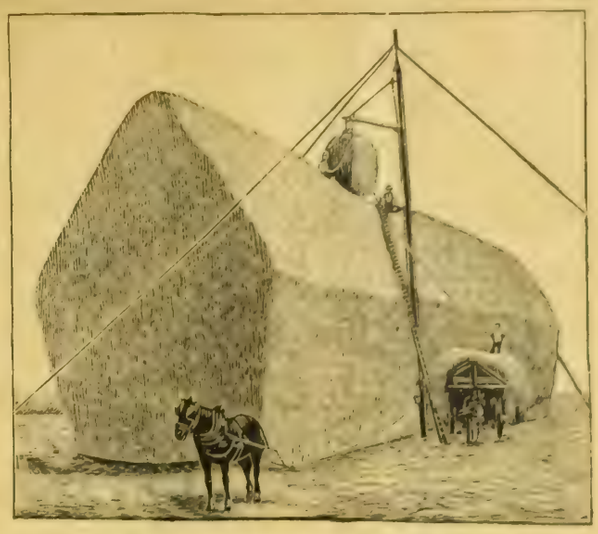

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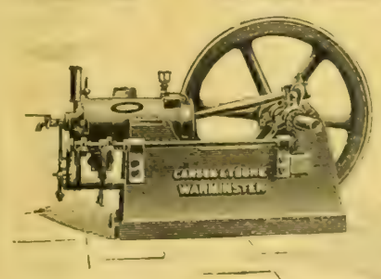

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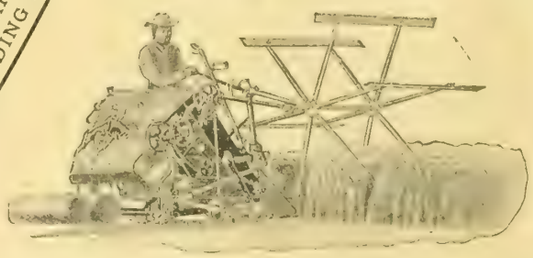

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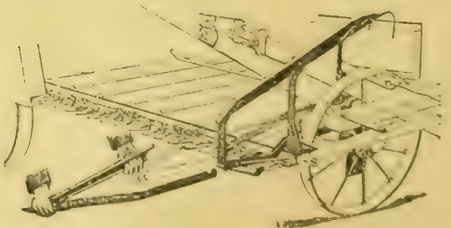

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AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS BILL.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL.

A SPECIAL MEETING of the COUNCIL of the CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE will be held for the purpose of discussing the Agricultural Holdings Bill, as amended by the Standing Committee on Trade (including Agriculture), &c., on Tuesday, July 10th, 1900, at 3·30 p.m., in a Committee Room at the House of Commons.

Members of Council representing either the Central Chamber or Associated Chambers are requested to attend.

Subscribing Members of the Central Chamber are invited to be present, and may speak by permission of the Chairman, but are not entitled to move resolutions or to vote.

Members are requested to assemble in St. Stephen's Hall at the House of Commons a few minutes before the time fixed for the meeting.

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JUMPING COMPETITIONS.

Entries close 2nd August; post entries (double fees) 9th August.

Schedules and further particulars of C. H. W. DIXON, Secretary, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, Telephone No. 5148 Gerrard; or P. THOMSON, Local Hon. Secretary, 65, High Street, Maidenhead, Berks.

HIGHLAND AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
GREAT SHOW AT STIRLING,
17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th July.
Admission—
TUESDAY (during Judging), 8 A.M. to 5 P.M., 5s.
WEDNESDAY, 8 A.M. to 5 P.M., 3s.
THURSDAY, 8 A.M. to 5 P.M., 2s.
FRIDAY, 8 A.M. to 5 P.M., 1s.
PARADES OF HORSES AND CATTLE.
GREAT JUMPING COMPETITIONS.

SOCIETIES.

YORKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Patron—H.R.H. the PRINCE of WALES, K.G.
President—F. BACON FRANK, Esq.

MAGNIFICENT EXHIBITION OF STOCK AND IMPLEMENTS, etc., AT DONCASTER,
WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, JULY 18th, 19th, and 20th, 1900.
JUMPING COMPETITIONS.
MILITARY BANDS.

ADMISSION.
Wednesday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ..Half-a-Crown.
Thursday ..8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ..One Shilling.
Friday ....8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ..One Shilling.
Season Tickets, Half-a-Guinea each.
Reserved Seats on Grand Stand, Five Shillings each.

JOHN MAUGHAN, Secretary.
York, June 30, 1900.

MERIONETHSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
GREAT SHOW
AT HARLECH ON FRIDAY, 14TH SEPTEMBER, 1900.
OVER £300 IN PRIZES.
President: R. H. WOOD, Esq., Pantglas, Trawsfynydd.
Vice-President: Mr. DAVID EVANS, Brynllin, Dolgelly.
Very liberal and varied Prizes are offered for HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, DOGS, BUTTER, HORSE SHOEING, SHEARING, ROPE MAKING, etc., etc., also:—
GRAND JUMPING and TROTTING TRIALS, DRIVING COMPETITIONS, ETC.
General Entries close August 30th.
Jumping and Trotting September 7th.
Apply early for the Schedules of Prizes and Entry Forms to E. M. ROBERTS, Cefnyreforisaf, Talsarnau, R.S.O. Secretary.

GUILDFORD SUMMER SHOW.

President—W. E. HORNE, Esq.

THE ANNUAL SHOW
Will be held on
SEPTEMBER 5th, in STOKE PARK
(By kind permission of J. S. BUDGETT, Esq.)

ENTRIES CLOSE AUGUST 18th.

Prize Lists of
ERNEST H. ELLIS,
Hon. Secretary.
Town Hall Chambers, Guildford.

CAMBS AND ISLE OF ELY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SHOW AT ELY, JULY 31, 1900.
£111 offered in prizes (open to all England) for
SHIRE STALLIONS, MARES, and FILLIES, HACKNEY MARES and GELDINGS, POLO PONIES and JUMPING COMPETITIONS.
For full particulars, apply to
Secretary, R. PETERS.
7, Downing-street, Cambridge.

SHIRES, HACKNEYS, HUNTERS, JUMPING

GREAT CHESTERFORD COLT and FOAL SOCIETY.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL ONE DAY SHOW will be held at Great Chesterford, JULY 26th

Entries close July 13th

Hon. Secs.
C. EDWARD E. COOKE, Hinxton Grange, Saffron Walden,
and
WM. C. EMSON, Strethall Hall, Littlebury Saffron Walden.

SOCIETIES.

BIRKENHEAD SHOW.

AUGUST 3, 4, and 6.

PRESIDENT:—W. H. LEVER, ESQ.

PRIZES EXCEED £2,800.

ADDITIONAL CLASSES FOR HORSES & CATTLE.

PRIZES INCREASED IN ALL SECTIONS.

ENTRIES POSITIVELY CLOSE 10 JULY (POST)

By order of the Executive,
ARTHUR H. EDWARDSON, Secretary.
6, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.

1900.

ADLINGTON (CHESHIRE) AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The EIGHTH ANNUAL SHOW will be held in ADLINGTON PARK, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1st, 1900.

For HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, PIGEONS, DOGS, BUTTER, CHEESE, PRODUCE, HONEY, IMPLEMENTS, TURNOUTS, JUMPING, PONY RACES, etc.

Entries close Monday, July 16th. Late entries at double fees, Saturday, July 21st.

Schedules now ready,
W. J. TROTTER,
Secretary.
4, Church Street West, Macclesfield.

WARRINGTON & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL SHOW
WILL BE HELD IN
WALTON PARK, near WARRINGTON,
On THURSDAY, AUGUST 9TH, 1900.
PRIZES AND CUPS VALUE £700.

LONDON SHIRE HORSE SOCIETY'S GOLD MEDAL.
LONDON HUNTERS' SOCIETY'S TWO SILVER MEDALS.
LONDON HACKNEY SOCIETY'S SILVER MEDAL.

Classes (Open and District) for:—
Shire Mares, Foals, One, Two, and Three year-old Fillies,
Draught Geldings, Hunter Mares and Foals,
Hackney Mares and Foals, Ponies, Turnouts, Tradesmen's Turnouts (Open),
Cattle, Cheese, Butter, Eggs, Dressed Poultry, and Potatoes (District).
Open Class for Jumpers (Prizes £50).

ENTRIES CLOSE WEDNESDAY, JULY 18TH.

For full particulars Prize Schedules and Entry Forms, apply
H. BERESFORD MELVILLE, Secretary.
23, Bold Street, Warrington.

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(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1835.)
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Reserve Liability of Proprietors under the Charter, £1,600,000. Letters of Credit and Drafts issued on any of the numerous Branches of the Bank throughout Australasia and New Zealand.
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R. W. JEANS, Manager.

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RAILWAY ACCIDENTS,
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Insured against, and
FIDELITY BONDS
granted by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Established 1849. Claims paid £4,150,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, *Secretary*

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UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURE COURSE EDINBURGH. Full Prospectus, including Regulations for Degree of B.Sc., apply to Clerk of Senatus.

ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.
SEVENTY EIGHTH SESSION.
Trustees: The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council of Edinburgh. Full Curriculum in General Knowledge, etc., etc. July 5, 6, and 7, and September 18, 19, and 20, 1900.
Next SESSION commences TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2.
Further particulars will be given on application to PRINCIPAL DEWAR.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF KENT.
COUNTY COUNCIL OF SURREY.
South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, near Ashford, Kent. This Residential College gives a complete Scientific and Practical Training to future Farmers, Land Agents, etc. Preparation for the Examinations for the National Diploma in Agriculture and the Surveyors Institution. Resident Staff of Professors and Lecturers. Farm of 260 acres. Next Term begins October 1st. Full Prospectus and particulars apply to the Principal, A. D. HALL, M.A., late Scholar of Balliol College Oxford.

AUCTION SALES.

SALES OF SHIRE HORSES, HACKNEYS, AND HARNESS HORSES
BY
SEXTON, GRIMWADE, & BECK.

[illegible] HACKNEYS AND HARNESS HORSES [illegible]

[illegible] HACKNEYS [illegible] Stortford.

[illegible] HACKNEY PONIES [illegible] field, Notts.

[illegible] Heath.

[illegible]

Auction Sales Continued on Page

REGISTER OF BRITISH LIVE STOCK BREEDERS.

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS," in its official position, offers to Breeders and Owners of Pedigree and other Farm Live Stock unrivalled facilities as an Advertising Medium for bringing before the principal buyers, both in this country, on the Continent, and abroad, announcements of Studs, Herds, and Flocks. The most perfect photographic reproductions of prize-winning animals are published each week in the "MARK LANE EXPRESS," providing breeders with the most correct pictures, forming reliable guides to points. — Write to the Publisher for advertising rates, 1, Essex Street, Strand.

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HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. — Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners; yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

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LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions, at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath Station, L.B. and S.C. Railway) on application to the owner, as above.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

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DALMENY PARK SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.— Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

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GARNE, R. & W. T., Aldsworth, Northleach, Glos., breed SHORTHORN CATTLE of great size, thick flesh, good milkers. Young Bulls and Heifers on sale. Stock Bulls: Wrestler, 66,582, Lord Harry, 65,180, and Now or Never, 67,544. Inspection invited.

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SALTMARSHE CASTLE ESTATES, HEREFORDSHIRE, Prize winning pure bred HEREFORD CATTLE. Champion Happy Hampton in service. Inspection invited. Good selection for sale.— Apply, J. W. MILLYARD, Estate Office, Littlebridge, Bromyard.

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LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

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The Flock is one of the oldest existing combining fine quality, strength, constitution, and true character.

"Fossil," sire of the highest-priced Hampshire Down Ram ever sold, was bred at Chilmark, and in service there last two seasons.

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RICK COVERS (quite new, all sizes).—6 by 6 yards, 21s.; 7 by 6 yards, £1 4s. 6d.; 8 by 8 yards, £1 17s. 4d.; 10 by 10 yards, £2 18s. 4d., or any size to order at 7d. per square yard. Good hemp rope fitted. Great quantity in stock, ready to be despatched on receipt of order. Carriage paid.—From H. J. GASSON, Rye.

TWILLED NAVY CANVAS STACK SHEETS. - Best Double Hand sewn, with best tarred hemp twine, fitted with tarred hemp tie ropes 2 yards long.

Sizes:—8 by 6 yards, 32s.; 8 by 8 yards, 42s. 8d.; 10 by 8 yards, 53s.; 10 by 10 yards, 66s.; 12 by 10 yards, 80s.; 12 by 12 yards, 96s. Can supply cheaper qualities. Set of blocks, fitted with best quality hemp or manilla, 25s. to 30s. per set. Waggon Ropes made of best hemp or manilla, 20 yards long 8s 10d.; 30 yards, 6s. 9d.; 40 yards, 8s. 6d. Less 5 per cent. for cash. Samples and lists free.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., Ltd., Makers to H.M. the Queen and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, London Works, Reading.

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BEST and CHEAPEST MANURE for all farm and garden crops, "NATIVE GUANO," a safe and reliable fertiliser, and an effectual remedy for fly, slug, wire-worm, etc.; carriage paid, 1cwt. sample paid to any station in England on receipt of P.O. for 5s. Extracts from 24th annual collection of reports: Native Guano for Grass, Grain, and Root Crops. W. Sykes, Thurleigh: "Used for mangolds. Result, an excellent crop. Very best and cheapest manure I have used." Messrs. Toon, Leighton: "Oats and mangolds gave great satisfaction. Better than manure used last year at double the price." J. Bryant, Long Sutton: "Used several years for mangolds. Results very good, well satisfied; a good manure." J. Priest, Kimbolton: "Oats, barley, and swedes gave every satisfaction. A cheap manure." E. V. Wilson, Ilmington: "Wheat and oats, good heavy crops; quite satisfactory; a good manure." W. Gardener, Feltham: "Best guano I have ever used. Cabbage, wonderful crop. Good for killing wire-worm and grub." G. Pellett, Pulboro': "Used for meadow. Had a very good crop of hay."—Orders to the NATIVE GUANO COMPANY, LIMITED, 29, New Bridge Street, London, E.C., where TESTIMONIALS FROM ALL PARTS AND FOR ALL CROPS MAY BE OBTAINED. AGENTS WANTED.

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TO BE LET, from MICHAELMAS next, the above FARM, comprising about 250 acres of arable land, 34 acres of meadow, 174 acres of down pasture, being a total of 458 acres, in the parish of Eastdean, with excellent Farmhouse, suitable buildings and labourers' Cottages, and about 85 acres of the rich pasture land of Pevensey Marsh, in the Parishes of Hurstmonceux and Bexhill, together 543 acres.

For particulars apply to Mr. WHITLEY, Manor Office, Eastbourne, or to Messrs. DRAKE and LEE, Solicitors, Lewes.

HERTS. TO LET, from Michaelmas, good PASTURE FARM, [illegible] Pasture, 36 acres Arable, situated near Hatfield, 17 miles from London.—For further particulars apply POWELL and CO., Land Agents and Surveyors, 66, Victoria-street, Westminster, S.W.

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TO FRUIT GROWERS and OTHERS.—KENT TO BE SOLD, an important Freehold Estate at Hadlow, about 140 acres, consisting of about 103 acres, of which about 40 acres are planted with fruit, together with the very extensive factory known as the Mid-Kent Jam Works, and suitable for almost any business requiring space; good residential homestead, manager's house and cottage. The factory of about four acres would be sold separately if desired; wharf on River Medway.

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FARM. — WARWICKSHIRE. To be LET, from Lady-day, 1901, the most useful DAIRY and SHEEP FARM, known as "THE HEATH FARM," Meriden, about two miles from Hampton-in-Arden Station (L. and N.-W. Railway), now in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Steedman, and containing about 367 Acres.—For further particulars apply to WALTER P. EVANS, Estate Offices, Nuneaton.

TO BE SOLD OR LET, the CITY FLOUR MILLS LINCOLN (freehold)

Six Sack Roller Plant recently fitted up in the most [illegible] by one of the leading firms of Milling Engineers. It is admitted to be one of the best Mills in the Kingdom.

The [illegible] MID and [illegible] Warehouses of [illegible] Engine and Boiler Houses [illegible] Offices, No. 3 Warehouse, Residence, Coach-houses, Stables, Wagon-shed, etc., and covering about 2,120 square yards of land, situated in the centre of the city, on the quay-side, close to [illegible] to all parts by road or [illegible] Hull and Boston.

It is in a grand wheat-growing district, [illegible] been done at it.

[illegible] hundred yards.

[illegible]

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WOODCHESTER, near STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

MESSRS. FULLER, HORSEY, SONS, and CASSELL will (unless previously sold as a whole) offer for SALE by AUCTION, in five lots, on the Premises, on TUESDAY, JULY 24th, at 11 o'clock precisely, the valuable FREEHOLD PROPERTY known as

THE SOUTHFIELDS AND CHURCHES WOOLLEN MILLS,

situated within two miles of Stroud, and containing an area of about 10¼ acres, upon which are erected mill buildings, engine and boiler houses, manager's house, etc. At the same time and place will also be offered in lots in detail the

PLANT AND MACHINERY,

including a steam boiler, beam engine, 14 carding engines, eight picking and cleaning machines, Willey's and dusting machines grinding, balling, and spooling machines, etc., thread condenser, fire mules, two doubling frames, warping mills, 18 power looms, size mixing and sizing machines, brushing machines four Fuller's, hydro-extractor, dye copper and backs, tentering machine, hydraulic press and pumps, engine boiler, and other effects. May be viewed by orders and particulars of the property and catalogues of the machinery had of Messrs. SNOW, FOX, and HIGGINSON, Solicitors, 7, Great St. Thomas Apostle, Queen-street, London, E.C.; of Messrs. WINTERBOTHAM and SON, Solicitors, Stroud; and of FULLER, HORSEY, SONS, and CASSELL, Auctioneers, 11, Billiter-square, E.C.

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THE TRING PARK FLOCK,

The property of the Right Hon. Lord ROTHSCHILD.

THE ANNUAL SALE OF

70 HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS AND EWES

will take place at the HOME FARM, TRING, HERTS, on TUESDAY, JULY 24TH, 1900, At One o'clock.

In addition to the numerous prizes won on former occasions, the flock has added the distinction of winning the Championship, offered by the Hampshire Down Breeders' Association at the Royal Show this year, for the best Hampshire Down Ram. Twenty-five ram lambs from this flock were bought for the Continent and South America last year, and gave every satisfaction.

Catalogues may be obtained of RICHARDSON CARR, Esq., who will be pleased to show the flock to anyone making an appointment at the Home Farm, Tring, and of

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Tring, Herts.

Tring Station is 30 miles from London, via L. & N. W. Ry. (Euston).

WARE, HERTS.

FINE INVESTMENT. VALUABLE MERCANTILE PROPERTY, well situate in the Town of Ware, near good wharfage upon the River Lea, comprising Three Well-built Maltings, with 210 quarter steeps, substantially erected, brick and tile built, and in excellent repair, with barley stores, outbuildings and garden ground, as now in the occupation of Messrs. C. and E. H. Hitch, at a rental of £400 per annum, under lease dated 1889 for 21 years, determinable at the end of 7 or 14 years; also adjoining a valuable piece of Accommodation Pasture Land, ripe for building purposes, containing 3 acres, 3 roods, 5 perches, with early possession.

ALFRED PRESTON is favoured with instructions from the Exors. of the late Richard Oakes, Esq., to SELL by AUCTION, at the Saracen's Head Hotel, Ware, on WEDNESDAY, the 18th day of July, 1900, at 3 o'clock precisely, the above Valuable Properties, in Two Lots.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale may be obtained of Mr. Sydney Matthews, Solicitor, Swaffham, Norfolk; and of Alfred Preston, Worlingworth, Wickham Market, and Ipswich, Suffolk.

IMPORTANT SALE *of Pedigree Hackneys.* WITHOUT RESERVE.

The Grange Stud,

BISHOPS STORTFORD
the property of
JOHN BARKER, Esq., J.P.

The FIRST SALE of

PEDIGREE HACKNEYS

will be held on TUESDAY, JULY 24th, 1900, by Messrs. SEXTON, GRIMWADE, and BECK.

When all the Fillies up to and including the Four-year-olds and the Foals will be offered. The Stud comprises the best and most fashionable strains in the country, and the lots include the well-known prize-winners Princess May, Lady Milly, Lady Winnie, Comedy, Miss Boyington, Woodcutter, and Leave Sales.

Catalogue from Owner or of Auctioneers, Peterborough.

AUCTION SALES.

SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

FRIDAY, JULY 20.—Mr. W. H. MULLEN'S herd of KERRIES, in a paddock close to the Tunbridge Wells Show Ground.

TUESDAY, JULY 24.—Mr. HENRY DUDDING'S SHORTHORNS and LINCOLN SHEEP, at Riby Grove, Stallingboro', Grimsby, Lincolnshire.

FRIDAY, JULY 27.—ANNUAL SALE of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, at Cambridge.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1.—Mr. E. ECROYD'S SHORTHORNS, at Low House, Armathwaite, Carlisle.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8.—Sir JAMES BLYTH'S SOUTHDOWN SHEEP and JERSEYS, at Blythwood, Stansted, Bishop's Stortford, Essex.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9.—Mr. J. A. HEMPSON'S SOUTHDOWNS, at Erwarton Hall, Ipswich.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes-street, Hanover square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

ON FRIDAY, JULY 20TH, 1900.

60 DAIRY SHORTHORNS.

FOR MR. E. K. BICKLEY, AT THE FIELDS, ELLESMERE,

Adjoining Welshampton Station, on the Cambrian Railway, three miles from Ellesmere, eight from Whitchurch, and six from Wem.

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. will SELL BY AUCTION, as above, 60 HIGHLY-DESCENDED SHORTHORNS, including a Grand Lot of Deep-milking Young Cows, the whole of the Beautiful Heifers, and 6 Splendid Young BULLS.

Conveyances will meet trains at Ellesmere and Wem.

Sale after 12 o'clock Luncheon.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL AND CO., Auctioneers and Exporters, Shrewsbury, who will execute Commissions.

TO FLOCKMASTERS AND OTHERS.

CHILWORTH, near GUILDFORD, SURREY.

Important Sale of a draft from the well-known Albury Park Flock of pure-bred Southdown Sheep, the property of His Grace the Duke of Northumberland.

MESSRS. HEWETT and LEE are favoured with instructions to SELL by AUCTION, in a Field near Chilworth Station, S.E.Ry.,

On TUESDAY JULY 31st, 1900, at Two o'clock precisely.

A selected draft from the Albury Park Flock of Pedigree SOUTHDOWNS, comprising:—

203 FLOCK EWES (all ages),
14 RAMS,
82 EWE LAMBS,
31 RAM LAMBS, and
65 WETHER LAMBS.

The Albury Park Flock enjoys an excellent reputation as one of the most noted pure Southdown Flocks in the kingdom. It has been established with great care by judicious selection from the best and purest strains in the country, and has invariably received favourable notice whenever exhibited in the showyards of the principal Agricultural Societies both at home and abroad.

Catalogues may in due course be obtained of A. PEEBLES, Esq., Estate Office, Albury, near Guildford, and of Messrs. HEWETT and LEE, Auctioneers and Estate Agents, Guildford, Surrey.

CHICHESTER ANNUAL SALE AND SELLING OF SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

The above annual Sale will be held by

HOBGEN BROS.,

at their Repository in the Chichester Cattle Market, on Wednesday, August 8, 1900, at one o'clock precisely.

Entries for the Sale have already been made from the celebrated flocks belonging to His Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G., the Pagham Harbour Company, Messrs. Hugh Penfold, Alfred Heasman, and F. N. Hobgen.

The Catalogue will include several prize-winners at the various summer Agricultural Shows.

On view the morning of Sale.

Catalogues may be obtained of HOBGEN BROS., Auctioneers, Valuers, and Estate Agents, East Street, Chichester, and Midhurst.

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CONSTITUTION BALLS

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HORSES — For Grease Swelled Legs, Cracked Heels, Coughs, Colds, Sore Throats, Disordered Liver, Broken Wind, Influenza, Loss of Appetite, &c., &c.

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Size.	Quality J	K	L	M	N
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8yds. by 8yds. at	32/-	48/-	64/-	80/-	96/-
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12yds. by 10yds. at	60/-	90/-	120/-	150/-	180/-

Any size to order at proportionate price.

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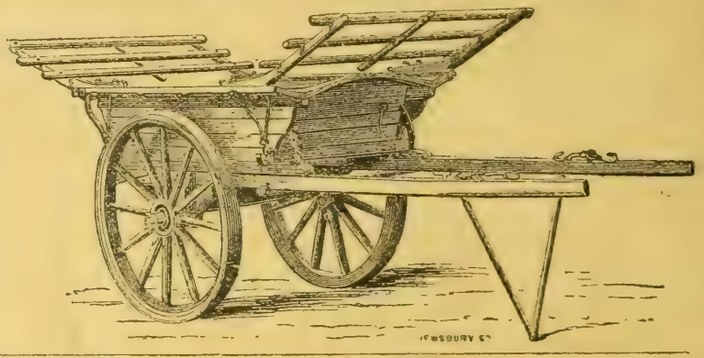

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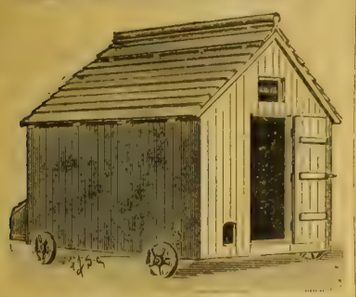

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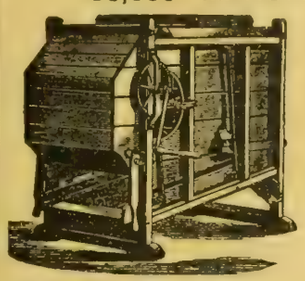

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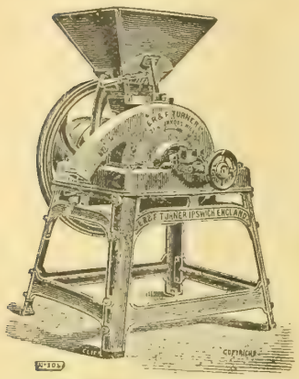

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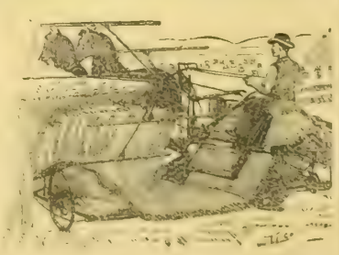

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LABOURERS' COMPENSATION: FARMERS' MUTUAL INSURANCE.

Perhaps the most notable fact about the debate upon the third reading of the Workmen's Compensation Act (1897) Extension Bill in the House of Commons was that it was thoroughly one-sided. It was not made a party question, and everyone who did speak seemed extremely anxious to take some amount of credit for having assisted to pass the measure. Some speakers were also eager to point out that they were not supporting the Bill in view of the general election, and that the reason they had opposed the inclusion of agricultural labourers in 1897 was only because the labourers had not asked for the benefits of the measure. All these statements sound very nice, but we cannot help prognosticating that they will be heard of again—and perhaps in a somewhat modified form—when the general election does arrive. Perhaps the most ingenious, as well as ingenuous, suggestion was that it had been worth waiting three years, as insurance premiums had in the meantime become reduced from somewhere about a pound to as low as three shillings on each hundred pounds of wages paid. When the Bill was introduced we did not feel at all enthusiastic upon the subject, and we have not since seen any reason to alter the view which we then took. It may be reasonably assumed that now that it has gone from the House of Commons it will pass through the House of Lords in time to receive the Royal Assent by the close of the present Session, and so find a place in the Statute Book during this year. It is true that it is provided, as the Bill stands at present, that a considerable amount of breathing time is to be allowed to the farmer before he is to be compelled to accept the liability which the measure will impose upon him.

The chief point which the farmer will have to consider will be as to whether he will insure or not. Probably, in the great majority of cases, it will be the wiser course to insure, although it might pay a well-to-do farmer to take the risk himself, just as some of our largest steam shipping companies have found from experience that it pays them to form their own insurance fund. But when the farmer has made up his mind that he will insure, he has by no means got to the end of the trouble and worry that he will have. In the first place, he may make up his mind that he will be besieged by a number of agents, each of whom will be absolutely certain that his own company is not only the best, but that it is, in fact, the only possible one. It may safely be asserted, that the first company offered should not be accepted, no matter how rosy its statements. It may be the best, but further enquiries should be made, and prices should be compared. Further, it is of the utmost importance that the financial position, as well as the reputation of the companies, should be looked into. There are good and bad companies. Some have a reputation for quibbling, raising every possible objection, and never paying until compelled, while others are known as promptly paying all proper claims, and even waiving points which might have been properly raised in their favour. These matters can only be ascertained by making enquiries. For our own part, we should like to see the formation of a Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company. We should imagine that this could be done under the auspices of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, or the Farmers' Club, or both. There would be two advantages in such a course, for the secretaries of the various local Chambers could act as agents at less cost than the ordinary agent; and if it should be found that the charges were too high, some part of the balance, after the formation of a proper reserve fund, could be returned as a bonus. The details would necessarily take some amount of consideration; but a small committee, with the assistance of an insurance expert, ought to be able to formulate a scheme. They would, surely, have no difficulty in finding the necessary amount of capital.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

At the shareholders' meeting of the Anglo-Chilian Nitrate and Railway Company (Limited) in London the chairman, Mr. William Macandrew, said that the world's consumption of nitrate having now overtaken the shipments they ought to have a higher range of prices for the next season than the last. But beyond that there was the possibility of the long-talked-of combination being carried out. To a large extent, more so than in previous years, this company was independent of such a combination, but if it came it would be so much the better. The directors had always supported any reasonable and fair combination to reduce the quantity to what the markets could take. They were still of that opinion, and therefore quite ready to support the efforts made in various quarters to bring this about.

The Departmental Committee on Scottish Agricultural Prices held three meetings in Edinburgh during the past week, Major Craigie, of the Board of Agriculture, in the unavoidable absence of the chairman, presiding. Evidence was heard from thirteen witnesses on questions relating to the regulations of Edinburgh Corn Market, the procedure adopted in striking fiars prices in various counties, and the existing methods of obtaining and publishing prices of live stock. The committee will take further evidence at a future date.

An undertaking which most people will regard as a forlorn hope (says the *Standard*) has been started on a scale which denotes a considerable degree of confidence in its authors. An association under the name of the International Office for the Regulation of Grain Prices has been started in Switzerland, under the leadership of Dr. Ruhland, Professor of Political Economy at the University of Fribourg; and the first number of a periodical, described as the "Monthly Report" of this Association, has been issued in English, French, and German. Dr. Ruhland, the editor, who is well known as a vigorous denunciator of the option system of trading, sets forth his programme in an introductory article. He contends that "the right of the farmer to obtain prices covering the cost of production is nothing more than the ancient and ever-misunderstood right of the labourer to the full proceeds of his labour"; and he adds that it is strange to find that enlightened and leading men, who outbid each other in their efforts to assist the labouring classes, "have scarcely an idea as to the right of the farmer to prices for his grain which convey the full reward of his labour by covering the cost of production."

In answer to the question whether there is not a danger that, by establishing such prices in central Europe, over production in the cheaper exporting countries would be brought about, Dr. Ruhland says that, "if there is a difference in the cost of production in the various countries, as also in different parts of the same countries, this difference is not antagonistic to that price level brought about by the natural movement in the grain trade and its carrying charges." It is easy to calculate such differences in the cost of production, he argues, and to regulate the price-level accordingly. Admitting that a change of price is most quickly attained by the [illegible] of the, he objects that the effects of protective laws are not always in accordance with the intentions of their authors. What should be done, according to Dr. Ruhland, is to form a great international organisation of farmers for the purpose of regulating the visible supplies of grain, which, he contends, mainly determine the prices at any given period. Such an organisation, too, should fix the daily prices at which, he thinks, producers have a right to sell. It is, then, in order to promote such an organisation that he has started his monthly paper.

In short (continues the *Standard*) Dr. Ruhland has formed the modest idea of forming a gigantic international "trust" of grain producers. That he will fail may be regarded as a foregone conclusion; for, apart from the fact that farmers are of all classes least disposed to combine for a common purpose, their neediness is an absolute bar to the holding of their produce and the regulation of its marketing, which would be indispensable to the success of his scheme.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to June 30th, 1900, were £24,690,634, against £25,893,778 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £42,308,282, against £26,099,477 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on June 30th, 1900, amounted to £1,404,399, and at the same date in 1899 to £5,638,474.

The International Congress on Agriculture gave a grand closing banquet on Saturday evening, all the foreign delegates being present. M. Méline, after thanking the foreign delegates for their assistance, expressed the hope that the Exhibition would bring about the general disarmament of passions which was desired by all peoples. M. Jean Dupuy, Minister of Agriculture, proposed the health of the foreign delegates, and of the heads of the States represented by them, and expressed the hope that foreign agriculturists would follow the example set by the agriculturists of "*la belle* France." The meeting broke up amid cheers for agriculture and the country's guests.

A Reuter's telegram from Budapest says:—"A firm of millers here have entered into a contract with the British Government to supply a large quantity of flour for South Africa. The first consignment of 3,500 tons is at present being shipped at Fiume."

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

Now, the methods to be pursued by the Liberals are sufficiently indicated by the tactics adopted in the Lords towards the Agricultural Labourers' Compensation Bill. "I do not understand," said Lord Kimberley, "why the Government left the agricultural labourer out of the Act of 1897." That is the line that will be followed towards the measure. It will be declared in a word that the omission of the labourers from the measure of 1897 was an act of treachery, and that the inclusion by a special enactment now is only an act of fair and [illegible] reparation.

Hence it will be asserted that the labourers owe the present Ministers no gratitude, and that this last is a method of [illegible] which I am never prepared to follow—it would be better to vote for the Liberals. This frank assurance is the meaning of Lord Kimberley's speech last week, and it will be the assurance pressed [illegible] the labourers in the counties. Of course, from the electoral point of view it will be [illegible]; but when are ever electoral methods honest?

But beyond this the Liberals will [illegible] that the Bill is designed in the interests of the masters rather than of the labourers. "The legislation," says the *Daily News*, "is likely to do much benefit [illegible] it, but the prospects of the labourers are less rosy." The original Bill is declared to be hopeless, and [illegible] to be repealed; and the inclusion of agricultural labourers will [illegible] as a delusion, a snare, and a sham. Of course, there may be men with long memories who will remember that the fact that agricultural labourers

were originally excluded was averred to be a wicked, and even a criminal shame.

But this will suffice nothing with these critics. They will go on replying, heeding not the retaliation that was possible for a particle of good to the agricultural labourer to ooze through, and that it was thus they advocated the extension of the Act to them. That particle of good will, however, prove so expensive, and the oozing process will be so slow and dilatory, that it would be better that the agricultural labourers were really outside the Bill. This is not cynicism, but the actual argument that has been employed in the House of Lords this week. It is the argument which will also be employed in the rural constituences.

I have already been proved to be right in reference to the Irish Tithe Bill. Its introduction was a mistake. It will simply mean the fashioning of a new rod for the Tory back. Already it is being declared to be nothing less than an attempt to relieve Irish landlords, who are also taxpayers, from their legal obligations. This, as applied to Ireland, would not be of much importance, were it not declared to be a sample of the method pursued in recent years in dealing with England and English landlords.

The method of diminishing the Irish Church Fund for the benefit of the Irish landlords is declared to have its reflection in the manner in which the towns are under the Rating Act pillaged —this is the word used for the benefit of the English landlords under the Rating Act. The manner in which, in the Irish case, the fund, which is the property of the Irish nation, is being robbed for the benefit of only one class, is held to be a simple following of actual precedent. Men who are held not to be public benefactors are being released from their legal liabilities, at the public expense, and this is averred to be in harmony with the English example.

This is the line of argument which has been pursued in the House of Commons this week, and it is the line of argument which will be pursued in the country when the national mind is not fascinated by the glamour of war and patriotism. It is held that Lord Salisbury has redeemed his promise of compensating the Irish landlords for the reduction in their rents—notwithstanding that Sir Edward Fry's Commission brought out the fact that those rents have not been reduced further by the Irish Land Courts than English rents have been reduced by natural causes—out of public funds.

It is this contention, a most ill-omened one, which gives the real force to Sir William Harcourt's blows and philippics. It is this contention which gives force to the Radical assertion that the chief purpose of the Government is to, in the intervals of war, make raids upon the public purse in the interests of the privileged classes. Just as the Tithe Rent Charge Act of England is held to have relieved the ecclesiastical tithe-owners of half their rates at the public expense, so, it is said, a raid is being made upon the secular tithe fund of Ireland in the interest of a class who neither deserve nor need this relief.

Of course, it is easy in a dining-room debate to refute this assertion; but it will be another matter when it is given with all the rotund and rhetorical force of an oratorical occasion—when the utterer of it gives to it passion and nerve. I anticipate that it will have a great effect on the towns; and hence it is that I perceive that Mr. Herbert Gladstone is wise in sedulously storing, as he is storing, all the florid tit-bits uttered in the debate of this week. When the war-drum throbs no longer, these tit-bits will be of value.

The latest reading of the electoral barometer: The election will take place in March. The hospital scandals have sufficed to postpone it four months.

Rat Plague.—Alarm prevails at Bocking, Essex, owing to the presence of a large number of rats in the streets and houses. At the residence of a baker named L. was two girls of eight and six years, whilst lying in bed, were attacked and badly bitten about the face, arms, and legs by a number of rats, and for some time one child remained insensible owing to the shock. Both children are still under medical treatment. Meanwhile great difficulty is experienced in ridding the town of the vermin.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

How to Save the Cereal Industries

Sir,—Referring to the discussion initiated by Mr. Read, with regard to the imposition of a duty upon foreign wheat, and the encouragement of home-grown wheat by means of a bounty, there is no doubt but that it is a bold suggestion to save agriculture and milling to the home farmers and millers, no less than a means of warding off a national disaster, in the event of our transport being attacked in war.

I observe that Edward J. Edwards replies to the effect that a bounty or an import duty will not benefit farmers nor millers generally, but will chiefly go towards swelling the rents of landlords.

When the Corn Laws were abolished in 1846, that was the great argument that was used, and theorists have subsequently been of opinion that the contention was correct.

On the other hand, it might be suggested that if private property in land were abolished, that the arguments against an import duty would no longer be of avail, and this is true to a certain extent.

Of course, to schemes of confiscation, such as Henry George proposed, no honest man wishes to lend a hand. The national calamity entailed by such a procedure would be greater than the benefits obtained.

The moral and political bases for making an innovation in the institutions of the country are stated by Sidgwick in the following propositions:—

No institution is to be deemed irremovable because it has existed for a long time, nor is it to be considered an institution that should be abolished merely because it was founded by some unjust proceedings. There is such a thing as conservative justice, as well as distributive justice.

If, however, the land can be transferred to the ownership of the State, without confiscation, the increased rental that would accrue from a bounty could be used in mitigation of taxation, and so the same objections to a bounty would not apply.

It is possible to give full compensation to the landlords, and yet make the transaction a paying one.

The present price of land is twenty years' purchase, so that a farm yielding £5 a year rental would be worth £100. The Government can borrow at 2¾ per cent. (Glasgow can borrow at 2½ per cent.), so that there would be a saving of 2¼ per cent. upon every £100 borrowed.

The central organisation of land management under the Board of Agriculture would ensure the adoption of the best methods of cultivation. In this way, a farm that is now yielding £5 would soon be made to yield £6 and £7.

There is a great waste in the management of land at present. Estate agents, who are often solicitors, require 100 times more in fees than would be required at a central bureau.

These economies would enable the Government to repay the money borrowed within twelve years. The agricultural rental of the country is £67,000,000; the capital required to buy that annuity is £1,340,000,000.

It would not be necessary to raise all this at once nor to raise the whole of it. Indeed, it would be unnecessary to raise any at all.

All that is necessary is to authorise the Government to purchase land as they deem expedient, but not to make it obligatory upon them to buy. I would not make it obligatory upon landowners to sell; indeed, it is not necessary that all the land should be bought.

There are landowners to be found at the present day who would gladly hand over a £5 rent to the Government in exchange for 2¾ Consols, and by the time the Government had got into working order it would have saved sufficient to purchase the equity of redemption of bankrupt noblemen's estates from the trustees. The Agricultural Bureau would be able to pay off the capital borrowed out of their savings, and the whole rental would thereafter be a nest egg accumulating like compound interest.

Of course, if speed were desired a vote for a million on account would materially expedite matters.

In any event the £67,000,000 would be such a contribution to the treasury that farmers and millers would soon benefit thereby in the abolition of the Income Tax and the reduction of all taxes and rates. Some urban owners would also wish to realise.

In this way agriculture would be saved indirectly without the necessity of imposing any tax or granting any bounty.

Certainly prices would tend to rise through the greater purchasing power of the people, but that would not affect bread prices, and it would only be temporary at the most. On the other hand, prices would tend to fall because of the increased output through improved agriculture, and farmers and millers would be better able to stand competition if they had no taxes to pay.

It is proposed that the Royal Agricultural Society and the National Association of Millers should send deputies to the Bakers' Exhibition on Tuesday, September 11th, at 3 o'clock, for the purpose of devising schemes to repel the common enemy. Mr. Dale, the managing director of the exhibition, has kindly consented to provide the necessary accommodation.

It is to be hoped that you will continue to allow your columns to be used to thresh out this subject, and that all your contributors will attend the proposed convention.

The above matter has been taken up by the agricultural and milling papers, and is now being discussed to-day and to-morrow by the millers at their convention at Scarborough.—Yours faithfully,

LORIMER MORTIMER.

Lincoln's Inn, July 4th.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

How Agriculture may be Helped.

Engineering has a very interesting article on the work done by the French State Agricultural Department, which carries out valuable experiments and tests for the advantage of the farmer, in order to assist him in the solution of the problems—how to increase crops and how to reduce the cost of labour. The former result is attained by means of improved seed, chemical fertilisers, and good methods of agriculture; a reduction in cost of labour can only be obtained by the employment of machinery. For half a century there has been a steady progress in the improvement of agricultural implements and processes, under the influence of many economical conditions, such as alterations in the system of renting land, increase in wages, and reduction in home prices, owing to competition from abroad.

In order that the intelligent agriculturist might have facilities for obtaining reliable information on the value of the fertilisers, seed, or food products, laboratories and agronomic stations have been established in France; there did not, however, until recently, exist any place for testing the machinery which he required to use in his calling. So far as this was concerned he had to trust to his own judgment, or to be guided by the catalogues of manufacturers and the list of prize-winners at various agricultural shows. *Engineering* hints that prospectuses are often misleading, and that the hasty tests of implements at competitive meetings do not afford sound information as to the practical value of the implements dealt with.

Some time since the French Agricultural Department, acting on a report of Mr. Ringelmann, a well-known agricultural engineer, created in Paris a testing station for agricultural machinery. The efficient testing of agricultural machinery is very difficult and somewhat tedious; according to the method applied by Mr. Ringelmann, the experiments ought to be conducted in such a way that the results obtained should give definite records of the value of the machine tested. To arrive at this, continues *Engineering*, many elements are required, the principal of which are as follows: The quantity and quality of the actual work done under varied conditions. The amount of mechanical energy required for a certain duty of the machine. The probable life of the machine tested; this conclusion being based on an examination of the design, the workmanship, and the character of the materials employed. The knowledge of these three principal data allow a close estimation to be made of the cost price of the work done and the value of the machine.

The programme has led to a large amount of scientific and practical research, carried on by means of the testing instruments with which the laboratories are equipped. Experiments made have to be carried on over a relatively extended time, and according to all the different working conditions. Under each of the conditions the tests are frequently repeated, in order to ascertain definitely if the results obtained are reliable. In all these experiments it is necessary that the machines fitted up with the testing apparatus should work under a regular *régime*, and in normal conditions of practice. The testing station, which is placed under Mr. Ringelmann's direction, is established at Paris, and occupies about 43,000 square feet of ground.

Nitrate of Soda Report.

In their half-yearly nitrate of soda report, issued on June 30th, Messrs. W. Montgomery and Co., of 63, Mark Lane, E.C., state that the nitrate season now closed has been dependent, more than is usually the case, upon the price current and upon the state of the weather—the one constantly reacting upon the other. The market opened in January with the spot value for cargoes at about 7s. 9d. per cwt., and with no apparent excess of supply prices maintained a hardening tendency during January and February, resulting in a net advance to 8s. 10½d. per cwt. Floating supplies being well held, prices throughout March fluctuated between 8s. 9d. and 9s. In April, however, they graduated downward from 9s. to 8s. 1½d., whilst cargoes in May changed hands at from 7s. 9d. to 8s. 3d. per cwt. These serious fluctuations were chiefly caused by the irregularity and unseasonableness of the weather, a comparatively mild winter being followed by a cold, dry, and late spring, which circumstances were not conducive to an increased application of nitrate of soda for the nitrogen feeding crops. The lower prices reached in April and May were speedily amended by the increasing demand which showed itself in the months of May and June, and which has this year been upon a record scale.

After all the doubts and uncertainties of the season the actual consumption in Europe for the six months

now closed amounts to 343,000 tons, which is almost precisely the same quantity as that of last year, and this without taking into account the fact that the interior stock on the Continent in the hands of dealers at the beginning of the season, was at least 20,000 tons more than was the case twelve months previously. The visible supply to-day amounts to 298,000 tons, as compared with 326,000 tons last year.

The market closes firm at 7s. 11d. to 8s. per cwt. for due cargoes, with summer and autumn shipments at 8s. 1d. to 8s. 3d. per cwt.

The consumption in the United States has continued good, and amounts to 75,000 tons for the half-year, as against 65,000 tons in the same period of 1899. Production in Chili shows the small increase of 30,000 tons since 1st January, but the equilibrium between production and the consumption of the world is fairly maintained.

Producers have this year been somewhat loud and constant in their complaints of bad times, and state, we fear with a great deal of truth, that the cost of production has, owing to dearer fuel, costlier labour, a rising exchange, and seriously enhanced freights, left them in a position much worse financially than they were enjoying twelve months ago, at which time many of them alleged they could barely exist. This state of things has led to renewed searching for a remedy. That which comes most readily to hand is our old friend "combination," by the adoption of which it is hoped to so curtail the shipments that a drastic effect upon the prices in Europe will speedily result.

Poor prices, with attendant small profits, usually tend to rectification of the statistical position of great articles of produce, and this rectification has not been wanting in the case of nitrate, and would certainly have its effect in matters of price also, provided producers exercised a little more patience, but the spirit of the age is to produce rapid changes, and the determination has been evinced by many of the producers to perforce effect this change. Disaster to "combination" proposals has usually come from within, and once more a centralisation scheme for the sale of the entire manufacture through one channel has been proposed, which, if persisted in, will of itself prevent the alliance being carried out.

The public have been informed, in one of the nitrate presidential speeches, that such a scheme would lend itself to cheaper chartering, insuring, etc., but producers may as well remember that they form only one unit in the work of laying down nitrate in the consuming centres of the world, and that, if need be, other interests could, and probably would, be able to effectively make themselves felt, so as to shake off the exercise of any undue control.

Apart from the proposed combination, the outlook for consumption is undoubtedly good, both for agricultural and industrial purposes, the tendency being towards an increase from all countries. In our issue of 30th June, 1899, we estimated the consumption of the world for the succeeding twelve months at not less than 1,300,000 tons; it has actually amounted to 1,350,000 tons. For the year ending 30th June, 1901, we reckon upon a total requirement in the world of not less than 1,400,000 tons, and this figure might, if prices continued moderate, be considerably increased. To-day the visible quantity available for consumption in Europe and America from now until October amounts to 350,000 tons, thus leaving 1,050,000 tons to be brought to consuming markets between October and June next. What would the producers say to a combination on the part of shipowners to put the freight rates up on such figures as these?

Trade in Fertilisers During the Past Six Months.

Mr. Thomson Aikman, jun., 6, East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street, E.C., issued his half-yearly report on Saturday. He states that there is little calling for special note in the situation of the chemical industry. Agricultural prospects throughout the spring have been unsatisfactory, as a late season with delayed farm work, retarded vegetation, and depressed values of agricultural produce combined to dishearten agriculturists. More satisfactory weather and an important advance in the value of cereals in the closing weeks impart a more cheerful outlook. The sugar beetroot crop on the Continent has been sown at an unusually late period this season, but with a larger area devoted to it, and with recently more satisfactory weather, prospects of a liberal crop have kept prices at about 9s. 6d. to 9s. 9d. per cwt. for new crop, whereas old crop is worth over 11s. per cwt. Last year at date 10s. 6d. to 10s. 9d. per cwt. was value. The reports of the cereal crop prospects in the United States, Canada, and other countries are less satisfactory than last year, in some quarters very serious shortcomes being anticipated.

The fertiliser trade in Europe has been generally unsatisfactory, and considerable stocks of raw and manufactured material remain in manufacturers' and dealers' hands, while prices generally have declined. Nitrate of soda shows in some quarters a slight falling off in the extent of deliveries during the half year, which was chiefly noticeable in the middle of the spring months, when bad weather delayed sowing and speculative influences centralised holdings, and forced up prices to the detriment of consumption. Its later application to the crops, with the recent fall in price, has, however, brought up the arrears. In the United States and other countries a steady increase in its use is recorded. Production has again been but slightly in excess of consumption owing to the check of prices and labour difficulties. Should the efforts again being made among producers to mutually insure such a check, irrespective of price and other temporary vicissitudes, be successful, much more satisfactory results to them might be assured. Any unnecessary obstruction of such efforts by fiduciary representatives of the large capital involved is to be deplored.

Sulphate of ammonia shows a falling off in consumption in many quarters, but the increasing demand from sugar colonies, Spain, and outside consuming centres, has absorbed production and maintained price generally at and slightly over its parity with nitrate. Production shows but a normal rate of increase. Other sources of nitrogen have been influenced in sympathy. Peruvian guano imports have been small in the spring months owing to delay in the loading of ships, which, coupled with the onerous conditions of its sale, have interfered with its consumption. Phosphates show a relapse in value from the high prices at the close of last year. Potash salts remain at their former level. Freights generally have been at a higher level than for several years past.

Nitrate of Soda.

The half-year's deliveries of nitrate of soda from direct imports into consuming countries throughout the world, reach about 92,000 tons from United Kingdom ports, about 747,000 tons from Continental ports, about 85,000 tons from United States ports, and about 13,000 tons from direct imports into other consuming countries, or a total of about 940,000 tons against about 915,000 tons same six months last year. Stocks at date are estimated at 23,000 tons in United Kingdom, about 77,000 tons in Continental, and about 10,000 tons in United States, etc., with a quantity afloat for Europe about 200,000 tons, and for United States, etc., about 45,000 tons, or a total visible supply of about 355,000 tons, against a total of about 370,000 tons at date last year, and 255,000 in 1898. From July to December last year, deliveries from European ports reached about 315,000 tons, and from the ports of United States and other countries about 90,000 tons.

The total exports from all the nitrate ports for the six months reach about 430,000 tons to Europe, and 100,000 tons to United States, etc., against 490,000 and 65,000 last year, and 365,000 and 75,000 tons in 1898 during the same period. The production during the six months is approximately 680,000 tons, against 650,000 last year and 610,000 tons in 1898. Stocks in Chili are estimated to be about 50,000 tons in excess of those at date last year.

The opening price in January was about 7s. 9d., and to-day's spot price is about 8s. per cwt. Early in January powerful speculative buying of the bulk of the available floating supply forced prices up to close on 9s. in February, and, after the absorption of the previous purchases of dealers and consumers their abstinence from purchasing, and backward weather caused a serious diminution in delivery in the principal spring months. Firm holding, however, maintained price at between 8s. 6d. and 8s. 9d. till end of April, when a rapid break took place, and at between 7s. 7½d. and 8s. per cwt., the arrears of February, March, and April have been nearly made up in May and June. Forward shipment cargoes of ordinary quality have ruled at from 7s. 6d. to 8s. 3d. per cwt., the market being firm at the close. Refined quality has commanded 1½d. to 6d. per cwt. above ordinary.

Freights throughout have been firm, as high as 37s. 6d. having been paid in May, the close being 35s. per ton. Cost of nitrate has ruled from 4s. 10d. to 5s. 4d. per quintal, as compared with 4s. 6½d. to 5s. 2d. last year, 4s. 6d. to 5s. in 1898, and 6s. to 5s. 2d. in 1897 during first six months. Exchange has ruled between 16d. and 17½d., the close being 17¼d., against a range of 11½d. to 16d., with a closing rate of 15d. at date last year. The export duty remains at 2s. 4d. per quintal, and a reduction of 1d. to 1½d. on railway freight has been in operation since January. The higher exchange, higher labour, and high cost of coal represent in most cases an increased cost, considerably in excess of the reduced railway freight, and the results to producers are still generally unsatisfactory. For the past few weeks efforts, said to be supported by the Chilian Government, to effect a combination of producers for regulating production, have been actively pursued, but their measure of success is yet uncertain, owing to individual jealousies and interests still outweighing the interests involved.

Sulphate of Ammonia.

The opening price was £11 5s. per ton, and the close is about £10 15s. A difference of £2 to £3 per ton, or about their relative values in proportion to the nitrogen contents, has generally been maintained between sulphate and nitrate of soda during the consuming season, but speculative influences have occasionally changed this position. The market has shown little animation, but stocks have never accumulated to any extent, the falling off in the consumption in nearer European markets being counterbalanced by increased demands for the more distant centres. At date last year the nominal price was £12 5s. to £12 10s. per ton, but the average spring price was about £10 15s., as compared with £9 per ton for nitrate of soda, while this spring the relative average prices were about £11 5s. and £8 10s. per ton, the higher unitary price being in both seasons, if anything, largely on the side of nitrate. Production shows a comparatively moderate increase.

Guano.

Delay in loading at the Peruvian Deposits has interfered with expected outputs, the total imports being about 23,000 tons to U.K. and 17,000 to Continent. A few cargoes of other description have been imported, but consumption has been small; the imports of guano of all kinds, according to Board of Trade returns, for the five months ending the May being about 17,000 tons, with an average value slightly over £5 10s. per ton.

Bones and Bone Ash.

Imports have been on a reduced scale, the Board of Trade Returns for the first five months showing of bones and bone material, about 29,000 tons against 33,000 tons for the same period last year. Values have slightly receded since the beginning of the year.

Mineral Phosphate.

The falling off in the consumption of superphosphates and other manufactured materials, estimated in some quarters at nearly a fifth on that of last year, has affected values of raw material, which marks a reduction of 1d. to 1½d. per unit in some classes, and consumers generally carry considerable stocks. In the United States the consumption is reported to have been exceptionally large this season. With regard to potash, the different salts maintain late values.

THE DAIRY.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.

Compared with last month's fair, a better tone prevailed at Nantwich on Thursday. The pitch was fifty tons, the bulk of which was in healthy condition. There was a good demand for finest lots, and a much sharper market for medium qualities than at last fair. The best lots made from 48s. to 55s. per cwt., and medium down to 40s. Last year's quotations were 34s. to 50s.

Lancaster July Cheese Fair.

This fair took place on Wednesday, in the covered market, Lancaster, and was well attended. For the first time for some months the pitch showed a decided increase, there being 56 dairies and 908 cheeses, as compared with 43 dairies and 685 cheeses at the corresponding fair last year. The quality, however, showed a general decline, and prices consequently had a downward tendency, although buyers were willing to pay top figures for really good cheese. The top price was 56s., and prices ranged anywhere between that figure and 45s. There was a quick market.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended June 30, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	13,411	10,215	Wheat ..	[illegible]	1,700,600
Sheep ..	13,817	2,783	Flour ..	452,100	[illegible]
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
			Oats ..	242,100	[illegible]
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beef ..	99,013	89,341	Beans ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mutton	96,888	62,743	Maize ..	1,380,600	763,100
Pork ..	5,181	6,184		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	115,216	111,216	†Bananas	—	[illegible]
Beef, salt	4,322	2,915		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	49,226	38,207	Apples ..	12,100	635
Pork, salt	7,115	6,867	Apricots & Peaches	—	304
Meat, salt & fresh	8,444	9,894	Cherries	3,500	[illegible]
Do. pres.	26,674	15,109	†Currants	—	[illegible]
Butter ..	75,910	64,295	[illegible]	[illegible]	8,718
Margarine	15,766	14,136	Grapes ..	1,486	[illegible]
Cheese ..	[illegible]	90,000	[illegible]	67,319	[illegible]
Con. Milk	19,748	12,301	Oranges	[illegible]	[illegible]
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	36	173	Pears ..	12	13
			Plums ..	8,573	[illegible]
			[illegible]	—	[illegible]
			Other kinds	[illegible]	4,119
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	1,864	1,258
Eggs ..	466,288	467,136*		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	87,728	[illegible]
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£2,[illegible]	£3,8[illegible]	Hops ..	2,441	[illegible]
			[illegible]	166,403	166,550
	Cwt.	Cwt.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rabbits	[illegible]	6,156	Other	Value.	Value.
Lard	[illegible]	42,787	Vegetables	£4,[illegible]	£[illegible]

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to [illegible]

A farm [illegible] a field at Paulerspury, Northamptonshire, on Tuesday, was struck by lightning and killed. Two other men [illegible] were struck, but were not seriously hurt.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Barley Show Regulations.

The preliminary schedules of the next Malting and Seed Barley Competition at the twenty-second Annual Brewers' Exhibition have been issued, and some of the alterations to old regulations, together with innovations in the rules and additional or new classes, have been the subject already of considerable discussion and some criticism.

One new class has given very general satisfaction. This is, strangely enough, connected with our premier barley county, Norfolk, and is associated with the greatly honoured and esteemed name of Mr. Clare Sewell Read, who for so many years has acted as one of the judges. The first prize of ten guineas is generously offered by Messrs. F. and G. Smith, Limited, and in this class (Class X.) the second prize is five guineas, whilst the third is a bronze medal, so Norfolk growers can send up their best samples with the certainty that a number of handsome prizes are bound to go to the county in any case.

Very Good Prizes

of considerable value may go to any county which, like Norfolk, has had few special county prizes offered. It must be borne in mind that all East Anglia can benefit from the generous offers of The Colchester Brewery Co., Fison and Co., Limited, Mr. Mumford (R. Boby and Co., Limited), and others too numerous to specify. Still, it is better for each county to have its own distinct prizes, and everyone interested must fervently hope that the weather for the next few weeks may prove of the kind that will favourably suit our Eastern Counties. It is a long while now since this side of the island has received much benefit, and it is still time for good results to be wished for, and hoped, even if not expected. Still, it takes a lot of misfortune to stamp out hope and good principles from sturdy East Anglians.

One of the distinct improvements in this year's schedule is the determination with clearness of the

Recipient of Every Prize

Many of the prizes go to growers only, whilst the remainder can go to any person making entry, provided he is the *bonâ fide* owner of the grain at the time of making entry.

Naturally, the grower ought to make entry in all cases, and many of the best prizes, such as the splendid champion cups of the MARK LANE EXPRESS, the challenge cup offered by Ind, Coope and Co., Ltd., and a number of the rich prizes (each of £25) by the Permanent Nitrate Committee, the Sulphate of Ammonia Committee, Joseph Fison and Co., Ltd., can go only to growers. Still, it is almost astonishing to note the rich amount that any merchant or factor can score if only he makes entry of a tip-top sample.

In any case, it is now difficult to see how any misconception can hereafter arise as to the right person to receive any and every prize after the awards are once made and confirmed.

A Gigantic Puzzle

for the judges is most certainly in store when the awards are made in the last new class (No. xxvii.). This is most curiously worded, for it stands on offer "to the maker of the best threshing machine," sundry medals of silver and bronze, etc., "offered for the machine which has been used for threshing the largest percentage of barleys which secure awards in every class." It seems self-evident that this rule cannot be absolute, as the makers of one machine only stand a chance of getting the highest percentage of awards. Fortunately, any difficulty experienced can be smoothed away by common-sense application of Rule 14, which gives power to the judges to modify and alter any of the conditions at their own sweet will. It will be very surprising if they find their present ingenious but most cumbersome or difficult plan workable. It is safe to foretell that it most certainly will not if taken literally as it stands.

A Very Questionable Change

is made in the quantity of barley which has to be submitted for approval if demanded by the judges in the colonial and foreign classes. It has been the custom hitherto to make this amount exceed the quantity demanded from British growers. For some reason which very few people know anything about (although some ignorant cacklers have been very industrious in circulating fallacies concerning it), the foreign classes last year had to be prepared to show on demand a hundred quarters.

This year all classes are reduced to the simple and uniform basis of twenty quarters. As a question of absolute fairness this is strictly correct, and it is very commendable on the part of the judges that they have had the courage to take the step. No doubt some of the chronic grumblers will make it the occasion for venting a little spleen, but, after all, it won't hurt anyone very much. Very few men will handpick twenty quarters of barley, and should they do so, and the worst comes to the worst, no great harm will be done, for there is nothing in the conditions to specify the character of the screen used, moral or otherwise.

FRANK RICHARDSON AND CO., successors to TOPHAM RICHARDSON BROS. AND CO., Importers of Selected Foreign Malting Barleys, 6, Duke Street, Southwark, London, S.E. Telegrams, "Escourgeon, London." Telephone, 787. Hop, London, and at Liverpool and Burton-on-Trent.—[ADVT.]

MILLING.

The Treatment of Break Stock Previous to Purification.

The market is not nearly so firm as when these notes last appeared. Both wheat and flour have been reduced in price, while the demand for the manufactured product in most parts is very limited, bakers having so recently stocked themselves. The supply of English wheat has only been small, but what has been on offer has generally made good prices. A steady demand for offals still exists in many centres at prices which must be regarded as very good for this time of the year.

What scalpers to use.

In building a new mill, as well as in overhauling one which has become out of date, an important question which arises is as to the kind of scalpers which should be employed to make a separation of the break products. With the introduction of the new system, millers had only the choice between reels and centrifugals, but now a great number of machines are upon the market for the purpose indicated. Under the millstone system the product from several pairs of stones was usually sent to a long reel, through the cover of which the flour dressed, while the overtail was regarded as offal. Even when higher grinding came into vogue and some efforts were made to make a further separation of millstone stock, the reel, usually round, and

The Reel only, was the Machine upon which the Miller relied.

But with gradual progress and the inception of gradual reduction came also gradual dissatisfaction with the reel. It took up too much room, and it was too slow. Hence the advent of the centrifugal, which many millers of the old school maintained was too violent upon the stock. For this reason it made little headway for a time, and, in fact, the battle between reels and centrifugals was a long-drawn-out one.

Sixteen to eighteen years ago the dispute was as keen between the advocates of these two machines for scalping as it is between the advocates of the centrifugal and the sieve to-day. If in the old days there were no centrifugal mills as opposed to plansifter mills the same nice points were observed between the reel and the centrifugal for making the necessary separations. Each had its patrons, and the intelligence was by no means all on one side. Able millers championed both sides for a time, but the centrifugal ultimately won the battle, only, however, to be replaced in turn (for the purpose of making the separations on all the breaks except the last) by the sieve. It is true the centrifugal still holds the sway in regard to the products from the last pair of corrugated rolls, because no other machine has yet been found to deal with them so well, and if it is violent it must also be remembered that at this point in the milling process there is

Practically no Stock of Good Quality to Spoil.

As already stated, the miller of to-day has the choice of a great many types of machines from which to select when choosing his scalpers, though practically they can all be broadly classed under the head of centrifugals and sieves, for they are very un-up-to-date mills in which the reel is still used for scalping, although a sort of hybrid machine between the latter and the centrifugal, the inter-elevator reel, can be most beneficially used on some products. This machine is fitted with lifters, by the aid of which the stock fed into it is distributed over a much larger area than was possible with the reel, with the result that its capacity is double that of the latter. In the opinion of the writer the inter-elevator reel is at its best when grading the separated chop, as there seems to be just enough friction to remove half loosened particles of flour without unnecessary scouring. There is a kind of stock which will be found grouped in every mill for which the gentle action of the sieve is not violent enough, and it is just at this point where a little force is necessary that the inter-elevator is of use. For this purpose the slow-running reel would be useless, while the centrifugal—or at least those machines of the usual make—is too rough. Here, then, steps in the inter-elevator reel, and combines the merits of both.

For the reasons already stated, the sieving machine

Supplanted both the Reel and the Centrifugal,

and now, for the purpose of scalping all the breaks but the last, it is used in various forms. Some machines of the kind have only one sieve, and in this case, while the overtails go to the next pair of break rolls, the throughs contain all kinds of stock between twelve and 120 meshes to the inch, which will need dusting and grading on a subsequent machine or machines. Other sieves make more separations, until the climax is reached in the case of the plansifter, which usually divides the break chop into semolina, middlings, dust, break-flour, and overtails, thus rendering the use of any following machine unnecessary.

This seems to speak volumes in favour of the plansifter, but "things are not always what they seem." If much can be said for this Continental machine, it has its drawbacks, not the least of which is the vibration caused by its movement and the non-possibility of examining its sieves without stopping the mill, or, at least, disconnecting the machine. Ordinary rotaries, with two sieves, do not possess these drawbacks, while one of them in particular, which is made by a leading firm of milling engineers, and which is called the "Vibromotor," is, owing to its mechanical arrangements, singularly free from vibration, while its action is simple and without the complication of the plansifter. In other words, for the purpose of scalping, the rotary sieve is set only a certain amount of work to do,

And that work it do s well.

If, by way of example, a double rotary sieve, covered with eighteen and thirty-four wire, be taken, it is evident that the tail-over of thirty-four consists of middlings for purification, while the throughs of that number should go to the machine best fitted to deal with them, the inter-elevator reel, which has already been mentioned. At this point it may be said that the rotary sieve, excellent machine as it is for the purpose of scalping, seems destined once more to have to fight its erstwhile vanquished foe, the centrifugal. But the latter in its new forms will be again referred to.

The clothing of scalpers, too, is a part of practical milling which is often not sufficiently studied, but the subject is a wide one and will be continued in another article. It must not be thought from these remarks that the writer lays more stress upon scalping than upon grinding. On the contrary, he is one of those who is very particular about the latter, fully believing that as he grinds the raw material and its products so will he scalp and bolt. Of all the departments in milling none has so much depending upon it as the grinding department. A miller may have the cleanest wheat possible, but if it is not properly reduced good results cannot follow. This article, however, which will be continued, deals more exclusively with the separation of the stock coming from the breaks.

MILLER-FARMER.

Motor Haulage for Millers.

At the Conference of the National Association of British and Irish Millers, at Scarborough, on Thursday, Mr. E. C. Skurray, of Swindon, read an interesting paper on "Motor Haulage for Millers." He argued that motor haulage must be adopted by millers who wish to keep to the front in the fight against imported flour and that sent by rail from distant mills. Comparing the cost of motor haulage with railway charges within a radius of twenty or twenty-five miles of a mill, Mr. Skurray presented figures showing a saving by the use of motors of nearly 20s. on a day's work.

The president (Mr. Sidney Leetham, of York) announced that the following gentlemen had been elected on the Council for the next three years:—Messrs. Joseph Wragge, Hull; E. Leetham, York; J. B. Whitworth, Wellingborough; H. Ibbotson, Sheffield; W. F. Vernon, Liverpool; and S. Humphries, Bristol.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

11050.—A. Priess, of High Holborn, London, for an invention for "Improved machine for spreading dung."

11154.—J. Grace, of Rainford, near St. Helens, for an invention for "New and improved screens for attachment to potato diggers to prevent potatoes being buried or covered with soil."

11198.—W. Hornsby and J. Lowson, both of South Street, Finsbury, London, for an invention for "Improvements in or connected with ploughshares."

Patents Sealed.

4714.—A. Wenck, of Magdeburg, Germany, for an invention for "Maures."

4735.—R. H. Fowler and T. Benstead, of Steam Plough Works, Leeds, Yorkshire, for an invention for "Improvements relating to agricultural ploughs.

4921.—L. P. Rasmussen, of Edgebjerg, Denmark, for an invention for "Crops, cut, stacking."

Sheep Worried by Dogs.—At Otley County Court on Wednesday, before Judge Bompas, Charles Holmes, farmer, Menston, sued Thomas Buck, gentleman, Menston, for £30 as damages for loss sustained through defendant's dogs chasing plaintiff's sheep. The plaintiff stated that he had thirty Wensleydale purebred ewes in lamb last spring. Twelve of the lambs died or were born dead. One of the ewes also died, and the other ewes were deteriorated in value. The damage was caused by the ewes being chased almost daily by the defendant's dogs. He had often complained to the defendant, but he only replied "Oh, the dogs won't hurt your sheep." His Honour found for the plaintiff, and gave judgment for the amount claimed and costs.

HOPS.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

Trade in the Borough

during the last week has held on the "even tenor of its way," as the activity which was anticipated by the revival of inquiry a few days ago is not yet apparent. A few transactions have been concluded, in which buyers have found holders willing to meet their views, and so long as such weak-kneed waverers have hops to sell the stronger men will find difficulty in realising their legitimate demands. One pliant seller does more to damage the tone of the market than can be counteracted by a dozen determined holders. It is strange that growers do not appreciate the power they place in the hands of merchants by the absence of co-operation and agreement as to the value of their produce, especially when the circumstances which at present surround them are so favourable to united action, and so suggestive of its desirability. It is, however, satisfactory to know that values have not receded, but that they remain firm at the level of the previous week, with some slight indication of a tendency towards higher prices being realisable.

Plantation Reports

have not changed for the better. The extraordinary climatic experience of the past week cannot be favourable to the progress of the growth. Heavy rain, bright sunshine, downfalls of hail, and thunderstorms, are but a few of the alternations through which we have passed, and as for the winds, they have blown from almost every point of the compass in succession, culminating in strong, cold northerly breezes, which have been chilling us lately, causing us to turn to the almanack to ascertain if we are really passing through one of the summer months. The weather is favourable to the development of fly and mould, and from most districts I hear that these troubles are creating increased anxiety, being apparently too persistent to be cleared off by the means that are usually effective. It goes without saying that the passage of every week intensifies the risks of the growing crop, and that dangers which might have been regarded with equanimity a month ago now assume a very different aspect. I append a few of the reports I have received from growers, whose remarks I have condensed on account of space: –

PADDOCK WOOD.—After an absence of a few days, during which washing has been persevered in, I found my garden looking worse than when I left home, the fly attack being so persistent, and the spread of mould now getting serious.

HORSMONDEN.—Hop plantations barely hold their own, except where repeatedly washed. There is more bine, but also more vermin.

SUTTON VALENCE.—Hops are full of fly and vermin, stopping the growth where not washed. Wet weather hinders washing.

MAIDSTONE.—Weather is against progress of growth, and washing has been so much hindered by rain that the fly attack has increased. There is evidence of mould. Warmer and dryer weather is urgently needed.

CANTERBURY.—Bine in well-cultivated gardens is growing well, and strong laterals are being thrown out. Vermin is much reduced, but we want warmer and more seasonable weather. There is too much irregularity in the growth.

SALEHURST.—Our perseverance in washing is but poorly rewarded, as lice appear again as quickly as they are destroyed.

HANTS.—The continuance of wet weather is a serious obstacle. We cannot proceed with watering, and all gardens that are left are smothered with fly and lice. Our prospects are far from good.

HEREFORD AND WORCESTER.—The very severe attack of aphis blight continues, despite repeated washings. The cold winds and continuous rains, with occasional hailstorms, are serious hindrances to the progress of the bine, which is generally growing only slowly, being much behind its normal condition at this season.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

Without any notable change in the position of affairs, the tone of the trade continues to be very firm, although sales are limited in quantity. That the present range of values is greatly advanced from the prices at which the season opened is forcibly illustrated by the quotations for first quality Marktwaare hops, which were obtainable in September last at 60s. to 65s., whereas they can be now sold without difficulty at 85s. to 90s., and when the difference in actual quality is taken into account, it will be seen that the advance is even greater than is expressed by the mere figures. It should also be noted that this increased value has been attained by steady and regular progress, with an entire absence of all excitement or speculative disturbance. We may, therefore, safely conclude that it is due to the enlarged consumption of beer, and remembering the attenuation of present available stock, we may reasonably expect that during the period that remains before the new crop is gathered values will still further improve, and that the opening of the next season will be characterised by higher prices than have been seen for some time past.

Reports from the Plantations

continue to be fairly favourable, though slow growth is still apparent in most districts, and the plants have not yet attained to their normal condition for the season.

HERSBRUCK.—But little progress has been made during the past ten days owing to the wet cold weather.

ALTDORF.—Hailstorms have damaged the plants in some grounds, but generally the progress of the growth is satisfactory.

KINDINGEN.—All the plantations are free from vermin, and most of them present a promising appearance.

HALLERTAU.—The bine is backward as compared with this time last year, but is sound and healthy generally.

WURTEMBERG.—Good progress is evident, and thus far there has been no hindrance by vermin.

BADEN.—Recent heavy rains have checked the growth somewhat, although the plants are strong and vigorous, but they need warmer weather to assist their progress.

PRUSSIA.—Some warm rain is wanted, as the plants have suffered from drought, but in spite of this they are generally looking well, being free from insect pests.

Belgium.

The market has experienced a slight check, having become less animated during the past few days. Quotations have, however, not been reduced at present, although buyers are rather more reticent. Alost hops still stand at 65fr. or thereabouts. There is an increasing willingness on the part of growers to contract for their 1900 growth, in which some important transactions have been concluded at about 80fr. per 50 kilos., but buyers are now withdrawing, and the quotations for future delivery are a little more in their favour.

The Aspect of Belgian Plantations

has not changed much, and is not at all satisfactory. The growth is in arrear, and shows great irregularity. The weather has assisted the progress of the bine, and growers are now anxiously looking for improvement, which is so slow to arrive. Insect pests are prevalent in most grounds, and on the whole the outlook is far from satisfactory, and the conviction is increasing that only a limited crop can result.

America.

Trade in hops in New York is but moderate, and though prices remain very firm there is not much interest shown by consumers, who are buying just sufficient for immediate requirements. Not many contracts have yet been placed for the new growth, as both planters and dealers are waiting for further developments, reports from the country being at present only partial and irregular.

The Organisation of Hop-Growers

in Oregon has been accomplished, with a subscribed capital of 100,000 dollars, and has been followed by a similar movement in the Sacramento Valley, California, where a strong association has been formed on the lines proposed by Mr. Brewer in his circular in the MARK LANE EXPRESS a fortnight ago. With reference to the advantages to be gained in certain industries by combination and co-operation, the *American Agriculturist* writes as follows concerning the hop-growing section of agriculture:—

"A few big concerns, producing large quantities of hops themselves, are in a position to manipulate the market to their own advantage, so as to force outside growers to accept the terms dictated by the syndicate, or force them out of the business. In other words, the little fellows have got to combine to fight the trust that seeks to monopolise them. A single hop-grower is alone unable to accomplish much, but united with his fellows, and controlling, say, two-thirds of the supply, hop-growers will be able to protect themselves against further extortion and gradually to improve their returns and prospects. A federation of State hop-growers' corporations would enable the American producers of this special crop to absolutely control its distribution, and to some extent its price. Of course, the latter, in the long run, will be mainly governed by the world's supply. Nor is there anything fanciful or impractical about this idea. The hop crop is one that lends itself to such a scheme."

From the Plantations

THE EASTERN DISTRICTS.—No doubt there is an increase of fly and lice; fresh fly can be counted four and five on a small leaf, and multiply exceedingly. Some growers having washed once or twice, even three times, left off to try and make hay while the sun shone, but alas! no sun, and the weather most favourable to the increase of vermin; and now growers are washing again the expenses are enormous, and it is a great question whether it will ever pay to spend so much money, but they all live in hopes the prices will go up shortly and keep up for new hops. Hobbies [illegible] it out.

(For Hop Market Reports see page 47.)

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society*

LITERARY NOTICES.

We have received a copy of a little [illegible] entitled "The Art of Cycling," by [illegible] It sets forth the advantages of cycling [illegible] objections to the exercise, how to [illegible] cycling, and [illegible] operation. It is published by M. [illegible] W. H. Park, Hay, London, and M[illegible] Russell and Co., London, price threepence.

The July number of the *Badminton Magazine* opens with a story by Wirt Gerrare, entitled "[illegible] the North West," which describes a trip [illegible] yacht in Russian [illegible] other contributions, namely, "Sport [illegible] the Indian Turf, by George Paul Dr[illegible] Life of a Dog," by K. F. Purdon. For cricketers there are two interesting articles. H. D. Leveson Gower discusses "Fielding," and Hon. C[illegible] some Get-at-able Players," and A[illegible] find "Trouting from a Coracle," by A. G. Bradley, interesting reading. For [illegible] M. [illegible] contributes a chapter on "Fine Weather Golf Passes," whilst golfers are also catered for, being a review of ladies golf (with illustrations) by L. Mackern and E. M. Boys. "Pages from a Country Diary" is continued, and a [illegible] something to say concerning the [illegible] Agricultural Society's show at York. Here [illegible] he chanced to meet an old Scottish friend much devoted to farming, and learning that he was exhibiting a Galloway bull, he accompanied him to view the animal, "which we found in charge of his head cattleman, a grey-headed old gentleman from Ayrshire. Having duly admired the bull I [illegible] attendant if he was enjoying his visit to England. He answered that he liked the show 'weel aneuch, but that he 'could nae thole' (put up with) the sleeping accommodation provided for him, and which, it appeared, he absolutely declined to make use of. 'But you must sleep [illegible] 'where did you sleep last night?' 'Wi' the bull,' rplied the man in a most matter-of-fact tone." This the writer gives as a [illegible] combination of sleeping partners will surprise most people, but this incident is not, we thing, altogether unique.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

July.

19. Meeting of the Council of the Council and Associated Chambers of Agriculture [illegible] Horticultural Exhibition [illegible] Committee.
19. Bishop Auckland Agricultural Society's Show.
11. Southminster Agricultural Association's Show at Southmolton.
11. Mid Kent Agricultural Association's Show at [illegible]
11. Sale of Kerry and Dexter Cattle, at [illegible] Robertson at Clane, Co. Kildare.
11. Cleveland Agricultural Society's Show, at Middlesbro'.
11, 12, and 13. Lincolnshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Spalding.
12. Bucks Agricultural Show.
12. North Lincolnshire Agricultural Society's Show at Appleby.
13. Show of Suffolk Breeds and Essex Show of Shorthorns at Stoke.
13. Sale of pedigree Herefords and Hereford Heifers at Hereford Repository.
17, 18, 19 and 20. Highland and Agricultural Society's Show, at Stirling.
18, 19, and 20. Yorkshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Doncaster.
19. Herts Agricultural Society's Show, at Hatfield.
19. Cottenham Foal Show.
19. Newport [illegible] Agricultural Society's Show at Newport.
19. Sale of Mr. E. Lyne's Hampshire Down breeding ewes and ram lambs, at Compton, near Winchester.
19 and 20. Tunbridge Wells and South Eastern Counties Agricultural Society's Show.
20. Sale of Mr. E. K. Bickley's entire herd of Dairy Shorthorns [illegible]
[illegible]
21. Cumberland Agricultural Society's Show.
23. [illegible]

During a thunderstorm in the Cambridge [illegible] on Tuesday evening four men [illegible] were struck by lightning. The men [illegible] the load, George Pont, aged fifty, was killed, and the others were [illegible] was set on fire.

There [illegible] of which a [illegible] classes of cattle. Prizes: Yearling [illegible] £6 2s. 6d. to £6 16s. 8d.; third class, £4 12s. 6d. to £5 6s. 8d. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 5s.; second class, £7 10s. to £10. Springers, [illegible] £10 to £11; second class, £9 10s. to £10; third class, £9 15s. to £10 7s. 6d.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Damages for Miscropping.

In the Court of Session on Friday judgment was pronounced in an action at the instance of Henry Calender, Prestonhaugh, and Westertown, proprietor of the farm of North Elphinston, Tranent, against David Wyatt Ewart Smith, formerly tenant of that farm, and now residing at Cockenzie. The pursuer asked decree for (1) £700, being one year's rent of the farm under the lease which terminated at Martinmas, 1899; (2) £270 in name of additional rent for miscropping part of land in 1899, the last year of the lease; and (3) £442 unpaid interest on improvement expenditure, at the rate of £34 a year, under an agreement dated in December, 1881. The defender consigned the amount of rent, and denied being in breach of the cropping clauses in his lease. He also maintained that the pursuer had waived all claims for payment under the minute of agreement since Martinmas, 1886. The defender said that although the lease provided that in each year not more than one-half of the farm should be in white crop, and that the remainder should be in grass, fallow, or green crop, he had during the last fourteen years used part of the farm for fruit cultivation, with the knowledge and consent of the pursuer, and of the successive farmers on the estate, and that no objection was taken to that cultivation during the whole period. Lord Kyllachy said he was of opinion that there had been miscropping. He was unable to hold that strawberries and raspberries were either grass, fallow, or green crop. Grass, of course, was out of the question. Fallow, although it sometimes meant green crop, here obviously meant bare fallow. And the term green crop had a well understood meaning as used in agriculture. It was in his opinion impossible to hold that it included either raspberries or strawberries. The latter, although not an annual crop like turnips or potatoes, might perhaps, if manured yearly in a special manner, and also cleaned in a special manner, leave the land no worse than if it had been in grass or green crop. But however that might be, fruit was not green crop. It involved a quite different kind of cultivation, which was not in his opinion permitted by the lease. It was said that the landlord permitted fruit culture for a number of years, at least, that he did not object. But the claim was only made for the last year of the lease, and early in that year the landlord did object, having notified the tenant on 28th February, 1899, that the provisions of the lease must be observed, and the fruit ground brought back into the prescribed rotation by the term of Martinmas. In these circumstances he failed to see how the landlord's acquiescence in previous contraventions could avail the defender. There was no agreement to vary the lease, and acquiescence operated only while it continued. The question as to the interest on improvement expenditure was more difficult, and he did not profess to have formed a confident opinion about it; but his view was that here also the landlord's claim must be confined to the last year of the lease. His Lordship found that the defender was due the pursuer £700, being the rent of the farm for the last year of the defender's occupancy, and that the defender was also due the sum of £130 of additional rent for miscropping during the last year of the lease, and that interest at the rate of five per cent. was due on both of these sums since Martinmas, 1899. He also found that the pursuer's claim for improvement expenditure was barred by the series of receipts for rent produced, except for the interest due for the last year of the lease, which interest amounted to £34, and was still due and undischarged. As there had been divided success, no expenses were found due to or by either party.

British Dairy Farmers' Association.

A meeting of the council was held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on Wednesday, July 4th. Present: Mr. G. F. Roumieu, J.P. (in the chair), Mr. A. L. Alexander, Mr. Ernest Mathews, Mr. S. P. Page, Mr. H. S. Holmes Pegler, Mr. A. Tisdall, and the secretary (Mr. Wm. C. Young). A report was presented upon the society's financial position, and cheques amounting to £54 17s. were passed for payment. The Show Committee brought up recommendations as to advertising and other matters relating to the forthcoming dairy show, which was adopted, subject to slight modification; and it was decided to allocate the grant of fifty guineas made by the Corporation of the City of London towards the prize fund in ten champion cups, value five guineas each, respectively for best Shorthorn in the milking trials, best Jersey or Guernsey in the milking trials, best cow of other breeds in the milking trials, best exhibit in the cheese test, best prize winner in the champion butter-making contest, best exhibit in the goat classes, best exhibit of bacon, best exhibit of hams, best exhibit in certain classes of poultry, and best exhibit in certain classes of pigeons. Reports were also received from the Selection Committee making further nominations of judges and stewards, and from the Poultry and Pigeon Committee. The next meeting of the council was fixed to be held on Wednesday, September 5th.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Bedfordshire.

I am afraid my report will not be pleasant reading for those good people who (in ignorance, we will charitably assume) look upon farming as a pleasant pastime, and who consider that a lean year only slightly lessens the strange delight which a farmer feels, as he knows that, even when the harvest is good, he grows corn at a loss, still he is unselfishly doing it for the benefit of the community outside of agriculture. The June rains have much improved the starved, miserable-looking crops, but hay, wheat, barley, and especially oats, are

Much Under Average;

in fact, it is only on the good land where a decent crop can be seen. I have none of that, and there is far more bad land than good in this county. The best crop of wheat I have seen is at Bramham, and the best crop of barley at Pavenham.

I dare not say any more, sir, or, possibly our popular local *Times* will be saying, "'T. S.' is giving us his usual and expected grumble." I may be wrong; in fact, there are some people about here who think that whatever "T. S." writes is wrong.

If the coming harvest proves that I am wrong, I will own it, like a man. Cattle and sheep are selling well, also good cart horses. Our

Wool Fair,

last Tuesday, was a very small one. I believe the average price was 18s. 6d. Our two successful local ram breeders—Mr. H. H. Green and Mr. B. Howkins—obtained the highest price (19s. 6d.) for their Hampshire and Oxfordshire Down fleeces. This would be about two shillings per tod more than last year.—T. S. (July 6th).

Cumberland.

Abundance of grass and green crops. Potatoes have recovered from the early cold weather, and turnips are very healthy. Some farmers fear that the meadow hay will lack in quality for what it gains, owing to the rain, in quantity. The Cumberland County Council is now giving more attention to gardening and fruit culture than previously, and in Mr. Berry, of Morpeth, have got a teacher who takes with big and small agriculturists. This is what the Vicar of Plumpton says of his recent lectures in the Penrith district: "The Cumberland County Council, in providing Mr. Berry, sent a good man among us to teach all about fruit culture. Yesterday, at Penrith Market, several spoke to me of the useful information given, and since applied by some of the hearers. But we want more, and want it quickly. The fruit is coming in abundance, but how are we to keep it with full flavour? The answer is, in bottles, like in principle, but not in formation, to those for keeping, in full flavour, sterilised milk. Let us have, at reasonable price, wide-joled bottles, with porcelain stoppers that will automatically and hermetically close themselves during the pan-heating process. I last season used successfully my milk bottles for small fruit. The joles, however, are too small, even for currants. I have been recently in communication with the Scottish Dairy Co., and at the London office was told that suitable bottles could be made if the demand were sufficient. Well, the need is great, and if the C.C.'s for the various counties clubbed to teach it, we would soon have the bottles. At present, as to fruit, it is first feast, and then famine. With the cure suggested we could have fresh, full-flavoured fruit all the year round. The case tempts me to parody lines I remember. These are they:—

'You're a grand hand at fishing, said Kate,
It's yourself that knows how for to hook them.
But when you have caught them, agra,
Don't you want a young woman to cook them?'

Parody.

You're great at fruit culture, C.C;
Well you teach how to sow, grow, and reap them
But to perfect your utility,
Get fit bottles in flavour to keep them."

As to these automatic fastening bottles, it surely should be possible to obtain them in various sizes.—H. M. K. (July 6th).

Carmarthen.

Glorious weather for everything but haymaking. Many have commenced and are at it busy every fine day, and a good deal has been carried in fair condition, but the weather has been very changeable.

The Crops are Heavy.

Haymakers are scarce on a fine day to make it, so we depend on our teams, which ought to be well fed to work all the implements which are well designed for the different purposes, that is cutting, spreading, turning, gathering, pitching, etc., which are done more effectually by those newly invented implements than by hand. Corn as ten days or

A Fortnight Later than Usual.

The cold spring has kept corn of all kinds late, which appear to be under an average, and the ears are only now making their appearance. Mangels are very late, but are now growing well this damp weather. Swedes are slow, and the fly has been busy on late-sown crops; the early-sown are looking better. Potatoes appear healthy and strong; with a little more warmth we shall expect a full crop. It seems to be

A Good Year for Fruit

of all kinds. Apples and plums are very plentiful, and are large, considering the lateness of the blossom. Pears are not so plentiful; the cold winds we had when they were in bloom must have affected them. Store stock are in request at our fairs. Two-year-old steers fetch from £11 to £13. Fat stock are scarce at about 7d. per lb. Cows with calves slow. Fat sheep sell about 8d. per lb., and fat lambs about 9d. per lb.—D. P. (July 5th).

Durham.

Farm prospects are fairly good, but settled weather is now very needful. Frequent and heavy rain in June improved most crops, and an average may be reached. Hay harvest has commenced, but little progress made yet. Wheat is looking well, and winter sown has been in ear a week or more. Barley and oats are somewhat irregular, and need sunshine. Turnips and potatoes are promising.—E. and T. R. (July 6th).

Gloucestershire.

Since the beginning of July all crops have made steady progress, yet there is

No Hope of an Average Corn Crop,

except winter beans. Wheat will be quite 30 and barley and oats about 20 per cent. under last year. Clover and mixtures are fairly good, but much of it was carried more or less out of condition, as the rain we had was enough to damp the fodder without doing good to the land, except on low land.

The Hay Crop will be Light.

A lot will be got up this week, as the weather is fine, but dull. I think this is the only part of Gloucestershire where hops are grown. One grower has about fifty acres looking well; he has been busy washing the last fortnight. Now they seem quite free from aphis. Root plants are promising, although many fields had to be re-sown. Those drilled since the 12th ult. have escaped the fly.

Fruit Prospects Have Fallen off.

About half a crop is the most we now expect, but apples are large for the time of year. Cattle are doing well, but the price of store stock is very disappointing, as beef sells well and keep is plentiful. Labourers are plentiful enough, but wages are high, and, worse than all, the men are so indifferent to their masters' interest; no use trying to push when the weather is catchy.—J. H. W. (July 5th).

Mid Essex.

Wheats are very thin on the ground, and must therefore be a light crop. Barleys are also a light crop, but recent rains have very materially helped them. Early pulling peas are generally very bad, with a very few chance fair pieces. Winter beans do not look well, but spring beans and peas are making a good show.

A Lot of Hay is Lying About

that must be spoilt, but there is a very light and bad crop of clover hay generally, and grass is very short; recent rains are helping them somewhat. Swedes, kohl rabi, and mangolds are not good in many places. Swedes, etc., have had to be drilled two and three times on account of the fly taking them. Wheat has risen in price, touching, in fact, 34s. per quarter last week, but as to whether it will continue so is a problem which no one can solve. The labour question will in time in rural districts be a more vexed question with all our young men going into the towns and a birth rate, as in this district, reduced three per thousand on an average of ten years.

Fat Beasts

have gone out much better this spring than last year, although the trade has slackened considerably the last two weeks. Good fat mutton and lamb has sold fairly well, but on account of the sultriness food was no lighter than could be expected. Store lamb trade bad. Fat hogs have sold well. Boar-pigs and store pigs have sold fairly well, but the trade has again gone back very considerably.

Fruit.

Strong fruit shows for a plentiful crop, and apples for an average one, but everything feels the want of sun. I should say we have not had such a sunless year for several years.—C. V. B. (July 3rd).

West Suffolk.

A fortnight's showery weather has made it impossible to secure anything saleable, except early grasses for hay. A fine crop of grass is now waiting to be cut. We have had a good deal of rain, and there will be [illegible] but

Sunshine is Essential

now more than to harvest, and indeed for everything else. All sorts of peas and beans never had a better promise, and [illegible] the most abundant blossoming ever remembered. Mangels [illegible] especially dear; beef a fair price, and pork fluctuates from 6d. to 4d. in the pound. Eggs and poultry always sell;

sometimes the market is overdone with butter, and price varies from 6d. to 1s per pound.

The Great Increase of Rates

has brought about ratepayers' defence associations. Much good may they do. We have been training the poor for generations to pauperism, and the vested interest of the Local Government Board, and a great army of officials, with their big houses to farm, banish the poor to Stow Union. Christ said, "The poor ye have always with you"; but we have got ahead of that, and send them away from us. What amount of pauperism should we have if

Old Age Pensions

were to be had by all who care to take them? I say it would foster thrift and independence if all felt sure of some provision for old age, without first making themselves needy. Some one has said old age pensions are nothing beside an extended form of out-door relief, and what else is it which the sailor and soldier gets, or hopes to get, also post office and telegraph officials, not to mention highly-paid Government officials and professional men. And why should not the great army of labour enjoy the comfort of old age which they above all others have done so much to earn?—W. Y. (July 3rd).

North Devon.

From the Bideford district wheat is reported to be a full plant and vigorous, as is also barley, oats, mangels, and swedes. Potatoes are good. Common turnips now putting in with a good seed bed. Hay good crop, not much ricked yet. Grass plenty. All kinds of fruit great crop. Cattle, sheep, and pigs, both fat and store, selling well, at fair prices. The want of labour is much complained of. In some districts the wire worm in the wheat. If a remedy could be given, it would be highly valued.—J. H. (July 6th).

Shropshire.

Weather dry, with a few spots of rain; wind strong, north-west. Carrying hay still going on. Clover and rye grass nearly secured. Heavy rain now would be a serious disappointment.—July 6th.

Worcestershire.

Wheat scarcely up to average, few really heavy fields. Barley will be a light crop, but has much improved since the rain. Oats: Early-plated ones looking well, late ones very uneven. Beans looking well, very few grown in this district. Peas, a very light crop, nearly all grown for picking while green. Mangolds, as a rule, looking well. Swedes and turnips nearly spoilt with fly. Hay not a heavy crop, but a large acreage will be mown; weather has been awkward for sowing it. Corn and fodder crops will be light, and at present low prices do not promise to be remunerative. Beef and mutton selling much better than last year. R. B. (July 7th).

York.

I am sorry that I cannot from the West Riding report very favourably on the prospects of agriculture at present. I don't think in this district that there is a single crop that comes up to the average at present, with the exception of potatoes, and it is impossible to say yet what the crop will be.

Turnips, as a rule, have in this district suffered very much from "fly," although I have dressed mine with turpentine as recommended. Labour seems one of the greatest difficulties we have to contend with; we cannot get what we require, and I know of several farmers who have either given or are going to give notice to quit their farms next spring because of the difficulty of obtaining labour. Wages have increased, although farmers cannot afford it. How can they at the recent prices of farm produce?—A. M. (July 4th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—Compared with a few weeks ago, the present condition of the wheat crop shows a remarkable improvement. Over a large area the crop has come into ear in favourable weather; the heads are long and well filled, and the relative thinness of the plant will prevent lodging should thundershowers be heavy.

GERMANY.—Finer weather has been experienced lately; the cereal crops are coming on apace, but the yield of wheat and rye is not expected to be more than average. The potato fields look well.

SPAIN.—The weather has continued favourable to the crops, and the hope of a good harvest is becoming more and more assured. The ripening of the crops is in general a little backward this year. In most parts of the country barley is quite ripe, and an abundant yield is promised.

HOLLAND AND BELGIUM.—Crop conditions remain without marked change. Dry hot weather is greatly desired.

HUNGARY.—The wheat crop is ripening in a very promising manner. Rye cutting is now pretty general, and the new corn is distinguished for fine heavy quality, so that a most bountiful yield is expected.

ITALY.—Favourable reports continue to be received of the wheat crop, and harvest operations are progressing with generally auspicious weather.

SERVIA.—The crops look well in all directions. Rye has bloomed, and notwithstanding its patchy appearance, promises a good average yield. Barley is ripening, and cutting is about to begin.

RUSSIA.—Weather, on the whole, is favourable, but in some districts the rain excessive. Our correspondent in Novorossisk says: "Rye cutting has begun, and in a few days that of barley will follow. Wheat prospects are fair, and linseed promises a good average crop." Weather during and just after harvest is so important a consideration that it would be premature to form opinions as to the result of the harvest.

ROUMANIA.—The harvesting of rapeseed is terminated, and that of barley and rye has begun, and wheat reaping will shortly follow, and good results are expected. Maize stands well, the plants in general being in good condition.

BULGARIA.—The condition of the autumn-sown cereals is highly satisfactory. Winter barley is already cut in many localities, and the crop, both in quality and quantity, is very good. A large wheat yield is anticipated.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says that the drought has been broken in the north-west, and, while much of the spring wheat crop is beyond relief, a considerable portion of the late wheat will be benefited, and the general downward tendency in condition will be checked. The chief benefit from the rains has been derived by small-grain crops and by the maize crop. The harvesting of winter wheat is nearing completion; threshing is now in progres, and the crop is generally equal to now in progress, and the crop is generally equal to expectations. The maize crop maintains its high

Fruit Prospects in West Cornwall.

In the West of Cornwall the apples are disappointing. About six weeks ago, when they set, there was a superabundance. The rain came too late to help the thinning out that was required, and now the apples have grown in thick clumps, which will hamper maturing, and in many cases these clumps have not grown perceptibly since the setting. Where there have been only a few on the trees they have grown remarkably well, but in many cases where the crop promised to be abnormal they will be thrown away. This applies more particularly in the case of the earlier sorts. Pears set for a heavy crop, but a good many have fallen since the rain came, and the crop is not so large as it promised to be by about one-third. The sudden change has been too much for them, and there will only be a moderate crop. Gooseberries are abundant. They were a fair size before the heavy rains, so that they were not affected like the bigger fruit. But the price is low. Last week a lot from West Cornwall were sold in Sheffield market for as little as £4 10s. a ton. The average price, however, is about £5 per ton. This refers to the sorts used principally for preserving, and in all probability the ripe fruit will realise a little more money. The cherry crop is only light. Currants are a good crop. The rain came just in time for raspberries, and there ought to be a heavy crop. Peaches and plums set well, but it is rather early to make sure of good crops, as the stoning period is a hazardous time.

In the Truro district fruit is extremely plentiful. Apples are an abnormally heavy crop. In some cases the trees are suffering from blight, attributed to the cold nights. Peaches and figs are plentiful. Pears and plums are better than for three years. In the experimental gardens of the County Council at Truro young trees planted as recently as the winter of 1897 have required a good deal of thinning. With few exceptions gooseberries are a remarkably fine crop, whilst currants and raspberries are showing well. Strawberries are up to the average in quantity. Two of the earlier varieties were very fine, and one or two of the later sorts appear to be a heavy crop. *Royal Cornwall Gazette.*

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (July 2nd).—Rainy and unsettled weather prevailed over the greater part of our islands. The conditions had become somewhat complex, although the main current of air was south-westerly, blowing from the Atlantic. The temperature was high during Sunday night, the thermometer in places not falling below fifty-five degrees, while the highest readings during the day were in places below sixty degrees. The forenoon was dry in London, but rain set in shortly after noon, and continued throughout the afternoon and evening. Thunder and lightning occurred in London at about four o'clock in the afternoon.

TUESDAY (July 3rd).—Fine weather prevailed over the greater part of England, but the conditions were still far from settled, and a series of thunder showers passed over the Metropolis. The morning was very fine in London, but a sharp thunderstorm was experienced shortly after noon, accompanied with a thorough downpour of rain and hail. Other slighter disturbances occurred during the afternoon. The highest temperature in London was sixty-eight degrees, and in many parts of England the midday readings were lower by several degrees. A brisk north-west wind has spread over the whole country in the rear of the storm area, which occasioned the heavy rain on Monday.

WEDNESDAY (July 4th).—The weather was fine in most parts of England, and the temperature in the eastern districts was somewhat higher than of late. Rain was measured over a large portion of the country in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, but the amounts were nowhere large. Tuesday night was cold in Scotland, where the thermometer fell fully ten degrees lower than in most parts of England, and at Wick the sheltered thermometer fell to within two degrees of the freezing point. The winds were northerly in the north and east, but they were very variable in Scotland and Ireland.

THURSDAY (July 5th).—The weather was generally fine over England, and there was an increase of temperature in many parts of the country. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, at nearly all except the south-eastern stations, but it was only in Ireland that the fall was heavy. A cyclonic disturbance was passing eastwards to the north of Scotland, and the weather was unsettled and rainy in the Scotch and Irish stations. The winds were westerly over the entire country, and they were, for the most part, light. The day was fine in London after the early morning, and the weather was bright and sunny in the afternoon.

FRIDAY (July 6th).—A cool north-west wind was blowing over our islands, and, in places, a moderate gale was experienced. The weather was generally fair over the southern portion of the country, although there was still a good deal of cloud. In Scotland the weather was mostly overcast, and the mid-day temperatures were very low for the time of year, the readings in most places failing to touch sixty degrees. Rain was again measured in the morning, as the result of the fall during the preceding twenty-four hours, at nearly all the northern and western stations. The day was cloudy in London, and the thermometer stood ten degrees lower than on Thursday, the highest temperature being sixty-six degrees.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (July 7th and 8th).—Fine weather prevailed in nearly all parts of our islands during the two days, and the rainfall was scarcely appreciable anywhere. A cool northerly wind prevailed over the whole kingdom, and the midday readings were everywhere much below the average. In London no appreciable rain fell before Sunday evening, but the midday temperatures registered several degrees below the average.

Dairy Trade and Can Protection Society.

The monthly meeting of the Council of this Society was held at their offices, 57, Chancery Lane, on the 4th inst., Mr. J. T. Horner in the chair. The following members were present:—Messrs. E. G. Easton, J. Wyman, J. P. Brumbridge, H. Summers, T. R. Lawrence, F. Ramsay, G. S. Taylor, J. D Jones, and J. Griffiths.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Working Committee's report was read and adopted. The secretary informed the Council that during the month of June he had received into the Exchange 162 cans and three churns, that a number of non members had been applying to him for advice under the new Adulteration Act, who he had advised to consult their solicitors. The analysts, Messrs. Redwood and De Hailes, reported that during the month of June they had received from members of the Society 113 samples of milk for examination, thirteen of which they returned poor quality, and forty as adulterated. Their inspector had taken samples (at various railway stations during the same period), of 152 farmers' milk, and seventeen were found to be of poor quality and twenty-six adulterated, thus showing how necessary it is for dairymen to have samples frequently taken of their milk, and the Council wish most earnestly to impress this upon the members.

A number of reports of the secretaries on complaints were then presented, in most of which the property had been recovered, and also a number of letters were read from farmers and others who were not members, requesting the Society's assistance in recovery of churns.

Bath and West and Southern Counties Society.

THE CROYDON MEETING.

At a meeting of the Society's Show Dates Committee, held at Croydon on Friday last, it was unanimously resolved to recommend to the Council that the Society's 1901 exhibition at Croydon be held on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Monday, May 22, 23, 24, 25, and 27, these dates being, for local and other reasons, the most suitable that could be selected.

A meeting of stewards was afterwards held upon the site selected for the Croydon Show, and the position of the principal departments was settled. The erection of the Art galleries will be proceeded with shortly. The site is exceptionally well situated in close contiguity to the town.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday. - Malt a quiet trade. Barley firm. Wheat declined 1s 6d per qr on the week. Oats steady. Maize 3d to 6d per qr cheaper. Flour about 1s 6d per sack lower.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The few samples of home-grown wheat submitted go directly to the country millers, and conditions continue to give every satisfaction. Fine white, 32s, and good heavy red, 31s 6d 63lb delivered up. American descriptions were not pressed, but sellers fail to regulate prices. Although the flour market manifested a dragging course, quotations were not altered since last Monday, being nominally as follows:—American first patents, 25s to 27s; second ditto, 24s 6d to 25s. First bakers, 22s to 23s; and second, 20s to 21s. Hungarian up to 31s. The London Millers Association made no further reduction at their meeting this afternoon. Of feeding stuffs, the demand for grinding barley is still directed almost exclusively to Persian, which, with Black Sea unobtainable and American very scarce, continues to form the chief source of supply, 17s 9d ex ship, 18s 3d ex quay being named. English scarce, and 1s to 1s 6d dearer on the week. American oats continue in sellers' favour, notwithstanding a slow consumptive demand. Maize rather firmer, and supplies continue to be kept down. American mixed new held for 21s ex ship, 21s 6d landed. Odessa, 24s 3d ex ship to come. Beans remain neglected.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Home-grown wheat continues in good condition, and in limited supply, being about steady. Fine white, 32s, and good heavy red, 31s 63lb delivered up. American descriptions tend easier since last Friday, while supply and demand fail to become properly regulated. No interest was attached to the flour market. Consumers continue to buy only for actual requirements, and quotations were nominal. The London Millers' Association made no alteration. Town household, 26s; whites, 29s per sack. Reverting to feeding stuffs, grinding barley is distinctly steady, Black Sea being exhausted, and American very scarce. Persian continues to form the chief source of supply, and is plentiful, 17s 9d being named ex ship, and 18s 3d ex quay. Oats fairly steady, although slowly supported. American mixed clipped held for 14s 9d ex ship, 15s 3d ex quay. No attempts were made to press either beans or peas, and, pending the opening season next autumn, both cereals remain stationary, while steady.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat fell 2s per quarter as compared with the previous market, the best white samples being offered at 32s per quarter, and the best reds at 30s. Maize was 1d to 1s lower on the week, flat being quoted at 22s 6d to 23s 6d and round at 26s to 27s per quarter. There was very little doing in other sorts of corn.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Wheat dull at about last Saturday's quotations. All other articles unchanged. Wheat, 28s to 30s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (white), 29s 6d to 30s per qr; wheat (red), 29s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 30s to 32s per qr; oats (new), 21s to 23s per qr; oats (old), 20s to 21s per qr. Wheat markets are quoted slightly lower on the week, but holders will not submit to any reduction.

Boston, Wednesday.—Very few samples of wheat shown. Last week's price of 32s per qr. was maintained. Grinding barley, 25s 6d; oats, 20s to 22s; beans, 31s to 32s; maize, 23s to 25s 6d.

Braintree, Wednesday.—An average supply of wheats, prices declining 1s per qr since last week; small business done. Reds made from 29s to 31s, and whites, 32s to 33s.

Bristol, Thursday.—Trade has been quiet since our last. At to-day's market we again had a very small attendance. There was not enough English wheat offering to test the market. Foreign, in some instances, was 6d lower. Barley, maize, and oats very firm, at late rates. The demand for flour is almost nil, consumers working down stocks, not having confidence in markets.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—The wheat trade during the week has been fluctuating. Supplies have been smaller, and the depression of the middle of the week has been recovered. The weather has continued showery, and hay making is progressing slowly. At this market to-day there was a very small supply, and farmers refused to take less money than last week. A small business was done at unaltered prices. Red wheat, 30s to 31s; and white up to 32s per 504lb. Beans hardening in price.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat in short supply and very firm. Oats quiet. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 30s to 32s; red ditto, 29s to 31s; grinding barley, 20s to 22s; white oats, 18s to 21s; black ditto, 18s to 20s 6d per quarter.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day; good sale at late rates, 22s to 23s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—A good hay-making day kept many farmers at home, and there was little trade passing in English grain. Oats and beans were in better demand, and Indian corn being in smaller supply, was 3d per sack dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 75lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb; beans, 4s 10d to 5s 6d per 80lb; oats, new, 2s 8d to 2s 11d; old, 2s 9d to 3s per 46lb; Indian corn, 11s to 11s 9d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Very small supply of wheat, the price of which was quoted 1s lower on the week. No material change in feeding stuffs. Flour tending downwards. Attendance very sparse.

Colchester, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering, and needy millers had to pay last week's prices. Nothing offering in spring corn.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Tone very firm, wheat being held for full values, and grinding barley for 3d per qr more. Other feeding stuffs made fully late rates.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our corn exchange to-day. Wheat and flour quiet, and prices tending in buyers' favour. Indian corn meets a slow sale at last Wednesday's prices. Canadian pease firm, and scarce on spot. Grinding beans firm, but unchanged. Canadian oats dull, and the turn cheaper. Home oats firm, but quiet. Barley and oatmeal firm, but in small request. Bran and thirds quiet and unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Gloucester, Saturday.—The market is exceedingly quiet, the improvement of the last two weeks having quite subsided. English wheat was mostly 6d to 1s per qr lower. Foreign held for late rates. Grinding barley steady. Maize and oats quiet at previous prices. Wheat, white, 28s to 30s 6d; red, 26s to 28s 6d; American, 31s to 33s; Plates, 30s to 31s; Flat maize, 21s to 21s 3d. Azoff barley, 21s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—English wheats firmly held, but concessions were necessary to do business. Foreign wheats 1s down on the week. Barleys nothing doing. Oats very quiet, 1s to 2s dearer. Beans dearer. Maize quietly steady. Prices: Wheat,—white, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per bushel; red, 3s 5d to 3s 8d; barley, 3s to 3s 5d; oats, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; beans, 3s 9d to 4s; maize, 3s to 3s 3d; potatoes—white, 4s to 6s; red spring, 3s 6d to 5s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat, trade quiet at barely last week's rates. Reds, 28s to 29s; white, 30s per qr. Grinding barley firm. Oats unaltered. Beans and peas slow.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The American markets continue extremely unsettled, bulls and bears alternately getting the upper hand; business on this side has consequently become very quiet and with fairly heavy stocks of wheat in the ports, both millers and speculators prefer resting on their oars and waiting the chapter of events. White wheat must be quoted 6d to 9d, reds 1s to 2s lower from the extreme prices of last Tuesday. Maize, beans, and oats firm and unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—The advance in prices obtained for wheat on Tuesday have not since been maintained, and on the little business passing to-day buyers have a decided advantage, both as regards English and foreign descriptions. Flour is also easier on the week to the extent of 1s to 2s per sack. Maize, oats, beans, peas, and grinding barley firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, which sold slowly at 30s to 32s per 33 stone. Beans steady. Fine oats in good demand.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small attendance. Very little English wheat on offer. Trade slow, at barely last week's rates. Reds, 29s to 30s; whites, 30s to 31s. Foreign wheats quiet. In oats, beans, peas, and maize the trade was slack, at late rates.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat firm, with a fair business; spring wheats 1d dearer, other sorts unchanged. Flour has had a moderate trade since last Tuesday and no change is made in the values of either foreign brands or home milled. Maize: Mixed American has again moved well into consumption and holders are firm at ½d per cental over last Friday's prices; European is quiet but shows little quotable change in prices; River Plate has however been in active request at full rates. Barley quietly steady at late rates. Beans in moderate demand and firmly held at recent prices. Peas quiet, about ½d per cental lower. Oats have had a better demand, and are firmly held at full prices. Oilcake firm at an occasional advance in prices, but buyers do not encourage any improvement in values. Oatmeal firmly held at the quotations, but inactive.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—From last week no alteration in the value of wheat, the tone to-day firm, sellers albeit not eager to quit samples. In barley and oats no change. Maize 3d per qr cheaper. Beans and peas as before.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat is nominally as last week in quotation, but actual prices in some instances show a decline of about 1s per qr. Foreign descriptions are 1d for white and 2d for red per cental lower. Flour meets with a continued slow demand at late rates. Barley and oats are quiet with the tendency however against the buyer. Indian corn is pretty much as seven days ago.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at our to-day's market ruled steady at last week's prices. Maize firm and in sellers' favour. Barley, peas, and beans unaltered. Scotch oats, 3d to 6d per 336 lbs dearer. Foreign steady at late rates. Flour unchanged.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—The weather now seems more settled and suitable for hay-making, at present in progress. Trade in wheat has had a check, prices having receded 1s per qr, and the same per sack almost applies to flour. Oats, beans, and peas remain steady, and will doubtless hold their own this side of harvest. Maize has had a wonderful time of it this year, and keeps as firm as ever.—GEO. W. WATSON AND CO.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—Wheat, after the rapid and big advance, has declined 1s per quarter, and is now firm. Maize an l offal dearer. Barley firm. Beans 6d dearer. Oats unchanged.

Norwich, Saturday.—A very small supply of wheat on offer to-day with a firm trade, and last week's prices were fully maintained. No improvement in the weather, which remains most unseasonable for all the growing crops. Wheat, red, 29s to 31s per qr, weight 63lbs per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending 2nd July, 1900:—Wheat 1623 4 26s 5d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat very small supply, firm at last week's rates. Oats, small supply, good demand, 6d advance. Beans, good demand, 6d dearer on the week.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Wheat firm, but quiet, at last week's prices, 29s to 32s.; holders disinclined to sell.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been very little wheat offering to-day, and trade was rather irregular, but prices on the whole were about the same as last week. Good oats scarce, and values have an upward tendency. Beans firm.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Fair trade and moderate attendance at to-day's market. Oats, 16s, Libau; Irish, 17s 3d; wheat, 24s; maize, 22s 6d; barley, 21s 3d ex ship now discharging.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—We had only a poor attendance in the Exchange to-day, hay harvest being in full swing, thanks to the fine weather experienced in this district during the past day or two. Wheat came to hand in limited quantities only, but trade proved very quiet, few sales taking place. Other sorts of corn changed hands at late figures.

Ripon, Thursday.—There is a slight reduction in wheat. The excitement has fallen off very much this week. Moderate attendance. Wheat, English, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; ditto foreign, 32s to 36s; barley, grinding, 24s to 25s; oats, 21s to 24s; round maize, 25s to 27s; flat maize, 23s per qr; beans, 11½d per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat was 1s to 1s 6d per quarter cheaper than last week. There was a very small supply on offer. Red wheat made 30s to 31s, and white wheat 31s to 33s per qr.

St. Neots, Thursday.—Small attendance and not much wheat offering, but it was not so much in request, and last week's prices were scarcely maintained.—ELGOOD AND SON.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Although the temperature has been low during the past week, the growing crops have made fair progress, and taking them all round they look more promising than they did. Hay harvest has become general. Rye grass and clover cut up a heavy crop, but meadow grass is not up to an average in quantity. Wheat has been an uninteresting trade, and values have remained unchanged from a week ago. Oats, peas, and beans have been firm. Flour has gone into consumption but slowly, but prices have been steady. For milling offals there has been a good inquiry, and former quotations have been maintained.—W. L. BROWNE AND CO.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Wheats were 2s lower on the week, selling at 29s 6d to 30s per qr. There was a small supply, and not much doing. Oats were unchanged, at 21s per qr. Beans 1s. No peas showing.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were very few samples of farmers' wheat showing, which made 29s to 30s per qr. The foreign wheat trade keeps extremely quiet owing to the collapse in the American markets, and prices may be quoted fully 1s below last week. Feeding stuffs unchanged.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Wheat in small supply, late rates about maintained. Barley and oats steady, unchanged. Arrivals coastwise: Wheat, 365 qrs.; malt, 515 qrs.; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Wheat quiet, but firm at last week's prices. Maize and barley about 3d dearer; other articles unchanged.

Wakefield, Friday.—A quiet tone prevails on our market to-day generally, and we quote wheats 1s per quarter easier on the week, with practically no business doing, millers being almost. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A short supply of grain. Wheat sold at full prices of Saturday last. Red, 30s; white, 31s; spring corn unchanged.—JAMES PEARSON.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A fair attendance, but poor business. Oats, 13s to 14s; beans (new), 15s 9d to 15s 6d; beans (old), 14s to 15s per 140lb; flat maize, 21s 6d to 22s per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Recent improvement in wheat not maintained, values being generally 6d to 1s lower. Foreign held for last week's prices. Beans and grinding barley firm. Maize quiet at late rates. Wheat, white, 28s to 29s; red, 26s to 28s per qr.

York, Saturday.—The few samples of wheat offered sold slowly at rather under last week's prices. Fine white wheat realised 29s to 30s; and red and mixed, 28s to 30s per quarter of 36 stone. Feeding barley, 23s to 26s. per quarter of 32 stone. Oats dearer and scarce. Fine white Tartary, 18s to 19s; black ditto, 19s to 20s; and short oats, 21s to 23s per quarter of 24 stone. The official corn return averages of the week have been:—Wheat, 27s 9d; and oats, 18s 7d per quarter.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has been inactive, but prices have been pretty well maintained. The harvest has been commenced in the south of France. Rye is being cut in the district round Lyons, and the cutting of wheat will follow, as the crop has reached an advanced stage of maturity. If the weather during the next two or three weeks is not unduly hot, a relatively satisfactory yield is anticipated, and the grain will be of good quality and well filled out. In the north of France also fewer complaints are now being heard from farmers; the wheat crop will be a smaller one this year but the quality will be good if the weather continues favourable. A recent advance in wheat at Paris, in consequence of the upward tendency of the American market, has been scarcely maintained; a slight improvement has, however, been established, upon the whole, in Parisian wheat quotations. French farmers have also shown no great eagerness to sell, as, although the appearance of the French wheat crops has improved of late, there must still be deficit this year as compared with 1899. Last week's imports of wheat at Marseilles amounted to 70,294 quintals. Flour for consumption has shown little change at Paris. Disposable wheat has been dull at Konigsberg and Dantzic. Odessa advices state that, while a few weeks since there were complaints of persistent drought in Southern Russia, there has now been too much rain. This is unfortunate, as the crops will soon be ready for harvesting. Wheat harvest has commenced in some of the districts watered by the Danube, but it will only become general during the next few days. The quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is 1,505,000qr.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report: At the beginning of the week the weather was more settled but since there have been torrents of rain, with a rather low temperature, which surely cannot be in favour of our barley crops, which badly want sunshine now, or the prospects will not be good. So far there are satisfactory reports from the Saale districts, Bohemia, and Moravia; whilst in Hungary the barley is nearly ripe, and cutting will commence next week; the quantity will turn out below the average, and quality will depend upon harvest weather.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Rainy weather continues, sadly interfering with haymaking. The imports during week amounted to:—6,035 tons wheat; 7,937 tons rye; 8,945 tons barley; 17,095 tons maize. Wheat quiet, but firm. Fine red Holstein and Mecklenburg is held at 29s 6d to 30s 9d per 504lb f.o.b.; fine River Plate, 27s 9d to 28s 6d; Hard Winter, 28s per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. There is not much demand for rye, but at the same time offers are scarce, and 9 10-15 South Russian floating is held at 23s 3d per 480lb. c.i.f. The growing crop of malting barley so far looks promising, except perhaps in Silesia and some parts of Hungary, where the plant was affected by drought. Stocks being well cleared, the new season is likely to commence with a good demand. Feeding barley firm. 6 6-8 Ko South Russian is held at 19s 6d per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed maize is offered mostly cheaper here from second hand than direct offers from America, which is not a sign of a sound state of the market, and in fact the demand from the consuming districts is not brisk. July and August shipments are offering at 20s 3d, River Plate floating at 20s 6d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

June 29th to July 6, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	41,450 qrs.
Flour	91,500 „
Total	132,950 „
Requirements	106,000 „
Surplus	26,950 „

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

June 30th to July 6th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	1,425	..	..	40,024	41,449
Barley	2,296	..	..	2,052	4,348
Malt	22,778	397	..	..	23,165
Oats	579	210	..	131,935	132,724
Rye	..	..	..	..	..
Beans	731	..	..	495	1,226
Peas	94	..	..	3,208	3,302
Maize	..	..	..	46,999	46,999
Tares	..	..	..	..	..
Lentils	..	..	..	660	660
Linseed	..	..	..	12,500	12,500
Rapeseed	..	..	..	2,000	2,000
Cottonseed	..	..	..	5,750	5,750
Farm Seeds	276	..	..	812	1,088
Flour { Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	21,081	..	..	101,086	122,167

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.

Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	Apr. 15	101,518 qrs.
„ 14	108,380 „	„ 22	70,984 „
„ 21	128,902 „	„ 29	68,573 „
„ 28	51,234 „	May 6	96,343 „
Feb. 4	126,333 „	„ 13	72,852 „
„ 11	82,912 „	„ 20	101,429 „
„ 18	204,974 „	„ 27	108,772 „
„ 25	108,273 „	June 3	73,846 „
Mar. 4	79,482 „	„ 10	126,781 „
„ 11	63,103 „	„ 17	160,574 „
„ 18	122,541 „	„ 24	101,295 „
„ 25	86,300 „	July 1	152,500 „
Apr. 1	174,642 „	„ 8	112,761 „
„ 8	133,261 „		

1900.

Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	Apr. 13	131,885 qrs.
„ 13	95,884 „	„ 20	82,857 „
„ 20	114,928 „	„ 27	43,783 „
„ 27	124,652 „	May 4	104,535 „
Feb. 3	70,835 „	„ 11	50,850 „
„ 10	75,000 „	„ 18	97,412 „
„ 17	66,804 „	„ 25	71,390 „
„ 24	62,191 „	„ 31	157,744 „
Mar. 3	79,976 „	June 8	93,147 „
„ 10	63,702 „	„ 15	86,125 „
„ 17	162,985 „	„ 22	198,116 „
„ 24	111,409 „	„ 29	142,185 „
„ 31	69,356 „	July 6	132,950 „
April 7	48,302 „		

LIVERPOOL STOCKS.

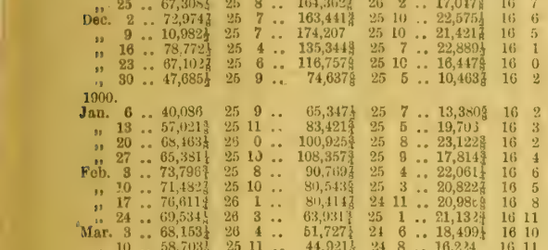
(Millers' holdings not included).

	June 30, 1900.	May 31, 1900.	June 30, 1899.
Wheat ..... Centals	1,802 3 9	1,178,390	1,535,962
Barley ..... ,,	184,229	208,316	219,557
Oats ..... ,,	48,254	47,255	13,362
Beans ..... ,,	29,348	55,496	10 312
Peas ..... ,,	39,546	16,718	39,603
Maize ..... ,,	716,204	938,059	720,530
Oatmeal ..... Loads	4,364	5,200	3 540
Flour ..... Sacks	68 472	98,338	115,393

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1899.									
July 8 ..	44,590½	25	7	265½	21	9	4,149½	18	1
,, 15 ..	40,428½	25	5	574½	20	4	6,573½	17	11
,, 22 ..	46,159½	25	5	168⅜	21	10	4,866⅜	18	0
,, 29 ..	41,692¼	25	2	257⅜	22	5	4,240	18	2
Aug. 5 ..	51,149⅜	24	10	246½	20	9	6,645⅜	18	
,, 12 ..	37,177½	24	8	184½	22	6	5,554⅜	17	9
,, 19 ..	33,399⅜	24	7	437⅜	26	11	6,120⅜	17	4
,, 26 ..	34,523¼	24	7	1,594½	26	5	9,205⅜	17	1
Sept. 2 ..	47,572⅜	25	0	6,709⅜	25	10	15,958⅜	16	7
,, 9 ..	67,996½	25	5	17,408½	26	5	16,195	16	6
,, 16 ..	80,281½	25	4	33,143⅜	27	1	19,291⅜	16	2
,, 23 ..	85,104½	25	4	77,678⅜	27	4	22,128	16	1
,, 30 ..	79,612½	25	6	97,917⅜	28	11	23,193	16	5
Oct 7 ..	71,152⅜	26	0	169,315½	28	0	21,440½	16	5
,, 14 ..	63,040⅜	27	3	191,901⅜	27	9	18,024½	16	5
,, 21 ..	64,242	28	2	192,268½	27	6	18,983⅜	16	10
,, 28 ..	85,178⅛	28	1	219,787			20,054⅜	16	3
Nov. 4 ..	82,709⅜	27	2	203,071⅞	27	2	17,895½	16	7
,, 11 ..	66,741⅜	26	7	166,780⅜	26	9	15,216⅜	16	5
,, 18 ..	65,170½	26	1	163,915½	26	4	16,313½	16	7
,, 25 ..	67,308½	25	8	164,362⅜	26	2	17,017⅜	16	7
Dec. 2 ..	72,974⅜	25	7	163,441⅜	25	10	22,575½	16	6
,, 9 ..	10,982½	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421⅞	16	5
,, 16 ..	78,772½	25	4	135,344⅜	25	7	22,880½	16	1
,, 23 ..	67,102⅜	25	6	116,757⅜	25	10	16,447⅜	16	0
,, 30 ..	47,685½	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,463⅜	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6 ..	40,086	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅜	16	2
,, 13 ..	57,021⅜	25	11	83,421⅜	25	5	19,705	16	3
,, 20 ..	68,463½	25	0	100,925⅜	25	8	23,122⅜	16	2
,, 27 ..	65,381½	25	10	108,357⅜	25	9	17,814⅜	16	4
Feb. 3 ..	73,796⅜	25	8	90,769½	25	4	22,061½	16	6
,, 10 ..	71,482⅜	25	10	80,543⅜	25	3	20,822½	16	5
,, 17 ..	76,611⅜	26	1	80,414⅜	24	11	20,986⅜	16	8
,, 24 ..	69,534½	26	3	63,931⅜	25	1	21,132⅜	16	11
Mar. 3 ..	68,153⅜	26	4	51,727½	24	6	18,499½	16	10
,, 10 ..	58,703½	25	11	44,921½	24	8	16,224	16	11
,, 17 ..	76,435⅜	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,104⅜	16	11
,, 24 ..	69,944½	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042⅜	16	7
,, 31 ..	72,762	25	10	34,387½	24	11	15,209⅜	17	0
April 7 ..	67,743½	25	10	20,402⅜	24	10	13,757⅜	17	2
,, 14 ..	65,412½	25	11	19,519½	24	5	9,672⅜	17	8
,, 21 ..	54,977⅜	26	0	11,673½	24	9	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28 ..	70,906⅜	26	0	7,785⅜	25	2	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5 ..	75,410½	25	11	8,159½	25	3	8,658½	18	0
,, 12 ..	82,190⅜	25	11	10,417⅜	24	10	12,245½	17	11
,, 19 ..	83,941½	25	7	5,638⅜	24	5	9,942	18	5
,, 26 ..	95,574⅜	25	5	3,521½	23	11	7,350⅞	18	2
June 2 ..	68,906⅜	25	5	1,752½	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9 ..	64,747½	25	3	990⅜	23	8	6,053⅜	18	8
,, 16 ..	55,340⅜	25	6	1,486⅜	23	8	7,228⅜	18	11
,, 23 ..	54,324½	25	9	1,312½	23	5	5,344½	18	11
,, 30 ..	44,920⅜	26	11	495⅜	23	4	4,706½	19	3
July 7 ..	34,344½	27	10	486½	22	10	4,391½	19	5

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890 ..	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891 ..	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892 ..	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893 ..	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894 ..	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895 ..	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896 ..	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897 ..	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898 ..	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899 ..	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	..	..	..
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	..	..	..
September ..	25 4	26 10	16 5	..	..	..
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November.....	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended July 7th, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 87.

Wheat	34,344½ qrs.	27s. 10d.
Barley	486½ qrs.	22s. 10d.
Oats	4,391½ qrs.	19s. 5d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to July 7th, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

Years.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	15,318⅜ ..	24	7	449 ..	18	11	2,589½ ..	14	9
1897....	26,282⅜ ..	27	4	948 ..	17	4	2,532½ ..	18	8
1898....	10,517½ ..	33	10	514 ..	25	0	2,878⅜ ..	20	5
1899....	44,599½ ..	25	7	265½ ..	21	9	4,149½ ..	18	1

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 3rd, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	235	4	374	15	6	1	10	2
Barley	44	1	52	1	3	1	3	7
Oats	749	0	735	14	9	0	19	8

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICE CHANGES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1899.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1.....	(per sack) 26	6	.... (per sack)	23	6
,, 4.....	,, 26	0	.... ,,	23	0
,, 25.....	,, 26	6	.... ,,	23	6
October 2.....	,, 27	0	.... ,,	24	0
November 20.....	,, 26	6	.... ,,	23	6
,, 27.....	,, 26	0	.... ,,	23	0
December 11.....	,, 25	6	.... ,,	22	6
,, 18.....	,, 26	0	.... ,,	23	0
May 14.....	,, 25	6	.... ,,	22	6
June 18.....	,, 26	0	.... ,,	23	0
,, 20.....	,, 26	6	.... ,,	23	6
,, 25.....	,, 28	6	.... ,,	25	6
,, 27.....	,, 29	6	.... ,,	26	6
July 2.....	,, 29	0	.... ,,	26	0

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

	s.	d.
January 1, 1900 .....(per sack)	28	0
April 2, ,, ... ,,	27	0
June 22, ,, ... ,,	30	0
,, 27, ,, ... ,,	31	0
July 4, ,, ... ,,	30	0

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	..		21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	..		21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	..		22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	..		23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov. ..	..		22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June ..	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July ..	..		27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	..		27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	..		25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	..		24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	..		24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec. ..	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Av'rage	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good demand prevailed for the fair supplies on offer. Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 3s 9d; Essex, 2s to 2s 6d; Surrey, 3s to 4s 3d; Sussex, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Boston, 1s 10d to 2s 4d; Irish, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; Welsh, 2s to 2s 9d; Russian, 1s 3d to 2s; Aylesbury ducklings, 3s to 3s 6d; country ducks, 2s to 2s 9d; goslings, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Bordeaux pigeons, 11d to 1s 2d; feathered, 9d to 11d; wild rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 8d; tame, 1s 2d to 1s 8d each; Australian ditto, 6s 6d to 8s 6d per dozen.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of cheese were fair. All grades are now in the market. The demand, however, is very moderate, as many are inclined to hold off from buying, believing that prices will not hold. Cheddars and Dunlops are quoted from 50s to 56s per cwt. American parcels are arriving freely, and the quality is improving. The demand is moderate, with values steady.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon.—Market rules fairly firm, advices from Chicago being steady, but the demand is only moderate, and there is some accumulation of stock. Hams meet with more inquiry, and the tendency is to an improvement in values. Lard is in good demand, and prices are higher. Beef dull and easier to buy. Pork is steady at recent values. Cheese.—There has been but a moderate demand, and values are again easier, with buyers holding off. Butter.—The market is quieter, with a small trade passing.—HODGSON BROTHERS.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 1d per lb. Settle: 10d to 11d per lb. Spalding: 1s per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Boston: 10d to 1s per lb. Colne: 1s 0d per lb. Gordale: 1s 1d per lb. Keighley: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 8d to 9d per lb. Knaresborough: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per roll of 24oz. Louth (wholesale): 10d to 11d per lb. Market Weighton: 10d per lb. Masham: 1s to 1s 2d per roll of 24ozs. Northallerton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 10d to 11d per lb. Whitby: 9½d to 10d per lb. Worksop: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Hereford: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Market Drayton: 11d to 1s per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s to 1s 1d per lb.

Thursday.—Devizes: Wholesale 11½ to 1s, retail 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Birmingham: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Brigg: 1s per lb. Driffield: 10d per lb. Penistone: 11d per lb, to 1s 5d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 11d to 1s per lb. Wetherby: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Liverpool: Danish, finest 112s to 116s, secondary 106s to 110s; Irish creameries, 100s to 104s. Bristol: Irish butters are a shade easier. Irish centrifugals, 105s to 107s. Cardiff: Supplies are increasing, and prices gene-

rally are 1s to 2s lower. Irish creameries [illegible] lots a few [illegible] Waterford [illegible] to the Dublin [illegible] Newcastle: [illegible] but market [illegible] and rather weaker. Leith: Demand limited, but supplies less and little [illegible] Belfast: [illegible] per lb. Shrewsbury: [illegible] Helmsley: [illegible] of 24oz. [illegible] roll of 24oz. Derby: [illegible] sold to 1s 1d per lb. Wincanton: [illegible] ter: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per score.

Thursday.—Devizes: 16 to 18 for a shilling. Birmingham: 12 for 1s. Brigg: [illegible] Penistone: 14 for 1s. Ripon: [illegible] 15 for 1s. Wetherby: 14 or 15 for 1s. Liverpool: The demand is slow and supplies [illegible] unchanged. Cardiff: [illegible] 68 to 70; Welsh ex [illegible] Friday. Manchester: [illegible] classes not pressed for sale [illegible] demand for best kinds [illegible] castle-on-Tyne: Best Danish [illegible] per 120. Glasgow: Eggs: [illegible] to 3s 6d; Danish 6s to 7s; Russian, 4s 3d to 5s 3d. Leith: Prime Danish [illegible] 120. Sandbach: 14 to 15 for 1s. Lincolnwold: 16 to 18 for 1s. Helmsley: 16 or 17 for 1s. Leyburn: 16 for 1s. Lincoln: 14 or 15 for 1s. Otley: 14 or 15 for 1s. Derby: 15 for 1s. [illegible] score. Whitchurch: hen eggs 14 and 15 for 1s; duck eggs 10 and 11 for 1s.; turkey [illegible]

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden. Saturday.—Fair arrivals [illegible] and fruit [illegible] supply, and met a good demand. Greenstuffs:—Cabbages, 4s per [illegible] sprouts, 2s per [illegible] to 2s 6d per [illegible] asparagus, 1s 6d to 2s per [illegible] 4s to 6s per dozen bunches. Potatoes [illegible] Kidneys, 6s to 6s 6d; [illegible] Rounds, 5s to 5s 6d; [illegible] Early Puritans, 6s 6d [illegible] Rocks, 8s to 8s 6d; [illegible] Ford Regents, 4s to 5s per [illegible] English [illegible] sieve; English [illegible] French, 1s 6d to [illegible] dozen; [illegible] 6d to [illegible] onions, 1s to 1s 4d [illegible] bunches, 2s to 2s 6d per [illegible]

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields. Saturday.—The [illegible] demand [illegible] Regents: [illegible] 8s; [illegible] Reading: [illegible] 9s; [illegible] Kidneys, 6s 6d to [illegible] 7s 6d; [illegible] to 6s 3d per [illegible]

HOPS.

Canterbury. Saturday. [illegible] some, and the [illegible] to [illegible] the growth [illegible] at 5s to 5s 5s per [illegible] duce are [illegible]

Worcester. Saturday. [illegible] all [illegible] less favourable crop prospects. One growth of over 500 pockets changed hands this week, and some other sales have taken [illegible]

Worcester. Saturday. Reports [illegible] continue [illegible] blight leave [illegible] which is very uneven and backward for this time of the year. The trade is rather quiet, but prices remain very firm, with a tendency to harden, and good sound lots are becoming scarcer. [illegible]

MANURES.

Liverpool. Saturday. [illegible] changed in value excepting East India bone meal, which has [illegible] shipment parcels. There is a quiet demand for feeding stuffs, and the following are the current rates. American linseed cakes are, however, fairly held, and the late advance in linseed [illegible] bid and refused for 100 tons Metzger brand American linseed cake. [illegible] cwt. [illegible] meal, in bags, £4 to £4 5s per ton; kainit, prime 25 per cent. [illegible] £7 10s per ton; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 to £8 5s per ton; linseed cake, foreign, round, prime, soft and [illegible]

Winsford Cheshire [illegible] at the works [illegible] rock salt, 8s 6d per ton, for truck loads in bulk.—THE SALT UNION, LIMITED.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The season is not developing very rapidly or very well. The solar heat of Friday reached 120 degrees *in vacuo*, but the temperature of the week ending the 7th inst. was not quite an average, and the critical period of fertilisation being with us the anxieties of the wheat grower are excited by every high wind or "washing" storm of rain. The fall of the latter for the past half of the year was as follows :—

	This Season.		Fifty Years' Average.
January	2·75	.....	1·89
February	3·81	.....	1·62
March	1·10	.....	1·63
April	0·72	.....	1·80
May	0·98	.....	2·10
June	2·73	.....	1·99
Half-year	12·09	.....	10·94

Since July came in the fall has been just 1 inch, against a daily mean for fifty years of ·071 per diem, or ·497 for seven days. The total fall, therefore, from January 1 to July 7 inclusive, was 13·090 inches, as compared with an average of 11·437 inches. The excess is not at all heavy, but it makes a dry period from July 8 to August 8 of vital importance for the hardening of the grain within the ear. Soft and weak wheat, bad to grind and poor in gluten, would be a far greater calamity to the farmers than a smaller yield per acre if of good milling quality for commanding a prompt sale to millers. This is a feature which agricultural returns cannot give, but is of the greatest importance to farmers.

The recent excitement over the poor prospects of the growing wheat in the American North-West has been mainly due to the need there is of the hard, strong grain grown by this region. The wheat is largely of the Fife variety, and came from Scotland through Canada, but it is grown as a spring crop, and not as a winter one, the severe winter in the North-West being fatal to October or November-sown corns. The price of this wheat ranges 1s. 6d. to 3s. above that of English, and the difference of climate, which adds this important premium to the American, may well be considered for a moment.

The great wheat State of Minnesota is about the size of England, but its climate differs in the colder winter, spring, and autumn, and in the much hotter summer. The following are the average temperatures :

	England. Deg.	Min.		Minnesota. Deg.	Min.
January	38	50	.....	18	45
April	47	20	.....	45	50
July	62	40	.....	70	49
October	50	00	.....	44	14

The finer milling wheat of Minnesota is not the product of a dryer air, as the average rainfall in the State is seven inches more than in England. The importance to quality in wheat of a rapid increase of temperature from April to July appears to be indicated as also the value of 70 degrees, as against 62 degrees, in the July temperature itself. It is possible, however, that more might be done by our own farmers so cultivate types of wheat giving strength and milling quality on a comparatively low summer temperature. The fact of the Scotch type of winter-sown wheat having been converted into an American type of spring sown argues that much may be done. Millers complain that English farmers often neglect the essential requirements of the mill, but we fear that a summer temperature about 70 degrees is the ideal of the wheat plant, and that the regions enjoying that temperature, neither much more nor much less, will continue to have the call on the rest of the wheat-producing world.

The wheat markets from the 3rd to the 7th have been very quiet, but as the week wore on firmness was regained, and the reactionary tendency of June 30th and July 2nd was eliminated, and import on the 6th advanced a penny per cental for some sorts of wheat. The world's crop promise is not good enough to warrant any sound wheat being sold under a thirty shilling level. Present prices thus compare with a year ago :—

Wheat.	London.		Paris.	New York.
1900	31s 0d	....	36s 0d	30s 9d
1899	27s 0d	....	35s 0d	26s 0d

The stocks in the twelve great ports are thus returned :—

1900.	January 1. Qrs.	April 1. Qrs.	July 1. Qrs.
Wheat	1,492,000 ..	802,000 ..	1,380,000
Barley	666 000 ..	513,000 ..	474,000
Oats	604,000 ..	471,000 ..	390,000
Maize	833,000 ..	333,000 ..	392,000
	Sacks.	Sacks.	Sacks.
Flour	863,000 ..	815,000 ..	852,000

The holdings of flour are somewhat formidable for the time of year, as few care to hold much flour in hot weather. The other totals are moderate, and in the case of maize the figures are unexpectedly small. London holds the following quantities of grain :—Wheat, 133,329 qrs. ; barley, 90,099 qrs. ; malt, 1,677 qrs. ; oats, 238,000 qrs. ; rye, 3,199 qrs. ; beans, 7,414 qrs. ; peas, 16,654 qrs. ; maize, 49,962 qrs. ; tares, 542 qrs. ; lentals, 266 qrs. ; linseed, 1,291 qrs. ; rapeseed, 732 qrs. ; cottonseed, 2,327 qrs. ; oilcakes, 6,530 tons ; and flour, 365,000 sacks. As compared with a year ago, the following changes are shown : Increased reserves, rye, beans, peas, tares, cottonseed, and flour ; diminished stocks, wheat, barley, malt, oats, maize, linseed, rapeseed, and oilcake.

The following supplies are now on passage to the U.K. :—

Wheat.	Qrs.
Californian	965,000
American	420,000
Argentine	415,000
Russian	20,000
Australian	240,000
All other countries	15,000
1900—Total for July	2,075,000
1899 " "	2,510,000
1898 " "	2,585,000
1897 " "	781,000
1896 " "	1,731,000

Expectations of spring corn are as follows :—

	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.
July 7, 1900	605,000	235,000
"	912,000	175,000
"	679,000	262,000

Of beans there are 9,000 qrs. on passage, of linseed 132,000 qrs., of rapeseed 11,000 qrs., and of cottonseed 36,665 qrs.

The following return shows the shipments o linseed from the four leading sources of supply :—

LINSEED SHIPMENTS.
Half-year Jan. 1 to June 30.

	Qrs.
From Russia	305,000
" America	5,000
" India	986,000
" Argentina	1,116,000
Total	2,412,000
	Qrs.
Same period, 1899	2,724,000
" 1898	2,094,000

The market for spring corn has been dull, but not weak. Cheap and light oats from Russia have been out of favour, and in beans, peas, and lentils nothing worth speaking of has been doing. Maize, however, continues to command a steady retail enquiry ; Persian barley is taken off the hands of importers as soon as it arrives, and even Californian barley, so long neglected, is now not quite so depressed as formerly.

THE BALTIC.

The sales of wheat cargoes have not been numerous, but the following transactions have occurred :—Californian, 31s. 6d. on passage, 32s. prompt shipment ; Walla Walla, 30s., arrived ; New Zealand, 30s. 9d., August shipment ; Argentine, 29s. 3d., August ; Odessa Ghurka, 32s., August, and fine Azima, 34s., October. A cargo of Siberian wheat now loading has been sold for 30s. per qr., and 32s. 3d. is said to be obtainable for No. 1 Northern for August shipment. Maize cargoes are a little firmer, with 24s. paid for Odessa, 19s. 9d. for American, 21s. 3d. for La Plata, and 22s. 3d. for Roumanian. Barley cargoes are in improved request ; 18s. 6d. is paid for Azoff, 17s. 6d. for Persian, and 27s. for fine Californian. Other cargo sales include Larache beans at 27s. 6d., Canadian white peas at 28s., brown Cawnpore rapeseed at 45s., Canadian linseed at 54s., and Bombay poppyseed at 47s. 6d. per qr.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 1 beans (Larache).

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were :—1 wheat (Limerick), 2 barley (1 Leith, 1 Mistley) ; total, 3.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been 180 wheat, 13 wheat and barley, 6 flour, 8 maize, 1 maize and oats, 21 barley, 14 beans, 6 locust beans, 1 linseed, 2 canaryseed, 5 valonea ; total, 257.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 166 wheat, 8 flour, 3 maize, 6 barley, 1 barley and beans, 6 beans, 1 locust beans, 4 linseed, 4 canaryseed, and 7 valonea ; total, 206.

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	240,000	147,000	515,000	40,000	132,000
Russia	111,000	—	45,000	60,000	192,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary ..	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	75,000	—	45,000	4,000	—
Argentina	233,000	5,000	145,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	15,000	—	—	—	6,000
Miscellaneous	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total ..	694,000	167,000	770,000	124,000	330,000

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was very firm, and at the same time very dull, for, while holders are confident that present prices can, and should be, maintained, buyers do not regard the height of summer as a period when purchases should exceed absolute wants from work to week. All sorts of English and foreign wheat and barley were fully as dear as on the 2nd, but were not dearer from then. Maize was 3d. up for all kinds. Oats were a quiet trade. Muttor peas from India had buyers at 23s., while good Smyrna millet made 38s., and the best French 46s. per qr. Torrified barley has a small sale at 22s. 6d. per 336lbs., and there are a few buyers of Dutch linseed at 54s. per qr. Split Egyptian tentils made 10s. 6d. to 11s. per cental, while the finest Scotch gores (tares) command 64s. and even 66s. per qr.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

JULY 9, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	31	— 33
Red	"	29	— 32
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30	— 37
Brewing	"	25	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	"	36	— 38
Brown	"	29	— 32
OATS, English	"	19	— 23
Scotch	"	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 19
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	"	43	— 45
" Winter	"	30	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
" Blue (boiling)	"	68	— 76
" Dun	"	32	— 34
" Maple	"	38	— 40

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	34	— 35
American Spring	33	— 34
" Winter	32	— 33
Hard Manitoba	33	— 34
White Canadian	33	— 34
Red "	32	— 33
Californian	33	— 34
Walla Walla	32	— 33
Australian	32	— 33
New Zealand	32	— 33
Argentine	31	— 32
Danzig	34	— 35
Saxonka	33	— 34
Azima	32	— 33
Ghirka	31	— 32
Persian	30	— 31
MAIZE, per 480lb. :		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Roumanian	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 25
Caucasian	24	— 25
Argentine	23	— 24
American	21	—21/3
OATS :		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	16/6	—17
American (320lb.)		
" White	16/6	—17
" Mixed	15/9	—16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	— 17
" (304lb.)	13/6	—15
Libau white (304lb.)	13	—13/9
" black "	15	—15/3
BEANS, per 480lb. :		
Konigsberg	28	— 29
Egyptian	29	— 30
Smyrna	28	— 29
Barbary	27	— 28
LOCUST BEANS, per ton :		
Cyprian	106	— 112
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Canadian, White	30	— 31
Indian, White	28	— 30
" Green	25	— 27
Barbary	26	— 28
Dutch	41	— 43
LENTILS, per 504 lb. :		
Egyptian	29	— 31
Indian	36	— 38
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	26	— 27
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb. :		
French	28	— 29
Russian	25	— 26
BARLEY :		
Calif. Chev. (448 lb.)	28	— 29
Calif. Brew. (448 lb.)	27	— 28
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 24
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Persian (400 lb.)	17/9	—18
American (400 lb.)	20/2	—21
MALT, per 336 lb. :		
Californian	34	— 37
Smyrna	33	— 36

OIL SEEDS

LINSEED.	per 416lb. s.	s.
English	55	to 56
Dutch	53	to 55
Argentine	52	to 54
Canadian	55	to 56
Russian	50	to 51
Calcutta	53	to 55
SESAME.	per 424lb.	
Bombay	50	to 52
Kurrachee	53	to 54
COTTON SEED.	per ton.	
Egyptian	128	to 130

RAPESEED.	per 416lb s.	s.
English	55	to 57
Dutch	52	to 54
French	47	to 48
Cawnpore (yellow)	46	to 47
" (brown)	43	to 44
Calcutta (brown)	43	to 44
Guzerat	43	to 44
Ferozepore	44	to 45
Ravison	29	to 31
POPPYSEED.	per 377lb.	
Indian	47	to 48

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITHOUT FURTHER CHANGES. THERE WERE FAIRLY FREE PURCHASERS OF MAIZE, OF ENGLISH WHEAT AND OATS, AND OF HEAVY NEW ZEALAND OATS, BUT OTHER ARTICLES SOLD SLOWLY.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, July 9.

There were few changes on hand in flour to-day. Top price 30s., Town Whites, 27s. 6d., made 28s. often asked. Households firm at 24s. 6d. Country flour was very firmly held, finest special patents being quoted at 26s. A fine mixture of 80 per cent. Norfolk with 20 per cent. stronger North-western was probably cheap at 22s. 6d. per sack. The week's arrivals of American include 6,000 sacks or Morrison's Superlative, 2,000 of Ceresota, 6,700 of Washburn's Superlative, and 2,000 of "Star." The first might possibly be quoted at 24s. 6d., Washburn's at 25s. 6d. The popular brand of Iron Duke was firm at a guinea per sack. The general tone of the market for American flour was not very strong, as the fresh shipments cabled are considerable. Hungarian flour offerings include six anchors at 30s. 6d. to 31s., five Roses at 31s., Victoria Empress at 32s., and Five Arrows at 30s. 6d. to 31s. per sack. Finest English makes by Hungarian process come at 28s. 6d. to 29s. per sack. The market for bran and pollard was dull. Rye flour made 20s. 6d. per sack for best, and ground rice had some sale at 9s. 9d. to 10s. per cwt.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s
Top Price	(per sack)	—	30
Town Whites	,,	27/6	–28
,, Households	,,	24/6	–25
No 2	,,	23	– 24

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	26	— 27
Fine Roller made	,,	25	— 26
Ordinary Roller made	,,	24	— 25
Best Stone made	,,	23	— 24
Ordinary Stone made	,,	21	— 23

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25	— 27
,, Second Patents	,,	24	— 25
,, First Bakers'	,,	21	— 23
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Milwaukee Patents	,,	25	— 26
,, Bakers'	,,	21	— 23
Kansas Patents	,,	25	— 26
Oregon	,,	23	–24 6
Californian	,,	22	— 23
Hungarian	,,	30	—31/6
French	,,	20	— 22

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	170	—172
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	107	—109
Bran, London Broad	,,	97	–102
,, ,, Fine	,,	76	— 82
,, Country Flake	,,	106	—108
,, ,, Broad	,,	94	— 96
Pollard	,,	76	— 82
Fine Middlings	,,	104	—110
Coarse Middlings	,,	92	— 96
Oat Meal	,,	212	—372
Oat Flour	,,	337	—362
Maize Flour	,,	130	—132
Maize Meal	,,	112	–122
Maize Cones	,,	142	–146
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	94	— 96
Pea Meal	,,	128	—158
Bean Meal	,,	152	–172
Rice Meal	,,	87	— 92

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day at South Sea House, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—		July. s. d.	Aug. s. d.	Oct. s d.	Dec. s. d.
July 2	noon	—	6 9	6 10	6 10
	4 p.m.	—	6 9	6 10	6 10
July 3	noon	—	6 9	6 10	6 10
	4 p.m.	—	6 9	6 10	6 10
July 4	noon	—	6 9	6 10	6 10
	4 p.m.	—	6 9	6 10	6 10
July 5	noon	6 9	6 9	6 10	6 10
	4 p.m.	6 8	6 9	6 10	6 10
July 6	noon	6 8	6 9	6 10	6 11
	4 p.m.	6 8	6 9	6 10	6 11
June 7	noon	6 9	6 10	6 11	6 11
To-day	noon	6 9	6 9	6 11	7 10

Maize is firm at 4s. 4d. per cental for July and August deliveries.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that a quiet tone, as usual at this season, now characterizes the seed trade. Further accounts received from America speak badly of the prospects for the new cloverseed crop. Meantime, with German inquiries still prevailing, a very firm feeling for seeds generally pervades the London market. Trefoil favours holders; and higher prices are also asked for Italian ryegrass. Samples continue to arrive of new French trifolium, but hardly any business has resulted therefrom. There is nofresh feature in the trade for birdseeds; mustard and rapeseed unchanged. Blue peas and haricot beans meantime command full rates.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Wheat moderate arrivals, a slow trade at prices of last week. Flour unchanged. Maize 3d per quarter dearer. Barley and oats unchanged.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

The trade for London made offals is firm at full prices, although our country buyers stand off somewhat over the recent advance. However, sellers here are firm for all qualities.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Flour.—A quiet trade at last week's prices.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

The wheat trade has been very firm at last week's currencies. Feeding stuffs are firm and 3d. dearer on the week. Flour held for rather higher values.—W. P. WOOD AND CO., Mark Lane.

The past has been an exceedingly quiet week in our trade, but all farm seeds are held with much firmness and stocks are unusually light. New French trifolium is of fine quality, but the price asked at present is above the views of buyers. Birdseeds continue dull. Haricots and blue peas are scarce and firm.—JOHN PICARD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Offals: The consumptive demand is very quiet. The improved quotations by millers have lessened the speculative purchasing. Weather warmer and showery.—GREENHILL BROTHERS, Belfast, July 7.

Flour: Since Wednesday the tone of the market has improved, but buyers are still awanting. Quotations for flour are very irregular. Grain: Indian corn firm at 1½d. advance. Beans held for full prices. Canadian oats pressed for sale at 3d. per boll decline. Pease still very scarce. Oatmeal unchanged. Mill stuffs, dull, owing to pressure for deliveries. MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, July 7.

Wheat firm, with a fair business; spring wheat is per cental 1d. dearer, other sorts unchanged. Flour has had a moderate trade since last Tuesday and no change is made in the values of either foreign brands or home milled. Maize, mixed American has again moved well into consumption and holders are firm at ½d. per cental over last Friday's prices; European is quiet but shows little quotable change in prices; River Plate has, however, been in active request at full rates. Barley quietly steady at late rates. Beans in moderate demand and firmly held at recent prices. Peas quiet, about ½d. per cental lower. Oats have had a better demand, and are firmly held at full prices. Oilcake firm at an occasional advance in prices, but buyers do not encourage any improvement in values. Oatmeal firmly held at the quotations, but inactive.—ROSS. T. SMYTH, Liverpool, July 7.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Californian wheat cargoes are rather weak, and white wheat is not so good a trade as red. The best American spring wheat is firmly held, and red Winter for any September shipment is hardly offered. Cargoes of Argentine wheat are steady despite the big shipments since July 1. Maize and barley cargoes are not sought after, and oats are rather depressed. Cottonseed cargoes are better, linseed and rapeseed are unchanged.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—No. 1 Northern, 32s, prompt shipment; No. 1 Californian, 31s, prompt shipment; Walla Walla, 30s, prompt shipment; Argentine 28s 6d, August shipment.

MAIZE.—Roumanian, 22s, August shipment; Argentine, 21s, August shipment; American, 19s 9d, August shipment; Odessa, 24s, on passage.

BARLEY.—Persian, 17s 6d arrived, 17s 3d, on passage; Odessa, 19s October shipment; Salonica, 19s 6d, on passage.

OATS.—White Canadian, 15s 6d, July shipment.

PEAS.—White Canadian, 27s 9d, on passage.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 7s 6d, prompt shipment.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: There is more enquiry on the market this morning for hops, and the smallness of the stocks makes it difficult for merchants to find hops to suit their requirements. The aphis blight still continues.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Market for American and Russian is 2s 6d to 5s up. London made 2s 6d dearer. Decorticated cottons are scarce, and 5s up; undecorticated 2s 6d dearer. Linseed is 3d lower on the week.

English linseed cake	£7 17 6	to	8 0 0	ex mill
American Western linseed cake	7 7 6			ex quay
Russian oil cake	7 8 9	to	7 15 0	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 p.c. oil)	—			ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	6 12 6	to	6 15 0	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6 10 0			ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	4 10 0			ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4 7 6			ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4 6 3			on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4 5 0			ex quay
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	7 15 0	to	7 16 0	ex warehouse

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, [illegible]

	British.	Foreign.
Beasts	1,080	1,080 — 135
Sheep and lambs	—	—
Calves	10	10 — 10
Milch cows	[illegible]	[illegible]

Quotations per stone (cattle this week).

ENGLISH.	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First s. d.
Beasts	3 4 —	4 4 —	5 0
Sheep	[illegible]	—	[illegible]
Lambs	5 6 ..	5 10 ..	6 4

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £21 10s.

British arrivals include as follows: [illegible] Counties, 237; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 726; Devon, 30; and Ireland, 87.

There was a [illegible] supply of [illegible] with an increase from the Midlands. [illegible] was firm in value for [illegible] Fat bulls and [illegible] steady demand, [illegible] offers were difficult to [illegible] 59 stores, for which there was little inquiry.

The following are top [illegible] offal):—

	To-day	Last week	Year ago
Herefords	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Norfolks	4s 7d to 4s 8d	4s 4d to 4s 8d	[illegible]
Lincolns	4s 6d to 4s 7d	[illegible]	[illegible]
Irish	— —	3s 10d to 4s 0d	[illegible]
Fat cows	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

To the sheep market [illegible] penned compared with Monday last. Trade [illegible] and ewes was firm, with a [illegible] clearance being made. For best [illegible] and higher rates by 2d per [illegible] quality. The supply included 560 Irish, 1,630 from the Eastern counties, and 170 Scotch.

Undermentioned quotations are [illegible] offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day	Last week	Year ago
7½ to 8-stone Downs	6s 2d to 6s 4d	[illegible]	[illegible]
9-stone ditto	6s 4d to 6s 6d	[illegible]	[illegible]
10-stone half-breds	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 4d to 5s 6d	[illegible]
12-stone Lincolns	— to —	4s 10d to 5s 0d	[illegible]
10-stone Irish	5s 6d to 5s 8d	4s 10d to 5s 0d	[illegible]
10-stone Down ewes	4s 8d to 4s 10d	[illegible]	[illegible]
11-stone half-bred ditto	4s 4d to 4s 6d	— to —	[illegible]
5-stone Down lambs	6s 2d to 6s 4d	6s 2d to 6s 4d	[illegible]
8-stone half-bred ditto	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 10d to 6s 0d	[illegible]

Calf and pig trade [illegible]

London Central, Monday.—Moderate supplies; trade slow. Beef (carcases), 3s 11d to 4s; hindquarters, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; roastings, 5s to 5s 4d. Sheep: Ewe, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; wether, 4s 10d to 5s 4d; hindquarters [illegible] wether, 5s 10d to 6s 2d. Pigs: Large, 2s 8d to 3s; small, 3s 4d to 3s 8d.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 382, sheep and lambs 1,917, pigs 378, horses 3. Beef, 7s 8d to 8s 3d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d; lamb, 9d to 10d; pork, 6s to 6s 6d. Fat beast good demand, stores slow, fat and store sheep flat; fat and store pigs better trade. Milch cows, fair prices, £13 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Liverpool Monday. Trade slow for cattle at [illegible] favour of buyers for all classes. Larger supply of sheep and lambs, slow demand, and prices lower all round. Beef, 7d to 5d; mutton, 8¼d to 5½d per lb; lambs, 8½d to 7d per lb. At market: 631 cattle and 14,638 sheep.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from [illegible] were 2,894 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 10,127 bales bacon. The supply of bacon continues somewhat in excess of demand, and last week prices, although not officially altered, were much in buyers favour [illegible] easier. The market was [illegible] stock left over at the close. Irish, 50s to 60s up to 68s; Danish, 46s to 58s up to 66s; Canadian, 48s to 54s up to 58s. Butter market was slow, and [illegible] generally was quiet, all considering, butters yet too high in price and looking for further reductions. French, 88s to 100s; Danish, 100s to 110s; Irish, 90s to 100s. Lard quiet, unchanged. Irish, 43s to 50s; Danish, 46s; American, 36s to 38s.

CORK BUTTER.

	ORDINARY. Firsts	Seconds	Thirds	Fourths	Superfine	FIRKINS. Fine.	Mild.
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.
Monday ..	84	83	81	[illegible]	91	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tuesday ..	84	83	80	[illegible]	90	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wednesday ..	84	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Thursday ..	84	83	81	77	[illegible]	84	[illegible]
Friday ..	83	82	81	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Saturday ..	[illegible]	[illegible]	81	[illegible]	[illegible]	84	[illegible]

The L.C.C. and Spitalfields Market. — After hearing the arguments of Mr. Littler, Q.C., for the Corporation of London, who did not, however, call evidence, a Committee of the House of Lords [illegible] decided over the Bill of the [illegible] claimed to [illegible] County Council of Spitalfields Market, [illegible] vesting the [illegible] Houses of Commons [illegible]

At Athenry, co. Galway, on Monday, there was an average sized [illegible] vailed for bullocks; but heifers met a slow, dragging trade, and a good many [illegible] Calves, best lots, £4 [illegible] class, £3 2s. 6d. to £4; third class, £1 17s. 6d. to £3. Yearlings, second class, £5 5s. to £6 10s.; third class, £3 10s. to £4 5s. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 7s. 6d. to £12 5s.; second class, £7 15s. to £9 10s.; third class, £4 15s. to £6 10s. Three-year-olds, second class, £10 10s. to £12 17s. 6d.; third class, £7 5s. to £9. Springers, second class, £11 to £13; third class, £7 15s. to £9.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Market there was a slight increase in the number of fat beasts on offer, the supply from the Eastern counties, however, being shorter, compensated for with a larger number from the Midland counties, these latter firmly establishing the season for grass-fed beasts, which are now the pick of the market. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in light supply, as also were rough cattle, these latter being most difficult to cash, owing to so many being seized on account of tuberculosis, and for which the buyer gets no compensation; several cases also occurred as regards fat cows, in which no signs whatsoever were noticeable at time of sale. Both prime and second quality fat beasts met with a slow trade, the previous week's rates governing all transactions, business being confined to Monday, there being no demand on Thursday, though a few fresh arrivals were notified. Fat bulls, owing to the small number on sale, fully maintained late rates and early on both market days. At the Foreign Cattle Market (Deptford) there was a fair average supply in regard to number, but best quality to dress about 720lbs. were shorter in number, notwithstanding which no higher rates were obtainable, trade being of a slower nature all round, chiefly owing to the congested state of the dead meat market. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets was 4,289, consisting of 1,090 British and 3,199 foreign, these latter comprising 2,450 from the United States and 749 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal): -95-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 8d.; 100-stone Shorthorn ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 100-stone ditto, 4s. 4d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 5d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s.; 90-stone Canadians, 4s. 3d.; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 10d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d. There was a larger supply of both sheep and lambs, especially of the latter, which in consequence met with a slower sale at a decline of from 6d. to 8d. per 8lbs. on Monday, with a still further reduction on Thursday. Best quality wether sheep were steady in value, and met with a steady trade, but other grades favoured the buyer and did not clear on either market day. Ewes were in slacker demand and easier in price; the total number penned at both markets was 13,360 (increase 1,120), consisting of 13,170 British and 190 foreign, these latter arriving from Canada. Best pens made per 8lbs. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 6s. 4d.; 8-stone Scotch, 6s. 4d.; 9-stone Downs, 6s. 2d.; 10-stone ditto, 6s.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 6d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s. 6d.; 8-stone Canadians, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 5-stone fat grass lambs, 6s.; 6-stone halfbreds, 5s. 8d. Calves were in fuller supply and numbered 155, the best of which were firm in value, but other qualities were lower in price and more difficult to cash. Top value 5s. 4d. per 8lbs., sinking the offal.

Trade in the West.

A very satisfactory business continues to be done in the western district, and the big sheep fairs have opened under very encouraging auspices, the prices at Blandford on Thursday, where about 9,000 were penned, followed by the still more important fair next day at Doncaster, when about 16,000 were penned, showing a considerable advance, compared with this time last year, after allowing for the difference in the condition of the sheep, which is by no means so good this season as last, good judges giving it as their opinion that this may be fairly stated at 34s. to 43s. or 44s. And prices were in some respects a trifle better at Dorchester, on Friday, for particular classes of sheep, best lots making another 1s. to 2s. a-head more money. The best flock ewes make about from 45s. to 51s. 6d., and seconds from 3s. to 5s. rise per head. Mutton keeps at 8d. per lb., or a trifle more for the best, and 7½d. for coarser sheep. Lamb, although the season is going on, is showing but little symptoms of giving way in price, best Downs and cross-breds still commanding 9½d. to 10d., with ready sale at the price. The abundance of keep everywhere has given considerable stimulus to the trade in all kinds of store cattle, barreners being eagerly bought up at from £26 to £33 or £34 per pair for useful bullocks in high condition, and miloh beasts are also much dearer, the best milchers being now worth £18 to £22 each. Veal has been scarcely so buoyant as of late, but the pig trade is unusually firm at prices ranging, according to quality, from 8s. 6d. up to 10s. per score for exceptional weights.

Trade in Ireland.

Local and cross-Channel buyers were in good force at last Thursday's Dublin market, but trade was of a disappointing nature. This might be accounted for in the beef department by increased supplies neutralising trade, while values were correspondingly affected. For the nicer qualities of bullocks and heifers no quotable depreciation in prices could be noted, but in heavy and coarse cattle there was a distinct fall of from 10s. to 20s. per head under last week's currencies. But wethers managed to hold their own, but for the other classes of sheep the market was fully 2s. per head down on the week, while wasty, bad sorts were even more depressed. Best wether mutton was worth from 7d. to 7½d.; ewe, 6d. to 6½d.; and inferior, 5d. to 5½d. per lb. Lambs met with a bad market, and reduced values had to be accepted. Pigs in small supply, and with a good attendance of buyers trade was active for all classes of pork at a smart advance in rates.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on the above for the current week. The supplies of fat cattle this week have not been quite so large. For the best class of bullocks trade has again been very dear, but the extreme rates of last week have not been maintained. There is not so much demand now from the north and midland English markets. Irish fat cattle are beginning to come over now, and are of good quality. Secondary cattle this week have been 10s. to 20s. a head cheaper, but trade all over has been satisfactory. There have been smaller supplies of fat sheep and lambs offered, and with a good demand young sheep and hoggs have been dear at fully late prices. Ewes, however, have been considerably cheaper. A very good demand for fat lambs has caused higher prices. A small show of fat calves have met a dear trade, while pigs have sold at much more money. In the store market there have been small supplies of sheep, but more than last week, and they have been easily disposed of at late rates. Store cattle have been a very good show, but the excessive price in Ireland is a drawback, farmers being unwilling to pay the high prices. Consequently trade has been slow, and a considerable number left unsold. Some of the best lots of good bullocks and stirks, however, have been sold at good prices. A smaller number of milch cows met a fairly good trade, at about late prices. Quotations:—Top price best beef, 8s. 9d. to 9s. per stone; current, 8s. to 8s. 6d. per stone; mutton from 8½d. to 9½d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central. Wednesday.—Trade again ruled slow, supplies being on a fair scale. Beef: English, 4s to 4s 2d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 3s 10d, average, 3s 8d; forequarters. 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; English wethers. 5s 4d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; English and Dutch. 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

London Central. Friday.—Supplies were on a good scale, but trade remains without improvement. Beef: Scotch, short sides, 4s 8d to 5s; long, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool. 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 4d to 3s 10d; forequarters, 2s 7d to 2s 9d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s 2d to 5s 6d; English wethers. 4s 10d to 5s 2d; ewes, 3s 8d to 4s; Canterbury, 3s to 3s 4d; Wellington, 3s to 3s 2d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 7d to 2s 8d; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d. Pork, English, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; and Dutch, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—A moderate demand was experienced, and prices ruled generally unchanged. Sheep entries were of good extent, but a quiet inquiry existed for both wethers and ewes, at about current rates. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 6s to 6s 2d; 9-stone, 5s 10d to 6s; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; 11-stone half-bred, 4s 2d to 4s 4d. Lambs met with slow support. 5-stone fat Downs, 5s 10d to 6s. Calves were in good supply, and the best on offer made 5s 4d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Pig trade quiet.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade good at 12s to 12s 6d per score for best steers and heifers, and 11s to 11s 6d for second quality. Small half bred sheep made 5s 4d to 5s 8d per 8lb, and Kents 5s to 5s 4d, while barrens made 4s to 4s 4d per stone. Veal about 5s per stone. Pork a rather better trade, 3 to 8 score animals making 9s to 10s per score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was an average attendance of buyers, to meet a supply of 31 fat beasts, 96 calves, 550 fat sheep and lambs, 151 pigs, and 96 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £14 to £22 10s; calves, 80s to £5; small, 20s to 50s; fat wethers, 41s 6d to 60s; fat ewes, 36s 6d to 42s; fat lambs, 26s 6d to 47s 6d; fat porkers 36s to 51s 6d; store pigs, 11s to 20s; dairy cows, £8 to £19 5s. The short supply of fat beasts included some prime Devon steers, polled Angus heifers, and Shorthorn steers and heifers, which were cleared at about last week's figures. Devon steers made up to £22 15s; Shorthorn steers, £21 5s; do heifers, £17 10s; polled Angus heifers, up to £18 10s; bulls, to £18 10s. There was a good demand for prime quality fat sheep and fat lambs, at fully late rates, and a clearance made; for inferior sheep and lambs there was less demand. Prime quality Hants Down wethers and ewes made 52s, 60s, 52s 6d, 49s, 43s, 44s; 18-months old ditto, 54s 6d, 49s 6d, 56s, 51s 6d, 47s, 50s, 41s, 46s; Southdown ditto, 50s, 40s; 6 months old Hampshire lambs, 35s, 33s, 31s, 36s. 46s 6d, 38s, 44s, 6d, 40s, 47s 6d, 37s, 32s 6d; 3 months old sucking lambs, 24s, 32s, 30s, 29s 6d, 20s 6d; old ewes, 38s 6d, 36s 6d, 35s 6d, 32s, 34s 6d; Exmoor ewes, 36s; Dorset ewes, 36s 6d; rams, 42s. With an average supply of milch cows on offer, prices ruled high for the best quality cows and heifers. Store cattle were shown in small numbers that met a good demand; fat calves met a fair trade; porkers were cleared at late rates; store pigs, with a better demand, made more money. Ruling values:—Prime Devon and polled Angus beasts, 7d to 7½d; ditto Shorthorn 6½d to 7d; bulls, cows, and inferior 5½d to 6d per lb. Best quality sheep 9d to 9½d; second ditto, 8d to 8½d per lb; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 6d to 7d; choice fat sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb. Fat calves, 6d to 8d per lb. Fat porkers, up to to 10s per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—Best beef, 7s 9d; cow beef, 7s to 7s 3d per stone; stores, £10 to £13; growing steers, £7 10s to £9 10s; drapes, £9 to £11; milch cows, £16 10s to £20 10s; in-calf heifers, £16 10s to £18 10s; calves, 60s to 65s; wether mutton, 8d; ewe mutton, 6d; and lamb, 8½d and 9d per lb.

Braintree, Wednesday.—An improving trade was found at Messrs. Balls' auction mart. Prices: Beef, 4s 8d; and mutton, 5s 8d to 6s per stone; pork, 10s 6d per score. Numbers penned: Beasts 45, fat sheep 237, hogs and Londoners very scarce. Store cattle sold well, and store lambs made up to 23s.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under..	9s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in.	9s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	8s 6d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 472; sheep, 345; pigs, 249; horses, 5. Beef, 7s 9d to 8s 3d; mutton, 5s 2d to 6s; pork, 5s 9d to 6s 3d. Larger show. Store beast trade not quite so good. Fat beasts, a fair number to hand, prices not quite so good as last week. Fat sheep, a brisk trade, late rates fully maintained. Stores, short supplies. Fat pigs, a little better trade. Stores, a fair trade all round.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Supply short. A few rough ewes and lambs sold at about 27s; young barren sheep ranged up to 6s 6d, and a particularly good lot of lambs averaged 20s 6d. Small offering and slow trade for horned stock.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish store cattle showed a considerable falling off in numbers, but among the beasts shown were some heifers of extraordinary proportions. The attendance of buyers was about the average of the past few weeks, and a good demand was experienced. Small beasts changed hands at £5 5s to £8 10s; better sorts to £10 10s, and the best specimens to £17. Fair show of young pigs, and a quieter sale at 23s to 26s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Rates firm. Best fat bullocks, 1s 6d per score, or up to £23 each. Wethers up to 50s each, or 8d per lb; ewes 7d to 7½d. Best lamb, 10d to 10½d per lb., or 36s 6d each. Store cattle £24 per pair for barreners, and up to £20 for milchers.

Dublin, Thursday.—With 321 more cattle on offer, and a weaker report of trade from across the Channel, the prices showed a drooping tendency this morning, and buyers secured their wants on better terms. Slow trade for sheep and lambs at lower prices; choice aged wethers and fancy light weights only bringing late rates. Cattle (1st class), 32s to 36s per cwt. Rough descriptions, 28s to 31s 6d per cwt. Mutton, 5½d to 7½d per lb. Lambs, 16s to 36s each.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Beef in good demand at rates similar to late markets. Horned bullocks, to £17; ditto heifers, to £14 10s; polled bullocks, £19 17s 6d; ditto heifers, to £16 10s; blue-grey bullocks, to £21; Ayrshire cows and heifers, to £14. A small show of sheep made late prices.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Store sheep good show, fair sale, Cheviot hoggs selling at 28s to 32s 6d; grey-faced ditto, 32s to 38s; half-bred ditto, 34s to 40s. Cattle, good demand; bullocks made to £17, and stirks to £8 10s; shorthorn cows sold to £26 10s; Ayrshires, to £17 10s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—At market, 731 cattle, 5,763 and lambs. Trade quiet, owing to the hot weather, and the near approach of the Glasgow holidays. Top hogs, clipped, 9d to 9½d; secondary, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7½d; lambs, 9½d to 10d per lb. Top Scotch cattle, extreme 70s per cwt; current, 66s to 68s. Dead meat easier; best States beef, 5½ to 6d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 510, calves 175, sheep 1,469, lambs 980, pigs (fat and sows) 6, sucking pigs 40, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 145, pigs (stores, more than ten) 49, horses 79, colts 55, donkeys 2. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robt. Bond and Sons report a short supply of fat cattle and a good attendance of distant and local buyers. Trade was brisk, and all the best qualities commanded more money, other descriptions obtained recent values up to £23 15s. Fat lambs sold freely up to 47s. About 3,000 store lambs were offered, and prices ruled firm, making more money than they have hitherto this season. Fat calves sold well up to £4 12s 6d, whilst store calves sold freely up to 65s. Fat swine were short in supply, and more money was obtained. There was a good entry of cows and heifers. A poll cow and calf made up to £21. Numbers at sales and market:—Beasts, 573; sheep, 4,307; calves, 51; swine, 782; horses, 23.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good supply of stock. With fair attendance, trade was steady and prices firm. Choice bullocks made £18 to £20 per head; secondary, £12 to £15; milch cows, £15 to £22. Young stock a slow trade.

Lincoln, Friday.—July fair, but very little more stock than at ordinary market. Milch beasts, £14 to £20; drapes, £8 to £12; three-year old beasts up to £16; two-year-olds, £8 to £12; and yearlings, £5 to £7. The few sheep penned made from 28s to 36s each

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Shorter supply of cattle, prices ranging from 5s 6d to 9s per stone. Fair trade for pork, which rules from 5s to 7s 6d per stone. Sheep, dull trade, averages 6d to 9d; lambs, 8d to 9½d; veal, 5d to 8d per lb. In market:—Cattle, 1,600; sheep and lambs, 8,591; calves, 75; pigs, 475.

Norwich. Saturday.—There was about an average supply of store cattle on offer here to-day, the lots brought forward being principally Shorthorns and Irish. Fat beasts moved off steadily at 7s 6d to 7s 9d per 14lb. Store sheep, which were freely offered, made about former terms, lambs being quoted at 18s to 32s, and keeping shearlings at 36s to 40s per head. Fat sheep were in moderately good demand at 9s to 9s 6d and 10s per 14lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—There was a short supply of fat beasts, and trade was a little better. Best animals made 4s 6d to 4s 8d, and middlings 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Calves were in rather larger supply, and trade was slow, 4s 8d to 5s per stone. Sheep were in short supply, and trade was a little better, best sheep making 5s 8d to 5s 10d per stone. Lambs were in average supply, and trade was very slow, 5s 8d to 6s per stone. A fair demand for the few store beasts on offer. Pig trade was about the same.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a larger supply of cattle, and a fair demand at late rates. There was a large increase in the number of sheep and lambs on offer, the bulk of the increase being in lambs. Choice small sheep were scarce, and in good demand at last week's rates, prices for other kinds being rather in favour of buyers. Lambs met with a fair sale, but prices were lower. An average show of calves and a slow trade at rather lower prices. Quotations: Cattle, 5d to 7½d; sheep, 7d to 9½d; lambs, 8½d to 9½d; calves, 5½d to 7½d per lb. At market—Cattle, 1,437; sheep and lambs, 14,876; calves, 164.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Store stock better with good demand. Fairly good trade all round with small supplies. Quotations:—Lamb, 7½d to 9½d; beef, 6d to 7½d; mutton, 7½d to 9d; and veal, 7d to 8½d per lb. Porket pigs, 8s to 9s 6d; and bacons, 7s 6d to 9s per score. Cows, with calves, up to £20 10s. Straw up to £2 5s per ton. Number offered:—797 lambs, 465 cattle, 71 cows with calves, 1,304 sheep, 133 calves, 16 fat, 18 porket, and 375 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A better supply of beef and a brisk trade, the best making up to 8s 6d per stone. A large number of inferior store beasts, for which there was a slow sale. A clearance was not effected. A good supply of sheep, and plenty of customers. Wether mutton, to 8d: ewe mutton, 6d to 6½d per lb. A short supply of lambs and trade dull.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 180 cattle, 10 calves, 370 sheep, 140 lambs, and 221 pigs. Very few good cattle which sold at 8s 6d to 9s 6d per stone: rougher kinds, 7s to 7s 6d; young sheep, 8½d; lambs, 9d to 10d; ewes, 6d to 7d; tups, 5d to 6d; calves, 6d to 7d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Short supply, small attendance, medium trade. Quotations:—Fat wethers, 37s 6d to 42s; fat

ewes, 38s to 40s ; grazing ewes, 32s 6d to 35s ; fat heifers, £14 10s to £17 5s ; fat steers, £15 10s to £18 ; barrens, £5 10s to £11 5s ; cows and calves £11 to £16.

Thame, Tuesday. -This market was rather thinly attended. Farmers remaining at home for hay making, and consequently the supply of stock was not large, but trade was very firm, especially for beef and lamb, and the prices realised were in advance of last week. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 57 fat beasts, 374 fat sheep and lambs and stores, 46 fat and weaning calves, and 136 pigs. Fat bullocks made £17 to £20 2s 6d ; fat heifers £14 to £20 10s ; fat wethers, 45s 6d to 64s ; fat, ewes, 38s to 56s ; fat lambs, 30s to 43s 6d ; store lambs, 26s to 32s 6d ; fat calves, £3 to £4 5s ; cow calves, 31s to 60s ; bull calves, 18s to 52s. Fat pigs, 10s per score. Stores made late prices.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Slow trade for both beef and mutton, butchers hanging back. Best beef made 7½d per lb ; other qualities 5d to 6d. Lambs, 9d to 10½. Choice small sheep, 8d. Ewes and tups, 6d to 6½d. Fat calves, 5½d to 8d. Fat beasts penned, 1,387 ; sheep and lambs, 4,825.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a fair supply ; slow trade. Sheep and lambs a large supply ; bad trade. Calves a small supply, fair demand for best. Milch cows a very large supply ; rather slow trade. Good dairy cows from £11 to £16. Beef, 6d to 7½d per lb ; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb ; lamb, 8d to 9d ; veal, 6½d to 8d. Bacon pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score ; porkets, 9s 9d to 10s per score ; sows, 7s 6d per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Fair supplies, but trade quiet. Beef, 6d to 7d ; mutton, 6½d to 8d ; veal, 8d ; and lamb, 8d to 9d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A large supply of stock all round. Good attendance of buyers, the Sheffield butchers being strongly represented. Beef made fully last week's prices ; best 8s to 9s ; secondary, 7s to 7s 6d per stone. Best shearling mutton, 8d to 8½d ; ewes and other sorts, 5d to 7d. Veal, and lamb, 8d to 10d per lb.

York, Thursday.—Sixty sheets pitched. Trade still slow at last week's rates, namely, good-bred hogg, 8s 6d to 9s ; ditto ewe, 7s to 7s 6d ; twice-crossed hoggs, 8s ; ditto ewe, 7s ; cross-bred hogg, 6s to 7s ; ditto ewe, 5s 6d to 6s. Scotch wool, 4s to 4s 6d a stone of 14½lb.

WOOL.

London, Tuesday. —The fourth series of London sales of Colonial wool commenced to-day, with catalogues comprising — 7,357 bales out of an available total of 283,000 bales. There was an average attendance of buyers and moderate competition. The catalogues consisted mostly of crossbreds, the lowest classes of which met with good demand at barely 5 per cent. decline from May rates. Medium and fine crossbred showed a fall ranging from 5 to 10 per cent. Merino wools were but poorly represented and as far as the small selection allows one to judge sold about 10 to 15 per cent. lower. For Capes there was but little demand, and a large proportion was withdrawn. What was sold ruled 10 to 15 per cent. lower. The list was closed on the 24th May, when the fresh arrivals amounted to 154,813 bales (147,563 bales Australasian and 7,250 bales Cape). Deducting what has been forwarded direct, but adding the wools held over from last series, the total available amounts to 283,000 bales, of which about 95,000 bales are crossbred. As at present arranged the sales will last until the 28th July.—HELMUTH SCHWARTZE AND CO.

London, Wednesday.—Two catalogues were brought forward at public sale this evening, jointly amounting to 6 809 bales and consisting of 357 New South Wales and Queensland, 2,587 Victorian, 119 West Australian, 2,407 New Zealand, 336 Cape and Natal, 972 Falkland Islands, and 30 Punta Arenas. Competition was fair, from a good attendance of buyers, and prices remained at the opening level of yesterday. Queensland greasy combing, G F over Barcaldine, 9d to 9½d. Victorian greasy lambs, marked Salt Creek, 10d to 1s ; greasy combing, W Tulla, 8¾d to 9½d ; lambs, 8¾d ; greasy crossbred Kenilworth, 7d to 10½d. New Zealand—greasy combing Balmoral, 9d to 10¾d ; ditto, of the mark Wor, 1s to 1s 2d.

London, Thursday.—Three catalogues were brought forward at public sale this evening, and together totalled 7,530 bales, comprising 1,157 New South Wales and Queensland, 889 Victorian, 66 South Australian, 19 West Australian, 5,010 New Zealand, and 334 Cape. Good competition was experienced from a full attendance of buyers, and the opening level of prices was fully upheld. Victorian scoured clothing, of the mark Dunlop, 1s 9d to 1s 10d ; broken, 1s 8½d ; combing, marked Toorale, 1s 8½d ; clothing of the same mark, 1s 8½d to 1s 9½d ; scoured lambs, Gibb over Port Phillip, 1s 0½d to 1s 6½d. New Zealand—greasy combing, Marchburn, 9d ; greasy cross-bred, G P D, 6½d to 8¾d. Queensland—greasy combing, A P Co over Bullamon, 7¾d to 9d.

London, Friday.—Two catalogues were brought forward at public sale this evening, jointly amounting to 13,200 bales, and comprising 2,623 New South Wales and Queensland, 353 Victorian, 739 Tasmanian, 6,775 New Zealand, 202 Cape, and 2,509 Punta Arenas. Competition from a good attendance of buyers ruled generally brisk at fully late rates. Punta Arenas, however, ruled easier. New South Wales and Queensland greasy combing, of the mark Cocketgedong, sold 9d to 9½d ; ditto marked Paika, 7½d to 9½d ; ditto N.Z. and A. Land Co. over Walhallow, 8½d to 10d ; broken of the same mark, 8d to 9d ; greasy combing Curragundi, 10d. New Zealand—greasy crossbred, Tokomaru, 5¾d to 7½d ; Lincoln, 5¾d to 6½d. Tasmanian—greasy combing, A. Parker, 8½d to 9½d ; crossbred, 6d to 8½d ; combing, Truelands, 8½d to 10d ; ditto H. R. Logan, 9d to 1s.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per pack of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s ; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s ; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £7 10s ; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7 ; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s ; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb : Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 9d to 1s 10d ; scoured good, 1s 10d to 2s ; scoured average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d ; greasy average to fair, 11d to 1s ; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d ; greasy average, 9d to 10d ; South Australian, greasy average, 7d to 8d ; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 6½d to 1s 7½d ; greasy average, 9d to 10d ; Cape scoured superior, 1s 8d to 1s 10d ; fleece average, 10d to 11d ; greasy average, 7½d to 8d ; Natal, scoured, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d ; greasy average, 8d to 8½d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 11½d to 1s 0½d ; New Zealand fine, 10d to 10½d ; ditto medium, 8½d to 9d ; ditto coarse, 5½d to 7d.

London, Saturday.—At public sales this afternoon 7,915 bales were offered, being made up as follows :—769 New South Wales and Queensland, 1,867 Victorian, 168 Tasmanian, 4,709 New Zealand, 379 Cape, and 22 Natal. A fair amount of buyers attended, and good competition prevailed at full prices. New South Wales and Queensland—scoured lambs, 1s 0½d to 1s 2d ; pieces, 1s 6d ; and locks 8½d to 1s 0½d ; greasy combing 7½d to 9d ; pieces, 7¾d to 9d. Victorian—scoured combing 1s 2½d to 1s 6d ; lambs 10½d to 1s 5d ; greasy combing, 7d to 10d ; lambs, 5d to 11d ; clothing, 7¾d ; broken, 7½d to 9d ; crossbred, 7d to 11½d ; Lincoln 6¾d ; necks, 9d to 10d ; bellies, 5½d to 6¾d ; pieces, 5½d to 8d ; locks, 3d to 3½d. Tasmanian—greasy combing, 9d ; crossbred, 6½d to 8½d ; lambs, 8½d ; locks 4d. New Zealand—greasy combing, 5½d to 7¾d ; lambs, 6½d to 7½d ; hoggets 7¾d ; clothing, 6½d ; Lincoln, 5¾d to 6¾d ; necks, 6d ; bellies, 4d to 5½d ; pieces, 3½d to 5½d ; locks, 3½d to 3¾d. Cape—super snow white, 1s 3d to 1s 5½d ; scoured extra snow white, 1s 4½d to 1s 6d ; black, 1s 3d ; grey, 1s ; greasy combing, 6½d to 7d ; super 6d ; and washed fleece super, 8d to 8½d per lb.

Bradford, Thursday.—No improvement in this market. Top makers cannot do business on the present basis, and on the strength of the decline in London, users are asking extravagant things. Wool in the country is so dear that buyers here are not disposed to touch it. In all departments there is quietness and weakness. The same applies very largely to yarns and pieces.

Canterbury, Saturday. Fair amount of business, but prices show no improvement. For Kent fleeces 6d per lb is the top price ; lambs' wool, 4d to 5d per lb ; half-breds, 6d to 7d ; and Downs, from 8d to 10d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—Wool market under the influence of the recent London wool sales. At London the prices for the finest qualities have fallen. Spinners keep well employed on old contracts.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—Moderate shipments, a good demand from crushers, and an advancing oil market have all contributed to advance prices for seed, but at the close the market is 6d below the highest point reached. Linseed oil.—Quiet at slightly improved rates. Linseed cakes are firmer. Rapeseed. Business continues on a limited scale owing to the advanced prices asked. Cottonseed. —Old crop to London in better demand. New crop has also met with some inquiry.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday. Linseed Cakes : Imports of foreign are small and likely to continue so, whilst the Russian and American markets remain as at present fully 5s per ton above values here. Stocks on spot are nearly exhausted, and holders have again raised quotations in view of the short supply, Russian, American, and English all being held at advanced prices. Cotton cakes.—Spot and forward Egyptians are now quoted at 2s 6d per ton more money, but do not find a ready sale ; English meet a better enquiry at last week's prices. Decorticated only offer in limited quantity, and holders ask an advance of 7s 6d per ton. Rape cakes quiet and unchanged. Maize germ meal.—Arrivals continue small, and needy buyers have to pay last Monday's full prices for American, while English is slightly dearer. Rice meal — Rangoon, in warehouse, is unchanged, as is also July-August shipment.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... per ton ex mill	7 15 0	to	8 0 0
American in bags ..... ex dock	7 7 6	„	7 8 9
Russian in mats ..... „	7 6 3	„	7 8 9
Russian in bags ..... „	7 10 0	„	7 12 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	4 5 0	„	4 7 6
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 5 0	„	4 7 6
Decorticated ..... „	6 10 0	„	6 12 6
Meal, on spot	—	„	6 7 6
„ June-July	—	„	6 7 6
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 5 0		—
Ravison ..... „	4 0 0	„	—
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American) ..... ex dock	4 18 9	„	5 0 0
Germ meal (American) ..... c.i.f.	4 17 6	„	4 18 9
„ (English) ..... ex mill	4 17 6	„	5 0 0
MANURES.			
Nitrate of soda ..... ex dock	—	„	8 0 0
Bone Compound ..... per ton on rails	2 17 6	„	—
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	4 5 0	„	4 7 6
Rangoon, July-August	4 1 3	„	4 2 6

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—The trade is rather dull and unsettled to-day. English wheat, though scarce, is 1s per qr lower than last Tuesday, and foreign averages about the same decline in values where business is done. Barley, oats, and beans without alteration from last week. Flat maize scarce and 1s per qr dearer than last Tuesday. Round corn maintains late rates. Linseed.—The market has been firm throughout the week, with gradually improving values. There have been slight fluctuations only in cottonseed since our last. Oil seed cakes.—A quiet market at practically previous rates. Hemp. —No change, firm.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 12s 6d PER TON ; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 17s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 15s. 0d. PER TON ; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 7s 6d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Arrivals were on a small scale, and evidenced a sustained demand at steady rates. Best clover, 85s to 100s ; inferior, 60s to 75s ; specially picked hay, 87s 6d ; good, 70s to 80s ; inferior, 45s to 60s ; mixture and sainfoin, 50s to 85s ; straw, 25s to 36s per load.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—With a very dull trade and shipments light there is very little doing this week. We quote:—Canadian mixture, 80s ; Dutch and French first cut clover, 82s 6d to 85s ; Dutch and French second cut, none offering ; good Dutch hay, 60s to 65s ; inferior Dutch hay, 57s 6d to 60s ; large bale French wheat straw, 47s 6 l ; small bale French wheat and oat straw, 44s. All these prices are per ton delivered alongside.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10, Great Tower Street, E.C.

POULTRY.

Seasonable Poultry Jottings.

The full strength of the summer sun reminds us that care must be taken to keep the young chickens out of the long grass, especially if it is wet. This gives them colds so soon, and all sorts of evils are likely to arise, such as diarrhœa, roup, and other diseases that are sown in that fatal chill and wet and clammy condition of body which a thorough wetting reduces a chick to.

In spite, however, of this, when the sun has dried the grass, etc., the chickens might be allowed out so that they might range over the ground to pick up any insect life that may be abroad, as although the early morning is the very best time to catch these things in plenty, yet a good many bugs and beetles are abroad during the day, and these and flies the little chickens might do well upon.

Very hot weather is expected just now, and care must be taken or any sudden change, either hot or cold, might upset those chickens that have left the hen, as these are comparatively unprotected, and are not sufficiently strong to bear the strain these changes put upon them.

One thing must be guarded against if the chickens are to do well, and that is the little chicks must not be allowed to roost with the older birds, as this stunts them in their growth, and is fatal to their proper development into strong, healthy birds. These little chickens should have separate sleeping places provided for them, as this will make all the difference in their growth and maturity.

Every poultry house should have a wood fire lighted during the wet weather, so that proper ventilation is provided during the long nights, as a stuffy atmosphere is never good for birds that in their native trees would be subject to only a shelter which provided protection, but not the stifling closeness of a closed up house.

If the young chickens are looking rough, a feather and drooping ; they should be caught and examined, as generally the cause of things is a case of the presence of vermin often in large numbers. Chickens will never do well if infested with the pests as this, and it is well to dust them with insect powder at once, so as to relieve the little things of a cause of much weakness and constant irritation and loss of power.

In spite of the many warnings given we find the question of sharp grit is still sadly neglected, and the poor little chickens suffer most of all through lack of this, because being only very frail they soon fall victims to the clogging of the parts and die off very rapidly. A good supply of sharp grit is really at the source of much of the well-being of the feathered tribes. For the little chickens a little fine grit should be mixed with the soft food in the morning, especially if they do not seem very well, for with that strange fatality of choice that so often accompanies sickness, when not very well the chickens do not pick up this most useful thing, and so perish die for want of it.

It is a capital thing for chickens to give them nettle tea. This is made by boiling up stinging nettles and giving the birds the liquid in which they have been boiled. Of course, town poultry keepers cannot get nettles so well, and these should substitute Epsom salts, a teaspoonful to every seven birds, once in ten days. This cools the chickens' blood and prevents many very tiresome affections, such as feather plucking and other irritant affections that so often pester people who keep fowls in confined runs.

Where covered or open runs are used perches should be put up, about 18in. or 2ft. above the bottom, as the birds like to sit on these and plume themselves, especially when the sun shines in on them, and this prevents them crowding together in little knots all over the run, which is not good for them. Anyone who has been on a farm will have observed how fond the fowls are of perching on a gate, hurd'e, or fence, and pluming themselves, as we have said, and there is a good deal of good in all these habits, which show the instinct of the fowls towards healthy conditions of life.

But low perches are better even than these improvised ones, as hens often break eggs in the oviduct and fowls often have bumble feet through coming down with a "bump" off some high point of vantage.

The fowls should have an abundance of green food during the summer months, as nothing cleanses the blood and gives tone to the systems of live stock like vegetable food of this description.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending June 30th, 1900.

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LIVE STOCK.

OUR PLATE.

The team of horses which form the subject of this week's plate are the property of Mr. F. V. Smythe, of Dunbar Wharf, Limehouse, London, the driver being David Jones. At the London Cart Horse Parade, held in Regent's Park, on June 4th, this team was awarded a first prize. The two pole horses, which are about 20 years old, were bought from the late Mr. Thomas Pain, the well-known horse dealer, at Romford, and have been fourteen years in the firm. The leader has been in the firm's service about five years. That these horses should have worked on the London stones almost continuously for such a long period is very remarkable, and speaks well for the original soundness of constitution and limb. Although they show signs of work, still their appearance is highly satisfactory under the circumstances, and they are even now in good working condition.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

There is every prospect of the annual show of the Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society on the 19th and 20th inst. proving a great success, the weather being now the only uncertain element. The entries in the stock and implement departments have now closed. The large increase in the amount offered in prizes (which will include several handsome and valuable cups) has naturally had the effect of attracting additional entries, and there are gratifying increases in every section, but more especially in the cattle classes, which will include (for the first time at this show) the Aberdeen-Angus breed. Nearly all the former exhibitors have again made entries, and among the new names that will be found in the catalogue we are pleased to notice that of Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., whose exhibits may be expected to add not a little to the attractions of the horse classes. In this department Mr. H. Livesey, who has not exhibited at this show for the past few years, will again be a competitor, and from the Leyswood stud of Hackneys (which was not represented last year in consequence of the death of its owner, the late Mr. J. W. Temple) a good number of competitors will be forthcoming. A high degree of excellence in the popular Hackney classes is thus already assured.

The Earl of Derby, as president, has made numerous entries, and among other well-known contributors at the Tunbridge Wells Show may be mentioned the Duchess of Newcastle, the Duchess of Marlborough, Countess De La Warr, etc. In the poultry and a few other sections the entries have not yet closed, but we hear they are coming in most satisfactorily. In the implement department there is also a large increase, including several new and interesting features. Mr. A. Blackie will exhibit his patent hop-drying apparatus, and at Messrs. Jesse Ellis and Company's stand will be found a motor trade waggon, and numerous novelties in agricultural and other carts will also be on view. Large collections will also be contributed by Messrs. Bartlett and Fraser (Tunbridge Wells), Mr. J. Baldwin (Wadhurst), Messrs. S. E. Haward and Company, Mr. A. Fowler, and many others, while the carriage section will include such well-known exhibitors as Messrs. Rock, Hawkins and Thorpe, Blyth Bros. (Canterbury), Mr. Ascough, and others. It is also gratifying to learn that through the energy and personal influence of the new secretary (Mr. W. Roper), who is well-known in the district, over a hundred names have been added to the list of members, and altogether things appear to be going well with this old-established society.

I would remind intending exhibitors at the Durham County Agricultural Society's Show that the entries close to-day (Monday), and that there will be no late entries. The show will be held on the racecourse, West Hartlepool, on Wednesday, July 25th, and a very liberal prize schedule has been drawn up. There are classes for Shorthorns, Polled Angus, and dairy cattle; Border Leicester, half-bred Cheviot and Leicester, and Black-faced sheep; agricultural, hunters, Hackneys and harness horses, and ponies, as well as one or two other minor classes. The secretary is Mr. W. Chrystal, Houghton-le-Spring, R.S.O., co. Durham.

The thirty-third annual show of the Merionethshire Agricultural Society will be held at Harlech, on Friday, September 14th, and the prize schedule has just been issued. Liberal class prizes are offered, and, in addition, a number of specials. The entries for stock, etc., close on August 30th, and for jumping and trotting, on September 7th. From the balance sheet for 1899, I see that the society is in a flourishing condition financially, for they have a balance in hand of £161 8s. 3d. The secretary is Mr. E. M. Roberts, Cefntreforisaf, Talsarnau, R.S.O.

I have received a copy of the programme of arrangements for the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Spalding, which opens on Wednesday next, and continues on Thursday and Friday. Given fine weather, the show should prove very successful, as the programme is a most attractive one, and I believe the entries are up to the average. To add to the enjoyment of visitors, the band of H.M. Royal Engineers will give a good selection of music on each day.

I have received a copy of the prize schedule for the Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society's fifty-eighth annual show, which takes place at Birkenhead on Friday, Saturday and Monday, August 3rd, 4th, and 6th. A sum of over £2,800 is offered for competition, which extends over the whole of the usual classes seen at this society's show, the only exception being that owing to the prevalence of swine fever there will be no exhibition of pigs this year. The entries for implements close on Saturday next, July 14th, and for stock, etc., on the following Thursday. Entry forms, prize schedules, etc., can be had of the secretary, Mr. Arthur H. Edwardson, 6, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead.

The tenth annual horse show at Richmond, Surrey, will be held on Friday and Saturday, June 14th and 15th, 1901. Captain Gerald Fitz-Gerald is the secretary and manager.

The Duke of Portland has just added to his stud of thoroughbreds at Welbeck seven pure-bred horses known as Leipzani. These have been procured from the Emperor of Austria, who a short time ago presented the Duke with a couple of mares of the breed named, both pure white. The peculiarity about this breed of horse is that at birth they are iron grey, and gradually turn lighter, until at the age of six years they become pure white. It is the Duke's intention to lay the foundation of a new stud with these horses, which are intended to be used in this country as in Austria as carriage horses only. Those now secured comprise four two-year-olds, two three-year-olds (including one entire), and one mare aged four years. They are beautiful animals, and are as docile as lambs.

Entries for Vol. XXII. of the Shire Stud Book close on Wednesday, August 1st, but post entries at double fees will be received up to Saturday, September 1st. Applications for entry forms, stating the number required for both stallions and mares, should be made to the secretary of the Shire Horse Society, Mr. J. Sloughgrove, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

On Tuesday, the 24th inst., Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck, will dispose of a number of pedigree hackneys, belonging to Mr. John Barker, at The Grange Stud, Bishop's Stortford. This will be Mr. Barker's first unreserved sale, and the catalogue comprises all this year's foals and all the fillies up to four years old. Few studs have been more prominently to the front at the leading shows than Mr. Barker's, and this dispersal of all his young stock is sure to be taken advantage of by all those on the look out for show animals. The best known strains of blood are represented, and this year's crop of foals, several of which are by the home stud horse, Wyngelt, are very promising. Wyngelt is by Dangelt out of Lady Wymondham, g dam—2016 Dorothy by Lord Derby II. The animals will be on view, on July 18th, 19th and 20th, or at any time by appointment with the stud groom at the Grange, Bishop's Stortford.

On the day following the above sale, the same auctioneers will dispose of some of Mr. W. Hollin's pedigree hackney ponies, at Berry Hill, Mansfield. Strangely enough, this also is Mr. Hollin's first unreserved sale, and bearing in mind the high prices paid for the mares forming its foundation, and that it has been invariably well represented at the Royal and other leading shows, the sale of so many of the young stock and all the recent winners in saddle and harness should prove attractive. The Sir George strain of blood brought into prominence by Mr. C. W. Wilson occurs on most pages of the catalogue with that of Little Wonder II., the son of his famous mare Snorer. The ponies made to harness are a particularly smart lot and amongst them are some extremely well matched pairs. The sale will commence immediately after a twelve o'clock luncheon.

CATTLE.

Sale of Shorthorns at Waddesdon.

On Thursday Mr. John Thornton conducted a sale of Shorthorns from the famous Waddesdon herd, the property of Miss Alice de Rothschild. The weather was fine, and a fairly good number of buyers put in an appearance at the sale ring. Some remarks on the herd have already appeared in our columns, so that there is no need to enter into details. It will therefore suffice if we say that the herd has been kept hardy and in excellent condition, and that amongst the animals put up for sale were a large number of robust, heavy-fleshed young stock in a good breeding state, suitable either for founding herds or for exportation. Mr. Thornton, before commencing the sale, remarked that he had hoped to have seen a larger company, but haymaking and other things had probably kept them away. The construction of this magnificent estate was the work of the late Baron Ferdinand Rothschild, for twenty-five or twenty-six years ago the whole district around was cut up into larger or smaller farms, and no pains had been spared to construct the magnificent estate which they saw around them. Unique farm buildings had been erected, and a flock of sheep established, thanks to Mr. John Treadwell's stock. The herd of Shorthorns was also established, and was a great credit to Mr. Sims and Mr. Ronald, who was in charge of it. The untimely death of the Baron was a national calamity, for his geniality and kindness endeared him to high and low, rich and poor alike, and his loss had been felt nowhere more acutely than in that village. Mr. Thornton then gave some particulars of the herd, and remarked that Mr. Ronald had had charge of it for twelve years, and it did him great credit to see the manner in which the animals were put forward, not only there, but at the shows. (Hear, hear.)

The total amount realised was £1,752 10s. The brisk bidding for the bull Bashful Youth excited some enthusiasm, and when he was knocked down for 455gs. to go to South America there was considerable applause. The heifer Jessie Elmhurst, which fetched 120gs., also goes to South America. The eighteen cows and calves averaged £34 1s. 3d. each, the twenty heifers £26 4s., and the six bulls £99 4s. 6d. The average for the whole forty-four head was £39 7s. 6d.

The following is a list of prices realised, purchasers' names, etc.: —

COWS AND HEIFERS

Prize, red, c Feb., 1894, s Colossus 58677	Mr. E. Harper	16
Bull calf, red and little white, c May, 1900, s Bashful Youth 74038	Mr. Harper	[illegible]
Maid of Norway [illegible], c Feb., 1896, s [illegible]	Mr. T. Potter	40
Heifer calf, white, c Jan., 1900, s Royal Prince 73536	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Fidget, red and little white, c April, 1896, s [illegible] Premium Duke [illegible] 63758	Mr. W. [illegible]	[illegible]
Kirklevington Rose, red, c May, 1896, s [illegible] 63611	Mr. S. Arthur	25
Heifer calf, c May, 1900, s Royal Prince 73536	Mr. A. Oakley	11
Fuchsia, red and white, c August, 1896, s [illegible] 63698	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Lancashire Lass, red roan, c March, 1896, s [illegible] 67384	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Bull calf, c May, 1900, s Bashful Youth 74038	Mr. Adams	5
Favonia, red, c March, 1896, s Cash 65230	Mr. W. [illegible] for Her Majesty the Queen	41
Firefly, red, c Dec., 1899, s Royal Prince 73536	Lord [illegible]	[illegible]
Flight, red, c August, 1896, s [illegible] 67382	Mr. S. George	20
Rosette, roan, c Dec., 1896, s [illegible] 63611	Mr. T. Potter	36
Village, roan, c Dec., 1899, s Royal Prince 73536	Mr. J. Treadwell	9
Rosie, red, c Jan., 1897, s Cleveland Duke 68378	Mr. F. Stanley	26
Bell [illegible], roan, c March, 1897, s [illegible]	Mr. F. Stanley	10
Braw Duchess, roan, c Jan., 1897, s Braw Emperor 68263	Mr. H. Oakley	26
Heifer calf, white, c Feb., 1900, s Chancery 74208	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Mirabel, red and white, c Jan., 1897, s Free Trade	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] red and [illegible], [illegible], s [illegible]	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Bud [illegible], red, c Jan., 1897, s [illegible]	Mr. R. Treadwell	8
Marchioness 4th, roan, c March, 1897, s [illegible] 70945	Mr. H. London	23
Bull calf, roan, c Jan., 1900, s Bashful Youth 74038	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Rose [illegible], roan, c [illegible], s [illegible]	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Bull calf, roan, c March, 1900, s Royal Prince 73536	Mr. S. S. Berger	7½
[illegible] red, c [illegible], s [illegible]	Mr. S. George	31

A TEAM OF CART HORSES.

THE PROPERTY OF MR. E. A. SMYTHE, DUNBAR WHARF, TIMEHOUSE, LONDON.

AWARDED FIRST PRIZE AT THE LONDON CART HORSE PARADE, 1900.

Jessie Elmhurst 32nd, red, c July, 1897, s Silverstone 71597 ..... Mr. T. George Gs 22
Winsome Lass 6th, roan, c August, 1897, s Campbell 68522 ..... Mr Potter 23
Winsome Lass 8th, white, c Feb., 1900, s Bashful Youth 74038 ..... Mr. A. Hutt 4½
Mint, red, c Dec., 1897, s Watchman 71828 Mr S Arthur 21
Fiercy, red and little white, c Dec., 1897, s Cash 65230 Mr. R. W. Hobbs 22
Lady Douglas, roan, c Dec., 1897, s Campbell 68522 Mr. Harper 17½
Dewdrop, red, c Feb., 1898, s Royal Star 71502 Mr W. Smith 22
Ladyship, red, c April, 1898, s Cash 65230 ..Mr. Harper 19
Maid of Waddesdon, red, c April, 1898, s Cash 65230 Mr Arthur 15½
Nancy Lee 2nd, red roan, c April, 1898, s Sir Horace 73639 ..... Mr George 23
Flora 2nd, roan, c April, 1898, s Clergyman 70163 Mr. J. H Tipping 16
Spey, red and white, c June, 1898, s Spartan 71652 Mr. J. Lee 32
Jessie Elmhurst 33rd, red, c August, 1898, s Spartan 71652 ..... Mr Mackeman 120
Fern, roan, c Dec., 1898, s Spartan 71652 ..Lord Moreton 17
Sirenia, red and white, c Jan., 1899, s Spartan 71652 Mr Tait for Her Majesty the Queen 36
Lilly of Pitfivie, red, c Feb., 1899, s Prince of Pitfivie 2nd 73207 ..... Lord Mowers 20
Fairway, red and little white, c Feb., 1899, s Spartan 71652 ..... Mr Adams 10½
Purity, roan, c March, 1899, s Oliver Cromwell 69199 Mr. Arthur 15½
Star of the Evening, red and little white, c March, 1899, s Briniach 72132 .....Mr. H. Dudding 16
Lady Lovel, red, c April, 1899, s Watchman 71828 Mr. Arthur 19
Kirklevington Rosea, red, c May, 1899, s Friday 70477 .....Mr. Arthur 16½
Emily, roan, c May, 1899, s Mountain Hero 73114 Mr. Tait for Her Majesty the Queen 30
Priscilla, red and little white, c June, 1899, s Lord Ross 72919 .....Mr. S. S. Berger 10½

BULLS.

Ploughboy 75236, roan, c March, 1898, s Cabin Boy 66766 .....Mr. F. Smith 24
Bashful Youth 74038, roan, c April, 1898, s Brave Archer 70018 .....Mr. Miller 455
Kirklevington Squire 74802, roan, c June, 1898, s Spartan 71652 .....Mr. Lindsell 31
Frankfort, red and white, c Feb., 1899, s Spartan 71652 .....Mr. T. S. Berger 23
Dash, red and little white, c March, 1899, s Spartan 71652 .....Mr. F. Smith 14½
Winsome Lord, red and white, c July, 1899, s Lord Ross 72919 .....Mr. Adderbury 14½

Sale of Mr. A. J. Sherriff's Shorthorns

The extensive herd of Shorthorns at Leaside, Hatfield, was dispersed on Friday last, Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers. The sale took place in fine weather, though there was a high wind. The company was large and representative, including several South American and other agents. The bidding was brisk, especially for the best lots, the "plum" of the sale being Kaserin, a six months old heifer calf, which, after an exciting competition, Sir Blundell Maple secured at 80gs. The sale realised £1,587 12s., which was generally considered very satisfactory. The following are the principal prices:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Gs
Lady Fanny, red, c Dec., 1892, s Lord Violet 56103 Capt. Duncombe 27
Jessie Elmhurst 22nd, white, c May, 1894, s Earldom 4th 52811 .....Mr. W. Jackson 17
Silver Queen, red and white, c June, 1894, s Gold King 62669 .....Sir Blundell Maple, Bart. 28
Jessie Elmhurst 24th, roan, c August, 1894, s Earldom 4th 52811 .....Mr. C. Scott Murray 46
Cherry Lass 2nd, roan, c Oct., 1894, s Earldom 4th 52811 Sir J. B. Maple, Bart. 22
Brightwell Duchess 3rd, red and little white, c Dec., 1894, s Field Marshal Wellington 30th 60309 ..Mr H George 12½
Jessie Elmhurst 26th, roan, c April, 1895, s Earldom 4th 52811 .....Mr. M. P. Grace 19½
Jessie Elmhurst 28th, roan, c July, 1895, s Earldom 4th 52811 .....Mr. J. C. McCowan 16
Winsome Missie, roan, c Oct., 1895, s Perman 59596 Lord Moreton 35
Wild Lady of Geneva 2nd, red, c June, 1896, s Liberator 64260 .....Lord Moreton 55
Amarylis, red and little white, c March, 1896, s Prince Rufus 67671 .....Sir J. B. Maple, Bart. 28
Sea Nettle, red and little white, c June, 1896, s Liberator 64260 .....Mr. J. L. Stockburn 55
Jessie Elmhurst 29th, white, c June, 1896, s Royal Nottingham 43rd 67812 .....Mr. E. T. Madeley 16
Sotwell Duchess, red and little white, c Dec., 1896, s Duke of Leicester 26th 66945 .....Mr. J. Lloyd 20
Lady Banbury 15th, red, c Jan., 1897, s Duke of Leicester 26th 66945 .....Mr. J. E. Philips 18
Dottie, white, c Feb., 1897, s Harlequin 65636 Mr. W. J. Horn 30
Hetty La France, white, c Feb., 1897, s Harlequin 65636 Mr. Madeley 20
Forest Rose, roan, c April, 1897, s Forest King 68660 Mr. Hepwell 28
Hazel, red and little white, c June, 1897, s Fussfern 68928 Mr. Madeley 19
Ringdale Lass, red and little white, c June, 1897, s Duke of Clarence 68503 .....Mr. A. H. Smith 27
Handsome Cherry, roan, c June, 1897, s Silverstone 71597 Mr. W. Newton 20
Hildred Elmhurst, red, c July, 1897, s Silverstone 71597 Mr. C. Scott Murray 40
Violet 2nd, red and little white, c July, 1897, s Scotch Rose 66297 ..... Mr. H George 19
Hyacinth, red, c Nov., 1897, s Reformation 67716 Mr. T. R. Wilkins 28
Heliotrope, red, c Dec., 1897, s Ash Wednesday 68160 Mr. T. R. Wilkins 30
Snowdrift, red, c March, 1898, s Countryman 72[illegible] Mr. Madeley 15½
Joyous, red, c March, 1898, s Countryman [illegible] Mr. A. Smith 25
Rose Rosalind, roan, c March, 1898, s Sweepon 69[illegible] Mr. Hipwell 21
Ivy, red and little white, c March, 1898, s Hindlip Boy 68[illegible] Mr T S Berger 17½
Royal Rose, red roan, c April, 1898, s Lavender Nonpareil 70756 .....Mr. W. Jackson 27
Red Duchess, red, c August, 1898, s James'n 74[illegible] Mr. Madeley 21
Jamrury Girl, roan, c Jan., 1899, s Ruby Forester 71363 Mr C Marsh Gs 22
Jane of the Forest, red, c Feb., 1899, s Ruby Forester 71363 Mr Jackson 19
Jessie Crumpet, red and little white, c Feb., 1899, s Michaelmas Victor 75085 .....Mr. Marsh 17
Jessie-ana, red and white, c July, 1899, s Merriman 69121 Mr E Ashton 16
Jenette, roan, c July, 1899, s Merriman 69121 Mr. W. Balston 15
Julia's Perfection, red, c August, 1899, s Kingdom Lass 75428 .....Mr. W. Balston 30
Jane Lady of Geneva, red and little white, c Oct., 1899, s Merriman 69121 Mr J. Messenger 15
Kaserin, roan, c Jan., 1900, s Merriman 69121 Sir J. B. Maple 80

BULLS.

Merriman 69121, roan, c Nov., 1895, s Harlequin 65636 Mr M. Soloman Gs 25
Teviotdale, red, c Jan., 1898, s Airy Knight 2nd 62854 Mr Leonard 31
Invincible 74742, red roan, c April, 1898, s Merriman 69121 Mr. Webb 20
James from Kindlestown, red, c Jan., 1899, s Lavender Nonpareil 70756 Mr W Mathersingham 19
Jamesin, rich roan, c Feb., 1899, s Merriman 69121 Mr. A. Inskip 38
Sweet Bean (Mr W Jackson's), roan, c July, 1899, s Violet's Bean 69782 Mr W Newton 35
John Bull, red, c July, 1899, s Merriman 69121 Mr. Smith Bosanquet 28
Jolly Duke, red roan, c Sept., 1899, s Merriman 69121 Mr. A. H. Longman 22
Job, roan, c Oct., 1899, s Merriman 69121 Mr. Franklin 22
Justice, roan, c Dec., 1899, s Merriman 69121 Mr. Grace 16

SUMMARY

55 Cows and heifers	£22 19 2	..	£1 262 12	6
13 Bulls	25 0 0	..	324 19	6
68 Head	£23 7 0	..	£1,587 12	0

Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*]

The fair at Templemore, co. Tipperary, on the 28th ult., was a small one, and very good demand prevailed. Prices: Yearlings, first class, £11 10s.; second class, £5 10s. to £6 15s.; third class, £4 15s. to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £12 10s. to £13 10s.; second class, £9 10s. to £11 10s.; third class, £7 5s. to £8. Three-year-olds, first class, £15 12s. 6d.; second class, £12 to £12 10s.; third class, £9 10s. Springers, second class, £12 10s. to £14 10s.; third class, £9 10s. to £11 15s. Lambs, first class, £1 8s. to £1 9s.; second class, £1 2s. to £1 6s. Hoggets, first class, £2 to £2 4s.; second class, £1 15s. to £1 19s. 6d.

The fair at Thurles, co. Tipperary, on Tuesday, was rather a small one. There was a good demand for cattle with quality and condition, but thin rough animals were hard to sell. The small supply of lambs met a good demand. Prices: Calves, first class, £3 10s. to £4; second class, £2 5s. to £3. Yearlings, first class, £8 to £9; second class, £6 5s. to £7 15s.; third class, £5 to £5 7s. 6d. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 5s. to £13 10s.; second class, £8 8s. 4d. to £11; third class, £7 to £7 10s. Three-year-olds, second class, £11 10s. to £13 15s. 6d. Springers, first class, £15 to £18 10s.; second class, £12 15s. to £14 10s.; third class, £8. Lambs, first class, £1 6s. to £1 10s.; second class, £1 1s. to £1 5s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 18s. to 22s. each.

The fair at Collooney, co. Sligo, on Monday, was a very small one, composed chiefly of springers and calves. There was a good demand for young calves. Prices: Calves, first class, £4 to £5; second class, £2 10s. to £3 10s. Yearlings, first class, £7 15s. to £9; second class, £6 to £7 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 10s. to £12; second class, £8 10s. to £10 5s. Springers, first class, £16 10s. to £18 5s.; second class, £13 15s. to £15 5s. Lambs, first class, £1 6s. to £1 10s.; second class, £1 2s. to £1 4s.

HORSES.

Newmarket Sales.

Several Continental buyers were present this week at the Newmarket bloodstock sales. On Monday many lots changed hands at four figures, and at 3,000gs. Astrology (the dam of Star Shoot and other winners) was knocked down to Mr. Sievier, but it subsequently transpired that the mare was bought in. Among the consignment sent up by the Duke of Westminster, the stallion Grey Leg changed hands at 2,600gs. to Mr. Lewison, the brood mare Sandiway to Mr. Larnach at 2,200gs., and Bright Alice went to the Duke of Devonshire for 1,150gs. For Sterling Merit (with a Persimmon foal) Mr. M. Gurry obtained 2,600gs. from Lord Penrhyn, and Mr. Foxhall Keene went to 2,200gs. for Sandiway (also with a Persimmon foal). Of Mr. J. A. Miller's brood mares, Mr. Sievier was the buyer of St. Ilma (with a Crafton foal) for 1,300gs.

On Tuesday the chief attraction was the dispersal of Mr. J. A. Miller's horses in training. For Innocence there was some smart competition, and she was secured by Mr. Charles Morbey for 3,100gs. Good prices were obtained for most of the other lots. La Uruguaya and the two-year-old daughter of Sainfoin and Miss Preston were booked to Mr. Portman, at 1,700gs. and 1,800gs. respectively, while Mr. W. T. Jones was the last bidder for Nano at 1,700gs.

Perhaps never in their history have the Newmarket sales been associated with such sensational proceedings as those which characterised the disposal of the yearling belonging to the late Duke of Westminster. On Wednesday, all previous records were put in the shade by the stupendous price of 10,000gs. paid by Mr. Robert Sievier for the filly by Persimmon out of Ornament, and 9,100gs. by the Duke of Westminster for the colt by Orme out of Kissing Cup. Mr. Sievier also gave 5,600gs. for the colt by Orme out of Gantlet, and 5,550gs. for the filly by Trenton out of Sandiway, while the Duke of Westminster gave 5,700gs. for the colt by Orme out of Vampire, own brother to Flying Fox. Altogether it was a memorable and extraordinary sale, and the dozen yearlings sent into the ring brought the huge sum of 45,300gs.

The Crabbet Park Arabs.

The twelfth annual sale of the pure Arab mares and mares imported into this country or bred by Mr. Wilfrid Blunt was held on Saturday afternoon in pleasant circumstances at Crabbet Park, where, as usual, Mr. and Lady Anne Blunt entertained a large number of guests to luncheon.

Among the 300 who accepted the invitation were the Marquis and Marchioness of Ailsa, the Comte and Comtesse d'Antigne, the Duke and Duchess of Bassano, Sir William and Lady Boord, Mrs. and Miss Baden-Powell, Lord and Lady Davey, Lady Mary Sackville, Sir Richard and Lady Fortune, Lady Louisa and Miss Fielding, Viscount Hampden, the Dean of Hereford, Susan Countess of Malmesbury, Mr. Lecky, M.P., Lord and Lady Napier of Magdala, Sir Weetman and Lady Pearson, Lady Sherborne, Lord and Lady Windsor, Sir Charles and the Hon. Lady Rivers Wilson. In replying to the toast of his health, which was proposed at luncheon by Viscount Hampden, Mr. Wilfrid Blunt took occasion to refer to Sir W. Gilbey's recent work upon the value of small horses as cavalry remounts. In doing so Mr. Blunt expressed his cordial appreciation of Sir Walter Gilbey's services to horse-breeders and his entire concurrence with the opinions given in his book. For his own part experience had convinced him that the Arab was by far the most suitable cross for the majority of common mares, and especially for the South American type of animal, when the question of military remounts was under consideration, as the pure-bred Arab was above all other members of the equine race possessed of a capacity for enduring privation and fatigue, whilst as a pleasant saddle-horse he knew no superior. Mr. Somerville Tattersall, who conducted the sale, was scarcely so successful as usual in obtaining purchasers for the animals submitted for disposal, as out of the fifteen lots which represented Mr. Blunt's stable only three changed hands, these being the bay stallion Radwan, purchased by Mr. Tooth for 105gs.; the bay stallion Marel, bought by Mr. W. J. Evelyn at 90gs.; and the bay mare Bushra, which went very cheap to Mr. Huested for 100gs. At the same time it must not be supposed that the remaining dozen animals failed to find favour with those present, the truth being that several failed to reach the very substantial reserve prices put upon them. Thus the bay mare Rose Diamond was bought in at 200gs., the bay mare Morjana at 120gs., the two-year-old bay stallion Farsany at 145gs., and the three-year-old bay stallion Mubarah at 110gs., whilst many other almost equally high reserves were reached.

SHEEP.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Barnham.

The thirtieth annual lamb sale at Barnham, near Thetford, was held by Messrs. Biddell and Blencowe, on Monday, when about 6,000 sheep and lambs were penned. The consignments were from all the best known and most successful sheep breeders in the district, the lambs being of the high quality for which this sale is noted, some very fine lots of first-class half-breds being included. The consignors included the Duke of Grafton, K.G., his Excellency Earl Cadogan, K.G., Lord Iveagh, Messrs. C. S. Wolton (Ixworth), J. D. Saver (Troston and Hengrave), J. Vavasseur (Kilverstone), H. Smith (Euston), J. Musker (Rushford), G. Symonds (Euston), R. S. Hatten (Hepworth), and Mrs. Palmer (Icklingham). The demand, except for the best lambs, lacked the animation of last year, trade being quite 2s. a head on the year in favour of buyers, of whom the number in attendance was not so large. From two farms of Lord Iveagh's came the best two lambs, which made 35s. 2d., and the next best was his other farm 33s. 6d., whilst from Earl Cadogan's two leading entries the leading figures were respectively 31s., 30s. 6d., and 28s. 6d. The range of prices for lambs were as follows:—First cross, 27s. 6d. to 17s. 2d.; Southdowns, 25s. to 15s. 6d.; Suffolks, 33s. to 16s. 4d.; half-breds, 25s. 6d. to 15s. 2d.

Blandford Summer Fair.

This fair, which has long been regarded as one of the most important for the best class of Dorset

in the country, was held on Thursday, in very favourable weather, when there was an exceptionally heavy supply on offer, nearly 9,000 being penned at sales held by Mr. Ensor (Dorchester) and Messrs. Senior and Godwin (Sturminster and Gillingham). Buyers from over a wide district were very largely represented, and keen competition for the sheep prevailed, and, although the condition compared unfavourably with last year, prices were from 3s. to 5s. in advance of last year's rates. Prices improved materially as the fair advanced. Mr. E. W. Cave (Shapwick) won the chief prize of £5 5s. for best Down ewes penned, Mr. F. W. Castleman (Chettle) securing first of £3 3s. in another class. The best drafts of ewes made 45s. to 49s. 6d., the top price being secured for a grand lot penned by Mr. R. G. Cave, who is serving with the Imperial Yeomanry at the front; plainer drafts, 35s. to 42s.; lambs, best, going up to 33s. 6d., and others as low as 27s. It was an exceptionally good all-round fair, the sheep being all cleared at highly satisfactory rates.

Burgess Hill.

On Thursday St. John's Fair was held at Burgess Hill. The number of sheep and lambs penned was 6,000, some hundreds fewer than last year. There were not many sheep among the number. The lambs, generally speaking, came in good condition, a fine strong lot, speaking well for the season. In the morning many pens sold freely, and some of the best animals were hardly in the wattles before they were sold. Flockmasters were inclined to hold tight to their prices, and the farmers waited in the hope that prices would ease a bit, and thus trade was slow. Those who sold well said it was a capital fair, while those who held tight complained that things were dull. The top price was about 34s., ranging down to 13s.

Diss.

Mr. T. W. Gaze's annual lamb sale at Diss took place on Thursday, when there was the heaviest consignment ever received at this sale, there being catalogued between 15,000 and 16,000 lambs and ewes. Trade was good throughout, the dispersal attracting many buyers from a distance, and it seemed as if the increased entry was followed by a proportionate growth in the demand. Below we give a few of the transactions, which will show the range of prices:—

First-cross: Mr. T. W. Gaze, 100 ewe 32s 9d (top 50, 35s), 90 wether 34s, 60 mixed 27s; Mr. Wilson, Redgrave, 200 mixed 30s 6d (top 100, 32s); Mr. Harris, Brome, 300 mixed 24s 6d; Mr. Blaskett, Fersfield, 300 mixed 31s 10d, 10 ram lambs, 52s 6d; Mr. Barker, Thurston, 80 ewe 25s 6d, 80 wether 26s 6d; Mr. Symonds, Wortham, 200 mixed 27s 3d; Mr. Parke, Pulham, 50 ewe 32s 6d, 50 wether 32s, 100 mixed 25s; Executors Mr. C. T. Norton, 200 mixed 31s 6d (top 100, 35s). Half-bred: Mr. G. H. Wilson, 300 mixed 30s (top 100, 34s); Mr. Biggs, Pulham, 200 mixed 27s 6d; Mr. Symonds, Thedveton, 200 mixed 25s 3d; Mr. Riches, Denham, 200 mixed 23s 7d; Mr. Riches, Mendham, 60 ewe 26s 6d, 60 wethers 27s 6d, 60 mixed 23s 2d; Mr. Leggett, Pulham, 150 mixed 31s 10d (top 100, 34s 6d); the Duke of Norfolk, 100 mixed 26s 6d; Mr. Fulcher, Finningham, 100 mixed 22s 3d; Mr. Davey, Wattisfield, 80 mixed 22s 6d.

Black-faced: Mr. T. W. Gaze, 50 wether 27s; 41 mixed 33s, Suffolk ram lamb 60s; Trustees Mr. E. C. Bailey, 180 ewe 28s 10d (top 60 32s 6d); 180 wether 28s (top 60, 32s); Mr. Jaggard, Thelnetham, 150 ewe 29s 6d (top 50, 33s 6d), 150 wether 28s 8d (top 50, 34s); Mr. Rash, Redgrave, 100 ewe 32s 3d (top 40, 36s 6d, the leading price for any pen of lambs), 10 wether 28s 3d (top 50, 32s 6d); Hon. Charles Hanbury, flock 268, 50 ear-marked ewe 34s, 20 26s 6d, 70 wether 28s; Mr. Westgate, Tibenham, 50 mixed 24s 6d; Mr. Ekins, Wortham, 41 mixed 23s 6d. Southdown lambs: Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P., 100 mixed 24s 3d (the only entry of this breed). Black-faced ewes: Mr. Wainwright, Botesdale, 50 maiden shearlings, 58s (top 20, 60s), 100 sucklers, nearly 56s (top 20, 60s); Mr. Wainwright, Ixworth, 50 maiden shearlings, 52s 9d (top 25, 57s), 90 sucklers from 51s to 47s; Mr. Sayer, Troston, 80 shearling 39s 9d; Executors Mr. Woodward, Old Newton, flock 132, 25 shearling 34s 6d. First-cross ewes: Mr. T. W. Gaze, 24 maiden shearling, 52s, 134 sucklers from 51s 6d to 46s 6d; Mr. Nurse, Pulham, 18 2-shear 38s, 80 3-shear 37s 3d; Executors Mr. Miles, Metfield, 80 2-shear 42s; Mr. Self, Tibenham, 80 3-shear 37s; Mr. Hammond, 68 shearling 47s 6d; Mr. Anness, Palgrave, 50 shearling 40s, 12 2-shear 36s 6d. Half-bred ewes: Mr. Sayer, Troston, 40 shearling 38s 9d; Mr. Fisher, Metfield, 68 shearling 41s 6d.

Dorchester.

The July sheep fair at Dorchester took place on Friday, and was the largest ever held at this time of the year, about 16,000 being penned, both of horns and Downs. There was an exceptionally large attendance. The scarcity of sheep in the country gave a considerable tone to the trade, and prices generally were in advance of those realised at Blandford, where the rates showed a rise of from 3s. to 5s. above last year's for the classes of sheep most in demand. Large consignments were bought to go into the neighbouring counties. Down sheep were most in request, although there was a good trade in horns. The top price for Down sheep was 51s. 6d. for a grand pen sold by Messrs. Duke for Mr. Symonds (Monkton), a general run being 36s. to 43s.; Down wether lambs, 27s. to 35s.; cross-bred chilver lambs, 28s. to 33s.; Down chilver lambs, 28s. to 36s. Horns made 44s. up to 50s. for best lots, the highest price being obtained at Mr. Ensor's auction by Mr. Kent (Afflington). Horn wethers, 37s. to 41s.; horn chilver lambs, 28s. to 32s.; horn wether lambs, 24s. to 39s.

Harling.

The annual sale of half-bred lambs held by Messrs. Salter, Simpson and Sons, at Harling, took place on Thursday, and last year's entry, which constituted a record, was exceeded by about 1,000, the numbers penned being some 20,400. So large a dispersal, of course, drew a big company, and a good demand was experienced throughout, the best lambs selling well, whilst for Suffolk ewes, of which there were a noteworthy consignment, there was a sharp competition, six score from Mr. John Symonds, Coney Weston Farm, making the satisfactory average of 60s. 3d. The top price of the sale for lambs was 39s., given for forty Suffolk ewes, bred by Mr. Clement Barker, of Wymondham, and, as regards half-bred lambs, the leading figure was 36s. 6d., at which 100 wether, from the Executors of Mr. P. K. Blofield, Quidenham, were knocked down. Other half-breds sold at prices down to 22s. 9d.; black-faced lambs, from 34s. 9d. to 20s.; Suffolk ewes, from 60s. 3d. to 39s. 6d.; and black-faced ewes, 56s. 3d. to 39s. 2d.

Ipswich.

Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons, on Tuesday, held their third annual lamb sale at Gippeswyk Park, Ipswich, when they brought into the ring 1,348 Suffolk, 694 half-bred, 120 first-cross, and 533 Southdown lambs. There was a very satisfactory attendance of buyers, and trade was somewhat more active than it has been for the past few weeks at Ipswich, prices showing a hardening tendency, especially for the wether lambs. We append details of the business done:—

Southdown lambs, from Mr. A. H. E. Wood, Sudbourne Hall (registered flock), 30 ewe 24s, 50 20s 6d, 30 wether 25s 6d, 150 24s 4d, 40 21s; Mr. W. E. Long, Hurts Hall, Saxmundham, 100 ewe 21s 6d, 100 wether 22s 9d; Mr. A. E. Dawnay, Colne Engaine, 33 wether 24s 6d.

Suffolk lambs, all registered flocks: Mr. W. Forrest, Bentley, 50 wether 24s 6d; Mr. C. A. Creasey, Walton, 100 ear-marked ewe 29s (best 50 31s), 45 21s 6d, 55 wether 27s 6d, 100 25s, 46 18s 6d; Mr. J. G. R. Smyth, Henley, 20 ewe 22s 6d, 50 wether 24s 6d; Mr. Wm. Long, Tattingstone Hall, 150 wether, 27s 2d (best 50 32s), 45 mixed 18s 6d; Mr. J. W. Brittain, Gifford's Hall, 50 ewe 25s, 49 wether 23s; Mr. J. Watkins, Claydon Hall, 40 ewe 35s 6d, 17 24s, 50 wether 30s 6d, 49 25s; Mr. S. Jackson, Kersey Priory, 35 ewe ear-marked 36s (the top price of the sale), 33 28s 6d, 80 wether 25s 6d; Mr. E. F. Quilter, Bentley, 40 ewe 28s 6d, 40 wether 22s, 25 mixed 16s 6d; Mr. C. H. Cordy, Walton, 40 wether 32s, 23 24s; Mr. T. N. Scarfe, Bildeston, 56 mixed 26s 6d; Capt. E. C. Moor, Bealings, 36 ewe, ear-marked, 29s 6d, 24 not ear-marked 21s 6d.

Half-bred lambs: Mr. Wm. Long, 50 31s, 50 26s 6d, 56 21s; Mr. J. A. Chalmers, Felixstowe, 150 23s 6d (best 50 27s 6d); Mr. W. Wilson, Baylham Hall, 150 24s 4d, 30 21s; Mr. R. L. Martin, Offton, 100 27s, 58 22s 6d; Mr. E. Gascoyne Whitaker, Branthan, 40 22s.

First-cross lambs: Mr. W. H. Waspe, Bentley, 80 26s; Mr. J. Fox Habbar, Burstall, 40 28s.

Newmarket.

Mr. George Blencowe's eighteenth annual lamb sale at Newmarket took place on the 29th ult. in sultry weather. The entry, well on for 4,500, was fully up to the average, and for the best lambs there was a perceptible improvement in the trade lately experienced, but for the other lambs the demand was of a dragging character. The consignment consisted almost entirely of Suffolk lambs, no fewer than fourteen of the registered flocks of which were represented. These and the respective prices were as follows:—

Lord North, Kirtling, 38 ewe nearly 24s, 42 wether 23s 6d; Mr. J. E. Clover, Ashley, best 20 ewe 50s 6d (the top figure of the sale), 30 45s 6d, 80 39s 9d, and 33 30s, 120 wether nearly 40s, 46 29s; Mr. Percy Eagle, Risby, 100 ewe over 39s 3d (best 20 43s 6d); Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., Great Thurlow, 20 ewe 40s, 80 34s 6d, 100 wether 33s 3d; Mr. Whiting Staples, Moulton, 81 ewe nearly 27s, 129 wether from 28s 6d to 24s 6d; Mr. C. Morbey, Soham, 80 ewe 29s 8d, 90 wether from 29s to 25s; Mr. S. Taylor, Ashley, 150 wether 33s 2d; Mr. G. W. Slater, Weston Colville, 90 wether 34s 6d to 30s; Mr. E. M. Fyson, Higham, 80 wether 27s 9d; Mr. G. B. Robins, Moulton, 20 ewe 27s, 60 wether 24s 9d; Executors of Mr. H. E. M. Davies, Herringswell, 139 wether from 34s to 18s; Mr. W. V. Paley, Freckenham, 100 wether 25s; Mr. F. W. Cobb, Saxon Street, 60 wether 28s 8d, and Mr. S. A. King, Desning Hall, 100 wether 28s 6d.

Unregistered Suffolk lambs sold as follows:

Mr. G. Jillings, Dalham, 60 ewe, 35s 9d; 200 wether, nearly 29s; S. A. Taylor, Dullingham, 60 ewe, 34s 8d, 71 more from 27s to 20s; Mr. E. W. Bocock, Gazeley, 70 wether, from 28s 6d to 26s; Mr. G. J. Paine, Camois Hall, 70 ewe, from 24s 6d to 20s 6d; 49 wether, 20s 6d; Mr. W. Gardner, Worlington, 100 wether, 30s 6d, 100 ewe, 33s 2d; Mr. W. H. King, Denham, 100 wethers, 28s 3d; Mr. W. Westley, Babraham, 40 ewe, 26s 6d, 34 wether, 23s; Mr. J. F. Westley, Little Wilbraham, 45 wether, from 30s to 25s 6d; Mr. H. W. Day, Bottisham, 20 ewe, 35s 6d; Mr. E. Swan, Ousden, 40 ewe, 32s 6d, 30 wether, 28s; Mr. E. Lunnis, Stradishall, 50 mixed, 23s; and Mr. L. Ambrose, 20 mixed, 28s 6d.

First-cross lambs: Mr. H. B. Praed, Ousden, 150, 24s; Mr. W. Morley, Fordham, 130, from 25s to 17s; Mr. G. Jillings, Dalham, 40, 28s 6d; Mr. S. G. Howard, Kirtling, 100, 25s; Mr. A. Fordham, 30, 26s; and Mr. John Wade, Saxon Street, 50, 32s.

Half-a-dozen Norfolk shearling ewes from The Links, Newmarket, went at 30s 6d, and 20 Southdown lambs, from Mr. C. Morbey, Exning, at 21s.

Sheep Exportations.

Mr. George McKerrow, of Sussex, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, U.S.A., president of the American Oxford Down Record Association, also president of the Wisconsin State Board of Agriculture, has been in England the past nine weeks, with the exception of one week spent at the Paris Exhibition. During this time he has visited several of the largest farmers and stockbreeders, and has been studying English methods. He attended the meeting of the Sheepbreeders' Association at York on June 16th as an accredited delegate representing three American Associations—the Oxford Down, Shropshire, and Southdown. He has also visited six of our largest shows, including the Royal. During his stay he has purchased some choice Oxford Downs and good specimens of other breeds. He will sail from Avonmouth, near Bristol, on the ss. Degama on July 5th for South Quebec Quarantine Station, with seventy-five to ninety head of sheep. Among his purchases are five choicely-bred rams from Mr. James T. Hobbs, including his two-shear first prize Royal (at a long price), nine from the noted flock of Albert Brassey, M.P., four yearling rams, two yearling ewes, two ram lambs, and one ewe lamb. Mr. McKerrow thinks one of the yearling rams will be a hard one to beat, and paid a good price for him. He secured two ram lambs and three ewe lambs from Mr. Thomas W. Jeffery's flock. These, he says, will be winners on the other side; three ram lambs from Mr. John White, of Bampton, and two from Mr. F. J. Wilsdon, Wootton—quite good ones. From Mr. J. C. Eady, of Wellingboro', he secured one of his first prize ewes at Northampton Show, and from the flock of Miss Alice de Rothschild at Waddesdon Manor two yearlings, one two-year-old, two three-year-old ewes, and one yearling wether, which he believes will be among the American winners this fall. He takes out ten yearling ewes from Mr. William Arkell's flock for Mr. Henry Arkell in Canada, and from the flock of Messrs. John Bryan and Sons he gets four very useful well-bred rams, and remarks that some people may be surprised if one of them proves a winner in America. Mr. McKerrow keeps a small flock of Southdowns on one farm, and is taking from the Pagham Harbour Company some fourteen head in all for himself and other breeders in America. Of other breeds he has three Lincolns from Messrs. J. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, Bourne; ten Dorsets from Mr. W. R. Flower, of West Stafford, Dorchester; two Hampshire rams from Mr. Joseph Dean, of Chittern, Codford, Wilts; and one Shropshire ram from Mr. R. P. Cooper, of Skinstone. The Shropshire and first prize Dorset ram are for the Wisconsin Agricultural College and Experiment Station with which Mr. McKerrow is officially connected. He says many of these sheep go to breeders to head their flocks or fill up their show pens. His own flocks of Oxford Downs and Southdowns will be represented at the leading American fairs, such as the State shows of Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Indiana, Illinois, the Great St. Louis Fair, and the International Show to be held at the Union Stock Yards, Chicago, in December. A son of Mr. Albert Brassey's shepherd goes out with him to look after his show flock. Mr. McKerrow, in speaking of Oxfords in America, says they are among the mutton breeds of sheep, and are fast coming to the front. The fact that the open championship at all the greatest American shows has been won by an Oxford has given them prestige. At the World's Fair at Philadelphia in 1876 Freeland, bred by Mr. A. T. Milton Druce and shown by Mr. T. S. Cooper, was champion over all. At the World's Fair in 1893 at Chicago, while there was no open champion prize offered, it was agreed, and so reported in the live stock journals, that Heythrope Prince 2nd, bred by Albert Brassey, Esq., M.P., and shown by Mr. McKerrow, was the outstanding champion of the show; and again at the Omaha Exposition of 1898 an Oxford bred by Mr. James T. Hobbs and shown by Mr. Stone won over all. Many breeders in America are using Oxford rams on grade Shropshire ewes to get more flesh, fleece, size, and square forms, and on long-wool ewes to close up the fleeces, shorten the legs, and produce earlier maturity. Thus the demands are fast increasing for good, thick-set, close-fleeced, and well covered Oxfords.

Wool Fairs and Sales.

Basingstoke.

Messrs. Hugh E. Raynbird and Sons held their twenty-third annual sale of English wool on Tuesday. Consignments of wool from about seventy of the local flockmasters were pitched in bulk in the sheds of their cattle sales yard. There was an increase in the number of fleeces offered for sale; the biddings were brisk for the best lots, but lacked animation for the ordinary ones. As a whole, however, the result of the sale was satisfactory, every lot being sold at the fall of the hammer, with an average advance of about one penny per lb. on the Hampshire Down and Southdown fleeces. Hampshire Down wool making 10d. to 10½d. per lb.; ditto, unwashed, 6½d. to 7½d. per lb.; Southdown, 11½d. to 11⅞d.; ditto, unwashed, 7½d. to 8d. per lb.; Down lambs, wool, 7d. to 7⅞d. per lb.; unwashed Scotch fleeces, 4d. to 4½d.; Exmoor, 5½d. to 5⅞d. per lb.; Dorsets, 7½d. per lb.; Kents, 6d. per lb.; Exmoor lambs, 8½d.; crossbred lambs, 7½d. per lb.

Blandford.

An unusually large company were attracted to Blandford on Saturday, on the occasion of the annual fair, at which over 100,000 fleeces were pitched, and large sales held by Mr. Ensor, Messrs. Duke and Son, and Messrs. Senior and Godwin. The wool here offered is always of great excellence, including, as it does, some of the best Down clips in the country, and also some very good character horses. Beautiful weather prevailed, and a very healthy, sound tone pervaded the business. Staplers paid particular attention to fine grown Downs, and prices were all

round a penny better than last year. Lord Alington (Crichel) made the top figure (12¾d.) for some very choice Southdown fleeces; a more general run for Down fleeces being 10¼d. to 12¼d., Down lamb making 9d. to 11d., and unwashed wools, 7d. to 7½d. In horns fleeces sold from 9d. to 10 l., even lamb making 9d. to 9½d., and unwashed lots 7d. to 7¼d. Everything was speedily cleared.

Chichester.

Mr. O. N. Wyatt, of the firm of Wyatt and Son, the well-known auctioneers, of Chichester, conducted the eleventh annual wool sale at the Corn Exchange, Chichester, on uesday, when there was an unusually large attendance of leading agriculturists from the surrounding district, while the buyers present included many engaged in the wool stapling trade. Owing, doubtless, to the success which attended the sale last year, there was a large increase in the number of entries, the fleeces brought under the hammer numbering about 32,000 (from some of the best Southdown, Sussex, and Hampshire flocks), as compared with 25,000 in 1899. In point of quality, too, the wool fully maintained the high standard always met with at Chichester, and in some cases an improvement in the general condition and cleansing of the fleeces was noticed. Taken all round another highly successful sale has to be recorded, some of the best of the lots fetching higher prices even than on the last occasion. In other cases, however, the amount paid was a little lower than before, so that, perhaps, on the whole, it would be fair to say that the average worked out much about the same as in 1899. The distinction of securing the top price of the day once more fell to the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, whose Goodwood clip from Southdown tegs sold at 1s. 0½d. per lb., and from the ewes and rams at 1s. per lb. His Grace's Lavant wool also realised 1s., while part of his East Dean clip fetched the same price and the other part 11½d. per lb. The Duke's Singleton and Charlton wool went for 11½d. (tegs and rams) and 11½d. (ewes) per lb., and his Selhurst Park fleeces for 11d. (tegs) and 10½d. (ewes). Mr. C. Stride, of Lavant, obtained 11½d. for the clip from his ewes, and General Godman, of Highden, a similar figure for his teg fleeces. The Pagham Harbour Company, Selsey, 11¼d. (ewes and tegs fleeces), Mr. John Harrison, Aldwick, 11¼d. (tegs), Mr. H. Neale, Lidsey, 11¼d. (Dorset tegs), and Mrs. E. H. Upton, Binstead, 11¼d. (tegs and rams). Other lots were sold at prices down to 9d. For unwashed fleeces from 6d. to 7d. per lb. was generally paid.

Glasgow and Leith.

There has not been much activity in the Scotch wool market during June. A waiting attitude is characteristic of both buyers and sellers, pending the opening of the London sales on Tuesday next, and also the result of the important fairs which will be held this month. The first sales of new wool were held in Leith on 6th June, before a smaller number of buyers than usual, and a fair quantity was disposed of, with little alteration in value from the May sales. At the Glasgow sales on 20th, the attendance of buyers was rather under the average, and a moderate amount of whitefaced wool was sold at prices rather in buyers' favour. In blackfaced there was very little done publicly, the rates bid for new hogg and wedder wools being too much under what brokers could accept. Some transactions took place privately afterwards on more reasonable terms, partly for America. There is not much new wool of this class forward yet, and there is no pressure to sell.

	Washed.		Unwashed.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Half-bred Hoggs	0 8 to 0 8½	.. 0 5⅜ to 0 6		
Do. Wedders	0 6¾ „ 0 7	.. 0 5½ „ 0 5½		
*Cheviot Hoggs	0 8½ „ 0 10	.. 0 6½ „ 0 7¾		
Do. Wedders	0 7¼ „ 0 8½	.. 0 6 „ 0 6¾		
Cross-bred Hoggs	0 6 „ 0 6½	.. 0 5 „ 0 5½		
Laid Cheviot	0 5 „ 0 5½	.. 0 3½ „ 0 4		
Blackfaced White	0 5 „ 0 5½	.. 0 4¼ „ 0 5		
Do. Laid	.. 0 2¾ „ 0 2¾			

* For Sutherland wool 2d to 2½ l more can be realised.

J. AND W. GREIG.

Bedford.

Bedford Annual Wool Fair took place on Tuesday at the Cattle Market, when, for some reason or other, the wool pitched was very small, even in comparison with several previous bad years. A distinct improvement in price was, however, a mitigating feature, for, against an average of 16s. per tod last year, the average given this year was 18s. 3d., the minimum price given being 17s., and the highest 19s. 6d. There were no long wool fleeces, but of half-breds there were 1,608 tegs, 32 wethers, and 1,890 ewes; whilst of Downs there were 183 tegs and 97 ewes; the total fleeces being 3,810, as against 9,573 last year, and 9,476 in 1897. There were 832 tods 23lb. in weight, as against 2,156 tods 13lb. last year, and 2,149 tods 13lb. in 1897.

Leighton Buzzard.

At this fair held on Friday there were more consignors, and a greater quantity of wool pitched than in the last two years. The fleeces numbered 16,000, as against 12,400 last year. The ruling price was 19s. per tod, but a few lots of choice Down made 20s. 6d. and 21s. The average rate showed an advance of 1s. per tod on last year.

Melton Constable.

On Monday Messrs. Ireland held their first annual sale of lambs at Melton Constable, when 2,750 excellent black faced and half bred were offered. There was a very large attendance of buyers, and business was very brisk, the trade showing an advance of from 3s. to 4s. per head on that experienced at Norwich Market on the preceding Saturday, breeders and flockmasters being well satisfied with the result. Half-bred lambs realised from 18s. 3d. to 42s., and black-faced Suffolk lambs 32s. Oxford ewes made 42s. and 45s., half-bred shearling ewes 46s., and Suffolk shearling ewes 46s. 6d.

Salisbury.

At this important annual fair, which took place on Friday, there was a large attendance of buyers, and the number of fleeces pitched was about the same as last year—viz., 120,000. The prices obtained were in advance of the last fair, in some cases quite a penny more being obtained. Washed wools realised on an average from 9¾d. to 11½d.; the top price was 11¾d. (two lots only). Unwashed wools ranged from 6 l. to 8¼d.

Stratford-on-Avon.

The seventeenth annual sale of English wool took place in the Agricultural Hall, Stratford-on-Avon, on the 30th ult., when about 26,000 fleeces, from most of the leading flocks in the neighbourhood were submitted to competition by Messrs. Hutchings and Deer. Buyers attended from Bradford, Halifax, Leicester, Kidderminster, and other places, and the prices showed an improvement on most of this season's sales. Compared with last year the average advance was 1¼d. per lb. Some of the best lots in Saturday's sale made 10¾d., others 9¾d. and 9½d., and 8d. to 8¾d.

Swindon Wool Sale.

The 25th annual sale took place on Thursday. There were 25,000 fleeces pitched, an increase of 2,000 on last year. Wool was in improved condition, and commanded an advance of ½d. to 1d. per lb., prices being 7d. to 11d. per lb. for Down wool and 7½d. to 8½d. for half-bred wool.

PIGS.

Sale of the Highclere Berkshires.

One of the best lot of Berkshire pigs that have been offered to the public during recent years were sold by auction on Friday last, when Messrs. John Thornton and Co. disposed of Lord Carnarvon's herd at Highclere, near Newbury. This famous herd is well known, many of the pigs having been exhibited with great success under the able supervision of Mr. W. T. Hall. The whole stock was in prime condition, and there was hardly a faulty lot in the sale. There was a large company present, most of the principal breeders being there or represented by their various agents. The gem of the sale was the sow, Hockey, who was purchased for Mr. R. W. Hudson for 28gs. The entire herd of ninety pigs realised £683 11s., being an average price of £7 12s. each.

We give below a sale list:—

	Gs.
Rightaway 6773, boar, f Sept., 1893, s Highclere Boy 4453 ..... Mr. E. Hayter	3
Stratton Lizzie 4th, 6226, sow, f Dec., 1894, s Stratton Natty 4483 ..... Mr C. Aldridge	4½
Holyrood 20th 6259, sow, f August, 1895, s Hornecastle 5616 ..... Mr. E. Hayter	6
Cairo 6918, boar, f Feb., 1896, s Dr. Jameson 5513 ..... Mr. E. Burbidge	3
Highclere Jean 6927, sow, f Jan., 1896, s Lord Windsor 4932 ..... Mr. E. Asbrey	6
Blenheim 5792, boar, f Feb., 1896, s Swansea 3751 ..... Mr R Swanwick	6½
Colleen 3rd 6169, sow, f August, 1896, s Chanticlere 5446 ..... Mr. J. E. Lawrence	8
Highclere 35th 6272, sow, f Sept., 1896, s Charles I A 5444 ..... Mr. E. Burbidge	5
Highclere Joan 6920, sow, f March, 1897, s Cricketer 5587 ..... Mr. E. P. Smith	4½
Calisto 6921, sow, f June, 1897, s Stratton Teddy 5860 ..... Mr. J. Lay	4½
Drogheda 6923, boar, f July, 1897, s Eastward Ho 6919 ..... Mr. E. Hayter	7
Kestrel 6924, sow, own sister to Drogheda 6923 ..... Mr. E. Asbrey	6½
Blackberry Jam 1925, sow, f August, 1897, s Blackham 5215 ..... Mr. J. Pilling	6½
Hemlock 7182, sow, f Oct., 1897, s Sir Visto 6789 ..... Mr. J. Bevan	6
Highclere Lizzie 6912, sow, f Dec., 1897, s Stratton Teddy 5860 ..... Mr. W. Sheen	5
Kinthury Gem 3rd 7183, sow, f Dec., 1897, s Haddington 6080 ..... Colonel Davison	21
Highclere 39th 6911, sow, f Jan., 1898, s Carrigboy 6269 ..... Mr. T. Chick	6½
Flying Fox 6910, boar, f Feb., 1898, s First Catch F 5925 ..... Mr. E. Burbidge	12
Highclere 54th 7184, sow, f April, 1898, s Magistrate 6175 ..... Mr. J. Lay	4½
Highclere 57th 7185, sow, f April, 1898, s Blenheim 5792 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson	17
Highclere 52nd 7186, sow, f April, 1898, s Blenheim 5792 ..... Mr. J. Pilling	8½
Highclere 53rd 7187, sow, own sister to Highclere 52nd 7186 ..... Mr. J. C. Eady	7½
Highclere 51st 7188, sow, f June, 1898, s Blenheim 5792 ..... Mr Darcy Reeve	9
Holyrood 22nd 7193, sow, f August, 1898, s Highclere Bachelor 5817 ..... Mr E. Hayter	7½
Bagatelle, sow, f August, 1898, s Jack of All Trades 6500 ..... Mr. J. McMonies	15
Fritters 7194, sow, f Sept., 1898, s First Catch F 5925 ..... Mr E. Hayter	8½
Balaclava, boar, f Oct., 1898, s Swansea 3751 ..... Mr E. Bartridge	4
Highclere Bess 3rd 7195, sow, f Oct., 1898, s Blenheim 5792 ..... Mr. A. W. Braeur (Germany)	15
Happy Land 7136, sow, f Nov., 1898, s Highclere 5792 ..... Mr. C. Aldridge	3
Highclere 56th 7197, sow, f Nov., 1898, s Highclere Topper 6177 ..... Mr. W. R. Hudson	8½
Grangham X Countess, f Dec., 1898, s First Catch F 5925 ..... Mr. W. Hudson	10
Hockey, sow, f Jan., 1899, s Highclere Topper 6177 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson	28
Lot 33, sow, f June, 1899, s Highclere Topper 6177 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson	11
Lot 34, sow, f March, 1899, s First Catch F 5925 ..... Mr. J. Woodward	8½
Lot 35, boar, f March, 1899, s Blenheim 5792 ..... Mr. J. Lay	7½
His Highness 7139, boar, f March, 1899, s Highclere 5792 ..... Mr. J. C. Eady	8½
Lot 37, elt, f April, 1899, s Drogheda 6923 ..... Mr. W. R. Hudson	9
Pyramid, boar (Vol. XVI.), f March, 1899, s Cairo 6918 ..... Mr. P. L. Mills	14½
Lot 39, elt, f May, 1899, s Drogheda 6923 ..... Marchioness of Tweeddale (Germany)	7
Lot 40, elt, own sister to Lot 39 ..... Captain Farwell	5½
Lot 41, sow, f June, 1899, s Cairo 6918 ..... Marchioness of Tweeddale (Germany)	7
Lot 42, elt, f June, 1899, s Cairo 6918 ..... Mr. Thornton	4
Lot 43, sow, f June, 1899, s Carrigboy 6269 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson	11½
Lot 44, boar, f July, 1899, s Cairo 6918 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson	5½
Lot 45, boar, brother to Lot 44	15
Lot 48, elt, f August, 1899, s Carrigboy 6269 ..... Mr. H. Agnew	5½
Lot 49, elt, f August, 1899, s Sligo 6913 ..... Captain Farwell	6
Lot 50, boar, f August, 1899, s a boar farrowed August, 1898 ..... Mr. H. Baker	8½
Lot 55, elt, own sister to Lot 53 ..... Rev. H. Hopson	4½
Lot 56, elt, f Sept., 1899, s Pressmore Foundation 2nd ..... Captain Keene	7½
Lot 57, elt, own sister to Lot 56 ..... Mr. R. Swanwick	10
Lot 58, elt, own sister to Lot 56 ..... Mr. Darcy Reeve	9½
Lot, 59, boar, f Nov., 1899, s Pastmaster, f August, 1898 ..... Mr E. Burbidge	11
Lot 60, boar, f Jan., 1900, s Drogheda 6923 ..... Mr. Darcy Reeve	5½
Lot 61, elt, own sister to Lot 60 ..... Mr. T. Curry	4½
Lot 62, elt, own sister to Lot 60 ..... Mr. P. L. Mills	5½
Lot 64, elt, f Jan., 1900, s Flying Fox 6910 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson	7
Lot 65, elt, own sister to Lot 64 ..... Mr. R. W Hudson	7
Lot 66, elt, own sister to Lot 64 ..... Mr. R. W Hudson	8
Lot 67, boar, f Jan., 1900, s Flying Fox 6910 ..... Colonel Davison	11
Lot 72, boar, f Jan., 1900, s Pressmore Foundation 2nd ..... Lord Moreton	10½
Lot 73, boar, f Jan., 1900, s Cairo 6918 ..... Captain Keene	15½
Lot 74, boar, own brother to Lot 73 ..... Mr. T. Curry	4½
Lot 75, boar, f Jan., 1900, s Drogheda 6923 ..... Mr. R. Swanwick	10½
Lot 76, boar, own brother to Lot 75 ..... Mr. J. Lucas	5½
Lot 77, elt, own sister to Lot 75 ..... Mr. J. B. Weyman	5
Lot 78, elt, own sister to Lot 75 ..... Mr Bevan	4
Lot 81, elt, own sister to Lot 79 ..... Mr. J. B. Weyman	4½
Lot 82, elt, own sister to Lot 79 ..... Mr. Darcy Reeve	7
Lot 84, boar, own brother to Lot 83 ..... Mr. E. Lyne	10
Lot 86, elt, own sister to Lot 83 ..... Mr. Lucas	7½
Lot 88, boar, own brother to Lot 87 ..... Mr. E. Hayter	7½

Swine Fever in Cheshire.

The Cheshire authorities have been compelled to reinforce the Swine Fever Regulations in consequence of further outbreaks of fever in various parts of the county and the numerous districts which form the Sandbach and Middlewich division, and other divisions are declared infected areas. The regulations come into force to-day. All fairs and markets have again been stopped.

SHOWS.

Norfolk at Downham Market.

For their two-day summer show, the Norfolk Agricultural Association decided to visit Downham Market this year, and the exhibition took place there on Wednesday and Thursday. Downham Market is not very easy of access, but it is well within the important agricultural district of which Lynn is the centre. The town has been visited twice previously—in 1868 and again in 1880. The horses in 1880 were 202, against 320 this year; cattle 146, against 140; sheep 102, against 249; and pigs 34, against 49; whilst at Diss last year they were respectively—horses 277, cattle 127, sheep 273, and swine 53. The weather was bright and warm, and visitors were present in goodly numbers.

Horses.

The Shires always form an important feature in the heavy horse classes at the Norfolk Show, and the prizes were sufficiently liberal to entice contributions from not a few of the best known studs in distant parts of the country. The two-year-old stallions showed up well in point of quality, the first prize going to Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Great Marlow, and the second to a grand bay by Royal Stamp V., belonging to Mr. Garrett Taylor, Trowse House, Norwich, the first named taking the five-guinea special offered by Mr. A. W. Soames, M.P., for the best stallion. Mr. F. W. Griffin, Boro' Fen, Peterborough, and Mr. John Rowell, Bury, Huntingdon, were the chief competitors in the yearling class, the former taking the first prize with a youngster by Blythwood Conqueror. Of brood mares we only had at first sight was a grand entry, and two yearling exhibitors competed for the first honour. Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., who showed his grand mare, Sarah Kitty, and Mr. Fred Crisp, who sent Queen of the Shires, the latter being assigned the premier place. Mr. Arthur Ranson, Hitchin, was first and second in the foal class, one by Cyrano, Royal Harold taking the ten-guinea special offered by Mr. Michael Stock for the best Shire foal in the show. Of three-year-old fillies there were four entries, Mr. F. W. Griffin being first and Mr. R. W. Hudson second. The two-year-old fillies mustered in better numbers, a very choice

Blythwood Conqueror filly, belonging to Sir Walter Gilbey, bearing Mr. John Rowell's Bury Specie, by Yorkshire Ben. Mr. J. T. Cresswell, Aldeby Grange, Beccles, was reserved in this good class for Aldeby Pansy, a very promising filly by Markeaton Royal Prince, which carried off the ten-guinea special prize given by the patron of the society, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, for the best mare or filly the property of a Norfolk tenant-farmer. It was also awarded the Shire Horse Society's ten-guinea gold medal for the best mare or filly belonging to a resident or occupier of agricultural land in Norfolk. The yearling fillies was about the best filled of all the classes, and the collection was altogether a very choice one, including, as it did, entries by Mr. Fred. Crisp, Mr. R. W. Hudson, the Prince of Wales, and other noted breeders. Mr. Fred Crisp's Girton Smile, by Marmion II., was first.

With regard to the lighter-bred horses, as usual there was a grand show. Of hunting brood mares there was only a small entry, but the quality was tip-top. Mr. Frank Smith, Estate Office, Sudbourn Hall, who was first at the Suffolk Show with his twelve-year-old bay, Blue, was this time beaten by Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., whose well-known The Witch was assigned the first place. Of hunting mares or geldings there was a much better show. In the class equal to carry not less than 14 stone Mr. R. E. Walford, Ferry Farm, Woodbridge, took the premier position with Little Willie, which, though only second at the Suffolk Show, took the lead here in a strong class. To have beaten a noted shower like Mr. J. H. Stokes, Great Bowden, Market Harboro', may be regarded as a big achievement. Mr. Stokes, however, came to the front in the class for mares or geldings not equal to carry 14 stone, beating Earl Egerton of Tatton, who sent his Magic from the Stud Farm, East Harling. Mr. William Goodwyn's five-year-old, which took first at the Suffolk, was not noticed. The class for four-year-old mares or geldings was a rather weak one, Mr. S. H. Wood, Narford Hall, Swaffham, taking first, and Mr. A. Smith, Saling, Braintree, second with Longford, by Touchstone; while Mr. A. Woolf, West Dereham, was reserved; but the last-named took the Earl of Albemarle's five-guinea special for the best four-year-old hunter bred in Norfolk. Though the class for three-year-old fillies or geldings adapted for hunting was a small, it was an uncommonly good one. Mr. Philip M. Browne, Fornham All Saints, took first prize with his Music, a position taken at the Suffolk last year. Music also carried off the Hunters' Improvement Society's Silver Medal for the best hunter of either sex. There was a magnificent collection of Hackneys, Mr. W. B. Fryer, Browick, being first in two-year-old stallions, and Mr. Garrett Taylor second with Kirby Bedon Royal, by Royal Dane. The first and second prizes in yearlings went to Mr. A. Collen (Saffron Walden) and Mr. Joseph Morton (Stow Bardolph). There were ten entries of brood mares above 15 h.h., Mr. Harry Livesey, Rotherfield, being first, Mr. John Rowell second, and Mr. E. J. Johnstone (Rougham Hall) also taking Earl Egerton of Tatton's special for the best Hackney mare or filly bred in Norfolk, for a handsome chestnut, by Cadet, bred by Mr. Robert Makins, Litcham, and Mr. J. Rowell, the Hackney Horse Society's ten-guinea gold medal. Mr. Harry Livesey was first in the class for brood mares 15 h.h. and under, Mr. E. J. Johnstone second, while the Hon. Charles Hanbury, Beccles, was only reserved for his choice Marigold, by Cadet, first at Eye. Mr. H. Livesey was first with foals, and Mr. H. V. Sherringham, South Creake, second. Mr. E. C. Chapman took the lead in a big class of filly foals, and one shown by the Hon. Charles Hanbury, first at Eye, was highly commended. In the class for three-year-old geldings Mr. H. Livesey again took the lead, his entry taking the special offered by Mr. Geoffrey F. Buxton for the best Hackney mare. The first honours in the two-year-olds went to Mr. Joseph Morton, and he was also awarded the special offered by Mr. L. Hare, M.P., for the best Hackney brood mare or filly; Mr. E. J. Johnstone was second in the class. There was a fairly good show of riding horses, cobs, and ponies. In the class for ponies foaled prior to 1836, not under 13 hands, Mr. George F. Johnson, Woodbridge, was first with Lucy Glitters, by Lord Derby III., a mare of marvellous all-round action, and she was placed in front of Mr. E. Godsell's Jersey Lily, the first prize winner at Peterborough. The harness horses showed off remarkably well. Mr. George Johnson sent Silver King, sire His Majesty. In the double-harness class Mr. George Johnson's splendid pair, Brilliance and Searchlight, were first, but in the tandem class they were beaten by Mr. Godsell's first prize winner at Peterborough.

Cattle.

With respect to cattle, the shorthorns occupied the first place in the catalogue, the Red Polls, which belong especially to the county of Norfolk, being placed second. Some of the best and most prominent breeders of shorthorns in the Eastern Counties entered keenly competitive arena, including H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and Mr. D. Abbott Green. The [illegible] carried off most honours in the class [illegible] especially to go on their own [illegible] by Lord Lavender, beating the Prince of Wales's Pride of Collynie, the son, Lavender Yet, taking the five guinea special offered by Mr. E. R. M. Pratt, for the best shorthorn bull in the show. The pair, the Prince of Wales' exhibit and Mr. D. Abbott Green's Lavender Yet, met at the Bath and West of England Show, where the Prince's bull was first, but the tables were turned this time. In the yearling bull class Mr. J. B. Dimmock, Shotford Hall, took first prize, beating the well-known breeder, Mr. Fredk. Platt, of Barnby Manor, Newark. Mr. C. W. Brierley, Brimfield, was first in bulls calved this year, and to the fore in cows calved previously to or in 1896, in calf or in milk, beating Mr. Fredk. Platt. The latter gentleman had to take a second place in the class for two-year-old heifers, the chief honour going to Mr. J. Deane Willis, Bapton Manor, Cadford, who was also first in yearling heifers. The red polls showed up exceedingly well. Mr. James E. Platt took the lead in the class for bulls calved prior to or in 1897, Mr. R. Harvey Morson being second, and Mr. J. B. Dimmock highly commended. In two-year-old bulls the fight was between two good specimens of the breed, one sent by Lord Amherst of Hackney, and the other by Mr. Alfred J. Smith, of Rendlesham. The judges placed the former in the first position. H.R.H. the Duke of York was first in yearlings, and Mr. James E. Platt first with cows and heifers, Mr. Alfred J. Smith being also a winner in the class for two-year-old heifers. Mr. Platt's bull carried off Lord Hastings' special for the best red polled bull. The Red Polled Society offered prizes for the best cow in milk to be judged for the yield and quality of the milk, and the first prize went to Lord Hastings, and the second to Lord Amherst of Hackney, while Mr. Alfred J. Smith was reserved for his Wonder Pear. The Jerseys mustered well, the principal winners being the Earl of Cadogan, Mrs. McIntosh, and the Duke of Marlborough, the coveted Blythwood Challenge Cup, given for the best Jersey cow in milk, going to Mrs. McIntosh.

Sheep and Pigs.

The show of sheep was, on the whole, a creditable one, though there was a regrettable absence of those half-bred lambs which have been a rather striking feature at some of the other exhibitions. The Southdowns are generally pretty strong at the Norfolk Show, and the breed was on this occasion well represented. In the class for shearling rams, it was a close tussle between two grand exhibits, one belonging to Earl Cadogan and the other to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the latter being the winner. Earl Cadogan, however, scored against Mr. Jeremiah Colman in the class for three shearling ewes; and Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, Babraham Hall, was first in three ram lambs of the same flock, beating Col. H. M'Calmont, M.P. In the corresponding collection of three ewe lambs of the same flock the Earl of Ellesmere, Stretchworth Park, was the victor, Col. H. M'Calmont, M.P., Cheveley Park, being second. The Southdown Sheep Society's silver medal for the best male Southdown was awarded to Earl Cadogan, and his lordship also took the special offered by the same society for the best pen of female Southdowns. Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, Bourne, were the chief prize-takers in long-woolled sheep, and Mr. T. Fulcher, Elmham, and Mr. James P. Case, Binham Abbey, in Oxfords. The black-faced Suffolk showed up exceedingly well. In the class for shearling rams the Earl of Ellesmere took both prizes, Mr. Herbert E. Smith being reserved, while Mr. Thos. Goodchild, of Great Yeldham Hall, was commended. In the first class for three ram lambs of the same flock Mr. Herbert Smith won with the pen which took first prize at the Royal, the second prize going to the Earl of Ellesmere, with his second prize-winners at the Royal, the York judgment being thus upheld. A third prize was awarded to Col. H. M'Calmont, M.P., who was awarded this extra prize on the ground of special merit. The Earl of Ellesmere took both prizes in the class for three shearling ewes of the same flock, the first prize pen being the Royal winners; Mr. Thos. Keeble was reserved. Pens of three ewe lambs of the same flock formed a specially good collection. Mr. Herbert Smith was first with the pen which were placed second at the Royal, but they were first at the Suffolk Show as untrimmed lambs. Colonel Harry M'Calmont was second with a specially good pen, and the judges awarded Mr. S. R. Sherwood a third prize on account of special merit. These were the lambs that were first at the Suffolk Show as trimmed lambs, and first also at the Royal, so that in this case there was rather a reversal of the Royal awards. The whole class was commended. Mr. W. N. Champion gave special prizes for five Suffolk ewe lambs, untrimmed excepting as to squaring tails, and once again Mr. Herbert Smith was to the front; Mr. S. R. Sherwood second, Mr. Thos. Goodchild third. Mr. D. Abbott Green reserved, and Mr. Thomas Keeble commended. The Suffolk Sheep Society offered a champion prize of £10 for the best pen of Suffolk sheep in Classes 77 to 81, and this was taken by the Earl of Ellesmere. Mr. E. R. M. Pratt offered a special five guinea prize for the best pen of not less than three lambs in the show. The contest was between Southdowns and Suffolks. The judges, one a Southdown judge and the other a Suffolk—could not agree, and he decided in favour of the Earl of Ellesmere's Southdowns, Mr. Herbert Smith's Suffolks being reserved.

There were but few pigs, nearly all the prizes going to Mr. J. Jefferson, Chester, and Mr. Sanders Spencer.

Judges.

HORSES

SHIRES: Mr. Henry Smith, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham; Mr. Joseph Topham, Thorney, Peterborough.

HUNTERS: Mr. Maxwell Angas, Wissendine, Oakham; Sir Gilbert Greenall, Walton Hall, Warrington.

HACKNEYS (Breeding): Mr. W. N. Saberton, Chatteris; Mr. Arthur Fewson, Hedon, Hull.

HACKNEYS (Riding and Driving): Mr. T. Mitchell, Eccleshill, Bradford; Mr. R. G. Heaton, Chatteris, Cambs.

CATTLE

SHORTHORN, RED POLLED, AND FAT CATTLE: Mr. A. D. Bruce, Elvetham, Winchfield, Hants; Mr. J. P. Terry, Berry Field, Aylesbury.

JERSEYS: Mr. H. C. Webb, Audley End, Saffron Walden.

RED POLLED MILKING CLASS: Mr. A. D. Bruce.

SHEEP AND PIGS: Mr. H. Penfold, Selsey, Chichester; Mr. S. W. Slater, Dotterel Hall, Balsham, Cambs.

Champion and Special Prizes.

HORSES

Five guineas for the best stallion in Classes 6, 7, and 8: Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Prince); r, Mr. Garrett Taylor (Right Metal).

£10 10s. for the best mare or filly, not exceeding five years old, the property of a Norfolk tenant farmer: Mr. T. J. Cresswell (Aldeby Pansy); r, Mr. John Riches (Magdalen Lass).

Shire Horse Society's gold medal, for the best mare or filly exhibited in the County Society's Shire Classes, bred by or in the possession of a resident or occupier of agricultural land in the county: Mr. T. J. Cresswell (Albeby Pansy); r, Mr. Garrett Taylor.

£10 10s. for the best Shire foal in the Show: Mr. Arthur Ransom; r, Mr. Arthur Ransom.

£5 5s. for the best four-year-old hunter bred in the county of Norfolk: Mr. A. Woolf (Rufus).

Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for the best hunter filly (by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter sire), not exceeding three years old, and not having won the Society's medal in 1900: Mr. P. M. Browne (Music).

Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for the best hunter of either sex and of any age: Mr. P. M. Browne (Music).

£10 for the best Hackney brood mare or filly, the property of a Norfolk tenant farmer: Mr. J. Morton (Mord-Em'ly); r, Mr. E. C. Chapman (Alethorpe Olive).

£10 10s. for the best mare or filly, not exceeding five years old, the property of a Norfolk tenant farmer: Mr. J. Morton (Mord-Em'ly); r, Mr. J. Proctor (Countess Marsh).

£5 5s. for the best Hackney mare or filly bred in the county of Norfolk: Mr. E. J. Johnstone (Alert); r, Mr. J. Morton (Mord-Em'ly).

The Hackney Horse Society's gold medal for the best mare or filly entered, or eligible for entry in the Society's Stud Book: Mr. John Rowell (Bury Bale); r, Mr. E. J. Johnstone (Alert).

£5 5s. for the best Hackney mare in Classes 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29: Mr. H. Livesey (Welcome); r, ditto (Surprise).

CATTLE.

£5 5s. for the best Shorthorn bull in the Show: Mr. D. A. Green (Lavender Yet); r, H.R.H. Prince of Wales (Pride of Collynie).

£5 for the best Red Polled bull: Mr. J. E. Platt (Champion); r, Lord Amherst of Hackney (Redvers).

Red Polled Society's prizes for Dairy cows of the Red Polled breed: 1, Lord Hastings (Davy 87th); 2, Lord Amherst of Hackney (Wax Doll II.); r, Mr. A. J. Smith (Wonder Pear).

Blythwood silver challenge bowl, for the best Jersey cow or heifer, in milk, in any Classes, bred in Great Britain or Ireland: Mrs. C. McIntosh (Havering Moon III.); r, Earl Cadogan (Ladylike).

SHEEP.

Special prizes for five Suffolk ewe lambs, untrimmed except as to squaring tails: 1, Mr. H. E. Smith; 2, Mr. S. R. Sherwood; 3, Mr. T. Goodchild; r, Mr. D. Abbott Green; c, Mr. T. Keeble.

Suffolk Sheep Society's champion prize of £10 for the best pen of Suffolk sheep: Earl of Ellesmere; r, ditto.

The Southdown Sheep Society's silver medal for the best male Southdown in Classes 67 and 68, but is entered or eligible for entry in the Flock Book: Earl Cadogan, K.G.; r, Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P.

The Southdown Sheep Society's silver medal for the best pen of female Southdowns in Classes 69 and 70, but not entered or eligible for entry in the Flock Book: Earl Cadogan, K.G.; r, Earl of Ellesmere.

£5 5s. for the best pen of not less than three lambs in the Show: Earl of Ellesmere; r, Mr. H. E. Smith.

Class Prizes.

HORSES.

SHIRES.

Stallions, foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Great Marlow (Danesfield Prince); 2, Mr. Garrett Taylor, Trowes House, Norwich (Right Metal); r, Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby (Dunsmore Sterling Harold).

Stallions, foaled in 1899: 1, Mr. F. W. Griffin, Boro' Fen, Peterboro' (Boro' Warrior); 2, Mr. John Jowett, Bargo, Huntingdon (Bury General White); r, H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., Sandringham (Premevilbar); hc, Captain W. H. O. Duncombe, Waresley Park, Sandy (Consul of Waresley).

Brood mares, with foals at foot, or certified to have produced a living foal subsequent to January 1st, 1900: 1, Mr. Fred Crisp, Girton Stud Farm, Cambridge (Queen of the Shires); 2, Sir Walter G. Gilbey, Bart., Lexham Hall, Essex (Saxon Kitty); 3, Captain W. H. O. Duncombe (Lottie Mabel); r, Mr. Garrett Taylor (Hindlip Lady); hc, Mr. F. W. Griffin (Boro' Style); Mr. Watson Failes, Tilney St Lawrence (Keste Freedom).

Shire foals: 1 and 2, Mr. Arthur Ranson, Hitchin; 3, Capt. W. H. O. Duncombe; r, Mr. J. Hunt, Coton; hc, Mr. F. W. Griffin; c, Mr. Richard Allen, St. Germans, and Mr. Alfred Rowell, West Raddon.

Fillies, foaled in 1897: 1, Mr. F. W. Griffin (Boro' Charm); 2, Mr. R. W. Hudson (Markeaton Wild Wave); 3, Mr. A. C. Fountaine, Narford Hall, Swaffham, Norfolk (Hutton Nymph); r, Mr. J. H. Fielding, Town Farm, Woodham Ferris (Mere Bessie).

Fillies, foaled in 1898: 1, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart (Fenland Lady); 2, Mr. John Rowell (Bury Specie); 3, Mr. A. P. Muntz, M.P.; r, Mr. T. J. Cresswell, Aldeby Grange, Beccles (Aldeby Pansy); hc, Mr. J. H. Fielding (Woodham Bounce).

Fillies, foaled in 1899: 1, Mr. Fred Crisp (Girton Smile); 2, Mr. R. W. Hudson (Markeaton Vanessa); 3, Mr. Garrett Taylor; r, Mr. John Riches (Magdalen Lass); hc, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G. (Queen's Birthday); Mr. P. M. Muntz, M.P., and Mr. F. W. Griffin (Boro' Beauty).

HUNTERS.

Brood mares adapted for hunting, the property of and occupied to have produced a living foal subsequent to January 1st, 1900: 1, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (The Witch); 2, Mr. Frank S. Smith, Estate Office, Sudbourn Hall, Woodbridge Market (Blue); r, Earl Egerton of Tatton, East Harling (Dora).

Mares or geldings adapted for hunting, equal to carry not less than fourteen stones: 1, Mr. R. E. Walford, Ferry

Farm, Woodbridge (Little Willie); 2, Mr. J. H. Stokes, Great Bowden, Market Harboro'; r, Mr. Abraham Smith, Saling, Braintree.

Mares or geldings, adapted for hunting, not equal to carry 14st.: 1, Mr. J. H. Stokes; 2, Earl Egerton of Tatton (Magic); r, Mr. S. H. Wood, Narford Hall, Swaffham (Silver Wave).

Mares or geldings, foaled in 1896, adapted for hunting: 1, Mr. S. H. Wood (Spartina); 2, Mr. Abraham Smith (Donsford); r, Mr. A. Woolf, The Abbey, West Dereham, Stoke Ferry (Rufus).

Fillies or geldings, foaled in 1897, adapted for hunting: 1, Mr. Philip M. Browne, Fordham All Saints (Music); 2, Exors. of Mr. P. K. Blofield, Quidenham, Attleborough (Mary).

Fillies or geldings, foaled in 1898, adapted for hunting: 1, Mr. C. Kelway-Bamber, Springfield Lodge, Chelmsford (Homely Lass); 2, Mr. A. Woolf (Warrior); r, Mr. Arthur Gayford, White House, East Harling (Playful Manners).

HACKNEYS.

Stallions, foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. W. B. Fryer, Browick Hall, Wymondham; 2, Mr. Garrett Taylor (Kirby Bedon Royal); r, Mr. E. C. Chapman, Stud Farm, Alethorpe, Fakenham (Alethorpe Basil); hc, Mr. Alfred Lewis (Heacham Prince).

Stallions, foaled in 1899: 1, Mr. A. Collen, Hackney Stud, Saffron Walden (Walden Royal Connaught); 2, Mr. J. Morton, Stow, Downham; r, Mr. F. Bedlam, Witchford, Ely, Cambs (Ely Marvel); hc, Mr. J. Rowell (Bury Danegelt); c, Mr. Smith Flanders, Burnt Fen, Soham (King Forest).

Brood mares, above 15 hands high, adapted for breeding Hackneys, with foals at foot, or certified to have produced a living foal subsequent to January 1st, 1900: 1, Mr. Harry Livesey, Rotherfield, Sussex (Surprise); 2, Mr. J. Rowell (Bury Belle); r, Mr. E. J. Johnstone, Rougham Hall, Suffolk (Alert).

Brood mares, 15 hands high and under, adapted for breeding Hackneys, with foals at foot, or certified to have produced a living foal subsequent to January 1st, 1900: 1, Mr. Harry Livesey (La Cigale); 2, Mr. E. J. Johnstone (Polly Ailsa); r, Mr. John Barker, J.P., The Grange, Bishop Stortford (Isoline); hc, Hon. Charles Hanbury, Brockles, Attleborough (Marigold).

Colt foals: 1, Mr. Harry Livesey; 2, Mr. H. V. Sheringham; 3, Mr. Joseph Morton; r, Mr. Joseph Proctor; hc, Mr. J. Proctor; c, Mr. F. Baldam.

Filly foals: 1, Mr. E. C. Chapman, Alethorpe Hilary; 2, Mr. J. Proctor; 3, Mr. J. Rowell; r, Mr. John Barker, J.P.; hc, Hon. C. B. Hanbury (Bame Daisy); c, Mr. E. J. Johnstone, Rougham Hall, Suffolk (Vivacity).

Mares or geldings, foaled in 1897: 1, Mr. Harry Livesey (Welcome); 2, Mr. J. Proctor (Countess Marsh); r, Mr. R. Hussey (Bog Myrtle).

Mares or geldings, foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. J. Morton (Mouldin'ly); 2, Mr. E. J. Johnstone (Qui Vive).

Fillies or geldings, foaled in 1899: 1, Mr. E. C. Chapman; 2, Mr. R. Hussey (Puzzle); r, Mr. C. G. Cooke (Litcham Merry Gal); c, Mr. A. Rowell.

RIDING HORSES.

Riding mares or geldings, above 15 hands high: Mr. F. J. Palmer, Tottenhill, Lynn (Conceit).

Riding mares or geldings, above 14 and not exceeding 15 hands high: 1, Mr. H. W. Jermyn, Silfield, Wymondham (Lent Lily); 2, Mr. Charles Waters, Postwick, Norwich (Postwick Ruby); r, Mr. E. C. Chapman (Alethorpe Pride); hc, Mr. J. Proctor (Sir Doughton).

COBS AND PONIES.

Cobs, weight-carrying, not less than 14 hands nor more than 15 hands high, adapted to carry at least 15st.: 1, Mr. F. J. Palmer (Rapture); 2, Mr. J. W. Pepper, Stamford, Gallihead.

Ponies, foaled prior to 1896, not under 13 hands, nor above 14 hands high: 1, Mr. G. F. Johnson (Lucy Glitters); 2, Mr. E. Godsell, Stroud, Gloucestershire (Jersey Lily); r, Mr. H. Humphrey, Weasenham Hall, Swaffham (Weasenham Molly).

Ponies, foaled in 1896, 1897, or 1898, not under 13 hands nor above 14 hands high: 1, Mr. H. W. Jermyn (Sylvia); 2, Mr. A. J. Christie (Little Bobs).

Ponies, not above 13 hands high: 1, Mr. F. Beldam (Polly); r, Miss A. L. North, Rougham Hall, Norfolk (Mimosa).

Hackneys, cobs, and ponies: 1, Mr. H. W. Jermyn (Lent Lily); 2, Messrs. Eland A. Baxter, Hutton Hackney Stud (Lady Nell); r, Mr. E. Godsell (Norbury Squire); hc, Mr. G. F. Johnson, Woodbridge (Lucy Glitters).

Mares or geldings, above 15 hands high, not exceeding five years old: 1, Mr. G. F. Johnson (Silver King); 2, Mr. H. W. Jermyn (Sir Joseph); r, Mr. J. M. Place, Barton Mills (Barton Girl).

Mares or geldings, above 14 hands and not exceeding 15 hands high, and not under five years old: 1, Messrs. E. and A. Baxter (Hutton Mimosa); 2, Mr. A. Lewis (Heacham Conqueror).

Cobs and ponies not exceeding 14 hands high: 1, Mr. G. F. Johnson (Lucy Glitters); 2, Mr. E. Godsell (Jersey Lily); r, Mr. H. Randall (Bret Harte); c, Miss A. G. North (Mimosa).

Champion Class (in single harness).—Hackneys, cobs, and ponies: 1, Mr. E. Godsell (Heathfield Squire); 2, Mr. G. F. Johnson (Brilliance); r, Mr. A. Lewis (Juggler).

Double harness: 1, Mr. G. F. Johnson (Brilliance, Searchlight).

Tandem teams: 1, Mr. E. Godsell (Norbury Squire and Heathfield Squire); 2, Mr. G. F. Johnson (Brilliance and Searchlight).

Mares or geldings that jump in the cleverest and best form: 1, Mr. F. V. Grange; 2, Mr. Stephen A. Coxon; 3, Mr. Lambert.

Mares or geldings that jump in the cleverest and best form: 1, Mr. A. Daking; 2, Exors. of Mr. P. K. Blofield; 3, Mr. Reynolds.

For mares or geldings that jump in the cleverest and best form, and that have been regularly hunted with hounds in the county of Norfolk: 1, Mr. Brereton; 2, Mr. Lambert; 3, Exors. of P. K. Blofield.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Bull, calved previously to or in 1898: 1, Mr. G. D. Abbott, Fingringhoe Hall (Lavender Yet); 2, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G. (Pride of Collynie); r, Mr. Willis J. Deane, Bapton Manor, Codford (Silver Plate); c, Mr. James H. Fielding (Nottingham's Last).

Bull, calved in 1899: Mr. J. B. Dimmock, Shotford Hall, Harleston (Shotford Star); 2, Mr. F. Platt, Barnby Manor, Newark (Martyrdom).

Bull, calved in 1900: 1, Mr. Chas. W. Brierley, Brimfield, R.S.O., Herefordshire; 2, Mr. T. Stokes, Home Farm, Warmington (Prince of Roses III.); r, Mr. G. D. Abbott (Tendley).

Cow, calved previously to or in 1896, in calf or in milk: 1, Mr. Chas. W. Brierley (Autumn Queen); 2, Mr. F. Platt (Gay Baroness IX.).

Heifer, calved in 1897, in calf or in milk: 1, Mr. C. W. Brierley (Lavender Queen).

Heifer, calved in 1898: 1, Mr. J. Deane Willis (White Heather); 2, Mr. F. Platt (Scottish Waterloo Lass II.); r, Mr. Chas. W. Brierley (Queenly Duchess).

Heifer, calved in 1899: 1, Mr. J. Deane Willis (Victorine).

RED POLLED.

Bull, calved previously to or in 1897: 1, Mr. James E. Platt (Champion); 2, Mr. R. Harvey Mason, Necton Hall, Swaffham (Magician); r, Mr. James E. Platt (Red Knight); hc, Mr. J. B. Dimmock (Wigton).

Bull, calved in 1898: 1, Lord Amherst of Hackney, Didlington Hall, Brandon (Redvers); 2, Mr. A. J. Smith, Rendlesham, Woodbridge (Ready Ray); r, Mr. F. Hugh Eaton-Lake, Framfield Place, Framfield, Uckfield, Sussex (Framfield Prince); hc, Mr. J. Hammond (Davyzon 165th).

Bull, calved in 1899: 1, H.R.H. The Duke of York, K.G.; 2, The Hon. A. E. Fellowes, Hunmanby Hall (Ajax); r, Mr. J. B. Dimmock (Shotford Best Man); hc, Mr. R. Hervey Mason (Defiance); r, Mr. Alfred J. Smith (Eyke Don); hc, Mr. A. J. Smith (New Sirdar).

Cow, calved previously to or in 1896, in calf or in milk: 1, Mr. James E. Platt (Brinhild); 2, Lord Amherst of Hackney (Charmante); r, Lord Amherst of Hackney (Wax Doll II.); hc, The Hon. Charles Hanbury (Duplicate of Oddie).

Heifer, calved in 1897, in calf or in milk: 1, Mr. James E. Platt (Brant); 2, Lord Amherst of Hackney (Jessie Lindrum); r, Mr. James E. Platt (Dodo).

Heifer, calved in 1898: 1, Mr. James E. Platt (Red Lucy); 2, Mr. James E. Platt (Diamond); 3, Lord Amherst of Hackney (Didlington Dora No. 1); 4, Mr. A. J. Smith (Eyke Lily); r, Mr. A. J. Smith (Eyke Lily 1st); c, The Hon. Charles Hanbury (Dolly Dayborn).

Heifer, calved in 1899: 1, Hon. A. E. Fellowes (Ardenil); 2, Mr. James E. Platt (Miss Poppy III.); 3, Mr. James E. Platt (Tiara); 4, Hon. A. E. Fellowes (Aden); r, Hon. A. E. Fellowes (Anthea); hc, Mr. A. J. Smith (Eyke Dairymaid); c, Lord Amherst of Hackney (Pansy V.); and L. ad Hastings, Melton Constable (Midnight).

JERSEYS.

Bull, calved previously to 1899: 1, Mrs. Cyril E. Greenall, Walton Hall, Warrington (Golden Monarch); 2, Earl Cadogan, K.G., Culford Hall, Bury St. Edmunds (Havering Pride); r, Duke of Marlborough, Blenheim Palace, Woodstock (Dewey).

Bull, calved in 1899 or 1900: 1, Mrs. C. McIntosh, Havering Park, Essex (Why Not); 2, Duke of Marlborough (Crescent King); r, Earl Cadogan, K.G. (General Buller); hc, Mrs. C. McIntosh (Hilburton's Prince).

Cow, calved previously to 1897, in calf or in milk: 1, Mr. C. W. Armitage, Woodlands, Northaw, Potters Bar (Pilot's Legacy V.); 2, Mr. C. W. Armitage (Clementine); r, Mrs. Cyril E. Greenall (Berrestord Pride); hc, Earl Cadogan, K.G. (Ladylike).

Heifer, calved in 1897 or 1898, in calf or in milk: 1, Duke of Marlborough (Goldfinder); 2, Mrs. C. McIntosh (Lavish); r, Mrs. C. McIntosh (Havering Moon III.); hc, Mr. C. W. Armitage (Queen's Daughter); and Earl Cadogan, K.G. (Beatrice).

Heifer, calved in 1899 or 1900: 1, Mr. C. W. Armitage (Leylands Sylvia); 2, Earl Cadogan, K.G. (Lady Blucher); r, Duke of Marlborough (Bright Quack); hc, Mr. J. Carson, Crystal Brook Park, Theydon Bois, Essex (Crystal Brook Merry Maid); and Mr. C. W. Armitage (Belle of Leylands).

FAT CATTLE.

Steers, of any breed, not above three years and six months old: 1, Mr. W. Le Neve, Tunstead (Blue Boy); 2, Mr. R. J. Colman, Bracondale Woods, Norwich.

Steers, of any breed, not above two years and six months old: 1, Mr. J. B. Dimmock; 2, Mr. F. J. Palmer, Tottenhill Road, King's Lynn.

Cows, of my age, or heifers, not above two years and six months old: 1, Mr. W. E. Learner, Dilham Hall, Norfolk; 2, Mr. W. Le Neve, Tunstead, Norwich (Mayflower); r, Mr. A. G. Soorer, Flaxman House, Custom, Attleborough.

SHEEP.

SOUTHDOWNS.

Shearling ram: 1, Earl Cadogan, K.G.; 2, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G.; r, Mr. J. Colman, D.L., J.P., Gatton Park, Surrey; c, Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambridgeshire; c (twice), Earl of Ellesmere, Sketchworth Park, Newmarket.

Three shearling ewes of the same flock: 1, Earl of Cadogan, K.G.; 2 and c, Mr. J. Colman, D.L., J.P.

Three ram lambs of the same flock: 1 and r, Mr. C. R. W. Adeane; 2, Col. H. McCalmont, M.P., Cheveley Park; c, Mr. G. Cortauld, Cut Hedge, Halstead, Essex.

Three ewe lambs: 1, Earl of Ellesmere; 2, Col. H. McCalmont, M.P.; r, Mr. G. Cortauld.

LONG WOOLLED.

Shearling ram: 1 and 2, Messrs. S. E. Deane and Sons, Dowshy Hall, Bourne.

Three ram lambs: 1, Messrs. S. E. Deans and Sons.

OXFORDS.

Shearling ram: 1, 2, and r, Mr. T. Fulcher, Elmham.

Three ram lambs: 1 and 2, Mr. James P. Case, Binham Abbey, Wighton, S.O.; r, Mr. G. Street, Maulden Ampthill.

Three ewe lambs: 1 and r, Mr. G. Street; 2, Mr. T. Fulcher.

HAMPSHIRES.

Three ram lambs: 1 and r, Mr. T. Fulcher.

BLACK-FACED SUFFOLK.

Shearling ram: 1 and 2, Earl of Ellesmere; r, Mr. H. E. Smith, The Grange, Walton, Ipswich; c, Mr. T. Goodchild, Great Yeldham Hall, Halstead, Essex.

Three ram lambs of the same flock: 1, Mr. H. E. Smith; 2, Earl of Ellesmere; 3, Col. H. McCalmont, M.P.; r and hc, Mr. Thomas Keeble; c, Mr. S. R. Sherwood, Playford, Ipswich and Mr. D. Abbott Green.

Three shearling ewes of the same flock: 1 and 2, Earl of Ellesmere; r, Mr. T. Keeble.

Three ewe lambs of the same flock: 1, Mr. H. E. Smith; 2, Col. H. McCalmont, M.P.; 3, Mr. S. R. Sherwood; r, Mr. D. Abbott Green; c, Earl of Ellesmere; Mr. T. Goodchild; Major E. W. Baird, Exning House; and Mr. J. W. Eagle, The Hall, Walton-on-Naze.

CROSS-BRED LAMBS.

Five half-bred lambs from a flock of not less than 100 ewes, lambed in the year 1900: 1 and 2, Mr. F. J. Matthews, Bircham, Lynn; r, Major E. W. Baird, Exning House.

PIGS

BERKSHIRES.

Boars, farrowed in 1898 or 1899: 1, Mr. E. J. Morant, Dilton, Boldre, Hants (Dome Jose); 2, Mr. J. Jefferson, Peel Hall, Chester (Peel Royal); r, Mr. J. Jefferson.

Breeding sows, farrowed previously to or in 1899: 1, Mr. J. Jefferson.

Three breeding pigs of the same sex, farrowed in 1900: 1, Mr. J. Jefferson.

LARGE OR MIDDLE WHITES.

Boars, farrowed in 1899 or 1900: 1, Mr. Sanders Spencer, Holywell Manor, St. Ives (Holywell Georgie); 2, Ditto (Holywell Radical).

Breeding sows, farrowed previously to or in 1899: 1, Mr. Sanders Spencer; 2, Mr. G. Manners, Trafalgar Park, Boys, St. Edmunds (Lady Kathleen).

Three breeding pigs of the same sex, farrowed in 1900: 1 and 2, Mr. Sanders Spencer; hc, Mr. George Manners.

TAMWORTHS.

Boars, farrowed in 1898 or 1899: 1, Mr. D. W. Philip, The Ashes, Whitmore, Bromsgrove (Knowle Harebell); 2, Lord Hastings (Melton Goldfinder).

Breeding sows, farrowed previously to or in 1899: 1, Mr. D. W. Philip (Whitmore Royal Empress); 2, Ditto (Whitmore Favourite III.); r, Lord Hastings, Melton.

Three breeding pigs of the same sex, farrowed in 1900: 1, Mr. H. C. Stephens, Cholderton, Salisbury; 2, Lord Hastings; r and hc, Mr. D. W. Philip.

Leicester.

The Leicestershire Agricultural Association's annual exhibition was held on Wednesday and Thursday on the Fremeaux Road Allotment Recreation Ground, and as proved to be in every respect one of the best which has taken place under the auspices of the association. The number of entries was a record, those for horses alone totalling 600, or 70 more than last year. Of the principal classes (Class VI.) entries were in respect of 56 pens in place of 51 on the year, the hunters numbering 117 against 98, the [illegible] 106 against 91, and the [illegible] 180. There were also 12 entries of cattle, as against of 36, and the 47 pens of pigs were 15 more than a year ago. In one department there was a falling off, and that was in the sheep section, there being but 56 pens as compared with 87, a decrease of 31. So far as quality was concerned a considerable improvement was noticeable in all departments. The weather was favourable, and the attendance of visitors exceptionally good.

Light Horses.

As is always the case at Leicester there was a very fine display of hunters, the high standard of previous years being fully maintained. Mr. Stokes, of Great Bowden, Market Harborough, had, of course, a strong team, and he proved well-nigh invincible in the classes in which he competed. With mares and geldings eight years old, up to 15st. and over, he carried off both the first and second prizes with Degas by Downy Bird, and King Bronze by Nimrod. Mayo (the latter, which is [illegible] horse for middle-weight hunters at the Royal. Mr. Skinner, of Desborough, Market Harborough, was second with Nimrod. In the class for hunters made prior to 1897, up to 13st. 7lb. and 15st., Mr. Stokes scored with Good Health, by Toastmaster, and seconded with Benedictine, by Wild Monk, Mr. Custance, of Oakham, dividing the pair with a bay by Jason Morgan. Mr. Stokes was in front in the light weight hunter class with Diamond, by Cedric, a beautiful bay, possessing all the necessary qualifications. Mr. Drage, of Chapel Brampton, Northampton, came second with a nicely set-up gelding by Prince of League, whilst Mr. Danby, of Offchurch, Leamington, was third with his smart Volunteer. The classes for four, three, and two-year-old geldings or fillies, as well as for yearlings, were limited to residents or occupiers of land within the Quorn, Mr. Fernie's, the Belvoir, the Cottesmore, the Atherstone, and the Pytchley Hunts. Mr. Stokes was again first and second in the class for four-year-olds, with Degas by Hanover Jack, and Diamond more. Among the three-year-olds Mr. Wall, of Coleshill, Birmingham was successful with Mastersman, by Master Maurice. At the head of the two-year-olds was a promising gelding by Louis XIII., by St. Simon, shown by Mr. Howkins, of Clifton, Rugby, whilst Messrs. Carr and Crawford, of Gunthorpe, Oakham, were second with Dicky Bird, by Downy Bird, another animal of the proper type. In the yearling class Mr. de Trafford, of Hothorpe, Teddingworth, Rugby, was winner with a beautiful filly by Wildfire, and Mr. Sanders, of Gilmorton, Lutterworth, was second with another quality chestnut filly by Spahi. Mrs. Wilkinson's Lady Grosvenor, from Edwinstone, Newark, continued her brilliant career upon appearing in the ring for mares. She was not beaten last season, and so far during the present one she has scored at Welbeck, the Royal, and Peterborough. In the [illegible] class Mr. Delville, of Houghton Grange, Leicester, was second with Yeoman, by Blinkney; Berry, from the same stable and by the same sire, being second, and the foal of Countess, by Emir, third. My Knight, of Langton, Market Harborough, was the reserve, with Blazer, by Mountain Dew, which was first at Peterborough last week. In a large class of [illegible] not less than 14½ hands, the judges had some trouble in selecting performers before them. They made a good selection in Mr. Stokes' beautiful dark chestnut horse Cherry, by Cherry Ripe, which has had a very successful career. Mr. Goodson's Royal winner, Heathfield Conceit, by Polonius, from Knutsford, had to be content with second place, and another well-known performer in Mr. Apperley's Nobleman, from Cheltenham, occupied the third place. In the class for animals under 14¼ hands, Mr. Foster, of Moseley, Birmingham, won with Mid Valley Queen, a dark chestnut, four years old, which was somewhat fortunate to defeat Mr. Day's Kenley Dagmar, from Crewe, for the latter was second at the Royal. Mr. Haines' Crystal Prince winner, Queen Bee, ridden by Miss Haines, was only able to get third place, but a pony class enabled that owner to win with Tommy Tittlemouse, a [illegible] pony, cleverly performed with them. Mr. Freeman's team, Dandy Dan was second, as he has failed to [illegible] at Royal and Peterborough. [illegible] Miss Haines' ponies reappeared and Mr. Hanbury won with Wee Agnes, [illegible] Mr. Woolf's pony, Fancyless, Pipestone and [illegible] Trevelyan from Bretton, Yorkshire, being second and [illegible] Mr. Godsell's Lord Roby and Duke of York, from Stroud, Gloucestershire, third. Mr. Franklin scored in the [illegible] class with Lord Lieutenant, Mr. Foster's Mid Valley Queen being second, and Mr. Day's Sunshine third.

Shires.

The display of Shire horses was considered to be the best ever seen at the show. The [illegible] was very strong, as the class for four-year-old stallions by [illegible] Royal champions, Heather Hallmaster, which was

however entered, Lord Llangattock supplied a formidable condidate in Hendre Champion by the same sire as the other—namely, Prince Harold. He has not been beaten so far this season, and he has been out at the Oxfordshire and the Bath and West of England Shows. He again got in front on Wednesday. Mr. Muntz was second with Dunsmore John O'Gaunt, by Dunsmore Masterman, a smaller colt, but well built; Mr. Everard, of Leicester, was third was Bardon Baronet, by Bardon Harold. There was a moderate class of mares, three years old. Mr. Parnell, of Rugby, won with Rokeby Judith, by Jeroboam, a very fine big filly, which thus followed up the successes she gained at the Royal and Peterborough. Mr. Smith Carington, of Ashby Folville, Melton Mowbray, was second with Rocks Madan, by Calwich Heirloom. Amongst a large number of splendid two-year-old fillies was Lily of the Valley, by Southgate Honest Tom, which did so well for her breeder, Mr. Goulding, of Whatton-in-the-Vale, last season. She now belongs to Mr. Yerburgh, M.P., of Blackburn. Another beautiful stamp of a filly was second in Mr. Eadie's Lockinge Mistletoe, by Lockinge Albert, from Barrow Hall, Derby. Another Royal winner came to the front in the yearling colt class, this being Lord Llangattock's Victor of Waresley, by Waresley Triumph. Mr. Parnell was second with Lockinge Lord, by Lockinge Albert, and Mr. Mumby third with the brown Dunsmore Combination. Sir W. H. Wills, M.P., headed the class for yearling fillies with Richford Lass, by Calwich Prince, which was first and gold medallist at the Bath and West, and also at the Royal Counties at Windsor, but was beaten at Peterborough by Lord Egerton of Tatton's Lockinge Athena. Mr. Eadie was second with Barrow Princess, by Harold, an animal of good make and shape, and Mr. Drackley, of Nuneaton, was third with a chestnut by Cotheridge Swell. Mr. Marsh, of Hitchin, scored in the class for mares with foals with Brookfield Bonny, by Ely Harold. She was purchased at Mr. Crisp's sale last September, and took a first prize and a medal at Northampton. Mr. Muntz's mare, Lady Franklin, which was overlooked at the Royal and was second at Peterborough, occupied a similar position on this occasion, whilst Mr. Smith Carrington was third with Hendre Crown Princess, which he purchased for 1,100gs. at Lord Wantage's sale. The foals were hardly such a fine lot as usual, being somewhat backward in condition. Mr. Muntz won in the colt foal class with a bay by Dunsmore Masterman, Mr. Everard being second with a bay by Bardon Harold, and Mr. Parnell third with a bay by Desford Vulcan Chief. In the filly class, Mr. Eadie took the first prize with a foal by Barrow Sir James, Mr. Everard the second with one by First Lord, and Mr. Muntz the third with one by Dunsmore Combination. The tenant farmers' classes were exceedingly creditable.

Cattle.

The whole of the exhibits of cattle were particularly good; in fact, it was described as one of the best exhibits ever made in Leicester, and would compare favourably with the best exhibits at many other big county shows. The local classes of cattle showed a vast improvement on previous years, and should encourage the Society to still continue these classes. Several grand animals paraded among the old Shorthorn bulls, and the judges were occupied for some time in deciding between the merits of the respective candidates. Mr. R. P. Cooper was eventually placed first for King Carolus, by North Star, a good class of Shorthorn bull, which has won several prizes. Second came Mr. Dudding with Prompter, a very thick, serviceable bull, which also has many previous successes to his credit. Yearling Shorthorn bulls were headed by Mr. Dudding's King Atto, an exceedingly neat bull of an excellent type, whilst Captain Duncombe had the second in Manor Victory, a useful and compactly-built bull. The Shorthorn Society's prize for the best bull in the counties of Leicestershire and Rutlandshire was competed for by only four animals, of which Darlington Ranger, a well-known bull from the herd of Mrs. Perry Herrick, Beaumanor Park, Loughborough, was deservedly given pride of place, one of the pair sent by Mr. J. P. Cross, Gerôme, being second. The class for Shorthorn cows was excellent, all the animals being of high quality, and the judges distributed commended cards with a liberality which was quite justifiable. Miss Alice de Rothschild was first with Miss Belladrum 6th, which won at the Royal Show at Maidstone last year, and which has recently won at Northampton and Peterborough. Mr. L. de Rothschild was second with Mayflower 3rd, a cow who counts among her previous successes Woodbridge, Oxford, and first and third at Bath and West. Mr. Henry Dudding scored another victory with Lady 21st in the class for Shorthorn heifers, beating Mr. Sherard Reeve's Heatherbill and Miss de Rothschild's Rose of Underley 6th. Of the yearling Shorthorn heifers, Mr. Jolliffe's Rosey Dawn, which was first, and Captain Duncombe's Ruby Robe second, while Mr. Dudding was reserve with Lady 24th. Some beautiful dairy cows turned out, and Mr. Fox's roan, which was first, was a charming specimen. The second, owned by Mr. Drackley, gave great promise of milk, but was lame, and so did not quite come up to expectations in her yield. Many thought that Mr. J. A. Scorror's Arnold Queen should have been placed higher, but as she had not calved, the judges were unable to satisfy themselves as to her milking qualifications, and so passed her over. Mr. Fox's cow was also first in the next class, with Messrs. Holm's Red Rose, a big, wide-framed animal, second. Mr. Drackley was first in the heifer class, with a beast of excellent milking capacity. Shorthorn bulls under two years old were headed by Pailton Lad, a bull of a useful, but ordinary, stamp, which was rather lucky in not having to face a very keen competition, neither Mr. James Sims's Major Morion nor Mr. Dewhurst's May King's Farewell being particularly striking. Pailton Lad had to give way to Mr. Sanders's admirable roan, Duke of Warlaby, in the next class, for Shorthorn bulls of any age. The pretty Channel Island breed was represented by a strong contingent. It was, in fact, stated to be the best class of Jerseys ever seen at Leicester. Mrs. Susannah Greenall was successful with her bull La Chasse Tauries, which was second at Northampton, and with the cow Longuville Brownie, which won at the same show. Mr. L. Gisborne took a second with a bull which occupied a similar position at Northampton, and the Hon. Mrs. Murray Smith, Lady de Rothschild, and the Duke of Marlborough were also among the winning exhibitors.

Sheep.

Although there was a considerable falling off in the entries of sheep, quality was well up to the average, especially in the Shropshire classes, many of the leading pens at the Royal and Shropshire and West Midland exhibitions being again in competition. In the class for pens of five shearling rams Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., Dunsmore, was first with the splendid pen of animals which gained premier honours at Shrewsbury and York. Mrs. Barrs, Atherstone, again came second with a good, matchy pen, and a strong pen took third prize for Mr. W. F. Inge, Thorpe, Hamworth. Mr. A. E. Mansell, Shifnal, headed the class for pens of two shearling rams with capital representatives, which caught the eye of the judges at York, and Mrs. Barrs was once more second, with Mr. R. P. Cooper, Lichfield, third. For pens of three theaves, Mr. W. F. Inge secured first honour with his Royal winners, beating, as at York, the smart pen entered by Mrs. Barrs, third prize going to Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P. Mr. A. E. Mansell was first for pens of two ram lambs with the animals which gained a similar position at York. This time Mr. B. Wall, Coleshill, was second with well-grown representatives, Mr. R. P. Cooper's pen ranking next. The tenant-farmers' classes were a failure for some reason. Three classes attracted no entry at all, and Mrs. Barrs was practically the only exhibitor in the other classes, carrying off the whole of the prizes. For Lincoln-bred sheep Mr. H. Dudding was very successful, winning the championship with a pen of shearling rams.

Pigs.

The pig classes were greatly in advance of last year's exhibition, so far as the entries were concerned, an increase of fifteen being recorded. Neither was there anything to complain about in regard to quality, for there were some extraordinarily good pigs penned. The sows were particularly excellent. The judge would doubtless have found his labours simplified had not the practice of mixing the Large and Middle White breeds been followed. Separate classes for Large Whites and Middle Whites should in every case be established. In the old boar class the prize was given to a Middle White, simply because it was a better type of boar than any other in the class. Upon the merits of the case the first prize for sows might have been awarded to a Middle White animal, but there was such an extraordinarily good collection of Large White sows that the first prize went in that direction. The boar which was first at Bath and West and Nottingham was only placed second on this occasion. Sir Gilbert Greenall was first in the boar class with Walton Royal, while Mr. Sanders Spencer's Holywell Royalty II. came second. These two were easily ahead, and of the others Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Turk was thoroughly entitled to the reserve ribbon. Of the four entrants for boars of any breed Mr. J. Jefferson was first and second. There was a short show of Berkshires, and while boars were moderate, sows were good. Mr. Jefferson took the first prize for sows with a fine young animal, full of quality, and very well grown. The young classes were extremely good, but here again classification was sadly needed, Berkshires being sown side by side with Large Whites. The Berkshires never had any chance then. Mr. Daybell came in for the first prize with a splendid pen, which won at Nottingham. Mr. Thomas Diggle was second with a promising litter, and the Rev. T. J. Davis was at the head of affairs in the class for breeding sows.

Judges.

HUNTERS: Sir Bache Cunard, Nevill Holt, Market Harborough; George Mulcaster, Burghley Sands, Carlisle.
HACKS, DRIVING AND JUMPING: A. W. Hickling, Adbolton, Nottingham; T. H. Hutchinson, Catterick, Yorks.
SHIRE HORSES: C. R. Chamberlain, Riddings Farm, Alfreton; J. Paisley, Waresley, Sandy, Hunts.
SHORTHORNS: R. W. Hobbs, Kelmscott, Lechlade; J. Stratton, Broad Hinton, Swindon.
JERSEYS: T. H. Weetman, Rose Hill, Atherstone.
LONGWOOL SHEEP: R. C. Bemrose, Friston Green, Caythorpe, Grantham.
SHORTWOOL SHEEP: A. S. Berry, Pheasey Farm, Great Barr, Birmingham.
PIGS: John Barton, Borrowash, Derby.

Special Prizes.

The Shire Horse Society's Gold Medal, value £10, for the best Mare or Filly in the Shire classes, bred by and in the possession of a resident or occupier of agricultural land in the county: R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., Woodford Park, Blackburn.

"The Desford Challenge Cup," value 40 guineas, by Messrs. W. and J. Thompson (open to all England), for the best Shire Colt or Filly Foal, got by a registered sire and out of a registered mare, and bred by the exhibitor: J. Eadie, Barrow Hall, Leicester.

"The Leicester Advertiser Cup," value £25, by Mr. W. Penn Cox, for the best Shire Mare or Filly in any of the classes, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer residing in or occupying not less than fifty acres of land in the counties of Leicester or Rutland: J. Bradley, Halstead, Tilton, Leicester.

"The Dunsmore Challenge Cup," value £20, by Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., for the best Shire Mare or Filly in the show, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer residing in and occupying not less than fifty acres of land in the counties of Leicester, Northampton, or Warwick; not the proprietor of a stud of more than two Shire stallions over two years old which are kept or let for breeding purposes: Mr. Bradley.

"The Catthorpe Champion Cup," value £10, by Mr. J. P. Cross, for the best Shire Mare or Filly in any of the classes, open to the United Kingdom: J. Parnell, Rainsbrook, Rugby.

Class Prizes.

HORSES

HUNTERS.

Hunter gelding or mare, under eight years old, up to 15 stone or over: 1 and 2, J. H. Stokes, Great Bowden, Market Harborough; 3, G. W. Summer, Desborough, Market Harborough; r, T. Bradley, Uffington, Stamford.

Hunter, gelding or mare, under eight years, up to 13-7 to 15 stone: 1, J. H. Stokes; 2, H. Custance, Oakham; 3, J. Drage, Chapel Brampton, Northampton; r, W. Cheney, Gidding Grove, Peterborough.

Hunter, gelding or mare, under eight years old, up to 12 stone to 13-7: 1, J. H. Stokes; 2, J. Drage; 3, P. S. Danby, Church Farm, Offchurch, Leamington; r, W. Cheney.

Hunter, gelding or mare, the property of a tradesman or of a tenant farmer, or his son, living with him and following the same occupation, renting fifty acres of land or more in the county of Leicester, or within twenty miles of the Leicester Clock Tower: 1, J. H. Sedgley, Church Langton, Market Harborough; 2, F. W. Cowley, Braybrooke Lodge, Market Harborough; 3, J. Markley, Stapleford, Melton Mowbray; r, Mrs A. E. Barrs, Nailstone, Nuneaton.

Gelding or filly, four years old, adapted for hunting purposes, the property of a resident or occupier of land within the limits of the Quorn, Mr. Fernie's, Belvoir, Cottesmore, Atherstone, and Pytchley Hunts: 1 and 2, J. H. Stokes; 3, C. B. Clutterbuck, Allexton Hall, Uppingham.

Gelding or filly, three years old, adapted for hunting purposes, the property of a resident or occupier of land within the limits of the Quorn, Mr. Fernie's, Belvoir, Cottesmore, Atherstone, and Pytchley Hunts: 1, B. Wall, Hazlewood, Coleshill, Birmingham; 2, H. Rippon Roe, Cranoe, Market Harborough; r, G. S. Hanson, Kirby Cottage, Melton Mowbray.

Gelding or filly, two years old, adapted for hunting purposes, the property of a resident or occupier of land within the limits of the Quorn, Mr. Fernie's, Belvoir, Cottesmore, Atherstone, and Pytchley Hunts: 1, J. Howkins, Lilbourne Furze, Clifton, Rugby; 2, Carr and Crawford, Gumthorpe, Oakham; r, S. Marshall, Manor House, Hickling, Melton Mowbray.

Yearling colt or filly, adapted for hunting purposes, the property of a resident or occupier of land within the limits of the Quorn, Mr. Fernie's, Belvoir, Cottesmore, Atherstone, and Pytchley Hunts: 1, C. E. de Trafford, Hothorpe, Theddingworth, Rugby; 2, J. W. Sanders, Gilmorton, Lutterworth; r, R. L. Fenwick, Wymondham, Oakham.

Mare, calculated to breed hunters, with her foal at heels: 1, F. B. Wilkinson, Cavendish Lodge, Edwinstowe, Newark; 2, J. H. Sedgeley, The White House, Church Langton, Market Harborough; 3, F. Stapleton Brotherton, Wheler Lodge, Husbands Bosworth; r, S. Steward, Barrow, Oakham.

Foal, adapted for hunting purposes: 1 and 2, F. A. Belville, Stoughton Grange; 3, J. S. Steward.

HACKS, ETC.

Hack, gelding or mare, not less than 14½ hands: 1, J. H. Stokes; 2, A. L. Goodson; 3, E. K. Apperley; r, J. Gebbatt.

Hack, gelding or mare, not exceeding 14½ hands high: 2, A. S. Day, Berkeley Stud, near Crewe; 3, F. G. Haines, Seymour Place, Bryanston Square, London; r, H. Townsend, Loughborough Road, Belgrave.

Pony, gelding or mare, not exceeding 13 hands high: 1, Miss Violet Haines, Seymour Place, Bryanston Square, London; 2, G. E. Franklin, The Field, Derby; 3, C. H. Ravenhill Stock, Shotover Cottage, Headington Quarry, Oxon.

Tandem team, to be shown and driven: 1, F. J. Batchelor, Hopwood Stud Farm, Alvechurch, Worcester; 2, G. C. Waud, Fernichurst, Baildon, Yorks; 3, E. Godsell, Stroud, Gloucester.

Gelding or mare, shown and driven in single harness, under 14½ hands, and over 13 hands high: 1, G. E. Franklin; 2, W. Foster, Mel-Valley, Moseley, Birmingham; 3, A. S. Day; r, T. Turrell, Avenue Hotel, Kettering.

Pony, gelding or mare, shown and driven in single harness, not exceeding 14 hands high, the property of a resident in the county or borough of Leicester, or within twenty miles of the Leicester Clock Tower: 1, C. E. Dalby, Manchester House, Lutterworth; 2, A. W. Clarke, Crown Hotel, Uppingham; 3, Oliver Tyler, Quenby Hall.

Gelding or mare, considered by the judges as the best fencer: 1, J. T. Heap, Clarence House, Ramsbottom, Manchester; 2, J. Wheeler, Shakespeare Farm, Studley; 3, J. Waddington, Easby House, Easingwold, Yorks; r, Walter Grundy, Worcester.

SHIRE HORSES.

Entire Shire colt, two years old: 1, Lord Llangattock; 2, P. Albert Muntz, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby; 3, W. T. Everard, Bardon Hall, Leicester.

Shire mare, three years old: 1, J. Parnell, Rainsbrook, Rugby; 2, H. H. Smith-Carrington, Ashby Folville Manor, Melton Mowbray.

Shire filly, two years old: 1, Robert A. Yerburgh, M.P., Woodford Park, Blackburn; 2, J. Eadie, Barrow Hall, Derby; 3, W. T. Everard, Barden Hall, Leicester.

Shire colt, one year old: 1, Lord Llangattock; 2, J. Parnell; 3, P. A. Muntz, M.P.; r, E. J. Wythes, Cropped Hall, Epping.

Open: 1, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., M.P., Coombe Lodge, Blagdon, Somerset; 2, J. Eadie; 3, W. Drackley, Burton Hastes, Nuneaton; r, T. Burton, Medbourne Grange, Market Harborough.

Shire mare, with foal at heels: 1, C. Sheppard Marsh, Little Offley, Hitchin; 2 and r, P. Albert Muntz, M.P.; 3, H. H. Smith-Carington, Ashby Folville, Melton Mowbray.

Shire colt foal: 1, P. Albert Muntz, M.P.; 2, W. T. Everard; 3, John Parnell; r, W. Carter.

Shire filly foal: 1, James Eadie; 2, W. T. Everard; 3, P. Albert Muntz, M.P.; r, F. Farnsworth.

Foal, exhibited two months before the show with the County Live Stock Insurance Association: 1, Robert Crawford, Lowesby; r, Mark Firth, Wistow Hall.

TENANT FARMERS' CLASSES.

Cart mare, four years old or upwards: 1, Arthur Wheatle, Glen Parva; 2, Albert C. Newman, The Elms, Tur Langton; 3, Messrs. Holm, Carlton Curlieu and Tilton; r, John Powers, Barwell House, Hinckley.

Cart gelding, four years old and upwards: 1, Matthew Hubbard, Ivy House, Eaton, Grantham; 2, J. Parker Towne, High

Cross, Rugby; 3, E. L. Driver, Elmesthorpe; r, William Neale, Bacon's End, Coleshill, Birmingham, and Newton Harcourt.

Cart gelding or mare, three years old: 1, M. Hubbard, Ivy House, Eaton, Grantham; 2, Albert C. Norman, The Elms, Tur Langton.

Cart gelding or filly, two years old: 1, J. Bradley; 2, William M'Turk, Hallaton, Uppingham; 3, A. C. Norman; r, J. Parker Toone, High Cross, Rugby.

Cart gelding or filly, one year old: 1, J. Bradley; 2, W. Drackley; 3, T. Burton; r, A. C. Norman.

Cart colt foal: 1, W. Carter; 2, J. Houghton; 3, R. Crawford; r, M. Hubbard.

Cart filly foal: 1, J. Parker Toone; 2, F. Farnsworth; 3, M. Hubbard; r, A. C. Norman.

Cart mare, with foal at heels: 1, R. Crawford; 2, W. Tickle; 3, J. Parker Toone; r, J. Bradley.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Shorthorn bull, calved previous to January 1st, 1899: 1, R. P. Cooper, Shenstone Court, Lichfield; 2, H. Dudding, Riby Grove, Stallingborough, Lincolnshire; 3, Charles W. Brierley, Brimfield, R.S.O., Herefordshire.

Shorthorn bull, calved after January 1st, 1899: 1, H. Dudding; 2, Capt. W. H. O. Duncombe, Waresley Park; r, R. P. Cooper, Shenstone Court, Lichfield.

Shorthorn Society's prize for the best Shorthorn bull in Leicestershire and Rutland: 1, Mrs. Perry Herrick, Beaumanor Park, Loughborough; r, J. P. Cross, Catthorpe Towers, Rugby.

Shorthorn cow, in calf or in milk, calved previously to or in 1897: 1, Miss Alice de Rothschild, Waddesdon, Aylesbury; 2, L. de Rothschild, Ascot House Farm, Leighton Buzzard; r, C. W. Brierley, Brimfield, R.S.O., Herefordshire.

Shorthorn heifer, in calf or in milk, calved in 1898: 1, H. Dudding; 2, J. Sherard Reeve, Leadenham House, Leadenham, Lincoln; r, Miss Alice de Rothschild.

Shorthorn heifer, calved in 1899: 1, C. H. Jolliffe, Goldicate, Stratford-on-Avon; 2, Capt. W. H. O. Duncombe; r, Henry Dudding.

TENANT FARMERS' CLASSES.

Dairy cow, in-calf or in milk: 1, Stafford William Fox, Humberstone; 2, W. Drackley, Burton House, Nuneaton; r, F. J. Stanhope, Alma House, Claybrooke, Rugby.

Dairy cow, the best milker: 1, S. W. Fox; 2 and r, Messrs. Holm, Carlton Curlieu and Tilton.

Heifer, in-calf or in milk, over two and under three years old: 1, W. Drackley; 2, S. W. Fox; r, Messrs. Holm.

Heifer, over one and under two years old: 1, S. W. Fox; 2, F. J. Stanhope; r, Exors. of the late J. C. Harrison, Pailton Fields, Rugby.

Bull of the Shorthorn breed, under two years old: 1, Exors. of the late J. C. Harrison; 2, J. Sims, Hoton Hills, Loughborough; r, Mrs. Ann Dewhurst, Shelford House, Nuneaton.

Bull of the Shorthorn breed, of any age, the property of an occupier of land in the county of Leicester, which has served not less than ten cows since January 1st, 1900: winner of the Shorthorn Society prize ineligible: 1, J. W. Sanders; 2, Exors. of the late J. C. Harrison; r, Mrs. M. Barrs.

CHANNEL ISLAND.

Jersey bull, over one and under two years old: 1, Mrs. S. Greenall, Walton Hall, Warrington; 2, Lionel G. Gisborne, Allestree Hall, Derby; r, Hon. Mrs. Murray-Smith, Gumley Hall, Market Harborough.

Jersey cow, in-calf or in milk: 1, Mrs. S. Greenall; 2, The Hon. Mrs. Murray-Smith; r, J. M. Pyke Nott, Middle Hill, Broadway, Worcester.

Jersey heifer, in-calf or in milk: 1, Lady de Rothschild, Aston Clinton, Tring; 2, Duke of Marlborough, Blenheim Palace, Woodstock; r, L. G. Gisborne, Allestree Hall, Derby.

SHEEP.

Lincoln shearling rams: 1 and the Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association championship prize of £5, Henry Dudding; 2, R. and W. Wright, Nocton Heath, Lincoln; 3, H. Smith, jun., The Cottage, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham.

Lincoln theaves, under eighteen months old, intended for breeding purposes: 1, Henry Dudding; 2, R. and W. Wright.

Lincoln Longwool ram lambs: 1 and 2, R. and W. Wright; 3, S. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, Bourne; r, Henry Goodyear, Austerby, Bourne.

Shropshire shearling rams: 1, P. Albert Muntz, M.P.; 2, Mrs. M. Barrs; 3, W. F. Inge, Thorpe, Tamworth; r, R. P. Cooper.

Shropshire shearling rams: 1, A. E. Mansell, Harrington Hall, Shifnal; 2, Mrs. M. Barrs; 3, R. P. Cooper; r, W. F. Inge.

Shropshire theaves, under eighteen months old, intended for breeding purposes: 1, W. F. Inge; 2, P. L. Mills; 3, P. Albert Muntz, M.P.; r, R. P. Cooper.

1, A. E. Mansell; 2, B. Wall; 3, R. P. Cooper; r, Mrs. M. Barrs.

TENANT FARMERS' CLASSES.

Shortwool ewes, suckled lambs season 1900: 1 and 2, Mrs. M. Barrs.

Shortwool theaves: 1 and 2, Mrs. M. Barrs.

Shortwool ewe or wether lambs, with or without ewes (the ewes not for competition): 1 and 2, Mrs. M. Barrs; r, J. T. Lord, Waltham, Melton Mowbray.

Boar of the Large White or Middle breed: 1 and r, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart.; 2, Sanders Spencer, Holywell Manor, St. Ives.

Boar, of any other breed: 1 and 2, J. Jefferson, Peel Hall, Chester.

Breeding sow, of the Large White or Middle breed: 1, Rev. J. Davis, Ratcliffe College, Leicester; 2, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart.; r, D. R. Daybell, Bottesford, Nottingham.

Breeding sow, of any other breed: 1 and 2, J. Jefferson; r, Sir H. F. de Trafford.

Breeding pigs (pen of three), of any breed, of one litter: 1, D. R. Daybell; 2, T. Diggle, Thorpe House, Ewersby, Sleaford; r, Sanders Spencer.

Breeding sow of any breed (tenant farmers' class): 1, D. R. Daybell; 2, Rev. T. J. Davies.

International Pony Show at the Crystal Palace.

A three days' International Pony Show was held at the Crystal Palace last week, but, unfortunately for the success of the enterprise, wretched weather prevailed, and the attendance on each day was disappointing. Those that did attend found things far from agreeable, for the stable-yard and the turf were reduced to the consistency of a quagmire. The total number of horses entered was between 120 and 130, but, owing to the fact of several of them being in two or more classes, this total was considerably exceeded, though in some sections the competition was by no means strong. Colonel A. Maclean and Sir Charles Wolseley were the judges of thoroughbreds and the riding and saddle classes, whilst Mr. James and Mr. A. E. Peat took the polo ponies, and the Rev. F. F. Vidal and Mr. R. Brydon the moorland, forest, and Shetland sections, the duties of the latter being extremely light, owing to the weakness of the competition.

The first class was for thoroughbred stallions not exceeding 14 hands 2 inches, first falling to Messrs. John Jones and Son, of Colwyn Bay, for the extremely good-looking Gownboy, which won second honours at Islington in the spring. On Tuesday, however, he easily won the championship award for thoroughbred stallions. Messrs. Baxter, of Brentwood, were the head in both the Hackney pony classes with Recruit IV. and Dandy Ribbons, the three entries by these gentlemen representing the entire strength of the competition. Recruit IV. was later in the day awarded the championship for Hackneys. As is usual, the Rev. D. B. Montefiore's Mootrub was the winner in the Arab class, his two opponents being very moderate, whilst the Misses Vesey, of Frimley, secured premier honours in Shetlands with the typical Lord Laughton, and Mr. H. M. Lloyd's Grey Starlight won in Welsh ponies, after a hard fight with Mr. Nuchold's Prince of Wales, and was also awarded the championship.

As was only to be expected, the mare classes were far better than those for stallions, Sir H. de Trafford scoring in the thoroughbreds with the good-shouldered Confidential; whilst in the polo pony brood mares Mr. John Barker, J.P., added another to the already very long series of victories obtained by his charming chestnut, Lightning, the Comte Jean de Madre winning in the mares without foals with the Hunt to Find, which inherits the beautiful fore-end of her grandsire Blair Athol. Later in the day she won the female championship. The three-year-old roan or gelding polo pony class had only two entries in it, and that for two-year-olds but one, the Keynsham Stud Company being successful in each. Shetland mares only numbered three, and the Ladies Hope took the first and second awards with the typical black Bretta and brown Vesta respectively. Six Welsh mares came before the judges, and they quickly pronounced Messrs. John Jones and Son's Welsh Diamond to be the best animal. This capital mare, which possesses a level back and plenty of substance and action, was reserved for the female championship medal, for which the winners in ten classes, all sizes, competed. The judges deliberated for some considerable time between her and the winner. Messrs. Jones considered Welsh Diamond to be the best Welsh pony they have ever exhibited, and their opinion is shared by many others. The second prize for eWlsh mares went to the Duchess of Newcastle for Clumber Tiny, her ladyship also taking reserve and v.h.c. card for Lady White and Hardwick Jenny respectively.

Riding ponies not exceeding 14 hands 2 inches were a very nice lot, Mr. Mounsey winning first prize with the powerful Elastic, which also scored in the polo-bred riding classes, whilst in the weight carriers Miss E. R. Platt was to the fore with her stylish chestnut Lady Molly, hard pressed by Messrs. Jones's level-built dun Welsh Norbury Squire. Another capital lot were ponies between 13 and 14 hands, to be shown in saddle, first here going to Mr. C. Williams's Shaving, with the Rev. D. B. Montefiore's speedy Zither next in order. The first mentioned secured the championship for riding ponies.

The harness classes were also good, Messrs. Baxter taking first and second prizes in the 14 to 14.2 class with Musk and Miss Howard, both of which are well known, whilst in the 13 to 14 class, and also in the under 13 hands, Mr. Foster was ahead with Mel Valley Novelty and Mel Valley High and Mighty respectively. The last mentioned animals won in the pairs under 13 hands 2 inches, whilst in the higher class Musk and Miss Howard had no difficulty in adding to their long sequence of similar victories, whilst they carried off the championship of the section. Mr. R. G. Heaton (Chatteris) was reserve with the stylish chestnuts Activity and Agility. In the jumping contests winners included Mr. Hugh Rainey's (Ballymena) Lady Rodgers, who won both the novice and open classes; Mr. Wilmot's Ranji, and Mr. A. Mansergli's Polly, the latter a remarkably clever jumper for her height.

Game Chicken, a six-year-old mare, owned by the Keynsham Stud Company (Bristol), a very clever pony, won the bending championship. Messrs. Jas. and E. A. Peat now took to the ring with the classes for polo ponies. The entry was not very high, and in the first section, for heavy-weight ponies up to at least 14st., and not exceeding 14.2 hands, the whole of the prizes were taken by the London Polo Club. Mr. A. G. Brown's Auntie was the best light-weight; and in the three classes for foreign-bred ponies all the prizes but one were again taken by the London Polo Club. The exception was His Nibs, a brown gelding owned by Mr. S. Gurney Sheppard (London). A class for "unmade" ponies brought out several promising ones, the pick, however, being Captain the Hon. Gore Langton's Shooting Star, who beat St. Moritz, owned by the Keynsham Stud.

Keighley.

Fine weather favoured the Keighley Agricultural Society's Show on the 30th ult. until near its close; then heavy rain fell during the judging of the leapers. The Society has been less fortunate on some former occasions, and the good "gate" this year will help to make amends for past losses. The amount offered in prizes was between £250 and £300. The entries numbered 1,043, which included 103 horses, 15 cattle, and 19 sheep. Last year there were only 993 entries, and in each of the three previous years just over 1,000. There was a parade of draught horses. Messrs. Prince Smith and Son's Duke took the premier awards in both the local and open classes. They were similarly fortunate with the same animal at last year's show. Amongst the hackneys Mr. William Sugden's Duchess of Connaught, with foal at foot, took the first prize in its class, and was awarded the silver medal given by the Hackney Society. Of the five animals in the class for the best groomed gelding or mare and gears four competed so closely that the judges had to pronounce them equal in merit. The hackney stallions made a most creditable show. The first prize and Mr. G. S. Knight's five guinea silver cup went to Mr. T. Hall's Langton Masher, which has a good record in the showyard. Mr. W. Sugden's Coldspring Duke, which was first at the Hackney Show at Islington, had now to take second place, the same gentleman's Coldspring Squire being put third. In ponies not exceeding 14 hands Mr. T. Hall's Majestic was awarded the premier award, but was afterwards disqualified on being measured. Amongst the cattle a Royal prize-taker—a dairy cow exhibited by Mr. W. Walsh was passed over in favour of the cow shown by Mr. John Gill, who also had a walk-over in the bull class with a famous winner bred and led by himself. There was scarcely any competition in the sheep section, but the quality was good, that of the lonks leaving nothing to be desired.

The following were the awards in the principal sections:—

HORSES.

DRAUGHT OR AGRICULTURAL.

Horse or mare (local): 1, Prince Smith and Son, Keighley; 2, T. Taylor and Co., Keighley.

Horse or mare (open): 1, Prince Smith and Son; 2, Old Royd Bros., Woodlesford.

Draught or agricultural entire: 1, Oddroyd Bros.; 2, A. W. Hainsworth, Patcley Bridge.

HACKNEYS.

Mare in foal, or with foal at foot, or having had a foal during 1899: 1 and medal, W. Sugden, Cullingworth.

Foals, colt or filly, foaled 1899: 1 and 2, W. Sugden.

Yearlings, colt or filly, foaled 1899: 1, R. M. Bairstow, Pudsey; 2, W. Sugden.

Foals or yearlings (age to be considered), the produce of Coldspring Duke H.S.B. 5137: 1, L. Fish, Bierley; 2, A. Ambler and Sons, Limited, Wilsden; 3, J. Booth, Silsden.

Pony, gelding or mare, not to exceed 14 hands, to be ridden: 1, T. Hall, Malton; 2, A. P. Robinson, Wakefield.

Gelding or mare, not to exceed 15 hands, to be ridden: 1, G. Tyson, Halifax; 2, N. Read.

Gelding or mare, any age or height, to be ridden: 1, G. Tyson; 2, Miss Edna England, Manningham.

Pony, gelding, or mare, not to exceed 14 hands, in harness: 1, A. P. Robinson; 2, N. Read; 3, G. Harrison, Wilsden.

Gelding or mare, not to exceed 15 hands, in harness: 1, G. Tyson; 2, N. Read; 3, W. Ryecroft, Barnley.

Gelding or mare, any age or height, in harness: 1, G. Tyson; 2, Miss England; 3, C. Hanson, Wilsden.

Best-groomed gelding or mare and gears (without vehicle): Equal, J. Cowling, for Messrs. Scott and Co., Ingrow, Keighley Industrial Co-operative Society; T. Taylor, Sir Titus Salt, Bart., Sons, and Co., Limited.

Hackney stallion: 1 and cup, T. Hall; 2 and 3, W. Sugden.

Hackney gelding or mare, in harness, price not to exceed £50: 1, E. Marsden, Colne; 2, H. Wilkinson, Keighley.

Horse or mare, any age or height, in harness (local): 1, Prince Smith, jun.; 2, W. W. Ryecroft.

Horse or mare, not to exceed 14 hands, in harness (local): 1, G. Hanson; 2, C. H. Foulds.

LEAPING.

Prizes divided between C. Tomlinson, Selby, and T. E. Lavin, Ripon.

CATTLE.

Cow, in calf or milk (open): 1, W. Tillotson, Colne; 2, W. Walsh, Bingley.

Cow for dairy purposes (local): 1, J. Gill, Silsden; 2, W. Walsh.

Two cows, in calf or milk (open): 1, W. Tillotson; 2, J. Gill.

Bull for service, under two years (open): 1, J. Gill.

Heifer for breeding purposes, under two years (open): 1, W. Walsh; 2, G. Bargh, Gargrave.

SHEEP.

Lonk or Mountain tup lamb (open): 1, S. Lund, Keighley; 2, E. Smith, Cowling.

Three Lonk ewes, to be suckling lambs (local): 1, G. Smith, Eastburn; 2, G. H. Bailey, Cullingworth.

Three Lonk gimmer lambs (open): 1, Smith and Bailey, Cowling; 2, T. Snowden, Cowling.

Lonk gimmer lamb (local): 1 and 2, E. Smith.

Three half-bred Lonk ewes or gimmer shearlings (open): 1, G. Smith, Eastburn; 2, W. Walsh.

Three half-bred Lonk gimmer lambs (local): 1 and 2, C. Smith, Howden.

Eye Colt Show.

A little over a dozen years ago a modest start was made with what was essentially a colt show at Eye. Of late years it has developed so satisfactorily that it is now a valuable addition to the local organisations of the county. It soon added other stock to its list of classes, and in comparison with displays in connection with kindred local societies, there is usually a superior show of neat stock and sheep. The fourteenth show took place on Monday, Mr. T. H. Peck again kindly granting the use of Langton Grove. The entries were about equal to last year, when there was an exceptionally good show. Eye being on the Norfolk border, horses other than Suffolk have usually been very much in evidence. This time the Suffolks were conspicuously stronger, especially in the horse classes, notwithstanding that the prominent and usually successful exhibitor, Mr. Edwin H. Preston, was not this year in the list of competitors. There were some uncommonly good colt foals, all the honours going to the property of Bowden Minstrel, owned by Mr. E. A. Cook, of Denningtons Lodge, a choice Suffolk stallion. The first honours

went to the exhibit of Mr. F. S. Stevenson, M.P., for a particularly choice youngster. It was a close fight between this and Mr. F. G. Cook's entry, another very good-looking colt out of an Eclipse mare. Mr. Stevenson's colt was the winner of the ten-guinea challenge cup, given by Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons, for the best foal in the yard, one of the conditions being that it must be won by the same competitor three times before it can be permanently held. This was Mr. Stevenson's first win. Mr. F. G. Cook, Saxtead Lodge, has won it twice, and this gentleman made a good try to win it the third time, but his exhibit had hardly the size of the one which carried off the trophy this time. Mr. Stevenson's younger virtually cleared the decks, taking also the silver medal offered by the Suffolk Horse Society, and the guinea special, presented by Mr. Edward Peck. As to the fillies, though a few in number, they were choice in quality. Here, again, the Border Minstrel foals came to the front, Mr. E. A. Cook taking first and Mr. Henry Pipe second, Mr. Cook's foal being reserved for the championship. With respect to the class for mares with foal at foot, there were several grand animals, and they looked none the worse for being sent into the ring only in good working condition. Here, again, Mr. E. A. Cook scored, showing a beautiful Saunterer mare, a typical Suffolk. The same gentleman also carried off the second with a very compact, well-made animal by Milo. There were only two entries of yearling fillies, the chief honour going to Mr. F. G. Cook's entry, champion last year as a foal. The two-year-old filly belonging to Mr. E. A. Cook was also by Border Minstrel, as was also the reserve in the same class, the second prize going to Mr. F. G. Cook for a very promising filly by Upstart.

The classes for horses other than Suffolk have for the last few years shown marked improvement in quality, and on Monday there was a very good display. As to this class of animal, it may be said generally that there has been a very marked improvement in the district since the Society was established. The class for colt foals was a large and uncommonly good one, Mr. George Symonds, Wortham, scoring with a heavy, big-boned bay by Nelson. This colt also secured the special presented by Messrs. Lawton, Warnes, and Sons, as the best cart foal other than Suffolk, Mr. Thomas Edwards, of Wetheringsett Hall, taking second with another choice bay by Nailstone Thunderer. The filly foals mustered equally well, the chief honour this time going to Mr. Geo. Symonds, of Thelveton, with a handsome daughter of Nailstone Blood Royal, a roan belonging to Mr. J. T. Woolsey, by Wonder of the Isle, being second. The mares with foal at foot fairly filled the ring, and looked uncommonly well, Mr. Henry Button winning with Wayland Princess, by Wayland Chief. There was only a small class of fillies. The chief honour went to Mr. George Symonds, Wortham, for a very nice filly by Orchard Conqueror, another bay, a daughter of Wayland Chief, belonging to Mr. Henry Button, being second. Some promising two-year-old fillies put in an appearance, there being entries from stables where choice Shire-breds are to be found. The contest lay between a daughter of Markeaton Royal Prince, belonging to Mr. Trenham J. Cresswell, Aldeby Grange, and a filly by the well-known Blythwood Conqueror, belonging to Mr. W. Dennis Wilson, Cretingham, the judges showing their preference for the former. Some strong, well-built animals were entered in the class for the best pair of plough horses, and it was a close fit between the entries of Mr. Wm. D. Wilson and Mr. J. A. Lankester, of Old Newton; but the former took the first honours.

There were but few entries in the section for Hackneys, but the quality was excellent. The coveted silver medal, presented by the Hackney Society, for the best Hackney in the yard, was taken by the Hon. Chas. B. Hanbury, with his Marigold, by the well-known Cadet, out of a Confidence mare. There were some very good Hackneys shown in harness, whose performances in the ring afforded much evident pleasure to the lookers-on. In the class above 13 hands, Mr. Norton B. Garrard showed his fine bay mare Mignon, which was deservedly awarded first prize. In the next class, above 14 hands, Mr. Percy Read showed his stylish goer, Tomato, and beautiful chestnut gelding, Agility. In the saddle class, Mr. G. W. Bendall sent his grey mare Grey Bee, which subsequently showed herself a good performer over the hurdles.

The judges of the cows and lambs had a very light task. A Red-Poll, showed by Mr. J. B. Chevallier, Aspall Hall, was the chief winner in the cow class, while as to sheep, Mr. J. B. Dimmock, Shotford Hall, was first for a pen of fine Suffolk ewe lambs, with some superior examples of the breed, Sir Hugh E. Adair, Bart., taking a like position with Suffolk shearling ewes, and Mr. E. B. Elsden with half-bred shearling ewes.

Malton.

The annual show of the Malton Agricultural Society took place on Wednesday. The entries have been getting less and less each year for some considerable time now, and this year there were only 451—335 horses, 48 cattle, 41 sheep, and 27 pigs; whereas in 1895 the total number was 661. The cause of this decrease may perhaps be accounted for in several ways, but we need not go into the question here. What Melton can really be congratulated upon is that, despite all odious numerical comparisons, despite a diminished amount of competition, the character of the stock brought into the field on Wednesday in no sense took from the high reputation which the district long ago won for itself. One may still find at the Malton show a thoroughly typical Hackney, a first-class coacher, a good galloping hunter, or a useful agricultural horse.

The total number of horses was less than for quite a quarter of a century past, but the quality was all that could be desired. Just over half a hundred agricultural horses—to take the order of the catalogue—comprised in eight classes, made a collection of the heavy breed of which Malton has no cause whatever to be ashamed. The winners were, for the most part, animals of substance, with excellent limbs and in nice feather. The care bestowed by Lord Middleton was again apparent. His lordship's brood mare Pratt's Dora had a high place of honour, and the very good second to her—Messrs. Davison's Elmfield Silver—showed a foal also by one of the Birdsall sires. First of a biggish group of yearlings was a Bishopthorpe-bred son of Nyn Hytchen Duke, one of Menestral's stock ranking next. Menestral was the sire, too, of the successful colt foal. The winning three-year-old, a powerful gelding belonging to Messrs Davison, was bred by Lord Middleton. Mr. T. A. Jackson, of Bridlington, was the breeder of the winners in the tenant farmers' classes. Two-year-olds were very few, but there was a good deal of merit about the first and second, namely, Mr. A. S. Benton's Orange Blossom and Messrs. R. and J. Davison's Welham Silver Queen. While the agricultural horses were about an average in numbers, the coachers were far below the totals of old days. The five classes contained thirty specimens altogether—a nice representative lot, though not so numerous as one had a right to expect to see here. The three-year-olds stood out above the rest for quality. It was a capital class, headed by the Royal winner, Courtier, from Deighton, with Mr. Connell's Selby winner second and the same exhibitor's Royal second in the third place. Mr. Kitching's Cawthorne, which led his class in the Cleveland Bay section at York the other week, received the recognition of h.c. The brood mares do not call for special remark; nevertheless, they were a good lot. Mr. John Kirby's Princess was much fancied, but she did not impress the judge sufficiently to attain the leading position, which was assigned to Mr. Lett's Lady Harum. Lady Harum had the reserve place at the Royal Show last month, and Mr. George Scoby's Princess Georgie was second. Here, however, Princess Georgie has been put down a step. Another instance of reversal of verdict occurred in the yearling class, where Barnaby's son Majestic, reserved at the Royal, was accorded the highest rank, and Rookbarugh Admiral, by Noble Prince, a third Royal winner, was given reserve only. As usual, there were no separate classes for the younger female stock, and the result was that the fillies did not get a look in at all; colts or geldings were prominent in every case. The best three young stallions were the same that attracted attention at York, only the order of the first and second was changed. Mr. Lett's Merryheart colt was awarded the first prize, which fell at the Royal to Mr. Connell's Albert.

The Hackneys were of quite the right sort; indeed, in several cases the quality was surpassingly good. An excellent show of foals embraced two of Rosador's produce in the leading positions, Mr. Buttle's chestnut colt, out of Elegance, by Royal Star, being first, and Mr. Robinson's chestnut filly, out of Wild Wave, by Wildfire, second. A Langton colt got the reserve number. The award in the yearling class was particularly interesting, involving as it did an upset of the London decision. Mr. John Atkinson's Absent Hero, one of the stock of Aristocrat 2nd, dam by Connaught, was the Malton judges' choice, and it was a popular verdict. Commerce won for Mr. Whitworth the second prize, and though lacking the best points of the first prize-taker is a valuable Hackney. A grand class of two-year-old hacks included in the front rank Mr. H. Moore's chestnut filly Marionette, by Conquest 2nd, bred in Kent, a daughter of Aristocrat 2nd coming next. Two other fillies by the last-mentioned sires were held to be worthy of special note, and there was high commendation for Lord Middleton's Rosador filly; indeed, the fillies had a rare time, both in this and the three-year-old class. Mr. Moore won again in the latter case, his Royal reserve medallist Lobelia once more proving her claim to consideration on the score of perfect action. The well-known Lady Connaught had a fairly easy victory over the other brood mares. Mr. Buttle furnished the most successful young stallion, a Rosador colt, bred, like the second winner, at Garton. Mrs. Fred Holmes registered another not too difficult win with the well-mannered Pickwick in the gentlemen's hack class; and the four-year-old mare Sunflower, bred by Messrs. F. J. and H. Grainger, was put at the head of the ladies' hacks. A nicely filled tenant farmers' class was a creditable feature.

As in the Hackney classes so in the case of the ninety hunters, Royal successes or commendeds met one at every turn. Not much, however, can be said of the brood mares, the best of which had only third place at York. The most distinguished class was that of three-year-olds, and, curiously enough, every one of the winners was Irish-bred. Messrs. T. and H. Ward's black gelding Blackthorne, a third prize-taker at the Royal, secured the premier position. The fillies were out of it; even the Royal first prize filly was passed over. Golden Ruby, shown by Mr. J. S. Darrell, however, attracted a commendation card. Mr. G. Marton won with one of each sex got by Spendthrift in a yearling class which might have been much stronger, but which, as it was, had some good qualities. Two-year-olds, a nice show, were more numerous, and the chief award was allotted to the Royal winner Eclat, by Dermod, one of Mr. Letts's. Irish-bred horses were ahead again in the well-filled four-year-old class, a Royal h.c., Lord Clare, standing at the top. Both this and the five-year-old class took a fair amount of judging, and in the latter case a Yorkshire-bred horse—Mr. C. E. Clark's Raby—was awarded the palm. The pony classes found Mrs. Fred Holmes's Love Letter invincible, and that lady also carried off the principal driving prize for Pickwick.

The display of cattle was the best that has been seen at Malton for some years. It contained fifteen more exhibits than a year ago, and was divided into six classes, all of which were well filled. In the class for Shorthorn bulls over one year and not exceeding two years and six months old Mr. Snowball's Western Grand Master, a son of the famous sire Look-a-head, was selected for first place. This is a fine roan yearling that has already been bought for emigration to South America. The Earl of Somerset, with which Mr. Boyes, of Ryton, Malton, took second prize, happens to be by the same sire. The reserve card was given for a shapely roan yearling to Mr. Strickland, of Brandsby, and a commendation ticket presented to the Countess of Carlisle for an exhibit in the same class. In the next section, that for Shorthorn bulls under twelve months old, Mr. Snowball carried everything before him with three sons of Look-a-head, the first prize going to a ten-months-old roan, the second to Crown Prince, while the reserve honour also went to the offspring of Look-a-head—Weston Chief. Lord Middleton had to be content with simple commendation for the representatives of the Birdsall herd, known as Bellman. The show of cows was numerous and above the average in merit. In the aged class there was a keen struggle between Mr. Strickland's Lady Derwent 3rd and Mr. Hebden's Jewel, the judges eventually giving preference to the former. In the yearling heifers Lord Middleton easily took first place with Birdsall Waterloo, by Golden Sceptre, while in the class for heifers under twelve months old Mr. Richardson's Queen of the Gwynnes had a popular victory, followed by more progeny of Look-a-head in the second prize and reserve number, the one shown by Mr. Hebden and the other by Mr. H. Weighell. The awards in the cottagers' cow class elicited interesting competition.

In numbers sheep were about the same as last year; in merit they were an improvement. The six classes into which the forty-one exhibits were divided consisted chiefly of shearling Leicester and longwool species, and in most instances both breeds were shown in the same classes. The section for shearling Leicester or longwoolled rams, which was led by Mr. Jackson, of Bridlington, and Mr. J. M. Strickland, of Brandsby, was an exceptionally strong one. An even stronger class, however, was that for tup lambs, Leicester or longwoolled. The best of sixteen exhibits was adjudged to be that of Mr. Jackson, of Bridlington, Mr. John J. Simpson, of Leicester taking second place. The show of pigs was the most satisfactory that has been seen at Malton since 1896. There was, too, a creditable display of dairy produce.

Market Weighton Horse Show.

The show of the Market Weighton Horse and Foal Society, held on Thursday, was undoubtedly the most successful ever held in the district, and was a striking testimony to the good work done by the Society during its thirty years of existence. True, the total entry fell short by twelve of last year's numerical record, but the catalogue containing 182 exhibits was much above the average. There were thirty classes, or an increase of three, with an average of six entries. The Society is fortunate in having so many willing patrons, whose financial support was reflected in the prize list. Of the total of £180 subscribed by the Society and its supporters, as much as £55 was set apart for the benefit of young stock. In accordance with the policy of the past, the whole of the classes, with one exception, were open, the breeders hereabouts not being afraid of competition, from whatever quarter it may spring. The inspection, both on the part of the judges and the visitors, the attendance of the latter being satisfactory, was made under fairly good meterological conditions, the one drawback of the day being a strong wind which for hours swept over the show ground.

As is invariably the case, Hackneys constituted the feature of the show. Colt foals were both strong on paper and in the ring. Mr. Thomas Hall's entry by Langton secured a special, and was put at the top of the class, his companions in honour being Mr. William Richardson's Bonwick Chocolate colt, Mr. J. Heppleston's bay by Gentleman George, and Mr. C. Scorah's chestnut, which is sired by His Majesty. The filly foals numbered eleven, or five less than the colts, and they formed a neat-looking

lot. The successful exhibits came from the studs of Mr. George Wilson, Mr. Charles Moore, Mr. J. Yates, and Mr. William Stather, and the sires represented were Revival, His Majesty, Acid Drop, and Star Fireaway. The progeny of Pomfret Performer were very much to the fore in the yearling class. Mr. G. A. Brown was first with a filly of beautiful quality, and Mr. Heppleston second with a chestnut showing a trifle better action than the leader. Mr. Henry Moore's chestnut, B. B. Marionette, soon found its way at the head of a select number of two-year-olds, and later in the afternoon gained possession of the Hackney Society's silver medal. Second in the class to Conquest's promising offspring stood Mr. John Wreghitt's chestnut Londesborough Lily, which boasts Sir Augustus as her sire. Lady Connaught was among the brood mares, and breeders will anticipate that her many excellent points again told. Mr. Heppleston obtained the second award with Countess Alice, also a previous prize-taker. A fair class of two-year-old stallions lined up before the judges. The sire first on the list was Mr. John Holdridge's unnamed chestnut son of Forest King. As at Malton, Mr. W. T. Young supplied the second winner. Two splendid yearlings turned up in Mr. Robert Whitworth's Commerce, and Mr. A. Kelsey's entry, a chestnut son of His Majesty. In the judging the advantage lay with the Londesborough stud youngster which was in every respect worthy of the front position assigned to him. Mr. Thomas Hall's Langton Masher—a type of sire which is wanted at the present day—has achieved notable successes at Islington, Edinburgh, and York, and on Thursday he was singled out for premier honours in a capital class, in preference to Mr. Henry Moore's good looking Bridlington, a sire of a different sort from the son of Garton Duke of Connaught. But the Burn Butts stud was not to be denied, for Mr. Moore produced the chief three-year-old in his brown Lobelia, whose praises have been sung at Islington, York, and Malton. A nice roan mare, owned by Mr. Robert Hornsey, came second, and the class was a good one. Past winners were likewise in evidence among the horses under saddle and in harness. Market Weighton is no exception this year to the rule of improvement at East and North Riding shows, in regard to draught horses, but the character of some of the exhibits on Thursday suggested the thought that the possession of two or three more good Shire stallions would be an acquisition to the district. Hunters filled about six classes, but there was a lack of competition among the youngsters. Geldings and mares of any age were numerically stronger, and the six animals which faced the judges had the hall mark of merit. Mr. John Hadland's five-year-old bay gelding was placed first; Mr. J. Y. Catton running second with his grand chestnut mare, Ladysmith. There was only a trio of three-year-olds though they were well grown. Mr. W. Blythe's chestnut gelding by Sherbrooke took the eye of the presiding authorities, next to the Huggate representative coming Mr. T. S. Brigham's bay gelding, a son of Dark Continent. The pick of the ladies' hacks was the Pocklington and Malton winner—Messrs. F. J. and H. Grainger's Sunflower, a chestnut with smooth action and nice manners. Mrs. Powell, of Pocklington, was second with a six-year-old chestnut mare.

Wickhambrook and South Suffolk.

The Wickhambrook and South Suffolk Colt Show Association's exhibition, which is more than a colt show, is a movable one, and the success of its operations has been most marked when the more populous places have been visited. Ickworth can hardly be placed within the category of a "populous place," but within a few miles is the county town of Bury St. Edmund's, while the attractions of Ickworth Park are so considerable that the executive of the Society were justified in accepting the kind offer of the Marquis of Bristol, Lord Lieutenant of the county, to visit his charming and delightful country home. The reception accorded to the Society on Wednesday was in keeping with the cordiality of the invitation given. The show itself was an exceedingly good one, both in respect to quality and number, the entries totalling up to 288, in comparison with 707 at Sudbury last year, but there was a class for neat stock, which was not included in this year's list.

In the majority of the Shire classes there were some uncommonly good animals, showing very considerable merit. In the class for mare with foal at foot Mr. J. Sturley Nunn's beautiful and well-known prize-winner Maud, by Magnus, was assigned to the position with which her name is now so intimately associated. She was first in her class, and secured the silver medal presented by the Shire Horse Society for the best Shire mare. Earl Cadogan was second in the class with a heavy mare in good natural condition. The foals were not, as a whole, much to boast of. Messrs. J. Gough and Sons were in the front in the horse foal class with a heavy, stylish filly, which was first at Ixworth; while Mr. Edward Jillings, Lavenham, was second with a very useful colt. The same gentleman took prizes for filly foals, both by Norman Chief. Mr. F. H. Jillings, Cockfield, took first prize in yearlings with a choice filly. As to the two-year-olds, Mr. F. Baldwin won easily with his Keddington Maggie, a fine young mare, second at the Suffolk Show. Mr. F. H. Jennings's Bloodstone, a prize-winner at several shows, was second. Mr. F. Baldwin sent his grand mare Suffolk Lass, but she went a bit lame, the result of an accident on returning from the Hadleigh Show, where she was first. Mr. Baldwin scored also in the three-year-olds with Yorkshire Ben, a nice filly, and well known in the prize ring.

The display of Suffolks was an exceptionally good one. In the class for mares with foal at foot Lord Braybrooke was first with a grand mare, Mr. George Courtauld being second with an animal doing credit to that gentleman's stud at Cut Hedge. Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P., was first in the horse foal class with a son of the well-known Prince Wedgewood, and the same gentleman took a like position with a filly foal by the same sire. The yearlings were exceedingly good, as were also the two-year-olds, Mr. W. R. Hustler taking the lead in the latter. Mr. E. F. Quilter showed his Bentley Belle, first at the Woodbridge Spring Show and second at subsequent exhibitions, which was, curiously enough, not noticed on this occasion. The three-year-olds produced the champion mare, Mr. E. F. Quilter's Bentley Duchess taking the silver medal as the best Suffolk mare. There were two mixed classes, one for a pair of mares and geldings of any breed, and the chief honour went to a pair of Shires belonging to Mr. F. H. Jennings, who sent a very choice Albert Edward mare. The other class was for a pair of van horses, and here the order was reversed, the judge giving the prize to a pair of Suffolks belonging to Mr. E. Le Heup Cocksedge, Mr. Byford contending that Shires could not be regarded as van horses.

The hunters were a small but good lot. Mr. S. Owen took the lead in mares with foal at foot, and also in foals; but in the class for yearlings this gentleman had to give place to Mr. L. G. Fisher, who had a very promising youngster in Marigold 2nd. Mr. W. Charters was first with his good-looking brown gelding Fitzjohn, and Mr. W. Harvey, Timworth, was second with a filly by Trayles, and Mr. C. K. Harvey was reserved for Mischief, which was first at Ixworth. Mr. D. W. Taylor showed an uncommonly good four-year-old in Sportsman, and he took second in the same class with Red Fox. As to the five-year-olds, there was such a large entry and a mixture of weight-carriers and light-weights that at the request of the judge the class was divided. Mr. P. M. Browne thereupon took the premier honour with his Melody in the heavy-weights, and Mr. D. W. Taylor's Peggy the like position in the light-weight division. Sir William Hyde Parker, Bart., presented a prize for the best three-year-old, the property of a tenant farmer. It was intended that this should be an open class, but owing to a little inadvertence it was closed, and several of the animals in the show were consequently excluded. This will, however, be remedied another year. Mr. P. M. Browne's Melody again came to the front.

The show of Hackneys was rather poor. Mr. E. J. Johnstone had a specially nice mare and a good mover, and she had a handsome foal by Duke of Connaught. With regard to the harness hacks 14 hands and upwards, Mr. F. H. Jennings had an easy win with his beautiful Chutney, a stylish brown gelding, and a beautiful goer all round. Mr. L. G. Fisher sent a pretty pony, Fairie Footsteps, of high quality. The Hackney Society's silver medal went to Mr. E. J. Johnstone's foal.

The sheep classes as a whole were about an average display, but the Suffolks were exceedingly well represented. The Marquis of Bristol was a most successful exhibitor, taking the silver medal presented by the Suffolk Sheep Society with his pen of three ewe lambs. There was a large entry of Suffolk ram lambs, and here again the Marquis of Bristol secured first and second, and the silver medal given by the Suffolk Sheep Society, as well as the silver cup which his lordship had generously presented for the best collection of Suffolk sheep by one exhibitor, Major Baird being reserved. Mr. J. T. Stockburn was a good third in the class. As to the Southdowns, Mr. George Courtauld took both prizes for shearling ewes, with choice pens, and first for ewe lambs, beating in the latter case the Earl of Cadogan.

East Kent.

After an absence of five years from Canterbury, the place of its inception, the East Kent Agricultural Society's show was last week again held within the confines of the city, the event taking place in Barton Fields on Wednesday and Thursday. The Society is really an enlarged substitute of the old Canterbury Fat Stock Show in its objects, and the annual shows take place at various centres within East Kent, thus causing interest in the Society to be spread over a wider radius than if the exhibitions were confined to one place. The exhibition was hardly up to last year's mark in size, a result no doubt of the war and the absence of the military element. At the same time there was no falling off in quality; in this respect the exhibition maintained its reputation.

Horses.

Of the horses agricultural breeds were most numerously represented. They were shown together without any separate classes for the different breeds, and altogether there were some three dozen good specimens shown. In the class for stallions a good brown colt of Mr. Greenwell's was first, with Revolution, a handsome six-year-old of Mr. T. Miles's, second; and the prize for mare and foal went to Lady Harry, one of Lords A. and L. Cecil's Clydesdales, to which a brown mare of Mr. Greenwell's was placed second. The East Kent tenant farmers' class for mare and foal was also won by one of the Lord Cecil's breeding, Cambridge Chimes, a nice bay mare, belonging to Mr. S. Swinford, Mr. Goodson's Saltfleet Gadfly coming second. There was a very strong entry for the premiums for mare or gelding foaled in or before 1897, no less than fourteen horses competing, and seven receiving mention. First prize was awarded to Messrs. T. and H. Simonds's Pansy, a splendid bay, which also took the Shire Horse Society's medal, and Mr. Greenwell and Messrs. J. and T. C. Robertson were second and third respectively. A brace of Mr. George Osenton's Shires won first and second prize in the class for fillies or geldings foaled in 1898, and another came in second in the class for fillies or coalts foaled in 1899, this class being won by Mr. Greenwell's young stallion; while in the same division a daughter of Saltfleet Gadfly won a third prize for Mr. Goodson. There were also three classes for hunters, and they were not over strongly filled. They included, however, some first-class animals. Mr. C. Hoare's bay, Milkmaid, won the premium for brood mares, Mr. J. C. Buckland took first and second with his bay geldings Sportsman and Royal respectively in the class for mares or geldings foaled in or before 1895 and up to 14st., and he also came in second in the class for mares or geldings up to 12st. with his grey gelding Duke, which was beaten for first place by Mr. Tice's bay gelding Prince. The Hackney classes were also not so well filled as usual, but some well-known show horses competed. Mr. Sidney Brunton took two firsts with Rosebery 2nd. and Worcester Ware, the first one of which also secured the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal for the best Hackney or pony stallion, and the second also won the Hackney Society's medal for the best Hackney or pony mare. Mr. C. T. Stanley's young chestnut, Rumwood, took first prize for stallions foaled in 1898, Mr. T. Smith came first in the 1897 foaled filly or gelding class with a pretty chestnut, which also won first in a class limited to East Kent, and Mr. J. C. Buckland's grey gelding, The Duke, won the premium for mare or gelding, open only to East Kent. In this latter class The Duke beat Mr. Tice's bay gelding, Prince, which was placed in front of Mr. Buckland's gelding in the hunter classes, the explanation of the seeming reversal being that though Prince was the best hunter The Duke was the best hack. In another class for Hackneys Mr. E. H. Goad won first and second place. A single class for Cleveland Bays was entirely filled by Mr. J. Finch's horses, and he won first and second prizes. In the classes for harness horses Mr. T. Miles was awarded a couple of firsts with Volatile, Mr. S. Brunton secured two first prizes, Mr. J. C. Buckland won a first with his brown gelding, Popgun, and Mr. E. H. Goad took first for pairs; while in the tradesmen's classes Messrs. Wagner, G. Stent, and T. Young obtained the three first prizes offered. Some capital jumping took place, one competition being won by Mr. H. Buckland on Mr. C. Buckland's Wood Pigeon, and the other by Mr. Jones's Tommy.

Cattle.

Shorthorns were the principal breed of cattle represented, and a fair share of prizes fell to local exhibitors. Mr. Joseph Thorley won two out of three first prizes offered, but the other was taken by the Executors of the late Mr. C. Collard, who also won a second as well as getting three h.c. cards. The Earl of Derby and the Hon. R. P. Nevill had the Sussex classes all to themselves, altogether only five of the entries coming to hand. They were, however, grand beasts, especially his Lordship's cow Mieux, which beat the Hon. R. P. Nevill's Birling Beauty 1st for first and second places in the class for cows. The Earl of Derby took both of the other first prizes, viz., for his young bull, Nero, and for his heifer, Dormouse. Some of the dairy cattle in the classes for Jerseys or Guernseys were of rare good quality. Of local prize takers Mr. H. Fitzwalter Plumptre was the most successful, taking a first and a second, while Mr. H. Hordern won a couple of seconds. All the other prizes went to Captain Fraser in Sussex. Mr. J. D. Maxted was the only exhibitor in the mixed breed class, and was awarded first prize for a very nice cow.

Sheep.

As usual, the competition in Kent sheep was of the keenest description, and the great feature was the marked levelling in type and character. Nearly all of the Kentish prize winners were represented, and a new exhibitor came to the fore in the person of Mr. G. Mount, who carried off the prize for ewe lambs. The shearling ram class numbered fourteen entries, with every one amongst them possessing admirable points. The first prize fell to a rare, lengthy and strong ram of Mr. W. Millen's, and other strong rams of Mr. C. File's and Mr. F. Neame's were placed second and third respectively. Mr. C. Fi[illegible] getting the r. and h.c. card for his second pen, was in the two-shear ram class he took another first with Mr. L. H. Page second, and Mr. W. Millen third and h.c. and h.c. The ewes were a very kindly looking lot all round. At the head of the class, which was for pens of three, was Mr. W. M[illegible] and Mr. H. F[illegible]

came in second, with Mr. C. G. Neame third, and Mr. C. File r. and h.c. Mr. Millen also won first place for his ram lambs, while a second pen of his took third prize, Mr. Frederick Neame coming in second. This class was a very strong one. So also was the succeeding one for ewe lambs, which, as before stated, was won by a new comer in Mr. G. Mount, who succeeded in beating Mr. W. Millen (second), Mr. H. Rigden (third), Mr. G. Farmer (r. and h.c.), and others. Southdowns were few, but of very high character. All the prizes but one went Chichester way, but Mr. T. Miles won second for a handsome pen of shearling ewes, and was also twice r. and h.c., once for ram lambs and once for ewe lambs.

Pigs.

Of the few pigs shown, Berkshires slightly predominated, and both for these and the Middle Whites competition for the most part rested between Mr. T. Miles, Messrs. White and Son, and Mr. G. T. Tomkin. For Berkshires Mr. Tomkin won two firsts and was h.c., Mr. T. Miles took a first, and Mr. W. P. Hampton a second. Messrs. White swept the board for first prizes in all three classes for Middle Whites, for which Mr. T. Miles was awarded a second, and Mr. A. Amos gained a first prize for a Big Black sow in the mixed class.

SOCIETIES.

Polo Pony Society.

Sir Richard D. Green Price, Bart. (President), occupied the chair at a meeting of the Council of this Society, held in the Royal Showyard, at York, on Tuesday, June 19th.

Finance Committee.

The secretary submitted the financial statement since the last meeting—viz., balance at bank, £112 12s. 4d., with £189 on deposit; receipts since the last meeting, £64 15s. 6d.; arrears of subscription, £40; accounts for payment, including the Society's contribution of £100 towards the Polo Pony classes at the Royal Show, £136 5s.

This report having been adopted,

Mr. Midwood called attention to the interest taken by the public in the Polo ponies exhibited at the Royal Show, as the judging-ring attracted a large number of visitors, and the ponies formed a most attractive item in the parade of horses. This Society had now been in existence seven years, their first volume of the Stud Book having been issued in 1894, and therefore they could claim 1901 for their Stud Book the recognition extended by the Royal Agricultural Society to all stud and herd books which had been in existence for not less than seven years. He would therefore move that the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England be respectfully asked to now place Polo ponies amongst the recognised breeds of horses in their future schedules.

Mr. Barker seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried, and the secretary was instructed to convey the representation to the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

Stud Book, Vol. VI.

Seven ponies were accepted for the Stud Book, having been inspected according to the rules. Suggestions with reference to future inspections were referred to the Editing Committee, while the Council accepted with many thanks two excellent photographs of herds of ponies which had been submitted for their inspection by Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale.

Measurement of Polo Ponies.

The secretary submitted to the Council the letter received from the Hurlingham Club intimating that their Polo Committee considered that the existing rules as to the measurement of Polo ponies met all requirements, and were universally approved of by all polo players.

The president pointed out that this reply brought the question of the measurement of Polo ponies to a deadlock. It was most important in the interest of breeders of Polo ponies that a definite height should be settled, and in the opinion of this Society 41 h. 2 in. was considered fair. They did not in any way wish to interfere with polo, but the Society could not let the matter rest, and he thought that the question should be referred back to their Measurement Committee with a view to securing the opinion of the country clubs.

Mr. Tresham Gilbey considered that the suggestions should be sent to the General Polo Committee of Hurlingham, as in the autumn of last year the Council were led to believe that any suggestions would be cordially welcomed, and he therefore thought that the proposals of the Council had not been seriously discussed.

The Rev. T. F. Dale agreed with Mr. Gilbey, and thought that it was most desirable that the General Polo Committee of Hurlingham should be made acquainted with the circumstances which induced the Council to offer the suggestions made by their Measurement Committee. He understood that it was thought that the Council of the Polo Pony Society were forcing the suggestions upon them, whereas the Council had been led to believe that such suggestions would be welcomed. The Council agreed to act on Mr. Gilbey's suggestion.

Arrangements for 1901.

It was resolved to refer to the Horse Show Committee the requisite arrangements for the next London show, and the offer of prizes and premiums at country shows for the Mountain and Moorland breeds. Mr. Midwood reported that Mr. William Stonebridge, a member of the Society, desired to offer a prize of £5 5s. at the next spring show to be awarded in any way that the Council might decide. The offer was accepted, and the secretary instructed to convey the thanks of the Council to Mr. Stonebridge.

Mounted Pony Corps.

Pursuant to notice the President moved:—"That in view of the acknowledged utility of the mounted infantry in the present war, the Government should in every way encourage breeders to supply the coming demand for horses of 14 h 2 in., and that the Society's shows in London and the country are excellent mediums for any scheme for giving effect to these suggestions.

The President, in moving the resolution, pointed out that the Society was interested in the production of riding ponies—in fact, he should like to see the title of the Society altered to the Polo and Riding Pony Society. The value of small horses, 14 h. 2 in., had been largely demonstrated in the present war, and the promotion and encouragement of their breeding was a matter which the Society ought to force upon the attention of the Government.

Lord Arthur Cecil seconded the resolution, urging the members to do all they could in the various districts to start mounted pony corps, as he understood the Government were favourably disposed towards such action.

Mr. Tresham Gilbey said that Sir Walter Gilbey, who was unable to be present, cordially agreed with the motion moved by the President, which upon being put to the meeting was unanimously adopted, and the secretary was instructed to convey same to the Secretary of State for War.

The Council then adjourned till Thursday, November 8th.

Large Black Pig.

At a recent meeting of the Eastern Counties District Committee of the Large Black Pig Society the following gentlemen were nominated as members:—Mr. A. H. E. Wood, Sudbourn Hall, life member; Mr. E. F. Quilter, Belstead; Mr. B. Posford, Falkenham; Mr. George F. Hempson, Ardleigh; Messrs. Spurling and Sons, Ipswich; Mr. Walter Wrinch, Erwarton; Mr. C. W. Haward, Wenham; Mr. Charles Cousins, Great Tey; Mr. D. A. Green, St. Andrews; Mr. F. M. Youngmman, Ashfield; Mr. Joseph Green, Fordham Hall; Messrs. J. and G. Stannard, Greenstead Hall, Colchester; Mr. C. H. Cordy, Walton; Mr. Felix Calvert, Furneaux Pelham, Herts; Mr. John Bourne, Mucklestone, Market Drayton; and Mr. W. Yeo, Priestacott, North Devon. The committee recommended that entries for registration in Vol. 2 of the Society's Herd Book should close on October 31st, 1900. The secretary (Mr. Ernest Prentice) reported a number of applications for export certificates for Large Blacks shipped to Russia and Canada.

Somerset County Agricultural Association.

The Finance Committee met at the Municipal Chambers, Taunton, on the 30th ult. There were present Mr. G. W. Walter (in the chair), Mr. James Cook, and Mr. T. H. Boys (secretary). The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The secretary produced certain accounts, which were now due for payment, and explained same, which the committee duly considered, and directed that cheques be drawn and signed therefor, namely, a grant of £100 for prizes that the Somerset County Association made to the Bath and West for its recent Bath meeting, and also £19 8s. 6d. for the purchase of members' second tickets according to arrangement. There were also certain prizes certified, the conditions having been fulfilled, also salaries and a small bill for solicitor's charges. The secretary produced a list of subscriptions in arrear, and stated that he hoped at the end of the financial year to receive the major portion thereof.

The General Purposes Committee met on the same day. Present: Messrs. A. B. James (in the chair), J. B. Lythall, Samuel Kidner, J. Kidner (Nynehead), T. Penny, E. A. Hardwick, F. J. Merson, H. Farthing, and T. H. Boys (secretary). The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The following gentleman were nominated and recommended to the Council for election to serve on committees for the ensuing year: Finance Committee: Lord Bath, Sir A. A. Hood, Bart., M.P., Messrs. James Cook, C. E. J. Esdaile, J. B. Lythall, J. T. Nicholetts, A. Peace, T. Penny, T. S. Penny, W. J. R. Poole, E. J. Stanley, M.P., V. Stuckey, and O. G. Walter. General Purposes and Emergency Committee: Messrs. James Cook, H. Farthing, E. A. Hardwick, J. H. Holloway, A. B. James, J. Kidner (Nynehead), S. Kidner, J. B. Lythall, F. J. Merson, T. Penny, T. S. Penny, A. Peace, W. Potter, A. C. Skinner and H. Stuckey. Sites and Showyard Works: Messrs. T. Chapman, E. A. Hardwick, A. B. James, J. Kidner (Nynehead), J. B. Lythall, T. Penny, T. S. Penny, T. N. Sully, and A. C. Skinner. Prizes and Judges Selection Committee: Hon. R. C. Trollope, Messrs. W. S. Beviss, J. H. Dunning, E. A. Hardwick, H. Farthing, F. J. Hayes, A. B. James, S. Kidner, A. E. Perkins, W. H. Smith, and H. Stuckey, and Colonel Helyar. Dairy Committee: Messrs. J. Burnett, A. Bowerman, F. H. Cheetham, C. L. Fox, J. H. Farrant, J. G. Haynes, E. Harden, T. F. Norris, and J. A. Tate. Poultry Committee: The Hon. E. J. Boyle, Messrs. J. G. Haynes, J. B. Lythall, T. F. Norris, T. Penny, A. G. Pitts, P. Percival, and C. F. Sampson.

The Council assembled on the same day under the presidency of Mr. Thomas Penny. There were also present Messrs. James Cook, O. G. Walter, A. B. James, S. Kidner, E. A. Hardwick, H. Farthing, J. B. Lythall, F. J. Merson, H. Stuckey, C. F. Sampson, W. S. Beviss, A. Bowerman, A. C. Skinner, J. G. Haynes, P. Percival, A. E. Perkins, J. H. Farrant, and T. H. Boys (secretary).

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary read a letter from Mrs. Elton expressing her fervent acknowledgment for the kind resolution of sympathy passed by the Council upon the death of her husband, Mr. Charles Isaac Elton, Q.C.

The Secretary read a letter from the Bath and West, acknowledging with thanks the resolution passed at the last meeting.

The minutes of the Finance Committee held that day were read, and on the proposition of Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Cook, such minutes were approved and adopted.

The minutes of the General Purposes Committee held that day were read, and on the proposition of Mr. James, seconded by Mr. S. Kidner, such minutes were approved and adopted.

On the proposition of Mr. S. Kidner, Mr. Robert Cornish, of Pixford, Bishop's Lydeard, was elected a member of the Association, and also a member of the Council in the place of Mr. J. F. Hall, who had with very great regret resigned that position.

Somerset and Dorset Horn Sheep Breeders.

A meeting of the Somerset and Dorset Horn Sheep Breeders' Association was held last week, Mr. F. Pope presiding. Half-a-dozen new members were elected, and the officers for the year were then selected. Mr. J. R. Blake (Isle of Wight) was chosen president; vice-presidents, Lord Eldon, Lord Bridport, Mr. E. J. Stanley, M.P., Col. Brymer, M.P., and Mr. F. Pope; treasurer, Mr. Thornton (Dorchester); solicitor, Mr. Huxtable; and secretary, Mr. Ensor. Messrs. S. Kidner (Milverton) and J. Chick (Dorchester) were chosen delegates to the National Sheep Breeders' Association. The Editing and Finance Committees were also elected. It was reported that, owing to the great increase in the number of members, Volumes VII. and VIII. of the Flock Book had run out, and it was decided to reprint them.

IN PARLIAMENT.

House of Lords.

Compensation to Farm Labourers.

On Friday Viscount Cross moved the second reading of the Workmen's Compensation Act (1897) Extension Bill, stating that its object was to extend the Compensation Act of three years ago in case of accident to farm labourers and those engaged in agricultural pursuits. The fears expressed on the passing of the measure of 1897 had not been realised, and the wisdom of the Act had since been established beyond doubt. That Act had worked most smoothly and most satisfactorily, and it was felt on all sides that the benefits might well be extended to agricultural labourers.

The Earl of Kimberley had no objection to the Bill, and could never understand why they were originally exempted from the principal Act. He was somewhat surprised at the very rosy views which the noble viscount took of the working of that measure. He had been under the delusion that there was very wide discontent with regard to it. The machinery was said to be unintelligible, while the wording of the Act had led to the most divergent and unsatisfactory decisions as to the meaning of the provisions. He was afraid that in this Bill the word "contractor" would also lead to much difficulty, but the measure itself seemed to fulfil the conditions of all Acts of Parliament, which was that they should not be intelligible to the lay mind. (Laughter.) He was glad, however, that the Bill had reached their lordships' House, but the agricultural labourers would have no reason to thank the Government for introducing the measure, as it was the work of a private member in the other House.

After remarks from Lord Camperdown, Lord Windsor, and Lord Stanley of Alderley,

Viscount Cross pointed out that the main points of the Act of 1897 had been finally determined by the House of Lords, and for the information of the noble

earl (Kimberley) he might state that the Act was now working so smoothly and so satisfactorily that the different insurance companies were asking much easier terms for insuring the risks under that measure than at first they were inclined to listen to.

The Bill was read a second time.

On Friday the Bill was again considered in committee and reported with an amendment to the House.

House of Commons.

Agricultural Holdings Bill.

This Bill as amended by the Standing Committee came up for consideration on Monday.

Mr. Channing criticised several provisions. He complained that the Bill did nothing to improve the status of the valuers and arbitrators, and that it did not go far enough to meet an essential difficulty, viz., the impossibility in times of depression for the tenant who had improved the land to obtain the sort of protection he needed.

Lord Willoughby de Eresby, while approving of many of the provisions of the Bill, insisted that the arbitrators should be compelled, both in the interest of landlords and tenants, to give some reasons for their decisions.

Mr. Long intimated that most of the points that had been raised would be dealt with by amendments standing on the paper and by new clauses. The main object in introducing the Arbitration Act procedure was to simplify and cheapen the machinery, and to enable the arbitrators to settle matters of fact once and for all, and allow appeal on matters of law only.

Earl Percy admitted the Government had done right in getting rid of the legal element as far as possible, but many new features of a debatable character had been introduced into the Bill. It was only right that the arbitrators should state the heads under which they awarded compensation.

Lord Hugh Cecil urged that the Bill should be made clear one way or the other, as there could be no object in passing an ambiguous measure. One system of law should be made to apply to a large area. He hoped the Government would not shut the door in the face of their own supporters in favour of hon. members opposite. (Laughter.)

The Attorney-General replied that all the Government were asking was that the Bill should be considered. Then all the points that had been raised could be dealt with in a proper way. The intention of the Government was that appeal on the question of law should be preserved, and if anything was needed to make that clear it would be considered on the report stage.

Mr. Humphreys-Owen hoped the Government would consider very carefully the suggestions that had been made.

Mr. J. Samuel suggested that the Bill should be suspended, and that a commission should be appointed to consider how the second clause would work if it became law.

Mr. T. G. Bowles said the Bill as it stood was a most remarkable example of referential legislation. It was a complete cryptogram. No one could understand it as it stood by itself, and to read it with anything like clearness one had to make oneself acquainted with no fewer than nine Acts of Parliament. The Bill was intended for plain men, and there was not a human being in the House who could understand it. Let them take the 10th section. What did it say? "Reference to the principal Act and to Sections 29, 30, 32, and 34 thereof shall be construed as reference to the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act, 1882, and Sections 24, 25, and 30 thereof respectively." (loud laughter) "but reference to Sections 31 and 39 of the principal Act shall not apply." (Laughter.) Again, "Reference to the Arbitration Act, 1889, shall be construed as reference to the Arbitration (Scotland) Act, 1894, and reference to the Market Gardeners' Compensation Act, 1895, shall be construed as a reference to the Market Gardeners' (Scotland) Arbitration Act, 1897." The Bill was a complete puzzle. The Government knew what it meant, and why did it not say so? Let them put an end to this mischievous, false, deceitful, and dishonest system of coming to the House of Commons and asking it to pass Bills which did not say what they meant, but which only referred to clauses of other Bills. Such a system was neither creditable to the House of Commons nor to the country. (Opposition cheers.)

Mr. Heywood-Johnstone also complained of the trouble that was required for understanding the Bill.

Mr. H. C. Richards took exception to Clause 3, which in some cases substituted the Board of Agriculture as a tribunal for the county court. Was it intended, he asked, to hold a court at the offices of the Board of Agriculture? He was surprised that the Attorney-General should be satisfied with the provision which gave arbitrators power to "state a case." Legislation by reference was, he declared, unfair to the public, and he hoped Her Majesty's Government would endeavour to remedy the defects in the Bill which had been pointed out by several hon. members.

After a few remarks from Captain Sinclair, the motion that the Bill be considered was agreed to.

Mr. Channing moved the following new clause:—"Every contract of tenancy entered into after the commencement of this Act shall contain a scheduled record of the agricultural condition of the holding and its several parts, and of the buildings, fences, roads, and drains at the beginning of the contract of tenancy. At any time during a tenancy existing at the commencement of this Act, either party may require a record in similar form to be made by an arbitrator. Copies of all such records shall be deposited in the office of the registrar of the county court, and either party shall be entitled to inspect the same at all reasonable times, and to take copies thereof."

Mr. Long opposed the clause.

Lord Willoughby de Eresby and Sir William Wedderburn supported the amendment.

Sir J. Kinloch and Mr. Haywood Johnstone opposed the clause, the latter regarding it as unworkable.

The House divided. For the clause, 56; against, 142; majority against, 96.

The further consideration of the Bill was then adjourned.

Milk and Tuberculosis.

On the order for the consideration of the London Corporation Bill on Wednesday, Mr. Strachey moved the following clause:—"It shall be open to any local authority, dairyman, or person aggrieved by any such order, or withdrawal of such order, to appeal in a summary manner to a court of Petty Sessions having jurisdiction in the district in which the dairy is situate, and the court may either make an order requiring the dairyman to cease from supplying milk or may vary or rescind any order which has been made under this section. Pending the disposal of any such appeal the order shall remain in force."

A long discussion ensued, in the course of which Mr. T. W. Russell observed that in an appeal to Petty Sessions the corporation would have no voice, although their medical officer had reported that tuberculosis had been caused or was likely to be caused by the consumption of milk from a particular dairy. He believed in a court of appeal, but one of an independent character.

Mr. Hobhouse remarked that the court of Petty Sessions, which the hon. gentleman preferred to Petty Sessions, met only once every three months, and in the meantime a dairyman might be ruined.

Mr. T. W. Russell said he was willing to consult all the parties concerned, with a view to agreement upon a suitable court of appeal. The Bill, however, ought to be allowed to go through.

After further debate the House divided, and the numbers were:—For the closure, 98; against, 99; majority, 1. The result was received with laughter.

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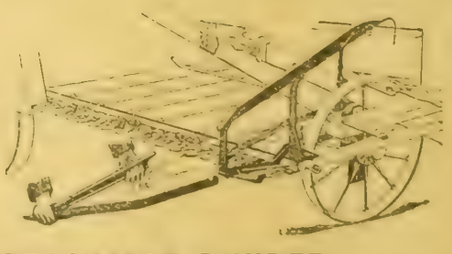

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CANVAS STACK COVERS.—Guaranteed made from the best qualities Canvas, woven specially, complete with lettering, tie-ropes, etc.; carriage paid to any station; write for free samples. FIRST QUALITY, made from best heavy Flax Canvas, bound round edge with stout hemp rope:—8 yds. by 6 yds., 72s.; 8 yds. by 7 yds., 84s.; 8 yds. by 8 yds., 96s.; 10 yds. by 8 yds., 120s.; 10 yds. by 10 yds., 150s.; 12 yds. by 10 yds., 180s.; 12 yds. by 12 yds., 216s. SECOND QUALITY, similar to first, complete with tie topes, but not bound with rope:—8 yds. by 6 yds., 64s.; 8 yds. by 7 yds., 75s.; 8 yds. by 8 yds., 85s.; 10 yds. by 8 yds., 107s.; 10 yds. by 10 yds., 134s.; 12 yds. by 10 yds., 160s.; 12 yds. by 12 yds., 192s. THIRD QUALITY, made from strong double-warp Canvas:—8 yds. by 6 yds., 28s.; 8 yds. by 7 yds., 33s.; 8 yds. by 8 yds., 37s.; 10 yds. by 8 yds., 47s.; 10 yds. by 10 yds., 58s.; 12 yds. by 10 yds., 70s.; 12 yds. by 12 yds., 84s. J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Tarpaulin Works, Wigan.

BINDER TWINE.—Pure Manila, 600 feet to the lb., breaking strain 100 lbs. Guaranteed thorough good worker.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Wigan. Est. 1808.

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WATERPROOF OIL SHEETS.—Improved, flexible, made from pure flax canvas, hand dressed, lettered, with tie-ropes complete. Actual measurement, when made, 8 ft. by 6 ft., 9s.; 9 ft. by 7 ft., 11s.; 10½ ft. by 8 ft., 14s.; 12 ft. by 9 ft., 18s.; 12 ft. by 10 ft., 20s.; 15 ft. by 8 ft., 20s.; 15 ft. by 9 ft., 22s. 6d.; 15 ft. by 10 ft., 25s.; 15 ft. by 12 ft., 30s.; 16½ ft. by 10 ft., 28s.; 16½ ft. by 12 ft., 33s.; 18 ft. by 12 ft., 36s.; 21 ft. by 12 ft., 42s.; 21 ft. by 15 ft., 53s.; 24 ft. by 18 ft., 72s. These and all other sizes in stock at proportionate prices, carriage paid; immediate delivery; thoroughly seasoned. Every cover guaranteed flexible, thoroughly waterproof, and neither to stick nor crack.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Wigan. Established 1808.

CHEMICALLY DRESSED "Peck" Cloth Sheets.—Waterproof and Rot-proof, the foundation of which is Pure Flax Canvas, lettered and roped complete, at 1s. 9d. per square yard.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Wigan. Est. 1808.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

BINDER TWINES, BINDER TWINES.—We shall be pleased to send samples of the two best Binder Twines on the market, namely Champion's "Reliance" Manilla and "best 3 ply hemp" with specially low prices on application. Immediate delivery for orders placed at once.—JOHN B. CHAMPION and SONS, Reliance Works, Dursley, Glos.

TWILLED NAVY CANVAS STACK SHEETS.—Best Double Hand sewn, with best tarred hemp twine, fitted with tarred hemp tie ropes 9 yards long.

Sizes:—8 by 6 yards, 32s.; 8 by 8 yards, 42s. 8d.; 10 by 8 yards, 53s.; 10 by 10 yards, 66s.; 12 by 10 yards, 80s.; 12 by 12 yards, 96s. Cheaper Quality: 8 by 6 yards, 28s.; 8 by 8 yards, 37s.; 10 by 8 yards, 47s.; 10 by 10 yards, 59s.; 12 by 10 yards, 69s.; 12 by 12 yards, 83s. Can supply cheaper qualities. Set of blocks, fitted with best quality hemp or manilla, 25s. to 30s. per set. Waggon Ropes, made of best hemp or manilla, 20 yards long, 3s. 11d.; 30 yards, 6s. 9d.; 40 yards, 8s. 6d. For orders placed now will allow 7½ per cent. for cash. Samples and lists free.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., Ltd., Makers to H.M. the Queen and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, London Works, Reading.

BASIC SLAG or Thomas Phosphate Powder. The cheapest and most efficacious fertiliser for grass land. Please note guarantee 38 to 45 per cent. Phosphates. Order early. Purchasing agents wanted. THOMAS BRADBURN, Wolverhampton.

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THE "WATER DIVINING" PROBLEM SOLVED AT LAST.—Now ready, first published, the scientific explanation, "THE THEORY OF WATER FINDING BY THE DIVINING ROD." Second and enlarged Edition, fully illustrated. By B. TOMPKINS, Expert Water Finder, Chippenham.—From Author; any Bookseller. 2s. 6d.; and 1s. 6d. nett.

AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATION.—REPORT of the CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE of the CENTRAL CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS.—I. Introduction. II. Agricultural Co-operation in Great Britain. III. Agricultural Co-operation in Ireland. IV. Agricultural Co-operation on the Continent. V. Agricultural Co-operation in America and Australasia. VI. Conclusion. Appendices, including instructions for forming a creamery, Model Rules for Local Co-operative Associations, etc., etc. 112 pp., price One Shilling. By post 1s. 1½d.—To be obtained from CENTRAL CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE, Broad Sanctuary Chambers, Westminster, S.W.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC.

(*Continued from front page.*)

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LAND AGENTS,
FARM AND TIMBER VALUERS, SURVEYORS, HOUSE AGENTS, AND AUCTIONEERS,

Undertake valuations of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE, either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.

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NEW HOUSE FARM.

EASTDEAN, near EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

TO BE LET, from MICHAELMAS next, the above FARM, comprising about 250 acres of arable land, 34 acres of meadow, 174 acres of down pasture, being a total of 458 acres, in the parish of Eastdean, with excellent Farmhouse, suitable buildings and labourers' Cottages, and about 85 acres of the rich pasture land of Pevensey Marsh, in the Parishes of Hurstmonceux and Bexhill, together [illegible] acres.

For particulars apply to Mr. WHITLEY, Manor Office, Eastbourne, or to Messrs. DRAKE and LEE, Solicitors, Lewes.

FARM. — WARWICKSHIRE. To be LET from Lady-day 1901, the most useful DAIRY and SHEEP FARM known as "THE HEATH FARM, Meriden, about two miles from Hampton-in-Arden Station (L. and N.-W. Railway), now in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Steedman, and containing about 367 Acres.—For further particulars, apply to WALTER P. EVANS, Estate Offices, Nuneaton.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC. (*Continued.*)

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., & Sevenoaks, Kent.

SUSSEX.
STOPHAM, near PULBOROUGH.

TO LET from Michaelmas, 1900, the MANOR FARM, with the old-fashioned Farmhouse, substantial and well-arranged Farm Buildings, and about 163 acres Arable and 153 acres Meadow and Brookland. Rent £300.—Apply, W. B. HOY, Stopham Estate Office, Pulborough.

HERTS.—TO LET, from Michaelmas, good PASTURE FARM, 135 acres Pasture, 36 acres Arable, situated near Hatfield, 17 miles from London.—For further particulars, apply POWELL and CO., Land Agents and Surveyors, 66, Victoria-street, Westminster, S.W.

FOR SALE, an EXCELLENT DAIRY in the Midlands, stocked with latest appliances. Taking in 500 gallons daily. Will be sold at a very low figure.—Apply, X.Y.Z., c.o. this Journal.

AUCTION SALES.

MR. LAMBERT'S HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL
SALE AND LETTING
OF PURE-BRED
RAMS AND RAM LAMBS
From [illegible]

Will take place at CAMBRIDGE [illegible] on FRIDAY, AUGUST [illegible], when [illegible] the Cattle Market at [illegible] when

80 GRAND RAMS AND RAM LAMBS

Will be offered

MESSRS. CHALK [illegible]
[illegible]
and Linton, Cambs.

Auction Sales Continued on page [illegible].

AUCTION SALES.

WOODCHESTER, near STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

MESSRS. FULLER, HORSEY, SONS, and CASSELL will (unless previously sold as a whole) offer for SALE by AUCTION, in five lots, on the Premises, on TUESDAY, JULY 24th, at 11 o'clock precisely, the valuable FREEHOLD PROPERTY known as

THE SOUTHFIELDS AND CHURCHES WOOLLEN MILLS,

situated within two miles of Stroud, and containing an area of about 10½ acres, upon which are erected mill buildings, engine and boiler houses, manager's house, etc. At the same time and place will also be offered in lots in detail the

PLANT AND MACHINERY,

including a steam boiler, beam engine, 14 carding engines, eight picking and cleaning machines, Willey's and dusting machines grinding, balling, and spooling machines, etc., thread condenser, fire mules, two doubling frames, warping mills, 18 power looms, size mixing and sizing machines, brushing machines four Fuller's, hydro-extractor, dye copper and backs, tentering machine, hydraulic press and pumps, engine boiler, and other effects. May be viewed by orders and particulars of the property and catalogues of the machinery had of Messrs. SNOW, FOX, and HIGGINSON, Solicitors, 7, Great St. Thomas Apostle, Queen-street, London, E.C.; of Messrs. WINTERBOTHAM and SON, Solicitors, Stroud; and of FULLER, HORSEY, SONS, and CASSELL, Auctioneers, 11, Billiter-square, E.C.

ON FRIDAY NEXT, JULY 20TH, 1900.

60 DAIRY SHORTHORNS.

FOR MR. E. K. BICKLEY, AT THE FIELDS, ELLESMERE,

Adjoining Welshampton Station, on the Cambrian Railway, three miles from Ellesmere, eight from Whitchurch, and six from Wem.

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. will SELL BY AUCTION, as above,

60 HIGHLY-DESCENDED SHORTHORNS, including a Grand Lot of Deep-milking Young Cows, the whole of the Beautiful Heifers, and six Splendid Young BULLS.

The Herd has been long and favourably known as producing some of the best bulls in the county, several having been sold for exportation at a high figure. The stock have not been prepared for sale, but are kept in their ordinary store condition, and will be found in a most satisfactory state as to breeding, of rich colours, with plenty of good hair and quality, and particularly good to buy. Exhibition has not been largely practised, but young animals have been sent to the county and local shows invariably with success: notably this season winning First, Second, and Third in the Class for Two-year-old Heifers at the Shropshire and West-Midland Show.

Conveyances will meet trains at Ellesmere and Wem.

Sale after 12 o'clock Luncheon.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL AND CO., Auctioneers and Exporters, Shrewsbury, who will execute Commissions.

SALES OF SHIRE HORSES, HACKNEYS, AND HARNESS HORSES, BY

SEXTON, GRIMWADE, & BECK.

JULY 24TH.—Sale of 52 of Mr. J. BARKER'S HACKNEYS, at the Grange Stud, Bishop's Stortford.

JULY 25TH.—Sale of 65 of Mr. W. HOLLIN'S HACKNEY PONIES, at Berry Hill, Mansfield, Notts.

AUGUST 1ST.—Sale of 42 of Mr. W. LLOYD'S HACKNEYS, at Heaselands, Hayward's Heath.

AUGUST 2ND.—Sale of 45 of Mr. C. E. E. COOKE'S SHIRES and 25 HACKNEYS at Hinxton Grange, Cambs.

Catalogues and further particulars of the Auctioneers, Peterborough.

IMPORTANT SALE *of Pedigree Hackneys.* WITHOUT RESERVE.

The Grange Stud,

BISHOPS STORTFORD

the property of

JOHN BARKER, Esq., J.P.

The FIRST SALE of

PEDIGREE HACKNEYS

will be held on TUESDAY, JULY 24th, 1900, by Messrs. SEXTON, GRIMWADE, and BECK. When all the Fillies up to and including the Four-year-olds and the Foals will be offered. The Stud comprises the best and most fashionable strains in the country, and the lots include the well-known prize-winners Princess May, Lady Milly, Lady Winnie, Comedy, Miss Keyingham, Woodtonian, and Love Song.

Catalogue from Owner, or of Auctioneers, Peterborough.

AUCTION SALES.

SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

FRIDAY NEXT, JULY 20.—Mr. W. H. MULLEN'S herd of KERRIES, in a paddock close to the Tunbridge Wells Show Ground.

TUESDAY, JULY 24.—Mr. HENRY DUDDING'S SHORTHORNS and LINCOLN SHEEP, at Riby Grove, Stallingboro', Lincolnshire.

FRIDAY, JULY 27.—ANNUAL SALE of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, at Cambridge.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1.—Mr. E. ECROYD'S SHORTHORNS, at Low House, Armathwaite, Carlisle.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8.—Sir JAMES BLYTH'S SOUTHDOWN SHEEP and JERSEYS, at Blythwood, Stansted, Bishop's Stortford.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9.—Mr. J. A. HEMPSON'S SOUTHDOWNS, at Erwarton Hall, Ipswich.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes-street, Hanover square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

THURSDAY NEXT.

To Horsebreeders, Dairy Farmers, Investors, and others.

LINGFIELD, SURREY.—A compact Freehold Property, known as Sugham Farm, situate about one mile from Lingfield Station L.B. and S.C. Ry., whence London is reached within the hour, and about 4½ miles from East Grinstead, comprising capital homestead with range of farm buildings, together with about 57 acres of rich pasture land (five acres ripe for building), let to a good tenant at a rent of £120 per annum. Also arctorial tithe rent charge, commuted at £9 6s per annum, arising out of the foregoing property.

MESSRS. FAREBROTHER, ELLIS, EGERTON, BREACH, GALSWORTHY and CO. will SELL by AUCTION, at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, E.C., on Thursday, July 19, 1900, at Two o'clock precisely, the above valuable PROPERTY, in three Lots.

Particulars, with plan and conditions of sale, may be obtained of HERBERT SMITH, Esq., Solicitor, 43, Coleman-street, E.C.; at the Mart; and of Messrs. Farebrother, Ellis, and Co., 29, Fleet-street, Temple Bar, and 18, Old Broad-street, E.C.

TO FLOCKMASTERS AND OTHERS.

CHILWORTH, near GUILDFORD, SURREY.

Important Sale of a draft from the well-known Albury Park Flock of pure-bred Southdown Sheep, the property of His Grace the Duke of Northumberland.

MESSRS. HEWETT and LEE are favoured with instructions to SELL by AUCTION, in a Field near Chilworth Station, S.E.Ry.,

On TUESDAY JULY 31st, 1900, at Two o'clock precisely,

A selected draft from the Albury Park Flock of Pedigree SOUTHDOWNS, comprising:—

203 FLOCK EWES (all ages),
14 RAMS,
82 EWE LAMBS,
31 RAM LAMBS, and
65 WETHER LAMBS.

The Albury Park Flock enjoys an excellent reputation as one of the most noted pure Southdown Flocks in the kingdom. It has been established with great care by judicious selection from the best and purest strains in the country, and has invariably received favourable notice whenever exhibited in the showyards of the principal Agricultural Societies both at home and abroad.

Catalogues may in due course be obtained of A. PEEBLES, Esq., Estate Office, Albury, near Guildford, and of Messrs. HEWETT and LEE, Auctioneers and Estate Agents, Guildford, Surrey.

CHICHESTER ANNUAL SALE AND SELLING OF SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

The above annual Sale will be held by

HOBGEN BROS.,

at their Repository in the Chichester Cattle Market, on Wednesday, August 8, 1900, at one o'clock precisely.

Entries for the Sale have already been made from the celebrated flocks belonging to His Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G., the Pagham Harbour Company, Messrs. Hugh Penfold, Alfred Heasman, and F. N. Hobgen.

The Catalogue will include several prize-winners at the various summer Agricultural Shows.

On view the morning of Sale.

Catalogues may be obtained of HOBGEN BROS., Auctioneers, Valuers, and Estate Agents, East Street, Chichester, and Midhurst.

BANBURY, OXON.

Freehold Flour Mills, together with modern Roller Plant and Machinery.

MESSRS. FULLER, HORSEY, SONS, and CASSELL are instructed to SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, in one or more lots, on Tuesday, July 31, 1900, at 1 o'clock precisely, the valuable FREEHOLD PROPERTY known as the

GRIMSBURY FLOUR MILLS,

Banbury, fitted with a six-sack roller plant by Simon, of Manchester, with the necessary cleaning, dressing, and finishing machinery, steam and water power, etc.; also granaries and warehouses on wharf, fronting the Oxford Canal, extensive stabling, commodious family residence, five cottages, and outbuildings, and enclosures of rich meadow land, comprising in all an area of 56 acres 2 roods 37 perches. May be viewed by orders to be obtained of the Auctioneers, and particulars, plans and conditions of sale had of MESSRS. STOCKTON AND SONS, Solicitors, High-street, Banbury, Oxon; and of MESSRS. FULLER, HORSEY, SONS, AND CASSELL, 11 Billiter-square, E.C.

Note.—The above property will first be offered as a whole, and if not sold, the premises, fitted with motive power, suitable for any manufacturing purposes, residence, &c., separately, and the trade machinery in lots in detail.

TO SECURE

YOUR HAY CROP IN GOOD CONDITION

ORDER ONE OF J. RANDS & JECKELL'S

NOTED RICK CLOTHS.

Size.	Quality	J	K	L	M	N
8yds. by	6yds. at	24/-	36/-	48/-	60/-	72/-
8½ds. by	8yds. at	32/-	48/-	64/-	80/-	96/-
10yds. by	8yds. at	40/-	60/-	80/-	100/-	120/
12yds. by	10yds. at	60/-	90/-	120/-	150/-	180/-

Any size to order at proportionate price.

These Cloths are made up to the Square Yard, and not sold by the Width of 24 and 30 inches, which is so frequently the case, thus misleading purchasers.

Samples of Canvas submitted per Post. Above Prices include Brass Eyelets and Long Cords. Carriage Paid on Orders of 40/-. 5 per cent. Discount for Cash.

J. RANDS & JECKELL, IPSWICH.

SACK, RICK CLOTH, & TENT MANUFACTURERS.

By Special Royal Warrant to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

WM. CROSSKILL & SONS,

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MANUFACTURERS OF

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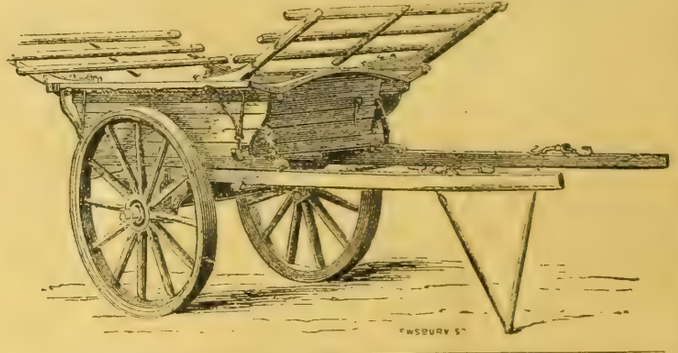

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GRINDING MILLS

TO THE FRONT AGAIN!

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BARFORD & PERKINS,

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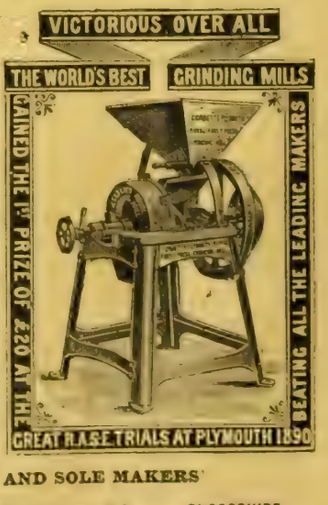
They will Grind into the Finest Meal all kinds of Grain, Chemical, Vegetable or Mineral Substances.

MADE IN ALL SIZES, to suit Hand, Horse, Gas, Water or Steam Power.

PRICES from £4 5s. upwards, CARRIAGE PAID. Oat Crushers, from £2 15s. each.

PRICE LISTS and full particulars free on application to the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THE WORLD'S BEST
GRINDING MILLS
GAINED THE 1ST PRIZE OF £20 AT THE
GREAT R.A.S.E. TRIALS AT PLYMOUTH 1890
BEATING ALL THE LEADING MAKERS

INVENTORS' PATENTEES, AND SOLE MAKERS

PARK STREET, WORKS, WELLINGTON SHROPSHIRE, ENGLAND.

WATERLOO ROUND CAKES,

Acknowledged as the Best Feeding Cake in the Market for all Classes of Stock, and especially the Young.

Prices, samples, and particulars free on application to Ayre Bros,, The Avenue, High Street, Hull, or to the

WATERLOO MILLS CO., LIMITED, HULL

Where The Money Goes

Won By **Cooper Dipped Sheep** at Royal Show 1899

Won By All Other Dips Put Together.

POOLEY'S PATENT CATTLE WEIGHBRIDGES

FOR AUCTIONEERS, FARMERS, &c.

Sole Makers: HENRY POOLEY & SON, Ltd., Weighing Machine Makers, ALBION FOUNDRY, LIVERPOOL.

Branches at London, Newcastle, Manchester, Newport, Derby, Glasgow, and Birmingham. Weighbridges readily and cheaply converted into cattle Machines.

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Being a Revised Edition of "Soiling, Summer and Winter; or, the Economy of Feeding Farm Stock.

By FRANK SHERMAN PEER.

Relating the experience of the author, giving the latest and most economical methods of Summer and Winter Feeding and Management of Farm Stock; also the Construction of Stables.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS. PRICE 5s. (POST FREE, 5s. 4d.)

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Leaves the hoof soft and pliable

3/- & 1/6 per tin. Four 3/- for 10/- Post Free.

ALFRED J. LEARNER, REDHILL, Surrey.

THE MOST NUTRITIOUS

EPPS'S

GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.

COCOA

BREAKFAST—SUPPER.

NO CURE! NO PAY!

G. F. DAWES'

Is the only Guaranteed Cure for Lame Sheep, leaves the hoof and foot soft and healthy. Price 3s. and 1s. 6d. In Brown Pots only, sufficient to dress 80 Sheep and 40 Sheep. Trial Pot free from the Manufactory.

SCAB IN SHEEP CURED IN ONE DIPPING. NO CURE, NO PAY.

G. F. DAWES, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk

MACKINDER'S PORRIDGE MEAL FOR WEANING CALVES.

Price 11s. per cwt., free at all Stations.

See directions for use. Testimony from every county.

Wm. Joscelyn, Esq. (Suffolk), writes:—"I find my calves do better on your Porridge Meal than anything I have ever used."

Mr. Harry Fidler (Wilts) writes:—"Your Porridge Meal keeps calves remarkably clean, mastering the one great difficulty in calf-weaning."

Order through Merchants, Chemists, or direct from

MACKINDER'S LAMB FOOD MILLS, LINCOLN.

POULTRY HOUSES, PIGEON HOUSES PORTABLE BUILDINGS

We can supply you with the best value in the kingdom, Competition defied, Largest Makers in the Midlands. Send 1 stamp for Catalogue and up-to-date testimonials.

J. T. HOBSON & Co. Bedford. Estd. 60 Years.

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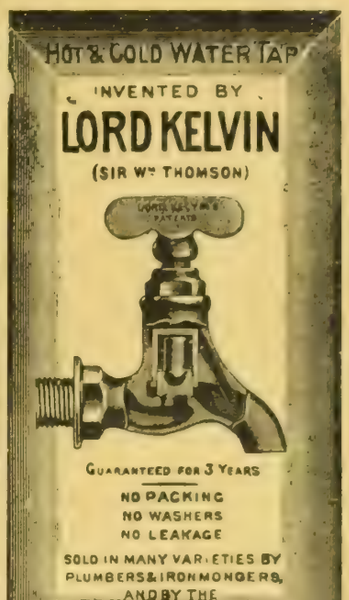

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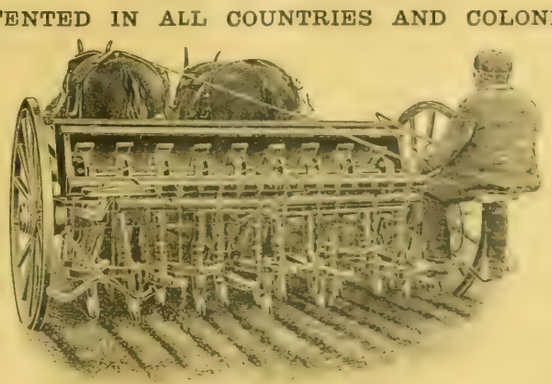

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I am thoroughly satisfied with Martin's Patent improvement [illegible] Hoes, &c. saving 300 per cent. in labour. GEORGE WATSON, North Barsham, Nr Walsingham, Norfolk.

Ashby Hall [illegible] November 3rd [illegible]

Dear Sir,—I have had one of my Corn Drills altered [illegible] what we are requiring. CHAS. ELLIS.

Mr. T. E. Martin. Dillington, East Dereham, Norfolk, June 19th, 1900.

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I am, Sir, yours truly, C. G. WOOD.

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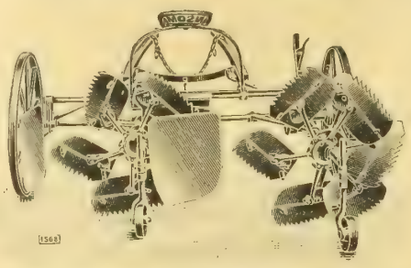

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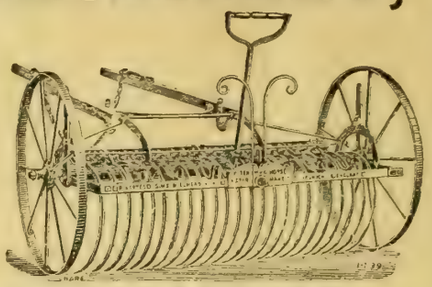

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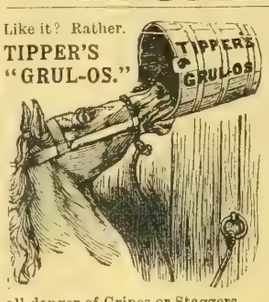

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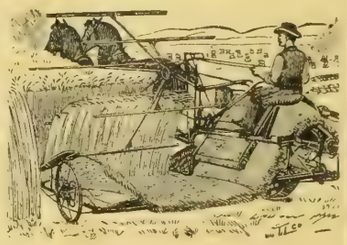

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MONDAY, JULY 16, 1900.

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THE AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS BILL: THE REPORT STAGE.

During three days of the past week the House of Commons has given a portion of its time to the consideration of the Government's Agricultural Holdings Bill as it returned from the Standing Committee on Trade for the Report stage. Nothing now remains, as far as the Lower House is concerned, but the third reading, which, under the circumstances, can be but little more than formal. There may be some talking about some of the sections, but it is not likely that there will be any amendment. The House of Lords is likely to deal with the measure very shortly, and it is most likely that it will be passed as it stands, and with but little discussion. We are, therefore, in a position to consider the measure in the form in which it is more than probable that it will become law; but in doing so it is most important that we should also bear in mind the views expressed at the meeting of the Council of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, which was held on Tuesday last, for they show how far the new measure is likely to meet the views which are held by agriculturists in general—and by this term we mean both landlords and tenants. It will, however, be well in the first place, to sum up shortly what passed in the House of Commons, so as to appreciate the present position of the Bill.

The Standing Committee on Trade and Agriculture sent the Bill back to the House with a number of alterations, but what it did is now a matter of history, and really does not affect the matter, for apart from the fact that, after all, the work of the Committee is more suggestive than effective, we are more concerned with the present meaning of the measure than with the various metamorphoses through which it has passed. On Tuesday last, when the House of Commons first gave attention to the matter, after the measure came back from the Standing Committee, there were a large number of amendments to be dealt with. They were as numerous as they were futile. All the proposed new clauses came to nothing; but the right honourable gentleman who presides over the Board of Agriculture was persuaded to accept a new clause, which was moved by Mr. Hedderwick, and which, however, dealt only with Scottish tenancies, and which had as its object the reduction of expenses to the tenant. Mr. Long was quite right in accepting it, as it must be equally satisfactory to both landlords and tenants to the north of the Tweed. On Thursday, the third day of the discussion, Mr. Lopes moved to leave out clause 7 of the Bill. This section dealt with the law of distress in a somewhat drastic manner. Under the Act of 1883. the landlord's right to distrain for rent was apparently restricted to one year's rent; but when a case arose and came before the Courts, it was decided that the wording of the Act really gave him the right to issue a distress for rent for eighteen months past. The new Bill proposed to reduce this period to the twelve months originally contemplated. The Minister of Agriculture, however, saw his way to accept the proposal to leave out this clause; and we believe he was right in so doing, for to reduce the landlord's right to recover his rent is also to reduce the credit which he can allow to his tenant—and credit is much more to the farmer than to the trader; the former turns over his capital only once a year, and not once a month, or once a week, like the latter. It is, therefore, well that clause 7 was left out of the Bill.

And now it is time that we turned to the proceedings of the Central Chamber. There was a little breeze at the commencement of the proceedings which was perhaps not unnatural. It was complained that the meeting was convened at such a time that those members of the council who were also members of Parliament must either miss the discussion at the meeting or be too late to attend to the consideration of the Bill in the House of Commons. This was perfectly true, but the explanation of the chairman showed that any other arrangement was not possible under the circumstances; and the fact that his explanation was regarded as satisfactory was shown by the proposal for adjournment being generally declined. It was unfortunate that there was not more time, but time, like tide, will wait for no man.

The first objection raised by the meeting was as to the provisions of the measure relating to pastures. It was considered that that part of the Bill which deals with temporary pastures—as distinct from "permanent pastures"—ought to be made retrospective. With this view we agree, and we regret that Mr. Long could not make the concession. There is a great difference between a permanent and a temporary pasture. It may be very proper that the tenant should obtain the consent of his landlord to the making of the former; but that is no reason why he should lose upon the latter—as many will if the section remains as at present. The next point was as to the landlord's notice of counterclaim. Upon the motion of Mr. Lipscombe it was resolved that such notice should be given within seven days from the appointment of the arbitrator instead of within seven days from the commencement of the arbitration. This is reasonable and fair. It is right that the landlord should have a fair chance to make his counterclaim, but he ought to be in the same position as the tenant, and have to make it in proper time instead of springing it upon the tenant at the last moment as an underhand blow. We are sure that the majority of landlords adopt the same view that we do, and that they fully see that what is sauce for the goose is also source for the gander.

The next resolution which was carried was to the effect that the arbitrator should give particulars as to the sum which he awarded. This question is perhaps far more difficult than most people imagine. On the one hand it may be true that it implies distrust in the arbitrator to ask him for particulars—as the present Act, by the way, requires—but upon the other it is impossible for either landlord or tenant to discover whether there has been a mistake upon the part of the arbitrator unless they have some indication as to how he has arrived at his total. The Council was of opinion that particulars should be furnished; and we adopt the same view, although willing to admit that there is much to be said upon both sides.

We need not refer to motions which were not carried; and, therefore, the next point to which attention is needed is the question as to whether arbitrators (where not agreed upon by both parties) should be appointed by the Board of Agriculture, or by the local County Council. The opinion of the meeting was in favour of the latter. In other words, it was held that local valuers should be employed. There is much to be said for this view, but our own opinion is that no hard and fast rule can be made to work satisfactorily in such a case. Perhaps a reasonable compromise would be for the County Council to make a list of suitable arbitrators, but to leave the parties a right of appeal to the Board of Agriculture. The next resolution was proposed by Professor Long, and had reference to cake consumed by horses upon the holding. Its meaning was that all horses should be reckoned whether regularly worked upon the farm or not. From the legal point of view it was unnecessary; but it made matters clear, and ought to show farmers their rights, and remind them that there is a decision of the courts which says that horses are "cattle." A further resolution decided that it would be well that a record of the condition of the holding should be recorded at each change of tenancy. The only real objection to this proposal was that it would incur expense. We do not see that this would necessarily follow, and we are glad that the resolution was passed, and sorry that it is not incorporated in the Bill.

We have not, of course, dealt with every point raised at the meeting, but we have dealt with those which are of greater importance. Speaking generally of the measure we can only repeat what we have already said more than once: it is not all that we could have wished, but it is decidedly a step in the right direction. In these days when "politics" and "policy" are too often taken as meaning the same thing we must be thankful for small mercies.

HAYMAKING.

The welcome change of weather last week came, it is to be hoped, in good time to save the bulk of the meadow grass crop from being spoiled. Most of what had been attempted to be secured previously as hay suffered damage, but probably, with the exception of the arable cuttings, this formed no large portion of the hay harvest. The season is naturally late this year, and there has always been a disposition in the farming mind, when the skies are promising, to wait for settled weather before cutting any large quantity of grass.

The common custom of doing so does not, of course, recommend itself to scientific, or even rational teaching. Vegetable physiology discloses the fact that after any plant has bloomed its stalks rapidly harden, and are converted to woody fibre, the succulent juices being withdrawn to assist the development of seed. Science, then, advises that the meadow should be mown as soon as the bulk of the grass has arrived at the flowering stage, and that if there be any great delay afterwards there is serious deterioration. Seeing this to be the case, and bearing in mind that there is another way of converting grass into a good winter food for stock, besides making it into hay, the argument has been advanced that grass ought always to be cut at the proper period, before quality has become impaired, and that, in the event of unfavourable weather for haymaking, it should be stacked green for silage. The course taken by a North Wilts farmer some few years since, when it was a risky season for haying, has been highly approved. He provided horses, carts, wagons, mowing machine, and every other implement requisite at the disposal of his men, and after letting the entire harvesting to them at a fixed price per acre, left it entirely to their discretion, according to circumstances, as to whether the grass should be placed into an ensilage stack, or stirred about by the haymaker for hay.

If a similar course had been taken during the dripping June of this year by farmers generally we should have had no complaints of spoiled hay. The copious rains that fell would then have proved wholly beneficent, whereas there have been grievous mishaps from many districts by those who attempted to wage war against the elements while the skies dripped ruin upon their arable takes, at least. Our June drip, according to the observations of the Meteorological Society, proved the greatest experienced since 1890. Its record is 2·[illegible] inches, against 0·[illegible]

June last year, 0·95 in June, 1898, and 1·71 in June, 1897. The number of rainy days therein was registered as sixteen, against an average of twelve for the past thirty years. Should July continue to impart the amount of sun and heat experienced last week, the bottom moisture from these soakings will prove a blessing indeed.

Make hay while the sun shines is a very old proverb, and it must be admitted that it cost little labour or expense to convert grass into good hay last week. Those, however, who had the most labour-saving machinery were best off. The grass having been peeled from the meadow by the machine, a pony perpetually working the hay-maker would, in less than two whole days of burning heat, bring the fodder into fitting condition to be drawn into big whales by the horse-rake, when an excellent system was to make large cocks of it, and after clean raking the ground allow them to remain some days conditioning, should the weather keep fine, ere carting them to the stack.

At the stack itself, an elevator, worked by pony gear, saves not only an enormous amount of hand labour, but its severest strains on muscle. Farmers have ofttimes remarked that, loudly and bitterly as labourers have often declaimed against mowing and reaping machines for taking the bread out of their mouths, never has one of them ever been known to utter a single word against the elevator or stacker. But wages have, in the past, risen so very much in conjunction with the more general adoption of these machines for lightening field work and harvestings that it only seems most unreasonable for working men any longer to raise their voices against them.

One thing is perfectly certain, that should the scarcity of labour difficulty in the near future press much more severely than it does at present, means will have to be devised for bringing more of these machines into use, otherwise the grass is likely to rot on the ground for want of ways and means to deal with it. Our greatest need will soon be a wise, beneficent, National Co-operative Union, one of the leading objects of which should be the establishment of a depôt of labour-saving machines and implements in every rural district, to be for the hire of any and all requiring them. If such a revolutionary change could be brought about, it would prove the very salvation of the small class of farm occupiers, who have not the means to buy labour-saving appliances, and, if they had, would scarcely find it economical to do so. But how could the large sums of money be obtained which it would cost to establish these numerous depôts? The reply can be embodied in a single word—co-operation. The British farming community has but to copy a system which has been worked successfully in Germany and Belgium on a large scale for many years, and capital would flow into the coffers of the co-operative societies establishing such depôts, in whatever volume might be required. The system is known world-wide as the Raiffeisan, founded on the acknowledged principle that bankers and capitalists will lend tenfold larger sums to a number of farmers or traders banded together than they would lend to the same persons in separate small sums, single-handed.

Good haymaking requires skill, even in sunny, hot weather. Indeed, many old, experienced farmers say that it requires the exercise of quite as much art to equalise the drying under a burning sun, and secure the fodder in fit condition, not too scorched, and yet sufficiently moistureless not to take fire in the stack, as it does to keep hay from spoiling in the field in catching unfavourable weather. Hence the utility of conditioning by the cocking system.

Chester Cattle Fair.—This fair was held on Thursday, and was a quiet one. The supply was considerably in excess of the demand, which was restricted on account of the poor attendance of buyers. Very few sheep were on offer. Prices: Milch cows, £15 to £22; calvers, £14 to £20; barrens, £10 to £15; heifers, £8 to £15; stirks, £5 to £9; bullocks, £11 to £14; sheep, 24s. to 28s.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

The serious dearth of farm labour in Dorset, which promises to be acute this harvest time, is to be met in a novel way. The officer commanding the depôt at Dorchester has issued a public announcement that he will be prepared to give favourable consideration to applications for soldiers to help in the harvest. As many of the men at the depôt have been trained in field work they will probably respond readily to the appeal for their temporary assistance in a real emergency.

Mr. Buchanan has given notice to move the rejection of the Agricultural Holdings Bill on the third reading. Mr. Alfred Thomas has placed the following amendment on the paper to the same stage of the Bill:—"That this House, while recognising that this Bill effects desirable reforms in regard to the law relating to landlord and tenant, is of opinion that no Bill dealing with agricultural holdings in Wales which does not embody the recommendations contained in the unanimous Report of the Royal Commission on Land in Wales and Monmouthshire will afford an adequate remedy for the admitted grievances of Welsh agricultural tenants."

The Departmental Committee appointed by the Board of Agriculture to inquire into the conditions under which agricultural seeds are sold have held numerous sittings recently, under the Chairmanship of the Earl of Onslow. A considerable amount of evidence has been taken, and the Committee hope shortly to be in a position to close this portion of their work and to proceed to the consideration of their report.

This morning the *Daily Telegraph* has a series of reports from its own correspondents in various parts of England on the labour question in relation to the harvest. They show generally that there is great scarcity, made more pronounced than it would otherwise have been by the calling up of the reserves and the embodiment of militia regiments. In a few districts, however, the scarcity does not appear more intense than has been the case for some time. To questions whether the miltary authorities have given or can give help during the harvest, the replies indicate that little assistance can be found in this quarter, as the depôts generally contain but few men, and those only young recruits.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to July 7th, 1900, were £26,775,935 against £29,199,890 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £47,121,476, against £33,097,922 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on July 7th, 1900, amounted to £3,008,305, and at the same date in 1899 to £2,981,861.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

Mr. Walter Long has been suave, conciliatory, and practical in his attempt to guide the Agricultural Holdings Bill through the House of Commons; but he has by no means bought off Radical opposition. It will be renewed with all its virulence when the measure comes up for third reading, though Mr. Buchanan, who will move its reaction, is not a born leader of cohorts. He had an excellent academic training, and to-day he is academic in everything he does—in inspiration, in manner, and in speech. However, he will leave behind him a stout and solid phalanx, moved to all the more bitterness because of the attitude which Mr. Long felt compelled to assume towards certain suggested amendments. Had Mr. Long been able to accept Mr. Channing's suggested clause providing compensation for disturbance, the Radical temper would have been mollified. But Mr. Long comprehended that the Royal Commission had laid down that the tenants who have been compensated for disturbance cannot be compensated for improvements.

The Radical mind cares nothing for the Royal Commission. To them it was nothing but a well-manipulated device of Mr. Chaplin, aided by Mr. Long, to enable the landlords to escape their righteous obligations. Was it not the parent of the Act which relieves the agricultural ratepayer at the expense of the general taxpayer? To adduce the Royal Commission, therefore, as a justification for refusing the request was to accentuate the bitterness of the Radical opposition and to lend a toughened fibre to its backbone.

I fear me, too, that Lord Hugh Cecil did something to give an even more strident tone to the Radical opposition. Lord Hugh is a young fellow of remarkable originality of mind and tenacity of purpose. Great as is his father, I believe that Lord Hugh is entirely independent of the Premier's instruction and inspiration. However, the House, or, rather, the Radical section of it, sometimes persists in thinking otherwise. It believes that he gives expression to views which the statecraft of his father has led him to perceive it would be unwise for he himself to utter. Hence it was that when Lord Hugh deprecated the idea that the tenant, by the mere fact of his occupancy, has acquired a right over the owner's property, the Radical heather was in a moment on fire.

"The earth is the Lord's," quothed they very cynically, "and the fulness thereof." The tenants, in fact, ought to be thankful—so they maliciously proceeded, forgetting thus, what was the very purpose of the Bill—that they are permitted by their labour to add to the value of the soil. Moreover, they ought to be grateful for the knowledge that it is only by a landlord's mercy they are permitted to remain on that improved soil. These politicians, when they had renounced their cynicism, remembered their neglected Ricardo. "Rent," said that economist, "is that portion of the produce of the land which is paid to the owner for the use of the original and indestructible powers of the soil." It was with Ricardo the Radicals opposed Lord Hugh Cecil. Though they believed they had the dialectical victory, they were not entirely satisfied with it. It did not count in the division lobby.

The mere fact is, however, that had the Radicals been less stiff-necked, they might have found Mr. Walter Long even more conciliatory. Mr. Channing was sufficiently definite in the issue he raised, but when to this was added a rugged determination—I use the word "rugged" because the effort lacked proper discipline—to remove all limits to the improvements to which the Bill applies, then there was upon Mr. Long the duty of setting a stern face against the too-mathematical intentions of his antagonists. "Is agriculture," asked one of the most intelligent of the would-be amenders of the Bill, "in such an abundantly flourishing state that any improvement of the soil ought to be discouraged?" An excellent interrogation, were it not that landlordism is not in altogether so flourishing a condition that it can permit new limits to be placed upon its income, that it can allow itself to be oppressed by the fear that the bankruptcy court has been brought a little nearer.

The Radicals, indeed, overdid the whole business, and rendered it somewhat difficult for Mr. Long to express the sympathy he must sometimes have felt. That Mr. Long is not, as one of his asailants declared, "antediluvian even in his Toryism," was proved by the vigour of his antagonism to the effort which Lord Percy made to strike out a provision permitting a tenant to utilise a portion not exceeding one acre of his holding for garden, orchard, or osier-beds. By the way, there is something in the contention that the result of this provision may be that the landlord will not only have to pay compensation for improvements in this direction, but be landed with an adjunct to his property actually reducing its value.

However, Mr. Long sternly resisted the influence of this thought because of his evident conviction that the interests of the tenants were superior to it. I repeat that the Radicals were too impetuous, too far-reaching, too drastic in their purpose. They seemed to have forgotten that it was never the intention of Mr. Long and the Government to initiate an economic revolution. They only claimed to desire reform; and I do not know that they ever pretended their reform would be colossal in its influence, and at once bring smiling plenty on a visit of profit to a bereft land.

The one impression that I have caried away from the debates of this week is that the most perfervid protestations and the most florid professions, were inspired by insincerity. Members

made them with an eye on the electoral clock. Could you have laid bare the workings of their mind you would have seen the thought reflected as to how this or that idea would strike the elector at the General Election. Of course, there must be exceptions made to this general charge of insincerity. Men like Mr. Channing and Mr. Fletcher Moulton—whom, by the way, I would rather have seen giving what I may describe as a more scientific indication of the famous Callington platform—brought an element of practical value to the discussions. You might disapprove of Mr. Channing's compensation for disturbance proposal, but you could not but admire the strenuous common-sense he brought to its advocacy. Would that he could concentrate this common-sense generally upon agriculture in preference to diffusing it over every question, from debatable Dan to debatable Beersheba.

But, generally speaking, the whole of this protestation and perfervour was unreal. You were enabled already, with easy premonition, to prophesy that during the general election the tenant farmers would be told that this Bill, so far from seriously benefiting them, is a delusion and a snare, and intended only to postpone effective legislation, and to still further buttress the position of the landlords. The orators were—just as they were over the debate upon the Bill extending the principle of compensation for injuries to tenants—intent upon finding catch phrases and taking arguments for stump orators and pamphleteers.

"The agricultural constituencies will be reminded," said one of the Radical Parliamentarians, "that the Liberal Party voted for protecting the tenant from capricious eviction, and that the Conservative party voted against it." There you have the whole business in a nutshell. The nearness of the election—the fact that men already perceive its shadows athwart their path—is demoralising to the Parliamentary tone. Still, the Bill will pass. Its fate is assured. Mr. Long's moderation will be found to have conciliated the Lords.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

Road Material.

Engineering says that the desirable qualities for road-making and road-repairing material are hardness, toughness, and weather resistance. For heavy traffic the best materials are traps, basalts, green stones, syenite, quartzose grits, and cherty sandstones. For moderate traffic the harder limestones are sufficiently durable, and form smoother roads. Furnace slag is also a good material. Stone for road-making should perferably be hand-broken, and screened through a ring gauge of from 2in. to 2½in. diameter. Stone-breaking hammers weigh from 1lb. to 1½lb., with heads 5in. to 6in. long, and 18in. handles for use when sitting, or 3ft. handles for work when standing. For every ten such hammers there should be one weighing 2lbs. to 3lbs., 6½in. head, and 3ft. handle. An ordinary labourer can break from 1½cwt. to 2cwt. of soft, and ½cwt. to ¾cwt. of hard, stone per day. To find the area of surface that can be covered by one cubic yard of broken stone, when the thickness of the layer is given and the metal is not rolled, divide 36 by the thickness of the layer in inches; when the metal is rolled, divide 27 by the final thickness in inches; in either case the quotient gives the number of square yards that will be covered. Stone used in road repairs should be laid in layers not exceeding 3in. at a time. Cart ruts should be filled in, not with lumps, but with broken stone of moderate size.

Yorkshire Agricultural Show at Doncaster.—In connection with this important show the Great Northern Railway are making special arrangements for the conveyance of through vehicles with live stock and other exhibits. Information as to rates, etc., can be obtained from the company's agents or from the chief Goods Manager, King's Cross Station. The Great Northern Company will have an office on the show ground, and their representative will be in attendance. This company has a splendid service of express passenger trains to and from Doncaster.

Stackyard Destroyed by Fire.—A destructive fire occurred on Tuesday, at Corsbie Farm, which is situated within the burgh boundaries of Newton-Stewart. The yard was filled with five huge stacks of last season's hay, each containing several thousand stones. The fire was discovered almost immediately it broke out, but before any assistance could be obtained the whole place was in a blaze, and nothing could be done to save any part of the hay. As the farm is situated at the highest point reached by the gravitation water supply, the hose service was of no use, and nothing could be done beyond keeping the flames from reaching the adjoining farm buildings. The loss amounts to between £250 and £300. It is stated that two little boys set fire to the stacks.

THE GARDEN.

During the past week the weather has been much finer and drier, though with rather more of strong winds than we usually experience, or expect, at this season. The warmth and absence of rain have already benefited the potato crop considerably, having checked the too exuberant growth, and at the same time promoted the formation of tubers. These are now in many cases of very fair size (the earlier varieties of course), and are rapidly gaining in substance and flavour.

My old favourite the Beauty of Hebron is again to the fore, although I was unable (without sending too far afield) to obtain seed of the white variety, so had to be content with what I could get, which appears to be a kind of half-bred sort between the two, some roots being nearly white, others shaded and blotched with pink, and others altogether pink in colour. However, they have done exceedingly well so far, some of the rows being perfect pictures, and though planted from one to three weeks later than a good breadth of the Early Regent, are now yielding plenty of good-sized and well-flavoured tubers before the latter are ready. These, however, are apparently not the true variety, though very near it, and promising for an excellent crop presently. I did not like the look of the seed when planting, though obtained of a very respectable firm (local). It is a curious and very amusing fact, though strictly true—at least, in my own experience—that one can never depend upon anything of this kind when obtained from a local dealer, and as a matter of fact it is quite the exception to get anything at all true to name in this way. It is better in every way, as well as usually cheaper in the end, to obtain all one's supplies from a really good firm, with a reputation to maintain, even if it does cost a little more in the first place.

Scarlet runners are now rapidly climbing the sticks, and so far promise well. As soon as they reach their limit the point of each plant will be pinched out to promote the formation of lateral growths, on which the bloom and "fruit" is chiefly produced. The bulk of my rows of this crop occupies a well-sheltered and yet fairly open bit of ground sloping gently to the south-east, where they get the full benefit of the sun during the early part of the day, with a light shade from the late afternoon, while the subsoil is nearly always kept moist by the gentle trickling of water from some rocks hard by. These conditions appear to suit the plants admirably, and we anticipate a good crop.

Tomatoes in the open air appear to be doing well so far, but require a good deal of attention in removing all lateral growths, tying up the main stems to the sticks, and shortening the lower leaves lightly. My own plants, which principally occupy a very warm and sheltered position at the foot of a high south wall, with shelter on nearly every other side as well, are looking remarkably well, but though extremely healthy and vigorous, yet not at all rank, are not carrying as much fruit as I should like to see, so far—why I cannot explain.

Endive may be sown freely now, in an open and sunny position. There are two chief sections of this useful salad and garnishing plant—the curled and the Batavian, or Broad-leaved, the former being more suitable for early crops, and for garnishing, and the latter for the later sowings. The general treatment is very similar to that proper for lettuce, and the seed may be either sown in a nursery bed, and the seedlings transplanted in due course, or it may be scattered thinly in long drills where the plants can remain, merely thinning them out to 9in. or 10in. distance, by degrees, as they grow.

Finish thinning beet, also early turnips, and sow more seed of the latter. Plant out celery, celeriac, and leeks as fast as possible, and in cool or northern districts make a first sowing of cabbage, for the early spring crop, in the course of next week. For this batch I prefer Ellam's Early, Mein's No. 1, and the early Feltham, to any others.

Roses are flowering well, though late, and in good soil will probably continue in bloom for some time. Should dry weather set in, let the plants have a good soaking of water, or better still, weak liquid manure, once or twice a week, and a mulch of littery manure, not too fresh, or some similar material, will also benefit them considerably, especially on naturally light and dry soils.

Carnations, too, are in full bloom, and very beautiful, as well as fragrant, they are. Keep the plants duly supplied with water in dry weather, destroy earwigs, which are very destructive to these subjects, and commence layering as soon as possible. Seed of both carnations and picotees should be sown at once; even now the plants will be rather late in blossoming, but as they will come in after the bulk of the plants from layers are over, they will be very useful. Seed of hollyhocks, delphiniums, aquilegias, antirrhinums, pentstemons P. Torsoni), gentians, and others may be sown during the next fortnight or so with good results—the plants to flower next season, of course.

In the greenhouse plenty of both air and water are required now, with a light shade from hot sun. Seed of the herbaceous calceolarias may still be sown to afford small plants for next summer, and also cinerarias for late flowering. Get primulas potted off singly as soon as possible, and push them on rather quickly.

MILLING.

English Wheat and Bread.

At the recent conference of the National Association of British and Irish Millers, Mr. Mallett, of Exwick Mill, Exeter, read a paper on "English Wheat and Bread," which we think may be reprinted with advantage. He said,—Allow me to deal very briefly with the matter with which my name has been connected, as to the effort which the council of this Association has made in the matter of endeavouring to improve the quality—in so far mainly as strength is concerned—of English wheat. What your council has so far attempted has been delineated in the report which has been read to you, but I have pleasure in recording an effort made by my friend Mr. Rush. I allude to the circular sent out through the medium of the *Millers' Gazette*, in which he endeavoured to draw forth an expression of opinion from all the subscribers as to the quality of wheat now grown in this country. The somewhat limited number of replies he has received fully bear out my own ideas on this matter, which also coincide with many personal opinions that I have received. Out of eighty-six replies, fifteen are somewhat in this fashion:—

SUMMARY.

Quality.	Proportion able to use
1.—Poor for milling	None.
2.—Poor weak stuff	
3.—Poor weak stuff	None.
4.—Weak in ordinary year	50 per cent
5.—Lacking in strength	50 per cent
6.—	50 per cent. Fakenham.
7.—Millers finest, buy anything same price	
8.—Low percentage of gluten	10 per cent.
9.—Not so strong	
10.—First-class quality	
11.	33 per cent
12.—Add strength by foreign flour	
13.—Poor for gluten	50 per cent.
14.—Nondescript, glad to have better	
15.—Has introduced improved wheat	40 per cent.
16.—Weak	
17.—	50 per cent. Bedford
18.—Not glutinous	25 to 50 per cent.

That this consensus of opinion reflects the general view of the trade I am personally assured, and I trust it will sharpen the energies of the council of the Association to proceed in the path they have entered. But, gentlemen, in considering the question in all its bearings, which is incumbent on us, if any practical good is to come from our efforts, we must remember the conditions that have led to this state of affairs. Our farmers have not grown these wheats from choice, but from necessity. The inadequate returns from wheat growing in the past decade have compelled them to grow such wheats as will yield them some returns, at least, for their labour, and it is placed beyond doubt that these newer varieties of which we complain do yield better than the older sorts, the favourites of former and happier times in the East of England, such as long-berried Essex whites, the choice whites of Berkshire and the Midlands, and the old red Lammas of the West. And we must not create for ourselves a false position, for until we can get them wheats that will combine these yield-producing weather-resisting qualities with the strength that is now so much lacking, I, for one, would not set my hand to this matter at all. Now, can we do this? I have hopes, sanguine hopes, that we can, once let our seed growers know what we want, and I am strongly of opinion the scientific research which has already given our farmers quantity will give us quality, too. But they must know our wants. It is on this point that the action of our Association can be most useful. I have carefully perused the claims set forth by those growers to whom the agricultural interest is indebted for the improvements in yield so far effected, but in none of them can I discover any allusion, any attempt made, to improve the strength of the new wheats produced. Both they and the agricultural interest generally are ignorant of our requirements, and it is here that this Association can do much good by enlightening them. In some correspondence I have lately had with Dr. Voelcker, the Chemical Adviser to the Royal Agricultural Society, I find so eminent an authority is he, too, misses the point. He lays the blame much on us millers, on our roller system, on our not knowing definitely what we want, and hints that the introduction of modern methods of milling has depreciated the value of English wheat in so much that all our preference is given to foreign varieties as being more suitable for reduction by roller milling. Such being the opinion of the leaders in the agricultural world, we cannot wonder at the indifference as to quality produced that runs through the trade and public, and I want it now to go out from this Association that such is not the case that our true interest lies to a great extent with that of the English farmer, that our roller mills can grind anything he brings to us, but that we cannot put into his produce those qualities which did not exist there already, and which alone produce the wide difference in value between English wheat and foreign which we deplore as much as he. I assert therefore, this general meeting of the Association to confirm the efforts that our council has made, and so strengthen our hands in going on with this matter in such form and by such way as we deem best, and to help to bring about the consummation that the produce of our English wheat fields will no longer be neglected, but be sought after and become

once more an important factor in producing the food of the people.

At the close of his paper Mr. Mallett moved: "That this meeting confirms the action taken by the Council in endeavouring to improve the quality of English wheat, and trusts such action will be continued in such ways and by such means as may seem fit."

Mr. T. Birks: I have hitherto taken no part in this discussion because I believed my views were unorthodox. I am sorry I cannot think that it will ever be possible to grow any variety of English wheat that will be of much use to our miller as a "strong" wheat. As an East Coast miller and a user of native wheat in fairly large quantity, what we desire to have is wheat of good colour with a thin skin and a closely packed grain; this gives to our mixture exactly what we wish, viz., colour and flavour. If this Association can do anything to give us a larger supply of this wheat, it will benefit both the miller and farmer and will be a desirable object.

The resolution was seconded, and the discussion taken part in by Messrs. Cramphorn, Nicholls, R. Reynolds, sen., W. R. Voller, W. H. Yeatman, J. B. Whitworth, A. Baker, and the Chairman.

The resolution was unanimously approved.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 7, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	10,661	10,572	Wheat ..	1,744,200	1,562,800
Sheep ..	8,247	3,494	Flour ..	569,600	506,800
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	210,800	183,900
			Oats ..	345,800	471,600
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	68,400	23,500
Beef ..	94,879	101,332	Beans ..	128,000	17,800
Mutton	113,129	89,317	Maize ..	1,185,100	647,700
Pork ..	5,853	8,774		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	126,397	115,806	†Bananas	—	16,732
Beef, salt	4,487	2,318		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	63,928	48,221	Apples ..	27,007‡	794
Pork, salt	5,571	4,398	†Apricots & Peaches	—	1,144
Meat, salt & fresh	8,547	11,188	†Cherries	31,204‡	38,061
Do. pres.	9,396	8,609	†Currants	—	9,357
Butter ..	64,534	62,534	†Gooseb'r's	—	3,419
Margarine	15,320	19,151	Grapes ..	1,408‡	186
Cheese ..	72,771	80,948	Lemons	36,888‡	27,190
Con. Milk	16,035	16,056	Oranges	29,789‡	11,711
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	60	252	Pears ..	2,274‡	126
			Plums ..	7,720‡	—
			†Straw'b'r's	—	5,574
			Oth'r Fr't	64,460	17,814
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	1,681	1,488
Eggs ..	303,438	284,394		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	60,164	60,681
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£2,181	£1,907	Hops ..	1,655	982
			Potatoes	281,619	323,506
	Cwt.	Cwt.	§Tom'to's	—	10,854
Rabbits	8,900	775	Other	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	49,100	39,067	Veg'bles	£45,085	£14,259

‡ Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

Failing to Report Glanders.—At Lambeth Police Court on Monday Stephen Sanger, of Old Kent Road, was summoned by the London County Council for having in his possession a horse affected with glanders and failing to give notification of the fact. There was a second summons against the defendant for causing a diseased horse to travel on a public highway. Mr. John Collman prosecuted, and Mr. W. H. Armstrong defended. On the 19th May Police-constable Murray, 115 P, saw a man in the defendant's employ working a bay gelding attached to a van loaded with hay. The officer noticed a sore on the horse's shoulder, and charged the carman with working it in an unfit state. The horse was in the possession of the police for some forty-eight hours, during which time it was kept in the greenyard, and on the 21st May it was brought to this court. It was then discovered that it was suffering from glanders and farcy. The police thereupon communicated with the Council's inspector, Mr. C. J. Humphrey, by whose direction the horse was slaughtered in the courtyard of the court. The present proceedings were then instituted by the Council. In support of the summonses Mr. Humphrey expressed the opinion that the symptoms of farcy must have been visible for from one to three days, and those of glanders for about seven days. From a post-mortem examination he came to the conclusion that glanders had been in the horse's system for about two months. For the defence evidence was called for the purpose of showing that neither the defendant nor his horsekeeper were aware that the horse was glandered, and Mr. Armstrong suggested that the disease developed quickly during the time the animal was in the possession of the police. Mr. Hopkins, whilst believing that the defendant did not know that the horse was glandered, was of opinion that the condition of the horse could and would have been discovered in a well-managed stable. He ordered the defendant to pay a penalty of £10 and £2 2s. costs.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Crop Prospects.

It is usually possible by the middle of July to form a fair idea of the prospects of the coming season. This year it is premature to take any definite view other than the rather gloomy one that it seems more than probable the new crop will fall far below the high standard of excellence we have of late years grown accustomed to.

The lateness of sowing has been followed by a backward spring and tardy summer so far as it has yet gone. Favourable conditions throughout June and July can do much to rectify any disadvantages caused by bad weather throughout winter and spring. The barley plant can be rapid in its growth, and with right conditions for ripening can sweep aside a variety of defects.

Unhappily thus far the outward and visible signs of such very necessary requirements of improved weather have continued persistently with us, so that one improvement will have to be general to be effective.

Good Farming

will tell its own tale more than ever as things now stand, for the conditions which will prove destructive to neglected or defective crops can be survived by areas which have received careful attention.

Were it not for the lateness of the season as compared with recent years we might still take a very cheerful view of the prospects of raising a good quantity of barley suitable for maltsters' use.

In any case it is too soon to take too gloomy a view of the position as it stands.

What purpose can be served by persistent crying down of our own crop it is not for me to define. Some of the leading writers in important journals can rarely find a single word of approval or praise. Take as an illustration the comments published this week by our leading newspapers. Careful observers in the various districts named may entirely confirm and approve of the views stated, but to visitors to some of the counties they appear

Strongly Pessimistic.

The references occur thus: "In Dorset the corn crops are about a month late." "In Somerset the barleys are often thin." "The cereal crops are not very flourishing in Hants." "In Berks, also, the barleys suffered from frost." "In Kent the short straw of the cereal crops is again a noticeable feature." "In the eastern counties the spring drought has left its mark upon the cereal crops in Essex." "In Suffolk the barleys are somewhat thin, mainly as the result of the cold spring." "In various parts of Norfolk the cereal crops cannot attain their normal height." "Cambridge has the prospect of a very short straw crop, but the corn looks like being of good quality; harvest will be three weeks later than last year." "No very cheerful reports of the wheat crop from Lincoln, and whilst barley is good on the chalk lands, it is poor elsewhere." "In Nottingham barley has suffered from drought." "In Northampton the cereal crops are much better on the strong than on the light lands." "In Bedford the cereal crops are mostly stunted." As a result of the dry weather in March, April, and May, the straw of the cereals is in some districts as short as it has been in any of the last twenty years." "In Oxon cereals have never fully recovered from the spring drought." "Straw crops still show the effects of late frosts in Warwick." "In Cumberland the frequent showers of rain have affected an all-round improvement." "From one district of Yorkshire it is reported that the cereal crops generally have not been so light for years; from another district, that, after the splendid showers, crops of all kinds are looking well." "In Anglesey the dry, cold weather of the spring exercised a retarding influence on all crops, so that the season is unusually late." Cereal crops promise well in Brecon, particularly barley." "In Carmarthen the cereal crops are a full fortnight later than usual." "In Aberdeen the barley is promising, the rains having arrived just in time." "A glowing report from East Perth states that all crops are looking better than they have done for the last twenty-five years." "In the 'Kingdom of Fife,' too, there seems to be little with which to find fault; barley and oats have seldom looked better." "In Mid-Lothian the corn crops are of good promise."

With Such a Report

it would seem that there is very little chance of much good arising later. Still that is all which appears in a long column of notes in which any reference is made even indirectly to barley. As oats and barley run very much together it will be only fair to say that Lancashire is mentioned—"the oat crops were much handicapped by the drought in the spring." All the following counties or districts are specifically named, but with no clue furnished as to the condition of barley. Wilts, Sussex, Stafford, Northumberland, Westmoreland, Denbigh, Merioneth, Cardigan, Radnor, Banff, Kincardine, Haddington, Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Galloway, Ayr, Lanark, Southerland, Caithness, and Orkney.

In tabulated form the average condition of barley in every county is given in which as a rule very slight variation from last year is manifest, and as a final result of the whole country the index is 90.7 in 1900 against 89.3 in 1899. Further comment is needless.

FRANK RICHARDSON AND CO., successors to J. TOPHAM RICHARDSON BROS. AND CO., Importers of Selected Foreign Malting Barleys, 6, Duke Street, Southwark, London, S.E. Telegrams, "Escurgeon, London" Telephone, 787, Hop, London; and at Liverpool and Burton-on-Trent.—[ADVT.]

The Barley Crop in Germany.

Messrs. Weingart and Kaufmann, of Ludwigshafen and Rhein, have issued the following circular:—"We think it advisable to give a report concerning the prospects in the principal countries which produce barley for brewing purposes, as the harvest is near at hand.

Prospects are very favourable in Bavarian Pfalz and Hesse, on the left bank of the Rhine. The plant was checked in May by the continued cold, but the rain and sunshine which succeeded did much to improve the condition, so that we may expect a good crop as to quantity. It also promises well as regards quality in the formation of the grain, which is specially favoured by the cool weather which prevails, so that a good crop may be harvested. It has not been beaten down and is fairly free from weeds.

Reports from Alsace are equally good, and the condition of barley is very satisfactory as compared with the reports of May, when the plant was very backward. The fine weather of June did wonders. Franconia sends good reports, and hopes to reap a heavier crop than last year; the area under cultivation is larger, so that any deficiency will be made up as to quantity.

The unfavourable weather of early spring checked the growth of seedlings and the development was slow; the plant is, however, strong, and prospects are most favourable in the district of the Saale, Hanover, Anhalt, and Thuringia. There is every appearance of a good crop, both as to quality and quantity, providing the rain does not spoil it. The daily rain has not yet caused any damage.

We hear from Silesia that barley crops are looking very well indeed. They are specially good in the basin of the Oder, but not quite so uniform and short in the haulm on the high-lying lands. The plant has developed well during the favourable weather of June. The area cultivated has been slightly increased. If the weather continues favourable we may hope for a good yield, both as to quality and quantity.

We have received numerous reports from Austro-Hungary. Taken as a whole it is probable that the yield will be about 20 per cent. below that of last year. We must not, however, forget that last year's crop was most satisfactory as to quantity. The report from the Hungarian South Railway reads as follows:—"The development of barley was very backward owing to the cold weather of April and May, so that all hope was abandoned. Wonders have occurred during the last few weeks, and we now hope to gather in an average crop of 600 to 650 kilos per joch of 1,600 square metres. The ears are well developed, though they do not stand very thick, and the quality will be good. This is, however, not always the case, and the yield will most likely be 20 per cent. below that of last year.

Barley is not yet quite ripe in Slovakei. The early sown is well developed and promises a good quality, but 25 per cent. less than last year; later-sown crops are not so satisfactory in quality as well as quantity, owing to the tropical heat in the beginning of July; many fields which were still green were prematurely ripened. The rain falls of the last few days have done much to recover the condition, which is better in the valleys than in the high lying fields. Should the weather remain favourable till harvest, the quality will be good. All reports state that the yield will be 25 per cent. below last year.

We hear from the Wieselburg, Parndorf, and Zurndorf districts that barley is not in good condition, and the crop will be weak, about one-third of last year, but probably better as to quality. Harvest will begin about July 20th, weather permitting. Ipolysag reports favourably. The plant is still green, but in good condition, and the grain well developed. It is not beaten down, and promises a good yield as to quality and quantity. Barley was sown late in Upper Hungary, and harvest will not take place till the end of the month. The condition is at present fairly good, and the yield will probably be an average as to quality and quantity, but below that of last year. Moravia does not send good reports. Sowing was interrupted by heavy snow falls, and many of the fields were under water in April. About half the area cultivated promises a good yield as to quality and quantity. The other half recovered somewhat in June. As a whole, the crop is reckoned as only a poor average. In Bohemia the weather has been most favourable since barley was sown in early spring. Rain has been plentiful. The condition is more backward than that of last year. Early-sown sorts are in good condition, later sown not so good. Reports are not so satisfactory on the whole, but favourable weather may do much to improve matters. Harvest will not be taken in hand till the end of the month. A reliable report cannot be issued for about three weeks.

HOPS.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

In the Borough

the movements of hop buyers have evidently been to some extent affected by the "glorious summer" weather we have enjoyed during the past week. Business is quiet, and inquiries are mainly of a tentative character. But there is sufficient force in the under-current of uncertainty as to the prospects of the growing crop to save the market from any tendency to weakness. Therefore there is still some sign of life, quotations are kept up to recent currencies, and where business has been done full prices have been paid. Doubtless the marked improvement in climate will somewhat assist matters in the plantations, and tend to reduce the risks attendant upon the recent severe attack of aphis blight, but that all danger has not passed away is evident from the reports just to hand from most reliable correspondents, which are given in another place in this issue. Reading between the lines of these communications, as well as the lines themselves, we cannot fail to discern that anxiety as to the final results is prominent, and this feeling must be confirmed by a report published this week by a contemporary, in which it appears that the average condition of hops on July 1st this year was represented by the figure 71, whereas at the same date in 1899 it stood at 90. The present average figure is lower than the average for the five years 1895-99, which appears as 82.8, and the compiler remarks concerning it that as "hops are so far behind it seems hardly possible for so exacting a crop to attain anything approaching average condition this season." Many surprising changes have, however, previously taken place during the last two months of growth; it is therefore within the bare range of possibility for some extraordinary spurt to be made, which may bring the yield up to a normal weight. But the odds are manifestly against such a contingency; therefore I shall be astonished if our crop exceeds an average of 7 cwt. per acre.

Foreign Imports

show a great falling off in June when compared with the same month last year. The United States sent us 3,146 cwts., against 4,364 cwts. in June, 1899, and from other countries we only received 700 cwts., against 2,151 cwts. last year. Our total imports in June were therefore only 3,846 cwts. in place of 6,515 cwts. which were received in June, 1899, while during the first six months of this year our imports totalled 67,063 cwts. against 96,636 cwts. in the previous corresponding period, the chief deficiency being accounted for by the shortage from America.

Taking all the surrounding circumstances into consideration, there is therefore every reason to anticipate

A Further Advance in Values

of the stocks remaining for disposal in the interval which must elapse before the new crop can be gathered. I still believe that the control of the market is mainly in the hands of holders, and am glad to know that my views are shared by many of the Borough traders, as well as by some growers, who are firm in asking better prices, and whom I would exhort to maintain this attitude.

The organisation of the

Hop Competition

at the next Brewers' Exhibition is being considered by the managers, Messrs. Dale and Reynolds, with view of rendering it more attractive to English growers, and thus inducing a large increase in the number of entries. I hope soon to be able to announce that certain changes have been decided upon, which will make the competition completely representative of the best efforts of those engaged in our industry.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The hop trade at this centre has been very quiet during the past week, the inquiries from consumers being only occasional, and the stocks being reduced to a merely nominal quantity, there is no desire on the part of holders to press sales. Values are, however, fully maintained, and, when business is presented, there is little or no difficulty in securing advanced prices, especially for lots which have any attraction in quality. The effect of the long continuance of unfavourable weather is still being felt in the reduced consumption of beer, and it is clear that a steady succession of sunny days will be necessary to enable brewers to bring their output to a normal point. Apparently summer has at last fairly commenced, and with the higher temperature the public thirst has increased, so that it is probable we shall soon hear of increased activity both in the breweries and in the markets whence their supplies of material are drawn.

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society*

Concerning the Growing Crops,

it seems to be generally accepted throughout Germany, Bavaria, Alsace, and Burgundy, that, with few exceptions, the plantations cannot yield so well as they did last year. Though the present general aspect of the growth is not unfavourable, there are too many cases in which the plants are weak and poorly developed, having failed to recover from the retardation caused by the climatic conditions which attended their earliest life. Planters are generally slow to assist them by expenditure for cultivation. But the truth of the saying prevalent among Continental growers, that "hops are made or marred in August," has still to be tested, and it may be even at the last that present estimates will be changed as the season progresses.

In Belgium

the weather has been so unfavourable till within the last week that the outlook remains somewhat gloomy. The cold rains have checked and weakened the plants, which are consequently more susceptible to the attacks of insects, and these have persistently clung to the foliage, the danger therefrom being more manifest daily. The Poperinghe districts have suffered more severely than those of Alost, but the general result upon the course of trade is evident in the advanced prices which have ruled for some weeks, and are still upheld with great firmness, although the demand by consumers is just now limited to unimportant quantities.

The opinion of speculators in the future crop is marked by more tempting offers being freely made for contracts. Many transactions for autumn deliveries have gone through at 80 to 90 francs, and at the higher figure there are still plenty of buyers, with but few sellers.

America.

A few reports as to the condition and prospects of the hop yards are to hand, from which I extract the following:

ONTARIO.—Hops have made poor growth up to July 1st. Present outlook not over 60 per cent. of last year's crop.

COOPERSTOWN.—Acreage is a fifth less than last year, and old yards have not wintered well. The few new yards are looking more promising.

SCHOHARIC Co.—Hops not up to average, there being so many dead hills.

CHERRY VALLEY, OTSEGO Co.—The crop cannot be large, as old yards were badly winter killed. Young yards fairly good.

MALONE.—Present condition of yards fairly good, with no sign of insects. Acreage in this county (Franklin) smaller than last year.

ONEIDA.—Plants generally free from insect pests, with the exception of the hop grub, which is doing some damage. Acreage in this neighbourhood reduced.

HERKIMER Co.—Hops looking very flourishing, with a heavy and vigorous growth of vine. Under fair conditions we shall gather a full crop.

YAKIMA Co. (WEST COAST).—Area about same as last year. Vines in excellent condition and free from insect pests.

WASHINGTON.—Prospects are better than they have been for some years. Yards are in good condition, the vines are growing well, and picking will probably be early.

OREGON.—In Lane Co. hopyards are in good condition, being as a rule well looked after. The crop promises to be very fair.

The New York Market

remains *in statu quo*. Consumers' demand is only quiet, and dealers are following a hand-to-mouth policy. There is, therefore, no change in quotations, which are firmly maintained by the business, that about equals the supply. Stocks are quite moderate, and it is open to question, whether they will hold out till the arrival of the new growth. The consumption of beer in the U.S.A. is evidently increasing, as the revenue from fermented liquors for May last exceeded that for May, 1899, by nearly 500,000 dollars.

English Plantation Reports.

Special to the Secretary N.A.E.H.G.

PADDOCK WOOD.—On the whole I think the bine is fairly good and the cultivation better than one would have expected. Still, there are many complaints that the bine does not look up to growing more than a very moderate crop, and that the stocks appear to have been weakened by the strain of last year's heavy yield. There has not been a lavish use of manures, and it is quite on the cards that many gardens now looking fairly well may not grow out at the end of the season. Blight appears to continue generally.

SISSINGHURST.—The bine in many places is very slack, and vermin still sticks. It is very doubtful if half last year's crop will be grown.

THE SUTTONS.—Warmer weather has caused the bine where washed to grow fast, but fresh fly continue to come. No hops are clean, and mould is showing in most gardens. Cultivation is neglected owing to scarcity of labour. Prospects are unsatisfactory. The crop will be a short one even with favourable weather.

EAST PECKHAM.—With the warmer weather the best bines have improved, but the weakly pieces seem to have stopped growing. Bine in this parish is on the whole fairly good, but many gardens are still far from being cleared of lice in spite of repeated washings. Not much mould to hurt at present.

WYE.—Hops are growing fast, and washed ones keeping the bloom on them. More would have washed. Cultivation not a bad one. Looking very well.

CRANBROOK.—Hops on the whole look very well, the soil very kind, and will soon be a good bine where not washed. Where kept clean by washing and well cultivated, a fair crop. Fleas and mould in some places.

SANDHURST.—A great many of the hops in the district are slack of bine. The vermin very persistent, and washing has to be carried on to keep the bine from going back. There is room for a full crop, but it will be a small one.

BIDDENDEN.—Hops on best grounds, where well washed and cultivated, have done fairly well, but the warmer weather, but about half the acreage is slack of bine and very foul. Vermin and mould to be found in all grounds. The crop prospects are decidedly much under average at present time.

HARTING.—Hops, where well done in this district, are looking fairly well. There is still vermin, after two or three times washing, and I expect it will all have to be washed once or twice more. There are no signs of mould here. Cultivation is not generally good, as the wet weather a good time hindered the hops being kept free from weeds. Prospects of crop much below last year.

EATSHAM.—The condition of the growing crop is not been so much stopped at this time of year since 1882. The bine is very short and irregular, and we have heavy blight which washing does little to check. The leaves are covered with honeydew, and many pieces are going black. It looks like a 5 cwt. crop at the outside.

TENBURY.—Growth somewhat late, but not showing great deal of vermin. Where thoroughly washed the yards look satisfactory, but in no case can there be a large crop. Where the yards are neglected the prospect is bad.

HEREFORD.—The hops round this county are showing the effects of blight in many places, and some of the bine is exceedingly light. The weather has been hot since Sunday, and this will favour the strong yards, but is bad for the weak ones. Altogether, it does not look promising.

ASHPERTON.—Hops in this district are most irregular. Where strong and well washed they will grow an average crop. For every good-looking and promising yard there are three good for very little. Aphis blight most severe and continuous, and bine is generally short and weak. The present outlook is for half an average crop.

FROOME VALLEY.—Very few yards look really well, and I should say that many will hardly be worth putting a crib in. Vermin comes again as soon as washed off, and mould is on the increase. General lookout for ultimate crop about as bad as it can be, except in a few grounds.

LEOMINSTER.—Where hops are clean a few may be grown, but not half last year's crop under the best conditions. Bine is generally very short, and the outlook on the whole does not point to above one quarter of the yield of last year.

THE FARLEIGHS.—The late hot sun has done good to the stronger bine, but where they are weakly and hit hard with vermin they have not done much. In some grounds where subject to mould a good many spots can be found on the leaves. A good shower would do good just now to wash the honeydew off the leaves.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 79, 81).

The Prince of Wales and the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

The following letter has been addressed by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to the secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society on the completion of His Royal Highness's year of office as President:—

"Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W.
"6th July, 1900.

"Dear Sir Ernest Clarke,—On the completion of my year of office as President of the Royal Agricultural Society for the fourth time, I am anxious to place on record my high sense of the valuable assistance and support given to me throughout the year by the Council and officers of the Society, and to express to them and to the general body of members my sincere thanks for the cordial goodwill and loyal attachment which all those connected with the Society have shown to me during my long association with it as a member of the Council. I remain, yours truly, (Signed) "ALBERT EDWARD P.

"To Sir Ernest Clarke."

A farm lad named [illegible] fourteen years, was ordered by the Richmond magistrates on Saturday to pay £4 compensation to George Lister, farmer, of Yarm, for killing [illegible] The boy's master had the lad at Darlington to get the half-year's wage due to him, but he refused to pay, and gave him 6d. in charity. The boy went home and never turned up. The Bench commented upon the seriousness of the offence, which they said was becoming too frequent, and ordered the lad to pay £4 compensation.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Damage to Crops by Sparks from Railway Engines.

£50 Damages against the G.W.R.

At the Berks Summer Assizes at Reading the case of Twinch v. the G.W. Railway Company was heard before Mr. Justice Day and a special jury. Mr. Jelrf, Q.C., and Mr. W. H. Clay were for the plaintiff; and the Hon. A. Lyttelton, Q.C., and Mr. Park Goff for the defendant company.

Mr. John Twinch, who claimed 50gs. damages (the amount not being disputed), alleged in the statement of claim that he sustained damage in the destruction of agricultural produce through the emission of sparks or burning cinders from a locomotive engine belonging to the company, alleging negligence in that such engine was not properly constructed, and also on the part of their drivers in not managing the engine properly. Defendants said they were a railway company with Parliamentary powers to run locomotives, that they were accordingly not liable if their locomotives were properly constructed, and that they had not been guilty of any negligence. They also denied that as a matter of fact any damage was caused.

Mr. Jelf, in addressing the jury, said the law in regard to the matter was now perfectly settled. Railway companies were not liable unless they could be shown to have been guilty of want of special care in the construction and the management of their engines. The point could not be better summarised than in the words of Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams, who said: "The company are bound to avail themselves of all the discoveries which science has put within their reach to prevent the emission of sparks, such as under the circumstances it is reasonable to require them to adopt." In other words, they were bound to do what was fairly reasonable and right under the circumstances in the avoidance of a danger to other people's property. The first issue in this case was whether in fact sparks from an engine of the defendant company did or did not produce the damage; and the second whether the company had been wanting in due skill and care in not protecting persons having land and property adjoining their railway by adopting the best known means of science that they could reasonably adopt in order to prevent such damage. In consequence of a series of fires in the neighbourhood of Slough caused in this way (most of them being promptly extinguished), Mr. Twinch on the 22nd July wrote to the Slough station-master asking that the company should employ special care, but apparently no notice was taken of that. On the 29th two witnesses who were passing over the line by a bridge leading in the direction of Farnham saw sparks coming from the foremost of two engines which were drawing a fast down train, which caused the fire. Mr. Twinch claimed damages, and after some interim correspondence the company wrote that they had completed their investigation, and had failed to find that the fire originated in the manner described, but that, even assuming such was the case, no liability whatever could be held to apply to the company in the matter, as they had taken every possible precaution against such occurrences by fitting their engines with the best modern appliances for arresting the emission of sparks. As a fact it was found afterwards that engine No. 3058, which was in front, and from which the sparks issued, had not at the time such appliances, but that the other engine, No. 3,009, had them. The learned counsel then lucidly explained to the jury, by means of models, the contention of the plaintiff as to what precautions might be considered proper and sufficient to prevent such damage, and said that if they found the engine which caused the mischief was not at the time fitted with the simple apparatus which was in the other engine he should claim their verdict on the ground that the defendants had been guilty of negligence. The following evidence was taken for the plaintiff:—

The plaintiff, of Cippenham Lodge, near Slough, a farmer, said in the early part of last July there were numerous fires along the railway line, and in consequence he wrote to the station-master at Slough, but nothing was done. On Saturday, July 29th, a fire broke out on his land, and destroyed six acres of oats in shock. Of late fires had been much more frequent than they were ten years ago. His loss was only partially covered by insurance.

James Groves, carman to Messrs. Duffield, ironmongers, Slough, said he saw the fast train approaching as he was on the bridge. Sparks came from the foremost locomotive, and he saw some blown over into Mr. Twinch's field, firing the corn. Witness and Thomas Hancock, of Chalvey, who was with him, tried to extinguish the fire, but were not successful.

Hancock corroborated.

Mr Percy Newton, 150, Queen's Gate, London, a mechanical engineer of twenty years' railway experience in various parts of the world, said he had examined the G.W.R. engines Nos. 3058 and 3009 at Swindon. The former was dismantled, but it was evident that it had had an ordinary smoke-box, which was not fitted with any arrangement for arresting sparks. In 3009 he found a modified form of the extended smoke-box, 3ft. 9in., instead of 3ft., and a horizontal plate, these being of considerable use in preventing sparks. A large number of the G.W.R. passenger engines had the more fully extended smoke-box. The use of an extended smoke-box, a mesh netting, and a deflecting plate, would considerably minimise danger from sparks, and would not interfere with the working of the locomotive. In Canada, the United States, on the Continent of Europe, and in Australia and Africa extended smoke-boxes were in general use for this purpose. Had there been the same protection on 3058 that there was on 3009 the extreme probability was, in his opinion, that the fire in question would not have occurred.

Cross-examined.—The great majority of the engines on British railways were according to the model produced, as to the smoke-box. The Midland Company had a great many engines with extended smoke-boxes, which they had bought from America.

Mr. William Poland (Poland and Co., Southwark), a gentleman with large experience in England and Canada, agreed with Mr. Newton.

By Mr. Lyttelton.—Some American railway companies were shortening the smoke-boxes to a reasonable length now; at one time they were excessively long.

Re-examined.—What he termed a reasonable length was considerably longer than in the engine 3058. He knew of no reason for the extended smoke-box except to prevent the emission of sparks.

For the defence Mr. Lyttelton urged that the company had used ordinary and reasonable precautions, and were therefore not liable. Almost all the engines in the kingdom were of the pattern 3009. The company had done everything they possibly could, in their judgment as reasonable men, to minimise such risks. They had recently, very cautiously and tentatively, introduced an experiment of a corrugated iron plate, not perforated, which extended right across, but not to the end of the smoke-box, and that was now fitted to ten per cent. of their engines, but at present they had not sufficient data to judge whether that was better than the old arrangement; they were giving it a full and fair trial. At present all the engineers in this country, whatever might be their views abroad, were in agreement with those of the G.W.R. Company.

The Court then adjourned until the following day.

Upon resumption, Mr. Waister, chief assistant running superintendent of the G.W.R., stated that the engine 3058—from which it was alleged the sparks were emitted—was of the ordinary pattern, and all the principal British railway companies used engines of the same model. It was fitted with a brick arch and a deflector plate, the latter being at such an angle that it caused the air to go slightly under the brick arch. He was not acquainted with any process more effective to secure complete combustion in the fire-box. Ninety per cent. of the G.W. engines now had the smaller, or ordinary size, smoke-box; about 10 per cent. were being tried with slightly longer smoke-boxes, but they had not yet sufficient data to determine which was the best. The fitting of engines with the enlarged smoke-box had been going on steadily for about six years. Diaphragms were first put in about four years ago. Neither of those features existed in the engine which it was alleged did the mischief in this case. He had never seen mesh-netting tried.

Mr. Drummond, chief locomotive engineer to several railway companies, and now of the L. and S.W.R., said, in his opinion, grids in smoke-boxes would soon be abolished. Engineers were constantly considering the problem of how to prevent the emission of sparks.

Cross-examined: He had never himself tried the extended smoke-box. He did not believe it tended to diminish the risk.

Mr. G. Whale, assistant locomotive superintendent to the L. and N.W.R. Co., also supported the contention of the defendants.

Counsel having addressed the jury on both sides,

Mr. Justice Day summed up. It was perfectly clear that the damage was caused by cinders escaping from the leading engine; and the question was simply, did that arise from want of reasonable care on the part of the company? They had nothing to do with the practice of English or Scotch railway companies: whether they were right or wrong was immaterial; but if the French or the American system was more effective, they ought unquestionably to use it. He attached the utmost importance to what was done in other countries, because if foreign countries did damage they had to pay for it, and so they were more likely to study everything which would protect their own pockets than English companies, which were worked under a certain system of protection. The time occupied by the G.W.R. in making the experiment of a partially extended smoke-box seemed to him utterly inordinate for any experiment. The defendant company had not called the drivers of the two engines, but he thought the jury must take it, as reasonable men, that one engine did answer and the other did not.

After a very brief consultation, the jury found for the plaintiff; and the judge certified for a special jury.

THE WEATHER.

Monday (July 9th).—Cloudy weather prevailed over nearly the whole country, and a warm and moist south-easterly wind was blowing. Heavy rain was measured in Scotland in the morning, as the result of the fall since Sunday, and the rain was continuing at the North Scotch stations. Sunday night was warm, the thermometer in many places not falling below fifty-five degrees, but the midday readings were still generally low. The weather was dull and warm in London, and in the afternoon the thermometer registered twenty-two degrees.

Tuesday (July 10th).—A cyclonic disturbance, skirting the northern coasts, brought considerable quantities of rain to Scotland and some parts of the north of England in the early hours of the day, when magnificently clear, sunny, and dry weather had already invaded the rest of the kingdom, the improvement spreading northward later. There were, however, signs along the western coasts in the course of the day pointing to the existence of further disturbances on the ocean, so that there was some uncertainty as to the stability of the more seasonable conditions, the barometer showing a downward tendency in all parts of the country. A decided increase of temperature took place, the records being the highest for four weeks past. Most of the night minima had not been lower than fifty-five degrees, and in the afternoon maxima above seventy degrees occurred, ranging up to eighty-three degrees in the metropolis.

Wednesday (July 11th).—Magnificent weather prevailed over our islands, and high summer temperatures were experienced in many parts of the country. Scarcely any rain had fallen since Tuesday morning in any part of Western Europe, and the weather continued quite dry in England and Ireland. The weather was very warm at the inland stations, the shade temperature in places touching eighty degrees, while in the sun's rays the heat was oppressive. The day was again very bright and fine in London, and the thermometer rose to eighty-five degrees.

Thursday (July 12th).—The weather continued very fine in most parts of England, but the temperature was not as high as on the two preceding days. A shallow disturbance had passed along our north-west coasts, and rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, at several places in the North and West, and in these districts slight rain again fell. The winds were light and variable, and the barometer was everywhere low for the season. There was brilliant sunshine throughout the day in London, and the air was very warm, although not oppressive, as on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Friday (July 13th).—The weather was very fine in the south and east of England, and high summer temperatures were experienced at the inland stations. The barometer had fallen considerably in the west under the influence of a shallow cyclonic disturbance which was approaching from the Atlantic. Rain was measured in the morning as the result of the fall since Thursday, at most places in the north and west, and the amounts were large in Scotland. Rain also fell again during the day in parts of Scotland and Ireland, where the sky was mostly cloudy, and the air much cooler than in England. The day was very bright and fine in London, and in the afternoon the shade temperature registered eighty-five degrees.

Saturday and Sunday (July 14th and 15th).—The weather was very fine over England on Sunday, and the midday temperatures were high, the shade reading touching eighty degrees at some of the inland stations. On Saturday the weather had become more cloudy than on several previous days, and in the morning rain was measured in nearly all parts of our islands, as the result of the fall since the previous day. On Sunday morning rain was again measured in Scotland and at a few places in Ireland and the West of England, but the amounts were small. In London no rain fell during the whole of the week. The highest temperature in the metropolis on Saturday was seventy-five degrees, but on Sunday the shade reading again touched eighty degrees.

The Cold Storage Trade.—*Fielden's Magazine* draws attention to the constantly growing traffic in frozen meat, and points out that there certainly will be a great increase of this trade between Australia, New Zealand, and the Cape, where preparations are being made for the building of cold stores in many towns. At present, as the magazine states, the cold storage business in that country is under a monopoly, but Mr. Rhodes has threatened to run cold stores in opposition to the monopolists, which will certainly have the effect of reducing the prices to a reasonable figure. Owing to the importance of the cold storage business, *Fielden's Magazine* will, it is stated, publish from month to month a record of the latest improvements in refrigerating machinery, which will be a valuable addition to the many excellent features of this eminent technical publication.

FARM PROSPECTS.

East Hampshire.

After a long period of rain, which has badly washed a good deal of our hay and caused farmers to make more ensilage than has been the case for several years past, we now have fine, hot weather. All crops—cereals especially—are luxuriating in the much-needed warmth, and look more promising than was the case a fortnight back.

Root Crops

are now doing well, though a very heavy percentage of the earlier sowings were absolutely destroyed by fly. At the present moment it is difficult to get the fast-growing swedes hoed, on account of the dearth of efficient labour. The recent

Wool Sales

have, upon the whole, been very satisfactory, last year's prices being everywhere maintained, and in many instances an advance has been obtained. The beef and mutton trade continues firm, and it is to be hoped that the fairs which take place during this month and next will show an improvement upon last season's prices for lambs and other store sheep.—G. S. M. (July 12th).

Middlesex.

In the Harrow district we are now in the midst of hay harvest, and with this glorious sunshine little labour is required (except with a few private gentlemen, who pride themselves on having good and properly made hay). It is not the fashion in this neighbourhood to employ labour, except to carry it home after it has lain about, and, perhaps, got half spoilt; hence it is that when the hay off these beautiful pastures used to take the top prices in the London markets, it has now to take a back seat and take the price for low qualities. Even now, the middle of July, not more than one-third is yet cut, the custom being to have all that grows in the season at one mown, as they have no stock of their own to consume the aftermath, which goes often to the poor, and in many cases, no doubt, the glandery cab horses of London.

The farmers were complaining that, owing to the cold spring, there would be no grass, but, lacking experience, they have, as a rule, yet to learn that cold springs are generally followed by good hay crops, because in the cold weather the grass is thickening on the ground, whereas in very mild springs it is drawn up to seed too soon; hence a thin but early crop. This year, notwithstanding the cold late spring, we have excellent crops, that is where they deserve them by manuring and good management, which is the exception rather than the rule. The weather of the last month must be suiting everything, notwithstanding the usual grumbling, and some even now grumble that mutton and lamb is not high enough, when I have never known it dearer. It is true that wool is down, and we have now no beef to quote.—F. K. (July 13th).

North Lancashire.

Farm prospects may, generally speaking, be considered bright. Up to the second week in June we were threatened by drought, with both poor hay and green crops, but since then we have had showers which have benefited the land all round, and averted the trouble, which was getting a very real one. We are far from having enough rain, and were it not that farmers are everywhere busy securing their hay, we could do with very much more moisture, and the hay crop secured, we shall have a great outcry for rain. We consider the hay crop to be

Rather Below an Average,

on the whole, but with present fine weather, it is being secured well, and will be in first-rate condition. Pastures are looking well, but need more rain.

The Grain Crop.

Oats have shot out on rather short straw, and complaints of wire-worm are getting more general. (It appears to us that this trouble grows year by year.) This crop we put down, so far as this district is concerned, as decidedly below the average. Wheat is looking pretty well, but will not be a heavy crop, and below an average. Turnips and mangolds, although very much better than last year, will also be below an average crop. Potatoes we consider to be looking very well, and should take up a full average.

Stock are all Doing Well,

and prices keep up for both beef and mutton, whilst lambs meet a very good market, and horse-breeders cannot complain; in fact, taken altogether, we consider farmers as a body should be very easy in mind, their position compared to what it was a few years back being very much more satisfactory.—R. S. (July 11th).

West Somerset.

The weather for the past ten days has been hot and dry, and hay is generally finished, good crops having been carried in good condition, although the early cuttings were more or less injured. No great quantity of rain has fallen at any time since the spring; the subsoil is dry, and steady rain would benefit all crops. Grass is fairly plentiful, but is now making little growth. Roots of all kinds are planted well, but all would benefit by rain. Corn is making rapid progress towards harvest, and with a continuance of the present weather

Some may be Cut this Month,

apart from winter oats, which will be ready within a week. Live stock of all kinds has done well since grass came, and prices are better than we have sometimes known them at this time of year. Thunder is in the air, and there has probably been a fall of rain not far from here, but it appears to have passed us by. Farm work of all kinds is well in hand, and with the harvest later than for some years arrears should be overtaken by its commencement.—S. K. (July 12th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—The agricultural situation continues satisfactory, and the present weather leaves nothing to be desired. Expectations of probable wheat crop results are much more hopeful, but no one cares to formulate an estimate on the eve of harvest. It is predicated that, barring accidents, the grain will be of excellent quality.

GERMANY.—Up to last week the crops suffered from excessive moisture and low temperature, but better weather now prevails, and hope has revived that the harvest, although late, may yet be an average one.

ITALY.—The threshing of wheat has so far advanced that it may now be stated that the quality is good, but yield not very abundant. The rain of the last few days has been beneficial to the maize, which looks in splendid form.

RUSSIA.—Fine crop prospects have caused a quiet tone to prevail in Azov and South-Eastern markets, while the unsatisfactory outlook in South-Western governments made sellers in those regions stiffer.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says the maize is mostly doing well, but sections in Kansas and Nebraska are threatened with injury from lack of moisture. Wheat warrants the expectation of a yield of 550 million bushels—the Government figures are too low.—*Dornbusch.*

The Harvest Outlook in Ireland.

With a month of bright warm weather, the harvest should prove the best for a number of years. Almost without exception our correspondents' reports record a most encouraging outlook for crops of all descriptions, and in regard to oats, potatoes, and grass (the three "staple crops" of the country—the picture they present is particularly cheering. It is quite a number of years since we have been able to record such gratifying unanimity on the part of our correspondents in regard to the appearance of the crops as a whole, and if the hope which is so generally expressed in regard to the weather is only realised, there is every reason for looking forward to a justification of the anticipations of the most sanguine—those by whom the harvest is regarded as likely to prove the best with which the country has been favoured, since the dark days of the early eighties.

With regard to wheat, a cereal which was once very extensively grown in many parts of the country, but of which the area now under cultivation is so small as to have become an almost negligible quantity, a large number of our correspondents find it necessary to dismiss the crop with the brief but significant remark "not grown," while the few who are able to include it among the crops cultivated in their respective districts are obliged to refer to it as of restricted area. Small though the extent of land under wheat may be, however, it is satisfactory to note that this year the crop has done remarkably well, and, like all other grain crops, promises to bulk up satisfactorily alike as regards the yield of straw and grain.

Barley has long ranked in Ireland as a "local" crop, and as year follows year, its reputation in this respect becomes more and more pronounced. Up to the present the season through which we are now passing has been very satisfactory so far as this crop is concerned; but, like all other crops, it is now very much in need of bright, warm weather—even more so, perhaps, than any other crop, with the exception of potatoes.

It is years since the oat crop, the staple cereal in Ireland, has given such uniformly excellent promise at this stage of the season, and if present prospects are not sadly belied, the coming harvest should rank as one of the best experienced by oat growers for quite a quarter of a century. As in the case of the other crops, however, much will depend upon the weather of the next month. Except in a few districts in which the wire worm somewhat thinned the braird in the early part of the season, there is at present quite an exceptional luxuriance of straw, so that all that is now needed is an abundance of sunshine to facilitate the development of the ear and impart to the grain that fulness of kernel and uniformity of colour which always distinguish a high class sample.

Returns collected by the Flax Supply Association go to show that there has been a substantial increase in the area devoted to its cultivation this year, and in view of this fact it is satisfactory to learn that, so far as appearances go, the crop this season is much more promising than for several years past. We regret to learn that the fungoid diseases which have proved so destructive to the crop of late years have again been very much in evidence this season, and that they have been responsible in some localities for the infliction of considerable injury.

It is much to be feared that the worst is about to be realised in regard to the potato crop. Though only four or five of our reports make reference to the actual occurrence of outbreaks of the disease up to Saturday last, we have reason to know that during the past few days the dread fungus has made its malign influence felt in a great many districts, and the weather which is being experienced as we write is just the type specially calculated to still further its development and dissemination.

Already the prevalence of the disease has been reported from such widely separated districts as Londonderry, Galway, Westmeath, Clare, Cork, and Queen's County; and it is much to be feared that the next ten days will witness its existence in almost every county in the country.

The most unfortunate feature of the outlook for the crop at the present moment is the fact that owing to the wet weather recently experienced the spraying machine has been but sparingly employed in preparing it for resisting the attack of the disease. While the wet weather continued few cared to go to the trouble and expense of spraying with the prospect of finding the dressing applied one day almost completely washed away the next, and the result is that the fungus will now find thousands of acres of the crop in a specially favourable condition for its rapid development. Another regrettable feature of the outlook for the crop is the fact that the outbreaks of the disease already reported are not confined to attacks of the common leaf blight, Phytophthora infestans. Our advices from the west record the appearance among the crops there of the "root rot" fungus which has been attracting so much attention during the past few years.

Compared with the splendid promise given by oats and potatoes, the root crops are in some places a little disappointing. This applies in particular to turnips, the appearance of which is, as a whole, rather irregular. In some districts the crop is one of the best and most promising for a number of years, but in others it seems to be making very slow progress, and in addition to being very patchy it is distinctly backward for the time of year. For this various causes are being held responsible. In the first place the weather experienced during the greater part of June was so wet that on all but the very lightest soils great difficulty was experienced in getting the land ready for the crop in good time. Then again the fly made itself very severely felt in a number of places, and so serious were its devastations that in some localities fully 80 per cent. of the crop had to be resown. In addition to all this the crop suffered considerably in many parts of the north from late spring frosts, and where these frosts did not inflict any direct injury on the plants they so seriously checked growth that the condition of the crop generally is several weeks behind ordinarily good years. As a whole, however, the outlook for this crop is far more encouraging than this time twelve months, as very few "patchy" fields are to be seen, and there is still a possibility that a spell of fine weather may enable it to largely make amends for its comparative backwardness at the time of writing.

Taken as a whole, the mangel crop is this year particularly promising. Where sown in anything like good time it has made excellent progress up to the present, and finer fields than have come under our observation in the counties of Dublin and Wicklow during the past few days we do not remember to have ever seen. From some districts there are complaints of some damage having been caused by the grub of the mangel fly, but the crop as a whole seems to be of more than usual promise, and if it only realises present anticipations it should go a long way towards making up for any shortage that may occur in the case of turnips.

From the point of view of haymakers the season, so far, has proved one of the most unsatisfactory for a number of years. The heavy rains which continued to fall with irritating regularity during the second half of June rendered the work of saving early meadows particularly trying and tedious, but the closing days of last week and the early part of the current week brought about a welcome change in this respect and enabled large areas of early grass to be rickel in excellent condition.

A better season for grass has not been experienced for years. This is the unanimous verdict of our correspondents, and it goes to confirm the reports which had previously reached us from all parts of the country. In some places stock do not seem to have been putting on condition with quite so much rapidity as the abundance of grass would have led their owners to expect, but the reports upon this score are somewhat local and do not appear to represent anything like a serious crisis for the plant. Altogether the outlook is, as we write, with the single exception of the potato, encouraging in the extreme, and it is to be hoped that when the harvest comes to be gathered the results may be found to justify what may well be described as a brilliant midsummer prospect.—*The Farmers' Gazette.*

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: We continue to have a limited inquiry. Barley unchanged. Wheat 6d per qr cheaper. Oats remain steady. Maize advanced 3d per qr. Flour declined about 6d per sack on the week.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Feeding stuffs engaged most of what little attention was given to cereals. Home-grown wheat gradually becomes in smaller compass, and is chiefly submitted on the country exchanges, while still in very good condition. Fine white, 32s; and good milling red, 31s 6d 63lb delivered. American descriptions unaltered. No. 1 Northern Spring, 33s ex ship; 33s 6d landed. Consumers of flour continue to work on their present holdings, and only buy for pressing needs but holders refuse concessions of any importance. Iron Duke, 22s 6d per sack ex store. Grinding barley, except Persian, continues in small supply and unaltered, oats remaining in sellers' favour, notwithstanding present existing slackness. American white clipped, 15s 6d ex ship and 16s ex quay. Maize maintained, and anything but plentiful. Mixed American held for 21s ex ship.

Mark Lane, Friday.—English wheat firm, and somewhat dearer on the country exchanges, the available supply remaining short and conditions excellent. Fine white held for 33s, and red of similar sample 32s 63lb delivered. American descriptions sparingly offered. White in restricted supply on spot. No. 1 Northern Spring 33s ex ship, 33s 6d landed. No. 1 hard Manitoba 34s 6d in the former position, and hard Duluth 31s ex ship, being nominal, landed. The flour market was again regulated by holders, and American brands are kept down. The London Millers' Association made no alterations in their prices at this afternoon's meeting. Town households 26s, and whites 29s per sack. American first patents quoted at 26s to 27s; second ditto, 24s to 25s. First bakers, 22s to 23s; and second, 20s to 21s. Hungarian up to 30s 6d per sack. Reverting to feeding stuffs, grinding barley retains firmness, and Persian still affords the main source of supply, Black Sea being unobtainable, and American very scarce. Persian, 17s 9d ex ship, 18s 3d landed. Oats tended rather better, and American continues scarce on spot. Mixed clipped quoted at 15s ex ship, 15s 3d ex quay; white clipped, in these positions 15s 6d and 16s respectively. Russian oats also fail in any quantity. St. Petersburg, 14s to 14s 3d ex quay, 38lb. Common Libau practically unobtainable. Sound Revals nominally 15s 6d to 15s 9d ex quay. Riga, 14s 3d and upwards, according to quality. Maize was also well maintained in view of a restricted quantity.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat firm at last week's rates, white making 30s to 32s and red 28s to 30s. Maize is 1s dearer on the week for flat kinds, which commanded 23s 6d to 24s 6d per quarter. Other kinds of corn remained without practical alteration.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Thin attendance and wheat firm at fully last week's prices. In barley, oats, and beans very little doing. Wheat, 29s to 30s per quarter.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (white), 30s to 31s per qr; wheat (red), 29s 6d to 30s 6d per qr; beans (new), 30s to 32s per qr; oats (new), 21s to 23s per qr; oats (old), 20s to 21s per qr. Owing to a rise in America, wheat is fully 1s per qr dearer on the week.

Barnsley, Wednesday.—Only a small attendance, and little business. Wheat again showed an advance on the week, and quotations ruled at 11s 6d to 12s per load; white oats, 24s to 25s; black ditto, 23s to 24s per qr. Other values unaltered.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was again a very small attendance at our market to-day, farmers still being busy haymaking, and consequently the amount of English wheat offering was practically nil. Foreign was about 6d higher. Barley made last week's full prices. Round maize, 6d dearer. Flat maize and oats without change. Flour firm, but very quiet, warm weather checking the demand somewhat.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday. — Farmers have been busily engaged during the week in getting the hay in. At this market to-day more wheat was offered, and trade was quiet at last week's prices. Wheat, red, 30s to 31s; and white up to 32s per 504lb.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat a quiet trade. Oats firm. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 30s to 32s; red ditto, 28s to 31s; grinding barley, 20s to 22s; white oats, 18s to 21s; black ditto, 18s to 21s; peas, 30s to 32s; tick beans, 30s to 32s; mazagans, 28s to 29s; flat maize, 22s to 23s; round ditto, 26s to 27s per quarter.

Carlisle, Saturday. — Very small supply of oats in our market to-day; good demand at late rates, 22s to 23s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There was little business done in English grain, and no samples of English wheat were offered. Oats and beans continue to have a good demand. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 75lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb; beans, 4s 10d to 5s 6d per 80lb. Oats, new, 2s 8d to 2s 11d; old, 2s 9d to 3s per 46lb. Indian corn, 11s to 11s 9d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Small supply of wheat, with a quiet trade at prices showing no material change from last week. Fair attendance.

Colchester, Saturday.—Very small supply of wheat here to-day; firm trade, and in some instances a slight advance on last week's prices was obtainable. Nothing offering in spring corn.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Devizes, Thursday.—With a very small supply to-day, the trade for wheat was firm at last week's prices. Other corn unaltered in value. Best wheat, 14s to 15s; secondary, 13s to 14s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; oats, 18s to 23s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s 6d to 25s 6d; extra fine, 26s to 30s; best bread, 10d.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Owing to harvesting operations there was but a small attendance. Wheat ruled firm at late rates, a few specials samples of foreign commanding a trifling rise. Oats were worth 3d per quarter more, and barley was very firm. Round maize advanced 1s from scarcity.

Gainsborough, Tuesday.—Small show, and plenty of buyers for wheat. White wheat, 30s 6d to 31s; red ditto, 29s 6d to 30s 6d. Oats a good trade; white, 20s to 22s; black ditto, 18s to 20s; grinding barley, 23s; English beans, 30s; peas, 23s; small maize, 26s; flat ditto, 23s per qr.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a thin attendance at our corn exchange to-day. Wheat and flour steady at last week's prices, with more inclination for business. Indian corn firm on spot, and 1½d to 3d per boll dearer on the week. Grinding beans and Canadian pease the turn dearer. Home oats steady at late rates, but demand small; Canadian and American about 3d per boll easier, owing to liberal arrivals. Barley steady. Oatmeal dull. Bran and thirds quiet and unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour steady at last week's prices, with more inclination for business. Indian corn firm on spot at 1½d to 3d per boll dearer on the week's grinding. Beans and Canadian peas are the turn dearer; home oats steady at late prices, but the demand small; Canadian and American about 1½d per boll easier owing to the liberal arrivals. Barley steady. Oatmeal dull. The market will be closed on Friday and Monday next for the fair holidays.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Practically no English wheat on offer, and in the absence of business prices must be written nominally unchanged since last week. Maize 6d per quarter dearer. No quotable change in other grains. Wholesale quotations: Wheat—white, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per bushel; red, 3s 5d to 3s 8d; barley, 3s to 3s 6d; oats, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; beans, 3s 9d to 4s; maize, 3s to 3s 3d; vetches—winter, 4s to 6s; and spring, 3s 6d to 5s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Small supply of wheat. Trade steady at fully last week's rates. White, 32s; reds, 29s to 30s per qr. Grinding barley firm. Oats unaltered. Maize rather dearer. Beans and peas steadier.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The wheat trade is firmer to-day. Holders are asking rather more money, but there is little response on the part of millers, who are not in a buying humour. Maize, beans and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday. — The millers are still confining their purchases to meet pressing requirements, and for both English and foreign wheats the firmer prices of Tuesday are with difficulty maintained. Beans and American maize the turn dearer. No change in peas, oats, barley or flour.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance of buyers and dealers with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, which sold more freely at 30s to 33s per 36 stone. Beans and oats firmer.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English wheat with a slow sale at 6d more money. Reds, 29s to 30s; whites, 30s to to 31s. Foreign wheats firm. Oats 6d dearer. Maize higher on the week. Beans and peas firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat quiet with a small business; white wheats ½d lower, red ½d dearer. Flour in very quiet demand. Foreign brands are mostly 6d per sack easier than last market day, but the Liverpool Association of Millers make no change in the minimum quotation for their "bakers" grade. Maize has met a fair demand for Mixed American, which sold at fully last market day's price and closed firm thereat. River Plate moves well into consumption at full prices. European quiet, unchanged, with the exception of Cinquantina, which yesterday were raised 1d per cental and are now firmly held at the advance. Barley firm for brewing, which are held rather higher. Other qualities steady at full prices. Beans in moderate demand with no quotable change in prices. Peas quietly steady at late rates. Oats have a fair demand for British, which are held at full prices; foreign steady, unchanged. Oatmeal firm but nothing doing. Oilcake had a moderate demand and is firmly held at fully late rates to some advance.—SEGAR AND TENNICLIFFE.

Louth, Wednesday.—There was a very poor attendance of farmers. Business all round was slack, and prices for all kinds of grain remained unchanged. The supply was very limited.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Quite the summer style of market to-day, attendance not large, and business restricted, any excitement not displayed. Wheat is very firm and in some cases 6d per qr dearer than last Thursday. Barley meets with much demand, and the previous values secured. English black oats are in request also good foreign, the small American sorts most approved in Kent. Maize exhibits an advance of 3d per qr. In other grain, etc., no change.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat has been in only moderate demand at the weekly market held to-day. Quotations are rather against the buyer compared with last Thursday, but here and there a buyer reports being able to get in at the previous currencies. Flour is slow at late rates. Indian corn is ¼d per cental up on the week. No change can be mentioned in oats, peas, beans, or barley.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—This week the weather has been, to use the term, droppy, but hay-making has not been delayed so far. To-day's market showed a falling off in the demand for wheat, and prices must be written 1s per quarter below last Saturday. Flour declined 6d per sack. Feeding stuffs maintain their values, with beans 6d per quarter higher and maize firm.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat steady at last week's prices, maize favouring sellers. Scotch oats firm, and 6d dearer. Foreign steady at late rates. Beans and peas 6d per 504lb advanced since this day week. Barley, none offering. Flour unchanged.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat unchanged on the week. Maize firm and dearer. Barley steady. Oats of good quality advanced 1s per qr. Beans firm, and rather cheaper, and offals were dearer.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small market, few samples of wheat, and demand dull and inactive at about last week's prices. Wheat from 29s to 32s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; oats, 19s to 24s; beans, 28s to 32s; and flour, 21s to 25s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering to-day, with a firm trade, at an advance of 6d per qr on the week. Billiant hot summer weather has prevailed during the week, and hay harvest is in full swing. Wheat, red, 29s to 31s 6d per qr, weight 63lbs per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending 9th July, 1900:—Wheat, 565-5, 28s 6¾d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat, in small supply, meets a slow sale at previous rates. Oats and beans about 6d per qr more money and a fair consumptive demand at the advance.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Small market, very little wheat showing. A good demand at last week's prices for local mills, 30s to 32s. Oats and beans rather dearer.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The wheat trade has been rather quiet to-day, but there was very little offering, and good fresh samples made quite as much money as last week. All spring corn firm, and fully as dear.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Moderate trade and attendance at the market to-day. Prices of oats, wheat, and maize the same as last week, but barley is 21s 9d.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance here to-day was small. The supply of wheat proved scanty, and trade firm at the prices obtaining at last market; while English samples were sold at an increase of 6d to 1s per qr on previous quotations. The demand for other sorts of cereals was slow, and sales proceeded at late currencies.

Ripon, Thursday.—Owing to haymaking operations the attendance is small. Foreign wheat and oats hold firm, and prices have an upward tendency. Wheat, English, 29s to 30s; ditto forcign, 32s to 36s; barley, grinding, 24s to 25s; oats, 22s to 25s; round maize, 25s to 27s; flat maize, 23s 6d per qr; beans, 11¼d per stone.

Salisbury, Tuesday.—There was again a small attendance at the Corn exchange, the majority of farmers in the district taking advantage of the fine weather to complete their hay making. Wheat was in short supply, and sold slowly at last week's prices, 29s to 32s. Oats fetched from 19s to 22s; and beans were firm at 32s to 37s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The beautiful weather was responsible for the small attendance, the farmers being busy in the hayfield. A slow trade in wheat at last week's prices. Other articles unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d per 504lb; ditto red, 32s to 33s per 504lb; oats, new white, 22s to 23s; ditto new black, 18s to 19s; ditto old white, 22s to 23s; ditto old black, 19s to 21s per 335lb; peas, grinding, 28s to 29s; ditto blue, 53s to 57s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 31s 6d to 32s; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small, 26s to 27s 6d; ditto American mixed, 22s 6d to 23s per 480lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—The trade in wheat has been dull at unchanged prices. Oats, peas, and beans have remained steady at former rates. Flour has been held firmly, but sales have been restricted. Milling offals have moved freely into consumption, and for some qualities an advance of 5s per ton has been paid.—W. L. BROWNE AND CO.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A small market, and the value of wheat unchanged, the price being 30s to 30s 6d. Oats, 21s to 21s 6d per qr. All other articles in small supply, and trade quite as firm as the previous week.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were only one or two samples of local wheat showing, owing to farmers being busy with their hay-making. In consequence of the brilliant weather the foreign wheat market has become very quiet, and there was hardly anything doing. Last week's prices were asked, but buyers held off. Oats and maize 6d per qr dearer.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Farmers being busy with their hay, there was little grain on offer, which sold at about last week's prices. Arrivals coastwise: Wheat, 200 qrs.; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Very small attendance. Only a little wheat offering, which was held for the full prices of last week. Barley and maize steady at previous rates.

Wakefield, Friday.—There is a firm feeling in wheats to-day, and we quote fully last week's prices for both English and foreign in the small business doing on our to-day's market. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—The wheat trade continues in an unsettled state owing to the erratic movements of the American markets, caused by constantly varying crop reports. The tone on this side remains firm, although business is limited and prices are unchanged from last week. Maize, beans, and oats without change.—DUNNS AND CO.

Winchester, Saturday.—Wheat in very short supply, which met a slow but steady trade at last week's prices. Barley unaltered. Oats in good demand, and slightly dearer all round. Round maize made 6d advance. Flour 25s to 26s, with little inquiry.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A short supply of grain. Wheat firm at late rates. Red, 30s.; white, 31s. Oats, 20s to 24s. Beans, 30s to 33s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Worcester, Saturday.—Small supply of English wheat, with a slow sale, at 6d per qr advance. Foreign firmly held. Oats made fully late rates. Grinding barley, maize, and beans 3d to 6d per quarter dearer.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance, and very little doing. The market had partially recovered from the decline of a fortnight ago. White wheat, 30s to 31s; red ditto, 28s to 29s 6d; white oats, 22s to 24s; black ditto, 20s to 21s per qr; beans, 33s to 34s for 38 stones; peas, 28s to 30s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Little wheat offering; fine white, 29s 6d to 30s 6d; red and mixed, 28s to 30s per qr of 36st. Feeding barley, 22s to 26s per quarter of 32st. Oats rather dear; white Tartary, 18s to 19s; black ditto, 20s to 21s; short oats, 22s to 24s per quarter of 24st.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has shown no change of importance. The harvest has now reached an advanced stage in the South of France, especially in the Bouches-du-Rhone, the Vaucluse, the Gard, the Herault, and the Var. In the district round Lyons most of the rye has been cut, and a commencement is being made with wheat, barley, and oats. Harvest is also about to be commenced in the Bresse, where wheat is a good deal laid. The feeling with respect to the French harvest appears to be rather more hopeful; the weather has been favourable of late, and the wheat yield is now expected to be better than had been at the time anticipated. Old wheat is being held with firmness in the French country districts. Last week's sales of wheat at Marseilles were only 3,250 quintals. Wheat has exhibited a quieter tone at Paris, and sales have been carried through with some difficulty. Flour for consumption has shown scarcely any change in the French capital. Disposable wheat has remained without variation at Dantzic. At Konigsberg wheat has shown a good tone. The British Government has completed a contract with millers at Buda Pesth for the supply of large quantities of flour to the troops in South Africa. A first cargo of 28,000 sacks has been loaded up at Fiume. Advices from Odessa report that rains have fallen in Southern Russia, but that they have not been of long duration. The crop outlook in Southern Russia is better than had been anticipated, especially along the Dneiper. This is not without importance, as the Dneiper district supplies large quantities of cereals for exportation.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report: We have splendid fine weather here since the beginning of the week, and it looks quite settled. This will greatly improve our crops, and the prospects remain satisfactory. Barley will now ripen fast, and cutting in the Saale districts, Bohemia and Moravia, will likely commence end of the month in Hungary. Harvest is in full swing now, and the first samples will soon be shown. Tropical heat, followed by thunderstorms, have done some damage, but it was only locally in a few districts.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

July 6 to 13, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	35,891 qrs.
Flour	65,362 ,,
Total	101,253 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Deficiency	4,747 ,,

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

July 6th to 13th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	1,551	..	..	34,140	35,891
Barley	474	..	..	1,543	2,017
Malt	21,267	510	..	..	21,777
Oats	408	..	..	57,000	57,408
Rye	..	..	..	..	..
Beans	176	..	..	335	511
Peas	134	..	..	820	954
Maize	..	..	..	10,264	10,264
Tares	..	..	..	..	..
Lentils	..	..	..	..	..
Linseed ..... cwt.	..	..	..	31,000	31,000
Rapeseed	..	..	..	64	64
Cottonseed ..tons	..	..	..	800	800
Farm Seeds ..qrs.	98	..	..	1,100	1,198
Flour { Barrels....	..	..	..	..	..
{ Sacks	24,630	..	..	66,498	87,128

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1900

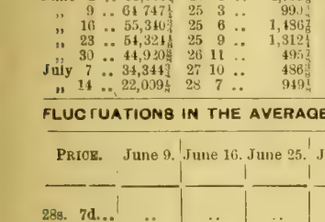
Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	Apr. 15	101,518 qrs
,, 14	108,380 ,,	,, 22	70,984 ,,
,, 21	123,902 ,,	,, 29	68,573 ,,
,, 28	51,234 ,,	May 6	96,343 ,,
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	,, 13	72,852 ,,
,, 11	82,912 ,,	,, 20	101,429 ,,
,, 18	204,974 ,,	,, 27	108,772 ,,
,, 25	108,273 ,,	June 3	73,846 ,,
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,	,, 10	126,781 ,,
,, 11	63,103 ,,	,, 17	160,574 ,,
,, 18	122,541 ,,	,, 24	101,295 ,,
,, 25	86,309 ,,	July 1	152,500 ,,
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	,, 8	112,761 ,,
,, 8	133,261 ,,	,, 15	116,850 ,,

1900.			1900.		
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.		Apr. 13	131,085 qrs.	
,, 13	95,034 ,,		,, 20	82,357 ,,	
,, 20	114,928 ,,		,, 27	43,783 ,,	
,, 27	124,652 ,,		May 4	101,535 ,,	
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,		,, 11	52,859 ,,	
,, 10	75,000 ,,		,, 18	97,412 ,,	
,, 17	66,804 ,,		,, 25	71,390 ,,	
,, 24	62,191 ,,		,, 31	177 744 ,,	
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,		June 8	93,147 ,,	
,, 10	63,702 ,,		,, 15	86,125 ,,	
,, 17	162,985 ,,		,, 22	108,116 ,,	
,, 24	111,409 ,,		,, 29	142,185 ,,	
,, 31	69,356 ,,		July 6	132,950 ,,	
April 7	48,302 ,,		,, 13	101,253 ,,	

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1899.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
July 15	40,428½	25	5	574½	20	4	6,573¼	17	11
,, 22	46,159¼	25	5	168⅔	21	10	4,866⅔	18	0
,, 29	41,692⅔	25	2	257⅔	22	5	4,240	18	2
Aug. 5	51,149⅔	24	10	246⅓	20	9	6,645⅔	18	
,, 12	37,177¼	24	8	184½	22	6	5,551⅔	17	9
,, 19	33,399⅔	24	7	437⅔	26	11	6,120⅔	17	4
,, 26	34,523¼	24	7	1,594½	26	5	9,205⅔	17	1
Sept. 2	47,572⅔	25	0	6,709⅔	25	10	15,958⅔	16	7
,, 9	67,996⅓	25	5	17,408⅔	26	5	16,195	16	6
,, 16	80,281¼	25	4	33,143⅔	27	1	19,291⅔	16	2
,, 23	85,104⅔	25	4	77,678⅔	27	4	22,128	16	1
,, 30	79,612¼	25	6	97,917⅔	26	11	23 193	16	5
Oct 7	71,152⅔	26	0	169,315½	28	0	21,140¼	16	5
,, 14	63,040⅔	27	3	191,901⅔	27	9	18,024½	16	5
,, 21	64,242	28	2	192,268¼	27	6	18,933⅓	16	10
,, 28	85,178¼	28	1	219,75[illegible]			20,034⅓	16	3
Nov. 4	82,769⅔	27	2	203,071⅔	27	2	17,895½	16	7
,, 11	66,741⅔	26	7	166 786⅔	26	9	15.216⅔	16	5
,, 18	65,470¼	26	1	163,915⅔	26	4	16,313¼	16	7
,, 25	67,308¼	25	8	164,362⅔	26	2	17,047⅔	16	7
Dec. 2	72,974⅔	25	7	163,441⅔	25	10	22,575½	16	6
,, 9	10,982¼	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421⅔	16	5
,, 16	78,772½	25	4	135,344⅔	25	7	22,889½	16	1
,, 23	67,102⅔	25	6	116,757⅔	25	10	16,447⅔	16	0
,, 30	47,685½	25	9	74,637⅔	25	5	10,463⅔	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6	40,086	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅔	16	2
,, 13	57,021⅔	25	11	83,421⅔	25	5	19,703	16	3
,, 20	68,463¼	26	0	100,925⅔	25	8	23,122⅔	16	2
,, 27	65,331¼	25	10	108,357⅔	25	9	17,814⅔	16	4
Feb. 3	73,796⅔	25	8	90,769¼	25	4	22,061⅓	16	6
,, 10	71,482⅔	25	10	80,553⅔	25	3	20,822⅔	16	5
,, 17	76,611⅔	26	1	80,414⅔	24	11	20,986⅔	16	8
,, 24	69,534½	26	3	63,931⅔	25	1	21,132⅔	16	11
Mar. 3	68,153½	26	4	51,727½	24	6	18,499½	16	10
,, 10	58,703⅓	25	11	44,921½	24	8	16,224	16	11
,, 17	76,435⅔	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,101⅔	16	11
,, 24	69,941½	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042⅔	17	1
,, 31	72,762	25	10	34,387⅔	24	11	15,200⅔	17	0
April 7	67,743⅔	25	10	20,402⅔	24	10	13,757⅔	17	2
,, 14	66,412⅔	25	11	19,519⅔	24	5	9,672⅔	17	8
,, 21	54,977⅔	26	0	11,673⅔	24	9	7,403⅔	17	3
,, 28	70,006⅔	26	0	7,785⅔	25	2	11,101⅔	17	11
May 5	75,410½	25	11	8,159½	25	3	8,658½	18	0
,, 12	82,190⅔	25	11	10,417⅔	24	10	12,245½	17	11
,, 19	83,941¼	25	7	5,638⅔	24	5	9,942	18	5
,, 26	95,574⅔	25	5	3,521¼	23	11	7,350⅔	18	2
June 2	68,906⅔	25	5	1,752¾	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9	64 747½	25	3	990⅔	23	8	6 053⅔	18	8
,, 16	55,340⅔	25	6	1,430⅔	23	8	7,228½	18	11
,, 23	54,321¼	25	9	1,312¼	23	5	5,344½	18	11
,, 30	44,920⅔	26	11	495½	23	4	4,706½	19	3
July 7	34,344⅔	27	10	486⅔	22	10	4,391½	19	5
,, 14	22,039½	28	7	949½	23	2	2,911⅔	19	1

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	16	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900 Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	..	..	..
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	..	..	..
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	..	..	..
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended July 14th, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	22,009½ qrs.	28s.	7d.
Barley	949½ qrs.	23s.	2d.
Oats	2,91[illegible] qrs.	19s.	1d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to July 14th, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

Years.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896	17,856⅔	24	2	648½	18	3	2,320½	15	4
1897	28,409⅔	27	7	227⅓	17	6	1,534	18	3
1898	7,839½	37	1	246⅓	24	1	3,346⅓	20	10
1899	40,428½	25	5	574½	20	4	6,573¼	17	11

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 10th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	73	4	95	18	0	1	6	7
Barley	216	0	264	4	0	1	4	5
Oats	96	7	97	17	6	1	0	2

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	157,000	159,000	402,000	35,000	133,000
Russia	109,000	—	10,000	50,000	213,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary ..	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	58,000	—	54,000	1,000	—
Argentina	234,000	5,000	149,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	10,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total ..	639,000	179,000	635,000	106,000	356,000

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICE CHANGES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1899.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 26	6	(per sack)	23	6
,, 4	,, 26	0	,,	23	0
,, 25	,, 26	6	,,	23	6
October 2	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
November 20	,, 26	6	,,	23	6
,, 27	,, 26	0	,,	23	0
December 11	,, 25	6	,,	22	6
,, 18	,, 26	0	,,	23	0
May 14	,, 25	6	,,	22	6
June 18	,, 26	0	,,	23	0
,, 20	,, 26	6	,,	23	6
,, 25	,, 28	6	,,	25	6
,, 27	,, 29	6	,,	26	6
July 2	,, 29	0	,,	26	0

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

	s.	d.
January 1, 1900 .....(per sack)	28	0
April 2, ,, ... ,,	27	0
June 22, ,, ... ,,	30	0
,, 27, ,, ... ,,	31	0
July 4, ,, ... ,,	30	0

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb.	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July	..	..	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August	..	..	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept.	..	..	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct.	..	..	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov.	..	..	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec.	..	..	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..	..	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb.	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July	..	..	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August	..	..	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept.	..	..	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct.	..	..	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov.	..	..	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec.	..	..	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..	..	26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies more plentiful, and trade slow. Quotations. Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 3d to 3s; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d; Welsh, 2s to 2s 7d; Surrey, 3s 6d to 4s; Sussex, 3s to 3s 6d; Irish, 1s 6d to 2s; Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s; goslings, 3s 9d to 4s 6d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s; feathered ditto, 7d to 10d; Egyptian quail, 1s to 1s 4d; tame rabbits, 1s to 1s 6d each; Australian, 7s to 8s per dozen.

Glasgow, Wednesday. There were a few lots of grass cheese forward this week, and they were in demand at an advance of from 1s to 2s per cwt.; the full price was 58s. Fodder kinds were quoted from 50s to 54s per cwt. Americans claimed some attention. The sales effected were at steady prices.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon continues a firm market, but the trading is of limited dimensions, dealers a trifle wary with caution. Irish cuts are strongly held. Hams are in steady demand at full prices. Lard is firmly held, following higher c.i.f. quotations. Beef quiet, and reduced in value. Pork without alteration on the week. Cheese.—There has been an improvement in the consumptive demand, and values are well maintained. We quote to-day, finest coloured States and Canadians, 48s to 49s; white, 47s 6d to 48s 6d; medium grades, full cream, sell from 46s to 46s, but lower qualities meet with a limited inquiry, offered from 40s to 45s per cwt. Butter.—The demand for finest qualities is almost wholly supplied with Continental and Irish, there being but little trade doing in Canadian and American, supplies of which are now more liberal. Importers, however, are firm in price for fancy Canadian, owing to rather strong reports [illegible]

Newport, Wednesday. A big supply and an average quality were on offer this week. Choice fine [illegible] cut [illegible] 42s to 58s per cwt.

BUTTER.

Tuesday. [illegible] 11d to 1s per lb. Bedale: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per roll of 2 oz. Cumberland: 11d per lb. Settle: 11d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Spalding: 10½ to 1s 1d per lb.

Wednesday. Driffield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Hereford: 14 to 1s 2d per lb. Market Drayton: 11d to 1s per lb. Barnsley: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Goole: 1s 1d per lb. Keighley: 1s 1d per lb. Knaresbrough: wholesale, 1s 3d to 1s 4d, retail, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per roll of 2 oz. Louth: [illegible] 1s 1d per lb. Market Weighton: 11d per lb. Masham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per roll of 4 oz. Northallerton: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per roll of 2 oz. Stockton: 1s per lb. Whitby: 1s 1d per lb. Worksop: 1s to 1s 1d per lb.

Thursday. Barningham: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Kidsmunster: 1od per lb. Devizes: Wholesale, 11d to 1s; retail, 1s 1d to 1s 4d per lb. Brigg: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Driffield: 1s1d per lb. Penistone: 11d per lb. Pepper: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per roll of 2 oz. Scarborough: 1s 1d per lb. Bristol: Butter has been in moderate [illegible] and prices [illegible] last week. Irish creamery [illegible] Waterford [illegible] butters [illegible] Cork [illegible] and [illegible].

Friday. Derby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Stratford-on-Avon: 11d to 1s 3d per lb. Wantage: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Seconds, 9d per lb. Sandbach: 1s 1d per lb. Chester: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Easingwold: 9d to 10d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per roll of 2 oz. [illegible] 1s 1d per lb. Otley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per roll of 4 oz. Cardiff: The [illegible] for butt runs chiefly on Irish, of which large [illegible] time to come on to the market. Fresh [illegible] prime from 100s to 104s while choice [illegible] to 96s to 98s, and fine down to 90s. Dairy butters range from 84s to 90s. Welsh creameries are somewhat easier, finest at 96s, and lower grades down to 82s. Dorset butters bring 94s to 96s. A very sharp decline has taken place in Danish [illegible] at 110s to 111s, or 4s lower than last week; unbranded sorts are 2s less.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Stone: 14 or 15 for 1s. Bedale: 14 or 15 for 1s. Gainsborough: 14 for 1s. Settle: 15 to 16 for 1s. Sheffield: 12 and 13 for 1s. Spalding: 15 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Dorchester: 11d to 1s per dozen. Hereford: 15 for 1s (wholesale). Market Drayton: 14 to 16 for 1s. Barnsley: 12 or 13 for 1s. Goole: 15 for 1s. Keighley: 12 for 1s. Knaresborough: 14 or 15 for 1s. Louth: 16 for 1s. Market Weighton: 16 for 1s. Masham: 16 and 17 for 1s. Northallerton: 14 or 15 for 1s. Stockton: 12 and 13 for 1s. Whitby: 14 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 3d per score.

Thursday. Barningham: 11 and 12 for 1s. Devizes: 15 to 18 for a shilling. Brigg: 16 to 18 for 1s. Driffield: 17 for 1s. Penistone: 15 for 1s. Ripon: 14 or 15 for 1s. Scarborough: 13 for 1s.

Friday.—Derby: 13 for 1s. Stratford-on-Avon: 1s to 1s 3d per score; duck eggs 1s 7d to 1s 8d per score. Whitchurch: Hen eggs 14 and 15 for 1s; duck eggs 10 and 11 for 1s. Stockport: 12 for 1s. Nantwich: 14 for 1s. Chester: 14 for 1s. Easingwold: 16 and 17 for 1s. Leyburn: 15 or 16 for 1s. Lincoln: 14 or 15 for 1s. Otley: 14 or 15 for 1s. Cardiff.—Eggs are 3d to 6d dearer. Welsh, 7s 3d to 7s 6d. Irish, 6s 6d to 7s 2d; Hungarian, 5s 8d to 6s 10d; Austrian, blues, 5s 4d to 5s 8d, and reds 4s 10d to 5s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday. Butter: The sale of Australian and New Zealand butter is now nominal, at prices ranging from 96s to 98s for choicest, with very small demand for finest. Arrivals during the month of June have been 1,085 casks from New Zealand and 2,340 from New South Wales. The only colonial butter now on the market is Canadian, which is growing in bulk week by week. The Copenhagen official quotation for Danish butter was 96 kroner at the date of our last report on this butter. It rose the following week to 92, and the next week to 95, which is the highest quotation at the end of June since 1883. During the first week of this month, it fell to 90 kroner, where it now remains. Cheese.—Trade at the present moment is dull, and prices for Canadian on the spot are 48s to 49s choicest, c.i.f, quotations are about the same value. The arrivals from Canada and the States this season have been large and are estimated at about 180,000 boxes in excess of last year, but are about the same quantity as arrived in the corresponding period in 1897.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden. [illegible] and fruit met a good demand. [illegible] evidenced a fair supply. [illegible] 2s per bushel; parsley, 1s to 1s 6d per bushel; [illegible] 1s 3d; [illegible] Lisbon, 1s 3d per box; [illegible] Egypt, 1s to 1s 3d per box. Potatoes [illegible] Jersey, 1s 6d per lb. Bermuda, 1s per lb. Tomatoes [illegible] 1s to 1s 6d per lb. Cherries [illegible] 1s 3d per case. Fruit [illegible] 1s 3d per box; [illegible] 1s 3d per box. Bananas [illegible] 2s to 2s 6d per bunch. Pines [illegible] 2s per lb. Grapes [illegible] 1s per lb. Lemons [illegible] 2s per box. Melons [illegible] 1s to 2s each. Peaches [illegible] 1s 6d per dozen. Apricots [illegible] 1s per dozen. Nectarines [illegible] 1s 6d per dozen. Plums [illegible] 1s per dozen. Gooseberries [illegible] 1s per half-sieve. Currants [illegible] 1s per half-sieve. Raspberries [illegible] 1s per pottle. Strawberries [illegible] 1s per pottle. Cucumbers [illegible] 1s to 1s 6d each. Mushrooms [illegible] 1s per lb. Asparagus [illegible] 1s per bundle. Peas [illegible] 1s per lb. Beans [illegible] 1s per lb. Beetroots, 2s per tally; cauliflowers, 3s 6d per dozen; spinach, 2s per bushel; [illegible] 1s per dozen; [illegible] 1s per dozen; [illegible] 1s per dozen

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The thin plant and short straw of the wheat crop in the great wheat counties of Kent, Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, and Lincoln practically place 1900 among the less satisfactory of harvest years. Bu as there are often fairly good crops on heavy lands, and the Midlands are more fortunate than the south and east and north of the Humber, including Scotland, there may still be average wheat crops. The season is fully a fortnight backwards, but if August prove fine we may have a good average quality and the bulk on the right side of twenty-nine bushels. The barley crop has not yet recovered from the untoward spring and from the ravages of wireworm. Like wheat, it is very short in the straw. The yield is not likely, either in quantity or quality, to equal an average. Oats show a really remarkable improvement since the wet June, and both beans and peas should yield well. Potatoes are coming on, and the root crops have also made a notable advance. There is, on the whole, a short yield of hay.

The Continental harvests look like being an average in all countries save France and Roumania. In the first the yield is put at 10 per cent. below the mean, while in Roumania "the largest wheat crop on record" is already spoken of. This report may be taken *cum grano*, for the Roumanians are an impulsive people, and after the deplorable crop of 1899 the fine yield of 1900 naturally seems extremely large. That sober view which an international trade has to take shows that even 20 per cent. above an average in Roumania would by no means balance a 10 per cent. deficiency in France.

In the United States the winter and spring wheat crops appear to have gone different ways. The Bureau report, published on the 12th inst., put the winter wheat at ·808 of an ideal crop, but the spring wheat at only ·552 of an ideal. The North-Western States were specially visited by a travelling inspector, whose independent testimony fully confirmed the advices received at Washington from the local Government reporters. A special estimate which reaches us from a good source puts the crops as follows:—

	Qrs.
Winter wheat	42,275,760
Spring ,,	20,050,560
Total	62,326,320

The yields of recent years have been officiall returned at:—

	Qrs.
1899	68,413,000
1898	84,394,000
1897	66,268,000
1896	53,460,000
1895	58,388,000

A private firm has received a cable putting the winter wheat at fourteen bushels and the spring wheat at nine bushels to the acre. The maize crop is of fine promise, and the colossal area of 83,309,000 acres has been devoted to its growth. This area, on the present aspect of the crop, should produce a yield of 249,927,000 qrs. Oats have fallen off in promise and so has barley.

The markets of the past week have been firm, if slow, and scarcely any English wheat has been parted with under 30s. per qr. The London average issued on the 13th inst. of 73 qrs. sold at the three previous markets for 26s. 7d. per 480lb., or say 28s. per 504lb., is amazing. The quantity placed on sale was 1,751 qrs., and there was a fair to good demand, so that probably 1,500 qrs. changed hands. The price probably averaged 31s. per 504lb. The Baltic lists quote *no* English wheat to be had under 30s., and leading vendors put their prices at 32s. for red and 33s. for white. Sales of 97 qrs. of oats at 26s. 2d. are about correct as to price, but 400 qrs. were offered, and it is probable that fully 350 qrs. were sold.

American wheat remains in good request, and prices from 31s. to 35s., according to quality, are obtained; 33s. 6d. would be a very fair average for all kinds. There is not a very good sale of Argentine, as so much of it arrives in a dirty state, and the milling fraternity have not yet become accustomed to the seven distinct types produced in a region covering a million square miles. Russian wheat is a dull trade, but supply is too small for such trade to be weak.

The imports of breadstuffs have been as follows:—

	Qrs.
Foreign wheat	365,000
,, flour	169,000
Breadstuffs	534,000
English wheat	77,000
Total supply	611,000

This is substantially in advance of requirements, and the stocks in granary on 14th inst. were accordingly estimated at 2,777,000 qrs.

The following are the quantities of wheat which were on passage to the U.K. on the 14th inst.:—

Wheat.	Qrs.
Russian	25,000
Turkish	15,000
Californian	1,060,000
American	395,000
Argentine	463,000
Australasian	220,000
Total	2,085,000
July 14, 1899	2,465,000
,, 1898	2,400,000
,, 1897	715,000

The figures for 1897 were the smallest ever known. About two and a quarter million is an average.

The quantities of other staples on passage thus compare with last year:—

	1900.	1899.
Flour	336,000 sacks	335,000 sacks
Maize	715,000 qrs.	810,000 qrs.
Barley	170,000 ,,	115,000 ,,
Beans	10,000 ,,	25,000 ,,
Linseed	135,000 ,,	172,000 ,,
Rapeseed	12,000 ,,	7,000 ,,
Cotton-seed	8,100 tons	6,000 tons

The reduced expectations of linseed and rapeseed more than balance the increase in cottonseed. The total of maize on passage is about an average, but that of barley is small, and would appear still more so but for the even greater reduction in supplies on passage which took place in July, 1899.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week included 151,100 qrs. of maize, 51,500 qrs. of barley, and 173,700 qrs. of oats. The first two items were small, but the third is above the mean. The market for maize and barley is, in consequence, firmer than that for oats. At this time of year, however, heavy and seasoned oats are in good request for horses, and for these kinds 21s. to 23s. is paid. The American visible supply of maize is cabled at 1,539,000 qrs. only against 1,513,000 qrs. a year ago and 2,667,000 qrs. in 1898. The exporters of maize only buy in small quantities at a time in periods of quiet business, but the visible supply is a valuable warning as to the accumulation of grain for the purposes of speculation. When we see maize stocks under three million qrs. we are thereby sure that no extensive manipulation is in progress, and we may take prices therefore as genuine. At New York 17s. per qr. has been averaged against 13s. 6d. per qr. for the like week in 1899. After paying "the ferrymen" and their satellites, insurance agents, lightermen, and so forth, 17s. per qr. at New York represents not less than 20s. 6d. per qr. at Mark Lane. The average price of linseed is 52s. 10½d. against 36s. 3d. last year. The late Lord Winchilsea, who tried so hard to reintroduce flax growing, would have rejoiced to see this average. Cottonseed averages £6 2s. 6d. per ton against £6 4s. last year. Thus the rise is not in oilseeds as a whole, and the coincidence of good linseed crops in any two out of the three great producers, Russia, India, and Argentina, would soon reduce that staple to a 40s. level in the lands of minor production, such as England, Holland, Germany, and France.

THE BALTIC.

The cargo trade for American spring wheat was at its best on the 11th and 12th, when 6s. 10d. per cental was paid for August delivery. Since the close on the 13th 6s. 9d. has not been exceeded. The ordinary wheat cargo transactions by the quarter embrace arrived, Californian at 31s., Walla Walla at 30s., and Argentine at 29s. 3d. A cargo of Australian is held for 31s. 6d., and another of Manitoba for 32s. 9d. per qr. For August shipment fine American spring has made 31s. 9d.; hard winter, 31s.; best old Duluth, 33s. 3d.; Argentine, 29s. 9d.; and New Zealand, 30s. per qr.

Barley cargoes have realised 19s. 9d. for Azoff, 18s. for Persian, 26s. for Californian brewing, 29s. 6d. for Chilian Chevalier, 26s. 6d. for Chilian brewing, and 21s. for American feeding. Maize has made 22s. 6d. for Roumanian, 20s. 6d. for mixed American, 21s. 9d. for Argentine, and 24s. for Odessa. Other cargo sales are No. 2 Canadian peas at 28s. 3d.; Saida beans at 28s.; Azoff rye at 24s. 6d.; white Libau oats at 15s.; and Smyrna dari at 23s. per qr.

Cargoes of linseed oil are offered for prompt shipment at £34 6s. 8d. per ton; of cottonseed oil, at £21 16s. 6d., and of brown rape oil at £28 15s. 6d. per ton. A cargo of poppyseed was sold on Saturday for 47s. 6d. prompt shipment from Bombay.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 12 wheat (1 Adelaide, 3 Buenos Aires, 1 Portland (O.), 3 Rosario, 4 San Francisco), 1 locust beans (Faro); total 13.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the period 7-14 July were 2 wheat (1 Antwerp, 1 Dublin), 1 beans (Greenock); total, 3.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

Some very fine 64lb. English white wheat has fetched 33s. 6d. per qr. Nothing is to be had under 29s. 6d. per qr. Fine red makes 31s. without difficulty. But the firmness of English is largely due to scarcity. Foreign wheat is firm for strong red sorts. Special wheat from the Winnipeg district is held for 34s. 6d., and the finest Duluth for 6d. above that. But ordinary foreign white wheat is 6d. cheaper on the week. Scarcely any Indian, Chilian, Roumanian, Polish, or ordinary Canadian wheat is to b had. The millers' choice of samples is certainly more restricted than usual. Maize has realised 26s. 6d. for very special Cinquantina, but a cable announcing 444,000 qrs. freshly shipped by the Atlantic ports stops the idea of advance for flat corn. Argentine is firmly held. Oats are firm for English, and steady for Russian, but American are weak. Barley shows a good demand for Persian, but most kinds are neglected. Other sales to-day include Russian buckwheat at 24s. per qr., Spanish lentils at 16s. per cwt., very fine Scotch tares at 68s. per qr., dun peas from Australia at 26s. 6d. per 504lbs., and Morocco dari at 23s. 6d. per qr.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

JULY 16, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	31	— 33
Red	,,	29	— 32
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30	— 37
Brewing	,,	25	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Brown	,,	29	— 32
OATS, English	,,	19	— 23
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 19
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	43	— 45
,, Winter	,,	30	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	— 76
,, Dun	,,	32	— 34
,, Maple	,,	38	— 40

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	34	— 35
American Spring	33	— 34
,, Winter	32	— 33
Hard Manitoba	33	— 34
White Canadian	33	— 34
Red ,,	32	— 33
Californian	33	— 34
Walla Walla	32	— 33
Australian	32	— 33
New Zealand	32	— 33
Argentine	31	— 32
Danzig	34	— 35
Saxonka	33	— 34
Azima	32	— 33
Ghirka	31	— 32
Persian	30	— 31
MAIZE, per 480lb.:		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Roumanian	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 25
Caucasian	24	— 25
Argentine	23	— 24
American	21	—21/6
OATS:		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	16/6	—17
American (320lb.)		
,, White	16/6	—17
,, Mixed	15/9	—16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (320lb.)	16	— 17
,, (304lb.)	13/6	—15
Libau white (304lb.)	13	—13/9
,, black ,,	15	—15/3
BEANS, per 480lb.:		
Konigsberg	28	— 29
Egyptian	29	— 30
Smyrna	28	— 29
Barbary	27	— 28
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Cyprian	106	— 112
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	30	— 31
Indian, White	28	— 30
,, Green	25	— 27
Barbary	26	— 28
Dutch	41	— 43
LENTILS, per 504 lb.:		
Egyptian	29	— 31
Indian	36	— 38
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	26	— 27
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb.:		
French	28	— 29
Russian	25	— 26
BARLEY:		
Calif. Chev. (448 lb.)	23	— 29
Calif. Brew. (448 lb.)	27	— 28
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 24
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Persian (400 lb.)	17/9	—18
American (400 lb.)	20/2	—21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	34	— 37
Smyrna	33	— 36

OIL SEEDS

LINSEED.	per 416lb. s.	s.
English	55	to 56
Dutch	53	to 55
Argentine	52	to 54
Canadian	55	to 56
Russian	50	to 51
Calcutta	53	to 55
SESAME.	per 424lb.	
Bombay	50	to 52
Kurrachee	53	to 54
COTTON SEED.	per ton.	
Egyptian	127	to 129

RAPESEED.	per 416lb s.	s.
English	35	to 37
Dutch	32	to 34
French	47	to 48
Cawnpore (yellow)	46	to 47
,, (brown)	43	to 44
Calcutta (brown)	43	to 44
Guzerat	48	to 49
Ferozepore	44	to 45
Ravison	29	to 31
POPPYSEED.	per 377lb.	
Indian	47	to 48

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

The market closed very stiff for feeding stuffs. Even flat maize was stronger at the close. The growing crops are naturally better spoken of than a week ago, but the trade is not materially affected by home news when the great American harvest is asserted to be more or less deficient.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, July 16.

The market to-day was rather depressed, owing to the great heat and the indisposition of bakers to keep much flour by them with the temperature at ninety in the shade. Town Household flour made 24s. 3d. to-day, and country makes were irregular; 21s. to 23s. Of the finest American grades Pillsbury is selling from 25s. 9d. to 26s. 3d. per sack; Star, from 27s. 6d. to 28s; Gold Medal, from 26s. to 26s. 6d., and Minnesota Success, from 25s. per sack. The shipments freshly cabled are not over 150,000 sacks of all kinds, but the American market is not strong. Secondary American grades, serviceable household flour, are obtainable to-day at 20s. for Ceres, 20s. 3d. for Improved, Nicollet, 20s. 9d. for Iron Duke, and 20s. 3d. for Minnesota Stalwart. Hungarian flour was dull, but steady to-day. French was in scarcely any request at currencies. Australian flour makes 23s. for best, and 21s. for ordinary. There is but a small supply. Meal and milling offals had an upward tendency, but trade was the reverse of brisk.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)		— 30
Town Whites	„		27/6
„ Households	„		24/6
No 2.	„		22/6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	25	— 26
Fine Roller made	„	24	— 25
Ordinary Roller made	„	23	— 24
Best Stone made	„	22	— 23
Ordinary Stone made	„	21	— 22

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25	— 26
„ Second Patents	„	23	— 24
„ First Bakers'	„	21	— 22
„ Second Bakers'	„	19	— 21
Milwaukee Patents	„	24	— 25
„ Bakers'	„	21	— 22
Kansas Patents	„	24	— 25
Oregon	„	23	— 24
Californian	„	22	— 23
Hungarian	„	29	— 32
French	„	20	— 22

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	170	—172
Wheat Germ Meal	„	107	—109
Bran, London Broad	„	97	—102
„ Fine	„	76	— 82
„ Country Flake	„	106	—108
„ „ Broad	„	94	— 96
Pollard	„	76	— 82
Fine Middlings	„	104	—110
Coarse Middlings	„	92	— 96
Oat Meal	„	212	—272
Oat Flour	„	337	—362
Maize Flour	„	130	—132
Maize Meal	„	112	—122
Maize Cones	„	142	—146
Maize Germ Meal,	„	94	— 96
Pea Meal	„	128	—158
Bean Meal	„	152	—172
Rice Meal	„	87	— 92

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day at South Sea House, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

Wheat.—	July.	Aug.	Oct.	Dec.
	s. d.	s. d.	s d.	s. d.
July 9 noon	6 9 .. 6 9	.. 6 11	.. 7 0	
4 p.m.	6 9 .. 6 9	.. 6 11	.. 7 0	
July 10 noon	6 9 .. 6 9	.. 6 11	.. 7 0	
4 p.m.	6 9 .. 6 9	.. 6 11	.. 7 0	
July 11 noon	6 9 .. 6 10	.. 6 11	.. 7 0	
4 p.m.	6 9 .. 6 10	.. 6 11	.. 7 0	
July 12 noon	6 9 .. 6 10	.. 6 11	.. 7 0	
4 p.m.	6 9 .. 6 9	.. 6 11	.. 7 0	
July 13 noon	6 9 .. 6 9	.. 6 11	.. 7 0	
4 p.m.	6 8 .. 6 9	.. 6 10	.. 7 0	
July 14 noon	6 8 .. 6 9	.. 6 10	.. 6 11	
To-day noon	6 7 .. 6 7	.. 6 8	.. 6 9	

Maize makes 4s. 3d. per cental for forward delivery, with 4s. 4d. asked.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that new English trifolium is now offering; as the new crop will probably be a large one, prices promise to open low; samples of new French seed, showing good quality, are also coming to hand. Cloverseeds, of all kinds, with but little business passing therein, are firmly held. Full rates are asked for mustard and rapeseed. Canaryseed, with a strong undertone, attracts increasing speculative attention; good sound hempseed meantime is 1s per qr. dearer. Blue peas and haricot beans find buyers on former terms.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: There is still a considerable inquiry on this market for hops of all descriptions. Stocks are very light, and prices are firm. Reports from the plantations speak of a continuance of the aphis blight, fresh fly appearing daily.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Under the influence of hot forcing weather the wheat trade has lost the animation apparent last week, and although the variations in values are slight, prices must be quoted generally in buyers' favour. Barley firm and unchanged, flat maize 3d. dearer, round unaltered.—W. P. Wood and Co., Mark Lane.

Flour: A very quiet trade at last week's prices.—T. S. Medill, Mark Lane.

The trade for town-made milling offals is strong, and prices of middlings have increased 2s. 6d. to 5s per ton. Bran and pollard firm, but country buyers still stand off. Rangoon rice meal is offering at 90s., rails.—Richard Doggett, Mark Lane

Our market is now very thinly attended, and the business doing in seeds is on a very small scale. Of old clovers of all kinds and of old trefoil, the offerings are unusually light, the holders of the small stocks existing not being willing to accept current values. New French trefolium is freely offered, but there seems no disposition to buy at the prices asked, the general opinion being that little will be sown this autumn. Canary seed continues dull. Mustard and rapeseed are in moderate request. Haricots and blue peas are pretty well cleared off.—John Picard and Co., Mark Lane.

Wheat: a quiet trade, prices 6d. lower. Flour unchanged. Maize 3d. per qr. dearer. Barley and oats maintain last week's prices.—Coventry, Mark Lane.

Many of the wholesale houses have contracted for bran for the summer months, and in consequence the demand from this class of buyers is rather quieter. Weather warm and favourable for hay-making, which has now become more general.—Greenhill Bros., Belfast, July 14.

Wheat quiet with a small business; white wheat ½d. per cental lower, red ½d. dearer. Flour in very quiet demand. Foreign brands are mostly 6d. per sack easier than last market day, but the Liverpool Association of Millers make no change in the minimum quotation for their "baker's" grade. Maize has met a fair demand for mixed American, which sold at fully last market day's price and closed firm thereat. River Plate moves well into consumption at full prices. European, quiet, unchanged, with the exception of Cinquantina, which yesterday were raised 1d. per cental and are now firmly held at the advance. Barley firm for brewing, which are held rather higher. Other qualities steady at full prices. Beans in moderate demand with no quotable change in prices. Peas quietly steady at late rates. Oats have a fair demand for British, which are held at full prices; foreign steady, unchanged. Oatmeal firm, but nothing doing. Oilcake had a moderate demand and is firmly held at fully late rates to some advance.—Ross T. Smyth, Liverpool, July 14.

THE BALTIC, Monday, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

The wheat cargo market is better for red than for white descriptions. There is not very great energy in either branch. Maize cargoes are in good request at a further 3d. advance. Barley is firm, but oats and beans are neglected. Cargoes of oil seeds are selling well.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Californian, 31s 6d, arrived; Argentine, 29s 3d, arrived; No. 1 Northern, 32s, on passage; No. 1 Northern, 32s 3d, August shipment; Best Duluth, 34s, August shipment; Odessa Ghirka, 29s, October, shipment; Australian, 31s, prompt shipment.

Maize.—Roumanian, 21s 9d, prompt shipment; Argentine, 21s 9d, August shipment; American, 21s, September shipment.

Barley.—Nicolaieff, 19s, prompt shipment; Persian, 17s 6d, prompt shipment.

Peas.—Canadian, 27s 9d, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 59s 6d, arrived; 56s, nearly due; 55s, September shipment; Bombay, 53s, prompt shipment.

Rapeseed.—Ravison, 29s 6d, September shipment; yellow Guzerat, 16s. 6d, prompt shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £6 10s 0d, September shipment.

Arrivals of Grain.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been 192 wheat, 13 wheat and barley, 6 flour, 8 maize, 1 maize and oats, 21 barley, 14 beans, 7 locust beans, 1 linseed, 2 canaryseed, 5 valonea; total, 270.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 169 wheat, 8 flour, 3 maize, 6 barley, 1 barley and beans, 6 beans, 1 locust beans, 4 linseed, 4 canaryseed, and 7 valonea; total, 209.

Indian Oilseed Crops (Official).

[By Cable.]

Calcutta, July 14.

	1900.	Average (1891-9).
	Qrs.	Qrs.
Linseed	1,472,000	1,915,000
Rapeseed	2,255,000	2,625,000

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, July 16th, 1900.

	British.	Foreign.	Total this day.	Total July 17th, 1899.
Beasts	1,480	1,480	1,480	1,420
Sheep and lambs	5,580	5,580	5,580	7,420
Calves	5	5	5	5
Milch cows	50	50	50	50

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	3 2 —	4 4 —	5 0
Sheep	3 0 —	5 0 —	6 [illegible]
Lambs	5 6	5 10 ..	6 6

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £21 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, —; Eastern Counties, 144; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,082; Devon, 70; and Ireland 34.

Compared with last Monday the supply of beasts on offer showed an increase of 200 head due to large arrivals from the Midland Counties, whilst Norfolks were not 1 shorter. Trade for both prime and second quality was slow and rates easier. A clearance will not be effected. For fat cows and bulls there was a fair inquiry, with a light supply; rates in some places were firm. There was no demand for the few roughs that came on offer.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	July 17th, 1899.
Herefords	4s 10d to 5s 0d	.. 4s 6d to 4s 8d
Norfolks	4s 6d to 4s 8d	.. 4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 9d to 4s 11d	.. 4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 8d	— 4s 0d to 4s 4d
Irish	4s 4d to 4s 6d	.. 3s 10d to 4s 0d
Fat cows	3s 10d to 4s 0d	.. 3s 6d to 3s 8d

In the sheep market there was an increase of 1,200 in the number penned compared with Monday last, the supply including 240 Scotch, 420 Irish and 1,800 from the Eastern counties. Trade for both wethers and ewes ruled slower, a clearance having to be forced at a decline of 2d per stone, particularly with regard to the latter. For best quality lambs there was a steady demand, higher rates being obtained, but other qualities were difficult to vend.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	July 17th, 1899.
7½ to 8-stone Downs	6s 0d to 6s 2d	.. 5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-stone ditto	5s 10d to 6s 0d	.. 5s 6d to 5s 8d
10-stone half-breds	5s 6d to 5s 8d	.. 5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-stone Lincoln	— to —	.. 4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	5s 4d to 5s 6d	.. 5s 0d to 5s 2d
10-stone Down ewes	4s 8d to 4s 6d	.. 4s 2d to 4s 4d
11-stone half-bred ditto	4s 0d to 4s 2d	.. — to —
5-stone Grass lambs	6s 4d to 6s 6d	.. 6s 2d to 6s 4d
6-stone half-bred ditto	— to —	.. 5s 8d to 5s 10d

Calf trade nominal.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Market very firm and 2s 6d dearer on the week. Westerns and Russians are offered very sparingly for shipment. Decorticated cotton cake: Stocks small and prices firm. Cotton cake: 1s 3d up. Linseed steady; values as last.

English linseed cake	£8	0	0	to £8	5 0 ex mill
American Western linseed cake	7	7	6	to 7	10 0 ex quay
Russian oil cake	7	12	6	to 7	15 0 ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 p.c. oil)	None				ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	6	12	6	to 6	17 6 ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6	10	0		ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	4	7	6	to 4	10 0 ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4	7	6		ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4	6	0		on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4	5	0	to 4	7 6 ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2	15	6	to 2	16 0 ex warehouse

—Robt. and John Hewetson.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,581 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 10,253 bales b con. The supplies of bacon were still in excess of the demand last week, but at rather lower prices all round; there was a better advance, market closing steady at 48s. to 56s. up to 68s for Irish; 46s to 56s up to 64s for Danish; and 50s to 52s up to 58s for Canadian. The butter market was steady, prices being high for the time of year. Danish, 108s to 108s; Irish, 92s to 102s. Canadian, 98s to 102s. Lard quiet: Irish, 44s to 50s; Danish, 44s to 46s; American, 36s to 37s.

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Belfast, July 10, 1900.

No. of Details.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d	cwt. qr. lb	£ s. d
1	Bullock (prime) ..	15 15 0	8 3 14	1 [illegible] 6
1	„ „ ..	19 10 0	11 0 0	1 15 0
1	„ „ ..	17 10 0	10 0 7	1 14 9
[illegible]	„ „ ..	16 5 0	9 2 14	1 [illegible] 0
[illegible]	„ (very good) ..	16 16 8	10 0 21	1 13 0
1	„ „ ..	19 10 0	11 3 14	1 12 10
1	„ „ ..	15 15 0	9 2 14	1 [illegible] 0
[illegible]	„ „ ..	15 7 6	9 2 0	1 [illegible] 0
[illegible]	„ „ ..	13 17 6	8 2 14	1 [illegible] 0
1	Heifer (prime) ..	13 17 6	7 2 21	1 [illegible] 0
[illegible]	„ (very good) ..	13 10 0	8 [illegible]	1 [illegible]
1	„ „ ..	14 [illegible] 0	8 2 14	1 [illegible] 4
[illegible]	„ (good) ..	13 12 6	8 3 14	1 12 4
1	„ (fair) ..	13 17 6	9 0 14	1 [illegible] 0
1	„ (prime) ..	17 15 0	10 [illegible] 14	1 11 11

CORK BUTTER.

	Ordinary.				Mild Cured Factories.			Finest Mild Cured.
	Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	83	82	80	79	88	84	89	188
Tuesday ..	83	83	80	79	88	84	89	[illegible]
Wednesday ..	84	84	82	79	90	86	90	[illegible]
Thursday ..	84	83	82	79	90	84	91	[illegible]
Friday ..	85	84	82	79	89	86	92	188
Saturday ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

For fat beasts of both prime and second quality the trade at Islington, which was confined to Monday, though of a slow nature was firmer in regard to value, especially for the best, Herefords, which are now arriving in increasing numbers, taking the place of consignments from Norfolk, the season for which is now closing, whilst the Irish season is now beginning. Fat butchering cows and bulls, being in light supply and meeting with a steady demand, were more easily disposed of, even at an advance of 2d. per 8lb., a clearance being early effected. Very little demand for the few rough cattle on offer, owing to so many being lately condemned for tuberculosis. At the foreign cattle market there was a decrease of 957 in the number on sale compared with last week, owing to shorter consignments from the United States, in consequence of which trade was of a firmer nature, both in regard to tone and value, markets being held on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets was 4,175 (previous week 5,102), consisting of 1,120 British and 3,055 foreign, these latter comprising 1,920 from the United States and 1,135 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—95-stone Herefords, 5s.; 105-stone ditto, 4s. 10d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 8d.; 100-stone Shorthorn ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.; 100-stone Loncolns, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 5d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 6d.; 105-stone ditto, 4s. 3d.; 90-stone Canadians, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 5d.; 95-stone fat cows, 4s.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d. On Monday the trade for sheep at Islington ruled firmer for both wethers and ewes, as was also the case with regard to lambs, these making 2d. per 8lb. more money, whilst on Thursday ewes were 2d. per 8lb. lower, wether sheep with difficulty holding their own, as also did the best quality lambs, but heavy ditto, as well as half meaty sorts, were more difficult to cash. At Deptford rates were firm at an advance of from 2d. to 4d. per 8lb. The total number penned was 13,417, consisting of 12,980 British (increase 190), and 437 Canadian (decrease 53). Best pens made per 8lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 6s. 4d.; 8-stone Scotch, 6s. 4d.; 9-stone Downs, 6s. 2d.; 10-stone ditto, 6s.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 10d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 8d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 8 to 8½-stone Canadians, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 5-stone fat grass lambs, 6s. 4d.; 6-stone ditto, 5s. 10d. Calves were shorter in number (100), and met a steadier trade in consequence, but cannot be quoted any dearer, the best making 5s. 4d. per 8lb. (sinking the offal).

Trade in the West.

All kinds of store stock, cattle as well as sheep, are showing improvement. Sheep are beginning to "boom," and we are looking with confidence to a still more marked rise in values, though the improvement which has already resulted within the last few days—a rise all round of from 2s. up to as much as 7s. a head— is very gratifying to flockmasters. An encouraging feature is that there are more buyers than sheep can be found for. The mutton and lamb trade keeps up unusually buoyant. Both veal and pork are firmer than might be expected.

Trade in Ireland.

A decrease of cattle in Thursday's Dublin market had the effect of stiffening prices and creating a slight advance on the best descriptions. Good bullocks for export were in active demand and sold briskly. Coarse cattle and dairy-fed cows were, however, hard to move. The sheep trade was slow and disappointing, possibly owing to the warm weather making butchers more cautious in their dealings. The trade for lambs was worse than last week, best being 2s. per head lower, while thin and lean descriptions were almost unsaleable, and a large number unsold. Veal without quotable change in price, but choice meeting with very active demand. Pigs were in moderate supply, and buying brisk, the advance in price gained last week being fully maintained, and an early clearance effected.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been rather under the average, and a good trade throughout has been experienced and prices without quotable change. Sheep have been shown in larger number, the best qualities meeting a good inquiry at previous prices, but heavy weighted ewes were slightly cheaper. Exceptionally large numbers of lambs forward, the best selling well, but secondary and inferior making less money. There was an extra good show of calves, selling dear. Pigs also met a good trade. Very small supplies of store sheep of fair quality, and these met a quiet trade and a number of a secondary description unsold. Store cattle shown in moderate numbers, and less inquiry than of late, and several secondary lots left unsold. There were smaller numbers of milch cows, prices similar to last week; secondary classes more difficult to sell. Quotations: Top price best beef, 8s. 3d. to 9s. per stone. Best mutton, 8¾d. to 9¼d. per lb. Ewes, 5¾d. to 7½d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Supplies were only of fair extent, but trade ruled slow owing to hot weather. Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 8d to 5s; long, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d; seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; forequarters, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; seconds, 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s to 5s 4d; English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 8d; English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Veal; English and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Good supplies offered, but trade slow. Beef: Scotch, short sides, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; long, 4s to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 10d to 4s; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; seconds, 3s 6d; forequarters, best, 3s; seconds, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s 4d; English wethers, 5s; ewes, 3s 8d to 4s; Canterbury, 2s 11d to 3s 2d; Wellington, 2s 10d to 3s 1d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 7d to 2s 8d; English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast entries were on a small scale, and although chiefly consisting of fat bulls and rough cattle, evidenced a very fair demand at steady rates. Good supply of sheep and lambs penned and a slow demand prevailed for both wethers and ewes, the latter being occasionally 2d per 8lb lower. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 6s to 6s 4d; 9-stone, 5s 10d to 6s; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 6d to 4s 8d, exceptionally 4s 10d; 11-stone half-bred, 4s 2d to 4s 4d. Lamb trade slow at about late rates. 5-stone fat Downs, 6s to 6s 4d. Calves met a fair enquiry, the best making 5s 6d per 8lb, to sink the offal.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Best beef, 12s to 12s 6d per score; secondary beasts fetched 11s to 11s 6d. Mutton in good demand. Down and cross-bred wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d per 8lb, and best small Kents 5s 2d to 5s 6d. Barrens about 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb. Lambs, 6s to 7s per 8lb. Veal, 5s to 5s 4d, and pork, notwithstanding the heat, sold well at last week's rates. There was very little store trade.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was an average attendance of buyers, to meet a supply of 33 fat beasts, 76 calves, 530 fat sheep and lambs, 71 pigs, and 100 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £14 to £21 5s; fat calves, 75s to £5; small, 20s to 50s; fat wethers, 39s 6d to 61s 6d; fat ewes, 38s to 40s; fat lambs, 27s to 42s 6d; fat porkers, 26s to 45s; store pigs, 13s to 22s; dairy cows, £9 10s to £19 10s. The show of fat beasts was short in numbers, but good as regards quality, and included consignments of prime quality Shorthorn, Scotch, and Norfolk polls. Shorthorn stores reached £20 15s, heifers £19, and cows £12 10s; two-year-old polled Angus steers up to £18 10s, and heifers £15 10s; polled Norfolks up to £21 5s. A clearance made with a firm trade. Prime quality wethers and ewes were cleared at about last week's figures, but lambs were lower and part of the supply left the ring unsold, being held beyond the views of the buyers. The extreme heat has an adverse effect on the trade. Prime quality Hants Down wethers and ewes made 48s, 61s 6d, 47s, 44s, 41s, 40s, 39s 6d; Southdown, 46s 6d. 36s; Scotch, 44s; 18-months old Hants Down wethers and ewes, 52s, 41s 6d, 48s 6d, 43s, 42s 6d; 6-months old lambs, 33s, 38s 6d, 39s, 32s, 42s 6d, 42s, 33s, 35s 6d; 3-months old ditto, 31s 6d. Crossbred lambs, 26s 6d; ditto Southdown, 27s; black face Scotch, 18s, 15s; old ewes, 37s, 33s, 40s, 36s. 36s 6d. With a short entry of dairy cattle, trade for all best sorts of milch cows showed an improvement. Store cattle met a good demand at higher prices; fat calves with a moderate supply made more money; fat porkers met a better trade owing to a short entry and quicker demand; store pigs were cleared at late prices. Ruling values:—Best quality fat beasts, 7d to 7¼d; second ditto 6¾d to 7d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5½d to 6d. Best quality sheep, big lambs, 8½d to 9d; second quality ditto, 7¾d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 6d to 7d; 3-months old sucking lambs, 9d to 9½d per lb. Fat calves, 6d to 8d per lb. Fat porkers, up to to 10s per score.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs ..	2½ in. and under.. ..	9s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in. ..	9s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in. ..	8s 6d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in. ..	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—Beasts, 369; sheep, 1,282; pigs, 400; horses, 10. Beef, 7s 9d to 8s 3d; mutton, 5s to 6s; pork, 5s to 6s 6d. Small show store beast, trade slow. Fat beasts, a good number to hand, prices unchanged. Fat sheep, a good trade at late rates. Stores, a large show and trade dull. Fat pigs, very little alteration in the trade, prices a shade better. Stores, not quite so good as last week.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The supply was limited, but the demand was somewhat improved. Wethers were selling at from 37s to 38s, and a few exceptionally good tegs made 41s per head. There were only a few cows and calves offering. Yearlings sold at £5 to £6 10s apiece.

Carlisle, Saturday.—About 400 Irish store cattle formed the supply to-day. These were mostly heifers of a small and medium description, and a number of nice polled heifers were included. The attendance of buyers was affected by the hay harvest, which is now in full swing, and trade was quieter in consequence. Prices for the smallest beasts were from £6 10s to £8 10s; best sorts up to £14 10s; polled heifers, £11 10s. Young pigs were a small show, and changed hands as soon as brought into the market.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Fat stock, of which there was about an average supply, met with a fair inquiry, and trade was firm. Best Southdown mutton showed an improved tendency.

Derby, Tuesday.—There was a less animated demand for beef and mutton at to-day's market, and prices were easier. Beef, 6d to 7d; mutton, 7d to 8½d; lambs, 8d to 9d; pigs, 8s to 9s per score.

Doncaster, Tuesday.—Fair show of cattle, and fully an average supply of sheep, late prices ruling in both cases. Beef, 8s to 8s 6d per stone; mutton, 7½d to 8½d per lb for shearlings, and 5d to 6d per lb for ewes. Lamb cheaper, 9d to 9½d per lb; veal, 8d to 9d per lb.

Dorchester, Saturday.—By no means a heavy delivery of stock, and this gave a very firm tone to the trade. Milch beasts, for anything good, were exceptionally dear, making up to £22 each.

Dublin, Thursday.—A firmer tone prevailed in the beef market, and a good clearance was effected. Demand for prime qualities was good, and well maintained, with prices more in favour of sellers. Sheep of best quality for home consumption making late rates, all other sorts lower. Lambs quieter trade at prices favouring buyers. Cattle (best), 35s to 36s per cwt; exceptional for fancy crossbreds, 38s per cwt; other descriptions, 30s to 32s per cwt. Mutton, 5¾d to 7d per lb. Lambs, 17s to 36s each.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Beef again in good demand, best quality making about late rates. Quotations:—Blue-grey bullocks, to £19; heifers, to £15; horned bullocks, to £18; ditto heifers, to £15; polled bullocks, to £18; Galloway cows, to £15; calving cows, to £13. Sheep made late prices; Cheviot ewes, to 32s; blackfaced ewes, to 40s.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Supplies of sheep as last week, with slow trade, in favour of buyers. Half-bred hoggs, 34s to 40s; Cheviots, 20s to 28s; black-faced wedders, 27s. Cattle were small, and the supply short. Horned bullocks sold at £13 16s; stirks at £9 to £10. In the best classes of shorthorns, cows brought £24 to £26; Ayrshires, to £18 10s; crosses, to £19.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies shorter of cattle; something similar to last week for sheep and lambs. Trade quiet, owing to the holidays. Top mutton 9d to 9½d; secondary, 8d to 8½d; lambs, 9d to 9½d per lb. Top Scotch cattle, 68s to 70s; secondary, 62s to 64s; grass Irish, 60s per cwt. Dead meat a quiet sale, prices easier; best States beef, 5½d; home wedders, 8d to 8½d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 486, calves 114, sheep 1,833, lambs 1,099, pigs (fat and sows) 9, sucking pigs 22, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 104, pigs (stores, more than ten) 49, horses 1. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; lamb, 9½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robt. Bond and Sons report: The supply of fat cattle was good for the time of the year, and with the usual attendance of buyers, trade ruled firm without any alteration in values, the best animals making up to £21 15s. A larger supply of fat lambs, some of which were remarkably good, realising from 51s downwards. The number of fat sheep were shorter than usual, the best animals ranging from 55s 6d. Calves for weaning were again in strong demand up to 62s. Fat calves were scarce and dear making up to £5 2s 6d. Fat swine were fairly well represented, and prices ruled in favour of consignors. Stores were short and dearer. Thirty-six cows and heifers were forwarded, the best were sharply competed for and excellent prices were obtained. A polled cow and a calf made £19 10s. A half-bred Dutch from the same consignor made £16 10s, others ranging downward to £10 10s. Several lots of store cattle were offered and found buyers at rather more money. Numbers at sales and market:—Beasts, 642; calves, 44; sheep, 2,589; pigs 741; horses, 64.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair supplies of home bred bullocks in good condition; trade active for choice qualities; inferior flat milch cows, £21 per head; bullocks, £12 to £18 per head. Young stock a slow trade.

Lincoln, Friday.—Owing to the heat, extremely bad market. Milch beasts, £12 to £21; two-and-a-half-year-old bullocks, £13; drapes, £8 to £11; and a few young beasts changed owners at from £4 10s to £8. Three lots of store sheep realised from 30s to 40s each. In pig department suckers sold at 15s to 21s; and stores at from 25s to 40s.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Fair trade, prices steady. Numbers:—Cattle, 1,469; sheep and lambs, 7,823; calves, 92; pigs, 412. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s 6d to 5s 9d per stone; pork, 5s to 7s 6d per stone; mutton, 6d to 9d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 5d to 8d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A short supply, but there was a very good business. The quotations were:—Best beef, 6¾d to 7d per lb; secondary, 6d to 6¾d; best wether mutton, 8¼d to 8¾d; ewes, 7d to 7¼d; lamb, 8d to 8¼d; veal, 7d to 8d; porker pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store cattle was moderate here to-day, and many of the lots on offer were of a second-rate character. The best descriptions sold readily, at fully former terms, but other lots were dull, at barely previous rates. Fat beasts were firm at 7s 9d to 8s and 8s 3d per 14lb. Store sheep were in large supply: trade was quiet, at about former rates, lambs making 18s to 32s, and keeping shearlings 38s to 46s per head. Fat sheep, which were in moderate supply, were dull, at 9s to 9s 6d and 9s 9d per 14lb.

Preston, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, but trade was slow, and prices a shade easier all round. Rather small supply of cattle and good supplies of sheep and calves. Heifers and bullocks, 6¼d to 7¼d; cows and bulls, 5¾d to 6¼d; mutton, hoggs, 7¾d to 8¼d; tups and ewes, 5¼d to 7d; lambs, 8d to 8¼d; calves, 5¼d to 6¾d. At market—185 cattle, 2,730 sheep and 90 calves.

Romford, Wednesday.—There was a large supply of fat beasts, and trade was about the same. Best animals made 4s 6d to 4s 8d, and middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves were in average supply, and trade was worse, at 4s 8d to 5s per stone. Sheep were in large supply, and trade was very slow. Best sheep made 5s 6d to 5s 8d, and middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Lambs were in average supply, and trade was slow, at 5s 8d to 6s per stone. There were very few store beasts on offer, and the demand was slow. The pig trade was bad, owing to the great heat.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was again larger. Trade ruled quiet, but sellers maintained late rates. There was a larger show of sheep and lambs. Choice quality of both met with a quiet trade at about last week's prices; medium and inferior grades were dull and much lower. A smaller display of calves, and a fair demand at late rates. Quotations: Cattle, 5½ to 7¼d; sheep, 6¼d to 9½; lambs, 8d to 9¼d; calves, 5¼d to 7¾d per lb. At market—Cattle, 1,657; sheep and lambs, 20,569; calves, 134; pigs, 36.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was only a small supply of milch beasts on offer, but a very fair trade was done, best quality making £18 to £23; secondary, £12 to £18.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A large supply of beef, making 8s per stone. Fair trade for store beasts at late rates. Milking cows and in-calvers dear. A small supply of sheep, which maintained their price, about 8d per lb being realised for mutton.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 174 cattle, 5 calves, 200 sheep, 124 lambs, and 248 pigs. Only a slow trade for a small show of best cattle, prices ranging from 8s 6d to 9s; rougher kinds, 7s to 7s 6d per stone. Calves, 6d to 7d; young sheep, 8¾d; lambs, 9½d; ewes, 7d; tups, 5d to 6d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Small supply and moderate attendance. The sheep trade was quiet, but cattle showed an improvement.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a capital supply of stock at market, and the quality, particularly the beef, was considered the best that could possibly be found in any market. There was a large attendance of buyers, and trade was very fast at improved prices, and no less than ninety out of the ninety-five beasts offered were sold under the hammer. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 95 prime fat bullocks and heifers, 261 fat sheep and lambs, 46 fat and weaning calves, and 16 pigs. Bullocks made £17 to £21 15s; fat heifers £14 to £20 10s; fat wether sheep, 44s to 56s 6d; fat ewes, 36s to 48s; fat lambs, 31s to 42s; fat calves, £4 to £4 12s; cow calves, 25s to 56s; bull calves, 17s to 49s. Pigs were dearer.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Larger supplies of all kinds, but trade quite at a standstill, the fine weather, no doubt, keeping farmers in hayfields. Prices had a downward tendency. Lambs, 8d to 9d per lb; wethers, 8d to 8¾d. Other kinds, 5¾d to 6¾d. Best beef, 7½d. Other qualities, 6¼ to 7d. Numbers at market: Beasts, 1,405; sheep, 4,914.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—The very sultry weather considerably interfered with trade, whilst hay-making operations affected the attendance, which was far below the average. There were 1,405 fat beasts on offer, against 1,387. The beef trade ruled very dull, but as choice lots were scarce prices

were well maintained for the best qualities; other sorts were a shade easier. Best beef, 7d to 7½d; useful lots, 6½d to 6¾d; rough sorts, 5½d to 6d per lb. There were 4,914 sheep and lambs, against 4,825 last week. Lambs and choice small sheep met with a steady demand, lambs selling at 9d to 9½d per lb, and small mutton at 8d to 8½d. Good strong sheep made 7d to 7½d, and fat and heavy ewes and tups were almost unsaleable at 5½d to 6½d per lb. Fat calves moved off slowly at 6d to 7½d per lb and breeding calves made 20s to 24s each. There was a big show of milch cows, but trade was dull and prices about £1 per head lower. Best milch cows, £18 to £22; inferior, £12 to £17.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Large supply all round; trade slow. Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb; lamb, 8d to 8¾d per lb. Milch cows a short supply; fair demand from £14 to £20. Bacon pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score; porkets, 9s 9d to 10s per score; sows, 7s 6d per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Market well supplied in all departments, but trade ruled quiet. Best quality cattle sold well, but inferior sorts were neglected. Mutton slow trade, at rather easier rates. Calves made previous prices. Poor trade for pigs.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A very full market, with some excellent quality beasts and sheep penned, good prices being realised all round. Beef again made fully last week's prices. Best 8s to 8s 9d; secondary, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; best shearling mutton, 8d to 9d; ewes and other sorts, 5d to 7d; veal and lamb, 8d to 10d per lb.

York, Saturday.—Calves, 8d; small sheep, 8½d; large sheep, 8d; ewes, 6d to 7d; and lambs, 9d to 10d per lb; small pork pigs, 6s 3d; and large ditto, 6s 9d to 6s per stone.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—A sale of United States and Canadian cattle was held in the afternoon, when there were penned in the lairages 994 animals. There was a very large attendance of buyers, both wholesale and retail, and trade was good throughout, last week's values being fully maintained. The dead-weight quotations were as follows:—Best States bullocks, 58s per cwt and for really choice up to 60s; secondary and heavier animals, 56s; bulls, 48s to 50s according to quality and finish; best Canadian bullocks, 56s, and for really choice up to 58s; secondary and heavier animals, 54s; best bulls, 50s; and secondary and heavier, 46s to 48s.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—At the sale of United States and Canadian cattle held to-day there were offered 642 animals, 238 of which were left over from the previous day. There was another good attendance of buyers, but trade was rather slow, a fact due to the large supplies and the hot weather. The dead-weight quotations were as follows:—Best States bullocks, to 58s per cwt; current, 56s; secondary and heavier, 54s to 56s; best bulls, to 48s; prime, 46s; secondary and heavier, 44s; best Canadian bullocks, 56s; heavy prime, 54s; secondary and heavier, 53s; and bulls, 44s to 46s, all according to quality and finish. Taken all round, the trade was not so good as that ruling last week, values experiencing a drop of from 10s to 20s on those then ruling.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—Owing to Calcutta seed offering by re-sellers, and with lower offers from Azov, the market has declined, but to-day, with more enquiry from consumers, prices are firmer. Linseed cakes are firm. London made £7 15s to £7 17s 6d. Russian, £7 7s 6d to £7 12s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £7 2s 6d to £7 5s. Cotton cakes also firm. London made £4 5s to £4 7s 6d. Rapeseed is very quiet. Cottonseed.—Old crop to London there is a slow demand, on passage £6 5s is asked, and for August shipment £6 7s 6d without finding buyers, November-January there are buyers at £6 1s 3d. Hull—Spot, we quote £6 3s 9d, July £6 5s, August £6 7s 6d, October £6 7s 6d nearest value, November-January buyers £6 1s 3d. Cargoes, August could be bought at £6 12s 6d, for October sellers are asking £6 15s, November £6 3s 9d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: Although there is at present very little consumptive demand, values still have an upward tendency in consequence of the small offerings both from the United States and Russia and the probability of light shipments for the next two or three months. Russians in warehouse are firmly held at an advance of 2s. 6d. per ton. Americans continue scarce, but small lots may be had at last Monday's prices. English move off slowly, and are unchanged in value. Cotton cakes meet a better inquiry, and with only a limited quantity of Egyptian in warehouse, holders ask rather more money. Decorticated offer sparingly, and needy buyers have to pay an advance of 2s 6d for cake, while meal is unchanged. Rape cakes: Quiet. Maize germ meal: American continues scarce and unaltered, but there is a fair business passing in English on slightly easier terms. Rice meal: Rangoon in warehouse sells quietly at last week's prices, while for July-August shipment 1s 3d per ton more money has been paid.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... per ton ex mill	7 17 6	to	8 0 0
American in bags ..... ex dock	7 7 6	„	—
Russian in mats ..... „	7 10 0	„	7 11 3
Russian in bags ..... „	7 12 6	„	7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	4 5 0	„	4 7 6
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 5 0	„	4 7 6
„ „ Nov.-April shipment	4 10 0	„	—
Decorticated ..... „	6 12 6	„	6 15 0
Meal, on spot	—	„	6 10 0
„ June-July	—	„	6 7 6
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 5 0		—
Ravison ..... „	4 0 0	„	—
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American) ..... ex dock	—	„	5 0 0
Germ meal (American) ..... c.i.f.	4 17 6	„	4 18 9
„ (English) ..... ex mill	4 17 6	„	4 18 9
MANURES.			
Nitrate of soda ..... ex dock	—	„	8 0 0
Bone Compound ..... per ton on rails	2 17 6	„	—
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	4 5 0	„	4 7 6
Rangoon, July-August	—	„	4 2 6

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—The market is fairly steady to-day for foreign wheat at last week's prices, while home-grown, from scarcity, commands rather over the rates of last Tuesday. No change in barley. Oats and beans maintain the full prices of last week. Flat maize, being scarce on the spot, is 3d to 6d per qr dearer on the week; round corn unaltered. Linseed has been dull and inactive, with scarcely anything to test values. Cottonseed.—A good clearance was made of spot seed at £6, and with scarcity of further sellers, value since improved to £6 2s 6d, which paid for small lots, and is the value to-day. Oil seed cakes, quiet at previous rates. Hemp, unaltered.—KEIGHLEY, MANSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 12s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 17s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 15s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 7s 6d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Short supplies, values steady. Best clover, 95s to 100s; inferior ditto, 65s to 75s; specially picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 85s; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 77s 6d, and straw, 25s to 30s per load.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There is a steady consumptive demand for hay and straw in the warehouses, and values remain firm and unchanged. Quotations: Meadow hay, 6½d; clover hay, 7d to 7½d; wheat straw, 5½d; oat straw, 5d; rye straw (retail), 7d per stone; green clover, 3½d per bundle.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—Owing to the continuance of the strike in Holland, no shipment can take place, and holders there will not make offers until they can see their way to ship. Canadian mixture is worth 80s; Dutch and French first cut clover, 82s 6d to 85s; good Dutch hay, 60s to 65s; inferior Dutch hay, 57s 6d to 60s; large bale French wheat straw, 38s; small bale French wheat straw, 44s 6d. All these prices are per ton delivered by barge alongside.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10, Great Tower Street, E.C.

WOOL.

London, Monday.—Three catalogues were brought forward at public sale this evening, and together totalled 6,587 bales, consisting of 2,540 New South Wales and Queensland, 1,073 Victorian, 1,308 South Australian, 14 Tasmanian, 1,505 New Zealand, and 204 Cape and Natal, also 6 Italian and 5 Jamaica. A full attendance of buyers was present, and spirited competition resulted, at fully late rates, the lower qualities of crossbred showing a hardening tendency. New South Wales—greasy combing, marked S and S over Burrowa Creek, sold 9½d to 11d; scoured ditto, C. F. and Co. over Connulpie Downs, 1s 4d; clothing of the same mark, 1s 3½d. Queensland—greasy combing, A. P. and Co., Warbreccan, 7½d to 9½d; lambs, 8d to 9½d; scoured combing, Mount Margaret, M. D. I. and Co., 1s 3d to 1s 4½d. Victorian—combing in the grease N.Z. and A. Land Co. over Till Till, 6¾d to 9d; ditto W. G. S. over Nareeb-Nareeb, 11½d to 1s 0¼d; Mokanger, 11½d. Tasmania—greasy combing, H. M. over Eastbourne, 8½d to 10½d; ditto C. B. G. over Strathroy, 9½d to 11½d; ditto W. G., 9½d to 11½d; and the mark W. G. over Barrowville, 10d to 1s. New Zealand—greasy crossbred, marked Rangatira, 5½d to 7½d; greasy lambs, 5½d to 7½d; ditto C.A. over T., 8½d to 11d; combing, marked Balvraid, 7½d to 8d.

London, Wednesday.—Messrs Charles Balme and Co. brought forward the total of 8,166 bales, comprising 3,806 New South Wales and Queensland, 848 Victorian, 520 South Australian, 1,884 New Zealand, and 1,108 Cape. A good attendance of buyers was present, and competition ruled brisk, full rates being realised. Queensland greasy combing, marked D.S.W. over Terrick sold 9½d to 10d; lambs, 9½d to 10½d; combing L D. in diamond 8d to 9d; ditto F.M.Y. over Northampton, 8¼d to 9½d; ditto of the mark, Albilbah, 9d to 10d; ditto, G.F. over Logan Downs, 9d to 10d; scoured combing, F.M.Y. over Northampton, 1s 4½d to 1s 5½d; and ditto Albilbah, 1s 7d. Port Philip—greasy lambs, F. in diamond, 8d to 1s. New Zealand—greasy combing, Maclean, 5¾d to 7¼d; ditto marked P.W., 6d to 7½d.

London, Thursday.—At public sale this afternoon, Messrs. Jacomb, Son, and Co. brought forward the total of 7,548 bales, comprising 3,097 New South Wales and Queensland, 837 Victorian, 737 South Australian, 1,043 Tasmanian, 1,818 New Zealand, and 13 Cape. Competition from a full attendance of buyers was of a spirited character, and resulted in firm prices being realised. New South Wales—scoured combing marked R. and P. over Oomoobah, sold 1s 7d; greasy ditto, D. R. Y. over N. S. W., 10¼d to 1s; clothing of the same mark, 1s. Queensland—greasy combing, Talgai West, 11d; ditto Waroonga, 10½d; and the mark Mount Abundance, 9¼d to 10d; scoured combing, marked Claverton, 1s 4d to 1s 7d; necks, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d; lambs, 1s 5½d; necks, Tolson Corinda, 1s 2d to 1s 4½d. Tasmanian — greasy combing, Downie, 10½d to 1s 1d; lambs, 6½d to 10d; combing, Y. B. over Newstead, 10d to 1s 0½d; clothing, 11½d; combing, G. H. B., 10d to 11d. Victorian—scoured combing, W. C. and Son over Barmutha, 1s 7d.

London, Friday.—At auction this evening two catalogues were offered, and together amounted to 12,374 bales, and the large proportion of 6,122 comprised New Zealand, the remainder consisting of 2,544 New South Wales and Queensland, 1,388 Victorian, 1,022 Tasmanian, and 4 South Australian. A large attendance of buyers was assembled, which resulted in spirited biddings at fully late prices. New South Wales—scoured combing, marked D Werrina, sold 1s 5d; clothing, 1s 5d to 1s 7d. Victorian—greasy combing, Killancola, 10½d to 11¼d; ditto, N. Z. and A. Land Co. over Bendure, 8½d to 10d; broken, 7½d to 8¾d. Tasmanian—greasy combing, Scott, 10d to 1s 0¼d; clothing, 10d; ditto, G. F. over Thirkell, 10¼d to 1s 1¼d; and the mark G. S., 1s. New Zealand—greasy combing, Teviotdale, 7¾d to 9¼d.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per pack of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £7 10s; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb: Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; scoured average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average to fair, 10d to 11d; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 7¾d to 9d; South Australian, greasy average, 6¼d to 7d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 4½d to 1s 5½d; greasy average, 8d to 8¼d; Cape scoured superior, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; fleece average, 8¼d to 9¼d; greasy average, 6¼d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 7¼d to 7¾d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 9¼d to 11d; New Zealand fine, 8¼d to 9½d; ditto medium, 7¾d to 8¼d; ditto coarse, 6¾d to 7d.

London, Saturday.—At public sale this afternoon two catalogues were offered, and comprised 6,934 bales, being made up of as follows:—1,542 New South Wales and Queensland, 1,057 Victorian, 300 Tasmanian, 29 South Australian, 2,237 New Zealand, 128 Cape, 1,629 Punta Arenas, and 12 Italian. A good attendance of buyers was present, and a good competition prevailed, at full to dearer prices.

Bradford, Thursday.—Rather better tone to-day. Topmakers are asking a fractional advance, and although users do not freely pay it, some fair quantity of business has been done during the past week at about the lowest current rates. English wools are slow of sale, and fine classes are still 1d below the rates ruling at Southern auctions. In mohairs, values are rather weak.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There has been only a moderate amount of business doing during the week, but prices are at about as low a level as they well can be. Kent fleeces only realise 6d per lb and lambs' wool, 4d to 5d per lb.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—As a result of Dec. 1st [illegible] practically no demand for fertilisers. The trade in [illegible] sorts has been quiet for some time past, but [illegible] inquiry has been experienced, and fair sales are [illegible] at the subscribed rates. With reduced freights [illegible] has been known for years past, and other materials have [illegible] values advancing. Nitrate of soda best quality [illegible] terms 95 per cent., prime, in bags, £8 2s 6d per [illegible] East India bone meal, in bags, £4 5s to £4 10s per [illegible] kanir, prime 25 per cent. in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s 6d per ton; linseed cake, American, from oil-mills, fair to prime, in bags, £7 10s to £7 15s per ton; ditto, English, in bulk, £8 2s 6d to £8 5s per ton; ditto, decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 12s 6d to £8 0s per ton; ditto, English, ditto, prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s per ton; ditto, English, undecorticated, prime, in bags, £7 17s 6d to £8 per ton; ditto, American, from oil-mills, fair to prime, in bags, £7 10s per ton; rape cake, English, in bulk, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d per ton; cocoanut cake, prime, in bags, £5 10s per ton; cotton cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; cotton meal, English, in bags, £6 5s to £6 7s 6d per ton; maize germ meal, English, in bags, £6 5s to £6 7s 6d per ton; meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bags, 11s 3d to 11s 9d per 280lb; linseed meal, undecorticated, in bags, £2 19s 6d to £3 per qr, 416lb; N.A. cloverseed, mixed, fair to good, in bags, per cwt. D.N.S. basic phosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags; ditto, 20 to 24 sol., in bags, £11 per 75 to 76 [illegible] bags; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed [illegible] per cent. phos., in bags; ditto, ditto, ditto, 35 to 40 phos., in cent. phos., in bags; ditto, ditto, ditto, 45 to 50 per cent. phos., in bags, finest quality guaranteed, 70 to 75 per cent. phos., in bags, per ton on rail. Hoyle's Lancashire [illegible] phosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags; ditto, 20 to 24 sol., in bags, £11 per 75 to 76 [illegible]

LIVE STOCK.

OUR PLATE.

The subject of the plate given with this issue is the Red Polled heifer Charmante 10080, the property of and bred by Lord Amherst, of Hackney, Didlington Hall, Brandon, Norfolk. She is by Caister Spark 3413, out of Charm 2nd 7739, by Didlington Davyson 2nd 657. At the Bath and West Show at Bath Charmante was placed second in her class, but at the Royal Show at York she came out at the top, and won, in addition, the Red Polled Society's Champion Prize for the best Red Polled cow or heifer.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

Volume IX. of the Southdown Flock Book has now been published. The total number of flocks registered in this volume is 113 (comprising 37,300 breeding ewes), being an increase of seven on the year. There are 378 individual entries of rams, and 239 ewes, the total being 120 in excess of those in Volume VIII. Since the publication of the previous Volume, notice has been received of the dispersal of eight registered flocks, while fifteen new flocks have been accepted for registration, and are duly entered in Volume IX. For the first time there are illustrations, the animals portrayed being the first prize shearling ram and the first prize shearling ewe at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Maidstone.

Thursday, August 16th, is the date of the Denbighshire and Flintshire Agricultural Society's fifty-eighth annual Show, at Denbigh, for which a liberal prize schedule has been drawn up. There are numerous special prizes, but the major portion of the classes are open only to residents in the district. Entries close on July 26th, and at double fees on July 31st, with Mr. Thomas Welsby, Wellington Chambers, 5, Wellington Road, Rhyl.

The last day of entry for the Hackney Stud Book, Vol. XVIII., is August 1st, 1900 (with double fees to September 1st). The secretary will be glad to forward forms for the entry of stallions, mares and produce, on receiving an intimation as to the number required. His address is Mr. Frank F. Euren, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

The latest intelligence from Argentina is, says the *Statist*, that the cattle disease is being rapidly stamped out in the province of Buenos Ayres; but it still remains in Santa Fé and Entre Rios. There is some fear that there may be a recrudescence. But if that fear is unfounded Buenos Ayres has been exceedingly fortunate in getting rid of the epidemic so quickly. Meantime one effect of it has been to give a great stimulus to arrangements for extending the trade in dead meat, and it is expected that there will be a very considerable increase in that trade before long.

The annual sale of pure bred Shorthorn cattle and Lincoln Longwoolled sheep belonging to Mr. Henry Dudding, will take place on Tuesday, the 24th inst., at Riby Grove, three miles from Stallingborough Station, Lincolnshire, the auctioneers being Messrs. John Thornton and Co., in conjunction with Messrs. Calthrop and Briggs. The valuable young prize winning animals to be sold without reserve this season, and the great excellence also of the young stock included, which have not been exhibited, make this year's sale an important event in the summer Shorthorn fixtures. About thirty choice young cows and very handsome heifers, as well as twenty young bulls, comprise what is thought to be the best selection ever shown at Riby.

For years Mr. Dudding has purchased some of the best animals offered at English breeders' sales, as well as in Scotland. The introduction of the blood of the Garne and other Gloucestershire Shorthorns proved very successful, and Mr. Deane Willis' bull Golden Robin 68718, purchased from Mr. Ecroyd in Cumberland, turned out a remarkably good sire. At the October sales in Aberdeenshire many good animals have been purchased for some seasons past, and some of these are included. From Mr. C. M. Cameron, Balnakyle, came several choice and highly bred Scotch Shorthorns, which have been successfully exhibited, some of which are by Fortune 70467, bred by Mr. W. S. Marr, a son of that well known sire Captain of the Guard 58596, and their dams are by Merlin 54715, bred by Mr. Cruickshank, used eleven years at Balnakyle. Other choice animals were selected from the first-class herds belonging to Mr. A. M. Gordon, of Newton, and Mr. John Wilson, of Pirriesmill, Aberdeenshire.

Many of the cows and heifers are served by Pride of Fortune 73240, bred by Mr. W. Duthie, his sire, Pride of Morning 64546, being the winner of the first prize, the Shorthorn Society's prize, and two medals at the Highland Show in 1894. Others are served by Shanghai 75618, a son of Mr. John Wilson's Sunflower 10th, first prize cow at Huntly in 1898. He was sold to go to South America at a high price. Sherborne Duke, bred at Sherborne Park, Gloucestershire, by Scottish Chief, a bull of good quality, has also been used, as well as Fisherman 74551, lot 49, bred by Mr. G. Freeman, winner of the Shorthorn Society's prize at the Gloucestershire Show in 1899. The handsome young bull King Alto, lot 54, winner of first and Champion prizes at the Oxfordshire Show at Oxford, this year, is included in the sale, in which there are ten prize-winning animals and others promising for exhibition.

The Lincoln sheep to be offered this year comprise fifty-two specially selected yearling rams, and about the same number of yearling ewes. The sheep this year are in admirable condition with dense fleeces of finest wool, and are considered the finest lot ever offered for public sale from the Riby flock. The grand ram, lot 1, winner of the first and champion prize this year at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show, as well as the first prize pen of five yearling rams at the same show, are all in this year's catalogue, and will be sold without reserve. As most of our readers well know the Riby Grove flock has been remarkably successful at the R.A.S.E. meeting at York, and other leading shows this season.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, announced that they would be shipping, per the s.s. *Lakonia* (Donaldson Line), from Glasgow, on Saturday last, about 200 sheep, comprising most of the winners in the various breeds at the Royal Show. This firm are also shipping about sixty head of Scotch Shorthorns by the same boat, the whole being on account of Mr. Robert Miller.

Sixty Shorthorns belonging to Mr. Bickley, of Ellesmere, Shropshire, will be put up for sale by auction at The Fields, Ellesmere, on Friday next, the auctioneers being Messrs Alfred Mansell and Co., in conjunction with Messrs. Parry and Batho. Shorthorn cattle have been bred by Mr. Bickley in the neighbourhood of Ellesmere for about twenty years, and as a foundation, purchases have been made from the herds of Messrs. Thompson, Hobbs, Evans, Edmonds, Kendal, Chesters, Garne, J. Deane, Willis, and Tremaine. Several of the cows are of the Waterloo, Kirklevington, Graceful, and Countess tribes, and will be found large-framed animals, possessing substance with great dairy properties, and in healthy breeding condition. In founding the herd, and in subsequent purchases, Mr. Bickley has not been led away altogether by pedigree, but has always selected cows of practical utility as milk and beef producers, and great care has been taken to breed from high-class bulls, which on both sides emanated from deep-milking families. The herd has a great reputation in the Midlands and North Wales, and so far as bulls are concerned, the herd has been long and favourably known as producing some of the best bulls in the county, several having been sold for exportation at a high figure. Exhibition has not been largely practised, but young animals have been sent to the County and local shows invariably with success; notably this season winning first, second, and third in the class for two-year-old heifers at the Shropshire and West Midland Show.

On Wednesday, August 1st, Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. will dispose of about fifty head of pure bred Shorthorn cattle, the property of Mr. Edward Ecroyd, at the Low House Farm, Armathwaite, Carlisle. The herd has been judiciously bred and selected from many of the best herds in the country since the year 1880. The herd has now so considerably increased that it has become necessary to make a reduction, and the animals to be sold comprise virtually the whole of the produce of the past three years. The object in breeding has been to increase the size and substance and yet retain the style and quality as well as the milking properties of highly bred specimens of Bates blood, with the heavy flesh and constitution of the Scotch Shorthorn. An inspection of the herd will show that the object has been virtually achieved. There are a number of remarkably fine heifers and particularly choice lot of young bulls, most of which are fit for service or for exportation.

On the second day of the Tunbridge Wells Show (July 20th), Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. will sell by auction in a paddock opposite the entrance to the show ground, which adjoins the L. B. and S. C. railway station, the herd of pure bred Kerry cattle, the property of Mr. W. H. Mullens, of Westfield Place, Battle, Sussex, and some pure bred Dexters from the herd of the Countess De La Warr, at Bexhill-on-Sea. Mr. Mullen's herd has been bred in Sussex from some of the best specimens obtainable from Ireland and from purchases made at Messrs. Robertson's and other first-class sales in this country. The well known bull Blacksmith (318, R.D.S.), winner of first prize at the R.A.S.E. Show, at Leicester, in 1896, was obtained from Mr. Adeane and did good service. Another bull, Coco (384, R.D.S.), was obtained from the same breeder and introduced some of the blood of Blackamoor 246. Included in the sale are nine prize winners, among them being Empress, first at the Royal Counties and Tunbridge Wells Shows, in 1896; Dahlia, first and champion at the Dairy Show, in 1898; Vesta, first at Tunbridge Wells last year; Cowslip, first at the B.W.E. meeting at Cardiff, in 1898; Gloria, first at the same Society's meeting last year, and Sirdar 47, first prize bull at Tunbridge Wells last season. The cattle are naturally hardy and have been reared in a very healthy manner, running out regularly.

The Whalley Agricultural Association's annual Show will be held at Whalley, on Monday, August 6th, and the usual liberal prize list has now been issued. There are classes for light and heavy horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, dairy produce, etc., some of which are open to all England. The last day for making entries is July 30th. Entry forms, prize schedules, etc., can be had on application to the Secretary, Mr. J. Rawcliffe, Whalley, near Blackburn.

Acting on the suggestions received from exhibitors, the Horse Show Committee of the Royal Dublin Society have arranged that the thoroughbred yearlings are to be stabled in outside boxes at the coming Horse Show.

The English Jersey Cattle Society has just issued volume eleven of their Herd Book and Register of Pure Bred Jersey Cattle. It contains the pedigrees of 303 bulls, 1,112 cows, and the calves born up to December 31st, 1899, in 298 herds of members of the Society. At the end of the volume is given a list of members, as well as a geographical summary, whilst there is a full record of the events in members' herds during the year, and other information that will be useful and instructive to breeders generally.

The entire herd of pure bred Aberdeen-Angus cattle belonging to Mr. G. G. Littlejohn, Wellhouse, and a select portion of Mr. Cran's (Morlich) herd, will be sold by auction at Wellhouse, Alford, Aberdeenshire, on Wednesday, September 19th, by Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., of Perth. The reason of the disposal of Mr. Littlejohn's herd is that that gentleman has decided to retire from farming. The foundation of the present Wellhouse herd was laid by the purchase, nine years ago, from Mr. Anderson (the former tenant) of a few cows and heifers. Amongst these were Favourite Lass (a Ruth cow), Bee of Wellhouse, Blushing Bride, etc., from whom many of the present herd are descended. The stock is, and always has been, in a sound, healthy condition, and has not got any special preparation for the sale. Mr. Littlejohn has taken many prizes at the Alford Shows, and on the few occasions on which he has exhibited at the Royal Northern, he has also been successful. Most of this year's calves are by the prize bull "Evening Star of Advie," and are a good lot—the heifer calves specially so. Most of the cows and heifers in calf this year are early calvers.

Polled cattle have been bred at Morlich for over fifty years, and in the hands of Mr. Cran and

his father have proved highly successful, notwithstanding that some portions of the farm are about 1,000ft. above sea level. Mr. Cran has been particularly fortunate in the sale of his bull calves at Aberdeen, the prices obtained being exceptionally good. During recent years he has also been very successful at the show preceding the sale. Of the twenty females catalogued, thirteen belong to the Beauty of Morlich family, being descended from Beauty of Morlich 2072, a doughter of Windsor 202, which won the first prize as a yearling heifer at the show of the Royal Agricultural Society of England at Windsor, in 1851, and first prize as a cow at the Highland and Agricultural Society's Show, at Berwick, in 1854. There are also included in the sale list two representatives of the Miss Watsons (of Keillor origin) and a single member of each of the Erica, Pride of Aberdeen, Matilda, and Purity (of Wester Fowlis), and Duchess of Druminnor families. Mr. Cran has been most careful in the selection of sires for his herd. His principal stock bull, Rover of Craibstone 12948 (a Pride of Aberdeen), being of grand quality and constitution, has left excellent stock. He is descended through a Powrie prize-winning family, one of which, Pride of Powrie 5th 19819, won first prize as a three-year-old cow at the Highland and Agricultural Society's Show at Aberdeen, in 1894.

The fifteenth annual sale and letting of pure bred Hampshire Down sheep belonging to Mr. Lambert Brabraham, Cambridge, will take place as usual at Cambridge on Friday, August 3rd, in a field adjoining the Cattle Market. The sale will commence at two o'clock, and the catalogue comprises eighty grand rams and ram lambs. The auctioneers are Messrs. Chalk, 11, Alexandra Street, Cambridge, from whom fuller particulars, etc., can be obtained.

CATTLE.

Sale of Mr. P. Saillard's Sussex Cattle.

Messrs. King and Chasemore conducted a successful sale of pure-bred Sussex stock in Springfield Meadow on Wednesday week. The animals, which were presented in a capital condition, were sold by order of Mr. P. Saillard, of Buchan Hill, Crawley, a successful exhibitor and breeder of Sussex cattle. His herd having largely increased, a portion was in consequence disposed of. There was a large attendance of Sussex agriculturists, competition ruled keen, bidding was brisk, and highly satisfactory prices were realised.

COWS.

	Gs.
Strawberry 8th, c April, 1886 ..... Mr. Birch	10
Careless A. 13, c August, 1887 ..... Count Munster	17
Woodmancote Mayflower, c Jan., 1888 ..... Mr. Fladgate	18
Christmas Eve 1st, c March, 1888 ..... Mr. Polehampton	24
Her heifer calf, c Jan., 1900 ..... Mr. Polehampton	27
Nellie, c Sept., 1888 ..... Mr. Atkins	13½
May Fern, of Slinfold, c May, 1888 ..... Mr. Beeney	13
Her heifer calf, c May, 1900 ..... Mr. Lloyd	7
Susan, c August, 1899 ..... Mr. Hubble	23
Her heifer calf, c Feb., 1900 ..... Mr. Lloyd	11
Golden Gentility, c May, 1900 ..... Mr. Mare	30
Rasalind, c April, 1891 ..... Mr. Beeney	12½
Her heifer calf, c May, 1900 ..... Mr. H. J. West	3
Phyllis, c April, 1891 ..... Mr. Beeney	18½
Her heifer calf, c Jan., 1900 ..... Count Munster	15
Lady Napier 3rd, c August, 1891 ..... Mr. Willett	19
Syringa, c March, 1893 ..... Mr. Polehampton	37
Wild Flower 4th, c June, 1895 ..... Mr. Lloyd	27
Seabreeze, c August, 1896 ..... Mr. Mare	17½
Her bull calf, c Feb., 1900 ..... Mr. Mare	14
Brandy 7th, c Oct., 1896 ..... Mr. Mare	20
Bewbush Sedum, c March, 1898 ..... Mr. Beeney	15
Bewbush Wind 1st, c Sept., 1898 ..... Mr. Polehampton	45
Bewbush Rosamond, c Dec., 1898 ..... Mr. Aungier	18
Bewbush Primrose 2nd ..... Mr. E. Agate	13½
Bewbush Honesty 1st, c Jan., 1899 ..... Mr. Aungier	20
Lady Napier 9th, c Jan., 1900 ..... Mr. Aungier	36
Bewbush Wildflower 1st, c Jan., 1899 ..... Mr. Maitland	14½
Bewbush Cowslip 1st, c Feb., 1899 ..... Mr. Mare	20
Bewbush Brown A, c March, 1899 ..... Mr. Hubble	18
Bewbush Galatea 1st, c May, 1899 ..... Mr. Maitland	35
Bewbush Rosalind 2nd, c June, 1900 ..... Mr. Aungier	16
Brandy 9th, c June, 1899 ..... Mr. Agate	11½
Bewbush Daff dil, c August, 1899 ..... Mr. Agate	20
Bewbush Westeria 1st, c August, 1899 ..... Mr. Aungier	25
Heifer calf, c Feb., 1900 ..... Mr. Hubble	6
Steer, c March, 1899 ..... Mr. Polehampton	15½

BULLS.

Bewbush Geoffrey, c June, 1899 ..... Mr. Dipp	27
Bewbush Conqueror, c July, 1899 ..... Mr. Ames	23
Bewbush Nobleman, c Oct., 1899 ..... Mr. Maitland	51
Bewbush Baronet, c Oct., 1899 ..... Mr Slater	20
Bewbush Gentleman, c Nov., 1899 ..... Mr. Langridge	20

Sale of Babraham Dexters and Kerries.

The eighth annual sale of Dexters and Kerries belonging to Messrs. Robertson and Sons took place on Wednesday. Mr. Jonas Webb, of the firm of John Thornton and Co., being the auctioneer. The extraordinary success that the herd has achieved this season at all the principal shows, and the announcement that Messrs. Robertson have decided not to exhibit at the breeding shows next year, in a measure accounted for the very successful result. An excellent luncheon was provided, Mr. Mullens being in the chair, and a large number of breeders and local friends attended the sale, nearly all those whose names are most prominent in connection with the breed being present. Among them were Messrs. N. Cookson, B. de Bertodano, Mr. and Mrs. J. Paisley, J. S. Snelgrove, T. Clayton, W. H. Mullens, Mr. and Mrs. Hope Johnstone, C. J. Cory, J. H. Dugdale, G. T. Barham, J. Thorley, H. Betteridge, F. H. Hordern, the steward to the Duchess of Newcastle, A. S. Gibson (representing the Hon. G. Drummond, of Canada), H. Webb, H. Lambert, and many others. La Mancha Nest Egg, the first prize cow at the Bath and West of England Show, was much admired, and Mr. Bertodano secured her for 70gs.; his opponent being Mr. J. Paisley. Beatrice exerted much competition between Mr. Gibson and Mr. Bertodano, the latter staying the longest and becoming her owner for 100gs., the highest price ever paid for an animal of the breed at a public auction. This record, however, was soon to be broken, for La Mancha Union Jack, the champion bull at the Royal Show at York, starting at 50gs., advanced by leaps and bounds to 135gs., at which price he joins Mr. Norman Cookson's herd in Northumberland. Mr. T. Clayton and Mr. Paisley were Mr. Cookson's principal opponents.

The following is a list of the principal prices realised, buyers' names, etc.:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Wee Kate 268 and her b.c. (Dexter), red, c 1892 ..... Mrs. Hope Johnstone	36½
Upminster Colley (Dexter), black, c 1893 ..... Mr. M. J. Sutton	20
La Mancha Primrose (Dexter), black, c 1893 ..... Mr. A. Stimson	12
La Mancha May Yohe 128 (Dexter), black, little grey, c 1894 ..... Mr. F. Barolet	14½
La Mancha Moth 126 (Dexter), red, c 1894 ..... Mr. F. Barolet	18
La Mancha Gretna 114 (Dexter), black and white, c 1894 ..... Mr. G. T. Barham	15
La Mancha Goletta, R.D.S. 2422 (Kerry), black, c 1895 ..... Mr. C. J. Cory	31
La Mancha Miss Ivy 116 (Dexter), black, c 1895 ..... Mr. J. S. Snelgrove	15½
La Mancha Fan 38 (Kerry), black, c 1896 .. Mr. C. J. Cory	38
La Mancha Pickles 142 (Dexter), black, c 1896 ..... Hon. Mrs. Candy	13
La Mancha Golden Reign, R.D.S. 1347 (Dexter), red, c 1897 ..... Mr. D. Collyer	23
Little Charity and her b.c., R.D.S. 1240 (Dexter), black, c 1897 ..... Mr J. S. Snelgrove	15
La Mancha Fortune, R.D.S. 1344 (Dexter), black, c 1897 ..... Mr. M. J. Sutton	14½
Upminster Starling (Dexter), black, c 1897 ..... Mr. T. H. Thursfield	18
La Mancha Fluff 140 (Dexter), black, c 1897 ..... Rev. P. Wyatt	19
La Mancha Microbe (Kerry), black, c 1897 .. Mrs. Huth	17
Cuhir Minnie, R.D.S. 1394 (Dexter), black, c 1897 ..... Mrs. Huth	17
La Mancha Nimble Girl (Dexter), black, c 1897 ..... Hon. G. Drummond (Canada)	45
Her b.c., c 1900, s Black Knight 21 ..... Mr. S. Slater	6
La Mancha Birthday 388 (Dexter), red, c Dec., 1898, s Persimmon 21 ..... Mr. F. Barolet	19
La Manch Nest Egg 94 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. B. de Bertodano	70
Her b.c., c March, 1900, s Professor 29 .... Mr. H. Gibbs	12½
La Mancha Oh My! 60 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. D. Collyer	19½
La Mancha Tidy Girl 104 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. J. S. Snelgrove	40
La Manch Turtle Dove 40 (Kerry), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. C. J. Cory	35
La Mancha Sally 26 (Kerry), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. C. J Cory	16
La Mancha Mermaid 66 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. H. Gibbs	25
Her c.c., s Professor 49 ..... Mrs. Paisley	17
La Mancha Beatrice 62 (Dexter), red, c 1898 ..... Mr. B. de Bertodano	100
La Mancha Fireside 74 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. F. Barolet	14
La Mancha Amanda 68 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. D. Collyer	16
La Mancha Not Bad 108 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. J. Dugdale	12½
La Mancha Bogie Maid 122 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. D. Long	12½
La Mancha Lady Hugo 106 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mrs. Paisley	19
La Mancha Irish Ivy 98 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. H. Gibbs	18½
La Mancha Doll 102 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. H. Gibbs	10
La Manch Rose, R.D.S. 973 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. T. H. Thursfield	14½
La Mancha Kate, R.D.S. 971 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. D. Collyr	15
La Manch Upper Tooting 96 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. H. Gibbs	17
La Mancha Shamrock, R.D.S 970 (Dexter), red, c 1898 ..... Mr. F Barolet	20
La Mancha Rosebud 64 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. H Long	12½
La Mancha Little Lady 70 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mr. R. Menzies	13½
La Mancha Bar One 84 (Dexter), black and white, c 1898 ..... Mr. E. Bennett	12
La Mancha Q'S and Q'S 134 (Dexter), black and white, c 1898 ..... Mr. F. Barolet	12½
La Mancha Lily 136 (Dexter), red and white, c 1898 ..... Mrs Hope Johnstone	13
La Mancha Gentle Lassie 100 (Dexter), red, c 1898 ..... Hon. G. Drummond	21

BULLS.

Black Knight 20 (Dexter), black, c 1897 Mr. G. T. Barham	17
La Mancha Union Jack 37 (Dexter), red, c 1898 ..... Mr. N. Cookson	135
La Mancha Bravo 33 (Dexter), black, c 1898 ..... Mrs. Hope Johnstone	13
La Mancha Jack Pot (Kerry), c May, 1899, s Young Prince 549 ..... Mr. G. T. Barham	22

SUMMARY.

	Average.	Total.
46 Cows and heifers	£24 6 8	£1.119 6 0
5 Bulls	42 12 7	213 3 0
51 Head averaged	£26 2 6	£1.332 9 0

Sale of Store Cattle at Shrewsbury.

On Friday, the 6th inst., Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. held their July sale in the Shrewsbury Smithfield, when 753 cattle of all breeds were submitted to a good meeting of buyers mostly from Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, Cheshire, Staffordshire, Kent, Cumberland, etc. The recent sales have shown a steadily growing preference for animals of good breeding and in good condition, and well set up animals were in brisk demand at prices making from 32s. to 38s. 9d. per cwt., which is undoubtedly a satisfactory return for the season. The highest price realised was for nine pure-bred Hereford bullocks, viz., £29 10s. Irish Shorthorn bullocks were in good demand, the highest price being £17 5s., a choice lot forwarded by Mr. Hopkins, a well-known Irish breeder, other lots making £15 12s. 6d., £15 10s., and younger ones down to £11. The Black Polls were much admired, and made up to £15 7s. 6d. The sale opened, as usual, with the sheep, and a good trade was experienced. These sales will be resumed in the autumn, the first to be held on Thursday, September 6th, and on that date some of the best lots in the United Kingdom will be offered.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*]

The fair at Midleton, co. Cork, on Monday, was a large one. The demand was good for first-class cattle, but a good many second and third-class animals remained unsold. There was an average supply of sheep. Lambs more plentiful, and not so dear. Prices: Calves, first class, £3 17s. to £5; second class, £4; third class, £3 to £3 5s. Yearlings, first class, £7 10s. to £8 10s.; second class, £6 to £7; third class, £4 10s. to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 to £12 10s. Springers, first class, £14 to £15 10s.; second class, £12 to £12 5s.; third class, £10 10s. Lambs, first class, £1 6s. 6d. to £1 8s.; second class, £1 2s. to £1 4s.; third class, 18s. 6d. to £1 0s. 6d. Hoggets, first class, £1 12s. 6d. to £1 15s.; second class, £1 7s. 6d. to £1 11s.

There was a very small supply of stock at the fair at Hospital, co. Limerick, on Monday, and a brisk demand prevailed. There was a small supply of lambs, for which demand was good. Quotations:—Yearlings, first class, £8 to £9; second class, £6 5s. to £7 15s.; third class, £3 10s. to £5 5s. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 10s. to £13 15s.; second class, £9 5s. to £11; third class, £7 17s. 6d. to £8 Springers, first class, £15 10s. to £19 5s.; second class, £12 10s. to £14 10s.; third class, £9. Lambs, first class, £1 5s. to £1 8s.; second class, £1 1s. to £1 4s. Young pigs in strong demand, 21s. to 25s. each.

HORSES.

Sale of Hunters.

Mr. C. H. Martyn having relinquished the Mastership of the Quidenham Hunt, the horses were put up for sale at Tattersall's on Monday. Of the lots forming the stud, a grey gelding by Asterite, 6 years, bay mare by Poplar found ready customers at 210gs., whilst a chestnut by Chifnall went at 140gs. Mr. J. W. Christmas disposed of some valuable blue roans that had been regularly driven in a coaching team, and for Connoisseur, one of the wheelers, obtained 160gs.; Chancellor, a leader, made 115gs.; and Clover, a wheeler, 100gs. The Hon. George Allsopp, M.P., disposed of Huntsman, a brown hunter from the Meynell country, for 100gs., and Gendarme, a chestnut, for 95gs. Not one of the six hunters sent up by the Earl of Shaftesbury realised three figures, whilst the matched pair of brown harness horses belonging to Georgina Countess of Dudley were bought in at 340gs.

Sale of Hackneys and Harness at Peterborough.

Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Bell held a special sale of Hackney and harness horses at the repository, Peterborough, on Friday. The top price (81gs.) was made for Roughton Lady Rose, a two-year-old filly from the stud of Mr. E. J. Johnstone, of Rougham Hall, Suffolk. Mr. Colman's Lady Steen, a daughter of Danegelt's, was withdrawn at 145gs. The principal prices realised were as follows:

[illegible]

Bess, black mare, 7 1833 ..... Mr

The property of a gentleman. Gs
Bay gelding, f 1894, s Copelder Cadet .....Mr. Benton 28
HUNTERS.
The property of Mr. C. J. E. Parker, Perthshire.
Bay mare, f 1893 .....Mr. Hamer 31
HARNESS COBS AND PONIES
The property of Sir W. H. B. Ffolkes, King's Lynn.
Bay mare, f 1895, s Brutus IV. .....Mr. Jarvis 30
Bay mare, f 1896, s Brutus IV. .....Mr. Gee 27
The property of Mr. Wm. Kerrison, Fakenham.
Brown mare, f 1895 .....Mr. Greenwood 39
Bay gelding, f 1895 .....Mr. Prince 41
Bay mare, f 1895 .....Mr. Bailey 26
Brown mare, f 1894 .....Mr. Pannell 30
The property of Rev. E. Jackson, King's Lynn.
Yellow Aster, bay gelding, f 1894, s Knight Templar
Mr. Hamer 30
The property of Mr. F. W. Richardson, Manningtree
Chestnut filly, f 1897, s Blue Eagle .....Mr. A. E. Lofts 13
The property of Mr. E. S. Stock, Manningtree.
Brown gelding, f 1894, s Gasometer .....Mr. Reynolds 27

SHEEP.

Lamb Sales.

Stowmarket.

Nearly a thousand more lambs (in all 4,500) were entered for the second annual sale at Stowmarket, held on the 6th inst., than at the initial auction, and, taking into consideration the fact that generally lower prices are prevalent this year, the auctioneers (Messrs. Spurling and Sons, with whom Mr. G. A. Woodward acted in conjunction), and those breeders who had entrusted their consignments to them had every reason to be satisfied with the outcome of the dispersal. The sale so far constituted a record for the year as regards the price for Suffolk ewe lambs, a pen of thirty from the registered flock of Mr. Samuel Scott, of Felsham, making 55s., whilst a score from the registered flock of the Executors of Mr. Thomas Woodward, of Old Newton, realised 50s. Other prices realised were as follows:—Suffolk lambs: Ewes from 24s. 6d. to 40s.; wethers, 22s. to 41s. 6d.; Suffolk ewes, 23s. to 47s.; half-bred lambs, 16s. to 30s. Blackfaced: Lambs, 24s. to 31s. 6d.; ewes, 43s. to 49s.; first cross lambs, 18s. 6d. to 24s.; ewes, 35s. 6d. to 45s. 6d.

Haverhill.

For their third annual sale of lambs and sheep at Haverhill on Monday, Messrs. Balls and Mr. C. S. Boardman, who were jointly concerned with Mr. Ernest Prentice (secretary to the Suffolk Sheep Society), recorded a very large entry, for, after some 5,500 had been catalogued, an additional 1,000 were attracted to the dispersal prior to its commencement. In these circumstances the company assembled on the meadow adjoining the railway, where the sale was held, was unusually large, comprising buyers from all parts of East Anglia. The prices all round showed an advance on previous sales in the district. The highest price was realised for thirty Suffolk shearling ewes, viz., 57s. 6d. per head. Messrs. W. and J. Gurteen, of Wilsey Farm, penned a remarkably good consignment of Suffolk lambs, mostly from Lord Ellesmere's tups. The best twenty ewes were purchased by Mr. Vaizey, of Halstead, at 50s. per head; the second fifty made 43s. 6d. per head, and the best twenty wethers 42s. per head. Mr. D. M. Gurteen also penned a good consignment of Suffolks; the best twenty ewes brought 48s. 6d. per head, and the best twenty wethers 43s. 6d. per head. Registered Suffolks by Mr. W. B. Gurteen, Smith Green Farm, realised 35s. to 26s. per head for ewes, and 33s. 6d. to 28s. for wethers. Suffolk ewe lambs, penned by the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, of Great Thurlow Hall, sold for 47s. 6d. to 35s. 6d. per head, ewes going at 34s. 6d. to 30s. The best ewe lambs, in a good consignment of Suffolks, from Mrs. Lowe, of Gosfield Hall, brought 42s.

Several very nice consignments of Suffolk sheep were also penned. These included shearling ewes from Mr. H. Wallis, of Wethersfield, which sold at 54s. and 47s. 6d. per head. Fifty shearling ewes consigned by Mr. W. H. Hall, of Six Mile Bottom, averaged 50s. 6d. per head; eighty two-shear half-bred ewes penned by Mr. Duchesne, of Camps Hall, averaged 50s.

Great Bentley.

Thursday witnessed the thirtieth annual dispersal of lambs under the hammer on Great Bentley Green, and Messrs. Sexton and Grimwade, the auctioneers, were as usual supported by a large company. The weather was hot and sunny, with a refreshing breeze. The number of lambs penned was about 6,000, a decrease on last year, and they were shown in such variable condition that one or two flocks which only a year ago were in a leading position at the sale were now easily displaced by others who were then competitors for breeders' favour. The celebrated flock of Mr. John Eagle, of Walton Hall, was a striking illustration of the decline which can occur when lambs are not shown, owing to the adverse circumstances of the lamb-rearing season, in the pink of condition and full of bloom. Last year his figure for the best pen of twenty ewe lambs was 80s., this year it dropped to 64s., whilst the flock of Mr. Thomas Nicholson, Great Clacton, was only down on the year 4s. a head on the best fifty, and only 6s. 3d. on 200; Mr. Thomas Lilley, Clacton Lodge, made 63s. for a pen of forty; and Messrs. Stanford Brothers, Beaumont Hall, 58s. for a score. Mr. Nicholson's flock also produced the best pen of wether lambs, which realised 41s. The previous highest price this season of Black-faced ewe lambs was 57s. 6d., at the Haverhill sale. Following the course of other lamb sales this season, there was not the animation in the bidding characteristic of a brisk demand, buyers putting in the opening bids with such slowness that it took about four hours to get through the 170 lots. The prices ranged as follows: Registered Black-faced lambs—ewes, 62s. to 27s. 6d.; wethers, 37s. to 24s.; unregistered Black-faced lambs—ewes, 29s. 4d. to 21s. 6d.; wethers, 20s. to 28s. 6d.; half-breds—lambs, 24s. 9d. to 30s.

Sutton.

The eighty-sixth Sutton lamb sale was held on Friday on the well-known ground near Wilford Bridge, Melton, in hot, dry weather, and there was a large company of buyers as usual. The entry (about 9,000) corresponded almost identically with that of last year, and no fewer than twenty-four registered flocks were comprised in the consignment, including the long-reputed one of Mr. Alfred J. Smith, of Rendlesham, which was established as far back as 1865, and when inspected this year by the judges appointed by the Suffolk Sheep Society was again classed A1 excellent in District A. Mr. Smith's best selected score ewe lambs now made 81s., at which they were purchased by Mr. A. H. F. Wood, as against 70s. at the Bentley Green sale on the preceding day, but, as was the case last year, he was surpassed by his son, Mr. Leonard Smith, of Hasketon, whose best pen realised 85s., being 15s. advance on the leading figure of the year at Great Bentley. These were knocked down to Mr. J. R. Grimsey. The keenness in the demand for the Suffolk breed of lambs experienced last year showed a falling off, and was in the early part of the sale even more apparent as regards the wether than the ewe lambs, but, as the sale progressed, and especially towards its close, the trade for wethers perceptibly hardened, as much indeed as half-a-crown ahead. Half-bred lambs, placed first in the catalogue, were distinctly cheap.

Wool Fairs and Sales.

Dorchester.

Dorchester Wool Fair, the largest in the West of England, took place on Monday in fine weather. Over 200,000 fleeces were pitched, and there was a good attendance of buyers. Trade was quite as good, and in some respects better, than at Blandford, 12¾d. being the top price. The general range of Down fleeces was 9¾d. to 11¼d. Down lambs sold at 8¾d. to 9¾d. Unwashed Downs, 6¾d. to 7¾d. Down tegs, 10¾d. to 11¾d. Horn fleeces made from 9½d. as a general run to 10½d.; horn lambs, 10½d. to 1s. Unwashed horn wools went at from 4½d. to 6½d.

Wallingford.

An unusually large company was attracted to Wallingford on Monday last, on the occasion of the annual wool sale conducted by Messrs. Franklin, Gale, and Newton, when upwards of 23,000 fleeces were pitched for sale, the whole of the Corn Exchange and the space under the Town Hall being packed with samples, while the bulk was deposited in the sheds in the Cattle Sale Yard. The sale itself was held in the Town Hall at one o'clock, and from the moment that the auctioneer commenced it was seen that the demand would more than equal the supply. Bids came sharp and brisk, and at times the auctioneer's powers were tried considerably in keeping pace with them. Some idea of the trade may be gathered when it is realised that 105 lots were sold in forty-six minutes. Prices were up on last year from ¾d. to 1d. per lb. Judging by the result of the sales by private treaty, which have recently taken place, and from the tone of the market, this advance came as an agreeable surprise, and tends to show once more how wise it is to take advantage of an open market competition. The prices realised at this sale were higher than any in the neighbourhood, nearly 2,000 Down fleeces, washed, making 10¾d., while a very large portion of the remainder made 10¼d. For unwashed wool 7½d. was the general price, a large part of this class of wool being sold for this sum. Lambs' wool was also in great demand, one consignment making 9¼d.

Marlborough.

Mr. T. Lavington had at his sale on Wednesday rather more wool than last year, the total number of fleeces being about 60,000. In comparing washed with unwashed there was an increase amongst the latter and a corresponding decrease in the washed wool. The attendance of buyers was not so large, and competition was perhaps not quite so keen as might have been anticipated from the enhanced prices given during the winter months. Buyers were, however, excepting in one solitary instance, ready to accept ruling prices. Although the merchants declared Mr. J. H. Hiscocks (Broad Hinton) the best lot and gave 11½d. for it, this price was surpassed by one of Mr. H. Wilson's lots at 11¾d. Prices realised for washed wool ranged from 11¾d. to 9½d., and the average 10½d.; for unwashed, from 8½d. to 6¼d., the average being 7d. One lot of clean tailing made 10¾d.

Aylesbury.

At Aylesbury Wool Fair, on Wednesday, 12,000 fleeces were pitched. There was a good attendance of buyers, and prices were slightly in advance of last year, some of the best making 1d. more per lb. The top price for Southdown was 11¼d. Hampshire Down made 10d., and halfbred 8¾d. per lb.

Devizes.

The wool fair at Devizes was held on Tuesday in lovely weather, and was attended by the leading north country buyers, as well as by the chief flockmasters of the district. The supply was larger than in previous years, the Corn Exchange and a large portion of the shambles being required to show the sample sheets. There were about 75,000 fleeces represented. The business was wholly transacted by auction, and every lot catalogued was sold. Mr. George T. Smith first mounted the rostrum in the Bear Assembly Room, and sold about 1,500 fleeces. He realised the top price, viz., 13¼d., which was given to Mr. Wayman for 107 fleeces of Southdown ewe and wether and forty-two fleeces of Southdown teg wool, the property of Mr. C. E. Colston, M.P., and which was a splendid sample of fine wool, well cleansed. The next best price was obtained by the same auctioneer, viz., 12¼d. for 128 ewe, forty-five teg, and one ram fleece, belonging to Mr. Duck (who realised the highest price last year). Eleven pence farthing was reached once, 11d. seven times, 10¾d. six times, etc. Unwashed wool from 7¾d. to 7½d. Mr. W. J. Rowden's best price was 11½d. once. Mr. T. Lavington sold 35,000 fleeces, his best price being 11¾d. times, 10¾d. eleven times, 10½d. seventeen times. Messrs. Tilley and Parry realised 11½d. once, and 10¾d. ten times. Unwashed ranged from 7¾d. to 7d. Lambs' wool fetched from 7½d.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending July 7th, 1900:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	569	786	830	715	13,139	10,062	57,645	47,390
	Outbreaks.		No.	5	55	62	45	1,238	1,766	1,519	1,530
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Other Animals	No.	:	:	:	2	:	:	:	12
		Dogs.	No.	:	:	1	4	:	1	14	92
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slightered.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	:	:	28	:	220	675	
		Diseased.	No.	:	:	:	:	:	1	39	1
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	:	:	:	:	1	6	1
Glanders (incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	25	34	35	28	979	635	753	702
	Outbreaks.		No.	14	20	16	23	563	371	408	410
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	:	:	:	:	123	:	:	:
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	:	:	:	9	:	:	:
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	9	10	6	16	502	372	505	320
	Outbreaks.		No.	6	8	6	8	310	206	331	246

Period.			
Week ended July 7, 1900	corresponding week in	1899	
		1898	
		1897	
Total for 27 weeks 1900	corresponding period in	1899	
		1898	
		1897	

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

Destructive Farm Fire near Colchester.—A large stack fire broke out on Friday afternoon at Mr. Edgar Cooper's, Little Bromley Hall, near Colchester. The fire was discovered about 2.30 by two men, named Jonathan Bennett and John Garrod, who were working in an adjoining field. The stack that first caught was a large one of red clover. Owing to a considerable quantity of hay that was lying about, within a quarter of an hour six other stacks, with a cow house and some piggeries, also caught alight. A large barn containing about 400 coombs of wheat was well soaked with water before the brigade arrived, and was saved from the fire. The stacks destroyed were one of rye grass, the produce of 17 acres, two of new red clover, the produce of 36 acres, 30 tons of old red clover, 30 tons of old hay, and about twenty tons of straw, in two stacks. A cow-shed and part of the piggeries were also completely destroyed, while two lambs and a calf were burned to death in the shed. The property is all insured. There is no suspicion of incendiarism, though no cause can be found to account for the outbreak.

SHOWS.

Lincolnshire.

The annual three days' exhibition of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society was held at Spalding last week, opening on Wednesday. Though numbered among smaller towns of the county, Spalding is a very important one, the centre of a wide and rich tract of Fen country—fen only in name, for the one-time swamps are all reclaimed, and it is one of the pleasantest and richest agricultural districts of any we have. Only twice before has Spalding been favoured with a visit by the county society. The first visit was in 1872, the fourth show held by the Society, and the second visit was in 1887. On both occasions a great success had to be recorded, and the same may be said of this year's exhibition, the thirty-first annual show held under the auspices of the Society. Beautiful weather favoured the show each day, and the attendance of visitors was exceedingly good. The total amount offered in premiums for servants and labourers, and in prizes for cattle, sheep, pigs, horses, etc., was £1,534, which is rather less than last year at Louth, when the awards amounted to £1,617, but the entries bear very favourable comparison with previous shows. Grantham takes the lead in this respect, the show at that place in 1895 having brought together 1,748 entries, while at the same place in 1874 the entry reached 1,629, the second best record. Louth last year secured the third best record with 1,587. Last week Spalding claimed 1,547, against 1,154 at the same place in 1887, and 1,266 in 1872.

Cattle.

The display of Shorthorns was one of the best ever seen at this Society's show. With very few exceptions the entries were extremely satisfactory, and there was a gratifying feature in the uniformity displayed. The class for two-year-old bulls was a wonderfully level lot, three particularly good animals being placed at the head of this collection. The Prince of Wales took the lead with his Pride of Collynie, bred by Mr. W. Duthie, and sired by Pride of the Morning. This bull won the premier honours in a similar class at the Bath and West of England Show, and was second this year and champion last year at the Royal. The second place was given to Mr. Jonas Webb's Carlisle Wellington, which is another typical Shorthorn. He is larger in frame than the exhibit from the Sandringham herd, and was highly commended at the Royal Show. Mr. Henry Dudding's Prompter filled the third place. In the class for bulls not exceeding two years old there were eighteen entries, and a very creditable lot they were. Mr. Dudding's roan bull Martian secured the highest honour, and he obtained reserve for his well-known King Alto, the Oxford champion. Granite Chip, another roan from Mr. Dean Willis's herd, took the second place, and Mr. P. L. Mills's St. Swithin, which had a commended ticket at the Royal, won the third prize. There were not so many entries in the class for bull calves under a year old. Here Mr. Willis was first with Bapton Marquis, a nice, rich red, good in flesh. The second bull, Bellman, from Lord Middleton's herd, was another very good red, which was run close by Mr. W. J. Atkinson's Weston Favourite 2nd. In the county class for bulls Mr. Dudding scored with Martian and King Alto, which took first and second places respectively, and Lord Wild Eyes 8th, from Messrs. Dean's herd, was third. In the next class for the best Shorthorn bull in the county of Lincoln, King Alto came out at top. The cows formed a very creditable collection. Mr. C. W. Brierley's Autumn Queen, which secured the premier place among the four-year-olds, is a noted winner, and was an easy first on Wednesday. Mr. Evens's Burton Rose, the second-prize winner, is a very good cow of the dairy class, though rather thin for a Shorthorn. Messrs. Chatterton's Stenigot Buttercup took the lead in the next class. This cow comes from a very good stock, and well deserved the place, but found a close competitor in Mr. Evens's Burton Pansy. The class for two or three year old heifers was an extremely good one. There was some dissatisfaction, however, about the arrangement of the class, the young heifers having little chance against the older ones. Seventeen heifers were brought into the ring, and the first prize went to a grand specimen exhibited by Mr. Brierley, whilst the second place was given to Mr. Dudding's Lady 21st, which won at Leicester and Nottingham this year, and was reserve for the championship at the last-named place. The winner in the succeeding class was Mr. Willis's Victorine, a small heifer, which beat Mr. Dudding's Riby Jessy, a first prize winner at Nottingham. The heifer calves came out well, and the Lincolnshire red Shorthorn cattle made a capital show. They were typical of the breed, showing great similarity of colour.

Sheep.

A glance at the schedule of entries shows there has been a gradual decline in the sheep department during the past three years, but in 1897 the number of sheep exhibited at Sleaford advanced considerably compared with the entry in 1896 at Gainsborough. The total penned this year was exactly ten less than twelve months ago, but the quality was fully maintained. There were not many two-shear rams shown, but the whole lot formed an admirable collection. Mr. T. Casswell won the first place with a splendid specimen, and Messrs. Dean were placed second and reserve for two very creditable exhibits. The class for shearling rams alway brings together a heavy entry, and this year's display was no exception to the rule. No fewer than thirty-five were entered, and the majority were of such uniform merit that the judges experienced the greatest difficulty in making their awards. The first prize went to Mr. Dudding's Royal winner, a thoroughly good sheep, and the same exhibitor secured the third place and had highly commended tickets. Messrs. R. and W. Wright obtained the second and fifth prizes and one highly commended badge. In the class for three pens of five shearling rams, for which there were three firsts and three seconds, Mr. Dudding was disqualified from showing his Royal winners. Mr. T. Casswell brought some excellent specimens in this class and secured two firsts, the other first prize going to Mr. J. Pears, whose exhibits made a very creditable display. The class for the best pen of three lambs dropped in 1900 was a very strong one, and the first and second won the same positions at the Royal. Mr. Dudding came to the top again in the class for the best pen of shearling gimmers, carrying off the first and second prizes. The positions, however, were reversed from the judgment given at the Royal. The wether lambs formed a strong class, and the long-wools attracted considerable interest. The exhibits showed a great length of wool and splendid quality. Mr. Dudding won the Champion Cup for the best pen of female sheep exhibited. The cup offered last year in a similar class was won by him outright, and he has since presented a new trophy to the Society. Mr. Dudding also secured the first prize for wool for the fourth or fifth year in succession.

Pigs.

There was an admirable collection of pigs, the majority of the classes being strongly represented. Sir Gilbert Greenall, one of the most successful exhibitors at the shows this year, was first in the boar class, white breed, with Walton Royal, a fine animal with excellent top. Mr. Sanders came to the front in the class for the best pen of two boars, white breed, pigged in 1900, with two grand specimens. In the corresponding class for Berkshire boars Mr. Mills was first with a well-matched pair. Only two entries were received in the county class, but the sows, having had a litter this year or in pig at the time of showing, were much better represented. Here Mr. Daybell's Bottesford Queen thoroughly deserved first honours, though the class was of all-round excellence, only one exhibit out of seven failing to receive a mark of favour from the judge. The sows of the Berkshire breed brought a still larger entry, and a collection quite as creditable as the preceding class.

Horses.

Spalding being in the centre of a great Shire horse breeding district, it was only to be expected this section would form a strong feature of the show. In quantity and quality the Shires exceeded anything seen at the Lincolnshire Show during the past ten years. There were a great many Royal and county winners in the various classes, and the decisions of the judges were not always in accordance with those of previous shows. The brood mares both in point of quantity and class were exceedingly strong, as also were the two-year-old stallions and the foals. The Prince of Wales was among the first prize winners. The best of the Sandringham exhibits was Benedict in the class for two-year-old stallions. This is a hardly used animal, but it came out at the top in its class. It had not the size and massiveness of the second, Darcey Albert, which belongs to Mr. James Forshaw. Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., received the first honours in the Shire entire colt class. This animal has a lot of substance and good legs and feet, and seemed an easy winner. The second prize-taker, Borough Warrior, owned by Mr. F. W. Griffin, has a great amount of quality in the legs, but is not sufficiently lengthy in the back. In the succeeding class the Peterboro' decision was soon upset, Mr. Forshaw's Daisy being preferred to Lady Franklin, shown by Mr. Muntz. Daisy was an outstanding winner from the first, and it was only a short time ago that Lady Franklin secured the higher favours when shown in the same class with her. Mr. Forshaw's Tom's Flower, which came out first in the county class for the best Shire mare with foal at her heels, won the champion gold medal and silver cup at the Louth Show last year. Mr. Cartwright's foal was the favourite among the judges, but Mr. Ransome's was a close competition, and only lost the first place through being deficient in one or two minor points. There were no fewer than thirty-six entries in the class, and they made a grand show. Mr. Forshaw was third with a foal only eleven weeks old, sire Nailstone Cœur-de-Lion, dam Tom's Flower. The winner in the Shire filly class, Kathleen, shown by Sir Blundell Maple, recently fetched a large price. Whaplode Countess, the property of Mr. Foxshaw, gained prominence again in the three-year-old filly class. The judging of the hunters was watched with a great deal of interest by numerous spectators. There were several well-known prize winners brought into the ring, notably Mr. F. Wilkinson's Lady Grosvenor. This mare was again an easy winner in the class for breeding hunters with foal. In the foal class Lord Sandwich came [illegible] with a very promising brown foal by Old Con[illegible]. A chestnut filly by the same sire was first in the succeeding class, and the best hunting two year old [illegible] exhibited by W. J. Drakes. Mr. V. Stapleton obtained second place with Sindar, a very nice looking chestnut, which thoroughly deserved the prize. The three year old hunters were a grand lot, and it took some time before the judges could agree upon the positions. The first place was given to a well known prize winner, Mr. A. J. Brown's Richard the Second. There seemed to be some difficulty in the choice of the second and third places, but finally Mr. Stapleton's Monarch had to give way to Mr. Hoyle's Sindar. The other classes were strongly represented, with the exception of the tenant farmers' class, which was deficient in numbers and quality.

The Hackneys were on the whole a good lot, but they were not very numerous. In this section, Mr. C. E. Galbraith, Dumfries, was a prominent winner. None of the three other entries in the class for best stallions for Hackneys, one or two years old, putting in an appearance, Mr. Galbraith's exhibit took first prize. In the succeeding class, for breeding mares exceeding 15h. 2in., with foals, he was again to the fore, this time with a beautiful chestnut roan. Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., could get no nearer than reserve.

Judges.

SHORTHORNED CATTLE: Mr. P. A. Evans, Sherlowe, Wellington, Salop; Mr. John W. Barnes, Aikbank, Wigton, Cumberland.

SHEEP: Mr. Wm. Rowe, Besthorpe, Newark; Mr. J. B. Nelson, Risby House, Market Rasen.

WOOL: Mr. J. Lancaster, Bradford.

PIGS: Mr. A. Hiscock, jun., Mereside, Shrewsbury.

HUNTERS: Mr. Thos. Wickham Boynton, Barton Agnes, Driffield; Mr. Geo. Molecaster, Burghwallis, Doncaster.

HACKNEYS: Mr. Frank Usher, Kettlethorpe, South Cave; Mr. C. Edward E. Cooke, Hunston Grange, Selby, Yorks.

SHIRE AND AGRICULTURAL HORSES: Mr. J. T. C. Eadie, Barrowcow-Trent, Derby; Mr. John Russell, Bury, Hunts.

Champion and Special Prizes.

Challenge cup, value 20 guineas, for the best Shorthorn bull: H.R.H. Prince of Wales (Pride of Collynie); r, Mr. H. Dudding (Martian).

Silver cup, value 10 guineas, for best team of cattle, in Classes 18 to 21: Messrs. R. and W. Wright; r, Mr. T. Casswell.

Challenge cup, value 10 guineas, for the best pen of Lincoln sheep: Mr. H. Dudding.

Hunter's Improvement Society's gold medal for the best Hunter brood mare in Class 40: Mr. W. Carter (Georgina); r, Mr. F. Wilkinson (Norah).

Hunter Improvement Society's silver medal for the best Hunter filly: Mr. A. J. Brown; r, Mr. F. B. Wilkinson.

The Hunter's Improvement Society's silver medal: Mr. J. Jonas Webb (Marquis).

Special prize for best Hackney pony mare, filly, colt, or foal, registered or eligible for registration in the Hackney Stud Book: Mr. H. Livesey (Welcome); r, Mr. C. E. Galbraith (Queen of the West).

Challenge cup, value 10 guineas, for the best mare or filly for breeding Hackneys: Mr. H. Livesey (Welcome); Mr. C. E. Galbraith (Queen of the West).

Challenge cup, value 20 guineas, for the best Shire stallion, for members residing or farming in the county: Mr. J. Drakard (Willow Holt King); r, Mr. A. H. Clark (Marquis of Columbus).

Challenge cup, value 20 guineas, for the best Shire mare or filly, not a foal (ditto): Mr. A. Ransome (Duchess of Bridgewater III.); r, Mr. J. Forshaw (Whaplode Countess).

Gold medal, value 10 guineas, for the best mare or filly in Shire Classes (Lincolnshire): Mr. A. Ransome (Duchess of Bridgewater III.); r, Mr. J. Forshaw (Whaplode Countess).

Prize List.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Bulls, two years or upwards: 1, The Prince of Wales, Sandringham; 2, J. Webb, Melton Ross, Barnetby, Lincoln; 3, H. Dudding, Riby Grove, Stallingboro'; r, C. W. Brierley, Brimfield, R.S.O.; hc, J. E. Casswell, Laughton, Folkingham; R. and R. Chatterton, Stenigot, Lincoln; and J. Dean Willis, Bapton Manor, Codford.

Bulls, not exceeding two years: 1, Henry Dudding; 2, J. Dean Willis; 3, Philo L. Mills, Ruddington Hall, Nottingham; r, Henry Dudding; hc, S. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, Bourne, and J. Evens, Burton, Lincoln.

Bull calves, under one year: 1, J. Dean Willis; 2, Lord Middleton, Birdsall House, York; 3, W. J. Atkinson, Weston, Spalding.

Bulls, not exceeding two years, the property of members of the Society residing or farming in the county: 1 and 2, Henry Dudding; 3, S. E. Dean and Sons; r, John Evens.

Best Shorthorn bull in the county, calved in 1899: 1, Henry Dudding; r, S. E. Dean and Sons; hc, J. Sherrard Reeve, Leadenham House, Lincoln.

Cows, over four years: 1, C. W. Brierley; 2, J. Evens; 3, The Marquis of Exeter, Burghley House, Stamford; r and hc, J. Evens.

Pure-bred dairy cows or heifers, exhibited [illegible] Coates' or the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Herd Book: 1, R. and R. Chatterton; 2, J. Evens; r, J. S. Patchett, Holbeach; hc, J. Evens; c, S. and J. Crawley, Hemington, Oundle.

Heifers, two or three years: 1, C. W. Brierley; 2, Henry Dudding; 3, J. Dean Willis; r and hc, J. Webb; hc, Henry Dudding and [illegible].

Heifers, one year old: 1, J. D. Willis; 2, H. Dudding; 3, The Marquis of Exeter; r, J. S. Reeve; hc, R. and R. Chatterton; c, F. Peet and [illegible].

Heifer calves, under one year old: 1, P. L. Mills; 2, The Marquis of Exeter; 3 and r, J. Webb; hc, W. J. Atkinson, Weston St. Mary, Spalding.

[illegible]

Bulls, two years old and upwards: 1, J. Langham, Hough Grange, Grantham; 2, J. W. Rowland, Fishtoft, Boston.

Bulls, not exceeding two years old: 1, J. Evens; 2, T. Diggle, Thorpe House, Ewerby, Sleaford; 3, J. W. Measures, [illegible]; r, [illegible] and S. and J. Crawley (2), Hemington, Oundle.

[illegible] Grange, Louth; 2, r, and hc J. Evens (2); hc, R. and R. Chatterton and W. J. Atkinson; c, W. J. Atkinson.

Heifers not exceeding two years old: 1, J. Walter, Hatton, Wragby; 2, R. and R. Chatterton; 3, W. J. Atkinson; r, A. M. [illegible]

by

Heifers, not exceeding one year and six months: 1, R. and R. Chatterton; 2, J. Langham; 3, W. J. Atkinson; r, Charles H. Stafford; c, W. J. Atkinson.

SHORTHORNED OR OTHER CATTLE.

Bullocks, not exceeding three years: 1 and 2, H. Casswell, Quadring, Spalding; 3, R. Palmer, Nazeing, Waltham Cross, Essex; r, G. Shillaker, Uffington, Stamford; hc, R. M. Mills, Bourne; c, R. Palmer.

Barren cows or heifers: 1, R. M. Mills; 2, C. H. Stafford.

SHEEP

LINCOLNSHIRE LONGWOOLS.

Two-shear rams: 1, T. Casswell, Pointon, Folkingham; 2, S. E. Dean and Sons.

Shearling rams: 1 and 3, H. Dudding; 2, R. and W. Wright, Nocton Heath; 4, J. E. Casswell; r, T. Casswell; hc, T. Casswell, Henry Dudding, R. and W. Wright, and John Pears, Mere, Lincoln; c, S. E. Dean and Sons and J. E. Casswell.

Three pens of five shearling rams (members of the Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association): 1, Tom Casswell, J. E. Casswell, John Pears; 2, Henry Dudding, R. and W. Wright, and S. E. Dean and Sons; r, Frederick Ward, Quarrington, Sleaford.

Pen of three ram lambs, dropped in 1900: 1 and 3, R. and W. Wright; 2, John Pears; r and hc, S. E. Dean and Sons; c, W. B. Swallow, Barton-on-Humber.

Pen of three shearling gimmers: 1 and 2, Henry Dudding; 3, R. and W. Wright; r, John Pears; hc, S. E. Dean and Sons.

Three wether lambs: 1, William Hesseltine, Beaumontcote, Barton-on-Humber; 2, Henry Dudding, Riby Grove; r, W. B. Swallow; hc, Henry Goodyear.

Three she lambs: 1, R. and W. Wright; 2, S. E. Dean and Sons; 3, John Pears; r, William Hesseltine; hc, S. E. Dean and Sons.

Five Lincoln Longwool she hogs, lambed in 1892: 1, Henry Dudding; 2 and r, S. E. Dean and Sons; 3, William Hesseltine; 4, William B. Swallow; hc, T. Diggle, Ewerby, Sleaford.

Three shearling wethers, any breed: 1, William Hesseltine; 2 and 3, H. Dudding.

PIGS

Boars, white breed: 1, Sir G. Greenall, Walton Hall, Warrington; 2, Sanders Spencer, Holywell Manor, St. Ives; r and c, John Barron, Borrowash, Derby; hc, Sanders Spencer and F. Allmand, Wrexham.

Berkshire boars: 1 and 2, J. Jefferson, Chester; r, G. T Tomkin, Marden, Kent.

Two boars, white breed, pigged in 1900: 1, Sanders Spencer; 2, D. R. Daybell; hc, Sir Gilbert Greenall; c, C. E. Duckering, Kirton Lindsey; G. Manners, Farnham, Bury St. Edmunds.

Ditto, Berkshire breed: 1, P. L. Mills, Ruddington Hall, Notts; 2 and r, J. Jefferson.

Ditto, old Lincolnshire curly-hair breed: 1, H. Caudwell, Midville, Boston; 2, F. E. Bowser, Wigtoft, Boston.

Sows, white breed: 1, D. R. Daybell; 2, F. Allmand; r and hc, Sir G. Greenall; hc, Sanders Spencer, G. Manners, A. Duckering and Sons.

Sows, Berkshire breed: 1 and r, J. Jefferson; 2, Sir H. de Trafford, Market Harboro'; hc, T. Tomkin, G. T. Tomkin, and C. E. Duckering.

Two sow pigs, white breed: 1, Thomas Diggle, Ewerby, Sleaford; 2 and r, Sanders Spencer; vhc, D. R. Daybell, Bottesford, Nottingham, and Thomas Diggle; hc, C. E. Duckering, Kirton Lindsey, and A. S. Duckering and Sons, East Barkwith, Lincoln.

Two sow pigs, Berkshire breed: 1 and hc, J. Jefferson; 2, George T. Tomkin; r, Philo L. Mills.

Two sow pigs, Old Lincolnshire curly-hair breed: 1 and 2, Henry Caudwell; r and c, J. S. Leggate; c, J. W. Rowland.

Two sow pigs, any other breed: 1, Duckering and Sons; 2, Sanders Spencer.

HORSES.

HUNTERS.

Mares, for breeding hunters, with foals at heels: 1 and 4, F. B. Wilkinson, Edwinstowe, Newark (Lady Grosvenor and Norah); 2, W. Petchel, East Kirkby, Spilsby (Paleface); 3, W. Carter, Ailsworth, Peterboro' (Georgina); r, W. B. Swallow, Ulceby (Beatrice); hc, H. Martin, Wainfleet (Duty).

Hunting foals: 1, The Earl of Sandwich, Huntingdon; 2, H. Martin; 3, Wm. Petchel (Playful); 4, W. B. Swallow (Tugela); r, F. B. Wilkinson.

Hunting geldings or fillies, one year old: 1, The Earl of Sandwich; 2, H. Martin; 3, F. Bland, Wrangle, Boston (Pagrag).

Hunting geldings or fillies, two years old: 1, W. J. Drakes, Gringley-on-the-Hill, Bawtry (The Sirdar); 2, V. Stapleton, Market Deeping (Sirdar); 3, F. B. Wilkinson; r, Robt. Hall, Ruskington, Sleaford (Wild Tom).

Hunting geldings or fillies, three years old: 1 and hc, A. J. Brown, Doncaster (Richard 2nd and Evadne); 2, E. Hoyle, Morlands, Bacup, Manchester (Sirdar); 3, G. Shillaker, Uffington, Stamford (Monarch); r, Wm. Cheney, Gidding Grove, Peterboro' (Dick Dunn).

Hunting geldings or mares, three years old, the property of a member of the society: 1, 3, and r, A. J. Brown (Richard 2nd, Evadne, and Cork); 2, G. Shillaker (Monarch).

Hunters, four years old, up to not less than 14st.: 1, A. J. Brown; 2, W. Cheney (Cribbage); 3, H. Butler, Bulby, Bourne (Comet).

Hunters, four years old, not up to 14st.: 1, J. N. Gray, St. Bride's-Super-Ely, Cardiff; 2 and 3, J. H. Stokes, Great Bowden, Market Harborough (Treasure); r, J. A. Cheney, Luddington, Peterboro' (Dandy Dick).

Hunters, four years old and upwards, to carry not less than 13st.: 1 and 2, J. N. Gray; 3, T. Bradley, Uffington, Stamford; r, J. H. Stokes.

Hunters, four or five years old (foaled in Lincolnshire, and owned by tenant farmers), not less than 13st.: 1, F. Ward, Quarrington, Sleaford (Aswardby); 2, J. Evison, Ewerby Thorpe, Sleaford (Rufus).

Hunters, five years, up to not less than 14st.: 1, A. J. Brown; 2, C. Clarke (Raby); 3 and r, J. H. Stokes.

Ditto, not up to 14st.: 1, J. H. Stokes; 2, F. B. Wilkinson; 3, A. J. Brown; r, H. Custance, Oakham (Organ Grinder).

HACKNEYS.

Stallions, three years or upwards: 1, T. Balderton, Frithville (Maxim Fire); 2, A. H. Greatbach (Doncaster Swell); r, S. Campain, Deeping St. Nicholas (Choir Boy).

Ditto, one or two years old: 1, C. E. Galbraith, Terreglis, Dumfries (Arbiter).

Mares, exceeding 15·2, with foals at heels: 1, C. E. Galbraith (Queen of the West); 2, H. Livesey, Trulls Hatch, Rotherfield, Sussex (Surprise); r, Sir Walter Gilbey; hc, E. J. Johnstone, Bury St. Edmunds (Alert).

Mares, kept by or the property of a member of the Society residing or farming in the county: 1, S. B. Carnley, Alford (Vanessa); 2, S. Campain, Deeping St. Nicholas (Carte Blanche).

Hackney foals: 1, S. B. Carnley (Norbury Meteor); 2, H. Livesey; r, E. J. Johnstone; hc, C. E. Galbraith.

Hackney mares, two or three years: 1, H. Livesey (Welcome); 2, C. E. Galbraith (Atalanta); r, E. J. Johnstone (Qui Vive); hc, J. H. Dennis, Algarkirk (A Question Lady Cadet).

Ponies, not exceeding 14 hands: 1, A. S. Day, Crewe; 2, Messrs. T. D. Lee and G. Nixon; 3, G. E. Franklin, Derby; r and hc, H. T. Burke, Chorley, Lancs.

SHIRE AND AGRICULTURAL.

Shire stallions, three years and upwards, entered or eligible for entry in the Shire Horse Society's Stud Book: 1, J. Drakard, Moulton Eaugate, Spalding (Willow Holt King); 2, E. H. Cartwright, Keddington Grange, Louth (Waresley Albert); 3, R. N. Sutton-Nelthorpe, Scawby, Lincs (East Anglian); r, R. N. Sutton-Nelthorpe (Sherburn Harold).

Shire stallions, two years, ditto: 1, H.R.H. The Prince of Wales (Benedict); 2, J. Forshaw, Carlton-on-Trent, Newark (Darcey Albert); 3, P. A. Muntz, Dunsmore, Rugby (Dunsmore John O'Gaunt); r, A. H. Clarke, Moulton Eaugate, Spalding (Moulton Columbus).

Shire entire colts: 1, P. A. Muntz, M.P.; 2, F. W. Griffin, Boro' Fen, Peterboro' (Borough Warrior); 3, R. N. Sutton-Nelthorpe, J.P.; r, Henry Casswell, Quadring, Spalding.

Shire mares, with foal at heels: 1, J. Forshaw (Daisy); 2, P. A. Muntz (Lady Franklin); 3, C. Shepherd Marsh, Hitchin (Brookfield Bonny); r and hc, H. H. Smith Carington, Ashby Folville, Melton Mowbray (Hendrin Crown Princess); c, E. H. Cartwright (Bonny Lass); F. W. Griffin (Borough Model); Lord Middleton (Pratt's Dora); Sir Walter Gilbey (Saxon Kitty).

Shire mare, with foal at heels, for members residing or farming in the county: 1, J. Forshaw (Tom's Flower); 2, E. H. Cartwright; 3, F. W. Griffin (Borough Model); r, A. Ransome, Hitchin (Hitchin Pansy).

Shire foals: 1, E. H. Cartwright; 2, A. Ransom; 3, J. Forshaw; r and hc, F. Casswell, Dunsby, Spalding; hc, Lord Middleton; c, F. W. Griffin and P. A. Muntz.

Shire foals, for members residing or farming in the county: 1, E. H. Cartwright; 2, A. Ransom; 3, F. Casswell; r, F. W. Griffin; hc, A. Ransom and S. E. Dean and Sons; c, C. E. Andrew, North Fen, Bourne.

Shire fillies, one year: 1, Sir J. B. Maple, Bart. (Kathleen); 2, F. W. Griffin (Boro' Duchess II.); 3, P. A. Muntz, M.P.; r, J. S. Collins, Hoffleet Stow, Bicker (Victoria); hc, Lord Middleton (Birdsall Day Star) and J. S. Collins (Victoria); c, E. B. Proctor, Gosberton (Gosberton Gem and Gosberton Pride); W. Townend, Louth (Society Belle); Tom Bond, Ludboro', Louth (Ludboro' Queen); F. Casswell, Dunsby; and G. Freir, Deeping St. Nicholas.

Ditto, two years: 1, W. Jackson, Knottingley, Yorks (Holker R.I.); 2, G. Freir (Deeping Jewel); 3, P. A. Muntz, M.P.; r, Tom Bond (Ludboro' Movement).

Ditto, three years: 1, J. Forshaw, Carlton-on-Trent, Newark (Whaplode Countess), 2, F. W. Griffin (Boro' Charm); 3, A. Ransome (Hitchin Plum); r, F. Casswell (Dunsby Darling); hc, S. E. Dean and Sons (Dowsby Tartar Queen); c, W. J. Whitsed, Gedney Hill, Holbeach (Wild Blossom).

Cart geldings, two years (Lincolnshire tenant farmers): 1, R. C. Cooper Walthum, Melton Mowbray (Prince); 2 and 3, A. H. Clark, Moulton Eaugate; r, C. E. Andrews, North Fen, Bourne (Bourne Conqueror).

Draught horses, gelding or mare, not under three years (Lincolnshire members of the Society): 1, A. Ransome (Duchess of Bridgewater III.); 2, J. Forshaw (Whaplode Countess); 3, Sir J. B. Maple, Bart. (King Cup); r, J. Forshaw (Tom's Flower); hc, E. H. Cartwright, Louth (Pony Lass); c, S. R. Hand, Wainfleet.

Nortnumberland.

The Northumberland Agricultural Society, which was established in the year before Her Majesty the Queen ascended the Throne, held its annual show on Thursday at Alnwick, in the beautiful grounds at Hulne Abbey Park, for the use of which the Society was indebted to its President, the Duke of Northumberland. In ordinary course, the show would have been held at Alnwick last year, but, owing to the death of the Duke of Northumberland, the venue was changed to Morpeth. There is a proposal that Hexham, which, although outside the county, used to be in the show circuit, but which has not been visited for fourteen years, should receive another turn next year. The weather on Thursday was very warm and of the most favourable character for outdoor enjoyment, there being only a brief shower of rain towards the close of the show. There was, as usual, a large attendance from all parts of the country, although the drawings, amounting to £265, showed a decrease of £98 on the receipts of last Alnwick Show, six years ago. The display of stock was smaller than at any of the Society's shows during the last eight years, and there were fewer animals sent by Scottish exhibitors. The entries numbered only 711, as compared with 810 at Morpeth last year, and 830 at Alnwick in 1894. As regards quality, the show was a fair average.

Cattle.

As to the cattle, the competitions were, as usual, devoted almost entirely to Shorthorns and Black-Polled cattle, with the exception of a few feeding cattle and dairy cows. For the first time for many years, Scottish breeders were unrepresented. The Shorthorns were not very numerous, since they totalled, in the six classes, to only five-and-thirty; but the quality was high, and some recent prize-takers were again well to the front. There were five entries in the old bull class, and Mr. John Robson, Newton, was first with his four-year-old roan, Moonlight, a bull of great substance, which was first at Edinburgh last month when in the hands of its breeder, Mr. Christie, Dairsie Mains, Cupar. The Duke of Northumberland was second with the three and a half years old white bull, Highland Blizzard, which was third at the York Royal Show. Mr. Lambert, Errington Hall, got the third ticket for the three-year-old Royal Studley bull, Cornwallis. A good class of two-year-old bulls was headed by Mr. William Henderson's Errington Stamp, a thick roan of his own breeding. The second prize went to Mr. George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington, for Favourite of Sanquhar, a compactly built white bull, sired by Lord James Douglas. Mr. William Bell, Ratcheugh, was third with a bull by Studley's Knight, but in the yearling bull class Mr. Bell was first with Baron Abbotsford, a roan of nice colour and with good hair. The Duke of Northumberland was second, and Mr. Harrison third. The cow class was small, but the quality made up for the want of numbers. Mr. Joseph Harris, Calthwaite Hall, Carlisle, was first with Empress 12th, a sweet three-year-old red cow, which was similarly placed at York, and Mr. Bell was second with Lady Clara 3rd, a four-year-old roan, which was third in the cow class at York, whilst Mr. George Harrison was third with his old cow Welcome. Mr. Harris was again first for two-year-old heifers with a neat roan, Pansy 2nd, which was second at York; Mr. Harrison being second with the Bright Archer heifer, Welfare. A capital class of yearling heifers was deservedly topped by a Scottish-bred animal belonging to Mr. Harrison. This was Village Queen, a stylish roan sired by Village Archer, and bred by Mr. Duthie, Collynie. Mr. George H. Proctor, Flass House, Durham, was second with Fairy Ring, a white heifer of his own breeding. There were less than a score of entries in the five classes of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, but although the numbers were smaller than usual, the quality of the north country blackpolls was well maintained. Competition in all the classes was rather limited, the chief honours being gained by the Seaton Delaval Coal Company and Mr. Clement Stephenson, Balliol College Farm, Newcastle. Of the three old bulls Mr. Bainbridge, Eshott Hall, Felton, had the best in Annesley, a four-year-old bred by Mr. Chalmers, Aldbar, sired by Enthusiast of Ballindalloch, and which was champion at Edinburgh and fourth at York. Two-year-old bulls were placed at a disadvantage in competing with aged bulls, but the Seaton Delaval Company were second with Golden Bar, a promising young bull of their own breeding. There were only three yearling bulls, and of these the Seaton Delaval Company had a clear first in Luminant, by Esmond of Ballindalloch. Only one of the three cows shown was possessed of outstanding merit, and she was at once awarded the premier place. This was Mr. Clement Stephenson's four-year-old Elite of Benton, which was first at York. Mr. Bainbridge was first for two-year-old beifers with Sabina of Haystoun, a nice type of heifer which was first at York. The second prize was given to Mr. Clement Stephenson for a very promising member of his Gipsey family, sired by Esmond of Ballindalloch. Mr. Stephenson was easily first for yearling heifers with Exemption, a neat specimen sired by the prize bull Best Man of Benton. The Seaton Delaval Company were second with Exploit, by Esmond of Ballindalloch. In dairy cows, the prizes went to Mr. Jno. Hunter, Kenton; Mr. Jas. Brown, Whittingham; Earl Grey, Howick; Mr. Ed. Weallans, Alnwick; Mr. R. Armour, Lesbury; and in feeding cattle to Mr. W. Bell, Alnwick; the Broomhill Coal Company, and Mr. Thomas Grey, Alnwick.

Horses.

One of the features of the show was the remarkably good display of draught horses; these having never been excelled in the Northumberland County Show. The northern breed of Clydesdales predominated, as usual; and it was regarded as exceedingly satisfactory that the prize geldings were all in the hands of tenant farmers. The Seaham Harbour Stud Company was, however, most successful in all the other classes for heavy horses. Brood mares with foal at foot were a numerous class, over a dozen being shown. The Seaham Harbour Stud Company were first with the five-year-old Holyrood mare, Necklet, a good stamp of Clydesdale bred by Lord Londonderry. Mr. Peacock, Low Newport, Silksworth, was second with the eight-year-old Queen of Gretna, the Earl of Durham being third with the nine-year-old mare Model. Some very neat foals were shown, the Seaham Harbour Stud Company being first for colt foals with one of Captain Alexander's produce, and first for filly foals with a get of Lord Stewart out of the first-prize mare Necklet. For brood mares in foal the Seaham Harbour Stud Company were again first with the five-year-old Sir Everard mare Essence. Mr. St. Clair Cunningham, Hedderwick Hill, Dunbar, was second with the four-year-old Prince of Carruchan mare Minnie of Walkinshaw; Mr. Peacock was third with Scottish Crown, a four-year-old out of his second prize mare Queen of Gretna; and Mr. St. Clair Cunningham was fourth with May Light. For three-year-old fillies the Seaham Harbour Stud Company were first with a nice, straight filly by Lord Stewart, the Earl of Durham being second with Young Model. In the class for two-year-old fillies, Mr. H. B. Howie, Fenwick Steads, Belford, had an excellent first in a Baron's Pride filly, Messrs. T. Smith and Sons, Derwent Crook, being second with a filly by Bumstaire Boy; and the Seaham Harbour Stud Company third with a Lord Stewart filly. Yearling fillies were a large class, Mr. Shanks, Brunton Farm, Wall-on-Tyne, being first with Lady Lucy, a chestnut filly by Crusader. The Seaham Harbour Stud Company were second with a Lord Stewart filly; and Mr. St. Clair Cunningham third with the Baron's Pride filly White Heather. The Hedderwick Hill stud supplied the winner in the yearling colt class with a youngster by Mains of Acres out of a Sir Everard mare; the Seaham Harbour Stud Company being second with one of Lord Stewart's produce; and Mr. Tom Cuby, Shiblaw, Coldstream, third with a colt by Premier Prince. There was an excellent display of geldings. Mr. Fred Usher, Norton Mains, Ryton, took the first prize for heavyweight hunters with his six-year-old gelding Cadger; and in the four-year-old class Mr. Cresswell, Abmouth, was first; Mr. Robertson, Morebattle Tofts, Kelso, second; and Mr. George Dove, Whitehouse, St. Boswells, third. In the Hackney classes, Mr. Eustace Smith, Benton House, Newcastle, was first for brood mares; Mr. David Mitchell, Millfield, Polmont, being second; and Mr.

Liddell-Grainger, Ayton Castle, third. Mr. Eustace Smith was also first for Hackney foals, Mr. Liddell-Grainger being second. For three-year-olds, Mr. David Mitchell was first, and Mr. Liddell-Grainger second; and for two-year-olds the Ayton Castle stud was first. For Hackneys in saddle, over 15 hands, Mr. Eustace Smith was first, and Mr. Liddell-Grainger second. Mr. David Mitchell was first for ponies above 13 hands with his four-year-old Marson; Mr. Smith was first for ponies under 13 hands, Mr. Cabry being second; and Mr. Cabry was first for ponies under 12 hands.

Sheep.

The sheep were but a moderate lot, and were unusually small in numbers, the entries showing a falling off in all the four breeds and being nearly sixty fewer than at Morpeth last year. Although classes were provided for the four Scottish breeds, only two exhibitors were present from the north side of the Tweed. The Border Leicesters were a capital lot in point of quality, the shearling rams being specially meritorious. In a strong class of shearling rams Mr. Clark, Oldhamstocks Mains, Cockburnspath, who was the only exhibitor from Scotland, showed three sheep, and they carried off all the prizes. Mr. J. E. Nicholson, Manor House, Lancaster, showed his second prize York ram, but it only got the fifth place. Mr. Nicholson was, however, first in the aged ram class with a strong specimen bred by Mr. Angus, Bearl, Stocksfield; Mr. Robinson, Snipe House, Alnwick, being second, and taking the special prize for the best ram belonging to tenant farmers in the county. Mr. Nicholson also carried off the principal prizes for both tup and ewe lambs; and Mr. Scott, East Lilburn, was first for ewes, Mr. Nicholson being second. The gimmer class was headed by a very fine and nicely matched pen from the Oldhamstocks flock. In the Cheviot section the judges' duties were comparatively light. The principal exhibitors were Mr. John Robson, Newton, and Mr. Jacob Robson, Byrness, and the former took the leading honours in all the five classes with some good typical North of England sheep of his own breeding, his brother securing one second and four third prizes. Mr. Smith, Mowhaugh, was the only exhibitor from the other side of the Border, and he had four entries forward. He was second in the old ram class and third for gimmers, but his shearling rams only got the fourth and fifth places. All the blackfaced sheep belonged to English exhibitors, the prize-takers being Messrs. Crawford Brothers, Cartington, Rothbury; Mr. John Robson, Newton; and Mr. Joseph Vickers, Elm Park, Tow Law. Halfbreds were few in number, and there was very little competition in any of the classes, although some well-bred sheep were shown. Mr. H. H. Scott, Alnham House, took all the prizes for shearling rams with animals of his own breeding, and he was also first for ewes. Mr. Scott, East Lilburn, had the best of the two aged rams shown; Mr. Morley Crossman, Goswick House, Beal, was the only exhibitor of gimmers; and Mr. Charles Perkins, Ross, Bedford, was awarded both prizes for ewe lambs.

Mid Kent.

The show of the Mid-Kent Agricultural Association took place at Maidstone on Wednesday. The show of hunters was scarcely so large as on some previous occasions, but the horses generally were the feature of the exhibition, the total number of entries being over 150. The sheep were also less numerous than usual, the entries being below twenty. Cattle numbered forty-three, but the competition was in some instances very keen. With Shire horses, Lord Hothfield, Mr. Cornwallis, and Mr. G. Osenton, of Westerham, were the principal winners. Lord Hothfield, who has not been a prominent exhibitor this season, gained a second with Xerxes, a stallion which received the reserve card at Maidstone's Royal, while Buscot Duchess, a filly foaled in 1897, was first in her class, and she secured two firsts at Tunbridge Wells in 1899. Mr. Osenton retained his reputation as a successful exhibitor. With hunters Mr. Buckland, Great Chart, figured prominently, and among light weights Mr. Cornwallis's Linton Dorothy came to the front.

Prominent among the Sussex cattle was Mr. Cornwallis's bull, Lord Linton, which got first prize at the Royal; here he again reigned without a rival. Mr. Gerald Warde, whose successes at all the principal shows are well known, obtained the chief prize with his Sussex cow, Tutsham Marguerite, this beast having been second at the Royal Show at York, and first at Maidstone last year. There were some pretty Jersey cows, although the entries were limited; while Mr. Grace, of Leybourne Grange, showed a splendid Shorthorn bull not for competition.

Mr. Frederick Neame carried all before him in the classes for Kent sheep.

The Judges.

Agricultural Horses: Mr. R. Barrow, Elm Grove Stud Farm, Brockham, Betchworth; Mr. R. King Simpson, Ringmer, Lewes; Mr. Robert Craig, Croudon Park, Stock, Essex. Hunters, Driving, and Jumping: Hon. R. P. Nevill, Birling Manor; Mr. W. E. Rigden, M.F.H., Faversham; Mr. A. Leney, M.S.H., Wateringbury; Mr. H. Bailey, St. Albans. Cattle: Mr. D. Swaffer, Kingsnorth, near Ashford; Mr. J. Noakes, Lamberhurst. Sheep: Mr. T. Powell, Lenham; Mr. Hugh Gorringe, Kingston-by-Sea.

Prize List.

HORSES.

SHIRE

Stallion, foaled in or before 1898: 1, F. S. W. Cornwallis, M.P., Linton Park, Maidstone (Linton Settling Day); 2, Lord Hothfield (Xerxes); r, George M. Style, Gore Court, Maidstone (Rising Light).

Mare, foaled in or before 1896, and foal: 1, F. S. W. Cornwallis, M.P. (Lady Vinolina); 2, George Osenton, Westerham (Dunsmore Heliotrope).

Filly, foaled in 1897: 1, Lord Hothfield (Buscot Duchess); 2, F. S. W. Cornwallis, M.P. (Miss Trustee).

Filly, foaled in 1898: 1, Lord Hothfield (Yashmack); 2, F. S. W. Cornwallis, M.P.; 3, George Osenton.

Filly, foaled in 1899: 1, Lord Hothfield (Zuyn); 2, F. S. W. Cornwallis (Linton Glade); 3, George Osenton (Eden Lily).

Yearling gelding or filly, by a sire registered in the S.H.S. book, the property of a tenant farmer in Kent: 1, George Osenton (Eden Lily); 2, Robert Veitch, Cossington, Aylesford; 3, Messrs. J. and T. C. Robertson, Cliffe, Rochester (Albert); r, Arthur Miskin (Dragon).

Special prizes for yearling gelding or filly, sired by either Linton Trimmer or Trustee: 1, Robert Veitch; 2, Arthur Miskin (Dragon); r, P. Law, Shenley Farm, Headcorn (Sunbeam).

Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best Shire mare or filly foal: 1, Lord Hothfield (Zuyn); r, Lord Hothfield (Buscot Duchess).

CLEVELAND OR OTHER THAN SHIRE

Cart horse, stallion, foaled in or before 1898: Lords A. and L. Cecil (Prince Rupert).

Mare, foaled in or before 1896, and foal: Lords A. and L. Cecil (Lady Harry).

Filly or colt foal, foaled in 1899, sired by one of Lords A. and L. Cecil's Cleveledale stallions: A. Nettlefold (Wrotham).

ANY BREED.

Cart gelding, foaled in or before 1896: 1, Henry White and Son; 2, Messrs. J. and T. C. Robertson; 3, Lords A. and L. Cecil.

Cart gelding, two or three years old: 1, Messrs. J. and T. C. Robertson (Goldfinder); 2, Arthur Miskin (Prince); 3, Messrs. J. and T. C. Robertson (Nugget).

Cart mare, foaled in or before 1896, the property of a tenant farmer in Kent: 1, Messrs. T. and H. F. Simonds, Lovehurst, Staplehurst (Pansy); 2, G. Craib Allan, Southborough (Grove Biscuit); r, James Duncanson (Hether Bell).

Pair of cart mares or geldings, any age, the property of a tenant farmer in Kent: 1, J. and T. C. Robertson (Klondyke and Goldmine); 2, Henry White and Son; r, J. and T. C. Robertson (Goldfinder and Nugget).

HUNTERS.

Weight carrying hunter, up to 14 stone, foaled in or before 1895, to be ridden: 1, John C. Buckland (Sportsman); 2, John C. Buckland (Royal); r, Walter Winnis (Golden Dream).

Light weight hunter, up to 12 stone, foaled in or before 1896: 1, C. W. Sofer Whitburn, Addington Park, West Malling (Gamecock); 2, John C. Buckland (The Duke); r, W. W. Hubble, The Elms, Hunton (Chance).

Mare or gelding, two or three years old, likely to make hunters; confined to Kent: 1, F. S. W. Cornwallis, M.P. (Linton Dorothy); 2, W. W. Hubble (Jubilee); r, S. Lee Smith (Mermaid).

Hunter brood mare: 1, S. Lee Smith (Ladysmith); 2, S. Lee Smith (Miss Woodruff); r, Charles H. Hoarse, Sayndes, Staplehurst (Milkmaid).

JUMPING.

Hunters, confined to Kent, outside the Metropolitan area: 1, Capt. W. Dougall, Cavalry Depôt, Canterbury (Bantry); 2, J. C. Buckland, Goldwell, Great Chirt (Pantomime); 3, J. C. Buckland (Skylark).

CATTLE.

SUSSEX

Bull, calved previous to 1898: 1, F. S. W. Cornwallis, M.P. (Lord Linton).

Bull, calved in 1898 or 1899: 1, Hon. Ralph Nevill (Confidence H.); 2, George White, Hunton (Sirdar); r, Capt. R. Alexander, Cranbrook (Buckhurst H.).

Cow, in milk or in calf, calved before 1897: 1, Gerald Warde, Tutsham Hall, West Farleigh (Tutsham Marguerite); 2, Hon. Ralph Nevill (Birling Beauty 1st); 3, W. F. Winch, Cranbrook (Tilden Queen).

Heifer, calved in 1898: 1, Mrs. Ernest Hills, R. Heal, Penshurst (Penshurst Napier); 2, Major G. M. Best (Grace Darling); 3, Hon. Ralph Nevill (Alden Beauty); r, W. F. Winch (Tilden Mayfly).

Heifer, calved in 1899: 1, W. W. Hubble (Peony); 2, Major M. G. Best (Buckthorn); 3, Henry White and Son; r and hc, Gerald Warde (Tutsham Marguerite II.); hc, Mrs. Ernest Hills (Penshurst Bonette).

Special prize for the best animal in the first three classes: Gerald Warde (Tutsham Marguerite); r, W. W. Hubble (Peony).

ANY BREED OR CROSS BREED.

Dairy cow, in milk or in calf, calved previous to 1897, the property of a bona fide tenant farmer in Kent, or dairyman, in the borough of Maidstone: 1, Thos. Wetten, Bird's Oak, East Peckham (Fillpail); 2, A. G. Marshall, Hollingbourne (Primrose); r, George Dunk, Oakwood Road, Maidstone (Strawberry).

JERSEY.

Cow, in milk or in calf, calved previous to 1897, registered in the Jersey Herd Book: 1, Mr. Arthur Miskin (Cherry).

SHEEP

KENT

Shearling ram: 1, Frederick Neame, Macknade, Faversham; 2, George Farmer, Leeds Abbey.

Ram, two years old and over: 1, Frederick Neame.

Special prize for the best ram exhibited in the previous classes, registered in the Flock Book, the property of tenant farmer in Kent: Frederick Neame.

Pen of three shearling ewes: Frederick Neame.

Special prize, for the best ewe registered in the Flock Book, property of tenant farmer in Kent: Frederick Neame.

SOUTHDOWN

Shearling ram: 1 and r, Thomas Miles, Buckwell, Wye.

Ram, two years old and over: 1, R. J. Balston, Springfield, Maidstone; r, J. W. Grace, Leybourne Grange, West Malling.

Pen of three shearling ewes: 1, Thomas Miles.

Ripon.

The twelfth annual show of the Ripon and District Agricultural Society was held on the 6th inst., and proved very successful. The entries showed a substantial advance upon those of last year, the stock was well up to the average in point of quality, and the attendance throughout the day was quite satisfactory, notwithstanding that the weather was far from favourable. Numbering 973 as against 915 last year, the entries included 215 horses, a decrease of 25, 79 cattle against 95 last year, while sheep were about the same. Of the horses the Hackneys were decidedly the feature. The hunters were of good average quality, with here and there an animal standing well above its competitors, and perhaps they gave the judges as much trouble as any of the classes. All the three brood mares were favourable commented upon both for strength and appearance. The two-year-old filly with a [illegible] Mr. E. T. C. [illegible] Moor, took a [illegible] and should develop into a valuable [illegible]. Among the roadsters Messrs. J. Burton and Sons' Mr. Dewell was again prominent. There were [illegible] to choose between the two [illegible] moving with beautiful action; and Mr. Mark Peterson's well-known exhibit [illegible] by carrying off the prize for the best roadster [illegible]. There is little to be said on the agricultural [illegible] beyond that they were of good [illegible] quality. After two years' inactivity in this direction the [illegible] on his own [illegible] Orchard Prince [illegible] the Dragon, [illegible] the Ripon, Ripley, and Thirsk [illegible] some improvement in the Shire [illegible] on. The sheep were an excellent [illegible] of the [illegible] declining in his enthusiasm [illegible] animals at a local show for a long time past. The cattle, too, were [illegible]. In the [illegible] W. Frank's Welcome Captain, [illegible] at the Royal Show and was first at Otley, but the [illegible] but the second is also a good animal. Mr. J. M. Cresland's (South Stainley) white cow, was [illegible] the first card in her class, as a good [illegible] getter, but the winning heifer, owned by Mr. A. V. Hainsworth, particularly took the eye of the [illegible]. Some of the dairy cattle were so good that they might be shown with advantage at the county show.

Prize List.

HORSES.

FOR THE FARM OCCUPIED [illegible]

Agricultural brood mare, with foal at foot: 1, J. M. [illegible] land, South Stainley; 2, W. Gothorp, Hutton Conyers; 3, T. Kendall, Melmerby.

Gelding or mare, four years old and upwards: 1, 2, and 3, J. Theakston.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. Theakston; 2, Exors. of the late R. Allison, Thornton Watlass; [illegible] E. Clarke, Crosthwaite.

Two-year-old gelding: 1, Mrs. Place, Bedale; [illegible] W. Stubbs, Baldersby; 3, J. Theakston.

Two-year-old filly: 1, J. W. Cawthorn, Plumpton Hall; 2, A. A. Parker, Snape, Bedale; 3, J. Spence.

Yearling colt or gelding: 1, J. Hebden, [illegible]; 2, J. Greaves; 3, T. Burton, Felskirk, Thirsk.

Yearling filly: 1, Exors. of the late R. Allison; 2, R. Stubbs; 3, A. W. Hainsworth, Pateley Bridge.

Pair of horses, any age, shown in [illegible] J. Theakston; 3, W. H. Imison, Dishforth.

The Shire Horse Society's medal, awarded to the best mare, filly, or filly foal, registered in the Stud Book: J. Theakston.

FOR THE FIELD (shown in hand)

Hunter brood mare with foal at foot: 1, T. Sowden, Busby Stoop, Thirsk; 2, Lord Greenway, Middleham; 3, G. Appleton, Thirsk.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, H. Pearson, Pilmoor; 2, W. Jordison, Thirsk; 3, F. A. E. Samuelson, Thirsk.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, E. T. C. Antrobus, Marton-le-Moor; 2, Rev. H. R. Hunter, Wath Rectory; 3, W. Whitaker, Beckhouse.

Yearling gelding or filly: 1, W. Jordison; 2, G. [illegible]; 3, F. A. E. Samuelson.

The Hunters' Improvement Society's [illegible] and bronze medal to the best Hunter [illegible] or with foal at foot by, a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter [illegible] medal or premium as a brood mare: T. Sowden, Busby Stoop.

FOR THE ROAD (shown in hand)

Roadster brood mare, with foal at foot: 1, J. Burton and Sons, Copt Hewick; 2, T. Watson, Sowerby; 3, W. Swales, Thirsk.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, A. Parkinson, Kirby Hill; 2, W. K. Pickering, Rooker Hill; 3, J. E. Cawthorn, Plumpton Hall.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. Burton and Sons; 2, Fleming and Son, Westgate; 3, W. K. Pickering.

Yearling colt, gelding, or filly: 1, F. R. Hebden; 2, R. Lemming, Studley; 3, H. Meadley, Harrogate.

The Hackney Horse Society's medal for the best pony mare, filly, or filly foal that is registered in the Hackney Stud Book, and [illegible] registration in the Hackney Stud Book: A. Lee Dawson and Sons; r, F. R. Hebden.

HUNTERS, ROADSTERS, AND PONIES IN DOUBLE HARNESS.

Hunting gelding or mare, [illegible] horse: 1, E. T. C. Antrobus, Marton-le-Moor; 2, G. Spencer, Ripley; 3, J. Slater, Braithwaite Hall.

Hunting gelding or mare, [illegible] W. Jordison, Thirsk; 2, J. Morley, Dishforth; 3, J. Stevenson, Bainbridge.

Hunting gelding or mare, any age, [illegible] Bedale Hounds during last season: 1, F. A. Rickaby, Easingwold; 2, W. Jordison; 3, E. T. C. Antrobus.

Roadster gelding or mare, any age: 1, M. Pearson, Harrogate; 2, J. Stevenson; 3, E. Handley, Skelton.

Lady's hack, any age: 1, J. Stevenson; 2, H. Pearson; 3, J. Hebden, Skipton.

Pony, not exceeding [illegible] hands: 1 and 2, T. E. Sowden, Ripley; 3, T. E. Lavin.

HORSES IN HARNESS.

Carter's single horse [illegible] have been [illegible] kept horse, confined to [illegible] Ripon; 2, A. Trees, Coltsgate Hill; 3, W. Wells and Sons, Ripon.

Pair, not exceeding [illegible] Harrogate; W. Fryer, Darley Hall; [illegible] Bedale; [illegible] 2, Mrs. W. T. Garnett, Sharow; 3, Mrs. Jordison, Thirsk.

[illegible] son; 2, T. L. Smailes; 3, T. E. Lavin.

Tradesman's or farmer's single-horse turn-out: 1, W. Jordison; 2, T. L. Smailes; 3, T. E. Lavin.

[illegible] the [illegible] angles and distances apart, time, pace, and style considered: 1, Mrs. Jordison; 2, Miss Handley, Skelton; 3, Mrs. M. G. Harrogate.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS

Best bull [illegible] Mrs. [illegible] House; 3, I. Oliver, Darley.

[illegible] Butler, Nidd Hall, Ripley; 2, W. H. Frank; 3, Rev. S. H. [illegible]

Best [illegible] 2, Mrs. [illegible]

Knaresborough; 2, I. Oliver; 3, J. M. Crosland, South Stainley.

Cow, in calf or milk, three years old and upwards: 1, J M Crosland; 2, W. H. Frank; 3, Hon. H. E. Butler.

Heifers, in calf or milk, above two and under three years old: 1, A. W. Hainsworth, Cliff Grange, Pateley Bridge; 2, I. Oliver; 3, The Bishop of Ripon.

Heifer, above one and under two years old: 1, J. Lister, Thirsk; 2, A. W. Hainsworth; 3, Sir Christopher Furness, Grantley Hall.

Heifer calf, under one year old: 1, Mrs. Cass; 2, Sir Christopher Furness; 3, A. W. Hainsworth.

CATTLE OF ANY BREED OR A CROSS.

Cow for dairy purposes, in milk: 1, W. Wells and Sons; 2, J. Goodrick, Harrogate; 3, J. Spilman, Haddockstones, Markington.

Channel Islands cow or heifer, any age: 1, Sir Reginald Graham, Norton Conyers; 2, The Bishop of Ripon; 3, R. Williamson, Sunnybank

Two bullocks, with all their calf teeth in: 1, W. Yeats, Baldersby; 2, J. Spence, Ashley House; 3, J. W. Taylor, Wath.

Two heifers, with all their calf teeth in: 1, C. Hammond, West Tanfield, Bedale; 2, J. M. Crosland; 3, L. C. Webster, Friars Hurst.

Pair of grazing bullocks, with not more than two broad teeth, must have grazed from June 1st: 1, W. Gothorp, Hutton Conyers; 2, C. Hammond; 3, M. Wood, Blois Hall.

SHEEP.

IMPROVED LEICESTERS (DISTRICT CLASSES).

Ram, two-shear and upwards: 1, Miss Warriner, Studley; 2, W. Yeats, Baldersby; 3, G. Weighill, Wath.

Shearling ram: 1, E. Clarke, Gristhwaite; 2, W. Yeats; 3, F. Clarke, Dishforth.

Ram lamb: 1, Miss Warriner; 2, W. Yeats; 3, J. T. Todd, Carlton Husthwaite

Pen of three shearling gimmers: 1, T. Clarke; 2, W. Yeats; 3, F. Clarke.

Pen of three ewes: 1, F. Clarke; 2, T. Clarke; 3, W. Yeats.

Gimmer lamb: 1, 2, and 3, T. Clarke.

WENSLEYDALE

Ram, two-shear and upwards: 1, W. Cleasby, Islebeck Grange; 2, J I'Anson, Howe; 3, F. W. Trotter, Low Ellington.

Shearling ram: 1 and 3, W. Cleasby; 2, T. Wilkinson, Cold Harbour, Easingwold.

Ram lamb: 1, J. I'Anson; 2, R. B. Wood, Low Ellington; 3, J. Hargrave.

Pen of three ewes: 1, J. Spence, Ashley House; 2, J. I'Anson; 3, W. Todd.

Three shearling gimmers: 1 and 2, W. Cleasby; 3, J. I'Anson

Gimmer lamb: 1, J. I'Anson; 2, T. Wilkinson; 3, F. W Trotter.

MASHAM SHEEP

(First cross from a Scotch ewe.)

Pen of three Masham ewes: 1, W. B. Pearson; 2, J. Spence; 3, W. Thompson.

Pen of three shearling gimmers: 1 and 2, P. C. Verity, Nutwith Cote; 3, G. Weighill.

Pen of three fat lambs, of any breed or a cross, bred by exhibitor: 1 and 2, W. Scorer, Skelton; 3, J. Hargrave.

PIGS.

(DISTRICT CLASSES.)

Boar, White, Large or Middle breed: 1, J. M. Crosland, South Stainley.

Sow, White, Large or Middle breed: 1 and 2, J. Spence; 3, C. Wells, Birkby Nab.

Gilt, White, Large or Middle breed: No entry.

Black or Berkshire boar: 1, The Marchioness of Ripon; 2, W. H. Frank, Marton-le-Moor; 3, M. Wood, Blois Hall.

Black or Berkshire sow: 1, J. Burton and Sons, Copt Hewick; 2, The Marchioness of Ripon; 3, Mrs. Watson Verity.

Black or Berkshire gilt: 1, W. H. Frank; 2, The Marchioness of Ripon; 3, M. Wood.

Cleveland.

The Cleveland Agricultural Society held its annual show at Middlesbrough on Wednesday, and it was favoured with splendid weather, so that the attendance of visitors was a big one, but unfortunately the entries were not so numerous as last year, being but 698 as against 774 at Saltburn in 1899 and 710 at Thornaby in 1898. The reason of this falling off is said to be the altering of the date of the show. All the same, it was a pity that at Middlesbrough, right in the heart of Cleveland, a better numerical display could not be made, more especially in the Cleveland Bay and coaching sections. Some consolation was, however, derived from the fact that the quality was of the right sort. The cattle occupied first position in the catalogue. As a rule, the animals were satisfactory, the youngsters showing considerable prominence. Mr. J. W. Harrison, of Lealholm, Grosmont, a brother of Mr. George Harrison, met with considerable success with his Shorthorns, taking four out of the five first prizes. Mr. R. Brunton, of Marton, took the other principal award, and the second and third honours were shared by Mr. A. J. Dorman, of Nunthorpe; Mr. T. C. Dobson, Kirby-in-Cleveland; Mr. J. W. Harrison; Mr. T. Petch, of Little Ayton; Mr. J. Hartley, of Loftus; and Mr. G. Mortimer, of Westerdale, Grosmont. As a flockmaster, Mr Harrison was also to the front, though Mr. J. Dowson, of Danby, scored one or two points more, whilst the remaining prominent exhibitors included Mr. H. T. Allison, of Stanghow, Guisborough; Miss Anne Pierson, of Kirby Bridge, Carlton, Northallerton; Mr. George Welford, of Loftus; and Mr. E. Anderson, of Rinswell, Stockton. The competition in the pig department was limited to five breeders, and the number of animals exhibited was ten. A valuable specimen of the Large White breed, the property of Mr. S. Boocock, of Danby, succumbed to the heat.

The northern breed of draught horses practically reigned supreme in the heavy section. The individual classes were not so well filled as they ought to be, and the quality was rather irregular. Brood mares were properly headed by Mr. J. J. Barker's unnamed daughter of Gert Sherry, the Coulby Manor representative having as prize companions Mr. T. Petch's black Violet and Mr. R. Dunning's Maid of the Mill. Mr. R. P. Petch furnished the leaders in the two succeeding classes—foals by Gay City and Chester, and colt foals—the Priestcroft Stud having fairly strong rivals in the entries of Mr. J. J. Barker and Mr. T. Hicks, of Wilton. The filly foal sent by Mr. James Ingledew, of Low Fields, Bedale, was greatly admired, as was also the yearling filly belonging to Mr. T. Petch. Mr. Ingledew's Mark topped the two-year-old gelding class, while Mr. Joseph Petch, of Marton, had the honour of winning with his two-year-old filly by Lord Wolseley. Carting geldings and mares came out well, and the two district classes were good. Hunters were excellent, so far as they went, but competition was limited. In a class of eight brood mares Mr. Thomas Swales's ten-year-old Lady Grey, the Royal winner, stood out from the rest. The second best was Mr. C. Codling's Bonny Girl, whilst the owner of Lady Grey took a third prize with an animal whose name was omitted from the catalogue. The youngsters were meritorious. Mr. W. Scarth, jun., won comfortably with Palm Saturday among the colt foals, and Mr. J. Dent's young filly by Andrassy triumphed over Mr. Swales's Crooked Pin foal. Messrs. T. and H. Ward, of Pinchinthorpe, Great Ayton, now entered the ring, and with the well-known two-year-old gelding Blackbird and the three-year-old filly Blackthorn swept away all opposition; but in the four-year-old gelding or filly class Mr. John Walton, of Guisborough, held sway, his handsome-looking and quick-moving chestnut gelding by Delight beating Lord Clare, from Pinchinthorpe. The Messrs. Ward were not, however, to be denied, for in the next class The Knight gained the coveted colours from Mr. David Smallwood's John Peel, and Mr. William Jordison's Mowbray Hunting. The same exhibitors also carried off the Cleveland Hunt prize with Lord Clare. To hark back, the chief two-year-old came from Ings Farm, Easington, the residence of Mr. T. Newton, while the pick of the three-year-old fillies was the choice Golden Ruby, belonging to Mr. J. S. Darrell, one of the most popular exhibitors and judges in Yorkshire.

The Cleveland Bays, in regard to quality, were quite up to the mark, though here again there was lament over the paucity of entries. In seven classes there were twenty-eight animals, or a class average of four. Three of the young classes, however, had only two entries—a falling away since the days when the average was twelve or more. Royal winners were present in the brood mare class. Mr. John Lett's Madame II. followed up her victories of the past by standing at the top of a strong class. Second prize went to Mr. Thomas Petch, of Skelton, for Blink Lady, and third honours to Mr. F. Wilson Horsfall, who was represented by Lady Salton. The Skelton Stud was more assertive in the colt foal class, but in the case of the filly foals, Mr. Skelton's entry had to give way to Mr. Lett's Lucky Hero filly. The exhibitors of yearling fillies were Mr. G. Allison and Mr. Thomas Petch, whose names figured in the prize list in the order named. Mr. Horsfall was without an opponent in the yearling colt or gelding class, while Mr. G. Scoby rose from second position in a young class to the first place in the two-year-old filly class, where his exhibit was the charming Beadlam Girl. Luck's All took for a second year the silver challenge prize. Brood mares shone in the coaching section. The class contained Mr. Horsfall's noted winner, Patience, whose most formidable opponents on this occasion were Mrs. Petch's Lady Lena and Mr. R. Brunton's Dairymaid. Foals numbered three, the prizes going to Mr. James McNeil, of Westerdale, Grosmont, and Mrs. Petch. The honours in the remaining classes were distributed among Mr. McNeil, Mr. G. T. Petch, Mr. Isaac Duell, of Hinderwell; Mr. R. Brunton, of Marton; and Mr. M. Porritt, of Danby. Several old favourites appeared in the Hackney and driving classes. They embraced Miss Derwent, the property of Messrs. J. Burton and Sons; Mr. H. Creaser's White Socks, Mr. Mark Pearson's Lord Lofty, Mr. T. Blackburn's Ladysmith, and Mr. H. Callender's Dewdrop.

Paris International Agricultural Congress.

Amongst the numerous meetings that have already been held in connection with the Paris Universal Exhibition, not the least interesting have been those organised during the International Congress, held from the 1st to the 8th instant.

This congress is the sixth of a series dating from the Paris International Agricultural Congress of 1889, when a Permanent International Agricultural Commission was formed for the purpose of instituting periodical agricultural congresses at different European capitals. Since 1889 congresses of this kind have taken place at The Hague (1891), Brussels (1895), Budapest (1896), and Lausanne (1898). If they have had no other result, they have done much to promote friendly relations between the leading agriculturists of the various countries represented, and disseminate much agricultural information, both scientific and practical, that would not otherwise have travelled beyond the borders of the country of its origin.

In view of the Paris Exhibition and the Agricultural Congress held in connection with it, the annual conferences of the Société des Agriculteurs de France partook largely this year of an international character, and the meeting of Saturday, June 30th, the day before the opening of the congress, was specially devoted to the reception of communications from the representatives of agricultural societies other than those of France. In his opening allocution, the president of the Société des Agriculteurs, the Marquis de Vogüè, referred to the Royal Agricultural Society of England as the mother of the National Agricultural Societies of both France and Germany, and spoke of the mutuality of purpose and solidarity of interest that existed between all the agriculturists of the world. Herr von Arnim having spoken upon the work of the German Agricultural Society, of which he is the chairman of the directorate, Mr. Ernest Godfrey, secretary of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, gave a brief review of the agricultural situation in England, and of the agricultural legislation of the present Parliament.

In the evening of the same day a soirée was given by the Société des Agriculteurs, at the Society's house, 8, Rue d'Athenes, the chief feature of which was an illustrated paper by Sir Ernest Clarke, secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, on "British Breeds of Live Stock," a subject in which French agriculturists take a special interest. Sir Ernest had brought over with him from England lantern slides, showing selected specimens of each of the breeds of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs in this country; and as an additional attraction, biograph views were shown representing in action several of the leading features of the parade before their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales of the prize animals at the recent meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society at York. The lecture, which was in French and largely impromptu, was followed with great interest by the company assembled, and the animated pictures created much enthusiasm.

The International Agricultural Congress, which has been held during the past week, under the presidency of M. Méline, formerly the French Minister of Agriculture, in the Palais des Congrès, near the Trocadero in the Exhibition, was divided into seven sections, dealing with (1) rural economy; (2) agricultural instruction; (3) agricultural science; (4) live stock; (5) agricultural industries; (6) southern cultures; and (7) useful and injurious animals, the sections being presided over by Frenchmen of high position, and the chief foreign delegates being appointed to honorary positions in the Bureau. Of the English delegates, Mr. R. A. Yerburgh was made a vice-president, and Sir Ernest Clarke honorary Secretary-General of the Congress; whilst Mr. F. S. Courtney, C.E., was nominated a vice-president of Section 5, and Mr. Ernest Godfrey one of the secretaries in Section 1.

The Tuesday evening of the Congress was the occasion of a very interesting international gathering at the Hôtel Ritz, which Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., and other English members of the Congress entertained at dinner the presidents of the sections and other distinguished visitors to the Congress, including the Marquis de Vogüé (France), Prince Georges Schoniach-Carolath and Herr von Arnim (Germany), Count Kolowrat (Bohemia), Viscount Arthur de Chezelles (France), Baron Arthur von Hohenbruck (Austria), M. Jules Develles (formerly French Minister of Agriculture and Foreign Minister), M. Louis Passy (Deputy and Secretaire Perpetuel of the Société National d'Agriculture de France, M. Henri Sagnier (Secretary of the Congress), Sir Ernest Clarke, Mr. Austin Lee, C.B., of the British Embassy, Mr. Rouse Orlebar, and Mr. Ernest Godfrey.

On Wednesday an official luncheon to the members of the Bureau was given by the Minister of Agriculture, and amongst those invited were Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., and Sir Ernest Clarke. In the afternoon the foreign delegates were invited to a séance of the Société National d'Agriculture de France. M. Méline presided, and speeches were delivered by M. Louis Passy on the scientific work of the principal European agricultural societies, by M. Berthelot, the eminent French savant, and by M. Duclaux upon the work of the Pasteur Institute.

On Thursday the members of the Congress were invited to Verrieres to witness the experimental plots of the old and famous firm of seedsmen, Messrs. Vilmorin, Andrieux, et Cie. The present head of the firm, M. Philippe Vilmorin, representing the fifth generation of its successive principals, entertained the members to déjeuner, and afterwards in an excellently conceived speech welcomed his guests in the name of his late lamented father, M. Henri Vilmorin, to whose genius the wonderful development of the firm had been so largely due, and whose recent death was a loss to agriculture throughout the world. The occasion was exceptionally interesting owing to the approaching marriage on the following Monday of M. Philippe Vilmorin, and the health of the future bride and bridegroom, proposed by Sir Ernest Clarke, was enthusiastically received. The party afterwards proceeded in automobile carriages to the neighbouring farm at Champagne for the purpose of witnessing the sugar beet installation and distillery of Messrs. Pettit.

The Congress was concluded by a banquet given under the presidency of M. Méline on Saturday evening at the Hotel Continental, at which M. Jean Dupuy, the Minister of Agriculture, gave the toast of the foreign delegates to the Congress.

SOCIETIES.

Proceedings of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture.

Special Council Meeting.

A Special Meeting of the Council of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, called for the purpose of discussing the Agricultural Holdings Bill as amended by the House of Commons Standing Committee on Trade and Agriculture, was held on Tuesday, July 10th, 1900, in the Westminster Hall Grand Committee Room, at the House of Commons, Westminster, S.W.

There were present Mr. Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P. (Chairman for 1900), in the Chair, Mr. J. Grant Lawson, M.P. (Vice-Chairman for 1900), and the following members:—

Representing the Central Chamber:—Mr. B. St. John Ackers, Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P., Mr. A. F. Jeffreys, M.P., Mr. W. Lipscomb, Mr. R. Jasper More, M.P., Mr. Clare Sewell Read, Mr. Jame Round, M.P., Mr. H. Stopes, and Mr. Ernest H. Godfrey (Secretary).

Representing Associated Chambers:—Mr. Henry Campion and Mr. H. Trustram Eve (Bedfordshire), Professor James Long (British Dairy Farmers' Association), Mr. W. W. Berry (Canterbury Farmers' Club), Mr. C. B. Davies (Cheshire), Mr. Joseph Beecroft (Chester Farmers' Club), Mr. C. Middleton (Cleveland), the Right Hon. James Lowther, M.P., and Colonel W. H. Wilson-Todd, M.P. (Darlington), Mr. T. Latham (Farmers' Club), Mr. A. Amos (Kent Federation), Mr. E. T. Learner (Norfolk), Mr. W. Fitzherbert-Brockholes (North Lancashire Farmers' Association), Mr. J. Bowen-Jones and Mr. Fred. Horne (Shropshire), Mr. J. T. Wilson (Stockton-on-Tees), Mr. Herman Biddell (East Suffolk), Mr. S. Kidner (Taunton Farmers' Club), Mr. F. Austen (Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club), Mr. F. E. Muntz (Warwickshire), Mr. C. M. S. Pilkington (West Riding), Mr. M. D'Arcy Wyvill, M.P. (Wharfedale), Mr. T. Davies (Wirral Farmers' Club), Lord Herries and Mr. John Newton (Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs).

Members of the Central Chamber:—Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, M.P., Sir John E. Dorington, Bart., M.P., Mr. A. Griffith-Boscawen, M.P., Mr. Laurence Hardy, M.P., the Right Hon. Sir John H. Kennaway, Bart., M.P., Colonel W. Kenyon-Slaney, M.P., Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., Mr. H. Y. B. Lopes, M.P., Mr. A. K. Lloyd, Q.C., M.P., Mr. G. Herbert Morrell, M.P., Mr. W. G. Mount, M.P., Mr. Herbert Samuel, and Sir Charles G. E. Welby, Bart., C.B., M.P.

There were also present from the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture, Mr. J. Biggar, Mr. Alexander Cross, M.P., and Mr. Andrew Hutcheson.

Election of New Members.

The following were elected members of the Central Chamber:—

DICKINSON, R. E., M.P., Combe Cottage, Lyncombe, Bath.
SANDYS, Col. T. Myles, M.P., Graythwaite Hall, Ulverston.
WARNER, T. Courtney T., M.P., Highams, Woodford Green, Essex.
WELBY, Sir Charles G. E., Bart., C.B., M.P., Denton Manor, Grantham.

Agricultural Holdings Bill.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said he hoped that the Council would excuse him for not having arranged to hold the meeting at an earlier date. He had been surprised that the proceedings on the Bill in the Grand Committee had terminated so rapidly. He had been under the expectation that those proceedings would have lasted a day or two longer, and consequently he had delayed giving the necessary notice. He had seen no reason to alter the rule which required that a certain number of days' notice should be given before a meeting was held; and consequently it turned out that the meeting had been summoned for the day on which the Bill would come on for consideration by the House of Commons. He hoped that members would bear in mind, in any observations which they might have to address to the Council, the important fact that what they did that day would have to be put before the Members of the House of Commons in a very short time, as the Bill would so soon come on for consideration.

Mr. JAMES LOWTHER, M.P. (Darlington), said that, before they proceeded with the business, he should like to submit a matter which he thought ought to be considered. He was not going to throw any blame upon those persons who convened the meeting, but it happened that the first order that day in the House of Commons was the Agricultural Holdings Bill. Members of the House of Commons resembled other mortals in being unable to be in two places at one time. Mr. Speaker took the chair at three o'clock, and questions would begin at half-past three. The question list was shorter than usual, and before the present meeting had proceeded far those Members of the House of Commons who were at the meeting, and who intended to take part in the Agricultural Holdings Bill, would have to withdraw from the room and go to their places in Parliament. He would, therefore, suggest whether it would not be convenient to adjourn the present meeting.

Mr. CHANNING, M.P., differed from what had fallen from his Right Honourable friend. He thought that it would be rather unfortunate if they did not express some brief opinions on the Bill, so that the hands of Members of Parliament might be strengthened in dealing with the matter. Perhaps he might draw special attention to the first subsection of the second clause. He had understood from Mr. Walter Long that some concession might be made by Her Majesty's Government with regard to the provision which enabled a landlord to contract himself completely out of the Act. It seemed to him that the agreements which were mentioned there, and which, if they existed with regard to any holding, would at once and forthwith supersede the arbitration provided for by the Act, left no right either to landlord or tenant, unless they cancelled the agreement, of going under the Act. It seemed to him that that was prejudicial, and, in fact, practically destroyed the whole value of the Agricultural Holdings Act. He hoped that that view would receive some support in the meeting. Further, it seemed to him that, whether they secured compensation for permanent pasture or not, there certainly should be some protection of the rights of the tenant who had laid down permanent pasture himself at his own risk without consent, and that, if he did not receive compensation, he should still retain his property rights in that pasture, and be able to plough it up if he saw fit. He had some doubt whether that right was protected by the Bill as it stood. A third point to which he would draw attention was with regard to the setting off of manures against crops sold off. It seemed to him that the clause on the subject left it in the power of a landlord or an agent to introduce such agreements and such covenants into leases as would practically nullify the Act. And that was also the opinion of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture. In these respects the Chamber would be wise in expressing an opinion with regard to the amendment of the Bill.

The CHAIRMAN said that he did not understand Mr. Lowther to have made any motion with regard to adjournment.

Mr. LOWTHER said that he was in the hands of the meeting. He rather wanted to gather what the feeling was. What he desired to impress upon the meeting was that any Members of Parliament who wanted to take part in the discussion in the House must leave that meeting within a few minutes. He submitted that they would be acting more in accordance with the convenience of the Chamber, and also better further their own cause, if they adjourned. He would move that the meeting be adjourned.

Mr. HARDY, M.P., formally seconded the motion on the ground that he had a certain amount of knowledge of the debatable points moved in the Grand Committee, because he was Chairman of that Committee, and had therefore had every amendment under his notice. Judging from what he had listened to in the Grand Committee, he must confess that he did not think that it would be practically possible at a large meeting like that to arrive at a conclusion upon the various points in the very short time that it was possible for Members of Parliament to give to the matter that afternoon. He thought that it would not be advisable to have a hurried discussion, and, therefore, although he admitted that it would be a very great inconvenience to many gentlemen who had come up from the country to attend the meeting, he felt that it would be better to adjourn.

Mr. JEFFREYS, M.P., pointed out that unless they held the meeting then, and came very quickly to a decision the Bill would be passed. The House was going to sit all day on the Bill until twelve o'clock, and then go on to-morrow or the next day. If the meeting adjourned, not only would Members be troubled to come up to London again, but the door would be shut against their proposals. He thought that the best thing that they could do was to go on as quickly as possible. He was sure that Members would not make long speeches.

Mr. GRANT LAWSON, M.P., wished to make a practical suggestion. Every Member of Parliament in the room knew that there was only one point upon which there would be a close division, and that was as to whether the arbitrator should be required to give particulars as he did under Section 19 of the original Act. Why should they not discuss that one point? He should like to hear it dealt with.

Mr. LIPSCOMB said that the Chamber had been working on this subject for six years, and they were unchanged in their opinion as to what they ought to ask. They only regretted that more of their modest suggestions had not been adopted in the Bill. With regard to the point which had just been brought before them, they were universally of opinion that for the sake both of landlord and of tenant the arbitrator should give particulars of his award. There was no difference of opinion. The objection had come from the valuers themselves. He did not hesitate to say that neither landlord nor tenant differed from the view of the Chamber as to the justice of requiring that particulars should be given. As to the question of adjournment, if they did not deal with the matter that day and the Bill was passed, where would they be? He wished to make one suggestion, and that was that the landlord's time for making his claim should be limited. That was [illegible]. He would therefore propose that the words "within seven days [illegible] arbitration being commenced [illegible]" "within seven days after the appointment of the arbitrator."

The CHAIRMAN thought [illegible] to dispose of the question [illegible] adjourn before entering into points which were to be [illegible] under the Bill.

Mr. LIPSCOMB suggested that if an adjournment should take place it should be only to the next morning. Members had come up specially from the country to attend the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN then put the motion for adjournment, and it was negatived by a large majority.

The SECRETARY reported the receipt of communications relating to the Agricultural Holdings Bill from the Bedfordshire, Cheshire, East Kent, and Scottish Chambers of Agriculture.

Mr. LIPSCOMB, as Chairman of the Agricultural Holdings Act Committee, who had met that afternoon, said that the proposal of the Grand Committee was that the landlord's claim should be sent in not later than seven days from the commencement of the arbitration. What he wanted to propose was that the claim should be sent in not later than seven days after the appointment of the arbitrator. As they were aware, the arbitrator might delay the commencement of the arbitration for a long time after his appointment. The unanimous desire of the Central Chamber and of the whole of the tenant farmers was that the landlord should not have a long time for the preparation of his claim, but that would be inconsistent with the proposal of the Grand Committee. No arbitrator that he had known of had ever done anything within seven days after his appointment. It was the unanimous feeling of the Committee which had been sitting before the meeting assembled that the time for the sending in of the claim should be limited to seven days after the appointment of the arbitrator. With regard to temporary pasture, the question had arisen, Would temporary pasture come under the title of permanent pasture? His own view was that the operation of the schedule would give the title either to one or to the other. The fact of the consent of the landlord having been obtained would make the pasture permanent pasture; and the fact of a tenant having only given notice would make the pasture temporary, so that the tenant would have at any time a right to plough it up.

Mr. MIDDLETON (Cleveland) said that they were all very glad that Mr. Jeffreys had carried the amendment with regard to compensation for two years' and older seeds; but it seemed to him a great pity that that provision should not be made retrospective, because there were many pastures which were of very considerable value, and it seemed a great pity that the tenant should plough up such pastures because he was not compensated for them. That would very much defeat the object for which the clause was added to the Bill. Therefore he should be very glad if Members of the House would give that point due attention, and endeavour to have the clause altered if necessary.

Mr. CLARE SEWELL READ moved that the clause which gave compensation for two years' and older seeds be made retrospective. He said that a great many of the things in the schedule were retrospective and must be so. The Act would apply to manures already used. He should think that a very small addition would be sufficient to carry out what he had proposed. Landlords need not be afraid of the alteration. The incoming tenant would have to pay the compensation.

Mr. KIDNER (Taunton Farmers' Club) seconded the motion.

Mr. JEFFREYS, M.P., said that if the meeting decided that the provision should be retrospective the words which Mr. Clare Sewell Read had suggested would be sufficient. The Attorney-General would have to put them in the right place. The Government had accepted the clause "laying down temporary pasture with clover, grass, lucerne, sainfoin, or other seeds." It was a very wide clause, and would take in all temporary pastures, and he thought that it would be very useful to tenant farmers. If the Council wished it to be made retrospective they could easily ask the Attorney-General either to amend Clause 8 or to amend the paragraph in the schedule so that the effect would be retrospective.

Lord HERRIES (Yorkshire Union) was of opinion that if the clause was to be made retrospective it ought to be limited to a certain number of years. There might be a difference of opinion as to the number, but he should not object to three years or five years. If it was to be unlimited he certainly thought that there would be a great objection to it.

Mr. GRANT LAWSON, M.P., said that as a matter of drafting an amendment should be made in Clause 8 so that the compensation with regard to temporary pasture should be retrospective. He suggested that the words "except with regard to the laying down of temporary pasture" be inserted after [illegible] this Act had not been passed.

The CHAIRMAN: Do you accept that, Mr. Read?

Mr. CLARE SEWELL READ: Yes.

It was then formally resolved [illegible] (28) in Part III. of the first schedule with regard to temporary pasture be made retrospective."

Mr. JEFFREYS said that as to the proposed amendment with regard to temporary pasture he

would take care to represent their wishes with regard to the operation of Clause 8.

Mr. LIPSCOMB moved: "That the landlord's notice in Clause 2 be seven days from the appointment of the arbitrator instead of from the commencement of the arbitration."

Mr. AMOS (Kent Federation) seconded the motion, and it was carried.

Mr. LIPSCOMB moved: "That particulars should be given of the award, as in Clause 19 of the Act of 1883, which is repealed in the Bill."

Mr. LATHAM (Farmers' Club) seconded the motion.

Mr. GRANT LAWSON, M.P., thought it was only fair to put Mr. Long's view before the meeting without saying whether he agreed with it or not. Mr. Long's view was that the more particulars that were given, the more rows there would be, and he was anxious to avoid such rows between landlords and tenants. He was supported in his view by Sir Edward Carson, the Solicitor General. It was thought that the fact of valuers giving particulars caused rows over small portions of the award. Mr. Long also said that when an arbitrator had to fix a price for taking land for public improvements he never gave particulars, but always gave a lump sum. The fact that arbitrators did not give particulars was strongly urged upon him (Mr. Grant Lawson) when he was in Yorkshire last week. He thought that it was only fair to point out these facts to the Chamber. Another consideration was that there were no appeals from the arbitrator on matters of fact, whether the parties were satisfied or not. He would therefore ask the Council to very seriously consider the question which had been raised as to giving particulars. If particulars had to be given of every single item, the work of the arbitrator would be increased enormously. Mr. Renshaw had suggested that the arbitrator might be asked to give particulars as to the part of the schedule which he went upon. He (Mr. Grant Lawson) was afraid that if they went straight for retaining the old 19th section, Mr. Long would oppose them with all the force of the Government upon that point.

Mr. KIDNER (Taunton Farmers' Club) said that, if rows had not arisen under the old 19th section, why should there be a danger of rows occurring in future in consequence of an arbitrator being asked to give particulars? There was an old saying that those who paid the piper should have a chance of calling the tune. He thought that the parties were entitled to know the items as to which an award was given. There was a strong feeling in his part of the country that particulars should be obtained from the arbitrator.

Mr. LOYD, Q.C., M.P., thought the object of the valuation was to ascertain what was a fair sum to represent the advantage which one man got from the other of having his premises left with certain benefits conferred upon them, and also what was a fair sum to award by way of compensation for deterioration. He did not believe that a valuer had any desire to cheat the parties, or to get away from fair dealing when he declined to specify items, such as £30 in one place and £60 in another, and £75 somewhere else. But when the valuer arrived at the final sum he knew that, if he mentioned the amount of a particular item in his award, fifty valuers might be called to say that it was not a proper sum. It seemed to him that the whole thing turned upon whether they were going to have valuers in whom they had confidence. The parties must take care not to appoint any man who, they thought, would either negligently throw over their interests or come to his work with a bias either towards the landlord or towards the tenant. Having gone into the matter very carefully, he did not think that they would get valuers to undertake the job if they were to give particulars so that their figures could be overhauled, as they could be, by any other valuer. It ought to be remembered that the Bill did not say that the valuers should not give particulars.

Lord HERRIES (Yorkshire Union) thought that the one argument which had been made use of was a strong argument in favour of the Act as it stood. It appeared that the 19th section was not operative, and that valuers did not put down particulars. If that was the case under the last Act, he did not know why it should not be the case under the present Bill. He knew that in his own case he had on several occasions gone to the valuers and had asked them to give particulars, so that he might take part of the expense upon himself, while the tenant paid the other part. He had gone to the valuers and asked them how much such and such an improvement had been put at, and the result was that they had given particulars. Under such circumstances it would be a very great advantage both to landlord and tenant that they should know how much they had to pay for each improvement. That had been the case hitherto, and it had worked very well in the past, and he did not see why it should not work well in the future.

Professor LONG (British Dairy Farmers' Association) said that he had only had one instance in his life of figures being given to him upon a valuation, and that was an unfortunate case. The valuers on his side and those on the other side were most excellent men whom anyone would trust, and they were known throughout the entire country, and he was enab'ed to get from his valuer the details of the valuation as a personal favour. The first thing he found was that a rather large sum in his favour was entirely omitted in consequence of some carelessness in the valuer's office. He would not say that that was at all a common case, but it showed that they had a moral right, as any business men had, to see the figures and check them.

Mr. AUSTEN (Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club) pointed out that they should make the valuation as inexpensive as they possibly could. He spoke from a valuer's point of view. Valuers, at the particular time when claims were made, were particularly busy, and there was a great deal of extra routine office work to be done. To give particulars of all the items would be a work of much time and expense. If the parties put the matter into the hands of an arbitrator, surely they ought to be able to trust him to do what was right without requiring him to do the extra work which giving particulars would cause.

The CHAIRMAN then put the motion, and it was carried by a large majority.

Mr. HUTCHESON (Scottish Chamber) proposed that in Clause 1, sub-section 4, the words "the usage of good husbandry" be inserted instead of "the contract of tenancy." He thought that the present Bill was very much better than the original Bill, but at the same time his Chamber had a distinct objection to the sub-section as it stood. At present it read: "In the ascertainment of the amount of the compensation payable to a tenant in respect of manures as defined by this Act, there shall be taken into account the value of the manure required by the contract of tenancy or by custom." Putting such clauses into an agreement or into a lease as would make a tenant return so much manure to the land would render the Bill nugatory. There was another great objection which the Scottish Chamber had. Either the incoming tenant took the crop at a valuation, or the tenant sold it under the hammer. If they had to give compensation as proposed in this Bill, their last state would be infinitely worse than their first. The proposal would not suit agriculture in Scotland, where land was held under leases. He could quite understand that in England, where land was held in yearly tenancies, there might not be such a great objection. The Scottish Chamber would like an alteration made such as he had proposed. They did not want to cheat landlords, but they did not want to have to do more than had been the custom in the past. They did not want to be outwitted, so to speak. If the clause was carried as it at present stood in the Bill and the words "contract of tenancy" were put in, the Bill would be worse than useless, and instead of being a benefit to the tenants, it would be the very reverse.

Mr. WILSON (Stockton-on-Tees) moved and Mr. AMOS (Kent Federation) seconded a resolution that the words "the usage of good husbandry" be inserted in clause 1, sub-section 4, as proposed by Mr. Hutcheson.

Mr. GRANT LAWSON, M.P., said that Mr. Hutcheson had remarked that Scottish farmers did not want to be dragged into doing more than they had been accustomed to do. He assumed, however, that Scottish farmers had been in the habit of carrying out their contracts, and all that the sub-section said was that they should carry out their contracts. As a matter of fact, the Bill did not give the landlord anything extra beyond what the law gave him already. A landlord could now recover in the ordinary course of law for breach of contract.

Mr. HUTCHESON said that if the words "the usage of good husbandry" were inserted as he proposed, his objection would be met.

Mr. JASPER MORE, M.P., wished to ask whether the gentleman from Scotland was so weak as to sign an objectionable agreement?

Mr. HUTCHESON said that personally he was not. He would rather want land than do so.

Mr. JASPER MORE: Do shrewd Scotchmen sign such agreements?

Mr. HUTCHESON said that in Scotland there was such a demand for farms that he believed they would do so.

Mr. AMOS (Kent Federation) said that when a man was already in his tenancy he could be made to sign almost anything for the sake of the money which he had invested in his farm.

The CHAIRMAN then put the resolution, and it was immediately negatived.

Mr. CLARE SEWELL READ greatly regretted that the Committee in the House of Commons had not seen fit to carry out the recommendation that when there was a valuation between landlord and tenant at the expiration of the tenancy some statement should be made of the condition of the holding. He could not comprehend how landlords could object to this. They said: "We do not wish to put a new burden and a new expense upon the tenants." He apprehended that it was for the express purpose of benefit to the landlord that the statement should be made. The worst farmer in the world would not acknowledge that he was a bad farmer; and he never knew a man who, on leaving a farm, did not say that, when he went into it, it was in a bad condition; and he never knew a man who left a farm who did not say that, when he left it, it was not in a better condition than when he went into it. At present there was no chance of contradicting the wild statements that were made, or of proving the truth. But if a statement was made by two independent men as to the condition of the holding when it changed hands, that would be a very substantial feature as to the compensation that was to be paid when the farm was given up. It was said that there would be an additional expense to the poor tenant. But what would the expense be? He was sure that valuers would say that they had to go all over a farm in order to see the roots and seeds. What extra trouble would it be just to cast their eyes over the stubble and see whether it was foul or clean? They were bound to ascertain the condition of the premises to decide whether the tenant had carried out his agreement. What extra trouble or expense would it be for a valuer to say in what condition the premises were at the expiration of the tenancy? He was very sorry indeed that in the division which took place on Mr. Channing's amendment only eight members of the Committee upheld the most reasonable suggestion of the Central Chamber that a record of condition should be made.

The CHAIRMAN stated that this question had already been settled by the House of Commons, and he did not know whether it would be advisable to re-open the discussion of it. It would be practically ineffective, as far as the House of Commons was concerned.

Mr. CHANNING, M.P., asked whether he might move then, as he had to leave to go into the House of Commons, a resolution on the same lines as a resolution moved by Mr. Lipscomb, with regard to the 1st sub-section of the 2nd clause. He should like to move it in the words: "That Sub-section 1 of Clause 2 be amended so that agreements shall not supersede the arbitration procedure under the Act, if either party claims that arbitration shall be under the Act." He thought that that motion raised the point very distinctly.

Mr. KIDNER (Taunton Farmers' Club) seconded the motion.

Mr. T. DAVIES (Wirral Farmers' Club) also supported it.

Mr. GRANT LAWSON, M.P., said that this again was a question of carrying out a contract, or of whether farmers were capable of making their own contracts. There had been widely circulated a very sensible discussion which had taken place in the Bedfordshire Chamber upon this point. It was there said that all sorts of contracts would be forced on tenants; but one speaker said, and he seemed to carry the meeting with him, "Because some silly fool wanted to be protected, are all reasonable men to be deprived of the power to make contracts?" This was not a question of a man being able to contract himself out of the benefits of the Act. The only thing which he could contract himself out of was the particular method of arbitration to be employed.

Mr. MIDDLETON (Cleveland) said there were some scales of compensation drawn up perhaps 20 years ago, or before the passing of the Act of 1883.

Mr. CHANNING said that he referred to a totally different point from that. His resolution was entirely as to the form of arbitration. The form of the clause kept it open for an agreement to prescribe the actual way in which the whole arbitration should be carried out, and, in fact, to name the arbitrator.

Mr. AMOS (Kent Federation) said that when a man was in a tenancy a landlord could force him to sign almost anything he liked, and that was why some of the contracts were not reasonable. He took a farm, the landlord of which soon died, and different people came in. The new owners said that they would have their own agreements. It was a question of sign or go, and when it was a question of a thousand pounds to a tenant they knew what the tenant would do.

Mr. WILSON (Stockton-on-Tees) supported the motion.

Mr AUSTEN (Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club) said that it must surely be best for the tenant himself to make arrangements with the landlord that he should be paid for certain things which came under the Act.

Mr. C. B. DAVIES (Cheshire) pointed out that Section 55 of the old Act was not repealed.

On a show of hands the motion was negatived by twelve votes to seven.

Mr. C. B. DAVIES (Cheshire) said that his Chamber had been considering the alterations made in the Bill, and, although they felt indebted to the Central Chamber for having proposed an Act which would be of some value to them, they observed that there was one point in the procedure which had not been dealt with by the Committee. It was a point passed in 1894, and his Chamber were particularly anxious that it should be brought under the notice of the Government. They wanted a stronger line with regard to the appointment of the arbitrator and the umpire under the Act. They wanted to have them appointed out of a list prescribed by the County Councils in the different counties in England. They thought that a local man would have a far better idea of the methods and customs in the particular county in which the arbitration took place than any stranger would have, and they were very anxious that as the Central Chamber had laboured so successfully to carry certain points, and did in 1894 pass a resolution that all umpires should be selected by County Councils in

the first place, and that the Board of Agriculture should nominate one out of the County Council list, that plan should be adhered to. He appealed to the Central Chamber to stick to their guns and ask Parliament to carry out the method which the Chamber had suggested. It seemed to him a very important point, especially from the experience which he had had in the county of Cheshire with respect to arbitration. In two or three cases that had occurred they had had strangers sent from other counties. They had been ordered by the Board of Trade to come and take arbitrations in Cheshire. What his Chamber wanted was that the arbitrators should be local men who thoroughly understood the local customs and the local methods of farming. He had been sent by his Chamber to express that view to the meeting to-day. He asked most earnestly that the Central Chamber, even if they did not go so far as his Chamber, and say that a clause should be inserted, would at least ask Parliament that an instruction be given by which somehow or other a list of suitable men should be nominated by the County Council in each county, and that the Board of Agriculture should be asked to nominate umpires and arbitrators from that list.

Mr. Beecroft (Chester Farmers' Club) supported the motion.

Mr. Lipscomb said that this was one of the recommendations which had not been accepted by the Government. It would be remembered that the recommendations of the Committee of the Central Chamber were that the County Councils should make a list and that the arbitrators should be nominated from the list by the Board of Agriculture, but that method of appointment was declined by Mr. Long. It was one of the many recommendations that had not been acted upon.

Mr. Clare Sewell Read said that if the Government did not accept the recommendation that was no reason why the Central Chamber should not stick to their guns. When he was on the Norfolk County Council they had a list of arbitrators, and he did not see why there should not be a list drawn up of what they considered to be the best arbitrators in the county.

The Chairman said that he should be sorry if the resolution was pressed. He thought that it was well to give the Board of Agriculture a wide hand to get the best men they could. He thought that pressure could be exercised upon the Board of Agriculture if they did not appoint proper arbitrators, but it would be a very great misfortune to tie the Board of Agriculture down to comparatively limited numbers, which there were bound to be if a resolution of this sort was acted upon. His part of the country was a remote corner of Lancashire, and if they were obliged to have arbitrators residing in the county of Lancashire they would lose the very great assistance which they had now from gentlemen around in Cumberland and Westmorland, who knew the country much better perhaps than persons residing in Lancashire. It was only by some wide area being taken in that they would be able to get the best men possible. He thought that they could fairly trust the Board of Agriculture to appoint the best men. If they failed to do that the question could always be raised in Committee of Supply.

Mr. Ackers did not question that the advice of the Chairman might be right, but the Committee desired not that the arbitrators should be confined to the county, but that they should be persons who had been approved by the County Council.

Mr. Grant Lawson, M.P., said that it was a bit out of the way of County Council work to appoint arbitrators. Some County Councils were not made up of farmers at all. In Durham the bulk of them consisted of mineowners. In some counties there was a very great suspicion of the County Councils among farmers.

On the motion of Mr. C. B. Davies (Cheshire), seconded by Mr. Latham (Farmers' Club), it was then resolved by thirteen votes to five: "That the Council desire to press their Recommendation of 1894, that the arbitrators appointed by the Board of Agriculture should be selected from lists prepared by the County Council of each county."

Mr. H. T. Eve (Bedfordshire) said that there was one question which he was surprised that the meeting had passed over without amendment, and that was the provision of a single arbitrator. There was a good deal of feeling about the country on the subject of the single arbitrator, and he thought that the Chamber should express its opinion. It was something very new and startling in the law of arbitration to make a single arbitrator compulsory at the wish of one party against the wish of the other. It was not so in the Arbitration Act of 1889, which was a very favourite Act with the lawyers, and had worked very well. Under that Act a single arbitrator could act if both parties agreed, but he could not see why a landlord or a tenant should have the right otherwise of appointing a single arbitrator to settle the whole business. He moved: "That clause 2 subsection (3), together with subsection (5) and the first rule of the second schedule, be so altered that the compulsory appointment of a single arbitrator be made impossible unless both parties are agreeable."

Mr. Austen (Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club) seconded the motion.

Mr. Lipscomb said that it had never entered the minds of the Committee that it should be in the power of either of the two parties to make one arbitrator compulsory. If they both agreed that there should be only one arbitrator well and good, but to force one party to accept the nominee of the other did not seem to be according to usage or fair play.

Mr. Kidner (Taunton Farmers' Club) thought that the great object of the motion which Mr. Channing made just now was that either the landlord or the tenant should be able to make use of the arbitration clause of the Act and agree to arbitration. It was not suggested that a tenant should be able to call in an arbitrator and that the landlord should have no voice in the matter, but that, if they agreed to one, the Board of Agriculture should appoint one. He thought that that was the very best mode of proceeding. It would be open for them to have advocates on either side. So far as experience had gone in England the arbitrators were advocates and nothing else. A point to be considered was that a tenant might be capable of assessing his own claim, and yet he would be precluded under the old Act from acting for himself. There was no reason why he should not act for himself, as he could in a court of law. Three times out of four it always came to a third man to settle the questions.

Mr. C. B. Davies (Cheshire) held very strong views on this point. It seemed to him that under the new procedure tenant-farmers would be very much worse off than they were under the old Act. The old Act provided that each party to the dispute should have the power to appoint a referee, and the two referees could appoint an umpire, or, failing that, the Board of Agriculture should do so. But Part I. of the Second Schedule of the Bill said, "A person agreed upon between the parties, or in default of agreement, nominated by the Board of Agriculture on the application in writing of either of the parties, shall be appointed arbitrator." It was well known that before the parties came to this point they were in dispute with one another, and they would never agree to an arbitrator, and he believed that every case would come before the Board of Agriculture for an arbitrator to be appointed. In the case of a widow who had to leave her farm, it would be a difficult matter for the widow to explain to any umpire the circumstances of her case, and she would have to appoint some one to do it for her, and though some persons thought that this would be a cheap proceeding, he was inclined to think otherwise. He supported the view that they should still have power as Englishmen to appoint referees on both sides.

The resolution was adopted.

Professor Long (British Dairy Farmers' Association), in raising a question as to the consumption of corn by horses, condemned the Bill generally, and said that it was not what the farmers of England required. He moved: "That the words 'other than those regularly employed on the holding' be omitted from Subsection (27) of Part III. of the First Schedule." He asked why the horses on a farm, consuming corn as they did, should not be included in clause 27 instead of being excluded?

Mr. Horne (Shropshire) seconded the motion. He held that the manure from corn consumed by horses employed on the holding was certainly valuable, and quite as valuable as that from cows. It ought to be treated as an asset.

Mr. C. B. Davies (Cheshire) said that in the Bill as amended by the Committee horses were included, but in any cases the word "cattle" had been decided in the law courts as including horses. There was a case on the point. In his experience horses had never been excluded. Horses employed on the holding were included in clause 27 in the word "cattle."

Mr. Kidner (Taunton Farmers' Club) asked for the alteration of the clause on the ground that the words formed a trap for the unwary. Farmers would certainly purchase the corn for their horses in the last year. He thought that it would be found that a great many unwary farmers had overlooked the matter in the last year of their tenancy, and that they had been tricked out of compensation to which they would have been justly entitled. The clause showed a half-hearted way of putting matters. When the Bill had gone so far as clause 26 there could be no reason for putting in clause 27 in the form in which it appeared.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Clare Sewell Read said that he had been requested by a great number of gentlemen round him to test the opinion of the Chamber with regard to what he suggested at an earlier part of the meeting, namely, the keeping of a record of the state of the holding. He did not wish to force his own views upon them, but there were many of opinion that such a record ought to be provided for in an Agricultural Holdings Act.

Mr. Ackers seconded the proposal. This was a matter which had been unanimously passed over and over again by Chamber after Chamber and by the Central Chamber and its Committees. He did not think that they had ever had a serious division upon it. He would put a simple instance. Suppose that at the present time there was no record, and that a new valuer came who had never seen the place before. What would he know of the condition in which the farm was found when the tenant entered it? If, on the other hand, there had been a record, it would be fair to the tenant and fair to the landlord and fair all round. He earnestly hoped that whether the provision for a record was passed this session or not it would be one of those things which would be kept in view and which would eventually command assent to the Legislature.

Mr. Jasper More, M.P., asked whether the proposer had any idea of what the expense would be? The object of the Bill was to reduce expense. He had tried to discover what would be the ordinary expense of an arbitration, and he had been told that it would be £20. Could any one say what would be the probable expense of making a record?

Mr. Ackers thought it would be confined simply to the clerical work required, because if a valuer or an arbitrator did his work properly he would have all the particulars by him.

Mr. Austen (Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club) considered that in the case of two tenant-farmers, an outgoing tenant and an incoming tenant, they themselves would never agree upon a record of the holding, and in all probability their valuers might not agree. Who was to prepare the record? A voice: "The arbitrator." That again would occasion more expense. He quite agreed with the proposal in theory, but it would be almost unworkable in practice. The valuer would have to go round every field and look at every ditch and every watercourse.

Mr. Clare Sewell Read: So he ought.

Mr. Austen said that if the valuer had a difficulty in making a record of the holding he would have still more difficulty in finding another valuer to agree with him. The whole thing was admirable in theory but unworkable.

Mr. T. Davies (Wirral Farmers' Club) supported the motion.

Mr. Kidner (Taunton Farmers' Club) said that he should like to make one remark as to the difficulty which had been raised by Mr. Austen. Having acted in the capacity of valuer sometimes he had been somewhat astonished to hear that it was a valuer's duty to go round and look at every ditch. That was not the way in which the matter was done in his part of the country, though he had acted with a co-valuer who had asked him to put down some small sum for every gap in a fence. Of course, the condition of every hedge and ditch and every field should be taken notice of, and when it had been taken notice of it would be a very little difficulty to record it.

It was then formally resolved, on the motion of Mr. Clare Sewell Read, seconded by Mr. Ackers: "That effect should be given to the Committee's recommendation of 1894 as to a record of the condition of the holding."

On the motion of Mr. Wilson (Stockton-on-Tees), seconded by Mr. Lipscomb, it was also resolved: "That the Council support Mr. Jeffreys' amendment to insert the words 'not later than two months' after the word 'month' in No. 10 of Part I. of Schedule II."

Subject to the operation of Bye-law 12, it was arranged that the resolutions adopted should be immediately communicated to the President of the Board of Agriculture as well as to the Prime Minister and the First Lord of the Treasury.

On the motion of Mr. Lipscomb, seconded by Mr. Latham (Farmers' Club), a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Cavendish for presiding and for securing the room for the purpose of the Special Meeting.

The proceedings then terminated.

Hereford Herd Book.

The annual meeting of the Hereford Herd Book Society was held on Wednesday, Mr. H. F. Russell (vice-president) presiding, in the absence of Sir James Rankin, M.P. (president). The Council reported that Volume 30 contained entries of 606 bulls and 2,670 cows, against which entries received for Volume 31 were 717 bulls and 3,107 cows. There had also been an increase in export entries, the number being 188, against 136 for the previous year. Of these 105 were for South America, 73 for the United States, four for Russia, three for Canada, and one each for France and Cape Colony. The accounts showed a net surplus on the year's working of £111, after making allowance of £53 for depreciation in the value of the society's investments. There were now on the register 251 life and 162 annual members, an increase in both cases. Congratulatory speeches were made as to the position of the Hereford cattle which had sprung up in America, and on the improved condition of the society. In place of retiring members of the Council the following were elected: Lord Coventry, Mr. S. Robinson, Mr. A. Rogers, Mr. J. W. Smith, Mr. W. Tudge, Mr. H. Haywood, Mr. R. W. Hall, and Mr. A. H. Morris Dewsall.

A special meeting of the members of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture will be held in the Pavilion in the Highland Society's Show-ground, at Stirling, on Wednesday next, 18th inst., at 3 p.m. The business for consideration is the Agricultural Holdings Bill.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

The Income-Tax Puzzle.

Sir,—The correct rate at which income-tax should be deducted from income paid after April 5th has given rise to so large an amount of correspondence in the Press, and is of interest to so great a number of newspaper readers, that perhaps a short explanation from ourselves may be of value to your readers, as it will enable them to ascertain whether the rate at which income-tax has been deducted from their income is correct.

The simple rule to bear in mind is this: If the interest, rent, or dividend is paid out of revenue which has been assessed to income-tax at its source, as, for example, lands and house property in the United Kingdom, profits of businesses carried on in the United Kingdom, or by companies having their registered offices in the United Kingdom (although the profits may be earned abroad), then the correct rate is 8d. in the pound for that portion of such income which had accrued up to April 5th and 1s. in the pound for the portion accruing after that date. Income from any source not paid out of revenue so taxed at its source, as, for instance, interest and dividends on foreign bonds, foreign railways, etc., is chargeable under Schedule C of the Income-Tax Acts, under which schedule tax is payable upon the amount of the income at the rate current at the date the same is paid. Interest on municipal loans, although charged under Schedule D., paid wholly or partially out of rates or other sources not already charged to income-tax, is also liable to assessment at the rate of income-tax current at the date such interest is actually paid.—Yours faithfully,

THE INCOME-TAX ADJUSTMENT AGENCY, LIMITED,
W. J. ANDREWS, Secretary.
12 and 13, Poultry, E.C.

Railway Passengers' Luggage.

The Great Eastern Railway Company has been the first among the leading railways of Great Britain to realise the unfairness of recent exactions for excess luggage, and has decided to extend the limit. In future on the Great Eastern line first-class passengers will be allowed 150lb., instead of 120lb., as hitherto; second-class passengers 120lb., instead of 100lb.; and third-class passengers 100lb., instead of only 60lb. First-class passengers thus get an increased allowance of 30lb., second-class of 20lb., and third-class of 40lb.

This alteration will not apply to Continental travellers, in whose case the company are bound by the regulations of the Continental railways.

The Great Central Railway directors have issued a similar notification.

The concession will be welcomed by all who travel on these lines, and it ought to be immediately followed by similar concessions on other lines.

These alterations are made, in spite of the fact that the companies' Parliamentary powers entitle them to hold to the charges recently enforced.

The Midland Railway Company also announce that on the amount of luggage which passengers travelling between stations on the Midland Railway will be allowed to carry free of charge, will be increased to: First class, 150lb., and third class, 100lb. Excess luggage beyond the above weights will be charged for on the advertised scale hitherto in operation, but no excess charge will be made unless amounting to 6d. or upwards. It may be added that facilities for the collection, conveyance in advance, and delivery of passengers' luggage at 1s. per package will remain in operation on the Midland Railway. Conditions and further particulars may be obtained on application to the Company.

Watery Milk.—W. Sanders, farmer, of Packington Nook, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, was summoned at the Clerkenwell Police Court, on Friday, by the St. Pancras Vestry for selling milk containing 31 per cent. of added water. Mr. Ricketts prosecuted, and Mr. Symons defended. The milk in question was sampled by Inspector Augar, on June 8, on the milk platform of the Midland Railway, Phœnix Street, Somers Town, and was certified by the analyst to be adulterated by the addition of 31 per cent. of water. Another sample taken on the following day was adulterated with 18 per cent. of added water. The defence set up was a total denial of the offence alleged, Sanders swearing that he himself milked the cows which gave this milk, and delivered the consignment to the railway company without in any way tampering with it. Mr. Symons contended that the analyst arrived at this conclusion simply because there was an absence of non-fatty solids, and no account was taken of the poorness of the grass upon which the cows were fed. It simply meant that the milk was of a poor quality, and no more. The Board of Agriculture were trying to fix a milk standard, and very difficult was their task. Mr. Bros said he accepted the statement that the defendant himself did not water the milk, but it arrived watered, and he was responsible for it. He imposed a total fine of £15.

IN PARLIAMENT.

House of Commons.

The Agricultural Holdings Bill.

The Agricultural Holdings Bill, as amended by the Standing Committee, was further considered on Tuesday.

Mr. Channing moved a clause providing that the tenant should be compensated for disturbance in cases where he had not been compelled to leave for non-payment of rent, or had not persisted in committing or permitting waste, to the prejudice of the landlord, by the dilapidation of buildings or fences, or by the deterioration of the soil after notice from the landlord to desist from the particular waste specified in such notice.

Mr. Long hoped the House would not accept the clause, because the question involved in it had been very carefully inquired into by a Royal Commission, of which Mr. Channing was a member, and they had reported against it. If ever there was a time when such a proposal was justified, that time no longer existed.

Mr. Lloyd Morgan favoured the acceptance of the clause, which would meet the hardship imposed upon tenants turned out of their holdings owing to some petty dispute with their landlords.

The debate was continued by Mr. J. Lowther, Mr. H. Roberts, and Mr. A. Cross, the last-named hon. member asserting that cases had happened in Scotland in which the proposed clause would have acted as a deterrent.

Mr. H. Lewis believed that if the clause were passed the tenant would feel himself to be free and independent, owing no allegiance to the owner of the soil either in regard to religion or politics.

Lord Hugh Cecil expressed pleasure at hearing that the Government were unable to accept the amendment, which in principle went far beyond the limits of the Bill. The amendment introduced the principle of divided ownership.

After some remarks from Sir M. Stewart, who opposed the amendment, the House divided. For the clause, 111; against, 207; majority, 96.

Mr. Gordon moved the following clause:—That in the case of crofters or cottars in Scotland, as defined in the Crofters (Scotland) Holdings Acts, 1886, 1887, and 1888 (whose holdings are situated in parishes or counties to which these Acts do not apply), such improvements as are set forth in Part I. of the first schedule of the Act, which may have been executed or paid for by the crofter or his predecessor in the same family whilst under no written obligation to the landlord to make them, and prior to the passing of this Act, and which will add to the letting value of the holding, shall be compensated for on his leaving the holding, under the procedure provided in this Act, but for such improvements executed after the passing of this Act consent of the landlord will be required.

Mr. Long opposed the clause as too far-reaching, and said it would be impossible to apply it to a limited portion of the United Kingdom.

Mr. Buchanan said about two-thirds of the small tenants in the north-east of Scotland would be prevented under this Bill from obtaining compensation for their improvements.

General Russell asserted that the great bulk of the tenants in East Aberdeenshire were not crofters at all, and whatever improvements they effected, they were paid compensation for upon leaving their holdings.

Dr. Farquharson thought the mover of the clause had made out a strong case for a deserving class of people.

Sir W. Wedderburn also supported the small concession asked for.

Mr. Weir commented upon the ignorance displayed and admitted by the Minister for Agriculture upon Scotch matters, and said the Lord Advocate could give the House all the necessary information if he would only open his mouth. (Laughter.)

Mr. A. Cross supported the clause.

The House divided, and the figures were:—For the clause, 123; against, 196; majority, 73.

Mr. Hedderwick moved the insertion of the following clause:—"From and after the passing of this Act notice of termination of tenancy under Section 26 of the Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act, 1883, may be given in the same manner as a notice of removal under Section 6 of the Removal (Scotland) Act, 1886.

Mr. Long agreed to the new clause, and it was added to the Bill.

Mr. Buchanan moved an amendment to Clause 1 abolishing the limitation of improvements for which compensation may be obtained as indicated in Schedule 1 of the Bill.

Mr. Long declined to accept the amendment.

Mr. Channing supported the amendment, which was opposed by Mr. Jeffreys, who deprecated any interference with the schedules.

The House divided:—For the amendment, 91: against, 170; majority, 79.

Mr. Yoxhall moved to amend Clause 1 by inserting a provision that the tenant of a holding, being an allotment or cottage garden, shall be entitled to obtain from the landlord compensation in money for fruit trees, fruit bushes, drains, and for outbuildings, pigstyes, fowlhouses, or other structural improvement made by the tenant upon his holding to the extent of one-third of their gross value, provided always that this compensation shall not exceed ten pounds, and that the tenant shall have the right to remove such fruit trees, fruit bushes, outbuildings, pigstyes, and fowlhouses in addition to the right to the aforesaid compensation, and that if the tenancy be determined after notice given by the tenant no right to compensation in money shall exist. He stated that the improvements set forth in his amendment were often carried out without the sanction of the landlord, and in those circumstances the tenant had no right to compensation in law.

Mr. Long said under the Allotments Act every occupier holding less than two acres was entitled to compensation with respect to fruit trees and outbuildings providing he had obtained the consent of the landlord to the planting and erection of the same. The hon. gentleman suggested that that provision should be abolished, and that compensation should be given even if consent were not obtained, such compensation to be limited to £10. He further suggested that after compensation had been obtained the tenant should have the right to remove his fruit trees and outbuildings. The amendment was a remarkable one, which would not work equitably, and he could not accept it.

The House divided:—For the amendment, 76; against, 134; majority, 58.

Sir Chas. Welby moved to amend the clause by inserting a proviso that, in estimating the value of any improvement in Schedule I., there shall not be taken into account, as part of the improvement made by the tenant, what is justly due to the inherent capabilities of the soil.

Mr. Long was unable to see his way to accepting the amendment, which was supported by Earl Percy and Lord Willoughby de Eresby, but was opposed by Mr. Seale-Hayne.

Mr. John W. Phillipps hoped the Government would stand firm and resist the introduction of those words, otherwise the heart of the Bill would be taken out of it.

Mr. J. H. Johnstone strongly supported the amendment.

After remarks from Mr. Haldane, Mr. Vicary Gibbs, and Mr. Hemphill,

Mr. Bowles pointed out that the Bill was to be read in conjunction with the Act of 1883. The words in question were in the Act, and thus they would have the curious anomaly, if the advice of the Government was followed, that the words would remain in the Act of 1883 for legislative effect and they would be left out of this Bill for judicial purposes.

Colonel Pretyman opposed the amendment.

Lord Hugh Cecil said the words in the Act of 1883 had not produced any harm, and in leaving them out of this Bill the Government seemed desirous of relying upon the natural incapacity of the arbitrators.

Mr. A. Cross continued the debate.

The committee negatived the amendment by 185 to 24. (Ironical Opposition cheers.)

Mr. Haldane moved to amend the clause with a view to give the tenant a greater claim for unexhausted manures.

The amendment, after discussion and an assurance from Mr. Long, was withdrawn.

Mr. Channing moved an amendment to take into account in augmentation of the tenant's compensation any sum which might be found by arbitration under the Act to be due to him in respect of damage to crops by winged or ground game, or deer, during the last year of the tenancy.

Mr. Long, opposing the amendment, described it as extremely unfair to the landlord in the case of damage really done by somebody else. If damage was done, the tenant should be compensated by the owner of the game. (Hear, hear.)

On a division the amendment was rejected by 170 votes against 63.

A few minutes before twelve o'clock the debate was adjourned.

On Wednesday the consideration of the Bill was resumed.

Mr. Channing moved to omit words from Clause 2, with the object of reverting to certain provisions of the existing Act as to procedure. He did not wish to interfere with freedom of contract, but he objected to giving a landlord or his agent the power to set up their own particular form of arbitration, and to appoint their own arbitrator for an estate, and say to the tenants that they were to accept the lease subject to the improvements which they carried out being valued in this way, and by a particular man.

Mr. Long said that the words of the clause gave priority to any arrangement entered into between landlord and tenant in regard to the way in which their business should be settled. The Government believed in the arbitration system as provided by the Arbitration Act, but they also believed that the landlords and tenants should be free, if they so desired, to make any arrangement by which, if difficulties arose, they could be settled. If the Government had not adopted the course which they had adopted, the only alternative would have been to make the machinery of the Arbitration Act compulsory in all cases. He was sure that this would not be desired by the tenants themselves.

The House divided—For the amendment, 70; against, 168; majority against, 98.

Mr. Buchanan moved an amendment providing that arbitration should in all cases be before a single arbitrator.

The Attorney-General opposed the amendment, and advocated that greater freedom should be granted in the matter.

The House divided, and there voted—For the amendment, 77; against, 189; majority against, 112.

On Clause 3 (Land Charges), Mr. Buchanan moved an amendment with the object of exempting Scotland from the operation of the clause.

Mr. Long resisted the amendment.

The House divided—For the amendment, 71; against, 170; majority against 99.

Further consideration of the Bill was then adjourned until the following day.

On Thursday the consideration of the Bill was resumed with Clause 6 (penal rents and liquidated damages).

Mr. Fletcher Moulton complained that the wording was such as to leave it open to any conveyancing clerk to avoid the clause and make penal rents just as much enforcible as they were at present. He had only got to put it in the affirmative rather than in the negative, and by that turn of the sentence he could avoid the whole action of the clause. He moved the addition of certain words.

The Attorney-General was of opinion that the words in the section afforded adequate protection, but the Government would consider the arguments of the hon. and learned gentleman with a view to seeing whether the clause could be improved.

Mr. Moulton said he was quite satisfied with that expression of opinion, and withdrew the amendment.

Lord Hugh Cecil moved an amendment with the object of excluding existing contracts of tenancy from the operation of Clause 6, which abolished penal rents.

After further discussion, the amendment was withdrawn.

Mr. Lopes moved an amendment to omit Clause 7, which provided that it should not be lawful for a landlord to distrain for rent which became due more than one year before the making of the distress.

Mr. Long said the Government would accept the amendment, as since the clause had been introduced they had received representations from many quarters pointing out that the effect of the change in the law would be distinctly injurious to the tenants themselves.

The amendment was then agreed to, and the clause omitted.

Mr. Buchanan moved the omission of Clause 10, applying the Bill to Scotland, observing that it would make it more difficult and expensive for Scottish tenants and landlords to settle their differences. The clause was distinctly a step backward.

Mr. Long resisted the amendment, and pointed out that the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture did not share the views of the hon. member.

The House divided—

For the Amendment	105
Against	222
Majority against	—117

On the First Schedule, Part I. (improvements to which consent of landlord is required),

Earl Percy moved an amendment to omit the words "exceeding one acre," in reference to the making of gardens, thus providing that the consent of the landlord should be required for the making of gardens of whatever size.

Mr. Long defended the Government proposal, and pointed out that the landlord had the option of making the garden himself, and charging the tenant with the statutory rate of interest on the cost.

Mr. J. Lowther supported the amendment.

Mr. Jeffreys opposed the amendment, which was supported by Colonel Pretyman, Mr. Vicary Gibbs, and Mr. Hardy.

Mr. Perks was in favour of the Bill as it stood without the amendment in the interests of the tenant farmers of Lincolnshire, and he hoped the Government would remain firm and resist the amendment.

Lord Hugh Cecil could not congratulate the Government on the support they were receiving from their own side of the House. The right hon. gentleman in charge of the Bill admitted that all the arguments were against him, but with a strange perversity he strongly resisted the amendment.

After remarks from Mr. Philipps,

Mr. Grant Lawson suggested a compromise.

Mr. Heywood Johnstone thought that these concessions to the tenants had been pitchforked into the Bill without very much consideration as to how they would work.

The House divided—for the amendment, 53; against, 231; majority against, 178.

Sir W. Wedderburn pointed out that, according to the Schedule, a landlord would be able to veto all reclamation of waste land by a tenant. He moved an amendment to confine the veto to reclamations exceeding one acre in extent.

Mr. Long could not accept the amendment, although he sympathised with its object. It would be a mistake to encourage the reclamation of waste lands under any circumstances, therefore, it was wise to require the landlord's consent, as provided in the Schedule.

The House divided—for the amendment, 60; against, 126; majority against, 66.

Mr. Seale-Hayne moved an amendment giving farmers compensation for the erection or enlargement of buildings.

Mr. Long pointed out that this was provided for in another part of the Bill, and on a division the amendment was rejected by 112 votes to 45.

On the second Schedule (rules as to arbitration), on the first part, which deals with arbitration before a single arbitrator,

Mr. Johnstone moved to insert words to provide that "the award shall, so far as possible, specify the several improvements, acts, or things, in respect of which compensation is awarded, and the sum awarded in respect of each."

Mr. Long opposed the amendment as involving the risk of litigation. It was the desire as far as possible that the award of the arbitrator should be final. The Government proposed to accept the amendment of Earl Percy authorising the arbitrator to give details of his award should either party desire it. They also thought that there should be a limit as to the time within which the award should be paid, and they proposed that the award should be in such form as the Board of Agriculture prescribed.

The amendment was then withdrawn, and the amendments indicated by Mr. Long having been inserted, the Bill, amid cheers, was ordered for third reading.

LITERARY NOTICES.

In this year's "Journal" of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society there appears a short but capital account of Lancashire farming in 1900 written by Mr. H. S. Daine, M.R.A.S.E., F.H.A.S., etc., of Woolfall Hall Farm, Huyton, Liverpool. This paper, together with the judges' report on the first prize arable farm over 100 acres (Woolfall Hall Farm), has just been published in pamphlet form. Mr. Daine has not, of course, in such a short article as this, entered into a minute or an exhaustive description of Lancashire farming, but has briefly sketched the most important points and gives some hints that will, he hopes, lead to a better and more improved state of things than at present obtains.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

11,509.—Archibald John Irvine, London, for an invention of "Improvements relating to machines for harvesting turnips and similar crops."

11,631. John Dobbing, Stockton-on-Tees, for an invention of "An improved haymaking machine."

11,733.—The British Potato Harvester Syndicate, Ltd., and Charles Joseph Moulton, London, for an invention of "Improvements in potato digging machines."

11,780.—Alexander Stich, Glasgow, for an invention of "Improvements in and relating to grass cutting shears and like implements."

11,860.—Moritz Barwinkel, Berlin, for an invention of "An improved process for treating oil yielding seeds."

Patents Sealed.

5,101.—G. H. Coleman and A. R. Morton, Chelmsford, for an invention of "Improvements in cultivators."

5,133.—C. C. Caves and L. S. Caves, Iowa, U.S., America, for an invention of "Improvements in potato planters."

The Margarine Act.—At the Thames Police Court on Thursday, William Richardson, grocer and provision dealer, of 152, West Ferry Road, Millwall, appeared to answer two summonses—one for selling margarine in a plain wrapper, and one for selling adulterated butter. On the 8th ult., Mr. C. Foad, inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act for the Poplar Board of Works, sent a man into the defendant's shop for half a pound of butter. The female behind the counter inquired, "What price butter?" and the purchaser replied, "Shilling butter." After the purchase had been completed, Mr. Foad entered the shop and told the woman the article was for analysis, when she said, "It is not sold as pure butter." It was served in a plain wrapper with no margarine label. The analyst's certificate showed that the butter was adulterated with 81.6 per cent. of foreign fat. The defendant was fined £10, or in default one month's imprisonment.

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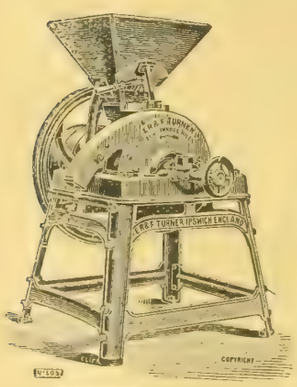

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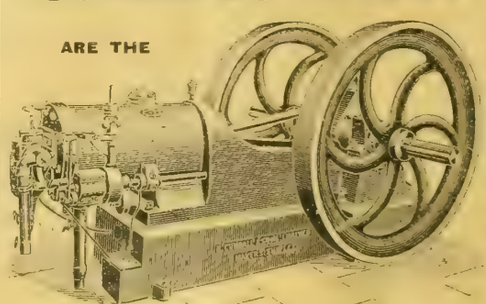

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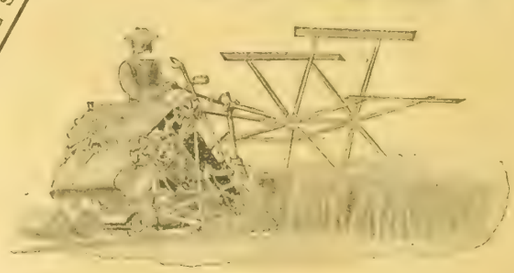

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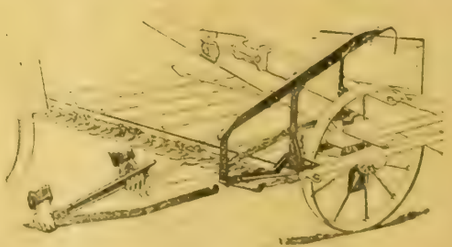

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Continued on page [illegible].

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Palmer and Stiling, Auctioneers, Valuers, and Land Agents. House and Estate Register on application. Burnham, Somerset, and at Bridgwater, Highbridge, and Weston-super-Mare.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

STAFFORD.

South and Wilkinson, Auctioneers, Valuers, Estate and Insurance Agents, Bank Passage, and at Uttoxeter.

SURREY.

GUILDFORD.

Hewett and Lee, Auctioneers, Valuers, Surveyors, Land and Estate Agents.

REIGATE & REDHILL.

Stacey, Harris, F.S.I., Auctioneer, Land Agent, Surveyor, and Valuer.

SURREY & HAMPSHIRE.

FARNHAM & ALTON.

J. Alfred Eggar, F.S.I., Auctioneer, Valuer and Surveyor.

SUSSEX.

HASTINGS

Woodham and Son, F.S.I., Land Agents Surveyors, Tenant Right Valuers, and Auctioneers, Havelock Road, and at Stonehouse Farm, Hollington.

RYE

Smith, W. T., & Son, F.A.I., Auctioneers, Valuers, and Land Agents, and at Tenterden Kent. Telegrams: "Selwood, Rye."

CRAWLEY

(AND DISTRICT).

Wm. Wood, Son, and Dudeney, F.S.I., Estate Agents, Tenant Right and Timber Valuers, and Auctioneers.

WORTHING

(WEST WORTHING AND DISTRICT).

Norman and Spencer, Auctioneers, House Land, and Estate Agents, and General Valuers (Fruit Farms a Speciality). Telegrams: Norman, Auctioneer, Worthing.

WARWICKSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM.

Hawkins and Son, F.A.I., Auctioneers, Surveyors, Valuers, and Fire Loss Assessors.

Pinson, Thomas, Estate Agent, Valuer, Property and Mortgage Broker, Corporation Street.

WILTSHIRE.

SALISBURY.

John T. Woolley, F.S.I., F.A.I., Auctioneer, Valuer, and Land Agent, and at Romsey, Hants.

YORKSHIRE.

SHEFFIELD.

Eadon, W. H. and J. A., F.A.I., Auctioneers Valuers, and Estate Agents.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CANVAS STACK COVERS.—Guaranteed made from the best qualities Canvas, woven specially, complete with lettering, tie-ropes, etc.; carriage paid to any station; write for free samples. FIRST QUALITY, made from best heavy Flax Canvas, bound round edge with stout hemp rope:—8 yds. by 6 yds., 72s.; 8 yds. by 7 yds., 84s.; 8 yds. by 8 yds., 96s.; 10 yds. by 8 yds., 120s.; 10 yds. by 10 yds., 150s.; 12 yds. by 10 yds., 180s.; 12 yds. by 12 yds., 216s. SECOND QUALITY, similar to first, complete with tie topes, but not bound with rope:—8 yds. by 6 yds., 64s.; 8 yds. by 7 yds., 75s.; 8 yds. by 8 yds., 85s.; 10 yds. by 8 yds., 107s.; 10 yds. by 10 yds., 134s.; 12 yds. by 10 yds., 160s.; 12 yds. by 12 yds., 192s. THIRD QUALITY, made from strong double-warp Canvas:—8 yds. by 6 yds., 28s.; 8 yds. by 7 yds., 33s.; 8 yds. by 8 yds., 37s.; 10 yds. by 8 yds., 47s.; 10 yds. by 10 yds., 58s.; 12 yds. by 10 yds., 70s.; 12 yds. by 12 yds., 84s. J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Tarpaulin Works, Wigan.

BINDER TWINE.—Pure Manila, 600 feet to the lb., breaking strain 100 lbs. Guaranteed thorough good worker.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Wigan. Est. 1808.

BINDER TWINE. — Peck's "Record" Russian Hemp, 600 feet to the lb., breaking strain 90 lbs. Guaranteed thorough good worker at 5½d. per lb.; carriage paid to any station.—Sample on application to J. H. PECK AND CO.. LD., 78, Wallgate, Wigan.

WATERPROOF OIL SHEETS.—Improved, flexible, made from pure flax canvas, hand dressed, lettered, with tie-ropes complete. Actual measurement, when made, 8 ft. by 6 ft., 9s.; 9 ft. by 7 ft., 11s.; 10½ ft. by 8 ft., 14s.; 12 ft. by 9 ft., 18s.; 12 ft. by 10 ft., 20s.; 15 ft. by 8 ft., 20s.; 15 ft. by 9 ft., 22s. 6d.; 15 ft. by 10 ft., 25s.; 15 ft. by 12 ft., 30s.; 16½ ft. by 10 ft., 28s.; 16½ ft. by 12 ft., 33s.; 18 ft. by 12 ft., 36s.; 21 ft. by 12 ft., 42s.; 21 ft. by 15 ft., 53s.; 24 ft. by 18 ft., 72s. These and all other sizes in stock at proportionate prices, carriage paid; immediate delivery; thoroughly seasoned. Every cover guaranteed flexible, thoroughly waterproof, and neither to stick nor crack.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Wigan. Established 1808.

CHEMICALLY DRESSED "Peck" Cloth Sheets.—Waterproof and Rot-proof, the foundation of which is Pure Flax Canvas, lettered and roped complete, at 1s. 9d. per square yard.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Wigan. Est. 1808.

POULTRY HOUSES!! NOTE PRICES!!! To hold 12 fowls, 20s.; 20 fowls, 25s.; 30 fowls, 27s.; 50 fowls, 40s. Illustrated lists free.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., Limtd., London Works, Reading. (Name Paper.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

BINDER TWINES, BINDER TWINES.—We shall be pleased to send samples of the two best Binder Twines on the market, namely Champion's "Reliance" Manilla and "best 3 ply hemp" with specially low prices on application. Immediate delivery for orders placed at once.—JOHN B. CHAMPION and SONS, Reliance Works, Dursley, Glos.

BASIC SLAG or Thomas Phosphate Powder. The cheapest and most efficacious fertiliser for grass land. Please note guarantee 38 to 45 per cent. Phosphates. Order early. Purchasing agents wanted. THOMAS BRADBURN, Wolverhampton.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC.

BAXTER, PAYNE, AND LEPPER,

LAND AGENTS,

FARM AND TIMBER VALUERS, SURVEYORS, HOUSE AGENTS, AND AUCTIONEERS,

Undertake valuations of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE, either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.

MORTGAGES arranged, also Railway and other Compensations, Dilapidations, Division and Apportionment of Tithe Rent Charges, etc.

PREPARATION of PLANS, Superintending the Erection or Repairs of Farm Buildings, and Laying-out of Estates for Building, Planting, Drainage, etc.

Special attention paid to the Management of LANDED ESTATES, including LETTINGS, Collections of Rents, Tithes, and Valuation of Tenant Right.

VALUATIONS and SALES of FURNITURE and FARMING STOCK; also of GROWING TIMBER and UNDERWOOD; and all kinds of work carried out incidental to the Superintendence and General Agency of large or small Estates.

Auction dates are fixed as may be required.

A MONTHLY Register published of Country Houses and Estates to be Let or Sold (Furnished or Unfurnished) in the Home Counties and elsewhere, free on application; also a

SEPARATE LIST OF FARMS.

London office: 69, King William Street, E.C. Country offices: Bromley, Kent; and at Beckenham.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC. *(continued).*

TO BE SOLD OR LET, the CITY FLOUR MILLS, LINCOLN (freehold)

Six Sack Roller Plant recently fitted up in the most complete and substantial manner by one of the leading firms of Milling Engineers. It is admitted to be one of the best Mills in the Kingdom.

The buildings comprise—Mill and two Warehouses of five floors each, to hold 10,000 qrs. gram, Engine and Boiler Houses (detached), Offices, No. 3 Warehouse, Residence, Coach-houses, Stables, Wagon-shed, etc., and covering about 2,120 square yards of land, situated in the centre of the city, on the quay-side, close to four railway stations, good communication to all parts by rail or water, easy rates from Hull and Boston.

It is in a grand wheat-growing district, great quantities being delivered into mill direct.

For years a large and profitable trade has been done at it.

There are six good banks within a few hundred yards.

Most of the purchase money can remain on approved security at 3½ per cent. Possession September 29.

Further particulars address, C. S. Dickinson, Lincoln.

NEW HOUSE FARM.

EASTDEAN, near EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

TO BE LET, from MICHAELMAS next, the above FARM, comprising about 250 acres of arable land, 34 acres of meadow, 174 acres of down pasture, being a total of 458 acres, in the parish of Eastdean, with excellent Farmhouse, suitable buildings and labourers' Cottages, and about 35 acres of the rich pasture land of Pevensey Marsh in the Parishes of Hurstmonceux and Bexhill, together 543 acres.

For particulars apply to Mr. WHITLEY, Manor Office, Eastbourne, or to Messrs. DRAKE and LEE, Solicitors, Lewes.

MANCHESTER.—TO BE LET, FIVE FLOOR WAREHOUSE, with good trading and electric light, suitable for provision trade; also two cool cellars suitable for cheese, eggs, or butter. The whole of these premises are centrally situated in Hanging Ditch, with valuable frontage opposite Corn and Produce Exchange.—Apply, ISAAC NEILD and SON, 19, Chapel Walks.

FARM.—WARWICKSHIRE.—To be LET from Lady-day, 1910, the most useful DAIRY and SHEEP FARM, known as "THE HEATH FARM, Meriden, about two miles from Hampton-in-Arden Station, L. and N.-W. Railway; now in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Steedman and containing about 67 Acres.—For further particulars, apply to WALTER P. EVANS Estate Offices, Nuneaton.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., & Sevenoaks, Kent.

SUSSEX.

STOPHAM, near PULBOROUGH

TO LET from Michaelmas, 1909, the MANOR FARM, with fine old-fashioned Farmhouse, substantial and well-arranged Farm Buildings, and about 163 acres Arable and 153 acres Meadow and Brookland. Rent £300.—Apply, W. B. HOY, Stopham Estate Office, Pulborough.

SITUATIONS, AGENCIES.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of ICHABOE GUANO, the highest Ammoniacal Guano, also for high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS and CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

FERTILISING AGENTS.—An agricultural landowner in Lombardy (Melegnano, Italy) desires an agency for nitrates, superphosphates, and all kinds of raw material for chemical manures. Apply to G. GIBELLI and C. Agenzia Manzoni, 15 S. Paolo, Milan. References: The Committee of Agriculture of Milan and Bale, and Edwards Agricultural Machines, Milan.

WANTED, at Michaelmas, a thoroughly practical FARM MANAGER 25 to 40 years of age, to take charge of the University Farm, near Cambridge. Salary £100 a year, together with house and garden produce.—For particulars and form of application, apply, the SECRETARY, Department of Agriculture, The University, Cambridge.

INSTRUCTRESS IN DAIRY WORK REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY. State qualifications and experience in Stilton and Cheddar cheese-making. Applications to be received on or before 25th inst. by TOM PARRY, Director of Agricultural Education, etc., University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

MALTSTER. — WANTED, a PRACTICAL SUPERINTENDENT MALTSTER to [illegible] capable of managing [illegible] The malting is situated in a [illegible] in Ireland. Address, stating [illegible] experience, salary expected, MALTSTER, care of Eason and Son, Ltd., Advertising Agents, Dublin.

AUCTION SALES.

SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

FRIDAY NEXT, JULY 27.—ANNUAL SALE of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, at Cambridge.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1.—Mr. E. ECROYD'S SHORTHORNS, at Low House, Armathwaite, Carlisle.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8.—Sir JAMES BLYTH'S SOUTHDOWN SHEEP and JERSEYS, at Blythwood, Stansted, Bishop's Stortford, Essex.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9.—Mr. J. A. HEMPSON'S SOUTHDOWN FLOCK, at Erwarton Hall, Ipswich.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes-street, Hanover-square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 3RD, 1900 (One o'clock).

MR. JOHN HARDING'S ANNUAL SALE OF PRIZE-WINNING SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. will SELL BY AUCTION, at NORTON HOUSE, five miles from Shifnal Station (G.W.R.), and five miles from Bridgnorth (Severn Valley), where conveyances meet all trains.

25 NOBLE RAMS, including several Valuable Breeders' Sires and Prize-winners; also

20 WELL-BRED STORE CATTLE, viz., 16 Pure-bred HEREFORD YEARLING STEERS, 4 Fresh SHORTHORN BULLOCKS; and

1 DEEP-MILKING SHORTHORN COW, due to calve August 14th.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL AND CO., College Hill, Shrewsbury.

COMMISSIONS FAITHFULLY EXECUTED.

ON TUESDAY, JULY 31 (1.30 o'clock).

MR. A. E. MANSELL'S ANNUAL SALE OF ROYAL PRIZE-WINNING SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. will SELL BY AUCTION, at HARRINGTON HALL, three miles from Shifnal (G.W.R.) and two miles from Coalport Stations (Severn Valley), where conveyances meet trains,

43 SPLENDID RAMS, including the 1st and 2nd Prize Shearling RAMS at York R.A.S.E. and other Prize Winners at this Season's Shows.

24 GRAND TWO AND THREE-YEAR-OLD HEREFORD and CROSS-BRED MOTTLE-FACED HEREFORD BULLOCKS (very Fresh).

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL AND CO., College Hill, Shrewsbury.

Commissions faithfully executed.

ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 2ND, 1900.

SHROPSHIRE RAMS AND EWES.
SHREWSBURY SHEEP SHOW AND SALE (£30 in prizes).

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. announce this important event for the above date.

80 SHROPSHIRE RAMS.

400 BEAUTIFUL SHROPSHIRE EWES, including Entries from some of the best and well-known Flocks.

Judging at 10. Sale at 11 o'clock.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL AND CO., College Hill, Shrewsbury.

Commissions faithfully executed.

ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 7th, 1900 (1 o'clock).

PRIZE-WINNING SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.

MR. P. L. MILL'S ANNUAL SALE.

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. WILL SELL by AUCTION, at THE ELMS FARM, RUDDINGTON, NOTTS—ten minute's walk from the Great Central Railway Station at Ruddington—a first-class selection of—

34 SHEARLING RAMS and

80 BEAUTIFUL SHEARLING EWES.

Catalogues from—
ALFRED MANSELL AND CO.,
College Hill, Shrewsbury.

MR. LAMBERT'S HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL
SALE AND LETTING
OF PURE-BRED
RAMS AND RAM LAMBS
From this celebrated Flock

Will take place at CAMBRIDGE, as usual, on FRIDAY, AUGUST 3rd, 1900, in a Field adjoining the Cattle Market, at 2 o'clock when

80 GRAND RAMS AND RAM LAMBS

Will be offered.

MESSRS. CHALK, Auctioneers,
11, Alexandra Street, Cambridge
and Linton, Cambs.

AUCTION SALES.

SALES OF SHIRE HORSES, HACKNEYS, AND HARNESS HORSES, BY

SEXTON, GRIMWADE, & BECK.

JULY 24TH.—Sale of 52 of Mr. J. BARKER'S HACKNEYS, at the Grange Stud, Bishop's Stortford.

JULY 25TH.—Sale of 65 of Mr. W. HOLLIN'S HACKNEY PONIES, at Berry Hill, Mansfield, Notts.

AUGUST 1ST.—Sale of 42 of Mr. W. LLOYD'S HACKNEYS, at Heaselands, Hayward's Heath.

AUGUST 2ND.—Sale of 45 of Mr. C. E. E. COOKE'S SHIRES and 25 HACKNEYS at Hinxton Grange, Cambs.

Catalogues and further particulars of the Auctioneers, Peterborough.

BANBURY, OXON.

Freehold Flour Mills, together with modern Roller Plant and Machinery.

MESSRS. FULLER, HORSEY, SONS, and CASSELL are instructed to SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, in one or more lots, on Tuesday, July 31, 1900, at 1 o'clock precisely, the valuable FREEHOLD PROPERTY known as the

GRIMSBURY FLOUR MILLS,

Banbury, fitted with a six-sack roller plant by Simon, of Manchester, with the necessary cleaning, dressing, and finishing machinery, steam and water power, etc.; also granaries and warehouses on wharf, fronting the Oxford Canal, extensive stabling, commodious family residence, five cottages, and outbuildings, and enclosures of rich meadow land, comprising in all an area of 56 acres 2 roods 37 perches. May be viewed by orders to be obtained of the Auctioneers, and particulars, plans, and conditions of sale had of MESSRS. STOCKTON AND SONS, Solicitors, High-street, Banbury, Oxon; and of MESSRS. FULLER, HORSEY, SONS, AND CASSELL, 11, Billiter-square, E.C.

Note.—The above property will first be offered as a whole, and if not sold, the premises, fitted with motive power, suitable for any manufacturing purposes, residence, &c., separately, and the trade machinery in lots in detail.

WESTERGATE, ALDINGBOURNE, CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7TH, 1900.

UNRESERVED SALE AND FINAL DISPERSAL of one of the MOST NOTED AND SUCCESSFUL PRIZE-WINNING SOUTHDOWN FLOCKS in existence, Registered No. 9 in Southdown Flock Book.

MR. WILLIAM TOOP, having decided to relinquish Sheep Breeding, has favoured MR. C. STRIDE (of the Chichester Auction Co.) with instructions to SELL BY AUCTION, on the Farm, without reserve, on TUESDAY, AUGUST 7TH NEXT, THE WHOLE of his FAMOUS REGISTERED trade-marked SOUTHDOWN FLOCK, consisting of about

370 EWES AND EWE LAMBS of the usual flock ages, and
70 RAMS AND RAM LAMBS.

Mr. Toop established this flock in 1883 by purchases of Ewes and Rams from many of the leading Southdown Breeders; reduced in numbers by a public sale in 1895, its history has been a continuous and unbroken record of success.

A very large proportion of the Ewes, particularly the younger ages, trace back to "ROYAL CAMBRIDGE" (No. 1,450, Vol. IV.), by that wonderful old ram "WATERBEACH" (No. 304, Vol. I.), bred at Goodwood, winner of many prizes at the Royal and other shows, without ever having been beaten. A most impressive sire, who imparted to his descendants to an extraordinary degree his own marvellous constitution and fine quality.

During the past 17 years 244 PRIZES have been awarded to this famous flock at the various leading Shows, including Champions, Group Prizes, and Breed Cups, but not including R.N.'s, H.C.'s, or C.'s, or other minor distinctions, besides which many prizes have been awarded to sheep obtained therefrom at the chief foreign shows.

EVERY SHEEP OWNED BY MR. TOOP is included in the Sale, and every lot will be sold WITHOUT RESERVE.

Westergate is five miles from Chichester and one mile from Barnham Junction on the L.B. and S.C. Railway.

The flock is open to inspection at any time.

Luncheon at One o'clock. Sale immediately after.

Catalogues of Mr. TOOP, or of the Auctioneer (who executes commissions), Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 63, East Street, Chichester.

CHICHESTER ANNUAL SALE AND SELLING OF SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

The above annual Sale will be held by

HOBGEN BROS.,

at their Repository in the Chichester Cattle Market, on Wednesday, August 8, 1900, at one o'clock precisely.

Entries for the Sale have already been made from the celebrated flocks belonging to His Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G., the Pagham Harbour Company, Messrs. Hugh Penfold, Alfred Heasman, and F. N. Hobgen.

The Catalogue will include several prize-winners at the various summer Agricultural Shows.

On view the morning of Sale.

Catalogues may be obtained of HOBGEN BROS., Auctioneers, Valuers, and Estate Agents, East Street, Chichester, and Midhurst.

AUCTION SALES.

UPPER WINCHENDON, AYLESBURY, BUCKS.

THE FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL SALE of about SIXTY OXFORDSHIRE DOWN SHEARLING RAMS, the property of Messrs. J. & S. TREADWELL, will take place on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1ST, 1900.

This year's sheep are dark in colour, close in wool, with lots of bone, and full of lean meat.

Prizes have been won at the Royal as usual this year, and most of the prize-winners at the Royal and Oxfordshire Shows were by Winchendon sires.

Special arrangements have been made with the Great Central for the fast Trains from Marylebone at 8.15 a.m and 4 p.m., and also the 8.0 a.m and 9.31 a.m. from Leicester, to stop at Waddesdon Manor Station to set down Passengers attending the Sale. Trains on the Metropolitan will also call at Waddesdon Manor to and from Baker Street every two hours.

Conveyances will meet the Trains at Thame, G.W. Railway, Aylesbury, L.N.-W., Great Central, and G.W., and at Waddesdon Manor Station.

Luncheon from Twelve o'clock.

Sale at Two p.m. sharp.

Catalogues, with Pedigrees, at time of Sale.

EDWARD BOND, Auctioneer.
Thame.

CIRENCESTER RAM FAIR.
TUESDAY, AUGUST 7TH, 1900.

FORTIETH ANNUAL SALE OF PURE-BRED OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS.

A. F. HOBBS will SELL by AUCTION, on the above day, in a field adjoining the Cattle Market, at 12 o'clock sharp, about

60 GRAND SHEARLING RAMS, bred by and the property of JAMES T. HOBBS, Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Gloucestershire.

The Maisey Hampton Flock this year has been awarded First Prize at the Royal Agricultural Show for the best Two-shear Ram, and First Prize for the best Shearling Ram; First and Second at the Bath and West of England Show; and First and Second at the Royal Counties Show.

In 1899 Two First Prizes were secured at the Royal Show, Maidstone.

The Rams to be sold are of immense size, dark in colour, and well woolled.

A brake will leave Fairford Station for Cirencester at 10.15 a.m., returning to meet the 6.40 p.m. train.

A train will leave Paddington at 9 a.m., arriving at Cirencester at 11.43 a.m.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

PORTER'S MILL, TAPENHALL, NEAR WORCESTER,
AND
HADLEY MILL, NEAR OMBERSLEY.

BENTLEY, HOBBS and MYTTON are instructed TO OFFER FOR SALE BY AUCTION, at the STAR HOTEL, WORCESTER, on SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1900, at 3 for 4 p.m., in separate lots, as follows:—

LOT I.—"PORTER'S MILL,"

comprising a FREEHOLD RESIDENCE (a portion including a famous and highly interesting Elizabethan half-timbered structure) with Carriage Drive approach, LAWN and GARDEN, KITCHEN GARDEN (partly protected by a very curious old Wall with apertures for Bees), FARM BUILDINGS, a substantially built WATER CORN MILL, with Two Wheels working Five Pairs of Stones, the whole complete and in good order; and

16A. 1R. 39P.

of PASTURE LAND, situate on the River Salwarpe and adjoining the Droitwich Canal, at Tapenhall, Claines, near Worcester, now in the occupation of Mr. J. A. Jackson as yearly tenant from Lady Day at £100 per annum. This rent also includes certain lands rented from the Droitwich Canal Company at £9 per annum and from Mr. Green at £1 per annum.

The Droitwich Canal Company pay a rent of £9 per annum for a supply of water and other advantages, and this rent will be included in the sale.

The property adjoins lands of Lord Sandys, Representatives of the late A. C. Hooper, Esq., and others. It is about four miles from Worcester, four from Droitwich, and about one mile from Fernhill Heath Railway Station.

REMARKS.

"Undoubtedly there was a Mill here before the Conquest, for in Domesday the Manor of Northwick was described as possessing three Mills on the Salwarpe, those of Mildenham, Hawford, and Porter's."

"Tradition says that Queen Elizabeth, in her progress from Hartlebury to Worcester, in August, 1575, visited John Porter at his house at Porter's Mill. This was the John Porter whose monument and recumbent figure have been restored and placed in the Chancel of Claines Church. He is there described as 'John Porter which was a Lawyer.'"

Lot 2.—HADLEY MILL, comprising an old established WATER CORN MILL working Three Pairs of Stones, DWELLING HOUSE adjoining, STABLE with Loft over, open Shed, Pigscots, etc., the whole containing 3a. 0r. 0p., in the occupation of Mrs. M. Harford as yearly tenant from Lady Day, at the yearly rent of £30. Mrs. Harford has occupied for thirty years.

Hadley Mill is situate in the parish of Ombersley, adjoining the Westwood Park Estate, and lands of Mrs. A. Gardner, Mr. Bickman, and others, about 2 miles from Ombersley, and 3½ from Droitwich. It is copyhold of the Manor of Ombersley, and the copyhold rent is £1 7s. 8d. per annum.

The Properties can be viewed by permission of the Tenants.

Particulars with Plans may be obtained of MR. J. H. YONGE, Solicitor, or the Auctioneeers, all of Worcester.

AUCTION SALES.

LYTHALL and WALTERS will conduct the BREEDERS' 68TH GREAT CENTRAL SHOW and SALE of SHROPSHIRE SHEEP at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, on THURSDAY NEXT, July 26th, when about 500 PURE-BRED RAMS AND EWES, including winners at most of the leading shows will be offered, from the Earl of Dartmouth, Captain Clive, Messrs. A. S. Berry, A. Bradburn, J. Brown, T. F. Cheatle, R. P. Cooper, D. Gibson, G. L. Foster-Harter, C. H. Jolliffe, E. Nock, H. C. G. Parker, F. W. Rudgard, H. Williams, M. Williams, etc.

Judging at 9.30. Sale at 11.30 o'clock.

Catalogues from the Auctioneers, Bingley Hall, Birmingham, who will execute commissions to purchase.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

(*Continued.*)

ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.
SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION.

Trustees: The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council of the City of Edinburgh. An Examination in General Knowledge will be held on July 5, 6, and 7, and September 18, 19, and 20, 1900.

Next SESSION commences TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2.

Further particulars will be given on application to PRINCIPAL DEWAR.

FOOT-ROT

STRAWSON'S
CELEBRATED
FOOT-ROT OINTMENT.
Effectual—Speedy—Permanent.

Used by the chief Ram Breeders and Flockmasters in the Kingdom.

IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF. TRY IT.

May be had through any Chemist; or will be sent post free at the rate of 1s. per tin, 20s. per case of two dozen tins (not less than a case at the latter rate), by the Sole Proprietor

G. STRAWSON, Chemist, Bishop's Castle.

MACKINDER'S
LAMB FOOD

Used on the Royal Farms and by Large Flockmasters everywhere.

Mr. Jas. Bennett, Aure, Glos., writes:—"I have never had any Food of any sort or kind on which lambs did so well."

Mr. F. Jakeman (agent for C. T. Hoare Esq.), Bicester, writes:—"I find it capital food both for lambs and cattle."

Hundreds of Testimonials, Samples, Pamphlets, etc., free through agents, or direct.

MACKINDER'S LAMB FOOD MILLS LINCOLN.

Crown 8vo, Cloth. Price 2/-; Post Free 2/3. Illustrated.

Rational Pig Keeping
TO ENSURE PROFIT.
By W. J. MALDEN

LONDON: "FARM FIELD AND FIRESIDE" OFFICES, 1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, W.C.

THE
MASSEY-HARRIS BINDER
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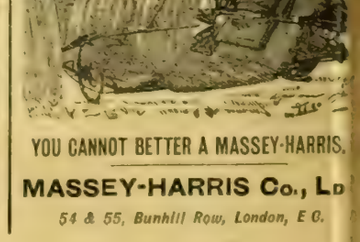

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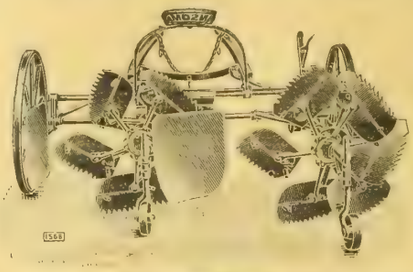

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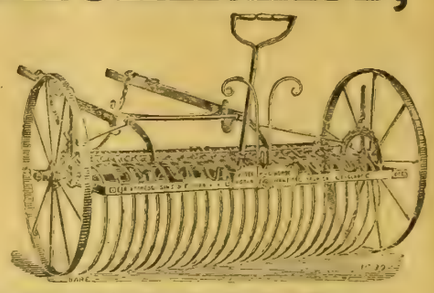

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One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."

We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

445 selected the wrong, and 262 the right group.

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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal.

The Only English Journal devoted exclusively to Agriculture.

MONDAY, JULY 23, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

IS IT DISSOLUTION?

There is no need that Parliament should be dissolved at the present moment, but there is every prospect that it may be. There have been rumours and guesses without end, and it has been persistently suggested that we are on the eve of a general election. There seems to be some truth in these remarks. What may happen we do not pretend to know, but there is nothing improbable in the prognostications which are made. The war troubles are being gradually got over, but the temptation to the Government to dissolve now must be very great. We are within measurable distance of victory in South Africa, and the announcement of final victory would put the Government in such a position that the country would be likely to at once replace it in power. The exigencies of politics are perhaps more than are understandable by the "common herd," but unfortunately they do affect the people—and the farmers are part of such. A Government will naturally seize the most favourable moment for a dissolution, and it cannot be blamed for refusing to take any other course. Agriculture is not the only interest which the nation has—although it is the most important. Judging from past experience we are bound to assume that the farmer will again be driven into the background, and have to be thankful enough to accept promises, and not be so foolish as to accept performance.

The great question which arises is as to how far the farmer has to concern himself with the effects of the election. We are afraid that they are so serious that they cannot be dismissed in a few words, or even in a single article. The farmer has—as we have repeatedly pointed out—been neglected by every Government that we have had, and the time has come when he must assert himself. It has been his misfortune, as we have repeatedly pointed out, that he has taken far too little interest in what is going on in the political world. If he cannot be made to see that he possesses the power that he does, he must suffer for it. He is a power in the land, but he does not seem to be able to appreciate the fact. We use the word farmer; but, of course, we mean both landlord and tenant by it, for their interests are, after all, generally identical. It is quite time that the situation was carefully considered, for every candidate at the general election must be faced with a plain question, and must be asked to give a plain answer to it. The least deviation from this can only mean an uncertainty that must be dangerous. Our advice, therefore, is that every representative association, whatever its name may be, should at once give most earnest attention to the matter, so that the subject may have the fullest consideration.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

Mr. Walter Long, President of the Board of Agriculture, has been confined to his house for several days. The right hon. gentleman has undergone two operations for carbuncle.

Is the information in the following note of any use to a farmer? It reached me by post a few days ago:—

Sir,—As there seems to be a great dearth of farm hands at present, I would be glad to give what assistance I could with my family—eight in all—for three or four weeks in August. If you know of any farmer requiring such help and would put me in communication I would be greatly obliged.

The letter is written from the eastern portion of London. I do not know what the man or his family can do, but if any farmer who is hard up for labour thinks he would like to make inquiries as to whether the "assistance" would be of any use, I will send the address.

While the producing capacity of the country is at the present moment as fully occupied as most manufacturers could desire, and while all returns indicate great industrial activity, the future (in the view of *Engineering*) is full of uncertainty. The cost of fuel, of raw material, and of labour—all necessaries in manufactures—is becoming more and more prohibitive, and we have reached the stage when clients find it too hazardous to enter the market.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to July 14th, 1900, were £29,366,400 against £30,480,890 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £50,713,604, against £34,572,922 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on July 14th, 1900, amounted to £5,666,642, and at the same date in 1899 to £2,787,861.

A Hayfield on Fire.—On Wednesday afternoon a field of hay which had been cut on Mr. Gregory's Parr Fold Farm, Walkden, was set on fire by a spark from a passing engine on the London and North-Western Railway. The flames quickly spread, and a considerable portion of the hay was destroyed before the men who were in the field succeeded in beating out the flames.

The large forage stores belonging to the Midland Railway at Ashchurch Station (Gloucester) have just been fitted up with a most powerful fixed steam engine by the Merryweather firm. The engine is of a new and greatly improved pattern, and takes up but little room. It is capable of being worked at night or during holidays when the boiler fires are damped down and there is only a steam pressure available of 20 to 30 lbs. It can thus be set to work at a moment's notice. For the fire protection of the Romford provender factory the Great Eastern Railway has acquired a "Hatfield" noiseless pump driven direct by a gas engine, and for the protection of its station at Spitalfields a "Greenwich" pattern manual fire engine has been provided. This activity on the part of our great railways in the question of protection from fire is as it should be.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

The opposition in the Commons to the third reading to the Agricultural Holdings Act Amendment Bill was futile to the point of puerility. Nobody believed it would be effective; nobody regarded it seriously even as an assertion of antagonism. It was little more than an assurance of egotism. Now, the Bill is in the Lords, and, thanks to the wise suavity of Mr. Walter Long, its passage through the Upper House is assured. Of course, the small revolt against the measure which has been incensed by Lord Hugh Cecil might have serious consequences if pressed to a final issue; but I have reason to know that the policy which was given so resolute a check [illegible] in the Commons will not be persisted in. The Bill, in a word, is safe, and ere the House adjourns on the 10th, will have received the Queen's assent.

Mr. Long has been a little indisposed; and to this fact I attribute the weakness which he has exhibited towards his Liverpool electors. His resolve not to fight the constituency again means nothing more nor less than the triumph of the schismatic. We shall now have every little body of religious sectaries declaring that unless the candidate reflects their ism he must return into private life. It has been bad enough to know in the past that the politician was more or less in the hand of the faddist, but now to know that he may be in the hands of the religious zealot will be a thousand times worse. Heaven forfend that I should say anything against the religious zealot; but his sphere is religion and not politics. The Minister for Agriculture's attitude has distinctly encouraged him in his new assertiveness, and he has thus done something to introduce a very discordant element into our political life.

A Member of Parliament for one of the southern constituencies assures me that the most significant problem of the agricultural world is the labour problem. It is simply impossible to get sufficient hands in many districts for either haying or turnip hoeing. He says that in his own district 5½d. an hour has been offered, and that men were thus able to earn 30s. a week—or 10s. a week more than the [illegible] wages of [illegible] towns. Yet, if I may repeat this phrase, it is simply impossible to attract workers to the villages. What is more, those who are compelled to live in the villages are actually willing to accept a shilling a week less if they be given charge of teams of horses simply because of the prospect of occasional excursions to the towns.

Of course, the politician cannot grapple mathematically with this matter. Even the most scientific of State Socialists has never yet suggested the compulsory settlement of workers in certain specific districts according to the will of a martinet Minister. The real cause of the scarcity of rural labourers arises, in my view—and in this I am somewhat in antagonism to Mr. Rider Haggard—from the mere fact that the farmer cannot hope to pay the wages demanded. The man who has been earning 4s. or 5s. a day as a navvy thinks he should receive the same wage in the rôle of an agricultural worker, now the cost of living is reduced. He does not realise that there is a period of the year when rural labour is absolutely unremunerative. Be it remunerative or unremunerative, the pay of the navvy is elevated into his standard wage; and unless he can get it he drifts into the great urban army of unskilled labour.

Mr. Rider Haggard's paper on this theme has attracted a good deal of attention among legislators; but I am bound to say that there is not

one who does not regard the ethical remedy which he has suggested—the brightening of rural life and the offering of inducements to an enlarged interest in Nature—as a mere palliation, and not as a panacea. "I tell you what it is," said a Midland politician to me, "a grave change has come over the rural character. The labourer once took a decided interest in the fortunes of the farmer. It was this which induced him at certain periods of the year to work on from daylight to dark. Now, he leaves off regularly at six, let the turnips be hoed or unhoed."

Has not, however, machinery had something to do with this change in the rural character? Has not the displacement of men by an inarticulate labour-saving machine done something to rob workers of the personal element in their relations with their employers? Well, be the causes what they may this inability to secure rural labour constitutes a grave problem. It does not seem to be possible to deal with it by political methods. Yet the politician—the universal medicine man of our social and economic system—will soon have to give it a serious attention. We cannot, I am convinced, despite all that Mr. Haggard says, banish the danger by these ethical and sentimental methods. Yet what other method presents itself?

I have more than once referred to the excellent type of agrarian politician whom Mr. Herbert Gladstone is presenting to rural constituencies. Mr. Gladstone has, in fact, developed his method into a system that must compel the attention of the Conservative organisers. One of the latest of these politicians is Mr. Oscar Bowen, of Ladbrook Park, Tanworth-in-Arden, who in all probability will contest the Stratford-on-Avon division. Mr. Bowen is no mere reckless iconoclast, propounding a policy of spoliation; he is an intelligent agrarian reformer, with an admirable capacity of intelligent expression. "Mind this," said he to me in the lobby, "I think that much more encouragement should be given to the tenant, especially in the way of encouraging him to farm for future benefit; but at the same time I think that a landlord has a right to exist." The conversation was apropos of the Agricultural Holdings Act Amendment Bill. Mr. Bowen crystallised his purpose in an epigram: "Protection for the good landlord against bad tenants, and protection for the good tenant against a bad landlord."

"A platitude," may comment some people. Well, Mr. Bowen embodies his epigram in a policy. "I am," he added, "for the new Three F.'s—Fixity of Tenure, Fair Rents, and Full Compensation for Improvements." I asked him how he would secure fair rents. Was he in favour of the establishment of land courts? Well, he was, if fair rents could not be secured in any other fashion. However, he was not until other means had been tried in favour of calling into existence a great legal organisation, with the possibility of endless expense. "I don't want," he added, "the tenant to be compelled to spend a fortune in securing a fair rent. At the same time, I want fair rents to be secured by a somewhat more disciplined method than at present exists. A tenant may at this moment enjoy a fair rent, but it is not unseldom as the result of the charitable disposition of his landlord." Mr. Bowen's idea is the establishment of an official rent-fixing bureau, with a branch in each county. I think he is rather visionary in his anticipation of effective results from such a body. Still, he has a scheme which he believes would lend it a practical character.

My purpose, however, is not to give Mr. Bowen's programme; but to present him to my readers as the type of men Mr. Gladstone is securing as candidates. "Now," said he, "don't run away with the idea that I am a Ricardoite, who believes that the landlord's interest consists only in the indestructible elements of the soil—I am nearer Mill than Ricardo. My contention is that the mere fact that land has been made a marketable commodity has greatly enlarged his rights." At the same time, Mr. Bowen is such a tenant's man that he is whole-heartedly in favour of compensation for disturbance. Again, I repeat that this gentleman is a type of the new Radical candidate. Is Mr. Middleton, the Unionist Carnot, securing men of an equal intelligence to oppose to these politicians?

THE DAIRY.

Chester Cheese Fair.

Mr. Challinor, secretary to the Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association, reports upon the fair held in the Market Hall on Wednesday as follows:—"There was a full average attendance of buyers, all the best known Cheshire cheese consuming districts being represented at the fair. Owing, perhaps, to some etxent on account of its being very hot, and the harvest offering great inducements to farmers to stay at home, the pitch for this time of the year was very small, being estimated at 35 to 40 tons, as against 55 tons last year. The market opened with a good show for business, buyers being on the alert and quick in doing business with the owners of the choicest lots, which were all cleared in good time at prices ranging from 52s. to 57s. 6d. Medium lots also found ready buyers at prices ranging from 50s. down to 43s. The quotations of the corresponding fair last year were 34s. to 50s. per cwt. While makers just now are very hopeful as to an improving market for their product, their spirits are somewhat damped by the certainty of an exceptionally small make. Good prices will be needed to make up the inevitable deficit of output.

IN PARLIAMENT.

House of Lords.

Compensation for Farm Labourers.

On the order of the day for the third reading of the Workmen's Compensation Act (1897) Extension Bill on Monday,

Earl Wemyss said he supposed the Bill was inevitable, but could anyone doubt that its principles would ultimately have to be extended to domestic servants? This kind of legislation was bound to reduce wages, and had already reduced employment, because in mercantile work no one would now employ anyone over sixty. They ought not to expect this kind of legislation from a Conservative Government. Where was the use of having a Conservative Government in power if they were to have it? For his own part he, for that reason, did not desire a Conservative Government. He should wish for a Liberal Government with a majority of one. (Laughter.)

Viscount Cross said the noble Earl admitted that the Bill was inevitable. There had been no complaints from the working classes as to the principal Act, and he did not apprehend that there would be any complaint as to the working of this supplement to it.

The Bill was then read a third time, and passed.

Agricultural Holdings Bill.

On Friday, among a number of Bills brought up from the Commons was this measure, to which Viscount Cross asked their lordships to give a first reading, intimating that the second reading would be taken on Tuesday.

The Bill was read a first time.

House of Commons.

Agricultural Holdings Bill.

On the motion for the third reading of this Bill on Thursday,

Mr. Buchanan contended that the passage of this Bill was a very long deferred and very inadequate redemption of the promises given by the Government and its supporters at election time. The Bill did not constitute an adequate remedy for the grievances which existed. It was an incomplete and insufficient measure. He moved "that the Bill be read a third time this day three months."

Dr. Farquharson seconded.

Major Rasch supported the third reading of the Bill, and thanked the Government for what they had done for agriculture in carrying out the report of the Central Chamber of Agriculture in 1894. Although the Bill was not perfect it went far to satisfy agriculturists.

Mr. Lambert regretted that the Bill was not more complete and more effective. It made confusion worse confounded, and anyone who wanted to understand it had to provide himself with a small bundle of Acts of Parliament to which reference was made in the measure.

Mr. Strutt expressed the hope that in a future session the Government would bring in a Bill to simplify and codify the law relating to the important question of tenant right.

Mr. Abel Thomas and Mr. Giles continued the discussion, the latter hon. gentleman asserting that the Bill would be welcomed by the tenant-farmers of England.

Mr. Brynmor Jones said the Bill might be welcomed by the English tenant farmers, but it wholly failed to satisfy the pledges given by supporters of the Government during the election of 1895 to the tenant farmers of Wales.

Mr. Channing criticised the Bill as one that represented a very large extension of the powers of the landlord in dealing with his tenant.

Colonel Kenyon Slaney, referring to the speech of Mr. Channing, remarked that the general opinion of agriculturists in this country, whether they were owners or occupiers, was that, inasmuch as the hon. member had no direct acquaintance with the subject, he was regarded as a mere agricultural phonograph whose opinions were not accepted. (Laughter.)

Mr. Lloyd-George asserted that neither Mr. Channing nor Colonel Kenyon Slaney understood the question from the point of view of the Welsh tenant farmer. Whilst the recommendations of the Commission which were favourable to the landlords had been made law almost before the ink in which they were written was dry, no step had ever been taken to act upon the recommendations favourable to the tenant farmers.

Mr. Humphreys-Owen said the Bill did not meet with the full approval of Welsh agriculturists.

The Attorney-General said all would regret the absence of the President of the Board of Agriculture. It was due to his unfailing tact and courtesy that the Bill had got through so far. The debate which had taken place that evening had brought out with clearness the fact that the Bill was a substantial step in advance. There had, with one exception, been a practically unanimous expression of opinion on the points of procedure and practice—the hon. member for East Aberdeenshire, whose criticisms were not in accord with the decision of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture. The criticisms of other hon. members were entirely on matters of detail. It was said that Wales should be separately treated, because the rural population there was dwindling. He was sorry to hear that, but he could not recognise it as a valid reason for separate treatment, because that was also the case in other portions of the country. (Hear, hear.) He denied that all the recommendations of the Welsh Land Commission had been ignored, although some of them, for good reasons, had not been acted upon.

The Bill was then read a third time, without a division.

Selling Russian Eggs as Irish.

On Friday, Mr. Field asked the Vice-President of the Department of Agriculture for Ireland whether his attention had been directed to the importation of Russian eggs into Ireland and their subsequent exportation as Irish eggs to England; and whether he would cause inquiries to be made as to this system, and take steps to prevent its continuance.

Mr. Plunkett: The matter is being inquired into.

Mr. P. O'Brien: Will the right hon. gentleman see that none of these Russian eggs reach the House of Commons? (Laughter.)

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 14, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	15,119	9,537	Wheat ..	1,424,200	1,257,600
Sheep ..	14,697	4,048	Flour ..	546,400	376,000
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	378,800	194,600
			Oats ..	467,500	438,700
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	54,500	19,800
Beef ..	70,798	93,139	Beans ..	45,800	7,700
Mutton	81,472	75,659	Maize ..	1,883,000	961,000
Pork ..	5,585	4,480		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	129,581	121,641	†Bananas	—	16,289
Beef, salt	4,857	5,263		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	56,490	49,012	Apples ..	32,785‡	2,378
Pork, salt	5,916	6,295	†Apricots & Peaches	—	1,255
Meat, salt & fresh	9,083	7,462	†Cherries	25,088‡	20,902
Do. pres.	15,247	22,669	†Currants	—	21,765
Butter ..	73,222	80,470	†Goosebr's	—	1,504
M'rg'rine	14,503	16,114	Grapes ..	1,771‡	521
Cheese ..	76,039	85,543	Lemons	85,586‡	34,033
Con. Milk	14,416	18,039	Oranges	25,338‡	9,822
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	60	194	Pears ..	8,377‡	1,699
			Plums ..	15,067‡	6,855
			†Stra'b'r's	—	1,319
			Oth'r Fr't	131,001	954
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	2,027	2,063
Eggs ..	281,403*	288,002*		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	128,714	56,273
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£2,232	£4,279	Hops ..	2 922	1 198
			Potatoes	173,824	59,185
	Cwt.	Cwt.	§Tom'to's	—	46,403
Rabbits	5,742	4,578	Other	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	41,443	59,458	Veg'bles	£52,645	£13,527

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

Adulterated Milk and Butter in Leeds.—The Leeds City Analyst (Mr. Thomas Fairley), in his quarterly report to the Leeds Corporation Sanitary Committee, states that he has examined 121 samples submitted by the Food and Drugs Inspector. Of 106 samples of milk, 3 were found to be watered, 1 deprived in part of its fat, 3 both watered and deprived of fat, and 32 poor or of low quality. Of 12 samples of butter 5 were adulterated with fat other than butter fat. The total percentage of genuine samples is almost the same as during the corresponding period of last year.

Rural Depopulation: Mr. Rider Haggard's Views.

Some interesting remarks on rural depopulation were made by Mr. Rider Haggard at the annual exhibition held under the auspices of the East Suffolk Prize Scheme, at Saxmundham, on the 14th inst. He said he had been requested to speak on the subject of "Reading the Book of Nature," but that book was so long and intricate that he should not attempt to read the whole of it that afternoon. (Laughter.) He would rather turn to a page or two such as occurred to him as being appropriate to that occasion. It was the greatest of all books. We ourselves were part of Nature. Our very substances were of the earth, and what reverence we ought to give to Nature, which was our mother, and would be our monument! To try to apply these great principles, and bring them home, one thing was obvious to all dwelling in the Eastern Counties, and that was, those who ought to love Nature were getting fewer and fewer day by day, for the reason that the country population was decreasing. It was unfortunately a fact which he did not think anyone would attempt to dispute, that a large portion—the finest and most vigorous portion—of our population was today crowding into the towns. They all knew the old adage that "God made the country"—and another personage the towns. (Laughter.) He would not, however, carry the thing so far as that, but he thought that there was something in it—he felt that to be healthy, to be strong, and to be wise, the race ought to be reared in the country, and not in the town.

The present haysel had demonstrated how difficult it was to find labour in the fields. Right through the country we saw what a large proportion of old and sickly men there were labouring there, and we looked in vain for the fine stalwart young men we used to see. Where were they? In London, and other large towns. What often happens in the towns when they got there? Only a few days ago we read in the newspapers of a poor man who committed suicide because at fifty-five years of age he was told that he was too old to be employed. In the country, on the contrary, you often saw men of eighty years trying to work. The towns required the best and most precious life blood, and as soon as they got the best they used it and then threw it aside like a sucked orange. (Applause.) What was the cause of all this? He maintained that the first cause was the question of wages. Men thought they could earn better wages in the towns, or, as Norfolk people would say, "at the far end" they would do much better." He very much doubted it. (Hear, hear.) Secondly, there was the love of gregarity, the love of getting together, and the love of amusement.

It was alleged, and violently alleged, in some quarters, that the spread of education was one of the reasons why people were leaving the country districts—that because people were educated they no longer wished to stop upon the land. He would ask those he was addressing to consider what was the meaning of the word "education." If taken from the Latin it meant a leading out. A leading out of what? You might divide it into three parts: education of the body, whereby you were made strong and healthy; education of the mind, whereby you were made able and clever; and, lastly, the highest of education, the education of the soul or the spirit, whereby you were also lifted up. What was it that gave you the highest education? Was it not, after all, the study of nature? He contended that it was. Mr. Haggard pointed to the frosted face of the earth in the far north and to the tropical forests and beauteous plants, and asked if there was not education throughout the whole of the face of nature in these distant climes. But it was not necessary to go to far-off countries. It was not everybody who had the opportunity of journeying east, west, north, and south, and witnessing for themselves some phenomena of nature. Then let them look at their own surroundings, at their own sunset, or in the winter time the rising of the glorious sun over the black cold earth. Was there not education in all this? And yet this was an education that was not popular. Rather than find pleasure and amusement from the wonders and beauties of nature, our inhabitants would stand in the music-hall and witness the antics of short-skirted performers, and listen to the music of possibly a raucous voice. (Hear, hear.)

When this was so there was evidently something wrong. He thought that that system as at present practised was more or less designed by towns for towns, and what was wanted was a system devised by country people that would keep the sons of the soil on the soil, so that they might not desire to go to the music-halls elsewhere. (Applause.) The end of all education was the teaching of the young, the middle-aged, and the old to live purely, wisely, and well. This was the end of education, and not that which was so loudly proclaimed at times, to teach men how to grow rich. No doubt wealth was a good thing, but there was something better than wealth, and that was happiness, that rational proper happiness which pervaded good and pure homes, and this happiness was best attained by those who did not rush into the various conflicts of a crowded town. We knew too well what were the surroundings of town life. The first generation was possibly all right, but walk through the streets, and look at the young people you saw there—sharp, puny people, and certainly not what their grandfathers and grandmothers were who came, say, from Saxmundham. (Hear, hear.)

What had been the lessons of the past? This was not the first time in the history of the world that this kind of thing had been witnessed. It had happened again and again. It had happened at Rome before Rome fell. Mr. Rider Haggard gave several examples, and said it was happening in the present day in our colonies. He himself returned home from Syria with some Australians, and they told him the same story, that the rural population was crowding into the towns. Our minds were turned just at the present time to the Cape, to South Africa. The same thing was happening there. The reason the English race had not made greater headway there was because of its tendency to rush into the towns. He had a letter from a South African statesman whom he had never seen, but who was good enough to write to him, and in the letter he pointed out that this was the case. He said, in effect, that the war we were fighting now was a war between town dwellers and country dwellers, and he added that it was fortunate for us that the country dwellers were so few.

He (Mr. Rider Haggard) lived in South Africa several years, and knew that men went out there with the intention of farming, and stopping on the land. They, however, perhaps heard of coal, and then they went after coal; next, of copper, and they left the coal, and went for that; then of silver, and left the copper to go for the silver; and next they heard of gold, and quitted the silver for the gold. So they were always pushing into the towns, and after greater wealth. This was to a great extent why the position was so serious. Whatever victories we won over the Boers, however much we might crush them, or triumphant we might seem to be, unless some means could be found of keeping the Anglo-Saxon people on the land of South Africa, the Dutch were almost sure to become predominant for this reason—that the Dutch, whatever their faults and failings, were country dwellers, and nothing but country dwellers. They hated the towns, and that was the reason they were so strong, and why they had been able, with such comparatively small numbers, to make such a desperate resistance against so mighty an army. (Hear, hear.)

With respect to our own country, what was likely to be the outcome of this depopulation of the country districts? He did not speak because he was a farmer. The farmers' difficulties in this respect would be overcome. If the labourers chose to leave, the farmers would have to employ machinery, lay more land down to grass, and find employment for such men as were left, some of the land possibly going out of cultivation—in some way the situation would be met. He was talking rather in the interest of the nation at large, than in that of the farming community. Some might think that they could extinguish the farmer, but how would the nation do if its rural population dwindled and dwindled. It has been said that man was more precious than the gold of Ophir. This was undoubtedly so, especially with a great country. (Hear, hear.)

In the present continual exodus of the rural population, he was apprehensive of grave trouble ahead. Many might say that the farming industry was of minor importance, contending that this was after all essentially a trading nation, and that the landed class was no longer to be reckoned as being of much account. But it must not be forgotten that it was the landed people and the people from the villages who made England great long before the traders became so conspicuous here, and if England was to remain great, the landed interest must continue a power in the country. The trade of which so much was made in the present day, sprung up fifty years ago, when steam was invented, and navigation had made great strides, and if coal were to rise 10s. a ton in price trade might be throttled. (Hear, hear.) From the villages came those who made the country, and if the villages were allowed to be depopulated, then he maintained that the country would be in great danger.

He asked what possible remedies there were. He considered that great responsibility rested upon those who were engaged in teaching the rising generations. Teachers might inculate a love of nature, and perhaps in this way promote a desire on the part of those who were the subjects of this teaching, a desire to stop where they might be in constant daily contact with nature. He rejoiced at the efforts which were being made in that direction. He saw by the displays on the bookstalls at that exhibition that many of the books were designed to teach nature. He noticed many books of this class on Messrs. Longmans' stand, but he would venture to suggest that it was not botany pure and simple that they wanted to teach so much as the love of the flower. (Hear, hear.) It was rather the glory of the evening sky they should teach their charges to admire than the optical causes which produced those glories to their eye. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Rider Haggard proceeded to say that he knew that this subject of the decrease in the rural population was one upon which there was a good deal of indifference. People would pay little or no heed to it. The Press, generally, passed it by as of no account, but he maintained that it was really the most important question of the day. He considered that the Press had great responsibility in this matter, and so far as lay in his power he would endeavour, through the Press, to bring home to the nation the grave position in which we stood in consequence of the dwindling and weakening of our country districts through the best and the bravest men being absorbed in the towns. The future of the country depended upon maintaining the populations in the rural districts, and that was the reason he had ventured to speak so earnestly about the matter. The Government might be moved, through the agency of the Press, to do something: they might deal with the transfer of the land and invent means by which the yeoman class should be induced to re-settle upon the land, and thus the possibility of drawing a supply of young and strong people from the towns would be again re-established. This was a page in nature which opened to his sight, and that was a page we should read, study, and remember. (Applause.)

A Chard Seed Business Dispute.

In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on Tuesday and Wednesday, Mr. Justice Farwell was engaged in hearing the case of Townsend v. Jarman. Mr. Younger, Q.C., and Mr. Buckmaster, instructed by Mr. J. Banks Pittman, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Hughes, Q.C., and Mr. Kerley, instructed by Reed and Reed, represented the defendant.

In giving judgment, his lordship said on the facts proved before him he had no difficulty in finding in favour of the plaintiff. The injunction would be granted in the form asked for by Mr. Buckmaster, and he proposed to add that the injunction was not to restrain the defendant firm trading as Edgar James Jarman or E. J. Jarman. The next point was as to the interception of orders of money intended for the plaintiff. Evidence had been given of two instances, one of which seemed to him to be a very bad case. He had said sufficient to show that an injunction must go against the defendant, as asked, to prevent his intercepting orders and communications intended for plaintiff. Then there came the question of solicitation, as to which he had great difficulty, but, in his view, no sufficient proof had been made to grant any injunction. His lordship instanced the case of Tallin, who having met the defendant at the cattle show, and been told by him that he should be sending him on an order, afterwards sent him a catalogue of Jarman and Jarman. The customer might not have known that the company had changed, but even so, after the promise to send an order, it would not be unnatural to forward a catalogue; such sending of a catalogue could not be called solicitation. The injunction that would be granted would prevent the defendant from using these catalogues in future, because they represented a carrying-on of the business of the old firm. On the evidence, therefore, he found it impossible to grant any injunction as regarded the circulation of the circular. Then there was the counter-claim, which raised the question of a very ingenious and novel character, which he had never heard before. In the acts of partnership, the defendant having been antecedent trader, who took part in an assignment to a new company, made provision in the articles that either party might retire, and so on, provided only that Townsend, whether he should have withdrawn, etc., or by any other manner should not, within twenty-one years from the commencement of the partnership, either alone or in partnership with others, carry on business within a distance of four miles of Chard. Then the twenty-eighth clause provided that, in case of Jarman's death, Townsend might buy goods from the executors. Now it was said that the company which had bought the partnership business had no right to this covenant, and that it was no part of the partnership business. That conveyed nothing to his mind. The company bought the interest and good will of Jarman and Townsend, and by reason of that covenant there was something more in Jarman than Townsend, because the business was worth more to Jarman by reason of that covenant. But a covenant of that nature was necessarily incident to a business. It was, only, therefore, as incident to the business that the covenant came originally into existence. The defendant could not successfully assert that it was not necessary to his business to increase the value of the goodwill of the business, and the bargain had in terms assigned to the company the whole goodwill of Jarman and Co. Therefore, as far as that contention was concerned in the construction of the deed, he held that it was one of the incidents of the goodwill and that it was conveyed to the person who had it from Jarman to the company, and had passed by conveyance from the company, and so to Mr. Townsend. Then there was a curious question as to the name, E. J. Jarman. When he built the house there was built a large stone showing a representation of a globe with words across the globe, "Corn [illegible] the people's seedsman, Somerset," and the words across and at the top, E. J. Jarman. Mr. Jarman having built the house with those words on it still had a foothold with the words out on it. He had made a suggestion for the removal of the [illegible] but his lordship could not see that he had any such right.

Mr. J. Noble Jack, a distinguished student of the Agricultural Department of Edinburgh University, has been appointed vice-principal of the Agricultural and Horticultural College, Holmes Chapel, Crewe. He is also lecturer in agriculture, and has full charge of the college farm and experimental station.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Market Returns.

One of the very valuable and useful sets of tables furnished by the Board of Agriculture in the "Agricultural Returns" gives the weekly amount of grain actually sold each week separately, and the price as an average. The much more useful form of the highest and lowest price is returned for the yearly sales, but unfortunately these are simply the averages, so that we at present have no means of getting at the highest and lowest prices obtained, either in any given locality or for any particular grade or type of grain. As this is the season when the barley trade is at an utter standstill, it would be of great utility if a discussion could be started as to the best means of reforming the existing methods of making returns. We want them both more accurate and fuller.

It has often been pointed out in these columns how

Delusive Averages

are when applied to barley prices. That the quantities returned are also singularly inaccurate is shown in a season like the past. It is quite certain that in many districts the bulk of the barley grown was malted, and, as a consequence, was not fed off without being sold.

Yet the returns show that although the acreage under barley was over 2,150,000 acres, and the average yield was over 34 bushels per acre, giving a total yield of 9,300,000 quarters, the quantity returned as sold in all the principal markets and towns was only 3,300,000 quarters.

The averages, therefore, are based upon very little more than one-third of the crop.

Very few people scan these returns with sufficient interest to note the singular positions taken by many of the counties and markets where heavy growths of barley ought to be produced and sold. If we take all the counties containing markets wherein 50,000 quarters or upwards have been sold in the year, which works out only at an average of

1,000 Quarters a Week,

or say under 2,000 quarters a week during the season, we find the following:—

			Town.	Quarters Sold.
Essex	2	Markets	Colchester	74,000
			Chelmsford	58,000
Herts	1	do.	Bishops Stortford	52,000
Suffolk	2	do.	Ipswich	100,000
			Bury	86,000
Norfolk	3	do.	Norwich	266,000
			Lynn	103,000
			Fakenham	58,000
Lincoln	4	do.	Lincoln	210,000
			Louth	67,000
			Brigg	64,000
			Sleaford	54,000
Nottingham	1	do.	Newark	122,000
Northamptn.	1	do.	Peterborough	84,000
Wiltshire	1	do.	Salisbury	53,000
Stafford	1	do.	Burton	79,000
Yorks	1	do.	Wakefield	62,000

Of these ten counties, Lincoln heads the list with four towns, and one the second largest return in the country.

The Biggest Market

is Norwich, and Norfolk has two other towns trading in over the 50,000 quarter limit.

Why these two counties should return so much more freely is curious, but it is very creditable to them. The reverse must be said of many of the counties which obviously do not make honest or truthful reports.

Even if the limit of sales is reduced to as low a standard as 20,000 quarters, it only embraces a few more counties, and gives the following towns:—

	Town.	Quarters Sold.
London		69,000
Essex	Braintree	20,000
Herts	Hitchen	29,000
Bedford	Bedford	22,000
Suffolk	Sudbury	34,000
	Beccles	24,000
Norfolk	East Dereham	39,000
	Diss	24,000
Lincoln	Grantham	49,000
	Stamford	40,000
	Boston	23,000
Huntingdon	St. Ives.	23,000
Cambridge	Cambridge	44,000
Berkshire	Reading	38,000
Yorks (E.R.)	Hull	34,000
	Bridlington	23,000
Yorks (W.R.)	York	22,000
Yorks (N.R.)	Malton	40,000
Nottingham	Worksop	22,000
Northampton	Northampton	46,000
Oxon	Oxford	29,000
Wiltshire	Devizes	26,000
Stafford	Wolverhampton	23,000
Durham	Darlington	22,000

Such counties as Kent, Sussex, and Surrey have no town returning as much as 9,000 quarters, whilst even Bedford has only two markets, which collectively sell 29,000, and Hampshire has no market returning 12,000 quarters. Devon has only one such market (Kingsbridge), Somerset one (Taunton), Gloucestershire one (Cirencester), Shropshire one (Shrewsbury). Derby, Cumberland, Lancashire, Denbigh, Montgomery, and several others return under 2,000 quarters, whilst Westmoreland, Cheshire, Carmarthen, and Middlesex all return nil—which, as dear old Euclid used to observe, "is absurd."

FRANK RICHARDSON AND CO., successors to TOPHAM RICHARDSON BROS. AND CO., Importers of Selected Foreign Malting Barleys, 6, Duke Street, Southwark, London, S.E. Telegrams, "Escourgeon, London." Telephone, 787, Hop, London; and at Liverpool and Burton-on-Trent.—[ADVT.]

MILLING.

The Treatment of Break Stock Previous to Purification.—II.

The market for wheat is not so firm as it was, and business is far from brisk. Flour, too, has gone down in price in most parts of the country in accord with the raw material, as well as on account of the large imports of American flour. After showing a steady decrease for some weeks past, the quantity of breadstuffs, of wheat as well as of flour, on passage to this country is now heavier, and this will not help the home millers. Harvesting has already commenced in France, where the sorts grown are much like our own, and, although there seems to be little complaint of the quality of the grain, there are reports of a decreased yield, a state of things which in all probability will be reflected in this country.

English farmers have been too busy to thresh wheat, and so there has been little on the markets; in fact, the supply has been so short that some small mills in my district have had to stop grinding. There is a fair quantity still to come, however, when the hay harvest is over and more labour can be spared for threshing. The sale of offals goes steadily on, and, in fact, owing to the hot weather, which is beginning to dry up the pastures, this class of goods is even making more money.

Strength in English Wheat.

Mr. Mallett's paper, which I read in the last issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS, was interesting enough in its way, and no doubt the quality of much of the wheat grown in this country could be improved, even as regards flavour, but long experience with all sorts of wheat conclusively proves to me that strong wheats will never be grown in this country, simply because soil and climatic conditions, especially the latter, are against it. I do not say that it is impossible to secure stronger varieties, but the word "strong" as now used will never be applied to them as it is applied to those wheats which the miller uses to provide the quality. There are three things which affect wheat, no matter where it is produced: these are variety, soil, and climate. If any of these be varied the product will vary, and this is tantamount to saying that the seed may be improved. After a good harvest time English wheat is fairly strong, it is true, but its strength is entirely different in quality to some sorts.

Possibly something might be gained in strength by planting such wheats as Manitoban and Spring Americans, but the seed would need constantly renewing, as each year the wheat would grow softer, with less strength, until in the end it would approximate to English. In fact, it seems that the strong wheats of the world need soils which are exposed to very severe winters, with heavy snowfalls which cover the ground for a time, for their successful maturing. The climate in the case of all the strong wheats—Russian, North-West American sorts, Manitoban—certainly fits in with these conditions, although it must be said that the summers are very suitable for ripening. Let us grow as strong wheats as possible by all means, but we must not sacrifice the inestimable qualities of English wheat—colour and flavour—for mere strength.

Treatment of the Break Stock.

In my last article I noticed the points which could be advanced for and against the machines which are in use for the treatment—scalping, grading, and dusting—of the break stock. These, generally speaking, are sieves, either single or in combination with either rotary or reciprocal motions, centrifugals of modern and adjustable types, inter-elevator reels, and round hexagon reels. There is something to be said in favour of all, as well as things derogatory, but the rotary double sieve, if free from vibration, with a speed of from 160 to 200 vibrations per minute seems best to suit the first three breaks in a four-break system. These are usually made in sizes of from 3ft. by 2ft. to 6ft. by 4½ft., and for moderately fast sieves only a surface of from 1 to 1.5 square feet per sack per hour for each break is needed.

The method of clothing scalpers, so that the first is coarsest and the last finest, with intermediate gradations, is rendered necessary in the first place by the size and general character of the stock under treatment, and in the second by the number of flutes to the inch on the corrugated rolls which perform the work of the reduction of wheat and broken wheat. It is very evident that larger middlings can be made from the former than from the latter, and that the largest middlings will be obtained from the largest stock. Hence a graduated system of corrugations on the rolls and scalper covers. In other words, the number of flutes to the inch decides the size of the middlings, and so controls the scalper covers.

But it will be better to give an example. As it is necessary to have the middlings for the second break of as near a size as possible, it is always best where it can be done, to grade the wheat for the first break into two sizes. The first example taken shall give corrugations to scalper covers for the reduction of a soft wheat like English, and in a four-break system the former may be as follows:—First break, 8 and 10; second break, 12; third break, 16; and fourth, 24 to 26. The wire coverings for these flutes would be something like 14, 16, 20, and 28 threads to the inch, but as wire is apt to clog, many millers prefer zinc, and the corresponding numbers to the above, which, like silk numbers, are quite arbitrary, are 7, 6½, 5½, and 4½, but it would be better to employ wire after the fourth break. Zinc has not such a great sifting capacity as either wire or silk. Wire has a free sifting surface of about 50 per cent., well-perforated zinc about 45 per cent., and silk at least 10 per cent. more than the latter. In a third article the same subject will be again considered. MILLER-FARMER.

POULTRY.

Treatment of Pullets.

Early pullets, fed on too much stimulating food, shed their feathers the same as the hens in the autumn. They should be fed on wheat and dari chiefly; barley, French buckwheat, and maize should form but very small portions of their bill of fare. A hen can lay eggs and moult at the same time much easier in August than she can moult without laying eggs in October or November, on account of the weather. Those who want to moult their exhibition stock early should use a little roup powder in their food, whereas those who require them for laying purposes only should use the poultry powder, as this not only strengthens the body but acts upon the egg organs.

If late-hatched chickens are not doing well, give them a little biscuit meal, groats, and hemp seed. A change in their food will often give them a start. If they cough and sneeze, or run at the nostrils, mix a little roup powder in their food. This will soon put them right. If they do not eat be sure to examine the mouth to see if there are any white specks therein. If they are weakly ones and there are strong ones on the place, kill the affected ones off at once and bury them. If a person has only a few they can be got round all right with patience.

Do not attempt to bring up chickens on inferior corn, for the best is the cheapest in the long run. When buying corn see it is of good size and has no holes in it. If a few kernels look dark, crush them with a hammer. It will then soon be seen why the poultry have not done well, and the balance has been on the wrong side of the sheet.

Secrets of the Egg Trade.

A case of great interest to those engaged in the Irish egg trade and to all consumers of eggs was heard at the Liverpool County Court on Monday. Messrs. Hartley, Wilson, and Co., produce merchants, Liverpool, sought to recover from Thomas Carr, poultry farmer and egg dealer, Cabbage Hall, Liverpool, the sum of £6 15s. 6d., the price of two crates of eggs supplied in 1898. The defendant resisted payment on the ground that half of the eggs were bad and unfit for human consumption, whereas he had ordered fresh Irish eggs, and agreed to pay the highest price then ruling in the market.

Mr. Wilson, the principal of the plaintiff firm, stated that the eggs supplied to the defendant formed part of a consignment of fresh Irish eggs which had been received only a day or two before from a person in county Cavan, who regularly forwarded eggs to the firm, and always of the best quality. In cross-examination, the witness denied the suggestion that the eggs were Russian. He had heard there was a practice of sending Russian eggs to Ireland and then reshipping them to England as Irish eggs, but he had never had experience of such a thing.

The defendant stated that on receiving a complaint from a customer as to the eggs, he had several photographed by the electro-hydrogen process, which revealed them to be in various stages of decomposition, some of them very advanced. As to foreign eggs being sent to Ireland and afterwards shipped to England, he said it was well known in the trade that such a practice prevailed. Millions of eggs, he added, were sent from the Baltic to Belfast, and they were afterwards forwarded to England and Scotland as Irish eggs. He knew very well how the thing was done, but he did not want to give the secret away. He believed the eggs in question had originally come from Russia or some other place on the Continent.

His Honour gave judgment for the amount claimed on the ground that the defendant had failed within reasonable time to notify the plaintiffs that the eggs were bad.

During a thunderstorm at Holbeach on Tuesday two horses in different parts of the same field were killed by lightning. A man, also in the field, felt the shock of the electric current, but fortunately escaped unhurt.

HOPS.

By Lupulin,

Home Notes.

In the Borough

the business of the past week has been influenced by the improvement in the weather, and, as more sanguine impressions have prevailed concerning the prospects of the growing crop, the trade has somewhat fallen off. But, owing to the scarcity of choice hops, the tone of the market is steady, and recent values are fully maintained, although there is at present some relaxation of the tendency towards higher prices which was previously evident. It is, however, still open to question whether the sudden change to the extreme heat of the past few days is likely to be of general benefit, especially as the reports from the plantations show that the attack of fly and lice still continues, and that washing must be persevered in if the hops are to be saved. The usual beneficial effects of bright, hot weather have not yet been experienced, and in very many cases the weakness and irregularity of the growth have become more manifest. My own observations during a journey on Friday last showed me that a good deal of the bine looked thin and weak, although generally a healthy colour of the foliage presented a satisfactory picture. But I saw some gardens in the most fertile districts whose yellow, dropping leaves indicate failure from want of strength, and I hear that similar unfavourable symptoms are not uncommon elsewhere. We are therefore still uncertain as to the final results, and I am inclined to conclude that the change of temperature has arrived rather too late for permanent or general progress, and that, under the most favourable conditions, we cannot expect a crop exceeding at the uttermost half that of last year. Indeed, I shall not be surprised if the weight brought to market is considerably short of this estimate.

On Thursday and Friday last I attended the annual show of the Tunbridge Wells Agricultural Society, for the purpose of ascertaining if any of the exhibits were specially interesting to hop-growers, and was somewhat disappointed to find that hops and the appliances relating to them did not occupy so prominent a position in the show as I expected. The only exhibit of note in this section was

Blackie's Patent for Hop Drying.

Having previously described this apparatus, I need hardly again refer to its details, but there is no doubt that it is making its way with planters in their estimation of its ingenuity, simplicity, and practical utility. Mr. Blackie's stand was visited by numerous growers, not one of whom made any objection to the adoption of his arrangement, save on the ground of outlay, to which they are not encouraged by present unsatisfactory value of hops. Perhaps more important were the opinions expressed by many working hop dryers, who examined the boxes and noted the ease with which the hops could be turned upon the kiln, with much intelligent inquiry, and who, without exception, approved of the scheme, which was demonstrated by a full-sized plant suitable for the fitting of a circular kiln 17ft. in diameter. The merits of the invention were, I am glad to say, recognised by the judges in the novelty class, the first prize and silver medal being awarded to Mr. Blackie. I have great confidence in commending this improvement, which can be adapted to any existing kiln without structural alteration, to the further attention of my readers.

The "Drake" Portable Oil Engine

also deserves favourable notice, as being an economical and easily adaptable source of mechanical power for farmers. It uses ordinary commercial petroleum lamp oil, it is cheaper to run than either gas or steam engine, it is reliable in action, and can be managed by any labourer of ordinary intelligence; it will run an entire day with one charge of oil and water, and requires no attention during the whole time. A single cylinder engine developing 5 h.p. costs a comparatively small sum, and it is not difficult to foresee that such a machine will eventually become popular amongst advanced agriculturists. It is constructed, and was exhibited by Messrs. Doake and Fletcher, Kentish Engineering Works, Maidstone.

Recent intelligence from South Africa, brings the name and services of our president,

Colonel Brookfield,

into prominence. Being appointed by General Knox to the command of a cavalry brigade, he was despatched on June 22nd with his brigade and four guns to sweep round the flank of the enemy, who were attacking the garrisons of Katbosch and Honingspruit. The Boers were first engaged by the Highlanders and Buffs, and after some hard fighting their discomfiture was completed by Colonel Brookfield's force, which after firing 140 shells into them, drove them out of their position. Colonel Brookfield subsequently fell back on Katbosch, where his force bivouacked, and where a telegram was received from General Knox—"Very well done." I am happy to add that a wire from our president a few days ago, said he was then "all right."

Plantation Reports.

Special to the Secretary of N.A.E.H.G.

LAMBERHURST.—The bine is uneven, and the growth is constantly being checked by cold nights and scorching sun. Vermin still causes some anxiety, and there is a little mould at places. Some grounds will come under half of last year's crop. There are acres that will never reach the tops of the poles.

TENTERDEN.—Under the influence of hot weather the plants are making excellent growth, but there is a considerable increase of aphides, necessitating vigorous washing. There is practically no mould. Bramblings are beginning to show burr.

WINGHAM.—The hot sun and warm nights of the past ten days have done much good. I do not think there has been any fresh arrival of fly this week. Some gardens are nearly clean where washing was begun a month ago and persisted in, but where washing was delayed the blight has left its mark. There are many places where bine is slack and where it does not look like being fruitful, but with a continuance of favourable weather we ought to get an average crop, *i.e.*, about half last year's.

PEASMARSH.—The hops are looking better. About half of them look like growing a good crop, the rest are slack of bine.

PETERSFIELD.—The hops that have been thoroughly washed are growing very fast and look very well. The unwashed are going black.

CRANBROOK.—My gardens are looking quite well enough, although the lice are very difficult to get rid of, and but for repeated washing the fly attack must have been very serious. There are some gardens in this neighbourhood, which cannot produce anything like an average crop, despite the favourable weather we are having, and, on the whole, I cannot see that there is any possibility of more than an average quantity being picked.

MAIDSTONE.—Where the soil is shallow, the hot weather is doing more harm than good. Fly is still very persistent, and continued and expensive washing is necessary. In many gardens the pine is slack and weak, though in others good progress has been made.

MARDEN.—In the best cultivated gardens there is manifest improvement, but there are many unwashed grounds where the plant is yielding to the vermin, and is gradually and certainly going black. On the whole there is not much real improvement, and the general outlook is far from encouraging.

WORCESTER.—There is a great deal of very weak bine (I should say one-third) which, under any circumstances, can only produce very little. Where the hops are well cultivated and there is plenty of bine, they have improved the last week, in spite of most persistent blight. Washing is still going on; growers who are neglecting and not washing will reap a very bad harvest. A large acreage that produced last year from ten to fourteen cwts. per acre won't grow more than three or four cwts., if any, under any circumstances. This refers to some parts of Herefordshire as well as Worcestershire.

WORCESTER.—Growth has been made the last week, since warmer weather; nearly all short of bine, and still full of blight in spite of numerous washings.

WHITBOURNE.—Much vermin, which incessant washing does not seem to cope with. Outlook very unsatisfactory.

LEDBURY.—As a rule, the hops look bad, owing to want of cultivation, cold weather, and persistent blight. Even in the best yards, where the washing has been constant, they are very backward, and it does not look as if they would grow anything like an average crop.

THE FARLEIGHS AND DISTRICT.—The late tropical weather has suited the strongest pieces, but where they were not washed in time and weakly there does not seem so much improvement. Mould can be found on the leaves in most grounds, and many growers are contemplating sulphuring, but are afraid to begin, as there is still vermin hanging about, and it has been proved that sulphur has a great tendency to increase the vermin, as it is supposed to put fresh vigour in the plant. The crop cannot be large, and a rough estimate at present would be 7cwt. or 8cwt. per acre average. The bramblings are showing burr. The expenses this year have been enormous, and let us hope we shall see remunerative prices.—(July 21st.)

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

Trade in hops has been active during the past few days, and probably heavy business would have been done had there been a better choice at the disposal of buyers; but stocks being so limited, purchases have not exceeded the necessities of the moment. The increased demand is directly traceable to the bright, hot weather, which has brought the whole population out of doors, and has induced an enormous consumption of beer. Should these conditions continue, the warehouses of hop dealers must be speedily cleared: and it is not unlikely that it will be necessary to seek for supplies in other markets, especially as it is generally calculated that the new crop will be at least fourteen days late when picking commences.

Reports from the Plantations

in Germany and Austria are generally [illegible] favourable, although the development and progress of the plant is slower than might be expected under present climatic conditions. Where the bine is strong and free from insect troubles, there is the greatest quantity observable in many of the grounds, and in many plants are showing vigorous growth and inspire confidence in a full yield. In the Hallertau district of Bavaria the most forward is in the first stage of growth, perhaps most evident, but there are other important localities from which similar reports are issued. It is possible that the prevalent weather will alter the complexion of affairs, but there are grounds which will rather suffer from than be benefited by the present high temperature. On the whole it appears very likely that the yield of last year will be surpassed, though perhaps it may be equalled.

Alsace and Burgundy.

The condition of affairs in these provinces is as yet undecided. The early growth being so backward, the gardens have not yet arrived at their normal point, and it is feared that under the most favourable circumstances they will hardly be able to advance sufficiently for the production of a satisfactory crop.

Belgium

The value of hops of 1899 growth is very firmly maintained at 60 to 70 francs per 50 kilos, and owing to the advent of real summer weather the demand by brewers has become more active. Stocks of native growths are now reduced to a minimum point, and imported hops have been arriving in fairly considerable quantities.

The Belgian Plantations

have suffered severely from [illegible] which, despite the hot sun of the past fortnight, still clings to the bine in most places. The grounds that have partially escaped are making fairly good progress, but, on the whole, there is much cause for dissatisfaction, as it is now almost too late to hope for full development, or a large yield. Speculators have been evidently impressed with the unfavourable outlook, as business has been done in futures (October-November) at 100 to 105 francs, and although a steadier tone now prevails, quotations still stand at a figure showing a considerable advance from those current three weeks ago.

America.

A change to hot weather has been experienced on the other side of the Atlantic, and its effect is being felt in the New York market, where more disposition to buy is shown by brewers, and considerable quantities of hops have been sold at full rates, giving a rather firmer tone to the trade. Very little new information about the growing crop is to hand, but, as far as I can ascertain, I should conclude that growth is fairly satisfactory, both on the east and the west coast, although there are no indications thus far of a yield in any district, which is likely to exceed a normal average.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 111, 113.)

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

11,992.—Isadore Centennial Freud, Chancery Lane, London, for an invention of "An improved process for treating potatoes for food."

12,067.—John Rudge, Market Place, Dursley, for an invention of "Improvements in [illegible] for plant cultivation."

12,153.—Henri Ruperti, Chancery Lane, London, for an invention of "Improvements in [illegible] expressing water from turf or peat and such like materials."

12,207.—William Richard Bates, Pondes End, Middlesex, for an invention of "An improved apparatus for stacking hay, straw, and other [illegible] produce."

12,266.—William Hornsby and David Robert [illegible], South Street, Finsbury, London, for an invention of "Improvements in or connected with knife-driving mechanism for mowing, reaping, and harvesting machines."

Patents Sealed.

5,556.—J. H. Silley and W. W. Bacon, Sydney, New South Wales, for an invention of "Improvements in sheep, etc., shearing machines."

5,876.—H. H. Lake, Southampton Buildings, London, for an invention of "Improvements in reaping and harvesting machines."

There was a [illegible] storm in East Anglia early on Saturday. Several barns in the farm of Mr. J. W. Utting, of Stanninghall, were killed, and several stacks were fired in the neighbourhood of North Walsham. One of the barns was the property of Mr. J. W. Temple, of Edgefield, and other damage done is estimated at £10.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society*

THE GARDEN.

The present season has so far proved a much more growing one than we have had for several years, and at the present time vegetation is in a state of quite unusual exuberance. The soil hereabouts is decidedly poor and thin on the whole, and in dry seasons it is by no means an easy matter to get such things as lettuces, cauliflowers, etc., to make a sufficiently vigorous growth, but at the present time some subjects, including potatoes, are growing even too luxuriantly. What it must be on soils that are naturally fertile, rich, or that have been heavily manured I can only imagine. I fortunately used much less manure than usual this season, and with the exception of a small quantity of artificials of various kinds to part of the crop, none at all with the potatoes, and yet the growth is somewhat too luxuriant, as stated. But in a season like this the superiority in quality of such produce over that of ground that has been heavily manured is usually quite remarkable.

By the way, I see that that wonderful potato-producing island, Jersey, is becoming to some extent worn out for this purpose, the land having become what is termed "potato-sick" from having carried the same crop for so many years. The yield is rapidly falling off in the points of both quantity and quality, and even fair crops can only be obtained by the use of immense quantities of artificial manures. This is a pity for the island, which has profited by the industry enormously, but it was, of course, only to be expected sooner or later, and, in fact, the end was certain to come some day. It is probable that the raising of early potatoes on a large scale will be conducted in future near St. Malo, in France, where it appears that there is a very large area of land in every way adapted for the purpose.

Some new varieties of early potatoes that are undoubtedly worthy of attention are Very Early (Sharpe's), Ninety-fold, Ringleader, May Queen, the Major, and Pioneer. These have all proved to be excellent croppers, as well as being very early, and the three named first also recently received certificates or awards of merit at a trial of a large number of varieties that is being conducted at Chiswick this summer.

Turnips are doing remarkably well this season; there is no fly anywhere (as far as my experience and information go), and the plants are growing almost too rapidly and strongly. Begin thinning out the early-sown breadths or beds as soon as the plants can be fairly got hold of. When sown in drills a usual method is to strike out gaps in the rows with the corner of a hoe, leaving small patches about 6in. apart, which are afterwards reduced to one plant in each. But I think it is just as well to thin by hand, and gradually reducing the plants to 2in. or 3in. apart in the first place, and then gradually thinning them farther by pulling a root or two here and there, for use in the house, until they stand at a moderate distance. Of course when sown broadcast the thinning must be done by hand, but it is much easier to keep the ground clean (by hoeing) when the seed is placed in drills.

Make frequent sowings of turnips now and onwards until the beginning of September. Good kinds for present sowing are Veitch's Red Globe, the Red American Stone, and Orange Jelly; a litle later on sow the White Stone and the Black Stone (Chirk Castle), the last being a very hardy and excellent turnip for late crops.

No time should be lost in planting new strawberry beds. If left later than the end of this month they will do little or nothing in the way of fruiting till the second season, which means the loss of a twelvemonth. Of course plants from small pots may be successfully planted a month or so later, but in large numbers these come either very expensive or entail a lot of labour. Strong young runners planted out in May, June, or the early part of July will produce finer fruit as well as ripen it some days earlier than old plants, especially if afforded a sheltered and sunny position. For late supplies of fruit plant Eleanor, Waterloo, or the Elton Pine, on a northern slope, at the foot of a low wall with north aspect, or where lightly shaded by distant trees.

Get the main batch of plants for forcing into the fruiting pots as soon as possible, and stand them "pot thick" on a good bed of ashes in a sunny but rather sheltered spot. There is just time to put down a last batch of runners into small pots for late fruiting, or to plant out of doors a month or so later on, if necessary.

Roses will have to be budded rather later than usual this season, the wood being rather soft yet, and the buds not yet sufficiently prominent and firm. The weather at present is just right for this work, however, and unless dry weather sets in the stocks will probably work well.

Cuttings of pinks should be taken now, or very shortly, though in order to propagate the "common or garden" kinds it is much easier, and just as effectual, to simply pull a few old plants to pieces, and plant the divisions closely and firmly in a well-prepared bed of sandy soil in September. But now is the time for cuttings, which may be inserted either in a good bed of fine, light soil in a sheltered and half-shaded spot out of doors, or if of choice varieties preferably in a frame, or under handlights, and be kept moist and moderately close and shaded until callused.

The present is also a good time to sow seed of the charming Persian cyclamens; this sowing will afford fine flowering plants the winter after next. Sow in pans filled with a mixture of fine loam, peat, or leaf mould, and sand, and keep evenly moist in a frame or pit.

Highland and Agricultural Society.

General Meeting of Members.

The general meeting of the members of the Society was held on Wednesday, with Lord Balfour of Burleigh, the President of the Society, in the chair. There was a large attendance. After several votes of thanks had been proposed and acknowledged—

Sir Robert Menzies proposed:—"That the date at which the Highland and Agricultural Society permits the clipping of Blackface tups for exhibition at its annual show—viz., 1st January—is much too early, and should be altered." He said it was unnatural to clip Blackface sheep before 1st January. Those who were so clipped were starving and shivering all winter. Then the coat was grown, and they had only to look at the result at that show, where they would find them panting with heat. There was no necessity for doing it. If the sheep were clipped at the proper time, they would be in a much more healthy state than at present. It was said that if what he proposed were carried out, it might affect the ultimate sale of the sheep at the autumn sales; but if the sheep were clipped either in May or June, the sort of wool they would have by that time would show exactly what the coat would be.

Sir Alexander M. MacKenzie, of Delvine, seconded.

The Chairman said he thought it right to remind members of the action of the Society. He was asked to inform the meeting that in April of last year two questions were sent out to exhibitors of Blackface sheep:—"(1) Should there or should there not be any regulations as to the clipping of Blackface sheep to be shown at future Highland shows?" and "(2) In the event of your considering the continuance of clipping regulations desirable, what date should be stated as that after which all Blackface sheep exhibits must be clipped?" Those two questions were sent out to all exhibitors, thirty in number, who had exhibited during the past ten years at the Highland Society's show. Of these seventeen sent replies answering the first question in the affirmative, and sixteen out of the seventeen preferred the 1st of January in answer to the second question, and the seventeenth man proposed the 1st February.

Mr. John Craig, Innergeldie, moved as an amendment, that the clipping regulations be allowed to remain as at present. The motion would receive a considerable amount of sympathy from breeders, because there was no doubt that sheep which required to be kept on the hill must necessarily be kept under as natural conditions as possible during the rest of the year; but whether Sir Robert Menzies was taking the proper course in asking the Society to alter their clipping regulations was a different matter. It must be borne in mind that there must be a certain amount of wool on a sheep before the judges were able to distinguish whether it was of the proper quality or not. If exhibitors had less time in which to bring out sheep they would be put to more pressure, and that would be hurtful to the animals.

Mr. John Archibald, Overshiels, seconded the amendment.

On a show of hands, the motion was carried by sixty-five to fifty-nine votes.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that the motion did not settle the date at which clipping was to be arranged for hereafter. He supposed that would have to be remitted to the directors.

Sir Robert Menzies said he was going to propose that a committee be appointed to report to the next meeting of directors as to when clipping should take place.

The Chairman suggested that this was not a very suitable gathering for discussing these matters in detail, and that it would be better to leave this subject as it stood to the directors to settle the procedure for next show.

Sir Robert Menzies accepted the suggestion.

Mr. Charles Duncan, Little Kilmory, Rothesay, asked the reason why at an agricultural show of the importance of that held by the Highland and Agricultural Society there were only two milk cows exhibited. In his opinion, the cause of the small entry was the rule requiring the cows to be milked at a certain time, instead of allowing the exhibitor to milk his animal when ever he pleased. He had a complaint to make regarding one of his cows.

The Chairman expressed his sympathy with Mr. Duncan, but suggested that he should send in a statement of his complaint to the directors, who would consider it. He could assure Mr. Duncan that the complaint would receive the most careful consideration of the executive of the Society.

Rev. Dr. Gillespie said that in the particular case referred to by Mr. Duncan everything had been done in compliance with the regulations of the Society, under the supervision both of himself and of Principal Williams, the veterinary surgeon to the Society.

Mr. Robert Wilson, Manswraes, Paisley, was of opinion that there was a good deal of ground for Mr. Duncan's grievance. It was quite clear, he held, that if there was not something wrong there would be a better display of Ayrshires. These cattle comprised the best breed for rent-paying purposes, and they were treated worse than any other class. He did not see why exhibitors of Ayrshire cows should not be allowed to milk them at any time they pleased.

It was then agreed that the matter should be referred to the directors.

Mr. A. M. Gordon, of Newton, in proposing a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, said Lord Balfour was the first business man in Scotland, and so long as he held his present position every Scotsman might be sure that his interests would be thoroughly and well looked after. (Applause.)

The Chairman, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, said that when he heard that he was to be proposed for the office of president of the Society he felt that one of the greatest honours that could be conferred on any Scotsman had been conferred on him. He had had a very pleasant year of office, and he could assure them that the remembrance of it would be among his most pleasant recollections. (Applause.) They would allow him to read a letter of apology from his friend and colleague, Mr. Long, President of the Board of Agriculture, who wrote as follows:—"I am sorry that I shall not be able to attend your show this week. It is a great disappointment to me, and I hope you will be so good as to convey my regrets and apologies to the members. The cause is, of course, the state of Parliamentary business." (Applause.) He knew that Mr. Long intended to be present at the show. Three months ago Mr. Long promised to him that he would come if possible, and he knew that he would have fulfilled the promise had it been possible. Might he convey to the President of the Board of Agriculture an expression of deep regret on the part of the members at his absence, and the hope that he would be able to attend any future meeting of the Society? (Applause.) With reference to his year of office as president his Lordship only wished to say that one notable step had been taken—a step which not only concerned the Society, but also concerned him as vice-president of the Scotch Education Department. He was glad to think that during the past year they had managed to get the adhesion of all the south-western counties to a joint scheme under which an agricultural college had been established at Kilmarnock on a very liberal and hopeful scale. (Applause.) The state of that institution reflected the greatest possible credit on the energy and the good sense of the agriculturists in the south-west of Scotland, and he hoped that the examples which they had set would be followed in other parts of Scotland. If it were he could assure the agriculturists that they would receive the most hearty support of the Scotch Education Department. (Hear, hear.) They had given—might he say he had given?—out of a fund which came to them last year—a sum of about £35,000 which they devoted to higher education—£2,000 a year, which was set apart as a grant under that Act for these agricultural institutions; and they distinctly contemplated that move as forming a part of the scheme of operations under the Education Bill which he introduced into Parliament this last session. That Bill would without doubt become law in another session, and he believed it would do a great deal of good to agricultural education. They looked to such societies as the Highland Society to give them all the help they could, and he thought those who were interested in the management of the Society and others knew that after the meeting in the month of June with some friends of agricultural education they arranged the details of a scheme which, if carried into effect, would effectually prevent it being hereafter said that agricultural opinion in Scotland was being neglected in this matter of agricultural education by the Education Department. Although the Bill had not passed, that scheme remained binding upon both of them, and he hoped when the Bill did pass that it would be carried into effect and prove really successful.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Manure for Bog Land.

Sir,—Will you or some of your readers say what is the most suitable artificial manure (to use on newly reclaimed partial bog land) for a potato crop? The land is to have a heavy dressing of lime in the autumn or early spring.—And oblige yours, A.

Considerable excitement prevailed on the Great Western Railway, between Garnant and Brynamman, South Wales, as the result of the down fast train being charged by a bull. In the impact, one of the coaches was thrown off the line and the engine slightly damaged, while the infuriated beast was cut to pieces. The passengers were greatly alarmed, but no one was injured. Another accident of a similar nature is reported to have occurred on Saturday near Resolven, South Wales, on the Great Western Railway, when a train dashed into some heifers which had strayed on to the line. One of the animals was killed. The train was promptly stopped, and it was found that the passengers had escaped unhurt.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Herefordshire.

We are suffering with the wave of heat, which appears to extend not only throughout Europe, but over a large area of the United States and other countries. So far as my memory serves me, it is quite unprecedented. Almost throughout May and June we were many days and nights shivering with cold, a fact which makes it the more trying to bear such an excessive heat. It has been

A Grand Time for Haymaking,

but the crops, with few exceptions, are extremely light. The same may be said of the corn crop—they are light in the straw and by no means bulky in the head. Live stock of the farm continue healthy where well cared for. We hear of some outbreaks of swine fever in distant counties, also of sheep scab in this, our border county, and we see no hope of the country being rendered free from it until

Compulsory Regulations

are enforced by a central authority. Both fat and store stock of prime quality sell at very satisfactory prices. The apple crop will not compare with last year, and pears are, as far as we know, a decided failure. The fly has been very troublesome with the roots, and, like the hops, they require a good fall of rain, or our position will be much worse than last year; a hot, burning St. Swithin induces the fear that it will be so.—E. F. (July 20th).

North Cornwall.

In consequence of the hot weather following heavy rains, farm crops generally have much improved, and with fine weather from now to harvest there will be heavy crops of corn and straw. Wheat is thick in the ground, and a good length; oats on well-farmed land look remarkably well, and promise abundance of grain and straw. Hay is a fair crop, and although the weather has been "catchy" for saving, I do not think much damage has been done. Mangolds are a good plant, and growing fast, but in consequence of the wet weather are very weedy and expensive to hoe. Swedes have been much punished by "the fly," but are a fair plant. Grass is very plentiful, and live stock of all kinds are doing well. Beef sells well at good prices, and there is a good demand for mutton and lamb at fair prices; good horses and pigs sell well. Wool is a wretched price, with but little demand. Winter oats are ripening fast, and some will be cut next week in this neighbourhood. Labour is scarce, and most of the corn in this district will be cut by the self-binding reaper.—R. S.O. (July 19th).

Shropshire.

Barometer lowering, sky darkening, thunders rolling, a breeze cooling. A double want:—Fine weather to carry hay, and soaking rain for parched land.—J. G. (July 20th).

West Derbyshire.

The weather has been very hot and forcing, but rather unsettled for the hay harvest. Mangolds and turnips are growing very fast and look promising. The wheat and oat crops will be some of

The Best We Have Had for Years.

Grass is very plentiful, so that young stock and sheep are growing well. Beef and mutton are fairly well sold. Dairy cows are milking well. Labour is very scarce and dear, and the harvest being a fortnight later than usual, makes it very awkward to keep up with the work.—C. C. M. (July 21st).

West Somerset.

I fancy we are experiencing a similar season to last year, not having had any ground rain since February. All cereal crops, say, wheat, barley, and oats, seem to stand it, and are looking well, but not a heavy burden of straw or corn. I should say 10 per cent. less than average. The hay harvest is about completed, and in most instances made well and an average crop, the weather more favourable after midsummer than the earlier part, stormy weather causing a little delay.

Root Crop Precarious.

Mangolds generally are a good plant and growing, but flag with the heat. The swedes and common turnips, sown on fallow land, are a plant and under the hoe, but the land after trifolium, etc., is too dry in its present state to get a plant or for a plant to live. Without a ground rain very shortly I look upon the root crop as being very precarious. The grass lands are becoming parched and burnt; the apple crop, although many are falling, bids to be a fair one. The live stock are healthy, but seek shelter from the sun and heat if it is possible to be found. We expect corn harvest to commence the first week in August.—A. B. (July 20th).

West Sussex.

Time of Cutting.

The present spell of hot, fine weather has made the end of the haying season much better than the beginning, and a fair crop has been secured in variable condition. There are signs of harvest now; winter oats will be cut the beginning of next week, and a few early pieces of wheat the week after on good land. Whea is well-headed on a short straw, but oats are a short crop. Mangolds, when put in early, look very well, and the roots are swelling fast. The late sheep fairs have been much duller than was expected.—(July 20th.)

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE. The at times tropical heat recently experienced has brought forward the date of harvest, and wheat-cutting has already started in the departments near the metropolis, and will soon spread northwards. In most districts straw is short, but oats are heavy, and average results are hoped for. Barley looks well in the west and indifferent to ordinary in other parts; the quality is expected to be good.

SPAIN.—The wheat harvest in Andalucia and Aragon leaves something to be desired. In Castilla la Nueva it is only a medium crop. In Murcia crop conditions are bad, while in Las Riojas the ripening of the wheat is delayed by the prevalence of cold weather. Barley is almost all cut throughout the peninsula, and the yield is generally good.

HOLLAND AND BELGIUM. General expectations are for a good harvest, although thunderstorms and hail have occasioned damage here and there.

GERMANY. There is a marked improvement in the appearance of the crops, and hopes of fair results are brighter than they were a month ago.

HUNGARY. Although harvest operations have been delayed for some days by the weather, no complaints of any importance are heard respecting the wheat yield in any direction. Rye is not turning out so indifferently as was at first apprehended; while in the Pest environs a yield quite equal to last year's is in prospect. Good accounts are heard of barley, though recent rains may have affected the colour.

ROUMANIA.—The weather has been usually hot, and the wheat is said to have suffered a little therefrom, but in some parts maize is urgently in need of rain. Rye cutting is over, and will yield a medium crop. The reaping of wheat is also well advanced. Barley and oats will give good yields.

RUSSIA.—Crop reports from the principal grain producing districts continue satisfactory, the yield of barley and rye proving large in south and south-eastern governments.

POLAND.—Harvest prospects are bad in the extreme. Farmers state that for forty years the crops have never offered so deplorable an aspect as at the present time.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says the rains are giving important relief to maize, and a full average crop or even better is indicated. Wheat indications are maintained, and it is possible that there will be a surplus exceeding any year's exports.—*Dornbusch.*

Harvest Prospects in Scotland.

The report on the prospects for the season on the whole must be a favourable one. In the complete list of farm crops there is not one in which any serious deficiency has as yet been incurred, nor is there any present ground for expecting a future failure. The cereal crops will probably yield rather less than an average in grain, but any deficiency in fodder will be made up by a corresponding excess in the produce of hay, and a full supply of fodder for stock in the coming winter is therefore assured. The success of the cabbage and early potato crops is already visible, and the prospects of the other root crops are excellent. So far as concerns the produce of farm crops, the closing year of the century is going to be one of uneventful character and of moderate prosperity.—*Glasgow Herald.*

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (July 16th).—Magnificent weather was experienced in most parts of England, and high summer temperatures occurred in the south-east of England. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, in Scotland and Ireland, but there was none in England except at a very few of the western stations. The barometer had risen in most parts of the country, and the readings were uniform and fairly high. The winds were mostly southerly and everywhere light. Sunday night was very warm, the temperature over a large portion of England not falling below sixty degrees. The weather was exceptionally hot in London, the thermometer in the suburbs registering ninety-three degrees in the shade, which is the highest reading in July for about twenty years, and is higher than in any summer since 1893.

TUESDAY (July 17th).—Fine and very bright weather was experienced again in most parts of England, but there was a good amount of cloud at the Scotch and Irish stations. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, in the north and west, and thunderstorms had occurred in several places The temperature had risen in the northern and eastern districts, but it was not so high as on the previous day in the south-east of England. The day was very fine in London, and in the sun's rays the weather was oppressive. In the shade the morning was about 12deg. cooler than on Monday, but in the afternoon the difference between the two days was only about 5deg. The highest temperature in London was 84deg.

WEDNESDAY (July 18th).—Brilliant weather was experienced over the greater part of England, but there was a good deal of cloud at the Scotch and Irish stations. Scarcely any rain has fallen since Tuesday morning, and in parts of Kent no rain has occurred during the last sixteen days. A shallow cyclonic disturbance was passing along our north-west coasts, and the barometer was falling slightly over the entire kingdom, although the readings were still fairly high. The winds were mostly south-westerly, and they had gained in strength on our north coasts. The day was again warm, especially inland and in the east of Great Britain. There was continuous bright sunshine in London throughout the day, and the temperature in the early afternoon registered 86deg. in the shade.

THURSDAY (July 19th).—The weather was again excessively warm in most parts of our islands, and in many places the thermometer registered a higher reading than on any previous occasion during the present summer. In Westminster the shade temperature registered 90deg., while in the southern suburbs of London the thermometer rose to 92deg., which is precisely the same reading as on Monday, when the temperature was most exceptionally high for a July reading. No rain was reported from any part of England, and there was very little in either Scotland or Ireland.

FRIDAY (July 20th). The heat was again very great in London, the thermometer registering between 90deg. and 92deg. In Westminster, as well as in the suburbs, the temperature rose about as high as at any time during the present bright warm spell. The air was very warm throughout Thursday night, the temperature scarcely falling below 66deg. in any part of England. Thunderstorms were again reported from several places in the west, and rain was measured in the morning at many places in the north and west, being the result of the fall during the preceding twenty-four hours. The winds were mostly from between east and north. The weather was very warm over the inland parts of England, but in many parts of the country the midday temperatures were below 70deg., and they were below 60deg. on the north-east coast of Scotland.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (July 21st and 22nd).—Rain occurred at several places in our islands on Saturday, but the amounts measured were generally small, and the weather on Sunday was mostly dry and fine again. The temperature continued high over England, but owing to the prevalence of cloud on Saturday the thermometer stood rather lower than of late, although in many places the readings were between seventy-five and eighty degrees. On Sunday the temperature was again rather higher, but readings above eighty degrees were exceptional. In London the highest temperature on Saturday was seventy-eight degrees, and on Sunday it registered eighty degrees. No appreciable amount of rain has fallen in London for nineteen days.

National Memorial to the Duke of Westminster.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales recently presided at Marlborough House over a numerously attended meeting of the general committee which has been formed to promote a national memorial to the late Duke of Westminster. It was explained by the Bishop of London that the movement for the memorial originated in a desire on the part of the various associations and institutions which the Duke had helped, and in which he had shown a personal interest, to put on permanent record their debt of gratitude. It was soon found that the scope of the Memorial Committee would have to be widened beyond the area of any particular societies. Personal friends of the Duke wished to join in the movement, and representatives of the various causes which he supported desired to be associated with the memorial, though not especially connected with any one society. A small executive committee had been appointed for the purpose of reporting on the site and form of the proposed memorial, and after careful consideration it was concluded that, as the Duke was Lord High Steward of Westminster, there was no place more fitting for a memorial of him than Westminster Abbey. After consultation with the Dean and Chapter, and with the concurrence of the Duchess, it was decided to recommend that the memorial should take the form of filling the Rose window in the south transept and the twelve lights below it with stained glass of a more satisfactory character and more harmonious colouring than that which is now there. It was proposed, with the concurrence of the Abbey authorities, that the work shall be executed under the general direction of Mr. Bodley, A.R.A. The cost of the work would be, it was estimated, not less than £3,000. A report embodying the above ideas was unanimously carried. The hon. secretaries will be glad to receive at 1, Great College Street, Westminster, S.W., further contributions in order that the work may be put in hand without delay.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.— Malt: There has been rather more doing during the past week Barley rather dearer. Wheat about 6d per qr cheaper. Oats unchanged. Maize in some cases made 3d per qr more money. Flour quiet, without alteration in price.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.— English wheat continues to come up in very restricted supply, and the little submitted is more on country markets than here, millers finding the former more remunerative. New wheat is expected up by about the end of the month. Fine white, 33s, and red of similar sample 32s, 63lb delivered. American descriptions depreciated in rate, with No. 1 hard Manitoba ruling nominal at 33s 6d ex ship. Consumers were indisposed to meet offers, even at a reduction of 6d per sack, but, with stocks and arrivals of American kept down, holders were not pressing. English patents, 26s to 27s; and roller, white, 23s to 24s; stone, 22s per sack. Town household, 28s 6d, and whites, 25s 6d per sack. Grinding barley unaltered, with Persian still in fair supply and furnishing wants.

Mark Lane, Friday.—New wheat is expected up by the end of the month, and cuttings have already commenced of rye and winter oats. Old home-grown wheat is now very scarce, with practically nothing submitted, either here or in the country markets. Fine white held for 33s, and red of similar sample 32s, 63lb delivered. Flour, only naturally, moves in conjunction with wheat, and again experienced an exceedingly poor following; but, although consumers were not forthcoming, sellers, on the other hand, were not anxious to treat, except at previous quotations, which, were, however, found difficult to sustain. Among feeding stuffs, grinding barley retains steadiness, and were it not for Persian, which is fairly plentiful at the moment, white supplying wants, the market would tend further against buyers. After declining fully 1s 6d on the week, flat maize ruled steady to-day, at the recession, round corn being lower.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade very quiet at last week's rates for all sorts of corn on offer, except, perhaps, flat maize, which was 6d dearer on the week.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Wheat in small supply and trade rather quiet at last week's prices, viz., 29s to 30s per quarter. All other articles unchanged.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (white), 30s to 31s per qr; wheat (red), 29s to 30s 6d per qr; beans (new), 30s to 32s beans (old), 20s to 21s per qr. Very small supply of wheat, which sells at barely last week's rates.

Barnsley, Wednesday.—There was only a moderate attendance. Wheat sold slowly at last week's rates, good samples making 12s per load of three bushels. Oats were disposed of at late quotations; white, 25s to 26s; black, 22s per qr. There was no change in other grain.

Bristol, Thursday.—The brilliant weather and the better crop report have tended to check business and make lower prices. English wheat at to-day's market was unaltered, samples being scarce. Foreign 6d to 1s lower. Grinding barley, round maize, and oats without change. Flat maize declined 9d. Flour—The continued hot weather prevents any disposition to buy.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been quiet, with little doing. At this market to-day there was a moderate supply of wheat, and prices were 6d cheaper. Wheat, red, 30s to 31s; and white up to 32s per 504lb.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A quiet trade. Maize tends easier. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 30s to 32s 6d; red ditto, 28s to 31s; grinding barley, 20s to 22s; white oats, 19s to 21s; ditto black, 19s to 21s; peas, 30s to 32s; tick beans 30s to 32s; mazagans, 28s to 29s; flat maize, 21s to 22s; round ditto, 26s to 27s per quarter.

Carlisle, Saturday. — Very small supply of oats in our market to-day owing to agricultural show being held here. There was a good demand at fully last week's prices, 22s to 23s 6d per 336lb. No wheat or barley shown.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There were few samples of English grain offering. Wheat was 1d per bushel lower on the week, but oats were firmer, and commanding an advance of 1d per bushel. Quotations:—Wheat, old, 4s 4d to 4s 5d per 75lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb; beans, new, 4s 10d to 5s; old, 5s 6d per 80lb; oats, new, 2s 8d to 2s 11d; old, 2s 10d to 3s per 46lb. Indian corn 10s 6d to 11s 6d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Thin attendance and very quiet market. Wheat was in small supply, and what business was done was at 1s per quarter advance on the week. Fair consumptive demand for feeding stuffs, which were mostly steady at late rates. Maize, however, was 6d down.

Colchester, Saturday.—Moderate supply. Wheat, steady trade at last week's prices. Beans and oats firm.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—With but moderate offers of grain business ruled very slack at a general decline in prices, being quite 3d to 6d lower on the week, and in some cases more. The decline in barley was scarcely to the same extent, and oats were in some cases 3d to 6d cheaper. Maize suffered the great decline, some kinds being back nearly 1s.

Gainsborough, Tuesday.—Very small show of wheat. White wheat, 30s to 31s; red, 29s to 30s; white oats, 20s to 22s; black, 18s to 20s; grinding barley, 23s; English beans, 30s; peas, 23s; small maize, 26s; flat maize, 23s per qr.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange. Owing to the holidays there has been practically no business passing in wheat and flour, and values are nominally unchanged. Indian corn meets a slow sale at a decline of 1½d to 3d per boll on the week. Canadian peas and grinding beans steady at late rates. Barley and home oats steady, but quiet. Foreign oats dull and the turn cheaper. Oatmeal dull. Bran and thirds quiet and unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Very small supply of wheat, and trade dull. The top prices for reds was 30s per 504lb. Oats dull. Maize rather firmer.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The weakness in America, combined with the brilliant weather, makes the trade very stagnant to-day. English wheat being scarce, is held for last week's rates. Foreign is nominally 3d to 6d per qr lower, business being extremely limited. Maize slightly easier. Beans and oats fairly steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—The demand for both English and foreign wheats continues of a quiet character, the further lowering of prices from Tuesday's quotations failing to induce any speculation on the part of buyers. Best English oats the turn dearer; foreign rather easier. Beans, peas, barley, maize and flour all firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday. — Fair attendance, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a slow sale at easier rates, prices ranging from 30s to 32s per 36 stones. Beans firm. Fine oats in good demand.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English wheat, Trade very flat at rather less money. Reds, 29s to 30s; whites, 30s to 31s. Foreign wheats also easier. Oats ruled firm, with little trade doing. Maize, peas and beans no change.

Liverpool, Friday. Wheat quiet with a small business at ½d to 1d under the prices of last Tuesday. Flour in very quiet demand. Home millers make no change from their recent quotation, but American brands are frequently 6d per sack lower than last Tuesday. Maize very quiet. Mixed American is 1½d per qr lower than last Tuesday, but met a fair demand at the easier rate. European quiet, but River Plate firm at full prices. Barley steady for brewing, and firm for grinding. Beans a moderate trade at late rates. Peas quiet, and occasionally ½d per cental lower. Oats very quiet for foreign, but steady for British, which are held at full prices. Oatmeal quiet, without change in prices. Oilcake quietly steady for ready parcels, but fairly brisk demand to arrive.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The continuance of intense heat causes persons to be listless as to business. Wheat transactions were few, but were firm at about last week's rates. In other grain a very small trade at about former rates.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat is 6d per qr lower, and foreign descriptions 2d per cental. Flour is 6d to 1s per sack down on the week. Oats and barley are unchanged. Peas and beans are rather firmer than last Thursday; actual prices are, however, unchanged. Indian corn is a little irregular, some quoting rather higher rates, whilst others will take less money.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a small show at last week's prices. Feeding corn firm at full prices.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at our market to-day steady at last week's prices. Maize quiet, but not quotably cheaper. Scotch oats firm, and 6d per 336lb dearer. Foreign quiet, prices steady. Peas and beans firm at late rates. Flour steady, prices unchanged.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — Small attendance at market to-day, the cause of which we put down to hay-making. Wheat and flour partially neglected, which means lower prices to sell. Feeding stuffs firm, with oats asking 6d per quarter advance for Scotch samples. Flat maize inclines cheaper.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—Wheat, owing to the fine weather, was 6d to 9d per quarter cheaper on the week; maize 3d cheaper, good demand; barley firm and unchanged; oats firm and dearer, good qualities being very scarce; beans without change; flour (fines), 24s per sack; offals very firm.

Northampton, Saturday.—Very small market, with a small show of wheat; demand indifferent, at about last week's prices. White and red wheat from 29s to 32s. Prospects of next crops good.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat in small supply, with prices somewhat against sellers. The weather during the week has been very warm. Early this morning we had a severe thunderstorm, lasting two or three hours. Wheat, red, 29s 6d to 31s per qr, weight 63lbs per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending 16th July, 1900:—Wheat, 2,138, 28s 9d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat trade about at a standstill, declining to operate; quotations unaltered. Oats and beans both sparingly represented, and both made full rates.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Very quiet market; small attendance, and little stuff offering. Farmers reluctant to sell at 1s lower price bid them, making 29s to 31s.

Peterborough, Saturday. — A week of hot forcing weather has had, as usual, effect upon the wheat trade; prices to-day gave way 6d to 1s from last Saturday. Spring corn firm, but quiet.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—To-day's market extremely dull, in sympathy with weather. Small attendance.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—Business here to-day proved extremely dull, the attendance being much smaller than usual. Wheat was in scanty supply, and experienced only a slow inquiry, the quotations being 6d per qr less than at last market. The demand for other sorts of corn varied but little from last week, and prices were practically the same.

St. Neots, Thursday.—The market was thinly attended, but there was a fair quantity of wheat on offer, for which the demand ruled quiet on about former terms, viz., 30s to 31s 504lbs.—ELGOOD AND SON.

Salisbury, Tuesday.—At the Corn Exchange to-day, wheat was in short supply, and sold slowly at 6d less on the week. Beans and oats were firm at late rates. Wheat, 28s to 22s; oats, 18s to 22s; beans, 32s to 36s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Owing to the farmers being busy with the hay there was only a moderate attendance, and a quiet trade. A particularly slow trade in wheat at last week's prices. Beans, oats, and small maize firm at full prices. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d; ditto red, 32s to 33s per 504lb; oats, new white, 22s to 23s; ditto new black, 18s to 19s; ditto old white, 22s to 23s; ditto old black, 19s to 21s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 28s to 29s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 31s 6d to 32s; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small, 26s to 27s 6d; ditto American mixed, 22s 6d to 23s per 480lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—The quantity of wheat offered on country markets has been extremely small, and former prices have been realised. Oats, peas, and beans have also been in short supply, and a limited business has been put through at unchanged rates. Flour has met with a dull trade at a reduction of 6d to 1s per sack. Milling offals have continued to move freely at steady prices.—W. L. BROWNE AND CO.

Spalding, Tuesday.—There was very little doing. Wheat was quoted at 29s to 30s per qr, a drop of 1s on the week. Oats were more inquired for, at 21s 6d to 22s, a rise of 3d to 6d per qr. Beans made 33s, an advance of 6d, and maize sold at the same price as last week.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were not many samples of farmers' wheat showing, and these made 30s per qr. The hot weather seems to have been too much for the foreign wheat trade, and very little business was passing, buyers holding off in the hope of lower prices. Oats and maize made last week's prices.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Wheat in moderate supply, which sold in sellers' favour. Little doing in spring corn. Arrivals coastwise: Oats, 168 qrs.; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Small attendance; very little offering. Wheat about the same prices as last week. Feeding stuffs little doing.

Wakefield, Friday.—There is an easier tone in wheats to-day, and in the business passing on our market, which is merely nominal, 6d per qr reduction is accepted. No alteration in feeding stuffs. — MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—American crop advices and market movements are so changeable and contradictory that the trade on this side is utterly puzzled. Our market is thinly attended and business almost suspended. English wheat maintains its value; foreign is 6d to 9d per qr lower on the week. Very little passing in maize, beans, or oats at late rates.—DUNNS AND CO.

Winchester, Saturday. Wheat in short supply, which met a slow trade at barely last week's prices. Barley unaltered. Maize 6d to 1s cheaper. Oats firm, with fair demand at late rates. Flour quiet at 25s to 26s.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO. LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Very little grain offering. Fresh thrashed samples of wheat sold at fully late rates. Red, 30s.; white, 31s. Oats, 20s to 24s. Beans, 30s to 33s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. Proceedings were of a holiday character. English wheat was 13s 6d per 216lb; oats, 13s to 14s; beans (new), 13s to 14s; beans (old), 14s 6d to 15s 6d per 186lb; flat maize, 21s 9d to 22s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday. — The corn crops have ripened rapidly during the week. There was a small attendance and slow trade to day, prices being generally easier. Wheat was 6d to 1s cheaper. Barley, maize, and oats all favoured buyers. Beans firm. Wheat: white, 28s to 29s; red, 26s to 28s per quarter.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance. Trade slow. Small show of grain. White wheat, 29s to 30s; red wheat, 28s to 29s; grinding barley, 26s to 28s; white oats, 21s to 23s; black ditto, 20s to 22s; flat maize, 23s 6d to 25s; round maize, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per qr.

York, Saturday.—With a small supply prices of wheat remain without change. The average prices of grain during the week, according to the official corn return, have been: Wheat, 28s 3d; barley, 23s 7d; and oats, 19s per quarter.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has ruled quiet, and prices have slightly fallen. The French harvest is being carried on under favourable conditions, and the yield is better than had been at one time hoped for. There is not expected to be any great amount of business passing in the French provincial markets until the new crop comes freely to hand. The Paris wheat market has been influenced by the weakness of American quotations; flour for consumption has been dull and weak in the French capital. The more favourable estimates now formed with respect to the French wheat crop are reflected in the fact that while two months since it was set down at barely 100,000,000 hectolitres it is now thought that it will amount to 110,000,000 hectolitres. Should this latter anticipation be realised, the crop of 1900 will nearly reach the average of the last ten years. Disposable wheat has shown scarcely any change at Dantzic; the Konigsberg wheat market has exhibited a quiet tone. A good current of business has been passing in wheat at Ibrail, but there has been less doing at Galatz. We further learn from Ibrail that the samples of new wheat thus brought forward have been of superior weight and quality. The quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is returned at 1,370,000 qrs. as compared with 1,360,000 qrs. at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,370,000 qrs. representing the quantity of wheat now en route for the Continent is made up as follows:— France, 95,000 qrs.; Belgium, 425,000 qrs.; Holland, 372,000 qrs.; Germany and the North, 240,000 qrs.; and Italy, Spain, etc., 238,000 qrs.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report: The fine sunny weather continues here, now and then interrupted by a thunderstorm, but this weather will surely suit our barley crop, which seems to become a very good one. Cutting in the Saale districts, Bohemia, and Moravia will now soon commence, whilst in Hungary harvest is in full swing, and samples are likely soon to appear.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday.—With forcing, hot weather and intermittent showers the growing crops are making satisfactory progress, but the yield will not reach that of last year. In sympathy with foreign markets prices here have a downward tendency, which is likely to continue if the weather keeps fine. The imports during the week amounted to 8,449 tons wheat, 4,968 tons rye, 2,487 tons barley, 20,768 tons maize. Fine German wheat, being scantily offered, is held at 29s 3d to 30s 6d per 504lb f.o.b. River Plate on the spot and to arrive is offering at 26s 6d to 27s 9d; Hard Winter, No. 2, old crop, at 27s 6d; new crop at 28s 6d per 480lb c.i.f., Hamburg. Rye quiet; 9 10-15 South Russian prompt is offering at 22s 9d; September-October, at 22s per 480lb c.i.f., Hamburg. A few parcels of good Bohemian barley are still offering on the spot at 28s 6d to 31s per 448lb f.o.b. The growing crops have a highly satisfactory appearance in the Saal district and in Bavaria, while reports from Bohemia, Moravia, and Hungary are rather conflicting; it seems as if the quantity will be less than last year, while quality still depends upon the weather during the next few weeks. In some districts there are complaints about drought; in others they have too much rain. It is yet too early to form an opinion about the probable results. Feeding barley is not much altered in value, 60-61 Ko. South Russian on the spot is held at 18s 9d, Sept.-Oct. shipments 17s 3d per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed maize met a better demand at the reduced rates, and closes firmer. July deliveries are selling at 19s, Aug.-Sept. are held at 19s 6d to 19s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. —JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

July 13 to 20, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	38,044 qrs.
Flour	44,250 „
Total	82,294 „
Requirements	106,000 „
Deficiency	23,706 „

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

July 13th to 20th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	415	..	..	37,629	38,044
Barley	1,698	..	..	14,652	16,350
Malt	25,657	445	..	..	26,012
Oats	825	100	..	90,000	90,925
Rye	..	..	..	..	..
Beans	281	..	..	700	981
Peas	40	..	..	2,000	2,040
Maize	..	..	..	38,524	38,524
Tares	..	..	..	115	115
Lentils	..	..	..	..	..
Linseed ..... cwt.	..	..	..	7,500	7,500
Rapeseed	..	..	..	..	..
Cottonseed ..tons	..	..	..	..	..
Farm Seeds ..qrs.	89	..	..	1,493	1,582
Flour { Barrels....	..	..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	20,669	..	..	38,270	58,939

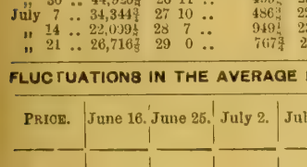
LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.				1899.			
Jan. 7	71,200	qrs.		Apr. 22	70,984	qrs.	
„ 14	108,380	„		„ 29	68,573	„	
„ 21	128,902	„		May 6	96,343	„	
„ 28	51,234	„		„ 13	72,852	„	
Feb. 4	126,333	„		„ 20	101,429	„	
„ 11	82,912	„		„ 27	108,772	„	
„ 18	204,974	„		June 3	73,946	„	
„ 25	108,273	„		„ 10	126,781	„	
Mar. 4	79,462	„		„ 17	160,574	„	
„ 11	63,103	„		„ 24	101,205	„	
„ 18	122,541	„		July 1	152,500	„	
„ 25	86,309	„		„ 8	112,761	„	
Apr. 1	174,612	„		„ 15	116,850	„	
„ 8	133,261	„		„ 22	89,245	„	
„ 15	101,518	„					
1900.				1900.			
Jan. 6	43,157	qrs.		Apr. 20	82,357	qrs.	
„ 13	95,084	„		„ 27	43,783	„	
„ 20	114,928	„		May 4	104,835	„	
„ 27	124,052	„		„ 11	52,859	„	
Feb. 3	70,835	„		„ 18	97,412	„	
„ 10	75,984	„		„ 25	71,390	„	
„ 17	66,804	„		„ 31	177,744	„	
„ 24	62,191	„		June 8	93,147	„	
Mar. 3	79,976	„		„ 15	88,125	„	
„ 10	63,702	„		„ 22	103,116	„	
„ 17	162,985	„		„ 29	142,185	„	
„ 24	111,409	„		July 6	132,950	„	
„ 31	69,356	„		„ 13	101,253	„	
April 7	48,302	„		„ 20	82,294	„	
„ 13	131,085	„					

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1899.									
July 22 ..	46,159½	25	5 ..	168⅞	21	10 ..	4,866⅔	18	0
,, 29 ..	41,692⅝	25	2 ..	257⅞	22	5 ..	4,240	18	2
Aug. 5 ..	51,149⅞	24	10 ..	246½	20	9 ..	6,645⅝	18	
,, 12 ..	37,177¼	24	8 ..	184½	22	6 ..	5,551⅝	17	9
,, 19 ..	33,399⅝	24	7 ..	437⅞	26	11 ..	6,120⅝	17	4
,, 26 ..	34,523¼	24	7 ..	1,594½	26	5 ..	9,205⅔	17	1
Sept. 2 ..	47,572⅜	25	0 ..	6,709⅝	25	10 ..	15,958⅔	16	7
,, 9 ..	67,996¼	25	5 ..	17,408¼	26	5 ..	16,195	16	6
,, 16 ..	80,281⅛	25	4 ..	33,143⅔	27	1 ..	19,291⅔	16	2
,, 23 ..	85,104¼	25	4 ..	77,678⅔	27	4 ..	22,128	16	1
,, 30 ..	79,612⅝	25	6 ..	97,917⅜	26	11 ..	23,193	16	5
Oct 7 ..	71,152⅝	26	0 ..	169,315¼	28	0 ..	21,440⅛	16	5
,, 14 ..	63,040⅜	27	3 ..	191,901⅜	27	9 ..	18,024⅛	16	5
,, 21 ..	64,242	28	2 ..	192,268⅛	27	6 ..	18,983⅛	16	10
,, 28 ..	85,178⅛	28	1 ..	219,77[illegible]			20,064⅛	16	3
Nov. 4 ..	82,769⅜	27	2 ..	203,071⅞	27	2 ..	17,895⅛	16	7
,, 11 ..	66,741⅜	26	7 ..	166,786⅞	26	9 ..	15,216⅝	16	5
,, 18 ..	65,470⅛	26	1 ..	163,915⅛	26	4 ..	16,313⅛	16	7
,, 25 ..	67,308⅛	25	8 ..	161,362⅞	26	2 ..	17,017⅛	16	7
Dec. 2 ..	72,974⅞	25	7 ..	163,441⅛	25	10 ..	22,575⅛	16	6
,, 9 ..	10,982½	25	7 ..	174,207	25	10 ..	21,421⅛	16	5
,, 16 ..	78,772½	25	4 ..	135,344⅜	25	7 ..	22,889⅛	16	1
,, 23 ..	67,102⅜	25	6 ..	116,757⅜	25	10 ..	16,447⅝	16	0
,, 30 ..	47,685½	25	9 ..	74,637⅜	25	5 ..	10,463⅜	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6 ..	40,086	25	9 ..	65,347½	25	7 ..	13,380⅜	16	2
,, 13 ..	57,021⅜	25	11 ..	83,421⅞	25	5 ..	19,703⅛	16	3
,, 20 ..	68,463⅜	26	0 ..	100,925⅛	25	8 ..	23,122⅜	16	2
,, 27 ..	65,381⅛	25	10 ..	108,357⅛	25	9 ..	17,814⅜	16	4
Feb. 3 ..	73,796⅜	25	8 ..	90,769⅛	25	4 ..	22,061⅛	16	6
,, 10 ..	71,482⅜	25	10 ..	80,543⅛	25	3 ..	20,822⅜	16	5
,, 17 ..	76,611⅜	26	1 ..	80,414⅜	24	11 ..	20,988⅛	16	8
,, 24 ..	69,534⅛	26	3 ..	63,931⅜	25	1 ..	21,132⅛	16	11
Mar. 3 ..	68,153⅜	26	4 ..	51,727⅛	24	6 ..	18,499⅛	16	10
,, 10 ..	58,703⅛	25	11 ..	44,921⅛	24	8 ..	16,224	16	11
,, 17 ..	76,435⅜	26	10 ..	46,053	24	6 ..	20,104⅞	16	11
,, 24 ..	69,044⅛	25	11 ..	38,147	25	0 ..	17,041⅜	17	1
,, 31 ..	72,762	25	10 ..	34,387⅛	24	11 ..	15,200⅛	17	0
April 7 ..	67,743⅜	25	10 ..	20,402⅝	24	10 ..	13,757⅛	17	2
,, 14 ..	66,412⅜	25	11 ..	19,519⅛	24	5 ..	9,672⅝	17	8
,, 21 ..	54,977⅜	26	0 ..	11,673⅜	24	9 ..	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28 ..	70,006⅜	26	0 ..	7,785⅜	25	2 ..	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5 ..	75,410⅜	25	11 ..	8,159⅛	25	3 ..	8,658⅛	18	0
,, 12 ..	82,190⅜	25	11 ..	10,417⅛	24	10 ..	12,245⅛	17	11
,, 19 ..	83,941⅜	25	7 ..	5,638⅜	24	5 ..	9,942	18	5
,, 26 ..	95,574⅜	25	5 ..	3,521⅛	23	11 ..	7,350⅜	18	2
June 2 ..	68,906⅜	25	5 ..	1,752⅜	24	4 ..	6,702	18	6
,, 9 ..	64,747⅛	25	3 ..	990⅜	23	8 ..	6,053⅜	18	8
,, 16 ..	55,340⅜	25	6 ..	1,486⅜	23	8 ..	7,228⅛	18	11
,, 23 ..	54,324⅛	25	9 ..	1,312⅛	23	5 ..	5,344⅛	18	11
,, 30 ..	44,920⅜	26	11 ..	495⅜	23	4 ..	4,706⅛	19	3
July 7 ..	34,344⅜	27	10 ..	486⅜	22	10 ..	4,391⅛	19	5
,, 14 ..	22,009⅛	28	7 ..	949⅛	23	2 ..	2,911⅞	19	1
,, 21 ..	26,716⅜	29	0 ..	767⅞	23	8 ..	3,771⅛	19	3

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890 ..	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891 ..	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892 ..	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893 ..	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894 ..	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895 ..	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896 ..	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897 ..	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898 ..	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899 ..	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(198 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900 Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January.....	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May.....	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	..	..	..
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	..	..	..
September ..	25 4	26 10	16 5	..	..	..
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November....	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended July 21st, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	26,716⅜ qrs.	29s. 0d.
Barley	767⅞ qrs.	23s. 8d.
Oats	3,771⅛ qrs.	19s. 3d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to July 21st, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

Years.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	21,298⅝ ..	24	0	437 ..	19	8	2,968⅝ ..	15	0
1897....	33,355⅞ ..	28	1	703⅝ ..	18	10	1,731⅜ ..	18	11
1898....	10,882½ ..	38	1	343⅝ ..	25	0	2,888⅛ ..	20	10
1899....	46,159½ ..	25	5	168⅞ ..	21	10	4,866⅔ ..	18	0

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 17th, 1900.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	149	2	210	0	0	1	8	1
Barley	382	1	471	14	3	1	4	8
Oats	795	6	789	18	4	0	19	10

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	143,000	155,000	444,000	66,000	123,000
Russia	193,000	—	21,000	46,000	237,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary ..	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	17,000	—	1,000	—	—
Argentina	159,000	5,000	109,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia ..	10,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ..	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	542,000	175,000	586,000	132,000	370,000

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICE CHANGES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1899.

	London Whites.	s.	d.	Town Households.	s.	d.
September 1.....	(per sack)	26	6	(per sack)	23	6
,, 4.....	,,	26	0	,,	23	0
,, 25.....	,,	26	6	,,	23	6
October 2.....	,,	27	0	,,	24	0
November 20.....	,,	26	6	,,	23	6
,, 27.....	,,	26	0	,,	23	0
December 11.....	,,	25	6	,,	22	6
,, 18.....	,,	26	0	,,	23	0
May 14.....	,,	25	6	,,	22	6
June 18.....	,,	26	0	,,	23	0
,, 20.....	,,	26	6	,,	23	6
,, 25.....	,,	28	6	,,	25	6
,, 27.....	,,	29	6	,,	26	6
July 2.....	,,	29	0	,,	26	0
,, 16.....	,,	23	6	,,	25	6
,, 23.....	,,	28	0	,,	25	0

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

		s.	d.
January 1, 1900	(per sack)	28	0
April 2,	,,	27	0
June 22,	,,	30	0
,, 27,	,,	31	0
July 4,	,,	30	0

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	..		21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	..		21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	..		22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	..		22	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov. ..	..		22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average }	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	26	6½	29	11
June ..	28	6	27	6	35	5	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July ..	..		27	5	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	..		27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	..		25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	..		24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	..		24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec. ..	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Av'rage }	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fair supplies were offered this morning, but the majority continue to arrive in bad condition. Quotations. Fowls : Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d ; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s ; Sussex, 2s 6d to 3s ; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d ; Welsh, 1s 9d to 2s 6d ; Surrey, 2s 9d to 3s 6d ; Irish, 1s 6d to 2s ; Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 6d to 3s ; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d ; goslings, 3s to 4s ; Egyptian quail, 10d to 1s 3d ; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s ; feathered ditto, 7d to 9d ; tame rabbits, 1s to 1s 3d each ; Australian, 6s to 7s 6d per dozen ; venison, haunches, 15s to 18s each ; forequarters, 4d per lb.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon : The demand is disappointing, and values on the spot, notwithstanding the firm trade advices from Chicago, are somewhat easier. Hams meet with a good inquiry at advancing prices, especially for light weights. Lard in steady request at the quotations. Beef dull and easier. Pork quiet at recent values. Cheese.—The market has ruled quiet all week. The consumptive demand is reduced, and dealers hold off, anticipating lower prices. We quote to-day, finest-coloured States and Canadians, 47s 6d to 48s 6d ; white, 47s to 48s ; medium qualities, full cream, sell fairly well from 40s to 46s, but lower grades are neglected.—HODGSON BROTHERS.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good supply and business was quiet. The quotations were :— Caerphillies, 40s to 45s per cwt ; fancy dairies, 46s to 49s ; doubles, 50s to —s; and truckles, 52s to 56s per cwt.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale : 1s 5d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough : 1s 1d per lb. Sheffield : 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Spalding : 1s to 1s 1d per lb.

Wednesday.—Market Drayton : Best, 11d to 1s 1d per lb ; seconds, 10d to 1s per lb. Uttoxeter : 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Barnsley : 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Colne : 1s 1d per lb. Goole : 1s 1d per lb. Keighley : 1s 1d per lb. Knaresborough : Wholesale, 1s 4d to 1s 6d ; retail, 1s 7d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz.

Thursday.—Brigg : 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Driffield : 11d per lb. Ripon : 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Scarborough : 1s per lb. Wetherby : 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Liverpool : Danish, finest, 112s to 114s ; secondary, 108s to 110s ; Irish creameries, 100s to 104s, secondaries ranging as low as 90s ; Irish factories, 90s to 94s. Dairies, 98s to 99s. Bristol : Prices a little easier, but the demand is not of a very enthusiastic character. Cardiff : The market is very firm, and merchants are asking 2s more than last week for Irish creameries. Best Danish is firm at 114s to 114s, unscented varieties are 2d less.

Friday : Altrincham : 1s 2d per lb. Crewe : 1s 2d per lb. Chester : 1s 2d per lb. Easingwold : 11d to 1s per lb. Helmsley : 11d to 1s per lb. Leeds : Danish, 108s to 114s per 112lb ; Irish creameries, 100s to 104s ; York : Irish, 1s 2d per stone ; ditto long rolls 1½lb, 1s 3d to 1s 6d ; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 11d per lb. Leyburn : 1s 1d per lb. Louth : Lincoln : 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Otley : 1s 2d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Manchester : Danish and Swedish, 108s to 110s per cwt ; Irish creameries, superfine, 98s to 104s. Birmingham : A good demand for choicest quality, of which market is cleared at last week's prices. Secondaries move slowly, and large stocks left over. Nearly all the Danish has advanced 1s on the week and is now quoted at 112s to 114s per cwt. Glasgow : More liberal imports of Danish, and market well cleared at former values. Irish creameries in good request and prices rather firmer. Irish factories in fair demand at former values. Leith : In spite of rather limited demand very little really choice keep. Danish and Swedish creameries remains unsold. Prices are nominally unchanged. Hull : No change in Danish, but other descriptions move slowly at former rates.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale : 13 to 14 for 1s. Gainsborough : 14 for 1s. Sheffield : 12 or 13 for 1s. Spalding : 15 or 16 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Market Drayton : Hen eggs 13 to 14 for 1s ; duck eggs 1s 3d per dozen ; turkey eggs 6 on : for 1s. Uttoxeter : 1s 3d to 1s 5d per score. Barnsley : 12 and 13 for 1s. Colne : 1s 5d per score. Goole : 15 for 1s. Keighley : 12 for 1s. Knaresborough : 13 or 14 for 1s.

Thursday.—Brigg : 16 to 17 for 1s. Driffield : 16 or 17 for 1s. Scarborough : 12 for 1s. Wetherby : 14 to 16 for 1s. Liverpool : Supplies are liberal and the demand good ; old values to retain per locally unchanged. Cardiff : Eggs are very firm, best Irish selected being from 1s to 1s 1d each, to 6s 6d ; Welsh, 7s to 7s 6d ; foreign eggs are 6d dearer.

Friday.—Crewe : 12 and 13 for 1s. Leamington : 14 and 16 for 1s. Helmsley : 15 or 16 for 1s. Leeds : York Pure 8s 9d to 9s 3d per 120 ; Irish, 7s to 7s 6d ; Danish, 6s 6d to 7s 2d ; Austrian, blues, 5s 6d to 6s ; ditto, reds, 4s 7d to 4s 10d. Leyburn : 14 for 1s. Lincoln : 15 for 1s. Otley : 14 to 15 for 1s. Manchester : The market has been dull, but prices are 2d to 3d higher. Birmingham : Good demand for best sorts, but cheaper kinds move slowly. Extra Normandy, 7s ; best French, 6s 8d ; Danish, 7s 3d to 8s 6d ; Irish, 7s to 8s 6d. Newcastle-on-Tyne : Danish are steady at 6s 9d to 7s 6d per 100. Glasgow : A rather poor demand. Quotations are steady. Irish, 5s 10d to 6s 6d ; Danish, 6s to 7s ; Russian, 4s 3d to 5s. 3d. Leith : Prime Danish fresh have sold well at 6s to 6s 8d per 120 for 16lbs. Hull : Owing to great heat eggs have been quiet, and prices are the same as last week.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Vegetables were in fair demand, and good supply. Good asparagus has ruled a good demand. Moderate arrivals of potatoes and onions. Cabbages, 3s to 4s per tally ; cauliflowers 4s per dozen ; beetroots, 5s per hamper ; peas, 2s to 3s 6d per bushel ; carrots, 4s ; turnips, 4s per dozen bunches ; horseradish 1s to 1s 6d per bundle ; English spring onions, 2s per dozen bunches ; Egyptian onions, 4s per bag ; Lisbon grapes, 9d to 2s 6d ; Belgian, 6d to 1s 3d per lb ; Tasmanian apples, 8s to 12s per case ; English cherries, 3s to 4s ; French, 4s to 8s ; red currants, 4s 6d to 6s ; black, 4s to 6s per half sieve ; strawberries, 3s to 6s per punnet ; peaches 6s to 8s per dozen ; Valencia oranges, 14s to 20s ; Messina, 12s to 16s ; lemons, 8s to 16s per case ; bananas, 4s 6d to 8s per bunch ; pineapples, 1s 6d to 4s each.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—Supplies moderate, with prices lower. English Kents, Prentice, 5s 6d to 6s ; ditto Beauty of Hebron, 5s to 6s ; ditto Somersets, 5s to 6s ; ditto Early Regents, 5s to 6s. French Reds, 4s to 5s per cwt.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There are many acres which do not look like growing any hops, but where the gardens have been repeatedly washed and well cultivated the vines are looping nicely. The hot weather of the past week has caused the growth of laterals very noticeably, but the yield is expected to prove a very late average in point of quantity.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade is quiet, and only two pockets of growers' hops passed the pickers' scales this week. There is no appreciable advance in values, although the plantation outlook points to a short crop. Where washing and cultivation have been thorough the bines are making good progress, but where neglected in any particular respect the plant is in a very critical state, and many stand to look like knocking up altogether.

Worcester, Saturday.—There has been very little doing in hops on our market, and not many pockets have been weighed at the pickers' scales this week. The bines are growing fine, but the pretty general complaint is that the plant still follows up the plant most persistently, and washing has to be carried on continuously. Prime YEO.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Trade in fertilisers and feeding stuffs is very quiet, and the following are the current quotations, which in some instances are purely nominal, in consequence of business passing. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. prime, [illegible] East India bone meal, in bags, £8 [illegible] Lancashire, prime 23 per cent. [illegible] Kainit, prime 25 per cent. [illegible] Sulphate of ammonia, [illegible] ton, basis of 24% per cent., in bags, £12 [illegible] bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 15s per ton ; ditto [illegible] bulk, £7 18s 9d to £8 5s per ton ; ditto, [illegible] in bags, £7 [illegible] Rape cake, N.A., decorticated quality [illegible] per ton. Linseed cake, [illegible] £6 17s 6d to £7 per ton ; ditto, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d per ton ; cottonseed cake, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Linseed meal, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Rapeseed meal, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Palm nut kernel cake, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Maize meal, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Locust beans, [illegible] £5 [illegible] per ton. Cocoanut cake, [illegible] £5 [illegible] per ton. Bean meal, [illegible] £5 [illegible] per ton. Bean flour, [illegible] £5 [illegible] per ton. Bran, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Middlings, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Pollard, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Maize, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Barley meal, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Oat meal, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Oat dust, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Beans, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Peas, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Locust beans, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Cocoanut cake, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Bean meal, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Bean flour, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Bran, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Middlings, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Pollard, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Maize, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Barley meal, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Oat meal, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Oat dust, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Beans, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton. Peas, [illegible] £4 [illegible] per ton.

Winsford (Cheshire), Saturday.—Current price [illegible] 35 to 36 sol., in bags ; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, [illegible] per ton.

THE STATIONERY PRINTING

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The heat wave which prevailed from the 10th to the 20th has now been modified by cooler currents, and the tropical characteristics, which had been forcing plant growth too rapidly for quality, have yielded to pleasant average summer weather. It is not yet known where a heat deficiency has been prevalent, for both the United States and Canada report extremely high temperatures. In France the mean temperature for the seven days ended Thursday, inclusive, was 77 deg., which, though nothing very excessive, is 7 deg. above the mean of fifty years. The Russian and German reports also announce hot weather. Harvest in England should now be fairly general by the 6th August, instead of the 13th, which was the date assumed a fortnight ago. The new wheat which has been shown at Toulouse, Bordeaux, and even as far north as Poitiers, is of good quality and fair weight. The European and English wheat crops should agree in attaining a full average strength in gluten and in a fair hardness of grain such as roller millers prefer. That the yield in bulk will be heavy nobody maintains, "nearly an average" is the opinion of all Europe west of the Vistula. Roumania, Bulgaria, and Turkey are the only countries giving over an average wheat crop this year; Russia and Poland expect a full average. The Russian harvests of recent years are stated to have been seriously overestimated, as the reserves are fifteen million qrs. less than they should in theory be. But there is another explanation which is worth consideration. The well-fed English and French farming classes do not eat more in a year of plenty than in a lean year, so that their total food wants may be reckoned at 73,000,000 qrs., and the yields being subtracted from that total, the imports needed are revealed. Can we say this of Russia? In a lean year a population of 120,000,000 manage to "hold the fort" on 40,000,000 qrs. of wheat, or 160lb. of wheat per *head*. But it seems to us a purely western idea to suppose that *therefore*, when 56,000,000 qrs. are grown there are 16,000,000 qrs. available for exportation. If, under the influence of prosperity, each Russian allowed himself 200lb. of wheat in the year instead of 160lb. the surplus named would be reduced to 6,000,000 qrs., a figure in accordance with actual exports. England eats 360lb. of wheat per *head*, France 510lb.; but Russia eats a large quantity of rye. The Russians, in fact, are great eaters, but they prefer quantity to quality. Their average yearly ration is believed to be 400lb. of rye and 160lb. of wheat, or 560lb. in all of cereals. But it is by no means unlikely that in a prosperous year the proportion of white bread eaten is increased by 20 to 25 per cent.

The British markets of the past week have been unable to stand up against the continued heat. At Manchester, where it is said to rain "if anywhere," Friday was a very wet day, but for the most part there was no break in absolutely torrid conditions before Saturday noon. The night temperature of Friday in London was 77 deg., but in the course of Saturday there was a fall to 71 deg. If the weather keeps at a fair summer heat, no more and no less, it will have the curious effect of simultaneously helping the crops and steadying the markets.

The heat from the 15th to the 20th was too forcing for proper development of the grain, yet it was treated by the Exchange as an invincible argument for lower prices. For one thing, great heat tells seriously against stocks of flour. The price of flour is quite 6d. lower at all markets. Wheat is too irregular for one quotation to be just. American sorts are 1s. down as a rule, and there is 6d. fall in Argentine, but Russian is steady for the most part, Chilian is scarce and dear, and English varies with local supply.

The prospect of a short yield of straw from all four cereals has made stores of 1898 and 1899 straw appreciate in value very notably; 3s. to 5s. a load rise on the fortnight may safely be quoted in wheat, rye, oats, and barley straws. Hay and clover are still rising in value, with a sustaining influence on feeding barley and pulse, but apparently little effect on maize or oats, both of which are to be bought at less money from the 16th. The fall in American maize is 9d. per qr., and there is 6d. fall in round corn. On oats and on yellow maize 3d. is the most that is at present conceded.

Corrected details of last October's maize crop show that there was a decidedly under average crop in Russia, Austria, Roumania, and Canada; but an over average yield in America, Spain, and Italy. In Hungary and France the yield was about an average. Owing mainly to the excellent American yield the world's production nearly reached 310,000,000 qrs. The large exports of 444,000 qrs. from America last month show that the surplus in that country is still considerable.

The sales of British wheat having been somewhat less than last season it will be seen that the moderation in buying foreign grain is emphasised. Value at our spot markets ought in fact to be firmer than it is. Last week's figures are:—

Wheat imports	293,000	qrs.
Flour "	126,000	"
Total "	419,000	"
English wheat	49,000	"
Total breadstuffs	468,000	"

Imports of breadstuffs since Sept. have been:—

Wheat	13,266,000	qrs.
Flour	6,172,000	"
Total	19,438,000	"
Last season	19,913,000	"

Stocks of foreign wheat in British ports on 21st July are the subject of the following return:—

1900	2,679,000	qrs.
1899	1,975,000	"
1898	1,100,000	"

The quantities of grain on passage to the United Kingdom at the present moment are not large enough to depress the markets for any staple.

The following are the quantities of wheat which were on passage to the U.K. on the 21st inst.:—

Russian	20,000	qrs.
Turkish	10,000	"
Californian	1,036,000	"
American	310,000	"
Argentine	490,000	"
Australasian	190,000	"
Total	2,056,000	"
July 21, 1899	2,540,000	"
" 1898	2,474,000	"
" 1897	810 000	"

The figures for 1897 were the smallest ever known. About 2¼ million is an average.

The quantities of other staples on passage thus compare with last year:—

	1900.		1899.
Flour	372,000 sacks	..	351,000 sacks
Maize	859,000 qrs.	..	762,000 qrs.
Barley	205,000 "	..	90,000 "
Beans	42 000 "	..	31,000 "
Linseed	170,000 "	..	149,000 "
Rapeseed	7,000 "	..	6,000 "
Cotton-seed	7,310 tons	..	2,750 tons

The imports of oats and peas into the U.K. have been up to a full average, but of barley very little is being imported, and the recent arrivals of maize have not been fully proportionate to the quantity on passage. The arrivals of linseed have been fair, those of other oilseeds small.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are generally 6d. lower on the week. Prices made include 30s. 3d. for arrived Australian, 30s. for Californian on passage, 31s. 9d. for Manitoba prompt shipment, 30s. 3d. for No. 1 Northern nearly due, 29s. for Odessa Ghurka on passage, 28s. 3d. for Argentine on passage, 28s. for Argentine August shipment, 31s. for Russian Azima new crop September shipment, and 29s. 3d. for American No. 2 Red Winter August shipment.

Maize cargoes are 1s. lower for American, owing to the colossal shipments. Other sorts are affected by the great American supply. Prices accepted include 18s. 9d. for American, 22s. for Caucasian, 22s. 3d. for Roumanian, 21s. for Argentine, and 23s. for Odessa. Barley is 3d. cheaper, 25s. 6d. accepted for Californian and 18s. 3d. for Azoff.

Oats are lower for American and Russian, but not for other kinds. American for August shipment are very cheap at 13s. 9d., and four or five cargoes have been placed thereat. The best Canadian at 15s. 6d. are also a good bargain.

Other cargo sales of the week embrace Canadian peas at 28s., Saida beans at 28s., Azoff rye at 23s. 3d., and Smyrna dari at 23s., all per qr.

A cargo of Calcutta linseed arrived on Friday sold for 55s.; one of brown Cawnpore rapeseed on passage made 41s. per qr.

Rice cargoes remain firm. Quotations for cargoes, new crop—open charter—are as follows:—Rangoon, 7s. 9d.; Bassein, 7s. 6d.; Saigon, 7s. Cleaned rice continues in good demand.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at Ports-of-Call have been six, as will be seen by the following table:—

Cargo.	Total.	Argentine Republic.	Cali. and Oregon.	Chili, Australia, and N.Z.	Total last week.	Total since Jan. 1, 1900.	Total same time 1899.
Wheat	6	2	3	1	15	209	180
Maize	—	—	—	—	—	6	3
Barley	—	—	—	—	—	32	6
Rye	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oats	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Beans	—	—	—	—	—	16	6
Linseed	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Rapeseed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cottonseed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Valonea	—	—	—	—	—	8	6
Sundries	—	—	—	—	1	10	4
Total	6	2	3	1	16	282	208

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market was weaker to-day for all sorts of wheat on spot, and for delivery within a week. The term market, which at the noon call was 1d. to 2d. per cental lower for futures, exercised a depressing influence, which, coming on top of better news from the corn fields, was not to be denied. Barley was dull at currencies. Heavy Russian oats were not more than 3d. lower on the week, but lighter sorts were 6d. down, and all American descriptions were pressed on sale at a full 6d. decline. There is 1s. rise in buckwheat, 27s. being asked for Canadian, and 29s. for French. Maize was commonly spoken of as "all to pieces," the further heavy shipments from America brought value down 1s. per qr. Pulse (including beans, peas and dari) was unchanged. New English trifolium is on offer at 27s. to 28s., new French at about the same price. French millet at 45s. has a moderate sale. Some Torrified barley finds a sale at 23s. per 336lbs.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

JULY 23, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	31	32
Red	"	29	31
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30	37
Brewing	"	25	30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	40
Scotch	"	36	38
Brown	"	29	32
OATS, English	"	19	23
Scotch	"	22	24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	19
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	25
BEANS, Pigeon	"	43	45
" Winter	"	30	34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	84
" Blue (boiling)	"	68	76
" Dun	"	32	34
" Maple	"	38	40

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	34	34/6
American Spring	33	33/6
" Winter	32	33
Hard Manitoba	33	33/6
White Canadian	33	33/3
Red "	32	32/6
Californian	32	33
Walla Walla	31	32
Australian	31	32
New Zealand	30	32
Argentine	30	31
Danzig	34	35
Saxonka	33	34
Azima	32	33
Ghirka	31	32
Persian	29	30
MAIZE, per 480lb.:		
Cinquantina	25	26
Roumanian	24	25
Russian	24	25
Caucasian	23	24
Argentine	22	23
American	20	20/6
OATS:		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	26
Canadian (320lb.)	16/6	17
American (320lb.)		
" White	16/6	17
" Mixed	15/3	16
Revel (320lb.)	16	17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	17
(304lb.)	13/6	15
Libau white (304lb.)	13	13/9
" black "	15	15/3
BEANS, per 480lb.:		
Konigsberg	28	29
Egyptian	29	30
Smyrna	28	29
Barbary	27	28
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Cyprian	106	112
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	30	31
Indian, White	28	30
" Green	25	27
Barbary	26	28
Dutch	41	43
LENTILS, per 504 lb.:		
Egyptian	29	31
Indian	36	38
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Syrian	25	26
Smyrna	26	27
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb.:		
French	28	29
Russian	25	26
BARLEY:		
Calif. Chev. (448 lb.)	28	29
Calif. Brew. (448 lb.)	27	28
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	24
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	22
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	22
Persian (400 lb.)	17/3	18
American (400 lb.)	20/3	21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	34	37
Smyrna	33	36

OIL SEEDS

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	55	to 56
Dutch	53	to 55
Argentine	52	to 54
Canadian	55	to 56
Russian	51	to 53
Calcutta	55	to 57
SESAME. per 424lb.		
Bombay	50	to 52
Kurrachee	53	to 54
COTTON SEED. per ton.		
Egyptian	126	to 128

RAPESEED. per 416lb	s.	s.
English	55	to 57
Dutch	52	to 54
French	47	to 48
Cawnpore (yellow)	46	to 47
" (brown)	43	to 44
Calcutta (brown)	43	to 44
Guzerat	48	to 49
Ferozepore	44	to 45
Ravison	30	to 31
POPPYSEED. per 377lb.		
Indian	47	to 48

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

The market closed weak for all sorts of wheat and maize. Oats were very slow, and rather weak. Barley also slow, but not weak, as there is a genuine scarcity of spot supply.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, JULY 23.

The flour trade was rather lower for London makes, but country sorts were simply dull at currencies. Made, as they are, from seasoned home wheat of the good 1899 crop, they should command favour. The finest American patents may be bought to-day for 25s. 6d., good buyers, and the secondary grades come at about 19s. 6d. for Gilt Edge, 20s. 3d. for Iron Duke, 19s. 6d. for Manhattan, and the same price for Improved Straight. The very best French flour, Renaux AA, etc., makes, 23s. 6d., but 21s. to 21s. 6d. is much more of a usual price. The finest bran from the country is quoted five guineas per ton.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	30
Town Whites	,,	27	—27/6
,, Households	,,	21	—24/6
No 2	,,	22	—22/6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	25 — 26
Fine Roller made	,,	24 — 25
Ordinary Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Best Stone made	,,	22 — 23
Ordinary Stone made	,,	21 — 22

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25 —25/6
,, Second Patents	,,	23—23/6
,, First Bakers'	,,	21—21/6
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20—20/3
Milwaukee Patents	,,	24 — 25
,, Bakers'	,,	21 — 22
Kansas Patents	,,	24 — 25
Oregon	,,	22 — 23
Californian	,,	21 — 22
Hungarian	,,	29 — 32
French	,,	20 — 22

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	170—172
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	107—109
Bran, London Broad	,,	97—102
,, ,, Fine	,,	76 — 82
,, Country Flake	,,	106—108
,, ,, Broad	,,	94 — 96
Pollard	,,	82 — 84
Fine Middlings	,,	110—112
Coarse Middlings	,,	96 — 98
Oat Meal	,,	212—272
Oat Flour	,,	337—362
Maize Flour	,,	130—132
Maize Meal	,,	112—122
Maize Cones	,,	142—146
Maize Germ Meal	,,	98—100
Pea Meal	,,	128—158
Bean Meal	,,	152—172
Rice Meal	,,	87 — 92

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day at South Sea House, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—	July.	Aug.	Oct.	Dec.
	s. d.	s. d.	s d.	s. d.
July 16 noon	6 7 .. 6 7	.. 6 8	.. 6 8	.. 6 9
4 p.m.	6 7 .. 6 7	.. 6 8	.. 6 8	.. 6 9
July 17 noon	6 7 .. 6 7	.. 6 8	.. 6 8	.. 6 9
4 p.m.	6 7 .. 6 7	.. 6 8	.. 6 8	.. 6 9
July 18 noon	6 6 .. 6 7	.. 6 8	.. 6 8	.. 6 9
4 p.m.	6 6 .. 6 7	.. 6 7	.. 6 7	.. 6 9
July 19 noon	6 6 .. 6 6	.. 6 7	.. 6 7	.. 6 8
4 p.m.	6 6 .. 6 6	.. 6 7	.. 6 7	.. 6 8
July 20 noon	6 6 .. 6 6	.. 6 7	.. 6 7	.. 6 8
4 p.m.	6 6 .. 6 6	.. 6 7	.. 6 7	.. 6 8
July 21 noon	6 6 .. 6 6	.. 6 7	.. 6 7	.. 6 8
To-day noon	6 5 .. 6 6	.. 6 8	.. 6 8	.. 6 9

Maize futures made 4s. 1d. for August delivery.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,669 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 9,683 bales bacon. The demand last week was rather better for Irish and Danish bacon, but Canadian was a shade quieter, prices ranging for Irish from 50s to 60s up to 68s; for Danish, from 44s to 58s up to 64s; and Canadian, from 48s to 52s up to 59s. The continued dry weather kept the butter market steady. Danish, from 100s to 112s; Irish, from 92s to 102s; French, 84s to 102s. The lard market was quiet with Irish from 43s to 54s; Danish, 44s; American, from 35s to 37s 6d.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Market very firm and inclined to go dearer. Cotton cake unchanged. Decorticated 2s 6d to 5s up. Linseed steady on spot, 1s lower forward.

English linseed cake	£7 17 6	to	8 2 6	ex mill
American Calcutta linseed cake	7 15 0	to	—	ex quay
American Western linseed cake	7 7 6	to	7 10 0	ex quay
Russian oil cake	7 12 6	to	7 15 0	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 p.c. oil)	None			ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	6 12 6	to	6 15 0	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6 10 0		—	ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	4 7 6	to	—	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4 5 0	to	4 7 6	ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4 6 3			on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4 5 0		—	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2 15 6	to	2 16 6	ex warehouse

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Arrivals of wheat and flour are small. A small demand at prices of last Monday for both articles. Maize is 1s. and 1s. 6d. lower for flat, and 6d. and 9d. for round quality. Barley and oats unchanged in value.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Flour: Trade to-day has been quiet, and prices are about the same as this day week.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

We have experienced during the past week a spell of heat which is in favour of an early harvest, and wheat-cutting in the south and south-east of England will commence at the end of this week and beginning of next provided the fine weather continues. The quantities of milling offals made in London appear to be rather small, and with a brisk demand higher prices are asked and given. This applies more particularly to fresh-made middlings on the spot, also to pollards, which are sold at an advance of about 2s. 6d. per ton since Monday last. Some millers, however, are careless about taking orders till previous sales have been executed. Bran is very firm at fully previous prices, and stocks are small. Rangoon rice meal on spot is offering at comparatively low rates, without attracting much attention, but should fetch buyers at 87s. 6d. per ton ex wharf or docks.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

American wheat finds a quiet demand at 6d. decline from last Monday. In other kinds there is practically no alteration in values. Maize is 1s. lower for American, 6d. for round descriptions. Barley 6d. down. Oats unchanged. Flour steady at last quotations. W. J. WOOD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Notwithstanding the warm and showery weather bran and offals are in a rather better consumptive demand. Prices a shade firmer. Supply and demand about equal.—GREENHILL BROTHERS, Belfast, July 21.

Flour: The market is quiet, and about 6d. per sack decline. To make sales in quantity, however, a further reduction would be required. Grain: The fall in corn reported this week from America has been 1s. 6d. per quarter. Fortunately the quantity on passage here is small, and spot price on that account has fallen only 4½d. Pease are 3d. easier. Beans quiet and unchanged. Oats continue depressed. Mill stuffs: There is no change in prices; the demand is fair.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, July 21.

Wheat quiet with a small business at ½d. to 1d. per cental under the prices of last Tuesday. Flour in very quiet demand. Home millers make no change from their recent quotation, but American brands are frequently 6d. per sack lower than last Tuesday. Maize very quiet. Mixed American is 1½d. per qr. lower than last Tuesday, but meets with a fair demand at the easier rate. European is quiet, but River Plate is firm at full prices. Barley steady for brewing and firm for grinding. Beans a moderate trade at late rates. Peas quiet and occasionally ½d. per cental lower. Oats very quiet for foreign, but steady for British, which are held at full prices. Oatmeal quiet without change in prices. Oilcake quietly steady for ready parcels, but fairly brisk demand to arrive.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, July 21.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

There is a fairly good demand for the cargoes of Oregon, Californian, and Australasian white and yellow wheat now on passage near at hand, but 30s. to 31s. is the range of offerings, and some holders still hope for a better price. The cargoes of No. 1 Northern and other American sorts of wheat are 1s. lower on the week. Cargoes of spring corn are a trifle firmer from Saturday, but both linseed and rapeseed cargoes are 3d. lower from the close of the 21st.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 31s, on passage (sailed in June); Californian, 30s, on passage (sailed in March); Walla Walla, 29s, on passage (sailed in June); Australian, 30s 3d, on passage (sailed in March); Australian 31s, just shipped; New Zealand, 30s, August shipment; Argentine, 28s, July shipment; No. 1 Northern, 30s, prompt shipment; Manitoba, 31s 6d, prompt shipment; No. 2 Red Winter, 29s., September shipment.

MAIZE.—American, 20s, arrived; ditto, 20s 3d, to be shipped on or before August 11; ditto, 18s 9d, August shipment (not a whole cargo); Argentine, 20s 3d, September shipment; Odessa, 23s 3d, prompt shipment; Roumanian, 22s 3d, prompt shipment.

BARLEY.—Taganrog, 20s, prompt shipment; Persian, 17s 3d, prompt shipment.

OATS.—Libau Chastenol, 14s 9d, prompt shipment.

BEANS.—Smyrna, 27s, September shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 53s 9d, September shipment.

RAPESEED.—Roumanian, 39s 3d, August shipment.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: The market continues firm, and consumptive orders keep coming to hand. Stocks are low, the 1899 crop being practically exhausted. The aphis attack is causing great anxiety, and only those gardens that have been washed many times have a chance to grow half an average crop.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, July 23rd, 1900.

	British.	Total, July 24th, 1899
Beasts	1,229	1,229 — 1,256
Sheep and lambs	5,290	5,290 — 9,390
Calves	10	10 — 5
Milch cows	70	70 — 50

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

	ENGLISH. Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	3 2 —	4 4 —	5 0
Sheep	3 0 —	5 4 —	6 0
Lambs	5 4 ..	5 8 ..	6 4

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, —; Eastern Counties, 125; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,044; Devon, 20; and Ireland, 31.

In the beast market there was a decrease of 27 head compared with Monday last, most of which arrived from the Midland Counties, with a few Irish and Runts. Trade was of a decidedly slower nature; with a reduction of fully 1d per 8lb, a clearance could not be made. Fat cows were in greater demand, and rates firmer; while fat bulls made less money. For the few rough cattle on offer there was very little demand.

The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	July 24th, 1899
Herefords	4s 10d to 5s 0d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Norfolks	4s 6d to 4s 7d	— —
Runts	4s 8d to 4s 9d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Irish	4s 2d to 4s 4d	— —
Fat cows	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

There was a decrease of 380 head in the number penned in the sheep market compared with Monday last, the supply including about 190 Scotch, 760 Irish, and 1,710 from the Eastern counties. Trade both for wethers and ewes was extremely dull at a decline of fully 2d per 8lbs for the former and 4d for the latter. Even at this a clearance could not be effected. Best quality lambs were steady in price with a ready sale for other grades. Trade was slow at late rates.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	July 24th, 1899
7½ to 8-stone Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-stone ditto	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10 stone half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
11-stone Lincoln	5s 0d to 5s 2d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10-stone Down ewes	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11-stone half-bred ditto	3s 8d to 3s 10d	— —
5-stone fat Grass lambs	6s 2d to 6s 4d	6s 0d to 6s 2d
6-stone half-bred ditto	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 4d to 5s 10d

London Central, Monday.—Moderate supplies; trade very slow. Beef (carcases), 3s 11d to 4s; hindquarters, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; roastings, 4s 8d to 5s. Sheep: Ewes 4s 8d to 4s, wether, 4s 10d to 5s 2d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wether, 5s 8d to 6s. Pigs: Large, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; small, 3s to 3s 4d.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 345; sheep and lambs, 2,681; pigs, 376; horses, 4. Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 7s to 9s 11d; lamb, 8s to 10s; pork, 5s 9d to 6s 9d. Fat and store cattle, sheep, and pigs not quite so good trade. Milch cows fair show and trade; prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 937. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 286, and consisted of 60 from the United States and 937 from Canada, both being below the late average in regard to quality, which alone prevents higher rates being quoted, as trade was certainly firmer, both in regard to tone and value, competition being sharp, with an early clearance. The best States beasts on offer made 4s 6d per 8lb to dress, 4s 6d per 8lb, offal given in, to dress about 720lb. Best Canadians (680lb), 4s 4d; Ranche ditto, 3s 10d to 4s. Sheep, 2,174, numbering 1,634 more than on Monday last, consisting entirely of Canadians, for which trade was very dull, and dragging sales being forced. Small sheep to dress about 64 lbs. made 4s; heavy ditto, 3s 8d per 8lbs. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts 1,856, 3s 8d to 4s per 8 lbs; sheep 2,520, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8 lbs.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that new trifolium is now offering freely, but at irregular prices; buyers meantime maintain an attitude of indifference. Samples of new trefoil cosh, are also coming to hand. There is a moderate inquiry for mustard and rapeseed, at steady quotations; and as regards tares stocks seem about exhausted. Canaryseed meets with increasing favour. Holders in view of the small and diminishing stocks, and the universally bad crop prospects, confidently anticipate a higher range of values. Hempseed is likewise a firm market. Blue peas and haricot beans find purchasers on former terms.

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Belfast, July 17, 1900.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.		Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
			£ s. d.	c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.
1	Bullock	(prime) ..	16 0 0	9 1 0	1 14 7
1	,,	,, ..	16 0 0	8 1 21	1 13 11
1	,,	,, ..	14 0 0	8 1 0	1 13 11
3	,,	,, ..	12 2 6	7 0 16	1 13 11
1	,,	,, ..	16 10 0	9 3 7	1 13 8
1	,,	,, ..	17 15 0	10 2 14	1 13 5
1	,,	,, ..	12 7 6	7 1 21	1 13 3
1	,,	(very good) ..	12 5 0	7 2 14	1 12 2
1	,,	,, ..	17 0 0	10 2 14	1 12 0
2	,,	,, ..	12 15 0	7 3 24	1 12 0
1	,,	,, ..	14 5 0	8 1 21	1 11 7
1	,,	(good) ..	10 11 10	7 0 7	1 10 0
1	Heifers	(prime) ..	14 3 0	8 1 17	1 13 11
1	Cow	(prime) ..	15 0 0	9 1 21	1 11 8

Mr. Walter Long, President of the Board of Agriculture, has informed the electors of the West Derby Ward, Liverpool, that he will not seek re-election. A meeting held on Friday night resolved to accept his decision.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

With a larger number of beasts on Monday, the majority of which consisted of consignmerts from the Midland counties, chiefly of Herefords and Lincoln Shorthorns, very few Runts as yet appearing, whilst Norfolks are gradually falling off, trade was practically confined to that day. Thursday's sales, being nominal, were of a fairly steady nature. Rates, however, inclined slightly in favour of the buyer. Fat butchering cows were in good request, mostly by country buyers, and were firmer in value. On the other hand, rough cattle from the south-western counties were difficult to cash, though the supply was small, this being due to so many being seized of late by the Islington Market's veterinary surgeon. Turning to the imports from abroad, I note a slight decrease. Trade, in consequence of the markets being held on off days, except one, was slow and rather disjointed; nevertheless, last week's quotations were upheld. The total number offered for sale on both markets was 3,498, consisting of 1,320 British and 2,178 foreign, these latter comprising 1,743 from the United States and 435 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—90-stone Herefords, 5s.; 100-stone ditto, 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 8d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 8d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 4d.; 95-stone Irish, 4s. 6d.; 100-stone fat cows, 4s.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d.; 90-stone States oxen, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.; 95-stone Canadians, 4s. 4d. The sheep trade generally was slower, only the very choicest Downs and halfbreds of neat, handy weights maintaining last week's rates, other descriptions, both wethers and ewes, selling at a decline of 2d. per 8lbs., a clearance on neither market day being made. Lambs were firm on Monday and unaltered in value, and on Thursday, short in number, were dearer by 2d. per 8lbs. The Deptford business is not worth noting, so few being put on sale, others being withheld on Wednesday and Saturday. The total number penned was 14,030, consisting of 13,490 British (increase 510) and 540 Canadians. Best pens made per 8lbs. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 6s. 2d.; 9-stone ditto, 6s.; 8-stone Scotch, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 6d.; 11-stone Lincolns, 5s. 4d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 6d.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 4s. 2d.; 5-stone fat grass lambs, 6s. 4d. to 6s. 6d.; 6-stone ditto, 6s. to 6s. 2d. In the calf market the supply was larger, numbering 140 head, trade for which, confined to Thursday, as most usually is the case, was slower, there being a slacker demand; rates must in consequence be written from 2d. to 4d. per 8lbs. lower, the best on offer making 5s. per 8lbs. (sinking the offal). The few pigs (sixty) on sale were, owing to the extreme heat, difficult to cash; best small breeds made only 3s. 8d. per 8lbs.

Trade in the West.

A considerable volume of business has been passing both in fat and store stock throughout the western district since our last report, and, though there has hardly been a continuance of the "boom" in the sheep to which we last week referred, still prices are being well maintained. Milch beasts are much stronger than they were, some of the best heifers selling at markets this week from £17 up to £22 apiece. Young barreners are also in very brisk demand. Pigs were affected somewhat in point of demand, but holders decline to accept less than 9s. 6d. to 10s. for best weights, despite the adverse weather conditions.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The supplies of fat cattle this week have been exceedingly short, and the quality fairly good. For best descriptions trade has been very brisk, and the extreme rates of the last few weeks quite maintained. Secondary cattle have been a little cheaper. Sheep and lambs have been offered in large numbers. With the South and London markets not so good, trade has been, except for the best class of shop sheep, rather stiffer. Ewes also made less money. Fat lambs, unless of the best quality, have sold at a shilling a head less money than last week. A large and exceedingly good show of calves sold slightly cheaper. A smaller number of pigs met a dearer market. In the store market there has been very little doing. Very small supplies of store sheep have met a fairly good demand at late rates. Only a small show of store cattle, and those of moderate quality, have been offered. Hardly any customers have been inquiring, and only some of the best lots have been sold, but these have made fair prices. A much smaller lot of milch cows met a dear trade. Quotations:—Top price best beef, 9s. to 9s. 3d.; current, 8s. 6d. to 8s. 9d. per stone. Mutton, 8¾d to 9½d per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies were on offer, but trade remains slow owing to the hot weather. Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 6d to 5s; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 10d to 4s; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s 4d: English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Supplies were on a good scale, but trade remains without alteration. Arrivals of beef included 60 tons Scotch, 800 Liverpool sides, 3,000 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations:— Beef: Scotch, short sides, 4s 8d to 5s; long, 4s 2d to 4s 6d (passenger train), 4s 4d to 4s 8d and 4s to 4s 4d (goods train); English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 10d to 4s; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; forequarters, (best), 2s 8d to 2s 10d; seconds, 2s 4d to 2s 6d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s to 5s 4d; English wethers, 5s; ewes, 3s 8d. Canterbury, 2s 8d to 3s; Wellington, 2s 7d to 2s 10d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 6d; English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—A fair demand was experienced, and trade ruled generally steady. Sheep supplies were of fair extent, but a quiet inquiry prevailed for both wethers and ewes, although rates remained without change. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 6s to 6s 2d; 9-stone, 5s 10d to 6s; 10-stone halfbred, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; 11-stone, 4s to 4s 4d. Lamb trade slow; 5-stone fat Downs, 6s to 6s 2d. Calves in heavy supply ruled slow, and prices easier. Top price 5s 4d per 8lb to sink the offal.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Good trade for beef up to 12s 6d per score for best small heifers and steers, and 11s to 12s for second quality. Mutton 2d per stone cheaper than last week, small Kent wethers making 5s to 5s 2d, and halfbreds 5s 2d to 5s 6d, with barrens at 3s 10d to 4s 2d. Veal very cheap, many calves selling at 4s per stone. Lambs met a fair demand at last week's figures, but pork was cheaper all round, small roasters making about 8s to 9s per score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' saleyard there was an average attendance of buyers, to meet a supply of 45 fat beasts, 88 calves, 356 fat sheep and lambs, 142 pigs, and 87 cattle, which realised:—Fat beasts, £14 15s to £22 10s; fat calves, 80s to £5 2s 6d; small, 20s to 60s; fat wethers, 37s to 57s; fat ewes, 34s to 46s 6d; fat lambs, 25s 6d to 47s; fat porkers, 24s to 45s; store pigs, 14s 6d to 22s 6d; dairy cows, £8 15s to £21. The extreme continued heat has an adverse effect on the trade for all kinds of farm live stock. There was less animation in the biddings for fat beasts, but a fair clearance was made, the best lots making nearly last week's figures. The supply included some good Shorthorn and polled beasts and useful Devons. Shorthorn steers made up to £20, heifers £22 10s, and cows £15; pure polled beasts realised £22 10s, and ¾ fat young Devons £17, etc. The short supplies of fat sheep and fat lambs were mostly cleared, the fancy lots making an advance, other grades maintaining last week's figures. Prime Hants Down wethers and ewes realised 46s 6d, 36s, 57s, 50s, 42s, 52s; 19-months old ditto, 42s, 53s, 47s 6d, 48s, 40s; 6-months old lambs, 34s, 33s 6d, 45s 6d, 47s, 46s, 34s; 2-months old sucking lambs, 29s 6d, 29s, 25s 6d; old ewes, 34s, 36s, 35s 6d, 37s; rams, 50s 6d; Dorset ewes, 36s, 34s 6d; Scotch black face wethers, 30s 6d. etc. A good trade was made for all freshly calved cows and heifers. Store cattle, owing to the dry weather, showed a decline in prices. Fat calves of neat weights met a fair trade, heavy sorts realising less money. Fat porkers, owing to the extreme heat, met a dull trade. Store pigs were cleared at late rates. Ruling values:—Best quality fat beasts, 7d to 7½d; second ditto 6½d to 7d; bulls, cows, and inferior ditto, 5½d to 6d. Best quality sheep and big lambs, 8½d to 9d; second ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 6d to 7d; 3-months old sucking lambs, 9d to 9½d. Fat calves, 6d to 8d per lb. Fat porkers, up to 9s per score.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under	9s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¼ in.	9s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2⅜ in.	8s 6d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 215; sheep, 705; pigs, 472; horses, 18. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 8d; pork, 5s 3d to 6s 3d. Very few store beasts to hand. Fat beasts, a good supply and trade slow at less money. Fat sheep, trade not so good as last week. Stores, very few shown. Fat pigs, a fair trade. Stores, a good number to hand and trade better.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Supplies were small and trade quiet. Some good-toothed ewes made from 31s to 32s, and broken-toothed sheep from 14s to 18s 6d. Several lots of lambs were offered, the best of which ranged up to 20s 6d. There were, however, a few very poor specimens, which sold at from 6s 0d to 10s per head. Very few horned stock offering.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish store cattle was affected by Bellingham Fair, only about 100 small heifers being shown. The attendance of buyers was also smaller, and trade was quiet at £7 10s to £10 10s. Young pigs were a very small show and were difficult to dispose of at 21s to 22s each.

Doncaster, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of cattle, and fair trade; prices from 7s 9d to 8s 6d per stone. Fair supply of sheep and good demand; ewes, 5d to 6d; shearlings, 7½d to 8½d; lambs, 9d to 10d; calves, 7d to 8d per lb, and good trade.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Despite the torrid weather there were good deliveries of stock, for which a good demand prevailed, both for fat and store things, at prices showing but little perceptible change from those of the previous market.

Dublin, Thursday.—A generally dull and dragging trade for all descriptions of cattle, and best qualities barely maintaining recent rates. Other sorts, which were too plentiful, were difficult to cash. In sheep department prices showed a downward tendency and buyers secured their requirements on better terms. Best lambs unaltered, other sorts more difficult to place. Cattle (best), 33s to 35s 6d per 7cwt; other descriptions, 28s to 32s per cwt. Mutton, 5¾d to 7¼d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Beef again in good demand. Best bullocks, 39s per live cwt; polled bullocks, to £19; polled heifers, to £14; horned bullocks, to £17; ditto heifers, to £16; Ayrshire cows, to £13; ditto heifers, to £13; Highland bullocks, to £17. Sheep maintained late rates; black-faced ewes, to 34s; tups, to 46s each.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Smallest market of the season, owing to holidays, and prices firm. Top hogs and wedders, 9d; secondary, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7d per lb. Top Scotch cattle, 68s per cwt current, but extra choice, 70s; secondary, 62s to 64s per cwt; Irish nominal. Dead meat quiet; values steady; best States beef, 5¾d to 5¾d; secondary, 5½d; cows, 5d to 5¼d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 377, calves 137, sheep 937, lambs 738, pigs (fat and sows) 9, sucking pigs 51, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 101, pigs (stores, more than ten) 17, colts 1. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 9½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robt. Bond and Sons report a shorter supply of fat cattle, the best of which realised rather more money; other descriptions sold without alteration, the best animals making up to £22 15s. The fat sheep pens were moderately filled, and prices ruled much the same as last week. Shearlings made up to 50s; ewes up to 53s. Fat lambs were in demand, the top price being 49s for Suffolks. In the store sheep department several lots of small lambs and ewes were penned; trade was dull at recent values. Several calves were forwarded, those of weaning continue dear, the best making from 58s to 38s. Fat calves slow and cheaper, from £5 10s to £3. A short supply of swine, which realised more money. Cows were in strong demand at very satisfactory prices. Roan cow in calf realised £23; polled cow in calf, £18 15s; shorthorn cow and calf, £17 5s; and polled cow, £14. A few lots of young grazing cattle were penned, the recent hot weather affecting the trade adversely. Numbers at sales and market:—Beasts, 491; sheep, 3,532; calves, 44; swine, 619; horses, 18.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair supplies of stock in good condition; trade slow and prices easier. Bullocks, £13 to £16 per head; milch cows, £15 to £20 each; young stock a slow trade.

Lincoln, Friday.—Poor show of milch and store beasts. Trade confined principally to milch beasts, which made from £16 to £20 each; two-and-a-half-year-old beasts, £13 to £14; drapes, £8 to £11; young beasts, £4 10s to £8. A few sheep, which sold at 30s to 38s each.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Fair business doing, prices well maintained. Numbers:—Cattle, 1,579; sheep and lambs, 7,984; calves, 61; pigs, 410. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s 6d to 5s 9d per stone; pork 5s to 7s 9d per stone; mutton, 6d to 9d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal 5d to 8d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—A bountiful supply, and there was a brisk business. The quotations were:—Best beef, 6¾d to 7d per lb; secondary, 6d to 6½d; best wether mutton, 8d; lamb, 8d; veal, 7d to 8d; and porker pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts here today was moderate. The quality was not very good in some cases, and trade was dull at former terms. Fat beasts, which were in moderate supply, were firm at 7s 9d to 8s and 8s 3d per 14lb. Store sheep and lambs were quoted at former terms; lambs made 16s to 22s per head; and keeping shearlings, 38s to 45s per head. Fat sheep, which were in moderate supply, were dull, at 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb.

St. Ives, Monday.—The number of stock entered at this market was:—Beasts 375, sheep and lambs 3,800, pigs 482, horses 2. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s 3d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d; lamb, 9d to 10d; pork, 6s to 6s 6d. Fat beasts good demand, stores slow, fat and store sheep fair trade; fat and store pigs better trade. Milch cows, fair prices, £13 to £22.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was smaller and trade better. A few choice animals made 7½d per lb., but the general top price was 7¼d. There was a large decrease in the number of sheep and lambs on offer. A better trade was experienced for both, and last week's quotations were repeated for choice quality. The demand for calves was slow, and prices lower. Quotations: Cattle, 5d to 7½d; sheep, 6½d to 9d; lambs, 8d to 9d; calves, 5d to 7d per lb. At market—Cattle, 1,276; sheep and lambs, 18,654; calves, 138; pigs, 42.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was a fair show of milch beasts, and the demand was very good. The best lot made from £19 to £23; others, £11 to £15.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Beef and cattle trade slower. Sheep and lambs and other stock fair with small supplies. Quotations—Lamb, 7d to 8½d; beef, 6d to 7¼d; mutton, 6d to 8d; and veal, 6½d to 8½d per lb. Porket pigs, 8s to 9s 6d; and bacons, 7s 6d to 9s per score. Cows, with calves, up to £19 2s 6d. Numbers offered—851 lambs, 460 cattle, 40 cows, with calves, 1,213 sheep, 75 calves, 19 fat, 94 porket, and 232 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A good show of fat cattle, but rates were about 3d down, best beef making 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone. A good show of saleable sheep, mutton making 8d per lb, the same as last week.

Taunton, Saturday.—Short supply. Small attendance. Very quiet trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—The market is getting larger every week, and the quality of the stock was first class. There was a numerous attendance of buyers, including some fresh faces from Reading, who were large purchasers. A clearance was effected with few exceptions. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 101, fat beasts and a few stores, 317 fat sheep and lambs and stores, 52 fat and weaning calves, 62 pigs. Fat bullocks made £17 to £21 12s 6d; fat heifers, £14 to £21 10s; fat wether sheep, 44s to 56s; fat ewes, 35s to 50s; fat lambs, 31s to 44s; store lambs 23s to 25s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £3 15s; cow calves, 26s to 60s; bull calves, 17s to 43s. Fat pigs 10s per score. Stores made late prices.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Slow trade for both beef and mutton, butchers hesitating to buy owing to the extreme heat. Best beef, 7d per lb and other sorts, 5d to 6¾d. Small sheep made 8d; rougher sorts 6d to 7¼d. Lincolnshire and Irish lambs, 9d per lb. Numbers penned:—Fat Beasts, 1,411; sheep, 4,761.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Good supply; bad trade all round. Beef, 6d to 7¼d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8d to 8½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb. Milch cows a fair supply; good trade and clearance. Bacon pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score; porkets, 9s 9d to 10s per score; sows, 7s 6d per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Good supply of cattle and sheep, but trade slow all round. Fat cattle made previous prices. Sheep and lambs scarcely so dear. Calves sold well. Pig trade dull and prices lower. Beef, 7d to 8d; inferior, 5d to 7d; wether mutton, 6d to 8d; ewes, 5d to 6d; and calves, 7d to 8d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very fair show. Beef made a good price; best, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per stone; inferior, 6s 6d to 7s 6d. Mutton showed an upward tendency; best shearlings, 7½d to 8½d per lb; ewes and other kinds, 6d to 7d.

York, Friday.—Calves, 8d; small sheep, 8½d; large, 8d; ewes, 7d; and lambs, 9d per lb; small pork pigs, 6s 3d; and large ditto, 5s 6d to 6s per stone.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—At the sale of United States and Canadian cattle held in the afternoon, there were penned in the sheds 261 cattle landed by the Orthia (s), from Baltimore; 250 by the Siberian (s), from Philadelphia; and 299 ex Hibernian (s), from Boston. The cattle, as regards quality, were fully up to the average, many of the bullocks being prime beasts in a well-finished condition. Bulls were also fully up to the average, and all showed well. There was a large attendance of buyers, both wholesale and retail being well represented, and business during the sale was of a slightly better character than that ruling last week. The dead-weight quotations were somewhat higher than those ruling last week, and may be given as follows:—Best States bullocks, 6s per cwt, and for really choice up to 6¼s; secondary and heavier, 5¾s; best bulls, 5¼s; secondary, 4¾s to 5s; best Canadian bullocks, 5¾s, and for really choice up to 6s; secondary, 5¾s to 5¾s; best Canadian bulls, to 5s; and secondary, 4¾s to 4¾s.

Yorkhill, Wednesday.—A sale of United States and Canadian cattle was held in the afternoon, when there were penned in the sheds 67 cattle landed by the Hibernian (s), from Boston, and which were held over from Monday's sale, and 355 on the Amarynthia (s), from Montreal. Bullocks as regards quality were up to the average, many of them being handy beasts very suitable for the requirements of the trade. Bulls showed well, and they were fully equal to those exposed at the

previous sale. There was a good attendance of buyers, both town and country, and trade was similar to that ruling at Monday's sale, but values showed no improvement on those then obtained. The dead-weight quotations may be given as follows:—Best States bullocks, 60s per cwt; and for really choice up to 62s; secondary and heavier, 58s; best bulls, to 54s; secondary, 52s; best Canadian bullocks, to 58s per cwt; and for really choice up to 60s; secondary and heavier, 56s; and bulls, 48s to 52s, according to quality and finish.

WOOL.

London, Monday.—The joint offerings of the two catalogues brought forward at auction this evening amounted to 11,013 bales, and comprised of 3,815 New South Wales and Queensland, 1,484 Victorian, 5,522 New Zealand, 141 Cape and Natal, and 50 Spanish. Competition, from an average attendance of buyers, was of a spirited character, and the recent level of currencies was fully maintained. New South Wales and Queensland scoured combing, marked F M over Dundee, sold 1s 6d; clothing, 1s 6d; scoured combing, S and S over B in diamond, 1s 7d. Queensland scoured combing, Nonda, 1s 3d to 1s 4½d; pieces of the same mark, 1s 1d to 1s 3½d; greasy combing, Condamine Pains, 10d to 11d; ditto Dillalah, 9½d to 10d. Victorian, greasy combing, R in diamond over Waraten and Bulie, 10½d to 11½d; greasy lambs, Naringel, 1s 0½d; ditto D E S Moramong, 1s; and greasy combing, Netallie, 7½d to 8d.

London, Tuesday.—At auction this evening three catalogues were brought forward, which jointly totalled 10,168 bales, and comprised the following: 2,923 New South Wales and Queensland, 776 Victorian, 508 South Australian, 1,062 Tasmanian, 3,248 New Zealand, 275 Cape, and 1,370 Punta Arenas. A full attendance of buyers was present, and competition was of a spirited character, the recent level of currencies being well maintained. New South Wales greasy combing, marked Willeroo, sold 9½d to 10½d; Queensland greasy combing, P W over Kikiamah, 9½d to 10½d; scoured combing, A P and Co. over Burbah, 1s 4d to 1s 5½d; clothing, 11d to 1s 3½d; combing, P W Kikiamah, 1s 3½d to 1s 7½d; combing, Rockwood, 1s 6d; clothing, 1s 5½d to 1s 6d; Victorian, greasy comeback, Moyne Falls, 11½d; crossbred, 8½d to 11½d; Tasmanian greasy combing, A in oblong, 10½d to 1s 1d; clothing, 10½d; pieces, 7d to 9½d.

London, Wednesday.—Three catalogues were offered this evening jointly amounting to 11,891, and comprised 2,500 New South Wales and Queensland, 1,688 Victorian, 45 West Australian, 1,459 Tasmanian, 1,873 New Zealand, and 1,319 Falkland Islands. A full attendance of buyers were present, and competition ruled very brisk for all desirable parcels, the recent improvement in currencies being well sustained. New South Wales greasy combing, hoggets of the mark D and B, over Noorindoo, sold 9d to 10½d; scoured combing of the same mark, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; clothing, 1s 4½d; pieces, 10d to 1s 4½d. Queensland greasy combing, W C over Warkon, 9d to 10d; hoggetts marked Isis Downs, 10d to 10½d; pieces, 10d; lambs, 10d to 10½d. Victorian, greasy combing, N.Z. and A. Land Co. over Bendure, 8d to 11d; broken, 7d to 8½d; combing, Ware over Diamond and Minjan, 10½d to 1s 0½d; lambs, 10d to 1s 0½d; combing, P S over Ellerslie, 10d to 11½d; pieces, 8d to 9d; scoured combing, Thackaringa, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; ditto Western, 1s 5½d to 1s 6½d; clothing, 1s 5d to 1s 5½d. New Zealand—greasy combing, W.O.R., 8½d to 10½d; clothing, 9½d; piecos, 8½d; scoured combing, W.S. over Lawdon, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; pieces, 1s 4d; bellies, 1s 4½d.

London, Thursday.—At public sale this evening the joint offerings of two catalogues amounted to 14,725 bales, and comprised 7,431 New South Wales and Queensland, 2,213 Victorian, 905 South Australian, 67 Tasmanian, 3,318 New Zealand, 722 Cape and Natal, and 69 River Plate. With a full attendance of buyers, competition was again of a spirited nature, resulting in the recent level of currencies being well maintained. New South Wales greasy combing of the mark, Nigall Creek over New England, sold at 11d to 1s; clothing, 11d; pieces, 9d to 9½d; combing, J. C. M. over Phillip Creek, 10½d to 11½d; clothing, 1s to 1s 1d; scoured hoggets, A Tobin and Sons over Wingadee, 1s 8d to 1s 8¾d; combing, 1s 8¾d; broken fleece, 1s 4½d to 1s 5d; bellies, 1s 2d; clothing A Tobins and Sons over Lila Springs, 1s 5¾d to 1s 6¾d; combing, 1s 6¾d; super marked Moorland, 1s 8¾d to 1s 10½d. Queensland—greasy combing, Mount Abundance, 9d to 9½d; pieces, 6½d to 8½d; scoured combing, Cassilis, over J.B., 1s 3½d; hoggets, 1s 3d to 1s 4½d. Victorian—greasy combing, Yallum, 9½d to 11d; clothing 9½d to 10d; lambs, 7½d to 10d; combing, O Cox over Grubben, 10d to 10½d; clothing, 9½d; scoured combing, Clyde, 1s 4d to 1s 10d; clothing, 1s 5¾d; lamb, 8¾d to 1s 4½d; South Australian greasy combing, D.T.N., 8d to 9d; pieces, 7½d to 8d.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per pack of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £7 10s; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb: Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7d to 1s 7¾d; scoured average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; South Australian, greasy average, 6d to 7d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 4½d to 1s 5½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; Cape scoured superior, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; fleece average, 8½d to 9½d; greasy average, 6¾d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 7¼d to 7¾d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 10½ to 1s; New Zealand fine, 9d to 10d; ditto medium, 7¾d to 8¼d; ditto coarse, 6d to 7d.

London, Friday.—The fourth series of public sales of Colonial wool for the current year, which commenced on the 3rd inst. terminated this evening. 144,000 bales have been catalogued during the above period, and the part sold included 2,000 bales for American account. On an average, prices are on a par to 5 to 10 per cent. under rates current at the close of last sales. This evening's catalogues amounted to 11,042 bales, and comprised the following:—5,027 New South Wales, 940 Victorian, 17 South Australian, 172 West Australian, 1,310 Tasmanian, 551 Cape and Natal. New South Wales—Greasy combing, marked Gunnee, sold 9½d to 11d; pieces 9½d; bellies, 7½d; combing, Burlurgate, 9½d to 1s; fleece, 8½d to 10½d. Queensland—Greasy combing, G F over Logan Downs, 9d to 9½d; broken 9½d; pieces, 7d to 8d; bellies 6¾d; scoured combing, Toorak, 1s 3½d to 1s 7d; clothing 1s 4½d to 1s 5½d; necks, 1s 3d to 1s 4½d; pieces, 1s 2½d to 1s 5d. Victorian—Greasy combing, W. M'C., 9½d to 11d. Tasmanian—Greasy combing, J. J. W., 10d to 1s 1d; pieces, 8½d; bellies, 7¾d; combing, T. W. H. C., 10½ to 1s 3½d; ditto J. G. over Bellevue, 10½d to 1s 3½d.

London, Friday.—The fourth series of London sales of Colonial wool, which commenced on the 3rd inst., closed today. The net total available amounted to 280,000 bales. Of these 130,000 bales have been sold, 78,000 bales for home consumption, 50,000 bales to the Continent, and 2,000 bales to America, leaving 158,000 bales to be carried forward to next series. The sales opened with a decline ranging for Australian merino wools from 10 per cent. on good descriptions, to 15 per cent. on inferior and wasty lots, and for crossbreds from 5 per cent. on coarse to 10 per cent. on fine qualities. On this basis small catalogues were sold during the first half of the series. An improvement then set in, consequent upon the curtailment of the series, and the withdrawal of a large portion of the available supplies. The Continent began to buy much more freely, and under the influence of this increased competition and the generally better tone, prices recovered on the average about 5 per cent. The improvement was very decided in coarse and medium crossbreds, which at the close sold fully up to the best May rates; but it was comparatively slight in fine qualities which are still 5 to 10 per cent. lower than last series. Among Australian merino wools good grease rose fully 5 per cent. in the latter part of the series, while with heavy sorts the recovery was less decided and thorough going. Scoured improved also 3 to 5 per cent., especially the better descriptions. Cape wools were throughout heavy of sale at 10 to 15 per cent. decline, and no recovery took place in their case. The committee of wool importers decided to drop the sixth series for this year, and to commence the fifth, and therefore last, series on Tuesday, the 9th October, the new gross arrivals being limited to 250,000 bales. Deducting the transit wools, but adding the old stock, the net total available will amount to about 350,000 bales. This will represent the entire supply the London market will offer during the next six months. The commencement of the first series in 1901 has been fixed for Tuesday, the 15th January, the list of arrivals to be closed on the 7th January. HELMUTH SCHWARTZE AND CO.

Bradford, Thursday.—There is again a better spirit at this market, and as to fine wools, the turn has certainly come to be against the buyer. Topmakers are taking up a stronger position, and most of them will only do business at a slight advance on last week's rates. Low crossbreds and English wools remain very cheap. Export yarn trade quiet. Piece merchants, with the finer weather, have had some accession of business.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Kent fleeces continue to sell freely at 6d per lb, while lamb wool is making from 4d to 5d. Downs are in request from 8d to 10d, and half-breds at from 6½d to 7½d. Locks, 2d to 3d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—The market is firm for spot seed at 55s 6d, but forward is quieter, and we quote July-August 54s 9d, August-September 54s 6d. Hull.—Linseed inactive, 56s nearest value spot and passage. Duluth, September-November 49s 6d. Azov, Black Sea, September-October 50s 3d asked. To the Continent, Bombay, March-May 47s 3d taken and sellers. Calcutta and Hamburg, June-July 56s, July-August 56s, August-September 56s sellers. The imports into London for the week have been 37 qrs, and since 1st January 370,502,, against 373,580 qrs corresponding time last year. Linseed cakes are firm. London made £7 17s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Russian, £7 7s 6d to £7 12s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £7 5s to £7 12s 6d. Cotton cakes also firm. London made £4 5s to £4 7s 6d. Rapeseed.—To the Continent brown Calcutta passage Antwerp 12s 6d sellers. Cottonseed.—Old crop to London there is a slow demand, but market is better forward, on passage £6 5s is asked, and for August shipment £6 7s 6d without finding buyers. November-January there are buyers at £6 2s 6d. Hull—Spot we quote £6 5s, July £6 5s, August £6 6s 3d, October £6 7s 6d nearest value, November-January £6 1s 3d. Cargoes, August could be bought at £6 10s, for October sellers are asking £6 11s 3d, November £6 7s 6d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: The demand during the past week has been less active, but with only small supplies of foreign values are fully as dear. Russians remain scarce on spot, and are only obtainable in limited quantities for shipment, while quotations are without change. Americans do not offer except in retail lots and are quite as dear. English are only in moderate request, but quotations remain unchanged. Cotton cakes.—Shipments have been on a more liberal scale, which meet a steady trade at prices somewhat in buyers' favour. Egyptian offer at rather less money, while English are unaltered. Decorticated.—The small quantity remaining on hand is firmly held at last week's prices. Rape cakes nominal. Maize germ meal.—American is scarce on spot, and quotations are steady, while there is a fair trade passing in English at the turn dearer. Rice meal.—Rangoon in warehouse sells quietly.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
LINSEED CAKES.							
London made ..... per ton ex mill	7	17	6	to	8	0	0
American in bags ..... ex dock	7	7	6	„	7	10	0
Russian in mats ..... „	7	10	0	„	7	12	6
Russian in bags ..... „	7	15	0	„	7	17	6
COTTONSEED CAKES.							
London made ..... ex mill	4	5	0	„	4	7	6
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4	3	9	„	4	6	3
„ „ Nov.-April shipment	4	10	0	„	—		
Decorticated ..... „	6	12	6	„	6	15	0
Meal, on spot	—			„	6	10	0
„ June-July	—			„	6	7	6
RAPE CAKES.							
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4	5	0	„	—		
Ravison ..... „	4	0	0	„	—		
MAIZE.							
Germ meal (American) ..... ex dock	4	18	9	„	5	0	0
Germ meal (American) ..... c.i.f.	4	17	6	„	4	18	9
„ (English) ..... ex mill	4	17	6	„	5	0	0
MANURES.							
Nitrate of soda ..... ex dock	—			„	8	0	0
Bone compound ..... per ton on rails	2	17	6	„	—		
RICE MEAL.							
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	4	5	0	„	4	7	6
Rangoon, July-August	—			„	4	1	3

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed.—The arrivals are 52 qrs from Konigsberg, 3,003 qrs Petersburg; total, 3,055 qrs. The market is steady, but only quiet. Calcutta, 56s paid seed afloat to Hull. Black Sea and Azof, business done at 50s to 50s 3d, which latter figure is to-day's value. Petersburg, July-August 52s to 52s 6d, September-October 51s to 51s 6d. Riga and Libau offers at 48s 9d, autumn shipment American Duluth, 49s 6d to 49s 9d October-November. River Plate, nothing at the moment offering. Cottonseed.—The tone of the market has been steadier during the week, but not much business transpired in old crop, which improved to £6 3s 9d spot and July loading, whereat still sellers and same taken August. New crop sold for November-January at up to £6 1s 3d, but is easier again and £5 18s 9d reported taken to-day; October quoted £6 2s 6d. Oils.—Export for the week ending July 10th, 1900.—Linseed oil: 16 Belgium, 2 Germany, 15 Holland, 6 Norway, 2 Sweden; total, 41 tons. Cotton oil: 19 Belgium, 9 Denmark, 84 Germany, 29 Holland, 9 Sweden; total, 220 tons. The market closes quiet. Linseed oil: 34s 7½d spot, 34s 3d month, 33s 9d July-August. Cotton oil: 23s spot, 22s 7½d month, 22s 6d July-August, 18s 6d November-April. Crude, 21s 6d spot, 21s 3d July-August, 17s 3d November-April. Rape oil: Black Sea naked, 26s spot, first quality naked, 27s spot. Oil seed cakes.—A quiet trade at previous rates. Hemp.—Market very firm and prices rising.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEELING CAKES, £6 12s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £5 17s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 15s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 7s 6d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Short supplies, trade ruled steady. Best clover, 85s to 100s; inferior ditto, 60s to 75s; specially picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 85s; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 87s 6d; and straw, 25s to 35s per load.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—With short supplies the market has been much better this week, and prices have all round advanced. We quote Canadian timothy and clover mixture, [illegible] 6d to 75s; old Dutch and French, [illegible] new ditto, 55s to 60s; ditto, 60s; large bale French wheat straw, 38s; small ditto, [illegible] 6d; small bale French, [illegible] 6d; and prices as per ton, delivered to wagon at our premises, Land Lane, Upper Thames Street, E.C.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

July.

24. Sale of Mr. Henry Dudding's Shorthorns and Lincoln Sheep, at Kirk Grange, [illegible].
24. Sale of Pedigree Hackneys, [illegible] Mr. J. Beckett, J.P., at The Grange Stud, [illegible].
24. Sale of Hampshire Down Ram Lambs and Ewes, the property of Lord Rothschild, at the Home Farm, Tring.
24 and 25. Staffordshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Stafford.
25. Montgomeryshire Farmers' Club's Show, at Llanfair.
25. Lismore Farmers' Society's Show, at Lismore.
25. Chesterfield and East Derbyshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Chesterfield.
25. Sale of Mr. W. Holmes' Hackney Ponies, at Beech Hill, Mansfield Notts.
25. Durham County Agricultural Society's Show, at the Racecourse, West Hartlepool.
25 and 26. Sussex County Agricultural Society's Show, at Preston Park, Brighton.
25 and 26. Glamorganshire General Agricultural Society's Show, at Bridgend.
25 and 26. Royal Isle of Wight Agricultural Society's Show, at Newport.
25, 26, and 27. North East Agricultural Association's Horse Show, at Belfast.
25, 26, and 27. Gloucestershire Agricultural Society's Show, at Gloucester.
26. The Breeders' Sixty-eighth annual sale of Shropshire Sheep, at Bingley Hall, Birmingham.
26. Launceston Agricultural Association's Show, at the Wadmill, Launceston.
26. Royal Northern Agricultural Society's Summer Show, at Aberdeen.
26. Bedfordshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Bedford.
26. Alresford (Hants) Sheep Fair.
26. Great Chesterfield Colt and Foal Show.
26. Wigton Agricultural Society's Show.
26. Wainfleet Foal Show.
26. Annual Letting of Cotswold Rams, held by Messrs. T. Brown and Sons, at Moreham Hall, Downham Market.
26, 27, and 28. Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's Show, at Rochdale.
27. South Durham and North Yorkshire Horse and Dog Show, at Darlington.
27. Sale of Southdown Sheep, at Cambridge.
27. Sale of the late Mr. H. Wyatt's Shorthorns, at Walton Grange, Aylesbury.
27. Weyhill Sheep Fair.
27. Driffield and East Riding Agricultural Society's Show.
27 and 28. Bradford Agricultural Society's Show.
28. Lauderdale Agricultural Society's Show, at Lauderdale.
28. Coquetdale Agricultural Society's, at Morpeth.
28. Crewe Estates Agricultural Society's Show.
30. Sale and Letting of Hampshire Down Rams and Ram Lambs, the property of Mr. R. W. Hudson, at Drinkfield, Marlow.
30. Sale of Mr. G. A. Paley's entire flock of Suffolk Sheep, at the Home Farm, Ampton.
31. Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society's Show, at Ely.
31. Sale and Letting of Mr. J. Dean's Hampshire Downs, at Marked Horse, Salisbury.
31. Sale of Shropshires, the property of Mr. A. E. Mansell, at Harrington Hall, Shifnal.

August.

1. Adlington (Cheshire) and District Agricultural Society's Show, at Adlington Park.
1. Bridlington Agricultural Society's Show.
1. Burton-on-Trent and District Horse Society's Show, at Burton-on-Trent.
1. Wadebridge District Agricultural Association's Show, at Wadebridge.
1. Sale of Mr. E. Ecroyd's Shorthorns, at Low House, Armathwaite, Carlisle.
1. Sale of Hackneys, the property of Mr. W. Lloyd, at Heaselands, Haywards Heath.
1. Sale of Suffolk Ewes and Ewe Lambs, at Gippeswyk Park, Ipswich.
1. Sale of Oxfordshire Down shearling Rams, belonging to Messrs. J. and S. Treadwell, at Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.
1. Ilsley Sheep Fair.
1. King's Lynn Horse and Foal Show.
2. Alford and District Horse and Foal Show.
2. Sale of Mr. C. E. E. Cooke's Shires and Hackneys, at Hinxton, Cambs.
2. Penrith Agricultural Society's Show.
2. Sale of Suffolk Rams, at Gippeswyk Park, Ipswich.
2. Vale of Conway Agricultural Society's Show, at Llanrwst.
2. Shrewsbury Sheep Show and Sale.
2. Letting of Long-woolled Rams, the property of Mr. T. Thornton, at Cavenham House, Wereham.
3. Cranswick Horse and Foal Show.
3. Lincoln Long-wool Sheep Breeders' Association's Sale of Rams at Lincoln.
3. Kintyre Agricultural Society's Show, at Campbeltown.
3. Sale of Suffolk Lambs and Ewes, at Sutton, near Melton Station.
3. Sale and Letting of Hampshire Down Ram Lambs and Rams, belonging to Mr. Clay Cross, at Wanstrow, Stoke.
3. Sale of Shropshires, belonging to Mr. J. Harding, at Norton House, Shifnal.
3. Sale and Letting of Hampshire Down Rams and Ram Lambs, the property of Mr. Lambert, at Chesterton.
3, 4, and 5. Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society's Show, at Birkenhead.
4. Lees Agricultural Society's Show.
4. Huddersfield and District Agricultural Society's Show, at Almondbury, near Huddersfield.
5. Torquay Shire Horse and Mare and Hunt Society's Show, at Rollestone Hall Grounds.
6. Stamford Horse Show.
6. Chepstow Agricultural Society's Show.
6. Chertsey Shire Horse and Hackney Society's Show.
6. Enfield Farmers' Club's Show, at Hadley Park, Sheffield.
6. Gainsborough Agricultural Society's Show, at Gainsborough.
6. Tyneside Agricultural Society's Show, at Hexham.
6. Bridgend Union Agricultural Society's Show, at Penyfai Park, Ewenny.
6. Waltham Cross and Three Counties Essex, Herts, and Middlesex Horse and Foal Society's Show.
6. Ludlow Agricultural Society's Show, at Linley Hall, Ludlow.
6. Whitney Agricultural Society's Show.
6. Brecon and Lydstep Point Society's Show, at Lydstep, Tenby.
6. Oxford and Gladstone Agricultural Association's Show.
6. Lutterworth and District Agricultural Society's Show.

LIVE STOCK.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

The United Counties Agricultural Society's fifth annual show will be held at the Ystrad Meadows, Carmarthen, on Thursday, August 30th. The prize schedule which has lately been issued is a very respectable one, but the majority of the classes are confined to the counties of Carmarthen, Pembroke, and Cardigan. There are, however, one or two open events, among them being one for Shire mares or fillies, the first prize for which is £15, and the second £5, and there is a challenge cup for the best mare suitable for agricultural purposes. In the cattle department there are two classes open to the world. A prize of £15, and a second of £5, will be given for the best Shorthorn bull not exceeding five years old, eligible for entry in Coates' Herd Book; whilst the Shorthorn Society's special of £10, also a second prize of £5, are offered for the best Shorthorn cow in milk, of any age, eligible for or entered in the Herd Book. The entries close on August 11th with the secretary, Mr. D. H. Thomas, 5, Quay Street, Carmarthen.

At a recent meeting of the Herefordshire County Council a resolution to the effect that the Board of Agriculture should enforce such regulations that the flocks of the county may be rendered free from sheep scab, was carried unanimously.

Amongst the agricultural shows in the provinces which have more than held their own must be included that of the Sussex Agricultural Society, whose fourteenth annual show will be held at Preston Park, Brighton, on July 25th and 26th. At Eastbourne last year's show basked in the smile of patronage of royalty, and although no such distinction will attend it this year the entries number more than those received on any previous occasion. The classes for Jersey cattle, in particular, have been strongly supported, and some splendid animals have been entered, while in the classes for agricultural horses, hunters, and hacks, and sheep, which have been liberally patronised, competition is expected to rule very keen. The fine band of the Royal Marines has been engaged, and jumping competitions will take place each day. The secretary to the show is Mr. F. Burfield Dyer, of 2, St. Andrew's Place, Lewes.

A good lot of Shires and Hackneys, owned, and for the most part bred, by Mr. C. Ed. E. Cooke, of Hinxton, Cambridgeshire, will be offered for unreserved sale on August 2nd, at Lordship Farm, Hinxton, the auctioneers being Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck. Mr. Cooke is so well known in connection with Hackneys that it is unnecessary to say more than that he is now selling all his stud with the exception of a few aged and barren mares. From those in the sale he has bred many winners and animals sold for very high prices. The foals are an exceptionally good lot, and the young stock are by sires of the highest class, and the mares are again well mated. As regards the Shires, Mr. Cooke has been getting together his present stud during his past ten years' residence at Hinxton Grange, principally making use of the services of sires at Elsenham, Waresley, and Stetchworth, and it was from the last-named stud that he purchased his stud horse Hinxton Albert by Potentate, out of a daughter of the great mare Princess Louisa. Hinxton Albert is a horse of great size with excellent feet and limbs, and, as might be expected from his breeding, a most impressive sire, the foals by him being very promising. All the Shire mares and fillies in the sale, three years old and over, are quiet and good workers, and have been worked on the farm.

Mr. Alexander C. Cope, the chief veterinary officer of the Board of Agriculture, has been unanimously elected president of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, the degree-granting body for the veterinary profession in the United Kingdom.

The annual sale of Mr. A. E. Mansell's pure-bred Shropshire sheep will take place on Tuesday, the 31st inst., when there will be offered a little over forty rams, including the first and second prize shearling rams at York Royal Show, and other prize winners. The Harrington Hall flock is very well known, it having been so successful in the showyard, and the animals catalogued will fully maintain Mr. Mansell's reputation as a successful breeder. The rams possess great size and constitution with a good bone and perfection in wool, and lean flesh. Mr. Mansell will also sell some store cattle, comprising over twenty well-bred two and three year old Hereford and cross-bred Hereford mottle-faced bullocks in nice condition, suitable for finishing on grass or carrying on for prime Christmas beef. The auctioneers will be Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co.

On Friday, August 3rd, the same auctioneers will conduct the annual sale of rams from Mr. John Harding's flock, at Norton House, Shifnal, Shropshire. The catalogue contains some twenty-five grand sheep, considered to be the most typical lot every offered by Mr. Harding. The rams include the two-shear ram, "Norton Adventure," 10449, winner of reserve number at the R.A.S.E., York; 2nd prize at the Herefordshire Show, at Leominster; the shearling ram Crested Grebe 10292, winner of third prize at the Leicestershire Show, 1898, and placed fifth at the R.A.S.E., York; and the highly commended pen of five shearling rams at the R.A.S.E., York. No shearling ewes will be offered at the present sale, as the entire lot has been sold for exportation to Canada and South America. The catalogue also comprises some practically pure-bred Hereford yearling steers, straight from the breeders in Herefordshire, four fresh Shorthorn bullocks, and one deep milking Shorthorn dairy cow, due to calve August 14th.

The prize schedule has just been issued for the annual show of the Cheshire Agricultural Society, which takes place at Congleton on Wednesday, August 29th, entries closing on August 8th, and post entries, at double fees, on August 15th. There are classes, mostly open only to residents in the county—for cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, and, of course, cheese. The class prizes are good ones, and there are several specials. The secretary is Mr. Thomas A. Beckett, St. Werburgh's Chambers, Chester.

The breeders' sixty-eighth great central sale of Shropshire rams and ewes will be held by Messrs. Lythall and Walters in Bingley Hall, Birmingham, on Thursday next, July 26th. £50 in prizes will be awarded in three classes, viz., for single shearling rams, five shearling rams, and thirty shearling ewes. An excellent selection will be offered, including several winners at the Shropshire and West Midland, Bath and West of England, Herefordshire, Oxfordshire, and Gloucestershire shows, and representing the well-known flocks of the Earl of Dartmouth, Captain Clive, Messrs. A. S. Berry, A. Bradburne, J. Brown, T. F. Cheatle, R. P. Cooper, D. Gibson, G. L. Foster-Harter, C. H. Jolliffe, E. Nock, H. C. C. Parker, F. W. Rudgard, H. Williams, M. Williams, etc.

There are few more pleasant places on our South Coast than the old-fashioned village of Aldingbourne, nestling as it does amongst the foothills of the Southdown Range, about midway between the crests of the Downs and the sea. Places of interest or of historical note abound on every side; Arundel Castle is but a short walk distant, Chichester Cathedral is clearly visible, while the timber crowned hills of Goodwood form a striking background to as fair an agricultural picture as any of our English counties can boast. Amid such surroundings as these an appropriate home is found for the wonderful flock of Southdown sheep which for nearly twenty years past has taken so many of the principal prizes in all the leading show yards; and the exhibits from which have so often formed one of the most distinctive features of the Southdown classes at the Royal, the Royal Counties, the Bath and West, and many other shows, as well as at Smithfield—perhaps after all the most reliable test of excellence of any.

On first seeing Mr. William Toop's flock at home, perhaps the most conspicuous feature is the extraordinary thickness, squareness, or "blockiness" of the sheep. No matter which age is taken, they are all alike wide, deep, thick through the heart, close to the ground, and with good legs of mutton. Another very noticeable point is the remarkable family likeness existing amongst the ewes; of course in every carefully bred flock or herd uniformity of type is expected; but something more than mere similarity is seen here, and upon making inquiry of the genial owner, it appears that all the ewes, with the exception of a few in the older ages, trace their descent in a more or less direct line from one ram, Waterbeach, No. 304, Vol. I., bred by his Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon. This ram won many prizes at the Royal, and other shows, and was never beaten during the whole of his career, being placed first wherever exhibited. He was a most impressive sire, and endowed his progeny with his own marvellous constitution in a most unusual degree.

This brings us to the most striking characteristic of Mr. Toop's flock, viz., the wonderful aptitude to make flesh and maintain condition on the most meagre fare evinced by the ewes of all ages. Last winter there were, practically speaking, no sound roots upon the farm. The ewe tegs could only be allowed their usual acreage to fold over, the deficiency of roots being made up by oat straw and water; yet such is their hardiness of constitution that a grander lot of shearlings does not exist than these same ewe tegs have now grown into. It is the same with the older ewes; after an almost entire failure of both roots and seeds, keep was so scarce at the time of the writer's visit (last week in June) that the ewes were actually being kept on thistles, obtained from a rough piece of land adjoining Mr. Toop's farm, a certain quantity being cut one day under the other to become withered; keep on which many a flock would actually starve, yet not one ounce of cake or other artificial food was being used, the shepherd saying that his chief difficulty—in view of the approaching sale, which takes place on August 7th—was not in getting them up, but in keeping them from becoming too good in condition, as being bred only from sheep specially selected for their feeding qualities, they could not be prevented from laying on flesh if allowed to obtain their fill of even the plainest fare.

Nearly all breeders of pedigree stock have some particular fancy or fad—one goes for size, another for quality, a third for colour, and so on. Not that they are blind to all other qualifications; but each regards that animal as the best which has that particular point most developed, which he himself favours, without being too short of other essentials. Others again are

satisfied with an animal which has no glaring defect; it need not have any striking characteristic on the one hand, but must be difficult to find fault with on the other; a kind of negative goodness. When Mr. Toop began breeding Southdowns he made up his mind to go further than this. Having had considerable experience in grazing stock, being fully alive to the difference between various animals of the same breed as regards feeding capacity, and power of converting their food into meat; and remembering the marvellous improvement which had been made in the quality, thrift, quickness of feeding, and earliness of maturity in other breeds, he determined, by careful selection, to develop to the utmost in the Southdown sheep that power and habit of quick feeding and early maturity which adds so enormously to the profit and value of all live stock.

The showyards of nearly every civilised country in the world have year after year borne eloquent testimony to the unparalleled success which has attended Mr. Toop's efforts. Pursuing the same system in breeding Southdowns which enabled the brothers Colling to so enormously improve Shorthorn cattle, and by means of which Bakewell practically evolved a new breed of Leicester sheep, his flock speedily became famous, and few men now living have done more for the improvement and popularity of any breed of stock, than has been done for the Southdown sheep by William Toop.

As there seems to be some misunderstanding in regard to the stabling of thoroughbred yearlings at the Royal Dublin Society's Horse Show I am asked to state these horses will be stabled in loose boxes inside the showyard. These boxes will, however, not be in the Paddock Hall as in former years. The boxes will, as usual, be available for stabling by day and night during the show.

The tenth annual sale of Southdown sheep at Cambridge, conducted by Messrs. John Thornton and Co., in conjunction with Messrs. Chalk, of Cambridge, will take place on Friday next, the 27th inst., in a meadow close to the railway station, the proceedings commencing at two o'clock. The catalogue comprises over 40 rams and 60 ewes from the flocks of eminent breeders, including the Earl of Ellesmere, Earl Cadogan, Colonel McCalmont, Mr. C. Adeane, Mr. George Courtauld, and Mr. Abel H. Smith.

At a meeting of the London County Council last week it was decided to urge the Board of Agriculture to take steps to prevent the spread of glanders among horses. During the past three years the Council had paid over £5,000 as compensation for horses slaughtered.

A correspondent of the *Standard*, who signs himself "Marcus," draws attention to a new form of cruelty to horses, namely, the obtaining of some powder from chemists which is rubbed on the corners of the mouth to create a sore, that the poor horse may give at once to the bit, whichever way the cruel driver chooses to drag him. He says: "One seems only able to act in cases of active cruelty, the sly hits of vicious drivers to their horses being generally disregarded by the public; but surely the fact I name is cruel enough to be strongly protested against by all lovers of animals."

On Wednesday in next week, Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck will dispose of a number of pedigree Hackneys belonging to Mr. Walter Lloyd, at Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex. The catalogue contains forty-three lots, a few animals from the studs of neighbouring breeders being included, amongst them being the famous mare, Lady Lofty II., the property of Mr. Ernald Mosley. The whole of Mr. Lloyd's animals will be sold without reserve. Mr. Lloyd has spared no expense in the service fees of the mares offered, and amongst other sires represented are Goldfinder VI., Polonius, Agility, Conquest II., Doctor Syntax, Champion Ganymede, Royal Dane, Lord Hamlet and the Heaselands Stud horse, Danegelt's Pride 5955, whose stock are coming out wonderfully well. Many of them are carefully broken to harness and to ride, amongst them some certain winners in the show-ring. The sale will commence immediately after a 12.30 luncheon.

I have received a copy of the programme of the North-East Agricultural Association's three-day Horse and Sheep Show, which takes place this week at Balmoral, Belfast, opening on Wednesday. The first day will be devoted entirely to the judging, but on the two other days there will be parades of stock, driving, and jumping competitions, etc. The showyard opens each day at 9 o'clock, and closes at 6 p.m. If fine weather prevails there should be a very good attendance of visitors for the Society has arranged a most attractive exhibition.

CATTLE.

Sale of Mr. W. H. Mullens' Kerry and Dexter Cattle.

On Friday, in a paddock opposite the entrance to the show ground at Tunbridge Wells, Messrs. John Thornton and Co. disposed of the herd of pure-bred Kerry cattle (including all the prize-winning animals) the property of Mr. W. H. Mullens, of Westfield Place, Battle, as well as some pure-bred Dexter cattle, the property of the Countess De La Warr. Mr. Mullens' herd was bred in Sussex from some of the best specimens obtainable from Ireland and from purchases made at Messrs. Robertson's and other first-class sales. Among the animals were nine prize-winners, including Empress, first at the Royal Counties and Tunbridge Wells Shows in 1896; Dahlia, first and champion at the Dairy Show in 1898; Vesta, first at Tunbridge Wells last year; Cowslip, first at the B.W.E. meeting at Cardiff in 1898; Gloria, first at the same Society's meeting last year; and Sirdar 47, first prize bull at Tunbridge Wells last season. Excluding seven calves, sold at from 10s. 6d. to £2 2s. per head, twenty-three of Mr. Mullens' twenty-four cows and heifers were sold, the prices ranging from 5½gs. to 16½gs., and the total being 246½gs. The purchasers were the Duchess of Newcastle, the Countess De la Warr, Mr. G. T. Barham, Mr. Foster, Mr. Gray, Mr. R. T. Robertson, Mr. Stent, and Mr. G. T. Tomkins. Mr. Foster also bought a bull for 7½gs., and Mr. R. T. Robertson bulls at 3½gs. and 4gs.

Four of the Countess De la Warr's were sold for from 11gs. to 25gs., the total being 69gs., and the purchasers Mr. R. T. Robertson (3) and Mr. H. M. Lloyd, while Mr. Robertson bought a bull for 9gs. and Mr. Mullens a cross-bred Dexter-Shorthorn bull for 7gs.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*]

Kinsale Fair, co. Cork, was held on 18th July. Small fair, cattle mostly thin. Calves, second class, £3 7s. 6d. to £4. Yearlings, second class, £6 to £7; third class, £4 to £5 2s. 6d. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 to £12; second class, £7 to £9; third class, £5 to £6 10s. Springers, second class, £11. Average-sized sheep fair; demand slow. Lambs, first class, £1 2s. to £1 4s.; second class, 17s. to £1. Hoggets, first class, £2; second class, £1 5s. to £1 10s.; third class, £1 1s. to £1 2s. 6d.

Roscommon Fair was held on the 19th inst. Three-year-old cattle in forward condition sold well. Second class one and two-year-olds unsaleable. Springers dear. Calves, first class, £3 10s. to £6; second class, £2 5s. to £4 10s. Yearlings, second class, £6 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £13 5s.; second class, £9 to £10 10s. Three-year-olds, first class, £14 5s. to £14 7s. 6d.; second class, £12 5s. to £13. Springers, first class, £17 15s. to £22; second class, £12 5s. to £14. Large supply of fat sheep and store lambs. Slow demand for lambs, many remaining unsold.—Lambs, first class, £1 6s. to £1 10s.; second class, £1 1s. to £1 4s. Hoggets, second class, £1 10s. to £1 14s. Two-year-olds, second class, £2 to £2 3s.

HORSES.

Sale at the Brookfield Stud.

The seventh annual sale of Mr. Burdett-Coutts's horses took place on Thursday at the stud farm in St. Alban's Road, at Highgate. Eighty harness horses in all were catalogued, but they did not attract that attention from buyers which is customary—a fact that was due more to its being the close instead of the commencement of the London season. Many of the earlier lots failed to find buyers at their reserves, but with Skirmisher and Scout, a well-matched pair of bays, coming to the hammer, there was some enthusiasm over a bid of 300gs. Yeoman and Hussar, two bays, made 220gs.; Blackberry and Mayflower, a pair of blacks, 180gs.; Peter Gordon, a brown gelding, 150gs.; Champs Elysees and Bois de Boulogne, bays, 325gs.; and Mrs. Cleveland and Lady Languish, a beautiful pair of chestnut mares, 460gs. In the aggregate forty-five lots produced 5,298gs., an average of 117½gs. per head, with which Mr. Burdett-Coutts seemed to be quite satisfied. Among the company were Lord Mostyn, Mr. C. J. Monk, M.P., Sir Walter Gilbey, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Capt. R. B. Barry, Capt. Quintin Dick, Mr. Horace St. G. Voules, Mr. W. B. Fernie.

	Gs.
Heir Presumptive, five years, b. g. ..... Mr. J. Vyner	170
Yeoman, five years, b. g., and Hussar, five years, b. g. ..... Mr. A. H. Lewis	220
Skirmisher, five years, b. g., and Scout, five years, b. g. ..... Mr. Keene	300
B. P., four years, br. g. ..... Mr. Sheather	270
Peter Gordon, five years, b. g. ..... Mr. A. H. Lewis	150
Champs Elysees, five years, b. g., and Bois de Boulogne, five years, b. g. ..... Mr. G. Wills	325
Gravitation, five years, br. m. ..... Mr. J. H. Gresham	120
Mrs. Cleveland, seven years, ch. m., and Lydia Languish, six years, ch. m. ..... Mr. T. Bates	460
Orion, six years, ch. g., and Saturn five years, ch. g. ..... Mr. C. D. Hodgson	210
Silver Bell, six years, ro. g., and Silver Tone, five years, ro. g. ..... Mr. G. Donaldson	410
Royal George, five years, b. g., and Royal Edward five years, b. g. ..... Mr. Armitage	200
Victorieuse, five years, b. m., and Arc de Triomphe, five years, b. g. ..... Viscount Helmsley	370
Good Start, five years, br. g. ..... Sir M. Samuel	100
Candid Cun, seven years, b. g., and Rising Sun, five years, b. g. ..... Sir M. Samuel	140
Blue Blood, six years, ro. g. ..... Mr. Vyner	150
Rouge Croix, five years, ch. g. ..... Mr. Vyner	170
Fortitude, five years, bl. g. ..... Sir M. Samuel	110
Fuse, five years, b. g., and Arquebus five years, b. g. ..... Mr. G. W. Barrett	210

SHEEP.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Horsham.

At Horsham July Lamb Fair, which was held on Wednesday, about 5,500 lambs were penned. This number, however, was not so large as in previous years. Among those who sent lambs were Lord Leconfield, Admiral Brand, and Messrs. E. M. Bethune, C. A. Bryant, Breach, Blackmore, Blackiston, Crow, D. S. Elliot, Harold Elliot, Godman, Grinsted, Graham, Golds, Gatley, Messrs. Harwood, Huxtable, Helme, D. Humphrey, John Kay, Lintott, Lee, Myram, J. Muggeridge, A. T. Morrin, Norman, Neale, J. Napper, Rice, Robinson, Smith, Stubbs, Spiers, Street, Striven, A. Stanford, J. T. Strong, Tomkins, Tupper, W. Thorn, and B. Weller. The weather was delightfully fine, and there was a good attendance. Business, however, was dull. There were some fine pens on offer by Lord Leconfield, and Mr. A. Lintott, of Guildford, bought 100 at 38s. 6d. and 80 at 38s. Another hundred were disposed of at 36s. to Mr. Pring, of Arundel. The other pens sent in contained some very good lambs, but the average was not so good as in previous years. The average price was about 38s. 6d.

Saffron Walden.

Mr. Cheffin held his twelfth annual lamb sale on the Common, Saffron Walden, on the 15th inst., when over 2,000 sheep and lambs were penned. The highest price made for lambs was 40s. for a pen of twenty-five Hampshire Down ewe lambs, from Mr. W. E. Duckworth, of Henham. These were bought by Mr. C. E. E. Cooke, of Hinxton Grange. The next, belonging to Mr. Duckworth, averaged 37s. 6d. each, and were all bought by Mr. George P. Piper. These lambs were excellent specimens of Hampshire Downs. Mr. W. Stide sent a good sort, his consignment of 120 averaging 33s., the top price being 37s. 6d. Mr. C. Ende's made up to 29s. 6d., Mr. Butterworth's up to 27s. 6d., Mr. W. Flack's 29s., Mr. R. J. Clayden's 31s. and 29s., Mr. Charles Clayden's 28s. to 33s. 6d., Mr. W. Spicer's 28s., Mrs. E. Smith's 27s., Mr. A. N. Myhill's up to 27s. 6d., Mr. W. Pallett's up to 29s., Mr. W. S. Norris's up to 29s. 6d., Mr. G. S. Scales's 33s. 6d., Mr. W. C. Emson's 24s., Mr. J. Burrell's half-breds from 26s. to 30s., Mr. T. Rush's up to 28s., Mr. F. Dennis's 27s. 6d., Mr. W. Smith's 28s., and Mr S. Hagger's from 28s. to 34s. Mr. James Wiseman's shearling Hampshire ewes made 49s. and 48s., Mr. A. Seabrook's shearling Suffolk ewes fetched 50s. and 49s. 6d., Mr. Q. H. Smith's shearling Hampshire ewes 46s. 6d., Mr. J. Middlehurst's ninety ewes made from 39s. to 49s. 6d., and various consignments of draft ewes were sold from 18s. to 32s. 6d.

Inverness.

The annual sheep and wool fair at Inverness took place on the 13th and 14th inst. The attendance of buyers and sellers and others was larger than it was last year, and in the fine, warm weather business was carried on pleasantly in the Station Square. It was slow and halting in the opening stages. Sellers were sure of a rise on last year's rates, they naturally wished to make as much of it as possible. Buyers were willing to concede some advance, but not to the extent proposed. Some of them had lost on their purchases at last year's market by having sold too soon. Those who waited until spring reaped a substantial profit. The upward tendency of prices for sheep and the splendid promise of a harvest with plenty of keep were pointed out to the more timid buyers, and when a start was made transactions were entered into with more readiness than had been the case for some years. It was found that the crop of lambs was pretty short in the Highlands, owing to the adverse circumstances of the early months of the year, and lambs sold more briskly than any other

class of stock. Wedders were also found to be in demand, and they sold well, like the lambs, at enhanced rates. Cheviot ewes found a good market, but blackfaced ewes did not come off so well, and cast ewes were taken at last year's rates. The average prices obtained, as compared with those of last year, were as follows:—Cheviot wedders, 1s. 6d. to 2s. up; blackfaced wedders, 1s. to 1s. 6d. up; Cheviot ewes, 1s. to 1s. 6d. up; blackfaced ewes, 1s. up; Cheviot and blackfaced lambs, 1s. to 1s. 6d. up.

Woolgrowers also expected a substantial rise in view of the increase of prices since last market. They did not get as much as they expected—and it could not be said they took an over-sanguine view of the somewhat gloomy situation—but the best clips of Cheviot wool from Sutherland registered a rise of from 6d to 1s. per stone of 24lb. over the prices of last year. Blackfaced clips had difficulty in finding a market at the old rates.

Salisbury.

Salisbury sheep fair was held in the Butts on Monday morning. The weather was exceedingly hot, and the attendance of buyers was somewhat smaller than usual. The number of sheep penned, however, was larger than in any previous year, numbering on this occasion about 24,000. The greater proportion of these were disposed of by auction. The sheep came to hand in excellent condition, and although trade was somewhat slow, it was stated in some quarters that prices were from 1s. to 2s. better than last year, and compared favourably with recent shows. The trade in ewes was slow, draft ewes fetching from 40s. to 45s. apiece, and making in some cases up to 50s. Two-teeth ewes made from 42s. to 52s., and wether lambs up to 40s. each.

The feature of the fair, however, is the department in which prizes are offered, and this year, owing to the exceptionally good quality of the animals shown, competition was exceedingly keen. The challenge cup, value 25gs., and a prize of 10gs. for the best pen of improved Hampshire Down ram lambs was won by Mr. Cary Coles, of Winterbourne Stoke, Mr. T. Palmer, of Berry Court, Wallop, running him a close second, with Earl Carnarvon third. In the other prize classes competition was very keen. The following were the prize winners:—

Class 1.—First prize of £5 for the best two-tooth Hampshire Down ram, Mr. J Flower, Chilmark; second prize of £3, for the second best ditto, Mr. T. F. Buxton, Ware, Herts.

Class 2.—First prize of £5 for the best Hampshire Down ram lamb, and second prize of £3 for the second best ditto, Mr J. Flower.

Class 3.—First prize of ten guineas for the best pen of improved Hampshire Down ram lambs, in the proportion of two to every one hundred ewes, kept and put to tup the previous year, and that not less than four nor more than eight lambs be exhibited from one flock, and a challenge cup, value twenty-five guineas, will in addition be handed to the winner of this prizes, the same, however, not to become his absolute property unless won at two consecutive fairs, Mr. Cary Coles, Winterbourne, Stoke; second prize of £5, for the second best pen of ditto on the same conditions as to the number of lambs to be exhibited, Mr. T. Palmer, Wallop; third prize of £3 for the third best pen of ditto, on the same conditions as to the number of lambs to be exhibited, Earl Carnarvon

Class 4.—Prize of £5 for the best pen of eighty wether lambs, bred by exhibitor, from any flock not exceeding 400 breeding ewes, or of 100 lambs from any flock exceeding that number, Mr. Quint Cole, Amesbury.

Class 5.—Prize of £5 for the best pen of eighty breeding ewes good on tooth, and having been at least six months in the possession of the exhibitor, from any flock not exceeding 400 breeding ewes, or 100 from any flock exceeding that number, Mr. A. F. T. Drake, Dogdean.

Class 6.—Prize of £5, for the best pen of 100 Hampshire Down two-teeth ewes, the same having been in the possession of the exhibitor for a period of at least three calendar months prior to the date of the fair, Mr. Quint Cole

Class 7.—Prize of £5, for the best pen of ten ewe lambs, the same having been bred by the exhibitor, Mr. T. F. Buxton

Class 8.—Prize of £3 for the best pen of 100 South or Hampshire Down wether sheep, Mr. F. Rawlins, Ablington.

Class 9.—£5 prize to the largest penner, Mr. F. Rawlins.

Class 10.—£5 to the largest purchaser of sheep from the actual penners, Mr. W. T. Stubbs, Alresford.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence held their usual great sale by auction in the fair ground, the entry comprising upwards of 11,500 head, and although the best current prices of the fair were obtained, and about the same as last year, trade was slow, and a total clearance impossible, owners holding about 1,100 of the above entry unsold. Regular draft ewes made from 35s. to 47s.; draft ewes, 31s. to 36s.; two-teeth ewes, 35s. to 54s.; wether lambs, 26s. to 43s.; ewe lambs, 25s. 6d. to 32s.; mixed lambs, 22s. to 32s.

Overton.

In common with sheep fairs in different parts of the country the Overton Sheep and Lamb Fair, held on Wednesday, suffered to some extent in comparison with previous years in the number of sheep penned. The prices on the whole ruled about the same as last year, and there was no doubt that the recent dry weather has had its effect upon the sale and purchase of sheep. The number penned this year showed a falling off as compared with twelve months ago of about 2,000 sheep, and trade generally, either in the hands of the auctioneers or the dealers, could not be considered brisk. Altogether nearly 20,000 sheep were penned, the greater part of which were disposed of under the auctioneer's hammer, Messrs. James Harris and Sons, of Winchester, knocking down nearly 8,000, and Messrs. F. Ellen and Son, of Andover, some 2,500. The principal business was done in lambs, ewes being somewhat at a discount. Messrs. Frank and Sidney Rawlins were the highest penners outside the auction sales, and in that department also prices were rather below those obtained at Salisbury. Messrs. Harris and Sons were unable to command for the prize winning sheep nearly so high a figure as last year, Mr. Judd's 100 first prize draft ewes being knocked down at 44s. 6d., whereas twelve months ago 49s. was refused. It is not that the quality is not up to the average, but simply a general depression in the trade. Buyers from the Midlands and North were present in the usual strength, but they did not appear over anxious, and it is said that the lack of feed in those districts produced more than ordinary caution. For lambs the highest price obtained was for the 100 first prize wether lambs belonging to Mrs. Drake, of New Down, which fetched 48s. 6d. each—above last year—while the third prize wether lambs of Mr. Allen, of Popham, ran up to 43s. 6d., and the second prize lot, sent from Sir Richard Rycroft, brought 44s. each. The highest price for regular draft ewes was 47s., which was paid for 100 from the registered flock of Mr. H. Harris, of Steventon, while from Lord Ashburton's Chilton farm a similar number fetched 46s., the Northington Farm lot selling at 44s. 6d.; and a lot from Mr. T. A. Houghton, of Armsworth, at 45s. The lowest price for draft ewes was 27s. 6d. Two-tooth ewes ranged from 37s. to 53s. 6d., the latter price being given for twenty from Mr. George Judd; this was beyond the price obtained last year. Outside the show pens lambs showed a slight improvement on last year, the lowest price being 24s. 6d., as against 20s. a year ago, and for wether lambs from various registered flocks so high a price as 38s. 6d. was paid. Various prizes were again offered, and the judges were Mr. J. Stratton (Chilcomb), Mr. George Blake (Amesbury), and Mr. W. Cannon (Basingstoke). The following is a list of their awards:—

Class 1.—A piece of plate, value ten guineas, for the best pen of wether lambs, from a flock of any number, bred and fed by the exhibitor. The pen to be taken in the proportion of 10 in every 50 ewes kept by the exhibitor, but to consist of not less than 50 nor more than 100 lambs. The breeding flock to consist of not less than one-fourth two-tooth ewes: Mrs. Drake, New Down.

A piece of plate, value £5, for the second best as above: Sir R Rycroft, Bart., Kempshott Park.

A piece of plate, value three guineas, for the third best as above: Mr. W. Allen, Popham.

Class 2.—A cup, value ten guineas, for the best pen of full-mouthed ewes for breeding purposes, and bona fide for sale, the whole of which shall have been fed by the exhibitor from the 10th November, 1899. The pen to consist of not less than 50 nor more than 100, taken in the proportion of 10 in every 50 ewes kept by the exhibitor. The judges to have full power to determine the age. The breeding flock to consist of not less than one-fourth two-tooth ewes: Mr. George Judd, Cosham.

A piece of plate, value £5, for the second best: Mrs Drake.

A piece of plate of the value of three guineas, for the third best pen of ewes: Mr. George Judd

Class 3.—A piece of plate, value £5, for the best 100 two-tooth ewes: Mr. Frank Rawlins, Figheldean, Salisbury.

A piece of plate, value three guineas, for the second best: Mr Frank Rawlins.

Class 4.—A piece of plate, value £5, for the best pen of ram lambs of any breed. The pen to consist of not less than four nor more than eight, taken in proportion of two in every 100 ewes kept by the exhibitor; such ram lambs to have been bred by exhibitor: Mr. T Palmer, Berry Court, Wallop.

A piece of plate, value three guineas, for the second best pen of ram lambs: The Earl of Carnarvon, Highclere.

Oban.

The annual wool and sheep fair at Oban was held on Wednesday. There was about the usual attendance of south country dealers, but farmers were fewer than in preceding years. The general tone of the market was slack, and few transactions were effected till far on in the day. The trade in wool was exceedingly poor, and hardly any business was done. The average price in all classes was from 7s. 6d. to 8s. per stone, being about from 6d. to 8d. per stone down from last year. The demand for lambs was brisker, being 1s. and 1s. 6d. a head up from last year. Cross lambs sold at £17 clad score, and at 10s. to 16s. per head. Wedders were 1s. up, and in the case of good stock 2s. Two-year and three-year-olds sold at £24 per clad score, and 18s. to 23s. a head. Ewes were also up from 1s. to 1s. 6d. a head, the quotations ranging from 16s. to 18s.

Mr. Lyne's Hampshire Down Flock.

In consequence of Mr. Edward Lyne having decided to give up ram breeding, his old-established registered Hampshire Down flock was dispersed by auction on the farm at Compton, near Winchester, on Thursday by Messrs. Waters and Rawlence. A good business company assembled, most of the leading Hampshire Down flockmasters being represented, and before the sale commenced an excellent lunch was partaken of, the party sitting down in one of the large barns under the presidency of Mr. James Stratton. Mr. Rawlence, in a few words before the bidding was started, said he was sure intending purchasers must have satisfied themselves as to the condition of both the ram lambs and the ewes.

The sale commenced with eighty ram lambs of excellent quality and presented in the best of form; no extreme prices were realised for these, but an average of 8gs. was obtained, Mr. H. Warner (Faringdon) buying at 20gs., 17gs., 16gs., 11gs., 9gs., etc.; Mr Silvester at 20gs.; Mr. Homer at 21gs. and 18gs.; Mr. Matthews at 11gs. and 9½gs.; Mr. Lunn (for Lord Ashburton) at 13gs. and 12½gs.; Mr. Mitchell (for Mr. J. Bonham-Carter) at 17gs. Nine shearling rams fetched from 5gs. to 21gs., average 9gs., Mr. Homer buying at 21gs., and Mr. Goldsmith at 14gs. The 147 two-tooth ewes sold at an average of 58s., Mr. James Flower (Chilmark) taking the highest priced pen at 142s. 6d. each; Mr. Matthews buying at 76s., Mr. W. C. Young at 72s., Mr. Homer at 70s., etc. One hundred and fifty four-tooth ewes averaged 60s. 6d., Mr. Flower, amidst applause, buying at 150s., Mr. Matthews at 76s., Mr. Buxton at 68s., Sir Herewal dWake at 68s. and 60s., Mr. Falconer at 61s., Mr. Way at 61s., Mr. Preece at 62s., etc. Eighty six-tooth ewes averaged 55s., Mr. Matthews buying at 84s., Mr. W. C. Young at 74s., etc. Seventy full-mouthed ewes averaged 47s. 6d., Mr. Matthews buying at 60s., Mr. Goldsmith at 53s. The 150 ewe lambs, which were much admired for their beautiful type and quality, averaged 50s., Mr. Cary Coles buying at 82s., 70s., 66s., and 60s., Mr. Hall (for Lord Carnarvon at 70s. This concluded what was generally considered a very successful sale under the present prices of sheep generally. By an unfortunate coincidence Mr. Lynes's most valuable shep died on its back a few days before the sale.

Devon Longwool Ram.

(Property of Mr. F. White, Torweston, Williton. First prize at the Bath and West.)

Saxmundham.

Messrs. Flick and Son's thirty-third annual lamb sale at Saxmundham took place on Friday, when about seven thousand registered Suffolk and other breeds of lambs and sheep were sold. Trade opened a bit languidly, bidding being distinctly slow for the opening score or two lots, but there was more movement as the sale advanced, and, speaking generally, prices may be written down as about the same which prevailed at the last lamb sale in the district, that at Sutton a week previously. The details which are appended will sufficiently indicate the respective values of the various consignments:—

Registered Suffolk Flocks. Mr. R. Flick, Heathen Farm, 50 ewe lambs, 29s. and 30s.; 60 wether lambs, 28s. to 31s. 6d.; Mr. J. G. Hurrell, Tunstall, 100 ewe lambs, 32s. (cap 36s.

34s. 6d.); Mr. C. S. Sherwood, Hoo Hall, 50 ewe 35s. 6d., 100 wether 29s. 6d.; Mr. J. J. Creasey, Sibton, 20 ewe 34s., 50 wether nearly 29s., 20 shearling ewes 54s. 6d., 16 2 and 3-shear ewes 46s. 6d.; Captain Price, Carlton Hall, 60 ewe lambs 36s. 10d. top 40, 40s.), 60 wether 27s. 10d.; Mr. A. Chambers, Middleton, 50 ewe 42s. 6d. (top 25, 48s.), 20 wether 34s., 15 26s.; Mr. J. R. Grimsey, Dunwich, 150 ewe 32s. to 21s., 230 wether 30s. 6d. to 24s., 16 shearling ewes 50s. 6d., 20 full-mouthed 27s., 20 crones 21s.; Messrs. Miles and Chambers, Sweffling Hall (the entire flock), 80 2 and 3-shear ewes 49s. (top 50, 53s.), 22 ewes 23s., 60 ewe lambs 26s. 6d. (top 30, 32s. 6d.), 50 wether 25s. to 16s. 6d.; Mr. George Wigg, Flixton Hall, Lowestoft, 40 ewe 31s. 6d., 23 26s.; Mr. E. T. Barnes, Sudbourne, 30 ewe 24s., 20 wether 29s. 6d., 32 19s.

Black-faced: Mr. P. Rock, Hinton Lodge, 40 ewe 28s., 120 wether 21s. 4d.; Executors Mr. A. Lewin, Farnham Hall, 120 ewe 27s. 10d., 20 22s. 6d., 120 wether 28s. 6d., 20 22s.; Mr. James Hambling, Snape, 40 ewe 24s., 40 wether 23s. 6d., 20 mixed 19s.; Right Hon. Lady Rose, Upper Abbey Farm, Leiston, 80 mixed 24s.; Messrs. W. and G. Hambling, Friston Hall, 100 ewe 29s. 4d. (top 40, 35s.), 16 crones 23s.

Half-bred: Executors Mr W. Rackham, 20 wether lambs 28s., 20 mixed 24s.; Mr. T. C. Collen, Knoddishall, 100 shearlings 35s. 7d., 35 full-mouthed ewes 31s 6d. to 25s., 40 lambs 21s 6d.; Mr. F. Ling, Blaxhall, 320 22s. 1d.; Messrs. Repe, 280 23s. 5d., 20 crones 17s.; Right Hon. Lady Rose, 80 lambs 24s. 9d.; Mr. Wm. Chambers, Marlesford, 110 24s. 6d. to 17s.; Mr. J. Huson, Little Glemham, 200 24s.; Mr. J. E. Berry, Sibton, 60 19s.; Mr. H. G. Fairs, Rendham, 80 21s. 1½d.; Right Hon. the Earl of Stradbroke, 50 27s. 6d., 36 23s.

First-cross: Mr. J. R. Tyrrell, Leiston, 80 ewe lambs, 32s 6d. (top 40 34s.), 10 fat wether 40s., 80 wether 29s. 6d., 24 mixed 21s. 6d.; Mr. J. Western, Sudbourne, 100 ewe 22s. 9d., 100 wether 23s. 3d.; Mr. T. F. C. Vernon Wentworth, 100 ewe 24s., 100 wether 23s. 9d., 40 mixed 19s. 6d., 10 crones 15s. 6d.; Mrs. S. Wright, Farnham, 80 ewe lambs 27s., 80 wether 26s. 9d., 80 mixed 22s.; Mr. J. E. Berry, 100 shearling ewes nearly 44s. (top 20 47s.).

Wool Fairs and Sales.

Bristol.

On Wednesday, at the Bristol Cattle Market, Messrs. Geo. Nichols, Howes, Young, Alder, and Co. inaugurated a wool sale, which they intend holding annually, at the request of many farmers in the surrounding neighbourhood. Inasmuch as it was only announced to be held some three weeks ago, many had already disposed of their wool, and the entries were not so large as had been hoped. From between 3,000 to 4,000 fleeces were offered, all of which were sold at most satisfactory prices, the washed wool making 7½d. to 9¼d., and unwashed 6d. to 7½d. The largest buyers were Messrs. Fox, of Wellington, and Mr. Bevan, of Holt. All of the vendors who were present expressed a great satisfaction at the prices obtained, and foretold a successful future for the sale.

Ipswich.

At their second wool dispersal of the season, held at Ipswich on Friday, Messrs. Robert Bond and Son brought to the hammer another capital entry of consignments from well-known growers in the district, amounting in all to some 14,000 fleeces. The prices realised showed some falling off from the first sale this year—not an altogether unexpected contingency, and compared much more favourably with the figures at the June sale of 1899. A comparison of the figures for the sale of the present year reveals, indeed, a decrease at Friday's dispersal in all descriptions of wool, a fact which may be accounted for, perhaps, by the sale being the second of the season. Mr. Robert Bond conducted the sale, and with the bidding brisk, as before mentioned, the catalogue was got through in very expeditious fashion. The top price of the afternoon was 9½d., obtained for three sheets of black-faced ewe and hogget from Mr. D. Dickerson, a bag of black-faced ewe (unwashed) from the same consignor fetching 6¼d. Black-faced hoggets sent by the Earl of Stradbroke, Mr. T. L. Ashford, and Mr. G. A. Woodward, made 9¼d., and ¼d. less was obtained for the like breed of wool from Mr. W. Eastaugh, Mrs. Lowe, Mr. G. F. Goldspink, Mr. H. Rackham, and Mr. A. Blomfield. Southdown ewe from Captain E. G. Pretyman, M.P., fetched 8¾d., the unwashed variety sent by Mr. G. Westgate making 6¾d.; while Southdown hogget from Mr. W. F. Paul realised 6½d. The best price for black-faced ewe and hogget was 9d., a figure reached for consignments from Mr. A. Johnson, Mr. R. Westgate, and Mr. J. P. Knevett. A similar price was the highest in respect to black-faced ewe, 9d. being given in this case for wool from Mrs. Lowe, Mr. M. Wright, Mr. W. W. Hunt, the Earl of Stradbroke, Mr. G. Mann, Mr. A. Coe, Mr. C. Freeman, Mr. J. Ford, Mr. W. Reeve, and executors of Mr. T. Woodward. For the purpose of comparison, it may be mentioned that contrasted with the June sale there was a decrease of ½d. in respect to both black-faced ewe and hogget. The top prices for halfbred wool were:—Hogget 8½d. and ewe 7¾d., as compared with 8¾d. and 9d. respectively at the previous sale.

Bury St. Edmund's.

On Friday, Mr. Robert T. Simpson, of the firm of Messrs. Salter, Simpson, and Sons, conducted the annual wool sale at Bury St. Edmund's. There was extremely keen competition amongst the buyers. Of the 115 lots, the top price of the day was 11¼d. per lb., given by Mr. Schofield for Southdown hogget wool, consigned from the Duke of Grafton's Euston Home Farm. The next price was 11d. per lb., realised for Southdown fat shearling wool from the same farm. Some Southown ewe wool, also from the same farm, made 10½d. per lb. Mr. C. E. Simpson's Southdown hogget wool made 10¼d. per lb., Mr. C. Morbey's Southdown ewe wool was sold at the rate of 10d. per lb. Some Southdown ewe wool consigned from the Duke of Grafton's West Farm fetched 9¾d. per lb. At the rate of 9½d. per lb. was sold black-faced hogget wool, sent by Mr. G. H. Wilson, Redgrave Hall Farm, and similar wool from other farms, including those of the late Mr. J. F. Clarke's exors. and Mr. J. Saunders. Black-faced ewe wool, consigned by Mr. G. H. Wilson, of West Hall Farm and Redgrave Hall Farm, fetched at the rate of 9d. per lb.

Lewes.

This old-established fair was held on Friday at the Bear Hotel, Lewes. Upwards of 20,000 fleeces were offered for sale, but the prospects of a brisk trade were not very promising, the depressing effect which the war in China and other circumstances have already had on the cotton trade evidently making the merchants rather reluctant to launch out to any great extent. As a fact, only two sales were actually announced at the fair, but it was understood that several other lots changed hands privately at prices ranging from 10d. to 11½d.

Mr. Chaplin on Agricultural Legislation.

Mr. Henry Chaplin, President of the Local Government Board, delivered a speech at a Primrose League fête at Harkholme Hall, near Lincoln, on Saturday, and in the course of it made some remarks on agricultural legislation. He said that their opponents were pleased to call the Agricultural Rates Act a landlord's relief bill. On many occasions in the past he had proved by demonstration that that statement was absolutely false; that since the passing of the Act there had not been any general rise in rents, which was the only condition that by any means could have made it possible. He again challenged his opponents to say that even a tenth, twentieth, or fiftieth part of the relief which was given by the Act had ever gone except where it was intended by the Government it should go, namely, directly into the pockets of the tenant farmers themselves. (Applause.)

He said he did not pretend that the Agricultural Holdings Bill, now before the House of Commons, was of so much importance in that county, because they had always had a practice and principle of their own, embodied in the custom, which had the force of law, and upon which these very Acts were founded. But what the Bill did was all in favour of the tenant, and very shortly its effect would be to cheapen and simplify procedure in all differences between landlords and tenants. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Chaplin also remarked that he must say a word upon a Bill so interesting to agricultural labourers, as the Bill giving them compensation for accidents. It did not hurt farmers, he was persuaded, because for every £100 paid in wages they could insure against accidents for 3s. 6d. They nearly all did more than that now, without law, and he was quite sure that if there were any who could not do it, their landlords would be perfectly willing to come to their assistance. (Applause.)

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending July 14th, 1900:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	253	981	876	602	12,3	20,043
	Outbreaks.	No.	44	45	52	43	1,377	1,611
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Other Animals	No.	:	:	:	:	:	:
	Cases Reported. Dogs.	No.	:	:	:	6	:	1
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughtered. Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	:	:	:	:	990
	Cattle Slaughtered. Diseased.	No.	:	:	:	1	:	1
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	:	:	1	:	1
Parasitic Mange.	Animals Attacked	No.	25	25	25	45	1,001	600
	Outbreaks.	No.	17	13	13	5	2	2
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	:	:	:	:	1	:
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	:	:	:	2	:
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	15	2	14	10	347	1
	Outbreaks.	No.	4	2	2	2	34	3

Period: Week ended July 14 (this week); Corresponding week in 1899; Mean for the last 5 years; Corresponding period in 1899.

The figures for the previous week are approximate only.

THE YORKSHIRE SHOW AT DONCASTER.

The Yorkshire Agricultural Society's sixty-third annual exhibition took place last week on Doncaster Racecourse, opening on Wednesday, and continuing over the two following days. Brilliant summer weather prevailed for two days, followed by a thunderstorm, and the attendance of visitors was very disappointing and much below the average. Following so close on the exhibition of the Royal Agricultural Society at York, many had their doubts as to the success of the county show, and so far as the attendance of visitors was concerned their doubts have been realised. The number who have paid for admission was 20,173. This, although strong, is only 88 less than the attendance when the Society met in Doncaster in 1865. Only once since the Howden meeting of 1864, with its total of 12,827, has the show been so poorly patronised as the present has been. That was in 1868, when only 10,669 visitors paid. In the light of this year's experience the following figures will be studied with interest, the total average for the past ten years, it should be explained, being 60,458:—

1893—Dewsbury	[illegible]
1894—Beverley	37,1[illegible]
1895—Halifax	[illegible]
1896—York	51,0[illegible]
1897—Harrogate	[illegible]
1898—Leeds	67,[illegible]
1899—Hull	[illegible]
1900—Doncaster	20,173

No less discouraging is a survey of the financial position. On Friday only £166 3s. was taken at the gates, as against £553 5s. at Hull last year, and £603 17s. at Leeds in 1898, the average for the past ten years being £729 1s. The grand stand receipts were represented by a paltry £15 4s., as compared with a ten years' average of £57 8s. 6d. Not a penny was received on Friday for reserved seats on the grand stand. The total receipts for the three days—the money to be derived from the implement and other departments is not here taken into consideration—are £1,465 6s., the lowest amount since the Wetherby meeting of 1868. The annexed comparative table, covering the three days of each show, tells its own tale:—

—	—	Receipts at Turnstiles &c.	Receipts at Grand Stand.	Season Tickets, &c.	Total Receipts.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1890	Harrogate	3035 10 6	345 19 0	142 16 0	4224 5 6
1891	Bradford	4782 5 6	372 0 0	48 16 0	[illegible] 2 0
1892	Middlesbrough	3894 12 0	189 2 0	26 15 0	[illegible] 10 0
1893	Dewsbury	3797 13 0	221 9 0	109 14 0	4128 17 0
1894	Beverley	2190 2 0	276 13 0	34 13 0	[illegible] 8 0
1895	Halifax	3660 3 0	277 17 0	108 3 0	4046 3 0
1896	York	3174 15 0	449 6 0	41 9 0	[illegible] 10 0
1897	Harrogate	3029 18 0	807 8 0	147 2 0	[illegible] 8 0
1898	Leeds	3996 5 0	720 5 0	25 3 2	4742 13 2
1899	Hull	3426 12 0	554 12 0	10 18 0	[illegible] 2 0
1900	Doncaster	1176 10 0	285 2 0	3 5 0	1465 6 0

The entries of stock, however, though below those of the last three or four years, were about an average, and the visit of the Royal seems to have had very little effect in this quarter. The prize money was not quite so large as last year, the total being £2,660, as against £2,850, and perhaps this accounts for the total number of entries of live stock being 943, as compared with 1,017 at Hull last year, and 1,037 at Leeds in 1898. There were several not unimportant items of declension, but there were also good set-offs. While the presence of forty-two fewer hacks was something to be sorry for, this loss is fully counterbalanced by thirty-seven extra Shorthorns. Aberdeen-Angus cattle were ten short, but Jerseys showed an increase of nineteen head, and quite atoned for the wise cutting out of Guernseys, of which only nine came forward in three classes at Hull. The collection of cattle outnumbered that seen at any Yorkshire meeting for over twenty years, Shorthorns naturally making the biggest show. Hunting horses were only twelve less than the muster at Hull; heavy horses put as many on the other side of the account. Sheep came well up to the average, shortness of numbers in one or two sub-divisions notwithstanding. In all there were 157 units of decrease and eighty-six items to the good; but, sixty-three points of decline must be deducted to bees, honey, and [illegible]. There was a little variation in the classification of the stock. Under the head of sheep, a class of Hampshires replaced two classes of Shropshires, Guernseys were struck out, and pen-reared lambs had to be six instead of five years old or more, and four or five years instead of four years of age, a change that equalised competition in the two classes.

Cattle.

Shorthorns.

The premier position in the catalogue was given to Shorthorns, and they were a magnificent lot, and were, on the whole, better than the collection seen at the Royal, notwithstanding that several famous animals were not here. In the aggregate there was a marked increase on last year's entry. It was caused chiefly by greater competition in the family class, and in the classes for cows and bull calves. Aged bulls and heifers were, on the other hand, by no means so numerous as twelve months ago. An entry of nine females was satisfactory, and [illegible]

with the four catalogued at Hull, and although no more than six put in an appearance, they made a capital show. Pride of place went to Mr. William Bell's nice Scotch-bred cow Lady Clara 3rd, and her produce, Baron Abbotsford and Baron's Pride. Queen of Hearts and her family, who won the prize last year for Mr. C. W. Brierley, were second this time. Good dairying qualities commend all the others in the class. When it came to the contest between individual cows, Ingram's Queen, the oldest of Queen of Hearts' produce, scored over Lady Clara 3rd, and thus repeated her Lincolnshire success and her earlier triumph at Hull. Autumn Queen, another Lincolnshire winner from Brimfield, and the redoubtable Welcome came next, and there was high commendation for the shapely Warrior Queen (a third Royal winner), the massive Morning Belle, and Mr. Battie-Wrightson's roan four-year-old Viola. That admirable cow of Mr. Joseph Harris, Empress 12th, was passed over, and she was the York Royal reserve champion. Last year only one animal entered the lists for the Shorthorn Society's prize, but last week there were close upon a dozen. Here the grand characteristics of Lady Clara 3rd again came to the front. She was seconded by Mr. Victor Cavendish's Lady Albreda, one of Mr. F. J. S. Foljambe's breeding. A stylish Scotch-bred heifer headed the younger class in calf or milk. This was Mr. Dudding's Lady 21st, a daughter of Idol, a Leicester winner. Following her were such notable examples of North-country blood as Mr. Willis's White Heather, Mr. G. Harrison's Welfare, and Mr. Joseph Harris's Pansy 2nd. The two-year-old heifers were equally satisfactory, the Lincolnshire first, Victorine, a very neat daughter of Bapton Victor (dam Vaseline), being the judges' choice, with Mr. Dudding's Riby Jessy, got by Golden Robin, second. Between Lord Middleton's Lady Waterloo B 2nd, a second Royal prize-taker, and Mr. G. Harrison's Village Queen, sired by Village Archer, there was not much to choose. There was nothing special to be said about the heifer calves. It was a near thing between the first and second—one a daughter of Lord Victor, bred at Waresley Park; the other one of the Duke of Clarence stock, bred by the owner, Mr. Battie-Wrightson. Only four aged bulls passed before the judges, so that it was not much of a victory for Alto, the Maidstone winner of two years ago. Mr. Ecroyd's Duke of Armathwaite was second, and the thick-fleshed Marvel, bred by Mr. James Midgley, of Stamford Bridge third. Two-year-old bulls were fewer than last year. The judge's preference was for Lavender Jet, a son of Count Lavender (dam Alexandra 1st), who got no more than simple commendation at York. Favourite of Sanquhar, who came next, is a nice class of bull, but not quite so even as the other. The bulls above one and not exceeding two years were the cream of the Shorthorn section. They were a magnificent lot, and took considerable time to judge. Whether Baron Abbotsford or William the Conqueror is the better of the top two it is difficult to say. Even the judges seemed puzzled. Good Shorthorn character, masculine head, and splendid lines are possessed by both. The former was sired by Baron Alnwick out of the successful Lady Clara 3rd, to which allusion has already been made. The latter is about three months older, a son of Matchmaker and Jessamine, bred in Lancashire. The third winner was Royal Lancaster, one of the Armathwaite herd, whilst a neat, well-bred roan son of Cornelius had the reserve number, and there were awarded no fewer than seven h.c. cards and two tickets of simple commendation. Martian and King Alto, rivals of the Lincolnshire Show, were here on a dead level of excellence. Bapton Diamond, a son of Augustine and Bapton Pearl, headed the bull calves between five and twelve months. He was, however, run very close by Golddigger, a symmetrical bull with beautiful hair and plenty of style. Mr. R. Stratton's two Highflyer calves are also excellent specimens. Mr. John W. Harrison's Morning Crown won the Shorthorn Society's prize for the best bull calved in 1899. His dam was Maid of the East by Prince Geneva. Another Yorkshire-bred one, Mr. Snowball's Crown Prince, sired by Look Ahead (dam Crown Jewel) is reserved. It will be seen that when the principal awards are reckoned up Yorkshire and Lincolnshire carry off but one apiece, Northumberland takes a couple, and the rest go far afield.

Aberdeen-Angus.

The six classes into which Aberdeen-Angus were divided comprised twenty-one exhibits, or about the same number as a year ago. The figure is more than satisfactory when it is remembered that this year's Yorkshire meeting clashed with the Highland Show at Stirling, to which many notable breeders on the other side of the border naturally sent stock that might have been seen at Doncaster. This also explains the absence of many Royal winners. Still, a representative lot was forwarded by breeders in England, and it is worthy of note that some of the principal prizes went to a Yorkshire herd—that of Mr. John McIntyre, of Bedale. Mr. Charles E. Hunter, of Gainford, Durham, was likewise singled out for distinction, as was Mr. L. A. Macpherson, of Walsall. When we state that Mr. Clement Stephenson was represented by specimens of his famous Benton herd, it will be understood that he was among the prizemen. In the aged bull class, Mr. Bainbridge, of Northumberland, had a walk over with a shapely four-year-old son of Enthusiast of Ballindallock. The same breeder was handed the reserve card in the class for bulls above two and not exceeding three years old, the winners in this class being Mr. Turnbull's Raven of Benton 2nd, the Seaton Delaval Coal Company's Golden Bar, and Mr. Macpherson's Burnaturn. For the well-outlined bull Withers, Mr. George Hoyles, of Skidby Manor, Hull, was highly commended. In a strong class of cows, Mr. C. Stephenson secured the lead with the compact, nicely-fleshed Elite of Benton. Mr. Macpherson's Pride of the Grove made a good second. Among the heifers not exceeding three years old, Mr. Stephenson led with Jipsey of Benton 5th, both second and third honours falling to Mr. McIntyre, of Bedale.

Jerseys.

Jerseys, though mostly having to journey from the southern counties, were stalled in larger numbers than has ever before been the case at the Yorkshire, while the merit was eminently satisfactory. Of the growing popularity of the Channel Islands breed no better proof can be afforded than the fact that this year's entries of Jerseys alone exceeded by about forty the total number of exhibits in both of the Channel Islands classes at Hull a year ago. The most coveted honour in this section, the Blythwood silver challenge bowl, offered by Sir James Blyth, Bart., was carried off by Mr. Armitage's Flora's Daughter, a handsome two-year-old, which stood at the head of her class for Jersey heifers not exceeding three years old—a class, by the way, which was so strong that, besides the second and third prizes, which were won by the Earl of Cadogan, the judges felt obliged to bestow no less than seven badges of merit. The reserve ticket for the championship was handed to Lord Cadogan's fawn two-year-old. She took second honours in her class. In the class for bulls above two and not exceeding three years old the honours were divided between the Earl of Cadogan and Mr. Phipps Pickering, of Kettering. The class for bulls above one and not exceeding two years old, which was headed by Mrs. Greenall's Bugler 2nd and the Duke of Marlborough's Convent King, was remarkable for the fact that Sir Reginald Graham, who at the Royal at York a month ago took a second prize with Dignity, a stylish whole-coloured sire of good shape, had now to be content with a high commendation card.

Sheep.

Leicesters and Border Leicesters.

The sheep, which followed the cattle in the catalogue, fairly well sustained Yorkshire traditions. Leicesters came first, and as a whole the shearlings were not so good as usual. On the other hand, the aged sheep and the lambs were particularly fine. The first prize in the shearling class was won by a sheep well woolled all over, and having wonderful loins, shown by Mr. Ernest F. Jordan, of Eastburn, Driffield, who bred him. The same gentleman also secured the third prize with another ram which well matches the first. Second place was given to the animal shown by Mr. George Harrison, of Gainford Hall, Darlington, which had a closer lock of wool. A nicely-coated sheep bred and shown by Mr. J. J. Simpson, of Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, got the reserve ticket in this class. Mr. Harrison, with the tup which carried off all the champion awards at York, won the white ribbon in the two-shear ram class. Mr. Ernest Jordan came second with a sheep which at the Royal did not pass the commendation stage; whilst a ram shown by Mr. Simpson, which was considered worthy of a second place at York, was relegated to the third position here. Mr. Watkinson, of Weaverthorpe, and Mr. Cranswick, of Hunmanby, two well-known East Riding breeders, were commended in this class, the latter receiving the reserve number. In the ram lamb class, Mr. Jordan came out first and second, with exhibits which were shown at York in a pen of three, but unsuccessfully. The third prize taker in this class—one of Mr. Simpson's—was reserved at the Royal. With three shearling rams, which were exhibited in public for the first time, Mr. Jordan was awarded the first prize in his class. In the three shearling gimmer section the judges were not in agreement with those of the Royal. The first-prize sheep here—a pen of Mr. Jordan's—were only placed third at York, whilst the first prize takers at the Royal had now to take the second position. These were shown by Mr. J. J. Simpson. Mr. Harrison's pen, which got a third, were second at York. Of Border Leicesters there was a small display, only seven pens being shown in two classes. This paucity was accounted for by the fact of the Highland Show being held on the same day; consequently the best sheep of the breed were to be found at Stirling. Those shown were good typical specimens, but without a history.

Lincolns.

The Lincolns claimed, as they always do, a good deal of attention. Out of a class of seventeen shearling rams Mr. Henry Dudding, of Riby Grove, Stallingborough, took the first prize with a grand upstanding, well-skinned sheep, which has been shown five times, and has won five firsts and four championships. The second prize sheep in this class, which was another of Mr. Dudding's, was awarded the third at the Royal. Only five were entered in the two-shear class. A big tup which the judges commended at York, and which was bred and shown by Mr. Strickland, of Bransby, Easingwold, was given the white ribbon, Mr. H. Smith, of Cropwell Butler, coming in second with a useful-looking ram. There was a good turnout of ram lambs, most of which looked like making useful sires. Mr. J. Pears, of The Mere, Lincoln, was successful in winning the first and third prizes, Messrs. R. and W. Wright taking the third ribbon and the reserve ticket. The last-named exhibitors ran out first in a pen of three, Mr. Dudding taking second honours. The judging of the shearling rams shown without grease or colouring excited considerable interest. The first award was given to a pen of three shown by Mr. Smith, jun., of Cropwell Butler, to which was also given the first champion prize of £10, offered by the Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association for the best pen of the breed entered or eligible for entry in the Flock Book of the Association. The second championship prize of £5 fell to Messrs. Wright's pen that were successful in their class. The premier award in the three shearling gimmer section was a gift for Mr. Henry Dudding, whose exhibits were ahead of all others at the Royal, the Notts, and the Lincolnshire shows, amongst others.

Hampshire Downs.

The Hampshire Downs were confined to one class, namely, three ram lambs. When it is remembered that so recently as at the Royal there were five classes, all of which filled well, the scarcity may be a matter of surprise, but the advancement of the season is responsible for the falling-off, the best of the Southern sheep having been already disposed of for exportation. Mr. L. H. Baxendale, Newbury, took first prize and the champion award, Lord Rothschild taking second and reserve, and Mr. H. C. Stephens, M.P., the third award.

Wensleydales.

The Wensleydales were a specially good lot, but there were too few of them. Considering this fine breed of sheep belong to the county, a larger show might have been expected. In the first class drawn out, namely, shearling rams, the decision of the judges at the Royal was reversed. The first prize winner at York, a tup shown by the Exors. of the late Mr. T. Willis, of Manor House, Caperby, was here considered to be a bit too heavy in his staple, though a grand-looking sheep was placed behind a good-looking ram shown by Mr. Rhodes, of Stockeld, which at York was second in his class. The reserve number was given to the exhibit of Mr. Cleasby, of Isleback Grange. The any aged sheep were placed here as at York. The Exors. of Mr. Willis took the first with the Royal Champion, which is also the sire of a pen of gimmer lambs, Mr. Cleasby being second, and Mr. Rhodes third, with a particularly good sheep, which made his initial appearance in the show ring. The entry of this year's lambs was notable as proving how much they have improved by the genial weather which has prevailed since the Royal Show. The Exors. of Mr. Willis and Mr. Rhodes divided the honours between them. The gimmers were the best lot shown amongst the Wensleydales, but in this instance there was a reversal of the York judgment as regards the first and second pens.

Mountain Breed.

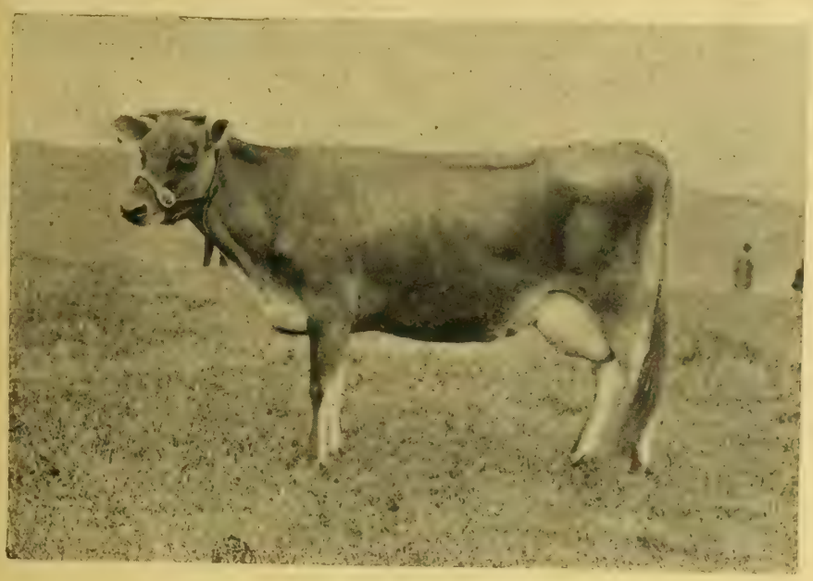
There are three classes of Black-faced Scotch Mountain sheep, the exhibitors of which are rarely absent from the catalogue of either the Yorkshire or the Royal Shows. With the exception of the shearling rams, where the Royal winner was relegated to the third place, and the second at York here placed first, the premier awards were the same, the executors of the late T. Dargue, of Kendal, and Mr. J. Vickers, of Elm Park, coming in for these honours.

Horses.

Hunters.

The show of hunters was generally acknowledged to be better than at York, and this applies to both quality and quantity, for they numbered 168, as against 154 at the Royal. Small in number but quite choice were the thoroughbred stallions. Five of the half-dozen entered faced the judges. In Red Eagle and Hindley Lord Middleton owns a grand pair. The former, who gained some success on the turf before going to the stud, is undoubtedly the better horse. His younger stable companion, a son of Minting, has good quality, but is lacking in depth in the fore ribs and might move a bit better in his walk. Brood mares were a nice group. Heavyweights were unfortunately light in number. A former verdict was upset by the placing of Mr. Swallow's Beatrice before Mr. Swales's Lady Grey. Light-weights were numerically strong, and a few good mares were among them. Lady Grosvenor, of course, sustained her enviable reputation, and did it easily. There was not quite the same certainty for second place. Some fancied Mr. R. Dixon's Princess, an old Yorkshire winner, but in spite of her shapeliness and good action, her years, which are eighteen, were no doubt against her, and she had to give way to Lord Middleton's Scornful, the seven-year-old daughter of Gordon, having with her a Red Eagle colt foal. The pick of the hunters were the heavy-weights of either sex. It was a grand lot of just a score that showed their paces round the splendid ring. They were soon reduced to about half the number. The judges found it difficult to award the prizes, and eventually called the Rev.

Cecil Legard to their aid. Colonel, the property of Mr. Nixon Gray, won the premier award, second going to Mr. Andrew Brown's Wexford, a well-known prize-taker. Mr. C. E. Clark's chestnut Staby was third. Light-weights were sufficiently numerous and even to give the judges pause. For first place, as in the last class, the contest lay between a Doncaster and a Cardiff horse; South Wales proved victorious, Mr. Nixon Gray's Bertram beating Mr. Andrew Brown's Foxhall, who, however, was preferred to a Newark representative, Mr. Wilkinson's Sportsman. Four-year-old geldings mustered well, but after the first winners there was hardly anything of special merit. The same may be said of mares of the same age. The first prize mare Miller's Maid, a Fitzgeorge mare, shown by Mr. F. A. Rickaby, had hardly left the ring before she was bought by Mr. R. B. Peirson, one of the stewards. Three-year-old geldings constituted one of the best classes. The fifteen entries included several animals of great merit; indeed, the entire class was commended. Half a dozen two-year-old geldings made up in quality for lack of numbers, five of them obtaining recognition of some kind, either substantial or commendatory. Eclat, Mr. Lett's successful showyard horse, did not stand so well in the ring as he might have done, but he is a well-built animal, and well deserved his first prize. The Lincolnshire winner, The Birdar (Mr. Drake's of that ilk, for there are many Birdars), was second, and Messrs. Ward's Blackbird third. Fillies of the same age, with eleven entries, showed up well. The defeat of Lady Meta, champion of the Royal this year and last, and the winner of a premier honour at Hull last year, was one of the surprises of the day. Mr. Wilkinson's Castaway, who lowered the colours of Mr. Richard E. Dixon's Yorkshire-bred daughter of Otterburn, got a third



Jersey Cow, "Sultane."

(The property of the Hon. Mrs. M. Smith, Grimley Hall, Market Harborough. Winner of the Blythwood Bowl at the Bath and West.)

at Peterborough, but nothing at the Royal. Third prize went to Jessie Skillan, who as a yearling had a successful career in the North, and at the Otley Show this season was placed second. Among the youngsters the fillies carried off the palm both in numbers and in general character. The two chief winners were Lord Middleton's chestnut son of Gordon and Mr. J. J. L. Irving's Thomasina, a daughter of Ivor, Mr. George Marton's Victoria being next in order. The Plunger, also bred and shown by Mr. Marton, headed the small group of yearling colts and fillies. Probably the colt gained some advantage from his size, but Mr. Darrell's second prize winner Conductor, who inherits his famous sire's name and many of his characteristics, was much admired for his beautiful outline and taking action. A Gordon colt from Birdsall House came in third.

Hackneys.

In a county that rivals Norfolk in the perfection of its Hackney material, it was only to be expected that the high-steppers would make a fine display. The only weak class was that for stallions, only three making their appearance in the ring. Mr. Hall's Langton Masher continued his successful career, and justified the good opinion formed of him when he was placed second in London. Forest King, who was placed second, has not been out before this year; and Mr. Scott's Copley Master, the third stallion, has made his mark at several West Riding shows. The two-year-old stallions were a splendid lot of pretty and promising youngsters, and made a noteworthy class. For the first time Mr. Buttle's Garton Sirdar met Mr. Hall's St. Thomas, and the contest was keen if not exciting. The judges failed to agree, and Mr. A. Morton, a Scottish breeder, was brought into the ring. He promptly gave the coveted ribbon to Garton Sirdar, and the verdict appeared to be a very popular one. The third place was assigned to Messrs. Cockayne Brothers' Paddock Rufus, a Sheffield-bred Hackney, which was placed second this year at the Crystal Palace. It was taken as a matter of course that Mr. C. E. Galbraith's four-year-old chestnut mare should top the excellent class of brood mares and foals. She was the champion at London, and now defeated Mr. Livesey's Orange Blossom, which was first at the Royal and is the holder of the Bath medal. Mr. John Ireland's Lady Connaught, which had a brilliant run as a three-year-old, and which this year stood third at the Royal and second at Islington, was placed third. Yearling colts or geldings made a fair class. Mr. Atkinson's Absent Hero, a very useful youngster, looking like making a good sire, secured the premier ticket, and so repeated the Malton success. The second colt, Commerce, from the Londesborough stud, looked rather light and feminine beside the Driffield colt. The commended ticket went to Mr. Hart's Londesboro', which was first at the Royal, where there happened to be little competition. Only three yearling fillies turned up. Mr. Sparkes' Oldfield Rosalind was first, being placed before Paddock Princess, which won at Sheffield. The two-year-old geldings in the prize list were all very useful, well-favoured Hackneys. Mr. Galbraith's superb chestnut, a son of Danebury, made his first appearance at the Highland Show last year, and was placed second. This is his second experience in the ring, and one could not but be struck with the fact that he looks like developing into a grand harness horse. The Leven Q.C., bred by Mr. Iveson, fared better at Doncaster than at Beverley, where he was not so highly appreciated. Mr. Moscrop's Rufus took third ticket. There was a comeliness about the turn-out of the two-year-old fillies which was particularly striking. Mr. Moore's B. B. Marionette managed to pass Lord Middleton's famous prize-taker Birdsall Daisy Belle.

Mr. Creaser's White Socks, which has fine limbs and a pretty action, was put third. In a nice class of three-year-old geldings Sir Walter Gilbey's bay Bright Spark, the Royal winner, was placed at the top. Messrs. Harrison's Donald, which was second at York, got no further than the reserves. The three-year-old fillies came out well. Mr. Henry Moore's typical brown mare Lobelia came out on top, and her supremacy was unquestioned. Mr. Livesey's Welcome was placed second. The class of geldings and mares ridden in the ring and equal to carrying 15 stone made a dashing display. No mistake was made in placing Mr. Batchelor's five-year-old chestnut mare Wild Agnes first. Mr. Irving's chestnut gelding, Featherby Squire, was second, and Mr. Fewson's Lady Lottie was third, the latter having the same place at the Royal. Mr. A. L. Goodson's chestnut mare Heathfield Conceit, bred by Lord Londesborough, which was first at the Royal, topped the class for Hackneys carrying 12 stone. He is a noted prize-winner, and was selected as reserve for the championship. Mr. Fewson's four-year-old black mare Lady Venice was second, and a practically unknown bay gelding, the property of Mr. Tyson, third. Mrs. Fred Holmes's chestnut gelding Pickwick, which was second at the Royal, only got a reserve. The Hackney Horse Society's gold medal was awarded to Mr. Galbraith's handsome chestnut brood mare Rosadora. She showed to great advantage in the ring, and there was no hesitation on the part of the judges in bestowing upon her the championship honours.

Coachers.

The cream of Yorkshire coachers met in competition, and the brood mares were better than anything seen at the Yorkshire for many a year. They were the feature of the section. The Malton winner, Mr. Lett's Lady Harome, who was only reserved at the Royal, was put at the top of a class which included more than one Royal winner. The stallions were quite worthy of the show. Specularity, another of Mr. Lett's stock, here went from the second to the first place among the two-year-olds, repeating the performance held at Malton, where he defeated Mr. Cousen's Albert, his victor at the Royal. As at York, Mr. John White's Master John secured the champion prize offered by the Yorkshire Coach Horse Society for the best stallion or colt. The corresponding distinction for mares and fillies went to Forget Me Not, a stylish daughter of Lord Rosby, exhibited and shown by Messrs. E. and R. Dutton. Messrs. Bolckow Brothers' three-year-old Courtier, from Deighton, Lost at the Royal, here sustained her unbeaten record.

Clevelands.

There was a slight decrease in the entries of Clevelands, but the show was a meritorious one. Welling on obtained the male championship for Mr. H. C. Stephens, M.P., as he did at the Royal, reserved to him being Mr. Stericker's Potto Baron. Both these animals, in separate classes at York, took premier positions. The best of the brood mares was Mr. Lett's Madam II., bred by Mr. Stephens, and in putting the latter exhibitor's Miss Welcome next to her the judges showed their agreement with the York award. Madam II., a beautiful mare, carried off the championship for females, the reserve number being a promising youngster, Lady Jane, owned by Mr. George Allison, jun., who in the yearling class beat three representatives of the Cholderton stables.

Shires and Agricultural Horses.

The Shires were one of the distinguishing features of the show. They came from all points of the compass, and included a satisfactory sprinkling not only of showyard celebrities but also of stock that may still further improve the breed. Mr. James Forshaw's Burgeon stood out prominently from among the aged stallions, whilst Lord Egerton's Tatton Victorious, a thick, compact colt of nice quality, topped the two-year-olds. He was second at the Royal, and met several worthy competitors here, including Mr. Forshaw's D'Arcy Albert, a son of Iron Chancellor, which was placed second. In a grand lot of brood mares and foals Mr. Forshaw's bay mare Daisy, bred at Retford, was placed before his bay mare Tom's Flower, which was third at the Royal, the third ticket going to Mr. V. Cavendish's Saxon Empress. Lord Middleton's Malton winner Pratt's Dore had to be content with a reserve ribbon. The judges supported the Royal decision in the yearling filly class by placing Lord Egerton's well-bred Lockinge Athena first and Mr. Eadie's weighty bay Barrow Princess second. Mr. W. Jackson's Holker R.I., the Royal winner, was placed behind Mr. Yerburgh's Lily of the Valley, and in this instance the verdict at York was reversed. No doubt Mr. Yerburgh's filly, which was first in London, has superb proportions and fine bone; there is, however, not much to choose between her and Holker R.I., which has engrossed a good deal of attention of late, and took the Shire Horse Society's medal. In the class for three-year-old fillies Lord Egerton's Tatton Godiva was preferred by the judges to Mr. Forshaw's powerful bay Whaplode Countess, which was second only at the Royal to Victor's Queen.

There were only two classes for agricultural horses, which were well up to the average, and compared well with the York Show. In fact, seven out of eight entries in the class for three-year-old geldings were Royal exhibits, the one exception being Mr. Turner's bay Sir Roger, which took the first position. Messrs. Davison's powerful brown gelding, Birdsall Clansman, the Malton winner, had, to the surprise of many, to give way to Mr. Eadie's Barrow Sam and Mr. Lowe's Barrow Excelsior, two good-looking horses of great substance, placed second and third respectively. The first in a grand class of four-year-old geldings was Mr. Davies' weighty bay Midlands Rattler, a most useful animal, the second horse being a fine, well-set animal bred at Grantham, the property of Mr. R. C. Cooper.

There was a large tent for the exhibits of butter and cheese, of which there was a good display. The collection of bees and honey was fairly good; and of the other minor sections mention may be made of the shoeing competitions, which once more aroused a great deal of interest.

The gentlemen who officiated as judges were:—

Cattle.—Shorthorns: William Drabble, Tuxford, Notts; Joseph Scarth, Wick House, Spalding; Richard Evernden, The Temple, West Wycombe, Bucks. Jerseys: W. E. Bridges, Headley House, and the Hon. A. F. Parker, Dorrable, Reigate. Devons: Wm. Yeo, Angas: Samuel Druce, Bath House, Bath. Aberdeen-Angus: Simpson, Dell House, Bath.

Sheep.—Leicester: H. Hand, Wyville, Grantham; Joseph Burgh, and J. J. Maggess, Dorrington, Lincoln. Southdowns: Walter Potter, Burpham, Arundel, Sussex; Lincoln: R. Davy, Wragby, Lincoln; Robert Kirkham, Bishop Burton, Beverley. Hampshire Downs: Thomas Franks, Pewsey, Wilts; Richard Brown, Newbury, Berks; Wiltshire: J. O. Deane, Hungerford, Berks; Mountain: John Wood, Lancaster; Kerry Hills: Phillip Edwards, and Hugh Jones, Llanidloes, Montgomeryshire; Herdwick: Wilson Rawlinson, Broughton-in-Furness, Lancashire; Exmoor: George Cox, Winsford, Somerset; Cheviot: J. F. Hall, Hexham, Northumberland; Blackfaced: J. Marshall, Rothbury, Northumberland; Hackneys, Ponies, and Harness Horses: Robert Bevan, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire; Dorset Horns: Thomas Buckett, Dorchester, Dorset; Polled Angus: Donald Watson, Montrose, N.B.; Devon and South Somerset Show and Agricultural Association: Joseph Smith, Dunkeswell, Honiton, Devon.

THE HIGHLAND AT STIRLING.

Stirling was last week visited by the Highland and Agricultural Society, this making the sixth occasion on which the great Scottish show has been held at this historical town. The first exhibition took place in 1833, and then the prizes amounted to £633, but last week the total sum was about £3,000, a figure which has only once been exceeded in the history of the Society, and that was on the occasion of the centenary exhibition at Edinburgh in 1884. A further comparison reveals the facts that the entries in cattle have increased from 273 in 1884 to 321 this year, horses from sixty-seven to 288, sheep from sixty to 369, and implements from twenty-two to 2,095. Pigs, however, have declined from forty to twenty-eight, while poultry, which were not exhibited till the second Stirling exhibition, have gone up from eighty-four to 457. Dairy produce shows an increase of one entry since the previous Stirling meeting nine years ago, the numbers being sixty-six. Although the statistics of this year fell short of the Edinburgh figures, which were exceptional, they were far above the average. The aggregate entries were 1,553, as compared with 2,036 in Edinburgh, 1,302 in Kelso, 1,461 in Glasgow, and 1,193 in Perth—the four previous years. The numerical difference between the present meeting and last year's show was spread over all the departments with the exception of wool, these exhibits being twenty-four as against fourteen. Taken all round the show was one of which the Society have every reason to be proud. Fine weather was experienced on each day, and the attendance of visitors was a most satisfactory one. It was not expected that the splendid financial result of last year would again be attained, but when the reckoning up is made it will in all probability be found that the takings were quite up to, if not above, the average. The spectators had much to interest them, there being the usual parades of stock each day, jumping competitions and some good music, whilst the Scottish Automobile Club had a good display of motor-cars.

As usual on the day following the judging, when exhibitors have a few hours of comparative leisure on their hands, a number of meetings were held in the pavilion in the yard. These included a general meeting of the Highland and Agricultural Society and a special meeting of the directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture, at both of which matters of considerable importance to agriculturists were under consideration.

Cattle.

Shorthorns.

The Shorthorns, if less numerous than on former occasions, made a fairly creditable show. There were 73 animals forward, as compared with 112 at Edinburgh, 58 at Stirling in 1891, and 77 at Glasgow. As at the Royal Show at York, the Queen sent a number of competitors from the Shaw Farm at Windsor, and it was a notable feature of the exhibition that Her Majesty won three first prizes and carried off the championship honours. In a small class of aged bulls Mr. C. H. Graham-Stirling, of Strowan, was first with his massive white Sportsman, a four-year-old, bred by Sir John Gilmour, of Montrave. Next in order was placed the Earl of Rosebery's Villager, a red three-year-old, which is of fine quality, if somewhat lacking in substance. Mr. John Handley's second prize winner at the Royal Show was relegated to third place. Two-year-old bulls were headed by the Queen's Royal Duke, which thus repeated his performance at the Royal Show and at Dublin, and the judges had no difficulty in awarding him the president's champion medal, the prize given by the Shorthorn Society, and the silver medal for the breeder of the best bull. Mr. Graham-Stirling was awarded the second ticket for his roan Bright Star, Waterloo Ensign, a white, belonging to Mr. George Shepherd, Tarves, being third. Yearling bulls were topped by Mr. D. Mackellman's Lord Lovat, a Beaufort-bred roan by Royal Star, Colonel Murray's Consul, a Rosehaugh-bred roan, being second, and Mr. Robert Taylor's Bold Archer third. There was a small class of aged cows. Lord Rosebery earned leading honours with his Dalmeny Nonpareil III., a white Dalmeny-bred four-year-old which was sired by Sittyton Seal. A rich roan five-year-old, Flood, sired by Violet Chief, and owned by Mr. David Hume, Barrelwell, Brechin, was awarded the second card, and Mr. Graham-Stirling's four-and-a-half-year-old roan, Strowan Buttercup 12th, was placed third. In a large and good class of two-year-old heifers, the Queen, as at the Royal, was an easy first with Rose of Sharon, a beautiful roan sired by Prince Victor, out of Rose of Scotland. Mr. Duncan Stewart, of Millhills, was second with Lady 22nd, and the Earl of Rosebery third with Countess 3rd, a roan bred by the executors of the late Mr. John Law, New Keig, Whitehouse, Aberdeen. Mr. Henry Dudding's Lady 21st, which was third at the Royal and second at Bath, was unplaced. Yearling heifers were numerous, and again, as at the Royal and at Dublin, the Queen was awarded first honours for Maritana, a symmetrical white sired by Liberator, out of Maid of Denmark 3rd. Mr. David Hume was second with Floradora, a nice roan bred at Barrelwell, and sired by Bruiach, and Mr. James M'William, Stoneytown, Keith, was third with Hilda, a red-and-white sired by Pride of Fame.

Aberdeen-Angus.

This breed was numerously represented, but it cannot be said that so many cracks were present as have appeared at the annual gatherings of the Highland Society. In the first class for aged bulls Mr. Adamson repeated his Royal English victory with Diaz, which has had an unbeaten record at the Highland Society Shows. The second award went to Mr. Whyte's Jipsey Baron, a first prize winner at the Highland Show as a yearling, and purchased for 240gs. at the Perth sales. Her Majesty took third place with Juryman of Whitelums, a compact, even-fleshed bull, by Mainstay of Aberlour. In the two-year-old class Mr. Dyson Perrins had an easy win with Rosador, third in the aged bull class at the Royal. The second winner, Mr. Bruce's Egmont of Pitpointie, is a fleshy, compact bull; whilst Mr. Fletcher's Enterprise of Aberlour is a straight, good bull, but rather plain in his bone. In the yearling class, which was represented by a mixed lot, Mr. Bolden was the winner with Pundit of Preston, the second winner being Mr. Johnston's Buttress; the third was Mr. Sharp's Klondyke of the Burn. In the aged cow class Her Majesty carried off premier honours with Princess Irene. Mr. Smith was second with Stumpie 29th, a cow of nice character, Mr. Willsher's Black Victoria being third, but appeared to be lucky, many preferring Mr. Ferguson's Rose Bruce. In the two-year-old class Sir George Macpherson Grant had an easy win with Ellipsis. She was followed by Mr. Bainbridge's Sabrina of Hayston, a heifer of greater substance, but lacking the quality of the winner. Mr. Thomas Smith of Powrie was third with Witch of Endor 36th. In a numerous class of yearlings the Earl of Strathmore made a clean sweep of the first three prizes. The class was a strong one, and the judges issued about a dozen commendations. Mr. Adamson annexed the championship with his well-known bull Diaz, with Mr. Perrin's Rosador reserve. Mr. Adamson also carried off the championship prizes for the best-bred animal in the section with Diaz. The Ballindalloch Champion Cup fell to the Queen with Princess Irene 6th.

Galloways.

The collection of animals of this breed was perhaps the best seen in the history of the show. The first prize for aged bulls was won by Messrs. W. and R. Clark, Culmain, with their Cedric 4th of Tarbreoch, which was bred by Mr. James Cunningham, Dalbeattie, and bought at Castle-Douglas as a stirk for £39. The second prize also went to the Stewartry, the exhibitor being Mr. Robert Wilson, Kilquhanity Farm, Dalbeattie, who showed Macdougall 4th of Tarbreoch, bred by the late Mr. James Cunningham, Tarbreoch. The third prize went to the Duke of Buccleuch for his Barossa. The three-year-old bulls were headed by Mr. Robert Graham, Kirkconnel, with Gay Stanley, a very level, well-fleshed bull of good size, and the second prize fell to Mr. William Parkin-Moore, Carlisle, with the bull which was first as a yearling at Edinburgh last year. In the two-year-old class the first prize was won by Mr. David Brown, Lower Stepford, Dumfries, with his Camp Follower of Stepford. The second prize was won by Messrs. Thomas Biggar and Sons, Dalbeattie, with a bull of extra quality. The classes for females were well filled. First prize in the aged class was won by Nancy Lee 3rd of Castlemilk, a three-year-old cow belonging to Sir Robert Jardine. This exhibit also secured the champion medal as the best Galloway, and the success was all the greater because the cow was shown nursing a calf. The winner of the second prize in the class was an animal belong to Mr. Robert Wilson, which was got by Camp Follower, out of a gold medal cow. The first premium in the three-year-old heifer class was won by Mr. Robert T. Scott, Drumhumphry, Dalbeattie, with Bell 13th, which was reserve for the championship. The second prize winner, also shown by Mr. R. T. Scott, was second at Castle-Douglas this year, and third at the Royal Show. Sir Robert Jardine led the way in the two-year-old heifer class with Lady Lee of Castlemilk, which has never been shown before. There was a close competition between this animal and the second prize winner, belonging to Mr. Robert Wilson—Maggie of Kilquhanity—which was first at York.

Highland.

There has rarely been seen at any show finer examples of this most picturesque of breeds, not even at the great show of last year, though on that occasion the numbers were undoubtedly greater. Last year in the aged bull class the Duke of Atholl was first with Calum Riabhach 2nd, this year his lordship again carried off a premier award and the champion and breeders' medals with a two-year-old bull, another magnificent animal, Calum Buidhe of Atholl. Ben Dianabheg, a two-year-old shown by the representatives of the late Mr. John Stewart of Ensay, Obbe, which had never before been exhibited, was awarded a blue ticket. In the aged bull class Mr. T. V. Smith, of Ardtornish, began a series of successes with a handsome animal, Victor 16th, a black bull of handsome figure. The second prize-taker was the Rhu-na-Scarbh of the late Mr. John Stewart's representatives. There was an excellent show of yearling bulls, and the Duke of Atholl's Ossian Riabhach of Athole, which was sired by the champion bull of last year, was accorded the chief award, the Melfort-bred Dundonald coming next, though not at an appreciably long interval. One of the Ardtornish Victors came third, although at the Royal Show at York, where he made a first appearance, he was thought worthy of the leading ticket. Of the cows with calf at foot, Mr. Bullough's Rhouma was an easy first. Mr. Smith, of Ardtornish, showed the second animal, which has not been in winning form since the Kelso Show; the third was a cow of the well-known Ensay breed, while the Dowager-Countess of Seafield came fourth with an animal that was second at the Edinburgh Fat Stock Show last winter, and in the same position at the Inverness Show this year. Her ladyship was also awarded an orange ticket for a brindled three-year-old heifer which was first at Inverness, but in this class Mr. Smith, of Ardtornish, was easily first and second with two well-bred animals. The first, Sgiathach 24th, was first and reserve for champion at last year's Highland Show; the second gained the chief prize in her class at the Royal Show this year. Mr. J. S. Blair was to the front with a two-year-old heifer, Moay of Belfort, the quality of the Victor 5th, stock being shown by the further award of a very highly commended. Two of the leading awards, however, the second and third, went to Ardtornish, the former for a black, shapely animal, which has never previously entered a showyard, and the latter for May Queen 5th, which gained a fourth place at York. There was a lot of bullock stirks shown, the two principal awards going to Colonel Cheape, of Wellfield, Gateside.

Ayrshires.

The display of Ayrshire cattle was not quite so large as at the Edinburgh Show, though the number of entries—forty-three—exceeded that of the show of 1898, when thirty-seven representatives of the breed were entered for the Kelso Show. There was, on the other hand, no falling off in quality, and keen competition was the rule. Three aged bulls were forward, the winner being Commander, a big, thick, Southwick-bred bull belonging to Mr. Andrew Mitchell, Barcheskie, and sired by the famous First Choice. Mr. Robert Wardrop's Darnley, bred by Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Bart., and sired by Duke of Mauchline, came second, the third ticket going to Mr. William M'Queen, Kippen, for The Provost, a brown and white of his own breeding, got by Daniel. Four two-year-old bulls were in competition. Strongbow, now the property of Mr. Robert Wardrop, Garlaff, Cumnock, was brought out in good form and maintained his position. He was closely followed by The General, the Mischief Maker bull from Monkland, belonging to Mr. Thomas Barr. Mr. James M'Farlane, Buchlyvie, was third with Governor of Palmerston; and Mr. Duncan Fraser, Dalmally, came fourth with Sirdar of Netherhall. Yearlings formed the largest class among the bulls. After a close comparison of Mr. Fergusson-Buchanan's Prince Imperial bull Prince George and Mr. James Howie's Go Ahead of Hillhouse, the former was preferred for first place. The third, Not Likely, also owned by Mr. James Howie, was favourite with the onlookers for a much higher position. General White, owned by the Crichton Royal Institution, Dumfries, was placed fourth; and a nicely coloured bull belonging to Mr. Thomas Barr, Viceroy, was fifth. The cows in milk made a small display, but what was wanting in numbers was compensated in great measure by the extra good quality of the prize winners. The aged class in milk was headed by White Rose 2nd, a daughter of Sloth Boy, and owned as well as bred by Mr. William Howie, Burnhouses, Galston. As was generally anticipated, she was also awarded the President's medal for the best Ayrshire. Beauty, by Knockdon, and owned by Mr. John M'Kay, Rothesay, was the second aged cow in milk. In a fair class of three-year-olds in milk, Mr. Alexander Cross, Knockdon, was first with Sonsy 2nd, by Prince; Mr. Charles Duncan second with Snowdrop, by Avondale; and Mr. Charles Kay, Gargunnock, third with Lady-smith. One of the strongest and best classes in the female section of the department for Ayrshires was that for three-year-olds in calf, several previous prize-takers being forward. Mr. William Reid's Dandy of Titwood, which was first at Paisley, was selected for the premier position. Mr. Robert Dawson's fine, red cow, bred at Mid-Ascog, was second; Mr. John M'Kay was third with a splendid commercial cow; and a beautifully coloured, gay cow, Martha of Old Graitney, belonging to Mr. Abram Kerr, was fourth. Although there were only four exhibits in the class for two-year-old heifers, yet the competition was very keen. In the end, Mr. Fergusson-Buchanan's Snowdrop of Auchentorlie was placed at the top of the list. Mr. Robert Wardrop's Heather King heifer, Ellen Terry, was second, and Mr. Andrew Mitchell's Traveller's Heir heifer, Mary, came third. In a very level class of quey stirks, Mr. James Howie furnished the winner in Queen Jessie, a recent purchase from the Messrs. Hunter, of Foulton, the breeders, Wyndham of Foalton being the sire. Mr. Barr's beautiful stirk, Pandora, by White Cockade, was second; and big, useful, thick stirks by Mischief Maker, and named respectively Queen Vashti and Queen Esther, belonging to Mr. Andrew Mitchell, were third and fourth.

Jerseys.

In point of numbers the exhibits in this section fell below the records of some previous years, and English exhibitors were conspicuous by their absence. In fact, except Mrs. Graham, of Airthrey Castle, who showed the second prize bull, the whole of the leading awards were divided between the Earl of Hopetoun and Mr. T. R. B. Elliot, younger, of Clif-

ton Park, Kelso, who furnished more than two-thirds of the classes. Notwithstanding the restricted show the quality was good, especially in the three-year cows, and it was this class which procured the honour of the President's medal, Mr. Elliot's Daisy, a whole fawn animal in fine condition, being reckoned by the judge the best Jersey in the yard. Of two-year-old cows there was only one on view, Mr. Elliot's Pansy, but the judge was thoroughly justified in according her the first prize. The bull class comprised only four exhibits, and none of last year's Highland Show winners were to the fore. Lord Hopetoun's Beresford Hope thoroughly deserved the premier position, albeit Mrs. Graham's Sailor King offered no mean opposition. Mr. Elliot was third with Golden Ray, a son of Golden Cloud, the gold medallist at Kelso. In the heifer class Lord Hopetoun was to the front with Beresford Fairy, which is out of Fiona Beresford, last year's first prize cow.

Horses.

Clydesdale Horses.

In this section there were some good classes. The first prize among stallions went to Messrs. Montgomery for Prince Thomas, a five-year-old bred by the Marquis of Londonderry. Mr. Herbert Webster came second with Lord Fauntleroy, which has a very creditable career. The third ticket went to Mr. John Crawford for Casabianca, a four-year-old, bred by Mr. David Dunn, Roxburgh, and sired by Baron's Pride. Mr. Walter S. Park was fourth with Lothian's Best, and very highly commended tickets went to Messrs. Montgomery for Elator, a horse sired by Baron's Pride, and to Rozelle, bred by Mr. Wm. M'Turk, Dalry, Galloway, still another of the Baron's Pride progeny. The same exhibitors were also commended for Lord Forester, after the same sire, and bred by Mr. David Hunter, Whithorn. Two-year-olds made a very creditable exhibition. There was a fair competition between Mr. Herbert Webster's Baron's Crown and Mr. Wm. Clark's Pride of Blacon. The first-named took premier honours. Messrs. Montgomery were third and fourth with Concord and Baron Mitchell respectively. The former was sired by Montrave Sentinel, and bred by Mr. Robert Paterson, Carnwath; and the latter was bred by Mr. Andrew Mitchell, Barcheskie, the sire being Baron's Pride. The very highly commended ticket went to the Seaham Harbour Stud Company for Pearl Oyster, bred by the Marquis of Londonderry, while the highly commended and the commended tickets went respectively to Messrs. Montgomery for Pride of Morning and Sir Everest, the latter bred by Mr. M'Intyre, Dunallan, Rothesay, and sired by Sir Everard. Yearling colts were a fairly good, though not specially numerous, class. Here the Messrs. Montgomery came to the front with another of the Baron's Pride strain. This is an exceedingly promising animal, bred by the late Mr. Lumsden. The second ticket went to Mr. James Kilpatrick, Craigie Mains, Kilmarnock, for Lord Dundonald. Mr. David Mitchell, Millfield, came third with Baronson, still another of the numerous progeny of Baron's Pride. Mr. Robert Macfarlane, Invergordon, was fourth with Kildonan. The very highly commended ticket was easily carried by Messrs. Montgomery for a bay colt, bred by Mr. Wm. Hood, Borgue, while Lord Strathmore was commended for another bay.

There was an interesting competition in the class for aged draught geldings, Messrs. Hastie and Sons, Blantyre, coming in first with Johnnie, a four-year-old, by Prince of Cathcart. Mr. Wm. Clark had to be content with second place for Wattie, the same exhibitor's Confidence being placed third. For three-year-old geldings Mr. Clark was first with Perfection, the second ticket going to Messrs. Hastie and Sons for The Wanderer. There was a very small show of two-year-old geldings, and Mr. Wm. Clark had very little difficulty in carrying off the first prize with Gallant, Messrs. Hastie again being second with Peter.

The female classes were fairly represented, one of the best being that for brood mares. The competition was very keen, although there was no doubt as to the merit of Mr. Holwes's Lady Raffan. Messrs. J. and W. Meiklem were second with Lady Summit, bred by Messrs. Meiklem, and sired by Summit. Mr. William Park came in third with Lady Rose, bred by Mr. Clark, Old Meldrum; and the fourth ticket went to the Seaham Harbour Stud Company for High Tide. Mr. Smith was very highly commended for Orphan Princess. The highly commended ticket fell to Mr. Andrew Dewar, Port of Monteith, for Arnprior Queen, a bay by Royal Gartly. Yeld mares were a very fair collection, but there was no great competition, Sir John Gilmour's Balmedie Queen Mab seeming to take the fancy of the judges. She was, however, followed closely by Mr. Smith's Belle of Fashion. The Seaham Harbour Company came in third with Essence. The fourth ticket went to Sir John Gilmour for Montrave Rowena, a full sister of the 1,000gs. mare Queen of the Roses. Mr. St. Clair Cunningham was very highly commended for Minnie of Walkinshaw, which was third at Glasgow in the spring. There was a very representative lot of three-year-olds, and Mr. Thomas easily came to the front with Jeannie Deans. Lord Rosebery was second with Princess of Glasnick, a mare which has not hitherto been prominent at any of the leading shows, but which may come to the front in the future. Mr. St. Clair Cunningham was third with Maggie Holmes, a daughter of Lord Colum Edmund, bred at Glenshinnoch, Bishopton. Mr. Robert Paterson, Hill of Drip, Stirling, was fourth with Lady Garnet, and Mr. James F. Murdoch was very highly commended for Lady Roberts, while Mr. John Weir secured a highly commended ticket for Baron's Queen. Two-year-old fillies were an exceedingly creditable class. Here Mr. Alexander Guild was an easy first with Jopsy Pride, a well-known animal at the principal Scottish showyards. She was bred by Mr. Alexander Williamson, Sypland, Kirkcudbright. Mr. Sinclair Scott came next with Scottish Baroness. Mr. Smith was third with Cerdic Princess, a filly of his own breeding, and Mr. William Clark, Kirkcaldy, was fourth with Beauty's Queen. Yearling fillies formed one of the most interesting classes in the show. Lord Rosebery was first with Pomona, another daughter of Baron's Pride, and bred by Her Majesty the Queen. Placed next to her in order of merit was Mr. William Dunlop's Nancy Young, a filly of his own breeding, and sired by the highly-priced horse Montrave Mac. Mr. St. Clair Cunningham was third with White Heather. The fourth ticket went to Mr. James Gray for Baron's Blossom, while Mr. W. T. Malcolm, Larbert, was very highly commended for Princess Gertrude.

Berkshire Boar, "Jack of All Trades."
(*Property of Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Great Marlow. First prize at Peterborough.*)

By the victory of Mr. Herbert Webster's Clydesdale mare Lady Lothian, the Cawdor Cup for the best female of the breed has now been won outright for the second time, the previous winners of the same owner having been the present champion and the Macgregor filly Lady Victoria. The first Cawdor Cup for Clydesdale females was won by Sir John Gilmour with the celebrated mare Moss Rose, which carried off the trophy twice, and her daughter, Montrave Maud, finally secured the plate for her spirited breeder. The competition for the championship lay between Mr. Webster's exhibit and the Earl of Rosebery's beautiful Baron's Pride filly, Pomona, which was champion at Edinburgh, and which was given the reserve ticket for the Cawdor Cup.

Light Horses.

The exhibition of hunters was somewhat disappointing, the winners in several classes meeting with little opposition. The only large turnout was in the yearling class, where Mr. J. Harling Turner, Cessnock, was placed first with Cessnock, a gelding sired by Kilmarnock, which was easily the best in the class, the other prize-winners being a good way behind him. Mr. Turner also headed the two-year-old class with his well-known Crossburn, a useful chestnut gelding. Mr. J. Stewart Lyon, Kirkmichael, was second with his winning Dumfries gelding. The three-year-old made a rather weak class, though [illegible] Lang Girl, belonging to Mr. D. Deuchar Wark, is an animal of considerable merit, and won the Hunters' Improvement Society's medal for the best filly. The heavy hunters are headed by Countess, a mare with beautiful action in the gallop, and belonging to Mr. E. Hoyle, Bingley. She carried off the champion medal of the section. A fine gelding belonging to Mr. William Taylor, Park Mains, showing signs of wear, was placed second. The [illegible] the light weight hunters were a [illegible] gs own by Mr. F. Cuthbert, which was [illegible] champion. There were only two animals in this class but both were of great merit. The brood mares formed quite an [illegible] class.

In the Hackney section the numbers were small, but several noted names were included in the various classes. Mr. Charles E. Gilbraith, Terregles, was a prominent exhibitor. He was first in the class for brood mares over fifteen hands with Vivandière, the Glasgow champion this year. He also was placed first in the class for brood mares under fifteen hands with Trilby, a mare of his own breeding and a noted winner. The three-year-old yeld mares or fillies were also headed by Mr. Galbraith with his well-known Atalanta, which was first at Glasgow last year. Mr. David Mitchell, of Millfield, was awarded the red ticket in the two-year-old filly class for Roberta, a chestnut of his own breeding, which was first at Kilmarnock this year, Mr. Galbraith's Lady Katharine being second. The Glasgow order was reversed in the case of these two animals, Lady Katherine carrying off the premier honours of the Glasgow show this year. The Hon. Mrs. Vernon, Auchans, Kilmarnock, was placed first in the yearling filly class with Rossette, a get of Rosador. In a small class of stallions under fifteen hands, Mr. G. R. Watson, Parkhead Cross, won with Hedon Sensation, the Glasgow champion, which was reserve for the medal. Mr. Galbraith's Athana, the winning two-year-old entire colt, was awarded the championship of the section.

Turning to the pony section, one of the largest classes was that for stallions not exceeding 10½ hands, foaled before 1898. Here Mr. Mackenzie, Earlshall, Leuchars, led with his dark-brown five-year-old Rattles, which was followed by a brown five-year-old, Danch, owned by Mr. Patrick Graham, Mrs. W. H. Johnstone, Edenbridge, Kent, coming third with her black five-year-old, Sanballat, which was fifth at Edinburgh. In the class for mares not exceeding 10½ hands, with foal at foot, Mr. John F. Cassels's Sweetie came first, Mr. R. W. R. Mackenzie's dark-brown seven-year-old Belle of Bressay, second, and Mr. T. R. B. Eliot's Berry Beauty, a bay four-year-old, third. The largest class in the section is that for yeld mares, fillies, or geldings, not exceeding 10½ hands, foaled before 1898. The leading ticket fell to Mr. W. H. Johnstone's Emerald, a seven-year-old, which also secured the President's medal for the best Shetland pony; the Ladies E. and D. Hope were second with Sea Serpent, a black four-year-old, and third with Vementry II., a brown eight-year-old. The class for yearlings and two-year-olds was headed by the Countess of Hopetoun's Dulcemona, Mr. G. A. Miller's Virginia coming second.

In the leaping competition for horses, Mrs. Blockley, who rode her own chestnut gelding, was awarded the first prize, Mr. David Carnegie, East Pitcorthie, Colinsburgh, being second with a black gelding; and Messrs. Thompson and Wheeler, Studley, were third with a chestnut gelding. The pony competition for animals 14.3 hands and under was won by Mr. William Riddick, Crookdale Hall, Cumberland, Messrs. Thompson and Wheeler being second, and Mr. James Nodwell, Dumfries, third.

Sheep.

Sheep make a large and most attractive display. As usual at the Society's meeting, black-faced sheep are a feature of this section of the yard. In this case the leading honours fall to Mr. Charles Howatson, of Glenbuck, who has achieved a notable series of successes. These began in the aged ram class, where he was first with A 1, to which was given the championship. The second prize aged tup is Shamrock, belonged to Messrs. Cadzow, Borland. Mr. Mitchell, Hazelside, was third. Shearling rams are a well-filled class of capital merit. The Glenbuck flock is again in evidence, the competition lying between sheep belonging to and bred by Mr. Howatson. Mr. Howatson's second prize winner is a Crossflat sheep. The competition between this and the other animal was very keen, both having many strong points in substance and quality. Aged ewes are a small display, but the quality is admirable. Mr. Howatson heads the list with a five-shear sheep of his own breeding, which was an outstanding winner. In this class he achieved the distinction of carrying off all the money prizes as well as the [illegible] For shearling ewes or gimmers, Messrs. Cadzow, Borland, led the way with a nice specimen of the breed.

For Cheviot sheep, Mr. John [illegible] Hindhope achieved much the same success that fell to Mr. Howatson in the [illegible] section, and that, too, in strong company. [illegible] his well-known sheep Jock's Joy, which was placed at Edinburgh in June and first at the Royal at York. To this animal was deservedly awarded the championship of the breed. The second [illegible]

the aged ram class went to Mr. John Robson, Newton. Mr. Johnstone, Archbank, was third with a sheep bred at Newton. The shearling ram class, which is one of great merit, produced the champion of the breed. This class saw an upturning of the decisions at the Edinburgh Show. A particularly fine ram, bred by Mr. Elliot, and shown by him, which was second at that meeting, was given premier position, and was awarded the championship. The same exhibitor was second in the class with the ram that was first at Edinburgh and at York. For third and fourth positions there was again a reversal of the Edinburgh awards—Mr. John Robson being third with the sheep which was fourth then, and Mr. Elliot fourth with the tup that stood third on that occasion. In the ewe class—above one shear—Mr. Elliot secured the two principal tickets. In the shearling ewe or gimmer class, the honours fell to Mr. John Robson, who gained first and second awards with animals that occupied corresponding places at York.

Border Leicesters are admirably represented, and for aged rams, Mr. M'Intosh, Balquharn, Brechin, secured the "blue ribbon" with a three-shear sheep, Mr. Nicholson, Lanchester, Durham, being second. Among shearling rams the competition was so keen that the judges were unable to agree, and Mr. William Ferguson was called in to decide matters. He gave the preference to the sheep belonging to Mr. Clark, Mr. A. J. Balfour, M.P., being second with the animal which was the first prize winner at the Royal. To Mr. Clark's ram was also awarded the Tweeddale gold medal for the best male of the breed shown. For ewes above one shear, Mr. A. J. Balfour gained the two principal awards. In the young ewe or gimmer class was found the champion animal, the successful exhibitor, for the second year in succession, being Mr. David Hume, Barrelwell, Brechin. In the class Mr. Hume's gimmer was closely followed by a nice animal shown by Mr. John Sharp, Ewingston.

The exhibition of half-breds was fair, the feature being the superiority of the aged rams. First prize was given to the two-shear tup Baden Powell, the property of Mr. William Elliot, Raecleugh Head, Dunse. Mr. L. Morley Crossman, Beal, Northumberland, came second, and Mr. Alexander Crosbie, Upper Keith, East Lothian, third. Mr. Elliot also won the breeders' prize for the best half-bred tup. In shearling tups, Mr. Elliot won first prize, and Mr. James A. W. Mein, Hunthill, Jedburgh, second and fourth. In ewes above one shear, of which there was a very good show, Mr. Dickinson led. Shearling ewes or gimmers were fair all over, but L. Morley Crossman's first prize winner, which also carried off the president's champion medal and the breeders' prize for the best half-bred ewe or gimmer, deservedly received honours.

In Shropshires the championship and first place was won by Ashlyns' Knight, the property of Richard P. Cooper, Berkhamsted, Herts. Mr. Buttar, Couper-Angus, won second prize, and Mr. Wm. Mortimer, Old Keig, Whitehouse, was third. In the shearling tup class Mr. Buttar won first, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth, leaving the second to Mr. Cooper, of Herts. In the class for ewes above one shear, again, he won third and fourth, while Mr. Cooper carried off first and second; and in the class for shearling ewes or gimmers he won first and fourth, Mr. Cooper winning second and fifth, and the Earl of Strathmore third and sixth.

In Oxford Downs Messrs. J. and S. Treadwell, Aylesbury, won first prize, and also second and third prizes and the championship medal for best pen of Oxford Downs, the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P., coming fourth. In shearling ewes or gimmers, however, Mr. Balfour came first and second, with Mr. Walter Elliot, Galashiels, third and fourth.

Suffolks numbered nine, all from England. The quality, however, was first class, the judges passing various commendatory remarks as they examined the animals. The Earl of Ellesmere won first prize with a sheep of great substance and fine frame. He also won second prize, leaving the third to Major E. W. Baird, Newmarket. In shearling ewes or gimmers the Earl of Ellesmere was again first and second and Major Baird third, while in the class for three ewe lambs he was first, and Major Baird second; the Earl of Ellesmere also won the championship medal for the best pen of Suffolk sheep.

Pigs.

There were only twenty-eight pens of pigs, but they were about an average show, both in number and quality. Only three Large White boars were shown, and here the first prize was deservedly taken by a fine boar shown by Mr. Sanders Spencer, of Holywell Manor. The second prize winner belonged to Mr. Lockhart, of Colinton Mains, who exhibited the boar which won first at the Maidstone Royal in the hands of his breeder, Sir Gilbert Greenall. An immense boar, also bred by Sir Gilbert Greenall, and owned by the Messrs. Walker, was third. Only two Large White sows were shown—Messrs. Walker's Lady Tichborne, which was first at Edinburgh and Ayr, and a new one shown from the Earl of Rosebery's piggeries. The East Craigs sow maintained her Edinburgh position, although the other was a good commercial pig. As many as six pens of breeding pigs were forward. The judge had some difficulty in allotting the prizes, but he eventually selected a pair of yelts of superb form and quality from the Holywell herd for first place. Another pen of the same stamp, also bred by Mr. Spencer, were reserve. Mr. A. E. Todd, Stoneybank, Musselburgh, was second also with a pen by one of Mr. Spencer's boars, out of a sow bred by the Messrs. Walker. The classes for pigs of other White breeds were sparsely filled. Mr. Spencer sent his boar Holywell Rosador, which has done so well in the showyard lately, and it won first prize. Messrs. Walker took the second prize with East Craigs Prince, and also headed the sow class with East Craigs Beauty, first at the recent Edinburgh Show. This sow afterwards got the President's medal as the best pig. Mr. Spencer was awarded the second prize for Holywell Middlesbro' 2nd, a smart, young sow. The pens of three showed even a greater variety of development than the Large Whites. Mr. Jefferson, Peel Hall, Chester, secured first with a nice seven-months'-old pen, and Messrs. Walker second. There was scarcely any competition in the Berkshire classes, Mr. Jefferson taking all the prizes.

Judges.

Shorthorn Cattle: Arthur S. Gibson, The Elms, Ruddington, Nottingham; D. C. Bruce, Byres, Fochabera. Aberdeen-Angus: Andrew Mackenzie of Dalmore, Alness, N.B.; Daniel Robertson, Mains of Fordie, Dunkeld. Galloway: John M'Cormick, Lochenkit, Dalbeattie; Andrew Montgomery, Netherhall, Castle-Douglas. Highland: John Campbell, Calvine Farm, Calvino, Perthshire; John Macphail, Auchnacraig, Craignure, Isle of Mull. Ayrshire: Alexander Y. Allan, Croftjane, Thornhill; Robert Woodburn, Holehouse, Galston. Jersey: T. H. Weetman, Rose Hill, Atherstone, Warwickshire. Stallions, Colts, and Draught Geldings: Richard Dunn, Udston, Hamilton; John Morrison, Hattonslap, Old Meldrum. Mares and Fillies: John Kerr, Red Hall, Wigton, Cumberland; A. M'Robbie, Sunnyside, Aberdeen. Hunters: George Dove, Whitehouse, St. Boswells; J. W. J. Paterson, Terrona, Langholm. Hackneys: Alfred Craggy, North Newbold, Brough, Yorks. Ponies: R. Brydon, The Dene, Seaham Harbour. Shetland Ponies: Gavin Hadden, Dalmunzie, Murtle, Aberdeen. Blackfaced Sheep: Alexander Cowan, Spittalhill, Fintry; W. J. Murray, Heriot House, Heriot; Robert Watson, Culterallers, Biggar. Cheviot: John Murray, Parkhall, Douglas; John Scott, Newton, Hawick. Border Leicester: James K. Smith, Leaston, Upper Keith; Matthew Ridley, Peelwell, Haydon Bridge. Half-bred: Andrew Dun, Laidlawstiel, Galashiels; William Hindmarsh, Ilderton, Alnwick. Shropshire: Alfred Tanner, Shrawardine, Shrewsbury. Oxford Down: J. H. Topin, Musgrave Hall, Skelton, Penrith. Suffolk: S. R. Sherwood, Playford, Ipswich. Fat Sheep: Robert Thomson, 29, Port Street, Stirling. Swine: Robert Wallace, Auchenbrain, Mauchline.

Stowmarket.

The Stowmarket and Central Suffolk Farmers' Club's twenty-seventh annual show was held on Friday, on "King's Meadows," a convenient site beside the Finborough Road, which has been used for some years past. The total number of entries in the catalogue showed a slight falling off, but this was entirely due to the striking out of the classes for pigs; in other and more attractive sections, the numbers were larger than usual. This was especially the case with regard to Hackneys and Hunters, which included many well-known winners in other parts of the country. The weather was very much of the character that has prevailed during the past week or more, but the heat of the sun was tempered to some extent by a cooling breeze. The attendance of visitors was a very good one.

With respect to the stock exhibits, the Suffolk horses showed up fairly well, but the foals in both classes were somewhat weak. Mr. W. R. Hustler was first in the horse foal class, and Mr. Leonard Smith first in that for fillies with a handsome and promising daughter of Golden Grain. The mares with foal at foot looked uncommonly well in the ring. Mr. R. Edgar sent his handsome mare Hurricane by the well-known Rattle, and she was placed first, though she had a rather sharp tussle with Mr. John Symonds's Dido. The yearling fillies included some smart animals. Mr. E. J. Johnstone's Amazon, by Conquest, and Mr. John Symonds's Rhoda, by Scottish Chief, were the best of the collection, the latter being half-sister to Rosa, the winning filly in the two-year-old class, and belonging to Mr. W. R. Hustler. Of the three-year-old fillies there was but a small entry. Mr. A. H. E. Wood's well-known Sudbourne Queen of Diamonds went into the first place, and she was picked out as likely to be the champion; but this honour was allotted to a stable companion, Sudbourne Matchett, and the latter took the ten-guinea challenge cup, presented by the town of Stowmarket, and the silver medal for the best Suffolk mare registered in the Stud Book. Mr. A. H. E. Wood's Sudbourne Queen of Diamonds being reserved. The ten-guinea challenge cup, presented by Mr. A. H. E. Wood, for the best Suffolk foal, bred and exhibited by a tenant farmer not having more than 200 acres of land, was awarded to Mr. H. Turner for a nice youngster by Queen of Diamonds. Agricultural horses, other than Suffolks, made a good show. In the horse foal class, Messrs. J. Gough and Son showed the foal by Normoor Chief, which took first at Ixworth. There was a better entry of filly foals. Mr. T. J. Cresswell was first among the horse foals, with his Aldeby Juno, by Lincolnshire Boy II. The second honour was awarded to Mr. J. R. Keeble for a young foal out of his well-known mare Brantham Pole Star. With regard to the class for mare with foal at foot, it was a fight between Mr. J. R. Keeble's Brantham Pole Star and Mr. J. Sturley Nunn's prize-winning mare, Maud. The former, a very choice mare, possessing more size, was undoubtedly entitled to be placed in front of Maud. Brantham Pole Star thus became the champion, and she carried off the special, presented by the Shire Horse Society, for the best Shire mare registered in the Stud Book, and the ten-guinea challenge cup for the best mare or filly of any age, Maud being reserved for the former, and Mr. F. Baldwin's Kedington Maggie for the latter. Mr. Baldwin's exhibit was first in her class, a position which she has taken on previous occasions. Mr. T. J. Cresswell was second with Aldeby Pansy, a gold-medal mare at the Norfolk Show this year. It may be mentioned that there were as many as four gold-medal mares entered in the classes at Stowmarket. Mr. Baldwin was also first in the competition for three-year-old fillies with Suffolk Gem, and winner at the county and other shows. Amongst the geldings were some very useful working horses, Mr. J. A. Lankester taking the lead in a strong collection of Shire geldings any age, Mr. Walter Noble's Ruler being second.

There was, as usual, a goodly array of nag horses. Hunters were well represented. In the two-year-old mare or gelding class, Mr. C. H. K. Harvey's Mischief, by Trayles, was placed in the first position. In the three-year-old class Mr. Phil. Browne's Music, by Cobbler, was once more to the front, a position in which she has always been found at the Royal and other shows. There was a four-year-old class for a Suffolk tenant farmer, and here Mr. D. W. Taylor took the lead with his Molly. The lightweights formed about the best collection in the show. Mr. P. M. Browne's choice mare Melody, by Cobbler, was the winner in grand company, though there were some outside the ring who had rather a fancy for the Earl Egerton of Tatton's Magic. As to the heavyweights, this class, too, was well filled, there being a number of animals that looked like going across the country. Mr. R. E. Walford's Little Willie was singled out by the judges, thus taking the place given her at the Norfolk Show, the second going to Messrs. J. Gough and Sons' Black Malt. Mr. Washington Charter's bay gelding, five years old, a real heavy weight carrier, looked like winning, but she did not pass the vet., who considered him wrong in the wind. Mr. Washington Charters, feeling confident that no fault of the kind could be laid upon his fine gelding, thereupon secured the certificates of four veterinary surgeons, who certified that the gelding was sound in his respiratory organs, but the Society's veterinary surgeon held to his opinion. Mr. P. M. Browne's Melody took the prize offered for the best mare or gelding, the property of any tenant farmer, being a member; and the same mare was first also in the new and attractive class for the best mare or gelding that had been regularly ridden with the Suffolk Hounds, the prize being presented by Mr. Eugene Wells, the popular Master of those hounds. The Hackneys included several choice animals, especially those shown in harness, amongst them being Mr. George Johnson's celebrated Searchlight and Brilliance, which won easily in their respective classes, the second prize going to Mr. F. H. Jennings's choice Hackney Chutney, in the class under 15 hands; while Brilliance, in the 15 hands class, had as an antagonist Mr. William Miles's Gay Lad, a grand mover. Of cobs and ponies, too, there was a nice show. Mr. George Johnson's Lucy Glitters was the winner in the class for under 14 hands, but a very taking mare turned up in Kitty, shown by Mr. A. Warne, of Ipswich. There was a fairly good entry of weight-carrying cobs, the judges giving the chief prize to Mr. W. P. Burton's stylish Nameless.

The cattle, taking them altogether, were only a moderate lot. There was really only one good class, that for red-polled heifers. There were several absentees in the other classes, the hot weather being assigned as a reason why their owners did not send them. The Hon. C. Hanbury was the chief winner in the red poll heifer class. The sheep, on the other hand, were very good. There was a large entry of Suffolk ram lambs; the four prize-winners were grand lambs, three of them, belonging to Mr. Herbert Smith, being winners at the Royal and other shows. The Suffolk ewe lambs were also choice examples of the breed, Mr. S. Traylen being first, and these carried off the £5 challenge cup as the best Suffolk ewe lambs. The shearling ewes made a particularly fine show, Mr. Herbert Smith being again to the fore. This gentleman was awarded the challenge cup, presented by the Marquis of Bristol, for the best Suffolk ram lamb.

Tunbridge Wells.

The Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society's annual two-day show opened on Thursday at the Agricultural Ground, Tunbridge Wells, and was altogether a successful event. Last year the show suffered somewhat on account of it coming shortly after the Royal at Maidstone, and the Sussex County at Eastbourne, but in the present instance it suffered no such disadvantage, and there was consequently a larger number of entries in the most important departments of the show. The prize money totalled altogether £1,725, the major portion of the additional amount being given to the horse, cattle, sheep, and pig classes, where, in the majority of cases, the entries showed a marked increase upon those of a year ago. Particularly was this so in the Channel Islands cattle classes, where the increase was remarkable. A year ago the Jerseys made a total head of animals of 84. This year there were no fewer than 126, which is but eighteen fewer than the total Jerseys shown at the Royal Show at Maidstone in 1899. In one class—1899 heifer—there were no fewer than thirty-five entries, which is be-

lieved to be a record for the Tunbridge Wells Show. The Guernseys went up from 39 to 55 entries. The Sussex cattle classes, unfortunately, showed a falling off, viz., 39 entries against 52 last year; the Shorthorn classes were also weaker, and while the Kerries showed an increase of six, the Dexters had decreased a dozen. An entirely new section for Aberdeen-Angus cattle showed by 33 entries the popularity of the Scotch breed in the south-eastern counties. The horse classes, generally speaking, remained about the same strength as previously. The Clydesdales fell off, Shires increased 15, hunters numbered 81 against a total of 56 in the hunters and hack classes in 1899; Hackneys grew from 55 to 62, and the ponies from 24 to 37. Sheep neither gained nor lost, both the Southdowns and Romney Marsh breeds remaining at 42 and 28 respectively.

The quality of the exhibits was excellent all round, a great many of the prize winners having been shown at the Royal, and also at other shows this year.

That important factor, the weather, was all that could be desired, but the attendance of visitors was not so good as usual. There was quite a distinguished company present on the first day, including, amongst others, the Marquis of Abergavenny, the Marquis and Marchioness Camden, Lord and Lady Henry Nevill, Lord George Nevill, Earl de la Warr (who was the observed of all observers, and looking very brown and well on his return from the front, although still walking with a limp from the effect of his wound), Earl Derby (this year's president of the show), Lord Pirbright, Lord George Pratt, and Sir George Stirling.

Interest in the show ring was chiefly centred in the new feature, namely, the Aberdeen-Angus cattle classes, and in this division Mr. F. Crisp was considered by the judges to be quite up to championship form. The heifer class, mustering no fewer than fourteen, was also so good that the judge awarded an extra prize, and the president, Lord Derby, ensured a strong representation of Sussex cattle. There were some very useful animals in the cow classes, and the champion at the Royal Counties' Show at Winchester was again given the premier award. The Jersey and Guernsey cattle were also a strong lot, and the Countess De la Warr was again successful with Dexters. Coming to the horses, the success of Sir Walter Gilbey, a new exhibitor, was welcomed; and his celebrated stallion maintained its premier position, as did Mr. H. Livesey's Surprise, which was champion at the London show. The sheep, if not numerous, were very fine, specially the Kent breed, and the ram of Mr. C. Files was ahead of everything else. The lambs were weak and wool rather small. The horse-shoeing competitions were again an interesting feature, and the County Council competitions revealed increased excellence in the work of local smiths.

The Judges.

CLYDESDALE: Mr. W. Greig, Leatherhead.
SHIRES: Mr. William Richardson, Eastmoor House, Dobbington, Cambridge.
ANY AGRICULTURAL BREED: Messrs. W. Greig and W. Richardson.
HUNTERS: Colonel R. W. Chandos Pole, Radbourne Hall, Derby, and Sir Henry Simpson, Gordon House, Windsor.
HACKNEYS AND PONIES: Mr. Alfred Rowell, West Rudham, King's Lynn, Norfolk.
HARNESS: Mr. Henry Frisby, 14, James Street, Buckingham Gate, S.W., and Mr. Adrian Hope, 55, Princes Gate, S.W.
JUMPING: The Marquis of Camden, Bayham Abbey; the Lord Henry Nevill, Eridge Castle, and Mr. Whitmore.
SHORTHORNS: Mr. J. W. Cruickshank, Coombe Head, Haslemere, and Mr. Hugh Gorringe.
SUSSEX: Mr. Henry Rigden, Queen's Road, Ashford, and Mr. Alfred Stanford, Eatons, Steyning.
ABERDEEN-ANGUS: Mr. William Reid, 160, Central Meat Market, E.C.
JERSEY: Mr. G. C. Knight, Baldhorn's Park, Rusper, Sussex, and Mr. Ernest Mathews, Chequer's Mead, Potter's Bar, Middlesex.
GUERNSEY: Mr. H. J. Gibbs, Milford, Salisbury, and Mr. D. Michie, Estate Office, Tichborne Park, Alresford.
KERRY AND DEXTER: Mr. F. N. Webb, Babraham, Cambridge, and Mr. G. T. Barham, 40, New Oxford Street, W.C.
JERSEY AND GUERNSEY: Mr. T. W Hammond, 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, W., and Mr. L. J. Craufurd, 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, W.
SOUTHDOWN: Mr. C. O. Newman, Charlton, Singleton, Chichester.
KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH: Mr. Arthur Finn, Westbroke, Lydd, Kent.
WOOL: Mr. Rowland Stagg, Tunbridge.
GOATS: Mr. H. S. Holmes Pegler, Dunstans Hern, Honor Oak, S.E.
BERKSHIRE AND ANY OTHER PURE-BREED PIGS: Mr. J. Treadwell, Upper Winchenden, Aylesbury.

Prize List.

HORSES.

CLYDESDALE.

Stallion, foaled before 1898: 1, Lords A. and L. Cecil, Orchardmains, Tunbridge.

Stallion, foaled in 1898 or 1899: 1 and 2, Lords A. and L. Cecil; r, Robert Veitch, Aylesford, Kent.

Mare or gelding, foaled in or before 1897: 1, 2, and r, Lords A. and L. Cecil; 3, L. Deadman, Brockhampton Stud Farm, Havant.

Mare and foal: 1 and 2, Lords A. and L. Cecil.

Filly, foaled in 1898: 1, Alex. Holm, Betchworth, Surrey.

Gelding or filly, foaled in 1899: 1 and 2, Lords A. and L. Cecil; r, Alex. Holm, Betchworth.

SHIRE.

Stallion, foaled before 1898: 1, Lord Hothfield, Hothfield Place, Ashford; 2, Percy A. Willett, Newhaven; r, C. Czarnikow, Effingham Hill, Dorking.

Stallion, foaled in 1898: 1, R. W. Hudson, Great Marlow, Bucks; 2, Lord Hothfield; r and he, Max Michaelis, Tandridge Court, Surrey.

Stallion, foaled in 1899: 1, George Osenton, Westerham; 2, Walpole Greenwell, Woldingham, Surrey; r and hc, L. Deadman.

Mare and foal: 1, C. Sheppard Marsh; 2, Percy A. Willett; hc, L. Deadman, and C. Czarnikow; vhc, Leopold Salomons, Dorking.

Mare or gelding, any age: 1, C. Sheppard Marsh; 2, R. W. Hudson; vhc, E. S. Stock; hc, Percy A. Willett and Lord Hothfield.

Filly, foaled in 1897: 1, Lord Hothfield; 2, Leopold Salomons.

Filly, foaled in 1898: 1, Lord Hothfield; 2, George Osenton; vhc, R. W. Hudson; hc, G. J. Drummond, Pembroke.

Gelding or filly, foaled in 1899: 1, Walpole Greenwell, Marden Park, Woldingham; 2, Lord Hothfield; vhc, R. W. Hudson; hc, George Osenton and Leopold Salomons.

ANY AGRICULTURAL BREED.

Mare in foal: 1, Alex. Holm, Betchworth, Surrey.

Mare or gelding, any age: 1, Alex. Holm, Betchworth; 2, John and Thomas C. Robertson, Manor Farm, Clutton, and H. F. Simonds, Lovehurst, Staplehurst.

Mare or gelding, foaled in 1897: 1, Alex. Holm; 2, John and Thomas C. Robertson.

Mare or gelding, foaled in 1898: 1, John and Thomas C. Robertson; 2, Alexander Holm.

Colt or filly, foaled in 1899: 1, Robert Veitch; 2, Alex Holm.

HUNTERS.

Thoroughbred stallion: 1 and r, Wm. Wilson; 2, L. Deadman.

Brood mare, open to Kent, Sussex, and Surrey only: 1, C. Kelway, Bamber, Bromley; 2, W. H. Johnstone, Skeynes, Edenbridge; 3, D'Arcy Reeve, Matfield, Paddock Wood; 4, T. H. Wood, Swanley; r, S. L. Smith, Maidstone.

Foal, sired by a thoroughbred, entered in general stud book: 1, Mrs. A. F. Perkins, Holmwood, Surrey; 2, W. H Johnstone; r, S. L. Smith.

Mare or gelding from 13 stone 7lbs. to 15 stone: 1, J. H. Stokes, Market Harboro'; 2, Thomas Rodmore, Cheam; r, R. Bertram Pott, Bentham Hill, Tunbridge Wells; c, A. A. Gorham, Lewes; Marquis Camden, Bayham.

Mare or gelding from 12 stone to 13 stone 7lbs.: 1, J. H. Stokes, Market Harboro'; 2, E. and A. Baxter, Brentwood, Surrey; r, J. Blake; hc, R. Bertram Pott.

Gelding or filly, foaled in 1898: 1, C. Kelway, Bamber; 2, A. Gorham; r, W. W. Hubble, Hunton, near Maidstone.

Gelding or filly, foaled in 1899, the property of a resident, and bred in the counties of Kent, Sussex, or Surrey: 1, S. L. Smith; 2, E. Delmar Morgan; r, Mrs. A. T. Perkins.

POLO AND RIDING PONIES.

Stallion, not exceeding 14-2 hands high: 1, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Elsenham Hall, Essex; 2, Rev. D. B. Montefiore Winslow, Bucks; r, Lords A. and L. Cecil.

Mare with foal at foot, not exceeding 14-2 hands: 1, Dumbar Kelly, Bromley, Kent; 2, H. Kelway Bamber; r, John Barker, J.P., Bishop Stortford, Herts.

Mare or gelding from 13-2 to 14-2 hands: 1, Thos. S. Greenway, London; 2, Lord H. Nevill, Eridge Castle; r, J. Stevens, South Norwood.

Mare or gelding, under 13-2 hands: 1, Rev. D. B. Montefiore; 2, W. F. Makings, Chelmsford, Essex; r, Thos. Henry Church, Crawley Down.

Gold medal of the Polo Pony Society for the best polo pony, stallion, mare or gelding: Dumbar Kelly.

Stallion, any age: 1, Harry Livesey; 2, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart.; r, G. W. Burrows, Orpington.

Stallion, foaled in 1898: 1, Harry Livesey, Rotherfield; 2, E. S. Stock, Manningtree; r, Messrs. Brinckman and Madge, Leatherhead; hc, Mrs. A. H. Temple, Leyswood, Groombridge.

Entire colt, foaled in 1899: 1, William Oppenheimer, Thames Ditton; 2, Fredk. Wm. Page, Cowfold, Sussex.

Brood mare, 15-2 hands and over: 1, Harry Livesey; 2 and 3, Mrs. A. H. Temple, Groombridge; r, Benjamin Oakes, Hildenborough Stud.

Brood mare, under 15-2 hands: 1, H. Livesey; 2, James Wallis, Beddington, Surrey; r, Mrs. A. H. Temple; r, Major Wm. Duncan.

Brood mare, for tenant farmers only in Kent, Sussex, or Surrey, or tradesmen in Tunbridge Wells Borough: 1, A. Boddy, Hever; 2, Dumbar Kelly; 3, H. J. Symonds; r, E. H Brown

SHETLAND PONIES.

Stallion, not exceeding 10-2 hands: 1, The Misses Vesey, Frimley, Surrey; 2, The Ladies E. and D. Hope Sevenoaks; r, T. W. Talbot, Frimley Green, Hants; hc, Lords A. and L. Cecil.

Mare or gelding, not exceeding 10-2 hands; 1 and 2, The Ladies E. and D. Hope; r, T. W. Talbot.

Harness mare or gelding, under 14-2 hands: 1 and 2, E. and A. Baxter; r, Major W. Duncan; hc, E. H. Goad; W. F. Makings

Harness mare or gelding, any height: 1, E. and A. Baxter; 2, Miss E. K. Cunliffe; r, Major W. Duncan; hc, Mrs. Hartley G. Pott.

PAIRS HARNESS.

Pair of horses, not less than 14 hands, driven in double harness: 1, E. and A. Baxter; 2, Miss E. K. Cunliffe, Leatherhead; r, Mrs Hartley Bett, Paddington; hc, Edwin H. Goad.

Best tandem: 1, E. and A. Baxter; 2, Mrs. Hartley Pott; r, Edwin H. Goad.

JUMPING.

Mare or gelding, the property of a member of the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club: 1, F. W. Henderson, Petworth; r, J. C. Buckland, Great Chart.

Mare or gelding, not exceeding 15 hands: 1, J. C. Buckland, Great Chart; 2, A. N. Smith, Redhill.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORN.

Bull, calved in 1896 or 1897: 1, J. Thorley; 2, W. E. Balston, Potters Bar.

Bull, calved in 1898: 1, John Little, Trowbridge; 2, J. Thorley; r and hc, Arthur Hiscock, jun., Motcombe, Dorset.

Bull, calved in 1899: 1, Col. Makins, Henley-on-Thames; 2, W. E. Balston, Cranbrook; r, D'Arcy Reeves.

Bull, any age, the property of a tenant farmer residing in Kent, Sussex, or Surrey: 1, Exors. of Charles Collard, Canterbury; 2 and r, John Joyce Frowd, Hassocks, Sussex.

Shorthorn bull, located in Kent or Surrey, calved in 1899: 1, D'Arcy Reeves; r, John Joyce.

Cow or heifer in milk, calved in or previously to 1897: 1, Colonel Makins; 2, John Little, Trowbridge; r, Henry Still, South Norwood.

Cow in milk, any age: 1 and 2, John Little; r, George Taylor, Cranford.

Heifer, calved in 1898: 1, Arthur Hiscock; 2, D'Arcy Reeves; r, Walpole Greenwell, Waldingham, Surrey

Heifer, calved in 1899: 1, J. Thorley; 2, Sir Mark W Collet, Bart.; r and hc, Arthur Hiscock, jun.

SUSSEX.

Bull, calved in 1896 or 1897: 1, P. F. R. Saillard; 2, The Earl of Derby, Witley, Surrey; r and hc, F. S. W. Cornwallis, M.P., Linton Park, Maidstone; hc, W. Ford.

Bull, calved in 1898: 1, The Earl of Derby; 2, P. M. R Saillard; r and hc, Hon. Ralph Nevill, Maidstone; hc, Ernest Edward Braby, Rudwick, Sussex.

Bull, calved in 1899: 1 and c, The Earl of Derby; 2, P. F. R. Saillard; hc, W. Ford; c, Captain Alexander.

Bull, any age, the property of a tenant farmer residing in the Eridge, Burstow, or West Kent, Hunts: 1, William Ford, Ticehurst.

Sussex Breeders' Subscription Champion Prize of £10 [illegible]

[illegible]

Cow, in milk or in calf, calved previously to 1897, the property of a tenant farmer residing in Kent, Sussex, or Surrey: 1, W. [illegible]

Heifer [illegible]

Alexander, Cranbrook; r, Francis James Maitland, East [illegible]

Heifer, calved in 1899: 1, W. W. Hubble, Hunton, near Maidstone; 2, Mrs. [illegible]

P. F. R. Saillard

Champion prize [illegible]

the [illegible] P. F. R. Saillard; [illegible]

Sussex Breeders' Subscription Champion Prize of £10 for the best Sussex heifer [illegible] W. W. Hubble, Hunton, Maidstone.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

Bull, any age: 1, C. W. S. Whitburn, West Malling; 2, Fred. Crisp, New Southgate, N.; r, John H. Bridges, Horley, Surrey; hc, George Osenton, Westerham; hc, Captain Alexander.

Cow, any age: 1, Fred. Crisp; 2, Charles W. Schroeder, Basingstoke; r, [illegible]

Heifer calved [illegible]

R. W. Hudson, Great Marlow, Bucks; 3 and r, Charles W Schroeder; hc, [illegible]

Champion prize of £10 for the best animal in Classes 76, 77, and 78: Fred. Crisp; r, C. W. S. Whitburn

DEVON.

Cow, in milk, calved previous to or in 1896: 1 and 2, Charles W Schroeder, Basingstoke; r and hc, [illegible] Farnsworth, Surrey; c, [illegible]

Sussex; vhc, Mrs. A. F. Perkins, Holmwood, Surrey; hc, Lady de Rothschild, Tring; [illegible]

Alexander, Miller Hallet, Chelsfield, Kent; Lady Brassey, Normanhurst, Battle; Pickering Phipps, Esq.

Heifer, calved in 1897: 1 and 2, Mrs. [illegible] 3, J. Carson; r, Charles F. Young; hc, A Miller Hellett, Mrs. A. T. Perkins

Heifer, calved in 1898: 1 and 2, Mrs. [illegible] Havering Park, Essex; 2, Lady de Rothschild; 3, J. Carson, Theydon Bois, Essex; r and vhc, Mrs. A. F. Perkins; hc, Charles M. Armitage, Potters Bar; vhc, Captain A. R. S. Fraser, Worthing.

Heifer, calved in 1899: 1 and 2, Mrs. A. F. Perkins; 3, Captain A. B. S. Fraser; r and vhc, Mrs Charlotte McIntosh; vhc and hc, Pickering Phipps; vhc, Charles W. Armitage; hc, Lady de Rothschild, F. Freeman-Thomas, Esq.

Bull, calved in 1896, 1897, or 1898: 1 F. Freeman-Thomas, Wellingden, Sussex; 2, Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand, Lewes; 3, Mrs. A. F. Perkins; r, hc, and c, Lady Brassey, Normanhurst, Battle; hc, Lord Hillingdon, Seal.

Bull, calved in 1899: 1 and c, Captain A. B. [illegible] near Hastings; 3, Captain A. R. S. [illegible] J. Spencer Evans, Horsham; hc, Julius C. Drew, Wadhurst Hall; Lord Hillingdon; c, Mrs. A. F. Perkins; vhc, Her Grace Lily Duchess of Montrose; hc, Mrs. [illegible] McIntosh.

GUERNSEY.

Bull, calved in 1896, 1897, or 1898: 1 and 3, Mrs. Montefiore, Crawley; 2, E. A. Hambro; r and hc, Earl of Ashburnham; c, W. A. Glynn, J. D. Toogood Parsons.

Bull, calved in 1899: 1, Earl of Ashburnham; 2, W. A Glynn; 3, E. A. Hambro; r and hc, Frank Hargreaves.

Cow, in milk, or calved previous to or in 1896: 1 and 3, Hon. Mrs. A. Bailie, Ringwood, Hants; 2 and c, E. A. Hambro, Hayes, Kent; r and hc, H. FitzWalter Plumptre, Dover; hc, W. A. Glynn, Isle of Wight; c, J. D. Toogood Parsons, jun.

Heifer calved in 1897: 1, E. A. Hambro; 2, H. FitzWalter Plumptre; 3, Frank Hargreaves, Shipston-on-Stour, Warwick; 4 and hc, J. D. Toogood Parsons.

Heifer, calved in 1898: 1 Mrs. [illegible] 2 Earl of Ashburnham; 3, W. [illegible] Tunbridge Wells; r, Frank Hargreaves, Shipston-on-Stour, Warwick

Heifer, calved in 1899: 1 and 3, E. A. Hambro; 2, W. A. Glynn, Isle of Wight; r, F. Hargreaves; c, J. D. Toogood Parsons, jun., and Mrs. Montefiore.

JERSEY.

Bull, calved before 1899: 1 and 3, W. H. Mullens, Battle; 2, Her Grace Duchess of Newcastle; r, Her Grace [illegible] Newcastle; 2 and 3, W. H. Mullens.

Cow or heifer, in milk or in calf, calved in or before 1897: 1, J. Thorley, Faringdon, Berks; 2 and c, Her Grace the Duchess of Newcastle, Worksop; 3, 4, and hc, and c, W. H. Mullens, Battle; r, J. Hammond, Uckfield, Sussex.

Heifer, calved in 1898: 1, W. H. Mullens; 2, r, and hc, Her Grace the Duchess of Newcastle, Worksop.

Heifer, calved in 1899: 1, Her Grace the Duchess of Newcastle; 2, 3, r, and hc, W. H. Mullens; c, J. Haymen Joyce.

Challenge cup [illegible] either sex ever [illegible] Cattle Society, J. Thorley; r, Her Grace the Duchess of Newcastle.

DEXTER.

Bull, calved before 1899: 1, F. [illegible] Sydney Snelgrove, Knowle; 2, The Countess de la Warr, Boxhill-on-Sea.

1, Countess de la Warr; 2, J. Sydney Snelgrove.

Cow or heifer in milk, [illegible] Baldowero de Bertodaro, Malmesbury, Wilts; 2, Countess de la Warr; hc, J. Sydney Snelgrove.

Heifer calved in 1898: 1, Countess de la Warr.

Heifer, calved in 1899: 1, J. [illegible] Warr; r, J. Sydney Snelgrove

Challenge cup [illegible] of the best Dexter [illegible] show of either sex [illegible] Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society, Countess de la Warr.

SHEEP.

SOUTHDOWN.

Ram, [illegible] 1, W. Toop, Chichester; 2, [illegible] W. Toop.

Shearling ram: 1, W. Toop, Chichester; 2, Pagham Harbour Co.; 3, [illegible] Pagham Harbour Co.; r and hc, [illegible] Toop; r and hc, Charles N. Hodgen; c, Francis N. Hodgen; c, Sir Thos. Barret-Lennard, Bart., Belhus, Aveley.

Ewe [illegible] 1, W. Toop; 2, Pagham Harbour Co.; r and hc, Thos. Miles.

Pen of three ewe lambs, [illegible] 1, W. Toop; 2, Hugh Penfold; 3, [illegible] R. M. Clayton.

Pen of three ewe lambs, untrimmed, the property of a tenant farmer [illegible] 1, [illegible] Miss Fagg.

Silver medal offered by the Southdown Sheep Society for the best male Southdown: Pagham Harbour Co.

Silver medal offered by the Southdown Sheep Society for the best pen of female Southdowns: W. Toop.

Champion Prize—The Blythwood challenge bowl, offered by Vice-President Sir James Blyth, Bart., for the best animal male or female, from any pen in the Southdown classes: Pagham Harbour Co.

KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH.

Ram, dropped in 1898: 1, Charles File, Canterbury; 2, William Miller, Faversham; hc, F. Neame, Faversham.

Shearling ram: 1 and hc, Charles File; 2 and hc, William Miller; r and hc, H. Rigden.

Pen of three ewe tegs, dropped in 1899: 1, F. Neame; 2 and hc, Chas File; r and hc, Wm. Miller.

Pen of three ewe lambs, dropped in 1900: 1, F. Neame; 2, Chas. File; r and hc, H. Rigden.

WOOL.

Three fleeces, Southdown (tegs): 1, Earl of Ashburnham; 2, Thos. Miles, Battle.

Three fleeces, Southdown (ewes): 1, Thos. Miles; 2, Earl of Ashburnham.

Three fleeces, Kent or Romney Marsh (tegs): 1, H. Rigden, Hythe; 2, A. Finn, Lydd, Kent.

Three fleeces, Kent or Romney Marsh (tegs): 1, H. Rigden, Hythe; 2, Arthur Finn.

GOATS.

She goat, horned or hornless, over two years, and winner of one or more first prizes before the 20th June, 1900: 1, R. Walker, Ponders End; 2, Mrs. A. F. Perkins; c, H. C. Stephens, M.P., Wilts.

She goat, horned or hornless, over two years of age, that has not won a first prize before 20th June, 1900: 1, R. Walter; 2, H. R. Harrild.

Goatlings, over two years of age: 1 and 2, R. Walter; hc, H. R. Harrild.

Kid, male or female, under twelve months: 1, R. Walter, Ponders End; 2 and hc, H. R. Harrild, Sydenham.

PIGS.

BERKSHIRE.

Boar, farrowed in or before 1899: 1, R. W. Hudson; 2, Arthur Hiscock, jun.; r and hc, George T. Tomkins, Marden, Kent.

Boar, farrowed in 1900: 1, Earl of Ashburnham; 2, Arthur Hiscock; r and hc, R. W. Hudson.

Sow, in or with farrow: 1 and hc, R. W. Hudson; 2, Mrs. Hepburn, Chorley, Sussex; r and hc, Geo. T. Tomkins; hc, Arthur Hiscock, jun.

Two sow pigs, farrowed in 1900: 1, Geo. T. Tomkins; 2, R. W. Hudson; r and hc, Arthur Hiscock; c, Mrs. Hepburn.

ANY OTHER BREED.

Boar, any age: 1 and 2, Arthur Hiscock; r and hc, Henry White and Sons, Wateringbury.

Sow in, or with farrow: 1 and 2, A. Hiscock, jun.; r, hc, and c, Henry White and Sons; c, John William Warwick, Speldhurst.

Two sow pigs, farrowed in 1900: 1, r, and hc, Arthur Hiscock; 2, Henry White and Sons.

Halesworth Horse Show.

Thursday was a festive day at Halesworth. It always is on the occasion of the pitching of the tents of the Halesworth Horse Show. There was a record entry, there being forty more than last year. This increase was chiefly in the Shirebred and Hackney classes. The harness class was also an improvement upon previous years. There were certain new classes, including one for tradesmen's turnouts, and this is a feature at local shows which invariably excites much interest. Thanks to the generosity of Mrs. Egerton, another new class was introduced this year, that for tandems, which added largely to the attraction of the show yard.

The judges of Suffolks were Mr. Robert Edgar, Knight's Hill, Cockfield, and Mr. Arthur Pratt, Sproughton Hall, Ipswich. These gentlemen had not a very difficult task, owing to the paucity of the entries. Messrs. F. G. and E. A. Cook, however, did quite their part in bringing the collection of Suffolks up to something like respectable proportions. The former gentleman sent his nice horse foal by Border Minstrel, which was second at Eye, but it failed to do more on this occasion than retain that position, a son of the same well-known sire, belonging to Mr. Jas. Rose, Laxfield, took the leading place, while yet a third foal by Border Minstrel, shown by Mr. E. A. Cook, was fourth. The champion foal was found in the filly class, a particularly choice foal by Captain B. The youngster was awarded the champion, presented by Messrs. Richard Garrett and Sons, Limited, for the best foal. It also carried off the silver medal given by the Suffolk Horse Society. Mr. Samuel Balls also carried off the second prize in the class with a daughter of the celebrated Wedgewood, hailing from the Rendlesham stud, Mr. E. A. Cook's choice filly by Border Minstrel, first at Eye, having to be content this time with third honour. The beautiful champion filly was purchased at a good figure by Mr. Alfred Smith to add to the Rendlesham Stud. The yearlings formed only a small class, Mr. F. G. Cook taking first with his Maude, a position she took at Eye. In the two-year-olds Mr. F. G. Cook was first with Leader, only placed second at Eye. Mr. S. Balls was first in the mare class with foal at foot, but in the class for gast mare or gelding Mr. S. Stanford took the lead with a choice mare which secured the Earl of Stradbroke's champion prize for the best Suffolk mare in the yard, Mr. F. G. Cook's Leader being reserved.

The judges of Shire or cross-breeds were Mr. Jno. W. Eagle, Walton Hall, and Mr. Roland Partridge, Aldham Hall, Hadleigh. Here, as at other shows this season, the cross-breeds have been out of it, the true-bred Shires taking the lead. The classes were much better filled than the Suffolk. There were, for instance, fifteen horse foals, and Mr. Herbert Broom the new hon. secretary of the Society, had the honour of taking the lead in a very fine collection with a promising son of Lincolnshire Boy III., beating a good exhibit by Messrs. Thos. Durrant and Son, Saxmundham, Mr. Broom's first prize winner taking the special offered by Mr. S. H. Foster, M.P., for the best foal. The filly foals were more numerous, but they were not, on the whole, quite so good. Another Lincolnshire III. youngster, belonging to Mr. J. Trenholm, Cresswell, was first, but in the competition for the champion prize for the best Shire-bred foal, eligible for the Shire Horse Stud Book, it had to give place to Messrs. Thos. Durrant and Son's Sirdar horse foal, second in that class. With respect to the yearlings, Mr. Herbert Stanford sent a filly which promises to grow into a good mare. In the two-year-olds, Mr. Thos. L. Ashford showed an exceptionally grand roan, very big for her age, and of nice style, and she carried off the champion for the best Shire or cross-bred mare in the yard and the Shire Horse Society's medal. There was a large entry of brood mares with foal at foot, Messrs. Thos. Durrant and Son's Violet taking the chief prize, and she was reserved for the championship. The pairs of plough horses showed up remarkably well, amongst them being some grand farmers' horses.

With regard to the riding horses, these came before Mr. Arthur Gayford, White House, East Harling, and Mr. John C. Dawson, Nacton Hall. The president of the Society, the Earl of Stradbroke, was a strong and most successful exhibitor in the various classes. His Lordship showed a very nice hunting foal by New Orleans, and a good hunting mare with foal at foot, but she was beaten by Mr. George Read's mare Lion. The Hackneys above 15 hands made a good show, Mr. C. F. Egerton sending a choice bay mare, Spick, which was awarded the silver medal given by the Hackney Society for the best Hackney, a Hackney filly sent by Mr. J. H. Coker, first in its class, being reserved for the medal. The class for Hackneys not exceeding 15 hands was the strongest in point of numbers, Mr. William Ling scoring with a beautiful six-year-old bay mare. In the pony class Mr. John Munnings showed his brown mare Trilby, which quickly caught the eye of the judges, being stylish and a fine mover. The Earl of Stradbroke took the lead in the heavyweight and lightweight classes. The feature of the light horse department was the tandem competitions for the prize given by Mrs. C. F. Egerton. Mr. George Johnson, Woodbridge, was first with his splendid and now renowned pair, Brilliance and Searchlight, driven by himself. The judges occupied a longer time in deciding where the second honour should go, to Mr. C. F. Egerton's Spick and Span, or to Mr. William Miles's Bar of Gold and Golden Penny. The former were two specially fine movers, and, in the opinion of lookers-on, the pair ought to have been reversed, the leader being placed in the wheel. The judges, however, eventually gave them the second prize. The tradesmen's turnouts also attracted a good deal of attention. They were most creditable and exceedingly well horsed.

Evesham Horse Show.

The annual horse show at Evesham took place on Wednesday, and was held in the field adjoining the Crown meadow. The show was one of the best yet held, the classes for light horses being remarkably strong. The entry of agricultural horses was not large, but the classes contained several animals of high merit. In a local class for agricultural stallion, Mr. H. S. Rimell (Throckmorton) was first with Invincible, a very useful horse, and Mr. M. Crump (Childswickham) second with Hawarden Boy. In an open class for Shire mare with foal, Mr. G. E. Shirley (Ettington Park), was first with a big-limbed mare with a good foal, and Mr. W. Lidsey, jun. (Leamington, Moreton), second with Honest Bonny. A similar local class was a strong one, Mr. W. Lidsey's Heroine of Batsford was first, and Mr. E. B. Wynne's (Welcome Bank) White Foot second. In a class for sucking colt or filly by horses in the district, first honours were awarded to Mr. F. Smith, of Childswickham, and second to Mr. J. Riddell (Dumbleton Mill). In a restricted class for colt or gelding, Mr. W. Darlington, of Clevelode, Malvern, was an easy winner with Clevelode Royal Albert, a beautiful colt, and Mr. F. Skinner, of Norton, was second. Four good yearling fillies were shown in the next class, chief honours being awarded to Mr. J. S. P. Camden, of Aston Magna, for Bankvue Hilda, while Mr. A. W. Ashton (Newbold-on-Stour) was second with Armscott Credit; and reserved with Armscott Wine. Mr. W. Darlington took first and second prizes in the class for two-year-old fillies, with Cleveland Melody and Clevelode Harold's Darling. Mr. A. W. Ashton's two-year-old gelding Charter was an easy winner in the next class. Mr. W. P. Pope, of Leigh, Worcester, took chief honours in the class for three-year-old fillies, and Messrs. L. and J. Horne (Campden) were second with Leasebourne Polly. The class for three-year-old geldings was a good one. Mr. S. Phelps, of Birmingham, Pershore, was first with Norman, and Mr. S. Bennett (Spetchley) second with Bandit. For cart mare or gelding Mr. S. Phelps also took the chief prize with Duke, and Mr. H. G. Hiorns (Cleve Prior) was second with Boxer. For teams of three horses attached to a wagon or trolly, Mr. S. Phelps was first, and Mr. John James (Whitchurch) was second and reserved. There was an entry of ten in the class for hunter mare with foal. The prizes were given by Captain Stacey, M.F.H. The first went to Mr. A. B. Freeman Mitford, C.B. (Batsford Park) for Mattishal. Mr. J. S. Wilkes, of Tredington, Shipston, was second with an excellent brown mare. There was a grand class of eighteen heavy-weight hunters, many splendid horses being included. Mr. C. L. Kendall, of Snitterfield, was first with Omdurman, and Mr. J. W. Coren, of Guyscliffe House, Gloucester, was second with Carlow. Messrs. R. Cottrill and Holmes's (Droitwich) Cronje was reserved, and Mr. E. R. Apperley's (Cheltenham) Jorrocks was highly commended. The light-weight hunters were a good lot, and Mr. J. W. Coren's Electricity was first and Mr. E. R. Apperley's Sporting Life second. The prizes given by the Hon. Henry Coventry, M.F.H., and Mr. G. D. Smith, of Strensham Court, for hunters up to 13st., the property of farmers in the Croome Hunt who do not use barbed wire during the hunting season, were won by Mr. R. W. Lidsey's (Bishampton) Borneo, and Mr. L. W. Curnock's (Rous Lench) Ladysmith. There was a good class for yearling gelding or filly likely to make a good hunter. Mr. E. Nichols (Worcester) was first with Flying Fox, a colt of splendid quality; and Mr. H. S. A. Sandford (Broadway) was second with a very promising filly. Another very promising colt Jeddah gained the first prize for Mr. E. Nicholls (Worcester) in a class for two-year-old gelding or filly. Mr. E. B. Wynn, of Welcombe Bank, was second with a filly of beautiful quality. Mr. J. S. Wilkes, of Tredington, easily took first prize with a good three-year-old bay filly, and in the same class Mr. W. J. Rogers, of Aston Magna, was second. In the class for gelding or filly under four years, Mr. R. Jackson (Allesboro, Pershore) was awarded first prize, and Messrs. R. Cottrill and Holmes's Chloe second. It was an exceptionally good class for cobs under 14.2 shown in saddle. Messrs. Wooliams Brothers (Adlestrop) were easy winners with Daintv, and Mr. J. E. Rubery (Alvechurch) second with Bride Cake. The driving and jumping competitions as usual attracted great interest.

COMING SHOWS.

Royal Lancashire Society's Rochdale Show.

On Thursday next, July 26th, and the two following days, the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's annual exhibition will be held at Rochdale, and the exhibition promises to be a great success. The Rochdale Local Committee have co-operated most energetically to ensure a successful exhibition, and have raised upwards of £1,200 towards the prizes and expenses. Many of the sections will rival in quality the Society's last year's record show at Liverpool. The implement and machinery-in-motion department will be a very large and important one, and will comprise the principal agricultural implement and machinery makers of the United Kingdom.

The Mayor of Rochdale will formally open the showyard at 11.30 a.m. on the first day, the ceremony taking place at the pavilion in the centre of the yard. The challenge cups will be presented to the successful competitors at the grand stand at 3.15 p.m. on the first day by Mrs. C. M. Royds, wife of the president for the year, Colonel C. M. Royds, M.P.

The leaping over hurdles and water, which is always a very great attraction at the Society's exhibitions, has secured an excellent entry, and includes two well-known lady riders. There will be parades of prize horses and cattle, also numerous lectures and demonstrations, and butter-making competitions in the working dairy on each day of the show. On Saturday, July 28th, there will be an exhibition of local live stock. The animals competing for the prizes will enter the showyard at ten o'clock a.m. on that day.

The Besses-o'-th'-Barn, Lancashire Military, the Rochdale Borough, and the Rochdale Old Town bands have been engaged to provide the instrumental music. The railway companies will run numerous excursion and special trains to Rochdale in connection with the exhibition, and, if favoured with fine weather, the Society's first visit to Rochdale will undoubtedly be in every way a great success.

The entries in the different sections are as follows:

Cattle	179	Pigeons	30
Light Horses	247	Honey	42
Shire, etc., Horses	96	Eggs	31
Local Exhibits	137		
Sheep	101		2,162
Pigs	90	No. of Implement and Machinery Stands	169
Cheese	54		
Butter and Working Dairy	119	Total	2,331
Dogs	148		
Poultry	613		

Damage estimated at £15,000 was caused by a fire at Ipswich which on Monday destroyed a large quantity of malt owned by Messrs. R. and W. Paul, and stored at the quay. The fire is supposed to have resulted from spontaneous combustion in some petroleum barrels on the quayside.

Chester Horse Fair.—At this fair on Thursday there was only a small show of horses, and fewer buyers than usual. High-class animals were in keen demand at satisfactory prices, but in other classes business was dull and prices irregular. Best dray horses, £60 to £75; good cart horses, £40 to £50; and trap horses, £16 to £30.

SOCIETIES.

Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

An adjourned general meeting of the Herefordshire nd Worcestershire Agricultural Society was held at Worcester on Monday, the chair being taken by the resident (Mr. H. J. Bailey). The Council reported hat they had accepted the invitation of Evesham to old the show there next year. The Earl of Coventry vas elected president for the year, and, acknowledging the appointment, assured the members of his very warm interest in agriculture generally, and n the work of the society. Messrs. Proctor Vernon Vadley and W. E. Britten were elected vice-presidents, the ex-president referring to Mr. P. V. Vadley's successful efforts on behalf of the Evesham Horse Show, and of Mr. Britten's great practical experience in agriculture, and more particularly in the breeding of Herefords. The retiring president was heartily thanked for his services as the head of the society, and for his successful inauguration of the Leominster local fund.

Scottish Chamber of Agriculture.

A special meeting of the directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture was held on Wednesday, at which Mr. G. W. Constable, Traquair, presided.

The secretary (Mr. Connell) said that since the meeting at which the directors resolved that sub-section 4 of section 1 of the Agricultural Holdings Bill shou'd be amended, he had been in communication with Mr. Long through various channels, and with Mr. R. B. Haldane, M.P., hon. president of the Chamber, with the view of carrying out the resolution of the directors. He submitted correspondence on the subject, from which it appeared that on 7th July he wrote to Mr. Haldane asking if he would kindly arrange to have the best effort possible made to amend sub-section 4 of section 1 of the Bill. The Chamber, he pointed out, objected to the sub-section in the present form because (1) it permitted conditions to be enforced which would practically defeat a tenant's claim for unexhausted manures, and the purpose of the Legislature as embodied in the Act of 1883; (2) it removed a limitation which exists in the corresponding sub-section of the Act of 1883, that limitation being that only the value of the manure that would have been made by consumption on the holding of crops sold off is to be taken into account in reduction of the tenant's claim; (3) it practically, and in a most material manner, nullifies section 36 of the Act of 1883, and has struck at the principle of the Act; and (4) it encouraged landlords to impose penal conditions of a nature which would not be cut down under the proposed clause affecting penal rents and liquidate damages. Mr. Haldane on 11th July wrote as follows to Mr. Connell:—

My Dear Sir,—As the result of the debate to-night, I think we have arranged with the Government a satisfactory modification of clause 1 (4) to be made in the House of Lords. Mr. Long appreciates the objection of the Scottish Chamber that the insertion of the words, "by the contract of tenancy," reintroduces the possibility of penal provisions. He points out with truth, in my judgment, that, on the other hand, the class of tenants which, by the terms of their leases, are entitled to free sale of the way-going crops, will be better off under the clause than under the old law, inasmuch as in such a case the deduction for equivalent manure cannot be made. I rather think that his new clause (and, in the promise of an attempt at one in such a form, I withdrew amending words which I had, after consideration, devised and prepared) will assume this form, that he will strike out the words referring to the contract of tenancy and make the clause measure the value of the manure, according to custom or the rules of good husbandry in every case excepting those in which, by the contract of tenancy, the tenant has the right to sell off his crop free from the obligation to give credit for a less amount of manure than custom or the rules of good husbandry would require to be returned to the holding in respect of the way-going crop. To the best of my judgment, this will meet the difficulty you have pointed out, and at the same time improve the law. The matter is intricate, and further consideration may disclose to Mr. Long and his advisers difficulties which did not occur to us to-night in the course of the debate. But I am pretty confident that in some such shape as this the Government will introduce the promised new words in the House of Lords.

In a subsequent letter Mr. Haldane wrote that he had arranged with Mr. Long a draft of the proposed new clause.

The Chairman said he thought the directors should express their satisfaction that Mr. Long had seen his way to agree to modify the clause. The Chamber of Agriculture might be congratulated on the action it had taken, which would result in the Bill becoming a better measure than when it was introduced. He moved that they express cordial approval of the action of Mr. Long, and thank Mr. Haldane for his assistance.

The Secretary intimated that he had received a letter from Mr. Alexander Russell, secretary of the Glasgow Agricultural Society, which was affiliated with the Chamber, stating that the Council of the Glasgow Society had resolved to invite Mr. Long, Minister of Agriculture, to Glasgow on 9th October, and asking that the Chamber should send representatives to the meeting.

The Chairman said he was sure the directors would be ready to do everything in their power to co-operation with the Glasgow Society with the view of promoting the success of the meeting. He thought it would help to make the Chamber more popular in the West if they joined the Glasgow Society in connection with Mr. Long's meeting.

Mr. Glendinning said the least thing they could do, looking to the national character of the Chamber, and the heartiness with which the affiliated societies, of which the Glasgow Society was one of the most prominent, co-operated with them, was to accede to the request contained in Mr. Russell's letter.

Mr. John Speir, Newton, remarked that this request had originated with Mr. Bine Renshaw, M.P. If the autumn meeting of the Chamber were held in Glasgow rather than in Edinburgh it might help the Chamber as well as the cause they had in view.

Mr. Andrew Hutcheson, Beechwood, gave an account of the evidence given by him and Mr. James Biggar before the Purity of Seeds Commission as the representatives of the Chamber. They afterwards attended at the House of Commons, and heard the debate on the Holdings Bill. A great many of the Scottish members were absent. He was a voter in six constituencies, but he did not see very many of his representatives in the House during the debate. He only saw one of them. Mr. Haldane and Mr. Cross deserved the best thanks of the Society. It struck him that Mr. Long had a very difficult position to fulfil, and he held a balance very well.

Mr. Alexander Cross, M.P., said he sincerely hoped that the visit to the West would be in every way successful. Mr. Long was very desirous to keep in touch with agriculturists in all parts of the kingdom. As farmers, the members of the Chamber could probably devise a better Bill, but no one [illegible] them upon the pro[illegible] made and the [illegible] they had had in dealing [illegible] to pass through Parliament in the course of the next few days. That Bill established a great many principles which were a vast [illegible] regarded the rights of the agricultural tenant. He did not consider what they had got as concessions but as the rights of the farmers; and they showed that the Government were appreciative of the best [illegible] that there would never be that large influx of capital into the farming industry of the country which alone could sustain [illegible] without giving that capital such reasonable security as the Chamber had for so long advocated. Mr. Haldane had been of great service to the Minister of Agriculture and to all the members of Parliament interested in the subject during the discussions in the House. Applause.

On the motion of the Chairman, a vote of thanks to Mr. Cross was passed for the assistance he had given the Chamber in connection with the Bill.

Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

On Wednesday, the 15th inst., this Society held its annual general meeting at the "Criterion," Piccadilly Circus, to receive the annual report of the Council for the year ended 31st December, 1899, and for the election of officers and pensioners. In the absence abroad of the Earl of Northbrook, the chair was taken by Mr. W. B. Parsons.

In presenting their fortieth annual report, the Council desire to announce that there are now on the books of the Society 296 married pensioners (148 couples), costing £5,920 per annum; 252 male pensioners, costing £6,552 per annum; and 652 female pensioners, costing £12,640 per annum. To this number will be added, at the present election, fifteen married couples, ten males, and twenty-five females, whereby the annual charge for the maintenance of pensioners, exclusively of octogenarians and grantees, will amount to £26,472. The subscriptions, donations, and church collections for the year ended December 31st, 1899, amounted to £21,746 3s. 8d. As the charge under the head of pensions alone considerably exceeds the total income of the Society, it is obvious that for some time the election of new pensioners must be restricted, unless, as was pointed out in the report of last year, the subscriptions and other sources of revenue are substantially increased. In normal times—when the imperative claims in connection with the war are satisfied—the Council may confidently appeal to the public for increased support, and a fuller recognition of the work in which they have been engaged for the last forty years. During that period the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution has expended £415,413 in permanent pensions, and has maintained no fewer than 3,153 persons. The trustees of the Queen Victoria Gifts Fund have again intimated their intention to give twenty-five grants of £10 each to five male, five married, and fifteen female unsuccessful candidates who shall poll the highest number of votes, and are not in receipt of grants from any other source. After the election the Council will allot octogenarian and other grants to such candidates as are qualified to receive them, but in no circumstances are they empowered to make grants, temporary or otherwise, outside the rules of the Society. Lord Wantage, the Rev. Henry Trethewy, and Messrs. Long, Smith, and Wyatt, retiring mecbers of the Council, were re-elected. A vote of thanks to the chairman having been carried, Messrs. E. B. Jay, Francis Parsons, and T. Freston West were appointed scrutineers, and the election was proceeded with.

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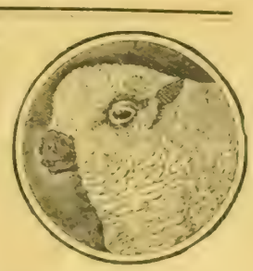

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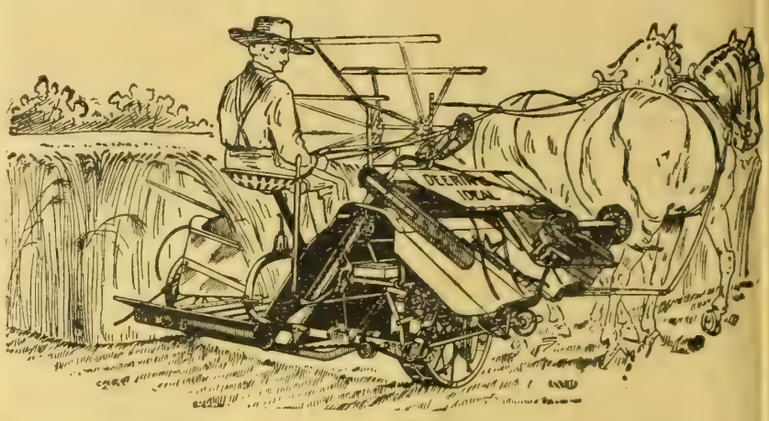

Up to the present the Annual Sale of DEERING MACHINES in England and Wales since 1895 has been about double that of each preceding year.

APPLY TO THE LOCAL AGENTS EVERYWHERE, OR TO THE WHOLESALE AGENTS:

F. C. SOUTHWELL & CO.,

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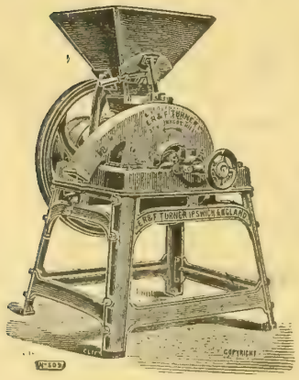


IS THE

"Best Grinding Mill in the World,"

Having beaten Messrs. Corbett's Mill and been awarded

FIRST PRIZE & GOLD MEDAL

SOLE MAKERS:

E. R. & F. TURNER, Ltd.,
(135) IPSWICH.

J. RANDS & JECKELL'S

NOTED STACK SHEETS

Size.	Quality	J	K	L	M
8yds.	by 6yds. at	24/-	36/-	48/-	60/-
8yds.	by 8yds. at	32/-	48/-	64/-	80/-
10yds.	by 8yds. at	40/-	60/-	80/-	100/-
12yds.	by 10yds. at	60/-	90/-	120/-	150/-

Any size to order at proportionate price.

These Cloths are made up to the Square Yard, and not sold by the Width of 24 and 30 inches, which is so frequently the case, thus misleading purchasers.

Samples of Canvas submitted per Post. Above Prices include Brass Eyelets and Long Cords. Carriage Paid on Orders of 40/-. 5 per cent. Discount for Cash.

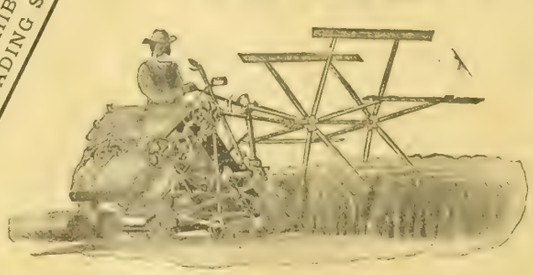
J. RANDS & JECKELL, IPSWICH.

SACK, RICK CLOTH, & TENT MANUFACTURERS.

By Special Royal Warrant to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

WALTER A. WOOD.

FULL LINE OF MACHINES EXHIBITED AT ALL LEADING SHOWS



MOWERS,
REAPERS,
BINDERS,
HAY RAKES.

OPEN REAR HARVESTER & BINDER,

Fitted with the celebrated **WALTER A. WOOD** Roller Bearings, latest raising and lowering device, well-balanced reel of superior capacity, easy running elevating aprons and powerful steel drive wheel, with all latest improvements; an up-to-date machine, and handles the grain to perfection.

DETACHABLE DIVIDER.

Diagram showing method of removing Outside Divider point without the use of tools, when preparing Machine for transport through narrow lanes and gateways.

WALTER A. WOOD M. & R. M. Co., 36, Worship St., LONDON, E.C.

Printed and Published by the Proprietor, at the Offices, 1, Essex Street Strand, London, W.C.—July 23, 1900. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson and Co., 180, Pitt Street, Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; 7, King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Capetown.

The

Mark Lane Express

and

Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXIII. No. 3592. LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 30, 1900. THIRTY-TWO PAGES PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.

(Founded June, 1894.)

PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.
HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, ESQ., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—51, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.
To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.
To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop culture.
To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW SOCIETY.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL SHOW
will be held at
MAIDENHEAD, BERKS,
on the
23rd AUGUST, 1900.

Over £300 in Prizes.
Silver Medals of the H. I., S. H., and H. H. Society's class for Shires, Hackneys, and Hunters, also for Riding and Driving.

JUMPING COMPETITIONS.

Entries close 2nd August; post entries (double fees) 9th August.
Schedules and further particulars of C. H. W. DIXON, Secretary, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, Telephone No. 5148 Gerrard; or P. THOMSON, Local Hon. Secretary, 65, High Street, Maidenhead, Berks.

NEWBURY HORSE SHOW.

TENTH ANNUAL SHOW, SEPT. 12, 1900.
President, B. WINTHROP, Esq., Barton Court, Newbury.
ABOUT £374 IN PRIZES.
H.I.S. and S.H.S. Gold and Silver Medals.
Entries close—Single fees, Aug. 23, 1900; double fees, Aug. 30, 1900.
Schedules, etc.,
F. ROBINSON, Asst. Sec.
Broadway, Newbury.

WARWICKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SHOW AT COVENTRY,
AUGUST 29TH AND 30TH, 1900.

TOTAL PRIZES OVER £1,200.

For HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, IMPLEMENTS, DAIRY PRODUCE, EGGS, DRESSED POULTRY, etc., etc.

Prizes in Horse Department nearly £600.

Special DRIVING and JUMPING CLASSES.

Last day of entry August 4th, after which at double fees up to 8 p.m., August 7th.
Prize Books and Entry Forms sent on application to
FREDERICK H. MOORE, Secretary.
Warwick.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

The FIFTH EXAMINATION of Candidates for the National Diploma in the SCIENCE AND PRACTICE OF DAIRYING will take place from SEPTEMBER 24TH TO 27TH, 1900, at the College, and the British Dairy Institute, Reading.
Entries finally close on AUGUST 31ST. Copies of the regulations and forms of entries may be had on application to
ERNEST CLARKE,
Secretary.
13, HANOVER SQUARE, W.
July, 1900.

KEELE AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL and TENTH COMBINED SHOW,

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9th.

£700 in Prizes. Jumping and Turnouts. Dogs.
Grand Display of Fireworks.

Schedules now ready.
W. A. HENSON, Silverdale, Staffs.

BARNSLEY AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The twentieth ANNUAL SHOW will be held on TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1900.

£600 IN PRIZES.

HORSES AND CATTLE, SHEEP, POULTRY, PIGEONS, DOGS, LEAPING.

Entries close Wednesday, August 8, 1900.
F. C. BROWNE, Secretary.
Westgate, Barnsley. (Nat. Telephone, 0189.)

GUILDFORD SUMMER SHOW.

President—W. E. HORNE, ESQ.

THE ANNUAL SHOW
Will be held on
SEPTEMBER 5th, in STOKE PARK
(By kind permission of J. S. BUDGETT, ESQ.)

ENTRIES CLOSE AUGUST 18th.

Prize Lists of
ERNEST H. ELLIS,
Hon. Secretary.
Town Hall Chambers, Guildford.

VALUE OF PRIZES OVER £1,000.

THE BREWERS', MALTSTERS, DISTILLERS', AND ALLIED TRADERS' TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION AND MARKET,

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON,
OCTOBER 20th to 26th, 1900.
MALTING AND SEED BARLEY COMPETITIONS,
Open to the World.

HOP COMPETITIONS.

Schedules of either or both of the above can be had on application to the Managing Directors, ARTHUR T. DALE, and JOHN REYNOLDS, Offices, 46, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

SOCIETIES.

WORTHING AND WEST SUSSEX HORSE SHOW, AND JUMPING AND DRIVING COMPETITIONS

will take place
THURSDAY, AUGUST 16TH.

The classes include a Selling Class for Horses and Mares, not exceeding 15 h., shown in single harness.

Schedules and all information of WALTER PAINE, Secretary, Sumner House, Worthing, Sussex.

WORSLEY SHOW, SATURDAY, AUGUST 25th.

HORSES, CATTLE, POULTRY, PIGEONS, DOGS, CATS, HORTICULTURE, ETC.

Entries positively close Aug. 15th.

Schedules, W. UPJOHN, Worsley.

CHORLEY & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW (LANCASHIRE).

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18TH, 1900.

PRIZES OVER £350 AND SPECIALS.
Classes for HORSES, TURN-OUTS, JUMPERS, CATTLE, SHEEP, DOGS, POULTRY, PIGEONS, RABBITS, CATS, CAVIES, BUTTER, CHEESE, BREAD, EGGS.
Send for Schedule to
PETER HODGKINSON, Sec.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NORTH WALES, BANGOR.

A constituent College of the University of Wales
AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT. IN-COLLEGE COURSES. 1. A complete course in theoretical and practical Agriculture extending over two years, and suitable for farmers and land agents. 2. Advanced course for a third year in Agricultural Chemistry. 3. Short course of eleven weeks, commencing in October, and consisting of Agriculture, Chemistry, Book-keeping, and Land Surveying. The degree of B.Sc. in Agriculture of the University of Wales may be taken by students who pursue a three years' post matriculation course of study at the College. LLEDWIGAN FARM (360 acres) has been taken by the College for teaching and experimental purposes. Diploma (two years) and Degree (three years) students will in future follow courses for at least one year at the farm under the supervision of the Professor of Agriculture. Special arrangements will be made to take farm pupils for practical instruction only. The College is recognised by the Surveyors' Institution as a place of approved professional instruction for land agents. The cost of board and lodging, with tuition fees, varies from £30 to £40 for the College year. The Scholarship examination will commence on September 18.
Prospectus, with full particulars as to Scholarships and Diplomas, may be obtained from
JOHN EDWARD LLOYD, M.A.,
Secretary and Registrar.
July 17th, 1900.

THE DURHAM COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

Complete courses of instruction are provided in Agriculture and the Allied Sciences.
Course for the degree of B.Sc. in the University of Durham. Average Composition Fee, £21 per annum.
Winter Course for the College Certificate and for students preparing for the N.D.A., etc. Composition Fee, £3 per session.
For particulars regarding Scholarships, etc., apply to the SECRETARY.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

ROYAL VETERINARY COLLEGE,

Incorporated by Royal Charter.
Principal and Dean:
Prof. McFADYEAN, M.B., B.Sc., M.R.C.V.S.

SESSION 1900-1901.

The SESSIONAL COURSE OF INSTRUCTION will commence on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2nd. The chair will be taken by ROMER WILLIAMS, Esq., and the INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS delivered by PROF. McFADYEAN M.B., B.Sc., M.R.C.V.S., at 12 o'clock.
Students are required to attend Four Complete Courses of Instruction in order to be eligible for examination for the Diploma of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.
The College Entrance Fee is Eighty Guineas, the payment of which confers the right of attendance on Four Years' Lecture and Collegiate Instruction. The Fee may be paid in four instalments, viz., Twenty Guineas on Entry, Twenty Guineas at the end of the first period of Study, Twenty Guineas at the end of the second period of Study, and Twenty Guineas at the end of the third period of Study. The first instalment must, with a Fee of One Guinea towards the Library and Reading Room Fund, be paid prior to entry, and a further Fee of 10s. 6d. to this Fund will be charged annually.
The Matriculation Examination will be held at the ROYAL VETERINARY COLLEGE, CAMDEN TOWN, N.W., on the 4th, 5th, and 6th of September.
The Obligatory Subjects will be English, English History or Geography, Arithmetic, Algebra, Euclid (Books I., II., III.), Latin, and either a modern Foreign Language or Greek.
Candidates are required to forward their names, together with the Examination Fee of Twenty-five Shillings, to the Secretary of the College, not later than August 25th.
Four prizes of the value of £20 each, to be called "Centenary Prizes," will be awarded annually to the most efficient Student in each of the Four Classes. Prizes of £5, £3, and £2 respectively will also be given in Each Class for Proficiency in Practical Knowledge. Besides the Coleman Prize Medals, Class Medals and Certificates of Merit are given in each division of the Students' studies.
Certificates of Distinction are conferred on Students who pass a Special Examination for the Diploma of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.
The College Calendar will be forwarded on application to
RICHARD A. N. POWYS, Secretary.
July, 1900.

ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.

SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION.

Trustees: The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council of the City of Edinburgh. An Examination in General Knowledge will be held on July 5, 6, and 7, and September 18, 19, and 20, 1900.
Next SESSION commences TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2ND.
Further particulars will be given on application to PRINCIPAL DEWAR.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURE COURSE.

For prospectus, regulations for degree of B.Sc., and for Garton Lectures on Colonial and Indian Agriculture apply CLERK OF SENATUS.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF KENT—COUNTY COUNCIL OF SURREY—

South Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Ashford, Kent.—The Governors are prepared to receive a limited number of Students to undergo a complete Scientific and Practical Training to fit them for future Farmers, Land Agents, etc. Preparation for the Examinations for the National Diploma in Agriculture and the Associateship of the Institute of Agriculture. Special Short Courses for Farmers and Landowners. The Laboratories, Museum, Dairy, Workshops, Chemical Lecture Theatre, and Farm (300 acres) are now open. For particulars apply to the Principal, A. D. HALL, M.A., late Scholar of Balliol College, Oxford.

REGISTER OF BRITISH LIVE STOCK BREEDERS.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. — Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners; yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

HACKNEYS. — JOHN N. ANTHONY, Sedgeford, near Lynn, Norfolk, breeder of Pedigree Hackneys. On hand, Colts and Fillies by most of the leading sires.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions, at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath Station, L.B. and S.C. Railway) on application to the owner, as above.

CLEVELANDS.

HORSFALL, F. WILSON, Potto Grange, Northallerton.—Breeder of pure-bred CLEVELAND BAY and YORKSHIRE COACH HORSES. This stud has won far more prizes than any other again this year, and has won twice as many as any other during the last fifteen years with Clevelands. Many Royal and Great Yorkshire prize-winners for sale. One of the Stud Horses is Champion Broomgrove Pride 1249—first and champion R.A.S.E. Show, Maidstone, 1897; first R.A.S.E. Show, Birmingham, 1898; first and champion Great Yorkshire, Leeds, 1898; only times shown; fee £5 5s. Also breeder of pure-bred Shorthorns. Bulls and heifers for sale. Amongst others added to this herd in 1899 were Daisy Perfection, Richmond Daisy, and Highland Daisy, all bought at the Duke of Northumberland's Sale, at 210 guineas, 72 guineas, and 72 guineas respectively. Also breeder of Sussex black pigs, and several breeds of white poultry.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some good Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

TAUNTON, H. PERCY, Redlynch, near Salisbury, Wiltshire. Shire-bred STALLIONS MARES, FILLIES, and GELDINGS of the most fashionable breeding always for sale at moderate prices. The animals are kept entirely out of doors and in natural condition.

PONIES.

THE LARGEST STUD of SELECTED WELSH PONIES IN WALES.—Dinarth Hall Pony Stud Farm, Colwyn Bay, North Wales. Over 120 Ponies now on hand, including forty Brood Mares of the pure Welsh type, and several high-class Ponies, great goers, with style and action. 150 prizes won in 1898 and 1899. Ponies purchased from this Stud have won first prizes at Manchester, Birmingham, and Maidstone Royal Shows; also first and medal Crystal Palace, 1899. Sale in 1899 included two Entire Ponies purchased by the Government for Cyprus, several to America and France. Stud Horse JULIUS CÆSAR II. 5666, sire of first prize two-year-old pony filly, the first of his produce exhibited, London Hackney Show, 1900.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, S. Wales, extensive Breeder and Exporter of the best class of WELSH MOUNTAIN PONIES and COBS. References and particulars on application.

PONIES.

MONTEFIORE, REV. D. B., Mursley, Winslow, Bucks.—POLO PONY STALLION "MOOTRUB" (Polo Pony Society 32); winner of many prizes; three times reserve champion; service fee, £3 3s., and 5s. the groom.—Particulars on application.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY PARK SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.— Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

LANGFORD HOUSE ESTATE HERD of pure and highly-bred SHORTHORN CATTLE, the property of Mr. Sidney Hill, J.P. All bred from the best and leading herds in the Kingdom. Sires now in service: Wiltshire Victor, 71,883 (roan), by Count Victor, 66,877. Puck, 73,333 (roan), by Alto, 68,147. Count Valiant, 74,307 (roan), by Count Arthur, 70,194. Langford Lavender, 74,819 (roan), by Wiltshire Victor, 71,883. Bulls and heifers always on sale, also registered flock of Southdown sheep. Inspection invited. Telegrams, Langford Station, Congresbury, G.W.R. Particulars from J. D. LOVELESS, Estate Office, Langford, Bristol.

GARNE, R. & W. T., Aldsworth, Northleach, Glos., breed SHORTHORN CATTLE of great size, thick flesh, good milkers. Young Bulls and Heifers on sale. Stock Bulls: Wrestler, 66,582, Lord Harry, 65,180, and Now or Never, 67,544. Inspection invited.

HEREFORDS.

SALTMARSHE CASTLE ESTATES, HEREFORDSHIRE, Prize-winning pure bred HEREFORD CATTLE. Champion Happy Hampton in service. Inspection invited. Good selection for sale.— Apply, J. W. MILLYARD, Estate Office, Littlebridge, Bromyard.

PEDIGREE HEREFORD CATTLE.—One of the oldest herds extant.—Young bulls and heifers of the purest lineage and excellent quality for sale.—J. R. HILL, Orleton Court, R.S.O., Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton, Williton, Taunton, breeder of pure breed Devon cattle. Breeding animals always on sale; some are prize-takers, others deep flesh, good form animals of the best milking strains and beef producers.

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

DALMENY PARK ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

OSENTON, GEORGE, Mariners, Westerham.—Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.

JERSEY.

HEASELANDS HERD of PEDIGREE JERSEYS, COWS and HEIFERS of the best blood at moderate prices.—Pedigrees, etc., on application to the owner, WALTER LLOYD, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

ILMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS. — Choice about 100 finest quality Cows and Heifers, in profit and calving all seasons; prices moderate; inspection invited; shipper to all parts.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

BLACK POLLED.

BLUNT, H. LAYTON, Orton Longueville, Peterborough.—Breeder of Black Polled Cattle. BULLS and HEIFERS for sale, also GRAZING STEERS.

PIGS.

BERKSHIRE.

SMITH, C. C., Kingstone Common, Wantage.—Pedigree Berkshire BOARS and GILTS for Sale. Eligible for Herd Book.

BURBIDGE, EDWARD, Wraxhall, Bradford-on-Avon. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, bred from Royal and Bath and West Champion blood. Acknowledged one of largest type of Berkshires in England. Purchasers met by appointment.

YORKSHIRES.

WALTON HERD of PEDIGREE PIGS, owned by SIR GILBERT GREENALL, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington; unsurpassed for purity of breed, size, and general excellence, as proved by the numerous championship and class prizes won at all the leading shows. Large, Middle, and Small White Yorkshires. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale. Stock carefully shipped. For particulars, apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

DALMENY HERD OF LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.—Apply MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Improved Pedigree Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest Herds of pure-bred Pigs in the United Kingdom. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford, pedigree LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS. Also few BERKSHIRES for sale. All bred on farm. 200 to select from. One champion, 28 firsts, 24 seconds, 15 thirds won this year.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTH PIGS. A few young boars and gilts from prize-winning strains, for sale.—Apply, Farm Bailiff, Middlewood Hall, Barnsley.

STORE PIGS.—R. D. GARRATT, Barton, Ampthill, can deliver *from Free Districts* any quantity good white, black, and crossed; between 18s. and 35s.; also selected breeders. Write for circular of particulars, with hundreds of latest testimonials from all parts of Great Britain, waste consumers, farmers, gentry, etc., etc.—Author of "Practical Pigkeeping" posted 1s. 2d. from above address.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H.—NEWLAND HERD OF PEDIGREE LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES; all pigs entered or eligible for entry in Herd Book; choice, well-grown young boars and sows of the best strains always on sale. — Apply, BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Ellel, near Lancaster. Station: Bay Horse.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

FIELDSEND, C. S., Belmont, S. Willingham, Lincoln. Flock No. 59. Pedigree RAMS and EWES for SALE.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Chapel Farm, Barton-on-Humber, Lincolnshire. Breeder of pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP. Flock Book 106. These sheep are noted for having hardy constitutions, true character, and long, lustrous wool. — Telegrams: "John Anderson, Barton-on-Humber."

HOYLES, GEORGE, Manor House, Skidby, near Hull.—Pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP. Registered Flock 136. Sires used: Skidby Constitution 3069, sire Skidby Conservative 1346, g. sire Old Constitution 308; Skidby Tory 1583, sire Riby A 358; Leconfield Pride, sire Casswell (16) 1753; Skidby Friar, sire Abbot 1—from the celebrated flocks of Messrs. Henry Dudding, J. Casswell, Hy. Smith, jun., etc. Heavy-wool Sheep for export. Also prize and prize-bred Polled Angus, Shire Horses, and English Ponies for inspection and sale.

T. C. DIXON, Brandesburton, Hull.—Pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, of best blood. Wool a speciality, with quality and size combined. F.B. 69. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for Sale. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

HAMPSHIRE DOWN.

FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Undoubtedly the leading flock of the day; in show yard records at all the largest shows, including the Challenge Cup at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair six years in succession; also highest average for same period for 100 ram lambs at annual sale, at Britford Fair, August 12.

The Flock is one of the oldest existing combining fine quality, strength, constitution, and true character.

"Fossil," sire of the highest-priced Hampshire Down Ram ever sold, was bred at Chilmark, and in service there last two seasons.

COLES, CARY, late C. and T., Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury.— Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prizewinners at the Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and other shows. July 16th, at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair, this Flock won the challenge cup for pens of ram lambs, beating the Royal, Bath and West, and Royal Counties' prize winners of this year.

Annual Ram Sale on the premises, Friday, August 3rd.

SHROPSHIRE.

COOPER, WILLIAM, AND NEPHEWS, "Cooper's Dip" Works, Berkhamsted, England. Breeders and Exporters of pure Shropshire Sheep. First and Third Prize for Ewes, Royal Show, 1898. Five hundred breeding Ewes. The largest export flock of Shropshires in England. The sires used present season include 310 Guinea Champion "Royal Record," Two First, One Second, and One Third Royal Show Prize winners.

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WILL TAKE PLACE AT
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80 GRAND RAMS AND RAM LAMBS
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IMPORTANT MERCANTILE PROPERTY, Connected with the G.E.R. main line by a Railway Siding, and Immediate Possession can be arranged.

It comprises

THREE EXCELLENT SUBSTANTIALLY ERECTED GRANARIES,

measuring respectively 120ft. long by 21ft. wide, 95ft. long by 23ft. wide, and 86ft. long by 18ft. wide, each containing two floors, the top one of wood, the bottom one of asphalte.

COAL SHED, 70ft. long by 20ft. wide.

CONVENIENT RESIDENCE,

Originally forming a Double Dwelling House. Three Offices, STABLES, OUTBUILDINGS, and GARDENS.

As occupied by Richard Bryant and Sons during the last fifty years, which

SALTER, SIMPSON, and SONS are favoured with instructions from the Trustees under the will of the late Mr. W. Bryant, to SELL BY AUCTION, at the Board Room, Agricultural Hall, Norwich, on SATURDAY, AUGUST 18th, 1900, at 12.30 p.m. punctually.

The Auctioneers have every confidence in soliciting the attention of corn merchants and maltsters to the sale of this valuable property, which is situated in the centre of a fine barley growing and good agricultural district. The granaries are so placed and built that if desired they could be easily and inexpensively converted into excellent maltings. Its disposal also affords an exceptional opportunity to manufacturers seeking trade premises and others requiring large store accommodation in a good position on the G.E.R. main line.

Possession can be had on completion of the purchase.

Further particulars may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Attleborough, Norfolk, and Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk, or of Messrs. STEVENS' MILLER, and JONES, Norwich and Kenninghall, Vendors' Solicitors.

WESTERGATE, ALDINGBOURNE, CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7TH, 1900.

UNRESERVED SALE AND FINAL DISPERSAL of one of the MOST NOTED AND SUCCESSFUL PRIZE-WINNING SOUTHDOWN FLOCKS in existence, Registered No. 9 in Southdown Flock Book.

MR. WILLIAM TOOP, having decided to relinquish Sheep Breeding, has favoured MR. C. STRIDE (of the Chichester Auction Co.) with instructions to SELL BY AUCTION, on the Farm, without reserve, on

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7TH NEXT,

THE WHOLE of his FAMOUS REGISTERED trade-marked SOUTHDOWN FLOCK, consisting of about

370 EWES AND EWE LAMBS of the usual flock ages, and
70 RAMS AND RAM LAMBS.

Mr. Toop established this flock in 1883 by purchases of Ewes and Rams from many of the leading Southdown Breeders; reduced in numbers by a public sale in 1895, its history has been a continuous and unbroken record of success.

A very large proportion of the Ewes, particularly the younger ages, trace back to "ROYAL CAMBRIDGE" (No. 1,450, Vol. IV.), by that wonderful old ram "WATERBEACH" (No. 304, Vol. I.), bred at Goodwood, winner of many prizes at the Royal and other shows, without ever having been beaten. A most impressive sire, who imparted to his descendants to an extraordinary degree his own marvellous constitution and fine quality.

During the past 17 years 244 PRIZES have been awarded to this famous flock at the various leading Shows, including Champions, Group Prizes, and Breed Cups, but not including R.N.'s, H.C.'s, or C.'s, or other minor distinctions, besides which many prizes have been awarded to sheep obtained therefrom at the chief foreign shows.

EVERY SHEEP OWNED BY MR. TOOP is included in the Sale, and every lot will be sold WITHOUT RESERVE.

Westergate is five miles from Chichester and one mile from Barnham Junction on the L.B. and S.C. Railway.

The flock is open to inspection at any time.

Luncheon at One o'clock. Sale immediately after.

Catalogues of Mr. TOOP, or of the Auctioneer (who executes commissions), Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 63, East Street, Chichester.

THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL CHICHESTER SALE AND LETTING OF SOUTHDOWN RAMS AND RAM LAMBS.

The above annual Sale and letting of pedigree Southdown Sheep will be held by

HOBGEN BROS.,

at their Repository in the Chichester Cattle Market (five minutes' walk from the main station), on Wednesday, August 8, 1900, at one o'clock precisely, comprising about

85 specially selected Rams and Ram Lambs from the celebrated flocks belonging to His Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G., the Pagham Harbour Company, Messrs. Hugh Penfold, Alfred Heasman, and F. N. Hobgen.

Included in this sale will be several champion sheep and first prize winners at the Royal, Royal Counties, Sussex County, Oxford, and Tunbridge Wells Shows.

On view the morning of Sale.

Catalogues may be obtained of HOBGEN BROS., Valuers, and Estate Agents, East Street, Chichester, and Midhurst, who will execute commissions.

AUCTION SALES.

UPPER WINCHENDON, AYLESBURY, BUCKS.

THE FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL SALE of about SIXTY OXFORDSHIRE DOWN SHEARLING RAMS, the property of Messrs. J. & S. TREADWELL, will take place on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1ST, 1900.

This year's sheep are dark in colour, close in wool, with lots of bone, and full of lean meat.

Prizes have been won at the Royal as usual this year, and most of the prize-winners at the Royal and Oxfordshire Shows were by Winchendon sires.

Special arrangements have been made with the Great Central for the fast Trains from Marylebone at 8.15 a.m and 4 p.m., and also the 8.0 a.m and 9.31 a.m. from Leicester, to stop at Waddesdon Manor Station to set down Passengers attending the Sale. Trains on the Metropolitan will also call at Waddesdon Manor to and from Baker Street every two hours.

Conveyances will meet the Trains at Thame, G.W. Railway, Aylesbury, L.N.-W., Great Central, and G.W., and at Waddesdon Manor Station.

Luncheon from Twelve o'clock.
Sale at Two p.m. sharp.
Catalogues, with Pedigrees, at time of Sale.
EDWARD BOND, Auctioneer.
Thame.

ON TUESDAY NEXT, AUGUST 7TH.
CIRENCESTER RAM FAIR.

FORTIETH ANNUAL SALE OF PURE-BRED OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS.

A. F. HOBBS will SELL by AUCTION, on the above day, in a field adjoining the Cattle Market, at 12 o'clock sharp, about

60 GRAND SHEARLING RAMS, bred by and the property of JAMES T. HOBBS, Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Gloucestershire.

The Maisey Hampton Flock this year has been awarded First Prize at the Royal Agricultural Show for the best Two-shear Ram, and First Prize for the best Shearling Ram; First and Second at the Bath and West of England Show; and First and Second at the Royal Counties Show.

In 1899 Two First Prizes were secured at the Royal Show, Maidstone.

The Rams to be sold are of immense size, dark in colour, and well woolled.

A brake will leave Fairford Station for Cirencester at 10.15 a.m., returning to meet the 6.40 p.m. train.

A train will leave Paddington at 9 a.m., arriving at Cirencester at 11.43 a.m.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

PORTER'S MILL, TAPENHALL, NEAR WORCESTER,
AND
HADLEY MILL, NEAR OMBERSLEY.

BENTLEY, HOBBS and MYTTON are instructed TO OFFER FOR SALE BY AUCTION, at the STAR HOTEL, WORCESTER, on SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1900, at 3 for 4 p.m., in separate lots, as follows:—

LOT I.—"PORTER'S MILL,"

comprising a FREEHOLD RESIDENCE (a portion including a famous and highly interesting Elizabethan half-timbered structure) with Carriage Drive approach, LAWN and GARDEN, KITCHEN GARDEN (partly protected by a very curious old Wall with apertures for Bees), FARM BUILDINGS, a substantially built WATER CORN MILL, with Two Wheels working Five Pairs of Stones, the whole complete and in good order; and

16A. 1R. 39P.

of PASTURE LAND, situate on the River Salwarpe and adjoining the Droitwich Canal, at Tapenhall, Claines, near Worcester, now in the occupation of Mr. J. A. Jackson as yearly tenant from Lady Day at £100 per annum. This rent also includes certain lands rented from the Droitwich Canal Company at £9 per annum and from Mr. Green at £1 per annum.

The Droitwich Canal Company pay a rent of £9 per annum for a supply of water and other advantages, and this rent will be included in the sale.

The property adjoins lands of Lord Sandys, Representatives of the late A. C. Hooper, Esq., and others. It is about four miles from Worcester, four from Droitwich, and about one mile from Fernhill Heath Railway Station.

REMARKS.

"Undoubtedly there was a Mill here before the Conquest, for in Domesday the Manor of Northwick was described as possessing three Mills on the Salwarpe, those of Mildenham, Hawford, and Porter's."

"Tradition says that Queen Elizabeth, in her progress from Hartlebury to Worcester, in August, 1575, visited John Porter at his house at Porter's Mill. This was the John Porter whose monument and recumbent figure have been restored and placed in the Chancel of Claines Church. He is there described as 'John Porter which was a Lawyer.'"

Lot 2.—HADLEY MILL, comprising an old established WATER CORN MILL, working Three Pairs of Stones, DWELLING HOUSE adjoining, STABLE with Loft over, open Shed, Pigscots, etc., the whole containing 3a. 0r. 0p., in the occupation of Mrs. M. Harford as yearly tenant from Lady Day, at the yearly rent of £30. Mrs. Harford has occupied for thirty years.

Hadley Mill is situate in the parish of Ombersley, adjoining the Westwood Park Estate, and lands of Mrs. A. Gardner, Mr. Hickman, and others, about 2 miles from Ombersley, and 3½ from Droitwich. It is copyhold of the Manor of Ombersley, and the copyhold rent is £1 7s.8d. per annum.

The Properties can be viewed by permission of the Tenants.

Particulars with Plans may be obtained of MR. J. H. YONGE, Solicitor, or the Auctioneers, all of Worcester.

AUCTION SALES.

SALES OF SHIRE HORSES, HACKNEYS, AND HARNESS HORSES,
BY
SEXTON, GRIMWADE, & BECK.

AUGUST 1ST.—Sale of 42 of Mr. W. LLOYD'S HACKNEYS, at Heaselands, Hayward's Heath.

AUGUST 2ND.—Sale of 45 of Mr. C. E. E. COOKE'S SHIRES and 25 HACKNEYS at Hinxton Grange, Cambs.

Catalogues and further particulars of the Auctioneers, Peterborough.

OXFORD GREAT ANNUAL RAM FAIR.
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1900.

MESSRS. PAXTON & HOLIDAY will hold their usual important AUCTION SALE of OXFORD DOWNS in the above fair, commencing at 10.15 o'clock punctually.

The present entries consist of

350 specially selected OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS and RAM LAMBS, being consignments from the following noted flocks:—

Mr. Edward Gillett, Cote House, Bampton.
Mr. John Warley, Brize Norton, Faringdon.
Mr. Geo. Adams, Royal Prize Farm, Wadley, Faringdon.
Albert Brassey, Esq., M.P., M.F.H., Heythrop Park, Chipping Norton.
The Right Hon. the Earl of Camperdown, Weston Park, Shipston-on-Stour.
Messrs. J. Bryan and Son, Southleigh, Witney.
Messrs. T. W. Jeffries and Son, Black Bourton, Faringdon.
Mr. H. W. Stilgoe, Adderbury Grounds, Banbury.
The Hon. R. Hardinge, South Lawn House, Burford.

70 pedigree OXFORD DOWN EWES and THEAVES, being drafts from the well-known flocks of Albert Brassey, Esq., M.P., M.F.H., Her Majesty's Commissioners of Woods and Forests, and Messrs. J. Bryan and Son.

The sheep may be seen at any time by appointment with the respective owners, of whom catalogues with pedigrees may be obtained; or of F. D. HOLIDAY AND SON, Auctioneers, Valuers, and Estate Agents, Bicester, Banbury, and Chipping Norton.

MANOR FARM, WINTERBOURNE STOKE, WILTS.

Four miles from Wishford Station, six from Wilton, and nine from Salisbury.

100 RAM LAMBS,
from the choice
HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK
Of Mr. CARY COLES, of Winterbourne Stoke, registered in the Hampshire Down Flock Book.

TO BE LET AND SOLD BY AUCTION BY

WATERS AND RAWLENCE, on the PREMISES, on

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3RD, 1900.

All Flockmasters visiting the leading show yards of the season have been greatly impressed by the excellence of the exhibits from the Winterbourne Stoke Flock. A very large proportion of the Ram Lambs to be offered at the Annual Sale are by the same sires as the show animals and possess the same beauty of feature and symmetrical form, and together will comprise the best selection ever placed before the public by Mr. Coles. As a proof of the great merit of this year's Ram Lambs, a pen of eight was awarded the twenty-five gs. Challenge Cup at the great Ram Lamb Show at Salisbury, against the strongest competition.

LUNCHEON AT 12.30 AND SALE AFTER.

Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Canal, Salisbury.

Conveyances will meet all trains until midday, at Salisbury, Wilton, and Wishford.

OXFORD GREAT RAM FAIR,
AUGUST 8, 1900.

IMPORTANT ANNUAL SALE OF HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS,
From Registered Flocks and Stock Ewes and Store Lambs,
from some of the leading Flocks in the District.

FRANKLIN, GALE, & NEWTON are favoured with instructions to SELL by AUCTION, in the usual close, at the above fair (by permission of Messrs. Morrell and Co.), on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1900, commencing at 11 o'clock.

50 RAM LAMBS,
from the flock of JOHN THOMSON, Esq., Woodperry, Oxford.
50 RAM LAMBS,
from the flock of A. HENDERSON, Esq., M.P., Buscot Park, Faringdon.
20 RAM LAMBS,
from the flock of BASIL HANBURY, Esq., Kineton
25 RAM LAMBS,
from the flock of C. A. SCOTT-MURRAY, Esq., Hambleden, Henley-on-Thames.
30 RAM LAMBS,
from the flock of W. T. TWIDELL, Esq., May's Farm, Wallingford.
Also about
1075
DOWN STOCK EWES and STORE LAMBS, from well-known flocks.

Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Market Place, Wallingford; 13, Friar Street, Reading; and 8, St. Michael's Street, Oxford.

AUCTION SALES—*continued.*

ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 7th, 1900 (1 o'clock).

PRIZE-WINNING SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.

MR. P. L. MILLS' ANNUAL SALE.

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. WILL SELL by AUCTION, at THE ELMS FARM, RUDDINGTON, NOTTS—ten minutes' walk from the Great Central Railway Station at Ruddington—a first-class selection of—

34 SHEARLING RAMS,

80 BEAUTIFUL SHEARLING EWES.

Breeders will find several valuable and impressive Sires, and some exceptionally good pens of Ewes at this Sale, and the general farmer in want of big, strong, lean-fleshed Rams will meet with his requirements.

The auctioneers having examined the flock have pleasure in thoroughly recommending the sheep as being members of a flock of great merit with the best attributes and characteristics of a high-class flock of Shropshires, bred on sound practical lines, and combining quality of wool and mutton with size and good bone.

The Prince of Wales' Challenge Cup for the best pen of Wethers at the last Smithfield Club Show was secured by representatives from this flock, the prizes secured on that occasion amounting to the value of £258, and this year's successes are again notable.

Catalogues from—

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO.,

College Hill, Shrewsbury.

SUTTON, SUFFOLK,
four miles from Melton and five from Woodbridge Stations.

ON WEDNESDAY, 8TH AUGUST, 1900,
At 2 o'clock precisely.

GARROD, TURNER and SON, in conjunction with Mr. ERNEST PRENTICE, Secretary to the Suffolk Sheep Society, will SELL by AUCTION, by direction of the EXECUTORS of W. N. WALLER, Esq., deceased, the Estate having been sold.

THE SUTTON HALL FLOCK OF SUFFOLK SHEEP (Registered No. 168),

COMPRISING:—

550 SUFFOLK EWES, various ages.
119 CHOICE SHEARLING EWES.
800 EWE and WETHER LAMBS.
12 RAMS.

Sutton Hall has long enjoyed a reputation as the home of a high class breeding flock, which was established by an ancestor of the late Mr. W. N. Waller, in 1790, and is the oldest flock in existence of pure-bred Suffolk sheep.

Catalogues of the AUCTIONEERS, Ipswich.

DUNSMORE SHEEP SALE.

MESSRS. LYTHALL AND WALTERS are instructed by P. A. MUNTZ, Esq., M.P., to SELL, at DUNSMORE, ON AUGUST 31ST,

50 SHROPSHIRE RAMS
OF IMMENSE SIZE,

Including the FIRST-PRIZE WINNERS at the Royal Show, Shropshire and West Midland, Leicester, Notts, and Newport.

Also
60 BEAUTIFUL SHEARLING EWES.

TENDER.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

The Directors of this Company are prepared to receive TENDERS for the supply of:—

10,000 Quarters of OATS.
1,300 ,, ,, BEANS.
1,300 ,, ,, MAIZE.
700 Tons of HAY—Upland Meadow.
700 ,, ,, HAY—Broad leaf Clover and Rye Grass.
600 ,, ,, WHEAT STRAW.
150 ,, ,, STRAW for PACKING.
220 ,, ,, BRAN.

Forms of Tender (upon which alone Tenders will be received) may be obtained on application to the undersigned, by whom Tenders, marked outside "Tender for Provender," will be received on or before Tuesday, the 7th proximo.

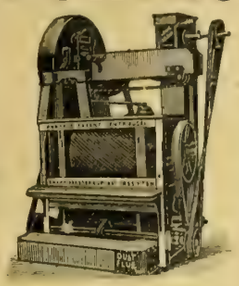
The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

G. K. MILLS, Secretary.

Paddington Station, London.
July 27th, 1900.

Telephone No. 1263.

PORTEUS, Engineer, LEEDS.



CHAFF CLEANING & PROVENDER MACHINERY.

SPECIALITY.

See PORTEUS PATENT ASPIRATOR and SIFTER before purchasing.

TEST SAMPLES.

Every Machine guaranteed to free the Chaff from Dust without taking any nutritious matter out.

MALT MILLS, &c.

IMPROVED OAT ROLLERS,
combined with Sifter and Kibbler.

MACKINDER'S LAMB FOOD

Used on the Royal Farms and by Large Flockmasters everywhere.

Mr. Jas. Bennett, Aure, Glos., writes:—"I have never had any Food of any sort or kind on which lambs did so well."

Mr. F. Jakeman (agent for C. T. Hoare, Esq.), Bicester, writes:—"I find it capital food both for lambs and cattle."

Hundreds of Testimonials, Samples, Pamphlets, etc., free through agents, or direct.

MACKINDER'S LAMB FOOD MILLS, LINCOLN.

SOILING, ENSILAGE, AND STABLE CONSTRUCTION.

Being a Revised Edition of "Soiling, Summer and Winter; or, the Economy of Feeding Farm Stock

By FRANK SHERMAN PEER.

Relating the experience of the author, giving the latest and most economical methods of Summer and Winter Feeding and Management of Farm Stock; also the Construction of Stables.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS. PRICE 5s. (POST FREE, 5s. 4d.)

LONDON: MARK LANE EXPRESS, 1, Essex Street, Strand; NEW YORK: M. F. MANSFIELD.

MACKINDER'S PORRIDGE MEAL FOR WEANING CALVES.

Price 11s. per cwt., free at all Stations.

See directions for use. Testimony from every county.

Wm. Joscelyn, Esq. (Suffolk), writes:—"I find my calves do better on your Porridge Meal than anything I have ever used."

Mr. Harry Fidler (Wilts) writes:—"Your Porridge Meal keeps calves remarkably clean, mastering the one great difficulty in calf-weaning."

Order through Merchants, Chemists, or direct from
MACKINDER'S LAMB FOOD MILLS, LINCOLN.

READERS of ADVERTISEMENTS in these pages will greatly oblige and assist us by mentioning MARK LANE EXPRESS when writing to our Advertisers.

LEARNER'S PATENT FOOT-ROT CURE.

Leaves the hoof soft and pliable
2/- & 1/6 per tin Four 2/- for 10/- Post Free
ALFRED J. LEARNER, REDHILL, Surrey.

POOLEY'S PATENT CATTLE WEIGHBRIDGES

FOR AUCTIONEERS, FARMERS, &c.

Sole Makers: HENRY POOLEY & SON, Ltd., Weighing Machine Makers, ALBION FOUNDRY, LIVERPOOL.

Branches at London, Newcastle, Manchester, Newport, Derby, Glasgow, and Birmingham. Weighbridges readily and cheaply converted into cattle Machines.

FOOT-ROT

STRAWSON'S CELEBRATED FOOT-ROT OINTMENT.

Effectual—Speedy—Permanent.

Used by the chief Ram Breeders and Flockmasters in the Kingdom.

IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF. TRY IT.

May be had through any Chemist; or will be sent post free at the rate of 1s. per tin, 20s. per case of two dozen tins (not less than a case at the latter rate), by the Sole Proprietor, G. STRAWSON, Chemist, Bishop's Castle.

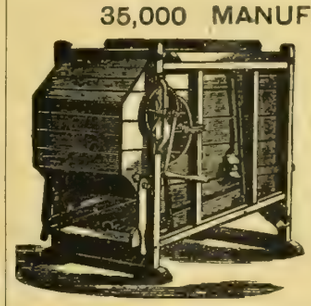
ROBERT BOBY, Ltd.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

BOBY'S PATENT

Corn Dressing & Screening Machinery

35,000 MANUFACTURED AND SOLD.



Oat Clippers
Cockle
Cylinders

Haymakers, Horse Rakes, Hand Drills.

SEED AND LINSEED DRESSERS.—(*See Catalogue.*)

"WORTH ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD."—*Prof. Buckman.*

Used on the Royal Farms. Known in all parts of the world. Supplied to Colonial Governments.

STEPHEN PETTIFER & SONS'

"SANTOVIN,"

—OR— (Regd.)

HERBAL TONIC or FLOCKMASTER'S FRIEND.

("SANTOVIN,"—*New Name Registered to prevent fraudulent substitution.*)

A SURE REMEDY AND PREVENTIVE

For Tapeworms, Stomach and Intestinal Worms, Husk or Hoose, Fevers Scour or Diarrhœa, Dysentery, and Debility in Sheep and Lambs.

IN BOTTLES ONLY (30 TO 40 DOSES). 5s. EACH

Illustrated Pamphlet Free, with World-wide Testimony

SOLE PROPRIETORS AND MANUFACTURERS,

STEPHEN PETTIFER & SONS, SHEEP MEDICINE SPECIALISTS,

MALMESBURY, WILTS.

Of all Chemists or direct. £1 worth Carriage Paid.

CAUTION.—Beware of Imitations. Note particularly Pettifer's Name ONLY ADDRESS and TRADE MARK (Ram's Head) as Sheep, as here represented).

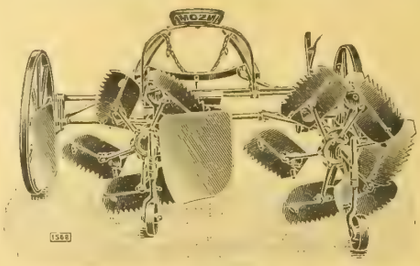
Sufficient and ONLY Address—PETTIFERS, MALMESBURY.

RANSOMES, SIMS & JEFFERIES, LTD.,

MANUFACTURE

THE BEST HAYMAKING MACHINERY,

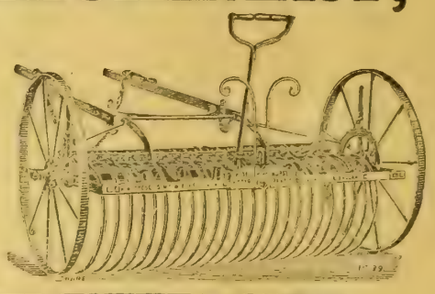
INCLUDING



SWATH TURNERS

(Jarmain's Patent),

For dealing quickly and effectively with the Hay and Clover crops. Users are unanimous in their expressions of satisfaction.



HORSE RAKES:—

The "Star." "Through-Axle." "Self-acting and Manual."

Absolutely reliable and effective.

Complete Illustrated Price Lists free on application to—

ORWELL WORKS, IPSWICH.

HOT & COLD WATER TAP

INVENTED BY

LORD KELVIN

(SIR Wm THOMSON)

GUARANTEED FOR 3 YEARS

NO PACKING
NO WASHERS
NO LEAKAGE

SOLD IN MANY VARIETIES BY PLUMBERS & IRONMONGERS, AND BY THE

PALATINE ENGINEERING Co Ltd

BLACKSTOCK ST LIVERPOOL

HAYWARD'S YELLOW PASTE

THE IMPROVED SULPHUR DIP.

Mixes readily with cold water. Kills all Ticks, Lice, etc. Sticks in the fleece and thus prevents a further crop of Parasites. Keeps off the Maggot Fly, and leaves the Wool in a healthy, lustrous condition.

In Packets, 1s., for 20 to 25 Sheep.

Sold by Agents.

ONLY ADDRESS:

TOMLINSON & HAYWARD,

LINCOLN.

GARTONS

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF

Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN

AND THE

LEADING AGRICULTURISTS OF GREAT BR TAIN.

WIRRALL & BIRKENHEAD SHOW AT BIRKENHEAD,

3rd, 4th, and 6th AUGUST.

Messrs. Gartons' Exhibit at the above Show will include Specimens of New and Improved Breeds of Oats, Barley, Wheat, Grasses, etc. Also Samples of all other kinds of Agricultural Seeds of Guaranteed Purity and Germination.

GARTONS, Ltd.,

WARRINGTON.

BIBBY'S "CREAM EQUIVALENT" for CALVES.

An Ounce of Fact is worth a Ton of Theory.

A STRIKING FACT.

In our Spring number of "Bibby's Quarterly" we reproduced the photographs of two groups of Calves which are now being reared at the Horuby House Farm, Bedale, Yorks, by his Grace the Duke of Leeds.

One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."

We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

445 selected the wrong, and 262 the right group.

We think the above striking FACT speaks volumes for "Cream Equivalent."

The "Cream Equivalent" can be had at 15s. per cwt., carriage paid to nearest station.

SOLE MANUFACTURERS:—

J. BIBBY & SONS,

Exchange Chambers, Liverpool.

READERS of ADVERTISEMENTS in these pages will assist us by mentioning "MARK LANE EXPRESS" when writing to our Advertisers.

100,000 of each.—ECLIPSE CAULIFLOWERS, earlier than Veitch's, very fine sort, 4s. per 1,000; Veitch's Autumn Giant, 3s. 6d.; Dalkeith Brussels Sprouts, 3s.; Nonpareil and Enfield Market Cabbage, 3s.; Ormskirk Savoy, one of the best, 3s.; Drumhead Savoy, 3s.; Sutton's Giant Drumhead Cabbage, Scotch Drumhead, Flat Pole, and Thousand Head, all 2s. 6d.; Sutton's Early Sheepfold, 3s.; Cash with order; or 1,000 of the above, purchaser's choice as to quantities of each, packed and carriage paid, 5s.

W. HORNE & SONS, Cliffe, Rochester, Kent.

J. RANDS & JECKELL'S NOTED STACK SHEETS

Size.	Quality	J	K	L	M
8yds.	by 6yds. at	24/-	36/-	48/-	60/-
8yds.	by 8yds. at	32/-	48/-	64/-	80/-
10yds.	by 8yds. at	40/-	60/-	80/-	100/-
12yds.	by 10yds. at	60/-	90/-	120/-	150/-

Any size to order at proportionate price.

These Cloths are made up to the Square Yard, and not sold by the Width of 24 and 30 inches, which is so frequently the case, thus misleading purchasers.

Samples of Canvas submitted per Post. Above Prices include Brass Eyelets and Long Cords. Carriage Paid on Orders of 40/-. 5 per cent. Discount for Cash.

J. RANDS & JECKELL, IPSWICH.

SACK, RICK CLOTH, & TENT MANUFACTURERS.

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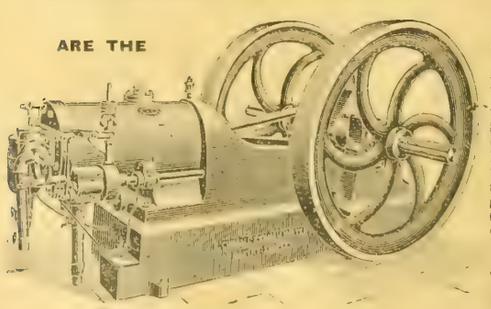

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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal.

The Only English Journal devoted exclusively to Agriculture.

MONDAY, JULY 30, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

TO CONTRIBUTORS & ADVERTISERS.

In consequence of next Monday being Bank Holiday, the MARK LANE EXPRESS will be published on SATURDAY MORNING, August 4.

All communications for that issue, whether for the Editor or Orders for Advertisements, must reach this office not later than the first post on FRIDAY MORNING, August 3.

MORE LABOUR-SAVING MACHINES WANTED.

Travellers by road or by rail must have been very profoundly impressed of late with the conviction, either that farmers in numerous districts of the southern half of the kingdom are bad haymakers, or that there is an urgent want of fifty times as many haymaking machines and horse-rakes in rural districts as there are now. Ever since the advent of our brilliant, scorching July summer, the scene presented to view has been the same everywhere, with the exception of a farm here and there, where the occupier is the possessor of a haymaking machine and a horse-rake—the grass cut down, but lying about untouched, scorched on one side by the sun, and being allowed to make itself.

Rural close observers, disposed to cynicism, have often declared that more hay is spoiled in an over-fine season than in a moderately indifferent one, and if by being spoilt is meant the complete abstraction of all sap by the fodder becoming virtually sunburnt, there is a great to justify the assertion. Besides which, whenever hay is allowed to make itself, there is sure to be uneven, no less than injurious drying. The operation of carting to the stack takes place while there is yet a great deal of green amid the over-scorched. This leads to severe heating in the stack, with the frequent result of spontaneous combustion.

The potent sunshine and excessive heat of July have already brought us the corn harvest for such crops as rye, winter oats, and winter barley, and the wheat is rapidly assuming a golden hue in many districts. Labour scarcity is likely to be just as severely a despoiler of the bounty of Providence in regard to the grain ingathering as it has already proved itself in the haying season. Those who have self-binding reaping-machines are all right, for the crops stand up admirably this year, and these invaluable implements slash down and sheave the corn so rapidly that by their instrumentality harvesting can be effected in one-fourth the time it formerly occupied, and where twenty pairs of hands were necessary a single pair performs the work far more effectually. But scarcely one farmer in a hundred who has corn to cut and harvest is the possessor of a self-binding reaper. Indeed, it would only pay the owner of a large acreage of corn to buy a costly implement for only about a fortnight's use during the year. But for large occupations they have been known often to save labour pay sufficient, even in that short space of time, to defray at least half their cost.

Clearly, then, what is wanted is an implement depôt in every corn growing district, from which a self-binding reaper could be hired. This would place the little men on the same vantage ground as the larger occupiers, who find it advantageous to purchase them. And not only for one class of implements is there this urgent want, but for all labour-saving mechanical appliances, for the evil of insufficient manual labour is increasing so rapidly that the interests of British agriculture itself are becoming vitally imperilled. What, then, can possibly be of more urgent importance in the present state of things than setting on foot a movement throughout the length and breadth of the land for the formation of clubs whose object would be the establishment of such depôts? Rightly managed, getting them would be perfectly easy. Bankers presumably would advance the wherewithal even on the personal security of the co-operating members of clubs of the kind. They have been in the regular habit of doing it for a considerable number of years in Bavaria and other parts of Germany to the incalculable advantage of the peasant farmers, whose personal security would be nothing like so good as that of even the humbler sections of English farmers.

According to Mr. Vansittart, of Her Majesty's Legation at Munich, "The strength of the Raiffeisan associations consists in unlimited liability. Their safety is so trusted that bankers have declared themselves ready to grant the associations credit merely on the ground of their unlimited responsibility, and without asking for any other guarantee."

These Raiffeisan associations are very numerous on the Continent and have effected an immense amount of good. Although chiefly made instrumental for the distribution of loans to needy members, there are precedents of depôts of implements having been established by their means, the capital for the purchase of the machines being wholly obtained from the outside on the credit of the association which established the depôt. Reasonable is it, that if bankers will do as Mr. Vansittart states when the large sums advanced are distributed in many loans to impecunious members, they would be still more ready to advance when the co-operating borrowers were not only a less needy class, but when there would be the whole stock of articles bought with the money to be held in actual possession by the managers and committees of the borrowing associations.

Such labour-saving machines as self-binding reapers, mowing and haymaking machines, stackers, drills, steam and gang ploughs, thrashers, chaff-cutters, milking-machines, etc., if hired out to the co-operating members, would soon pay for themselves, so that it would only require good organisation to make parochial or district associations of the kind of the greatest possible value to both small and large farmers. Such institutions have been made extensive use of in France for the purchase of manures, seeds, and articles of which all the members require small quantities, and by buying which wholesale in bulk may not only be had cheaper but of pure guaranteed character. Many English farmers also do this now through the agency of their farmers' clubs and local chambers of agriculture, which proves that English farmers are not so averse to co-operating when any real advantage is obtainable by their so doing.

Moreover, any general spread of a movement grounded on the basis above indicated could not but excite mechanical genius to invent fresh labour-saving machines and implements for other objects than those at present served. There is an article even now, calculated very materially to lighten the labours of the hayfield, which only very few farmers know anything about. A loader at the rear of the wagon is worked as the wagon is drawn forward to take up the hay itself and carry it up a plane by the endless band system. One farmer found by its use he could save the labour of three hay men, four horses, and two drivers per day, but he could not get his men to continue using it, and his experience as to the objection is not unique.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

A report from the agricultural correspondent of the Labour Department gives the changes in the wages of ordinary farm labourers from June, 1899, to June, 1900, in the Midland, Eastern, and Southern and South-Western Counties respectively, as shown by returns from 134 Poor Law Unions altogether. Out of a total of 231,655 agricultural labourers in the districts covered, the wages of 91,469, or 39.5 per cent., remained stationary; while those of 140,186, or 60.5 per cent., rose from 6d. to 2s. per week. In the Midland Counties the advance was 1s. to 2s.; in the Eastern Counties, 1s. to 1s. 6d.; and in the Southern and South-Western Counties, 6d. to 2s. Altogether, out of 148,186 labourers who had an advance, 8,939 received an increase of 2s., 25,552 an extra 1s. 6d., 102,002 a rise of 1s., and 3,693 an increase of 6d.

Nearly 73 per cent. of all the men who have received an advance are in the Eastern Counties, in some of which there was plenty of room for a rise. In Suffolk even now the rate for day labourers is only 12s. to 13s. a week, though this does not represent nearly all their earnings, and men with horses and other stock get more money. In Norfolk the usual rate is 13s., and in Lincolnshire it is up to 16s. 6d. for ordinary labourers in many districts where it was 15s. last year. In parts of the South, as in Sussex, wages range from 15s. to 18s. a week, though these rates are not named in the return. No figures were obtained from the North of England, because most of the men are hired by the year or half year; but it is stated that near the Scottish border 16s. to 18s., with free lodging, potatoes, and other advantages, are the usual wages.

According to a Reuter's telegram from Paris on Tuesday, the official estimates of the French crops, based upon the reports made by agricultural experts, state that winter wheat is very good in one Department, fairly good in twenty-two, fair in seven, and mediocre in one. Spring wheat is very good in one Department, good in twenty-four, fairly good in twenty-one, and fair in three. No spring wheat was grown in the other Departments.

In the final report on the wheat crop of the Punjab for 1899-1900, issued by the Punjab Department of Land Records and Agriculture, on May 28th, it is stated that, generally speaking, the insufficiency of rains at the time of sowing and the consequent want of moisture in the ground have greatly contracted the unirrigated sowings, while the people in some districts have increased the sowings on irrigated lands by sinking kutcha wells called dhenklis. The total area under wheat as finally returned is 6,366,500 acres, as compared with 7,729,200 acres last year. Thus the area this year is 17.6 per cent. below last year's area, and 15.6 per cent. below the quinquennial average. The area estimated at the first and second forecasts was respectively 4,925,100 and 5,469,100 acres, while the actual area as finally reported and as anticipated is 6,366,500 acres, showing an increase of 22.6 and 14.1 per cent. over the forecasts. This improvement in the final returns, as compared with the anticipation in the forecast reports, is due to the fact that the irrigated area under wheat in the Jhang and Gujranwala Districts on the Chenab Canal was decidedly underestimated, while on unirrigated lands fresher sowings after the January rains have increased the area under wheat in Gujrat, Kangra, Hoshiarpur, Shahpur, Jhelum, and several other districts. The autumn-sown crops on the whole were not successful, and if they did not fail entirely, they yielded but a scanty fodder supply or a very light harvest of wheat.

The irrigated crop this year bears the very

high proportion of 63 per cent. of the whole crop; last year the irrigated crop was only 50 per cent. of the whole. An increase in the total area sown compared with last year is observable in only four districts, chiefly in Lyallpur of the Jhang District. In this district the increase is as much as 59.6 per cent, owing to the extension of cultivation on the Chenab Canal. The total area of wheat in this district this year was 659,700 acres against 413,300 acres last year. There is a decrease in all other districts.

The total outturn of wheat this year is estimated at 1,823,182 tons against 1,977,777 tons, of 7.8 per cent. less than last year. The average outturns of the preceding five and ten years have been 2,163,908 and 2,042,523 tons respectively. The yield of the present year shows a decrease of 15.7 compared with the quinquennial and of 10.7 per cent. compared with the decennial average. The average outturn of all classes of soils taken together comes to 7¾ maunds per acre against 7 maunds last year. This increase is due to the fact that the proportion of the irrigated crop is much larger than it was last year. The outturn on irrigated lands in Ludhiána and Gurdáspur is reported to be excellent, poor in Dera Gházi Khan and the Salt Range and Bár (Shahpur), above average in Muzaffargarh, and average or below average elsewhere. On unirrigated lands it is nowhere reported to be good or even above average. In most places it is said to be bad, poor, and below average.

The same Department also issues its final report on the rapeseed crop of the Punjab for the year 1899-1900. In it they state that the season has been notoriously bad for agriculture of all kinds. The early cessation of the monsoon and the dry autumn months and late commencement of and deficiency in amount of the winter rains has had the natural result of diminished sowings and short outturns. In one respect, however, the report now presented shows a considerable improvement over the second forecast report of the rapeseed crop issued in February last, viz., in regard to the increase in the area sown after the rain which fell in the third week in January. The late rains also caused a good deal of self-sown tára míra in the Jhelum District to germinate, which, though stunted, gave a fair yield. The total area now reported as actually sown with this crop, including the self-sown tára míra, is 397,500 acres against 582,600 acres in the previous year. This shows an increase of 158,700 acres over the second forecast, but is still 31.8 per cent. below the final results of last year. The proportion of irrigated area sown with this crop has increased, viz., from 26.9 per cent. in the last year to 30.4 in the year under report.

The total outturn is estimated at 26,761 tons against 50,041, or 52.2 per cent. less than in the preceding year, and a decrease of 69.8 and 68.7 per cent. respectively in comparison with the averages of the preceding five and ten years. The outturn in Ludhiána is said to be nil, as the irrigated crop when green was consumed by the people as vegetables, and the unirrigated crop was a failure, while in Gujránwála, and probably in some other districts, too, a portion of the crop was cut, when green, and used as fodder for cattle. Taking the area and the yield together, the rapeseed crop this harvest may be said to be 50 per cent. of the normal crop.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to July 21st, 1900, were £31,752,435 against £32,517,363 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £53,934,104, against £36,216,422 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on July 21st, 1900, amounted to £4,932,177, and at the same date in 1899 to £3,180,834.

Henry Boughen, farm servant, of Deeping, St. Nicholas, was charged at Spalding on Wednesday with setting fire to stacks of oat and wheat straw and pulse, on the farm of Mr. R. C. B. Watts, at Littleworth. Defendant was employed about midday carting manure near the stacks, which were fired, and he told a policeman that some matches fell from his pocket, and, striking on a cart wheel, were ignited. The magistrates thought defendant had acted with great carelessness, but as there was no evidence of wilful misconduct he was discharged.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

The Duke of Devonshire is surely not wise in attributing to the farmers of England a malicious motive in their refusal to be exuberantly enthusiastic over the modern developments of the educational system. It it fair or just to assert that this conduct on the part of the farmers is due to a desire to prevent the mental development of the child and the consequent anxiety to work out their destiny in the towns? Is his Grace even wiser in attributing to the farmers a desire to educate their own daughters for anything rather than for the position of farmers' wives? Both accusations sound like an echo of the tub-thumping charges familiar to Radical platforms.

It is another rendering of the old-time assertion that English farmers are selfish, have no sympathy for the men and women who delve on their farms—why not, your Grace, imitate Mr. Chamberlain's old method, and dub them "helots"?—and are possessed by a worldly arrogance which is little to be differentiated from conceit. For the life of me I cannot see why the Duke of Devonshire should go out of his way to lisp this caricature of the farmer, even though the occasion of the burlesque be a secondary education festival.

I am assured that this war will result, unfortunately, in a new seductive influence being applied to the rural districts in the hope of attracing the labourers away. One of the lessons of the war—and I am speaking with authority in making this assertion—is that the soldier who can withstand the fever-provoking conditions which prevail in South Africa are those who have been recruited from the villages. The men who have come from the towns—and, of course, certain regiments have of recent years been almost entirely recruited in towns—have fallen ready victims. I do not stop to inquire why this should be so. An explanation will probably be found in the fact that the rival worker has been exempt from the vitiating conditions which prevail in the towns, and thus possesses an armour with which to meet the inroads made ordinarily upon the physique by the unwonted life of the veldt.

"Give me an army of agricultural labourers," said a distinguished general at the front but a few weeks ago, "and I then shall permit myself the luxury of indulging in the hope that I may escape the effect of enteric." "Give me agricultural labourers as patients," said a well-known Army medical officer, "and I shall have reason to hope that I may rescue many from the effects of the epidemic." Which two declarations provide a bad look-out for the farmers. They mean a more fascinating recruiting crusade in the villages.

Will Mr. Chamberlain or the country gentlemen element be uppermost in the party triumph? This is the question which now chiefly concerns the House of Commons. That Mr. Chamberlain is still striving strenuously to secure an early general election is undeniable—he is using every intriguing machinery of which he has command to achieve this purpose. Now, what operates against his scheme—and his cuteness is too apparent to need demonstration—is that there be men who think that an early general election would also be a manifest act of chicanery. A grave charge has been made against the Government. It is averred to have brought either death or anguish to thousands of brave fellows who had gone fearlessly to battle for their country's sake by its maleficent administration. An inquiry has been instituted into this charge, and is being at this moment conducted. To go to the country whilst this charge is still uninvestigated, and until the Commission has delivered its verdict, is to be guilty of the offence of the remanded prisoner let out on bail who levants because of his fear to meet the jury.

Now, the old-fashioned politicians, with their old-fashioned instincts, still rebel against this policy. Will they succeed in their rebellion? Surely they ought to, seeing that they are led by Lord Salisbury. What is more. The dissolution is not a matter for the Queen and the Cabinet, but for Her Majesty and Lord Salisbury alone. At all events, that an election will take place in October is by no means certain.

I am glad to hear that a movement is on foot in Wiltshire to induce Mr. Walter Long to accept the candidature of one of the county constituencies. It is meet and fitting that a Walter Long should represent Wiltshire in the House. It is in harmony with the county history and traditions. There was a time, but this was before Niagara was shot—in other words, before the flood-gates of the democracy were opened—when the representation of the county was invariably divided between a Sotheron-Estcourt and a Walter Long. The severance of that association by the iconoclastic electors of the Devizes division came as a veritable shock to the political student. It seemed like pulling up a deep and cherished family affection by the very roots. That Walter Long, of Rood Ashton, should have been beaten in Wiltshire induced a gasp of astonishment. I believe none regretted their disloyalty more than the Devizes electors themselves. It was not always the method of the men down 'Vizes way to deride a Long. Well, their offence is now to be condoned. A Walter Long will sit for what I could almost describe as "Walter Long country."

"Is there any prospect of the farmers uniting in the way the Editor of the MARK LANE EXPRESS has suggested?" I asked a well-known Conservative Parliamentarian who has taken a keen and practical interest in agricultural questions. "Well," was his reply, "if they do not unite they will have missed the lesson of this Session. Do they know that they were within an ace of losing the amendments of the Agricultural Holdings Act? Do they know that it was finally introduced after a delay of four years, not because of the desire to redeem a Ministerial promise, but because of the resolve of Mr. Walter Long to redeem his personal pledge? Had Mr. Long been less insistent the present Bill would never have been introduced. And why should Ministers have troubled themselves about the matter—a matter which was bound to breed temper and dispute—when the farmers themselves scarce went out of their way to pass a pressing and determined resolution?" These be potent words, messieurs of the farming interest; and they strikingly emphasise the importance of the point upon which the MARK LANE EXPRESS last week so admirably and editorially insisted.

Overland Parcel Post to Australia.—Parcels can now be sent to Australia (including British New Guinea) viâ Marseilles, Brindisi, or Naples, arriving a week sooner than if sent all the way by sea. Parcels intended for the overland route must be posted in London not later than Tuesday afternoon, and in the country in time to reach London not later than midnight on Tuesday. The postage to be prepaid on parcels weighing not more than one pound is 2s., and for each additional pound, or fraction of a pound, 6d. Such parcels addressed to New South Wales, South Australia, Tasmania, or Victoria, can be insured for any sum not exceeding £20, under the usual conditions; but no compensation is given for the loss or damage of liquids, semi-liquids, perishable or fragile articles.

St. Boswell's Fair.—This annual border gathering took place on Wednesday, and was a good deal smaller than usual, a reason for this probably being the Highland Show at Stirling. The business of the fair is now mainly confined to horses and wool. In the horse department fully 700 animals were stanced, considerably fewer than in previous years, and except for the very best class trade was dull. Mr. Dan Kennedy, Kelso, presented thirty head, all of a good class. He sold draught horses at £50 to £70, and harness horses at £30 to £40. Mr. Rush, Carlisle, was represented by an excellent string of fully fifty. He effected sales of work horses at prices ranging from £10 to £76; while harness horses brought him to £42 and ponies to £25. Mr. Arthur Forster, Parkhouse, Carlisle, and one or two other well-known dealers bought and sold at similar prices. Mr. James Scott, Softlaw East Mains, Kelso, sold twenty-five horses at £16 to £60, and Mr. C. Douglas, Kelso, disposed of a dozen at prices ranging from £10 to £50. Mr. Johnston, Dumfries, had thirty head on offer. He sold horses for the draught at £35 to £52, and harness horses at £24 to £42. Mr. Elliot, Middles, Lilliesleaf, sold a number of work horses to £58, and harness horses to £32. Business in the wool market did not begin until afternoon, and a considerable number of those interested congregated in the usual stance. As usual, the market was in great part of the nature of a feeler, a good trade having been experienced at Inverness, and with enhanced values for fat stock farmers naturally looked for a substantial rise on the quotations for the past few years. The dealers, however, though willing to give a certain advance, would not concede all that was demanded, and few transactions took place. Farmers generally are expecting a rise of fully 1s. per stone, while others, particularly the holders of large fleeces, are disposed to hold out for 1s. 6d. to 2s.

THE DAIRY.

Protected Milk.

Few businesses have been quite so sorely tried during this outburst of hot weather as the retail dairy trade; and few consumers have been quite so frequently put out of their reckoning as their customers.

Milk depends, first, upon the quality and health of the cows, and the nature of the herbage; second, upon means employed to preserve it; third, upon its treatment during transit.

First, there is no doubt that cows suffer, as most mortals do, through a long continued spell of extreme heat, and they suffer also through the drying up of their pasture land through continued drought. But farmers themselves know the value of shady corners, and of good watering places for their cattle in summer.

Second, various preservatives have been tried among milk dealers, but all of them have some disadvantage, if not to the dealers, to the consumers. All of them are liable to penalties under the Adulteration Acts, and some of them, such as formalin, ought to receive the attention of the Excise and other departments. Most delicate palates detect the admixture, all delicate digestions suffer eventually from the continued use of any preservative, for all are more or less deleterious. Therefore an unprejudiced arbitrator would unhesitatingly pronounce against the short-sighted use of so-called preservatives.

Third, there is much more to be said upon the ordinary travelling experiences of milk. Farmers send their produce to town in metal churns, suitable enough in shape and material to convey such liquids as water; but when they are used for such an unstable fluid as milk, they are about as unpractical as could well be devised. Metal not only rapidly absorbs heat rays, but conducts and radiates them rapidly. If fresh milk be boiled it remains sweet for a considerable period. Even if it approach the critical stage rapid boiling may freshen it. But to expose milk during the relatively long time taken up in transit to the low degrees of heat transmitted through a metal churn, with or without a linen jacket, is too severe a test even for the best of milk When to the heat is added the constant series of shakes and jolts in continuous railway travelling, and the bangs and jolts at the stations, the danger is intensified. On its arrival at shops it is frequently poured out into messenger cans, which are driven jolting over stony streets, with apparently as much determined hostility to the preservation of the precious fluid as is possible even for a boy.

Now a certain degree of science and commonsense might be applied even to the milk traffic, and thereby might be secured not only a saving of money on both sides, but a saving of the health of infants and animals dependent on the supply. The unexpected failure of usable milk is a serious cause of domestic annoyance.

In the first place, instead of planting the churns flat on the railway truck bottom they might be slung hammock-wise, so as to diminish the jolting. A double rim at the lid might be constructed to hold a little ice, which would keep the temperature materially down. Railway officials *might* be educated into banging about their milk consignments less dangerously, if they saw purveyors taking *real care*. They might even have the milk truck roof whitewashed, and carry in each a small quantity of ice. But the most radical improvement would be an entire change in the material used for churns, from that now at present in use, so dangerous in hot weather. The best receptacle for milk is, no doubt, glazed earthenware, but that is too brittle for railways; wood is not easy to keep perfectly clean; but the new and improved manufacture of papier-maché makes it possible to construct new and improved milk churns from that material. It has all the qualities that are necessary. It is light, yet no brittle, and it does not readily absorb, transmit, or radiate heat. A solid internal glaze would make the surface as easily cleaned as china. In short, papier-maché combines so many advantages that milk travelling in churns made of that material would be *well-protected milk*. The diminution of clatter would not only be a relief to passengers at a station, but would remove a temptation from the ordinary railway porter, so that the milk might not be so much churned, even in stations. The initial cost would be about the same, and if the cost of the linen jackets be added to that of the metal, it would probably prove the papier-maché the cheaper. The durability would depend upon the treatment.

I must say I should like to see a papier maché company take up the manufacture, and allow me a suitable royalty for the suggestion on every churn they sold.

URSA MAJOR.

IN PARLIAMENT.

House of Lords.

Agricultural Holdings Bill.

On Tuesday, Viscount Cross moved the second reading of the Agricultural Holdings Bill, the object of which, he said, was to simplify procedure under the Agricultural Holdings Acts, and to remove friction, so far as it could be removed, between landlord and tenant. The measure of all compensation no doubt was the value of the improvements made by the outgoing tenant to the incoming tenant, and this had been the standard adopted in the Bill.

Lord Burghclere said that in so far as the measure fulfilled the main objects of its introduction, it would be welcomed by the House generally, but there were details in the Bill which would require some consideration in committee. The Bill was a purely permissive measure, and the principle of contracting out was retained throughout. He thought that the clauses relating to arbitration ought not to be dealt with in this way, but should be compulsory. This Bill and the Agricultural Ratings Act represented the whole of the legislation by the Government in favour of the agriculturists. It was a very poor performance considering the large promises which heralded the advent of the Government to power. He could not help thinking that this Bill would be productive of bitter disappointment when its real character came to be known.

The Earl of Camperdown had no doubt the principle of the Bill would be discussed in detail. The words "inherent capabilities of the soil" were to be left out in considering the value of the tenant's improvements. They were told that the words meant nothing, but their express omission might mean a great deal in a court of law. Their lordships would probably have something to say to the power which the tenant was to have to break up an acre of his holding. It appeared to him that there was to be no limit to this breaking, and that each successive tenant could break up his acre.

Lord De Ramsey thought the successful stand which the Minister for Agriculture had made in favour of stamping out foot-and-mouth disease was worth several Agricultural Holding Bills. (Cheers.)

The Bill was read a second time.

On Friday the House went into Committee on this Bill.

On Clause 1, which deals with the right of a tenant to compensation for improvements,

Earl Grey moved an Amendment providing that in estimating the value of an improvement there should not be taken into account, as part of the improvement made by the tenant, what was justly due to the inherent capabilities of the soil.

After some discussion, the Amendment was carried, on a division, by 50 votes to five.

Lord Windsor moved an Amendment to Part 1 of the first Schedule. The Bill provides that improvements to which the consent of the landlord is required shall include the making and planting of osier beds (exceeding one acre). The Amendment was for the omission of the words "exceeding one acre."

Viscount Cross opposed the Amendment.

On a division, the Amendment was carried by twenty-two against fifteen.

The Bill then passed through Committee, and the House resumed.

House of Commons

Electricity and Potato Growing.

Mr. Austin asked the Vice-President of the Department of Agriculture for Ireland if he could now state what were the results of the inquiry promised regarding certain experiments made by Mr. O'Sullivan, of Athea, county Limerick, in the improvement of the potato crop by the introduction of electricity through lightning conductors distributed through the crops by means of wires, by which it was stated that an increase of 80 per cent. was shown.

Mr. Plunkett said a departmental inspector had made inquiries as to experiments in question, but they were too limited to warrant any conclusion. Similar experiments on a larger scale were in progress this year, and they would be watched with interest by the Department.

A thunderstorm of a very severe character broke over the Isle of Wight last week. Ten fat steers, a pedigree Jersey bull, and a pedigree Jersey heifer, grazing in Godshill Park, were struck by lightning and killed.

The Duke of Devonshire on Education and Agriculture.

The Duke of Devonshire, Lord President of the Council, on Wednesday afternoon attended the annual prize distribution at the Countess of Warwick's Secondary and Technical Science School and School of Agriculture at Bigods, Dunmow, Essex.

In the course of his address, the noble Lord said: Education is a subject which at the present moment is exciting a great deal of attention in all parts of the community of this country. It is not altogether unsatisfactory to see the rivalry which is going on amongst different local authorities on the subject of education; but I am afraid that one aspect of the question—the fear of losing the influence and authority that they already possess, and the desire of obtaining more—tends more and more in our educational discussions to obscure the question of what are the real interests of education. I understand the managers of this school recognise the County Council of Essex as their supreme local authority, and I believe the County Council of Essex, which has distinguished itself in many ways in the promotion of education, take a warm interest in the welfare of the school. This is an experiment of a most interesting character, being one for the establishment of a secondary and technical school, which is also a school of science, in the very heart of an agricultural district, and a district which, I am afraid, is deplorably agricultural indeed. Rural districts are not generally credited with an over great zeal in the cause of education. Most of you are personally acquainted with the Vice President of the Council, Sir John Gorst. (Laughter.) I think he has paid more than one visit to the school. Sir John Gorst is a statesman who takes a very deep and a very warm interest in the subject of education. (Laughter.) I do not think he is at all indifferent to the interests of the agricultural community, whether of the landowner, the farmer, or the labourer. But Sir John Gorst, not very long ago, got himself into very hot water by a statement which he made in the House of Commons, that the squire and the farmer were not, generally speaking, friends to education. Well, there is a French proverb which says, "Every truth is not a good one to speak," and, perhaps, Sir John Gorst might have been more desired if he had concealed his sentiments and opinions. (Laughter.) But there is, I am afraid, a good deal of foundation for what Sir John Gorst said, and it is very little good abusing him for his outspoken opinion, or abusing the farming class, if there is any foundation for the assertion he made. It is more useful to consider, if it be the case, what is the reason that it should be so. Is there any reason why farmers, speaking of farmers as a class, should be very warm friends of a system of education as it has been carried on up to the present time? (No.) People's friendships and sympathies generally coincide to a great extent with, at all events, do not diverge very far from—their interests, and what has the effect of education been, so far as we know at present, upon the interest of the farming class? The farmers generally see that

The Effect of Education

which is given in our rural elementary schools is to induce the cleverest, the brightest, and the most energetic of our boys and girls to leave their villages in the country and to seek for other occupations in the great towns. My own experience in my own part of Derbyshire is that all the best boys, when they leave school, want to go into the service of a great railway company, and that all the girls want to go to be dressmakers and milliners in the great manufacturing towns of Lancashire. I have nothing to say against railway service, which is a great and noble service, and I do not wonder that many of our best boys should want to obtain the opportunities for advancement which that service affords them; but I do think that a great many of our best educated girls would do a great deal better to remain at home and qualify themselves to be farmers' wives, or to take part in the management of the dairy, the garden, and the orchard, than to mew themselves up in stuffy workshops in great manufacturing towns. (Cheers.) I have no doubt your experience in this purely agricultural county has been very much the same as mine. The rural elementary school has been chiefly instrumental in depriving the farmers of those whom they might have expected to be their best and most competent assistants. Recently a very important and influential Committee has been formed, consisting of members of Parliament and others interested in the cause of education, whose object is to give the education a new direction, which shall tend to counteract this tendency, and the object of which is to make the instruction in elementary schools more suited to the wants of an agricultural population. At the instigation of this Committee, and partly upon the initiative of Sir John Gorst, the Board of Education have recently issued a long minute upon the subject of the curriculum of rural schools, and giving suggestions and hints how it might be modified so as to adapt the instruction there given more to

The Needs of the Agricultural Community.

The circular is a very excellent one, and contains a great deal of good advice, but it has been exposed to the obvious criticism, and I am afraid to the well-founded criticism, that it comes to the poor who

are capable of giving this new direction to our elementary instruction, and that our existing training colleges are situated mostly in the centre of large towns, and do not give to the teachers that course of instruction which would qualify them for this new direction of education. I turn for a moment from Elementary to Secondary education, and I ask the question—What has Secondary education yet done for the practical farmer? There, I am afraid, I cannot altogether acquit the farming class of some remissness, some negligence in this matter. I do not say that farmers are indifferent to the advantage of sending their children to the best Secondary schools which they can find, but I do say that they have been too much in the habit of sending them to those schools, not for the purpose of making farmers or farmers' wives of them, but for the purpose of fitting them for some other occupation which has nothing whatever to do with farming. It is now recognised—late, but, I hope, not too late, though later than in other countries—that a sound system of Secondary education, with technical education superadded, is the necessary condition of complete success in any industry. (Cheers.) Our Secondary schools in every part of the country have been, and are, in course of reorganisation with the object of supplying these wants. But still this truth, which has been recognised by every other industry, has still found the farming classes indifferent. It may be that, perhaps, we have not yet succeeded in discovering the right class of Secondary schools to meet the necessities of the agricultural interest. I am afraid also that our farmers have not yet realised that discoveries in Science, in Chemistry, Physics, and Physiology, and, above all, intelligence developed in the mind of the student, are just as important to the agricultural industry as to any other industry. We ought not to relax those opportunities which we have made and are still making to so organise our system, both elementary and secondary, as to make it attract rather than repel a part of the best and most intelligent of the rising generation to what is, after all, the largest, the most ancient, and not the least honourable of the industries to which any of our people can aspire. (Cheers.) Holding these views, I need not say that the Board of Education welcome cordially the appearance of this new competition in the field of technical education which has been started with so great prospects of success by the active and intelligent founder, Lady Warwick. (Cheers.)

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 21, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	9,954	10,219	Wheat ..	1,587,000	804,400
Sheep ..	11,196	4,926	Flour ..	357,200	411,900
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	115,700	102,500
			Oats ..	366,700	579,900
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	72,000	48,700
Beef ..	87,222	62,908	Beans ..	15,100	13,600
Mutton	101,285	50,987	Maize ..	1,080,700	1,223,100
Pork ..	5,457	4,913		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	105,197	110,599	†Bananas	—	29,401
Beef, salt	2,924	4,876		Cwt.	Cwt
Hams ..	49,421	44,937	Apples ..	35,899‡	9,632
Pork, salt	6,538	5,117	†Apricots & Peaches	—	1,837
Meat, salt & fresh	6,372	7,112	†Cherries	16,774‡	18,596
Do. pres.	7,060	6,668	†Currants	—	10,487
Butter ..	57,887	57,570	†Gooseb'rs	—	2,929
M'rg'rine	15,296	16,789	Grapes ..	31,446‡	847
Cheese ..	55,792	104,157	Lemons	45,202‡	28,057
Con. Milk	12,848	15,039	Oranges	19,150‡	7,266
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	86	202	Pears ..	17,069‡	5,560
			Plums ..	36,686‡	13,763
			†Stra'b'r's	—	1,016
			OthFr't	131,666	20,480
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	1,985	2,581
Eggs ..	313,226*	306,731*		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	103,121	10,975
Poultry & Game	Value	Value.		C t	C t
	£1,81 1	£2,509	Hops ..	1 870	1,10
			Potatoes	70,490	.82,582
	Cwt.	Cwt.	§Tom'to's	—	35,906
Rabbits	6,318	1,447	Other	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	29,041	33,378	Veg'bles	£50,912	£12,65

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

Killed by a Horse.—An inquest was held at Chelmsford, on Tuesday, on the body of Charles Frederick Ashton, a veterinary surgeon and trainer. The deceased, who till recently assisted Mr. Alfred Poole, a well-known owner of steeplechasers and hunters at Chelmsford, was a frequent rider at steeplechase meetings in the eastern counties. He rode at the Tunbridge Wells Horse Show last Friday, and in the evening was violently kicked in the abdomen by a horse at Tunbridge Wells station. Notwithstanding that he received serious internal injuries, he travelled back to Chelmsford in a horse-box, where, on arrival, he was removed to the infirmary, and expired the following day. A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Weather Influences.

The effect of the hot, dry, ripening weather just at the edge of harvest is usually good for barley. A good deal has been said and written of late years about the character given to barley when malting, and some part of it has been called by the undesirable or ugly name "maturation." The mode of reaching maturity, and the actual condition left in the grain depends primarily upon the weather, but also, to a very large degree, upon the skill or otherwise with which the ripe grain is cut and garnered.

Probably the weather is alone responsible up to the actual cutting, and as in many districts harvesting will not begin just yet, the time for human intervention has not arrived. But it will very soon be with us, and the exceptionally fine, bright, sunny weather has already produced a fine crop of croakers. Because on a few poor, hungry spots of ill-cared for light sand and gravel soils the grain has gone off too quickly, we already see in the papers alarming notes of

Harm to the Barley Crop

and other nonsense.

Now, it has to be a very strange summer that just suits every crop on every soil. It is almost inevitable that we have some places unduly favoured, whilst others have some of the crops ruined. Even in single counties there are commonly some districts very differently placed to others only a short distance away. It is not unusual to find the barley in East Suffolk looking very unlike that grown in the Western division, whilst it very rarely happens that both the East and the West sides of our Islands are equally lucky. Very few living men have seen a season approved of and liked equally by growers or maltsters in Norfolk and Somerset.

The former county promises thus far to do better this year than it has done for several seasons past. On good land the heat has done nothing but good, and the rains have descended in a nice way just at the right time to make it possible for our premier barley county to

Win Back Its Reputation

for superfine malts. Everyone may rejoice if this should prove true, and, in any case, it is absurd to suppose that we shall not see this year some very fine sample of home-grown grain.

Careful and intelligent handling of grain in mow and stack will make a very material difference to the final result, whilst intelligent appreciation of the beautifully seasonable weather we have enjoyed in a very critical fortnight will do much to keep the market criticisms within bounds.

Already we have seen far too many gloomy predictions of evil, but it is never good to meet such troubles half-way. Interested parties to whom bad reports mean reduction in prices can make mountains out of molehills just as readily as hop merchants in the good old days could start a score in the Borough with three flies on a hop-leaf.

But the bulk of our barley land is

In Good Heart,

and it should put growers into god heart, too, to see that for another season at least we can escape complaints of want of sun.

There are sure to be some people complaining of immature ripening, and the consequent harshness or steelyness of the malt produced. Much of this mischief, which is by no means all imaginary, can be obviated by proper action. Perhaps the most important point of all is for growers to refrain from premature cutting, and still more from rushing the unsweated and crude grain into market. The tendency has rapidly grown of late to snatch the better prices with which the seasons have opened. Nothing is so well calculated to give a firm tone to the markets and improve the credit and character of our grain as a little judicious care not to thresh this side of Michaelmas.

Where money is urgently needed the temptation to hurry is great, and unhappily men can be found who should, and in some cases do, know better, contending that

Kiln-dried Barley,

is just as good or nearly so as other similar grain duly sweated in barn or rick.

What actually happens by this particular process has not yet been clearly defined, and no one really knows but it is not rational and does not seem common sense to suppose that a few hours, even if of just the right temperature, can exert the same influence as the steady development of glow in a rick and its long continuance. Putrid game, decaying in a close, hot pantry is a very different thing to well-hung carcases in a suitable place, and still greater difference exists in sound, mellow grain properly conditioned in rick, or when sweated on a single-floor kiln with an outlet ten times too big.

He is a bad friend to British agriculture who does anything to hasten supplies to market with undue haste. Just so he is no friend to the grower or maltster who tries to disparage or deprecate unduly our growing grain. Already our fields are taking on the sweet golden hue that indicates more surely than anything else the prime condition that tells on the quality of our nut-brown October, and brewers make a big mistake against their own interests in trying to send down the price to an unremunerative point of such grain as we seem destined to see once more around us.

FRANK RICHARDSON AND CO., successors to ; TOPHAM RICHARDSON BROS. AND CO., Importers of Selected Foreign Malting Barleys, 6, Duke Street, Southwark, London, S.E. Telegrams, "Essorgeon, London" Telephone, 787, Hop, London; and at Liverpool and Burton-on-Trent.—[ADVT.]

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (July 23rd).—The weather was very fine over the southern portion of England, where the temperature was again high. The sky was, for the most part, overcast or cloudy in the northern and western districts, where slight rain was measured in the morning as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours. Fog or mist was also prevalent in the west. The temperatures were generally rather lower than on the preceding day, except in the south of England. In London, Sunday night was exceptionally warm, the thermometer at Greenwich not falling below 67.6deg., which is apparently the warmest night in the past fifty years.

TUESDAY (July 24th).—The weather was again very fine in the south and east of England, and the temperature was higher than on any day since last Friday. The sky was generally cloudy in the northern and western districts, and fog or mist occurred at several places on our west coasts. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, in the north and north-west, but the amounts were small. The winds were mostly light from the south-west. The temperature in London did not fall below sixty degrees during the night, and during the day the shade reading registered eighty-eight degrees.

WEDNESDAY (July 25th).—The heat was very great again in London, the thermometer registering ninety-three degrees in the shade in the southern suburbs, which is as high as any reading during the present hot spell, and is the fourth day on which the shade temperature has exceeded ninety degrees. The sun was shining continuously throughout the day, and the heat was intense in the sun's rays. In parts of Scotland the midday temperatures failed to touch sixty degrees, and over the northern portion of England the weather was by no means hot. Tuesday night was again very warm in London, the thermometer for the sixth night in succession keeping above sixty degrees; in parts of England the night was even warmer. Rain had again fallen at several places in the north, and fog was still prevalent on our west coasts.

THURSDAY (July 26th).—The weather was still very fine over the greater part of our islands, although, as so often of late, the conditions were less settled in the north than in the south. There was, generally, more cloud than of late, and the air was cooler, although the temperature was still high for the season. Rain was measured in the morning in Scotland as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours. Wednesday night was very warm, the thermometer in many parts of England not falling below sixty degrees. The midday temperature in London was eighty-one degrees, which is twelve degrees cooler than the previous day, but the daily mean temperature was ten degrees in excess of the average.

FRIDAY (July 27th).—A sharp thunderstorm occurred in London in the afternoon, and it occasioned a considerable fall of temperature. The highest temperature was seventy-eight degrees, at noon, and in about four hours the thermometer stood ten degrees lower. The storm was very prolonged, and was accompanied by rain, which is the first appreciable fall for twenty-four days. The weather was generally cooler than of late in other parts of the country, and it was only in the Midlands and in the South of England and Ireland that the thermometer touched seventy degrees. Rain was again measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, at some of the northern stations, but elsewhere the weather had continued dry. Thunderstorms occurred at several places in the South of England. The wind was easterly in England and Ireland, and it was blowing freshly on our south coasts.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (July 28th and 29th).—The weather continued somewhat unsettled, and the temperature was generally lower. The heaviest rainfall accompanying the thunderstorms at the stations in England reporting to the Meteorological Office occurred in London, and the fall in different parts of the Metropolis varied considerably. The rainfall measured on Sunday morning for the preceding twenty-four hours was not heavy, and it was not general. Thunderstorms were experienced again on Sunday in the east and south-east of England. In London Saturday was fine, but slight thundershowers occurred on Sunday afternoon and evening. The highest temperature in London touched seventy-six degrees on both days.

HOPS.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

In the Borough.

The business of the past week provides but little material for comment, as although there is a fairly steady demand for hops of last year's growth, values have not improved to any noteworthy extent, and the position of affairs remains about the same, as I have several times reported. Some critics profess to be able to discern a little tendency towards weakness in prices, attributing this to the action of certain growers, who are now more willing to sell than they previously were. But I am not able to confirm this view, as I am informed that such transactions as have been completed are settled at rates fully on a par with previous quotations. Of course, the attention of all concerned is concentrated upon the plantations, and estimates are now being put forward as to the probable yield of the new crop, these varying from £150,000 to £200,000 old duty. In support of these various ideas, the somewhat contradictory report received from the country are confidently quoted, but from what I can gather, I believe the opinions of the most careful and experienced observers tend towards a higher average than 7 cwt. per acre, or a total of about 350,000 cwt. If this be realised it will not be much below the average given in the official returns for the ten years preceding last year, and considering all the circumstances of the situation, it appears likely that the final results will not be very different to this anticipation. At any rate there is sufficient uncertainty in all estimates based upon present prospects to induce a pause in the course of business, and many of our traders and their clerks are taking advantage of it, in absenting themselves from their offices and enjoying their holidays amidst more attractive surroundings than the Borough can furnish.

Signs of mourning during the past week gave evidence of the universal regret with which the tidings of the death of Mr. Alexander Horsley had been received. The deceased gentleman was the senior member of the well-known and much respected firm of hop merchants whose place of business has been established for many years in the Borough High Street. He had suffered from a very painful affliction for many months, and passes from his career of active integrity amidst the sorrow of all his comrades in the trade.

The Progress of the Growing Crop

can, I think, be accepted as being as favourable as the exceptional circumstances which have characterised the season will allow. There is no doubt that plantations provided with deep soils, which have been studiously cultivated and in which the bine has been persistently worked, have benefited by the spell of hot weather, and that such growths (if nothing unforeseen occurs) will grow out and will produce fairly fruitful crops. But I fear these are in the minority, and that too many will be found at the finish to be sadly deficient, having been enfeebled by the cold spring, by want of usual attention, and having, therefore, become an easy prey to the exceptionally severe attacks of aphis blight, by which all are more or less damaged. "St. James's day has come and gone"; there will be hops and there will be none, according to the condition of each garden. In this there is so much and so marked variety that it is very difficult to generalise the actual position. But we may safely assume that we have now arrived at the period when for good or evil the final issue is practically decided. The burr is now generally breaking out, the extent of the lateral growth can now be valued, and no further material change can take place, except, perhaps, in the direction of deterioration, which we all trust may be avoided.

Mr. W. H. Tompsett, of Tonbridge, writing to the *Worcester Journal*, takes a very pessimistic view of the prospects in Kent. He objects to the glowing reports which have appeared in two of the leading dailies, describing them as "false and misleading," and he says that "where washing was not resorted to early the grounds are now in an utterly hopeless condition. Many a one will not get a bin put in them," adding that the bulk of the gardens are slack of bine and have no vigour, and that he estimates that his district, which is one of the finest for cropping, will hardly grow more than one-third of last year's yield.

There is much truth in Mr. Tompsett's remarks, and although they may be counterbalanced to some extent by the more satisfactory experience of growers in other districts, it cannot be denied that there are too many plantations whose present condition would justify the banishment of hope concerning even a moderate average crop.

I have not yet heard what have been the results of the thunderstorms which have visited every part of the country during the last three days. The heavy downfall of rain which we have welcomed in London and the suburbs has doubtless been also experienced in the hop growing districts. I suppose it cannot fail to have been beneficial, unless it has been accompanied by hail, of which we have had some symptoms. I trust I shall be able to report favourably next week of the effect of this important atmospheric change, hoping also that all the advantages climate can give may be at the disposal of planters during the remainder of the season of growth, and that remunerative quantity and excellent quality will ultimately reward their anxiety and their exertions.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

Business in 1899 hops is sufficiently active to uphold the firmness of the market, although the small amount of arrivals and the reduction of stocks necessarily limit the volume of trade. Slowly but surely values are advancing; therefore present quotations are only nominal, and consumers are beginning to look anxiously forward for the arrival of the new crop, early samples of which will soon be forthcoming if the hot weather continues.

Approximate Prices

at Nuremberg are as follows for best available qualities:—Marktwaare, 90s. to 100s.; Hallertaus, 112s. to 120s.; Wolnzach, 120s. to 130s.; Spatt, 125s. to 130s; Saaz, 145s. to 155s.; Wurtemberg, 110s. to 120s.; Baden, 105s. to 115s.; Alsace, 95s. to 100s.; Polish, 95s. to 100s. Lower selections in proportion.

The Crop Reports

vary somewhat according to the districts from which they emanate, and are generally favourable in Bohemia, Wurtemberg, Baden, Russia, and Poland, while the prospects are very uncertain in some of the principal Bavarian centres, and in Alsace and Burgundy. Progress in growth is generally evident, and it does not appear that any serious hindrances exist to the further development of the plant, but the consensus of opinion with respect to the final results seems to have decided that anything approaching the yield of last year can hardly be expected. The period of ingathering is now so near that very little material change in general conditions can take place. The well-cultivated and strong grounds will continue to develop to the fruiting, if no unforeseen accidents occur, but the weaker districts will have no opportunity for recovery, and the growers must perforce be content with but small crops.

Belgium

The condition of the plantations has not generally improved to any important extent. The fly attack has not been entirely dissipated by the hot weather, and although some progress is evident throughout the Alost districts, the reports from Poperinghe are far from satisfactory. Grounds that have not been washed are looking very sickly, and can only produce a very poor crop, and taking a review of the probable Belgian yield as a whole, it is not anticipated that more than half of an average harvest will be finally available.

The effect of these reports and estimates upon the market is not so evident as might be expected. Important contracts have been concluded for 1,900 growths as high as 105 francs, but growers have since become less exacting in their demands, and some have recently come forward with offers to contract for October-November delivery at 85 francs. The future is, therefore, still open to speculation, but the trade in the small stocks remaining from last year is already at 65 to 70 francs, at which rates a fair business is passing.

America.

The American Agriculturist says that "inquiries made in every important hop-growing county of New York and the Pacific Coast point to an unquestionable shortage in the acreage now growing, and fair but not brilliant crop development. On the Pacific Coast vines as a rule are healthy and in excellent condition, but there is some complaint of insect pests, particularly in Oregon. In New York State growth of vines is uneven, in some yards heavy, in others poor and not arming well; considerable complaint of insect pests, but not enough to jeopardise the crop as a whole. The hop area in N.Y. State is considerably less than last year, reports ranging from 15 to 30 per cent. perhaps averaging 20 per cent. reduction."

The *Waterville Times* says:—"The showers this week have brightened up the yards very much, and the vine is doing well. The recent wind storm did not do very much permanent damage about here, and everything is so far favourable for a small crop of good quality hops."

Of the outlook in Schoharie the *Index* says:—"The fine promise for hops, in form of thrifty vines and long and abundant arms, has now been somewhat disturbed by the storms, which have rendered much damage in some sections."

Observations in Western Washington bring reports that the crop will be much lighter than in 1899. The current prices for contracts range on the Pacific Coast from 9 to 11 cents, and some transactions have gone through in New York State at 12 to 12½ cents. These figures appear to suggest a much better market when new hops are available than is found at present. In the meantime dealers are holding their stocks firmly at unchanged rates, which are represented by 13 to 14½ cents for choice, and lower qualities in due proportion. Home demand is comparatively slow, and export trade from New York is reported

Plantation Reports.

Special to the Secretary N.A.E.H.G.

WATERINGBURY.—Bine [illegible] generally improved last week. Blight [illegible] and in some gardens mould.

DITTON.—Bine generally good, but now growing well. Continuous washing [illegible] but there are still some lice. A good deal of mould showing in some plantations. Crop not [illegible]

EWHURST.—Gardens that have not been washed are still full of vermin, and only a few of the best grounds show an improvement.

BURWASH.—The bine has certainly made some progress during the week in the best cultivated gardens, and where washing has been persevered in. Vermin still infests badly cultivated places, and the unwashed grounds are going black, so that very few hops can be grown in them. The crop will be short even in the best gardens.

CANTERBURY.—The hot weather has relieved some quantity of vermin, but it is difficult to find a garden perfectly clean. Fresh depredations at the top of the poles and strings, so that constant washing is essential. Growth has improved except in neglected grounds, in many of which the bine is turning black. Many acres are quite hopeless, although the laterals are coming strong and healthy in the better gardens, the general outlook indicating about half of last year's crop.

BRENCHLEY.—In well cultivated gardens hops have improved lately, but plenty of grounds are short of bine. Not much mould, but vermin [illegible] hard, and washing still going on. The general outlook is indifferent.

FAVERSHAM.—Hops growing fast with few lice and little or no mould, the weather just suits them, but too much heat without rain will probably bring some red spider. On account of slack bine the crop must be much less than last year.

BIDDENDEN.—The best gardens are making progress, and laterals are coming out well, though we have some grounds that once gave good promise that are now going back owing to the persistent lice. The poor grounds cannot recover. Red spider has appeared, and the parish generally looks like producing from five to six cwts. per acre.

ASHFORD.—The hops in this district have been very backward and much troubled with vermin, and where not relieved soon enough are practically gone. The outlook for them is not more than three cwt., as leaves are all dropped. Vermin and red spider abound, and we are obliged to keep washing. In my opinion, based on thirty years' experience, the general crop cannot exceed five cwt. per acre if, indeed, it will reach this point.

WADHURST.—Our hops are still suffering from the damage done by vermin. Where well washed and cultivated, plantations look fairly well, but the reverse is found where there has been any neglect. Earlies are showing burr; rain would be very welcome.

MAIDSTONE.—Many of the gardens have been much improved by the hot weather, but though the bine has grown the vermin are still to the fore. Laterals are coming on fairly well, but washing must still be continued or we should soon see a backward movement.

SHOREHAM.—Where the bine has been left too long without washing it is turning yellow and looking very sickly. Grounds that were washed early and constantly are improving under the influence of the hot weather, but in most gardens the vermin clings to the tips of the laterals. The general prospect for the crop is not encouraging.

MIDHURST.—Hops hereabout are in a more critical condition than I can remember at this period of the season. Even the washed hops may yet be lost, and the unwashed are already hopeless.

ROBERTSBRIDGE.—It is rather difficult to give a correct description of the condition of the plantations in this district, as these [illegible] so varied. Some of mine are looking well, while others are far from satisfactory. I think there are gardens in the neighbourhood which will be hardly worth picking, and others will give a [illegible] yield. We cannot get rid of lice and the [illegible] red spider. Our average [illegible] small.

THE FARLEIGHS AND DISTRICT.—The [illegible] have freshened up the bine, but the hailstorm did some mischief, and some grounds were quite strewn with leaves. By constant [illegible] the vermin is less, still aphis may be found and may yet get into the hop later on and do mischief. Mould on the leaves can be found in most grounds, but in the Bramblings, now [illegible] many mouldy burrs [illegible] Picking will commence about the usual time. Some [illegible] be about the date unless the [illegible] should continue; [illegible] in some grounds has been very much neglected in consequence of the [illegible]

LEDBURY.—The [illegible] most of the [illegible]

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interst and benefit to the members of the society*

badly attacked by blight in spite of repeated washings. A good many grounds are in a hopeless condition, and only those growers who have persisted in washing and cultivating will grow a crop. No mould has yet appeared, and I should say that what hops are grown will be free from mould.

LEDBURY.—The condition of our hop plantations has undergone an unfavourable change, owing to the unprecedented attack of blight, which, according to the observation of many, is the most persistent that has been known for twenty years. Unless a change for the better takes place soon, the crop must be much under an average.

WORCESTER.—The great heat has tried the stability of all the badly cultivated yards, and they have been also deprived of vitality by the persistent blight. Many of them must be a total failure. The best yards are doing well, blight having been banished by washing, and burr is appearing on the earlies. The crop on the whole will be disappointing.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 143, 145.)

Kent and Sussex.

Sir,—I hope none of your readers are misled by the reports which the "learned ignorance" of certain so-called correspondents induces them to send to some of the daily papers. One day last week I read in a morning paper (which shall be nameless) a glowing forecast of the coming crop, for which it was declared the prospects are excellent. Seeing that the hops are only just coming into burr, this optimism seems "a little too previous." I once heard a large grower and a judge of exceptional experience and knowledge say he never attempted to form any judgment about the hop crop till the first or second week in August, and it would be well for newspaper readers in general to bear this in mind, and avoid being led away by delusive reports, which may either be written for a purpose or because the writers don't know better. It is quite true that during the recent forcing weather hops have made good progress, but even now they are not exactly in an ideal condition. They have had to struggle against adverse weather during the greater part of the growing season, besides having to resist virulent and persistent attacks of fly and lice, to say nothing of the various other ills to which the plant is well known to be subject. Despite repeated washings the insect pests are still far too much in evidence. Though there are exceptions, in most grounds there is a slackness of bine, and in not a few cases this failure is strongly marked; and, moreover, in many instances the general appearance of the plants is not as healthy and vigorous as could be desired. Nevertheless, there is certainly more promise of a crop than at one time appeared probable, and *if* all goes well till picking time a fair yield may be gathered; but this "if" should be writ large, as there are many contingencies that yet have to be faced. A good soaking rain would now be welcome, as would also a thunderstorm, provided it is unaccompanied by a damaging torrent of ice such as reports tell us has fallen in some parts of the country and inflicted very serious injury to the growing crops. The outlook is undoubtedly better than it was a month ago, but growers are by no means "out of the wood" yet, so it would be well to suspend the shouting a little longer. In the meantime I think it would be well not to indulge in anticipations of anything beyond an average crop, even if the average should be reached. But, as I have already remarked, it is yet too early to venture on the expression of a confident opinion. Picking will probably be a week or two later than usual. MID-KENT.

July 24th, 1900.

COMING SHOWS.

Wirral and Birkenhead.

The fifty-eighth annual show of the Birkenhead and Wirral Agricultural Society will open on Friday next, and will continue over Saturday and Monday (Bank Holiday). Although, in consequence of the show extending over Sunday, many classes have this year been deleted, the exhibition will be thoroughly representative. The stock section will eclipse anything previously achieved in the annals of the society; the liberal increase made in the prize list account for this, as many leading exhibitors, who have hitherto never patronised the show, have this year signed entry forms. Some nine entries from Ireland have been received for the horse-leaping contest, besides the champion leapers of this country. Many of the finest exhibits at the Royal Lancashire Show, held this week at Rochdale, have been entered for Birkenhead's exhibition, the Hon. Victor Cavendish, M.P., Earl Egerton of Tatton, the Marquis of Anglesey, and the names of several other noted Shire horse breeders being included in the list of entrants. At the yard the arrangements are now well-nigh completed, and the ground is in the very best condition. A field of considerable size adjoining the show ground has been acquired, and this increased area will tend to prevent the unpleasant crushing which has sometimes taken place in the past, and where the old dining saloon formerly stood a large stand for the accommodation of cycles will be fixed, as well as an additional parcels office. In this newly-acquired part of the show ground, the sheep, horticulture, honey, dogs, poultry, and pigeons exhibits will be staged, and in the centre of this piece of land the dining tent will be erected. The ladies' tea tent and cloakroom have been considerably enlarged, and close to the bandstand a fruit stall has been built. Around the bandstand chairs will be arranged for the accommodation of visitors, and numerous garden seats will be provided at suitable intervals of distance throughout the yard.

Figures about the Birkenhead show are always interesting, and those which follow are no exception to the rule. It should first of all be mentioned, however, that whereas there were last year 743 classes, this year there are only 444. This decrease of 300 classes has mainly taken place in the dog, poultry, and pigeon sections, and in consequence thereof the total entry is 3,250 against 6,100 last year. The fact that on account of the prevalence of swine fever there will this year be no class for pigs should also be noted. The following are the entries in the various sections as compared with 1899:—

	1900.	1899.
Sheep	62	36
Cattle	110	108
Horses	515	491
Pigeons	963	1680
Poultry	559	1223
Dogs	242	1547
Cheese	17	58
Butter and Eggs	90	114
Honey	79	115
Stand	105	99

On Friday, the first day, the show opens at 9.30 a.m., and from then until 6 p.m. the price of admission will be 2s. 6d., after 6 and until 8 o'clock the charge will be 1s. The admission to the grand stand will be 2s. 6d., and to the open stand 2s. Throughout the day on Saturday and Monday the price of admission will be 1s. On the Saturday the charge for the stand is 2s., and the open stand 1s. 6d., and on Monday the admission to the grand stand will be 1s. 6d., and the open stand 1s. Season tickets for the grand stand (available for each day) are 4s. 6d., and the open stand 3s. 6d. Season admission tickets to the show (available for each day) are 4s. Children under twelve years of age will be admitted at half-price. Tickets and any further information may be obtained from the secretary, Mr. Arthur H. Edwardson, 6, Hamilton Square.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending July 21st, 1900:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	442	369 518 543		13,834	31,022 9,042 2,5	
	Outbreaks.	No.	54	56 51 25		1,331	1,467 1,022 1,998	
Rabies.	Cases Reported. — Other Animals	No.	:	: : :		:	: : :	
	Cases Reported. — Dogs.	No.	:	: : 3		:	1 14 101	
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughtered. — Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	: : 43		:	920 718	
	Cattle Slaughtered. — Diseased.	No.	:	: : 3		:	1 43	
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	: : :		:	1 6	
Glanders (including farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	27	44 29 27		1,061	994 821 834	
	Outbreaks.	No.	24	16 15 13		644	500 486 492	
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	:	: : :		123	: : :	
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	: : :		9	: : :	
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	21	10 11 14		538	591 530 547	
	Outbreaks.	No.	10	8 11 7		125	311 350 361	
Period.			Week ended July 21, 1900	Corresponding week in 1899 1898 1897	Total for 29 weeks 1900	Corresponding period in 1899 1898 1897		

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

The Grimsby borough justices on Thursday, fined Violet Snowden, a butcher, of Fulstow, £30 for exposing bad beef for sale in the Central Market on June 9th. There were three previous convictions against the defendant, who was warned that if he offended again he would be much more severely dealt with. Wm. Bennington, who was found selling meat from the same carcase on the 9th June, was fined £5.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

August.

1. Adlington (Cheshire) and District Agricultural Society's Show, at Adlington Park.
1. Bridlington Agricultural Society's Show.
1. Burton-on-Trent and District Shire Horse Society's Show, at Burton-on-Trent.
1. Wadebridge District Agricultural Association's Show, at Wadebridge.
1. Sale of Mr. E. Ecroyd's Shorthorns, at Low House, Armathwaite, Carlisle.
1. Sale of Hackneys, the property of Mr. W. Lloyd, at Heaselands, Hayward's Heath.
1. Sale of Suffolk Ewes and Ewe Lambs, at Gippeswyk Park, Ipswich.
1. Sale of Oxfordshire Down shearling Rams, belonging to Messrs. J. and S. Treadwell, at Upper Winchendon, Aylesbury.
1. Ilsley Sheep Fair.
1. King's Lynn Horse and Foal Show.
2. Alford and District Horse and Foal Show.
2. Sale of Mr. C. E. E. Cooke's Shires and Hackneys, at Hinxton, Cambs.
2. Penrith Agricultural Society's Show.
2. Sale of Suffolk Rams, at Gippeswyk Park, Ipswich.
2. Vale of Conway Agricultural Society's Show, at Llanrwst.
2. Shrewsbury Sheep Show and Sale.
2. Letting of Long-woolled Rams, the property of Mr. T. Thornton, at Cavenham House, Wereham.
2. Lytham Agricultural Show.
2. Belper Horse Show.
2. Sale and Letting of Hampshire Downs, the property of Mr. G. Judd, at Concum Farm.
2. Sale of Devon Cattle, Exmoor Horn Sheep and Large Black Pigs, belonging to Mr. C. N. Skinner, at Marsh Farm, Wratton, N. Devon.
3. Cranswick Horse and Foal Show.
3. Lincoln Long-wool Sheep Breeders' Association's Sale of Rams at Lincoln.
3. Kintyre Agricultural Society's Show, at Campbeltown.
3. Sale of Suffolk Lambs and Ewes, at Sutton, near Melton Station.
3. Sale and Letting of Hampshire Down Ram Lambs and Rams, belonging to Mr. Cary Coles, at Winterbourne Stoke.
3. Sale of Shropshires, belonging to Mr. J. Harding, at Norton House, Shifnal.
3. Sale and Letting of Hampshire Down Rams and Ram Lambs, the property of Mr. J. Lambert, at Cambridge.
3. Sale of Mr. J. A. Fielden's Upper Hare Park Flock of Suffolk Sheep, at Upper Hare Park.
3, 4, and 6. Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society's Show, at Birkenhead.
4. Lees Agricultural Society's Show.
4. Huddersfield and District Agricultural Society's Show, at Almondbury, near Huddersfield.
6. Tutbury Shire Horse and Meynell Hunt Society's Show, at Rolleston Hall Grounds.
6. Stamford Horse Show.
6. Chepstow Agricultural Society's Show.
6. Chatteris Shire Horse and Hackney Society's Show.
6. Eccleshill Farmers' Club's Show, at Hillsboro' Park, Sheffield.
6. Gainsborough Agricultural Society's Show, at Gainsborough.
6. Tyneside Agricultural Society's Show, at Hexham.
6. Border Union Agricultural Society's Show, at Friar's Park, Kelso.
6. Waltham Cross and Three Counties (Essex, Herts, and Middlesex) Horse and Foal Society's Show.
6. Ludlow Agricultural Society's Show, at Ludford, Ludlow.
6. Whalley Agricultural Society's Show.
6. Brentnor and Lydford Pony Society's Show, at Lydford Junction.
6. Oxted and Godstone Agricultural Association's Show.
6. Lutterworth and District Agricultural Society's Show.
6. South Brent Pony and Sheep Society's Show, at South Brent.
6. Sale and Letting of Mr. W. C. Young's Hampshire Down Ram Lambs and Rams, at Stratford Sabcastle, Salisbury.
7. Blackpool and District Agricultural Society's Show.
7. Sale and Letting of Mr. Dibden's Hampshire Down Ram Lambs and Rams, at Market House, Salisbury.
7. Sale of Shropshire Sheep belonging to Mr. P. L. Mills, at Ruddington Hall, Notts.
7. Sale of Mr. W. Toop's Southdown Flock, at Westergate, Aldingbourne.
7. Sale of Devon Cattle, belonging to Rev. E. Hensley, at Banghurst House, Basingstoke.
7. Chichester Ram Fair.
8. Badminton Farmers' Club Show, at Badminton Park.
8. Crook Agricultural Society's Show, at Crook.
8. Sale of Sir James Blyth's Southdown Sheep and Jersey Cattle, at Blythwood, Stansted, Essex.
8. Sale and Letting of Southdown Sheep, at Colchester Cattle Market.
8. Astwood Bank Horse Show.
8. Oxford Great Ram Fair.
9. Keele Agricultural Society's Show, at Keele Park, Keele, Staffs.
9. Macclesfield Agricultural Club's Show, at Macclesfield Court.
9. Paddham Agricultural Society's Show, at Pathma.
9. Market Bosworth Agricultural and Horticultural Society's Show, at Market Bosworth.
9. Warrington and District Agricultural Society's Show, at Walton Park, near Warrington.
9. Tring Agricultural Society's Show, at Tring Park.
9. Holderness Agricultural Society's Show, at Hedon.
9. Harrogate Horse Show.
9. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, the property of Mr. F. S. Menton, at Montford, Shrewsbury.
9. Sale of Mr. J. A. Hempson's Southdown Sheep, at Erwarton Hall, Ipswich.
10. Ridgmontshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Deighton.
10. Bovingdon Agricultural Society's Show.
10. Sale of Oxford Down Lambs, belonging to Mr. C. S. Fisher, at Kettering Manor.
13. Britford Fair.

Messrs. Richmond and Chandler, Limited, Manchester, agricultural machine makers, have declared a dividend of 6 per cent. per annum on 6 per cent. preference shares, making 6 per cent. for the year, and 7½ per cent. per annum on ordinary shares for the year. They have also added £500 to depreciation, £500 to reserve.

Smith's Advertising Agency, who have for some time past been experiencing the inconvenience of having two addresses, viz., Nos. 132 and 82, Fleet Street, have secured No. 100, Fleet Street, where they will be able to transact the whole of their ever growing business, to the greater benefit of their clients as well as themselves.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Devon (North).

The country generally looks well. We have just finished hay harvest, the crop having been a good one, and well saved; trifolium hay had the showery weather, and was rather damaged. Wheat, barley, and oats all look promising in this part of Devon, and harvest will soon come on.

Winter Oats have already been Cut

in some places. Roots vary a good deal. Mangold about average where not damaged in the earlier stage, some fields are very luxuriant; swedes fair, common white turnips only lately come up; both would be benefitted by a shower of rain. Grass keep has been plentiful for weeks past, but now the pastures on hilly land are looking parched, and rain is wanted for them as well as for the roots. Stock is healthy on the whole, but lambs are suffering from the husk and attacks from the maggot fly. Apples in the orchards are very plentiful.—L. B. G. (July 26).

Somerset.

The hay harvest is practically over; heavy crops have been gathered in splendid condition. Grass for feeding has been plentiful, but on account of the very hot, dry weather for the last three weeks or a month keep is now getting very dry and short. The corn harvest will be in full swing in about a week's time. Some pieces of oats are already cut. Wheat and beans are about an average crop, although some pieces of beans are badly rusted; barley very fine, oats poor. The dry weather has told a good deal on the potatoes, which are not likely to be a heavy crop. Apples, which at one time looked likely to be a fine crop, are, on account of the blight, quite a failure. Cattle and sheep have on the whole done very well, and dairy produce is about the average of past years. There is a capital plant of roots, but in some cases rain is wanted badly. Looking at the season as a whole, it bids fair to be quite an average one.—J. B. July 27th).

Somerset (North).

Well, haymaking is all over for this year, and a good job it is so, for with the thermometer at near 100 it has been hot and thirsty work. Fortunately, cider is plentiful, and that has helped the men to keep going. The crop is an average one and the condition first-rate, so we are secured for some good fodder in the winter. This forcing weather is turning the colour of the corn crops from green to golden, and harvest will be general with us ere this month is out. Root crops hold on wonderfully; it is true they don't grow much, but they mostly hold their own by recovering in the night the flagging leaves of the day before. In this respect kohl rabi growing alongside with swedes, the former shows a marked superiority. These hot winds have fairly taken all the freshness out of the pastures and, as a consequence, dairy produce has fallen off sadly. Enough butter cannot be made to supply the regular customers, and even that has to be made with the aid of purchased ice from the town. We are receiving a better price for this butter and no trouble to sell it, but against this is the reduced quantity and the bill for decorticated cotton-cake, which leaves us worse off than before.

Fruit Trees and Blight.

Fruit trees and bushes of all kinds are covered with blight, and the fruit is falling off in quantity or shrivelling up. We have been strongly advised to go in for a Strawson pump and start washing or spraying with some insect-killing moisture, but, meantime, Mr. Bear's article on fumigation appears in the Royal Agricultural Society's journal, and now we hesitate between the two systems. Should any of your correspondents have had any practice in either of these or other insecticides, it might save endless trouble and expense to have their experiences, so that growers could start fair with the best and cheapest means of combating an evil which must be tackled sooner or later if we mean to keep to the front in quality and quantity.—R. B. (July 27th).

Worcestershire (South).

The intense heat of the past fortnight has done a lot of harm to the crops in this district. The barley has turned off before it had fully matured, and as a consequence will be an indifferent sample. The same may be said of the oats. Wheat is looking well and has every appearance of being a good crop. Beans also, have done well, winter beans and oats are now being cut. A fair crop of hay has been saved in splendid condition, but the pastures are now burnt quite brown and keep is becoming scarce. Apples and plums are falling in huge numbers, swedes are turning blue, and it a standstill, potatoes are dying off, hops are full of blight, and unless rain comes quickly it is a poor lookout ahead.—F. W. K. (July 27th).

Wiltshire.

The very hot, dry weather is much against farm prospects. Roots, according to present appearance, are likely to be a failure except mangels, and they are badly wanting rain. The outlook for sheep farmers is not at all promising, keep being very scarce, and without change in the weather prices will go down. Wheat is the only crop doing well; it is ripening a beautiful colour, but thin on the ground, and will be scarcely an average in this district. Cutting will commence about Monday next. Barley is ripening much too fast; without rain very soon the quality and yield will not be satisfactory. Winter beans fairly good, spring sown not more than half a crop. Oats very poor. Dairy and grazing farmers have had a fairly good season so far, but the prospect is bad, grass being nearly all dried up. Milking cows will require a liberal supply of cake to keep up anything like a fair quantity of milk, which is a serious extra expense. T. P. (July 27th).

Wiltshire.

At present it is most difficult to come to any reasonably definite idea as to the prospects of the present season. The excessive heat and sunshine of the past three weeks has come as a surprie to most of us, and there can be no doubt that it has been of very great value to all corn crops, strengthening the plant, developing the grain, and making the prospect of an early harvest more assured than could at one time have been deemed possible. There is, however, reason to fear that the sun has been too powerful for barley and oats, causing premature ripening. Some oats gathered to-day indicate this. Speaking generally, corn is looking well, but far from a heavy crop. Wheat-cutting will commence in about a week. Rye, winter oats, and barley are now being cut.

Root Crops are Trembling in the Balance.

There may be a good crop, for notwithstanding the determined onslaught of the fly, there is a fairly level and strong plant. There has been great difficulty with the hoeing. The charlock being strong and troublesome, one realises more and more what a pest it is. If it was not for the charlock, vigorous horse hoeing down and across the drills would suffice fairly well for summer roots such as rape and turnip. As it is, much of the sheep feed presents an appearance far from pleasant to the farmer accustomed to seeing crops clean and well hoed. Cattle and sheep are doing remarkably well. Prices are mysterious. Bread 10d. and 11d. per gallon loaf, with wheat at an Imperial average of 29s. per quarter. Mutton and beef sell well, yet stock sheep at Salisbury Fair realised from 1s. to 2s. per head only over last year's very bad prices. One feels, however, that unless the drought becomes very persistent the trade in store sheep must improve. As to hay, some of it is fairly good; a great deal very middling, none very bad. Altogether the only thing possible to say as to agricultural prospects is, "There is a prospect." Let us hope for satisfactory fulfilment.—J. B. (July 27th).

Worcestershire.

The grass crops in this part are about an average, and gathered in good condition when cut in time, but a considerable quantity is still to cut, and has gone brown, being over ripe, and will make very indifferent hay in consequence.

Root Crops

are not at all good, having been sown two and three times over, and the weather being so dry the fly was too much for them; soaking the seed seemed of very little use in preventing the fly from eating them.

Not Much Corn.

The oats and barleys are thin, the wireworm being so destructive, and the spring being so dry nearly cleared some fields. The wheat is the best crop, probably, but straw is rather short all round, and corn will be under the average.

The Hops

vary much; some are fairly good, but the bulk are very light in bine, and the average will not be more than a third of last year just around here, and this very hot weather is too much for the weak growth; some showers may help them should we get them at once.—W. H. (July 26th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—The wheat harvest, being practically concluded in the south, is now in full blast in the central and metropolitan departments; consequently the markets are deserted and will remain without interest until new samples can be shown in appreciable quantities. The quantity of the crop will be much under that of the last two seasons, but the quality is expected to be fine, and suitable weather has certainly added to the output.

SPAIN. According to an official report a big wheat crop is expected this year. Last season's yield amounted to about 11,700,000 quarters, but this year the estimate exceeds 14,700,000 quarters.

ITALY.—According to the estimate of the Minister of Agriculture, this year's wheat crop will possess an import of 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 quarters of wheat, or about the same quantity as in the previous year.

BELGIUM.—Weather continues hot and fine cutting of rye and barley is being carried on in suitable conditions, and that of wheat will quickly follow.

HOLLAND.—Nearly all the barley and rye have been cut, and some injury to the grain was caused by thunderstorms and heavy rain. Wheat presents a favourable appearance. Pease appear to have suffered from hail and insects.

GERMANY.—The prevalence of very hot weather having naturally improved the crop outlook. It now appears from the Government returns for mid-July that present conditions of all cereals and of potatoes, too, compare favourably with the estimate of former years at this date, but it remains to be seen how quantities will work out.

HUNGARY.—The very warm and dry weather has been propitious for harvest work, and cutting for the most part may be considered as ended. The grain has been rather rapidly carried as farmers after the heavy storms of the previous week were anxious to place their cereals in security.

AUSTRIA.—Harvest is in full swing and in the south, the winter wheat gives satisfactory results. Barley has suffered from too much moisture. Oats stand very well, and maize promises a favourable yield.

RUSSIA.—In the aggregate, advices respecting the harvest are mainly favourable, but efforts will not be made with confidence until the crops have been safely carried and put beyond the reach of damage.

UNITED STATES.—The *Commercial Price Current* says, excepting in portions of Kansas and Nebraska, maize gives excellent promise, indicating a full average out-turn or better for the entire crop. Wheat harvesting and threshing are interrupted by rain, but indications support an estimated yield of 550 million bushels with Pacific States included. *Broomhall.*

North Scotland.

We give to-day our usual review of the condition of the crops between the Dee and the Orkneys, an area comprising nine northern counties in Scotland. Not for a number of years have we been in a position to present an account of prospects so bright as are at present in the experience of farmers in the north of Scotland, the leading fact of the position being that in the case of not a single crop can anything be said but words of brightness and thankfulness. To give an idea of the respective importance in the different counties of the various crops the following table, which refers to 1899, may be useful:—

	Brly. & Bere. Acres.	Oats. Acres.	Potatoes. Acres.	Turnips Acres.
Aberdeen	29,415	184,478	7,446	90,003
Banff	10,504	46,874	1,099	22,059
Elgin	14,432	[illegible]	1,677	15,656
Nairn	3,447	5,491	317	4,252
Inverness	7,502	30,051	5,946	[illegible]
Ross	12,853	29,[illegible]	7,559	16,183
Sutherland....	1,387	7,[illegible]	1,071	3,088
Caithness	1,257	33,758	1,724	13,864
Orkney.....	4,600	33,[illegible]	2,722	14,591

Barley will be a full average crop. By heavy rains some of it has been lodged which may affect the quality of a small portion of it, but all over the crop must be described as excellent and promising at present a full return. In some high-lying districts there seems to be a smaller breadth under the cereal than has been the case for some years. The same language has to be used in describing the oats. The crop is at present healthy and vigorous and shows the fine dark and wide blade which speaks of its entirely promising condition. Some reports say, "Oats never looked better," and when that is said by practical farmers—and almost the whole of the reports are from such—the lay reader may gather that under present conditions a bountiful return is expected. After lea the crop is exceptionally good and is somewhat ahead of the crop after turnips, that condition being experienced all over the North. Owing to the cold and droughty spring, harvest is expected to be about a fortnight later than last year, but that will, of course, be governed largely by future atmospherical conditions. Potatoes, which are grown only to a small extent for the market, promise well, although they are somewhat late. Turnips offer a great contrast to their fortunes of last year. Certainly there was in some cases resowing through drought and the attacks of "fly," but that experience was quite uncommon as compared with a year ago, and the crop is now in vigorous health, many fields of turnips showing nothing now but an expanse of green. Of this very important crop in the economy of farming in the North there promises to be a bountiful yield, which, with the abundant return of straw that will be enjoyed, practically ensures a profitable feeding season. During the past month or so grass has greatly improved, and a better grazing season than has been enjoyed during that time has not been experienced for years, pasture being most luxuriant, and cattle thriving on it greatly. It is "everywhere knee deep" is the tenor of many reports. The rains have made up the hay crop considerably from the bottom, and on the whole there will now be an average yield, and the aftermath promises to be exceptionally plentiful. *Banff Journal.*

The annual Wool Fair at Kelso took place on Monday in fine weather. There was a considerable number of wool buyers in attendance, and several transactions were reported. Lambs clips sold at an advance of [illegible] per lb., and hogg clips 1d. and rather more per lb. Many [illegible], however, are still disposed to hold out for better terms. A clip of 180 ewes to 40 hogg sold at 14s. 6d.; another of [illegible] ewes to [illegible] hogg [illegible] 6d.; and another of [illegible] ewes to 120 hogg sold at 14s.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: The slight improvement in the demand noticed last week, is maintained. Barley unchanged. Wheat quiet, without alteration in price. Oats steady. Maize about 1s per qr lower for flat and 9d per qr for round. Flour dull.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Old home grown retains steadiness, and the supply becomes more and more reduced, but country millers respond to the few offers made (chiefly on the local markets) without inducement. Fine white, 32s, and red of similar sample 31s 6d (63lb.) delivered. American descriptions rather easier. No precise deviation occurred in the market for flour, but to treat consumers found no difficulty in naming reasonable terms. The present hot weather, however, only naturally relaxes trade. At this afternoon's meeting the London Millers' Association decided on keeping prices same as Monday last. Town household, 25s 6d ; and whites, 28s 6d per sack. Grinding barley unaltered. Black Sea and American being out of supply, and Persian supplying wants while named at 17s 9d ex ship, 18s ex quay. Inquiries were not too readily entertained respecting American oats, and, apart from excessive arrivals, the tone continued favourable to sellers during most part of the day. Flat maize lost the improvement of Monday last, being, in fact, distinctly lower. Mixed American 19s 3d ex ship, 19s 9d ex quay,

Mark Lane, Friday.—Old home-grown wheat remains in very small supply, and a little new may be submitted next week, quotations being in sellers' favour. An early English harvest is expected this year. Fine white, 32s ; and red of similar sample, 31s 6d (63lb.), delivered. American descriptions about steady at last week's decline. Flour was scarcely mentioned, but while presenting that same listlessness as of late, the market manifested no weakness, although being in favour of consumers. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting Town households, 25s 6d ; whites, 28s 6d per sack. American first patents quoted at 25s 6d to 26s 6d ; second ditto, 23s 6d to 24s 6d. First bakers, 21s 6d to 22s 6d ; and second, 19s to 20s. Australian first patents, 21s 6d to 22s 6d (280lb), ex store. Among feeding stuffs, grinding barley unaltered, with Black Sea and American being unobtainable. Although the demand for oats was again poor, sellers were not inclined to make concessions, apart from the week's heavy arrivals, these having been mostly discounted. Flat maize held for 1½d to 3d advance, the enhanced rates, however, not being maintained. Mixed American quoted at 19s 3d to 19s 6d ex ship, 19s 9d to 20s ex quay.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The attendance was small, and not much business was done. Prices generally were about the same as last week, except in the case of flat maize, which gave way about 6d per qr.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Thin attendance and short supplies on offer. The wheat trade was firm and the business transacted was at late rates. Little or nothing doing in other articles. Wheat, 29s to 30s per quarter.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (white), 29s to 30s 6d per qr ; wheat (red), 28s 6d to 30s per qr ; beans (new), 30s to 32s ; beans (old), 21s to 23s per qr. Very small supply of English wheat, which sells at barely last week's rates.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has not been much trade since our last. At to-day's market there was only a small attendance. Very little English wheat offering, for which more money was asked. Foreign dull at about 6d decline. Barley and maize 3d lower. Oats unaltered. Flour—The continued hot weather affects the consumptive demand.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—The wheat trade has been showing a backward tendency during the week, and to-day was about 1s per quarter lower on the week, 29s being the top price. There was a fair attendance at market, but the supply was small. Some new wheat is expected to be on offer next week.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat, limited supply, trade slow. Barley unaltered. Oats firm. Ruling prices :—White wheat, 30s to 32s 6d ; red ditto, 28s to 31s ; grinding barley, 20s to 22s ; white oats, 19s to 21s ; black ditto, 19s to 20s 6d ; peas, 30s to 32s ; tick beans, 30s to 32s ; mazagans, 28s to 29s ; flat maize, 21s to 22s ; round ditto, 26s to 27s per quarter.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small show of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at last week's prices, 22s to 23s 9d per 336lb. No wheat or barley shown.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There were few samples of English grain offering. Wheat remained unaltered, but oats had a good demand, and better prices were asked. Quotations :—Wheat, white and red, 4s 4d to 4s 5d per 75lb ; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb ; beans, new, 4s 10d to 5s ; old, 5s 6d per 80lb ; oats, old, 2s 8d to 3s per 46lb. Indian corn, 10s 6d to 11s 6d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.— Fair attendance and quiet market, with little or no alteration in prices.

Colchester, Saturday.—Moderate supply. Wheat quiet trade at last week's prices. Nothing offering on spring corn.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Extremely limited business. English wheat at about last week's prices. For foreign wheat quotations showed but little change on the week. Barley quiet. Feeding stuffs were generally dull.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour continue dull at a decline of about 3d to 6d per boll and sack on the week. Indian corn steady at last week's prices. Grinding beans quiet, but unchanged. Canadian peas, owing to liberal arrivals have declined about 6d per boll on the week. Foreign oats quiet and the turn cheaper. Home oats and oatmeal steady. Barley firm, but quiet. Bran and commonthirds quiet and unchanged. Fine thirds the turn dearer.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Small attendance. Fair samples of English wheat on offer. Millers were unwilling buyers at last week's prices, and in some instances 1d less was taken. Quotations : Wheat—white, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per bushel ; red, 3s 6d to 4s 8d ; barley, 3s to 3s 9d ; oats, 2s 3d to 3s ; beans, 3s 10d to 4s ; maize, 2s 8d to 3s 2d ; vetches—winter, 4s to 6s ; and spring, 3s 6d to 5s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Fair supply of wheat, without alteration in values. Red, 30s per qr, little white being shown. Scarcely a sample of barley was on offer. Oats, slow. Maize, firm. Peas and beans slow. Crops are ripening fast under this forcing weather.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The weather continues very hot. Wheat is steadily held for last week's prices, and there is rather more inquiry, but suitable offers are not plentiful and business is restricted. Maize 3d to 6d lower. Beans and oats, steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday. —Little demand for either English or foreign wheats without any change from Tuesday's easier prices, which for ordinary runs were barely maintained. Maize the turn lower. No change in flour, barley, beans, peas, and oats or other feeding stuffs.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with small supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a steady trade at 30s to 33s per 36 stones. Fine oats in good demand, and prices firm.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair supply of English wheat, Trade slow, at 6d decline. Reds, 28s 6d to 29s 6d ; whites, 29s to 30s. Foreign wheats quiet. Small supply of oats, which made full money. Maize, peas and beans, firm.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Trade to-day very slack ; the oppressively hot weather causes a disinclination to pay much attention to samples or the prices thereof. Wheat moved off in small lots at a little under last week's rates, but holders do not press much, not fearing that any serious decline will occur. Barley of good quality is firm at former cost. Oats a trifle easier, and maize rather cheaper than last Thursday. No change in value of other grain.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat can be purchased at a decline of 6d per qr on last Thursday's rates ; whilst foreign descriptions are ½d to 1d per cental cheaper. Flour keeps dull of sale, quotations pretty much as last week, though tending in buyers' favour. Indian corn is easier by ½d per cental. No change is reported in oats, peas, beans, or barley.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.— The heat wave here has ended, this morning opening with nice cooling rain showers. To-day's market was poorly attended. Wheat and flour closed inactive, and sales were limited. Flour, 6d per sack down. Feeding stuffs generally repeated late prices.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At our to-day's market wheat ruled firm at late rates ; Maize steady at last week's prices ; Scotch oats, 6d to 9d per qr. dearer ; foreign steady, with a good demand. Barley, beans, and peas unchanged ; flour easier. —JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat rather slow sale, and a little cheaper on the week, owing to fine weather. Maize, 6d cheaper. Barley, oats, and beans unchanged. Flour (fines), 23s 6d per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—Very small attendance; sellers and buyers alike indisposed to do business ; demand most inactive at about last week's prices. Red and white wheat, 29s to 32s per qr. Oats, beans, and barley very quiet at last week's quotations.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat more freely offered to-day, with prices about 6d per qr lower. The weather during the week has been very hot. Harvest operations will be general in about ten days' time. Wheat, red, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per qr, weight 63lbs per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending July 23, 1900 :—Wheat, 1,099, 29s 2d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in small supply. Trade ruled slow at previous currencies. Oats and beans sparingly represented, and prices in sellers' favour.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering, and quiet trade at about last week's prices.

Peterborough, Saturday.—A very small market and trade quiet all round, with prices about the same as last week, both for wheat and spring corn. Harvest will begin pretty generally during next week in the district.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—To-day's market was quiet. Prices for wheat and maize 6d cheaper Barley and oats unchanged from last week.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—The exchange was very well attended to-day, and business proved fairly good. The quantity of wheat on offer was larger than at last week's market, but prices did not undergo any material variation from the figures then obtained. Other descriptions of corn sold steadily at late rates.

Ripon, Thursday.—During the week wheat has been very flat, practically nothing being done. Wheat, English, 29s to 30s ; ditto foreign, 31s to 35s ; barley, grinding, 24s to 25s ; oats, 22s to 25s ; round maize, 25s to 27s ; flat maize, 23s per qr ; beans, 11½d per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—A slow trade at last week's prices. Red wheat made 30s to 31s, and white wheat 31s to 33s per qr. Only a small supply on offer.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was again a small attendance, owing to farmers being busily employed in the hay fields, and trade was quiet. No change in the price of wheat, and flat maize rather cheaper. Small Indian corn 6d per qr dearer. No English oats on offer. Quotations : —Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d ; ditto red, 32s to 33s per 504lb ; oats, old white, 24s ; ditto old black, 22s per 336lb ; peas, grinding, 28s to 29s ; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb ; beans, Egyptian, 33s ; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb ; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s 6d ; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb ; Indian corn, small, 27s to 30s ; ditto American mixed, 22s 6d to 23s per 480lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—A few fields of barley and oats in the earlier districts have been cut during the past week, but the heavy thunder-storms of Friday night will delay further work in this direction. The barley and oat crops have been beaten down in places, but as the grain is now developed—but not ripe enough to be damaged by wet—the good done by the storms to the growing crops generally will outweigh the points scored against them. Markets have been badly attended, and trade has been quiet. No change in the prices of grain has taken place. Flour has moved to a fair extent at a decline of 6d per sack. Millers' offals have experienced an active demand, and a general advance of 5s per ton has to be recorded.—W. L. BROWNE AND CO.

Southampton, Saturday.—Wheat in very short supply, which commanded a firm trade at fully late rates. Barley and maize quiet, unaltered. Oats in fair demand, and the turn dearer. Flour, 24s to 26s. Wheat cutting will be general in this district next week.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LTD.

Spalding, Tuesday.—There was a small supply of all grain. Wheat, 29s to 29s 6d per qr, being fully 6d lower on the week. Oats maintained their price, and beans were slightly dearer. No peas on offer, and there was very little business doing.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were no samples of English wheat showing. The trade in foreign wheat keeps exceedingly dull on account of the brilliant weather and lower advices from America. Prices were 6d to 9d lower on the week. Maize 6d cheaper. Oats unchanged.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Small show of grain at this day's market. Wheat quiet at late rate. Spring corn unaltered. Arrivals coastwise : Wheat 490 qrs. ; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Wheat in very small quantity and prices firm at last week's quotations. Feeding stuffs very slow. Wheat cutting has commenced, and the prospects are fairly good. Barley very good prospect.

Wakefield, Friday.—The weather continues all that can be desired, and the wheat trade remains correspondingly quiet, but there is a steady undertone of firmness, and on the business doing late rates are maintained. Maize, beans, and oats very slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—A small attendance at our market this morning. Very little business doing. English wheat rather easier than last Friday, whilst foreign maintains about last week's rates. Maize 6d per quarter lower, other feeding stuffs unaltered.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small market and little doing. An odd sample or two of wheat sold at about late rates. Reds, 29s to 30s ; white, 31s. Oats scarce and rather dearer, 20s to 24s. Other articles unchanged —JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a very small attendance, and business nil. The following were the quotations :— English wheat was 13s 6d per 216lb ; oats, 13s to 14s ; beans (new), 13s to 14s ; beans (old), 14s to 15s 6d per 196lb ; flat maize, 21s 6d to 22s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Harvesting operations have commenced, and a considerable acreage of oats and barley is already cut. The market was thinly attended, and trade very quiet. English wheat, prices nominal. Foreign quiet at steady rates. Barley and maize favoured buyers. Oats and beans unchanged. Wheat, white, 28s to 29s ; red 27s to 28s.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance and slow trade. White wheat, 28s to 29s ; red ditto, 27s to 28s ; grinding barley, 26s to 28s ; white oats, 21s to 23s ; black ditto, 20s to 22s ; flat maize, 24s to 26s ; round ditto, 26s to 27s 6d per qr.

York, Saturday.—A few samples of Yorkshire wheat offered, which sold slowly at last week's prices. Oats firm. The official average prices of the sales of grain for the week have been :—Wheat, 28s 3d ; barley, 23s 7d ; and oats, 19s per quarter.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has been somewhat inactive Wheat has ripened rapidly in the French country districts in consequence of the extremely hot weather of the last few days. Upon the whole the ears present a good appearance, and the crop will be a better one than was anticipated a few months since. The outlook has also improved in Belgium, Holland, and Germany, but a certain amount of damage has been occasioned in Austria and Hungary by violent storms. A good yield of wheat is anticipated in Bulgaria and Roumania ; the Russian wheat crop is not expected, however, to be at all above an average. The French country markets have been rather thinly attended, farmers having been a good deal occupied with field work. Wheat quotations have been nearly maintained, but the tendency has been slightly downwards. A fall of 2½d. per quintal has been noted in wheat at Paris. Flour has also exhibited a dull tone in the French capital. The supplies brought forward upon the Russian provincial markets have been comparatively limited of late ; on the other hand, millers have shown no eagerness to make purchases. The tone of business has been rather dull in the Baltic ports ; the wheat trade has also been inactive at Odessa and the southern Russian ports. Holders of wheat have not abated their pretensions at Braila ; on the other hand, buyers have shown a disposition to await the delivery of new wheat, as they consider that when it makes its appearance more freely, they will be enabled to secure better terms. The quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is returned at 1,360,000 qrs. as compared with 1,330,000 qrs. at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,360,000 qrs. is made up as follows : — France, 76,000 qrs. ; Belgium, 432,000 qrs. ; Holland, 385,000 qrs. ; Germany and the North, 240,000 qrs. ; and Italy, Spain, etc., 228,000 qrs.

Hamburgh, Saturday.—Barley report : Weather remains fine, although the abnormal heat has abated a little, and prospects of our crops remain generally very satisfactory, consequently markets have turned dull. Cutting :—The Saale districts will soon commence, and people speak in high terms of the outlook, but things have often been disappointing when the first samples appeared. From Hungary a few samples have been shown, and quality seems to be appreciated. In another fortnight it will be possible to form an opinion about the general outturn.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday.—With forcing, hot weather the growing crops are making quick progress towards maturity. Samples of new rye show fine quality. Market quiet ; buyers restrict their purchases to immediate requirements. The imports during the week amounted to 9,411 tons wheat, 4,555 tons rye, 3,012 tons barley, 9,873 tons maize. Wheat neglected. Fine red Holstein and Mecklenburg is offering at 29s 3d to 30s per 504lb f.o.b. Fine River Plate on the spot and old Hard Winter, No. 2, 26s 6d to 27s ; Hard Winter, No. 2, new crop, July-August, 28s 3d per 480lb c.i.f., Hamburg. Rye quiet ; 9 10-15 South Russian on the spot is offering at 22s 9d ; September-October shipment at 21s 9d per 480lb c.i.f., Hamburg. The barley crop in Germany is making satisfactory progress, and also from Bohemia and Moravia there are now better reports, while Hungary, it seems, will remain deficient, both in quality and quantity. A few parcels of good old Bohemian barley are still offering at 30s to 31s per 448lb f.o.b. Feeding barley in better demand. Spot parcels of South Russian are selling at 19s to 19s 9d 60-61 Ko. Aug.-Sept. shipment at 17s 3d per 400lb. c.i.f. Mixed maize for prompt delivery and Aug.-Sept. shipments are selling at 19s 3d to 19s 6d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg, but the demand is not brisk.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

July 20 to 27, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	27,948 qrs.
Flour	28,050 ,,
Total	55,998 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Deficiency	50,002 ,,

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

July 20th to 27th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	1,557	..	..	26,391	27,948
Barley	93	..	..	642	735
Malt	23,476	..	..	..	23,476
Oats	53	..	..	102,158	102,211
Rye	..	..	..	..	..
Beans	156	..	..	186	342
Peas	51	..	..	6,349	6,400
Maize	..	..	..	49,052	49,052
Tares	5	..	..	592	597
Lentils	..	..	..	..	..
Linseed	..	..	..	3,091	3,091
Rapeseed	..	..	..	113	113
Cottonseed	..	..	..	10,954	10,954
Farm Seeds	50	..	..	1,178	1,228
Flour (Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour (Sacks	17,588	..	..	19,730	37,316

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

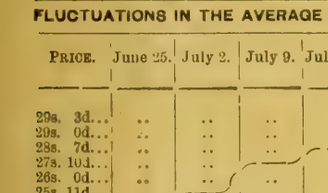
1899.			1899.		
Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.		Apr. 22	70,984 qrs.	
,, 14	108,380 ,,		,, 29	68,573 ,,	
,, 21	128,902 ,,		May 6	96,343 ,,	
,, 28	51,234 ,,		,, 13	72,852 ,,	
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,		,, 20	101,429 ,,	
,, 11	82,912 ,,		,, 27	108,772 ,,	
,, 18	204,974 ,,		June 3	78,846 ,,	
,, 25	108,273 ,,		,, 10	126,781 ,,	
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,		,, 17	160,574 ,,	
,, 11	63,103 ,,		,, 24	101,205 ,,	
,, 18	122,541 ,,		July 1	152,500 ,,	
,, 25	86,309 ,,		,, 8	112,761 ,,	
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,		,, 15	116,850 ,,	
,, 8	133,261 ,,		,, 22	89,245 ,,	
,, 15	101,518 ,,		,, 29	118,314 ,,	

1900.			1900.		
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.		Apr. 20	82,857 qrs.	
,, 13	95,064 ,,		,, 27	43,783 ,,	
,, 20	114,928 ,,		May 4	104,480 ,,	
,, 27	124,652 ,,		,, 11	52,850 ,,	
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,		,, 18	97,412 ,,	
,, 10	75,000 ,,		,, 25	71,390 ,,	
,, 17	66,804 ,,		,, 31	177,744 ,,	
,, 24	62,304 ,,		June 8	93,147 ,,	
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,		,, 15	83,125 ,,	
,, 10	63,702 ,,		,, 22	193,116 ,,	
,, 17	102,885 ,,		,, 29	142,185 ,,	
,, 24	111,409 ,,		July 6	132,950 ,,	
,, 31	69,356 ,,		,, 13	101,253 ,,	
April 7	48,302 ,,		,, 20	82,294 ,,	
,, 13	131,085 ,,		,, 27	55,998 ,,	

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1899.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
July 29 ..	41,692⅜	25	2 ..	257⅜	22	5 ..	4,240	18	2
Aug. 5 ..	51,149⅜	24	10 ..	246½	20	9 ..	6,645⅝	18	..
,, 12 ..	37,177¼	24	8 ..	184½	22	6 ..	5,551⅜	17	9
,, 19 ..	33,399⅜	24	7 ..	437⅞	26	11 ..	6,120⅜	17	4
,, 26 ..	34,523¼	24	7 ..	1,594¼	26	5 ..	9,205⅜	17	1
Sept. 2 ..	47,572⅝	25	0 ..	6,709⅜	25	10 ..	15,958⅛	16	7
,, 9 ..	67,996¼	25	5 ..	17,408¼	26	5 ..	16,195	16	6
,, 16 ..	80,281⅛	25	4 ..	33,143⅞	27	1 ..	19,291⅛	16	2
,, 23 ..	85,104¼	25	4 ..	77,678⅜	27	4 ..	22,128	16	1
,, 30 ..	79,612⅛	25	6 ..	97,917⅛	26	11 ..	23 103	16	5
Oct. 7 ..	71,152⅜	26	0 ..	169,315½	28	0 ..	21,440⅛	16	5
,, 14 ..	63,040⅜	27	3 ..	191,901⅜	27	9 ..	18,024⅛	16	5
,, 21 ..	64,242	28	2 ..	192,268½	27	6 ..	18,983⅝	16	10
,, 28 ..	85,178¼	28	1 ..	219,75[illegible]			20,054⅛	16	3
Nov. 4 ..	82,769⅜	27	2 ..	203,071⅜	27	2 ..	17,895¼	16	7
,, 11 ..	66,741⅜	26	7 ..	166,786¼	26	9 ..	15,216⅜	16	5
,, 18 ..	65,470¼	26	1 ..	163,915¼	26	4 ..	16,313⅛	16	7
,, 25 ..	67,308⅛	25	8 ..	164,362⅜	26	2 ..	17,017⅜	16	7
Dec. 2 ..	72,974⅞	25	7 ..	163,441⅜	25	10 ..	22,575⅛	16	6
,, 9 ..	10,982¼	25	7 ..	174,207	25	10 ..	21,421⅛	16	5
,, 16 ..	78,772½	25	4 ..	135,344⅛	25	7 ..	22,889½	16	1
,, 23 ..	67,102⅜	25	6 ..	116,757⅛	25	10 ..	16,447⅝	16	0
,, 30 ..	47,685¼	25	9 ..	74,637⅜	25	5 ..	10,463⅛	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6 ..	40,086	25	9 ..	65,347½	25	7 ..	13,380⅝	16	2
,, 13 ..	57,021⅜	25	11 ..	83,421⅜	25	5 ..	19,703	16	3
,, 20 ..	68,463¼	26	0 ..	100,925¼	25	8 ..	23,122⅜	16	2
,, 27 ..	65,381¼	25	10 ..	108,357⅜	25	9 ..	17,814⅛	16	4
Feb. 3 ..	73,796⅜	25	8 ..	90,769¼	25	4 ..	22,061⅛	16	6
,, 10 ..	71,482⅜	25	10 ..	80,543⅜	25	3 ..	20,822⅛	16	5
,, 17 ..	76,611⅜	26	1 ..	80,414⅞	24	11 ..	20,98[illegible]	16	8
,, 24 ..	69,534⅛	26	3 ..	63,931⅜	25	1 ..	21,132⅛	16	11
Mar. 3 ..	68,153¼	26	4 ..	51,727¼	24	6 ..	18,499⅛	16	10
,, 10 ..	58,703⅛	25	11 ..	44,921⅛	24	8 ..	16,224	16	11
,, 17 ..	76,435⅝	25	10 ..	46,053	24	6 ..	20,104⅞	16	11
,, 24 ..	69,944⅛	25	11 ..	38,147	25	0 ..	17,042⅝	17	1
,, 31 ..	72,762	25	10 ..	34,387¼	24	11 ..	15,200⅝	17	0
April 7 ..	67,743⅞	25	10 ..	20,402⅜	24	10 ..	13,757⅞	17	2
,, 14 ..	66,412⅝	25	11 ..	19,519⅝	24	5 ..	9,672⅝	17	8
,, 21 ..	54,977⅞	26	0 ..	11,673⅜	24	9 ..	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28 ..	70,006⅛	26	0 ..	7,785⅜	25	2 ..	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5 ..	75,410⅛	25	11 ..	8,159⅜	25	3 ..	8,658⅛	18	0
,, 12 ..	82,190⅝	25	11 ..	10,417⅞	24	10 ..	12,245⅛	17	11
,, 19 ..	83,941⅜	25	7 ..	5,638½	24	5 ..	9,942	18	5
,, 26 ..	95,574⅜	25	5 ..	3,521⅛	23	11 ..	7,350⅜	18	2
June 2 ..	68,906⅜	25	5 ..	1,752⅞	24	4 ..	6,702	18	6
,, 9 ..	64 747⅛	25	3 ..	999⅛	23	8 ..	6 053⅛	18	8
,, 16 ..	55,340⅜	25	6 ..	1,486⅞	23	8 ..	7,228⅛	18	11
,, 23 ..	54,324⅛	25	9 ..	1,312⅛	23	5 ..	5,314⅛	18	11
,, 30 ..	44,920⅜	26	11 ..	495⅜	23	4 ..	4,706⅛	19	3
July 7 ..	34,344⅛	27	10 ..	486¼	22	10 ..	4,391⅛	19	5
,, 14 ..	22,009¼	28	7 ..	949½	23	2 ..	2,911⅛	19	1
,, 21 ..	26,710⅝	29	0 ..	767⅜	23	8 ..	3,771¼	19	3
,, 28 ..	33,088	29	3 ..	194¼	24	4 ..	3,335⅜	19	9

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.		Barley. s. d.		Oats. s. d.	
1890 ..	31 9	per qr.	28 8	per qr.	18 7	per qr.
1891 ..	37 1	,,	28 2	,,	20 0	,,
1892 ..	30 4	,,	26 2	,,	19 11	,,
1893 ..	26 4	,,	25 6	,,	18 9	,,
1894 ..	22 10	,,	24 6	,,	17 1	,,
1895 ..	23 1	,,	21 11	,,	14 6	,,
1896 ..	26 2	,,	22 11	,,	14 9	,,
1897 ..	30 2	,,	23 6	,,	16 11	,,
1898 ..	34 0	,,	27 2	,,	18 5	,,
1899 ..	25 8	,,	25 7	,,	17 0	,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900 Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January.....	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May.....	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	..	..	..
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	..	..	..
September ..	25 4	26 10	16 5	..	..	..
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November....	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended July 28th, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	33,088 qrs.	29s. 3d.
Barley	194¼ qrs.	24s. 4d.
Oats	3,335⅜ qrs.	19s. 9d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to July 28th, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

Years.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	18,105½ ..	23	8	5009[illegible] ..	19	7	4,995⅜ ..	14	10
1897....	40,111 ..	28	10	505[illegible] ..	17	10	2,497⅛ ..	19	0
1898....	10,701⅜ ..	36	11	128[illegible] ..	24	2	3,305½ ..	20	11
1899....	49,692⅜ ..	25	2	257⅜ ..	22	5	4,240[illegible] ..	18	2

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 24th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	1,447	7	2,160	10	9	1	9	10
Barley	112	3	142	2	6	1	5	4
Oats	107	5	111	17	6	1	0	9

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	211,000	132,000	498,000	54,000	82,000
Russia	244,000	—	8,000	41,000	170,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary ..	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	70,000	—	—	—	—
Argentina	285,000	5,000	120,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	23,000	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ..	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	853,000	152,000	646,000	115,000	262,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

		s.	d.
January 1, 1900	(per sack)	28	0
April 2, ,,	,,	27	0
June 22, ,,	,,	30	0
,, 27, ,,	,,	31	0
July 4, ,,	,,	30	0

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	..		21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	..		21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	..		22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	..		23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov. ..	..		22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..		21	9	24	8	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June ..	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July ..	..		27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	..		27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	..		25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	..		24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	..		24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec. ..	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fair supplies were offered this morning, and cleared at better prices. Quotations. Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 3s; Essex, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Welsh, 2s to 2s 6d; Boston. 2s to 2s 6d; Sussex, 2s 6d to 3s; Irish, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; Surrey, 3s to 3s 9d; Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; country ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; goslings, 4s to 5s; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s; feathered, 7d to 10d; tame rabbits, 1s to 1s 4d each; Australian, 6s 6d per dozen; venison, haunches, 18s 6d to 20s 6d each; ditto forequarters, 3½d per lb.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: The consumptive demand rules moderate, and in the absence of local buying the market generally has an easier tendency, holders being ready sellers. We quote to-day choice Cumberland cut, 20lb to 22lb, 40s to 44s; 26lb to 30lb, 39s to 43s; 32lb to 38lb, 37s to 42s; long middles, rib-in, 18lb to 22lb, 41s to 45s; clear bellies, 14lb to 16lb, 41s to 45s; 18lb to 20lb, 41s to 44s; Stafford shire cut (lean on), 35lb to 40lb, and Birmingham cut, 33lb to 38lb, 42s to 43s; clear Staffords (lean off), 40lb to 44lb, and Yorkshire cuts, 40lb to 45lb., 40s 6d to 42s; singed Wiltshire Canadian, 45lb to 55lb, 50s to 56s; American, 40lb to 50lb, 42s to 45s; short clear backs, 12lb to 16lb, 39s 6d to 42s; 16lb to 20lb, 39s to 41s; fat backs (export), 37s to 38s 6d; long clear middles, 35lb to 40lb., 42s 6d to 44s; 40lb to. 50lb. 41s 6d to 43s; short clear middles, 45lb to 50lb, 38s to 39s; short middles (rib-in), 18lb to 23lb, 44s to 46s. Shoulders—Square cut, 12lb to 14lb, 38s 6d to 41s; 14lb to 16lb, 37s to 40s; New York cut, 11lb to 13lb, 36s to 37s per cwt. Hams rule steady; the enquiry for light weights is still brisk, but heavy weights are rather more freely offered. We quote choice long cut, 8lb to 12lb, 49s to 53s; 14lb to 16lb, 48s to 52s; short cut and A.C., 10lb to 12lb, 52s to 56s; 12lb to 14lb, 50s to 55lb; 14lb to 16lb, 48s to 54s per cwt. Lard is in moderate request at the quotations. We quote pails and kegs, 36s to 36s 6d; prime western (in tierces) 34s 9d to 35s per cwt. Cheese.—There has been a fair consumptive demand, and values on the week are about unaltered. We quote to-day finest coloured Canadian, 48s to 48s 6d; States, 47s 6d to 48s; finest white, Canadian or States, 47s to 48s. Fine cream seconds sell steadily from 40s to 45s, but there is little doing in lower qualities—offering from 12s to 32s per cwt. Butter.—The market generally is firmer, and with lighter supplies and higher quotations for Continental and Irish, buyers are now making more inquiry for Canadian. We quote to-day finest fresh-made Canadian creamery, in boxes, 98s to 102s; States, 92s to 96s; finest ladles, imitation creamery and Canadian dairy, 78s to 85s; finest Danish, 100s to 112s. Irish creamery, 96s to 106s; Cork firsts, 90s; seconds, 89s; thirds, 88s per cwt. HODGSON BROTHERS.

Newport, Wednesday.—Good supply; quiet trade. Caerphillies, 35s to 40s; truckles, 50s to 56s; Cheddars, 50s to 52s.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 1d per lb. Leeds: Danish [illegible] to 112s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 100s to 104s; York lump, 12s to 12s 9d per stone; ditto long rolls, 1s 1d to 1s 2d, fresh butter in 1lb prints, 11d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Coine: 1s 0½d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d per lb. Hereford (fresh): 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Keighley: 1s 2d per lb. Kirbym[illegible]: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Knaresborough: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Louth (wholesale), 1s per lb. Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Masham: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Whitby: 11d to 1s per lb. Worksop: 1s 6d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Birmingham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Devizes [illegible]: 1s 0s to 1s 1d per lb (retail), 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Driffield: 1s per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d per lb. Penistone: 1s per lb. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s 3d per single roll of 24oz. [illegible]: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per lb. Bradford: A fair trade is noticeable all round but the continental shipments are greater—steamers to Bristol and ports th. Canada [illegible] sailings.

Friday. Crewe: 1s 7½d to 1s 8d per lb. Derby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Grimsby: Choice Danish [illegible] to 1s 2d per lb; loss to [illegible] Dutch [illegible] to 1s 1d per lb. Retford: [illegible] to 1s 1d per cwt. Helmsley: 1s 2d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 108s to 114s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 100s to 104s; York lump, 12s to 12s 9d per stone; ditto long rolls, 1s 1d to 1s 2d, fresh butter in 1lb prints, 11d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Manchester: Stocks easily cleared at an advance of 1s to 2s per cwt on the week. Otley: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz. Sandbach: 1s 4d per lb. Stockport: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Stratford: 1s to 1s 4d per lb. Whitchurch: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday. [illegible]: 12 for 1s. Cambridge: 14 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 8s 9d to 9s 3d per 120. Irish: 7s to 7s 6d. Danish: 6s 6d to 7s 2d. Austrian blues, 5s 6d to 6s; ditto reds, 4s 8d to 5s. Settle: 14 for 1s. Stockton: 14 for 1s. Spalding: 15 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 13 and 14 for 1s. Coine: 13 to 14 per score. Goole: 14 for 1s. Hereford: 15 for 1s. Keighley: 12 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 15 or 16 for 1s. Knaresborough: 13 or 14 for 1s. Louth: wholesale, 16 for 1s. Market Drayton: 13 to 15 for 1s. Market Weighton: 16 for 1s. Masham: 13 or 14 for 1s. Northallerton: 11 or 12 for 1s. Stockton: 11 to 13 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per score. Whitby: 16 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 8d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 14 to 15 for 1s. Devizes: 15 to 17 for 1s. Birmingham: 11 to 12 for 1s. Driffield: 16 for 1s. Kidderminster: 12 for 1s. Penistone: 12 for 1s. Ripon: 12 for 1s. Scarborough: 12 for 1s. Wetherby: 12 or 13 for 1s.

Friday.—Altrincham: 10 for 1s. Derby: 14 for 1s. Grimsby: Re-selected Austrian [illegible] 5d to 5½d; selected 5d Danish, 6s 10d to 8s per 120. Helmsley: 15 or 16 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 8s 9d to 9s 3d per 120. Irish, 7s to 7s 6d. Danish 6s 9d to 7s 6d. Austrian blues, 5s 6d to 6s; ditto, reds, 4s 8d to 5s. Leyburn: 13 for 1s. Lincoln: 15 for 1s. Manchester: Eggs are in short supply, and the turn dearer. Otley: 13 to 14 for 1s. Runcorn: 10 for 1s. Stockport: 10 or 12 for 1s. Stratford: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per score. Whitchurch: 13 or 14 for 1s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A good supply of vegetables evidenced a slow demand. Arrivals of potatoes were moderate, but sold slowly. Good supplies of fruit were offered, and met a good demand. Cabbage, 3s 6d to 4s per tally; beetroots, 3s per dozen bunches; cauliflowers, 4s per doz. sprouts, 2s per bushel; parsley, 1s to 2s; leeks, 2s 6d per dozen bunches; peas, 5s to 6s per bushel; broad beans, 3s per bag; horse-radish, 1s to 1s 6d per bundle. Egyptian onions, 4s to 5s per bag. Potatoes:—English white Beauty, 4s 6d to 5s; Beauty of Hebrons, 5s 6d; Snowdrops, 5s 6d; early Regents, 4s 6d per cwt. English grapes, 9d to 2s 6d; Belgian, 6d to 1s 3d per lb; Tasmanian apples, 8s to 10s per case; English cherries, 3s to 7s; French, 4s to 7s per half-sieve; red currants, 2s to 2s 6d per handle basket; black, 4s to 6s per half-sieve; peaches, 3s to 9s per dozen; Valencia oranges, 14s to 20s; Murcia, 12s to 16s; lemons, 8s to 16s per case; pineapples, 1s 6d to 3s 6d each; bananas, 4s 6d to 8s per bunch.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—The arrivals have been moderate at this market, and the demand has been slow, with prices lower for all samples. English Beauty of Hebrons, 3s 6d to 5s; early Rose 3s 6d to 4s 6d; white Hebron, 4s to 5s; early Puritans, 4s to 5s; Snowdrops, 4s to 5s; French rounds 3s 3d to 3s 9d; Dutch ditto, 3s to 3s 3d, ditto Kidneys, 3s to 3s 3d per cwt.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The extreme heat has had variable effect on hop plantations. Where the plant has been well farmed and thoroughly washed it has made good development, and there is a fair show for an average crop. But where vermin have been allowed to remain the foliage is dripping with honeydew, and black blight threatens seriously. There is still some mould to be found in places.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade is very quiet in this market, and no new hops passed the scales this week. There is no alteration in values. The hot weather has been beneficial to all the thoroughly washed and well cultivated plantations, and the earlies are just coming into burr. Where neglected or only casually washed the bine has been so weakened by vermin that it has been unable to bear the great heat, and some pieces look like knocking up altogether.

Worcester, Saturday.—The weather continues favourable for the hops, especially in the best [illegible] grounds. There is still plenty of blight on the plant, but the heavy washing has reduced it a great deal, and the prospects are more favourable. Trade is very quiet, but holders of last year's hops are not disposed to accept lower prices at present.—E. EVANS & Co.

WOOL.

London, Saturday.—Wool, English, per pack of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers £[illegible] to £[illegible]. Kent [illegible] £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers £5 to £6 10s. Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb: Victorian fleece, superior, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; scoured good, [illegible] to [illegible]; scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 5d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d. New South Wales scoured [illegible] 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; South Australian greasy average 6d to 7d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 1d; [illegible] greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; Cape scoured superior, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; [illegible] average [illegible] greasy average, 6½d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 7½d to 7½d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, [illegible] New Zealand fine, 9½d to 10½d; [illegible] 9d to 8½d; ditto coarse, 6d to 7d.

Bradford, Thursday.—Unprecedented [illegible] maintained, and although buyers [illegible] into the market to satisfy immediate requirements, they [illegible] small advance on the [illegible] Tops [illegible] best breds there is a steady [illegible] Noils [illegible] Mohair is a little [illegible] [illegible] pursue a waiting policy.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade is not parti[illegible] but since [illegible] are still quoted at 6d, and lambs' wool at from 4d to 4½d.

Leicester Saturday [illegible] but in the yarn trade [illegible] and there is an [illegible] free sale for fancy and lambs' wool yarns.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Perfect weather for the wheat has brought harvest to our doors while yet July is with us. This seemed impossible a month ago, but the wonderfully high temperature, both by night and by day, for the last four weeks has worked marvels. The lighter sorts have clearly suffered; the wheat has ripened prematurely, and fields show the oddest streaks of colour, the plant going off to a sickly yellow where stinted of moisture, while developing well where the long roots had succeeded in finding humidity in the subsoil. On the heavy land some great crops will be secured. The cutting of wheat, rye, and winter oats will begin from to-day in the Isle of Thanet, in Sussex, and in parts of West Middlesex; while some winter oats and rye are already in sheaf in Essex and Hertford. The barley has come on well in East Anglia, but will be very irregular. Oats have seldom had enough moisture, but they were sown late, and the worst counties have a fortnight before them in which heavy showers may do much to plump out the grain. Straw will be short. Farmers are buying and hiring machinery on an almost unprecedented scale; it is a busy season with the implement sellers. Labour of the purely agricultural sort is very scarce, but with machinery a few skilled men supply the place of many inferior workmen. There is not much dodged or twisted corn this year, and the machines will be able to "go straight ahead" on most farms. The root crops are coming in well, and this includes potatoes. The good rainfall of June laid the foundation for the subsequent rapid growth of vegetation and plant life both above and below the soil. But for this nourishment the tropical heat of July would have been too much for most plants and crops.

Of the French wheat crop we have now two new and important estimates:—

	Qrs.
Le Marche Français	35,065,000
L'Echo Agricole	37,502,000

The mean of these two estimates will be found to be 36,283,500 qrs., and this may fairly be accepted as the yield in France for 1900—pending the Government figures in the autumn. This yield thus compares with previous years:—

	Estimate Official.
1900	36,283,500 qrs.
1899	44,700,000 „
1898	45,060,000 „
1897	30,500,000 „
1896	42,000,000 „
1895	41,120,000 „

The German wheat crop is officially returned slightly over an average, but no exact figures will be available for some months. Austria-Hungary has secured an average, but by no means a bumper wheat yield.

The markets from the 23rd to the 27th were under the influence of the heat wave, and when penny fans are at a premium in Mark Lane business is seldom very brisk. The thunderstorm of Friday broke over the Corn Exchange just as the new market was closing, and the day's trade had been done without thought of a break up of the heat. Saturday maintained a high temperature; it was cool only by comparison with the great heat which had previously ruled. Wheat has not lost ground since Thursday, but on Tuesday and Wednesday was decidedly in buyers' favour. The yield is not so much the question of the hour as the prospect of new crop deliveries a full fortnight earlier than had been looked for even so recently as the end of June. The supply of English wheat of the old crop is now, of course, small, but there is not that complete exhaustion which has marked the fourth week of July in some years. The holders of American spring wheat are firmer at Mark Lane than at the Term Market; there is a "bear" movement at the latter, though it has not gone very far. The trade in American red winter wheat new crop is not much reported as yet, but it exists all the same, and will become of consequence very soon. The increased quantity of Russian wheat afloat is a minor feature of the week.

The following quantities of wheat are now on passage to the United Kingdom:

From California	1,068,000	qrs.
„ Atlantic Ports	230,000	„
„ Argentine	533,000	„
„ Russia	100,000	„
„ Australasia	220,000	„
All other Countries	60,000	„
Total	2,205,000	„
July 23, 1899	2,310,000	„
„ 1898	2,925,000	„
„ 1897	640,000	„
„ 1896	1,470,000	„
„ 1895	3,115,000	„

The large shipments from Argentina would make the present total heavy but for the absence of Roumania, Chilé, and India from the list. These countries, as far as we can recall, have never before this season been simultaneously absent from the list of our sources of prospective wheat supply.

Of flour there are now on passage:—

	Sacks.
American	270,000
Californian	18,000
Hungarian	10,000
All other Countries	10,000
Total	308,000

The imports and supplies of breadstuffs last week were as follows:—

	Qrs.
Foreign wheat	187,000
„ flour	137,000
Total imports	324,000
English wheat	60,000
Total	384,000

The stocks of wheat in granary on July 28 were estimated as follows:—

1900	2,496,000 qrs.
1899	2,158,000 „
1898	972,000 „

France holds in her merchants' granaries 540,000 qrs. of wheat; Germany and the Low Countries, 503,000 qrs.; and Russia, 650,000 qrs. All these quantities are independent of farmers' holdings. America holds 9,870,000 qrs. of wheat, against 7,936,000 qrs. a year ago, and 3,540,000 qrs. two years since.

Of maize there are on passage the following quantities:—

	Qrs.
Flat	475,000
Round	145,000
Yellow	205,000
Total	825,000
A year ago	665,000
Two years ago	610,000

Present expectations are very fairly liberal, but a prospective supply of a million quarters does not depress the maize market in winter, and the present dull state of the trade in Indian corn must be put down to the summer and the hot weather.

The quantity of barley on passage on 28th inst. was:—

	Qrs.
Malting	160,000
Grinding	80,000
Total	240,000
Last year	115,000

The malting is mainly Californian; the feeding is Russian, Roumanian, and Persian.

Of beans 9,500 qrs. are on passage, compared with 22,000 qrs. at this period of last year.

Imports of barley last week were only 29,000 qrs. and small as is this arrival it seems to have been sufficient for current enquiry. Barley prices, though no lower, are certainly no better on the week. The failure of Chili to ship any barley was noted, for July is the period when Chilian new crop shipments should be in evidence.

Imports of maize last week were 287,750 qrs. as a full supply. American shipments continue to dominate the whole position of this trade, but the decline of 1s. on flat corn has been succeeded by a rally of 3d., so that the net alteration of the week is 9d. Oats, with 213,500 qrs. imported, are slow of sale, but value is not altered for either 304lb. or 320lb. sorts.

New English trifolium is on offer at 26s. to 27s. per cwt., and new French at 28s. to 29s. New red clover seed: English is quoted at 60s. to 70s. per cwt.; French, 40s. to 50s. per cwt. English canary-seed is on offer at 33s. to 35s. against 30s. to 32s. for Turkish. That useful appetiser and condiment for stock, fenugreek, is obtainable at 9s. per cwt.

Imports of beans last week were only 3,180 qrs., but sales have been, if anything, smaller, and, at all events, trade has run somewhat in buyers' favour. Peas, with 7,000 qrs. imported, have been a fair trade. English maple and Canadian white are the two sorts in best request.

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICE CHANGES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1899.

	London Whites.		Town Households.	
	s.	d.		s. d.
September 1 (per sack)	26	6	(per sack)	23 6
„ 4 „	26	0	„	23 0
„ 25 „	26	6	„	23 6
October 2 „	27	0	„	24 0
November 20 „	26	6	„	23 6
„ 27 „	26	0	„	23 0
December 11 „	25	6	„	22 6
„ 18 „	26	0	„	23 0
May 14 „	25	6	„	22 6
June 18 „	26	0	„	23 0
„ 20 „	26	6	„	23 6
„ 25 „	28	6	„	25 6
„ 27 „	29	6	„	26 6
July 2 „	29	0	„	26 0
„ 16 „	28	6	„	25 6
„ 23 „	28	0	„	25 0

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was dull but not weak, for there is no excess of spot offers either of foreign or of home produce. English wheat was quoted at about 30s.; the finer sorts of American still exceeded 33s. per quarter, and even common Argentine was not below 29s. Maize was firm at the recent decline. Oats had a quiet sale. All sorts of barley were slow at currencies. Calcutta linseed had buyers at 54s., and good English at 60s. Roumanian rapeseed made 41s. There were buyers of fine Australian white peas at 40s. per quarter, of Odessa beans at 29s., of Mexican at 28s. 9d., of brewing barley from California at 26s. 6d., and of Turkish maize at 21s. 6d. per quarter. Some barley from Gaza made 24s., but scarcely any Outchak or fine Asiatic was obtainable.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

JULY 30, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	31	32
„ Red	„	29	31
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30	37
„ Brewing	„	25	30
„ Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	40
„ Scotch	„	36	38
„ Brown	„	29	32
OATS, English	„	19	23
„ Scotch	„	22	24
„ Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	19
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	25
BEANS, Pigeon	„	43	45
„ Winter	„	30	34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	84
„ Blue (boiling)	„	68	76
„ Dun	„	32	34
„ Maple	„	38	40

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	33/6	—34
American Spring	32/6	—33
„ Winter	31/6	—32/6
Hard Manitoba	32/6	—33
White Canadian	32/6	—32/9
Red „	31/6	—32
Californian	31/6	—32/6
Walla Walla	30/6	—31/6
Australian	30/6	—31/6
New Zealand	29/6	—31/6
Argentine	29/6	—30/6
Danzig	33/6	—34/6
Saxonka	32/6	—33/6
Azima	31/6	—32/6
Ghirka	30/6	—31/6
Persian	28/6	—29/6
MAIZE, per 480lb.:		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Roumanian	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 25
Caucasian	22/6	—23
Argentine	21/6	—22
American	19/9	—20
OATS:		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	16/6	—17
American (320lb.)		
„ White	16/6	—17
„ Mixed	15/3	—16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	— 17
„ (304lb.)	13/6	—15
Libau white (304lb.)	13	—13/9
„ black „	15	—15/3
BEANS, per 480lb.:		
Konigsberg	28	— 29
Egyptian	29	— 30
Smyrna	28	— 29
Barbary	27	— 28
Mexican	28	— 30
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Cyprian	106	—112
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	30	— 31
Indian, White	28	— 30
„ Green	25	— 27
Barbary	26	— 28
LENTILS, per 504 lb.:		
Egyptian	29	— 31
Indian	36	— 38
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	26	— 27
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb.:		
French	28	— 29
Russian	25	— 26
BARLEY:		
Calif. Chev. (448 lb.)	28	— 29
Calif. Brew. (448 lb.)	27	— 28
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 24
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Persian (400 lb.)	17/9	—18
American (400 lb.)	20/3	—21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	34	— 37
Smyrna	33	— 36

OIL SEEDS

LINSEED.	per 416lb. s.	s.
English	57	to 63
Dutch	55	to 59
Argentine	54	to 56
Canadian	58	to 60
Russian	51	to 53
Calcutta	55	to 57
SESAME.	per 424lb.	
Bombay	30	to 32
Kurrachee	53	to 54
COTTON SEED.	per ton.	
Egyptian	126	to 128

RAPESEED.	per 416lb. s.	s.
English	55	to 57
Dutch	52	to 54
French	47	to 48
Cawnpore (yellow)	46	to 47
„ (brown)	43	to 44
Calcutta (brown)	43	to 44
Guzerat	48	to 49
Ferozepore	44	to 45
Ravison	29	to 31
POPPYSEED.	per 377lb.	
Indian	47	to 48

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITHOUT CHANGE. AS NEXT MONDAY WILL BE A HOLIDAY THERE WAS A FAIR RETAIL SALE TO-DAY TO CARRY OVER THE INTERVAL OF FOURTEEN INSTEAD OF SEVEN DAYS.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, JULY 30.

The price of London makes are not much changed from Monday last, but Town Households were occasionally obtainable at 6d. decline. The American patents and bakers' kinds came at varying prices, but, on the whole, were fairly steadily held. Buyers were not numerous. Red Dog, a feeding American flour, was in fair request at about 14s. per sack. Fine Cascadia made 23s. to 24s. per sack, Australian about the same. Odessa flour made 22s. or thereabouts. A few samples of Argentina were to be seen, the price ranges from a guinea upwards. Fine Canadian patent flour was held for 24s. with buyers at 23s. 6d. per sack.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s. s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 30
Town Whites	,,	— 27
,, Households	,,	— 24
No 2.	,,	— 22

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	— 25
Fine Roller made	,,	— 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	— 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	24/6 –25
,, Second Patents	,,	22/6—23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20/6—21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19/6—20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23/6—24
,, Bakers'	,,	20/6—21
Kansas Patents	,,	23/6—24
Oregon	,,	22—22/6
Californian	,,	21—21/6
Hungarian	,,	28 — 31
French	,,	19 — 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	170—172
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	107—109
Bran, London Broad	,,	97—102
,, ,, Fine	,,	76 — 82
,, Country Flake	,,	106—108
,, ,, Broad	,,	94 — 96
Pollard	,,	82 — 84
Fine Middlings	,,	110—112
Coarse Middlings	,,	96 — 98
Oat Meal	,,	212—272
Oat Flour	,,	337—362
Maize Flour	,,	130—132
Maize Meal	,,	112—122
Maize Cones	,,	142—146
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	97 — 99
Pea Meal	,,	128—158
Bean Meal	,,	152—172
Rice Meal	,,	87 — 92

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day at South Sea House, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—	July.	Aug.	Oct.	Dec.
	s. d.	s. d.	s d.	s. d.
July 23 noon	6 5 .. 6	6 .. 6	8 .. 6	9
4 p.m.	6 5 .. 6	6 .. 6	7 .. 6	8
July 24 noon	6 4 .. 6	5 .. 6	7 .. 6	7
4 p.m.	6 4 .. 6	5 .. 6	6 .. 6	8
July 25 noon	6 4 .. 6	5 .. 6	6 .. 6	7
4 p.m.	6 4 .. 6	5 .. 6	6 .. 6	7
July 26 noon	6 4 .. 6	5 .. 6	6 .. 6	7
4 p.m.	— .. 6	5 .. 6	6 .. 6	7
July 27 noon	— .. 6	5 .. 6	6 .. 6	7
4 p.m.	— .. 6	5 .. 6	6 .. 6	7
July 28 noon	— .. 6	5 .. 6	6 .. 6	7
To-day noon	— .. 6	7 .. 6	8 .. 6	9

Maize futures made 4s. 1d. for Sept. and Oct. delivery.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,638 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 10,652 bales bacon. The bacon market was a steady one last week for both Irish and Danish, with an improved demand, but Canadian only went with a very slow trade. Irish ranged from 56s to 58s up to 68s; Danish, from 48s to 59s up to 66s; and Canadian, from 46s to 50s up to 59s. The butter market was firm, with Danish from 102s to 112s; Irish, 94s to 106s; Canadian, 100s to 104s; French, 84s to 108s. Lard a quiet market, with no change in prices.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that business in seeds, as is usual at this season, is just now confined to narrow limits. The new trifolium is of good quality; but prices continue very irregular. Meantime the demand is small. Some thousand-headed kale of this year's growth is now offering, whilst samples of new mustard seed are also showing. There is no change this week in rapeseed. Blue peas and haricot beans move off slowly on former terms.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour.—A dull trade at last Monday's prices.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

There is very little to report about our market. There is a little business doing in trifolium, but no general demand at present. There is no change in clovers of any kind. High prices are asked for new trefoil. Bird seeds are quiet.—JOHN PICARD AND CO., Mark Lane.

The demand for milling offals is firm on a small supply, and prices remain unchanged from last week. Nice rains last Friday have freshened up the grass land and root crop. Harvest is progressing and some little wheat has been cut.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Wheat, moderate arrivals. Red wheat unchanged. White rather dearer. Flour unaltered in value. No change in value of maize, barley, and oats.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Bran and offal markets are firmer, with a disposition to buy forward, specially for best qualities. Weather continues exceptionally warm and favourable for the growing crops.—GREENHILL BROTHERS, Belfast, July 28.

Flour: The market is steady, but most brands are reduced a further 6d. per sack. Grain: Indian corn not being plentiful on spot is firm. Peas are again 3d. down. Beans slow. Foreign oats continue depressed. Oilcake unchanged. Oatmeal dull. Mill stuffs: There is a fair inquiry at unchanged prices.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, July 28.

Wheat firm with a moderate trade at ½d. per cental over last Tuesday's prices. Flour a quiet retail trade at last market day's rates for both foreign and home milled brands. Maize was in very fair request. Mixed American, which had given way in the interim, is stiffer, has recovered the intermediate decline, and is now steady unchanged from last market day. European quiet, but steady. River Plate firm. Barley moves slowly, but is steadily held at late rates. Beans in moderate demand at recent rates. Peas quietly steady, without change in prices. Oats firm for British, but very quiet for American. The demand for both is, however, trifling. Oatmeal quiet, unchanged. Oilcake not in brisk demand on the spot, but recent rates are maintained.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, July 28.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes were a trifle steadier than on Saturday, and there was a better demand for American maize cargoes for August and September shipment. Barley, on the other hand, was weaker, especially for October shipment of Russian. Oat cargoes were very steadily held, both Russian and American.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—No. 2 Red Winter, 29s., September shipment; ditto, 30s., December shipment; No. 1 Northern, 30s, on passage; ditto, 31s, September shipment; New Zealand, 29s 9d, September shipment; Australian 30s 9d, September shipment; Californian, 30s 9d, prompt shipment; Odessa Gherka, 29s 6d, prompt shipment; Azima, fine, 31s 6d, prompt shipment; Argentine, 29s, September shipment; Hard Winter, 28s 9d, August shipment; Hard Duluth, 32s, August shipment.

MAIZE.—American, 18s 9d, August shipment; Odessa, 23s 6d, August shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 18s, August shipment; ditto, 18s, September shipment; ditto, 17s 9d, October shipment; ditto, 17s 6d, November shipment; Novorossisk, 18s 3d, September shipment; Persian, 17s, September shipment.

OATS.—No. 1 Canadian white, 15s. 6d., August shipment; No. 2 Canadian white, 15s. August shipment; Libau, 320lb., 14s. 9d., August shipment; Petersburg, 304lb., 13s. 9d., August shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 53s. 6d., September shipment; Libau, 47s. 6d., November shipment.

RAPESEED.—Roumanian, 39s., October shipment; Ravison, 28s. 9d., October shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Eyptian, £6 6s. 3d, August shipment; ditto, £6, December shipment.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Market steady, prices unchanged. Stocks of American and Russian are very small. Cotton cake as before. Linseed quiet, and 1s lower on the week. Rice meal, 2s 6d dearer.

English linseed cake	£7	17	6	to	8	5	0 ex mill
American Calcutta linseed cake	7	15	0	to	7	17	6 ex quay
American Western linseed cake	7	10	0	to	—		ex quay
Russian oil cake	7	10	0	to	7	12	6 ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 p.c. oil)	None						ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	6	12	6	to	6	15	0 ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6	10	0				ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	4	7	6	to	—		ex mill
Egyptian cottou cake (in bags)	4	5	0	to	4	7	6 ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4	6	0				on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4	7	6		—		ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2	15	0	to	—		ex warehouse

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: The market is now in a quiet state. Attention is fixed on the coming crop, which is improving generally, although mould is threatening in many gardens.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, July 30th, 1900.

	British.	Total, July 31st, 1899
Beasts	1,129	1,129
Sheep and lambs	6,520	6,520
Calves	10	10
Milch cows	70	70

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	3 2	4 4	5 0
Sheep	3 0	5 4	6 0
Lambs	5 6	6 2	6 10

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, —; Eastern Counties, 81; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 977; Devon, 30; Ireland, 32.

The supply to-day in the beast market compared with Monday showed a decrease of 100 head, these chiefly consisting of Herefords and Shorthorns. Trade on the whole was of a firmer and steadier nature, and a clearance is expected; trade for fat cows and bulls was very dull; for the former sales had to be forced at a reduction of 2d per 8lbs. The Irish arrivals were from Dublin, the first this season.

The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	July 31st, 1899
Devons	4s 9d to 4s 10d	4s 8d to 4s 9d
Herefords	4s 10d to 5s 0d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Norfolks	4s 7d to 4s 8d	— —
Runts	4s 9d to 4s 10d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Irish	4s 6d to 4s 8d	— —
Fat cows	3s 8d to 3s 10d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

There was a decrease of 1,680 head in the sheep market, compared with Monday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes was of a brisker nature at a slight advance; lambs being scarcer and with a greater demand sold easily at an advance of 2d per 8lb. The supply consisted of 180 Scotch, 1,450 from the Eastern Counties, and 700 Irish.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned :—

	To-day.	July 31st, 1899.
7½ to 8-stone Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-stone ditto	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10-stone half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
12-stone Lincoln	5s 0d to 5s 2d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10-stone Down ewes	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11-stone half-bred ditto	4s 2d to 4s 4d	3s 8d to 3s 10d
5-stone fat Grass lambs	6s 4d to 6s 6d	6s 0d to 6s 2d
6-stone half-bred ditto	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 8d to 5s 10d

Calf trade not worth noting.

London Central, Monday. — Short supplies; trade very slow. Beef (carcases), 3s 10d to 4s; hindquarters, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; roastings, 4s 8d to 5s. Sheep: Ewe, 3s 8d to 4s; wether, 4s 10d to 5s 2d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wether, 5s 8d to 6s. Pigs: Large, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; small, 3s to 3s 4d.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 285; sheep and lambs, 173; pigs, 265. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s; mutton, 7s to 9s 4d; lamb, 8s to 10s; pork, 5s 6d to 6s 6d. Fat and store cattle fair. Fat and store sheep better trade. Fat and store pigs fair. Milch cows fair show, better trade; prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 1,481. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 544, and consisted of 1,039 from the United States (amongst these being some big Colorado beasts), and 442 Canadian including a few Ranchers. Trade was of a slow nature at a slight advance on Saturday's rates. Besides the above number 428 more were withheld. The best States beasts made 4s 3d, and occasionally 4s 4d per 8lb., offal given in; second quality, 4s; best Canadians, 3s 10d to 4s. Ranchers, 3s 8d. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates: Beasts, 2,200, 3s 8d to 3s 11d per 8lb, to dress about 720lb. Sheep, 1,030, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8lb.

CORK BUTTER.

	Ordinary. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	Mild Cured Firkins. Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	Firkins in Market.
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	89	88	87	77	93	83	—	100
Tuesday ..	91	89	86	—	92	87	—	280
Wednesday ..	90	89	86	—	93	89	—	380
Thursday ..	90	89	88	—	92	—	—	285
Friday ..	90	89	89	—	92	86	—	400
Saturday ..	90	87	82	—	93	86	—	480

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Belfast, July 24, 1900.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.
2	Bullocks (prime) ..	15 12 6	3 3	1 15 5
2	,, ,, ..	15 15 6	3 0 3	1 14 10
1	,, (very good)	14 10 6	3 3 7	1 12 11
1	Heifer (prime)	16 6 6	3 0 7	1 15 4
1	,, ,, ..	16 6 6	3 1 0	1 14 7
1	,, (very good)	14 0 0	2 2 0	1 12 11
2	,, ,, ..	13 2 6	2 2 7	1 12 1

Sheep Killed by Lightning.—During the terrific thunderstorm which broke over the Berkshire downs on Friday afternoon, twenty-seven valuable ewes, belonging to a flock of 500 or 600 at Hodcott Farm, West Ilsley, on the estate of Lord Wantage, were killed by the lightning. The carcases were found lying beneath a large oak tree. The remainder of the flock, which were in the open, escaped unhurt

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The trade at the Islington market on the principal day of the week opened fairly steady, but finished off very dull at a decline of 2d. per 8lb. more, especially for second quality, this being entirely due to a slacker demand, caused by so many families being away from town, this notwithstanding a shorter supply from all parts, there being rather more demand for fat butchering cows; these were firm in price, whilst fat bulls favoured the buyer. Little or no demand for the few rough cattle on sale, owing to so many being seized of late by the veterinary surgeon on account of tuberculosis. As usual at this season of the year, the majority of the fat beasts consisted of Herefords and Shorthorns from the Midland counties. At Deptford markets were held again on three separate days, viz., Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, thus causing great dislocation of trade, which on the latter day was most dull and dragging, a clearance being impossible, even at a reduction of fully 2d. per 8lbs. The total number of beasts offered for sale at both markets was 5,281, consisting of 1,270 British (decrease 50) and 4,011 foreign, these latter comprising 2,671 from the United States (increase 928) and 1,340 from Canada (increase 905). It should be noted that the above numbers of foreign beasts do not include all arrivals, as 1,243 more were on Saturday withheld. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—90-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 100-stone ditto, 4s. 9d.; 95-stone Runts, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 3d. to 4s. 4d.; 100-stone Irish, 4s. 4d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d., 4s. to 4s. 2d. on Saturday; 95-stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 100-stone fat cows, 4s.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d. Though there was a lighter supply of sheep at Islington trade all round ruled dull and dragging, wethers making 2d. per 8lbs. less money, ewes being more difficult to sell even at a reduction of 4d., this being due to the large number at Deptford, where rates also ruled lower to a similar extent to those at Islington. There being a shorter supply of lambs these sold to rather better advantage, especially those of best quality. The total number penned at both markets was 15,982 (increase, 1,952), consisting of 13,320 British (decrease, 170), and 2,662 Canadians (increase, 2,122). Best pens made per 8lbs. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 11-stone Lincolns, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d.; 11-stone half-breds, 3s. 10d.; 5-stone fat grass lambs, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d.; 6-stone half-breds, 5s. 8d.; 8½ to 9 stone Canadian sheep, 3s. 8d. to 4s. The calf trade, with a full average supply, consisting of 150 head, was rather firmer, the best on offer making 5s. 2d. per 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Trade in the West.

The "scorching" weather we are now experiencing is not without its effect on trade, though so far its adverse influence has only affected operations in fat stock, which have been somewhat curtailed during the week, butchers buying only very sparingly, and that, too, of the very best grades, coarse, overfat animals being much neglected, and where sales have been forced at some sacrifice in price. The nicer weights of home-grazed steers and heifers have ruled on the whole very firm at prices showing scarcely any alteration in value, from 11s. to 12s. being still obtainable for the best bullocks, and 10s. 6d. for seconds. Best wether mutton is mostly in demand at 8d. to 8½d. per lb., but coarse, heavy ewes are neglected and difficult to move, except at considerably reduced rates. Anything well finished in the way of Down or crossbred lambs finds a quick sale at 10d. to 11d. per lb., but poorer qualities are far from saleable at 9d. to 9½d. Veal is a quieter sale on lowest terms, and heavyweights in pigs have declined 6d. to 1s. per score, but medium-sized porkers and baconers are still making 9s. to 10s. In store things prices as yet rule firm, milch beasts in particular, the demand for which it is difficult to meet, though prices for the best now rule from £16 10s. to £22. Barreners are also selling pretty freely from £20 to £30 per pair, but should the present brilliant weather, which was broken on Friday by a heavy thunderstorm, continue, there will soon be an outcry for keep, and both barreners and store sheep will be the first to suffer. A good storm or two would, however, speedily put things right, and at the same time ensure a good crop of roots.

Trade in Ireland.

With an average market of both cattle and sheep in Dublin last Thursday, the former might be said to be just a shade better for prime qualities, but very slack for the coarser kinds, while sheep met with a very disappointing sale. Best heifer and ox beef was worth from 57s. 6d. to 61s. per cwt. for extra good lots; second class beef, 52s. to 56s.; and other descriptions from 45s. to 50s. A clearance was effected, but rough cattle had to submit to a reduction of from ½10s. to 20s. per head in the evening. In the mutton department all classes receded fully 2s. per head, with the exception of some prime wethers and extra good lambs for Liverpool and Manchester. Buying for London was particularly slow. Best wether mutton, from 6¼d. to 6¾d.; ewe, 4¾d. to 6d. Good lambs sold well, best making up to 7¼d. per lb. The number of cattle on the market was 2,353, and of sheep 10,262. Milch cows still keep up good prices for best, but ordinary sluggish; store cattle in active demand. Pigs were a rather limited supply, and even in the face of very cautious inquiry late rates were well sustained at from 45s. to 48s. per cwt. for choice pigs, down to 35s. for coarse.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The numbers of fat cattle on offer have been small, though rather larger than last week. There has been a very dear trade throughout, and in most cases the high prices current last week have been exceeded this week. Small numbers of fat cows have also been dear. A large and good supply of fat sheep and lambs, though not so many as last week, have met a good trade, and an easy clearance has been effected at satisfactory prices, only heavy ewes have made less money. Fat calves have been an exceedingly good show and have sold well, while pigs have met a much dearer trade. In the store market there have been light supplies of sheep, and with plenty of inquirers trade has been good, especially for the best descriptions. Store cattle have been a small show, and have met a fairly good demand, and notwithstanding the high prices asked by exposers have nearly all been sold at good prices. A remarkably light supply of milch cows have met a very dear trade.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Trade remained without improvement, supplies being of fair extent. Arrivals of beef included 30 tons Scotch, 320 Liverpool sides, 1,000 hindquarters and 600 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 3s 10d to 4s; American Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d. Mutton: English wethers, 5s; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; English lamb, 5s to 5s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Fair supplies on offer, and trade ruled rather firmer. Beef: Scotch, short sides, 4s 8d to 5s; long, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 10d to 4s; American, refrigerated hindquarters (best), 3s 8d to 4s; seconds, 3s 8d; forequarters (best), 2s 10d; seconds, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s to 5s 4d; English wethers, 5s; ewes, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Canterbury, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; Wellington, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; English lamb, 5s 8d to 6s. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast arrivals were on a moderate scale, and met a quiet demand, the bulk as usual on this day consisting of fat bulls and rough cattle. Sheep supplies were of fair extent, but a slow demand existed for both wethers and ewes, prices marking no appreciable change. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9-stone, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone half-bred, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; and 11-stone half-bred, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. Lamb trade quiet. 5-stone fat Downs, 6s to 6s 2d; 6 stone half-bred, 5s 6d to 5s 8d. Calves, in good supply, met a fair demand, the best making 4s 10d to 5s per 8lb, offal given in.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.— Beef trade steady at late rates. Mutton, 2d to 4d per 8lb cheaper, a clearance not being effected. Veal much cheaper, not much selling at over 4s per stone. Lamb was not in request, and sales took place at 6s to 6s 2d per 8lb. Very little demand for pork, and roasters and large hogs alike sold at about 8s per score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' saleyard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 38 fat beasts, 103 calves, 602 fat sheep and lambs, 134 pigs, and 95 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £14 to £23; fat calves, 7os to 95s; small, 20s to 45s; fat wethers, 36s to 52s 6d; fat ewes, 32s to 48s; fat lambs, 26s to 44s; fat porkers, 26s to 45s; store pigs, 9s to 17s 6d; dairy cows, £9 to £22 5s. Notwithstanding the extreme heat fat beasts met a good inquiry, the biddings were well kept up, and every lot sold, Shorthorn steers making £21 15s; heifers, £17 10s; cows, £18; and bulls up to £18 10s; prime Devon oxen reached £23, and cows, £18; polled steers up to £20 5s, etc., etc. The trade for heavy and over-fed fat sheep and big lambs was further depressed to-day by the drought and extreme heat, which both lessens consumption and makes the butchers' business a very difficult one. Prime quality small sheep and choice sucking lambs are still cleared without difficulty at full prices. Best quality Hampshire Down wethers and ewes made 48s, 51s, 52s 6d, 44s 6d, 46s, 44s, 46s, 50s 6d; 17-months old ditto, 47s, 46s 6d, 45s 6d, 42s; 7-months old lambs, 40s 6d, 43s 6d, 30s, 40s 6d, 36s, 30s 6d, 35s, 25s, 26s, 37s, 41s, 40s, 37s; 3-months old sucking lambs, 25s 6d, 30s, 32s; Scotch ditto, 14s 6d; old ewes, 32s, 37s 6d, 35s 6d; rams, 44s, 46s, 55s, 40s; black face Scotch wethers, 39s, 28s; Cheviot wethers, 35s 6d. A clearance made with the exception of one or two consignments. There was a good demand for milch cows, with a clearance at satisfactory prices to the vendors. Store cattle are much cheaper. Fat porkers met a better trade than last week. Store pigs also sold well. Fat calves met a dull trade at last week's prices. Ruling values:—Prime Devon and polled beasts, 7d to 7¼d; ditto shorthorn, 6¾d to 7d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5½d to 6d per lb. Best quality sheep and big lambs, 8½d to 9d; second ditto, 7¾d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 5½d to 6¾d; 3-months old sucking lambs, 9d to 9¼d per lb. Fat porkers up to 9s 6d per score. Fat calves, 6d to 8d per lb.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 203; sheep, 991; pigs, 326; horses, 13. Beef, 6s 9d to 7s 9d per stone; mutton, 4s 2d to 5s 6d; pork, 5s 3d to 6s 3d. Very few store beasts and trade slow. Fat beasts, a good number to hand, prices lower. Fat sheep, a little better trade. Stores, some very good lots shown and trade slow. Fat pigs, not so many to hand; prices unchanged. Stores, a good trade all round.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under..	9s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	9s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	8s 6d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Supplies were very limited, but there was not much demand. Prices in consequence continued at their recent levels, ewes selling at from 25s to 32s, and lambs making up to about 20s apiece for the best.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Smaller show of Irish store cattle, between 200 and 300 heifers being offered on The Sands. Fair attendance of buyers, and trade steady at £5 5s to £8 10s for the smaller beasts, up to £16 10s for the best specimens. Pigs a small show; slow sale, at 21s to 25s.

Chichester, Wednesday.— Smaller supply of fat stock, with a slow trade at rather lower prices. Large supply of store sheep, but here again business ruled dull without improvement in values.

Dorchester, Saturday.— A good all-round supply, especially of fat stock. Trade was dull, except for the best descriptions. Heifers and calves sold well at £16 to £20; cows and calves, £11 to £15; barreners, £9 to £14 10s; fat cows, £14 to £17; store bulls, £9 to £15. Mutton in fair demand; ewes, 36s to 46s; wethers, 42s to 49s; lambs, 28s to 33s.

Dublin, Thursday.—Quieter trade all round for cattle. Prime qualities scarcely maintained last week's rates; thinly meated and inferior descriptions considerably lower in price and difficult to clear. Sheep rather a dragging trade at prices favouring buyers. Lambs easier sold at a slight advance for best qualities. Cattle (best), 32s to 35s per cwt; others, 27s to 31s per cwt. Mutton, 5½d to 7d per lb. Lambs, 18s to 36s each.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Large supply of stock, and good attendance of buyers. Best bullocks, to 39s 6d per live cwt; horned bullocks, to £19; ditto heifer, to £16; polled bullocks, to £13; ditto heifers, to £19; Galloway bullocks, to £15; Highland bullocks, to £16; Ayrshire cows, to £13. Large supply of sheep, which sold at late rates.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Large supplies of both cattle and sheep. Cheviot hogs, to 38s; greyfaces, 30s to 38s; best horned bullocks, £11 11s to £15 15s; stirks, £7 to £9. Large show of milch cows, but slow sale; best shorthorns, £22 to £24 10s; secondaries, £19 to £20; Ayrshires, to £18, and down to £14 10s.

Gisburn, Wednesday.—Moderate number of cattle, principally English bred, with an average turnover in business at about unaltered prices. Lambs, 24s to 28s 6d; Scotch sheep, 23s to 26s; beef, 7s to 8s per stone.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies small. Trade better. Prices firmer. Top Scotch cattle, 72s; secondary, 64s to 66s; top Irish, 64s per cwt. Top mutton, 9d to 9¼d; secondary, 8d to 8½d; lamb, 8d to 9d per lb. Dead meat slow; values keeping well up, as supplies are short; best States cattle, 6d to 6½d; best cows, 5½d to 7¾d, and 8d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 330, calves 100, sheep 1,696, lambs 1,172, pigs (fat and sows) 6, sucking pigs 4, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 143, pigs (stores, more than ten) 75, horses 4, colts 1. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6¾d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 9½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robt. Bond and Sons report a good supply of cattle, which included a considerable proportion of medium weights. Distant and local buyers were well represented and all the best descriptions sold freely at last week's rates, but secondary sorts realised less money, the best animals making up to £23. Fat lambs were not so numerous and only the best maintained recent values. Fat sheep were fairly represented and prices ruled slightly in favour of buyers. In the store sheep department there was a large entry of lambs and ewes, over a thousand being penned; trade was very slow, and prices appear to go from bad to worse, but nevertheless breeders had made up their minds to sell and in consequence nearly every lot was disposed of, the best lambs making up to 28s 9d. A large entry of calves, which sold at lower prices. Weaning calves made up to 48s, those for killing £3 17s 6d. Fat swine were well represented, but few stores were on offer; prices ruled lower all round. Several cows were on offer and sold well up to £19. Numbers at sales and market:—Horses, 29; beasts, 482; sheep, 4,035; swine, 885; calves, 73.

Leicester, Saturday.—Smaller supplies of stock in good condition. Milch cows in good demand, but bullocks neglected at lower prices. Milch cows made £17 to £23 per head; bullocks, £10 to £13. Calves a very slow trade.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small show all round. A milch cow made £22, but the ruling figure was from £15 to £20 each. Other classes of beasts made late rates.

Newcastle, Tuesday.— Large supplies, prices drooping. Numbers:—Cattle, 122; sheep and lambs, 9,129; calves, 93; pigs, 500. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s 6d to 8s 10½d per stone; pork, 5s to 7s 9d per stone; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d; lamb, 8½d to 9d; veal, 5d to 8d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—The show of store beasts here to-day was moderate; trade was quiet at late rates. The supply of fat beasts was larger than for some time past; trade was dull at 7s 6d to 8s 2d and 8s 3d per 14lb. The supply of store sheep showed some falling off; business was quiet at about former terms, lambs making 16s to 34s, and keeping shearlings 36s to 45s per head. Fat sheep, which were in moderate supply, were dull at 5s 6d to 6s per 14lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—There was about an average supply of fat beasts, and trade was very bad. Best animals made 4s 6d to 4s 8d, and middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves were in average supply, and sold at 4s 8d to 5s per stone. Sheep were in short supply, and trade was slow. Best sheep made 5s 4d to 5s 6d, and middlings 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Lambs were in short supply, and trade was a little better at 6s to 6s 4d per stone. There were no store beasts on offer. The pig trade was bad.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was an increase in the number of cattle on offer. Trade ruled slow, and prices were in favour of the buyer. The supply of sheep and lambs was smaller, the bulk of the decrease being in lambs. There was a better trade for both at last week's full prices. A smaller supply of calves, and a fair demand at about last market day's prices. Quotations: Cattle, 5d to 7½d; sheep, 6¾d to 9d; lambs, 8d to 9d; calves, 5d to 7d per lb. At market—Cattle, 1,634; sheep and lambs, 16,338; calves, 145; pigs, 48.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The supply of milch beasts was small, but there was a fair demand. The best lots made from £17 to £21; others, £13 to £16.

Shrewsbury Tuesday.—Store sheep better. Cows with calves good. Store cattle slow. Pigs and beef fair. Small supply all round. Quotations—Lamb, 7d to 9½d; beef, 6½d to 7½d; mutton, 6d to 8½d; and veal, 8d to 9d per lb. Porket pigs, 8s 6d to 10s, and baconers, 8s to 9s per score. Cows, with calves, up to £21 15s. Numbers offered—141 cattle, 48 cows, with calves, 1,780 sheep and lambs, 115 calves, 19 fat, 82 porket, and 242 store pigs, 27 horses.

Spalding, Tuesday.— There was a good show of both beasts and sheep, but trade in both departments was affected by the weather. Beef, 7s to 7s 6d, being 6d per stone less money. Sheep were difficult to sell, and the price for mutton dropped to 7½d per lb, for the best sorts.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 186 cattle, 4

calves, 255 sheep, and 233 lambs. The market was quiet throughout. A small show of best cattle made 8s 6d; rougher kinds, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; calves, 6d to 8d; young sheep, 8½d; lambs, 8¾d to 9½d; ewes, 7d; tups, 5d to 6d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Small supply, moderate attendance, and slow trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a large supply of stock at market, but the intense heat had a depressing effect upon trade, which was in buyers' favour as compared with the last few weeks. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 94 fat beasts, 59 fat and weaning calves, 358 fat sheep and lambs and stores, and 59 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £17 to £20; fat heifers £16 to £21 5s; fat wethers, 45s to 50s; fat ewes, 33s to 48s; fat lambs, 31s to 40s; store lambs, 25s to 27s 6d. Fat pigs, 9s 6d per score. Stores made late prices.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Trade slow for both beef and mutton, butchers indisposed to buy heavily. Best beef made 7d per lb and other kinds 5d to 6½d. Best small sheep made up to 8¼d; large sheep, 7d to 7¼d. Ewes and tups, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 8d to 8¾d per lb. Numbers penned:—Fat beasts, 1,381; sheep, 4,592.

Wakefield. Wednesday.—The continuance of tropical weather caused trade to rule very dull, more particularly for beef, butchers chiefly operating in lamb, small mutton, and veal. To supply the limited wants of buyers, of whom there was not an average attendance, there were 1,381 fat beasts, against 1,411 and 1,405 at the two preceding markets, and 4,592 sheep and lambs, against 4,762 and 4,914. Choice beef was scarce, but other qualities were freely offered. Heifers and prime bullocks 7d per lb., good useful beef 6½d to 6¾d, and inferior lots 5d to 6d. Lambs met with a fa rly good inquiry at 8½d to 9d, choice small sheep moved off steadily at 8d to 8¼d, good strong sheep 7d to 7½d, and ewes, tups, and heavy and fat sheep were nearly unsaleable at 6¼d to 6¾d per lb. A fair supply of fat calves at 5½d to 7¾d per lb, breeding calves 20s to 25s each. Milch cows were freely offered, and met with a seasonable demand at prices ranging from £16 to £23 each.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Large supply, with very slow trade all round. Beef, 6½d to 7¼d per lb; mutton, 7d to 8¼d per lb; veal, 6¼d to 7½d per lb; lamb, 7d to 8¼d per lb. Bacon pigs, 9s 6d per score; porkets, 9s 6d to 10s per score; sows, 7s per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Market well supplied, but the hot weather checks trade. Beef sold slowly at late rates. Mutton quiet and unaltered. Both fat and rearing calves sold at improved prices. Beef, 7d to 8d; inferior, 5d to 7d. Wether mutton, 7d to 8d; ewes, 5d to 6d; and calves, 7d to 8d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair show of beasts, and large show of sheep, the former selling at fully late rates, while sheep were down in price. Best beef, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per stone; shearling mutton, 7d to 8d; ewes, 5d to 6d per lb.

York, Thursday.—Beef, 7s 6d to 8s per stone; mutton, 7d to 8d per lb. Very small number of stock, both English and Irish store cattle being scarce; but as there was a very moderate attendance the supply was equal to the demand. Most business was done in three-year-old bullocks, which made up to £15.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—A sale of Canadian cattle was held in the afternoon, when there were penned in the lairages 427 cattle landed by the Brazilian (s), from Montreal. Bullocks, as regards quality, were fully up to the average, many of them being prime beasts in a well-finished condition. Bulls were fully up to the usual standard, and showed well. There was a large attendance of local buyers and a number from the surrounding districts. The dead-weight quotations were rather higher than those ruling last week, and may be given as follows:—Best bullocks, 65s per cwt; and for really choice up to 68s; secondary and heavier or rougher animals, 63s; best bulls, 56s; and secondary, 54s.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: There is a very small quantity of foreign on offer, but sufficient to meet the demand, which continues extremely limited. At the same time the market remains firm at last Monday's prices for Russians, Americans, and Calcutta. London made move slowly, but are fully as dear. Cotton Cakes.—Stocks of Egyptian are light, but a steamer parcel nearly due offers on slightly easier terms, while for November-April shipment sellers ask last week's prices. London are unaltered. Decorticated cake and meal sell steadily and are unchanged, but there are sellers of September-December meal at 5s per ton less money. Rape cakes neglected. Maize germ meal is still scarce on spot and needy buyers have to pay an advance of 1s 3d for American, but some business has been done at a reduction of 5s for July-August despatch. Rice meal is again dearer, 2s 6d per ton more money having been paid for July-August shipment.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made .....per ton ex mill	7 17 6	to	8 0 0
American in bags .....ex dock	7 7 6	„	7 10 0
Russian in mats..... „	7 10 0	„	7 11 3
Russian in bags..... „	7 12 6	„	7 15 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made..... ex mill	4 5 0	„	4 7 6
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 3 9	„	4 5 0
„ „ Nov.-April shipment	4 8 9	„	4 10 0
Decorticated ..... „	6 12 6	„	6 15 0
Meal, on spot	—	„	6 10 0
„ June-July	—	„	6 5 0
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 5 0	„	—
Ravison..... „	4 0 0	„	—
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American)..... ex dock	—	„	5 0 0
Germ meal (American)..... c.i.f.	4 15 0	„	—
„ „ (English) ..... ex mill	4 17 6	„	5 0 0
MANURES.			
Nitrate of soda .....ex dock	—	„	3 0 0
Bone compound.....per ton on rails	2 17 6	„	—
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon .....ex warehouse	—	„	4 7 6
Rangoon, July-August	—	„	4 3 9

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—The market has been quiet and prices rather easier. Calcutta, spot, London, is quoted 54s 6d, passage 54s 6d to 55s, according to position, July-August, 53s 6d; August-September, 53s 3d; September-October, 53s. Hull.—Linseed continues neglected, spot and passage, Calcutta, 55s 6d. Duluth, September-November 48s 6d. Azov, Black Sea, September-October 49s, accepted by re-sellers. To the Continent, Bombay is quoted March-May 47s 9d. Calcutta to Hamburg, July-August, 55s; August-September, 54s 9d. Linseed oil.—The demand has fallen off, causing prices to decline considerably. We quote spot, pipes, £33 5s; barrels, £33 10s; August, £32 15s to £33; September-December, £29 15s to £29 17s 6d; January-April, £27. Hull spot, naked, month, £33 10s; August, £32; September-December, £28 10s; January-April, £26. Linseed cakes continue firm. London made £7 17s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Russian, £7 7s 6d to £7 12s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £7 5s to £7 12s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet and unchanged. London made £4 5s to £4 7s 6d. Rapeseed continues neglected.—To the Continent brown Calcutta afloat to Hamburgh has been sold at 40s. Yellow Cawnpore, July-August, is held for 44s. Brown Cawnpore, 42s. Danubian market, July-August, 38s 9d. Ravison to Hull September-October, 28s 6d. Cottonseed.—Firm in Alexandria, but very slow here, passage London, £6 8s 9d sellers; July, £6 8s 9d; August, £6 8s 9d; November-January, £6 2s 6d. Hull quiet, Spot, we quote £6 5s; August, £6 6s 3d; October £6 7s 6d nearest value, November-January, £6 1s 3d. Cargoes, October, £6 12s 6d. November, £6 10s.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed.—The arrivals are 4,619 qrs from Petersburg. The market has been quiet throughout the week. Calcutta, arrived, offering at 55s 6d, without buyers. Black Sea quoted at 49s 3d, 49s would buy if bid. Petersburg, quite nominal, 52s asked July-August, 51s September-October. Riga, Libau, and Konigsberg on re sale at 47s 6d. American Duluth, 48s 9d nearest. River Plate, nothing offering. Cottonseed.—The market has been firm during the week, but the amount of business passing very insignificant. Small lots on spot and this month's shipment sold at £6 3s 9d to £6 5s, and August made £6 5s to £6 6s 3d. A few sales, November-January, transpired at £5 18s 9d to £6 1s 3d, with sellers to-day at latter price, and occasional buyers at £6. Oils.—Export for the week ending July 17th, 1900.—Linseed oil: 36 Germany, 10 Sweden; total, 76 tons. Cotton oil: 14 Belgium, 35 Denmark, 7 France, 115 Germany, 45 Holland, 21 Norway, 2 Sweden; total, 239 tons. The market is: Linseed oil: 33s 3d spot, 33s month, 28s 6d September-December, 25s 9d January-April. Cotton oil: 22s 6d spot, 18s 7½d November-April. Rape oil: Black Sea naked, 26s spot, first quality naked, 27s spot. Oil seed cakes.—A very quiet demand at previous rates. Hemp.—Very firm.—KEIGHLEY MANSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 17s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 15s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 7s 6d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Short supplies of hay and straw were received, and a fair business was done, prices being steady. Best clover, 85s to 100s; inferior ditto, 80s to 85s; specially picked hay, 90s; good ditto, 80s to 95s; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 87s 6d; and straw, 25s to 30s per load.

Cumberland. Saturday.—Best selected hay, 80s to 90s; good ditto, 75s to 80s; inferior ditto, 50s to 75s; prime clover, 85s to 97s 6d; good ditto, 70s to 85s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; best mixture, 84s to 90s; straw, 30s to 36s per load.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—Owing to the stock of old clover being exhausted and the new crop not being yet ready for shipment, there is nothing practically passing in this article, and prices are consequently merely nominal. Hay has been arriving rather more freely, and commands full prices. Straw in good demand. We quote Canadian timothy and clover mixture, 82s 6d to 85s; Dutch and French clover, 82s 6d to 85s (nominal); good Dutch hay, 67s 6d; common Dutch, 60s; large bale French wheat straw, 48s; small ditto, 44s 6d; small bale oat straw, 43s. All these prices are per ton delivered by barge alongside.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10, Great Tower Street, E.C.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—The customary quietude prevails in the market for fertilizers and feeding stuffs, and the following are the current values:—Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £8 2s 6d to £8 7s 6d per ton; East India bone meal, in bags, £4 5s per ton; kainit, prime, 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, fair to prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 15s per ton; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 to £8 5s per ton; linseed cake, foreign round, prime, in bags, £8 per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, in bags, £6 10s to £6 15s per ton; cottonseed cake, English, decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £6 18s 9d to £7 per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d per ton; cottonseed (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £6 15s per ton; maize germ meal, English, prime, in bags £5 2s 6d to £5 5s per ton; rice meal Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 5s to £4 8s 9d per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 11s 3d to 11s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 19s 6d to £3 per qr 416lb; N.A. cloverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, nominal; D.N.S. brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, nominal; ditto, ditto, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, nominal; ditto, ditto, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol. in bags, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; ditto, ditto, guaranteed 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; ditto, finest quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

THE BALTIC.

The hot weather has made it difficult to place arrived cargoes, but the following sales have occurred:—Californian wheat at 30s. 3d., Argentine wheat at 28s., Persian barley at 17s. 3d., Libau 320lb. oats at 14s. 6d., and 304lb. at 13s. 3d. With respect to cargoes actually afloat the following prices rule:—

ON PASSAGE.	To-day. s. d.		A Year Ago. s. d.
Australian wheat	31 0	.....	29 0
Californian „	30 6	.....	29 6
Argentine „	28 0	.....	26 9
No. 1 Northern wheat.....	30 6	.....	28 0
American maize.....	18 9	.....	16 6
Argentine „	19 9	.....	17 0
Russian „	22 6	.....	19 6
„ barley	20 0	.....	18 0
Persian „	17 6	.....	17 0

As all nine articles show a rise on the twelve-month, the floating cargo trade may be held to be in a fairly healthy position.

Sales for future shipment have been as follows:—Wheat: Californian, 30s. 9d.; Australian, 30s. 9d.; New Zealand, 30s.; No. 2 Red Winter, 29s. 6d.; No. 1 Northern, 30s. 3d.; Argentine, 27s. 9d.; and Odessa Ghirka, 29s. 6d. per qr. Maize: Argentine, 20s. 6d.; American, 18s. 9d.; and Roumanian, 22s. per qr. Barley: Azoff, 18s. 6d.; Persian, 17s. and Californian brewing, 26s. per qr. Beans: Saida, 30s.; Smyrna, 28s. 3d.; and Morocco, 26s. 6d. per qr. Peas: Canadian white, 27s. 9d.; and Wisconsin, 46s. per qr.

Cargoes of oilseeds are not much in favour, but fairly high prices rule current. Calcutta linseed has made 54s. arrived. Ravison rapeseed, 29s. for September shipment. For the new Egyptian crop of cottonseed, Nov. shipment, £6 per ton is now accepted.

Of linseed 140,000qrs., of rapeseed 5,000qrs., and of cotton-seed 17,000 tons are on passage. A year ago 129,000qrs. of linseed, 5,500 qrs. of rapeseed and 4,000 tons of cotton seed were afloat.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports of call for the week were 7 wheat, 1 Buenos Ayres, 1 Colastine, 1 Concepcion del Uruguay, 2 Rosario, 1 San Francisco, 1 Santa Fé); total, 7.

The sailings of grain and seed laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 7 wheat (1 Brightlingsea, 1 Cork, 1 Emden, 1 Galway, 1 Hull, 1 Limerick, 1 Montrose); total, 7.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been 205 wheat, 13 wheat and barley, 6 flour, 8 maize, 1 maize and oats, 21 barley, 14 beans, 7 locust beans, 1 linseed, 2 canary-seed, 5 valonea; total, 283.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 176 wheat, 8 flour, 3 maize, 6 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 6 beans, 1 locust beans, 4 linseed, 4 canary-seed, and 7 valonea; total, 217.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Sheep Scab.

Sir,—At the recent meeting of the Herefordshire County Council, I carried, with great unanimity, the following resolution: "That as hitherto the efforts for rendering the flocks of the United Kingdom free from sheep scab have proved futile, this Council earnestly prays that the Board of Agriculture will enforce such regulations that the flocks of the country may be rendered free from the disease which has for so many years inflicted such serious losses upon the owners of sheep throughout the kingdom."

The necessity of rendering the flocks on the mountains and common lands of the country free appears to have been felt so far back as the thirty-eighth year of the reign of George III., when an Act was passed enabling the local authorities of the country to impose a heavy fine upon any one who may turn sheep with the disease upon these lands.

But it does not appear to have been enforced, and they are become the established nurseries of the disease. Mr. Chaplin, when President of the Board of Agriculture, obtained power to prohibit the importation of sheep from foreign countries that sent us large numbers of sheep with the disease, but, unfortunately, he did not put in force any regulations for rendering the home flocks free. Powers were since given to local authorities to prohibit sheep being admitted from the area of other local authorities without being dipped in some well-known composition for killing the acari. Under that arrangement, a great interference with the trade of the country took place, and much heartburning was the result. It was then thought an extensive area could be formed with this object in view, and the counties of Denbigh, Flint, Montgomery, Radnor, Salop, Worcester, and Hereford united. That arrangement acts fairly satisfactory for the counties entirely within the area, but seriously interferes with the trade in the surrounding markets. In fact, it is a piece of patchwork legislation that cannot be approved of in a free country, and reflects upon the intelligence of the age in which we live.

The Chief Constables have to make a return of the disease in each county, which must be furnished to them by the owners of the sheep. The following appears as the returns of the month ending September 30th, 1899: Denbigh, two cases; Hereford, no case; Montgomery, ditto; Radnor, ditto; Salop, one case; Worcester, no case; Flint, no return, but four cases admitted. The returns for January 8th, 1900: Denbigh, twenty-three cases; Flint, ten; Hereford, nine; Montgomery, twenty-six; Radnor, ten; Salop, twenty-five; Worcester, six. This shows how little reliance can be placed upon the returns after upwards of 100 years of legislation, and strikingly contrasts with the result of some six years' legislation in the Australasian colonies, which were rendered free in that period, with their almost boundless areas of unenclosed lands and enormous flocks of sheep.

Some years ago, when writing on the subject, I suggested the construction of swimming-baths at convenient intervals. That the sheep on common lands should be assembled and placed to pass through a swimming-bath, that some arrangement be used to tie the water, so that any not dipped may be readily noticed in order to ensure all being done. I again throw that out as a practical suggestion for the local authorities in the district where so much of the evil exists.

Although all good flockmasters regularly dip their sheep once, if not twice, every year, for which they are well remunerated by the well-doing of the sheep in both meat and wool, yet I know [illegible] reasons against imposing on ordinary flocks which would need such regulations which would not apply to the sheep on the [illegible]

Holme, Hereford, July 26th. T. DUCKHAM.

The June number of the "Agricultural Gazette of New South Wales," which is issued by the direction of the Hon. J. L. Fegan, M.P., Secretary for Mines and Agriculture, contains its usual large amount of interesting and useful matter pertaining to the agriculture of New South Wales, and there are several fine illustrations.

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Shorthorn Aldsworth Jewel, page 155, is the property of, and was bred by, Messrs. R. and W. T. Garne, Aldsworth, Northleach, R.S.O., Glos. She was born on January 24, 1898, her sire being Now or Never 67544, and her dam Rosedale Jewel, by Martinet 59455. At the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society's Show at Oxford in May she won first prize in her class, and the champion prize for the best cow or heifer eligible for entry in Coates's Herd Book, whilst at the Bath and West Show at Bath she again won first in her class, but at the Royal Show at York she was only reserve and highly commended. At the Gloucestershire Show last week she, however, came into second position.

The Hackney stallion Rodasor, page 152, is a three-year-old chestnut by Rosador 4964 out of Garton Primrose 7905, by Garton Denmark 3618, and is the property of Mr. George Wilson, Cedar House, Garton, Driffield, York, his breeders being Mr. G. Wilson and Mr. E. T. Barber, Haverfield, Patrington, Hull. At the Hackney Horse Society's Show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, in March last, Rodasor won first prize in the class for three-year-old stallions not exceeding 15.1 hands; whilst at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at York he won first prize in his class and was reserve for the Hackney Horse Society's champion gold medal for the best Hackney stallion.

As will be seen from a report on another page, Mr. Henry Dudding, Riby Grove, Great Grimsby, last week again obtained the fine sum of 1,000gs. for one of his shearling rams. This ram of which we give a portrait on page 149 was born on February 23rd, and at the Royal Show at York was awarded the first prize in its class, and also the Lincoln Long-wool Sheep Breeders' Association's champion prize for the best Lincoln ram.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

In connection with the forthcoming show of the Warwickshire Agricultural Society at Coventry, for which £1,200 is offered in prizes, I beg to remind intending exhibitors that the entries close on August 4th, and with double fees August 7th.

The eleventh annual show of the Oxted and Godstone Agricultural Association takes place on Monday next, in the Recreation Ground, Oxted. Handsome class prizes and also several silver medals are offered for hunters, Hackneys, and Shire horses, and also liberal prizes for all kinds of live stock and other farm and garden produce. There will be driving competitions, jumping trials of hunters, and the band of 1st V.B. the Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment will provide pleasant music throughout the day. The London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway Company have arranged for several cheap excursions from various surrounding towns, and also one from Victoria.

Mr. J. J. Cridlan, of Maisemore Park, Gloucester, has favoured me with a copy of a private herd book of his well-known herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle. I see that at the present time he has four stock bulls, nine bull calves, a little over twenty-five cows, four two-year-old heifers, eight yearlings and ten heifer calves. This herd, I may mention, can be seen at any time by appointment. The farm is situated in the rich valley of the Severn, about two miles from the Gloucester railway station.

I beg to call attention to the fact that to-morrow (Tuesday) is the date of the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society's annual show of horses, cattle, sheep, dairy produce, etc., which will be held in Mr. H. Coy's paddock at New Barns, Ely. From the copy of the programme I have had sent me, I see there will be jumping competitions for both ladies and gentlemen riders, also butter-making competitions, lectures, and demonstrations, etc. It will thus be seen that there are plenty of attractions for visitors, and if the weather is favourable, there will undoubtedly be a big attendance.

It is exceedingly difficult (says the *Standard*) to make foreigners understand the necessity of the most stringent regulations for preventing the importation to this country of even a single animal affected with a contagious or infectious disease. Their own interest warps their judgment, and they think that we should strain a point to promote their advantage. For example, there are many persons in Argentina who plead that, as foot-and-mouth disease is nearly extinct, or said to be so, in the province of Buenos Ayres, cattle and sheep from that province should be allowed to land in England. But, apart from the fact that the disease must be entirely stamped out in a tract of country before it is a safe source of imported live stock, it would be the height of culpable recklessness on the part of our authorities to import from one province of Argentina while the disease was rife in adjoining ones. The former might be free from disease to-day, and subject to several outbreaks to-morrow, and infected animals might be shipped before their infection was known.

Dr. Otto Voges, Chief of the Argentine Bacteriological Department, on being interviewed upon the subject by a representative of the *Buenos Ayres Standard*, declared that it was unreasonable on the part of the British Government to keep our ports closed against Argentine animals. He calculates that the country is losing two million paper dollars a month through the exclusion, counting only the difference between the receipts for meat and the amount that the animals alive would realise in British markets. He suggests that a competent commission of veterinary surgeons should be appointed in Argentina, or sent there, to see that only sound animals are shipped; but we learned long ago that to trust to inspection, in a disease spread by mediate infection, is to lean on a broken reed. He urges, further, that we ought to be anxious to get cheap meat for our working classes; but, as a matter of fact, we get cheaper meat by obtaining it in carcase form than by importing animals alive.

This, however, is a side issue, and the main point to consider (adds the *Standard*) is sanitary safety. We should lose ten times as much by allowing foot-and-mouth disease to obtain a foothold in this country as we miss through excluding Argentine live stock, and Dr. Voges may feel assured that we shall not open our ports to those animals until the whole of Argentina is entirely free from the disease.

A French dairyman has recently stated that he can increase the yield of milk per cow to the extent of 25 per cent. by giving the animal daily a bucket of warm water in which is mixed a pint of salt. Anyone might make a trial without disadvantage. But the question of quality arises. Will the milk be less rich per cent. in butter-fat? An up-to-date dairyman might try the salt and warm water, and then test the milk. Afterwards, let me know the result.

Mr. Cary Cole, of Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury, has this year only exhibited a few pens of his well-known Hampshire Down sheep at the Wilts County, Royal Counties, and Royal Shows, and at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair, but the sheep shown have very fully sustained the good reputation of this choice flock, seven prizes for lambs and three for older rams, besides reserves, h.c.'s, etc., having been won, amongst them first for old rams at Winchester, first and reserve champion for best Hampshire Down ram at York, first prize and twenty-five guinea challenge cup for best pen of Hampshire Down ram lambs at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair on the 16th inst. The Salisbury challenge cup is looked on by Hampshire breeders as one of the most valued prizes in consequence of pens of eight lambs being shown, and there being several of the leading flocks near Salisbury, it provides a very severe test of the average quality of the ram lambs just previous to the sales.

This year the Royal, Bath and West, and Royal Counties prize winner, entering with a pen from one of the best flocks beyond London, made the competition very keen. The judges being so quickly unanimous as to the winners of the challenge cup proved the excellence of the exhibit from Winterbourne Stoke. This flock is very popular with exporters, and since the Royal Show five consignments have been sold for the United States and South America, amongst them being twenty shearling rams, many of which Mr. Coles has repurchased from his clients at his 1899 sale. There is no doubt that the sheep to be offered on Friday, August 3rd, will prove the auctioneer's remarks on the sale catalogues, "that they will comprise the best selection ever placed before the public by Mr. Coles," and intending purchasers of first-class sheep should be well repaid by attending this sale.

That Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., the well-known live stock exporters of Shrewsbury, have been busy in their particular line of business during the month of July is fully borne out by the fact that from the 14th to 24th inst. they shipped stock to Canada, the United States, the Argentine, and Australia which they insured to over £10,680, the following being a brief summary of their shipments during that period:—

On Saturday, July 14th, the ss. "Lakonia" (Donaldson Bros.) sailed from Glasgow with 56 cattle and 223 sheep on board, bound for Quebec. The cattle were all Scotch Shorthorns, while the sheep comprised 123 Shropshires, 10 Oxfords, 41 Cotswolds, 32 Hampshires, and 17 Lincolns, the whole making one of the largest shipments which has left these shores. Nine of the Cotswolds were on account of Mr. McGillivray, and the remaining 214 sheep and 56 cattle were for Mr. Robert Miller, of Canada, who personally accompanied the stock.

The ss. "Lycia" (Elder Dempster Line) sailed on Thursday, July 19th, having on board 106 sheep, all Shropshires, which were purchased on acount of W. C. Edwards, Esq., M.P. The ss. "Lycia" was also bound for Quebec.

New York was the port for which the ss. "Bovic" (White Star Line) was bound, that ship sailing from Liverpool on Friday, July 20th, with 109 sheep—Shropshires, Hampshires, Oxfords, and Cotswolds—this being a select shipment on account of Mr. Geo. Allen, Mr. R. J. Stone, and Mr. J. Milton, the latter of which gentlemen sailed per the "Bovic."

The following day, Saturday, July 21st, Mr. H. T. Harding, of Buenos Ayres, sailed in the ss. "Highland Chief" for that port, having on board five Shorthorn and one Hereford bulls, 47 Shropshire rams and ewes, six Hampshire rams, and one Romney Marsh ram. Messrs. Mansell also purchased on account of Mr. Harding about 20 head of Plymouth Rock, Minorca, and silver Wyandotte fowl.

The first shipment of this firm for the present season to Australia was made on July 24th, when Mr. G. Sauerbier sailed per the ss. "Wilcannia" from London, acompanied by 17 Shropshire sheep of high quality, and four Southdowns, the latter purchased from the Pagham Harbour Company. The port in this instance is Adelaide.

I may publish further particulars of each of the above shipments. I hear Messrs. Mansell and Co. have still large shipments to make to Russia and Germany, and further ones for Australia, the States, and Canada.

The Buenos Ayres correspondent of the *Times* says: "A trial shipment is being made by the steamer 'Southern Cross' of fresh meat preserved by sterilising air in a special chamber. The Argentine Government and stockbreeders attach enormous importance to this new discovery."

Sale of Polo Ponies.—Much interest was manifested in Messrs. Tattersall's sale at Albert Gate on Monday, for in the catalogue were included some of the most famous of the late Lord Kensington's polo ponies. The unfortunate nobleman, who recently lost his life in South Africa, was an enthusiastic polo player, and his stud of ponies, which was one of the finest in the country, included those champion animals Policy and Sailor, for each of which he gave 750gs., which has the distinction of being the record price ever realised by polo ponies. As the polo season is rapidly nearing a close, however, the prices were not so high on Monday. In fact, Policy was withdrawn at 140gs., but Sailor reached 430gs., and Sermon, a weight carrier, was knocked down for 510gs. Draughts from the polo stables of Sir Patteson Nickalls, Lord Villiers, and Mr. Arthur Rawlinson were also on offer. Pearly, who won the polo scurry at Ranelagh on Saturday afternoon, ridden by Lord Villiers, fetched 400gs., and Gunshot, one of Sir Patteson Nickalls' lot, went up to 160gs., but otherwise there were no really big prices.

CATTLE.

Sale of Riby Grove Shorthorns and Lincoln Longwool Sheep.

Another Thousand Guinea Ram.

The annual sale of a large portion of the herd of Shorthorns and flock of Lincoln sheep belonging to Mr. Henry Dudding, which took place on Tuesday at Riby Grove, brought together a large company of breeders and exporters. The cattle were brought out in their usual good condition, and most of the highest priced lots were purchased for shipment to South America. The highest priced cow, Lady 21st, a capital roan, made 360gs., the purchaser being Mr. F. Miller, and the same price was paid for the roan bull Victorious, Mr. E. A. Hambro being the buyer. Many of the others also made good prices, as the list of the lots sold will show. The sheep were a magnificent lot. The first animal out in the ring was a yearling ram (sire Sharpe Riby), which won first and champion prizes at the Royal Agricultural Society's show at York and at the Nottinghamshire Show, and the first prize as one of a pair and the champion prize at Leicester, first and champion at the Lincolnshire Show at Spalding, and first at the Yorkshire Show at Doncaster, 1900. Bidding commenced at 100gs., but soon rose to 500gs., and finally reached 1,000gs., at which figure it was purchased

1,000 Guineas was the Price paid for this Champion Lincoln Ram at Mr. Dudding's Sale on Tuesday.

by Mr. Miller, of Birkenhead, for exportation. The sale was most successful all round, the cattle averaging £63 10s. and the rams £77 18s. We give below a complete sale list:—

SHORTHORNS, COWS AND HEIFERS. Gs.

Jessie 18th, red, c 1897, s Wild Duke of Geneva 45th 56760
Mr. G. A. M. Holland 24
Vestina, red, c 1894, s Oliver Butterfly 65981, do. 28
Her red heifer calf, c 1899, s Golden Robin 68718
Mr. G. Langdale 15
Rose of Whinfell 5th, roan, c 1893, s Duke of Chatsworth 3rd 57185 ..... Mr. F. Miller 36
Heifer calf, white, c 1900, sire Golden Robin 68718
Mr. F. B. Wilkinson 11
Primrose 3rd, red, c 1893, s Rosedale Jovellar 63237
Mr. W. H. Hutchinson 22
Fern Flower, red and little white, c 1896, s Major 59419
Mr. J. Highfield 27
Bull calf, red and little white, c 1900, s Cromwell 74324
Mr. C. Howard 12
Princess May, red and little white, c 1897, s Prince Imperial 2nd 71234 ..... Mr. F. Miller 28
Charming Duchess, red and little white, c 1897, s Professor 71280 ..... Mr. J. J. Colman 34
Lottie Archer, red and little white, c 1897, s Master Archer 70962 ..... Mr. F. Miller 28
Bull calf, red and little white, c 1900, s Jupiter, 72752 do. 9
Lady Clorinda, roan, c 1897, s Grand Duke of Gloster 66095
Mr. J. A. Preece 54
Bull calf, roan, c 1900, s Merry Harbinger 73065
Mr. W. Taylor Sharpe 10
Twin Princess 5th, roan, c 1897, s Idol 68791
Mr. R. P. Cooper 33
Heifer calf, roan, c 1900, s Bulwark ..... Mr. R. P. Cooper 25
Princess 15th, roan, calved 1898, s Fortune 70467
Mr. F. Calvert 27
Bull calf, roan, c 1900, s Peter the Great 75218
Mr. R. P. Cooper 28
Jubilee Queen 5th, roan, c 1898, s Fortune 70467
Mr. P. Blundell 30
Favourite Lilly, roan, c 1898, s Carlyle 65226
Mr. F. Miller 200
Myra, red and little white, c 1898, s Grand Duke of Gloster 66095 ..... Mr. G. Holland 30
Queen Amelia, red and white, c 1898, s Prime Minister 71185 ..... Mr. Lowish 23
Picture 3rd, white, c 1898, s Scottish Monarch 67886
Mr. Blundell 31
Lady 21st, roan, c 1898, s Idol 68791 ..... Mr. F. Miller 360
Fairy Belle 8th, roan, c 1898, s Count Clarence 2nd 72270 Gs.
Mr. F. Miller 60
Cinderella 15th, roan, c 1898, s Sennacherib 67893
Prince of Wales 60
Riby Jessie 2nd, red, c 1898, s Golden Robin 68718
Mr. F. Miller 105
Elderberry 4th, roan, c 1898, s Captain Quadroon 63759
Sir O. Mosley, Bt. 35
Laurel Gwynne, roan, c 1898, s Beau of Oxford 11th 69956
Sir O. Mosley, Bt. 43
Lady 24th, white, c 1899, s Fortune 70467
Mr. J. J. Colman 205
Melinda 3rd, roan, c 1899, s Prince of Sarsden 71252
Mr. G. Langdale 18
Jewel, roan, c 1899, s Pride of Fame 73238
Sir O. Mosley, Bt. 51
Golden Dame, red, c 1899, s Golden Robin 68718
Mr. C. H. Taylor 24
Lady of Ryedale 19th, roan, c 1899, s Golden Robin, 68718
Mr. Wilkinson 22
Dame Meek 3rd, red, c 1899, s Golden Robin 68718
Mr. Taylor 30
Sunnymaid, roan, c 1899, s Pride of Fame 73238
Prince of Wales 66
Lady Emma 2nd, red, c 1899, s Golden Robin 68718
Mr. C. Field 23
Rose of Whinfell 6th, roan, c 1899, s Golden Robin, 68718
Mr. F. B. Wilkinson 19
Duchess of Gainsborough, roan, c 1899, s Pride of Fortune 73240 ..... Sir O. Mosley, Bt. 83

BULLS.

Prompter 73329, roan, c 1897, s Perfect 69255
Mr. H. W. Langley 200
Priam 75247, roan, c 1898, s Prince of Fashion 64587
Mr. R. B. Thompson 80
Royal Tathwell 75550, roan, c 1898, s Scottish Royal, 62556
Mr. F. Miller 41
Wild Duke of Geneva 183rd, 75918, red and white, c 1899, s Royal Sovereign 69408 ..... Mr. R. B. Thompson 45
Fisherman 74551, roan, c 1898, s Moonraker 73104
Col. Hutton 41
Victorious, roan, c 1898, s Christmas Cup 70155
Mr. E. A. Hambro 360
Dairyman, red, c 1898, s Shylock 71590 ..... Mr. F. Miller 38
Martian, roan, c 1898, s Merry Captain 69122
Mr. J. Church 85
Holker Butterfly 74709, roan, c 1898, s. Earl of Stancliffe 2nd 68567 ..... Mr. F. Miller 58
King Alto, roan, c 1899, s Alto 68147 ..... Mr. F. Miller 81
Golden Picture, roan, c 1199, s Golden Robin 68718
Mr. R. B. Thompson 24
Marchmount, roan, c 1899, s Fortune 70467 .. Mr. F. Miller 61
Target, roan, c 1829, s Lavender Archer 70755
Mr. R. B. Thompson 51
Archibald, rich roan, c 1899, s Lavender Archer 70755
Col. Hutton 10
Primrose Day, roan, c 1899, s Cedar's Pride 70114
Mr. F. Calvert 21
Golden Prince, roan, c. 1899, s Golden Robin 68718
Mr. J. E. Casswell 56
Pearl Prince, red and white, c 1899, s Prince of Perth 73106 ..... Mr. Wilkinson 29

LINCOLN LONG WOOLLED SHEEP.

RAMS.

Yearling Ram, s Sharpe Riby 3819 ..... Mr. F. Miller 1000
Yearling Ram, s Laughton Bulwark 3666 . Mr. F. Miller 200
Yearling Ram, s Dowsby Jubilee 4091 .... Mr. F. Miller 100
Yearling Ram, s Riby Cracker 2nd 3886 .... Mr. F. Miller 100
Yearling Ram, s Dowsby Jubilee 4091 .. Mr. Richardson 70
Yearling Ram, s Dowsby Jubilee 4091 .... Mr. F. Miller 200
Yearling Ram, s Laughton Bulwark 3666 .. Mr. F. Miller 120
Yearling Ram, s Riby Archbishop 2961 .... Mr. J. Church 51
Yearling Ram, s Biscathorpe 3311 ..... Mr. F. Miller 100
Yearling Ram, s Biscathorpe 3311 ..... Mr. Dixon 35
Yearling Ram, s Riby Cracker 2nd 3886 .... Mr. F. Miller 140
Yearling Ram, s Riby Cracker 2nd 3886 .... Mr. F. Miller 41
Yearling Ram, s Pointon Mercury 3820 .. Mr. J. Caswell 22
Yearling Ram, s Riby Risby 2184 ..... Mr. Hughes 25
Yearling Ram, s Laughton Errant 4592 .... Mr. F. Miller 200
Yearling Ram, s Laughton Bulwark 3666 .. Mr. F. Miller 120
Yearling Ram, s Dowsby Jubilee 4091 ..... Mr. F. Miller 21
Yearling Ram, s Biscathorpe 3311 ..... Mr. F. Miller 100
Yearling Ram, s Pointon Mercury 3820 .... Mr. F. Miller 140
Yearling Ram, s Bayard's Leap (No. 12) 2432 Mr. F. Miller 30
Yearling Ram, s Dowsby Jubilee 4091 .... Mr. F. Miller 13
Yearling Ram, s Mere 2052 ..... Mr. Wilkinson 10
Yearling Ram, s Laughton Bulwark 3666 .. Mr. Holgate 20
Yearling Ram, s Bayard's Leap (No. 12) 2432
Mr. Wilkinson 13
Yearling Ram, s Biscathorpe 4243 ..... Mr. F. Miller 65
Yearling Ram, s Laughton Bulwark 3666 .. Mr. J. Caswell 5
Yearling Ram, s Pointon Mercury 3820 ... Mr. Smith 45
Yearling Ram, s Riby Archbishop 2961 .... Mr. F. Miller 200
Yearling Ram, s Quarrington Prizeman 4832
Mr. Wildsmith 10
Yearling Ram, s Nocton Stamp 3821 .. Mr. W. J. Brooks 21
Yearling Ram, s Saltfleet 4927 ..... Mr. Chapman 52
Yearling Ram, s Dowsby Jubilee 4091 ..... Mr. Parker 12
Yearling Ram, s Dowsby Jubilee 4091 ..... Mr. Dean 17
Yearling Ram, s Biscathorpe 3311 ..... Mr. Church 16
Yearling Ram, s Laughton Bulwark 3666 ..... Mr. Miller 15
Yearling Ram, s Pointon Mercury 3820 ..... Mr. Mowsey 13
Yearling Ram, s Biscathorpe 3311 ..... Mr. Miller 23
Yearling Ram, s Bayard's Leap 2432 ..... Mr. Miller 12
Yearling Ram, s Dowsby Jubilee 4091 ..... Mr. Moore 15
Yearling Ram, s Pointon Mercury 3820 ..... Mr. Caswell 12
Yearling Ram, s Biscathorpe 3311 ..... Mr. Dixon 21
Yearling Ram, s Bayard's Leap (No. 12) 2432 ..... Mr. Church 13
Yearling Ram, s Biscathorpe 3311 ..... Mr. Church 13
Yearling Ram, s Quarrington Prizeman 4832 ..... Mr. Dixon 14
Yearling Ram, s Leconfield Ruby Hermit 4032 ..... Mr. Church 15
Yearling Ram, s Biscathorpe 3311 ..... Mr. Church 13
Yearling Ram, s Dowsby Jubilee 4091 ..... Mr. Church 21
Yearling Ram, s Riby Archbishop 2961 ..... Mr. Parker 17
Yearling Ram, s Leconfield Hermit 3783 ... Mr. Church 34
Yearling Ram, s Mackenzie 3807 ..... Mr. Church 41

YEARLING EWES.

Four yearling ewes ..... Mr. Morris 14
Five yearling ewes ..... Mr. Candy 7
Five yearling ewes ..... Mr. Brooks 6
Five yearling ewes ..... Mr. Brooks 6
Five yearling ewes ..... Mr. Candy 6
Five yearling ewes ..... Mr. Brooks 7
Five yearling ewes ..... Mr. Parker 6
Five yearling ewes ..... Mr. Brooks 7
Five yearling ewes ..... Mr. Brooks 6

SUMMARY.

	Average.	Total
38 Cows	£55 18 7	£2125 4 0
17 Bulls	80 8 4	1367 2 0
55 Aver.	£63 10 0	£3 492 6 0
50 Rams	77 18 0	[illegible]
43 Ewes	6 18 8	[illegible]

Total proceeds of sale [illegible]

Sale of Mr. Bickley's Shorthorns.

The fine herd of Shorthorns belonging to Mr. E. K. Bickley was disposed of by auction at The Fields, Ellesmere, on the 20th inst., the auctioneers being Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. (in company with Messrs. Parry and Bailey). Mr. Bickley has been well known as a breeder of pedigree stock for the last twenty years. He began with judicious purchases from the herds of Messrs. Thompson, Hobbs, Evans, Edmonds, Kendal, Chesters, Garne, J. Dodd, Willis, and Tremaine, and by making use of high-class bulls and selecting cows of proved quality as milk and beef producers, has won for his herd a great reputation in the Midlands and North Wales. Several of the bulls have been sold for exportation at a high figure, and although showing has not been largely followed, the young animals occasionally sent to the county and local shows have invariably met with success. It may be mentioned that at the recent show of the Shropshire and West Midland Agricultural Society Mr. Bickley was placed first, second, and third in the class for two-year-old heifers. The sale was held because of Mr. Bickley's time being occupied in his increased business.

After partaking of an excellent luncheon, the company adjourned to the sale ring. Mr. Mansell occupied the rostrum. After drawing attention to the high quality of the animals offered for sale, he said that during the last twenty years there had never been a more healthy demand for pedigree stock, and specially for Shorthorns, than there was at the present moment. They were buying with the certainty that they had a good home demand, supplemented by an equally good foreign demand, and the present satisfactory position of the market was more likely to improve than to fall off. He mentioned as a remarkable fact that out of a dozen animals taken at hazard from the herd and tested only one had re-acted. There was a keen demand, and prices satisfactory alike to buyers and sellers were realised. The top figure of the sale was fetched by Sarah, a fine two-year-old roan by Paraclete—Sallie, which was bought by Mr. Kellock for 65gs. She was a first prize winner at Oswestry Show in 1899, and again at the West Midland this year, the only two occasions on which she has been shown. Countess of Clarence and Lady Brailes, both promising heifers of the right type, each sold for 40gs. Of the six fine young bulls included in the sale, Dairyman's Choice, by Dairyman—Gipsy Lass, was most sought after, and he was ultimately knocked down for 38gs. There was also keen competition for Romeo, a roan by Paraclete—Coy Juliet, which was secured by Mr. Swan for 31gs. The averages were as follows:—Cows, £27 9s.; two-year-old heifers, £27 18s.; yearling heifers, £15 11s.; bulls, £28 1s. 9d.

The following is the sale list:

COWS AND HEIFERS. Gs.

Graceful 5th, roan, c 1898, s Ruby Prince and [illegible] and her heifer calf Ellesmere Graceful [illegible] Mr. W. Thomas 37
Unicorn, 75759 .....
Fairhill Kirklevington, roan, c 1898, s Bachelor's Treasure, 70491 ..... Mr. [illegible] 24
Gay Juliet, roan, c 1893, s Denmark, 68463 .... Mr. Thomas 27
Carrie 2nd, roan, c 1894, s Kirklevington Lad, 65752; and her heifer calf Carrie 3rd, red, c 1900, s Beau Ideal, 74046
Mr. Thomas [illegible]
Longney Pansy, roan, c 1895, s Penwortham [illegible]
Mr. W. Wainwright 37
Ellesmere Graceful, roan, c 1895, s [illegible]
Mr. W. [illegible]
Primrose Dame 12th, red, c 1895, s The Keeper, 64912
Mr. Wainwright [illegible]
Ellesmere Princess red and white, c 1895, s Orange [illegible] and her bull calf, red and white, by Lord Lascelles, 75789 .....
Mr. [illegible]

Mermaid, red, c 1896, s Montford Earl 69149 — Gs.
Mr. W. Howe 30
Ellesmere Graceful 2nd, roan, c 1896, s Charmer 74213
Mr. Wateridge 25
Mountain Zeal, roan, c 1897, s Brigadier 68274
Mr. Thomas 18½
Dairymaid 3rd, red, c 1897, s First Favourite 68643
Mr. Wateridge 23
Ellesmere Graceful 3rd, red, c 1897, s Fabius 68610
Mr. Linn 22
Ellesmere Graceful 4th, roan, c 1897, s Fabius 68610; and her bull calf, red, c 1900, s Unicorn 75759 ..Mr. Gregory 26
Sunbeam 2nd, roan, c 1897, s Royal Walnut 71718
Mr. Linn 25
Ellesmere Princess 2nd, red, c 1897, s Royal Walnut 71518
Mr. Ledger 36
Rose of Waterloo 15th, red, c 1897, s Prince Pinnacle 2nd 71262 ..... Mr. T. Swan 28
Katrina 3rd, roan, c 1897, s Royal Walnut 71518; and her heifer calf, Katrina 5th, red and white, c 1900, s Unicorn 75759 ..... Mr. Ledger 32½
Softlaw Princess 7th, red and little white, c 1897, s Royal Centurion 69448 ..... Mr. Swan 25
Waterloo Baroness, roan, c 1897, s Prince Alfred 69269
Mr. Ledger 18½
Clematis 2nd, white, c 1898, s Baron Constance 68191; and her heifer calf Clematis 3rd, roan, c 1900, s Unicorn 75759..... Mr. Suckley 17
Countess of Clarence 34th, red, c 1898, s Square of Barming 61854 ..... Mr. Kellock 40
Nell, roan, c 1898, s Baron Constance 68191
Mr. Wateridge 16
Lady Brailes 9th, red, c 1898, s Chorister (v. 46)
Mr. Hellock 40
Maggie, roan, c 1898, s Scotch Goods 69547; and her bull calf, red and white, c 1900, s Unicorn 75759
Mr. Thomas 21
Rosamond 4th, roan, c 1898, s Rupert 67857
Mr. Ledger 19½
Comely 3rd, red, c 1898, s Premier 59619
Mr. Wateridge 19½
Sunbeam 3rd, red, c 1898, s Royal Walnut 71518
Mr. Mear 12½
Grace, red, c 1898, s Barringtonian 5th 66683; and her heifer calf Grace 2nd, red and white, c 1900, s Unicorn 75759 ..... Mr. Thomas 22½
Sarah, roan, c 1898, s Paraclete 75189..... Mr. Kellock 65
Bountiful 3rd, red, c 1898, s Bondsman 74084
Captain Best 18½
Baroness Mosley, red and white, c 1898, s Herdsman's Choice 68789..... Mr. Wateridge 17½
Peach Blossom, red and little white, c 1898, s Vain Captain 69742..... Mr. Ledger 22
Ellesmere Graceful 5th, roan, c 1898, s Bondsman 74084
Mr. Naylor 28
Fanny, red, c 1898, s Paraclete 75189..... Mr. Collyer 40
Roan Camelia, roan, c 1899, s Marston Hero 70957
Mr. Thomas 12½
Alwen Kate, roan, c 1899, s Fawsley Baron.... Mr. Naylor 16
Ellesmere Princess 3rd, red, c 1899, s Marston Hero 70957
Mr. Mear 16½
Ellesmere Graceful 6th, roan, c 1899, s Marston Hero 70957
Captain Best 21
Bountiful 4th, red, c 1899, s Marston Hero 70957
Mr. Jones 11
Sunbeam 4th, roan, c 1899, s Marston Hero 70957
Captain Best 14
Ellesmere Graceful 7th, white, c 1899, s Marston Hero 70957..... Mr. Kellock 14
Katrina 4th, red and little white, c 1899, s Unicorn 75759 ..... Mr. Wateridge 13½
Ellesmere Princess 4th, red, c 1899, s Unicorn 75759
Mr. Ledger 26
Ellesmere Graceful 8th, roan, c 1899, s Unicorn 75759
Mr. Mear 8½
Ellesmere Pansy, roan, c 1899, s Sir Tom Blair 73654
Mr. Kellock 14
Sunbeam 5th, red, c 1899, s Unicorn 75759..... Mr. Mear 14½

BULLS.

Count Nottingham 74296, roan, c 1898, s Freshman 70474
Mr. E. G. Preece 29
Premier Waterloo, red, c 1898, s Premier 59619 Mr. Swan 24
Dairyman's Choice, roan, c 1898, s Dairyman
Messrs. Wardlaw 38
Romeo, roan, c 1899, s Paraclete 75189 ..... Mr. Swan 31
Rufus, red, c 1899, s Cedar's Pride 70114 ..... Mr. Marsh 21
Golden Star, red and little white, c 1899, s Golden Comet 72606..... Mr. Emberton 17½

HORSES.

Pedigree Hackney Sale at Bishop's Stortford.

Few Hackney studs have been more prominently to the front at the leading shows than Mr. John Barker's, and the dispersal of his young stock at the Grange Stud Farm, Bishop's Stortford, on Tuesday, attracted a large gathering of well-known breeders from all parts of the county. The proceedings began with a luncheon in a large marquee. Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., presided, and happily submitted the loyal toasts and "The health of Mr. John Barker and success to his sale." Sir Walter said he was pleased to meet so many interested in horses, and, although he had no bee in his bonnet as to hunting, he wished to point out that the breeding of Hackney horses and the bringing them up to perfection was a matter for the nation's good. Up till about the year 1812 the number of carriage horses imported into this country was between 3,000 and 4,000 per annum; the number of foreign horses imported in 1899 was about 44,000. This represented a value of £1,100,000, or £95,000 per month, paid by this country for foreign horses. Although not grudging the foreigner for sending his horses here, he thought the breeding of carriage horses ought to be encouraged in this country. He did not wish to pose as a philanthropist, but as a practical breeder of horses he said, "Let Hackney horses be bred at home." He was quite willing that the breeding of hunters should continue in Ireland, if they could bring people to see the good qualities of English-bred Hackneys. He believed that Mr. Barker was trying to stimulate the breeding of stud horses, and he had great pleasure in proposing his health. Mr. John Barker, who was heartily received, said he was obliged to confess that he had undertaken the breeding of Hackneys upon business lines, and he expected it to pay. The sale was then proceeded with, the filly and colt foals, which were a very good lot, making exceptionally high prices. The proceeds of the sale amounted to 2,471gs., an average of about 46½gs. Below we give a list of the various animals sold, the prices they realised, their purchasers, etc.:—

FOUR-YEAR-OLD MARES. — Gs.
Spun Silk 11492, bl ch, f 1896, s Field Marshal 2986
Mr. F. Crisp 49
Prioress 11409, br, f 1896, s Bonny Boy 1249.....Mr. Fish 115
Comedy 10784, ch, f 1896, s Danegelt 174..Mr. C. E. Cooke 115

THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Princess May 12230, b, f 1897, s Field Marshal 2983
Mr. J. L. Thornton 135
Lady Gordon of Connaught 11981, gr, f 1897, s Garton Duke of Connaught 3009 — Sir Walter Gilbey 70
Miss Erin 12128, ch, f 1897, s Garton Duke of Connaught 3009 ..... Mr. Thornton 65

TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Dame Mildred 12567, ch, f 1898, s Connaught 1453
Sir Walter Gilbey 70
Lady Beta 12790, b, f 1898, s Agility 2799
Mr. James Bailey, M.P. 51
Lady Enid 12808, ch, f 1898, s Royal Dane 5782
Mr. Robinson 55
Lady Winnie 12850, ch, f 1898, s Royal Danegelt 5785
Mr. A. Hollington 76
Woodtonian 13198, ch, f 1898, s Agility 2799....Mr. Fish 80
Guitar 12683, b, f 1898, s Sir Horace 5402..Mr. Robinson 50

YEARLING FILLIES.

Miss Plush, b, f 1899, s Warboys Danegelt 6230
Mr. F. Crisp 21
Lady Kitchener, b, f 1899, s Connaught 1453..Mr. Livesay 41
Lady Wilson, b f 1899, s Royal Danegelt 5785
Mr. W. Patten 21
Miss Keyingham, ch, f 1899, s Garton Duke of Connaught 3009 ..... Mr. Livesay 210
Charmian, ch, f 1899, s Goldfinder VI 1791
Sir Gilbert Greenall 200
Satinette, b, f 1899, s Warboys Danegelt 6230
Mr. Archie Gold 22
Lady Methuen, br, f 1899, s Warboys Danegelt 6230
Mr. J. Bailey, M.P. 21
Evergreen, b, f 1899, s Conquest II. 5560.....Mr. Bamber 33
Lady Powell, ch, f 1899, s Warboys Danegelt 6230
Mr Martin Burls 23
Lady Gatacre, b, f 1899, s Ganymede 2076
Mr. Heaton Chatteris 24
Lovesong, ch, f 1899, s Spitfire 6907 .....Mr. A. Collen 42
Miss Isoline, ch, f 1899, s Gay Danegelt 6022..Mr. Bamber 25
Lady Clayden, b, f 1899, s Hedon Squire 4306
Mr. E. H. Evans 29

FILLY FOALS.

Grey filly foal, f 1900, s Wyngelt 6618..
Sir Walter Gilbey 53
Chesnut filly foal, f 1900, s Agility 2799..Mr. R. Hilder 22
Chesnut filly foal, f 1900, s Wyngelt 6618....Mr. Thornton 41
Bay filly foal, f 1900, s Lord Drewton II. 6817..
Mr. Hallington 22
Chestnut filly foal, f 1900, s Royal Danegelt 5785..
Sir Walter Gilbey 32
Bay filly foal, f 1900, s Gentleman John 3624..
Mr. Beldam 26

COLT FOALS.

Brown colt foal, f 1900, s Gentleman John 3624..
Mr. Hanson 36
Bay colt foal, f 1900, s Rosador 4964.....Mr. Lloyd 30
Chestnut colt foal, f 1900, s Connaught 1453....Mr. Stock 36
Chestnut colt foal, f 1900, s Connaught 1453
Mr. Thornton 42
Chestnut colt foal, f 1900, s Wyngelt 6618....Mr. Fison 22
Chestnut colt foal, f 1900, s Wyngelt 6618....Mr. Willis 25
Harness gelding, f 1895, s Saxon 2674.....Mr. H. Cooper 49

Important Sale of Hackney Ponies near Mansfield.

A large and representative company attended an important sale of pedigree Hackney ponies, the property of Mr. W. Hollins, of Berry Hill, Mansfield, which were offered on Wednesday by Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck, auctioneers, of Peterborough. There were in all 64 lots, 37 being brood mares and foals, 16 harness horses, two three-year-old fillies, five two-year-old fillies, three yearlings, and one stallion. The highest price was paid by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Master of the Belvoir Hunt, who gave 410gs. for the brood mare Windsor Snorer. This splendid mare was foaled in 1889, and has won prizes in the Hackney Show, Royal Show at Leicester, Manchester, Birmingham, and Maidstone, etc., whilst her bay filly foal, foaled in 1900, was also purchased by Sir Gilbert Greenall for 150gs.

Among the other prices given for brood mares was 85gs. by Sir Gilbert Greenall for Eva Jones, foaled 1894; 82gs. by the same purchaser for Polly Perkins, foaled in 1890; and 66gs. by Mr. Morton for Lady Jane, foaled in 1891. The harness ponies also realised good prices, Mr. Morton paying 190gs. for Little Britannia, foaled in 1896, and the winner of numerous prizes at the Royal and many of the leading provincial shows. Camille and Trilby's Model, both roan mares, the former foaled in 1891 and the latter a year later, were bought by Mr. Taylor for 155gs., whilst 150gs. was the price paid by Mr. Hill for two brown geldings, foaled in 1895 and 1896 respectively; and 140gs. by Mr. Cockburn for Black Pearl, foaled in 1892, and Dame Agnes, foaled in 1894. The three-year-old fillies realised 32gs., 31gs., and 23gs.; and the two-year-olds, 40gs., 35gs., 28gs., and 25gs. The last lot offered was the brown stallion, Portwood Confidence, foaled in 1888, also an extensive prize-winner, which was secured by Mr. Nix for 72gs.

A Farmer Found Shot.—Mr. Thomas N. Marr, farmer, of Thornton Dale, near Scarborough, was found dead on Sunday near his house. He left his home with a gun, with which he was in the habit of shooting on the farm, and an hour later was discovered dead with a shot wound in the mouth and head.

SHEEP.

Birmirgham Show and Sale of Shropshire Sheep.

The breeders' sixty-eighth show and sale of Shropshire rams and ewes was conducted by Messrs. Lythall and Walters, on Thursday, July 26th. Mr. Charles Coxon, of Elford Park, Tamworth, judged, and his awards were as follows:—

Class 1.—For single Shearling Rams: 1st, Mr. M. Williams, Whiston Hall, Albrighton; 2nd, Mr. Denston Gibson, Harbury, Leamington; 3rd, Mr. E. Nock, Sutton Maddock, Shifnal; res. no., Mr. R. P. Cooper, Shenstone Court, Lichfield; h.c., Mr. H. Williams, Newton-on-the-Hill, Shrewsbury.

Class 2.—For pens of five Shearling Rams: 1st, Mr. R. P. Cooper; 2nd, Mr. M. Williams; 3rd, Mr. A. Bradburne, Moat Bank, Lichfield; 4th, Mr. G. L. Foster-Harter, Puckrup Hall, Tewkesbury; 5th, Mr. Denston Gibson; res. no., Mr. E. Nock; h.c., Mr. C. H. Jolliffe, Godlicote, Stratford-on-Avon.

Class 3.—For pens of thirty Shearling Ewes: 1st, Mr. M. Williams; 2nd, Mr. A. Bradburne; 3rd, Mr. A. S. Berry; 4th, Mr. E. Nock; 5th, Mr. H. C. G. Parker; res. no., Mr. D. Gibson.

Mr. A. Bradburne's made up to 12gs., Mr. E. Nock's up to 12gs., Mr. M. Williams' up to 33gs., Mr. H. Williams' up to 10gs., Mr. R. P. Cooper's 13gs., 11gs., 10gs., Mr. Denston Gibson's ewes made up to 56s., Mr. Arthur Bradburne's up to 55s., the Earl of Dartmouth's 53s., 51s., etc., Mr. A. S. Berry's 55s., 55s., 54s., 54s., 53s., 50s., Mr. M. Williams' 63s., 62s., 60s., Mr. E. Nock's up to 50s., and Mr. H. C. J. Parker's up to 50s.

Several rams were purchased for exportation to Buenos Ayres and Patagonia, and three gentlemen residing in Norfolk, Dorsetshire, and Buckinghamshire each purchased fifty ewes to found a flock.

Marham Hall Cotswolds.

The annual ram letting at Marham Hall took place on Thursday, when Messrs. Salter, Simpson, and Sons let by auction 100 lamb and seventy shearling pedigree Cotswold rams, the property of Messrs. Thomas Brown and Son. There was a large attendance of flockmasters, and the competition was very keen. Mr. W. H. Salter conducted the letting, prior to which a large company sat down to luncheon, and several speeches wer made. At the sale ring good prices were obtained, both lambs and shearlings showing an increase on last year. They were not so high as in 1898, however, when it will be remembered lambs were very scarce and dear. One hundred lamb rams averaged £8 19s. 6d., as against £8 10s. in 1899 and £10 18s. 7d. in 1898. Seventy shearlings averaged £10 19s. 11d. per head as compared with £9 7s. 6d. last year, and £11 8s. 1d. in 1898; £6 6s. was the lowest price for a lamb, and £14 14s. the highest, while in the shearlings the lowest price paid was £8 8s., and the highest no less than £32 11s.

Markshall Annual Ram Letting.

There was a good attendance on Wednesday at Markshall, when Mr. Nash (of the firm of Clowes and Nash, Norwich) conducted the fortieth annual ram letting of forty-two long wool and Oxford Down shearling rams and thirty-two ram lambs, the property of and bred by Mr. Thomas Allen. The quality of the animals was fully equal to any former year, which means that they were quite as good as careful breeding and a judicious selection could make them, and on the whole the prices obtained were in excess of last year's amounts. After partaking of luncheon the large company adjourned to the ring, where the various lots were put up, and some brisk bidding ensued. Twenty-five excellent long-wool ram lambs were knocked down at an average of £4 4s. per head, a decrease of 8s. per head as compared with last year's prices. The highest price obtained for this class of animal was £4 15s. Seven Oxford Down ram lambs were next brought under the hammer, and averaged £5 6s., a substantial increase upon last year, when the average price was £4 18s. The top price was reached at £6 10s. The next to be reviewed were thirty-five superior long-wool shearling rams, the average price per head again exceeding the amounts fetched last year—£7 1s. 6d., as against £7 at the last annual sale. The highest price was £9 10s. Seven Oxford Down shearling rams were knocked down at an average of £7 8s., as compared with £6 on the last occasion. The top price in this set of rams also was £9 10s.

Tring Park Hampshire Downs.

The annual sale of ram lambs and young and draft ewes took place at the Home Farm, Tring, on Tuesday. Lord Rothschild's flock has been well to the fore of late in the showyard, and the sale sheep were well brought out, showing wonderfully good quality both of wool and flesh, and many of them were of good size. A large number of the ram lambs were twins, which rather lowered the prices for the average, namely, for the seventy-two let and sold £8 17s. 1d. There were also a grand lot of ewes, which made satisfactory prices. Buyers were not present in such large numbers as last year, when so many of the sheep were sent abroad; this year only one lot of eight was bought for South America. The top price given for a ram lamb was 34gs., and he was a true typical sheep, bought by Mr. Alexander Henderson, M.P. Others were taken by Colonel Blake, Welwyn, at 19gs. and 18gs.; Mr. C. T. Hoare, Bignell, Bicester, at 17gs.; Mr. A. W. Montgomery Campbell, Bennington Park, Stevenage, at 16½gs.;

Mr. Scott-Murray, Hambleden, Henley-on-Thames, at 13gs.; and eight were bought for Major Porteus for South America at from 9gs. to 17gs. A large number went to Oundle and Thrapston, in Northamptonshire. The two-tooth ewes averaged 57s. 6d., the top price being 65s. for the pick of the sheep, bought by Mr. A. W. Richman for Sir Blundell Maple. The full-mouthed ewes sold very evenly, and to a great extent were purchased by Mr. Cyril Harrison for Lord Rosebery, who took several lots of five at 50s., others going to Colonel Blake and Sir J. B. Maple, the average being for full-mouthed ewes 47s. 2d.

Halesworth.

The annual lamb sale at Halesworth, largely representative of half-bred flocks, was held on Wednesday, well on for 6,000 lambs and sheep being consigned. Trade was much about the same as that experienced at other dispersals, if anything a slight improvement on the demand for half-breds at Saxmundham. A pen of forty first-cross ewe lambs, from Mr. John Lee, Bramfield, made 37s. 6d., and his average for over 200 was something above 29s., including four ram lambs, which averaged exactly 60s. A pen of sixty first-cross ewe lambs, from Mr. Herbert S. R. Stanford, under whose bâton, as auctioneer, the sale is held, realised 31s., and his quartette of ram lambs £4 apiece. The following were some of the prices realised:—

First-cross Lambs: Mr. Edward Wigg, Walberswick, 100 ewe 26s. 9d., 40 22s., 20 18s. 6d., 120 wether 23s. 10d., 180 mixed 19s. to 13s. 6d.; Mr. John Lee, Bramfield, 80 ewe 32s. 6d. (top 40, 37s. 6d.), 80 wether 28s. 3d., 40 mixed 21s., 4 ram 60s.; Sir Ralph Blois, Bart., Hinton, 80 ewe 26s. 3d., 60 wether 25s., 120 mixed 19s. 8d.; Mr. C. J. Colman, Westleton, 80 ewe 28s. 6d. (top 40, 30s. 6d.), 120 wether 26s. 6d.; Mr. H. S. R. Stanford, Walpole, 60 ewe 31s., 40 wether 28s. 6d., 80 mixed 24s. 3d., 19 17s. 6d., 4 ram 80s.; Mr. Rayner Runnacles, Reydon, 20 fat 35s., 80 ewe 25s. 9d., 80 wether 24s. 3d., 40 mixed 24s. 6d., 18 18s. 6d.

Half-breds: Mr. C. M. Smith, Wangford, 40 fat 25s. 3d., 150 mixed 26s. 10d., 74 24s. to 21s. 6d.; Mr. J. W. Le Grys, Heveningham, 80 24s. 6d., 22 15s. 9d., 20 full-mouthed ewes 24s. 6d., 20 crones 16s.; Mr. Frank Gooda, Mutford, 200 21s. 10½d., 32 14s. 6d., 60 breeding ewes 17s. 6d.; Mr. S. R. J. Chilvers, Spexhall, 120 22s. 8d., 18 14s., 7 full-mouthed ewes 14s., shearling tup 19s.; Mr. Harry Davy, Laxfield, 124 21s. 6d. to 15s. 6d., 27 shearling ewes (sucklers) 44s.; Mr. H. Freeman, Ubbeston, 20 25s.

Black-faced: Mr. Charles Tacon, 30 ewe 32s. 6d., 20 wether 25s. 6d., 22 mixed 23s.; Mr. Frank Gooda, 120 wether 22s. 8d., 30 18s.; Right Hon. the Earl of Stradbroke, Henham Hall, 140 wether over 23s. 2d., 20 20s.; Mr. Rayner Runnacles, 7 4-shear ewes 40s., 6 26s., 7 full-mouthed 19s., 5 crones 20s.

Half-bred Sheep: Mrs. Gray and Son, Wenhaston, 100 grazing shearlings, 31s. 5d.; Mr. W. F. Neave, 10 shearling, 38s. 6d.; Mr. W. Catling, 10 shearling ewes 43s., 16 36s. 6d., 3 and their 3 lambs 37s. 6d.; Mr. H. C. Catling, Stradbroke, 12 shearling ewes 29s.; Mr. R. Minter, Huntingfield, 70 first-cross shearling ewes, nearly 36s. 3d. (top 20 40s.), 80 shearling wethers over 33s. 6d.; Mr. William Balls, Cookley, 20 shearling ewes 35s., 18 26s.

Black-faced Sheep: Mr. W. F. Neave, 40 shearling ewes 42s. 9d.; Mr. R. J. Berry, Cookley, 60 ear-marked shearling ewes 57s. (top 20, 60s.), 18 47s. 6d.; Mr. H. C. Catling, 20 shearling ewes 47s.

Kesgrave.

Kesgrave lamb sale, which is the oldest of any held in East Anglia, took place. This, the oldest of the East Anglian lamb sales, was held for the forty-fifth year on Friday, on the well-known ground opposite Kesgrave Bell Inn, and, like well-nigh all the dispersals which preceded it this year, was marked by a lack of animation, prices declining considerably as compared with last year, this being in some measure due to a falling off in the condition of the consignments. There was a heavier entry than a year ago, and buyers were present from Norfolk and Essex. Mr. George Blencowe brought the consignments to the hammer, and expressed the pleasure the firm experienced from the fact that after the Kesgrave sale had been held for forty-five years, they had a larger entry than for several years past, there being one new consignor, Mrs. Reade, of Martlesham, and an old supporter of the sale, Mr. G. W. Hunt, of Seckford Hall, having renewed his connection with it. In all they had 4,700 penned, and he thought the lambs were quite up to the average. The following items will give some idea of the prevailing prices:—

Registered Suffolk Flocks: Mr. J. P. Skeet, Hill Farm, Rushmere, 92 ewe lambs, nearly 34s. (top 20, 44s. 6d.), 60 wether, 34s. 4d., 34 26s., 17 crones and ewes 25s.; Mr. S. R. Sherwood, Lux Farm, Playford, 60 ewe lambs, nearly 40s. 5d. (top 20, 47s.); Mr. J. Dupuis Cobbold, Holy Wells, Ipswich, 90 ewe lambs 31s. 8d. (top 20s, 35s.), 80 wether 30s., 30 23s. 6d., 23 crones 22s.; Mr. Daniel Day, Bell Farm, Kesgrave, 120 ewe lambs 33s. 2d. (top 40, 36s.), 80 wether 34s. 1½d. (top 20, 40s., the best price for wethers at the sale); Mr. H. A. Reynolds, Street Farm, Bucklesham, 90 ewe nearly 37s. (top 20, 55s., bought by Mr. Ernest Prentice, secretary of the Suffolk Sheep Society, this pen being the leading one of the day, as was the case with the same flock last year), 90 wethers 30s. 4d.; Capt. E. G. Pretyman, M.P., Hall Farm, Brightwell, 100 ewe 25s. 5d. (top 20s, 28s.), 100 wethers 25s. 10d.; Mr. G. W. Hunt, Seckford Hall, Woodbridge, 15 shearling ewes 41s. 6d., 60 ewe lambs 28s. 3d. (top 30, 31s. 6d.), 60 wethers 24s, 30 mixed 16s. 6d.

Unregistered Suffolk Flocks: Mrs. Reade, Hall Farm, Martlesham, 100 ewe lambs 25s. 3d. (top 20, 30s. 6d.), 100 wether 20s 3d.; Mr. R. J. Dawson, Kirton Hall, 100 ewe 32s. (top 30, 37s.), 100 wether nearly 31s. (top 30, 36s.); Messrs. Hunt and Sons, Alnesbourne Priory Farm, 120 ewe 25s., 120 wether 23s. 10d., 40 mixed 15s. 6d.

First-cross: Mr. B. S. King, 20 ewe 34s., 30 27s. 6d., 20 wether 31s., 30 26s.; Mr. R. L. Everett, 80 ewe 30s. (top 40, 33s.), 80 wether 28s., 40 mixed 24s. 6d., 21 17s. 6d.; Mr. W. W. Hunt, 120 ewe 28s. 8d. (top 40, 33s.), 85 wether over 26s. 6d., mixed 18s.; Messrs. Hunt and Sons, Pond Hall, Naeton, 130 ewe nearly 24s. (top 50, 25s. 6d.), 100 wether 25s., 40 22s 9d., 50 mixed 15s.; Captain E. G. Pretyman, M.P., Hall Farm, Foxhall, 240 ewe 25s. 6d. (top 40, 31s.), 40 wether 28s., 150 23s. 5d.; Mr. G. Denn Turner, Hall Farm, Newbourn, 50 ewe 26s., 50 mixed 23s. 6d.; Mrs. Reade, 30 ewe 22s., 30 wether 20s. 6d.

Mr. W. M. Harris's Hampshire Downs.

On Wednesday Messrs. James Harris and Sons conducted the annual sale of ram lambs from Mr W. M. Harris's Long Sutton flock at Basingstoke There was a somewhat smaller attendance of buyers than last year and correspondingly smaller prices, in sympathy no doubt with the depressing state of the sheep trade in general at present. The prices given ranged from 4½gs. to 16½gs., the top price being given by Mr. Welch (Cambridgeshire), who also purchased at 12gs., 11½gs., 10½gs., 7½gs., etc. Mr J. Silvester (Wield) secured No. 5 at 16½gs. and No. 9 at 13gs. Mr. S. Tanner (for Sir C. Shelley, Bart.) bought at 10½gs. and 5½gs. Lord Calthorpe at 10gs., 7gs., and 5gs. Mr. Musselwhite (for A. C. Scott, Esq.) at 7½gs. and 5½gs. Mr. Earwaker at 6gs. Mr. Garrett several at 5½gs. and 5gs. There were seventy lambs catalogued, but the auctioneer, towards the end of the sale, finding the demand slackening, withdrew about twenty. A two-tooth ram, which was hired as a lamb by Mr. C. B. Barton, was now secured by him at 15gs. The average of the forty-nine sold was a trifle over £7.

Mr. T. Fowell Buxton's Hampshire Downs.

The annual letting and sale by auction of ram lambs, rams, and draft ewes from the well-known registered Hampshire Down flock of Mr. Fowell Buxton took place on Monday, at Little Briggen's Farm, Stansted Abbotts, the auctioneers being Messrs. Waters and Rawlence. There was a fairly numerous company present, who as usual first partook of an excellent luncheon. Business commenced with the letting of seven ram lambs at an average of £30, Mr. J. Flower hiring No. 3 at 90gs., Mr. Vernon (for Mr. Scott-Murray) No. 2 at 32gs. and No. 1 at 25gs., Mr. G. Judd No. 5 at 15gs. and No. 4 at 13gs., Mr. J. Clarke No. 6 at 14gs., and Mr. Emson No. 7 at 11gs. Of the selling lambs, Mr. Dibben bought at 20gs., Mr Judd at 18gs. and 10gs., Mr. Duckworth at 15gs., 12gs., and 11gs., Mr. Dawe at 15gs., Mr. Fordham at 10½gs., Mr. Death at 11½gs., 10gs., etc., Mr. J. Carpenter at 13½gs., Mr. Bartlett at 10gs., Mr. Brown (for Earl Cowper) at 12½gs., Mr. Emson at 10gs., etc., Mr. Palmer at 10gs., Mr. F. Smith at 10½gs., 10gs., etc., Sir Hereward Wake at 10gs., the average of eighty lambs let and sold being £10 2s. The draft shearling ewes made 65s., 63s., 62s., and 53s. each; two-shear ditto, 63s., 51s., and 50s.; three-shear ditto, 55s. and 54s.; full-mouth ewes, 62s., 60s., 58s., 57s., 55s., 54s., and 47s., the average of the draft of 137 being 56s.

Weyhill Fair.

This annual sheep fair took place on Friday, when trade was very dull, prices being down from 2s. to 3s. per head as compared with Stockbridge, and towards the end of the auctions it was difficult to get bids at anything like a figure. Very few of the lambs were in condition fit for the butcher.

Mr. Allan Herbert, of Andover, was the first of the auctioneers to commence business, he having 3,500 entrusted to him, when the head prices were as follows:—Mr. W. Coleman (Chute), two-tooth ewes 41s. 6d., two-tooth wether sheep 41s., two-tooth ewes and wethers 35s.; Mr. F. A. Clark (Vernham), two-tooth ewes 36s., two-tooth wethers 36s. 6d.; Mr. F. W. Evans (Upton), mixed lambs 22s.; Mr. E. P. Nutley (Clanville), draft ewes 24s., mixed lambs 25s 6d.; Messrs. Quick and Mills (Vernham), regular draft ewes 27s., draft ewes 24s. 6d., ewe lambs 21s., wether lambs 23s., mixed lambs 18s.; Mr. R. Dowling (Foxcotte), regular draft ewes 37s. 6d., two-tooth ewes 37s. 6d.; Mr. C. Edwards (Appleshaw), draft ewes 28s. 6d., 29s., 26s. 6d., and 23s. 6d.; Mr. C. B. Gwyer (East Chalderton), two-tooth ewes, 37s., two-tooth wethers, 36s.; Mr. H. Gwyer (Longparish), mixed lambs 25s.; Mr. G. Neale (Charlton), mixed lambs 30s. 6d., four-tooth ewes 41s. 6d., six-tooth ewes 40s. 6d., regular draft ewes 36s.; Mr. R. Wallis (Tedworth Down), ewe lambs 30s., wether lambs 29s.; Mr. H. Merceron (East End Farm), wether lambs 33s., mixed lambs 24s. 6d. Mr. Herbert also sold several head of cattle and a few horses.

Messrs. F. Ellen and Son had 5,500 in their auction sale, and among the prices realised were:—L. F. Loyd, Esq. (Doles Farm), two-tooth ewes 39s. 6d. and 33s. 6d.; Mr. A. T. Christmas (Chilbolton Down), wether lambs 26s., chilver lambs 28s. 6d.; Mr. F. Alexander (Everleigh), two-tooth ewes 48s. 6d., 47s., 44s. 6d., and 41s. 6d.; Dr. B. Lyne Stivens (Enham Home Farm), chilver lambs 30s. 6d.; Messrs. Briant Bros. (Hurstbourne Tarrant), chilver lambs 27s. 6d., wether lambs 28s., mixed lambs 20s.; Mr. John Eyles (Stoke), two-tooth ewes, 40s., 41s., and 39s.; Mr. S. H. Allen (Eastover), draft ewes 37s.; Mr. E. A. Wolfe (Monxton), regular draft ewes 43s., draft ewes 36s. 6d.; Mr. H. E. Nuth (Longstreet), draft ewes 38s., draft ewes 24s. 6d.; Mr. R. J. Berry (Falconers), four-tooth ewes 35s. 6d.; Mr. J. Bound (Hurstbourne Tarrant), maiden ewes and wethers 47s. and 37s. 6d.; Mr. W. Cole (Wallop), draft ewes 37s. 6d., two-tooth ewes 40s.; Mr. L. C. Pickering (Gratelv), draft ewes 35s.; Mr. J. Dalton (Clatford Oakcutts), draft ewes 34s., chilver lambs 30s., wether lambs 28s. 6d.; Mr. J. A. Green (Hurstbourne Tarrant), two-tooth ewes 35s. 6d.; C. F. Rudolph, Esq. (Kimpton Farm), wether lambs 25s., draft ewes 33s., two-tooth ewes 28s. 6d.; [illegible] Farm, wether lambs 2[illegible]; J. Eyles (Upper Wyke), wether lambs 31s. 6d., chilver lambs 31s., mixed half-bred lambs 26s. 6d.; Exors. of the late Mr. J. Reeves (Collingbourne), draft ewes 40s., 37s., and 30s. 6d.; Mr. J. Carey (Overton), two-tooth wethers 34s. 6d. and [illegible], both ewes 36s. and 35s. 6d., two-tooth wethers 32s. 6d.; Mr. S. Harris (Knockwood), mixed lambs 31s. 6d. and 26s.; Mr. J. Dance (Whitchurch), draft ewes 30s. 6d., draft ewes 25s. 6d.; J. East, Esq. (Longstock), draft ewes 35s. and 30s., four- and six-tooth ewes 42s.; Mr. F. Hurford (Longstock), wether lambs 21s. 6d.; Mr. A. Spratt (Wherwell), draft ewes 26s. 6d. Messrs. Ellen and Son also conducted the sale of a draft of ram lambs from Mr. S. H. Allen's flock.

Alresford Fair.

Alresford Sheep Fair took place on Thursday, and, like preceding fairs, this year was most disappointing to the sellers, and the prices obtainable for the sales were with but few exceptions 1s. to 2s. per head all round less than at other fairs held in Hampshire lately. The auctioneers had the [illegible] of the sheep consigned to them. In the open fair Mr. W. Stubbs, of Alresford, was the largest penner, and had a lot of good sheep, and a few lots unsold at the end of the fair. Mr. F. Rawlins, of Salisbury, had some grand pens of two-tooth ewes on offer, some of which also left the fair unsold. There were a few small lots of young beasts on the ground, but, like the sheep, the trade for them was very slow, and scarcely any lots were sold. Messrs. James Harris and Sons' sale catalogue contained about 12,000 ewes and lambs, being about 2,000 short of last year, and at the last about 1,000 of these were struck out, and the pens left empty, the owners no doubt anticipating a bad trade, and hoping for better times to come on. The sale proved to be one of the dullest of recent years, many of the principal dealers being absent, and the auctioneer had a very up-hill task in disposing of the various lots, even at low prices. There were a few exceptions, when the biddings were fairly brisk for the best ewes and lambs, but generally the trade must be chronicled as slow and bad. Among the prices realised for regular draft ewes Mr. A. Arnold (Bramdean) obtained 46s., Mr. W. M. Harris 40s., Mr. W. Twitchin 40s., Sir C. Shelley, Bart., 40s., 38s., and 36s., Mr. J. Twitchin 39s., Mr. Arthur Arnold 39s., Lord Ashburton 39s., 38s. 6d., and 36s. 6d., Mr. H. G. Godwin 38s. 6d., Mr. A. E. Philippi 38s., Mr. J. Godwin 37s. 6d., Mr. H. Dutton 37s., and Messrs. Noyce 35s., others selling down to 30s. For draft ewes Mr. J. Bonham-Carter made 43s. 6d. for a little lot of 40, Lord Ashburton 39s. for 100, and 35s. 6d. for 50, Mr. H. Le Roy Lewis 36s., Mr. G. S. Prior 34s. 6d., others ranging from that figure to 26s. An entry of over 1,000 wether lambs from Lord Ashburton's various farms included [illegible] Chilton Farm, 45s. 6d., 35s., and 29s. 6d.; Brown Candover Farm, 42s., 35s. 6d., 31s. 6d., and 30s.; Northington Farm, 43s. and 34s. 6d.; Itchen Farm, 40s. and 30s. Sir C. Shelley, of Avington Park, sent 400 wether lambs, selling at 33s. to 25s. 6d., Mr. J. A. Wilson 100 at 37s., and 50 at 32s. 6d., Mr. W. Twitchin 33s., Messrs. Mills 32s. and 30s., Mr. A. Arnold (Bramdean) 31s. 6d., Hon. A. H. Baring 31s., Mr. Jervoise 30s. and 25s. 6d., Mr. J. Singleton 29s. 6d., Mr. Philippi 29s. 6d., Mr. Arthur Arnold 29s. 6d., Mr. A. Kingdon 28s. 6d., Mr. Hoddinott 28s. Ewe lambs of Mr. J. Bonham-Carter 31s. 6d. and 28s.; Messrs. Noyce 30s. 6d., Mr. F. Dear 29s., Lord Ashburton 28s. and 24s. [illegible]; and mixed lambs brought from 31s. to 22s. 6d. Mr. W. Cory sent 140 two-tooth ewes, and sold at 48s. 6d., 43s., and 40s. 6d.; Mr. H. J. Hope 250 at 43s. 6d. to 36s. 6d.; Lord Ashburton 47s., 42s., and 41s.; Mr. J. Godwin 42s. 6d.; and for a little lot of six-tooth ewes of Mr. H. Turner 41s. were obtained. Twenty-five ram lambs of Mr. J. Silvester, of Wield, made from 5gs. to 8½gs. each.

Messrs. Hall, Pain, and Goldsmith, of Petersfield, Portsmouth, and Fareham, [illegible] a selection of 100 ram lambs from Mr. James Goldsmith's Blendworth flock. Nine [illegible] were sold from 4gs. to 10gs., the following [illegible] among the chief purchasers—Messrs Warner, 5½gs., 5gs. (two), and 4gs.; Sillence, 6gs., 6½gs.; Taylor, 6gs.; Bailey, 5gs., 4½gs.; Long, 10gs., 7½gs., 6gs., 5½gs., and 5gs.; Preston, 6gs.; [illegible], 4½gs.; Arnold, 4½gs.; [illegible]; Peak, 4½gs.; Butler, 5gs.; R. Westbrook, 5gs.; [illegible]; Cliff, 5½gs.; Knight, 5gs.; [illegible]; Noyce, 5gs., 4½gs.; Bugg, 10gs.; J. Westbrook, 6gs., 5½gs., 5gs., 4½gs.; [illegible].

Messrs. Watts and Rogers sold a selection of ram lambs from Mr. Whalley-Tooker's Hinton flock, there being [illegible] offered, with the result that [illegible] average of £8, the [illegible] ranging from 16gs. to 10gs., 9gs., and 8½gs. downwards to 5gs., for three lambs only. Mr. J. Bonham-Carter's seventy ram lambs and one shearling [illegible] the [illegible] commission, showed [illegible] and good breeding, and the whole were sold [illegible] ring from nine guineas [illegible] £6.

ROYAL LANCASHIRE SHOW AT ROCHDALE.

The Rochdale Show of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society must be written down as a success. The attendance of visitors has been quite up to the average, while the total entries are, almost to a unit, the same as at Blackburn a couple of years ago. Altogether they number 2,331, including 179 cattle, 247 light horses, 96 heavy horses, 104 sheep, and 90 pigs, not to specify the entries in the miscellaneous classes comprising farm produce, dogs, poultry, and implements. Comparison with previous shows is not easy, for the reason that this year's schedule includes "local exhibits," of which there are 137. The following table of entries in the various sections for the past few years speaks for itself:—

Section.	Preston, 1895.	Southport, 1896.	Barrow-in-Furness, 1897.	Blackburn, 1898.	Liverpool, 1899.	Rochdale, 1900.
Farms	11	7	23	10	12	—
Cattle	151	173	157	188	229	179
Light horses	399	346	325	301	319	247
Shires, etc.	146	156	188	116	156	96
Local exhibits	—	—	—	—	—	137
Sheep	91	96	171	86	172	104
Pigs	—	78	51	88	70	90
Goats	50	40	39	40	25	—
Potatoes	5	—	—	—	—	—
Cheese	80	83	60	90	108	54
Butter and dairy	84	66	115	109	135	119
Dogs	194	193	117	195	205	148
Poultry	495	670	573	658	850	613
Pigeons	250	306	221	236	293	302
Honey	59	39	44	21	105	42
Eggs	38	22	33	27	46	31
Horse shoeing	—	—	—	—	—	—
	2,053	2,275	2,117	2,165	2,784	2,162
Implement stands	187	192	121	165	309	169
Total	2,240	2,467	2,238	2,330	3,093	2,331

A special general meeting of members of the society was held in a marquee near the horse ring, on Thursday, under the presidency of Colonel Royds, M.P. The President said that the principal business was to decide upon the place at which the show of 1901 is to be held, but it had been considered better that this should be postponed until the annual meeting of the society, which would take place in October. They had to convey to the Mayor and the members of the local committee an acknowledgment of their work. He moved a vote of thanks to the Mayor and the members of the local committee, among whom he desired particularly to mention the chairman, Alderman Turner, for his untiring efforts.—The motion was passed, and Alderman Turner responded.—The Chairman announced that the largest number of season tickets had been sold that day that had ever been known in the annals of the society. That he thought promised well for the success of the show. The formal enrolment of thirty-eight new members afterwards took place, and this was stated to be the largest number ever obtained on such an occasion.

Cattle.

There is usually a good show of Shorthorns at the Lancashire, and it is satisfactory to note that Lancashire breeders have once more held their own against competitors from other parts of the country. The bull class was particularly well filled, no less than nineteen fine animals being turned into the ring for the inspection of the judges. The winner was Carlisle Wellington, a roan three-year-old shown by Mr. Miller, of Liverpool, whose fame as a breeder is well established. Carlisle Wellington was also awarded the Derby Challenge Cup as the best bull in the show. He is a wonderfully massive animal, with very fine covering and mossy hair. Mr. W. Bell, of Alnwick, was a good second with Baron Abbotsford, another magnificent roan, and the third award went to Mr. Miller's Duke of Barrington LIII. The female classes, though not quite so large, contained some excellent material. Here Mr. George Harrison, of Darlington, was well to the front. He secured the cup for the best cow or heifer in the show with his roan two-year-old Welfare, which had beaten Mr. W. Bell's more mature Lady Clara III., a winner at Doncaster a fortnight ago. The John Halsall Challenge Cup, for the best animal in the show exhibited by a Lancashire tenant farmer, went to Mr. Thomas Atkinson's Baron Budkirk, a red and white yearling, which has won largely at Lancashire shows this year. Strangely enough, the Baron, though given first place in the district class, was only highly commended in the class for young bulls, being placed below Mr. Adamson's Dunottars Style, which occupied the third position. When, however, it came to a question of awarding the cup, the judges did the Baron full justice, and gave Dunottars Style the reserve ticket. Among other prominent prize-winners was Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., whose Lady Albreda, a useful red cow that was noticed at Doncaster, secured him three awards in as many classes. Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., Mr. W. Heaton (of Lostock), and Mr. T. M. Crook (of Haughton) were also to the fore with some capital Shorthorns.

In the Channel Islands section, Mrs. Cyril Greenall, Warrington, practically swept all before her with her beautifully modelled animals.

Horses.

Shire Horses.

Shire horses, as usual, made a first-rate show. Lord Rothschild won the Earl of Derby's challenge cup for the best Shire stallion or entire colt in the show. Anchorite, who secured the trophy, was bred by the Prince of Wales, and is a fine massive colt, just the sort one would expect from a son of Harold. Reserved to him was Mr. Arthur Nicholson's Leek Monarch, second to him also in the class of stallions foaled in or before 1897. Another plum went to Lord Rothschild, in Sir Gilbert Greenall's challenge cup for the best mare or filly in the section. Alston Rose has won all over; indeed, nothing less than a Southgate Charm can beat her. If the Tring Park representative had not pulled off the championship it would have gone to Mr. Muntz's grand Prince Haro'd brood mare—Lockinge Bell, who in her class led the way to Lord Rothschild's Hendre Sunlight (another of Prince Harold's stock) and Mr. Peter Blundell's (Kirkham) Melbourne Starlight, the winner in the district competition. In Warton Drayman Messrs. E. and J. Whinnerah have a genuine prize, for this young Royal Victor stallion not only topped a strong class, beating Earl Egerton's Tatton Victorious and Mr. Muntz's Dunsmore John o' Gaunt, but carried off the John Halsall challenge cup as the best Shire in the show exhibited by a tenant farmer in the county, and also the Shire Horse Society's gold medal for the best stallion or entire colt bred by or in the possession of a resident or occupier of agricultural land in Lancashire. The corresponding medal for females went to Tatton Godiva, a nice Calwich Prince filly, owned by Lord Egerton. The best draught horse of four years old or upwards, the property of a tenant farmer, was declared to be Kelvedon Gem, by Prince Harold—sent from the neighbourhood of Lancaster by Mr. John Fox. Two first awards in the Shire horse section came over the border into Yorkshire—Mr. J. H. Bryar's Harold colt, Farmer's Advance, who won for the Sheffield exhibitor a second prize at the Yorkshire Show at Doncaster, and Mr. Wm. Jackson's Holker R.I., from Knottingley, who at Doncaster the other day also occupied a second position. The last-named animal was bred by Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., who was not well represented, his only score being a third with a Hendre Crown Prince foal. Three famous Shire breeders met in the class for fillies foaled in 1899. Earl Egerton won with Lockinge Athene (repeating his Royal and Yorkshire victories). Mr. Alexander Henderson, M.P., came second with Lady Buscot Keele, and Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., made a good third with Dunsmore Luck.

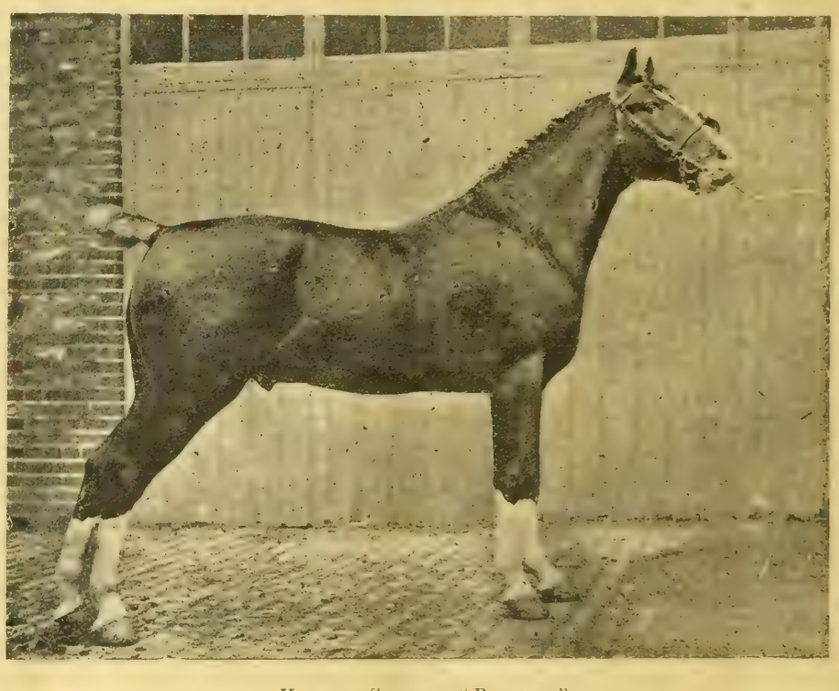
Hunters.

Hunters were not very numerous; in fact, on the whole a poor collection. Mr. Charles Griffiths, of Northwich, won the gold medal offered for the best hunter brood mare with his aged bay Lady Templar, whilst both the Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medals went to Mr. J. L. Irving's Thomasina, a shapely chestnut bred by the exhibitor.

Hackneys.

In the Hackney brood mares the feature was the meeting of Mr. Harry Livesey's celebrated Orange Blossom and Mr. C. E. Galbraith's Rosadora. The former has won numerous honours as a brood mare, and the latter as a filly carried all before her. To some surprise the latter appeared at the Yorkshire show as a brood mare and beat the more famous but that decision was yesterday reversed. Third honours went to Mr. W. Ferguson, of Prestbury, near Macclesfield, whose exhibit was Hollyhock, by Caxton. Orange Blossom's foal, however, could get only a third card, first place being assigned to the springy little chestnut Leila, by Demas, with all her sire's quality and style, owned by Mr. C. V. Haworth, Poulton-le-Fylde, whilst next in order of merit was a chestnut by Caxton bred by Mr. R. M. Birley, Hoghton. Mr. Livesey again won in the three-year-olds with Welcome, the bouncing daughter of Connaught, whose nearest competitors were Mr. W. H. Oates's Ryburn Bell, from Halifax, and Mr. W. Lawson's Zaverda, from Blackpool, which has gained numerous cards this year. In two-year-olds precedence was accorded to Mr. C. V. Haworth's Blackpool Flower, by Ganymede, formerly in the possession of Mr. Lawson, who had now to be content with second prize for Blackpool Countess. Mr. Lees Knowles, M.P., was third with Salford Miranda. The handsomely-moulded yearling filly Oldfield Rosalind, by Rosador, which won distinction at Doncaster, again won for Mr. A. C. Sparkes, Altrincham, easily beating Paddock Princess, by Forest King, entered by Messrs. Cockayne, Sheffield. Five pony mares showed their paces, with the result that Mr. J. Makeague, Newton-le-Willows, was adjudged the winner with Encore, which was preferred to Princess Royal, owned by Mr. Levi Fish, Preston, whilst bringing up the rear was Mr. H. T. Parke's Olive Model, from Withnell, and Mr. J. Halstead's Lucy Gordon, from Worsthorne. Mr. Parke sent in the ring Lady Love and Cassius, but had to be content with third honours, Mr. Wand's well-known Fernielhurst Frivolity and Frivolous being considered the best in the pairs, with Mr. J. H. Jones's Lady Lathom and Lord Knotty next.

The ground spoiled the exhibition of the single harness classes, Mr. Tom Mitchell's Sam Weller, although he won in his class, being far below his form, and Mr. A. L. Goodson's Conceit only securing the reserve position. Mr. T. B. Syke's mare Zaizan travelled in her usual wefty style, and came in second, whilst Lady Love was third. Mr. Norman Read won in the under 15 hands class with Ready Money, which was followed by Mr. C. E. Tunnicliffe's brown mare from Leigh, and Mr. G. Ledson's Surprise from Bromborough, whilst in harness ponies the winners were Mr. R. Whitworth's Pom Pom and Mr. Wand's Amendment.



Hackney Stallion "Rodasor."

The three classes of Hackney stallions were fairly well filled, and nearly every exhibit was a noted prize winner. In the class for stallions foaled in or before 1897, Mr. Harry Livesey was first with his handsome chestnut McKinley, a son of Garton Duke of Connaught. Strangely enough, the second award went to Acid Drop, a chestnut roan shown by Mr. James Yates, of Bilton, near Hull, which also claims Garton as his sire. Mr. Norman Read, of the Feniscowles Stud Farm, came third with his Lord Ganymede. Among a choice little band of two-year-olds, Mr. C. E. Galbraith's Atbara was an easy first. Like the winners in the older class, he is a son of Garton Duke of Connaught. He was third in his class at the Royal Show at York, and had previously been noticed at Islington in the spring. Mr. Lees Knowles's Salford Felix was placed second to Atbara, and the third prize went to a handsome chestnut shown by Messrs. Cockayne Brothers, of Sheffield. The yearlings were headed by Commerce, a promising chestnut by Ganymede, bred by Mr. Robert Whitworth, of Market Weighton. Mr. W. Ferguson, of the Prestbury Stud, Batley, was second in this class with Pretoria, a likely son of Chocolate Junior, and Mr. R. M. Birley, of Hoghton Hall, was third with his Breeze Hill Sir Hugo, whose

sire was Sir Hugo III. When they came to award the special prizes the judges were apparently unanimous in deciding that M'Kinley was the best Hackney in the show. Not only was he awarded the Ainscough gold challenge cup, but he also received the plate offered for the best stallion. In the first case he was even preferred to his stable companion, Orange Blossom, which won the female championship at the Royal, was first in the brood mare class on Thursday, but was now only considered worthy of a reserve ticket. The Hackney Horse Society's gold medal for the mest mare or filly went to Mr. W. Ferguson's Holly Lock, which had been placed third in the brood mare class on the previous day; Mr. Clement V. Haworth, of Poulton, was given the reserve ticket for his aged chestnut, Wild Rose.

There was comparatively little competition in the pony stallion classes. Mr. Alfred S. Day's Lord Berkeley, an excellent representative of the Berkeley stud, secured the premier award in the class for stallions over three years old, beating Whitegate Swell, the bay with which Mr. John Jones, of Wrexham, carried off the first prize at the Royal. Mr. William Mitchell, of Oakham, came third with his Golden Drop 3rd. In the class for three-year-olds the only exhibitor was Mr. W. Ward Hargrave, of Parbold, whose bay Parbold Sourer thus had an easy triumph.

In the riding classes a prominent winner was Mr. A. L. Goodson's Heathfield Concert, which repeated the successes previously gained at York and Doncaster. Mr. G. E. Franklin, of Derby, supplied the winner in the class for animals not exceeding 14 hands, and among other successful exhibitors were Mr. George Tyson, of Halifax, Mr. Alfred S. Day, Mr. Walter H. Oates, of Halifax, and Mr. M. E. Shaw, of Ashton-under-Lyne.

Sheep.

In this section, although there were not many entries, a representative lot came before the judges. With Leicesters Mr. George Harrison had practically his own way all through, and the successful Wensleydale breeders include the executors of the late T. Willis (who got the champion prize for the best ram or pen of ewes among Leicesters and Wensleydales), Mr. James Rhodes, of Stockeld, and Lady Henry Bentinck. Messrs. Walton Bros., of Rawtenstall, gained the championship among the Herdwicks and Lonks. The chief exhibitor of the former breed was Mr. John Rothery, of Cockermouth.

Pigs.

The show of pigs—thanks to the absence of swine fever restrictions—was the best which has been seen at the Lancashire in recent years. As was to be expected, most of the principal awards have gone to Sir Gilbert Greenall and Mr. Sanders Spencer.

Butter Making, Etc.

During the day the butter-making competitions in the working dairy were ontinued, and again proved a source of great interest to visitors to the show. There were also practical lectures on bee-keeping in the Bee Tent by Mr. F. H. Taylor, of the British Bee Keepers' Association; while Mr. Henry Digby lectured in the Poultry Tent upon the birds exhibited in the table poultry and duckling classes.

Judges.

CATTLE.—Shorthorns: Mr. Henry Dudding, Stallingborough, Lincolnshire. Shorthorn Dairy Cattle: Mr. John Howard, Gargrave. Channel Islands Cattle: Mr. C. W. Brierley Brimfield, Herefordshire.

HORSES.—Hunters: Mr. William Wilson, Lowdham, Nottingham. Hackneys, Ponies, and Harness Classes: Mr John Rowell, Bury, Huntingdon. Leaping Competitions: First day, Mr. Robert Burrow, Kirby Lonsdale, and Mr. J. Marshall Tyson, Cark-in-Cartmel; second day, Mr. W. Bainbridge, Lancaster, and Mr. J. T. Pilling, Rochdale; third day, Mr. Arthur Radcliffe, Rochdale, and Mr. William Mason, Grange-over-Sands. Shire and Agricultural Horses: Mr. Edward Green, Welshpool, Montgomeryshire, and Mr. J. W. Rowland, Fishtoft, Boston, Lincolnshire.

SHEEP.—Shropshires: Mr. William Barrs, Odstone Hall, Atherstone. Leicesters and Wensleydales: Mr. Robert Ewbank, Lawkland Green, near Settle. Herdwicks and Lonks: Mr. George Dewhurst, Southport.

PIGS: Mr. William Dracup, Shipley.

LOCAL EXHIBITS.—Cattle: Mr. George Ashburner, Kirkby-in-Furness. Light and Heavy Horses and Turnouts: Mr. Peter Blundell, Weeton, Kirkham. Pigs: Mr. Philip Ascheroft, Rufford, near Ormskirk.

Durham County at West Hartlepool.

The fifty-sixth annual exhibition of the Durham County Agricultural Society took place at Foggy Furze, West Hartlepool, on Wednesday, and in all circumstances of entries, weather, and attendance of visitors, was well above the show held at the same town ten years ago, and compared favourably with the exhibitions of the past few years. About £1,000 was offered in prizes, and this drew just over a thousand entries. In one or two departments, hunters and Hackneys, for instance, the numbers were not equal to those of the Durham meeting, but these deficiencies were atoned for in other sections, notably in agricultural horses and cattle. The 147 entries in the heavy horse classes represented an advance in merit as well as in number. The Seaham Harbour Stud sent some of its best blood, and the produce of Lord Stewart and other noted progenitors carried off a substantial share of the spoil, especially among the younger stock. The older ones included that grand mare Essence, who, besides heading her class, took the challenge cup open to breeding animals in the section; the Holyrood mare Necklet and the four year-old gelding Laffy. Brood mares were one of the best classes, with a splendid entry of fifteen. Here was found the winner of the challenge cup for the best breeding animal belonging to a tenant farmer. It was Mr. Ralph Holwe's Lady Rullan that earned the distinction, and she was also reserved for the open championship. Queen of Gretna, a Scottish bred mare and winner of many prizes, made a promising bid for second place in the class. Her owner, Mr. J. T. Peacock, had several successes, particularly in the local competitions. In nearly all the agricultural classes special prizes, equivalent in value to the open awards, were given to local exhibitors.

An entry of forty-nine hunters in ten classes was not at all satisfactory. Any age hunters, of either sex, were a nice lot. In putting Mr. Jordison's Mowbray Huntsman before Mr. Smallwood's John Peel the judges showed their disagreement with their confreres at the Cleveland Show. Messrs. T. and H. Ward's Lord Clare, winner of the Cleveland Hunt prize and Edinburgh champion, was here reserved. The Pinchingthorpe representative had already had his colours lowered by Mr. Hodgson's Volunteer, an old showyard victor. The three-year-old gelding class was notable for the triumph of Mr. Darrell's Silverdale over Messrs. Ward's Blackthorn. At the Yorkshire, at Malton, and at Peterborough, the chestnut was beaten by the Irish-bred gelding. Neither of these winners was eligible—both coming from Yorkshire—to compete for the Championship Challenge Cup or the Hunters' Improvement Society's medal, both of which trophies were bestowed upon Mr. John Beech's stylish Gordon gelding, Tally Ho! a chestnut that had a place at the Northumberland Show a year ago. With his Golden Ruby, Mr. Darrell topped the three-year-old filly class, beating Mr. Wilson Horsfall's Queen Mary, a handsome bay, by Khartoum. Two-year-old fillies were but a couple, and there could be no doubt about the superiority of Jessie Skillen, who added to many victories by earning for Mr. Hague a first prize and the Hunters' Improvement Society's medal for females. Geldings of the same age were better represented, and the pick of them was found in Messrs. Ward's Blackbird, whose third place at York and Doncaster may be regarded as about equivalent to his premier honours at Middlebrough and Otley. Yearlings were small in number, but promising as to quality.

Hackneys, if smaller in number than might have been expected, included a few noted winners. It was almost a foregone conclusion that Mr. John Robinson's famous Mornington Cannon would carry off the trophy. The Saxon gelding shows at his best in the saddle, and he was not entered in the harness class, where Mr. Eustace Smith's Marvellous, whom Mornington Cannon beat in the riding class, was brought to the front. Mr. Smith's name frequently crops up in the prize list, and his many successes on Wednesday included the Hackney Society's medal. Ladies' hacks were only a moderate collection, and ponies not much to boast about.

The Shorthorns made a capital display. Bulls were best. There were many well-known showyard heroes. Among the bulls above two years old was Mr. George Harrison's Favourite of Sanquhar, who, however, had to take second place—a corresponding position to that which he held in the young class at Doncaster and also at Alnwick—being here defeated by an older bull, Mr. Midgley's massive, well-fleshed Marvel, from Stamford Bridge, who in the older class at the Yorkshire took third prize, and was reserved at the Royal. At the Northumberland Show Mr. Henderson's Erlington Stamp, here third, was placed before the second prize winner. Fifteen bulls under two years made a first-rate show. Baron Abbotsford, a bull of fine proportions and rare quality, which was first at Doncaster and at his home at Alnwick, had no difficulty in maintaining his position. His most formidable rival was Mr. George Harrison's First Favourite, to whom was accorded the Shorthorn Society's special district prize. The female classes were not well filled, but the lots were choice. Mr. Bell's Lady Clara 3rd, a beast of the Abbotsford strain, got the 50 guinea challenge cup as the best breeding animal in the cattle classes. The Polled Angus representatives numbered several of more than ordinary merit. The sheep classes were thin, and in many cases there was practically no competition.

Judges.

CATTLE.—Shorthorns: Mr. John Patten, Alnwick, and Mr P. G. Hughes, Brampton Brian, Hereford. Polled Angus: Mr. Henry Lindsay, Glamis, Forfarshire. Dairy and Grazing Cattle: Mr. James McLaren, Sunderland, and Mr. Walter Ridley, Stocksfield.

SHEEP.—Border Leicester and Half-breed: Mr M Bailey, Haydon Bridge, and Mr A Wood, Cambridge. Black-faced Sheep and Mule Sheep: Mr J Dawson, West Newlands, and Mr. R. W. Lambert, Warcup, Westmorland.

HORSES.—Agricultural: Mr. Nathaniel Clark, Chester-le-Street, and Mr. W. Park, Bishopton. Hunters: Mr. J Walton, Guisborough, and Mr. J. S. Rigg, Appleby. Hackney and Harness Horses and Ponies: Mr. Henry Moore, Burn Butts, Hull, and Mr. W. Jordison, Thirsk.

Champion and Special Prizes.

Champion challenge cup, value 30 guineas, for the best breeding animal in the cattle classes: Mr. Bell, Ratchelugh (Lady Clara).

Shorthorn Society's district prize of £15 for the best Shorthorn bull calved in 1899, located in the county of Durham: Mr. G. Harrison, Gainford (First Favourite).

Champion challenge cup, value 25 guineas, for the best breeding animal in the age classes: Mr. [illegible] Hartlepool Stud Co. (Essence).

Champion challenge cup, value 25 guineas, for the best breeding animal in the county belonging to a tenant farmer: Mr. [illegible] (Lady Rullan).

Champion challenge cup, value 25 guineas, for the best animal in the Hackney classes: Mr. J. B. Hall.

Hackney Horse Society's silver medal for the best Hackney, a prize more highly valued than the champion challenge cup, as it has to be won three times before registration in the Hackney Stud Book: Mr. [illegible] Smith, Benton House.

Champion challenge cup, value 25 guineas, for the best hunter: Mr. J. [illegible] Beech, Tally Ho!

Special prizes for the best hunter gelding, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer, residing and farming in the county of Durham: 1, Mr. F. W. [illegible] Eggleseliffe; 2, Mr. W. Dent, Darlington; 3, Mr. J. Scarrell, West Auckland.

The Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medals—one for the best hunter filly and the second for the best hunter gelding—were awarded to J. B. Hague's Jessie Skillen and John Beech's Tally Ho!

Prize List.

CATTLE.

Bull, above two years: 1, James Midgley, Buttercrambe, Stamford Bridge (Marvel); 2, G. Harrison (Favourite), Darlington; 3, W. Hodgson, Pinchingthorpe (Volunteer); 4, W. Henderson, Erington Hall, Haydon Bridge (Erington Stamp); 5, T. Lowden, Elrington Hall, Haydon Bridge (Cornwallis); r, W. Bell, Ratchelugh, Alnwick.

Bull, under two years: 1, William Bell (Baron Abbotsford); 2, G. Harrison (First Favourite); 3, W. Henderson (Lord Tees); r, W. Henderson.

Bull, under one year: 1, W. Bell; 2, [illegible]; 3, [illegible]; r, [illegible].

Cow or heifer, in milk or calf, which has produced a calf within the last twelve months: 1, W. Bell (Lady Clara); 2, G. Harrison (Welcome); 3, W. Heaton, Lostock Junction, Bolton (Daisy); 4, G. Harrison.

Heifer, not exceeding two years: 1, G. Harrison (Village Queen); 2, G. H. Procter (Fairy Ring); 3, W. Bell (Clara); 4, W. Henderson (Lady Cornelia).

Heifer, not exceeding one year old: 1, W. Henderson (Bessie); 2, G. H. Procter; 3, [illegible]; 4, G. H. Procter (Royal Rosebud); 4, Lord Barnard.

POLLED ANGUS.

Bull, over two years: 1, T. H. Bainbridge, Ezbott Hall, Felton (Annesley); 2, Seaton Delaval Coal Company, Limited (Golden Ear).

Bull, under two years: 1, Seaton Delaval Coal Company, Limited (Luminant); 2, C. Perkins and Partners, Birtley (Prince of Benton).

Cow or heifer, in calf or with her produce at foot, or calf within the last twelve months: 1, T. H. Bainbridge (Sibonna); 2, C. Stephenson, Sunderland (Miss Nessie); (Elite of Benton); 3, C. Perkins and Partners (Pride of Cortachy).

Heifer, under two years old: 1, C. Stephenson (Exemption); 2, Seaton Delaval Coal Company (Exploit); 3, C. E. Hunter, Schlig (Jessie of Seaton); 4, C. Perkins and Partners (Maud 2nd of Aberlour).

DAIRY.

(Confined to Tenant Farmers and Dairymen in the County of Durham.)

Cow, any age or breed, in milk best for dairy purposes: 1, H. Lamb, High Throston (Dairymaid); 2, T. Swinburne, West Hartlepool (Pride of Durham).

Best dairy cow, in calf, any age or breed, to produce a fully matured calf within [illegible] months of show: 1, G. H. Procter (Bella); 2, T and 3, T. Swinburne (Bella).

SHEEP.

BORDER LEICESTERS.

Ram, any age: 1, J. E. Nicholson.

Ram, shearling: 1, 2, and 3, J. E. Nicholson.

Pen of three ewes: 1, J. E. Nicholson; 2, T. Murray, Haswell.

Pen of three gimmers: 1, J. E. Nicholson.

Pen of three gimmer lambs: 1, J. E. Nicholson.

BLACK-FACED CHEVIOT AND HALF-BRED.

Best pen of three ewes: 1, T. Murray; 2, P. Oswald, Washington.

BLACK-FACED.

Ram, any age: 1 and 2, J. Vickers, Tow Law.

Ram, shearling: 1 and 3, Crawford Brothers, Rothbury; 2, J. Vickers.

Ram, lamb: 1 and 2, J. Vickers.

Pen of three ewes: 1 and 2, J. Vickers.

Pen of three gimmers: 1 and 2, J. Vickers.

Pen of three gimmer lambs: 1 and 2, J. Vickers.

MULE.

(Open to tenant farmers in the county of Durham.)

Pen of three ewes: 1, W. [illegible]; 2, [illegible] Harrison, Sheraton, Castle Eden; 3, R. Crowe, Cornsay.

Pen of three gimmers: 1, R. Crowe; 2, T. M. Reed, Brandon; 3, W. Hutchinson.

HORSES.

AGRICULTURAL.

Brood mare, with foal at foot: 1, R. H. [illegible], Moors, Sinderland Hall, Rainton; 1st special, [illegible] and Sons; 2, John T. Peacock, Low Newport, Silksworth (Queen of Gretna); 3, Earl of Strathmore (Queen of Beauty); r, R. Shepherd, Crossgate Moor (Lady Blossom).

Colt foal: 1, Seaham Harbour Stud Company; special 1st, P. P. Petch, Skelton-in-Cleveland (Baden Powell); 2, R. Holme; special 2nd, T. Seymour.

Filly foal: 1, Seaham Harbour Stud Company; special 1st, M. Clark, Hallgarth, Pittington; 2, Earl of Strathmore; special 2nd, R. Shepherd, Crossgate Moor (Ladysmith); r, The Earl of Durham.

Colt or filly foal, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer, residing and farming in the county of Durham: 1, [illegible] Earl of Strathmore; 2 and special, M. Clark, Pittington.

Yearling filly: 1, Seaham Harbour Stud Company; r and special 1st, Hugh Munro, Low Fell; 2, Herbert Webster, Fence Houses; special 2nd, F. Thompson, Swalwell.

Yearling colt, filly, or gelding, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer, residing and farming in the county of Durham: 1, [illegible]; special 1st, J. [illegible]; 2, [illegible]; special 2nd, M. [illegible]; r, John Clark, jun.

Two-year-old filly: 1, H. Webster; 1st special, Thomas Smith and Sons; 2, [illegible]; special 2nd, T. Smith and Sons (Fairy); 2nd special, W. Liddle Walker; r, H. B. Howie, Bowsell.

Two-year-old gelding: 1, H. Webster; 2 and 1st special, T. Smith and Sons; r and 2nd special, Turnbull Brothers, Chester-le-Street.

Foal, [illegible]; 1, [illegible]; 2, W. [illegible]; r, [illegible].

The Earl of Durham's (Yearling Mare) [illegible] special, T. Smith and Sons; r and 2nd special, T. Seaham Harbour Stud Company.

Three-year-old gelding: 1 and 1st special, W. T. and T.

Snowdon, Wingate; 2, Seaham Harbour Stud Co.; 2nd special, T. W. Best, Castle Eden; r, J. B. Short, West Hartlepool.

Draught mare in foal, and to produce a living foal: 1, Seaham Harbour Stud Co.; 1st special, T. Nesbit, Witton-le-Wear; 2, H. Webster; 2nd special, W. Liddle Walker.

Gelding or mare, any age, for agricultural purposes: 1, Seaham Harbour Stud Company (Necklet); 2 and special, J. T. Peacock, Silksworth (Queen May); 2nd special, W. L. Walker.

Pair of horses or mares, for agricultural purposes, not under three years old: 1, Seaham Harbour Stud Company; r and 1st special, W. L. Walker; 2, H. Webster; 2nd special, J. T. Peacock.

For the best gelding, any age over four years, suitable for town work: 1, Seaham Harbour Stud Company (Laffy); 2, John Reay, Gosforth (Rizzie).

Three animals, bred and owned by one exhibitor, the property of a tenant farmer in the county of Durham: 1, W. L. Walker; 2, M. Clark, Pittington; 3, E. J. Weightman, Middle Herrington.

HUNTERS.

Brood mare, with foal at foot or in foal: 1, T. Swales, Yarm-on-Tees; 2, J. Ingledew, Bedale; 3, W. Dent, Darlington.

Colt or filly foal: 1, J. Ingledew; 2, W. Dent; 3, J. Ingledew.

Yearling colt or gelding: 1, R. W. Breeks, Westmoreland (Old Canbat); 2, R. Thompson, Thorpe Thewles (Dare Devil); 3, N. Robinson, Houghton-le-Spring.

Yearling filly: 1, W. Dent; 2, J. Hague, Stockton (Lady Ruby); 3, J. Ingledew.

Two-year-old gelding: 1, T. and H. Ward, Pinchinthorpe; 2, F. W. Smith, Manor House, Eaglescliffe, R.S.O.; 3, J. E. Rogerson, Mount Oswald, Durham (Gridsdale).

Two-year-old filly: 1, J. R. Hague (Jessie Skiller); 2, R. W. Breeks, Hilbeck Hall, Westmoreland (Carmine).

Three-year-old gelding: 1, James S. Darrell, West Ayton, Yorks (Silverdale); 2, T. and H. Ward; 3, J. Beach (Tally Ho).

Three-year-old filly: 1, James S. Darrell (Golden Ruby); 2, F. Wilson, Potto Grange, Northallerton (Queen Mary); 3, W. Dent.

Hunter, four years old: 1, E. Hodgson, The Hollows, Bridlington (Volunteer); 2, T. and H. Ward; 3, G. Martin, Muscoates, Kirby Moorside (First Flight).

Hunter, any age: 1, W. Jordison (Mowbray Huntsman); 2, D. Smallwood, Whitby, Yorks (John Peel); 3, T. and H. Ward.

HACKNEYS.

Brood mare, with foal at foot or in foal: 1, Eustace Smith, Newcastle-on-Tyne (Dowdrop); 2, John Burton and Sons, Copthwick, Ripon (Miss Derwent); r, Mrs. F. Robson (Sweet Lavender).

Foal, colt, or filly: 1, E. Smith; 2, W. Owde (Mobile); r, J. Burton and Sons.

Yearling colt, gelding, or filly: 1, R. Mowbray (Lady Salferia).

Two-year-old gelding or filly: Mrs. F. Robson (Lavender Bouquet); 2, J. Burton and Sons (Derwent Lilly).

Three-year-old gelding or filly: C. W. B. Wally (Winniemeyde).

Hackney, exceeding 15 hands in saddle: 1, J. Robinson (Mornington Cannon); 2, E. Smith (Marvellous); r, T. M. Chaytor, Demsterville, Felling (Lightheart).

Hackney, not exceeding 15 hands in saddle: 1, E. Smith (Wild Lucy); 2, John Robinson; r, W. H. Ferens (Lady Neville)

LADIES' HACK.

Best horse or mare, any age: 1, C. W. Dixon-Johnson, Oakwood, Croft (Monica); 2, E. Owsnett, Darlington (Oracle II.)

PONIES.

Best pony brood mare, with foal at foot, or in foal, not exceeding 14 hands: 1, Eustace Smith (Echo).

Pony foal: 1, E. Smith.

Pony mare or gelding, not exceeding 14 hands: 1, E. Smith (Neva); 2, A. Phillipson (Cassino II.); r, G. Wade (Lady).

Pony mare or gelding, not exceeding 12.2 hands: 1, T. S. Petch, Loftus; 2, Sir Riley Lord, Gosforth (Royalty); r, S. Rowe (Dandy Dick)

SHETLAND PONIES.

Best brood mare, with foal at foot, or in foal: 1, Seaham Harbour Stud Company; 2, T. Murray (Haswell).

HARNESS HORSES.

Best horse or mare, 15.2 hand and over, driven in harness: 1, E. Smith; 2, J. B. Hodgkin; r, G. Wade.

Horse or mare, under 15.2, driven in harness: 1, Smith; 2, A. E. Scanlon, Middlesbrough; 3, G. Wade.

Horse or mare, not exceeding 14.2, driven in harness: 1, E. Smith; 2, A. Philipson; r, R. W. Paley, M.R.C.V.S., Middlesbrough.

Horse or mare, not exceeding 13 hands, driven in harness: 1, E. Smith (Mena); 2, T. S. Petch; r, Sir Riley Lord.

Tradesmen or tenant farmers' class, 15 hands and over, driven in harness: 1, G. Wade; 2, George E. Gibson

Tradesmen or tenant farmers' class, under 15 hands, driven in harness: 1, A. Philipson, Dipton; 2, J. Henderson; 3, W. H. Ferens, Neville Court, Durham.

LEADING

Best horse or mare, any age: J. Freeman, Viewley Grange; 2 and 3, T. E. Lavin, Ripon.

Horse or mare, any age, which has not won a first prize (confined to the county of Durham): 1, D. Cussons, Old Cornforth; 2, J. Coding; 3, T. Swales, Yarm-on-Tees.

Gloucestershire.

The three-day exhibition of the Gloucestershire Agricultural Society opened at Gloucester on Wednesday in beautiful weather, which also prevailed on the other days, and the attendance of visitors was a very large one. The site of the showyard was an extensive meadow known as the Oxleaze, the property of the Corporation, and admirably situated on the bank of the Severn, close to Westgate Bridge. The local committee were responsible for the provision of the showyard, and in addition the citizens subscribed £350 towards the general prize fund of about £1,000, of which £150 was allocated in local prizes. The total number of entries of stock was 344, a decrease of forty-eight when compared with last year's show at Cirencester, but the difference is to be accounted for by the fact that on the present occasion there was no display of pigs, owing to the existence of swine fever in the county. The entries show a falling off when contrasted with the last Gloucester exhibition in 1897 of fifty-nine, but in that year there were fifty-five entries of pigs, so that the aggregate this time compares favourably with past shows. Of the grand total 141 entries were of cattle, an increase of twenty-one over last year, while the 151 horses were thirty-one below the number twelve months ago, and there were three fewer pens of sheep. Many well-known exhibitors were represented, and the general competition was very keen, the quality of the animals being above the average. In addition to the stock there was an excellent exhibition of dairy produce, and of agricultural implements and machinery.

Cattle.

The cattle section was headed by the Shorthorns, and a very excellent display was made in the aggregate, many of the leading exhibitors in the county forwarding the best of their herds. In the class for old bulls there were nine capital animals. The first position was given by the judges (Messrs. P. A. Evans and Rowland Hood) to Alto, the well-known roan bull of Mr. Richard Stratton; and Mr. Sidney Hill, of Langford, was a good second with Puck, also one of Mr. Stratton's breeding. For bulls calved in 1898 eleven entered, and the win of Mr. G. F. King with his roan, Chewton Oxford Cornelius, was a popular one; Mr. Sidney Hill again took second, this time with Langford Lavender, and Mr. J. Deane Willis was placed third. In this class Lord Fitzhardinge was h.c. with Lord Barrington Bates 4th. In a capital class of fifteen yearlings, Mr. J. T. Hobbs, Maiseyhampton, Fairford, was placed at the head with New Year's Gift, a squarely-built youngster which was purchased recently from the herd of Mr. W. J. Hosken. A very useful bull, Wanderer's Prince, obtained for Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., Buscot Park, Faringdon, the third honours, he being beaten by Bapton Consul, bred by Mr. Willis, and shown by Mr. G. Freeman, Northleach. The best bull calf was a roan, Bapton Arrow, sired by Sittington Archer, and bred by the exhibitor, Mr. J. D. Willis, while Mr. R. Stratton's Hildebrand, a smart son of Highflyer, ranked next. Mr. Freeman's Bapton Consul also received the Shorthorn Society's special prize for the best Shorthorn bull in the counties of Gloucester and Monmouth. The cow class was exceptionally well filled, but Mr. C. W. Brierley carried off the two principal prizes with Autumn Queen and Ingram's Queen, well-bred daughters of Joe Ingram. Both were brought out in beautiful condition, and they have won a considerable number of prizes this season at the county shows. A strong milker, Snowdrop 8th, secured Lord Tredegar the third prize. Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., headed the three-year-old cows or heifers with a handsome red cow, Grace Darling, the winner on several occasions recently, second place being awarded to Mr. C. W. Brierley's red Lavender Queen. Mr. J. D. Willis's White Heather was the best of the two-year-old heifers, while the class for yearling heifers was conspicuous by reason of the winner, Lord Tredegar's Lassie 3rd, being awarded the female Shorthorn championship. It was surprising, and at the same time disappointing, that there should only be two classes of Herefords, and still more surprising that there should have been only one exhibit. This was Lord Coventry's Mercury, a red and white two-year-old bull well known in the show ring, and he was given a first prize. The Jerseys looked well, and the contests for the prizes were keenly fought. Colonel McCalmont, M.P., Ross, was first in the old bull class with the dark brown Golden Spring, second honours going to Mr. A. Gibbs, Bristol. The best of the young bulls was exhibited by the Duke of Marlborough, and his Grace also secured leading honours in the two-year-old heifer class. Colonel McCalmont, M.P., showed the first prize cow, and Mr. A. Gibbs the best of the yearling heifers. In a single class of Dexters there were three entries, all by Colonel Stallard, Malvern Link, who received the first prize with a five-year-old cow. The competition in the dairy classes was not very strong, but a number of useful milkers were exhibited.

Sheep.

Sheep were an average show numerically, but the entries ought to have been far larger considering the number of classes in which prizes are offered. For instance, in three classes of Cotswolds there were only four entries, all by Mr. Russell Swanwick, Cirencester, and he took the prizes. There was a better representation of Southdowns, but Lord Sherborne, Northleach, and Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, Wootton-under-Edge, were the only exhibitors. The former secured all the first prizes and the champion medals, and the colonel had to be content with two second prizes. It was very much the same in Oxford Downs, Mr. J. T. Hobbs, Maiseyhampton, being the principal winner. In Hampshire Downs Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., Buscot Park, took the first prize for yearling rams, but was beaten in the ram lamb class by Mr. L. H. Baxendale, Newbury, who won the champion prize. Mr. Baxendale was the only exhibitor of ewe lambs, and Mr. Jeffery Matthews, Winterbourne, Bristol, was the most successful exhibitor of cross-bred sheep.

Horses.

The horses were as a whole an exceedingly good lot, but the competition was somewhat unequal, the merits of not a few being much below the average. Of the Shire stallions foaled in or before 1897 Lord Tredegar carried off the first prize with the five-year-old Valentine of Hothfield, second prize going to Lord Fitzhardinge for The Syndic, four years old. Mr. R. W. Hudson, Great Marlow, continued his show success by taking first prize in the two-year-old stallion class with the massive Danesfield Prince. Second prize went to Lord Wantage with the smart, useful Lockinge Soudan, which was also awarded the silver medal of the Shire Horse Society, previous winners being debarred from competing for the trophy. A thick-set, stalwart youngster, Blaisdon Prince, a son of Prince Harold, owned by Mr. Peter Stubbs, Newnham, was at the head of the yearling stallions, Lord Bathurst's firm and compact Cicester Bellman ranking next. In a good class of mares with foals Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., secured the premier position with Moors Cambria, a grand-looking five-year-old, with a splendid foal at foot, and Lord Wantage received the second with Tatton Flower, a Staffordshire-bred four-year-old, with a foal by the well-known Hendre Crown Prince. The tenant farmers' class was not well filled, but a highly useful mare, Jolly, with a nice foal, credited Mr. M. B. Stubbins, Bristol, with the chief prize. In the class for yearling mares or geldings Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., was placed first with Lockinge Harriet, which also won the silver medal offered for the best Shire female. Mr. P. Stubs was second, but in the next class for two-year-old mares or geldings he was promoted to first place. A heavy upstanding mare belonging to Mr. R. W. Hudson led in the class for three-year-old mares or geldings; and Mr. R. H. Norman, Tewkesbury, showed a useful tenant farmer's horse, which took first prize in the class for mares and geldings, rising five years. Light horses made a capital display, the hunters being especially good for a country show. In the class for brood mares, Mr. Cave Browne Cave, Malvern, was first with a well-sized Irish grey mare, The Geisha, and the best of a fine collection of yearling mares or geldings was a brown horse of showy character and pretty style belonging to Mr. William Till, Ross. In this class Mr. Holt Needham, Castle Cary, Somerset, was second with a chestnut mare, Chorus Girl, but this exhibitor came off better in the two-year-old class of mares and geldings, taking the highest position with his chestnut mare, Dancing Girl. The second honour went to Mr. F. W. Barling, Ross, with Lucky Box. In the previous class, the winner and the reserve—Mr. Till and Mrs. Nichols—were objected to on the ground that their animals did not comply with the conditions of the class in which they were entered—Class 78. The objections were sustained, and Mr. N. H. Needham's Chorus Girl was placed first. Mr. Holt Needham was again successful in the three-year-old class of mares and geldings, his winner, a chestnut filly, Killarney, also receiving the silver medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society for the best hunter filly not exceeding three years old. Mr. J. H. Stokes, Great Bowden, won in the four-year-old mare or gelding class, and Mr. J. Nixon, Cardiff, in the collection a year older. A number of good hacks and ponies were entered. Mrs. A. K. Apperley, Cheltenham, being the most successful exhibitor of riding horses over 14 hands 2 inches, and Mr. E. R. Apperley, Cheltenham, of similar horses under that height. Mrs. Apperley not only owned the first-prize pony in the class, 13 hands 2 inches and under, while Mr. W. Howels, Brecon, was first in the collection of ponies not exceeding 12 hands 2 inches. For the first time, thanks chiefly to the influence of the secretary, Mr. Townsend, polo matches were arranged in connection with the show, and they proved a great attraction

Judges.

CATTLE.—Shorthorns and Herefords: Mr. P. A. Evans, Welshpool, and Mr. Rowland Wood, Thrapston, Dexters: Mr. T. R. Herbert, Worcester. Jerseys: Mr. G. P. Mead, Shrewsbury. Dairy Cattle and Dexters: Colonel Curtis-Hayward.

SHEEP.—Cotswolds and Cross-breds: Mr. T. E. Hobbs, Worcester. Southdowns: Mr. R. Aubrey-Fletcher, Cirencester. Oxford Downs: Mr. John Beavan, Witney. Other Sheep Classes: Mr. Jos. Beach, Wychwood. Hampshire Downs: Mr. Joseph Dean, Codford, Wilts.

HORSES.—Cart Horses: Mr. H. Percy Thompson, Bedworth, and Mr. Jos. Paisley, Wateley. Local Classes: Mr. Robert Grew, Sherborne. Hackneys: Mr. Algernon Rickhout, M.F.H., Moreton-in-the-Marsh, and Mr. T. Butt Miller, M.F.H., Cricklade, Wilts. Hacks and Ponies: Mr. C. Morrell. Driving, Jumping and Tradesmen's Classes: Major H. H. Calvert, Messrs. W. F. Hobbs, Beach, R. J. Tidswell, H. M. Wilson, M.F.H., H. C. Ll. Baker, and H. L. Hardwicke.

Champion and Special Prizes.

Shorthorn Society's diploma prize of £5 for the best Shorthorn bull calved in 1899, in the counties of Gloucester and Monmouth: Mr. George Freeman, Bapton Consul, Lord Tredegar (Prince Ali).

Champion prize for the best bull: Mr. J. T. Hobbs (New Year's Gift).

Shorthorn Society's special prize for the best Shorthorn cow, in milk, of any age: 1, Mr. Alexander Henderson, M.P. (Dowager 13th); 2, Mr. G. F. King (Countess 40); r, Mr. Richard Read Jones, Ulleskelf (Mr. Alexander F. Marsh (Grange Osberton and Victoria Nicholas); c, Mr. John Little (Red Rose 3rd).

Champion prize for the best female: Lord Tredegar (Lassie 3rd).

Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the champion stallion over three years: Lord Wantage, K.C.B., V.C., Lockinge Sandiway.

Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the champion female: Mr. Alex. Henderson, M.P. (Lockinge Harriet).

Prize List.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Bull calved in 1894-5-6: 1, Mr. Richard Stratton (Alto); 2, Mr. Sidney Hill (Puck); 3, Mr. Charles W. Brierley (Ben Ledi); r, Mr. J. Dean Willis (Silver Plate); c, Mr. William Edward Bolston.

Bull calved in 1898: 1, Mr. George F. King (Chewton Oxford Cornelius); 2, Mr. Sidney Hill (Langford Lavender);

3, Mr. J. Deane Willis (Granite Chip); r, Mr. Richard Stratton (Union Jack); hc, Mr. John Garne (Prince Pioneer), Mr. C. H. Joliffe (Ruddigore), Lord Fitzhardinge (Lord Barrington Bates 4th).

Bull calved in 1899: 1, Mr. James T. Hobbs (New Year's Gift); 2, Mr. George Freeman (Bapton Consul); 3, Mr. Alexander Henderson, M.P. (Wanderer's Prince); hc, Mr. G. F. King (Chewton Favourite), Mr. H. G. Bush (Bitton Augustus); c, Mr. W. E. Bolston (Merman).

Bull calved since September 1st, 1899: 1, Mr. J. Deane Willis (Bapton Arrow); 2, Mr. Richard Stratton (Hildebrand); 3, Lord Fitzhardinge (Barrister); hc, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, K.C.B. (Lord Kingscote Gwynne 8th); c, Mr. A. John Bloss (Lord Bourton), Mr. W. S. Dowding (Longney Duke), Mr. W. H. Tremaine (Baron Sherborne 14th and Duke of Gloucester 2nd).

Cow in milk: 1 and 2, Mr. Charles W. Brierley (Autumn Queen and Ingram's Queen); 3, Lord Tredegar (Showaway 8th); r, Mr. John Little (Ruby); hc, Mr. Alexander Henderson, M.P. (Dowager 13th); c, Mr. C. H. Joliffe (Lady Jane Pitlivie), Mr. Benjamin Read (Jeannie 11th), Mr. G. F. King (Countess 40), Mr. Arnold Hall (Tulip Leaf 19th).

Cow or heifer calved in 1897: 1, Mr. Alexander Henderson (Grace Darling); 2, Mr. Charles Brierley (Lavender Queen); 3, Mr. John Bloss (Pancake); r, Mr. John Little (Moss Rose 2nd).

Heifer calved in 1898: 1, Mr. J. Deane Willis (White Heather); 2, Messrs. R. and W. T. Garne (Aldsworth Jewel); 3, Mr. Charles W. Brierley (Queenley Duchess); c, Mr. John Garne (First Favourite).

Heifer calved in 1899: 1, Lord Tredegar (Lassie 3rd); 2, Mr. J. Deane Willis (Victorine); 3, Mr. C. H. Joliffe (Rosy Dawn); r, Mr. Sidney Hill (Azalea); c, Mr. Edward T. Gardom (Tulip Leaf 24th).

Heifer calved since September 1st, 1899: 1, Lord Sherborne (Scottish Countess 2nd); r, R. and W. T. Garne (Patience); r, Lord Sherborne (Daisy Marie 6th); hc, Mr. George Freeman (Freshwater).

HEREFORDS.

Bull of any age: 1, The Earl of Coventry (Mercury).

JERSEYS.

Bull above two years old: 1, Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P. (Golden Spring); 2, Mr. Antony Gibbs (Black Prince); r, Mr. John Dearman Birchall (Omburman).

Bull above one and under two years old: 1, The Duke of Marlborough (Dewey); 2, Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P. (Chief Justice); r, Mr. Herbert O. Lord (Hazel).

CROSS-BREDS.

Three wether lambs: 1 and 2, Mr. Jeffery Matthews; r, Mr. Francis Scott.

Three ewe lambs: 1 and 2, Mr. Jeffery Matthews; r, Mr. Francis Scott.

HORSES.

CART HORSES.

Shire stallion: 1, Lord Tredegar (Valentine of Hothfield); 2, Lord Fitzhardinge (The Syndic); r, Earl Bathurst (Coaster Beau Harold).

Shire stallion, foaled 1893: 1, Mr. R. W. Hudson (Dunsfield Prince); 2, Lord Wantage, K.C.B., V.C. (Lockinge Soudan); r, Mr. Peter Stubs; c, Mr. Alex. Henderson, M.P., and Mr. Bertram Hutchinson.

Shire stallion: 1, Mr. Peter Stubs (Blaisdon Prince); 2, Hon. Earl Bathurst (Cicester Bellman); r, Mr. G. F. King; c, Mr. R. W. Hobbs and Mr. F. W. Rigg.

Mare, with foal at foot: 1, Mr. Alex. Henderson, M.P. (Messrs. Cambria); 2, Lord Wantage, K.C.B., V.C. (Lockinge Flower); r, Mr. W. H. Godding; c, Mr. Peter Stubs (2), and Mr. G. F. King.

Mare and foal: 1, Mr. M. B. Stabbins (Jolly); 2, Mr. J. G. Rymer (Bell); r, Mr. Samuel Phelps (Candbury).

Mare or gelding: 1 and c, Mr. Alexander Henderson, M.P. (Lockinge Harriet); 2, Mr. Peter Stubs (Blaisdon Lofty); r, Mr. R. W. Hudson.

Mare or gelding: 1, Mr. Peter Stubs (Blaisdon Rose); 2, Mr. R. W. Hobbs (Kelmscott Venus); r, Earl Bathurst (Cicester Chime).

Mare or gelding: 1, Mr. R. W. Hudson (Markedon Wild Wave); 2, Mr. Peter Stubs (Blaisdon Minnie); r, Lord Wantage, K.C.B., V.C. (Lockinge Helen); vhc, Mr. F. W. Vines (Monarch); c, Mr. Martin Crump (Colonel), Mr. John L. Brookes (Noble); hc, Mr. Samuel Phelps (Norman).

Mare or gelding: 1, Mr. Rowland Henry Norman (Lion); 2, Mr. F. W. Vines (Excelsior); r, Mr. John L. Brookes (Jolly); c, Mr. Fred Morgan (Blossom).

Mare or gelding, foaled in 1898, the property of the exhibitor residing within fifteen miles of the Gloucester Cross: 1, Mr. John L. Brookes (Prince).

Special prize, cart mare or gelding, ditto, within twelve miles of the Gloucester Cross: 1, Mr. M. B. Stabbins (Jolly); 2, Mr. Frederick J. Chamberlayne (Duke).

HUNTERS.

Brood mare: 1, Mr. R. Cave-Browne-Cave (The Geisha); 2, Mr. W. H. Barber (Sunbeam); r, Mr. Leonard H. Taylor (Platyplus); hc, Mr. William Till (Silver Sand).

Mare or gelding: 1, Mr. William Till (Whisperer); 2, Mr. Oliver Needham Holt-Needham (Chorus Girl); r, Mr. Edwin Nichols (Flying Fox).

Mare or gelding (1898): 1, Mr. Oliver Needham Holt-Needham (Dancing Girl); 2, Mr. F. W. Barling (Lucky Box); r, Mr. Edwin Nichols (Jeddah); hc, Miss Amelia W. Edwards (The Misty Sun).

Mare or gelding (1897): 1 and silver medal, Mr. Oliver Needham Holt-Needham (Killarney); 2, Mr. John Clem Barton (Sportsman); r, Mr. William Till (Aroma).

Mare or gelding (1896): 1, Mr. J. H. Stokes; 2, Mr. T. D. John (Donoraile); r, Mr. E. F. Blackwell (Baron); hc, Mr. Martin Crump.

Mare or gelding, five years old and over, equal to carry 15 stone: 1, Mr. John Nixon (Colonel); 2, Mr. J. W. Stokes; r, Mr. H. B. Chandler.

Mare or gelding, five years old and over, equal to carry 13 stone: 1, Mr. John Nixon (Sportsman); 2, Mr. J. H. Stokes; r, Mr. Thomas Cook (Ronald).

Mare or gelding, not exceeding five years old, tenant farmer's class: 1, Mr. J. Clem Barton (May Be); 2, Mr. Martin Crump; r, Mr. E. F. Blackwell (Baron).

HACKS AND PONIES.

Riding horse, over 14 hands 2 inches and not exceeding 15 hands 2 inches: 1 and 2, Mrs. A. K. Apperly (Fancy and Nobleman); r, Mr. E. S. Godsell (Worbury Squire).

Riding horse, 14 hands 2 inches and under: 1, Mr. E. R. Apperly; 2, Mr. F. C. Burroughs (Southam); r, Mr. W. B. C. Burdon (Wise Girl); vhc, Mr. James Farmer.

Pony, for riding, 13 hands 2 inches and under: 1, Mrs. A. K. Apperly (Black Prince); 2, Mr. F. W. Butt (Hartpury Model); r, Mrs. A. M. Budd (Little Nipper); vhc, Messrs. Woolliams Brothers (Dandy).

Pony, for riding, not exceeding 12 hands 2 inches: 1, Mr. William Howels (General); 2, Mr. Herbert R. Hall (Tattoo).

SINGLE HARNESS HORSES.

Horse, over 14 hands 3 inches: 1, Mr. E. S. Godsell (Heathfield Squire); 2, Mr. E. S. Godsell (Lord Bath); r, Mr. Robert Jackson (Masterpiece).

DOUBLE HARNESS HORSES.

Pair, 15 hands and over: Mr. E. S. Godsell (Lord Bath and Duke of York).

JUMPING.

Best jumper in hunting classes: 1 and 2, W. W. Grundy (Horse, 15 hands and over); 1, Mr. C. A. Dennis (Nonconformist); 2, Mr. Francis W. J. Larkins (Artist).

DRIVING CLASSES.

Single horse turn-out (to be made up): 1, Mr. F. M. Vines; 2, Messrs. Blinkhorn and Son; 3, Mr. E. G. Moffatt.

Single horse turn-out (trade): 1, Mr. F. W. [illegible]; Mr. Michael Bass; 3, Messrs. B. Bannister and Son; r, Messrs. Walter Weaver and Sons.

Horse exceeding 15 hands 2 inches and not exceeding 15 hands 3 inches (open): 1, Miss A. K. Apperly (Silver Star); 2, Mr. G. H. Godsell (Lady Abingdon); r, Mr. David Lewis (Kitty).

Tandem, 14 hands and over: 1, Mr. E. S. Godsell (Norbury Squire and Heathfield Squire); 2, Mr. G. H. Godsell (Cameron and Lady Abingdon).

TROTTING.

The fastest trotter not exceeding 15 hands high (local): 1 and 2, Mr. Michael Bass (Classic B and Baby Bee).

Pony not exceeding 13 hands 2 inches: 1, Mr. Ben Sims (Fear Not); 2, Mr. James F. S. Sanders (Parched Pea); 3, Mr. Herbert R. Hall (Little Dot).

For horses that have never won a first prize value £5, the property of a tenant farmer: 1 and 2, Mr. E. R. Apperly.

SHORTHORN HEIFER "ALDSWORTH JEWEL."

Cow in milk or in calf: 1, Colonel H. McCalmont (Wigton 6th); 2, Mr. Antony Gibbs (Buttercup 3rd); r, Mr. Pickering Phipps (Trust 4th); hc, Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P. (Swift 3rd), Mr. Antony Gibbs (Lass of Jersey 2nd), Mr. Arthur C. P. Gurney (Phillis).

Heifer calved in 1898: 1, The Duke of Marlborough (Phyllis); 2, The Duke of Marlborough (Buttercup 4th); r, Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P. (Toupee); hc, Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P. (Twilight); c, Mr. J. Dearman Birchall (Lady Bird).

Heifer calved in 1899: 1, Mr. Antony Gibbs (Alice Tynte); 2, The Duke of Marlborough (Bright Quack); r, The Duke of Marlborough (Myrobella); hc, Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P. (Hopscotch).

DENTERS.

Bull: 1, Colonel William Stallard (Malvern Signor).

Cow or heifer in milk or in calf: 1, Colonel William Stallard (Malvern Smart).

DAIRY CATTLE.

Dairy cow, in milk, any breed: 1, Mr. Lawford Pullen (Cricket); 2, Mr. A. D. Mitchell (Strawberry); 3, Mr. Joseph Bennett; r, Mr. A. D. Mitchell (Cherry); hc, Mr. Joseph Bennett.

Bull, cow, and offspring: 1, Mr. William Arkell; 2, Mr. G. F. Cullimore.

Shorthorn cow and calf: 1, Mr. Lawford Pullin; 2, Mr. G. F. Cullimore; r, Mr. William Arkell.

SHEEP.

COTSWOLD.

Yearling ram: 1 and 2, Mr. Russell Swanwick.

Three ram lambs: 1, Mr. Russell Swanwick.

Three ewe lambs: 1, Mr. Russell Swanwick.

SOUTHDOWN.

Yearling ram: 1, medal, and r, Lord Sherborne; 2, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, K.C.B.

Three ram lambs: 1, Lord Sherborne; 2, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, K.C.B.

Three ewe lambs: 1, 2, and medal: Lord Sherborne.

OXFORDSHIRE DOWN.

Yearling ram: 1 and r, Mr. J. T. Hobbs; 2, Mr. R. W. Hobbs.

Three ram lambs: 1, Mr. William J. P. Reading; 2 and r, Mr. R. W. Hobbs.

Three ewe lambs: 1, Mr. R. W. Hobbs; 2 and r, Mr. J. H. Large.

HAMPSHIRE DOWN.

Yearling ram: 1, Mr. Alex. Henderson; 2, Mr. Basil Hanbury.

Three ram lambs: 1, Mr. Lloyd H. Baxendale; 2 and r, Mr. Alex. Henderson, M.P.

Sussex County at Brighton.

It will be remembered that last year's show of the Sussex County Agricultural Society, which was held at Eastbourne, was opened by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and that the total number of entries received —708—constituted a record in the annals of the Society. At the show held on Wednesday and Thursday last, however, another record was set up, as the entries of stock numbered no fewer than 720. Preston Park, Brighton, was the site of the exhibition, and no more suitable ground could hardly have been secured, for not only did it offer entirely ample accommodation, but the surroundings were most picturesque. A programme of a very attractive nature to the general public, apart from the interest it had to those concerned in agricultural matters, had been drawn up, and the weather being all that could be desired on each day, there was a very good attendance of spectators. The total for the two days was about ten thousand, which number, though below that of last year, is slightly above the average.

Some capital exhibits, numbering forty-two in all, were shown in the section devoted to horses, the agricultural animals being especially fine. Their quality, in fact, has not been excelled in any previous show, although the horses have always been one of its most notable features. The silver medal offered by the Shire Horse Society for the best Shire mare was won by Messrs. J. and H. Robinson, of Ilford, Lewes, with their bay mare Queen B. The exhibits in the Hunters' Class also displayed a uniform excellence of quality, Mr. E. P. Warren's Menilla carrying off the gold medal offered by the Hunters' Improvement Society for the best hunter brood mare. There were some very smart and elegant turnouts in the driving competitions, while the judges of the jumping had no easy task in front of them, owing to the closeness with which the events were contested. Thirty classes were devoted to cattle, and attracted no fewer than 247 entries. Jerseys were particularly well represented, some superb specimens of this breed being shown, and the judges considered they were some of the finest they had seen in the United Kingdom. The Blythwood Challenge Bowl, presented by Sir James Blyth, Bart., for the best Jersey cow or heifer in milk, was won by Lady Rothschild's May Queen. There were also some fine specimens of pure-bred Shorthorns on view. The classes for Guernseys attracted some good exhibits, the champion prize for the best Guernsey bull in the show being secured by Mrs. Montefiore's Signalman 2nd. The only sheep exhibited were Southdown, and the quality of this famous Sussex breed is so well known that it need scarcely be said some very fine exhibits were forthcoming in this particular section. The champion prize of £10 10s. for the best ram or ram lamb in the show, presented by the Southdown Sheep Society, was won by Mr. Francis N. Hobgen, of Appledram, Chichester. The exhibits of dairy produce included butter, eggs, and table poultry (dead), and all were well represented.

The butter competition proved a great attraction, there being large and interesting crowds around the butter tent while they were in progress. They were, as usual, confined to pupils who have been through the course of dairying instruction given by the East Sussex County Council, and were under the experienced direction of Miss Bainbridge.

The Judges.

HORSES.—Agricultural: Mr. A. H. Clark, Moulton; Mr. Eingate, Spalding, Lincolnshire; and Mr. F. B. Beaufoy, South Somercotes, South Lincolnshire. Hunters: The Hon. A. F. Parker, Dorset; Berger [illegible], Isle of Wight; and Mr. Owen Wales, West Haddon, Rugby. Hackneys: Mr. Alfred Rowell, West Rudham Hall, King's Lynn, Norfolk. Riding and Driving: General Sir H. Ewart, K.C.B., Royal Mews, Buckingham Palace, London, S.W., and Mr. James Hornsby, Laxton Park, Stamford. Jumping: The Hon. [illegible] Forester, Mr. H. Ernest Gretton, Bridge Place, Bridge, Mr. [illegible] E. Mytton, Bridge.

CATTLE.—Dairy: Mr. H. J. Gibbs, Milford, Salisbury, and Mr. George Adams, Walker House, Farnham, Surrey. Sussex: Mr. William Wood, [illegible] Hassocks, and Mr. William Mason, Wivelsfield Green, Haywards Heath. Mr. C. C. Tadgell, The Cedars, West Tarring, and Mr. W. Budgett, Henbury, near Bristol. Guernsey: Mr. G. Titus Barbam Sculpt, Park Farm, Hooton, and the Hon. and Rev. Andrew Carey, Hooton, Les Quennevais, St. Sampson's, Guernsey.

SHEEP: Sussex: Mr. H. J. Gyngell, Church Norton, Selsey, and Mr. Hugh [illegible], Kingston, near Lewes.

Championship and Special Prizes.

Shire Horse Society's special prize for the best Shire mare: Messrs. J. and H. Robinson (Queen Bee); r, Mr. P. A. Willett (May Flower).

Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for the best hunter of either sex, and of any age: Sir Edward Blount, K.C.B. (Angelica).

Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal for the best hunter brood mare: Mr. R. W. McKergrow (Lady Grey).

Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for the best hunter filly, not exceeding three years old, and not having previously won the Society's silver medal in 1900: Mr. E. P. Warren (Menilla); r, Rev. Prebendary Salmon (Ginger).

Hackney Horse Society's silver medal for the best Hackney or pony mare: Mrs. A. H. Temple (Lady Doncaster).

Hackney Horse Society's silver medal for the best Hackney or pony stallion or entire colt: Mr. Harry Livesay (Dissenter).

Champion prize of £5 5s. for the best Sussex cow or heifer in the show (open): Mr. Gerald Warde, Tutsham Hall, West Farleigh, near Maidstone, Tutsham (Marguerite).

Champion prize of £5 5s. for the best Sussex bull in the show (open): Mr. Philip Saillard (Alfred); r, Earl of Derby (Melody), and Mr. E. E. Braby (Drungewick Pebble).

Champion prize of £5 for the best Jersey group (one animal from Classes 52. 55, 56, and 58 or 59): Captain A. B. S. Fraser (Maggie 5th, Aristocracy, Grace, and Perry Farm Reminder); r, Colonel Walter A. Hankey (Silver Crown IV., Alaska, Sapphire, and Tweedledum).

Champion prize of £5, for the best Guernsey bull in the show (open): Mrs. Montefiore (Signalman II.).

Southdown Sheep Society's champion prize, £10 10s., for the best ram or ram lamb in the show, coming from a flock registered in the Southdown Flock Book: Mr. Francis N. Hobgen; r, Pagham Harbour Company.

Southdown Sheep Society's silver medal, for the best male Southdown, entered or eligible for entry in the Flock Book: Mr. Hobgen; r, Pagham Harbour Company.

Silver medal for best pen of female Southdowns: 1, Mrs. Montefiore; r, Mr. Hobgen.

Prize List.

HORSES.

AGRICULTURAL.

Mare with foal at foot. Mare only to be judged: 1, Mr. P. A. Willett, Denton, Newhaven (Mayflower); 2, Mr. Hugh Gorringe, Kingston-by-Sea (Blossom); 3, Mr. T. Luckin, Thakeham Place, Pulborough (Sussex Flower); r, Mr. F. J. Maitland, Weston Place, near Eastbourne (Byfords Tulip).

Foal foaled in 1900: 1 and 2, Mr. T. Luckin; 3, Mr. H. Gorringe; r, Mr. P. A. Willett.

Cart mare or gelding, foaled in 1897: 1, Mr. T. Luckin; 2, Messrs. H. F. and E. Locke King, Okehurst, Billingshurst (Gossip of Okehurst).

Cart mare or gelding, foaled in 1898: 1 and 3, Mr. T. Luckin; 2, Messrs. J and H. Robinson, Iford, Lewes (Blythwood Sunrise); r, Mr. W. G. Fladgate, Theale, Slinfold (Charlton Chief).

Colt, gelding, or filly, foaled in 1899: 1, Mr. P. A. Willett (Denton Arrobat); 2, Mr. T. Luckin (Sussex Lassie); 3, Sir James Duke, Bart., Laughton; r, Messrs. H. F. and E. Locke King (Ivy of Okehurst).

Mare or gelding, four years old and upwards: 1, Messrs. J. and H. Robinson (Queen Bee); 2, Mr. P. A. Willett (Allspice 19182); 3, Messrs. H. F. and G. Locke King (Boxer); r, Mr. T. Watson, Old Salts Farm, Lancing (Colonel).

Best stallion, either Shire or Clydesdale, of any age, eligible for entry in its respective stud book (open): 1, Sir John B. Maple, Bart., M.P., Childwick, St. Albans, Herts, black (Pioneer VII.); 2, Mr. P. A. Willett (Bar One William II.); r, Mr. F. W. Page, High Hurst Manor Stud Farm, Cowfold (Yeoman of Hothfield).

HUNTERS.

Light-weight hunter of any age, up to not more than 13 stone: 1, Mr. J. Gosden, Thorn Lodge, Spencer Road, Eastbourne (Star); 2, Mr. W. Dawtrey, Petworth (Cahermere); 3, Mr. F. B. Whitfeld, Offham House, Lewes; c, Mr. A. C. B. Vallence, Brocker Hall, Hove (Rufus).

Brood mare, with foal at foot, by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter sire (open): 1, Sir E. Blount, K.C.B., Imberhorne, East Grinstead (Angelica); 2, Mr. R. W. McKergow, Twineham Grange, Haywards Heath (Lady Gray); 3, Mr. Ambrose Gorham, Telscombe, Lewes (Sally Brass); r, Mr. G. A. Gates, Lock, Partridge Green (Coral).

Brood mare, with foal at foot or to foal in 1900, by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter sire: 1, Sir Edward Blount (Angelica); 2, Mr. R. W. McKergow (Lady Gray); 3, Mr. A. Gorham (Sally Brass); r, The Hon. Charles Brand, Littledene (Vesta); hc, Mr. G. A. Gates (Coral).

Gelding or filly, likely to make a hunter, foaled in 1896: 1, The Rev. Prebendary Salmon, Barcombe Rectory (Firefly); 2, Mr. Hugh Gorringe (Atlas).

Gelding or filly, likely to make a hunter, foaled in 1897, by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter sire, bred in Sussex: 1, Mr. E. C. Dalman, Boreham, Hailsham (Sultan); 2, The Rev. Prebendary Salmon (Ginger); 3, The Hon. Charles Brand (Matchless); r, Messrs. Locke King.

Colt, gelding, or filly, foaled in 1898, by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter sire, bred in Sussex: 1, Mr. Hugh Gorringe (Gadfly); 2, Mr. H. E. Courage, Bolney Place, Bolney (Joker); 3, Mr. E. P. Warren, Lewes House, Lewes (Lady Menilla); r, Mr. Hugh Gorringe (Lady Harriett); c, Messrs. J. and H. Robinson and Mr. W. Dawtrey (Hard Times).

Heavy-weight hunter, any age, up to not less than 14 stone: 1, Mr. Ambrose Gorham (Waterproof); 2, Mr. W. Dawtrey (Real Jam); 3, Mr. T. H. Church (Stocks); r, Mr. E. Garman (Irish Girl); c, Mr. F. B. Whitfield (Macroon).

HACKNEYS.

Stallion, any age, over two years (open): 1, Sir W. Gilbey, Bart., Elsenham Hall, Essex (Gay Connaught); r, Mr. C. T. Stanley, Kennington, near Ashford, Kent (Rumwood).

Two-year-old stallion, foaled in 1898. Open to United Kingdom: 1, Mr. Harry Livesay, Rotherfield (Dissenter); 2, Messrs. Claude Brinkman and C. R. Madge, Feltham Grove, Leatherhead, Surrey; r, Mrs. A. H. Temple, Leyswood, Groombridge (Leyswood Connaught).

Brood mare, any height, in foal or with foal at foot (open): 1, Mr. Harry Livesay, Rotherfield (Surprise); 2, Mrs. A. H. Temple (Lady Doncaster); r, Mr. R. T. Thornton, Middleton Hall, Brentwood (Chloris).

Filly, foaled in 1897 or 1898 (open): 1, Mr. R. T. Thornton (Trixie); 2, Mr. G. F. Boddy, Edenbridge, Kent (Consey); 3, Mrs. A. H. Temple (Priscilla Walton); r, Mrs. A. H. Temple (Cynthia); c, Mr. A. Collier (Lady Detective).

Filly, foaled in 1899 by a registered Hackney sire (open): 1, Mr. W. Stewart Foster, Rumwood Stud, Langley, Maidstone (Lady Bobs); 2, Mr. Walter Lloyd (Heath Lily); r, Sir Edward Blount (Firesia).

Entire colt, foaled in 1899 (open): 1, Mr. W. Page, High Hurst Manor Stud Farm, Cowfold, Horsham (Frensham Rosador); r, Mr. W. Oppenheimer, Riversdale, Thames Ditton.

HACKS

Hack, 14 3 and over, to be ridden (open): 1, Mrs. Graves, Chapel Street, Belgrave Square, London (Ask Mamma); 2, Mr. F. G. Haines, Seymour Place, Bryanston Square, London (The Witch); 3, The Count Charles Seilern, Woodhurst, Crawley (Floridor); c, Mrs. A. E. Talbot Hassell (Pasea).

HARNESS HORSES AND PONIES

For the best two-wheel tradesman's turn-out, the bona-fide property of a tradesman in Sussex, and used exclusively for trade purposes for three months previous to the show: 1, Messrs. Brook and Sons, 9, Montpelier Road, Brighton; 2, Mr. F. C. Watford, 4, High Street, East Grinstead; 3, Sussex Dairy Company, Limited, 43, St. James's Street, Brighton; r, Mr. C. A. Sharp, 107, Western Road, Brighton; c, Mr. R. Major, 49, London Road, Brighton; Mr. C. A. Sharp, South of England Dairies Company, Limited; Mr. T. H. Church, Haven Farm, Crawley Down; Mr. C. Bartley, 60, Preston Road, Brighton; Messrs. S. Larkin and Company, 1, Prince Albert Street, Brighton; Mr. E. G. Benford, 194, Western Road. Twelve entries.

For the best four-wheel tradesman's turn-out (conditions similar to preceding class): 1, Messrs. J. Penfold and Sons, Crawley; 2, Hetheringtons, Western Road, Brighton; 3, Brighton and Sussex Laundry Works, Lewes Road; r, Leeson and Vokins, 36, North Street, Brighton.

Mare or gelding in harness, any height, to have been owned by a resident in Brighton or Hove for three months previous to the show, and not to have taken any prize previous to July 25th, 1900: 1, Mr. Young, 2, Waterloo Street; 2, Mr. C. Coleman, Anlaby House, 21, Chesham Road, Brighton.

Mare or gelding in harness, any height (entries similar to previous class): 1, Mr. S. Young, 2, Waterloo Street, Hove; 2, Mr. C. Colman; 3, Mr. S. Young; r, Mr. T. Webber Jerrard, Lorne House, Withdean, Brighton; c, Mr. E. C. Penford.

Mare or gelding, any height, and age (open): Cup, Messrs. E. and A. Baxter, Hutton, Hackney Stud, Brentwood, Essex (Lady Nell); r, Mr. G. J. Johnson, Woodbridge, Suffolk (Brilliance); c, Mr. C Knight Gregson, 19, St. Edmund's Terrace, Regents Park, London (Cretija); Mr. W. S. Cunard, Hawthorn Hill, Bracknell, Berks (Lord Rockwood).

Mare or gelding in harness, 15 hands and over (open): 1, Mr. S. Young; 2, Mr. G. J. Johnson (Silver King); 3, Mrs. Hartley F. Batt, 131, Elgin Avenue, London, W.; r, Mr. R. T. Thornton (Silver Bells); c, Mrs. Hartley F. Batt (Winterton); Mr. A. Cox, Lewes; Mr. V. Vervacke, 105, London Road, Croydon (Lord Redvers); Mr. C. Coleman (Black Bess).

JUMPING.

Best jumper, mare or gelding, open to the United Kingdom: 1, Mr. A. Nixey Smith, Danehurst, Nutfield, Redhill (Grasshopper); 2, Mr. J. Wheeler, Shakespear Farm, Studley; 3, Mr. F. W. Henderson, Westerlands, Petworth (Monarch).

CATTLE.

DAIRY.

Two cows, other than Sussex, or Channel Island cattle, in calf or in milk: 1, Messrs. Green Bros., Goring, Sussex (Red Fancy and White Rose); 2, Messrs. Green Bros. (Flossy, and Goring Belle); 3, Messrs. J. and H. Robinson (Milkmaid and Dairymaid); r and hc, Mr. John F. Frowd, Ockley Manor Farm, Hassocks.

Two heifers, other than Sussex or Channel Island cattle, in calf or in milk, under three years: 1, Mr. E. E. Masters, Hassocks; 2, Mr. W. H. Hollis, 155, North Street; 3, Mr. J. F. Frowd; r, Messrs. Green Bros. (Peach and Damsel).

Pure-bred Shorthorn bull, suitable for dairy stock, calved in or previous to 1898: 1, Mr. J. J. Frowd (Oxford Knight); 2, Mr. Thomas Watson, Lancing, Worthing (Royal Shield); r, Messrs. J. and H. Robinson (Rowbury); c, Messrs. H. F. and R. Locke King (Dick).

Pure-bred Shorthorn bull, suitable for dairy stock, calved in 1899: 1, Mr. John J. Frowd (Trident); 2, Sir W. Board, Wakehurst Place, Haywards Heath (Kerreth Lad); r and hc, Sir William Board (Game Boy).

SUSSEX.

Cow or heifer, in calf or in milk, calved in or previous to 1895 (open): 1, Mr. G. Warde, Tutsham Hall, Tutsham (Marguerite); 2, Mr. P. Saillard (Elsa II.); 3, Earl of Derby (Minx); c, Mr. P. Saillard (Maud).

Cow or heifer, in calf or in milk, calved in or previous to 1897: 1, Mr. F. James (Aldon Woodmancote III.); 2, Mr. P. Saillard (Cherry Tart); r, Mr. A. F. Waterhouse, Brownings, Cowfold (Mary Fern 21st).

Heifer, calved in 1898 (open): 1, Earl of Derby (Melody); 2, Mr. J. Godman, Park Hatch, Godalming (Noble Lady); 3, Major Best (Grace Darling); c, Mrs. Ernest Hills, Redleaf, Penshurst.

Heifer, calved in 1899 (open): 1, Mr. J. Godman (Noble Lady 24th); 2, Mr. W. W. Hubble (Peony); 3, Major Best (Blackthorn); r and hc, Mr. G. Warde (Marguerite II.); c, Mrs. Ernest Hills, Mr. P. Saillard (Bewbush Princess), Mr. F. James Maitland (Friston Gentia).

Bull, calved in or previous to 1897 (open): 1, Mr. P. Saillard (Alfred); r, The Earl of Derby (Diploma).

Bull, calved in 1898 (open): 1, Mr. Ernest F. Braby, Drungewick Manor House, Rudgwick (Drungewick Prebbie); 2, Mr. P. Saillard (Alton 3rd); 3, The Earl of Derby (Nero); r and hc, Mr. T. Bannister (Limehurst Major).

Bull, calved in 1899 (open): 1, Mr. P. Saillard (Bewbush Marquis); 2, The Earl of Derby (Grand Duke); r and hc, Mr. E. E. Braby (Drungewick 25th).

JERSEYS.

Cow, calved in or previous to 1897, in calf or in milk (open): 1, Mr. C. W. Armitage, Woodlands, Northaw, Potters Bar (Clementine); 2, Mr. C. W. Armitage (Pilot's Legacy V.); 3, Lady de Rothschild, Aston Clinton, Tring (May Queen); r and hc, Mrs. Charlotte McIntosh, Havering Park (La Croix Primrose); hc, Col. W. A. Hankey, Beaulieu, St. Leonards-on-Sea (Silver Crown IV.); Mr. R. J. Streatfeild, The Rooks, Uckfield (Cora Beresford); The Ladies E. and D. Hope (Grand Daughter); c, Mr. R. J. Pope, Beresford Manor, Plumpton (Reinette Beresford); Mr. Francis Barchard (Daisy Sweet).

Cow, calved in or previous to 1897, in calf or in milk: 1, Col. Walter A. Hankey (Silver Crown IV.); 2, Capt. A. B. S. Fraser, Worthing (Maggie 5th); 3, Mr. R. J. Streatfeild (Cora Beresford); r and vhc, Capt. A. B. S. Fraser (Countess of March); hc, Mr. R. J. Pope (Borice Beresford); Mr. F. Barchard (Daisy Sweet).

Cow, calved in or previous to 1897, in calf or in milk, bred in England (open): 1, Lady de Rothschild (May Queen); 2, Col. Walter A. Hankey (Silver Crown IV.); 3, Mrs. Charlotte McIntosh (Havering Morn 5th).

Heifer, calved in 1898, in calf or in milk (open): 1, Mr. C. W. Armitage (Flora's Daughter); 2, Lady de Rothschild (Carol); 3, Mrs. Charlotte McIntosh (Clementine IV.); c, Capt. A. B. S. Fraser (Sirius); hc, Lady Brassey (Dorothy); Mr. J. Spencer Evans (Fern's Success); Mr. R. J. Pope (Winnie Beresford); Mrs. A. F. Perkins (Miss Garfield).

Heifer, calved in 1898, in calf or in milk: 1, Capt. A. B. S. Fraser (Sirius 11th); 2, Mr. J. Spencer Evans (Fern's Success); 3, Capt. A. B. S. Fraser (Aristocracy); r and vhc, Mr. J. Pope (Winnie Beresford); hc, Capt. A. B. S. Fraser (Sirius 11th).

Heifer, calved in 1898, in milk, bred in England (open): 1, Mr. C. W. Armitage (Flora's Daughter); 2, Lady de Rothschild (Aston Clinton); 3, Capt. A. B. S. Fraser (Aristocracy); r and vhc, Col. Walter A. Hankey (Alaska); hc, Mr. Pickering Phipps, Rushton Hall, Kettering (Lady of the Lake).

Heifer, calved in 1899, bred in England (open): 1, Mr. C. W. Armitage (Belle of Leyland); 2, Lady de Rothschild (Briar); 3, Mrs. Charlotte McIntosh (Havering Lady II.); r and vhc, Mrs. A. F. Perkins (Mrs. Bardell); vhc, Captain A. B. S. Fraser (Grace); hc, Mr. C. W. Armitage (Sylvia); Mr. F. Freeman-Thomas, Ratton, Willingdon (Jauntlet); Mr. Freeman Thomas (Balm); Mr. Pickering Phipps (Speck); Mr. T. Phipps (Winsome); Mr. R. J. Streatfeild (Coral Bead); c, Mr. R. J. Streatfeild (Marry-come up).

Bull, calved in or previous to 1898 (open): 1, The Hon. T. S. Brand, Glynde Place, Lewes; 2, Mrs. A. F. Perkins (Spot Stroke); 3, Lady Brassey (Curfew); r, Hon. C. Brand (Ratton Lad); c, Lady Brassey (Perini); Mr. F. Freeman-Thomas (Leader's Prince); Mr. Pownall Ades (Holy Combe II.).

Bull, calved in 1899 (open): 1, Capt. A. B. S. Fraser (Reminder); 2, Mrs. A. F. Perkins (Bobby); 3, Mrs. Charlotte McIntosh (Halburton Prince); r, and vhc, Lady de Rothschild (The Duke); vhc, Mrs. McIntosh (Why Not); hc, Mr. J. Spencer Evans (Bahadur); Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand (Ethelred and Egbert).

Bull, calved in 1899, bred in England: 1, Capt. A. B. S. Fraser (Maggie's King); 2 and 3, Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand (Ethelred and Egbert).

GUERNSEYS.

Cow or heifer, calved in or previous to 1897, in calf or in milk (open): 1, Mr. E. A. Hambro (Charmante of the Grove); 2, Mr. H. Fitzwalter, Plumptre (Muriel VI.); 3, Mrs. Montefiore; r and hc, Mr. W. A. Glynn (Jessica IV.); hc, Mr. F. Hargreaves (Anneville Beauty).

Heifer, calved in 1898 (open): 1, Mrs. Montefiore (Lily of the Forest); 2, Mr. W. A. Glynn (Fairy 9th); 3, Mr. F. Hargreaves (Queen of Holland).

Heifer, calved in 1899 (open): 1, Mr. E. A. Hambro (Hayes' Princess III.); 2, W. A. Glynn (Phyllis 3rd); 3, Mr. F. Hargreaves (Cecilia); r and vhc, Mr. E. A. Hambro (Hayes Primrose); c, Mrs. Montefiore (Claremont Flora).

Bull, calved in or previous to 1898 (open): 1, Mrs. Montefiore (Signalman II.); 2, The Earl of Ashburnham, Ashburnham Place, Battle (Lord Everlasting); 3, Mr. W. A. Glynn (Clio); r and hc, Mrs. Montefiore (Lord Bobs); hc, Mr. J. Toogood Parsons, jun., Ashurst Place, Langton, Tunbridge Wells (Lord Kitchener).

Bull, calved in 1899 (open): 1, Mr. E. A. Hambro (Hayes Prince); 2, Mr. W. A. Glynn (Billy 8th); 3, Earl of Ashburnham (Lord Jones); r and hc, Mr. H. Fitzwalter (Plumptre Benjamin); c, Mr. Frank Hargreaves (Kimberley).

SHEEP.

SOUTHDOWNS.

Pen of nine Southdown ewes, three two-tooth, three four-tooth, and three six-tooth, drawn from a hill farm flock of not less than 300 ewes: 1, Mr. J. A. Miller, Michelgrove, Worthing; 2, Mr. John Kenward, Hamsey Place, Lewes; 3, Mr. C. G. S. C. Duke, Lee Farm, Angmering; r, Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand.

Pen of nine Southdown ewes, three two-tooth, three four-tooth, and three six-tooth, drawn from an under hill flock of not fewer than 100 ewes: 1, Mr. F. N. Hobgen; 2, Mrs. Montefiore; 3, Pagham Harbour Company; r and hc, Mr. W. Toop, Westergate, Aldingbourne.

Pen of nine Southdown stock ewe lambs, bred by the exhibitor from a hill farm flock of not fewer than 300 ewes: 1, Mr. J. A. Miller; 2, Mr. J. Kenward, Hamsey Place, Lewes; 3, Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand; r and hc, Mr. C. J. S. C. Duke.

Pen of nine Southdown stock ewe lambs, bred by the exhibitor from an under hill flock of not fewer than 100 ewes: 1, Mrs. Montefiore; 2, Pagham Harbour Company; 3, Mr. F. N. Hobgen; r and hc, Mr. W. Toop; hc, His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., Eastbourne, and Mr. J. Tompkins, Angmering.

Southdown two-shear ram (open): 1, Pagham Harbour Company; 2, Mr. W. Toop; 3, Mr. Allan Cooper, Norton, Bishopstone, Lewes (Buller).

Southdown shearling ram (open): 1 Mr. F. N. Hobgen; 2, Mr. W. Toop; 3, Pagham Harbour Company; r and hc, Mr. Alfred Heasman, Court Wick, Littlehampton; hc, Mr. Alfred Heasman and Mr. Hugh Penfold.

Southdown ram lamb (open): 1, Mr. W. Toop; 2, Mr. Hugh Penfold; 3, Mr. A. Heasman; r and hc, Mr. F. C. Hobgen; c, Mr Hobgen and Mr. A. Heasman.

Herts.

Beautiful weather was associated with the annual show of the Herts Agricultural Society, held at Hatfield on the 19th inst., but the attendance of visitors showed a considerable decrease when compared with the total of those who patronised last year's exhibition. It was estimated that 3,460 entered the show ground, the admission money amounting to £170, as against £223 taken last year. The falling off was therefore considerable, and is attributed to a large extent to the effects of the present trouble abroad. The entries of stock also showed a decrease on last year, the total being 1,351 against 1,543 last year, a decrease of 192, which, when all things are taken into consideration, is by no means an alarming decrease for a show of the magnitude of that annually held in connection with the county. While, however, there was this decrease in numbers, there was maintained an excellent standard of quality, and the show must be said to have thoroughly well maintained its reputation. Mr. A. J. Sherriff, as usual, placed his field in Newtown, covering some fifteen acres, at the disposal of the Society for the purposes of the show, and personally supervised the erection of pens, show rings, stands, etc., which were conveniently and compactly arranged, although some of the stock suffered during the day from their exposure to the powerful rays of the sun.

Horses.

The Shire horses were regarded by the judges as an extremely good lot. There were five or six "outstanders" in the classes which took a great deal of separating. Lord Rothschild's mare, The Nun, is an extraordinarily good animal, with remarkable legs and feet, every hair being in its proper place. She was by no means brought out for show purposes; but she nearly won the championship. This honour, however, went to Southgate Charm, the property of Mr. F. Crisp, which beat Lord Rothschild's mare in size, and was brought out in the pink of condition. Sir J. B. Maple's Stanney Commotion, which took first prize in her class, is a good, all-round useful mare, but was hard-pressed by Lord Rothschild's Sweet Echo, which was, however, placed second in her class. An extraordinarily good mare belonging to Sir J. B. Maple, Grand Duchess, carried all before her in three-year-old classes. This is the animal which was purchased by Sir J. B. Maple of Mr.

Greffin at Peterboro' for a thousand guineas. At the head of every class in this important section of the show were animals belonging to many of the best-known breeders in the Shire horse world. The tenant farmers showed up well both in regard to the number of their entries and the excellent quality of the animals sent by them, which included several noted prize-winners at other shows. Lord Rothschild had a notable exhibit in his entire colt, Hertfordshire, which took first prize in its class, while Sir Blundell Maple showed another uncommonly good colt foal, Old Times, which will undoubtedly hold its own throughout the season.

The pony classes did not fill up so well this year as last. In some years they have numbered as many as twenty-seven, but this year there were only seven. The nag classes, however, were satisfactory. The best class of all was unquestionably that for tradesmen's light horses and vehicles, which were excellent. Messrs. E. and J. Flack's Athol is a very nice horse, which was selected for first prize from among several very nice horses in the class. Mr. J. B. Joel's Venus was also a very nice Hackney mare, taking first place in the class for hack, mare, or gelding between 14 and 15 hands. The classes in this section were as a whole fairly well filled, and the exhibits comprised a very nice lot of Hackneys. The exhibits were as a whole a good, useful lot, shown in capital condition. Mr. S. Brunton, of Park Street, was a very successful exhibitor in the light horse classes, securing no fewer than eight first prizes, besides other minor honours. Mr. F. W. Silvester secured Mr. W. Burdett-Coutts' special prize with his Hedges Lord Roberts, a son of Hedges Laura, which has taken first and second prizes at this show for the past ten years. Great interest was, as usual, manifested in the jumping competition. An immense crowd surrounded the large ring in which the contests were brought off, and they witnessed some very good sport. A score of horses were entered in the two competitions. The first class was open to mares and geldings 15 hands and over. B. Robins, on Sterling, won first prize; the same rider took the second prize with Relaxation, and W. Chappell on Mike was third. In the second competition, for mares and geldings under 15 hands, W. Ward was easily first, his horse making not a single mistake. The second prize was won by W. J. Wright on a bay mare.

Cattle.

There was a marked falling off in the entries of polled cattle, which was chiefly accounted for by the fact that Mr. F. Crisp, a large exhibitor in previous years, was not represented, and the herds of Mr. Greenfield and Mr. Loder were not represented. In spite of their small numbers, some splendid animals were shown, especially those from Sir J. B. Maple's herd, which the judge (Mr. J. Evens) described as being "as good as man could wish to see." The pairs of dairy cows were big and good, and the single dairy cows also were five excellent animals, especially the first prize-winner, Lord Rothschild's Princess II., which was looked upon as a first-class pure-bred dairy cow, showing grand milking qualities. Mr. C. E. Wodehouse's Countess Mary 8th took second place to Princess II. Kaiserin, the grand heifer calf which excited such keen competition at Mr. Sherriff's recent sale, and was eventually purchased by Sir J. B. Maple for 80gs., carried off second prize amongst the heifers calved since 1898, and was also first for Mrs. Ross's prize of £5 for the best heifer calved in 1900.

The Jerseys were not so strong as a class as last year, but many excellent animals were shown, the honours of the day going for the most part to Lord Rothschild. There were seven exhibits in the class for bulls, amongst which Lord Rothschild won with his well-known winner, Butter Test, with which he secured honours at the Bath and West Show. In the young bull class, Lord Rothschild again carried off premier honours with Tudor Boy, a splendid specimen of the breed, second and third prizes going to Bismarck's Boy and Spectator, a couple of exceptionally good dark-coloured animals belonging to Viscount Enfield. These animals, which were brothers, were exceptionally well bred. There was very little to choose between the first and second prize-winners, and the judges had considerable difficulty in arriving at a decision as to the direction in which first honours in this class should go. In the cow class, Lord Rothschild was again to the fore with Ellen 2nd. There were only two entries here. In the class for cows calved previous to 1897, the Tring herd was again conspicuous, Guarantee 4th securing the red rosette, with Bretonne, a good typical animal, the property of Mr. S. F. Berry, of Hitchin, second. Jewel, a distinguished representative of the well-known Oxford tribe, secured for Lord Rothschild first prize amongst the heifers calved in 1897, and Viscount Enfield's Spec, one of the distinguished Spectator blood, was an excellent second. Mr. S. F. Berry was third with Upland Belle 5th. In the class for heifers calved in 1898 Lord Rothschild again came first, this time with Golden Lass, with Mr. Stride second with Meadow Sweet. Third prize also went to Lord Rothschild for his Oxford Sunrise, another capital representative of the Oxford breed. Yet another prize went to Lord Rothschild in the following class, for heifers calved since 1898, where he took second place to Lord Enfield's Liza with his Grace Darling. This was a strong, well-filled class, and embraced several excellent animals. Lord Enfield was again first in the heifer class, which contained a number of very good exhibits, and competition was keen. In the class for pairs of cows of the best milking qualities, young and old cows had to compete together, and this gave the judges some considerable difficulty. It would be better for both competitors and judges if two separate classes could be devoted to these exhibits. Lord Rothschild carried off both first and second prizes.

Sheep.

The sheep, taken as a whole, showed an advance in the quality of previous years. All breeds were well represented, and especially the Hampshires. The quality of the latter also was particularly good. Mr. Abel H. Smith, M.P., the president, was remarkably successful. He entered four Southdowns for competition, and secured three prizes. Mr. R. A. Smith scored two successes in the same section. Mr. T. F. Buxton's exhibits carried off no less than ten cards in the various classes. The champion cup was also awarded to this gentleman for his exhibit of three ram lambs. The two reserve cards in the competition were placed on sheep owned by Mr. Buxton.

Pigs.

There was good competition among the White pigs, though none of the exhibits were of a special character. The winners in the class for sows other than Berkshires, and for pair of yelts other than Berkshires were spoken of as a very good lot of pigs. All the Berkshires were good, and the class for sows farrowed in 1899 was quite the best in the show. In the next class the winning pair of Berkshire yelts were good, but the others were only medium. Mr. C. A. Barnes carried off the championship with Oxford 8th.

Staffordshire.

Previous to last week the Staffordshire Agricultural Society had not visited Stafford since 1892. The show on Tuesday and Wednesday was a good one, and proved in every way satisfactory. The showyard, which was compactly arranged, covering about twenty-one acres of fairly level turf land, was pleasantly situated on the New Common, Stone Road, with easy access of the town and railway stations. The total number of entries of live stock was 507, only three below the aggregate last year, when the exhibition was held at Wolverhampton, and 89 in advance of the total two years ago at Burslem, while the falling off compared with the last Stafford meeting was but 37. The principal feature of the exhibition on this occasion was the grand display of horses, the total number of entries being one of the largest ever experienced by the society. No fewer that 232 horses were catalogued, 65 more than last year, about a hundred above the aggregate at Burslem two years ago, and 133 in advance of the poor total at the last Stafford Show. On the other hand, there was an almost corresponding falling off in the exhibition of cattle. The entries number 180, or 109 below the total at the county town in 1892, 47 fewer than last year, and 20 below the aggregate at Burslem. Indeed, it is many years since the entries of cattle were so few as they were this year. The 72 entries of sheep were scarcely up to the general average, but the twenty pens of pigs were five better than at Wolverhampton. In addition to the stock there was a capital entry of farm produce, including butter, cheese, poultry, honey, and bee appliances. The total amount offered in prizes exceeded £1,000, that sum including £235 given to hunting horses, £290 to agricultural and Shire horses, £250 to cattle, £120 to sheep, and £55 to pigs. At a council meeting of the Society, held on Tuesday afternoon, it was decided to hold next year's show at Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Horses.

There were eight classes of hunters, and the animals generally were of a thoroughly representative character. The heavy-weight hunters headed by Sir Peter Walker's Curlew only numbered seven. Mr. T. Bradburn was second with a horse that did not get placed at Newport. Twelve-stone hunters were a nice class. Sir Peter Walker again took first prize, this time with a well-known hunter, Rocket. Mrs. Murphy's second did not go quite so well as the first. A pretty mare of Mr. James Meakin's was third. The four-year-olds were a very small class, and Mr. Wood and Mr. R. S. Wilkinson were well at the top. There were five three-year-olds, headed by Mr. Bernard Wall's chestnut gelding that was first at Leicester. The second gelding belonged to Mr. Whitehead. Two-year-old geldings or fillies were a good class, and, in fact, were better than at previous years' shows. Sir Peter Walker won with a rather plain looking bay by Cruiser, that had free action, and Mr. Haslewood was second with a filly, Four Poster. There were only half a dozen yearlings. The first was the property of Capt. Heywood Lonsdale, and was a big, well-grown youngster by his stud horse Withernam. The second was an exceedingly well-bred mare of Mr. Watkins's, of Lichfield. The 14st. hunters were all shown by tenant farmers. Mr. W. F. Wilkinson won with a strong hunter that moved well, and Mr. Bourne's second, by Savoy, well deserved his place. The class for brood mares and foals could not be considered thoroughly representative of a hunting county. Mr. C. Miles won with a capital sort of mare, that has been hunted with the Meynell regularly. Messrs. Furner and Burton were second with a neat horse by their blood stallion, Dirk Hatteraick, whilst Mr. A. C. Twyman was h.c. for his entry by Beggar Boy.

It has become the custom now to take the Hackney and Cob classes on the second day of the show, an innovation that certainly adds considerable interest to the proceedings and gives visitors a little more for their money. In the seven classes there were only thirty-two entries. Col. Swinfen-Broun won in the under 15.2 class with a beautiful mover. Mr. Webb was second with a powerful animal with not quite the quality of the first. Mr. F. J. Batchelor's smart chestnut by Master of Ballantire, would have had an easy win in the four-year old class under 15 hands if he had had the fortune to be under 15 hands. The conditions of this class are rather curious, the stipulation being "under 15 hands." It might be suggested that this should be altered another year to "15 hands and under." The disqualification of Mr. Batchelor let in Mr. C. H. Wright's Empress. The second then went to Mr. Wiggin's dark-brown Bobs. Col. Swinfen-Broun's was the only exhibit in the bigger harness class. A particularly smart cob headed the under 15 hands class shown in harness. This was a roan entire of Mr. A. H. Pooler's of Tibberton, sired by M.P. Ponies not exceeding 14 and over 12 hands were headed by a well-known animal of Mr. Wm. Foster's. He had really no difficulty in winning in the class of five, and was followed by a strong colt not quite so classy as the first. Mr. A. H. Pooler easily headed the harness class with his roan horse, and was a worthy winner of the Mayor of Stafford's prize. A very useful brown gelding from a local exhibitor—Mr. W. Brown, of Stafford, was second, and these two were well in front of the class. The brood mare class brought out five nice harness horses. Mr. Batchelor won with his first and champion at Shrewsbury that had with her a capital strong foal by Royal Danegelt. Mr. G. H. Watkins's well-known old mare, The Abbess, was second, and she showed very well. The Hackney Society's silver medal went to Mr. Batchelor's chestnut, disqualified in the 15 hands class.

The section devoted to agricultural horses was a satisfactory one. There was only a small class of older stallions, and the Cannock Agricultural Company had little trouble in winning with Xerxes 2nd. They also took second with Highthorn. There were only four three-year-old stallions, and they were headed by Mr. T. Appleby's Hixon Royal Stamp, which was well followed by an improving horse from the Cannock Stud. Two-year-old stallions were again a small class, and Mr. Cambridge won with a smart bay, but not too big. He was well followed by Mr. Morris's horse. Mr. Eadie's yearling had the nicest quality of anything in the class, a useful Pride of Blagdon colt of Mr. Whitehurst being second. In the four-year-old class Messrs. Lowndes' Rolleston Fuchsia was an easy first, Sir Oswald Mosley being second with a weighty good filly. A famous gelding headed the four-year-old gelding class, but at the same time he had some good horses behind him. Mr. Eadie's Barrow Waggoner has, of course, a record from far larger shows. The Cannock Agricultural Company were well to the front with their pair of dray horses, and they were two well-bred, active, heavy horses. A particularly pretty mare headed the three-year-old class. This was Mr. James Eadie's Holker Betty, a daughter of Calwich Heirloom. Mr. Ratcliff was second with a daughter of Wolseley 2nd. Three-year-old geldings were only a small class, but there was a very good horse at the top. This was Mr. Appleby's Hixon Waggoner, a son of his own smart stallion that has had some considerable showyard success locally. Two-year-old fillies were a more numerous class than most of the previous ones. Mr. Brandon's Xerxes filly, first at Newport, won here again. The second filly of Mr. Lewis Dodd was not so good below as the winner. Two-year-old geldings were a very small class, and Mr. Holdcroft won with a nice reachy horse. There was quite a creditable class of yearling fillies, both as regarded numbers and quality. Both the first and second prizes went to daughters of Harold, and the first prize winner is a particularly smart animal. There were but four yearling geldings, and Mr. Done won with a Ridware Ranger colt that has plenty of weight and substance. There was a capital class of colt foals, and it was one of the best sections of the show. The Cannock Company's Cannock Paxton headed this good class, and was followed by a Harold colt of Mr. John Blunt's. There were several good foals in the class. Filly foals were another nice lot, and numbered over a dozen. It was impossible to get away from Mr. Eadie's bay, by Barrow Victor, an animal of nice quality. Mr. McCalmont's exhibit made a very good second. At the Staffordshire Show the Shire brood mares and foals are generally a strong class. This year the numbers numbered a dozen, and they included some well-known dams. A famous mare was at the top in Mr. Eadie's Hendre Fairy, and she stood well in front of many more quality than Mr. Egerton Orme's black mare that was second. Mr. John Orme was third with a neat young mare, and it speaks for the excellence of the class when the

Cannock Company could only get reserve with their smart British Standard filly.

As already stated, there was a considerable decrease in the number of cattle this year, but neither in Shorthorns nor in dairy cattle was this accompanied by a falling-off in general excellence. In the class of Shorthorn bulls over two and under five years old, the three only competitors had each a prize. Mr. R. P. Cooper's light roan, Duke Carolus 13th, bred by Lord Lathom, secured first place very easily, and he well deserved the society's silver medal; Mr. H. Ker Colville's Prince Edward, being four and a-half years old, had the disadvantage of having lost some of his youthful bloom, but fairly won the second prize; Mr. C. W. Kellock secured the third prize with Prince of May, bred by Major Barton. There was a full entry of bulls under two years. In a somewhat uneven lot, Mr. W. F. Inge with his roan Edward 8th won the first prize and the society's silver medal. This useful youngster was bought at Bingley Hall last March for 65gs. Mr. T. C. Heath won second prize with Rearguard, and Mr. Gerrard Hindlip, Worcester, the third prize with his roan Dragon Fly. Mr. R. P. Cooper, with his red Saturn, bred by Lord Lovat, was somewhat unlucky in missing a prize and having to put up with the reserve. In bull calves there was a fair competition. Mr. C. W. Kellock, with his nine-months roan, out of a cow with which he won Lord Hatherton's first prize for in-calf dairy cows, had no difficulty in taking first place in bull calves. Both cow and calf were purchased at Mr. P. H. Chester's sale. Both second and third prizes fell to Mr. C. E. Morris for bulls bred at Wood Eaton Manor, Nobleman, a roan, being placed before Dairy Boy, a red. Shorthorn cows in calf or in milk were a good class. Mr. H. Ker Colville had in Baschurch Sybil a large-framed animal with good dairy qualities and well deserving her first prize, though she was no higher than reserve at Shrewsbury. Mr. C. W. Kellock, with Bingley Musical 3rd, took second prize. Mr. H. Ker Colville was again successful with his roan Lady Agnes Bates, which secured third prize. Heifers under three years were good, and here Mr. Ker Colville gained another first prize with Lady Bellaport, Mr. J. Wood, Marchington, running him close with his red Daisy Foggathorpe. All nine exhibits in heifers under two years were favourably noticed by the judges. The first prize went to Mr. H. Wynne, Droitwich, for a heavy-fleshed roan, bred by himself, Messrs. Green having the second prize with another roan, and Mr. H. Ker Colville being reserve with a red. The two entries from Shenstone Court brought two high commendations to Mr. R. P. Cooper, and the four entries from Rolleston gave the somewhat barren satisfaction of one high commendation and three commendations to Sir Oswald Mosley. The old bulls in dairy cattle to be exhibited in store condition by tenant farmers keeping at least ten cows competed for a 10-guinea prize given by Lord Burton, and a second prize of 5gs. given by Mr. J. Robinson, Westwood Hall. Messrs. Rawes secured Lord Burton's prize and the society's silver medal with a three-and-a-half-year-old red named Royal Seal. Another red, exhibited by Mr. Chas. F. Hobson, Eccleshall, got the second prize, Mr T. A. Brown, Tarporley, with his roan New Member had the reserve, and a high commendation went to Mrs. Ann Dewhurst for her roan Staffordshire Duke, bred at Wood Eaton Manor. For bulls under two years, Mr. T. C. Heath and Messrs. Rawes were strong competitors, the former getting into chief place with Right Baron, a red with little white, and the latter, with a good-fleshed roan named Good Boy, being a good second. Mrs. Ann Dewhurst again came near a prize with her reserve, May King's Farewell. In the class for bull calves exhibited and bred by a tenant farmer, Mr. T. C. Heath was awarded first prize for Right Sort, Mr. A. Stretton, with another roan, having the second place.

We now come to the two best classes in the show. It may be said generally that the females were better than the males in the dairy cattle. Specially good were the cows both in milk and in calf. In the class for dairy cow over three years, in milk, having produced a calf within twelve months, no fewer than seven were kept in for favourable notice after the work of weeding-out had been done. For the first place there was a keen fight between the roan Shorthorn shown by Mr. J. A. Brown, Tarporley, and the roan shown by Mr. T. C. Heath. The former eventually was placed first and the latter second. All the exhibits in the class were of Shorthorn type, and the struggle for place went on step by step until all the three prizes and the reserve had been fixed upon. Mr. J. Bunch, with his red-and-white Gay Lass, took the third prize, and the reserve went to Mr. C. F. Hobson, Eccleshall. The competition for dairy cow over three years, in calf, seemed to be a labour of love to the judges, and much time was taken over the awards. Thirteen cows, all good, came up for judgment, and only five were weeded out. The eight roans left in were wonderfully good specimens of farmers' cattle. Mr. C. W. Kellock, with his Rosy Morn, dam of the first-prize bull calf, was placed first. Mr. A Stretton, Wichnor, had second prize, and Mr W. Jackson, Barlaston, the third prize, and was also commended for another animal. The offer by Lord Norton of £5 for the best pair of cows exhibited in the dairy cow classes the property of a tenant rather complicated the situation. Eventually the award went to Mr. T. C. Heath's roan. Another special prize of £5 given by R. A. Watkins, Tillington, for the best cow for dairy purposes, the property of a tenant farmer residing within five miles of the show and exhibited in store condition, was taken by Mr. R. Brown's roan. The best heifer under three years, bred and shown by a tenant farmer, was shown by Messrs. Rawes, Mr. H. Wynne being second. In heifers in milk, under three years, bred and shown by a tenant farmer, there was only one exhibit by Mr. H. Wynne. Messrs. Day and Sons' prize of a £5 medicine chest for the best pair of heifers exhibited in the in-calf and in-milk classes went to Mr. A. Stretton's pair. A capital show of heifers under two years bred and shown by a tenant farmer attracted favourable notice from the judges. Of the six which came before them the best was Mr. J. A. Brown's, the second being Mr. J. Bunch's. In heifers under one year, bred and shown by a tenant-farmer, the competition is very good. And here Mr. T. C. Heath, with a beautiful white, got first. Mr. A. Stretton, with a roan, the second, and Mr. T. C. Heath, the reserve.

There was only one class of Jerseys, but several capital milkers were on view. The best was Red Fern, a three-year-old fawn, belonging to Mr. J. R. Walker, true to type; while an older cow, Warren Maid, displaying plenty of Jersey character, the property of Mr. L. G. Gisborne, was second. This gentleman also was reserve, and Mr. Walker got a commendation. Aberdeen-Angus cattle made a pleasing show. In the class for bulls over two years old Mr. F. Vaughan Williams, Eccleshall Castle, won first prize, Mr. G. E. Meakin the second, and Mr. L. A. Macpherson, Wyrley Grove, the reserve. The same exhibitors came again in bulls under two years, and this time Mr. Meakin was first, Mr. Vaughan Williams second, and Mr. L. A. Macpherson reserve. In cows in milk or in calf Mr. Vaughan Williams had two entries and Mr. Macpherson three, the former taking first prize and reserve and the latter the second prize. For similar prizes in heifers under two years Mr. Meakin put in an appearance, but unsuccessfully, Mr. Macpherson taking first prize and Mr. Vaughan Williams the second and also the reserve. Mr. Macpherson offered a challenge cup, value £10, to the exhibitor in the Aberdeen-Angus classes gaining the greatest number of points (each first prize to count as two points and each second prize as one point). The cup has to be won three years by the same competitor before it becomes his property absolutely. Messrs. Meakin and Vaughan Williams have this year each scored six points, and the challenge cup remains in the custody of its donor.

There were seven entries of cows in calf or in milk grazed on Stafford Common. Mr. Clarke had two, and he took first prize and a high commendation. Mr. Richard Perry won the second prize, and Mr. T. Clayton had the reserve and also a commendation. For heifers under two years grazed on Stafford Common the first prize went to James Sutton and the second to A. Jervis.

The show of sheep was confined to the Shropshire variety, and the display was of a very creditable character. The number of entries was 72, a smaller total than used to be found at the Staffordshire shows a few years ago, but larger than in recent years. Twelve months ago, at Wolverhampton, the aggregate rose to 97, but for some reason there was a reduction of 25 on the present occasion, although the total was 30 more than the poor entry which was obtained two years ago at Burslem. Winners of prizes at the Royal Show were debarred from competing, but a number of very useful animals were penned. In old rams Mr. R. Raywood, Much Wenlock, won the first prize with a good sheep, which beat Mr. J. Harding's reserve at the Royal; Mrs. Barrs had the reserve. As is usual, the competition in shearling rams was more interesting than in old rams. In single shearlings, no fewer than five entries failed to put in an appearance. The winner of the first prize and the Society's silver medal was an excellent specimen of Mr. J. Harding's (Shiffnal) flock. Mr. F. W. Inge took the second prize with a shearling, and Mr. George Brown, Wolgarston, secured the third prize and the reserve. For shearling rams in pens of five three very good pens entered. Mr. Barrs here succeeded in carrying off first honours, but Mr. R. P. Cooper had an exceedingly good lot in the winners of the second prize. In single ram lambs, besides the three prizes and the necessary reserve, the judges gave a high commendation and a commendation. Mr. Bernard Wall, Coleshill, was the winner of the first prize with a capital specimen of the Shropshire lamb. Mr. J. Harding had two entries, and won the second prize and a high commendation. Mrs. Barrs, with a pretty youngster, secured the third prize, and Mr. R. P. Cooper the reserve with a nice but rather small lamb. There is a disappointing lack of competition in pens of five breeding ewes which have reared a lamb in 1900. But the only two pens are good, Mr. R. P. Cooper taking first prize and Mr. Geo. Brown the second. Again, in pens of five shearling ewes the competitors were only equal in number to the prizes. It is true that all three prizes are well deserved, as the class was probably the most perfect among the sheep. Mr. R. P. Cooper had some capital theaves, and secured the first place over Mr. W. F. Inge, Mrs. Barrs coming third. Mr. Bernard Wall won first prize in ewe lambs shown in pens of five, Mrs. Barrs taking the second prize, and Mr. R. P. Cooper the third. Considering the early period of the season the lambs shown were more forward than might have been expected. Two prizes were given for ram lambs in pens of five, and the first went to Mr. J. S. Harding, Catstree House, Mr. R. P. Cooper taking second, whilst Mr. Bernard Wall had to be satisfied with the reserve. The remaining classes in sheep competed for prizes offered by the Stafford Local Committee and by other local donors. In a moderate class of breeding ewes in pens of five that have suckled lambs in 1900, Mr. A. E. Chadderton, The Heamies, was awarded the first prize, and Mr. F. J. S. Griffin, Preston Vale, the second. In the class for theaves in pens of five there was a better competition, and more favourable notice from the judges. Mr. Herbert Mitchell, Longnor Hall Farm, was the first prize winner, and Mr. W. H. Heath, Huntington Farm, the second. Two prizes were given for ewe lambs in pens of five, and these attracted a fair competition. The Duke of Sutherland, who had only to be satisfied with commendation in previous classes, now came to the front. Mr. F. J. S. Griffin was second, and Mrs. Alice Stubbs, Weeping Cross, reserve, and highly commended. The sheep classes closed with only one pen of singularly good fat wethers, shown by Mr. Herbert Mitchell, and well worthy of the first prize bestowed upon it.

Pigs.

Owing, very probably, to the prevalence of swine fever, and in some measure to the disinclination of pig breeders to go to the trouble of exhibiting their stock, the entries of pigs were much less numerous than usual, while the extreme heat of the weather had the result of still further reducing the number of the exhibits present. There were only two entries of Large White boars, both from the noted Barrowfield herd. Topsman, a two years and four months old, of great depth, was selected for first prize, and afterwards won the society's medal as the best boar in the yard. Barrowfield Eclipse, a younger and much longer pig, was a choice specimen of the Large White. There was only one Large White sow shown, and this a moderate specimen, but she had a capital litter, and the judge gave her a first prize. All four of the Middle White pigs shown were from the well-known Castlecroft herd. The sows were much better in character. Castlecroft Ladybird won first well; her sister, placed second, was, like her, good in hair and skin, but not so stylish or level. None of the four Berkshire boars put in an appearance, and the only two sows were from Mr. A. O. Worthington's herd, and he was awarded first and second prize. There was but one Tamworth boar of good colour, but not in first-class condition, and only one sow of the breed, a good typical one, both belonging to Sir Oswald Mosley. In pens of three breeding pigs first prize was allotted to a very smart pen of Whites, shown by Mr. Twentyman, and second to Tamworths, belonging to Sir Oswald Mosley. In pens of three young pigs of the Berkshire breed not restricted to breeding properties, Mr. Worthington showed both pens, which were of the same litter, but the best had been kept for feeding, and these won first, the other taking second.

Bedfordshire.

The ninety-ninth show of the Beds. Agricultural Society, held on Thursday last, was a very successful gathering. The entries of cattle, sheep, and horses totalled 381, as against 252 in 1899. In 1898 the figure was 329, in 1897 it was 358, in 1896 it was 237, and in 1895 it was 363. In the cattle section there was the greatest increase, there being seventy-one entries as against an average for five years of fifty-one. There is no comparison in the figures relating to the pig section, on account of the frequent enforcement of the swine fever regulations.

Not only were the entries good, but the quality was excellent. This was particularly noticeable of the horses: a finer collection was never seen in the society's show yard. The cattle section was not so full as the horses. Among the competitors for the first time were Dexters. Sheep were a good average show, and it was noticeable that some of the older prize takers had this year to stand aside in favour of younger competitors. Pigs, after a lengthy absence, were once again allowed to appear.

Judges.

CART HORSES: Mr. Henry Smith, The Grove, Coppenhall, Barlaston, Stone, Staffordshire.

HUNTERS: Mr. H. Lupton, The Ayscoughfee, Mr. George Taylor, Cromwell, near Newark.

CATTLE: Mr. J. A. Preece, Drayton, Thimpston; Mr. Arthur Bretton, Great Billing, Northampton.

SHEEP AND PIGS: Mr. Thomas Rigby, Mawdesley Hall Farm, Saffron Walden.

Prize List.

CART HORSES.

Class 1 (Mares or Geldings, the property of a resident in the county). 1. Spencer Draper, Crow Hill Farm, Wilden; 2. Benjamin Hawkins, Bromham; 3. H. Chapman, Bolnhurst.

Class 2 (Mares or Geldings, the property of a resident in the county). 1. George Stone, Marston Lady Hill; 2. J. J. Malden, Stockbrook Farm, Keysoe; 3. W. H. Heath, Shenstone Court, Stourbridge.

Class 3 (Mares or Geldings, the property of a resident in the county). 1. Spencer Draper, Duke; 2. Spencer Draper, Prince; 3. Robert Long.

Class 4 (Mares or Geldings, bred in and the property of a resident in the county, exempt by Mr. H. H. Gibbs). 1. J. J. Malden (Stockbrook Jewel); 2. James Day, Roxton (Gay Lass); 3.

George Street (Maulden Countess III.), 1, James Day (Roxton Garnet).

Gelding, foaled in 1897, the property of a Bedfordshire tenant farmer: 1, Robert Whitworth, Bolnhurst; 2, W. S. Brocklehurst, Meadow Farm, Kempston (Kempston Actor); 3, Benjamin Hawkins (Grace); he, John Brown.

Mare foaled in 1896, the property of a county resident: 1, Benjamin Hawkins (Bloss 3rd); 2, John Batt, Mid Farm, Willington (Bluey); 3, J. King and Sons, Broom (Broomfield Duchess); he, John Brown; c, James Day (Worsley Princess IV.)

Gelding or mare, four years old and upwards, the property of an Oxfordshire resident or an adjoining county: 1, A. Ransom, Hitchin; 2, Spencer Draper (Woodham Royal); 3, C. Sheppard Marsh, Little Offley, Hitchin (Speedwell); he, Bryan Welch, Leighton Buzzard.

Pair of geldings or mares, any age, the property of a bona fide tenant farmer residing in the county: 1, J. King and Sons, Broom (Nightshade); 2, Benjamin Hawkins (Duke); 3, Spencer Draper (Punch); r, John Batt, Willington (Peaches); he, James Day (Roxton Cherry).

Pair of geldings or mares foaled before 1897: 1, A. Ransom, Hitchin; 2, Benjamin Hawkins (Duke); r, S. Spencer Draper (Punch and Captain).

Mare and foal: 1, Sir J. Blundell Maple, Bart., Childwick, St. Albans (Stanney Connection); 2, Miss Alice de Rothschild, Waddesdon (Lily); 3, C. Sheppard Marsh, Little Offley (Brookfield Bonny); r, A. Ransom; he, J. King and Sons, Broom (Jet), J. Henry Clark, Eyeshey (Pytchley Countess).

Mare and foal, the property of a bona fide tenant farmer, residing in the county: 1, J. King and Sons (Jet); 2, James Day (Roxton Beauty); 3, George Street (Maulden Jewel II.); r, Charles Franklin; he, George Humphreys; George E. Brown, Marston Mercaine (Victoria of Worsley VI.); c, James A. Horsford, Dean (Flower).

Colt foal, the property of a resident in the county: 1, Charles Franklin; 2, James Day; 3, Samuel Harrison; r, George Humphreys; he, James Day.

Filly foal, the property of a resident in the county: 1, Bryan Welch; 2, J. King and Sons; 3, James A. Horsford, Dean; r, James Day; c, John Brown.

A silver medal, offered by the Shire Horse Society for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal, registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book: 1, Sir J. Blundell Maple, Bart.; r, A. Ransom, Hitchin.

HUNTERS, HACKNEYS, COBS, AND PONIES.

Mare, suitable for breeding hunters, with foal at foot, by a thoroughbred horse, the property of a resident in the Oakley or adjoining hunts: 1, Executors of Thos. Phipps Speer, Kempston; 2, Robert Long, Upper Sound an (Lady-smith); r, W. Mills, Cardington (Conquest); c, Hugh E. Browning, Clapham Park (Hilda).

Three-year-old gelding or mare by a thoroughbred horse for hunting purposes, bred in the counties of Bedford or Huntingdon: 1, Lewis Walker, junr., Stagsden (Hilda); 2, Frederick W. Gostling, Oakley, (Marigold); r, Frederick Newbery, Milton Ernest; he, Charles Hawkins, Hardwicke Hill Farm, Elstow (Mayflower).

Four-year-old gelding or mare for hunting purposes, bred in the county of Bedford, or the property of a bona fide tenant farmer or his son residing within the county: 1, Charles Brooks, Mursley Hall, Winslow; 2, Christopher Ingle, Bletsoe Park; r, Emery Cranfield, Elstow.

Hunter not above eight years old, adapted for hunting purposes, and up to a weight of not less than 13 stone: 1, J. H. Sedgley, Church Langton, Market Harborough (Loyal); 2, William Manning, West Park, Wing; 3, William Whitehead, Shelton (Baronet); r, G. W. Sumner, Desborough (Sportsman); he, Alfred J. Cumpion, Bletsoe Castle (Hurricane); Robert Long (Hagar); c, W. H. Allen, Bromham House (Irish Oak).

An oil painting, in gilt frame, value £10 10s., being the portrait of the best animal exhibited in Classes 14 to 17: 1, J. H. Sedgley; r, William Manning.

Cob, not exceeding 15 hands: 1, John A. Bouverie, Hardingstone House, Northampton (Rufus); 2, J. F. Hatfield Harter, Cranfield Court (Beauty Bright); r, T. Tirrell, Avenue Hotel, Kettering (County Swell); he, Sydney Brunton, St. Albans (Harebelle); c, William Manning.

Hackney, of any age, over 13½ hands, the property of a resident in this or an adjoining county: 1, John A. Bouverie (Dimples); 2, T. Tirrell (Gladys); r, Edward Haigh, Ellesmere, Shakespeare Road, Bedford (Sportsman); he, Percy H. Buller, Leighton Buzzard (Fleshlights); c, George Hawkes (Lunkar); Miss Barnett, Stratton Park (Jacob).

Horse, exceeding 15 hands, shown in single harness: 1, Sydney Brunton, St. Albans (Witcham Empress); 2, Percy H. Buller (Dark Daisy); r, Mrs. Dixon, Cresbrook Hall, Monsal Dale; he, Percy H. Buller (Fleshlight); F. E. Hurst Hodgson, St. Mary's Abbey, Bedford (Ladysmith); c, A. Cribbs, Brewham Road, Bedford (The Comet); Miss Barnett (Jacob).

Cob, not exceeding 15 hands, shown in single harness, the property of a resident in the county: 1, Robert Whitworth; 2, William Folkes; r, George Claridge (The Tiger); he, William Meares (Ticklerd); c, Alfred Cox, Wilstead (Tom); John Lee Shelton Rectory (Speed); Miss E. M. Pope, Sandy Park; George Tansley, 111, High Street, Bedford.

Pony, not exceeding 13 hands, shown in single harness, the property of a resident in the county: 1, George Walker, junr., Jackman's Farm, Bedford (Starlight); 2, Daniel Richardson, Snow Hill, Maulden; r, E. J. Welhead, Bedford (Beauty).

Pony, not exceeding 13 hands, shown in single harness: 1, C. H. R. Stock, Shotover Cottage, Headington Quarry, Oxford; 2, Sydney Brunton (Surprise); r, T. Tirrell (Bobs); he, George Walker, jun (Starlight); c, H. S. Tasker, Riversfield, St. Neots.

Driving competition, with obstacles: 1, Miss E. M. Pope (Donovan); 2, C. H. R. Stock; r, Sydney Brunton (Surprise).

Horse of any age, that jumps his fences in the best manner: 1, Benjamin Robins; 2, C. Jerome, Sutton Coldfield (Comet); r, Charles Brooks, Winslow.

Horse, of any age, that jumps his fences in the best manner being the property of a resident in this or an adjoining county: 1, Benjamin Robins; 2, James Francis (Phyllis); r, Charles Brooks.

BULLS.

Bull, above eighteen months and under three years old: 1, Miss Alice de Rothschild, Waddesdon (Royal Prince); 2, W. H. O. Duncombe, Waresley Park (Highland Ranger); r, John Britten, Abington, Northampton (Barrington Duke); he, F. A. W. Wythes, Ravensden House (Executor); c, A. S. Thornton, Minor House, Muggerhanger (Bright Star).

Bull, above one and under two years old, the property of a resident in the county: 1, Arthur S. Thornton (Bright Star); 2, Rev. P. W. Wyatt, Austin Canons (Kempston Abbott); r, F. A. W. Wythes (Baron de Vere).

District prize of £10, given by the Shorthorn Society of Great Britain and Ireland, for the best Shorthorn bull in the counties of Bedford, Hertford, and Middlesex, calved in 1899: 1 and r, Arthur S. Thornton (Bright Star and Dancing Duke).

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Heifer, above one and not exceeding two years old (prizes by Mr. J. E. Platt): 1, Leopold de Rothschild (Mayflower 8th); 2, W. H. O. Duncombe (Ruby Robe); r, Miss Alice de Rothschild (Starlight); he, William Jackson, Hitchin (Sherborne Girlie); c, Hipwell and Sons, Sharnbrook (Dulcie Bell 3rd).

Cow or heifer, in calf or in milk, not exceeding three years old: 1 and 2, Miss Alice de Rothschild (Rose of Underley 6th and Miss Burnaby); r, Leopold de Rothschild (Princess Irene); c, C. Sheppard Marsh (Honey Bag)

Dairy cow, in milk or in calf, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer residing within the county: 1, Benjamin Howkins; 2 and r, Charles Ibbott.

Two dairy cows of one herd, in milk or in calf, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer residing within the county: 1, John Brown, Houghton Conquest; 2, Benjamin Howkins; r, George Humphreys.

Dairy cow, in milk or in calf, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer residing in the county or within fifteen miles of the Shire Hall: 1, J. C. H. Robinson, Newport Pagnell; 2, Benjamin Howkins; r, John Brown; he and c, Charles Ibbott.

Cow, of any age, in calf or in milk: 1, W. H. O. Duncombe; 2, Miss Alice de Rothschild (Bructer Queen); r, Leopold de Rothschild (Mayflower 3rd); c, Benjamin Howkins; Arthur S. Thornton (Honeydew 4th).

Dexter cow, of any age, or in milk: 1, Joseph Paisley, Waresley; r, Rev. Paul W. Wyatt, Bedford.

SHEEP.

Short-woolled shearling ram: 1, 2, and 3, T. Fowell Buxton, Waters Place, Ware; r, W. B. Greenfield, Flamsteadbury; c, Mrs. Elizabeth James, Cople.

Five breeding ewes, of any age or breed, which shall have suckled lambs up to the 1st of June, 1900: 1, E. W. Baird, Exning House, Newmarket; 2, T. Fowell Buxton; r, Benjamin Howkins.

Ten cross-bred theaves, the property of a Bedfordshire tenant farmer, to be fresh or suckling gueaves. To running in any form to be a hospital case: 1, M. A. E. Woodward, Yelvs, Lyon Warden; 2, H. Compton; 3, Benjamin Howkins, Bromham; r, M. F. Bliss, Cranfield.

Ten breeding ewes, of any age or breed, which shall have suckled lambs up to the 1st day of June, 1900, the property of a bona fide tenant farmer residing in the county of within fifteen miles of the same: 1, Robert Long, Howkins; 2, W. S. Brocklehurst; r, Robert Long.

Three ram lambs, the property of a bona fide tenant farmer residing in the county: 1, H. H. Green; 2, George Street; r and he, H. H. Green.

Five ewe lambs, the property of a bona fide tenant farmer residing in the county: 1, W. B. Greenfield; 2, T. Fowell Buxton; he, George Street; c, E. W. Baird.

Ten wether lambs, the property of a bona fide tenant farmer residing in the county: 1, Benjamin Howkins; 2, Robert Long.

Ten ewe lambs, the property of a bona fide tenant farmer residing in the county: 1, Benjamin Howkins; 2, Mrs. Elizabeth James; r, Robert Long; c, Samuel Seabrook, Ampthill.

PIGS.

Boar, above twelve months: 1, Rouse Orlebar, Hinwick Lodge, Wellingborough; r, W. S. Brocklehurst, Kempston (Fair Trade).

Boar, under two years old, intended for use, the property of a resident in the county: 1, Rouse Orlebar.

Sow and her pigs, the property of a resident in the county: 1, W. S. Brocklehurst (Montford Heroine).

Breeding sow, the property of a resident in the county: 1, W. S. Brocklehurst (Kempston 2nd).

Three sow pigs, under twelve months old, suitable for breeding purposes, the property of a resident in the county: 1, Rouse Orlebar.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

12479.—Thomas Bowman, jun., Bradford, for an invention of "A new or improved device for lifting hay and like horticultural products."

12484.—Franz Ritter von Dahmon, Berlin, Germany, for an invention of "Improvements in apparatus for supporting young trees."

12496.—Guglielmo Ponchelli, London, for an invention of "Machinery or apparatus for automatically sorting eggs, applicable also for the automatic sorting of fruits and other agricultural or trade products."

12507.—Edward Henry Nicholson and William Mather, London, for an invention of "Improvements in horse rakes."

12541.—William Yarrow, Ely, for an invention of "The complete corn cleaning machine."

12640.—Andrew Sloan and William Wilson, Kilmarnock, N.B., for an invention of "Improved appliance for lifting, elevating, and discharging cut crops, fibrous or granular material, or goods in bales or bags."

12652.—John Scoular, Glasgow, for an invention of "An improved cultivator for agricultural purposes."

RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY announce that on each Wednesday until September 19th inclusive cheap excursions will be run for 8 days to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, and Mablethorpe, from King's Cross (G.N.) at 8.45 a.m.; also for 8 days to Sheringham, Cromer (Beach), Mundesley-on-Sea, and Yarmouth (Beach), from King's Cross (G.N.) at 3.30 p.m.

Each Saturday until September 29th inclusive (for 3, 8, 10, 15 or 17 days), to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, Mablethorpe, Grimsby, New Clee, Cleethorpes, Bridlington, Filey, Scarborough, Whitby, Robin Hood's Bay, Saltburn, Redcar, Tynemouth, Whitley Bay, Cullercoats, Liverpool, Southport and Douglas (Isle of Man).

On Friday, August 3rd (for 4, 10, and 16 days), cheap excursions will leave London for Northallerton, Darlington, Richmond, Durham, Newcastle, Alnwick, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Helensburgh, Dumbarton, Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Dalmally, Oban, Fort William, Montrose, Aberdeen, Inverness, and other stations in Scotland. Passengers holding 4 day tickets return on Tuesday, August 7th; 10 day tickets on Monday, August 13th; and 16 day tickets on any day within 16 days, including date of issue and return.

Saturday, August 4th, for 1, 3, or 4 days, and Bank Holiday, Monday, August 6th, for 1 day, to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, Mablethorpe.

Bank Holiday, August 6th (for one day), to St. Albans, Hertford, Wheathampstead, Harpenden, Luton, Dunstable, Hitchin, Baldock, Royston, Cambridge, Biggleswade, Sandy, Tempsford, St. Neots, Huntingdon, and Peterboro'.

The cheap week-end tickets usually issued each Friday and Saturday will be issued on Friday, August 3rd, and Saturday, August 4th, available for return on Sunday (if train service admits), Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, August 5, 6, 7, or 8.

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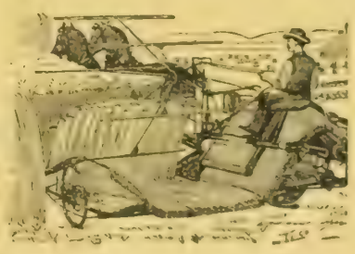

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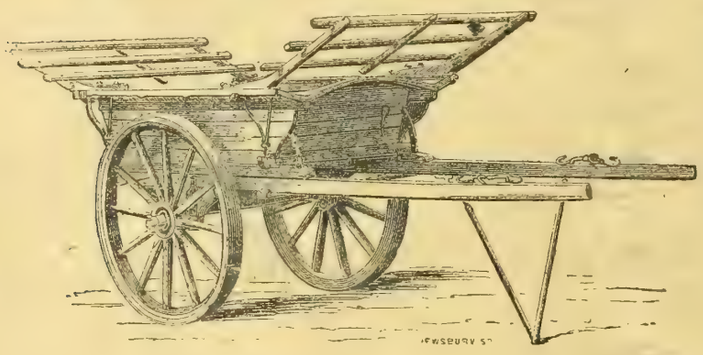

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The Journal of the Board of Agriculture

JUNE QUARTERLY ISSUE.

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SOCIETIES.

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For schedules, MASON, Secretary.

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Will be held on
SEPTEMBER 5th, in STOKE PARK
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ENTRIES CLOSE AUGUST 18th.

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SOCIETIES.

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AND JUMPING AND DRIVING COMPETITIONS
will take place
THURSDAY, AUGUST 16TH.

The classes include a Selling Class for Horses and Mares, not exceeding 15 h., shown in single harness.

Schedules and all information of WALTER PAINE, Secretary, Sumner House, Worthing, Sussex.

WORSLEY SHOW, SATURDAY, AUGUST 25th.

HORSES, CATTLE, POULTRY, PIGEONS, DOGS, CATS, HORTICULTURE, ETC.

Entries positively close Aug. 15th.

Schedules, W. UPJOHN, Worsley.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 18TH, 1900.

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Schedules and all particulars to be had of
LEWIS C. MUNDY, Secretary.
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TUESDAY, AUGUST 14.—The Right Hon. EARL BATHURST'S SOUTHDOWNS, at Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire.
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22.—Mr. W. O. HAMMOND'S SOUTHDOWNS, at St. Alban's Court, Wingham, Kent.
THURSDAY, AUGUST 23.—The entire remainder of the late Mr. W. T. TALBOT-CROSBIE'S Herd of SHORTHORNS, at Ardfert Abbey, Ireland.
FRIDAY, AUGUST 31.—Sir THOMAS BARRETT-LENNARD'S SOUTHDOWNS, at Woodingdean, Brighton.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes-street, Hanover-square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

WESTERGATE, ALDINGBOURNE, CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7TH, 1900.

UNRESERVED SALE AND FINAL DISPERSAL of one of the MOST NOTED AND SUCCESSFUL PRIZE-WINNING SOUTHDOWN FLOCKS in existence, Registered No. 9 in Southdown Flock Book.

MR. WILLIAM TOOP, having decided to relinquish Sheep Breeding, has favoured MR. C. STRIDE (of the Chichester Auction Co.) with instructions to SELL BY AUCTION, on the Farm, without reserve, on
TUESDAY, AUGUST 7TH NEXT,
THE WHOLE of his FAMOUS REGISTERED trade-marked SOUTHDOWN FLOCK, consisting of about
370 EWES AND EWE LAMBS of the usual flock ages, and
70 RAMS AND RAM LAMBS.
Mr. Toop established this flock in 1883 by purchases of Ewes and Rams from many of the leading Southdown Breeders; reduced in numbers by a public sale in 1895, its history has been a continuous and unbroken record of success.
A very large proportion of the Ewes, particularly the younger ages, trace back to "ROYAL CAMBRIDGE" (No. 1,450, Vol. IV.), by that wonderful old ram "WATERBEACH" (No. 304, Vol. I.), bred at Goodwood, winner of many prizes at the Royal and other shows, without ever having been beaten. A most impressive sire, who imparted to his descendants to an extraordinary degree his own marvellous constitution and fine quality.
During the past 17 years 244 PRIZES have been awarded to this famous flock at the various leading Shows, including Champions, Group Prizes, and Breed Cups, but not including R.N.'s, H.C.'s, or C.'s, or other minor distinctions, medals which many prizes have been awarded to sheep entered therefrom at the chief foreign shows.
EVERY SHEEP OWNED BY MR. TOOP is included in the Sale, and every lot will be sold WITHOUT RESERVE.
Westergate is five miles from Chichester and one mile from Barnham Junction on the L.B. and S.C. Railway.
The flock [illegible]
Luncheon at One o'clock. Sale immediately after.
Catalogues of Mr. TOOP, or of the Auctioneer [illegible] and Estate Agency Offices, 4, East Street, Chichester.

REGISTER OF BRITISH LIVE STOCK BREEDERS.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. — Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners; yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

HACKNEYS. — JOHN N. ANTHONY, Sedgeford, near Lynn, Norfolk, breeder of Pedigree Hackneys. On hand, Colts and Fillies by most of the leading sires.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions, at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath Station, L.B. and S.C. Railway) on application to the owner, as above.

CLEVELANDS.

HORSFALL, F. WILSON, Potto Grange, Northallerton.—Breeder of pure-bred CLEVELAND BAY and YORKSHIRE COACH HORSES. This stud has won far more prizes than any other again this year, and has won twice as many as any other during the last fifteen years with Clevelands. Many Royal and Great Yorkshire prize-winners for sale. One of the Stud Horses is Champion Broomgrove Pride 1249—first and champion R.A.S.E. Show, Maidstone, 1897; first R.A.S.E. Show, Birmingham, 1898; first and champion Great Yorkshire, Leeds, 1898; only times shown; fee £5 5s. Also breeder of pure-bred Shorthorns. Bulls and heifers for sale. Amongst others added to this herd in 1899 were Daisy Perfection, Richmond Daisy, and Highland Daisy, all bought at the Duke of Northumberland's Sale, at 210 guineas, 72 guineas, and 72 guineas respectively. Also breeder of Sussex black pigs, and several breeds of white poultry.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby—SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some good Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

TAUNTON, H. PERCY, Redlynch, near Salisbury, Wiltshire. Shire-bred STALLIONS MARES, FILLIES, and GELDINGS of the most fashionable breeding always for sale at moderate prices. The animals are kept entirely out of doors and in natural condition.

PONIES.

THE LARGEST STUD of SELECTED WELSH PONIES IN WALES.—Dinarth Hall Pony Stud Farm, Colwyn Bay, North Wales. Over 120 Ponies now on hand, including forty Brood Mares of the pure Welsh type, and several high-class Ponies, great goers, with style and action. 150 prizes won in 1898 and 1899. Ponies purchased from this Stud have won first prizes at Manchester, Birmingham, and Maidstone Royal Shows; also first and medal Crystal Palace, 1899. Sale in 1899 included two Entire Ponies purchased by the Government for Cyprus, several to America and France. Stud Horse JULIUS CÆSAR II. 5666, sire of first prize two-year-old pony filly, the first of his produce exhibited, London Hackney Show, 1900.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, S. Wales, extensive Breeder and Exporter of the best class of WELSH MOUNTAIN PONIES and COBS. References and particulars on application.

MONTEFIORE, REV. D. B., Mursley, Winslow, Bucks.—POLO PONY STALLION "MOOTRUB" (Polo Pony Society 32); winner of many prizes; three times reserve champion; service fee, £3 3s., and 5s. the groom.—Particulars on application.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY PARK SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.— Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

LANGFORD HOUSE ESTATE HERD of pure and highly-bred SHORTHORN CATTLE, the property of Mr. Sidney Hill, J.P. All bred from the best and leading herds in the Kingdom. Sires now in service: Wiltshire Victor, 71,888 (roan), by Count Victor, 66,877. Puck, 73,333 (roan), by Alto, 68,147. Count Valiant, 74,307 (roan), by Count Arthur, 70,194. Langford Lavender, 74,819 (roan), by Wiltshire Victor, 71,883. Bulls and heifers always on sale, also registered flock of Southdown sheep. Inspection invited. Telegrams, Langford Station, Congresbury, G.W.R. Particulars from J. D. LOVELESS, Estate Office, Langford, Bristol.

GARNE, R. & W. T., Aldsworth, Northleach, Glos., breed SHORTHORN CATTLE of great size, thick flesh, good milkers. Young Bulls and Heifers on sale. Stock Bulls: Wrestler, 66,582, Lord Harry, 65,180, and Now or Never, 67,544. Inspection invited.

HEREFORDS.

SALTMARSHE CASTLE ESTATES, HEREFORDSHIRE, Prize winning pure bred HEREFORD CATTLE. Champion Happy Hampton in service. Inspection invited. Good selection for sale.— Apply, J. W. MILLYARD, Estate Office, Littlebridge, Bromyard.

PEDIGREE HEREFORD CATTLE.—One of the oldest herds extant.—Young bulls and heifers of the purest lineage and excellent quality for sale.—J. R. HILL, Orleton Court, R.S.O., Herefordshire.

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DALMENY PARK ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

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HEASELANDS HERD of PEDIGREE JERSEYS, COWS and HEIFERS of the best blood at moderate prices.—Pedigrees, etc., on application to the owner, WALTER LLOYD, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

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PIGS.

YORKSHIRES.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H.—NEWLAND HERD OF PEDIGREE LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES; all pigs entered or eligible for entry in Herd Book; choice, well-grown young boars and sows of the best strains always on sale. — Apply, BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Ellel, near Lancaster. Station: Bay Horse.

PIGS *(contd.)*.

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FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Undoubtedly the leading flock of the day; in show yard records at all the largest shows, including the Challenge Cup at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair six years in succession; also highest average for same period for 100 ram lambs at annual sale, at Britford Fair, August 12.

The Flock is one of the oldest existing combining fine quality, strength, constitution, and true character.

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Annual Ram Sale on the premises, Friday, August 3rd.

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(West Worthing, and District).

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MISCELLANEOUS.

CANVAS STACK COVERS.—Guaranteed made from the best qualities Canvas, woven specially, complete with lettering, tie-ropes, etc.; carriage paid to any station; write for free samples. FIRST QUALITY, made from best heavy Flax Canvas, bound round edge with stout hemp rope:—8 yds. by 6 yds., 72s.; 8 yds. by 7 yds., 84s.; 8 yds. by 8 yds., 96s.; 10 yds. by 8 yds., 120s.; 10 yds. by 10 yds., 150s.; 12 yds. by 10 yds., 180s.; 12 yds. by 12 yds., 216s. SECOND QUALITY, similar to first, complete with tie topes, but not bound with rope:—8 yds. by 6 yds., 64s.; 8 yds. by 7 yds., 75s.; 8 yds. by 8 yds., 85s.; 10 yds. by 8 yds., 107s.; 10 yds. by 10 yds., 134s.; 12 yds. by 10 yds., 160s.; 12 yds. by 12 yds., 192s. THIRD QUALITY, made from strong double-warp Canvas:—8 yds. by 6 yds., 28s.; 8 yds. by 7 yds., 33s.; 8 yds. by 8 yds., 37s.; 10 yds. by 8 yds., 47s.; 10 yds. by 10 yds., 58s.; 12 yds. by 10 yds., 70s.; 12 yds. by 12 yds., 84s. J. H. PECK AND CO., Ld., Tarpaulin Works, Wigan.

BINDER TWINE.—Pure Manila, 600 feet to the lb., breaking strain 100 lbs. Guaranteed thorough good worker.—J. H. PECK AND CO., Ld., Wigan. Est. 1808.

BINDER TWINE. — Peck's "Record" Russian Hemp, 600 feet to the lb., breaking strain 90 lbs. Guaranteed thorough good worker at 5½d. per lb., special price for quantities; carriage paid to any station.—Sample on application to J. H. PECK AND CO., Ld., 78, Wallgate, Wigan.

WATERPROOF OIL SHEETS.—Improved, flexible, made from pure flax canvas, hand dressed, lettered, with tie-ropes complete. Actual measurement, when made, 8 ft. by 6 ft., 9s.; 9 ft. by 7 ft., 11s.; 10½ ft. by 8 ft., 14s.; 12 ft. by 9 ft., 18s.; 12 ft. by 10 ft., 20s.; 15 ft. by 8 ft., 20s.; 15 ft. by 9 ft., 22s. 6d.; 15 ft. by 10 ft., 25s.; 15 ft. by 12 ft., 30s.; 16½ ft. by 10 ft., 28s.; 16½ ft. by 12 ft., 33s.; 18 ft. by 12 ft., 36s.; 21 ft. by 12 ft., 42s.; 21 ft. by 15 ft., 53s.; 24 ft. by 18 ft., 72s. These and all other sizes in stock at proportionate prices, carriage paid; immediate delivery; thoroughly seasoned. Every cover guaranteed flexible, thoroughly waterproof, and neither to stick nor crack.—J. H. PECK AND CO., Ld., Wigan. Established 1808.

CHEMICALLY DRESSED "Peck" Cloth Sheets.—Waterproof and Rot-proof, the foundation of which is Pure Flax Canvas, lettered and roped complete, at 1s. 9d. per square yard.—J. H. PECK AND CO., Ld., Wigan. Est. 1808.

POULTRY HOUSES!! NOTE PRICES!!! To hold 12 fowls, 20s.; 20 fowls, 25s.; 30 fowls, 27s.; 50 fowls, 40s. Illustrated lists free.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., Limtd., London Works, Reading. (Name Paper.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

BINDER TWINES, BINDER TWINES.—We shall be pleased to send samples of the two best Binder Twines on the market, namely Champion's "Reliance" Manilla and "best 3 ply hemp" with specially low prices on application. Immediate delivery for orders placed at once.—JOHN B. CHAMPION and SONS, Reliance Works, Dursley, Glos.

HORSES. — PEDICURA, for horses' feet, cures thrush, canker, seedy, brittle, shelly hoof, corns, cracked, greasy heels, foul smell of feet, itchy mane, tail, or legs, harness or other sores. Tins 2s. 6d., of agents, or post free,—GREGORY AND CO. Temple, Bristol.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC.

BAXTER, PAYNE, AND LEPPER,
LAND AGENTS,

Undertake valuations of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE, either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.

MORTGAGES arranged, also Railway and other Compensations, Dilapidations, Division and Apportionment of Tithe Rent Charges, etc.

PREPARATION of PLANS, Superintending the Erection or Repairs of Farm Buildings, and Laying-out of Estates for Building, Planting, Drainage, etc.

Special attention paid to the Management of LANDED ESTATES, including LETTINGS, Collections of Rents, Tithes, and Valuation of Tenant Right.

London office: 69, King William Street, E.C.
Country offices: Bromley, Kent; and at Beckenham.

LUTON, BEDFORDSHIRE.

TO be LET from MICHAELMAS next, FARLEY FARM, comprising about 250 acres of arable and 150 acres of grass in capital condition, paddocks with accommodation for mares and foals, suitable for a stud or pedigree stock farm. One mile from Luton and stations on two lines, thirty miles from London. Excellent buildings, including standings for seventy cows, two covered yards, several loose boxes, stables, two granaries, good house. — Apply, T. H. WOODCOCK, Stockwood Estate Office, Luton.

TO ESTATE AGENTS.—FOR SALE, two choice 50-acre Sussex Freehold Dairy, Poultry, and Fruit Farms; owner retiring; plans, etc.—OWNER, Whydown Farm, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., & Sevenoaks, Kent.

SUSSEX.
STOPHAM, near PULBOROUGH.

TO LET from Michaelmas, 1900, the MANOR FARM, with fine old-fashioned Farmhouse, substantial and well-arranged Farm Buildings, and about 163 acres Arable and 153 acres Meadow and Brookland. Rent £300.—Apply, W. B. HOY, Stopham Estate Office, Pulborough.

TO BE LET, from Michaelmas, 1900, a valuable SHEEP and DAIRY FARM, known as Sutton Hall in the County of Suffolk, containing thirteen hundred and twenty-seven acres two roods and eighteen perches, of which five hundred and sixty-three acres two roods and two perches are permanent pasture marshes, and heath land, and seven hundred and sixty-four acres and sixteen perches arable.

There is a first-class residence with bailiff's house, several sets of farm buildings, all in good and substantial repair.

The whole of the land is in a high state of cultivation, having been farmed by the late owner for many years; the pasture land, together with the marshes, is very rich grazing ground, and the heath land is a healthy sheep run.

The farm is within four miles of Melton Station on the Great Eastern Railway, and has its own quay on the river.

For further particulars, apply to PETER HAY, Bawdsey Estate Office, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

CORN MERCHANTS. — Old-established lucrative BUSINESS. — Ample premises, at moderate rentals, and occupying good positions in thriving watering-place, south. Large proof returns excellent profits. Total ingoing about £1,100, or partnership can be arranged with a practical man having £500 or £600 cash to invest.—Messrs. WICKENDEN, Tunbridge Wells

SITUATIONS, AGENCIES.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of ICHABOE GUANO, the highest Ammoniacal Guano, also for high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS and CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

SITUATIONS, AGENCIES, ETC.

FERTILISING AGENTS. — An agricultural landowner in Lombardy (Melegnano, Italy) desires an agency for nitrates, superphosphates, and all kinds of raw material for chemical manures. Apply to G. GIBELLI, care of Agencia Manzoni, 11 St. Paolo, Milan. References: The Committee of Agriculture of Milan and Bâle, and Edwards Agricultural Machines, Milan.

WANTED, SITUATION as Help or Farm Bailiff to a Gentleman or large Farmer; well up in farming; highest references given.—Address, C. G. MUNDEN, Silver Street, Ilminster, Somerset.

CORN TRADE.—Wanted, SITUATION as IMPROVER, to attend markets and assist in office work. Three and a-half years' articles just expired.—Address, X. L., Office of this paper.

BANKS, INSURANCES.

SPECIAL ADVANTAGES TO PRIVATE INSURERS.

THE IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED. FIRE. Established 1803. 1, Old Broad Street, E.C., 22, Pall Mall, S.W., and 47, Chancery Lane, W.C. Subscribed Capital £1,200,000. Paid up £300,000. Total Funds over £1,500,000.—E. COZENS SMITH, General Manager.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS
RAILWAY ACCIDENTS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
Insured against, and
FIDELITY BONDS
granted by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Established 1849. Claims paid £4,150,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1835.)
4, Threadneedle Street, London.
Paid up capital, £1,000,000.
Reserve Fund, £835,000.

Reserve Liability of Proprietors under the Charter, £1,000,000. Letters of Credit and Drafts issued on any of the numerous Branches of the Bank throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Bills negotiated or sent for collection.
Telegraphic Transfers made.
Deposits received in London at Interest for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.
R. W. JEANS, Manager.

AUCTION SALES.

ON THURSDAY NEXT, AUGUST 9 (2 o'clock).

REGISTERED SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.

MR. T. S. MINTON'S ANNUAL SALE.

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. will SELL BY AUCTION, at MONTFORD, four miles from Shrewsbury,

40 GRAND SHROPSHIRE RAMS.

The continued success of Mr. Minton's sheep in all the principal breeding and Fat Stock Shows points to the fact that sires may be secured at Montford. Amongst the Rams will be found several of the highest breeding, with strong masculine heads, calculated to suit the requirements of the most fastidious ram breeders, whilst the great size, length, bone, muscle, and depth of lean flesh combined with close, dense wool and great activity, should attract the attention of the tenant farmer.

Conveyances will meet the morning trains at Shrewsbury Station.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL AND CO., College Hill, Shrewsbury, who will execute Commissions.

SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.

THORPE HALL, five miles from TAMWORTH.

Where conveyances will meet trains.

LYTHALL AND WALTERS will SELL BY AUCTION, without reserve, on WEDNESDAY NEXT, August 8, by direction of W. F. Inge, Esq.:—

31 GRAND SHEARLING RAMS
and
50 BEAUTIFUL SHEARLING EWES,

Including the 3rd prize pen of 5 Shearling Rams at the R.A.S.E. at York, and other winners at the S. and W.M., B. and W. of E., Leicestershire, Royal Counties, Peterborough, and Staffordshire Shows.

Several of the Rams are suitable for the most careful ram breeders, and all possess immense scale, close, heavy fleeces, well-covered heads, and clear cherry skins, and the Ewes have been most fashionably and carefully bred, being sisters of this year's 1st prize Shearling Ewes at the Royal Show.

Luncheon at 1. Sale at 2 o'clock.

Catalogues from the Auctioneers, Bingley Hall, Birmingham, who will execute Commissions to Purchase.

Kent.—Within two miles of the excellent Market Town of Ashford, 1¼ hours from London, and easy distance of the Kent Coast.

MR. ALFRED J. BURROWS will SELL by AUCTION, at ASHFORD, on TUESDAY, AUGUST 14th,

NINE FREEHOLD SMALL FARMS,

And other holdings varying from 11 to 63 acres, principally grass, with possession at Michaelmas next, and well adapted for Poultry or Dairy Farming, or ordinary husbandry.

Particulars, with plans, of the Auctioneer, Ashford, Kent.

OXFORD DOWNS, 1900.

THE KELMSCOTT FLOCK, the property of ROBERT W. HOBBS, Kelmscott, Lechlade.

RAM LAMBS
or
SHEARLING RAMS

from this old-established flock will be SOLD by AUCTION at the undermentioned Fairs :—

OXFORD, AUGUST 8th.
IPSWICH, AUGUST 22nd.
CIRENCESTER, SEPTEMBER 3rd.
BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SEPTEMBER 4th.
KELSO, SEPTEMBER 7th.
NORTHAMPTON, SEPTEMBER 19th.

Yearling ewes for sale at home privately.

Prizes won by lambs from this flock this year are four firsts and four seconds at the Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and Gloucestershire Shows.

KELSO GREAT ANNUAL RAM SALES.

THE above take place on FRIDAY, the 14th SEPTEMBER, 1900. Entries close on THURSDAY, 23rd AUGUST. Ballot, to fix order of Sale, in Ante-room of Corn Exchange, Kelso, on Friday, 24th August.

ALLAN STEVENSON,
Secretary,
Border Union Agricultural Society.
Kelso, August, 1900.

Crown 8vo. Price 2/6; post free 2/9.

Handsomely bound.

The most useful book for all Potato Growers is

The POTATO:

In Field and Garden.

By W. J. MALDEN.

"MARK LANE EXPRESS" OFFICE, 1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND.

BANKS, INSURANCES—*continued.*

LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY (LIMITED).

Registered under "The Companies Acts." Established in 1836.

CAPITAL, £8,000,000, IN 100,000 SHARES OF £80 EACH.

REPORT ADOPTED AT THE HALF-YEARLY ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING, THE 2ND AUGUST, 1900.

W. McKEWAN, Esq., in the Chair.

The Directors, in submitting to the Shareholders the Balance-sheet for the half-year ending 30th June last, have to report that, after paying interest to customers and all charges, making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and allowing £35,338 14s. 9d. for rebate on bills not due, the net profits amount to £370,583 9s. 4d. From this sum £125,000 has been carried to Reserve Fund, leaving £245,583 9s. 4d., which, with £69,176 9s. 10d. balance brought forward from last account, leaves available the sum of £314,759 19s. 2d.

The Directors have declared a Dividend for the half-year of 10 per cent., together with a Bonus of One per cent., which will require £220,000, leaving the sum of £94,759 19s. 2d. to be carried to the Profit and Loss New Account.

The Dividend and Bonus, amounting together to £2 4s. per Share, free of Income Tax, will be payable at the Head Office, or at any of the Branches, on or after Monday, 13th August.

BALANCE-SHEET

Dr. Of the London and County Banking Company, Limited, June 30th, 1900. Cr.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Capital subscribed £8,000,000		
Paid up		2,000,000 0 0
Reserve Fund		1,500,000 0 0
Due by the Bank on Current Accounts, on Deposit Accounts, with Interest accrued, Circular Notes, etc.		45,609,675 3 6
Liabilities on Acceptances, covered by Cash, or Securities or Bankers' Guarantees		1,347,507 19 4
Rebate on Bills not due carried to next Account		35,338 14 9
Net Profit for the Half-Year, after making provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts	370,583 9 4	
Carried to Reserve Fund	125,000 0 0	
	245,583 9 4	
Profit and Loss Balance brought from last Account	69,176 9 10	
		314,759 19 2
		£50,807,281 16 9
By Cash at the Head Office and Branches, and with Bank of England	7,336,983 2 8	
Loans at Call and at Notice, covered by Securities	2,842,853 0 1	
		10,179,836 2 9
Investments, viz :—		
Consols (2¾ per Cent.) registered and in Certificates, New 2½ per Cents. and National War Loan 2¾ per cent. (£6,831,991 7s. 11d.); Canada 4 per Cent. Bonds, and Egyptian 3 per Cent. Bonds, Guaranteed by the British Government	7,446,349 18 6	
India Government Stock and India Government Guaranteed Railway Stocks and Debentures	1,083,304 4 10	
Metropolitan and other Corporation Stocks, Debenture Bonds, English Railway Debenture Stock and Colonial Bonds	1,906,246 13 11	
Other Securities	4,334 10 0	
		10,440,835 7 3
Discounted Bills Current	10,254,018 1 10	
Advances to Customers at the Head Office and Branches	18,149,424 2 6	
		28,403,442 4 4
Liabilities of Customers for Drafts accepted by the Bank (as per Contra)		1,347,507 19 4
Freehold Premises in Lombard Street and Nicholas Lane, Freehold and Leasehold Property at the Branches, with Fixtures and Fittings		435,660 3 1
		£50,807,281 16 9

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Interest paid to Customers		195,378 5 3
Salaries and all other expenses at Head Office and Branches, including Income Tax on Profits and Salaries		273,801 6 4
Carried to Reserve Fund		125,000 0 0
Rebate on Bills not due carried to New Account		35,338 14 9
Dividend 10 per cent. for the Half-year	200,000 0 0	
Bonus 1 per cent.	20,000 0 0	
Balance carried forward	94,759 19 2	
		314,759 19 2
		£944,278 5 6
		£ s. d.
By Balance brought forward from last Account		69,176 9 10
Gross Profit for the Half-Year, after making provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts, and including Rebate, £64,355 16s. 3d., brought from December 31 last		875,101 15 8
		£944,278 5 6

Examined and audited by us,
(Signed) HANBURY BARCLAY, J. ANNAN BRYCE, J. J. CATER, } Audit Committee of Directors.
H. DEAN, Head Office Manager.
J. B. JAMES, Country Manager.
WM. HALL, Chief Accountant.

London and County Banking Company, Limited.
13th July, 1900.

We have examined the foregoing Balance-sheet and Profit and Loss Account, have verified the Cash Balance at the Bank of England, the Stocks there registered, and the other investments of the Bank. We have also examined the several Books and Vouchers showing the Cash Balances, Bills, and other Amounts set forth, the whole of which are correctly stated; and we are of opinion this Balance-sheet and Profit and Loss Account are full and fair, properly drawn up, and exhibit a true and correct view of the Company's affairs, as shown by the books of the Company.

(Signed) E. H. CUNARD, HY. GRANT, THOS. HORWOOD, } Auditors.
London and County Banking Company, Limited.
19th July, 1900.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a DIVIDEND on the Capital of the Company at the rate of 10 per cent. for the Half-Year ending 30th June, 1900, together with a Bonus of 1 per cent., will be PAYABLE to the Shareholders either at the Head Office, 21, Lombard Street, or at any of the Company's Branches, on or after Monday, the 13th instant.

By order of the Board.
21, LOMBARD STREET, 3rd August, 1900. J. H. ATKINSON, Secretary.

RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY announce that on each Wednesday until September 19th inclusive cheap excursions will be run for 8 days to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, and Mablethorpe, from King's Cross (G.N.) at 8.45 a.m.; also for 8 days to Sheringham, Cromer (Beach), Mundesley-on-Sea, and Yarmouth (Beach), from King's Cross (G.N.), at 3.30 p.m.

Each Saturday until September 29th inclusive (for 3, 8, 10, 15 or 17 days), to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, Mablethorpe, Grimsby, New Clee, Cleethorpes, Bridlington, Filey, Scarborough, Whitby, Robin Hood's Bay, Saltburn, Redcar, Tynemouth, Whitley Bay, Cullercoats, Liverpool, Southport and Douglas (Isle of Man).

On Friday, August 3rd (for 4, 10, and 16 days), cheap excursions will leave London for Northallerton, Darlington, Richmond, Durham, Newcastle, Alnwick, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Helensburgh, Dumbarton, Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Dalmally, Oban, Fort William, Montrose, Aberdeen, Inverness, and other stations in Scotland. Passengers holding 4 day tickets return on Tuesday, August 7th; 10 day tickets on Monday, August 13th; and 16 day tickets on any day within 16 days, including date of issue and return.

On Saturday, August 4th, cheap fast excursions for 3, 6, or 8 days will leave London for Accrington, Bacup, Blackburn, Bolton, Burnley, Burton, Bradford, Bridlington, Boston, Cambridge, Chesterfield, Cleckheaton, Cromer, Darlington, Darwen, Derby, Doncaster, Durham, Edwinstowe, Egginton, Elland, Filey, Grantham, Grimsby, Halifax, Harrogate, Hartlepool, Huddersfield, Hull, Horncastle, Ilkeston, Kimberley, Keighley, Leicester, Lincoln, Liverpool, Lynn, Leeds, Manchester, Mirfield, Melton Mowbray, Middlesboro', Mundesley-on-Sea, Newark, Norwich, Nottingham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Oldham, Pontefract, Preston, Pudsey, Peterboro', Retford, Richmond, Ripon, Rochdale, Rotherham, Scarboro', Sheffield, Stamford, Stoke, Stockton, Stockport Sunderland, Spalding, Sleaford, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Thirsk, Todmorden, Thornhill, Thornton, Tynemouth, Wakefield, Whitby, Warrington, Wigan, Worksop, Yarmouth, York.

Saturday, August 4th, for 1, 3, or 4 days, and Bank Holiday, Monday, August 6th, for 1 day to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, Mablethorpe.

Bank Holiday, August 6th (for one day), to St. Albans, Hertford, Wheathampstead, Harpenden, Luton, Dunstable, Hitchin, Baldock, Royston, Cambridge, Biggleswade, Sandy, Tempsford, St. Neots, Huntingdon, and Peterboro'.

The cheap week-end tickets usually issued each Friday and Saturday will be issued on Friday, August 3rd, and Saturday, August 4th, available for return on Sunday (if train service admits), Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, August 5, 6, 7, or 8.

To prevent inconvenience from crowding at the Company's principal terminal station, King's Cross tickets, dated in advance, will be issued

CUPISS

CONSTITUTION BALLS

Testimonial.

Burgh-by-Sands, Carlisle.

Having used Cupiss' Constitution Balls for over 20 years, I have always found them exceedingly useful for purifying the blood and keeping in excellent condition.

THOS. CARRIE, Horse Breaker.

HORSES — For Grease Swelled Legs, Cracked Heels, Coughs, Colds, Sore Throats, Disordered Liver, Broken Wind, Influenza, Loss of Appetite, &c., &c.

CATTLE — For Hidebound, Staring Coat Hove or Blown, Distemper Epidemic, Surfeit, Conditioning, Preserving Health, Scouring in Calves, &c.

SHEEP — For Rot or Fluke, and for Keeping in Health, Assisting to get into Condition, Scouring in Lambs, &c.

Prepared upwards of 50 years by the late

FRANCIS CUPISS, M.R.C.V.S., DISS, NORFOLK.

Sold in packets **1/9** *and* **3/6** *each,* **7** *small packets* **10/6**, *or* **7** *large* **21/-**, *by Chemists and Medicine Vendors, or from Proprietor, Wilderness, Diss, on receipt of amount*

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Please send me "Mark Lane Express" *until countermanded.*

I enclose _____

for _____ *months.*

Name _____

Address (in full) _____

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Essex St, Strand, London, W.C.

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HARNESS COMPO.

Larger Box, better value than any other make, does more work with less labour, blacks, oils, and finishes with one application. Suitable for all users of heavy harness. Saddle Soap, Axle Oil, Hoof Dressing, Harness Oil.

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Shines like Diamonds.

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for Ladies' and Children's Boots and Shoes.

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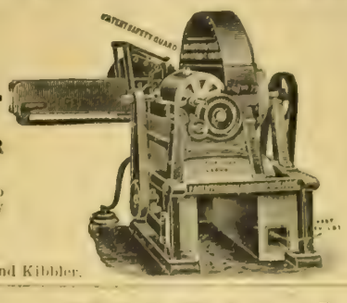

See PORTEUS Patent ASPIRATOR and SIFTER before purchasing.

TEST SAMPLES. Every machine guaranteed to free the Chaff from Dust without taking any nutritious matter out whatever.

MALT MILLS, &

IMPROVED OAT ROLLERS, combined with Sifter and Kibbler.

MACKINDER'S LAMB FOOD

Used on the Royal Farms and by Large Flockmasters everywhere.

Mr. Jas. Bennett, Aure, Glos., writes:—"I have never had any Food of any sort or kind on which lambs did so well."

Mr. F. Jakeman (agent for C. T. Hoare, Esq.), Bicester, writes:—"I find it capital food both for lambs and cattle."

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SOILING, ENSILAGE, AND STABLE CONSTRUCTION.

Being a Revised Edition of "Soiling, Summer and Winter; or, the Economy of Feeding Farm Stock.

By FRANK SHERMAN PEER.

Relating the experience of the author, giving the latest and most economical methods of Summer and Winter Feeding and Management of Farm Stock; also the Construction of Stables.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS. PRICE 5s. (POST FREE, 5s. 4d.)

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RATIONAL PIG-KEEPING

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By W. J. MALDEN.

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MACKINDER'S PORRIDGE MEAL FOR WEANING CALVES.

Price 11s. per cwt., free at all Stations.

See directions for use. Testimony from every county.

Wm. Joscelyn, Esq. (Suffolk), writes:—"I find my calves do better on your Porridge Meal than anything I have ever used."

Mr. Harry Fidler (Wilts) writes:—"Your Porridge Meal keeps calves remarkably clean, mastering the one great difficulty in calf-weaning."

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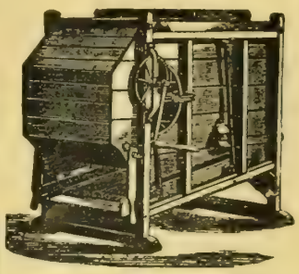

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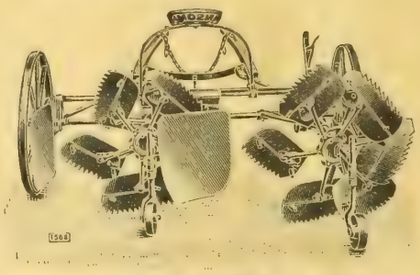

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We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

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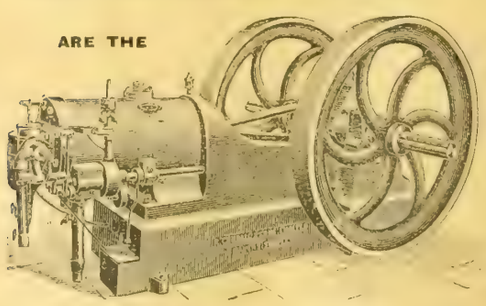

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MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

MILLERS AND ENGLISH WHEAT.

The part that millers played in the historic Free Trade battles of the first few years of Her Majesty's reign is not one upon which they can look back as a body with much satisfaction. That cheap food meant cheap labour was the maxim of that day, and the milling interest did much to turn the scale against the unfortunate farmer, whose demand for protection never outran the contention that grain should not be driven down by foreign competition below a profit price on home culture. But millers have long since come to realise that their policy in the "forties" was short-sighted; neither is unlimited Free Trade the fetish that is was of yore.

The National Association of Millers are fully alive to the menace to millers implied in local scarcity of British wheat, and of late years they have given much attention to the subject. Their recent annual meeting was remarkable for a resolution to vote a prize for the best type of English-grown wheat from the roller millers' point of view, and for a further resolution to ask the Royal Agricultural Society to co-operate with them in doing their best to keep up the production of British wheat. The millers, it may be remarked in passing, can have had little practical knowledge of the R.A.S.E. as now constituted, or they would not have expected that egregious body to co-operate in anything. Anyhow, they met with a refusal, and relations between the two organisations are now somewhat strained.

We hope the millers will not be discouraged. Perhaps they might try the Farmers' Club or Central Chamber, or, better still, the Ministry of Agriculture itself, for it does not yet seem to be fully appreciated how far ahead in many respects the Government office is of the older voluntary societies of an agricultural nature.

It is essential that the prizes offered should be substantial, that the experiments should be thorough, and that the farmers should feel sure that the millers would buy the wheat grown. At present, "No. 1 Northern," a type of red spring wheat, grown mostly in Manitoba, Minnesota, and Dacota, is the standard type of wheat at Mark Lane and at the "Baltic." This replacing of English wheat on English soil is in itself regrettable, but the markets act out of no want of patriotism. It is useful in the extreme to have as a standard the sort of wheat for which there is the steadiest demand, otherwise speculation in some particular kind may frequently usurp the place of legitimate trading on the basis of intrinsic milling value.

Thus the standard has passed from English to American wheat, and "the last Term Market price" is turned to by many millers and other operators who have never bought a ton of wheat for speculation "forward" in their lives. The Millers' Association are now asking farmers to consider whether the standard may not be regained for English wheat, and considering that the American type averages 3s. per qr. higher price than the English type, the matter is of no small importance.

We would suggest that a useful preliminary step would be for the Millers' Association to send a circular to each member asking: (1) Do you consider the American standard wheat worth 3s. per qr. more to you than average English? (2) If not so much, how much is it really superior? (3) If English wheat of the American type was in fair local supply, would you buy it in preference to foreign produce? (4) What mixture of English average and American No. 1 Northern wheat would you suggest as good working flour for the baker? and (5) Do you suggest any third element as desirable?

The farmers' societies and committees for local shows meanwhile might offer prizes to their own members for (1) samples of wheat grown in the county, and approximating most nearly to the analysis of No. 1 Northern wheat; (2) samples of home-grown wheat giving most satisfaction to a jury of millers; and (3) samples of home-grown wheat making the best loaf in combination with a fixed proportion of foreign.

The climate of North America favours spring wheat, and that of Great Britain does not, but the date of the sowing is not, as lawyers would say, "of the essence of the contract." The miller does not care when the farmer sowed or when he reaped, and it has yet to be shown that the exact chemical balance of elements giving satisfaction in the fine American wheat cannot be fully obtained in English-grown grain. It would not be any great thing for the Ministry of Agriculture to vote £1,000 a year for ten years in order that a steady effort should be made under proper direction to grow the most appreciated foreign types of wheat on English soil. A July mean temperature of 70 degrees is said by the best judges to have much —perhaps most—to do with the fine milling value of American spring wheat, and the mean July temperature in Great Britain is only 63 degrees. But already the English wheat is by no means seven points in 63 inferior to the American, and it does not appear beyond the resources of agricultural science to produce a type of wheat which would give under a temperature of 63 degrees a milling quality equal to that grown at present in America with the aid of 70 degrees. It has to be remembered that the American farmer is only able to produce 15 bushels to the acre of this highly appreciated wheat, whereas English farmers grow 30 bushels of the less highly appreciated. If some transference of energy from quantity into quality could be effected by means of the sort grown or the method of its manuring, the balance of advantage would almost certainly be left on the side of the English farmer. Already his wheat attains 90 per cent. of the value of the best American, and he grows twice as much of it to the acre. But he must not rest content under this apparent balance of advantage, for what the more marketable quality of the American wheat gives the American is a constant and steady sale at a profitable price, and this is precisely *the whole aim of wheat growing*. It is the "fluctuating market" and the "difficult sale" which discourage our farmers, and to remedy these two evils in the English wheat trade is a task worthy the best efforts both of millers and of agriculturists.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

Considerable dissatisfaction is expressed amongst agriculturists in Lincolnshire, says the *Yorkshire Post*, at the action of the railway companies in withdrawing privileges which have been extended for years, and in imposing harassing restrictions with regard to the conveyance of agricultural produce. Farmers and merchants in the Spalding district have had notice that from August 1st the railway companies do not intend to allow the rebate upon clover, hay, and straw. This rebate, which amounted to 2s. per ton, had its origin as a commission for traffic, and had been allowed for twenty years by all the railway companies that run into Spalding, with the exception of the Great Eastern. In districts where there is no railway competition it has not been given.

What local merchants complain of especially is, says our contemporary, the withdrawal of the rebate at such short notice. Another point which is causing considerable commotion is an intimation that the rules as to sack hire are to be strictly carried out, and the privileges which have been tacitly conceded for many years have been suddenly terminated. The effect of the companies' action, it is believed, will result in merchants providing their own sacks. The companies are now also strictly enforcing the regulations with respect to truck hire and demurrage. Already strong protests are being made.

The Secretary for War has approved of embodied militiamen being granted furloughs with the special object of enabling them to take part in harvesting operations, the furloughs (of not more than one month, and between the 1st inst. and the end of September) being only granted to men who have completed the musketry course and company and battalion training, and not more than 50 per cent. of a unit's strength being allowed to be absent at one time. The men will be subject to recall, should their services be required, at seven days' notice, and will be allowed to wear plain clothes whilst on furlough, and the regulated pay and allowances as sanctioned for regulars on furlough will be granted when the men rejoin.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to July 28th, 1900, were £33,129,453 against £34,267,259 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £56,666,104, against £37,573,972 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on July 28th, 1900, amounted to £3,627,195, and at the same date in 1899 to £3,523,180.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

One thing has now been placed beyond all doubt, and that is that the Agricultural Holdings Bill is safe. The reading of the Bill a third time in the Lords and the certainty of no conflict with the Commons mean that the Royal Assent will be given after but a mere formal delay. Upon this fact I heartily congratulate the Government and Mr. Walter Long, and I as sincerely congratulate the agricultural members of the House of Commons. Had they been too insistent in giving the Bill a perfect character—let us frankly admit that it is susceptible of improvement—they would have endangered, if not wrecked it. As it is, the limit of time was nearly exhausted. Reform by instalment—this should be the future legislative method in connection with all agrarian and tenure problems. This Bill is an excellent instalment, and it is in that light that many of its warmest friends regard it.

I heard an ill-omened rumour in the House of Commons this week. Mr. Walter Long is, it is suggested, much less anxious than are his political friends that a future seat should be found for him. In other words, it is whispered that his continued bad health—over which every member of the House of Commons sympathises with him—has almost induced a desire for a spell at least of private life. Moreover, it is said that Lady Doreen Long sympathises with him in this desire. Now, I pray this be not true. I dare assert that Mr. Long's indisposition is not the result of his public responsibilities. He has given absolute devotion to his Ministerial task, but he has done so with an undisturbed mind and unagitated conscience. The gravity of his position has not affected his mental serenity. He has worn the harness of office—I will not say lightly, but at least without himself necessarily increasing the burden. Mr. Long would be, I am persuaded—and I say this as an admirer of his—no better in the permanent

physical sense for his withdrawal from public life. His natural humour is attuned to the responsibility of affairs. At all events, his withdrawal would be a distinct loss to agriculture.

Now, there is a means of retaining him in public life whilst relieving him of the harassing worry of contested elections. Mr. Long's predecessor was elevated to the House of Lords. Why should not Mr. Long be made a peer? I can, of course, understand a Walter Long desiring to retain a name which has been for so many generations so honourably known in connection with the county history of Wiltshire. The society of that county would outwardly hardly be the same if it possessed not a "Walter Long of Rood Ashton." Still, "Lord Rood-Ashton" would be a sufficient compromise, and not make identity absolutely impossible. Besides, the peer's eldest son would become "the Hon. Walter Long," and would thus perpetuate a graceful family tradition. At all events, this idea has been prevalent in the House of Commons. That it should be so is another tribute to Mr. Long's popularity. Our legislators, friend and foe alike, are anxious to themselves retain him in politics. "If," once said a man whose name is now a famous one in the Parliamentary annals, "I win not a great position in politics, I pray that I may secure a position of esteem." Mr. Long has secured a position of esteem.

Now, the last days of the present session have been disturbed by a petty exhibition of ribaldry, of which our friend Mr. Chaplin has been the victim. Mr. Chaplin is a reminiscence of the stately style of oratory. He brings to debate a sonorous voice, a dignified manner and flowing periods, and he indulges in perorations. He is a little out of harmony with the taste of a House which has been fed on the crisp methods of what I may describe as the Chamberlainic style. Still, why, what is in Sir William Harcourt but a choleric word should become in Mr. Chaplin sheer blasphemy, I cannot for the life of me understand. The Radicals will go into rhapsodies over Sir William's ebullitions, and those ebullitions after all follow on the lines Mr. Chaplin affects; but towards the end of this week they treated Mr. Chaplin with a scantiness of respect that was as discourteous as it was discreditable. Heaven forfend that I should prevent any Radical indulging in hobbledehoyism; but he should pursue it at fitting opportunities. This was not a fitting opportunity. Mr. Chaplin is one of the veterans of politics; and the length of his public services, not to speak of their value, entitle him to respect. Mr. Gladstone would have curbed the spirits of the loud-voiced brigade of the Radical benches.

I find that the Parliamentary movement whose purpose is to give a compulsory character to the agricultural returns has received a more disciplined character. It is now widely perceived that the fact that a farmer can please himself whether he makes the returns or not goes a long way towards depriving those returns of any authoritative character. This year, too, there has been a growing indisposition shown to making them; and hence it is at last perceived that no, or little, reliance whatever can be placed upon the tabulated statement as providing an actual evidence of the present condition of agriculture. May I advise the leaders of the movement to go a step further? The collection of these returns is imposed upon Inland Revenue officers, and they perform the work without any payment whatever. This is another matter which tends to impair the value of the returns. My suggestion is thus—pay the Inland Revenue officers.

Now, Lord Heneage was absolutely wise in bringing the reduction in the amount of the special grant to the rural schools to the attention of the House of Lords. I am not going to weary my readers with a recapitulation of the debate, but I am going to place emphasis upon one point in it. It will be recalled that the "special aid" grant was allocated on the basis of 3s. 3d. per rural child and 5s. 9d. per town child. Now, during the three years which have elapsed since the passing of the Act, the Church of England village schools have lost some £80,000—compared with the amounts they would have received under the 5s. per head arrangement contemplated in the Act. Of this £46,000 has gone in the three years to the Church of England schools in London, Liverpool, and Manchester; about £24,000 to the Roman Catholic schools; and about £12,000 to the Wesleyan and British schools. But why should the villages lose this sum? Surely this is a point worthy of inclusion in any future rural election programme.

However, I still hold to my old opinion. There will be no election this year.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

The Yorkshire College Chair of Agriculture.

The vacancy caused by the resignation of Professor J. R. Campbell of the Chair of Agriculture at the Yorkshire College, consequent on his appointment to an important position under the Irish Board of Agriculture has been filled by the election to the College Professorship of Mr. Robert S. Seton, B.Sc., the present head of the Agricultural Department of the Harris Institute, Preston. Before coming to Leeds, Professor Campbell held the same office under the Lancashire County Council as his successor is now vacating. Another interesting coincidence is the fact that they are both Scotchmen.

Corbett Agricultural College.

A memorandum has been issued explaining the delay which has arisen in giving effect to the proposal of Mr. John Corbett, of Impney, to found an agricultural college for Worcestershire, for which he has expressed his intention of giving £10,000. The college will be on very different lines to any existing college, by far the larger portion of the money being used to provide an endowment fund which will enable sons of farmers to obtain practical instruction on model farms at the cost of a few shillings per week for board and lodging. He proposes also to give 150 acres or 200 acres of land in the centre and most valuable part of his estate, which, in the event of the college not succeeding, would revert to the estate, in which case the endowment fund would be devoted to charitable objects. Considerable legal difficulties arose in the initial stages of the scheme, and Mr. Corbett came to the conclusion that the object he had in view would be best safeguarded under the provisions of a short Act of Parliament. Notices were given of an application for leave to bring in such a Bill, and a draft Bill was prepared, but it had not been further proceeded with owing to the exigencies of pressure of Parliamentary work due to the South African war, and to the deliberations of the Agricultural Education Committee, which was at the time obtaining valuable information on the suggested reorganisation of agricultural education under the control of the Board of Education. Mr. Corbett is hopeful that all the difficulties which have presented themselves will be shortly set aside, and that the work of organisation and provision of an agricultural school will soon be an accomplished fact.

Spraying Charlock.

Herewith I forward you a report on our charlock spraying experiments of the present season, which owing to the prevalence of thunder showers have not proved so successful as those of last year. Both copper and iron sulphates were used at different strengths and quantities per acre.

Plots 1 and 2 were sprayed on the 6th of June with a 2 per cent. solution of copper sulphate, sixty-five gallons per acre on plot 1 and fifty gallons per acre on plot 2. It, unfortunately, rained heavily during the night after the plots had been sprayed. The results of all the plots were compared early in July. About 80 per cent. of the charlock was destroyed on plot 1, and about 40 per cent. on plot 2.

It was a windy day when these plots were sprayed. Plot 1 was sheltered by the fence, whilst plot 2 was quite on the open, and a considerable amount of the spray was shaken from the tops of the plants; this was one reason for the difference in the results of the two plots.

Plots 3 and 4, sprayed on 8th June; plot 3, 8 per cent. solution of iron sulphate, sixty gallons per acre; plot 4, 14 per cent. solution of iron sulphate, forty-five gallons per acre. It rained heavily the night following the spraying. About 35 per cent. of the charlock was destroyed on plot 3, and about 50 per cent. killed on plot 4.

Plot 5 was sprayed on June 11th with a 3 per cent. solution of copper sulphate, sixty gallons per acre. It rained during the afternoon, and spraying was discontinued. Very little rain fell during the night following. For some days the oats appeared to be badly affected by the spray, but soon recovered, and in the beginning of July were quite as robust as the unsprayed part, whilst 99 per cent. of the charlock was destroyed.

On account of the very showery weather spraying was discontinued until the 20th of June, by which time the charlock was in small pod, and the oats almost ready for bursting the sheath. It was decided to spray a small plot in order to test the effect of the spray on both the charlock and oats at these advanced stages.

Plot 6, 3 per cent. solution of copper sulphate, sixty gallons per acre. On examining the plot in July the charlock appeared to be completely killed, but on opening the fullest of the pods a few very small seeds appeared to be living, but it is doubtful if any of them would be mature enough to produce plants. As would be expected the oats which were most advanced in this plot were rather badly affected by the spraying.

Conclusions. Charlock spraying is more likely to be successful on a still than a windy day. In order to get the best results the spray should stand on the plants for about three or four days without rain. A 2¼ per cent. solution of copper sulphate at the rate of fifty gallons per acre, if properly applied, will completely destroy the charlock in fine weather. If the weather is showery good results may be obtained by the use of a 3 per cent. solution of copper sulphate at the rate of sixty gallons per acre.

HENRY F. HILL.

The Agricultural College, Aspatria,
25th July, 1900.

THE DAIRY.

Lancaster Cheese Fair.

The August cheese fair at Lancaster was held in the covered market on Wednesday, and attracted a pitch of 44 dairies and 707 cheese, as against 45 dairies and 717 cheese at the coresponding fair last year. There was a large attendance of both buyers and farmers. The quality was remarkably good all round, though farmers were fortunate in a beautifully cool morning, which had the effect of keeping the cheese hard and improving its selling value. Prices ranged between 60s. for the best varieties and 49s. for the poorer qualities, of which there were but few. A speedy clearance was effected.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.

The pitch at this fair, held on Thursday, was about fifty tons. All the large centres were represented, and the best lots found a ready market. Compared with a month ago prices were up to 2s. per cwt. Best lots fetched from 50s. to 57s., and medium, for which there was a good market, made prices down to 44s.

Preston Cheese Fair.

Preston July Cheese Fair took place on Tuesday, when the pitch consisted of 104 lots, comprising 1,566 cheeses, an increase of 26 lots and 491 cheeses compared with the corresponding fair last year. There was a good attendance, with a brisk demand at an advance of 2s. 6d. to 5s. upon prices realised last fair, and a clearance was effected within an hour from the opening of the fair. Quotations:—Best, 55s. to 60s.; medium, 50s. to 52s. 6d.; common, 45s. to 47s. 6d.

Butter at the Sussex Show.

There was a very fine collection of butter at the Sussex County Agricultural Society's Show at Preston Park, Brighton, the week before last, and the butter competitions proved one of the greatest attractions of the exhibition. No fewer than 89 competitors entered for the butter prizes, and 32 in the butter competitions, whilst the quality was so good that the judge, Mr. Richard Fowler, Broughton Farm, near Aylesbury, had the greatest difficulty in deciding to whom to award the prizes. In three cases he had to divide the prizes, the competitors gaining 100 points each.

Analysis of Sour Milk.

The paper on "The Analysis of Sour Milk," written by Mr. F. J. Lloyd, F.C.S., consulting chemist to the British Dairy Farmers' Association, and which appeared in the last issue of that Society's journal, has now been published in pamphlet form. The paper is such a useful and at teh same time interesting one that we reprint the greater part of it. Mr. Lloyd opens by stating that from the rumours which are afloat, it seems evident that the Committee appointed by the Board of Agriculture to fix a standard for milk, intend to adopt a higher standard than has hitherto guided the Public Analyst. This, Mr. Lloyd continues, will materially affect dairy farmers. It will necessitate the producer taking every possible precaution, and adopting all known means to secure uniformity in his produce. In other words, he will have to eliminate, or modify, all those elements which tend to the production of poor milk, or milk of uncertain quality. As a result of such legislation the purchasers in towns will demand a guarantee from the farmer that the milk he supplies is above the standard. It is also highly probable that there will be an increase in the number of samples of milk taken by inspectors under the Food and Drugs Act, and that this increase is not likely to be temporary, but permanent. Should milk fall below the standard the Food and Drugs Act particularly stipulates that the farmer may in defence prove that the milk was sold as it came from the cows. This is not by any means easy. It may be a fortnight or even a month after

the original sample was taken before the farmer hears that he is to be prosecuted for selling milk said to be adulterated. To appeal to the cows then would perhaps prove nothing, for in the meantime three may have been very considerable changes in the weather, in the herbage, or even in the stall feeding. Some have suggested that the farmer, to protect himself, will have to take samples daily, so that in case of prosecution he may be able to produce a sample of the milk before it left the farm on the day on which the samples were taken by the inspector. Such sample would, of course, be sour, and would have undergone considerable changes. It may be said that these samples should be analysed when fresh, but if they were sent to an analyst the cost would be prohibitive, and any analysis made by the farmer himself could scarcely be accepted as evidence.

The purchasers in towns are in a very similar position. My past experience warrants me in stating that the majority will keep the duplicate samples left them by the inspector until they hear the result of the Public Analyst's report. If this be favourable they will send the reserve sample, when sour, to an analyst, and if the result of his analysis does not agree with that of the Public Analyst the probability is they will ask for the third reserve sample to be submitted to Somerset House. Even in the past I have received every year a fair number of such sour samples, while in the future they are likely to increase, for this reason: the very low standard hitherto adopted has caused prosecutions to be instituted only against palpably adulterated samples. As the changes which take place in a sample of milk would cause it to appear even worse than it was when fresh, it has been only rarely that I, and probably other analysts also, have come to a conclusion adverse to the Report of the Public Analyst; and this is probably the reason why comparatively few samples have been submitted to Somerset House, it being generally well known in the dairy trade that unless some gross error has been committed by the Public Analyst and in my experience this now very rarely happens—the analysis of the reserve sample is not likely to help them.

But the adoption of a standard, and especially of a higher standard, will materially alter the condition of affairs. It will then become a question as to whether a sample of milk did or did not contain, when fresh, a certain proportion of solids and of fat. The question therefore arises, and will be of very serious importance, is there any method of analysing a sour sample of milk which will enable an analyst to say with certainty what the composition of that milk was when fresh.

The usual method of estimating the solid matter in a sample of sour milk is to neutralise the acidity of the milk with soda, then evaporate to dryness, and weigh the residue. At times the solid residue so obtained will remain constant in weight between successive weighings, but at other times, and more frequently, the solids lose in weight constantly. The best method to adopt is to dry for a reasonable and definite time; the subsequent loss is certainly not moisture. Deducting the weight of the alkali added, we obtain the true weight of the solids. The following results well indicate what are about the usual changes in the weight of the solids which take place when milk is kept. A sample of milk contained when fresh 12.40 per cent. of total solids, when one week old 12.01, when two weeks old 11.82, and when five weeks old 11.73 of total solids.

I have been, from time to time for some years past, studying the changes which take place. My object now, however, is not to enter into this subject, but to keep strictly to the practical question—how far can an analyst estimate the changes which have taken place? I will now give the results of a series of experiments which may help to determine this. Nearly all these experiments were made in the following manner, and when not so made the difference will be mentioned. A large sample of milk having been obtained, a series of bottles, holding generally six to eight ounces, have been carefully filled, or partly filled, with the milk, well corked, the cork tied down and the bottles labelled. The samples have been, mostly kept at the ordinary temperature of the laboratory. Each sample for analysis was taken from a bottle freshly opened for the purpose, and not from a bottle which had been previously opened. As the changes may not always be alike in two bottles, and the difficulty of thoroughly mixing so as to take a fair sample of six to eight ounces of sour milk is considerable, there will at times be slight discrepancies in the results.

Table No. 1 gives the results of an experiment made in 1896. The acidity of each sample of milk was estimated, and calculated as lactic acid. The loss in total solids, it appears, is very nearly one-half the total quantity of lactic acid present, and that by adding one-half the lactic acid found in a sour sample to the total solids found, a close approximation to the original total solids is obtained.

The next series of analyses were made with milk to which 20 per cent. of tap water had been added to determine whether an adulterated sample underwent the same changes as genuine milk. The results were not quite so satisfactory as with genuine milk, and there can be little doubt but that, in introducing water into the milk micro-organisms may be, and are, also introduced, which affect the changes taking place. These changes are undoubtedly confined to the solids other than fat, and it was thought desirable in order to study them more closely to next make a series of analyses, using machine skimmed milk for the purpose. The results showed that the allowance of one-half the lactic acid present is also a fair criterion of the loss on pure skimmed milk. They also brought out a fact which I shall have to refer to again—that at times the loss for the first fourteen days may be only one-third the lactic acid present. In one single instance out of very many analyses I have known this to occur up to the 21st day, but never beyond that period.

The next series was made with separated milk containing 25 per cent. of tap water added. As in the results with whole milk to which water had been added, the allowance of one-half the lactic acid present did not make up for the loss in total solids. It would thus appear that the changes in adulterated milk—that is, milk containing added water—are greater than those which generally take place in genuine milk. This fact I have had frequent occasion to confirm. As the changes are undoubtedly due to micro-organisms, my next series of experiments was carried out to determine if possible the effect of some of those most likely to be present in milk. A number of analyses had shown that the change produced in forty-eight hours by the curdling of milk invariably resulted in a loss of total solids equal to only one-third of the lactic acid present. The following is a typical example of the changes which ordinarily occur. On February 27th, 1897, skimmed milk contained total solids 10.96; on March 1st, that is forty-eight hours after, the milk was curdled, the sample yielded acidity 0.63 per cent., total solids 10.74. So that, allowing one-third lactic acid, we obtain 10.95 as the calculated original solids.

I, therefore, determined what would be the prolonged action of the lactic acid bacillus on the solids of milk. The milk was sterilised, then inoculated with a pure culture, and the bottles put aside. In due course analyses were made. In view of the very great difficulty of obtaining exact results with sour milk, the results were satisfactory proof that the total action of lactic acid is, even after five weeks, such as to cause a loss of solid matter equal only to one-third the acid produced, just as happens in forty-eight hours. An indirect result of these figures is the proof they afford that the old notion of the change by which lactic acid is produced is erroneous. It has been assumed that one part of milk-sugar was simply split up into two parts of lactic acid. If this theory were correct there would be no loss of total solids. The fact that invariably there is a loss proves the inaccuracy of the theory.

Such is the action of the lactic bacillus alone, but the results of many experiments made in my laboratory have convinced me that the loss in solids in ordinary milk amounts to one-half the lactic acid present. I have had many opportunities of comparing my analyses of samples of sour milk with the analyses of duplicate samples analysed when fresh by a public analyst. The results have been at times remarkably close, and I have only once known a wide discrepancy, a discrepancy so considerable, that I do not believe the samples were duplicates. It will be seen that by this method it is almost impossible to calculate the solids as being higher than they actually were in the original sample. This is of considerable importance. But if a standard of total solids is fixed, then it becomes of imperative necessity that no method of analysing sour milk shall be adopted likely to yield results materially lower than those obtained with the milk when fresh.

Unfortunately, milk at times is contaminated with micro-organisms which bring about very active and powerful changes in the constituents. The rapidity with which these changes are brought about is also very materially increased by a rise in temperature. Let me quote two examples. The first was skimmed milk containing no special organism, and which, being kept at the temperature of the laboratory in January (about 45 degrees F.) lost in twenty-one days .44 per cent. solids, and contained .86 per cent. acid, so that the allowance of .43 almost exactly equalled the loss. But a duplicate sample kept in an incubator at 67 degrees F. lost .75 per cent. solids, and produced only 1.26 per cent. lactic acid, so that the allowance of half acid failed to make up for the loss. Hence I find that samples taken in hot weather and kept at a high temperature sometimes lose far more than can be calculated from the amount of acid present. This inability to calculate the changes which have taken place is most striking when the sample contains a special organism capable of decomposing milk sugar.

In order to determine how far the destruction of the lactic acid bacillus would affect the changes produced in milk, a series of experiments were made. The tubes containing the milk were very carefully pasteurised at 150 degrees F. for twenty minutes, and subsequently kept in an incubator at 70 degrees F.

From the results obtained it is evident that pasteurisation destroyed the lactic acid by bacillus, there being no increase of acidity after two days. It is also clear that in such instance the acidity has no fixed relation to the loss. I am of opinion that this milk contained the bacillus [illegible] which is found in milk, and which, though it has the power of effecting very considerable [illegible] in milk, does so, at first, more slowly than the lactic acid bacillus. This impression is confirmed by the results of an investigation made by Mr. Arthur Harden, and reported in the Transactions of the Jenner Institute. He finds that the products of decomposition produced by the bacillus *coli communis* are as follows:

	A.	B.
Sugar used	[illegible]	[illegible]
Produced Alcohol	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lactic Acid	[illegible]	[illegible]
Volatile Acids	[illegible]	
Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]

He draws attention to the fact that the [illegible] produced amounts to about half the weight of sugar decomposed. These results are very similar to those given in Table V., where, after fourteen days, the loss is nearly double the acidity, instead of being, as usual, half the acidity, such being the nature of the changes which take place in milk when kept. It appears evident that an analysis of sour milk, even with the greatest precaution, may not by any means represent its composition when fresh, and that the present system of keeping reserve samples which may be submitted to Somerset House is unsatisfactory.

It is obvious that if satisfactory reference is to be made to Somerset House these reserve samples must be properly treated. My experiments have shown that merely pasteurising the milk at a temperature sufficient to kill the lactic acid bacillus is not sufficient to preserve the sample. Experiments on sterilising in my ordinary steriliser I have made only once, in 1898. The results showed in this instance that milk when sour can be so sterilised as to undergo scarcely any further change. In fact, I am inclined to attribute the apparent changes solely to the difficulty of getting accurate results when working upon sour milk. As evidence of the constancy of such sterilised milk, the following results are interesting. The samples were bottled on 7th March, 1898, the milk containing 12.40 per cent. solids; on 29th the solids were 12.37, and on 15th April 12.28. The acidity was constant during this period.

There is another advantage which would accrue from sterilising the milk. By far the most difficult estimation in a sample of sour milk is that of the fat. There are times when the fat separates from the other solids in such a manner as to defy any attempt to again incorporate it with the rest of the milk, so as to permit a fair sample being taken. Such separation happens more especially in samples which have been taken from place to place, and it is not so marked in any experiment samples which have been employed in these investigations. But even among these I have found it far more difficult to get reliable and similar fat determinations than it has been to get reliable and similar solid determinations. I have found that at times the only reliable method with a sour sample, is to take the whole contents of the bottle, evaporate to dryness with sand, and extract the powdery residue with ether. But it is not satisfactory to have this unnecessary and tedious work, and yet the estimation of the fat is as important as the estimation of the total solids.

The practical conclusion which I wish to impress upon all interested in dairying is this. Reserve samples of milk kept by inspectors should be sterilised. The cost and difficulties are as nothing compared to the effect on a farmer of being wrongly prosecuted for selling adulterated milk when the milk has not been tampered with. A steriliser which would take four to six bottles of milk would cost about £2 to £3. The bottles would cost very little more than those at present in use. But they would require to have indelibly marked on them, either in the make or by sand blast, a distinctive number. Apart from the question of sterilisation, I am certain that such an indelible mark on sample bottles is greatly needed. The way in which some samples that come into my hands, though taken by inspectors, are marked is a disgrace. Not only does it permit of the label being transferred from one sample bottle to another, but I have very strong reasons to believe that this has been done, and done not merely in one instance, but in several instances, and in different parts of the country. Such accidents would be rendered impossible by the adoption of my suggestion. The dairy farmer and milk seller have a right to demand that every necessary precaution shall be taken by the authorities, and I trust that these experiments will prove that it is not asking too much for all reserve samples of milk to be efficiently sterilised.

Rural Labourers' League.—At a committee meeting of the Rural Labourers' League held at Birmingham on Monday, Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., intimated his intention of retiring from the presidency at the next annual meeting. Mr. Collings has been president of the league from its foundation in 1[illegible]

During a severe thunderstorm, a few days ago a mill belonging to Mr. [illegible], of Stratford, a village near Salisbury, was struck by lightning and ignited. The [illegible] was summoned, but the flames spread with startling rapidity, and the mill and adjoining cottages were totally destroyed. The damage is estimated at about one hundred pounds. In the stables considerable damage was done to [illegible] stock, a large number of cattle being killed. The [illegible] south at Dyrham [illegible]. A [illegible] named Mundy, working on the farm of Mr. R. Lavis, at North Newnton, was struck by lightning and killed on the spot. The horse he was driving was also killed, but a young [illegible] had a marvellous escape.

Agricultural Wages Abroad.

"The First Annual Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics" issued by the Board of Trade contains some information relating to the wages of agricultural labourers in foreign countries. The countries dealt with in the abstract are France, Hungary, Russia, Sweden, and the United States.

For France the particulars relate to the years 1882 and 1892. The average daily wages of day labourers are given as follows:—

	Labourers with board.		Labourers without board.	
	1882.	1892.	1832.	1892.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Men—				
Summer	1 7	1 5⅜	2 6	2 4½
Winter	1 0½	1 0½	1 9½	1 7½
Women—				
Summer	0 11	0 10½	1 6	1 5
Winter	0 7½	0 7½	1 1½	1 1
Children—				
Summer	0 7	0 6½	1 0½	0 11⅜
Winter	0 5	0 4½	0 9	0 9

The information relating to wages of Russian labourers is compiled from "The Industries of Russia: Agriculture and Forestry," published in 1893 for the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago, by the Russian Ministry of Agriculture and Crown Domains. The period to which the wages relate is stated to be "during late years" (*i.e.*, preceding 1893) in the case of annual wages, while the daily wages relate to the period 1882 to 1891.

The average annual wages of adult labourers engaged by the year ranged from £3 to £10 8s. per annum for males and from £2 10s. to £6 for females.

The highest average rates were paid in the Southern Steppe Governments and St. Petersburg, Courland and Astrakhan. The wages are exclusive of the value of board and lodging, which are stated to be provided free by the employers in the case of workpeople engaged by the year.

The range in the average daily wages of labourers engaged by the day is shown below:—

	Average daily wages.	
	d.	s. d.
During spring sowing	7 to	1 5½
During haymaking	10 to	2 0½
During wheat harvest	9¾ to	2 7¾

In these cases, also, the highest wages were paid in the Southern Steppe, Baltic, and Lake Governments. The average daily wages are those of labourers engaged by the day and not providing their own teams and implements. The wages paid to those men who provide their own teams and implements are stated to be from 33 to 50 per cent. higher than those recorded above.

According to the "Journal" of the Russion Ministry of Agriculture and Crown Domains, the range in the average daily wages of day labourers in the agricultural districts of Europeon Russia in 1899 was as follows:—

	With board.	Without board.
	d.	d.
During spring sowing	3·6 to 8·4	4·8 to 10·8
During haymaking	4·8 to 10·8	6·0 to 13·2

These figures do not apply to labourers providing their own teams and implements, whose wages are much higher.

The Abstract does not furnish details of the wages of agricultural labourers in Belgium, but information on this point was collected at the Belgian Agricultural Census of 1895. In that year the average wages for day labourers or ordinary service were 1s. 7d. a day without board, and 11½d. a day with board. For women the average daily wages were 11¾d. without board and 6¾d. with board.

For Sweden, particulars are given of the wages of farm servants and agricultural labourers for a number of years from 1865 to 1897. The rates at intervals of five years and for 1897 are given as under:—

Years.	Yearly Wages.			
	Yearly cash wages commonly paid to servants boarded by their employer.		Value of servant's yearly wages in kind and money.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1865	6 10 0	2 17 9	15 14 5	9 13 4
1870	5 12 3	2 11 1	15 10 0	9 15 7
1875	9 15 7	3 11 1	22 6 8	12 14 5
1880	7 15 7	3 10 0	20 6 8	11 16 8
1885	8 3 4	3 15 7	19 15 7	11 5 7
1890	9 2 3	4 4 5	21 12 3	12 3 4
1895	9 18 11	4 17 9	22 15 7	12 10 0
1897	10 11 1	5 6 8	23 14 5	13 0 0

For the United States statements are given of the average wages per month, by the year or season, of the ordinary daily wages for casual labour, and of the daily wages at harvest. The general averages for all the States and Territories are as follows:—

MONTHLY WAGES OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

	Without board.	With board.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1866	5 12 0	3 12 9
1875	4 1 8	2 13 0
1885	3 15 3	2 11 5
1890	3 16 5	2 11 11
1892	3 17 6	2 12 8

The highest rates are returned from the Pacific and Mountain States, and the lowest from the Southern States.

The average daily wages for casual labourers at ordinary times and at harvest are given below:—

	Average daily wages for ordinary service.		Averages daily wages at harvest.	
	Without board.	With board.	Without board.	With board.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1875	4 6	3 3	7 1	5 7½
1885	3 9½	2 9½	5 10	4 7
1890	3 10	2 10	5 5	4 3
1892	3 10	2 9	5 5	4 3

In 1892 the range in the wages of day labourers on ordinary service without board was from 2s. 7d. in South Carolina to 7s. 1d. in Washington; with board, from 1s. 10½d. in North and South Carolina to 5s. 9d. in Washington. The range of the averages of harvest wages in the same year for labourers without board was from 3s. 11d. in South Carolina to 9s. 4½d. in California and North Dakota and for labourers with board 2s. 11d. in from Mississippi to 7s. 1d. in California, Minnesota, and North Dakota.

It will be noticed that there was a marked reduction in the wages paid for agricultural labour in the United States between 1875 and 1885, but since the latter year there has been apparently little change, although there has been a considerable fall in the value of agricultural produce.

For Denmark certain statistics of wages were published in the "Tidskrift for Landokonomi" in 1893. From these it would appear that, in that year, the average wages of labourers engaged by the day on Danish farms were as under:—

	Summer.	Winter.	Harvest.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Day farm labourers without board	1 4½	2 1½	2 5½
Day farm labourers with board	0 8¾	1 4	1 8½

For farm labourers engaged by the year, the rates were as follows:—

	Total wages per annum.
	£ s. d.
Adult male labourer	11 2 8
Cowman or herdsman	11 5 0
Dairymaid	6 1 6
Housemaid	5 13 0

In 1893 wages were highest in Fyen, West Jylland, and Schleswig, and lowest in Hjorring, Aalborg, and Thisted districts.

The difference in the wages of an adult labourer in these districts ranges from 43s. 4d. to 65s. yearly. It seems that complete statistics of annual average wages for the whole kingdom are wanting for earlier years, so that a comparison can only be made for certain districts. According to a statement by Captain la Cour, formerly secretary of the Royal Danish Agricultural Society, the wages of labourers engaged by the year in Fyen in 1872, 1883, and 1893 were as follows:—

Year.	Adult Male.	Woman.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1872	7 11 8	4 1 3
1883	9 4 2	5 19 2
1893	12 1 7	6 3 6

As regards the wages of day labourers, a comparison can be made for a longer period. The average wages of day labourers, finding their own board, were 1s. 1¼d. a day in 1871, 1s. 4¾d. in 1883, 1s. 5½d. in 1888, and 1s. 10¼d. in 1893.

The Increasing Consumption of Maize.*

A noteworthy feature of our import trade in grain and grain products has been the remarkable increase during the past few years in the supplies of maize. Since 1895 our annual receipts of this product in the form of grain have risen from 33,944,000 cwts. to 62,700,000 cwts., while in the same interval the entries of maize meal have risen from 164,000 cwts. to 1,815,000 cwts. In each of the past four years our imports of the whole grain have exceeded 50,000,000 cwts.; whereas the annual entries prior to 1895, while frequently exceeding 30,000,000 cwts., only twice show an importation of more than 40,000,000 cwts. In 1890 the quantity of maize grain imported was 43,438,000 cwts. The course of these imports for the past twenty-five years may be seen from the quinquennial averages, which are as follows:—1871-75, 19,663,000 cwts.; 1876-80, 37,104,000 cwts.; 1881-85, 27,961,000 cwts.; 1886-90, 33,436,000 cwts.; 1891-95, 32,884,000 cwts.; and 1896-99 (four years), 56,357,000 cwts. The milled product, on the other hand, was, until 1897, always an insignificant item in this trade, but in that year maize meal suddenly figured to the extent of over 1,000,000 cwts., and in the past twelve months the total consignments were almost double that quantity.

The maize imported into this country is used for the most part as feeding stuff for live stock, though some of it is employed in the brewing, distilling, and other industries, and in the manufacture of proprietary foods and confectionery. Its cheapness as compared with other feeding grains has no doubt stimulated the growing demand for it amongst stock owners, for during the past three or four years the average value of maize grain has been from 6d to 1s. per cwt. lower than that of the cheap imported feeding barleys.

The chief source of our supplies is the United States, whence we have received in recent years over 60 per cent. of the entire annual importation, and among the remaining purveyors of maize to our markets the principal are Argentina, Roumania, and Russia. Canada is also credited with a considerable contribution in the annual Statements of Trade, but the shipments from the Dominion consist almost entirely of grain produced in the United States. From the latter country we received in 1899 direct consignments amounting to over 39,000,000 cwts.; Argentina furnished 7,731,000 cwts.; Roumania, 7,354,000 cwts.; and Russia, 2,640,000 cwts. Practically the whole of the maize meal imported is supplied by the United States.

Maize occupies a larger area than any other crop in the United States, its acreage usually ranging from 75,000,000 to 80,000,000 acres, with a production approaching 2,000,000,000 bushels annually. Of this large production about 90 per cent. is retained for home consumption, and of the remainder over three-fourths is distributed amongst European countries, mainly the United Kingdom, Germany, Netherlands, and Denmark; while Canada takes most of the balance.

In the United States, as elsewhere, maize is chiefly utilised as food for stock, especially for pigs, but it also enters largely into human consumption in various forms, and in the southern States maize bread is a popular diet. Other uses to which this grain is put in America include the manufacture of starch, glucose, whisky, and alcohol. The quantity of maize annually consumed in the United States in the manufacture of glucose is estimated at 40,000,000 bushels, and practically the whole of the starch of commerce for the entire country is derived exclusively from the same grain. Apart from the grain, the stalk and blades are also valuable as feeding materials and for other purposes, though these portions of the plant are generally left on the field to be burned before the planting of the next crop. The following passage from a report† by the Department of Agriculture at Washington presents a concise description of the economic value of maize from an American point of view:—"It is predominantly the characteristic cereal crop of the United States, and its money value is, perhaps, greater than that of any one crop, with the exception of cotton. It has been shown that it is a valuable food for man, and that it is the chief food of the domestic animals of our great country. In addition to this, large quantities of starch are made from it, and also glucose and grape sugar. It not only serves as our food, but also furnishes a part of our drink, in the form of the various grades of Indian corn whisky. In addition to this, it is the source of an immense industry in the manufacture of alcohols, high wines, and Cologne spirits. The stalks, which a few years ago were considered an injurious residue, have been found to possess most valuable properties as cattle food. Especially is this true of the outer shells. The inner portion of the stalk—the pith—possesses remarkable properties as an obturator in the manufacture of battleships. It possesses a high degree of reliance and porosity, and when perforated by a shot or shell it instantly closes the aperture made by the projectile, and thus prevents the entrance of water into the vessel. It also has peculiar properties rendering it suitable for the manufacture of pyroxylin varnishes, gun-cotton, and high explosives. By reason of the nature of its construction it is easily nitrated."

In Argentina the cultivation of maize is extending, though at a slower rate of progress than in the case of wheat. According to the Argentine Census of 1895 this crop occupied 3,073,000 acres, or 1,093,000 acres more than in 1888, when the total area under maize was estimated at 1,980,000 acres. In 1899 over 1,122,000 tons of maize were shipped from Argentine ports to various countries, of which the principal were the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Brazil, and Germany.

Among European countries the production of maize has found its greatest development in Hungary, Roumania, and Italy. In Hungary the crop occupies roughly 6,000,000 acres, and approximately 5,000,000 acres are devoted to its cultivation in both Roumania and Italy. Russia has something over 2,000,000 acres under maize, and France and Austria cultivate 1,600,000 acres and 800,000 acres respectively.

The maize produced in Austria-Hungary is consumed within the Empire, into which there is also a small net annual importation of about two million cwts. of this grain; it is utilised largely for feeding stock, chiefly pigs, and for the manufacture of spirits. Roumania exports about thirteen million cwts. annually, or approximately a third of the crop grown in the country, her principal customers being Belgium, Austria-Hungary, and the United Kingdom. After Roumania, Russia is the principal exporting country in Europe, the total production amounting in a fair season to over twenty million cwts., of which on the average of the last five years for which figures are available nearly nine million cwts. have been exported. There is a fluctuating export from Bulgaria varying from one to six million cwts. yearly.

With regard to importing countries, Germany would appear to be the principal maize importer after Great Britain, her annual net receipts amounting to eighteen million cwts. in addition to a home

* From the "Journal" of the Board of Agriculture.

† Compendium: Maize. U.S. Department of Agriculture. 1898.

production of 6,900,000 cwts. Denmark, which does not grow maize to any extent, has since 1897 imported a considerable quantity from the United States and Russia, mainly as a cheap feeding stuff for swine, the net importation in that year amounting to 8,357,000 cwts., and in 1898 to 8,387,000 cwts.

The net importation of maize into France has averaged 6,540,000 cwts. in recent years, whilst the quantity grown has amounted to about 14,319,000 cwts. Holland and Belgium are also importers of this grain to the amount of several million cwts. annually.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Swine Fever—Foot-and-Mouth Disease.

Sir,—When the Agricultural Department first scheduled swine fever in 1879, and cast upon the local authority the task of exterminating it, I protested, as I believed it was an indigenous and not a foreign disorder. It was known in my boyhood as a kind of typhoid fever, and it went by the name of "the soldier," I suppose in consequence of its red, eruptive spots. For fourteen years the local authorities fought against this disease with no prospect of ultimate success. We did our best in Norfolk—slaughtered all the diseased pigs and those in contact with them, paid thousands for compensation, restricted movement, stopped markets, and disinfected pigsties, dealers' carts, etc., but made no headway. All we got for our pains was severe criticism from the central authority, and abuse from all the pig-jobbers and small market authorities. So, after this double apprenticeship, I strenuously advocated the Veterinary Department taking over swine fever, remarking that I was sure that they would discover it was "much easier to find fault than to mend." So, in 1895, the task of eradicating swine fever was taken in hand by the Government, the expenses for which were promised to be provided by Parliament. In the last year of the local authorities' reign the outbreaks numbered 2,748—in the six years the Board of Agriculture have managed swine fever, over £800,000 has been spent, and more than 300,000 pigs slaughtered, with the result that in 1899 the outbreaks had been reduced to 2,182.

The President of the Board of Agriculture thinks swine fever "could be as satisfactorily dealt with as other diseases had been," while Mr. Cope, the Chief Veterinary Inspector of the Board, and the only survivor of the triumvirate which for so many years governed that Department, tells us that "the final extinction of the disease must be far from within reach." And I was told by a great veterinary authority that the only way to get rid of swine fever was to kill every pig in the United Kingdom.

But the worst of it is that this £800,000 has not been specially voted by Parliament, but has been abstracted from the Local Taxation Fund—a fund absolutely apportioned for the relief of rates. But the President of the Board of Agriculture is so popular in the House of Commons that he is "congratulated on his success in grappling with swine fever." I call it a disastrous and costly failure, and taking the money from the Local Taxation Fund nothing short of political dishonesty. I have strongly advocated placing swine fever under the general conditions of the Contagious Diseases Animals Act, and directing the attention of the Board of Agriculture to the extirpation of sheep scab, which could be accomplished, say, in four or five years, at a tithe of the money they now yearly expend in their fruitless efforts to rid the country of swine fever.

The Veterinary Report of the Board of Agriculture may not be published until June, 1901, by which time, in all probability, the recent outbreaks of foot-and-mouth in Suffolk and Norfolk will be forgotten by the public. So I take upon myself to record a few facts relating to this great calamity. Upon the first discovery of foot-and-mouth at Fritton the Board of Agriculture ordered the diseased animals to be slaughtered, but, before that could be carried out, the order was changed into one for strict isolation. This was effectually done, but, as a further outbreak occurred on the same premises within a fortnight, the disease was carefully nursed, and, as a local inspector said, "germs were multiplied in sufficient numbers to infect the whole kingdom." From Suffolk the disease spread to Norfolk, and although the homestead was on a high road, and the Department knew of the outbreak on the Thursday, no order for slaughter was received until Saturday, and then only at the remonstrance of the county authority. The other neighbouring outbreaks which followed were stamped out by immediate slaughter, and the plague was stayed; but only for a time. Although the Board scheduled one-third of the county of Suffolk and almost half Norfolk, prohibiting movement of all stock, stopping markets, etc., instead of gradually reducing this huge area and drawing a strict cordon and maintaining it around the infected farms, all the restrictions were kept on for seven or eight weeks, and then the whole at once removed. After inflicting this grievous loss upon the stock-owners of East Norfolk, the Board committed the astounding folly of allowing the man who originally introduced the disease into the county, not only to restock his farm, but, knowing he was a butcher and dealer, to send those cattle where he pleased. No wonder that the bullocks, which had been placed in the very yard where the first diseased cattle were slaughtered, should, upon their removal to the Yarmouth marshes, develop foot-and-mouth. Vigorous slaughter again proved effectual, but a comparatively large area was again infected, and as the spring was now far advanced, the restrictions were ten times more vexatious and costly than they had been in the winter. Grass was growing on one side of the road, and stock were starving on the other; and because the magistrates only imposed nominal fines upon those unfortunate farmers who moved their stock to prevent starvation, the Board of Agriculture threatened to prevent the movement of all stock throughout the whole county.

It would appear from Mr. Long's speech "that the action of the Norfolk magistrate," which he "so profoundly deplored," was connected with swine fever, whereas it was entirely confined to the cruel restrictions imposed on a large district in consequence of the second outbreak of foot-and-mouth; when those restrictions were modified, allowing movement for feeding, etc., the law was rigorously enforced.

Norfolk men considered this letter to the justices was adding insult to the injury for which the Board was responsible; but in Parliament Mr. Long was congratulated upon his vigorous measures for stamping out these outbreaks, and the President complimented his officials upon the efficient manner in which they had been carried out. They certainly carried matters with a high hand. They threatened the magistrates, ignored the local authority, played fast and loose with slaughter, and certainly disregarded the warning of the French Minister of Agriculture "that the specific organism of the foot-and-mouth retains its virulence for several months." Had they known and acted upon this sage advice there would have been no second outbreak in Norfolk.

CLARE SEWELL READ.

Phosphate of Alumina—A Disclaimer.

Sir,—My attention has just been drawn to a notice in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, of November 20th, 1899, on Phosphate of Alumina. The notice states that "some years ago experiments were made by Professor Jamieson in Scotland with most satisfactory results, but owing to the uncertain supply at that time of the raw material they were not followed up." As this statement is diametrically opposed to the results that I actually found, I trust you will be good enough to insert this letter; and as the misleading statement has arisen in your columns, you may be good enough to specially ask colonial papers to copy this refutation. This seems necessary, as my attention was drawn to the matter by a writer from New Zealand, who had observed the misleading statement repeated in the *Otago Witness*, and I understand it caused no little surprise there, and therefore, probably, elsewhere.—I am, yours, etc.,

THOMAS JAMIESON.

Agricultural Research Association, for the North-eastern Counties of Scotland, 10, Belmont Street, Aberdeen, July 28th, 1900.

[*** We hope that not only our colonial, but other contemporaries who copied the article, will reprint this disclaimer. We have asked Professor Jamieson to be kind enough to put the true state of the case before our readers, and we hope he will comply with our request. We must express our annoyance at having been misled by a contributor whom we believed to be reliable.—ED. *M. L. E.*]

Rural Depopulation.

Sir,—It is very satisfactory to find that you have in your valuable paper of 23rd inst., directed particular attention to the shifting away of the labourer from agriculture to the more remunerative work connected with the needs of the constant aggregation of our town populations, and to the various excitements of civic life.

We have much to thank Mr. Rider Haggard for in urging more general attention to this most important subject. It is to be hoped that the thoughts of statesmen, philanthropists, economists, and other of our powerful thinkers, and all desiring to maintain and add to the welfare of our country and our race, will take this subject into serious consideration.

Now, as to the bearing of this problem upon the industry of agriculture: the needs of the farmer of the land, under the special conditions of his industry, will still more tend to promote this exodus of the labourer; the farmer will have to acquire and use more manual labour-saving machines, and to grow less costly work crops, which will tend to stifle weeds, and have, with artificial manures, nutritious qualities equal to the more expensively cultivated turnip, raised under present culture routine. And, if he has to hold his own, he will have more extensively to pursue the breeding and rearing and feeding to maturity to the larder of the consumer, the best breeds of sheep adopted to localities, and he will have to secure more directly into his exchequer the cash the consumer pays, through many convenient channels, indirectly to him for his various produce. Why not toll free and open markets conveniently situate be established in every town?

The cheapening of transit also for the farmers' produce and other requirements for cultivation of the land needs the agriculturists' earnest attention. Our canals should have retaining walls to widen their flotation area, with towing ways on both sides, and vastly improved lock arrangements. Water conveyance is the least deteriorating conveyor, and the most convenient system for loading and unloading arrangements, and might be the cheapest. Our highways also need attention to bring them to a more uniform level to cheapen haulage power.

It would be taking too much of your valuable space at this time for me to specify other means of securing more remuneration to agriculture, which only could be brought by the joint efforts of landowners and occupiers, and it might be to prevent further depression to both.

But Mr. Haggard takes wider and more philosophical views of this exodus of the labourer from agriculture, and his crowding into the town. He bids us look at the young you see there, sharp, puny people certainly, not what their grandfathers and grandmothers were who came from the country. For warning, open the book of ancient history of Rome before Rome fell. And he goes on to tell us the trend of this exodus is the same in Syria, in Australia, and the Cape. Well, then, is it not vain to try to resist these irrestible tendencies; fortunately for us, the resources of civilisation are not exhausted, to migrate, if not to prevent the disastrous consequences which supervened in the long past ages from inability to apply our more matured knowledge in the various sciences connected with the subject. There is no reason why with these applied with judgment in full measure to our towns that they should not, with recreation grounds for cricket, football, tennis, and all other manly and athletic exercises, together with cheap means for locomotion, give to Britain as strong and healthy a people as could be reared in our rural villages.

ALFRED WELCH.

Southall, August 1st, 1900.

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (July 30th).—Fine weather prevailed in most parts of our Islands, and the barometer had risen briskly over the western portion of the kingdom under the influence of an anticyclone, which was spreading over us from the Atlantic. Rain was measured in the morning at all the northern stations as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, but the amounts were mostly small, while in the South of England the rainfall was scarcely appreciable. The temperatures were still somewhat above the average in the southern districts; but there was a good north-west breeze blowing, and the air was generally pleasant. There were several hours of bright sunshine in most parts of England. The day was very fine and bright in London, and the temperature, which had fallen to fifty-seven degrees in the early morning, rose shortly after midday to seventy-six degrees.

TUESDAY (July 31st).—The weather was fine in most parts of our islands, but there was a good deal of cloud reported, especially from the northern and western districts. Rain was measured in the morning at a few places in the extreme north and west, but elsewhere the weather had continued dry. The midday temperatures were high at a few places in the south of England and at some of the island stations; in the north of Scotland, however, the thermometer scarcely touched sixty degrees. The early part of the day was bright in London, while the afternoon was somewhat cloudy. The temperature in the Metropolis rose to seventy-eight degrees.

WEDNESDAY (August 1st).—Showery and unsettled weather prevailed over the greater part of the British Islands, and a further decrease of temperature was experienced. A moist south-westerly current of air was blowing over the entire country, and rain had fallen generally, the largest amounts being measured in the north and west. In the south of England the temperature during Tuesday night did not fall below 60deg., but owing to the cloudy sky there was very little increase during the day. The midday readings nowhere touched 70deg., and in many places they only slightly exceeded 60deg. Rain fell heavily in London at times during the day, and the highest temperature was 66deg., 25deg. colder than a week ago.

THURSDAY (August 2nd).—Fine weather prevailed over the southern portion of the kingdom, but the sky was cloudy in the north and west, with rain at a few places in Scotland and Ireland. A shallow disturbance was passing across Scotland, and strong westerly winds were general over the country, the force mounting to a moderate gale at exposed positions on our west coasts. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, in nearly all parts of the islands, but the amounts were not generally large. There was no material change in the temperature, except that the midday readings were somewhat lower in the south of England. In London the day was fine and although the sky became more cloudy in the afternoon, the shade temperature rose to 74deg.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Harvesting.

Assuming every good barley-grower has done his best thus far to secure fine barley fit for malting, we have now reached the critical stage when skilful and well-considered action is most wanted. The harvest time has come, and with it many fine fields of waving grain of fair promise. Human skill is now requisite to secure the results that will crown the year's patience and toil with meet reward.

Ignorant want of skill will cause loss and disappointment. The best type of skill is the outcome of much accumulated experience, combined with the power, if needs be, to originate something fresh. Barley-growing for brewing purposes has probably been uninterruptedly practised for double or treble the length of time that covers the historical period since the First Dynasty in Egypt. Yet the present generation of toilers have made distinct advances in the double direction of improvement on the hitherto good and approved characters, and still more by the

Avoidance of Evil.

Good barley still depends much more upon leaving undone the things that ought not to be done than doing the things that ought to be. This is one of the few positions where omission is better than commission. There is not yet sufficient understanding or power to combine amongst the many would-be advisers of growers to indicate quite the best points desired by brewers in malt. Even if such knowledge existed, it is useless to disguise the fact that other considerations are allowed to exert influences contrary to the attainment of the end. It is rare to find growers advised disinterestedly.

In recent articles I have shown the varied motives in hurrying grain to market. Much more could be said about it, but other more urgent matters claim attention first.

When to Cut

is the most important or urgent point in many districts. About this there should be no difference of opinion, although there may be rather wide divergence in practice. Few fields mature regularly, either if carefully examined so far as a few closely clustering ears are concerned, or in many fields of irregular surface, so far as bands or patches run.

In such cases, if the whole field is cut at once it is not probable that a good or uniform sample will be secured.

The little extra trouble of cutting such a field on two or more different dates is, or should be, well repaid. Practically such fields are better if not devoted to barley. Yet, with proper attention when cutting goes on, they can be so used with satisfaction.

Irregularities in character and quality of the undergrowth are often greater from this cause than any apparent difference in the barley itself. These merit attention, as they directly affect the very important questions of the shape, form, and

Size of Stack.

Stacking influences are exceedingly important. It cannot be too generally known and firmly believed that a large part of the superiority of British barley has arisen in the past, and still depends upon our almost insular habit of putting barley into sound, dry barns, and good-sized stacks. How to build a stack, and accurately determine its bulk so as to secure the best results, still remains one of the severest tests of a farmer's skill. No other operation on the farm calls for more careful determination either for hay or barley. Even here there is the difference that heat capable of benefiting much hay of the mixed or rougher type would be certain death to barley.

Fortunately brewers' advisers have learned to place vitality first on the list of the necessities of good barley. Nothing else can give the true condition of sound and vigorous life in grain equal to the glow of a full fair sweat in rick.

Kiln Drying

is unduly and improperly lauded. Useful and beneficial it unhappily is in far too many cases, and comparatively little grain is now sent to market that does not repay the extra labour and cost of sweating. For all that no practical man can really contend that any artificial treatment on kiln can effect the same purpose as proper stacking or heating in barn.

There is another and indirect advantage arising from the practice of which sight should not be lost. A stack soundly made and tightly thatched should be left intact sufficiently long to make sure that there is not the premature rushing to market which cannot be too strongly deprecated. Threshing in the field to save thatching is a shockingly poor economy.

The position of stacks calls for care. Far too frequently the sole consideration is convenience. Local custom has a good deal to do with carting to the homestead or leaving in field. But wherever a stack may be placed its form ought to agree with its surroundings. It should be obvious that a thin, narrow stack fares differently to a wide high one. Yet on a bleak exposed ridge, free to every wind that blows, a twelve yard stack will keep cooler than a seven yard will in a warm, snug, sheltered hollow. Both descriptions can be much influenced by the quality of the herbage and weeds present, or by the absence of them, as the case may be.

FRANK RICHARDSON AND CO., successors to J. TOPHAM RICHARDSON BROS. AND CO., Importers of Selected Foreign Malting Barleys, 6, Duke Street, Southwark, London, S.E. Telegrams, "Easourgeon, London." Telephone, 787, Hop, London; and at Liverpool and Burton-on-Trent.—[ADVT.]

HOPS.

By Lupulin.

Plantation Reports.

Special to the Secretary, N.A.E.H.G.

MAIDSTONE.—I think we shall have about half a crop, but it is too early to estimate for certain. Some pieces are very good, some middling, and some very bad. Cultivation of some grounds is very bad and with dry weather will no doubt send hops off very fast. There is still some vermin to be found.

FRANT.—Many hops in this district are suffering from drought and aphis blight. Gardens may be seen completely black, and almost past redemption, though it is difficult yet to say what effect the recent storms may have, but as the hops are out in burr, the crop cannot possibly be influenced to any great extent.

TONBRIDGE.—There may be a fair crop where hops have been well washed and manured, but the best yield cannot exceed about two-thirds of last year's growth. Many gardens look like complete failure, and on the whole the crop must be very short.

CANTERBURY.—Much benefit is discernible from the hot weather and the recent thunderstorms. More vigour is seen in the gardens, and the laterals are looking healthy. But fresh fly arrives, and some mould is to be found. The unwashed grounds are going to the bad altogether. On the whole the bine is, in my opinion, too light to grow out any more than a very moderate crop.

EWHURST.—Well washed hops improve, but are very short of bine. Vermin still troublesome, mould on the increase in spite of hot weather. We shall not grow half of last year's crop.

ALTON.—Hops are much improved where washing and cultivation have been followed up, but where neglected they have gone black. The thunderstorm freshened up the bine. The crop looks like half of last year's or less.

TEYNHAM.—The bine looks much fresher from the rain last week, and there is now very little vermin to be found. The general aspect of the well-cultivated grounds has improved, and with continued favourable weather we shall do fairly well, though the yield will be considerably short of last year.

CHARTHAM.—Although a little vermin and mould are still to be seen in some patches, the bine may now, I think, be called clean. Goldings and Bramblings are fast coming into burr, and in some places into hop, but generally we are short of bine, and it is most probable that our yield will be only moderate, certainly not more than a small average.

HEADLEY.—The hops in my parish are looking very bad; in fact, I have never seen them worse, very short of bine, and not worth washing. The vermin has disappeared the last few days, but we cannot grow more than 2cwt. or 3cwt. per acre.

WYCHAM.—The weather has favoured the hops, vermin has practically vanished, but mould continues to run to a moderate extent. The unwashed gardens are in a poor plight, and can produce next to nothing.

FARNHAM.—The hot weather, followed by the thunder rain, has helped our gardens very considerably. Burr is coming out well, and in grounds that have been looked after the prospect for the crop is in favour of an average, but in some neglected pieces I do not think there will be sufficient hops to pay for the picking.

GODDHURST.—Observations in this parish and through some of the surrounding country enable me to say that the general aspect of the plantations at present is fairly favourable for a crop which will probably come out very near to an average. But it is impossible to be certain in forecasting the final result, as so much depends upon the weather that may prevail in August. The present change to coolness with drizzling rain is not desirable, and will, if continued, very likely promote the increase of mould, which is already too evident to be pleasant. If we can be favoured with bright, clear atmosphere, not too hot, we shall do well, otherwise our prospects will be materially altered.

WEST WORCESTER.—The hops this season have gone through one of the worst aphis blights I have ever known, some planters washing four and five times. Yards that were not washed have gone black. Taking an average, we cannot grow more than two-fifths of last year's crop, and that will depend upon the weather we get this month.

STOCKLEY.—Hops vary a good deal, but nearly all are short of bine, and where it is plentiful I am afraid it will be rendered to a great extent abortive by repeated washing. I have not heard of any mould to speak of, and think the thunderstorm on Friday night cleared off most of the aphis. Not more than two-thirds of last year's crop can be anticipated at best.

KYRE, TENBURY.—Hops in this district have improved during the past two or three weeks. Persistent washing has cleared the plants of aphis, and if the present favourable climatic conditions continue we shall grow a little over half of last year's crop.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interst and benefit to the members of the society.*

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The heat wave, which has affected the greater part of the European Continent, has benefited the breweries in increasing the demand for beer, which some of them have found it difficult to cope with. The utmost limits of productive capacity have been exceeded in several cases by the orders received, consequently in every direction activity has prevailed, and the consumption of materials has seriously reduced the stock on hand. This is felt in the hop market in the anxiety shown by brewers to purchase further supplies, but owing to the small holdings of dealers the actual business is confined within very narrow limits, and such transactions as could be effected have been done at prices showing substantial advances upon the rates recently current. The tone of the trade is necessarily very firm, and this condition is intensified by the

Reports from the Plantations,

which are not, on the whole, so satisfactory as were previously expected. The almost tropical atmosphere, which lasted so long, has proved to be very trying to the plants in several districts. It has been actually disastrous in some localities, and even in those which are generally best able to endure continuous heat there are signs that without rain the growth and the produce would suffer. Happily for all concerned the parched grounds and the failing plants have been partially relieved by thunder showers, which fell generally about a week ago. It now remains to be seen how much of the bine possesses sufficient vitality to recover from the trials through which it has passed, and recent intelligence on this point arouses fears that the average yield will be diminished from the estimate previously formed, and that the present season's crop will barely suffice to meet the requirements of brewers during the coming year.

Belgium.

The market is still firm at previous quotations, which are 65 to 67½ francs for Alost, and 60 to 62½ francs for Poperinghe hops. Business is quiet in native growths, as there are so few left on sale.

The prospects of the new crop have improved in most districts, the heat having been very beneficial where the bine was in good condition; it has also helped forward the weaker grounds, although it is very doubtful whether in such cases the improvement will be permanent. The probable crop is variously estimated, but there seems to be no possibility that it can exceed that of last year and it is questionable whether it will attain to the same figure.

The imports of hops into Belgium for the six months ending June 30th amounted to 572.633 kilos (about 11,500 cwts), which is within a trifle of the same quantity imported during the corresponding period of 1899. But the analysis of the supplies shows some marked changes. In 1899 the U.S.A. sent nearly 70,000 kilos to Belgium, and this year only 8,442 kilos. Last year the receipts from England were about 75,000 kilos, this year they are over 92,000 kilos. On the other hand, Belgian exports to England this year are under 4.000 kilos, while last year during same period they approached 50.000, and in 1898 were nearly 220,000 kilos. There is, however, but little difference in the total exports of the two periods, although the imports exceed the exports by 110.000 kilos, or about 2,200 cwts.

France.

The official returns of the *Commerce Spécial* for the first six months show that France imported 994.000 kilos of hops for the use of native brewers, and only exported 82.000 kilos of her own produce, the imports exceeding the exports by over 18,000 cwts.

America.

Very limited arrivals at New York and a steady demand from local brewers have resulted in the maintenance of a firm tone, recent prices being easily realised.

Some crop reports are to hand, from which I extract the following:—

LIVINGSTON, Co., N.Y.—Hops not arming well on account of dry weather. Vines are free from insect pests.

WATERVILLE, N.Y.—Severe wind storms have lowered the prospect of yield, which now points to a light crop, although more recent showers have cleaned and brightened the vines.

COOPERSKILL, N.Y.—The effect of wind storms is evident in the badly whipped arms, and previous estimates of only half a crop this year are still supported.

KING, Co., WASH.—Present acreage is about 30 per cent. less than last year. Vines in good condition and comparatively free from vermin. Labour

is high, and some yards will be neglected unless the outlook for prices improves.

PIERCE CO., WASH.—Nearly seventy-five acres ploughed up in Orting district. Vines are flourishing and fairly free from vermin.

WASHINGTON CO., OREGON.—Prospects are discouraging at Cowlitz. Vines are weak, with many dead hills.

LANE CO., OREGON.—Acreage same as last year. Many hills destroyed by grub. Shortage in yield is anticipated.

CALIFORNIA.—General reports point to a lighter crop than last year, although the acreage is about the same.

FARM PROSPECTS

Cumberland.

All root crops are good in spite of the wireworm, helped by much rain. Corn is above the average in all well-managed land, but some lands have not had their due, and, ergo, the crop is short and thin. The hay is very abundant, and much of it is already saved. Meadow mowing is not yet over, while corn is ripening fast, so that the work for it will follow quickly on the heels of the other. Scarcity of field labour has more to do with hay slackness than has the weather, though showers are frequent. As well as labour, living is becoming costly also. One man from this parish is getting £9 a month and his keep for hay-making. You can't eat your pie and have it. If nations will fight and go soldiering by hundreds of thousands—well, the whistle is a dear one, and must be dearly paid for. Were music hall heroes forced to 'make hay while the sun shines," or even to pay out of their own pockets for the work, we would have more value from our soil, and be less dependent on foreigners for what goes into British mouths without defilement.—H. M. K. (Aug. 2nd).

Dorset.

The summer weather of the last three weeks has resulted in a large quantity of excellent meadow hay being put together, and with few exceptions the hay is all got in. Harvesting has commenced, and the crops to all appearance seem fairly good; the quality will have to remain an open question; if fine weather still prevail it will be a good, if not quite an average crop. Rain, no doubt, is wanted in many districts for the roots as well as for the grass. Both cattle and sheep have done well, and this morning we are blessed with a nice rain, which doubtless will harden the values of all kinds of cattle and sheep, and increase the somewhat shortness of grass feed. Both fat cattle and fat sheep have been making less money, probably owing to the great heat, and the losses incurred by country butchers during such extremely hot weather.—G. S. (Aug. 1st).

Pembroke.

As to prospects of the present season, up till now it is most difficult to come to any definite idea. Speaking generally, corn is looking well, a fair crop of hay has been saved, and dairy and grazing farmers have had a fairly good season.—(Aug. 1st).

South Somerset.

The hay crop (our Chard correspondent writes) has been very nearly a record one, for although the shears have been slightly under the average this has been more than made up for by the rapidity with which the produce has been gathered in, with a minimum expenditure in labour. Meadows which in previous years have taken so many weeks to cut and stack the produce have this year been completed within as many days. Copious local showers have much improved the appearance of the growing cereals, which are now looking exceedingly well, and promise an abundant yield. The mangel plant, where it was well established before the drought set in, is flourishing, and, whatever may be the fate of the cruciferous roots, the prospects of the most valuable of our root crops seem assured. Swedes are fighting a somewhat unequal battle, as in some cases they are smitten with mildew, and in others they are struggling against the attacks of those voracious pests, the surface caterpillars and the cut "worms," as the American farmers term them. The fruit crop is also abundant, and the orchards of Somerset bid fair to satisfy the most sanguine hopes of the cider merchants. A blight was at one time threatened in the potatoes; but this has apparently disappeared, and whilst early and second early kinds have yielded well there is every likelihood of the late potatoes proving high standard croppers. With the 1st of September looming in the near future it is pleasant to hear that birds appear in large coveys, and are already strong on the wing.—*Bristol Times and Mirror.*

Suffolk (East).

The prospect of wheat is below an average, cutting just commenced. Barley I consider above an average, with the prospect of a fairly good quality. Oats not quite an average. Beans and peas nothing to complain of. Potatoes not many grown. Hay fair, the later crop well secured. Roots are now more promising, but not so free from weeds as is desirable. Live stock healthy, but the store stock is a dull trade, especially for lambs. On account of the scarcity of labour more machinery is in use, and to a certain extent will be a considerable help.—J. S. (Aug. 2nd).

Ulster (East).

The weather has been, and is, unsettled. There was a spell of dry, warm weather early in July, which broke in a thunderstorm, followed ever since by a vapour-loaded atmosphere and frequent showers.

Potato Crop.

The disease of the potato has developed rapidly during the close, warm, damp weather, and at the present time every patch of early potatoes presents a withered, blasted appearance. The later kinds have not yet suffered to the same extent, but the presence of the disease is manifest in very many places. Spraying has not been as universal as it should have been—in fact, farmers with small farms have not the means for each to possess a spraying machine, so that the men least able to bear the loss suffer most, while farmers with large holdings use the spraying machines freely, and consequently suffer little from potato disease.

Cereals.

The principal grain crop in this country now is oats, and it generally looks well, and farmers speak hopefully of it. The other crops of barley and wheat also look pretty well, but their results cannot much influence the farmers' prospects.

Hay.

Grass has been an abundant crop, and, where saved early, the hay is good, but large quantities are now spread out over fields and meadows under the heavy rains of the past ten days, and much meadow grass is yet uncut.

Root Crops.

Mangel wurzel appears healthy, and gives promise of heavy crops. Swedes are much improved, and the promise of a good crop is much more hopeful than it was three weeks ago. Aberdeens and Globe turnips are not sufficiently advanced to form an opinion yet.

Flax.

Not much flax is now grown in this district, but rather more than last year. I have seen a few fields of excellent quality of Riga flax, and, as there is improved machinery for scutching, manufacturers may be able to give such prices as may induce Ulster farmers to take more interest in the growth of this crop.—E. U., 2nd August, 1900.

The Crops in Germany.

The following report of the crops throughout the empire was issued by the Imperial Bureau of Statistics in the middle of July. No. 1 represents very good; 2 is good; 3 an average; 4 below an average; 5 bad. The condition of all crops was considerably improved owing to the plentiful rains in the beginning of July, followed by warm weather. Prospects are, however, not so good as last year for winter rye, clover, and hay. Those for potatoes have not been so good as this year's since 1893. Prospects for summer crops are better than in most of the seven years; winter wheat also comes up to the average during that period. Harvest will be rather later than usual. Injuries from hailstorms are reported from Hesse, Bavaria, and Baden, and from thunderstorms in Alsace Lorraine. Ravages of mice and caterpillars are reported from Wirtemberg and Baden.

Reports on winter rye are fairly uniform from all parts of the empire; it is thin, short in the haulm, but the ears are well filled and grain well developed. The yield will not be very large. The crop will be below an average in Brunswick, Saxony, and East Prussia; prospects are good in Bavaria. Reports on winter wheat are better than for rye, except in a few places where it is below an average. The rainfalls had a beneficial effect on the development of summer crops, especially barley and oats, and only one report out of eighty-two is below an average. This is not the case with summer rye, and the note is much below that for the empire in Prussia, Posen, Pomerania, and Brandenburg.

Potatoes are in much better condition than for the last seven years, and reports are above an average from all parts. Those from South Germany are especially good. Disease has appeared in a few places in early potatoes. A good crop is expected everywhere.

Reports are very unfavourable concerning the first crop of clover. The year of fodder famine, 1893, is the only one that was less favourable. The note for the empire is below an average, that from Bavaria, Saxony, and Thuringia is good, and from Anhalt, Schaumburg Lippe, Hesse, Wirtemberg, and Baden it is above an average. The first crop was spoilt by the wet, and the second crop will be very small.

The results for lucerne are better than for clover. Rain at the beginning of July hindered the harvest and spoilt the quality of the fodder. The present weather is favourable to a second crop.

Hay harvest was hindered by the rain, [illegible] the quality of the crop was affected. The yield was largest in Bavaria. The second crop promises to be better than the first.

Prussia.

The following report concentrating [illegible] throughout the Kingdom was issued by the Royal Bureau of Statistics in the middle of July. No. 1 represents very good; 2 good; 3 an average; 4 below an average; 5 bad:—

Kingdom of Prussia	Wheat.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats.	Potatoes.	Clover.	Lucerne.	Hay.
	w.	s.	w.	s.				
July, 1900	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
June, 1900	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
May, 1900	2.8	2.7	3.3	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.0	3.2	2.9	2.3
April, 1900	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
July, 1899, against	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
July, 1899	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.8

The condition of winter wheat is about the same as that of last month. A good average crop is expected. Winter rye is generally thin, but the grain is well developed. Summer barley will be a satisfactory crop. Prospects for oats are good. Potatoes promise a good crop. The first crops of [illegible] were small and not of good quality, and many [illegible] was spoilt by the rain, before it could be cured.

THE GARDEN.

The days are drawing in rapidly now—too quickly from one point of view, as when the evenings "begin to cut," as they say about here, it is a sign that the autumn is not far off. An old and valued friend of the writer's used to say that he always disliked to see scarlet runners brought to table, simply because when they became plentiful the best of the summer was over, and autumn at hand.

These same scarlet runners have grown with wonderful rapidity of late, my own lot, though not sown very early, having climbed the sticks in very short time and being now in full bloom and setting. They are not much grown about here, but like peas, succeed remarkably well as a rule, and realise much better prices than are to be had anywhere near London. The points of the plants should always be pinched out as soon as they reach the tops of the sticks; this throws the vigour of the plants into the axillary trusses of blossom below, and also promotes the formation of lateral or side shoots, which bear flower and fruit freely.

These beans require a deep, mellow, and well-enriched root run, with a fair but not excessive amount of moisture; in very wet periods they are apt to drop their blossoms badly, instead of setting them. If very early produce is desired, some of the tuberous roots should be taken up in the autumn before being injured by frost, wintering them in some cool but frost-proof place, like dahlias, and either starting them in a gentle warmth in the spring or simply setting them out in a dormant condition about the end of April, with some littery manure laid over the rows to prevent injury from late frosts. These old plants grow very quickly when once started, and produce the flowers and pods very early and freely.

Unless a sowing of cabbage seed of one or more early varieties has already been made this should be done at once, to provide plants for the earliest cuttings next season. Even if one sowing has been made it is advisable to sow again during the next week or so, as the very early-sown plants are liable to "bolt" in the spring, instead of hearting, more particularly in the warmer or more southern parts of the country. In cool late districts the plants from seed sown the third or fourth week in July will often do well, but elsewhere it is safer not to sow [illegible] second week of August.

Turnips may be sown freely now, August being probably the best month to sow this crop for winter use, especially when very large roots are not required. But these never stand severe weather as well as smaller ones do, as even when [illegible] a kind of decay, and then they rot away rapidly. It is much better, for several reasons, to sow in drills than broadcast, and the seed [illegible] should not be scattered too [illegible] early-sown batches as required, [illegible] day, if possible.

A first sowing of the prickly or winter spinach may also be made now, and a bed be prepared in which to sow onions to stand the winter presently.

Speaking generally, [illegible] have proved quite as good a crop as usual, in spite of the persistently unfavourable weather. Many growers say that the plants made [illegible] foliage, and when this [illegible] set [illegible] well. The early good crops were [illegible] from that popular variety Royal Sovereign, but the old favourite Sir J. Paxton [illegible] usually as well as usual.

It is getting late to plant [illegible] now; if plants established in [illegible] can be obtained they may yet do fairly well, but no time should be lost even with these. Ordinary runners planted after the present time will afford little or no fruit to speak of [illegible]

The best flavoured strawberries [illegible] are

British Queen, Dr. Hogg, Countess, and Keen's Seedling, the last being also a very vigorous kind and a heavy cropper, but British Queen is what we gardeners term a "miffy" subject, and requires both the best of soils and very careful culture. Dr. Hogg is a good grower, and usually crops freely as well, so that where the other does not thrive it should be grown.

Proceed with the budding of roses as fast as possible. Showery weather is favourable for this work, but when the weather is very wet the buds are liable to rot instead of "taking."

Carnations also should be layered as fast as the work can be done. The growth is usually late this season, but even if the plants are still in bloom it is better to get the layers put down in good time. Early-sown seedlings should be pricked out singly into a bed of good, sandy soil, either in a frame or pit, or in the open.

The present time is a very suitable one for sowing the seed of hollyhocks to flower next season. Start it in one or more boxes of light loamy soil, with some leaf mould, etc., and good drainage. Keep the soil evenly moist, and when the plants are 2in. to 3in. in height place them in single pots, 3½in. or 4in. in diameter. In these they may be wintered in a cool pit or frame, moved into larger pots in the early spring, and planted out in deep, rich soil in April, when they will flower well the same year.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

12,835. Max Blaskopp, Manchester, for an invention of "An improved process for conservation of plants."

12,842. Julius Zobel, Berlin, for an invention of "Machine for clearing and 'assarting' roads, fields, and the like."

12,867. Maurice Kane, London, for an invention of "Improvement in finger bars for mowing machines."

12,895. Carl Roth, London, for an invention of "Improvements relating to artificial manures."

13,022. John Byrom, Liverpool, for an invention of "Improvements in watering cans or garden engines."

13,208. Emil Blumschein, London, for an invention of "Improvements relating to turnip thinning machines."

Patents Sealed.

6,607. J. F. Carroll, Massachusetts, U.S. America, for an invention of "Improvements in cultivators, hoes, hand potato diggers."

7,196. C. Hamblin, Bath, Somersetshire, for an invention of "Improvements in hay collectors."

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending July 28th, 1900:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	212	795 792 544	14,048	21,807 9,834 29,139
	Outbreaks.		No.	39	33 46 38	1,370	1,710 1,668 1,686
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Other Animals	No.	:	: : :	:	: : 12
		Dogs.	No.	:	1 : 3	:	2 14 104
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slightered.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	: : :	:	290 718
		Diseased.	No.	:	: : :	:	: 1 43
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	: : :	:	: 1 6
Glanders and Glud. farcy.	Animals Attacked		No.	46	19 18 37	1,077	7 3 539 871
	Outbreaks.		No.	27	13 12 17	631	413 448 509
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	:	: : :	123	: : :
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	: : :	6	: : :
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	22	9 16 9	560	640 946 556
	Outbreaks.		No.	13	6 6 6	339	315 357 406
Period.							
Week ended July 28, 1900 ..							
Corresponding week in					1899 1898 1897		
Total of 30 weeks 1900 ..							
Corresponding period in							1899 1898

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Lumbering in Canada.

The great fire a few weeks ago at Ottawa, and the destruction of so many fine mills and an immense quantity of timber, called special attention to the great lumber trade of Canada. This fire, which left 18,000 persons homeless and burned down some 2,400 houses, also destroyed 12,500,000 cubic feet of timber valued at £600,000. The valley of the Ottawa River was a comparatively short time ago a vast virgin forest, but all the district round there was deforested, and the lumbermen have now to go from 100 to 200 miles up country to procure timber fit for the saw mills. The Ottawa River is well situated for the lumber trade, and some of the finest mills in Canada are on it. For instance, those of the Messrs. Hamilton Brothers, at Hawkesbury, below Ottawa, where 2,400,000 cubic feet of deals are sawn annually for the British market. The magnitude of the business of this firm may be judged from the fact that they employ eight hundred hands, six hundred horses, and cultivate twenty-five farms solely to grow wheat, beans, etc., and to fatten cattle and pigs solely for the use of the men whilst engaged in felling timber in the woods. All stores and clothing must be sent up to the "lumber camp" at least nine months or a year before being required, as the forests are so remote from roads and navigable streams that advantage has to be taken of the snow in winter to get up the stores for the following winter and spring. The men usually leave Ottawa for "the camps" in September, and are absent for nine months. Most of the lumbermen are French-Canadians, as they are far more expert with the axe than an Englishman. The men are fed well in "the shanties," the favourite ration being pea soup and baked beans and pork, and grand food it is where the temperature is generally down somewhere about zero, and the work hard and constant. The usual allowance per man is 1½lb. of meat, 1½lb. flour, besides potatoes, beans, rice, etc., so it can be understood what a business it is to provide the commissariat for such an army of men, to say nothing of the horses. Often the big lumbermen send up from £10,000 to £15,000 worth of provisions and clothes. Nothing is done in the way of lumbering till the snow falls, and it would be a national calamity if there came a Canadian winter with little or none of "the beautiful," as it would be simply impossible to carry on the work in the rough forests without a good deep covering of snow. On some of the smaller rivers in the Province of Quebec a great deal of lumbering is done, but not on the same gigantic scale as on the Ottawa. Take the St. Francis River, for instance, which rises in the States and flows through the beautiful Eastern townships into the St. Lawrence, at Lake St. Peter. On the St. Francis are a large number of saw mills, and one has a good opportunity of watching the different phases of lumbering In September a great many French-Canadians will be seen going by road and rail to reach the lumber camps, where they will be at work all winter. Towards the close of the winter, and before the roads get bad—that is, the snow soft and hard to travel—you may see the big sleds, each with a large boat like a whale boat mounted on them, being taken up country. These are for the use of the boatmen who afterwards come down the river with the logs. When the logs are cut on the timber "limits" they are drawn to the edge of the river, or one of its tributaries, by horses and sleighs; or, where the ground favours it, sent down on a slide-way. Water has to do all the duty of transportation down country, and the logs must be as near as possible to a river, ready to be thrown in the instant the ice breaks up. The ice "goes out," to use the Canadian term, generally some time towards the middle or end of April, and a grand sight it is to see, with the huge blocks and sheets of thick ice crashing and plunging along in the wild rush of water, for a big flood invariably comes down with the breaking up. It is always an anxious time, for where there is a heavy flood and thick cakes of ice, the chances are that one or other of the many bridges will carry away, on account of the ice jamming in the arches. A day or two sees the flood moderating, and then a pioneer log will be seen coming down, and in a few days more the river will be covered with them sailing down. On the islands and rocks in the river and on the banks and flats a great number of logs will be stranded and left high and dry. The logs on the St. Francis and such rivers are not so large as on the big rivers, but handy lengths of from 12ft. to 15ft., and about 1½ft. to 2ft. in diameter.

In a week or a fortnight, when the river has gone down to nearly its normal level, we may be on the look-out for the logmen. On the St. Francis the gang would be about from 100 to 120 men, not counting the cooks and camp attendants. The boatmen, in the large boats holding about a score of men, paddle down the river, launching into the current any logs caught on the islands or rocks, while gangs of logmen keep on either bank, releasing the logs caught in trees, etc.

Sometimes, at a rocky or crooked part a "jam" will take place, and hundreds of thousands of logs get piled up. Releasing a "jam" is very dangerous work, and many a life is lost in this way. The "key log" which is causing the jam has to be discovered and cast loose, and often the daring man who does the deed is swept down in the wild rush of timber, and smashed and battered so as to be almost unrecognisable when his body is recovered miles down the river, or more likely he is never seen again. At each mill down the river there is a large harbour constructed to float the logs into, and a boom across to stop the logs that they may be sorted. Each log is stamped on the end with the brand of the mill it belongs to, and gangs of men sort these out, and let the others go on down. Sometimes a boom breaks, and all the logs rush past. This is a serious misfortune to the mill where it happens, as it means the loss of a season's work. There is no earthly chance of getting them up-stream again, and all that can be done is to sell them to the mills below. It is really wonderful to see the logmen at work on the floating timber. They wear spiked clamps on their boots, and standing on a single log, with a boathook in their hands, will balance themselves and sail along as securely as if in a boat. Each night the logmen camp on some island or field near the river, the cooks having preceded them in the morning, and a very interesting sight it is. The farmers in the neighbourhood send them milk, eggs, etc., and in return receive a hearty welcome to camp, where they will probably be asked to try the very best of pea soup and the excellent pork and baked beans. The advent of "the logmen" is always a pleasing event to the Canadian farmers along the rivers.

LITERARY NOTICES.

We are in receipt of a copy of the report presented at the twenty-sixth annual general meeting of the British Chamber of Commerce, Paris, held on February 2nd. The report, which is in pamphlet form, is accompanied with comparative statistics of Anglo-French trade for 1898-1899, with a compendium of French legislation in 1899 and tables of ship brokerage charges.

The sixth annual report on field experiments carried out by the Agricultural Department of Reading College in co-operation with the County Councils of Berkshire, Dorset, Hampshire, and Oxfordshire, has now been issued. It is edited by Mr. Douglas A. Gilchrist, B.Sc., and gives detailed accounts of the various field experiments in the counties above named during 1899. It is published at sixpence, and the farmer who purchases a copy will get good value for his money.

There has come to hand from the Agricultural Department of the University College of North Wales, Bangor, a prospectus of the session 1900-1. The session consists of three terms which have been fixed as follows:—Autumn term, October 2nd to December 19; Spring term, January 9th to March 23rd; and Summer term, April 10th to June 29th. The prospectus, which can be had on application to the Secretary of the College, Mr. John Edward Lloyd, M.A., gives full particulars of the classes and lectures, rules of admission of students, fees, etc.

Some time since there appeared in the columns of the *Christchurch Weekly Press* (New Zealand) a series of articles on agriculture in that colony. The articles were written by thoroughly practical men, and based upon actual experience in their respective districts, and of the methods of farming which experience had led them to adopt. The points dealt with were: (1) Character of the soil; (2) best method of working the soil; (3) most suitable rotation of crops; (4) growing of root and other fodder crops; and (5) use of artificial manures. These articles were so much appreciated that they have now been published in pamphlet form, and we have been favoured with a copy. Of course they appeal more particularly to agriculturists in New Zealand, but they would afford interesting and may be instructive reading to farmers in this country also.

NEWS NOTES.

Those who travel on the Midland Railway will appreciate the "Midland A. B. C. Time Table," just issued by the company. It is of a size suitable for the coat pocket, and gives, in alphabetical order, the names of the various stations, times of trains to and from St. Pancras, also fares, etc.

We have received a copy of an illustrated pamphlet, entitled, "Soils, and the Maintenance of their Fertility Through the Growth of Legues." It was written by Mr. F. T. Shutt, M.A., F.I.C., F.C.S, F.R.S.C., chemist at the Dominion Experimental Farms, Canada, and was read by him before the Natural History Society of Montreal.

The London and County Banking Company's balance-sheet for the half-year ending 30th June last shows that, after paying interest to customers and all charges, making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and allowing £35,338 14s. 9d. for rebate on bills not due, the net profits amount to £370,583 9s. 4d. From this sum £125,000 has been carried to Reserve Fund, leaving £245,583 9s. 4d., which, with £69,176 9s. 10d. balance brought forward from last account, leaves available the sum of £314,759 19s. 2d. The directors have declared a dividend for the half-year of 10 per cent., together with a bonus of 1 per cent., which will require £220,000, leaving the sum of £94,759 19s. 2d. to be carried to the profit and loss new account.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday. –Malt: There has been a quiet trade during the week. Barley unaltered. Wheat rather easier on the week. Oats remain steady. Maize dull at about last week's prices. Flour about the same.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—There is very little old home-grown wheat now left, and attention is now paid to cuttings. Samples of the new crop may be expected to be submitted in the course of about ten days. Fine white, 32s 6d ; and good red, 31s 6d (63lb.), delivered. American descriptions were generally adverse to sellers, but last rates were maintained, more especially respecting whites. No. 1 Northern Spring quoted at 32s 6d ex ship, 33s landed. No. 1 hard Manitoba, 33s in the former, and 33s 9d in the latter position. Hard Duluth, 34s ex ship. Russian and Indian nominal. Consumers of flour again failed to render relief to the late monotonous course of the market. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting Town households, 25s 6d ; whites, 28s 6d per sack. American first patents quoted at 25s 6d to 26s 6d ; second ditto, 23s 6d to 24s 6d ; first bakers, 21s 6d to 22s ; and seconds, 19s to 20s. Hungarian 29s 6d ; Cascadias, 24s 3d per sack ex store. Australian first patents, 21s 6d to 22s 6d per 280lb. Among feeding stuffs, Persian barley still supplies wants, and is steady at last week's decline, at 17s 6d ex ship, 18s 6d ex quay. Black Sea and American remain off the market. Round corn steady. Odessa nominally 21s 6d ex quay. American oats in good supply, but there was no disposition to give way in prices. Mixed clipped, 14s 3d ex ship, 14s 9d ex quay ; white clipped in these positions, 15s 3d and 15s 6d 38lb respectively. Russian scarce, and in sellers' favour. St. Petersburg, 14s 3d to 14s 6d ex quay 38lb ; Revals nominal in absence of offers. No. 1 Canadian white, 15s 6d. Maize fairly maintained. American mixed held for 19s 6d ex ship, 20s ex quay. Odessa, old, 24s 3d ex quay ; old Plate maize, 22s ex ship, 22s 6d ex quay. Beans and peas are unaltered.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade very quiet at late rates, best white wheat making 30s to 32s, and red 29s to 31s per quarter.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (white), 29s to 30s per qr ; wheat (red), 28s 6d to 29s 6d per qr ; beans 32s to 33s ; oats, 22s to 25s per qr. Very small supply of wheat at about last week's rates.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The market was poorly attended, and very little business was doing. Wheats were reported as having a slow trade at unchanged prices. English from 30s to 30s 6d per qr., and among foreign sorts hard Duluths were 6s 8d, and No. 1 Northern Duluths 6s 5½d per cental Liverpool. Grinding barley was 6d cheaper. Azoff, 19s 6d to 19s 9d ; American, 18s 9d to 19s ; and Persian, 17s 6d to 18s at Bristol. Maize, too, was easier, flat selling at 19s to 19s 3d, and Odessa 23s at Bristol, and Plate 21s 6d to 22s. English oats and beans showed no change in price, while foreign oats were a trifle easier.

Boston, Wednesday.—A very small show of all kinds of grain, and but little business doing. Wheat, 30s to 30s 6d ; grinding barley, 26s ; oats, 22s to 24s ; beans, 33s to 34s ; maize, 22s to 24s 6d.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Very little corn on offer, and prices unchanged. Red wheat made up to 31s per qr, and white wheat 32s.

Devizes, Thursday.—The supply to-day was very small. Prices are about the same as last week. The first sample of the new crop was exhibited—winter oats by Mr. Stratton, of Alton, and Mr. Slade, of Market Lavington ; winter barley by Mr. Burry, of Fittleton ; and rye by Mr. Alexander, of Easterton. Wheat cutting has commenced on many farms, and will be general next week. The rainfall of the past week has done an immense amount of good, but it is to be hoped that fine weather will now again prevail, as a continuation of wet weather, now that the harvest has commenced, would be most disastrous. Prices : Best wheat, 15s to 16s ; secondary, 14s to 15s ; grinding barley, 20s to 24s ; oats, 18s to 23s ; beans, 16s to 18s ; fine flour, 24s 6d to 25s 6d ; extra fine, 26s to 30s ; best bread, 10d.

Gainsborough, Tuesday.—Small show of wheat, and slow trade, prices being 6d per qr less than last week. White wheat, 29s 6d to 30s 6d ; red ditto, 28s 6d to 29s 6d ; white oats, 20s to 22s ; black ditto, 18s to 20s ; grinding barley, 23s ; English beans, 30s ; peas, 23s ; small maize, 26s ; flat ditto, 23s per qr.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a thin attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour quiet at last week's prices. Indian corn 1½d per boll dearer, owing to scarcity on spot. Canadian peas and grinding beans dull, but unchanged. Foreign oats 1½d to 3d per boll cheaper, owing to liberal arrivals. Home oats and oatmeal steady. Barley steady, but quiet. Bran and thirds firm, and the turn dearer. —GIBSON AND CLARK.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Quiet trade in English wheat ; values against sellers, but transactions were few. Barley, nothing doing. Oats dull at recent rates, though somewhat better. Maize a turn in buyers' favour. New samples of grain expected next week.

Ipswich, Tuesday. –Fair supply of wheat, trade quiet at about last week's prices, reds averaging 29s 6d per quarter. No barley on offer. Maize rather cheaper. Oats slow trade. Nothing doing in beans and peas. With fine weather harvest will be begun next week.

Leeds, Tuesday. —With lighter shipment and less settled weather, the trade, notwithstanding weak American advices, keeps very steady. Red wheats are held for late rates, whites are rather dearer than last week. Maize 9d lower. Beans and oats slow.—DUNN AND CO.

Manchester, Thursday. –A quiet week throughout has been the experience of sellers. English wheat repeats last week's prices, but the tendency is in favour of the buyer ; foreign descriptions are unchanged. Flour has met a slow demand all the week, and prices when tested are scarcely firm. Oats are steady. Peas show no change. Beans are slightly easier. Indian corn has gained about ½d per cental during the week.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a quiet trade at last week's prices. Oats and beans repeated last week's full prices ; other grain at previous rates.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat firm at last week's rates. Very little trade in English wheat, millers waiting new crop. Flat maize dearer on the week ; round quiet and unaltered. Beans firm at last week's prices. Barley, 3d easier. Mill offals, slow sale ; prices unchanged. Trade quiet, demand being slow for all articles. Flour, 24s.

Plymouth, Thursday. — Market quiet. Oats, 17s 6d (Irish) ; 15s 6d (American). Maize, 22s (round) ; 21s (flat). Barley, 21s 9d ; Persian, 20s. Wheat, white, 32s 6d ; red, 30s 6d.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Ripon, Thursday.—Oats are very scarce, and very little doing this week ; moderate attendance. Wheat, English, 29s to 30s ; ditto, foreign, 31s to 35s. Barley, grinding, 24s to 25s. Oats, 22s to 25. Round maize, 25s to 27s ; flat maize, 23s per qr. Beans, 11½d per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade unchanged from last week. A very small supply. Red wheat made 30s to 31s, and white wheat 31s to 33s per qr.

St. Neots, Thursday.—There was a fair quantity of fresh thrashed old wheat on offer, for which last week's prices were asked, but the inquiry was only small, and an abatement of 6d per qr took place in some instances. –ELWOOD AND SON.

Salisbury, Tuesday. At to-day's market the supply of all grain was short, in most cases last week's prices being realised. Wheat made from 28s to 32s ; oats, 18s to 24s ; and beans, 32s to 38s. A few samples of new rye, in very fair condition, were to hand, and realised from 24s to 30s.

Scarborough, Thursday. –Small attendance. Very little grain on offer. Wheat, 28s 6d to 29s. Barley nil. Oats rather dearer on the week.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was a small attendance. In order to transact business a reduction of 6d per qr had to be taken for wheat. Oats firm at late rates, and beans and Indian corn retained last week's prices. Flour 6d per sack lower on the week. Quotations : —Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d ; ditto red, 32s to 33s per 504lb ; oats, old white, 24s ; ditto old black, 22s per 336lb ; peas, grinding, 23s to 29s ; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb ; beans, Egyptian, 34s ; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb ; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s 6d ; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb ; Indian corn, small, 27s to 30s ; ditto American mixed, 22s 6d to 23s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—English wheat advanced 6d per qr., selling at 29s. Trade was slow. Oats were a firm trade, at 21s to 22s per qr. Not much doing in barley. Small show of other articles.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Owing to the farmers being busy haymaking there were no samples of English wheat showing. The foreign wheat trade was very quiet, and prices showed no quotable change from last week Maize and oats were about the same.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — There was a small attendance, and business ruled slow. English wheat, 12s 6d to 13s per 216lb, springs 6s 3d, Duluths 6s 5d to 6s 6d per cental ; oats, 13s 6d to 14s 6d ; beans (new), 13s to 14s ; ditto (old), 15s 6d to 16s per 196lb ; flat maize, 21s 6d to 22s 3d per 480lb.

Worksop, Wednesday. –Moderate attendance and good show of wheat for the time of the year. White wheat, 29s to 30s ; red wheat, 28s to 29s ; grinding barley, 26s to 28s ; white oats, 21s to 23s ; black oats, 20s to 22s per qr.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS

July 27 to August 2, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	35,917 qrs.
Flour	50,250 ,,
Total	86,167 ,,
Requirements	105,000 ,,
Deficiency	19,833 ,,

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

July 27th to August 2nd, 1900, inclusive.

		English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	qrs.	1,677	..	..	34,240	35,917
Barley		1,788	..	..	7,892	9,680
Malt		25,592	473	..	..	26,065
Oats		215	..	..	134,300	134,515
Rye		..	..	..	..	..
Beans		442	..	..	392	834
Peas		68	..	..	1,620	1,688
Maize		..	..	..	50,462	50,462
Tares		..	..	..	..	..
Lentils		..	..	..	..	..
Linseed		..	..	..	36,690	36,690
Rapeseed		..	..	..	9,081	9,081
Cottonseed		..	..	..	4,700	4,700
Farm Seeds		..	..	..	366	366
Flour	Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
	Sacks	18,707	..	..	67,885	86,592

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899

Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	Apr. 29	68,573 qrs.
,, 14	108,380 ,,	May 6	96,343 ,,
,, 21	128,902 ,,	,, 13	72,852 ,,
,, 28	51,234 ,,	,, 20	101,429 ,,
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	,, 27	108,772 ,,
,, 11	82,912 ,,	June 3	73,846 ,,
,, 18	204,974 ,,	,, 10	126,781 ,,
,, 25	108,273 ,,	,, 17	160,574 ,,
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,	,, 24	101,205 ,,
,, 11	63,103 ,,	July 1	152,500 ,,
,, 18	122,541 ,,	,, 8	112,761 ,,
,, 25	86,309 ,,	,, 15	116,850 ,,
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	,, 22	89,245 ,,
,, 8	133,261 ,,	,, 29	118,314 ,,
,, 15	101,518 ,,	Aug. 5	104,234 ,,
,, 22	70,984 ,,		

1900.

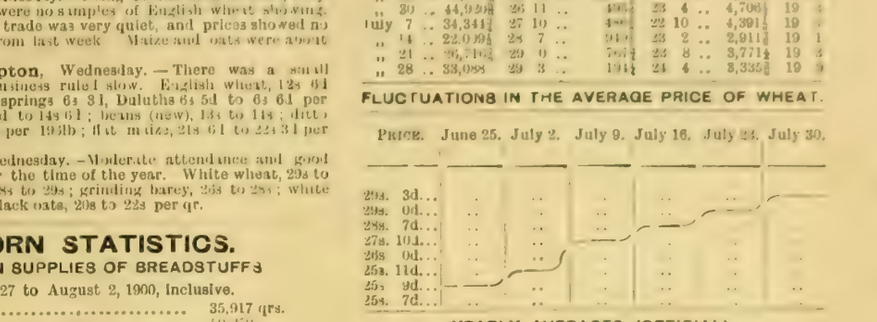
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	Apr. 27	43,783 qrs.
,, 13	95,054 ,,	May 4	104,535 ,,
,, 20	114,928 ,,	,, 11	52,859 ,,
,, 27	124,652 ,,	,, 18	97,412 ,,
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,	,, 25	71,309 ,,
,, 10	75,000 ,,	,, 31	177,744 ,,
,, 17	66,804 ,,	June 8	93,147 ,,
,, 24	62,191 ,,	,, 15	83,125 ,,
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,	,, 22	194,116 ,,
,, 10	63,702 ,,	,, 29	142,185 ,,
,, 17	162,985 ,,	July 6	132,950 ,,
,, 24	111,409 ,,	,, 13	101,253 ,,
,, 31	69,356 ,,	,, 20	82,294 ,,
April 7	48,302 ,,	,, 27	55,908 ,,
,, 13	131,085 ,,	Aug. 2	88,167 ,,
,, 20	82,357 ,,		

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1899.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
July 8	44,599½	25	7	265[illegible]	21	9	4 149½	18	1
,, 15	49,428½	25	5	574½	20	4	6,573½	17	11
,, 22	46,159½	25	5	168½	21	10	4,866½	18	0
,, 29	41,692½	25	2	257½	22	5	4,249	18	2
Aug. 5	51,149½	24	10	216½	20	9	6,645½	18	0
,, 12	37,177½	24	8	184½	22	6	5,554½	17	9
,, 19	33,309½	24	7	437½	26	11	6,120½	17	4
,, 26	34,523½	24	7	1,594½	26	5	9,205½	17	1
Sept. 2	47,572½	25	0	6,709½	25	10	15,958½	16	7
,, 9	67,906½	25	5	17,409½	28	5	16,195	16	6
,, 16	80,281½	25	4	83,143½	27	1	19,291½	16	2
,, 23	85,104½	25	4	77,678½	27	4	22,128	16	1
,, 30	79,612½	25	6	97,917½	26	11	23,193	16	5
Oct 7	71,152½	26	0	169,315½	28	0	21,410½	16	5
,, 14	63,040½	27	3	191,901½	27	9	18,024½	16	5
,, 21	64,242	28	2	192,268½	27	6	18,943½	16	10
,, 28	85,178½	28	1	219,75[illegible]			20,034½	16	3
Nov. 4	82,769½	27	2	203,071½	27	2	17,895½	16	7
,, 11	66,741½	26	7	160,789½	26	9	15,210½	16	5
,, 18	65,470½	26	1	163,915½	26	4	16,313½	16	7
,, 25	67,308½	25	8	164,362½	26	2	17,047½	16	7
Dec. 2	72,974½	25	7	163,441½	25	10	22,575½	16	
,, 9	10,982½	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,414½	16	
,, 16	78,772½	25	4	135,344½	26	7	22,889½	16	
,, 23	67,102½	25	6	116,757½	25	10	16,447½	16	0
,, 30	47,685½	25	9	74,637½	25	5	10,463½	16	2

1900.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Jan. 6	40,086	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,389½	16	2
,, 13	57,021½	25	11	83,121½	25	5	19,705	16	3
,, 20	68,463½	28	0	100,952½	25	3	23,122½	16	2
,, 27	65,381½	25	10	108,357½	25	9	17,814½	16	4
Feb. 3	73,790½	25	8	90,760½	25	4	22,061½	16	6
,, 10	71,482½	25	10	80,944½	25	3	20,822½	16	5
,, 17	76,811½	26	1	80,114½	24	11	20,985½	16	5
,, 24	69,834½	26	3	64,961½	25	1	21,132½	16	11
Mar. 3	68,153½	26	4	51,727½	24	6	18,490½	16	10
,, 10	58,703½	25	11	44,961½	24	8	16,324	16	11
,, 17	76,435½	25	10	46,965½	24	6	20,101½	16	11
,, 24	69,944½	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,044½	17	1
,, 31	72,702	25	10	34,387½	24	11	15,290½	17	0
April 7	67,743½	25	10	29,107½	24	10	13,757½	17	2
,, 14	66,412½	25	11	14,104½	24	5	9,672½	17	3
,, 21	54,977½	26	0	11,073½	24	9	7,400½	17	3
,, 28	70,090½	26	0	7,754½	25	2	11,101½	17	11
May 5	75,410½	25	11	8,170½	25	3	8,658½	18	0
,, 12	82,190½	25	11	10,417½	24	10	12,245½	17	11
,, 19	88,941½	25	7	5,[illegible]½	24	5	9,942	18	5
,, 26	95,574½	25	5	3,[illegible]½	23	11	7,350½	18	7
June 2	68,000½	25	5	1,7[illegible]½	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9	64,747½	25	3	90[illegible]	23	8	6,053½	18	3
,, 16	55,340½	25	6	1,[illegible]½	23	8	7,225½	18	11
,, 23	54,324½	25	9	1,[illegible]½	23	9	5,344½	18	11
,, 30	44,920½	26	11	4[illegible]	23	4	4,706½	19	4
July 7	34,341½	27	10	4[illegible]	22	10	4,391½	19	4
,, 14	22,093½	28	7	9[illegible]	23	2	2,911½	19	1
,, 21	26,[illegible]½	29	0	5[illegible]½	23	8	3,771½	19	4
,, 28	33,088	29	3	1,[illegible]½	24	4	3,335½	19	9

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890 ..	31 9 per qr.	..	28 8 per qr.	..	18 7 per qr.	
1891 ..	37 1 ,,	..	28 2 ,,	..	20 0 ,,	
1892 ..	30 4 ,,	..	26 2 ,,	..	19 11 ,,	
1893 ..	26 4 ,,	..	25 6 ,,	..	18 9 ,,	
1894 ..	22 10 ,,	..	24 6 ,,	..	17 1 ,,	
1895 ..	23 1 ,,	..	21 11 ,,	..	14 6 ,,	
1896 ..	26 2 ,,	..	22 11 ,,	..	14 9 ,,	
1897 ..	30 2 ,,	..	23 6 ,,	..	16 11 ,,	
1898 ..	34 0 ,,	..	27 2 ,,	..	18 5 ,,	
1899 ..	25 8 ,,	..	25 7 ,,	..	17 0 ,,	

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(193 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats	1900 Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	..	..	..
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	..	..	..
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	..	..	..
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average prices of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended July 28th, 1900, in conformity with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria cap. 37.

Wheat	33,083	qrs.	29s 3d
Barley	194½	qrs.	24s 4d
Oats	3,335½	qrs.	19s 9d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to July 28th, in each of the years from 1896 to 1900

Years.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896	18,105½	23	8	5[illegible]	19	7	4,[illegible]	14	10
1897	40,111	23	10	5[illegible]	17	10	2,[illegible]	14	9
1898	19,701½	33	11	1[illegible]	24	2	3,305½	20	11
1899	42,602½	25	2	257½	22	5	4,249	18	2

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 31st, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bls.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	1,605	7	2,544	5	0	1	10	0
Barley	120	3	149	3	6	1	4	9
Oats	938	0	929	1	6	0	18	7

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	168,000	161,000	407,000	5,000	[illegible]
Russia	177,000	—	19,000	9,000	21,[illegible]
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	1[illegible]	—	50,000	—	—
Argentina	216,000	5[illegible]	143,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	5[illegible]	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	24,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	686,000	181,000	639,000	34,000	288,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

		s.	d.
January 1, 1900	(per sack)	28	0
April 2, ,,	,,	27	0
June 22, ,,	,,	28	0
,, 27, ,,	,,	31	0
July 4, ,,	,,	30	0

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

August has come in with somewhat unsettled weather, but the July records show what a truly remarkable period we have come through since the end of June.

	July, 1900.	Average.
Rainfall	1·20 inches	2·58 inches.
Sunshine	240 hours	166 hours.
Temperature	71 degrees	62·4 degrees.

July has below an average in its rainfall for now five consecutive years; the last wet July was in 1895. It will be seen that the thirty-one days have accumulated 266 degrees of extra heat. The Continental records show maxima of heat in the shade of 110 degrees at Seville and of 108 degrees at Vienna. These are the highest records at these cities since observations have been made. London with 93 degrees in the shade and Paris with 98 deg. on their hottest days have not quite surpassed all former experiences, as London recorded 96 deg. in July, 1891, and Paris 100 deg. in 1868. But the mean heat of the entire month was most exceptional all over Europe and the United States. The wheat shows few shrivelled grains in France or Austria-Hungary; doubtless it was the good June rainfall which saved the situation from an agricultural point of view. The wheat harvest may from to-day be regarded as really begun in Great Britain, and with fine weather it should progress very rapidly. The implement makers have risen to the situation, and the scarcity is not of machines, but of men. The want of labour, however, has itself been exaggerated.

The extreme heat in Central Europe is now said to be telling on the growing maize, which will indeed take a steady heat of ninety degrees with advantage at this time of year, but to do so requires constant watering. This, over any large area, is work that must be left to nature, and where refreshing rains do not arrive the maize soon goes off in growth. The American maize fields are of splendid promise, a good fall of rain during the last fortnight having put them in heart. This rain has alternated with forcing heat, and has not been good for the condition of the newly-harvested winter wheat. The effect on the growing spring wheat has been varied It has forced growth, but at the same time bred different fungoid and insect plagues. The reports from Canada and Manitoba do not indicate a yield of more than twelve to fourteen bushels per acre in the Dominion.

The markets of Great Britain during the past five days have been steadier in England than in Scotland. On Wednesday Mark Lane and Boston were decidedly better markets than Edinburgh and Glasgow. On Thursday Bristol, Birmingham, and Manchester were more confident than they had been on that day week, and all imported grain was held for full prices at Plymouth. The buyers of wheat took up English, American spring, and also the finer Argentine samples, but Californian, Australian, and New Zealand do not move off well, and far too much of the wheat from La Plata arrived in a dirty state, which depresses the demand and price alike.

The sales of foreign wheat for the eleven completed months of the cereal year have been as follows, and thus compare with the same period in previous campaigns:—

	Qrs.
1899-1900	13,726,000
1898-9	13,967,000
1897-8	14,041,000
1896-7	14,284,000.

It will be seen that whether it be due to increased imports of flour, increased production of English wheat, or diminished consumption of bread, the yearly "tribute" to the foreigner for food in the form of wheat has diminished.

The imports of flour for the eleven months witness to an increased demand as compared with three years ago, but a reduced inquiry by comparison with last year.

	Sacks.
1899-1900	7,956,000
1898-9	8,323,200
1897-8	7,512,000
1896-7	7,493,009

Sales by English farmers are not easy to reckon, as the vigilance of 196 local inspectors is not a fixed quantity, and the ratio of the 196 statute markets to the 304 markets whence no returns are demanded is constantly varying. The usual estimate gives the following figures for the eleven completed months of the harvest year:—

	Qrs.
1899-1900	7,005,000
1898-9	7,520,000
1897-8	5,887,000
1896-7	5,404,000

The eleven months have managed on a total supply of about 27,360,000qrs. of breadstuffs, and if we reckon 2,280,000qrs. for August requirements we shall have a total of 29,640,000qrs. for the cereal year. This is in very close correspondence to the estimates both of supply and demand which were formulated a year ago.

Last week's supplies were:—

	Qrs.
Foreign wheat	269,000
Foreign flour	140,000
Total imports	409,000
English wheat	74,000
Breadstuffs	483,000

The stocks in granary on August 1 were thus estimated:—

	Qrs.
August 1, 1900	2,412,000
,, ,, 1899	2,175,000
,, ,, 1898	880,000
,, ,, 1897	1,510,000

These figures infer that food wants, including seed, are distinctly under thirty million quarters per annum, for at a rate of 29,640,000 quarters stocks at least are not diminished on the twelvemonth.

The imports of spring corn have been as follows for the week:—

	Qrs.
Maize	223,000
Barley	40,000
Oats	210,000

The receipts of maize and oats are large, but of barley singularly small. The supplies on passage on August 1 were as follows:—

Wheat	1,997,000 qrs.
Flour	328,000 sacks
Maize	740,000 qrs.
Barley	160,000 ,,
Beans	9,000 ,,
Linseed	140,000 ,,
Cottonseed	18,000 tons

The wheat comprised 915,000 qrs. of Californian, 440,000 qrs. of Argentine, and 210,000 qrs. of North American; the flour 300,000 sacks of American; the maize 410,000 qrs. of American and 225,000 qrs. of Argentine; the barley 100,000 qrs. of Californian and 40,000 qrs. of Persian; the beans 4,000 qrs. of Egyptian, and the linseed 80,000 qrs. of Indian. All the cottonseed now on passage to this country is Egyptian.

Total linseed shipments for the seven completed months of 1900 are thus returned by comparison with the same period of the two preceding seasons:—

	Qrs.
Jan. 1-July 31. 1900	2,671,000
,, ,, 1899	3,021,000
,, ,, 1898	2,464,000

American exports for the American crop year ending July 31 are thus estimated. The figures are subject to revision, but the main totals are sufficiently reliable to form a guide. The totals are in each case in bushels:—

Breadstuffs	151,000,000 bushels
Maize	209,000,000 ,,
Oats	44,000,000 ,,
Barley	24,000,000 ,,
Rye	2,359,000 ,,

The exports of breadstuffs and of rye have been below the average, but those of maize and oats have been extremely heavy, and in the case of oats they form a new record or maximum. The shipments of barley are not very heavy in themselves, but appear heavy by comparison with the previous crop year, when less than four million bushels altogether were exported.

In the spring corn trade English and Scotch oats are in request, but the sales all over the country probably do not exceed 10,000 qrs. a day at this season, there being scarcity of old crop everywhere, and in many counties practical exhaustion of reserves. The sales at the statute markets have dwindled to less than 800 qrs. per diem, but the oat returns have always been small, and do (it is usually reckoned) not exceed one-twelfth of the business done for the whole of the United Kingdom. The price paid for old black oats, 336lb. to the qr., is a full 22s. There have been some arrivals from the White Sea, the first of the present season, and 16s. has been asked. As, however, the weight does not exceed 304lb., 15s. 6d. is the best offer from buyers. The pulse trade is not so inert as usual at this season — in fact, for maple peas there is a good sale, and Canadian are by no means neglected. Wisconsin grows some beautiful peas, the price of which at our ports is 46s. to 49s. per quarter, and there are also some excellent peas grown in South Australia and New Zealand. These when imported into England fetch 40s. without difficulty. Maize and barley prices are little if at all changed from July 28.

Offers for August shipment from America come lower for the chief Minneapolis makes of flour, and this naturally weakens the spot trade. The holders of London made flour ask former prices, but find them by no means easy to obtain. Country flour keeps steady in request, and value is certainly no lower on the week.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes were weak on July 31, but steady on August 1, and the close before the holiday was firm. Sales include Walla Walla at 28s. 6d., hard Duluth at 31s. 10½d., hard Manitoba at 32s., No. 2 hard Winter at 28s. 9d., New Zealand at 30s., South Australian at 31s., fine Californian new crop, August shipment, at 31s., No. 1 Northern, prompt shipment, at 31s., Odessa Ghirka at 30s., Taganrog at 29s., and Argentine at 28s. per qr.

Maize is a quiet trade, but 22s. has been paid for a cargo of Roumanian, 18s 6d. for American, and 20s. 3d. for fine yellow Argentine.

Barley has made 17s. 3d. for a cargo from Persia, and 19s. for one from the Lower Danube. A cargo on passage from Caucasia (Novorossisk) has made 17s. 9d., and one from Syria (Gaza) found a buyer on Wednesday for 25s. 6d. per qr. Oats have been steady. A cargo on passage from the Euxine has made 14s. 6d., while two cargoes of Canadian have made 15s. 6d. and 15s. 1½d. respectively. Other cargo sales since August came in comprise Saida beans, on passage, at 30s., newly arrived Calcutta linseed at 53s. 9d., and white Canadian peas for September shipment at 27s. 9d. per qr.

The following is a table of the grain and seed-laden vessels due to arrive within a week:—

To Ports of Call.	For Orders.		For Direct Ports U.K.				
	Wheat.	Total.	Wheat.	Maize.	Barley.	Linseed.	Cttnseed.	Total.
From Azov	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, Black Sea	—	—	4	1	1	—	—	6
,, Danube	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
,, India	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
,, Atlantic Ports	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, California and Oregon	11	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, Chili	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, La Plata	3	3	4	4	—	—	—	8
,, Australasia	3	3	2	—	—	—	—	2
,, Egypt	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Total	17	17	10	6	1	4	3	24

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

AUG. 3, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	31	— 32
Red	,,	29	— 31
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30	— 37
Brewing	,,	25	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Brown	,,	29	— 32
OATS, English	,,	19	— 23
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 19
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	43	— 45
,, Winter	,,	30	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	— 76
,, Dun	,,	32	— 34
,, Maple	,,	40	— 42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	33	— 34
American Spring	32	— 33
,, Winter	31	—32/6
Hard Manitoba	32	— 33
White Canadian	32	—32/3
Red ,,	31	— 32
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30	— 31
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 31
Argentine	29	—30/6
Danzig	33	— 34
Saxonka	32	— 33
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Persian	28	—29/6
MAIZE, per 480lb.:		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Roumanian	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 25
Caucasian	22/6	—23
Argentine	21/6	—22
American	19/6	—20
OATS:		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	16/3	—17
American (336lb.)		
,, White	16/6	—17
,, Mixed	15/3	—16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	— 17
,, (304lb.)	15/6	—15
Libau white (304lb.)	15	—15/3
,, black ,,	15	—15/3
White Sea (304 lb.)	15	— 16
BEANS, per 480lb.:		
Konigsberg	28	— 29
Egyptian	29	— 30
Smyrna	28	— 29
Barbary	27	— 28
Mexican	28	— 30
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Cyprian	106	— 112
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	29	— 30
Indian, White	28	— 30
,, Green	25	— 27
Barbary	26	— 28
LENTILS, per 504 lb.:		
Egyptian	30	— 31
Indian	36	— 38
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	26	— 27
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb.:		
French	28	— 29
Russian	25	— 26
BARLEY:		
Calif. Chev. (448 lb.)	28	— 29
Calif. Brew. (448 lb.)	27	— 28
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 24
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Salonica (400 lb.)	25	— 27
Persian (400 lb.)	17/3	—18
American (400 lb.)	20/2	—21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Chevalier	34	— 37
Smyrna	33	— 36

OIL SEEDS

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	56	to 57
Dutch	54	to 54
Azoff	54	to 56
Danubian	54	to 55
Russian	54	to 55
Calcutta	54	to 55
SESAME. per 416lb.		
Bombay	39	to 42
Kurrachee	38	to 39
COTTONSEED. per ton		
Egyptian	126	to 128
RAPESEED. per 416lb.		
English	56	to 57
Dutch	53	to 54
French	47	to 48
Cawnpore (yellow)	46	to 47
,, (brown)	43	to 44
Calcutta (brown)	43	to 44
Gingelly	48	to 49
Bombay	44	to 45
Bassein	30	to 31
POPPYSEED. per 3776lb.		
Indian	45	to 48

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Aug. 3.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)		— 30
Town Whites	,,		— 27
,, Households	,,		— 24
No 2.	,,		— 22

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)		— 25
Fine Roller made	,,		— 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,		— 23
Best Stone made	,,		— 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,		— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	24	— 25
,, Second Patents	,,	22	— 23
,, First Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	23	— 24
,, Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Kansas Patents	,,	23	— 24
Cascadia	,,	23	— 23/6
Canadian	,,	23/6	— 24
Hungarian	,,	28	— 31
French	,,	19	— 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	170	— 172
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	107	— 109
Bran, London Broad	,,	97	— 102
,, ,, Fine	,,	76	— 82
,, Country Flake	,,	106	— 108
,, ,, Broad	,,	94	— 96
Pollard	,,	82	— 84
Fine Middlings	,,	110	— 112
Coarse Middlings	,,	96	— 98
Oat Meal	,,	212	— 272
Oat Flour	,,	337	— 362
Maize Flour	,,	130	— 132
Maize Meal	,,	112	— 122
Maize Cones	,,	142	— 146
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	97	— 99
Pea Meal	,,	128	— 158
Bean Meal	,,	152	— 172
Rice Meal	,,	87	— 92

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	21 9	23 9	29 0	25 6	18 9	18 7½	21 6	23 6
Feb.	22 0	23 6	30 0	24 7½	19 4½	17 9	21 6	23 4½
March	21 6	22 3	30 0	23 11	19 3	18 0	21 0	23 3
April	21 6	22 0	31 3	23 6	19 6	18 7½	20 6	23 3½
May	21 3	22 3	39 7	23 7	19 0	20 4½	18 6	23 4½
June	23 6	23 1½	35 0	22 7½	18 10	22 3	18 10½	23 0
July	24 6	21 9	29 6	22 10½	18 6	20 0½	19 3	22 10
August	..	21 9	27 6	26 8½	18 8½	19 10½	19 3	22 —
Sept.	..	22 0	26 5	30 3	19 6	19 8	19 3	22 4
Oct.	..	23 3	26 1	29 0	23 7½	18 7½	18 3½	22 3½
Nov.	..	22 3	25 0	29 1	25 8½	18 4½	18 3	21 10½
Dec.	..	21 9	24 3	29 0	25 7½	18 1	18 8½	21 9
Yearly Average	..	22 4	29 6½	25 10½	20 8½	19 2	19 7	22 9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 240 lb.)

	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	25 2	29 0	38 7	30 5½	25 10	27 9½	28 4½	31 7
Feb.	26 3	28 3	39 4	29 10½	26 2	27 10½	27 5½	30 8½
March	27 3	27 6	40 1	28 9	26 0	27 5½	27 1	29 9½
April	26 9	27 6	42 3	28 5	25 6½	26 7	27 8½	29 7
May	26 8	28 0	40 0	28 11½	25 1½	28 0	25 6½	29 11
June	28 6	27 6	35 6	29 3	25 8	28 10	25 7½	29 4½
July	26 9	27 3	32 0	31 5½	24 6	27 1	26 10	28 1½
August	..	27 0	31 6	36 11	25 1	26 11	27 6	28 3½
Sept.	..	25 9	31 0	38 7	27 0	27 0½	25 5	28 5
Oct.	..	24 9	30 6	39 4	27 1½	27 9	25 2	27 6
Nov.	..	24 3	30 3	40 3	29 9	26 8½	26 6	26 11½
Dec.	..	24 6	29 0	39 3	29 8	26 3	26 10½	27 11
Yearly Average	..	26 9	35 0	33 5	26 5½	27 4½	26 8	29 0½

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICE CHANGES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1899.

	London Whites.			Town Households.		
	s.	d.			s.	d.
September 1 (per sack)	26	6	....	(per sack)	23	6
,, 4 ,,	26	0	....	,,	23	0
,, 25 ,,	26	6	....	,,	23	6
October 2 ,,	27	0	....	,,	24	0
November 20 ,,	26	6	....	,,	23	6
,, 27 ,,	26	0	....	,,	23	0
December 11 ,,	25	6	....	,,	22	6
,, 18 ,,	26	0	....	,,	23	0
May 14 ,,	25	6	....	,,	22	6
June 13 ,,	26	0	....	,,	23	0
,, 20 ,,	26	6	....	,,	23	6
,, 25 ,,	28	6	....	,,	25	6
,, 27 ,,	29	6	....	,,	26	6
July 2 ,,	29	0	....	,,	26	0
,, 16 ,,	28	6	....	,,	25	6
,, 23 ,,	28	0	....	,,	25	0

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Wheat: A quiet market, without change in prices. Flour has been in quiet demand, and no quotable change is made in values of either foreign or home milled brands. Maize has been in moderate demand, but sellers of mixed American held steadily at late rates. River Plate firm at full prices. European steady, without change. Barley quiet for malting, but steady at full prices for grinding owing to scarcity. Beans a fair trade at the quotations. Peas quietly steady at last Friday's prices. Oats steady for British, but quiet for foreign. Oatmeal quiet, unchanged. Oilcake a slow business, and frequently 2s. 6d. per ton easier.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, August 1.

LATEST MARKETS.

CORN.

Mark Lane, Friday.—This morning's market was extremely restricted, but the trivial business passing showed no material change in prices, which kept generally steady during the day. Old home-grown wheat remains unaltered while new samples are now awaited with interest. Good red 31s 64 lb delivered. American in moderate supply, and holders are not pressing at present. No 1 Northern Spring quoted at 32s ex ship. To induce business in flour consumers would be favoured, but neither English nor American were actually altered, remaining much the same as last Friday. American first patents about 25s 6d to 27s 6d per sack ex store. Persian barley still supplies the same wants respecting grinding, at 17s 9d ex ship; 18s ex quay. Oats 3d lower for American. White clipped, 15s 6d ex quay, 38lb. Russians scarce. Flat maize 3d easier since last Wednesday. Mixed American, 19s ex ship. The market for beans and peas calls for no mention. Arrivals of grain this week:—English and Scotch wheat, 1,440 qrs.; foreign wheat, 102,790; barley, 360; oats, 97,120; peas, 2,590; beans, 690; maize, 21,530 qrs.; flour, 8,410 sacks.

Derby, Friday.—Small attendance and little doing. Wheat unchanged in value. Wheat, whits, 32s 6d to 33s; red, 31s 6d to 32s.

Leeds, Friday.—With a further downward tendency in values of American wheats, millers still confine their purchases to pressing wants. There is little business doing, without any material change from Tuesday's prices, either for English or foreign flour and oats. Barley, maize, beans, and peas all firmly held.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English wheat. Trade steady, at last week's rates. Reds, 29s to 30s; whites, 30s to 31s. Foreign wheats quiet. Oats made full money—black, 19s to 20s; white, 20s to 21s. Maize, peas, and beans firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat moderate trade at full prices. Californian, 6s 2d to 6s 3d. Flour, oats and meal small business without change. Maize, old mixed American, 4s to 4s 2d; new, 3s 10½d to 3s 10¾d; Yellow Plate, 4s 7d to 4s 7½d; Yellow Cinquantina, 5s 11d to 6s; Odessa, 4s 9½d to 4s 10½d. Peas, Canadian, 5s 7d; Saidi beans, 28s 3d to 28s 6d per qr. There was rather a poor attendance.

Wakefield, Friday.—Small attendance at market. Wheat steady at last week's price. No alteration in feeding stuffs.

CATTLE.

Islington,, Friday.—Supplies this morning were of good extent, but trade ruled slow. Beef, however, remains firm. Scotch beef quoted 4s 2d to 5s; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 10d to 4s; American refrigerated, hindquarters, 4s 2d to 4s 6½; average, 4s 4½; seconds, 4s; forequarters, 2s 10½d to 3s; average, 2s 11d; New Zealand hindquarters, 3s to 3s 2d; forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 4d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s 2d to 5s 6d; English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Canterbury, 2s 4d to 2s 7d; Wellington, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 2d to 2s 4d. Lamb: English, 5s to 5s 8d; New Zealand, 2s 10d to 3s 2d. Veal (English and Dutch), 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; and Dutch, 3s 1d to 3s 6d per 8lb.

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Friday.—Heavy supplies were offered this morning, and met a slow demand, prices ruling lower. Quotations.—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; Boston, 2s to 2s 4d; Surrey, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Sussex, 2s 6d to 3s; Irish, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; Welsh, 2s to 2s 6d; Aylesbury ducklings, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; goslings, 4s to 5s; Egyptian quail, 10d to 1s 3d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s; feathered, 7d to 9d; tame rabbits, 10d to 1s 3d each; Australian, 6s to 7s 6d per dozen; venison, haunches, 18s to 21s each; ditto forequarters, 3d per lb.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Stratford, Friday.—There was a good supply of vegetables on offer at market this morning, and, with a fair attendance of buyers, an average trade was done at late rates. Prices:—Potatoes: English, kidneys, 70s to 95s; ditto Hebrons, 95s to 100s per ton; Dutch rounds, 2s 6d to 3s; ditto kidneys, 2s 9d to 3s per bag. Green peas, 2s to 2s 3d per sieve, and 3s to 5s per bag; broad beans, 2s to 2s 6d per bag; running beans, 5s to 5s 6d per sieve; mustard and cress, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per doz punnets; lettuces, 4d to 9d per score; cucumbers, 1s 3d to 2s 6d per doz; horseradish, 13s to 16s per dozen bundles; Egyptian onions, 3s 6d to 4s per bag; Valencia ditto, 5s 3d to 5s 6d; and Oporto ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 9d per case; carrots, 9d to 1s 6d, onions, 2s to 2s 6d; leeks, 2s to 2s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; and mixed herbs, 3d to 3s 6d per dozen bunches; tomatoes, 4s to 5s per dozen lb; vegetable marrow, 2s to 3s per tally; English apples, cooking, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; and dessert, 2s 6d to 4s 6d per half sieve; gooseberries, 1s to 1s 3d; cherries, 3s 6d to 6s; plums, 3s to 4s; greengages, 4s 9d to 5s; red currants, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; and black currants, 7s to 7s 6d per half sieve.

London, Thursday.—Haricot beans; the new Hungarian crop opened for September shipment to London at 37s to 38s for parcels of 100 qrs and upwards. Italian new crop was offered at 41s to 42s for small and 46s to 47s for large. Demand is expected to be better after the holidays.

SEEDS.

London, Wednesday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, report a thinly attended market, with almost a complete absence of business. New English trifolium is in moderate supply, and meets as yet with only a small inquiry. The French are reported to have been buying yearling cloverseed from America. New mustard and rape seed are now offering, and this year's thousand-headed kale is also selling. New home-grown rye is wanted. The bird seed trade is quiet, but firm. There is no alteration this week in either blue peas or haricot beans.

CORK BUTTER.

	Ordinary.				Mild Cured Firkins.			Firkins in Market.
	Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	91	88	82	78	—	87	80	160
Tuesday ..	89	84	80	78	98	85	—	170
Wednesday ..	89	83	78	77	95	85	80	160
Thursday ..	89	83	78	77	94	85	—	380
Friday ..	90	83	80	77	93	87	—	351
Saturday ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day at South Sea House, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cwts.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

Wheat.—		Aug.	Oct.	Dec.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
July 30	noon	6 7	6 8	6 9
	4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
July 31	noon	6 6	6 7	6 9
	4 p.m.	6 6	6 7	6 9
Aug. 1	noon	6 6	6 7	6 8
	4 p.m.	6 5	6 7	6 8
Aug. 2	noon	6 5	6 7	6 8
	4 p.m.	6 5	6 7	6 8
Aug. 3	noon	6 5	6 7	6 8

Maize futures have made 4s. per cental for Sept. and Oct. delivery.

The Term Market standard wheat is No 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Dublin. August 4, 1900.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb	£ s. d.
2	Bullocks (prime) ..	22 10 9	12 0 21	1 16 11
9	,, ,, ..	17 10 9	10 0 3	1 14 11
4	,, (very good) ..	20 2 8	11 1 7	1 15 7
4	,, ,, ..	18 10 0	11 0 14	1 14 3
5	,, (good) ..	15 0 0	8 2 26	1 14 4
8	,, ,, ..	18 10 0	11 1 14	1 13 6
8	,, (fair) ..	17 0 0	10 1 4	1 13 9
6	,, ,, ..	14 0 0	9 1 6	1 10 3
8	Heifers (prime) ..	18 0 0	9 3 10	1 18 7
8	,, ,, ..	16 15 0	9 3 3	1 14 3
3	,, (very good) ..	15 10 0	9 0 9	1 14 1
4	,, ,, ..	12 10 0	7 2 7	1 13 0
5	,, (good) ..	13 5 0	7 3 0	1 14 2
2	,, ,, ..	13 5 0	8 1 0	1 12 1
*1	,, ,, ..	13 8 0	8 1 14	1 12 0
6	,, (fair) ..	13 15 0	8 2 23	1 11 6
2	,, ,, ..	12 10 0	8 0 0	1 11 3
1	Cows (good) ..	16 10 0	11 3 0	1 8 1
1	,, ,, ..	14 5 0	10 2 14	1 6 10
1	,, (fair) ..	11 10 0	9 0 14	1 5 3
19	Wethers (good) ..	2 5 0	1 0 26	1 16 4
15	,, (fair) ..	2 3 0	1 1 11	1 15 7
32	,, ,, ..	2 0 0	1 0 21	1 13 8
15	Ewes (good) ..	2 10 0	1 2 13	1 19 10
15	Hoggets (very good) ..	2 4 0	1 0 17	1 18 3
15	,, (good) ..	2 8 0	1 1 6	1 16 11
30	,, (fair) ..	2 6 0	1 1 3	1 16 1
10	,, ,, ..	1 15 0	1 0 0	1 15 0
17	Lambs (good) ..	1 9 0	0 3 5	1 16 6
10	,, ,, ..	1 9 0	0 3 6	1 16 3
8	,, (fair) ..	1 7 6	0 3 0	1 15 8

* Sold by live weight.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 28, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	11,[illegible]	12,5[illegible]	Wheat ..	1,[illegible]	[illegible]
Sheep ..	7,123	7,782	Flour ..	400,100	419,700
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	244,000	[illegible]
			Oats ..	326,000	[illegible]
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Peas ..	[illegible]	24,000
Beef ..	68,[illegible]	87,[illegible]	Beans ..	44,900	[illegible]
Mutton	80,953	67,377	Maize ..	1,440,500	[illegible]
Pork ..	7,756	6,[illegible]		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	101,[illegible]	121,457	†Bananas	—	[illegible]
Beef, salt	3,8[illegible]	3,683		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	3,[illegible]	4,[illegible]	Apples ..	18,[illegible]	3,925
Pork, salt	4,[illegible]	7,322	Apricots		
Meat, salt & fresh	8,[illegible]85	7,742	& Peaches	—	1,453
Do. pres.	13,152	15,611	Cherries	[illegible]	[illegible]
Butter ..	62,[illegible]92	66,222	Currants	—	[illegible]
M'rg'rine	14,[illegible]	16,263	Gooseberries	—	[illegible]
Cheese ..	81,[illegible]92	69,[illegible]82	Grapes ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Con. Milk	14,564	16,811	Lemons	40,873	[illegible]
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	140	242	Oranges	[illegible]	[illegible]
			Pears ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
			Plums ..	[illegible]	27,686
			†Strawberries	—	[illegible]
			Other ‡	[illegible]	[illegible]
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	[illegible]	2,460
Eggs ..	327,[illegible]	283,90[illegible]		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£1,8[illegible]	£2,645	Hops ..	1,098	1,920
			Potatoes	30,[illegible]9	[illegible]
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Tomatoes	—	28,142
Rabbits	11,013	12,947	Other §	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	29,819	30,[illegible]	Vegetables	£[illegible]	£[illegible]

* Great Hundreds.

† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.

‡ Entered by the [illegible] prior to 1900.

§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The trade for fat beasts at Islington for both prime and second quality on Monday opened firmer and steadier at a slight advance in value, but later in the day, because of a slower nature at less money, a clearance being more or less forced. As usual at this season of the year, the majority consisted of consignments from the Midland Counties, chiefly Herefords and Lincoln Shorthorns. From Ireland we note the first consignment of beasts from Dublin, which were of very good quality, mostly consisting of polled cattle. Though fat butchering cows were in light supply, rates ruled lower by fully 2d. per 8lbs. owing to a smaller attendance of country buyers. Fat bulls must also be written lower, whilst for rough cattle there was but little demand. At the foreign cattle market there was up to Thursday a decline of over 2,000 head compared with last week. Here trade ruled dull and dragging, rates ruling in favour of the buyer, a clearance on each market day being more or less forced. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets up to and including Thursday was 4,562, consisting of 1,170 British and 3,392 foreign, these latter comprising 1,780 from the United States and 442 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal): - 90-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 100-stone ditto, 4s. 9d.; 95-stone runts, 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.; 80-stone Devons, 4s. 10d.; 90-stone Norfolks, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90-stone Irish (Dublins), 4s. 8d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 3d.; exceptionally, 4s. 4d.; 95-stone Canadians, 4s.; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 10d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 2d.; With regard to the sheep trade, both wethers and ewes, rates were firm and steady, especially the latter, which on both market days cleared early. Lambs on Monday were dearer by 2d. per 8lbs., but on Thursday not only met a slower sale, but ruled fully 6d. per 8lbs. in favour of the buyer. The foreign trade is not worth noting. The total number of sheep and lambs penned on both markets was 12,890, consisting of 12,650 British and 240 Canadians. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 6s.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 11-stone Lincolns, 5s. 2d.; 8 to 9 stone Canadians, 4s.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 6d.; 5-stone fat lambs, 6s. 8d. to 6s. 10d. on Monday, and 6s. 4d. on Thursday. The calf trade with a smaller supply, numbering 120, ruled firmer, at an advance of fully 2d. per 8lbs., the best making 5s. 4d. Pigs, owing to the cooler weather, made more money, small breeds being quoted at 4s. 4d. per 8lbs.

Trade in the West.

With the advent of much cooler weather on Wednesday, following on a welcome rain, which seems to have been pretty general in this part of the country, trade, which at the beginning of the week rather favoured buyers, assumed a much firmer tone, and prices generally had an upward turn, fat beef, mutton, veal, and pork all participating to a greater or less extent, good class mutton at Wimborne making ½d. to 1d. per lb. more money, and beef was proportionately dearer, the beef steers and heifers again touching 11s. 6d. to 12s. for the best grades, whilst choice weights in wether mutton realised fully 8½d. Lamb is again in active request (for the holiday season) at 10d. to 11d. for best Downs and cross-breds. Veal is also in considerably improved request at extreme values; and all the better qualities of fat pigs are selling exceedingly well, after the check business received an outcome of the phenomenally hot weather which has been experienced; best neat weight porkers now sell at 9s. 6d. to 11s., with a quick trade at the price. The cooler weather since the rain also imparted considerably more life to operations in store stock, barreners being the first to benefit from the rainfall, best young, well-fleshed bullocks commanding a very free sale at from £24 to £30 per pair. Milch beasts continue to bring high rates, especially the younger class of beasts, which are in eager request at from £17 to £21 each. Store sheep, which were a quieter trade at Weyhill and other fairs, are also benefitting from the rain, which has in many places assured the root crop, the plant having greatly benefited, as the rain came at a critical moment when considerable breadths were beginning to flag under the tropical heat, which has so greatly jeopardised the chances of a good crop since the weather set in so scorchingly hot, and causing a great check to vegetation of all kinds, except on the strongest lands. The outlook now is most encouraging all round.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for current week. The supplies of fat cattle on offer this week have been fully an average, but the quality generally has not been so good as of recent weeks. The best descriptions of fat bullocks have met a very good demand, and for these very high prices have been got. The majority of cattle offered, however, not being the best quality, have been cheaper, reductions of from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. live weight being taken. Fat cows and bulls have not been quite so dear. Supplies of fat sheep and lambs have been large and good. A steady demand has been experienced throughout, but any alteration in price would favour the buyer. Fat calves a large show and have sold well, while pigs, also more numerous, have met a considerably dearer market. In the Store market, sheep have been offered in much larger numbers, and the trade has been rather quieter. Lambs, however, are shown in much better condition, and prices are considerably above those of last year. Fair supplies of store cattle have been more sought after, and an easy clearance has been effected at satisfactory prices to the exposer. Milch cows have again been offered in small numbers, and they have met a good trade at as nearly as possible last week's prices. Quotations:—Top price best beef from 8s. 9d. to 9s. 3d. per stone; current from 8s. to 8s. 9d. per stone; mutton from 8d. to 9d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Beef was firm; mutton was rather quiet. Beef: Scotch, short sides, 4s 8d to 5s; exceptionally, 5s 2d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 10d to 4s; American refrigerated hindquarters, 4s to 4s 2d; forequarters, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 8d to 4s; English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Only a moderate number of beasts, and although consisting for the chief part of fat bullocks and rough cattle, trade ruled generally steady. Sheep entries were heavy, and a slow demand prevailed for both wethers and ewes, prices, however, remaining without appreciable change. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers quoted 5s 10d to 6s; 9-stone, 5s 10d; 10-stone half-bred, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; 11-stone half-breds, 4s to 4s 2d. Lamb trade dull, and rates 2d per 8lb lower. 5-stone fat Downs, 6s 2d to 6s 4d; 6 stone, 5s 8d per 8lb to sink the offal. Calf trade about steady.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef sold slowly at about late rates of 12s to 12s 6d per score for prime beasts, and 11s to 11s 6d for good average quality. Mutton fell off later to last week's rates. Half-bred wethers made up to 5s 4d per 8lb; and Kent up to 5s 2d. Lamb was cheap on the whole, although a sale was recorded at 9½s 6d a head, or nearly 7s per stone. Veal made 4s 6d to 5s per 8lb; and pork, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' saleyard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 43 fat beasts, 91 calves, 665 fat sheep and lambs, 117 pigs, and 108 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £14 to £21 15s; fat calves, 65s to £3 10s; small, 15s to 45s; fat wethers, 37s to 54s 6d; fat ewes, 34s to 38s; fat lambs, 31s to 45s 6d. There is no fresh feature in the trade for fat beasts, all the prime lots of moderate weights meeting a good trade. For extra fat and inferior cattle there is not much enquiry. A clearance nearly made. Prime Devon steers made up to £21 15s; Shorthorn steers, up to £18 10s; heifers, £18 10s; cows, £19; bulls, up to £19. Polled Angus cows, £15. Prime quality fat young sheep and choice sucking lambs were readily sold at last week's full prices, overfed sheep, old ewes, and inferior sheep and lambs were worse to sell. A clearance made. Hants Down wethers and ewes made 43s 6d, 52s, 54s 6d, 54s, 46s, 41s, 41s 6d, 40s 6d, 43s, 44s 6d, 50s, 49s, 42s; 19-months old ditto, 49s, 50s, 36s 6d, 44s, 42s 6d; 7-months old lambs, 37s, 32s, 40s 6d, 45s 6d, 44s 6d, 32s 6d, 45s, 29s, 38s, 42s 6d; Southdown lambs, 33s; 3-months old sucking lambs, Southdowns, 33s; Southdown and Exmoors, 30s; Exmoors, 31s 6d; old ewes, 34s, 37s 6d, 36s 6d, 35s, 34s 6d, 38s; Southdown wethers, 32s 6d; black face Scotch wethers, 35s 6d, 28s 6d. Prices ruled brisk for all best class milch cows and heifers. Store cattle with little inquiry met a slow trade. Fat calves of all descriptions made more money, a clearance being effected. Fat porkers were a short entry and were disposed of at satisfactory prices. Store pigs met a ready sale. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 7d to 7½d per lb; ditto Shorthorn ditto, 6½d to 7d per lb; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5½d to 6d per lb. Best quality sheep, 8½d to 9d per lb; second ditto, 7½d to 8d per lb; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 5½d to 6½d per lb; 3-months old choice fat sucking lambs, 9d to 9½d per lb. Fat calves, 6d to 8½d per lb. Fat porkers up to 9s 6d per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—Very few buyers were present, and trade was consequently slow. No beef on offer, and only a few in-calvers. Cows, £18 to £22; heifers, £15 to £18; calves, 55s to 60s. Small show of sheep.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a moderate supply of beef, for which trade was slow. Best qualities made 63s, second qualities 60s per cwt. There was a short supply of sheep and lambs, and trade was firmer. Light wethers were 8d to 8½d, ewes 6½d, and lambs 8½d to 8¾d per lb. Six hundred pigs were on offer, baconers making 9s 6d per score, porkers 9s 9d to 10s. Scarcely any store cattle were on offer.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 235; sheep, 944; pigs, 448; horses, 8. Beef, 6s 9d to 7s 9d per stone; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 8d; pork, 5s to 6s 3d. Very few store beasts to hand, trade slow. The harvest caused a small attendance. Fat beasts a good show, prices unchanged. Fat sheep, trade quite up to last week. Stores a much larger show, but trade was not very brisk. Fat pigs, a good number to hand, prices unchanged. Stores, a fair trade all round.

Chester, Thursday.—Good supply of all descriptions of stock, with large attendance of buyers. Trade was dull, only the best classes being in demand, even reduced rates failing to attract purchasers. Milch cows, £14 to £20; calvers, £12 to £18; barrens, £9 to £18; heifers, £8 to £14; stirks, £5 to £9; sheep, 22s. to 27s.

Derby, Tuesday.—There was a moderate supply of stock, and the following prices were realised:—Beef, 6½d to 6¾d; mutton, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 7d; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb.

Doncaster, Tuesday.—Good supply of cattle, and fully an average supply of sheep. Trade fairly active, but at a slight reduction in price. Beef, 7s to 7s 9d and up to 8s per stone; ewes, 5½d to 6d; shearlings, 7d to 8d; lambs, 8d to 9d per lb.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 2,436 (increase 83); sheep, 10,694 (increase 432); calves, 45 (decrease 22). More animation prevailed in the cattle department owing to the presence of some additional buyers, but prices cannot be quoted any better, and rough descriptions did not clear. Quieter trade prevailed for sheep and lambs, best qualities only making last week's prices. Cattle (best), 34s to 35s per cwt; other descriptions, 27s to 31s per cwt. Mutton, 5d to 7d per lb. Lambs, 13s to 34s each.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Beef in good demand, making 35s to 37s per live cwt; horned bullocks, to £18; horned heifers, to £15 15s; polled bullocks, to £15 12s; ditto heifers, to £15 17s; Ayrshire cows, to £14 10s; Ayrshire heifers, to £13; sheep, half-bred hoggs, to 40s 3d; lambs, to 33s 3d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Sheep liberally offered. Values easier. Top mutton, 8½d to 8¾d; secondary, 7¾d to 8d; lambs, 8¾d to 8¾d per lb. Top Scotch cattle, 68s to 70s; secondary, 62s to 64s; Irish, 60s to 62s per cwt. States and Canadians are the finest offered in Glasgow for years, and realised 56s to 60s per cwt. Dead meat slow; States beef, 5½d to 6d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 346, calves 116, sheep 1,277, lambs 949, pigs (fat and sows) 4, sucking pigs 18, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 142, pigs (stores, more than ten) 126, colts 10.

Newcastle, Tuesday.— Large supplies, prices steady. Numbers:—Cattle, 1,465; sheep and lambs, 10,235; calves, 674; pigs, 547. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s 6d to 5s 9d per stone; pork, 5s to 7s 9d per stone; mutton, 6½d to 8½d; lamb, 8d to 9½d; veal, 5d to 8d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Good supply except lambs, which were very short. Good all-round trade. Best beef, 6½d; seconds, 5¾d to 6d. Best wether mutton, 7¾d to 8d. Lamb, 8d; ewes, 6¾e to 7d. Veal, 7d to 9d. Porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 6d.

Preston, Wednesday.—Good attendance and very large supplies of stock, but trade was quiet all round. Beef, heifers and bullocks, 6¾d to 7d; cows and bulls, 5d to 6d. Mutton, hoggs, 8d to 8¾d; tups and ewes, 6d to 7d; lambs, 8d to 8½d. Calves, 5½d to 6½d. At market: 270 cattle, 2,630 sheep, and 110 calves.

Romford, Wednesday.—Trade was a trifle better all round. Best fat beasts made 4s 4d to 4s 8d, and middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Sheep were in rather short supply. Best sheep made 5s 8d to 6s, and middlings 5s 2d to 5s 6d per stone. Ewes were a slow trade at 4s 4d per stone. Calves, in rather short supply, made from 5s to 5s 6d per stone. No store beasts on offer. The pig trade was about the same.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a slight decrease in the number of cattle in market. A fair demand was experienced at last week's prices. The supply of sheep and lambs was larger. Choice sheep met with a good demand and late rates were maintained. The trade for lambs was fairy good at about late prices. The supply of calves was about the same as this day week, with a slow sale at unchanged prices. Quotations: Cattle, 5d to 7½d; sheep, 6½d to 9d; lambs, 7½d to 9d; calves, 5d to 7d per lb. At market—Cattle, 1,563; sheep and lambs, 17,831; calves, 154; pigs, 56.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A very small supply of cattle, for which there was a good demand, the best quality of milch beasts making £18 to £23; secondary, £15 to £18.

Spalding, Tuesday.—In the cattle market there was a good show of beef, which made up to 8s per stone, light weights selling well. Stores fetched fair prices; cows were dear. In the sheep market, where there was a large show, mutton made 7½d per lb. There was also a large show of lambs, which fetched good prices.

Thame, Tuesday.—With cooler weather and a large attendance of buyers trade was decidedly firmer all round, especially for mutton and lamb, and a clearance was effected at improved prices. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 98 fat beasts and down calving cows, 275 fat sheep and lambs and stores, 60 fat and weaning calves, and 88 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £16 to £17 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £21 10s; down calving cows, £17 10s to £21 10s; fat wethers, 47s to 52s; fat ewes, 35s to 48s 6d; fat lambs, 31s to 43s 6d; store lambs, 24s to 25s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £5 1s; cow calves, 28s to 60s; bull calves, 17s to 49s; fat pigs, 10s per score. Stores a better trade.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance of butchers, and owing to the hot weather they bought sparingly. Choice beef was very scarce, and sold at 6¾d to 7d per lb, inferior sorts, including a large number of Scotch cows, were freely offered, and made 5½d to 6½d per lb. Of the 1,394 fat beasts on offer a large proportion were useful Irish animals. There were 4,564 sheep and lambs, against 4,532 last week. Lambs and choice small and young sheep met with a good inquiry at 8d to 9d per lb, strong sheep 7d to 7½d, and heavy and fat sheep moved off slowly at 5½d to 6½d. Fat calves met with a slow sale at 5d to 7d per lb, and breeding calves sold at 20s to 25s each. Milch cows were very freely offered, but buyers were scarce, trade heavy, and prices about £1 per head lower. The best milkers sold at £18 to £21 10s each, and inferior £13 to £17.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Business was slow and dragging this morning There were 1,394 beasts, and these made up to 7d per lb for superior stuff; 4,564 sheep were penned, and these moved very slowly at last week's rates. The trade in calves ruled slow, the 51 on offer being cleared up to 7½d per lb.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a fair supply, moderate trade. Sheep a good supply, slow demand. Lambs good show, fair trade. Calves a small supply. Milch cows a large supply, price a little cheaper, fair demand. Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 7¾d to 8¾d per lb; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb. Bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 6d per score; porkets, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score; sows, 7s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A good all-round show of stock, fair attendance of buyers, and trade on the whole brisk. Best quality beef showed a slight downward tendency, and made from 7s 9d to 8s; inferior kinds, 6s 6d to 7s per stone. Keener trade for sheep; best, 8d to 8½d; ewes, etc., 5½d to 6½d; lamb and veal, 8d to 10d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—At the usual weekly sale of American cattle there were in the lairages 193 cattle landed by the Indrani (s), from Baltimore, and 106 ex Assyrian (s), from Philadelphia, which were held over from last week; also 402 cattle by the Peruvian (s), from Boston. The cattle as regards quality were rather above the average, many of the bullocks being extra fine animals, and were as good as the finished Scotch. There was a large attendance of buyers, wholesale and retail, and business during the sale was of a good character. There were not sufficient bulls for the requirements of the trade, and they met a sharp demand, and sold dear. The dead-weight quotations may be given as follows:—Best bullock, medium weights, 60s per cwt, and for really choice up to 62s; heavy prime, 58s; secondary and heavier, 57s; bulls (very dear), 53s to 55s, according to quality and finish.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—A sale of United States and Canadian cattle was held in the afternoon, when there were penned in the sheds 356 cattle landed by the Alcides (s), from Montreal, and 511 by the Buenos Ayrean (s), also from the same port. Bullocks, as regards quality, were fully up to the average, and were in a well-finished condition. Bulls were above the average as regards quality, and were very suitable for the requirements of the trade. There was a large attendance of buyers, but trade was not so good as that ruling on Monday. The demand was slower, a fact due to the increased supplies. The dead-weight quotations may be given as follows:—Best bullocks, best medium weights, 56s per cwt; and for really choice up to 58s; secondary and heavier animals, 54s; and bulls, 52s to 54s, according to quality and finish.

HAY AND STRAW.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The business in the warehouses for hay and straw continues steady, with prices firm and unaltered. Meadow hay, 6½d; clover hay, 7d to 7½d; wheat straw, 5½d; oat straw, 5d; rye straw (retail), 7d per stone; green clover, 3d to 3½d per bundle.

Bristol, Wednesday.—Clover hay, 75s to 90s; meadow hay, 65s to 75s; straw, 45s to 50s.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale : 1s 9d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz. Leeds : Danish, 108s to 114s per 112lb ; Irish creameries, 100s to 104s ; York lump, 12s to 12s 9d per stone ; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 6d to 1s 7d ; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s per lb. Settle : 11½d to 1s 0½d per lb. Sheffield : 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Spalding : 1s 2d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley : 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Boston : 1s 3d to 1s 6d per lb. Colne : 1s 1d per lb. Goole : 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Hereford : 1s to 1s 6d per lb. Kirbymoorside : 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Knaresborough : 1s 9d to 1s 11d (wholesale), 2s to 2s 1d (retail) per roll of 24oz ; Louth : 1s per lb. (wholesale). Market Drayton : 1s 8d to 1s 4d per lb. Market Weighton : 1s 1d per lb. Masham : 1s 5d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton : 1s 8d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Stockton : 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Uttoxeter : 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby : 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Worksop : 1s 6d per lb. Dorchester : 11d to 1s 1d per lb.

Thursday.—Birmingham : 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Brigg : 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Driffield : 1s per lb. Kidderminster : 1s 2d per lb. Penistone : 1s 1d per lb. Ripon : 1s 11d to 2s 3d per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough : 1s 2d per lb. Wetherby : 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale : 12 for 1s. Leeds : Yorkshire, 9s to 9s 6d per 120 ; Irish, 7s 6d to 8s ; Danish, 7s to 8s ; Austrian blues, 5s 9d to 6s 3d ; ditto reds, 4s 8d to 5s. Settle : 14 or 15 for 1s. Sheffield : 12 or 13 for 1s. Spalding : 14 or 15 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley : 11 or 12 for 1s. Boston : 14 or 15 for 1s. Colne : 1s 6d per score. Goole : 16 for 1s. Hereford : 15 for 1s. Kirbymoorside : 14 or 15 for 1s. Knaresborough : 13 or 14 for 1s. Louth : 16 for 1s. Market Drayton : 13 or 14 for 1s. Market Weighton : 16 for 1s. Masham : 14 for 1s. Northallerton : 15 for 1s. Stockton : 11 or 12 for 1s. Uttoxeter : 1s 5d to 1s 6d per score. Whitby : 12 or 13 for 1s. Worksop : 1s 8d per score. Dorchester, 9½d to 1s per dozen.

Thursday.—Birmingham : 11 to 12 for 1s. Brigg : 13 to 14 for 1s. Driffield : 16 or 17 for 1s. Kidderminster : 12 for 1s. Penistone : 12 for 1s. Ripon : 12 or 13 for 1s. Scarborough : 12 or 13 for 1s.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—Owing to a failure the market has been somewhat disorganised, and quotations are considerably lower. Calcutta, spot, London, is quoted 53s, passage 53s ; July-August, 52s 9d ; August-September, 52s 6d ; September-October, 52s. Hull.—Linseed continues neglected, spot and passage, Calcutta, 55s. Duluth, October-November, 48s 6d. Azov, Black Sea, September-October 49s 6d asked by by shippers. To the Continent, Bombay is quoted July-August, 58s ; January-February, 51s 3d ; February-March, 49s ; March-May 47s 9d. Calcutta to Hamburg, July-August, 54s 6d ; August-September, 54s 6d. Linseed oil is firm and prices well maintained in all positions. We quote spot, pipes, £33 10s ; barrels, £33 15s ; August, £33 10s ; September-December, £30 5s ; January-April, £27 15s to £28. Hull spot naked, month £33 5s ; August, £32 ; September-December, £28 12s 6d ; January-April, £26. Linseed cakes quiet, unchanged. London made £7 17s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Russian, £7 7s 6d to £7 12s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £7 5s to £7 12s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet. London made £4 5s to £4 7s 6d. Rapeseed quiet, prices unchanged.—To the Continent brown Calcutta afloat to Hamburgh 40s. and to London 39s 6d. Yellow Cawnpore, July-August, is held for 44s. Brown Cawnpore, 41s. 9d. Danubian Navette, August-September, 39s 6d. Ravison to Hull, September-October, 29s. Cottonseed.—Easier in all positions, afloat London, £6 6s 3d ; July, £6 6s 3d ; August, £6 6s 3d ; September, £6 6s 3d ; October, £6 3s 9d ; November-January, £5 18s 9d. Hull quiet, easier for new crop. Spot, we quote £6 3s 9d ; August, £6 5s ; October £6 2s 6d ; November-January, £5 16s 3d. Cargoes, October, £6 7s 6d ; November, £6 5s. The import into London for the week has been nil, and since January 1st, 28,893 tons, against 18,905 tons corresponding time last year. Rape oil is rather steadier at the decline. We quote brown oil spot in barrels £28 10s ; September-December, £27 5s. Refined spot, £29 15s. Ravison oil naked spot, £26 ; September-December, £24 10s ; November-April, £24 5s. Cotton oil continues steady at the prices quoted last week. Crude spot, £22 10s ; August, £22 10s ; November-April, £18 15s. Refined spot, £24 10s to £25 10s according to make and package. Hull weak. Refined spot, £22 17s 6d ; August, £22 10s ; November-April, £18 5s to £18 10s. Tallow.—At the public sales yesterday, 1,776 casks were offered and 1,101 casks were sold, prices showing an occasional rise of 3d. Market keeps very steady. The stocks at the public wharves have increased by about 1,500 casks. —THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed.—The arrivals are 28,799 qrs from Archangel, 2,730 qrs from Calcutta ; total, 31,529 qrs. Linseed, throughout the week, has been steady, with a slightly firmer tone. Calcutta, arrived, is still to be had at 55s 6d. Azof and Black Sea is quoted 49s 9d to 50s for Aug-Sept, Sept-Oct 49s 3d to 49s 6d, and 49s for Oct-Nov. Petersburg, business done back to shippers at 52s, and 52s 3d July-Aug, Sept-Oct 51s the value. Riga, Libau, and Königsberg, 48s asked. American Duluth, 48s to 48s 6d. River Plate, nothing offering. Cottonseed.—There has not been much business doing in old crop, a few sales spot and passage transpiring at £6 5s, and August done £6 6s 3d, whereat still sellers. New crop has offered more freely in all positions. September Fayoumi, after £6 10s paid, has been done at £6 7s 6d, and October at £6 5s to £6 3s 9d, at which latter it offers to-day. Nov-Jan changed hands at £6 to £5 18s 9d, buyers now only bidding £5 17s 6d. Oils.—Export for the week ending 27th July, 1900.—Linseed oil : 1 Denmark, 32 France, 5 Germany, 5 Holland, 17 Norway ; total, 60 tons. Cotton oil : 3 Belgium, 5 Denmark, 11 France, 23 Germany, 28 Holland, 18 Sweden ; total, 88 tons. The market is steady. Linseed oil : 33s 6d spot, 28s 7½d Sep-Dec, 26s 1½d Jan-April. Cotton oil : 23s 3d spot, Nov-April, 18s 6d. Crude, 21s 9d spot, Nov-April, 17s 1½d. Rape oil : Black Sea naked, 25s 6d spot, first quality naked, 26s 6d spot. Oil seed cakes.—Linseed cakes are 2s 6d per ton dearer, with rather better demand. Cotton cakes are also 2s 6d per ton dearer, with a few more orders.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEELING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON ; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 17s. 6d. PER TON ; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 15s. 0d. PER TON ; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 7s 6d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

WOOL.

Bradford, Thursday.—Market quiet ; prices of Colonial wools are nominally steady, but actually in favour of the buyer. English wool is in very much the same condition, except for bright hoggs, which, being wanted, are firm. Mohair is very quiet. The yarn trade is depressed both for home and export, and there is a general want of confidence, and the piece trade cannot be said to be any better.

Liverpool, Wednesday.—A very fair attendance of buyers was attracted when combing wools were catalogued. Egyptians met with competition at last sales' rates, as far as yellows and whites were concerned, but colours were decidedly easier, particularly blacks, that must be called fully 1d per lb. lower. Oporto fleece sold without change, but inferiors were from par to ½d per lb. cheaper. Kassapbatchia skin was very little wanted, but what changed hands marked a slight decline. Some of the China and washed Syrian found buyers on easy terms, but very little was done with Thibet or sundries. There were not many buyers at the clothing sales, and competition ruled slow, so that compared with May auction prices, we quote washed Peruvians, which sold irregularly, par to ½d per lb. cheaper. Unwashed Lima went off without change, but greasy Chili was very little wanted even at ½d. per lb decline. A moderate turnover took place in River Plate Skin, but Morocco, Spanish, and Sundries were more neglected than usual. The transactions reported by private treaty during the past couple of months include a fair amount of washed Peruvian at steady figures for firsts, seconds, and greys, but to effect sales of merinoes less money had to be accepted ; some greasy River Plate and Chili were also disposed of on easy terms. In combing kinds the business has been restricted to moderate quantities of Egyptian, Kassapbatchia Skin, Oporto Fleece, Thibet, &c., with some East Indias as usual from importers' old stock.—RONALD AND RODGER.

Weyhill Sheep Fair.

On account of great pressure on our space we were unable to print the whole of our report of this fair, and particulars of three important consignments had to be held over until this week. Lord Carnarvon sent a good selection from his flock, but a clearance was not effected. Seven lambs let at an average of £30 9s., Mr. G. Judd hiring No. 80 at 62gs., Mr. J. B. Stevens No. 81 at 56gs., Mr. C. Bugg No. 82 at 26gs., and No. 83 at 25gs., Mr. Wells No. 86 at 14gs., Mr. W. C. Young No. 84 at 10gs., and Mr. Hanbury No. 85 at 10gs. The sale lambs made from 9gs. to 5gs., the average of those let and sold being £11 4s.

The first draft from Mr. H. C. Stephens' flock was offered by Messrs. Waters and Rawlence. Again sufficient buyers were not forthcoming to clear ; two lambs were let at 15gs. and 13gs. to Mr. C. Coles and Mr. Hall (for Lord Carnarvon) respectively. The selling lambs made 20gs. (Mr. Butler), 11gs. (Mr. Hanbury), 9gs., etc., the average of those let and sold being £7 3s.

The annual letting and sale of ram lambs from Mr. T. Palmer's Berry Court flock was conducted by Messrs. Waters and Rawlence. Six lambs were let at an average of £17 10s., Lord Rothschild hiring No. 1 at 50gs., others letting from 13gs., 12gs., etc. The selling lambs made from 21gs. to 5gs., Mr. Richards buying at the top figure, and 14gs., Mr. Hanbury at 15gs., Mr. Falconer at 14gs., Mr. Rigden (for Sir E. Antrobus) at 17gs., Mr. Cox (for Captain Dalgety) at 10gs. ; an entire clearance, however, could not be made, the average of those let and sold being £9 15s.

Smithfield Club.

A meeting of the Council was held at the Royal Agricultural Hall on Wednesday, the 1st inst., Earl Winterton (Vice-President) in the chair.

Earl Winterton said, before commencing the business of the meeting, he was sure they would all wish to express their deep sense of the loss Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family had sustained by the lamented death of H.R.H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. They greatly appreciated the interest which Her Majesty and the members of the Royal Family took in the Smithfield Club. His Royal Highness the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha had not only been an exhibitor at the Club's shows, but had since the year 1882 been a Vice-President of the Club, and filled the position of President in 1884. The members of that Council and of the Club would, he was sure, deeply regret the sad blow which had befallen Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family, and he begged to move that

The Council of the Smithfield Club humbly desire to approach Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen with the expression of their constant loyalty and affection for her throne and person.

The Council have learned with feelings of profound regret of the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and desire respectfully to convey to Her Majesty and the members of the Royal Family the assurance of their deepest sympathy in the irreparable loss which they have sustained, and the expression of their earnest hope that the Royal Family may receive consolation and strength to support them under the heavy blow which has befallen them.

Mr. James Hornsby seconded the motion, and it was unanimously adopted.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.

A communication was received from the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, K.G., acknowledging his election as President-Elect.

Letters were read from Mr. J. Harold Howard and Mr. A. P. Turner acknowledging their election as Stewards.

The Secretary was authorised to communicate with the London County Council as the local authority, and to take any steps that may be necessary for holding the forthcoming show in accordance with the orders of the Board of Agriculture.

Mr. Clare Sewell Read, as chairman, submitted the report of the Finance Committee, recommending the payment of various accounts, and the provision of an official seal for the Club, which was seconded by Mr. Edney Hayter, and adopted.

Earl Winterton, as chairman of the Stock Prize Committee, reported the selection of judges for the forthcoming show, with reserve judges in case any of the gentlemen selected were unable to act, such list to be published when all the judges had signified their acceptance ; also the approval by the Committee of the letter of invitation, which they directed should be sent to the judges.

Mr. Alfred Crosskill reported that the Implement Committee had considered and approved of the regulations and form of application for space at the ensuing show. The Committee had also considered the requirement by the London County Council of certain passageways leading to the emergency exits, and had instructed the Secretary thereon.

The report was approved and adopted.

Mr. William Coggan, as chairman, moved the adoption of the report of the Carriage Committee, recommending that tenders be invited for carrying out certain work in connection with the Carriage Competition at the ensuing show, which was seconded by Mr. F. Redman, and adopted.

The Council then adjourned until Wednesday, November 7th.

Shorthorn Society.

Meetings of the Committees and Council were held at the Society's rooms, 12, Hanover Square, W., on Tuesday, Mr. Herbert Leney, Vice-President, in the chair.

Editing Committee.

Lord Brougham and Vaux reported that the Committee recommended that for the ensuing year the Committee consist of :—

Lord Moreton (Chairman)	Mr. C. M. Doune
Viscount Baring	Mr. A. M. Gordon.
Lord Brougham and Vaux	Col. Sir Nigel Kingscote
Mr. A. E. W. Darby.	Lord Rathdonnell (K.C.B.)

The Committee had examined and passed the list of pedigree exportation certificates issued by the Secretary since the last meeting of the Committee, viz., for Canada 192, South Africa 1, South America 119, United States of America 30, Germany 1, New Zealand 2, Tasmania 1 ; total 346.

Several new pedigrees were examined by the Committee with the certificates and other evidence in support of their correctness, and had been accepted for entry in the Herd Book.

Various inquiries as to exportation certificates were also considered by the Committee, and the Secretary instructed thereon.

The report was adopted.

General Purposes Committee.

Sir Nigel Kingscote reported that the Committee recommended that for the ensuing year the Committee consist of :—

Col. Sir Nigel Kingscote, K.C.B. (Chairman).	Lord Middleton.
Lord Brougham and Vaux.	Lord Moreton.
Mr. A. E. W. Darby.	Mr. E. W. Stanyforth.
	Sir Jacob Wilson.

That the accounts for the months of June and July had been examined by Messrs. Welton, Jones and Co., and the Committee, and were found to be correct ; that the receipts for the same period had been £128 6s. 6d., the balance of the Society's current account at the banker's being £442 5s. 8d., and the Committee recommended that cheques be drawn for various accounts, champion and district prizes, rent and salaries due at Michaelmas, amounting to £678 5s. 2d.

This report was adopted.

In compliance with the terms of the Articles of Association, Mr. Herbert Leney was, on the motion of Sir Nigel Kingscote, seconded by Mr. Richard Stratton, elected President of the Society for the ensuing year, and on the motion of Sir Jacob Wilson, seconded by Lord Brougham and Vaux, Colonel Hutton, C.B., was elected Vice-President of the Society for the same period.

The Council then adjourned over the autumn recess until Tuesday, November 6th, at 3.30 p.m.

The latest annotated time tables issued by the Great Eastern Railway Company deal with Hunstanton and Aldeburgh. In each of these pamphlets there is given an interesting account (with illustrations) of all the chief places of interest passed by the traveller to either of the towns mentioned. The possessor of a copy of these annotated time tables will have something to interest him the whole of his journey.

Doncaster August Fair.—This fair, at which horses, cattle, and sheep are disposed of, took place on Thursday, and was well attended by farmers and dealers. There was nothing new in the cattle and sheep market, trade being quiet and prices unchanged. Bullocks made from £10 to £16, and young stock from £4 to £8 each. Sheep, 35s. to 44s. ; and lambs, 24s. to 30s. each. Horses varied very much, according to quality. Good horses were easy to sell, and the best [illegible] horses made from £40 to £60, and in a few cases from £70 to £80 each. Harness horses, £35 to £45 ; nags, £25 to £40 ; and others from £20 to £30 each. Pones made from £10 to £20 each.

Chard August Fair.—At this important fair on Thursday there was a very large supply of fat and store sheep and beasts, and, owing to the copious showers of rain which fell in the early morning, trade was on all hands brisk. Prices were fully 3s. a head on sheep in advance of recent markets and fairs. Prizes were offered by the Chard Market Committee and Auctioneers, viz., for best pen of eighty draft ewes, £3 3s. ; fifty draft ewes, £2 2s. ; fifty wether lambs, £1 10s. ; and were secured by the following respectively : Mr. Vickery, Elmore, first ; and third, Mr. R. Wyatt, Foale's Court. Prices ranged from about 38s. to 45s. for ewes, lambs from 24s. to 30s., cows and calves from £12 to £16 ; heifers and calves from £8 to £13.

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The pen of Hampshire Down ewes is the property of Mr. James Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury, who was also the breeder. At the Royal Show at York this year this pen won first prize, Mr. Flower also took several other prizes at this show with other animals from his famous flock, which, since 1894, has had a wonderful career in the showyard, having won prizes amounting in value to over £1,000.

The Clydesdale mare Queen of Gretna 12895, and her foal, which is by Scottish Crown 9851, belong to Mr. John T. Peacock, Low Newport Farm, Sunderland. Queen of Gretna is a brown, foaled in 1892, and was bred by Mr. John Ellwood, Stonehouse, Gretna, her sire being Belted Prince 8459, and her dam Lofty of Stonehouse 12458, by Nelson 1493. At the Royal Show at York she won the first prize in the class for Clydesdale mares of any age, with a foal at foot.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

On August 13th, the selection of the ram lambs from Mr. James Flower's noted flock of Hampshire Downs will be offered at Britford Fair by Messrs. Waters and Rawlence. The success in the largest showyards of England, and in the strongest competition, since 1894, is a wonderful one—15 champions, 68 firsts, 47 seconds, 13 thirds having been won, of the value of £1,100. Previous to 1894 very little exhibiting was done, though the flock has been in the possession of the present owner's family for nearly seventy years. The great family likeness and the true breeding in the whole flock testify to the great care and judgment which has been bestowed in bringing it up to its high state of perfection. The ram lambs this year are, it is considered, one of the best lots Mr. Flower ever brought out, possessing that wealth of flesh, the best of coats, with beauty of feature and form, for which the Chilmark flock is noted. The 100 draft ewes are a very smart lot, and should command the attention of flockmasters.

What will be looked back upon as a great event in the history of Shorthorn cattle in Ireland will take place on the 23rd inst. at Ardfert Abbey, Ardfert, co. Kerry, when Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. will dispose of the remainder of the herd bred by the late Mr. W. T. Talbot-Crosbie. It will be remembered that the young bulls, together with a few females, were sold in the spring, and the present catalogue contains, with the exception of four aged cows, which will end their days in the park, the whole of the remaining animals. As is well known, the Ardfert Abbey herd has been bred from celebrated tribes, tracing back to the earliest days of Shorthorn history, and it is not necessary for me to enter into details of the animals used, for the particulars are common property amongst breeders. I may, however, mention that last year Stephen Fitz Lavender 73732, a grandson of the famous prize bull Count Lavender, was purchased from Mr. J. Deane Willis, of Bapton, Wilts, and Beacon Light 74041, a son of the Royal prize bull Alto, from Mr. R. Stratton. These two fine bulls are now in service and for sale; they have brought into the herd fresh prize blood blended with that already bred at Ardfert; for Timbrel, Alto's great-granddam, was bred on the estate. The animals will be shown in the park in their natural condition, their calves running with them, so that those who attend the sale will have the opportunity of seeing, as well as of obtaining, the lifework of one of the greatest breeders of Shorthorns of the present time.

A stud of Shire horses having been recently established at Cirencester Park, the Earl of Bathurst has resolved to relinquish ram breeding and exhibiting, and to sell all the shearling and young ewes, rams, and most of the ram lambs, from his celebrated flock of Southdowns, the old ewes and ewe lambs being retained as a mutton flock. The sale, which will take place on Tuesday, the 14th inst., will comprise about 400 beautiful young ewes, and about 30 rams and ram lambs. The high quality of the flock, which has been bred from first-class animals only, is evidenced by the success it has met with in the showyards during the past few years. The farm is on the Cotswolds, 500 feet above the sea, and on the limestone; the flock is consequently naturally hardy, of good constitution, and very true to type. The sheep being bred on a different soil to the chalk downs of the East and South of England, are well adapted either for the purpose of introducing fresh blood or for the formation of new flocks. Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. will be the auctioneers, and the sale will commence immediately after a half-past twelve o'clock luncheon. Cirencester Park is about half a mile from the Great Western, and a mile from the Midland and South-Western Junction Stations at Cirencester.

The annual exhibition of the Worsley and District Agricultural and Horticultural Society will take place on Saturday, the 25th inst., in the Earl of Ellesmere's Park at Worsley, which is situated within six miles of Manchester, and provides one of the prettiest show grounds in England. This exhibition has been in existence a little over ten years, and from a small beginning it has grown into an important fixture, very popular with exhibitors in the North. The prizes offered are good ones, and I may add that they are invariably handed over to the winners within fourteen days after the show. The society is fortunate enough to possess a balance in the bank sufficient to more than cover its liabilities, and providing the clerk of the weather favours the show on the 25th inst., the society will in all probability be able to add something to that balance. The entries close on the 15th inst., with the hon. secretary, Mr. W. [illegible]ohn, Worsley, Manchester.

At a meeting of the members of the Cheshire Agricultural Society, held at Congleton Town Hall on Monday, a letter was read from Mr. Samuel Smith, Town Clerk of Chester, stating that at a meeting of the Chester Town Council a resolution was unanimously adopted inviting the Cheshire Society to hold their 1901 show at Chester, and that the use of the Roodee would be granted for that purpose free of charge. The letter also intimated that the Mayor intended to call a town's meeting of the citizens to arrange for the raising of a guarantee fund, and to give the society a cordial reception on their visit to the city. A resolution was unanimously adopted accepting the invitation, and thanking the Mayor and Corporation of the city.

The annual sale of Shropshire sheep, the property of Mr. W. F. Inge, will be conducted at Thorpe Hall, near Tamworth, on Wednesday next, August 8th, by Messrs. Lythall and Walters, of Birmingham. The catalogue includes thirty-one grand shearling rams and fifty beautiful shearling ewes by most impressive and fashionable sires, including Ensdon Chief 8503, purchased from Mr. Bowen Jones, at 55gs.; Harbinger 9,938, Mr. Harding's winner of fourth in pen of five, S. and W.M., and reserve number R.A.S.E., Birmingham; Noble Chieftain 10029, the winner of first B. and W. of E.; and Thorpe Enterprise 10159, the reserve number ram at the R.A.S.E., Maidstone. The rams possess true type and character, with immense scale, close, heavy fleeces, well-covered heads, and clear cherry skins, and include the third prize pen of five at the R.A.S.E. at York, the second prize pen of five at the S. and W.M., and the third prize pen of five at the Leicestershire Show, as well as other winners at the Staffordshire, Royal Counties, Nottingham, and Peterborough Shows, and all are for unreserved sale. The ewes have perfect style and symmetry, and special attention is drawn to the fact that they are sisters to the ewes which have won this season first prizes at the Royal, S. and W.M., Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, and Peterborough Shows, and have since been sold for exportation to America.

The entire flock of pure-bred Southdown sheep, bred by Mr. John A. Hempson, Erwarton Hall, Ipswich, is to be dispersed by auction on Thursday in this week, at Erwarton Hall. This flock was founded by the present owner in 1844, by the purchase of 300 ewe lambs from the Marquis of Bristol, Ickworth Park, and Mr. Smith, of Barton, Bury St. Edmunds. Rams were hired from Mr. Jonas Webb, of Babraham, as far back as 1847, and were obtained afterwards from him for several years, until the dispersion of his flock in 1862. Rams were also used from Mr. John Ellman, of Glynde, Sussex, during that period, and later from Mr. W. Rigden, of Hove, whose sheep were remarkably successful. This blood was again strongly infused into the flock by the use of rams by Mr. Rigden's sheep, purchased from Lord Walsingham and Sir Thomas B. Lennard, Bart., from whom a sheep by Mr. Rigden's gold medal Battersea ram was obtained. Other rams followed from Mr. Hugh Gorringe, Mr. Heasman, and Mr. Hugh Penfold; also from the famous old Goodwood flock, and later from Mr. Henry Webb, at whose sale in 1890 Mr. Hempson purchased, among others, a ram by the 210-guinea ram Cambridgeshire, which was bought by the Duke of Richmond for Goodwood the previous season. In 1898 the famous sheep Persimmon was hired from Mr. Henry Webb, Streetly Hall, and good rams were used from Mr. Adeane's celebrated prize flock, which has been bred from the old Goodwood and Webb blood. Mr. Hempson has not exhibited, but he has exported both rams and ewes to France, Germany, Sweden, and Canada. The sale will commence after a twelve o'clock luncheon, and will be conducted by Messrs. John Thornton and Co., from whom catalogues, etc., can be obtained.

On Wednesday next, August 8th, Messrs. John Thornton and Co. will dispose of the entire flock of pure-bred Southdown sheep, excepting the lambs, and thirty-one Jersey heifers, the property of Sir James Blyth, Bart., at Blythwood, Bishops Stortford. The Blythwood flock of Southdowns was established at considerable cost in 1889, and is now a very celebrated one, having been most successfully exhibited at the principal shows throughout the kingdom. At the dispersion of Mr. Henry Webb's flock at Streetly Hall in 1889 and 1890, three good rams and some of the best ewes were purchased at the first sale, and in 1890 the highest-priced ram, Streetly Hall Favourite, as well as a number of good ewes were obtained, so that much of the best blood of this old flock was secured for Blythwood. Streetly Hall Favourite was a son of the celebrated sheep Cambridgeshire, bought by the Duke of Richmond for Goodwood at 210 guineas at the 1889 sale. At Sandringham the same year, twenty choice ewes were purchased, and the blood of the old-established flocks of Sir N. W. G. Throckmorton, Bart., the late Mr. J. J. Colman, and Mr. Hugh Penfold, has also been successfully introduced. The Jersey heifers to be offered, which comprise the whole of the female produce from the herd for the years 1898 and 1899, are by that well-known bull, Crown Prince 6182, the winner of the first prize at the Royal Agricultural Society of England Show, at Maidstone; others are by Actor 5776, champion bull over the island of Jersey in 1895, whose dam, owing to her large yield and rich quality of milk, was sold for a very great sum to America; Oompah 6004, first at several shows in 1896 and 1897, and Hillside Baron 6594, a son of Hillside Lad, a noted winner in the island and in this country, have also been used; in fact, for some years the Blythwood herd has consisted exclusively of the most notable prize-winners or their off-spring.

Mr. Alfred Mansell (of the firm of Alfred Mansell and Co., Shrewsbury) has just returned from Germany, where he has been attending the annual auction sales of Rambouillet Merinos on behalf of Messrs. G. Harding and Son, of Waukesha. He reports that he was fortunately able to secure some exceptionally fine specimens from some of the leading breeders who have paid special attention to wool. This will make the third shipment of Merinos by the Shrewsbury firm this season.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, despatched from Hull on July 28th, per the s.s. "Thomas Wilson" two exceptionally well-grown, robust Shorthorn bulls, specially selected for crossing purposes, on behalf of Prince Scherbatoff.

Referring to the extensive shipment of 223 pedigree sheep on behalf of Mr. H. Miller, it comprised some of the choicest specimens of all the breeds enumerated, including Mr. Inge's 1st prize Royal shearling Shropshire ewes, Mr. Foster Harter's 1st prize Shropshire ewe lambs at the S. and W. M. Show, Mr. J. S. Harding's prize rams and ram and ewe lambs at the S. and W. M. Show, Mr. Eady's 1st prize Royal Oxford ewes, Mr. Treweeke's Royal winning Oxford ewe

lambs, Mr. Reading's 1st prize Royal Oxford ram lamb, Mr. Treadwell's 2nd prize Royal two-sheer Oxford ram, Mr. Flower's 1st prize Royal Hampshire ewes, Mr. Cary Cole's 1st prize Royal two-shear Hampshire ram, Mr. Houlton's Royal winning Cotswold ewes and rams, Mr. Swanwick's winning Cotswold ram lamb, a choice selection ofLincoln sheep from Mr. Deane, and splendid selection of high-class rams and ewes from Mr. J. T. Hobbs, Mr. J. Harding, Mr. A. E. Mansell, Mr. H. C. Stephens, M.P., Mr T. Gillett, Mr. C. Barton, and others. A choice selection of Dorset Horn ewes, including the 2nd prize pen at York Royal, from Mr. W. R. Flower, were unfortunately burnt to death in the transit to Shrewsbury where all the sheep were collected prior to shipment. It will be remembered that Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, made all the arrangements for this extensive shipment.

Mr. E. Goodwin Preece, of Shrewsbury, advises of the following important shipments which he has recently made, the animals having been in each case selected and purchased by him :—From the Earl of Coventry, the Hereford bull, Grimm, to M. Cottard, France; from Messrs. Brand and Cobbald, Suffolk, several black Suffolk pigs to M. Jaroszynski, Russia; from Mr. Whitlock, Essex, Southdown rams, to the Countess Oavanoff, Russia; also a couple of finely-bred dairy Shorthorn bulls to Sweden. The animals shipped were in each case first-class specimens of their respective breeds, which may be relied upon to give satisfaction in their new homes.

Mr. T. S. Minton's twentieth annual sale of pure-bred Shropshire rams will take place on Thursday next, the 9th inst., at Montford, the auctioneers being Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. Mr. Minton's flock of Shropshires is one of the oldest extant, and traces back to the then famous stock of the late Mr. H. Matthews, at whose dispersion sale Mr. T. S. Minton became the largest purchaser of ewes, which averaged about £8 each. The continued success of the Montford Shropshires at all the principal breeding and fat stock shows illustrates the fact that valuable sires may be secured at Mr. Minton's annual sales. Among the rams to be offered this week are several of the highest breeding, calculated to suit the requirements of the most fastidious ram breeders or tenant farmers, Montford is four miles from Shrewsbury Station, and on the day of the sale conveyances will meet all the morning trains. There will be a luncheon at one o'clock, and the sale will commence at two o'clock.

Volume 11 of the Wensleydale Flock Book has just made its appearance. It contains particulars sixty-two flocks, a list of rams entered in Volumes 1 to 10, and a register of rams—Nos. 714 to 753—used in 1899. The Flock Book is published by the Wensleydale Long Wool Sheep Breeders Association and Flock Book Society, the hon. secretary of which is Mr. J. F. King, Edgley, Leyburn, R.S.O.

CATTLE.

Sale of Mr. Ecroyd's Shorthorns.

On Wednesday Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. disposed of about fifty head of pedigree shorthorns from the well-known herd of Mr. E. Ecroyd, at Low House, Armathwaite, who for the past thirty years has been a fancier of the breed. There was a fairly good attendance of buyers and a satisfactory sale resulted, the fifty head sold realising £1,439 11s. Thirty-nine cows averaged £32 8s. 4d. each, and seven bulls, chiefly yearlings and two-year-olds, averaged £24 18s. each. Two of the best bulls were reserved at high prices. Below we give particulars of the principal lots sold.

COWS AND HEIFERS. Gs.

Duchess Annie 15th, roan, c March, 1892, s Pomp 59610
Mr Jos Harris 35
Gay Baroness 7th, roan, c Oct., 1895, s British Beau 58560 ..... Mr. Harris 40
Waterloo Duchess 22nd, red, c Feb., 1896, s Golden Robin 68718 ..... Mr. V Cavendish, M.P. 32
Duchess Annie 28th, roan, c Sept., 1895, s British Beau 58560 ..... Mr. Tanner 37
Barrington Duchess 11th, red, c Jan., 1897, s Duke of Barrington 43rd 68493 ..... Mr. Colby 20
Eden Barrington 4th, roan, c Jan., 1897, s Eden Prince 63978 ..... Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P. 50
Dainty Princess, roan, c Jan., 1897, s British Beau 58560 ..... Mr. Dean 30
Dainty Girl 2nd, roan, c March, 1897, s British Beau 58560 ..... Mr Williams 40
Armathwaite Butterfly 24th, roan, c July, 1897, s Golden Robin 68718 ..... Mr. Tanner 31
Barrington Duchess 13th, red and little white, c Sept., 1897, s Eden Prince 63978 ..... Mr Colby 30
Armathwaite Butterfly 26th, red, c Sept., 1897, s Eden Prince 63978 ..... Lord Henry Bentinck 41
Duchess Mary 4th, roan, c Dec., 1897, s Eden Prince 63978 ..... Mr. Bell 46
Princess Annie, roan, c Dec., 1897, s Eden Prince 63978
Mr. E. Tanner 31
Gay Princess, roan, c August, 1898, s Prince Edward 71216 ..... Hon. W. T. Loton 52
Princess Annie 3rd, roan, c Oct., 1898, s Golden Autumn 70517 ..... Hon. W. T. Loton 40
Rose of Whinfell 7th, red, c Jan., 1899, s Prince Edward 71216 ..... Lord Brougham 35
Rose of Whinfell 8th, rich roan, c Feb., 1899, s Duke of Armathwaite 70294 ..... Mr. H. Williams 30
Armathwaite Butterfly 28th, red roan, c Feb., 1899, s Duke of Armathwaite 70294 ..... Mr. Deans 71

BULLS.

Prince Henry 75286, red, c April, 1898, s Prince George 71224 ..... Mr. J. Coulthard 27
Duke of Wellington 74429, roan, c August, 1898, s Duke of Armathwaite 70294 ..... Mr. Strong 21
Robin Hood 75448, roan, c October, 1898, s Armathwaite Robin 69887 ..... Mr. Bell 43
Barrington Prince 2nd, white, c Jan., 1899, s Prince Edward 71216 ..... Sir Oswald Mosley 25
Wild Robin, red and little white, c May, 1899, s Armathwaite Robin 69887 ..... Mr. Irving 21
Golden Butterfly 2nd, roan, c Sept., 1899, s Duke of Armathwaite 70294 ..... Mr. J. Little 16
Acomb Prince, roan, c Nov., 1899, s Prince Edward 71216 ..... Mr. Jefferson 15

Sale of Mr. Skinner's North Devon Cattle and Exmoor Sheep.

One of the most important sales of pedigree stock that has taken place in North Devon recently was held on Thursday at Wrafton, near Barnstaple, when the herd of North Devon cattle and flock of Exmoor horn sheep belonging to Mr. C. N. Skinner, of Wrafton Farm, were dispersed by Messrs. Hawkes, Risdons, and Andrew, in conjunction with Messrs. Sanders and Son, auctioneers, of Barnstaple. The sale was necessitated on account of Mr. Skinner leaving the neighbourhood. He has been a most successful breeder for some years past, and has won upwards of 300 prizes. There was a good attendance of buyers, and a satisfactory sale resulted.

A start was made with the flock of sheep which since 1897 have been very successful at the Bath and West, Somerset County, and other South of England shows. There was a keen demand throughout, the bidding at times being very brisk. Six-tooth and full-mouth Exmoor horn ewes made 34s. to 38s.; four-tooth ditto, 41s. to 46s.; two-tooth, 38s. to 65s.; ewe lambs, 28s. to 31s.; two-tooth wethers, 37s. to 47s.; wether lambs, 21s. to 25s. 6d. Many of Mr. Skinner's best lambs had previously been disposed of. Fat Nott ewes realised from 31s. 6d. to 40s.; fat wethers (blackface), 36s. 6d. to 50s., fat wethers. 32s. to 50s.; fat lambs, 28s. to 32s. Two two-shear rams, winners of numerous prizes, made £7 5s. and £5 10s. respectively, and a winning ram lamb fetched £4 5s., while a yearling ram was knocked down at £4. Two others realised £2 each. The principal sheep buyers included Messrs. Skinner (Ilfracombe), F. Elliott (Barnstaple), May (Bridgwater), C. Dennis (Barnstaple), J. Isaac (Braunton), T. Thorne (Barnstaple), J. Huxtable (Challacombe), J. Greenslade (Barnstaple), W. Day (Ilfracombe), F. Chanter (Barnstaple), W. Yeo (Newton Tracey), T. Isaac (Combmartin), J. Reed (Braunton), Southcombe (Berrynarbor), Wallington (Basingstoke), Lethbridge, Bate (Barnstaple), Alford (Ashford), T. D. Ridd (Bratton), F. Veysey (Southmolton), Clarke (Taunton), and G. Mogridge (Ilfracombe).

The fat and grazing stock, which included twenty-two fat heifers, twelve maiden heifers, about twenty steers, ten steer yearlings, and several yearling heifers realised very satisfactory prices, the heifers making from £12 to £22 10s.

The majority of the cattle possessed the blood of the well-known bulls Rent Day 3799 and Hard Times 3281, bred by Sir W. R. Williams and sired by the celebrated prize-winning bull Pretty Middling. As in the case of the sheep, the demand was good, as the animals sold readily at fairly good prices, as will be seen from the following list of the lots sold:—

COWS, HEIFERS, AND THEIR CALVES

Fancy 10th 10434, c Feb., 1888, s General Gordon 1974 Gs.
Mr. J. F. R. Morris 14
Fancy 8th 11821, c June, 1889, s Earl of Molton 1957
Mr. F. Elliott 17½
Darkey 4th 12504, c March, 1890, s Earl of Molton 2nd 1958 ..... Mr Dyer 17½
Cow calf, c March, 1900, s Rent Day 3799 ..... Mr. Jenkins 11½
Margaret 2nd 13092, c June, 1891, s Primrose Duke 2296
Mr. Veysey 21
Beauty 15963, c Sept., 1892, s Badgeworthy 2705
Mr. Williams 13
Bull calf, c Feb., 1900, s Rent Day 3799
Mr. J. F. R. Morris 8½
Fancy 24th 13493, c April, 1893, s Country Gentleman 2341
Mr. S. Yeo 16½
Bull calf, c May, 1900, s Rent Day 3799
Mr F Yendell 9
Joy 3rd 13622, c August, 1893, s Marsh 3021 ..... Mr. J. May 25
Bull calf, c April, 1900, s Rent Day 3799 ..... Mr. F. Yendell 9
Gibbs 2nd 13831, c March, 1894, s Bard 1891
Mr. James Hoyland 1
Joy 4th 14093, c June, 1894, s Doctor 2747 ..... Mr W Yeo 15
Pink 3rd 14057, c August, 1894, s Vespasian 3rd
Mr Williams 18
Cow calf, c June, 1900, s Rent Day 3799 ..... Mr W
Famous 4th 14789, c Jan., 1896, s Bravo Tempter 3rd 3077
Mr. R. Lake 16
Cow calf, c June, 1900, s Rent Day 3799
Mr F W Smith
Margaret 3rd 14794, c March, 1895, s Doctor 2747 G
Mr H
Cow calf, c Feb., 1900, s Rent Day 3799 ..... Mr
Darkey 5th 14788, c July, 1895, s Hard Times 3281
Mr L
Calf, s Rent Day 3799 ..... Mr. F. Yendell 4½
Margaret 4th 15414, c March, 1896, s Hard Times 3281
Mr W
Bull calf, c Jan., 1900, s Rent Day 3799 ..... Mr F. Veysey 14
Jessie 3rd 15577, c March, 1896, s Marshal Niel 3222
Mr Lethbridge
May 5th, c March, 1897, s April Fool 3222 ..... Mr J
Cow calf, c Feb., 1900, s Rent Day 3799 ..... Mr J
Famous 5th 15963, c May, 1897, s Hard Times 3281
Mr T Copp
Cow calf, c May, 1900, s Rent Day 3799 ..... Mr. Coates 4
Beauty 2nd 15064, c June, 1897, s April Fool 3222
Mr. Bond 16
Calf, s Rent Day 3799 ..... Mr
Dolly 4th, c June, 1897, s Johnny-Come-Quick 3458
Mr. May 14½
Joy 6th 15970, c June, 1897, s Hard Times 3281
Mr. Yendell 16
Cow calf, c June, 1900, s Rent Day 3799 ..... Mr. J Thorne 4
Darkey 7th 15965, c June, 1897, s Hard Times 3281
Mr
Primrose 5th 17151, c July, 1897, s Charles the Bold 41[illegible]
Lord
Rockett 3rd, c Oct., 1897, s Duke of Richmond 3432
Lord
Bull calf, c May, 1900, s Young Crafty 3rd
Mr. G. Mogridge 4½
Fidget 6th 15[illegible], c Jan., 1898, s Hard Times 3281
Mr J Isaac 12
Judy 2nd 15528, c March, 1898, s Hard Times 3281
Mr. Lethbridge 18
Darkey 8th 15532, c May, 1898, s Hard Times 3281
Mr
Fancy 2nd 15534, c June, 1898, s Hard Times 3281
Mr J Reed 17
Darkey 9th 15533, c June, 1898, s Modling Character 3630
Mr May 14
Ladybird 17149, c August, 1898, s Johnny-Come-Quick 3458
Mr
Gibbs 3rd 15535, c Nov., 1898, s Hard Times 3281
Mr. May 18½
Fidget 9th 17147, c Jan., 1899, s Hard Times 3281
Mr Laver 16
Graceful 5th 17148, c Jan., 1899, s Rent Day 3799
Mr. Jenkins 12½
Rosebud 4th 17152, c March, 1899, s Rent Day 3799
Mr. May 24
Darkey 10th 17144, c April, 1899, s Rent Day 3799
Mr. Jenkins 16
Snowdrop 6th, c May, 1899, s Middling Character 3630
Bought in 20
Darkey 11th 17145, c May, 1899, s Rent Day 3799
Mr. May 28
Famous 7th 17146, c July, 1899, s Rent Day 3799
Mr T. W. Smith 8½
Pink 4th 17150, c August, 1899, s Pansy's Duke 3785
Mr. Jones 12

BULLS

Rent Day 3799, c May, 1895 ..... Mr. F. Veysey 25
Robin Hood 4284, c July, 1899, s Rent Day 3799
Mr. T. Rowe 16
Volunteer 4319, c August, 1899, s Rent Day 3799
Mr T. D. Ridd 11
Bull calf, c Jan., 1900, s L S. D. ..... Mr Holland 9

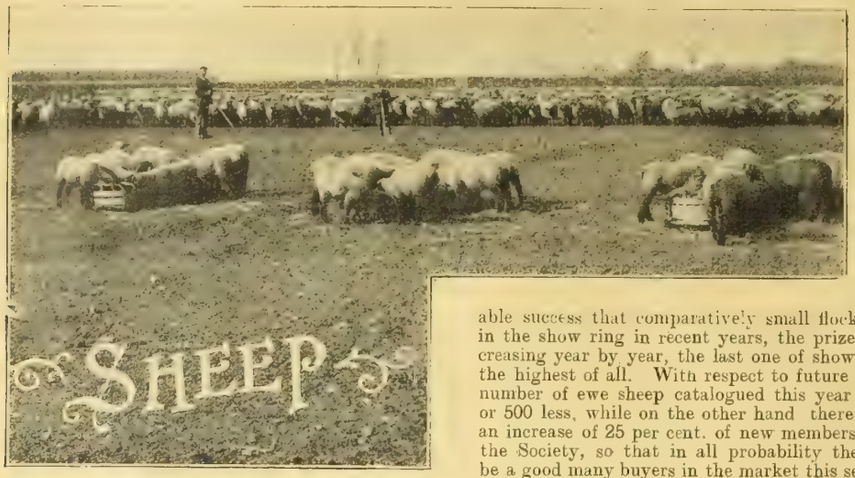
Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*]

Great Munster, Limerick, held on 27th July. Fair smaller than usual; good demand, and a fair clearance effected. Calves, first class, £5 5s. Yearlings, first class, £8 10s. to £10; second class, £6 10s. to £8; third class, £3 10s. to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 10s. to £13 5s.; second class, £9 15s. to £10 15s.; third class, £6 15s. to £8. Three-year-olds, first class, £14 10s. to £15 4s. 7d.; second class, £11 7s. 6d. to £13 2s. 6d.; third class. £10 10s. Springers, first class, £15 to £19 5s; second class, £12 10s. to £14 10s.; third class, £7 to £10. Small supply of sheep; moderate demand and a good many left unsold. Lambs, first class, £1 6s. to £1 8s.; second class, £1 1s. to £1 5s. Hoggetts, second class, £1 13s. Young pigs eight to ten weeks old sold at from 20s. to 25s. each.

There was only a small supply of stock, cattle of a rather poor class, at Clonmel Fair on Wednesday, and the demand only moderate, except for springers, which sold well. Prices: Yearlings, first class, £8 to £9; second class, £6 1s. 8d. to £7 10s; third class, £4 7s. 6d. to £5 5s. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 10s. to £13 10s.; second class, £8 10s. to £10 7s. 6d.; third class, £7 to £7 10s. Three-year-olds, first class, £15 to £15 15s. Springers, first class, £15 to £17 10s.; second class, £11 to £14. Lambs, first class, £1 6s. to £1 8s.; second class, £1 to £1 4s.; third class, 13s. to 16s. Hoggets, third class, 18s. to £1. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old sold at from 18s. to 22s. each.

Moving Pigs from an Infected Area.—At Wolverhampton Police Court, on Thursday, Joseph Davies, a pig dealer of Flintshire, appeared to answer three charges of moving pigs contrary to the conditions of his licences from an infected area in Cheshire. The Chief Constable stated that the pigs had been moved by false pretences. Defendant used the name of Mr. A. Hollingsworth, of Wolverhampton, and had stated that the pigs were going to be taken to his premises. As a matter of fact Mr. Hollingsworth knew nothing about the bringing of the removal of the pigs. It was a great piece of superintendence on the Chief Constable's part to bring the matter before the Board of Agriculture. The defendant had rendered himself liable to heavy penalties to £100. The defendant pleaded guilty as to two charges, and it was stated that he had only recently entered on the pig-dealing trade and had acted in ignorance. He apologised for using Mr. Hollingsworth's name. The defendant was ordered to pay £20 and the costs



Duke of Northumberland's Southdowns.

A draft of 410 pedigree Southdown sheep from the Duke of Northumberland's well-known Albury Park flock was disposed of by auction at Chilworth, Surrey, on Tuesday, by Messrs. Hewett and Lee, of Guildford. There was a fairly good attendance of buyers, and satisfactory prices were realised. Shearling and six-tooth ewes made from 44s. to 55s.; full mouth ewes, 38s. to 51s.; ewe and wether lambs, 30s. to 36s.; rams from 5gs. to 10gs., and ram lambs from 2½gs. to 5gs. The purchasers included Lord Northbourne, Lord Winterton, J. Barnard Hankey, Esq. (Fetcham Park), W. Cunliffe, Esq. (Headley Court), the Exors. late Admiral Maxse (Effingham), Mr. Bishop (representing A. F. Walter, Esq., Wolsingham), E. L. Rowcliffe, Esq. (Holl Place, Cranleigh), J. R. Kelley, Esq. (Oaklands, Worplesdon), Mr. Woodcock (steward to J. P. Hodgson, Esq.), J. Ritchie, Esq. (Long Ditton), Messrs. Chitty (Leckner), Phillips (Worplesdon), G. Ellis (Dorking), Atkinson (Dorking).

Show and Sale of Shropshires at Birmingham.

The breeders' 68th show and sale of Shropshire rams and ewes was held at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, on the 26th ult., and was conducted by Messrs. Lythall and Walters. Mr. Charles Coxon, of Elford Park, Tamworth, judged, and his awards were as follows. Class 1.—For single shearling ram: 1st, Mr. M. Williams, Whiston Hall, Albrighton; 2nd, Mr. Denston Gibson, Hanbury, Leamington; 3rd, Mr. E. Nock, Sutton Maddock, Shifnal; reserve, Mr. R. P. Cooper, Shenstone Court, Lichfield; highly commended, Mr. H. Williams, Newton-on-the-Hill, Shrewsbury. Class 2.—For pens of five shearling rams: 1st, Mr. R. P. Cooper; 2nd, Mr. M. Williams; 3rd, Mr. A. Bradburne, Moat Bank, Lichfield; 4th, Mr. G. L. Foster-Harter, Puckrup Hall, Tewkesbury; 5th, Mr. Denston Gibson; reserve, Mr. E. Nock; highly commended, Mr. C. H. Jolliffe, Goldicote, Stratford-on-Avon. Class 3.—For pens of thirty shearling ewes: 1st, Mr. M. Williams; 2nd, Mr. A. Bradburne; 3rd, Mr. A. S. Berry; 4th, Mr. E. Nock; 5th, Mr. H. C. G. Parker; reserve, Mr. D. Gibson.

Mr. A. Bradburne's rams made up to 12gs., Mr. E. Nock's, up to 12gs.; Mr. M Williams', up to 33gs.; Mr. H. Williams', up to 10gs.; Mr. R. P. Cooper's 18gs., 11gs., 10gs. Mr. Denston Gibson's ewes made up to 56s.; Mr. Arthur Bradburne's, up to 55s.; the Earl of Dartmouth's, 53s., 51s., etc.; Mr. A. S. Berry's, 55s., 55s., 54s., 54s., 53s., 50s.; Mr. M. Williams', 63s., 62s., 60s.; Mr. E. Nock's, up to 50s.; and Mr. H. C. G. Parker's, up to 50s.

Several rams were purchased for exportation to Buenos Ayres and Patagonia, and three gentlemen residing in Norfolk, Dorset, and Buckinghamshire each purchased 50 ewes to found a flock.

Sale of the Ampton Flock of Suffolks.

The entire flock of 450 highly-bred Suffolk sheep, the property of Mr. G. Arthur Paley, Ampton Hall, were submitted to public competition at the Home Farm, Ampton, on Monday, the auctioneers being Messrs. Lacy Scott and Son, in conjunction with Mr. Ernest Prentice, the secretary of the Suffolk Sheep Society. Special interest attached to the occasion, on account of its being the first sale of pedigree Suffolk sheep this season. It was a very successful sale, as will be seen by the subjoined prices. The large company present first partook of a capital luncheon, presided over by the Marquis of Bristol. Mr. Ernest Prentice, in opening the sale, expressed the pleasure which Mr. Lacy Scott and himself had in offering such a large number of choice sheep on that occasion. The animals did not, perhaps, appear in the ring quite to the best advantage, owing to the season and the large number of lambs penned, but he need hardly say that they possessed the best of quality. Mr. Prentice referred to the remarkable success that comparatively small flock had had in the show ring in recent years, the prizes won increasing year by year, the last one of showing being the highest of all. With respect to future sales, the number of ewe sheep catalogued this year were 400 or 500 less, while on the other hand there had been an increase of 25 per cent. of new members added to the Society, so that in all probability there would be a good many buyers in the market this season.

Mr. Lacy Scott, jun., then took up the hammer, and the sale was proceeded with. Six shearling ewes by Newmarket were purchased by Mr. J. N. Champion at £6 5s., three other lots making £6 10s., £5 10s., and £2 15s. to Mr. Poslingford, Mr. Champion, and Mr. J. White (for Mr. E. J. Johnstone, Rougham Hall). The two-year-old ewes were next offered. Mr. S. Traylen bought a grand pen of ten at £8 15s. each; another pen of ten went to the Marquess of Bristol at £4, while Mr. John White gave £3 10s. for twenty, and Mr. Pritchett £3 2s. for another score. There were two pens of ten three-year-old ewes, one going to Mr. Stockburn at £6 each, and the other to Mr. H. Smith at £3 7s. Two lots of full-mouthed ewes went to Major Baird (Exning) and Lord Bristol at £5 5s. and £2 18s. respectively. Mr. Walter Whitlock purchased twenty aged ewes at 37s. for Mr. George Courtauld, Cut Hedge, Halstead, amongst them being the dam of First Century, winner of first prizes at Suffolk and Essex in 1898, and sold to Sir E. Laurie, Bart., at 100gs. Five lots of twenty ewe lambs sold at 43s., 37s., 30s., and 28s. to Mr. R. Burrell, Captain Wentworth Reeve, and Mr. Bridges. The rams were next offered. Baron Chief 2nd, lambed 1898, sire Baron Chief, winner of the first prize and challenge cup, Stowmarket, went to Mr. Champion at 13gs. Ampton Khama, lambed 1899, bred by Mr. Thomas Keeble, Bentley Hall, sire Khama 2nd, went to the bid of Mr. J. Fyson at 6gs. Newmarket 2nd, sire Newmarket, was bought by Mr. A. G. Scorer (Attleborough) at 8gs. One ram lamb made £3, others 4½gs. each, and two 3½gs., the buyers of rams including Mr. Ernest Prentice, Mr. John Slater, Mr. Harry Smith (Euston), and Mr. Cordy S. Wolton. The shearling ewes averaged £4 13s. 4d. per head; two-shear, £4 6s. 6d.; three-shear, £4 13s. 6d.; and full-mouthed, £3 3s. 6d.

Ipswich Lamb Sale.

The annual two-day lamb sale carried out at Gippeswyk Park, Ipswich, by Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons, in conjunction with Mr. Ernest Prentice (secretary of the Suffolk Sheep Society), occupies a foremost position in the lamb sales of the district, and the occasion last week, though lacking that briskness in trade which has in former years been its chief characteristic, suffered by no means in respect to the number and quality of lambs consigned. Shearling ewes were not quite so numerous as usual, but any deficiency in this respect was atoned for by the increased consignments of ewe lambs. The attendance of buyers was very large, and a sign of the increasing importance of the sale was the presence of several visitors from the Midlands. The ewes and ewe lambs were disposed of on Wednesday, and the rams and ram lambs on Thursday. Speaking generally, the bidding on Wednesday was to a large extent languid, though for the best lots there was considerable improvement. Prices, however, ruled much lower than those prevailing last year, though at the same time the figures reached compared extremely favourably with those obtained at recent sales in the district, a fact which was only to be expected, judging by the relative importance of the dispersals. The catalogue comprised some 2,650 Suffolk ewes, 1,400 Suffolk ewe lambs, and 470 Suffolk rams from registered flocks (including the entire flocks belonging to Mr. F. J. Coleridge-Boles, Stratford-on-Avon; Mr. C. H. Cordy, Walton; Mr. E. Packard, and Mr. Horace W. Packard). Amongst the ewes a conspicuous pen was that consigned by Mr. Walter Noble, Creeting St. Peter, whose 160 shearlings fetched particularly good prices; the best ten went to Mr. J. W. Eagle at 125s., and the next at 100s. to Mr. C. F. Marriner. Mr. A. Heywood purchased eighty at prices ranging from 70s. to 75s., while of the remainder twenty made 87s. 6d., thirty 82s. 6d., and ten 77s. 6d. A small but sucessful pen was that sent by Mr. Harry Long, Ringshall Hall; ten fetched 155s., twenty 115s., and another score 80s., the purchasers respectively being Mr. T. Keeble, Mr. W. N. Champion, and Mr. D. M. Gurteen. Mr. Coleridge Boles' flock sold as follows:—Eleven shearling ewes, 63s.; thirty-two three-shear ewes, 44s. to 41s. Mr. Cordey's ewes realised:—Twenty-four shearlings, 60s. and 55s.; twenty-five two-shears, 65s. and 58s.; thirty three-shears, 68s. and 55s.; thirty-four full-mouth, 66s. to 40s.; sixty-five ewe lambs, 51s. to 35s. 6d. Mr. Edward Packard got 65s. for his shearling ewes, 61s. for twenty two-shear ewes, and 60s. for three-shear ewes; whilst Mr. Horace Packard obtained the following prices:—Fifty shearling ewes, 80s. and 70s.; eighty-three two-shear ewes, 100s. to 60s.; sixty-three three-shear ewes, 60s. to 50s.; thirty-two full-mouthed ewes, 60s. and 45s.

On Thursday 470 rams were penned, and they were from the most noted flocks in the district. The attendance was very large, and the sale was on the whole a satisfactory one, but, as usual, several young and undersized lambs were passed over. There were some spirited buyers. Mr. Thos. Goodchild, of Great Yeldham Hall, made the top price of the day, 55gs., which was given by Mr. J. W. Eagle, a gentleman who himself in previous years has led the van in the matter of the price of his consignments. The first collection offered were shearling rams, belonging to Mr. Alfred J. Smith. The consignment was very much in the nature of an experiment; it having been found in past years that not a few lambs did not quite realise what was anticipated of them, Mr. Smith determined to give sheep breeders the opportunity of acquiring shearlings. There were twenty-six of them One moiety was offered at the opening of the sale, and the other later in the day. Amongst the first was one purchased by Mr. John Collins at 12gs., while Mr. A. Boa gave 11gs. for another, the average of the first thirteen being £7 7s. 9d. One animal in the second lot was bought by Mr. Herbert Smith at 39gs., one by Mr. Horace Dawson at 20gs., one by Mr. Leonard Smith at 12gs., and another by Mr. G. P. Watkins at 15gs., the average of the thirteen being £12 17s. 8d., or taking the entire collection, of something like 10gs. Mr. W. H. Borrett, Leiston, sent nine ram lambs, which made an average of £9 2s., the top price being 14gs. and 11gs., given by Mr. Percy Eagle and Mr. John White, for Mr. E. J. Johnstone, Rougham Hall. Mr. J. W. Eagle had twenty ram lambs, which averaged £14 18s. 2d., the best ones being purchased by Mr. S. Scott, Felsham, at 34gs.; Mr. T. J. Stockburn, Clare, 30gs.; Mr. E. Giles, 21gs. Five belonging to Mr. Henry Lingwood averaged £6 8s. 1d. Mr. S. R. Sherwood consigned twelve, which made an average of £18 15s., the highest prices being 26gs. to Mr. A. Boa; 22gs. to Mr. C. A. Creasey; and 21gs. to Mr. W. Nichol, Hengrave. Four from Mr. C. H. Cordy's flock averaged 6gs., and a shearling made £21. This shearling was passed through the ring at last year's sale at the upset price of 5gs. Eleven ram lambs, sent by Mr. D. Abbott Green, made the good average of 12gs., the buyers including Mr. David Gurteen, 18gs.; Mr. A. B. Long, 17gs.; and the Marquis of Bristol, 16gs. Four belonging to Mr. M. G. Hale averaged £10 12s. 7d., Mr. Barrow giving 21gs. for a lamb by Gunner of Stretchworth. Mr. Thomas Keeble sent thirteen nice lambs, which averaged £15 8s. 6d., Mr. Blyth giving 23gs. for one and Mr. John Collins a like amount for another. Fourteen from Mr. Thomas Goodchild's Great Yeldham flock averaged £19 13s. 9d., amongst the lambs being one which made 55gs., the highest price of the day, to Mr. J. W. Eagle. This was by a sheep bred by Mr. S. R. Sherwood, of Playford, for which Mr. Goodchild gave 100gs. at last year's sale. The other prices included 20gs. to Mr. King and 22gs. to Mr. Cullingham. A pair of twin lambs made 47gs., a figure not often reached for twins. Four sent by Mr. Clement C. Smith averaged 11gs., Mr. S. Traylen taking one at 16gs. Nine belonging to Mr. Herbert C. Smith averaged £20 10s. 8d., Major Baird, Exning, securing one at 40gs. and Mr. R. Holmes White another at 30gs., and Mr. Clement Smith a third at 31gs., a shearling making 19gs. Mr. Horace Packard had five, which made an average of 11gs., Mr. J. K. Brooke taking one at 18gs. Mr. S. R. Sherwood's dozen averaged £9 14s. 3d., and a second lot of twelve of Mr. Thomas Keeble's £9 3s. 9d. Mr. Eagle and other principal consignors also had other animals at the latter part of the sale, the prices realised being about the same.

The Harrington Hall Shropshires.

On Tuesday, Messrs. Alfred Mansell & Co., Shrewsbury, conducted Mr. A. E. Mansell's annual sale of Shropshires from his Harrington Hall flock. A large and numerous company assembled, including all the leading breeders and the representatives of numerous foreign buyers, the Australian Colonies being specially well represented. Mr. Alfred Mansell, who occupied the rostrum, alluded in his opening remarks to the long list of honours obtained at the Royal and other important shows during the last twelve years, the remarkable success of Mansell blood in other flocks, and the extraordinary success of Harrington sheep when exhibited in the United States and Australia. He also called special attention to the activity of the foreign demand, his firm alone having exported nearly 600 Shropshire sheep during the present season, embracing a very wide area, and including the United States, Canada, South America, Australia, Germany, Russia, and France. In Australasia Shropshire rams were very popular, it being found by experience that for breeding lambs to sell as frozen lamb the Shropshire ram had no rival. The

sale then commenced, the highest price being 240gs., and the general average £36 15s. 6d.

The following are the principal prices :—

	Gs.
Royal Blood, winner 1st R.A.S.E., etc., etc. Mr. Smith (Australia)	240
Rose of York, winner 2nd R.A.S.E., etc., etc. Mr. D. Buttar (Scotland)	150
Lot 4.—Shearling, by Dream Star Mr. A. J. Simpson (South Australia)	90
Lot 14.—Shearling, by Ulster Rose Mr. Lewis (Tasmania)	51
Lot 20.—Shearling, by Fortification Mr. Gardiner (New Zealand)	80
Lot 22.—Shearling, by Fortification Messrs. P. A. and G. T. Evans	85
Lot 23.—Shearling, by Fortification Messrs. J. Harding and Son	100

Other prices realised were: 30gs. (Lady Rothschild); 28gs. (Mr. Morris); 34gs. (Mr. Coxon); 20gs. (Mr. Eldon Bankes); 25gs. (Mr. P. L. Mills); 26gs. (Mr. Russell, Scotland); 20gs. (Duke of Westminster); 22gs (let) Messrs Evans; 20gs (Mr J. Harding); 18gs. (Mr. C. Bebb); 22gs. (Captain Bellais); 15gs. (Mr. Pritchard).

Blandford August Sheep Fair.

The great August sheep fair at Blandford, Dorset, took place on Thursday, and there was a large supply of sheep, close on 7,000 being penned at sales held by Mr. Ensor (Dorchester) and Messrs. Senior and Godwin (Sturminster Newton). An improved tone pervaded the business as a result of the late much-needed rains, which has also greatly improved the root crop prospects. This gave a hardening tendency to values as compared with recent fairs, and prices may be quoted as a trifle better than at Weyhill and other recent fairs. Good class ewes (the

Pen of Hampshire Down Ewe Lambs First at the Royal Show, York, 1900.
(The property of Mr. James Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury.)

supply consisting entirely of Down sheep) were in demand at varying prices ranging from about 40s. up to 47s. for useful pens, others selling from 33s. to 38s. 6d. Wether sheep, 38s. to 46s. as a general range, and lambs made from 22s. to 33s. as a general run. A large number of well-bred Down sires were also disposed of, and on the whole made satisfactory prices, the best selections especially so.

HORSES.

Mr. Walter Lloyd's Hackneys.

Mr. Walter Lloyd, of Heaselands, near Haywards Heath, held his first sale of pedigree Hackneys and harness horses on Wednesday, but unfortunately for the success of the undertaking the weather was very wet, and, although Mr. Lloyd had made every provision so that visitors could not suffer in any way from the elements while at Heaselands, the rain kept away many intending visitors, and the sale suffered in consequence. The catalogue embraced some forty-six horses, all but three or four being the property of Mr. W. Lloyd. The description of the horses showed that no expense had been spared in the selection of sires, those represented being Goldfinder 6th, Polonius, Agility, Conquest 2nd, Dr. Syntax, Champion Ganymede, Royal Dane, and Lord Hamlet. The Heaselands stud horse is Danegelt's Pride 5,955. The horses showed well in the ring, bad as the day was, though neither horses nor men were given a fair chance of showing to the best advantage. A large covered stand was erected for the comfort and convenience of the company at the ring, and in a spacious marquee Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lloyd entertained a large company to a well-served luncheon, at the conclusion of which an adjournment was made to the stand and sale ring, where Mr. Grimwade, of Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck, conducted the business. The sale realised just about £1,709, which was considered far below the value of the animals offered. The highest price obtained was 165gs. for the chestnut mare Actress, a prize winner in 1896, 1897, and in 1899 in the Sussex and Worthing shows. Heath Polonius, a chestnut colt winning second prize in the Sussex show this year, sold at 26gs., and Heath Lily, a bay filly winning second prize at Brighton last week, sold for 37gs. The following is a list of the animals sold, their purchasers, etc. :—

	Gs.
BROOD MARES AND FOALS.	
Grimston Lily 2790, dark chestnut, 15.1 hands, f 1888, s Prince Alfred 1325 ..... Mr. D. Cory	40
Heath Victor, brown colt, f 1900, s Conquest H. 5560 Mr. D. Cory	19
Luxury 4264, black, 15.3 hands, f 1889, s Doctor Syntax 877 ..... Mr. Lionel Rodwell	30
Heath Haughty, bay filly, f 1900, s Danegelt's Pride 5955 ..... Mr. Allison	26
Winniemede 9655, bay, f 1894, s Ganymede 2076 Mr. Fred Lloyd	44
Heath Ganymede, bay colt, f 1900, s Danegelt's Pride 5955 ..... Mr. Gibson	13
Model of Luxury 10346, black, f 1895, s Model II. 460 Mr. Midgeley	33
Heath Grandee, bay colt, f 1900, s Danegelt's Pride 5955 ..... Mr. Martin	
Cuckfield Cordelia 9853, chestnut, f 1895, s Agility 2799 Mr. Smith	42
Dollie Daydream 11754, black-brown, f 1897, s Lord Durham 1825 ..... Mr. Page	29
Heath Hamlet, brown colt, f 1900, s Poonius 4931 Mr. Robertson	20
Silver Queen 9516, brown, f 1891, s Danegelt 174 Mr. T. Radmore	40
Heath Royalty, brown colt, f 1900, s Young Dorrington 2325 ..... Mr. Alwen	11½
Heath Polonius, chestnut foal, f 1900, s Gay Polonius 6748 ..... Mr. Allison	26
Heath Norseman, chestnut colt, f 1900, s Young Dorrington 2325 ..... Mr. Gibson	11½
Terrapin, chestnut, f 1893, s Norfolk Swell .. Mr. Marker	21
Chestnut colt foal, f 1900, s Succeed 6206 .... Mr. Hook	12
Lady Marioni 1081 (H.I.S.B.), bay, f 1893, s Marioni Mr. Cory	15½
TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES	
Heath Vivid bay, f 1898, s Lightning II. 4849 Mr Evans	36
YEARLING FILLIES.	
Heath Lily, bay, f 1899, s Conquest II. 5560 Mr. Hanson	37
Heath Lavender, bay, f 1899, s Danegelt's Pride 5955 Mr. T Bannister	17½
YEARLING COLTS.	
Heath Splendour, black, f 1899, s Royal Dane 5782 Mr. Alwen	21
Heath Gaiety, bay, f 1899, s Gay Danegelt 6022 Mr. Page	13
Heath Harmony, chestnut, f 1899, s Danegelt's Pride 5955 ..... Mr. Shorter	21
STALLIONS.	
Succeed 6206, chestnut, f 1895, s Success III. 4536 Mr. Balls	69
Free Kick 5211, black, f 1891, s Confidence 158 Mr. Howard	26
HARNESS HORSES.	
Lady Lofty II., chestnut mare, 15.1½ hands, f 1896 s Links Boy 3082 ..... Mr Howard	110
Actress 10637, chestnut mare, 15.1½ hands, f 1896, s Agility 2799 ..... Mr. W. Durbin	165
Lord Pixton, bay gelding, 16.1 hands, f 1895, s Shamrock II. T.B. ..... Mr Evans	158
Lord Hartfield, bay gelding, 16.1 hands, f 1896, s Shamrock II. T.B.	
Bagthorpe Verbena 9715, bay mare, 16 hands, f 1895, s Leam Royal 5260 ..... Mr. Hanson	90
Miss Spark 10338, black mare, 14.3 hands, f 1895, s Winnal Fireaway 4082 ..... Mr. Kleinwort	83
Dorothy Dene 9899, black mare, 14.3 hands, f 1895, s Winnal Fireaway 4082 ..... Mr. Kleinwort	76
Nora, 9376, bay mare, f 1894, 15.1 hands, s Chocolate Junior 4185 ..... Mr. Megaw	66
Pom-Pom, grey gelding, 14 hands, f 1894, s Stepper 5716 Mr Kleinwort	30
Flashlight, black gelding, 15.1½ hands, f 1869, s Winnal Fireaway 4082 ..... Mr. Floyd	31
Athlete, bay gelding, 16 hands, f 1897, s [illegible] Major-General Sir Henry Eyre	75
Klondyke, dark chestnut gelding, f 1898, s Goldfinder VI. 1791 Mr Hanson	30
Royal Duke, chestnut gelding, f 1897, s Royal Dane 5782 Mr. H. [illegible]	25
Fascination, bay gelding, 15.3 hands, f 1899, s Danegelt's Pride T.B. Mr. [illegible]	6
Lightheart, chestnut gelding, 14.1 hands, f 1897, s Cheator T.B. Mr. [illegible]	12
Badminton, chestnut filly, f 1898, s Berrister 4625 Mr. H. [illegible]	27

The Hinxton Shires and Hackneys.

The sale of Shire and Hackney horses bred by Mr. C. Ed. E. Cooke, which took place at Hinxton Grange, Cambridgeshire, on Thursday, attracted a very large number of prominent breeders from all parts of the country, and the event proved most successful. Three-figure prices were obtained five times, four for Shires and one for Hackneys. The latter made the top price of the sale, Sir Walter Gilbey paying 260gs. for the brood mare Hinxton Lady Denmark, a chestnut, foaled in 1896, by Dagenham 4214—Violet. The top figure for Shires was 180gs., which was paid by Mr. Collyer, Boston, for the brood mare Duchess of Worsley 7th, by Lancashire Lad 2nd—Vestal of Worsley 15th. The Prince of Wales had to go to 170gs. before obtaining the Shire mare Clodia, a bay, foaled in 1893, by Julian—Hitchin Cloddy 2nd, whilst for Hinxton Cloddy, a brown, by Saxon Boy—Hitchin Cloddy, Mr. King, of Chesterford, paid 115gs. Sir Walter Gilbey presided at the luncheon, and, in replying to the toast of his health, defended the action of the Royal Agricultural Society in deciding to find a permanent home near London. He said that, owing to the losses sustained at some of their shows, no other course was possible, and this remark seemed to meet with general approval.

The following is a list of the principal prices realised :—

	Gs.
BROOD MARES AND FOALS.	
Clodia 23826, b, f 1893, s Julian .. H.R.H. Prince of Wales	170
Bay colt foal, f 1900, s Waresley Triumph 16453 Mr. Conchar	35
Di Vernon 21650, br, f 1894, s British Flag III. 12841 Mr. A. Clarke	60
Horbling Welcome 20114, b, f 1894, s Horbling Commodore 14100 ..... Mr. Bagenal	80
Bay colt foal, f 1900, s Blythwood Conqueror 14997 Mr. Brook	22
Hinxton Charm 20094, b, f 1894, s Norman Conqueror 7940 ..... Mr. Rodwell	50
Bay colt foal, f 1900, s Mormaer of Bateford 15242 Mr. Conchar	45
Hinxton Bay Leaf 28902, b, f 1895, s Burgundy 12862 Messrs. Thompson	90
Bay colt foal, f 1900, s Hinxton Albert 17395 Mr. Joseph Morton	28
Hinxton Cloddy 26154, br, f 1895, s Saxon Boy 14852 Mr. H. King	115
Bay filly foal, f 1900, s Blythwood Conqueror 14997 Mr. King	61
BROOD MARE AND FOAL.	
Thetis 24962, g, f 1896, s Nailstone Ironclad 7873 Mr. Carter	60
Grey filly foal, f 1900, s Blythwood Conqueror 14997 Mr. J. Morton	31
Duchess of Worsley VII. 19854, bl, f 1894, s Lancashire Lad II. 6031 ..... Mr. Collyer	180
THREE-YEAR-OLD MARES AND FOALS.	
Hinxton Duchess 28905, b, f 1897, s Peleus 15771 Mr. Bagenal	58
Poplars Lily 26659, b, f 1897, s Duke of Worsley 13002 Captain Duncombe	82
Bay colt foal, f 1900, s Hinxton Albert 17395 .... Mr. King	16
Hinxton Coll 26155, br, f 1897, s Glyn Warrior 15122 Mr. Keevil	52
Bay filly foal, f 1900, s Hinxton Albert 17395 .. Mr. Keevil	27
THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.	
La Belle 26282, b, f 1897, s Crown of Royalty 14581 Lord Bolton	70
THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLY.	
Hinxton Tidy 26161, bay, f 1897, s Kennett, 13206 Mr. Alfred Clarke	75
TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.	
Blackthorn Breeze 27586, br, f 1898, s Old Warden Royal Harold 16300 ..... Mr. J. Cooke	81
Hinxton Pride 28906, b, f 1898, s Salisbury 5324 Captain Heaton	100
Hinxton Queen 28907, b, f 1898, s Cheadle Jumbo 3024 Captain Duncombe	72
YEARLING FILLIES.	
Juliette of Waresley, b, f 1899, s Duke of Worsley 13002 Captain Heaton	100
YEARLING COLTS.	
Brown Colt, f 1899, s Blythwood Conqueror 14997 Mr. Scootton	74
BROOD MARES AND FOALS.	
Lady Truelove 10202, ch, f 1894, sire Danegelt Star 4215 Mr. Walter Lovat	60
Chestnut Filly Foal, f 1900, s His Majesty 2513 Mr. Conchar	53
Cayenne 7699, ch, 15.2 hands, f 1893, s Cadet 1251 Earl Egerton of Tatton	85
Chesnut filly foal, f 1900, s Sir Augustus 6562 Sir Walter Gilbey	60
Chesnut filly foal, f 1900, s Langton 6078 ..... Mr. Ley	50½
Miss Rufus 9337, b, 15.1 hands, f 1894, s Rufus of Rushless 3926 ..... Mr. F. Frohock	53
Hinxton Lady Denmark, ch, 15.3 hands, f 1896, s Dagenham 4214 ..... Sir Walter Gilbey	260
THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.	
Dashaway 11745, ch, f 1897, s His Majesty 2513 Mr. Shorten	50
Buttercup 11676, ch, f 1897, s Garton Duke of Connaught 3009 ..... Mr. H. Livesey	48
TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLY.	
Hinxton Capsicum 12713, ch, f 1898, s Bonfire 2881 Mr. Amey	42

The Executive Committee of the Durham County Council decided on Thursday that all grazing sheep entering the county must be dipped within three months, and swarm sheep [illegible] that no sheep exists in the locality from which they have been drawn. No restriction is to be placed on the movement of fat sheep if slaughtered within fourteen days.

SHOWS.

Cambridgeshire.

The Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society's Show at Ely on Tuesday was in every respect the most successful held since its reorganisation in 1896, when it was converted into a one-day event. The society was favoured in having bright summer-like weather and a very large attendance. Five years have elapsed since the show took place in the cathedral city, which in honour of the day was profusely beflagged. On this occasion the venue of the show was at New Barns, where Mr. H. Coy kindly placed at the disposal of the executive his spacious paddock. For the last three years the show has been held at Cambridge, the total entries respectively being 227 in 1897, 239 in 1898, and 345 in 1899. This year, however, showed an increase over the latter figures of forty-five, the totals in the various classes being: Shire horses, 155; Hackneys and hunters (exclusive of jumping and turnouts), 165; cattle, 21; sheep, 35; cream cheese, butter, and eggs, 14. The three latter sections showed a falling off, but the increase in the horse classes was so good that the total entry was 390 as against 345.

The Shires occupied the first place in the catalogue, and the judges had their work cut out, in the various classes being some of the massive animals with the abundance of "feather" so characteristic of the Fen horses. The Waresley Park Stud was well represented, Captain Duncombe winning premier honours in the second class for an 1897 entire horse, with Waresley Patriot and the blue badge in class one, where he was beaten by Mr. Rowell's Bury Blood Royal. For a Shire entire colt, Director IV., bred in 1898 by Mr. H. West, of Upwell, and now owned by Mr. W. Richardson, of Doddington, defeated Bury Harold, a son of Mr. Rowell's famous sire. Captain Duncombe was first again for a last year's Shire entire colt, Mr. Rowell being second. For the Shire mare with foal at foot honours fell to Mr. S. Poles, of Thorney Fen, with his New Cut Wonder, foaled in 1881, and sired by Thumper, her dam being Wryde Beauty. Mr. H. Towgood's Shelford Bar None William was second. New Cut Wonder also won in the tenant farmers' class, where he defeated Mr. C. Ambrose's Stuntney Angelica, and also in Class 9, making in all three firsts. In the section for Shire mares, open to all England, the first and second awards went to Mr. F. Crisp, of the Girton Stud Farm, for two admirable mares. The red rosette was handed to Aurea, a splendid bay foaled in 1891, and a daughter of Thornton Premier and Ivy. It was the first occasion on which this animal had been shown this year, but in the competition of '99 she won a fourth at the London Show and champion there three years ago. The second prizewinner, was Queen of the Shires, a daughter of Harold and Bonny Lady. These two entries were respectively first and reserved for the Shire Horse Society's Medal. Third honours in the same class went to Mr. J. Topham, of Thorney, for Thorney Floss, by the celebrated Menestrel, and Thorney Flower Girl, winner at Peterborough of the champion thirty guinea cup and Sir Blundell Maple's cup. In this class she had to compete with mares of any age, and was consequently beaten, although in the class for Shire mares, foaled in '97, she carried everything before her. In the section in which the prizes were given by the President of the Society (Colonel H. McCalmont, M.P.), honours went to Mr. J. Rowell, Bury, Hunts., for Bury Specie, a smart bay by Yorkshire Ben. Mr. Crisp's Girton Sunlight was second. Mr. J. Rowell was again successful with the same horse in the tenant farmers' class, Mr. Richardson (Doddington) being second with Bramhope Johanna, Mr. J. E. Morton (Thorney) reserved with Gores Blaze, and Mr. Topham highly commended with Thorney Bloom. Mr. S. Poles again carried off the palm with his bay Shire filly by Southgate Harold, beating Mr. Rowell's Bury Mayflower. In succeeding classes Messrs. J. Frohock (Lolworth), Crisp, Wayman (Haddenham), and C. Rose (Rampton) were prominent amongst the prize winners. The latter gentleman had the honour of securing the cup given by Mr. Crisp with a smart filly by Somersham Hatherton, whilst the 20-guinea cup given by the treasurer (Mr. H. C. Foster) was won by Captain Duncombe for an entire, Waresley Patriot, first in class two.

The muster of Hackneys was highly creditable to the district, some really fine animals coming into the ring. In the first class Mr. Heaton's well-known entire Huggate Fashion was beaten by Mr. J. Morton's Denzil, a beautiful chestnut sired by Danegelt, which also won. Denzil won Sir Walter Gilbey's Cup, Huggate Fashion being reserved. The last-named horse, however, took one of the Hackney Horse Society's Medals, Mr Morton was reserved, whilst the second medal for a mare, filly, or foal went to Mr. Benton, of Earith, Mr. Flanders being reserved. The mare, Bury Belle, owned by Mr. Rowell, and a prominent winner at the Hunt's show, at March was beaten by Atalanta, a very smart chestnut roan shown by Mr. W. Flanders, of Witchford, and bred by Reality. Four prizes were given for hackneys 15 hands and over shown in saddle, and a similar class under that height. In the best instance, Mr. H. Benton, of Earith, with a smart bay brown was first and Mr. W. Flanders second, the latter being first in the next class for under 15 h.h. with Folly by Reality and Mr. F. Beldam's Pride of York, a nice chestnut, second. In the open class for Hackneys, Mr. G. F. Johnson, of Woodbridge, had entered his well-known Silver King, which took the premier place in the class for action at the Brighton Show, and his now famous Brilliance, but because they were not on the ground until half-past ten o'clock instead of ten they were excluded. The stewards held a hastily summoned meeting, and decided that they must abide by the rule. This was surely putting too rigid an interpretation upon the rule, especially as the animals had been entered in due time, and came direct from the station to the ground on the arrival of the train.

The cattle, which were below the average, were chiefly of the Channel Islands breed. However, Captain Duncombe had a fine Shorthorn roan bull forward in Storm Signal, which was first. Lord Braybrook, of Audley End, took premier honours in Class 2 with a Jersey bull, while Mr. C. F. Young, of Melbourn, was first for a cow of the same breed. Lord Braybrook was again successful with a dairy cow, and Mr. J. Russell won the "firsts" for a fat steer and a heifer. With respect to the sheep, the President, Colonel H. L. B. McCalmont, M.P., and the Earl of Ellesmere were the principal exhibitors of Southdown rams, the Stetchworth entry being the winner. Colonel Harry McCalmont took both prizes with some choice ram lambs, but in ewes and ewe lambs, Lord Ellesmere was the victor. His Lordship was the only exhibitor of Suffolk rams, and carried off both honours, but in the competition for Suffolk ram lambs, Col. Harry McCalmont was the winner with a particularly nice pen. In the class for Suffolk ewe lambs, the honour was reserved, Earl Ellesmere being first.

Cumberland.

The Cumberland Agricultural Society, like many another society, has had its ups and downs during its seventy years of useful existence, but, thanks to the leading agriculturists of the county, it has always survived them, and the success of this year's show, which took place on the Football Ground at Carlisle on the 21st ult., will no doubt give it a new lease of life. This year the Council of the society tried an experiment. In years past the show day has been Thursday—the day upon which Carlisle takes a half-holiday. But, although the conjunction of these two events made for success, that most potent factor of all, the weather, did not invariably smile upon the enterprise. Consequently the Council decided this year to hold the show on a Saturday. It was a wise decision, for it had the effect of drawing to the show not only all those who regularly come to the weekly market, but many others from distant parts of those north-western counties where opportunities for seeing friends are still so limited. It was to be regretted that, notwithstanding a prize list of over £400, there was a falling off in all the sections except those for sheep and light horses, sheep numbering seven more and light horses seventy-four more. This large increase of light horses is to be accounted for by the fact that Mr. F. W. Chance, of Morton, gave a series of special prizes for mares three years old and upwards, best adapted for breeding horses suitable for mounted infantry. In this particular class there were no fewer than seventy-five animals entered. The heavy horses shown were about as numerous as last year, and the diminished entry of cattle was attributed to certain changes in the prize list and to the fact that the Calthwaite Hall herd of Shorthorns and the Whitehall Galloways were not represented. The feature of the show was undoubtedly the class for mares suitable for breeding horses capable of carrying mounted infantry. On the outbreak of the South African war Mr. J. J. Bell, veterinary surgeon, Carlisle, was authorised by the Government to purchase horses for the use of our troops, and has since then bought and despatched no fewer than 1,150 from Cumberland, Westmoreland, and the Border counties. The benefit accruing to the tenant farmers in these districts who had reared this type of horse may be imagined when it is stated that many of the animals cost no less than £40 each. Realising what an important part mounted infantry will be called upon to play in Britain's future wars, Mr. F. W. Chance decided to give seven prizes with the object of encouraging the breed of horses for military purposes the class to be open to the society's district and the county of Westmorland, and to consist of mares 14.2 to 15.1 hands, three-years-old and upwards. It is intended to cross some of the best mares with a pure Arab pony, or some other horse of that breed, for the purpose of getting a combination of substance and speed. The quality of mare shown was excellent, and was exceptionally well adapted for the purpose. They were mostly animals with a fair share of blood and quick in their movements. Many of them had beautiful shoulders; some, indeed, were miniature hunters. In such circumstances the judges had a difficult task, and the weeding-out process occupied a considerable time; but finally their choice rested with Mr. J. Davison's bay mare Countess, sired by Lord Derby II., second honours going to Messrs. S. and W. R. Hinde's Lady Lorton, which carried off first prize in the Hackney section for brood mares.

Agricultural horses made a good show. The winning mare in the brood class was Messrs. T. and J. Wood's bay Jess, which also took the Blamire memorial prize, open to the county of Cumberland. It was sired by Kerr's well-known Royal Champion, and has taken prizes at several local shows. Its foal also took leading honours in its class. Mr. Joseph Hayton also carried off two or three prizes.

The Hackney classes were well filled, and so were those set apart for horses in harness. Mr. Jos. Workman, of Petteril Green, not only won first prize with his one-year-old gelding, but secured the challenge bowl, value £10 10s., given by Messrs. Thompson, of Kirkhouse, for the best gelding or filly exhibited, from one to three years old inclusive.

The hunters were somewhat uneven. Amongst them were some exceptionally good ones, and others which had such obvious defects that, in the words of one of the judges, they "might well have been left at home." All the classes, however, filled well. Mr. J. S. Rigg's Ting-a-Ling was a very easy first in her class (brood mares). Her competitors were useful mares, but did not approach her in quality. Mrs. Twentyman's Princess won in the class for three-year-old fillies. She is full of quality, and certainly had the most "class" about her, but is just a little wanting in size. The best colt in the young classes was Mr. J. T. Rook's Thistle, chestnut, sired by Menelaus. It was an easy first in its class. Mr. H. Dugdale's gelding, which also won, is of exceptionally good quality, but rather backward in condition. For geldings or mares of any age up to and over 14st. (open), Mr. C. H. Wilson was first with Bounce, which both judges declared was the best young horse they had seen this season. It was the first time the animal had been shown.

The show of Shorthorns suffered somewhat by comparison with former years, but was never the less a good one. A new exhibitor at Carlisle in the person of Mr. Wm. Henderson, of Haydon Bridge, carried off some of the principal prizes, including two firsts and three seconds. His young bull, which took first prize in its class, was fifth at the Royal Show at York, and also carried off honours at the Northumberland Show at Alnwick. Mr. E. Ecroyd's herd was also very prominent among the prize-winners. There was an excellent turn-out of Galloways, for which the district is noted. Mr. R. Jefferson took most of the leading prizes. His Lady Nancy 4th, which was at the head of the cow class, is probably one of the best specimens of the breed extant. She was only placed third at the Highland Show at Stirling, but in the opinion of many she was entitled to second. Many of the other winners had also been shown with success at Stirling. Among the sheep, Mr. W. Bell, of Brampton, won not only first prize with his Border Leicester ram, but secured the champion silver cup given by Mr. W. Parkin Moore for the best sheep in the Border Leicester classes.

Exeter Horse Show.

As receipts for the past nine exhibitions have not always counterbalanced the expenditure, it was decided this year to hold only one day's show instead of two. It is to be regretted that the financial condition of the Society is nothing like so sound as could have been wished, and it was hoped that the weather for Wednesday's exhibition would have been most favourable so as to attract such a gate as to put the exchequer in a flourishing condition. But the morning broke with heavy rain, and although it brightened up considerably prior to the opening of the show, the rains had a somewhat adverse effect on the attendance. The entries this year numbered about 250, while 191 animals entered the rings, which was most satisfactory. All the principal classes produced a good entry, this being especially the case in the open hunter classes, in which very keen competition was seen. The entries in the jumping and driving classes came up well, and in regard to the jumping many of the most prominent jumpers in Devon made their appearance in the ring. The judges were:—Hunters, hacks, and harness: The Right Hon. Lord Poltimore; Mr. Digby Collins, Newton Ferrers; Mr. H. Boden, Derby; and Mr. J. Hill, Church Stretton. Agricultural horses: Mr. G. T. Hayman, Taunton.

The first class was a local one for brood mares, calculated to produce hunters, with foal at foot by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter sire, and here the Hunters' Improvement Society offered a gold medal. The judges awarded premier honours to Mr. Charles Wakeley's Shamrock, which was a fine-looking animal, but on examination by a veterinary surgeon it was found that the mare was unsound, and consequently the second prize winner, which from outward appearances was not nearly so compact as the one disqualified, stepped up. The other entrants were only of a moderate character. The next class was also a local one, and was for colt brood mares not exceeding 16 h.h., calculated to produce weight-carrying colts, with foal at foot. There were only four entries, and the judges did not experience much difficulty in awarding the premier honours. Mr. Pope's animal, a fine-looking one, was placed first. The next class was for mares calculated to get hunters (local), the premier position being given to a serviceable chestnut, Dandy, owned by Mr. G. Peppin,

of Ottery St. Mary, but the opinion was freely expressed that The Parson, owned by Mr. G. P. Finch, of Exeter, should have taken first prize. There was, however, very little to choose between the two. A splendid entry was secured in the class for mares or geldings exceeding 14 h.h., but not exceeding 15 h.h., and the competition was exceedingly keen for a local class. The Quaker, owned by Mr. W. F. Wyndham, of Hockworthy, undoubtedly won, but Mr. Nelder's First Love was close up. One of the prettiest classes in the exhibition was the one for hacks or geldings exceeding 13 h.h., but not exceeding 14 h.h. The judges had not to look far for the winner, Mr. G. H. G. Arden's Magic winning what was described as a hollow victory. Later in the afternoon Magic again won the blue in the driving class, her action, which is almost perfection, being loudly applauded. The second prize went to Mr. G. P. Finch and the third to Mr. J. Pethick, of Plymouth. Considerable interest was evinced in the child's pony class, which produced sixteen entries. The winner was found in a sweet little bay gelding Shamrock, belonging to Master Arthur Pearce, of Southmolton, which got over the ground very finely. The hunters in the whole of the classes were a most serviceable lot, and the competition keen. In the open class for mares or geldings, calculated to carry 14st. and upwards, Mr. R. W. Arthur's brown gelding Rockville was, however, not an altogether popular win, many being of opinion that Pirate, a beautiful gelding, owned by Messrs. John and Nixon, of Chaldlen's Stud Farm, Cardiff, should have taken premier honours. For the third place Mr. Moyle's horse stood out well after the first and second. In Class 6 (open), for mares and geldings calculated to carry 12st. 7lb. and under 14st., Shamrock, owned by Messrs. John and Nixon, easily won, Mr. Arthur's The Sportsman having to be content with second position. Rockville secured another first in Class 9, after a keen fight with Master Ned, owned by Messrs. Moyle and Son.

The class for mares or geldings calculated to carry 12st. and under 14st. (local) produced a capital entry of twenty-two, and the judges had no little difficulty in awarding premier honours. The first place was given to Mr. Arthur's The Sportsman, which is all over a hunter, and an animal which finely gets over the ground without any fuss whatever. Mr. Jackson's Shamrock, another capital animal, was second, and Mr. Fox's Day Star third. An easy winner was Mr. S. Mathews' chestnut Harkaway in the class for mares or geldings, four years old (local), Mr. Gulley's Moor Hen having to be content with second position, being run very close by Mr. W. Cook's The Sportsman. The first position for mares or geldings, three years old (local), went to Cornwall, Mr. H. M. Rogers's Ringleader taking premier position, this being unquestionably the finest animal in the class, Mr. O. N. Holt Needham's Killarney being easily second. The last-named owner, however, obtained first place in Class 13 with Dancing Girl, a typical hunter and grand mover; Mr. J. L. Andrew, of Umberleigh, being second, and Mr. R. W. Morris, Ivybridge, third. In yearling hunters the winner was found in a serviceable animal Ruby, owned by Mr. C. Wakely, but Mr. O. N. Holt Needham's Topaz ran extremely close, the judges having no little difficulty in deciding between them. Mr. J. B. Gulley's Moor Hen was a popular win in the local class for horses that have been regularly hunted during the past season with any recognised pack of hounds in Devonshire, to be ridden by the owner, or his son, or a bonâ-fide subscriber to such pack. Mr. G. Loram's The Scout was second. The driving classes caused considerable interest, especially the one for tandems (open), in which Mr. E. S. Godsell's splendid team Duke of York and Lord Bath, who are no strangers to Exeter, won easily. In the local tandems Mr. Pethick's Lord Bang and Lord Bang II. took first position, the second team being owned by Mr. Mortimore, of Exeter, Miss Cadet and Gay Horace.

Penrith.

The Penrith Agricultural Society had obtained nearly a record number of entries for their show at Penrith on Thursday, and they naturally looked forward to an excellent, if not record, attendance of visitors, but unfortunately the weather proved most unfavourable, and kept a good many intending visitors away, so that the number of persons paying for admission to the showyard fell short of the average. The show itself was an excellent one, and may be classed as one of the finest collections of stock ever seen in the town. The total entries reached 472, nearly 100 in excess of 1899, and within about a dozen of the record of 486 set up in 1897. The main increase was in the sheep, which produced fifty-four more than last year. The reason is probably not far to seek. Hitherto it has been the custom locally to make the sheep classes a sweepstake, in which limited competition meant a much diminished prize money, and the system had become unpopular, if it ever was anything else. This year the idea was abandoned, and as a reward there was the large increase in the entries before noticed. The horses were more numerous by forty-four, the increase being about evenly distributed between the heavy and light classes. Cattle were represented by an increased entry of fourteen.

The most notable section of the show was, perhaps, the Shorthorns, the animals that went into the ring being on the whole worthy representatives of their breed. In the open class for bulls Mr. Edmund Potter, of Kirkby Lonsdale, won with the home-bred Sir Arthur Sullivan, a well-known showyard champion. Sir R. G. Musgrave took second with Sir Robert, a nice young roan bull, who failed to get a ticket here last year as a yearling. Mr. John W. Barnes, of Aikbank, Wigton, showed a grand specimen of a Shorthorn bull in the yearling class named Cumberland Star. He was easily first in his class, and had the distinction of also winning the Shorthorn Society's prize. Empress 12th, who won in the cow class for Mr. J. Harris, won several times as a two-year-old and caught the eye of the judges at the Royal. Another nice heifer was the two-year-old Pansy 2nd, shown by Mr. Harris, who is following up her yearling successes by winning everywhere in the North. The tenant farmers' classes, a comparatively recent innovation at Penrith, filled extremely well, for farmers who would have no chance against exhibitors like Mr. Harris or Lord Brougham are encouraged to bring their stock into the ring. The young bull that won could, however, be shown in almost any company. He was Ingram's Perfection, a roan who has in him the Golden Duchess strain. He was shown by Messrs. John Lancaster and Sons, of Dolphenby, but was raised by Mr. Anthony Dobson, of Williamsgill. In the open class he was placed third to Cumberland Star and Wild Cumbrian.

The agricultural horses were a nice lot, but offered no special features. The special for the best horse or mare went to Mr. William Griffiths, of Plumpton, who is himself a tenant farmer, and who won twice also in the restricted classes. He also was successful in the open gelding class. Messrs. T. and J. Wood won in the class for mares with Lady Jess, who was placed second to Mr. Griffiths's representative in the championship class. There was capital quality represented in the light horse classes, and particularly the harness classes. In the latter the competition was extremely keen, and in at least one instance the judges called in a third person to separate the first and second.

There was a remarkably fine show of sheep, both the white-faced and Downs from the "Inlands," and the Herdwicks and Mountains from the Fells, being well represented. The President's (the Right Hon. J. W. Lowther, M.P.) special prize was won by Mr. J. C. Toppin, of Musgrave Hall, Skelton, who in the classes in which he entered scored heavily. His winners in this class were a couple of beautiful Oxford Down shearling gimmers and a shearling ram of the same breed. Among the Down classes Mr. Toppin had matters very much his own way, the three that won the President's special winning in their respective classes, while in the lamb classes he won with a pair of gimmers, and took second with the tup. Among the Wensleydales Lord Henry Bentinck won all along the line, taking three firsts and three seconds out of five classes.

The following gentlemen acted as judges:—

CATTLE.—Mr. J. Patten, Alnwick, and Mr. George Ashburner, Low Hall, Kirkby-in-Furness.

HORSES.—Agricultural: Mr. R. Brydon, The Dene, Seaham Harbour, and Mr. W. R. Trotter South Acomb. Harness: Mr. Henry Moore, Cranswick, Hull, and Mr. T. Mitchell, Ecclashill, Bradford. Hunters: Mr. William Heslop, Stainthrop.

SHEEP.—Border Leicesters: Messrs. J. Patten and G. Ashburner. Black-faced Mountains: Mr. Edward Irving, Shap Abbey. Herdwicke: Mr. William Cockbaine, Threlkeld.

PIGS.—Messrs. Patten and Ashburner.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

Shorthorn Bull, two years old and above, being an approved stock-getter: 1, Mr. E. Potter, Lowfields, Kirkby Lonsdale; 2, Sir R. G. Musgrave, Bart., Edenhall.

Shorthorn Bull, above one and under two years old: 1, Mr. J. W. Barnes, Aikbank; 2, Messrs. T. and J. Wood, Blencogo; 3, Messrs. J. Lancaster and Sons, Dolphenby.

Shorthorn Cow or Heifer, to have had a calf eight months previous to, or to produce one within eight months after the show: 1, Mr. J. Harris, Calthwaite Hall; 2, Messrs. T. and J. Wood, Blencogo, Wigton; 3, Lady Henry Bentinck, Underly, Kirkby Lonsdale.

Shorthorn Heifer, in calf or milk: 1, Mr. J. Harris, Caithwaite Hall; 2, Mr. J. Hodgson, Flusco Lodge, Newbiggin; 3, Lady Henry Bentinck.

One-year-old Shorthorn Heifer; 1, Mr. J. Milner, Croft House, Stanton; 2, Lady Henry Bentinck; 3, Mr. J. Barnes, Aikbank.

Bull Calf, under twelve months old: 1, Mr. W. Richardson, Laverock Bridge, Kendal; 2, Mr. J. Jefferson, Rigg Dyke, Skelton.

Heifer calf, under twelve months old: 1, Mr. R. Heywood-Thompson, Nunwick Hall; 2 and 3, J. Harris, Calthwaite Hall.

Dairy cow, in calf or milk (any breed), in the hands of a tenant farmer: 1, Messrs. J. and T. Wood; 2, Mrs. Bellas, Penrith.

Bull carved in 1899 (prizes given by the Shorthorn Society of Great Britain and Ireland): J. Barnes, Aikbank.

Collection of five Shorthorn cattle, the property of a bonâ-fide tenant farmer residing within the society's radius: 1, Messrs. T. and J. Wood, Blencogo, Wigton; 2, J. Barnes, Aikbank.

Shorthorn bull, under two years old; 1, Messrs. J. Lancaster and Sons, Dolphenby; 2, Mr. J. Blake, Lamonby Hall, Skelton; 3, Mr. J. Metcalfe, The Home Farm, Edenhall.

Shorthorn cow or heifer, to have had a calf eight months previous to, or to produce one within eight months after the show: 1, 2, and 3, Mrs. Bellas, Bellmont, Penrith.

Shorthorn heifer, in calf or milk: 1, Mr. J. Hodgson, Flusco Lodge, Newbiggin; 2, Mrs. Bellas, Bellmont, Penrith; 3, Mr. J. Butterworth, Scotland Road.

One-year-old Shorthorn heifer: Mr. J. Milner, Croft House, Stainton.

HORSES.

AGRICULTURAL.

Brood mare in foal, or with foal at foot: 1, Messrs. T. and J. Wood, Blencogo, Wigton; 2, Mr. J. Kerr, Red Hall, Wigton; 3, Mr. J. Lawrence, Ravenswood, Renwick.

Brood mare in foal, or with foal at foot not exceeding 15 hands 2 inches: 1, Mr. A. Mansell, Crossrigg; 2, Mr. G. Lowis, Ash Hill, Temple Sowerby.

Three, four, or five-year-old gelding, age to be considered: 1 Mr. W. Griffiths, Castlesteads, Plumpton; 2 and 3, Mr. A. Mansell, Crossrigg.

Three-year-old filly: 1, Mr. J. Hayton, Beck Farm, Wigton; 2, Mr. Lancaster, Sun House, Alston.

Two-year-old gelding: 1, Mr. Lancaster, Alston; 2, Mrs. Heskett, Low House, Plumpton.

Two-year-old filly: 1, Mr. J. Hayton, Beckfarm, Wigton; 2 Mr. W. Jackson, Temple Sowerby.

One-year-old colt or gelding: 1, Messrs. Hodgson Brothers; 2, Mr. W. Carr, Gateside, Burnsile, Kendal.

One-year-old filly: 1, Mr. J. Woof, Great Strickland Mill; 2, Mr. J. Lawrence, Renwick.

Colt or filly foal: 1, Mr. G. Lowis, Ash Hill, Temple Sowerby 2, Mr. J. Kerr, Red Hall, Wigton; 3, Mr. J. Woof, Great Strickland.

Messrs. Pattinson and Winter, Penrith, offer premiums for pair of agricultural horses (mares or geldings), three years old and upwards, the property of a tenant farmer, to be shown in plough harness: 1, Mr. W. Griffiths, Plumpton; 2, Mr. J. Thompson, Plumpton Head.

Messrs. James and John Graham (Limited), Penrith, offer premiums for mare or gelding five years old or upwards, to be confined to exhibitors farming within a radius of ten miles of Penrith: 1, Mr. W. Griffiths, Plumpton; 2, Mr. A. Mansell, Crossrigg.

The Right Hon. Jas. W. Lowther, M.P. (President), offers prize for agricultural horse or mare, any age: 1, Mr. W. Griffiths, Plumpton; reserve, Messrs. T. and J. Wood, Blencogo.

HARNESS HORSES.

Brood mare in foal, or with foal at foot: 1, Mr. W. W. Hodgson, Thursby, Carlisle; 2, Mr. R. A. Sowerby.

Three-year-old Gelding: 1, Mr. J. C. Toppin, Musgrave Hall, Skelton; 2, Mr. J. Kidd, Haverflatts, Milnthorpe.

Three-year-old filly: 1, Mr. W. Taylor, Penrith.

Two-year-old gelding: 1, Mr. T. G. Benn, Newton Reigny; 2, Mr. F. M. Dent, Stainton.

Two-year-old filly: 1, Mr. E. Dill, Naughton, St. Anthony's, Milnthorpe; 2, Mr. F. Armstrong, George Hotel, Penrith.

Special prizes given by the society for the best brood mare suitable for breeding hackney s, either in foal or with foal at foot; height from 14.2 to 15.2 h.h.: 1, Mr. J. Davidson, Shepherd's Hill; 2, Messrs. S. and W. R. Hinde, Tangier Street, Whitehaven.

Hackney, not under 14.2 nor over 15.2 h.h., to be brought into the ring mounted: 1, Mr. T. G. Benn; ; Dr. Dalston Ewbanke, Borrenthwaite.

Cob, not under 13.2 h.h., and under 14.3 h.h., to be brought into the ring mounted: 1, Mr. T. G. Benn; 2, Mr. J. Siddle, Penrith.

Pony, under 13.2 h.h. and not less than three years old, to be brought into the ring mounted: 1, Mr. F. Armstrong; 2, Mr. W. Blackburn, Brunswick-square, Penrith.

Premium offered by Mr. Hamlet Riley, of Ennim, for cobs and ponies (mares or geldings) not exceeding 15 hands, to be driven on the ground in suitable conveyance; open to all comers; driving whip to the best driver in the class: 1, Dr. G. W. Dalston; 2 and whip, Mr. T. G. Benn; 3, Mr. W. E. Siddle, Crown Hotel, Penrith.

Horse or mare above 15 hands, to be driven on the show ground in a suitable conveyance; driving whip for the best driver in the class: 1 Mr. T. G. Benn; 2 and whip, Mr. W. Dawson.

HUNTING HORSES.

Brood mare, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, Mr. F. Armstrong; 2, Mr. J. S. Rigg, Elm Bank, Appleby.

Two-year-old gelding: 1, Mr. J. H. Siddle; 2, Mr. J. Kidd, Haverflatts, Milnthorpe; 3, Mr. J. Wilson, Helsington Laithes, Kendal.

Two-year-old filly: 1, Messrs. T. and G. Little, Nichol House, Lazonby; 2, Mr. J. C. Toppin, Musgrave Hall, Skelton.

HARNESS OR HUNTING HORSES.

Three year-old colt or gelding: 1, Messrs. Workman, Petteril Green, Calthwaite; 2, J. Kidd, Haverflatts, Milnthorpe.

One-year-old filly: 1, Capt. F. Markham, Morland; 2, J. Blackburn, Hasty Bank, Catterlen.

Colt or filly foal: 1, J. Sewell Rigg, Elm Bank, Appleby; 2, Messrs. Workman, Petteril Green, Calthwaite.

Harness and hunting horses shown for the society's premiums: 1, F. Armstrong, George Hotel, Penrith; 2, J. Siddle, Penrith.

Three-year-old gelding or filly, by a thoroughbred horse: 1, F. Armstrong, George Hotel, Penrith; 2, J. Hudson Barco, Penrith; 3, J. Kidd, Haverflatts.

Four-year-old hunter, mare or gelding: 1 and 2, J. Wilson Helsington Laithes, Kendal; 3, T. and G. Little, Nicol House, Lazonby.

Hunter, to be brought into the ring mounted: 1, C. H. Wilson, Oxenholme, Kendal; 2, J. Wilson, Helsington Laithes, Kendal; 2, J. Sewell Rigg, Elm Bank, Appleby.

SHEEP.

BORDER LEICESTERS.

Tup, being an approved stockgetter, and more than one shear, engaged to be kept during the succeeding season within the limits of this society: 1, Mr. W. Bell, St. Martin's-terrace, Brampton; 2, Mr. J. Thompson, Demense, Kirkoswald.

One Shear Tup—1, Mr. A. Watson, Springfield, Kirkoswald; 2, Mr. J. Thompson, Demense, Kirkoswald.

Pair of Gimmer Shearlings; 1 and 2, Mr. J. and T. Wood, Blencogo, Wigton.

Border Leicester Tup Lamb: 1, T. and J. Wood, Blencogo, Wigton; 2, Mr. A. Watson, Springfield, Kirkoswald.

Pair of Border Leicester Gimmer Lambs: 1 and 2, T. and J. Wood, Blencogo, Wigton.

WENSLEYDALE OR BLUE-FACED SHEEP.

Tup of any age, being of an approved stock-getter, and more than one shear, to be kept as in Premium 39: 1, Lord Henry Bentinck, Underley, Kirkby Lonsdale; 2, J. Gibson and Son, Natland Hall, Kendal.

One-shear Tup: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, Lord Henry Bentinck.

Pair Gimmer Shearlings: 1 and 2, Lord Henry Bentinck.

Tup lamb: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, Lord Henry Bentinck.

Pair of Gimmer Lambs: 1, Lord Henry Bentinck; 2, J. Gibson and Son.

DOWNS.

Tup, being an approved stockgetter, and more than one-shear, to be kept as in Premium 39: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, Mr. J. C. Toppin, Musgrave Hall, Skelton.

One-shear Tup: 1, Mr. J. C. Toppin; 2, Mr. R. J. Huddleston, Natland Park, Kendal.

Pair of Gimmer Shearlings: 1, Mr. J. C. Toppin; 2, Mr. R. J. Huddleston.

Tup Lamb: 1, Mr. J. C. Toppin; 2, J. Gibson and Son.

Pair of Gimmer Lambs: 1, Mr. J. C. Toppin; 2, J. Gibson and Son.

BLACK-FACED MOUNTAIN SHEEP.

Tup, being an approved stock-getter, and more than one shear, to be kept as in Premium 39: 1, Mr. T. Rawlinson, Park House, Kirkby Lonsdale; 2, Mr. J. Dargue, Burneside Hall, Kendal.

One-shear tup: 1, Mr. T. Rawlinson; 2, Executors Mr. C. Fell, Allen Bank, Windermere.

Pair of gimmer shearlings: 1, Mr. J. Dargue; 2, Mr. T. Rawlinson.

Tup lamb: 1, Mr. J. Dargue; 2, Mr. T. Rawlinson.

Pair of gimmer lambs: 1, Mr. J. Dargue; 2, Mr. T. Rawlinson.

PENRITH.

Tup, being an approved stock-getter, and more than one

shear: 1, Mr. T. Gasgarth, Wescoe, Threlfield; 2, Mr. J. Rothery, Palace Howe, Cockermouth.
One-shear tup: 1 and 2, Mr. W. Mackereth, Ambleside.
Pair of gimmer shearlings: 1 and 2, Mr. W. Mackereth.
Tup lamb: 1, Mr. J. Rothery; 2, Mr. W. Abbott, Hartsop Hall.
Pair of gimmer lambs: 1, Mr. W. Mackereth; 2, Mr. H. C. Howard, Greystoke Castle, Penrith.
Ram and two female sheep of any breed: 1, Mr. J. C. Toppin, Musgrave Hall, Skelton.

PIGS.

Boar, being an approved stock-getter, engaged to be kep the succeeding six months within the limits of the society for the use of the same, at 5s. each sow, and 5s. per week for keep: 1, Mr. W. Wilburn, Fishergill, Wigton; 2, Mr. J. Borrowdale, Foster-street, Penrith.
Breeding sow, to have produce within three months of the show: 1 and 2, Mr. G. Graham.
Fat pig, under 18 months old, being the bona-fide property of an agricultural labourer or cottager working for wages: 1 G. Emmerson, 1, James-street, Castletown; 2 and 3, D. Chester, Mill-street.

Wadebridge.

The third annual amalgamated exhibition of the Wadebridge and District Agricultural and Cottage Garden Association took place at Wadebridge on Wednesday, and proved very successful. The showyard was on a portion of the Treyanion estate, overlooking the Camel, and embracing some charming views. A heavy downpour of rain in the morning threatened to mar the show, but happily the weather cleared, and, with the exception of a smart shower at noon, the day was fine, a strong breeze tempering the hot rays of the sun. The attendance of visitors was a record one. So far as the cattle, horse, sheep, and pig sections were concerned, the entries were about the same numerically as last year, when they were higher than ever before, and competition in all was keen. The agricultural horses were of considerable merit; indeed, it was a difficult matter to find a poor animal in the five classes. Brood mares in foal, or with foal at foot, made the strongest show, with ten entries. Mr. Wesley Stephens, of St. Mabyn, secured the greater portion of the honours for this class of animal, winning four firsts and a second, besides being awarded the president's silver cup for the best exhibit among the agricultural horses. The winner, a grand three-year-old filly, was, however, run very close by a capital brood mare shown by Messrs. H. G. and E. P. Peter-Hoblyn, of Washaway. The young horses in the hunter and hack classes were only moderate. There were, however, some useful animals in the open classes, but the ponies were disappointing. The jumping, which was moderately good, was watched with interest by a large crowd, and in the grand stand, as was a parade of the prize winners late in the afternoon. Among the cattle Devons were capitally represented. The bull classes, especially that for the old beasts, were very strong. Cows were also numerous and of good quality. In the classes not restricted to Devons the Herefords were a long way ahead of other breeds, and with typical specimens Messrs. Olver and Grose shared the honours. The sheep section included a very creditable lot of South Devons and Devon longwools, Messrs. Hawkey and Son, of St. Issey, securing the president's cup with a very fine hogg of the first-named breed. This year, for the first time, Leicesters were not represented. This was due to the fact that they have gone out of favour with the butchers of the district. The judges were unable to recall an exhibition at which they had seen such a wonderfully fine collection of pigs—all long blacks. So pleased were they with the section that they commended the whole of the exhibits.

Prize List.

HORSES.

DISTRICT CLASSES.

Special prize, silver cup, for the best agricultural horse: Mr. W. Stephens, St. Mabyn.
Brood mare for agricultural purposes: 1, Messrs. H. G. and E. P. Peter-Hoblyn, Colquite, Washaway; 2, Mr. W. Phillips, Wadebridge; 3, Mr. W. Hicks, Luxulyan; hc, Mr R. S. Olver, Trescowe.
Gelding or filly calculated for agricultural purposes, foaled in 1897: 1 and 2, Mr. W. Stephens, St. Mabyn; 3, Mr. R. S. Olver; c, Mr. F. Teagle, St. Columb.
Gelding or filly calculated for agricultural purposes, foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. W. Stephens; 2, Mr. R. S. Olver; 3, Mr. W. R. Grose; hc, Mr. C. Menhenick, St. Kew.
Colt, gelding, or filly calculated for agricultural purposes, foaled in 1899: 1, Messrs. H. G. and E. P. Peter-Hoblyn; 2, Mr. W. Stephens; 3, Mr. R. S. Olver; r, Mr. C. Menhenick.
Pair of agricultural horses, not exceeding three years old, the property of a tenant farmer: 1, Mr. Wesley Stephens; 2, Messrs. H. G. and E. P. Peter-Hoblyn; 3, Mr. R. S. Olver; r, Mr. F. W. Pollard, St. Kew.
Brood mare, fit for hack, hunter, or carriage horse: 1, Messrs. H. G. and E. P. Peter-Hoblyn; 2, Mr. C. Menhenick; 3, Mr. A. E. Wickett, Camelford; r, Mr. Digory Baker, Camelford.
Gelding or filly calculated for a hunter, foaled in 1897: 1, Mr. T. Littleton, Bodmin; 2, Mr. Andrew Tremain, St. Merryn; 3, Mr. Hart Biddick, Sladesbridge; r, Mr. C. Menhinick.
Gelding or filly calculated for a hack, foaled in 1897; 1, Mr. C. Menhinick.
Gelding or filly calculated for a hack, hunter, or carriage horse, foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. C. Menhinick; 2, Mr. M. P. Menhinick, Egloshayle; 3, Mr. Percy Stephens, Camelford; r, Mr. Thomas Rundle, St. Eval.
Colt, gelding, or filly calculated for hack, hunter, or carriage horse, foaled in 1899: 1, Mr. C. Menhenick; 2, Messrs. G. and O. Nickell, Helland; 3, Mr. Wesley Stephens.

OPEN CLASSES.

Cob not exceeding 14·3 h.h., and not more than 5 years old: 1, Mr. J. Mead, Falmouth; 2, Mr. J. Cardell, Newquay; 3, Mr. W. J. Lovering, St. Austell; r, Mr. H. F. Nicholls, St. Columb Minor.
Hunters, mare or gelding, over three years, and not exceeding 5 years; 1, Messrs. Yeo Bros., Bodmin; 2, Mr. A. H. Retallick, Bodmin; 3, W. T. Lovering; r, Mr. Charles Ham, Bodmin.
Hack, mare or gelding, over 3 years, and not exceeding 5 years: 1, Mr. John Cardell, St. Columb Minor; 2, Mr. M. P. Menhinick, Egloshayle; 3, Mr. J. Cardell, Newquay; r, Mr. C. M. Harris, Camelford.
Harness horses: 1, Mr. J. S. Hellyar, St. Columb; 2, Mr. J. Mead; 3, Messrs. H. G. and E. P. Peter-Hoblyn.
Mare or gelding under 15 hands high, and not exceeding 6 years old: 1, Mr. J. Cardell, St. Columb Minor; 2, Mr. G. Brendon, Bude; 3, Mr. W. J. Lovering; r, Mr. H. F. Nicholls, St. Columb Minor.
Pony not exceeding 13 hands high, and not more than 8 years old: 1, Mr. J. Mead; 2, Mr. G. Jenkin, Davidstowe; 3, Mr. T. P. Clemence, Withiel.
Jumping: Mare or gelding not less than 14.3 hands high: 1, G. Brendon, Bude; 2 Mr. J. E. Hill, Liskeard; 3, Mr. E. Snell, Scorrier.
Mare or gelding under 14.3 hands high: 1, Mr. J. G. James, Grampound Road; 2, Mr. A. J. Best, St. Dennis; 3, Mr. S. Hancock, Roche.

CATTLE.

DISTRICT CLASSES.

Devon bull, calved previous to January 1st, 1899: 1, Mr. B. Hawken, De Lank; 2, Messrs. Williams and Martyn, Padstow; 3, Mr. J. Button, Michaelstow; r, Mr. P. Biddick, St. Brecck; c, Mr. J. Hill, St. Kew; Mr. J. G. Hawkey, St. Minver.
Devon bull, calved in 1899: 1 and hc, Mr. W. E. Menhinnick, St. Kew; 2 and 3, Mr. J. Button; r, Mr. J. A. Tremain, St. Ervan.
Devon cow, in calf or in milk, three years old or above: 1, Mr. R. M. Martyn, Padstow; 2, Mr. T. H. Dyer, Endellion; 3, Mr. J. G. Hawkey; r, Mr. W. E. Menhinnick; hc, Mr. J. G. Clemoes, Bodmin.
Devon heifer, calved in 1898: 1, Mr. T. H. Dyer; 2, Mr. W. E. Menhinnick; 3, Mr. C. Menhinnick, St. Kew.
Devon heifer, calved in 1899: 1, Mr. W. E. Menhennick; 2, Mr. R. M. Martyn; 3, Mr. J. Button; r, Mr. J. Button.
Bull, any other breed, calved previous to 1899: 1, Mr. R. S. Olver, Trescowe; 2, Mr. W. J. Tucker, Trevisquite; 3, Mr. R. Roseveare, St. Breock.
Bull, any other breed, calved in 1898: 1, Mr. R. S. Olver; 2, Mr. W. R. Grose, Penpont.
Cow, any other breed, in calf: 1, Mr. W. R. Grose, St. Kew; 2, Mr. R. S. Olver; 3, Mr. F. Teague, St. Columb; r, Mr. W. Phillips, Wadebridge.
Heifer, any other breed, calved in 1898: 1, Mr. R. S. Olver; 2, Mr. W. R. Grose; 3, Mr W. Phillips.
Heifer, any other breed, calved in 1898: 1, Mr. R. S. Olver.
Dairy cow or heifer, any breed, in milk: 1, Mr. R. Roseveare, St. Breock; 2, Mr. W. Phillips, Wadebridge; 3, Mr. R. G. Pollard, Wadebridge.

SHEEP.

DISTRICT, ANY BREED.

Silver Cup offered by President, for best exhibits in Sheep Classes: Messrs. T. E. Hawkey and Son.
Ram, any age: 1, Messrs. T. E. Hawkey and Son, St. Issey; 3, Messrs. Axford and Sons, St. Tudy; 3, Mr. W. Lanxon, Lanlivery.
Yearling ram; 1, special, and 2, Messrs. T. E. Hawkey and Son, St. Issey; 3, Mr. W. Lanxon, Lanlivery. Ewes: 1, Mr. J. A. Tremain, St. Ervan; 2, Mr. W. Lanxon, Lanlivery; 3, Mr. J. Button, Michaelstow.

PIGS.

DISTRICT.

Boar: 1, Mr. R. S. Olver; 2, Messrs. Bastard and Sons, St. Tudy.
Breeding sow, over twelve months old, in farrow, or that has farrowed within six months: 1, Messrs. Bastard and Sons; 2, Mr. J. Webber, St. Columb.
Pair of sows, under twelve months: 1, Mr. R. S. Olver; 2, Messrs. Bastard and Sons

Thirsk.

The fourteenth annual exhibition of the Thirsk Agricultural and Horticultural Society was held on Wednesday, in Mr. R. Bell's charming grounds known as The Park. In the sunshine that prevailed the site was particularly acceptable, as the shade of its trees afforded welcome shelter to both visitors and exhibits. The prize money amounted to £220, for which there were about 260 entries—a slight decrease on last year. The falling-off in exhibits was chiefly in the horse classes, and is accounted for by the fact that during the war in South Africa many of the best animals in the district have been purchased by the Government. However, though the entries were fewer, the quality was all right. Encouragement of agriculture in its own immediate district being the motto of the society, the exhibits in nearly all the sections were practically restricted to a radius of fifteen miles. Taking this check into consideration, the eight classes of hunters with upwards of fifty entries contained some first-class animals. Roadsters, divided into eight classes, were not strong, the only classes that were well filled being that for brood mares, which was headed by a six-year-old chestnut by Garton Duke of Connaught, and the class for colt foals, in which the white rosette was handed to Mr. Matteson's Land Agent, by Diavolo. Cleveland or coaching horses numbered 13, which, for the district, was not unsatisfactory. In the section for agricultural horses, of which there were 45, the special prize—a cup value £20—given by Mr. J. Farrar Blenkhorn, of Hawick, for the best pair of agricultural horses, three years old or upwards, the property of a tenant farmer, and regularly worked by the exhibitor at least six months prior to the show, was won by Mr. G. Kendrew. As this is the third time that Mr. Kendrew has won the cup, it now becomes his property. It was satisfactory to note that the trophy elicited keener competition than was the case a year ago. The sheep classes were well filled, and the dog trials formed a pleasing feature of the meeting. The "gate" was the biggest in the history of the show.

Prize List.

HORSES

HUNTERS.

Brood Mare for breeding Hunters, to be shown with her foal: 1, H. Brown, Sutton-on-Forest (Constance); 2, T. Snowden, Busby Stoop (Medical Queen); 3, J. Ingledew.
Three-year-old Gelding or Filly: 1, G. Kendrew, Elm House, Northallerton (Shamrock); 2, W. Jordison, Carlton House.
Two-year-old Gelding or Filly: 1, E. T. C. Antrobus, Marton-le-Moor, Ripon (Nutwith); 2, J. Benson and Son Huby
Yearling Gelding or Filly: 1, G. Jackson (Dishforth); 2, W. Jordison.
Colt foal: 1, G. Kirk, Kilburn (Surprise); 2, J. Ingledew.
Filly foal: 1, H. Brown; 2, J. Rawlins (Jessie). Special prizes given by F. A. E. Samuelson, Esq.
Three-year-old gelding or filly, likely to make a hunter or charger, must be shown undocked: 1, J. Fletcher; 2, W. Jordison. Special prizes given by Mr. W. Jordison.
Foals, colts, or fillies, by his horse (Seaport): 1, G. Appleton; 2, E. Bartram.

ROADSTERS

Brood mare for breeding roadsters, to be shown with her foal: 1, H. Brown; 2, J. Burton and Sons, Copt Hewick (Miss Derwent); 3, F. R. Hansell, Brook House, Sutton (Constance). Special prizes given by Messrs. J. Burton and Son.
Foals, colts, or fillies, by their horse (Garton Performer): 1, A. C. Bamlett.
Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. Cattle, Moxby, Stillington (Moxby Swell); 2, J. Palliser, Low Woods, Hemsley (Hemsley).
Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. Burton and Sons (Derwent Lily); 2, J. Cattle; 3, S. Cliff, Crayke (Crayke Abbott).
Yearling gelding or filly: 1, F. R. Hansell (Francesca); 2, G. Rutherford.
Colt foal: 1, F. Mattison (Land Agent); 2, A. C. Bamlett.
Filly foal: 1, W. Atkinson (Sessay); 2, H. Brown.

RIDING

Hunter gelding or mare, not exceeding 5 years old, to be ridden in the ring: 1, W. Jordison (Mowbray Huntsman); 2 E. T. C. Antrobus (Mafeking); 3, E. Harrison (St. Pat).
Gentleman's hackney, geilding or mare (not to exceed 15 hands 3 inches high), any age, to be ridden in the ring: 1, J. Cattle (Moxby Swell); 2, Mrs. Jordison, Carlton House (Lady Grace); 3, J. Palliser.
Gelding or mare, any age (not to exceed 14 hands high), to be ridden in the ring: 1, W. A. Johnson (Thirsk); 2, E. T. C. Antrobus (Prinnie).

DRIVING

Special prizes given by F. E. Walker, Esq., Ravensthorpe Manor (Open to all England. Dealers excluded). Horse, any height, to be driven in harness, the general turn-out to be taken into consideration: 1, J. Cattle (Moxby Swell); 2, J. T. Hansell.
Horse, 14 hands high and upwards, which must have been the bona-fide property of the exhibitor at least three months prior to the show, to be driven in harness: 1, Mrs. Jordison; 2, R. Hebblethwaite (Highthorn).
Horse, under 14 hands high (conditions same as preceding class): 1, W. Jordison (Lady Carlton).
Turnout belonging to a shopkeeper in Thirsk or Sowerby (conditions same as preceding class): 1, W. A. Johnson; 2, J. Smiths (Limited)

LEAPING

(Open).—Leaper, any age or sex: 1, T. E. Lavin (Ripon); 2, J. C. Bannister (Fodder Finder); 3, J. Waddington (Easingwold).
Leaper, any age or sex, that has not won a prize of £5 at any time prior to the date of entry (limited to 15 miles radius): 1, Robinson, Leckby, Asenby, Thirsk (Good Bye); 2, G. W. Gibson, Thimbleby Grange, Northallerton (Warrior); 3, J. C. Bannister (Mac).

CLEVELAND OR COACHING

Brood mare, to be shown with her foal: 1, F. J. Pettinger (Vanity); 2, K. Rickatson, Tronholme Bar.
Colt or filly foal: 1, F. J. Penninger; 2, J. Rooke (Ladysmith).
Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, W. Wood, Bilsdale West, Helmsley (Queen's Rocket); 2, J. Rooke (Lord Grey).
Yearling colt, gelding, or filly: 1, J. Rooke (Klondyke); 2, J. H. Boyes, Boltby (Lady Good Friday).

AGRICULTURAL

Brood mare for breeding agricultural horses, to be shown with her foal: 1, R. and J. Davison, Lund Court, Helmsley (Hempfield Silver); 2, W. F. Pinkney, Stubb House, Northallerton; 3, W. D. Wedgewood, Highfield, Sessay (Jewel).
Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, G. Kendrew (Captain); 2, E. Clarke (Gristhwaite).
Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, R. and J. Davison (Silver Queen); 2, T. O. I. Pick.
Yearling, gelding, or filly: 1, G. Chapman, Reins Farm, Helmsley (Silver Queen); 2, R. Stubbs.
Colt foal: 1, W. T. Robinson; 2, S. Kitching, Newsham (Mafeking).
Filly foal: 1, W. D. Wedgewood; 2, A. Bovill.
Mare or gelding for agricultural purposes, any age: 1, R. and J. Davison (Hempfield Silver); 2, G. Kendrew.
Special prize given by J. Farrar Blenkhorn, Esq., Sterches, Hawick (exhibitors to reside within a radius of 8 miles). Pair of agricultural horses, three years old or upwards, to be shown without harness, and must have been the bona fide property of a tenant farmer and regularly worked by the exhibitor, at least six months prior to the show; the cup to be won three times by the same owner before becoming his property; silver cup, commercial value £20—G. Kendrew, Ben and Duke.

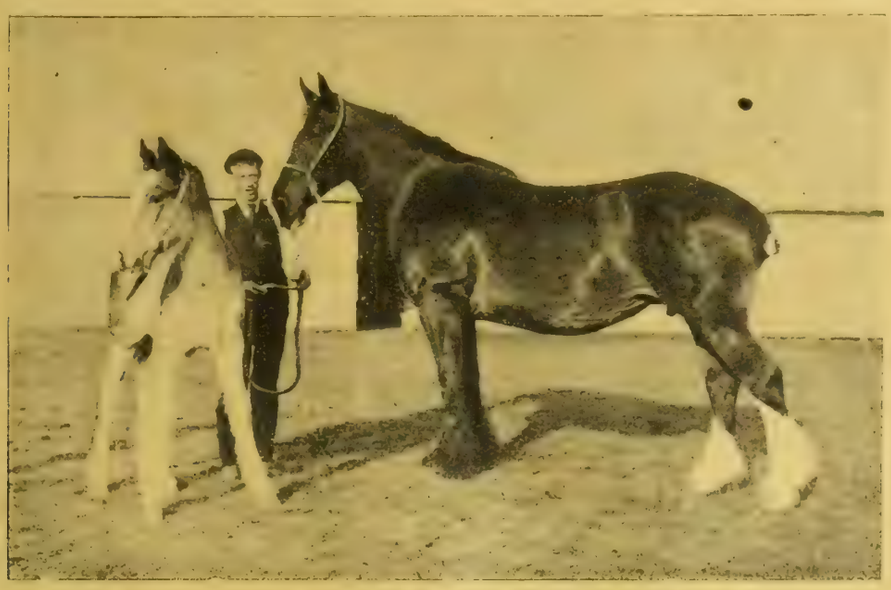
SHEEP.

Leicester, Lincoln, or Wensleydale.—Shearling ram: 1, J. M. Strickland, Pasture House, Bransby (Easingwold); 2, W. Cleasby.
Aged ram: 1, W. Cleasby; 2, J. M. Strickland.
Three shearling gimmers: 1, W. Cleasby; 2, Colonel I'Anson.
Three ewes: 1, Colonel I'Anson; 2, W. Cleasby.
Three lambs: 1, W. Cleasby; 2, R. P. Wood, Low Ellington, Masham.
Any other variety—pure or cross-bred—three shearling gimmers: 1 and 2, R. Stubbs.
Three ewes: 1 and 2, R. Stubbs.
Three lambs: 1, T. J. Bell; 2, T. J. Bell, Sessay Parks.
Sheep dog trial (open): 1, W. I'Anson, Breckenbrough (Spot); 2, B. Harris, Leeming Lane, Sinderby, Thirsk (Roy); 3, Miss Chapman, Nether Silton, Northallerton

South Durham.

The South Durham and North Yorkshire Horse and Dog Show at Darlington took place on the 27th ult., and was in every respect a most successful one. There were fewer horses than has been the case for five years back, but there was a record show of dogs, and thus the total number of entries was brought to a higher figure than any since 1894. In that year horses were exceptionally numerous, and the total number of entries was 1,495. This year they reached 1,591, or fifty-two more than last year and something like twenty more than the previous year, and there was no falling away in quality. Hunters made by far the best show. There was not a class which had not some merit in it, and in some instances animals were brought before the judges which stood head and shoulders above the average. The brood mares, for instance, were a grand lot. Eleven in number, they were headed by Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's Lady Grosvenor, a bay mare which has gained a large number of honours. A dark grey mare owned by Mr. E. E. Lloyd Pease, got second, the reserve card going to Lady Grey, a beautiful mare from Yarm that obtained Royal honours at

York. The class for colt foals was well filled, the winner being found in the Bedale-bred blood foal Rainbow, a very promising animal. He was closely run by Mr. Snowdon's (Thirsk) Baldersby, a strong muscular foal that came in for very favourable criticism. Of the yearlings the geldings were the stronger in quality, although the fillies excelled in regard to number. In the very front rank of excellence came the three-year-old geldings. There was a very close competition between the black owned by Messrs. T. and H. Ward, of Pinchingthorpe, and Mr. J. S. Darrell's chestnut from West Ayton. Both horses are full of quality, and after a referee had been called in to aid the judges, Messrs. Ward's exhibit was given the premier card. Mr. Darrell scored another success in the class for three-year-old fillies, with Golden Ruby, who has the blood of the well-known sire, Knight of Ruby, in her. There were some admirable animals, too, among the thoroughbred geldings and fillies, the property of bonâ-fide farmers, and hunted with hounds in the district. Mr. Thomas Brown's (Darlington) Catterick Black, who took the first prize, is short in the limbs, and a true mover. The second card went to a chestnut gelding owned by Mr. F. W. Smith, which got a first in another class. There was little doubt as to which was the best of the four-year-old geldings or mares owned by tenant farmers, Messrs. T. and H. Ward's bay gelding, Lord Clare, which is essentially a heavy-weight carrier, soon demonstrating his superiority. The open class for hunters that had not hitherto taken a first prize, attracted no fewer than twenty-three entries, a brown gelding belonging to Mr. F. B. Wilkinson taking the first card. The roadsters did not create very keen competition. In number they were about a dozen fewer than last year, and they made a comparatively poor show. The best class was the three-year-olds, not-



Mr. J. Peacock's Clydesdale Mare, "Queen of Gretna," and Foal.

withstanding that there were only three animals in it. Mr. William Lakin's (Pickering) exhibit was a chestnut gelding by Rosencrantz, and there was no doubt this horse was the best the judges had before them during the day. The Howdenshire gelding, shown by Messrs. Dodds (Darlington) was a good second. Agricultural horses did not attract a lot of attention, although they included some very useful animals. Some surprise was caused by the disqualifying by the veterinary surgeon of Mr. T. Nesbitt's bay mare, which, after winning a number of prizes elsewhere, was now given the second card by the judges in the class for brood mares. She failed to pass the inspection, and Mr. J. T. Peacock's Queen of Gretna was accordingly placed. The foals were both numerous and good; and one of the most notable horses in the section proved to be a two-year-old brown filly owned by Mr. T. Nesbitt, of Witton-le-Wear. Nearly all the classes in the tenant farmers' section were well filled.

Bradford.

The Bradford Agricultural Society decided to make their show extend over two days this year, but they were unfortunate in their choice of date—July 27th and 28th—for they clashed with no fewer than four other exhibitions. The consequence was that the attendance of visitors was not at all satisfactory, and in all probability it will be found when the accounts are made up that loss has been sustained. The clashing also militated against the entries, which in the more important classes fell short of last year's number, though the minor sections brought up the total to about that of 1899. The show was held, as usual, in Messrs. Mitchell Brothers' Park, at West Bowling. The principal interest naturally centred in the horses. The championship for the best gelding, mare, filly, or yearling colt was won by Mrs. Fred Holmes's Love Letter, which, owing to late entry or some singular piece of laxity, was not mentioned in the catalogue. Mr. J. Robinson's (Hull) Mornington Cannon was placed on the reserve for the championship. Mr. D. Hopkinson's Executors' Lady Bradford took the silver cup and Hackney Society's medal. She is a well-known winner, and has only been beaten by her dam, Golden Belle, here placed second. Mr. S. R. Tennant's Revival took the challenge cup for stallions, Mr. J. Scott's Copleymede being close up. For the rest the Hackney and saddle horses were not of particularly good class, Mr. A. Grandage's Bramhope Arch Deacon was a wonderfully good specimen —"a good one," as a good judge put it, "in good company." The cup was ultimately awarded to Bramhope Arch Deacon. The two-year-old prize was taken by an average mare. In the old age class the winner was a very useful type of brood mare. A very weighty gelding was placed second, the third being useful. The winner of the entries was Mr. Forshaw's Bungeon, which has taken first three years in succession in the Yorkshire Show. Mr. Lindley's Southgate Hero, which was placed second, is a useful, weighty horse. In the classes for cattle the entries were only very moderate in number. The gold medal in the local classes was taken by a good bull of Mrs. E. Gill, Silsden. The challenge cup was taken for the second time by, and thus became the property of, Mr. John Handley, with his bull which was placed second at the Royal Show and third at the Highland Show. This makes the third cup the animal has taken this year. The wool classes were a failure, only one firm, Messrs. Stansfield and Co., of Halifax, entering for Classes 28, 29, 30, and 31, whilst Classes 32, 33, 34, and 35 did not attract any entries.

CATTLE.

Bull calf, under one year old (open): J. Handley, Mirfield. p.
Heifer calf, under one year old: Mrs. E. Gill, Silsden.
Bull, one year and under two years old: 1, J. Handley; 2, Mrs. E. Gill.
Bull, two years old and upwards: J. Handley.
Heifer, over one year old and not exceeding two years old: 1, T. Atkinson; 2, W. Walsh, Bingley.
Cow, above two years old: 1, W. Walsh; 2, T. Atkinson, Bury.

FARMERS' CATTLE

(Open to tenant farmers within a radius of ten miles from the Town Hall.)

Bull, any age or breed: 1 and gold medal, Mrs. E. Gill.
Cow or heifer, any age or breed: 1 and 2, W. Walsh.
Cow for dairy purposes, Alderney, Guernsey, or any other small breed or cross-breed, under 10cwt.: 1, W. Walsh; 2, J. Blackburn, Clayton Heights.
Cow for dairy purposes, not previously classified: W. Walsh.

HORSES.

DRAUGHT AND AGRICULTURAL (OPEN)

Agricultural colt, gelding, or filly, foaled in 1899: 1 and silver cup, A. Grandage, Bramhope; 2, J. E. Shaw, Halifax; 3, H. Yates, Cleckheaton.
Agricultural gelding or filly, foaled in 1898: 1, H. Yates.
Agricultural gelding or mare, any age: 1, A. Grandage; 2, T. Edwards, Liverpool; 3, Prince, Smith, and Son.
Draught or agricultural stallion, any age: 1, J. Forshaw, Newark; 2, A. Lindley, Wakefield; 3, G. Tyson, Halifax.

HACKNEYS (OPEN)

Hackney entire colt, foaled in 1899: 1, W. Hurst, Sandal; 2, R. Berry, Hipperholme; 3, J. Carr, Hull.
Hackney, gelding or filly, foaled in 1899: 1, D. Hopkinson, Exors, Bradford; 2, F. Hind, Bradford.
Hackney gelding or filly, foaled in 1898: 1, J. Wrighton, Market Weighton; 2, G. H. Waterhouse, Dudley Hill.
Hackney mare and foal: 1, cup, and medal, D. Hopkinson's Exors.; 2, D. Hopkinson's Exors.; 3, G. Root, Menston.
Hackney stallion, any age: 1 and cup, S. R. Tennant, Driffield; 2 and 3, J. Scott, East Bierley.

SADDLE CLASSES

Gelding or mare, not exceeding 14 hands: 1, G. C. Ward, Baildon; 2, A. P. Robinson, Wakefield; 3, H. Blackburn, Cleckheaton.
Gelding or mare, exceeding 14 hands and not exceeding 15 hands, in saddle: 1 champ. and cup, Miss F. Holmes, Bingley; 2, T. L. Bradley, Nottingham; 3, E. H. Brayshaw, Bradford.
Gelding or mare, exceeding 15 hands, in saddle: 1 and reserve for champ., J. Robinson, Hull; 2, Mrs. F. Holmes; 3, Miss England, Manningham.
Lady's hack mare or gelding: 1, Miss England, Manningham; 2, Miss H. England, Manningham; 3, T. L. Bradley.

HARNESS (OPEN)

Gelding or mare, exceeding 15 hands, and not exceeding 15½ hands, in harness: 1, A. P. Robinson; 2, G. C. Ward, Baildon; 3, H. Blackburn, Cleckheaton.
Gelding or mare, exceeding 15 hands and not exceeding 15½ hands, in harness: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, E. H. Brayshaw, Bradford.
Gelding or mare, exceeding 15 hands, in harness: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, Miss England.
Gelding or mare, used for agricultural purposes, the property of bonâ-fide tenant farmers, and hunted regularly with hounds in the district during the season ending January 1st, 1900: 1, Wharton and Messrs. Bradford; 2, Fry Mason Combing Co., Bradford; 3, G. Armitage (Ltd.).
Trade or business turn-out, with two wheeled vehicle: 1, D. Wetherspoon, Bradford; 2, E. H. Brayshaw, Bradford; 3, S. C. Atkinson, Leeds.
Trade or business turn-out, with two wheeled vehicle: 1, Wharton and Messrs. Bradford; 2, Fry Mason Combing Co., Bradford; 3, G. Armitage (Ltd.).
Gelding or mare, in saddle or harness, exceeding 15 hands: 1, G. Tyson, Halifax; 2, G. Root, Menston.
Gelding or mare, in saddle or harness, not exceeding 15 hands: 1, A. P. Robinson, Wakefield; 2, H. Blackburn, Cleckheaton; 3, Mr. Mosman, Acton Bierley, Bradford.
Gelding or mare, in saddle, exceeding 14 hands: 1 and cup, J. Robinson, Hull; 2, G. Tyson, Halifax; 3, F. H. Ainley, Shipley.
Gelding or mare, in harness, not exceeding 15 hands: 1, A. Dobson, Leeds; 2, E. Jowett, Leeds; 3, G. Root.
Gelding or mare, in harness, 13 hands, but not exceeding 14 hands: 1, A. P. Robinson; 2, G. Hanson, Wilsden; 3, H. Blackburn.
Gelding or mare, in harness, exceeding 14 hands: 1, G. Tyson; 2, J. Tankard, Baildon.

HUNTERS

Trotter, any age or height, to be ridden by a lady, and shown in harness; speed to be considered: 1, J. Mosman, Bradford; 2, Mr. Molineaux, Bradford; 3, E. Hall, Huddersfield.
Steeplechase (about two miles). Horse or mare, any age or height: 1, R. Marston, Knaresborough; 2, G. England, Bradford.

LEAPERS

Leapers, any age or height: 1, C. Tomlinson, Selby; 2, W. Holmes, Selby.

Burton Shire Horse Show.

The fourth annual show in connection with the Burton-on-Trent and District Shire Horse Society was held in Peel Croft, Burton-on-Trent, on Wednesday, and proved a great success. The entries all round, and particularly in the open classes, were more numerous than on any previous occasion. Mr. James Eadie, of Barrow Hall, was by far the largest prize winner in both the local and open classes. Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., and Mr. J. Parnell, of Rugby, were also prominent prize winners. Mr. F. D. Winterton, of Walton Warren, again proved a very able and efficient secretary, and the success of the show is in a great measure due to his indefatigable zeal and energy. With the exception of a slight shower, the weather was all that could be desired.

The prize winners in the classes open to all England were as follows:—

Colt foal: 1, Mr. P. Albert Muntz, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby; 2, Sir Oswald Mosley, Rolleston Hall, Tutbury; Johnson Gaunt, 3, Mr. D. Orme, Etwall; 4, Mr. John Hodson, Mickleover.

Filly foal: 1 and 2, Mr. Jas. Eadie, Barrow Hall; 3, Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P.; 4, Mr. Thos. Appleby.

Yearling filly: 1, Mr. Jas. Eadie, Barrow Princess; 2, Mr. J. Parnell, Rugby, Rokeby Ladylove; 3, Mr. J. H. Appleby, Alberta.

Two year old filly: 1, Mr. W. Jackson, Knottingley, Holker R.I.; 2, Mr. J. Parnell, Rokeby Venus; 3, Mr. Jas. Eadie, Lockinge Mistletoe.

Three year old filly: 1, Mr. J. Parnell, Rokeby Judith; 2, Mr. Jas. Eadie, Tatton Maggie; 3, Mr. Rob Ratcliffe, Newton Park Blossom.

Gelding, four year old or upwards: 1, Mr. Jas. Eadie, Bardon Extraordinary; 2, Mr. Jas. Brooks, Wellington, Draymen; 3, Mr. Timothy Lowe, Walton, Captain.

Mare, four year old or upwards.—1, Mr. F. W. Lowndes, Rolleston Fuchsia; 2, Mr. Jas. Eadie, Hendre Fairy; 3, Mr. A. P. Muntz, Dunsmore Golden; 4, Sir Oswald Mosley, Hendre Twilight.

The President's Cup, value 20 guineas, for the best foal, colt, or filly entered in the local classes.—1, Mr. Thos. Appleby; 2, Mr. H. J. Marbrow.

Colt or filly foal sired by any horse at the Barrow Stud.—1, Mr. J. F. Hollingworth, Weston-on-Trent; 2, Mr. Frank Wilkinson, Beeston; 3, Mr. F. W. Lowndes; 4, Mr. H. Warrington, Cotton House.

North Somerset.

On Wednesday Yatton was the scene of the 58th annual exhibition of the North Somerset Agricultural Society, and although the weather was none too favourable, the attendance of visitors was a very large one, and the Society's return to Yatton after a lapse of close on fifteen years is likely to turn out a most successful event financially. It was also successful in other directions, for the number of entries received was a good one, and the quality of the exhibits was quite up to the average. In the farmers' classes there was a capital representation of stock creditable to the exhibitors, and in nearly all cases making competition sustained to a degree. In some classes there were very good strings, but this was due in every instance to accountable causes. The weather was bad in the early morning, which made a long road journey for cattle undesirable, and the show being three weeks earlier than usual, it naturally clashed with the Exeter Show, which accounted for the absence of some entries in the horse classes. With these adverse influences the exhibition was nevertheless an excellent one. The judges were Hunters, hacks, jumping, etc., Messrs. A. F. Hardwick, Wade, and R. Sawell (Danswell, Sussex); Agricultural horses and colts, Messrs. T. Chapman (Orchard Portman), and Sidney Harvey (Gore-court); Cattle and sheep: Messrs. John Gage (Clevedon) and Robert Lever (Bridgwater); Jersey cattle, Mr. C. C. Tudway, Wells.

The agricultural horses made up a display which

would have done credit to a larger society with a wider area. The tenant farmers especially deserve commendation for the excellence of their entries. The principal winners included Mr. Arthur E. Alvis, of East End Farm, Nailsea; Mrs. E. Butler, Charlton Farm, Portbury; Mr. George Davis, Shipway Farm, Portbury; Mr. H. Macky, Congresbury; and Mr. Jeffery Burnett, Clapton. In the brood mare class suitable for hunters or roadsters, Mr. Brightric-Gee took first with Kitty, a grand-looking bay, Dr. Fuller, of Long Ashton, being second with Bonnie Belle, a brown. In the two-year-olds Mr. Gee was first, and Mr. Frank Watts a creditable second with a bay gelding now named Sensation. The first of the open classes for driving was for entries not exceeding 13 hands. The winner of the 13 hands was Mr. Tompkins, of Cribb's Causeway. There was a pretty class, indeed, for the exceeding 13 hands and not exceeding 15 hands. It was a close run for the first honours between Dr. Fuller's Lady Louise and Mr. F. Ball's dark bay mare Gwen, both of whom went exceedingly well, and although first prize went to Lady Louise, Mr. Ball's second was a distinctly good one. In the class exceeding 15 hands Mr. Frank Leigh was well to the front with his black mare, and he took like honours with his brown gelding in the class for saddle horses between 14 and 15.2 hands. The same exhibitor also secured second honours for saddle cobs not exceeding 14½ hands. Miss May Butcher won the ladies' driving prize, and also first prize in the jumping classes for horses which have hunted with the local packs. The open jumping brought out a good field of fine performers. Ultimately the first prize, value £10 10s., went to Newcastle, ridden by Mr. T. Blinman, and the second prize to Miss May, ridden by Miss Butcher.

The show of cattle was on the whole a satisfactory one. Mr. Thomas Dyke's prize of £3 for the best non-pedigree bull above two years fell to Mr. J. Burdge, of Claverham, and for yearlings the first prize was awarded to Mr. John Watts, of Gatcombe Farm, Flax Bourton. There was quite a large competition in the Shorthorn bulls, Sir William H. Wills, Bart., M.P., Mr. Sidney Hill, Mr. G. F. King, and Mr. John Little being represented. The Chewton Keynsham breeder was placed head of the class with Chewton Oxford Cornelius, Langford Lavender, owned by Mr. Hill being second. There were several good heifer calves in the class for pairs, and the same applies to the dairy cows (pairs). A small but typical lot were shown in the in milk Jerseys, the prize going to Mr. Antony Gibbs. Fat cattle were fairly represented. The half-dozen sheep classes filled up exceedingly well, but the pig prizes, in consequence of the order of the Board of Agriculture, were withheld.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

Bull above two years: 1, Mr. John Burdge, Claverham Court.

Yearling bull: 1, Mr. J. Watts, Gatcombe Farm (Flax Bourton).

Shorthorn bull above 12 months old: 1, Mr. G. F. King, Chewton Keynsham (Chewton Oxford Cornelius); 2, Mr. Sidney Hill (Langford Lavender); hc, Mr. John Little, Paxcroft Farm, Trowbridge (Vain Lord); c, Sir William Henry Wills, Bart., M.P. (Blagdon Medallion).

Bull calf: 2, Mrs. J. D. Wallis, Kingston, Seymour (Sir Redvers Buller).

Pair of heifer calves: 1, Mr. Henry Crossman, Yatton; 2, Mrs. A. Hardwick, Clapton Farm, Portishead; hc, Mr. James Parsons, Portishead; c, Mr. C. F. Weeks, Tickenham.

Pair of dairy cows, to be shown in milk: 1, Mr. John Little, Paxcroft Farm, Trowbridge; 2, Mr. Stephen Harding, Bower Ashton.

Pair of dairy cows, bred by exhibitor, to be shown in milk: 1, Mr. James Parsons (Beauty and Hereford); 2, Mr. William Burdge, jun., Kingston Seymour; r, Mr. James Parsons, Greenfield, Portishead (Floss and Cherry).

Pair of three-year-old heifers, bred by exhibitor, to be shown in milk: 1, Mr. Benjamin Crossman, Claverham; 2, Mrs. A. Hardwick, Clapton; r, Mr. William Burdge, Kingston Seymour (Lofty and Strawberry).

Pair of two-year-old heifers, bred by exhibitor, in milk or in calf: 1, Mr. W. G. Williams, Midgell Farm, Chelvey; 2, Mr. W. G. Williams; r, Mr. James Parsons.

Jersey or Guernsey cow, to be shown in milk: 1, Mr. Antony Gibbs (Buttercup III.); 2, Mr. Antony Gibbs (Lass of Jersey II.); r, Sir J. H. Greville Smyth, Bart. (Lady Smyth); c, Sir J. H. Greville Smyth, Bart. (Daisy Ashton II.)

Two-year-old Jersey or Guernsey heifer: 1, Mr. James Mountstevens, Yatton (Agnes 3rd); 2, Mr. James Mountstevens (Yatton Beauty); r, Mr. W. A. Morgan, Nailsea (Dashing Yalland); hc Captain C. F. O. Davies, Cleve; c, Mr. A. E. Masters, Yatton (Beauty II).

Pair of yearling heifers, bred by exhibitor: 1, Mr. John Burdge; 2, Mr. W. G. Stevens; hc, Mrs. A. Hardwick.

Pair of two-year-old steers, bred by exhibitor: 1, Mr. Arthur Hardwick, Easton-in-Gordano; 2, Mr. Arthur Hardwick; r, Mr. W. G. Williams.

Pair of yearling steers, bred by exhibitor: 1, Mr. W. G. Williams; 2, Mr. Amos Williams, Yatton.

FAT CATTLE.

Pair of fat steers, not exceeding four years old: 1, Mr. George Davis, Portbury; 2, Mr. Arthur Hardwick.

Fat heifer: 1, Messrs. Williams Bros.; 2, Mr. George Hardwick; c, Messrs. Williams Bros.; c, Mr. George Hardwick.

Fat cow: 1, Mr. George Hardwick; 2, Messrs. Williams Bros.; r, Mr. George Hardwick.

SHEEP.

Ram: 1, Mrs. H. White, Flax Bourton; 2, Mr. W. M. Court, Parsonage Farm, Long Ashton; r, Mr. W. R. Withers, Backwell.

Ram lamb: 1, Mr. E. J. Edwards, Yatton; 2, Mr. John Cottle, Chelvey Court; r, Mr. J. Ha Cottle.

Pen of five stock ewes: 1, Mr. John Cottle; 2, Messrs. Williams Bros.; r, Mr. John Alvis, Brockley.

Pen of five 2-tooth stock ewes: 1, Mr. John Cottle; 2, Mr. Arthur Hardwick; r, Messrs. James Webber and Son, Puxton, Hewish.

Pen of five chilver stock lambs: 1, Mr. W. H. Churches, Hewish; 2, Mr. John Alvis; r, Mr. W. H. Churches.

Pen of five fat sheep: 1, Mr. Samuel Dyer, Kenn; 2, Messrs. James Webber and Son; r, Mr. Samuel Dyer.

HORSES.

Pair of cart horses (mares or geldings), the property of a tenant farmer: 1, Mr. A. E. Alvis, Nailsea (Smart and Jolly); 2, Mrs. E. Butler, Portbury; r, Mr. William Stallard, Wraxall (Darling and Diamond).

Cart horse (mare or gelding), the property of a tenant farmer: 1, Mr. George Davis (Darby); 2, Mrs. A. Hardwick; r, Mr. Samuel Dyer, Kenn Court (Captain).

Cart mare and foal: 1, Mr. Henry Macey (Blackbird); 2, Mr. Henry Macey, Brimsea, Congresbury (Jolly); r, Mr. Jeffery Burnett, Portishead (Pleasant).

Mare and foal for breeding hunters or roadsters: 1, Mr. Brightrie Gee, Bedminster (Kitty); 2, Dr. Fuller, Long Ashton (Bonnie Belle); r, Mr. E. J. Edwards.

Two-year-old gelding or filly for saddle or harness purposes: 1, Mr. Brightrie Gee (Topmast); 2, Mr. Frank Watts, Bower Ashton.

Two-year-old cart gelding or filly: 1, Mr. James Webber (Miss Xerxes); 2, Mr. James Webber (Captain); r, Mr. Henry Macey; hc, Mr. E. Frost, Honey Hall, Congresbury; c, Mrs. A. Davies.

Yearling cart colt or filly: 1, Mr. Henry Macey; 2, Mr. W. H. Dyer, The Batch, Tickenham; r, Mrs. A. Hardwick; c, Mr. Amos Williams, Barberry Farm, Yatton (Lord Hitchin).

Harness horse, above 14 hands, suitable to drive and to assist in general farm work: 1, Mr. Charles Binning, Cleeve (Polly); 2, Mrs. E. Butler, Portbury (Prince); r, Mr. Amos Williams (Beauty Bright).

SHOEING CLASS.

Shoeing smith working within the limits of the society: 1, Mr. C. Kirby, Tyntesfield, Flax Bourton; 2, Mr. E. J. Sampson, Claverham, Yatton; 3, Mr. H. P. Harris, Long Ashton; hc, Mr. George Radford, West Town.

OPEN CLASSES.

Pony (mare or gelding) not exceeding 13 hands; 1, Mr. S. W. Tompkins, Cribbs Causeway (Greatheart); 2, Captain A. H. Pethick (Shepherdess); r, Mr. H. V. James, The Grange, Backwell (Ragged Robin).

Cob, exceeding 13 and not exceeding 15 hands: 1, Dr. Fuller (Lady Louise); 2, Mr. H. F. Ball, Moorside, Backwell (Gwen); r, Mr. R. I. Weight, St. George, Bristol (Lord Kitchener); hc, Captain A. H. Pethick (Peter).

Roadster, exceeding 15 hands: 1, Mr. Frank Leigh, Westbury-on-Trym; 2, Dr. H. W. Aubrey, Bristol (Diana); r, Mr. G. Firbank, Aldwick Court (Fitzroy).

Riding horse (mare or gelding), from 14 hands to 15.2 inclusive: 1, Mr. Frank Leigh; 2, Mr. G. F. Tilley, Huntspill (Elegance); 3, The Keynsham Stud Co., Keynsham (Game Chicken); hc, Mr. Frank Watkins, St. George (Lady Bute).

Mare or geiding for hunting purposes: 1, Messrs. Flower and Mattick, Ston Easton; 2, Mr. G. F. Tilley (Elegance); r, Mr. Brightrie Gee, Locks Mills House (Dauntless).

Cob in saddle not exceeding 14½ hands: 1, Dr. Fuller, Long Ashton (Lady Louise); 2, Mr. Frank Leigh; r, Captain A. H. Pethick (Peter); hc, Captain C. F. O. Davis, Yatton (Maggie).

Lady, who drives in the best manner a horse or pony: 1, Mr. Alfred Butcher, Bristol; 2, Mr. P. O. Gill, Wrington; c, Mrs. A. Pillinger, Abbott's Leigh.

Jumper which has been hunted with Weston-super-Mare, Wells Subscription, or Stanton Drew Harriers: 1, Mr. Alfred Butcher (Miss May); 2, M. and G. E. Ponting, Hewish (No-No).

Jumper, open to all comers: 1, Mr. C. A. Daniell (Newcastle); 2, Mr. Alfred Butcher (Miss May).

Banffshire.

The United Banffshire Agricultural Society's Show, which is chiefly confined to cattle, took place on the 28th ult., the showyard being, as usual, within the policies of Duff House, while the visitors in the afternoon included the Duke of Fife, who is at present in residence there. The entries numbered 571, as compared with 491 last year, and 468 two years ago, while so far as regards quality the show was one of the best in the recent annals of the Society.

Shorthorns were very creditably represented. In a strong class of old bulls Mr. Longmore, Baldavie, won with his second prize Aberdeen bull Christmas Cup, a bull of great substance. Mr. Longmore, Rettie, followed closely with Star of Destiny, which has been second here three years in succession. Mr. Morison, of Tipperty, was third with Keystone, bred by the late Mr. Bruce, of Inverquhomery. In a nice class of two-year-olds the premier place was given to Mr. Horn's, of Brangan, Ideal Stamp, a compact, well-topped bull, bred by Mr. Bruce, Heatherwick, and by Beau Ideal. The second prize winner from the Old Manse of Boyndie, Cornelius, bred by Mr. Napier, Dallachy, had the same place last year. In a wealthy class of yearlings, Mr. Longmore, Rettie, led the way with a handsome young bull, Massingbred, bred by Mr. Innes, Cushnie, but he had a close follow-on in a yearling from Black Culphin—Beauty's Pride, bred at Stoneytown. The third prize winner was Orton, from Fauchfaulds, and the commended bull came from Pitgair. The male championship was won by the first prize old bull from Baldavie, which later won also the championship of all the cattle classes. In an excellent class of cows, in which were some animals of nice merit, Mr. Graham, Colleonard, had a good win with the four-year-old Amy. Mr. Murray's second prize winner, Heads of Yards, although out for the first time, reflected credit on this promising herd. The third and fourth prize winners came from Rettie. In a small class of two-year-olds Mr. Graham won with a daughter of his first prize cow, Mr. Stevenson, Blairshinnoch, being second with a pretty daughter of Watchman. The Rettie herd had an easy win in the one-year-old class with Merry Maid, which was awarded the Duke of Fife's special prize for the best female of the breed. In the heifer class Mr. Horn, Brangan, won with a daughter of Sir Fragrant and Pride of Boyne 10th. The best group of the breed was shown from Rettie.

The twenty-eight entries of Aberdeen-Angus animals did not form an average for this show, although compensation was found for the deficiency in numbers in the fine quality of the stock. In the class of aged bulls the premier place was given Mr. Stevenson's Fitzsimmon, a massive, short-legged bull of nice character. Mr. Simpson's second prize bull was third here last year. He is Coynachie Paymaster 4th, by the Portlethen bull Werburgh, and out of one of the old Drumfergue Prides. In the two-year-old classes two old competitors again met, and the judgment resulted in a decision similar to that at Aberdeen, Mr. Bruce, Tochineal, being first with Egmont of Pitpointie, which was first here last year and was fourth at Aberdeen; while Mr. Wilson, of Coynachie and Upper Dallachie, followed with his highly commended Aberdeen bull Alexis of Pitpointie. The class of yearling bulls gave the judges no little trouble, but they awarded the first prize ticket to Mr. Duff, of Hatton, for his very pretty Expert of Advie. Mr. Wilson's entry, which followed Mr. Duff's bull at Aberdeen, was fourth at the Stirling Highland, this being the thick, well-fleshed bull Statesman of Coynachie. The leading two-year-old from Tochineal won the male championship of the breed. In rather a weak class of cows Mr. Wilson won with Patient Queen Mother 4th, Mr. Rae, Wanford, following with Dagmar of Baldavie. The Tochineal cow Lambkin 2nd was third. Mr. Bruce had a creditable win in the two-year-old class with Blossom of Tochineal, an evenly-fleshed, sweet heifer descended from Braco stock. The second prize winner came from Upper Dallachie, Queen Mother 6th. Mr. Bruce was again first in the yearling class, leading here with Beauty of Polowick, an Erica from Upper Dallachie being second. The third prize winner from Hatton was a very sweet heifer. To the Hatton herd went the chief honours in the heifer calf class. The first prize cow from Upper Dallachie won the special prize for the best female, while the best group of the breed was shown from Tochineal. There was a good show of cross cattle. Fat were also well represented, the Aberdeen-Angus heifer from Rettie, which was champion of the fat section at Aberdeen two days previously, taking the same honour here. There was an admirable display of Clydesdales and also sheep, the champion of the latter section being a Leicester tup belonging to Mr. Fordyce, Silverford.

Kings Lynn Foal Show.

The annual foal show of the King's Lynn Horse and Foal Show Society took place on Wednesday afternoon in Hillington Park, about nine miles from Lynn, and adjoining Hillington Railway Station, by permission of this year's President, Sir W. H. B. Ffolkes, Bart. Up to the opening of the show rain fell ceaselessly, and, though the afternoon was bright and fine, this doubtless affected the attendance considerably. The catalogue was a diminished one compared with last year, several harness and jumping classes, which it was found did not meet with sufficient support, being omitted. This left nine classes, which were equally divided between Shire, hackney, and hunter animals. The entries numbered 46, as compared with about 60 in the same classes last year. So far as quality was concerned, the show was quite up to the level of the previous one, the foals being a capital lot. The hackney section was of fairly good merit. Among the colt foals, a nice, long-limbed bay, the property of Mr. A. Collen, of Saffron Walden, which carried off the championship, was an extraordinarily good animal. The hackney mares were a capital lot. The Shire section was declared by the judge, Mr. W. Richardson, of Doddington, Cambridgeshire, to be the best lot he had ever seen in Norfolk. Colt foals were a very good class. As a whole, hunters formed a very useful section.

Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.—The summer term of this college closed on Wednesday, when the Principal, the Rev. J. B. McClellan, M.A., conferred the diplomas, medals, scholarships, and other awards on the successful students. At the outset he expressed the respectful sympathy of the College with their patron, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on the sudden death of H.R.H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg. Turning to the work of the term, he said the diploma class had been one of unusual excellence, three out of the five candidates having gained qualifying marks for the gold medal—a circumstance of which he had no previous recollection. He was glad to be able, by the generous benefaction of a former Russian student, Mr. Goldstand, to confer silver medals on two of the gentlemen. It will be noted that the diploma list contains the name of a gentleman from Egypt, a near relative of the late Nubar Pasha, and the scholarship list the name of an Indian student. The external examiners for the diploma, in addition to the College staff, were, in practical agriculture, Mr. G. D. Davies, Middlewich, Cheshire; in agricultural chemistry, Dr. J. A. Voelcker, M.A., London; in veterinary science and practice, Sir G. T. Brown, C.B., Harrow; and in practical engineering, Professor H. Robinson, M.Inst.C.E., London. The chief awards follow:—

Honour Diploma of Membership (Maximum marks, 2,100; qualifying marks, 1,400): John Clark Bell, Auchtertyre, Cupar Angus, N.B., 1,912; Maurice Glanville Godlonton, 14, Trinity Road, Tulse Hill, London, 1,881; Arakel Nubar, Cairo, Egypt, 1,776; Charles James Tunstall, 6, Prospect Place, Harrogate, Yorkshire, 1,698; George Gunter Gunter, The Grange, Wetherby, Yorkshire, 1,543. Gold Medal (Maximum marks, 2,100; qualifying marks, 1,750): John Clark Bell. Goldstand Silver Medals (Qualifying marks, 1,750): M. G. Godlonton; Arakel Nubar. Scholarships (Open to the whole College). Maximum marks, 3,000; qualifying marks, 2,500): First Scholarship, £25: Second and Third Scholarships, £10 each: James Forster Bell, Grantham, Tittenson, Stoke-on-Trent, 2,754; Herbert Bowman Beddall, Marston Park, Ampthill, Beds, 2,838; Sheikh Makbul Husain, B.A., Oudh, India, 2,831, æq Honourable Mention for Scholarships: Landsell, 2,709; Powys-Lybbe, 2,489.

SOCIETIES.

The Royal.

Site for the Permanent Showyard London Selected.

The last monthly meeting of the Council of this Society before the autumn recess was held on Tuesday, at 13, Hanover Square, London, W., Earl Cawdor (President) in the chair.

At the opening of the proceedings, the Secretary read a letter which had been addressed to him by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the text of which had already been published in the newspapers, conveying His Royal Highness's high sense of the valuable assistance and support given to him throughout his year of office as President, by the Council and officers of the Society, and his sincere thanks to them and to the general body of members for the cordial goodwill and loyal attachment shown to His Royal Highness by all connected with the Society during his long association with it.

The President, in moving that His Royal Highness's gracious letter be entered on the minutes, said that the Society's very grateful thanks were due to the Prince of Wales for accepting the duties of their President, and for the continued interest which His Royal Highness manifested in the work of the Society. Since the receipt of the letter a very heavy bereavement had fallen upon the Royal Family in the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, K.G. (Duke of Edinburgh), who had been a governor of the Society since 1884. He thought they would be wanting in their duty if they did not express their respectful sympathy with Her Majesty the Queen and the other members of the Royal Family upon this very sad occasion, and he desired therefore to move from the chair that a humble message of condolence be addressed to Her Majesty the Queen, assuring her of the earnest and respectful sympathy of the Society with Her Majesty in her affliction.

Cardiff Meeting.

The President's motion was seconded by the Earl of Coventry, and carried unanimously.

The Mayor and Town Clerk of Cardiff attended at Hanover Square for the first time in connection with the Society's country meeting of 1901, to be held in that town, and at a meeting of the General Cardiff Committee the following gentlemen nominated by the Mayor were duly elected to serve upon the Committee:—The Mayor of Cardiff (Councillor S. A. Brain), Messrs. Robert Forrest, James Howell, Edward Knox, George C. Williams, D. T. Alexander, Henry Lewis, E. W. M. Corbett, and Mr. J. L. Wheatley (Town Clerk).

Sir Walter Gilbey presented a recommendation from the General Cardiff Committee that the Cardiff meeting should open on Wednesday, June 26th, 1901, and close on the following Monday evening, and that the customary practice of opening the implement yard only on the day previous to the opening of the whole showyard should on this occasion not be followed.

Permanent Showyard to be in the Metropolis.

The following report of the Special Show Committee appointed to consider the question of a permanent location for the Society's shows after the present rotation was completed was read by the Hon. Cecil Parker, Chairman of the Committee, on whose motion the Council resolved itself into a committee of the whole Council to consider and decide upon the questions raised in the report:—

"1. The committee held a further meeting on Monday, July 30, in order to consider the various proposals and suggestions which have been received by the Society from different sources as to the locality for the proposed permanent showyard for the Society.

"2. Schemes in various stages of development are reported to be under consideration in several places, but most of them appear to be to a certain extent dependent upon the Society first deciding for itself whether it will go to the particular place, in which case local efforts may be expected towards the acquisition of the site suggested.

"3. Under these circumstances it appears to the Committee that before going further it is necessary to ask the Council to decide whether in their judgment the site of the Society's permanent showyard should be in the metropolis or in the provinces.

"4. After careful consideration of the whole matter the Committee have decided by a majority that in their opinion it is desirable to obtain a site in the neighbourhood of London for the purposes of the Society's permanent showyard."

The Hon. Cecil Parker, in moving the adoption of the report, said that out of a great many sites which had been suggested for their consideration the committee had selected several of the most likely in the provinces, and had obtained information as to the advantages and disadvantages of each neighbourhood and ground for the purposes of the Society's show. After weighing the pros. and cons., he with the majority of the members of the committee had come to the conclusion contained in paragraph 4 of the report. Two sites had already been offered in the neighbourhood of London, and when the time came, after the Council had come to a decision on the main point, the committee would, of course, go thoroughly into the question of accommodation and expense.

Mr. Percy Crutchley, in seconding the resolution, said he thought the time had come when it was necessary for them to narrow the issue down to the question as between London and the provinces. It was now six months since the report of the special committee had been made public, and they had had the advantage of important criticism, both public and private. He did not think that during those six months it was at all likely that any sites had been overlooked which were likely to be suitable for the Society's requirements, and if the Council spent too much time in deliberating the matter it was more than probable that several of the sites which they might now obtain would be built over. He thought it only fair, seeing that several towns in the provinces were preparing or contemplating schemes for the development of sites, that the Council should make up their minds on this point before proceeding further, so as to save the towns needless trouble and expense.

The Earl of Coventry said the question now to be decided marked a very important period in the history of the Society. Many of them regretted very much the necessity for abandoning the system of migratory shows which had done so much good work during the past sixty years. They had, however, to consider the future of the Society, and he had come to the conclusion that it was quite impossible for them to continue the present system. The best thing undoubtedly to do was to have a permanent and fixed showyard in which to hold their annual shows, and he (Lord Coventry) certainly thought that the neighbourhood of London was the best for the purpose. London was a great and populous centre to which people from all parts of the country would flock.

Mr. G. H. Sanday, as one of the minority opposed to the establishment of the Society's permanent showyard in the neighbourhood of London, said that in his opinion the information which the Special Committee had been able to give to the Council was not such as to enable them to come to a final decision on the subject that day. He had himself, at considerable trouble, visited sites at Birmingham, Leicester and Nottingham, and had seen three others near London. He thought the time was premature for the Council to decide so momentous a point as had been brought before them that day, and he would urge upon the Council not to settle the matter hurriedly.

Mr. P. Albert Muntz., M.P., said that so many important points were involved that unless members had detailed information as to the various sites suggested in different parts of the country, they could not come to a right decision as to the merits and demerits, the suitability or unsuitability of any particular place. He suggested that an expert should be employed to inspect and report upon the different sites which had been offered. The site chosen should not be on one line of railway, but should be so situated that various lines converging toward a centre should provide the necessary conveniences of transport from all parts of the Kingdom. The town of Derby, to his mind, best fulfilled these requirements, though Leicester and Nottingham were both good. Upon the proper consideration of this question depended the future prosperity or failure of the Society.

The Marquis of Granby thought they should have had more information laid before them as to the various sites, and thus be able to judge for themselves as to land, soil, position, etc., as between the country and London. He should like to have the fullest information, both as to the sites which had been mentioned and those which had not been referred to.

The Hon. Cecil Parker, interposing, said that it was impossible to give such detailed information as had been asked for, because the corporations and other bodies with whom they had been in communication could not be expected to go to the expense and trouble of elaborating a scheme until they knew whether the Society would go to their neighbourhood or not.

Sir Jacob Wilson explained that his reasons for not being able to vote with the Chairman of the Special Show Committee were that in the absence of certain information which he required he did not think it desirable for this Society to come into the neighbourhood of London. It was, he thought, due to those districts in the country who had furnished information as to sites for a permanent showyard that if the Council were invited to come to a decision on the point they should only do so after the fullest consideration of all the details which it was possible to collect. This had up to the present not been done, and he confessed that on looking back over the statistics of shows held in the neighbourhood of London he did not find the prospect very encouraging. It had been said that a great number of people visited the Kilburn Show, but then that show was open three days longer than the customary period. There was more than one site available in London, one which he believed to be admirable and in every way advantageous to the Society. But he would remind them that they were about to come to a very important and momentous decision. When they had decided where to go there could be no turning back again, and if they went to a London district, and it should turn out a failure—and he knew several enterprises in London which had turned out failures—the Society would be in a worse position than at the present time. Taking a broader view of the question they must remember that the original intention of the Royal Agricultural Society was to benefit the agriculture of the country, and if they selected a site in the country he thought the Society would lose its "Royal" character in the eyes of a great many people, though it might maintain its agricultural side. But if they came to London he feared that they would lose both, and that the Society would be no longer either royal or agricultural, but would develop into a huge implement and horse show. Horse shows he knew attracted as exhibitors wealthy breeders of horses, but he thought the Society would lose its hold upon the cattle and sheep breeding districts. It had been said that the Royal Society should come to their rescue, but he was not altogether sure of that. There were breed societies and breed societies. It was possible that some of the wealthy societies might place at their disposal a certain amount of money to swell the prize sheet, but in return they would expect to have a voice in the distribution of the prizes.

Mr. Sanday moved the following amendment (which was seconded by Mr. Muntz) to the motion for the adoption of the report:—"That in the absence of full information with reference to all the sites offered, the time for the final decision of place or district has not arrived, and that the question should be referred back to the Special Committee for further consideration and report."

A long debate ensued, Mr. Marshall, Sir Nigel Kingscote, Sir Walter Gilbey, Sir Massey Lopes, the Earl of Feversham, Mr. Ransome, Mr. Stratton, and Mr. Terry speaking in favour of the selection of a site near London, whilst Mr. Sutton, Mr. Pell, Mr. Martin, and Viscount Baring commented adversely on various aspects of the proposals of the Special Committee.

In summing up the discussion, the president said that what the Council were asked to do by the amendment of Mr. Sanday was to postpone any decision so that they might go fully into details as to sites. But six months hence they would be in no better position to arrive at a conclusion than they were that day. Corporations and other bodies interested in sites would not take the trouble to go into details until they had some assurance that the Society intended to come into their neighbourhood. What the Special Committee asked for was an expression of opinion by the Council as to whether on general grounds the site of the Society's future permanent showyard should be in the neighbourhood of London or in a provincial town, and on this he would now ask them to vote.

A division being asked for, there appeared thirty-four votes for the Special Committee's recommendation and twelve against it, two members not voting. The Council then resumed, when on the motion of the Hon. Cecil Parker, seconded by Mr. Crutchley, it was resolved by the Council *nem. dis.*, "That it is desirable to obtain a site in the neighbourhood of London for the purposes of the Society's permanent showyard."

The reports of the various Standing Committees were presented and adopted, and the Council then adjourned over the autumn recess.

Bath and West and Southern Counties Society.

At a Council meeting of the above-named Society, held in London, on Tuesday, in the absence of the President (H.R.H. the Duke of York, K.G.), the Marquis of Bath was voted to the chair.

In opening the proceedings, the Chairman alluded to the extremely sad news which had just been received of the death of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. His lordship said that he was quite sure that the Council would wish to give effect to the feeling which, in common with the rest of the nation, possessed them, and he therefore begged to move: "That this Council desires to express its deep sorrow at the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and respectfully begs leave to offer to Her Most Gracious Majesty, to the Patron of the Society (H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G.), the President (H.R.H. the Duke of York, K.G.) and the other members of the Royal Family its sincere sympathy with them in their bereavement."

Finance.

Mr. C. R. Collins, as Chairman of Finance, brought up the quarterly statement of accounts, and reported that cheques for the prizes awarded at the Bath meeting had been sent to all prize-winners with the exception of those with respect to whose animals some further qualification was necessary. On the motion of Mr. Collins, seconded by Col. Chester-Master, the report was adopted.

Show Dates.

Capt. Best, as Chairman of the Show Dates Committee, reported that, after [illegible] all the circumstances, [illegible] the Committee recommended that the 1901 exhibition at Croydon be opened on Wednesday, May 22nd, and which arrangement the Society will [illegible] on May 27th (Whit Monday), and that [illegible] arrived at this conclusion [illegible] representatives of Croydon [illegible] be the most suitable for the locality. The adoption

of the report was moved by Capt. Best, seconded by Mr. C. R. Collins, and agreed to.

Agricultural Education.

Sir R. H. Paget, as Chairman of the Agricultural Education Committee, reported that in accordance with an arrangement with the Somerset County Council a cheese school was opened at Vale Farm, Batcombe, on April 1st last. The school, which had been working satisfactorily, had been attended up to the present time by twenty-four students, and others were about to attend. The April make of cheese was sold at the uniform price of 63s. per cwt. of 112lbs., which was a very satisfactory price for early cheese.

The farriery school carried on by the Society for the Somerset County Council had continued its travels during the current year. Since January 1st last, and up to June 30th, classes had been held at Wells, Glastonbury, Evercreech, Bruton, Castle Cary, Wincanton, Milborne Port, Upper Weston, and Bath, and these had been well attended by pupils.

In addition to this, the farriery van and instructor attended the Bath and West Show at Bath, and there was a competition of pupils there, when the judge stated that the work of the local class was exceedingly good. He commended the whole of the competitors.

Sir R. H. Paget stated that since the report had been drawn up a communication had been received from the Board of Agriculture which he hoped would result in a resumption of the research work in dairying, which had been of late in abeyance. A conference had taken place between representatives of the Society and the Board, and this had resulted in some suggestions being made which the committee would shortly take into consideration with a view to reporting upon to the Council.

The adoption of the report was moved by Sir R. H. Paget, seconded by Mr. Strachey, M.P., and agreed to.

Council Vacancy.

An extraordinary vacancy in the North-Western Division of the Council, caused by the death of Mr. A. Mason, was filled up by the election of Mr. Herbert Lloyd, of Plas Cilybebyll, Swansea.

Croydon Exhibition.

Grants amounting to upwards of £3,000 were made for prizes to be offered at the Croydon Exhibition next year. These prizes are in addition to those that will be offered by or through the local committee, by the Stud, Herd, and Flock Book Societies, and by individual contributors. The importance of the Croydon meeting was recognised by the large amounts voted in the various departments.

Cider-making.

In the absence of Mr. R. Neville-Grenville; Mr. F. G. Farwell moved:—"That a grant of £100 be made in aid of further research in cider-making during the coming season," and pointed out the practical utility of the Society's researches in this direction during the past year as detailed in the Society's Journal. The motion was seconded by the Rev. A. T. Boscawen, and agreed to.

Education.

Sir R. H. Paget moved:—"That the Society do subscribe the sum of two guineas to the Agricultural Education Committee formed in London for (a) the promotion, in rural districts, of systematic and efficient instruction, at elementary and other schools, in subjects bearing directly upon rural life; (b) the diffusion among the agricultural classes, by means of suitable publications, of a knowledge of the advantages of agricultural instruction."

Sir R. H. Paget alluded to the good work which the committee in question had already done, and stated that there was still abundant need of its activity. Several members of the Society's Council were on the committee, of which Sir W. Hart-Dyke, M.P., was the chairman, and Mr. H. Hobhouse, M.P., the hon. secretary, and the Council was officially represented on the executive by the Society's secretary.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. F. F. Buckingham, and agreed to.

Cider.

A communication was received from the Organising Committee of the International Congress "pour l'étude des fruits de pressoir et de l'industrie du cidre," inviting the Society to appoint delegates to attend such Congress to be held at Paris on October 11th, 12th, and 13th next. On the motion of Sir C. T. D. Acland, seconded by Mr. M. J. Sutton, Mr. F. G. Farwell, Mr. R. Neville-Grenville, Mr. F. J. Lloyd, and the Secretary were appointed to represent the Society at the Congress.

Somerset Agricultural Association.

A communication from the Somerset County Agricultural Association was read, enclosing a copy of the following resolution:—"That the best thanks of this Association be given to the Council of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society for the general courtesy extended to this Association during its Bath meeting; also for the use of that Society's Council room for Council and general meetings; also for the use of its pavilion for accommodation of members, and for the use of an office for official business."

It was resolved to convey to the Association the thanks of the Council for the resolution and its satisfaction that the arrangements in question had met the wishes of the Association.

Special Prize.

A communication was read from Professor Carroll, of Glasnevin, Dublin, asking to be allowed to offer a silver cup in the dairy department of the Society's Croydon exhibition. The offer was accepted with thanks, the settlement of the conditions being referred to the Dairy Committee.

Army Remounts.

A suggestion of Professor Carroll that the Society should offer prizes for army remounts was referred to the Stock Prize Sheet Committee.

Communications.

Letters were read from the Mayor of Bath and the G.W.R. and L. and S.W.R. Companies thanking the Society for complimentary resolutions passed at the last annual general meeting of members, and from Mr. F. F. Mason and Mr. Egbert Lewis thanking the Council for its expressions of sympathy and condolence in relation respectively to the deaths of Mr. Albert Mason, late a member of the Council and an assistant steward, and of Mr. William Lewis, who was for twenty-five years the publisher of the Society's catalogue, and who was also hon. secretary to the Local Committee for the Society's recent exhibition at Bath.

Royal Cornwall.

A Council meeting of the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association was held at St. Austell on the 27th ult., Col. Tremayne presiding.

Invitations for next year's show had been received from Bodmin and St. Austell, and deputations attended to urge the claims of those towns. Mr. H. D. Foster, Col. St. Aubyn, Messrs. R. P. Edyvean, and J. Lewarne represented Bodmin, the Mayor being away at camp on Volunteer duty; while Messrs. J. T. Hawke (chairman of the Urban Council), J. W. Higman (chairman of the Rural Council), H. Hodge, and R. Parson appeared for St. Austell. It is sixteen years since the show was held at Bodmin, and fourteen years since St. Austell was visited.

Mr. W. T. Lovering proposed that the show be at St. Austell, and Mr. R. Clark (St. Ewe) seconded.

Mr. Bastard (St. Tudy) moved the selection of Bodmin. Mr. J. C. Williams, in seconding, thought the aim should be to get the shows as far apart as might be. (Hear, hear.) They were a county society, and unless they kept their eye on the considerable distances which separated the population, they would gradually and inevitably drift into the position of a local society. They should not hold the show too often near the centre of the county. (Hear, hear.)

Twenty-nine voted for Bodmin and only five for St. Austell.

Mr. H. Thomas said they would like to have more subscribers from Bodmin union, which did not compare well in this matter with St. Austell union.

Messrs. J. S. Tucker (Menheniot), Biddick (St. Winn), and Hendy (Truthan) were appointed to inspect sites for the next exhibition.

A good deal of time was taken up with the consideration of a protest entered by Messrs. J. Mead and P. Hoblyn at the recent show at Truro against Tit Bit, a grey mare, exhibited by Mr. J. Ford, Bedford Street, Plymouth. The protest was based on the assertion that the animal was entered as a six-year-old, but was really seven. The opinions of veterinary surgeons and various documentary and verbal evidence having been received, it was decided, without dissent, on the proposition of Mr. W. Lovering, seconded by Mr. Drew, to uphold the protest.

Suffolk Fat Cattle

A general meeting of the Suffolk Fat Cattle Club took place at the office of the secretary (Mr. Robert Bond), Butter Market, Ipswich, on Tuesday, Mr. E. Snell presiding.

The report of the Committee expressed pleasure that, under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Earl of Stradbroke, the Christmas Show of 1899 was a decided success, both as to the superior quality and number of its fat stock and other exhibits. The block test for the first time was introduced, and proved interesting and instructive. The attendance of the public from the country was restricted by a snowstorm, but upwards of 7,000 ticket holders and visitors were present. The amount distributed in prizes was £389 18s., and the thanks of the members generally were due to the many noblemen and gentlemen who contributed to the prize fund. Under the arrangement with the Secretary, there was a small sum to the Club's credit upon the year's transactions, but they regret to learn that Mr. Bond had lost the small gain of last year, and a few pounds besides. Relative to the future, the Committee were of opinion that the block test should be extended to sheep. Many donors having again promised their contributions to the prize fund, the amount to be offered in prizes for cattle, sheep, and swine might be about the same, but to increase the agricultural importance of the Club, and its attractiveness to stock exhibitors, they recommended the institution of challenge cups, as at other clubs, to be won thrice before becoming the property of the exhibitor; and that the Secretary be instructed to receive subscriptions for the same. Barley being a very important crop in East Anglia, they recommended that special and substantial prizes be secured and offered, and that those firms who give prizes for barley be invited to exhibit their respective competitions at the Christmas Show as stand-holders.

The balance-sheet showed that recipts including a balance in hand of 4s. 4d. from the previous year, amounted to £497 13s. 4d., and after meeting expenditure, there was a small balance on the right side of 4s. 7d.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the balance-sheet and report, observed that last year's show was not quite a financial success, owing to the bad weather, which had a very deterrent effect on the attendance. No fears need be entertained, however, in regard to this matter, as the show, in respect to quality, was quite on a level with its predecessors.

Mr. Corder seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman moved the election of Mr. Jas. E. Ransome as president, recalling the fact that the Club had its birth in Mr. Ransome's drawing-room. Mr. Rudland seconded, and the proposition was carried. The vice-presidents, treasurer, and auditors were re-elected *en bloc*, while six vacancies on the Committee were filled. Mr. Robert Bond was reappointed secretary. Considerable discussion ensued as to the prize list for the 1900 show. A motion by Mr. Sherwood, that four prizes of £7, £4, £3, and £2, be offered in connection with Class 12, for three Suffolk lambs, lambed in the current year, was negatived in favour of an amendment by Mr. E. W. Snell that the prizes should consist of £5, £4, £3, and £2. Other alterations were also agreed to.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

August.

6. Tutbury Shire Horse and Meynell Hunt Society's Show, at Rolleston Hall Grounds.
6. Stamford Horse Show.
6. Chepstow Agricultural Society's Show.
6. Chatteris Shire Horse and Hackney Society's Show
6. Ecclesfield Farmers' Club's Show, at Hillsboro' Park, Sheffield.
6. Gainsborough Agricultural Society's Show, at Gainsborough.
6. Tyneside Agricultural Society's Show, at Hexham.
6. Border Union Agricultural Society's Show, at Friar's Park, Kelso.
6. Waltham Cross and Three Counties (Essex, Herts, and Middlesex) Horse and Foal Society's Show.
6. Ludlow Agricultural Society's Show, at Ludford, Ludlow.
6. Whalley Agricultural Society's Show.
6. Brentnor and Lydford Pony Society's Show, at Lydford Junction.
6. Oxted and Godstone Agricultural Association's Show.
6. Lutterworth and District Agricultural Society's Show
6. South Brent Pony and Sheep Society's Show, at South Brent.
6. Sale and Letting of Mr. W. C. Young's Hampshire Down Ram Lambs and Rams, at Stratford Subcastle, Salisbury.
7. Blackpool and District Agricultural Society's Show.
7. Sale and Letting of Mr. Dibben's Hampshire Down Ram Lambs and Rams, at Market House, Salisbury.
7. Sale of Shropshire Sheep belonging to Mr. P. L. Mills, at Ruddington Hall, Notts.
7. Sale of Mr. W. Toop's Southdown Flock, at Westergate, Aldingbourne.
7. Sale of Devon Cattle, belonging to Rev E. Hensley, at Baughurst House, Basingstoke.
7. Cirencester Ram Fair.
8. Badminton Farmers' Club Show, at Badminton Park.
8. Crook Agricultural Society's Show, at Crook.
8. Sale of Sir James Blyth's Southdown Sheep and Jersey Cattle, at Blythwood, Stansted, Essex.
8. Sale and Letting of Southdown Sheep, at Colchester Cattle Market.
8. Astwood Bank Horse Show.
8. Oxford Great Ram Fair.
8. Sale of the late Mr. W. N. Waller's flock of Suffolk Sheep, at Sutton, Suffolk.
8. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, the property of Mr. W. F. Inge, at Thorpe Hall, Tamworth.
9. Sale of Suffolk Sheep, belonging to the Earl of Ellesmere, at Stetchworth Park, Newmarket.
9. Keele Agricultural and Horticultural Society's Show, at Keele Park, Keele, Staffs.
9. Madresfield Agricultural Club's Show, at Madresfield Court.
9. Padiham Agricultural Society's Show, at Padiham.
9. Market Bosworth Agricultural and Horticultural Society's Show, at Market Bosworth.
9. Warrington and District Agricultural Society's Show, at Walton Park, near Warrington.
9. Tring Agricultural Society's Show, at Tring Park.
9. Holderness Agricultural Society's Show, at Hedon.
9. Harrogate Horse Show.
9. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, the property of Mr. F. S. Minton, at Montford, Shrewsbury.
9. Sale of Mr. J. A. Hempson's Southdown Sheep, at Erwarton Hall, Ipswich.
10. Radnorshire Agricultural Society's Show at Penybont.
10. Barnard Castle Agricultural Society's Show.
10. Sale of Oxford Down Lambs, belonging to Mr. G. S. Fisher, at Kettering Market.
13. Bridport Fair.
14. Beamish, Pontop and Consett Agricultural Society's Show
14. Central Renfshire Farmers' Club's Show, at Keith.
14. Sale of Southdown Sheep, the property of the Right Hon. Earl Bathurst, at Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire.
14. Sale of Hampshire Down Ram Lambs and Rams, the property of Mr. H. C. Stephens, M.P., at Market House, Salisbury.
14. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, belonging to Mrs. Barrs, Oldstone Hall, Atherstone.
14. Blackpool and District Agricultural Society's Show, at Blackpool.
15. Bakewell Farmers' Club's Show, at Rutland Grounds, Bakewell.
15. Mr. C. Cowan's Annual Sale of Shropshire Sheep, at Efford Park, Lymington.
15. Penistone Agricultural Society's Show at Penistone.
15. Denbighshire and Flintshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Denbigh.
15. Whitley Horse Show.

Forthcoming Shows.

AUGUST 6.—Ecclesfield Farmers' Club, at Hillsborough Park, Sheffield. Secretary, pro tem., Mr. Vincent Siddall, Wadsley Bridge, near Sheffield.

AUGUST 6.—Border Union Agricultural Society, at Kelso. Entries closed July 3. Secretary, Mr. Allan Stevenson, Kelso.

AUGUST 6.—Brentor and Lydford Pony Society, at Lydford Junction, Devon. Entries closed July 9. Secretary, Mr J. N. Jackman, Burnville, Brentor.

AUGUST 6.—Chatteris Shire Horse and Hackney Society, at Chatteris. Entries closed July 23. Secretary, Mr. A. Harold Ruston, Aylesby House, Chatteris.

AUGUST 6.—Gainsborough Agricultural Society, at Gainsborough. Entries closed July 31. Secretary, Mr. T J. Dixon, Gainsborough.

AUGUST 6.—Ludlow Agricultural Society, at Ludford, Ludlow. Entries closed July 23. Secretary, Mr. E. H. Wood, 30, Broad Street, Ludlow.

AUGUST 6.—Lutterworth and District Agricultural Society, at Lutterworth. Entries closed July 12. Secretary, Mr. Thomas C. Bodycote, High Street, Lutterworth.

AUGUST 6.—Oxted and Godstone Agricultural Association. Secretary, Mr. J. Stanley, Tandridge, Oxted.

AUGUST 6.—Tyneside Agricultural Society, at Hexham. Secretary, Mr. R. Ord, Beaufront Wood Head, Hexham.

AUGUST 6.—Ecclesfield Farmers' Club, at Hillsboro' Park, Sheffield. Entries closed July 22. Secretary, Mr. S. Hall Coates, Alliance Chambers, George Street, Sheffield.

AUGUST 6.—Waltham Cross and Three Counties' (Essex, Herts, and Middlesex), at Waltham Cross. Entries closed one month previous. Secretary, Mr. G. Symondson, Upthan Hall, Waltham Abbey.

AUGUST 6.—Whalley Agricultural Society, at Whalley. Entries closed July 30. Secretary, Mr. Jas. M. Rweliffe, Regent Terrace, Whalley, near Blackburn.

AUGUST 8.—Crook Agricultural Society, at Crook. Entries closed August 1. Secretary, Mr. Wm. Pallister, The Laurels, Crook, Co. Durham.

AUGUST 8.—Badminton Farmers' Club, at Badminton. Entries closed July 9. Secretary, Mr. Ward Soames, Estate Office, Badminton, S.O., Gloucestershire.

AUGUST 8.—Badminton Farmers' Club, at Badminton Park. Secretary, Mr. Ward Soames, Estate Office, Badminton, Gloucestershire.

AUGUST 9.—Keele Agricultural Society, at Keele Park, Keele. Entries closed July 26. Secretary, Mr. W. A. Benson, Silverdale, Staffs.

AUGUST 9.—Madresfield Agricultural Club, at Madresfield Court. Entries closed July 12. Secretary, Mr. Arthur D. Melvin, Estate Office, Madresfield, Malvern.

AUGUST 9.—Market Bosworth Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Bosworth Park. Entries closed July 21. Secretary, Mr. John Thorpe, Nailstone, Nuneaton.

AUGUST 9.—Padiham Agricultural Society, at Padiham. Entries closed August 2. Secretary, Mr. R. W. Hargreaves, Bank Chambers, Padiham.

AUGUST 9.—Tring Agricultural Society, at Tring Park. Entries closed July 6; post entries, with extra fees, July 9. Secretary, Mr. F. J. Brown, 41, High Street, Tring, Herts.

AUGUST 9.—Warrington and District Agricultural Society, at Walton Park, near Warrington. Entries closed July 18. Secretary, Mr. Beresford Melville, Estate Offices, Warrington.

AUGUST 10.—Barnard Castle Agricultural Society, at Barnard Castle. Entries closed August 4. Secretary, Mr. E. Tilburn, Barnard Castle.

AUGUST 10.—Radnorshire Agricultural Society, at Penybont. Entries closed July 28. Secretary, Mr. Jas. Hamer, Greenfield, Penybont, Radnorshire.

AUGUST 14 (probably).—Central Banffshire Farmers' Club, at Keith. Secretary, Mr. G. Donald, Ladyhill, Keith.

AUGUST 15.—Beamish, Pontop, and Consett Agricultural Society, at Blaydon. Entries closed August 1. Secretaries, Messrs. Alex. Atkinson and Jas. A. Hodgson, Causey, Marley Hill, Swalwell, R.S.O.

AUGUST 16.—Denbighshire and Flintshire Agricultural Society, at Denbigh. Entries closed July 26. Secretary, Mr. T. Welsby, Wellington Chambers, 5, Wellington Road, Rhyl.

AUGUST 16.—Penistone Agricultural Society, at Penistone. Entries close August 6. Secretary, Mr. J. H. Wood, Penistone.

3rd Thursday in AUGUST.—Waltham Cross and Three Counties —Essex, Herts, and Middlesex—at Waltham Cross. Entries closed one month before. Secretary, Mr. George Symondson, Upsham Hall, Waltham Abbey.

AUGUST 16.—Whitby Horse Show, at Whitby. Entries closed August 2. Secretary, Mr. Arthur Harrowing, Whitby.

AUGUST 18.—Chorley and District Agricultural Society, at Chorley. Entries close August 11. Secretary, Mr. Peter Hodgkinson, Town Hall Sale Rooms, Chorley, Lancashire.

AUGUST 18.—Wensleydale Agricultural Society, at Leyburn. Entries closed August 4. Secretary, Mr. Thos. Firbank King, Edgley, Leyburn, Yorkshire.

AUGUST 21.—North Lonsdale Agricultural Society, at Ulverston. Entries close, August 8. Secretary, Mr. W. C. Kendall, Solicitor, Union Street, Ulverston, Lancs.

AUGUST 21.—Barnsley Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Queen's Grounds, Barnsley. Entries close August 7. Secretary, Mr. F. C. Browne, Westgate, Barnsley.

AUGUST 22.—Belper and District Horse Show Society, at Belper. Entries close August 8. Secretary, Mr. Andrew Smith, 16, Derwent Street, Derby.

AUGUST 22.—Lancaster Agricultural Society, at Giant Axe Field. Entries close fourteen days previous Secretary Messrs. T. Armitstead and Son, Auctioneers, Penny Street, Lancaster.

AUGUST 23.—East Berks Horse Show Society, at Maidenhead. Entries closed August 3. Secretary, Mr. C. H. W. Dixon, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

AUGUST 23 (probably).—Penrith Agricultural Society, at Penrith. Entries close ten days prior to Show. Secretary, Mr. John Thornborrow, St. Andrew's Churchyard, Penrith.

AUGUST 23.—United Counties' Agricultural Society, at Carmarthen. Entries close August 9. Secretary, Mr. D. H. Thomas, 5, Quay Street, Carmarthen.

AUGUST 23 and 24.—Royal Jersey Agricultural Society's Summer Show, at Agricultural Hall, Springfield Road, St. Heliers. Entries closed July 28 Secretary, Mr John A. Perree, 8, Church Street, St. Heliers.

AUGUST 25.—Worsley and District Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at The Park, Worsley. Entries close August 15. Secretary, Mr. W. Upjohn, Worsley, near Manchester.

AUGUST 25.—Weardale Agricultural Society, at St. John's Chapel. Entries close August 18. Secretary, Mr. J. Watson, P.O., Daddry Shield, R.S.O., Co. Durham.

AUGUST 28, 29, 30, and 31.—Royal Dublin Society's Horse Show, at Ball's Bridge Entries closed July 26. Registrar, Mr. R. J. Moss, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin.

AUGUST 29.—Wayland Agricultural and Poultry Society, at Watton, Norfolk. Entries close August 29 Secretary, Mr Sydney S. George, Watton, Norfolk

AUGUST 29.—Airedale Agricultural Society, at Bingley. Entries close August 20. Secretary, Mr. Charles Mason, Park Road, Bingley.

AUGUST 29.—Cheshire Agricultural Society, at Congleton, Cheshire. Entries close August 8. Secretary, Mr. Thos. A. Beckett, St. Werburgh's Chambers, Chester.

AUGUST 29.—Clarborough Farming and Gardening Society, at a Field between Clarborough and Retford. Entries close August 22. Secretary, Mr. Joshua Walker, F.S.I., Market Place, Retford.

AUGUST 29. North-East Somerset Farmers' Club, at Farrington Gurney Entries closed August 4 Secretary, Mr John Tudhall, Chew Magna, near Bristol

AUGUST 29 and 30.—Warwickshire Agricultural Society, at Coventry. Entries closed August 4 Secretary, Mr F H Moore, Warwick.

AUGUST (probably second week in).—Cumberland Agricultural Society, at Carlisle. Entries close fortnight before show Secretary, Mr. W. Wood, 1, Exchange Buildings, Lowther Street, Carlisle.

SEPTEMBER 1.—Barrow-in-Furness Agricultural Society, at Cavendish Park, Barrow. Entries close August 25. Secretary, Mr. Harry S. Lowden, 22 and 24, Cornwallis Street, Barrow-in-Furness.

SEPTEMBER 1.—Middleton-in-Teesdale Agricultural Society, at Middleton-in-Teesdale Entries close August 25. Secretaries, Messrs. Thompson and Raine, Middleton-in-Teesdale.

SEPTEMBER 4.—Bicester Agricultural and Horticultural Association, at Bicester House Grounds. Secretary, Mr James Roots, Bicester, Oxon.

SEPTEMBER 4.—Evercreech and Mid-Somerset, at Shepton Mallet. Entries close August 17. Secretary, Mr. R. Moody, Shepton Mallet.

SEPTEMBER 4.—Greasley, Selston, and Eastwood Agricultural Society, at Moorgreen, near Nottingham. Entries close August 28. Secretary, Mr. W. H. Attenborough, Greasley, near Nottingham

SEPTEMBER 4.—Hawkshead Agricultural Society, at Hawkshead. Entries close August 25. Secretary, Mr. W. A. Rushforth, Esthwaite Hall, Hawkshead, Lancs.

SEPTEMBER 5. Guildford Agricultural Association, at Guildford. Entries close, August 18. Secretary, Mr. Ernest H. Ellis, Town Hall Chambers, Guildford

SEPTEMBER 5.—Alfreton Agricultural Society, at Alfreton Park. Entries close Wednesday prior to Show. Secretary, Mr. Melville Watson, Victoria Buildings, Alfreton.

SEPTEMBER 5.—Peterborough Agricultural Society's Foal Show. Entries close August 29. Secretary, Mr. J. E. Little, Cumbergate, Peterborough.

SEPTEMBER 5 and 6.—Bath Horse Show, at Bath. Entries close August 18. Secretary, Mr. Lewis C. Mundy, 41, Milsom Street, Bath.

SEPTEMBER 6.—Royal and Central Bucks. Agricultural Association, at Walton Grange, Aylesbury. Entries close August 9. Secretary, Mr. F. B. Parrott, Solicitor, Aylesbury, Bucks.

SEPTEMBER 6.—The Abergavenny Horse Show and Agricultural Association, at Abergavenny. Entries close, August 28. Secretaries, Messrs. James Straker and Son, Auctioneers, Abergavenny.

SEPTEMBER 7.—Lincoln Long-wool Sheep Breeders' Association's Sale, at Messrs. Smith and Co.'s Field, next the Lincoln Race Course. Secretary, Mr. Stephen Upton, St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln.

SEPTEMBER 7.—Dorchester Agricultural Society, at Dorchester. Entries close August 29. Secretary, Mr. H. A Huxtable, Dorchester.

SEPTEMBER 7 and 8.—Leek and District Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Leek, North Staffordshire. Entries close August 22. Secretary, Mr. W. Newall, 10, Derby Street, Leek.

SEPTEMBER 8.—South Tyne Agricultural Society, at Haltwhistle. Entries close August 30. Secretary, Mr. W. C. Croudace, V.S., Haltwhistle.

SEPTEMBER 10.—Gillingham Agricultural Society and Prize Cheese Market, at Gillingham, Dorset. Entries close September 3. Secretary, Mr. Henry Kaines, Milton, Gillingham, Dorset.

SEPTEMBER 11.—Cartmel Agricultural Society, at Cartmel Park. Entries close August 30. Secretary, Mr. Anthony Storey, Green Bank, near Cartmel, via Grange-over-Sands, Carnforth.

SEPTEMBER 11.—North-West Bucks. and adjoining portions of Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire Agricultural Association, at Fields near Buckingham Station. Entries close, all classes (except the undermentioned), August 27; Open Jumping, September 10; Root Crops, September 29; Ploughing and Hedgecutting, October 27 (these dates are approximate). Secretary, Mr. R. E. Bennett, Market Hill, Buckingham.

SEPTEMBER 11.—Woodstock Agricultural and Horticultural Association, at Blenheim Park. Entries close September 1. Secretary, Mr. Geo. Castle, Woodstock.

SEPTEMBER 12.—Middlewich and District Agricultural Society, at Middlewich. Entries close, August 28. Secretary, Mr. Fredk. W. Brown, Wheelock House, Middlewich.

SEPTEMBER 12.—Newbury Horse Show. Hon. Secretary, Lt.-Col. G. C. Ricardo, Broadway, Newbury.

SEPTEMBER 12.—Rugby and Dunchurch Agricultural Association, at Rugby. Entries close September 1. Secretary, Mr. Edwin Tait, Auctioneer, 2, Albert Street, Rugby.

SEPTEMBER 12.—Wardle Agricultural Society, at Wardle, near Rochdale. Entries close September 8 Secretary, Mr. Edward Howard, Church Terrace, Wardle, near Rochdale.

SEPTEMBER 12 and 13.—Derbyshire Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Cattle Market, Derby Entries close, Stock, August 10; Implements, August 28 Secretary, Mr Sidney Burton, Canal Office, Derby.

SEPTEMBER 12 and 13.—Cardiff and South Wales Horse Show, at Cardiff. Entries close September 4 Secretary, Mr. C. M. Berkeley, Park Place, Cardiff.

SEPTEMBER 20.—Westmorland and Kendal District Agricultural Society, at Kendal. Entries close September 1. Secretary, Mr. G. L. Hoggarth, Kendal

SEPTEMBER 20.—Grantham Agricultural Society, at Grantham. Entries close September 8 Secretary, Mr J F Lyne, Westgate, Grantham.

SEPTEMBER 13 Burton, Milnthorpe, and Carnforth Agricultural Society, at Carnforth. Entries close August 25th. Secretary, Mr Henry Blamire, Burton, Westmoreland

SEPTEMBER 27 Altrincham Agricultural Society, at Dowdale, Bowdon Entries close September 8 Secretary, Mr J. Herbert Hall, 2, Dunham Road, Altrincham

DECEMBER 13. Ramsey Agricultural Society at Ramsey Entries close December 6 Secretary, Mr James Jenvey, Market Place, Ramsey

SEPTEMBER 13.—Blandford Farmers' Club, at Bryanston Park, Blandford. Entries close September 1; post entries, at double fees, September 10 Secretary, Mr W H Creech, Sturminster Newton, Blandford, Dorset

SEPTEMBER 13.—Heckington Foal Show and Fair, on the Green. Entries close August 31. Secretary, Mr. J. B. Bramfield, Heckington, S.O., Lincs.

SEPTEMBER 13 Welshpool Shire and Hackney Horse Show at Welshpool Entries close September 3 Secretary Mr John Evans, 34, Broad Street, Welshpool

SEPTEMBER 13 Rutland Agricultural Society, at Oakham. Entries close, September 13 Secretary, Mr Richard Healy, West Road, Oakham

SEPTEMBER 14 Stanhope Agricultural Society, at Castle Park, Stanhope. Entries close September 1 Secretary, Mr. Robt. Thompson, Stanhope, R.S.O., Co. Durham.

SEPTEMBER 14 Merionethshire Agricultural Society, at Harlech Entries close August 25. Jumping and Trotting, September 7. Secretary, Mr. Edmund M. Roberts, Cefnfforchenaf, Talsarnau, R.S.O., Merioneth

SEPTEMBER 15 North Tyne and Redesdale Agricultural Society, at Bellingham Entries close September 7 Secretary, Mr E. Dixon, Bellingham, Northumberland

SEPTEMBER 14 Hebden Bridge Show at Hebden Entries close, August 29. Secretary, Mr. C. Crouch, Ridgmont Aspley Guise, R.S.O., Beds

SEPTEMBER 18 and 19 Compton Stud Show at Compton Entries close, August 20. Secretary, The Manager, Compton Stud, Gillingham

SEPTEMBER 19.—Kington Horse Show, at Kington. Entries close September 1 Secretary Mr T H Vaughan Morris, 7, High Street, Kington

SEPTEMBER 19 Loughborough Agricultural Association at Loughborough Entries close August 5. Secretary Mr T. B. Bosworth, Kibworth Beauchamp, Leicester

SEPTEMBER 19 (approximate).—Shap Agricultural Society, at Shap. Entries close, September 10. Secretary, Mr. Thos. Geldart, Mill Flatt, Shap, Westmorland

SEPTEMBER 20.—Birmingham Autumnal Shorthorn Show, at Bingley Hall Entries close, August 20 Secretary Mr W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham

SEPTEMBER 20.—Brampton Agricultural Society, at Brampton Entries close, September 12. Secretary, Mr Jos. Laidler, North Rigg Hill, Brampton, Cumberland

SEPTEMBER 20 Market Harboro' Horse Show at Market Harboro'. Entries close, September 1. Secretary, Frank Berry, Auctioneer, Market Harboro'.

SEPTEMBER 20.—Oswestry District Agricultural Society, at Oswestry. Entries close, September 1. Secretary, Mr Thos Whitfield, Willow House, Oswestry

SEPTEMBER 25.—Wirral Farmers' Club, at Heston. Secretary, Mr T Johnson, Higher Farm, Prenton, Oxton

SEPTEMBER 26.—Byfield Colt Show and Sale, at Byfield, Northants Entries close September 20 Secretaries Messrs Miller and Abbotts, High Street, Banbury

SEPTEMBER 27.—Frome District Agricultural Society, at Frome Entries close, September 13 Secretary Mr T C. Harding, Auctioneer, Frome.

SEPTEMBER 27 —Altrincham Agricultural Society, at Dowdale, Bowdon Entries not yet fixed Secretary, Mr Wm. Graham, 48, Railway Street, Altrincham.

SEPTEMBER 27 Ashbourne Shire Horse Society, at Ashbourne. Secretaries, Messrs. George Desborough and Thos. Wooddisse, Market Place, Ashbourne.

SEPTEMBER 28.—Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association's Ram Show and Sale, at Ashford Cattle Market, Ashford, Kent. Entries close September 1 Secretary, Mr Walter Wm. Chipperfield, Farmers Hall, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.

OCTOBER 2.—Moreton-in-Marsh Shire Horse, at Moreton-in-Marsh. Entries close September 12. Secretary, Mr. Henry Rouse, Moreton-in-Marsh.

OCTOBER 3.—Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association. Secretary, Mr. B. H. Barrett, Stacey House, High Street, Slough

OCTOBER 3 (probably).—Galloway Cattle Sales Association's Heifer Show and Sale, at Castle Douglas. Secretaries, Messrs. Hewarts and Dunn, Solicitors, Castle Douglas.

OCTOBER 5.—Middlesex Agricultural and Market Garden Society, at Harlington (about one mile from Hayes Railway Station, G.W.R.). Entries close, September 15. Secretary, Mr. Herbert K. Gatelee, Church Parade, Hounslow, Middlesex.

OCTOBER 9, 10, 11, and 12.—British Dairy Farmers' Association, at Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, N. Secretary, Mr. W. F. Young, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

OCTOBER 10 (probably).—Coleshill Annual Shire Horse and Foal Show, in conjunction with Coleshill Farmers' Club, in Cricket Field, Coleshill. Entries close, September 25 (probably). Secretary, Mr. John W. Fifield, Coleshill, near Birmingham.

OCTOBER 10.—Chertsey Agricultural Association, at Chertsey. Entries close October 3. Secretary, Mr. Thomas J. Rawlings, "Eldridges," Chertsey.

OCTOBER 11, 12, and 13.—Glasgow Agricultural Society's Autumn Show. Entries close: Implements, September 20; Stock, September 27. Secretary, Mr. Alexander Russell, 175, West George Street, Glasgow

OCTOBER 13.—Liverpool District Farmers' Club, at North Haymarket, Liverpool. Entries close, October 1. Secretary, Mr. Austin Peppin, 37, Kemlyn Road, Anfield, Liverpool.

OCTOBER 16 and 17.—Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association, at Chester. Entries close, October 12 Secretary, Mr Robert Challenor, St. Oswald's Buildings, Chester

OCTOBER 23.—Clayton-le-Moors Ploughing Association, near Clitheroe. Entries close, October 20. Secretary, Mr. Arthur Milner, Stretton, Alfreton.

OCTOBER 25 Gravesend and Rochester Agricultural Association, near Gravesend Secretary, Mr Robert Mackie, Ermelsbury Road, Rochester

OCTOBER —, —.Surrey Agricultural Association, at Epsom Secretary, Mr. Alwin H. Graham, Estate Office, High Street, Epsom.

NOVEMBER 2 and 3.—Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association's Nantwich Cheese Show Entries close October 26 Secretary, Mr. Robert Challenor, St. Oswald's Buildings, Chester

NOVEMBER 20 and 21.—Lord Tredegar's Agricultural and Poultry Show, at Newport, Mon Entries close, November 7. Secretary, Mr. F. J. Justice, Tredegar Estate Office, Newport, Mon

NOVEMBER 22, 23, and 24 Newport and Monmouthshire Show Association, at Alexandra Hall, Newport Entries close, October 27 Secretary, Mr Owen Lewis, Llanarth Court, Raglan

NOVEMBER 27 and 28.—Whitchurch Dairy Farmers' Association, at Whitchurch, Salop. Entries close, November 21. Secretary, Mr. Thomas Sunnerley, Whitchurch, Salop

NOVEMBER 29 and 30 Chippenham Agricultural Association at Chippenham. Entries close, November 16. Secretary, Mr. Edward Burbidge, South Wraxhall

DECEMBER 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6.—Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition, at Bingley Hall Entries close, September 20; October 20; Stock, November 1 Secretary, Mr. W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

DECEMBER 4 Cambridge and County Fat Stock Show at Cambridge Entries close November 26 Secretary, Mr. William Vincent Huntley, Welsh St. Donatts, Cowbridge

DECEMBER 4, 5, 6 London Fat Stock Show at Islington Entries close November 19 Secretary, Mr J. H. Clark, Horse Yard, Islington, N.

DECEMBER 5 and 6 Scottish Fat Stock Show at Waverley Market, Edinburgh Entries close November Secretary, Mr James Wilson, 5, Hope Street, Edinburgh

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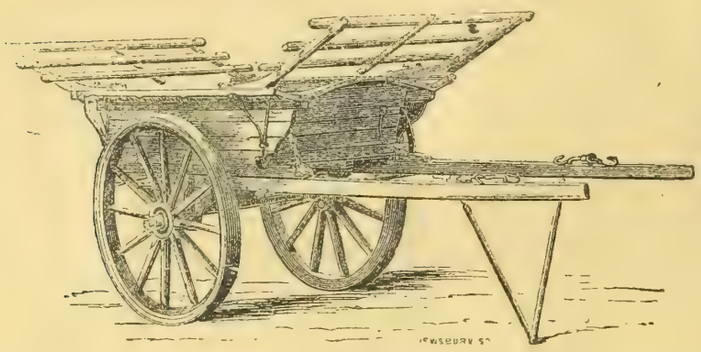

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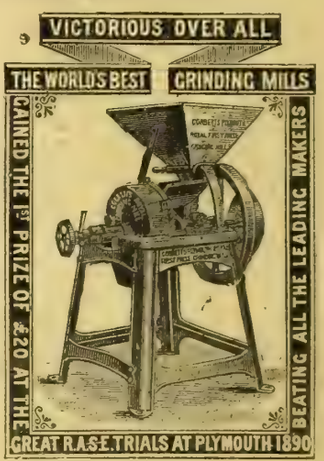
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JUNE QUARTERLY ISSUE.

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Vol. LXXXIII. No. 3594. LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 1900. THIRTY-TWO PAGES PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

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ENTRIES CLOSE, TUESDAY, AUGUST 28TH.

Prize lists and entry forms on application.

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Kerries and Dexter Kerries (2 classes)	4	2	—
Shire Horse Society's Gold Medal.			
Entire Shire Colts (2 classes)....	6	3	—
Shire Fillies (3 classes)	5	3	—
Shire Mare, foal at foot	5	5	—
Hunter Brood Mare, foal at foot	5	3	—
Hunter Foal	3	2	—
Hunter, up to 15st	10	5	3
Hackney Horse Society's Silver Medal.			
Hack or Roadster, 15 hands and upwards, in Saddle	8	5	3
Hack or Roadster, 15 hands and upwards, in Harness	10	7	3
Harness Horse or Mare, 14 hands and under 15 hands	7	3	—
Harness Pony, under 14 hands..	5	3	—
Pair, to be driven in the ring ..	10	5	—
Jumping (two classes).....	15	8	4
Jumping (Consolation Class) ..	4	3	2

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BINDER TWINE.—Peck's "Record" Russian Hemp, 600 feet to the lb., breaking strain 90 lbs. Guaranteed thorough good worker at 5½d. per lb., special price for quantities; carriage paid to any station.—Sample on application to J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., 78, Wallgate, Wigan.

WATERPROOF OIL SHEETS.—Improved, flexible, made from pure flax canvas, hand dressed, lettered, with tie-ropes complete. Actual measurement, when made, 8 ft. by 6 ft., 9s.; 9 ft. by 7 ft., 11s.; 10½ ft. by 8 ft., 14s.; 12 ft. by 9 ft., 18s.; 12 ft. by 10 ft., 20s.; 15 ft. by 8 ft., 20s.; 15 ft. by 9 ft., 22s. 6d.; 15 ft. by 10 ft., 25s.; 15 ft. by 12 ft., 30s.; 16½ ft. by 10 ft., 28s.; 16½ ft. by 12 ft., 33s.; 18 ft. by 12 ft., 36s.; 21 ft. by 12 ft., 42s.; 21 ft. by 15 ft., 53s.; 24 ft. by 18 ft., 72s. These and all other sizes in stock at proportionate prices, carriage paid; immediate delivery; thoroughly seasoned. Every cover guaranteed flexible, thoroughly waterproof, and neither to stick nor crack.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Wigan. Established 1808.

CHEMICALLY DRESSED "Peck" Cloth Sheets.—Waterproof and Rot-proof, the foundation of which is Pure Flax Canvas, lettered and roped complete, at 1s. 9d. per square yard.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Wigan. Est. 1808.

POULTRY HOUSES!! NOTE PRICES!!! To hold 12 fowls, 20s.; 20 fowls, 25s.; 30 fowls, 27s.; 50 fowls, 40s. Illustrated lists free.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., Limtd., London Works, Reading. (Name Paper.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

BINDER TWINES, BINDER TWINES.—We shall be pleased to send samples of the two best Binder Twines on the market, namely Champion's "Reliance" Manilla and "best 3 ply hemp" with specially low prices on application. Immediate delivery for orders placed at once.—JOHN B. CHAMPION and SONS, Reliance Works, Dursley, Glos.

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Undertake valuations of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE, either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.

MORTGAGES arranged, also Railway and other Compensations, Dilapidations, Division and Apportionment of Tithe Rent Charges, etc.

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Principals or their solicitors are requested to apply for particulars to Messrs. DAVID BURNETT and CO., 15, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

TO ESTATE AGENTS.—FOR SALE, two choice 50-acre Sussex Freehold Dairy, Poultry, and Fruit Farms; owner retiring; plans, etc.—OWNER, Whydown Farm, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., & Sevenoaks, Kent.

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TO LET from Michaelmas, 1900, the MANOR FARM, with fine old-fashioned Farmhouse, substantial and well-arranged Farm Buildings, and about 163 acres Arable and 153 acres Meadow and Brookland. Rent £300.—Apply, W. B. HOY, Stopham Estate Office, Pulborough.

SUSSEX.—TO BE LET at Michaelmas next as a going concern, a Dairy Farm of about 400 acres, 250 of which are in grass and the remainder arable, close to a fashionable watering town. Present milk contracts up to about 120 gallons (imperial) per day, at 10d. per gallon. The farm is in a high state of cultivation and well adapted for both dairy and fattening purposes, the brookland of 110 acres being of special value for either system, and is well watered. The farmhouse is substantial and the buildings ample. There is also good cottage accommodation.

The farm valuation to be taken over according to the custom of the county, and all live and dead stock could be, if required, taken at valuation. The above is a very desirable undertaking for anyone who is seeking an old-established business.

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MANCHESTER.—TO BE LET, FIVE-FLOOR WAREHOUSE, with good loading and electric light, suitable for provision trade; also two cool cellars, suitable for cheese, eggs, or butter. The whole of these premises are centrally situated in Hanging Ditch, with valuable frontage opposite Corn and Produce Exchange.—Apply, ISAAC NEILD and SON, 19, Chapel Walks.

CAPITAL DAIRY FARM, with good house, cottages, and farm buildings.

TO BE LET immediately BROOMLANDS FARM, in the Parishes of Titsey and Limpsfield, Surrey. Two miles from Oxted and Westerham Stations and about 20 miles from London. Acreage about 245, of which about 76 are light arable and hop land, the remainder meadow, with good water supply. Rent £200 per annum.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. MORRISONS AND NIGHTINGALE, Solicitors, Reigate, Surrey.

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SMALL FARM WANTED to rent or purchase, principally for grazing purposes, about 40 to 50 acres, within 10 to 15 miles of London, North preferred; must have a cottage or small house.—Full particulars to SCOBELL and LAKE, 25, Bucklersbury, London.

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FERTILISING AGENTS.—An agricultural landowner in Lombardy (Melegnano, Italy) desires an agency for nitrates, superphosphates, and all kinds of raw material for chemical industries. Apply to GIBELLI, care of Agenzia Mercolli, 38, Piazza, Milan. References: The Consular Chamber of Agriculture of Milan and Bell and Edwards Agricultural Machines, Milan.

WANTED, SITUATION as Help or Firm Bailiff to a [illegible] large Farmer, well up in [illegible] references given.—Address, C. G. MUNDEY, Silver Street, Ilminster, Somerset.

CORN TRADE. Wanted, SITUATION as IMPROVER in [illegible] markets and assist in [illegible] a-half years' articles just expired.—Address, X. L., Office of this paper.

WANTED, a BAILIFF, to manage four Farms [illegible] Estate.—Apply to Hon. W. F. J. DUNDAS, Estate Office, [illegible]

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AUCTION SALES.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22.—Mr. W. O. HAMMOND'S SOUTHDOWNS, at St. Albans Court, Wingham, Kent.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23.—The entire remainder of the late Mr. W. T. TALBOT-CROSBIE'S Herd of SHORTHORNS, at Ardfert Abbey, Ireland.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31.—Sir THOMAS BARRETT-LENNARD'S SOUTHDOWNS, and some LARGE WHITE PIGS, at Woodingdean, Brighton.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—Mr. JAMES WATT'S SHORTHORNS, at Knowefield, Carlisle.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.—Mr. H. Ker Colville's SHORTHORNS, at Bellaport, Market Drayton, Salop.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes-street, Hanover-square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 21ST (One o'clock).

MR. ALFRED TANNER'S ANNUAL SALE OF PRIZE-WINNING SHROPSHIRE SHEEP AT SHRAWARDINE, six miles from Shrewsbury.

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. will SELL BY AUCTION, as above,
45 SPLENDID RAMS, including several winners at the Leading Shows.
50 CHOICE SHEARLING EWES.

The Rams will be found to possess size, stamina, and lean flesh, combined with quality and nice character, and the Ewes are well grown, perfect in form, and true to type, and are one of the choicest lots of Ewes for sale this season.

Conveyances will meet the morning trains at Shrewsbury Station.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL AND CO., Shrewsbury, who will execute Commissions.

FURTHER IMPORTANT SALES OF REGISTERED SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23.—MR. THOS. FENN'S ANNUAL SALE at Brakes Farm, Bromfield, near Ludlow. 30 GRAND RAMS, 50 BEAUTIFUL SHEARLING EWES.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24.—MESSRS. EVANS' ANNUAL SALE at Sherlowe, Wellington, Salop. 42 NOBLE RAMS, 40 CHOICE SHEARLING EWES.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25 (not August 18, as previously announced).—BREEDERS' ANNUAL GREAT SALE, in Shrewsbury Cattle Market. 150 RAMS, 800 to 1,000 EWES; also CLUN EWES & WETHERS.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL and CO., Auctioneers, Shrewsbury, who will execute commissions.

ELFORD PARK, TAMWORTH.

One mile from Elford, and four miles from Tamworth, where conveyances will meet trains.

LYTHALL AND WALTERS will SELL BY AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY NEXT, August 15th, by direction of Mr. Charles Coxon—
35 Pure-bred SHROPSHIRE RAMS,
75 Splendid SHEARLING EWES, and
4 Yearling SHORTHORN BULLS.

The rams are unsurpassed for size, strength of bone, quality of lean flesh, coats and skins. They are in strong, natural condition.

The ewes can be introduced into any flock with confidence, as they are of correct type, and have good skins and wool.

Sale after 1 o'clock Luncheon.

Catalogues from the Auctioneers, Bingley Hall, Birmingham, who will execute Commissions to Purchase.

MARLBOROUGH FAIR.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22ND, 1900.

MR. T. LAVINGTON will hold his usual SALE by AUCTION of Hampshire Down Ewes and Lambs in the above Fair, commencing 9 a.m.

Present entries comprise upwards of 10,000 Ewes and Lambs from well-known flocks and 250 grand Ram Lambs from high class registered flocks.

Further entries respectfully solicited.

Catalogues on application to the Auctioneer, Auction and Valuing Offices, Marlborough and Devizes.

ENDALE, LEOMINSTER, HEREFORDSHIRE.

MESSRS. ALFRED AND DEARMAN EDWARDS are favoured with instructions from MR. EDWARD YELD to OFFER FOR SALE by AUCTION, on TUESDAY, AUGUST 28TH, 1900, his Valuable Herd of

PURE-BRED HEREFORD CATTLE.

All bred from R.A.S.E. prize-winners.

Catalogues, with pedigrees and full particulars, may be obtained from the AUCTIONEERS, at Corn Exchange Offices, Leominster; or 67 Newmarket, Hereford.

KELSO GREAT ANNUAL RAM SALES.

THE above take place on FRIDAY, the 14th SEPTEMBER, 1900. Entries close on THURSDAY, 23rd AUGUST. Ballot, to fix order of Sale, in Ante-room of Corn Exchange, Kelso, on Friday, 24th August.

ALLAN STEVENSON,
Secretary.
Border Union Agricultural Society.
Kelso, August, 1900.

AUCTION SALES.

OXFORD DOWNS, 1900.

THE KELMSCOTT FLOCK, the property of ROBERT W. HOBBS, Kelmscott, Lechlade.

RAM LAMBS
or
SHEARLING RAMS

from this old-established flock will be SOLD by AUCTION at the undermentioned Fairs:—

IPSWICH, AUGUST 22nd.
CIRENCESTER, SEPTEMBER 3rd.
BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SEPTEMBER 4th.
KELSO, SEPTEMBER 14th.
NORTHAMPTON, SEPTEMBER 19th.

Yearling ewes for sale at home privately.

Prizes won by lambs from this flock this year are four firsts and four seconds at the Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and Gloucestershire Shows.

TENDER.

SALE
OF
IRON RICK STANDS
AND
WOOD POLES, &c., FOR RICK CLOTHS,
AT THE
ROYAL GUNPOWDER FACTORY, WALTHAM ABBEY.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR is prepared to receive TENDERS for the purchase of Wrought Iron Rick Stands, 12 sets complete, with Cast Iron Pillars and Wrought Iron Caps, each set measuring, when erected, (about) 24 feet by 20 feet; on 25 pillars without Screw Bases, together with various spare parts, nearly complete, from 8 other sets; also 5 sets of Wood Poles and 4 sets of Ropes and Pulleys for Rick Cloths, now lying at the Royal Gunpowder Factory, Waltham Abbey, where forms of Tender and all information may be obtained, on application to the Superintendent.

Parties tendering will be at liberty to view the Rick Stands, &c., on application.

The Tenders are to be delivered at the War Office, Pall Mall, S.W., by 12 o'clock noon, on FRIDAY, the 24th day of August, 1900, addressed to the Director of Army Contracts, and marked on the outside, "Tender for the Purchase of Rick Stands."

A. MAJOR,
Director of Army Contracts.

War Office, Pall Mall, S.W.
August, 1900.

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SPECIAL ADVANTAGES TO PRIVATE INSURERS.

THE IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, FIRE. Established 1803. 1, Old Broad Street, E.C., 22, Pall Mall, S.W., and 47, Chancery Lane, W.C. Subscribed Capital £1,200,000. Paid up £300,000. Total Funds over £1,500,000.—E. COZENS SMITH, General Manager.

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A. VIAN, *Secretary*

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"I hereby certify that the circulation of the 'Kent Messenger' has increased during the past year by **over 50,000 Copies.**"
N. SHERGOLD, Accountant, Tunbridge Wells. Dec. 1st, 18—.

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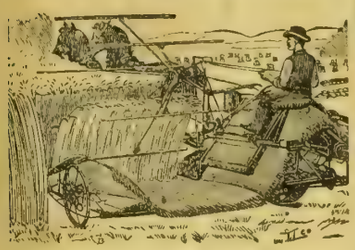

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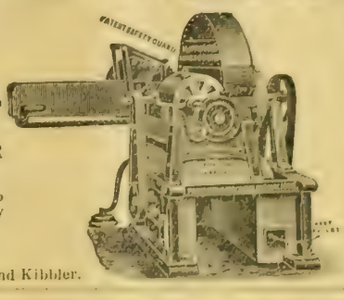

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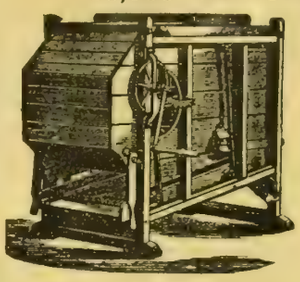

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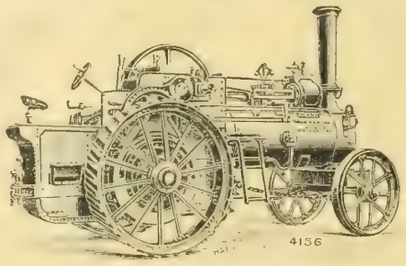

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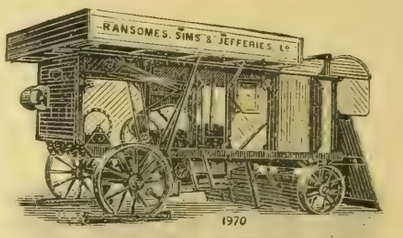

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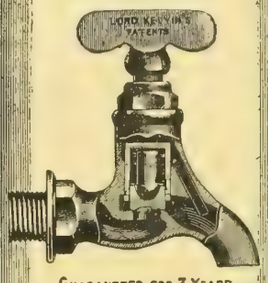

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One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."

We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

445 selected the wrong, and 262 the right group.

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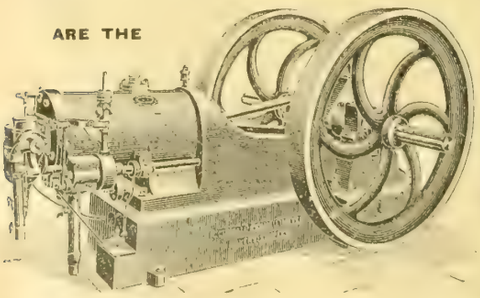

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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal.

The Only English Journal devoted exclusively to Agriculture.

MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

THE INCREASE OF RATES.

Somewhere between six and seven years ago we referred to the tendency of rates in rural districts to continually and steadily increase in amount. At that time more than one correspondent wrote to explain that we were quite wrong in the view which we had adopted, and that as a matter of fact rates were actually decreasing. About two years ago we returned to the same subject, and again we were informed that we were wrong. In spite of our past experience we once more mention the matter, and, although we fully expect to be contradicted, as we have been before, all the same we are prepared to stand to our guns, and to assert that the rates upon agricultural land are decidedly increasing. Those of our correspondents who have taken objection seem to have overlooked two very important points. The first is that it does not follow that because rates have decreased in certain parishes there has been a general reduction; and, secondly, there arises a question of proportion which can be settled, fortunately, with mathematical accuracy. As to the first point, we have recently made inquiries from correspondents whose reliability must be beyond question. We have selected the unlucky number of thirteen parishes, spread as far apart as possible, and without any previous knowledge of them. In fact, the choice has been quite haphazard. The result has been somewhat startling. The lucky number seven represents those correspondents who tell us that there has been no appreciable increase in their rates—although we still venture to think that this is more apparent than real—and the remaining six show a decided tendency to increase, varying from 4 to 15 per cent.—amounts which become somewhat material upon a large farm and probably equally so upon smaller holdings.

Next as to the question of proportion, to which we have referred. More than once Parliament has decided that agricultural land ought to be rated upon an easier basis than household property. As the matter is only one of principle, we need not dwell upon the details of the various measures to which we are referring. It will be sufficient to use the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896 as an illustration of what we mean. That measure provides that for a period of five years, from the end of March, 1897, the occupier of agricultural land in this kingdom will only be liable to pay one-half of the rates in the pound payable in respect of buildings and other hereditaments, with certain exceptions as to where there have already been reductions amounting to the same thing, or in certain special circumstances. The point to which we wish to give prominence is that, although this Act purports to reduce the farmer's rates by one-half, it does not, and cannot possibly do so. It only requires figures to prove this. Assume that a parish requires a thousand pounds a year in rates; further, take it that four hundred pounds is to be raised from dwelling-houses, etc., and six hundred from property which comes under the Statute with which we are dealing. That would mean a loss of three hundred pounds if the Act were to be literally interpreted. The various spending authorities of the parish could not possibly get on without this money, and therefore the nominal amount of the rate must be increased proportionately. A very short calculation with a pencil will show that the reduction is far nearer to 25 than to 50 per cent. It is quite true that the houses would have to bear a larger share than the farmer, but it is equally true that the relief given by this Act is not nearly so great as would appear from a casual and careless reading of the clause. This is another case where the farmer gets credit for relief to a greater extent than ever he really receives. Further, it must be borne in mind that the Act is only temporary, and expires, unless renewed, at the end of the five years.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

Lord Curzon, telegraphing to the Secretary of State for India on Tuesday, says that a very decided improvement in the condition of the country has taken place during the last ten days through the sudden and opportune renewed advance of the monsoon. The rain which has fallen is ample for present agricultural requirements in Gujarat, also in the greater part of Rajputana and Central India. If the present favourable conditions continue, he adds, considerable autumn crops will be secured, and the tension will relax.

A scare has occurred among the Irish harvestmen in the Fylde district of Lancashire, in consequence of rumours among the peasantry on the seaboard of Ireland that the French were about to land troops in Erin. The appearance of the British warships off the coast during the manœuvres was accepted as proof of the truth of the rumours, and letters were received by several of the Irish harvesters in the Fylde, advising them to return. These were passed from hand to hand, and a state of panic arose. During the course of a single night over 200 Irishmen left one district alone, and it has been ascertained that the majority of them booked for Dublin. It is estimated that considerably over 1,000 labourers have disappeared without giving their employers warning. As may be imagined, this exodus has been productive of considerable inconvenience and loss in the districts affected.

The receipts on account of revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to August 4th, 1900, were £34,764,249, against £35,611,344 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £57,698,653, against £39,526,371 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on August 4th, 1900, amounted to £5,524,442, and at the same date in 1899 to £2,854,866.

Messrs. W. L. Browne and Co., Castle Mills, Shrewsbury, have sent a few ears of barley taken out of a field near Shrewsbury on Saturday, which they say fairly represent the whole of what they saw. The corns in some of the heads of this barley, which has been cut and stacked up about seven days, are very badly grown. This Messrs. Browne fear will be the case with all grain that has been cut and sheafed by self-binders and exposed to the recent rains. It is hoped that that which remains standing will yet escape the great injury sustained by lots similar to those inspected. Fortunately, in this district quite two-thirds of the grain remains still uncut.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

If we have had an agricultural session at all during this Parliament it is the session which has just closed. Neither of the two Bills which have just been passed—the Bill extending the character of the Agricultural Holdings Act and the Bill including the rural workers within the operation of the Workmen's Compensation Act—has provoked one tithe of the tumult, turmoil, misrepresentation, and criticism which attended the Rating Act. The second Bill may not, of course, prove of equal importance—for my part, indeed, I disbelieve that it will impose any large tax upon the rural interest. The first is, however, like the Rating Act, a portent. While the Rating Act may be described as an indication of solicitude for the landlord, the Extended Holdings Act may be regarded as an indication of rather hesitating solicitude in the interest of the tenant farmers.

There is something malevolently mean in the story of the genesis of the latter Bill which finds favour with a certain type of Radical. Take even the comparatively moderate *Daily News*. "The Agricultural Rating Act has," says the *News*, "lost its power to please the rent paying class, and the Government of dukes have been forced to look out for something else. They hit upon security of tenure." I look upon the Rating Act as the outcome of an unintended emotional sympathy with the victims of the incidence of rural taxation. The Extended Holdings Act was, however, promised definitely and clearly at the last General Election. It was, indeed, the chief theme of Mr. Chamberlain's famous Rugby speech, in which he made a distinct bid for the support of the rural interest, and the promise therein contained was given an authoritative seal by Lord Salisbury. The failure to introduce it during the lifetime of this Parliament would have been an act of unpardonable and unredeemable treachery. The Bill was, I repeat, a long-meditated and clearly-specified intention. Why should political chagrin persist in regarding it as a mere political dodge inspired by the fear of the General Election?

Of course, there are some people who can find fault with the warmth of the sun, and the Radicals are, I find, still professing the utmost disappointment with both measures. "Pshaw!" exclaimed a critic of the Government to me in the expiring hours of the session, "your lauding of the new Holdings Act is enough to make the early historic advocates of the principle of the three F's turn in their graves. What does the Bill do? Well, I am bound to confess that it in a measure protects the outgoing tenant, but does it sufficiently protect the sitting tenant? Does it benefit the man who has to stay on the land, and does it provide a sufficient compensation to him for developing the inherent capacity of the soil? The Bill was bad enough before it went to the Lords, but now it is worse than innocuous—it is almost a crime, because it will prevent real effective legislation being attempted for some years to come. Could even a Radical Parliament, supposing the Radicals come into power as a result of the General Election, essay a further amendment of an Act which has only just emerged from the amending crucible? Why, even your outgoing tenant is in the later periods of his tenancy compelled to be the victim of the caprice of the landlords!" Of course this is a distortion rather than a representation. At all events, it reflects the Radical feeling—the feeling of the Channingites, the men, for instance, who believe that this Bill has over it the fatal trail of indecision, and who will travesty and deride it because of that suspicion.

A bribe—a palpable bribe! This is the verdict applied by the same politicians to the new Workmen's Act, a fact, of course, of which all my readers are aware. "Whom will it benefit?" quothed the Radical critics in reviewing the work of the session. "Well, primarily the lawyers." "It will," said one, a little picturesquely, and rejoicing the while in his own cleverness, "multiply fourfold the rich crop of litigation so generously sown in the interest of the lawyers by the authors of the parent Act." "How easy," said another, "will it be for employers of labour to argue that the victim of the accident was a casual labourer." Of course, if he does that successfully, he will escape the payment of compensation. "How easy," added a third, "will it be to fashion expensive legal pitfalls and difficulties over the question as to whether grazing and dairy-keeping are agriculture." "And think of the vista this opens out," proceeded a fourth, "of endless disagreements among the judges and of expensive appeals!" "Why," pursued he, "the Act is worth little more than a snap of the fingers, and is only one of the Chamberlain-Morrison pills for the cure of an electoral difficulty." Of course, I do not at all agree with this view, but I know that it is meant to be urged with turgid persistence upon the rural electors. Will the bribe thus be as valuable as some of its supporters have too optimistically allowed themselves to imagine? Knowing the acute nature of the Radical organiser, I am compelled to think it will not be.

So much for the rural measures, and what of the rural men? Is there any politician among the rural members who has ever been possessed of the eloquence of Lowndes possessed of resource, initiative, and fertility of debate. I am bound to confess that the rural M.P.'s are

now, as they have been, an eminently responsible and dignified body of gentlemen, but unassertive, and, on the whole, too ready to accept the conventional and the absolutely proper in Parliamentary life. True, Mr. Goulding has done well in carrying his Bill. By the way, it is interesting to reflect that he is, as Mr. Long was, the representative of the Devizes division. Cast, however, your eye down the whole list, and ask which man has intruded himself on the public and Parliamentary imagination by his personality. Mr. Channing has been, after his latter-day manner, much in evidence and undeniably thorough. Mr. Jeffreys has been, it has seemed to me, rather suspicious of his own considerable Parliamentary gifts. Mr. Lambert has, in the intervals of militia enthusiasm, been practical and earnest, but never dominating. Mr. Fletcher Moulton has failed to realise the expectations we had formed of the man who has been associated so sympathetically with the famous Collington platform. Young men like Mr. E. Strachey and Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes have receded rather than advanced. Where is the future leader among these politicians? I cannot detect him. Where is the leader, I mean, who will attract a following and breed an enthusiasm desirable for the new election, for which we have been bidden equip ourselves. This last session has been destitute of new reputations.

Did you note Sir Michael Hicks-Beach's strong declaration in reference to the general election? The matter has not, he averred, even been tentatively considered by the Cabinet, and no decision whatever has been arrived at in reference to it. This is the best answer to the men who are sounding the tocsin of war, and who would exhaust our strength long before even the approach of conflict by the mere weight of our long-borne armour.

So the Government has at last had a foretaste from Ulster of the bitter feeling which has been aroused by the appointment of Mr. T. P. Gill to the position of Secretary of the Irish Board of Agriculture. Protest was inevitable. The placing of the chief position in this new department in the hands of one of the authors of the Plan of Campaign, and one of the apologists, if not one of the authors, of the No-Rent Manifesto, is so whimsically absurd as to suggest a picture from Alice in Wonderland. To say, as Mr. Plunkett does, that Mr. Gill is clever is beside the mark. Are not Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Davitt, Mr. Dillon, and that *enfant terrible*, Mr. Swift McNeill, clever too? Why not, then, make them all administrators? The chief permanent administrator of a great industry like Irish agriculture need not have been of necessity a reformed Irish agitator.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

British Wheats.

When to Cut.—Selecting Seeds.—Improvement of the Grain.

Harvest operations are now general in the South of England, and in the course of a few days farmers all over the country will be busy cutting wheat. At this important epoch, the writer wonders, how many farmers have gone through their wheat fields and selected a good-looking plot for the seed patch, from which should have been removed by this time all undesirable plants, especially those having short and poor ears. Every farmer must admit, even if he is not aware that there is nothing that he can expend his mental energies more profitably upon than in studying the laws of reproduction, that the importance of good seed for any crop cannot be overes imated; for well-selected seed means good quality, and a fair quantity without diseased progeny. If good economic results are to be obtained in industries like agriculture, horticulture, or stock-breeding, the selection of particular animals or variety of plants is by no means to be lightly considered, for the essential end is the reproduction of life, and that of high standard. The cultivation of land is the original occupation of primitive man, and with the advance of intelligence there was naturally a corresponding desire by the cultivator to raise the quality both in respect to type and class of agricultural products, whether of the vegetable or animal kind. Outside farming circles many people thing in a contemptuous manner that there is not much knowledge required to be a farmer, imagining that all that is necessary to produce a cereal crop is to scatter manure on the fields, plough it in, and then all that is left to be done is to sow the seed, and wait until it is ready to cut, whereas, if they would only give a thought to the possibilities of agriculture their ideas would be turned into wonder. In fact, in no industry in England is there the same scope for the utilisation of scientific knowledge, and opportunities to use means and methods to obtain a profit which will not be forthcoming without some necessary training and research. One of the most unfortunate things at the present time in English agriculture is the rapid decline in the production of the principal cereal—wheat—in the United Kingdom, due in a great measure to severe foreign competition, but considerably augmented by the ignorance amongst farmers of the present market requirements. In this connection it must be borne in mind that the English wheat grower is correlative to the British flour miller, that whatever materially affects the status of the former cannot fail to be of importance to the latter. The present harvest will not yield more than 8,000,000qrs. of wheat, so that to feed the population of the United kingdom during the coming cereal year close upon 23,000,000qrs. of breadstuffs will have to be imported from abroad. In order to obtain a given standard of flour, the millers have to employ an art peculiar to this country, namely, to select from the different foreign wheats a certain proportion, and then mix and blend them together at their mills prior to grinding them into flour. It is here that the judicious buying, handling, and manipulating the wheats of the whole world which are offered at various prices on our markets come in. For it is a very easy matter for a miller to make good flour by using the choicest wheats in the world, but it is not an easy matter to make it and a profit at the same time. Complaints from many millers have been received that English farmers do not produce such good wheat as formerly, and the deterioration is attributed to the practice common with many seed merchants of supplying farmers with seed wheats of fine appearance, but of indifferent quality—a wheat that contains more starch but less gluten, and is thereby of distinctly less nutritive value. Such wheats must of necessity bring a poor price, as they require the millers to purchase and blend with them a large admixture of strong foreign wheat in order to make a flour that will produce a good loaf of bread. If the English farmers would only grow "stronger" wheat, that is, containing gluten of a better quality for bread-making purposes, the English millers would be able to give a better price for the same, as they could then use a greater quantity of the cheaper foreign wheat to make up their mixtures without there being any likelihood of lowering the quality of their flour. There is always a large amount of inferior foreign wheats in the English markets, so that the British farmers would greatly benefit by raising the quality of their wheat above its present level.

In order to show what can be done by an annual careful selection of seed wheat, besides producing a better quality grain, we may mention that Major Hallett succeeded in four years in increasing the size of the ear of wheat in the following ratio:—

	Length in inches.	Containing grams.	No. of ears on finest stool.
1857 .. Original ear	4⅜	47	—
1858 .. Finest ear	6¼	79	10
1859 .. Finest ear	7¾	91	22
1860 .. Ears imperfect from wet season	—	—	39
1861 .. Finest ear	8½	123	52

Thus the length of the wheat ear was nearly doubled, their contents almost trebled, and the tillering power of the seed increased fourfold.

To choose your grain as you would your stock is the true test of the farmer, and the selection of a seed patch in the best wheat field, which has to be specially treated and kept separate when stacked, so that it can be threshed by itself when wanted, as well as dressed with extra care, to obtain the heaviest kernels, shows great wisdom on the part of the wheat-grower, for this annual selection in the seed will at once show a great improvement in the forthcoming crop, and in a few years establish a valuable strain of wheat. Many of our readers may consider it unnecessary to keep the seed patch selected separate from the other operations in the field, but it must be borne in mind that wheat, for the purpose of being manufactured into flour, should be cut before it is ripe, while seed wheat requires to be fully ripe. As will be seen from the following table, which shows the difference found by Professor Johnston in three equal plots taken from the same field of wheat upon thin limestone soil at North Deighton, in Yorkshire, cut respectively twenty days before the crop was ripe, fully ten days before ripeness, and when fully ripe:—

When Cut.	In the Flour. Moisture.	Gluten.
20 days before it was ripe....	15·7	9·3
10 days before it was ripe....	15·5	9·9
Fully ripe	15·9	9·6

Our farmers must always bear in mind that the wheat that produces a flour that has in it such quality and quantity of gluten that it yields when made into bread the largest quantity, is the most valuable to the miller, and consequently realises the most money when sold on the market. Seed wheat must be fully ripe, as it then contains the proper proportion of chemical products necessary to produce plant life and the required nourishment to sustain the young plant. By carefully selecting the heavier kernels when the seed wheat is threshed and dressed, the farmer has a seed not only fully developed, but the rootlets are able to extract from the soil a larger quantity of silica, which is required to strengthen the straw, so as the plant can resist all weathers by reason of the increased quantity of germ oil in the grain.

R. W. D.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Great Losses by Flour Importations.

Sir,—In July, 1895, I wrote to the President of the Board of Agriculture, pointing out that the nation lost a large sum by importing flour instead of the equivalent in wheat.

Mr. Long himself replied that the facts to which I referred were unquestionably of serious moment, and would engage his serious attention.

Another member of the present Government replied that he had always imagined that why we imported flour instead of the equivalent in wheat was because the operation was cheaper, and that if this were so there must be a flaw in my calculations.

This caused me to instruct a chartered accountant to go through my calculations for the ten years 1885-94, proving loss of £18,000,000 by this country, owing to the importation of flour instead of the equivalent in wheat.

These calculations appeared in various papers, and their accuracy still remains unchallenged, because it is a fact we are losing a large sum annually by the importation of flour instead of the equivalent in wheat.

On November 22nd, 1895, I wrote to the Marquis of Salisbury, and pointed out that during the ten years 1885-94 the country has spent £320,000,000 on imported wheat and flour, and that the importation of flour instead of the equivalent in wheat had resulted in a loss to the country of £18,000,000. His Lordship's secretary replied that the matter would receive consideration.

It appears the matter has received but little consideration, because since the present Government has been in office we have lost over £7,000,000 by importing flour instead of the equivalent in wheat.

Were the importation of flour prohibited we should obtain much employment for our workers, better bread without any increase in the price, as our flour would be more freshly ground, the possibilities of adulteration would be reduced, we should receive millions of hundredweights of wheat-offals we now leave abroad, should raise meat at a cheaper rate, more stock would be kept, and there would be an increase in our home-made manure, which would cause a considerable increase in the crops of the farm.

If we had imported instead of any flour the equivalent in wheat, we should have saved over £25,000,000 during the past fifteen years, as follows:—

Year.	Difference between cost of Flour and equivalent in Wheat.	At 4 per cwt. Value of Wheat-offals left abroad.	Total Loss on Year by Importing Flour.
	£	£	£
1885	972,136	1,187,463	2,159,599
1886	462,721	1,101,717	1,564,436
1887	353,233	1,354,742	1,706,975
1888	437,981	1,268,283	1,706,264
1889	648,506	1,100,406	1,748,912
1890	465,313	1,183,000	1,648,313
1891	210,710	1,254,225	1,043,515
1892	415,594	1,657,950	2,073,544
1893	565,306	1,530,612	2,095,918
1894	822,762	1,435,050	2,257,812
1895	607,176	1,377,630	1,984,806
1896	6,438	1,599,015	1,592,577
1897	146,800	1,401 050	1,254,250
1898	224,237	1,576,283	1,352,046
1899	7,004	1,720,928	1,713,924

Total loss during the past fifteen years by importing flour instead of the equivalent in wheat, £25,902,891.

On September 10th, 1895, the *Morning Post* published a letter of mine in which appeared the following:—

"Our millers are pleased to grind wheat for the offals instead of a money payment, as the value of the offals comes to more than the cost of grinding, but the flour exporters are not contented with the offals alone, as in nine out of the last ten years they have charged us more for the flour than the cost of the wheat, although they have had all the offals to repay them the expenses of the grinding. The year in which they charged us less for the flour than the cost of the wheat was 1891, during which year we imported 16,723,003 cwt. of flour at an average price of 12.18 shillings per cwt., which amounted to £10,184,308, and as according to millers about five-sevenths may be considered a fair average of the amount of flour contained in a given bulk of wheat, the quantity used to obtain the flour was 23,412,204 cwt., which at 8.88 shillings, the average price of wheat for that year, would have cost £10,395.018; therefore the flour cost £210.710 less than what the wheat would have come to."

From a commercial point of view, since the exporters sold us flour one year for less than the cost of the wheat, it may be safely said that any charge above the cost of the wheat is decidedly a gross overcharge, and it is a fact that such irregular dealing actually took place the other nine years, the overcharges varying in quite an erratic manner."

That my statements were true has been proved in a most extraordinary manner, as since 1895 we have been paying less for our imported flour than the cost of the equivalent in wheat.

Thus it appears that my having drawn public attention to the matter has caused the nation to save about £500,000 per annum since 1895.

But we are still losing about £1,500,000 each year by importing flour instead of the equivalent in wheat,

as we leave the wheat-offals abroad and have to buy substitutes for feeding our stock.

Thus we suffer a double loss; we leave abroad something we require, and buy something else to take its place.

Although our present Government has been in office five years and should have known the facts, they have done nothing to stop our annually losing an enormous sum of money, when the nation would gain so many indirect advantages were the importation of flour prohibited.—Faithfully yours,

THOMAS G. READ.

31, Cavendish Square, London, W.
August 8th, 1900.

Phosphate of Alumina.

Sir,—I respond willingly to your request that I should state the results of the experiments made by this association on phosphate of alumina.

Some experiments on single turnip plants, grown, not in soil, but in pure quartz, showed that this phosphate had some influence on plants, but the results were not such as to give any reliable indications as to weight.

A series of eighty experiments was made in five different soils; in this trial, each of the various kinds of phosphate of lime—soluble or unsoluble—gave an increase over the un-manured plot of over 50 per cent., while the increase by phosphate of alumina was, on the average, only 11 per cent.

The same number of experiments was made on the following year on oats, with the result that phosphate of alumina gave an increase over no manure of only 10 per cent. straw and 5 per cent. grain, while the average of the other phosphates gave an increase of about 30 per cent. straw and 21 per cent. grain. From these experiments the association came to the conclusion that phosphate of alumina exerts little influence on crops.

THOS. JAMIESON.

10, Belmont Street, Aberdeen, August 9th, 1900.

Pigs at the Lancashire Show.

Sir,—I am much disappointed with the reports that appear from time to time in yours and other leading agricultural papers of the shows of pigs. In your last week's issue you give half a column to a report of the Stafford Show, which was no show at all in the pig section, and about one quarter of the space to the Royal Lancashire Show, which was without doubt the premier pig show of the season.

Now, what is the reason of the paucity of these reports? I had nearly said misleading reports, and I think it is the best word; yet you say the prizes were divided between Sir Gilbert Greenall and Mr. Spencer. Now, what is the actual result?

Sir Gilbert Greenall has twenty-one entries, with which he gets the following prizes:—Cup for best sow, four firsts, four thirds. Mr. Sanders Spencer, with twelve entries, gets two firsts, three seconds, and has good luck to get them. Mr. F. Almand has eight entries, and gets three seconds, one third; Mr. Twentyman has six entries, and gets one third; Mr. Dewhirst has eight entries, and gets two firsts, two seconds, two thirds, one reserve, one h.c.; Mr. J. Barron has two entries, and gets one first and champion cup for best boar.

Now and then you give pig breeders not only the poorest of show reports, but make no notes for the guidance of readers who are not present, as you do in other sections of your journal.

Is it because you leave the reporting of poor piggie to any one, or is it that none can be got to give a few minutes to his cause? I think there are pig men who could and would give you better reports if you asked them. Trusting you will put the corrections and remarks in your next issue. ANON.

[*** Our correspondent is curiously misinformed as to our pig reports. "Pig men" have been invited many times to send reports about their herds, and to write reports of shows, but with rare exceptions have either declined or taken no notice of the communications. "Anon" is one of them, but he seems to have forgotten the circumstance, or he would not have penned the last paragraph of his letter. Breeders have thus shown themselves unquestionably inconsistent, as they will neither write reports on a matter they ought to understand, nor abstain from complaining of those written by others not within a charmed circle. We have repeatedly tried to please the "pig men," but have never succeeded. Their jealousy of each other—more pronounced than amongst breeders of any other kind of farm stock—has always been the origin of unreasoning and unreasonable grumbling, and we find it impossible to entertain even a hope to satisfy a body of men who by their actions show that they hate a breeder more than they love a pig. We have no doubt that other agricultural papers have experienced the same difficulty. We wish we could see our way to oblige our correspondent and other breeders by making different arrangements, but to attempt to do so is to try to accomplish the impossible. We gladly print our correspondent's abstract of the awards at the Royal Lancashire Show.—ED. M. L. E.]

Owing to the large number of shows which have taken place during the past week, we are compelled to hold over some reports, and they will appear in our next issue.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Foreign Barley.

With the spell of bad weather threatening our crops, added to the scarcity of labour in many districts, all those interested in barley look with more than usual interest to the reports coming to hand of the prospects abroad.

One of the first things that painfully strike an observer is the utter inadequacy of the information which ought to be available, but which is not. The Agricultural Returns do not furnish any details whatever of a number of important barley-producing countries, and although we have a fuller list of countries returned which export barley to us, the latest available date is 1898. Of the quantities scheduled no one knows what proportion is suitable for malt making, and very few can even vaguely guess what it may be.

Of late years the improvements in cleaning and grading machinery have been such that very many cargoes of barley which formerly would have been deemed totally unfit for maltsters' use, now yield large proportions of good, useful grain.

Entry of Malt by Weight

now causes immense quantities of thin light foreign grain to be made into malt, which would have been impossible if duty were still charged upon Imperial measure. It must also be remembered, too, that a lot of barley reaches us in a very clean and perfect state, for some exporters have fitted up elaborate machinery, which is equal, if not superior, to anything of the kind in common use with us.

But taking the gross weight of barley of all kinds, all put together—Russia, Roumania, and Turkey are thus far the only countries which have as yet sent us over a million quarters in any single year. The amount sent from all these countries fluctuates very widely, and it would be most interesting, if we could but get the information, to know the relative amounts of malting and feeding kinds separately.

Take Russia as an illustration. In 1894 we received from that country over 19,400,000 cwts., and in 1897 only 7,500,000 cwts. From Roumania, on the other hand, the quantity grew from 3,000,000 cwt. in 1894 to 4,700,000 in 1898. Turkey also showed a corresponding advance in the same period.

A Trade Report

issued by Messrs. R. Liebmann and Co. states that the quantity produced this year in Smyrna and some other good districts exceeds any previous record, and also, not only is the quantity large, but the quality is better than has been secured since 1895. The same may be said also of the quality of the crops secured in Bohemia, Hungary, and Moravia, although the quantity produced falls below an average, owing to defective seed time and a bad spring.

It is added that prices are not yet fixed, although they open reasonably with a firm tendency for high qualities. For the best grades consumers are ready buyers. Medium varieties are still depending upon the condition of our own crop, and this is as yet trembling in the balance. If present promises are fulfilled we shall see prices recede considerably.

This report refers to the contradictory reports sent to us from California, owing to many holders of old stocks wanting to realise.

How Prices will Rule

in our own markets it is still premature to hazard an opinion. In the markets for many commodities the price is said to be ruled by the laws of supply and demand. It is always difficult to see how this works out, but in the barley trade the stronger factor is in reality, What will maltsters or brewers give?

The relation of the quantity of suitable barley available is subordinated to the supply and prices of sugar, rice, and maize. The good old days when the supply of barley alone regulated the price of malt have gone, probably never to return. In their place we have in our midst a compact body of men who resolve not to go beyond a certain price, and with the leverage they possess, especially as there is no combination whatever amongst barley growers or dealers, they can virtually do as they like.

Why such important interests

Remain without Combination

is one of those puzzling things that cannot be understood. Maltsters as a class think they may have reason for holding aloof from any organisation, but in reality they are sadly mistaken. Barley merchants also may have still better reasons for refraining from banding together in self-defence or mutual protection.

But with growers there is absolutely no reason why they should not take the necessary steps to at least come to some common understanding. Year by year their power to do good for each other and themselves is growing weaker, whilst malt users are rapidly consolidating and gaining power. We shall soon see the same tactics adopted in dealings for malt as already prevail for hops, with the unhappy difference that while substitutes for hops are only sparingly employed, substitutes that displace malt for nearly all purposes and not for beer only are continually and rapidly growing in number and in the amount used.

That the competition of foreign barley has less effect than sugar, maize, and rice, as shown by the high price obtained for the choicest kind. It is now of an uncommon occurrence for such prices to run well over 40s. per quarter.

FRANK RICHARDSON AND CO., growers of Selected Foreign Malting Barleys, 6, Duke Street, Southwark, London, S.E. Telegrams, "Exsurgens, London" Telephone, 787, Hop, London; and at Liverpool and Burton-on-Trent.—[ADVT.]

MILLING.

The Treatment of Break Stock Previous to Purification.—III.

The recent severe storms of wind and rain have done a great deal of damage to the wheat crop, which in many parts is so laid as to make cutting by hand labour necessary. Had the fine weather of a fortnight ago continued, we should have had samples of new wheat at the mills in the south by this time; now, even should a renewal of the hot weather continue, the grinding of home-grown grists will be much delayed. But while the recent bad weather in this country has had the effect of raising the prices of both wheat and flour (the latter having, in some parts, gone up as much as one shilling per sack of 280 lbs.), yet a feeling and tendency on some of the chief European markets can be observed.

It is quite possible that a good deal of this year's crop will come to the mills in anything but good grinding condition, a state of things which is to be regretted after the last two harvests, which put the country miller more upon an equal footing with the port miller, and gave him the long-asked for encouragement. A very fair quantity of wheat is already in shocks, and if the wet continues this will soon start growing, and grown wheat is one of the sorts that the miller does *not* want. It is worse than ill-conditioned, soft, and damp samples, as much as when the berry begins to grow no matter how little.

Its Chemical Constitution has Commenced to Change,

and millers would do well to let such wheat severely alone. Should any of this year's crop come to the mills in immature condition it will be necessary to dry it before grinding, by which process the gluten produces can be raised and the wheat actually ripened. By treating these wheats in the driers to heat alone, the operation, if skilfully performed, will do, to a very great extent, what the sun and other climatic conditions have failed to perform. To try to mill immature, damp wheat is a fruitful source of trouble and worry. It is difficult to adjust the break rolls for such a purpose; the middlings will be of bad shape and condition for purifiers, and silks will, to a great extent, refuse to dress. But a great deal of these troubles can be prevented by passing the wheat through good driers, of which there are several very efficient ones upon the market, at very reasonable prices.

Offals are still in good demand at very firm prices, and in some parts they are somewhat dearer. Perhaps there is the most run on bran and sharps; some millers cannot make enough of the former to satisfy their customers. As has more than once been urged, the offal trade is often far more paying than the manufacture of flour, and it is a matter for wonder that country millers do not to a large extent remodel their plants and pay more attention to this branch of the trade. Small wheat, for instance, could often be made to pay better in the form of offals, properly apportioned, than selling it—or trying to sell it—in the shape of flour, and those members of the trade who have felt the competition of the large millers would do well to consider the whole question of the manufacture of feeding stuffs of all kinds.

The Condition of Stock for Purifiers.

My last two articles have completed what I wish to say on the treatment of break stock with a view to putting it in suitable condition to purify. The arguments which may be adduced for and against the different kinds of machines which are used as scalpers have been considered, and an example of a [illegible] sieves, with their coverings, has been given. The bulk of the stock from these machines, especially if well graded, is in proper condition to go to purifiers, but there is a certain loss of the coarse which must receive the assistance of the [illegible] or other machine for purposes of finishing previous to purification. As to grading itself, no particular rule can be laid down, as the machines which are used for the treatment of the break stock vary so much. Some are combined, and will do all the work which is necessary before the stock reaches the purifiers; others, like the [illegible] sieve, will only do part of the work and require the assistance of other machines. But all the work be done at once—that is to say, on one machine or [illegible] to be separated [illegible] the same time, but [illegible] grading being right, it is absolutely necessary that the coarse should be properly ground and the [illegible] possible, or else a [illegible] and [illegible] lost upon it. Millers speak of a "[illegible]

but no purifier in the world is dustless unless the stock be sent practically dustless to it.

Pneumatic Sorting.

With regard to the gravity purifier, which may suitably treat the coarser break products, the case is somewhat different, and this leads me to notice a process which is correct in theory, even if in practice it is sometimes found to be too expensive. There is a system (and it may be said systems) which has been in use in this country and in America, in which the overtail as it leaves one scalper goes through a course of aspiration, by which the different products are sorted, according to their specific gravity, before going to the next break. Some years ago in the States these aspirators were constructed upon the same lines as the aspirating middlings purifier, though they were not arranged with so fine an adjustment. They worked well, however, and were improved upon in this country and on the Continent by a more direct pneumatic sorting process, in which the scalper overtails were separated into different sizes and distributed to the following break rolls acording to their size. There was a great deal to say for the system, as each separate piece of broken wheat with the bran attached went direct to the pair of rolls best suited to deal with it, while the finished bran went direct to offals without unnecessary rolling.

It may be that it is a question of cost, but the advantage of not passing the bran through more pairs of rolls than is absolutely necessary must be apparent. And by this method not only is there less small bran, but there is also less break flour.

The Careful Grading and Sorting of Break Stock.

Two different arrangements have been applied. In the first a tail-sheet is put upon each scalper, thus grading the stock to succeeding breaks into two sizes, each of which is separately subjected to the sorters for separation. The second arrangement is more suitable for small mills, as the whole of the overtails pass through the sorters without being divided. On the face of it, the method of pneumatic sorting of break products seems intelligent, always bearing in mind the fact that the best milling is that in which the separations are best made, while the subjecting of break stock—heavy particles of endosperm, with bran attached, large pieces of bran, with little flour attached, and practically cleaned bran to unnecessary repetition of rolling, spouting, and elevating, is certainly to be depreciated. Still, systems of aspiration on break stock are not so much in vogue as they were, owing to the more perfect forms of scalpers manufactured; but one would not be surprised to see such products treated more to aspiration in the future than they are. No trade has undergone, and is undergoing, such changes as flour-milling, and when one hears of centrifugals for scalping, and the re-introduction of porcelain rolls for the reduction of middlings, one is apt to be surprised at nothing.

It should be remembered, too, that the more carefully the grading of break stock is effected the more easy will the purification be and the better will be the resultant flour from the middlings. How far the grading should go it is not for the writer to say. The size of the plant will principally fix the limit, but, whatever that limit may be, the miller may feel assured that the nearer in size he can send his break products to different purifiers the more successful will his operations be. Start from the first break and draw the line as perfectly as possible between the pure and the impure, between different sizes of middlings, and between middlings and flour; in other words, group the stock well at the head of the mill and the finish will be more satisfactory as well as more speedy.

MILLER-FARMER

HOPS.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

Traders have not yet been aroused to very definite action by the unfavourable reports which continue to arrive from the plantations. They seem to argue that because the cry of "wolf" is generally heard at about this time of year, there is still safety in uncertainty, and that the danger of scarcity may yet be avoided. Therefore, they are sitting on the fence, and waiting further developments. But, despite their outwardly assumed indifference, there is an under current of questioning concern flowing through their minds, and the recent gales have produced some effect, in causing buyers to be a little more responsive to the higher prices that are now being demanded. Entirely justified by enlarged and enlarging knowledge of the actual state of affairs in the gardens, holders are getting bolder, and it needs to say that all hops are now worth at least 5s. per cwt. more than they were a fortnight ago. Some reports speak of 10s. advance, but I hardly think this has yet been attained, although it is not impossible that by the end of next week it will have been reached and, perhaps, surpassed. In the meantime the tone of the market is firm, and I hear that several holders are assisting it by withdrawing their hops from offer.

The Condition of the Plantations

is fairly indicated by the selected reports that may be seen hereafter. We have now arrived at a point which enables us to forecast the prospects of the crop almost exactly. We see to-day all that the bine can do. Further growth is practically impossible, and there only remains the development and maturity of such hops as the plant has already produced. To what extent they will be fully developed and what proportion will be matured must be decided by the climatic influence of the next few weeks. But whatever optimistic views may have been previously held concerning the yield must now be considerably modified, for with the boisterous and almost autumnal weather through which we have just passed, it is impossible for the crop to be more than moderate, whatever improvement may be in store for us during this month. Recent visits paid to the plantations by enquiring factors have resulted in a material reduction of previous estimates, and the highest figure named this week is £150,000 to £160,000 old duty, representing an average of only 6cwts. per acre or thereabouts. My private information inclines me to accept 6cwts. as the highest possible, and when I take into account the very poor reports received from the Midland districts, I am rather disposed to entertain the probability of a lower average than the figure named, and shall not be surprised if the official figure for 1890, viz., 5·26, is nearer to the mark.

A contemporary's report of the average condition of the crop on July 1st states that it was then represented by the figures 71, which is rather under three-fourths of what may be accepted as satisfactory. The position has only advanced one point up to August 1st, it then standing at 72. This is lower than any year since 1896 at the same date, when it was 70·3, and is nearly 7 points below the average of the last five years, which is abnormally raised by the big figures of 96·7 that resulted on August 1st last year.

The Imports and Exports

of hops made up to July 31st last from September 1st of last year show the following, which are compared with the corresponding period of the previous season:—

Imports from—	1899-1900. Cwts.		1898-1899. Cwts.
U. States America	90,930	.....	184,111
Other countries	53,394	.....	38,873
Total	144,324	.....	222,984

leaving a deficiency of imports during the eleven months of this season of 78,660cwts.

Exports of—	1899-1900. Cwts.		1898-1899. Cwts.
English hops.....	14,622	.....	11,685
Foreign hops	3,424	.....	8,248
Total	18,046	.....	19,933

Imports During July

last amounted to 5,724cwts., being 3,324cwts. less than in July of 1899. Of the quantity received last month the U.S.A. sent us 4,990cwts., and from other countries we only received 734cwts.

It is somewhat interesting to trace the origin of the whole of our imports, and I have gathered them as under from the

Annual Board of Trade Report

of British Commerce in 1899.

Imports from—	1899. Cwts.		1898 Cwts.
Russia	354	.....	3,059
Germany	11,722	.....	8,280
Holland	13,809	.....	9,169
Belgium	24,423	.....	30,151
France	3,549	.....	1,644
U.S.A. Atlantic Ship.	123,250	.....	190,843
" Pacific "	2,215	.....	692
Other countries.....	—	.....	28
Australasia	689	.....	21
Canada	222	.....	249

Our chief customers for exported hops are the colonies of Victoria, New South Wales, Canada, and the Cape of Good Hope. India takes a fair quantity, and Belgium and Sweden also buy from us to some extent.

I much regret to hear of the death of one of our principal hop growers in East Kent.

Mr George W. Finn.

late of Westwood Court, Faversham, succumbed a few days ago to a long illness, following upon an attack of typhoid fever. Mr. Finn was a typical Englishman, both physically and mentally. Of most energetic character, he conducted a large business as an auctioneer and valuer, in which capacity he had been well respected for many years in the markets of Kent and Sussex. His extensive hop plantations at Preston bore witness to his enlightened skill in this section of agriculture, and his genial presence and hearty manners will be sorely missed by the crowd of friends whose high regard he had gained in the course of his upright business life.

Plantation Reports.

[SPECIAL TO THE SECRETARY N.A.E.H.G.]

MAIDSTONE.—Our experience of the past few days has demonstrated the truth of the saying "there is nothing so certain as the unexpected," which has come upon us this season in the gales that have been so disastrous to many gardens in this vicinity. Strings have been blown down, and the top branches of the bine that is standing have been badly damaged by the extreme force of the wind. Mould is also running fast. It is difficult to make any reliable forecast as to the final results, but I am of opinion that our prospects are not now nearly so good as they were a fortnight ago.

BIDDENDEN.—The chances of the hop crop have been seriously discounted during the past week by the heavy winds and the rapid increase of mould. I have never seen so much damage done in the gardens in so short a time. We are bound to reduce our estimates by at least 2cwt. per acre, and unless we get better weather they will be still further reduced before picking.

EWHURST.—Our gardens have been very badly injured by the recent gales, which exceeded in force any that I can remember, bruising the bine and the burr, and reducing the probable crop to a considerable extent.

BETHERSDEN.—All the parishes round us, as well as our own, have suffered more or less from the effects of the boisterous winds of last week. The damage done cannot be made up for under the best possible circumstances of weather, and as the unsettled weather still continues there seems to be no chance left for even a reasonable crop. Poles, strings, bine, and burr have been blown down in every direction, and any burr or hops remaining on the plants have suffered from the heavy whipping they have had. We are certainly booked for a very poor yield.

WADHURST.—The climate is giving the hops very little opportunity to grow out or to come to perfection. I do not remember any season in which we have had so much to contend with. When the hot weather arrived, it seemed as if we might be able to make up for lost time, but since the heat has ceased we have had cold nights, with too much wet, and our troubles culminated in the frightful gales which swept over the gardens a few days ago, threatening total destruction, and doing damage from which it is impossible to recover. The wind has, I believe, reduced the crop by at least one third, and the look out is now very poor.

THE FAIRLEIGHS AND DISTRICT, AUGUST 11TH.—The late gales have lessened the crop by at least a quarter, in some grounds by more, where fully exposed. It is sad to see the way they are knocked about, and in some places it will take all the men on a farm to put the poles and strings right. Mould is ruining, too, very much in some grounds, and especially in grounds subject to it, and if the late cold nights continue it must increase. The bramblings hang in burr very much, and where the burr has been battered, it is thought they will never come to hops. Altogether the outlook is bad. Still, a fortnight's hot weather may do good, but it cannot replace the broken tips of the branches. Picking must be unusually late.

KINGS PYON (HEREFORD).—The hops in this district are doing very badly. We have had bad weather for them, too much cold, also blight, and a severe gale, and shall require more sunshine to average 3 cwt. per acre.

HEREFORD.—The hops in this county are looking wretchedly bad, and are getting worse every week. I really do not think we can grow more than a quarter of last year's crop. The wind has played sad havoc with the yards where the bine was fairly heavy, and has broken down the string work in all directions. The weather continues cold and wet, and picking must be very late.

LEDBURY.—The storm on Friday week seriously damaged the hop yards, and more trouble ensued from the gale on Monday. Our crop prospects are now much reduced, and at present it is impossible to estimate what we shall grow, beyond that it is certain our yield will be very small.

FLADBURY (WORCESTER).—The effects of the gales on Friday and Monday are painfully evident. Fruit trees are broken down, and the hop yards were pulled about to such an extent that it is now impossible to reckon on anything like an average crop, indeed we shall have to be content with very small results.

MADRESFIELD.—The hop yards in this district, which have been so carefully cultivated and persistently washed, in the hope of producing a decent crop, have been very seriously interfered with by the recent heavy gales. The yield cannot be otherwise than very meagre, and unless we can secure high prices our hop growing this year will land us with heavy losses.

Hop Reports.

Sir,—The outlook at the time of writing is gloomy in the extreme. Gale has succeeded gale. A phenomenally low temperature for the time of year, and rain falling practically every day, must tend to reduce the crop to a very appreciable extent—quite twenty per cent. less than the estimated growth of, say a fortnight ago. Where washing was resorted to early and persistently kept up there is a fair amount of bine, but in many places very "blind." On the other hand, the neglected gardens have altogether gone to the "wall." There never was a greater disparity between the well-washed hops and those that have had to take their chance. Picking must, under the circumstances, be late, and many gardens in this district will never have a bin put in them. All have been bruised and knocked about to that extent that it is impossible to assess the damage wrought.

MAN OF KENT

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 209, 211.)

** All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all general information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society.*

SHOWS.

West Gloucestershire Farmers' Club.

The West Gloucestershire Farmer's Club's thirty-ninth annual show took place on Monday in the beautiful grounds of Blaise Castle, Henbury. For several years past the *locale* has been at Fishponds, and with the large population of Bristol to draw upon the gate has reached some seven or eight thousand. It was considered, however, that the migratory custom which characterised the club in its earlier days should again be followed, and staunch supporters in the neighbourhood of Henbury put in a strong claim, seeing that the president for the year is Mr. John C. Harford, who although he lives for the greater part of his time in Cardiganshire, has close family ties with the district. Mrs. Harford, the president's mother, very kindly placed the Blaise Castle estate at the club's disposal, and an ideal show ground it made. It was within easy distance of Bristol, and had the weather been favourable the attendance of visitors would probably have been as good as last and previous years. Rain, however, fell in torrents in the morning, and at intervals in the afternoon, so that a big attendance was not to be expected, but the assembly was a good one, all being considered.

There was little difference in the number of entries on the purely agricultural side, but in the department for horses for riding, driving, and jumping the competitors were very largely in excess of previous years. On the score of balance the president (Mr. John C. Harford) and other experienced agriculturists had something to say. They are of opinion that, although the riding, driving, and jumping competitions were the popular attraction, and drew the largest number of visitors, the encouragement of stock breeding was the main object of the club. The cattle were in the main excellent in regard to quality, if, in some classes, the entries were small. Shorthorns were not numerous. There were some instances of keen competition, especially in dairy cows and heifers. Some very useful pairs were among them. In very few shows could better animals be found than in Classes 32 and 33, in which the champion and the reserved animals were. The competition was not very good in the fat cattle classes. In Class 27 the entries—two in number—were disappointing, seeing the value of the prizes offered. The old bulls, though small in number, were a very useful class. So highly meritorious were the dairy cows and heifers that they constituted quite a feature of the show. The champion prize was keenly competed for. For a local show the Jerseys were exceptionally good; if there were a few instances in which the level was not maintained, this applied particularly to the yearlings, which need a little more study in feeding that their milking qualities may be improved rather than their fleshy proportions. The sheep were an average lot in numbers and quality. Swine fever restrictions prevented any pigs being sent. Cheese and butter were small in entries, and the quality of the former was scarcely up to the mark. The cart horses were exceedingly good, especially the three-year-olds. Regarding the horses for riding, driving, and jumping purposes, they were far more numerous than hitherto, and included many well-known animals. The contests were, many of them, keenly contested. Unfortunately, heavy storms interfered occasionally with the enjoyment of the spectators.

The judges were:—Hunters, hacks, harness horses, and jumping: Mr. T. B. Miller, M.F.H., Cricklade; Mr. Algernon Elwes, Cirencester; and Mr. John Fowler, Norton Marleward. Hunter mares and foals and young stock: Colonel Henry, Tetbury; Mr. J. C. Harford, Falcondale, Lampeter; and Mr. E. A. Hardwick, Worle. Cart horses: Mr. Merson Court, Long Ashton; and Mr. C. J. Hibbard, Standon Manor. Shorthorn cattle: Mr. S. Hardwick, Portishead; and Mr. B. Read, Quedgeley. Channel Islands cattle: Mr. R. Wheadon, Ilminster; and Mr. A. Worman, Wells. Sheep: Mr. C. Cornock, Millsley; and Mr. Frank Robinson, Didmarton.

Prize List.

HORSES.

Mare or gelding above five years old, equal to 12 stone, and not more than 13 stone, for hunting purposes: 1, Mr. A. M. Fry, Clifton (Sunbeam); 2, Mr. James Verner, Bristol (Yeoman); 3, Mr. B. G. H. Gee, Bristol (Zealot); r, Mr. W. J. Cridge, Clifton (Jerry).

Mare or gelding above five years old, and equal to 13 stone and under 15 stone with hounds: 1, Mr. J. Verner (Pioneer); 2, Mr. B. G. H. Gee (Dauntless); 3, Mr. T. T. Lindrea, Westbury-on-Trym (Tormentil).

Mare or gelding above five years old, and equal to over 15 stone with hounds: 1, Mr. J. B. Till, Hambrook; 2, Mr. W. Pride Jones, Downend (Big Ben); r, Mr. G. Chambers, Bristol.

Mare or gelding above four years old, suitable for hunting purposes, the property of a tenant farmer whose principal occupation is farming, and resides upon his holding of not less than 100 acres of land within the district of the club: 1, Mr. J. B. Till; 2, Mr. J. Alway, Hinton (Shamrock); 3, Mr. F. W. Pearce, Kingweston; r, Mr. G. H. Jones, Little Badminton (Shamrock).

Hack, mare or gelding, not less than 14 hands 2ins., or exceeding 15 hands 2ins. high: 1, Mr. F. Leigh, Westbury-on-Trym (Banjo); 2 and 3, Mr. A. M. Fry (Lady and Caleb); r, Mr. J. Baldwin, Bath (Nancy).

Cob, mare or gelding, above 13 hands, and not exceeding 14 hands 2ins. high: 1, Mrs. M. A. Butler, Henbury; 2, Dr. Fuller, Long Ashton; 3, Mr. G. W. Stonelake, Redland (Dinah).

Three-year-old gelding or filly for hunting purposes: 1, Mr. J. J. Smith, Mays Hill (Diamond Jubilee); 2, Mrs. C. D. Parsons, Wapley (Robin); r, Mr. W. Warren, Bristol.

Two-year-old colt, gelding or filly, for hunting or carriage purposes: 1, Mr. T. Bennewith, Shipping Sodbury; 2, Mr. J. Leach, Horfield (Sam); r, Mrs. C. D. Parsons (Patience)

Yearling colt, gelding or filly, suited for hunting or carriage purposes: 1, Mr. B. G. H. Gee (Fanny Fern 2nd); 2, Mr. A. M. Fry; r, Mr. W. Pride Jones (April Fool); hc, Mr. M. B. Stabbins, Coalpit Heath.

Mare and her foal of the present year, for hunting or carriage purposes: 1 and 2, Mr. B. G. H. Gee, Kitty and Zoe); 3, Mr. J. N. A. Hobbs, Chipping Sodbury (Lady May); r, Mr. G. S. Lysaght, Clifton (Henrietta).

Cart mare and her foal of the present year: 1, Mr. M. B. Stabbins (Jolly); 2, Colonel T. W. Chester Master, Knole Park (Donnington Daisey); 3, Mr. G. Capes, Winterbourne; r, Mr. M. B. Stabbins (Violet 2nd).

Yearling cart colt, gelding or filly: 1, Mr. M. B. Stabbins.

Two-year-old cart colt, gelding or filly: 1, Mr. M. B. Stabbins; 2, Mr. J. H. Pullen, Horton; r, Mr. J. Rogers, Old Sodbury.

Three-year-old cart gelding or filly: 1, Mr. G. H. Jones (England's Victor); 2, Mr. H. Bridgman, Downend; r, Mr. W. McEwen Smith (Jolly).

Pair of cart horses, mares or geldings, the property of a tenant farmer whose principal occupation is farming, and resides upon his holding of not less than 100 acres of land, within the district of the club: 1, Mr. H. Bridgman; 2, Mr. G. H. Jones; 3, Mr. G. Haskins (Smart); r, Mr. H. Matthews (Noble).

Roadster, mare or gelding, in harness, exceeding 15 hands high: 1, Mr. E. S. Godsell, Stroud (Lord Bath); 2, Mr. G. S. Lysaght (Lady Brompton); r, Mr. T. T. Lindrea (Brown Bess).

Mare or gelding, in harness, not exceeding 15 hands high: 1, Mr. G. S. Lysaght (Squire of Dames); 2, Mr. H. F. Ball, Bristol (Gwen); r, Mr. R. L. Weight, St. George (Kitchener).

Mare or gelding, in harness, not less than 14 hands, the property of a tenant farmer, whose principal occupation is farming, and residing upon his holding of not less than 100 acres of land, within the district of the club: 1, Mr. J. J. Smith (Sir Robert); 2, Mr. J. A. Hopkins (Donovan); r, Mr. H. Matthews (Owen).

Cob or pony, mare or gelding, in harness, not exceeding 14 hands 2ins. high: 1, Mr. R. I. Weight (Lord Bang); 2, Mr. G. S. Lysaght (St. Blaise); 3, Mr. E. S. Godsell (Jersey Lily).

Pony, mare or gelding, in harness, not exceeding 13 hands high: 1, Mr. S. Wait Tomkins (Greathcart); 2, Mr. E. B. James (Bobby); 3, Mr. A. E. Gould (Little Wonder).

Horse, cob, or pony, with appropriate vehicle and harness, the bona-fide property of a tradesman within the district of the club: 1, Mr. W. J. P. Lansdown; 2, Mr. E. Young (Kitty); 3, Mr. C. Howell (Countess).

JUMPING PRIZES.

Jumper exhibited at the show in any of the foregoing classes: 1, Mr. J. Baldwin (Old Cat); 2, Mr. T. Benewith, Chipping Sodbury (Hasty Girl); 3, Mr. A. J. Butcher, Bristol (Miss May).

Jumper, the property of a tenant farmer, whose principal occupation is farming, and resides upon his holding of not less than 100 acres of land, within the district of the club: 1, Mrs. Westmore, Henbury (Pound-a-Leg); 2, Mr. W. McEwen Smith, Henbury.

Jumper, the property of an exhibitor: 1, Mr. J. Baldwin (Old Cat); 2, Mr. A. J. Butcher (Miss May); 3, Mr. J. Baldwin (Diana); r, Mr. W. A. Dixon (Amy 2nd).

CATTLE.

Fat ox or steer: 1 and r, Mr. G. Garrett, East Compton; 2, Mr. W. Hopkins, Elberton; c, Mr. W. J. Griffiths, Henbury.

Fat cow or heifer: 1 and 2, Mr. A. J. Weaver, Henbury.

Bull, cow, and their offspring, the property of a tenant farmer whose principal occupation is farming, and resides upon his holding of not less than 100 acres of land, within the district of the club: 1, Mr. J. A. Hopkins (Prolific, Countess, and Countess 4th); 2, Mr. W. McEwan Smith (Recruiter)

Bull, above two years: 1, Mr. J. E. King (Prince Alpine); 2, Mr. J. Lear, Doynton (Vain Sultan); r, Mr. J. A. Hopkins (Prolific); c, Mr. E. Hancock (King King); c, Mr. W. McEwen Smith (Recruiter).

Bull, above one and under two years old: 1, Mr. G. Haskins (Priam); 2, Col. T. W. Chester-Master (Warrior); r, Mr. F. W. Pearce; hc, Mr. W. McEwen Smith (Count Windsor 3rd).

Bull calf, above six and under twelve months old: 1, Mr. W. McEwen Smith; 2, Mr. J. E. King.

Bull calf, under six months old: 1, Mr. W. McEwen Smith; 2, Mr. W. Hopkins; hc, Mr. T. Cooper.

Pair of dairy cows, specially calculated for dairy purposes, in milk or calf, above four years old: 1 and champion, Mr. W. McEwen Smith; 2, Mr. C. E. Pearce, Sea Mills; 3, Mr A. J. Weaver; r, Mr. F. H. Wedmore; hc, Mr. W. J. Griffiths; c, Mr. E. Hancock (Diadem and Flora Queen)

Pair of dairy cows in milk or calf, and specially calculated for dairy purposes, the property of a tenant farmer whose principal occupation is farming, and resides upon his holding of not less than 100 acres of land, within the district of the club: 1 and champion, Mr. W. McEwen Smith; 2, Mr. A. J. Weaver; 3, Mr. C. E. Pearce; r, Mrs. Wetmore; hc, Mr. F. W. Pearce.

Heifers specially calculated for dairy purposes, above three and under four years old, in milk or calf: 1 and 2, Mr. McEwen Smith; 3, Mr. H. Matthews; c, Mr. A. J. Weaver.

Heifers above two and under three years old, in milk or calf: 1, Mr. H. Matthews; 2, Mr. A. J. Weaver; r, Mr. W McEwen Smith; hc, Mr. H. Matthews; c, Mr. W. J. Griffiths; Mr. F. W. Pearce.

Pair of heifers, above one and under two years old: 1, Mr. A. J. Weaver; 2, Mr. F. W. Pearce; r, Mr. J. A. Hopkins; hc, Mr. W. McEwen Smith.

Pair of steers, above one and under two years old: 1, Mr. W. J. Griffiths.

Pair of heifer calves, under 12 months old: 1, Mr. C. E. Pearce; 2, Mr. W. McEwen Smith; r, Mr. G. Haskins; hc, Mr. A. J. Weaver

Pair of steer calves, under twelve months old: 1, Mr. W. F. Lear; 2, Mr. C. E. Pearce.

Channel Island cow or heifer, in milk or in calf: 1, Mrs. M. Anderson Butler, Henbury (Gloaming 5th); 2, Mrs. Harford, Blaise Castle; 3, Sir J. H. Greville Smyth, Bart., Ashton Court (Lady Smyth); r, Major-Gen. N. F. Sampson Way, Henbury (Judy 4th); vhc, Mr. H. Russell Thomas, Stoke Bishop; hc, Sir J. H. Greville Smyth, Bart. (Daisy Ashton 2nd); hc, Mr. A. Baker, Henbury (Spot); Mr. C. Thomas, Stoke Bishop (Lady Roberts); Mrs. Harford; Mr. T. J. J. Harris, Downend (Mary); c, Mrs. M. Anderson Butler (Mary); Mr. J. Kennedy (Miss Marius).

Jersey heifer, under two years old, eligible for entry in the English Jersey Herd-book: 1, Mrs. Harford, 2, Mr T. J. J. Harris (Elsie); r, Mr. W. E. Budgett, Henbury (Henbury Frisk 3rd); hc Mr. W. J. Kennedy (Miss Rosy); Mrs. Harford

Jersey heifer, under one year old: 1, Mr. J. Kennedy (Miss Daisy); 2, Miss A. Butler (Black Bess 8th); r, Mr. J. Kennedy (Miss Pansy); hc, Mr. E. Hancock (Greta).

Jersey bull, under four years old, eligible for entry in the English Jersey Herd-book: 1, Mr. J. Kennedy (Monte 2nd); 2, Mr. H. A. Hood Daniel, Henbury (Monaco); r, Mr. W. E Budgett, Henbury (Henbury Knight); hc, Mr. T. J. J. Harris (Legacy's Last); Mr. W. E. Budgett (Boyles Glory).

SHEEP.

Ram of any breed: 1, Mr. Jeffery Matthews, Winterbourne Two-tooth, ram of any breed: 1, Mr Henry Bridgman, Downend; 2, Mr. Jeffery Matthews

Five fat wethers: 2, Mr. A. J. Weaver, Henbury

Five six-tooth ewes, having bred and reared a lamb or the present year: 1, Mr. H. Bridgman, Downend; 2, Mr. H. Matthews

Five two-tooth ewes, having bred and reared a lamb the present year: 1, Mr Jeffery Matthews; 2, Mr H. Bridgman.

Five breeding two-tooth ewes: 1 and champion, Mr Jeffery Matthews; 2, Mr. H. Bridgman

Pair of ram lambs of any breed: 1, 2, and 3, Mr Jeffery Matthews; r and c, Mr H Bridgman

Pair of Hampshire Down ram lambs: 1 and 2, Mr Jeffery Matthews; r, Mr H Bridgman

Five Chilver lambs: 1 and 3, Mr. Jeffery Matthews; 2, Mr H Bridgman

Five wether lambs: 1, Mr. Jeffery Matthews; 2, Mr. Henry Bridgman

Bridlington.

The Bridlington Agricultural Society's sixty-fifth show, which took place on the 1st inst., was favoured by fine weather, and proved one of the most successful the society has ever held. The total number of entries was 1,109, which has only been exceeded on one occasion, when there were thirty-two entries of wool—a class which has for some time been omitted from the schedule; whilst the attendance of visitors was a record one. The quality of the animals forward was quite up to the average—a very good one—seen at Bridlington, and the society are to be congratulated on their success. As one speaker remarked at the luncheon, the success was the more conspicuous following as it did on the disappointment and loss sustained by other shows including the Royal and the Yorkshire shows. It had been said that the loss on the two shows had been the gain of both being held in the same county. Mr. T. Wrigham-Boynton, J.P., who presided, in the course of a short speech said there was one phase of agriculture which at present troubled all those engaged in it, and especially on the large farms in the East Riding—the question of labour. The one who found a remedy for this would be a clever man. They were always told that things would right themselves. No doubt this would, but at present it was a huge handicap on the farmer. He thought that the move made by some societies in the direction of prizes for men who had been longest in service and so on, was a good one. He felt also that ploughing matches and hedge cutting competitions should be encouraged, and that people living in the country should do what they could to persuade the young men to stay in the villages instead of rushing into the big towns.

Prize List.

HORSES

HUNTERS.

Mare and foal: 1, Messrs. F. J. and H. Grainger, Burton Agnes; 2, Mr. J. S. Darrell, West Ayton; 3, Mr W. Wilkinson.

Foal by thorough-bred horse: 1, Mr. F. J. and H. Grainger; 2, Mr. J. S. Darrell.

One-year-old colt, gelding, or filly: 1, Mr. J. S. Darrell; 2, Mr R. Hornsey, Bishop Burton.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1 and medal Mr. Dixon Skirlaugh; 2, Mr. E. Hodgson, Bridlington; 3, Mr. J. A. Brown, Middleton-on-Wolds.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Mr. J. S. Darrell; 2 and 3, Mr. E. Hodgson.

HACKNEYS.

Mare and foal: 1 and medal, Mr. J. D. Robinson, Sledmere.

Foal by a pedigree Hackney: 1, Mr. W. Richardson, High Bonwick; 2, Mr. J. D. Robinson; 3, Mr. F. Dee, Driffield.

One-year-old colt, gelding, or filly: 1, Mr. D. Nicholson, Watton; 2, Mr. H. M. Welborn, Muston; 3, Mr. G. A. Brown

Two-year-old gelding or filly: Mr. H. Moore, Burn Bates, Hull.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Mr. H. Moore, Hull; 2 Mr. W. P. Kirby, Watton.

RIDING HORSES.

Hunting mare or gelding, four years old: 1, Messrs. F. J. and H. Grainger; 2, Mr. E. Hodgson; 3, Mr. J. S. Darrell.

Hunting mare or gelding, four years old and upwards: 1 Messrs. T. and H. Ward, Pinchinthorpe; 2, Mr. W. H. Cranswick; 3, Messrs. F. J. and H. Grainger.

Hackney gelding or mare, four years old and upwards: 1, Mr A. Fewson, Hedon; 2, Mr. F. Holmes, Shipley; 3, Mr. E. Edwards, Ganton.

Hackney gelding or mare, not exceeding 14 hands 2 inches: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, Mr. T. T. Champion, East Heslerton; 3, Mr. W. Wilson, Speeton.

Gentleman's hack, gelding, or mare, any age, not under 15 hands: 1, Mr. J. Rafton, Beeford; 2, Mr. E. Edwards; 3, Mr. H. Watson, Filey.

Lady's hack, gelding, or mare, any age: 1 and 2, Messrs. F. J. and H. Grainger; 3, Mr. W. H. Wellburn, Helperthorpe.

HARNESS HORSES.

Mare or gelding, not under 14.2 h.h.—1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, Mr. T. Reed; 3, Mr. S. Longbottom, Nafferton.

Horse and trap: 1, Messrs. Barron and Vickers, Bridlington; 2 and 3, Mr. J. Burrell.

Tradesmen's turnout: 1, Mr. H. Woodcock; 2, Mr. S Anfield; 3, Mr. E. Taylor.

SHIRE OR AGRICULTURAL.

Mare or foal for agricultural purposes: 1, Mr. C. Jackson, Cayton; 2, Mr. T. F. Foster, Sewerby.

Foal: 1, Mr. J. T. Wright, Great Hatfield; 2, Mr. C. Jackson, Cayton; 3, Mr. T. F. Foster.

One-year-old colt, gelding, or filly: 1, Mr. T. Cranswick, Hunmanby; 2, Mr. J. Cranswick, Rudstone; 3, Mr. D. T. Stubbings, Boynton.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Mr. J. D. Robinson; 2, Mr T. F. Foster; 3, Mr. C. Jackson.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Mr. W. Robinson; 2, Mr. T. F. Foster; 3, Mr. D. F. Stubbings.

Gelding or mare, any age: 1, Messrs. R. and J. Davidson, Welham; 2, Mr. T. A. Jackson; 3, Mr. W. Woodcock, Sewerby Cottage.

Pair of horses, the property of a tenant farmer, the horses to have been regularly worked on the exhibitor's farm for three months prior to the show: 1, Mr. T. F. Foster; 2, Mr. C. Jackson.

LEADING HORSE.

1, Messrs. T. and H. Ward, Pinchinthorpe; 2, Mr. F. W. Watkinson, Weaverthorpe; 3, Mr. D. Sowerby, Wilsby; r, Mr. R. Tomlinson, Cliffe, Selby.

SHEEP.

Long wool shearling ram, [illegible] for the district: 1, Mr. T. A. Jackson, Bridlington; 2, Mr. J. J. Simpson, Hunmanby; 3, Mr. T. Spink, Hunmanby.

Down ram, any age: 1 and 2, Messrs. J. and C. Crowe, Huntow

Three long-wool tup rams: 1, Mr. T. Nightingale, Huntow; 2, Mr. J. J. Simpson.

Pen of five long-wool breeding ewes that have suckled lambs

to 2nd July, 1900: 1, Mr. T. Nightingale; 2, Mr. T. A. Jackson.

Seven long-wool gimmer shearlings, strictly intended for breeding purposes, and adapted for the neighbourhood: 1, Mr. J. J. Simpson; 2, Mr. T. A. Jackson.

Five long-wool gimmer lambs: 1, Mr. T. A. Jackson; 2 and 3, Mr. T. Nightingale.

Pen of five wether or gimmer cross-bred lambs: 1, Mr. W. Wilson, Speeton; 2, Mr. D. R. Jackson, Carnaby; 3, Mr. W. Whiting, Hull.

Special prize for five lambs fed on Bibby's Food, supplied by Mr. P. Bantoft, 61, High Street, Hull: 1, Mr. T. A. Jackson; 2, Mr. T. Nightingale.

Special prize for five lambs fed on Round Locust and Oil Cakes, supplied by Mr. John Grindell, 1, High Street, Hull: T Mudd, Hunmanby.

CATTLE.

SHORT-HORNED CATTLE.

Bull, not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr. T. D. Robinson, Lowthorpe; 2, Mr. W. H. Hutchinson, Beverley.

Bull, not exceeding twelve months old; 1, Mr. E. H. Hebden, York; 2, Mr. T. D. Robinson.

Cow, in milk or calf: 1, Mr. T. D. Robinson: 2, Mr. T. Nightingale; 3, Mr. E. H. Hebden.

Heifer, not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr. T. D. Robinson; 2, Mr. W. H. Hutchinson.

Heifer, not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. E. H. Hebden; 2, Mr. T. D. Robinson.

DAIRY CATTLE.

Cow, any breed, for dairy purposes: 1, Mr. T. Nightingale; 2, Mr. T. A. Jackson.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

13273.—T. L. F. Stack, of Lord Street, Liverpool, for an invention for "Improvement in treating milk at dairies and in apparatus therefor."

13438.—W. E. Phillips, of Water Street, Liverpool, for an invention for "Improvements in digging tools."

13524.—M. Few and Z. Read, of Chancery Lane, London, for an invention for "An improved device for use in binding asparagus into bundles."

13565.—N. J. Lawson, of Hatton Garden, London, for an invention for "Improvements in or relating to motor road vehicles adapted for the transport of market produce and the like."

Patents Sealed.

7499.—W. N. Sleep, R. H. Sleep, of Plymouth, Devon, and W. Parkin, of Sheffield, Yorkshire, for an invention for "Improvements relating to agricultural implements."

7681. W. Gibson, of Collingham, near Leeds, for an invention for "Improvements relating to chaff treating."

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

August.

14. Beamish, Pontop and Consett Agricultural Society's Show.
14. Central Banffshire Farmers' Club's Show, at Keith.
14. Sale of Southdown Sheep, the property of the Right Hon. Earl Bathurst, at Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire
14. Sale of Hampshire Down Ram Lambs and Rams, the property of Mr. H. C. Stephens, M.P., at Market House, Salisbury.
14. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, belonging to Mrs. Barrs, Odstone Hall, Atherstone.
14. Blackpool and District Agricultural Society's Show, at Blackpool.
15. Bakewell Farmers' Club's Show, at Rutland Grounds, Bakewell.
15. Mr. C. Coxon's Annual Sale of Shropshire Sheep, at Elford Park, Tamworth.
15. Sale of Mr. R. W. Lynne's Hampshire Down Flock, at Marlborough, Wilts.
16. Penistone Agricultural Society's Show, at Penistone
16. Denbighshire and Flintshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Denbigh.
16. Whitby Horse Show.
16. Worthing and West Sussex Horse Show.
16. Waltham Cross and Three Counties' Horse and Foal Society's Show.
18. Chorley and District Agricultural Society's Show, at Chorley.
18. Wensleydale Agricultural Society's Show, at Leyburn.
18. Shrewsbury Annual Sheep Sale
20. Agricultural Show at Woodthorpe Park, Intake, near Sheffield.
20. Knowle Horse Show.
21. Barnsley Agricultural Society's Show, at Barnsley.
21. North Lonsdale Agricultural Society's Show, at Ulverston.
21. Sale of Shropshires, belonging to Mr. A. Tanner, at Shrawardine, Salop.
22. Belper Horse Show.
22. Lancaster Agricultural Society's Show.
22. Ipswich Sheep Fair.
22. Sale of Mr. W. O. Hammond's Southdown Sheep, at St. Alban's Court, Wingham, Kent.
23. Penrith Agricultural Society's Show.
23. East Berks Horse Show, at Maidenhead
23. Sale of the late Mr. W. T. Talbot Crosbie's herd of Shorthorns, at Ardfert Abbey, Ardfert, Ireland.
23. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, the property of Mr. T. Fenn, Stonebrook House, Ludlow.
23. Sale of pedigree Hackneys and Harness Horses, at York Repository.
23. Sale of Mr. Thomas Kirk's stud of Hackneys, at Hedon, near Hull.
23 and 24. Royal Jersey Agricultural Society's Show, at St. Helier's.
24. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, the property of Messrs. P. A. and G. T. Evans, at Sherlowe, Wellington, Salop.
25. Worsley Agricultural Society's Show.
25. Weardale Agricultural Society's Show, at St. John's Chapel

The heavy rains and high winds experienced in North Wales during the past week have done great damage to property and to crops. The mountain streams have been in flood, and many acres of hay and corn are submerged.

IN PARLIAMENT.

House of Commons.

Agricultural Holdings Bill.

The Lords' amendments to this Bill were considered on Monday.

On the motion to agree with the Lords in an amendment reintroducing words to provide that the arbitrator, in adjudging his award, should take into consideration the inherent capabilities of the soil,

Mr. Haldane complained that the Government had not stuck to their guns in this matter, and hoped the House would resist the Lords' amendment.

The Attorney-General declared that the Commons had considered that the proviso would give rise to a good deal of misconception, and the Lords had held that the law had been altered. He doubted whether it would be wise to adhere to the Commons' view and risk the loss of the Bill.

Mr. Channing said the presence of the proviso in the Bill gave an opportunity for injustice.

Mr. Ellis Griffith complained that the amendments had been withheld from discussion for so long.

The Lords' amendment was agreed to by 94 to 54.

Mr. Channing moved to reject the Lords' amendment which struck out the provision in the Bill enabling tenants to make osier beds on their holdings without the consent of the landlord.

The Attorney-General said he was informed by those competent to express an opinion that, as regards osier beds, the matter was not one of great importance, and the question was whether for a comparatively small percentage of cases they were to imperil the Bill.

On the House dividing 96 voted for the Lords' amendment and 56 against; majority for, 40.

On the Lords' amendment striking out the provision in the Bill enabling tenants to lay down a garden in their holdings not exceeding one acre in extent without the consent of the landlord,

Mr. B. Jones hoped the Government would not yield to the Lords in this case, as the matter was one of great importance to the occupiers of small holdings in Wales.

The Attorney-General said there was no ground for supposing that in the case of small holdings the landlord would impose any unreasonable conditions.

Captain Sinclair held there was no justification for what he considered would be a disgraceful surrender if made by that House.

Colonel Lockwood dissented from the Lords' amendment in this case, but he did not wish to imperil the Bill.

Mr. Channing protested against the Lords' amendment.

The division resulted as follows:—For the Lords' amendment, 95; against, 57.

The amendment by which the Lords struck out the proviso enabling a tenant to plant one acre of his holding with fruit trees and claim compensation on leaving was next divided upon. The action of the Lords was ratified by 99 votes to 58.

The remaining amendments were then agreed to.

THE WEATHER.

FRIDAY (August 3rd).—Very disturbed weather was experienced over our islands, and gales or strong, boisterous winds occurred generally on our coasts. Very heavy rain had fallen in Ireland, and the amounts were also large at places in the West of England. Showers occurred at times in London, and the wind was strong and squally. The highest temperature in London was sixty-eight degrees, and in the early evening the thermometer had fallen below sixty degrees.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (August 4th and 5th).—The weather was fair in places on Saturday, although rain was measured on Sunday morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over the whole of our islands, except at a few places in the east of England. A considerable fall of temperature was general, and the weather was cold for the time of year. Saturday was fine in London, and the air was cool, the thermometer not rising above sixty-five degrees. On Sunday the weather was very showery, and the highest temperature in the Metropolis was sixty-one degrees, which is thirteen degrees below the average.

MONDAY (August 6th).—Rainy and unsettled weather was experienced in all parts of the British Islands, and a gale occurred in places on our coasts. A fresh disturbance had arrived over the south of Ireland during Sunday night, and the barometer had fallen again everywhere. The weather was cold for the time of year over the whole country, the highest temperatures being below 60deg. in many places, and nowhere much in excess of that low summer reading. In London the day was very wet and gloomy, and the highest temperature was 61deg.

TUESDAY (August 7th).—During Monday night the storm system regained much of its former speed, and the reports received by the Meteorological Office in the morning showed that the core, or heart, of the disturbance had completely traversed England, being situated over the North Sea at eight o'clock. As the storm passed over the central parts of England the wind blew with considerable violence from the westward at all places which were to the south of the storm path. In Scotland and over the northern portion of England strong winds and gales were experienced from the north or north-east, the centre of the storm passing to the southward of this part of our islands. Thunderstorms had occurred in places, especially over the central parts of England, and the rainfall was exceptionally heavy in districts situated near the path of the storm. The amounts were generally large from all parts of England and Ireland. The reports received late in the day showed that the storm area still continued to travel away to the eastward, and there was a further improvement in the weather over our islands. The winds were gradually falling lighter, and the air was becoming dryer, with a slight increase of temperature.

WEDNESDAY (August 8th).—The weather was generally fine over the British Islands, but there was still a good deal of cloud in parts of the country. Rain was measured in the morning nearly everywhere, as the result of the fall in the previous twenty-four hours, but the amounts were small except at a few places in the west of England. The barometer had risen briskly in the rear of the disturbance which traversed England on Monday, and the wind was northerly and mostly light. Temperatures were still low for the time of year, the mid-day readings ranging between sixty and sixty-five degrees in the south of England, while the thermometer was below sixty degrees throughout the day in Scotland and in the north of England. The weather in London was finer than of late, although the highest temperature was only sixty-four degrees.

THURSDAY (August 9th).—The weather was again rainy and unsettled in most parts of the British Islands, and a moist southerly current of air had spread over the whole country. Very heavy rain had occurred again at several places in the west, and rain was general during the day in the south of England. The temperature continued very low for the season, the midday readings being generally between 55deg. and 62deg. The day was dull and very wet in London, and the wind was increasing from the south in the afternoon. The highest temperature in the metropolis was 61deg.

FRIDAY (August 10th).—The weather was dull and wet over a large portion of England during the greater part of the day, but there was some improvement in many places in the afternoon. Rain was measured in the morning over the whole of England and Ireland, and at some of the western stations the amounts were again large. Temperature was still very low for the season, the highest readings over a large part of the country not exceeding 60deg. Rain fell in London throughout the morning, and the weather was gloomy, but it cleared in the afternoon, although sharp showers continued at intervals. The highest temperature in the metropolis was 62deg.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (August 11th and 12th).—Very fine weather prevailed over England during the two days, but in Scotland and Ireland the conditions were less settled. Only at the northern and north-western stations did rain fall, and at places in those districts the fall was heavy. The temperature generally increased, the thermometer on Saturday exceeding seventy degrees in parts of England, and on Sunday the weather was generally much warmer. The weather was very fine in London, the shade temperature on Saturday registering seventy-two degrees, while in the southern suburbs the thermometer on Sunday afternoon stood at eighty degrees.

Farmers and Beer.

On Friday the Buckinghamshire County Council—Lord Cottesloe presiding—had under discussion the subject of "Farmers and Beer." It was raised on a motion by Mr. Councillor Batchelar, who proposed "That in the opinion of this Council the illegal sale of beer, as ordinarily practised by farmers in this county, having a debasing influence upon the purchasers, and particularly upon children, should be suppressed by the police." He said that the employer of labour who distributed from five to twenty barrels of beer, or more, among the people who worked for him was no more generous than the licensed tradesman who sold a similar quantity over his bar, for while one sold for cash, the other sold for service rendered. Why, he asked, should the licensed seller, who paid a very much higher price for his beer, also for a costly licence, be subjected to the strictest police supervision, also to adulteration, from all of which conditions the unlicensed seller was entirely exempt? Mr. Councillor Dodwell contended that the system of giving beer was decreasing year by year, while Mr. Councillor Thomas said it was a foolish thing for farmers to encourage men in their employ to take beer. Mr. Alderman Treadwell—a large employer of labour—said he could not see how the practice of giving beer could be done away with. Some of his men had to walk miles to their work, and he believed beer, in a moderate way, did them good. (Hear, hear). Mr. Councillor Twinch said he had tried both systems; he did not give beer himself, but that fact did not stop drinking. Mr. Alderman Gurney said the working man was to-day the master of the whole situation, while the Earl of Buckinghamshire said he did not believe the curtailing of beer would stop drunkenness at once, but it would eventually. Ultimately, on the suggestion of the chairman, supported by the Earl of Buckinghamshire, the motion was withdrawn.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Berkshire and Oxfordshire.

A remarkable and sudden change in the weather took place last week, from almost tropical heat to autumnal chilliness; and the boisterous gales and storms of rain which prevailed on Friday and Monday, and again on Thursday last, have interrupted harvest operations and rather seriously affected the harvest prospects from the farmers' point of view, as the frequent rains have soaked the shocks of corn, and the winds have laid many pieces of standing corn, prolonging the work of harvesting and increasing the cost of getting in the crops. As yet the rains have not done much actual damage to the crops themselves; indeed, the moisture has tended to swell the corn and prevent the ears from shedding, but if this wet weather should continue the consequences would, of course, be serious to the farmers, who are now anxious to push forward with harvest work. As yet but little satisfactory progress has been made this week, and much will depend upon the weather of the next few weeks.—*Reading Mercury.*

Cumberland.

My report last week was barely posted before the pour began. The torrent, with wind attending, flattened fields of the best corn, and the crows, in flocks, following, are completing the mischief. Bank Holiday was a rain record. At Keswick the Convention was followed by the deluge. Excursion trains poured in, and the rain poured down, and hundreds remained all day at the station in the railway carriages. They had just one bar within cover, and at it there was some more "pouring" all that long day. It reminded some of the cattle trucks in South Africa, where the sick, the wounded, and the dying spent recently longer time at railway siding, with no refreshment whatever. As I write, there is thunder above me, and hay and corn calling for attention. Query: Is it wise, with July-August experience, to over "manage" land for corn? A splendid show, but if rain comes, then flat falls the fruit of the field. —H. M. K. (August 10th).

Devonshire.

The agricultural barometer, like the weather, is unsettled and unsteady. The hay harvest has been excellent as to quality and cost of harvesting, but the crop will not be over average in consequence of failures in some districts, more especially the southern portion of the county, in the permanent pastures and meadows. The mangold and fruit crops are the crops of the year. Corn harvest had commenced, and would have been general had not the sudden change of weather interfered and caused not only delay, but considerable damage to the standing crops. Oats were commenced cutting about the 20th of July, and barley and wheat cutting last week. Now the late harvest will be more costly, the crops being in many cases flat on the ground, and machines will have a good trial under difficulties; and the storms have caused a heavy loss through the extensive shedding of the grain.

The Gales

have also damaged the apple crop, but as it was so heavy the loss will not be felt; a large number of trees have suffered seriously through losing their branches, but the crop will still be a good one. If the rain and storm has done damage, it is somewhat compensated for by the good it has done to the roots and pastures. The swede crop, which at one time seemed likely to be a total failure owing to the fly, and in many cases had been sown twice, is now secure, and common turnips and cabbages are growing rapidly, and mangolds will be almost record crops as a rule. Anxiety is now felt about the weather by

Barley Growers,

for the value of this crop depends on the sample; if good malting, remunerative prices are obtained, but if damaged and only fit for feeding the crop will not pay for growing; and the Devonshire system of growing clover seeds with this crop is not conducive to good samples, yet leases still insist on this system. This is the time for local agricultural shows, and the recent show of the Tiverton district eclipsed in the number of its exhibits and the quality of horses and poultry the Devon County Show, and is more popular. The Exeter Horse Show you alluded to last week, and it is to be regretted this was not a greater financial success, but the war and recent bereavement of our beloved Royal Family are against holidays, except for health. The Royal Agricultural Society is, of course, above criticism, but many agriculturists consider London not the best place for a permanent site. Shows in large cities have not always been successful, and horse shows pure and simple seem more popular to citizens than cattle shows.

The Permanent Pastures

are now looking well and will be sufficient, but second crops of clover will be very light. Of course, the improvement in keep prospects has given an impetus to the markets, and store cattle and sheep have improved in price, and fat cattle and small sheep are selling well. The rain has done immense good to the garden crops, and vegetables of all kinds and fruit are plentiful and cheap. The labour question is still a difficulty, and crops of roots have not been in many cases properly hoed; but it is not so bad as anticipated, as the hay harvest was conducted in splendid weather, and the latest harvest machinery more extensively used. Yet it is lamentable to drive through some agricultural parishes and see so many pretty rustic cottages unoccupied and going to decay, the only appearance of anything being the honeysuckle, jasmine, and roses, and in some cases splendid scarlet geraniums in full bloom creeping to their roots a mass of flowers. The South Hams portion of the county seems to suffer most. I am glad to report that the demand for the South Devon breed of cattle for South Africa, which was stopped by the war, has now sprung up again, and several bulls, cows, and heifers are now being exported to the colony, where they have obtained great popularity in consequence of their excellent dairy qualities as well as grazing and freedom from the local disease of rinderpest. The outlook at present is certainly not gloomy, but prospects cannot be described as more than fair and about average.—E. H. (August 8th).

Hunts (South).

For ten days rain, cold, and strong winds, almost amounting at times to a gale, have been the farmer's portion. Little harvest work has been done, whilst the growing crops have been beaten down and twisted to a very considerable extent. The loss in ears blown off, kernels blown out, and ears which must be cut off and lost by the reaper, will be far greater than at one time seemed possible, as the crops were nearly all erect. Against this loss we must set the increased size of each kernel and the great benefit to roots and grass, so that, if we now have fine weather, the balance will be about equal.—S. S. (August 11th).

Salop.

After two days' heavy, soaking rain, all the cut corn sprouting and spoiling. This morning the weather took up beautifully fine, the sun shining and drying winds blowing through the sheaves.—J. G.

Somerset.

Contrary to July, which was dry and hot, the weather this month so far has been boisterous, with heavy rain at intervals, causing considerable damage in laying the corn in many instances, to harvest which a deal more expense will be necessary, which farmers can ill afford, the low price of agricultural produce being too low to show a margin of profit in many instances. Hay was generally a good crop, and generally stacked in good condition, and the crops of corn are generally good. The cutting of wheat, which is generally rather short in straw and ear, commenced the early part of last week. Beans and potatoes are good crops. Apples and pears are not abundant. Plums and bush fruits are good crops. Cattle and sheep are generally healthy and doing fairly well, and grass is not lacking as regards quantity. Yet cattle are not coming to the shambles in such good condition as usual.—A. L. (Cheddar, August 10th).

Worcester (South).

The hot weather we had during July broke up with severe thunderstorms, and we have now had a fortnight of very unsettled weather, with at times very high winds and heavy rain, doing great damage to fruit plantations, and laying the corn crops, so that harvesting will be more difficult than it would otherwise have been. Nearly all the corn wants cutting, and will be much damaged if the weather does not shortly improve. Wheat-cutting was begun about the 1st of the month. It cuts up a light crop, but on good wheat land the ears are well developed. There is not much barley cut, but it is a light crop, as also are oats.

Winter Beans

cut up fairly well, and springs look promising. The rain has improved the roots, mangolds generally look well, but few swedes are left, the fly having made nearly a clean sweep of them, and common turnips should now grow into a crop, so that the prospect of sheep-keep is much better than it was a fortnight ago. Pastures were very bare and burnt up, but are now improving.

Trade for both fat and store stock is slow, with drooping prices, with the exception of freshly-calved cows, for which the demand is good.—(August 10th).

Wilts, Hants, and Dorset.

We have had to chronicle very wet and also very dry seasons, but never before have we recorded such a startling contrast as that between the greater part of last month and the weather we are now experiencing—between a July of tropical heat and blazing sunshine, and this gloomy and stormy August, with its heavy gales and drenching rains. Though a few of the seventy-one reports we publish to-day were sent in by the end of last week, the majority belong to the week now closing, and therefore convey more accurately the writers' opinions of harvest prospects than would have been possible even a few days earlier. In view of the persistence of wind and wet to an extent quite exceptional in the early part of August, it is to be feared that the harvest may be more troublesome and disappointing than the general tenour of the reports we publish to-day would indicate. The continuance of such weather as has been experienced during the past week is doubly disastrous to the farmer, for it increases the difficulty and expense of getting in the corn crops, while rendering them less worth harvesting. Even if genial August weather had been experienced—if there had been no gales to beat down and beat out the corn, and no deluges of rain—the harvest would not have been a particularly good one. Barley is the only cereal of which the majority of our correspondents report favourably. Wheat seems to compare even less satisfactorily than might have been anticipated with the crop of 1899, and oats are again disappointing.

Last year the hay crop, though well made, was a light one. This year the yield has been much heavier, and, though early cutting was damaged by the wet weather of June, much of the crop appears to have been secured in good condition.

Reports concerning roots vary a good deal. Early sowings of turnips were frequently taken by the fly, which has been very troublesome this year; and the extraordinary heat and drought of July had a very bad effect; but the rains have much improved matters, and the root crop is now far more promising than it was at this time in 1899. Several correspondents refer to the difficulty of getting roots hoed, in consequence of the scarcity of labour. For instance, one Wiltshire correspondent writes:—"Roots ought to be the best we have had for some years; but it is impossible to get hands to hoe them, and many pieces will be spoiled in consequence." And another correspondent in the same county remarks:—"Roots will now turn out a good crop, but many very foul for want of hoeing."

The reports concerning

Sheep and Cattle

are hardly so favourable as those of last year in the case of the former, though fully as satisfactory with regard to cattle. Both kinds of stock are described as healthy, but sheep have not done any too well, and the breed of lambs was a small one. Prices for sheep have fluctuated a good deal. There was a tendency to improvement in the early part of the season, but the great heat and drought of July and the unpromising outlook with regard to keep caused prices to fall again. Now that the rains have so much improved the prospects of the root crop, some recovery of prices may be looked for. Britford Fair, on Monday next, will be held under conditions that are certainly interesting and are likely to prove instructive. We again append to the reports from each county a table showing the estimates of the fluctuations in the prices of sheep which we have received from various correspondents. These are fewer than usual—a good many correspondents limiting themselves to the remark that prices are "disappointing" or "variable," or stating in some cases that they are about the same as those of last year.

With cereals generally under average, harvest conditions most unfavourable, prices for produce low, and labour scarce and dear, the agricultural outlook is by no means encouraging.—*Salisbury Journal.*

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—The ingathering of the harvest has been delayed by broken weather, and farmers apparently are not inclined to thrash extensively at current rates as they hope for an advance.

BELGIUM.—It is feared that the unseasonable weather will prevent wheat being saved in prime condition.

HOLLAND.—Wet and boisterous weather is causing uneasiness about the outstanding crops. The cutting of wheat and oats is retarded.

GERMANY.—Storms and rain have retarded the development of the crops, but conditions for harvest are now more favourable, and the prospects of a large yield of wheat keeps country markets quiet. Some of the new samples are very fine, but a few show signs of rust. Results of rye thrashing appear to be disappointing, but any strength that this might impart to local markets is counteracted by liberal offers from Russia.

ROUMANIA.—The harvest season has been very favourable this year, as here and there it has only been interrupted by rain for two or three days, so that but very little damage has accrued to the crops, while to maize the rain has been beneficial. Wheat has given a splendid crop, but barley is reported a poor yield, while oats have suffered from drought.

HUNGARY.—Thrashing results [illegible] new wheat is less satisfactory in quality than was expected. Rye is more satisfactory in [illegible]. Barley is of very varied quality, but good medium sorts are to be found. In southern provinces more than half of the crop is a failure and quite unfit for malting purposes. Oats [illegible] in good condition, but elsewhere they leave a poor impression in most districts.

RUSSIA.—Crop information [illegible] a favourable character, but new grain comes slowly and interior markets continue dull.

UNITED STATES.—The Commercial Bulletin says there is no radical change in the crop situation. There is a large area of [illegible] portion, which, however, is [illegible] by prospective rains. Otherwise [illegible] favourable.—*Dornbusch.*

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Old home grown wheat firmer and scarce. Fine white, 32s 6d; and good red, 31s 6d, 63lb delivered. Supplies of new are likely to be delayed for about a fortnight owing to the late heavy showers. American descriptions held for 6d advance, apart from accumulating stocks. Although the market for flour was again languishing, there were no signs of disconcern on the part of sellers, and quotations are generally 6d firmer since last Friday. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Grinding barley rather better, with Persian still supplying requirements—17s 9d ex ship to come up, 18s ex quay. Black Sea remains unobtainable. American oats also steadier in tone. Flat maize advanced 3d. Mixed American held for 19s 3d to 19s 6d ex ship, 20s ex quay. Round corn maintained.

Mark Lane, Friday.—English wheat was advanced 1s., the supply of old being now very small, and prospects of new become even more discouraging. Samples in condition are now not expected to be shown under about a month. Of the former fine white is held for 33s 6d, and red of similar quality 32s 6d per qr delivered up. Following the lead of wheat, flour again responded, and a fair consumptive business is understood to have been carried on yesterday. Grinding barley, on continued scarcity, retains its firmness, and the supply of Black Sea remains exhausted. Persian, 17s 9d ex ship to come up, and 18s ex quay. American, 22s ex quay, and wanted. The market for both American and Russian oats exhibited a distinctly better tendency. Maize was again advanced 3d., being 6d dearer since last Wednesday.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade very quiet all round at recent rates. White wheat made 31s to 32s; red ditto, 29s to 31s; grinding barley, 20s to 22s; white oats, 19s to 22s; black oats, 16s to 20s; mazagan beans, 30s to 32s; ticks, 31s to 33s; round maize, 26s to 27s; flat ditto, 22s to 23s per quarter. No change in flour.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—With small quantity on offer wheat ruled firm. All other articles unchanged. Wheat, 29s to 31s per quarter.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat red, 30s to 32s per qr; beans, 32s to 34s per qr; oats, 23s to 26s per qr. Very small show of old wheat, which is held for 1s 6d advance.

Boston, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance, but business was somewhat slow. There was an entire absence of grinding barley for the first time for many years. Wheat, 30s to 31s; oats, 23s to 24s; beans, 22s; maize, 21s 9d to 22s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been rather more trade since our last. As to-day's market, the attendance was very small. There was no English wheat offering. Foreign, 3d to 6d dearer. Maize 3d, and barley, 6d lower. Oats without change. Flour better inquiry and an advance is asked, but trade done is small.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been uneasy. Supplies of old are quite small, and no new crops come to market. Farmers are holding their samples above their value. At this market to-day prices, with fine weather, were 6d to 1s dearer. Old oats and beans were 6d dearer; no new offering. Wheat—Red, 30s to 32s; and white up to 32s per 504lb.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade steady. Small quantity of wheat offering, at slightly increased rates. Maize firmer. Closing quotations:—White wheat, 31s to 33s; red ditto, 30s to 32s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; white oats, 19s to 21s; ditto, black 19s to 21s; peas, 30s to 31s; tick beans, 30s to 32s; mazagans, 28s to 29s; flat maize, 21s 6d to 22s; round ditto, 26s to 27s per quarter.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day. Fair sale at unchanged prices, 22s to 23s 9d per 336lbs.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a good attendance, with slow trade passing in English grain. Old English wheat was 1d dearer. Old oats in good demand at 1d per bushel advance. Beans and barley steady. Indian corn firm at late rates. Quotations:—White wheat, 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 75lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb; old beans, 5s 5d to 5s 6d per 80lb; old oats, 2s 9d to 3s per 46lb. Indian corn, new, 11s to 11s 6d per 240lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was scarcely enough wheat at market to test prices, but the little offering sold at fully 6d to 1s per qr advance. A chance sample of new oats showing. Quality inferior to last year.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—With a moderately good offer of grain a much firmer tone pervaded the market. Business, however, was limited. English wheat very firm at last week's full prices. Foreign quiet, with an upward tendency. Grinding barley dull. Maize held for more money. Other feeding stuffs dull.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour firmer in tone, owing to higher cables from America. Indian corn dull, at a decline of about 3d per boll on the week. Barley and home oats firm. Oatmeal quiet, at an advance of 6d per sack. Bran and thirds firm, but unchanged. Other articles steady, and nominally unaltered.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Guildford, Saturday.—No new grain of any kind on the market, some few samples of old wheat selling from 30s to 32s 6d per qr.—LEGGATT, BLAKE, AND TYE.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Quiet market; no quotable change in English wheats; nothing done in barleys; oats firm, with a better tendency; maize 3d per quarter dearer on the week. Quotations: Wheat—white (per 62lb.), 3s 6d to 3s 10d; red, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; barley (per 56lb), 3s to 3s 9d; oats, (per 40lb), 2s 3d to 3s; beans (per 65½lb), 3s 10d to 4s; maize (per 60lb), 2s 8d to 3s 2d; vetches—winter, 4s to 6s; and spring 3s 6d to 5s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Small supply of wheat. Trade firm, at fully last week's rates. Reds, 28s to 29s 6d; white, 31s per qr. Grinding barley steady. Oats unaltered. Maize quiet. Peas and beans slow.

Leeds, Tuesday.—We have had exceedingly heavy rains since Friday, and the damage to the crops can be better imagined than described. Market very firm, but not by any means active, buyers having to pay 3d advance on all qualities. Maize and oats unchanged. Beans 3d dearer.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—There is a more active demand for all descriptions of wheat, and both English and foreign are the turn dearer than Tuesday's advanced prices. Beans and oats favour sellers to the extent of about 3d. Flour firmly held, with a rising tendency. No change in peas, barley, or maize.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance of buyers and dealers, with small supplies of wheat, which sold more freely at 31s to 33s 6d per 36 stones. Fine oats in good demand.

Lincoln, Friday.—Very few English wheats on offer; trade slow at an advance of 6d on the week. Reds, 29s to 30s; whites, 30s to 31s. Foreign wheats very firm. Oats made full money. Maize a trifle higher; beans and peas firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat steady, with a moderate trade at ½d per cental advance. Flour a quiet trade at Tuesday's prices. Maize has had a good demand at a full ½d advance over last market day. European firm, and ½d to 1d per cental higher, with a fair trade passing. River Plate exhausted. Barley meets with a better inquiry for malting at last market day's prices, whilst feeding passes steadily into consumption at ½d per cental improvement. Beans are firm and 9d higher owing to scarcity and a good demand. Peas are firm and held for 1d advance, but little doing. Oats have a good inquiry for English, and are very firmly held, and harder to buy at last market day's quotations. Oatmeal steady, but quiet. Oilcake firm, with a fair business doing.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Rather a small show of wheat to-day at the market; the trade is firm at fully last week's rates and an occasional 6d per qr advance realised. Barley is in fair demand, the cost for which is fully that of recent quotations. Oats are disposable at rather more money for English descriptions; common foreign tend to slightly lower prices than of late. No alteration in beans and peas. Maize sells freely well at about the figure of last week. We do not note change in value of tares, rye, hemp, brank, sergo or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat has been stiffer on account of the bad weather to some extent, and prices this morning show a rise on the week of about 6d per quarter; whilst foreign descriptions are 1d to 1½d per cental higher. Flour is dearer by 6d per sack. English oats are 1d per bushel higher; whilst beans are 6d per qr more money. Indian corn, owing to scarcity, has gained ½d per cental.

Newark, Wednesday.—Only a very small show of wheat, which made 6d a quarter more money. Beans were slightly dearer, and oats were sold at recent rates.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—There was only a moderate attendance at market to-day, but we must confess that in the business which transpired factors had the advantage. Wheat and flour closed firm all round. Barley, beans and peas 6d per quarter dearer. Maize not being plentiful held its own. Scotch oats point upward, and this alone strengthens the position of foreign lots in stock.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at our market to-day ruled firm, and advanced 6d per 504lbs over last Saturday's prices, maize favouring sellers. Beans and peas firm, and slightly dearer. Barley steady at late rates. Scotch oats advanced another 6d per 336lbs. Foreign steady. Flour 1s per sack dearer since last Saturday.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—Very small market; short supply of wheat. Demand not brisk, nevertheless it was 1s to 2s dearer on the week. Nothing else offering. White and red wheat, 30s to 33s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a smaller supply of wheat on offer to-day at a shilling per qr advance on the week. The weather of the past week has been extremely wet for the time of year, and bright sunshine is now of the greatest importance, as harvest has already commenced. Wheat, red, 30s to 31s per qr, weight 63lbs per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending August 6, 1900:—Wheat, 3,726.3, 28s 8d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat small supply, and made 6d to 1s advance. Grinding barley, steady trade at full rates. Oats and beans poor show, and each 6d higher.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Quiet market. Little wheat offering, making about 6d more money on the week. White, 31s to 32s; red, 30s.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Harvest work has been practically suspended during the week by wet weather, for we have had no new corn showing to-day. For the few samples of old wheat on offer rather more money was paid, and spring corn made full prices.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat is somewhat firmer, while barley, maize, and oats remain unchanged. The weather is still unsettled, and a little fine weather would be greatly appreciated by the farmers.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—Wheat came to hand in very small quantity to-day, as wet weather has prevented the preparation of new grain, and old stocks are running short; business showed a slight advance, and the quotations must be recorded as 1s per qr ahead of those of last market. Wheat made 30s to 34s per qr. Other corn sold slowly.

Ripon, Thursday.—Slight demand for English wheat, otherwise no material alteration. Moderate attendance. Wheat, English, 29s to 30s; ditto, foreign, 31s to 35s; barley, grinding, 24s to 25s; oats, 22s to 25s; round maize, 25s to 27s; flat maize, 23s per qr; beans, 11½d per stone; bran, £4 10s to £5 per ton.

Romford, Wednesday.—Owing to the continued wet weather the wheat trade showed an advance of 6d per qr. There was a very small supply. Red wheat made 31s to 32s, and white wheat 31s to 33s per qr.

Salisbury, Tuesday.—There was a short supply of all grain at to-day's market, and wheat advanced 1s to 1s 6d per qr. Oats and beans were firm, at last week's prices. The quotations were:—Wheat, 30s to 33s per qr; oats, 18s to 24s; beans, 32s to 38s; and rye, 28s to 30s.

Scarborough, Thursday.—Small attendance, and business very slack. Wheat, 30s; black oats, 20s to 21s 6d; white oats, 22s to 23s 6d.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was only a small attendance, owing to the holidays. Trade was not very brisk in English wheat, while foreign wheat was firm at full prices. Oats and beans 3d per qr. dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d; ditto red, 32s to 33s per 504lb; oats, old white, 24s; ditto old black, 22s per 335lb; peas, grinding, 28s to 29s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small, 27s to 30s; ditto American mixed, 22s 6d to 23s per 480lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—The rain which fell from the 5th to the 10th instant inflicted much injury upon the grain crops—especially to oats and barley—for a large percentage of the corn cut and bound up by self-binding machines has become grown and matted together, and will be fit only for pig feed. It is saddening to walk through heavy crops and to find them in this state. Fortunately not more than a sixth part of the grain in this district has yet been cut, so it is hoped that the remaining and larger portion may escape the more serious injury. Wheat as a rule stands well, and but little of it has yet been reaped. Root crops and pastures have derived much good from the wet weather. The supply of grain on the local markets has been small and trade has continued to be slow at unchanged prices. Flour has been steady. Millers' offals have moved freely at former quotations.—W. L. BROWNE AND CO.

Spalding, Tuesday. — A small market, owing to Bank Holiday. Slow trade for wheat, which sold at 29s to 29s 6d per qr. Oats were very firm, at 21s to 21s 6d. Good beans firm at 32s 6d to 33s. Not much doing in peas. Other articles unchanged in value.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Few samples of English wheat showing, which made 30s per qr. The trade in foreign wheat was stronger, owing to the possible effect of the bad weather upon the crops, and holders, in view of the fact that millers were buying more freely, were asking 6d to 9d per qr more money. Oats and maize unaltered in price.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Wheat, 6d to 1s per qr dearer. Oats in sellers' favour. Barley unchanged. Arrivals coastwise: nil; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—The market was quite of a holiday character, the farmers taking advantage of the fine weather to stay at home harvesting.

Wakefield, Friday.—Since our last report, we have had a week of continuous rain, and crops will doubtless be much damaged. To-day at our market, we quote foreign wheat fully 6d per qr dearer on the week. Supplies of English wheat being small the prices asked prevent business. Feeding stuffs 3d per qr dearer all round.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—The weather continues wet and unsettled, placing the English crops in serious jeopardy. Foreign limits for wheat have been raised materially since a week ago. Holders on this side naturally raising their pretensions, and though millers are slow to respond, an advance of 6d to 9d per qr is generally conceded. Maize, beans, and oats 3d dearer.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Small attendance at market. Wheat very scarce, and 1s dearer. Red, 31s; white, 32s. Other articles unchanged.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A small attendance, and little business transacted. English wheat, 13s per 216lb, springs 6s 4d, and Duluths 6s 6d to 6s 7d per cental; oats, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; beans (new), 13s to 14s; ditto (old), 15s 6d to 16s per 196lb; flat maize, 21s 6d to 22s 3d per 480lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very small attendance, and not much doing. White wheat, 29s to 31s; red wheat, 28s to 29s; grinding barey, 26s to 28s; white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 20s to 22s; flat maize, 24s to 26s; round maize, 26s to 27s 6d per qr.

York, Saturday.—Farmers offer very few samples of wheat, and prices remain unchanged. The following are the quotations: Fine white, 30s to 31s.; red and mixed 29s 30s 6d per qr of 36 stones. Feeding barley, 24s to 28s per qr of 32 stones. Oats firm; white Tartary, 19s to 20s; black 20s to 22s; short oats, 21s to 23s per qr of 24 stones. Rye 8d to 8½d per lb; beans 10½d to 11d per lb.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has been quiet, but prices have been well maintained. The harvest has now reached an advanced stage in the west and east of France; the grain is good, and the ears are well filled. Rather more activity has been observed upon the wheat markets of the Lyons district and the southern departments; threshing operations are now well advanced in many districts, and samples of new wheat are beginning to make their appearance somewhat freely. The samples offered have been generally of good quality, but farmers have not been able to overcome the dull tone which has prevailed. An advance of 2½d per quintal has been noted for the best descriptions of wheat at Paris, but business has remained generally inactive. Flour for consumption has shown little change in the French capital. Disposable wheat has remained without variation at Dantzic. The Konigsberg wheat market has been quiet. Wheat has shown considerable dulness at Odessa in sympathy with the weak advices received from the United States. The quantity of wheat now *en route* for Europe is 1,315,000 qr, as compared with 1,415,000 qr at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,315,000 qr, representing the quantity of wheat now *en route* for the Continent, is made up as follows:—France, 85,000 qr; Belgium, 430,000 qr; Holland, 395,000 qr; Germany and the North, 255,300 qr; and Italy, Spain, etc., 150,000 qr.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report: The weather has been more settled at the beginning of the week, but since a great deal of rain has fallen, greatly interfering with harvest work. Cutting is quite general now in our principal barley-growing districts, and with fine weather harvest will be finished in about a fortnight. The samples shown so far of new Saale and Bohemian were generally of fine quality, plump in corn and of a tender lemon colour. Offers have hardly appeared, but for choice lots holders point to high prices.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday.—We have rainy weather interfering with harvest work and impairing the quality of the unsecured crops. The imports during the week amounted to 3,957 tons wheat, 1,624 tons rye, 1,309 tons barley, 8,782 tons maize. Red Holstein, Saal, and Mecklenburg wheats meet a slow sale at 28s 6d to 30s per 504lb f.o.b. Fine River Plate is held at 26s 9d to 28s 9d; Hard Winter, No. 2, new crop, August, at 28s per 480lb c.i.f., Hamburg. Rye in better demand and dearer; 9 10-15 South Russian August-September is selling at 22s 3d per 480lb c.i.f., Hamburg. Offers of new barley are scarce as yet, and high prices asked. Fine Moravian Slovakian is held at 36s to 40s; fine Saale has been sold at 40s to 41s per 448lb f.o.b. For a lot of fine Bohemian 37s 6d was bid, 39s 6d wanted. Choice lots not yet offering. The yield in Hungary and in some parts of Austria is estimated 20 to 30 per cent. below last year's growth, while in Germany a good average is expected. Quality still depends upon the weather, considerable quantities being still in the fields. Feeding barley in better demand; 60-61 Ko. South Russian, August shipment, is selling at 17s 3d per 400lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed maize prompt in fair demand, and selling at 19s 9d; while October-December is offering at 18s 6d to 18s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

August 2 to 11, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	115,077 qrs.
Flour	77,000 ,,
Total	192,077 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Surplus	86,077 ,,

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

August 2nd to 11th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	3,316	..	..	111,761	115,077
Barley	451	..	..	378	829
Malt	25,428	878	..	..	26,306
Oats	97	..	..	101,993	102,090
Rye	..	..	..	..	..
Beans	398	..	..	726	1,124
Peas	7	..	..	4,754	4,761
Maize	..	..	..	22,080	22,080
Tares	..	..	..	..	..
Lentils	..	..	..	..	..
Linseed	..	..	..	11,835	11,835
Rapeseed	..	..	..	10,603	10,603
Cottonseed	..	..	..	..	..
Farm Seeds	400	..	..	477	877
Flour { Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	..	..	..	..	..

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.

Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	Apr. 29	63,573 qrs.
,, 14	108,380 ,,	May 6	96,343 ,,
,, 21	128,062 ,,	,, 13	72,852 ,,
,, 28	51,234 ,,	,, 20	104,429 ,,
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	,, 27	108,772 ,,
,, 11	82,912 ,,	June 3	75,846 ,,
,, 18	204,974 ,,	,, 10	126,781 ,,
,, 25	108,273 ,,	,, 17	160,574 ,,
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,	,, 24	101,205 ,,
,, 11	63,103 ,,	July 1	152,500 ,,
,, 18	122,541 ,,	,, 8	112,761 ,,
,, 25	86,309 ,,	,, 15	116,850 ,,
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	,, 22	89,245 ,,
,, 8	133,261 ,,	,, 29	118,314 ,,
,, 15	101,518 ,,	Aug. 5	104,234 ,,
,, 22	70,984 ,,	,, 12	102,160 ,,

1900.			1900.		
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.		Apr. 27	43,783 qrs.	
,, 13	95,064	,,	May 4	104,535	,,
,, 20	114,928	,,	,, 11	52,859	,,
,, 27	124,652	,,	,, 18	97,412	,,
Feb. 3	70,835	,,	,, 25	71,390	,,
,, 10	75,000	,,	,, 31	177 744	,,
,, 17	66,804	,,	June 8	93,147	,,
,, 24	62,191	,,	,, 15	88,125	,,
Mar. 3	79,976	,,	,, 22	103,116	,,
,, 10	63,702	,,	,, 29	142,185	,,
,, 17	162,985	,,	July 6	132,350	,,
,, 24	111,409	,,	,, 13	101,253	,,
,, 31	69,356	,,	,, 20	82,291	,,
April 7	48,302	,,	,, 27	55,908	,,
,, 13	131,085	,,	Aug. 2	86,167	,,
,, 20	82,357	,,	,, 11	192,077	,,

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
1899.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
July 22 ..	46,159½	25	6	168⅞	21	10	4,866¾	18	0
,, 29 ..	41,692⅝	25	2	257⅞	22	5	4,240	18	2
Aug. 5 ..	51,149⅞	24	10	246½	20	9	6,645⅝	18	0
,, 12 ..	37,177½	24	8	184½	22	6	5,554⅜	17	9
,, 19 ..	33,399⅝	24	7	437⅞	26	11	6,120⅜	17	4
,, 26 ..	34,523¼	24	7	1,594¼	26	5	9,205⅝	17	1
Sept. 2 ..	47,572⅜	25	0	6,709⅜	25	10	15,958⅞	16	7
,, 9 ..	67,996¾	25	5	17,408¼	26	5	16,195	16	6
,, 16 ..	80,281⅜	25	4	33,143⅜	25	1	19,291¼	16	2
,, 23 ..	85,104⅜	25	4	77,678⅜	27	4	22,123	16	1
,, 30 ..	79,612⅜	25	6	97,917⅜	26	11	23,193	16	5
Oct 7 ..	71,152⅜	26	0	169,315½	28	0	21,440⅝	16	5
,, 14 ..	63,010⅜	27	3	191,901⅜	27	9	18,024¼	16	5
,, 21 ..	64,242	28	2	192,268½	27	6	18,983⅛	16	10
,, 28 ..	85,178⅛	28	1	219,75[illegible]			20,064¼	16	3
Nov. 4 ..	82,769¼	27	2	203,071⅜	27	2	17,895⅛	16	7
,, 11 ..	66,741⅜	26	7	166 786⅜	26	9	15,216⅜	16	5
,, 18 ..	65,470⅛	26	1	163,915⅞	26	4	16,313¼	16	7
,, 25 ..	67,308⅛	25	8	164,362¾	26	2	17,047¼	16	7
Dec. 2 ..	72,974⅜	25	7	163,441⅜	25	10	22,575½	16	
,, 9 ..	10,982⅛	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421⅞	16	
,, 16 ..	78,772½	25	4	135,344⅜	25	7	22,889⅛	16	
,, 23 ..	67,102⅜	25	6	116,757⅜	25	10	16,147⅜	16	0
,, 30 ..	47,685¼	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,463⅜	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6 ..	40,086	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅜	16	2
,, 13 ..	57,021⅜	25	11	83,421⅜	25	5	19,703	16	3
,, 20 ..	68,463¼	26	0	100,925¼	25	8	23,122⅜	16	2
,, 27 ..	65,381¼	25	10	108,357⅜	25	9	17,814⅜	16	4
Feb. 3 ..	73,796⅜	25	8	90,769¼	25	4	22,061¼	16	6
,, 10 ..	71,482¼	25	10	80,543⅝	25	3	20,822¼	16	5
,, 17 ..	76,611⅜	26	1	80,414⅞	24	11	20,986⅜	16	8
,, 24 ..	69,534⅛	26	3	63,931⅜	25	1	21,132⅜	16	11
Mar. 3 ..	68,153⅛	26	4	51,727¼	24	6	18,499¼	16	10
,, 10 ..	58,703⅛	25	11	44,921⅛	24	8	16,224	16	11
,, 17 ..	76,435⅝	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,104⅞	16	11
,, 24 ..	69,944¼	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042⅜	17	1
,, 31 ..	72,762	25	10	34,387¼	24	11	15,200⅜	17	0
April 7 ..	67,743⅜	25	10	20,402⅝	24	10	13,757⅛	17	2
,, 14 ..	66,412⅛	25	11	19,519⅜	24	5	9,672⅜	17	8
,, 21 ..	54 977⅜	26	0	11,673⅜	24	9	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28 ..	70,006¼	26	0	7,785⅜	25	2	11,101⅛	17	11
May 5 ..	75,410⅛	25	11	8,159½	25	3	8,658¼	18	0
,, 12 ..	82,190⅞	25	11	10,417⅛	24	10	12,245½	17	11
,, 19 ..	83,941⅜	25	7	5,638⅜	24	5	9,942	18	5
,, 26 ..	95,574⅜	25	5	3,521⅛	23	11	7,350⅞	18	2
June 2 ..	68,906⅜	25	5	1,752⅞	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9 ..	64 747⅛	25	3	990⅜	23	8	6 053⅞	18	8
,, 16 ..	55,340⅜	25	6	1,486⅞	23	8	7,228⅛	18	11
,, 23 ..	54,324⅛	25	9	1,312½	23	5	5,344¼	18	11
,, 30 ..	44,920⅜	26	11	495⅜	23	4	4,706⅛	19	3
July 7 ..	34,344⅜	27	10	486⅜	22	10	4,391⅛	19	5
,, 14 ..	22,009¼	28	7	949¼	23	2	2,911⅛	19	1
,, 21 ..	26,716⅜	29	0	767⅛	23	8	3,771⅛	19	3
,, 28 ..	33,088	29	3	194¼	24	4	3,335⅜	19	9
Aug. 4 ..	45,748⅜	28	10	409½	23	10	3,453⅜	19	4
,, 11 ..	37,644⅜	28	7	311⅛	23	7	3,391	19	8

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	July 7.	July 14.	July 21.	July 28.	Aug. 4.	Aug. 11.
29s. 3d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
29s. 0d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 10d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 7d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
27s. 10d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
26s. 0d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
25s. 11d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
25s. 9d...	..	..	..	..	..	..

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
	s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.	
1890 ..	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891 ..	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892 ..	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893 ..	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894 ..	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895 ..	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896 ..	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897 ..	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898 ..	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899 ..	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1899.			1900		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	..	..	..
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	..	..	..
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Aug. 4th, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria cap. 37.

Wheat	45,748⅜ qrs.	28s. 10d.
Barley	409½ qrs.	23s. 10d.
Oats	3,453⅜ qrs.	19s. 4d.

For the week ending August 11, 1900.

Wheat	37,644⅜ qrs.	28s. 7d.
Barley	311⅛ qrs.	23s. 7d.
Oats	3,391 qrs.	19s. 8d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Aug. 4th, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899

Years.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	19,184	23	6	333½	19	5	4,302½	14	9
1897....	48,875¼	29	5	897¼	17	9	2,213⅜	18	11
1898....	10,809⅜	35	7	110¼	26	11	2,744⅛	20	7
1899..	51,149⅜	24	10	246½	20	9	6,645⅜	18	0

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Aug 11, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899

Years.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	38,488½	22	11	88⅞	21	1	6,518½	14	6
1897....	45,933⅜	29	8	520½	19	0	3,[illegible]	17	4
1898....	11,469	33	8	143¼	27	5	4,154	20	9
1899....	37,177½	24	8	184½	22	6	5,554⅜	17	9

LONDON AVERAGES

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 7th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure.		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	752	1	1,098	0	1	1	9	2
Barley	105	3	129	9	0	1	4	4
Oats	150	6	144	0	0	0	19	1

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	208,000	184,000	427,000	16,000	103,000
Russia	180,000	—	8,000	47,000	386,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary ..	—	8,000	—	—	—
Roumania	54,000	—	10,000	—	—
Argentina	133,000	8,000	137,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia ..	—	12,000	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ..	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	595,000	217,000	602,000	83,000	399,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

		s.	d.
January 1, 1900	(per sack)	28	0
April 2, ,,	,,	27	0
June 22, ,,	,,	30	0
,, 27, ,,	,,	31	0
July 4, ,,	,,	30	0

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900.		1899.		1898.		1897.		1896.		1895.		1894.		1893.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan. ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	..	..	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	..	..	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	..	..	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov. ..	..	..	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..	..	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..	..	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900.		1899.		1898.		1897.		1896.		1895.		1894.		1893.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	9¾	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June ..	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July ..	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	..	..	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	..	..	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	..	..	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	..	..	24	3	30	8	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec. ..	..	..	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Av'rage	..	..	26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICE CHANGES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1899.

	London Whites.			Town Households.		
		s.	d.		s.	d.
September 1.....	(per sack)	26	6	(per sack)	23	6
,, 4.....	,,	26	0	,,	23	0
,, 25.....	,,	26	6	,,	23	6
October 2.....	,,	27	0	,,	24	0
November 20.....	,,	26	6	,,	23	6
,, 27.....	,,	26	0	,,	23	0
December 11.....	,,	25	6	,,	22	6
,, 18.....	,,	26	0	,,	23	0
May 14.....	,,	25	6	,,	22	6
June 18.....	,,	26	0	,,	23	0
,, 20.....	,,	26	6	,,	23	6
,, 25.....	,,	28	6	,,	25	6
,, 27.....	,,	29	6	,,	26	6
July 2.....	,,	29	0	,,	26	0
,, 16.....	,,	28	6	,,	25	6
,, 23.....	,,	28	0	,,	25	0

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Only moderate supplies were offered and met a general improvement in trade. Quotations :—Fowls : Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 3s ; Essex, 2s 3d to 2s 9d ; Sussex, 2s 6d to 3s ; Surrey, 2s 9d to 3s 6d ; Boston, 3s 3d to 2s 6d ; Welsh, 1s 9d to 2s 3d ; Irish, 1s 6d to 2s ; goslings, 4s 6d to 5s 6d ; quail, 1s to 1s 4d ; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s ; feathered, 9d to 1s 1d ; wild rabbits, 5d to 6d each ; Australian, 8s 6d to 10s per dozen ; venison haunches, 18s to 22s each ; ditto forequarters, 4d per lb.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon : There has been an improvement in the consumptive demand and trade is more buoying, especially for Irish cuts, there is more confidence generally, with a better tendency. We quote Canadian Cumberland cut, 26s to 27s ; lin to 14s ; 32lb to 34lb Ards to 14s ; long middles, 24lb to 28lb, 14s to 14s 6d ; short middles, 14lb to 16lb, 13s 6d to 14s ; 20lb to 24lb, 13s to 13s 6d ; clear bellies, 14lb to 16lb, 13s 6d to 14s ; 20lb to 20lb, 40s to 45s ; Staffordshire cut (lean on), 35lb to 40lb, and Birmingham cuts, 30s to 35s ; 40s to 45s ; cured shoulders (lean off), 24lb to 40lb, and Yorkshires, 30s to 32s ; 40s to 44s ; singed Wiltshire Cheshire cuts

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Unsettled weather has prevailed since August came in, and but little progress has been made with harvest work. The grain was not ripe enough for the wind to cause much loss, but there has been a large increase in the area of lodged and twisted corn, with the result that more hand and less machine labour will be required. The wheat crop continues to be placed by trustworthy judges at 29 bushels; the statement of a well-known daily that the magnificent July only improved it by 1·3 per cent. is against all evidence of sight and experience. That the crop is 9·2 per cent. under an average is also regarded at Mark Lane as pessimism, for taking 30 bushels as an average, 9 per cent. of a crop would be 27·24 bushels to the acre. The barley has, like the wheat, been a good deal knocked about since August came in, but we fancy oats have gained more from the frequent showers than they lost by the passing gales. We do not think that potatoes in Great Britain have suffered injury from such fall of rain as there has been, but in Ireland the rains have been of a flooding description, and serious results are certain over vast areas of low-lying land. There is plenty of labour in Ireland, but there seems much difficulty in getting it across the Channel this season. The Government in harvest time might profitably assist the rural classes of both islands by a cheap, if not gratuitous, "ferry," for it is a dead loss to the whole nation when crops go off for want of timely harvesting.

The markets since the 7th have been firmer—in fact, trade resumed in earnest about the 8th, with more buying at Mark Lane in the south and Glasgow in the north, while on Thursday Bristol was active in the west, and on Friday Liverpool was strong for maize as well as for wheat. The country markets on Saturday showed that old wheat and oats were held for 6d. to 1s. more money.

The imports of the week have been as follows:—

Wheat, 282,000 qrs.; a good supply.
Flour, 191,000 sks.; a large supply.
Maize, 338,250 qrs.; a colossal supply.
Barley, 8,450 qrs.; a very small supply.
Oats, 187,000 qrs.; a liberal supply.

The stocks of foreign week in our granaries on August 11 were estimated at 2,390,000 qrs.

The quantity of wheat at present on passage comprises the following items:—

	Qrs.
Russian	110,000
Californian	905,000
American	195,000
Argentine	460,000
Australasian	205,000
All other countries	9,000
Total	1,884,000
A year ago	2,270,000
Two years since	1,610,000

The quantity of flour on passage thus compares with the two preceding years:—

	Sacks.
1900	360,000
1899	395,000
1898	280,000

The quantities of spring corn on passage thus compare with the two previous seasons:—

	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Beans. Qrs.
1900	810,000	170,000	9,000
1899	820,000	195,000	13,000
1898	695,000	125,000	8,150

No totals of oats on passage are published, but the quantity is believed to be much above the average. There are 12,000 qrs. of peas on passage from Canada.

The following revised return of July exports of grain from the chief shipping countries shows how large a part Argentina is still playing:—

July Shipments.	America.	Russia.	Argentina.
Wheat, qrs.	679,000	774,000	889,000
Flour, sacks	641,000	10,000	24,000
Maize, qrs.	1,348,000	66,000	399,000
Barley „	109,000	146,000	—
Oats „	376,000	865,000	—
Linseed „	—	35,000	26,000

America is the chief shipper of maize and Russia of oats, but in the barley trade there is a fairly equal competition between America and Russia, and in linseed there is a tolerably close rivalry between Russia and Argentina.

The large imports of maize from 1st to 11th August and the heavy shipments from America during July have not made that staple by any means a drug in the market, and the buoyancy of business extends to maize meal and maize germ meal. The latter disguises itself under the names of hominy and hominy feed, sometimes as Indian corn feed, or simply corn feed. By all these means it infringes equally on the trade in meal made from English cereals. The Argentine maize crop does not come forward very briskly; it is said that the U.S.A. maize undersells Argentine value for value, and certainly we should find it difficult to tell a buyer why he should pay 22s. for Argentine when he can get American for a sovereign per qr. The small round corn is "another story"; this is vendable for many feeding purposes where the flat corn is not used. There is, however, a small pearly type of maize grown in Canada which should meet many purposes of the round corn from Russia.

London flour prices range from 30s. per top price to 22s. for the second grade of household flour. The greatest bulk of business done is in a mixture of one-third town whites at 27s. and two-thirds Town Households at 24s. per sack. The loaf made from this flour costs the baker 25s. per sack, as, the quartern loaf being at 5d., he can afford to supply and deliver the bread. The price does not allow much margin for credit, but three months is the ordinary limit anywhere in the West End to private customers. The long credit prices of the London Flour Millers' Association represent terms to restaurants and hotels of the first class, and to the largest consumers generally. Hungarian flour holds its own in London, and 30s. is paid for "marks" not quite the very best. The flour is very fine colour, flavour, and quality, but its use for the soldiers in South Africa (the Government have recently been buying largely for that purpose) is to be deprecated, as it is less nutritious than the ordinary London loaf.

Yorkshire prices for flour go by four steps of a florin each from 24s. to 18s. per sack. This is not a law of the Medes and Persians, but it stands for a working basis generally recognised. For 24s. the best flour can be bought so far as purely bread-making purposes are concerned. The finest pastry flour would be 8s. higher, but the profits on fancy pastry are so high that the wisest confectioner is he who gives the highest quality. The ordinary good household bread of Yorkshire is made from flour at about 22s. per sack. The better class customers get a loaf half of 24s. and half of 22s. flour, which costs the baker 23s. per sack, and at 5d. per quartern loaf, pays a fairly good profit even when delivery and credit are borne in mind. Bakers' best flour at 20s. is perfectly wholesome and nutritious. The "saving" is in colour and mixture of a certain small quantity of bran, but if the doctor is consulted he will probably say that this is, from a hygienic standpoint, the best flour of all. The lowest grade, at 18s. per sack, is not what bakers willingly supply as bread, but there are always buyers who must have credit and cheapness combined. Even these do not get unwholesome bread at present prices.

THE BALTIC.

The cargo trade in wheat has gained in strength from the interruption to harvest work in Great Britain, France, and Germany. From America, however, hot and fine weather is reported, and the spring wheat is being reaped under favourable conditions. Prices made for wheat cargoes since Wednesday have included 31s. 6d. for Californian, 29s. 3d. for Walla Walla, 30s. 3d. for Blue Stem, 31s 6d. for fine Australian, 30s. for New Zealand, 29s. for La Plata, 30s. for fine new Roumanian, 30s. for North Russian, and 31s. 3d. for No. 1 Northern Spring American. The new old winter wheat, American crop of 1900, is offered at 30s., with buyers at 29s. 3d. At present trade is inert, but the next week's weather will probably decide which of the two parties is to give way.

Maize is 3d. per qr. dearer on the ten days for all cargoes, but flat and round sorts sell better at the rise than do Argentine cargoes. American have made 18s. 9d., and 19s. is now asked. Odessa have made 23s. 9d. per qr. Barley cargoes are firm for futures. There is scarcely anything obtainable for delivery in August. For October shipment from the Sea of Azoff 18s. 3d. is paid, and Persia offers September shipments at 17s. per qr. Oats are firmly held, but there are so many cargoes on passage that many buyers are preferring to wait. Since Wednesday, however, 15s. 6d. has been paid for Canadians, 18s. 3d. for Petersburg, and 13s. for Archangel. Other sales include Smyrna beans at 28s. 6d., Calcutta linseed at 51s., and Roumanian rapeseed at 41s. 3d. per qr.

Arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports of call from August 2 to 11 were 1 wheat (Rosario).

The sailings of grain and seed laden vessels from ports of call for the week were 13 wheat (3 Bristol, 1 Fleetwood, 1 Gloucester, 2 Hull, 2 London, 1 Liverpool, 1 Manchester, 1 Newcastle, 1 Waterford); 1 barley (Ipswich); total 14.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been 224 wheat, 13 wheat and barley, 6 flour, 7 locust beans, 1 linseed, 2 canary-seed, 5 valonea; 10 maize, 1 maize and oats, 23 barley, 14 beans, total, 306.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 195 wheat, 9 flour, 3 maize, 6 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 6 beans, 1 locust beans, 5 linseed, 4 canary-seed, and 7 valonea: total, 238.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[First Report.]

No new English wheat, barley, or oats are on offer, but new rye is in evidence; 28s. is made. New winter tares are quoted 52s. per quarter. new trilium is at 31s. per cwt. These are the only, or at least, the chief, offerings of new crops grown in this country and shown at Mark Lane to-day. There are some samples of new Dutch linseed at 63s. per quarter, of new French trifolium at 30s. per cwt., but no new wheat, barley, or oats are to hand from France or Central Europe. The hot weather made trade slow at Mark Lane for stocks, and this told against foreign wheat with especial force; none the less, value is 6d. better on the fortnight to sell, and 1s. rise is often asked. The maize market is 6d. to 9d. up on the fortnight. Barley is neglected, oats are slow at currencies. Some Smyrna millet made 38s., some Saffi canaryseed made 33s. 6d., and some La Plata Sorghum 23s. 6d. per quarter.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Aug. 13, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	31	— 33
Red	„	30	— 32
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30	— 37
Brewing	„	25	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	„	36	— 38
Brown	„	29	— 32
OATS, English	„	19	— 23
Scotch		22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 19
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	„	43	— 45
„ Winter	„	30	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
„ Blue (boiling)	„	68	— 76
„ Dun	„	32	— 34
„ Maple	„	40	— 42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	33/6	—34
American Spring	33	—33/3
„ Winter	32/6	—33
Hard Manitoba	33	—33/3
White Canadian	32	— 33
Red „	31	— 32
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30	— 31
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 31
Argentine	28	— 31
Danzig	33	— 34
Saxonka	32	— 33
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Persian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480lb.:		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Roumanian	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 25
Caucasian	22	— 23
Argentine	21	— 22
American	20	—20/3
OATS:		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	16/6	—17
American (320lb.)		
„ White	16/6	—17
„ Mixed	15/3	—16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	— 17
„ (304lb.)	13/6	—15
Libau, white (304lb.)	13	—13/9
„ black „	15	—15/3
White Sea (304 lb.)	14	— 15
BEANS, per 480lb.:		
Egyptian	29	— 30
Smyrna	28	— 29
BEANS (*continued*).		
Konigsberg	28	— 29
Barbary	27	— 28
Mexican	28	— 30
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Cyprian	106	— 112
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	29	— 30
Indian, White	28	— 30
„ Green	25	— 27
Barbary	26	— 28
Australian, White	40	— 41
„ Dun	26	— 27
LENTILS, per 504 lb.:		
Egyptian	29	— 31
Indian	36	— 38
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	26	— 27
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb.:		
French	28	— 29
Russian	25	— 26
BARLEY:		
Calif. Chev. (448 lb.)	28	— 29
Calif. Brew. (448 lb.)	27	— 28
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 24
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Syrian (400 lb.)	25	— 27
Persian (400 lb.)	17/9	—18
American (400 lb.)	20/3	—21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	34	— 37
Smyrna	33	— 36

OIL SEEDS

Linseed. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	56	to 60
Dutch	55	to 59
Argentine	54	to 56
Canadian	57	to 59
Russian	51	to 53
Calcutta	54	to 55
Sesame. per 424lb.		
Bombay	50	to 52
Kurrachee	53	to 54
Cotton Seed. per ton.		
Egyptian	126	to 128

Rapeseed. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	55	to 57
Dutch	52	to 54
French	47	to 48
Cawnpore (yellow)	46	to 47
„ (brown)	43	to 44
Calcutta (brown)	43	to 44
Guzerat	48	to 49
Ferozepore	44	to 45
Ravison	29	to 31
Poppyseed. per 377lb.		
Indian	47	to 48

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

The market closed weak wherever it was necessary to clear grain, but the American Bureau Report strengthened the resolution of the numerous wealthy importers, who are holding with confidence for a Sep. rise in the leading sorts of wheat.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Aug. 13.

The top price remains at 30s. per sack, but Town Households can be bought for 24s., and good country flour is obtainable at 22s. per sack. The sale of Town Whites is small, but 26s. is paid, and sometimes 27s. where some credit is expected. Foreign flour is kept a quiet trade by large offers. Pillsburg and finest spring wheat flour was held for 26s.; "Gold Medal," Morrison's, and Washburn's for the same. Briggs's patent Chicago flour at 24s. had buyers, while the Milwaukee brand named after Lord Rosebery was in request at 24s. 6d. Kansas flour made 24s. per "dazzle." French flour was firm at currencies. Some Australian fetched 22s. 6d. per sack. Hungarian flour realised 30s. for "Five Arrows," 31s. for "Victoria Empress." Fine flour made in England by Hungarian process was quite 28s. per sack.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)		— 30
Town Whites	,,		— 27
,, Households	,,		— 24
No 2.	,,		— 22

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	25	— 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23	— 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	21	— 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	20	— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25	—25/6
,, Second Patents	,,	23	—23/6
,, First Bakers'	,,	20/6	—21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19/6	—20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	24	—24/6
,, Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Kansas Patents	,,	24	—24/6
Cascadia	,,	23/6	—24
Canadian	,,	23	— 25
Hungarian	,,	28	— 31
French	,,	19	— 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	178	—180
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	109	—111
Bran, London Broad	,,	97	—102
,, ,, Fine	,,	76	— 82
,, Country Flake	,,	106	—108
,, ,, Broad	,,	94	— 96
Pollard	,,	82	— 84
Fine Middlings	,,	110	—112
Coarse Middlings	,,	96	— 98
Oat Meal	,,	212	—272
Oat Flour	,,	337	—362
Maize Flour	,,	130	—132
Maize Meal	,,	112	—122
Maize Cones	,,	142	—146
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	96	— 100
Pea Meal	,,	128	—158
Bean Meal	,,	152	—172
Rice Meal	,,	87	— 92

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day at South Sea House, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

Wheat.—		Aug.	Oct.	Dec.
		s. d.	s d.	s. d.
Aug. 7	noon	.. 6 7	.. 6 8	.. 6 9
	4 p.m.	.. 6 7	.. 6 8	.. 6 9
Aug. 8	noon	.. 6 7	.. 6 8	.. 6 9
	4 p.m.	.. 6 7	.. 6 8	.. 6 9
Aug. 9	noon	.. 6 7	.. 6 8	.. 6 9
	4 p.m.	.. 6 7	.. 6 8	.. 6 9
Aug. 10	noon	.. 6 7	.. 6 9	.. 6 10
	4 p.m.	.. 6 7	.. 6 9	.. 6 9
Aug. 11	noon	.. 6 7	.. 6 8	.. 6 9
To-day	noon	.. 6 6	.. 6 7	.. 6 8

Maize futures have made 4s. per cental for Sept. and Oct. delivery. For Aug. delivery 4s. 1d. has to be paid.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland the last two weeks were 5,468 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 19,899 bales bacon. There was a marked improvement in the demand for bacon, and this, coupled with a slight diminution in supply, caused a very strong market, and prices generally were quoted 4s dearer for Irish and Continental. Canadian also found a better sale, and was quoted some 2s dearer. Irish, 60s, 68s, to 72s; Continental, 54s, 64s, up to 72s; Canadian, 50s to 56s up to 60s. The butter market was firm, with an upward tendency and a good demand. Danish, 116s. 118s, occasionally 120s; Irish, 98s to 110s; Canadian, 102s to 106s; French, 94s to 114s. Lard a quiet market, with no change in prices.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: The damage done by the wet and cold weather shows up more now that we have some sunshine and the bruised burr is drying up and dropping off, and the prospect to-day is certainly for rather less than half of last year.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour: With a return of fine weather, trade has ruled slow to-day at last Wednesday's prices, the intermediate advance having been lost.—T. S. Medill, Mark Lane.

All milling offals are scarce, and this applies to town-made middlings especially, being sold for the next fourteen days delivery, and prices are high. Bran is in small demand, but price is maintained, quantities offering being limited. Rangoon rice meal is a good substitute at reasonable figures.—Richard Doggett, Mark Lane.

The storms of last week and the publication of the American Bureau report, which might have been expected to strengthen the market, have had scarcely any influence on prices, which remain practically unaltered. Maize 1½d. down on the week. Barley unchanged. Oats unaltered. Flour quiet and without change.—W. P. Wood and Co, Mark Lane.

Offals: The demand continues to improve, especially for the better classes of bran. Rainfall abnormal. Over five inches have fallen in the North of Ireland during nine days. Potatoes, oats, and hay are seriously damaged in some districts, stimulating somewhat the demand for feeding stuffs. Prices firmer. Stocks a little under the average.—Greenhill Brothers, Belfast, August 11.

Flour—Our market is steady, with, if anything, more inquiry. Grain—There is an excellent demand for Indian corn, at 11s. 4½d. to 11s. 6d. per 280lbs. on spot, and 11s. 3d. to 11s. 4½d. per 280lb. on passage. Pease, dull. Beans, 3d. dearer. Foreign oats rather less depressed, with, if anything a better inquiry. Scotch are higher. Oatmeal a slow sale. Millstuffs—Bran, with a better demand, is 2s. 6d. per ton dearer on the week. Thirds are also in sellers' favour.—McKinnon and McDonald, Glasgow, August 11.

Wheat steady with a moderate trade at ½d. per cental advance. Flour a quiet trade at Tuesday's prices. Maize has had a good demand at a full ½d. per cental advance over last market day. European firm, and ½d. to 1d. per cental higher, with a fair trade passing, River Plate exhausted. Barley meets with a better inquiry for malting at last market day's prices; whilst feeding passes steadily into consumption at ½d. per cental improvement. Beans are firm, and 9d. per qr. higher, owing to scarcity and a good demand. Peas are firm, and held for 1d. per cental advance, but little doing. Oats have a good inquiry for English, and are very firmly held, and harder to buy at last market day's quotations. Oatmeal steady, but quiet. Oilcake firm with a fair business doing.—Ross T. Smyth, Liverpool, August 11.

THE BALTIC, Monday, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

Wheat cargoes are 3d up from the close of last week. All sorts of maize are held for 3d. advance, but only on flat corn is it paid. American oats are 3d. dearer, but Russian cargoes are rather pressed on sale. Barley for October shipment is firm, but for earlier dates nothing is doing. Oilseeds are a firm trade.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Californian, 30s 6d, on passage; Walla Walla, 29s 6d, on passage; Argentine, 29s., on passage; Manitoba, 32s 6d, September shipment; Duluth, 32s 9d, September shipment; No. 2 Red Winter, 30s., September shipment; Hard Winter, 29s 6d, September shipment; Soft Red Winter, 28s 6d, September shipment; Roumanian, 29s 6d, September shipment; Azima, Odessa, 30s., September shipment.

Maize.—American, 18s 9d, arrived; American, 19s, on passage; Odessa, 23s 9d, on passage; Argentine, 21s, on passage.

Rye.—Azoff, 23s 9d, September shipment.

Barley.—Azoff, 17s 9d., October shipment; Odessa, 18s, October shipment.

Oats.—Vologda, 14s., prompt shipment; Canadian, 15s. 6d., on passage.

Beans.—Saida, 29s 6d, August shipment; Smyrna, 27s 6d, August shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 51s. 3d., on passage.

Rapeseed.—Roumanian, 40s 9d, September shipment.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £6 8s 9d, prompt shipment, old crop; ditto, £5 18s 9d, November shipment, new crop.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that the chief interest in the trade is just now centered in the offerings of seeds of this year's growth. New trefoil is held for extreme prices, meantime all kinds of cloverseeds are slowly hardening in value, whilst Italian ryegrass shows a considerable advance. There is to-day no quotable change in trifolium, supply and demand being alike moderate. New seed rye and winter tares are inquired for. The bad weather in Holland has made all Dutch produce dearer; this applies particularly to mustard, rape, carraway seeds, peas, haricots, etc. White mustard is in improved sowing request. For hempseed 1s per qr more money is asked. Canaryseed, meantime, although quiet, is exceedingly firm. The Board of Trade Returns give the imports into the United Kingdom of clover and grass seeds for the month of July this year as cwts. 4,5[illegible], value £7,763, as against cwts. 6,607, value £13,5[illegible], for July, 1899.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington

Monday, August 13th, 1900.

	British.	Total, August 14th, 1899
Beasts	1,470	[illegible]
Sheep and lambs	7,260	[illegible]
Calves	5	—
Milch cows	50	70

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	3 2 —	4 2 —	4 [illegible]
Sheep	3 4 —	5 4 —	6 [illegible]
Lambs	5 6 ..	5 10 ..	6 4

Milch cows, per head, £[illegible] to £[illegible].

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, —; Eastern Counties, 42; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,303; Devon, 40; Ireland, 85.

The supply in the beast market to-day showed an increase of 160 head compared with Monday last, owing to larger arrivals from the Midland Counties chiefly Herefords and Runts. Trade was of a slow nature, even at a decline of 2d per stone a clearance could not be made. Fat cows and bulls, being in shorter supply, were steady in value.

The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Aug. 14th, 1899.
Herefords	4s 8d to 4s 10d ..	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Norfolks	4s 6d to 4s 8d ..	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Runts	4s 9d to 4s 10d ..	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Lincolns	4s 2d to 4s 6d —	3s 10d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 4d to 4s 6d ..	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Fat cows	3s 8d to 3s 10d ..	3s 8d to 3s 10d

In the number penned in the sheep market there was an increase of 1,670 head, due to larger arrivals from Ireland and Norfolk; trade for both wethers and ewes was steady in value, a clearance of the former being made; for best quality lambs there was a good demand; other grades were more difficult to vend at a decline of 2d per 8lbs.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Aug. 14th, 1899.
7½ to 8-stone Downs	6s 0d to — ..	5s 4d to 5s 6d
9-stone ditto	5s 10d to — ..	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10-stone half-breds	5s 6d to — ..	5s 0d to 5s 10d
11-stone Lincoln	5s 2d to — ..	4s 8d to 4s 10d
10-stone Irish	5s 2d to 5s 4d ..	4s 6d to 4s 8d
10-stone Down ewes	4s 4d to — ..	3s 8d to 3s 10d
11-stone half-bred ditto	3s 10d to 4s 0d ..	3s 2d to 3s 4d
5-stone Down lambs	6s 4d to — ..	5s 10d to 6s 0d
6-stone half-bred ditto	5s 8d to 5s 10d ..	5s 4d to 5s 6d

London Central, Monday. — Good supplies; trade bad: Beef (carcases), 3s 10d to 4s; hindquarters, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; roastings, 4s 8d to 5s. Sheep: Ewe, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; wether, 4s 8d to 5s; hindquarters, ewe, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; wether, 5s 8d to 6s. Pigs: Large, 3s to 3s 4d; small, 3s 6d to 4s.

Liverpool, Monday.—Demand good for all classes of cattle, prime quality in particular making higher rates. Excepting for a few prime sheep and lambs, prices considerably lower all round. Beef, 7d to 5d per lb; mutton, 8d to 5d per lb; lambs, 8½d to 7d per lb. At market: 956 cattle and 12,217 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Market firm, Western rather higher, other sorts unchanged. Decorticated cotton cake.—Best brands, 2s 6d. dearer, ordinary unchanged. Desiccated grains are 5s. dearer. Linseed strong and advancing, 2s dearer since Thursday last.

English linseed cake	£7	17	6	to	8 0 0	ex mill
American Calcutta linseed cake	7	15	0	to	—	ex quay
American Western linseed cake	7	10	0	to	7 12 6	ex quay
Russian oil cake	7	10	0	to	7 15 0	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 p.c. oil)		—				ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	6	12	6	to	6 17 6	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6	10	0		—	ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	4	5	0	to	4 7 6	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4	5	0	to	—	ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4	10	0			on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4	7	6		—	ex warehouse
American linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2	13	6	to	—	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2	13	6	to	2 14 6	ex warehouse

—Robt. and John Hewetson.

CORK BUTTER.

	Ordinary.				Mild Cured Firkins.			Firkins in Market.
	Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuesday ..	84	82	81	74	95	94	83	4
Wednesday ..	89	85	81	74	94	92	82	400
Thursday ..	89	85	81	77	94	91	97	2
Friday ..	90	87	82	73	94	90	—	7
Saturday ..	91	90	84	80	94	91	—	4

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Belfast, Aug. 11, 1900.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.		Average price per head	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
			£ s. d.	c. qr. lb	£ s. d.
1	Bullock	(prime) ..	17 10 0	9 — 23	1 18 1
1	,,	,, ..	16 14 0	10 2 7	1 16 11
1	,,	,, ..	18 7 6	11 0 0	1 16 9
1	,,	,, ..	14 10 0	8 1 0	1 16 2
1	,,	(very good) ..	17 17 6	10 [illegible]	1 15 1
1	,,	,, ..	15 5 0	8 — 7	1 14 —
1	,,	,, ..	18 15 —	10 — 14	1 14 6
1	,,	,, ..	15 15 —	[illegible] 0 14	1 14 6
1	,,	,, ..	14 8 —	[illegible] 1 17	1 13 1
1	,,	(good) ..	13 0 —	8 1 0	1 11 6
1	Heifer	(prime) ..	11 — 0	[illegible] 14	1 14 6
1	,,	(very good) ..	14 0 0	8 — 21	1 13 2
1	,,	,, ..	12 0 0	[illegible]	[illegible]
1	,,	(good) ..	11 17 —	[illegible]	[illegible]
1	Cow	(prime) ..	18 — —	11 2 14	1 11 1

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The chief market day of the week at Islington falling on a Bank Holiday naturally caused a smaller attendance of buyers, and as the supply showed but little variation, trade in consequence was of a decidedly slower nature with a downward tendency in value, though a not very pronounced one; with difficulty a clearance was effected. Fat butchering cows, for the above stated reason, were also short in number, as also were fat bulls, both of which sold to rather better advantage. At the foreign cattle market, Deptford, the number of beasts on offer, compared with last week, showed an increase of no less than 2,322, the majority of which were shipped from America, that country and Canada being now our only sources of supply. The usual three markets were held on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Trade on the first day was firm and steady, but on the other days was rather slower at a slight decline in value. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets was 6,340—previous week, 4,068—consisting of 1,120 British and 3,983 foreign, these latter comprising 3,983 from the United States, and 1,237 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs., (sinking the offal):—90-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 95-stone runts, 4s. 10d. to 4s. 11d.; 90-stone Irish, 4s. 8d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 4d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 5d.; 110-stone ditto, 3s. 11d. to 4s.; 90-stone Canadian, 4s. to 4s. 1d.; ditto ranchers, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95-stone fat cows, 4s.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. The sheep trade, which was chiefly confined to the Islington market, was of a firm and steady nature on both market days, so far as wethers were concerned, whilst ewes met a slower sale at fully 2d. per 8lbs. less money, at which reduction sales were forced. Lambs were in fair average supply, but meeting with a slacker demand were from 2d. to 4d. per 8lbs. lower on Monday, but somewhat firmer and steadier on Thursday. The total number of sheep and lambs penned was 10,035 (decrease 2,855), consisting of 9,240 British and 795 Canadian. Best pens made per 8lbs. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 6s.; 8-stone Scotch, 6s.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 4d.; 11-stone Lincolns, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 4d.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 4s.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d.; 6-stone halfbred ditto, 5s. 10d.; 8½ to 9-stone Canadian sheep, 4s. Calves were short in number—55, as against 120 during the previous week; rates consequently were firmer and trade brisker. The best on offer made fully 5s. 8d. per 8lbs.

Trade in the West.

The holidays, coupled with the excessive rains which accompanied them throughout most districts in England, have occasioned considerable interruption to business, from which, so far, there has been only a partial recovery. Prices, however, have undergone but very little change. What alteration there has been, sellers have reaped the greatest benefit from. The bulk of the stock has come to hand in very good condition, especially bullocks, whilst a good deal of the mutton, especially that of the wether class, has been very well finished. This will account for the slightly hardening tendency in values, some of the best bullocks having commanded a very ready sale at the chief district markets at from 11s. 6d. to 12s. for good class steers and heifers, and the more ordinary runs of fat bullocks have found an equally ready sale at from 6d. to 1s. under these rates. But whatever has been brought out has found a ready sale at the prices quoted. Equal firmness has characterised the mutton trade. Ripe wethers of medium weights are making up to 8½d. per lb., and ewes 7½d. to in some cases 8d. A good inquiry has prevailed for lamb, which, like mutton, is the turn against buyers; 10d. to 11d. is the run for best qualities, and 9d. to 9½d. for seconds. The veal trade has assumed a firmer tone, and the same may be said of pigs, cooler weather being no doubt an important factor in bringing about this result. Good veal is making 8d. per lb., and the best quality porkers 9s. 6d. to 10s. per score. Store things are also proving more remunerative to sellers, the improved keep prospects having given a greatly improved tone to the trade in milch beasts and more especially barreners, whilst there is every prospect of considerable rise in the value of store sheep, the uncertainty respecting keep prospects in the future having operated materially against sales.

Trade in Ireland.

With a decrease in the attendance of cross-Channel buyers, and an increase of over 500 cattle on last Thursday's Dublin Market, the trade for beef was [illegible] except for the best bullock and heifers, which [illegible] own well. For the ordinary run of beasts prices receded from 10s. to 15s. on late values, and [illegible] clearance could not be effected. Second-[illegible] beef had a very dragging sale. Best ox and heifer beef made from 57s. 6d. to 60s. and in a few cases 61s. per cwt. was touched, good second class from 52s. to 56s. per cwt.; other descriptions 46s. to 50s. per cwt. In the mutton department there was a falling off in supplies of close on 14,000 sheep and lambs, which had the effect of hardening prices, especially as the demand for good mutton for the cross-Channel trade was active. Sales were much easier effected, and values tended in favour of sellers for anything good, but rough, thin sheep were neglected. Best wether mutton 6½d. to 7d.; ewe, 4¾d. to 6d. per lb. Good lambs were worth from 6½d. to 7½d. per lb., but inferior were taken at very irregular figures. Dairy cattle are selling well, best springers making from £18 to £20. Store stock are also selling well, as there is such an abundance of grass. In the pig market on Thursday trade was sluggish, though both shippers and home buyers were in good attendance. Late rates were a shade weaker, but best bacon pigs were worth from 43s. to 45s. per cwt.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The number of fat cattle on offer have been small, rather less than last week. The quality has generally been better, however. There has been a very good demand and an easy clearance, prices throughout being considerably higher, especially for the best class of bullocks. Fat cows have also met a better trade. Good supplies of fat sheep and lambs, with a lot of buyers from town and country. These also have met a sharp trade at a rise in price from the previous week. Fat calves a larger and good show; they have sold very well, and pigs have quite maintained last week's high rates. In the store market there has been a fair supply of sheep offered, but the quality has not been the best; a good demand has been experienced at fully late prices. Lambs are being shown in considerably better condition than at the corresponding sales of last year, and with plenty of customers trade is good, at a substantial increase in price from those sales. Store cattle have been a fair show, but in point of quality not equal to last week. Prices the other end are still very high, and unless for cattle with condition and of a good class this has somewhat checked sales. Milch cows not nearly so good a show as last week; the best class have met a good trade, others cheaper. Quotations:—Best beef, from 8s. 9d. to 9s.; current, from 8s. to 8s. 6d. per stone; mutton, from 8d. to 9d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Only small supplies offered, but trade remains slow, with the exception of beef, which ruled firm. Arrivals of beef included 780 Liverpool sides, 1,300 hindquarters, and 400 forequarters American refrigerated. Beef: English, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; American Deptford-killed, 4s; Liverpool, 4s; American refrigerated hindquarters, 4s 6d; forequarters, 3s to 3s 2d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s; English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d. English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Supplies were fairly good, and trade ruled generally steady. Arrivals of beef included 50 tons Scotch, 900 Liverpool sides, 2,600 hindquarters, and 1,500 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations—Beef: Scotch, short sides, 4s 8d to 5s; long, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; English, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; American, Deptford killed, 4s; Liverpool, 3s 10d to 4s; American, refrigerated hindquarters, 4s 8d; forequarters, 3s 2d; Argentine, hindquarters, 3s 10d; forquarters, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; New Zealand, hindquarters, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 5d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s to 5s 4d; English wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Dutch wethers, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; Canadian ewes, 3s 6d; Canterbury, 2s 4d to 2s 7d; Wellington, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s to 2s 2d; English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast arrivals were on a larger scale than for some time past, and with a generally fair demand a steady trade was effected. Sheep supplies were of smaller extent, being 2,480 less than on Thursday, and while wethers moved off slowly at late rates, ewes were steady and in fair request. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers quoted 5s 10d to 6s; 9-stone, 5s 10d; 10-stone half-bred, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 4d; 11-stone half-breds, 4s. Lamb trade slow. 5-stone fat Downs, 6s 2d to 6s 4d per 8lb to sink the offal. Calves met with fair support. Total supplies:—110 beasts, 3,650 sheep and lambs, 50 calves, 50 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Business was very irregular, and prices varied considerably. Best beef made from 11s to 12s per score, and secondary animals 10s to 11s. Mutton was in rather better demand than last week, half-bred wether fetching 5s to 5s 6d, and small Kents 5s to 5s 4d per 8lb. Barren sheep, 3s 8d to 4s. Lambs were cheap, scarcely anything making more than 6s per stone. Veal, 5s; and pork sold fairly well at 9s to 9s 6d per score, though store pigs were 1s a head lower on the week. Trade for store lambs and sheep continues very dull indeed.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a large attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 43 fat beasts, 61 calves, 630 fat sheep and lambs, 185 pigs, and 107 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £14 to £21 10s; fat calves, 60s to £6 10s; small, 20s to 50s; fat wethers, 37s to 57s 6d; fat ewes, 28s to 39s; fat lambs, 33s 6d to 54s 6d; fat porkers, 4s to 5s; small, 22s to 36s; store pigs, 14s to 17s 6d; dairy cows, £11 to £18 5s. A strong reaction to-day after the holidays and late excessive heat, all descriptions of fat stock meeting a brisk trade. For fat beasts there was a good inquiry and last week's prices maintained best Devon steers making up to £21 10s, and heifers, £18; Shorthorn cows reached £14 15s; heifers, £15 10s; Jersey cows up to £16 5s; heifers, £15. A clearance made of the supply of fat sheep and lambs, with a brisk trade. The best lots of fat sheep and lambs made an advance on late rates. A good number of the choice fat lambs and small sheep were taken to the seaside holiday resorts on the South and East Coast at prices considerably beyond the prices obtainable at the recent fairs. The consignment of sixty superior Hants Down seven-months old show lambs from Mr W. Allen reached 54s 6d, the top price of the season. Fat ewes were all sold, but at indifferent prices compared with prime quality at both sheep and lambs. Hants Down wethers and ewes made 48s, 44s 6d, 43s 52s, 57s 6d, 47s 6d, 56s 6d, 43s 6d; 9-months old ditto, 52s, 54s, 48s, 42s, 52s; ditto black face wethers, 42s, 31s, 27s 6d, 39s; 7-months old fat lambs, 42s, 45s 6d, 52s, 45s, 44s 6d, 39s, 43s, 41s 6d, 38s 6d, 40s; Southdown ditto, 33s 6d; cross-bred ditto, 33s 6d; old ewes, 39s. 38s, 27s, 28s, 35s 6d; 3-months old sucking lambs, 36s 6d, 41s 6d, 35s; Scotch ditto, 17s; rams, 49s 6d, 35s, 48s, 46s. The trade of last week was not maintained for milch cows; a considerable reduction in price had to be taken to effect sales. Store cattle met with little inquiry. Fat calves, with a short supply, met a brisk trade at an advance on last week's quotations. Fat porkers were cleared at prices in favour of the vendor, trade ruling firm throughout for the small number on offer. Store pigs also found a ready sale. Ruling values:—Prime quality Devon beasts, 7d to 7½d; ditto Shorthorns, 6¼d to 6¾d; bulls, cows, and inferior ditto, 5½d to 6d. Best quality sheep, 9d to 9¼d; second ditto, 8d to 8½d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 7d; choice fat sucking lambs, 9¼d to 10d per lb. Fat calves, 7d to 9d per lb. Porkers, up to 10s 6d per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—The market was remarkably quiet. There was a fair inquiry for in-calvers, but little or nothing doing in store beasts. Best bullock beef, 7s 6d to 7s 9d: cow beef, 6s 9d to 7s per stone; in-calvers, £18 to £22; heifers, £15 to £17 10s; calves, 55s to 60s; wether mutton, 8d; ewe mutton, 5d to 6½d per lb; store lambs, 20s to 24s.

Brigg, Thursday.—The show of horned stock was not extensive, and comparatively few lots changed hands. Milch beasts and in-calvers, £12 to £18; drapes, £3 to £11; steers and heifers, two years old and upwards, £9 to £12 per head.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under	9s 9d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in.	9s 3d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	8s 6d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 238; sheep, 910; pigs, 249; horses, 13. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 4d; pork, 5s to 6s 3d. A holiday market and very few store beasts to hand. Fat beasts a fair show and trade better. Fat sheep, short supply and prices better. Stores a good show, some very good stock ewes, but trade slow. Fat pigs a better trade. Stores not up to last week.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade was quiet, the supply of sheep not being quite so heavy as last week. There were a number of lambs on offer, however, and these ranged up to 23s 6d per head. One pen went at the absurd average of 1s 6d per head. Horned stock was in poor demand, and only bad prices were realised.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Large supply of Irish store cattle, including 400 to 500 head of heifers, mostly of useful quality. Fair attendance and good inquiry, with trade a little more active, at prices unchanged, which were quoted at £5 5s to £8 10s for small heifers, and £10 10s to £16 10s for the most useful sorts. Small show of pigs, and slow sale at prices up to 25s.

Chester, Thursday.—There was smaller show store stock, but fuller supply of dairy cattle. For the latter there was an improved demand here, beasts finding purchasers at high prices. Feeding stock met slow sale at declining values. A rather better inquiry for sheep. Quotations:—Milch cows, £14 to £21; calvers, £13 to £18; barren, £10 to £12; heifers, £8 to £14; stirks, £5 to £8; and sheep, blackfaced, 22s to 25s.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Stock of all kinds, both fat and store, came to hand with greatly improved weather in good supply, and with plenty of buyers, brisk business resulted. Milch beasts met a good inquiry at prices ranging from £16 to £19 10s; barreners more saleable at £20 to £27 per pair; good bullocks and steers, 11s to 11s 6d per score; cows, 10s to 10s 6d. Mutton firm at 8d to 8½d for wethers, 7d to 7¾d for ewes.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 2,938 (increase 502); sheep, 9,313 (decrease 1,381); calves, 60 (increase 15). Slow dragging trade for all classes of cattle, except choice large heifers, and prices more in favour of buyers. Half meated and inferior sorts difficult to clear. No material alteration in price of sheep and lambs, and a fair clearance effected. Cattle (best), 32s to 35s per cwt; other sorts, 27s to 31s per cwt. Mutton, 5¾d to 7¼d per lb. Lambs, 15s to 32s each.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Beef in good demand, making 38s per live cwt; Ayrshire cows, to £15; cross bullocks, to £19; Ayrshire heifers, to £16; horned bullocks, to £19; polled ditto, to £17; Ayrshire bullocks, to £17; Galloway heifers, to £15; Highland bullocks, to £14.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Trade for store sheep was fair, without quotable change in price, Cheviots making to 36s; grey-faced, to 34s; half-breds, to 38s. Store cattle a slow trade; horned bullocks, to £15; polled, to £14 10s; stirks, to £8 10s; Shorthorns, to £24; Irish, to £23; crosses, to £22 10s; Ayrshires, to £22.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Moderate show of sheep and cattle, but full rates barely maintained owing to stormy weather. Sheep and lambs were offered in poor condition. Top Scotch cattle, 66s to 68s; secondary, 62s to 64s; Irish, 62s to 64s; States, 58s to 62s per cwt. Calves up to £5 15s. Best sheep, 8¼d to 8¾d; secondary, 8d; lambs, 8d to 8¾d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 419, calves 117, sheep 1,400, lambs 1,160, pigs (fat and sows) 1, sucking pigs 9, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 178, pigs (stores, more than ten) 54. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6½ to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½ to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 9½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robt. Bond and Sons report a shorter supply of fat cattle. All the best qualities were in strong demand at higher prices. Most of the animals were of medium weights. Well-finished animals made up to £22. Fat lambs were in request, some making up to 65s. Fat shearlings made up to 65s. In the store sheep pens there were several lots of ewes and lambs. Buyers were more numerous, and a decided improvement in demand may be reported. An average number of calves were penned. Those for weaning sold well, but fat calves were slow. A good entry of swine, for which trade was much the same. Thirty-seven cows and heifers were offered, including an entry of Jersey cattle direct from the importer ranging from 19 guineas to 12 guineas; others changed hands freely at satisfactory prices up to £19 15s. Numbers at sales and market:—Beasts, 307; sheep, 2,749; calves, 48; swine, 1,189; horses, 37.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair average supplies of home-bred stock in good condition. Small attendance, and trade quiet. Milch cows in better demand, at £15 to £22 per head. Bullocks, £9 to £13 each. Young stock and calves slow trade.

Lincoln, Friday.—There was an average supply and a slightly better trade, no doubt owing to the rains having greatly improved the herbage. The figure for milch cows ranged between £12 and £21; two-year-old bullocks made £10 to £14, and yearlings £5 to £8. In the sheep department drape ewes fetched 20s to 30s each, and lambs 15s to 27s. A large number of store pigs was penned, but not many suckers, and for both kinds there was only a little demand. Stores realised from 25s to 45s, and suckers 12s to 18s.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts here to-day was moderate; the demand was, however, inactive, and a complete clearance was not made. Prices experienced little change. Fat beasts firm at 7s 6d to 7s 8d and 8s per 14lb. Store sheep and lambs were in moderate supply, but trade showed no improvement; lambs were quoted at 18s to 34s; and

keeping shearlings at 38s to 45s per head. Fat sheep made 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb. Keep prospects are pretty good in Norfolk.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Good average supplies, and prices well maintained, with ready sale. Numbers:—Cattle, 1,764; sheep and lambs, 7,240; calves, 102; pigs, 561. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s 6d to 5s 9d; pork, 5s to 7s 9d per stone; mutton, 6½d to 8½d; lamb, 8½d to 9d; veal, 5d to 8d per lb.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A small supply of milch beasts on offer, and only a small amount of business was done at about late prices. Best qualities making £17 to £22; secondary qualities, £12 to £15.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Brisk demand for pigs and cows with calves. Store cattle brisk. Better trade all round. Beef and mutton higher in price. Quotations—Lamb, 7½d to 9d. Beef, 6d to 7¼d; mutton, 6½d to 9d; and veal, 6d to 8d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s to 10s; and bacons, 8s to 9s per score. Cows, with calves, up to £22 10s. Numbers offered 403 cattle, 55 cows, with calves, 1,847 sheep and lambs, 106 calves, 21 fat, 101 porket, and 250 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A small show of both beasts and sheep. Best beef, 7s 6d per stone; cow beef, about 7s. A small lot of stores on offer, and trade slow. Mutton maintained its price, the best quality fetching fully 8d per lb; ewe mutton, 7d.

Taunton, Saturday.—Moderate supply, small attendance, and rather dull trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a larger attendance of buyers at Thame market on Tuesday last than has been present this year, and the supply of stock was not equal to the demand. A fast trade ruled throughout for all classes of stock, and a clearance was effected at greatly improved prices. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 72 fat beasts, 257 fat sheep and lambs, 62 fat and weaning calves, and 98 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £16 to £18 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £20 12s 6d; fat wether sheep, 45s to 50s 6d; fat ewes, 37s to 54s; fat lambs, 30s to 41s 6d; store lambs, 19s; fat calves, £4 to £4 13s; cow calves, 22s to 77s; bull calves, 15s to 40s; fat pigs, 10s per score. Stores dearer.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—There was an increase in the numbers of buyers, whilst the animals offered for sale were much less than last week, the result being that sales were soon effected at prices exceeding those at the last market. 1,350 beasts were offered, against 1,394 last week. Choice beef met with a ready sale at 6¾d to 7d per lb, and in some cases 7¼d was realised, whilst inferior sorts made 5¾d to 6¾d. The supply of sheep was particularly small, only 3,754 being on sale, against 4,564. Lambs and small and young sheep, 8¾d to 9d per lb; strong sheep, 7¾d to 8d; and heavy and fat sheep, 6d to 7d. The calves were soon disposed of at 5¼d to 7½d per lb, and breeding calves changed hands at 15s to £1 each. In the department for milch cows there was a somewhat slow trade, and sales were effected at £17 to £20 each, inferior making £12 to £16. The pig market is still closed.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Smaller supplies of stock, which enabled dealers to secure a slight advance on late rates. Best beef made 7¼d per lb; secondary qualities, 5¾d to 6¾d. Brisk trade in sheep, and good clearance effected. Lambs, 9d per lb; best sheep, 8½d to 9d; other sorts, 6d to 8d. Numbers penned:—Beasts, 1,350; sheep, 3,754.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Good supply of beasts; trade slow. Sheep and lambs a fair supply; moderate trade. Calves a moderate supply; slow demand. Milch cows a small supply; brisk trade. Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8¼d per lb; lamb, 8d to 8¾d per lb; veal, 6d to 7½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 3d per score; porkets, 9s 3d to 9s 6d per score; sows, 6s 6d per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—There was an exceptionally good market, a large number of excellent beasts being penned. There was a great improvement in the price for mutton. Fair show of lambs. Best beef, 7s 3d to 8s per stone; best shearling mutton, 7½d to 8½d per lb; inferior, 5d to 6d.

York, Thursday.—A small show of both Irish and English store cattle were on offer, but the supply was quite equal to the demand, buyers being scarce and trade dull. Three-year-olds bullocks, to £15; two-year-olds, £9 to £11; stirks, £5 to £8. Fair show of calving and milch cows, which made up to £23 for best; inferior, £15 to £19. Sheep were scarce; North country shearlings, 38s to 42s; Mashams, 36s to 40s; twice crossed, 40s to 46s; North country lambs, 26s; South country lambs, 24s to 30s each.

York, Friday.—Calves, 7½d to 8d per lb; small sheep, 9d per lb; large sheep, 8d per lb; ewes, 7d per lb; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb; small pork pigs, 6s 3d per stone; large pork pigs, 5s 6d to 6s per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies totalled 2,498, this being 1,737 more than shown on Wednesday last, and consisted of 1,591 United States and 907 Canadian. Trade was slow at 3s 11d to 4s 3d for the former, and 4s to 4s 1d the latter for best, and ranch at 3s 8d to 3s 10d. 795 Canadian sheep met with fair support at 3s 10d to 4s per 81b, to sink the offal.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—The market has declined still further on account of sellers becoming more anxious to realise and demand falling off; there is, however, rather more inquiry at the close at the lower limits. Calcutta, spot, London, is quoted 51s 6d; passage, 51s 3d to 51s; July-August, 50s 3d; August-September, 50s 3d; September-October, 50s. Hull very quiet, spot and passage, Calcutta, 54s 9d sellers. Duluth, October-November, 48s. Azov, Black Sea, September-October 49s 6d. La Plata, December-January, 46s 6d. To the Continent, Bombay is quoted July-August, 57s 6d; February-March, 48s 3d; March-May 47s. Calcutta to Hamburg, July-August, 52s 3d; August-September, 52s 3d; April-June, new crop, 45s 3d. La Plata 500 January-February, sold at 45s 6d. Linseed oil has declined in value, and business has been done in all positions at lower rates. We quote spot, pipes, £33 2s 6d to £33 5s; barrels, £33 7s 6d; August, £33. September-December, £29 10s; January-April, £26 10s to £26 15s. Hull spot naked, £32 10s; August, £31 15s; September-December, £28 5s; January-April, £25 5s. Linseed cakes quiet, unchanged. London made £7 17s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Russian, £7 7s 6d to £7 12s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £7 5s to £7 12s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet. London made £4 5s to £4 7s 6d. Rapeseed quiet, prices easier. To the Continent brown Calcutta afloat to Hamburg 39s 6d, and to London 38s 6d. Yellow Cawnpore, August-September is held for 44s. Brown Cawnpore, 41s. 6d. Danubian Navette, August-September, 40s. Ravison to Hull, September-October, 29s. The imports into London for the week have been 1,449 and since 1st January 33,714 qrs, against 35,244 qrs corresponding time last year. Cottonseed is steady, but inactive, spot and afloat, London, £6 3s 9d; July, £6 5s; August, £6 6s 3d; September, £6 8s 9d; October, £6 6s 3d; November-January, £6 asked, but buyers are holding back. Hull firm, Spot, we quote £6 5s; August, £6 5s; September, £6 8s 9d; October £6 3s 9d; November-January, £5 17s 6d buyers. Cargoes, October, £6 3s 9d; November, £6 7s 6d. The import into London for the week has been 1,856, and since 1st January 30,749 tons, against 19,905 tons corresponding time last year. Rape oil continues inactive, quotations unchanged. We quote brown oil spot in barrels £28 10s; September-December, £27 10s. Refined spot, £29 15s. Ravison oil naked spot, £26; September-December, £24 10s; November-April, £24. Cotton oil continues steady at the prices quoted last week. Crude spot, £22 5s; August, £22 5s; November-April. £18 10s. Refined spot, £24 10s to £25 according to make and package. Hull weak. Refined spot, £22 12s 6d. August £22 5s; November-April, £18 5s. THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—The trade continues extremely dull and inactive, but with dearer freights and the prospect of very limited supplies for some time to come the market remains firm. Russian are unchanged. Americans are scarce and firmly held at the turn dearer. English are only in small production and quotations unaltered. Cotton cakes.—The present low price, more especially of foreign, is attracting buyers, and there is more disposition to operate for both spot and forward positions. Egyptian and English sell freely at last week's prices. Decorticated find a slow sale and are unchanged. Rape cakes.—Nothing offering. Maize germ meal.—Arrived parcels of American find buyers at a slight advance, but rather less money would be accepted for later delivery. English is in good request at last week's prices. Rice meal.—There is no change to note for landed or to arrive parcels.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made .....per ton ex mill	7 17 6	to	8 0 0
American in bags .....ex dock	—	„	7 10 0
Russian in mats..... „	7 10 0	„	7 11 3
Russian in bags..... „	7 12 6	„	7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made..... ex mill	4 5 0	„	4 7 6
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 3 9	„	4 5 0
„ Nov.-April shipment	4 8 9	„	4 10 0
Decorticated ..... „	6 12 6	„	6 15 0
Meal, on spot	—	„	6 10 0
„ June-July	—	„	6 5 0
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 5 0	„	—
Ravison..... „	4 0 0	„	—
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American)..... ex dock	5 1 3	„	5 2 6
Germ meal (American)..... c.i.f.	5 0 0	„	—
„ (English) ..... ex mill	—	„	5 0 0
MANURES.			
Nitrate of soda .....ex dock	—	„	8 0 0
Bone compound.....per ton on rails	2 17 6	„	—
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon .....ex warehouse	4 6 3	„	4 7 6
Rangoon, July-August	—	„	4 2 6

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed.—The arrivals are 25,895 qrs from Calcutta, 6,149 qrs Petersburg; total, 32,044 qrs. Our market has been of a holiday character the last few days, with a slight tendency to ease. Calcutta, arrived, offers at 54s 9d. Black Sea, Aug.-Sep., 50s 6d asked; Sep.-Oct., 49s 3d; Oct.-Nov., 49s. Petersburg, July-Aug. has been sold back to shippers, at 52s 3d; Sep.-Oct., 51s to 51s 3d the value. Riga and Libau, 47s 9d to 48s. American Duluth, 48s nearest. River Plate, nothing at the moment offering. Cottonseed.—The market declined a little during the week, spot, passage and August selling at £6 3s 9d, which is to-day's value in the nearer positions, but £6 5s wanted shipment this month. September, Fayoumi sold at £6 7s 6d to £6 6s 3d, with still buyers at latter. October done at £6 2s 6d to £6 1s 3d and a few hundred tons monthly Nov.-Jan. found buyers at £5 17s 6d to £5 16s 3d, sellers not offering under former figure to-day. Oils.—Export for the week ending 31 July, 1900. Linseed oil—1 Germany, 23 Norway, total 24 tons. Cotton oil—10 Belgium, 14 Denmark, 6 France, 46 Germany, 58 Holland, 14 Sweden, total 148 tons. The market is of a holiday nature. Linseed oil—33s spot, 28s 6d Sept.-Dec., 26s Jan.-April. Cotton oil—22s 4½d spot, 18s 1½d Nov.-April. Crude, 20s 9d spot, 16s 10½d Nov.-April. Rape oil—Black Sea naked, 25s 3d spot, 1st quality naked, 26s 3d spot. Oil seed cakes.—A steady market at previous rates.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 15s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND- 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 17s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 15s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 10s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

WOOL.

Bradford, Thursday.—The market shows little change. Business is exceedingly inactive, and the only sign of improvement is in strong crossbreds, which are more asked for. Mohair is very quiet, and values rather weak. The export yarn trade is again very flat, and the home trade is little better. Everything points to restricted consumption. Mohairs and alpacas are quiet. The piece trade is dull, manufacturers wanting orders badly.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair amount of trade continues to be done at recent rates. Kent fleeces, 6d; lamb wool, 4d to 5d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—Owing to the holidays the sales in the local wool market have been very small, and the choicest qualities of both home and colonial remain firm. There is an improved feeling in choice, long, bright hog wools, but quotations are low. In yarns a healthy trade is being done at firm quotations.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—The arrivals from all parts this morning were moderate, for which the demand has been brisk, with prices for all samples improved. English, Beauty of Hebrons, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; ditto, early Puritans, 4s 6d to 6s; Snowdrops, 4s 6d to 6s; early Regents, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; French rounds, 2s 6d to 4s 0d per cwt.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—The supplies this morning were on a small scale, and met a fair demand, at steady prices. Best clover, 85s to 100s; inferior ditto, 65s to 80s, specially picked hay, 82s 6d; good ditto, 75s to 80s; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 75s to 90s; straw, 25s to 36s per load.

Bristol, Tuesday.—The prices quoted on Friday's market were: Old clover hay, 75s to 85s per ton; best new ditto, 65s to 70s; and straw, 45s to 50s.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The demand in the wholesale market for hay and straw keeps steady, with quotations firm at last week's rates. Meadow hay, 6½d; clover hay, 7d to 7½d; wheat straw, 5½d; oat straw, 5d; rye straw (cut), 7d per stone. Loose hay, 3d to 3½d per bundle.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—The holidays this week have interfered with business, but the demand generally has improved, and any parcels of superior meet an active sale, with buyers at increased prices. So far the supplies of new hay have consisted mainly of inferior to good. Straw has been in active, and at prices. We quote Canadian timothy hay, 70s; Dutch clover, 70s; Canadian timothy hay, 67s 6d; common Dutch, 60s; large bale wheat straw, 48s; small ditto, 44s 6d; small bale oat, 43s. All these prices are per ton, delivered by barge alongside Hungerford Bridge, 9 and 10, Great Tower Street, E.C.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The [illegible] short of previous moderate estimates [illegible] ably bruised. Mould, too, is very [illegible]

Worcester, [illegible]

Worcester, [illegible] AND CO.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—[illegible] soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £[illegible] per ton; [illegible] per ton; [illegible] per ton; [

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Guernsey heifer, Clatford Gentle, is the property of Mr. J. C. Forster, Clatford Mills, Andover, Hampshire, her breeder being Mr. T. Le Page, Beaulieu, St. Andrew's, Guernsey. She is a fawn-and-white, and was born in January, 1898, her sire being Loyal of the Hunguets, and her dam Lady West. Clatford Gentle has been most successful in the showyards this year, having won first prize at the Royal, Bath and West, and Royal Counties Show. At the last-mentioned she was reserve for the female championship of the breed.

Mr. Leonard Cole Attrill, of Bowcombe Manor, Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight, was the breeder of the three Dorset Horn shearling ewes, and he exhibited them at the recent Bath and West and Royal Shows, where they gained a first prize. They have now been sold to Mr. Gillway, of Ontario, for shipment to Canada, and we may mention that Mr. Attrill has also sold another three head to Messrs. Mansell and Co., for exportation to Canada. With animals from the same flock Mr. Attrill won the special prize for the best ram lamb at the Royal Isle of Wight Agricultural Society's Show last month, where he has taken the champion cup twice in succession. Photos by the Art Photo Co., Newport, I.W.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

The secretary of the United Counties Agricultural Society has informed me that Her Majesty the Queen has consented to honour the Society's show by sending the well-known champion Shorthorn bull Royal Duke, but he will not be entered for competition. The show is to be held at Carmarthen on the 30th of this month, and the exhibition of Royal Duke, together with the other attractions already provided, should ensure the Society a big financial success.

So far as the wholesale meat markets in London are concerned, each succeeding year shows a huge increase in the quantity imported from America and the colonies and a gradual diminution in the bonâ-fide English supply. Every annual report repeats the same story, and proves that dealers are relying more and more on breeders abroad. Of the meat sold last year at Smithfield only 27.3 per cent. was country-killed, the percentage in 1898 being 27.8; and 15.5 per cent., as against 19.7 per cent, town-killed. Thus but 42 per cent. of the entire consumption was forthcoming from the provinces. Foreign countries supplied 14.2 per cent., America 23 per cent., and Australia and New Zealand 20 per cent.

Mr. Charles Coxon's annual sale of Shropshire sheep will be held at Elford Park, near Tamworth, on Wednesday next, August 15th, Messrs. Lythall and Walters, of Birmingham, being the auctioneers. The catalogue includes thirty-five rams and seventy-five shearling ewes, all of first-class breeding, and combining that size, strength of bone, and quality of flesh for which the flock has been renowned for so many years. They are chiefly by the following noted winners: Charmleader (8933), purchased at 90gs.; Downton Prince (9456), highly commended at the Bath and West of England Show, and highly commended in pen of five at the R.A.S.E. and Shropshire and West Midland Shows in 1897; Dublin Champion 2nd (8979), who secured the first prize and gold medal for best Shropshire ram of any age at the Dublin Show in 1896, and was highly commended at the R.A.S.E., Leicester, in the same year; Ensdon Four B's (9005), winner first R.A.S.E. Manchester, Shrewsbury, and Leicestershire Shows in pen of five, and highly commended B. and W. of E., Southampton, 1897, purchased at 185gs.; Lord Khartoum (9990), third prize ram in pen of five R.A.S.E., Birmingham, and S. and W.M., 1898; and Norton Statesman (9147), winner third in pen of five S. and W.M., 1895, and reserve number B. and W. of E., second Herefordshire, second in pen of five R.A.S.E., Leicester, and first in pen of five S. and W.M. in 1896. All the sheep have been daily ranging in the pastures, and, not having been fed up or prepared for sale, are therefore in an excellent natural state. There will be included also in the sale four young Shorthorn dairy bulls reared from first-class milking cows.

The annual exhibition of the Gransden and District Agricultural Society will take place at Great Gransden on Tuesday, September 25th. The secretary is Mr. R. J. Kisby, Great Gransden, Sandy, Beds.

Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., of Perth, have issued a preliminary catalogue of a joint sale of pure-bred Aberdeen-Angus cattle, which they will conduct at Craibstone Mains, Bucksburn, Aberdeenshire, on Tuesday, September 18th. The animals, which number over seventy, are the property of Mr. A. C. Pirie, of Dunecht, and Mr. G. J. Walker, Portlethen. The sale of the former gentleman's herd is rendered necessary owing to the lease of the farm having expired, and the whole of the animals will be sold without reserve. The herd was founded in 1890 by the purchase of the cow Pride 2nd of Denmark, from the old Morlich family of Nancys. This cow has been an excellent and regular breeder, and eleven of her descendants are included in the catalogue. Another valuable addition made to the herd was Pride of Powrie 4th (19818), first prize three-year-old cow at the Highland Society's Show in 1894, and winner of the Chalmer's prize at the Royal Northern Agricultural Society's Show in 1897. Representatives of the following well-known families are also included in the sale:—Prides of Aberdeen, Witch of Endor Tribe, Aldbar Annuitys, Stumpies, Jemimas of Morlich, and Nugget of Morlich. The sires used have been taken from Wellhouse (Mr. Wm. Anderson), Auchorachan, Powrie, Naughton, and Pitpointie, from the last named being purchased the present stock bull Rosencranz (16002), a son of the Highland Society champion cow Blooming Rose. This bull was largely used last year in the herd, and the whole of the cows are this year in calf to him. The cattle have never been fed for the showyard, and will be offered in a natural healthy condition.

Polled cattle have been bred at Portlethen since the last century. The oldest animal whose date of birth is recorded in the Herd Book is the bull Colonel (145), calved in 1818, whose sire was a bull bred at Portlethen. Not only have polled cattle been so long bred on the farm, but there has never been any other known breed on the farm. The last draft sale was held in July, 1894, and the present lot are offered for sale in consequence of the stock having outgrown the accommodation. The animals are all in a healthy condition, and will be offered for sale just off the grass.

The annual sale of rams and ewes, the property of Mr. W. F. Inge, was held on Wednesday, August 8th, at Thorpe Hall, Tamworth, Messrs. Lythall and Walters being the auctioneers. Most of the leading breeders, in addition to a number of local farmers, attended, and the result was very satisfactory. The highest price was 100gs., given jointly by Dr. Wall and Mr. A. Tanner, for a ram that was exhibited in the third prize pen at York. Other prices were: 25gs. Duke of Sutherland, 21gs. Lady de Rothschild, 21gs. E. L. Driver, 18gs. R. Bach, 14gs. Howard P. Ryland, 13gs. S. F. M. Nevett, 11gs. T. Stelfox, 10gs.. Lord Moreton, 10gs. H. Hellaby. Ewes made 62s. 6d., 60s., 60s., 60s., etc.

The Council of the Peterborough Agricultural Society have fixed Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, July 9th, 10th, and 11th, as the date of next year's show.

This year's show of the Airedale Agricultural Society takes place at Bingley on Wednesday fortnight, August 29th. From the prize schedule which has just come to hand I see that the fine sum of £600 is offered for competition in classes for horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, farm produce, etc. The entries close on the 25th inst. with the secretary, Mr. Charles Mason, Park Road, Bingley.

At Tralee, co. Kerry, on August 6th, there was a small fair, demand dull, and a good many cattle remained unsold. Calves, second class, £3 5s. to £4; third class, £2 10s. to £3; yearlings, second class, £5 15s. to £7 2s. 6d.; third class, £4 5s. to £5 2s. 6d.; two-year-olds, second class, £7 5s. 2d to £9; third class, £5 to £6 12s. 6d.; three-year-olds, third class, £6 to £7 10s.; springers, second class, £11 to £13; third class, £9 to £10.

CATTLE.

Foot and Mouth Disease.

Outbreak in Yorkshire.

The outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in the East Riding of Yorkshire at Marfleet has led to a number of markets being closed by the Board of Agriculture, and Hull cattle market has been closed for the sale of sheep and cattle.

The situation is extremely serious both for farmers and butchers, and on this account a meeting of the Holderness Farmers' Club was held on Tuesday afternoon, with Mr. Gale, of Atwick, the president, in the chair. After some discussion in private a resolution was passed pointing out that the new Order of the Board of Agriculture causes serious inconvenience by reason of the restrictions on the removal of cattle, and requesting the Board to modify them so as to allow the removal by licence of animals for immediate slaughter, and requesting some modification of the existing restrictions in the interest of agriculturists to facilitate the removal of stock from one farm to another. It was also urged that the area of prohibition is larger than necessary.

A further Order of the Board of Agriculture declares the parish of Marfleet, Kingston-upon-Hull, to be an area infected with foot-and-mouth disease, and prohibiting any person to enter any field or shed where cattle, sheep, or swine are, except so far as may be necessary for the feeding or tending of the animals. The Order further declares that no dog shall be allowed to be at large within the infected area. Any contravention of the Order will be deemed to be an offence against the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894.

Yorkshire Farmers and the Outbreak.

At a meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs at York on Thursday, Mr. W. Hutchinson (Gunby) drew attention to the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease at Marfleet, between Hull and Hedon, and referred to the action of the Holderness Club in petitioning the Board of Agriculture for relaxations of their special regulations. He said he had very little information as to the extent of the outbreak, or the supposed way by which the cattle had been contaminated, but it seemed of so grave a nature that it was desirable the matter should be considered at that meeting. They had not perhaps sufficient information to justify them taking any action, and he could not but regret that the Holderness Club had not communicated their action, or asked for the support of the Associated Clubs, or that someone from the club was not present. He did not think they could go further than just enter on the minutes their regret that the outbreak had occurred.

The Chairman agreed with Mr. Hutchinson, and regretted that someone was not present from the Holderness Club, so that they might have given information with regard to the outbreak, and stated the objections that they had with regard to the course taken by the Board of Agriculture. He sympathised very much with the farmers of the district, who had to put up with the restrictions, but at the same time they knew what a dreadful thing it would be if foot-and-mouth disease really got a good hold of the North and East Ridings. That would be far worse than any temporary inconvenience the farmers of that district might have to put with, on account of the restrictions enforced.

The matter then dropped.

The Permanent Royal Showyard.

Owing to the early date we had to go to press last week (in consequence of the Bank Holiday) we were able to print in our last issue only a condensed report of the monthly council meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society held on the 1st inst. As was stated a week ago, it was decided by 34 to 12 to establish a permanent showyard in London. The division list will be of interest.

AYES (34).

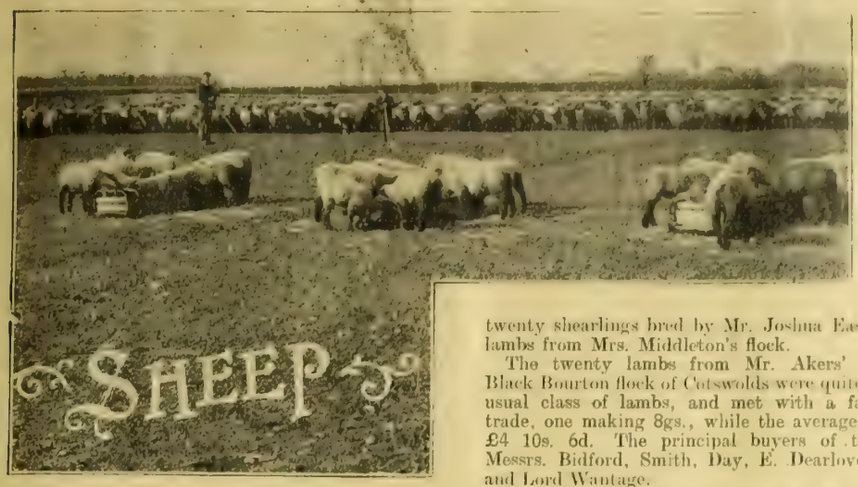
Mr. J.H. Arkwright.	Mr. H. D. Marshall.
Mr. R. C. Assheton.	Mr. Joseph Martin.
Mr. George Blake.	Lord Middleton.
Vscount Bridport, G.C.B.	Lord Moreton.
Lord Brougham and Vaux.	Hon. C. T. Parker.
Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, M.P.	Mr. Alfred E. Pease, M.P.
Mr. Percy Crutchley.	Mr. Albert Pell.
Lieut.-Col. Curtis-Hayward.	Mr. J. E. Ransome.
Mr. J. M. Dugdale.	Mr. Frederick Reynard.
The Earl of Feversham.	Mr. Henry Smith.
Mr. W. Frankish.	Mr. E. W. Stanyforth.
Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart.	Mr. Richard Stratton.
Mr. James Hornsby.	Mr. J. P. Terry.
Mr. John Howard Howard.	Sir J. H. Thorold, Bart.
Col. Sir N. Kingscote, K.C.B.	Mr. R. A. Warren.
Capt. Levett.	Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler.
Sir Massey Lopes, Bart.	Mr. J. C. Williams.

NOES (12).

Viscount Baring.	Mr. R. M. Greaves.
Mr. J. Bowen-Jones.	Mr. C. S. Mainwaring.
Lord Arthur Cecil.	Mr. T. H. Miller.
Mr. Alfred Darby.	Mr. H. P. Ryland.
Mr. Hugh Gorringe.	Mr. G. H. Sanday.
Marquis of Granby.	Sir Jacob Wilson.

(Mr. Martin Sutton and Mr. Garrett Taylor did not vote.)

The August beast fair was held at Boston on Monday, and, considering it was Bank Holiday, there was a fairly large attendance. There was a very good show of cattle. Best bullock beef made 7s. 9d. and 8s. per stone, and cow beef 6s. 6d. to 7s. 3d. Cows from £18 to £22 and heifers £15 to £18.



Oxford Great Ram Fair.

This important fixture for the disposal of sires of the Oxford and Hampshire Down and Cotswold breeds of sheep was held on Wednesday in the extensive meadow at the back of St. Thomas's, the use of which was kindly granted by the new owners, Morrell's Trustees, for the purpose. In addition to the rams, somewhere about three thousand stock ewes were penned, and for these there was a good demand, with a consequent great improvement in trade upon that experienced of late at the various fairs and markets, and although the entry was considerably larger than that of last year, hardly any lots remained unsold. The number of rams consigned to the various auctioneers was about an average, and for these also there was a decidedly improved trade, the rise in prices being noticeable all round as compared with recent rates elsewhere. Below we give full details of the various sales:—

Messrs. Franklin, Gale, and Newton.

Messrs. Franklin, Gale, and Newton, auctioneers, of Wallingford, Reading, and Oxford, held their usual annual sale of Hampshire Down and Cotswold rams and ram lambs and stock ewes and store lambs at the above fair on Wednesday last, when the entries included about 211 Hampshire Down rams and ram lambs from the flocks of Mr. Basil Hanbury, Kineton; Mr. John Thomson, Woodperry, Oxford; Mr. Alexander Henderson, M.P., Buscot Park, Faringdon; Mr. C. A. Scott Murray, Hambleden; Mr. W. T. Twidell, May's Farm, Crowmarsh, and others. Also twenty Cotswold ram lambs from the flock of Mr. Henry Akers, Black Bourton, and 1,246 stock ewes, theaves, and store lambs from well-known flocks in the district.

Trade, generally speaking, showed a decided improvement, a rise being noticeable all round on previous market prices, no doubt influenced somewhat by the recent rains. The stock ewes showed the greatest advance in price, and although the entry was larger than usual, a clearance was practically effected. The prices for full-mouth Hampshire Downs ranged from 22s. 6d. to 55s. Details of the various sales of ram lambs are appended.

The first lot offered was twenty Hampshire Down lambs from the flock of Mr. Basil Hanbury, Kineton. This is the first time lambs from this flock have been offered at Oxford fair, but the successes of the flock in the showyard fully recommend it to flockmasters, to say nothing of the excellent strains of blood introduced in the building up of this flock. The majority of the lambs found purchasers at prices ranging up to 6½gs., with an average price of £4 5s.

Forty-nine very choice lambs from the registered flock of Mr. J. Thomson, Woodperry, Oxford, were next offered. These lambs, as in previous years, were very much admired, and a keen competition ensued for nearly every lot, not a single lamb failing to change hands, and Mr. Thomson has also the honour of having top price, and average for the day, 14½gs. being made by one grand lamb, and seven others made over 10gs., the average price being 7gs.

The selection from the Buscot Park Flock, the property of Mr. Alexander Henderson, M.P., were next brought to the hammer, and consisted of fifty very nice lambs, the first five lambs being offered for letting up to October 1st, one of which made as much as 20gs., while the average was £5 19s.

Twenty-five lambs from the Hambledon flock, the property of Mr. C. A. Scott-Murray, met with a very good trade, nearly every lot being disposed of. Lambs from this flock have not been offered at Oxford Ram Fair before, but here again we have a showyard record to recommend them. The average price made was £4 14s. 6d.

A selection of forty lambs from Mr. Twidell's, May's Farm, flock next came to the hammer, and we must say they would have done credit to the old May's Farm Flock, and Mr. Twidell must have spared no pains in re-establishing his flock to obtain such a satisfactory average, £5 18s.

The other Hampshire Down rams offered were twenty shearlings bred by Mr. Joshua East, and six lambs from Mrs. Middleton's flock.

The twenty lambs from Mr. Akers' celebrated Black Bourton flock of Cotswolds were quite up to the usual class of lambs, and met with a fairly brisk trade, one making 8gs., while the average price was £4 10s. 6d. The principal buyers of these were Messrs. Bidford, Smith, Day, E. Dearlove, Hunter, and Lord Wantage.

Among the principal purchasers of Hampshire Downs we noticed the names of Messrs. W. Wiggins, J. P. Franklin, John Brown, Wykeham Musgrave, Joseph Gale, J. Reynolds, Herbert Parsons, E. J. Morse, Edward Stevens, Pettifer, Gask, Case, Lord Wantage, Whitbread, Pether, H.W. Orpwood, Oxford Corporation, Harry Gale, Yearp, William Greening, Sutton, John Gale, A. Henderson, Giles, E. Rowles, H. F. Smith, J. Latham, E. May, H. Izodd, William Frogley, John Thomson, J. Betts, W. Dore Brett, Walter Maidment, Wilkins and Son, H. J. Taylor, H. J. Holtom, E. White, Holt, Barton, Eggleton, Timbs, Lovesay, C. T. Hoare, J. B. Lucas, Colonel Miller, and a great many others.

Messrs. Paxton and Holiday

This firm had, as usual, a large number of consignments from registered Oxford Down flocks, including twenty shearling rams, bred by and the property of the Earl of Camperdown, Weston Park, Shipston-on-Stour. The highest price was 8gs., given by Mr. Rowe, Windrush, Burford, and Mr. Jones, Craven Arms, Salop, and the average was £6 4s. 6d. 23gs. was the top price of the splendid lot of sixty-four Oxford Down ram lambs, bred by and the property of Mr. George Adams, Royal Prize Farm, Wadley, Faringdon. The purchaser was Mr. Whitbread, South Hill, Biggleswade. The average for the sixty-four was £8 13s. 6d. There were forward twenty-eight Oxford Down shearling rams and six Oxford Down ram lambs from the old-established flock of Mr. Edward Gillett, Cote House, Bampton. The highest price of the shearlings was 19½gs., and the average was £8 1s. 9d. Fifty Oxford Down shearling rams, the property of Mr. John Worley, Brize Norton, Faringdon, made an average of £10 7s. 9d. The highest price was 40gs., the purchaser being Mr. Overman, Kipton House, Weasenham, Norfolk. Six Oxford Down shearling rams and twelve ram lambs, bred by and the property of the Hon. R. Hardinge, South Lawn House, Burford, realised an average of 4gs. There were twenty Oxford Down ram lambs and thirty Oxford Down shearling rams from the Heythrop flock of Mr. Albert Brassey, M.P. The ram lambs made an average of £3 19s., and the shearlings £7 2s.; Mr. Large, of Crudwell, Malmesbury, was the purchaser of the highest at 12gs. The top price of the thirty Oxford Down shearling rams, bred by and the property of Mr. Hugh W. Stilgoe, Adderbury Grounds, Banbury, was 42gs., which was obtained for an animal which took a second at the Royal Show, the purchaser being Mr. J. P. Case, Binham Abbey, Wighton, Norfolk; the average was £8 9s. 6d. Messrs. John Bryan and Son, Southleigh, Witney, sent thirty-five Oxford Down shearling rams of their own breeding. The highest price, 28gs., was given by Messrs. T. W. Jefferies and Son, Black Bourton; Sir Michael Hicks Beach, Bart., M.P., was the purchaser of others at 23gs. and 22gs.; and Mr. Houghton, of Ashford-by-Melton, at 18gs.; and the average was £11 1s. Forty Oxford Down ram lambs were forward from the flock of Messrs. T. W. Jefferies and Son, Black Bourton, Faringdon. 25gs., given by Mr. A. Lane, Alcester, Worcestershire, was the top figure, and 17gs. was given by Mr. T. Fane for Captain Gaskell, Kiddington Hall, and 16gs. by Mr. Driver for Mr. W. S. Lardner, of Little Compton; the average was £7 16s. Fourteen Oxford Down shearling rams, bred by and the property of Mr. F. I. Wilsdon, Wotten, Woodstock, made an average of £6 4s. Fifteen Oxford Down ewes and yearling ewes, the property of Mr. Albert Brassey, M.P., Heythrop Park, Chipping Norton, realised an average of 74s. 8d.; and seventy belonging to Messrs. J. Bryan and Son, Southleigh, Witney, made 46s. 8d. per head. Thirty-five Oxford Down ewes, belonging to Her Majesty's Commissioners of Woods and Forests, Potter's Hill Farm, Witney, averaged 44s. 4d.

Mr. A. F. Hobbs.

Mr. Hobbs had a good lot of animals for sale, among which were twenty Oxford Down ram lambs, bred by and the property of Mr. W. J. P. Reading, Langford, Lechlade. The average price was £7 18s. 9d., and the highest 21gs., was given by Mr. Barton, of Norfolk; another made 10½gs., and was purchased by Mr. Alfred Mace, Kelmscot. Twenty Oxford Down ram lambs from Mr. John Wise, Ham Court Farm, Bampton, sold at an average of £6 7s., the top figure being 8gs., given by Mr. J. P. Case, of Bingham, Norfolk. The fifty Oxford Down ram lambs from the flock of Mr. Robert W. Hobbs, Kelmscot, Lechlade, whose sheep have been very successful in the showyard this year, are much sought after. 15½gs., which was given by Mr. Alexander Iles, of Fairford, was the highest; another made 12gs., and was purchased by Mr. Case, and a third was bought by Mr. St. Aubyns, Cornwall, at the same price; the average was £7 2s. 3d. for forty pure-bred Hampshire Down ram lambs. Mr. W. F. Hobbs, Langford, Lechlade, obtained an average of £6 11s. The highest price was 9½gs., and was gien by Mr. Hawkins; nine guineas was the figure at which another was bought by Mr. John Frampton, of Langford Downs.

Messrs. Franklin and Jones.

The consignments of Messrs. Franklin and Jones were rather heavy and comprised—30 Oxfordshire Down ram lambs from the prize flock of Mr. A. H. Wilsdon, Domford Park Farm, Woodstock, highest price, 6½gs.; average, 5gs. Forty ditto from the well-known flock of Mr. W. Arkell, Kempsford, Fairford, highest price, 9gs.; average, 5½gs. Twenty-eight ditto from the old-established flock of the Rev. C. R. Powys, Rofford, highest price, 4gs. Twenty-five pure-bred Hampshire Down ram lambs bred by Mr. J. W. Giles, Gaunt House, Standlake, highest price, 9gs.; average, 5½gs. 1,500 stock ewes, theaves, and store lambs, comprising drafts from a number of well-known flocks. This was the largest draft in the fair, and the prices realised were for Mr. H. Parsons' 60 theaves, 39s. to 42s., 100 ewes, 30s. to 33s. 6d.; Mr. Cook, Beckley, 15 ewes, 35s. 6d.; Mr. H. Kerwood, Woodstock, 27 ewes, 32s. to 32s. 6d.; Mr. G. Hill, Waterperry, 50 ewes, 33s. to 34s., 50 lambs, 29s. to 29s. 6d.; Mr. G. Herbert Morrell, M.P., Streatley, 70 ewes, 30s. to 31s. 6d.; Mr. W. W. B. Sutton, Wilcote, 45 ewes, 40s. 6d. to 42s.; Mr. H. Bartlett, Bletchington, 40 theaves, 41s. 6d. to 45s.; Mr. J. Midwinter, Marcham, 60 ewes, 40s. 6d. to 44s.; Mr. George Fuller, Worminghall, 70 ewes, 36s. to 45s.; Mr. P. Pinnock, Holton, 32 theaves, 46s.; Mr. W. Fuller, Haseley, 80 theaves, 42s. to 44s. 6d.; Mr. E. K. Lenthall, 60 ewes, 38s. to 41s.; Mr. Charles Taylor, Ascott, 50 ewes, 36s. 6d. to 41s.; Mr. B. H. Morland, Sheepstead, 80 ewes, 40s. 6d. to 45s. 6d.; Sir J. Willoughby, Bart., Dorchester, 90 ewes, 28s. to 33s.; Merton College, Radstone Farm, Northants, 40 lambs, 26s.; Messrs. Jessop, Thomley, 20 ewe lambs, 36s. 6d.; Mr. Shrimpton, Baldon, 40 lambs, 26s. 6d. to 29s.; Mr. T. Brown, Wood Eaton, 20 lambs, 29s.; Mr. J. W. Turner, Chiselhampton, 80 lambs, 29s. to 38s.; and others.

Messrs. Acock and Tayler.

Messrs. Acock and Tayler had a good lot of animals for disposal, among which were 20 Oxford Down shearling rams and 20 Oxford Down ram lambs, from the noted prize-winning flock of Mr. W. A. Treweeke, Ryne Hill Farm, Chipping Norton. During this year, at four shows, six first, four second, two third, and one champion prizes have been won, including one first each at the Royal Agricultural Society of England and Bath and West of England Shows. The prices realised for the Oxford Downs were 5½gs. to 10gs., the latter figure being paid by Mr. John Large (Crudwell). Also 10 Oxford Down ram lambs, bred by and the property of Mr. J. H. Large, Crudwell, Malmesbury, and seven Cotswold, Malmesbury, and seven Cotswold Shearling rams, bred by and the property of Mr. J. J. Godwin, Troy, Banbury. The average price for the former was 4½gs., and for the latter 5½gs. The lambs were a fine lot, but few changed hands at from 4½gs. to 6½gs.

Messrs. King and Adkin.

600 stock and draft ewes, theaves, and lambs were consigned to Messrs. King and Adkin, and considerable interest was manifested around the pens during the disposal of the animals. For several of the lots there was a brisk competition, and the whole changed hands at highly satisfactory prices. Theaves realised from 33s. to 39s. 6d.; full-mouthed ewes, 33s. to 38s. 6d.; and draft ewes from 24s. to 30s. Lambs made as high as 33s. 6d., small ones realising 22s. to 25s.

Earl of Ellesmere's Suffolks.

On Thursday, at the Hall Farm, Stetchworth, Mr. George Blencowe, with whom was associated Mr. Ernest Prentice, secretary of the Suffolk Sheep Society, conducted the seventh annual sale of pedigree Suffolk sheep, the property of the Earl of Ellesmere. The phenomenal success attended by exhibits from the Stetchworth flock has been more than maintained during the past season, and gained amongst other honours the Prince of Wales' Challenge Cup (championship of all breeds) at the Southfield Show, after having been "reserved" for the same trophy in 1898, all possible medals and numerous first prizes at the Royal and other leading shows. Every gold medal offered for Suffolk sheep in 1899 has, with one exception, been won by exhibits from this flock, and the other was taken by a ram bought at the

annual sale at Stetchworth in 1894. There was a large company at an excellent luncheon. The only toast was that of "The Queen," very loyally honoured. An adjournment was then made to the sale-ring, where, during a downpour of rain, Mr. Blencowe wielded the hammer. The assembly was, however, protected from the inclement weather, canvas having been erected.

There were catalogued about sixty-six grand shearling and ram lambs, 179 shearling ewes, sixty-six flock ewes, and four Southdown rams. Amongst the shearling ewes sold in lots of five, the top realised was £5 10s. per head for those purchased by Mr. Conrade Webb, of Shudy Camps. He also bought another five at 93s. per head. Mr. C. F. Marriner, of Thorpe Hall, Hasketon, purchased the first five sold, which ranged next highest in price, making 83s. per head. Mr. Marriner gave 81s. per head for another five. Mr. Barnett secured five others at 78s. per head. Mr. Marriner was declared the buyer of five more at 74s. per head, and five others at 72s. per head. Mr. Turner, of Dunmow, gave 71s. per head for five. Two other fives made 71s. per head, Mr. Marriner being the buyer in one case and Mr. Lomas, agent for the executors of the late Mr. H. E. M. Davies, Heringswell Hall estate, in the other. Amongst many other lots prices ranged from 69s., 67s., 66s., 65s., and down to 64s. per head, the buyers including Messrs. Gent (Ditton Lodge), E. T. Marriot (for the Jockey Club), D. K. Long (Great Bradley), E. Deeks and E. Moore, J. Musk (Newmarket), W. Harper (Bury St. Edmunds), J. Gardner (Woodditton), and Towler. Four and five-tooth ewes made 54s. per head, six-tooth ewes 70s. per head, and full-mouthed ewes from 58s. to 57s., and from 56s. to 55s. downwards. The buyers included Mr. Harris Smith (Coggeshall), Mr. Rawlinson, and many others.

The ram lambs formed an important feature of the sale. The top price realised was 40gs., given by Mr. F. C. Paine (on behalf of Mr. H. McCalmont, M.P.), for Bismarck of Stetchworth. Mr. H. Mason, of Necton Hall, Swaffham, was the buyer of another fine ram lamb of the same name at 20gs. Mr. Harris Smith (Coggeshall) gave 18gs. for Stetchworth Chieftain. Mr. G. F. Dawes (Bury St. Edmunds) gave 17gs. for Gunner of Stetchworth. Another ram lamb of the same name fetched 15½gs., Mr. C. Webb (Shudy Camps) being the buyer. Mr. E. Pritchett (Hardwick) gave 15gs. for a similar ram lamb; Mr. Cobb (Saxon Street), 13½gs., which price was also given by Mr. E. M. Fyson, of Higham, for another fine ram lamb. Mr. Gurteen (Haverhill) purchased another at 14gs., and also one at 12gs. Dr. Gibbs, of Scotland, secured one at 14½gs., Mr. Marriner gave 12gs. for another, at which price Mr. H. Gardner was the buyer of one. Mr. J. Burrell (Littlebury) purchased one at 15½gs., Mr. Newman (for Lord North, Kirtling Tower) bought another at 13½gs., and one at 12½gs. Mr. Gent gave 12gs. for one and 11gs. for another. Mr. H. Ling (Braintree) gave 12gs. for one. Others fetched from 10½gs. downwards. A two-shear ram made 7gs., Mr. J. Burrell, of Littlebury, being the buyer. Of three lots of Southdown shearling rams, two fetched 6gs. per head.

First Prize Dorset Horn Ewe, Bred by Mr. E. C. Attrill.

Mr. W. C. Toop's Southdowns.

On Tuesday at Westergate, near Barnham, one of the most celebrated Southdown flocks extant, registered and individually numbered (No. 9 in the Flock Book) was brought under the hammer in the presence of an unusually large and representative gathering of agriculturists. The flock was the property of Mr. W. Toop, the well-known Southdown breeder, whose name has appeared with astonishing regularity in the list of prize-winners at the leading shows for the past sixteen years. Mr. Toop is now relinquishing sheep-breeding, and the dispersal of his flock, numbering 370 ewes and 70 rams and ram lambs, was entrusted to Mr. C. Stride, of the Chichester Auction Company. Some remarks on the flock have already appeared in our columns, so that it is unnecessary to enter into a description of it here. Mr. Toop included every sheep he owned in the catalogue, and every lot was sold without reserve. Prior to the commencement of the business of the day there was a luncheon, over which Mr. Newton Clayton (Pagham Harbour Company) presided. At the conclusion the toast of "The Queen" was loyally honoured, and the chairman subsequently proposed "The health of Mr. William Toop," wishing him long life and happiness, and expressing a hope that he would have a successful sale. He [illegible] evidences of early morning. They had always a wealth of mutton, and they knew how successful Mr. Toop had been as a prize-taker. They could remember, too, that the heaviest pen of lambs [illegible] to Smithfield, weighing 5cwt., were bred by Mr. Toop. As an exhibitor they all liked him, and he (the chairman) had had reason to fear his [illegible] The toast was drunk with hearty cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Toop and family. Mr. Toop afterwards made an appropriate response, and mentioned that the ewes had seen no artificial food since April.

Before commencing the sale the auctioneer made a short speech, during which he mentioned that the prizes won by Mr. Toop's flock had never been surpassed for number or importance in the history of the Southdown breed. He hoped the buyers that day would give such prices as would be some recompense for Mr. Toop's enterprise and years of toil, and would at the same time afford encouragement to other breeders. The sale was then proceeded with, and a record of the prices, with the names of purchasers, will be found below. The highest price paid for rams, it will be noticed, was 41gs. (twice). The sale realised altogether a total of over £1,650, and the average prices for the sheep worked out as under:—Yearling ewes, £3 10s. 10d.; four tooths, £3 5s. 5d.: six tooths, £3 0s. 6d.; full mouth and over-aged ewes, £2 15s. 5d.; ewe lambs, just under £2; yearling rams, £13 19s. 5d.; stud rams, £14 7s.; and ram lambs, £4 13s. 3d. The following is a list of the prices realised, purchasers, etc.:—

Yearling Ewes.—Mr. Newton Clayton (Pagham Harbour Company) purchased the first pen of four yearling ewes at £5 5s. each; also two pens of five at £3 10s. apiece; Mr. Bethell (for Mr. Cosmo Bonsor, M.P.), three at £4 10s. each; the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, five at £4 each; M. Petit (France), five at £3 15s. apiece and ten at £3 10s. apiece; Mr. F. H. Baxendale ten at £3 10s. each, and ten at £5 5s.; Mr. P. Saillard five at £3 5s.; and Count Alexander Munster, Uckfield, seven at £2 17s. 6d. each.

Four-tooth-Ewes.—Mr. Newton Clayton bought five at £5 5s. each; Mrs. Stephenson Clarke, Brook House, Haywards Heath, five at £3 10s. each, and ten at £3 5s.; Sir Joshua Rowley five at £3 5s., five at £3 3s., fifteen at £3, and six at £2 15s. each; M. Petit five at £3 5s.; and Mr. Robison ten at £3 each.

Six-tooth-Ewes.—Mr. Newton Clayton purchased five at £4 each; Mr. Lamb five at £3 5s., and five at £3 each; Mr. Saillard five at £3 5s., and five at £3 each; Mr. Bethell five at £3 5s.; Mr. C. F. Field, Felpham, five at £3; Mr. Robison five at £3; Lord Leconfield, Petworth Park (represented by Mr. Edgar) five at £3; Mr. W. Spiers, Earnley, ten at 55s., and nine at 50s. each.

Full-mouth Ewes.—Mrs. Stephenson Clarke bought five at £3 10s., five at £2 17s. 6d., and five at £2 12s. 6d.; Mr. Bethell five at £2 15s.; Mr. Lamb five at £2 12s. 6d.; Mr. C. F. Field five at £2 12s. 6d.; Mr. Beeching five at £2 10s.; and Mr. H. M. Simmons (Eastbourne) seven at £2 7s. 6d. each.

Ewe Lambs.—Mr. Newton Clayton purchased three at £4 7s. 6d. each, five at £2 10s., five at £2 8s., and five at £2 2s.; Mr. Bethell, five at £2 2s. 6d., and five at £2; Sir Henry Fletcher, Bart., M.P., five at £2 2s.; Mr. Warren, East Preston, ten at £2; Mr. Robison, five at £1 18s., fifteen at £1 17s., and five at £1 11s. each; Mr. H. M. Simmons fourteen at £1 15s., five at £1 13s., five at £1 12s., and five at £1 10s.; and Mr. Beeching, five at £1 13s. each.

Yearling Rams.—Mr. Bethell (on behalf of Mr. Cosmo Bonsor, M.P.) purchased Woodcote 11th, at 41gs.; Mr. Gould (for New Zealand) bought Woodcote 14th at 20gs.; Mr. C. R. Scrase-Dickins, J.P., Horsham, Woodcote 12th, at 19gs.; Mr. Warren, East Preston, Woodcote 15th, at 16gs., Woodcote 17th, at 14gs., and Woodcote 13th at 13gs.; Count Munster, Woodcote 8th, at 15gs.; Mr. J. A. Miller, Michel Grove, Brighton 20th, at 14gs., Brighton 26th, at 12gs., Toop's Cambridge 56th, at 10gs., and Woodcote 9th at 8½gs.; Sir J. P. Milbanke, Bart., V.C., Eartham House (represented by Mr. Smart), bought Toop's Cambridge 52nd, at 13gs.; the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, Woodcote 16th, at 15gs.; Lord Iveagh secured Brighton 24th, at 13gs., Brighton 19th at 10½gs., and Toop's Cambridge 53rd, at 10gs.; Mr. John Langmead bought Toop's Cambridge 55th at 13gs.; the Hon. H. Cubitt, M.P., Birtley, Guildford (represented by Mr. Messenger) purchased Toop's Cambridge 58th at 12gs., Woodcote 10th at 11gs., Brighton 22nd at 10½gs., and Toop's Cambridge 57th at 9gs.; Lord Wolverton bought Brighton 21st at 10gs., and Woodcote 18th at 10gs.; Mr. Robison bought Brighton 25th at 10gs.; M. Petit Brighton 23rd at 10gs., and Mr. R. Coote Toop's Cambridge 54th at 4½gs.

Stud Rams.—Mrs. Stephenson Clarke bought Westerton 5th at 41gs.; Mr. H. M. Simmons Toop's Cambridge 49th at 26gs.; Mr. Edward Carter, Isle of Wight, Brighton 16th at 20gs.; M. Petit Brighton 12th at 10½gs.; Mr. Robison, Westerton 4th at 7gs.; and another at 5gs.; Mr. R. Coote Brighton 13th at 5½gs.; Mr. Walker Toop's Cambridge 45th at 4gs., and Mr. John Langmead Brighton 18th at 3½gs.

Ram Lambs.—The Duke of Northumberland purchased one at 11gs.; Colonel Hall and one at 7gs.; Mr. J. Tompkins one at 10gs., and one at 6gs.; the Hon. H. Cubitt, M.P., one at 8½gs., two at 5½gs., and one at 4½gs.; Messrs. Woodman Bros., Sompting, one at 7gs. and one at 5½gs.; Sir J. P. Milbanke, one at 5½gs.; Mr. Pyle one at 4½gs., one at 4gs., and one at 2½gs.; Mr. Robison one at 4½gs., one at 4gs., and one at 3gs.; Mr. Woodcock, Haslemere, one at 4½gs., and one at 3½gs.; Mr. John Langmead, one at 4½gs.; Sir Henry Fletcher, Bart., M.P., one at 4½gs.; Mr. Warren, East Preston, one at 4gs., Mr. Hugh Penfold, Selsey, one at 3½gs., one at 3gs., and one at 2½gs.; Colonel Featherstonhaugh, three at 3gs. each; Mr. Bethell one at 3½gs.; Mr. Beeching one at 2½gs.; and Mr. W. Spiers one at 2½gs., and four at 2gs. each.

Mr. P. L. Mills's Shropshires.

The annual sale of Shropshire sheep belonging to Mr. Philo L. Mills, J.P., of Ruddington Hall, took place at the Elms Farm, Ruddington, on Tuesday. It can scarcely be said that the attendance was as large as is usually the case, probably the most potent factor in this result being the exceedingly unfavourable state of the weather. Considering the excellent quality of the sheep and the amounts given for them in former years, the prices must be regarded as low, few prominent sheep-breeders being present. The catalogue comprised thirty-four Shropshire rams and eighty shearling ewes, the prices for rams averaging £9 10s. and for ewes £2 19s. 6d. The ewes sold more uniformly, but the prices for the rams, in view of the amount spent on the sires, was, as has been already said, scarcely so high as might have been anticipated. A shearling ram bought by Mr. Mitchell for shipment to Australia realised the highest sum of 30gs., this being for the well-known sire Odstone Peacemaker, belonging to Mrs. M. Barrs. The next highest price for a ram was 13gs., given by Mr. Humphreys on behalf of Mrs. Perry Herrick, of Beaumanor, Woodhouse Eves, this being from the sire Joe Chamberlain. Eleven and a-half guineas were paid by Mr. Abel, of Desford, for a shearling ram, 8½gs. by Mr. J. J. Rooke, of Weldon, and an equal amount by Mr. Guest, of Norwood Farm, Mansfield. The remainder realised from 6gs. to 9gs. Of the ewes Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., bought a pen at £4 12s. 6d. per animal. Mr. Tom Potter, of Daybrook, secured five lots, comprising twenty-five ewes, at amounts ranging from £2 17s. 6d. to £3 each; and Mr. Humphreys, on behalf of Mrs. Perry Herrick, purchased thirty ewes at practically the same prices; Mr. W. H. Bradwell two lots at £2 15s. and £2 17s. 6d. respectively, and Mr. Guest one pen at £3 per animal.

Mr. Henry Lambert's Hampshire Downs.

The fifteenth annual sale and letting of pure-bred Hampshire Downs, bred by Mr. Henry Lambert, from his old-established flock at Babraham, was conducted by Messrs. Chalk on Friday last, at Cambridge. The catalogue comprised seventy-eight ram and ram lambs of excellent quality. There was a fair number of buyers present, and the prices were satisfactory, £579 being realised by the sale. The sixty-two lambs were offered first, and sold at prices ranging from 5gs. to 14gs. Only three failed to find a buyer. Lambs were secured by Messrs. Seabrook (Berden), W. C. Emson, R. J. Clayden, Nockolds (Saffron Walden), C. Beadle (Arkesden), G. H. Francis (Longstanton), Howard (Matching), R. Brown (Hundon), Symonds, Achurch (St. Neots), Cullen, Sewell, A. Gee (Shudy Camps), Laidlaw (Duxford), Turpin (Sudbury), Thomas, E. T. Chalk, Warren (Finchingfield), Middlehurst (Great Chesterford), Hughes (Hinxton), F. Dawson (Bourn), Purkis, Sheldrick, C. E. E. Cooke, Graham, and Christmas. The shearling rams made from 5gs. to 8gs. each, the purchasers being Messrs. G. H. Smith, Dawson, E. Pigg, A. Gee, Graham, Fulcher, Purkis, and Christmas.

The Sutton Hall Suffolks.

The late Mr. William Waller's flock of pure-bred Suffolk sheep, which is one of the oldest flocks of the breed in the country, came under the hammer at Sutton Hall on Wednesday, the auctioneers being Messrs. Garrod, Turner, and Son, Ipswich, in connection with Mr. Ernest Prentice, secretary of the Suffolk Sheep Society. Over 1,500 choice animals came into the ring. The flock had been in existence since 1790. It was established by Mr. William Waller, who purchased the Sutton Hall estate in 1788, and was subsequently carried on by his son, and then by his grandson, the late Mr. Thomas Waller, for forty-four years. Sutton Hall came into the possession of the late Mr. W. N. Waller in 1890, and this gentleman did very much to improve the flock. The dispersal of such a high-class flock naturally attracted a good deal of interest on the part of the owners of Suffolk sheep and agriculturists generally. Mr. Hugh Turner, in opening the sale, remarked that the entire flock was to come into the ring that afternoon. Three weeks ago it had not been decided whether the flock should be dispersed or not, so that the animals which had to be offered would come into the ring without any previous making up. This fact might tell against the prices somewhat, but each lot would be offered without the slightest reserve. The history of the flock had been prepared by his friend, Mr. Ernest Prentice, and would be found in the catalogue, and what was stated there might be relied upon as being absolutely correct.

The sale was then proceeded with, and, as will be seen, the prices were on the whole satisfactory. 100 shearling ewes averaged 64s. 5d., Mr. Walter Mickes paying the top price of 76s. for the first pen, and Mr. George Woodward taking the second at 72s. 6d. Ninety two-shear ewes averaged 69s. 2d., Mr. Alfred

Smith securing the first pen at 80s. apiece, Mr. John Collins (for Lord Rendlesham) taking two scores at 74s. and 71s. Ninety-three three-shear ewes averaged 74s. 9d., the first lot of ten, decidedly the pick of the basket, being purchased by Mr. W. J. Asplen (Foxton Hall) at 97s. 6d. The two following lots went to Mr. S. W. Slater at 82s. 6d. apiece; 140 four-year-old ewes averaged 55s., Mr. C. T. A. Robertson buying the first pen at 70s., Mr. Ward (for Mr. E. Brooke, Ufford) taking one pen at 66s., and Mr. Asplen and Major Cobbold the succeeding pens at 63s. Ninety five-year-old ewes averaged

First Prize Dorset Horn Ewe, Bred by Mr. C. Attrill.

42s. 4d. The ewe lambs were next offered, the first pen of very choice quality, and wonderfully well grown for March lambs, realised 57s. to Mr. Martin Slater, Weston Colville, the two following pens going to Mr. Augustus Harvey at 51s. to 40s. As to the wether lambs, Mr. Martin Slater took the best pen at 37s., and Mr. Walter Makens and Mr. E. J. Cheney each purchased five lots, the average for 400 being 28s. 6d. With respect to the rams, five shearlings made an average of £5 17s. 6d., Mr. S. R. Sherwood taking the best at 13gs. Two-shear and three-shear rams made up to 6½gs.

Sale of Sir James Blyth's Southdowns and Jerseys.

Two of Sir James Blyth's sons, and also his principal agent, having gone to the war in South Africa, Sir James decided to relieve himself of some of the responsibilities which had fallen on him by disposing of the whole of his Southdown sheep (excepting the lambs) and about thirty Jersey heifers, the produce of the years 1898 and 1899. The sale took place at Blythwood Farm, Essex, on Wednesday, and was attended by a large and distinguished company. Among others present with Sir James Blyth and members of his family, were the Gaekwar of Baroda, Lord Rookwood, Lord Northbourne, Mr. Tresham Gilbey, Colonel Walters, and Colonel M'Calmont; while amongst other purchasers represented were the Duke of Marlborough, Lord Calthorpe, and the Bishop of Ipswich. A short description of Sir James Blyth's famous Southdowns and Jerseys appeared in a recent issue under "Stock and Show Notes," so that we need not go into details concerning it here.

A large company assembled at luncheon before the sale, when Sir James Blyth gave the toast of "The Queen," which was enthusiastically honoured.

The Gaekwar of Baroda, in replying to the toast of his health, proposed by Lord Rookwood, said he would not make a political speech, but would only say that their hearts and feelings in India were always loyal to England and to her service, and that their service on every occasion would be at Her Majesty's command. (Cheers.) With regard to agriculture, he said that if we were to examine the prevailing practice in India, or scan the treatises written by Hindus on the subject, we should find that the establishment of a Royal household in that country was not considerd complete unless a sufficient number of cattle were attached to it. We should hardly find a native State which did not maintain more or less cattle. They maintained a certain number in Baroda. The objects of this custom were manifold, the chief of them being to supply the Palace with pure and fresh milk, and to have ready at hand well-bred animals for military purposes. The Goojerat, Malura, and Mysore cattle were the best in India, and he suggested to Sir James Blyth whether it would not be worth his while to import some Gir cows from that country. It was a great agricultural country, and took a great interest in everything that concerned agricultural animals. He himself encouraged model farms and cattle shows, and had given facilities for the better breeding of stock. (Cheers.)

Lord Northbourne, in proposing the health of the Chairman, thanked Sir James for the interest he had taken for many years in agriculture, the greatest, best, and noblest of English industries. Sir James might have succeeded, or he might have failed, in the part he had undertaken for agriculture, but he was one of those who, if the worst came to the worst, would "die biting." (Laughter and applause.) He would like to make reference to another matter connected with Sir James Blyth. When General Baden-Powell, the hero of Mafeking, went out to South Africa, he was asked what sort of a place he would like, and replied that he should prefer a "tight corner." They all knew that two of Sir James's sons, when in tight corners, did their best according to their ability, and it was no fault of theirs that they happened at the present time to be the guests of ex-President Kruger. Everyone hoped that they would return to the old country in the best of health. He asked the company to drink the health of Sir James Blyth, and also his sons, who were noble prisoners of war. The toast was drunk with hearty cheers, a special one being added for "the boys."

Sir James Blyth, in acknowledging the honour paid him, said that certainly if the sympathy of friends in England would bring his boys home they would be quick'y here. He was really thankful for that sympathy. Although his boys were only troopers, upon the news of their capture being brought to the knowledge of the Queen Her Majesty wrote, through Sir Fleetwood Edwards, hoping that he would get his sons safely home again. (Applause.) Sir James also stated that while the Southdown sheep were to be sold with the Jersey cattle, the lambs were to be kept in order that when his sons returned the breeding of the stock might still be carried on.

The company then adjourned to the sale yard, where Mr. Thornton, of Prince's Street, Hanover Square, wielded the hammer. The sheep were put up in pens of five, and good prices were realised. A pen of five splendid yearling ewes, marked out for their excellent condition, were sold after a keen competition to the Prince of Wales at 220s. each; Mr. Whittaker Wright bought another pen at 95s. each; Lord Northbourne secured a pen at 82s. each; Colonel Walters gave 85s. and Sir Savile Crossley 81s. each for pens. The top figure obtained for two-year-olds was 230s., and this was paid by Mr. Jeremiah Coleman for a pen which had taken firsts in 1899 at the Oxfordshire, Essex, Tunbridge Wells, and Tring Shows. Mr. Whittaker Wright gave 160s. each for another pen which took third prize at the Bath Show. Dr. Herbert Watney, of Pangbourne, made a record for the sale in giving 320s. each for a pen of five beautiful three-year-old ewes, all by Sir James Blyth's ram. These animals in 1898 took firsts at Oxfordshire, Royal and Tunbridge Shows. The auctioneer mentioned that this was the highest price obtained for some time. The Hon. L. Johnson gave 81s. for two pens of five each. The best pen of four-year-olds was secured by Colonel McCalmont at 210s. each; Mr. Whittaker Wright obtained the next best pen at 95s. each. Pens of aged ewes were bought by Mr. Reginald Halsey at 68s., Mr. Johnson at 66s., Colonel McCalmont 66s., Dr. Watney 65s. each. Mr. Thomas Bradridge, of Great Barfield, secured the pick of the rams, a yearling, by Royal Leicester, for the splendid price of 23gs. Sir Francis Montefiore gave 20gs. for a two-year-old by the same sire, and Mr. Halsey gave 20gs. for a yearling by Blyth's, and Lord Colthorpe gave 19gs. for a yearling by Count, and Mr. Johnson gave 16gs. for a ram by the same sire.

First Prize Dorset Horn Ewe, Bred by Mr. L. C. Attrill.

The following is a list of the prices realised and particulars of the Jersey cattle:—

JERSEY.

(Herdbook 1898.)

Oompah's Chingaspe, white colour, c Jan., 1898, s Oompah's Boss 6034 ..... Mr. T. Kingscote 14

Oompah's Boss Girl, whole colour, c Feb., 1898, s Oompah 6004 ..... D. W. ... 8

Oompah's Tarita, [illegible] colour, c March, 1898, s Oompah 6004 ..... Mr. Kingscote 18

Lady Clementina, [illegible] colour, c Apr., 1898, s Oompah 6004 ..... The Bishop of Ipswich 14

Oompah's Phebe, [illegible] colour, c April, 1898, s Oompah 6004 ..... Mr. Kingscote 14

Hope's Maid, [illegible] colour, c May, 1898, s Oompah 6004 ..... Mr. Kingscote 14

Rose's Sharon, [illegible] colour, c June, 1898, s Oompah 6004 ..... L. [illegible] 4

Queen Rose, [illegible] colour, c June, 1898, s Oompah 6004 ..... D. [illegible] 4

Lady [illegible] colour, c July, 1898, s Oompah 6004 ..... D. [illegible] 4

Maud, [illegible] colour, c July, 1898, s Oompah 6004 ..... Mr. [illegible] 14

Golden [illegible] colour, c Aug., 1898, s Oompah 6004 ..... [illegible] 14

Ozone, white colour, c Oct., 1898, s Oompah 6004 ..... M. [illegible] 14

Emma Lyon, whole colour, c Oct., 1898, s Oompah 6004 ..... M. A. [illegible] 7

March-moss, white colour, c Oct., 1898, s Oompah 6004 ..... Mr. Kingscote 14½

Grace Darling, whole colour, c Nov., 1898, s Hillside Baron 6004 ..... M. [illegible] 7

Princess, [illegible] colour, c Nov., 1898, s [illegible] 6182 ..... Mr. A. [illegible] 7

Chimes, whole colour, c Dec., 1898, s [illegible] 6182 ..... Mr. Laurie 17

Zomire, whole colour, c Dec., 1898, s Hillside Baron 6004 ..... [illegible] 7

Distinction's Snowflake 3rd, whole colour, c March, 1899, s Hillside Baron 6004 ..... M. [illegible] 7

Lucerne, white colour, c March, 1899, s [illegible] 6182 ..... [illegible] 7

Cybele, whole colour, c March, 1899, s Hillside Baron 6004 ..... M. [illegible] 7

Alameda, whole colour, c April, 1899, s Hillside Baron 6004 ..... Mr. [illegible] 14

Victoria's Cream, broken colour, c April, 1899, s [illegible] Prince 6182 ..... Mr. [illegible] 7

Actress nearly whole colour, c April, 1899, s [illegible] ..... Mr. W. [illegible] 7

Act Ten, whole colour, c April, 1899, s [illegible] ..... Mr. F. P. [illegible] 7

Cream of Roses, whole colour, c May, 1899, s [illegible] Prince 6182 ..... Mr. Garrett Taylor 10

Princess Lass, white colour, c June, 1899, s [illegible] 6182 ..... [illegible] 7

Prince's Pet, whole colour, c July, 1899, s Actor 5776 ..... Mr. Garrett Taylor 10

Jessica, whole colour, c July, 1899, s [illegible] ..... [illegible] 7

Princess Royal, whole colour, c Aug., 1899, s Crown Prince 6182 ..... [illegible] 7

Princess Maud, whole colour, c Nov., 1899, s [illegible] Prince 6182 ..... [illegible] 7

Baroness, broken colour, c Dec., 1899, s Hillside Baron 6004 ..... L. [illegible] 7

Mr. J. A. Fielden's Suffolks.

The entire flock of pure bred Suffolk sheep, the property of Mr. J. A. Fielden, Upper Hare Park, was offered for sale by auction on the 3rd inst. by Mr. George Blencowe, of Bury St. Edmunds. Mr. Fielden's name has not been brought very prominently before the public in connection with the choice Suffolk sheep which have been reared with much care and judgment on his Suffolk estate, for the reason that this gentleman has not entered the competitive arena, but at the last inspection, 1898, the flock was placed, in Class 1, "very good." The importance of the sale attracted a considerable number of residents from a wide district, but many gentlemen were doubtless prevented from attending in consequence of the stormy character of the weather. About 800 head were offered, including 40 rams, 170 shearling ewes, 360 flock ewes, and 130 ewe lambs. Mr. Geo. Blencowe, in a few introductory observations, expressed the satisfaction he experienced in having such a remarkably fine collection of Suffolk sheep to offer on that occasion. The entire flock was brought into the market without the slightest reserve, in consequence of the estate having been disposed of. He had heard from experienced gentlemen, who had inspected the animals in the pens that day, expressions of approval of the high quality of the sheep. The flock was founded quite regardless of expense, the best rams that could be found having been purchased from time to time as additions to the flock, and he must say that the flock did his friend Mr. John Looker the highest credit.

The shearling ewes were first offered, the first lot of ten being secured by the Marquis of [illegible] at £4 7s. 6d. each. Mr. Tallent, West Acre, bought another pen at £4. Mr. John White (for Mr. E. J. Johnstone, Rougham Hall) two at £3 17s. 6d. and £3 12s. 6d. respectively, Mr. S. W. Slater, Dottered Hall, Balsham, [illegible] another pen at the latter figure. 170 shearling ewes made the satisfactory average of 70s. The two-shear ewes also sold well. Mr. Herbert Garrad, Chevecley, bought one pen at £5, and Mr. Tallent one at £4. 80 offered averaged £3 12s. 6d. [illegible] ewes averaged 74s., Mr. G. F. Townsend giving £7 each for one pen of ten, for Major E. W. Baird, Exning, and £4 for another. The full-mouthed ewes numbered 180. Mr John Barnett, Rougham, taking one pen at £4. Mr. [illegible] another at £4 7s. 6d. [illegible] 59s. 6d. There were 130 ewe lambs, Major Baird purchasing a pen at 55s., Mr. Cranfield another at [illegible]s., Mr. J. Webb, [illegible], at 45s., the average of the lot being 42s. 2d. A [illegible] ram was bought by Mr. G. Dacks, [illegible]; Mr. Tallent a shearling ram at 13½gs., and Mr. Rayment,

Old Sampford, another at 9gs., the shearlings averaging £10 6s. 6d. Mr. Rayment gave 11½gs., for a ram lamb, Mr. W. Looker, Clenchwarton, securing another at 12gs., Major Baird one at 13½gs., Mr. Cranfield one at 10gs., Mr. Rayment one at 14 gs., and Mr. R. Barclay, Higham, one at 10gs., the 35 offered averaging £8 15s. 9d.

Mr. T. S. Minton's Shropshires.

Notwithstanding the fact that the weather was as wretched as it is possible to imagine, rain falling steadily without intermission through out the day, a large and representative company assembled at Montford on Thursday, on the occasion of Mr. T. S. Minton's twentieth annual sale of Shropshire rams, conducted by Messrs. A. Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, and some capital prices were obtained. Prior to the sale Mr. and Mrs. Minton entertained the visitors to a capital luncheon. The following were the prices realised:—Two-shear ram: Montford Judge, 150gs., Mr. Milton. Shearling Rams, 27gs, Mr. Boxendale; 37gs., Mr. Balentine; 40gs., Mr. Denstone Gibston; 20gs., Mr. Farr; 13gs., Mr. Ward; 11gs., Mr. J. T. Nickels; 19gs., Mr. E. Nock; 19gs., Mr. Cartwright; 9gs., Mr. A. S. Berry; 8gs., Mr. Bowen; 28gs., Mr. T. H. Moore; 20gs., Mr. J. J. Bibby; 14gs., Mr. Brocklehurst (Kempstone); 10gs., Mr. Groom; 8gs., Mr. Davies; 10gs., Mr. Smith; 15gs., Mr. Jenks; 20gs., Mr. Juckes; 9gs., Mr. Ratcliffe; 8gs., Mr. A. E. Mansell; 8gs., Mr. Morgan; 10gs., Major Heber-Percy; 7½gs., Mr. Balentine; 8½gs., Mr. R. Brown; 9gs., Mr. Ward; 6½gs., Mr. Fletcher; 6½gs., Mr. Ratcliffe; 8gs., Mr. W. W. Timmis; 9gs., Mr. Miller; 7½gs., Mr. Ratcliffe. Stock rams: 11gs., Mr. Richards; 9gs., Mr. W. W. Timmis.

The Norton House Shropshires.

A fact which is acknowledged by breeders of Shropshire sheep is that the breed partly owes its pre-eminence to the skill, the industry, and the high aims of Mr. John Harding, of Norton House, near Shifnal. It is some years since Mr. Harding commenced to lay a foundation for the flock he now possesses, and which stands in the very front rank of famous Shropshires, and the names of the best sources are mentioned in its recorded history as those from which Mr. Harding secured its first representatives. The annual sale of Shropshire rams took place at Norton House on Friday, when twenty-five rams were disposed of. All the ewes had previously been sold for exportation to America, and so none were now offered. Before the sale, a luncheon was partaken of by a large company, presided over by Mr. W. H. Foster of Apley. Mr. Mansell made some introductory remarks at the ring, after which the sale was proceeded with. The following were the prices realised, purchasers, etc.:—Shearling rams; Mr. T. Fenn, 35gs.; Mr. J. Grant, 18gs.; Mr. Rooney, 29gs.; Mr. T. Fenn, 20gs.; Mr. Allen, 16gs.; Mr. Rooney, 13gs.; Mr. Morgan, 8gs.; Mr. Bell, 7gs. and 7gs.; Mr. T. Cooper, 7gs.; Mr. Jones (to let), 8gs.; Mr. Morris, 8gs.; Mr. Reynolds, 6gs.; Mr. T. Davies, 14gs.; Mr. R. H. Gwynne, 26gs. Pasture rangers—Shearling rams: Mr. Fykyn, 8gs.; Mr. W. H. Foster, 13gs.; Mr. Goodall, 6gs.; Mr. Bowen, 9gs.; Mr. Roach, 8gs Eight yearling Hereford steers, bred close to Leominster, realised £11 15s. each, and another eight bred in Herefordshire £10 15s. each.

The Thorpe Hall Shropshires.

The annual sale of rams and ewes, the property of Mr. W. F. Inge, was held on Tuesday, at Thorpe Hall, Tamworth, Messrs. Lythall and Walters being the auctioneers. Most of the leading breeders, in addition to a large number of local farmers, attended, and the result was very satisfactory. The highest price was 100gs., given jointly by Dr. Wall and Mr. A. Tanner for a ram that was exhibited in the third prize pen at York. Other prizes were: 25gs. (Duke of Sutherland), 21gs. (Lady de Rothschild), 21gs. (E. L. Driver), 18gs. (R. Bach), 14gs. (Howard P. Ryland), 13gs. (S. F. M. Nevett), 11gs. (T. Stelfox), 10gs. (Lord Moreton), 10gs. (H. Hellaby). Ewes made 52s. 6d., 60s., 60s., 60s., etc.

Mr. J. A. Hempson's Southdowns.

The well-known flock of pure-bred Southdowns, the property of Mr. J. A. Hempson, was sold by auction on Thursday last by Messrs. John Thornton and Co., at Erwarton Hall, Ipswich. The weather was very inclement, rain falling heavily while the sale lasted, and the attendance was smaller than was expected. The sheep were a grand lot, and there was a fair demand throughout. The yearling ewes made £3 7s. 6d. each, the principal buyers being Lord Braybrooke, the Hon. L. Johnstone, and Sir Joshua Rowley. The two and three-shear rams made nearly £3 5s. each, Col. McCalmont and Mr. Miller Hallett being the largest purchasers. For the full-mouthed ewes Mr. W. H. Richardson and Mr. Garrett Taylor were the chief bidders, and they made from 48s. to 71s. The ewe lambs were a nice lot, and realised £1 16s. each for nearly 160 head, Mr. C. W. Adeane and the Hon. L. Johnstone taking some of the best lots. The rams sold fairly well, the highest price being 20gs. for lot 11 (Hon. L. Johnstone), and the same price for lot 13 (F. H. Jennings). The twenty rams averaged £11 16s. 9d., and the twenty-six ram lambs £3 11s. 8d. The total of the sale was £1,977 6s. 6d.

Mr. C. Coles's Hampshire Downs.

The annual letting and sale of Hampshire Downs belonging to Mr. Cary Coles took place on the premises at Manor Farm, Winterbourne Stoke, on the 3rd inst., a good business company being present, who partook of a capital luncheon, at which Mr. H. Andrews presided. Messrs. Waters and Rawlence were the auctioneers. Business commenced with the letting of eight ram lambs at an average of £26 10s., the chief prices being No. 6, hired by Mr. Drake at 70gs.; No. 1, by Mr. R. Coles, at 48gs.; others by Messrs. J. Kirby, Castleman, and Bugg, at 17gs. The selling lambs were disposed of very evenly, the result being eighty-three lambs let and sold at an average of £11 3s., very many of the lots ranging from 19gs. to 10gs., at which figures the principal buyers were Messrs. R. Coles, H. Andrews, Compton (for Sir E. Antrobus), Chalker, J. Dean, Harford, J. Hooper, W. Green, Gunning, Keene, Lodder, C. Notley, Rycroft, M. Wallis, H. Waters (for Lord Lawrence), Willis, Wake, W. C. Young, etc.

Mr. W. C. Young's Hampshires.

On Monday Messrs. Waters and Rawlence conducted the annual letting and sale of Mr. W. C. Young's Hampshire Downs at Stratford-sub-Castle. The small but very business-like company who defied the extremely wet day were rewarded by having placed before them one of the grandest lots of ram lambs which Mr. Young has ever brought out, and such as no amount of wet could injure in appearnce. A capital plain luncheon was first enjoyed, at which Mr. J. Carpenter presided, and on repairing to the sale ring, the company found that a welcome (if rough-and-ready) shelter from the driving rain and wind had been erected. Six lambs were let, as follows:—No 1 to Mr. Hurford (for Mr. T. F. Buxton) at 74gs., No. 2, Mr. C. Coles, at 32gs.; No. 3, Mr. A. F. T. Drake, at 22gs.; No. 4, Mr. Mitchell (for Mr. J. Bonham-Carter), at 20gs.; No. 5, Mr. Dibben, at 16gs.; and No. 6, Mr. S. H. Allen, at 24gs.; average, £33. Seventy-four lambs for sale followed, all of which were sold (except three) at from 20gs. to 5gs., Mr. W. M. Harris buying at 20gs., Mr. H. Lambert at 15gs., Mr. Castleman at 14gs., Mr. J. Flower at 12½gs., Mr. F. Gay at 11½gs. and 11gs., Mr. Hall, for Lord Carnarvon) at 11gs., Mr. Goldsmith at 10gs., Mr. Carpenter at 10gs., Mr. Mitchell at 10½gs., the other principal buyers being Messrs. G. Blake, J. Gay, Williamson, Jno. Waters, Mackrell, Wyatt, Besent, J. Futcher, J. Dean, C. Gay, P. King, and F. Mills, the average of seventy-seven lambs let and sold being £10 5s.

Bicester Summer Fair.

The annual summer fair at Bicester took place on the 4th inst., and although the stormy weather of the previous evening promised unfavourably for the event, the atmospheric conditions were fine. The sheep pens, as usual, were situate in King's End, and the attendance of purchasers was good, though not equal to that of last year. The falling off may be accounted for by the fact that several other important fairs were held on the same day. Satisfactory prices were realised. Messrs. Paxton and Holiday, auctioneers, Bicester, offered for sale about 3,368 sheep and lambs, which is slightly under last year's numbers, seven rams and ram lambs, and fourteen horses. The highest average price was made by the ewes and lambs consigned by Mr. T. Cole, Hopcraft's Holt, viz., 51s., whilst the highest price given for one animal was paid by Mr. French, Islip, who purchased one of Mr. C. T. Hoare's theaves for 53s.

The Bishopstone Flock.

The annual letting and sale of ram lambs and rams from Mr. J. H. Dibben's well-known Bishopstone Flock took place at the Market House Yard, Salisbury, on Tuesday, a large company being present. The lambs were one of the best lots Mr. Dibben has brought out for several years, and as the result shows were much appreciated, for though no high prices were made there was a capital selling trade throughout, every lot being disposed of. Eight lambs were first let at from 9gs. to 25gs., average 14gs., the hirers being Messrs. A. Edwards at 25gs., Mr. Palmer at 17gs., Mr. W. J. K. Waters at 16gs. and 11gs., Mr. S. Ruddle at 12gs. and 10gs., Mr. Judd at 11gs., and Mr. G. C. Waters at 9gs. The ninety-two sale lambs made from 25gs. to 5gs. (the lower figure being realised in three instances only), and three shearlings and one two-shear rams, 9gs. to 12gs., the average of the whole 104 animals being the satisfactory one of 10gs. The principal buyers were Mr. W. Allen at 21gs., 15½gs., and 14gs., Mr. Corner at 19gs. and 11½gs., Mr. J. Brown at 12½gs., Mr. Dale at 17gs. and 9gs., Mr. Judd at 13gs., Mr. J. A. Harding at 10½gs. and 9½gs., Mr. Miles (for the Hon. Percy Wyndham) at 12½gs., 11gs., 10½gs., 9gs., etc., Mr. C. Notley at 10gs., Mr. Maslin (for Sir R. N. Rycroft) at 11gs., 9gs., etc., Mr. Roper (for Lord Pembroke) at 16gs., 13gs., 11gs., and 9gs., Mr. Rigden (for Sir E. Antrobus and Mr. Matcham) at 13gs., etc., Mr. G. C. Waters at 12½gs. and 9½gs., Mr. Way at 14gs. and 11½gs., Mr. J. K. Waters at 19gs. and 17gs., the lower priced lambs being secured by Messrs. Arnold, Cross, W. H. Brown, Furness, A. T. Gay, Main, W. J. Keevil, Matthews, Mitchell, W. A. Notley, J. Pile, Neal, Sutton, Sidford, Stidson, H. Waters, C. J. Waters, etc. Of the rams Mr. H. P. Taunton purchased a shearling at 12gs., Mr. H. Waters at 10½gs., and Mr. G. C. Waters at 9½gs., Mr. Brieant taking the two-shear at 9gs.

Lincoln Longwool Sheep-Breeders' Sale.

The tenth ram sale of the Lincoln Longwool Sheep-Breeders' Association was held at Lincoln on the 3rd inst. in a field near the racecourse. As last year, the breeders are having two sales, and that of Friday was the first this season. There were 207 rams entered, representing seventeen flocks, as compared with 374 from thirty-four flocks at the corresponding sale last year. With this reduced entry it was decided that all the rams should pass through one ring instead of having sales at two rings simultaneously; and as it turned out, it was fortunate that the attention of buyers had not to be divided, for they were none too numerous. There were several foreign purchasers present, and the exportation demands undoubtedly had a marked effect upon the prices. The best figure of the day was realised by Mr. H. Dudding, viz., 150gs., given by a South American buyer. Another dealer from South America gave 130gs. for one of Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons' rams. Mr. H. Dudding, of Riby Grove, purchased one of the rams of Mr. H. Smith, jun., of Cropwell Butler, for 110gs., and Mr. J. E. Caswell, of Loughton, gave 105gs. for one of Mr. Tom Caswell's Pointon rams; so it will be seen that breeders were themselves on the lookout for exceptionally useful sheep. As the sale proceeded it was found that the demand was of a limited character, and towards the close many rams were passed at the reserve price of 7gs. The sales were conducted under the regulations of the Association, and Messrs. R. C. Bemrose, R. Fisher, and J. R. Kirkham acted as stewards, while Mr. S. Upton, the secretary, was also in attendance. The following were the principal sales effected:—

Mr. Henry Dudding's, Riby Grove (auctioneers, Messrs. Calthrop and Briggs).—Mr. Taylor, Lord Provost of Dundee, 60gs.; Mr. Church, Buenos Ayres, 50gs., 150gs., and 30gs.; Mr. George Marris, Kirmington, 50gs. The five offered made in the aggregate £357, or an average of £71 8s. each.

Mr. E. J. Howard's, Nocton Rise (auctioneer, Mr. W. A. Richardson).—Mr. Hughes, Liverpool, 10gs.; Messrs. Askren Bros., Frome, 8gs.; Mr. Marriott, jun., Cropwell Butler, 16gs.; Mr. Chatterton, Stenigot, 7½gs. and 14gs.; Mr. R. Wright, Nocton, 7½gs. Others were passed. The six sold made £66 3s., an average of £11 0s. 6d. each.

Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons', Dowsby Hall (auctioneers, Messrs. Saul).—Mr. Candy, South America, 130gs., 23gs., 36gs., 2 at 20gs. each, 21gs., two at 19gs. each, and 17gs.; Mr. R. Chatterton, Stenigot, 24gs.; Mr. Brownless, South America, four at 20gs. each and one for 18gs.; Mr. H. Dudding, Riby, 77gs.; Mr. Hughes, Liverpool, 21gs.; Mr. Marriott, Cropwell Buler, 20gs.; Mr. J. E. Caswell, Laughton, 52gs. The 19 offered realised in the aggregate £626 17s., an average of £32 19s. 10d. each.

Messrs. R. and W. Wright's, Nocton Heath and Scamblesby House (auctioneers, Messrs T. B. Richardson and Son).—Messrs. Quibell, Newark, 18gs.; Mr. J. E. Caswell, Laughton, 45gs.; Mr. Kennedy, South America, 62gs.; Mr. E. J. Howard, Nocton Rise, 21gs.; Mr. Swallow, Horkstow, 14gs.; Mr. Langdall, 17gs.; Mr. Dows, Carlton, 20gs.; Mr. T. Caswell, Pointon, 90gs.; Mr. James Cartwright, Dunston, 14gs.; Mr. Jones, Dundee, 27gs. and 24gs.; Mr. F. Scorer, 32gs.; Mr. F. Ward, Quarrington, 40gs.; Mr. Langham, 17gs.; Mr. Headland, Potterhanworth, 16gs.; Mr. Fisher, Leconfield, 14gs.; Mr. Nelson, 30gs.; Mr. Groom, 16gs.; Mr. Campion, 15gs.; Messrs. R. and R. Chatterton, 14gs. Twenty were offered, and the lot sold for £568 1s., an average of £28 8s. per head.

Mr. John Pears', Mere (auctioneer, Mr. W. A. Richardson). Mr. Swallow, Horkstow, 85gs.; Mr. Platts, Marr, Doncaster, 14gs.; Messrs. Tomlinson and Hayward, Lincoln, 17gs.; Mr. Atkinson, North Kelsey, 17gs.; Mr. Kennedy, South America, 16gs. and 8gs.; Mr. W. Caswell, North Ormsby, 10gs.; Mr. R. H. Eyre, 9gs.; Mr. Wildsmith, Harmston, 15gs.; Mr. C. Howard, Nocton, 9gs.; Mr. Jackson, Yorks, 21gs.; Mr. Overton, Blankney, 9gs; Sir J. Thorold, Bart., 18gs. The thirteen sold made £265 8s., an average of £20 0s. 7d. each.

Mr. Tom Caswell's, Pointon (auctioneers, Messrs. Saul).—Mr. Jones, Dundee, 48gs. and 34gs.; Mr. Strickland, 20gs. and 18gs.; Mr. J. E. Caswell, Laughton, 105gs.; Mr. Spink, Yorks, 15gs.; Mr. H. Dudding, Riby, 86gs.; Mr. Langham, 17gs.; Mr. Waterhouse, Nottingham, 22gs.; Mr. Benson, 13gs.; Messrs. Chatterton, 15gs.; Mr. Pearson Gregory, Harlaxton, 15gs.; Mr. D. Machin, Worksop, 14gs.; Mr. Church, Buenos Ayres, 38gs. and 16gs.; Mr. Fisher, Leconfield, 50gs.; Mr. H. Machin, 17gs.; Mr. Brocklebank, Carlton-le-Moorland, 15gs.; Mr. Parker, Ingleby, 14gs.; Messrs. Tomlinson and Hay-

ward, 16gs. Twenty were offered, and sold for £617 18s., an average of £30 17s. 4d. each.

Mr. J. E. Caswell's, Laughton, Falkingham (auctioneers, Messrs. Saul).—Mr. C. Clarke, Scopwick, 34gs.; Mr. Chatterton, 26gs. and 11gs.; Mr. H. Caswell, Quadring, 22gs.; Messrs. Tomlinson and Hayward, Lincoln, 14gs.; Mr. H. Clarke, Byard's Leap, 17gs.; Mr. T. Caswell, Pointon, 24gs.; Messrs. Dean and Sons, Dowsby, 25gs.; Mr. H. Goodyear, Bourne, 20gs.; Mr. L. Stephenson, Alford, 17gs. and 10gs.; Mr. Marshall, 13gs.; Mr. Godson, 11gs.; Mr. William Caswell, North Ormsby, 8gs.; Colonel Preston, 9gs.; Mr. W. J. Brookes, Broughton Grange, 12gs.; Mr. H. Smith, jun., Cropwell Butler, 10gs.; Mr. Hincks, 15gs.; Mr. Machin, 9gs.; Mr. Pearson Gregory, 11gs.; Mr. Hughes, 15½gs., 10gs., and two at 9gs. each; Mr. Spilman, 15gs. Twenty-five were submitted, and sold for £395 6s. 6d., an average of £15 16s. 3d.

Mr. Henry Smith, jun.'s, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham (auctioneers, Messrs. T. B. Richardson and Son).—Mr. Joseph Brocklebank, 18gs.; Mr. L. Stephenson, Alford, 8½gs.; Mr. W. Taylor Sharpe, Baumber, 45gs.; Mr. H. Dudding, Riby, 110gs. and 32gs. The five rams sold made in the aggregate £213 10s. 6d., an average of £42 14s. 1d.

Messrs. C. Clarke and Son's, Byard's Leap, Sleaford (auctioneers, Messrs. Hincks and Turner).—Mr. Todd, Kirkby Green, 10gs.; Colonel Preston and Mr. Maltby, one each at 8gs.; and Mr. Spilman, Mr. H. Jackson, Mr. Benson, and Mr. E. J. Howard, each one at 7gs.

Mr. Charles Clarke's, Brookside, Scopwick (auctioneers, Messrs. Hincks and Turner).—Mr. J. Pears, Mere, 10gs.; Mr. L. Stephenson, Alford, 16gs. and 8gs.; Mr. Maltby, 7½gs.

Lindfield Fair.

Fortunately for those whose business led them to Lindfield Sheep Fair on Tuesday, the elements were much more propitious than on the previous day, but whether affected by Bank Holiday or not, the attendance of buyers was smaller than usual. This had the effect of rendering trade somewhat dull, although one or two of the better lots early changed hands at remunerative prices. The number of lambs penned was 9,207, and ewes and tegs augmented that number by 3,365, while there was the usual supply of horses and cattle, in which a fair trade appeared to be doing. While there appeared to be no very great demand, a large proportion of the lambs penned were sold, comparatively few being taken home again. Mr. W. T. Wallis, who is generally amongst the top prices, carried off the "blue riband" of the fair, obtaining 34s. per head for a beautiful pen of 100 lambs. This is a shilling better than the price obtained last year, when both Mr. Wallis and Mr. G. H. Strivens, of Shoreham, secured 33s. a head. Mr. Richard Brown, of Landport, secured 32s. 6d. a head for a very fine pen, while Mr. Harry Willett topped 30s., a price obtained by Mr. Mark Sandford on behalf of Count Munster, of Maresfield Park. Mr. R. Bannister, of Stoneham, just managed to exceed 30s. per head, as did both Mr. James Stacey and Mr. Harry Stacey; while Mr. Holman, of Clayton Court, who obtained 33s., ran Mr. Wallis very close. The average price obtained appeared to be about 27s. Tegs sold fairly well, Mr. J. Burder Powell, of Manfield, again heading the list with 50s. per head, the next best price being Mr. J. Brand, Hooe, an dMr. Simeon Wickens, Danehill, 45s. each. The highest quotation we heard of for ewes was 34s. 6d. per head, a price obtained by Mr. F. Strivens, of Fulking.

Shrewsbury Sheep Show and Sale.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. held the Shropshire breeders annual show and sale in the Smithfield, Shrewsbury, on the 2nd inst., when about 1,000 pure-bred rams and ewes drawn from the flocks of well-known breeders were penned. The judging was entrusted to Messrs. P. A. Evans and A. Tanner, whose awards were as follows:—Shearling rams (open): 1, Mr. S. F. M. Nevett; 2, Mr. H. Williams; r., Mr. E. Nock; hc., Mr. H. C. G. Parker. Six shearling rams (open): 1, Mr. M. Williams; 2, Mr. S. F. M. Nevett; r., Mr. H. C. G. Parker; hc., Mr. R. R. Raywood. Aged rams (open): 1, Mr. R. Raywood; r., Mr. W. Dickin; hc., Mr. P. Everall. Shearling rams (open to tenant farmers who have not won a prize at the Royal or Bath and West of England Shows): 1, Mr. H. Williams; 2, Mr. S. F. M. Nevett; r., Mr. T. Jones; hc., Mr. R. C. Pryce. Three shearling rams (open to tenant farmers who have not won a prize at the Royal or Bath and West Shows): 1, Mr. S. F. M. Nevett; 2, Mr. T. Jones; r., Mr. H. Williams; h.c., Mr. J. Corden, Mr. T. G. Juckes, and Mr. W. Vaughan; c., Mr. R. C. Pryce. Twenty shearling ewes (open): 1, Mr. R. Thomas; 2, Mr. P. Everall; r., Mr. S. F. M. Nevett; hc., Mr. W. Nunnerley and Mr. R. C. Pryce.

There was a very good attendance of buyers, but harvest operations prevented the gathering from being quite as large as it otherwise would have been. For the best quality of sheep trade was fairly good, but for farmers' sheep it was not so brisk, the sale being held rather early in the season. Rams sold as follows:—Sent by Mr. R. Raywood, Harley, Much Wenlock, 6½gs. to 13gs.; the Duke of Sutherland, Lilleshall, 5gs. to 5½gs.; Mr. S. F. M. Nevett, Yorton, 8gs. to 20gs.; Mr. H. Williams, Newton-on-the-Hill, 8gs. to 25gs.; Mr. H. C. G. Parker, Brockton Grange, 5gs. to 14gs.; Mr. P. Everall, Uckington, 5½gs. to 15gs.; Mr. R. C. Pryce, Broughton, 5gs. to 6½gs.; Mr. T. Jones, Cotwall, 10gs. to 15gs.; Mr. Matthew Williams, Whiston Hall, Albrighton, 9gs. to 21gs.; Mr. E. Nock, Sutton Maddock, 5gs. to 14gs. Ewes: Mr. J. S. Harding, Catstree Farm, Bridgnorth, 45s. to 50s.; Mr. P. Everall, 50s. to 70s.; Mr. S. F. M. Nevett, 55s. to 68s.; Mr. H. Williams, 55s. to 63s.; Mr. T. Davies, Little Ness, 47s. 6d. to 55s.; Mr. R. Thomas, The Buildings, Baschurch, 55s. to 65s.; Mr. W. Nunnerley, Kenwick, Ellesmere, 55s. to 57s. 6d.; Mr. R. C. Pryce, 48s. to 50s. A large number of Shropshire and Clun ewes and wethers changed hands at from 38s. to 45s.

Cirencester Ram Fair.

This fair was held on Tuesday and was well attended, though the supply of mutton and stock sheep was not quite so full as usual. Mutton sold well, best qualities making up to 8d. and 8½d. per lb. Stock ewes, which were not quite up to the customary standard for this fair, made from 34s. to 40s. a head. The bids for rams and ram lambs were fairly good, Cotswolds being in better demand than for the last few years, the top price for this breed being 15gs., the average being from five to eight guineas, with a fairly quick sale. Both Mr. F. Craddock, Eastington, and Mr. W. Houlton, Broadfield, realised 15 guineas. Oxford Downs were in large supply, and sold well. The premier consignment of this breed was fifty splendid shearlings from Mr. James Hobbs's Maiseyhampton flock, which realised an average of £13 6s., the highest price being 50 guineas. Oxford Down ram lambs averaged from five to six guineas, and Hampshire Down ram lambs met a satisfactory sale, one lot, sent by Mr. J. B. Stevens, of Ogborne Street, reaching an average of close on £7.

Tan Hill Fair.

This fair was held on Monday in very wet weather. With the improved prospects of keep, there was a good demand for both ewes and lambs. Prices recovered the drop at Weyhill, and may be quoted about the same as at Salisbury. The number of sheep penned for Mr. T. Lavington's sale totalled about 4,000, a few in excess of last year. The best price for ewes was 48s., and for lambs 31s. 6d. The advance on recent fairs was in some cases about 4s. per head. Two-teeth and four-teeth ewes made from 48s. to 43s., full-mouth ewes 36s. 6d. to 30s., overyeared ewes from 37s. downwards, wether lambs 31s. 6d. to 24s., and chilver lambs 29s. 6d. to 25s. Mr. George T. Smith held his usual sale by auction in the fair, his entry comprising about 1300 ewes and lambs. There was a fair trade, and nearly the whole were sold.

Messrs. Treadwell's Oxford Downs.

A large and distinguished company of farmers and stock breeders assembled at Upper Winchendon on the 1st inst., on the occasion of Messrs. J. and S. Treadwell's annual sale of Oxfordshire Down shearling rams. Although the sale did not realise so much as previous years, the quality of the sheep was quite up to the usual standard of excellence, and purchasers were present from nearly all parts of the country. Mr. Edward Bond, of Thame, was the auctioneer. The leading prices were:—Mr. Sims, for Miss Alice de Rothschild, 57gs.; Mr. Case, Norfolk, 56gs.; Mr. A. J. Balfour, M.P., 32gs.; Mr. J. T. Hobbs, Maiseyhampton, 40gs.; Mr. Roberts, Weedon, 32gs.; Mr. Hubbard, for Mr. Alfred Rothschild, 21gs.; Mr. Edward Sturgeon, Grays, Essex, 20gs.; Mr. J. G. Williams, Penley, 20gs.; Lord Camperdown, 17gs.; Mr. Lyall, 17gs.; Mr. A. Willsden, Dornford Park, 15gs. The whole realised £769 2s. 6d., making an average of £13 9s. 9d., which was slightly below that of last year.

Crieff Wool Fair.

This annual fair took place on Tuesday, but it being the annual show of the Strathearn Agricultural Society, the business this year was principally conducted in the showyard, when it was difficult to obtain the prices going. There was, however, a large number of farmers and wool growers from the Grampian and Ochil ranges, as well as representatives from wool brokers from the principal centres. Business was stiff, and farmers were quite unwilling to sell at the prices offered, but a number of clips changed hands at much the same as last year's rates—blackfaced bringing from 4d., 4¼d., and some cases 4¾d. per lb., while cross clips were selling at from 9s. to 9s. 2d. per stone of 22lb. A large number of the farmers in the district have already consigned their clips to the Edinburgh, Leith, Glasgow, and Perth sales.

The annual general meeting of the Perthshire Central Association for the Prevention of Sheep Stealing was held in Crieff on Tuesday. There was a fair attendance of farmers from the different districts embraced by the Association. The treasurer submitted the annual statement, which showed the finances of the Association to be in a flourishing condition. No recent case of sheep stealing was reported to the meeting.

SHOWS.

Tring.

Since the adoption, eleven years ago, of a "forward" policy, and an enlarged and in all respects up-to-date programme, coincidently with the acceptance by Lord Rothschild of the presidency, and the removal of the show to the beautiful park, the Tring Agricultural Society has enjoyed an unbroken run of success, culminating last year in a record attendance of about 12,000 persons. This year, while all the old favourite features were retained, some especially attractive novelties were introduced, and the sanguine hopes cherished of a larger attendance and a more pronounced success than ever were certainly not unwarranted. Unhappily, the "Clerk of the Weather" interposed his veto. Overnight the elemental indications seemed fairly hopeful. But Thursday morning broke grey and humid, and the appearance of the sky was such an exact counterpart of Bank Holiday morning that experienced showgoers prepared for the worst. Their pessimistic anticipations were, unfortunately, too soon verified. Shortly after ten o'clock occasional spots of rain began to fall, and by eleven a steady rain had set in, and continued without intermission throughout the day, varied only by occasional showers of tropical severity. Even at the critical period of the morning, when the majority of intending visitors would be making arrangements to start for the show, was, of course, fatal to a big "gate." It speaks volumes for the popularity and attractiveness of the gathering that, in spite of the wretchedness which necessarily prevailed everywhere, nearly six thousand visitors passed the turnstiles, to say nothing of those who entered in carriages, and the army of members, officials, and attendants who were admitted by complimentary tickets. The show of stock was considerably above the average in extent and excellence. The six dozen milking cows which had been located in convenient sheds in the Park since Tuesday in connection with the far-famed milk and butter tests, constituted one of the most important features of the show. Their number showed a decrease of nine from the previous year, and of four from 1898. In almost every other department there was a gratifying increase, as will be gleaned from the following statisticts:—Cart horses: 1898, 160; 1899, 135; 1900. 177. Nags: 1898, 65; 1899, 157; 1900, 192. Shorthorn cattle: 1898, 53; 1899, 64; 1900, 91. Jerseys: 1898, 92; 1899, 98; 1900, 115. Sheep: 1898, 55; 1899, 54; 1900, 56. Pigs: 1898, 31; 1899, 26; 1900, 42.

The milk and butter tests, as usual, attracted some of the most valuable and productive dairy cows in England, the contests at Tring, with those at the Bath and West of England Show in May and the London Dairy Show in October, being recognised as the most important in the kingdom. A special prize of £30 is offered for the cow of any age or breed that yields the greatest weight of butter at any two of these shows. This cannot, of course, be awarded until after the next Dairy Show on October 9th. The butter made from the produce of each cow, with all necessary particulars was displayed early in the afternoon on a counter in front of the tent set apart for the contests, and if it did not receive quite so much attention as on other occasions, it was only because the heavy rain and the consequent dripping from the tent quite forbade a lengthened inspection. The full particulars will be published in the customary tabu'ar form shortly, so that it is needless to give more than the list of awards, which appears in its proper place further on. Some new names appear in the list this year, and Lord Braybrooke was not quite so successful as in some previous years. It is gratifying to see tenant farmers figuring prominently in the prize list in the heavy class, Mr. E. Dawe, of Wendover, carrying off both milk and butter prizes, with Mr. A. Bonest second in the former.

The Jerseys are always in strong force at Tring, alike in the tests and in the general classes, and there has probably never been a finer or more meritorious representation of this valuable breed than on Thursday, many of the most famous herds in England being represented. The judges had no complete their onerous labours in these classes until quite late in the afternoon. There were a few local exhibitors, but they do not figure highly in the prize list. Lady de Rothschild received several honourable mentions, but did not win anything more substantial. Among the principal prize-takers were Mr. C. W. Armitage, of Potter's Bar, whose beautiful little fawn, Mulvina III., was placed champion of the show as well as first in her class; Mr. McIntosh, of Haverig Park, Rothbury; Mrs. S. Greenall, of Walton Hall, Warrington; Mrs. A. F. Perkins, of Holmwood; and Colonel McCalmont, of Ross, Herefordshire.

The Shorthorn and other cattle both in the open and local classes, made a [illegible] show, and in build some very useful animals. There was a capital class of Sussex cows, [illegible] Mr. J. E. Spencer, of Hitchin, the second has had very [illegible] success with Magnolia Maid [illegible]. The local class of cows was a large one, but scarcely equal in quality to the open. Mr. de Rothschild was first with a nice red. The heifer classes were not so well filled. There were amongst them, however, some promising youngsters, notably Mr. F. Bal-

ford's white Graceful (three years), and his roan, Winsome (one year), first in their respective classes; Mr. J. H. R. Horwood's White Beauty, first in two-year-old class, and Drayton Beauty (red) second in the 1897 class. Mr. H. Landon did not do so well in these classes as usual, but in the open class for bulls he won first honours with Terrick Lad VIII., which looks like furnishing well. Mr. Bedford's second prize bull, Pilton, was also bred by Mr. Landon. The open class of heifers, Red Polled or Aberdeen-Angus, was a very good lot indeed, the pick being a particularly nice heifer shown by Mr. R. P. Cooper, bred by the late Mr. J. J. Colman, which won first prize. The whole of the six Channel Islands cows and heifers were noticed by the judges, the first prize going to a pretty fawn Jersey of Mr. M. Pratt's. In the remaining heifer class Mr. H. Fincher's Dutch Magpie —name and colour agreeing—was preferred to Mr. J. G. Williams' trio of Lincoln Reds.

The cart horses occupied a prominent position, and made a splendid show. In the seven open classes the animals exhibited consisted almost wholly of Shires, and these included representatives of some of the best studs in the kingdom. Sir J. B. Maple sent a fine selection, and, as last year, won some notable successes. A grand three-year-old grey mare, Grand Duchess, was not only first in her class, but was also selected to receive Mr. Gilbey's champion cup. Sir James was also first for filly of 1899 with Kathleen, a handsome chestnut; and for mare and foal with Stanney Commotion, a good bay mare and foal of similar colour. Mr. John Parnell, of Rugby, sent some of his famous Rokebys, winning first prize with a chestnut filly and a brown colt, the latter being, however, a Lockinge, bred by Lord Wantage. The Prince of Wales, who generally sends a Shire or two to this show, was second to Mr. Parnell with a well-bred bay colt. Sir Walter Gilbey was also represented, being placed second for filly of 1898 and mare and foal, and third for filly foal. Mr. Stewart Freeman's bay colt, Southernwood Black Prince, beat some well-bred youngsters in the foal class, as also did Mr. Hamer Towgood's brown filly in hers. The local classes were very well filled. Mr. T. Kingham's nice bay gelding, Prince, was successful in a good class of mares or geldings foaled previous to 1897, as also was his Drayman in an equally excellent class of four-year-olds. Mr. Flowers' executors were first with their mare, Sea Poppy, and filly, Beachendon Darling, in good company. These two, with Flower, a bay, also won for them the valuable prize for three working horses, while Sea Poppy won the further distinction of the Shire Horse Society's silver medal. Mr. E. L. Wooster was first for three-year-old geldings with a grey by Carbonite, and for a pair of working horses with two showy chestnuts.

Amongst the hunters and nags were some capital mounts and promising youngsters. They were, however, so much scattered through seeking shelter under the trees that a careful inspection of them was quite out of the question. Mr. J. W. King, of Whitesfields, sent a strong draft from his valuable stud, winning firsts for two-year-olds (Sweetheart), four-year-olds (Lack Nothing), Hunter, by Southcourt Stud Horse (ditto), and the Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal (with Sweetheart). Mr. W. Manning supplied the winning yearling, with Mr. King second and third; also the best three and five-year-olds and general purposes nag. Mr. J. H. Stokes was first for hunter up to 14 stone and over, and Messrs. E. and A. Baxter for ditto not exceeding 14 stone; also for the best Hackney. The Keynsham Stud Company supplied the best hack. There was a very interesting class for ponies, ridden by relatives of the owners, not exceeding sixteen years old, the first prize being won by the Rev. D. B. Montefiore's polo pony Zither, with Mr. Johnstone Harris's Pearl second.

Despite the torrents which poured pitilessly upon the ring and grand stand, a large crowd assembled to witness the jumping competitions. The entries for both the jumping and driving events were this year better than ever, and in the former class of entry was decidedly above the average.

Mr. L. C. Leadbetter's Fairy Tale was the first to face the audience in the competition for the best performance over hurdles, double gate, and fenced water. The animal took all the obstacles with the exception of the high jump. Although Mr. B. Robins' Sterling at first refused the gate, it cleared the other jumps in grand style, and well deserved the premier honours ultimately awarded to it. Mr. A. N. Smith's Little Lady experienced no difficulty in clearing all the obstacles, although not so gracefully as Sterling. Mr. A. N. Smith's Grasshopper vaulted over everything but the high jump, which it just touched. Mr. J. E. Kimber's Twinkling Star showed good form. In the next class (34) for the best performance over the fences, Mr. B. Robins' Lady's Maid was the first to go round, and just managed to clear everything. Grasshopper entered into the spirit of the contest with better grace than on its first appearance, and leapt over all obstacles in grand fashion, well deserving the first prize. The jumping was immediately followed by the driving competitions, in which some very fine animals and pretty turnouts competed. Messrs. Baxter were successful in two classes, with Mr. S. Brunton second, and the last-named gentleman was first in two others, also receiving the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal for the best Hackney, with Snowstorm. The Bending Competition for polo ponies proved most exciting, and was greatly enjoyed by the spectators. There was keen competition in nearly all the sheep classes, and a very large proportion of the entries received notices from the judges. Mr. W. B. Greenfield's rather highly-coloured Hampshires were very much in evidence, winning first for ewes, ewe lambs, and rams. Mr. R. P. Cooper showed some nice Shropshires (uncoloured) winning first for ram or ram lamb. Mr. E. L. Wooster was very successful, winning firsts for five Hampshire lambs, five lambs of other breeds, and for twenty lambs.

The pigs were also an excellent show, although rather few in numbers. Messrs. R. E. and J. H. R. Horwood were, as usual, to the fore here with their Berkshires. Sir H. de Trafford beat them both, however, with a fine Berkshire boar, Mr. W. Johnson was successful with cross-breds, and Mr. F. Bedford with Yorkshires.

Prize List.

HORSES.

CART HORSES (OPEN CLASSES).

Mare, foaled in 1897: 1, Sir J. B. Maple, Bart., Childwickbury; 2, Mr. J. Parnell, Rugby; 3, Exors. of Mr. W. Flowers, Beachendon; r, Mr. R Rowland, Creslow.

Filly, foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. J. Parnell; 2, Sir W. Gilbey, Bart., Elsenham Hall; 3, Sir J. B. Maple, Bart.; r, Mr. E. Pegg, Chipping, Buntingford; c, Exors. of Mr. W. Flowers and Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby.

Filly, foaled in 1899: 1, Sir J. B. Maple, Bart.; 2, Mr. J. Parnell; 3, Mr. R. Rowland; r, Mr. R. W. Hudson, Marlow.

Colt, foaled in 1899: 1, Mr. J. Parnell; 2, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Sandringham; 3, Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P.

Mare and foal (bred in 1900): 1, Sir J. B. Maple, Bart.; 2, Sir W. Gilbey, Bart.; 3, Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P.; r, Mr. H. H. Smith, Carrington, Melton Mowbray.

Cart foal: 1, Mr. S. Freeman; 2, Mr. A. P. McMullen; 3 and r, Mr. G. H. Harris.

Filly foal: 1, Mr. H. Towgood, Little Shelford; 2, Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P.; 3, Sir W. Gilbey, Bart.; r, Sir J. B. Maple, Bart.; hc, Mr. R Rowland.

LOCAL CLASSES.

Mare or gelding, foaled previous to 1897: 1, Mr. T. Kingham, Dinton; 2 and hc, Mr. G. C. Terry, Putlowes; 3, Mr. J. P. Terry, Berryfield; r, Mr. R. Rowland.

Mare or gelding, foaled in 1896: 1, Mr. T. Kingham; 2, Mr. R. Rowland; 3, Mr. J. Roads, Norduck; r, Mr. J. R. Simons, Berryfield.

Mare, foaled in 1897: 1, Executors of Mr. W. Flowers; 2, Mr. R. Rowland; 3, Mr. J. B. Hedges, Boarscroft; r, Mr. J. Roads.

Gelding, foaled in 1897: 1, Mr. E. L. Wooster, Princes Risborough; 2, Mr. G. A. Elliott, Hulcot; 3, Mr. T. T. De Fraine, Charteridge.

Gelding, foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. G. A. Elliott; 2, Mrs. Pratt, Marsworth; 3, Mr. J. Roads; r, Mr. F. Bedford, Dudswell.

Filly, foaled in 1898: 1, Executors of Mr. W. Flowers; 2, Mr. R. Rowland; 3 and r, Mr. J. Stopps, Bledlow.

Mare and foal (foal to be dropped in 1900): 1, Mr. J. Brandon, Leighton Buzzard; 2, Mr. J. Stopps; 3, Mr. G. H. Harris, Aston Abbots; r, Mr. A. A. Buckmaster, Horton.

Yearling filly: 1, Mr. R. Rowland; 2, Exors. of Mr. W. Flowers; 3, Mr. C. Gray, Whitchurch.

Yearling colt: 1, Mr. E. Dawe; 2, Mr. C. Anstee, Soulbury; 3, Mr. T. T. De Fraine.

Colt foal: 1 and 2, Mr. G. H. Harris; 3, Mr. C. Gray; r, Mr. J. Stopps.

Filly foal: 1, Mr. J. Brandon; 2, Mr. J. B. Hedges: 3, Exors. of Mr. W. Flowers: r, Mr. R. Rowland.

Cart foal in the foregoing local classes, by one of the Tring Park Shire Horses: 1, Mr. A. A. Buckmaster; 2 and 3, Mr. T. T. De Fraine.

Filly foal in the foregoing local classes, by one of the Tring Park Shire Horses: 1 and 3, Mr. J. Gadsden, Weston Turville; 2, Mr. H. Woodman, Wilstone.

Pair of working horses, in constant work, the owner farming not less than two-thirds of arable land: 1, Mr. E. L. Wooster; 2, Mr. J. Clarke; 3, Mr. E. Dawe; r, Mr. R. E. Horwood, Drapton, Beauchamp.

Team of three working horses: 1, Executors of Mr. W. Flowers; 2, Mr. R. Rowland; 3, Mr. G. C. Terry.

A special prize of £3 for the best foal entered in the foregoing classes insured in the Association, was offered, but there was no competition.

A challenge cup, value £10, for the best shire mare or filly in the show, eligible for entry in the Shire Horse Stud Book, was awarded to Sir J. B. Maple, Bart.; r, Captain W. H. V. Duncombe, Sandy.

Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best shire mare, filly, or filly foal, registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book, entered in the local classes, was awarded to the Exors. of Mr. W. Flowers; r, Mr. J. Brandon.

HUNTERS (LOCAL).

Yearlings, suitable for making hunters: 1, Mr. W. Manning, Wing; 2 and 3, Mr. J. W. King, Whitesfields; r, Mr. C. Anstee.

Two-year-olds, suitable for making hunters: 1, Mr. J. W. King; 2 and r, Mr. G. A. Elliott; 3, Mr. J. Roads.

Three-year-olds, suitable for making hunters: 1, Mr. W. Manning; 2, Mr. R. Rawle, Berkhamsted; 3, Mr. J. Roads; r, Mr. J. W. King.

Four-year-olds, suitable for making hunters: 1, Mr. J. W. King; 2, Exors. of Mr. W. Flowers; 3 and r, Mr. C. Brooks, Mursley.

Five-year-olds, suitable for making hunters: 1, Mr. W. Manning; 2, Mr. B. F. J. Gates, Wing; 3, Mr. C Brooks; r, Exors. of Mr. W. Flowers.

OPEN.

Hunter, 14 stone and over: 1, Mr. J. H. Stokes; 2, Mr. J. Drage, Northampton; 3, Mr. A. Withers, 556, Oxford-street, London; r, Mr. W. Cuthbert, Warwick.

Hunter, not exceeding 14 stone: 1, Messrs. E. and A. Baxter, Brentwood; 2, Mr. A. H. Jackson, Harrow Weald; 3, Mr. J. W. King; r, Mr. J. Drage.

Hunter, not exceeding 7 years old, by any of the Southport stud horses: 1 and r, Mr. J. W. King; 2, Exors. of Mr. W. Flowers; 3, Mr. W. Cuthbert.

Hack, not exceeding 15.2: 1, the Keynsham Stud Company, Keynsham; 2, Mr. S. Freeman, Wingrave; 3, Mr. J. W. King; r Mr. G. A. Elliott.

Pony, not exceeding 13.2, to be ridden by boys or girls not exceeding 16 years old, being sons or nephews, daughters or nieces, of members to whom the pony belongs: 1, Rev. D. B. Montefiore, Mursley; 2, Mr. J. Harris, Linslade; 3, Mr. W. W. Waskin, Linslade; r, Mr. C. Anstee.

Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for the best hunter filly (by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter sire), not exceeding three years old (foaled in 1897, 1898, or 1899), registered in the society's record of hunter mares and sires, was awarded to Mr. J. W. King.

JUMPING (OPEN).

Mare or gelding, for the best performer over the fences: 1, Mr. B. Robins, Rickmansworth; 2 and r, Mr. A. N. Smith; 3, Mr. J. E. Kimber, Abingdon. Mare or gelding, the best performer over the fences: 1, Mr. A. N. Smith; 2, Mr. J. Kimber; 3, Mr. W. Ward, Bury, Luton.

GENERAL PURPOSE.

Mare or gelding, not exceeding 16 hands, shown in harness, and suitable for riding (open to tenant farmers within the 15 mile radius): 1, Mr. W. Manning; 2, Mr. G. A. Elliott; 3, Mr. J. Roads; r, Mr. J. Clarke, Tring.

HACKNEY (OPEN).

Hackney, over 14.2 and under 15.2, to be shown in the saddle: 1, Messrs. E. and A. Baxter; 2, Mr. S. Brunton, St. Albans; 3, Mr. W. Smith, Aylesbury.

HACKNEY HORSE SOCIETY.

Silver medal for best hackney or pony mare, filly, or filly foal that is registered or eligible for registration in the Hackney Stud Book, was awarded to Mr. S. Brunton.

HARNESS (OPEN).

Mare or gelding, exceeding 14.3: 1, Messrs. E. and A. Baxter; 2, Mr. S. Brunton; 3, Messrs. Gardener Brothers, Chesham.

Mare or gelding, not exceeding 14.3 (open to members within the 15 mile radius): 1, Messrs. E. and A. Baxter; 2, Mr. S. Brunton; 3, Mr. W. Furze.

Mare or gelding, exceeding 14.3: 1, Mr. S. Brunton; 2, Mr. P. H. Buller, Leighton Buzzard; 3, Mr. T. Hull, High Wycombe; r, Mr. W. Mannning; hc, Mr. W. Smith.

Mare or gelding, not exceeding 14.3: 1, Mr. S. Brunton; 2, Mr. H. R. Craufurd, Aldbury; 3, Mr. B. Robins; r, Mr. B. J. Gates; hc, Mr. T. Chapman, Puttenham.

A challenge cup, value £10 10s., for the best harness mare or gelding in the foregoing classes was awarded to Messrs. E. and A. Baxter; r, Mr. S. Brunton.

A challenge cup, value 50 guineas, and a silver medal, to the winner of the most points in the classes for hunters, harness, and general purposes horses. Not yet awarded. A silver cup, value £10 10s. is also given, to be retained in the event of the challenge cup being won three times in succession, or four times in all.

DONKEYS.

Donkey, gelding or mare, to be shown in single harness: 1, Mr. C. Anstee; 2, Mrs. E. Waite; 3, Miss Carr.

POLO PONIES.

OPEN RIDING CLASSES.

Mares or geldings, four years old, for ponies suitable for making polo ponies, foaled in 1896: 1, Mr. J. B. Gates, Aston Abbots; 2, Hon. Mrs. C. Howard, Great Missenden; 3, Mr. A. H. Archer, Tring.

Mares or geldings, five years old and upwards, for polo ponies and for ponies suitable for making polo ponies, foaled previous to 1896: 1 and 3, Rev. D. B. Montefiore; 2, Mr. G. Pratt, Oving; r, Mr. T. R. Seaton, Aylesbury.

CATTLE.

OPEN.

Shorthorn cow, in milk or in calf, calved previous to 1897: 1 and hc (2), Mr. J. F. Spencer, Stanhope-road, Highgate, N.; 2, Mr. J. Evens, Burton; 3, hc, and c, Mr. H. Landon, Aylesbury; r, Mr. H. Fincher, Tring.

LOCAL.

Shorthorn cow, in calf or in milk, calved previous to 1897: 1, Mr. J. Roads; 2, Mr. H. Fincher; 3, Mr. C. Birdsey, Southcourt; r, Mr. E. Dawe, Wendover; c, Exors. of Mr. W. Flowers, and Mr. H. Landon.

Shorthorn heifer, in calf, calved in 1897: 1, Mr. F. Bedford; 2, Mr. J. H. R. Horwood, Drayton, Beauchamp; 3, Mr. E. L. Wooster; r, Mr. J. Roads.

Shorthorn heifer, calved in 1898: 1, Mr. J. H. R. Horwood; 2 and r, Mr. H. Landon; 3, Mr. P. Mead, Tring.

Shorthorn heifer, calved in 1899: 1, Mr. F. Bedford; 2, Mr. J. Burnham, Aston Clinton; 3, Mr. J. H. R. Horwood; r, Mr. H. Fincher.

Cow or heifer of a Channel Island breed, in milk or in calf, bred in England: 1, Mr. M. Pratt, Tring; 2, Mr. H. Fincher; 3, Mr. R. Fowler, Broughton; hc, Mr. F. Bedford; c, Mr. R. Fowler, Broughton, Mr. F. Bedford.

OPEN.

Heifer, red polled or Aberdeen Angus, in calf or in milk, not exceeding four years old: 1, Mr. R. P. Cooper, Berkhamsted; 2 and c, Messrs. H. and T. Taylor, Great Gaddesden; 3, Mr. F. Crisp, New Southgate, N.; r and hc, Lord Rothschild, Tring.

Heifer, in calf or in milk, not exceeding four years old, of any of the following breeds:—Kerry, Ayrshire, Welsh, or any other pure breed other than Jersey or Shorthorn: 1 Mr. H. Fincher; 2 and 3 Mr. J. G. Williams, Pendley, Tring.

Pure-bred Shorthorn bull, eligible for entry in the Herd Book (prize given by Mr. A. H. Longman): 1, Mr. H. Landon; 2, Mr. F. Bedford.

JERSEY CATTLE (OPEN).

Jersey cow, in calf or in milk, calved previously to 1897: 1, 3, and vhc, Mr. C. W. Armitage, Potter's Bar; 2, 4, and hc, Mrs. S. Greenall, Warrington; r and vhc, Mrs McIntosh, Romford; hc, Mr. J. Carson, Theydon Bois, and Col. H. McCalmont, Ross, Herefordshire; c, Lady de Rothschild, Aston Clinton; Mr. P. Phipps, Kettering; and Hon. Mrs. M. Smith, Market Harborough.

Jersey heifer, calved in 1897, in calf or in milk: 1, Mrs. S. Greenall; 2 and c, Duke of Marlborough, Woodstock; 3 and hc, Mrs McIntosh; 4, Col. H. McCalmont; r and hc, Mr. A. Miller-Hallett, Chelsfield; hc Lady de Rothschild; c, Mr. J. Carson and Mr. C. F. Young, Melbourne.

Jersey heifer, calved in 1898: 1 Mrs. McIntosh; 2, Mr. C. W. Armitage; 3, Col. H. McCalmont; 4, Earl Cadogan, Bury St. Edmunds; r, Mr. A. E. McMullen, Hertingfordbury; vhc, Lady de Rothschild; hc, Earl Cadogan, Mr. H. Barnet, Northchurch, Mrs. A. F. Perkins, Holmwood; c, Col. H. McCalmont, Capt. A. B. S. Fraser, Worthing.

Yearling Jersey heifer: 1 Mrs. A. F. Perkins; 2 and r, Mrs. McIntosh; 3, Mr. P. Phipps; 4, Earl Cadogan; vhc Mr. C. W. Armitage; hc, Mr. P. Phipps, Lady de Rothschild, Capt. A. B. Fraser, Mrs. S. Greenall; c, Lady de Rothschild, Mr. H. Barnett, Viscount Enfield, Barnet; Duke of Marlborough [2], Mr. J. W. Smith-Neill, Wendover [2].

Jersey bull, calved in 1899 or 1900: 1, Col. H. McCalmont; 2, Admiral Hon. T. S. Brand, Lewes; 3, Captain A. B. S. Fraser; 4, Viscount Enfield; r, Mrs. McIntosh; hc, Viscount Enfield, Duke of Marlborough.

A champion prize of £5 5s., for the best animal in Classes 54 to 58, was awarded to Mr. C. W. Armitage; r, Mrs. McIntosh.

MILK TESTS.

OPEN.

Cow of any breed or cross, not exceeding [illegible] lbs. live weight, giving the greatest quantity of milk, not less than 3 per cent. butter fat, or obtaining the largest number of points for yield of butter: 1, Mrs. McIntosh; 2, Duke of Marlborough; 3, Lord Braybrooke, Saffron Walden; 4, Hon. Mrs. Murray Smith.

Cow of any breed or cross, exceeding [illegible] lbs. live weight, giving the greatest quantity of milk, not less than 3 per cent. butter fat, or obtaining the largest number of points for yield of butter: 1, Mr. E. Dawe; 2, Mr. A. Bonest, Mentmore; 3, Mr. D. T. Ellingworth, Romford; 4, Mr. J. Evans.

BUTTER TESTS.

OPEN.

Cow of any breed or cross, not exceeding [illegible] lbs. live weight for yield of butter: 1, Colonel H. McCalmont; 2, Dr. H. Watney, Bangbourne; 3, Viscount Enfield; 4 Mrs. McIntosh. Certificates of merit were awarded to Captain Smith Neill (2) and £1 special butter prize), Mr. C. F. Young; Mr. E. M. Ind, Great Warley; Messrs. C. and M. Palmer, Manchester (4); Hon. Mrs. M. Smith, Lord Braybrooke (2), and Dr. H. Watney.

Cow of any breed or cross, exceeding [illegible] lbs. live weight for yield of butter: 1, Mr. E. Daw; 2, Dr. H. Watney; 3, Viscount

Enfield; 4, Mr. C. Birdsey. Three certificates of merit were awarded to Lord Braybrooke.

The English Jersey Cattle Society offered the following prizes for Jersey cows competing in the test: 1, gold medal, Colonel H. McCalmont; 2, silver medal and £5, Dr. H. Watney; 3, bronze medal and £3, Viscount Enfield.

Tenant farmers' prizes were awarded as follows: 1 and 2, in butter test, and 1 and 2 in milk test, Mr. A. Merry, Leighton Buzzard; 3, Mr. D. T. Ellingworth; r, Mr. F. Bedford.

SHEEP.

OPEN.

Pen of five short-woolled ewes (prizes given by Lord Rothschild): 1, Mr. W. B. Greenfield, Flamstedbury; 2, Mr. R. P. Cooper; 3, Mr. G. S. Fisher, Thrapstone; r, Mr. J. Clarke.

Pen of five short-woolled ewe lambs: 1 and c, Mr. W. B. Greenfield; 2 Lady de Rothschild; 3, Mr. J. G. Williams; r, Mr. G. S. Fisher; hc, Mr. J. Clarke; c, Mr. R. C. Cooper.

Pen of five ewe or wether lambs, bred by the exhibitor from a Tring Park Hampshire Down ram lamb (prizes offered by Lord Rothschild); No competition.

Ram or ram lamb of any breed: 1, Mr. R. P. Cooper; 2, Mr. G. S. Fisher; 3, Mr. W. B. Greenfield; r, Mr. J. Clarke.

LOCAL.

Pen of five Hampshire Down ewe or wether lambs (prizes given by Lord Rothschild): 1, Mr. E. L. Wooster; 2, Mr. J. Clarke; 3, Mr. P. Mead; r, Mr. H. R. Horwood.

Pen of five ewe or wether lambs of any breed or cross other than Hampshire Down: 1 and r, Mr. E. L. Wooster; 2 and 3, Mr. F. Bedford; r, Mr. J. Batchelor, Buckland.

Ram or ram lamb of any breed: 1 and 2, Mr. W. B. Greenfield; 3, Mr. J. Clarke; r Mr. F. Bedford.

Pen of fifteen ewes, open to tenant farmers only (prizes given by Captain Constable Curtis): 1, Mr. F. Bedford; 2, Mr. J. Clarke; 3, Mr. H. Grange, Tring; r, Mr. R. E. Horwood.

Pen of twenty lambs, open to tenant farmers only: 1, Mr. E. L. Wooster; 2, Mr. F. Bedford; 3, Mr. J. Clarke; r, Messrs. H. and T. Taylor; hc, Mr. P. Mead; c, Mr. H. Grange and Mr. J. H. R. Horwood (2).

PIGS.

LOCAL.

Breeding sow of a Berkshire breed, in pig or with litter of not less than six pigs: 1 and 3, Mr. R. E. Horwood; 2, Mr. R. Fowler; r, Mr. J. H. R. Horwood.

Sow of any other breed or cross, in pig or with litter of not less than six pigs; 1, Mr. J. H. R. Horwood; 2, Mr. F. Bedford.

Breeding sow, in pig or with litter of not less than six pigs (open to tradesmen and allotment holders within four miles of Tring Market House): 1, Mr. W. Johnson, Tring; 2, Mr. W. Smith; 3, Messrs. J. and A. Wright, Tring; r, Mr. W. N. Mead, Tring; hc, Mr. H. Fincher.

OPEN.

Boar of any distinct breed, not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Sir H. de Trafford, Market Harborough; 2, Mr. R. E. Horwood; 3, Mr. J. H. R. Horwood; r, Mr. F. Bedford; c, Mr. E. Carter, Bishopstone.

Breeding sow, in pig or with litter of not less than six pigs: 1, Mr. J. H. R. Horwood; 2, Sir H. de Trafford; 3, Mr. R. E. Horwood; r, Mr. W. Johnson.

Pair of yelts of any breed or cross born in 1900: 1 Mr. J. H. R. Horwood; 2, Mr. R. E. Horwood; 3, Mr. R. Fowler; r, Mr. J. G. Williams; hc, Mr. J. Batchelor; c, Mr. F. Bedford.

Wirral and Birkenhead.

The Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society's Show is very seldom favoured by the weather, but probably on no occasion since the society was first formed—nearly sixty years ago—has such a period of bad weather been experienced as that which prevailed at Birkenhead on the 3rd, 4th, and 6th inst. On the first day heavy showers fell throughout the morning, and after lunch both rain and wind increased in force until at last a perfect hurricane raged over the showyard. The heavy rains of the night and early morning had had but little effect on the well-drained ground, but after lunch the whole place became studded with miniature lakes and ankle-deep morasses. This was not the worst of it, however, for the wind almost wrecked the show, practically every one of the canvas-covered sheds being unroofed. The horse tent was opened to the weather, and the flapping canvas, making reports loud as those of a rifle, caused a small stampede among the animals, which kicked and struggled in their fright. Fortunately no damage ensued to the limbs of visitors, but careful owners removed their stock at mid-afternoon, being fearful of the injury that might ensue to them through wet or fright. The dog tents and that for the display of horticulture were among the earliest to go, and great consternation was caused in the poultry sheds. Here the birds and pigeons were rescued from their weather beaten pens and put *en masse* into large baskets, mixed up in apparently inextricable confusion. A number of the pigeons escaped, and there were exciting chases after poultry and dogs. The cheese tent was also wrecked, and, taken altogether, the hurricane almost ruined the show. The leaping of hunters, in which much interest is always taken, was abandoned owing to the weather, great disappointment being felt at this disappearance in the popular exhibition. In fact, taken all in all, there never was such a scene at an agricultural show, and the utmost sympathy was expressed with the committee, to whom the storm means the loss of several hundreds of pounds. Notwithstanding this the committee decided to continue the show on the two other advertised days.

On the Saturday the weather was fairly favourable, but on Monday the weather was a mild repetition of that experienced on the Friday. The Society were rewarded for their enterprise in continuing the show on Monday, for, despite the wretched weather, the takings on that day were more than on the two previous days together. The total receipts were £500—of which about £250 was taken on Monday, £160 on Saturday, and about £85 the first day—against £1,150 for the two days of last year's show. The loss will undoubtedly be a heavy one, but owing to the generosity of the president, Mr. W. H. Lever, the committee will not be called upon to raise anything like the amount of the total deficit.

Mr. J. C. Forster's Guernsey Heifer, "Clatford Gentle."

The terrible state of the weather was the more to be regretted because the show all round was an unusually good one. It was sought to popularise the show this year by holding it on Friday and Saturday, and then carrying it over the Bank Holiday, thus giving holiday-makers an opportunity of spending a day at Bidston, and in order to make the show attractive special efforts were made to secure the exhibition of moving machinery, and the interesting odds and ends that are invariably shown on the stands. But all was of no avail. The entries in the various classes showed an enormous decrease in the total figures when compared with last year. On this occasion they numbered 3,384, against 6,160 twelve months ago. This big decrease was due to the absence of the pig classes, which had to be abandoned owing to the presence of swine fever in the county, whilst pigeons, poultry, and dogs showed a big falling off in numbers. Year by year the show is becoming a greater centre for purely agricultural live stock, sheep, for instance, being nearly doubled, and horses being greatly added to, whilst the display of implements is now a feature of the Wirral show. The prize money amounts to £2,800, besides which several of the county gentlemen presented valuable cups and other silver trophies for competition.

The show of cattle attracted much attention from breeders, all classes being well filled, and generally representative of the best strains of blood to be found in the country. In the class for aged Shorthorn bulls Carlisle Wellington, belonging to Mr. F. Miller, Clifton Road, Birkenhead, which won Lord Derby's prize at the Lancashire show at Rochdale, was placed first, while second honours were given to the same owner's Bashful Youth, a beautiful two-year-old roan, which he purchased recently at Baron Rothschild's sale for 110gs. These animals are intended for export to Argentina. The third prize bull was Mr. [illegible]'s Royal Seal, the property of Messrs. J. Bates and Sons, Muff, Newcastle, Staffordshire. This animal was placed first at the Stafford Show, and also won the championship prize at Leamington. The first prize for yearling bull was awarded to Mr. W. [illegible] Bell's (Alnwick) Baron Abbotsford, who was second at Rochdale and secured a highly commended card at the Royal Show. Mr. Miller's Lovat's Star, a splendid type of Shorthorn, was placed third in the open competition, but secured first prize in the local class. Shorthorn cows in milk were a select, although not a numerous class, and the first to Miss Rose, belonging to Mr. John Harrison, Hesketh Park, Preston, and Lady Clara 3rd, the property of Mr. [illegible], Alnwick, two of the champion cows in England. The special prize and the first ticket in the class for cows and cows were given to Miss Rose, which notwithstanding her seven years, has a bloom and quality which could not well be surpassed. In the class for heifers calved in 1898 Mr. George Harrison, Gainford, Darlington, received the first prize for Wellness, a splendid type of Shorthorn cow which has taken high honours in many showyards; while among the local competitors chief place was awarded to Mr. [illegible]'s Nonpareil 2nd, belonging to Mr. G. D. Lloyd, Burton Hall, Rossett. Yearling heifers were a remarkably excellent class, in which Mr. Harrison's Victor Queen was an easy first. The classes for dairy cows and Channel Island cattle were, as usual at this [illegible], thoroughly representative. Mrs. Cyril [illegible], Walton Hall, Warrington, being one of the principal exhibitors in the last-named section.

The horses were really a grand lot, the agricultural classes in particular being extremely good. In several of the classes the judges had to call in assistance before the premier honours could be awarded, and probably it would have been the same in many more classes, but soon after lunch the bellman was sent round to announce that no more classes would be judged on that day. At this time the judges had done hardly more than half their work, but under the conditions it was impossible to attempt a conscientious discharge of their duties and they decided to postpone the remainder of their work. In the agricultural classes the four-year-olds and upwards were a grand lot, the district classes being very strong. The cup offered by the president (Mr. W. H. Lever) for agricultural geldings, [illegible] to the society's district, was won by Messrs. Jackson Brothers' Hulton Laddie, a fine, big, upstanding horse, with rare feet and legs, good bone, and substance, and full of quality. The gelding was placed second in the open class out of very keen competition. Taking the heavy horses and Shires, the judges were agreed that a finer lot, or even as good, had never been shown at Birkenhead, and any horse that was placed in their awards must have been a good one. The hacks were equally good, and after their show in the saddle they took a lot of judging. In the class for under thirteen hands, Mr. Wand's famous Amendment, which last year was regarded as the finest pony in the country, had to take third place, Messrs. Baxter's Black and White, a lovely little piebald, being given the chief award. In the preceding class—between thirteen and fourteen hands—there was equally good quality, and in the open class, over fifteen hands, Mr. A. L. Goodson, of Knutsford, secured the first card with his Heathfield Conceit, a grand chestnut mare, of great quality. The hunters also showed strongly, being of good form all round. The judging was resumed on Saturday with the Shire stallions, and in this class Mr. J. W. Kenworthy's Monaco, a famous winner for years past, was placed first; the same owner's Khartoum II. was head of the two-year-old class, and a third of his horses took first in the yearlings. Monaco also secured the president's championship challenge [illegible]; Ercall Countess, another of Mr. Kenworthy's, secured the Shire Horse Society's special for the best mare, and in the district competitions the vice-president almost swept the board.

Mr. Thomas Davies, of Needwood, had a fine filly in the two-year-old class, [illegible] by Monaco—which scored in both open and district classes, and took the Royal Rock Beagle's special; while with Spital Countess, a lovely foal, he was first in the district, with special and third in the open class. In the Hackney stallions Mr. Austin C. Carr, of Broxton Lower Hall, was placed first with his grand chestnut Elevator, which [illegible] a busy season to the show. Mr. Cockayne Brothers' famous Paddock Polonius [illegible] prize, and the same horse's sire Brothers Pontius Rufus, being head of the two-year-olds. The G. W. Biegler Challenge Cup was awarded first to Polonius, but as Messrs. Cockayne are [illegible] Society, the adjudication was given to the [illegible] vator, Mr. Carr also securing first and third in the open foal class with [illegible] and first and second in the district section. There was great interest in the [illegible] and Messrs. Baxter's Lady Neil [illegible] hands harness class. The [illegible] was much the better of the two, and Mr. Goodson's beautiful chestnut had to take second place.

The leaping [illegible] The [illegible] is to have an open competition [illegible] and on the second [illegible] competition again. The [illegible] the first day £15 [illegible] an additional £20 [illegible]

brought in a lot of fine hunters, and competition was very keen. Mrs. Blockley secured the chief award on the first day's card, her chestnut gelding Alfred taking his leaps in clean style; but he was only a point or two ahead of a sturdy bay belonging to Mr. John Jones, of Wrexham, another horse of Mrs. Blockley's taking third. On the second card Mr. T. G. Foster's Paddy was first, after close competition with the Irish chestnut belonging to Mr. M'Carton, of County Down, and Mrs. Blockley again steered her horse Omega into third place. The display of tandems was excellent, Mr. G. C. Wand's splendidly matched mares taking first, with Messrs. Baxter's pair of bays a good second. On Monday Mrs. Blockley's Omega divided first and second prize with Diana, a stable companion, and afterwards won the grand championship prize of £20. It was a close thing between him and Diana, but the big brown horse did his last round without a fault, while the mare made several. Mrs. Blockley secured £75 in prizes for the leaping, making her total during the twelve months £1,800, and the lady has well earned the title of champion huntress of the British Isles. In the classes of local tradesmen's harness horses Mr. Herbert Williams, of Birkenhead, scored a triple win with a fine-actioned four-year-old brown-and-white gelding, Movement Whitesocks. The Macgregor Lord Memorial Challenge Bowl, value 100gs., for the best hunter brood mare, with foal at foot, confined to district competition amongst tenant farmers, went to Mr. W. Parker, of Great Stanney Hall, Sutton, whose Dorinda and colt foal by Radius were the best of a good lot.

The sheep classes filled fairly well, and the quality of the stock was good and quite equal to any former show of the Society, but exhibits from local farmers were, for some reason, almost conspicuous by their absence.

The following were the judges:—Sheep: Shropshire, Mr. C. Coxon (Tamworth); Leicester, Mr. T. H. Hutchinson (Catterick); Welsh, Mr. T. Roberts (Aber, N.W.). Cattle: Shorthorn and Dairy, Mr. C. W. Brierley (Brimfield, R.S.O.); Channel Islands, Mr. T. H. Sweetman (Atherstone). Horses: Shires, Mr. A. H. Clark (Spalding) and Mr. W. Richardson (Doddington); hunters, Mr. T. H. Hutchinson (Catterick); Hackneys and harness, Mr. A. E. Evans (Wrexham); leapers, Messrs. C. W. Brierley, A. E. Evans, F. Lloyd, and W. Conwy Bell.

Challenge Cups.

W. B. Burnham Challenge Bowl, for best Shorthorn cow or heifer (district competition): Mr. G. D. Lloyd, Burton Hall, Rossett (Ringdale Nonpareil II.).

W. H. Lever Challenge Bowl, for best Shire stallion (open competition): Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Castlehill, Kelsall (by stallion Monaco).

J. W. Kenworthy Challenge Cup, for best Shire brood mare and foal (district competition): Mr. A. Macintyre, Lynn (bay mare Bounce).

W. H. Lever Challenge Bowl, for best agricultural gelding: Jackson Brothers, Edge Fold Farm, near Wigan (bay gelding, Hulton Laddie).

G. W. Ziegler Memorial Challenge Bowl, for best Hackney stallion (open to members of the society): Mr. A. C. Carr, Broxton Lower Hall, Chester (chestnut, Elevator).

Record Reign Challenge Vase, for the best Hackney brood mare with foal at foot (district competition): Mr. James Taylor, Talbot Hotel, Wrexham (bay, Coquette).

J. Hoult Challenge Bowl, for the best exhibit of long-keeping Cheshire cheese, over 50lb. weight (farmers only): Mr. Richard Dutton, Old Marston Hall, Ellesmere.

Subscribers' Bowl, for best long-keeping cheese, under 50lb. each (farmers only): Mr. E. Langley, Ridleybank, Tarporley.

W. H. Lever Challenge Bowl, for best exhibit of butter (farmers only): Mrs. E. France, Bunbary, Tarporley.

Prize List.

SHEEP.

SHROPSHIRES OR ANY OTHER DOWNS (OPEN).

Shearling ram: 1 and 2 Mr. A. Tanner; 3, Mr R. P. Cooper.

WELSH (OPEN).

Shearling ram: 1, Mr. W. C. Bell; 2, Mr. W. Leather; 3, Mr. T. Jones.

Ram lamb: 1, Mr. W. Leather; 2 and 3, Mr. T. Jones.

Ram lamb: 1, Mr. W. Leather; 2, Mr. W. E. Williams; 3, Mr. W. C. Bell.

Three shearling ewes; 1 and 3, Mr. W. C. Bell; 2, Mr. W. E. Williams

Three ewe lambs: 1, Mr. W. Leather; 2, Mr. W. C. Bell; 3, Mr. T. Jones.

CATTLE.

Three special prizes, value £5 5s.: Mr. G. Harrison, Mr. J. Harrison, Mr J. R. Turton.

SHORTHORNS (OPEN).

Bull, calved in or before 1898: 1, Mr. F. Miller; 2, Messrs. T. Rawes and Sons; 3, Mr. J. Handley.

Bull, calved in 1899: 1, Mr. W. Bell; 2, Mr. T. Atkinson; 3, Mr. F. Miller.

Cow, in milk, calved in or before 1897: 1, Mr. W. Bell; 2, Mr. G. Harrison; 3, Mr. J. Harrison.

Heifer, calved in 1898: 1, Mr. G. Harrison; 2, Mr. G. D. Lloyd; 3, Mr. F. Bibby.

Heifer, calved in 1899: 1, Mr. G. Harrison; 2, Mr. F. Bibby; 3, Mr. J. C. Read.

SHORTHORNS (DISTRICT).

Bull, calved in or before 1898: 1 and 2 Mr. F. Miller; 3, Mr. J. A. Brown.

Bull, calved in 1899: 1, Mr. F. Miller; 2, Mr. T. Adamson; 3, Mr. F. Bibby.

Cow, in milk, calved in or before 1897: 1, Mr. J. Harrison; 2, Mr. J. C. Read; 3, Mr. G. Cooke.

Heifer, calved in 1898: 1, Mr. G. D. Lloyd; 2, Mr. F. Bibby; 3, Mr. T. Adams.

Heifer, calved in 1899: 1, Mr. F. Bibby; 2, Mr. J. A. Brown; 3, Mr. J. C. Read.

DAIRY COWS (OPEN).

Cow, in milk, any age: 1, Mr. J. A. Brown; 2, Mr. J. R. Turton; 3, Mr. O. R. Ward; 4, Messrs. J. and R. Atkinson.

CHANNEL ISLANDS (OPEN).

Bull, any age: 1 and 3, Mrs. C. E. Greenall; 2, Mr. L. G. Gisborne.

Cow, in milk, calved in or before 1897: 1 and 2, Mrs. S. E. Greenall; 3, Mr. Ernest Anglesey.

Heifer, calved in 1898: 1, Mr. L. G. Gisborne; 2, Mr. W. G. M. Townley; 3, Mrs. C. E. Greenall.

Heifer, calved in 1899: 1, Mr. W. G. M. Townley; 2, Mr. E Smith; 3, Mrs. C. E. Greenall.

HORSES.

SHIRES (OPEN).

Stallions.—Foaled in or before 1897: 1, Mr. J. W. Kenworth, Castle Hill, Kelsall; 2, Earl Egerton of Tatton, Tatton Park; 3, Mr. G. H. Mullock, Poulton, Pulford, Wrexham.

Foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Castle Hill, Kelsall, near Chester; 2, Mr. J. Lewis, Trwstllewelyn, Garthwyl; 3, Earl Egerton of Tatton, Tatton Park.

Foaled in 1899: 1, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Castle Hill, Kelsall, Chester; 2, Mr. J. Lewis, Trwstllewelyn, Garthwyl; 3, Mr. J. K. Christopherson, Hooton.

Brood Mares, any age, with foal at foot: 1, Mr. A. M'Intyre, Lymm; 2, Mr. E. Green, The Moors, Welshpool; 3, Hon. V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Holker Hall, Cark in Cartmel.

Foal of above mares: 1, Hon. Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Holker Hall, Cark-in-Cartmel; 2, Mr. E. Green, The Moors, Welshpool; 3, Mr. T. Davies, Needwood, Bebington.

Mare: 1 and special, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Castle Hill, Kelsall, Chester; 2, Mr. J. Lewis, Trwstllewelyn, Garthwyl; 3, Hon. Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Cark-in-Cartmel.

FILLIES.

Foaled in 1897: 1, Mr. O. R. Ward, Noon Sun Farm, Great Warford, Mobberley; 2, Mr. S. S. Raingill, The Grange, Ringway, Altrincham; 3, Mr. G. H. Mullock, Poulton, Pulford, Wrexham.

Foaled in 1898: 1 and special, Mr. T. Davies, Needwood, Bebington; 2, Mr. R. Dodd, Eaton House, Tarporley; 3, Mr. L. Dodd, Bickerton, Malpas.

Foaled in 1899: 1, Earl Egerton of Tatton, Tatton Park; 2, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Castle Hill, Kelsall, Chester; 3, Hon. Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Holker Hall, Cark-in-Cartmel.

GELDINGS.

Foaled in or before 1896: 1, Mr. A. M'Intyre, Lymm; 2, Messrs. Jackson Bros., Edge Fold Farm, Middle Hulton, Wigan; 3, Mr. P. Davies, Midlands Farm, Warburton, Cheshire.

STALLIONS.

Foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Castle Hill, Kelsall, Chester; 2, Mr. G. H. Mullock, Poulton, Pulford, Wrexham.

Foaled in 1899: 1, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Castle Hill, Kelsall, Chester; 2, Mr. J. K. Chistopherson, Hooton.

DRAUGHT AND AGRICULTURAL.

Brood mares, 16 hands and over, any age, with foal at foot: 1, Mr. P. Allen, Willaston Hall, Chester; 2, Mr. S. Jones, Poole Hall, Little Sutton; 3, Mr. T. J. Dutton, The Beeches, Saltney; 4, Mr. P. Allen.

Under 16 hands, any age, with foal at foot: 1, Mr. A. M'Intyre, Lymm; 2, Mr. Mr. E Gibbon, New Tree Farm, Lymm; 3, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Castle Hill, Kelsall, Chester; 4, Mr. P. Allen, Willaston Hall, Chester.

Foals, colt of above mares: 1, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Castle Hill, Kelsall; 2 and 4, Mr. P. Allen, Willaston Hall, Chester; 3, Mr. T. J. Dutton, The Beeches, Saltney.

Filly of above mares: 1 and special, Mr. T. Davies, Needwood, Bebington; 2, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Castle Hill, Kelsall, Chester; 3, Mr. S. Jones, Little Sutton; 4, Mr. A. M'Intyre, Lymm.

Mare, entered or eligible in the Stud Book, foaled in or before 1896: 1 and 2, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Castle Hill, Kelsall; 3, Mr. T. J. Dutton, The Beeches, Saltney.

Gelding, foaled in or before 1896: 1, Jackson Brothers, Edge Fold Farm, Lymm; 2 and 3, Mr. P. Davies, Midlands Farm, Warburton, Cheshire.

Filly, foaled in 1897: 1, Mr. G. H. Mullock, Poulton, Pulford, Wrexham; 2, Mr. T. J. Dutton, The Beeches, Saltney; 3, Mr. R. Jeffs, Hapsford, Helsby, Warrington.

Fillies or geldings.—Foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. T. Davies, Needwood, Bebington; 2, Mr. R. Dodd, Eaton House, near Tarporley; 3, Mr. L. Dodd, Bickerton, Malpas.

Foaled in 1899: 1, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Castle Hill, Kelsall, Chester; 2, Mr. G. H. Mullock, Poulton, Pulford, Wrexham; 3, Mrs. Gaskell, Prenton Hall Farm, Prenton.

Pair of mares or geldings: 1, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Castle Hill, Kelsall, Chester; 2, Mr. P. Davies, Midlands Farm, Warburton, Cheshire; 3, Mr. P. Allen, Willaston Hall, Chester.

HACKNEYS.

Stallions.—Foaled in or before 1896: 1, Mr. A. C. Carr, Broxton Lower Hall, Chester; 2, Mr. J. Yates, Bilton Hall, York; 3, Mr. W. H. Thompson, Chequer House, Upholland.

Foaled in 1897: 1, Messrs. Cockayne Brothers, Sheffield-lane Paddocks, Sheffield; 2, Mr. W. Sugden, Coalspring House, Cullingworth, Bradford; 3, Mr. J. Makeague, Golborne Park, Newton-le-Willows.

Foaled in 1898: 1, Messrs. Cockayne Brothers, Sheffield-lane Paddocks, Sheffield; 2, Mr. L. Knowles, M.P., Westwood, Pendlebury, near Manchester; 3, Mr. E. Holmes, Rimrose-road, Bootle.

Any age, not exceeding 14 hands: 1, Mr. W. Mitchell, High House, Brauneston, Oakham; 2, Messrs. E. and A. Baxter, Hutton Hackney Stud, Brentwood, Essex; 3, Mr. J. Makeague, Golborne Park, Newton-le-Willows.

Brood mare, any age, with foal at foot: 1, Mr. F. J. Batchelor; 2, Mr. T. B. Sykes; 3, Billington Bros.

Foal of above mare: 1 and 3, Mr. A. C. Carr; 2, Mr. F. J. Batchelor.

Mare, foaled in or before 1896: 1, Mr. A. L. Goodson; 2, Billington Bros.; 3, Mr. J. Makeague.

Filly, foaled in 1897: 1, Mr. W. Lawson; 2, Mr. E. Holmes.

Filly, foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. Lee Knowles; 2, Mr. W. Lawson.

DISTRICT COMPETITION.

Brood mare, any age, with foal at foot: 1, Mr. T. B. Sykes; 2, Mr. J. Storrar, jun.; 3, Mr. W. Parker.

Foal of above mare: 1 and 2, Mr. A. C. Carr; 3, Mr. T. B. Sykes.

HACKS OR RIDING HORSES.

Mares or geldings, 13 hands and under 14 hands: 1, Mr. R. Whitfield, 32, Hope-street, Liverpool; 2, Mr. W. J. Milton, Castle Hotel, Chester-street, Birkenhead; 3, Mr. W. Dean, 22, Upper Parliament-street, Liverpool.

Exceeding 15 hands: 1 and 2, Mr. W. Glynn, Brookhurst, Bromborough; 3, Mr. G. P. Davies, 15, Goree-piazzas, Liverpool.

14 hands and not exceeding 15 hands: 1, Mr. J. H. Jones, Knotty Ash, Liverpool; 2, Mr. W. Glynn, Brookhurst, Bromborough; 3, Mr. H. White, 404, Park-road, Liverpool.

13 hands and under 14 hands: 1, Mr. W. Milton, Castle Hotel, Chester-street, Birkenhead; 2, Mr. W. Glynn, Brookhurst, Bromborough; 3, Mr. W. Dean, 22, Upper Parliament-street, Liverpool.

Mare or gelding, exceeding 15 hands: 1, Mr. E. Holmes; 2, Mr. A. L. Goodson; 3, Mr. W. Glynn.

Mare or gelding, 14 hands and not exceeding 15 hands: 1, Mr. W. Lawson; 2, Mr. G. C. Wand; 3, Mr. J. H. Jones.

Mare or gelding, under 13 hands: 1, Messrs. E. and A. Baxter; 2, Mr. I. Garnett; 3, Mr. W. Foster.

HARNESS HORSES.

Tandem teams: 1, Mr. G. C. Wand, Ferniehurst, Baildon, Yorkshire; 2, Messrs. E. and A. Baxter, Hutton Hackney Stud, Brentwood, Essex; 3, Mr W. Glynn, Brookhurst, Bromborough.

Mares or geldings, exceeding 15 hands: 1, Messrs. E. and A. Baxter, Brentwood, Essex; 2, Mr. A. L. Goodman, Heathfield, Knutsford; 3, Mr. W. H. Thompson, Balmain Stud, Chequer House, Upholland.

14 hands and not exceeding 15 hands: 1, Mr. G. C. Wand, Ferniehurst, Baildon, Yorkshire; 2 and 3, Messrs. E. and A. Baxter, Brentwood.

13 hands and under 14 hands: 1, Mr W. Dean, 22, Upper Parliament Street, Liverpool; 2, Mrs. J. C. Glover, Warrenhurst, Blundellsands; 3, Mr. R. Whitfield, 32, Hope Street, Liverpool.

Under 13 hands: 1, Mr. G. C. Wand, Ferniehurst, Baildon, Yorkshire; 2, Mr. W. Foster, Mel-Valley, Moseley; 3, Mr. I. Garnett, 61, Aspen-grove, Liverpool.

Any height: 1, Mr. W. H. Thompson, Chequer House, Upholland; 2, Mr. G. Ledson, Bromborough; 3, Mr. W. Glynn, Bromborough.

HUNTERS.

Mares or geldings, to carry upwards of 14 stone: 1, J. H. Stokes, Great Bowden, Market Harborough; 2, E Hoyle, Moorlands, Bacup; 3, E. Brassey, Stamford Bridge, Chester.

To carry 12 stone and up to 14 stone: 1, Messrs. E. and A. Baxter, Hutton Hackney Stud, Brentwood, Essex; 2, E. Hoyle, Moorlands, Bacup; 3, R. M. Darlington, Haston, Hadnall.

Brood mare, with foal at foot: 1 and gold medal, W. Parker, Great Stanney Hall, Sutton, Chester; 2, the Trustees of George S. Brown, Bankfields Farm, Eastham; 3, H. Sutton, The Woodlands, Ledsham.

Foal of above mare: 1, H. Sutton, The Woodlands, Ledsham; 2, W. Parker, Great Stanney Hall, Sutton, Chester; 3, Trustees of George S. Brown, Bankfields Farm, Eastham.

Filly or gelding, foaled in 1898 or 1897: 1, E. Brassey, Stamford Bridge, Chester; 2, R. M. Darlington, Haston, Hadnall; 3, Malcolm Taylor, Barnston, Birkenhead.

LEAPERS.

Best jumper over hurdles, timber, stone wall, and water on the first day of the show: 1 and 3, Mrs. Blockley, Moor Hall, Madeley; 2, J. Jones, Whitegate Farm, Wrexham.

Best jumper over hurdles, timber, stone wall, and water: 1, T. G. Foster, Brailsford, Derby; 2, W. J. M. Cartan, M.R.C.V.S., Newtownwards, co. Down; 3, Mrs. Brockley, Moor Hall, Madeley; 4, J. T. Heap, Clarence Hotel, Ramsbottom.

Best jumper over hurdles, timber, stonewall and water: 1 and 2, Mrs. Blockley, Moor Hall, Madeley; 3, Mr. A. O. Davies, Panralit, Machynlleth, North Wales; 4, Mr. J. T. Heap, Clarence Hotel, Ramsbottom. Championship prize, Mrs. Blockley's Omega.

Tradesmen's and tenant farmers' classes.—Mare or gelding: 1, Mr. W. H. Thompson, Chequer House, Upholland; 2, Mr. J. H. Jones, Knotty Ash, Liverpool; 3, Mr. G. P. Davies, 15, Goree-piazzas, Liverpool; 4, Mr. O. Owens, 11, Admiral-street, Liverpool. Mare or gelding, under 14½ hands: 1, Mr. H. Williams, 66, Bentinck-street, Birkenhead; 2, Mr. J. H. Jones, Knotty Ash; 3, Mr. I. Garnett, 61, Aspen-grove, Liverpool; 4, Mr. W. J. Milton, Castle Hotel, Birkenhead.

Local tradesmen's classes.—Mare or gelding, 13½ hands and upwards, together with cart, van, or other two-wheeled vehicle: 1, Mr. H. Williams, Birkenhead; 2, Mr. W. Delamore, 393, New Chester-road, Rock Ferry; 3, Mr. R. Cundell, 435, New Chester-road, Rock Ferry; 4, Mr. W. G. Jeffs, 42, Bebbington-road, New Ferry. Mare or gelding, under 13½ hands, together with cart, van, or other two-wheeled vehicle: 1, Mr H. Foster, 126, Chester-street, Birkenhead; 2, Mr. W. Delamore, 393, New Chester-road, Rock Ferry; 3, Mr. W. Houghton, Home Farm, Oxton; 4, Mr. T. Hinton, The Marke, Birkenhead. Private turnout: 1, Mr. H. Williams, 66, Bentinck-street, Birkenhead; 2 and 3, Mr. W. J. Milton, Castle Hotel, Birkenhead; 4, Mr. R. Cundall, 435, New Chester-road, Rock Ferry.

Warrington.

The Warrington and District Agricultural Society's show was held on Thursday, and the show of horses was one of the best seen at any local exhibition this year. For this the Society is indebted to the president, Sir Gilbert Greenall, whose generosity and active personal interest make the show what it is. During the year Sir Gilbert has had made in Walton Park a show ring which, for all purposes of exhibition, is ideal. He has also made it possible to offer prize money three times the amount usually given, and to enlarge the scope of the show by adding open and other classes. Hitherto the show has been what its name implies, a district show. Its purpose has been to encourage breeding and to improve the stock on local farms. One needs only to look at the admirably arranged catalogue to note the extent to which this idea has been carried out. The insistence upon pedigree, particularly in the case of horses, distinguishes the show above most of the kind, and the success which has followed may be judged from the large number of entries. Unfortunately, the weather was very wet, and not all the kind provision that Sir Gilbert had made for the comfort of visitors could command the attendance deserved. Perhaps most interest centred around the hunters. Whisper Low, the winner in the brood mares, owned by Mr. C. Schwabe, of Altrincham, is a beautiful animal, full of quality, and with very good foal by Red Eagle. The foal was awarded first prize in its class. The second prize went to Mr. Charles Griffiths, of Northwich, for his powerful, short-legged mare, Lady Gamble, who had a great reputation as a hunter in her day. She had the misfortune to lose her foal. The second in the foals, owned by Mr. R. Prescott, of Northwich, is a good animal, whose dam is also a well-known hunter. A very nice filly, the property of Isaac Parish, of Northwich, took a first place, a neat roan gelding, Glengarry, owned by Mr. J. K. Priestnel, of Appleton, being placed second in the same class. The four-year-olds were a very good lot. The winner was Mr. J. H. Stokes's brown mare, Treasure, who was placed first in the Yorkshire Show. The second, a brown gelding belonging to Mr. Andrew J. Brown, of Doncaster, is a promising young horse, but was rather backward in condition. He was placed first in his class both at the Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Shows. The class for hunter mares or geldings to carry 13 to 14½ stone was unusually strong. Good Health, the winner, by Toastmaster, bred by the late Mr. Naylor, and now owned by Mr. Stokes, was first, the second being Sapho, owned by Mr. Arthur Brocklehurst, of Prestbury. The first place in the class for hunters or geldings to carry 14½ stone and upwards was given to a singularly handsome dark chestnut, King Bronze, owned by Mr Stokes. The second, Foxall, a bay gelding, the property of Mr. Andrew J. Brown, of Doncaster, has good prospects, but was not quite in condition. He was bred by Lord Rosebery at Epsom, and is by Foxall, his dam being by Controversy. The Rev. Cecil Legard, one of the judges, who rode Foxall round the ring, remarked that the horse was one of the finest gallopers he had ever been astride. Taken altogether, the hunter section was very good. Among the heavy

horses the brood mares of four years and upwards were a capital lot. The winner, Bounce, owned by Mr. A. McIntyre, of Lymm, has plenty of character. Mr. James Gould, of Lymm, took first place with a big, weighty foal, and a foal of beautiful quality belonging to Mr. William Blackburne, of Knutsford, was placed second. The winner in the filly foals, Oxford Fashion, was owned by Mr. R. Ireland Blackburne. The two-year-old fillies were exceptionally good. The winner was Lymm Lady, the property of Mr. James Gould, of Lymm, and she was also first in the open class. In the three-year-olds Bessie Collin, owned by Mr. James Billington, of Altrincham, was first. Bruce, a bay gelding, the property of Mr. Joseph Shakeshaft, of Lymm, was an easy winner in his class. In the open class for brood mares four years old and upwards Melody, owned by Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., was placed first. She carries her age well, and is of good type. Her foal, Holker Minerva, was placed first among the filly foals. The geldings were a big class and comprised several very valuable horses. Redlynch Duke, owned by Mr. A. M'Intyre, was the winner. He is a big horse with good joints, and is a capital mover. The second, Hulton Laddie, the property of Messrs. Jackson Bros, of Bolton, took the first prize at the London Shire Horse Show and was reserved for the cup. At present he is not showing to the best advantage. The cattle had neither the number nor the quality of the horses. There were, however, one or two good young bulls among them.

The judges for the various classes were:—Shires and draught geldings: Messrs. R. C. Cooper, Melton Mowbray; and Joseph Grimes, Chesterfield. Hunters: The Rev. Cecil Legard, Northampton, and Mr. C. M'Neill, Leicester. Hackneys and harness: Messrs. Eustace Smith, Newcastle-on-Tyne; and W. Bainbridge, Lancaster. Cattle: Messrs. William Roper, Carlisle; and Thomas Richardson, Cumberland.

Prize List.

HORSES.

SHIRES.

District Classes.—Brood mares, four years old and upwards, with foal at foot: 1, Mr. A. McIntyre, Lymm; 2, Mr. R. I. Blackburne, Liverpool; 3, Mr. W. Blackburne, Knutsford. Mares, four years old and upwards, without foals: 1, Mr. J. Gould, Lymm; 2, Mr. J. Shakeshaft, Lymm; 3, Mr. F. Worthington, Warrington. Colt foals: 1, Mr. J. Gould; 2, Mr. W. Blackburn; 3, Mr. T. Warburton, Warrington. Filly foals: 1, Mr. R. I. Blackburn; 2, Mr. A. McIntyre, Lymm; 3, Mr. R. I. Blackburne. Yearling colts or geldings: 1, Mr. T. Charnock, Hale; 2, Exors. of Mr. J. Weir, Warrington. Yearling fillies: 1, Mr. A. Broome, Preston Brook, Warrington; 2, Mr. T. Hardy, Knutsford; 3, Mr. R. Clarke, Warrington. Two-year-old fillies: 1, Mr. J. Gould; 2, Mr. J. Knowles, Altrincham; 3, Mr. T. Percival, Warrington. Three-year-old fillies: 1, Mr. J. Billington, Altrincham; 2 Mr. A. McIntyre; 3, Mr. T. Jeffs, Helsby. Geldings foaled in 1896, 1897, 1898: 1, Mr. J. Shakeshaft, Lymm; 2, Mr. J. Whitlow, Warrington; 3, Mr. R. Billington.

Open classes.—Brood mares, four years old and upwards, with foal at foot: 1, Mr. V. Cavendish, M.P., Carnforth; 2 Mr. A. McIntyre; 3, Mr. R. Ireland Blackburne. Colt foals: 1, Mr. J. Gould; 2, Mr. W. Blackburne; 3, Mr. T. Warburton. Filly foals: 1 Hon. V. C. W. Cavendish; 2, Mr. R. Ireland Blackburne; 3, Mr. L. Dodd, Malpas. Two-year-old fillies: 1, Mr. J. Gould; 2, Mr. J. Knowles, Altrincham; 3 Mr. R. Dodd, Tarporley. Geldings foaled in 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896: 1 Mr. A. McIntyre; 2, Jackson Bros., Bolton; 3, J. Shakeshaft, Lymm.

HUNTERS.

District classes.—Brood mare having produced a living foal by, or stinted to, a thoroughbred or registered hunter sire in 1900: 1, Mr. C. Schwabe, Altrincham; 2 and 3, Mr. C. Griffiths, Northwich. Foals by a thoroughbred or registered hunter sire: 1, Mr. C. Schwabe; 2, Mr. R. Prescott, Northwich; 3, Mr. W. Harrison, Warrington. Yearling colt, gelding, or filly by a thoroughbred or registered hunter sire: 1, Mr. R. Prescott; 2, Mr. C. Griffiths; 3, Mr. S. W. Gould, Lymm. Two or three-year-old gelding or filly by a thoroughbred or registered hunter sire: 1, Mr. I. Farish, Northwich; 2, Mr. J. K. Priestner, Warrington; 3, R. Billington, Stratton.

Open classes.—Hunter mare or gelding, foaled in 1896: 1, Mr. J. H. Stokes, Market Harboro'; 2, Mr. A. J. Brown, Doncaster. Hunter mare or gelding, foaled in 1893, 1894, 1895, or 1896: 1, Mr. J. H. Stokes; 2, Mr. A. Brocklehurst, Macclesfield; 3, Mr. J. H. Stokes. Hunter mare or gelding foaled in 1893, 1894, 1895, or 1896: 1, Mr. J. H. Stokes; 2, Mr. A. J. Brown, Doncaster; 3, Mr. J. Drage, Northampton.

HACKNEYS.

District classes.—Brood mare by registered hackney sire having produced a living foal by, or stinted to, a registered hackney sire in 1900: Mr. A. C. Sparkes, Altrincham; 2, Mr. J. W. Hewitt, Thelwall; 3, Mr. J. Makeague, Newton-le Willows. Foals by a registered hackney sire out of a mare by a registered hackney sire: 1, Mr. J. Makeague; 2, Mr. G Smith, Bold, near Widnes; 3, Mr. E. J. Sidebotham, Bowdon. Yearling colt, gelding, or filly by registered hackney sire out of a mare by a registered hackney sire: 1, Exors. of Mr. J. Blackshaw, Hatton; 2, Mr. F. G. Fairhurst, Witley; 3, Mr. A. C. Sparkes. Two or three year old gelding or filly by a registered hackney sire out of a mare by a registered hackney sire: 1 Mr. J. Makeague; 2, Mrs. M. Garnett, Prescot; 3, Mr. J. W. Hewitt, Thelwall. Pony brood mare not exceeding 14 hands, having produced a living foal by, or stinted to, a registered hackney sire in 1900: 1, Mr. R. I. Wynne-Jones, Hatton; 2, Mr. R. Tickle, Appleton; 3, Mrs. M. Garnett. Foals by a registered hackney sire: 1, Mr. J. Makeague; 2, Mr. R. I. Wynne-Jones; 3, Mr. H. T. Whitlow, Preston Brook.

HARNESS CLASSES.

Open.—Mare or gelding, 15 hands or over: 1, Mr. T. Mitchell, Bradford; 2, Mr. A. L. Goodson, Knutsford; 3, Mr. F. Baguley, Gloucestershire. Mare or gelding, under 15 hands and exceeding 14 hands: 1, Mr. G. C. Waud, Ferniehurst, Yorks; 2, Mrs. F. Holmes, Shipley; 3, Mr. J. Taylor, Wrexham. Mare or gelding, not exceeding 14 hands: 1, Mr. A. S. Day, Berkeley Stud, near Crewe; 2, Mr. G. E. Franklin, Derby; 3, Mr. N. Read, Pleasington.

CATTLE.

District classes.—Pair of dairy cows: 1, Mr. R. Clarke, Warburton Park, near Warrington; 2, Mrs. M. Garnett, Taebock, near Prescot. One dairy cow: 1, Mr. R. Clarke; 2, Mr. S. W. Gould, Lymm; 3, Mr. R. Clarke. Heifer, born in 1898 (for tenant farmers): 1 and 2, Mr. S. W. Gould, Lymm; 3, Mr. T. P. Taylor, Preston Brook. Heifer, born in 1899 (for tenant farmers): 1, Mr. S. W. Gould; 2, Mr. J. R. Newton, Warburton; 3, Mr. S. W. Gould. Bull, born in or before 1897: 1, Mr. J. Highfield, Northwich; 2, Mr. J. Mercer, Halebank, near Widnes; 3, Mr. J. Marsh, Warrington. Bull, born 1898: 1, Mr. J. Highfield; 2, Mr. C. Schwabe; 3, Mr. J. Marsh, Warrington. Bull, born 1899: 1, Mr. T. Adamson; 2, Mr. F. Worthington, Warrington; 3, Mr. S. W. Gould.

Ludlow

The annual show of the Ludlow Agricultural Society was held in Ludlow Park on Monday, and, weather apart, may be regarded as in every way fit to rank with some of the very best meetings promoted by the society since its inauguration fifty-one years ago. The prospects of a highly successful show never looked brighter, but the meteorological conditions which prevailed upset everybody's calculations. During the morning rain descended more or less without intermission, rendering the duties of the judges and others whose business kept them in the open extremely unpleasant, if not somewhat difficult of fulfilment; but in face of what was at times nothing short of a blinding storm, the work of the show yard was carried on with a determination deserving of all praise. The weather, of course, militated considerably against the attendance, for although it brightened up somewhat in the afternoon, enabling the programme of horse leaping, etc., to be carried out without much hindrance, the public did not turn up in such large numbers as in previous years, and it is to be feared that the society's funds will suffer thereby. The display of stock was on all hands admitted to be a remarkably good one. The cattle classes were well filled, among the animals shown being many that had been exhibited at the Royal; the horses, too, were a superior lot, especially the Hunters, than which a better lot has seldom been seen together in a showyard; while the sheep were a nice attractive collection, the competitors including a number of the best known breeders.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

A sweepstake of 1 sovereign each, with 5 sovs. added, for the best stock bull of any breed, open to all England: 1, Sir C. H. Rouse Boughton, Bart., Downtown Hall.

Bull calved on and after January 1, 1899, bred by and the property of the exhibitor: 1, Mr. J. Tudge, Duxmoor; 2, Mr. W. Tudge, Leinthall; 3 and r, Mr. T. Fenn, Stonebrook House; hc, Mr. L. Moore, Brampton Brian.

Four two-year-old steers, the property of tenant farmers: 1 Mr. T. J. Wolley, Clungerford; 2 and r, Mr. T. Mellings.

Four two-year-old heifers: 1, Mr. J. Tudge; 2, Sir C. H. Rouse Boughton, Bart.; r, Mr. T. Fenn, Stonebrook House.

Four yearling steers, the property of tenant farmers: 1 and 2, Mr. G. Griffiths, Orleton; r, Mr. J. Rawlings, Woofferton.

Four yearling heifers: 1, Mr. R. Green, The Whittern; 2, Mr. W. Tudge, Leinthall; r, Mr. L. Moore, Brampton Brian.

Four breeding cows or heifers with their calves, calved in 1900: 1, Mr. J. Rawlings, Woofferton; 2, Mr. W. Tudge, Leinthall; r, Sir C. H. Rouse Boughton, Bart., Downton Hall.

Four heifers calved in 1898, bred by and the property of tenant farmers who have not exhibited in the cattle classes at the Royal or Bath and West of England Shows for ten years previous: 1, Mr. R. J. Penhall, Weston, Pembridge; 2, Mr. J. Mellings, Lady Halton.

Best four heifers, calved in 1899, conditions same as in previous class: 1 and 2, Mr. Thomas Morris, Pembridge; r, Mr. J. R. Hill, Orleton.

Four breeding cows or heifers with their calves, calved in 1900, conditions same as in previous class: 1, Mr. J. Rawlings, Woofferton; 2, Mr. J. Mellings, Lady Alton; 3, Mr. J. W. Openshaw, Woofferton Court.

SHEEP.

SHROPSHIRE.

Best Yearling Ram (open to all England): 1 and 2, Mr. A. Tanner, Shrawardine; r, Mr. T. Fenn; hc, Mr. J. E. Farmer, Felton; c, Mr. T. Fenn.

Best Yearling Ram, bred by and the property of tenant farmers living within a radius of ten miles of Ludlow Cross, who have never exhibited at the Royal or Bath and West of England or any county show: 1 and r, Mr. J. Mellings, Lady Halton; 2, Mr. G. Howells, Leinthall; c, Edwards, Brothers, Stanton Lacy.

Best untrimmed Ram, more than two years old, bred by or that has been used for the previous year by a member of this society: 1, Mr. P. Everall, Ryton Grove; 2, Mr. T. Fenn Stonebrook House; r, Mr. A. Tanner, Shrawardine; c, Mr. A. Tanner.

Best pen of three ram lambs: 1 and 2, Mr. A. Tanner; r, Mr. B. Edwards, Aldon; c, Mr. T. Fenn.

Best pen of five yearling ewes: 1, Mr. T. Fenn, Stonebrook House; 2 and r, Sir C. H. Rouse Boughton, Bart.

Best pen of five wether lambs: 1 and 2, Mr. F. D. Bach, Onibury; r, J. Rawlings, Woofferton.

Best pen of five ewe lambs: 1, Mr. A. Tanner; 2, Mr. T. Fenn; r, Mr. B. Edwards; c, Mr. J. Rawlings.

Best pen of five yearling ewes, the property of tenant farmers who have not exhibited in the sheep classes at the Royal or Bath and West of England shows for ten years previous: 1, Edwards Brothers, Stanton Lacy; 2 and r, Mr. J. E. Farmer, Felton; c Edwards Brothers, Stanton Lacy.

HORSES.

Best mare most suitable for breeding hunters, with foal at foot, that has been the property and in the possession of bona fide tenant farmers at least six months: 1, Mr. P. Everall, Ryton Grove; 2, Mr. T. C. Downes, Richard's Castle; 3, Mr. C. C. Nott, Wigmore; r, Mr. H. G. Reynolds, Snitton.

Best three-year-old nag, gelding, or mare, that has been the property and in the possession of the exhibitor at least six months: 1, Mr. J. Ingram, Leominster; 2, Mr. G. H. Green, Wigmore; r, W. Blakeway, Wootton.

Best two-year-old nag, colt, gelding, or filly, by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter sire: 1, Mr. C. B. Roberts, Burley; 2, Mr. G. H. Green, Wigmore Grange; 3, Mr. W. Blakeway, Wootton; r, Mr. E. H. Rickards, Ludlow.

Best yearling, by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter sire, likely to make a hunter: 1 and 2, Mr. G. H. Green, Wigmore; 3, Mr. T. Sankey, Aston Hall; r, Mr. H. G. Reynolds, Snitton.

A special prize of a silver cup, value 3 guineas, for the best animal in classes 20, 21, and 22: 1, Mr. G. H. Green, Wigmore.

Best hunter, mare, or gelding, under five years, the bona fide property of and bred by tenant farmers residing within the limits of the Ludlow, Wheatland, and United Hunt: 1, 3, and r, Mr. G. H. Green, Wigmore; 2, Mr. C. B. Roberts, Burley.

Open class.—Best hunter gelding or mare [illegible] over, up to not less than 13 stone, the property of farmers residing within the radius of the Ludlow Hunt and [illegible] been in the possession of the exhibitor at least three months: 1 Mr. H. R. Evans, Kings Pyon; 2, Mr. C. B. Roberts; r, Mr. C. B. Roberts.

Best hunter four years old or upwards up to not less than 14 stone: 1 Mr. R. H. Evans; 2 and r, Mr. C. B. Roberts, Burley; hc, Sir W. M. Curtis, Bart.; Mr. T. H. Whiteman, Ashton Court.

Best hunter gelding or mare, foaled in 1896 [illegible]

[illegible] Agricultural Society [illegible] Mr. T. H. Whiteman; 2 Mr. C. B. Roberts: hc, Mr. F. C. Tomkins, [illegible]

[illegible] possession of the exhibitor at least six months; 1, Mr. M. Jones, Dolbury; [illegible] Mr. G. H. Green [illegible] Mr. J. Mansell; r, [illegible]

Best three-year-old cart gelding or filly, to be [illegible] purposes, to be bred by the exhibitor, and to have been in the possession of the exhibitor at least six months: 1, Mr. W. [illegible] 2, Mr. G. W. Marsh, Aston Munslow; r, J. Rawlings, Woofferton.

Two-year-old cart gelding or filly, for agricultural purposes, to be bred by [illegible] at least six months: 1, Mr. L. Moore, Brampton Brian; 2, Mr. J. E. Powell, Leominster; r, Mr. J. Lockhart, Norton; hc Mr. G. W. [illegible] Aston Munslow.

Best yearling cart colt, gelding, or filly: 1, Mr. M. Jones, Dolbury; [illegible] Mr. G. H. [illegible] hall; r, Mr. G. J. Gittins, Woofferton; c, Mr. W. Tanner, The Poston.

Best cart sucker: 1, Mr. M. Jones, Dolbury; 2, Mr. W. Edwards, [illegible] Mr. E. [illegible] c, Mr. W. T. Monnington, Walford; Mr. J. Jones, Norton.

The Shire H[illegible] [illegible] mare [illegible] or [illegible] in the Stud Book: 1, Mr. M. Jones; 2, Mr. L. Moore.

The Ludlow Town and Corporation prize: A [illegible] cup of the value of [illegible] and at [illegible] Mr. [illegible]

Mr. W. J. Bagnall's Shire stallion [illegible] served by any of his Shire stallions: 1 and 3, Mr. C. E. Edwards, [illegible] Mr. W. Crowther, Hay Wharf; r, Mr. H. Powell, Brimfield.

Best pony mare or gelding 14 hands, to be shown to saddle: 1, Mr. C. B. Roberts, Burley; 2 and 3, Mr. F. Ludlam, Ashford Hall; r, Pell and Rawlings, Dudley.

DRIVING AND JUMPING.

Turn-out.—The president's prize [illegible] turn-out, [illegible] within 12 miles of Ludlow, the [illegible] property of the exhibitor: 1, Mr. C. B. Roberts; 2, Miss Allcroft.

Best [illegible] never won a [illegible] property of the exhibitor, being within 12 miles of Ludlow: Mr. T. H. Whiteman; 2, Mr. R. H. Blakeway; 3, Mr. W. Tanner; r, Mr. G. F. S. Sanders.

Gainsborough.

From a financial point of view the Gainsborough Agricultural Society's Show at Gainsborough on Tuesday, was not a success, the very wet weather keeping numbers of attending visitors away. From an exhibitor's point of view, however, the show was never more successful. In the brood mare class of hunters, Mr. F. B. Wilkinson, of Cawood Lodge, Holmpierpont, secured both 1st and 2nd awards. The winner of the premier prize has won every time she has been exhibited this year, including successes at the Royal, Yorkshire, Newark, and Notts. All the classes were fairly well filled and the quality of the animals was very good. The luncheon took place as usual on the ground, but was not largely attended. The president, Mr. J. D. Sandars, J.P., presided, and was supported by Mr. Emerson Bainbridge, M.P., the officials, judges, and others. In proposing "Success to the Gainsborough Agricultural Show," Mr. Bainbridge advocated the sending of a representative of the society to inspect and report upon the exhibits of the agricultural section of the Paris Exhibition. He said that if that were done he should be pleased, if they would allow him, to defray the cost of printing and distributing that report throughout the division. (Applause.) And if a fund were raised to defray the expenses of a representative to the exhibition he would be pleased to subscribe £5 5s. There was so much to learn there, and he thought the society might send some of its best farmers.

Prize List.

HORSES.

[illegible] Shire [illegible] who [illegible]

1, J. Hanks, Walkeringham; 2, R. Brown, West Butterwick; 3, J. Dixon, Laughton; r, A. J. Swaby, Scunthorpe.

[illegible] G. White, East Markham; 2, F. W. Park, Retford; 3, R. Brown; r, Messrs. G. and H. Clixby, Northorpe.

[illegible] 1900: 1, J. Harrison, Everton; 2, J. Dixon; 3, F. W. Park; r, A. J. Swaby.

[illegible] Knottingley; 2, W. Hird, North Wheatley; 3, T. C. Laming.

[illegible]

[illegible] ton.

Shire Horse Society's Stud Book: 1 and hc, W. Jackson; 2, J. [illegible] W. Saul.

3, W. Shelton, Bottesford; hc, W. Harpham, W. Saul, and J. Harrison.

[illegible] Greathatch, Hatfield; r, A. H. Cocker, Marr.

[illegible] 1, F. B. Brook, Walkerith; 2, W. Yates, Gainsboro'; 3, J. [illegible]

D. Hopkinson; r, T. Lobley.

[illegible] ney sire: 1, R. Sandbeck; 2, T. Mason, Misterton; 3, A. H. [illegible]

son; 3, J. Smurthwaite, Retford; r, J. W. Drakes, Gringley-on-the-Hill.

Hunter foals: 1 and r, F. B. Wilkinson; 2, J. Smurthwaite; 3, F. E. Hagerup.

Special prize for the best foal insured in the General Insurance Company: 1, T. Lobley, Gainsboro'; 2, Wm. Smithson, Gainsboro'; 3, G. Antcliffe, Gringley-on-the-Hill; r, G. Pearson, Gringley-on-the-Hill.

Special prize for the best foal insured in the County Live Stock Association, York: A. J. Swaby; r, G. Willows, East Scrafwath.

Yearling hunter colts, geldings, or fillies, by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter: 1, J. Smurthwaite, Retford; 2, A. H. Usher, Lincoln; 3, F. E. Hagerup, Wyndhurst.

Hunters, foaled in 1896, to be ridden: 1, J. H. Stokes, Great Bowden; 2, F. B. Wilkinson, Newark; 3, A. J. Brown, Andleby; hc, J. L. Bullivant, Torworth.

Hunters, five or six years old, to be ridden: 1, A. J. Brown; 2, J. H. Stokes; 3 (equal), F. B. Wilkinson and F. Clarke; 4, R. R. Chatterton, Stonegat.

Hackneys, to be ridden: 1, J. Robinson, Hull; 2, W. Wharton, Winterton; 3, H. Daniel, York; r, Chas. Scorer, Barnburgh.

Hackneys, over 14.2, shown in harness: 1, Charles Scorer; 2, J. Layne, Gainsborough; 3, R. Surfleet.

Hackneys, not exceeding 14.2, to be shown in harness: 1, C. Scorer; 2, Mrs. Robinson; 3, A. R. Humphrey, Morton.

Geldings or mares, any height, adjudged the cleverest jumpers: 1, W. Oldham, Gainsborough; 2, J. Todd, Southrey; 3, H. Grantham, North Thoresby.

Ponies, not exceeding 13 hands, to be ridden by boys under fourteen years: 1, H. Duckering, Northorpe; 2, G. Antcliffe, Gringley-on-the-Hill; 3, G. Winter, Corringham. Whip to the best rider: Master Swanston, Morton.

Tradesman's heavy turn-out for trade purposes in Gainsboro' or Morton: 1, Kelsey and Son, Gainsboro'; 2, W. Gleadell, Morton; 3, G. F. Cattle, Gainsboro'.

Tradesman's light turn-out (one horse), for trade purposes in Gainsboro' or Morton: 1, W. H. Rose, Gainsboro'; 2, Ben Wilmot, Gainsboro'; 3, A. R. Humphrey, Morton.

Geldings or mares for jumping: 1, J. Todd, Southery; 2, G. M. Cooper, Brocklesby; 3, H. Grantham, North Thoresby.

Huddersfield.

The newly-formed Huddersfield District Agricultural Society held its first show on the 4th inst., and the success that attended it shows that though the district of which Huddersfield is the centre is not now, strictly speaking, agricultural, the population still take a keen interest in the farm and its products. The site of the show was at Almondbury, on a pretty piece of ground overlooking the entrance to the Holme Valley. Fortunately fine weather prevailed and the attendance of visitors was most satisfactory.

For an initial effort the exhibition did credit to the district. No less than £300 was offered in prize money, and this had the effect of drawing together some capital stock. Horses were the chief feature. In this department there were 110 entries, representing some of the best known breeders in the North of England. All the classes were well filled, with the exception of that for agricultural stallions, any age, in which the first prize was taken by Mr. Arthur Lindley's Southgate Hero, which has recently been travelling the district. The class for agricultural mares or geldings of any age was a capital class, containing some most useful animals. There was keen competition for first place, which was ultimately awarded to Mr. J. W. Pollitt, of Ashton-under-Lyne. Of Hackneys and roadsters there was likewise an excellent show. In the class for Hackney stallions two of the best specimens of the breed in England met, viz., Mr. S. R. Tennant's Revival and Mr. T. Hall's Langton Masher. The merits of the pair were so level that the judges were a long time in giving their decision, placing them in the order just given. Mr. Ireland's Lady Connaught was a long way in front of her rivals in the brood mare class. The Hackney or roadster class was a good one for a country show, containing as it did Mr. Mitchell's Sam Weller, Mr. J. Robinson's Mornington Cannon, Mrs. Holmes's Pickwick, and Mr. Tyson's Sir George—all well-known prize-winners. Sam Weller, after a close fight, secured the verdict. Mrs. Holmes' Love Letter and Mr. Tyson's Lady Wiles were together in the next class, set apart for Hackneys or roadsters not exceeding 15 hands, and Love Letter carried the day, making a much better show than her rival. The two subsequently met in the class for cobs not exceeding 15 hands, with a similar result. Mr. Franklin's Lord Gobang won in both pony classes, Mr. Percy Robinson's Queenie being placed second in each case. In the hunter class for four-year-olds and upwards, the horses shown by Mr. A. J. Brown and Mr. T. Hall were of such equal merit, though differing entirely in character, that the judges wanted the owners to divide the first two prizes. This they declined to do, and a referee was called in, who declared Mr. Brown's to be the best. There was not a big display of cattle, but an interesting feature about it was the extent and quality of the dairy class, which had fifteen entries. Mr. S. W. Hackney was most successful, carrying off both first and second prizes. All the pig classes filled well, and there was keen competition in every one of them.

The following gentlemen acted as judges:—Horses—Messrs. R. Ford, Chevet Grange, near Wakefield; R. Whitworth, South Wood, Halifax; and J. Hanson, Longwood, Huddersfield. Cattle—Messrs. Wm. Hinchliffe, Adwick-le-Street; and John Hudson, Lepton. Pigs—Mr. Josh. Ashforth, The Rookery, Dronfield, Sheffield.

Prize List.

HORSES.

CART HORSES.

Agricultural stallion, any age: 1, A. Lindley, Pledwick Stud Farm, Sandal, Wakefield; 2, M. Mitchell, Beverley Road, Hull.

Agricultural mare, with foal at foot: 1, H. Brooke, Warren Field; 2, E. Hall, Fenny Bridge; 3, M. Shepherd, Almondbury.

Agricultural mare or gelding, any age: 1, J. W. Pollitt, Ashton-under-Lyne; 2, Aire and Calder Navigation Co., Huddersfield; 3, Bentley and Shaw, Limited, Lockwood.

Draught mare or gelding, with cleanest gears: 1, Aire and Calder Navigation Co.; 2, Jennens, Welch, and Co., Limited; 3, J. W. Pollitt.

HACKNEYS OR ROADSTERS

Hackney stallion, any age: 1, S. R. Tennant, Driffield; 2, T. Hall, East Farm, Langton, Malton; 3, L. Hinchliffe, Newmill.

Hackney mare with foal at foot: 1, J. T. Ireland, Malescroft Grange, Beverley; 2 and medal, W. E. Inman, Fenay Bridge; 3, D. Hopkinson's Exors., Bradford.

Hackney or roadster, exceeding 15 hands, to be shown in saddle: 1, T. Mitchell, Eccleshill; 2, J. Robinson, Hull; 3, G. Tyson, Mayfield Stud, Halifax.

Hackney or roadster, exceeding 14 hands, but not exceeding 15 hands, to be shown in saddle: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes, Shipley; 2, G. Tyson; 3, M. E. Shaw, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Pony, not exceeding 14 hands, to be shown in saddle: 1, G. E. Franklin, Derby; 2, T. P. Robinson, Wakefield; 3, C. O. Bastow, Howden.

Pony, not exceeding 14 hands, to be shown in harness: 1, G. E. Franklin; 2, T. P. Robinson; 3, C. O. Bastow.

Cob, exceeding 14 hands, but not exceeding 15 hands, to be shown in harness: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, G. Tyson; 3, M. E. Shaw.

Gelding or mare, exceeding 15 hands, to be shown in harness: 1, T. Mitchell; 2, G. Tyson; 3, Mrs. F. Holmes.

HUNTERS, ETC.

Hunter gelding or mare, four years old or upwards, to be shown in saddle: 1, A. J. Brown, Doncaster; 2, T. Hall; 3, E. Hoyle, Bacup.

Leaping Class: 1 and 2 (divided), C. Tomlinson, Selby, and T. E. Lavin, Ripon; 3, W. Favell, Sheffield.

Best-appointed tradesban's turn-out: 1, Wallaces, Limited, Huddersfield; 2, S. Lindley, Thongsbridge; 3, R. Barker, Birkby.

CATTLE.

Bull, any age: 1, J. Walshaw, Shelley; 2, E. Hall.

Milk cow: 1 and 2, S. W. Hackney; 3 and special, R. Barker, Birkby.

Heifers, not having more than two broad teeth: 1 and special, Mrs. E. Hall; 2, J. Roberts, Kirkburton; 3, J. and G. Brooke, Denby Dale.

PIGS.

Boar, any age: 1, A. Dewhirst, Bradford; 2, T. Veevers, Brierfield; 3, E. A. Wrigley, Almondbury.

Sow, in pig or milk: 1, E. A. Wrigley; 2 and 3, A. Dewhirst.

Store pig, not exceeding twelve months old: 1 and 3, A. Dewhirst; 2, T. Hollingworth, Meltham.

Two pork pigs, not exceeding twenty-four weeks old: 1, F. Riley, Turnbridge; 2, Wainwright Marsden, Almondbury; 3, A. Dewhirst.

Brigg Horse and Foal Show.

The nineteenth exhibition of the Brigg and District Foal Show Association was held on the 4th inst., in the Manor House field, Brigg. In the earlier part of the day the outlook was anything but promising; but rain, which had been falling for most of the night, ceased as the day wore on, and from noon the weather held fair. The violent storm in the night, however, had made sad havoc on the show ground. Not only had the roof of the grand stand been blown down, but several tents erected for refreshments and for exhibits of poultry, butter, etc., were laid to the ground. As the wind continued to blow with some force during the greater part of the morning, it was impossible to replace the covering over the grand stand. The tents, however, though considerably damaged, were put up again. The entries compared favourably with previous exhibitions, whilst the quality of the horses and foals was of a high standard. The Shires, taken as a whole, were a very fine collection, and elicited the admiration of the farmers, whilst among the visitors generally the riding, driving, and jumping competitions were features of special interest. There was a good attendance of visitors, including many of the leading agriculturists of the district. In addition to the show of horses, prizes were offered for dressed poultry, butter, eggs, honey, cream, cheese, and bread, and there were good displays of each.

Prize List.

Shire colt foals (local): 1, E. H. Cartwright, Keddingston Grange; 2, R. S. Hand, Croft; 3, W. B. Swallow, Horkstow; 4, H. Goodburne, Althorpe.

Shire filly foals (local): 1, T. B. Freshney, South Somercotes; 2, G. and H. Clixby, Northorpe; 3, R. Brown, West Butterwick; 4, W. B. Swallow.

Shire foals, foaled after May 1st (local): 1, H. Goodburn; 2, A. J. Swaby, Scunthorpe; 3, W. B. Swallow; 4, J. Dixon, Laughton.

Shire colt foals by Mr. Sutton-Nelthorpe's horses: 1, R. S. Hand; 2, W. B. Swallow; 3, A. J. Swaby; 4, Mrs. Taylor, Castlethorpe.

Shire filly foals, by ditto: 1, G. and H. Clixby; 2, W. B. Swallow; 3, J. Shucksmith, Worlaby.

Shire foals by Trent Conqueror or Patrician: 1, R. Brown; 2, B. Whiteley, Derrythorpe.

Shire foals (local): 1, H. Goodburn; 2, J. Shucksmith; 3, J. Dixon; 3, B. Whiteley.

Champion prize for the best Shire colt foal: E. H. Cartwright.

Champion cup for the best Shire filly foal: T. B. Freshney.

A silver teapot for the best shire foal, the property of any person residing in North Lindsey: W. B. Swallow.

Yearling Shire fillies (local): 1, T. Bond, Ludborough; 2, F. G. Taylor, Sturton.

Two-year-old shire fillies (local): 1, W. Rutter, Hogsthorpe; 2, T. Bond.

Shire mares shown with foals (local): 1, E. H. Cartwright; 2, A. Thompson; 3, T. B. Freshney.

The Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best Shire mare filly or filly foal: W. Rutter.

Foals likely to make hunters: 1, H. Martin; 2 and 3, W. B. Swallow, Wootton; 4, W. Petchell, East Kirkby.

Yearling hunter colts or fillies: 1, A. H. Usher, Wickenby; 2, T. Sands, Grainsby.

Hunter mares with foals: 1, W. B. Swallow; 2, W. Petchell; H. Greatbatch, Hatfield; 3, T. Lobley, Gainsboro'; 4, A. H. 3, H. Martin.

Foals by Hackney stallions: 1, G. Clark, Doncaster; 2, A. Greatbatch.

Mares suitable for breeding Hackneys, with foals: 1, A. H. Greatbatch; 2, G. Clark.

Four or five-year-old hunter geldings or mares, ridden in the ring: 1 and 2, A. J. Brown; 3, A. Tomlinson.

Hackney geldings or mares, ridden in the ring, not exceeding 15.2: 1, J. Robinson, Hull; 2, R. Surfleet, Gainsboro'; 3, W. Wharton.

Geldings or mares, driven in harness: 1, C. Fowler; 2, G. Barron, Sheffield; 3, G. F. Cocking.

Ditto (local): 1, J. Scott, Moortown; 2, F. Hookham, Ulceby; 3, R. I. Swaby.

Ponies, under 14 hands, to be ridden by boy or girl under fifteen: 1, E. Ayre, Ulceby; 2, J. W. Cook, Kirton Lindsey; 3, W. Robinson.

Ponies, not exceeding 12 hands, to be ridden by boy or girl not exceeding twelve: 1, H. Duckering; 2, J. Skaith, Hibaldstow; 3, Master H. Hewitt, Brigg.

Donkeys, to be ridden or driven in the ring; no spurs: 1, G. Kitchen, Barnetby; 2, A. Fryer, Ulceby.

Geldings or mares, cleverest jumpers: 1, J. Todd, Southrey; 2, H. Grantham; 3, G. M. Sooper.

Whalley.

The Whalley Agricultural Society's Show took place at Whalley on Monday, and it suffered severely from the weather. Rain was heavy and almost incessant throughout the morning and afternoon, and the attendance consequently was of a meagre character. Fortunately the society's shows have been a series of successes for a number of years past, and, although the prize money given has always been sufficient to prevent any very large accumulation of funds, it is satisfactory to learn from the honorary secretary that the committee do not fear to meet the result of this temporary failure of receipts. About 678 entries were catalogued, a slight reduction as compared with last year, in numbers only, for the general quality of the exhibition was highly commendable. Light horses formed a good section. The Hackney Society's medal was awarded to Mr. Jas. Clarkson, of Farnworth, for his filly by Troubadour, shown in the class for three-year-olds for road or field. Mr. H. T. Parke, of Withnell, obtained the reserve number for this honour for a cob under 14 hands. Heavy horses were an even finer collection, and obtained much praise from the judges, who were especially pleased with the classes for brood mares and foals. The Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal, was awarded to Mr. Jos. Smith, of Whittingham House, Preston, won by his one-year-old filly by Bury Victor Chief from a mare by Lancashire Lad II. The same society's silver medal for the best entire colt or colt foal went to the executors of the late John Mercer, of Preston, for a yearling colt bred by them. Mr. Yerburgh, M.P., the president of the society, was the winner in the class for bulls over one year old, with William the Conqueror, a Shorthorn which was second at the Royal Show at York and at the Dublin Show, and which recently took premier honours at Colne. The president also took two second prizes for cattle, in classes where Mr. W. Heaton, of Lostock Junction, was his more successful competitor, and Mrs. Campbell, of Gisburne, maintained her reputation as the possessor of good dairy cows. Sheep did not present an extraordinary display for a sheep-breeding district.

Prize List.

HORSES.

LIGHT.

Three years old, for road or field: 1, Mr. J. Clarkson, Carnforth; 2, Mr. R. Hothersall, Preston; 3, Mr. W. Winter, Accrington.

Two years old ditto: 1, Mr. R. Hartley, Balderstone; 2, Mrs. Hick, Mytton Hall; 3, Mr. J. Hargreaves, Wiswell.

One year old: 1, Mr. J. Melling, Garstang; 2, Mr. J. Ainsworth, Mellor; 3, Mr. C. V. Haworth, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Colt or filly foal: 1, Mr. E. Lawson, Accrington; 2, Mr. J. E. Riley, Accrington; 3, Mr. H. T. Park, Withnell Fold.

Hackney brood mare: 1, Mr. R. M. Birley, Hoghton Hall; 2, Mr. R. M. Birtley, Hoghton Hall; 2, Mr. R. Burrow, Kirkby Lonsdale.

Hackney colt or filly foal: 1, Mr. J. Melling, Garstang; 2, Mr. J. W. Liver, Garstang; 3, Mr. R. Burrow.

Brood mare, for road or field: 1, Mr. J. Melling; 2, Mr. H. T. Parke; 3, Mr. E. Cowell, Blackburn.

Mare or gelding, to be ridden: 1, Mr. J. L. Irving, Park Gate, Blackburn; 2, Mr. R. Hothersall, Preston; 3, Mr. J. W. Liver.

Cob, not exceeding 15 hands ditto: 1, Mr. H. T. Parke; 2 Mr. E. Howorth, Nelson; 3, Mr. J. W. Liver.

Ditto not exceeding 14 hands: 1, Mr. H. T. Parke; 2 Executors of Thomas Horsfall, Clitheroe; 3, Mr. R. Harrison, Chorley.

Pony, not exceeding 13 hands: 1, Mr. J. R. Culshaw, Blackburn; 2, Messrs. J. W. and E. Whittaker, Accrington; 3, Mr. J. Batty, Accrington.

HEAVY.

Mare or gelding, over 16 hands: 1, W. Blythe and Co., Church; 2, Mr. A. Bell, Fence, near Burnley.

Ditto, not exceeding 16 hands: 1, Mr. A. Bell; 2, Mr. J. Mawdsley, Rishton; 3, W. Blythe and Co.

Brood mare, over 16 hands: 1, Exors. of Mr. J. Mercer, Preston; 2, Mr. J. Crook, Hapton; 3, Mr. J. Smith, Darwen.

Brood mare, not exceeding 16 hands: 1, Mr. J. Billington, Balderstone; 2, Mr. H. W. Kearns, Accrington; 3, Mrs. Slinger, Whittingham.

Two years old gelding: 1, Mr. J. Moore, Simonstone; 2, Mr. L. Rawcliffe, Clayton-le-Moors; 3, Mr. H. W. Worsley-Taylor, Q.C., Whalley.

One-year-old colt or gelding: 1, Exors. of Mr. J. Mercer; 2, Mr. R. Blackburn, Whitestake; 3, Mr. J. C. Waddington, Burnley.

Colt foal: 1, Mr. J. Hodgson, Longridge; 2, Exors. of Mr. J. Mercer; 3, Mr. T. Haworth, Salesbury.

Two-year-old filly: 1, Exors. of Mr. J. Mercer; 2, Mr. E. Eastham, Whittingham; 3, Mr. H. W. Kearns.

One-year-old filly: 1, Mr. J. Smith, Preston; 2, Mr. R. Illingworth, Whittingham; 3, Mr. J. Crook.

Filly foal: 1, Mr. J. Crook; 2, Mr. J. Holden, Aighton; 3, Mr. J. Smith.

CHAMPION PRIZES.

Open to all England (animals eligible for the English Shire Horse Stud Book).

Shire brood mare: 1, Mr. J. Forshaw, Newark; 2, Exors. of Mr. J. Mercer; 3, Mr. J. Fox, Lancaster.

Shire colt foal: 1, Mr. H. Mackereth, Kirkby Lonsdale; 2, Mr. E. Rawlinson, Kendal; 3, Mr. T. Askew, Slyne; 4, Mr. J. Hodgson, Longridge.

Shire filly foal: 1, Exors. of Mr. J. Mercer; 2, Mr. T.

wann, Leyland; 3, Mr. J. Crook; 4, Mr. J. Holden, Hurst reen.
Shire or cart one year old, bred and shown by tenant farmer n the society's district: 1, Mr. R. Illingworth, Whittlingham; , Mr. J. Crook.
Three horses ditto: 1, Mr. J. Crook.

CATTLE.

GENTLEMEN'S STOCK.

Shorthorn bull, over one and not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., Woodfold Park, Blackburn; 2, Mr. W. Heaton, Lostock; 3, Mr. F. Miller, Much Hoole.
Bull not exceeding one year: 1, Mr. F. Miller; 2, Mr. H. W. Worsley-Taylor.
Cows: 1, Mr. W. Heaton; 2, Mr. R. A. Yerburgh.
Heifers, over one and not exceeding two years: 1, Mr. W. Heaton; 2, Mr. R. A. Yerburgh.
Heifer not exceeding one year: 1, Messrs. R. and T. Harrison, Much Hoole; 2, Mr. J. W. Howard, Bury.
Pair of West Highland Scots: 1, Mr. H. W. Worsley-Taylor; , Mr. T. Seed, Clitheroe.

TENANT FARMER'S STOCK.

Dairy cow (Pendle Forest Hounds District): 1, Mr. J. pencer, Clitheroe: 2, Mrs. Campbell, Gisburne; 3, Mr. A. loward, Clitheroe.

SOCIETY'S DISTRICT.

Dairy cow: 1, Mr. J. Spencer; 2, Mrs. Campbell; 3, Mr. A. loward.
Bull, over one and not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr. J. rocter, Alston; 2, Margaret Badger, Simonstone; 3, Mr. J. reland, Bashall Eaves.
Bull not exceeding one year: Mr. T. Tomlinson, Whalley.
Cow in calf or milk: 1 and 3 Mr. L. R. Duckworth; 2, Mrs. amphell.
Heifer over two and not exceeding three years: 1, Mr. G. . Eatough, Whalley; 2, Mr. W. Strickland, Whalley; 3, r. A. Howard, Clitheroe.
Heifer over one and not exceeding two years: 1, Mr. R. reen, Whalley: 2, Mr. A. Holden, Whalley; 3, Mr. R. Barnes, llington.
Heifer not exceeding one year: 1, Margaret Badger, Simonone; 2, Mr. E. Briggs, Rimington.
Fat heifer: 1 and 2, Mr. T. Bulcock, Whalley.
Heifer calf: 1, G. H. Eatough, Whalley; 2, Mr. T Morris.
Tenant farmer's stock.—Special prize.—Three animals of y age or sex: 1, Mrs. Campbell; 2, L. R Duckworth, msbottom.
Gentlemen and tenant farmer's stock.—Special prize.—ree animals of any age or sex: 1, Mr. W. Heaton; 2, Mr. A. Yerburgh.

SHEEP.

Dodded ram: 1, Mr. R. Cockshutt, Chatburn; 2, Mr. J. hittaker, Grindleton.
Dodded shearing ram: 1, Mr. G. Hitchon, Clitheroe; 2, Mr. . Clegg, Inglewhite.
Dodded ram lamb: 1, Mr. J. Hargreaves, Sawley; 2, Mr. W. gg.
Dodded store ewes: 1, Mr. W. Clegg; 2, Mr. J. Whittaker.
Dodded shearling store ewes: 1, Mr. G. Hitchon; 2, Mr. J. Holgate.
Dodded store gimmer lambs: 1 and 2, Mr. G Hitchon.
Lonk mountain ram: 1, Mr. L. R. Duckworth, Ramsbottom; Mr. P. Sanderson, Whitworth.
Lonk mountain ram lamb: 1, Messrs. J. and W. Cocks, lson; 2, Mr. H. W. Worsley-Taylor.
Lonk mountain store ewes: 1, Mr. L. R. Duckworth; 2, Mr. Sanderson.
Lonk mountain store gimmer lambs: 1, Mr. J. Blackburn, cup; 2, Mr. T. Harrison, Rawtenstall.
Half-bred store ewes: 1 and 2, Mr. J. Whittaker, Grindleon.
Half-bred shearling store ewes: 1, Mr. W. Coates, Barrow-rd; 2, Mr. J. H. Holgate.
Fat dodded ewes: 1, Mr. G. Hitchon; 2, Mr. J. Whittaker.
Fat wethers: 1, Messrs. Pickup and Oddie, Clayton-le-Moors; Mr. T. Bulcock.
Three fat lambs: 1, Messrs. Pickup and Oddie; 2, Mr. J. H. olgate; 3, Mr. J. Wallbank, Hurst Green.
Scotch ewes: 1, Mr. J. Wallbank; 2 and 3, Mr. R. Tomlinson ead.

PIGS.

Boar, any breed; 1, Mr. T. Veevers, Brierfield; 2, Mr. G. W. an, Whalley.
Sow: 1 and 2, Mr. T. Veevers, Brierfield.
Sow, with litter: 1, Mr. W. Genner, Billington.
Cottager's store pig: 1, Mr. E. J. Heyworth, Bicup; 2, Mr. Hargreaves, Billington.
Store pig: 1 and 2, Mr. J. Eccles, Clitheroe.

Berkeley Hunt.

The annual exhibition of the Berkeley Hunt Agricultural Society was held, on Monday, in a field near erkeley Castle. The show, which had small beginnings, has now become recognised as among the rst in the county, and the liberal manner in which has been supported has enabled the committee to fer substantial prizes. This year the prize list mounted to £550, and as a result there was first-ass competition. Since its start the exhibition has ceived much practical sympathy from the Fitzardinge family, and the present owner of the Castle president, and was at the exhibition on Monday. he morning opened with a steady rainfall, which ntinued up to one o'clock, when there came a break the dull leaden clouds, and a few gleams of sunine heralded a change which was most welcome. he fine weather came too late to ensure so large an tendance as is usually met with at this popular ank Holiday fixture, but the gathering at the ringde and on the grand stand was exceedingly good, otwithstanding the adverse conditions. The total umber of entries received was not quite so large as st year, but this was accounted for chiefly by a lling off in the number of the horticultural exhibits, tributable for the most part to the dry season. So r as the quality of the stock is concerned, the show ay be pronounced one of the most successful in the istory of the Society. Several new classes were inoduced, with the idea of fostering interest in the ociety and carrying out its main object, which is he advancement of agriculture in the district. A rt mare and foal class, open to the county, found s place in the programme for the first time, and it an effort to get landlords in Gloucestershire to ow their animals, and thus spread the desire nong the farmers for a better class of animal. The ntries were fair for a start, but better things are oped for next year. No fewer than thirteen entries ere received for the cart mare and foal in the tenant rmers' class, thus showing healthy competition among the agriculturists, which should bear good fruit. The judges were struck with the soundness of the animals exhibited, and it speaks much to the credit of the Society that there is this desirable improvement. Mrs. Pick obtained the blue ribbon with Starlight, a useful black mare, and Mr. Griffiths was a good second with Smiler. The yearlings were not quite up to the standard the judges expected. In the hunting classes one of the most successful exhibitors was Mr. E. R. Apperly, who in the four-year-old class took first with Sporting Life, this being its maiden entry, while Catch Me obtained first place in the open event. In the hunting class, equal to twelve stone and upwards, Mr. J. W. Coren's Electricity beat Mr. Apperly's Sporting Luck, thus reversing the position of the horses at the Ledbury Show. In the pony class Mr. F. W. Butt, of Hartpury, repeated his success at Gloucester by taking the blue ribbon with Hartpury Model. Mr. E. S. Godsell, of Stroud, had first and second with the well-known Duke of York and Lady Lofty, and the pair took premier position in the pair class. Mr. T. Blinman, riding Mr. C. A. Daniel's Newcastle, added to his many jumping prizes in an entry of thirteen. The cattle were above the average, and a new class appeared for dairy cows in calf, Mr. T. Gazzard heading thirteen competitors with Damsel. Nearly all the animals met with the approbation of the judges. The distinction of winning the champion prize in the bull class fell to Mr. Ernest Hadley, of Coaley, who has a really fine animal in Ringdale Ralph, whose sire is Viator. The same animal secured the special prize of £5 offered by the local members of the Shorthorn Society. The Channel Island cattle were few in number, this breed not being very popular in the district. In a cheese neighbourhood like Berkeley it was not surprising to find good pitches on view. There was a higher standard than usual, both of the heavier and lighter makes, and in the open classes the competition was especially keen. Mr. G. F. Cullimore gained the champion prize for the best entry of cheese in the show. The Caerphilly and Wensleydale cheese were only fair, but the Stilton was of good make and quality. Butter and table poultry formed an important portion of the exhibition, and with a view of encouraging the keeping of fowls special prizes were offered for new-laid eggs.

Strathearn.

The annual show of horses, cattle, sheep, etc., in connection with the Strathearn Agricultural Society was held in the Market Park, Crieff, on Tuesday. The weather overnight was very wet, and during the forenoon it continued somewhat showery. Although the entries this year showed a slight decrease, the quality of the stock showed no deterioration from that of former years; in fact, in several respects was better, particularly in the horse section, which was reckoned the best exhibition of the kind in Perthshire. Shorthorns were an exceedingly strong section, and quite a number of the Highland Society winners were forward. This year substantial prizen, open to the counties of Perth, Argyll, Fife, Kinross, Stirling, Clackmannan, Linlithgow, Dumbarton, and Renfrew, were offered by the Shorthorn Society for yearling bulls and cows. The aged bull belonging to Capt. Graham Stirling, Strowan, was alone in his class, but he gained the championship and well deserved it. In a grand class of cows Captain Graham Stirling was first and third. The first prize cow is of the Sittyton type, and was got by Spring Robin. She had a very good bull calf at foot, which afterwards won first prize in his class. The second ticket went to Mr. Stewart, of Millhills, with Veronica 2nd, which was first at Perth. Mr. Graham Stirling was third with a big cow that was third at the Highland and second at Perth. There was not much between the first and second two-year-old heifers, both of which belonged to Mr. D. Stewart, of Millhills, and the judge had great difficulty in awarding the tickets. In yearling heifers a very good one belonging to Mr. Robertson, Ballechin, got by Mutineer and out of Tulip 4th, came to the front. She is altogether a characteristic heifer, and the female championship could not be denied to her. There were some promising bull calves, the prizes going to Strowan, Cultoquhey, and Crieffvechter respectively. Heifer calves were a very good class. Compared with last year, there was a slight falling off in the Aberdeen-Angus cattle catalogued. Mrs. Reid, of Auchterarder, had premier honours in aged bulls for Envoy of Beaton, a very sweet bull, which later in the day was awarded the male championship. Mr. W. S. Ferguson's Bowler was placed second. Mrs. Reid was the only exhibitor in the two-year-old class with Meridian of Glamis, a massive bull, which was purchased from Lord Strathmore at Perth as a yearling for 100gs. There was some good competition in the yearling class, and here Mr. Sharp, Bardrill, gained premier honour. There was a nice lot of bull calves.

Horses were a splendid feature of the exhibition. In Clydesdales there was a very good class of brood mares, where Mr. M'Nee, Colony, led with Poor Girl, a four-year-old by Montrave Mac. The yeld mares were a highly meritorious lot, and included two or three exceptionally good three-year-olds. Mr. Robert Paterson, Hill of Drip, near Stirling, was first with Lady Garnet, by Baron's Pride, a three-year-old that was first at Edinburgh Agricultural Show and fourth at the Highland Show. Mr M'Nee was first with a very nice foal out of his first prize brood mare. Mr M'Nee also gained premier place in a nice two-year-old class with a stylish filly by Baron's Pride. Messrs. Kerr, Lochlane, Hill of Drip, won Mr. Stewart's £10 10s cup with a three-year-old filly for best breeding animal in showyard.

Sheep were a grand show. In Leicesters competition was keen. For aged tups Mr. Pople, New Forest, won with the old sheep which was first last week at Perth and fourth at the Highland Show at Stirling. In tup lambs Messrs. Ferguson, Pictstonhill, and Thomson Gray, Innerpeffray, won all the prizes with sheep of good character. In gimmers Mr. Pople won first and second places with animals carrying fine coats. Shropshires were a small class. Blackfaced sheep formed one of the best exhibitions ever seen in Perthshire, particularly the males. In the aged class Lord Willoughby de Eresby, M.P., Glenartney, took first place with a home-bred three-shear, being a noted Loch Tayside breeder. Mr P Ewing, Ardconaig, who was placed second with a Glenbuck-bred £210 ram, which was third as a shearling at Edinburgh Highlands and first prize shearling and champion ram at Killin last year. There was a large class of shearlings, and here Mr P M'Lagan, Dunnablair, was first with a grand sheep sired by Young Sir Thomas, Lord Willoughby coming in second with a very gay animal and carrying a fashionable class of wool. Lord Willoughby also easily won in the two classes. Pigs were only a moderate lot.

Keele.

The forty-eighth annual exhibition of the Keele Agricultural and Horticultural Society was held in Keele Park on Thursday. The show is a comprehensive one, including poultry, pigeons, and dogs, whilst £100 was given in prizes for horse-leaping and turnouts. In the cattle classes there was not much competition, but the quality was very good. Mr Heath was first and second for bulls exceeding one year, also for yearling bulls. For bull calves Mr. Heath just defeated Mr. Bunch's exhibit, but the latter turned the tables in the class for Shorthorn dairy cows. In an open class for best cow in calf or milk Mr. Heath's Lady Kendall was second, gaining a special prize for the best cow exhibited by a tenant of Mr. Sneyd. In the cottagers' classes there were some small, but useful, cows, and Mr. T. C. Heath took most of the prizes for heifers. Horses were not quite as strong a section as usual, the open class for hunters particularly showing a falling off. Mr G. Holland, Keele, was first both for brood mare and foal and mare or gelding, for agricultural purposes. Mr. Holland was first for three-year-old gelding or filly. The most successful local exhibitors of hunters were Mr. S. Charlesworth (Newcastle), Mr. G. Holland, Mr. J. Young, Mr. S. T. Glover (Keele), and Mr. T. C. Heath. Mr. T. Appleby (Hixon) secured premier honours with Hixon Dora in the class for Shire mare with foal, Captain Haywood Lonsdale (Market Drayton) being narrowly beaten. Mr. Appleby's Shire foal was also placed first, with Mr. J. Colclough (Alsager) second. The class for hunter brood mares, with foal at foot or in foal, was a strong one. Two of the animals would have held their own in any company. These were Captain Haywood Lonsdale's Struan and a bay mare shown by Mr. F. B. Wilkinson (Edwinstowe, Newark). Mr. F. B. Wilkinson was unbeaten in the other classes in which he entered, viz., for hunter gelding or mare up to not less than 14st. and not less than 12st. respectively, Mr. W. F. Wilkinson (Madeley) and Mr. R. S. Wilkinson (Newcastle) being second in the two respective classes. Owing to the Board of Agriculture regulations, there were no exhibits of pigs, and sheep were not a particularly strong section. The ram lambs were a poor class, and the rest were of quite ordinary merit. Mr. A. E. Chadderton (Upper Heamies) was first and second for ram not under two years, first and second for shearling ram, first for pen of five ewes not under two years, and second for pen of five ewes, whilst Mr. G. Holland was first and second for ram lambs and first for pen of five ewes.

The Adulteration of Scotch Oatmeal.—The annual meeting of the National Association of Oatmeal Millers, Agents, and Dealers was held in the Religious Institution Rooms, Glasgow, on Monday, Mr. Charles L. Hunter, Edinburgh, presiding. There was a fair attendance of members. The annual report of the committee showed that during the year twelve new members had joined the Association. The committee have appointed Dr. Drinkwater, of Edinburgh, analyst to the Association, and he is at present engaged on an analysis of oatmeals, with the view of arriving at a means of detecting the admixture of foreign oatmeal with the home product. As soon as his investigations are complete the committee intend taking steps against those who are suspected of fraudulent practices. A circular is being issued to dealers drawing their attention to the Merchandise Marks Act, and urging them to get a guarantee from the miller or dealer from whom they buy. The finances of the Association were reported satisfactory, and the report of the committee was unanimously adopted. Office bearers were afterwards elected.

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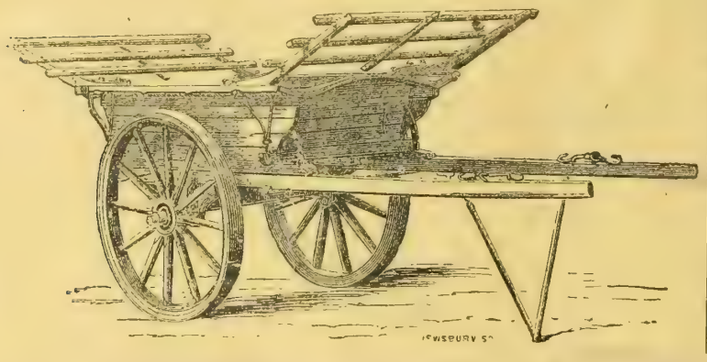

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JUNE QUARTERLY ISSUE.

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SEPTEMBER 20TH.

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Prize lists and entry forms on application.

W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

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Entries close Tuesday, August 28.

W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

LINCOLNSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

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STEPHEN UPTON, Secretary.
St. Benedict's Square.
Lincoln, 17th August, 1900.

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH.

ENTRIES CLOSE AUGUST 28TH.

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FARM.—GRAIN, near Rochester, Kent; a short distance from Port Victoria, about two miles from Grain Siding and six from Sharnal Street Station on the Hundred of Hoo Branch of the South Eastern Railway. — To be LET at Michaelmas next, ROSE COURT FARM and MARSHES, the property of the Wardens and Commonalty of Rochester Bridge, at present in the occupation of the Representatives of the late Mr. J. R. Dickens, consisting of 644a. 3r. 26p., with two COTTAGES and HOMESTEAD of Agricultural Buildings, nearly 600 Acres of which are excellent GRAZING MARSHES lying compactly together, with Cattle Sheds, etc., the remainder being First-class ARABLE LAND suitable for the cultivation of early crops; also 27a. 2r. of MARSH LAND, in South Level, adjoining the Rochester Road.

For particulars apply to Messrs. COBB, Surveyors and Land Agents, 53, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C., and Higham, near Rochester

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., & Sevenoaks, Kent.

SUSSEX.
STOPHAM, near PULBOROUGH.

TO LET from Michaelmas, 1900, the MANOR FARM, with fine old-fashioned Farmhouse, substantial and well-arranged Farm Buildings, and about 163 acres Arable and 153 acres Meadow and Brookland. Rent £300.—Apply, W. B. HOY, Stopham Estate Office, Pulborough.

SUSSEX.—TO BE LET at Michaelmas next as a going concern, a Dairy Farm of about 160 acres, 250 of which are in grass and the remainder arable, close to a fashionable watering town. Present milk contracts up to about 120 gallons (imperial) per day, at 10d. per gallon. The farm is in a high state of cultivation and well adapted for both dairy and fattening purposes, the brookland of 110 acres being of special value for either system, and is well watered. The farmhouse is substantial and the buildings ample. There is also good cottage accommodation.

The farm valuation to be taken over according to the custom of the county, and all live and dead stock could be, if required, taken at valuation. The above is a very desirable undertaking for anyone who is seeking an old-established business.

Write to "FARM," Box 3, c/o Willing's, 162, Piccadilly, London, W.

MANCHESTER.—TO BE LET, FIVE-FLOOR WAREHOUSE, with good loading and electric light, suitable for provision trade; also two cool cellars, suitable for cheese, eggs, or butter. The whole of these premises are centrally situated in Hanging Ditch, with valuable frontage opposite Corn and Produce Exchange.—Apply, ISAAC NEILD and SON, 10, Chapel Walks.

CAPITAL DAIRY FARM, with good house, cottages, and farm buildings.

TO BE LET immediately BROOMLANDS FARM, in the Parishes of Titsey and Limpsfield, Surrey. Two miles from Oxted and Westerham Stations and about 20 miles from London. Area about 165 acres of which about 70 are light arable and keep land, the remainder meadow, with good water supply. Rent £200 per annum.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. MORRISONS AND NEALE, Solicitors, Reigate, Surrey.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC.

MILL (modern Roller Water), on the river Thames, TO BE LET immediately, through the decease of the owner, in a weekly country town (market). Capital wheat-growing district, and doing a large and fast increasing trade. Plant and stock at valuation. Lease on premises. Splendid mill buildings, dwelling house, orchard, paddock, and grounds. Steam power attached. A few miles from large population. Capital centre, surrounded by market towns and large villages.—Full particulars of HARRIS & JACKSON, Estate Agents and Valuers, Abingdon, Berks, and 18, George Street, Oxford.

TO MARKET GARDENERS and OTHERS.—CROYDON.—To be LET, SIX ACRES of well-mature Garden Ground, with Dwelling House, Stabling for three horses, and range of outhouses, close to railway station, and one hour of Covent Garden; rent £80.—Apply to Messrs. BOWDITCH and GRANT, Surveyors, 6, George street, Croydon. (8859.)

SITUATIONS AGENCIES.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of ICHABOE GUANO, the highest Ammoniacal Guano, also for high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS and CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

FERTILISING AGENTS.—An agricultural landowner in Lombardy (Melegnano, Italy) desires an agency for nitrates, superphosphates, and all kinds of raw material for chemical manures. Apply to G. GIBELLI, care of Agenzia Manzoni, 15, Milan. References: The Committee of Agriculture of Milan and Bale, and Edwards Agricultural Machines, Milan.

CORN TRADE. Wanted, SITUATION as IMPROVER to attend markets and assist in office work. Three and a-half years' articles just expired.—Address, X. L., Office of this paper.

WANTED, PUPIL, for Barley Trade (resident), to attend markets weekly, Mark Lane twice and three country markets.—Apply, SPENCER RIX, Longwood, Norwich.

RATIONAL PIG KEEPING, to ensure Pigs [illegible] by W. T. MALLEN, Owner and Breeder of Prize Pigs, [illegible] Thousand Pounds [illegible] Farm, Lambourn, Berks. [illegible] Offices, 1, Essex Street, Strand, W.C.

AUCTION SALES

SALES OF PURE BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY NEXT, AUGUST 22.—Mr. W. O. HAMMOND'S SOUTHDOWNS, at St. Albans Court, Wingham, Kent.

THURSDAY NEXT, AUGUST 23.—The entire remainder of the late Mr. W. T. TALBOT-CROSBIE'S Herd of SHORTHORNS, at Ardfert Abbey, Ireland.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31.—Sir THOMAS BARRETT-LENNARD'S SOUTHDOWNS, and some LARGE WHITE PIGS, at Woodingdean, Brighton.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—Mr. JAMES WATT'S SHORTHORNS, at Knowefield, Carlisle.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.—Mr. H. Ker Colville's SHORTHORNS, at Bellaport, Market Drayton, Salop.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes-street, Hanover-square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

THE QUARRINGTON RAMS.
(Flock Book No. 155).

Important SALE of Grand Lincoln Long-wool SHEARLING RAMS.

MESSRS. HINCKS & TURNER beg to announce their instructions from Mr. F. WARD, to SELL BY AUCTION, upon the premises, QUARRINGTON,

On TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th, 1900,

80

of his Grand Lincoln Shearling

RAMS.

This Flock, established in 1841, has been enriched by purchases of Ewes from the Flocks of the late Mr. Hack, Silk Willoughby; Messrs. Clarke and Son, Ashby-de-la-Launde; late Mr. John Byron, Kirkby Green; Mr. Pinder, of Barrowby; Mr. E. H. Cartwright, Keddington; and Mr. H. Dudding, Riby; four of which were the 1st prize winners at the Louth Show. Notable Stud Rams, purchased at sums varying from 60 to 115 guineas, from amongst others: The Flocks of Mr. Dudding, Mr. J. E. Casswell, Messrs. Dean and Son, Mr. T. Casswell, Mr. Pears, Messrs. Clarke and Son, Mr. Wright, Mr. Goodyear, Mr Rudkin, Mr. Sharpe, and Mr. C. Clarke, have been used. The present collection show great size and capital constitution, with plenty of bone, combined with perfect fleeces, and can with confidence be thoroughly recommended. Specimens this year and the last two at the County Show, held at Spalding, Louth, and Lincoln (the only times exhibited), secured high honours.

The place of Sale is within One Mile of Sleaford Station on the Great Northern Railway, Grantham to Boston, and Great Northern and Great Eastern Joint Main Line, London to Doncaster, where Conveyances will meet intending buyers

Luncheon at 1 o'clock. Sale at 2.30.

Auctioneers' Offices—Sleaford and Leicester.

MARLBOROUGH FAIR.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22ND, 1900.

MR. T. LAVINGTON will hold his usual SALE by AUCTION of Hampshire Down Ewes and Lambs in the above Fair, commencing 9 a.m.

Present entries comprise upwards of 10,000 Ewes and Lambs from well-known flocks and 250 grand Ram Lambs from high class registered flocks.

Further entries respectfully solicited.

Catalogues on application to the Auctioneer, Auction and Valuing Offices, Marlborough and Devizes.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, next.
APPLESHAM FARM, SHOREHAM, SUSSEX.
About 2½ miles from Shoreham and Lancing Stations, L.B. & S.C.R.
Highly important SALE of SHEEP and DAIRY CATTLE.

MR. C. STRIDE has been favoured with instructions from Mr. WALTER WHITE (who is quitting and relinquishing farming) to SELL by AUCTION on the farm on the above date, the whole of his well known hill flock of DORSET DOWN SHEEP, consisting of about 1,500 EWES and LAMBS in ages as follows:—

219 two tooth ewes,
196 four tooth ewes,
179 six tooth ewes,
204 full mouthed ewes,
325 ewe lambs,
335 Wether lambs, rams, and ram lambs.

This flock has been in the White family for seventy years, and since being brought into Sussex from Dorsetshire by Mr. Walter White ten years ago, has been crossed with the Southdown.

The Ewes are very prolific and hardy of constitution, possessing the quality of the Southdown with greater size and scale. They will be sold in their natural condition, and work on the Downs for their living until day of sale.

Together with

48 GRAND HEAVY MILKING DAIRY COWS AND HEIFERS,

all with calves at foot or due to calve.

All the above cows and heifers are a Shorthorn and Hereford cross, were bred on the farm from cows specially selected for their milking qualities, and are well worth the attention of buyers.

The remainder of the Dairy Stock, with the Horses and tackle, will be sold on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 next.

Sale to commence at 1.45 with the Cows.

Luncheon obtainable on the premises.

Catalogues of the Auctioneer, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 65, East-street, Chichester.

AUCTION SALES.

ON FRIDAY NEXT, AUGUST 24 (One o'clock)

REGISTERED SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.

MESSRS. EVANS' ANNUAL SALE at SHERLOWE, seven miles from Shrewsbury, four miles from Wellington, and two miles from Crudgington Stations, where conveyances will meet the morning trains.

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. will SELL BY AUCTION, as above.

4 NOBLE SHEARLING RAMS.

(The first eight catalogued were Highly Commended at York, R.A.S.E.)

40 CHOICE SHEARLING EWES.

The Rams, about half of which are outlyers, will be found of "immense size" (and will bear the closest inspection), with lots of bone, and masculine type, yet true Shropshire character; and among them are several sires worthy of filling a leading place in the best flocks of the day.

The Sherlowe flock has always been renowned for the singular beauty and exquisite type of its females, and this year's selections are no exception to the general rule. Ewes selected from this flock have taken the highest position at several of the Australasian and other foreign shows, and have also proved very successful in breeding Prize-winning Sires.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL and CO., Shrewsbury, who will execute Commissions.

ON THURSDAY NEXT, AUGUST 23RD (One o'clock).

MR. THOMAS FENN'S ANNUAL SALE OF PRIZE-WINNING SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. will SELL by AUCTION, at the BRAKES FARM, three miles from Bromfield and six miles each from Craven Arms and Ludlow Stations (Shrewsbury and Hereford line),

3 GRAND RAMS and

50 BEAUTIFUL SHEARLING EWES.

Never as a whole has this noted flock looked better than it does this season. The Rams will be found a truly grand lot of Sheep and the Ewes a smart, matchy lot.

Conveyances will meet all trains at Bromfield Station.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL and CO., Shrewsbury, who will execute Commissions.

ON SATURDAY NEXT, AUGUST 25TH (Eleven o'clock) (not on August 18th, as previously announced).

REGISTERED SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.

BREEDERS' ANNUAL SALE.

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. will SELL by AUCTION, in the SHREWSBURY SMITHFIELD,

100 grand SHROPSHIRE RAMS,

500 to 800 SHROPSHIRE EWES,

250 CLUN EWES and WETHERS,

being selections from the best flocks extant.

SPECIAL ENTRY.—70 good SHEARLING EWES from Mr. E. J. FRANK, Beslow.

Commissions faithfully executed.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL and CO., Shrewsbury.

ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 28TH (One o'clock).
MR. WM. THOMAS'S ANNUAL SALE OF REGISTERED SHROPSHIRE SHEEP
AT
THE BEAM HOUSE, MONTFORD BRIDGE,
Six miles from Shrewsbury, on the Holyhead Road, and four miles from Baschurch Stations (where conveyances meet morning trains).

ALFRED MANSELL & CO. will SELL by AUCTION, as above,

40 GRAND RAMS,

80 CHOICE SHEARLING EWES.

The Sheep catalogued are good specimens of the rent paying Shropshire, with splendid wool and perfect skins. The Rams include several high-class sires and a lot of big, strong, outlying farmers' sheep in natural condition. The Ewes are a really choice lot, combining size with good form, true character, and rare quality.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL and CO., Shrewsbury, who will execute Commissions.

OXFORD DOWNS, 1900.

THE KELMSCOTT FLOCK, the property of ROBERT W. HOBBS, Kelmscott, Lechlade.

RAM LAMBS
or
SHEARLING RAMS

from this old-established flock will be SOLD by AUCTION at the undermentioned Fairs:—

IPSWICH, AUGUST 22nd
CIRENCESTER, SEPTEMBER 3rd.
BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SEPTEMBER 4th.
KELSO, SEPTEMBER 14th.
NORTHAMPTON, SEPTEMBER 19th.

Yearling ewes for sale at home privately.

Prizes won by lambs from this flock this year are four firsts and four seconds at the Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and Gloucestershire Shows.

AUCTION SALES.

CRAVEN ARMS, SHROPSHIRE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!!! ALTERATION OF DATE.

The largest SALE of STOCK EWES in England.

MESSRS. JACKSON AND McCARTNEY will hold their TWENTY-SIXTH GREAT ANNUAL SALE OF UPWARDS OF

12,500 STOCK EWES, viz., about 5,500 Shropshire Down and 7,000 Clun Forest, Radnor Forest, Kerry Hill, Longwynd, and Cross-bred, from the leading flocks in the district, on THURSDAY, the 30th of AUGUST, 1900.

And of about

200 RAMS, Shropshire Down, Oxford Down, Kerry Hill, Longwynd, and Cross-bred.

And

1,000 WETHERS and LAMBS, on FRIDAY, the 31st of AUGUST.

Sale will commence on Thursday at 10.30, and on Friday at one o'clock.

Catalogues may be had on application.

Offices, Craven Arms, Salop.

OXFORD DOWNS.

MR. STREET will offer from his old-established registered flocks as follows:—

20 RAM LAMBS at Ipswich, AUGUST 22

20 at Peterborough, SEPTEMBER 5,

and

20 at Northampton, SEPTEMBER 19.

LEARNER'S
PATENT FOOT-ROT CURE.
Leaves the hoof soft and pliable
3/- & 1/6 per tin Four 3/- for 10/- Post Free
ALFRED J. LEARNER, REDHILL, Surrey.

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SPECIAL ADVANTAGES TO PRIVATE INSURERS.

THE IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED. FIRE. Established 1803. 1, Old Broad Street, E.C., 22, Pall Mall, S.W., and 47, Chancery Lane, W.C. Subscribed Capital £1,200,000. Paid up £300,000. Total Funds over £1,500,000.—E. COZENS SMITH, General Manager.

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RAILWAY ACCIDENTS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
Insured against, and
FIDELITY BONDS
granted by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Established 1849. Claims paid £4,150,000.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, *Secretary*

BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1835.)
4, Threadneedle Street, London.
Paid-up Capital, £1,600,000.
Reserve Fund, £835,000.

Reserve Liability of Proprietors under the Charter, £1,600,000. Letters of Credit and Drafts issued on any of the numerous Branches of the Bank throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Bills negotiated or sent for collection.
Telegraphic Transfers made.

Deposits received in London at interest for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

R. W. JEANS, Manager.

CUPISS
CONSTITUTION BALLS

Testimonial.

Burgh-by-Sands, Carlisle.

Having used Cupiss' Constitution Balls for over 20 years, I have always found them exceedingly useful for purifying the blood and keeping in excellent condition.

THOS. CARRIE, Horse Breaker.

HORSES — For Grease Swelled Legs, Cracked Heels, Coughs, Colds, Sore Throats, Disordered Liver, Broken Wind, Influenza, Loss of Appetite, &c., &c.

CATTLE — For Hidebound, Staring Coat Hove or Blown, Distemper Epidemic, Surfeit, Conditioning, Preserving Health, Scouring in Calves, &c.

SHEEP — For Rot or Fluke, and for Keeping in Health, Assisting to get into Condition, Scouring in Lambs, &c.

Prepared upwards of 50 years by the late

FRANCIS CUPISS, M.R.C.V.S.,
DISS, NORFOLK.

Sold in packets 1/9 *and* 3/6 *each,* 7 *small packets* 10/6, *or* 7 *large* 21/-, *by Chemists and Medicine Vendors, or from Proprietor, Wilderness, Diss, on receipt of amount*

TENDER.

NAVY CONTRACTS FOR FRESH BEEF.

TENDERS will be received until NOON on TUESDAY, the 28th AUGUST, for the supply, at the following places, of FRESH BEEF, for Six Calendar Months, from the 1st October next.

ENGLAND.

Berwick	Newhaven
Chatham (Beef and Mutton)	Penzance
Cowes	Plymouth (Oxen and Sheep)
Dartmouth	Poole
Deal and in the Downs	Portland (Cattle and Sheep)
Dover	Portsmouth (Oxen and Sheep)
Falmouth	Ramsgate
Felixstowe	Rock Ferry and Liverpool
Gravesend	Sheerness
Great Grimsby	Shields, North
Gorey, Jersey	Southampton
Harwich	Sunderland
Holyhead	Torbay
Hull, Hawke Roads, and in the Humber	Yarmouth, Great
Lowestoft	
Milford Haven, Pembroke, and Pater	

SCOTLAND.

Aberdeen	Kirkwall
Campbeltown	Lerwick
Granton and Leith	Queensferry
Greenock	Stornoway
Inverness	

IRELAND.

Bantry	Galway
Belmullet	Killybegs
Buncrana	Kingstown
Carrickfergus	Kinsale
Castletown (Berehaven)	Moville
Dublin	Queenstown
Foynes and Tarbert	Rathmullen
	Waterford

Forms of tender,* containing Conditions of Contract and all particulars, may be obtained n personal application at this Office, or by letter addressed to "Director of Navy Contracts, Admiralty, London, S.W."

Their Lordships do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

T. GWYN,
Director of Navy Contracts.

*Applications for Forms of Tender should state for what place it is desired to tender.

Contract Department, Admiralty,
London, S.W., 14th August, 1900.

PROVISIONS.

TENDERS WILL BE RECEIVED

UNTIL NOON on Tuesday, the 28th August, for the Supply, for Six Months, from 1st October next, of—

MEAT for the Royal Hospital School, Greenwich.

Forms of Tender, containing Conditions of Contract and all particulars, may be obtained on personal application at this Office, or by letter addressed "The Director of Navy Contracts, Admiralty, London, S.W."

Applications for Forms of Tender should state for what place and article it is desired to Tender.

Their Lordships do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

T. GWYN,
Director of Navy Contracts.

Contract Department,
Admiralty, London, S.W.
14th August, 1900.

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"YELLOW" PASTE

THE IMPROVED SULPHUR DIP.

Mixes readily with cold water. Kills all Ticks, Lice, etc. Sticks in the fleece and thus prevents a further crop of Parasites. Keeps off the Maggot Fly, and leaves the Wool in a healthy, lustrous condition.

In Packets, 1s., for 20 to 25 Sheep.

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NOTED STACK SHEETS

Size. Quality	J	K	L	M
8yds. by 6yds. at	24/-	36/-	48/-	60/-
8yds. by 8yds. at	32/-	48/-	64/-	80/-
10yds. by 8yds. at	40/-	60/-	80/-	100/-
12yds. by 10yds. t	60/-	90/-	120/-	150/-

Any size to order at proportionate price.

These Cloths are made up to the Square Yard, and not sold by the Width of 24 and 30 inches, which is so frequently the case, thus misleading purchasers.

Samples of Canvas submitted per Post. Above Prices include Brass Eyelets and Long Cords. Carriage Paid on Orders of 40/-. 5 per cent. Discount for Cash.

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Shines like Diamonds.

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Being a Revised Edition of "Soiling, Summer and Winter; or, the Economy of Feeding Farm Stock.

By FRANK SHERMAN PEER.

Relating the experience of the author, giving the latest and most economical methods of Summer and Winter Feeding and Management of Farm Stock; also the Construction of Stables.

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BREEDS

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WHEATS & BARLEY

FOR AUTUMN SOWING.

First Season of Introduction.

CARTONS "RED KING" WHEAT,
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CARTONS "ZERO" SIX-ROW'D WINTER BARLEY.

ALSO ALL OTHER KINDS OF

FARM SEEDS FOR AUTUMN SOWING.

Prices and all particulars free on application

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SUPERIOR FEEDING CAKES.

ASHWORTH OIL CAKE

"A very valuable Cake for fattening purposes."—Dr. T. WILLIAMS, F.C.S., M.S.C.I., etc.

THE ASHWORTH FEEDING CAKE.

"I consider this Cake to be of sterling quality for Dairy Cattle."—Dr. T. WILLIAMS, F.C.S., M.S.C.I., etc.

The Oil Cake is far cheaper than the best English Linseed Cakes, and will give as good results, using weight for weight, for fattening Cattle. Nothing surpasses the Ashworth Cake for producing rich quality in Milk and Butter.

PURE ENGLISH DECORTICATED COTTON CAKE.

Best quality and value on the Market.

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A perfect Cooked Food.

ASHWORTH'S RELIABLE CALF MEAL.

Contains all the requirements to substitute milk. Thousands of Calves reared on this Meal annually.

Condiment, Pig Food, and all other kinds of Cakes and Feeding Stuffs.

Manufacturers of all kinds of Manures to any standard.

Write to ASHWORTH'S, Ltd., Oil Cake Mills, Bone and Manure Works, Frodsham Bridge, via Warrington, for samples, testimonials, etc.

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FOR AUCTIONEERS, FARMERS, &c.

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For Tapeworms, Stomach and Intestinal Worms, Husk or Hoose, Fevers Scour or Diarrhœa, Dysentery, and Debility in Sheep and Lambs.

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CAUTION.—Beware of Imitations. Note particularly Pettifer's Name and ONLY Address and TRADE MARK (Registered Sept. 24th, 1898) as below (which alone have copyright).

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IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF. TRY IT.

May be had through any Chemist; or will be sent post free at the rate of 1s, per tin, 20s. per case of two dozen tins (not less than a case at the latter rate), by the Sole Proprietor,

G. STRAWSON, Chemist, Bishop's Castle.

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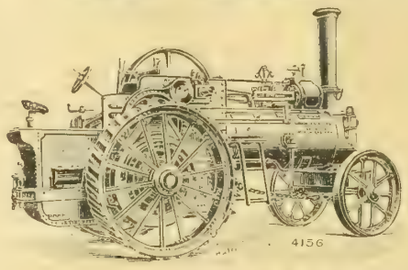

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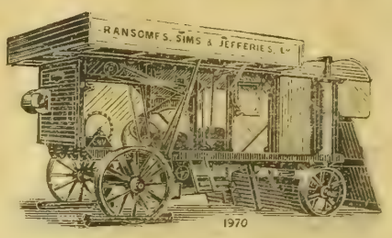

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An Ounce of Fact is worth a Ton of Theory.

A STRIKING FACT.

In our Spring number of "Bibby's Quarterly" we reproduced the photographs of two groups of Calves which are now being reared at the Hornby House Farm, Bedale, Yorks, by his Grace the Duke of Leeds.

One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."

We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

445 selected the wrong and 262 the right group.

We think the above striking FACT speaks volumes for "Cream Equivalent."

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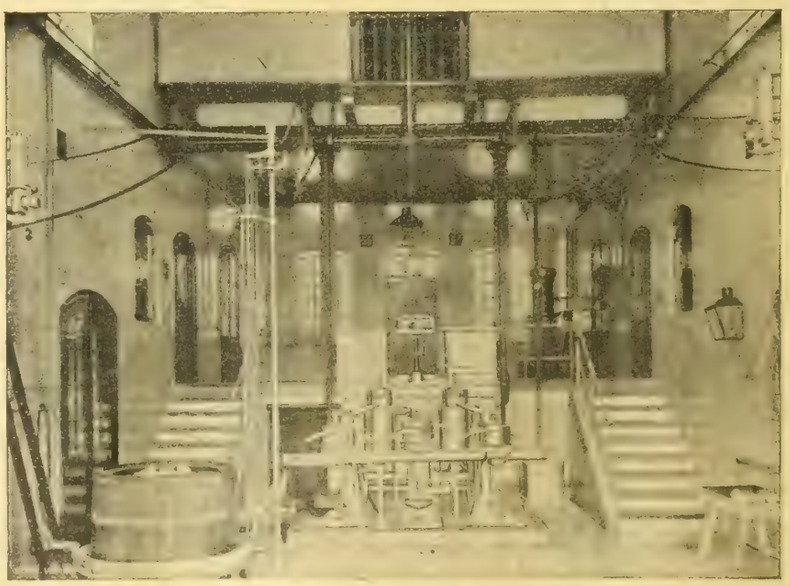

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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal.

The Only English Journal devoted exclusively to Agriculture.

MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

GOVERNMENT METHODS OF DISEASE SUPPRESSION.

The opinions of no man carry greater weight in the great body of the English farming community than those of Mr. Clare Sewell Read. When he represented his native county in Parliament, he in very truth was the tenant-farmer Member for the entire kingdom, and his public utterances ever since have been regarded by statesmen and the general public as indicative of popular agricultural opinion, very widely prevailing at any rate, among occupiers of land and owners of farm animals.

Mr. Read has just launched out into strong invectives against the tedious, ineffectual measures taken by those in authority to stamp out swine fever. After reminding us that for fourteen years, after swine fever was scheduled as a contagious disease to be suppressed, the local authorities fought in vain against it, he puts the question, what has been the result of things since 1893, when the Veterinary Department of the Board of Agriculture took the administration in hand? Mr. Read culls from statistics the reply, and states it thus pithily:—"In the last year of the Local Authorities' reign the outbreaks numbered 2,748; in the six years the Board of Agriculture have managed swine fever over £800,000 has been spent, and more than 300,000 pigs have been slaughtered, with the result that in 1899 the outbreaks had been reduced to 2,182." He therefore deems the efforts made by the central authority, like those previously made by the local authorities, gigantic failures, quoting a statement recently made by Mr. Cope, the Board of Agriculture's chief veterinary inspector, that "the final extinction of the disease must be far from within reach." While another "great veterinary authority" thinks that it will never occur, as he told Mr. Read, that "the only way to get rid of swine fever is to kill every pig in the United Kingdom."

"But the worst of it is," says Mr. Read, "that this £800,000 has not been specially voted by Parliament, but has been abstracted from the Local Taxation Fund—a fund absolutely apportioned for the relief of rates." This is naturally considered altogether wrong, and the veteran advocate of tenant-farmers' rights is quite eloquent in his denunciation of the iniquity. He writes:—"The President of the Board of Agriculture is so popular in the House of Commons that he is congratulated on his success in grappling with swine fever. I call it a disastrous and costly failure, and taking the money from the Local Taxation Fund nothing short of political dishonesty."

Mr. Read is strongly of opinion that the extirpation of sheep scab might be accomplished just as easily as that of swine fever has been found to be difficult, if the officials of the Board of Agriculture would only devote themselves to that work. It could be done, he feels certain, in four or five years, at a tithe of the money now fruitlessly expended in efforts to rid the country of swine fever. Not only do we perfectly coincide in this opinion, but believe those who have had most experience in the matter would declare that compulsory dipping, if universally and effectually carried out, would be perfectly successful in stamping out sheep scab in a much shorter period than that stated. An appeal to the Board of Agriculture to direct its efforts to the extirpation of sheep-scab was, at its last meeting, made on the motion of Mr. Duckham, by the Herefordshire County Council, and we feel quite certain nothing would be more popular with the majority of English farmers than for the central authority to take administration into its own hands, with the view of enforcing universal compulsory dipping.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

I am informed that the post of manager of the Cambridge University Experimental Farm, Impington, Cambridge, has been filled up by the appointment of Mr. Henry Henshaw, Tythby Grange, Bingham, Notts. The farm is 140 acres in extent, and will be carried on almost entirely for experimental purposes.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to August 11th, 1900, were £36,743,843 against £37,512,446 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £62,412,738, against £41,177,724 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on August 11th, 1900, amounted to £5,339,951, and at the same date in 1899 to £2,704,615.

In almost every branch of industry where labourers are required (says the *Globe*) the war tells its tale. The calling out of the Army Reserve and the embodiment of the Militia, together with the raising of the Royal Reserve battalions, have resulted in an unprecedented scarcity of labour. Farm hands in particular are at a discount, and harvesting operations have been dangerously impeded. As the result of an appeal to the War Office, an attempt is now being made to remedy this state of things, and a special furlough of one month is being granted to all Militiamen and Royal Reservists who desire to participate in the harvesting operations. The men will receive their ordinary regimental pay.

The Queen has granted to the Honourable Alexander Nelson Hood her Royal licence and authority to accept and wear the Insignia of Commander of the Royal Italian Order of the Crown of Italy, conferred upon him by his late Majesty King Humbert of Italy in recognition of his services in connection with agriculture in Sicily.

I have just heard that the premises of Everitts (Limited), corn and coke merchants, Oulton Broad, near Lowestoft, consisting of capacious granaries in which were stored quantities of corn, were destroyed on Sunday morning by fire. An elevator and engine-house were also burnt, the damage being estimated at over £7,000.

A case of interest to farmers and brewers was heard on Friday at Wareham County Court, Harry Budden, a farmer, suing Robert Cann, corn merchant, for £25 on a breach of warranty of seed barley. The plaintiff ordered a quantity of Hallett's pedigree barley. The yield turned out small, only 198 sacks being obtained from three acres, and when it was offered for sale to buyers for Burton breweries it was discovered to be a type of Goldthorpe barley, which expert evidence showed was 5s. different in value. The defence was that the seed when sold was believed to be Hallett's, having been obtained from a firm in Swethwick. It was not disputed that a mistake had been made. The Judge said the evidence showed that £75 had been lost, and the defendant as an honest man owned to the mistake. He gave judgment for the amount claimed, which he considered was a moderate one.

The Coach and Horses, an old wayside inn, facing the Chiswick Road, near Turnham Green, is, I notice, now being demolished, and with it and the laying out of the adjoining market gardens for building upon goes the last vestige of the rural road from London to Gunnersbury. Until quite recent years hedgerows and barns occupied the sites of the adjacent shops by the junction of the Goldhawk Road with the Chiswick Road at the spot called "Young's Corner"; but the district has now been altered so greatly that it is nothing more than an extension of London. Old times and new are in sharp contrast in the pulling down of the humble old roadside inn and the building of a palatial new one behind it, operations going on simultaneously. It was never a house famed in story or legend, but with the drivers of the market carts and the hay waggons pulling up at the roadside water-trough, beneath the swinging sign, to give their horses a drink, it greatly resembled one of Morland's characteristic old pictures of rural life.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

Ere the House of Commons rose I had a long conversation with a distinguished politician and electioneerer as to the possibilities of the next election. He agreed with me that the Khaki fever has not had so contagious an influence on the villages as it has had in the towns; but he avers that its place has been taken by a more determined feeling. "Stop," has said the pro-Boer, "until the men come back maimed and wounded. You will find that every relation of that man will refuse to vote Tory." Well, in the opinion of this electioneerer, just the opposite will happen. Every wounded soldier who returns to his village home will be an object-lesson of Boer malice. He will be regarded as a definite invitation to retaliate upon the Boers in the tents of their English sympathiser. If the villager uses an adjective at all as he goes into the polling booth it will be rather an unsavoury one, and will precede the word "Boers." He will be induced because the fellow whom he has known since he was a lad has had a Mauser bullet through his leg to hate the Boers with a vehement hate. He will, in a word, regard the war as a personal quarrel.

This astute man had a precedent to quote in favour of his reasoning. This war, of course, has not aroused the intense feeling which was created by the Russian war, despite the fact that the issues involved are infinitely more ominous, and that the campaign itself is a bigger one. For years, however, after the Crimean fighting the name Russian was a term of reproach and opprobrium in the villages, and the Russian as an individual was regarded almost with loathing.

So it will be to-day. The man who will go into the country constituencies and champion

the Boer—particularly if he follow the Labouchérian and Wilfrid Lawson method, and represent him as a child of light to whom every Englishman ought to proffer his neck as a kind of foot-stool—will be regarded as a personal enemy. The bullet will be remembered; the white flag disgrace will be recalled; the language used by the pro-Boer advocates towards Englishmen will not be forgotten. The villager may not be, as a fact is not, a swashbuckling Alsatian; but he is an Englishman, and believes in his country, though his belief may be expressed in a somewhat incoherent fashion.

"What, then," I asked, "do you believe will be the result of the next election, so far as the county constituencies are concerned?" "There is," was the reply, "not a single county constituency now held by a Unionist which is in jeopardy. There are many held by Liberals which are certain to be lost. We sometimes forget that Sir Wilfrid Lawson is a county member. Well, his seat will inevitably revert to the Unionists. Another county Radical member whose seat will go is Mr. John Ellis. I have some reason for saying this."

"And what about Mr. Channing?" "Oh, yes, I know that Mr. Channing is scarcely less vehement than Sir Wilfrid Lawson himself in the intensity of his admiration for the Boers; and I am also aware of the fact that Captain Middleton, the Conservative chief organiser, means to concentrate a very stern attack upon his position. All the same, I think Mr. Channing will return to the House. Though to outside appearances a rural constituency, the Kettering division is moved by a variety of influences. For instance, co-operation is a great force there; and, of course, Mr. Channing has been one of the spokesmen for co-operation in Parliament. Then, too, Mr. Channing has managed to impress his personality upon the constituency, and thus has a considerable personal following. Yes, I think he will be returned, despite the fact that he has bidden the electors fall down and worship the delectable Mr. Kruger."

Speaking generally, this astute man believes that the result of the rural elections will be an addition of twenty votes to the Conservatives. Would it make any difference if the elections were postponed? He did not believe it would. The rural elector, is not, as is the town elector, a creature of passing emotions and evanescent sensibilities—he is not given to roaring himself hoarse and then forgetting why he roared. The Boer will, come the election in October or come it next April, be the enemy of his country—he will still be the rascal who has made many a village lad bite the dust. Besides, more of the wounded will then be on furlough; and every wounded man will be an argument in favour of the Unionist candidate.

"I know what I am saying," proceeded this electioneerer; "and I know, too, that I am repeating the views of Captain Middleton. The county constituencies are already, as a fact, captured for Unionism. Don't you see why it is that Mr. Herbert Gladstone is, wherever he can, drafting Imperial Liberals into the counties? What will kill the candidature of these men—I admit all unfairly—are the declarations of Mr. Labouchere, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, and the extreme anti-British papers. Yes, the county constituencies are already won to Unionism."

Now, I have looked down the list of new candidates who have been presented to the electors, and I am sorry to have to admit that I do not perceive one who is likely to make agriculture his first and chief concern. Certainly, however, Mr. Herbert Gladstone has been more astute in the selection of his later candidates than have been the Conservatives. For instance, his men seem to have intelligent views on the questions of tenure, rent, and compensation for unexhausted improvements. What is more, they seek opportunities to avow them. However, with all this I do not know one man who is likely to show in the House of Commons that the rural elector is as much deserving of attention as the loud shouting town elector.

Of course, I admit that Mr. Adeane, who is fighting South Hunts in the Liberal interest, has given a lifelong attention to agriculture and to the economics which control the interest; but I doubt that Mr. Adeane has sufficient self-assertion to induce him to impose himself on Parliament. I repeat, then, that on either side I do not know a man who is likely to be an influence in that political organisation of the agricultural forces which can alone make for reform. I hope my readers note this last phrase—"alone make for reform." We have had an Agricultural Holdings' Act Amendment Act in spite of agriculture. Mr. Walter Long was simply determined to redeem his plighted word.

What of the suggestion which emanated from the editor of the MARK LANE EXPRESS—the suggestion that an attempt should be made to present a definite rural programme to the electors? I sought anew to secure in the last days of the Session some further idea on this point as to the feeling of men who, if they have any direct interest at all, have that interest centred in agriculture. Nearly every agricultural M.P. is, I regret to say, more or less a Laodicean. He does not, in a word, care to take the trouble to make up his mind on things agricultural. The debates even on the Agricultural Holdings Bill were symposiums to be avoided.

This sentiment, or, rather, want of sentiment, was exhibited in the replies I received. "A very good idea," would be murmured, "a very good idea!" And then the author of the utterance would dismiss it, as though by his faint commendation he had washed his hands of it. You will, I am persuaded, Mr. Editor, get no help from the present M.P.'s in this business. Even some of the few Parliamentarians who do profess an interest in agriculture confess in an aside that they are possessed by ambitions of a more stimulating character.

The only agricultural programme that will be presented to the rural electors will be presented in the towns. Its one platform will be the housing of the rural poor. You will have the town orators picturing the labourers as housed in hovels fit but for swine. Charles Lamb will be quoted with unction:—

We quarrelled like brutes, and no wonder.
What self-respect could we keep,
Worse housed than your hacks and your pointers,
Worse fed than your hogs and your sheep?

This will be, I repeat, the only agricultural question presented to the electors. Of course, old age pensions is, as an electoral theme, derelict.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

The Dalmeny Experiments.

On Saturday the Kippen Farmers' Club, to the number of fifty, paid a visit of inspection to the home farms and experimental station of Lord Rosebery at Dalmeny Park. On arriving there the party were received by Mr. Drysdale (Lord Rosebery's factor) and Mr. John Hunter, F.I.C., F.C.S., who has charge of the scientific research work conducted at Dalmeny. The visitors were first shown over the farms, and were greatly impressed with the enormous crops which they saw growing there. They manifested a great eagerness to hear all about the system of cultivation which had resulted in the production of such wonderful crops. On arriving at the experimental station the plan of these extensive experiments was lucidly explained to them by Mr. Drysdale. A large proportion of this station is this year being devoted to testing the unexhausted values of the manures applied during the past four years. The different plots, after being dressed for the last four years with different manures or manurial mixtures, are now being cropped in the same rotation without any manures, and this course will be continued for the next three years, in order to thoroughly test the residual values of the manures applied in the previous four years. The results cannot, of course, be accurately stated till the crops are harvested, but, so far as appearances go at present, the crops are calculated to upset some common prevailing notions on the subject of residual values. One fundamental principle of the system of manuring which has been very successfully followed at Dalmeny is the annual application to every crop of 4 cwt. per acre of lime in the finely-ground state. In every case the plots which had received this small annual dressing of lime during the past four years, with or without nitrogen, phosphates, and potash, showed a much better crop than the corresponding crops which had received no lime during all that period. On the other hand, the plots which had received an annual dressing of 50 cwt. per acre of lime showed a poorer crop than those which had received the small dressing of 4 cwt. per acre. Year by year also it had been uniformly found that on those plots which had received the small annual dressing of 4 cwt. lime, the crops which had received their nitrogen in the form of sulphate of ammonia had yielded better crops, alike as to quantity and quality, than the corresponding plots which had got the nitrogen in the form of nitrate of soda, and this year, also, there was every appearance of the same results being obtained from the unexhausted residues of these manures. In every case, also, the plots from which potash had been withheld showed poorer crops than the corresponding plots to which potash had been applied. The visitors also noted with much interest that the crop grown without manure after clover was immensely superior to that grown after ryegrass without clover. Referring to the plots which had been under turnips for the last four years, Mr. Drysdale said that portion of the experimental station had been thrown out of its proper rotation through the crop of the first year being very badly infested with finger-and-toe, and they had then decided to devote it to a series of experiments for the purpose of discovering a cure for that disastrous pest. Mr. Hunter, arguing from the results of his previous researches, determined to apply a comparatively large dressing of caustic lime, as there was in this case a soil germ to be killed. He therefore applied a dressing of 1 ton per acre of ground lime in the autumn when the land was being ploughed, and another dressing of 1 ton per acre in the spring when the soil was being wrought, this treatment being followed up at seeding time with a dressing of 1 cwt. sulphate of ammonia, 3 cwt. ground undissolved phosphates, and 8 cwt. of kainit. The result was that on the soil so treated they grew for the next three years in succession a sound but comparatively small crop of roots, whereas on the adjoining plots, which had got an equal quantity of lime, but to which nitrate of soda or dissolved phosphates had been applied, or where the large dressing of kainit had been withheld, the crop was so rotten with the disease as to be scarcely worth lifting. Mr. Drysdale also directed attention to the results of another very original experiment. In their experiments of the last four years, they had invariably got better results from planting fairly full-sized potato seed uncut, as compared with planting cut seed or "seconds." This had led them to trying a somewhat similar experiment with turnip seed, and for that purpose he had ordered from a seed merchant a quantity of the best seed obtainable, irrespective of cost. When that seed was delivered he dressed it over again, and sowed the larger and heavier seeds on one plot, the smaller-sized and lighter seed being sown on the adjoining plot. The result, as was only to be expected, was that the larger and heavier seeds gave a crop of much stronger and more vigorous plants than was got from the smaller-sized and lighter seed. In this connection, Mr. Drysdale also mentioned that at the Dalmeny Home Farms the turnips were grown on drills which were only 24 inches wide, as it was invariably found that, when other things were equal, a much larger crop was got when grown on 24-inch drills than was got when the roots were grown on wider drills. This is a finding which has been frequently confirmed by the results of turnip-growing competitions throughout the country. As in former years, a portion of the experimental station is devoted to testing the relative cropping qualities of different varieties of wheat, oats, potatoes, etc. The varieties which have always given the best results at Dalmeny, and which in consequence are grown in preference to any others on Lord Rosebery's farms, are as follows:—Wheat, Webb's Red Standard; barley, Burton Malting; oats, Newmarket. The hay crop on the farms has this year yielded up to 3 tons 7 cwt. per acre for the first cutting, only one small patch of inferior soil having yielded less than 3 tons per acre.

Mr. Hunter afterwards addressed the company at some length on the biological principles on which the Dalmeny system of manuring was founded. An interesting discussion followed, and while there were differences of opinion as to the views which Mr. Hunter had expressed, there was but one opinion as to the results which had been produced by his system of manuring. The company were afterwards entertained to lunch, and a very pleasant afternoon was spent.

Scientific Inspection of Corn Trials.

Ever since the tumbling down of corn prices brought depression to British agriculture the necessity of growing the best of everything has been gradually asserting itself with increased potency every successive year, until it has become a matter of urgency. Farmers to get a living have not only to make the land yield to the very utmost of its capability, but have to stock their farms with the most valuable kinds of horses, cattle, and sheep; and not only so, but to raise from them the highest quality and most productive in everything they are accustomed to grow. To the same extent that this has brought pedigree live stock to the fore has it become all important to grow superior kinds of corn, roots, and green crops the achievements of the arts of cross-fertilisation and high selection; and those of our leading seedsmen who have applied themselves to the work of bringing these into existence for the use

of British farmers not only deserve the highest meed of praise, but the entire rural community stands indebted to them to an extent it is scarcely possible to over-estimate.

No seedsmen have devoted themselves more assiduously or successfully to this grand work than Messrs. Webb and Sons, of the Royal Establishment, Wordsley, Stourbridge. Long before depression came their spacious Kinver Farms were devoted to the improvement of the plants of the farm on a scale of magnitude which excited general wonder and admiration, and they have continued ever since to practise cross-fertilisation and high selection on such a truly grand scale that Webb's seeds have become quite a household phrase in every rural district. During the past year they have largely extended their corn trials by including as many of the old famous ordinary sorts as it was possible to procure, and adding thereto all the best reputed foreign varieties from every country noted for corn growth. These, together with their own highly perfected varieties, formed altogether a gigantic exhibition of corn plots, numbering 150—probably the largest of its kind ever brought into existence in this country. As several scientific men had expressed a desire to inspect these large corn trials, it was determined to have a field day—unfortunately fixed for the 9th inst., which turned out to be a regular soaker. This did not, however, prevent a considerable number from assembling, while so far from the continuous pouring rain interrupting proceedings, the ardour of the scientific men caused them to tarry for hours over the inspection of the corn plots. The party included Professor Blundell (Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester), Dr. Hunter (of the Highland Agricultural Society, Edinburgh), Professor Wallace (University of Glasgow), Professor Parry (North Wales University, Aberystwyth), Professor Middleton (Durham University, Newcastle-on-Tyne), Mr. Biffen (botanist, Cambridge University), Professor McAlpine (of the Highland Agricultural Society, Edinburgh), and others.

Messrs. Webb's own special varieties of wheat numbered nearly twenty distinct kinds, with the sterling merits of many of which the farming public are familiar, especially with Stand-up, Standard Red, White Queen, Hybrid King, Windsor Forest and Challenge White. There were several new, unnamed wheats not yet brought into commerce, one of which, a cross from Victoria and Chidham, excited great attention on account of its short, stiff straw, causing it to stand up well; the heads, too, were close-set with grain of apparently nice quality. This was deemed of high promise; and Mont Blanc, recently placed on the market, was well approved. The spelt wheats, fourteen in number, still green, formed a curious feature. They had been derived from North Africa, Spain, and the South of France, and will be utilised in originating fresh varieties.

The barleys formed a large and decidedly instructive series of forty-three plots, comprehending many of the best-approved Continental varieties and several English sorts advertised of high merit not originated here. These, for comparison, were growing side by side with several of Messrs. Webb's new varieties still subject to high selection, one of which seemed to possess so many features of real excellence that confident hopes are entertained that when brought out it will prove as popular as Kinver Chevalier and Burton Malting have become. The former, it will be remembered, won champion prize at the last Brewers' Exhibition for the seventh time. The latter has yielded in Scotland ten quarters of dressed corn to the acre, weighing 57lb. per bushel. Large fields of both kinds met the eyes of the inspecting party, having a truly magnificent appearance.

The plots of oats were seventy-five in number, and thus formed the largest cereal section. Among them were some which had been derived from all parts of the world, from countries as distant as Australia and China, the skinless variety of the Celestials being the greenest of the lot, while a black oat from France had ripened twenty days before any other. There were yellow and grey oats in the series, and the yellow ones seemed deserving, but there is a prejudice in this country against any not possessed of either a white or black skin. Most of the inspecting party were in perfect agreement that Webb's Bosworth, of all inspected, was likely to prove the heaviest grain-yielding variety of the entire lot. Dr. Hunter, however, gave the palm to Webb's Newmarket, as he said the high quality of the latter and its large proportion of meal to husk would pull down the scale if quantity of bushels did not. But allowing the Doctor to be right, the Bosworth can be grown on much poorer land than the Newmarket. A statement made by Dr. Hunter is, however, well worthy of attention: that in the Dalmeny experiments of Lord Rosebery this oat yielded two and a-half per cent. more meal than the Hamilton or any other oat grown in the Lothians tested.

The programme prepared for the occasion included several other interesting and instructive trials relating to scientific plant culture, but the corn plots were fraught with so many points of deep interest, and the savants lingered over their inspection so long that there was only time to give a cursory inspection to some really magnificent specimens of Messrs. Webb and Sons' own highly selected varieties of mangels, growing for stock seed in the same field as the corn, and to a large field of swedes in which there were no fewer than thirty-one different kinds growing side by side, all of which had been manured and treated precisely alike, and nine manurial trials in which Webb's Champion Imperial swede was employed.

Ever since Kinver trial grounds have been instituted has this custom been persistently pursued of procuring seed of all other kinds of swedes and mangels advertised as celebrities, that they may be tested alongside of the highly-perfected Kinver sorts. Only by taking this course can seedsmen entering for agriculturists understand their true position, or the extent any specially created or improved variety of theirs surpasses or falls short of others of its kind.

Precisely the same course is taken every year by placing all the most celebrated chemical manures manufactured in the kingdom in competition with the fertilisers of similar denominations and prices Messrs. Webb produce at their spacious Saltney Works in Cheshire. Great attention has been directed there for many years past to the art of manufacturing and blending manures so as to supply the farmer with the cheapest and best special mixtures for every crop he requires to grow. The large areas devoted to all kinds of agricultural products on the Kinver farms afford ample facilities for accurately ascertaining the plant food each crop likes best, and by skilful blending these manures are made strictly economical. These testings with other fertilisers are, after all, however, the most reliable experiments Messrs. Webb resort to in their aim to make their fertilisers surpass all others.

In the manure trials with Webb's Imperial swede, which according to report has yielded over 50 tons per acre, there were as many as nine different manurings, consisting of 6cwt. dissolved bones; 6cwt. superphosphate; 4cwt. super. and 2cwt. nitrate; 4cwt. superphosphate and 2cwt. ammonia sulphate; in two other plots 1cwt. of either nitrogenous manures in combination with the same quantities of superphosphate and kainit; then Webb's special turnip manure in two plots, one having 6cwt., the other 4cwt. and 2cwt. of kainit; the last plot being that of 6cwt. fish guano. This has been termed "The Giant Swede," and apparently it thoroughly deserves the appellation, especially when grown with the special manure. Mr. Hayton, of Wigton, grew as record crop of 56 tons 8cwt. per acre with this special manure.

An equally interesting item in the programme was that of two of Webb's newest varieties of mangel, the New Smithfield and the Lion Intermediate. There were magnificent specimens of both sorts growing for stock purposes, which attracted great attention from the inspecting party on their way to the corn fields. The New Smithfield seemed handsome, and more tapering and lengthy than most Globe varieties. It was awarded first prizes last year at Birmingham, Norwich, Leeds, and at several other big shows. According to Mr. Timmis, of Eccleshall, the Lion Intermediate produced for him, in 1898, eighty-six tons fourteen cwt. per acre.

In the near neighbourhood of the grain and root plots under inspection were also some splendid crops of thousand-headed kale, field cabbage, and kohl rabi. Messrs. Webb and Sons have always been "up-to-date" in perfecting high-class varieties of these pre-eminently serviceable plants to be utilised as supplementary crops to mangels, swedes, and turnips, on farms in general, and their Flockmaster and Drumhead cabbages have always been famed for immense, sound hearts of rare quality, with scarcely any waste in outside leaves. In their Farm Catalogue for 1900 will be found the following:—"The folly of putting all the eggs in one basket was painfully experienced by large numbers last year. There were important object-lessons for all, inasmuch as the cabbages, kale, and kohl rabi grew splendidly, even better than the mangels, so that those who had most of them were by far the best off in making provision for their stock. Consequently, while it must be acknowledged that nothing can take the place of swedes and turnips where they can be sucessfully grown, the information supplied in this catalogue will no doubt be of great service to those whose land is not perfectly suitable for those roots, or where in trying seasons their successful culture has been found difficult. There is abundant testimony that on such lands the supplementary crops above mentioned make good returns. There are fortunately fodder crops suited to all lands, and not only so, but by following the instructions contained in this catalogue, as to the best varieties and times of sowing, there is no reason why feeders of stock should not be provided with a green crop for consumption all the year round."

The catalogue then proceeds to point out how this desirable state of things may be secured. The kohl seed, either sown into nursery beds in March to raise plants for setting out in May, or drilled direct in March or April into the lands where the crop has to be grown, will yield bountifully for consumption from November until the following May. That Webb's Early Drumhead or Flockmaster cabbages, if drilled in April, or transplanted from nursery beds in May or June, yield immense returns of the most highly nutritious food from September to the end of the year. That Webb's Champion Drumhead raised in nursery beds for transplanting in summer is so hardy that the crops are available for consumption throughout January, and that if sown into nursery beds in August for November planting, the well known Flockmaster cabbages are raised which frequently yield from May until August. As to [illegible] which Messrs. Webb's [illegible] they [illegible] be abundantly proved "by sowing or transplanting at proper times it will be made to come in for consumption all the year round."

Both kale and kohl are no doubt crops which will be grown much more extensively in future to what they have been in the past, for they resist drought in summer and frost in winter better than any other green fodder crops British farmers can grow. The thriving and luxuriant appearance of a large field of Webb's Imperial Green kohl rabi attracted the attention of the inspecting party, and it was stated that it had not only taken three prizes at the London Dairy Show, but four prizes at the Bath and West Show on eighteen different occasions. Messrs. Webb, however, appear to give preference to their Excelsior Short-top, which is of remarkably quick growth and of choice quality.

There were twenty-six different varieties of potatoes in one of the trial fields, and a dual test was embodied in the display, for not only were their comparative merits placed under examination, but the worth and efficacy of Messrs. Webb's special potato manure was thoroughly demonstrated by one-half of them being dressed with it and the other moiety with kainit. Scarcely a year passes but Messrs. Webb succeed in bringing out some valuable new potato. Last year Motor received general approbation both on account of its fine, handsome shape and high quality of its tubers, and the year before in 1898 this potato was found to be one of the heaviest of croppers. Now we have another, in every respect well suited for a main crop on the farm, styled Commonwealth. It was awarded first prize at Birmingham Show last December as the best new variety.

Messrs. Webb's seed mixtures of grasses and clovers have always been highly popular among farmers, it being well known that their dressing machinery for cleaning them is very perfect, and also that great pains are taken to secure clovers from the best sources. There is nothing probably a farmer should be more scrupulously particular about than the character of his seed mixtures, and by dealing with the Royal Wordsley firm the surest means will be taken to have pure, good quality seed that will germinate. High selection has created two distinct varieties of cow grass at Kinver, both being of such apparent sterling worth that they have elicited high praise from botanists. Farmers have also found that Webb's Imperial Giant variety, under favourable circumstances, grows 5ft. high, and is capable of always producing two heavy crops, and sometimes, in well-manured, fertile soils, three in the year. The other Wordsley speciality is a late cow grass, valuable in drought seasons, when, owing to maturing a fortnight after other clovers, it often yields a heavy cutting when no other green thing offers itself for stock feeding. The lateness is solely in flowering. A heavy cut may be taken as soon as from other kinds.

So many farmers in present times grow green peas for marketing, and Messrs. Webb, having for a considerable number of years brought the arts of cross-fertilisation and high selection thoroughly into play most beneficially for the creation of new varieties, this review of the Kinver trials of 1900 would be incomplete devoid of allusion to the great reputation Webb's New Senator has been making this year. The pods come in pairs, and cover the vines so effectually that few leaves can be seen. For the farm and market garden alike this Kinver cross of Prince of Wales and Culverwell's Giant Marrow seems to defy competition on the score of productiveness. Other good sorts originated by Messrs. Webb, and very much adopted, are Perfection, Stourbridge Marrow, Wordsley Wonder, Kinver Gem, Chancellor, and Kinver Marrow.

There are at least a dozen rare varieties of carrots in the Kinver trial grounds which have been made suitable for field culture. As a heavy cropper Webb's Mammoth White can scarcely be surpassed. But those requiring to grow summer carrots for marketing will find that high selection at Kinver has created for them just what they require, the handsome-shaped Market Favourite, rich in colour, and of good quality. Intermediate and Altringham kinds have also been subjected to high selection, and bear the Kinver hall mark.

New Cure for Tuberculosis.

In the International Congress of Medicine, held recently at Paris, Dr. Labadi, delegate of the Medical Legal Society of New York; Dr. Bertheau, of Paris; and Dr. Ducamp, of Bordeaux, have reported on a new treatment of [illegible] by a Frenchman, Mons. [illegible]. This discovery consists in the direct [illegible] by means of static electricity. The most elaborate and circumstantial statistics of the three physicians, covering a period of two years, go to show that a high percentage of patients treated by this method have been [illegible]

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Swine Fever: Why not Eradicate It?

Sir,—The President of the Board of Agriculture (Mr. Long) thinks swine fever can be as satisfactorily dealt with as other diseases have been, while Prof. Cope, Chief Veterinary Inspector to the Board of Agriculture, says: "The final extinction of the disease must be far from within reach," and my old esteemed friend, Clare Sewell Read, supports the view expressed by Mr. Cope, and even goes farther than that, and holds to the opinion that swine fever is an indigenous disease, giving as his reason that he can remember a precisely similar disorder sixty years ago.

Professor Simonds, writing on swine fever, than whom we have not a higher authority, says it cannot be positively determined whether it was imported from America or any European country; but that it was imported scarcely admits of doubt. He then added, "Such a disease once introduced and amongst such animals would at once find abundant means of continuance, and also of rapid extension, especially as for years no attempts were made to arrest its progress."

Mr. Read sarcastically remarks that "in the last year of the local authorities reign (in Norfolk) the outbreaks numbered 2,748—in the six years the Board of Agriculture have managed swine fever over £800,000 has been spent, and more than 300,000 pigs slaughtered, with the result that in 1899 the outbreaks had been reduced to 2,182. But the President of the Board of Agriculture is so popular in the House of Commons that he is congratulated on his success in grappling with swine fever," adding, "I call it a disastrous and costly failure, and taking the money from the Local Taxation Fund nothing short of political dishonesty." All this induces the inquiry—Is there not something radically wrong in the organisation of the Board; are they rightly constituted? Have they the right men in the right place? If not, then let us agitate until we get them so constituted. Past experience has shown the fallacy of our attempting to eradicate such diseases from the flocks and herds of Great Britain so long as they exist in Ireland, from whence we import an average of 600,000 pigs.

There is abundant proof that swine fever is not indigenous to the soil of the country, and therefore could be eradicated if the owners of pigs would act loyally, and would be honest to their country. The carefully prepared charts recently issued by the Board of Agriculture for 1895 and 1899 clearly illustrate that fact. Several years' experience in stamping out the disease in this county has proved it beyond the shadow of doubt, seeing that it rarely happens that we have an outbreak in the county, and when one occurs it is at once stamped out, and no further outbreaks occur until another case is brought into the county, while the adjoining county, Gloucester, is very rarely free from the disease.

It is the old cry, the disease is indigenous. That cry was very persistently raised by our opponents when we were endeavouring to eradicate foot-and-mouth disease from the herds and flocks of the country, and was believed in by a large number of farmers and others. But it has long since passed away, as manifested by the consternation displayed when the morning papers announce that an outbreak has occurred in York or some other distant place.

Holmer, Hereford, August 15th. T. DUCKHAM.

The Horse and the Empire.

Sir,—May I be allowed to make use of your columns in order to make an appeal to the public in reference to the above subject, and submit the following proposals for consideration?

1. That the policy of neglect is fatal to the interests of the Empire.

2. That it is clear that after all our experiences in the present war the Government means to do nothing with regard to this vital and important question.

3. That it is essential that these facts should be brought home to the people at large, and that the voting public should be asked to insist on the question being taken up at the coming election, and that the different political parties should be asked to state clearly what they mean to do and how they mean to do it.

I think that the above facts will speak for themselves better than any touching up that I can give them, and that it will be agreed by all those who have the welfare of heart that the time has come to act as well as talk. When I wrote my first letter to the Press last March I thought that the Executive would be only too ready to, at any rate, consider any proposal that was calculated to bring the great breeding experience which the Remount Department, and that there would have been only too thankful of the assistance of anyone who would help them to face this great problem. But it is not so, and it would be idle to say that any one of the political parties have taken the slightest trouble to set things right. Are the lessons of the war, then, already forgotten? Have we learnt nothing in Africa? And are those fearful and heavy losses that convulsed the whole country from end to end to be so lightly passed over and cast aside?

Is the war then to be whole waste turned on this one question to be thrown to the winds as if it was chaff? It is for this reason, then, that I make this appeal to the British public, an earnest and devoted appeal, and ask them to stand by me, and see if something cannot be done; and I would propose that a society should be formed called "The Horse and Empire Society," whose object should be to bring this question home to the people of England at the next election. As far as my humble services are concerned, I am willing to give them free and undertake the writing part if the out-of-pocket expenses are paid. I do not think they would necessarily be heavy. Printing and postage of course would have to come in, and the expenses of spreading pamphlets, etc., among the voting public to educate them on the subject in hand. A treasurer should be fixed on. I dare say one of the managers of the banks here would undertake it (there are some firms of good standing); or a meeting might be called in London; the sooner the better, I say.

As regards the objects of the society, I should like it to be a broad one. I know what I think myself, and that is a national stud, managed by the Hunters' Improvement Society and run by the Government, is the way to tackle it, but at the same time I should like the question to be fairly gone into from all sides, and the best result decided on. For the Hunters' Improvement Society I am not, as yet, instructed to speak, but I think I am safe in saying that they are good men and true, and if the Government really meant business they would do what they could to help it. Will those, therefore, who are inclined to help me kindly write to the address below? I will undertake their letters shall be attended to.—Yours, etc., W. PHILLPOTTS WILLIAMS.

Llangarran, Salisbury, August 14th.

Pigs at the Lancashire Show.

Sir,—Your correspondent "Anon" complains of your report of the pigs at the Rochdale Show for two, amongst other reasons, want of detail and in correctness. As to the first, a detailed list of the prize winners would have simply misled your readers as to the merits of the respective herds of pigs represented, since the placing of the prize cards appeared to partake very largely of a lottery. It would be much fairer to all exhibitors if the Council of the Royal Lancashire Society were to appoint as steward of the pigs someone who is not a dealer or breeder of pigs, someone whom the judge does not in almost every class consult as to the giving of the prizes ere he books his determinations, and someone to act as judge of pigs who is not a local man, and who is of a different class.

"Anon" complains of want of correctness, and writes that "the Lancashire Show was without doubt the premier pig show of the season." If all "Anon's" facts have an equal foundation I should think he would make a first-class reporter for some papers, since his deficiency of knowledge is only equalled by his assurance. In the report of the Bath Show of the Bath and West of England Society I find there are twenty classes for pigs, at the R.L.A.S. eleven classes. The entries of pigs at Bath numbered 133 against 90 at Rochdale, or nearly 50 per cent. more. Then as to the quality of the exhibits, the whole of the pigs at Bath were said to be infinitely superior to three-fourths of those at Rochdale. "Anon's" complaint of the reports on the pigs may have some foundation, but there are two far greater blots—the so-called judging of pigs at many of the shows and the attempts at fraud by certain of the pigmen. What would be thought in any other section of an animal being exhibited one week by one exhibitor, then sold by him to a second party, and shown the following week as bred by its then exhibitor—a third party? This gross fraud may have been seen recently.

NEMO.

Great Losses by Flour Importation.

Mr. Thomas G. Read's letter on the subject has been productive of much correspondence. A Plumstead gentleman, signing himself "Cobdenite," writes:—

"The calculations of Mr. T. G. Read seem very like an ingenious attempt (with the aid of a chartered accountant) to prove that two and two make five.

"Assuming that his figures and facts are correct, we are asked to believe that the importer of flour actually and systematically chooses to pay a higher price for his purchase than if he imported wheat and had it ground in this country. Obviously, the enormous loss of the country falls upon those foolish individuals who import flour when they might import wheat at so much greater advantage to themselves.

"I am not in the trade, and profess no technical knowledge of the subject; but I do believe in the principle, *commodum cujusecumque commodum respublicæ*; and, unless either Mr. Read or some importer of flour can explain the inscrutable motives which have led such men to throw away £25,702,891 gratuitously, I think I shall not be alone in doubting assertions which I cannot disprove.

"I am sorry to cast suspicions on figures vouched for by a chartered accountant, but the result of the calculation is so peculiar that I think some further explanation will be needed before calling for legislation to compel importers to study their own interests."

Mr. Read's reply was as follows: "I note that 'Cobdenite,' although endeavouring to discredit my calculations, carefully avoids directly challenging them. If he believes they are an attempt to prove that 'two and two make five,' he is entirely wrong, as I have purposely under-estimated our losses. Surely we pay more for the substitutes for wheat offals we import than we lose by leaving the wheat offals abroad.

"It is a mistake to imagine the loss falls upon those individuals who import flour. It falls on the whole nation. A four mill gives employment to so many trades indirectly, besides those actually working there, that so many of our mills having in recent years stopped working must have made a great difference to milling engineers, sack makers, cart builders, farriers, and others. The price of a ton of wheat offals is now often about the same as that of a ton of wheat. Formerly a bag of bran was about twice the present size, and the price very different. It must be borne in mind that the flour which comes into this country is often not ordered, but sent to sell much as one sends cattle to market.

"There is a good demand for wheat offals in the United States, the Milwaukee offals being largely used round Chicago for pig-feeding, and much of the pork produced is sent to us. Nothing gives better milking results than bran and oats for cows. In France the import duty on wheat is 12s. 3d. per quarter, but the port millers are allowed to import wheat duty free, on the understanding that the flour produced is exported to other countries, the French Government knowing that the more wheat offals there are in the country the greater the number of head of stock kept, which gives an increase in the home-made manure, and thus larger crops.

"Perhaps if our present Government had faced this question, we should not have just had to borrow from the United States for the War Loan, as much money the States now possess would have been held by us. The importation of flour is a much greater question than 'Cobdenite' appears to fancy."

Mr. F. T. Haggard, Tunbridge Wells, says that past and present figures illustrate the truth of Mr. Read's remarks. "We know," he says, "how it has affected our millers and their industry and the labour employed by them in it, also those who have to manufacture milling machinery. We have been justly styled 'a nation of shopkeepers,' but how does it come to pass that the interests of the manufacturers and producers are thus neglected in the United Kingdom while the interests of those wealth-creators in other countries is looked after? I expect the reason will be found in the fact that our Government fears to interfere in the matter. If I am correct in my surmise, the question arises, on what are their fears founded? Here again I think I can suggest the answer, which is that the notion of free trade has been nursed to such an exaggerated degree by those who have been responsible for the over worship thereof that the interests of manufacturers and producers have been sacrificed on the plea that the consumer is the idol to worship. We are all and must be consumers, but production is the basis of wealth, which has only to be sufficiently affected by that wealth coming from abroad instead of being created at home to by degrees interfere with our national success, by which all will suffer. Production must precede consumption, and with our enlarging population we want it to be an increasing quantity so as to meet our additional imports, and towards doing which we have been exporting our coal, thereby enabling the increase of imports to be met by the export of that invaluable commodity. The deeper we go to win it the more costly it will be, and the more we export the less we must possess for home purposes, and it follows as a matter of course that in the face of that export it will increase the difficulties that our manufacturers already experience in competing with the outer world. I fear we shall not find our present or any Government willing to act until the consumer has been sufficiently educated to see the error of his present policy (which is nothing less in the long run than 'penny wise and pound foolish'), and aid those in power to introduce remedies. I ought rather to say to force them to do so, for at present they have not the pluck, however desirable those remedies may be. The responsibility for introducing desirable measures therefore rests on the shoulders of those who possess votes in the United Kingdom."

Mr. S. H. Terry, Member Inst. Civil Engineers and Member of the Royal Agricultural Society, endorses the letter of Mr. T. G. Read. He says: "By paying full wheat price for a bag of flour, leaving in America, Hungary, or Russia the sharps, toppings, pollard, germ, and bran, our nation suffers, not specially the flour importer (he makes his profit on the flour as such). The price of the flour covers the cost of grinding and the profit on grinding, thus paying for the structure of the mills used in foreign countries for grinding our flour, paying also for the milling machinery, the steam power to drive it, the shafting, belting, etc., the wages of all the men employed in building the mill and making all the machinery, the wages of the millers, and the profits

on all these, the rates on all these buildings, and on the dwelling-houses of the men employed.

"With the so-called 'offal' (has not the term much to answer for in causing the apathy with which this great question is regarded?) left behind, our competitors grow pork, feed cattle, and sell us meat, butter, and cheese grown and produced from the nourishing materials which they have stripped from our flour. The Board of Agriculture and the Royal Agricultural Society of England will have to look into this question in the near future."

The Royal Agricultural Society.

The following letter appeared in the *Times* of the 10th inst.:—

Sir,—The financial position of the Royal Agricultural Society of England is such as to cause very serious concern to all its members. It has a gross income from all sources of from £25,000 to £30,000 per annum, and although the membership still remains at, or near, high-water mark, the funds are going down at an alarming rate.

At the end of 1886, when Mr. Jenkins, the late secretary, died, the reserve fund and capital stood at £31,955 in cash and Consols, in addition to furniture, books, pictures, and country meeting plant. To-day the liquid assets of the Society consist of £10,360 cash and Consols, in addition to £13,000 Harewood House debenture stock, and the furniture, books, pictures, country meeting plant, etc.

The actuarial liability of the Society to its life members is estimated at a present debit value of £18,043, although it is admitted in the special report of the auditors that the annual cost per member to the Society has exceeded the amount upon which this estimate is based. No account has been taken of the Society's liability to its life governors, for whom a *pro rata* provision of £2,100 should also have been made, thus making the total liability of the Society to its life governors and members £20,143, calculated on a basis which is admitted by the Society's auditors to be inadequate. When the total liabilities of the Society are faced, and assuming the Harewood House stock to be a realisable asset, the total capital of the Society is represented by the sum of £3,217, in addition to the furniture, books, pictures, country meeting plant, etc. This small sum will be entirely swallowed up by the loss on the York Show, so that the Society finds itself without any reserve fund, and no capital, except what is locked up in office furniture, books, pictures, country meeting plant, etc.

Having realised the fact that the funds of the Society are in a parlous condition, the Council, with an infatuation which is incomprehensible, and in spite of the advice of experienced showmen like Sir Jacob Wilson and Mr. Martin Sutton, have adopted a course which cannot fail to bring matters to a disastrous crisis.

In deciding upon a fixed position for their annual show they withdraw from their members living in distant parts of the country the only practical advantage of membership, and in fixing upon the neighbourhood of London as a site for the show they have committed a threefold error. In the first place, there is already one good annual show held in London—the Smithfield. In the second place, experience shows that Royal Shows in or near London always result in a loss; and, in the third place, the Council ignore object 9 of the Royal charter, which requires the holding of one meeting per year "in such other parts of England and Wales (apart from the metropolis) as may be most advantageous for the advancement of the objects of the Society." In view of the clear wording of the charter, it appears to me that the Council, in the action they propose, are exceeding their powers.

It is certain that if they persevere in their intention to hold the show in any fixed locality a very large proportion of the members will resign, having no inducement to continue to subscribe, beyond the supply of the Journal, which can be obtained by any person who chooses to pay 3s. 6d. per volume for it, but who certainly would not do so unless it contained some special article in which he was particularly interested. The other privileges of analysis, etc., are now provided by local agricultural societies, county councils, etc.

I have discussed this question with many members of the Society, and feel certain that the loss of subscriptions from distant members will amount to at least £1,500 per annum, while the liability to life members, who would not resign, will remain the same.

I have been a member of the Society for twenty-three years, but have altogether attended thirty-two Royal Shows, in twenty-nine of which I have exhibited machinery, so that I have had ample opportunity of acquiring a practical knowledge of the subject on which I now venture to address you, and I am satisfied that the reasons given by the Council for the proposed change are quite inadequate. The grounds, so far as I understand them, for their action, are (1) the unwieldy character of the show, and (2) the difficulty of finding large enough sites upon which to hold it. Both these factors are under the absolute control of the Society. If they would limit the space allotted to each exhibitor, and confine the entries to strictly agricultural articles, barring out such exhibits as billiard tables, bicycles, carriages, cooking stoves, mortar mills, pianos, *et hoc genus omne*, the miles of implement shedding would soon be reduced to reasonable dimensions. In the same way, space in the live stock department could be economised, and prize money and other expenses saved by restricting the number of classes. It appears absurd, for example, to offer prizes and go to the expense of judging black-faced mountain sheep at Maidstone, or Romney Marshes, Devons, and Herefords at Newcastle-on-Tyne, not to speak of zebra hybrids, as at York, which may be very interesting from a scientific point of view, but cannot possibly be described as strictly agricultural.

But the financial difficulties of the Society are not due to losses on shows, as I find that during the last thirty-six years—namely, from Newcastle in 1864 the shows have left a net profit of £1,618, after deducting all losses, and in spite of the colossal blunders of Kilburn, Windsor, Birmingham, and Maidstone, so that apart from the difficulties which I have already dealt with, and which I have shown can be ameliorated by the Council itself, there is no reason why the shows should not be continued in the old rotation, and be as hitherto a source of slight average profit.

No one who has carefully studied the revenue accounts and balance-sheets of the Society for the last fourteen years can fail to be struck with the immense increase in expenditure and cost of running the Society.

In 1886, the last year of Mr. Jenkins's régime, the Society occupied a house at a rent, including rates, taxes, repairs, and depreciation of furniture, of

Mr. J. B. Hellier.

£562. That these premises were adequate for the requirements of the Society is manifest from the fact that a considerable portion of the building was let off to other societies. Last year the expenditure on this account amounted to £2,022. In 1886 the expenses of management, viz., salaries, wages, scientific and chemical assistants, works superintendent, and Journal editorial, amounted to £3,510; in 1891 this had increased to £4,794; in 1895 it amounted to £5,650, while last year the total payments under this head amounted to £6,530, or nearly double what it was at the beginning of 1897, when the present secretary assumed office.

So far as an outsider can make out, there is no reason whatever for this enormous increase in expenditure, amounting to no less a sum than £5,000 per annum. The average number of implements entered for exhibition has not increased, and the increase in the number of stock entries is comparatively insignificant. It would therefore appear that the capital of the Society has been dissipated in heavy management expenses, and no one can assert that the work is better done now than it was previous to 1887.

I trust, therefore, that before the Council takes a step which its best friends feel satisfied is fraught with great danger to the very existence of the Society they will turn their attention to the enormous expense of administration, where there are ignorant leakages which might be stopped, the effect of which would be to place the Society once more on a sound financial basis. Yours truly,

JOHN McLAREN, M.Inst.C.E.

Midland Engine Works, Leeds, August 3rd.

A South African Agriculturist.

At a time when the question of South African possibilities as a field for the agriculturist is before the country, in connection with the proposal to grant facilities to settlers who may wish to go there, it is interesting to recall the many services rendered to the farming industry in South Africa by Mr. J. B. Hellier, the veteran editor of the official *Journal of Agriculture*, who is just retiring.

Mr. Hellier has spent forty-two years in the Cape, whither he went in the early sixties from the West of England. For a considerable time he was the officer whose duty it was to accompany on the early days of emigration and superintend the newcomers the valuable land of the Eastern Province. He was the editor and founder of the paper devoted to the farming interests, and was mainly instrumental in securing the introduction of lime and sulphur dip into the country, and he did much towards improving the legislation concerning the eradication of scab. Cattle men [illegible] for a good cause, Mr. Hellier did not escape persecution, and as far back as 1861, on behalf of the farmers of the Eastern Province, Sir Henry Barkly, the then Governor, presented him with a piece of plate and £300.

Mr. Hellier is eighty-one, is a brother of Benjamin Hellier, the Wesleyan teacher, and in spite of his years is still actively engaged on his journal. Probably no other man has done as much for South African agriculture as he. F. W.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Anthrax and the Compensation Act

At the Bradford County Court, on the 10th inst., Judge Bompas, Q.C., gave judgment in the case of Stott v. Campbell. This was an action brought by Lydia Stott, of Cotewall Road, Bradford, against Messrs. Campbell and Harrison, woolcombers, Bradford, to recover damages for the death of her husband, who had died from anthrax contracted, it was alleged, whilst following his employment at the respondent firm's works. The action was taken under the Workmen's Compensation Act, and the disputed point was whether the deceased man had died from "an accident" within the meaning of the Act.

His Honour, in delivering judgment, said he thought the Act intended to distinguish between disease and accident, and that infection from germs was not intended to be treated as equivalent to external injuries. Any other interpretation of the Act would, he thought, bring all diseases, such as scarlet fever, etc., contracted by workpeople during employment within the Statute. He was of the opinion that there was no personal injury within the meaning of the Act, and he therefore gave judgment for the firm.

On the application of Mr. J. J. Wright, who gave notice of appeal, stay of execution for three weeks was granted.

A Farmer's Borrowing Transactions.

Successful Plea of Extortion.

At the Birmingham Assizes, on Monday, Leopold Gordon, as administrator of the estate of his brother, the late Isaac Gordon, brought an action to recover two sums of £100 and £200 respectively, which he alleged to be due on two promissory notes given by a North Yorkshire farmer, Charles Fowler. The first bill was in the name of Gordon, though at the outset defendant was approached with an offer of accommodation in the name of Elliott, a gentleman of Manchester. The second note was made out in the name of Isaac Gordon, trading as Webster. In each case the identity was the same, though this was not known to defendant when he commenced negotiations. The first note was for £175, but defendant only received £125, the odd £50 being for interest. The repayment was to be by six monthly instalments of £15, and the balance, £85, at the end of seven months. Defendant protested that the interest was very high, and was told by Gordon that if he required renewal of the bill the terms would be easier. The monthly instalments were met, but when the seventh month arrived it was more than the borrower could do to find [illegible] bill was renewed with heavy interest. This process was repeated a good many times. Altogether defendant received £[illegible], repaid £[illegible], and [illegible] £300.

Mr. McCardie, for the defence, pleaded that Gordon had taken advantage of defendant's necessitous circumstances to exact exorbitant interest, and further, that Gordon was guilty of [illegible] and over-reaching conduct. He quoted a number of equity cases in support of this [illegible].

Mr. Justice Wills put it to the jury whether Gordon represented when the first bill was given that his intention was to renew [illegible] bill, and renewal took place, whether [illegible] and whether it had a material effect in bringing about the acceptance of the loan by defendant. Further, when the time for payment came, was defendant, from pecuniary pressure, practically [illegible]

had the high rate of interest any material effect in bringing this about, and did Gordon anticipate that contingency at the time he entered into the transaction? Finally, was the rate of interest extortionate?

The jury answered each of these questions in the affirmative. His lordship thereupon entered judgment for the defendant. It was understood that an appeal would be lodged.

Farmers and the Insurance of Stock.

A case of great interest to farmers and breeders was decided at the Lincoln County Court on Monday, before Judge Shortt. Mr. H. E. Vale, and eleven other gentlemen, underwriters at Lloyd's, London, sued Mr. Jno. Parkin, a farmer, of Scampton, near Lincoln, for £2 14s., the premium on the insurance of two mares for risks of foaling, and for a month afterwards. Mr. Porter Smith, a veterinary surgeon, of Lincoln, a sub-agent of the plaintiffs, said he went to see Mr. Parkin's mares, and, after he had examined them, the defendant filled up proposal forms. That was on the 2nd of March, and on returning to Lincoln he despatched the proposals to London, received the policies on the 4th, and paid the premium. He contended the defendant had authorised him so to do. On the 3rd of March the defendant left a message at his house that one of the mares had foaled, and when applied to for the premium he refused to pay, as he had not had the policy. It was agreed that he should fetch the policy from Mr. Smith. The latter statement the defendant denied, and he gave evidence to the effect that on the morning after Mr. Smith had examined the mares he called at his house and left word that as one of the mares had foaled safely he was not to proceed with the policies. He heard nothing more for three weeks, and both mares having then safely foaled, he never having seen nor heard of a policy being issued, he refused to pay. It was argued for the defence that the contract was not complete until the policy was delivered, and that no premium having been paid, a claim in case of the death of the mare would not have been recognised. His Honour said the proposal form constituted Porter Smith the agent of the defendant for insuring the horses, and he was justified in paying the premium. Porter Smith thus being the defendant's agent, it did not matter whether or not the latter saw the policies, which covered a month after foaling, and were dated two days after the proposal forms were signed. He gave judgment for the plaintiffs.

At the Driffield harvest hirings on Thursday there was a fairly large attendance of men in search of employment. Higher wages were asked, but the general run was £1 to £1 2s. per week.

Liabilities of Bee Keepers.—A case affecting the liability of bee keepers was dealt with at Basingstoke County Court on the 3rd inst. by Judge Gye. John Butter, a wood dealer, sued the village postmaster, Mr. Longley, for the recovery of part of the value of an old mare which defendant's bees stung to death; also 10s. on account of pain from bee stings suffered by plaintiff; 10s. for loss of use of part of a field adjoining the postmaster's garden, where the plaintiff's labourers could not work owing to the bees; and 20s. for extra labour through having to make a hayrick in another position. It was suggested on the defendant's behalf that some other person's bees were at fault, but the plaintiff and his witnesses established to his Honour's satisfaction the fact that the bees came from the defendant's hives. Judge Gye, in giving judgment for the amount claimed, said that a bee keeper kept bees at his own risk, and if they did damage he was liable.

College of Agriculture, Downton, Salisbury.—The summer session of this college ended on Friday, August 10th, when the following awards were made:—The diploma or certificate of membership of the college, after two years' residence and passing in all the subjects taught, to O. F. Cooke-Yarborough, Campsmount, Doncaster. Certificate of practical proficiency in agriculture, K. B. Foyster, All Saints' Rectory, Hastings. The college scholarship of £15 to O. F. Cooke-Yarborough. The Bless scholarship to A. R. Margesson, Finden Place, Worthing. Prizes were also given in the various subjects as follows:—K. B. Foyster, agriculture, chemistry, veterinary science, botany, knowledge of live stock; Harold F. Crick, Priest Gate, Peterborough, building construction; A. R. F. Margesson, agriculture, practical chemistry, surveying and levelling, building construction, botany, best collection of weeds; G. C. Way, Cranham Lodge, Upminster, Essex, agriculture, practical chemistry, botany, and milking; J. C. Thompson, Knighton House, Leicester, agriculture, veterinary science, chemistry; M. R. Heath, 29, Warrior Square, St. Leonards-on-Sea, chemistry and veterinary science; F. B. Toms, Crosswood House, Molesey, practical chemistry; O. F. Cooke-Yarborough, surveying and levelling; C. Robins, Garswood, Newton-le-Willows, surveying and levelling, building construction; A. Wrightson, College of Agriculture, Downton, waggon driving; J. E. Whitnall, The Grange, Wilmslow, Cheshire, best collection of grasses.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Berkshire.

Harvest operations began with the rye and winter oats about the middle of July, and some was got together before the rains set in, but the cutting of

Wheat

did not commence till the 27th, and very little was stocked before the 10th of August. It is short in the straw and very thin on the light land, but on the good soil in the vale of Berks it will yield well out of the straw; but altogether it does not appear likely to be an average crop.

Barley

is the best crop of the year, and will probably be above the average. Oats are very difficult and will not be an average. Beans and peas are podded well, and promise for a good crop. A great deal of sanfoin was saved for seed, and will yield fairly well, and trifolium is plentiful, but sells at a low price. Vetches are poor, and will turn out very badly per acre.

The Hay Crop

was considerably below the average, the early portion much damaged by the rains, but the later cuttings were got up well, without much expense. Mangolds are good, and the other roots are very much improved where they have been attended to, but many fields have been quite neglected through want of labour, but the prospect of winter keep is better than it has been for some years.

Sheep

are selling at fairly good prices, and yet there have been larger numbers at the fairs than for some years past. Labour is the difficulty at the present time, and land cannot be cultivated properly with the present short supply of hands; and yet you see Lambeth Union sending off to Canada sixty boys and girls at a time when there is plenty of employment at home and good places could be found for them.—J. L. (August 16th).

Bucks.

The storms have played such havoc with the crops that I scarcely know how to give a report upon them. The heaviest crops are so knocked down that they cannot be cut with the binder to give satisfaction, and those that stood up are literally thrashed out in places on these hills. Everything, besides spring beans, wants cutting at the same time, and the cutting was so hindered by the weather until last Saturday that not much could be done. Now it is so hot in the middle of the day that the wheat breaks off in tying. We are only just got into the barley, so that I cannot talk much about that, but I expect it will be discoloured. On the whole, I should put what appeared to be an average crop of everything from 15 to 20 per cent. below now. Roots and grass have much improved.—J. T. (Aug. 15th).

Glamorganshire.

The teeming holiday population of this county thought they were harder hit than the farmers at the unwelcome change in the weather at holiday time; it not only upset holiday arrangements, but it sadly put out of gear all harvest operations for about a week. Several fields of oats and barley were cut before the rain came, but not much wheat. The best of the crops that were left standing suffered the most by being twisted and laid by the storms of wind and rain, and a considerable quantity of grain was threshed out by the force of the wind. The cutting of wheat has been proceeding rapidly during this week of perfect harvest weather, also the carrying and stacking of oats and barley. It is feared that the malting qualities of the latter where exposed to the weather have been much detriorated. The pastures and aftermaths have been much improved by the rains. Mangolds and swedes promise to be generally a fair crop; the former are especially good in places, the hot weather of July inducing excellent growth of this heat-loving and useful bulb. The better prices beef has been making have been some consolation for the feeders, but when it is considered they will have to buy store cattle at high figures, the margin of profit will be very little.—C. J. S. (August 17th).

Mid-Sussex.

I think the wheat in this district may be considered an average crop. Oats, where well farmed, are a good crop, but very light under poor farming. Winter beans well podded, but short. Spring beans very much blighted; scarcely any barley grown in the district. There seems to be a very fair plant of young seeds. Mangels doing very well. Very few swedes grown. The hay crop is about a three-quarter one. After-grass very much choked by the hot weather, consequently feed is very short. Harvest generally is making rapid progress, and by the end of next week the principal part of it will be gathered. F. C. C. (August 17th).

Nottinghamshire.

A remarkable and beneficial change in the weather has taken place from autumn chilliness to well-nigh tropical heat. Harvest work is now in full swing hereabouts; in fact, a general commencement has set in. The corn in many instances is sadly laid, twisted, and knocked down by the storms, rendering "machining" somewhat difficult. The self-binder is very much used this season everywhere possible, for labourers are exceedingly scarce, asking exorbitant wages and short hours. However, considerable progress has been already made with

Harvest Work,

notwithstanding that more hands and less "machining" is required. Many crops "stood" up somewhat thin, and it will try the full capacities of most crops to come up to an average yield in this locality. Barley and oats, too, generally are a moderate crop, short and stunted in growth. The pastures have improved lately under the showery influences and higher temperature.

The Root Crops

have made rapid strides of late, and some nice pieces are promised by the outlook. Winter beans cut up fairly well, and spring variety look promising. A deal of damage was done to the fruit orchards; many apples and plums were blown off the trees. The hay harvest has been a good one as far as the securing and condition are concerned, but the "cuts" have been light generally. The outlook as a rule is of a gloomy character, and by no means encouraging.—AGRESTIC (August 16th).

Staffordshire.

The spell of splendid weather which set in on Saturday, the 10th inst., has greatly improved the agricultural situation. When at the beginning of the month the weather broke there was a considerable breadth of hay ungathered. Much of this has been badly spoiled, and there are still some remnants of the hay harvest to be cleared up. It seemed at one time likely that our best crops of corn would not only lose their bright colour, but also be considerably injured in their yield. Happily, bright sunshine has done much to promote

Healthy Ripening,

although the work of cutting has been made more tedious by the crops being laid and twisted. It is not expected that either wheat or oats will equal the crops of last year. Specially is a continuance of fine weather desirable because of the laid condition of many fields. Barley varies very much, some fields on their land having become prematurely ripe, whereas on deeper soils the crop is more satisfactory than it has been in several preceding years. Both grass and green crops have been much benefited by the rainfall and subsequent sunshine, and it is likely that the autumn will be favourable for live stock. We may fairly look forward to better stores of roots for winter use than we have had in any year of late. —T. C. S. (August 17th).

Suffolk (East).

We are having splendid harvest weather. On the stiff East Suffolk land but little has been done till this week, for the rains made the land very difficult for machines to travel on, and machines of various kinds are more common now, to save labour, than they have been. The self-binders are the favourite. The crop of wheat is spoken of doubtfully. Barley has yet to take the risk of weather, but fair quality and quantity are hoped for. Oats a fair crop, some of the new varieties very good. Beans and peas better than was feared at one time. Root crop good, especially mangold. Potatoes good. Fruit superabundant.—J. Y. (August 17th).

Westmoreland.

The first week of the last of our summer months (August) has furnished us with a striking proof of the extraordinarily capricious nature of our climate, upon which the welfare of British agriculture so largely depends, especially when we compare it with the two first summer months. A dripping June fulfilled the old adage to the letter by putting all things in tune, which a long winter and cold, late spring had left so far out of it; this was succeeded by a hot, forcing July, which has brought to early maturity most of the summer crops, and enabled a large quantity of a bulky crop of hay to be secured in prime condition; there is, however, still a considerable quantity (fully one-third) to secure, a large quantity of which was cut when the weather broke, and is consequently considerably damaged. The perfect hurricane of wind and rain which took place on the 3rd inst. has twisted and laid the harvest crops of corn in all directions, so much so that several fields when viewed from a distance have the appearance of being in stook. The extra cost and waste which will occur in reaping and securing will in many cases exceed the rental value of the land, as the extra labour required to harvest it reasonably well cannot be had at any price, and binders on many farms will be of little service. The copious rains we have had, on the other hand, have largely benefited the root crops of all kinds, pastures and aftermaths also. The turnip crop will ultimately prove a heavy one in spite of the deficiencies caused by finger-and-toe,

and the extensive ravages by rooks, which have become a serious matter to arable farmers, and call for some general action for the extermination of at least half their number.—T. B. (Aug. 14th).

West Cornwall.

After gales of wind and heavy rain we are now having ideal harvest weather -roasting hot. Most of the corn is now cut, and the thrashing machine is hard at work. Wheat is a light crop, below the average; price, 10s. 6d. for 184lb. Oats is not thrashing as good as it looked, and in lots of places where rust got hold of it it will be very light. Barley seems to be the best crop of the lot. If we get eight or ten days more of fine weather, harvest will be over. Beef is selling very well above 60s. cwt., store cattle are cheaper, cows and calves selling very well.

Mangolds are a good crop. Turnips where the fly has left them alone are good, but a lot has been carried away. Grass is scarce. Plenty of hay about, and plenty of straw, and farmers will have plenty of keep during the winter.

Apples, pears, and plums are a big crop, and very cheap, also beans and peas. Tomatoes are in good demand.—F. C. (August 16th).

Wilts (North)

Even the greatest pessimist among agriculturists, who, as a class, have always been generally considered inveterate grumblers, must admit that Providence has again blessed the country with another really grand season—at least, up to the present time. In this district a splendid crop of hay, or a large portion of it, has been harvested in the best possible manner, and the rains, which somewhat hindered at times, were of incalculable value for the root crops, etc., so that the forthcoming

Winter is Well Provided For.

Stock of all kinds have done well, and prices, on the whole, are not altogether unsatisfactory. Even fat pigs have now reached a somewhat high figure, as the choicest specimens now make at Calne the somewhat unusual price of 10s. 3d./per score, which must certainly give a margin of profit, when the current rate of feeding stuffs is considered. The

Principal Drawback.

this summer is the scarcity and high price of labour; but it seems likely that the same marvellous ingenuity which has caused such a revolution in the corn harvest field will now contrive, or has contrived, machines for the hayfield, which will render fewer hands necessary. The crops of corn in this district, although not equal to those of the two last years, are quite an average.—(August 16th.)

Foreign Prospects.

France.—The agricultural situation closely resembles that in the U.K. Farmers are busy securing crops of all descriptions, and the time has not arrived to formulate conclusions respecting the wheat yield. Paris market is weaker, and in the provinces there is not enough business passing to test value.

Holland and Belgium.—More settled weather permits farmers to carry the remainder of the harvest, and samples of new wheat are expected to be numerous next week. Business generally is quiet, and there is hardly any inquiry for c.i.f. grain.

Spain.—Postal advices speak of an exceptionally abundant crop of wheat in Las Riojas, and an average one in Navarra.

Germany.—The rye is mostly all carried, and is beyond the influence of unfavourable atmospheric conditions, but no so wheat, for only in some districts is that cereal now cut, and where exposed in the fields must have been affected by recent rain, while the uncut corn is said to have been "lodged" over wide areas. The condition of this year's crop will mainly depend upon the weather of the next few weeks. Less favourable reports have been received respecting the potatoes. The unsettled weather has not had a stimulating effect upon the market, for few complaints of damage are heard, and wheat prospects are regarded as favourable.

Hungary.—Wheat threshing has proceeded briskly, but reports of the yield are very divergent. The condition of maize in the principal producing districts is most satisfactory. On Budapest market large offers of both old and new wheat have had a depressing effect, but prices remain fairly steady, at a parity of 28s. 8d. per 480lb. for October delivery.

Norway.—The harvest this year has turned out the worst one since 1894. The threshing test has been applied to large plots of wheat, barley, and rye, and the yield is frightfully poor.

Roumania.—The market has been active, and considerable business passed particularly in wheat and rapeseed, at a material advance in prices. Large supplies of wheat have been daily arriving from the interior, and found immediate buyers. The rise in prices may not last long, as stocks are accumulating, and export trade is checked by high steamer freights.

Russia.—The harvest in south western governments has not turned out well, but as crop prospects there were not good, the shortage was a foregone conclusion. In central, southern, and south-eastern districts results are more satisfactory, and although wheat and rye show irregularity in quality, there will be plenty of grain available for export, should prices be attractive.

Algeria. So bountiful a harvest as this year's has not been seen for a long time there are some districts where the wheat crop is not yet carried.

United States. The *Cincinnati Price Current* says the maize crop has been relieved by rains, and now promises 2,102,000,000 bushels. Winter wheat is estimated to yield 340,000,000 bushels, and spring wheat 215,000,000 bushels.

India.—The Viceroy cabled on Tuesday:—"The favourable conditions reported last week continue, and rain is now falling generally throughout the country.

Argentina. Friday's cable advices from Buenos Ayres say that in the interior climatic conditions are improving.—*Dornbusch.*

Prospects in the West.

"We have had a surfeit of prospects," remarks a correspondent; "we are in urgent need of a sedative in the form of a moderate course of results." This, in brief, is the tone of many of the reports which, through the kindness of prominent agriculturists in the West of England, we are enabled to publish to-day. These reports, considering their source, should have a double value; they should prove helpful to individual farmers, who are enabled by their publication to take advantage of the collective opinions expressed in order to form a better judgment in regard to the agricultural outlook, and at the same time they give residents in town, who have an inherent interest in the produce of the farms, an idea of the difficulties which have invariably to be experienced by farmers. The condition of the crops, it will be seen, varies in different counties. They have been affected by the weather of the past few months—by the excessive heat and by the violent gale. Taken altogether, it may, perhaps, be assumed that the prospects are not so bad as in some previous seasons. There will probably be a fair crop of hay, and the cattle have come through moderately well, the only—or rather the primary—difficulty being in regard to prices, which are not regarded as favourable. While the gale has denuded some of the orchards, the heavy rains improved roots and pastures. The question of obtaining a sufficient supply of labourers during the season is one which still agitates farmers.—*Western Daily Press.*

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the Mark Lane Express by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

13,940. A. H. Vaury, of Queen Victoria Street, London, for an invention for "Improved cattle food."

14,006. W. H. Plant, of Wolverhampton, for an invention for "Improvements in power machines for clipping horses and other animals."

Patents Sealed.

7,811. G. Zahl, of Paulshof, near Alt-Landsberg, Brandenburgh, Prussia, for an invention for "Improvements relating to potato-planters."

7,880. W. Birtwisle, of Hartford, Cheshire, for an invention for "Improvements relating to reaping and mowing machines."

8,002. T. Courtman, of Hanslope, Stony Stratford, for an invention for "Hoes, horse or traction."

8183. O. Barbier, of Braux, Ardennes, France, for an invention for "Manures and fertilisers."

Messrs. Little and Ballantyne, of Carlisle, just issued their 1900 bulb catalogue. Like its predecessors it contains numerous illustrations, which give one an idea of the general excellence of this firm's productions.

Farmers and the Taxation of Cycles.—The Spalding Union Rural District Council, representing nine parishes in South Lincolnshire, have adopted a resolution in favour of the taxation of cycles. The Council is composed mainly of farmers, and the opponents of the resolution declared that the farmers, in carrying on this agitation against the cyclist, were only making a rod for their own backs, for if cycles were taxed it would lead to a tax on all the farmers' vehicles used on the road, the great majority of which were now exempt. It was stated that for every trap on which the farmer paid tax they put twelve vehicles on the road which were exempt, and that a great many farmers used two and three traps and only paid a tax on one.

The fair at Omagh, co. Tyrone, on Tuesday, was an average-sized one, composed chiefly of springers and yearlings, the latter selling better than in recent fairs. There was a large supply of lambs, and they met a ready sale. Prices: Calves, second class, £4 to £4 3s. 4d.; third class, £3 to £3 6s. 8d.; yearlings, first class, £7 10s. to £7 15s.; second class, £5 15s. to £7; third class, £5 2s. 6d. to £5 6s. 8d.; two-year-olds, first class, £11 to £11 5s.; second class, £7 15s. to £10 5s.; third class, £6 17s. 6d. to £7 3s. 4d.; springers, first class, £16 to £20; second class, £12 4s. to £14; third class, £7 15s. to £10 12s. 6d.; lambs, first class, £1 7s. 6d. to £1 12s. 6d.; second class, £1 1s 8d. to £1 8s. 7d.

THE WEATHER.

Monday (August 13th).—Very fine weather prevailed again over our islands, and high summer temperatures were generally experienced. Such any rain had fallen over Scotland and Ireland in any part of the kingdom but fog on the west coast was rather prevalent on our south west coasts. A light westerly wind was blowing over the northern portion of the kingdom, but the wind was gentle easterly in the south of England. There was a further rise of temperature over the country, and the thermometer in the shade exceeded 60 deg. over the inland parts of England. Magnificent weather was experienced again in London, and the thermometer in the shade registered 85 deg.

Tuesday (August 14th).—Magnificent weather prevailed in all parts of our islands, and there was a considerable increase of temperature in Ireland. The type of weather was distinctly anticyclonic, and the barometer readings high and uniform. There was a complete wind circulation round the region of highest barometer, the direction being generally southerly in the north and easterly in the south of Great Britain. The midday temperatures registered 80deg. over the central parts of England, but at several of the English stations the thermometer did not rise to so high a point as on Monday. In London the day was very fine and bright, and in the afternoon the thermometer in the shade registered 82 deg. No rain was measured in the morning for the preceding twenty-four hours at any station in the United Kingdom reporting to the Meteorological Office. This is the first time of such an occurrence this summer.

Wednesday (August 15th).—The weather continued very fine and settled over our islands, but there was a good deal of mist or fog at many places in our eastern districts. The temperature was lower than on the preceding days over England generally, but there was a marked difference between the eastern and western portions of the kingdom, the east coast of Scotland being from 15deg. to 20deg. cooler than Ireland, or even the west of Scotland. The easterly wind had freshened considerably in the south, and it was blowing rather strongly in the English Channel and on our south-west coasts. There was rather more cloud than of late in London during the morning, but the afternoon was very fine and bright, although the temperature did not exceed 71deg.

Thursday (August 16th).—Very fine weather prevailed again over the whole of our islands, and fairly high summer temperatures occurred in England. There was another day without rain in any part of the kingdom, this being the fourth in succession. The morning temperatures were very high in Ireland, but the day was much cooler there than on Wednesday. The highest temperatures occurred in the south of England, but the shade readings were generally below 80deg. Brilliant weather was experienced in London, and in the afternoon the temperature was 79 deg.

Friday (August 17th).—The weather was again very fine in most parts of England and Ireland, although the morning was more cloudy than of late, and there was a large amount of mist or fog at our coast stations. Small quantities of rain were measured at the Scotch stations, having fallen since Thursday morning, and slight rain fell again during the day in Scotland. Temperature was high throughout Thursday night, the lowest readings being 60deg. and above in the south of England. The greater part of the day was fine in London, and in the afternoon the thermometer in the shade rose to 82deg. There was a very heavy thunderstorm in the south of London between five and six o'clock in the evening, accompanied by exceptionally heavy hail and rain.

Saturday and Sunday (August 18th and 19th).—Fine weather prevailed in most parts of England during the two days, but the conditions gradually became less settled over the northern and western portions of the kingdom. The principal rain measured on Saturday morning for the preceding twenty-four hours was in the extreme north, but the measurements on Sunday morning were principally in the west. Thunder and lightning occurred in several places in the south and west. High summer temperatures occurred in parts of England on Saturday, and the weather on Sunday was again decidedly warm. In London the thermometer in the shade registered 84 deg. on Saturday, and there was a good deal of lightning in the evening. The highest temperature was 78deg., and the weather was still very fine.

Alfred Jones, a pleasure [illegible] was sued at Birmingham Assizes by Leopold Gordon, [illegible] Gordon's estate, for £1,000 [illegible] promissory notes. Defendant had been [illegible] books for eight years, the money [illegible] him on bills regularly renewed. Gordon's executors were defendant had been [illegible] names, but the judge thought [illegible] defendant was under [illegible] all the time was not supported by the correspondence. A settlement [illegible] plaintiff getting judgment for £550.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt, a moderate inquiry since our last. Barley, better demand for foreign malting qualities. Wheat, a slow trade at last week's prices. Oats, steady, but slow. Maize, rather in buyers' favour. Flour, unchanged.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The supply of old home grown wheat continues to become scantier, firm prices being asked and obtained on the completion of any small business. Fine white 33s 6d and red 32s 6d per qr delivered. A little new wheat has been already submitted at the country markets, but in bad condition, and proper samples are expected by the early part of next week. Foreign maintained, but when business was found practicable prices favoured buyers. Stocks of flour continue large, but the market showed no deviation to-day, despite a lack of consumptive demand. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Among feeding stuffs, grinding barley is still upheld owing to scarcity. Persian, 17s 9d ex ship, 18s ex quay. Black Sea unobtainable. Bessarabian, 19s ex quay; and American, 22s. American oats have not depreciated since last Monday, but the tendency of prices was with difficulty supported as a rule. Mixed clipped, 14s ex ship, 14s 3d ex quay. White clipped in these positions, 15s 3d and 15s 6d. Beans and peas remain idle markets, but holders maintain reserve. Maize germ meal very firm and scarce. American just arrived by steamer sells at £5 2s 6d. English, £5 per ton ex wharf.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Scarcely any attention was paid to old home-grown wheat, and apart from the diminished supply which exists, the tendency was adverse to sellers, new now coming up, only naturally exerting its influence. Quotations were, however, not materially altered. Samples of the latter are expected in good condition by next week. What little offers is for the most part damp, and 32s was paid on the country markets where quality gave satisfaction. Of old, fine white, 33s 6d, and red 32s 6d per qr 63lb delivered. American descriptions distinctly easier, without meeting with response. The market for flour also tended 3d per sack lower, but the consumptive demand was again only of a retail order. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Grinding barley firm, supply of Black Sea remaining exhausted. American oats showed no depreciation, but there was not sufficient stirring to test the market. Maize is fully 3d dearer for flat since last Monday, round corn being firm. Beans and peas unaltered, while remain in holders favour. Maize germ meal firm at fully the recent advance.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—There were some samples of new wheat and oats on the market. The former were in poor condition and soft, but they were sold at 32s to 32s 6d per quarter. Black winter oats made 21s 6d. There were few, if any, sales of old wheat, and all other sorts of corn were unchanged except maize, which is quoted a little dear.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—With small quantity offering, the wheat trade was quiet, and the business transacted was at last Saturday's quotations. Barley, oats, and beans unaltered. Wheat, 29s to 31s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white, 30s to 32s per qr; wheat, red, 30s to 31s per qr; beans, new, 32s to 34s per qr; oats, white, 23s to 28s per qr; oats black, 21s to 23s per qr. Old wheat in very small supply; no new on offer. Prices firm.

Barnsley, Wednesday.—Market quiet. Wheat realised up to 11s 9d per load; white oats, 22s to 24s; black oats, 20s to 22s; maize, round, up to 26s; and flat, 24s per qr in Barnsley.

Bedale, Tuesday.—Attendance thin, but a fair trade resulted, wheat making 29s and upwards per qr; barley (best samples), 27s to 29s; secondary samples, 25s to 26s; oats (short), 22s to 24s; oats (long), 19s to 21s per qr. Others samples of grain at late rates.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Small supply, which met a firm trade at last week's prices. Few samples of new wheat on offer, which made up to 30s per qr.

Bristol, Thursday.—The attendance at to-day's market as small. Wheat—English, none on offer. Foreign—Demand, wwing to improved weather is small; prices unaltered. Grinding barley—In better demand, prices 3d to 6d advance. Maize and oats unchanged. Flour—There was a better demand during the week, but the return of fine weather has again checked business.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—The wheat trade during the week has been very quiet, the fine weather making buyers hesitate. A few samples of old crop make 30s., and some parcels of new wheat have sold at 28s and 29s. At this market to-day. there was a fair supply of new crop, which sold readily at 28s to 29s. A few samples of new oats and barley were on offer, the former making 18s to 20s per 24 stones; the latter was irregular in prices, and the quality is various.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Moderate supplies of new corn and a fair trade. White wheat, 31s to 33s; red ditto, 29s to 32s; barley (old), 20s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; black ditto, 16s to 20s; grey peas, 29s to 31s per quarter; winter tares, 6s 6d to 7s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day. Slow sale at full prices, 22s to 23s 6d per 336lbs. No new oats shown.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a small attendance, owing to harvest operations. Old English wheat maintained recent advance. Oats in good demand, more money being asked. Beans and barley unchanged. Indian corn in good request at advancing rates. Quotations:—Old white and red wheat, 4s 1d to 4s 6d; new grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb; old beans, 5s 6d per 80lb; oats, 2s 9d to 3s per 46lb; old Indian corn, 11s to 11s 6d, and new 10s 6d to 10s 9d per 240lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Several samples of new wheat offering, quality not so good as old, value about 2s per qr less than old. A few new oats offering at irregular prices.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Several samples of new wheat are offering, the quality of which varies a great deal. Prices ranged from 28s to 30s per quarter, with a slow trade. A few samples of new English oats also offering, selling from 17s to 20s per quarter. Foreign wheat dearer. Grinding barley and maize also dearer.

Gainsborough, Tuesday.—Very few farmers in the market, and but few samples changed hands at last week's prices. White wheat made 30s to 31s; red, 29s to 30s; white oats, 20s to 22s; black ditto, 18s to 20s; grinding barley, 23s; English beans, 32s; peas, 23s; small maize, 26s; flat ditto, 23s; sharps, £5 15s per ton; barley meal, £6 10s per ton.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour dull, but quotably unaltered. Indian corn dull, at a decline of 3d per boll on the week. Grinding beans firm, at an advance of 3d per boll. Canadian peas slightly easier, owing to pressure to sell ex quay. Canadian and home oats firm and the turn dearer. Barley firm. Oatmeal quiet. Bran and thirds firm and the turn dearer.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The market is quiet all round. Maize closed 1d easier on the week at 11s 3d to 11s 4½d per 280lb. Oats and beans rather dearer, but other articles unchanged.

Goole, Wednesday.—Very small attendance. Little showing, and prices are a shade easier. Averages:—Wheat, 10s 9d to 11s 9d per load; oats, 18s 6d to 21s per qr. Beans unaltered, and no barley showing.

Guildford, Saturday.—Better supply of wheat with some new samples. Fine old wheat up to 33s per qr; new wheat 29s to 33s per qr; new barley, 32s 6d per qr; new rye, 27s to 29s per qr. Weather sultry, trade slow.—LEGGATT, BLAKE, AND TYE.

Helmsley, Friday. — Quiet market and little doing. Wheat, 29s to 30s; oats, ordinary, 21s to 23s; ditto short, 22s to 24s; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s per qr.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Very small supply of wheat; trade firm at about last week's prices, top price being 30s per qr. A sample of new wheat out of condition changed hands at 30s. Nothing doing in barley. Oats firm; maize unaltered. Little doing in beans and peas. Attendance very thin, harvest being in full swing.

Kirbymoorside, Wednesday.—A good attendance, and business brisk. Wheat a little easier at 29s to 30s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; long oats, 20s to 21s; short oats, 22s to 23s; peas, 27s to 28s; beans, 29s to 30s per qr.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The marked change in the weather, now highly favourable to harvest work, has naturally allayed crop fears, and caused trade to become dull again, but though the demand for wheat for consumption is limited, holders are by no means anxious sellers, and prices are nominally unchanged from this day week. Maize and beans 3d dearer. Oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Owing to more favourable advices as to crop prospects in America and better weather at home, buyers confined their purchases to present wants and on the business over. Tuesday's prices for all kinds of wheat were scarcely maintained. Peas and beans the turn dearer. No change in flour, grinding barley, maize, or oats.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance, with small supplies of home-grown wheat. Trade slow, holders asking extreme rates. Wheats, 21s to 24s per 36 stones. Oats in good demand.

Levburn, Friday.—An average attendance, and trade fair, wheat making 29s to 30s and upwards; barley, 24s to 27s and upwards; oats (short), 22s to 23s; oats (long), 18s to 20s; and Indian corn, 23s and upwards per qr. Other samples at late rates.

Lincoln, Friday.—The attendance at the Corn Exchange was only moderate. A sample of new wheat from Billingborough Fen was not in very good condition, but 30s per quarter was asked for it. The samples of old wheat were not very numerous, and trade was done at 6d per qr lower. Oats, beans, and feeding stuffs were firm. A few samples of new oats, of moderate quality, made 17s 6d to 18s per qr.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small attendance and very little business doing, old wheats very scarce, with no change in prices; no new local wheats shown. Foreign wheats firm at late rates. Old oats commanded full money. Maize, peas, and beans firm.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The trade for wheat to-day was slack, and 6d per qr less than last week. The millers are waiting for the new crop, samples of which not displayed to-day, but some very fine new black oats, which realised over 20s per qr, also a few peas at about 29s per qr. but they did not go off freely at that figure. Rye, also of this year's growth, but owners of it put on a prohibitive price, which prevented business. Maize is 6d per qr down. Other articles no change.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat to-day brings about 6d per qr. below last week's rates The demand is of a quiet character. Foreign descriptions are about steady at last week's prices, but the tendency is against the buyer. Flour meets with a retail inquiry and demand at previous currencies. English oats firm and unchanged. Foreign oats very quiet. Beans are rather dearer, say by 6d per qr. Indian corn, 3d dearer.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a nominal trade at rather easier prices than last week. Feeding corn repeated previous prices. Small market, farmers being busy harvesting. Weather brilliant.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at our to-day's market ruled quiet, and in buyers' favour. American maize steady at last week's prices. Odessa maize 1s per 480lbs advance on the week. Beans firmer and dearer. Peas steady at late rates. Feeding barley advanced 6d per 448lb. Scotch oats 1s per 336lbs dearer. No change in foreign oats. Flour late rates.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—The wheat trade has ruled steady, and buyers have had to pay 6d per quarter advance upon previous prices. Flour holds its own, and seems likely to harden in value. Feeding stuffs show no falling off, and for the time of year maintain their values wonderfully.

Northallerton, Wednesday.—A fairly good attendance. White wheat made up to 30s; red wheat, 28s to 30s; short oats, 21s to 25s; and long oats, 20s to 22s per qr.

Northampton, Saturday.—Very small market, scarcely any farmers being present. A few samples of new wheat were on offer, but buyers were scarce. Some new was sold from 28s to 29s. Old wheat was same as last week. Prices:—White wheat, 30s to 32s per qr; red, 28s to 30s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; oats, 19s to 22s; old fine, 24s; beans, 28s to 32s; flour, 24s to 28s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat is still in small supply at our market to-day at 1s per qr less money since last week. Since last Saturday the weather has quite changed again, bright sunshine having prevailed all the week, and harvest operations are now in full swing. Wheat, red, 29s to 30s per qr, weight 63lbs per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending August 13, 1900:—Wheat, 3,938.7, 28s 3½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in small supply, prices rather favouring buyers. Oats and beans a quiet trade at fully previous rates.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Very small market; a few samples of new corn showing; quality poor. Wheat a slow trade, at last week's prices. No business reported in barley.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The weather during the past week has been all that could be desired, and progress has been made with the harvest work. A few samples of new wheat and oats showing to-day, quality and prices various. Old corn unchanged.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day, our farmers being home busy with harvest. The market was slow and quiet. The prices for wheat and barley are 6d dearer than last Thursday. Indian corn has advanced 3d, while oats remain firm.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—At to-day's market old wheat sold freely at late rates, 32s to 34s per qr. New wheat realised 29s to 32s per qr. Barley is the best crop of the year in Berkshire, and nearly twenty samples of excellent quality were shown by Mr. Walter Parsons, of Reading, the largest barley buyer on the market. Oats yield badly, but beans are a good crop.

Ripon, Thursday.—The show of samples is light, and a poor trade being done at late prices. Wheat, English, 29s to 30s; foreign, 31s to 35s; barley, grinding, 24s to 25s; oats, 22s to 25s; round maize, 25s to 27s; flat maize, 23s per qr; beans, 11½d per stone; bran, £4 10s to £5 per ton.

Romford, Wednesday.—There was only a small supply of wheat of all kinds. New red wheat made 31s, and new white 33s per qr.

St. Neots, Thursday.—Very small market, and only a few samples of wheat offering, some of them being of the new crop. Prices were somewhat lower than those of last week, the average being about 30s per 504lbs. The quality of the new wheat that has already appeared is not equal to the old.—ELGOOD AND SON.

Scarborough, Thursday.—A few samples of wheat on offer at slightly reduced rates. Oats increasing in price on account of scarcity. No new barley to hand.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A poor attendance and a slow trade. Last week's prices were asked for wheat, but buyers were unwilling to give the full prices. Oats and beans were 3d per quarter dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d; ditto red, 32s to 33s per 504lb; oats, old white, 24s; ditto old black, 22s per 335lb; peas, grinding, 28s to 29s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small, 26s to 29s; ditto American mixed, 22s 6d to 23s per 480lb.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Trade has been quiet, and prices have undergone no change. Flour has met with a better demand at full prices. Milling offals have moved freely into consumption, and former quotations have been well maintained.—W. L. BROWNE AND CO.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Several samples of new wheat were on the market, and sold at 29s to 30s a quarter, the grain being in good condition. Old wheat sold at 29s 6d. New oats made 17s 3d to 19s 3d, and old oats up to 22s 6d. Beans were 6d dearer, selling at 33s and 34s per qr.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Very few samples of farmers' wheat showing. Last week's price of 30s per qr was made. Foreign wheat trade was quiet, and very little business was transacted at last week's quotation. Maize was unaltered in price, whilst oats were 1s per qr dearer.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Scarcely any business passing, wheat in buyers' favour. Oats and barley firm, and rather dearer. Arrivals coastwise: Oats, 290qrs; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering. Old was rather easier than last week. A few samples of new were of fair quality and in good condition, selling at from 28s to 29s. All feeding stuffs very firm.

Wakefield, Friday.—As usual at this season of the year, the market is sparsely attended. The weather has during the last week been all that could be desired. To-day foreign wheat is 3d per qr lower, and English is also slightly lower on the week. Oats and maize are fully 1s dearer.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—The weather continues all that can be desired, but the trade, though very inanimate, is remarkably steady. New English wheat can scarcely be quoted yet. Old is sparingly offered and fully as dear. Foreign descriptions are 3d to 6d lower, owing to lack of demand, offers for shipment are scarce at unobtainable limits. Round maize, 1s, flat maize and oats, 3d dearer.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—This was another holiday market. No English wheat on offer, and foreign wheats declined 3d to 6d per qr, owing to the prevalence of fine weather. All feeding stuffs advanced, viz., barley 1s, round maize 1s, oats and flat maize 3d per qr. dearer on the week.

Wetherby, Thursday.—Only a small attendance, and very little inquiry for wheat, which realised 29s to 30s 6d per qr; oats, 21s 6d to 23s 6d per qr; and barley firm.

Wisbech, Saturday.—After a week of exceptional harvest weather there are a few odd samples of new grain showing quality and condition good. New wheat, 29s to 30s; old up to 31s; new oats, 18s to 19s; old up to 22s. Harvest progressing favourably.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Very little business passing owing to farmers being engaged with the harvest. English wheat, 13s per 216lb, springs 6s 4d, and Duluths 6s 6d to 6s 7d per cental; oats, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; beans (old), 13s 6d to 14s 6d per 193lb; flat maize, 21s 6d to 22s 3d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Small attendance, farmers being still busy in the harvest field. Old wheats were scarce, and maintained last week's firmer rates. Foreign wheat rather lower. Small maize and grinding barley 3d dearer. Oats and beens steady.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance, but small show of grain. White wheat, 29s to 31s; red wheat, 28s to 29s; grinding barey, 26s to 28s; white oats, 21s to 23s; black oats, 20s to 22s; flat maize, 24s to 26s; round maize, 26s to 27s 6d per qr; fine sharps, £5 13s 4d to £6 5s per ton; barley meal, £6 13s 4d to £7 per ton; bran, £5 to £6 per ton.

York, Saturday.—A very few samples of wheat offered, which sold slowly at barely last week's prices. The official averages of last week have been:—Wheat, 28s, and oats 17s 2d per quarter.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has been pretty well maintained with a regular current of business. The harvest is approaching a close in the North of France. The weather might have been more favourable, but a few days' sun will make good any damages which may have been sustained. Threshing operations are now being proceeded with, and the return is reported to be about 20 per cent. below that of 1899. On this basis, the yield of wheat in France this year will come out at about 160,000,000 hectolitres; current consumption and seeding will absorb 120,000,000 hectolitres, leaving a deficit of 20,000,000 hectolitres, which, however, is expected to be fully made good by the stock of old wheat carried forward from 1899-1900. Should this prove to be the case, little or no wheat will accordingly have to be imported into France this year, although twelve months hence French granaries will be practically empty. Hard wheat has shown a quiet tone at Marseilles, but other descriptions have been pretty well maintained. Last week's sales of wheat at Marseilles amounted to 15,250 quintals. Flour for consumption has shown little change in the French capital. Wheat has been quiet at Konigsberg and Dantzic. Advices from Ibrail state that the wheat harvest has been fully completed in that quarter of Europe, and that threshing operations have made such progress that new wheat has been freely delivered at the forts on the Upper Danube. Ibrail advices further state that the local wheat markets have shown a fair amount of activity, the demand having acquired increased importance. The quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is returned at 1,240,000 qrs. as compared with 1,465,000 qrs at the corresponding date of 1899.

Hamburgh, Saturday.—Barley report: The weather has been very fine during the whole week, so that farmers have been eagerly busied to carry their corn, and if the present weather keeps on for another week all will be housed in splendid condition. Further samples which have appeared of new Chevalier, Saale, Bohemian, and Moravian barley make it pretty certain that the crop will be of fine quality; however, long prices are asked for such, and buyers therefore feel not tempted to operate.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday.—With fine, sunny weather we had a quiet market, but prices were maintained. The imports during the week amounted to 761 tons wheat, 6,023 tons rye, 650 tons barley, 15,249 tons maize. Wheat little inquired after. Fine old Saale, Holstein, and Mecklenburg is held at 28s 6d to 30s per 504lb f.o.b. The new crop is not likely to turn out so good in quality and quantity as last year. Fine River Plate is offering at 27s 3d to 28s 3d. hard Winter is floating at 27s per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye is offering less freely. The new crop in this vicinity differs considerably in quality. A portion appears to have been carried in damp condition. 9 10-15 South Russian August-September is offering at 22s 6d, 22s 9d September-October at 23s per 450lb c.i.f. Hamburg. The high prices asked for new malting barley impede the development of business; however, the result of this year's harvest appears to turn out less satisfactory than anticipated, and we are not likely to see moderate prices. The large quantities of fine barley which Denmark, Holstein, and Mecklenburg produced last season will have to be made up by supplies from other countries. Good Laak is held at

36s 6d to 38s, fine at 40s to 42s; Moravian and Bohemian at 37s to 40s per 448lbs f.o.b. Offers are scarce as yet. Feeding barley firm, 60s to 61s. South Russian flotting is selling at 18s 6d, September-October at 17s 3d per 400lbs c.i.f. Hamburg. There is but little actual demand for maize, but prices remain firm. Mixed prompt shipment 20s, January-March 18s 3d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

August 11 to 18, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	64,840 qrs.
Flour	73,650 ,,
Total	138,510 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Surplus	32,510 ,,

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

August 11th to 18th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	2,134	..	..	62,726	64,860
Barley	736	..	..	1,180	1,196
Malt	15,313	329	..	..	15,642
Oats	600	..	..	118,330	118,930
Rye	100	..	..	..	100
Beans	23	..	..	6,300	6,323
Peas	650	..	..	301	951
Maize	..	..	..	47,023	47,023
Tares	..	..	..	..	..
Lentils	..	..	..	..	..
Linseed	..	..	..	12,100	12,100
Rapeseed	..	..	..	5,904	5,904
Cottonseed	..	..	..	..	..
Farm Seeds	100	..	..	1,100‖	1,260
Flour (Barrels	..	..	..	100	100
Flour (Sacks	14,248	..	..	88,800	103,048

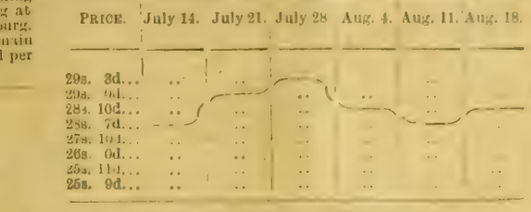
LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.			
Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	May 6	96,343 qrs.
,, 14	108,380 ,,	,, 13	72,852 ,,
,, 21	128,902 ,,	,, 20	101,429 ,,
,, 28	51,234 ,,	,, 27	108,772 ,,
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	June 3	73,846 ,,
,, 11	82,912 ,,	,, 10	126,781 ,,
,, 18	204,974 ,,	,, 17	160,574 ,,
,, 25	108,273 ,,	,, 24	101,205 ,,
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,	July 1	152,500 ,,
,, 11	63,103 ,,	,, 8	112,761 ,,
,, 18	122,541 ,,	,, 15	116,850 ,,
,, 25	86,309 ,,	,, 22	89,245 ,,
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	,, 29	118,314 ,,
,, 8	133,261 ,,	Aug. 5	101,234 ,,
,, 15	101,518 ,,	,, 12	102,160 ,,
,, 22	70,984 ,,	,, 19	103,353 ,,
,, 29	68,573 ,,		
1900.			
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	May 4	104,535 qrs.
,, 13	95,034 ,,	,, 11	52,859 ,,
,, 20	114,928 ,,	,, 18	97,412 ,,
,, 27	124,652 ,,	,, 25	71,390 ,,
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,	,, 31	177,744 ,,
,, 10	75,000 ,,	June 8	93,117 ,,
,, 17	66,804 ,,	,, 15	88,125 ,,
,, 24	62,191 ,,	,, 22	105,116 ,,
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,	,, 29	142,185 ,,
,, 10	63,702 ,,	July 6	132,950 ,,
,, 17	162,985 ,,	,, 13	101,253 ,,
,, 24	111,409 ,,	,, 20	82,294 ,,
,, 31	69,356 ,,	,, 27	55,998 ,,
April 7	48,302 ,,	Aug. 2	86,167 ,,
,, 13	131,085 ,,	,, 11	192,077 ,,
,, 20	82,357 ,,	,, 18	138,510 ,,
,, 27	43,783 ,,		

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
1899.	Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.
July 29	41,692⅜	25 2	257⅞	22 5	4,240	18 2
Aug. 5	51,149¼	24 10	246½	20 9	6,645⅝	18 0
,, 12	37,177¼	24 8	184½	22 6	5,554⅛	17 9
,, 19	33,399⅜	24 7	437⅝	26 11	6,120⅝	17 4
,, 26	34,523¼	24 7	1,594¼	26 5	9,205⅝	17 1
Sept. 2	47,572⅜	25 0	6,709⅝	25 10	15,958⅞	16 7
,, 9	67,996⅜	25 5	17,408½	26 5	16,195	16 6
,, 16	80,281⅝	25 4	33,143⅞	27 1	19,291⅛	16 2
,, 23	85,104⅜	25 4	77,678⅜	27 4	22,128	16 1
,, 30	79,612⅝	25 6	97,917⅜	26 11	23,193	16 5
Oct 7	71,152⅜	26 0	169,315⅛	28 0	21,440⅛	16 5
,, 14	63,040⅜	27 3	191,901⅜	27 9	18,024⅛	16 5
,, 21	64,242	28 2	192,268⅜	27 6	18,983⅝	16 10
,, 28	85,178⅛	28 1	219,787	..	20,064⅛	16 3
Nov. 4	82,769⅜	27 2	203,071⅞	27 2	17,895⅛	16 7
,, 11	66,741⅝	26 7	166,786¾	26 9	15,216⅝	16 5
,, 18	65,470⅛	26 1	163,915¼	26 4	16,313¼	16 7
,, 25	67,308⅛	25 8	164,362⅞	26 2	17,017⅜	16 7
Dec. 2	72,974⅜	25 7	163,441⅜	25 10	22,575¼	16 6
,, 9	10,982½	25 7	174,207	25 10	21,421⅞	16 5
,, 16	78,772½	25 4	135,344⅜	25 7	22,889⅛	16 1
,, 23	67,102⅞	25 6	116,757⅜	25 10	16,447⅜	16 0
,, 30	47,685½	25 9	74,637⅜	25 5	10,463⅜	16 2
1900.						
Jan. 6	40,086	25 9	65,347½	25 7	13,380⅝	16 2
,, 13	57,021⅜	25 11	83,421⅝	25 5	19,703	16 3
,, 20	68,463¼	26 0	100,925⅞	25 8	23,122⅝	16 2
,, 27	65,331⅛	25 10	108,357⅜	25 9	17,814⅜	16 4
Feb. 3	73,796⅛	25 8	90,769⅜	25 4	22,061⅛	16 6
,, 10	71,482⅜	25 10	80,543⅝	25 3	20,822⅝	16 5
,, 17	76,611⅜	26 1	80,414⅜	24 11	20,986⅜	16 8
,, 24	69,534⅛	26 3	63,931⅛	25 1	21,132⅛	16 11
Mar. 3	68,153½	26 4	51,727½	24 6	18,499½	16 10
,, 10	58,703⅛	25 11	44,921½	24 8	16,224	16 11
,, 17	76,435⅝	25 10	46,053	24 6	20,104⅞	16 11
,, 24	69,944½	25 11	38,147	25 0	17,042⅝	17 1
,, 31	72,762	25 10	34,387⅜	24 11	15,209⅜	17 0
April 7	67,743⅞	25 10	20,402⅜	24 10	13,757⅜	17 2
,, 14	66,412½	25 11	19,519⅝	24 5	9,672⅜	17 8
,, 21	54,977⅜	26 0	11,673⅜	24 9	7,400⅜	17 3
,, 28	70,006⅛	26 0	7,785⅜	25 2	11,101⅜	17 11
May 5	75,410⅜	25 11	8,159⅜	25 3	8,658½	18 0
,, 12	82,190⅜	25 11	10,417⅜	24 10	12,245½	17 11
,, 19	83,941⅜	25 7	5,638⅛	24 5	9,042	18 5
,, 26	95,574⅜	25 5	3,521⅛	23 11	7,350⅞	18 2
June 2	68,906⅜	25 5	1,752⅜	24 4	6,702	18 6
,, 9	64 747½	25 3	999⅜	23 8	6,053⅜	18 8
,, 16	55,340⅜	25 6	1,486⅜	23 8	7,228⅝	18 11
,, 23	54,324⅛	25 9	1,312½	23 5	5,344⅛	18 11
,, 30	44,920⅜	26 11	495⅜	23 4	4,706⅛	19 3
July 7	34,344½	27 10	486⅜	22 10	4,891⅛	19 5
,, 14	22,009⅛	28 7	949⅜	23 2	2,911⅜	19 1
,, 21	26,716⅜	29 0	767⅜	23 8	3,771⅛	19 3
,, 28	33,088	29 3	194½	24 4	3,335⅜	19 9
Aug. 4	45,748⅜	28 10	409⅜	23 10	3,453½	19 4
,, 11	37,644⅜	28 7	311½	23 7	3,391	19 8
,, 18	32,812½	28 10	608½	21 10	4,806⅜	18 0

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.	
1890 ..	31 9	per qr.	28 8	per qr.	18 7	per qr.
1891 ..	37 1	,,	28 2	,,	20 0	,,
1892 ..	30 4	,,	26 2	,,	19 11	,,
1893 ..	26 4	,,	25 6	,,	18 9	,,
1894 ..	22 10	,,	24 6	,,	17 1	,,
1895 ..	23 1	,,	21 11	,,	14 6	,,
1896 ..	26 2	,,	22 11	,,	14 9	,,
1897 ..	30 2	,,	23 6	,,	16 11	,,
1898 ..	34 0	,,	27 2	,,	18 5	,,
1899 ..	25 8	,,	25 7	,,	17 0	,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1899.			1900.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats	Wheat.	Barley	Oats.
January.....	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May.....	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	..	..	..
September ..	25 4	26 10	16 5½	..	..	..
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November....	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Aug. 18th, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria cap. 37.

Wheat	32,812½ qrs.	28s. 10d.
Barley	608½ qrs.	23s. 3d.
Oats	3,593⅜ qrs.	19s. 11d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Aug. 18, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

	WHEAT.		BARLEY.		OATS.	
Years.	Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.
1896....	66,964	.. 22 4	1,905⅜	.. 21 11	8,486⅜	.. 14 3
1897....	49,483⅜	.. 30 4	742⅜	.. 19 2	5,422⅜	.. 17 2
1898....	15,672½	.. 32 7	206½	.. 24 4	5,480⅛	.. 19 11
1899....	33,399⅜	.. 24 7	437⅜	.. 26 11	6,120⅜	.. 17 4

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 14th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure.		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s	d.
Wheat	412	1	615	11	3	1	9	10
Barley	56	0	70	0	0	1	5	0
Oats	280	0	274	5	0	0	19	7

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

		s.	d.
January 1, 1900	(per sack)	28	0
April 2, ,, ...	,,	27	0
June 22, ,, ...	,,	30	0
,, 27, ,, ...	,,	31	0
July 4, ,, ...	,,	30	0

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan	.. 21 9	23 9	29 0	25 6	18 9	18 7½	21 6	23 6
Feb.	.. 22 0	23 6	30 0	24 7½	19 4½	17 9	21 6	23 4½
March	.. 21 6	22 3	30 0	23 11	19 3	18 0	21 0	23 3
April	.. 21 6	22 0	31 3	23 6	19 6	18 7½	20 6	23 3½
May	.. 21 3	22 3	39 7	23 7	19 0	20 4½	18 6	23 4½
June	.. 23 6	23 1½	35 0	22 7½	18 10	22 3	18 10½	23 0
July	.. 24 6	21 9	29 6	22 10½	18 6	20 0½	19 3	22 10
August	.. ..	21 9	27 6	26 8½	18 8½	19 10½	19 3	22 3
Sept.	.. ..	22 0	26 5	30 3	19 6	19 8	19 3	22 4
Oct.	.. ..	23 3	26 1	29 0	23 7½	18 7½	18 3½	22 3½
Nov.	.. ..	22 3	25 0	29 1	25 8½	18 4½	18 3	21 10½
Dec.	.. ..	21 9	24 3	29 0	25 7½	18 1	18 8½	21 9
Yearly Average	.. 22	4 29	6½ 25	10½ 20	8½ 19	2 19	7 22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	.. 25 2	29 0	38 7	30 5½	25 10	27 9	31 7	
Feb.	.. 26 3	28 3	39 4	29 10½	26 2	27 10½	27 5½	30 8½
March	.. 27 3	27 6	40 1	28 9	26 0	27 5½	27 1	29 9½
April	.. 26 9	27 6	42 3	28 5	25 6½	26 7	27 3	29 7
May	.. 26 8	28 0	40 0	28 11½	25 1½	25 6	26 10	29 11
June	.. 28 6	27 6	35 6	29 3	25 5	25 10	26 7	29 4½
July	.. 26 9	27 3	32 0	30 5½	24 6	27 1	26 10	28 1½
August	.. ..	27 0	31 6	30 11	25 1	26 11	27 6	28 3½
Sept.	.. ..	25 9	31 0	30 7	27 0	27 0	27 5	28 3
Oct.	.. ..	24 9	30 6	30 4	27 1½	27 9	27 6	28 6
Nov.	.. ..	24 3	30 3	30 3	29 9	26 8½	26 6	28 11½
Dec.	.. ..	24 6	29 0	30 3	29 8	26 3	26 10½	27 11
Yearly Average	.. 26	9 35	0 33	5 26	5½ 27	4½ 26	8 29	0½

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PRICE CHANGES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

		London Whites.			Town Households.		
		s.	d.			s.	d.
September	1..... (per sack)	26	6	.... (per sack)		23	6
,,	4..... ,,	..	..	.... ,,		..	..
,,	25..... ,,	26	6	.... ,,		23	6
October	2..... ,,	27	0	.... ,,		24	0
November	20..... ,,	26	6	.... ,,		23	6
,,	27..... ,,	26	0	.... ,,		23	0
December	11..... ,,	25	6	.... ,,		22	6
,,	18..... ,,	26	0	.... ,,		23	0
May	14..... ,,	25	6	.... ,,		22	6
June	13..... ,,	26	0	.... ,,		23	6
,,	20..... ,,	26	6	.... ,,		23	6
,,	27..... ,,	..	..	.... ,,		..	..
July	4..... ,,	..	..	.... ,,		..	..
,,	11..... ,,	..	..	.... ,,		..	..
,,	18..... ,,	..	..	.... ,,		..	..
,,	25..... ,,	..	..	.... ,,		..	..
August	1..... ,,	..	..	.... ,,		..	..
,,	8..... ,,	..	..	.... ,,		..	..
,,	13..... ,,	28	6	.... ,,		25	6

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield [illegible]

2s 6d; wild rabbits, 8d to 10d; tame, 1s to 1s 3d each; Australian, 6s to 7s 6d per dozen; hares, 2s 6d to 3s each; [illegible] per lb.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon—[illegible] firmness, and with a good demand most sorts are dearer, especially Cumberland and [illegible] with a [illegible] Hams are also [illegible] especially of long cut. Lard—Steady at recent values, business of fair dimensions. [illegible] during the early part of the week [illegible] of being satisfied and the market is [illegible] show a further advance. [illegible]

Butter—A further advance has taken place in the quotations for Danish and Irish, which is however [illegible] Canadian produce rules firm, with a demand [illegible] —HODGSON BROTHERS.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 1d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 110s to 122s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 100s to 112s; York lump, 15s to 16s per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 10d to 2s 3d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d per lb. Settle: 11d to 1s 0½d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Spalding: 1s 2d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Colne: 1s 1½d per lb. Goole: 1s 3d per lb. Keighley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Knaresborough: (wholesale), 1s 7d to 1s 9d; [illegible] per 24oz. Masham: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 1d per lb. Whitby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Worksop: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: [illegible] per lb. Driffield: [illegible] per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 11d per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 4d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Friday.—Chester: 1s 2d per lb; Crewe: 1s 2d per lb. Derby: 1s 2d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Grimsby: Choicest Danish, [illegible] per [illegible] to 112s; Canadian 106s to 109s; Colonial, 96s to 106s per cwt. Helmsley: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 115s to 125s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 106s to 112s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls [illegible] fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 2d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 7d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 3d per lb. Liverpool: Danish choice, 124s to 126s per 112lb; Canadian creameries, 104s to 106s; Irish creameries, [illegible] to 104s. Nantwich: 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz. Sandbach: 1s 3d per lb. Stockport: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per lb. Stratford-on-Avon: 10d to 1s 4d per lb. Whitchurch: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 13 for 1s. Gainsborough, 14 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, [illegible] per 120; Irish, [illegible] Danish, 7s 6d to 9s; Austrian blues, 6s to 6s 6d; ditto reds, 4s 8d to 5s. Sheffield: 12 or 13 for 1s. Spalding: 14 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: [illegible] per score. Goole: 14 for 1s. Keighley, 10 or 11 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 12 or 13 for 1s. Knaresborough: 11 or 12 for 1s. Masham: 12 to 14 for 1s. Northallerton: 11 or 12 for 1s. Stockton: 12 for 1s. Whitby: 10 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 8d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 13 or 14 for 1s. Driffield: 15 for 1s. Penistone: 10 or 11 for 1s. Ripon: 11 or 12 for 1s. Scarborough: 10 or 12 for 1s. Wetherby: 12 for 1s.

Friday.—Altrincham: 11 for 1s. Chester: 12 for 1s. Crewe: 12 for 1s. Derby: 11 and 12 for 1s. Easingwold: 13 or 14 for 1s. Grimsby: Selected Austrian 6s 5d to 6s 7d; Russian, 5s 10d to 6s 8d; Danish, 7s 9d to 8s 9d per 120. Helmsley: 12 to 14 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, [illegible] per 120; Danish, 7s 6d to 9s; Austrian blues, 6s 4d to 6s 8d. Leyburn: 14 for 1s. Lincoln: 12 and 13 for 1s. Liverpool: Irish, 7s to 8s per 120; Continental, 5s 4d to 6s 6d. Otley: 12 and 13 for 1s. Stockport: 10 for 1s. Stratford-on-Avon: 1s 4d to 2s per score. Whitchurch: 12 and 13 for 1s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden [illegible]

2s; Belgian, 5d to 1s per lb [illegible] 7s 6d to 10s per half-case; red currants, 4s to 4s 6d; black [illegible] per half-sieve; [illegible] per bushel.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—The arrival [illegible]

London Kings [illegible]

—CUTTS AND TAYLOR

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The quality of the few samples of new wheat shown at southern markets is not first rate, and the condition is somewhat damp. It must, however, be remembered that these samples represent grain got in between 1st and 8th August, a rainy period of under-average temperature, when harvest work should not have been proceeded with. There is every hope of an improvement before the end of the month, for since the 11th the weather has been all that farmers could desire; the best has been three degrees above an August average, which means a healthy continuance of ripening without anything like scorching heat. The barley has come on well and farmers' chief trouble is that it is often ripe with the wheat, so that more hands in the harvest field would be an advantage. Labour scarcity is nothing like what alarmists represented it would be, but it has to be stated that wages are averaging a florin a week higher than last year, and this will reduce farmers' profits out of those cereal crops which for many years past have only just paid their way. The tendency to lay down land for pasture will hardly be arrested by this year's harvest experiences. An excellent promise of oats in Scotland and Ireland is a bright feature of the season. With the present weather the promise should become an accomplished yield. Potatoes and roots are promising also, but little good can be said about the hops, the first pockets of which are now arriving at the chief centres of the trade.

The French wheat harvest is nearly over in the north, where since August 1st has proceeded with extreme haste. The threshings of the past week in the central and southern provinces have been disappointing, and the mean weight of the new samples seldom exceeds 60lb. per bushel.

The American Bureau Report of the 11th was cabled on the 13th in summary as "no change," and this is about what it amounts to when perused in detail. The failure of the American Government to adopt a specific standard of "average yield" makes these Bureau Reports a perplexity even to the American experts. It is also misleading to add together the percentage of the different States, for some States grow ten times as much wheat as others from which reports are also received. The winter wheat in America is put by good private judges at 13 to 14 bushels, and spring wheat at 9 to 10 bushels per acre, and the whole yield of both sorts may equal but should not exceed 63,000,000 qrs. This would leave about 21,000,000 qrs. available for exportation, against 20,749,000 qrs. shipped to Europe last year, and about 2,500,000 qrs. shipped to Asia, Africa, and South America. Thus our prospective supply of American wheat in the approaching cereal year should be reduced by two to three million qrs. The census in America shows a population of 74,500,000, but the increase in the negro portion is very large, and these citizens are fed on rice, maize, and vegetables rather than on wheat or flour.

Breadstuffs imports into the United Kingdom for eleven months of the cereal year are officially given as follows:—

	Qrs.
American	13,868,263
Argentine	3,800,945
Russian	430,733
Indian	358,264
European	632,026
Australasian	788,591
Other countries	349,286
Total	20,228,208

It will be seen that despite the famine India is an exporter of wheat to the extent of 358,264 qrs. The Kurrachee and Bombay firms pay little heed to the wants of the Madras and Bombay provinces, which have to buy dearly of both America and Australia. This is one of those things in which a despot does better than a free state, for the surplus of the Indian North-West would not under any autocracy be allowed to be sold out of the land when the South and East were starving.

The following interesting table is published by *Dornbusch's List*, and shows that the shipping trade was not so active during the past shipping year as during the two preceding seasons. We have already given approximate figures, which were sufficient for trade purposes, but the returns of our shipping contemporary possess the greater exactitude, as they are not issued until they have been verified in detail:—

WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTS TO EUROPE.

	Year ended July 31, 1898-99.	Year ended July 31, 1899-00.	Year ended July 31, 1897-98.
	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.
U.S. and Canada	20,749,000	25,701,000	26,509,500
Russia	7,253,000	8,152,000	16,138,000
Danube	981,000	1,628,000	1,399,500
India	469,000	2,958,000	3,697,000
Argentine	10,291,000	5,231,000	2,876,000
Australasia	884,000	1,213,000	—
Other countries	1,908,900	2,694,000	2,296,000
Total	42,535,000	47,577,000	52,916,000

It will be noted that absolutely nothing was shipped by Australasia to Europe in 1897-8. The Cape took all that New Zealand had to spare, and Australia in that year was barely self-supporting.

The flour trade of London shows an increased predominance of American influences, and there is a wonderful development of the "patent" trade going on. The choice of American patent makes has increased in a few years from some ten to over fifty leading types, and it is a business in itself to know the "idiosyncrasies" of the chief American houses and their London agents.

LONDON FLOUR SUPPLY.

American	70 per cent.
English	20 ,, ,,
Hungarian	5 ,, ,,
French	3 ,, ,,
All other sources	2 ,, ,,
	100

The London, Liverpool, and Glasgow flour markets now depend to a remarkable degree on the cables from America, which advise at what prices future shipments of the different patents can be made. At the same time it is noteworthy that the speculation in futures which characterise the wheat and maize trade has not invaded flour. There is very little buying flour forward except to meet actual wants and to fulfil specific contracts.

The wheat markets are rather slow just now but few holders are willing to take less money for old English, for Russian, for Argentine, or for Canadian wheat. The sorts which are 6d. lower on the week are American white and red, together with the "yellow" types of Californian. The Australian wheat arrivals are small, but sales are not brisk, and New Zealand wheat is also rather neglected.

There are now on passage to the United Kingdom the following quantities of wheat:—

	Qrs.
American	345,000
Californian	930,000
Argentine	420,000
Russian	55,000
Australasian	190,000
Other countries	19,000
Total	1,959,000

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 382,000 qrs.; a very large supply.
Flour, 124,000 sks.; a moderate supply.
Maize, 224,000 qrs.; a liberal supply.
Barley, 43,000 qrs.; a very small supply.
Oats, 186,000 qrs.; a large supply.

The market for maize is steady, despite the large imports, but oats are weak for foreign kinds. Barley is so inert a trade just now that even the exceedingly small imports are apparently difficult to place. There are now 755,000 qrs. of maize and 130,000 qrs. of barley on passage.

Maize imports for the fifty weeks of the cereal year—Sept. 1 to Aug. 15—have been as follows:—

	Qrs.
1899-1900	12,869,000
1898-1899	12,821,000
1897-1898	12,316,000

The extent to which the trade has developed since 1896 is most remarkable, and receives less attention than it deserves.

The market for oilseeds shows firmness, and profits are good. The price of fine English linseed is 60s. 8d.; Calcutta, at 55s., must remunerate Indian growers very handsomely. For Indian rapeseed 44s. to 46s. may be said to be arranged. This also represents a substantial profit to the grower.

July averages in the oilseed trade are:—

	Per ton. £ s. d.
Linseed oil	34 7 9
,, cake	7 17 6
Rape oil	28 18 9
Cotton oil	22 12 3
,, seed	6 5 8
,, cake	4 7 8

Silver, which much affects this trade, is one per cent. cheaper than a year ago. Russian shipments for the first seven months of 1900 are officially reported at 336,000 qrs. of Linseed and 42,850 qrs. of rapeseed against 359,000 qrs. of linseed and 133,000 qrs. of rapeseed in the first seven months of 1899. There are now on passage 126,000 qrs. of linseed, 4,500 qrs. of rapeseed, and 40,000 qrs. of cottonseed.

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	281,000	90,000	287,000	15,000	74,000
Russia	127,000	—	3,000	11,000	169,000
France	—	5,000	—	2,000	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	24,000	—	31,000	2,000	3,000
Argentina	132,000	5,000	66,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	—	5,000	—	—	5,000
Miscellaneous	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	584,000	115,000	407,000	50,000	261,000

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

New English wheat made its first appearance at Mark Lane to-day in other than the small sample rubbed out by hand. Two samples of new white, weighing 62½ and 63lb. respectively, were sold at 32s. and 32s. 6d. per qr., while four or five samples of new red were placed at 30s. and 31s. per qr. The weight of these samples was not very good, 61lb. and 62lb. to the bushel. New rye from East Kent made 28s., and from Essex 27s. 6d. per qr. The quality was good. Liverpool just now is doing a predominant business in the new American crop of winter wheat, which is offered at 6s. per cental. In London spring wheat is the chief item from America, and 6s. 5d. per cental, the price quoted, has its transactions. In London there is a small sale for Californian wheat to-day at barely previous prices. English wheat of the old crop is firm, nothing parted with under thirty shillings. The maize market was firmer from last week, there being an excellent sale for American at 20s. per qr. The barley trade is almost at a standstill, but a few samples of Persian found buyers at 18s. to 18s. 3d. per qr. Oats were irregular, old, heavy, and seasoned samples really saleable. Beans and peas were steady, but with not much demand. New English trifolium made 29s. per cwt.; new French 28s. Both sold well. New English tares were on small offer at 52s. to 56s. per qr. No new barley or oats were on offer.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

AUG. 20, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	31	— 33
Red	,,	30	— 32
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30	— 37
Brewing		25	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Brown	,,	29	— 32
OATS, English	,,	19	— 23
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 19
RYE, British (new)	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 29
,, (old)	,,	24	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	43	— 45
,, Winter	,,	30	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	— 76
,, Dun	,,	32	— 34
,, Maple	,,	40	— 42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	33/6	—34
American Spring	33	—33 6
,, Winter	32/6	—33
Hard Manitoba	33	—33/6
White Canadian	32	— 33
Red ,,	31	— 32
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30	— 31
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 31
Argentine	28	— 31
Danzig	33	— 34
Saxonka	32	— 33
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Persian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480lb.:		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Roumanian	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 25
Caucasian	22	— 23
Argentine	21	— 22
American	19/9	—2)
OATS:		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	16/6	—17
American (320lb.)		
,, White	16/6	—17
,, Mixed	15/3	—16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	— 17
,, (304lb.)	13/6	—15
Libau white (304lb.)	13	—13/9
,, black ,,	15	—15/3
White Sea (304 lb.)	14	— 15
BEANS, per 480lb.:		
Egyptian	29	— 30
Smyrna	28	— 29
BEANS (*continued*).		
Konigsberg	28	— 29
Barbary	27	— 28
Mexican	28	— 30
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Cyprian	106	— 112
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	29	— 30
Indian, White	28	— 30
,, Green	25	— 27
Barbary	26	— 28
Australian, White	40	— 41
,, Dun	26	— 27
LENTILS, per 504 lb.:		
Egyptian	29	— 31
Indian	36	— 38
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	26	— 27
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb.:		
French	28	— 29
Russian	25	— 26
BARLEY:		
Calif. Chev. (448 lb.)	28	— 29
Calif. Brew. (448 lb.)	27	— 28
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 24
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Syrian (400 lb.)	25	— 27
Persian (400 lb.)	17/9	—18
American (400 lb.)	20/2	—21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	34	— 37
Smyrna	33	— 36

OIL SEEDS

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	58	to 60
Dutch	55	to 59
Argentine	54	to 56
Canadian	57	to 59
Russian	51	to 53
Calcutta	54	to 55
SESAME. per 424lb.		
Bombay	50	to 52
Kurrachee	53	to 54
COTTON SEED. per ton.		
Egyptian	126	to 128

RAPESEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	56	to 60
Dutch	54	to 56
French	47	to 48
Roumanian	43	to 45
Cawnpore	46	to 47
Calcutta	43	to 44
Guzerat	48	to 49
Ferozepore	44	to 45
Ravison	29	to 31
POPPYSEED. per 377lb.		
Indian	47	to 48

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

New white English touched 32s. 6d. per qr. for 62½lb. weight, and 33s. for a 63½lb. sample. The latter was rather cheap at the price, as heavy wheat will clearly be rare this season. The market for other articles closed dull and unchanged.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Aug. 20.

The close, hot weather makes the flour market very dull, but value is not, as a rule, altered for either country or London makes. The Town Household type, in which the chief business has been doing, is worth fully 24s. per sack. The country sorts, all English good roller-made, make about 22s.; mixtures vary a good deal. American brands are too numerous to detail, but it may be mentioned that Pillsbury best made 25s. 6d., Iron Duke, 20s. 6d., and Improved Nicollet 20s., among the Minneapolis types, while 24s. was paid for Dazzle and 23s. 9d. for Dalmeny, among the Kansas offerings. There was a fair sale of Hungarian at prices keeping pretty close to 30s. per sack. French flour made 21s. 6d. for Corbeils A.A. and 19s. for Renaux's C. grade. Best Midlothian oatmeal made £15 per ton, Canadian coming at £10 10s. for rolled and also for Maple Leaf. Maize germ meal at £5 2s. 6d. per ton was in fair request, and ground rice at 10s. per cwt. had its buyers.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)		— 30
Town Whites	,,		— 27
,, Households	,,		— 24
No 2	,,		— 22

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	25	— 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23	— 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	21	— 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	20	— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25	—25/6
,, Second Patents	,,	23	—23/6
,, First Bakers'	,,	20/6	—21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19/6	—20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	24	—24/6
,, Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Kansas Patents	,,	24	—24/6
Cascadia	,,	24	—24/6
Canadian	,,	23	— 25
Hungarian	,,	28	— 31
French	,,	19	— 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	178	–180
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	109	–111
Bran, London Broad	,,	97	–102
,, ,, Fine	,,	76	— 82
,, Country Flake	,,	106	–108
,, ,, Broad	,,	94	— 96
Pollard	,,	82	— 84
Fine Middlings	,,	110	–112
Coarse Middlings	,,	96	— 98
Oat Meal	,,	212	–272
Oat Flour	,,	337	–362
Maize Flour	,,	130	–132
Maize Meal	,,	112	–122
Maize Cones	,,	142	–146
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	96	— 100
Pea Meal	,,	128	–158
Bean Meal	,,	152	–172
Rice Meal	,,	87	— 92

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day at South Sea House, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—		Aug.		Oct.		Dec.	
		s.	d.	s	d.	s.	d.
Aug. 13	noon	6	6	6	7	6	8
	4 p.m.	6	6	6	7	6	8
Aug. 14	noon	6	6	6	7	6	9
	4 p.m.	6	6	6	7	6	8
Aug. 15	noon	6	6	6	7	6	8
	4 p.m.	6	6	6	7	6	9
Aug. 16	noon	6	6	6	7	6	8
	4 p.m.	6	6	6	7	6	8
Aug. 17	noon	6	6	6	7	6	8
	4 p.m.	6	6	6	7	6	8
Aug. 18	noon	6	5	6	7	6	8
To-day	noon	6	5	6	6	6	7

Maize futures have made 4s. per cental for Sept. and Oct. delivery. For Aug. delivery 4s. 1d. is paid.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report some business passing in red cloverseed, at hardening rates. Trifolium shows no important movement either as regards value or demand. Meantime, the tendency for grasses continues upwards. Seed, rye, and winter tares are in good request. New thousand-headed kale is now selling, whilst mustard and rapeseed move off slowly on former terms. Turkish canaryseed is held for 1s per qr more money; whilst hempseed is somewhat dearer. Samples of new blue peas have begun to come to hand. Haricot beans being scarce, keep very firm.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: As the crop advances to maturity it is more than evident that it will not reach half of last year. The market is firm, and holders more inclined to take their hops off the market.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

We have large supplies of foreign wheat, and prices are 6d. lower on the week. English is also 6d. down. Flour 6d. per sack lower. Oats, in spite of heavy arrivals, met a fair demand at 3d. advance. Maize 6d. dearer, and grinding barley 3d. to 6d. Malting barley unchanged.—COULTHEY, Mark Lane.

The arrivals of wheat and flour have been large, and with a limited demand prices have declined 6d. to 9d. on the week. Maize, 3d. to 6d. dearer. Oats, 3d. higher. Barley firm at last rates. Flour quiet, rather lower.—W. P. WOOD AND Co., Mark Lane.

The market for milling offals remains unchanged from Monday last.—RICHARD LOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Flour.—A quiet trade at about 3d. under last week's prices.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

Offals—Demand for bran for immediate consumption continues dull. Rather more inquiry for extended deliveries. Prices firmer. Pollards unchanged.—GREENHILL BROTHERS, Belfast, August 18.

Wheat a moderate extent of business at ½d. per cental decline. Flour small trade at Tuesday's prices. The North-Western and Liverpool Millers' Associations make no change in the minimum price of Bakers' flour. Maize has experienced a fair demand, mixed American being firmly held at an advance of ½d. to 1d. per cental. European very firm, and scarce at an improvement of 1d. to 1½d. Yellow Plate extremely scarce and ½d. dearer. Barley—For malting very steady, and occasionally dearer for Californian. Feeding has a fair inquiry at unaltered values. Beans very firm, and 3d. to 6d. per qr. higher. Peas more active and full prices asked. Oats are firmly held for both English and foreign, but only a quiet trade is passing at unaltered prices. Oatmeal steady, quiet. Oilcake has a good demand, and steadily held at full prices. ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, August 18.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

American wheat cargoes are rather pressed on sale at 3d. decline, but Argentine and Russian are firmly held. Russian barley for autumn shipment is 3d. dearer from Saturday. Oats are not lower from last week, though the perspective supply is large. Cargoes of oilseeds are also well maintained in value. Maize is well held for all kinds.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—No. 2 Red Winter, 30s., prompt shipment; No. 1 Hard Duluth, 32s, prompt shipment; Hard Kansas, 30s, prompt shipment; Californian, 30s 9d, prompt shipment; Argentine, 29s 3d, prompt shipment; No. 1 Northern Spring, 29s 3d, prompt shipment; ditto, 30s, September shipment; Best Manitoba, 31s 3d, on passage.

MAIZE.—Galatz, 23s, prompt shipment; American, 19s, September shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 18s 6d., October shipment; Persian, 17s, prompt shipment.

OATS.—Vologda, 13s 9d, prompt shipment; Canadian, 15s, prompt shipment.

BEANS.—Smyrna, 27s 3d, prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 52s. 9d., September shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, old crop, £6 13s 9d, September shipment; Egyptian, new crop, £5 18s 9d, December shipment.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,789 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 9,944 bales bacon. The late advances in Danish bacon having somewhat checked the demand, prices were in many cases easier again last week, although Canadian, from its late low range, was selling better at more money. Irish ranged from 56s, 66s up to 72s, Danish from 50s, 68s up to 72s; and Canadian from 56s, 58s, to 64s. The butter market was quiet, but with the exception of French, which was quoted lower, prices were firm. Danish, 110s, 124s; French, 86s, 116s; Dutch, 110s, 112s; Irish, 98s, 112s; Canadian, 104s, 110s; American, 82s, 104s. Lard quiet. American 35s 6d, 37s 6d; Irish, 43s, 54s; Danish, 44s.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday. — Linseed Cake Market quiet; prices unchanged. Decorticated cotton cake firm and tending dearer, undecorticated slightly dearer. Rice meal, 5s dearer. Linseed strong, and 6d dearer on the week.

English linseed cake	£7	17	6 to	8 0 0	ex mill
American Calcutta linseed cake	7	15	0 to	—	ex quay
American Western linseed cake	7	10	0 to	7 12 6	ex quay
Russian oil cake	7	10	0 to	7 15 0	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 p.c. oil)	—				ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	6	12	6 to	6 17 6	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	—			—	ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	4	7	6 to	—	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4	5	0 to	—	ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4	10	0	on rail, Burton	
Rangoon Rice Meal	4	10	0	—	ex warehouse
American linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2	13	0 to	—	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 416 lbs	2	14	0 to	—	ex warehouse

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, August 13th, 1900.

	British.	Foreign.	Aug. 21st, 1899.
Beasts	1,190	1,145	1,[illegible]
Sheep and lambs	6,180	6,180	7,[illegible]
Calves	9	79	[illegible]
Milch cows	79	79	[illegible]

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

	ENGLISH. Inferior.			Second.			First.	
	s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.
Beasts	3	0	—	4	2	—	4	10
Sheep	3	4	—	5	4	—	6	[illegible]
Lambs	5	6	..	5	10	..	6	2

Milch cows, per head £[illegible] to £[illegible]

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, [illegible]; Eastern Counties, 40; Midland, Home and Western Counties [illegible]; Devon, 10; Ireland, 80.

There was in the beast market to-day a [illegible] supply, owing to the arrivals from Midland and [illegible] being [illegible] Herefords, reds and Lincolns late rates were maintained, though trade on the whole was dull and heavy, [illegible] grades were slow of sale, even at a reduction of 2d per 8lb. Little demand for fat cows, and prices [illegible] 2d per 8lb.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	Today			Aug. 21st, 1899.		
Devons	4s	8d to 4s	9d	4s	4d to 4s	6d
Herefords	4s	7d to 4s	9d	4s	4d to 4s	8d
Reds	4s	8d to 4s	9d	4s	4d to 4s	6d
Lincolns	4s	1d to 4s	3d	4s	0d to 4s	2d
Irish	4s	4d to 4s	6d	4s	2d to 4s	4d
Fat cows	3s	8d to 3s	10d	3s	4d to 3s	6d

In the sheep market there was a decrease compared with last Monday; the supply consisted of [illegible] from the Eastern Counties, 1,170 from Ireland and 240 Scotch. For sheep trade was firmer as regards wethers with an upward tendency in value; ewes were slow of sale at late rates; whilst lambs sold readily at an advance of 2d. per 8lb.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class named

	To-day.			Aug. 21st, 1899.		
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s	10d to 6s	0d	5s	4d to 5s	6d
9-stone ditto	5s	8d to 5s	10d	5s	2d to 5s	4d
10-stone half-breds	5s	4d to 5s	6d	5s	0d to 5s	2d
11-stone Lincoln	5s	2d to 5s	4d	4s	8d to 4s	10d
10-stone Irish	5s	2d to 5s	4d	4s	10d to 5s	0d
10-stone Down ewes	4s	0d to 4s	5d	3s	8d to 3s	10d
11-stone half-bred ditto	3s	6d to 3s	8d	3s	4d to 3s	6d
5-stone Down lambs	6s	0d to 6s	2d	5s	10d to 6s	0d
6-stone half-bred ditto	5s	8d to 5s	10d	5s	4d to 5s	6d

London Central, Monday. — Good supplies; trade bad; Beef (carcasses), 3s 10d to 4s; hindquarters 4s 6d to 4s 10d; roastings, 4s. 8d to 5s 2d. Sheep: Ewe, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; wether, 4s 8d to 5s; hindquarters, ewe, 4s to 4s 4d; wether, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Pigs: Large, 3s to 3s 4d; small, 3s 6d to 4s.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 375; sheep and lambs, 2,022; pigs 3s. 6d; beef, 7s 3d to 8s 3d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 11d; lamb, 8s to 10s; pork, 6s to 7s. Fat beasts, sheep and pigs good demand; stores fair. Milch cows good trade for best prices £13 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,540. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 140, and consisted of 765 from the United States and 745 from Canada. The above does not include all arrivals, 1,192 more being held back for Wednesday. Trade, though of a slow nature, was firmer, at an advance of fully 1d per 8lb. The following were the quotations per 8lb (offal given in):—90-stone States, 4s 1d; 100-stone ditto, 3s 10d; 95-stone Canadians, 3s 11d; heavier ditto, 3s 8d; Ranchers, 3s 6d. Sheep, 487, consisting of Canadians, for which trade was firm, at from 4s to 4s 2d per 8lb, to dress from 68lb to 72lb. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 1,148; 4s 1d to 4s 4d per 8lb, to dress about 720lb. Sheep, 1,407; 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb, to dress about 68lb to 72lb.

Liverpool, Monday.—Best quality cattle in demand at late rates, middling and inferior kinds lower. Very slow trade for sheep and lambs, and everything much lower, excepting a few choice lots. Beef, 7d to 5d per lb; mutton, 7¾d to 5d per lb; lambs, 8d to 6¾d per lb. At market: 982 cattle and 12,386 sheep.

CORK BUTTER.

—	ORDINARY. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	MILD CURED FIRKINS Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	FIRKINS IN MARKET
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	92	91	84	74	99	91	—	81
Tuesday ..	91	89	85	—	95	88	—	86
Wednesday ..	91	89	85	74	97	91	—	295
Thursday ..	91	89	85	77	97	91	98	378
Friday ..	91	90	85	78	97	93	98	90
Saturday ..	90	89	85	77	98	93	98	42

A Bullock goes Mad in the Street.—A bullock which was being driven from [illegible] through the streets of Birmingham yesterday [illegible] and charged at a number of people, a young man named Richard Bowsell being [illegible] into a garden, after attempting to rescue a child. The bullock lashed out several times [illegible] savagely at children, two of whom were so badly injured that hospital treatment was necessary. It took policemen and drovers two hours to secure the infuriated beast.

Harvesting by Moonlight.—[illegible] unusual sight of harvesting by moonlight was witnessed on every night during the past week [illegible] Labour is so scarce in [illegible] districts that the men cannot be spared to secure their own allotment crops, and some have consequently gathered them by the light of the moon. Many men have been seen working in the fields and [illegible] the same time, too, harvesting has been carried on at night; many of the crops are [illegible] and there is not such a liability of [illegible] gathered with a dew upon it.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At Islington on the chief market day of the week trade, notwithstanding the previous Monday was a Bank Holiday, was of a decidedly slower nature, sales having to be forced at lower rates by fully 2d. per 8lb. having to be accepted. Even at this reduction a clearance could not be made. The cause of this was undoubtedly the fact that the supply showed an increase of close on 500 head, the majority, as usual at this season of the year, arriving from the Midland counties, consisting of Herefords, Runts, and Lincoln Shorthorns. With regard to fat butchering cows, these being short in number, and meeting with more demand by country buyers, sold firmly at a slight advance in value, this remark also applying to fat bulls. Rough cattle were in light supply, and very difficult to vend. At the Foreign Cattle Market trade ruled much slower on all three market days, Monday's transactions being governed by a decline of 2d. per 8lb. on the previous week's rates, followed on Wednesday with another decline of 1d., and a similar amount on Saturday. It should be noted that all arrivals were not shown, 872 beasts on Saturday being held back. The total number offered for sale on both markets was 6,083 (decrease 257), consisting of 1,500 British (increase 380) and 4,583 foreign (decrease 637), these latter comprising 3,115 from the United States and 1,468 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb. (sinking the offal) :—90-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d. ; 95-stone Runts, 4s. 9d. to 4s. 9d. ; 90-stone Norfolks, 4s. 8d. ; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d. ; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 2d. ; 90-stone Irish, 4s. 6d. ; 90-stone States, 4s. to 4s. 2d. ; 95-stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d. ; Ranches, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. ; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 10d. to 4s. The sheep trade was chiefly confined to Islington, where best-quality Downs and half-breds of neat weights maintained late rates and were steady of sale, other grades being rather lower in price, as also were ewes, this being due to the larger number shown. Lambs on Monday made 2d. per 8lb. less money, with a further fall of 2d. on Thursday, business on both days being dull and heavy. The total number penned at both markets was 12,113 (increase 2,078). The supply consisted of 11,250 British and 863 Canadians. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows :—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 6s. ; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. ; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 10d. ; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 4d. ; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 8d. ; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 6d. ; 10-stone ewes, 4s. 4d. ; 11-stone Lincolns, 5s. 2d. ; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 4d. ; 6-stone half-bred lambs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. ; 8½-stone Canadian sheep, 4s. Calves numbered seventy, being a slight increase on last week's numbers, and met with a dull trade at fully 4d. per 8lb. less money, the best making 5s. 2d. per 8lb. (sinking the offal).

Trade in the West.

The tone of the trade all through is now of a more hopeful character than it was before the advent of the rain, which has quite transformed the appearance of many of the districts, especially in the grass countries, which in many places are as green and verdant now as in the early days of spring. Store cattle are participating in the improved trade, more especially barreners, which are greatly in demand. Milch beasts are also a capital trade. Fat bullocks are dear again, making 11s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per score for ripe heifers, cows selling freely at 11s. Mutton is also finding a good demand. Pigs show no tendency to lower rates.

Trade in Ireland.

In Dublin market on Thursday shippers were in small attendance, and local buying was slack, with the consequence that the all-round character of the market was dull and dragging. Though the inquiry for first-class beef was fair, a fall of from 10s. to 20s. per head must be noted on all descriptions of cattle, and a large number were left over unsold. Quotations were : Prime ox and heifer beef from 56s. to 60s. per cwt. ; second quality, 50s. to 56s. ; and inferior, 42s. 6d. to 47s. 6d. In sheep department trade was equally slow and depressed. Dairy cattle were very slow at about £1 a head down, and even with this reduction not half those in the market were sold. In sympathy with the other markets, pigs met with depressed sales at a fall in value of from 2s. to 3s. per cwt. on rates obtained last week. The top price for best hogs was 47s. 6d. per cwt.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week :—The numbers of fat cattle this week have been rather larger for the best class of conditioned bullocks. Trade has been good at nearly last week's prices, but others have been cheaper by about 10s. to 20s. a head. Fat cows a fair trade. Fat sheep and lambs have also been a considerably larger show. With the very hot weather buyers have been cautious, and except for the best shop sheep prices have been lower, both for sheep and lambs, to the extent of 1s. to 2s. a head. Ewes also cheaper. Fat calves a very small lot, and met a dear trade. Pigs, in average numbers, continue to sell well. In the store markets there have been very large supplies of sheep. The demand has not been quite so good, and trade has been at reduced prices. The best class of lambs, however, are selling well. Store cattle were a very good lot, and they met a fair demand. The very high prices asked somewhat check ready sales, but those with any condition are sold at good prices. Milch cows rather more numerous, and trade for the best descriptions has been better. Quotations :—Best beef, from 8s. 6d. to fully 8s. 9d. per stone ; secondary, 7s. 9d. to 8s. 3d. per stone. Mutton from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.— Small supplies ; trade slow. Arrivals of beef included 250 Liverpool sides, 1,250 hindquarters, and 550 forequarters American refrigerated. Beef : English, 3s 10d to 4s ; American Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 10d ; Liverpool, 3s 4d to 3s 8d ; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d ; forequarters, 2s 4d. Mutton : Scotch, 4s 8d to 5s ; English wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d ; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d ; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s. Veal : English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork : English, 3s 4d to 3s 8d ; and Dutch, 3s to 3s 4d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Supplies good, trade better. Arrivals of beef included 50 tons Scotch, 650 Liverpool sides, 3,400 hindquarters, and 2,400 forequarters American refrigerated. Beef : Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d ; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d ; English, 4s to 4s 2d ; American, Deptford killed, 3s 10d to 4s ; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d ; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 4d to 3s 8d ; forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d ; New Zealand hindquarters, 3s to 3s 2d ; forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 3d. Muttton : Scotch, 5s to 5s 2d ; English wethers, 4s 8d ; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d ; Canterbury, 2s 2d to 2s 6d ; Wellington, 2s 1d to 2s 4d ; Sydney and River Plate, 2s. Lamb : English, 5s to 5s 4d ; New Zealand, 2s 10d to 3s. Veal : English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork : English, 3s 6d to 3s 10d ; and Dutch, 3s 2d to 3s 6d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Limited supply, principally fat bulls and rough selections ; trade quiet. Sheep arrivals moderate ; slow demand ; prices without appreciable change. 7½-stone to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 10d to 6s ; 9-stone, 5s 8d to 5s 10d ; 10-stone half-bred, 5s 4d to 5s 6d ; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 4d ; 11-stone half-breds, 3s 10d to 4s. Lambs met with quiet support. 5-stone fat Downs, 6s 2d to 6s 4d. Calf trade steady, the best on offer making 5s 6d to 5s 8d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Total supplies : 30 beasts, 3,990 sheep and lambs, 65 calves, 25 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Good laverage Kent lambs fetched from 18s to 20s a head. The top price realised was 25s. In the fat stock department, best beef made 12s per score, but butchering cows were cheap. Mutton, veal, and lamb sold fairly well at last week's rates. Lamb does not now fetch more than small Down mutton. Pork was in some demand at 9s to 9s 6d per score for best animals ranging from 3 to 10 score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' saleyard the attendance of buyers was fairly good to meet a supply of 33 fat beasts, 46 calves, 731 fat sheep and lambs, 97 pigs, and 53 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised :—Fat beasts, £13 to £21 15s ; fat calves, 70s to £5 15s ; small, 20s to 60s ; fat wethers, 38s to 60s ; fat ewes, 34s to 38s 6d ; lambs, 24s to 49s 6d ; fat porkers, 31s to 56s ; store pigs, up to 15s 6d ; dairy cows, £7 to £18 15s. A short supply of fat beasts were cleared without difficulty at late rates ; prime Devon steers making up to £21 15s ; heifers, £17 ; Shorthorn steers, £18 5s ; maiden heifers, £19 10s ; cows, £16 15s ; polls, £15 10s ; young polled steers, £17 10s, etc. A good supply of prime quality fat sheep and lambs attracted a very numerous attendance of buyers ; the biddings were spirited throughout with a good finish. Prime quality sheep and choice fat lambs nearly maintained last week's extra rates. Ewes made more money, with a better trade. Prime quality Hampshire Down wethers and young ewes made 49s, 52s, 47s 6d, 51s, 60s, 48s, 52s, 44s, 40s, 45s, 47s, 46s, 55s, 58s 6d, 45s 6d. Eight-months-old lambs, 37s 6d, 38s, 44s, 49s, 36s 6d, 49s 6d, 41s 6d, 42s, 38s 6d. Three-months-old sucking lambs 38s 6d, 24s. Southdown lambs, 33s 6d Old ewes, 34s, 38s, 35s, 38s 6d, 31s 6d. Rams, 42s 6d. Black-faced Scotch wethers, 39s, 32s, 29s, 27s. Owing to the harvest operations, there was only a short supply of dairy cows on offer ; for the best descriptions better prices were obtainable. Store cattle met a dull trade. Fat calves, with a ready sale, met a clearance. Fat porkers are in demand, realising satisfactory prices. Store pigs also met a fair inquiry. Ruling values :—Prime Devon beasts, 7d to 7½d ; ditto Shorthorns ditto, 6½d to 6¾d ; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5½d to 6d per lb. Best quality sheep, 8¾d to 9¼d ; second ditto, 8d to 8¾d ; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 6½d to 7¼d ; choice fat sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb. Fat calves, 7d to 9d per lb. Porkers, un to 10s 6d per score.

Braintree, Wednesday.—There was a good trade at Messrs. Balls' auction mart. Prices : Beef, 4s 10d ; and mutton, 5s 2d per stone ; pork, 9s per score. Numbers penned : Beasts 32, fat sheep 217, hogs 70, store pigs 315, calves 12. Store sheep and cattle scarce.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne :—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs ..	2½ in. and under.. ..	10s 0d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in. ..	9s 6d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in. ..	8s 9d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in. ..	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows :—Beasts, 90 ; sheep, 202 ; pigs, 283 ; horses, 13. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone ; mutton, 4s 4d to 6s ; pork, 5s to 6s 3d. Very few store beasts to hand. Fat beasts a fair show and trade better. Fat sheep, a good number to hand, trade brisk at a little more money. Stores only a few lots shown. Fat pigs, a few more to hand, and trade quite up to last week. Stores, a fair trade all round.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair supply of lambs, and an improved trade. One lot of 120 ranged from 11s 6d to 15s, and another from 13s to 20s. Two wethers ranged from 17s to 27s, and averaged 22s per head ; other poor class specimens only made 15s. Ewes, 17s to 26s ; cows and calves, £17 to £17 10s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The show of Irish store cattle consisted of about 300 heifers, being rather above the average at this period. There was an absence of the smaller class of beasts, and the majority of the inhabitants were well-conditioned specimens. Fairly large attendance of buyers, and good sale at 8s 10s to £10 10s for medium sorts, and up to £16 10s for the best specimens. Young pigs were a small show, and met a slow sale at 21s to 28s each.

Chester, Thursday.—The supply both of store and dairy stock was far in excess of the demand, and prices were consequently very irregular, and in some instances considerably reduced to effect sales. A fair show of sheep ; trade quiet at last week's rates. Quotations :—Milch cows, £14 to £20 ; calvers, £13 to £18 ; barrens, £10 to £12 ; heifers, £8 to £12 ; stirks, £5 to £8 ; sheep, 22s to 32s.

Doncaster, Tuesday.—Good supplies of cattle and sheep but prices rather easier. Beef made 7s to 8s 4d per stone Hog sheep, 7d to 8d ; small cross-bred sheep, 8d to 8½d ; lambs 8½d to 9½d per lb ; and veal, 7d to 8½d per lb.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Heifers and calves and fat sheep sold well, the former making from £15 15s to £21 5s ; cows and calves made from £13 10s to £16 15s ; barreners, £18 to £23 10s pair ; and fat bulls, £15 10s to £20. Wethers, 43s to 48s 6d ; Down lambs, 37s 6d ; crossbreds, 34s 6d.

Dublin, Thursday.—A moderate inquiry for all classes of cattle, tending towards dulness for inferior meated descriptions, characterised to-day's proceedings in the beef department. Prices perhaps a shade lower all round, this tendency being more marked in the rougher sorts. The choicest qualities of mutton and lamb realising late rates with difficulty, all other sorts lower and difficult to dispose of. Cattle (best), 31s to 34s per cwt. Inferior descriptions back to 28s per cwt. Mutton, 5½d to 7¼d per lb. Lambs. 14s to 35s each.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Demand slow, owing to hot weather, with rough cattle difficult to cash due to stringent regulations as to slaughtering. Buyers received no compensation. Horn cattle steady ; top Scotch, 68s per cwt ; secondary Scotch and top Irish, 64s to 66s ; Canadians, 56s to 60s, Best sheep, 8½d to 8¾d ; lambs, 8d to 8½d. Dead meat quiet.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day :—Bullocks and cows 490, calves 100, sheep 1,101, lambs 1,179, pigs (fat and sows) 4, sucking pigs 6, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 78, pigs (stores, more than ten) 70, horses 53, colts 25. Prices of stock : Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb ; wether sheep 6½ to 8d per lb ; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb ; veal, 9d per lb ; lamb 9½d per lb ; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb ; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Rodt. Bond and Sons report a good average supply of fat cattle at their sale for the time of year, numbering upwards of 100, for which the trade was satisfactory ; many of them were small in size and nice in quality, making up to £22 10s. The supply of cows and calves was very short, and prices were much the same as last week A few lots of fat lambs were penned which sold well up to 46s. In the store sheep pens, ewes made 39s, and lambs 27s, and others at rather better prices. Fat sheep were well represented, for which the trade was good, up to 57s per head. The supply of swine was rather short, owing to harvest weather. There was a good trade for all qualities at a slight advance on late rates. Beasts, 340 ; calves, 23 ; sheep, 2,799 ; swine, 991 ; horses, 13.

Knaresborough, Wednesday.—A small show of grazing cattle and calving cows. Trade slow. Yearling bullocks and heifers, £6 10s to £8 ; two-year-old bullocks, £9 10s to £12 10s ; ditto heifers, £9 to £13 ; calving cows. £16 to £18 10s ; calving heifers, £13 to £15 ; and gelt cows, £9 to £10 10s each.

Leicester, Wednesday —Full deliveries of grass-fed bullocks came to hand in excellent condition, and trade was rather better. Choice bullocks made 6½d per lb : secondary qualities, 6d to 6¼d ; heifers, 6¼d ; cows, 5d to 5½d per lb Sheep were a large supply, and changed hands freely at 7¾d to 8¼d per lb for light weights ; large sheep, 7d to 7½d ; and lambs, 8½d per lb. Calves were a dull trade at 7d to 7½d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair supplies of store stock, in very good condition. Trade sluggish for all except choice qualities. Milch cows in strong demand at £16 to £23 per head. Bullocks, £10 to £13. Young stock a slow trade.

Lyburn, Friday.—Calving cows and heifers were a fair show, and trade was moderate, calving cows making, for best classes, £18 to £20 ; others, £14 to £18 ; and calving heifers, £13 to £16 each.

Lincoln, Friday.—There was a very poor show of both milch beasts and store cattle, for which there was scarcely any demand, with no quotable change in value. Milch beasts rangrd from £12 to £20 : two-year-olds bullock, £10 to £14 ; and yearlings, £5 to £8 each. The pens were poorly supplied with sheep. Ewes made from 20s to 30s each, and lambs, 13s to 27s.

Lincoln, Friday.—The show of beasts was small, and trade slow. Yearlings made £5 to £8 ; two-year-olds, £8 to £12 ; bullocks, £12 to £16 ; and cows up to £21 per head. The supply of sheep was only moderate and trade was dull. Lambs made 13s to 27s ; and ewes, 20s to 30s each.

Louth, Friday.—A large attendance. There was an improvement in the beef trade on the week. The mutton trade remained about the same, though prices varied considerably. Wethers made up to 58s, and ewes up to 55s each.

Malton, Tuesday.—Average show of stock, and plenty of buyers, but the great heat slightly affects the tone for fat stock. Quotations about the same as last week. Veal calves and lambs are dear. Heavy ewes show most depression. Calves and pigs were few in number.

Newcastle, Tuesday. — Heavy trade throughout, and prices in favour of buyers. Numbers :—Cattle, 1,832 ; sheep and lambs, 9,273 ; pigs, 485 ; calves, 79. Prices (sinking the offal) :—Beef, 5s 6d to 8s 9d ; pork, 5s to 7s 9d per stone ; mutton, 6d to 8½d ; lamb, 8½d to 9d ; veal, 5d to 8d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts here today was small. Trade was quiet at late rates, but a complete clearance was not effected. Fat beasts which were in increased supply, made 7s 6d to 7s 9d and 8s per 14lb. Store sheep were not very freely offered ; previous rates were about maintained, lambs making 20s to 34s, and ewes, 35s to 55s per head. Fat sheep were quoted at 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb. The weather has been very dry in Norfolk during the past week.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Short supply of good beef, best making 7s 9d to 8s per stone, and moderate beef 7s to 7s 6d. Small weight sheep, 8¼d ; heavier weight sheep, 7¾d to 8d ; lambs, 8d to 8½d ; ewes, about 6d ; and calves, 7½d to 8d per lb.

Otley, Friday.—A heavy show of cattle, an increased attendance of buyers, trade being firmer for the best classes of cattle. Quotations :—Best milch beasts, from £18 to £20 10s ; inferior classes, from £12 10s to £14 10s.

Penistone, Thursday.—The cattle were scarcely an average show, and few changed hands, though there was a little more doing than last week, late rates being maintained. Three pens of lambs sold at 27s each.

Romford, Wednesday. — A large supply of fat beasts, principally of a middling description. Best animals made 4s 4d to 4s 6d, and middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply, and trade about the same, at 4s 10d 5s per stone. Sheep in better supply, and trade about the same. Best sheep made 5s 6d to 5s 8d, and middlings 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Lambs in average supply, and trade about the same, at 6s to 6s 4d per stone. No store beasts on offer.

St. Ives, Monday.—The number of stock entered at this market was :—Beast, 275 ; sheep and lambs, 1,800 ; pigs, 176. Best 7s to 8s ; mutton 7s to 8s 1½d ; lamb, 9s to 10s ; pork, 6s 3d to 7s 3d ; sows, 5s to 5s 3d. Fat beasts, good demand ; stores fair. Fat and store sheep fair. Fat pigs, sharp trade ; stores better. Milch cows fair show and trade, prices £14 to £22.

Salford, Tuesday.—Sheep and lambs were in about the same numbers as last week. The demand for choice cattle was better, at prices in sellers' favour. Middling sorts sold more readily at late rates. Choice fat sheep and lambs were in better demand at late full prices. Middling sorts sold slowly at generally higher rates. There was rather a slow trade for calves and pigs. Quotations—Cattle, 5½d to 7¼d ; sheep, 6d to 8¼d ; lambs, 7d to 9d ; calves, 9d to 7d per lb ; pigs, 9s 6d to 10s per 20lb. At market—Cattle, 1,830 ; sheep and lambs, 15,088 ; calves, 124 ; pigs, 49.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Good trade all round, with small supplies. Quotations—Lamb, 7d to 8½d. Beef, 6d to 7½d; mutton, 6d to 8d; and veal, 6½d to 8d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s to 10s; and bacons, 8s to 9s per score. Cows, with calves, up to £21. Hay, up to £4. Numbers offered—23 horses, 330 cattle, 28 cows with calves, 1,834 sheep and lambs, 66 calves, 7 fat, 80 porket and 185 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A rather short supply in both the sheep and cattle markets. Beef was a little dearer, making 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone for best sorts. There was a sharper trade for mutton, which made 8d a pound. Store lambs were a slow trade.

Stockport, Friday.—Business in the Castle Yard showed a slight advance on the preceding Friday. Stocks of milch cows limited; pigs for storage purposes ditto. Quotations for former £15 to £20 10s; for the latter 25s to 40s each.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 212 cattle, 4 calves, 330 sheep, and 110 lambs. Only a very small show of best cattle, which made 8s and 8s 6d per stone; secondary sorts realising 7s and 7s 6d. Calves fetched 6d and 7d per lb; young sheep, 8½d; lambs, 8½d and 9d; ewes, 7d; and tups, 5d.

Taunton, Saturday.—Short supply, small attendance, and slow trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—This was the largest sale held this season, and with a very large attendance of buyers, including the Reading and Newbury customers, trade was fast throughout and nearly every head of stock changed hands. The quality of the stock was excellent. Choice beef made 5s, and wether mutton, 6s per stone. Mr. Bond had a capital entry, including the whole of the beasts in the market. His sale comprised 107 fat beasts, which all changed hands, with the exception of seven, there being no lack of biddings from start to finish; 20 heifers and calves, and young stock which sold readily; 407 fat sheep and lambs and stores, 63 fat and weaning calves, and 94 fat and store pigs, and 3 horses. Fat bullocks made £16 to £22 7s 6d; fat heifers, £14 to £23; yearling stirks, £5 12s 6d each; wether sheep, 47s to 60s 6d; fat ewes, 39s to 54s; fat lambs, 28sto 42s 6d; store lambs, 25s to 31s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £3 17s; cow calves, 22s to 55s; bull calves, 17s to 58s; fat pigs, 10s per score. Stores a better trade.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—The trade is changed since last week, every department being slower. Best beef makes 6d to 6½d, and in exceptional cases 6¾d. Choice little sheep with difficulty make 8½d per lb, good strong animals 7½d to 8d, and ewes 6d per lb. Beasts penned 1,384, sheep 4,065.

Wetherby, Thursday.—A fair show of calving cows, with a quieter trade, at less money. Several lots of Irish lean stock on offer, the very high prices asked hindering trade, and not many sold. Beef, 8s to 8s 3d per stone; sheep and lambs, 7d to 9½d per lb.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a moderate supply; slow trade. Sheep and lambs fair show; trade slow. Calves small supply; slow trade. Milch cows a fair supply, prices in favour of buyers. Beef, 5½d to 7½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 7¾d to 8¾d per lb; veal, 6d to 7½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score; porkets, 9s 9d to 10s per score; sows, 7s per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Good supply of cattle, which met a fair trade at late rates. Sheep moderate supply and slow trade. Fat calves were in request at previous prices, and there was rather more demand for pork pigs. Best beef, 7d to 8d; inferior, 5d to 6½d; wether mutton, 7d to 8d; ewes, 5d to 6d; and calves, 7d to 8d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A brisk trade, with slightly increased prices for beef. Sheep were a trifle lower. Best beef made 7s 8d to 8s 3d per stone; best shearling mutton, 7½d to 8¾d; and inferior qualities, 5d to 6½d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Entries 1,347, a decrease of 1,151, comprising 1,013 United States, 187 Canadian (best), and 147 Canadian (ranchers). Trade slow at 3s 9d to 4s, 3s 8d to 3s 10d, and 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 8lb, to sink the offal respectively. No sheep offered.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—The improvement in the market noted at the close of last week has continued, and prices have advanced considerably, owing chiefly to the firmness of importers, by whom seed is now principally held nervous resellers having been eliminated. Linseed cakes continue steady. London made £7 17s 6d to £8 2s 6d. Russian, £7 10s to £7 15s ex dock. American Westerns at £7 10s to £7 15s. Cotton cakes are steadier. London made £4 5s to £4 7s 6d. Rapeseed is firmer, and prices have advanced. Cottonseed has improved considerably in value, owing to the continued firmness in Egypt.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS' COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—Imports of foreign are small and likely to continue so for some time as shippers still ask prohibitive prices. The quantity offering on this market is limited, but with only a quiet demand values remain steady. Russians sell slowly at last Monday's prices. Americans are the turn dearer. English are unchanged with a rather better inquiry. Cotton cakes.—There have been some large arrivals of Egyptian during the past week, which have found a ready sale at a slight advance. English are in better request and the turn dearer. Decorticated remain scarce and dear at an advance of 2s 6d per ton, while meal is unaltered. Rape seed.—Ravison £4 7s 6d, or nutted, bags included, £4 12s 6d, both on rail London. Maize germ meal.—Unchanged, with only a retail inquiry. Rice meal.—Spot Rangoon is firmly held at last week's price, while in forward positions 2s 6d per ton more money is asked.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... per ton ex mill	7 17 6	to	8 0 0
American in bags ..... ex dock	—	„	7 10 0
Russian in mats ..... „	7 10 0	„	7 12 6
Russian in bags ..... „	7 12 6	„	7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	4 7 6	„	4 10 0
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 5 0	„	4 7 6
„ Nov.-April shipment	4 8 9	„	4 10 0
Decorticated ..... „	6 15 6	„	6 17 6
Meal, on spot	—	„	6 10 0
„ June-July	—	„	6 5 0
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 5 0	„	—
Ravison	4 7 6		on rail
Nutted, in bags	4 12 6		„
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American) ..... ex dock	5 1 3	„	5 2 6
Germ meal (American) ..... c.i.f.	5 0 0	„	—
„ (English) ..... ex mill	—	„	5 0 0
MANURES.			
Nitrate of soda ..... ex dock	—	„	8 0 0
Bone compound ..... per ton on rails	2 17 6	„	—
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	—	„	4 7 6
Rangoon, July-August	—	„	4 5 0

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—To-day English wheat is selling at the same prices as last Tuesday, and foreign at about 3d per qr reduction on the week, the advance realised in the meantime being lost. Oats maintain full prices, with a fair demand. Beans also fully as dear. Flat maize, unaltered; Round Odessa, 3d to 6d per qr dearer than last Tuesday. Linseed is firmer, and a fair amount of business is being done at advancing prices. Cottonseed.—There has been more doing in this article during the past week, and prices improved in all positions. Hemp.—Firm, but little doing. Linseed cakes: Very firm. Cotton cakes: 2s 6d to 5s per ton dearer, with better demand. KILCHLEY MANSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEELING CAKES, £6 15s 0d PER TON. WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 17s 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHALE 97 PER CENT PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 15s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 10s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per pack of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £8 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb: Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7d to 1s 7½d; scoured average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; South Australian, greasy average, 6d to 7d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 4½d to 1s 5½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; Cape scoured superior, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; fleece average, 8d to 9d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 7½d to 7¾d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 10½ to 1s; New Zealand, fine, 9d to 10d; ditto medium, 7¾d to 8½d; ditto coarse, 6d to 7d.

Bradford, Thursday.—The local feasts stop a good deal of machinery, consequently business is slower than ever, to the prejudice of values in most cases. Merinos steady. Crossbreds only fairly so. English weak, and nothing doing. Mohair neglected. Yarn trade without improvement in any direction. In the piece trade more disposition to do business at low prices.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade is dull, as growers do not care to part with their wool at present low rates. Kent fleeces, 6d; lamb's wool, 4d to 5d, half-breds, 7d to 7½d; Downs, 8d to 10d; locks, 2d to 2½d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—There has been an increased turnover in wool, but business still remains quiet. In yarns workpeople are actively engaged in keeping up the deliveries under old contracts, but there is no influx of new orders. The inquiry for fancy knitting, lambs' wool, and natural cashmeres is good. Stocks are light, and quotations firm.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Small supplies, and a steady trade. Best clover, 85s to 100s; inferior ditto, 80s to 85s; specially picked hay, 92s 6d; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; interior ditto, 50s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 90s; straw, 25s to 36s per load.

Bristol, Friday.—Clover hay, 75s to 80s; meadow hay, 65s to 75s; straw, 45s to 50s.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—With supplies on a very small scale, and an improving demand, our market is much dearer for all qualities. A few offers of new Dutch clover and hay are to hand, and sellers of these parcels are asking exceedingly high figures. We quote: Canadian Timothy and clover mixture, 85s to 87s 6d; good Dutch hay, 67s 6d to 70s; common ditto, 62s 6d; Dutch, 1st cut clover (old or new), 87s 6d; large bale French wheat straw, 49s; small ditto, ditto, 45s; small bale French oat straw, 44s. All these prices are per ton, delivered by barge alongside.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10, Great Tower Street, E.C.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The hot sunshine has helped development from burr into hop, but until the last night or two the night temperature has been much too cold. The presence of mould has necessitated a great deal of sulphuring, but vermin has practically disappeared. Only about one-half the crop of last year is anticipated.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade is of a very retail character, and no hops passed the scales this week, but a firmer tendency is apparent for all sound qualities. Although the gales did some damage to exposed plantations the succeeding rains and warmer weather have been beneficial to the growing plant, and even some grounds which threatened a total collapse now promise to grow a few hops.

Worcester, Saturday.—The hops in this district have made fair progress since last week, though the effect of the late rough winds is now more apparent, and the crop under any circumstances will be only a light one. The trade is quiet, but prices keep firm, as the present holders of hops will not accept bids, believing they will be worth more money when the new crop comes in.—PIERCY AND CO.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Fertilisers are a dull trade all round. The demand for feeding stuffs is more active, and prices are well maintained. Linseed cakes are very firm, and the following are the current rates asked, and at which a small trade is passing: Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 96 per cent., pure, in bags, £8 5s to £8 7s 6d per ton; East India bone meal, in bags, £4 5s per ton; kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, fair to prime, in bags, £7 12s 6d to £7 17s 6d per ton; ditto, English, prime, in bulk, £8 to £8 5s per ton; ditto, foreign round, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 to £8 2s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, fairly soft, in bags, £6 12s 6d to £6 15s per ton; ditto, English ditto, prime, very soft, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 per ton; ditto, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 5s per ton; cottonseed (crushed) 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £6 15s per ton; maize germ meal, English, prime, in bags, £5 2s 6d to £5 5s per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d per ton; ditto, meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 11s 3d to 12s 6d per 240lb; N.A. cloverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, per cwt; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, per ton; ditto, ditto, 30 to 31 sol., in bags; ditto, ditto, 35 to 36 sol., in bags; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, delivered; ditto, 35 to 40 phos.; ditto, finest quality, ditto, 38 to 45 phos., in bags, nominal.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Killarney Fair, held on Wednesday, was a large one, and a good demand prevailed for good Kerries, but black Kerries did not sell quite so well, and a good many animals failed to find purchasers. Prices: Calves, second class, £3 5s to £5 5s.; third class, £2 5s. to £3. Yearlings, second class, £5 15s. to £6 10s.; third class, £3 15s to £5. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 6s. 3d. to £11; second class, £7 to £9 17s. 6d.; third class, £4 5s. to £6 15s. Three-year-olds, third class, £5 to £6 5s. Springers, second class, £11 to £12; third class, £7 10s. to £9 10s.

THE BALTIC.

There has been no disposition among the holders of wheat cargoes to take less money, but there also hold part cargoes—in other words, the smaller operators seem to have lost courage and are willing to close with bona fide offers at 6d. or 1s. The sales of the week include hard Duluth at 31s. 9d., hard Manitoba at 32s., Californian at 31s., Walla Walla at 29s. 6d., South Australian at 31s., Argentine at 29s. 3d., Odessa Ghirka at 29s. 6d., fine Azima at 31s., Roumanian old crop at 30s., Bulgarian new crop at 29s., and Turkish new crop at 28s. per qr.

Maize cargoes are well held, and there are a good many buyers at full currencies. Sales include Argentine at 20s. 6d., American at 19s., and Odessa at 24s. 6d. per qr.

Barley cargoes are in slightly improved request for autumn shipment; 19s. is paid for Azoff. Oats are firmer for September shipment than for cargoes on passage. South Russian old crop is quoted 14s. 6d. for prompt shipment.

Other cargo sales embrace Saida beans at 30s., Canadian peas at 28s., Persian ditto at 22s. 6d., French buckwheat at 28s., and Hungarian haricot beans at 44s. per quarter.

Arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports of call for the week were 1 wheat (San Francisco).

The sailings of grain and seed laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were nil.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been 225 wheat, 13 wheat and barley, 6 flour, 10 maize, 1 maize and oats, 23 barley, 14 beans, 7 locust beans, 1 linseed, 2 canary-seed, 5 valonea; total, 307.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 203 wheat, 9 flour, 3 maize, 6 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 6 beans, 1 locust beans, 5 linseed, 4 canary-seed, and 7 valonea; total, 246.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.]

The prices realised at the small fair at Tulla, co. Clare, on Wednesday, were as follows:—Calves, first class, £4 15s. to £5 10s.; second class, £3 15s. to £4 10s. Yearlings, first class, £7 15s.; second class, £6 to £7 5s.; third class, £4 10s. to £5 1s. 6d. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 to £12; second class, £8 5s. to £10 10s.; third class, £7. Three-year-olds, first class, £14 15s.; second class, £11 to £12 10s. Springers, first class, £15 to £19; second class, £10 15s. to £14 10s. Lambs, first class, £1 5s. 6d. to £1 8s.; second class, £1 to £1 4s. Hoggets, first class, £1 18s. to £2 2s.; second class, £1 8s. to £1 17s. 6d. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 16s. to 18s. each.

Dunlack Fair, held on Wednesday, was an average sized one. The demand for two-year-old heifers and springers was good, and lambs in good condition bought up readily, but others had to dispose of. Prices:—Yearlings, first class, £8 5s. to £8 6s. 8d.; second class, £6 10s. to £7 6s. 8d.; third class, £5 6s. 3d. to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £12 to £12 17s. 6d.; second class, £8 to £10 12s. Springers, first class, £16 to £19 10s.; second class, £11 10s. to £15 5s.; third class, £10. Lambs, first class, £1 12s. 6d. to £1 15s.; second class, £1 4s. to £1 8s. 6d.; Hoggets, second class, £1 8s. to £1 12s. Two-years-old and over, third class, 18s. 6d. to £1.

There was a large supply of stock at Stranorlar Fair (co. Donegal) on Monday, and a good demand prevailed for cattle in fair condition, but inferior animals were hard to sell. Lambs met a ready sale. Prices:—Calves, second class, £3 2s. 6d. to £4 5s.; third class, £2 1s. 3d. to £2 15s. Yearlings, second class, £5 15s. to £7 5s.; third class, £3 10s. to £5. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 to £12 5s.; second class, £7 7s. 6d. to £10 5s.; third class, £6 10s. to £7. Springers, first class, £16 10s. to £17 10s.; second class, £11 5s. to £15; third class, £7 17s. 6d. to £9 15s. Lambs, second class, £1 2s. 7d. to £1 7s. 6d.; third class, 8s. to 11s. Hoggets, second class, £1 10s. to £1 12s. 6d.; second class, 17s. Two-year-olds and over, third class, 16s. to £1 2s. 6d.

The fair held at Millstreet, co. Cork, on Monday was a small one, and trade was dull in the early morning, but a good deal [illegible]. Prices: Calves, first: [illegible] Yearlings, first class, £7 to £7 15s.; second class, £6 to £6 10s.; third class, £4 15s. to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 to £11; second class, £8 15s. to £9 10s.; third class, £7 8s. to £7 15s. Three-year-olds, first class [illegible] Springers, first class, £15 to £20; second class, £13 to £13 15s.; third class, £8 5s. to £10. Lambs, first class, £1 8s. to £1 15s.; second class, £1 4s. to £1 6s.; third class, 17s. 6d. to £1. Hoggets, first class, £2 1s. to £2 5s.; second class, £1 12s. to £1 17s.

Messrs. R. A. Lister and Co., Ltd., dairy engineers, Dursley, Gloucestershire, have received [illegible] and have awarded to them the [illegible] for their [illegible] at last year's exhibition held at St. Petersburg, Russia.

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Sussex heifer Peony is the property of, and was bred by, Mr. W. W. Hubble, The Elms, Hunton, near Maidstone. She was born on January 5th, 1899, her sire being Lieutenant 1362, and her dam Perrywinkle 7219, by Oxford Duke 1st 840. Peony has been pretty successful in the showyards this year, winning first and championship at the Tunbridge Wells Show, first at the Bath and West, and second at the Royal Counties and Sussex Shows. She was not exhibited at the Royal, York.

Mr. George Roberts, Stowe Manor House, near Weedon, is the owner of the Oxford Down shearling ram, which at the Oxford Show won first prize, and also took the Oxford Down Sheep-Breeders' Association's champion award for the best roan.

The Shire filly Victor's Queen 27158, the property of Sir J. Blundell Maple, Bart, M.P., Childwick, St. Albans, was bred by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., Sandringham, her sire being Bury Victor Chief 11105, dam Solace 24787, by Lord Arthur 9334. At the Shire Horse Society's Show in the spring Victor's Queen was only placed fourth in her class, but at the Royal, York, she came out on top, and was also awarded the Shire Horse Society's champion gold medal for the best Shire mare or filly.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

The Council have fixed Wednesday and Thursday, July 3rd and 4th, 1901, as the date of the Leicestershire Agricultural Society's Exhibition for next year, to be held at Leicester. Secretaries are asked to note this.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, shipped per the Elder, Dempster Line, from Avonmouth, on the 3rd inst., three beautiful Dorset ewes, selected from the flock of Mr. L. C. Attril, of the Isle of Wight, two of which were reserve No. (or 3rd place) at the Royal Show, and another somewhat smaller ewe, which Mr. Attril considered one of his best, but which had not previously been shown. These were shipped to the order of Mr. R. H. Harding, of Ontario.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, despatched to the order of Mr. J. Graham, per the ss. Cevic, on the 10th August, a high-class Shropshire ram, specially selected to head his flock, from the prize winning flock of Mr. John Harding, sired by Perhaps 10076, bred by Mr. Farmer by Flag Signal 9024, dam by the renowned Parish Councillor 8170, and going back to the famous sheep Lord Oxon and Marquis of Bath. Accompanying this ram was a small selection of shearling ewes from the flock of Mr. Peter Everall. Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. have also despatched two exceptionally well-grown and good-looking Shropshire rams to head the pure bred flocks of Shropshire sheep, the property of Mr. Kruger and Mr. Rudmann, of Germany.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, have just shipped per the ss. Memnon, on account of Mr. Geo. Allen, of Illinois, a choice selection of Southdown sheep, selected from the prize winning flock of the Pagham Harbour Company.

In addition to the splendid position taken by the Shrawardine flock at the Paris Exhibition, and the honours secured at the Royal, Bath and West of England, Herefordshire, and Shropshire and West Midland Shows, this flock has quite recently secured a grand array of prizes at the Royal Lancashire, Wirral and Birkenhead, and Ludlow Shows, including four firsts and reserve for Champion, six seconds, and three thirds, with yearling rams, aged rams, ram and ewe lambs, and yearling ewes. I would remind readers that the annual sale of rams and ewes from this flock takes place on Tuesday, at Shrawardine, six miles from Shrewsbury, Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. being the auctioneers.

The forty-eighth exhibition under the auspices of the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society is to take place at Bingley Hall, on Thursday, September 20th. The schedule includes four classes for cows, heifers, and heifer calves, with prizes ranging from £10 to £3; a class for bulls exceeding twelve and not exceeding eighteen months old, with prizes of £15, £10, £7, £5, and £3, and an extra stock class for bulls of any age, for sale only. The entries close on Tuesday, August 28th, and intending exhibitors should apply at once for prize lists and entry forms to the secretary, W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

The third annual sale of pure-bred Southdown sheep, bred by Mr. W. O. Hammond, St. Albans Court, Nonington, Kent, will take place on Wednesday next, the 22nd inst., at St. Albans Court, the auctioneers being Messrs. John Thornton and Co. The Southdown flock at St. Albans Court, on the high lying chalk hills between Canterbury and Dover, has been in existence since 1810; the present owner's grandfather, Sir Henry Oxenden, Bart., having owned a fine flock at Broome at the commencement of the present century. Sheep were originally obtained from the Goodwood, Buckland, and Merton flocks, as well as that of Mr. William Rigden. Ewes were twice purchased, viz.: twenty in 1864 at Lord Walsingham's sale at Merton, at a cost of £200, and fifteen in 1889 at Mr. Henry Webb's sale at Streetly Hall, from whom rams were obtained, as well as from Earl Cadogan, Sir James Blyth, Bart., Mr. Brassey, Mr. Hugh Gorringe, Mr. A. Heasman, Mr. Hugh Penfold, and the Pagham Harbour Company. To sustain the pure breeding and high character of the flock, neither trouble nor expense have been spared to secure the finest rams for breeding purposes.

The Old Court flock was founded more recently, ewes being purchased from the Duke of Richmond, and from Messrs. Emery. Rams were used from Mr. Stewart Hodgson, Mr. Toop, Mr. Ernest Matthews, and other eminent breeders. Both flocks have been carefully bred with the endeavour to maintain the true type of the breed. The rams will be found very uniform, with good wool. Exhibiting has not been practised; but the best evidence of the value of the sheep has been the great demand for the rams and ram lambs to go into the leading flocks. At the first sale in 1898, the first ram went to the old Buckland flock, and another to Lord Cadogan at 38 guineas, and ewes made up to 5 guineas each. Last season no less than 128 rams and ram lambs were sold for breeding purposes, chiefly to the hill breeders in Sussex. The catalogue for Wednesday's sale comprises about 300 ewes and 28 rams. The proceedings will commence with a luncheon at one o'clock.

On the last day of this month Messrs. Thornton and Co. will dispose of the flock of Southdown sheep, and some pure-bred Large White pigs, bred by Sir Thomas Barrett Lennard, Bart., at Woodingdean, Brighton. Sir Thomas Lennard may claim to be one of the oldest breeders of Southdown sheep in this country, as the flock was founded by his grandfather in 1857. So long ago as the year 1862, the present Baronet was the purchaser of some of the best of the ewes at the late Mr. Jonas Webb's sale at Babraham, giving 35 guineas each for a pen of ewes and 140 guineas for a ram. These were for the flock then kept at Belhus, Essex, where the great sales of the Belhus hunters were periodically held. The flock was very carefully bred there, and in 1865 the Gold Medal, presented by the late Emperor of the French at the Show at Poissy, in France, was won by sheep from Belhus, and prizes were often taken at the Essex and Suffolk County Shows. At a later period the flock was increased and kept at Woodingdean, where a suitable high-lying farm was taken on the East Sussex Downs, close to the sea coast near Rottingdean. The object has been to maintain there a flock which should combine purity of blood with the old type of the breed and the close dense fleeces of wool so necessary for sheep reared in a cold situation, and required to produce the high quality of mutton which is in demand in the Brighton district throughout the year.

The older ewes are principally by the Pagham Harbour Company's Windsor 3rd, Victor 16th and Cambridgeshire 4th, Mr. Henry Webb's Linton 162, a son of the 210 guineas ram, Cambridgeshire, and Bromley 165, bred at Woodingdean, from Mr. Edwin Ellis's sheep. The younger animals are by Messrs. Swoffer's ram Shortlegs 19th and others are by rams bred at Woodingdean from some of the best strains in the flock. The sheep are very carefully registered, the ewes as well as the rams being separately entered in the Flock Book of the Southdown Sheep Society. The Large White pigs are also carefully recorded, and they are a good lot of animals, running out regularly and in good healthy condition. They have been bred on the farm for several generations, and are descended from Mr. Sanders Spencer's and Mr. Frank Allmond's well-known stock. The sale commences after a half-past twelve luncheon.

Breeders of cart horses, whether Clydesdales or Shires, may be reminded that the time is fast approaching when the entries for the forthcoming volumes of the Stud Books will be closed, and that it is to their advantage to send their entries in as soon as possible. Not only does the regular entry of all stock ensure an accurate history of the breed, which in itself is a very important matter, but to a certain extent it increases the value of the animal entered. The foreign trade in horses of all kinds, and especially in heavy horses, has shown signs of improvement of late, and there are already indications that next season will be a brisk one. Under such circumstances it is advisable to register all the foals, for foreign buyers generally include a few yearlings when purchasing largely

The Board of Agriculture has revoked the order issued on May 14th this year, declaring the petty sessional division of Pool (Upper Division) and Caurse, and the borough of Welshpool, in the county of Montgomery, to be a swine-fever infected area. The revocation order was dated August 13th, and came into force on Thursday.

On Friday, September 7th, Messrs. John Thornton and Co. will sell by auction at Bellaport, Market Drayton, the pure-bred Shorthorn cattle belonging to Mr. H. Ker Colville, whose capital dairy herd has been made up with selections from well-known breeders in the counties of Cumberland and Gloucestershire, as well as in the neighbourhood and in the district around Kendal. Among the animals selected were several from Sir Wilfrid Lawson of Brayton, Mr. Graham of Edengrove, Mr. Dobson of Williamsgill, and Mr. Mason of Water Crook; there being some fine specimens of the old Benson, Laurustina and Gwynne tribes. The well-known dairy herds of Messrs. Hobbs of Maiseyhampton, Mr. Edmonds of Southrop, and the late Mr. Morris of Maisemore, are represented by fine specimens of the Dido, Fancy, Tulip, and Sonato families. The Darlingtons and Cold Creams have each good animals, and the Vanitys from Mr. Blackwell in Nottinghamshire have produced excellent stock, good alike for their milking, breeding and feeding properties. The herd was not exhibited till 1897; for three years the first prize for the best lot of bulls bred by an exhibitor has been won at the Crewe Show; many prizes have also been obtained in the female and dairy classes at the county and numerous shows held in the district. The animals have been naturally and hardily reared, on a cold high-lying farm, consequently they are likely to improve wherever they may go, and sustain the great reputation of the breed for the deep milking and quick feeding properties of the animals of which the herd is composed.

At the end of this week Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. will conduct two important sales of Shropshire sheep. On Thursday, at Downton, they will dispose of thirty rams and fifty shearling ewes, belonging to Mr. Thomas Fenn; and on Friday will bring under the hammer forty shearling rams and the same number of shearling ewes, belonging to Messrs. Evans, at Sherlowe. Both flocks have been very successful in the showyard, and as sales have been held annually for several years past, the high quality of the animals is well known all over the country. The sale at Downton will commence at two o'clock, and that of Sherlowe at one o'clock.

The entire herd of over a hundred pure-bred Shorthorn cattle belonging to Mr. James Watt, Knowefield, Carlisle, is to be dispersed on Wed-

nesday, September 5th, at Knowefield. This herd has been in existence upwards of fourteen years, and has been kept partly at Mr. Watt's farm in East Lothian, and partly at Blackford, his farm in Cumberland, the lease of which expiring at Candlemas necessitates the dispersal of the entire herd, which contains many animals of the finest strains of Bates and Booth blood. Purchases were made nearly ten years ago at Sandringham, and there are a number of fine animals descended from stock bred by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales; also Mr. John Wood's Prudence tribe, of which there are many representatives. Other well-known families are represented; in fact, the herd is full of some of the very best and most fashionable blood of the day, both through sires and dams. A few years ago the cow Lothian Brilliant was successfully exhibited, and a number of prizes were won in the Northern Counties. The animals have never been pampered nor forced for sale; they are in healthy natural condition, and are offered unreservedly. Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. are the auctioneers, and from them can be had catalogues, or any further particulars.

The rinderpest, in the district of Windhok, in German South-West Africa, is officially declared to be stamped out. The import of uninoculated cattle has been prohibited till further notice.

By permission of the Royal Dublin Society, the following general meetings will be held in the Committee Room in the new buildings at Ball's Bridge, on Thursday, August 30th, 1900: At 2 p.m., Hunters' Improvement Society, followed by Polo Pony Society, at about 2.30 p.m. It is hoped that members who are in Dublin will make a special point of attending these meetings, as they are valuable in enabling members of council to learn by personal interview the wishes of their Irish members. The Hunter meeting, held for the first time in Ireland in 1899, undoubtedly interested many Irish breeders of hunters, and secured their support as members.

All interested in the encouragement and breeding of good riding ponies should note that entries for Volume 6 of the Polo Pony Stud Book close on October 1st, 1900. Ponies are admitted into the polo section by inspection, prize qualification and pedigree. Mountain and Moorland ponies are admitted into their respective sections after inspection by the members of the local committee deputed to look after such native breed of ponies—Dartmoor, Exmoor, Fell, New Forest, Welsh (North and South), Highland and Connemara.

Tuesday, September 18th, is the date of this year's show and sale of the Hitchin Foal Show Society, and the schedule of prizes, rules and regulations, etc., have just been issued. There are classes for shire-bred foals, hunters, hackneys, etc., but the majority of them are confined to residents in the district. The Shire Horse Society offer two silver medals, one for the best entire yearling shire colt or colt foal, and the other for the best yearling filly or filly foal. Entries close on August 28th; late entries at double fees on August 30th. Mr. C. Crouch, Redgmont, Aspley Guise, Beds., is the secretary.

Sir G. Macpherson Grant has favoured me with a copy of his latest private catalogue of his Balbudalloch herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle. On July 1st there were eighty-seven cows and heifers and five bulls.

Messrs. Hincks and Turner, of Sleaford and Leicester, have received instructions from Mr. F. Ward to sell by auction on Tuesday, September 4th, eighty Lincoln longwool shearling rams, from his well-known Quarrington flock. The sale will commence at 2.30, and will take place at Quarrington, which is a mile from Sleaford.

Mr. Walter White, of Applesham Farm, Shoreham, Sussex, is relinquishing farming, and on September 18th Mr. C. Stride will dispose of the whole of his well-known hill flock of Dorset Down sheep, consisting of about 1,500 ewes and lambs of all ages. On the same day will be sold forty-eight heavy milking dairy cows and heifers, all with calves at foot or due to calve. The remainder of the dairy stock with the horses and tackle will be offered on September 27th.

Messrs. Jackson and McCartney's twenty-sixth annual sale of sheep at Craven Arms, Shropshire, takes place next week. On Thursday they will offer upwards of 12,500 stock ewes, viz., about 5,500 Shropshire Down and 7,000 Clun Forest, Radnor Forest, Kerry Hill, Longwynd, and Cross-bred, from the leading flocks in the district, and on Friday the catalogue will consist of about 200 Shropshire Down, Oxford Down, Kerry Hill, Longwynd, and Cross-bred rams, and 1,000 wethers and lambs. The sale will commence on the first day at 10.30, and on the second at one o'clock.

CATTLE.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease.

An Outbreak in Wales.

By order of the Board of Agriculture, eight animals were on Thursday slaughtered at Trellewellyn Farm, in the parish of Rhuddlan, North Wales, in consequence of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. The police are guarding the farm, and the preventive measures adopted are very rigid, and several officials of the Board of Agriculture are investigating the cause of the outbreak.

Everyone leaving the farm has to put his boots in carbolic acid, and on Friday, after eight Chester butchers had been for some hours engaged in slaughtering the whole of the live stock on the farm, twenty-five head of cattle, twelve pigs, and sixty sheep, all their clothing was burned, and they were supplied with fresh suits. The slaughtered stock was buried in a trench seven feet deep. The origin of the outbreak is unknown. Three cows constituted all the new stock. Two were bought three weeks ago and one three months ago at local fairs.

Order by the Board of Agriculture.

Tuesday's *London Gazette* contains an Order of the Board of Agriculture, dated the 14th inst., prohibiting the movement of cattle, sheep, goats, and pigs into or out of the district comprising the petty sessional divisions of Colwyn Bay (including the detached portion of the county of Carnarvon), Isdulas, and Isaled, and the municipal borough of Denbigh, in the administrative county of Denbigh; and also comprising the petty sessional divisions of Rhuddlan, Prestatyn, Holywell, and Caerwys, in the administrative county of Flint.

The Case at Hull.

On the 10th inst. the Town Clerk of Hull sent a telegram to the Board of Agriculture asking them to permit animals to be moved by licence from one part of a farm to another, and also to allow them to be brought into the city for slaughter. He has received the following reply from Mr. P. Craigie, Assistant Secretary:—"I am directed by the Board of Agriculture to advert to your telegram of to-day, and, in reply, I am to say that the Board greatly regret the inconvenience caused to butchers and others by the Order referred to, prohibiting movement of animals, and that the matter is receiving their earnest and anxious consideration; but in view of the grave responsibility imposed on them of protecting the flocks and herds of Great Britain from the scourge of an epidemic of foot-and-mouth disease, they were compelled to impose the Order. I am to add that your Council may rely on the Board modifying the restrictions so soon as that can with safety be done."

On Monday, however, a new Order from the Board of Agriculture was received in Hull, authorising the removal of animals into that town or Beverley by licence for immediate slaughter. Thankful for small mercies, the local butchers feel that this concession will not only save them needless expense on account of cattle having had under the first Order to be slaughtered on farms, but that it will be a considerable saving to consumers, who will have to pay less for their food in consequence. The price of American meat has been increased by the stringency of the Board's order at Hull. The following is the text of the Order:—An animal may be moved into the city of Kingston-upon-Hull, or the borough of Beverley, from any place outside the district defined by the said Order, provided that the animal is so moved without being untrucked within the said district, and an animal so moved into the city or borough may be moved from the railway premises by nearest available route to a slaughter-house within the city or borough, and shall there be detained and slaughtered within four days from the date of its arrival in the city or borough. An animal may also be moved by the nearest available route along or across a highway or thoroughfare in the district defined by the said Order from one part of a farm to another part of the same farm being in same occupation, provided that the animal to be moved is not affected with foot-and-mouth disease, and that animal is not in a foot-and-mouth disease infected place or area, and that the movement of such animal is not prohibited by notice of an inspector of a local authority or of the Board of Agriculture.

Holderness Farmers and the Amended Order.

A meeting of Holderness farmers was held at the Hull, on Tuesday, under the presidency of Mr. G. M. Cole, of Atwick, to consider the modified Order of the Board of Agriculture with respect to the movement of cattle. There was a large attendance.

Mr. Robinson, solicitor to the Holderness Farmers' Club, stated that he and Mr. Ringrose had had an interview with Captain Chamberlain, one of the inspectors of the Board of Agriculture. In that interview it was stated that the outbreak at Mayfleet was an important case. All cattle landed in Hull were North American, and no case of disease had been imported from that country. On the other hand, in Holland, there were seventy-two cases. He thought some representation should be made with a view of stopping the importation of sheep's heads from Holland, a practice that was highly dangerous. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman, reading the new order, said that what the Board of Agriculture gave with one hand they took away with the other. (Applause.)

It was pointed out by some of the gentlemen present that farmers outside the infected area could send stock to be slaughtered in Hull, while those in the area defined in the order could not send their stock. It was felt that the position of these farmers was worse than before.

Mr. Leonard (Holderness) said he thought they would be well advised if they called the attention of the Board of Agriculture to what they considered was the source of the outbreak, viz., the importation of sheep's heads from Holland.

Mr. H. S. Cautley, barrister, agreed that the position was in some respects rendered worse by the new order.

Mr. Robinson stated that at the interview he had with Mr. Chamberlain, that gentleman stated that the Order would last for twenty-eight days, and if there was no further outbreak the area would be reduced until it affected only Marfleet.

The Chairman moved the following resolution: "That it be left in the hands of Mr. Cautley, Mr Ringrose, and Mr. Robinson to draw up a resolution asking the Board of Agriculture to make more searching investigation into the cause of the outbreak, and urging that the importation of dead meat into Hull should be under strict inspection; also that the importation of heads and feet of cattle from foreign ports be imperatively prohibited; also that farmers outside the infected area and within the infected area should be allowed to move cattle from one farm to another, so long as the farms are adjoining." This was carried.

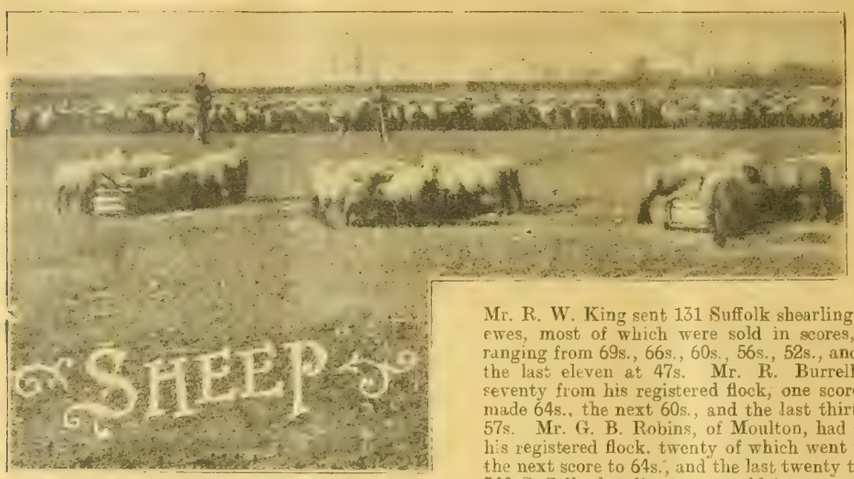
New Order by the Board of Agriculture.

Friday night's *London Gazette* contained an important new Order of the Board of Agriculture in connection with the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in the East Riding. The affected district comprises the petty sessional divisions of North Hunsley Beacon, South Hunsley Beacon, North Holderness, Middle Holderness, and South Holderness, and Hedon, Kingston-upon-Hull, and Beverley. The new Order directs that on and after the 20th inst., no cattle, sheep, goats, or swine shall be moved out of the scheduled district, and no animal of the kind named shall be moved into or within the district except as expressly authorised by the Order.

Outbreak of Anthrax in Worcestershire.

A short time ago an inquest was held upon a man named Thomas Tustin, who died under peculiar circumstances and in great agony at Cropthorne. From the evidence it appeared the deceased had partaken of a portion of the meat of a calf which had died on Mr. W. H. Cole's farm. In consequence of the revelations a portion of the carcase was sent to the county analyst, who has now certified that the calf was suffering badly from anthrax. Since then several other animals on Mr. Cole's farm have taken the disease and died. A cowman employed by Mr. Cole, named George Porter, was taken ill. It was believed he had become affected with anthrax, and he was at once sent to the Worcester Infirmary, where his condition was regarded as hopeless. The police, pending the orders of the Board of Agriculture, have taken all precautions, and the bodies of the animals have been buried in lime. The cause of the outbreak is not known, but it is stated that some years ago an outbreak occurred on the farm, and it is thought that some source of infection must have remained from that outbreak.

Newtownards Fair held on the 14th inst., was a very small one. Prices: Yearlings, best steers, £8 15s. to £9 2s. 6d.; second class, £5 10s. to £7 2s. 6d.; third class, £3 18s. 9d. to £4 5s. Two year-olds, first class, £11 5s. to £12 10s.; second class, £8 10s. to £9 10s.; third class, £6 17s. 6d. to £7 6s. 8d. Springers, first class, £17 15s.; second class, £12 2s. 6d. to £14. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 18s. to 23s. each.



Earl of Bathurst's Southdowns.

The Earl of Bathurst's old-established flock of pure-bred Southdown sheep was disposed of by auction at Cirencester Park on Tuesday, the auctioneers being Messrs. John Thornton and Co. The flock, which has been in existence from the beginning of the present century, was founded by Henry, the third Earl, and has, therefore, been owned by five Lords Bathurst, and has been managed by three generations of agents (Mr. Robt. Anderson and his father and grandfather). A stud of Shire horses having been recently established, it was resolved to relinquish ram breeding and exhibiting, and to sell all the shearling and young ewes, rams, and most of the ram lambs on the home farm, the old ewes and ewe lambs being retained as a mutton flock. The sale comprised about 400 beautiful young ewes, and about 30 rams and ram lambs. They were remarkably even, very deep in carcase, on short legs, with close, thick fleeces, and good lean mutton, the rams being of great substance and masculine character. The dispersal naturally attracted a very large attendance, comprising most of the celebrated Southdown breeders in the kingdom. At the luncheon which preceded the sale, the health of the Earl and Countess Bathurst was heartily drunk, on the proposition of Mr. Garrett Taylor, and Mr. R. Anderson, in reply, expressed the hope that he should be able to send to his lordship at St. Helena, where he is serving with his regiment, a good report of the result of the sale. This hope was abundantly realised, for Mr. Thornton had the satisfaction of conducting one of the most successful sales of Southdowns that has fallen to his lot for some time. The ewes sold remarkably well, the whole of the 400 (old and young) making an average price of £4 0s. 6d. each, the principal purchasers being the Duke of Devonshire, Duchess of Newcastle, Earl of Ellesmere, Lord Manners, Lord Sherborne, Mr. J. Colman, Mr. J. Joicey, and Mr. Garrett Taylor. The highest price paid for the ewes was 200s. and 300s. each, by Mr. J. Colman, of Gatton Park, for pens of five yearling ewes. The rams also made good prices. Lord Sherborne gave 30gs. for a yearling ram, Mr. A. Vigers 28gs. for a five-year-old ram and 20gs. for a four-year-old. The rams made £15 10s. each, and the ram lambs £7 12s. each, the highest price for a lamb being 17gs., bought for the Duchess of Newcastle. The total amount realised was £2,001 14s. 6d.

Sale of Suffolks at Newmarket.

Mr. George Blencowe's twenty-fourth August sale of Suffolk sheep at Newmarket took place on the 10th inst. Notwithstanding the unfavourable weather during the morning, there was a large attendance of purchasers from all parts of the Eastern counties. The catalogue included about 5,000 head, chiefly from registered flocks, there being about 300 Suffolk rams, 3,200 Suffolk shearling ewes, 500 Suffolk flock ewes and crones, 50 first-cross two-shear ewes, and 1,000 Suffolk ewe and wether lambs and half-bred lambs. Luncheon was provided, but time did not permit of any speeches being made, and no toast was, therefore, introduced. Early in the afternoon the assembly adjourned to the Rutland Arms paddock, where there were two sale-rings, at one of which Mr. Ernest Prentice, secretary of the Suffolk Sheep Society, officiated as auctioneer in disposing of the Suffolk ram lambs.

The sale commenced during a downpour of rain, but later on fine weather favoured the auction. All the sheep, lambs, and rams were sold at per head. Amongst 100 Suffolk shearling registered ewes, sent by Mr. M. Slater, of Weston Colville, the first score made 72s., the next forty fetched 67s., another score realised 65s., and the last twenty sold at 60s. From the registered flock of Col. H. McCalmont, M.P., ninety-five shearling ewes had been consigned from his Cheveley farm. The first score made 70s., the next twenty fetched 68s., another score 66s., the next twenty realised 60s., and the last fifteen fetched 55s. Mr. R. W. King sent 131 Suffolk shearling registered ewes, most of which were sold in scores, at prices ranging from 69s., 66s., 60s., 56s., 52s., and 50s., and the last eleven at 47s. Mr. R. Burrell had sent seventy from his registered flock, one score of which made 64s., the next 60s., and the last thirty went at 57s. Mr. G. B. Robins, of Moulton, had sixty from his registered flock, twenty of which went up to 68s., the next score to 64s., and the last twenty to 60s. For 340 Suffolk shearling ewes, sold in scores, from Mr. S. Taylor's registered flock at Ashley, prices ranged at 57s., 55s., 56s., 55s., 53s., 52s., 50s., 49s., 46s., 47s., 45s., and 38s. There were other consignments of shearling ewes too numerous to mention here, but the figures given above are fairly representative of the general run of prices.

Amongst the Suffolk ewe and wether lambs, Mr. G. Robins's twenty Suffolk registered ewe lambs reached up to 53s. Mr. W. H. King (Denham) sent 100 Suffolk ewe lambs, thirty of which went at 31s. 6d., and others at 29s. 6d. to 26s. 6d. From the Great Thurlow farm of the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., fifty Suffolk ewe lambs from his registered flock sold at 32s 6d. to 28s.; thirty wether lambs at 26s. Mr. F. W. Cobb (Saxon Street) had consigned seventy lambs from his registered flock. His best twenty went up to 36s., and the others sold at 29s. to 24s. 6d. From Mr. C. Jillings's registered flock at Great Abington, forty-five ewe lambs sold at 33s. 6d. to 31s. 6d.; fifty wether lambs at from 35s. to 32s. Major Baird's twenty-three half-bred Suffolk and Southdown lambs made 30s.

Included in the ram lambs was a grand specimen, the property of Col. McCalmont, M.P., which made 20gs. Another, which had won first prize at Cambs and Ely, and third prize at Norfolk Show, made 24gs. Others belonging to Col. McCalmont included one which fetched 12gs., another 10½gs., and others from 10gs. downwards. Mr. Martin Slater's consignments included one which fetched 15gs., another at 14gs., three at 12½gs., one at 11gs., and others at 10gs. downwards. Mr. T. Goodchild (Great Yeldham) sent one which fetched 15½gs., two sold at 15gs. each, two others at 10½gs., and four others at 9½gs. each. Amongst the Marquis of Bristol's consignments was one which fetched 16gs., another 10½gs., others at from 8½gs. to 8gs. downwards. Major Baird's consignments included one which fetched 12gs., another 10½gs., three others 10gs. each, and the rest from 8½gs. downwards. There were many other consignors.

Sale of the Barton Flock.

On Wednesday, at Marlborough, one of the oldest-established flocks in this county, registered in Vol. I. of the Hampshire Down Flock Book, and known as the Barton Flock, came under the hammer for dispersal.

This well-known flock was the property of Mr. R. W. Lyne, who is relinquishing sheep breeding, and comprised a total of nearly 800 ewes and lambs made up of 180 two-teeths, 160 four-teeths, 160 six-teeths, thirty full mouthed, 200 ewe lambs, and seventy ram lambs.

A draft of ram lambs is being retained for sale at Marlborough Fair on the 22nd inst.

Mr. T. Lavington was the auctioneer, and the sale took place in his meadow, near the railway station at Marlborough. Before commencing business light refreshments were handed round to a not too numerous, but thoroughly representative company of flockmasters and agriculturists. A record of the prices and purchasers are given below. It will be noted the highest price for ewes was 90s., for ewe lambs 50s., and for ram lambs 8gs., and the averages are as follows:—Two-teeth ewes, 62s. 6d.; four-teeth ewes, 58s.; six-teeth ewes, 47s. 9d. Ewe lambs, 40s. 6d. Ram lambs (twenty-seven sold), £5, a result which was eminently satisfactory.

The following is a list of prices realised and purchasers:—Two-teeth ewes, Mr. J. Matthews, two pens, 68s. and 70s.; Mr. E. Lyne, two pens, 58s. and 80s.; Mr. A. C. Apperley (Stroud), four pens, 75s., 80s. (twice), and 90s.; Mr. Snow (for Mr. Tom Cannon, Stockbridge), three pens, 61s., 57s., and 56s.; Mr. H. Wilson, four pens, 54s. (thrice), and 50s. Four-teeth ewes, Mr. Matthews, two pens, 60s.; Mr. Tom Cannon, three pens, 60s. and 54s. Mr. Apperley, two pens, 80s. and 90s.; Mr. S. Crees, six pens, 53s., 54s., and 52s.; Mr. Carpenter (Wilton), one pen, 75s. Six-teeth ewes, Mr. Tom Cannon, two pens, 54s. and 53s.; Mr. H. Wilson, five pens, 50s., 49s., and 47s.; Sir Haro'd Wake (Northampton), one pen, 60s.; Mr. Apperley, three pens, 80s., 70s., and 65s. Full mouth ewes, Mr. H. Wilson, 44s. Chilver lambs, Mr. H. Wilson, five pens, 37s. to 34s.; Mr. E. Lyne, two pens, 46s. and 42s.; Mr. Apperley, two pens, 50s.; Mr. W. Rawlins, one pen, 45s. Ram lambs eight guineas to four guineas, amongst the buyers being Messrs. J. Roysson, H. Lyne, G. S. Arnold, F. J. Pickard, M. May, T. S. Lucas, E. Lyne, W. Whitfield, E. Coleman, J. Glass, H. Wilson, J. H Reynolds (exors. of) Sir Harold Wake and A. C. Apperley.

Mr. T. Lavington afterwards offered Mr. Wm. Chandler's 240 two-teeth and four-teeth ewes from his flock at Aldbourne, who is enclosing his land and giving up flock keeping. The average here was 43s. 6d., the ewes being in plain stock condition only, and the top price 46s.

Mr. C. Coxon's Shropshires.

The annual sale of Mr. Charles Coxon's Shropshire rams and ewes was conducted at Elford Park, near Tamworth, on Wednesday last, by Messrs. Lythall and Walters. The company was not quite so large as usual, owing to harvest operations, but a satisfactory sale resulted. The best prices for rams 35gs., given by Mr. W. F. Inge; 16gs., Mr. Griffiths; 16gs., Messrs. Morris and Shaw; 13gs., Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P.; 12gs., Mr. Fielden; 12gs., Mr. Chichester; 11gs., General Dyott; 11gs., Mr. Lewis; 10½gs., Mr. R. G. Patterson; 10½gs., 10gs. and 10gs., Messrs. Averill Bros.; 10gs., Mr. F. Keeling; 10gs., Mr. M. Fardoe. The ewes were secured by Mr. W. F. Inge at 5gs. per head; Dr. Wall, 5gs and 65s.; Mr. G. Brown, 65s.; Messrs. Morris and Shaw, 65s., etc.

The Odstone Hall Shropshires.

Messrs. Winterton and Sons, of Lichfield, in conjunction with Messrs. German and German, of Ashby, conducted Mrs. Barr's annual sale of Shropshire sheep at Odstone Hall, near Atherstone, on Tuesday, when fifty-two shearling rams and eighty ewes were sold. The position held by this flock in the showyard attracted a large company of English, Scotch, and foreign buyers. Mr. A. Tanner gave 50gs. for a shearling by Ensdon four B's, Sir J. Pulley 26gs., 140gs. were paid on behalf of Sir G. Clifford (New Zealand) for a ram, second prize at the R.A.S.E., York; Lord Howe gave 30gs., Mr. R. P. Cooper 13gs., Messrs. Morris and Shaw 15gs., Mr. A. B. Foster 10gs. Other prices were from 8gs. to 12gs., the average being nearly £15 each. The eighty shearling ewes made up to 3gs. each, and averaged nearly £3 per head.

Mr. H. C. Stephens' Flock.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence submitted to auction at their Market House Yard, Salisbury, on Tuesday, a second consignment of fifty ram lambs from the Cholderton flock of Mr. H. C. Stephens, M.P., which has been built up on some of the very best Hampshire Down blood procurable. The lambs showed plenty of good breeding and were well turned out of hand. Following so closely, however, on Britford Fair, sufficient buyers were not forthcoming to ensure an entire clearance. Two lambs were let to Mr. Judd at 20gs. and 9gs. respectively. The lambs sold made from 5gs. to 9½gs., the principal purchaser being Mr. Black (for the London and River Plate Bank, for exportation to Buenos Ayres), who secured a really good consignment at a moderate price considering the quality of the lambs—the average of those let and sold being £7 5s.

Britford Fair.

The annual sheep fair took place on Monday, when the supply was about the smallest on record, the result, no doubt, of the abundance of keep everywhere, and a brisk trade was experienced at decidedly better prices, ewes making 38s. to 46s. and lambs from 31s. to 39s.; wether lambs, 40s. to 37s. 6d.; mixed lambs, 29s. to 24s. 6d.; chilver lambs, 39s. to 35s. This showed a rise on ewes of 3s., and from 3s. to 4s. on lambs. The competition classes resulted as follows: Hampshire Down ram lamb, £3 3s., Mr. J. Flower. Pen of ram lambs, £5 5s., Mr. J. Flower. 100 wether lambs, £5 5s., Mr. J. J. C. Waters; second, £2 2s., Mr. G. C. Waters. 100 ewes, Mr. J. Dibben. 100 two-tooth ewes, Mr. J. Rawlins.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence held their accustomed great sale of store sheep, the entries comprising about 10,000 head, but on account of the recent plentiful rain and consequent growth of keep, several hundreds were withdrawn at the last moment, the actual number sold being 9,462. Trade, as was expected, showed a very substantial rise on all previous fairs, ewes being from 1s. to 2s., and lambs 4s. to 5s. higher than Salisbury. Regular draft ewes made from 40s. 6d. to 55s.; over-yeared ewes, 28s. 6d. to 38s.; two-teeth ewes, 39s. to 52s.; mixed ewes, 38s. to 45s. 6d.; best wether lambs, 34s. 6d. to 46s.; working ditto, 27s. 6d. to 33s.; ewe lambs, 28s. 6d. to 39s. 6d.; mixed ditto, 27s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.; altogether a capital and quick clearance being effected.

The Chilmark Flock.

As usual, the annual letting and sale of ram lambs and rams from Mr. J. Flower's Chilmark flock—to which were added this year the 100 old going full-mouth ewes—took place; 101 ram lambs and two shearlings were submitted, and the whole were eagerly sought after, the general opinion of buyers

being that they were the best lot Mr. Flower has ever brought out. We may mention that this opinion was shared by Mr. Flower himself, and also the auctioneer (Mr. Rawlence), who, before commencing the sale, remarked that he had marked the lambs on Thursday, and he could only say its the best 100 lambs he ever marked in his life. It is not to be wondered at, then, that they were all caught up quickly. The 103 head realised the fine average of £15 11s 6d., this figure being far in advance of the average of anyone else, taking the number into consideration. As an instance of how even the lambs sold it may be mentioned that eighty-two out of the 100 made double figures. Nine lambs were first let as follows: No. 1, 115gs., Mr. Hall (for Lord Carnarvon); No. 2, 60gs., Mr. Dibben; No. 8*, 84gs., Mr. Drake; No. 8, 22gs., Mr. Greenfield; No. 3, 20gs., Mr. Carlisle; others letting at 11gs. to 14gs. to Messrs. Canning, Young, Asprey (for the Dowager Countess of Portsmouth), and Hurford (for Mr. T. F. Buxton), the average being £41 6s. Of the ninety-two sale lambs, Lord Rothschild bought at 28gs. and 14gs.; Mr. Bugg, 20gs. and 19gs.; Mr. Green, 20gs. and 16gs.; Mr. Castleman, 18gs.; Mr. E. J. Ashford, 16gs. and 10gs.; Mr. Canning, 15gs., 12gs., 11gs., and 10gs.; Mr. Carlisle, 15gs.; Mr. Crees, 15gs. and 14gs.; Mr. East, 15gs., 14gs., 13gs., and 12gs.; Mr. H. Ford, 20gs.; Mr. Frearson, 10gs.; Mr. Greenfield, 15gs.; Mr. Gale, 11gs., 10gs., etc.; Mr. Goldsmith, 16gs.; Mr. Lambert, 19gs.; Mr. Macan, 15gs.; Mr. Lavington, 16gs., 15gs., and 14gs.; Mr. Lodder, 13gs. and 12gs.; Mr. King, 11gs. and 10gs.; Mr. Morant, 14gs.; Mr. Mackrell, 16gs., 14gs., and 13gs.; Mr. Moss, 12gs.; Mr. C. Notley, 15gs. and 14gs.; Mr. T. Palmer, 23gs.; Mr. Pinegar, 10gs.; Mr. C. C. Standford (for Sir E. H. Hulse), 18gs., 16gs. and 10gs.; Mr. Snow (for Mr. Tom Cannon), 16gs.; Mr. Shaw-Stewart, 10gs.; Mr. S. Tanner (for Sir C. Shelley), 15gs., 11gs., etc.; Mr. H. W. Targett, 11gs. and 10gs.; Mr. Treble (for Mr. H. Le Roy Lewis), 15gs. and 10gs.; Mrs. White, 19gs.; Mr. Vernon (for Mr. C. A. Scott-Murray), 19gs.; Mr. Warner, 10gs.; and Mr. H. P. Taunton, 10gs. The two shearlings made 13gs. and 8gs. respectively. The 100 grand full-mouthed ewes met an unprecedented sale, Mr. Tanner, of Leicester buying the 100 for £60—5or an average of £5 12s. per head—prices ranging from 145s. to 90s.

Mr. Geo. Roberts's Champion Oxford Down Ram.

Mr. R. Coles' Middleton Flock.

At Mr. R. Coles' annual letting and sale of ram lambs from the old-established Middleton flock, seven ram lambs for letting made 100gs., Mr. Newton (for Sir J. Blundell Maple); others realising from 9gs. to 13gs.; average £25. Seventy-six sale lambs made from 5gs. to 17gs., some of the lambs being unsold. from 5gs. to 17gs., some of the lambs being unsold. Mr. Terrill (for Lord Ashburton), 11gs., 10gs., and 9½gs.; Mr. Hurford, 10gs.; Mrs. Nicholson, 11gs.; Mr. Rigden, 10gs. and 19gs.; the average of those let and sold being £9 6s.

Professor Wrightson's Consignment.

The annual letting and sale of ram lambs from the College of Agriculture flock took place, as heretofore, when eighty nice-quality lambs were offered, the whole of which, however, did not find purchasers. Six lambs were let at from 10gs. to 62gs. Mr. Newton (for Sir J. Blundell-Maple) hiring at the latter price, average £19 12s. The selling lambs made from 25gs. to 4½gs., Messrs. Good buying at the higher figure, the average of those let and sold being £8 2s.

Mr. Drake's Dogdean Flock.

Mr. A. F. T. Drake had forward seventy nice animals, and the whole met a ready demand, and prices such as the general excellence of the lambs richly deserved. Four lambs were first let as follows: No. 1, Mr. Flower, 60gs.; No. 2, Mr. Terril, 18gs.; No. 3, Mr. Edwards, 22gs.; and No. 4, Mr. Dibben, 16gs.; average, £30 9s The sixty-six selling lambs made from 3½gs. to 20gs., Mr. Bugg buying at 20gs., Mr. Brown, 11gs. and 10gs.; Mr. Brooks, 11gs., etc. Mr. Cozens (for Mr. H. J. Dutton), at 14gs., 13gs., and 12gs.; Mr. F. M. E. Jervoise, 13gs. and 12gs.; Mr. Nicholson, 16gs., 14gs., 12gs., 11½gs., 10½gs., etc.; Mr. Rigden, 16½gs., 11½gs., 10½gs., etc., Mr. Rand (for Lord Montagu), 10gs., etc.; Mr. Terrill (for Lord Ashburton), at 18gs., 17gs., and 11gs.; Mr. Tanner, 10gs.; Mr. Trowbridge, 10½gs.; Mr. Widdowson (for Lord Howe), 15½gs., 12½gs., and 12gs.; Mr. Waters, 13gs. and 10½gs.; Mr. M. Wallis, 10gs.; the average of the seventy head being the excellent one of £11 17s.

Sir E. H. Hulse's Flock.

Thirty ram lambs from the Breamore House Flock were submitted, but scarcely received the attention and competition they deserved. The whole were, however, disposed of at from 4gs. to 9gs., or an average of £6.

Hailsham Fair.

Hailsham Sheep Fair was held on Monday, when there was a large attendance, and the trade, particularly at the start, was decidedly brisk. There was a good demand for the best lambs, the average price being 27s. or 28s. per head. Tegs also sold well, the top price being obtained by Mr. H. Redford (Hellingly), who disposed of a splendid pen of over a hundred at 49s. per head. Mr. Burtenshaw sold a hundred tegs at 46s. to Mr. R. H. Sutton (Horeham Road), and realised 31s. for some wether lambs 29s. for a number of ewes, and 42s. for some other tegs. Mr. T. Brown found a buyer for lambs at 30s.; and the Earl of Ashburnham secured 36s. for ewes; while Mr. H. Willett went 3s. better. Mr. S. Boniface (Pevensey) sold ewe tegs at 15s., fifty lambs at 27s., and forty at 23s., and sixty culls at 20s.; while Mr. W. Elphick (Langney) disposed of thirty lambs at 27s. 6d.; fifty at 24s. 6d.; 100 at 24s.; fifty at 20s.; while Mr. W. Elphick (Langney) disposed of another nineteen at 44s. Ready sales were effected at these prices.

Lockerbie Lamb Sales.

The lamb sales at Lockerbie were brought to a conclusion on Monday in the presence of a large gathering of buyers. Cheviot wedder lambs met an animated demand, and showed a rise of quite 4s. on the year. Cross lambs also moved off freely at an advance on the year of 3s. For the few lots of Black-faced lambs on offer prices showed a rise of 2s. 6d. Best Cheviot wedder lambs brought 16s. to 20s., smaller 12s. 6d. to 15s., best classes cross-breds 18s. 9d. to 28s., smaller 15s to 17s., and Black-faced wedders 9s. 9d. to 15s. 6d.

Owing to the restrictions being placed on agriculturists in South Lincolnshire by the railway companies, the farmers in the Spalding, Holbeach, and Moulton districts are taking action with a view to chartering a steamer to run from Fosdyke, on the River Welland, to London, Grimsby, and Hull, and other ports, with cargoes of feeding stuffs and agricultural produce.

HORSES.

Horse Sale at York.

Messrs. Wilber and Sons held an important sale of hunters, carriage and harness horses, at their repository, York, on Thursday, when they offered about 100 animals. There was a very large attendance, and trade was exceedingly sharp. The chief feature of the sale was the disposal of the "Venture" coach horses, the property of Messrs. Liddell and Priestman, which ran regularly between Scarborough and Harrogate up to August 11th. This stud numbered forty one horses, and every one was sold, after keen competition, at prices averaging over £57 each. The highest price realised by the animals comprising this stud was 155gs., paid for Brighton, a five-year-old chestnut gelding, 16 h.h. Among the miscellaneous lots sold a pair of black cobs, about 14 h.h., the property of Mrs. Mordaunt Lawson, of Carlisle, realised 150gs. Other prices ranged from 60gs. downwards.

The Destructive Hailstorm in Bedfordshire. The Duke of Bedford, Lord Cowper, and other prominent landowners in South Bedfordshire, supported the Mayor of Luton at a meeting on Tuesday afternoon, for the purpose of raising a fund for the relief of the numerous sufferers from the terrible hailstorm which occurred on July 16th, when many thousands of pounds of damage was done to the corn crops in the various parts of the county. The subscription list already includes several handsome donations.

Cumberland farmer found Shot.— A farmer named John Dixon, aged thirty-five, of Netherend, near Whitehaven, was on Monday found shot dead in a lane near his house. It appears he went out soon after breakfast to shoot rabbits, and at ten o'clock he was seen enjoying the sport. About noon he was found dead, shot through the heart, with his gun lying beside him near a fence. He was in the habit of getting over the fence when returning home, and it is supposed that while he was getting over the fence on Monday the trigger of his gun was caught, and the weapon went off. At the inquest a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

There was a large supply of cattle at the fair at Balla, co. Mayo, on the 11th inst., but few buyers. Choice lots of cattle in forward condition sold well, but a large number of others remained unsold. The small supply of sheep met a good demand. Prices:—Calves, second class, £3 to £4; third class, £1 10s. to £2 10s. Yearlings, second class, £6 to £7; third class, £3 to £4 10s. Two-year-olds, second class, £8 5s. to £10; third class, £5 10s. to £7. Three-year-olds, first class, £14 to £15 15s.; second class, £11 10s. to £12 10s.; third class, £8 5s. to £9. Springers, second class, £13 10s. to £15; third class, £9 to £10 5s. Lambs, second class, £1 2s. to £1 3s.; third class, 16s. to £1. Two-year-olds and over, second class, £2 2s. to £2 8s.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending August 11th, 1900:—

			Week ended Aug. 11, 1900	Corresponding week 1899	Jan. 1 to date	Corresponding period in 1899
Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	20	530 284 302	14,291	6,677 3,000
	Outbreaks	No.	19	34 11 6	1,071	1,273 1,111
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Other Animals	No.	:	: : :	:	: : 12
	Cases Reported. Dogs.	No.	:	: : —	:	2 11 13
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughtered. Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	: : :	:	4 — 15
	Cattle Slaughtered. Diseased.	No.	:	: : :	:	1 — 6
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	: : :	:	1 — 6
Glanders (incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	31	37 34	1,1	1,1 1,1
	Outbreaks.	No.	13	7 7	64	59 44
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	:	: : :	15	: :
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	: : :	10	: :
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	11	7 3	20	11 11
	Outbreaks.	No.	8	3 3	7	5 4
Period.			Week ended Aug. 11, 1900	Corresponding week 1899	Jan. 1 to date	Corresponding period in 1899

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

SHOWS.

Badminton Farmers' Club.

The Badminton Farmers' Club were a little more fortunate in regard to the weather than many other societies last week, for on the 9th inst. it was comparatively fine, though the wind was somewhat troublesome. As in former years, the show was held in that picturesque part of the park known as the Huntsman's Close, and by middle day there was the usual large assemblage at the ringside and in the grand stand. Last year, in consequence of the death of the late Duke of Beaufort, the show was not held, and its reappearance among the agricultural fixtures was very welcome. Mr. R. W. Lloyd, who for so many years discharged so satisfactorily the duties of secretary, has now resigned, and his successor, Mr. Ward Soames, and the committee of management have introduced a few alterations in the rules governing the exhibition.

Formerly, by a subscription to the club, a member might enter as many animals as he pleased, and sometimes they were not forthcoming at the last moment, and vacant stalls were rather too numerous. Now exhibitors are required to pay a small fee for every animal entered. The result was that on this, the first occasion the experiment has been made, the number of entries was somewhat less, but the quality was, on the whole, improved, and there were fewer vacant stalls. Swine fever restrictions kept pigs away.

For the first time in the history of the Society there were five open classes—for hunters, driving, and jumping—and the entries, on the whole, were very good, particularly so in regard to quality. The new departure has thus been justified, and probably as time goes on the entries in this department may become more numerous. There was an average number of cart horses, the entry including a sound, useful lot of animals. The class for cart mares or geldings over three and under seven was an exceedingly good one, and earned general commendation. A grand bay Shire gelding, Warrior, owned by Mr. Henry Mathews, Winterbourne, was first, and Mr. M. B. Stabbins, Coalpit Heath, was second with a chestnut Shire mare. In the hunters department the Hunters Improvement Society sent for the first time a silver medal for the best hunter filly not over three years old. The winner of this trophy was a promising three-year-old roan filly, Empress of India, the property of Mr. W. Francis, Corsham, which was also first in her class.

There was only a small entry in the restricted class for weight-carrying hunters, and the first prize was not awarded. Twelve-stone hunters made a better show, a free-going, well-made chestnut gelding, owned by Mr. L. H. Taylor, Chippenham, taking the first prize, and also winning the open 12-stone class. In the open weight-carrying class the first and second prizes were taken by his Grace the Duke of Beaufort with Hardy John and Feenagh. The open harness classes attracted a fair entry, but not a satisfactory one, remembering the value of the prizes offered. The class for mares or geldings not less than 15 hands was won by Mr. Godsell with Lord Bath, and the same exhibitor was second with Norbury Squire. The jumping classes were, as usual, an attractive feature.

The cattle as a whole were nicely brought out, and were generally characteristic of their particular breeds. They were uneven in regard to numbers, only a few entries being forthcoming in some classes, and in others they were numerous, and the family was rather mixed in respect to breed. The bulls over one and under two years showed a good deal of merit, and Priam, a roan Shorthorn, the property of Mr. George Haskins, Hanham Green, showed such quality as to win the champion reserve rosette. The champion prize went to Vain Lord, a grand-looking red Shorthorn, the property of Mr. J. Little, Trowbridge, which was, however, closely run by Mr. W. R. Peacey's Plaudit, a bull of very good quality. Mr. Peacey won the next class for bull calves easily with a nice roan. The steers over one year and under two were a weak lot numerically, the winner being a red and white Shorthorn owned by Mr. Little. A really excellent lot of dairy cows were stalled, and the class for cows over four years old gave the judges a lot of trouble to decide, and the quality throughout was so good that the judges recommended a third prize. The choice for chief honours ultimately fell upon a choice red Shorthorn, the property of Mr. Harry Butler, showing splendid dairy qualities. In the class for heifers of any breed a typical Shorthorn, owned by Mr. S. W. Brain, Sherston, was placed first. A black-polled pedigree Angus was a very close second, and the shape and quality displayed by both animals made it very difficult to select the winner. A special prize offered for the best animal in the yard was awarded to Mr. Butler's Badminton Daisy, the winner of the old cow class.

There is never a very large entry of sheep at this show, but as a whole the animals penned were good, the cross-bred ram lambs displaying excellent quality, and both prizes were awarded to Mr. Jeffery Mathews. The same exhibitor also took first prize in the next class for chilver wether lambs with a very nice lot. With the exception of the classes for Hampshire Down ram lambs and crossbred lambs, the entries were short. The chief prize winners, and, in fact, the only exhibitors, were Mr. Harry Butler, Mr. Jeffery Mathews, and Mr. Henry Bridgman.

The judges were:—Cart horses: Mr. Thomas Sisum, Marlborough. Hunters, hacks, harness horses, and jumping: Mr. W. Gordon, Canning; Captain D. L. Beatty, Rugby; and Mr. W. A. Harford, Oakham. Cattle: Mr. Arthur Hiscock, Shaftesbury. Sheep and pigs: Mr. W. R. Peacey, Malmesbury.

Harrogate Horse Show.

The Harrogate Horse and Horticultural Society had got together a capital number of entries for their show on Thursday, and it was most unfortunate that the weather should have been against the show, for it deserved a record attendance, and not the meagre number of visitors with which it was patronised. The Society expect to lose about £100 over the meeting, but, happily, they have a good fund at the bank. Of the sum of £250 given in prizes fully one-half was set apart for the winning horses. An entry of 107 in this department was very satisfactory. Moreover, the quality was excellent. Three or four of the dozen classes were of remarkably good character. The hunters, for instance, would have done credit to the Royal Show last June. Both judges and they were first-class experts—Mr. Henry Moore and Mr. T. Hutchinson—seemed well pleased. The prize of £10 given by the president (Mr. A. W. Fox) went to Messrs. F. J. and H. Grainger for their four-year-old bay gelding Nimrod, a fine galloping hunter, that also won in the any age class. Mr. W. Jordison's Mowbray Huntsman was the pick of the five-year-olds, and Mr. Wickham-Boynton's exhibit had second place in each of the last two mentioned classes. Prominent among the hacks was Mr. Eustace Smith's handsome mare Wild Lucy, a worthy daughter of Wildfire. She was invincible, both in saddle and harness. Mr. C. O. Bastow, too, was very successful with his pony Princess. In the driving class exceeding 14.2 hands Mr. J. Robinson's (Hull) Lord Lofty came to the front.

Waltham Cross Horse Show.

The Waltham Cross and Three Counties (Essex, Herts, and Middlesex) Horse and Foal Society's annual show was held on Thursday at Waltham Cross. The weather being all that could be desired, there was a large attendance of visitors. Close on £500 was offered in prizes, including the cups, but the number of entries was not quite so large as last year, but the quality was quite up to, if not above, the average. Shire horses and hunters were capital classes, but polo ponies were weakly represented. Considerable interest was taken in the appearance of the filly foals entered to compete for the Earl of Verulam's handsome challenge cup. There was a good turn out for the competition, but there was never any doubt as to the quality of Sir Walter Gilbey's unnamed bay foal by Blythwood Conqueror—Saxon Kitty. Although but ten weeks old, she is of considerable promise, possessing great substance, grand legs, and a short body. She scored a very popular victory from a well-turned filly by Bury Victor Chief, owned by Sir Blundell Maple. Lord Rothschild was also exceedingly well represented, Monitor, a two-year-old colt, and Hendre Sunlight, also from the Tring Park stud, winning the two silver medals offered by the Shire Horse Society, both being also in the money in their respective classes. Not many Shire colts were exhibited, but the best of them was Mr. Symondson's black foal, and in the corresponding open class Lord Rothschild was successful with a very fine roan, which afterwards won the special cup offered for the best Shire foal exhibited. Competition was very keen in the yearling classes, Sir James Blyth's Lockinge Favourite, a choice bay, being the best colt, whilst Sir Blundell Maple's Kathleen, one of Harold's stock, won corresponding honours in fillies, and also secured the sectional cup, Mr. E. J. Wythe's Copped Hall Devonia being reserve. The two-year-olds were quite as representative, Mr. F. Crisp's Girton Sunlight, a black filly of great substance, by Bury Victor, winning the cup offered for competition by Mr. E. J. Wythes. The Essex Hunt prizes were won by Mr. W. Bugg and Mr. John Holm; whilst the Middlesex Drag Hunt cup, for the best animal exhibited in the tenant farmers' classes, fell to Mr. E. Pigg's Chipping Princess, a three-year-old bay mare. The Hackney section was but of minor importance, although the entry was fairly numerous, Sir Walter Gilbey's Royal Duchess, shown with a charming foal at foot, winning the special cup.

The judges were as follows:—Shire bred and ordinary cart horses: Mr. Edward Green, Welshpool; Mr. Wm. Richardson, Doddington; Mr. F. W. Griffin, Peterborough; and Mr. W. Howkins, Woolscott, Rugby. Hunters and Hackneys (riding and driving), polo ponies, jumping, and trade turn-outs: Mr. A. Waterhouse, Edenbridge; Mr. Alfred Withers, Oxford Street; and Mr. J. W. Hickling, Adbolton, Nottingham.

Special Prizes.

Challenge cup, value 20 guineas, for Shire filly foal, eligible for entry in Shire Stud Book: Sir W. G. Pery.

Cup, value 5 guineas, for Shire foal: Lord Rothschild.

Cup, value 5 guineas, for Shire yearling: Sir J. B. Maple.

Cup, value 5 guineas, for Shire two-year-old: Mr. Fred. Crisp.

Middlesex Drag Hounds Hunt Club's cup, value 5 guineas, for best animal in tenant farmers' classes: Mr. E. Pigg.

Hackney Horse Society's medal for Hackney or pony mare, filly, or filly foal, registered in Hackney Stud Book, or entered for subsequent volume: Sir Walter Gilbey.

Silver cup, value 5 guineas, for Hackney mare: Sir Walter Gilbey.

Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal, for Hunter of either sex and any age: W. J. Wright.

Class Prizes.

DRAUGHT HORSES.

Shire mare with foal at foot (tenant farmers): 1, J. Bell, Enfield; 2, G. Symondson, Waltham Abbey; 3, Ed. Pigg, Chipping.

Shire mares with foal at foot (open): 1, Sir J. B. Maple, Childwick; 2, Lord Rothschild, Tring Park; 3, Sir Walter Gilbey.

Shire colt foals, eligible for entry in the Shire Horse Stud Book (tenant farmers): 1, G. Symondson; 2, G. B. Medcalf.

Shire colt foals, eligible for entry in Shire Horse Stud Book (open): 1, Lord Rothschild; 2, A. P. McMullen; 3, G. Symondson.

Shire filly foals, eligible for Stud Book (tenant farmers): 1, John Bell; 2, E. Pigg; 3, A. Amey.

Shire filly foals, eligible for Stud Book (open): 1, Sir Walter Gilbey; 2, Sir J. B. Maple; 3, T. F. V. Buxton.

Cart colt or filly foals, eligible or ineligible for Stud Book, property of a tenant farmer in Epping Division: 1, J. Dewey; 2, A. Amey.

Cart mares, with foal at foot: 1, Alfred Amey; 2, A. Roddick.

Cart mares with foal at foot, not eligible for Shire Horse Stud Book, judged jointly (tenant farmers): 1, J. Holm; 2, and 3, J. Dewey.

Best colt or filly foal, sired by Mr. Geo. Symondson's horses: 1, Silver cup, Geo. Symondson; 2, John Dewey; 3, G. B. Medcalf; 4, J. H. Fielding.

Shire yearling colts, eligible for entry in Shire Horse Stud Book: 1, Sir J. Blyth; 2, E. J. Wythes; 3, Sir J. Blyth.

Shire yearling fillies, eligible for Shire Horse Stud Book (tenant farmers): 1, J. Holm; 2, J. H. Fielding; 3, G. B. Medcalf.

Shire yearling fillies, eligible for Shire Horse Stud Book: 1, Sir J. B. Maple; 2, E. J. Wythes; 3, F. Crisp.

Shire two-year-old colts, eligible for Shire Horse Stud Book: 1, Lord Rothschild.

Shire two-year-old fillies, eligible for Shire Horse Stud Book (tenant farmers): 1, E. Pigg; 2, J. Holm; 3, W. Graham.

Shire two-year-old fillies, eligible for Shire Horse Stud Book: 1, F. Crisp; 2, Sir Walter Gilbey; 3, Lord Rothschild.

Cart yearling fillies and yearling geldings, not eligible for Shire Horse Stud Book (tenant farmers): 1, A. Amey; 2, J. Wilson Dent; 3, J. Dewey.

Best pair of cart horses (tenant farmers): 1, E. Pigg; 2, D. Christy; 3, J. Holm.

Best cart mare or gelding, two years old and upwards (tenant farmers): 1, W. Bugg; 2, J. Taylor.

Best cart mare or gelding (tenant farmers): 1, J. Holm; 2, J. Holm.

Best cart horse (gelding), three years and under five years old: 1, J. Holm.

Cart horse (gelding), five years and upwards: 1, D. Christy.

Enfield Chase Staghounds' prize, for cart horse (mare or gelding), three years and upwards, open to bona-fide tenant farmers in the counties of Herts and Middlesex, farming not less than fifty acres: 1, E. Pigg; 2, C. B. Medcalf; 3, J. Ball.

HACKNEYS.

Hackney mare with foal at foot, entered or eligible for Hackney Horse Stud Book (open): 1, Sir Walter Gilbey; 2, R. T. Thornton; 3, T. Rumbal.

Mare for breeding harness horses, 15 hands 2ins and over, with foal at foot (open): 1, A. Collen; 2, R. T. Thornton.

For foal in classes 25 and 26: 1, A. Collen; 2, Sir Walter Gilbey; 3, R. T. Thornton.

Hackney colt or filly, one year old, by a registered Hackney sire: 1, A. Collen; 2, Wm. Galpin.

Hackney colt or filly, two years old, by registered Hackney sire: 1, Sir Walter Gilbey; 2, R. T. Thornton; 3, A. Collier.

HUNTERS.

Hunter mare with foal at foot, foal by thoroughbred sire: 1, W. J. Wright; 2, Sir Walter Gilbey; 3, Lieut.-Col. Colvin.

Best foal in Class 30: 1, Lieut.-Col. Colvin; 2, W. J. Wright.

Yearling colt or filly: 1, C. A. Longhurst.

Two-year-old colt or filly: 1, C. Kelway Bamber; 2, E. Ashby Haws.

Lightweight, to carry over 12st., not exceeding 14st.: 1, J. Hills, Hartridge, M.S.H.; 2, E. and A. Baxter; 3, A. Hardie Jackson.

Heavy weight, to carry over 14st.: 1 and 2, J. Hills Hartridge, M.S.H.; 3, A. Hardie Jackson.

RIDING AND DRIVING.

For Hack to carry a lady: 1, E. Martindale; 2, Mrs. Bennett; 3, T. Christy.

Hackney mare or gelding, over 15 hands, shown in saddle: 1, R. T. Thornton; 2, E. and A. Baxter; 3, T. Welch.

Hackney mare or gelding, not exceeding 15 hands high, shown in saddle: 1, E. and A. Baxter; 2, S. Brunton; 3, A. J. Hollington.

Hackney mare or gelding, over 15 hands, shown in harness: 1, E. and A. Baxter; 2, R. W. Jay; 3, Mrs. Hartley F. Batt.

Hackney mare or gelding, not exceeding 15 hands, shown in harness: 1, E. and A. Baxter; 2, S. Brunton; 3, R. T. Thornton.

Harness horse, mare or gelding, to be shown and driven in ring by ladies: 1, E. and A. Baxter; 2, Mrs. H. F. Batt; 3, R. T. Thornton.

Hackney mare or gelding, exceeding 13 hands, but not exceeding 14 hands 2in., shown in harness: 1, S. Brunton; 2, Mrs. O. Maund; 3, C. J. Young.

Pony, mare, or gelding, not exceeding 13 hands, shown in harness: 1, S. Brunton; 2, W. Legg; 3, C. A. Bass.

TRADESMEN'S "TURN-OUT."

One horse turn-out, not to exceed 14 hands, property of tradesmen, and used solely for trade: 1, C. J. Young; 2, T. Taylor; 3, J. Kirkby.

One horse turn-out, over 14 hands, property of a tradesman, and used solely for trade: 1, Fuller and Co.; 2 and 3, Chas. Clark.

Whitby Horse Show.

For a small show with a comparatively limited prize money, the Whitby Horse Show Society's Exhibition was a remarkably good one. The entries this year reached a record, and, favoured as the occasion was by perfect summer weather, there was a very large attendance, including, of course, a goodly sprinkling of those non-agricultural visitors who combine to make Whitby a very full holiday resort just at present. The classes were all small ones, and it is not necessary to enter into the individual merits of the prize winners. The entries of horses were slightly

below last year, being 218 against 245 in 1899. The total entries, however, including ferrets and so on, amounted to 280, against 269 last year, 252 in 1898, and 279 in 187. The quality represented was uniformly good, and especially in the Hackney and hunter sections was there an excellent show. The Hackney Society's silver medal went to the yearling filly class, the winner curiously enough being unplaced in her class. The hunters were an extremely good lot all round.

Prize L'st.

CLEVELAND BAYS.

Brood mare, not less than three years of age, with her foal or stinted: 1, J. Lett, York; 2, J. Hutton, Lythe; 3, G. Elders, jun., Whitby. Colt foal: 1, J. Robinson, Hull; 2, E. Grayston, Cloughton, R.S.O. Filly foal: 1, J. Lett, Guisborough; 2, C. Allison, Hawsker. Yearling colt, gelding or filly: 1, G. Allison; 2, A. G. Bulmer. Two-year-old filly: 1, W. Wood, Helmsley; 2, J. Welford, Loftus, R.S.O.

COACHING.

Brood mare: 1, J. White, Bolton Percy; 2, J. Thompson, Malton. Colt foal: 1, R. V. Robinson, Grosmont, R.S.O.; 2, G. Thompson. Filly foal: G. Elders. Yearling colt or gelding: 1, T. Knaggs, Marske; 2, J. McNeil, Grosmont. Yearling filly: 1, S. Bacon; 2, Capt. Dunnington-Jefferson, York. Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. McNeil; 2, F. Wilson, Whitby. Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. White; 2, J. Robinson.

AGRICULTURAL.

Brood mare, not less than three years of age, with her foal or stinted: 1, R. and J. Davison, Malton; 2, R. P. Petch, Skelton, R.S.O.; 3, A. Harrowing, Whitby. Colt foal: 1, R. P. Petch; 2, J. W. Newton, Whitby; 3, J. Kerr, Lythe. Filly foal: 1, J. Ingledew, Bedale; 2, Messrs. Franks, Whitby; 3, R. and J. Davison. Yearling colt, gelding or filly: 1, Capt. Dunnington-Jefferson; 2, B. King, York. Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, C. Stubbs, Scarborough; 2, R. and J. Davison.

HUNTERS.

Brood mare, not less than three years of age, with her foal or stinted: 1, T. Swales, Yarm; 2, J. Ingledew. Colt foal: 1, R. W. Duell, Whitby; 2, J. Webster, Pickering. Filly foal: 1, T. Swales; 2, J. S. Darrell, York. Yearling colt or gelding: 1, J. S. Darrell; 2, J. McNeil. Yearling filly: 1, J. Pickard, York; 2, C. A. Harrison, Hull. Two-year-old gelding: 1, G. Mortimer, Grosmont; 2, W. Raw, Grosmont. Two-year-old filly: 1, T. Newton, Easington; 2, T. Creaser, Pickering. Three-year-old gelding: 1, J. S. Darrell; 2, E. Hoyle, Bacup. Three-year-old filly: 1, J. S. Darrell; 2, F. W. Horsfall, Northallerton.

HACKNEYS.

Hackney, or pony, mare, filly, or filly foal in Classes 27, 29, 31, and 32, registered in the Hackney Stud Book, or eligible for the subsequent volume.—Brood mare: 1, J. T. Ireland, Beverley; 2, J. F. Richardson, Malton; 3, E. Edwards, York. Colt foal: 1, J. H. and P. Webster, Brompton, R.S.O.; 2, Major Mitchelson, Pickering. Filly foal: 1, H. Creaser; 2, H. Brown. Yearling colt or gelding: 1, J. A. Shepherd, Pickering. Yearling filly: 1, H. Creaser; 2, B. Wilson, Whitby; Hackney Society's medal and special prize, J. H. and P. Webster. Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, H. Creaser; 2, J. F. Richardson, Malton.

HUNTERS.

Hunting mare or gelding: 1, J. H. Stokes, Market Harborough; 2, T. and H. Ward, Great Ayton; 3, E. Hoyle. Mare or gelding, not less than four years of age: 1, D. Smallwood, Whitby; 2, Mrs. T. S. Petch, Northallerton; 3, W. Carr, Whitby.

LEAPING.

Horse or mare, of any breed, which leaps the artificial fences in the best hunting style: 1, T. E. Lavin, Ripon; 2 and 3, D. Smallwood. Horse or mare, of any breed, which leaps the artificial fences in the best hunting style, limited to animals that have up to the date of entry never won a leaping prize over £3 in value: 1, John McNeil, Robin Hood's Bay; 2, James McNeil.

HACKNEYS.

Gentleman's mare or gelding, over 14½ hands: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes, Shipley; 2, M. Pearson, Harogate. Lady's mare or gelding, over 14½ hands: 1, J. C. W. Dixon, Darlington; 2, Mrs. Smallwood, Whitby.

PONIES.

Mare or gelding, over 12½ hands, and not over 14½ hands: 1, Mrs F. Holmes; 2, T. T. Cannon, York. Mare or gelding, not to exceed 12½ hands: 1, M. Pearson; 2, J. Teasdale, Nawton, R.S.O.

HORSES IN HARNESS.

Horse or mare, over 14½ hands, to be shown and driven in harness: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, Sir George Elliot, Whitby; 3, J. W. Nicholson, Loftus. Horse or mare, not exceeding 14½ hands, to be shown and driven in harness: 1, Mrs F. Holmes; 2, W. Jordinson; 3, W. Lakin.

Blackpool.

Until this year the Blackpool Agricultural Society's operations were confined to the districts bounded by Garstang and Knott End railway on the north, by the Preston and Lancaster railway on the east, by the Ribble on the south, and by the sea on the west; but under a recently formulated scheme the Society's area has been made that of the Blackpool and Lancaster Parliamentary divisions. The radius, therefore, now includes the farms of numerous prominent North-country breeders, who were formerly debarred from competing. The exhibition on Tuesday was favoured with fine weather, and a very large crowd of spectators paid for admission. The show of live stock was one of the best ever held by the Society, one of the most gratifying features being the exhibition of young animals, the foals and yearlings especially providing an impressive sign that the Fylde is more than maintaining its best traditions as a horse-breeding centre. The total number of entries was 697, as compared with 657 last year, and the prize money amounted to nearly £600. The premiums were so substantial as to attract some of the best stock of the country, many of the classes being equal in point of number and quality to those in similar competitions at the Royal Lancashire Show at Rochdale. The Shires were after the old-fashioned Fylde stamp, standing on the best of legs and feet, with depth and character, and with the size necessary to meet industrial requirements. In the pairs, the executors of J. Mercer, Alston, won with the well-known bays by Scytax and Northern King, whose nearest competitors were Mr. T. Hull's pair by Mechanic and Morcar. The Scytax descendant won in the brood mares with Mr. Ed. Thompson's Gordon matron next, whilst in the smaller brood mares a bay by Cannock Hitchen won for Mr. T. M. Watson, Weeton, with Mr. Hull's Morcar mare next. Mr. J. Fox's Ellel headed the line in the four-year-olds with a powerful black daughter of Prince Harold, which, however, had not the quality of foundations possessed by Mr. Peter Blundell's bay by Royal William II., whilst in three-year-olds Mr. Watson won. A chestnut by Mahommed stood second for Messrs. Hull Bros., Preesall. One of the handsomest fillies on the ground was the two-year-old by Cograve Harold, from Alston Hall. Mr. Peter Blundell had no difficulty in winning with his yearling filly by Nailstone Royal Regent, which was placed in front of bays by Stroxton Tom and Thornton Tip-top, owned by Mr. T. Walsh. A strapping colt foal by Burgeon won for Mr. T. Hull, with a promising youngster second for Mr. Walsh, and in the filly foals Mr. Henry Lawson led with a youngster by the Duke of Worsley II.; whilst Mr. Edward Thompson followed with a pair of the Harold strain.

In the light horses section Mr. J. W. Liver was prominent among the exhibitors, his mare Mona, by Danegelt, coming in before Mr. Law Fish's Golden Girl and Mr. R. M. Birley's Lady Maud, whilst his four-year-old Lord Calder was in his best form, and romped round Mr. C. V. Haworth's chestnut by Danegelt and Mr. R. Hall's Lady Beatrice, by Garton Duke of Connaught. Mr. W. Lawson's handsome three-year-old Zaveda added another to the list of honours, beating a bay owned by Mr. R. Hothersall, Preston, and Mr. T. B. Sykes's Jessica, and in two-year-olds his Blackpool Countess supported the spectators by coming in at the top. Mr. Law Fish's [illegible] and Mr. T. B. Sykes's Fylde Ardenza were the other winners. In yearlings Mr. Birley headed the list with a chestnut by Sir Hugo III., which has usually had to be content with minor honours, but his sister Gentleman was second with a Royal Derby [illegible] which travelled freely. [illegible] made a fine [illegible] Mr. Law Fish won in the [illegible] Mr. Law's disciplined Garton Duke of Connaught [illegible] fully took a remarkable [illegible] youngsters by Dennis [illegible] owned by Mr. J. W. Liver, Calder Vale. Mr. Liver headed the list with a foal out of Mona, Mr. J. Hardman Singleton, and Mr. C. V. Haworth, Poulton, to [illegible] all being [illegible] Demas. Mr. W. Catterall, Poulton-le-Fylde, and Mr. R. Moore won Mr. Lawson's prizes, Mr. C. V. Haworth and Mr. W. Moore [illegible] carried off the premium offered by Mr. J. E. [illegible] There were only one [illegible] and Mr. J. J. L. Irving won with a well-known [illegible] numerous honours for Mr. Edward Hoyle, Bacup. Mr. S. Isherwood, Dunscar, near Bolton, was third. The saddle and harness [illegible] number of entries, and the exhibits [illegible] ment proved very interesting. Mr. Tom Mitchell's Sam Weller had to take second place to Mr. [illegible] ton Cannon, owned by Mr. J. Bee, [illegible] Hall, but beat Messrs. Baxter's well-known [illegible] Lady Nell; whilst in ponies Mr. G. E. Broughton's Bingo was in great form, and easily outdistanced Mr. H. T. Parke's Handy Jane, which [illegible] second. Sam Weller and Lady Nell [illegible] in the turnouts, Mr. Parker's Lord Lofty [illegible] his superior exhibition of [illegible] In pairs driven in harness Mr. Wm. [illegible] Equality and Favourites showed their mettle to [illegible] and beat Messrs. Baxter's Mark and Miss Howard, with Mr. Parke's Lady Love and Cassius bringing up the rear of the prize winners; but in the [illegible] were beaten by Heathfield Scythe and Norbury Squire, owned by Mr. E. S. Godsell, Stroud, although Norbury Squire's performance rather [illegible] the superb merit of his equine companion.

The cattle formed one of the most [illegible] collections of stock seen in the society's experience. In the older bulls, Mr. F. Miller, of Eccleston, won easily with his Rochdale winner, Cockle Wellington, which had much more [illegible] the young-ster exhibited by Mr. T. A. Crook, which turned the tables on his Lytham competitor, [illegible] Border Prince, owned by Mr. J. Lawson, Wesham. The yearling bulls were led by Mr. Miller's Shylock, which was first at Birmingham, and second at Rochdale, and which now [illegible] Colonel, the pure-bred sire, owned by Messrs. Harrison, Peel's Colonial, which suffered [illegible] the [illegible] was not so thickly fleshed nor so smoothly [illegible] but was deeper than the winner. Mr. Liver was third with Wesham Duke. In [illegible] Miss Margaret Blackburn, Out Rawcliffe, won with a roan by Donald, which beat Union Jack, owned by Mr. John Harrison, Much Hoole, there thus being a reversal of the Royal Lancashire decision. Mr. Peter Blundell was third. In the open class Carlisle Wellington again won, but had a [illegible] in Favourite of Sanquahar, owned by Mr. George Harrison, of Darlington, a bull which has won many important premiums. The dairy [illegible] a splendid collection, the winner, owned by Mr. R. Hall, Lancaster, being a particularly fine specimen of the pail-filler. Mr. Blundell was second in the dairy class, and in cows in calf or in milk. Mr. Hall's nearest competitor was Mr. J. Harrison. The judge quarrelled with the Rochdale decision in the yearling heifers, for he placed at the top the roan Sparklet, owned by Mr. T. R. Wilkins, Longton, whilst Mr. Wilkins' Belita III. had to be content with second place. In [illegible] Messrs. Harrison, Hoole, were to the front with a pretty modelled daughter of Bas Gem's, while in the champion class Mr. George Harrison, Darlington, won with the roan Waterloo, which [illegible] the highest honours at Rochdale.

The sheep [illegible] fairly good [illegible] the Westmorlandes being the choicest section. Messrs. Gibson and Sons, Netherhall Hall, [illegible] Kendal [illegible] cards in nearly all the long-woolled classes, and their classes' connections proved to be Mr. R. Sharp, Sowerby; Mr. W. Clegg, Goosnargh; and Mr. J. Wells, Eccleston; whilst [illegible] Mr. W. Bradshaw, Carleton; Mr. R. Winder, Pilling; and the Exors. of J. Banks, Cleveleys. Messrs. Gibson were also prominent in the [illegible] classes, in which the honours were [illegible] between Messrs. Buller Bros., Warbreck; D. Dewhurst, Poulton-le-Fylde; R. Baxter, Shard Bridge; R. Silcock and Sons, Poulton; T. Baxter, Plumpton; and W. Bradshaw, Carleton. Owing to swine fever restrictions [illegible]

MR. W. W. HUBBLE'S CHAMPION SUSSEX HEIFER, "PEONY."

Alford Horse and Foal Show

[illegible] The [illegible] annual exhibition of the Alford and District Horse and Foal Show Society took place on the Cottage Green, Alford, on Thursday last. The weather was far from favourable. A strong cold westerly wind was blowing across the ground, and beginning at 10 o'clock in the morning, there were [illegible] heavy showers of hail. [illegible] the heavy [illegible] the [illegible] were [illegible] [illegible] two-year-olds [illegible] [illegible] two-less than [illegible] [illegible] prizes [illegible] [illegible]

their catalogue, but this was the case at Alford on Thursday. The catalogue comprised twenty-two classes, and the prize money amounted to £144, in addition to which there were also offered for competition the Shire Horse Society's silver medal, the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal, and a twelve-guinea silver cup given by Mr. Walter Wingfield, of Driby, the chairman of the Society, for the best animal of the Hackney breed exhibited by owners residing or mainly farming in Lincs.

Judging commenced at nine o'clock, and in the first class for the best Shire or cart colt or filly foal (twelve miles radius) there were no fewer than fifteen entries, all of whom put in an appearance. Messrs. M. Wholey and Sons, of Gunby, were placed first with a useful bay colt by Buscot Bar None; and Mr. James Parrish, of Theddlethorpe, second with a brown filly by Bar Nought Tom; and a brown filly by Forest King, shown by Mr. G. Johnson, of Gunby, was third; and another of Bar Nought Tom's stock, a brown colt, belonging to Mr. E. Pridgeon, of Gayton-le-Marsh, was fourth. In the class for the best Shire or cart colt foal (eight miles radius) the entries numbered seventeen, and twelve were present. Mr. John Robinson, of Bilsby, was awarded first honours with a bay colt by Bar Nought Tom; Messrs. M. Wholey and Sons' winner in the first class was placed second; a bay colt by Burstone Pride, belonging to Messrs. A. E. and W. S. Freshney, of Grimoldby, was third; and Mr. Pridgeon's foal was again fourth. In the filly class there were thirteen entries, and all were present with one exception. Mr. S. Walker, of Theddlethorpe, was first with a useful-looking brown filly by Bar Nought Tom; Mr. Henry Daulton, of Bilsby, with a filly four and a-quarter months, by King of Trumps 2nd, was second; and Mr. James Parrish was third with the second prize winner in Class 1. Class 4, for the best Shire or cart colt foal, had an extended radius of fifteen miles, and attracted eleven good entries. A grand-looking foal by Waresley Albert out of Bonny Lass, belonging to E. H. Cartwright, of Keddington Grange, Louth, was an easy winner. He was first and champion at the show at Wainfleet last week, and won two firsts at the county show at Spalding, taking the lead in the county class, in which there were thirty-six entries, and beating all comers in the open class. Mr. John Robinson's bay by Bar Nought Tom, the winner in Class 2, was second; and a brown colt by Burstone Pride, belonging to Mr. T. H. Rainthorpe, of Legbourne, third. In the filly class Mr. S. Walker, of Theddlethorpe, carried off both first and second honours with two good foals by Bar Nought Tom and Golden King respectively. Mr. W. Ashton, of Tothill, was third with a black filly by Watnall Merry Lad; and Mr. H. Daulton's second prize winner in Class 3 was placed fourth. Class 6 was open to cart foals by either of Mr. W. H. Rawsley's horses, Golden King or Forest King, and of the eight exhibits seven were by the former. Mr. S. Walker's filly, second in the previous class, was the winner; Mr. G. Johnson's filly by Forest King, second; a black colt belonging to Mr. W. Rufus Mountain, of Bilsby Field, third; and a black colt shown by Mr. C. Brookes's executors, of Farlsthorpe, fourth.

The class for the best cart foal by Mr. A. Palethorpe's King of Trumps II. produced seven competitors, and the winners were Mr. H. Daulton, Mr. J. H. Smith (Firsby), Mr. H. Raithby (Mablethorpe), and Mr. E. Parsons (Beesby). In the open class, for the best cart foal in the show, Mr. E. H. Cartwright's winner in Class 4 was awarded the prize, Mr. S. Walker's winner in Class 5 being reserved.

In the class for the best hunter foal by a thoroughbred sire, Mr. Harold Martin, of Wainfleet, was first and second, with two foals by Upsilon. A bay colt, by Stonechack, shown by Mr. A. Short, of Aswardby, was third. There were ten Hackney foals by a registered Hackney sire. Of these eight were by Sir Augustus, and the excellence of the exhibits may be gauged by the fact that Norbury Motor, which was first at the county show, was reserved to the winners. A bay filly, belonging to Mr. G. J. Brown, of Tothby, was awarded first honours; Mr. Walter Wingfield, the popular chairman of the society, was placed second with his bay colt, Hero of Mafeking; and Mr. S. T. Bettinson, of Fleet, came third with a chestnut filly. All the prize-winners were by Sir Augustus. In the next class—for the best Hackney foal by Sir Augustus—there were thirteen entries, including seven shown in the previous class. Mr. S. B. Carnley, of the Norbury House Stud, Alford, showed his black colt Norbury Fashion, and it beat the winners in the previous class, Mr. Brown's bay filly being placed second, Mr. Wingfield's Hero of Mafeking third, and Mr. Bettinson's chestnut filly fourth. In the class for the best yearling Shire or cart filly (twelve miles radius), and Mr. Walter Townsend, of Louth, was placed first with his Society Belle, by Sherborne Harold, out of Brumby Fashion, which was highly commended at the county show. A bay filly by Albert Victor V., shown by Mr. B. G. Upton, of Raithby, was second, and a black filly by Auld Lang Syne, exhibited by Mr. G. W. Clarke, of Belchford, third. The best of the two year-old Shire fillies (eight miles radius) was Mr. W. Rutter's (Hogsthorpe), Hogsthorpe Violet, by East Anglian; Mr. J. W. Farrow's (Strubby) brown by Weighty Tom being second; and Mr. W. East's (Anderby) Anderby Bonny third. For the best Shire mare not under three years Mr. J. Mason, of Calceby, was first with Flower, by Golden King, aged four years, which was subsequently awarded the Shire Horse Society's medal. Mr. W. B. Eve, of Haugh, was second with a three-year-old bay mare by Shelford Beauty; and Mr. W. Rutter's Lincolnshire Lass, by Lincolnshire Boy (seven years), was third.

The Hackney mares for breeding purposes formed a good class, the entries numbering eleven. Mr. J. H. Dennis's Lady Cuteness, by Canny Man, was first, second going to Mr. T. Bettinson's Fleet Fireworks, by Bonfire, and third to Mr. G. W. Hoyles's Lady Westfield, by Norfolk Swell. The Hackney Horse Society's silver medal was awarded to Mr. S. B. Carnley's bay mare Vanity by Candidate, Mr. J. H. Dennis's Lady Cuteness being reserve. Vanity was first in the class for Hackney mares with foal at foot at the county show, and she won the championship of the London Hackney Society in 1892 and 1893. Mr. S. B. Carnley's bay colt, Norbury Lightning, by Polonius, was easily first in the class for the best yearling Hackney colt, gelding, or filly, open to the county. He won the first prize at the Royal Show for yearling Hackney stallions, and as a foal at the Lincolnshire Show at Louth last year he won first prize in the class open to England for the best Hackney foal. Mr. Carnley's chestnut filly, Norbury Pansy, by Clovelly, was second, and Mr. J. W. Farrow's (Strubby) chestnut gelding, by Lord Norbury, was third. In the class for the best Hackney gelding or mare shown in saddle, there were nine entries. Mr. J. Robinson's (Hull) Mornington Cannon, by Saxon, was first, Mr. Tom Mitchell's (Bradford) bay gelding, Sam Weller, by Ganymede, second; and Mr. W. Wharton's (Winterton) brown gelding Mystery, by Baccarat II., third. Mr. T. Bradley's (Uffington, Stamford) bay gelding Sequent, by Havoc, came out first in the county class for hunters tried over a single flight of hurdles; Mr. W. A. Ewbank (Marshchapel) came second with a bay gelding by Highflyer.

The open harness class was the best the Society has had during its nine years' existence, and included Mr. Tom Mitchell's celebrated Sam Weller, the winner at the Royal Show at York, and also a prize winner at the show at Maidstone. Mrs. Fred Holmes, of Staveley Grange, Yorks, had also entered her well-known bay mare Love Letter, by His Majesty, the winner of the second prize at the Royal Show, but she was not able to get through to Alford. The judges had no hesitation in placing Sam Weller first; Mr. C. Fowler's Lord Lincoln second, and Mr. J. H. Dennis's Lady Cuteness third. The president's cup was awarded to Mr. S. B. Carnley's Norbury Lightning, which beat Mr. Fowler's Lord Lincoln (reserved). The judges' decision was very popular, and was received with great applause. In the leaping classes the entries were disappointing, and only four horses turned out in one class and three in the other, Mr. H. Grantham's Lincolnshire Lad, Mr. F. Foster's Gipsy, and Mr. J. Todd's Hopover were the prize-winners in the first class; and Lincolnshire Lad, disqualified by his win, having dropped out, Hopover and Gipsy, with Mr. J. T. Marshall's Lincolnshire Lass, were the winners in the second.

Ayton.

The fear that the show of the Ayton Agricultural Society at Ayton, on the 1th inst., would suffer from bad weather was early dissolved, for the rain cleared and the sun shone out as soon as the judging began, and the event—the twenty-third of its kind—passed off in brilliant weather and with a most gratifying attendance. The display will bear comparison with those of previous years, and this is not surprising with a premium list amounting to over £300. The Hackney Society's medal was won by Mr. Nicholson's yearling filly, Watton Snowflake (sired by Watton Gentleman), which was first in a grand class, while Mr. Richardson's two-year-old mare, Marguerite Daisy, was selected as the reserve. The judges were: Hunters, Messrs. T. Wickham Boynton (Burton Agnes) and W. Scarth, jun. (Northallerton); Hackneys, Messrs. T. Black (Dumfries) and R. Whitworth (Halifax); coach and cart horses, Messrs. John Kirk (Knaresborough) and T. Petch (Skelton-in-Cleveland); cattle, sheep, and pigs, Messrs. S. Frank (Easingwold) and P. Dunn (Sigglesthorne).

The following were the principal awards:—

BROOD MARES AND FOALS

Hunting mare and foal: 1, J. Cooper, Killerby Hall; 2, J. S. Darrell, West Ayton. Roadster mare and foal: 1, R. Beswick, Langton; 2, H. Stephenson, Ebberston. Agricultural mare with foal at foot or stinted: 1, R and J. Davison, Welham; 2, C. Jackson, Cayton. Agricultural foal: 1, H. Wilson, Langton; 2, J. White, Thirlso, Hackness. Pony and foal, not exceeding 14½ hands: 1, T. Hall, Langton; 2, C. Jackson. Roadster foal: 1, J. M. Mitchelson, Pickering; 2, H Stephenson. Colt foal by any of Lord Middleton's Shire horses: H Wilson, Langton. Filly foal by any of Lord Middleton's Shire horses: C. Jackson.

HORSES

Agricultural yearling colt or filly: 1, J Cranswick, Hunmanby; 2, B. King, Bog Hall, Kirbymoorside. Two-year-old agricultural mare or gelding: 1, R. and J Davison, Welham; 2, A S. Benton, Cowlesge. Pair of agricultural horses, to be exhibited by tenant farmers only: 1, R and J Davison; 2, C Jackson. Horse or mare, for draw purposes: 1, C Jackson, Cayton; 2, R and J. Davison, Welham. Three-year old agricultural mare or gelding: 1, W Wardcock, Sawerby Cottage, Bridlington; 2, R and J Davison. Two or three-year-old coaching gelding or filly: 1 and 2, J. S. Darrell, West Ayton. Roadster yearling colt or filly: 1, D. Nicholson, Watton, Cranswick; 2, B Wilson, Kirby Misperton. Two-year-old roadster mare or gelding: 1, J F Richardson, Malton; 2, H Creasser, Pickering. Three-year-old roadster mare or gelding: 1, W Lakin, Pickering; 2, W P Kirby, Watton. Yearling hunting colt or filly: 1, J Cockerill, Burniston; 2, H. Hurd, Staintondale. Two-year-old hunting mare or gelding: 1, R Crosse, Reighton, Bempton; 2, O Vasey The Valley, Scarborough. Three-year-old hunting mare or gelding: 1, E. Hodgson, Bridlington; 2, J. S. Darrell, West Ayton. Hunting mare or gelding, five years old and upwards, open to all England: 1, T. and H. Ward, Pinchinthorpe; 2, W. B. Brown, Slingsby; 3, D. Smallwood, Whitby. Four-year-old hunting mare or gelding, to be ridden in the ring, open to all England: 1, F. J. and H. Grainger, Thornholme; 2, E Hodgson, Bridlington; 3, T. and H. Ward, Pinchinthorpe Hackney or roadster mare or gelding, not exceeding six years old, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer: 1, E. Edwards, Ganton; 2, T. T. Campion, East Heslerton. Gentleman's hackney mare or gelding, any age, to be ridden in the ring: 1, J. Robinson, Hull; 2, R. Beswick, Langton. Ladies' hackney mare or gelding, any age, to be ridden in the ring: 1, F. J. and H. Grainger, Thornholme; 2, J. S. Darrell, West Ayton. Pony, mare or gelding, any age, to be ridden in the ring, not to exceed 14½ hands: 1, T. Hall, Langton; 2, J Holtby, Buck Hotel, Driffield. Pony, mare or gelding, not exceeding 13½ hands high, to be ridden in the ring: 1, H. M. Welburn, Muston; 2, F. Mainprize, Brompton. Mare or gelding, any age, not exceeding 14½ hands, to be driven in single harness: 1, R. Beswick, Langton; 2, W. Lakin, Pickering. Pony, any age, not exceeding 14½ hands, to be driven in single harness: 1, T. Hall, Langton; 2, L. Danby, Swan Hill. Pair of horses, to be driven tandem, open to all England: 1, W. Lakin; 2, O. Vasey, Scarborough.

CATTLE.

Shorthorn bull, exceeding two years: 1; I. Burdass, Lowthorpe, Driffield; , C. A. Hirst, Allerston Marishes, Pickering. Bull, under two years: 1, T. D. Robinson, Harpham, Lowthorpe Hall; 2, E. H. Hebden, Snainton. Bull or steer calf, under one year old: 1, E. H. Hebden; 2, T. D. Robinson, Harpham. Shorthorn cow: 1, C. A. Hirst; 2, J. A. Jackson, Low Deepdale. Cow for dairy purposes: 1, A Hirst, Killerby; 2, G. Jackson, Moor House. Cottagers' cow for dairy purposes, the cottager not to occupy more than seven acres of land, and not to keep more than two cows: 1, W. Hardy, East Ayton; 2, W. Newton, East Ayton; 3, F. Smith, Cayton. Heifer for breeding purposes, age to exceed two and not to exceed three years: 1, I. Burdass; 2, E. H. Hebden. Heifer for breeding purposes, age to exceed one and not to exceed two years: 1, T. D. Robinson, Harpham; 2, E. H. Hebden. Heifer, not to exceed one year: 1, E. H. Hebden; 2, T. D. Robinson, Harpham.

SHEEP.

Shearling ram, any breed: 1, T. A. Jackson, Bridlington; 2, J. J. Simpson, Hunmanby. Pen of five ewes, which have suckled their lambs up to the 13th July, 1900: 1, T. Nightingale, Bridlington; 2, T. A. Jackson, Bridlington. Pen of five shearling gimmers, bred by the exhibitor: J. J. Simpson, Hunmanby. Pen of five cross-bred lambs: 1, R. and J. Davison, Welham; 2, C. Jackson, Cayton. Pen of five gimmer lambs, bred by the exhibitor, any pure breed: 1, T. A. Jackson, The Grange, Bridlington; 2, T. Nightingale, Bridlington. Pen of five wether lambs, bred by the exhibitor: 1, W. Watson, Hutton Buscel; 2, T. Nightingale, Bridlington.

PIGS.

Boar, any breed: 1, E. H. Hebden, Snainton; 2, G. Jackson, Moor House. Litter of sucking pigs, to be shown with mother, not to exceed eight weeks old, bred by exhibitor: 1, R. Sheffield, Hutton Buscel; 2, G. Jackson, Moor House. Sow or gilt: 1, W. Wilkinson, East Ayton; 2, J. W. Kirby, Scamridge, Snainton. Cottager's pig, the cottager to reside within six miles of Ayton, and not to occupy more than seven acres of land: 1, W. Wilkinson, East Ayton; 2, W. Newton, East Ayton. General labourer's pig, the labourer to reside within a radius of six miles: 1, R. Sheffield; 2, W. Nellis, Hutton Buscel.

Oxted and Godstone.

The eleventh annual show of the Oxted and Godstone Agricultural Association was held on the Recreation Ground, Oxted, on the 6th inst. A capital list of entries, showing an increase of upwards of a hundred upon the number last year, was obtained, and the exhibition would undoubtedly have been a highly successful one in every respect but for the elements. Unfortunately these, in common with the weather experienced throughout the country generally, were all against outdoor events. The effect was, of course, to greatly diminish the attendance of the public at the show, and to shatter the hope entertained of realising a "three-figure gate." Notwithstanding the adverse conditions which prevailed, however, there was a much larger company present than could reasonably have been expected under the circumstances. Judging commenced at 10.30, and it was universally agreed that, as well as numerically, there was a marked improvement in the quality of the exhibits, especially in horses and horned stock. The silver medals of the Shire Horse Society, the Hunters' Improvement Society, and the Hackney Horse Society were won respectively by Mr. R. Barrow, Brockham, Betchworth; Mr. T. Church, Crawley Down; and Messrs. Boddy and Son, Edenbridge.

The judges were:—Shires and Agricultural Horses: Messrs. J. B. Stevens, The Manor, Ogbourne, Wilts, and Mr. W. Howkins, Manor Farm, Woolscott, Rugby. Hunters: Messrs. F. H. White, Forest Row, East Grinstead, and S. Young, Waterloo Street, Brighton. Hackneys, Hacks, and Harness: Messrs. E. Albury, Reading, and A. Wheatley, Reading. Jumping: Messrs. F. A. White, Forest Row, East Grinstead, and S. Young, Waterloo Street, Brighton. Jerseys and Guernseys: Messrs. F. A. Hordern, Buxted, and G. C. Knight, Rusper. Shorthorns: Messrs. C. Woolnough, Wakehurst, Ardingley, and T. Bannister, Haywards Heath. Sheep: Mr. J. Henton, White Hill Farm, Reigate.

Prize List.

SHIRE HORSES

Shire stallion, any age: 1, Mr. G. Osenton, Mariners, Westerham; 2, Mr. W. Greenwell, Marden Park, Woldingham; r, Mr. M. Michaelis, Tandridge Court, Tandridge. Shire foal: 1 and hc, Mr. G. Osenton; 2, Mr W. Greenwell; 3, Mr. M. Michaelis; r, Mr. H. F. Young, Perrysfield, Oxted. Shire mare with foal at foot, or that has produced a foal this season, or proved to be in foal at the present time: 1, Mr R Barrow, Elm Grove, Brockham; 2 and c, Mr. W Greenwell; r, Mr. Michaelis; hc, Mr T Jones, Quarry Farm, Godstone. Shire filly, foaled in 1899: 1 and 2, Mr. W. Greenwell; r, Mr. G. Osenton. Shire filly, foaled in 1898: 1, Mr M. Michaelis; 2, Mr G Osenton. The Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal that is registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book: Mr R Barrow. A silver cup, value five guineas (given by W Greenwell, Esq.), for the best Shire colt or filly foal by either of the Maiden horses: Mr Alex. Holm, Buckland, Betchworth; r, ditto.

AGRICULTURAL HORSES.

Brood cart mare, with foal at foot, or that has produced a foal this season, or proved to be in foal at the present time: 1, Mr. R. Barrow; 2, Mr. W. Greenwell; r, Mr. Alex. Holm. Cart mare or gelding, adapted to agricultural purposes: 1, Mr. R. Barrow; 2, Mr. Alex. Holm; r, Mr. G. Osenton; he, Mr. H. F. Young.

FOR TENANT FARMERS ONLY.

Brood cart mare that has produced a foal this season, or proved to be in foal at the present time: 1, Mr. T. Jones; 2, Mr. G. Osenton; 3, Mr. H. F. Young; r, Mr. Alex. Holm. Cart mare or gelding adapted for agricultural purposes: 1, Mr. Alex. Holm; 2 and r, Mr G. Osenton; he, Mr. H. F. Young. Cart filly or gelding, foaled in 1897, and bred by exhibitor: 1, Mr. H. F. Young; 2, Exors. of the late Edward Skinner, Godstone; r, Mr H. H. Young, Hall Farm, Oxted. Cart filly or gelding, foaled in 1898, and bred by exhibitor: 1, Mr G. Osenton; 2, Mr. Alex. Holm. Cart gelding or filly, foaled in 1899, and bred by exhibitor: 1 and 2, Mr. G. Osenton; r, Mr. H. F. Young; he, Mr. A. Holm. Cart foal bred by exhibitor: 1, Mr. G. Osenton; 2, Mr. H. F. Young; r, Mr. Alex. Holm.

HUNTERS.

Weight-carry hunter mare or gelding capable of carrying 14 stone and upwards: 1, Mr. T. Church, Haven Farm, Crawley Down; 2, Mr. T. Radmore, Cuddington Court, Cheam; r, Mr. P. W. Carr, Dennett Lodge, Crockham Hill. Light-weight carrying hunter mare or gelding, any age: 1 and 2, Mr. A. G. Ashby, The Manor House, Reigate; r, Mr. J. A. Tunmis, Stone Hall, Oxted. Mare or gelding foaled in 1897 or 1898: 1, Mr. C. Leveson Gower, Titsey Place, Limpsfield; 2, Mr. L. H. Burroughes, South Godstone. Brood mare suitable for breeding a hunter; the mare exhibited must have produced a foal this season, or proved to be in foal at the present time: 1, Mr. Wentworth Hope Johnstone, 36, Sloane Street, London; 2, Mr. T. E. Liddiard, Moorhouse, Westerham; r, Mr. G. Hamlin, Carswell Park, Lingfield. The Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for the best hunter of either sex and of any age: Mr. T. Church.

HACKNEYS.

Brood mare that has produced a foal this season, or proved to be in foal at the present time: 1, Mr. C. E. Brinckman, Fetcham Grove, Leatherhead; 2, Boddy and Son, Edenbridge; r, Mr. H. S. Smith, East Grinstead. Colt or filly foaled in 1900: 1, Mr. H. S. Martin; r, Mr. Gerald E. Hoare, Bletchingley. Filly foaled in 1899: 2, Mr. E. Alexander, Trevereux, Edenbridge. Filly foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. V. T. Taylor, Ashcroft, Dormans Land; r, Mr. E. Alexander. Filly foaled in 1897: 1 and r, Boddy and Son; 2, Mr. R. Skelton, Crockham Hill, Edenbridge. The Hackney Horse Society's silver medal for the best hackney or pony mare, filly or filly foal that is registered or eligible for registration in the Hackney Stud Book: Messrs. Boddy and Son. For the best mare or gelding, to be ridden: 1, Mr. A. N. Smith, Danehurst, Nutfield; 2, Mr. E. A. Goad, Mead House, Redhill.

HARNESS.

Mare or gelding, 15 hands and over: 1 and 2, Mr. V. Vervacke, 105, London Road, Croydon; 3, Mr. E. H. Goad, Mead House, Redhill; r, Mr. R. S. Lindley, Godstone Place. Mare or gelding, under 15 hands: 1, Mr. G. Hamlin; 2, Mr. W. S. Cunard, Bracknell, Berks; 3, Mr. E. H. Goad; r, Mr V. Vervacke. Pony, 14 hands and under: 1 and r, Mr. E. H. Goad; 2, Mr Huson Morris, The Nest, Hayes, Kent. Pony, not exceeding 12 hands 2ins: 1, The Ladies E. and D. Hope, Underriver, Sevenoaks; 2, Mr. Gerald E. Hoare; 3, Miss Boulter, Garstone Park, Godstone. For the best pair: 1, Mr. V. Vervacke; 2, Mr. E. H. Goad; 3, Mr. H. Barry, Home Place, Limpsfield. For the best tandem: 1, Mr. T. Hart, 12, Lexham Mews, South Kensington; 2, Mr G. Hamlin; 3 and r, Mr. E. H. Goad.

TRADESMEN'S TURN-OUTS.

For the best turn-out, used solely for trade purposes, and been in exhibitor's possession for at least two months previous to the date of show: 1, Mr. F. C. Watford, 4, High Street, East Grinstead; 2, Mr. W. F. Skilton, South House, Whyteleafe, and 91, George Street, Croydon; 3, Mr. B. Hall, Ivy Mill, Godstone; r, Messrs. W. and H. Snelling, Oxted.

JUMPING.

For the best jumper, mare or gelding, that had never won a prize over £5 3s., to have been regularly hunted with either the Old Surrey Burstow, Surrey Stag, or the West Kent Hunts: 1, Mr. A. N. Smith; 2, Mrs. Hope, Beckenham; 3, Mr. H. Springett, Sydenham; r, Mr. C. Young, Knightsbridge. Mare or gelding (open): 1, Mr. Philip W. Carr; 2, Mr. J. C. Buckland, Great Chart, Ashford; 3, Mr. C. Young. A prize of five guineas (by the members of the Old Surrey Foxhounds) for the best jumper, mare or gelding, the property of a member of this association, being a tenant farmer, and farming land over which the members of the Old Surrey hunt: 1, Mr. Gerald E. Hoare; r, Mr. J. G. Berry, Oxted Court.

CATTLE.

OPEN CLASSES.

Channel Island bull, any age, which shall stand for service within the radius (service not to exceed 10s.): 2, Mr. W. Wood, Moat Farm, Edenbridge. Bull, any other breed, that shall stand for service within the radius (service not to exceed 10s.): 1, Mr. W. Greenwell; 2, Mr. D. Young, Barrow Green, Oxted; r and he, Mr. A. S. Daniell, Fairchildes, Warlingham; he, Mr. Alex Holm. Jersey Cow, any age: 1, Mr. W. Heasman, Oxted; 2 and he, Mr. W. Wood; r, Mr. A. F. Charrington, East Hill, Oxted; c, Mr. E. B. Forbes, South Godstone. Jersey heifer, under two years: 1, the Ladies E. and D. Hope; 2, Mr. D. Marriott, Tenchleys, Limpsfield; r, Mr. W. Wood. Guernsey cow, any age: 2, Mr. J. D. Toogood Parsons, jun., Ashurst Place, Langton, Tunbridge Wells. Guernsey heifer, under two years: 1, Mr J. D. Toogood Parsons, jun. Shorthorn cow: 1, Mr. Alex. Holm; 2, Mr. R. Cromar, Horne Park, New Chapel; 3, Mr. W. Greenwell. Shorthorn heifer, under three years: 1, Mr. W. Greenwell; 2, Mr. H. Still, Addington, Croydon; r, Mr I. A. Tunmis. Cow, any other breed: 1, Mr. E. Alexander; 2, Mr. A. F. Charrington.

TENANT FARMERS' CLASSES.

Shorthorn bull, under two years six months: 1, Mr. Dan Young; 2, Mr. T. Jones; 3, Mr. H. Harker, Mercer's Farm, Nutfield; r and he, Alex Holm. Shorthorn bull, under one year six months: 1, Mr. Dan Young; 2, Mr. Alex. Holm; r, Mr. A. Young, Nags Hall, Godstone. Shorthorn cow, in calf or with calf at side: 1, Mr. Alex Holm; 2, D. and R. Young, Limpsfield; 3, Mr. T. Jones; r, Mr. R. Cromar. Shorthorn heifer, under three years, in calf or with calf at side: 1, Mr. G. Charlwood, Horne, Blindley Heath; 2, Mr. H. Still; r, Mr. Arthur Jupp, Blindley Heath. Pair Shorthorn heifers, under two years six months, suitable for breeding purposes: 1, Mr. H. Still; 2, Mr. T. Jones; r, Mr. H. H. Young. Pair Shorthorn heifers, under eighteen months: 1, Mr. H. Still. Yearling steer or heifer sired by Mr. E. Alexander's Aberdeen-Angus bull, Jingling Jew: 1 and 2, Messrs. D. and R. Young.

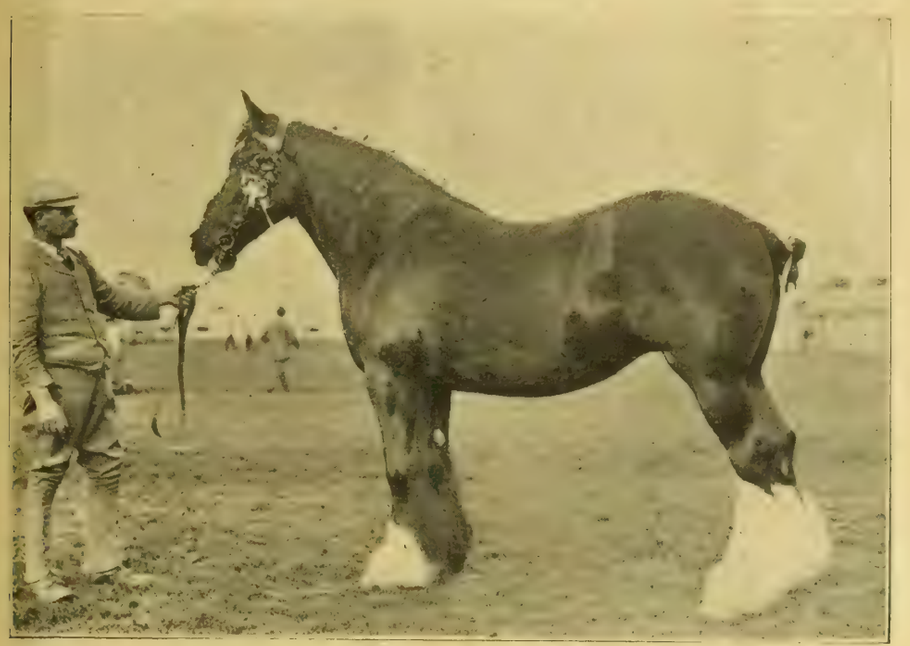
SHEEP.

OPEN CLASSES.

Pen of five ewes, any age or breed, to have each brought up a lamb this year: 1, Mr. J. G. Covell, Norwood Hill, Charlwood; 2, Mr. H. Still; he, Mr. G. Hamlin. Pen of five ewe lambs, any breed: 1, Mr. H. Still; 2, Mr. A. S. Daniell; he, Mr. J. G. Covell. Pen of five Southdown ewe tegs: 1, Mr. Arthur Young. Pen of five ewe tegs, except Southdowns: 1, Mr. H. Still. Best Westdown ram lamb: Mr. H. Still. Best Southdown ram lamb: Mr. W. Greenwell.

TENANT FARMERS' CLASSES.

Pen of five Hampshire or Westdown ewes, any age. Each to have brought up a lamb this year, and been in exhibitor's possession for at least six months: 1, Mr. H. Still; r, Mr. H. H. Young. Pen of five Hampshire or Westdown ewe lambs, bred by exhibitor: 1, Mr. H. Still. Pen of five Southdown ewes, any age. To have each brought up a lamb this year, and been in exhibitor's possession for at least six months: 1, Mr. J. G. Covell; 2, Mr. G. Hamlin. Pen of five Southdown ewe lambs, bred by exhibitor: 1, Mr. J. G. Covell; c, Mr. J. G. Berry. Pen of five ewe tegs, any breed: 1, Mr. H. Still; 2, Mr. A. Young. Pen of five Southdown ewe tegs: 1, Mr. A. Young. Best Westdown ram lamb: Mr. H. Still. Best Southdown ram lamb: Mr. J. G. Covell.



SIR J. B. MAPLE'S CHAMPION SHIRE FILLY, "VICTOR'S QUEEN."

Penistone.

The Penistone Agricultural Society's forty-second annual exhibition took place on Thursday, and was a very successful one from all points of view. The total entries, numbering 1,316, were an improvement on those of a year ago, and almost equal to the highest on record; the prize money was tempting enough to secure some fine exhibits, while the brightness of the day, with its big gate, gladdened the hearts of the promoters of the event. An exceptionally strong feature of the show was the poultry, and amongst the prize-winners in this section were the Prince and Princess of Wales. Below we give a list of the chief prize-winners in the horse, cattle, and sheep classes:—

HARNESS HORSES.

Roadster, gelding or mare, not 14 hands, to be driven in the ring: 1, G. Tyson, Mayfield, Halifax; 2, M. E. Shaw, Bradsley, Ashton-under-Lyne. Cob, gelding or mare, not exceeding 14 hands, driven in the ring: 1, M. E. Shaw; 2, G. Tyson.

HACKNEY OR ROADSTER.

Hackney or roadster, not 14 hands, to be ridden in the ring: 1, G. Tyson; 2, M. E. Shaw. Brood mare, with foal at foot or in field, with her own foal at foot: 1, D. Hopkinson's Exors., Westgate Hill, Bradford; 2, Cockayne Bros., Sheffield. Foal (colt or filly) in field (to Mr. Turner's Nutclough Stallion) this year, foaled in 1900: R. Batty, Holmfirth. Foal (colt or filly), foaled in 1900: 1, W. Crookes, Normandale, Wadsley; 2, Cockayne Bros.

AGRICULTURAL OR TEAM HORSES.

Draught stallion: 1 and 2, A. Lindley, Sandal. Best gelding or mare, with foal at foot, and two young geldings, exhibited to be inside within five miles of Penistone Church: 1 and special and 3, The Brassey Co-operative, 2, C. Cammell and Co., Ltd., Penistone. Gelding or mare for agricultural or team purposes, any age: 1, F. Gilbert, Micklecover, Derby; 2, W. Saul, Retford. Brood mare for agricultural or team purposes, with her own foal at foot, open to farmers residing within five miles of Penistone Church: 1, F. Denman, Denby Dale; 2, R. Gill, Meadhouse, Hepworth. Foal of 1899 for agricultural or team purposes, open to farmers residing within five miles of Penistone Church: 1, R. Gill; 2, J. Kaye. Foal bred in the year of 1900, for agricultural or team purposes, by any horse travelled by Mr. J. Turner, Hazlehead. 1, J. Kaye; 2, T. Mather. Thorough-bred Gelding or mare for agricultural or team purposes, foaled in 1899: 1, F. W. Green; 2, W. Saul. Gelding or filly, for team or agricultural purposes, foaled in 1899: 1, W. Saul; 2, A. Lindley, Sandal.

CATTLE.

Bull, over two years old: 1, A. Blackwell, Oughtibridge; 2, A. Booth, Hattersley, Gee Cross. He Bull under two years old: 1, T. Atkinson, Redvales Farm, Bury; 2, W. E. Inman, Ferny Bridge. Bull, any age, the property of a tenant farmer residing within five miles of Penistone Church: 1, G. Stones, New Chapel; 2, J. H. Ownsworth, Falthwaite, Penistone. Cow, in milk or calf: 1, Exors. of Wentworth Worthey Hall; 2, E. Nadin, 221, Gt. Ecc. Sheffield. Heifer in milk or calf, having not more than four broad teeth: 1, T. H. Bingley, Ellerslie Lodge, Hazlehead; 2, J. Roberts, Kirkburton. Heifer, in milk or calf, having not more than two broad teeth, exhibited to reside within five miles of Penistone Church: 1, T. H. Bingley; 2, J. T. Helliwell.

SHEEP.

Two-shear ram: 1, R. H. Eyre, Load Brook, Stannington; 2, J. Bradley, Old Crown. Shearling ram: 1, R. H. Eyre; 2, G. Stones, New Chapel. Pen of three Leicester or Lincoln ewes: 1, R. H. Eyre; 2, J. Brooke, Hartcliffe. Pen of three Leicester or Lincoln lambs: 1 and 2, R. H. Eyre. Pen of three ewes, any breed, the property of a farmer residing within five miles of Penistone Church: 1 and 2, J. Brooke. Pen of three gimmer lambs, any breed, the property of a farmer residing within five miles of Penistone Church: 1, I. and B. Charlesworth, Penistone; 2, W. Walker, Cranberry. Pen of three tup lambs, any breed (open to previous class): 1, W. Hobson, Sheephouse; 2, I. and B. Charlesworth.

MOORLAND SHEEP.

Pen of three ewes of the above breed: 1 and 2, J. Walker, Whitehouse, Cartworth.

Worthing Horse Show.

Given favourable weather, there are few events in West Sussex that attract a larger and more fashionable gathering than the Worthing Horse Show and jumping and driving competition, and the attendance at Beach House Park on Thursday was one of the largest on record. Judging commenced at eleven o'clock, and, with the exception of a short interval for luncheon, lasted up to six o'clock. The open jumping competition, which is usually regarded as the chief event of the day, had sixteen entrants, the majority of whom cleared the various obstacles in first-class style. Mr. J. C. Buckland's Wood Pigeon, Mr. P. Carr's Imp, Mr. F. W. Henderson's Monarch, and Messrs. Jerome's Comet were singled out for the second trial, and in the end Mr. Henderson's bay gelding, which was splendidly ridden by Miss Williams, was awarded the premier position, with Messrs. Jerome's animal second, and Mr. Buckland's Wood Pigeon third. The brown gelding Omega, belonging to Mrs. Blockley, of Madeley, Staffordshire, unfortunately arrived too late to take part in the competition. In the jumping competition for the United Hunts, Mr. Buckland's Wood Pigeon met with better success, being placed first, while Mr. A. N. Smith, of Danehurst, Nutfield, was a good second with a chestnut mare Little Lady. The tandem and driving classes were also particularly good, the pair of bay geldings, Brilliance and Searchlight, which Mr. Johnson, of Woodbridge, Suffolk, exhibited in the tandem class, being one of the best pairs seen in this part of the country. A silver medal offered by the Hackney Horse Society for the best Hackney or pony mare filly, or filly foal registered or eligible for registration in the Hackney Stud Book, was awarded to Mr. Walter Lloyd, of Heasleands, Haywards Heath, for his bay mare Cordelia. Mr. V. T. Taylor, of Dorman's Land, East Grinstead, being placed in reserve with his chestnut filly Vainglorious. The judging was satisfactorily carried out by Mr. A. W. Coomber, Mr. Louis Mievelle, and Mr. Walter Wayman for the Hackney and harness classes, and by Mr. William Keen and Mr. G. E. Maclean for the jumping classes.

Prize List.

Brood mare, with foal at foot, or with foal to be produced Hackney sire: 1, Mr. W. Lloyd, Heasleands, Haywards Heath (Cordelia); 2, Mr. H. S. Martin, High Street, East Grinstead (Lady Lindsay II); r, Mr. W. S. Simpson, Hoe-Lington House, Worthing.

Filly or gelding, foaled in 1898 or 1899, by a registered Hackney sire: 1, Mr. V. T. Taylor, Ashcroft, Dormans Land, East Grinstead (Vain Glorious); 2, Mr. W. S. Simpson.

Hackney foal, foaled in 1900: 1, Mr. W. Lloyd (Heath Harmony); 2, Mr. H. S. Martin; r, Mr. W. S. Simpson.

Hack, from 14 to 15.2 hands, to be ridden in the ring: 1, Mr. F. W. Henderson, Pavis Farm, Speldhurst, London (Herald); 2, Mrs. J. G. Talbot Hassell, 12, Brunswick Square, Hove (Rosie); r, Mrs. H. Young, Wickham Grange, Peacham (Stella).

SELLING CLASS.

For the above, in single harness, to harness and under saddle, not exceeding 15 hands: 1, Mrs. H. Young; 2, Miss Wright, Surrenden Park, Pluckley, Ashford, Kent (Jetty); 3, Mr. G. Hamlin, Carswell Park, Lingfield.

LADIES' CLASS.

Open to any class of horse: 1, Mr. F. W. Henderson, Wood Pigeon; 2, Miss Wright, Surrenden Park, Pluckley, Ashford, Kent; 3, Mrs. Hope, Beckenham.

Lead to the Hounds, 14 hands and under: 1, Mr. E. Hamlin, Wood Pigeon; 2, Mr. W. Lloyd, Heasleands, Haywards Heath (Cordelia); 3, Mr. H. S. Martin, High Street, East Grinstead (Lady Lindsay II); r, Mr. W. S. Simpson, Hoe-Lington House, Worthing.

liance and Searchlight); 2, Mr. S. Young, 2, Waterloo Street, Hove (Beamsaway and Beauclerk); 3, Mr. G. Hamlin; hc, Mr. H. Silva White, Withdean, Brighton (Roy and Lalla); and Mr. S. Young (Model and Dandy).

For the best horse, 15 hands or over, in single harness, to be driven in the ring: 1, Mr. T. Hart, Lexham Mews, South Kensington (Silver King); 2, Mr. S. Young (Beauclerk); r, Mr. Francis B. Blossett Maule, Danehurst, Hosdle, Lymington (Countess Confidence).

JUMPING.

Competition for the United Hunts, comprising the Old Surrey, the West Kent, the Eridge, the Surrey Union, the Burstow, the Chiddingfold, the Southdown, the East Sussex, the Eastbourne, the Crawley and Horsham Foxhounds, the Surrey, the Surrey Farmers the Warnham and Mid-Kent Staghounds, the Brookside, Brighton, Havant, and Edenbridge Harriers: 1, Mr. J. C. Buckland, Great Chart, Ashford, Kent (Wood Pigeon); 2, Mr. A. N. Smith, Danehurst, Nutfield (Little Lady); r, Captain Theo. V. S. Angier, Hill Crest, Dyke Road, Brighton (Bess).

For the best cob, from 13 to 15 hands, in single harness, to be driven in the ring: 1, Mr. G. J. Johnson (Searchlight); 2, Mrs. Edith Brandon, Northfields, Aldingbourne, Chichester (Maggie); r, Mr. F. B. B. Maule, Hosdle, Lymington (Concord); hc, Mr. S. Young (Carmen); Mr. H. S. Skelton, King's Gardens, Hove (Nani); Mr. W. G. Weager, Buckingham Place, Brighton (Norbarn Doctor); and Miss F. M. Philcox, Woking (Folly).

For the best horse or cob that has never won a first prize, bona-fide the property of residents within a radius of 20 miles of Worthing: 1, Mrs. E. Brandon (Maggie); 2, Mr. W. E. Weager, 47, Buckingham Place, Brighton (Sir Walter); r, Mr. H. Silva White (Roy); hc, Mr. S. Young (Model); and Mr. H. Silva White (Lalla).

Goole.

There was a record entry of nearly 4,000 exhibits at the Goole Agricultural Show, which was held on Thursday in very favourable weather. Close upon £400 was offered in prize money, and this was liberally allotted to the horse and cattle classes, and to the professional classes in the horticultural department, thereby attracting several notable exhibits. The horticultural department was a remarkable one, and the judges stated that they considered the show of fruits, flowers, and plants the best in the county, and far in advance of anything seen at Goole before, or at any of the shows in the district. The chief prize-winners in these sections were Lady Beaumont, Mr. R. Creyke, Mr. R. S. Scholfield, Sand Hall; Mr. G. H. Shaw, Howden; Mr. G. Remmer, Knedlington; Messrs. Simpson and Son, Selby, and others.

The chief awards in the horse, cattle, and pig sses were:—

HORSES AND FOALS.

Agricultural foal, colt or filly: 1, T. H. Sowden, Clifton, York; 2, G. H. Hudson, Hatfield. Agricultural two-year-old gelding or filly: W. Jackson, Knottingley. Agricultural three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Messrs. Richardson and Pearce-Brown, Selby; 2, G. Sheriff, Airmyn. Agricultural gelding or mare: 1, W. Coulman, Goole; 2, W. Jackson. Roadster foal, colt: 1, A. H. Greatbach; 2, J. Shaw, Howden. Roadster yearling, gelding or filly: 1, A. H. Greatbach; 2, C. O. Bastow, Howden. Roadster two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. Wreghitt, Market Weighton; 2, A. H. Greatbach. Roadster three-year-old gelding or mare: 1, F. Pemberton, Knottingley; 2, A. H. Greatbach. Hackney, gelding or mare, to be ridden in the ring: 1, J. Robinson, Hull; 2, G. Tyson, Halifax; 3, Mrs. L. Murgatroyd, Howden. Harness horse or mare, to be driven in the ring: 1, T. Mitchell, Bradford; 2, G. Tyson; 3, Mrs. L. Murgatroyd. Harness horse or mare (open only within a radius of fifteen miles from Goole), to be driven in the ring: 1, Mrs. L. Murgatroyd; 2, J. Heppleston, Rawcliffe Bridge; 3, A. H. Greatbach. Leaper: 1, R. Tomlinson, Cliffe; 2, W. Holmes, Selby; 3, C. Tomlinson, Cliffe.

CATTLE

Milk cow: 1, W. Walsh, Ringley; 2, C. Sherwood, Goole. Cow in calf: 1, C. Yates, Goole; 2, J. Evans, Lincoln. Bullock or heifer, any age: 1 and 2, J. S. Johnson, Hook.

PIGS

Pig, over twelve stones (open): 1 and 2, J. S. Johnson, Hook. Pig, under twelve stones (open): 1 and 2, J. Waterland, Goole.

Border Union.

The Border Union Agricultural Society's annual exhibition was held in the Friar's Park in front of Floors Castle, Kelso, on the 6th inst., and its success was only marred by the unfavourable character of the weather. In the morning it was dull and unpromising, and a leaden sky threatened rain, which began to fall in the forenoon, but the day kept well up for a few hours. In the afternoon, however, there was a renewal of the rainfall, which continued till the close of the show, and during the progress of the popular events of horse-leaping and racing there were some drenching showers, which soon dispersed the crowd of onlookers, the final competitions being carried through amid much discomfort. This year the Society issued a prize schedule on the usual lines, and the full response was an entry of 661, the aggregates for 1899 and 1897 being 691 and 692 respectively. There are no statistics relating to 1898, because in that year the border burgh received a visit from the Highland Show and Agricultural Society. The purely agricultural exhibits did not suffer much by comparison with the entries of a year ago. Cattle showed an increase of 11, and sheep were 40 more, but horses were 24 less. As to the more popular departments, there was a decrease of 67 in dogs.

The outstanding feature of this show is always the sheep section, and this year's display was no exception. Border Leicesters were a strong lot, and competition in all the classes was keen. Mr. Thomas Clark carried off all the prizes for shearling rams with three typical specimens of the Oldhamstocks flock. In the old ram class Mr. M'Intosh, Balquharn, was first with the sheep which was second at Edinburgh and first at Stirling. He is of the same strain as the first prize shearling, both being descended from the famous tup, old Morris Dancer, and he was awarded the special prize as the best ram of the breed. The championship in this section was, however, secured by Messrs. Smith, Galalaw, with their second prize Stirling gimmer, which also won Mr. James Swan's special prize for the best female Leicester. The judging of the half-bred sheep came in for a good deal of criticism by onlookers, and the awards were not received with anything like general satisfaction. Some of the principal prize-takers at Stirling were left out in the cold, and in other cases the decisions of the Highland Society judges were rather rudely upset. Mr. Elliot, Newhall, was deservedly first in the shearling ram class with his Stirling winner, and Mr. Bertram, Addinston, was second and third with sheep which were first and third at Edinburgh, but their positions were otherwise reversed. Mr. Mein's second prize ram at Stirling was, however, entirely passed over. Again, in the aged class, Mr. William Elliot's champion ram at Stirling did not on Monday find a place in the prize list; while Mr. Morley Crossman's gimmer, which won the President's medal at Stirling as the best of the breed, in competition with the rams, was relegated to the second place in her class, Mr. Mein's second prize Stirling gimmer getting the first ticket. The pen of twenty half-bred gimmers from Torwoodlee, which won the special prize at Galashiels, were also unexpectedly put back a place. In four of the six Cheviot classes Mr. John Elliot led the way with a splendid representation of his Hindhope flock. In the aged ram class Messrs. Smith, Leaston, were first with Jamie Burns, the magnificent three-shear sheep of Hindhope breeding, which was bought at the Lothian ram sales two years ago for £23. Mr. Elliot was second with his Highland Society winner, John Clay, which was now beaten for the first time, but being a year younger than the first ram, he competed at a disadvantage. Mr. Elliot took both prizes for shearling rams with two of the best sheep of their age that have been seen out this season. Their positions at Stirling were reversed, but it was purely a matter of taste which should be preferred. The Hindhope flock also secured both the prizes for ewes, but again there was a reversal of the Stirling awards, although there was not much ground for cavilling at the judgment, the decision being quite popular with the spectators. In the gimmer class the Stirling awards were maintained, Mr. John Robson, Newton, being first and Mr. Elliot second. Mr. Elliot was first in the two lamb classes with nice pens direct from the hills and showing plenty of substance. Blackfaces are not much bred in the district, and only two sheep were shown in each of the three classes, the prizes being taken by Mr. Brydon, Burncastle, for rams, and by Mr. Bruce, Priesthaugh, for ewe and tup lambs.

Singularly, the cosmopolitan Shorthorn was the only pure cattle breed represented at the show. They were brought out in stronger numbers than usual, additional competition having arisen from the society which looks after the fortunes of the "red, white, and roan" giving special premiums, and their quality was good. Lord Polwarth, at Mr. Richard Booth's first draft sale during the holding of the Royal at York, purchased for 115gs. the two-year-old bull, Sir Algar Studley, and on the animal now making his début in the showyard he gained the most coveted rosette from Mr. William Bell's (Alnwick) nice entry, a son of Studley's Knight. The issue among the yearling males lay between Mr. Bell's Jockey and Mr. W. C. Hogg's (Kelso) Mountaineer, victory eventually being obtained by the former. The Northumberland bull had previously headed the list at Morpeth, and the Kelso representative had won a second prize at the Berwick Spring Sale. Lady Beatrice and Hawthorn were Lord Polwarth's representatives in a strong class of aged cows, and they beat everything shown against them. The daughter of Nonsuch occupied a lower position at the Royal and Highland the Berwick Spring Sale. Lady Beatrice and Hawthorn, this being her initial outing. She won the chief dairy prize offered by the Shorthorn Society, the second premium going to Mr. James Scott, of Kelso, for a home-bred cow. Mr. Bell's Lady Amy 4th, bred by the Earl of Powis, and purchased at the Birmingham spring sale, is rather small for her age, but a combination of good qualities forced her to the very front of the two-year-old heifers, her companion in honours being a Kelso animal belonging to Messrs. W. and T. Bain. Yearling heifers were very aristocratic, Mr. Bell and the Messrs. Bain sending forward the two best animals.

There was a fairly good show of draught horses, but the usual exhibits from the Seaham Harbour stud were missed. In the brood mare class, Lord Polwarth was first with the ten-year-old Duchess of Robgill, a typical Macgregor mare. Mr. Elliot, Raecleughhead, was second, and won Mr. John Clay's special prize for the best animal in the class belonging to a tenant farmer. Mr. Templeton, Sandyknowe, was awarded Mr. John Crawford's medal for the best foal by his horse Gallant Robert. For yearling fillies, Mr. Cabry, Shidlaw, was first with a promising daughter of Sir Thomas, bred in the west of Scotland; and in the two-year-old class Mr. Howie, Fenwick Steads, had a capital first in his Baron's Pride filly, which was similarly placed at the Northumberland Show. She was also awarded the special prize as the best two-year-old, beating the first prize gelding. Mr. Howie was again to the front in the three-year-old class with a filly by Alfred the Great, but in the competition with Mr. William Elliot's three-year-old gelding she failed to win the special prize. Mr. Daniel Kennedy was first for yeld mares with a good, upstanding mare by Royal Gartly, and she won the special prize given by the town of Kelso as against Mr. Cabry's aged gelding. The best of the geldings was Mr. Elliot's three-year-old, a very fine specimen of the breed, which was second at the Highland Society's Edinburgh Show when the property of Mr. William Clark, Netherlea. Mr. Forsyth's champion Clydesdale at Galashiels last month was on Monday defeated in his class by Mr. Cabry's aged gelding; and in the two-year-old class Mr. Elliot's first gelding at Stirling was placed behind a Montrave Sentinel horse belonging to Mr. Fleming, Roan. The entire colts were only a middling lot, Mr. Cabry being first in the yearling class with a son of Premier Prince; and Mr. Elliot showing the only two-year-old in a get of Royal Alexander.

Hackneys were numerically weak, and after the selection of the winners there was not much to admire. Lady Audley, now the property of Mr. W. P. Drysdale, of Mainshill, Haddington, led the aged mares and geldings into the ring, and it was soon apparent that that would be her place in the winning list. She was there followed by the almost equally noted Flora, the property of Mr. David Mitchell, of Polmont. The pair were again opponents in harness, but the result of the judging was the same as when they were under the saddle. Only a trio of three-year-olds faced the judges. These included Mr. Mitchell's filly Polonia, by Polonius, and Mr. Gilbert Davidson's (Hawick) brown Little Mary, and they were marked in the order named. Ponies filled three classes, and tradesmen had the opportunity of displaying their turnouts. The hunters made more than an average show. The brood mares were headed by the two entries of Mr. Robert Henderson, of East Gordon. One of them was also adorned with a special rosette. The four-year-olds were just a baker's dozen, the class being enriched by the presence therein of Mr. C. J. Cunningham's (Kelso) Jack, and Mr. G. Dove's (St. Boswells) chestnut gelding Inglis. Once more Kelso furnished an outstanding class and special winner in Major Oliver's Lucky Boy, a three-year-old gelding of great substance and power. The two-year-olds were a strong lot, alike in numbers and quality. Mr. T. Aird Smith, of Jedburgh, was first, and Mr. R. Ross, of Roxburgh, second. Mr. Aird Smith also met with the biggest success among the yearlings.

SOCIETIES.

The Royal.

The reports of the various standing committees were presented at the last meeting of the Council, and adopted as below:—

Finance.

Sir Nigel Kingscote (Chairman) reported that the accounts for the period ended June 30th, 1900, as certified by the Society's accountants, showed receipts amounting to £6,357 15s. 3d., and expenditure amounting to £9,133 2s. 11d. The accounts for the period ended July 28th, 1900, showed receipts amounting to £2,655 11s. 2d., and expenditure amounting to £1,433 3s. 1d. Accounts amounting to £11,405 15s. 5d., relating to the York meeting, and to £3,348 19s. 4d. arising out of the ordinary business of the Society, were presented and were recommended for payment. In order to meet the cheques that must be immediately issued, the committee recommended that such an amount as might from time to time prove necessary be borrowed from the Society's bankers on security of the Consols inscribed in the Society's name. The quarterly statement of subscriptions, arrears, and property, as at June 30th, 1900, had been laid upon the table and approved.

Journal.

Sir John Thorold (Chairman) reported that a letter had been received from Dr. Fream resigning the editorship of the Journal, and the Committee recommended that Dr. Fream's resignation be accepted with regret. They had arranged with Dr. Fream that he should continue to act as editor until the completion of the current volume, but that his responsibility for the Journal should cease at the conclusion of the present year. The consideration of the arrangements for the future conduct of the Journal had been postponed until after the recess. Part II. of the current volume (June, 1900) had been duly published and despatched to the members. Various accounts for printing and for literary contributions to the Journal had been passed and referred to the Finance Committee for payment. The arrangements for the forthcoming number had been considered and approved, and the committee recommended that articles on Welsh cattle and Welsh sheep should be prepared for inclusion in the Journal for 1901.

Chemical and Woburn.

Mr. Stanyforth (chairman) reported that the committee had made their annual visit of inspection to the Woburn Experimental Farm on July 11th last. They had decided that during the coming winter a trial should be made upon bullocks of the value of condiments as an addition to ordinary feeding materials, and that the sheep experiments for the winter should take the form of further testing the early use of mangolds and the use of gorse. The committee

had under their consideration proofs of the first detailed report prepared by Dr. Voelcker upon the experiments conducted at the Pot Culture Station since its establishment under the Hills' Bequest in 1897. The report was of somewhat unusual length, but the committee thought it extremely important that the results of the experiments to date should be published, and therefore decided to recommend that the report be published in full in the next number of the Journal. The committee recommended that Mr. John Howard Howard be added to the Chemical and Woburn Committee.

Botanical and Zoological.

Lord Moreton reported, on behalf of Mr. Wheeler, chairman of the committee, that various alterations had been made in the Form of Order for Seeds which had been prepared for issue. Dr. Voelcker had reported progress in the experiments for the extermination of weeds, a further report on which would be presented in due course.

The consulting botanist and the zoologist had presented the following reports:—

REPORT OF CONSULTING BOTANIST.

One hundred and forty-four inquiries have been dealt with since the last report in March. Of these ninety-two referred to seeds, and the remainder had to do with injuries to plants, and weeds in pastures.

A case of injury to barley was received from Cumberland, caused by Ustilago tecta, or covered smut, which was described and figured in the Journal for 1896. From Oxford came some sickly plants of barley attacked by straw blight, an injury figured and described in the Society's Journal in 1872, and about which little more is now known. The injured plants are still under observation, and there is good hope that the life-history of the fungus may be followed and its systematic position determined. Specimens of barley from Hertfordshire were found to be seriously injured by two parasitic fungi which were weakening the vigour of the plants. The one was Oidium monilioides, white mildew, the conidial state of Erysiphe graminis, and the other Helminthosporium gramineum, which formed long markings with a yellowish centre and dark brown margins. Specimens of soft brome grass from Nottinghamshire and Lanarkshire were received very badly attacked by smut, Ustilago bromivora. This grass is not eaten by stock, and if it were the smut would be harmless. Injuries to trees were caused by Peziza Willkommii in larch from Montgomery, on pear trees from Worcester and Hereford by Fusicladium pyrinum, a disease not hitherto noted in this country, and on the roots of beech trees from Norfolk by Agaricus melleus. Scolecotricum was found growing on the leaves of peaches, which had been attacked and seriously injured by an insect. A field of beans in Northampton was injured by an attack of Ascochyta pisi, a disease noted last year in Sussex. Gooseberry bushes suffered severely from an attack of Æcidium grossulariæ, a fungus whose puccinia form is believed to grow on sedges (Carex species). Violet leaves were sent from Worcestshire damaged by Ovularia lactea, and from the same county were received specimens of tulips destroyed by Botrytis parasitica. Information has been given in regard to the following plants, and their names determined:—Ranunculus ficaria, Cardamine hirsuta, Genista tinctoria, Trifolium procumbens, Chærophyllum sylvestre, Galium verum, Sherardia arvensis, Rhinanthus crista galli Prunella vulgaris, Plantago media, Euphorbia lathyrus, Colchicum autumnale, and Carex pendula.

(Signed) WILLIAM CARRUTHERS.

July 31st, 1900.

REPORT OF ZOOLOGIST.

Of the pests injurious to grass and corn crops the frit fly in oats has been the subject of several inquiries, while the wheat-bulb fly and the crane fly have also been complained of.

Cases of wireworm and surface caterpillars in root crops have been reported, but the most interesting case of a root crop pest has been a rather severe attack on turnips and rape by earwigs.

Though there was no inherent improbability in the fact of earwigs injuring turnips, the case was so unusual that the statement was received with some hesitation, and some other pest suspected, but the field was visited by a competent observer, and the insects seen at work.

Earwigs, though usually chiefly injurious in gardens, by devouring the petals of flowers, are very omnivorous, feeding not only on vegetables, but sometimes on aphis and thrips, and even on each other. Various measures were suggested for the mitigation of the pest in the present instance, but there is not the least likelihood of a speedy repetition of the plague.

Of the pests which attack farm stock and domestic animals, advice has been asked with regard to warble fly, sheep bot fly, and tapeworm.

The advisability of crossing Muscovy ducks with the English species was the subject of one inquiry. It appears to be established that the offspring of such a cross are true hybrids, and infertile. (Signed) C. WARBURTON.

July 31st, 1900.

Veterinary.

The Hon. Cecil T. Parker (chairman) reported that a letter had been received from the Royal Veterinary College stating that, as the result of the recent examination of candidates for the Society's silver and bronze medals in cattle pathology, Mr. Harry Thackeray, M.R.C.V.S. (care of Mr. Carless, V.S., Stafford) had obtained first place, and Mr. Reginald John Collings, M.R.C.V.S., of Holmcote, Heavitree Road, Exeter, the second place. The committee therefore recommended that the Society's silver medal be given to Mr. Thackeray, and the bronze medal to Mr. Collings. The committee also recommended that two classes be offered in connection with the horse-shoeing competition at the Cardiff Meeting for shoeing light and heavy horses respectively, the competition to be open, as before, to shoeing-smiths in the United Kingdom.

Stock Prizes.

Mr. Sanday (chairman) reported that various matters arising out of the York Meeting had been considered, and instructions given to the secretary thereon. The committee had considered the recommendations of the sub-committee which was appointed at the meeting of the Council on May 1st, to prepare a draft schedule of prizes to be offered in connection with the Cardiff Meeting of 1901, and would report further thereon. In accordance with the terms of the resolution passed at the meeting of the Council on February 7th, 1900, "That after the York Meeting the competition in the classes for females three years old and upwards shall be limited to cows in milk," the classes of cattle which were formerly open to cows or heifers in-milk or in-calf would now be limited to animals which were in-milk at the time of the Cardiff Show. The committee recommended that in future the Stock Prizes Committee be empowered to accept prizes from breed societies direct, in augmentation of those provided by the Society, instead of, as heretofore, receiving such prizes only through the Local Committee.

Implement.

Mr. Frankish (chairman) reported that the committee had considered and given instructions as to various questions which had arisen in connection with the Society's recent York Meeting. They had also considered the regulations for the trials of ice making plant at Cardiff, and they recommended that they should be amended to read as follows:—

CLASS III.—ICE-MAKING PLANT.

1. The trials of the machines entered in Class III. will be held in the Cardiff showyard during the week preceding the show. Due notice of the exact date of the trials will be given.

2. The Society will provide the usual shedding, 20 feet square for each exhibit, in which trials will take place, and in which the plant will remain during the show, when demonstration of working will be made at times to be regulated by the stewards.

3. Competitors must send a complete specification of their plant, with a general arrangement drawing showing the space occupied.

4. Competitors must provide their own insulated chamber with everything necessary for working the apparatus. The Society will lay on a supply of water for cooling purposes.

5. The power taken will be duly tested, and the efficiency of the machine will be measured by the "thermal units" expended in the cooling of water.

6. In each case the amount and temperature of the cooling water will be carefully measured.

7. The condition of the air as regards moisture in the insulated chamber will be duly noted.

8. The points to which the special attention of the judges and engineers will be directed are:—

(1) Price.
(2) Power taken compared with the output.
(3) Quantity of water used in condenser.
(4) Attendance.
(5) Nature of chemicals used, and cost of same.
(6) Condition of atmosphere in insulated chamber.
(7) In case of compressors, the capacity of the compressor with regard to the output.

The committee recommended that the name of Mr. John Howard Howard be added to the Implement Committee.

Prizes for Windmills.

Mr. Frankish added that the Implement Committee had decided at their last meeting, on May 29th (before the York Show), to recommend that trials of wind engines should be held next year in connection with the Meeting of 1901. At their meeting held on the previous day (July 31st) the committee had considered and amended some draft regulations for the trials of windmills, which had been prepared by the consulting engineer, but did not settle the amount of the prizes to be offered. Since then, it had been represented to him on the Finance Committee that, as the Society was already pledged to two expensive trials (of oil engines and ice-making plant) at Cardiff, it was undesirable in the present state of the Society's finances to add further to the cost of implement trials next year. Under these circumstances, he did not propose to press for the giving of prizes for windmills in 1901.

Mr. Ransome said that the question of abandoning the proposed trials of wind engines at Cardiff had not come before the Implement Committee. On the contrary, they had spent a good deal of time the day before in framing regulations for the conduct of the trials, and he did not think that they ought now to give them up.

Mr. Sanday said that the regulations for the trials of oil engines and ice-making plant had already been publicly issued. These trials would cost a great deal of money, and he thought they would be sufficient, and that the trials of windmills could wait.

Mr. Marshall supported the view of Mr. Frankish. The report of the Implement Committee was then adopted, with the exception of the approval of the draft regulations for the trials of windmills.

Selection.

Sir John Thorold (chairman) reported that the Secretary had presented a report as to his visit to Paris as the representative of the Society at the recent International Agricultural Congress; and the Committee recommended that letters of thanks be sent in the name of the Council to those who gave facilities to the Secretary during his visit. The Committee gave notice of their intention to move at the next meeting of the Council an alteration of the present Bye-law 8, so as to give power to the Council to elect honorary members up to a maximum of fifty, of whom not more than twenty-five should be British subjects.

Education.

Mr. Crutchley reported that the detailed arrangements for the examination for the National Diploma in Dairying were now complete. The Committee recommended that a meeting of the Joint Board be held in October, during the week of the Dairy Show, in order to settle the report on the English and Scottish examinations in dairying for 1900, and the details of both examinations for the year 1901. Mr. Martin Sutton had presented a report as to the International Congress on Agricultural Education held at Paris from June 14th to 16th last, and the Committee recommended that the paper presented by Mr. Sutton to the Congress be printed as a note in the September number of the *Journal*. The Committee further recommended that letters be written to Monsieur Casimir-Périer, the president, and to Monsieur de Lagorsse, the secretary of the Congress, expressing the Society's appreciation of the reception accorded to the Society's representative.

Miscellaneous.

The date of the December General Meeting of governors and members was fixed to be held at the Society's house at 13, Hanover Square, on Thursday, December 13th, 1900 (the Thursday of the Smithfield Show week), and the dates of the Council meetings in 1901 were also settled.

Other business having been transacted, the Council adjourned over the autumn recess until Wednesday, November 7th, 1900.

Suffolk Horse.

A meeting of the Breeding Scheme Committee of the Suffolk Horse Society was held at Ipswich on Tuesday, under the presidency of Mr. C. P. Ogilvie. A report was received from the Society's show, to the Society mares allotted last year to small tenant farmers, and it was decided to again offer three mares to farmers of not more than 200 acres, on the same conditions as obtained last year. With reference to the annual sale, the committee decided to recommend to the Council that it be held about August 1st in subsequent years. Mr. J. M. Long, of Chillesford, and Mr. J. J. Hornby, of Knowsley, were selected to act as judges of nomination foals at the sale to take place at Gippeswyk Park on Thursday, August 30th.

Metropolitan Dairymen's Benevolent Institution.

The monthly meeting of the Committee of Governors was held at 57, Chancery Lane, W.C., on August 9th, Mr. James Leggett in the chair. The Finance Committee submitted a statement showing that the available balance at bank on current account was £248 13s. 8d., and recommended payments to pensioners, etc., amounting to £67. The report was adopted. Applications for further temporary relief were made on behalf of Eliza Boakes and Fanny Burrows, and in each case a grant of £1 per month for ten months was allowed. A letter was read from Mr. E. G. Easton, L.C.C., accepting the invitation from the Committee to occupy the chair at the twenty-sixth anniversary dinner on Thursday, December 13th next; and on the motion of Mr. Leggett, seconded by Mr. Ramsay, he was unanimously elected. A vote of sympathy and condolence with the relatives of the late Mr. W. W. Higgins, sen., of Westbourne Park, was passed. The deceased gentleman was a very old subscriber and friend of the institution.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

August.

21. Barnsley Agricultural Society's Show, at Barnsley.
21. North Lonsdale Agricultural Society's Show, at Ulverston.
21. Sale of Shropshires, belonging to Mr. A. Tanner, at Shrawardine, Salop.
22. Belper Horse Show.
22. Lancaster Agricultural Society's Show.
22. Ipswich Sheep Fair.
22. Sale of Mr. W. O. Hammond's Southdown Sheep, at St Alban's Court, Wingham, Kent.
23. Penrith Agricultural Society's Show.
23. East Berks Horse Show, at Maidenhead.
23. Sale of the late Mr. W. T. Talbot Crosbie's herd of Shorthorns, at Audley Abbey, Audley, by [illegible].
23. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, the property of Mr. T. Fenn, Stanebrook House, Tadley.
23. Sale of pedigree Hackneys and Harness Horses, at York Repository.
23. Sale of Mr. Thomas Kirk's stud at Hedon, near Hull.
23 and 24. Royal Jersey Agricultural Society's Show, at St Helier's.
24. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, the property of Messrs. P. A. and G. T. Evans, at Sherlowe, Wellington, Salop.
25. Worksop Agricultural Society's Show.
25. Wem[illegible] Agricultural Society's Show, at St. John's, Chippenham.
25. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, at Somerton, Axminster.
27. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, the property of Mr. D. Buttar, at Corston, Coupar Angus, N.B.
28. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, belonging to Mr. W. Thomas, at the Beam House, Montford Bridge.
29. Sale of Mr. E. York's herd of Shorthorn Cattle, at Eastfield, Leominster.
28, 29, 30 and 31. Royal Dublin Society's Horse and Sheep Show.
29. Show of the Clarbeston and [illegible] Cooperative Society, at the Hundred of Roose, near Haverfordwest.
29. Aspatria Agricultural Society's Show, at Bengaro.
29. North-East Somerset Farmers' Club Show.
29. Cheshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Congleton.
29. Wayford Agricultural and Pony Society's Show, at Watton, Norfolk.
29. Sale of Lincoln Longwool Sheep, the property of Mr. R. Fisher, Lincoln.
29 and 30. Warwickshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Coventry.
29 and 30. Herefordshire Horse Show Society's Show, at Hereford.
30. East Somerset Agricultural Society's Show, at Castle Cary.
30. United Counties Agricultural Society's Show, at Cheltenham.
31. Sale of [illegible] Bull, at Wood Farm, Wood Walton, Peterborough.
31. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, the property of Mr. P. A. Meyer, M.P., [illegible].
31. Craven Agricultural Society's Show, at Skipton.

THE DAIRY.

The Dairy Show.

The British Dairy Farmers' Association last week issued its schedule of prizes for the twenty-fifth annual dairy show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London, which takes place on Tuesday, October 9th, and three following days. I notice several alterations from last year's list, but they are not of very striking character. There are two alterations in the sections for cows, where the classes again include Shorthorns, Jerseys, Guernseys, Red Poll, Ayrshires, and Kerrys and Dexters, but the last mentioned are to have only two prizes in the milking trials instead of three. The first is £9 and the second £6, whereas last year the sums were: first £12, second £6, and third £4. However, in class 8, which is for cows not eligible to compete in the other classes, a third inspection prize of £2 has been added, and the first and second have been increased to £7 and £4 respectively, as against £5 and £3 last year.

The only change in the heifer section is that a third prize of £2 is added for Guernseys and Red Polls. A third prize is also given this year for Shorthorn and Jersey bulls, whilst in the class for bulls of any other pure breed, in addition to the usual silver medal, three guineas will be given to the best animal of each breed. A new feature is the class for a group of three females (cows or heifers) of the same breed in milk, eligible for the herd book of their respective breed, the property of and bred by the exhibitor. The first prize is £10, and the second £5.

Two alterations are also noticeable in the goat section. Last October the horned and hornless she-goats not eligible for the Toggenburg, and winners of three or more first prize classes, were entered in one class, but this year they are to be separated. The other change consists in the abolition of the class for male kids.

As regards the section for British cheese, a reduction in the value of the prizes has to be recorded, for in the Single Gloster, Leicester, Lancashire, Caerphilly, Wiltshire, and Wensleydale classes the prizes are only £3, £2, and £1, as compared with £5, £3, £2, in 1899. There will be no classes for cheeses of any foreign variety made in England, but instead, a silver medal is offered for the best six cheeses made from machine-skimmed milk. The awards in the Cheese Fair will be exactly the same, but there is only one class for collections of dairy produce. Last year only one entry was received in that for Colonial dairy produce, so that the Society have now made one class for British and Colonial produce, and instead of silver and bronze, offer gold and silver medals. In all other departments the classes and prizes are practically the same.

The various challenge cups are again offered for competition, and several champion cups are given by the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London, who this year include one for the best exhibit in the cheese fair, and another for the best ham. The entries close on Monday, September 10th, with the Secretary, Mr. W. C. Young, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.C.

Chester Cheese Fair.

Mr. Challinor reports upon the cheese fair held in the Market Hall, Chester, on Wednesday last as follows: The pitch was a small one, being much below the average of previous years, while the attendance of buyers was rather above the usual, many new faces being noticeable in the crowd. Prompt at the usual hour (9.30) business commenced, and went on steadily until the lots were cleared. For fine Cheshire there was a good demand, and it was easily disposed of at prices from 55s. to 60s., one or two small lots making a little more than the highest quotation. Medium sold readily at prices from 45s. to 54s. per cwt. The above prices show an improvement in prices made at the corresponding fair last year to the extent of 4s. or 5s. per cwt., and 3s. or 4s. better than the fair held a month back.

Siberian Butter for England.

In his report on the trade of Riga for 1899, Mr. Consul Woodhouse points out that the exportation of eggs from Riga is still steadily increasing, 32,476 tons being shipped in 1899, against 32,094 tons shipped in 1898. An attempt is being made to export butter from Riga, and Mr. Woodhouse understands that arrangements are in progress for quick transport from Western Siberia to meet the steamer service between Riga and London and Hull.

During a thunderstorm which broke over Hertfordshire the other day, the trunk of a tree at Grove Mill, near Hitchin, was struck and destroyed by lightning, which revealed the existence of a colony of bees. From the condition and quantity of comb and honey they had evidently been there some years. A bee-keeper was engaged to obtain the honey, a task which was carried out under great difficulties. The colony was a very strong one, for when a large quantity of honey was removed many thousands of bees could be seen at the base of the hollow.

LITERARY NOTICES.

Both those who have gardens and those who have not will find something to interest them in Sutton's Bulb Catalogue for 1900. This artistic annual offers the prospect of a long succession of beautiful flowers for the adornment of homes, beds, and borders during the short dull days of winter and the opening weeks of spring. But if a brilliant and attractive display is to be realised, preparations must be commenced in good time. This is the secret of success with all floral displays, large or small. The professional gardener is compelled to anticipate the seasons or lose his reputation. Amateurs too often neglect the necessary arrangements until it is too late to ensure the finest results. It is one of the special merits of bulbous flowers that, although they are worthy of conspicuous positions in conservatories, halls, and drawing-rooms, they are equally at home in small town gardens and on the lead flats of houses in populous centres. Even in the windows of cottages their beauty often challenges the attention of passengers in the streets. Messrs. Sutton's lists of these flowers have been compiled with the judgment that comes from long experience. The descriptions, though brief, are distinguished by unusual care and accuracy. Those who are not intimately acquainted with the named varieties, or who wish to incur a definite outlay, have the choice of collections of various sizes suitable for greenhouses, conservatories, homes, and gardens. The pages devoted to Messrs. Sutton's well-known strains of Begonia, Cyclamen, and Gloxinia will arrest the attention of all who possess facilities for the culture of these very handsome flowers. We observe that the gold medal of the Manchester Botanic Society has been awarded for their fine exhibit of Gloxinias. The information contained in this annual is indispensable to the expert horticulturist, and will prove interesting to every lover of flowers either in the country or the town.

"Health for Sheep" is the title of a booklet just published by Messrs. Stephen Pettifer and Sons, Malmesbury, Wilts, the manufacturers of the famous "Santovin," or Herbal Tonic, or Flockmaster's Friend. Naturally, the principal object of the work is to make even more widely known the undoubted merits of "Santovin"; but there is much in it that will prove of great service to flockmasters, and it is well worth considerate reading. It can be had free on application.

The Ashbourne Fair was held on Thursday, when the show of horned stock was an average one, and there was a good attendance. A good trade was done in all classes, recent quotations being well maintained. Best calving cows made £20 to £23, secondary £17 to £19, and calving heifers £14 to £16. Best beef made up to 7d. per lb. Bulls, two years old and upwards, sold at £8 to £12, and yearlings £7 to £9 each. Sheep were about an average show. There was a good trade for best class of store wethers and store lambs. For smaller lambs trade was not very brisk. Lambs 24s. to 31s., and store wethers 35s. to 40s. each. Fat wethers 7½d. to 8½d., and fat ewes 5½d. to 6½d. per lb. There was a poor show in the horse fair. The demand was good for sound, useful animals, but these were scarce and dear.

The Vintage.—In France there is promise of an abundant vintage this year, and the conditions under which the grapes have approached maturity have been such as to lead to the hope that the quality will be satisfactory. The *Wine Trade Review's* Bordeaux correspondent states that much alarm was caused by the excessive heat in July, which threatened to scorch the fruit before its full development, but the subsequent change in the temperature has had a remarkable effect, and has quite revived the hopes of the growers. The prospects in the Champagne, Burgundy, and brandy districts are also encouraging, but, owing to the anticipations of an abundant yield, there is a great demand for casks, and prices have risen in a way that causes considerable inconvenience. The French Minister of Agriculture has prepared an estimate of the vintage, according to which it is expected to be very good in point of quantity in thirty-five departments, good in thirty, fairly good in four, passable in four, and indifferent in one only. It is estimated on this basis that the total yield of wine in France in the coming autumn will be something like 1,200,000,000 gallons, or about 100,000,000 gallons more than in the great year of 1893. The same journal's Mayence correspondent reports that the outlook in Germany is very promising, and a good crop is also expected in Italy, whilst on the Douro their Oporto correspondent states the gathering will be later than it was last year; but the yield will probably be larger, although the excessive heat is threatening danger. In the sherry country, on the other hand, the intensely hot weather has been unfavourable to the grapes, and unless moist nights be experienced the crop in the Afueras will be ridiculously small. The best news we have from Spain is that the new plantations continue to progress well, and that the number of those who are replanting is steadily increasing, the work having become necessary through the ravages by the phylloxera.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Harvesting.

After the spell of broken weather finer conditions have again prevailed generally, and but for the great scarcity of labour in many districts harvest would be proceeding properly. As it is, a good deal of corn is being secured in prime condition. Even the colour of straw and of much barley will be very fine.

It is again necessary to refer to the grossly exaggerated and alarming statements made in some quarters about damage done by wind, rain, storm, and flood. Some of these doubtless proceed from men who may honestly believe what they say, but unfortunately they take a gloomy and altogether pessimistic view of things. A few fields here and there of even badly damaged crops do not exert much influence, unless they truly represent widespread or general mischief.

The Trite Old Saying

one swallow does not make a summer is very true. Equally true is it that it takes more than one week's rain to ruin the harvest in Britain. Talking the matter over with one of our most careful and painstaking observers the other day, I was agreeably surprised to hear him say that in one of our best barley districts he lives in he considered, after most careful examination of much of it in the fields, that the sum total of harm done did not equal the great gain to many things, and even in some cases to the barley itself.

It is certainly true in many districts that, notwithstanding the gales and in some localities the torrential rains, the amount of badly or dangerously lodged grain is exceedingly small. In the majority of cases the harm done can be covered by the additional cost of labour for the cutting and (where the pernicious system is adopted of) binding, etc.

Securing barley any year in

Swarthe or Sheaf

remains one of those questions about which both practice and opinions widely differ, but concerning which there has not as yet been adequate discussion.

There can be no doubt that in many normal or average seasons on many soils the finer qualities of malting barleys are distinctly improved by exposure on the ground in swarthe. Old-fashioned and careful farmers assert that the influence of dew under such conditions is mellowing and distinctly beneficial. Others claim for the practice much less liability to grain sprouting if a few days of really wet weather sets in.

When a whole country side can be so seriously affected by two days' rain whilst two-thirds of the corn stands uncut that a clamour is raised about it is to many practical men incredible, if not looked upon by such men as actually ridiculous or worse.

It is a Serious Question

to prejudice a large and important district by such remarks unless they are capable of proof. When such rumours become current many buyers fight shy of the district. Of course, if the desired end is to depress prices, one can quite follow the reasons why such assertions are made; but the circumstances should be fully made known, so that proper conclusions may be drawn.

Reports on conditions made by buyers rarely can run quite on all fours with those current with growers, and in cases where local influences and interests are of a specially peculiar class much watchful care is needed in giving such things circulation. It is not difficult to conceive of districts where any depression in price goes directly into the pockets of buyers. Where such things can be, the reports spread need most careful watching. In some instances they may be looked upon with more than suspicion. Too rapt attention to selfish interests not infrequently make men blind to such things as honesty and truth.

The Balance of Probabilities

as things stand is in favour of much barley of prime malting sorts being safely secured. The great need is that it may be fairly treated, and secure for the growers fair and remunerative prices. All users of malt for any purpose whatever, and especially where it now forms only a part of the brewing material used, can afford to pay a price that should leave the grower a chance to live and reap a little return upon his capital. Happily there are few maltsters or dealers so placed that the reduction in price, where it can be secured, goes directly into the pocket of the buyer. In the majority of cases so direct an incentive to use the tar brush does not occur. But in any and every case in a matter like barley prices no true interest is ultimately served by making the conditions such that men who try to act honestly cannot live. The difference between a living profit and loss is now in the barley trade brought to so fine a point that every friend of the interests concerned should jealously watch every improper attempt to send prices down, from whatever source it may emanate.

FRANK RICHARDSON AND CO., successors to TOPHAM RICHARDSON BROS AND CO., Importers of Selected Foreign Malting Barleys, 6, Duke Street, Southwark, London, S.E. Telegrams, "Essurgeon, London" Telephone, 787, Hop, London; and at Liverpool and Burton-on-Trent.—[ADVT.]

HOPS.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

I have it on good authority that stocks of 1899 hops are now almost exhausted, that most of the growers who have hops on hand are taking them off the market, waiting further developments in the plantations, and that consequently quotations have advanced. Assuming the correctness of this statement, I have sought for evidence of its natural results, but regret to say that I fear it cannot be found in the present realisation of much higher prices by growers. The trade is certainly steady, but the demand is comparatively slow, and although the reports from the country do not indicate any solid improvement in the prospects of the crop, no speculative action has been aroused, and buyers still seem to be willing to abide by the issue of events, whatever they may be. In the meantime, there is no doubt that the tendency of values is upward. Holders have in all cases instructed their factors to ask for more money, and however unwilling merchants may be to concede what is required, they must certainly be soon brought to acknowledge the reasonableness of the claims of growers.

We have now passed more than half way through August, and in the ordinary course some new hops will be with us in about a fortnight. Although the main crop will probably be rather late this season, we are practically within touch of the new market. It is therefore quite comprehensible that merchants should deprecate any movement in prices which might give a stronger tone to the commencement of this season's trade. But, despite their efforts, facts will tell in the long run, and I only wish that growers had better regard for their own interests, and the benefits that would accrue to them from co-operative action. The example of our competitors in Oregon and California is before us. The keen Yanks are aware that combination can only be met and defeated by combination, for which we have such excellent opportunities on this side.

From the Plantations.

I have received many reports this week, but they are so generally uniform in character that it appears hardly necessary to print them with separate detail. There appears to be no doubt that the gales have done irreparable and incalculable damage to the greater part of the grounds. Very few acres can be found that are not feeling the effects of the storms in some degree, and the subsequent break-up of the weather, with lowered temperature, coming upon the plants in their most critical stage, practically settled the question of the crop. I cannot see how it can be possible for the more genial climate we are now enjoying to benefit, except by maturing the hops that have already formed or are in course of formation. Bramblings have, perhaps, the best chance, but I fear for the Goldings, which in East Kent are not at all well developed. The better-grown laterals were weighted with the rain and were severely knocked about in all the exposed gardens round Canterbury, the burr being so much bruised that but little of it can make any further advance. This is also the case in the Ashford district. From Teynham I hear of much blind bine, and in other districts it appears that mould is running fast, despite of sulphurating. Similar reports come from Maidstone, the Weald of Kent, and Sussex, complaints being general that the night temperatures are abnormally low, and that prospects are very discouraging. The growers in Worcester and Hereford have had the same experience, although the rainfall has benefited the hops on shallow soils. But here, as elsewhere, the combined effects of a bad start, persistent blight, gales, and unseasonable weather, are apparent in every yard, which, perhaps, are more unfavourably conditioned at present than the southern gardens.

I deeply sympathise with my friends in every district whose anxieties, outlay, and skill, have been so much depreciated by climatic hindrances which they cannot control, and earnestly trust that they will find some compensative in improved values, which they well deserve and should certainly demand.

The Farleighs and District (August 19th).—A correspondent writes:—The late hot weather has brought the hops on very much, but they are very late this year, and picking must be much later than usual. Some pieces are slack of bine, and the stronger pieces are very blind. This neighbourhood gave a very large crop last year. This year it looks as if it would grow about half of last year. A good deal of mould can be found in some grounds.

Teynham.—Except in well-protected gardens the damage done by the recent heavy gales is irreparable. The estimate of the general yield must therefore be much reduced, and the continuation of cold wet weather makes the outlook still more unfavourable. I fear we shall not now reach an average in this district.

Hope (Hereford).—Bine very slack in most yards, some with more bine and well washed are doing better. Blight still about. Some yards will not be worth putting a crib in, the burr is not coming out kindly, and generally the yards have not looked so bad at this time for years.

Withington (Hereford).—Our hop plantations generally started badly this year, many of the older and poorer yards being most deficient of bine, and this, together with severe attacks of aphis blight, has caused a most uneven condition in the prospects of a crop. I believe the plants are fairly clean from both insects and mould just now, but under no conditions of weather can one half of our acreage produce more than 3 cwt. per acre. A large proportion of the remainder will not grow near an average, but with everything favourable there may perhaps be 20 per cent. of the whole that will produce a fair average crop.

The first pocket of East Kent Golding hops arrived in the Borough Hop Market from Upchurch, and was purchased on Friday by Messrs. Smith and Foyer, 16, Southwark Street, Borough, S.E.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The trade in hops continues to be steady, though the amount of business done is limited by the reduction of stocks, which are now at a very low point. Values are well maintained, being settled by mutual agreement in each transaction, and buyers are in this respect somewhat at the mercy of holders, who are disposed towards firmness, and generally decline to sell, unless at prices fixed by themselves. Some early samples have made their appearance on the market, and have been sold at the fancy price of about 2s. 6d. per lb.

Reports of the Growing Crop

generally indicate that improvement is taking place. The anxiety created by want of rain three weeks ago has been replaced by confidence and comparative satisfaction in consequence of the salutary showers that have fallen recently, but further moisture is needed to enable the burr to develop into hop, which will be assured if favourable weather should prevail during the present month. A general feeling exists that the quality of the new hops will probably meet the wishes of consumers, but that the actual yield will come somewhat short of that of last year, especially as some districts have suffered severely from recent wind storms.

Belgium.

More encouraging reports as to the condition of the plants checked the recent strength of the market, and values of hops, both of the 1899 and the 1900 growth, receded. This has been succeeded by a firmer tone consequent on the knowledge that the plantations were not making such good progress as was expected. Violent storms have damaged the bine and the laterals, and for a week or more unsettled weather prevailed, with very cold nights and almost sunless days. The return of warmth and sunshine is welcomed, and is giving the plants much help, but as the growth in many grounds was seriously checked by the severity of the attack of blight, it is clear that the crop cannot under the most favourable conditions yield much more than half the quantity that was grown last year, even if it reaches this proportion.

America.

The New York market for hops is distinctly hardening, though its progress upwards is slow. Buyers are showing increased willingness to operate, and although business cannot be described as active, there is enough trade being done to support the ideas of dealers. Supplies are light, and not equal to the outgoings, and the firm tone which marks the present position is encouraged by the reports from the country, which denote pretty plainly that only a moderate harvest can be gathered. Later intelligence shows the maintenance of a firm tone.

Concerning the New Crop

I note the following:—

Oneida Co. (N.Y. State).—Heavy wind and rainstorms have damaged some yards near Waterville. Vines throughout an extensive section were badly beaten, and the laterals were injured. Yards outside the storm area are looking fairly well.

Otsego Co. (N.Y.).—Yards about Fly Creek being in some cases neglected, the average under proper cultivation is reduced by about 20 per cent. Growth is light, but insects are absent.

Madison Co. (N.Y.).—The vines in Madison district are in about usual condition, and are free of insect pests.

New York State.—The crop is now estimated at not exceeding 40,000 bales, which is about two-thirds of an average yield. The feeling of dealers is demonstrated by the contracts which are being made with growers at 12½ to 15 cents, and although such figures might be considered tempting, very few planters are willing to contract thereat.

Oregon.—Some growers state that owing to the scarcity and consequent high value of labour this year, many yards will be left unpicked. It is reported that the hop growers' association recently formed in this State, and controlling a large area of hops, has received an offer for prime hops, of 15 cents certain, with the alternative of the highest figure obtainable for equal quality if the value eventually goes beyond the minimum named. But in order to secure this price the association guarantees that only three-fourths of the crop shall be gathered.

Lane Co. (Oregon).—Hops are looking generally well, and if no drawbacks occur a fair crop will be harvested.

Linn Co. (Oregon).—The acreage in White and Green River Valleys is quite 40 per cent less than last year. There are some lice, which are being dealt with by spraying, otherwise the vines are generally in fair condition.

Washington.—Throughout the greater part of the eastern section of this State hops are fairly promising, but in the western part the outlook is not so good.

Yakima Co. (Wash.).—Vines are healthy and free from vermin, but acreage is about 10 per cent below last year.

California.—It is now estimated that the whole State will produce less hops than last year, and some experts put the reduction at possibly 15 to 20 per cent.

Sacramento Co. (Cal.).—Acreage has been reduced from last year by about 5 per cent. There are no insects, but growth is rather slow, and there are many missed hills. The quality of the crop should be good, but the quantity will not exceed three-fourths of the yield of 1899.

Sonoma Co. (Cal.).—The vines have suffered unusually from cut worms and other pests; the output will therefore be materially reduced. About Petaluma, in this county, the vines are backward, and a good many hills have missed. The average area under cultivation is unchanged.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 241, 243.)

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Dublin, August 15, 1900.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	cwt. qr. lb	£ s. d.
8	Bullocks (prime) ..	20 10 0	11 1 17	1 15 11
2	,, ,, ..	16 15 0	9 3 10	1 14 0
2	,, (very good) ..	17 10 0	10 2 0	1 13 4
6	,, ,, ..	20 0 0	12 0 5	1 13 2
10	,, (good) ..	17 0 0	10 0 11	1 13 8
1	,, ,, ..	17 0 0	11 0 16	1 12 6
4	,, (fair) ..	17 10 0	10 3 14	1 12 2
3	,, ,, ..	15 0 0	9 3 18	1 10 3
2	,, (inferior) ..	13 0 0	9 0 0	1 8 10
2	Heifers (prime) ..	14 0 0	8 0 0	1 15 0
4	,, ,, ..	18 10 0	11 3 14	1 14 9
6	,, (very good) ..	16 5 0	9 2 18	1 13 7
3	,, ,, ..	16 0 0	9 2 9	1 13 4
*2	,, (good) ..	15 0 7	9 1 0	1 12 6
8	,, ,, ..	14 5 0	8 3 14	1 12 1
7	,, ,, ..	15 15 0	9 3 8	1 12 0
10	,, (fair) ..	12 15 0	8 0 11	1 11 6
*10	,, ,, ..	14 3 10	9 1 23	1 10 0
*10	,, ,, ..	13 15 3	9 0 19	1 10 0
15	Wethers (prime) ..	3 3 0	1 2 19	1 18 2
2	Ewes (very good) ..	2 9 0	1 2 14	1 10 2
5	,, ,, ..	2 10 0	1 2 22	1 9 5
10	,, (good) ..	2 7 6	1 2 8	1 10 2
8	,, ,, ..	1 7 9	0 3 17	1 9 8
15	Hoggets (prime) ..	2 4 6	1 0 20	1 17 7
20	,, (very good) ..	2 10 0	1 1 15	1 16 1
12	,, ,, ..	2 9 0	1 1 16	1 15 1
15	,, (good) ..	2 9 0	1 1 13	1 15 10
19	,, (fair) ..	2 5 0	1 1 [illegible]	1 14 6
22	,, ,, ..	1 17 0	1 0 15	1 12 7
9	Lambs (very good) ..	1 11 6	0 3 9	1 17 9

* Sold by live weight.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended August 11, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	12,676	13,151	Wheat ..	[illegible]	1,637,800
Sheep ..	8,106	6,097	Flour ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
			Oats ..	234,[illegible]0	54,600
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Peas ..	[illegible]3	[illegible]
Beef ..	74,240	99,[illegible]8	Beans ..	[illegible]	7,400
Mutton	28,361	103,[illegible]	Maize ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pork ..	4,865	5,[illegible]5		Bunches	Bunches
Bacon ..	146,[illegible]3	103,708	Bananas ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beef, salt	4,046	2,249		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	54,044	54,125	Apples ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pork, salt	6,877	6,[illegible]	Apples & Pears	—	1,[illegible]
Meat, salt & fresh	5,246	9,225	Cherries	2,[illegible]	[illegible]
Do. pres.	14,719	18,[illegible]	Currants	—	1,[illegible]
Butter ..	73,78[illegible]	67,[illegible]	Gooseberries	—	—
M'g'rine	12,[illegible]	15,125	Grapes ..	[illegible]	31,515
Cheese ..	[illegible]	68,229	Lemons ..	24,[illegible]	[illegible]
Con. Milk	14,230	18,[illegible]	Oranges ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	13	1 9	Pears ..	[illegible]	34,313
			Plums ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
			Tomatoes	—	107
			Other ..	[illegible]	51,417
	No.	No.		Tons.	Tons.
			Hay ..	5,778	[illegible]
Eggs ..	261,616	235,004*	Potatoes	[illegible]	[illegible]
			Onions ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£1,[illegible]	£1,[illegible]	Hops ..	687	[illegible]
			Potatoes	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Tomatoes	—	[illegible]
Rabbits ..	4,046	8,[illegible]	Other ..	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	[illegible]	[illegible]	Vegetables	£1,[illegible]	£14,671

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

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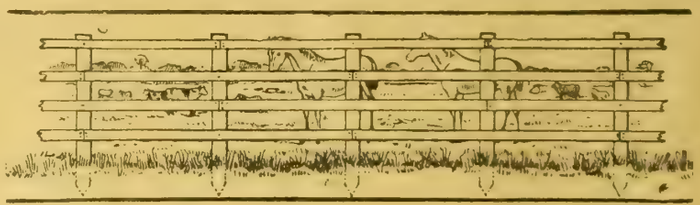

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The

Mark Lane Express

and

Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

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(Registered as a Newspaper at the General Post Office.)

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SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June, 1894.)

PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.

HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, ESQ., Beltring, Kent.

SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.

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To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop culture.

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Schedules of the Secretary,
T. C. HARDING, Auctioneer, Frome.

SOCIETIES.

WARWICKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The ANNUAL EXHIBITION of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, IMPLEMENTS, and DAIRY PRODUCE, with the FIELD COMPETITIONS, will be held at
COVENTRY,
on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, AUGUST 29 and 30 next.
Admission: First day, 2s. 6d.; second day, 1s.

Judging in all Departments on WEDNESDAY.

Special HUNTERS' JUMPING CLASSES on Wednesday afternoon, and General JUMPING and DRIVING Classes on Thursday afternoon.

Band of the 2nd Vol. Batt. Royal Warwickshire Regiment each day.
POULTRY and BEE-DRIVING DEMONSTRATIONS by Warwickshire County Council Experts each day.

First-class Luncheon, 2s. 6d.; second class, 1s.

Cheap Railway Fares, see Companies' Bills.
FREDERICK H. MOORE, Secretary.
Warwick.

BIRMINGHAM AUTUMNAL SHORTHORN SHOW AND SALE.

SEPTEMBER 20TH.

ENTRIES CLOSE, TUESDAY, AUGUST 28TH.
Prize lists and entry forms on application.

W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.
Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

RUGBY AND DUNCHURCH AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
CATTLE, HORSE, AND FOAL SHOW
WILL BE HELD AT
RUGBY,
ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1900,
when £370 will be given in Prizes.
Entries close September 1, 1900.
EDWIN TAIT (Auctioneer), Secretary and Treasurer, 2, Albert Street, Rugby.

DAIRY SHOW.

AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON,
OCTOBER 9, 10, 11, 12.

GREAT EXHIBITION OF DAIRY CATTLE, PRODUCE, APPLIANCES, ETC.

Entries close Sept. 10.
WM. C. YOUNG, Secretary.
12, Hanover-square, London, W.

CRAVEN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AND FARMERS' CLUB.
FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SHOW at SKIPTON,
FRIDAY, AUGUST 31ST, 1900.
PRIZES £450. PRIZES
For Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Pigs, Roots, Butter, Cheese, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, Cavies, Cats, Dogs, &c.
RICHARD WILSON, Secretary.
CHARLES WALKER, Assistant Secretary.

NEWBURY HORSE SHOW.

TENTH ANNUAL SHOW, SEPT. 12, 1900.
President, B. WINTHROP, Esq., Barton Court, Newbury.
ABOUT £374 IN PRIZES.
H.I.S. and S.H.S. Gold and Silver Medals.
Schedules, etc.,
F. ROBINSON, Asst. Sec.
Broadway, Newbury.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NORTH WALES, BANGOR.
A constituent College of the University of Wales
AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT. IN-COLLEGE COURSES. 1. A complete course in theoretical and practical Agriculture extending over two years, and suitable for farmers and land agents. 2. Advanced course for a third year in Agricultural Chemistry. 3. Short course of eleven weeks, commencing in October and consisting of Agriculture, Chemistry, Bookkeeping, and Land Surveying. The degree of B.Sc. in Agriculture of the University of Wales may be taken by students who pursue a three years' post matriculation course of study at the College. LLEDWIGAN FARM (360 acres) has been taken by the College for teaching and experimental purposes. Diploma (two years) and Degree (three years) students will in future follow courses for at least one year at the farm under the supervision of the Professor of Agriculture. Special arrangements will be made to take farm pupils for practical instruction only. The College is recognised by the Surveyors' Institution as a place of approved professional instruction for land agents. The cost of board and lodging, with tuition fees, varies from £30 to £40 for the College year. The Scholarship examination will commence on September 18.
Prospectus, with full particulars as to Scholarships and Diplomas, may be obtained from
JOHN EDWARD LLOYD, M.A.,
Secretary and Registrar.
July 17th, 1900.

THE DURHAM COLLEGE OF SCIENCE,
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.
Complete courses of instruction are provided in Agriculture and the allied sciences.
Course for the degree of B.Sc. in the University of Durham. Average Composition Fee, £21 per annum.
Winter Course for the College Certificate and for students preparing for the N.D.A., etc. Composition Fee, £15 per session.
For particulars regarding Scholarships, etc., apply to the SECRETARY.

ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.
Trustees: The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of Edinburgh.
J. R. M. DEWAR, F.R.C.V.S., Principal.
SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION commences OCTOBER 2nd, 1900.
The INAUGURAL ADDRESS will be delivered on October 3rd by
Sir JOHN GILMOUR, Bart., of Montrave.
For Prospectus apply to the Principal.

THE YORKSHIRE COLLEGE, LEEDS, AND THE MANOR FARM, GARFORTH.

Complete Course of Agricultural Education. Lectures in College and at the Farm from October to March. Special provision for practical instruction. Fee, £10. Students are prepared for the N.D.A. Examination. There is also a special course for the B.Sc. Degree.—Prospectus from the REGISTRAR.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURE COURSE.—For prospectus, regulations for degree of B.Sc., and for Garton Lectures on Colonial and Indian Agriculture, apply, CLERK SENATUS.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF KENT—COUNTY COUNCIL OF SURREY—South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, near Ashford, Kent. This Residential College gives a complete Scientific and Practical Training to future Farmers, Land Agents, etc. Preparation for the Examinations for the National Diploma in Agriculture and the Surveyors' Institution. Resident Staff of seven Professors and Lecturers. Farm of 200 acres. Next Term begins October 1st. For Prospectus and all particulars apply to the Principal, A. D. HALL, M.A., late Scholar of Balliol College, Oxford.

AUCTION SALES.

SALES OF PURE BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—
FRIDAY NEXT, AUGUST 31. — Sir T. B. LENNARD'S SOUTHDOWNS, and some LARGE WHITE PIGS, at Woodingdean, Brighton.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—Mr. JAMES WATT'S extensive Herd of SHORTHORNS, at Knowefield, Carlisle.
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.—Mr. H. Ker Colville's SHORTHORNS, at Bellaport, Market Drayton.
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.—Mr. R. S. OLVER'S Herd of HEREFORDS, at Trescowe, Bodmin, Cornwall.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.—The MARQUIS OF EXETER'S SHORTHORNS and the late Mrs. FRANKLIN'S SHORTHORNS, at Burghley House, Stamford.
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.—Mr. JOHN COOPER'S SHORTHORNS, at East Haddon, Northampton.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes-street, Hanover-square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

RAM SALE OF SEPTEMBER 7TH.

THE ELEVENTH RAM SALE of the Association will be held in Messrs. J. Smith and Co.'s Field, Lincoln, on Friday, September 7th next, at 10.15 a.m. precisely, sales to commence with the eight selected flocks.
Entries have been made by the undermentioned breeders, viz.: Mr. John Anderson, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. James Cartwright, Messrs. Casswell Bros., Mr. J. E. Casswell, Mr. Tom Casswell, Mr. Charles Clarke (Scopwick), Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, Mr. C. S. Dickinson, Mr. John Evens, Mr. Henry Goodyear, Mr. E. M. Grantham, Mr. C. F. Hookham, Mr. Edward J. Howard, Mr. Ed. W. Howard, Mr Geo. T. Melcourn, the late Mr. J. Money's exors., Mr. Thomas Neave, Messrs. J. T. and A. W Needham, Mr. John Pears, Messrs. O. and W. B. B. Quibell, Mr. W. H. Robinson, Mr. Wm. Seagrave, Mr. W. Taylor Sharp, Mr. H. Smith, jun., Sir John H. Thorold, Bart. Mr. W C. Tong, Messrs. W. and W. H. Watson, and Messrs. R. and W. Wright.
Catalogues will be ready about the 31st of August.
Apply to STEPHEN UPTON, Secretary, St Benedict's Square, Lincoln, August 13th, 1900.

CRAVEN ARMS, SHROPSHIRE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE! ALTERATION OF DATE.

The largest SALE of STOCK EWES in England.

MESSRS. JACKSON AND McCARTNEY will hold their
TWENTY-SIXTH GREAT ANNUAL SALE
OF UPWARDS OF
12,500 STOCK EWES, about 5,000 Shropshire Ewes and 7,500 Clun Forest, Radnor Forest, Kerry Hill, Longwynd, and Cross-bred, from the leading flocks in the district, on THURSDAY, the 30th of AUGUST, 1900.
And of about
200 RAMS, Shropshire, Clun Forest, Oxford Down, Kerry Hill, Longwynd, and Cross-bred.
AND
1,000 WETHERS and LAMBS on FRIDAY, the 31st of AUGUST.
Sale will commence on Thursday at 1 o'clock, and on Friday at 10 o'clock.
Catalogues may be had on application at the Offices, Craven Arms Station.

REGISTER OF BRITISH LIVE STOCK BREEDERS.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. — Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners; yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

HACKNEYS. — JOHN N. ANTHONY, Sedgeford, near Lynn, Norfolk, breeder of Pedigree Hackneys. On hand, Colts and Fillies by most of the leading sires.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Sta lions, at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath Station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

CLEVELANDS

HORSFALL, F. WILSON, Potto Grange, Northallerton.—Breeder of pure-bred CLEVELAND BAY and YORKSHIRE COACH HORSES. This stud has won far more prizes than any other again this year, and has won twice as many as any other during the last fifteen years with Clevelands. Many Royal and Great Yorkshire prize-winners for sale. One of the Stud Horses is Champion Broomgrove Pride 1249—first and champion R.A.S.E. Show, Maidstone, 1897; first R.A.S.E. Show, Birmingham, 1898; first and champion Great Yorkshire, Leeds, 1898; only times shown; fee £5 5s. Also breeder of pure-bred Shorthorns. Bulls and heifers for sale. Amongst others added to this herd in 1899 were Daisy Perfection, Richmond Daisy, and Highland Daisy, all bought at the Duke of Northumberland's Sale, at 210 guineas, 72 guineas, and 72 guineas respectively. Also breeder of Sussex black pigs, and several breeds of white poultry.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some gold Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

TAUNTON, H. PERCY, Redlynch, near Salisbury, Wiltshire. Shire-bred STALLIONS MARES, FILLIES, and GELDINGS of the most fashionable breeding always for sale at moderate prices. The animals are kept entirely out of doors and in natural condition.

PONIES.

THE LARGEST STUD of SELECTED WELSH PONIES IN WALES.—Dinarth Hall Pony Stud Farm, Colwyn Bay, North Wales. Over 120 Ponies now on hand, including forty Brood Mares of the pure Welsh type, and several high-class Ponies, great goers, with style and action. 150 prizes won in 1898 and 1899. Ponies purchased from this Stud have won first prizes at Manchester, Birmingham, and Maidstone Royal Shows; also first and medal Crystal Palace, 1899. Sale in 1899 included two Entire Ponies purchased by the Government for Cyprus, several to America and France. Stud Horse JULIUS CÆSAR II. 5666, sire of first prize two-year-old pony filly, the first of his produce exhibited, London Hackney Show, 1900.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, S. Wales, extensive Breeder and Exporter of the best class of WELSH MOUNTAIN PONIES and COBS. References and particulars on application.

MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley, Winslow, Bucks.—Prize PONIES always FOR SALE. Arab Polo Pony Stallion "Mootrub" (32), winner of a championship, silver medals, and many prizes. Particulars on application.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY PARK SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

LANGFORD HOUSE ESTATE HERD of pure and highly-bred SHORTHORN CATTLE, the property of Mr. Sidney Hill, J.P. All bred from the best and leading herds in the Kingdom. Sires now in service: Wiltshire Victor, 71,883 (roan), by Count Victor, 66,877. Puck, 73,333 (roan), by Alto, 68,147. Count Valiant, 74,307 (roan), by Count Arthur, 70,194. Langford Lavender, 74,819 (roan), by Wiltshire Victor, 71,883. Bulls and heifers always on sale, also registered flock of Southdown sheep. Inspection invited. Telegrams, Langford Station, Congresbury, G.W.R. Particulars from J. D. LOVELESS, Estate Office, Langford, Bristol.

GARNE, R. & W. T., Aldsworth, Northleach, Glos., breed SHORTHORN CATTLE of great size, thick flesh, good milkers. Young Bulls and Heifers on sale. Stock Bulls: Wrestler, 66,582, Lord Harry, 65,180, and Now or Never, 67,544. Inspection invited.

HEREFORDS.

SALTMARSHE CASTLE ESTATES, HEREFORDSHIRE, Prize winning pure bred HEREFORD CATTLE. Champion Happy Hampton in service. Inspection invited. Good selection for sale.—Apply, J. W. MILLYARD, Estate Office, Littlebridge, Bromyard.

PEDIGREE HEREFORD CATTLE.—One of the oldest herds extant. —Young bulls and heifers of the purest lineage and excellent quality for sale.—J. R. HILL, Orleton Court, R.S.O., Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton, Williton, Taunton, breeder of pure breed Devon cattle. Breeding animals always on sale; some are prize-takers, others deep flesh, good form animals of the best milking strains and beef producers.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

DALMENY PARK ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

OSENTON, GEORGE, Mariners, Westerham.—Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.

JERSEYS.

HEASELANDS HERD of PEDIGREE JERSEYS, COWS and HEIFERS of the best blood at moderate prices.—Pedigrees, etc., on application to the owner, WALTER LLOYD, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

ILMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS. — Choice about 100 finest quality Cows and Heifers, in profit and calving all seasons; prices moderate; inspection invited; shipper to all parts.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

BLACK POLLED.

BLUNT, H. LAYTON, Orton Longueville, Peterborough.—Breeder of Black Polled Cattle. BULLS and HEIFERS for sale, also GRAZING STEERS.

PIGS.

YORKSHIRES.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H.—NEWLAND HERD OF PEDIGREE LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES; all pigs entered or eligible for entry in Herd Book; choice, well-grown young boars and sows of the best strains always on sale. — Apply, BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Ellel, near Lancaster. Station: Bay Horse.

PIGS (*contd.*).

YORKSHIRES.

WALTON HERD of PEDIGREE PIGS, owned by SIR GILBERT GREENALL, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington; unsurpassed for purity of breed, size, and general excellence, as proved by the numerous championship and class prizes won at all the leading shows. Large, Middle, and Small White Yorkshires. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale. Stock carefully shipped. For particulars, apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

DALMENY HERD OF LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.—Apply MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Improved Pedigree Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest Herds of pure-bred Pigs in the United Kingdom. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford, pedigree LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS. Also few BERKSHIRES for sale. All bred on farm. 200 to select from. One champion, 28 firsts, 24 seconds, 15 thirds won this year.

BERKSHIRE.

SMITH, C. C., Kingstone Common, Wantage.—Pedigree Berkshire BOARS and GILTS for Sale. Eligible for Herd Book.

BURBIDGE, EDWARD, Wraxhall, Bradford-on-Avon. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, bred from Royal and Bath and West Champion blood. Acknowledged one of largest type of Berkshires in England. Purchasers met by appointment.

TAMWORTH.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTH PIGS. A few young boars and gilts from prize-winning strains, for sale.—Apply, Farm Bailiff, Middlewood Hall, Barnsley.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

FIELDSEND, C. S., Belmont, S. Willingham, Lincoln. Flock No. 59. Pedigree RAMS and EWES for SALE.

T. C. DIXON, Brandesburton, Hull.—Pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, of best blood. Wool a speciality, with quality and size combined. F.B. 69. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for Sale. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

HOYLES, GEORGE, Manor House, Skidby, near Hull.—Pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP. Registered Flock 136. Sires used: Skidby Constitution 3069, sire Skidby Conservative 1346, g. sire Old Constitution 308; Skidby Tory 1583, sire Riby A 358; Leconfield Pride, sire Casswell (16) 1753; Skidby Friar, sire Abbot 1—from the celebrated flocks of Messrs. Henry Dudding, J. Casswell, Hy. Smith, jun., etc. Heavy-wool Sheep for export. Also prize and prize-bred Polled Angus, Shire Horses, and English Ponies for inspection and sale.

SHEEP (*contd.*).

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Chapel Farm, Barton-on-Humber, Lincolnshire Breeder of pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP. Flock Book 106. These sheep are noted for having hardy constitutions, true character, and long, lustrous wool. — Telegrams: "John Anderson, Barton-on-Humber."

OXFORDSHIRE DOWN.

OXFORDSHIRE DOWNS.— For SALE, 100 pure-bred young EWES and 50 EWE LAMBS. Dispersal of flock, established more than 30 years. During recent years rams have been used from the noted flocks of C. Howard, G. Street, B. Hawkins, and H. J. Peacock. Apply to THOMAS STREET, Milton Ernest, Bedford.

HAMPSHIRE DOWN.

FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Undoubtedly the leading flock of the day; in show yard records at all the largest shows, including the Challenge Cup at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair six years in succession; also highest average for same period for 100 ram lambs at annual sale, at Britford Fair, August 12.

The Flock is one of the oldest existing combining fine quality, strength, constitution, and true character.

"Fossil," sire of the highest-priced Hampshire Down Ram ever sold, was bred at Chilmark, and in service there last two seasons.

COLES, CARY, late C. and T., Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury.—Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prize-winners at the Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and other shows. Sheep of all ages for sale; selections from 1,000.

SHROPSHIRE.

COOPER, WILLIAM, AND NEPHEWS, "Cooper's Dip" Works, Berkhamsted, England. Breeders and Exporters of pure Shropshire Sheep. First and Third Prize for Ewes, Royal Show, 1898. Five hundred breeding Ewes. The largest export flock of Shropshires in England. The sires used present season include 310 Guinea Champion "Royal Record," Two First, One Second, and One Third Royal Show Prize winners.

LIVE STOCK AGENTS.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Agent, Ellandonan, Inverness, established 1870, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK. He attends all the leading markets to purchase Stock at lowest rates. References can be given if desired to customers who have been annually supplied. All orders are personally attended to. List of classes and approximate prices sent on application. Reference required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." J.A. is now booking orders. N.B.—Polled Angus or West Highland Heifers for crossing or feeding, in truck loads, at moderate prices. Fat Stock of all classes also purchased.

LARGEST Live Stock Agency in England.—E. GOODWIN PREECE, Portland House, Shrewsbury, will be glad to receive orders for RAMS, EWES and WETHERS, of various breeds, of which he buys annually large numbers on commission. SHROPSHIRES, CLUNS, and KERRIES, a SPECIALITY. HAMPSHIRES, OXFORDS, SOUTHDOWNS, LINCOLNS, LEICESTERS, and COTSWOLDS. Also CATTLE of various classes for GRAZING or DAIRY. References to practical farmers all over England, who have been regularly supplied for many years. All personally bought. Prices on application.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SANFORD'S POISON, best stuff known for Killing Rats.—Mr. Bliss, farmer, Leighton, writes that he found 136 dead, one dressing.—Ald. Ashton, Huntingdon, states he killed 70 rats with 1s. box. Send 1s. 2d. to SANFORD and SON, Sandy, and try it; also Mice Poison for dressing Wheat Ricks. Sold by Chemists.

FARMERS! save your horses, time, and mower by using one of our "NATIONAL" HOLDERS for sharpening Machine Knives; instantly attached; packs in tool box; takes any knife; unbreakable malleable iron throughout; sent carriage paid for 7s. 6d.—WOODROFFE AND CO., Rugeley.

895 800 YARDS WIRE NETTING.—Galvanised, new. Cash prices per roll of 50 yds.: 3-in. mesh, 2 ft., 3s. 9d.; 3 ft., 5s. 6d.; 4 ft., 7s. 6d.; 2-in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 6d.; 3 ft., 6s. 9d.; 4 ft., 9s.; 1½-in. mesh, 2 ft., 5s. 6d.; 3 ft., 8s. 6d.; 4 ft., 11s.; 1-in. mesh, 2 ft. wide, 8s. 3d.; 3 ft., 12s. 5d.; 4 ft., 16s. 6d. Any other size or width equally cheap. Warranted very best quality. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING, 50-yd. rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4-in. mesh with centre strand, 8s. 3d., 9s. 3d., and 11s. 6d. per roll. Carriage paid on lots of 50s. and upwards. Wrought Iron Stakes for fixing netting, 9s. 6d. per dozen, carriage paid. Iron Hurdles, 6 ft. long, 4 bars, 36s. 0d. per dozen; 5 bars, 39s. Extra strong, 51s. per dozen. Challenge Field Gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 24s. each. —JOHN PRIEST and SON, Limited, Tower Hill, Bristol.

TARPAULINS. — I have a great quantity of large pieces of Tarpaulin, some new, but all of the best Navy canvas, purchased from Government, useful for covers for carts, waggons, and machinery, at 25s. per cwt., name size required. A quantity of Odd Pieces, suitable for covering buildings, at 8s.—per cwt.—From H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

RICK COVERS; quite new; all sizes; 6 by 6yds., 21s.; 7 by 6yds., 24s. 6d.; 8 by 8yds., 37s. 6d.; 10 by 10yds., 58s. 4d.; good hemp rope fitting, or any size to order, carriage paid; great quantity in stock ready to be despatched on receipt of order.
H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

WATER TANKS for Storing Water.—Will hold 400 gallons; wrought iron, with manho'e at top; weight 476lb., size 4ft. 3in. square; carriage paid for £4 2s. each from H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

MANILLA BINDER TWINE.—Good quality; hundreds of tons sold; no complaints. Cash price, 6½d. lb.; 1 cwt. sample bale sent carriage paid.—WESTON AND CO., 49, Princes Road, Wimbledon.

BASIC SLAG (Thomas Phosphate Powder).—State quantity required and station, when prices, with guaranteed analyses and full particulars, will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

OLIVOLINE.—A perfect Lubricating Oil, durable and non-gumming. Thirty years in use. Agents required in districts unrepresented. — DUNCAN, WATSON, and Co., Oil Refiners and Wagon Sheet Manufacturers, Dashwood House, New Broad Street, London, E.C.

FOR SALE, for cash, or on easy terms, upwards of fifty second-hand TRACTION and PORTABLE ENGINES, Ploughing Tackle, Traction Waggons, Threshing Machines, Elevators, etc.; all at Reading. Monthly lists free. We are always buyers of any class Machinery for prompt cash.—HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Ironworks, Reading.

TWILLED NAVY CANVAS STACK SHEETS.—Best Double Hand sewn, with best tarred hemp twine, fitted with tarred hemp tie ropes 9 yards long.

Sizes:—8 by 6 yards, 32s.; 8 by 8 yards, 42s. 8d.; 10 by 8 yards, 53s.; 10 by 10 yards, 66s.; 12 by 10 yards, 80s.; 12 by 12 yards, 96s. Cheaper Quality: 8 by 6 yards, 28s.; 8 by 8 yards, 37s.; 10 by 8 yards, 47s.; 10 by 10 yards, 58s.; 12 by 10 yards, 69s.; 12 by 12 yards, 83s. Can supply cheaper qualities. Set of blocks, fitted with best quality hemp or manilla, 25s. to 30s. per set. Waggon Ropes, made of best hemp or manilla, 20 yards long 3s 11d.; 30 yards, 6s. 9d.; 40 yards, 8s. 6d. For orders placed now will allow 7½ per cent. for cash. Samples and lists free. Makers to H.M. the Queen and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., Ltd., London Works, Reading.

WIRE NETTING. — Galvanised, in rolls of 50 yards; carriage paid on 50s. lots and over; 3in. mesh, 2ft., 3s. 9d.; 3ft., 5s. 6d.; 4ft., 7s. 6d.; 2in. mesh, 2ft., 4s. 6d.; 3ft., 6s. 9d.; 4 ft., 9s. Sheep Netting, 3ft. wide, 4in. mesh with centre stand, 8s. 3d., 9s. 3d., and 11s. 6d. per roll.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., Limited, Reading. (Name Paper.)

GALVANISED CORRUGATED SHEETS.—All perfectly sound and strong.—5ft., 1s. 7d.; 6ft., 2s.; 7ft., 2s. 4d.; 8ft., 2s. 6d.; 9ft., 2s. 11d.; 10ft., 3s. 5d.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., Limtd., London Works, Reading. (Name Paper.)

BINDER TWINE, very best Manila. Length about 620 ft. per lb., breaking strain 120lb. Price 61s. 6d. per cwt. Sample free. Also prices of Hemp, Jute, and Sisal on application.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., LTD., London Works, Reading.

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CART COVERS FOR MILLERS, BAKERS, AND CONFECTIONERS.—Made from best quality double texture White Mackintosh. Waterproof Sheeting, any size at 3s. 6d. per square yard. Samples free.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Waterproofers, Wigan. Estd. 1808.

WATERPROOF OIL SHEETS.—Improved flexible, made from pure flax canvas, hand dressed, lettered, with tie-ropes complete. 8ft. by 6ft., 9s.; 9ft. by 7ft., 11s.; 10½ft. by 8ft., 14s.; 12ft. by 9ft., 18s.; 12ft. by 10ft., 20s.; 15ft. by 8ft., 20s.; 15ft. by 9ft., 22s. 6d.; 15ft. by 10ft., 25s.; 15ft. by 12ft., 30s.; 16½ft. by 10ft., 28s.; 16½ft. by 12ft., 33s.; 18ft. by 12ft., 36s.; 21ft. by 12ft., 42s.; 21ft. by 15ft., 53s.; 24ft. by 18ft., 72s. These and all other sizes in stock at proportionate prices, carriage paid; immediate delivery; thoroughly seasoned. Every cover guaranteed flexible, and neither to stick nor crack.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Waterproofers, Wigan.

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OILS.—Guaranteed of highest quality, without adulteration. In drums fitted with brass tap and vent plug. Neatsfoot: 5 gallons, 22s. 6d.; 10 gallons, 40s.; 20 gallons, 75s. Linseed: 5 gallons, 18s.; 10 gallons, 32s. 6d.; 20 gallons, 57s. Machinery: 5 gallons, 12s. 6d.; 10 gallons, 20s.; 20 gallons, 32s. 6d. Drums allowed for when returned in good condition, carriage paid: 5 gallons, 4s.; 10 gallons, 5s.; 20 gallons, 10s.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Wigan. Estd. 1808.

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POULTRY HOUSES!! NOTE PRICES!!! To hold 12 fowls, 20s.; 20 fowls, 25s.; 30 fowls, 27s.; 50 fowls, 40s. Illustrated lists free.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., Limited, London Works, Reading. (Name Paper.)

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VESICO SUDORIFIC.—No Blemish! No Rest! No Cradle! Vesico Sudorific is the quickest, safest, and most famous cure for Splint, Spavin, Ringbone, Sidebone, Capped Hock and Elbow, curb, Windgall, Tumours, and for Strengthening the legs of Horses. Price 2s. 6d. or 5s., of Chemists, or post free, GREGORY and Co., Temple, Bristol.

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TO LET from Michaelmas, 1900, the MANOR FARM, with fine old-fashioned Farmhouse, substantial and well-arranged Farm Buildings, and about 163 acres Arable and 153 acres Meadow and Brookland. Rent £300.—Apply, W. B. HOY, Stopham Estate Office, Pulborough.

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Apply, MICHELMORE AND SON, Land Agents, Gate House, Totnes.

CAPITAL DAIRY FARM, with good house, cottages, and farm buildings.

TO BE LET immediately BROOMLANDS FARM, in the Parishes of Titsey and Limpsfield, Surrey. Two miles from Oxted and Westerham Stations and about 20 miles from London. Acreage about 248, of which about 76 are light arable and hop land, the remainder meadow, with good water supply. Rent £200 per annum.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. MORRISONS AND NIGHTINGALE, Solicitors, Reigate, Surrey.

TO LET, in the Winchester neighbourhood, a farm of 884 acres, as follows:—

	Acres
Grass	124
Down	180
Arable	447
Woods	133
	884

There are two good sets of buildings and an excellent house. The sporting, which is very good, could be let with the Farm. Apply J. ARTHUR WALLINGTON, Esq., Basingstoke.

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AUCTION SALES.

ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th, 1900
(1 o'clock).
REGISTERED SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.
MR. J. E. FARMER'S ANNUAL SALE AT FELTON,
one mile from Ludlow Station (Shrewsbury and Hereford Line), where conveyances will meet trains.

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. will SELL BY AUCTION, as above,
30 NOBLE RAMS.
70 BEAUTIFUL SHEARLING EWES.
also included in the sale
30 GRAND STORE CATTLE,
Hereford and Polled Angus, Cross Bullocks and Heifers.

The Rams are in nice Store Condition, with strong masculine heads, good skins and fleeces, and are a strong, well-grown lot of sheep, whilst the Ewes can be specially recommended as being smart, stylish, and in nice condition for breeding purposes.

Note.—The Polled Angus Cross-bred Cattle are a really splendid lot and good enough for any purpose.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL and CO., who will execute Commissions.

ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH
(12 o'clock).

MANSELL'S FIRST GREAT AUTUMN STORE STOCK SALE (on live-weight basis) in the SHREWSBURY CATTLE MARKET.

1,000 CATTLE. 250 SHEEP.

A grand lot of well-bred cattle will be forward, including some polled-Angus and Shorthorn Crosses, Hereford, and Shorthorns in forward condition from the usual well-known breeders.

Commissions faithfully executed and further particulars from ALFRED MANSELL and CO., Live Stock Salesmen, Shrewsbury.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, next.
APPLESHAM FARM, SHOREHAM, SUSSEX.
About 2½ miles from Shoreham and Lancing Stations, L.B. & S.C.R.
Highly important SALE of SHEEP and DAIRY CATTLE.

MR. C. STRIDE has been favoured with instructions from Mr. WALTER WHITE (who is quitting and relinquishing farming) to SELL by AUCTION on the farm on the above date, the whole of his well known hill flock of DORSET DOWN SHEEP, consisting of about 1,500 EWES and LAMBS in ages as follows:—

219 two tooth ewes,
196 four tooth ewes,
179 six tooth ewes,
204 full mouthed ewes,
325 ewe lambs,
335 Wether lambs, rams and ram lambs.

This flock has been in the White family for seventy years, and since being brought into Sussex from Dorsetshire by Mr. Walter White ten years ago, has been crossed with the Southdown.

The Ewes are very prolific and hardy of constitution, possessing the quality of the Southdown with greater size and scale. They will be sold in their natural condition, and work on the Downs for their living until day of sale.

Together with
48 GRAND HEAVY MILKING DAIRY COWS AND HEIFERS,
all with calves at foot or due to calve.

All the above cows and heifers are a Shorthorn and Hereford cross, were bred on the farm from cows specially selected for their milking qualities, and are well worth the attention of buyers.

The remainder of the Dairy Stock, with the Horses and tackle, will be sold on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 next.

Sale to commence at 1.45 with the Cows.

Luncheon obtainable on the premises.

Catalogues of the Auctioneer, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 63, East-street, Chichester.

ROYAL PRIZE-WINNING SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.
DUNSMORE, RUGBY.
¾ mile from Clifton Mill Station (L. & N. W. R.), where conveyances will meet Trains, and 2½ miles from Rugby.

LYTHALL and WALTERS will SELL by AUCTION, on FRIDAY NEXT, AUGUST 31ST, by direction of P. A. MUNTZ, Esq., M.P.—

43 Grand pure-bred RAMS, including the invincible Pen of five Shearling Rams, which have secured 1st prizes at the R.A.S.E., S. & W.M., and Leicestershire Shows, and also the winners of 1st and Champion Notts, and 1st Newport, and
60 Beautiful SHEARLING EWES, chiefly sired by four R.A.S.E. winners.

The rams are of immense scale, with plenty of muscle and lean meat, and possessing good coats and skins, and the Ewes are of correct type, with well covered heads, good skins, wool, and mutton.

Luncheon at 1. Sale at 2 o'clock.

Catalogues from the Auctioneers, Bingley Hall, Birmingham, who will execute commissions to purchase.

THIRD ANNUAL SALE OF SUFFOLK HORSES AT IPSWICH, AUGUST 30TH, 1900.

MR. A. H. E. WOOD, of Sudbourn Hall, deciding to keep only one or two Stallions for his own use, is SELLING at the above sale FOUR THREE and TWO-YEAR-OLD STALLIONS, recent winners at the Royal, Richmond, and the Essex and Suffolk County Shows.

The Sudbourn Hall Stud of Suffolk Horses contains more prize-winners than any other stud in England.

AUCTION SALES.

THE QUARRINGTON RAMS.
(Flock Book No. 155).

Important SALE of Grand Lincoln Long-wool SHEARLING RAMS.

MESSRS. HINCKS & TURNER beg to announce their instructions from Mr. F. WARD, to SELL BY AUCTION, upon the premises, QUARRINGTON,

On TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th, 1900,

80
of his Grand Lincoln Shearling
RAMS.

This Flock, established in 1841, has been enriched by purchases of Ewes from the Flocks of the late Mr. Hack, Silk Willoughby; Messrs. Clarke and Son, Ashby-de-la-Launde; late Mr. John Byron, Kirkby Green; Mr. Pinder, of Barrowby; Mr. E. H. Cartwright, Keddington; and Mr. H. Dudding, Riby; four of which were the 1st prize winners at the Louth Show. Notable Stud Rams, purchased at sums varying from 60 to 115 guineas, from amongst others: The Flocks of Mr. Dudding, Mr. J. E. Casswell, Messrs. Dean and Son, Mr. T. Casswell, Mr. Pears, Messrs. Clarke and Son, Mr. Wright, Mr. Goodyear, Mr. Rudkin, Mr. Sharp and Mr. C. Clarke, have been used. The present collection show great size and capital constitution, with plenty of bone, combined with perfect fleeces, and can with confidence be thoroughly recommended. Specimens this year and the last two at the County Show, held at Spalding, Louth, and Lincoln (the only times exhibited), secured high honours.

The place of Sale is within One Mile of Sleaford Station on the Great Northern Railway, Grantham to Boston, and Great Northern and Great Eastern Joint Main Line, London to Doncaster, where Conveyances will meet intending buyers.

Luncheon at 1 o'clock. Sale at 2.30.

Auctioneers' Offices—Sleaford and Leicester.

OXFORD DOWNS, 1900.

THE KELMSCOTT FLOCK, the property of ROBERT W. HOBBS, Kelmscott, Lechlade.

RAM LAMBS
or
SHEARLING RAMS

from this old-established flock will be SOLD by AUCTION at the undermentioned Fairs:—

IPSWICH, AUGUST 22nd.
CIRENCESTER, SEPTEMBER 3rd.
BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SEPTEMBER 4th.
KELSO, SEPTEMBER 14th.
NORTHAMPTON, SEPTEMBER 19th.

Yearling ewes for sale at home privately.

Prizes won by lambs from this flock this year are four firsts and four seconds at the Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and Gloucestershire Shows.

BROADWATER, GODALMING.

Important Sale of the valuable Herd of SHORTHORN DAIRY STOCK, HORSES, SWINE, IMPLEMENTS, and other Agricultural Effects.

MESSRS. MELLERSH have been favoured with instructions from the executrix of the late Lieut.-Gen. Sir FREDERIC MARSHALL, K.C.M.G., to SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, on SEPTEMBER the 18th and following day, at 12 o'clock, the superior

LIVE & DEAD FARMING STOCK,

comprising upwards of 90 head of well-bred Shorthorn Cattle, including 60 Dairy Cows, especially selected for milking purposes; 11 active and powerful cart horses, Swine, Poultry, excellent dead stock, Milk Carts, Vans, and requisites for the milk trade, and other effects.

Catalogues of Messrs. MELLERSH, Auctioneers, Godalming.

HAYWARD'S "YELLOW" PASTE

THE IMPROVED SULPHUR DIP.

Mixes readily with cold water. Kills all Ticks, Lice, etc. Sticks in the fleece and thus prevents a further crop of Parasites. Keeps off the Maggot Fly, and leaves the Wool in a healthy, lustrous condition.

In Packets, 1s., for 20 to 25 Sheep.

Sold by Agents.

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RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY

ALEXANDRA PALACE
GREAT DOG SHOW,
SEPTEMBER 25, 26, AND 27, 1900,
Under the patronage of
THE KENNEL CLUB.

THE INTERNATIONAL KENNEL CLUB.
Patron: H.R.H. The PRINCE OF WALES.

THE LADIES' KENNEL ASSOCIATION.
Patron: H.R.H. The PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Great Northern Company will convey Dogs, etc., for Exhibition at this Show from Inverness, Aberdeen, Perth, Dundee, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Newcastle, York, Hull, Leeds, Halifax, Bradford, Wakefield, Liverpool, Manchester, Huddersfield, Burnley, Blackburn, Bolton, Sheffield, Barnsley, Rotherham, Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, Lincoln, Grimsby, Boston, Spalding, Lynn, Wisbech, Peterboro', Cambridge, and other towns on and in connection with their system, to Wood Green and Alexandra Palace Stations.

Through Vans will be run for the conveyance of Dogs for Exhibition at this Show, where necessary.

☞ The Rates charged will in no case exceed those in force by any other route.

RETURN TRAFFIC.

Arrangements will also be made for the return of the traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors wishing to avail themselves of these facilities should consign and address their exhibits "Per Great Northern Railway," and be careful to write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.

A Great Northern representative will be in attendance at the Show, prepared to give every information to exhibitors, and to facilitate the removal of their exhibits. The removal order issued by the Secretary should be sent to the Superintendent of the Line, King's Cross, at commencement of the Show.

For further information apply to the Superintendent of the Line, Great Northern Railway, King's Cross Station, London, N.

CHARLES STEEL,
General Manager.

London, King's Cross, July, 1900.

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ALFRED J. LEARNER, REDHILL, Surrey.

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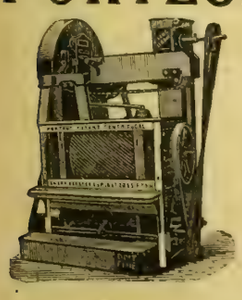

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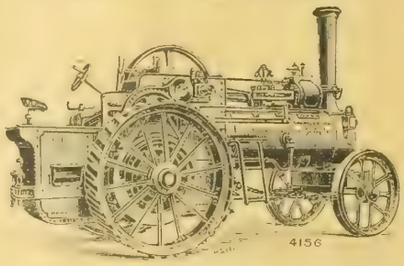

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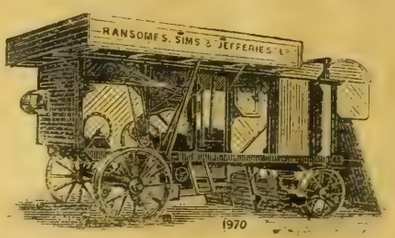

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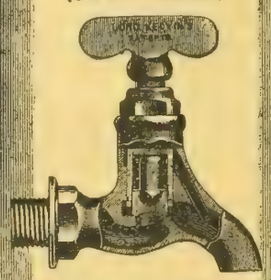

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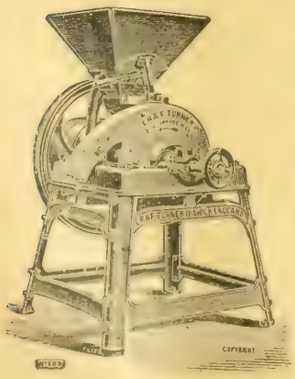

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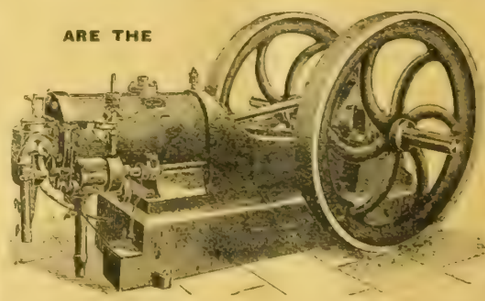

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MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

THE REGISTRATION OF FIRMS.

Some time ago a Bill was introduced into Parliament with a view to compelling the registration of firms in such a manner as to enable any person who wished for the information to learn the names and addresses of the partners. It was also proposed to require any individual who traded under any name other than his own to register the fact in a similar manner. The question was admittedly a difficult one, and therefore it is not at all surprising that the matter was referred to a Select Committee. After considerable investigation and inquiry the Committee came to the conclusion that a special report was necessary. This document has just been issued. It is interesting reading, but at the same time disappointing. The nett result is that some legislation is necessary in the matter, but that there are so many difficulties that nothing can be done at present, and that much more consideration must be given to the matter before a practical solution can be arrived at. The importance of the matter is perhaps greater than appears to most people. An illustration will, perhaps, be the best way of explaining matters. A man who is nobody, and who has nothing behind him, may take it into his head to start in business with a high-sounding name. This Mr. John Smith may become the Blankshire Feeding Stuffs and Artificial Manure Company. The innocent farmer who goes to his shop, or warehouse, or whatever he may be pleased to call it, may possibly be under the impression that he is dealing with a large company whose extensive business throughout the country enables it to offer the best of goods at the lowest possible price, while, in reality, he is only purchasing from a commission agent with a dummy stock, and who will certainly supply the cheapest and most rubbishy profitable goods that come to hand.

The evil undoubtedly exists to a very considerable extent. It is intensified by the action of certain third-class firms whose reputation does not enable them to sell their goods in competition with honest traders who are prepared to sell a good article at a reasonable price. This being the case, they have resource to agents who receive a good commission for disposing of second-rate goods. To do this it is absolutely necessary to have a high-sounding name which, unfortunately, too often deceives those who buy at the first place they come across without taking the trouble to find out anything about it. The point raised applies to all classes of business, but it is probable that no one suffers more in this respect than the farmer. He has over and over again been victimised in such manner with food stuffs, manures, and particularly with regard to seeds. The registration proposed would not, perhaps, be a perfect cure for the disease, but it would certainly alleviate the trouble. If people knew that their customers could learn their real names and addresses they would be more careful in their dealings, and consequently only good could result. We regret that the report of the Committee is so colourless, but at the same time readily admit that there are very considerable difficulties in the way of immediate legislation. The great difficulty which seems to have presented itself to the Committee was as to which Government department should accept the responsibility of carrying out any enactment which might be passed for such a purpose. The Board of Trade would seem to be the proper authority, but there seems to be considerable difficulty about a central registration office and local records such as we should have expected might have been kept in the various County Court centres. We trust that the matter will not be lost sight of; and that a modified measure will again be introduced into Parliament.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

A Reuter's telegram from Bombay on Friday states that there are serious floods in the Madras Presidency, owing to the overflow of the Godavery. Many persons have been drowned, and great damage has been done to the crops and other property.

It is time (says the agricultural correspondent of the *Standard*) that some effort should be made to prevent the re-naming of existing varieties of cereals and vegetables, and selling them as new kinds. Some of the best varieties of potatoes, mangolds, and turnips are sold by different firms under different names. The Up-to-date potato, for example, has at least three names, and in comparative trials it is commonly found competing against itself under these different denominations. When a man raises a new variety of any vegetable or fruit, he ought to have the sole credit and advantage.

Dr. D. Morris, C.M.G., the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies, has just arrived in this country. I am informed that he called at the Colonial Office on Saturday.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to August 18th, 1900, were £38,560,843, against £39,430,446 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £65,523,738 against £41,993,724 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on August 18th, 1900, amounted to £6,120,951, and at the same date in 1899 to £3,806,615.

I notice that the South Lincolnshire agriculturists are combining with London merchants to make themselves independent of the railways by establishing a service of steamers between a port at Fosdyke, on the Welland, near Spalding, and Hull and the Metropolis, where warehouses are being prepared; and agricultural meetings are shortly to be held to consider the details. If the experiment succeeds the example is sure to be followed by other seaboard counties; and the railway companies, if they remain obdurate, run a chance of losing some of their best customers. The London market is largely supplied with potatoes from Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex, while Kent, Sussex, and Hampshire all have their staple products to transmit to the capital. Wheat, fruit, vegetables—and I see no reason why sheep and cattle should not be added to the list—may all in turn be taken to a great extent out of the hands of the railways, if they do not abate their terms. Hops, cabbages, cherries, strawberries will bear the journey from the English coast at least as well as from the Continent; and I only wonder that, with all the outcry there has been against charges for land carriage, some plan of the kind has not been thought of before.

The *Standard*, in some comments on this subject, remarks that the "railways have obtained a monopoly, and have supposed that they could not be dispensed with. This comfortable conviction is now likely to be put to the test. It remains to be seen whether the advantage of superior rapidity is sufficient to counterbalance the drawback of heavy charges. The men engaged in the new enterprise are not likely to have embarked on it without counting the cost. They must be well aware of the difficulties of carriage by sea. If they have well weighed the question, and have come to the conclusion that ships will convey their goods both to Hull and to London without any material injury accruing to them from the sea voyage, they ought not to be doubtful of success. It may be, however, that the threat of competition will be enough, and that the railway companies will at the eleventh hour take the case of their agricultural customers into consideration.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

Lord Denbigh's Experiments.

On the home farm at Newnham Padox the Earl of Denbigh has been experimenting in the cultivation of various crops, including sugar beet and new varieties of wheat and oats. Upon the whole the trials seem to have been successful, and the many tenants and friends, who a few days ago accepted his invitation to inspect, with Lord Denbigh, what had been done, seemed very well impressed with what they saw. Amongst those present, in addition to his lordship and his agent Mr. H. H. Cave, were Messrs. J. Harrison, J. Brierly, J. P. Toone, Dr. Mason, W. Kenney, V. Kenney, W. F. Ferriman, Hodgetts, J. Davy, W. Cooper, Kibble (2), J. L. Harrison, J. Wright, W. Wright, A. Wotherspoon, E. Colban, T. Foster, Lockton, Dunn, F. Terrell, G. Wood, A. Sanders, etc.

Upon tables erected in the field above the stack-yard were set out fine specimens of mangolds and of different varieties of sugar beet, grown on adjoining land, and these first of all attracted the close attention of the visitors. The sugar beet, which, by the way, is white in colour, was "scrooped," and found to be very sweet, whilst the mangolds were of such a size and quality as to elicit warm encomiums from the practical agriculturists. Then Mr. Cave led the way into the garden close, where the mangolds and sugar beet, in a very healthy and thriving condition, were growing. The land had been cultivated exactly the same throughout the entire field, which in 1899 bore a very moderate crop of wheat. As soon as this was harvested, the land was ploughed about eight inches deep, and later on it was ridged, and left in ridges all the winter. Early in the spring about ten loads of farmyard manure to one acre were spread along the ridges, and the ridges were then split back over the manure, but the land was found to be so rough that it was necessary to again break up the ridges and work the land; and just before ridging for the roots, dissolved bones at the rate of 5 cwt. to one acre were spread. For the mangolds the ground was ridged as near as possible 27 inches apart. The seed of all the roots was sown in the first week of May. The mangolds were intended to be set out 12 inches apart, but the distance is nearer 15 inches. The ridges for the sugar beet were meant to be 15 inches apart, but they are slightly irregular. Possibly some difficulty was experienced in setting out the ridges at such a distance, but it was determined that as the ground for the mangolds was ridged with the plough, the sugar beet should be ridged in the same way. The beet was set out as near 6 inches apart as possible. As soon as this was done, 1 cwt. of nitrate of soda was sown along the rows, and later on a like quantity was put to the plants. All the roots were hoed by hand round the plants, and by horse hoe between the rows; but unfortunately this did not have all the attention required, and at one time the land where the sugar beet grew was very hard and dry, and the crop has suffered.

The seed sown in the field was as follows:—Plot 1, on the east side of the field nearest to the garden spinney, was sown with Sutton's Golden Tankard Mangold, claimed to be "the richest feeding mangold in the world." Plot 2 was sown with Wanzelben sugar beet. Plot 3 with French Vilmorin (originals); plot 4, Mettle Vilmorin; plot 5, Brenstedt; plot 6, Aderstedt; plot 7, Sutton's Prize-winner Yellow Globe Mangold. Messrs. Sutton give the weight of roots that have been grown as something extraordinary, and 55 tons an acre seems a bad crop, 80 tons would be a fair one, and for one crop the weight per acre is said to have been 105 tons 17cwt. 2qrs. Mr. Cave humorously remarked that the crop on the home farm was not intended to exceed this last weight—which some of those present regarded as fabulous, and they agreed pretty nearly that 55 tons an acre was as much as could reasonably be hoped for.

Lord Denbigh wishes to show by these root crops that, under usual and ordinary cultivation, a paying crop of sugar beet can be grown. It is believed that, for cattle, sugar beet would prove remunerative, and Mr. Wotherspoon, one of the tenants on the estate, has promised to test this during the coming winter.

Two excellent yields of wheat were next visited. The first was a crop of Messrs. Hunters new breed, White Monarch. It was not so upright as on the day of the Monks Kirby Farmers' Show, owing to the strong winds and heavy [illegible] which prevailed, but for all that it was a fine crop. The wheat was [illegible] on October 11th last year, on about 5½ acres of Highway Close, at the rate of about 2½ bushels to the acre. The [illegible] was [illegible]

and rye grass, which was mown twice. The clover ley was ploughed in September to a depth of about 8 inches, and the field was harrowed several times before, and also after the wheat was sown. The crop was very thin and weak all the winter, and, as soon as it was dry enough in the spring, the land was again harrowed three or four times, and after each harrowing the colour and appearance of the wheat improved. No manure of any sort was used for this crop, the growth of which is attributed to the fact that for some years the land has always been ploughed to a depth of from 8 to 10 inches.

The Garton system of plant improvement by cross-fertilisation is interesting, and if it should prove reliable and permanent cannot fail to have a beneficial effect upon agriculture. Mr. Garton claims to have proved it to be possible that by a proper system of cross-fertilisation the crops now grown can be increased from 15 to 20 per cent. without any increase in the cost of cultivation, so that in future farmers should be able to grow 40 bushels of wheat at the same expense that it now takes to produce 32 bushels. Mr. Garton's system may be put summarily as follows:—Some sorts of wheat and other grains are noted for the strength and length of the straw, others for the quality of the grain, as, for instance, white wheat is better than red wheat. Again, some wheats—the Rivett, for instance—are more prolific than others. The White Monarch wheat, grown this year at Newnham Paddox, is from the cross-fertilisation of Hunter's White—probably one of the best wheats grown—with Rivett, one of the most prolific. The result of this cross is again mated with Victoria Red. The character of the new breed is described as follows:—"Grain white, large, and plump; straw long and very strong; vigorous constitution; ear very compact and long."

Again it is urged that the quality of the wheat growing in America is better for millers than the wheat grown in this country, and some people contend that the Americans have a better class of wheat. Mr. Garton would utilise this, and he is bringing out a new breed this year, produced as follows:—Lincoln Red—a very good and productive wheat—is crossed with Michigan Bronze, a variety grown extensively in the United States. The result of this cross is then mated to the Waterloo, an old white wheat of exceptionally fine quality, and much grown some years ago. The result is Red King, with the following qualities:—Early, grain medium large, colour light red, straw medium long and very strong, head long and compact. The special points in favour of Red King are extreme productiveness, strength of straw, and fine quality of grain. This is Mr. Garton's description, and if he should prove correct, there is every reason to suppose a new wheat of first-rate quality and very productive will soon be on the market. The system is the same for oats and barley, the intention being in all cases to increase the yield, improve the quality of the grain, and obtain a good constitution and a vigorous growth.

It is said there is no such thing as natural cross-fertilisation, and practice seems to bear this out, because there are not many absolutely pure crops grown. Most of them have a mixture of some grains of another sort, and when this seed is again sown the character of the main crop is produced year after year. Mr. Garton holds that it is only by artificial cross-fertilisation that a new breed can be obtained, and doubts were expressed on Saturday whether the White Monarch wheat is likely to remain true to type. Heads of Rivett's and other varieties used in the pedigree were plentiful in the crop, and this appeared to confirm the opinion, freely expressed, that in course of time there would be a reversion to the original breeds that had been used.

A field of Scholey's warp-grown square head wheat was also visited. This was, if anything, better than the other. It had weathered the storms well, and was earlier than the newer breed, being in fact almost "white unto harvest." This wheat was in the Footpath Close of 7¼ acres. It was drilled in the 17th of October last, at the rate of 2½ bushels to the acre. This quantity was put on because the square head wheat does not tiller out like some other wheats. The crop in 1899 was beans, for which about eight loads of farmyard manure were used. The land was ploughed eight inches deep as soon as the beans a good crop were off the field, which was cultivated and harrowed several times before the wheat was sown, and at least three times afterwards. The wheat was always flourishing, and looked extremely well all through the winter and also in the spring. There was no manure used for the crop.

A proposal to have a sweepstake for the best estimate of the quantity of the wheat grown in both fields was readily acted upon, the entrance fee being 1s. for each field, with £1 added money. The envelopes containing the estimates were handed to Lord Denbigh, and they are to remain sealed until the wheat is weighted, which will take place immediately it is harvested and threshed.

Experiments were also made on the farm with Garton's Waverley a new breed of white oats and Scholey's warp grown Eastoft Champion oats, both drilled in the Hovel Close, and following a wretched crop of swedes. The oats suffered from wireworm in the spring, and the result can still be seen in the crop, so that this trial was less satisfactory than the experiments with beet and wheat.

At tea, which was subsequently served, a vote of thanks was passed to the Earl of Denbigh. As his lordship had been obliged to leave Mr. Cave replied. He said there was always a difference of opinion about things. With regard to what had been said as to the desirability of having the mangels thicker, he could only say that as they walked up the field one gentleman "blew him up" for having them too near, and said that if they had been grown farther apart it would have been better. (Laughter.) Their only idea of growing Garton's wheat was to see if it was better than the other varieties. He did not think there was any better wheat at the present day than the old Square Head, although he did not believe that even was so good as several kinds that had gone out of cultivation. That field was rather a noted one for growing wheat, as Mr. Davy could tell them. Mr. Garton contended that by increasing the size of the grain, he could increase the produce of the wheat crop from 16 to 20 per cent., and if that was true, he was doing something wonderful, and they would be very pleased to take advantage of it. With regard to potatoes, some of the varieties were very short lived, and he wondered why it was that the old Myatt's Ashleaf kept so good. He had grown it for thirty years, and it was as good now as ever it was. The Ashleaf Kidney had gone long ago, although it was really better than the Myatt's Ashleaf. It was the intention of the Earl of Denbigh to make some further experiments next year in the growth of new breeds of oats, but the small acreage of the home farm would not allow of any trials with wheat in 1900-1. If, however, any tenant had suitable land, and would care to try any of the Garton wheats, his lordship would be willing to provide the seed if the condition of the land was considered satisfactory, and if the tenant would agree that if more than 32 bushels an acre were grown, the surplus should be returned to make good the outlay on the seed wheat. Several seemed to be of the opinion that this was not a very strong inducement. Mr. Cave said he was under the impression that 32 bushels an acre was about the average in this part of the country, but if they thought the average was 40 he would raise his condition to that quantity. The seed was £5 a quarter, and so was rather expensive. In reply to Mr. Wright, it was stated that Scholey's square head wheat cost 2½gs. a quarter. Mr. Cave said the only thing about that was that the seed came from the warp land. The great thing in growing wheat was to have a good change of seed. It was no good growing their wheat from the same class of land. They must have an absolute change, and this warp land was a great change. He was very much obliged to them for having come that day, and he was quite certain he had picked up some wrinkles from them, which he hoped would bear fruit in time to come. (Applause.) His lordship asked him to mention that if they liked to walk round the gardens he would be very pleased for them to do so. (Hear, hear.) With regard to the roots, they grew beet-root last year, but the idea got abroad that they did it too well, and Lord Denbigh wanted him this year to grow the sugar beet without any extra cultivation. There had not been a single thing done to the sugar beet more than had been done to the mangolds, but apart from that he was not quite sure whether, from a farmer's point of view, they could beat the mangolds. If they could grow mangolds like those they had seen on that farm it would take a good deal of sugar beet to surpass them, even with a factory close to. About getting the wheat to stand, they were of course sheltered, but he had always held that the way to make their wheat stand up was deep cultivation. If their roots did not go deep into the ground they could not expect the wheat to keep up. The deeper the roots went into the ground the stronger and better would be the straw, and the better it would stand against storms when they came.

THE DAIRY.

Bath and West and Southern Counties Society.

The second draft (nearly 50 cwt.) of this year's cheese made during the month of May at the Cheese School carried on by the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society for the Somerset County Council, at Vale Farm, Batcombe, Evercreech, has just been sold to Messrs. Hill Bros., of Evercreech, at 64s. per cwt. of 112lb. 6,027 gallons of milk made 6,048lb. of green cheese, which, when sold at an average age of thirteen weeks, weighed 5,577lb., showing a shrinkage of about 7¾ per cent. Thirty-one students have already entered for instruction at the School, and other applications are being received.

Home Production of Milk, Butter and Cheese.

In the course of their Australasian Dairy Produce Review for the season 1899-1900 Messrs. Weddell and Co. make some remarks on the production of butter, milk, and cheese in England. They state that from the year 1895 there has been a slow but steady increase in the number of cows and heifers until last year and the present, when the increase numbered 51,300 and 97,700 respectively. This augmentation of the milking herd of the United Kingdom by 149,000 in two years has raised it to the highest number during the past fourteen years. It will be seen that though the milking herd has been steadily growing since 1895, it was not until last year that it overtook the growth of the population, when the number of cows per thousand persons rose from 99.7 to exactly 100.0. This year it has risen by nearly two cows per thousand, and now stands at 101.9. The average for the past ten years is 103.0, so that there is still considerable ground to be recovered. The agricultural returns made on 4th June last are not yet available, but from the very unfavourable season during the last half of 1899 it is almost certain that the rate of recovery has been checked. Although the crop of grass hay in 1899 was up to the average for the past ten years and amounted to 8,491,000 tons, the root crops were the worst for many years, and even the pastures from the end of June was very deficient; consequently the number of cows and heifers kept over for the winter would be reduced owing to the scarcity of fodder.

The quantity of milk estimated as produced by the 4,133,000 cows and heifers in the milking herd of the United Kingdom for the year ended 30th June last was 7,329,000 tons, and the amount of butter in the same period was 83,760 tons, which was a reduction in milk and butter on the previous year of 316,000 tons and 3,600 tons respectively. In the matter of cheese the reduction was much greater than in butter, as very deficient pastures were experienced during four out of the six months of the cheese-making season, and it is estimated that the production of cheese fell from the high amount of 150,000 tons in the previous year to 130,000 tons, or a fall of over 13 per cent., while the production of butter fell only 4 per cent.

Australasian Dairy Produce.

Messrs. W. Weddel and Co. have now issued their Australian Dairy Produce review for the season 1899-1900. They state that the Australasian butter season of 1899-1900 established two records, both of which are highly complimentary to the energy and enterprise of the Australasian dairy farmers, and must be particularly satisfactory after four disastrous seasons of drought. The first record is the remarkable fact that in the eight months ended April 30th, 1900, nearly 25,000 tons of Australasian butter entered the United Kingdom, which exceeds the previous highest yearly import by 10,200 tons; and the second record is that the increase of the season over its immediate predecessor was the enormous amount of 11,000 tons, which is nearly double the increase in any one year that any country in the world ever made. The greatest increase that even Denmark, whose progress has been phenomenal, succeeded in making was 6,467 tons in 1898 over 1897, but that was in twelve months, while the Australasian increase was the result of only eight months' import!

The season exhibited two other interesting but less noteworthy features. It began earlier and continued later than any season before, and from the first week in October to the very end of April, with only nominal exceptions, values pursued a slow but steady decline. In the beginning of October the "Choicest" brands of Australasian butter brought 126s. per cwt., and at the end of April they sold for 94s., or a decline of 32s. from the highest figure.

An examination of the imports of the season from the various Colonies which are known as Australasia shows, as might be expected, that Victoria heads the list both in total amount and largeness of increase over the previous season, the import for the eight months from that Colony being 12,635 tons, or an increase of 5,367 tons over the previous season. New Zealand comes next with a total import of 7,465 tons, or an increase of 3,398 tons. The third place is taken by New South Wales with a total import of 3,820 tons, or an increase of 1,735 tons. South Australia's total is only 386 tons, and the increase 220 tons; while Queensland's total import shows 365 tons and the increase 228 tons, although in the case of this Colony a considerable quantity of its butter is transhipped at Sydney, and is entered in the Customs Returns as belonging to New South Wales. Thus there is a most satisfactory increase all along the line. Summing up these figures, it is seen that the total import for the season from Australia is 17,207 tons, and the increase over the previous season 7,550 tons; while the total from New Zealand is 7,465, and the increase 3,398 tons.

Canada is also very satisfactorily increasing its export of Colonial butter to the United Kingdom. Like New Zealand, this Colony exhibits season by season a steady increase without that periodical retrogression which unfortunately has been one of the characteristics of the dairy industry in every Colony of Australia. The total import from Canada during the Australasian season (not for the year) was 7,322 tons, which was an increase over the previous season of only 723 tons. It is, however, scarcely fair to compare the growth of Canadian imports merely for the period of the eight months which constitute the Australasian season. If we take the Canadian imports for the year ended June 30th and compare them from year to year, the total and the growth are both much more favourable to Canada. For instance, during the year ended June 30th, 1900, the total

import from Canada was 11,932 tons, and the increase over the previous year 3,781 tons.

During the season 1898-99, there was a closer drawing together of the prices of "Choicest" and "Finest" qualities of butter than in any previous period, and this same characteristic was maintained during the season 1899-1900. This peculiar position of the market values of these two grades does not coincide with their intrinsic qualities, for while the market valuation differs by not more than 4s. per cwt., the intrinsic difference is at least 10s. per cwt. The "Choicest" grade undoubtedly is worth more money than it realises, but the assertion of agents for several years that Australasian butter is specially suited for retailing at a shilling has created a belief among buyers that a shilling is the proper retail figure for it. The "Choicest" grade, however, should be exempt from this prejudice, and if there were any properly organised butter committee to regulate the sale of Australasian butter in British markets, as there is of all other classes of butter, then "Choicest" brands should fetch a halfpenny to a penny per lb. more than they do now.

The average price for the season 1899-1900 works out at the same figure as for the previous season, but this is due to the extraordinarily high prices which prevailed during the two months September and October, when only comparatively small quantities of butter were on the market. The average for the other six months when the bulk of the Australasian butter arrived was 3s. per cwt. below the previous season. The most important point regarding the prices of Australasian butter during the season 1899-1900 was its decreased value relatively to Danish butter, compared with that of previous seasons.

The following figures show how the value of Australasian butter has this season depreciated in comparison with Danish since the previous season:—Season 1898-99: October, 6s. 2d.; November, 8s. 6d.; December, 12s.; January, 10s. 6d.; February, 11s. 6d.; March, 14s. 6d.; April, 7s. 2d.; average for season, 10s. Season 1899-1900: September 10s.; October, 10s.; November, 11s. 6d.; December, 17s. 5d.; January, 14s. 4d.; February, 10s.; March, 10s.; April, 11s. 6d.; average for season, 13s. 3d.

It is thus seen that Australasian lost ground comparatively with Danish in five out of the seven months (where a comparison can be made) to the extent of 4s. 1d. per cwt., while it gained in two of the months to the extent of 3s. only. In some months the difference was very great, notably in January, when it was 17s. 5d., while for the four months October, November, December, January, when three-fourths of the Australasian butter arrived, the average difference was 13s. 3d. per cwt. During the same four months in the previous season the average difference was only 9s. 3d. The principal reason for this temporary increased disparity in prices was the diminished supply of Danish, and the greatly increased quantity of Australasian butter on the market.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

The August Cheese Fair at Whitchurch took place on Wednesday, when factors had to give 7s. to 8s. per cwt. more than at the July fair. The quality all round was good, and all the best makes were quickly bought up at prices ranging from 58s. to 64s. Scarcely a lot was sold under 50s., and business was over an hour and a-half from the time the market opened.

Seizure of Putrid Meat.—Joseph Burton, a butcher, of 22, Tennyson Road, Kilburn, appeared before Mr. Plowden, at the Marylebone Police Court, on the 10th inst., to a summons, issued at the instance of the Willesden District Council, for exposing for sale meat that was unwholesome and unfit for food.—Mr. Greig, solicitor, who prosecuted, pointed out that the defendant was liable to a penalty of 20s. for each piece of meat so exposed, and as there were thirty-two pieces he was liable to be fined a sum of £640.—Herbert Woods, inspector of nuisances, said that on July 28th, he saw a barrow laden with all kinds of meat being pushed along Glengall Road, Kilburn. Noticing, as it passed him, that it smelt very offensively, he stopped the man in charge and examined it. The load consisted of six pigs' heads, one calf's head, five breasts of mutton, nine scrags, five livers, and six pieces of mutton of various kinds, weighing in all 125lb. All the meat was jumbled together, and was stinking, the greater part of it being quite putrid. He seized it, and it was subsequently condemned by Dr. Brookfield and destroyed. The defendant pleaded that it was all right when he purchased it at the market that morning. He had been a butcher twenty years.—Mr. Plowden said it was clear he was utterly regardless of the injury or suffering he was likely to inflict upon those who were foolish or ignorant enough to buy this nasty, loathsome mass of putrid meat he was trying to foist upon the public. He would be fined £5. with 2s. costs, or in default one month.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Barley Threshing.

The time to think of threshing is coming, and unhappily, some men think it is already on us, for new samples are being offered in many markets. Modern views are gaining ground upon the very crucial question of *when* to thresh, as well as *how*, and it is more difficult in the one case than in the other to know what is best.

When the grave factor of what the barley feeches can be dismissed there can be no question in the mind of any practical man, whose opinion is worth having, about the impropriety or otherwise of threshing before Michaelmas or (when harvest is as late as it is this year) of even a month later.

There must be no misimpression about this point, as it is one of the gravest importance. No barley grown in Britain this summer is yet ready to thresh

Every Acre of Barley

grown this year needs to go into barn or rick, to mature or mellow, if it is fit to be bought by a maltster to make brewers' malt. The peculiar conditions of our very extraordinary summer and also of the trying time for ingathering makes this one condition more imperative than it has been any time for more than half a generation, if not, indeed, since 1868, or a full generation ago.

Early and unsweated samples, if steeped too soon, will give about as safe and satisfactory a guide to the actual malting value of this year's grain as the action of a cargo of Californian would throw light on the quality of Queensland barley.

More than usual caution is needed, for no living man has before seen barley ripened and harvested under similar conditions to those ruling this season. That, at least, is one fact which no intelligent person will venture to contradict, however much he may disagree with any other of the opinions I may express.

The Price Obtained

at market has, however, most unfortunately more to do with the action of growers when determining when to thresh than any other consideration, if not, indeed, all other considerations put together. When a man finds more than one season after another that barleys of inferior value fetch more when rushed on to market early than better barleys realise at a later date, it is only reasonable to find him setting the machine to work at the first chance. Thus we get his samples very early, and in a short time every market will be teeming with samples from not only all such men whose experience of the past few seasons has shown such action to be desirable, but from the much larger class of men also who rarely think or act for themselves, but imitate the action of certain of their shrewder or sharper neighbours.

I have met quite a number of men who have had two lots of barley alike, but still one inferior to the other. The poorer lot has been sold in October for 30s. or 32s.; the better sample has only produced 25s. or 27s. after Christmas. As stated, this is by no means a solitary experience, and in the face of it to tender advice to hold and not rush on early to sell seems strange somewhere.

It is one of those cases where the few benefit at the

Cost of Many.

Every sensible man knows what the effect must be when all rush to sell, and although in the earlier days of such action a lucky few may gain, it works inevitably to the disadvantage of all sellers later on.

There is another aspect of the question which is far too seldom spoken of, but which is yearly growing in the intensity and cruelty of its action. Many good growers have worked out their own capital, and can only keep on with help from the bank. As a fact, many men who are doing well also do not hesitate to employ capital borrowed from bankers. In so fluctuating a business as arable farming it is a sign of sound, shrewd business capacity, or indicates the possession of common sense to do this. As things go one of the first things to turn into cash at Michaelmas is barley; and when rents and nearly all other of the heavier expenses of the year culminate is just the time selected by bank managers to indicate to the customer, by one of the many sweet ways they so well know how to use, that the overdraft has got to be reduced.

They know all about the prime stacks of barley standing in safety, but they also are sure of two things—their value will not be enhanced by longer keeping, and anyway they would like to see the account substantially reduced.

The Sovereigns are Safe;

but there is no telling what barley may fetch here on is how they argue. Perhaps already has shown a tendency to fall, as naturally it must when sellers are more eager than buyers. Then, finally, as most country banks are in close touch with brewers, who commonly run very different accounts to barley growers (a generous one has been the rule of late) the brewers would rather pay a good price for home-grown barley, but be already ready stocked by the season and won't be buying in a little while.

THE AMALGAMATION [illegible] of the old-established Barley Brokering Firms of Messrs. M. F. Woodley and Watney, of Mark Lane, and Messrs. Richardson and Co., of Dyke Street, Stratford, Messrs. Barclays and Co., of Duke Street, Southwark, and Messrs. WOODLEY, WATNEY AND RICHARDSON, 78 Mark Lane, and Old Change Exchange, London, E.C. (Advt.)

HOPS.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

With the holiday season about us, and with the uncertainty which still hangs over the prospects of the coming crop, it is not to be expected that there can be much to record on [illegible] present business. But although the market is necessarily quiet, there is a solid tone about it, which betokens the probability of higher prices when the arrival of new hops in some quantity allows operations to be made that do not now exist. Buyers complain that the chief hindrance to business are the prohibitive figures put by holders on their stock. This may be partially true, but nevertheless business has been done this week at higher rates than have been obtainable at any time within the past six months, and it is my humble opinion that even better values will be forthcoming if holders continue to be firm in the maintenance of their present attitude.

Regarding the New Crop,

I cannot do better than refer to the special reports printed in the present issue, which emanate from responsible and skilled authorities within the last two days. They may therefore be accepted as the most recent intelligence and entirely trustworthy. Other information is of similar character. "Only half a crop," "a very small crop," "not above 6 cwts. per acre," "one third of last year's yield," "far below the crop of last year," "in most cases hops will be small," "much of the burr will not come into hop," "hops in this parish very inferior"—such are the expressions generally used. It being quite exceptional to meet with a grower who can give a fairly satisfactory account of his gardens. The conclusions must be unmistakable, and are tersely expressed by one of our leading factors in their circular of Monday last, which states: "As the crop advances to maturity it is more than evident that it will not reach half of last year." Some progress towards development in the best washed and cultivated grounds has doubtless been made, under the influence of the higher day temperature, but this was checked by the too cold nights, and has been further interfered with by the return of unseasonable weather during the past week. Should this continues present estimates, which have in no case exceeded an average of seven cwts., will be lowered, and I understand that some skilled observers have already brought down their expectations to six cwts., which will not yield a total of over 300,000 cwts. Under these circumstances, and taking into consideration the reduced crops on the Continent and in America, we are justified in anticipating

Considerable Improvement in Prices

when the new market opens. But there are to be found certain pessimists who argue that brewers will not be ready buyers for some time to come, and that, therefore, the trade will be slow, and that the absence of demand will more than counterbalance the deficiency of supply. I have been told that brewers are complaining of slackness of beer consumption, attributing it to the war and other causes. It is undeniable that over 200,000 men, the majority of whom are beer drinkers, have been deported to South Africa, where, by the regulations of the Commander of our forces, they are not consuming [illegible] per day for 160,000 men, the home consumption has been reduced at the rate of about 550 barrels per day, or over 16,000 barrels per month, creating a shortage of probably 150,000 barrels during the [illegible] months now drawing to a close. This is not an important factor in the calculation, but against this must be placed the additional thirst aroused by the [illegible] enthusiasm of the [illegible] population, whose [illegible] at the many [illegible] of the troops, and on the memorable Ladysmith, Kimberley, and Mafeking days, have given [illegible] records, reducing the loss sustained by the absence of the boys at the front. Upon reference also to the Board of Trade returns, I find that our exports of beer during the seven months ending July 31st were 294,630 barrels, exceeding the same period of the previous year by over 7,000 barrels, which is principally accounted for by the additional quantity shipped to South Africa. I am therefore of opinion that there is practically nothing in the alleged [illegible] factors at brewers that should affect our market; that, in fact, the full average [illegible] has been [illegible] during the past year, and that the

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society.*

usual inquiries for new hops will be forthcoming as soon as they are brought to market.

It is as yet impossible to say

What Prices will be Realised

when the new trade opens. In the week corresponding to this one a hundred years ago hops were sold at Worcester at £20 per cwt. It is, of course, too much to expect that history will thus repeat itself in the present year of grace, nor can I anticipate that the expectation of one of my correspondents for £10 will be realised; but growers certainly hold the key to the market door, and I trust they will think twice or thrice before they open it, and that they will make up their minds to be fully remunerated for past losses before they admit buyers into trading association. If I may venture upon advice, let me ask them to consider 1s. per lb. as their minimum, and figures above 1s. as their valuations of better qualities. They deserve such prices this year, and as consumers can well afford to pay them it is only right that growers should demand and obtain them.

Monday Morning.

Reports just to hand state that the shortage of the crop is confirmed by experimental pickings last week in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, and Hereford. Many plantations which look well externally are found within to be diseased to a very serious extent, and hundreds of acres will most likely not be picked. The ravages of red mould and red spider are much more disastrous than was anticipated. The crop throughout Kent is now expected to be exceptionally small. I trust that growers will decide to pick only matured and sound hops, and thus save the character of the crop from depreciation, which can only result in hindering the legitimate advance in value that is fully justified by present circumstances.

Plantation Reports.

SPECIAL TO SECRETARY, N.A.E.H.

EAST SUTTON AND SUTTON VALENCE.—Hops in these parishes will be very short crop, there having been much damage by wind and vermin. With genial weather the quality should be good. Picking will be late.

WYE AND BOUGHTON ALUPH.—There are one or two fine pieces of hops which were well sheltered, and will produce about two-thirds of last year. There are several more may grow from a third to half of last year, and a few pieces badly blighted, and now struck with mould. The best quality will be where there is the greatest quantity.

TEYNHAM.—Slight showers have caused hops to develope well, so that prospects have further improved; there are for the year some excellent gardens here. I estimate the yield at two-thirds of last year.

FAVERSHAM.—Short crop, about 8 to 10cwt. per acre, probably the latter, good quality.

BIDDENDEN.—The hops in this parish will only grow 4 to 5cwt. per acre, the quality will entirely depend on the weather we are going to have. We have no mould to speak of.

GOUDHURST.—The crop cannot reach more than half the quantity that was grown last year. The persistent blight and heavy gales have left their marks in many gardens. There is general complaint that many of the hops do not develope kindly, while mould is still troublesome.

SISSINGHURST. Hops in this neighbourhood very uneven. Quality likely to be good, but decidedly less than half last year's crop.

RYE.—There is considerable improvement visible in the gardens round here. The favourable weather has brought the unbruised hops out well. Near Cadborough there are some good looking pieces, and at Peasmarsh two gardens are in excellent form. Exposed gardens have suffered severely from the gales, and in some places hardly a hop is to be found on the poles.

FRANT.—This parish will grow about a third of last year's crop, and by present appearances should develop well and make first-class samples. There is little mould. The Sussex crop generally must be very short of average.

HEADLEY (HANTS).—Our hops have improved lately, but the prospect of the crop is still very disappointing. The yield will be very short, not over 3cwt. to 4cwt. per acre, although I hope the quality will be generally pretty good.

PETERSFIELD.—The hops in this neighbourhood have improved a good deal the last few days where they have been well washed and thoroughly cultivated, but unwashed or partially washed pieces will only grow a very small crop, some hardly worth picking. Under the most favourable circumstances one half the crop of last year can hardly be expected.

BENTLEY, FARNHAM.—Hops have improved with a week of hot sun. Half an average crop will be grown of good quality unless this second wet and windy weather should continue.

[illegible] (SURREY).—Hops have suffered from the weather, and the outlook for the crop in this district does not exceed one-third of last year.

MUCH COWARNE (HEREFORD).—We are not expected to grow more than two-fifths of last year's crop. The quality promises to be very good. No disease to speak of at present. In the neglected yards hardly any hops will be grown. Picking will commence about September 6th.

TARRINGTON (HEREFORD).—Hops in this parish vary as much as anywhere, from 1 to 14 cwt. per acre. This change to wet and cold weather is greatly against them. Hardly any disease at present. Commence picking about September 11th. On the whole the crop will be less than half of last year.

LEDBURY.—I have not seen hops so bad since 1890. Where there is any bine, on looking into the yards the effects of blight and washing are to be seen. I have not met with a dozen yards that are really good, and many are not worth picking. If Kent can show no better results, hops should be worth at least £10 per cwt., and we could rule the market if growers would stand for good prices.

SUCKLEY (WORCESTER).—Since my last report we have had two unusually severe gales, sweeping away not less than 2 cwt. an acre from all the best-grown hops. I do not think under most favourable circumstances the crop can much exceed half that of last year. What hops there are are now doing well, and with fair weather should be excellent quality, as I believe they are almost free from disease of any kind.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

Pending the arrival of new hops, this market has assumed a quieter tone, and for the limited business that has been done somewhat easier prices have been accepted by holders of medium and low qualities, which they are now desirous to clear out. The few better parcels that are in hand are, however, still quoted at recent rates, and for such grades values are firm. Some early deliveries of the new growth have been readily sold at prices ranging from 115s. to 125s., and small special lots have realised 135s. first cost.

Recent Plantation Reports

may be summarised as follows:—Spatt will produce a little more than last year. Neustadt crop will about equal last year. Hersbruck, Hallertau, Kinding, Tettnang, Rottenburg, and Baden are estimated at a lower quantity than last year, the deficiency in Hallertau district being reckoned at one-fourth to one-third.

The Austrian crop, taken as a whole, promises to be fairly satisfactory, but the reverse may be stated of the probable results throughout Bavaria.

The total output of this section of the European continent may therefore be safely taken as likely to come substantially short of the yield of 1899.

Burgundy.

The plantations have suffered from excessive heat and want of rain, and being for the greater part old and poorly cultivated, they are not in a condition to withstand the effects of a high temperature following a period of cold weather. The plant is therefore making little progress, and is generally weakly. In order to improve the prospect, rain is urgently needed, as the present position is rapidly assuming a critical phase. The yield in any case must be small, and buyers are demonstrating their sense of the probable value of the product by advancing their offers to 100 or 110 francs, which growers are slow to accept.

Belgium.

The improved weather is benefiting the plantations, although the recovery from recent hindrances is comparatively slow. Throughout Poperinghe the white bines are showing hops, and in Alost the plants are everywhere in burr. Taking a general survey of the probabilities of the new crop, it is now admitted that it can hardly amount to half of the yield of last year. Buyers of Alost 8 marks new growth are offering 87½ to 90 francs, but growers are very reserved. It is expected that higher prices will be realised when the crop is brought to market.

America.

Business at New York is chiefly confined to the completion of old contracts, very little new trade being done, buyers waiting for the development of the new crop, now so near at hand. Small sample parcels of 1900 growth have been received, of which the quality was choice, giving promise of a crop of excellent character. In the meantime values remain unchanged and firm, with a distinct inclination towards higher figures.

Reports from the Country

are somewhat limited this week, but I hear that conservative estimates of the Otsego (N.Y.) crop, make it at least one-third less than the yield of last season. But though the quantity will be short, the quality promises to be superior, the yards having been practically free from lice and mould during the greater part of the period of growth.

In Yakima, co. Washington, the situation is reported to be encouraging, the crop being in good form, well advanced, with contracts being made at prices satisfactory to growers.

In some sections of Oregon farmers are busy spraying to check a rather severe attack of lice.

Estimates of the Total Crop

are now being freely circulated. In a private letter from New York just to hand, my correspondent says that the sum of the deficiency from last year may probably amount to 50,000 bales, but he is careful to add that as yet there is not much reliable data on which to base a correct calculation. From another source I hear that the Pacific Coast yield will certainly be 10,000 to 20,000 bales below that of 1899, and that New York will be short by 20,000 bales. A careful estimator, whose experience claims respect, states in a letter shown to me yesterday, that although there is little doubt that the American crop will be short of last year's total, the deficiency will not be so marked as has been declared. After careful observation, he concludes that from 10,000 to 20,000 bales will probably represent the shortage, and I am inclined to confirm this estimate until I am furnished with more exact information than is at present available.

The Consumption of Beer

in the U.S.A. appears to be steadily increasing, as the official returns of internal revenue from fermented liquors during June last show a total increment of over 120,000 dollars when compared with the corresponding month of 1899, and this additional revenue is derived from the barrel tax, by which the output of beer is measured. This fact suggests an improved demand for new hops, which, with the estimated deficiency in the crop, should certainly harden the market, and bring prices up to a point which will necessarily limit exportation.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 271, 273.)

MILLING.

Economy in Transmitting Power About the Mill.

The return of the bad weather which marked the early days of August, bodes ill for the miller as well as the farmer. It is true that a great deal of the crop has been harvested in the South, and that some very fair samples have been put upon the market; but the bulk is in soft condition, and will require special preparation before being milled. Samples vary very much, but none, or hardly any, are equal to the quality of the past two years, while others show signs of incipient growth, and are not desirable at any price. If the showers and damp weather continue, it is certain that a good deal of the crop will contain sprouted grains. Samples of this kind are hopeless, and millers will do best to let them alone altogether. If the wheat is merely damp, either by being imperfectly developed, or by having been threshed in damp weather, it can be brought into fair milling condition by passing it through good dryers, leaving the heat to do a portion, at any rate, of that which the absence of sunlight has left undone. Every miller who handles home-grown wheat should possess one of these handy appliances, which, owing to the uncertainty of harvests in this country, will pay for itself in the saving of power and the enlarged yield in a very short time.

British millers are learning more than ever

The Value of Conditioning,

in some way, all kinds of wheat before subjecting them to the process of breaking down. The application of water, in more or less quantity, according to the nature of the wheat, and of heat, at various temperatures, has, during the past few years, almost revolutionised the milling of wheat. In the case of unripe, or at any rate undeveloped, wheat, such as is sure to be much in evidence after the present harvest, only heat is required, and this if applied at the right temperature and under certain conditions, will develop the gluten and alter the nature of the berry. Speaking generally the produce of this year will weigh from two to four lbs. less per imperial bushel than that of last, and this is a serious consideration for the miller when he comes to calculate his flour yield. There is very little old wheat left, but where it can be obtained millers are willing to pay two or three shillings a quarter more for it than they will give for the new.

The trade in flour is very dull, with a downward tendency in spite of the uncertain weather. On the other hand, offals are very brisk, and in some parts bran is making 5s. per ton more money than a week or ten days ago. It is rather hard to account for this in August, especially when the grass is flourishing and the root crops are so good. It may be that many persons, anticipating a scarcity in colder weather, are stocking it. But whatever the cause, the sale of offals still pays better than anything else.

A Potent Factor in Profit-Earning.

Noticing the effects of grinding ill-conditioned wheat, and the extra power required for the operation, leads one to consider the question of the economising of power in a general way throughout the mill. It is not only necessary to look closely into the economy of the prime motor, especially if it be a steam engine, but the thoughtfulness and care of the miller must go further than that. He may have the best and most up-to-date of engines and the most economic of boilers, both being fitted with all power-saving appliances, but that is not enough. To begin well is not sufficient; the economic transmission of power throughout the mill is equally important and necessary.

Many millers do not in the slightest degree realise what a potent factor in profit-making the saving of power is; and especially at the present time, with coal at such high prices, it is necessary to reduce the cost of making flour to its lowest point consis-

tent with the purity of the product. How often does one see badly designed, badly lubricated shafting, and not only this, but shafting of much larger diameter (and so costing more power to rotate) than is necessary to do the work. Any power consumed by shafting beyond that which is necessary to overcome friction is so much waste. Everyone knows that shafting, to say nothing of the machines which it drives, must take up a certain amount of power owing to the friction in the bearings, and to some extent owing to the resistance of the air to the pulleys. But in

Well-designed Shafting

this should only be little. The diameter necessary is easily calculated, but that is more the work of the engineer than of the miller, and, given shafting of necessary strength and perfectly aligned, another point must be considered, and that is the correct distance between the bearings which support it. Tables of distances are given in most manuals on the subject, and in cases where all these points as to diameter of shafting, distance between bearings, and adequate couplings, etc., are considered, it is almost incredible what may be saved in the cost of fuel in the course of a year.

Other points, too, in the saving of power, and so cost, can be raised in connection with the rigidity of machines, the driving of the same either by belts or gear wheels, the correct adjustment of all bearings, and the careful lubrication of the same. The supply of oil for the latter should be just sufficient; an over supply, which soon becomes dirty and clogged, is almost as bad as an insufficient one. Like everything else in a flour mill, there is a point in lubrication which will give more satisfactory results than any other. Of course, in the case of automatic lubrication, where the dirty oil is either filtered before again going its round, or collected for filtration, the most satisfactory results are obtained. But all millers are not blessed with self-lubricating engines and machines.

Slipping Belts.

The battle between belts and gears was fought out long ago, and now in most cases the latter are preferred. Both, however, have their advantages and disadvantages—if gears consume more power and are noisy, belts are apt to slip unless provision is made against this difficulty by skilfully adjusting them as to tightness and covering pulleys with brown paper or some substance which has more holding power than a smooth surface. As a loser of power, however, the slipping belt can be cured—enlarge the pulleys and increase the speed or replace it with a wider one. The latter is the cheaper, and gives the least trouble where it can be done. It is easy to see that the travelling velocity of the belt is increased by increasing the size of the pulley; in other words, its power-transmitting capacity is increased, and this is the reason why it is not so liable to slip. Where gears are necessary, those with double-helical teeth are to be preferred, as they are not nearly so noisy as ordinary gear wheels, and cost little or no more. From what has been said it will be understood what an important matter the saving of power is. As yet, only the borders of the subject have been touched, however, but in future articles the economy of power transmission will be further considered.

MILLER-FARMER.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

August.

28. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, belonging to Mr. W. Thomas, at the Beam House, Montford Bridge.
28. Sale of Mr. E. Yeld's herd of Hereford Cattle, at Endale, Leominster.
28, 29, 30 and 31. Royal Dublin Society's Horse and Sheep Show.
29. Show of the Clarborough Farming and Gardening Society for the Hundred of Bassetlaw, at Clarborough, near Retford.
29. Airedale Agricultural Society's Show, at Bingley.
29. North-East Somerset Farmers' Club's Show.
29. Cheshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Congleton.
29. Sale of Lincoln Longwool Shearling Rams, the property of Mr. R. Fisher, Leconfield.
29 and 30. Warwickshire Agricultural Society's Show, at Coventry.
29 and 30. Herefordshire Horse Show Society's Show, at Hereford.
30. East Somerset Agricultural Society's Show, at Castle Cary.
30. Suffolk Horse Society's Sale, at Gippeswyk Park, Ipswich.
30. United Counties Agricultural Society's Show, at Carnarthen
31. Sale of Sir T. B. Lennard's Southdowns and some Large White Pigs, at Woodingdean, Brighton.
31. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, the property of Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., at Dunsmore, Rugby.
31. Craven Agricultural Society's and Farmers' Club's Show, at Skipton.

Sept.

1. Barrow-in-Furness Agricultural Society's Show.
1. Middleton-in-Teesdale Agricultural Society's Show.
2 to 10. Show of Horses and Asses at the Paris Exhibition.
4. Greasley, Selston, and Eastwood Agricultural Society's Show at Moorgreen, near Nottingham.
4. Hawkstead Agricultural Society's Show.
4. Leominster Agricultural Association's Show.
4. Evercreech and Mid Somerset Agricultural Society's Show at Shepton Mallett.
4. Bicester Agricultural and Horticultural Association's Show
4. Sale of Shropshire Sheep, the property of Mr. J. E. Farmer, at Felton, Ludlow.

Irish Agricultural Statistics for 1900.

The annual general abstracts of agricultural statistics for Ireland, which give, by counties and provinces, the acreage under crops and the number and description of live stock in Ireland in 1900, have just been published. The materials necessary for the compilation of these statistics were obtained by members of the Royal Irish Constabulary and Metropolitan Police, who discharged this important duty with zeal and efficiency. It is as follows:—

Division of Land.

The total area under crops in 1900 is 4,658,627 acres, being, as compared with the area in 1899, an increase of 31,082 acres, or 0.7 per cent. There was an increase in the area under crops in Munster of 16,957 acres, or 1.4 per cent.; in Ulster, of 10,911 acres, or 0.7 per cent.; in Connaught, of 2,409 acres, or 0.4 per cent.; and in Leinster, of 805 acres, or 0.1 per cent.

In 1899 the area returned under grass was 10,575,012 acres; in 1900 the amount returned is 10,557,745 acres, being a decrease of 17,267 acres; the area returned as fallow in 1899 was 13,086 acres, and in 1900, 12,645 acres; the area under woods and plantations was 308,495 acres in 1899, and 311,863 acres in 1900; and the area returned under "Turf Bog, Marsh, Barren, Mountain Land, etc.," was 4,809,206 acres in 1899, and 4,792,464 acres in 1900, being a decrease of 16,742 acres; of the area thus returned in 1900, 1,187,208 acres have been entered by the enumerators as turf bog, 390,302 acres as marsh, and 2,235,539 acres as barren mountain land.

Total Area under Crops.

CEREAL CROPS.—Compared with 1899 there appears an increase of 1,931 acres in the area under wheat; a decrease of 30,688 acres under oats; an increase of 4,557 acres under barley; a decrease of 734 acres under bere and rye, and an increase of 324 acres under beans and pease; showing a net decrease of 24,630 acres in the area under cereal crops.

GREEN CROPS.—The area under potatoes has decreased by 8,501 acres; that under turnips by 3,554 acres; and vetches and rape by 385 acres; mangold wurzel has increased by 6,124 acres; cabbage by 1,229 acres; and carrots, parsnips, and other green crops by 1,917 acres, leaving a net decrease of 3,170 acres in the area under green crops.

FLAX.—The area under flax in 1899 was 34,989 acres; the area returned under this crop in 1900 is 47,327 acres, being an increase of 12,338 acres, or 35.3 per cent.

In the returns the area under meadow and clover is shown as the area "for hay only," subdivided under the headings "clover, sainfoin, and grasses under rotation" and "permanent pasture, or grass not broken up in rotation." The area for hay under "clover, etc.," in 1899, was 624,163 acres; this year it is 607,367 acres, being a decrease of 16,796 acres. The area for hay on permanent pasture in 1899 was 1,494,744 acres, and in 1900 it is 1,558,084 acres, showing an increase of 63,340 acres. There is, therefore, an increase of 46,544 acres in the total area under meadow and clover.

The following table shows the area under the several crops in each year from 1896 to 1900, inclusive:—

CROPS.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Wheat	38,019	47,235	52,708	54,866	53,797
Oats	1,103,581	1,175,118	1,165,359	1,135,536	1,104,848
Barley	173,032	170,504	138,012	160,169	174,006
Bere and Rye	14,098	13,296	12,538	12,322	11,588
Beans and Pease	2,090	1,817	2,247	2,415	2,739
Potatoes	705,605	677,216	664,864	662,914	654,413
Turnips	303,471	308,966	306,929	301,449	297,895
Mangel Wurzel and Beet Root	54,301	54,649	55,355	61,711	67,835
Cabbage	44,198	40,597	44,285	41,071	42,300
Vetches and Rape	10,314	9,945	8,254	7,933	7,553
Carrots, Parsnips, and other Green Crops	24,774	24,074	23,880	25,355	27,272
Flax	72,262	45,537	34,469	34,989	47,327
Clover, Sainfoin, and Grasses under Rotation (Meadow)	655,071	637,128	652,040	624,163	607,367
Permanent Pasture, or Grass not broken up in Rotation (Meadow)	1,547,353	1,599,014	1,522,149	1,494,744	1,558,084
Total Area under Crops	4,803,220	4,759,600	4,704,560	4,625,545	4,658,627

Returns of Live Stock.

It appears from the following Table that between 1899 and 1900 there has been a decrease of 12,774 in the number of horses and mules. The mules increased by 548, but horses show a decrease of 13,322. Cattle, on the other hand, exhibit an increase of 100,826, sheep an increase of 22,190, while there has been a decrease of 53,350 in the number of pigs. Of the live stock returned in 1901, 1,000,000 were turkeys, 2,007,673 were geese, 3,027,040 were [illegible] and 12,505,147 were [illegible] fowl.

Table showing the number of live stock in each year from 1891 to 1900, inclusive:—

YEARS.	Horses and Mules	Asses	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Goats
1891	624,179	216,401	4,812,501	3,856,241	1,237,761	36,778
1892	633,213	217,491	4,818,126	3,911,779	1,267,111	36,778
1893	643,129	218,779	4,844,124	3,994,112	1,284,854	36,778
1894	652,530	224,344	4,886,145	4,014,477	1,288,388	36,778
1895	660,445	230,153	4,939,153	4,030,183	1,290,183	36,778
1896	670,153	236,180	4,986,220	4,038,220	1,290,183	36,778
1897	680,453	237,157	5,043,220	4,044,441	1,290,183	36,778
1898	686,441	240,236	5,087,220	4,060,441	1,290,183	36,778
1899	690,641	242,236	5,087,220	4,060,441	1,290,183	36,778
1900	677,319	242,236	5,188,046	4,082,631	1,236,833	36,778
Decrease in Numbers between 1899 and 1900	13,322	—	Increase 100,826	Increase 22,190	Decrease 53,350	—

Scutching Mills.

In conection with the area under flax, it is stated that the number of scutching mills entered in 1900 is as follows:—In the province of Ulster, 805; Leinster, 11; Munster, 4; and Connaught, 6; making a total of 826 for Ireland.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended August 18, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	9,124	12,018	Wheat ..	1,067,400	1,215,560
Sheep ..	4,242	3,411	Flour ..	437,900	504,700
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	287,600	92,400
			Oats ..	140,000	[illegible]
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	11,400	7,350
Beef ..	79,271	78,792	Beans ..	17,400	[illegible]
Mutton ..	19,426	107,534	Maize ..	1,137,600	1,284,400
Pork ..	6,048	5,582		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	100,629	125,000	Bananas	[illegible]	29,048
Beef, salt	2,483	5,581		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	52,048	50,044	Apples ..	28,153‡	14,544
Pork, salt	6,142	4,598	Apricots & Peaches		679
Meat, salt & fresh	7,454	8,879	Currants	[illegible]	[illegible]
Do. pres.	18,363	9,078	Currants	—	1,666
Butter ..	80,260	82,150	Gooseberries	[illegible]	—
M'rg'rine	18,675	17,864	Grapes ..	77,400	39,800
Cheese ..	84,400	68,517	Lemons	[illegible]	[illegible]
Con. Milk	14,519	18,355	Oranges	[illegible]	[illegible]
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	27	24	Pears ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
			Plums ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
			Strawb'rs	[illegible]	[illegible]
			Other Fruit	105,016	[illegible]
	No.	No.		Tons	Tons
Eggs ..	254,653*	302,377*	Hay ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	179,233	132,032
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£2,138	£2,048	Hops ..	404	79
			Potatoes	17	[illegible]
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Tomatoes	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rabbits	865	3,739	Other	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	28,242	23,004	Veg. Subs.	£ [illegible]	£ [illegible]

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with other Fruit previously [illegible].
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetable [illegible].

The Palestine Wine and Trading Company, Ltd., of 11, Bevis Marks, London, E.C., inform us that the Jewish Colonies in Palestine have obtained at the Paris Universal Exhibition of 1900 a gold medal for their wines and grape brandy, and a silver medal for fruit trees and fruits.

Adulterated Milk. William [illegible], farmer, of Semple Cleeves, Winsford, Hants, and Annie Edwards, trading as Edwards Bros., of 59, Grafton Street, Kentish Town, were summoned, at Messrs. Petty Petty Court, on Thursday, for having sold adulterated milk, on the 31st July. The former was fined 10 per cent. of added water, and the second to the extent of 10 per cent. Mr. [illegible] Hopkins £10, with £2 2s. costs, and Edwards £5, with £1 3s. costs.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Carmarthen.

The weather is again causing great anxiety here. The abundant hay crops have been successfully harvested and gathered in excellent condition, but the heat was almost unbearable to work in then, and they were got in cheaply. The expense is not as great as with fickle weather. Our attention was drawn hopefully to the fine fields of corn, but the storms of wind and rain have altered the appearance of them woefully. The promising crops are all beaten down in such a shocking manner that the harvesting will be rendered more difficult and expensive than usual, owing to the unfortunate twisting and flattening which the corn has received. The oldest inhabitants do not remember

Such a Devastation

caused by a midsummer hurricane as we have just had, which is so unusual at this time of year. It was thought that corn would not be ripe so early this year, but, owing to the effects of the heat wave, corn has ripened very fast, and, but for the wet, windy weather of the last fortnight, most of it would have been cut. The weather continues very showery, and crops are ripe, waiting to be cut, and farmers are anxiously looking for prospects of finer weather. As the labour question is such a perplexing one, men cannot be got, and many farmers will have to

Work Hard Amongst Themselves

and families to secure their crops. In exposed places the ground was strewn with unripe apples and plums, which were more than usually promising this year. The present showery weather suits our green crops, and they are looking very promising. Since the storms and thunder we have had, the potatoes are very much

Affected with Disease,

and are getting worse every day. They appeared an excellent, healthy crop a month ago. With the present good crop of grass, store cattle continue to sell well at our fairs. Horses are in great request. Sheep and pigs are advancing in price.—D. P. (August 23rd).

Cornwall.

In the Wadebridge district we are having a very wet and stormy time for the harvest, the corn is beaten down badly, so that but little can be cut with the self-binding reaper, and most of it has to be cut by scythes or by the self-raking reaper going one way. This makes slow work, and I hope we shall have better weather soon to secure the crops. Wheat is a fine crop of straw, but the grain is small and deficient, so that it will be below an average crop. Barley is a heavy crop, but much damaged. Oats are a heavy crop of grain and straw, but much damaged by the weather, and it is difficult to say what the return will be. Mangolds are a good crop. Swedes and turnips are backward, but growing fast, and promise to be a full crop. Grass is plentiful, and live stock generally are doing well. There is a good demand for beef and lambs, but mutton does not sell so well. Store ewes are not so high as might be expected, but may sell better next month. Wool is very low, only 4½d. per lb. for unwashed Longwool.—R. S. O. (August 22nd).

Derbyshire.

The weather is exceedingly wet and bad for the corn harvest. All the oats are cut and nearly all the wheat, both of which were very badly down. Many crops have had to be cut with the scythe. All root crops are doing fairly well, but seem short of heat. There is abundance of grass and milk cows keep up the supplies fairly well. Sheep seem to be doing fairly well, but badly troubled with foot-rot. Clover leys are being broken up for wheat, but the wet weather keeps them very green. The young clover roots seem remarkably even and full of roots. Labour continues to be very scarce and dear, good men being exceedingly hard to get. Mushrooms are very plentiful, but of a large kind; very few small ones to be got. The fruit crop is abundant.—C. C. M. (August 25th).

Hunts.

This last has not been an ideal harvest week by any means. It commenced and on Monday a considerable amount of corn was carted, perhaps not so much as would have been had it not appeared as though fine weather had at last set in. Early on Tuesday some rain fell. A few farmers carted wheat which will not be fit to thresh until the March winds have blown through the stacks. Wednesday and Thursday were showery locally. On Friday, about 4 p.m., a sharp thunderstorm visited St. Ives. To-day has been fine but dull and threatening, a slight shower falling about 8.15 p.m. Complaints of a short yield of wheat are general amongst the few farmers who have threshed. Crops go into small bulk.—S. S. (August 25th).

Leicester.

In the northern part of the county we have still a few bits of hay out. The harvest is now half cut. I have been over a large area of ground, and not seen a wheat crop that I can estimate at 5qr. to the acre; we have some not over 2qr., the average will be under 3½qr. Oats the worst crop we have had for several years. I have not seen one field that I can estimate at 6qr. per acre; several fields

Cannot Meet the Labour Expenses;

a few would be better with the filth consumed to ashes on the spot. Barleys just a little pretty crop. Wireworm and the grub have made great destruction in many crops, oats have been nearly destroyed by them in some fields. Roots will be a fairly good crop. Pastures good, much improved by the late rains, best beef making 8s. per stone down to 6s. according to quality. Mutton from 6d. to 8d. per lb. —W. C. (August 23rd).

Mid-Essex.

Harvest is now in full swing, and a good bit of corn is being carted. Wheat will be a much lighter crop than last year. Barley will be about the same, but the quality will scarcely be as good, but much depends now upon the weather. Beans are a bad crop generally, although there are a few good pieces. Peas are a fair crop. Fruit is abundant this year, especially plums and greengages. Apples are also a fairly good crop. The rains have very considerably improved sheep feed, which make sheep and lambs hard in price as a consequence. At places lambs are doing bad, and some dying. Red clover seed bids fair to be scarce; the clovers are heading out very badly, especially where cut once for hay. Men at places are not so scarce as last year, and with a decrease in the building trade labour should not be so scarce in future. There seems to be a good average sprinkling of partridges and pheasants, although some of the coveys are small.—(August 21st).

North Lincolnshire.

A very small number of people attended the market at Brigg yesterday, the harvest keeping them at home. Those who were there had a very despondING tone, as the wet was daily spoiling their crops; if not actually sprouted, yet the colour and freshness of all the samples of both barley and oats are entirely gone. A splendid sample of new white oats I expected to thresh has depreciated according to the dealers' views 3s. per quarter. Of course, I cannot thresh them now. I and my neighbours are still without stacks, but a commencement is just being made. I will not mention "sparrows"—the word irritates me.

I am generally wrong in my conclusions, but if I mistake not, potato disease will be most rampant this season. Many people have sprayed a few acres, but I doubt the good of it this season. Potatoes will be small, as the haulms will die prematurely, and thus stop growth.—North Lindsey (August 24th).

Salop.

Rain in the night has stopped harvesting again. It gives little promise of fine weather, although there is a lot of corn out yet. Farmers have been very busy every opportunity, carrying all that was dry and saving it in the stacks. May we hope for wind and sun again to finish all up. Fields are green, but a full bite of grass is only on the richest ground. The orchard trees bend under the weight of fruit, and stocks are healthy and well.—J. G. (August 24th).

Worcestershire.

A fortnight of nice harvest weather from August 7th to 21st gave an opportunity for cutting nearly all corn crops, but very little is carried, and now the weather is very wet and unsettled again. Wheat has cut up to a nice crop, probably 30 to 33 bushels per acre. Barley is very light, and, as a rule, of poor quality; does not appear to be more than four quarters per acre. Oats are barely an average, crop about five quarters per acre. Beans light; few grown. Peas not more than two-thirds of a crop, mostly gathered green for market. Hay about an average crop, and for the most part well ended. Mangolds looking well. Swedes and turnips nearly spoilt by fly and for want of moisture in early stage. What with difficulties in harvesting, increasing expenses, and low prices of all farm produce, prospects are anything but bright.—R. B. (Aug. 24th).

Yorkshire.

Since writing my last report two months ago, I cannot say that there has been in the West Riding any material increase in agricultural prospects. The chief matter to note is the great improvement in the prospect of the turnip and root crop, and this has been brought about by the abundance of rain we have had during the last three weeks in this district. We now look like having a fair crop of roots, although the crops that have been thinned by the turnip fly cannot possibly be full ones; still there are a many others that have plenty of plant, and now look very well. The rains that we have had latterly came too late to be of service to the corn crops, and have instead damaged them to a considerable extent by knocking them down very much, thereby making them more difficult to cut, and also through lack of sunshine when ripening causing them to be rather a bad colour; and whenever corn is a bad colour it does not yield well. We have had more than sufficient rain for the present, and now require two or three weeks of fine weather, when all the corn in this district will be gathered in. Grass has very much improved latterly, and there is now a prospect of plenty of winter keep.—A. M. (August 23rd).

North Yorkshire.

is quite ready, is being delayed on account of the excessive rainfall. Thunderstorms succeed each other with wonderful regularity, and no sooner do binders get to work than they are stopped again. The corn is very much laid and twisted on account of the hurricane of rain and wind early in the month, and dry weather is urgently needed. Without it the sample will not be up to the average. The harvest prospects before the storm were fairly good—almost, but not quite, an average—but now there will be a

Deficiency Both in Quantity and Quality.

Root crops have done well of late, and there will be a fair crop of turnips. Many farmers are substituting mangolds for a portion of the latter crop. The land seems to have grown turnips so often that it is tired of them. Potatoes are looking well; there is a lot of disease in gardens, but it is too early to speak of the fields. I was pleased to read your leader on

Swine Fever.

Just on the borders of Durham and Yorkshire we are sadly plagued by vexatious and utterly useless restrictions, imposed by men who are absolutely ignorant of agriculture and its requirements. Twenty years ago Darlington market was the best pig market in this district, but there is no market at all there now. A covered pig market was erected by the Corporation, but it is doubtful if a single pig has been in it the last three or four years. This market, at which large sums of money would have been spent weekly, has been killed, not by swine fever, for there has never been more than an odd case in the neighbourhood, but by senseless restrictions. The Durham County Council is responsible for it. I trust you will continue your crusade against the present methods of dealing with swine fever.—W. P. (August 24th).

Foreign Prospects.

France.—The wheat crop is reported to be turning out irregularly, the intense heat having scorched the plants in central and western districts. Barley in some instances is disappointing, but oats are all the better for recent showers. Business at Paris and other markets remains inactive, millers and dealers waiting for the flow of new grain which cannot be much longer delayed.

Belgium.—The wheat crop is carried in some provinces, but a good deal is still in the fields, the yield is over an average, while barley and oats give moderate satisfaction, but harvest is not yet finished. Potatoes and beets are full of promise.

Holland.—After some days of fine, dry, and warm weather, heavy thunderstorms and rainfalls were experienced, which have done much harm. During last week farmers were eagerly engaged in housing their crops, and but little is now left outstanding.

Germany.—The harvesting of wheat has progressed under favourable conditions, and the yield promises results fully equal to anticipations, particularly in the province of Saxony, which our correspondent describes as "the wheat granary of Berlin."

Hungary.—Rain has interfered with threshing, but potatoes are doing well. Beyond the satisfaction of immediate requirements there is not much doing in the wheat market of Budapest, yesterday's report coming quiet, steady.

Austria.—According to official report all the crops have been carried in good condition. The quality of the rye is unsatisfactory, and the yield in Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia, and Galicia amounts to only one-third of last year's. Wheat is mostly of good quality, only a little indifferent in the eastern provinces. The ingathering of the barley was delayed by rain, and Galicia and Bukovina show a material deficit.

Italy.—The wheat crop in the whole peninsula is estimated at 15,650,000 qrs. or 1,720,000 qrs. less than last year's. Maize promises a very abundant yield.

Roumania.—Harvesting was effected with favourable weather, being only in a few localities interrupted by a little rain, which benefited maize. Wheat in the aggregate gives a good medium and has not suffered from "rust." The natural weight of wheat is between 59½lb. and 63½lb. per bushel, and rye 55½lb. to 58lb. per bushel. Barley is a poorer crop, only the Autumn sown being good. The oat crop is irregular.

Bulgaria.—Threshings are not yet effected owing to the delay in the collection of the tithe dues, so that the bulk of the crops are almost everywhere exposed to weather influences. Respecting the wheat yield it may with certainty be accepted that it will make amends both in quality and quantity for the deficient harvests of the last three years. Prospects for the maize crop are excellent in the whole north-east, but the great heat may have affected the fields in some localities.

Russia.—Advices as to crop results are conflicting, but, taken altogether, they do not bear out the earlier promise of a large wheat crop. Supplies come for-

ward very slowly, and none of the Black Sea or Azov port markets display activity.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* published on Thursday says maize has improved in some sections, but conditions are lower in Kansas and in a few localities elsewhere. The average position, however, is not much changed. Some curtailment in the winter wheat movement is indicated, but the estimates of the wheat yield are unchanged.

INDIA.—The latest news points to considerable amelioration of the agricultural position and improved food crop prospects. In Madras Presidency the copious rains have caused heavy floods and considerable damage to railways and crops, and several people were drowned.

ARGENTINA.—To-day's cables from Buenos Ayres say that complaints of too much rain are received from the agricultural districts.—*Dornbusch.*

Harvest Notes.

(*From Various Journals.*)

The *Agricultural Gazette* gives to-day the last set of the harvest reports with which its correspondents have obliged it during the last five weeks, representing all the English counties and the greater portions of Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. It says: "For the whole kingdom, so fas as can be judged from the reports, there is no doubt that the wheat crop is below the standard, but not much below, because the proportion of very unfavourable reports is nearly as small as that of over-average estimates. Of the white-straw crops barley is decidedly the best, and this appears to be the case in all the main districts of England, though oats are nearly as well estimated in some parts of the northern counties of England, as well as in Wales and Scotland. In short, oats are nearly or quite as good as barley in the parts of the kingdom which suffered least, or not at all, from the hot drought. . . . The complaints of smut in this crop are exceptionally numerous. We have rarely had a more favourable set of reports on the pulse crops. Beans vary a good deal, but appear to be surprisingly good on the whole, considering the character of the season. . . . Peas, however, are generally much better than beans, and we are not certain that they should not be placed above even barley as the corn crop of the season, although many pieces on sharp soils died off too quickly, so that the grain will be small. . . . In spite of gappiness, the potatoe crop has turned out a bulky one in all divisions of the kingdom; but we fear that disease has spread widely since the earlier of our reports were written. For this reason the main crop is likely to prove less satisfactory than the early division. . . . The turnip crop, which was in a very bad way at one time, now promises to be well up to the mark, though there are great variations. The mangold crop is one of the best grown for some years. . . . With respect to the quality of the crops, it is to be expected that wheat will turn out somewhat small in berry, and not heavy, while the proportion of tail in it is likely to be large. Barley will vary greatly, and we hear of some very good malting samples; but we fear that these will not be nearly as common as they were last year, because the season has not been favourable to the formation of a delicate skin, while the lodging of a large proportion of the crop is against a full body and a good colour. Oats, it is to be feared, will be light to a great extent, while peas and beans on soils that suffered from drought must be small. The quality of early and second-early potatoes has proved excellent, but disease and possibly super-tuberation are likely to tell against the main crop, while scab is too common in some places. Hay for the most part was got up in capital order, but was too woody when the crop was cut, and contains too small a proportion of the finer grasses and clovers to be first-rate. Roots, if we have occasional rains, should be well up to the mark in quality. Taking all classes of crops into account, including potatoes and roots, the harvest of 1900 may be classed as a passable one, but not a good one. . . . The corn harvest alone must be regarded as a little below average."

Harvest operations in Berkshire, which had been in full swing since the beginning of the month, received a severe check last week in consequence of the heavy rains which thoroughly drenched the sheaves and temporarily stopped carrying and rick building. The condition of the wheat shown at Newbury market on Thursday was less satisfactory than was expected, and did not compare favourably with last year's parcels. The top figure realised was 31s. per quarter, whereas old wheat fetched 33s. per quarter.

Although farmers in South Bucks are experiencing great difficulty in harvesting their crops on account of the dearth of labourers, it was reported at a meeting of the High Wycombe Board of Guardians that the casual wards at the Union house were abnormally full. The Master said that a few nights ago there were so many tramps admitted that he was obliged to have them bedded down on the floor, and he gave his whole attention to them, and saw that they performed the customary task before quitting the institution the next morning. The Chairman and other Guardians deplored the fact that such men, who were able-bodied, should be allowed to lazily roam about the country when there was plenty of work for them to do in agricultural and other pursuits. The Master said that as a rule the tramping fraternity were so lazy that they were not worth a farthing per week to the farmers of the district.

In direct contrast to the above county, Lincolnshire has too many harvest men, owing to an influx from Ireland, and in the Spalding district harvest wages have gone down. It is thought that never in the history of the county has so much corn been cut and tied and stacked in a week as this year. This is, in some measure, due to the increasing use which is being made of harvesting machinery; but the result to the harvest labourer is that he will not be able to earn nearly so much money as usual. In one district this falling off is put at nearly one half.

Sunday harvesting was witnessed at Tydd St. Mary, in the south of Lincolnshire, on the 19th inst. A local farmer, part of whose crop had been damaged by heavy rains, determined to run no further risks, and, accordingly, was leading the corn from morn till night. Eight shillings a day, with beer and food, was paid for the labour.

The poor law authorities of Maidstone, the centre of the great Kentish hop-growing district, have caused notices to be extensively posted in the poor districts of Lambeth and Southwark respecting poor law relief to casuals. The notice commences by stating that from now till September 15th no person will be admitted into the casual wards of the Maidstone Union without an order. Any person applying for admission twice or more times within a period of four weeks from the date of his or her previous admission will be treated as an ordinary casual, and will not be entitled to take his or her discharge until the fourth day after admission, and will have to perform the task of work prescribed for casual paupers by Act of Parliament. The guardians advise that no one should come into the district for hop-picking unless he or she has certain work to come to, and has been engaged beforehand.

There is such an abundance of fruit in Lincolnshire this year that growers are experiencing the greatest difficulty in getting rid of their supplies. Gooseberries have been selling as low as threepence per stone, and apples are now beginning to glut the markets. In many cases the sales have not realised sufficient to pay the cost of carriage, and stones of fruit have been returned as unsaleable. Some growers are said to have given unsold lots away rather than be saddled with the expense of carriage home. Plums are a record crop this year, and, when ripe, it is feared that, from a marketing point of view, they will be almost worthless.

The condition of the crops in Surrey is, on the whole, satisfactory to the farmer. In the Guildford district, wheat, barley, oats, and peas are below the average, and the hay crop upon the dry meadows has been light, though in the low-lying meadows it has been very good. Potatoes are not expected to be a very good crop. The oats crop is the lightest for many years.

The reaping machines are in the harvest field all over Lancashire and on very many farms the crops are in the hattock. The labour question has become so serious that arable farmers have been compelled to spend larger sums than they have done for years in labour-saving implements and machinery. The condition of the cereal crops varies considerably, but the fruit crops all round are most promising.

The rumour that the main crop of English potatoes may be spoiled by blight appears to be unfounded. A contemporary has taken the trouble to collect information from some counties where the potato is raised in considerable quantity, and the result of the enquiries may be summarised as follows: In Lincolnshire the potatoes are turning out remarkably clean. In Cambridgeshire adverse climatic conditions may somewhat affect the crop, but there is nothing wrong to date. In Essex the crop is never an extensive one, but, with few exceptions, it is this year practically free from disease, although in a few neighbourhoods the early varieties have been affected by the cold winds and the drought. Suffolk growers are not so optimistic. The prevailing opinion is that the crop is only a poor one, and that, should there be any more wet weather, it will be seriously affected by disease. It is believed, therefore, that the supply for the winter trade will probably be short. There is, however, no reason to fear that the potato crop as a whole will be deficient.

A severe thunderstorm passed over Lincolnshire on Friday afternoon, rain falling in torrents. The registrations in some places showed that upwards of 50 tons an acre fell in less than half an hour. Many low-lying places were flooded as a result of this and previous storms, and the land has got into a terribly soddened condition. This has given a serious check to harvest operations, and the outlook generally is causing much anxiety, as many acres of corn are yet uncut.

By order of the War Office authorities, a large contingent of the 3rd Battalion Oxfordshire Light Infantry (better known as the Bucks Militia) have returned to their headquarters at High Wycombe from special garrison duty at Kilworth, Ireland, where the main body of the regiment is embodied, under the command of Colonel the Earl of Orkney. The men, who are on furlough (the duration of which is not specified), have doffed their military attire and been supplied with civilian clothing. They have been sent home, it is stated, to help meet the demand there is at the present time in connection with the harvesting operations.

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (August 20th).—Dull, overcast weather, with a good deal of local gloom, was reported very generally, considerable quantities of rain being measured at a number of places in the west and north. There was a close, heavy feeling in the atmosphere, with all the usual indications of impending thunderstorms. After a warm night, with minimum temperatures of nearly sixty degrees in some southern situations, the thermometer did not rise much during the day, parts of North Britain failing to touch sixty degrees.

TUESDAY (August 21st).—Weather of a very unstable character was general over the United Kingdom, due to the existence of a large and fairly deep system of low pressure off the Irish coast travelling slowly eastward, a number of small secondary areas existing elsewhere at the same time, and the barometer maintaining a downward tendency all over western Europe throughout the day. There was scarcely a breath of wind stirring, and the sky in all districts presented rather a dull, threatening appearance, rain falling in several places at times. England and Ireland had had a warm night, but there was no decided rise of temperature during the day, most districts failing to pass above sixty-five degrees, some northern and western ones remaining below sixty degrees. London reached a maximum of seventy-two degrees.

WEDNESDAY (August 23rd).—The conditions had become still more unsettled, fresh or strong westerly winds being felt over the southern counties, and from the eastward in the north. There was a great deal of variation in the aspect of the sky during the day, from clear to bright to dull and gloomy, rain being experienced nearly everywhere, large quantities being measured over Ireland and Wales, and also in France. Another very mild night had been experienced, especially in the South, where some of the minimum temperatures were as high as sixty degrees. Only London touched seventy degrees in the afternoon, the air being appreciably cooler.

THURSDAY (August 23rd).—No change of any importance was reported in the atmospheric conditions over western Europe. The cyclonic disturbance of the previous day had made no progress, its centre still occupying our western districts, with the barometer exhibiting a slight upward movement all round. The winds maintained a regular circulation in the depression, but while, in most neighbourhoods, they had diminished in strength, at some of the more exposed situations on the western coasts a gale was experienced. Rain fell over the whole of the United Kingdom, very heavily in some localities, more than an inch being registered in the north-east of Scotland. During the day thunderstorms occurred in various parts of England, a small one visiting London at noon, preceded by a good deal of rain, followed immediately by better, though changeable, weather. Temperature was lower everywhere, most of the afternoon maxima being from sixty to sixty-five degrees.

FRIDAY (August 24th).—The weather over the British Isles was distinctly better than that of preceding days, although the cyclonic area which had occasioned the general and heavy rains still maintained its position over the whole kingdom. It was, however, diminishing greatly in intensity, and showed signs of complete dispersal by the close of the week. Showers were experienced here and there in the West and North, and a thunderstorm passed along the South coast of Ireland in the evening, otherwise a gradual improvement was taking place in the weather, which was fine and bright in some districts. After a fairly mild night temperature rose slowly, few of the maxima exceeding sixty-five degrees, London touching seventy degrees.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (August 25th and 26th).—The recent cyclonic system disappeared early on Saturday, and an anticyclone spreading down from the far north has brought a more seasonable type of weather to all parts. There were a few showers over the southern counties on Saturday, and in London nearly half an inch of rain fell during a thunderstorm in the afternoon. As a rule, however, the air has been much drier, although at times the sky has been very cloudy and threatening, and the mornings have become rather misty. Northerly to easterly winds have been experienced all round, the movement generally being very weak, but it was inclined to be rather brisk over the south of England on Sunday. In many of the southern and western districts the afternoon temperatures have failed to reach sixty degrees, and in the south only the Channel Islands have passed above the sixties.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: The demand continues limited, prices unaltered. Barley: No change to notice. Wheat: Quiet at about late rates. Oats: 3d dearer on the week. Maize fetched rather more money. Flour unchanged. —NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Influenced by reassuring reports from America and Liverpool, the market began well, although subdued to-day, and there was nothing to indicate extra caution as business progressed, but the attendance of buyers was again restricted. Feeding stuffs reacted. Old home-grown wheat is very sparingly offered, while the supply on hand becomes more and more exhausted, and prices are in sellers' favour. New crop is also upheld, and very little is submitted either here or on the country exchanges at present. Fine white of the latter rules at 31s to 32s, and red 30s to 31s per qr. 504lb. American descriptions rather firmer, apart from stocks being fairly plentiful. Nothing fresh can be said respecting the flour market, the consumptive sale to-day being but slight. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at their meeting this afternoon. Among feeding stuffs, maize occupied the main share of attention, flat being again dearer. Mixed American held for 20s ex ship, 20s 6d ex quay. A good supply is due Odessa, old, 24s ex ship, 24s 6d ex quay. Grinding barley maintained, the supply on hand being still chiefly confined to Persian, 17s 9d ex ship, 18s ex quay. Some Odessa is expected shortly. The market for oats tended rather better since last Monday. American mixed clipped, ordinary, quoted at 14s 3d ex ship, 15s ex quay, and white clipped in these positions, 15s 9d and 16s 3d respectively. Vologda's, 14s to 14s 3d. Fine weather retards movements in beans and peas, and the trade passing continues insufficient to test prices, but holders retain firmness.

Mark Lane, Friday.—To-day's market was favourably influenced by encouraging news from America, while heavy rainfall both at the Western and Northern counties in the middle of the week has also assisted in stimulating prices, but, with only a limited attendance, the amount of business since noon was devoid of significance. The yield of new crop wheat has become more backward, dearness and scarcity of labour still forming a drawback, and threshings are impeded. Fine white quoted at 32s, and red, of similar sample, at 31s per qr 504lb. Away from American descriptions being fairly plentiful holders were again demanding full rates. Although there was again some hesitancy among consumers in the flour market, both English and American brands were decidedly better in tone by 3d in most cases, being however, nominal. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at their meeting this afternoon. Town households, 25s 6d; whites, 28s 6d per sack. Among feeding stuffs, grinding barley continues scarce, and Persian, which still supplies wants, is 3d firmer, at 18s ex ship, 18s 3d ex quay. Oats well maintained, both American and Russia, in fact, being advanced 3d since last Friday, and further Government demands for shipment to South Africa are understood to have been forthcoming. Flat maize was again a favoured cereal, being 3d dearer to-day, while showing an advance to 6d to 9d since this day week. Mixed American held for 20s 3d ex ship, 20s 9d ex quay. Odessa, old, 24s ex ship 24s 6d ex quay. The market for beans and peas tends in holders' favour, the latter cereal, in fact, being advanced while scarcity continues.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—White wheat, 30s to 32s; red ditto, 29s to 30s; barley, grinding, 20s to 22s; white oats, 20s to 23s; black oats, 20s to 22s; mazagan beans, 30s to 32s; tick ditto, 32s to 35s; round maize, 26s to 27s; flat ditto, 20s to 22s 6d; flour scaling, 23s; seconds, 25s; households, 26s; whites, 28s. There was very little new wheat or oats sold, but the former sold up to 31s, and the latter from 18s to 21s.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—A few samples of new wheat on offer, but prices were irregular—about 26s to 28s—some of it not being in good condition. Old wheat realised 30s to 32s; all other articles unchanged.

Banbury Thursday.—Wheat, white (old), 30s to 31s per qr; barley (old), 33s to 34s per qr; oats, 25s to 26s per qr. Markets very firm for both English and foreign, to 6d per qr dearer. A small quantity of new on offer in fair condition.

Braintree, Wednesday. — Small attendance, and little trade done. Red wheat made from 29s to 31s; white, 30s to 32s per qr. A few samples of new corn offering.

Brigg, Thursday.—Fair attendance, but the business transacted was not extensive. A few samples of new wheat were offered, the quality of which was scarcely equal to last year's crop. Prices are hardly yet fixed, though 28s to 30s per qr were named, and about 29s seemed the value of good samples. Old wheat about 30s per qr. New oats 18s 6d per 24 stones. Little or nothing doing in barley.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been since our last a moderate trade in wheat and a good demand for feeding stuffs. At to-day's market there were several samples of new English wheat offering, which made 27s 6d to 28s. Foreign firm at late rates. Grinding barley 6d to 9d dearer. Plate and flat maize 3d higher. Round unchanged. Oats unaltered. Flour quiet.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Driffield, Thursday.—Not much grain offering. Holders were asking up to 31s per qr for wheat, which buyers were not disposed to give, but some sales were effected at 6d less. Oats were firm at 21s to 22s per qr. A few samples of new white oats were on offer, but they were much "weathered," and were sold at 18s to 18s 6d per qr.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been firm, with small supplies. The weather has been very showery, which delays harvest operations, and causes farmers to be very indifferent sellers. Quality and condition of corn vary a good deal, most of it inferior to last year's good crop. At this market to-day there was a fair supply of wheat, which found buyers at rather over last week's rates, dry lots being sought after. Red, 27s to 30s; and white up to 30s per 504lb; old wheat, 31s. Barley was more freely offered, but prices are irregular, and quotations are yet unreliable. Oats are from 8½d to 10d, old up to 1s per stone.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat trade firmer. New oats just arriving. Winter tares inquired for. Closing quotations: White wheat, 31s to 33s 6d; red ditto, 29s to 32s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; ditto black, 16s to 20s; peas, 29s to 31s; tick beans, 30s to 32s; mazagans, 28s to 29s; flat maize, 21s 6d to 22s; round ditto, 26s to 27s per quarter; winter tares, 6s 6d to 7s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day, and unchanged prices. 22s to 24s per 336lbs. —THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—A few samples of new English grain were shown, but did not change hands. There was no alteration in price of old wheat. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 75lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb; beans, 5s to 5s 6d per 80lb; oats, old, 2s 9d to 3s per 46lb; Indian corn—new, 10s 6d to 10s 9d; old, 11s to 11s 3d per 240lb.

Chichester Wednesday. Small supply of new wheats, and a fair business done at 29s to 30s per quarter, prices being firm with an upward tendency. Plenty of inquiries for old wheats, which are generally of better quality than the new yet offered and best sorts commanded 31s per quarter. Feeding stuffs were in fair demand, and prices were steady. Flour unchanged.

Colchester, Saturday.—Not much new wheat offering, quality interior, prices 28s to 30s; old wheat firm and rather dearer. A few samples of new barley offering at irregular prices, also some new oats, value 16s to 20s per qr.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance but not much business was done. Samples of new wheat were again offered, and sold at prices ranging from 26s to 30s per quarter. Foreign quiet, at last week's prices. Grinding barley 1s per quarter dearer. Feeding stuffs dear.

Gainsborough, Tuesday.—Very few farmers present, and but few samples changed hands at last week's prices. White wheat made 30s to 31s; red, 29s to 30s; white oats, 20s to 22s; black, 18s to 20s; grinding barley, 23s; English beans, 32s; peas, 23s; small maize, 26s; flat maize, 23s per qr; bran, £4 15s; sharps, £6; and barley meal, £6 10s per ton.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour quiet, with a slightly firmer tone. Indian corn remains unaltered on the week, but with a firmer tendency. Grinding beans steady at an advance of ½d to 3d per boll. Canadian peas on spot slow at barely last week's prices, but firm for forward positions. Foreign oats held for an advance of 3d per boll. Home oats scarce and dearer. Oatmeal—we have had several lots of new crop on our market, which have been sold at irregular prices. Barley firm. Bran and thirds firm and unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Small volume of business passing. Few samples of new grain on offer, wheats finding customers at 3s 6d to 3s 8d, new oats 2s 3d to 2s 6d. Old oats very firm, with an upward tendency; maize 3d to 6d dearer on the week. Old beans very firm with an upward tendency. Wholesale prices: Wheat—white 3s 6d to 3s 10d; red, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; barley, 3s to 3s 9d; oats, 2s 3d to 3s; beans, 3s 10d to 4s; maize, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; vetches—winter, 4s to 6s; and spring 3s 6d to 5s.

Hull, Tuesday.—The trade for home-grown wheat was steady at about last week's prices, of 29s to 30s per qr. A few samples of new wheat were shown, but they were very much out of condition. Foreign wheat had a downward tendency, but not quotably lower, at 28s to 32s per qr. Barley sold fairly well at 23s 6d; oats making 18s to 20s. Beans dearer, English selling at 33s per qr., whilst foreign were done at 29s 6d. American maize 21s and Black Sea 24s 6d, being an advance of 6d per quarter.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Much larger attendance. The supply of old wheat was small, demand dull, and prices in buyers' favour. A few samples of new on offer, quality rather poor and prices irregular. Old red, 30s to 31s; white, 32s per 504lb. Grinding barley firm. Maize 3d dearer. Oats unaltered. Beans and peas quiet.

Leeds, Friday.—Advices as to values of American wheat, Tuesday's prices for both English and foreign are fully maintained, the tendency being the turn higher for choice descriptions held. English varies very much in condition, and makes from 28s to 30s. Peas and maize still favour sellers. No change in flour, oats, beans, or grinding barley.

Leeds, Friday.—Although it may be too early to form a correct estimate of the English wheat crop, all our correspondents report the yield as disappointing and below an average. America's weakness has depressed values in the option market rather than that of actual wheat. Russia ignores it completely, asking prices quite out of reach. Market sales inactive, foreign whites being 3d to 6d lower on the week. Reds unchanged. English fully as dear. Maize 6d to 1s dearer. Beans and oats firm.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance with moderate supplies of wheat in variable condition; trade active for choice samples at 32s to 35s per 36 stones. Beans steady. Fine oats firm.

Lincoln, Friday.—Some new English wheats shown, condition being damp no trade done. Old wheats 6d to 1s dearer; foreign wheats 6d higher on the week; new oats also damp; old, 6d dearer; maize, higher in value; beans and peas firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat firm, with a fair trade at about 1d per cental over Tuesday's prices. Flour, a moderate trade at Tuesday's prices. Maize, steady with a moderate consumptive demand at unchanged prices for mixed American. European and Plate in very small compass and firmly held at quotations. Barley, slow for feeding, whilst malting has a fair demand for fine qualities, but without alteration in values. Beans are firm and have a good inquiry at last market day's figures. Peas are very firm and 1d per cental higher for white Canadians, other kinds unchanged. Oats are quiet for English, a 1d decline for new. Foreign sorts are slow without change. Oatmeal, quiet trade at quotations. Oilcake has a fair demand for all kinds, Stead's linseed being the turn dearer.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—A fair display of new grain at the market to-day. Wheat, white, 32s per 520lb; new, 28s to 29s per 516lb; peas, 28s to 29s per qr; black oats, 20s to 21s; rye, 26s per qr. Not much trade in old corn. Maize 3d per qr over last week; barley and beans firm. Some new winter tares to hand, 7s to 8s per bushel asked for them, as it is stated the crop is short. No alteration in hemp, brank, sergo, or millet.

Malton, Tuesday.—The official return shows a bigger wheat delivery, with a falling off in spring corn. Details: Wheat (60lb per bushel), 1,021 qr 5 bushels, at £1 8s 6d; barley (50lb per bushel), 11 qr 1 bushel, at £1 4s 5d; and oats (39lb per bushel), 22qr 4 bushels, at 19s 7d per Imperial qr average. Flour sells at 24s to 27s 6d per sack of 20 stones.

Manchester, Thursday. — In some instances English wheat to-day commanded rather better rates than a week ago, but the tone is rather irregular. Flour has lost a trifle on the week, though prices are now steadier. Indian corn is ½d per cental dearer as compared with last Thursday. Peas, oats, and beans, as well as barley, are unchanged.

Market Drayton, Wednesday.—Wheat, white, old, 13s to 13s 9d per 225lb; red, old, 13s to 13s 9d per 225lb; oats, white, old, 14s to 15s per 200lb; barley, malting, 12s to 13s per 210lb; Indian corn, new, 10s 9d to 11s per 240lb; beans, new, 13s to 14s per 240lb; old, 17s to 18s per 240lb; peas, white, 17s to 18s per 240lb.

Market Rasen, Tuesday.—Scarcely anything on offer. All kinds of grain must be quoted firm at late rates.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a small show at about last week's price. A few samples of new wheat were showing at irregular prices according to condition and quality. New oats a small show, at 17s to 20s per qr. New barley 25s to 27s per qr. Old corn firm.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—There was only a thin attendance. Foreign and English wheat neglected, and prices are unchanged. Maize in fair demand at fully late rates. Oats, both Scotch and foreign, favour sellers. Barley unaltered. Peas and beans scarce and firm. Flour slow at last Saturday's quotations.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat in poor request, and slightly in buyers' favour. American maize 6d to 9d dearer on the week. Scotch oats firm at late rates, foreign steady. Feeding barley, peas, and beans firm in price, demand however, is slow. Flour unchanged. — JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—The heavy rainfall all this week has played a poor part for the farmer, sorry to say. This day's market was moderately attended. Wheat and flour closed firm, and sellers had the advantage. Barley scarce and against buyers. Scotch oats could up 6d per qr on the week; foreign at about late rates. Beans and peas steady unchanged. Maize holds its own, especially round corn.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—A few samples of new English wheat were offered at 3s 4d per bushel of 62lb. The wheat trade was poor, but prices were rather easier than last week. Maize was quoted at 6d to 9d dearer on the week; barley and oats firm and unchanged; beans, 6d to 9d dearer; flour, finest, 24s per sack.

Northampton, Saturday.—Bad weather intercepts harvest operations, small market; few samples of wheat on offer. Small business was done at 1s to 2s over last market day. Very little new wheat on offer. Flour difficult to sell:— White wheat, 31s to 33s per qr; red, 30s to 33s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; oats, 19s to 24s; beans, 28s to 33s; flour, 23s to 27s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was very little wheat on offer at our market to-day owing to farmers being busy harvesting, and more money was asked owing to the wet weather. Wet and unsettled weather has prevailed during the past week, much hindering harvest operations. Wheat, red, 30s 6d to 31s 6d per qr, weight 63lbs per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending August 20, 1900:—Wheat, 2,797.6, 28s 1½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Old wheat in limited supply, and values well supported. The few samples shown of new were of inferior quality and condition. Oats and beans, but few offering, and each made 6d to 1s more money.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Small market; not much new corn offering. Wheat in a good demand at rather over last week's prices, 28s to 32s. Barley, no business reported.

Penrith, Tuesday.—The only grain forward was oats, which were in small supply, stocks being almost exhausted. Prices remain unchanged.

Peterborough, Saturday. — The unsettled weather this week has hindered the harvest work and checked the supply of new corn. The few samples of wheat showing to-day made from 27s to 29s 6d per qr. New oats, 17s to 19s. Good old corn rather dearer.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a large attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Business has much improved since last week. The prices for foreign wheats remain firm, but English are uncertain. Maize has advanced 6d., and barley 9d to 1s dearer, while oats keep to about the same as last week.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—The Exchange was well attended to-day, and business ruled firm. Wheat came to hand in moderate quantities only, and old samples fetched most money, realising 29s to 32s per quarter, while new sorts made 20s to 30s per quarter. The price of barley and other kinds of corn remained at the figures obtained last week.

Ripon, Thursday. — English wheat has a firmer tone on account of the wet weather. Prices:—Wheat, English, 29s to 30s; ditto foreign, 31s to 35s; barley, grinding, 24s to 25s; oats, 22s to 25s; round maize, 25s to 27s; flat maize, 23s per qr; beans, 11½d per stone; bran, £4 10s to £5 per ton.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade showed a decline of 6d per quarter on last week's prices. New wheat was freely offered. Red wheat made 29s to 30s, and white wheat, 30s to 32s per qr.

Scarborough, Thursday.—A small attendance. Some new wheat and oats were on offer. Old wheat brought 29s to 30s; and new wheat 29s to 31s per qr. Old oats very scarce, and made 23s 6d to 27s per qr. of 24 stones. New oats, 22s to 23s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A small attendance, and trade was very slow. Needy buyers were obliged to pay former prices. Beans and small corn were 6d to 9d more. Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d; red, 32s to 33s per 504lb; oats, old white, 24s; ditto old black, 22s per 335lb; peas, grinding, 28s to 29s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small, 26s to 29s; ditto American mixed, 22s 6d to 23s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A fair amount of new corn offering. The wheats generally were out of condition, and made 26s to 29s per qr. There were a few nice samples of barley on the market, which made 27s to 30s. Hardly any oats on offer. Peas were a small supply of very variable quality, prices ranging from 40s to 50s.

Sunderland, Saturday.—But little grain offering. Wheat firm, and rather dearer. Spring corn in sellers' favour. Arrivals coastwise: Wheat, 637 qrs; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Small quantity of both new and old wheat offering at rather easier prices than last week. Deliveries were retarded by the wet weather which prevailed during the week. Maize and barley very firm at hardening prices.

Wakefiled, Friday.—Again we have only a small attendance at our market to-day. We quote foreign wheat 6d to 9d per quarter dearer on the week, whilst English maintains fully last week's prices. A few samples of new Yorkshire barleys on offer, but as high prices were asked, this checked business. Maize and grinding barley 6d per quarter dearer, other feeding stuffs unaltered.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—With unsettled weather and stronger American advices, wheat is held for 6d to 9d advance from last week, but the demand is not active; new English does not shine either in quality or condition. Maize 6d dearer. Beans and oats firm.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wetherby, Thursday.—Only a poor attendance, and an exceptionally slow trade for all kinds. Prices firm.

Winchester, Saturday.—A short supply of new English wheat on our market to-day, which met a steady trade at 29s to 30s 64lb. Barley firm, grinding descriptions fully 6d dearer. Oats in good demand at late rates. Maize 3d to 6d higher. Flour fair inquiry at 24s to 25s.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LTD.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A quiet market, with unchanged prices. The following were the quotations: English wheat, 13s per 216lb, springs 6s 4d, and Duluths 6s 6d to 6s 7d per cental; oats, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; beans (old), 13s 6d to 14s 6d per 190lb; flat maize, 21s 6d to 22s 3d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—A few samples of new corn were shown, but the condition was very indifferent on account of the wet weather. Old English wheat in short supply and firmly held. Foreign slightly dearer. Barley and maize made more money, and all feeding corn maintained previous rates. Wheat, white, 30s to 31s 6d; red, 28s to 30s per quarter.

York, Saturday.—Supply of wheat extremely limited, and now and then 6d per quarter advance could be obtained. Fine white wheat, 30s 6d to 31s 6d; and red and mixed, 29s to 30s 6d per quarter of 38 stones. Feeding barley, 24s to 26s per 32 stones. Oats scarce and dear. Short oats, 23s to 24s; white Tartary, 19s to 20s; and black ditto, 21s to 22s per quarter of 24 stones. Rye, 8d; and beans, 10d to 11d per stone.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has presented a firmer tone, with a regular current of business. The French provincial wheat markets have been rather depressed by the pressure of sales on the part of farmers who are compelled to raise money. There has been rather more doing in wheat at Paris: a preference has been given to new wheat over old descriptions, which have shown some weakness. Flour for consumption has shown little change in the French capital. Hard wheat has been quiet at Marseilles, but has at the same time been pretty well maintained. Disposable wheat has shown little change at Dantzic, and Konigsberg wheat market has exhibited a quiet tone. The supplies of wheat have been somewhat restricted upon the Russian provincial markets, but the demand has been weak, and prices have, if anything, been tending downwards. In the Southern Russian ports business

has, however, exhibited a much better tendency, the quality of the new wheat offered has been good, but the supplies brought forward have been comparatively small at present. The foreign demand for wheat at Odessa has slightly increased during the last few days, and a resumption of exports is looked for when new wheat begins to arrive more freely. The harvest has been completed under favourable conditions in Southern Russia. Advices from Ibrail report some improvement in the demand for wheat, and this has given strength to quotations. Some important transactions are stated to have been carried through in the ports of the Upper Danube. The quantity of wheat now *en route* for Europe is returned at 1,180,000qr, as compared with 1,145,000qr at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,180,000qr representing the quantity of wheat now *en route* for the Continent is made up as follows:—France, 55,000qr; Belgium, 455,000qr; Holland, 265,000qr; Germany and the North, 170,000qr; and Italy, Spain, etc., 235,000qr.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report: The weather has been fine since end of last week, but looks more unsettled now, and some rain has fallen. However, our barley crops must be considered secured now, and most is housed in perfect condition. Offers are increasing and holders point to a little more reasonable prices, especially for Bohemians; still they seem not to tempt buyers yet, who expect to operate at less money as soon as supplies are increasing.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

August 18 to 25, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	81,527 qrs.
Flour	101,000 ,,
Total	182,527 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Surplus	76,527 ,,

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

August 17th to 24th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	1,998	..	..	79,529	81,527
Barley	549	..	..	13,016	13,565
Malt	18,607	..	..	50	18,657
Oats	466	..	..	99,158	99,624
Rye	..	..	..	..	..
Beans	222	..	..	400	622
Peas	..	..	..	1,811	1,811
Maize	..	..	..	74,032	74,032
Tares	10	..	..	..	10
Lentils	..	..	..	..	..
Linseed	..	..	..	14,736	14,736
Rapeseed	103	..	..	119	222
Cottonseed	..	..	..	7,000	7,000
Farm Seeds	100	..	..	1,500	1,600
Flour (Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour (Sacks	17,703	..	..	107,911	125,614

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.

Jan. 7	71,206 qrs.	May 6	96,343 qrs.		
,, 14	108,380 ,,	,, 13	72,852 ,,		
,, 21	128,902 ,,	,, 20	101,429 ,,		
,, 28	51,234 ,,	,, 27	108,772 ,,		
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	June 3	73,846 ,,		
,, 11	82,912 ,,	,, 10	126,781 ,,		
,, 18	204,974 ,,	,, 17	160,574 ,,		
,, 25	108,273 ,,	,, 24	101,205 ,,		
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,	July 1	152,500 ,,		
,, 11	63,103 ,,	,, 8	112,761 ,,		
,, 18	122,541 ,,	,, 15	116,850 ,,		
,, 25	86,309 ,,	,, 22	89,245 ,,		
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	,, 29	118,314 ,,		
,, 8	133,261 ,,	Aug. 5	104,234 ,,		
,, 15	101,518 ,,	,, 12	102,160 ,,		
,, 22	70,984 ,,	,, 19	103,353 ,,		
,, 29	68,573 ,,	,, 26	82,367 ,,		

1900.

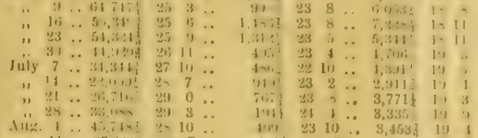
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	May 4	104,535 qrs.		
,, 13	95,064 ,,	,, 11	52,859 ,,		
,, 20	114,928 ,,	,, 18	97,412 ,,		
,, 27	124,652 ,,	,, 25	71,390 ,,		
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,	,, 31	177,744 ,,		
,, 10	75,000 ,,	June 8	93,147 ,,		
,, 17	66,804 ,,	,, 15	86,125 ,,		
,, 24	62,191 ,,	,, 22	196,116 ,,		
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,	,, 29	142,185 ,,		
,, 10	63,702 ,,	July 6	132,950 ,,		
,, 17	162,985 ,,	,, 13	101,253 ,,		
,, 24	111,109 ,,	,, 20	82,294 ,,		
,, 31	69,356 ,,	,, 27	55,998 ,,		
April 7	48,302 ,,	Aug. 2	86,167 ,,		
,, 13	131,085 ,,	,, 11	192,077 ,,		
,, 20	82,357 ,,	,, 18	138,510 ,,		
,, 27	43,783 ,,	,, 25	182,517 ,,		

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1899.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Aug. 5	51,149⅔	24	10	246½	20	9	6,645⅔	18	0
,, 12	37,177¼	24	8	184¼	22	6	5,554½	17	9
,, 19	33,399⅔	24	7	437⅔	26	11	6,120⅔	17	4
,, 26	34,523¼	24	7	1,594½	26	5	9,205⅔	17	1
Sept. 2	47,572⅔	25	0	6,709⅔	25	10	15,958⅔	16	7
,, 9	67,996½	25	5	17,408½	26	5	16,192	16	6
,, 16	80,281⅓	25	4	33,143⅔	27	1	19,291⅓	16	2
,, 23	85,104⅔	25	4	77,678⅓	27	4	22,128	16	1
,, 30	79,612½	25	6	97,917⅔	26	11	23,193	16	5
Oct 7	71,152⅔	26	0	109,315½	28	0	21,440½	16	5
,, 14	63,040⅔	27	3	191,901⅔	27	9	18,024½	16	5
,, 21	64,242	28	2	192,268⅓	27	6	18,983⅔	16	10
,, 28	85,178½	28	1	249,757	..	..	20,084½	16	3
Nov. 4	82,769⅔	27	2	203,071½	27	2	17,895⅔	16	7
,, 11	66,741⅔	26	7	165,786½	26	9	15,821⅔	16	5
,, 18	65,470½	26	1	163,915⅔	26	4	16,313½	16	7
,, 25	67,308½	25	8	164,362⅔	26	2	17,047⅔	16	7
Dec. 2	72,974⅔	25	7	163,441½	25	10	22,575½	16	6
,, 9	10,982½	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421⅔	16	5
,, 16	78,772½	25	4	135,344½	25	7	22,880½	16	1
,, 23	67,102⅔	25	6	116,757⅔	25	10	16,447⅔	16	0
,, 30	47,685½	25	9	74,637⅔	25	5	10,463⅔	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6	40,086	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅔	16	2
,, 13	57,021⅓	25	11	83,421½	25	5	19,703	16	3
,, 20	68,463⅔	25	9	100,925½	25	8	23,122⅔	16	2
,, 27	65,381⅔	25	10	108,357⅔	25	9	17,814⅔	16	4
Feb. 3	73,790⅔	25	8	90,760½	25	4	22,061⅔	16	6
,, 10	71,482½	25	10	80,564⅔	25	3	20,822⅔	16	5
,, 17	76,611⅔	26	1	80,414½	24	11	20,986⅔	16	8
,, 24	69,534½	26	3	63,931½	25	1	21,132½	16	11
Mar. 3	68,153½	26	4	51,727½	24	6	18,499½	16	10
,, 10	58,703⅔	25	11	44,921½	24	8	16,224	16	11
,, 17	76,435⅔	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,104⅔	16	11
,, 24	69,914½	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042⅔	17	1
,, 31	72,762	25	10	34,387½	24	11	15,209⅔	17	0

1900.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
April 7	67,743⅔	25	10	20,402½	24	10	13,757⅔	17	2
,, 14	64,112½	25	11	19,519½	24	5	9,672⅔	17	8
,, 21	51,957⅓	26	0	11,653½	24	9	7,460⅔	17	3
,, 28	70,006⅔	26	0	7,785½	25	2	11,101⅔	17	11
May 5	75,410¼	25	11	8,109½	25	3	8,058⅓	18	0
,, 12	82,109⅔	25	11	19,117¼	24	10	12,215⅔	17	11
,, 19	89,941⅓	25	7	5,638½	24	5	9,442	18	2
,, 26	95,571⅔	25	5	3,221½	23	11	7,357⅔	18	2
June 2	68,096⅔	25	5	1,757⅔	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9	64,715⅔	25	3	99	23	8	6,653⅔	18	8
,, 16	59,340⅔	25	6	1,185½	23	8	7,348⅔	18	11
,, 23	54,344½	25	9	1,331⅔	23	5	5,344⅓	18	11
,, 30	44,920⅔	26	11	465⅔	23	4	4,766	19	0
July 7	31,344½	27	10	486⅔	22	10	4,351⅓	19	3
,, 14	22,000⅔	28	7	910⅔	23	2	2,911⅔	19	1
,, 21	26,710⅔	29	0	766⅔	23	5	3,771½	19	3
,, 28	33,088⅔	29	3	194½	24	4	3,335⅔	19	9
Aug. 4	45,748⅔	28	10	499	23	10	3,463⅔	19	4
,, 11	37,844⅔	28	7	311½	23	7	3,391	19	8
,, 18	32,812⅔	28	10	695⅔	23	3	3,593⅓	19	11
,, 25	26,497⅔	28	10	787⅔	24	10	5,319½	18	5

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890 ..	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891 ..	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892 ..	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893 ..	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894 ..	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895 ..	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896 ..	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897 ..	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898 ..	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899 ..	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900 Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	..	..	..
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	..	..	..
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Aug. 25th, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	26,427½ qrs.	28s. 10d.
Barley	787⅔ qrs.	24s. 10d.
Oats	5,349¼ qrs.	18s. 8d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Aug. 25, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

Years.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	59,040½	22	5	5,911½	21	10	9,684½	13	7
1897....	51,537⅔	31	8	674⅔	22	5	6,807⅔	17	1
1898....	15,892⅔	30	7	302⅔	27	6	4,178½	19	3
1899....	34,523½	24	7	1,594½	26	5	9,205⅔	17	1

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 21st, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	3,230	5	4,803	4	9	1	9	9
Barley	444	2	549	16	6	1	4	9
Oats	816	3	737	1	3	0	18	1

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICE CHANGES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1899.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 26	6	(per sack)	23	6
,, 4	,, 26	0	,,	23	0
,, 25	,, 26	6	,,	23	6
October 2	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
November 20	,, 26	6	,,	23	6
,, 27	,, 26	0	,,	23	0
December 11	,, 25	6	,,	22	6
,, 18	,, 26	0	,,	23	0
May 14	,, 25	6	,,	22	6
June 18	,, 26	0	,,	23	0
,, 20	,, 26	6	,,	23	6
,, 25	,, 28	6	,,	25	6
,, 27	,, 29	6	,,	26	6
July 2	,, 29	0	,,	25	6
,, 16	,, 28	6	,,	25	6
,, 23	,, 28	0	,,	25	0
August 13	,, 28	6	,,	25	6

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

		s.	d.
January 1, 1900	(per sack)	28	0
April 2	,,	27	6
June 20	,,	27	0
,, 27	,,	30	0
July 4	,,	30	0

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(*Sacks of 280lb. ex mill or cash.*)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	24	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb.	25	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	0	18	4½	21	6	23	4½
March	24	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April	24	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May	24	3	22	3	30	7	23	7	19	0	19	4½	18	6	23	1½
June	23	6	23	1	30	0	22	7	18	10	22	3	18	10½	22	0
July	24	6	24	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August	..	..	24	1	29	6	22	8	18	4½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept.	..	..	22	9	26	5	20	3	19	6	19	4	19	3	22	4
Oct.	..	..	23	3	26	1	20	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov.	..	..	22	3	25	9	20	1	25	3	18	4½	18	3	21	1½
Dec.	..	..	21	9	24	3	20	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..	..	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	4½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.*)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	25	2	29	0	35	7	30	5	19	7	19	4½	31	7		
Feb.	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	20	2	27	10½	27	5		
March	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	20	0	27	5	29	1		
April	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	28	9½	29	7
May	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	5	28	10	25	7½	30	4½
July	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August	..	..	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept.	..	..	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0	27	3	28	5
Oct.	..	..	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov.	..	..	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	5	26	0	26	11½
Dec.	..	..	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	1½	27	11
Yearly Average	..	..	26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	239,000	119,000	322,000	1,000	32,000
Russia	147,000	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	257,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary ..	—	[illegible]	—	—	—
Roumania	124,000	—	7,000	1,000	—
Argentina	102,000	—	[illegible]	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	—	[illegible]	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ..	20,000	[illegible]	20,000	[illegible]	10,000
Total	632,000	139,000	468,000	221,000	299,000

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—The supplies this morning were heavier, and the trade again ruled slow, prices being lower. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s; Boston, 2s to 2s 4d; Surrey, 3s to 3s 9d; Sussex, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Welsh, 1s 8d to 2s; Irish, 1s 6d to 1s 10d; ducklings, 4s 6d to 6s; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s; feathered, 8d to 11d; Egyptian quail, 1½d to 1s 3½; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 6d to 3s; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; wild rabbits, 8d to 10d; tame, 1s to 1s 3d each; Australian, 7s 6d to 9s per dozen; hares, 3s to 3s 6d; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s 6d each; young grouse, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; old, 2s 9d to 3s per brace. Venison, haunches, 15s to 18s each; ditto forequarters, 3d per lb.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: The speculative demand has further improved, and with some local buying and firm cables, there is a better feeling with some advance in quotations. Hams are more freely offered, and values, especially of short cut, are easier. Lard is in moderate request, but prices are well maintained. Pork rules firm, with fair enquiry. We quote finest prime mess, 68s to 72s [illegible] The demand has been moderate, and with slightly easier cables, holders have shown some disposition to meet buyers. We quote to-day: Finest cool Canadian, coloured, 52s to 53s; white, 51s 6d to 52s 6d; finest States, coloured, 51s 6d to 52s 6d; white, 51s to 52s. Second grades sell fairly well from 45s to 50s, but there is only a small enquiry for lower qualities, offering from 22s to 38s per cwt. Butter rules firm, but the demand is disappointing for both Canadian and States, which would seem to be special value against Continental and Irish produce.—HODGSON BROTHERS.

HOPS.

Canterbury. Saturday. [illegible] during the past week has [illegible] comes. Most [illegible] reason to very the expectations [illegible] quality, however, may prove [illegible]

Worcester. Saturday.—[illegible] stocks, and [illegible] as the probability [illegible] apparent. The [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Autumnal rather than summerlike, the weather of the past week has been highly favourable to harvest work wherever the rain kept off. The temperature being mild and equable long days of hard work have been possible, and in such cases the fields have changed from corn to stubble like magic. Folk who have been away for a fortnight's holiday from rural parishes have often left before a field was cut and returned to find the farmer's chief work of the year practically concluded. While this has been the case in a great many parishes there have been many others where frequently recurrent rains have hindered the carrying of the crops in the most vexatious manner. In London we have had heavier rain than has been at all agreeable, but the Thames valley has been rather a stricken area in this respect, and that great granary of England which lies north-east of London, from the Essex and Hertford borders to Lincolnshire and the Fens, has had substantially better weather than Middlesex. The north is making good progress with wheat cutting, but both barley and oats are decidedly backward and want more sun. The weather between the Humber and the Firth of Forth has been fair, but in Scotland beyond the Firth and in Ireland the wet and windy weather has been very bad for the crops. The situation is very "mixed," and the markets vary with the daily weather reports. On the whole they are firmer from the 18th and 20th. Some new barley made its first appearance at Mark Lane on the 22nd, and fetched the by no means startling opening price of 30s. per qr. On the 24th a finer sample made 31s., but two others were sold for 27s. and 28s. respectively. These are not very hopeful quotations for new crop.

The Italian wheat harvest is now officially estimated at some 15,650,000 qrs., so that imports of 4,350,000 qrs. will be required, and not 3,500,000 qrs., as was estimated in July. The crops of Central Europe are up to expectation, but French wheat threshings are seldom giving more than sixteen bushels to the acre, and weight is very irregular. Russia reports an average but by no means a bumper crop of wheat.

In the United States the winter wheat threshings continue to give satisfactory results, and the spring wheat, though a small crop, has at least been secured in fine weather. In Canada and Manitoba the harvest has been got in without frost, a good item of news from a country where frosts from 15th to the end of August have before this blighted the year's grain yields.

The Canadian oats should be good this season, but wheat is below an average not only in the older provinces, but also in Manitoba. South America, where the season is early spring, reports flooding rains over an enormous area. August has still a few days to run, but receipts of breadstuffs into the capital have already been 602,000 qrs., against estimated requirements of about 465,000 qrs. for the entire month. This is a clear cause of the London market finding advance difficult.

The imports into the whole country of foreign breadstuffs have been fairly liberal, but August deliveries of English wheat being always scanty, the total supply of breadstuffs has fallen below estimated requirements by 43,000 qrs.

	Qrs.
Foreign wheat	283,000
„ flour	168,009
Imports	451,000
English wheat	73,000
Total supply	524,000

Stocks in granary have undergone the following change :—

	Qrs.
August 18	2,390,000
Excess of requirements	43,000
August 25	2,347,000

The imports of spring corn for the week are :—

	Qrs.
Maize	280,000
Barley	65,000
Oats	184,000
Beans	8,000
Peas	2,000

Prices of wheat at three leading markets thus compare :

	London. s. d.	Paris. s. d.	New York. s. d.
August 24, 1900	—	34 10	27 3
„ 1899	24 7	34 4	27 3
„ 1898	32 7	38 10	26 3

Prices in 1898 favoured shipments from America to England, but a year ago this was not the case. At the present moment the trade with America is difficult, as the margin is not sufficient to render profit safe.

There were, on the 25th inst., the following estimated quantities of wheat on passage to the United Kingdom :—

	Qrs.
Californian	915,000
Argentine	440,000
American	430,000
Australasian	190,000
Russian	40,000
Other countries	20,000
Total	2,035,000

As compared with previous seasons, figures are:—

	Qrs.
August 25, 1900	2,035,000
„ 1899	1,980,000
„ 1898	1,208,000
„ 1897	835,000
„ 1896	1,205,000
„ 1895	2,500,000

Of spring corn the following are the estimated quantities on passage :—

	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Beans. Qrs.
1900	695,000	165,000	9,000
1899	860,000	235,000	13,000
1898	687,000	127,000	7,000
1897	740,000	371,000	12,000

The following quantities, in cwts., are also on passage. They are of articles concerning which advices are by no means regular :—

	Cwts.
Poppyseed	14,000
Cottonseed	25,000
Sesame	4,050
Rye	26,500

Very little is doing in imported barley, and the Russian new crop is held back. The samples of Persian offered at Mark Lane fetch 18s. or thereabouts, while Liverpool can boast the novelty of Mexican barley at 23s. to 24s. per qr. The trade in maize has been excellent and the steady sale of this staple in all months and seasons will probably be regarded as the most remarkable corn trade occurrence of the final *lustrum* of the century. The sales for the year ending on 31st will not be accurately known for a week or so, but 13½ million qrs. is already indicated. The American flat maize continues to predominate over the yellow corn of La Plata and the round corn of the East. Oats are in good supply from Russia, but America and Sweden are poor shippers just now, and the total is therefore kept from becoming excessive; value is a trifle firmer on the week. Some new English oats at local markets have made 17s. 6d. to 19s. per qr. Linseed at several places is 1s. dearer on the week, but Roumanian shipments of rapeseed stop that type of oilseed advancing in value.

THE BALTIC.

Sales of arrived cargoes during the week have included Californian wheat at 30s. 1½d., Walla Walla at 29s. 9d. and 29s. (three cargoes at the better price), 29s. 3d. Argentine, and 27s. 3d. hard winter. Cargoes on passage have made 28s. 9d. for Walla Walla wheat, 30s. 6d. for Californian, and 28s. 9d. for Argentine, 18s. 6d. for American maize, 20s. 6d. and 21s. for La Plata, and 24s. 6d. for Odessa, 18s. 9d. for South Russian barley, 24s. 4½d. for Guza, and 26s. 9d. for Californian, 28s. for Barbary beans, 54s. for Calcutta linseed, 22s. for Syrian dari, 26s. for Canadian buckwheat, and 40s. for Tangiers canaryseed—the last a "parcel" or consignment by a steamer engaged in another trade. Sales of futures—that is to say, of cargoes for September, October, November, and December shipment—have been as follows :—

	Sept. s. d.	Oct. s. d.	Nov. s. d.	Dec. s. d.
Manitoba wheat	31 9	—	—	—
Best Duluth wheat	31 6	31 9	—	—
No. 2 red winter wheat	28 9	29 0	—	—
Hard winter wheat	27 3	—	—	—
No. 1 Northern wheat	30 9	—	—	—
Odessa maize	24 6	25 0	—	—
American maize	19 0	19 3	19 6	—
Canadian peas	27 3	27 3	—	—
Russian barley	18 0	18 0	17 9	—
No. 2 clipped oats	14 10½	15 0	14 9	—
Argentine linseed	52 0	51 0	—	48 0

It will be seen that there is little buying for remote futures in any branch of the trade.

Arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 18 wheat (1 Bahia Blanca, 3 Buenos Ayres, 1 Melbourne, 3 Oregon, 3 Rosario, 5 San Francisco, 1 Tacoma, 1 Wallaroo); 1 wheat and peas (New Zealand); 1 beans (Saffi); total, 20.

The sailings of grain and seed laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 7 wheat (1 Birkenhead, 3 Hull, 2 Limerick, 1 Sunderland); total, 7.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been 243 wheat, 13 wheat and barley, 1 wheat and peas, 6 flour, 10 maize, 1 maize and oats, 23 barley, 15 beans, 7 locust beans, 1 linseed, 2 canary-seed, 5 valonea; total, 327.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 210 wheat, 10 flour, 3 maize, 6 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 6 beans, 1 locust beans, 5 linseed, 4 canary-seed, and 7 valonea; total, 254.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was decidedly firmer, and all sorts of grain were held with confidence for rather more money than formerly. New English red makes 29s. for Essex and 30s. for Norfolk. Some fine new white from Kent makes 31s. 6d. per qr. The old wheat seasoned and dry is seldom parted with under 31s. per qr. Supplies of both sorts are small and the weather is against deliveries. A few samples of new malting barley are held for 30s. with buyers at 29s. per qr. There are a few buyers of Persian feeding at 18s. to 18s. 6d., and of Californian brewing at about 27s. per qr. New winter oats from Cambridgeshire are on offer at 18s. 6d. A sample or two of spring oats of the ordinary crop from Lincolnshire are quoted 18s. per qr. The price of foreign oats is well maintained, and American tend in sellers' favour. Maize is strong, 9d. up on the week for flat, and 6d. for other kinds. Beans and peas are steady at full rates Linseed is 1s. dearer on the week. Rapeseed is a fair trade, new Roumanian looked after. A sample or two of new rye is offered at 28s.; fine new winter tares make 58s. per 504lb.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

AUG. 27, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	31	— 33
Red	„	30	— 32
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30	— 37
Brewing	„	25	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	„	36	— 38
Brown	„	29	— 32
OATS, English	„	19	— 23
Scotch	„	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 19
RYE, British (new)	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 28
„ (old)	„	24	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	„	43	— 45
„ Winter	„	30	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
„ Blue (boiling)	„	68	— 76
„ Dun	„	32	— 34
„ Maple	„	40	— 42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	33/6	— 34
American Spring	33	— 33/6
Hard Manitoba	33	— 33/6
Red Winter	30/6	— 31
Kansas	30	— 30/6
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30	— 31
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 31
Argentine	28	— 31
Danzig	33	— 34
Saxonka	32	— 33
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Persian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480lb. :		
Cinquantina	25	— 26
Roumanian	24	— 25
Russian	23	— 25
Caucasian	22/3	— 23
Argentine	21/6	— 22
American	19/9	— 20
OATS :		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	16	— 17
American (34lb.)		
„ White	16	— 17
„ Mixed	15	— 16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	— 17
„ (304lb.)	14	— 15
Libau, white (304lb.)	13	—13/9
„ black „	15	—15/3
White Sea (304 lb.)	14	—14/6
BEANS, per 480lb. :		
Egyptian	30	— 31
Smyrna	27	— 29

	s.	s.
BEANS (*continued*).		
Konigsberg	28	— 29
Barbary	27	— 28
Mexican	28	— 30
LOCUST BEANS, per ton :		
Cyprian	106	— 112
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Canadian, White	29	— 30
Indian, White	28	— 30
„ Green	25	— 27
Barbary	26	— 28
Australian, White	40	— 41
„ Dun	26	— 27
LENTILS, per 504 lb. :		
Egyptian	31	— 33
Indian	36	— 38
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	26	— 27
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb. :		
French	28	— 29
Russian	25	— 26
BARLEY :		
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 82
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Syrian (400 lb.)	25	— 22
Persian (400 lb.)	17/9	—17
American (400 lb.)	20/2	—21
MALT, per 336 lb. :		
Californian	34	— 37
Smyrna	33	— 36

OIL SEEDS

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	58	to 60
Dutch	55	to 56
Argentine	54	to 56
Canadian	57	to 59
Russian	54	to 56
Calcutta	54	to 55
SESAME. per 424lb.		
Bombay	50	to 52
Kurrachee	58	to 54
COTTON SEED. per ton.		
Egyptian	126	to 128

RAPESEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	56	to 60
Dutch	54	to 56
French	47	to 48
Roumanian	43	to 45
Cawnpore	46	to 47
Calcutta	43	to 44
Guzerat	48	to 49
Ferozepore	44	to 45
Ravison	29	to 31
POPPYSEED. per 377lb.		
Indian	47	to 48

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH A DECIDEDLY CONFIDENT FEELING.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Aug. 27.

The flour market was firm with 6d. advance asked on London and country makes of English, and paid for good country roller made of the old wheat crop. The American flour market was very firm. Pillsbury's best north-western flour is quoted 25s. 6d., at which price Gold Medal, Morrison's Superlative, and Star, may be quoted also. For Ceresota 26s. is asked. The demand is best for the finest patents. Good secondary American patents are fetching 19s. for Gilt Edge, 19s. 3d. for Nicollet, 19s. 9d. for Iron Duke, and 19s. 6d. for "Princess Royal." Bales of secondary American are not brisk. Kansas fine flour comes at 23s. for Dazzle. Australian fine flour made 23s. 6d. and was a good sale. Hungarian averages at the 30s., but is not in brisk demand.

LONDON FLOUR.		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)		— 30
Town Whites	,,		— 27
,, Households	,,		— 24
No 2.	,,		— 22
COUNTRY FLOUR.			
Best Patents	(per sack)	25	— 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23	— 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	21	— 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	20	— 21
FOREIGN FLOUR.			
Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	24	— 26
,, Second Patents	,,	22	— 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	24	— 25
,, Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Kansas Patents	,,	23	— 24
Cascadia	,,	24	—24/6
Canadian	,,	23	— 24
Hungarian	,,	28	— 31
French	,,	20	— 22
MEAL, &c.			
Whole Meal	(per ton)	178	—180
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	109	—111
Bran, London Broad	,,	97	—102
,, ,, Fine	,,	76	— 82
,, Country Flake	,,	106	—108
,, ,, Broad	,,	94	— 96
Pollard	,,	82	— 84
Fine Middlings	,,	110	—112
Coarse Middlings	,,	96	— 98
Oat Meal	,,	212	—272
Oat Flour	,,	337	—362
Maize Flour	,,	132	—134
Maize Meal	,,	114	—124
Maize Cones	,,	144	—150
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	98	—102
Pea Meal	,,	128	—158
Bean Meal	,,	152	—172
Rice Meal	,,	87	— 92

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day at South Sea House, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—	Aug.	Oct.	Dec.
	s. d.	s d.	s. d.
Aug. 20 noon	6 5	6 6	6 7
4 p.m.	6 5	6 6	6 7
Aug. 21 noon	6 5	6 6	6 7
4 p.m.	6 5	6 6	6 7
Aug. 22 noon	6 5	6 6	6 7
4 p.m.	6 5	6 6	6 7
Aug. 23 noon	6 5	6 6	6 7
4 p.m.	6 6	6 7	6 9
Aug. 24 noon	6 7	6 8	6 9
4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
Aug. 25 noon	6 6	6 8	6 9
To-day noon	6 7	6 8	6 9

Maize is quoted 4s. 1d. per cental for Sept., Oct., and Nov. delivery.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,441 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 10,202 bales bacon. The demand for bacon of all description having fallen off very considerably, prices have given way all round, more particularly on Danish, which was some 6s to 8s down from the top selling price of the previous week. Prices ranged :—Irish, 56s to 64s up to 70s; Danish, 50s to 62s up to 69s; Canadian, 54s to 60s up to 62s. The butter market was generally quiet and prices in most cases tended in buyers' favour. Danish, 110s to 120s; French, 96s to 110s; Irish, 98s to 112s; Canadian, 104s to 108s. Lard was quiet, prices unalterd.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday, 1 p.m.—The continuance of unfavourable weather and further bad reports from the English plantations have increased the firm tone of the market this morning. The Belgium quotations are much higher. Buyers are now offering 92½ to 95 francs for new hops, but sellers are very reserved.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: The low temperature is producing mould; how small the crop will finish it is not possible yet to tell, but it is now a certainty that England cannot grow half of last year's crop. The market is very firm; stocks are small.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Wheat arrivals moderate. Trade firm and prices 6d. per qr. higher. Flour 6d. per sack dearer. Maize 9d., barley and oats 3d. per qr. dearer.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Flour. A strong trade at 3d. to 6d. advance since last Monday.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

The market for milling offals remains unchanged at former prices.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Offals, demand quiet for present consumption; increased speculative inquiry; prices rather firmer. Weather showery.—GREENHILL BROS., Belfast, August 25.

Flour.—Wheat and flour have firmed up during the last few days with considerably more disposition for forward business. Prices, however, are 3d. to 6d. lower than a week ago. Grain.—Arrivals of corn are heavy, but price is firm owing to higher quotations for shipment. Beans, 3d. dearer. Canadian peas quiet on spot, but 1½d. higher for shipment. Oats, 3d. up. Oatmeal, steady. Mill stuffs.—Bran and thirds firm.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, August 25.

Wheat firm with a fair trade at about a 1d. per cental over Tuesday's prices. Flour a moderate trade at Tuesday's prices. Maize steady with a moderate consumptive demand at unchanged prices for mixed American. European and Plate in very small compass and firmly held at quotations. Barley slow for feeding, whilst malting has a fair demand for fine qualities, but without alteration in values. Beans are firm, and have a good inquiry at last market day's figures. Peas are very firm and 1d. per cental higher for white Canadians, other kinds unchanged. Oats are quiet for English, a 1d. decline for new. Foreign sorts are slow without change. Oatmeal, quiet trade at quotations. Oilcake has a fair demand for all kinds. Stead's linseed being the turn dearer.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, August 25.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

American wheat and maize cargoes for September shipment may be quoted 3d. dearer from Saturday. Other wheat and maize cargoes are well held but not quotably dearer. For cargoes of Russian barley, new crop, late autumn shipment, 3d. advance is obtained. At present there are no changes in oats or oilseeds, but the tone is strengthening.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—No. 1 Northern, 30s 9d, September shipment; Duluth, 32s 3d, Dec. shipment; Hard Winter, 27s 7½d, Sept. shipment; No. 2 Red Winter, 29s 6d, Sept. shipment; Argentine, 29s, Sept. shipment; Californian, 30s 6d, Sept. shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 20s 9d, Sept. shipment; American, 19s 9d, Sept. shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 19s 3d, October shipment; Persian, 17s 6d, on passage.

OATS.—Vologda, 14s, September shipment; Canadian, 15s 3d, September shipment.

BEANS.—Egyptian, 28s 3d, September shipment; Smyrna, 27s 9d, September shipment.

LINSEED.—Libau, 49s, November shipment; Argentine, 48s; December shipment.

RAPESEED.—Guzerat, 43s 6d, April shipment; Roumanian, 41s 9d, September shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 3s 9d, November shipment.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—Market 2s 6d up; very little foreign cake left. Decorticated cotton cake scarce, and 2s 6d dearer. Egyptian and London made firm. Linseed steady.

English linseed cake	£8	0	0 to	8	2	6 ex mill
American Calcutta linseed cake	7	16	3 to	—		ex quay
American Western linseed cake	7	12	6 to	—		ex quay
Russian oil cake	7	12	6 to	7	15	0 ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 p.c. oil)	—					ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	6	15	0 to	7	0	0 ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6	10	0	6	12	6 ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	4	7	6 to	—		ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4	5	0 to	—		ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4	10	0			on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	—			—		ex warehouse
American linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2	15	0 to	—		ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2	14	0 to	—		ex warehouse.
Dutch linseed in bags, per 416lb	3	4	0 to	—		ex warehouse.

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report an increasing business in cloverseed at substantially higher rates. American cables meantime describe strong and advancing markets; whilst Germany continues to buy English seed. Trifolium is in somewhat improved request. Alsyke, white, and trefoil are firmly held, and Italian rye grass still tends upwards. Mustard and rapeseed keep steady in value. There is a fair sale for new thousand-headed kale. As regards canaryseed, a further rise of 2s per qr has to be noted; whilst full prices are quoted for millet, niger, sunflower, hemp, and maw seeds. The new blue peas now arriving attract attention. Haricot beans are scarce and firm.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, August 27th, 1900.

	British.	Total.	Aug. 20th, 1900.
Beasts	1,250	1,250	1,257
Sheep and lambs	6,170	6,170	6,800
Calves	—	—	10
Milch cows	50	50	60

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

	ENGLISH. Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	3 0 —	4 2 —	4 10
Sheep	3 4 —	5 4 —	6 0
Lambs	5 8 ..	6 0 ..	6 4

Milch cows, per head, £11 to £21 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, —; Eastern Counties, 41; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,209; Devon, 30; Ireland, 83.

There was to-day a small supply in the beast market, the majority as usual at this season of the year arriving from the Midland Counties, principally Herefords and Runts. Trade all round was of a sharper nature, rates being a shade firmer, and a clearance being made. Very few foreign cattle on the market. More demand for and a short supply of fat bulls, both of which sold to better advantage, all being probably sold before noon.

The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Aug. 28th, 1899.
Devons	4s 8d to 4s 9d ..	4s 6d to —
Herefords	4s 9d to 4s 10d ..	4s 5d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 9d to 4s 10d ..	4s 5d to —
Lincolns	4s 9d to 4s 9d —	3s 10d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 4d to 4s 6d ..	3s 10d to 4s 2d
Fat cows	3s 10d to 4s 0d ..	3s 4d to 3s 6d

The supply in the sheep market numbered 10 less than on Monday last, though there was an increase of nearly 700 from Ireland, the total from that country being 1,530, whilst 190 Scotch were shown, and 560 from the Eastern counties. Trade for wether sheep showed more life, with an upward tendency in value. Ewes also met with more inquiry, and were quoted at from 2d to 4d per 8lb dearer. The lamb trade was also firm at an advance of fully 2d per 8lb.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned :—

	To-day.	Aug. 28th, 1899.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d ..	5s 6d to 5s 8d
9-stone ditto	5s 9d to 5s 10d ..	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10-stone half-breds	5s 6d to 5s 8d ..	5s 2d to 5s 4d
11-stone Lincoln	5s 2d to 5s 4d ..	4s 9d to 4s 10d
10-stone Irish	5s 4d to 5s 6d ..	4s 8d to 4s 10d
10-stone Down ewes	4s 4d to 4s 6d ..	3s 9d to 3s 10d
11-stone half-bred ditto	3s 10d to 4s 0d ..	3s 2d to 3s 4d
5-stone Down lambs	6s 2d to 6s 4d ..	6s 0d to 6s 2d
6-stone half-bred ditto	5s 10d to 6s 0d ..	5s 4d to 5s 6d

London Central, Monday. — Good supplies; trade slow. Beef (carcasses), 3s 8d to 4s; hindquarters, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; roastings, 4s 8d to 5s 2d. Sheep: Ewe, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; wether, 4s 8d to 5s; hindquarters, ewe, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wether, 5s 6d to 5s 10d. Pigs: Large, 3s to 3s 4d; small, 3s 6d to 4s.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 402; sheep and lambs, 2,223; pigs 306; horses, 130; beef, 7s to 8s; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d; lamb, 8s to 10s; pork, 6s to 7s. Fat and store cattle fair, fat and store sheep and pigs fair. Milch cows, good trade, £14 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 818. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 1,692 and consisted of 287 from the United States and 531 from Canada, which were held back on Saturday last. Owing to the firmer tone of the dead meat market trade here was steadier at an advance of fully 4d per 8lbs., as compared with Wednesday last. The best States beasts on offer to dress about 760lbs made from 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 8lb, offal given in. Heavy ditto 4s 3d. Best Canadians 4s 2d. Ranchers 3s 9d to 3s 11d. No sheep on the market. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates :—Beasts, 2,262, 4s 1d per 8lb; sheep, 4,669, 3s 10d per 8lb.

Liverpool, Monday. — Demand somewhat better for cattle, and last week's prices easily maintained. A rather better trade for sheep and lambs at generally late rates, but in some cases a few choice quality made more money. Beef, 7d to 5d per lb; mutton, 7¾d to 5d per lb; lambs, 8d to 5¾d per lb. At market: 1,013 cattle and 9,709 sheep.

CORK BUTTER.

—	ORDINARY. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	MILD CURED FIRKINS. Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	FIRKINS IN MARKET.
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	90	89	84	76	97	93	86	150
Tuesday ..	90	88	86	76	96	94	88	350
Wednesday ..	89	87	86	75	95	92	98	400
Thursday ..	88	87	85	74	95	91	98	340
Friday ..	88	87	85	76	95	91	97	481
Saturday ..	88	86	85	77	96	89	96	376

The American Apple Crop.

The following report as to the apple crop in America, Canada, and Nova Scotia has been issued by the National Apple Shippers' Association of America:—"From a careful and comprehensive review of all the information in our possession, it is our opinion that the coming apple crop of the United States, Canada, and Nova Scotia will be the largest of any crop within the history of the country. While certain apple-bearing sections of the United States report moderate and even large yields, the proportion of such to the whole is unimportant. The crop of New England, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania is very heavy as a whole. The central, western, southern, and south-western sections of States, while not reporting a generally full crop, all anticipate a moderate yield, while some have the promise of heavy yields in certain sections. The crop of the Provinces will be a full one, while Ontario and Nova Scotia expect the heaviest crops on record."

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The trade for fat beasts of best quality on Monday at Islington opened firm and steady, both in regard to tone and value, but for second quality, as well as for plain descriptions, it ruled extremely dull and dragging, with a marked downward tendency in prices, a clearance not being effected. For both fat butchering cows and bulls there was a slacker demand, with, however, no alteration in value, owing to very light supply, this remark applying to both market days. The majority of fat beasts consisted of Herefords and Lincoln Shorthorns, with a few Runts and Irish. At Deptford markets were again held on three days, trade ruling firm at a slight advance on Monday, with a rise of 2d. per 8lb. on Wednesday, with a similar advance on Saturday, this remark applying to both prime and second quality. Besides the below-mentioned numbers, 813 more were held back. The total offered for sale at both markets was 5,268, consisting of 1,220 British and 4,048 foreign, these latter comprising 2,341 from the United States and 1,707 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—90-stone Herefords, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 95-stone Runts, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.; 90-stone Irish, 4s. 6d.; 100-stone Waterfords, 4s. 3d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 2d.; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d. The trade for wether sheep at Islington, owing to a lighter supply, was firm in tone, with an upward tendency in values. On the other hand, ewes were not only lower in price, but more difficult to cash. There being good demand for lambs, these sold steadily at an advance of 2d. per 8lb. At Deptford the few sheep on offer made from 2d. to 4d. per 8lb. more money. The total number penned at both markets was 10,123, of which 9,470 were British and 653 Canadians. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 6s.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 11-stone Lincolns, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d.; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 3s. 10d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 2d.; 6-stone half-breds, 5s. 10d. The calf trade, with only seventy-five on offer, was firmer at an advance of 2d., the best on offer making 5s. 4d. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

One of the most encouraging features of the past week's operations has been the gradual hardening in values of nearly every kind of stock. Fat bullocks in some instances have gone up from 10s. to 20s. a head, whilst the improvement in mutton has been in a corresponding rate.

Trade in Ireland.

Thursday's market in Dublin was a large one, and the large supplies had the effect of causing a further depression of from 10s. to 20s. on last week's fall. Best cattle held the price pretty well, but inferior stock met with very slow sale, a number remaining over unsold. A special feature of the cattle market was that a representative of the firm of Messrs. Hicks, Oliver, and Co., of London and Liverpool, was present, and purchased a large number of choice heavy bullocks for shipment to St. Helena to feed the captive Boers. An average of £22 10s. was paid per head for them, and freight to St. Helena will cost from £8 to £10 per head. Prime heifer and ox beef made from 55s. to 60s. per cwt.; second quality from 50s. to 54s.; and inferior, 42s. to 45s. With close upon 12,000 sheep on offer, a dull market was inevitable, and with the exception of prime heifers a further fall of from 1s. to 2s. per head was to be noted. Choice fat lambs met with a good demand, but other sorts were hard to place, even at reduced rates. A poor lot of veal calves; anything choice made 7½d. per lb.; other sorts neglected. Milch cows in fair supply, and moderate demand at late rates. With a limited market of pigs, and a better attendance of buyers, trade was fairly brisk, without any advance in prices.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on the above for the current week:—The supplies of fat cattle have been very light all over this week, and the quality fair. An exceedingly good demand has been experienced, and trade has been in advance of last week, the best class of cattle making from 20s. to 30s. a head higher prices. Fat sheep and lambs have been forward in much shorter numbers; there has been a good trade, particularly for good shop sheep, at much similar rates to last week, any change favouring the seller. Fat calves have been about an average show, and continue to sell well, while a fair number of fat pigs have made high prices. In the store market there have been offered considerably larger supplies of sheep and lambs than last week, and the quality of a large proportion has only been secondary. For the best class a fair demand was met at about last week's rates, but owing to the excessively inclement weather there has been little demand for anything but the best, and trade has been dull. Smaller numbers of store cattle were offered, and these being of a fair class met a good inquiry, and were cleared out at about late prices. Milch cows were a good show, and met a fairly good demand. Quotations:—Top price best beef, 8s. 6d. to 9s. per stone; secondary, 8s. to 8s. 6d. per stone; mutton from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday. — Fair supplies; trade firmer. Arrivals of beef included 20 tons Scotch, 340 Liverpool sides, 1,600 hindquarters, and 700 forequarters American refrigerated. Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 6d, seconds, 3s to 3s 4d; forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 5d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; English wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; English lamb, 5s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Good supplies, and trade firm. Arrivals of beef included 50 tons Scotch, 630 Liverpool sides, 3,500 hindquarters, and 2,400 hindquarters American refrigerated. Beef: Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; seconds, 2s 10d to 3s 2d; forequarters, best, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; seconds, 2s to 2s 4d; New Zealand hindquarters, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 3d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; English wethers, 5s to 5s 2d; ewes, 3s 8d to 4s; Canterbury, 2s 2d to 2s 5d; Wellington, 2s 1d to 2s 3d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s to 2s 1d. Lamb: English, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; New Zealand, 2s 10d to 3s 2d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s 8d to 5s. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Only a small supply of beasts, being the same as on Thursday last, and as usual mainly comprised fat bulls and rough cattle. Trade was quiet, but about steady. Sheep entries were only moderate, but a very slow demand prevailed for both wethers and ewes, late prices, however, being without change, 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 10d to 6s; 9-stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. Lambs trade firmer; 5-stone fat Downs, 6s to 6s 4d; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 5s 10d. Calves met a fair demand, the best making 5s 4d to 5s 6d per 8lb to sink the offal. Total supplies: 30 beasts, 3,290 sheep and lambs, 70 calves, 60 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday —Trade was rather slow, and the number of stock low. Beef trade slightly better, the best making up to 12s per score. Cow beef at about 8s to 10s. Mutton about 2d per stone better all round. Choice Downs and half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 7d, while Kents fetched about 5s 2d to 5s 4d. Best veal dearer, making 6s per stone, but the ordinary qualities remained firm at 4s 8d to 5s. Lamb 5s 8d to 6s per stone, Pork cheaper. Best roasters, 9s 6d to 10s per score; hogs, 8s to 8s 6d per score; sows, 5s per score; small pigs from 12s to 13s a piece.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' saleyard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 36 fat beasts, 60 calves, 690 fat sheep and lambs, 81 pigs, and 78 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £15 to £22 5s; fat calves, 80s to £5 15s; small, 20s to 50s; fat wethers, 36s to 55s; fat ewes, 27s to 40s; lambs, 28s to 48s; fat porkers, 25s 6d to 55s; store pigs, up to 18s; dairy cows, up to £16 15s. For fat beasts there was a slower trade, without material change in values, best Devon steers making up to £22 15s; Shorthorn steers, £20 10s; heifers, £19 10s; and cows, up to £17. Best quality fat sheep and lambs were in good numbers and met a brisk trade, also a clearance made at prices nearly equal to last week's figures. For half-fat and inferior sheep and lambs there was less demand and prices were lower. Hants Down wethers and young ewes made 40s, 45s, 54s, 52s, 42s, 46s, 47s, 50s, 48s, 55s, 48s, 41s, 52s. Eight-months-old Hants Down lambs, 31s, 36s, 47s 6d, 48s, 39s 6d, 36s 6d, 43s 6d, 34s, 44s 6d, 35s, 40s, 41s. Southdown lambs, 35s 6d, 34s. Three-months-old sucking lambs, 30s 6d, 37s 6d, 33s, 31s, 28s, 32s. Old ewes, 39s 6d, 37s, 27s, 30s 6d, 40s, 39s, 36s, 38s 6d. Rams, 50s, 54s, 46s. Kent wethers, 53s. Blackface Scotch wethers, 31s 6d, 29s 6d, 25s 6d. With an average supply of dairy cattle on offer prices ruled a trifle better for the best descriptions of milches. Store cattle continue a slow business. Fat calves met a brisk trade at late rates. Fat porkers are shown in small numbers, selling readily at an advance. Store pigs were disposed of at satisfactory prices. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 7d to 7¼d per lb; ditto Shorthorn ditto, 6¼d to 6¾d per lb; cows, bulls, and inferior, 5d to 6d per lb. Best quality sheep, 8¾d to 9d; second ditto, 7¾d to 8d; old ewes rams, and inferior ditto, 6d to 7d; fat lambs, 9d to 10d per lb. Fat calves, 7d to 9d per lb. Porkers, up to 10s 6d per score.

Bedale, Tuesday.—The show of calving beasts was an average one, and trade was fair, at £14 to £20 and upwards for calving cows, calving heifers £13 to £16, geld beasts £9 to £12, and stirks £6 to £8 each.

Braintree, Wednesday.— There was a brisk trade at Messrs. Balls' auction mart. Prices: Beef, 4s; and mutton, 5s 6d per stone; pork, 10s 6d per score. Sharp demand for all classes of stock, but supply limited. Store lambs made good prices. Numbers penned: Beasts 16, fat sheep 200, hogs 54, Londoners and store pigs 230, calves 12, cows 4.

Brigg, Thursday.—With a meagre supply of horned stock and thin attendance not sufficient business was done to warrant any quotations.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under..	9s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in.	9s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	8s 3d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 47; sheep, 1,078; lambs, 173; pigs, 6. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 5s 4d to 6s; pork, 5s9d to 6s 9d. Very few store beasts. Fat beasts a good number to hand, and prices quite up to last week. Fat sheep, a good show, but not a brisk trade. Stores some very good lots of stock ewes and lambs, but trade rather slow. Fat pigs, short supply, and a brisk trade. Stores, a fair trade.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A good supply of old sheep and lambs evidenced a fair demand. One-lamb ewes realised 41s 6d; old sheep, 15s to 30s; fat lambs, 30s to 34s; strong stores, 20s to 25s, working lambs, 14s to 16s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday. The weather continuing so very wet, the supplies of Irish store cattle were small for the season, and consisted chiefly of heifers, including a number suitable for wintering purposes. Fair attendance, but trade slow, at no change in prices, which were quoted at from £6 10s to £8 10s for small specimens, and from £10 10s to £16 10s for forward examples. Bullocks up to £14 10s; small supply of pigs and slow sale at 15s to 16s.

Chester, Thursday.—Fair supplies of all descriptions of store stock, with slightly improved demand, especially for good dairy stock. Prices were again irregular, but on the whole firmer than last week, and a better tone prevailed throughout. Larger supplies of sheep: prices tended upwards. Quotations:—Milch cows, £14 to £21; calvers, £9 to £13; heifers, £5 to £14; stirks, £5 to £8; bullocks, £10 to £14; sheep, 22s to 26s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Rather a short supply of fat stock, but sufficient for the demand, trade being firm at late rates. A good many store sheep were penned, and there was a healthy tone about the business in this department, the recent improvement in feeding prospects bringing more buyers to the market. On the whole, prices showed a decidedly better tendency.

Colne, Wednesday.—A fair number of animals offered. Business was brisker at slightly improved rates. English calving beasts sold at £14 to £22 10s; geld beasts, £12 to £20; calving heifers, £14 to £18; cross breds, £8 to £12; bulls £10 £14 each. Beef, 5½d and 6d; mutton, 6½d and 7d; lamb, 7d and 7½d per lb.

Doncaster, Tuesday.—Only a poor supply of cattle and sheep, the former being rather inferior in quality. Prices a shade easier. Beef made 7s 6d to 8s 6d per stone. Ewe mutton, 5d to 6d; shearlings, 7d to 8d; and lambs, 8d to 9d per lb. Veal, 7d to 8d per lb.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Very small supplies and small attendance. Beef sold fairly well. Heifers and calves sold from £12 to £19 15s; cows and calves to £8 13s; barreners, £9 to £12 15s each; fat heifers from £15 to £22 5s Small supplies of sheep. Fat wethers sold from 46s to 50s; ewes, 44s to 52s 6d; crossbred lambs, 26s to 33s 6d.

Dublin, Thursday.—Practically no alteration in price of good cattle. Middling and inferior sorts more difficult to realise and prices still tending in favour of buyers. Slow, dragging trade for sheep and lambs. The very choicest qualities did not touch late rates, while middling and inferior were much lower, many lots remaining unsold. Cattle (best), 31s to 34s per cwt. Inferior descriptions back to 28s per cwt. Mutton, 5d to 7d per lb. Lambs, 11s to 34s each.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Beef in good demand at late rates. Horned bullocks made up to £15, polled bullocks to £15, Galloway heifers to £16, Galloway cows to £13, Ayrshire cows to £11, and Ayrshire bullocks to £16.

Driffield, Wednesday.—Only a medium show of beef. Trade, which opened fairly well, dropped towards the close. Best beef made 7s 3d to 7s 6d per stone. A fair trade in mutton, shearlings making up to 8lb per lb and ewes 7d to 7½d. There was not a large show of lambs, and prices varied from 29s to 42s per head.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Owing to bad weather there was a small attendance of buyers, stock selling at a disadvantage. Half-bred lambs sold to 26s, Cheviots to 24s, grey-faced to 32s, and half-breds to 40s. Bullocks made to £11 10s, stirks to £9 15s, shorthorn cows sold to £24 10s, crosses to £19. Irish £22, Ayrshire £19.

Gainsborough, Tuesday.—Fair show of calves, and moderate demand at 30s to 40s per head.

Gisburn, Wednesday.—Market rather thinly attended, and trade principally representing the English section, was about on an average

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Market well supplied, especially with secondary descriptions, and values for them were a trifle cheaper. Good qualities maintain their price. Top Scotch cattle, 69s per cwt; secondary, 60s; top Irish, 58s to 60s; top mutton, 8d to 8½d per lb; secondary, 7d to 7½d; lambs, 8d to 8½d per lb. Dead meat in fair request at late prices; best Scotch beef, 6d; States, 5½d; home cows, 5d per lb.

Hailsham, Wednesday. — Best beef, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; inferior ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 6d; prime mutton, 4s 8d to 5s 4d; inferior ditto, 4s to 5s; lamb, 6s to 6s 4d; veal 4s 8d to 5s 6d. Good average market; brisk trade everything being sold.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 349, calves 72, sheep 1,894, lambs 1,401, pigs (fat and sows) 7, sucking pigs 29, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 173, pigs (stores, more than ten) 134. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 9½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Beef a shade easier. Best quality 6¾d to 7d per lb, inferior about 6d. Calves, which varied much in quality, were selling well, the top price being about 7d to 7¼d per lb. A good deal of mutton was bought by weight. Wethers met with a brisker demand at 7½d to 8d, ewes about 5½d to 6½d per lb. Lambs sold pretty well at about 7d to 8d. Porkers went fairly at 5¾d to 6d. Trade for store pigs not so good. Store cattle trade dull.

Lancaster, Tuesday.—Heavy supplies of fat cattle, sheep, and lambs. Prices were in buyers' favour. There was an exceptionally good trade for calving cows, at £18 to £24. Good market for sheep and lambs and fat cattle. Fat heifers, 6¼d to 6¾d; cows, 5½d to 6d; veal calves, 6½d to 7d; shearlings, 8d to 8½d; lambs, 8d to 8½d; and ewes, 6d to 6½d per lb.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Consignments of grass-fed bullocks were larger, and came to hand in excellent condition. Buyers and dealers were well represented, and trade for prime qualities rather brisker, but inferior were neglected. Choice bullocks 6¼d to 6¾d; secondary 6d to 6¼d; cows, 5d to 5½d; heifers, 6¾d per lb. Sheep were a large supply, and sold freely at firm prices, choice wethers making 8d to 8¼d per lb; large sheep, 7d to 7½d; lambs, 8¾d per lb. Calves were flat at 7d to 7½d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—Improved deliveries of stock in good condition. Fair attendance of buyers and dealers. Trade steady. Bullocks, a dragging trade at £10 to £13 per head; milch cows, £16 to £22 each; calves and young stock, slow trade.

Lincoln, Tuesday.—Supply of horned stock was smaller than last week, but trade was steady. Good beef made 7s 6d to 8s, and lower qualities 6d to 7s 6d per stone. The number of sheep was about up to the average and demands were fairly numerous. Ewe mutton made 6½d to 7d, wether 8d to 8½d, and lambs 8d to 9d per lb.

Lincoln, Friday.—The improvement in the yeastage has caused practically no alteration in the price of horses. Many beasts fetch from £14 to £20, and to any strong beasts realised £8 to £12, and yearlings £5 to £8 each. No three-year-olds were on offer. A fair number of sheep were penned and met with a moderate demand; drape ewes realised from 35s to 43s; and lambs, 17s to 30s; no game is worth shown. Pigs were stocked in large numbers and found purchasers. Stores at 20s to 22s, and suckers from 16s to 19s each.

Malton, Tuesday. — Not a very heavy show of stock, but a fair attendance of buyers. All classes of beef were in demand, and slightly exceeded last week's quotations. Cows were scarce and dear, making fully 5d per lb. Best lambs sold. Good butter beef sold and other classes as per stone. Heavy sheep were quiet. Good pig sold from 6½d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday. — Market quiet; prices have. Numbers of cattle, 1,841; sheep and lambs, 6,0[illegible] calves, 50; pigs, 360. Prices: Sinking the offal, [illegible] beef, 6s to 7s 9d per stone; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 8½d; veal, 5d to 8d per lb.

Norwich Saturday.—The supply of store cattle showed some increase here to-day. There was more inquiry, fresh arrivals having prepared keep prospects. Fat trade was generally

firm. The supply of fat beasts was moderate. Prices showed a good tone at 7s 6d to 7s 9d and 8s per 14lb. The supply of store sheep was somewhat reduced. Lambs were in rather better demand at 22s to 33s per head, while keeping shearlings brought 40s to 46s per head. Fat sheep made 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—A very fair supply. Best beef sold at 7s 9d to 8s per stone, best mutton at 8d to 8½d per lb, ewes at 6d, lambs 8d to 8½d, and calves 7½d to 8d.

Penistone, Thursday.—Good attendance, and a capital supply of cattle, both dairy and laying off. There was a good demand for the former. Best milk beasts made £18 to £21; second, £16 to £17; third, £12 to £15; heifers, £12 to £14: and calves, 18s to 26s each. Two pens of lambs on offer at 26s each.

Preston, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, and good supplies, but trade was quiet owing to local holidays. Prices were practically unaltered from last week. Beef, heifers and bullocks, 6½d to 7d; cows and bulls, 5½d to 6d. Mutton, hoggs, 7½d to 8d; tups and ewes, 5½d to 7d; lambs, 8d to 8½d; calves, 5½d to 6½d per lb. At market—172 cattle, 1,960 sheep, and 80 calves.

Romford, Wednesday.—Trade about the same, the supply being good. Best fat beasts made 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone, and middlings 4s to 4s 2d; calves, 4s 10d to 5s; best sheep 5s 6d to 5s 8d, middlings 5s to 5s 2d; lambs 6s to 6s 2d; small porkers 3s 8d to 4s; large hogs, 2s 8d to 3s.

St. Ives, Monday.—The number of stock entered at this market was:—Beasts, 375; sheep and lambs, 2,022; pigs, 316. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s 3d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 11d; lamb, 8s to 10s; pork, 6s to 7s. Fat beasts, sheep, and pigs, good demand; stores fair. Milch cows good trade; for best prices £13 to £23.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The show of milch beasts was only small, but sufficient to meet the demand, best qualities making from £18 to £23; poorer, from £13 to £15.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A very fair show of both cattle and sheep, with an improving trade. The best beef made fully 8s a stone, and mutton 8d a pound. A better trade for store beasts, and trade for lambs showed a marked improvement.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Numbers on offer, 206 cattle, 2 calves, 323 sheep, and 150 lambs. A small show of best cattle, with a slow trade. Best sorts made 8s to 8s 3d per stone, and rougher kinds 7s to 7s 6d. Young sheep made 8½d per lb, lambs 8½d to 9d, ewes 6d and 7d, and tups about 5d.

Taunton, Saturday.—Moderate supply, fairly good attendance, and rather quiet trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—The good prices that have been realised of late helped to swell the market, and there was again a very full supply of stock of all descriptions, but the trade was not so fast as last week, although the best quality met with a good demand. Mr. Bond had a large supply, his entries comprising 121 fat beasts, 19 down calving heifers and cows and calves, 545 fat sheep and lambs and stores, 64 fat and weaning calves, and 129 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £17 to £23 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £20; down calving heifers, £14 to £17 10s; fat wethers, 45s to 61s 6d; fat ewes, 35s to 49s 6d; fat lambs, 31s to 42s 6d; store lambs, 24s to 30s; fat calves, £3 to £5 1s; cow calves, 24s to 60s; bull calves, 22s to 48s; fat pigs, 9s 6d per score. Stores a better trade.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—A quiet tone prevailed at our market to-day. Beef made from 5d to 6½d per lb. Small sheep, 8d to 8½d per lb; other qualities, 4½d to 7½d; lambs, 8½d to 9d. Numbers at market:—Beasts, 1,366; sheep and lambs, 3,284.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—There is again a slow trade in all departments. Choice beef makes up to 6½d as top price; nice small sheep from 8d to 8½d in some exceptional instances, good strong sheep 7d to 7½d, ewes 6d per lb. Beasts penned 1,366, sheep 3,284.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Moderate supply; fair trade. Quotations: Herefords, 6½d to 7½d; shorthorns, 6½d to 6¾d; calves, 7d; wether mutton, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d; lambs, 7½d to 8d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 6d; porkets, 9s 6d to 9s 9d; sows, 7s to 7s 6d per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Small supplies and fair trade for cattle at late rates. Mutton firm, without much demand. Calves made full prices. Store trade quiet. Beef, 7d to 8d; inferior, 5d to 6d; wether mutton, 7d to 8d; ewes, 5d to 6d; and veal, 7d to 8d per lb.

York, Thursday.—The show of store cattle was only moderate, but buyers were scarce, and the offer was quite equal to the demand. Fresh three-year-old bullocks were most inquired for, and made up to £15, two-year-olds £10 to £11 10s, and stirks £6 to £8 each. Calving and milch cows were only a moderate trade, and barely maintained late rates, varying from about £15 to £22 10s for the best. This was the first of the large lamb fairs of the season, and a large number were penned, but trade was slow. North-country shearling sheep realised 38s to 46s; Mashams, 37s to 43s; twice crossed, up to 40s; North-country lambs, 26s to 32s; South-country, 26s to 34s 6d; Mashams, 18s to 24s; and twice crossed, up to 28s each.

York, Friday.—Calves, 7½d to 8d per lb; small sheep, 8½d ditto; large sheep, 8d ditto; ewes, 7d ditto; lamb, 9d ditto; small pork pigs, 6s 3d to 6s 6d per stone; large pork pigs, 5s 6d to 6s ditto.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Thursday.—Beast entries totalled 1,161, this being 186 head less than shown on Wednesday last, and comprised 521 United States and 640 Canadian. Trade ruled steady at 4s to 4s 2d for the former, and 3s 6d to 3s 8d for the latter, per 8lb, to sink the offal. No sheep were offered.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 13 for 1s. Gainsborough, 14 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 10s to 11s per 120; Irish, 8s to 9s 6d; Danish, 7s 9d to 9s 3d, Austrian blues, 6s 6d to 7s; ditto reds, 5s 7d to 5s 10d. Settle: 12 to 13 for 1s. Sheffield: 12 to 13 for 1s. Spalding: 13 and 14 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 10 and 11 for 1s. Boston: 13 and 16 for 1s. Colne: 1s 7d per score. Goole: 13 for 1s. Hereford: 13 to 14 for 1s. Keighley, 10 to 11 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 13 and 14 for 1s. Knaresborough: 10 to 11 for 1s. Market Drayton: 12 to 13 for 1s. Market Weighton: 13 to 16 for 1s. Masham: 13 and 14 for 1s. Northallerton: 12 to 13 for 1s. Stockton: 10 to 11 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per score. Whitby: 11 or 12 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 10d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 13 to 14 for 1s. Driffield: 14 for 1s. Penistone: 12 for 1s. Ripon: 11 to 12 for 1s. Scarborough: 9 or 10 for 1s. Wetherby: 11 and 12 for 1s.

Friday.—Derby: 11 for 1s. Chester: 12 for 1s. Crewe: 12 for 1s. Easingwold: 13 and 14 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian: 5s 9d to 6s 10d per 120; Russian, 6s 6d to 7s.; Danish, 8s to 9s 2d. Leeds: Yorkshire, 10s to 11s per 120; Irish, 8s to 9s 6d; Danish, 7s 9d to 9s 3d; Austrian blues, 6s 6d to 7s; ditto reds, 5s 7d to 5s 10d. Leyburn: 12 or 13 for 1s. Lincoln: 13 for 1s. Otley: 12 or 13 for 1s. Nantwich: 12 for 1s. Stockport: 10 and 11 for 1s. Stratford-on-Avon: 1s 6d to 1s 9d per score. Whitchurch: 12 and 13 for 1s.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 5d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 1d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 120s to 126s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 112s to 116s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls, 14lb, 1s 9d to 2s; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d per lb. Settle: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Spalding: 1s 1d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Boston: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Colne: 1s 1½d per lb. Goole: 1s 3d per lb. Keighley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Knaresborough: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz. Hereford: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per lb. Market Drayton: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s 1d per lb. Masham: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Driffield: 1s 1d per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d per lb. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per roll of 26oz. Scarborough: 1s 6d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Friday.—Derby: 1s 2d per lb. Easingwold: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Grimsby: Choicest Danish, 122s to 124s (per 11 lb); Dutch, 115s to 116s; Canadian 106s to 110s per cwt. Helmsley: 1s per lb. Leeds: Danish, 120s to 126s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 112s to 116s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls 1½lb, 1s 9d to 2s; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Otley: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Sandbach: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Stratford-on-Avon: 10d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitchurch: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—The shipments from Calcutta and La Plata last week were nil. This has caused the market to harden, and prices have advanced, especially for forward positions. Linseed cakes continue steady. London made £7 17s 6d, to £8 2s 6d. Russian, £7 10s to £7 15s ex dock. American Westerns, at £7 10s to £7 15s; Cotton cakes continue steady. London made, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d. Rapeseed is firm, but not very active. Cottonseed firm but inactive.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS, COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—Supplies continue to come along very slowly in consequence of the high rates asked by shippers, and with only small stocks values are, if anything, the turn dearer. At the same time buyers are not willing to operate far ahead at present prices. Russians are firmly held at a slight advance. Americans remain scarce, but are still obtainable in limited quantity at last week's prices. English find a better inquiry, being relatively cheap at last Monday's quotations. Cotton cakes.—With a slightly improved demand and the prospect of light shipments during the next week or two, holders are inclined to raise prices. Egyptians and English sell freely at the full prices of last week. Decorticated.—Stocks are nearly exhausted, and needy buyers are compelled to pay Monday's prices, while a steamer parcel of very bright meal just arrived may be bought at the turn cheaper. Rape cakes unaltered. Maize germ meal.—Landed parcels of American are unchanged, while 2s 6d per ton less money has been paid in near positions. English is in good request at the turn dearer. Rice meal.—Rangoon in warehouse moves off quietly at last week's quotation, while in forward positions 1s 3d per ton less money would be accepted.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... per ton ex mill	7 17 6	to	8 0 0
American in bags ..... ex dock	7 12 6	„	7 15 0
Russian in mats ..... „	7 11 3	„	7 12 6
Russian in bags ..... „	7 13 9	„	7 15 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	4 6 3	„	4 8 9
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 5 0	„	4 7 6
„ „ Nov.-April shipment	4 8 9	„	4 10 0
Decorticated ..... „	6 15 6	„	6 17 6
Meal, on spot ..... „	6 7 6	„	6 10 0
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 10 0	„	—
Ravison ..... „	4 7 6		—
Nutted, in bags ..... „	4 12 6		—
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American) ..... ex dock	—	„	5 2 6
Germ meal (American) ..... c.i.f.	5 0 0	„	—
„ (English) ..... ex mill	5 1 3	„	5 2 6
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	—	„	4 7 6
Rangoon, July-August ..... ex ship	—	„	4 3 9

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—To-day the trade for home-grown wheat is steady, at last week's prices: Foreign, downward tendency, being 3d per qr lower than last Tuesday. Barley firm, at fully late rates. Oats maintain last week's prices. Beans quite as dear. American maize unaltered, Odessa corn 6d per qr dearer, from scarcity. Linseed is in good demand, and a substantial rise in price has been established during the week. Cottonseed.—The improvement reported in our last issue continued during last week. Hemp.—Market firm; inactive.—KEIGHLEY MANSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 15s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 17s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 15s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 10s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per pack of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb: Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7d to 1s 7½d; scoured average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; South Australian, greasy average, 6¾d to 7d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 4½d to 1s 5½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; Cape, scoured superior, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; fleece average, 8d to 9d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 7½d to 7¾d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 10d to 1s; New Zealand, fine, 9d to 10d; ditto medium, 7¾d to 8½d; ditto coarse, 6d to 7d.

Bradford, Thursday.—Business slow in the wool market, though the tone generally is steady. Perhaps strong crossbreds are even better to sell. Top makers are at any rate asking for a slight advance. In English the only wools in strong position are bright hoggs. The yarn trade shows rather more steadiness in prices, and possibly a little more business. In piece trade prices are running down.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade continues dull at the prices lately current—viz., Kent fleeces, 6d; lamb wool, 4d to 6d; Downs, 8d to 10d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—Improved tone in wool, but volume of business not large, the better home-grown produce in very fair demand, and values all round are steady. Inferior classes difficult to sell, even at low rates. In yarns the workpeople are fully employed in keeping pace with the demand under old and new contracts.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Vegetables [illegible] supply, but sold steadily. Potato trade quiet. Fair supplies of fruit were offered, and cleared [illegible]. Greenstuffs: Cabbages, 2s to 4s, marrows 2s to 4s per tally; peas, 2s to 3s per bag; scarlet beans, 1s to 1s 6d per sieve; carrots, 2s 6d to 3s; turnips, 3s to 3s 6d, parsley 2s to 1s 6d; leeks, 2s to 3s; mint, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields [illegible]

London (King's Cross) [illegible]

MANURES.

Liverpool [illegible]

Winsford (Cheshire), Saturday.—[illegible] salt at the works. Common white salt 1s 6d per ton; refined rock salt, 3s 6d per ton; to truck loads only.—THE SALT UNION, LIMITED.

FARM.

Tomatoes on the Farm.

Many farmers grow various odd crops [illegible] do not profess to be market gardeners. I went over a farm in Wiltshire the other day where the occupier grew a nice lot of tomatoes in the open. He expects to sell half a ton. He had the opportunity of utilising a wide border by the side of some buildings, and he filled it with tomatoes which are bearing well and will probably ripen off many. Those which do not ripen in the plants can be successfully treated with heat. In ripening artificially this rule should be remembered: It is not light—sunlight—which is most wanted. It is heat. And heat will ripen the fruit without light. The present season may prove a good one for tomatoes as fruit has set and continues to set very freely. The tomato is subject to a disease like the potato disease, and it is also attacked with black rot. There is another trouble known as blight, which attacks the leaves, makes them curl up, turn colour, and drop off, with the result that cropping does not follow. How can this be met? I learn from a correspondent that freshly-slaked lime is a remedy. The experiment was made last season, purposely on land which the previous year had been in tomatoes which had been attacked badly. The result of the application was that the [illegible] on the same land this season, with no further application of lime. The blight is absent as much [illegible] would seem to indicate that [illegible] planting the same land [illegible] and that the lime is only effective when freshly applied. An experiment was made this season [illegible] land that had not been in tomatoes. But there will be no results so far as the [illegible] fresh land shows no [illegible] The great lesson to be learned [illegible] and that a rotation of crops in which neither potatoes nor tomatoes will [illegible] quently than three or [illegible] and potatoes to observe. [illegible] seems to check the blight [illegible] in connection with [illegible] lime should be applied about 15 bushels to the acre in spring, and should [illegible] prepared for planting. [illegible] Lime is sprayed with [illegible] powder, and is given in [illegible]

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Tamworth sow Favourite III. is the property of and bred by Mr. D. W. Phillips, The Ashes, Whitacre, Birmingham. This sow, whose sire was Whitacre Welsham 5411, and dam Whitacre Favourite 7830, won first prize at the Royal Counties Agricultural Society's Show at Winchester in June, but at the Bath and West Show, at Bath, it was placed second.

The Jersey bull Perry Farm Duplex is the property of Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Tring, and was bred by Mr. J. A. Desreaux, St. Mary's, Jersey, its sire being Duplex 2586, and its dam Pansy Lass 3rd 7135. Perry Farm Duplex has met with variable success in the showyards this year. At the Oxford Show he won first prize for the best Jersey bull calved in 1899, and also the male championship of the breed; but at the Bath and West he was passed over altogether. A week later, at the Royal Counties Show at Winchester, he once more came out at the top of his class, but at the Royal, York, he only got a highly commended ticket.

Mr. Harry Livesey, Rotherfield, Sussex, is the owner of the Hackney mare Welcome, her breeder being Mr. J. Wilkinson Crossley, Brian Royd, Greetland, Halifax. She is by Connaught 1453—Althorp Queen 1421, by Confidence 163. In the spring Welcome won first prize in her class, and also the special prize and silver medal for the best young mare at the Hackney Horse Society Show, at Islington; whilst since then she has gained a first at the Bath and West, and a second at the Royal Show at York and the Yorkshire Agricultural Society's Show at Doncaster.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

After an interval of six years the show of the Warwickshire Agricultural Society (founded in 1830) will be again held at Coventry, on Wednesday and Thursday, August 29th and 30th, Lord Leigh being president. The city, which has always accorded a most hearty welcome to the Society, has again provided a suitable site and a handsome list of local prizes. The showyard will cover about 23 acres, situate at Stoke Green, within the City, and convenient of access to visitors, a frequent service of electric trams running from the Coventry railway station to the show ground. The general entries number 708, of which 504 are stock. This total does not, however, include many jumping and driving horses which, as the entries for those classes need not be made until the day of show, cannot yet be stated. There is a record entry of cattle, the show of which promises to be altogether the best the Society has yet held. There are about the same number of hunters, hackneys, and ponies entered as at Leamington last year, with fewer agricultural horses and sheep.

There is also a large entry in the implement department, and for the field competitions. There will be special jumping classes each afternoon at the Coventry Show of the Warwickshire Agricultural Society, with driving and Coventry tradesmen's turnout classes on the Thursday. The band of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment will occupy the orchestra each day. There will be poultry and bee driving demonstrations by the Warwickshire County Council's experts both days. Luncheon and refreshments will be provided by Mr. H. Maycock, of Leamington. The railways are giving facilities for conveyance of visitors at cheap fares on the first day with excursions on the second, and if the weather be propitious, a successful meeting may be anticipated.

The annual sale of Shropshire Dunsmore sheep, the property of Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., will take place at Dunsmore, Rugby, on Friday next, August 31st, when Messrs. Lythall and Walters, of Birmingham, will submit 43 grand rams and 69 beautiful shearling ewes for public competition. The flock has been founded and maintained with excellent judgment and regardless of expense, high prices having been given for the past twenty years for the most impressive and fashionable sires; in fact, nearly all the leading flocks have been in turn resorted to. The result of this has been shown in this season's showyards by the extraordinary pen of five shearling rams which have been invincible, winning first prizes at the Royal Show at York, the Shropshire and West Midland Show, and the Leicestershire Show, in the strongest competition; and, besides winning other honours at these shows, the flock has also secured first and champion Notts and first Newport, Salop. As all these winners are included in the sale an unequalled opportunity is afforded the leading ram-breeders to secure most reliable sires, while tenant farmers will find the rams to be of immense scale with plenty of muscle and lean meat, and possessing good coats and skins.

Amongst the sires of the Dunsmore sheep are the noted 150gs. Buttar Blue, Mr. David Buttar's winner of first and champion H.A.S., Glasgow; the 100gs. Dunsmore Endon, winner first R.A.S.E., Manchester; Dunsmore Odstone, winner first R.A.S.E., Leicester, and Dunsmore Odstone 2nd, winner second R.A.S.E., Birmingham. The ewes are of quite the correct type, while from their grand breeding they should be invaluable for the establishment or enlargement of a flock. Many winners have been bred from ewes purchased at Dunsmore sales, and the flock itself has secured two first prizes and one second prize for shearling ewes at the Royal Show in consecutive years, while this season honours were secured with the ewes at the Royal, S. and W.M., Leicestershire, and Nottinghamshire shows. The flock has secured several first prizes from the Warwickshire Agricultural Society for the largest number of lambs from a given number of ewes, and has a big local reputation for its prolific character.

Tuesday, September 4th, is the date of this year's sale of Mr. J. E. Farmer's Shropshire sheep, at Felton, Ludlow, Salop. The catalogue comprises about thirty rams, seventy ewes, and also thirty store cattle. Mr. Farmer's flock, I may mention, is one of the oldest extant, having been founded half-a-century ago by Mr. James Hand, from whence it passed into the possession of its present owner in the year 1872. Since that date the object which Mr. Farmer has kept in view has been to produce the best, and realising that constitution is the corner stone upon which all other qualities must rest, he has never allowed a sheep to be used unless good in flesh and of the most vigorous physique, consequently the flock has become famous for the production of sheep full of flesh and of great substance. The sheep to be offered next week have been bred upon the same lines as heretofore, and sheep buyers will be well repaid by attending this sale. Several of the rams are pasture rangers, and suited for crossing purposes, or for getting good butchers' sheep. The proceedings will commence after a one o'clock luncheon, the auctioneers being Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co.

Cumberland Agricultural Society's Show for 1901 has been fixed for Saturday, July 26th. Entries close July 13th, 1901, to Mr. William Wood, secretary, Carlisle.

The intimation that Germany will probably want to purchase horses from Australia (says the *South Australian Register*) has revived the interest in the horse-breeding industry which was aroused at the time that the contingents were in course of preparation for South Africa. Mr. W. E. Abbott, of Wingen, N.S.W., has, according to the *Pastoralists' Review*, been giving his local experiences and opinions on the breeding of horses suitable for military purposes. Out of about a million horses in Australia, he points out, it has only been possible to get 5,000 or 6,000 of all sorts by the British officers, and those have cost three or four times as much as they ought to have cost. Of those procured the great majority, he declares, were mongrels. To establish a breed of military horses, he argues, it would be necessary to follow the well-known system by which Shorthorn, Hereford, and Devon cattle were established—by selecting from within, carefully avoiding all crosses, and keeping clear of thoroughbreds. One colour should be chosen, and this could easily be preserved. But this proposal could only be carried out by the Government, he says, as the profits would be so far off as to discourage private enterprise.

The Lincoln Longwool Sheep-Breeders' Association's eleventh ram sale will be held in Messrs. J. Smith and Co.'s Field, Lincoln, on Friday, September 7th, at 10.15 a.m. precisely, sales to commence with the eight selected flocks. Among the breeders who have made entries are the following:—Mr. John Anderson, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. James Cartwright, Messrs. Casswell Brothers, Mr. J. E. Casswell, Mr. Tom Casswell, Mr. Charles Clarke (Scopwick), Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, Mr. C. S. Dickinson, Mr. John Evens, Mr. Henry Goodyear, Mr. E. M. Grantham, Mr. C. F. Hookham, Mr. Edward J. Howard, Mr. Edward W. Howard, Mr. George T. Melbourn, the late Mr. J. Money's executors, Mr. Thomas Neave, Messrs. J. T. and A. W. Needham, Mr. John Pears, Messrs. O. and W. B. B. Quibell, Mr. W. H. Robinson, Mr. William Seagrave, Mr. W. Taylor Sharp, Mr. H. Smith, jun., Sir John H. Thorold, Bart., Mr. W. C. Tong, Messrs. W. and W. H. Watson, and Messrs. R. and W. Wright. The catalogues will be ready about August 31st, and can be had on application to Mr. Stephen Upton, secretary, St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln.

The Wayland Agricultural Society's Show takes place on Wednesday, September 12th, and not on August 29th, as announced in our last issue. The entries close on Thursday this week with Mr. Sydney S. George, secretary, Walton, S.O., Norfolk.

The well-known pig-breeding establishment at Friedrichswerth, near Gotha, was destroyed by fire on Wednesday night, and about 200 pigs of considerable value were burnt to death.

Sir J. Blundell Maple, M.P., has during the past week completed the purchase of a small estate in Derbyshire, comprising between three and four hundred acres, in the parishes of Ballidon and Bradbourne, near Ashbourne, at which he intends to build a stud farm for the breeding of racehorses and hackneys.

The Cumberland Agricultural Society found the change of day for their show from Thursday to Saturday so successful that the Council have decided to hold next year's show on a Saturday, fixing it for the 26th of July.

The Queen's great interest in agriculture is shown by the practical way in which she encourages the industry among her neighbours around Windsor Castle. Her Majesty is patroness of the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association, whose headquarters are at Slough, and she has given a silver cup for competition in connection with the annual ploughing match and exhibition of the Association at Colnbrook in October next. According to the Association's schedule just out; the cup is of the intrinsic value of twenty guineas, and it is for "the tenant farmer renting not less than 50 acres of arable land who shall show the best cultivated root crops generally." Her Majesty, in addition to this trophy, gives a prize of five guineas for the best ploughman in the field.

The Suffolk Horse Society's third annual sale of pedigree Suffolk horses takes place on Thursday next, August 30th, at Gippeswyk Park, Ipswich, when will be offered sixty animals, consisting of twenty-eight foals, nineteen mares and fillies, seven stallions and entire colts, and six geldings, from the most noted breeders and owners of Suffolk horses. I may mention that all animals of two years old and upwards are sold with a veterinary's certificate of soundness. The nomination of foals will be judged at eleven o'clock, and the sale will commence after a one o'clock luncheon.

The Royal Dublin Society has drawn up a most attractive programme for its Horse and Sheep Show at Balls Bridge, Dublin, this week. To-morrow (Tuesday) is the first day of the show, and the yard will be opened at eight o'clock, and on the three following days at nine o'clock, closing each day, except Friday, at six p.m.; Friday at four p.m. There will be about the usual number of jumping competitions, which will be similar to those of previous occasions, the course including bank and ditch, ditch and bank, stone wall not less than four feet high, double bank, water jump, and hurdle not less than four feet high. Last year the total

money prizes offered by the Royal Dublin Society for this show amounted to £2,153, this being irrespective of the numerous and valuable championship and other cups, gold and silver medals, etc., that will be awarded, and this year the sum mentioned has been somewhat increased. I am sorry to hear that the increase of prizes has not met with a corresponding increase of entries, the number this year being 1,358, as compared with 1,397 in 1899. It was fully expected some short time since that the numbers this year would have been the largest on record, and this expectation would probably have been verified had it not been that since May last large numbers of horses of a superior class have been drawn from Ireland for military and other purposes in connection with the war in South Africa. As it is, however, the numbers actually entered must be regarded as fairly satisfactory.

In consequence of the expiration of his lease, Mr. Richard S. Glover, of Trescowe, Bodmin, Cornwall, will dispose of his entire herd of pure-bred Hereford cattle, without reserve, on Tuesday, September 11th, the auctioneers being Messrs. John Thornton and Co. The Trescowe herd was founded in Mid-Cornwall by Mr. Olver's father about 1844, from stock of the Hewer blood brought into the county by the Earl of St. Germans. Mr. G. Lobb's herd of Lawhitton, in the county, also supplied some good animals by Rory O'More 1711, a celebrated bull bred by Mr. Philip Turner, of The Leen, Herefordshire, the blood of whose excellent stock has been continued in the herd to the present day. The strain of old Walford 871, first prize bull at the R.A.S.E. at Windsor 1851, also the winner of the first prize, and the gold medal for the best bull of any age or breed at the International Show at Paris in 1855, was brought in with stock obtained from Mr. T. Longmore of Walford, Ludlow. Daisy, bought from Mr. R. Davey, of Polsue House, Grampound, was by J. Rea's Zippor 2354, who was a son of the celebrated bull Sir Benjamin 1387. The herd now almost entirely consists of these strains, and will be found entered in the Herd Book from the fourth volume, when females were for the second time recorded.

The herd is remarkably even and uniform, true to type, and of a very high character. Prizes have been always won at the County Show, but it has not been the custom to exhibit elsewhere. In the eighties a large number of animals were sold to the United States of America, and the herd was entered in the U.S.A. Herd Book. Animals have also been sold to the Argentine and Jamaica as well as to home breeders. A fine lot of heifers were selected a few years ago for Her Majesty's herd at Windsor, and from one of them, Ringdove 2nd, that handsome bull Robin 19052, first prize bull at the R.A.S.E. at Birmingham, and first at the Royal Dublin Society Show, 1898, was bred. In addition to the Herefords Mr. Glover possesses a select stud of Shire horses, an old-established herd of large black lop-eared pigs, a large flock of cross-bred Devon Long Wool and Hampshire sheep, and also a great number of cross-bred laying poultry. The horses and pigs will be sold on September 18th, and the sheep and poultry on the following day.

Friday, September 14th, is the date of the year's Buxton Horse Show, at which over £300 will be given in prizes as well as challenge cups, and gold and silver medals. Entries close on September 6th, to the secretaries, Messrs. Hampson Brothers, 20, Spring Gardens, Buxton.

A large marquee erected on the show ground of the North Ribblesdale Agricultural Association, at Settle, was blown down by the wind on Saturday. About fifty pigeons escaped, and a number of cats also got away. Some of the pigeons were valued at £100 each. The exhibition of butter and eggs was damaged considerably.

Found Dead in a Corn Chest.—A horrible discovery has been made at Aboyne, Aberdeenshire. A boy named Charles Thomson, a crofter's son, was missed on the evening of the 11th inst., at the farm of Ba'naeraig. It was supposed he had gone away with his father, who was visiting the farm, but on Monday morning the body was found in a corn chest. He had fallen in, and the lid had closed on him with a snap. The stable was seventy yards from the house, and his cries could not have been heard.

Another Outbreak of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in Wales.

Another outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease was reported on Friday at Bodhyddan, near Rhyl, where fifty sheep and a milch cow are affected. At St. Asaph, on the same day, a large meeting of farmers and butchers was held, at which protests were raised against the restrictions of the Board of Agriculture, which affect an area of twenty-five miles. It was decided to petition the Board to allow cattle to be moved for slaughtering, and to reduce the area. Thousands of sheep are, it was stated, on the farmers' hands in the Vale of Clwyd, and great loss, if not disaster, stared agriculturists in the face.

A telegram states that the Board of Agriculture have ordered the slaughter of fifty sheep and one cow, found to be affected with foot-and-mouth disease, on the Home Farm of the Bodhyddan estate. Extraordinary precautions are being taken to prevent the disease spreading. The roads have been saturated with carbolic acid, and a staff of agricultural inspectors and police are guarding the approaches to the farm all round.

Ardfert Abbey Shorthorn Sale.

On Thursday, Messrs. Thornton and Co. held their final dispersion sale at Ardfert Abbey, co. Kerry, of the Shorthorn herd founded by the late Mr. W. T. Talbot Crosbie. The attendance was extremely large, and included noted breeders from all parts of the United Kingdom. The prices ranged exceptionally high, one nine-months-old heifer calf fetching 115gs., while some in-calf heifers realised as high as 105gs. There were 112 animals sold, some four or five lots being withdrawn, and they realised the handsome total of £3,500. The distinction of paying the top price of the day fell to Mr. Colman, of Surrey, who gave 115gs. for a very promising roan heifer calf by Fair Lord out of Cumbrian Belle, a cow which was herself secured by Mr. Wright, of Prumplestown, at 47gs. Three other lots also ran into three figures. For Riby Anna 22nd, a six-year-old cow by Fair Lord out of Riby Anna 15th, Major Craddock gave 105gs., and at the same figure Earl Grey's representative became the owner of Debdale Belle, a handsome four-year-old red cow by British Hope out of Anna Belle. Another cow for which there was spirited competition was the four-year-old Flower of Aylesby 25th, and the Marquis of Waterford's representative, Mr. Glennie, was the buyer at 105gs. For Flower of Aylesby 29th Mr. Williams, of Yorkshire, gave 82gs., and for Isolda Ruth 6th by Royal Arthur the same buyer gave 62gs. Among the bulls, the one which attracted most attention was, as anticipated, Stephen FitzLavender, who was bred by Mr. Deane Willis, and is now in his third year. He has again become the property of his breeder at 80gs.

Prices and purchasers were as follow:—

COWS, HEIFERS, AND CALVES.

Florentine Fitz-Riby, roan, c March, 1891, s Royal Riby 52056 ..... Mr. W. Percival 20
Bull calf, roan, c Feb., 1900, s British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. W. Astley 21
Baroness Isabelle, roan, c Dec., 1891, s Prince Peerless 55744 ..... Mr. A. H. Smith Barry 26
Eastbury Belle, roan, c Feb., 1892, s [illegible] ..... Mr. J. W. Young 40
Bull calf, roan, c March, 1900, s Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. J. W. Young 42
Heifer calf, red and white, c April, 1900, s Beacon Light 74041 ..... Mr. T. R. Wilkins 20
Isabella Hopeful, roan, c March, 1892, s British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. D. R. O'Callaghan 21
Flower of Aylesbury 22nd, roan, c Nov., 1892, s British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. D. R. O'Callaghan 20
Penrith Daisy, red, c March, 1895, s British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. W. H. M[illegible] 25
Cumbrian Belle, roan, c May, 1895, s [illegible] 60415 ..... Mr. R. Wright 47
Heifer calf, roan, c Nov., 1899, s [illegible] ..... Mr. J. [illegible] 115
Lincoln Belle, roan, c June, 1894, s British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. W. [illegible] 32
Heifer calf [illegible] ..... Mr. J. [illegible] 38
Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. J. [illegible] 38

Penrith Beauty, red and [illegible] ..... Mr. W. Linton
Hope 60415
Bull calf, white, c Oct., 18[illegible] ..... Mr. J. Colman 50
Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. J. Beecher 21
Heifer calf, red and [illegible] ..... Mr. W. [illegible]
60415 ..... Mr. J. Colman 54
Bull calf, roan, c May, 1900, s Beacon Light 74041 ..... [illegible]
Westbury Belle, red and white, c Feb., 1896, s British Hope ..... Mr. W. Astley
73732 ..... Mr. W. Astley 21
Primula Belle, red, c Feb., 1896, s Prince Bliss 66042 ..... Mr. W. Linton 39
Heifer calf, red and [illegible] ..... Mr. W. Linton 37
73732 ..... Mr. W. Linton 20
Primavera Belle, white, c Feb., 1896, s British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. W. Linton
Heifer calf, roan, c April, 1900, s Beacon Light 74041 ..... Mr. W. Linton 34
Florentine Hope, white, c March, 1896, s British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. W. [illegible]
Flower of Aylesby 25th, [illegible] ..... Lord Waterford 105
Hope 60415 ..... Mr. [illegible]
Princess Helen, roan, c May, 1895, s [illegible] 66347 ..... Mr. [illegible]
Bull calf, roan, c Feb., 1900, s Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. Wordsworth 30
Riby Anna 23rd, roan, c April, 1896, s Sir Gilbert Studley 66347 ..... Lord Rathdonnell 45
Lady Gilbert Isabelle, roan, c May, 1896, s Sir Gilbert Studley 66347 ..... Mr. C. H. Taylor 46
Heifer calf, red roan, c April, 1900, s Beacon Light 74041 ..... Mr. D. R. O'Callaghan 20
Ballymena Belle, roan, [illegible] ..... Mr. W. Linton 22
60415 ..... Mr. W. Linton 20
Heifer calf, roan, c Feb., 1900, s Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. W. Linton 30
Flower of Aylesby 28th, roan, c Nov., 1896, s Sir Gilbert Studley 66347 ..... Mr. W. Linton 29
Heifer calf, roan, c May, 1900, s Beacon Light 74041 ..... Mr. W. Linton
Isabella Prime, red and [illegible] ..... Lord 63999 ..... Mr. A. H. Smith Barry 47
Flower of Aylesby 29th, [illegible] ..... Hope 60415 ..... Mr. H. Williams 82
Bull calf, roan, c Nov., 1899, s Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. W. Linton 35
Primrose Belle, red and white, c Feb., 1897, s British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. W. Linton 35
Lady Valentine, white, c Feb., 1897, s British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. J. H. Jones 30
Heifer calf, white, c Nov., 1899, s Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. W. Linton 15
Bull calf, Riby, white, c Feb., [illegible] 66347 ..... Mr. R. H. Verschoyle 30
Gilberta Daisy, red roan, c Feb., 1897, s Sir Gilbert Studley 66347 ..... Mr. W. Percival 26
Olive Belle, [illegible] ..... Hope 60415 ..... Mr. W. [illegible]
Isabella Gilbert, roan, c [illegible] ley 66347 ..... Mr. J. McElderry 31
Banteer Daisy, roan, c March, 1897, s British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. J. H. Jones 28
Riby Anna 25th, red roan, c April, 1897, s Sir Gilbert Studley 66347 ..... Mr. R. Booth 73
Gilberta Belle, red and white roan, c April, 1897, s Sir Gilbert Studley 66347 ..... Mr. T. R. Wilkins 53
Isabella Gilberta, red and [illegible] Studley 66347 ..... Mr. R. H. [illegible]
Daisy Rose, [illegible] ley 66347 ..... Mr. A. [illegible]
Heifer calf, roan, c Dec., [illegible] 73732 ..... Mr. J. Colman 23
Daisy Belle, [illegible] 66347 ..... Mr. W. D. O'Callaghan 27
Bull calf, [illegible] ..... Mr. W. [illegible]
Flower of Aylesby [illegible] ..... Hope 60415 ..... Mr. J. W. Fleming 21
Scottstoun Belle, roan, c Feb., 1898, s Sir Gilbert Studley [illegible] ..... Mr. [illegible]
Daisy Lass, [illegible] ..... Mr. [illegible]
Flower of Aylesby [illegible] ..... 1898, s Sir Gilbert Studley 66347 ..... Mr. Donnelly 27
Rose [illegible] ..... British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. C. T. McCausland 30
Isabella [illegible] ..... Studley [illegible] ..... Mr. [illegible]
Stephen [illegible] ley 66347 ..... Mr. D. R. O'Callaghan 29
Daisy [illegible] ..... Mr. [illegible]
Gilberta [illegible] ..... Mr. W. H. [illegible]
Flower of Aylesby [illegible] ..... Mr. A. Webb 23
Golden Duchess, rich roan, c Dec., 1899, s Stephen Fitz- ..... Mr. [illegible]
[illegible] ..... Mr. [illegible]

Tousley Belle, red roan, c Jan., 1899, s British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. R. Wright 40
Flower of Aylesby 52nd, roan, c Feb., 1899, s British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. W. Percival 30
Waldale Belle, roan, c Feb., 1899, s British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. J. H. Jones 22
Kilburn Belle, white, c Feb., 1899, s Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. Wastley 22
Haldane Belle, roan, c March, 1899, s British Hope 60415 ..... Mr. C. T. McCausland 22
Flower of Aylesby 33rd, roan, c March, 1899, s Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. W. Astley 31
Isabella Fitz-Lavender (twin to lot 106), roan, c April, 1899, s Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. W. Astley 20
Riby Actor 25th, red, c April, 1899, s British Hope 60415 ..... Lord Rathdonnell 27
Lavender Belle, red and little white, c April, 1899, s Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. W. Astley 23
Brawith Florentine, white, c June, 1899, s Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. C. Howard Taylor 22
Fitz-Stephen Belle, roan, c June, 1899, s Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. W. Astley 26
Flower of Aylesby 35th, roan, c July, 1899, s Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732 ..... Mr. J. H. Jones 21

BULLS.

Stephen Fitz-Lavender 73732, roan, c Jan., 1897, s Bapton Javelin 68176 ..... Mr. J. Deane Willis 80
Benson Light 74041, red, c Feb., 1898, s Alto 68147 ..... Mr. W. Young 37

112 head, averaged .... £32 15s 9d. .... £3,671 17s.

Sale of Devon Cattle and Exmoor Sheep.

Mr. R. J. Stranger, Court Barton, Northmolton, having given up an off farm, a portion of his well-known herd of Devon cattle and over 400 Exmoor sheep were sold by auction last week by Messrs. Blackford and Son, of Southmolton.

The herd, founded by the vendor's great uncle in 1820, has always borne a first-class character; in fact, it was one of the oldest Devon herds in existence, and for over half a century the best strains of the "Rubies" have been bred on the farm, and the prizes taken at all the leading shows in England of great numbers. Champion honours on various occasions at the Smithfield Show fell to animals from this herd, the gold medal ox of 1870 being bred by Mr. Stranger. In local competitions Mr. Stranger has taken several head prizes. Drafts of the herd have on various occasions been sold to H.M. the Queen, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, General Sir Redvers Buller, the late Mr. M. Farthing, the late Mr. W. H. Punchard, and others, while animals have also been sent to Australia and the Argentine Republic. The company assembled at the sale was not a large one (probably owing to the brisk harvest operations in the immediate neighbourhood); those however, who did attend were present for the sole object of business, so that the biddings throughout were of a brisk nature, and the prices realised satisfactory, as the following particulars will show: –

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Peerless 37th 12482, c Dec., 1891 ..... Mr. W. May	20½
Duchess 23rd 13652, c Feb., 1893 ..... Mr. J. Vernon	17
Beauty 21st 14218, c Oct., 1894 ..... Mr. C. N. Skinner	15
Beauty 22nd 14219, c Dec., 1894 ..... Mr. F. Veysey	13
Duchess 24th 14220, c Jan., 1894 ..... Mr. C. N. Skinner	16
Actress 29th 14816, c Feb., 1895 ..... Mr. D. Purchase	11
Lady Elizabeth 41st 14818, c Jan., 1895 Mr. C. N. Skinner	12½
Lady Elizabeth 43rd 14820, c March, 1895 Mr. C. N. Skinner	12½
Lady Elizabeth 46th 15447, c Oct., 1896 ..... Mr. F. Veysey	10
Peeress 45th 15449, c Jan., 1896 ..... Mr. Jos. Yendell	16
Duchess 27th 16002, c Feb., 1897 ..... Mr. C. N. Skinner	14
Lady Elizabeth 49th 16004, c Oct., 1897 Mr. E. C. Norrish	12
Peeress 47th 16007, c Dec., 1897 ..... Mr. Stranger	13½
Lady Elizabeth 50th 16005, c Dec., 1897 ..... Mr. W. May	13
Duchess 28th 16003, c Dec., 1897 ..... Mr. F. Veysey	11
Lady Elizabeth 53rd 16569, c Feb., 1898 Mr. E. C. Norrish	16½
Beauty 26th 16566, c Oct., 1898 ..... Mr. W. May	9
Beauty 27th 16567, Dec., 1838 ..... Mr. H. Clarke	8
Duchess 29th 17191, c Oct., 1899 ..... Mr. F. Veysey	11
Lady Elizabeth 55th 17193, c Dec., 1899 ..... Mr. W. May	8½
Lady Elizabeth 56th 17194, c Dec., 1899 Mr. C. N. Skinner	12½
Lady Elizabeth 57th, Vol. xxiv., c Feb., 1900 Mrs. Earle	15½
Actress 36, Vol. xxiv., c Feb., 1900 ..... Mr. C. N. Skinner	9½

BULLS

Zodiac 4327, c Aug., 1898 ..... Mr. J. B. Gough	25½
Kitchener, Vol. xxiv., c Jan., 1899 ..... Mr. F. Veysey	15
Bull calf, Vol. xxiv., c Feb., 1899 ..... Mr. W. May	8

Ed heifers sold as follows: – £12 1s. 6d., £13 7s. 6d., £14 5s., £10 5s., £12 17s. 6d. Two and a half-year-old steers: – 18, £18 5s., £15 12s. 6d., £17. £17 10s., £16 2s. 6d., £15. 15s., £17 12s. 6d., £14 15s., £16 5s., £14, £16, £19 5s. Eighteen-month-old steers: £14 5s., £11 15s. (twice), £6 2s. 6d., £7 12s. 6d., £9 2s. 6d. Calves (steers): £7 17s. 6d.; £7 10s. (twice). £5 15s. (twice).

The following were the prices realised for the sheep:—Cross-bred ewes made 28s. to 30s. 6d., seventy-six full mouth Exmoor horn ewes 27s. to 30s. 6d., forty-three two-teeth ditto 25s. to 26s. 6d., eighty horn wethers 33s. to 34s. 6d., nineteen cross-bred wethers 28s. to 37s., forty-two horn wether lambs 16s. 6d. to 17s. 6d., sixteen cross-bred wether lambs 21s. to 24s. 6d., forty three horn lambs 15s. to 20s. 6d., fifteen cross-bred ewe lambs 17s. 6d. to 23s. 6d., eight horn ram lambs 21s. to 45s., eight horn rams 23s. to 75s.

Marlborough Fair.

At this fair on Wednesday Messrs. Waters and Rawlence held their accustomed sale of ram lambs, being mostly drafts from the undermentioned well-known flocks.—One hundred and ninety-six animals were offered, but the number of rams in the fair (some 500 or more) with only a moderate attendance of buyers precluded an entire clearance being made. The first consignment offered consisted of seventeen rams and one shearling from Mr. T. Palmer, of Berry Court, Wallop, Hants, the whole of which were sold at from 4gs. to 8½gs., or an average of £6. The next lot were forty lambs and two shearlings from Mr. R. Coles, Middleton, Warminster, those sold making from 5gs. to 7gs., average £5 8s. The third lot consisted of fifty-nine lambs from Mr. J. Dean, of Chitterne, Wilts, those sold making from 4½gs. to 6gs., average within a fraction of £5. The last lot offered were forty-seven lambs from Mr. H. C. Stephens, M.P., Cholderton, Wilts, the majority selling at from 4gs. to 13½gs., average £5 14s.

Mr. T. Lavington held his usual sale, when about 11,500 store sheep and 300 ram lambs were penned. Trade was generally good, excepting for young ewes. Lambs met with a more ready demand than ewes, and two-teeth wethers also sold well. Prices were considered about 2s. per head above Britford. Mr. J. B. Stevens, of Ogbourne Manor, secured Mr. Judd's £5 prize for 100 full-mouthed ewes in Class 1, and Mr. W. B. Gauntlett, of Collingbourne Kingstone, gained a similar success in Class 2 for 100 wether lambs, by taking the auctioneer's prize of a similar amount. The best price for full-mouth ewes was 49s. 6d., and prices ranged from that to 35s. 6d.; six-teeth ewes, 43s. 6d. to 36s. 6d.; four-teeth ewes, 53s. to 35s.; two-teeth ewes, 54s. to 35s. 6d.; draft ewes, 40s. to 25s. Mr. Gauntlett's wether lambs made up to 52s., and prices for working lambs ranged from 37s. 6d. to 30s.; chilver lambs, 36s. to 30s.; two-teeth wethers, 47s. to 42s. Mr. G. Judd's rams were sold at prices from 8gs. to 4½gs.; Mr. R. W. Lyne's from 9gs. to 4gs. Mr. J. B. Stevens' ram lambs fetched up to 13gs., the average being close on £6.

YEARLING FILLIES.

Bonnie Florretta ..... Mr. Benj. West	60
Bonnie Jessie ..... Mr. Bainbridge	240
Bay yearling filly ..... Mr. Chambers	25

STALLION.

Master of Hilston ..... Mr. Hickling	200

RIDE AND DRIVE HORSES.

Bay gelding, Ivanhoe, five years ..... Mr. Lloyd	54
Chestnut gelding, Gay Lad, three years ..... Mr. Perry	26
Brown gelding, My Jack, three years ..... Mr. Lloyd	30
Bay mare, Ida, four years ..... Mr. Hickling	60
Chestnut mare, three years ..... Mr. Hickling	50
Bay gelding, three years ..... Mr. T. Wright	26
Bay gelding, two years ..... Mr. A. Fewson	25
Chestnut gelding, two years ..... Mr. A. Fewson	37
Chestnut gelding, two years ..... Mr. Chambers	27
Chestnut gelding, one year ..... Mr. A. Fewson	24
Chestnut gelding, one year ..... Mr. A. Fewson	20
Black filly, one year ..... Mr. Chambers	70

The Future of Horses.

Everything indicates an excellent outlook for horses. Even common to poor horses are finding a quicker sale; at low prices to be sure, but much better than those of recent years, while fair to good sorts are doing extremely well in the way of price, and the demand is active. Really fine horses are much sought after, and when found their owners are masters of the price situation. There is a bright promise in the breeding of good horses now, and good horses are almost sure to follow intelligent coupling of sire and dam, and subsequent good care of dam and colt. The use of stallions that are made tough and strong by work will facilitate the work of getting horses that will top the market, for it is vigour and bottom, coupled with style and action that brings the best prices; and vigour and bottom will not come in the same degree from pampered and soft sires as from those whose muscles have been hardened, wind strengthened, and endurance reinforced by judicious labour.

Mr. H. Livesey's Hackney Mare, "Welcome."

HORSES.

Sale of Pedigree Hackneys at Hedon.

At Hedon, near Hull, on Thursday, Mr. R. R. Leonard sold by auction the entire stud of Hackneys belonging to Mr. Thomas Kirk, of Owstwick Hall, and twenty-seven animals from the stud of Mr. John Robinson, of Hedon. Mr. Kirk, who commenced Hackney breeding about fourteen years ago, has had considerable success both at Islington and at the local shows. Mr. John Robinson's stud has produced many high-class animals, notably Wild Agnes, Enid, and Isabel, and his contributions to the sale were of excellent quality. There was a goodly company of buyers, and the prices realised were satisfactory. Mr. Kirk's horses realised a total of 1,501½gs., being an average of 75gs. each, which is a record for this district. Mr. Robinson's realised an aggregate of 727½gs., being an average of 28gs.

The following is a list of the principal prices realised, purchasers, etc.:—

BROOD MARES AND FOALS.

Grey Abbess	Mr. Jno. Fisher	28
Dark Polyanthus	Mr. Jno. Foster	50
Bay filly foal	M.... Mr. A. Fewson	48
Bay Polyanthus	Mr. Thompson	60
Dairymaid	Mr. H. Trowill	220
Foal	Mr. A. Morton	80
May Queen	Sir Walter Gilbey	161
Empress of Holderness	Mr. Jas. Chambers	115
Brown mare	Mr. W. Lloyd	46

THREE-YEAR-OLDS.

Dorris	Mr. H. Lamplough	35
Harbour Farm, Gwendoline	Mr. J. Chambers	1

TWO-YEAR-OLDS.

Bonnie Bertie	Mr. Bainbridge	100
Bonnie Corsena	Mr. Hartley	2

Sale of Horses at York.

Messrs. Walker and Sons held a special sale of pedigree Hackneys and harness horses in the paddock adjoining their repository at York on Thursday, when they offered seventy horses. There was a good attendance, and some fair prices were realised. A chestnut filly, the property of Mr. H. Creaser, realised 96gs., and a chestnut four-year-old, the property of Mr. Riley Briggs, made 72gs. The following is a list of the principal prices realised:

	Gs.
Duke, chestnut horse, three years, 15.3 hands	40
Duchess, chestnut mare, five years, 14.3 hands	46
Brown mare, five years, 15.2 hands	37
Bay mare, five years, 14.3 hands	35
Brown mare, seven years, 15 hands	41
Brown mare, six years, 15.3 hands	35
Chestnut filly, two years, 15.2 hands	30
Chestnut filly, 2 years, 15.1 hands	40
Brown yearling filly, 14.3 hands	30
Chestnut horse, four years, 15 hands	46
Chestnut horse, four years, 15.3 hands	70
Bay gelding, five years, about 15 hands	30
Brown gelding, five years, 15.3 hands	30
Chestnut mare, six years, 15 hands	35
Dark chestnut mare, four years, over 15 hands	37
Clever grey mare, about six years, 15 hands	75
Clever grey mare, about seven years, 15 hands	37
Bay horse, seven years, 15 hands	30
Strawberry roan harness mare, five years, 15 hands	41
Chestnut gelding, six years, 14 hands	33
Bay gelding, five years, 13.2 hands	38
Charley, chestnut horse, five years, 15.2 hands	30
Bay cob mare, six years, 14 hands	

Sale of Southdowns at St. Alban's Court.

The third annual sale from this well-known flock belonging to Mr. W. O. Hammond, was held at St. Alban's Court, near Dover, on Wednesday, by Messrs. John Thornton and Co. The ewes were in rather poor condition, and consequently did not make very high prices, but sold up to 60s. each, the principal purchasers being the Hon. E. V. Bligh, Hon. Ralph Neville, Mr. Marriott (for the Jockey Club), Mr. P. T. Greenstead, Exors. of Mr. John Spanton, and Mr. Garrett Taylor. The average for the 280 yearlings and full-mouthed ewes was nearly £2 10s.

The rams sold well, the Duke of Portland's agent securing three of the yearlings at 26gs., 19gs., and 10gs. respectively. Mr. H. F. Plumptre also gave 22gs. for another. The twenty-eight rams made an average price of £9 17s. 7d. each. There was a large company, and the result must be considered most satisfactory, and creditable to Mr. Crawford, the courteous agent on the estate.

The Shrawardine Shropshires.

Mr. Alfred Tanner held his annual sheep sale at Shrawardine, when, in the presence of a large number of sheep-breeders and farmers, forty rams, thirty-five shearling ewes, and the stock ewes came under the hammer of Messrs Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury. Shrawardine has for forty years been the home of a first-class flock of Shropshire sheep, and during recent years Mr. Tanner has introduced into the Shrawardine Shropshires some most valuable blood, including seven first-prize Royal winning rams.

After partaking of an excellent luncheon, the company adjourned to the sale ring, and the business of the day began at once. The stock ram Phenomenon was sold to Mr. W. Barrs at 10gs., and the two-shear ram Corden's Choice went to Mr. J. H. N. Walford for 11gs. The buyers in the shearling ram section were Mr. E. J. Frank, 120gs. (for a ram by Royal Selection); Mr. W. H. Goodall, 25gs.; Mr. W. Thomas, 22gs.; Mr. C. Coxon, 20gs.; Mr. A. E. Mansell, 40gs.; and Mr. Jordan, 15gs. The pasture rangers went to Mr. T. S. Minton, 8gs.; Mr. W. Nunnerley, 19gs.; Mr. King, 8gs.; Lord Harlech, 9gs.; Mr. C. F. Priestley, 9gs. and 8½gs.; Mr. Rogers, seven at 5½gs.; the Earl of Powis, 26gs.; Messrs. Edwards Bros., Stanton Lacy, 12gs.; Mr. J. Davies, 8gs.; Mr. E. Morris, 7½gs. and 5½gs.; Mr. Whitmore, 14gs.; Mr. R. C. Pryce, Shotton, 10gs.; Mr. McIver, 5½gs.; Mr. Kealing, 5½gs.; and Mr. Sankey, 6gs. The first pen of five shearling ewes sold became the property of Mr. F. Horne at £20, and the second quintet were bought by Mr. R. Darlington for £13 15s.

Mr. Thomas Fenn's Shropshires.

Mr. Thomas Fenn's (Downton Castle) annual sale of Shropshire sheep was held on Thursday, and was conducted by Messrs. A. Mansell and Co., auctioneers, Shrewsbury. All the sheep offered were of great size and bone, with lean flesh, lustrous wool, skins, and heads of the true Shropshire type. Luncheon was served at the Brakes Farm, the chair being occupied by Mr. Thomas Fenn. The loyal toasts having been honoured, Mr. W. Blakeway proposed the health of Mr. Fenn, and said since Mr. Fenn had been in the district he had always done what he could for the furtherance of agriculture. He (Mr. Blakeway) was sorry to see such a small number present that day; and he hoped that they had all come to buy. They had had bad times, and some breeders were going in for speckled-faced and Oxfordshire and Hampshire sheep; but they were not following in the same road. He would couple with the toast the name of Mr. Fenn. That gentleman, in responding, said he was afraid he could not congratulate them on farming being much better. If they were not prosperous, he would advise them to go in for breeding pedigree stock—horses, cattle, and sheep as they would be bound to make money. He sold a yearling bull a few years ago to a neighbour, and last year it was sold again for £500, and resold for £620, and some bulls eighteen months old had been sold for £200 and £100. If they turned to Shropshire sheep, they should remember what Mr. Mansell's sheep recently realised, and what better could they do?

The company then adjourned to the ring, where Mr. Alfred Mansell officiated, the following prices being realised: Two-shear rams: 20gs., Mr. Gerrard; 15gs., Mr. T. A. Clive, The Valletts. Shearling rams:—14gs., Mr. Meire, Shrewsbury; 10gs., Mr. Blake; 9gs., Mr. Williams, Stocktonbury; 10gs., Captain Heygate; 8gs., Mr. Barrow; 10gs., Mr. Graham; 8gs., Mr. Hand; 9gs., Mr. Gerrard; 13gs., Mr. S. T. H. Burne, Newport; 7gs., Mr. Harris; 8gs., Mr. W. Griffiths; 7gs., Mr. Heber; 8½gs., Mr. Wilson; 7gs., Mr. Langston; 7½gs., Mr. J. W. Dee; 6gs., Mr. Bishop; 9gs., Mr. Potter; 7gs., Mr. Flower; 5½gs., Mr. Gerrard; 6gs., Mr. Taylor; 6½gs., Mr. Flower; 6gs., Mr. J. Mellings; 5½gs., Mr. W. Blakeway. Shearling ewes:—Five shearling ewes, 52s. each, Mr. T. A. Clive; 47s., Mr. Dugdale; 46s., Mr. Dugdale; 46s., Mr. Dugdale; 44s., Mr. Bassett; 45s., Mr. Bassett; 45s., Mr. Burne; 43s., Mr. Bassett; 44s., Mr. Burne.

Ipswich Lamb Fair.

The annual sale of sheep known as the Ipswich Lamb Fair was held on Handford Hall Meadow on Wednesday, when considerably over 3,000 rams, Southdowns, and Suffolk ewes and lambs and half-breds were offered. There was a poor attendance, but trade was generally equal to expectations, except for Suffolk rams, which made disappointing prices, 4 gns. being the highest. Nine gns. was the highest price for Suffolk ram lambs, the animal being one of Mr. L. Smith's, Hasketon. Other lots ranged from 7½ to 4 gns. Ten Oxford Down ram lambs, bred by Mr. J. White, Charsfield, averaged 5½ gns., seven being top prices. About 1,0 Suffolk and half-bred ewes and lambs were offered by Messrs. R. Bird and Sons, and they realised a good average price. Twenty Suffolk shearling ewes from Mr. G. H. Simpson's, Stonham Aspal, fetched the highest price of the lot 60s. a-piece, whilst twenty first-cross shearling ewes, from the same place, made 58s. 6d. Messrs. Spurling and Sons reported that the numbers penned were slightly in excess of those last year. First cross shearlings, belonging to Mr. W. Long, Winston Hall, offered in twenties, made from 63s. to 50s. 6d. each. Forty Suffolk shearling and three-shear ewes, from Mr. J. Watkins, Claydon Hall, in two lots, were bought for 54s. 6d. and 45s. a-piece. Twenty Suffolk shearling ewes, the property of Mr. J. Hempson, Shotley, made 60s. each, another lot fetching 52s. 6d. Sixty half-bred two-shear ewes, sent by Mr. A. B. Newson, Old Newton, realised 46s. 6d. each, whilst other lots went from 44s. to 25s. 6d. The only Suffolk ewe lambs offered were twenty-two from Mr. B. Hitchcock, Creeting, these fetching 22s. 6d. each. Fifty black-faced wether lambs, from Mr. T. Woodward's Exors., Old Newton, realised 33s. 6d. each, whilst another fifty made 29s. Half-bred ewe and wether lambs, the property of Mr. F. T. Cobbold, were sold in fifties, at 28s., 26s. 6d., and 26s. each. Some choice shearling Southdowns, from Mr. G. Courtauld, Halstead, made 3½ gns., to Capt. Pretyman, M.P., others being bought by Mr. A. H. E. Wood and Mr. W. Nocton. An entry of ten Suffolk ram lambs, from Mr. H. N. Dunnett, sold at prices ranging from 4½ gns., Mr. Wm. Long at £4 4s.

Lockerbie Lamb Sales.

The Lockerbie auctioneers held a three days' lamb sale last week, at which about 24,000 sheep were disposed of. On the first day (Tuesday) about 10,000 feeding sheep and half-bred lambs were sold. There was a large gathering, and keen competition was experienced for all classes. Prices were fully 5s. over those of last year. On Wednesday the pens contained 13,000 Cheviot and blackfaced wedder lambs. The best class sold at 16s. to 21s. 3d.; smaller, 9s. to 14s.; blackfaced wedder lambs, 8s. to 13s. 6d.; and ewe ditto, to 23s. 9d. On the concluding day about 9,000 Cheviot and blackfaced ewe lambs were offered. Trade opened fairly active, and as the sale progressed prices hardened. The demand for Cheviot ewe lambs proved satisfactory. As a general rule prices showed an increase on the year of 2s. Blackfaced lambs also moved off freely at [illegible] smaller increase. Cheviot wedder lambs made 15s. to 25s.; secondary, 11s. to 17s.; blackfaced ewe lambs of the best class, 15s. 3d. to 16s. 3d.; and secondary, 8s. 9d. to 14s. each.

Sheep Sales at Sydney.

The annual sale of stud and flock sheep at Sydney, New South Wales, took place on the first week of last month, commencing on the Monday and continuing until the Friday. The present was a satisfactory one, considering the conditions under which it was conducted. There was still an unprecedented [illegible] of the colony only partly relieved from the drought, whilst in Queensland there was nothing at all. Had the sales of sheep opened the week during which the rains had ever experienced. Taking the above items together with the circumstance that [illegible] hardly be expected to come from the [illegible] colonies, it will be seen that the [illegible] none too rosy for stud sheep breeders. In a [illegible] degree must be added the plague scare, which kept away a number that are annually led into buying. The bidding was more penalty, and [illegible] there been such vagaries exhibited by buyers. It is difficult to assign a [illegible] which was noticed directly the [illegible] over. The best example which can be given of the idiosyncrasies of the buyers was presented in the offers for the Tasmanian sheep. One breeder obtained as low as 15 to 22 guineas for several of his stud sheep, yet on the second day his flock sheep brought as high as 41 guineas.

On the first day Messrs. Weaver and Perry opened proceedings by offering a choice selection from the stud of the Springfield Pastoral and Estates Company, Limited. The [illegible] really high-class lot, but from the beginning there was a hesitancy on the part of the bidders, and the animals did not bring anything like their value. There was no doubt that the best ram offered was Slender Sam, bred by Mr. H. C. White, of Havilah, and purchased by Messrs. H. E. A. and V. White, of Bellbrues, Scone, for 200gs., the top price of the day. Slender Sam is of the good [illegible] dense and nuggetty, and carrying a very even [illegible] of an excellent character. Others from the same flock that realised good prices were: Boxer, 205gs.; Teasing Tom, 235gs.; and Burley Ben, 100gs.; twelve stud rams averaging £[illegible] At the sale of these sheep [illegible] and a number of very fine sheep were sold at ridiculous prices, and it was not until the Company's animals were reached that prices hardened. Only twelve rams had been sold on the [illegible] an average of £66 1s. 3d. The big-framed sheep of Messrs. Lochfield Brothers [illegible] prices; but the very fine lot of rams sent in by Messrs. Clark Brothers were very much [illegible] Their five dense ewes averaged £25 4s. They were certainly the best sent in for the [illegible] The Lincolns and Shropshires did not fare better. The champion Lincoln at the recent show at Sydney went for the absurdly low price of 15gs.

On the Tuesday Messrs. Hill, Clark, and Co., in conjunction with Messrs. Powers, Rutherford, and Co., of Melbourne, were the auctioneers. The catalogue comprised 200 merinos and 300 long-wools, and the lot was disposed of in good time. The sheep were classified in sections of merinos, Lincolns, and Shropshires. The [illegible] satisfactory for merinos. The lot submitted by the Collaroy Company, Limited, averaged 63gs., the highest price paid being 230gs. This was for a stud ram three years old, sired by Green Mountains [illegible] eleven months' wool at the time of sale, the purchaser being Mr. E. Jones, of Cadow, Forbes. The total amount of the sales on this day was £3,563 3s. 3d. for 442 rams and ewes sold.

On the Wednesday and Thursday the sales were conducted by Messrs. Goldsbrough, Mort and Co., whose catalogue was a very heavy one—2,650 merinos. The highest price on these days, and which also proved to be of the whole sales, was 600gs., given for Loyalty II., bred by Mr. Thomas Gibson, Eskvale, Tasmania. The bidding for the ram was exteremely brisk, but by persistently raising the figure, Messrs. G. H. Keach and W. H. Bennett, two Tasmanian stud-masters [illegible] for their flock. Loyalty II. is by Loyalty, a grand son of Royal Hero; dam by [illegible] III. by Billy, by Magenta, by Premier, by Sir Thomas. Apart from his [illegible] the best sent over from Tasmania. Mr. Gibson's eight rams made the fine average of £215 5s. 7d. Another Tasmanian [illegible] John, bred by Mr. W. H. Bennett, of Bloomfield, to Mr. George Bruce, of Loombah, near Molong, for 280gs. Sir John was bred by Mr. John Taylor, of Wynton, and was [illegible] by the Sydney Wool-selling [illegible] the best-conducted [illegible] town, Tasmania, sheep show. The Hon. F. W. Haddy also [illegible] Young Ewe [illegible] years old, brought 310 [illegible] bidding for the sheep of Mr. R. T. Gibson, of Eskvale. Sterling [illegible]

cured at 300gs. by Mr. Stewart, for a Riverina firm, and the other rams sold also well, the eight making the fine average of £163 16s. Thus father and son obtained the two best averages of the sale. Last year Mr. John Taylor, of Winton, obtained the splendid average of £293, but on this occasion he did not send his best, and the result was his average was greatly reduced, fully to as low as £46. Mr. Herbert Gatenby's sheep created a bit of a stir amongst the bidders. The first ram, Royalty, a son of the 1,000-guinea Royalist, was a very fine animal, and at 505gs. Mr. E. Martin, who purchased for a New South Wales pastoralist, secured a valuable ram at a reasonable price. Mr. Martin also secured two other very fine sheep, one in Mr. Russell Gibson's lot, a son of Puritan, at 170gs.; and the other in Mr. S. H. Grueber, jun.'s lot, in Commander-in-Chief, a son of President, at 250gs.

On the concluding day the lots were as usual composed of imported stock. The offerings consisted of 48 Vermont merinos, namely 23 stud rams and five stud ewes, imported by Messrs. Morrison and P. B. Norton, and 43 Spanish and American merino rams and ewes, registered in the Vermont and New York Sheepbreeders' Association. One of Messrs. Morrison and Morton's ewes realised 160gs., which is the highest price paid for a ewe in Sydney for many years past. These two consignments were submitted by Messrs. Hill, Clarke and Co. Messrs. Weaver and Perry also offered 10 Gadegast and four Rambouillet rams imported from Germany. The former lot were with but one exception, which realised 100gs., sold to a Queensland breeder, whose name was not mentioned.

On the whole, in face of the disturbing elements which prevailed previous to the sales, the stud sheep fair of 1900 must be numbered amongst the best. Below we give a summary of the sale.

	Merinos.		
	Total.		Average.
795 stud rams	£21.873 18 6		£27 10 4
227 stud ewes	2,970 19 6		13 1 3
2261 flock rams	12,055 2 0		5 8 7
	British Breeds.		
224 rams	£687 6 0		£3 0 7
53 ewes	138 6 0		2 12 2
3560	£37,726 12 0		

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending August 18th, 1900:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	130	289	789	533	14,421	22,965	31,642	30,702
	Outbreaks.	No.	27	30	41	39	1,448	1,783	1,784	1,722
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Other Animals	No.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	12
	Cases Reported. Dogs.	No.	:	1	:	3	:	3	14	112
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle slightly affected. Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	:	:	:	:	220	718	
	Diseased.	No.	:	:	:	:	:	1	43	
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	:	:	:	:	1	6	
Glanders and Farcy.	Animals Attacked	No.	39	43	36	23	1,171	910	936	961
	Outbreaks.	No.	24	19	21	16	688	481	498	559
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	3	:	:	:	158	:	:	:
	Outbreaks.	No.	1	:	:	:	11	:	:	:
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	23	35	8	9	609	682	577	632
	Outbreaks.	No.	8	10	7	7	359	342	377	592
Period.			Week ended Aug. 18, 1900	Corresponding week in	1899	1898	1897	Total for 33 weeks. 1900	Corresponding period in	1899	1898	1897

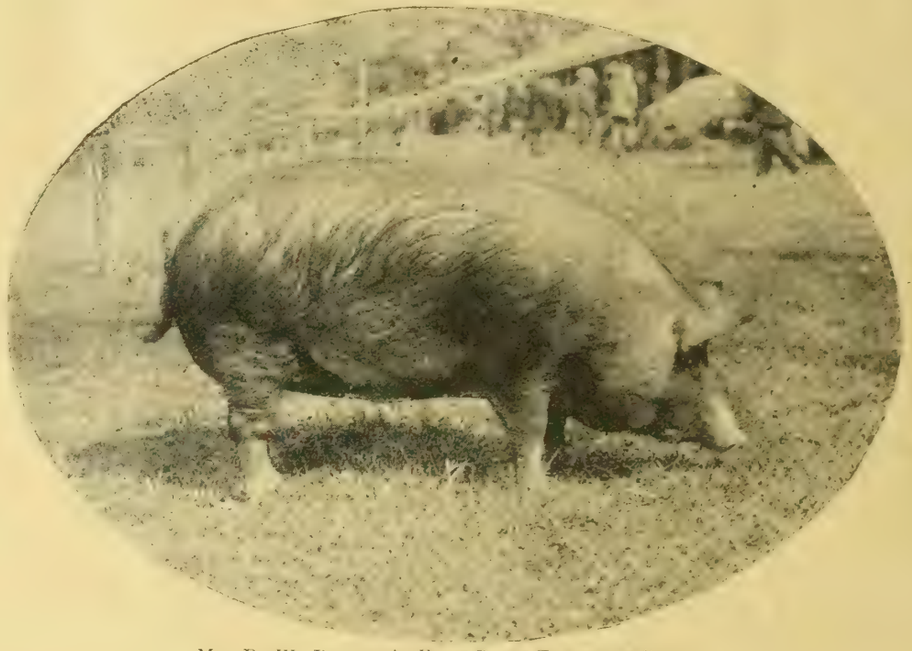
NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

Horncastle Horse Fair.—This annual fair took place last week. The principal day was Monday, when a very large number of all classes of horses were brought into the town, and a numerous company were present. There was a good trade for better class horses, but many of the inferior sort were left unsold. Those suitable for Army purposes found a ready sale. Good cart horses made £60 to £80 each. Van horses were a slow trade, while there was no business whatever among Welsh animals. During the afternoon, Mr. Joseph E. Walter, auctioneer, disposed of thoroughbred horses belonging to Mr. W. Taylor Sharpe, Baumber Park, Horncastle, and Mr. W. E. Elsey, Baumber House, Horncastle. The highest price realised was 95gs.

PIGS.

Too Sour Food for Pigs.

Mildly sour food for hogs is all right. But when the house slops in the swill barrel have turned to acetic acid or vinegar, the matter of sourness is carried too far. Soured skim milk or butter milk is excellent for hogs when mixed with ground grain of some sort, but when it is put into that oversoured swill barrel it soon becomes like the rest of the mass, and such food causes looseness of the bowels and disturbs the digestive organs in many ways. Where maize or maize meal is the exclusive grain food, properly soured slop may be fed with advantage, but when it has reached the vinegar stage it has lost its ability to make fat or growth. For sows nursing pigs such excessively sour stuff is the worst kind of food, being almost sure to cause diarrhœa in the pigs. Such sour stuff often creates an aversion to good food, and an abnormal appetite that earth, sand, old boots, etc., are eaten to satisfy. This is a manifestation of the demand of nature to get alkaline salts into the system to neutralise the gases generated by the acids taken into the stomach.



Mr. D. W. Phillips's First Prize Tamworth Sow.

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Dublin, August 26, 1900.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head. £ s. d.	Average Live weight. c. qr. lb.	Average price per cwt. £ s. d.
2	Bullocks (prime) ..	19 10 0	11 0 14	1 15 1
7	,, ,, ..	21 0 0	12 1 20	1 13 9
*8	,, ,, ..	19 2 1	11 1 17	1 13 6
10	,, (very good) ..	20 0 0	12 0 0	1 13 4
3	,, ,, ..	19 0 0	11 3 0	1 12 4
6	,, (good) ..	19 0 0	11 3 23	1 11 9
13	,, ,, ..	15 5 0	9 3 24	1 10 7
6	,, (fair) ..	15 7 6	14 0 19	1 10 3
7	,, ,, ..	19 0 0	12 2 20	1 9 11
3	Heifers (prime) ..	15 10 0	9 0 9	1 14 1
5	,, ,, ..	14 10 0	8 3 0	1 13 2
8	,, (very good) ..	17 0 0	10 0 3	1 13 11
2	,, ,, ..	15 4 0	9 2 0	1 12 0
*4	,, ,, ..	13 14 0	8 2 7	1 12 0
5	,, (good) ..	16 0 0	9 3 11	1 12 6
4	,, ,, ..	16 10 0	10 2 7	1 11 3
22	Wethers (very good) ..	2 10 0	1 1 16	1 15 10
35	,, ,, ..	2 17 0	1 2 15	1 14 10
20	,, (inferior) ..	1 2 0	0 3 0	1 9 4
15	Ewes (good) ..	2 5 0	1 1 18	1 12 11
3	,, ,, ..	2 4 0	1 1 19	1 11 1
28	Hoggets ,, ..	2 13 6	1 1 27	1 15 11
30	,, (fair) ..	2 4 0	1 1 1	1 15 0
12	,, ,, ..	1 14 0	1 0 2	1 13 4
30	,, (inferior) ..	1 17 0	1 0 18	1 11 9
34	,, ,, ..	1 13 0	1 0 6	1 11 4
4	Lambs (good) ..	1 7 6	0 3 0	1 16 8
40	,, (fair) ..	1 4 0	0 2 17	1 16 11
10	,, ,, ..	1 3 0	0 2 20	1 14 1
38	,, (inferior) ..	1 0 0	0 2 13	1 12 4
20	,, ,, ..	1 3 0	0 2 25	1 11 9

Belfast, Aug. 25, 1900.

		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.
1	Bullock (prime) ..	15 5 0	8 3 21	1 14 2
2	,, (very good) ..	15 12 6	10 0 10	1 12 11
2	,, ,, ..	15 7 6	9 2 0	1 12 4
1	,, ,, ..	15 5 0	9 2 0	1 12 1
1	,, ,, ..	18 0 0	11 1 14	1 11 8
1	,, ,, ..	12 15 0	8 1 0	1 10 11
*1	Cow (prime) ..	15 15 4	10 3 14	1 9 0

* Sold by live weight.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*]

There was a small fair at Fethard, co. Tipperary, on Tuesday, at which demand was rather slow, and a number of cattle remained unsold. A fair supply of springers only met a moderate demand. Prices: Yearlings, first class, £8 5s. to £9; second class, £6 to £7 12s. 6d.; third class, £5 5s. to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 5s. to £13 15s.; second class, £9 to £11; third class, £7 10s. Three-year-olds, first class, £14 15s.; springers, first class, £14 15s. to £16 10s.; second class, £10 10s. to £13 12s. 6d.; lambs, first class, £1 5s. to £1 7s. 11d.; second class, 19s. to £1 4s.; hoggets, second class, £1 6s.; young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, averaged about 17s. each.

There was a small fair at Cushendall, co. Antrim, on Tuesday, at which cattle in good condition and also sheep sold well. Prices:—Yearlings, second class, £6 10s. to £7 5s.; third class, £3 1s. 3d. to £3 13s. 9d. Two-year-olds, second class, £8 5s. to £9 13s. 4d.; third class, £5 17s. 6d. to £7 10s. Three-year-olds, third class, £7 12s. 6d. to £8. Springers, second class, £10 15s. to £13 2s. 6d.; third class, £8 17s. 6d. Lambs, second class, 19s. to £1 1s.; third class, 10s. 3d. to 14s. Hoggets, second class, £1 5s. to £1 9s.; third class, 16s. to £1 2s. Two-years-old and over, second class, £1 10s. to £1 11s. 3d.; third class, £1 to £1 4s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, averaged about 20s. each.

The fair at Loughrea, co. Galway, held on Monday, was a small one, but proved quite sufficient for the demand, which was by no means brisk, except for Polled cattle, and these were bought up early. A good many young cattle in poor condition remained unsold. The supply of sheep was smaller than usual, and the demand slow, especially for lambs, a large number of which failed to find purchasers. Prices:—Calves, first class, £4 12s. 6d. to £5; second class, £3 12s. 6d. to £4 5s. Yearlings, first class, £7 10s. to £8 5s.; second class, £5 15s. to £6 15s. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 to £11 15s.; second class, £7 15s. to £9 10s.; third class, £6 7s. 6d. to £7. Three-year-olds, first class, £13 10s. to £15 10s.; second class, £10 10s. to £13; third class, £7 15s. to £9 10s. Springers, first class, £15 5s. to £16 10s.; second class, £11 to £13 10s. Lambs, second class, £1 2s. 6d. to £1 5s.; third class, 15s. to 19s. Hoggets, second class, £1 11s. 6d. to £1 13s.; third class, £1 to £1 6s.

At Baltinglass Fair (co. Wicklow), held on Tuesday, there was only a small supply of cattle, and those in good condition sold fairly well, but demand for others was very dull, and a good many remained unsold. Prices: Calves, first class, £5 10s.; yearlings, first class, £9 15s.; second class, £5 12s. 6d. to £6 17s. 6d.; two-year-olds, first class, £12 to £13; second class, £8 10s. to £11 10s. The sheep fair was composed chiefly of Wicklow mountain wethers, and the demand was not very brisk. Two-year-olds and over, second class, made from £1 4s. to £1 14s.

There was a glut of fruit in Covent Garden Market on Wednesday, and the prices ruled very low. A large consignment of greengages were sold in the Floral Hall at the rate of one penny and three halfpence a box.

SHOWS.

Belper Horse Show.

On Wednesday the tenth annual exhibition of the Belper and District Horse Show was held in the pleasantly situated meadows, which are not far from the centre of the town, and form an ideal location for the visiting public. Fortunately, the weather was tolerably fine, a few showers falling about one to two o'clock. They were not of long duration, and only slightly interfered with the proceedings. Though there was a slight numerical falling-off in the entries in the local classes, restricted to a fifteen miles radius, the strength of the open classes was well maintained, and the standard of merit all round was considered by the judges to be a good deal above the average.

Among the prizes offered were a thirty-guinea challenge cup, the gold medal of the Shire Horse Socity, the silver medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society, and the silver medal of the Hackney Society.

In the Shire section there was a very slight falling off in the entries, the diminution, for which no special reason could be assigned, being particularly noticeable in the local classes. In those upon which no restriction of locality was placed, the colts and fillies made a very good show, and many experienced judges expressed the opinion that the filly foals were the strongest lot seen in any show ring in the district this season. The winner in the open filly foal class was Mr. Victor Cavendish's bay filly Holker Minerva. The Belper Horse Society's challenge cup and the Shire Horse Society's silver medal were deservedly awarded to this filly. The open colt class brought out a string of ten, which included some of the best Shire colts to be found in the adjoining counties. The premier award was well won by Mr. R. G. Hanson's beautiful bay by Harold. At the Notts Show he was placed third in a similar class, being beaten on that occasion by Mr. J. Hodson's chestnut colt and Mr. A. P. Muntz's Dunsmore Lieutenant, but on Wednesday this ruling was reversed, Dunsmore Lieutenant, who was second, has a little more substance than the winner, and has won first prizes this season at the Northampton, Leicestershire and Burton Shows, in addition to the second at Nottingham. Outside of the foal classes, there were no particularly notable exhibits in the Shire horse section, though a high level of excellence was generally maintained. In the class for four-year-old mares, Mr. F. W. Lowndes came first with his well-known Rolleston Fuchsia, which has been a prolific prize-winner all over the country. In the light horse section, there were only two open classes of hunters, and in both of these Mr. F. B. Wilkinson, of Edwinstowe, Notts., very nearly swept the board clean of prizes, securing first and second prizes for both mares and foals. There was absolutely no opposition to Mr. Wilkinson's bay mare in the brood mare class, and some people were rather surprised to see her competing at Belper. The hunter colt and filly class resulted very similarly, Mr. Wilkinson again securing both first and second. In the Hackney classes, Mr. G. Welch, of Castle Donington, repeated in the open foal class the success he had gained in the local competition with his bay colt foal by the well-known Grand Cadet. Mr. H. Hole's Chellaston Countess being a very good second. Messrs. Cockayne Bros., of Sheffield, won premier honours in the Hackney mare class with a well-known mare which was well up to show form, Mr. J. T. C. Eadie, Barrow-on-Trent, being placed second and third with a couple of mares of his own breeding. The yearling class brought out nine stylish-looking Hackneys for adjudication. Mr. Hussey's Puzzle at once took the fancy of the judges. This chestnut is a typical Hackney, moving with great dash and style, and, in addition to the first prize in its class, brought the Hackney Horse Society's medal to Mr. Hussey. In the harness and saddle classes, Mr. F. B. Wilkinson repeated his successes amongst the hunters, securing the red rosette for both light and heavy weights. In the pony classes Mr. R. Hussey's Bog Myrtle took first place in the class confined to ponies under 14 hands which had not previously won a first prize in harness, and the same animal was placed second to Mr. A. E. Franklin's ever-victorious Lord Go-Bang in the unrestricted pony class. Lord Go-Bang had no difficulty in heading his class again under the riding test.

Barnsley.

The twentieth annual show of the Barnsley Agricultural and Horticultural Society took place on Wednesday in the Queen's Grounds, Barnsley, and until five o'clock the weather was fine, and then rain fell, but by this time the attendance was assured, and the receipts amounted to nearly £500. Up to two years ago the committee had had exceedingly bad luck, but the last two shows were financially successful, and up to the present there was a substantial balance of £400 in the bank. The prizes offered amounted to about £600, about £50 more than last year. The increase was principally in the awards in the dog section. The total entries were 635, which showed a falling off as compared with previous years. Though cattle and sheep were not numerous they made up in quality what they lacked in quantity. In many of the classes there was little or no competition. The paucity of sheep could only be accounted for by the fact that neighbouring farmers were busy with the hay-st. The horses, so far as quality was concerned were above the average.

The chief awards were as follows:—

Prize List.

CATTLE

(Open to the United Kingdom.)

Shorthorned bull, any age: 1, G. Harrison, Darlington; 2, C. H. Taylor, Middlewood Hall; 3, A. Blackwell, Oughtibridge.

Shorthorned bull, not exceeding two years: 1, T. Atkinson, Barnsley; 2, C. H. Taylor; 3, W. L. Jackson, Hollingthorpe.

Shorthorned cow or heifer in calf or in milk: 1, G. Harrison; 2, Earl of Wharncliffe; 3, J. Atkinson.

Shorthorned heifer, not exceeding two years: 1, G. Harrison; 2, J. and G. Brooke, Denby Dale.

Cow for dairy purposes: 1, C. H. Taylor; 2, J. Grayson, Park Head Farm; 3, A. Swift, Wombwell High Bridge.

Cow or heifer, in calf or milk: 1, J. Grayson; 2 and 3, A. Swift.

SHEEP

(Open to the County of York.)

Ram, any age (short woolled breeds): 1 and 2, B. H. Brookbank, Tickhill; 3, R. Richmond, Carlton.

Ram, any age (long woolled): 1 and 2, J. J. Simpson, Hunmanby.

Pen of three ewes (long woolled), having suckled lambs during 1900: 1, T. Nightingale, Bridlington; 2, C. Howard Taylor.

Pen of three ewes (short woolled), having suckled lambs during 1900: 1 and 2, B. H. Brookbank.

Pen of three tup lambs, of any breed: 1, T. Nightingale; 2, J. J. Simpson; 3, C. Howard Taylor.

Pen of three gimmer lambs, any breed: 1, T. Nightingale; 2, J. J. Simpson.

HORSES

AGRICULTURAL

(Open to residents within a radius of twenty miles of Barnsley.)

Brood mare, with foal at foot: 1, H. Yates, Cleckheaton; 2, F. Turner, Ardsley; 3, J. Hirst, Burton Grange.

Foal, bred 1900: 1, H. Yates; 2, F. Turner.

Yearling colt or filly: 1 and 2, J. Hirst.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, H. Moorhouse, Denby Dale; 2, H. Yates; 3, Barnsley Hematite Steel Company.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Oldroyd Brothers, Newsam Green; 2, F. Turner.

Draught gelding or mare, four years old or upwards: 1, Oldroyd Brothers; 2, H. Yates; 3, Mrs. Gregson, Wombwell.

Silver cup for best brood mare with foal at foot: F. Turner.

Roadster mare with foal at foot: 1 and 2, D. Hopkinson's Exors., Bradford; 3, G. Clarke, Doncaster.

HUNTERS

(Open to the United Kingdom.)

Brood mare, with foal at foot: 1, J. L. Appleyard, Armthorpe, Doncaster; 2, R. Richmond; 3, R. K. Micklethwait, Ardsley House.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, B. Chambers, Walkeringham; 2, R. K. Micklethwait.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, R. K. Micklethwait; 2, C. R. Perry, Ardsley.

Yearling colt or filly: 1, R. K. Micklethwait; 2, C. R. Perry.

ROADSTERS

(Open to the United Kingdom.)

Hackney or roadster, 14.2 and upwards, any age or sex: 1, J. Robinson, Hull; 2, Mrs. L. Murgatroyd, Howden; 3, G. Tyson, Halifax.

Hackney gelding or mare, above 14.2, any age, ridden: 1, H. Carter and Sons; 2, C. Scorah, Bambrough; 3, W. Revill, Conisborough.

Pony, not exceeding 13 hands, driven: 1, G. E. Franklin, Derby; 2, W. H. Hawksworth, Woodhouse, Sheffield; 3, C. Mellor, Wakefield.

Gelding or mare, 14.2 and upwards, in single harness: 1, M. Pearson, Harrogate; 2, Mrs. F. Holmes, Shipley; 3, G. Tyson, Halifax.

Hackney gelding or filly, not exceeding 14.2, ridden, radius ten miles: 1, H. Carter and Sons; 2, A. P. Robinson, Wakefield; 3, C. Scorah, Bambrough.

Gelding or mare, not exceeding 14.2, in single harness (open): 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, G. E. Franklin; 3, C. Kempe, Castleford.

Roadster gelding or filly, any age, not exceeding 14.2, in single harness, radius ten miles: 1, A. P. Robinson; 2, C. Scorah; 3, W. Revill, Conisborough.

Gelding or mare, not exceeding 14.2, ridden (open): 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, G. E. Franklin; 3, C. Kempe.

Gelding or mare, used for professional or trade purposes, open to residents within the borough of Barnsley: 1, C. E. Smith, Barnsley; 2, H. Carter and Sons; 3, J. Matthewman, Barnsley.

Pony in single harness, open to residents: 1 and 2, C. E. Smith; 3, J. S. Rolfe, Barnsley.

Hunters, four years old and upwards (open): 1, J. Verity, Swinton; 2, W. Lockwood, Shiregreen; 3, A. Wentworth, Wentworth.

JUMPING

(Open to the United Kingdom.)

Best jumper: 1, F. G. Foster, Brailsford; 2, W. Jerome, Sutton-in-Ashfield; 3, Mrs. Blockley, Madeley.

Lancaster.

The thirty-seventh annual show of the Lancaster Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday, and fully maintained the society's reputation for an exhibition of first-class stock. Horses, as usual, formed the chief feature. The total entries numbered 1,163, which is the largest since 1891, when a record was reached. The heavy horse classes, in which the entries numbered 138, an increase of 64 on last year, brought out many of the best specimens of the breed to be found in the Fylde and Garstang districts. The yearling Scotch Light, by Warton Twilight, with which Messrs. E. and J. Whinnerah were winners, was noticed at the Royal Lancashire Show. The Hon. Victor Cavendish was, as usual, a prominent exhibitor and prize-winner. Light horses afforded another proof of the advance that has been made in Hackney breeding in this locality in recent years, the entries having a satisfactory improvement both in number and quality. The Hackney Society's medal was awarded to Golden Girl, a well-known prize-winner, belonging to Mr. Levi Fish, of Bleasdale Steel, Burton, near Preston. The hunter section, though small, contained fair specimens of the cross-country horse to be found in Westmorland and in the Lune Valley. The cattle were a good lot, as were also the sheep, the feature in the latter section being the Wensleydale classes.

The following gentlemen officiated as judges:—Cattle, Mr. A. Dixon, Temple Sowerby, and Mr. J. Howard, Grayrigg. Sheep, Longwools, Mr. Aaron Lewin, Kirkby Lonsdale; and Mr. W. Carr, Colchester; short woods, Mr. H. Tappin, Shelton, Penrith. Heavy Horses, Mr. I. Duckworth, Bury, and Mr. Joseph Hill, Congleton. Hackneys, Mr. Austin C. Carr, Chester. Hunting or Harness Horses, Mr. R. Warfield, Liverpool. Saddle and Harness Ponies, Mr. R. Whitfield and Mr. Austin C. Carr. Hunters, Mr. R. Whitfield. Leapers, Mr. R. Burrow, Mr. J. Turner, and Mr. Marshall Tyson.

Prize List.

CATTLE

Wensleydale [illegible]

[illegible]

Shorthorned bull, [illegible]: 1, J. Dawson, Moss Side; 2, J. Hoodless, Moss Side; 3, J. Dawson.

Shorthorned bull, [illegible]: 1, W. [illegible]; 2, J. Hoodless.

Shorthorned cow or heifer, [illegible]: 1, [illegible]; 2, W. [illegible]; 3, J. Hoodless.

Shorthorned heifer, [illegible]: 1, [illegible]; 2, W. [illegible]; 3, J. Hoodless.

Shorthorned bull, [illegible]: 1, [illegible]; 2, J. Hoodless; 3, W. [illegible].

Shorthorned cow or heifer, [illegible]: 1, [illegible]; 2, J. Hoodless; 3, W. [illegible].

Shorthorned heifer, [illegible]: 1, [illegible]; 2, J. Hoodless; 3, W. [illegible].

five miles of the Lancaster Town Hall: V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P.

Foal, yearling, two-year-old, or three-year-old Shire filly, bred by the exhibitor, within twenty-five miles of the Lancaster Town Hall: V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P.

Shire mare, filly, or filly foal, registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P.

Collection of horses for agricultural purposes, the property of a bonâ-fide tenant farmer: 1, E. Thompson; 2, T. Longton.

Collection of three young animals in the agricultural classes, three years old or under, to be in the hands of the breeder: T. Longton.

HACKNEYS.

Yearling colt, gelding, or filly: 1, R. Moore Birley, Houghton Hall, near Preston; 2, Lees Knowles, M.P., Westwood, Pendlebury.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, L. Fish, Blacow Stud, Barton, near Preston; 2, W. Lawson, 20, Alexandra Road, Blackpool.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, W. Lawson; 2, J. Clarkson, Carnforth.

Colt foal: 1, R. Moore Burley, Houghton Hall, near Preston; 2, R. Burrow, Greenbank, Whittington.

Filly foal: 1, T. B. Sykes, Breck House, Poulton-le-Fylde; 2, H. T. Parke, Withnell Fold, near Chorley.

Mare, which has produced a foal in 1900: 1, J. W. Liver, Calder Vale Stud Farm, Barnacre; 2, L. Fish.

Pony mare, three years old and upwards, not exceeding 14 hands high: 1, R. Harrison, Salisbury Mews, Chorley; 2, H. T. Parke.

Foal or yearling or two-year-old by registered Hackney sire (within fifteen miles of Lancaster Town Hall): 1, E. D. McNaughton, St. Anthony's Milnthorpe; 2, Colonel W. H Foster, M.P.; 3, R. Burrow.

Foal, yearling, two-year-old, or three-year-old Hackney filly, bred by the exhibitor, within twenty-five miles of Lancaster Town Hall: 1, T. B. Sykes.

Hackney or pony mare, filly, or filly foal, registered or eligible for registration in Stud Book: 1, L. Fish.

HUNTING OR HARNESS HORSES.

Yearling colt, gelding, or filly: 1, Colonel W. H. Foster, M.P.; 2, J. Kidd, Haverflatts, Milnthorpe; 3, Exors. of R. Dowthwaite, Upper Hall, Priest Hutton.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. Kidd; 2, R. Ball, Bolton Holmes, Bolton-le-Sands.

Three-year-old gelding: 1, Exors. of T. Dixon, Priest Hutton; 2, J. Hartley and Co., Mill Head, Carnforth.

Three-year-old filly: 1, R. Newsham, Hornby; 2, T. A. Cornthwaite, Crawthorpe Hall, Burton.

Colt foal: 1, E. Barton, Warton Grange, Carnforth; 2, A. Orr, The Priory Farm, Hornby.

Filly foal: 1, H. L. Storey, Lancaster.

Brood mare, which has produced a foal in 1900: 1, E. Barton; 2, J. Sewell Rigg, Appleby; 3, H. L. Storey.

Three-year-old gelding or filly, in the light horse sections, to be in the hands of the breeder (Challenge Cup Class): 1, W. Lawson, 20, Alexandra Road, Blackpool.

Foal, yearling, two-year-old, or three-year-old hunting filly, bred by the exhibitor, within twenty-five miles of Lancaster Town Hall: 1, R. Ball, Bolton Holmes, Bolton-le-Sands.

Collection of horses in the light horse section, to have been previously entered in the above classes, and young horses, to be in the hands of the breeder: 1, R. Burrow; 2, A. Orr, The Priory Farm, Hornby.

SADDLE CLASSES.

Hackney mare or gelding, over 14½ hands: 1, T. Mitchell, Eccleshill, Bradford; 2, Mrs. F. Holmes, Shipley; 3, J. J. R. Irving, Blackburn.

Cob, mare, or gelding, not exceeding 14½ hands: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, W. Lawson, Blackpool.

Hackney or cob, mare or gelding, any height (confined to ten miles of Lancaster Town Hall): 1, E. Cousins, Lancaster; 2, Misses Leeming, Lancaster.

HARNESS HORSES.

Single turn-out, including horse over 14½ hands, harness, and two or four wheel conveyance: 1, T. Mitchell; 2, Mrs. F. Holmes.

Single turn-out, including cob 14½ hands, or under, harness, and two or four wheel conveyance: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, C. V. Howarth, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Turn-out, including horse or pony, any height, harness, and two or four wheel conveyance (confined to ten miles of Lancaster Town Hall): 1, J. W. Liver, Barnacre; 2, E. Cousins. Milk kitter's turn-out, milk kits not included: 1, W. Nelson, Tarnwater, Ashton, near Lancaster; 2, J. W. Fox, Aldcliffe, Lancaster.

Aspatria.

The Aspatria Agricultural Society's annual show was held on Thursday. The attendance was reduced by the heavy rain which fell in the morning, although the afternoon was fine. The entries numbered over 350, which was about the same as last year. The cattle and sheep classes were stronger, cart horses about an average, but there was a decline in the number of light horses shown. Last year the Society accepted an extra donation from Sir Wilfrid Lawson, M.P., the patron of the Society, on condition that the show was conducted on tee-total principles, but the innovation did not find favour with some of the committee, and this year a return was made to the old system, there being a tent where alcoholic liquors could be obtained.

The following were the principal awards:—

Prize List.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Bull, two years old and upwards: 1, Messrs. Watson, Westward Parks; 2, J. W. Barnes, Wigton.

Bull, calved in 1898: 1, J. W. Barnes; 2, J. Barnes, Baurgh Syke.

Bull calf, calved in 1900: 1, J. W. Barnes; 2, J. Barnes.

Cow or heifer, in calf or milk: 1, A. Adamson, Keswick; 2, T. and J. Wood, Blencogo.

Heifer, calved in 1898: 1, J. Hayton, Wigton; 2, Messrs. Watson.

Heifer, calved in 1899: 1 and 2, J. W. Barnes.

Heifer calf, calved in 1900: 1, T. Richardson, Wreay; 2, Messrs. Watson.

Cross-bred cow or heifer, in calf or milk: 1 and 2, Messrs. Watson.

Shorthorn bull, from one to three and a half years old, the property of a tenant farmer, within a radius of ten miles: 1, Messrs. Watson; 2, J. W. Barnes.

Cottager's cow, in milk: 1, J. Jackson, Aspatria; 2, H. Topping, Wigton.

HORSES.

CART HORSES

Brood mare: 1, J. Hayton; 2, Messrs. Wood; 3, Messrs. Towers, Ireby.

Colt foal: 1, Messrs. Wood; 2, W. Blamire, Crosby.

Filly foal: 1, J. Hayton; 2, W. Blamire.

Yearling colt or filly: 1, J. Wright and Sons, Silloth Farm; 2, J. Hinde, Seaville Cote.

Yearling cart gelding: 1, M. Mashiter Scales; 2, J. Hope, Leegate House.

Two-year-old cart filly: 1, W. Hodgson and Son, Plumbland; 2, J. Hayton.

Two-year-old cart gelding: 1, T. Littleton, Aspatria; 2, J. Atkinson, Howrigg.

Three-year-old cart filly: 1, J. Hayton; 2, J. Hinde.

Three-year-old cart gelding: 1, W. Griffiths, Castlesteads; 2, Messrs. Grainger, Drumburgh House.

Mr. Jolliffe, Goldicote, Stratford-on-Avon, gave a special prize of £5 for the best pair of cart foals or fillies, one, two, or three years old, within a radius of ten miles of the Society: 1, J. Hayton; 2, W. Hodgson and Son.

Mr. Jonathan Williamson, Brownrigg Hall, Allonby, gave the sum of £3 for foals by his entire horses: 1 and 2, W. Blamire.

A sweepstakes of 5s. each, with £2 added by the Society, for the best horse or mare, brood mares excluded, four years old and upwards: 1, W. Griffiths; 2, W. Donald, Row Hall.

SADDLE HORSES.

Brood mare: 1, J. James, Oughterside; 2, W. H. Mulcaster, Longtown.

Colt or filly foal: 1, J. James; 2, Mrs. Twentyman, The Close.

Yearling filly: 1, E. K. Todd, Aspatria.

Yearling gelding: 1, J. James.

Two-year-old filly: 1, J. James; 2, J. Stalker, Low Blaithwaite

Two-year-old gelding: 2, J. T. Rook, Sleightholme.

Three-year-old filly: 1, Mrs. Twentyman; 2, W. H. Mulcaster.

Three-year-old gelding: 1, W. Parkin-Moore, Whitehall; 2, W. Hodgson and Son.

HARNESS HORSES.

Brood mare: 1, S. and W. R. Hinde; 2, J. W. Wilson.

Colt or filly foal: 1, J. W. Gardhouse, Wigton; 2, W. Donald.

Yearling filly: 1, J. S. Atkinson; 2, W. Riddick.

Yearling gelding: 1, B. Bowe; 2, J. Bell, Silloth.

Two-year-old filly: 1, T. Ivison, Wigton; 2, W. Riddick.

Two-year-old gelding: 1, G. J. Snelus, Ennerdale Hall; 2, I. Ashbridge, Wheyrigg.

Three-year-old filly: 1, I. Wills; 2, J. Fishwick.

East Berks Horse Show.

Very unsettled and threatening weather on Thursday did not deter an exceedingly large and fashionable company assembling at Cannon Hill, Maidenhead, on the occasion of the fourth annual show of the East Berks Horse Show Society; and fortunately very little rain fell. The site, which was kindly lent by Mr. Henry Adams and Mr. Fowlie, was a capital one, and, in spite of the torrents of rain on Wednesday, the grass was in excellent order for jumping and driving. The number of entries compared favourably with last year, and the quality throughout was fully up to the mark, if not better than in former years. The hunters and the Shire horses were particularly good. Naturally very considerable interest was centred in the jumping and driving competitions, and some very fine performances were witnessed by the many people who surrounded the spacious ring, and by those who had an even better position on the stand, which, it is pleasing to note, was very largely patronised. The Hunters' Improvement Society, the Hackney Horse Society, and the Shire Horse Society between them gave five silver medals in addition to the handsome prizes offered by the promoters of the show. The Marquis of Downshire, the President of the Society, who was accompanied by the Marchioness, was present throughout the day, and each evinced the utmost interest in the proceedings.

The following gentlemen acted as judges: Hunters, Mr. W. H. White and Mr. Lousada; Hackneys, riding and driving classes, Colonel Allan Maclean and Mr. Tresham Gilbey; Shire horses, Mr. John Nix; and jumping classes, Mr. P. G. Barthropp and Mr. Seymour Dubourg, M.F.H.

Prize List.

HORSES

Hunters (open).—Mares and foal at foot (for breeding hunters): 1, Mr. G. A. Mullens, Barrow Hills, Long Cross, Surrey; 2, Mr. R. H. Gosling, Manor House, Waltham-St.-Lawrence, Berks; 3, Mr. Ernest Lawrence, Bracknell, Berks; r, Mr. W. H. Barber, Culham Court, Henley-on-Thames.

Hunters (open).—Foal out of a half-bred mare entered with their dams in class 1.: 1, Mr. W. H. Barber; 2, Mr. A. Gorham, Telscombe, Lewes; 3, Mr. R. H. Gosling; r, Sir Robert Wilmot, Bart., Binfield Grove, Bracknell.

Hunters (open).—Mare or gelding, foaled in 1897, calculated to make a hunter: 1, Mr. T. Milbank, Garnish Hall, Margard Roding, Dunmow, Essex; 2 and r, Mr. J. L. Nickisson, Warfield, Bracknell, Berks; 3, Mr. R. H. Gosling.

Hunters (local).—Colt or filly calculated to make a hunter, foaled in 1898, the property of a resident within the radius of twelve miles of Bracknell: 1, Mr. R. H. Gosling.

Hunters (local).—Colt or filly calculated to make a hunter, foaled in 1899, the property of a resident within the radius of twelve miles of Bracknell: 1 and silver medal, Mr. J. L. Nickisson; 2 and 3, Sir Robert Wilmot, Bart.; r and silver medal, Mr. W. H. Barber.

Hunters (open).—Hunters calculated to carry not less than 14st., four years old and upwards: 1, Mr. A. Gorham; 2, Mr. T. Radmore, Cuddington Court, Cheam, Surrey; 3, Mr. J. H. Stokes, Great Bowden, Market Harboro'; r, Mr. W. Cuthbert, Myton, Warwick

Hunters (open).—Hunters calculated to carry less than fourteen stone, four years old and upwards: 1, Mr. J. H. Stokes, and Mr. A. Gorham (equal); 2 and 3, Mr. W. H. Barber; r, Mr. M. A. Leadbetter, Hazelmer Park, High Wycombe, Bucks; hc, Mr. A. H. Jackson, Glenthorn, Harrow Weald, Middlesex

Hunters (local).—Hunters calculated to carry thirteen stone and upwards, the property of a resident within the radius of twelve miles of Bracknell: 1 and 2, Mr. W. H. Barber; 3, the Hon. Mrs. Vivian, Stoke Poges, Bucks; r, Mr. F. T. Hohler, Brook Lodge, Sunninghill, Berks; silver medal, Mr. F. V. Gooch, Sefton Lawn, Windsor.

Hackneys (open).—Registered Hackney stallions, any age: 1, Mr. T. Radmore; 2, Mr. E. J. Vaughan, Mimbridge Stud, Chobham, Surrey; r, General Sir Charles Brownlow, G.C.B., Warfield Hall.

Hackneys (open).—Registered Hackney mare, with foal at foot, or in foal to a fully registered Hackney sire: 1, Mr. R. T. Thornton, Middleton Hall, Brentwood, Essex; r, Mr. C. E. Brinckman, Fetcham Grove, Leatherhead.

Hacks (open).—Mare or gelding, 15 hands and over (ridden): 1, the Hon. Mrs. Vivian; 2, Mr. H. F. De Paravicini, Mill House, Bourne End, Bucks; 3, Sir Robert Wilmot, Bart.; r, Miss Douglas, 15, Easthourne Mews, Paddington, W.; hc, Messrs. Mawes and Babbing, 3, Cowley Place, Oxford

Hacks (open).—Mare or gelding, under fifteen hands (ridden): 1, Mr. J. L. Nickisson; 2, Miss Maggie Shepherd, The Rosery, West Drayton; 3, Miss Benson, Ankerwycke, Wraysbury, Bucks; r, Mr. A. G. Hutchinson, Sonning, Berks.

Driving (open).—For the best pair of horses driven in double harness or as a tandem: 1, Mr. C. J. Wertheimer, Hedsor House, Bourne End, Bucks; 2, Mr. E. S. Dodsell, Stroud, Gloucester; 3, Mrs. Leeming, Holmwood, Maidenhead; r, Mr. E. Albury, Horse Repository, Reading; hc, Mr. E. D. Stern, Fan Court, Chertsey, Surrey.

Driving (open): Mare or gelding, 15 hands and over (driven): 1, Mr. C. J. Wertheimer; 2, Mr. E. S. Godsell; 3, Mr. F. D. Lambert, Moor Hall, Cookham, Berks; r, Mr. E. J. Vaughan; hc, Mr. E. Albury

Driving (local).—Mare or gelding, 15 hands and over, the property of a resident within the radius of twelve miles of Bracknell (driven): 1, Mr. F. V. Gooch; 2, Mr. F. D. Lambert; 3, Mrs. Leeming; r, Capt. G. T. Cattle, Murrell Hill, Binfield, Berks.

Driving (local).—Cob, mare or gelding, under 15 hands, the property of a resident within the radius of twelve miles of Bracknell station (driven): 1, Mrs. Muller, Mill House, Cookham; 2, Mr. W. C. Cunard, Hawthorne Hill, Bracknell; 3, Mr. F. V. Gooch; r, Mr. O. Dixon, Reading; hc, Mr. E. Albury.

Ponies (local).—Pony mare or gelding, not exceeding 13.2, the property of a resident within the radius of twelve miles of Bracknell (ridden); also a special prize of £5 to the child under twelve, adjudged the best rider: 1, Lady Wilmot, Binfield Grove, Bracknell; 2, Mr. M. E. Headington, High Street, Slough, Bucks; 3, and special for child, Master Vere Seymour, Bartletts, Holyport; r, Mr. O. Dixon; hc, and a special for riding (given by the Association), Miss Kathleen Wilmot.

Shire or agricultural horse (open), mare and foal at foot: 1, Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Great Marlow, Bucks; r, Mr. T. Chettle (for Reading Sanitary Authority), Manor Farm, Reading.

Shire or agricultural horse (local): Mare and foal at foot, the property of a tenant farmer within the radius of twelve miles of Bracknell: 1, Mr. G. Auckland, Warfield, Bracknell, Berks; r, Mrs. Mary Wilson, Binfield, Bracknell, Berks.

Shire or agricultural horse (local).—Colt or filly foal, the property of a resident within a radius of twelve miles of Bracknell: 1, Mr. R. W. Hudson; 2, Mr. G. Auckland; r, Col. A. F. Walter, Bearwood, Wokingham, Berks.

Shire or agricultural horse (local).—Colt or filly foaled in 1899, the property of a resident within a radius of twelve miles of Bracknell: 1 and 2, Mr. R. W. Hudson; 3, Mr. T. Chettle; r, Col. Makins, Rotherfield Court, Henley-on-Thames.

Shire or agricultural horse (local).—Mare or gelding foaled in 1898, the property of a resident within a radius of twelve miles of Bracknell: 1, Col. Makins; 2, Mr. T. Chettle; r, Col. A. F. Walter; hc, Mr. G. Auckland.

Shire or agricultural horse (local).—Mare or gelding foaled in 1897, the property of a resident within a radius of twelve miles of Bracknell: 1 and silver medal, Mr. R. W. Hudson; 2, Col. A. F. Walter; r, Mr. T. Chettle; hc, Messrs. T. Lawrence and Sons, Bracknell.

Shire or agricultural horse (local).—Mare or gelding, any age, bred by the exhibitor, and the property of a tenant farmer within a radius of twelve miles of Bracknell: 1, Mr. G. Auckland; 2, and hc, Mr. W. Peto, Cannon Court, Maidenhead; 3, Mr. R. Horwood, Hall's Farm, Waltham St. Lawrence; r, Mr. T. W. Purser, Tau House Farm, Colnbrook, Bucks.

Shire or agricultural horse (local).—Mare or gelding, any age, the property of a resident within the radius of twelve miles of Bracknell: 1 and silver medal, Mr. R. W. Hudson; 2, Col. A. F. Walter; 3, Col. Makins; r, Mr. T. Chettle.

Tradesmen's class, for the best horse or cob (local) For the best one-horse turn-out, the bonâ-fide property of a tradesman within a radius of twelve miles of Bracknell station, which has been used by him for three months previous to the day of opening the show, solely for trade purposes (driven): 1 (equal), Messrs. Headington and Son, High Street, Slough, and Mr. J. Harding, 120, High Street, Maidenhead; 3, Mr. P. Thompson, 65, High Street, Maidenhead.

Jumping (open).—Mare or gelding, any height, to be ridden in the ring, jumping to be the only point of merit: 1, Mr. C. A. Darnell, Church Farm, Atworth, Melksham, Wilts; 2, Miss Douglas; 3, Mr. J. Wheeler, Shakespear Farm, Studley; hc, Messrs. C. and J. Jerome, Sutton Coldfield, Surrey.

Jumping (local).—Mare or gelding, any height, to be ridden in the ring, the property of a resident within twelve miles of Bracknell: 1, Mr. F. Johnson; 2, Mr. E. Albury; 3, Mr. P. Thompson; r, Sir Robert Wilmot, Bart.

North Lonsdale.

The North Lonsdale Agricultural Society's Show, held at Ulverston, was worthy of an organisation that can boast of the patronage and aid of two such noblemen as the Duke of Devonshire and the Duke of Buccleuch, to say nothing of the interest always taken in the event by the farmers of the neighbourhood themselves. The £455 given in prizes is devoted to the encouragement of well nigh every branch of agriculture, the entries secured in the classes for both light and heavy horses being numerous, and the quality of a high order. The display of cattle and sheep, though smaller than was the case a year ago, was nevertheless of a representative character. Rain fell in the afternoon, but too late to interfere with the show's success financially.

The judges were:—Cattle, Mr. Anthony Cleasby, Sedbergh. Sheep (other than Herdwicks), Mr. James Isherwood, Gargrave. Sheep Herdwicks, Mr. Tom Newby, Gosforth. Heavy horses, Mr. Jos. Paisley, Waresley Park, Hunts, and Mr. T. Savage, Dalston, Carlisle. Hunters, Mr. T. H. Hutchinson, Catterick. Harness and Hackneys, Mr. J. A. Mather, Dumfries.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

Open only to exhibitors residing in the Hundred of Lonsdale North of the Sands—Bull, above two and under four years old: 1 and special, G. Higgin, Broughton Beck, Ulverston; 2, R. Knowles, Newby Bridge, Ulverston; 3, J. P. Brockbank, Holm Bank, Ulverston.

Bull, above one and under two years old: 1, R. Rawsthorn, Gateside, Cark; 2, T. Cummings, Wraysholme Tower, Grange-over-Sands; 3, G. Ashburner, Low Hall, Kirkby-in-Furness.

Bull calf, under one year and not less than four lunar months old: 1, W. J. Gravestock, The High, Greenodd; 2, W. Mason, Outerthwaite, Grange-over-Sands.

Pair of cows or heifers, in calf or milk, three years old and upwards: 1, W. Stephenson, Hawkswell, Ulverston; 2, T. Wilkes, Templand, Grange-over-Sands; 3, G. Ashburner, Low Hall, Kirkby-in-Furness.

Heifer, in calf or milk, two and under three years old: 1, 2, and special, Victor W. Cavendish, M.P., Holker Hall.

Heifer, above one and under two years old: 1, Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P.; 2, G. Ashburner.

Heifer calf, under one year and not less than four months old: 1, Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P.; 2 and special, J. Dacre, Finsthwaite, Newby Bridge.

Cow, best adapted for the dairy: 1, J. Barton, Gargreave, Kirkby-in-Furness; 2, R. Kitching, Ulverston; 3, W. Stephenson, Hawkswell, Ulverston.

SHEEP.

Leicester ram lamb: 1, J. Farrer, Abbotts Reading, Haverthwaite; 2, W. B. Winder, Kirkby Hall, Kirkby-in-Furness. Longwoolled ram, not being Leicester, one-year-old and upwards: 1, J. Phizacklea, Bell Hall, Kirkby-in-Furness; 2, T. K. Postlethwaite, Stank, Barrow-in-Furness. Long-woolled ram, not being Leicester: 1, W. B. Coward, Colt Park, Ulverston; 2, Redmayne Rigg, Wells House Farm, Cartmel. Pen of three white-faced ewes, lamb sucked: 1, R. Rigg; 2, W. B. Coward.

Pen of three white-faced shearling ewes: R. Rigg.

Pen of three white-faced ewe lambs: 1, R. Ormondy, Brest Mill Beck, Dalton-in-Furness; 2, R. Rigg.

Shropshire or other Down ram lamb: 1, R. Rigg; 2, J. Ratcliffe.

Pen of three Shropshire or other Down ewes: 1, J. Ratcliffe; 2, R. Rawsthorne.

Pen of three Shropshire or other Down shearling ewes: 1, J. Ratcliffe; 2, R. Rawsthorne.

Pen of three Shropshire or other Down ewe lambs: 1, J. Ratcliffe; 2, R. Rawsthorne.

Pen of three half-bred shearling ewes, from Herdwick or horned Scotch ewes by a white-faced ram: M. and T. Edmonson, Mansriggs, Ulverston.

Pen of three half-bred ewe lambs, from Herdwick or horned Scotch ewes by a white-faced ram: 1, T. K. Postlethwaite, Stank, Barrow-in-Furness; 2, J. Farrer.

Herdwick ram, one year old and upwards: 1, J. Newby, Aulthurstside, Broughton-in-Furness; 2, J. Dove and Son, Field Head, Outgate, Ambleside.

Pen of three Herdwick ewes, lamb sucked and to show milk: 1, J. Dove and Son; 2, J. Newby.

Pen of three Herdwick ewe lambs: 1, J. Dove and Son; 2, J. Newby.

Pen of three long-woolled ewes, lamb sucked, and three ewe lambs, bred by the exhibitor: 1, R. Rigg; 2, W. B. Coward.

LORD ROTHSCHILD'S JERSEY BULL "PERRY FARM DUPLEX."

HORSES.

AGRICULTURAL.

Mare, either in foal or with foal at foot: 1 and special, W. Dowbiggin, New Hall, Millom; 2, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P.; 3, R. Harrison, Nether Houses, Ulverston.

Colt foal: 1, W. Dixon, Rosthwaite, Broughton-in-Furness; 2 and special, W. Huddleston, Roose Cote, Barrow-in-Furness.

Filly foal: 1 and special, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P.; 2, W. Dowbiggin.

Yearling colt or gelding: 1, M. Newton, Hundow Hall, Greenodd; 2, H. Bell, Gleaston Castle, Ulverston.

Yearling filly: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P.; 2, W. Dowbiggin.

Two-year-old gelding: 1, J. Edmondson, Roosebeck, Ulverston; 2, J. Farrer.

Two-year-old filly: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P.; 2, W. and J. Barton, Gascow, Ulverston.

Three-year-old filly: 1, W. Cotham, Low Levens, Milnthorpe; 2, J. Teasdade, Trinkeld, Ulverston.

Pair of horses (mares or geldings), shown in gear, the whole to be the property of the exhibitor, who shall be a tenant farmer: W. Dowbiggin.

Single horse (mare or gelding), to be shown in cart, the whole of the turn-out to be the property of the exhibitor, who shall be a tenant farmer: 1, R. Harrison; 2, W. Cottam.

Agricultural mares (any age), the property of tenant farmers, served by any of the Holker Shire horses in the season of 1900: J. Teasdale, Trinkeld, Ulverston, R. Harrison, J. Dickinson, Pit Farm, Grange-over-Sands, equal.

HUNTERS.

Brood mare, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, J. S. Rigg, Elm Bank, Appleby; 2, A. Orr, The Priory Farm, Hornby. 3, G. Fell, King's Arms, Flookburgh.

Colt or filly foal: 1, A. Orr; 2, J. S. Rigg.

Yearling colt, gelding, or filly: 1 and special, A. Haslewood, Fairfield Stud, Buxton; 2, E. Hoyle, Moorlands, Bacup.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. Kidd, Haverflats, Milnthorpe; 2, A. Haslewood.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Exors. of T. Dixon, Priest Hutton, Cornforth; 2, J. Kidd, Haverflats.

HARNESS OR HACKNEYS.

Brood mare, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, J. W. Liver, Calder Vale Stud Farm, Barnacre, Garstang; 2 and special, C. V. Haworth, Thornton Lodge, Poulton-le-Fylde; 3, J. Radcliffe.

Colt or filly foal: 1, R. M. Birley, Preston; 2, J. W. Liver.

Yearling colt, gelding, or filly: 1, R. M. Birley, Hoghton Hall, Preston; 2, J. Ratcliffe.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, W. Lawson, 20, Alexandra Road, South Shore, Blackpool; 2, N. Dixon, Priest Hutton, Cornforth.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, W. Lawson; 2, J. Clarkson, Cornforth.

Hackney foal (colt or filly), by thein Hackney stallion Lord Lindsey 6109: 1, J. P. Pumley, Ewen End Bridge, Ulverston; 2, Conishead Priory Co., Ulverston.

SADDLE HORSES.

Hackney, exceeding 14½ and not exceeding 15 hands high, to be saddled and ridden before the judges: 1, J. Mitchell, Ecclesbill, Bradford; 2, J. W. Lever, Bonnicre, Garstang.

Cob or pony, not exceeding 14½ hands high, to be saddled and ridden before the judges: 1 and 2, H. T. Parker, Withnell Fold, Chorley.

Wensleydale.

For their show at Leyburn on the 18th inst. the Wensleydale Agricultural Society received a record entry 598 and the weather being all that could be desired, the attendance of visitors was a very large one, this number, too, being almost a record. The Society has had bigger shows of both horses and sheep in some other years, but never such cattle classes. The increase in cattle and miscellaneous exhibits accounted for the superior numbers, the cattle totalling 148 as against 136 in 1899 and 97 in 1898, and the miscellaneous exhibits 190, as against 181 and 124 respectively for the two preceding years. Sheep with a total of 124 were well up to the average, but the entries of horses, which numbered 136, though a slight increase on the last two years, were considerably smaller than in the preceding years.

A score of Shorthorn bulls, young and old, were comprised in three classes, and two of the first prizes fell to Mr. Thomas Bradley, of Aysgarth. The pick of the cattle, however, were the milkers, and here Messrs. R. Metcalfe and Son, of Burtersett, Hawes, came well to the front with admirable specimens. Mr. A. Greenwood, of Wensley, too, distinguished himself; indeed, the well-filled class in which his dairy cow had pride of place would have done credit to a county or Royal Show. The best cottager's dairy cow was declared to be that bred and shown by Mr. M. Lambert, of Caldbergh, Middleham. In point of quality the sheep well sustained the reputation of the district, and in all respects this section of the show was a useful exposition of what local flockmasters can do. Longwool rams made a grand spectacle. In the open classes the executors of Thomas Willis had things very much their own way, but in the district classes the principal prize winner was Mr. G. R. Etherington. There was a wonderfully good lot of crossbreds. Half-bred lambs, too, attracted particular attention. The light horses, though fairly creditable, were quite overshadowed by those of the heavy type. For a district show it was a singularly attractive display. One of the judges confessed that he had not expected to see such a capital collection of agricultural horses in Leyburn, and both were vastly pleased. An exceptionally satisfactory group of brood mares went into the ring, the winner being a bay belonging to Mr. H. Marsland. Mr. H. M. Waddington's winning two-year-old, a filly sired by Skewkirk Harold, is also a very nice animal.

The judges were:—Cattle—Mr. George Harrison (Gainford, Darlington) and Mr. John Howard (Gargrave, Skipton). Wensleydale sheep—Mr. Robert Metcalfe (Settle) and Mr. R. Raw (Middleton Tyas). Crossbred sheep—Mr. T. Fenwick (Aldbrough) and Mr. Robert Ewbank (Settle). Hunters and roadsters—Mr. J. E. Cawthorn (Ripon) and Mr. Andrew Moscrop (Thorganby Hall, York). Harness and agricultural horses—Mr. J. Theakston (Little Ouseburn, York) and Mr. John White, Appleton Roebuck, Bolton Percy.

The following is a list of the principal awards:

CATTLE.

Shorthorn bull, two years old and upwards: 1, T. Bradley, Bear Park, Aysgarth; 2, R. Ewbank, The Temple, Leyburn; 3, A. Scott, Grange, Middleham. Shorthorn bull, one year old and under two: 1, S. Webster, Thoralby, Aysgarth; 2, B. J. Hodgson, Hallwith, Spennithorne, Leyburn; 3, J. Percival, Carperby, Aysgarth. Shorthorn bull calf under one year old and not over 14: 1, T. Bradley; 2, W. Metcalfe, Thoralby, Leyburn; 3, R. Ewbank. Three cows in milk or in calf, the breeding purposes: 1, R. Metcalfe and Son; 2, W. Hawes; 2, R. Ewbank; 3, T. R. Lodge, Askrigg. Cow of any breed, in calf or milk for dairy purposes: 1, A. Greenwood, Myers Farm, Wensley, Leyburn; 2, T. Bradley. Heifer in calf or milk, for dairy purposes: 1 and 2, R. Metcalfe and Son. Shorthorn cow in calf or milk, for dairy purposes: 1 and 2, R. Metcalfe and Son; 2, R. Ewbank; 3, A. Greenwood. Heifer, above one year old and under two: 1, Lord Bolton, Bolton Hall, Wensley, Leyburn; 2, A. M. Hammond, Low Gill, Aysgarth. Heifer calf, under one year old, hand reared: 1, R. Ewbank; 2, T. Bradley; 3, A. M. Hammond. Two cows in milk or in calf: 1, J. Chapman, Leyburn; 2, H. J. King, Redmire, Leyburn. Two bullocks with all their calf teeth: 1, A. H. King, Wynbury, Leyburn; 2, J. M. Spensley, West Bolton, Aysgarth. Three calves of either sex, born in 1900, hand reared: 1, J. Chapman; 2, J. Packard, Thoralby, Aysgarth. Three calves of either sex, born in 1900, hand reared: 1, A. Calvert, J. Packard. Calf (bull or heifer) under one year old: T. Bradley. Cow in calf or milk for dairy purposes, the property of a cottager whose annual rental does not exceed £25: 1, M. Lambert, Caldbergh, Middleham; 2, W. Pattinson, Bellerby. Heifer under two years old: 1, C. Walker, West Witton, Leyburn; 2, I. Newton, Finghall. Calf under one year old, hand reared, in the hands of the breeder, the property of a cottager whose annual rental does not exceed £20: 1, J. W. Lawson, Hauxwell, Finghall; 2, W. Coates, Wensley, Leyburn.

WENSLEYDALE SHEEP.

(DISTRICT CLASSES.)

Aged ram: 1, T. Styan, Park Gate, Wensley, Leyburn; 2, Exors. of T. Willis, Manor House, Carperby, Aysgarth. Shearling ram: 1, G. R. Etherington, The Grange, Hornby, Leyburn; 2, J. Percival, Carperby, Aysgarth; 3, J. Close, Carperby, Aysgarth. Ram lamb: 1, G. R. Etherington; 2, Exors. of T. Willis; 3, B. Raw, Carperby. Three shearling ewes suitable for crossing with Scotch ewes: 1, G. R. Etherington; 2, J. Percival; 3, T. F. King, Edgley, Leyburn. Pen of three ewes, having suckled lambs this season up to 15th June: 1, Exors. of T. Willis; 2, G. R. Etherington. Pen of three shearling ewes: 1, J. Close; 2, G. Storey, Hill House, Harmby, Leyburn. Shearling ewe, not having been previously exhibited: 1, F. Crowe, Cover Bridge, Middleham; 2, J. Close. Pen of three gimmer lambs: 1, J. Percival; 2, Exors. of T. Willis.

(OPEN CLASSES.)

Shearling ram: 1, Exors. of T. Willis, Manor House; 2, S. W. Ryder, King's Head Hotel, Middleham; 3, B. J. Hodgson, Hallwith, Spennithorne, Leyburn. Ram lamb: 1, 2, and 3, Exors. of T. Willis. Three shearling rams: 1, W. Clearsby, Islebeck Grange, Thirsk; 2, H. Rowlandson, Newton Morrell, Darlington; 3, E. Horsman, Broken Brea Farm, Richmond, Yorks. Three shearling ewes: 1, Exors. of T. Willis; 2, W. Clearsby.

OTHER BREEDS.

(DISTRICT CLASSES.)

Three half-bred ewes, having suckled lambs this season to 15th June: 1, P. W. Plews, Craken House, Leyburn; 2, R. Ewbank. Three half-bred shearling ewes: 1, J. Ridley, Manor House, Bellerby, Leyburn; 2, J. Suttill, Carlton, Middleham. Three twice-crossed shearlings of either sex: 1, S. Waddington, Kilgram Grange, Bedale; 2, H. M. Waddington, Thornton Steward, Bedale. Three twice-crossed lambs: 1, F. Whitelock; 2, J. M. Spensley, West Bolton, Aysgarth. Three Scotch ewes, having suckled lambs this season up to 15th June: 1, J. Liddle and Sons, Coverhead, Middleham; 2, J. Ridley. Three Scotch shearling ewes: 1, I. J. Liddle and Sons; 2, F. Robinson, Stainton, Richmond, Yorks. Three half-bred gimmer lambs: 1, W. Scott, Thoralby, Aysgarth; 2, L. Dent, jun., Gayle Ing, Thoralby, Aysgarth. Three half-bred wether lambs: 1, R. Ewbank; 2, D. Utley, West Scrafton, Middleham.

HORSES.

HUNTERS.

Hunter, belonging to a bona fide member of or a farmer residing within the limits of the Bedale and Wensleydale Hunts: 1, W. Jordison, Carlton House, Thirsk; 2, E. T. O. Antrobus, Marton-le-Moor, Ripon; 3, J. Ingledew, Low Fields, Fencote, Bedale. Mare, not being thoroughbred, for breeding hunters, with foal at foot or stinted: 1 and 2, M. D. Peacock, Manor House, Middleham; 3, G. R. Etherington, The Grange, Hornby, Leyburn. Two-year-old hunting gelding or filly, not being thoroughbred: A. Smith, Cote House, Catterick. Yearling hunting gelding or filly, not being thoroughbred: 1, F. Auton, The Grange, Hunton, Bedale; 2, M. D. Peacock. Hunting colt or filly foal, not being thoroughbred: 1, M. D. Peacock; 2, F. Auton; 3, J. Daykin, Glass House, Finghall.

ROADSTERS.

Roadster brood mare, with foal at foot, or stinted: 1, F. Winn, East Witton Mill, Middleham; 2, M. J. Croft, East Witton, Middleham. Two-year-old roadster gelding or filly: 1, D. Utley; 2, H. M. Waddington. Yearling roadster gelding or filly: 1, M. J. Croft; 2, F. Winn. Roadster colt or filly foal: 1, M. J. Croft; 2, J. Croft, Waterloo Farm, East Witton, Middleham.

AGRICULTURAL.

Agricultural mare, with foal at foot, or stinted: 1, H. Marsland, Fleets Farm, East Witton, Middleham; 2, H. M. Waddington; 3, Right Hon. Lord Bolton, Bolton Hall, Leyburn. Three-year-old agricultural gelding or filly: 1, W. Brown, Akebar, Finghall; 2, F. Winn; 3, S. Waddington. Two-year-old agricultural gelding or filly: 1, H. M. Waddington; 2, W. R. Allison, Thornton Lodge, Finghall; 3, W. Tweddell, Manor House, Leyburn. Yearling agricultural gelding or filly: 1, W. R. Allison; 2, J. T. Hird, Barden, Finghall; 3, W. Tweddell. Agricultural colt or filly foal: 1, Right Hon. Lord Bolton; 2, R. Pease, Hutton Hill, Finghall; 3, J. T. Hird. Agricultural colt or filly foal, by Musulman or Bar None Conqueror II., belonging to A. Grandage, Esq. (open): 1, R. Pease; 2, F. Winn. Agricultural mare, in the Novice Class, queen H. Rya, Crusader, Miss [illegible] or Rosie Prince II. (open): 1, F. Winn; 2, H. Marsland; 3, F. Hunter, East End House, Spennithorne, Leyburn. Pair of agricultural horses, either sex, to be shown in plough harness, prizes also for the man in charge of the horses, whose property they are: 1, [illegible]; 2, [illegible]; 3, [illegible]. Pair of agricultural geldings, the property of tenant farmers: 1, W. Tweddell; 2, [illegible]; 3, [illegible]. Special prize, B. J. Hodgson.

HARNESS.

Horse or mare, of any age, shown in harness, the property of a tenant farmer, and considered by the best judges the most suitable for the purpose: 1, S. R. Smith, Yorks; 2, A. A. Parker, Salmon House, Snape, Bedale. Gelding, mare, or horse, driven in harness, [illegible]; 2, [illegible].

(driving whip for the best coachman): 1 and whip, J. C. Winn, The Grange, Aysgarth. Pony, gelding, or mare, not exceeding 14.2 hands, to be driven in harness in the enclosure: 1, W. R. Allison; 2, H. Johnson, West Burton, Aysgarth. Pony, gelding, or mare, not exceeding 14 hands, to be ridden in the ring: 1, R. Pease; 2, T. Gregory, Leyburn; 3, E. Alderson, Bolton Arms Hotel, Leyburn.

Banwell.

The exhibition of the Banwell and Weston-super-Mare Horse and Agricultural Association took place in the Abbey Grounds, Banwell, on Wednesday, and was favoured with beautiful weather. Entries far exceeded those of any former meeting, being 500 in number, and in this regard the show was a record one. In all there were 150 more entries than last year, mostly in the hunters' mare and foal class. As usual a very large number of visitors, including the president, Mr. Dickinson, M.P., attended the exhibition. Cattle and sheep received a fair share of attention from people engaged in agriculture, but for the general public the riding, driving, and jumping contests had the chief charm. The grand stand was crowded, and the ring thickly lined with people, who watched with keen relish the equestrian feats. Hunters and animals suitable for hunting were well represented, and hacks and harness horses made a very creditable collection. The cart horses were an all-round average lot, the best of them being the two-year-olds, whilst some of the foals were promising. In this department Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., M.P., won several prizes, and was fortunate to gain the championship medal.

Thanks to the enterprise of Sir W. H. Wills, M.P., and some of his neighbours, the cattle in the district of the show have considerably improved in quality. They interest themselves in the farming industry, and have secured some pedigree stock, which they have placed at the disposal of the agriculturists among the beautiful Mendips. Generally speaking, however, the classes were uneven in regard to entries and quality, good animals being found with some by no means up to the standard. The fat cattle were a good lot, if few in number, and the winning animals were of high merit. The bulls of any age were typical of their class, and were essentially useful for tenant farmers, being shown in store condition. The pairs of dairy cows and heifers were useful and sound, but the competition was not very keen. It was rather difficult to deal with the sheep because of the various sorts exhibited together, and there was only one seemingly pure flock among the lot. For a district where sheep-rearing does not receive particular attention the sheep were creditable, but by no means what they ought to be. None of them call for special mention.

HORSES (OPEN CLASSES).

Hunters, weight carriers, up to not less than 15 stone: 1 and 2, Messrs. John and Nixon Gray, St. Fagan's, Cardiff (Colonel and Britain); 3, Messrs. Flower and Mattick, Ston Easton; r, Mr. H. Gillham, Taunton. Hunters, up to 12 stone and under 15 stone: 1, Messrs. John and Nixon Gray (Sportsman); 2, Mr. James Baldwin, Bath (Sportsman); 3, Mr. Edgar Bown, Sherborne (Lady Grey). Hunters, four-year-old: 1 and 2, Messrs. John and Nixon Gray (Cahirmee and Huntsman); 3, Mr. Edgar Brown (Lady Grey); r, Mr. James Baldwin (Cahirmee). Hacks, gelding or mare: 1 and 2, Mr. G. P. Finch, Exeter (The Parson and Miss Eclipse); 3, Mr. G. F. Tilley, Huntspill (Elegance); r, Miss E. C. Nicholetts, Brent Knoll (Pompey). Harness, gelding or mare, to be driven in single harness, any height: 1, Mr. Edward Godsell, Stroud (Lord Bath); 2, Mr. S. R. Selman, Clifton (Lord Cardigan); 3, Messrs. John and Nixon Gray (Princess); r, Mr. Edward Godsell (Duke of York). Cob (in saddle), not to exceed 14 hands 2ins., and not under 13 hands: 1, Mrs. A. M. Budd, Bradford-on-Avon (Little Nipper); 2, Dr. J. Fuller, Long Ashton (Lady Louise); 3, Messrs. M. Tucker and Son, Bath (Lady Vix); r, Mr. Frank Leigh, Westbury-on-Trym. Pair of carriage horses, an yheight: 1, Mr. Edward Godsell, Stroud (Lord Bath and Duke of York); 2, Mr. Robert Weight, St. George, Bristol; r, Mr. G. S. Lysaght, Burnham (Lord Brompton and Lady Brompton). Tandem team: 1, Mr. Edward Godsell (Lord Bath and Duke of York); 2, Mr. S. R. Selman, Clifton (Lord Cardigan and Netpool Swell); r, Mr. Robert Weight. Best pony, not exceeding 13 hands: 1, Mr. S. Wait Tomkins, Cribb's Causeway (Greatheart); 2, Mr. Harold V. James, Backwell (Ragged Robin); 3, Mr. R. Monk, Kingswood (Dolly); r, Mr. J. Stone, Bath. Jumpers, any age, not to exceed 15 hands: 1, Mr. J. Wheeler, Studley (Laddie); 2, Mr. John Coles, Frome (Bampton); 3, Mr. Ben Sims, Cheltenham (Fear Not); r, Mr. W. T. Weaver, Bath (Kitty). Jumpers, over hurdles, timber and wall and fenced water jump, any age or height: 1, Mr. W. H. Gower, Eastville, Bristol (Ninper); 2, Mr. James Baldwin, Bath (Old Cut); 3, Mr. Walter W. Grundy, Worcester; 4, Mr. J. E. Kimber, Abingdon (Skylark); r, Mr. Ben Sims, Cheltenham (Fear Not). Trotting horse in harness, any age or height: 1, Messrs. John and Nixon Gray (St. Ewort's Boy); 2, Mr. John Banwell, Weston-super-Mare (Sister Geneva); r, Mr. J. Trenchard, Wenvoe, near Cardiff (Black Tom). Special prize for lady's hack: 1, Miss Finch (Miss Eclipse); 2, Mr. G. F. Tilley (Elegance); 3, Mr. Frank Leigh; r, Mrs. Tom Jones, Ely, Cardiff (Musa).

LOCAL CLASSES.

Hunters, up to any weight: 1, Mr. Thos. Pearce, Long Ashton; 2, Mr. G. F. Tilley (Elegance); r, Mr. Jim Tilley, Axbridge (Shamrock). Hunters, four years old: 1, Mr. Thos. Pearce; 2 and 3, Messrs. Flower and Mattick, Ston Easton; r, Mr. G. F. Tilley (Elegance). Jumpers, local, any age or height: 1, Messrs. M. and G. E. Ponting, Hewish (Nemo); 2, Mr. G. F. Tilley (Fear Not); 3, Mr. W. T. Weaver, Dunkerton, Bath (Kitty); r, Mr. W. H. Churches, Hewish (Violet). Hacks, local, no restriction as to age or height: 1, Mr. G. F. Tilley (Elegance); 2, Miss E. C. Nicholetts (Pompey); r, Dr. J. Fuller (Lady Louise); Mr. W. L. Rowley, Huntspill (Ruby). Cob (in saddle), not to exceed 14½ hands: 1, Dr. J. Fuller, Long Ashton (Lady Louise); Mr. M. Pope, Banwell (Lottie); r, Mr. G. S. Lysaght (St. Blaise). Mare or gelding, any height: 1, Mr. G. S. Lysaght (Lady Brompton); 2, Mr. Joe Wilson, Weston-super-Mare (Khaki); 3, Mr. H. E. Ball, Backwell (Gaer); r, Mr. F. Cousins, Weston-super-Mare (Countess); c, Mr. William Butler, Kewstoke (Rufus); c, Mr. H. J. Castle, Banwell (Jessie). Four-year-old harness horse, not under 14 hands 2ins.: 1, Mr. W. T. Plimpen, Kewstoke (Pretty Boy); r, Mr. Walter Brice, Wedmore (Tom). Pony, not to exceed 13 hands: 1, Mr. Harold V. James (Ragged John); 2, Mr. Robert Bailey, Bristol (Game Bantam); 3, Mr. A. Anthony, Shipham (Cricket); r, Mr. H. J. H. Baber, Weston-super-Mare (Sunbeam). Colt, gelding or filly, under two years: 1, Mr. G. F. Tilley (Fidget); 2, Mr. E. J. Edwards, Yatton (Lady Day); 3, Mr. James G. Wallis, Kewstoke; r, Mr. Sidney Hill, Langford. Gelding or filly, under three years: 1, Mr. Ernest Dewdney, Chewton Mendip (Watchman); 2, Mr. W. J. H. Porter, Wedmore (Lord Roberts); 3, Mr. G. F. Tilley (Woodranger); r, Mr. John Sadler, Weston-super-Mare (Prince). Mare with own foal at foot: 1, Mr. John Sadler (Queenie); 2, Messrs. J. and S. Burdge, Cross, near Axbridge (Maggie); 3, Mr. E. J. Edwards; r, Mr. G. F. Tilley (Princess). Gelding or filly, under four years: 1, Mr. Ernest Dewdney (Midday); 2, Mr. Mutford Millard, Wedmore (Dolly); 3, Mr. Sidney Hill; r, Mr. R. C. Tilley (Stella). The Hackney Horse Society's silver medal for best hackney or pony mare or filly: 1, Dr. J. Fuller (Bonnie Belle); r, Mr. G. F. Tilley (Elegance). Sucking colt: 1, Mr. G. F. Tilley (Brunette); 2, Mr. John Sadler (Perfection); 3, Mr. G. F. Tilley (Topthorne); r, Mr. G. F. Tilley (Whitesocks). Cart mare, with own foal at foot: 1, Mr. Gilbert Williams, Winford (Regilbury Flower); 2, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., M.P., Blagdon (Jolly); 3, Mr. James Gibson, Langford (Clematis); r, Mr. W. H. Brake, Bawdrip, near Bridgwater. Cart gelding or mare, any age or height: 1, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Scarsdale Marabon); 2, Mr. Jamse Webber, Puxton (Miss Xerxes); 3, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Jolly); r, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart (Rickford Lady Harold). Cart gelding or filly, foaled in 1896: 1, Mr. James Webber (Miss Xerxes); 2, Mr. Thomas Chapman, Kewstoke; 3, Mr. Henry Macey, Brinsea, Congresbury; r, Mr. Gilbert Williams, Winford (Regilbury Champion). Yearling cart colt, gelding or filly: 1, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Rickford Jewell); 2, Mr. W. N. Tilley, Huntspill; 3, Mr. W. H. Brake; r, Mr. Robert Hicks, Hewish. Sucking cart colt: 1, Mr. W. H. Brake; 2, Mr. S. A. Hooper, Huntspill; 3, Mr. Henry Macey; r, Mr. James A. Hicks, Weare; hc, Mr. Gilbert Williams (Regilbury Beauty). The Shire Horse Society's medal for the best Shire mare or filly: , Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Scarsdale Marabon); r, Mr. James Webber (Miss Xerxes).

CATTLE.

RESTRICTED CLASSES.

Pair of fat oxen or steers: 1 and 2, Mr. Thomas Chapman, Kewstoke; r, Mr. C. Tilley, Badgworth. Pair of fat heifers: 1, Mr. T. Chapman; 2, Mr. S. Harding, Hewish. Bull of any age: 1, Mr. Herbert Frost, Winscombe (Red Prince); 2, Mr. John Burdge, Claverham Court (Baron Blagdon IX.); r, Mr. A. Criddle, Locking (Langford Lad); c, Mr. W. Phippen, Woodspring Priory (Ambassador). Bull under two years: 1, Mr. W. Young, Langford (Victor Boy); 2, Mr. James Butt, Lympsham (Ernelo); r, Mr. W. N. Tilley, Huntspill (Prince). Pair of dairy cows, in milk: 1, Mr. Robert Clapp Weare (Muddler II. and Muddler III.); 2, Mr. H. Edwards, Banwell (Pretty and Beauty). Dairy cow, in milk: 1, Mr. H. Edwards (Dairymaid); 2, Mr. J. F. Day, Lympsham (Cherry). Pair of heifers, in milk, above two and under three years: 1, Mr. Robert Clapp, Weare (Bluebell II.); 2, Mr. S. Harding, Hewish. Three-year-old heifer, in milk: 1, Mr. W. Young, Langford (Fuchsia III.); 2, Mr. W. T. Phippen (Pink). Pair of yearling heifers: 1, Mr. Robert Clapp (Bluebell III. and Muddler V.); 2, Mr. Robert Clapp (Fancy III. and Beauty II.); r, Mr. John Burdge (Countess and Duchess). Pair of heifer calves, under twelve months: 1, Mr. W. G. Williams, Chelvey; 2, Mr. Henry Macey, Congresbury; r, Mr. B. W. Collins, Banwell. Bull calf, under twelve months: 1, Mr. John Burdge, Claverham Court ((Baron Blagdon IX.); r, Ernest W. House, Rooksbridge (Thumper); 2, Mr. W. Young (Kruger); r, Mr. R. C. Tilley (Prince Charlie).

OPEN CLASSES.

Bull: 1, Mr. G. F. King, Chewton, Kenysham (Chewton Oxford Cornelius); 2, Mr. Sidney Hill, Langford (Langford Lavender); r, Mr. Sidney Hill (Puck); c, Mr. T. C. Candy, Cattistock (Adonis Foggathrope). Alderney, Guernsey, or Jersey cow or heifer, in milk: 1, Mr. J. H. Powell, Banwell; 2, Mr. F. Hill. 3, Mr. F. V. Bruce, Uphill (Lady Rodney); r, Mr. F. V. Bruce (Belle Beckington). Pair of dairy cows, in milk: 1, Mr. John Little, Trowbridge; 2, Mr. Sidney Hill (Levender Gem).

SHEEP.

RESTRICTED CLASSES.

Ram of any breed: 1, Mr. James Webber, Puxton (Adoniser); 2, Mr. G. Edwards, Wick St. Lawrence. Five ewes, having bred and reared a lamb in the present season: 1, Mr. S. H. Webber, Puxton; 2, Mr. H. C. Davis, Wick St. Lawrence; r, Mr. H. C. Davis. Five fat sheep: 1, Mr. F. J. Court, Blackford; 2, Mr. James Webber; r, Mr. S. H. Webber, Hewish; hc, Mr. J. Franks, West Town; c, Mr. A. Stephens, Banwell; c, Mr. A. Stephens, Banwell. Five lambs, chilver or wether: 1, Mr. W. Butler, Kewstoke; 2, Mr. W. H. Churches, Hewish; r, Mr. W. H. Churches. Ram lamb: 1, Mr. H. C. Davis; 2, Mr. J. Edwards, Wick St. Lawrence; r, Mr. A. C. Burgess, Puxton.

Bakewell Farmers' Club.

The fifty-second annual exhibition of the Bakewell Farmers' Club was held on Wednesday in very fine weather. The Bakewell Show holds a position of some importance amongst the agricultural meetings of the Midlands, especially as regards the Hackney horse section, which always attracts some of the best breeders in the country. The aggregate of entries this year well maintained the totals of previous years, the number and quality of the exhibits in the Hackney horse classes being regarded as exceptionally satisfactory by the committee. The class of Hackney mares brought out a string of ten. Mr. Smedley's bay mare being an easy winner. Messrs. Cockayne Bros.' mare was also regarded very favourably by the judges, but she is getting a little old for the show ring. The judges were so complimentary in adjudicating upon the foal class as to say that Mr. G. Welch's bay is the best Hackney foal seen out this season. It has a remarkably fine all-round action and has all the making of a rare show animal. Messrs. Cockayne Bros. were placed second with a fine foal which was not quite so strong an animal as the first prize-winner. In the Hackney yearling class the winning animal belonged to Messrs. Cockayne. The other exhibits in this class were rather poor. There was a very strong competition amongst the saddle hacks under 14.2 hands, and for her age the winner, Mr. W. Foster's Wet Valley Queen, was an almost perfect animal of her type. Mr. A. S. Day's chestnut Sunshine is also a good quality mare, but did not please the judges quite so much in her riding action. Mr. A. L. Goodson's chestnut, Heathfield Conceit, was an easy winner amongst the saddle hacks over 14.2 hands. The second prize taker, Surprise, a black gelding, owned by Mr. G. Ledson, is a really good animal, but lacking in riding qualities compared with the other. Mr. C. S. Godsell's well-known Norbury Squire was placed third. In the harness classes it was a tight fit for first place between Norbury Squire and Mr. G. Ledson's Surprise, but the first-named moved with a little more freedom, and was awarded premier honours. Mr. G. E. Franklin's bay, Lord Gobang, added another to his long list of successes in the under 14.2 hands class, and showed exceedingly well in harness, Mr. Day's Sunshine being a good second. Lord Gobang secured further honours amongst the ponies. Mr. Day's bay Berkeley Bobs, who came second, requires a little more time to develop into a first-class pony. The final class in the section was for farmers' turnouts, and the judges were somewhat dissatisfied with the definition of the class, it being rather difficult to know what to adjudicate upon. Most of the horses were shown in gigs, which are not usually understood to be farmers' turnouts. Consequently, the decisions gave some dissatisfaction in certain quarters, and a little more definiteness would be advisable another year. In the eight hunter classes Mr. F. B. Wilkinson, of Edwinstowe, Notts., was, as usual, prominent with his well-known bays amongst the prize takers, Dr. Haslewood, of Buxton, being another successful exhibitor. The Shires are, at Bakewell, the less important section of the horse exhibits, the entries being principally confined to the agriculturists of the immediate neighbourhood. There were fifteen classes for cattle, ten for sheep, etc., and four for pigs, and, here again, these were entered from exclusively local exhibitors, though a high standard was generally maintained.

Dumfries.

The Dumfries Agricultural Society's second annual show, recently held, was, in common with others held during the week, marred by unfavourable weather. Following upon a night of heavy rain, there was a lull in the storm in the early forenoon, and the judging was got through in dry weather, but by two o'clock heavy rain again came on, and it continued with little cessation until the stock began to move off the field. Notwithstanding these circumstances, there was a large attendance. The show was a most successful one in respect to the number and quality of the stock forward; and a particularly gratifying feature is that it brings together a very good representation of the stock of the district, landlords, and tenant farmers alike seeming to take an active interest in it, and the competition being widely distributed and not confined to a more or less professional ring. There was an exceptionally good show of Clydesdales, although the proportion of animals known in the national showyards was not large. In a large class of brood mares, Mr. James Crawford, Floshend, was first with Pride of Gretna, which beat Mr. Carson's Robina of Newfield, to which she had to take second place last year, but which on this occasion was only placed third. The second was Mr. Pilkington of Cavens' Maid of Honour. First prizes in foals went to Mr. James Crawford for colt and Mr. Pilkington for filly. In the eild mare class, Mr. John Wilson, Tinwald Shaws, was first and second, with Lady Grace (a daughter of Scottish Standard) and a Goldfinder mare. Mr. Weir, Townhead, Lanark, was an easy winner in the three-year-old filly class with Baron's Queen. A Fortune Still filly, from the Crichton Royal Institution farm, was placed second. Mr. James Crawford's Williamwood filly, champion at Annan and first at Lockerbie, was relegated to third place. The Duke of Buccleuch was fourth with Europa 2nd of Drumlanrig. The two-year-old fillies were the strongest class of the breed. There was a close tie for first place between the exhibits of Mr. Weir, Lanark, and Mr. Wilson, Tinwald Shaws, which was eventually decided in Mr. Weir's favour. The Duke of Buccleuch was third with Mary 2nd of Drumlanrig. In a good yearling class Mr. Carson, Newfield, was first with Lady M'Robert; Mr. Gibson, Hallhill, Irongray, second. There were a large number of geldings of a particularly good class forward, showing that heavy draught horses of a superior stamp are produced in the district. In the old class, Mr. R. Williamson, Tinwald Downs, was first with a massive animal; Mr. Wallace, Terreglestown, second; Mr. Lamont, Ingleston, third. Mr. Wallace, Mauchline, took first prize among the three-year-olds with his Cairnie champion, and Mr. C. H. Maxwell of Dalruscan was a good second. In the two-year-old class Mr. H. Young, Redhills, was first with the colt which was second at Lockerbie, and Mr. Pickton, Torrs, second with a fine, upstanding gelding. Mr. Picken also won first prize in the yearling class, Mr. Woodrow, Cotland, being second. In a small class of two-year-old entries Mr. W. Crawford, Whiteside, was first with Full of Promise, a well-known colt, with specially good fore legs and fine neck and shoulders. His brother, Mr. Peter Crawford, Dargavel, was second with Ethiop. Mr. James Crawford, Floshend, headed the yearling entire class with Scottish Crown. The hunter and other light-legged classes were only moderately filled. Mr. Galbraith, Terregles, and the Hon. Mrs. Vernon, Auchans, were leading prize-takers for Hackneys.

The Galloway cattle made a capital show, the classes being largely composed of winners at the

Highland Show at Stirling. In the bull classes, Mr. R. Wilson, Kilquahanity, with Macdougalt 4th of Tanbreoch, and Mr. D. Brown, Stepford, with Camp Follower of Stepford, were the respective winners, and the same exhibitors secured the first tickets for cows. In the quey class, Lady Stanley 10th, the property of Messrs. T. Biggar and Sons, Chapelton, which was only fourth at Stirling, was promoted to the first place, while Belle 12th of Drumhumphrey, owned by Mr. R. T. Scott, who was awarded premier honours at the Highland, was placed second. Another instance of the reversal of the Stirling awards occurred in the same class, Mr. Scott's Belle 12th, which was second at Stirling, being relegated to the sixth place; while the Duke of Buccleuch's Flint 8th of Drumlanrig, which was seventh at the Highland, was placed before her on Tuesday. Mr. Wilson was first for yearling queys with Maggie of Kilquahanity, while Mr. J. Wilson, Tundergarth Mains, was placed first for pair of quey stirks. There was a particularly good representation of Ayrshire cattle. The male championship was won by Mr. Mitchell of Barcheskie with the Highland champion, Commander, while the female honour went to the Crichton Royal Institution. Sir Mark Stewart, Bart., of Southwick, was first and third for bull stirks with two animals which were sold to go to Japan. In the other classes the principal awards were divided between Mr. G. J. F. Buchanan of Auchentorlie, Bowling, and Mr. Mitchell, and Mr. Slater, Hartburn, Kirkcudbright. In the Shorthorn and fat classes the chief awards went to Messrs. Watson, Wigton, the Earl of Antrim, and the Duke of Buccleuch.

There was a good display of sheep of all classes, the entry showing an increase over last year. Cheviots were especially good all over, particularly the old sheep. Mr. John A. Johnstone, Archbank, Moffat, carried off nearly all the honours, only two of his exhibits not getting cards. Mr. M. S. M'Kerrow, Boreland, of Southwick, ran him very close, beating him on one or two occasions. The black-faced animals were, on the whole, better all over than last year, the shearlings being pre-eminently so. Here, Mr. D. M. Macrae, Stenhouse, Thornhill, and Mr. James Moffat, Gateside, Sanquhar, shared the honours pretty equally between them. Messrs. J. and W. W. Anderson, Reddings, Moffat, also standing well. Border Leicesters and Suffolks made a good show, all classes being well contested. Rev. Sir Emilius Laurie, of Maxwelton, occupied a prominent place in the Leicester prize-list, his 100-guinea tup again taking the red ticket; while the animals sent by Major Baird, Exning, Newmarket, were very smart, and took several prizes. The fat sheep, a section which is of great importance in the district, made a very good show, and showed a great improvement on last year. Messrs. J. and D. Fergusson, Hillend, Auldgirth, were the most prominent winners, with extraordinarily good sheep.

Barnard Castle.

The Barnard Castle Agricultural Society's 101st annual show, held a few days ago, in every respect compared favourably with the majority of previous years. The entries were fairly up to the average, cattle numbering 73, as compared with 72 last year; sheep 55, against 75; and horses 191, against 182; the total number, with minor exhibits, being 445, against 455 in 1899. The horses were a splendid lot, particularly the draught, field, and Hackney lots, but here the awards went to more numerous competitors than was the case in the cattle classes. Sheep were a capital show, and it was not surprising to hear an occasional expression of regret at the abandonment of the wool classes in such a centre as Barnard Castle. The dairy produce was, perhaps, in advance of anything shown during recent years.

Sir Powlett C. Milbank, Bart, M.P., presided at the luncheon, and proposed "Success to the Barnard Castle Agricultural Show"—the oldest but one of similar organisations in the country. Lord Barnard, responding, suggested that the existing order of the executive of the Durham County Council as to the movement of sheep should be accepted and acted upon. The regulation, as it stood, would certainly touch some people rather hardly, but, after all, it was rather moderate in its tone. He was desirous of having more representative farmers on the Durham County Council, though they had failed in that district to carry a gentleman who was practically interested in agriculture, because the great mining industry of the county continued to be of paramount importance. The experimental farms inaugurated at Cockle Park were calculated to do much good. With regard to tuberculosis, an appalling state of things existed in Weardale, as disclosed by statistics. There were evidences of the existence of the disease in Teesdale, yet there were no reliable figures to enable them to trace its extent. He asked his audience to confer with one another in offering counsel to the authorities in an endeavour to stamp out this dread malady.

The principal awards were as follows:—

CATTLE

Shorthorn bull, two years old or upwards: 1, G. Harrison, Gainford; 2, R. T. Tiplady, Bell House, Staindrop. Shorthorn yearling bull: 1, G. Harrison, Gainford; 2, Lord Barnard, Raby Castle. Shorthorn cow, in calf, or having calved since December 31st last: 1, G. Harrison; 2, Lord Barnard. Shorthorn two-year-old heifer, in calf: 1, G. Harrison; 2, R. Metcalfe, Dent Gate. Shorthorn yearling heifer: 1, G. Harrison; 2, Lumb Brothers, Shipley. Bull calf, to be under a year old at date of show: 1, G. Harrison; 2, Lord Barnard. Heifer calf, to be under a year old at date of show: 1, Lord Barnard; 2, Messrs. Metcalfe. Cow for dairy purposes: 1, R. Brunton, High Farm; 2, W. Wilkinson, Barnard Castle. Pair of grazing bullocks, to be shown with all calf teeth: 1, J. Stubbs, Broomielaw; 2, T. Alderson, Barnard Castle. Pair of heifers, ditto: 1, G. Harrison; 2, Lord Barnard. Pair of bullocks, any age: 1, P. Amos, Langton; 2, Lord Barnard. Shorthorn in the show belonging to an exhibitor residing or farming in the Teesdale Union, and which has never won a prize outside the limits of the Union: G. Harrison, Gainford.

SHEEP

WENSLEYDALE.

Tup, two shear and upwards: 1, J. Gibson and Son, Natland Hall, near Kendal; 2, E. Horseman, Broken Brea Farm, Richmond. Shearling tup: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, E. Horseman. Tup lamb: 1 and 2, J. Gibson and Son. Pen of two ewes, having reared lambs this season: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, H. Rowlandson, Darlington. Pen of two shearling gimmers: 1 and 2, J. Gibson and Son. Pen of two half-bred gimmer lambs: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, G. Brown, Stotley Hall. Pen of two twice-crossed lambs, either wethers or gimmers: 1 and 2, H. G. Jones, Abba Close, Skeeby, R.S.O., York. Pen of two half-bred ewes that have reared lambs this season, the property of a tenant farmer: 1, W. Hutchinson, Nunstainton Grange; 2, J. Gibson and Son. Pen of two half-bred shearling gimmers, the property of a tenant farmer: 1 and 2, J. Gibson and Son.

HORSES.

DRAUGHT.

Foal, colt or filly: 1, S. Parker, Mosser Grange, Langton-on-Swale; 2, T. Nesbitt, Macnell, Witton-le-Wear. Yearling colt, gelding, or filly: 1, G. Stephenson, Summerhouse, Darlington; 2, R. Jackson, Greta Bridge. Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, R. Smelton, Bolton Grange, Scorton; 2, T. Nesbitt. Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, T. Dawson, East Greystone, Gainford; 2, S. Barker. Mare in foal, or having had a foal this season: 1, S. Barker; 2, T. Nesbitt. Horse or mare, any age, under 15.2 h.h.: 1, J. Stubbs, Broomielaw; 2, P. Langstaff, Streatlam. Colt or filly foal, by Black King: Mrs. Beckwith, Carkin Grange, Gilling.

HARNESS HORSES.

Foal, colt, or filly: 1, E. C. Meysey-Thompson, Rokeby; 2, The Right Hon. Lord Barnard, Raby Castle. Yearling colt, gelding, or filly: 1, R. Brunton, Marton; 2, T. Longstaff, Cockleberry, Brignal. Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, E. C. Meysey-Thompson, Rokeby; 2, T. Longstaff, Cockleberry. Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, E. C. Meysey-Thompson, Rokeby; 2, J. and T. Stubbs, Hillingdon. Mare in foal, or having had a foal this season: 1, E. C. Meysey-Thompson; 2, R. Brunton.

HACKNEYS.

Foal, colt, or filly: 1, J. Burton and Sons, Copthewick, Ripon; 2, W. Awde, 20, Bridge Road, Stockton. Yearling colt, gelding, or filly: 1, S. Metcalfe, Danby Wiske, Northallerton; 2, P. Raine, Mickleton. Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Mrs. F. Robson, The Cedars, Sunderland; 2, L. Temple, Middleton-in-Teesdale. Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, T. M. Clayton, M.D., Felling, Springfonteih; 2, J. Turnbull, Marwood. Mare in foal, or having had a foal this season: Messrs. J. Burton and Sons, Copthewick.

HORSES FOR THE FIELD.

Foal, colt, or filly: 1, T. Swales, High Street, Yarm; 2, J. Turnbull, Marwood. Yearling, colt, gelding, or filly: 1, H. L. Fife, Staindrop House, Darlington; 2, Mrs. Wise, Little Stainton, Bishopton. Ferryhill. Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, A. Ramshay, East Appleton, Catterick; 2, T. Longstaff, Cockleberry. Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, T. Holliday, Jolby, Stapleton, Darlington; 2, E. Nixon, Parrick House, Marwood. Mare, by a thoroughbred horse, in foal, or having had a foal this season: 1, T. Swales; 2, J. Turnbull. Pony, under 13 hands high, to be ridden on the ground: 1, T. B. Forster, Barnard Castle; 2, G. Dodds, Broomielaw. Pony, under 14.2 hands, to be ridden on the ground: 1, S. Jarrett, Cleadon House, Bishop Auckland; 2, T. M. Clayton, M.D., Felling. Gelding or mare, under 15 hands, to be ridden on the ground: 1, J. Scott, Cotherston; 2, J. Stubbs, Broomielaw. Hackney, under 15.2 hands, to be ridden on the ground: 1, T. G. Benn; 2, J. W. Dalton-Ewbanke, Borrenthwaite, Kirkby Stephen. Lady's Hackney, to be ridden on the ground: 1, J. A. Pease, M.P., Snow Hall, Gainford; 2, C. W. Dixon-Johnson, Oakwood, Croft. Four or five years old gelding or mare for the field, to be ridden on the ground: 1, J. B. A. Dixon, Rock Castle; 2, J. A. Pease, M.P.

DRIVING

Pair of draught horses (of either sex), to be driven in the ring in plough gear (belonging the same owner): 1, T. Dawson, East Greystone; 2, S. Barker, Mosser Grange.

Smithfield Club Show, 1900.

Annexed is a list of the judges who will officiate at the next Smithfield Club Cattle Show, at the Agricultural Hall, in December:—

CATTLE

DEVONS: Samuel Kidner, Bickley, Milverton, Somerset.
HEREFORDS: J. H. Yeomans, Stretton House, Hereford.
SHORTHORNS: William Wright, Scamblesby House, Horncastle, Lincolnshire.
SUSSEX: Alfred Heasman, Court Wick, Littlehampton.
RED POLLED: Herbert Blofield, Quidenham, Attleborough
ABERDEEN-ANGUS: Samuel Davidson, Beech Hill, Inverness
GALLOWAY: Robert Shennan, Balig, Kirkcudbright
WELSH: John Jones, Denarch Hall, Colwyn Bay
HIGHLAND: John McGillivray, Ballochroan, Kingussie, N.B.
CROSS-BRED: James McWilliam, Stoneyburn, Keith, N.B.
KERRY, DEXTER, AND SHETLAND AND SMALL CROSS-BRED: H. D. Betteridge, Drayton House, Littlebury, Essex
£25 Cup, Best Beast not exceeding two years old; £50 Cup, Steer or Ox; £50 Cup, Heifer; The Queen's Challenge Cup, value £150; 100 Guinea Champion Plate: Francis Evans, Bredwardine, Hereford.

SHEEP

LEICESTERS AND BORDER LEICESTERS: John Twentyman, Hawkrigg House, Wigton, Cumberland.
COTSWOLDS: W. T. Garne, Aldsworth, Northleach.
LINCOLNS: Joseph Brocklebank, Carlton-le-Moorland, Newark
KENTISH OR ROMNEY MARSH: Francis De B. Collard, Minster Abbey, Ramsgate.
DEVON, or other Pure Long-woolled Breeds: E. R. Berry-Torr, Westleigh House, Bideford, N. Devon
CHEVIOTS: George Douglas, Hindhope, Jedburgh, N.B.
MOUNTAIN: Andrew G. Speedy, Baddoch, Blairgowrie, N.B.
SOUTHDOWNS: William Toop, Westergate, Aldingbourne, Chichester
HAMPSHIRE DOWNS: James Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury
SUFFOLKS: F. S. Lewin, Hillcrest, Ipswich
SHROPSHIRES: J. Bowen Jones, Rocklerry, Shrewsbury
OXFORD DOWNS: A. F. Milton Druce, 16, Queen Street, Oxford.
DORSET, or any other Pure Short-woolled Breeds: W. Elworthy, Alton Pancras, Dorchester.
CROSS-BREDS: George Stimson, Senr., 71, Central Meat Market, London, E.C.

The £50 Champion Plate for the Best Pen of Long-woolled Sheep or Lambs: Robert Leeder, Lowthorpe, Bridlington.
The £50 Champion Plate for the Best Pen of Short-woolled Sheep or Lambs: F. S. Barnes, Compton Grove, Norwich.
The Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup for the Best Pen of Sheep or Lambs, value £50: Peter Dunn, Preston House, Sigglesthorne, Hull.

PIGS

WHITE BREEDS: John Barnes, Bourne, Devon.
BLACK AND BERKSHIRE: J. W. Kimber, Fyfield Wick, Abingdon.
TAMWORTH: W. H. Mitchell, Lindome, Kennoway.
CROSS-BRED: James Bainbridge, Street, Leeming, Reeding.
The £20 Champion Plate for the Best Pen of Pigs; the Duke of York's Challenge Cup, value £50; the £5 Champion Plate for the Best Single Pig: Captain H. Hoole, Worsley, Manchester.
CARCASE COMPETITION: William Reed, Sons, 146, Central Meat Market, London, E.C.; John Wortley, Frettenham, Norwich.
£5 Champion Prize for the Best Carcase of Beef, and £5 Champion Prize for the Best Carcase of Mutton: Frederick Redman, 146, Borough High Street, S.E.

THE GARDEN.

Already the summer is waning again, as the fast purpling heather on the moorlands too surely testifies. Scarlet runners, too, are getting plentiful, and that is always an indication of the near approach of autumn. It is to be devoutly hoped that we shall be favoured with a fine autumn this year, for nearly the whole spring was wet, cold, and dreary, and the summer something like a month behind its usual time—in fact, it seems to be drawing to a close ere almost it has fairly set in.

Outdoor tomatoes bid fair to do well again this season—that is, if we do not get much more rain; it all depends upon the weather that may prevail for the next six or eight weeks. In most places the plants appear to have made a very vigorous growth, and are carrying plenty of fruit, though this is in many cases rather backward for the time of year; here it is so, at any rate. House-grown fruit has been rather scarcer of late than earlier in the season, consequently prices have risen, and anyone possessing a good crop of nice, shapely out-door fruit would have no trouble in obtaining an excellent return for them. A great difficulty is that nearly all the best and hardiest out-door varieties produce such rough or sutured fruit that only second or third prices can be obtained for them. The Early Evesham, though unequalled in other respects, is certainly very "rough," but by selecting it carefully for a few years I have succeeded in obtaining a very nearly "smooth" type. There is also a very superior type of the Large Red, known as the "Improved," which affords a large proportion of very nice and nearly round fruit, and Ifield Gem also produces heavy crops of perfectly shaped and very solid tomatoes in the open.

If not already done, prick out the points of all the (out-door) plants, remove every vestige of a side shoot, and shorten all the leaves to one, or at the most two, pairs of leaflets or "pinnæ." About the end of the month seed may be sown to afford plants for early fruiting next spring. For a late autumn crop the plants should now be standing out of doors in 6in. or 7in. pots, and as soon as the house can be cleared get them inside, and either move them into large pots to fruit or plant in boxes. In this way they usually do better early and late in the season than when planted in beds.

As fast as potatoes of the second early or succession classes become ripe and the haulm dies away they had better be lifted, sorted, and stored away. If the weather remains dry they might be as well in the soil for a time yet, but should any further amount of rain fall they should be lifted, especially if the haulm is at all diseased, as the spores are sure to be washed down to the roots by the rain.

Plant out a good batch of lettuces for use in the autumn (the Brown Cos is one of the best for this batch), also more endive, and do not forget to make a sowing of cauliflowers to stand the winter at once, if this has not been done already.

AUTUMN-FRUITING STRAWBERRIES. This new race seems to have a future before it. New forms are now being raised constantly, and great improvements effected in the size and quality of the fruit, habit, and freedom of the plant, etc. One of the best was Louis Gauthier, an almost white berry, studded with pink; this fruits at the usual time and is very prolific, but if the runners are stopped beyond the first stolon this flowers and fruits again in the autumn, which, if the little plants are top-dressed and "fed" a little, is very fine. St. Joseph is a perpetual-fruiting Alpine variety, with nice, round fruit, of medium size, with a sugary sweetness. It continues to produce flowers and fruit continuously right through the season and until the first frosts come, but should be kept watered and have liquid manure freely in dry weather. M. H. Vilmorin, an eminent French authority, speaks very highly of this variety.

Then there are St. Antoine de Padoue, a hybrid kind, with comparatively large red fruit and vigorous in habit; La Constance d'Automne, similar to St. Joseph, and very productive; Myosotis, more vigorous and less than St. Joseph, more or less pink; and Jeanne d'Arc and Louis XIII., are still newer hybrid kinds, the first being freer than St. Joseph and the second fruiting at the usual time and again from September to November. Some if not all of these are well worth a trial.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Royal Agricultural Society.

Sir,—The Society was founded in 1838. In March, 1840, a Royal Charter of Incorporation was granted. The work to be undertaken by the Society is clearly stated in the Charter: "The general advancement of English agriculture," by the prosecution of the ten national objects enumerated. The following is the ninth object named:—"At the meetings of the Society in the country, by the distribution of prizes, and by other means, to encourage the best mode of farm cultivation and the breed of live stock." During the last sixty years it has been the practice of the Society to hold the shows in a different place every year, a practice that has undoubtedly promoted the general advancement of English agriculture. It has now been decided by the Council not only to discontinue the migratory shows that have done so much "to spread the light of agricultural improvement in various parts of the country," but also to discontinue holding shows in the country. In future the annual show is to be held on a site to be selected in the neighbourhood of London. The special committee appointed by the Council to inquire into the Society's show system recommended a location near some large town, "preferably in the centre of England." The reason why this recommendation has not been acted upon is said to be that "a closer and maturer consideration of the question in its broader issues has led to a different conclusion." Possibly, if the present position of the Society were to receive still further consideration and closer attention, it would be found that there is no necessity to discontinue the migratory shows. The great thing is to get the correct facts. A violent change from old established practice can alone be justified when it is clear that difficulties have arisen that cannot be overcome. The Council believe that insurmountable difficulties have arisen, and that the migratory shows have become an unwarrantable drain upon the society's general resources. The change from migratory shows to a show held in the same place every year will not put an end to the drain on the society's resources unless a strong effort is made to improve the financial administration of the society's funds. The plain truth is that neglect of business principles has created the present unsatisfactory position, and not the show system. In the early history of the society the shows were much more unprofitable than they have been lately, but the financial position of the society remained in sound condition because the Council in those days took good care that the ordinary expenses of the society were not allowed to swallow up the whole of the income from subscriptions. As a matter of fact, in the thirty-seven years—1841-77—the surplus available to meet the loss caused by the shows amounted to £43,121, being on the average £1,165 annually. By the shows held during that period no less than £33,298 was lost. By the prudent administration of the society's funds not only was this heavy loss met by the income from subscriptions, but there remained to the good nearly £10,000. In 1898, the "ordinary income," as stated in the society's annual account, amounted to £10,390. The "ordinary expenditure," according to the same account, practically amounted to the same sum, the surplus being only £5! This outlay, included under the head of "house rent, taxes, insurance, and ordinary house expenses and repairs," the large sum of £1,829. In 1893, under this heading, the outlay was £722. Here, then, we have an increase in expenditure of £1,107, or over 153 per cent. I unhesitatingly venture to express the opinion that the present outlay under this heading is unnecessarily large. The society cannot afford to expend over 17½ per cent. of its income on "rent, taxes, insurance, and ordinary house expenses." The sooner this fact is recognised and acted upon the better will it be for all concerned. In 1898 "depreciation" amounted to £1,004 4s. Of this amount only £173 3s. 3d. is charged in the expenditure account. The remaining £831 0s. 9d. alone appears in the balance sheet. By the first twenty shows held by the society £34,164 was lost, or on the average £1,708 annually. The first nineteen shows were all unremunerative, and resulted in a loss of £35,345. The show held at Chester in 1858 left a profit of £1,181. If these results are compared with those of the last twenty shows (exclusive of the show this year, the accounts of which have not yet been published) it will be seen that the last twenty shows compare very favourably with the first twenty. It will be remembered that the shows held at Birmingham, in 1898, and at Maidstone, in 1899, took place under exceptionally unfavourable circumstances. The loss by the Maidstone show alone amounted to £6,382. Thirteen out of the twenty shows resulted in a profit which, in the aggregate, amounted to £52,173. Seven shows were unprofitable, and resulted in a loss that, in the aggregate, amounted to £18,762. The net financial result of the twenty shows held from 1880 to 1899 was, therefore, a profit of £13,411, being equal to an annual average profit of £670 11s. This result cannot fairly be described as an "unwarrantable drain on the resources of the society."

Out of the £18,762 lost by the seven unsuccessful shows from 1880 to 1899, £11,348, or over 60 per cent., was lost by the two shows held in the neighbourhood of London. London is by far the most convenient centre for a permanent show, but past experience proves that from a financial point of view the shows held in the neighbourhood of the metropolis have never been a success.

The heavy loss that has been incurred by the annual sales of timber used in the show ground has been greater than necessary. It would have been much better to have purchased creosoted timber. Timber thus prepared would have lasted many years. The depreciation and cost of removal would, I think, have been much less than by the plan adopted. Having had fifteen years of practical experience in the foreign timber trade, my attention has naturally been given to this subject. The whole of the work connected with the preparation of the showyard could probably have been carried out more economically by contract than by men employed by the Society.

The arable side of farming has not received from the Council the attention and encouragement it deserves. The fifth object named in the charter is: "To promote the discovery of new varieties of grain and other vegetables useful to man or for the food of domestic animals." This has not been done. The tenth object named is: "To promote the comfort and welfare of labourers, and to encourage the improved management of their cottages and gardens." In recent years this important object has been lost sight of, and yet success in farming to a very large extent depends on efficient labour.

The Society has done, and is doing, a vast amount of valuable and most useful work. The members are not ungrateful for the large amount of time devoted by the Council to the duties of their office, but when they see the terms of the charter disregarded it is time that attention should be drawn to the fact.

ROBERT E. TURNBULL.

Ayton, York, August 10th, 1900.

Harvest Thanksgivings and the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

Sir,—The Press of this country has so generously given publicity to my annual appeal for the funds of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution that I am emboldened, for the thirteenth year in succession, to bring to the notice of your readers the claims of this excellent charity upon the generosity of the public when making their charitable gifts in grateful acknowledgment of the ingathering of another harvest.

I am well aware that the pockets of the ever-ready British public have been heavily drained for the support of the dependents of the large army of workers who have willingly gone to a foreign shore to defend the interests and honour of this vast Empire. I have also noticed the liberal response which has been made to the appeal on behalf of our starving fellow-subjects in India, who are once again suffering from the failure of their crops.

Surely, I am not wrong when I rely upon the charitable assistance of this same public for help to the *only* institution in England whose sole object is to come to the help of the British farmer and his dependents, who have had to knock under from no fault of their own.

I may say that nearly all the applicants seeking pensions are those who have lost their all by the disastrous harvests commencing in the year 1879 and continuing during the cycle of wet years which followed.

The list of candidates for the pensions of the institution increases each year; and, notwithstanding the generous help of the public there remained, after the election in June, 1900, no less than 355 cases left out in the cold, and which the council were unable to assist.

All votes recorded for the unsuccessful applicants are carried forward to the next election, and it depends largely upon the response to this appeal how many of these disappointed candidates the council will be able to place on the list of pensioners, and so enable them to spend their few remaining years outside the workhouse. Each case is rigorously inquired into, and only those whose applications are brought about by causes beyond their control are accepted by the council.

It should be remembered that all accepted applicants are *bona-fide* farmers, who, during twenty years or more have cultivated as an exclusive means of support holdings of at least one hundred acres, or at rentals of £150 per annum; or their widows or orphan unmarried daughters, of the age of 65 years and upwards. After the election in June, 1900, there were 312 married (156 couple), 266 male, and 665 female pensioners on the books of the society, involving an annual charge of £27,000 on the funds of the society.

The prospects of the present harvest vary considerably in different parts of the kingdom. The cold in the early part of the year, up to May or June, precluded any hope of a good hay crop generally; since then the long-continued heat and drought, followed by the recent cold and wet days, has not conduced to the quantity and quality of the grain and root crops.

Altogether, the season is summarised by Professor Wrightson, of the Downton Agricultural College, as one that "must be added to a long list of bad years for farming."

I will not trespass upon your kindness by occupying more space, but confidently leave the appeal in the hands of an ever-generous English public.

To the very large number of clergy and ministers of all denominations, who year after year devote the whole or a part of their harvest thanksgiving offertories to this object, the council of the institution tender their grateful thanks; but I think the list might be largely increased if I could prevail upon our wealthy congregations in the Metropolis and our large manufacturing towns to allow this institution to share in their harvest thanksgivings: for it must be universally admitted that to no more appropriate object could their offerings be devoted.

Every half-guinea given to the institution ensures one vote at the election in June.

All contributions (subscriptions, as well as harvest thanksgiving offertories) may be sent to the Secretary of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, at 26, Charles Street, St. James', London, S.W., who will gladly acknowledge receipt and furnish any information desired by applicants, as to the working of the charity.—Yours truly,

WALTER GILBEY.

Elsenham Hall, Essex, August 18th, 1900.

Pedigree Wheat.

Sir,—Referring to the remarks under the heading "Practice with Science," in your issue of the 13th inst., I send you some of this year's ears of my original red pedigree wheat, as I think they will be of interest as showing, after forty-three years' annual selection, restarting in each year from the *proved* best single grain of the year, how the breed is kept up.

I also send some ears of my other three pedigree varieties of this year, showing equal progress.

I may mention that in 1860 I advised that there was nothing to prevent every farmer from "pedigreeing" on the same system (which I published), that particular variety of wheat which was found best suited to his soil.

My gallery of the successive best annual ears (of course, empty) forms, in the case of the original pedigree wheat, a closely-packed line of ears forty-two inches long, and is absolutely unique.—Yours faithfully,

FRED F. HALLETT (Major).

The Manor House, Brighton, August 21st.

[*** The four samples of wheat form a very fine quartette. These are "Pedigree Original Red," "Golden Drop" (red), "Victoria" (white), and "Hunters" (white). Some of the ears are seven inches long and well corned. We fear that too many farmers this season will find their wheat not half this size. This may be due to the season in a great measure, but the land and the grain should be given "a chance" by the farmers sowing good and selected seed. These dozen ears are by far the best we have seen this year.—ED. M.L.E.]

Pigs at the Royal Lancashire Show.

Sir,—"Nemo" is evidently one of those unfortunate people who are never satisfied, and who, either from suffering or nature, has got his judgment so warped and twisted that nothing but his own way will please, and not so much of that, or he will complain that there is nothing left to live for.

If a detailed list of a show will give no information, what will? All show reports should give number of entries in each class, so as to show the competition the winners have had. When the herd is large and entries are many, some are sure to catch the judges' eye, and count, especially when, in addition to their own breeding, they buy all the good ones they can find. What chance has the small breeder with such competitors?

"Nemo" never saw a good pig unless it come from his herd, and then it must not beat him, or some favour was being shown. If I had been at the R.L.A.S., and seen a wrong pig, and made the statement that he did, I would have stopped and exposed the fraud, and not run away to catch the train, and then bring it up in print, no matter whether the owner was a titled brewer or a belted earl, and as a member of the R.L.A.S., if he will send his complaint to the secretary, I am sure it will be looked to; but let it be better founded than his last complaint, or he will not get his money back this time. As to the judge. What "Nemo" means by class, I scarcely know; he is a man who has both bred and exhibited pigs a long number of years, and has had a lot of experience with them, and I think he did his work very well; and as to the statement that he applied to the steward every time, it is one of "Nemo's" peculiarities or eccentricities to think something is wrong if he is not consulted. I saw him try to get a spoke in the wheel a few times during the judging.

As to his being a 'local' man: he resides thirty miles from the show and in another county, and is designated a gentleman at home. Respecting the stewards at the R.L.A.S., one was a local man and the other one of the oldest and most respected members of the Pig Breeders' Association, who has judged at a large number of shows from the Royal down to the local dog show with its two classes, and is respected wherever he goes. When a man is asked to judge five years in succession it one show it says a lot for his honesty and judgment, and the stewards of the R.L.A. Show has done that, as I can vouch.

In your note to my last, you said the reason of the

poor reports of the pig section was largely due to the jealousy of the pig men, and that they could not give credit to any but their own. You were very right in your remarks, and "Nemo" must not have read them, or he would have formed his answer different, I think.

But how can we hope to get to a better understanding when the father of the pig trade writes such letters and makes such statements without substantiating them, as appears in yours of the 20th inst., and when such gentlemen as Captain Heaton declares he will never judge pigs again, if a certain exhibitor is to be allowed in the ring to insult both judge and steward?

When I can boast that I have sent pigs to forty different foreign countries, and have more prize cards than I can find room to put up, I will retire from exhibiting and live on my laurels, and let others try.

As to pigs at the Bath and West, the entries average 6½ per class. At the R.L.A. Show 8½ per class, and was filled with quality. ANON.

Phosphate of Alumina.

Sir,—A correspondent asks more information regarding the experiments on the above subject, and mentions that they would be of general interest.

Would you be good enough, therefore, to insert my reply to him which was in the following terms:

"The phosphate of alumina used in the Aberdeenshire experiments was in a very fine state of division—an impalpable powder. Our attention at that time was closely directed to the value of fine division, and, naturally, therefore, this feature was carefully attended to.

You are evidently under a misapprehension as to the comparison made in our experiments, which was *not* phosphate of alumina against a *mixture* of soluble and insoluble phosphate, which would obviously have been unfair, but phosphate of alumina against soluble phosphate alone, and insoluble phosphate alone, on different plots.—I am, yours sincerely,

THOS JAMIESON.

Agricultural Research Association for the North-Eastern Counties of Scotland, 10, Belmont Street, Aberdeen, August 21st, 1900.

Hayloader—Ensilage.

Sir,—Could you please tell me where I could see or get particulars of the hayloader that was spoken about in your paper two or three weeks ago? Also, could you give me any advice on how to make ensilage, and what quantities to give to feeding and milking beasts, or tell me a good book on the subject? F. J.

[*.* The hayloader is the Keystone, made by the Keystone Manufacturing Company, Sterling, Ill., U.S.A. The agents in London are Lankester and Co., 71, Southwark Street, E.C., where you will probably be able to inspect the apparatus, or they would tell you who are using it. The Ensilage Society have issued a little work, "The Practical Guide for Making Ensilage in Stacks and Silos," which will suit your purpose. You can obtain it through any bookseller.—ED. *M. L. E.*]

SOCIETIES.

Galloway Cattle.

The annual meeting of the Galloway Cattle Society was held at Dumfries on the 15th inst., Mr. M'Cormick, Lochenkit, presiding. Rev. Dr. Gillespie, in submitting the report of the Council, referred to the death of three of their number—Mr. Maxwell, of Munches, whom he characterised as the most prominent and most useful public man in the south-west of Scotland; Mr. Cunningham, Tarbreoch; and Mr. Carruthers, Balgray; also to the death of another prominent breeder, Mr. Thomas Biggar, of Chapelton. He stated that the Council proposed to offer some prize or prizes for Galloways at district shows. One object which they had in view particularly was to encourage the breeding and improvement of Galloway cattle in Ireland, and he believed during the year a prize would be offered at the most suitable place for the best cattle owned and bred in that country. Of recent years the best outlet for the breed had been found in Ireland. Galloways had been a very great success in crossing with native Shorthorns, and they knew from the blue-greys that were sent across here that the success had been very marked. They were peculiarly popular in the west of Ireland. They regretted very much that the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease prevented the bulls being taken away this spring, but he hoped no such obstacle would occur in future. The rev. doctor also mentioned that the breed was taking a strong hold in Northumberland, and that the membership of the Society, to which eighteen names had been added during the year, was drawn from a very wide area—from Kent in the south, through various English counties, up to Newton-Mearns, near Glasgow, in the north. The funds of the Society amounted to about £200. The Duke of Buccleuch was re-elected president; Sir Robert Jardine, Bart., vice-president; and Dr. Gillespie, secretary and treasurer.

LITERARY NOTICES.

Messrs. Graham, Morton, and Co., Limited, of Leeds, who are the makers of some wonderful labour-saving machinery, have lately issued a most artistically got-up little publication, in which is a collection of photographs of some of the elevating and conveying plants they have erected during the past twelve months. As this kind of labour-saving machinery may be profitably introduced on the farm, we should advise our readers to obtain a copy of this catalogue, which can be had free from Messrs. Graham, Morton, and Co. on mentioning this paper.

His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Germany has been graciously pleased to accept a copy of Mr. W. Arnold's translation of the "Maritime Code of the German Empire," the new volume of Effingham Wilson's series of translations of the Foreign Maritime Codes.

Messrs. Toogood and Sons, of the Royal Seed Establishment, Southampton, have just published a new edition of "The Culture of Flowers from Seeds and Bulbs," and a "Treatise on Lawns, Cricket Grounds, etc.," both by Mr. E. Kemp Toogood, F.R.H.S. The former books is a capital one, abounding in useful information for gardeners—both amateur and otherwise. It is freely illustrated, nicely printed, and is written in a brief though perfectly clear style. It is published at tenpence—cost price—and is wonderful value for money. We may mention that this publication, like two or three others of Messrs. Toogood and Sons', has already exceeded the tenth thousand. Twopence is the price of the treatise on lawns, and this amount expended on a copy will be well spent.

"Successful Advertising"—a book which no enterprising business man should fail to read—has just reached its twentieth edition. It is published by Smith's Advertising Agency, 100, Fleet Street, and in it Mr. Thomas Smith, the founder of the firm, gives an interesting account of the business of this well-known agency from its foundation in June, 1878, to June, 1899. The numerous specimens of advertisements which have proved successful will appeal to the advertiser, and should induce those who have not yet tried advertising to make a start now. In addition to being a guide to advertising, it is also a directory of newspapers, etc., for it gives a list of the principal papers and journals published both in and out of London. It consists of over 700 pages, is tastefully bound, and is published at the modest price of 2s.

Sport in the Cornfield.

The familiar sound in the country just now is the rattle of the reaper and binder, which pursues its way round and round the grain fields, cutting off the straws, binding them into sheaves, and tossing them aside for the harvesters to pick up and build into shocks. The farmer this year has every reason to bless the mechanic who has provided him with labour-saving machinery of this kind, for workmen are very scarce—more scarce than we have ever known them, in spite of good wages offered. How strangely things have worked out! I well remember some years ago, when agricultural machines were first introduced, some pessimistic persons looked on the new departures with an unfavourable eye, and vowed that they would supplant the labourer and do away with his occupation altogether. But what do we find? We have the machines, but a dearth of suitable men to work them, and we wonder how ever the harvest would be got in at all if we had to go back to the old days of the reaping hook.

Harvesting operations generally have the effect of disturbing the game that have taken up their abode in the standing corn, and look upon it as a sort of natural cover. It is rather hard to have your home removed from over your head, and it is not to be wondered that when the reaping machine pursues its way round the field the game cling to the cover as long as it lasts, and, when the corn affords them shelter no longer, make a wild dash for freedom. It is at this moment that the cornfield is the scene of some exciting sport, particularly if it happens to be in close proximity to a wood, and the other day I happened to be an interested spectator of a little episode of this kind.

When pursuing my course quietly along the king's highway, I was attracted by a somewhat excited scene, that was being enacted over the hedge. Only a small square of corn was left standing in the centre of the field, and at every round of the machine it grew perceptibly less. A man with a gun in his hand stood at one corner, and another similarly armed occupied a position at the other side. Several men and boys who were engaged in placing the sheaves of wheat in position appeared to have their interests divided, as they continually paused in their work, as though they were all expectation for something to emerge from the square of corn. They did not have to wait long, for a volley of voices shouted "Look up!" Bang went a couple of barrels, and away scudded a rabbit, far more frightened than hurt, with a couple of heavily booted labourers on dog, and several boys in pursuit. The rabbit won in a canter, the dog was a good second, and the rest came in nowhere. One man who brandished a hayfork was leading well in the pursuit, though I do not say that he had any chance of overtaking the rabbit, when his foot caught in something, and he measured his length in the stubble, to the intense amusement of the lad who was close on his heels.

"Why didn't you kill him?" was the question asked by the person who had not shot, but the other was read with a frown.

"I daren't shoot when I should have done," was the reply. "Ive been at it hitting that young blackhead," pointing to one of the boys, "and then, when I did get a shot the thing was out of range," though it was quite easy to see from where I stood that the marksman had fired quite half a dozen yards behind the escaping coney. The lad naturally enough resented the charge brought against him, and instead of thanking the sportsman for considering his personal welfare, seemed inclined to argue the matter, and a heated discussion seemed likely to ensue, when the man on the machine saw a movement in the corn and shouted in excited warning. Two rabbits immediately bolted at opposite angles and both guns rang out. The first one had evidently missed, for I perceived the dog in full pursuit of a rabbit whose running powers were mine. The other shot had taken a better effect, for though the animal ran, it was evident that something was wrong. The creature struggled on, but dragged its hind quarters uneasily, and a babel of shouts and whistles attempted to draw the attention of the dog, but he was far enough away on a more fruitless errand. "Get after it," shouted someone, and from different points two runners started. You would not put money on either in a sprinting match, but it is really remarkable what the spirit of competition will bring out of a man. Each one saw that the other meant to have the rabbit, and determined to capture it himself, while there was just a chance of the wounded creature detecting the ends of both. The rest of the harvesters entered into the spirit of the thing, and urged them on with: "Go on, Jack." "I'll back Bill." "Run hard, lad; you'll win." Thud, thud, went heavy boots on hard ground, and the heavy-heeled pair ran, scrambled, and struggled on, first one leading by a neck and then the other. The wounded rabbit was nearly played out, though it evidently meant to die game. Within a few yards of the hedge it gave up, and the two pursuers, running neck and neck, attempted to pull up. Two pairs of arms stretched out to grab the dying rabbit, but both men overreached themselves, and down they came. In wild attempts to catch the rabbit they grabbed each other, and looked nothing but a rolling mixture of legs and arms. Bunny wisely crawled off, and might have reached the shelter of the wood to die there had not the dog worked his way round, and, catching it up in his mouth, dropped it at the feet of the man with the machine.

In the meantime the two pursuers struggled on the ground, each one with the impression that the other had the rabbit, and mutual vigorous attempts were made to regain possession. It was only the shouts and laughter of the other harvesters that revealed the true state of affairs, and the men got up and stared at each other in a sheepish sort of manner, and then sidled back in a very dishevelled state of perspiration, and by way of reward for providing such good amusement, they were treated to a look at the now lifeless rabbit.

I do not know whether it was accidental or designed, but just then another individual strolled up to the cornfield, and at his heels there trotted a slim greyhound. I am of the opinion that the idea of the man was a little amateur coursing, and my conjecture proved to be correct in this particular. As it happened, neither of the men with guns was particularly dead on running rabbits, and consequently the greyhound had good opportunities of displaying his powers. There was a good deal of excitement at the finish when the last bit of corn was being stripped, and some twenty rabbits bolted in rapid succession. A few fell to the guns, one dropped to a stick deftly wielded by a burly harvester, and several others escaped. My attention was chiefly taken by the greyhound, who slipped forward at every opportunity and rarely failed to pick up his rabbit before it reached the safety of the wood. An old hare, whom nobody expected to see, proved the only exception, though the chances were scarcely equal. A terrific shout accompanied the exit of puss, who got a good start before the dog was laid on. It proved to be a good race across the stubble, in and out among the shocks of corn, but, to the disappointment of those present, the hare won by a good length and, reaching the cover of the wood, still lives perhaps to swell a sportsman's bag later on. It is surprising what an excitement there is about a little episode of this kind, and it was some time before the men again settled to their work. I expect it is nothing more than the sporting spirit which is possessed to a greater or lesser extent by all individuals, and though on this occasion I was only a spectator from the outer side of the hedge, I shared the excitement of the sport. I have, however, taken an active part in [illegible] sport on more than one occasion, and know that there are pretty warm times in [illegible] in shooting the bolting rabbits and other game that [illegible] upon the [illegible] loss of work. [illegible]

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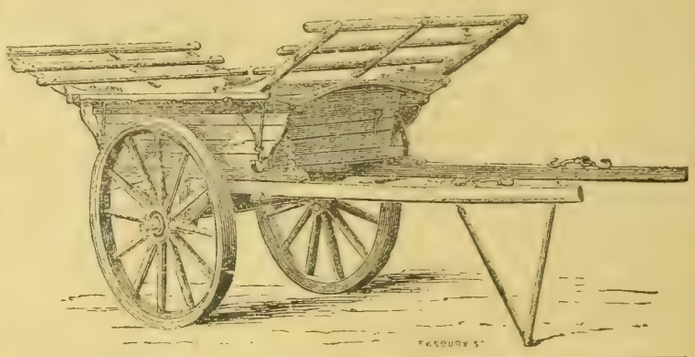

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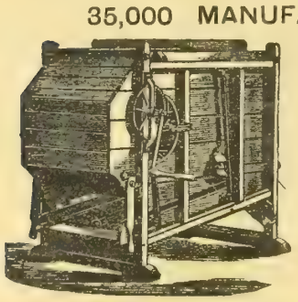

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SOCIETIES.

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TENTH ANNUAL SHOW, SEPT. 12, 1900.
President, B. WINTHROP, Esq., Barton Court, Newbury.
ABOUT £374 IN PRIZES.
H.I.S. and S.H.S. Gold and Silver Medals.
Schedules, etc.,
F. ROBINSON, Asst. Sec.
Broadway, Newbury.

FROME DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GREAT EXHIBITION AT FROME,
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH NEXT.

Prizes above the value of £500 in cash, three Gold Medals and plate for Cheese, Butter, Working Dairy, Horses, Cattle, Farm Servants.
ALL ENTRIES CLOSE SEPTEMBER 12th NEXT.
Schedules of the Secretary,
T. C. HARDING, Auctioneer, Frome.

SOCIETIES.

RUGBY AND DUNCHURCH AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
CATTLE, HORSE, AND FOAL SHOW
WILL BE HELD AT
RUGBY,
ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1900,
when £370 will be given in Prizes.

Entries close September 1, 1900.

EDWIN TAIT (Auctioneer), Secretary and Treasurer, 2, Albert Street, Rugby.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NORTH WALES, BANGOR.
A constituent College of the University of Wales
AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT. IN-COLLEGE COURSES. 1. A complete course in theoretical and practical Agriculture extending over two years, and suitable for farmers and land agents. 2. Advanced course for a third year in Agricultural Chemistry. 3. Short course of eleven weeks, commencing in October and consisting of Agriculture, Chemistry, Book-keeping, and Land Surveying. The degree of B.Sc. in Agriculture of the University of Wales may be taken by students who pursue a three years' post matriculation course of study at the College. LLEDWIGAN FARM (360 acres) has been taken by the College for teaching and experimental purposes. Diploma (two years) and Degree (three years) students will in future follow courses for at least one year at the farm under the supervision of the Professor of Agriculture. Special arrangements will be made to take farm pupils for practical instruction only. The College is recognised by the Surveyors' Institution as a place of approved professional instruction for land agents. The cost of board and lodging, with tuition fees, varies from £30 to £40 for the College year. The Scholarship examination will commence on September 18.
Prospectus, with full particulars as to Scholarships and Diplomas, may be obtained from
JOHN EDWARD LLOYD, M.A.,
Secretary and Registrar.
July 17th, 1900.

THE DURHAM COLLEGE OF SCIENCE,
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.
Complete courses of instruction are provided in Agriculture and the allied sciences.
Course for the degree of B.Sc. in the University of Durham. Average Composition Fee, £21 per annum.
Winter Course for the College Certificate and for students preparing for the N.D.A., etc. Composition Fee, £15 per session.
For particulars regarding Scholarships, etc., apply to the SECRETARY.

ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.
Trustees: The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of Edinburgh.
J. R. M. DEWAR, F.R.C.V.S., Principal.
SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION commences OCTOBER 2nd, 1900.
The INAUGURAL ADDRESS will be delivered on October 3rd by
Sir JOHN GILMOUR, Bart., of Montrave.
For Prospectus apply to the Principal.

THE YORKSHIRE COLLEGE, LEEDS, AND THE MANOR FARM, GARFORTH.

Complete Course of Agricultural Education. Lectures in College and at the Farm from October to March. Special provision for practical instruction. Fee, £10. Students are prepared for the N.D.A. Examination. There is also a special course for the B.Sc. Degree.—Prospectus from the REGISTRAR.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURE COURSE.—For prospectus, regulations for degree of B.Sc., and for Garton Lectures on Colonial and Indian Agriculture, apply, CLERK SENATUS.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF KENT COUNTY COUNCIL OF SURREY.—South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, near Ashford, Kent.—This Residential College gives a complete Scientific and Practical Training to future Farmers, Land Agents, etc. Preparation for the Examinations for the National Diploma in Agriculture and the Surveyors' Institution. Resident Staff of seven Professors and Lecturers. Farm of 260 acres. Next Term begins October 1st.—For Prospectus and all particulars apply to the Principal, A. D. HALL, M.A., late Scholar of Balliol College, Oxford.

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SPECIAL ADVANTAGES TO PRIVATE INSURERS.

THE IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED. FIRE. Established 1803. 1, Old Broad Street, E.C., 22, Pall Mall, S.W., and 47, Chancery Lane, W.C. Subscribed Capital, £1,200,000. Paid up £300,000. Total Funds over £1,500,000.—E. COZENS SMITH, General Manager.

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RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
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A. VIAN, *Secretary.*

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Reserve Liability of Proprietors under the Charter, £1,600,000. Letters of Credit and Drafts issued on any of the numerous Branches of the Bank throughout Australia and New Zealand.
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Telegraphic Transfers made.
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R. W. JEANS, Manager.

AUCTION SALES.

SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.
BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM.

LYTHALL and WALTERS will SELL by AUCTION, on THURSDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 6th, [illegible] about
150 GRAND SHEARLING RAMS, [illegible]
500 SHEARLING EWES, [illegible]
Clive, Dee, Gerrard, Instone, Jones, Barker, Williams, and others.
Catalogues and particulars [illegible] Messrs. Bradley Hall, [illegible] will execute commissions to purchase.

AUCTION SALES

SALES OF PURE BRED STOCK

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—
FRIDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 7.—Mr. H. REE, [illegible] SHORTHORNS, at Bucksport, Market Drayton.
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11.—Mr. R. S. OLIVER'S Herd of HEREFORDS at [illegible], Bodmin, Cornwall.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.—The MARQUIS OF EXETER'S SHORTHORNS and the late Mrs. FRANKLIN'S SMALL HERD at Burghley House, Stamford.
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.—Mr. JOHN COOPER'S SHORTHORNS, at East Haddon, Northampton.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.—Mr. DAVID MUTTON'S JERSEYS, at Plumpton, Sussex.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—Mr. S. A. LEGG'S JERSEYS and [illegible] BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Frog Firle, Lewes.
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.—The late Mr. R. DEAD[illegible]'S SHORTHORNS at Stafford House, Burton Hastings, Nuneaton.
Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes-street, Hanover-square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

BROADWATER, GODALMING.

Important Sale of the valuable Herd of SHORTHORN DAIRY STOCK, HORSES, SWINE, IMPLEMENTS, and other Agricultural Effects.

MESSRS. MELLERSH have been favoured with instructions from [illegible] executrix of the late Lieut.-Gen. Sir FREDERIC MARSHALL, K.C.M.G., to SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, on SEPTEMBER the [illegible] and following day, at 12 o'clock, the superior
LIVE & DEAD FARMING STOCK,
comprising upwards of 90 head of well-bred Shorthorn Cattle, including 60 Dairy Cows, especially selected for milking purposes; 11 active and powerful [illegible] Horses, Poultry, excellent dead stock, Milk Carts, Vans, and requisites for the milk trade, and other effects.
Catalogues of Messrs. MELLERSH, Auctioneers, Godalming.

KELSO GREAT ANNUAL RAM SALES
ON
FRIDAY, 14th SEPTEMBER [illegible]

1,704 RAMS

[illegible] the most [illegible] Flocks of CHEVIOT, LEICESTER, [illegible] DOWNS, SUFFOLKS, HAMPSHIRES, [illegible] for Sale [illegible] Railway Stations, on Sale [illegible] at 10 a.m.

Catalogues, 6d each, and admitting to the Pens, [illegible] ALLAN STEVENSON, Secretary, Border Union Agricultural Society.
Kelso, [illegible]

BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE.
GREAT ANNUAL RAM SALE
MONDAY, [illegible]

5,000 [illegible]
[illegible]
ALL AT [illegible]
STOCK.

NOCK, DEIGHTON, and KIRKBY, [illegible]

REGISTER OF BRITISH LIVE STOCK BREEDERS.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. — Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners; yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

HACKNEYS.—JOHN N. ANTHONY, Sedgeford, near Lynn, Norfolk, breeder of Pedigree Hackneys. On hand, Colts and Fillies by most of the leading sires.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions, at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath Station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

CLEVELANDS

HORSFALL, F. WILSON, Potto Grange, Northallerton.—Breeder of pure-bred CLEVELAND BAY and YORKSHIRE COACH HORSES. This stud has won far more prizes than any other again this year, and has won twice as many as any other during the last fifteen years with Clevelands. Many Royal and Great Yorkshire prize-winners for sale. One of the Stud Horses is Champion Broomgrove Pride 1249—first and champion R.A.S.E. Show, Maidstone, 1897; first R.A.S.E. Show, Birmingham, 1898; first and champion Great Yorkshire, Leeds, 1898; only times shown; fee £5 5s. Also breeder of pure-bred Shorthorns. Bulls and heifers for sale. Amongst others added to this herd in 1899 were Daisy Perfection, Richmond Daisy, and Highland Daisy, all bought at the Duke of Northumberland's Sale, at 210 guineas, 72 guineas, and 72 guineas respectively. Also breeder of Sussex black pigs, and several breeds of white poultry.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some gold Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

TAUNTON, H. PERCY, Redlynch, near Salisbury, Wiltshire. Shire-bred STALLIONS MARES, FILLIES, and GELDINGS of the most fashionable breeding always for sale at moderate prices. The animals are kept entirely out of doors and in natural condition.

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THE LARGEST STUD of SELECTED WELSH PONIES IN WALES.—Dinarth Hall Pony Stud Farm, Colwyn Bay, North Wales. Over 120 Ponies now on hand, including forty Brood Mares of the pure Welsh type, and several high-class Ponies, great goers, with style and action. 150 prizes won in 1898 and 1899. Ponies purchased from this Stud have won first prizes at Manchester, Birmingham, and Maidstone Royal Shows; also first and medal Crystal Palace, 1899. Sale in 1899 included two Entire Ponies purchased by the Government for Cyprus, several to America and France. Stud Horse JULIUS CÆSAR II. 5666, sire of first prize two-year-old pony filly, the first of his produce exhibited, London Hackney Show, 1900.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, S. Wales, extensive Breeder and Exporter of the best class of WELSH MOUNTAIN PONIES and COBS. References and particulars on application.

MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley, Winslow, Bucks.—Prize PONIES always FOR SALE. Arab Polo Pony Stallion "Mootrub" (32), winner of a championship, silver medals, and many prizes. Particulars on application.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY PARK SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

LANGFORD HOUSE ESTATE HERD of pure and highly-bred SHORTHORN CATTLE, the property of Mr. Sidney Hill, J.P. All bred from the best and leading herds in the Kingdom. Sires now in service: Wiltshire Victor, 71,888 (roan), by Count Victor, 66,877. Puck, 73,333 (roan), by Alto, 68,147. Count Valiant, 74,307 (roan), by Count Arthur, 70,194. Langford Lavender, 74,819 (roan), by Wiltshire Victor, 71,883. Bulls and heifers always on sale, also registered flock of Southdown sheep. Inspection invited. Telegrams, Langford Station, Congresbury, G.W.R. Particulars from J. D LOVELESS, Estate Office, Langford, Bristol.

GARNE, R. & W. T., Aldsworth, Northleach, Glos., breed SHORTHORN CATTLE of great size, thick flesh, good milkers. Young Bulls and Heifers on sale. Stock Bulls: Wrestler, 66,582, Lord Harry, 65,180, and Now or Never, 67,544. Inspection invited.

HEREFORDS.

SALTMARSHE CASTLE ESTATES, HEREFORDSHIRE, Prize winning pure bred HEREFORD CATTLE. Champion Happy Hampton in service. Inspection invited. Good selection for sale.— Apply, J. W. MILLYARD, Estate Office, Littlebridge, Bromyard.

PEDIGREE HEREFORD CATTLE.—One of the oldest herds extant.—Young bulls and heifers of the purest lineage and excellent quality for sale.—J. R. HILL, Orleton Court, R.S.O., Herefordshire.

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DALMENY PARK ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

OSENTON, GEORGE, Mariners, Westerham.—Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.

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HEASELANDS HERD of PEDIGREE JERSEYS, COWS and HEIFERS of the best blood at moderate prices.—Pedigrees, etc., on application to the owner, WALTER LLOYD, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

ILMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS. — Choice about 100 finest quality Cows and Heifers, in profit and calving all seasons; prices moderate; inspection invited; shipper to all parts.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

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BLUNT, H. LAYTON, Orton Longueville, Peterborough.—Breeder of Black Polled Cattle. BULLS and HEIFERS for sale, also GRAZING STEERS.

PIGS.

YORKSHIRES.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H.—NEWLAND HERD OF PEDIGREE LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES; all pigs entered or eligible for entry in Herd Book; choice, well-grown young boars and sows of the best strains always on sale.—Apply, BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Ellel, near Lancaster. Station: Bay Horse.

PIGS *(contd.)*.

YORKSHIRES.

WALTON HERD of PEDIGREE PIGS, owned by SIR GILBERT GREENALL, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington; unsurpassed for purity of breed, size, and general excellence, as proved by the numerous championship and class prizes won at all the leading shows. Large, Middle, and Small White Yorkshires. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale. Stock carefully shipped. For particulars, apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

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NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Improved Pedigree Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest Herds of pure-bred Pigs in the United Kingdom. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford, pedigree LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS. Also few BERKSHIRES for sale. All bred on farm. 200 to select from. One champion, 28 firsts, 24 seconds, 15 thirds won this year.

BERKSHIRE.

SMITH, C. C., Kingstone Common, Wantage.—Pedigree Berkshire BOARS and GILTS for Sale. Eligible for Herd Book.

BURBIDGE, EDWARD, Wraxhall, Bradford-on-Avon. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, bred from Royal and Bath and West Champion blood. Acknowledged one of largest type of Berkshires in England. Purchasers met by appointment.

TAMWORTH.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTH PIGS. A few young boars and gilts from prize-winning strains, for sale.—Apply, Farm Bailiff, Middlewood Hall, Barnsley.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

FIELDSEND, C. S., Belmont, S. Willingham, Lincoln. Flock No. 59. Pedigree RAMS and EWES for SALE.

T. C. DIXON, Brandesburton, Hull.—Pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, of best blood. Wool a speciality, with quality and size combined. F.B. 69. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for Sale. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above.

HOYLES, GEORGE, Manor House, Skidby, near Hull.—Pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP. Registered Flock 136. Sires used: Skidby Constitution 3069, sire Skidby Conservative 1346, g. sire Old Constitution 308; Skidby Tory 1583, sire Riby A 358; Leconfield Pride, sire Casswell (16) 1753; Skidby Friar, sire Abbot 1—from the celebrated flocks of Messrs. Henry Dudding, J. Casswell, Hy. Smith, jun., etc. Heavy-wool Sheep for export. Also prize and prize-bred Polled Angus, Shire Horses, and English Ponies for inspection and sale.

SHEEP *(contd.)*.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Chapel Farm, Barton-on-Humber, Lincolnshire Breeder of pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP. Flock Book 106. These sheep are noted for having hardy constitutions, true character, and long, lustrous wool.— Telegrams: "John Anderson, Barton-on-Humber."

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OXFORDSHIRE DOWNS.— For SALE, 100 pure-bred young EWES and 50 EWE LAMBS. Dispersal of flock, established more than 30 years. During recent years rams have been used from the noted flocks of C. Howard, G. Street, B. Hawkins, and H. J. Peacock. Apply to THOMAS STREET, Milton Ernest, Bedford.

HAMPSHIRE DOWN.

FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Undoubtedly the leading flock of the day; in show yard records at all the largest shows, including the Challenge Cup at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair six years in succession; also highest average for same period for 100 ram lambs at annual sale, at Britford Fair, August 12.

The Flock is one of the oldest existing combining fine quality, strength, constitution, and true character.

"Fossil," sire of the highest-priced Hampshire Down Ram ever sold, was bred at Chilmark, and in service there last two seasons.

COLES, CARY, late C. and T., Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury.—Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prize-winners at the Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and other shows. Sheep of all ages for sale; selections from 1,000.

SHROPSHIRE.

COOPER, WILLIAM, AND NEPHEWS, "Cooper's Dip" Works, Berkhamsted, England. Breeders and Exporters of pure Shropshire Sheep. First and Third Prize for Ewes, Royal Show, 1898. Five hundred breeding Ewes. The largest export flock of Shropshires in England. The sires used present season include 310 Guinea Champion "Royal Record," Two First, One Second, and One Third Royal Show Prize winners.

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INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Agent, Ellandonan, Inverness, established 1870, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK. He attends all the leading markets to purchase Stock at lowest rates. References can be given if desired to customers who have been annually supplied. All orders are personally attended to. List of classes and approximate prices sent on application. Reference required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." J.A. is now booking orders. N.B.—Polled Angus or West Highland Heifers for crossing or feeding, in truck loads, at moderate prices. Fat Stock of all classes also purchased.

LARGEST Live Stock Agency in England.—E. GOODWIN PREECE, Portland House, Shrewsbury, will be glad to receive orders for RAMS, EWES and WETHERS, of various breeds, of which he buys annually large numbers on commission. SHROPSHIRES, CLUNS, and KERRIES a SPECIALITY. HAMPSHIRES, OXFORDS, SOUTHDOWNS, LINCOLNS, LEICESTERS, and COTSWOLDS. Also CATTLE of various classes for GRAZING or DAIRY. References to practical farmers all over England, who have been regularly supplied for many years. All personally bought. Prices on application.

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SANFORD'S POISON, best stuff known for Killing Rats.—Mr. Bliss, farmer, Leighton, writes that he found 136 dead, one dressing.—Ald. Ashton, Huntingdon, states he killed 70 rats with 1s. box. Send 1s. 2d. to SANFORD and SON, Sandy, and try it; also Mice Poison for dressing Wheat Ricks. Sold by Chemists.

FARMERS! save your horses, time, and mower by using one of our "NATIONAL" HOLDERS for sharpening Machine Knives; instantly attached; packs in tool box; takes any knife; unbreakable malleable iron throughout; sent carriage paid for 7s. 6d.—WOODROFFE AND CO.. Rugeley.

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TARPAULINS.—I have a great quantity of large pieces of Tarpaulin, some new, but all of the best Navy canvas, purchased from Government, useful for covers for carts, waggons, and machinery, at 25s. per cwt., name size required. A quantity of Odd Pieces, suitable for covering buildings, at 8s. per cwt.—From H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

RICK COVERS; quite new; all sizes; 6 by 6yds., 21s.; 7 by 6yds., 24s. 6d.; 8 by 8yds., 37s. 6d.; 10 by 10yds., 58s. 4d.; good hemp rope fitting, or any size to order, carriage paid; great quantity in stock ready to be despatched on receipt of order.
H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

WATER TANKS for Storing Water.—Will hold 400 gallons; wrought iron, with manhole at top; weight 476lb., size 4ft. 3in. square; carriage paid for £4 2s. each from H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

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BASIC SLAG (Thomas' Phosphate Powder).—State quantity required and station when prices, with guaranteed analyses and full particulars, will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

OLIVOLINE.—A perfect Lubricating Oil, durable and non-gumming. Thirty years in use. Agents required in districts unrepresented. — DUNCAN, WATSON, and Co., Oil Refiners and Wagon Sheet Manufacturers, Dashwood House, New Broad Street, London, E.C.

FOR SALE, for cash, or on easy terms, upwards of fifty second-hand TRACTION and PORTABLE ENGINES, Ploughing Tackle, Traction Waggons, Threshing Machines, Elevators, etc.; all at Reading. Monthly lists free. We are always buyers of any class Machinery for prompt cash.—HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Ironworks, Reading.

HORSES. — PEDICURA, for horses' feet, cures thrush, canker, seedy, brittle, shelly hoof, corns, cracked, greasy heels, foul smell of feet, itchy mane, tail, or legs, harness or other sores. Tins 2s. 6d., of agents, or post free,—GREGORY AND CO., Temple, Bristol.

BINDER TWINES, BINDER TWINES.—We shall be pleased to send samples of the two best Binder Twines on the market, namely Champion's "Reliance" Manilla and "best 3 ply hemp" with specially low prices on application. Immediate delivery for orders placed at once.—JOHN B. CHAMPION and SONS, Reliance Works, Dursley, Glos.

SACKS! SACKS!! 3lbs., 4 bus. for lots of 25, 11d.; 50, 10½d.; 100, 10d.; 200, 9½d.; 4lbs. 4 bus., 3d. per sack extra. Sewed with tarred twine, and marked free. All kinds supplied. Samples and prices free.—E. B. HAWTHORN AND CO., Limited, Reading.

HORSE CLOTHS! HORSE CLOTHS!! 30in. by 36in., 4s. 3d.; 36 in. by 48in., 5s. 6d., both lined and strapped. Heavy quality lined best pure woollen check, strapped, 36in. by 54in., 6s. 9d.; 54in. by 54in., 9s. 6d.; 60in. by 60in., 10s. 6d. All marked free. Samples and lists free.—E. B. HAWTHORN AND CO., Limited, Reading.

POULTRY HOUSES!! NOTE PRICES!!! To hold 12 fowls, 20s.; 20 fowls, 25s.; 30 fowls, 27s.; 50 fowls, 40s. Illustrated lists free.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., Limited, London Works, Reading. (Name Paper.)

BASIC SLAG, 38/45 per cent. Phosphates guaranteed. We sell thousands of tons, and can quote lowest prices. Order now to secure delivery when required. Try our celebrated CORN SACKS. Special prices. Catalogue of Manures, &c., free. Cannock Agricultural Company, Limited, HENRY R. HART, Managing Director, Cannock, Staffs.

BASIC SLAG or Thomas Phosphate Powder. The cheapest and most efficacious fertiliser for grass land. Please note guarantee 38 to 45 per cent. Phosphates. Order early. Purchasing agents wanted.
THOMAS BRADBURN, Wolverhampton

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CART COVERS FOR MILLERS, BAKERS, AND CONFECTIONERS.—Made from best quality double texture White Mackintosh. Waterproof Sheeting, any size at 3s. 6d. per square yard. Samples free.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Waterproofers, Wigan. Estd. 1808.

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OILS.—Guaranteed of highest quality. In drums fitted with brass tap and vent plug. Neatsfoot: 5 gallons, 22s. 6d.; 10 gallons, 40s. Linseed: 5 gallons, 18s.; 10 gallons, 32s. 6d. Machinery: 5 gallons, 12s. 6d.; 10 gallons, 20s. Drums allowed for when returned in good condition, carriage paid: 5 gallons, 4s.; 10 gallons, 5s.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Wigan. Estd. 1808.

WIRE NETTING.—Galvanised, in rolls of 50 yards; carriage paid on 50s. lots and over; 3in. mesh, 2ft., 3s. 9d.; 3ft., 5s. 6d.; 4ft., 7s. 6d.; 2in. mesh, 2ft., 4s. 6d.; 3ft., 6s. 9d.; 4 ft., 9s. Sheep Netting, 3ft. wide, 4in. mesh with centre stand, 5s. 3d., 9s. 3d., and 11s. 6d. per roll.—E. B. HAWTHORN and CO., Limited, Reading. (Name Paper.)

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200,000 AUTUMN SOWN CABBAGE PLANTS, Fidler's Early Eclipse, the earliest and best spring cabbage in cultivation, 3s. 3d. 1,000; Wheeler's Imperial and Early Offenham, 3s.; spring sown Scotch Kale and Sprouting Broccoli, 3s.; white spring Broccoli, 4s.—W. HORNE and SONS, Cliffe, Rochester, Kent.

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Undertake valuations of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE, either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.

MORTGAGES arranged, also Railway and other Compensations, Dilapidations, Division and Apportionment of Tithe Rent Charges, etc.

PREPARATION of PLANS, Superintending the Erection or Repairs of Farm Buildings, and Laying-out of Estates for Building, Planting, Drainage, etc.

Special attention paid to the Management of LANDED ESTATES, including LETTINGS, Collections of Rents, Tithes, and Valuation of Tenant Right.

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STOPHAM, near PULBOROUGH.

TO LET from Michaelmas, 1900, the MANOR FARM, with fine old-fashioned Farmhouse, substantial and well-arranged Farm Buildings, and about 163 acres Arable and 153 acres Meadow and Brookland. Rent £300.—Apply, W. B. HOY, Stopham Estate Office, Pulborough.

WATER-POWER Country Flour and Grist MILL, working two pairs of stones, TO LET from Michaelmas. Good connection, excellent neighbourhood, small capital only required; rent £40.

Apply, MICHELMORE AND SON, Land Agents, Gate House, Totnes.

TO LET, in the Winchester neighbourhood, a farm of 884 acres, as follows:—

	Acres.
Grass	124
Down	180
Arable	442
Woods	138
	884

There are two good sets of buildings and an excellent house. The sporting, which is very good, could be let with the farm.—Apply, J. ARTHUR WALLINGTON, Esq., Basingstoke.

TO BE LET, from Michaelmas, 1900, a Valuable SHEEP and DAIRY FARM, known as Sutton Hall, in the County of Suffolk, containing 1 327a. 2r. 18p., of which 563a. 2r. 2p. are Permanent Pasture, Marshes and Heath Land, and 764a. 0r. 16p. Arable.

There is a first-class Residence, with Bailiff's House, Several Sets of Farm Buildings, all in Good and Substantial Repair.

The whole of the land is in a high state of cultivation, having been farmed by the late owner for many years. The pasture land, together with the marshes, is very rich grazing ground and the heath land is a healthy sheep run.

The farm is within four miles of Melton Station, on the Great Eastern Railway, and has its own quay on the river.

For further particulars apply to PETER HAY, Bawdsey Estate Office, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC. *(Continued).*

TO MARKET GARDENERS and OTHERS.—CROYDON.—To be LET, SIX ACRES of well-matured Garden Ground, with Dwelling House, Stabling for three horses, and range of outhouses, close to railway station, and one hour of Covent Garden; rent £80.—Apply to Messrs. BOWDITCH and GRANT, Surveyors, 103, George Street, Croydon.

MANCHESTER.—Centrally situated opposite Corn Exchange, for Provision trade, in Hanging Ditch. Five floored warehouse and cellars, good loading and electric light.—Address, ISAAC NEILD AND SON 19, Chapel-walks, Manchester.

AUCTION SALES *(Continued).*

12TH CONSECUTIVE SALE.

SOUTH MOSSES LAMPLUGH, CUMBERLAND,

Situate almost equal distance eight miles from Cockermouth, Whitehaven, and Workington.

MESSRS. MITCHELL have great pleasure in again acquainting customers from their friend and patron Mr. J. R. Watson, to

SELL BY AUCTION,

On FRIDAY, 7th SEPTEMBER, 1900,

the following well bred STOCK, which will be found to supersede any exhibition ever held here:

170 Head of Shorthorn and Cross-bred CATTLE (principally the former),

1,070 SHEEP and LAMBS,

AND

18 Unbroken HORSES.

Luncheon (by Ticket) in a Marquee.

Sale at 12 o'clock.

For further particulars and special train arrangements apply to Mr. P. B. WATSON, South Mosses, Lamplugh, Cockermouth (postal address), or to the Salesmen, Agricultural Hall, Cockermouth.

AUCTION SALES.

ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th, 1900
(12 o'clock).

DISPERSION SALE OF THE FLOCKS OF THE LATE S. DUGDALE, Esq., and J. S. DUGDALE, Esq., Q.C., of REGISTERED SHROPSHIRE SHEEP,

AT THE GREEN FARM, SHUSTOKE,

Near Birmingham, about Half a Mile from Whitacre Junction (Midland Railway Co., Main Line).

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. will SELL BY AUCTION, as above,

For Reps. of S. Dugdale, Esq., deceased,

120 REGISTERED SHROPSHIRE SHEEP, viz., 5 Ram Lambs, 25 Shearling Ewes, 40 Breeding Ewes, 25 Ewe Lambs, and 25 Wether Lambs.

For J. S. Dugdale, Esq., Q.C.,

247 REGISTERED SHROPSHIRE SHEEP, viz., 17 Shearling Rams, 15 Ram Lambs, 70 Shearling Ewes, 80 Breeding Ewes, 50 Ewe Lambs, and 15 Wether Lambs.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL and CO., Auctioneers, Shrewsbury, and Secretaries to the Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock Book Society.

Commissions faithfully executed.

ON THURSDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 6TH
(12 o'clock).

MANSELL'S FIRST GREAT AUTUMN STORE STOCK SALE,
IN THE
SHREWSBURY CATTLE MARKET,
BY

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO.

1,100 CATTLE (ALL BREEDS AND AGES).

N.B.—The cattle already entered comprise an exceptionally good lot from well-known Breeders. The Polled Angus, Shorthorn, and Hereford Bullocks and Heifers are in forward condition, fit for finishing for Christmas Beef, and will be one of the finest and largest lots ever shown in Shrewsbury Market. Feeders are particularly recommended to attend. There are also several good lots of well-bred Cattle not quite so forward, suitable for wintering in the yards.

500 SHEEP, SHROPSHIRE CLUNS AND CROSS-BREDS,

Including a special entry of 250 CLUN WETHERS.

All Cattle weighed before entering the Sale Ring.

Full particulars and List of Entries from
ALFRED MANSELL & CO.,
Live Stock Salesmen, Shrewsbury,
WHO WILL EXECUTE COMMISSIONS TO PURCHASE.

On THURSDAY and FRIDAY, SEPT. 13 and 14, 1900 (11 o'clock both days),
SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.
GREAT ANNUAL AUTUMN SALE, in the SHREWSBURY SMITHFIELD, by

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO.

On Thursday: 200 RAMS and RAM LAMBS.

On Friday: 2,000 SHROPSHIRE EWES and EWE LAMBS.

500 CLUN EWES and SHROPSHIRE and CLUN WETHERS and LAMBS.

The best selection of rams and ewes of the season. Entries specially reserved for this sale.

Mr. TOM JONES, Cotwall.

25 grand Shearling Rams and 70 beautiful Shearling Ewes. These rams have never been housed, and will be found a lot of strong, big-boned rams with great length and substance.

Mr. PETER EVERALL, Ruyton.

20 well-grown SHEARLING RAMS (pasture rangers, never been housed, of great scale) and
15 SHEARLING EWES.

The Right Hon. the EARL OF POWIS.

50 SHEARLING EWES.

Mr. HY. WILLIAMS, Newton-on-the-Hill.

20 good SHEARLING RAMS (pasture rangers, of great size and good quality).

Mr. RICHARD THOMAS, The Buildings.

10 RAM LAMBS and 40 SHEARLING EWES.

Mr. T. TOPHAM, The Twemlows.

12 SHEARLING RAMS.

Messrs. S. AND V. BROMLEY, Isombridge.

15 SHEARLING RAMS (pasture rangers).

The REPS. of Mr. J. JEVERALL, Pitchford.

10 SHEARLING RAMS (pasture rangers) and 50 SHEARLING EWES.

Commissions to buy faithfully executed.

Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL AND CO., College Hill, Shrewsbury; Secretaries of the Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock Book Society.

SEAHAM HARBOUR STUD, LIMITED.

IMPORTANT SALE OF
CLYDESDALE HORSES, HACKNEY AND SHETLAND PONIES, &c.

The above Company purpose continuing the sale formerly held by the Marquis of Londonderry, and have fixed the first to take place at SEAHAM, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11th, 1900.

Catalogues in preparation.

Further particulars on application to
R. LEYDON, Managing Director.
Seaham Harbour, August 15, 1900.

AUCTION SALES.

THE QUARRINGTON RAMS.
(Flock Book No. 155).

Important SALE of Grand Lincoln Long-wool SHEARLING RAMS.

MESSRS. HINCKS & TURNER beg to announce their instructions from Mr. F. WARD, to SELL BY AUCTION, upon the premises, QUARRINGTON,

On TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th, 1900,

80

of his Grand Lincoln Shearling

RAMS

This Flock, established in 1841, has been enriched by purchases of Ewes from the Flocks of the late Mr. Hack, Silk Willoughby; Messrs. Clarke and Son, Ashby-de-la-Launde; late Mr. John Byron, Kirkby Green; Mr. Pinder, of Barrowby; Mr. E. H. Cartwright, Keddington; and Mr. H. Dudding, Riby; four of which were the 1st prize winners at the Louth Show. Notable Stud Rams, purchased at sums varying from 60 to 115 guineas, from amongst others: The Flocks of Mr. Dudding, Mr. J. E. Casswell, Messrs. Dean and Son, Mr. T. Casswell, Mr. Pears, Messrs. Clarke and Son, Mr. Wright, Mr. Goodyear, Mr. Rudkin, Mr. Sharpe, and Mr. C. Clarke, have been used. The present collection show great size and capital constitution, with plenty of bone, combined with perfect fleeces, and can with confidence be thoroughly recommended. Specimens this year and the last two at the County Show, held at Spalding, Louth, and Lincoln (the only times exhibited), secured high honours.

The place of Sale is within One Mile of Sleaford Station on the Great Northern Railway, Grantham to Boston, and Great Northern and Great Eastern Joint Main Line, London to Doncaster, where Conveyances will meet intending buyers.

Luncheon at 1 o'clock. Sale at 2.30.

Auctioneers' Offices—Sleaford and Leicester.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, next.
APPLESHAM FARM, SHOREHAM, SUSSEX.
About 2½ miles from Shoreham and Lancing Stations, L.B. & S.C.R.
Highly important SALE of SHEEP and DAIRY CATTLE.

MR. C. STRIDE has been favoured with instructions from Mr. WALTER WHITE (who is quitting and relinquishing farming) to SELL by AUCTION on the farm on the above date, the whole of his well known hill flock of DORSET DOWN SHEEP, consisting of about 1,500 EWES and LAMBS in ages as follows:—

219 two tooth ewes,
196 four tooth ewes,
179 six tooth ewes,
204 full mouthed ewes,
325 ewe lambs,
335 Wether lambs, rams and ram lambs.

This flock has been in the White family for seventy years, and since being brought into Sussex from Dorsetshire by Mr. Walter White ten years ago, has been crossed with the Southdown.

The Ewes are very prolific and hardy of constitution, possessing the quality of the Southdown with greater size and scale. They will be sold in their natural condition, and work on the Downs for their living until day of sale.

Together with
48 GRAND HEAVY MILKING DAIRY COWS AND HEIFERS,
all with calves at foot or due to calve.

All the above cows and heifers are a Shorthorn and Hereford cross, were bred on the farm from cows specially selected for their milking qualities, and are well worth the attention of buyers.

The remainder of the Dairy Stock, with the Horses and tackle, will be sold on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 next.

Sale to commence at 1.45 with the Cows.

Luncheon obtainable on the premises.

Catalogues of the Auctioneer, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 63, East-street, Chichester.

4,000 SHEEP.

FRIDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 7TH, 1900, AT WELLINGTON, SALOP.

MESSRS. BARBER AND SON will hold their ANNUAL SPECIAL SHEEP SALE in the Smithfield, on the above date, when about

4,000 PURE-BRED SHROPSHIRE and other SHEEP will be sold.

The Sale will commence with the Ewes at 11 o'clock.

Catalogues free on application to, and Commissions faithfully executed by, the AUCTIONEERS, Wellington, Shropshire.

OXFORD DOWNS, 1900.

THE KELMSCOTT FLOCK, the property of ROBERT W. HOBBS, Kelmscott, Lechlade.

RAM LAMBS
or
SHEARLING RAMS

from this old-established flock will be SOLD by AUCTION at the undermentioned Fairs:—

CIRENCESTER, SEPTEMBER 3rd.
BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SEPTEMBER 4th.
KELSO, SEPTEMBER 11th.
NORTHAMPTON, SEPTEMBER 19th.

Yearling ewes for sale at home privately.

Prizes won by lambs from this flock this year are four firsts and four seconds at the Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and Gloucestershire Shows.

ALFRED MANSELL & CO.,

LIVE STOCK AGENTS AND EXPORTERS,
SHREWSBURY.

BREEDING & FEEDING SHEEP.—Shropshire Rams and Ewes (all classes) supplied at *lowest rates*, also rams and ewes of other breeds, Shropshire, Clun, Kerry, and Welsh Wethers and Lambs for feeding purposes, bought on Commission.

WINTERING CATTLE.—Hereford, Shorthorn, Polled Angus, Blue-Grey, and Welsh Bullocks and Heifers can be supplied on favourable terms.

PERSONAL BUYING.—All orders are executed by Mr. Alfred Mansell or Mr. G. G. Blantern, a guarantee in itself that selections will be made with *good judgment*.

Specialities: Shropshire and Clun Sheep, Hereford and Polled Angus Cross-bred Cattle.

ADDRESS:
ALFRED MANSELL & CO.,
Secretaries of the Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association, Shrewsbury.

Telegrams:—"PEDIGREE," SHREWSBURY.
National Telephone, No. 21, Shrewsbury.

MACKINDER'S PORRIDGE MEAL FOR WEANING CALVES.

Price 11s. per cwt., free at all Stations.
See directions for use. Testimony from every county.

Wm. Joscelyn, Esq. (Suffolk), writes:—"I find my calves do better on your Porridge Meal than anything I have ever used."

Mr. Harry Fidler (Wilts) writes:—"Your Porridge Meal keeps calves remarkably clean, mastering the one great difficulty in calf-weaning."

Order through Merchants, Chemists, or direct from
MACKINDER'S LAMB FOOD MILLS, LINCOLN.

LEARNER'S PATENT FOOT-ROT CURE.

Leaves the hoof soft and pliable
3/- & 1/6 per tin Four 3/- for 10/- Post Free
ALFRED J. LEARNER, REDHILL, Surrey.

POULTRY HOUSES, PIGEON HOUSES PORTABLE BUILDINGS.
We can supply you with the best value in the kingdom, Competition defied, Largest Makers in the Midlands. Send 1 stamp for Catalogue and up-to-date testimonials.
J. T. HOBSON & Co. Bedford. Estd. 60 Years.

BEES! BEES!! BEES!!!
AND
BEEKEEPING APPLIANCES
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
Send for Large Illustrated Catalogue, Post Free.

E. H. TAYLOR
Successor to T. B. Blow,
WELWYN, HERTS.

There is no Newspaper published in the County Town of Kent which has ONE SEVENTH of the Circulation of the "KENT MESSENGER."

"I hereby certify that the circulation of this Newspaper has increased during the past year by **over 50,000 Copies.**"
—N. STRANGE, Accountant, Tunbridge Wells, Dec. 1st, 1897.

The Kent Messenger is Printed on A Hoe Rotary Machine.

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THE COUNTY PAPER OF KENT.

Established nearly 40 Years.

Classified Advertisements: 6 words, 1s. prepaid.

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ALL OF BEST QUALITIES.
Descriptive priced list post free on application.

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Frank Miller's
HARNESS COMPO.

Larger Box, better value than any other make, does more work with less labour, blacks, oils, and finishes with one application. Suitable for all users of heavy harness. Saddle Soap, Axle Oil, Hoof Dressing, Harness Oil.

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Shines like Diamonds.

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for Ladies' and Children's Boots and Shoes.

Tower Chambers, Moorgate, London, E.C.

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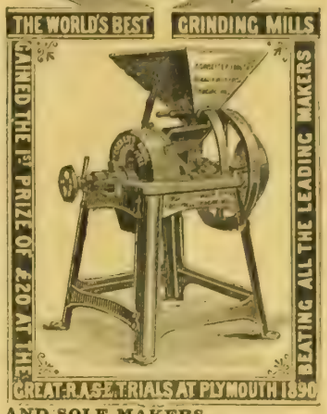
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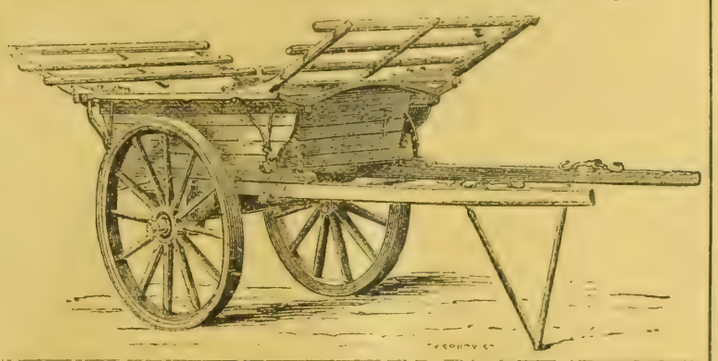

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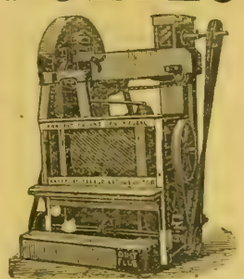

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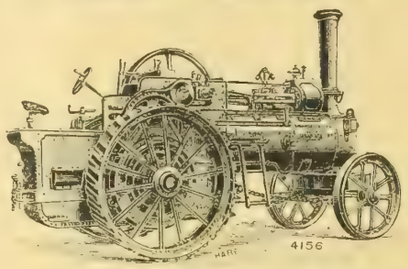

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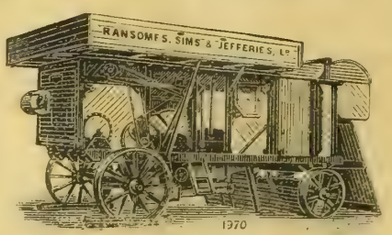

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In our Spring number of "Bibby's Quarterly" we reproduced the photographs of two groups of Calves which are now being reared at the Hornby House Farm, Bedale, Yorks, by his Grace the Duke of Leeds.

One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."

We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

445 selected the "Cream Equivalent" fed Calves as having been fed on New Milk.

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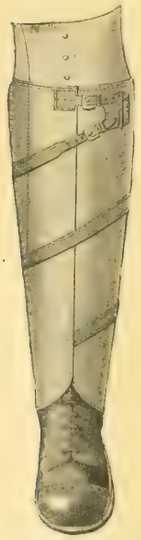

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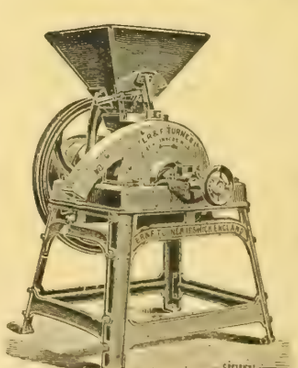

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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal.

The Only English Journal devoted exclusively to Agriculture.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, 'Mark Lane Express" 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Advertisemen's, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

DALMENY OBJECT LESSONS.

There apeared in the MARK LANE EXPRESS of last week an interesting account of a visit to Lord Rosebery's Home Farm by the members of the Kippen Farmers' Club, by which it appears the party of fifty were not only deeply impressed with what are termed the "wonderful crops" that met their view, but had to con several important object lessons possessed of very uncommon features, while the conclusions derivable from some of the experimental results seem of great value.

For instance, the discovery that the largest sized turnip seed will produce finer roots than the smaller sized ones of any given sample is not only "a new wrinkle worth noting," as Mark Twain would perhaps say, but is of deep scientific interest, proving, as it does, that the law of "like producing like" pervades every part of the vegetable kingdom to the same extent it does in the animal. Mr. Drysdale, the Dalmeny prince of factors, got a seedsman, we are told, to send him the best turnip seed procurable. This he winnowed again to separate the finest seeds from the rest. After making the division, he sowed the two lots separate into adjoining lands similarly treated in respect to cultivation and manuring, with the result that "the larger and heavier seeds gave a crop of much stronger and more vigorous plants than was got from the smaller and lighter seed."

Dalmeny has much to do with lime. Very heavy applications of it has there cured the tendency of affecting turnips with "finger-and-toe." Dr. Hunter, the scientific adviser at Dalmeny, believes the disease to come from a soil germ, which the caustic lime kills. His opinions are not shared universally, for a great many declare the disease to be chiefly propagated by infected seed. Possibly the plant malady may be liable to be spread both ways. Lands which have once been infested may retain the disease germ, and the seed of an affected crop may propagate it also. At any rate, if by particular treatment at Dalmeny one-half of an affected soil has been completely cured, while the other half has continued to grow turnips so defective as to be scarcely worth harvesting, Dr. Hunter and Mr. Drysdale may certainly claim to have found a reliable remedy for land of the same nature at least.

But lime is so highly appreciated at Dalmeny that a small quantity consisting of 4 cwt. per acre is applied for all crops. Of course, "facts are stubborn things," and as Mr. Drysdale told the Farmers' Club that the application of this small quantity of finely-ground lime had in repeated experiments caused much better crops to be grown than were raised on other lands precisely treated the same otherwise, but not receiving the lime, we are bound to believe him. Moreover, according to his statement, it did not matter whether the manurings were with nitrogen, phosphates, or potash, or whether no manure otherwise was applied, there had always been a marked difference in the superiority of the limed plots.

We are inclined to attach an equal amount of importance to these results last alluded to as Mr. Drysdale and Dr. Hunter evidently pay to them. They are not only of practical but scientific importance. Some of the old chemists used to affirm that there were four elements of plant nutrition necessary to be supplied by manuring unless the soil happened to have any of them in latent force, these elements being nitrogen, phosphoric acid, potash, and calcium or lime. M. Ville, the great French chemist, was among those who held that view. Our modern chemists all leave lime out of the list, but these Dalmeny experiments tend to prove M. Ville and our older scientific teachers to be correct. We are perfectly aware that caustic lime when applied to land in sufficient quantity possesses that other function commonly assigned to it of liberating the other elementary plant foods when held fast latently. Indeed, Lisle more than a century and a-half ago termed it "the midwife of fertility." But the quantity Dr. Hunter and Mr. Drysdale find to be so beneficially applied to all kinds of cropping at Dalmeny is too small to act effectively in that way, so that we can form no other conclusion but that the effect on the Dalmeny soil is decidedly manurial. A further proof that this is so is also to be found in the statement that the experimental plots which received a ton and a-half of lime gave poorer returns than those which had only 4cwt.

The custom regularly pursued at Dalmeny and strongly advocated by Mr. Drysdale of growing mangels and swedes in rows no wider apart than 24in. is not new. Other practical farmers have found it to be better to grow their roots closer together than formerly, and some hold the opinion that heavier crops can be obtained by so doing. As Mr. Drysdale is perfectly convinced that such is the case, the fact cannot be too generally known. Whether the result would be just the same on all soils alike is a point worth inquiring into. The farming is high at Dalmeny, and it will no doubt be thought that there is sufficient plant food to swell out the bulbs to large size when studded so close as almost to touch one another. We believe, however, that the selfsame result has been discovered on farms not habitually kept in such high condition as the home farm of Lord Rosebery.

Almost every agriculturist in the kingdom would feel grateful to Dr. Hunter and Mr. Drysdale for their recipe how to grow three tons of hay per acre, for it appears the average exceeds that quantity on the Dalmeny farm. The statement made to the Kippen Club was that "the hay crop this year yielded up to 3 tons 7 cwt. per acre for the first cutting, only one small patch of inferior soil having yielded less than 3 tons per acre." How such magnificent crops were grown is not stated in the reports that have come to hand, but no doubt employing the best seeds and applying the most efficient manures have had much to do with it.

We can only give expression to the wish that there were more Dalmeny example farms and experimental grounds to give object-lessons of what can be got out of the land when stimulated to its highest capabilities of productiveness. English noblemen having large landed estates and sufficient means could scarcely serve their country more beneficially than to take a leaf out of Lord Rosebery's book, but to be thoroughly successful in this they would have to look out for Drysdales as factors or managers, and Hunters as scientific advisers.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

I regret to receive reports from Greece affirming that almost the entire crop of currants has been destroyed through the ravages of the peronosperos, a blight which has rotted the young grape. Many thousands of tons of currants are ruined. Consequently, prices in this country, I am told, are likely to advance as high as they did in 1853, when the retail price was 1s. 6d. per pound.

I have received from the Board of Agriculture two leaflets (which may be had free on application to the Secretary, 4, Whitehall Place, S.W.) relating to white root rot in fruit trees, and to the small ermine moths, also to the preventive or remedial measures to be adopted.

I see that an official contradiction is given at St. Petersburg to the rumour of the impending prohibition of the export of cereals from Russia.

Professor Malden calls attention to a new disease in beans, which he has detected in a crop in Sussex. Early in the year a crop of good promise commenced to die off, and continued to waste away until only about one tenth of it was left to be harvested. Investigation proved the mischief to have been caused by a fungus named *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*, which frequently attacks potatoes and other farm and garden crops, but has not been reported to have affected beans before. The haulm in the case under notice had hard swellings under the skin and inside the hollow stems, containing great numbers of resting spores. It is important, therefore, to burn the haulm, but no remedy for an attack is known.

The Joint Agricultural Council in the East and West Ridings of Yorkshire are promoting an extensive scheme for the study of agriculture in the year 1900-1901. The Yorkshire College at Leeds is adopted as the centre, and a new scheme of instruction is in vogue. At the Manor Farm, Garforth, near Leeds, the practical experiments are carried on, and special exhibitions are offered so as to enable farmers' sons to take the winter course of instruction at the Yorkshire College. The County Mayor Scholarships value £60 per annum (and in the West Riding also the Mayor Scholarships of a second-class value, £30 per annum), are available for agricultural study at the College. Competitive examinations are provided for, and arrangements have been made for the carrying out of experiments at Manor Farm with stock and crops or tests of new implements and varieties of seeds, and may be brought before the public.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

Bath and West and Southern Counties Society.

A letter which affords good evidence of the practical utility of the Travelling Farriery School conducted by the above-named Society for the Somerset County Council has just been received from Mr H. J. Shire, formerly of Combe St. Nicholas, near Chard, who was a pupil at the school when it was held at Ilminster in February, 1899, and who at one of the school competitions was awarded first prize for shoeing nag horses.

He is now in South Africa, the letter, which is addressed to the Society's farriery instructor, Mr. W. B. Blackall, R.S.S., being dated from Sunnyside Ward, Pretoria.

The writer states that after being engaged in some sharp fighting outside Pretoria he formed part of the advance guard of Lord Roberts' army when he entered that town. Shortly after this he availed himself of an opportunity to join the Transvaal Mounted Police, and has now become farriery sergeant. As an ordinary trooper gets 10s. a day he expects as sergeant to have 17s. 6d. a day, in addition to board and lodging. He has sixty horses to look after, and these are kept in the stables connected with the town tramway, which is not at present in operation.

At the conclusion of the letter he expresses himself as very grateful for the kindness shown to him by the Society's instructor, and he winds up by saying: "I believe it due to you my being made farriery sergeant, as I should not have been fit for it if I had not attended the school."

Carlisle August Fair, which at one time continued for fifteen days, but is now confined to one, was held on Monday. There was a fair show of Irish store cattle on the Sands, though much smaller than usual on such an occasion, and a few horses were also exhibited. A remarkable circumstance, however, was the entire absence of buyers, the result of the unprecedented weather which has been experienced since the eleventh of August. During the intervals between the heavy rainstorms which have marked the month, farmers worked hard in the harvest field and got a good deal of corn cut, but satisfactory progress was not made, and the harvest, and the gravest fears were entertained as to the prospects of the grain being gathered in safely and without injury. The weather, therefore, being fine on Monday, there was nothing to be thought of but to make the best of the opportunity it afforded, and everywhere farmers and their servants were busy in the harvest fields. Rosy accounts were given of the harvest prospects before the rain came, and even yet, in spite of the undoubted damage which was done by the wet, the hopes are that the harvest will, on the whole, be good and plentiful.

Death of Sir J. B Lawes.

It is with deep regret we have to announce the death from dysentery of Sir John Bennet Lawes, Bart., which took place at Rothamsted on Friday morning last.

There is no name more familiar to students of agricultural chemistry, and to farmers generally, either in this country or, indeed, in any other civilised country of the world, than that of Sir J. B. Lawes, Bart., who for half a century devoted his energies to help and to benefit the science and practice of agriculture.

John Bennet Lawes was born in 1814, and on the death of his father in 1822 succeeded to the estate of Rothamsted in Hertfordshire. He was educated at Eton and at Brasenose College, Oxford, where he remained from 1832 to 1835, and he afterwards spent some time in London for the purpose of the further study of chemistry.

Sir John Lawes was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1854, and in 1857 the Royal medal was awarded to him by the Council of the Society. Further honours received by him were his baronetcy (1882), his Honorary D.Sc. of Cambridge, Gold Medal of the Imperial Agricultural Association of Russia, Gold Medal of Merit from the German Emperor, Albert Medal of the Society of Arts, and diplomas or medals from a great number of other academies and societies in America, Sweden, Holland, and other countries, besides the Legion of Honour from Napoleon III. He was a member of the important Royal Commission which investigated the application of town sewage to the fertilisation of different crops. The work of Rothamsted is embodied in print in many forms: in the records of the Royal Agricultural Society, the British Association, the Chemical Society of London, the Royal Society, the Horticultural Society, and the Royal Dublin Society, in articles in the MARK LANE EXPRESS and other technical newspapers, and in numerous reports, pamphlets, and letters to the general press. In 1892 he published a book on the work of the Rothamsted Farm.

Sir John Lawes married, in 1842, Caroline, daughter of the late Mr. Andrew Fountaine, of Narford Hall, Norfolk, who left him a widower in 1895. He leaves one son and one daughter, the son, who succeeds him, being Mr. Charles Bennet Lawes, the well-known sculptor, who was born in 1843.

Prior to the appearance of Liebig's remarkable works, "Organic and Animal Chemistry" in their application to agriculture and physiology, in 1840 and 1842, which certainly constituted a very marked epoch in the history of the progress of agricultural chemistry, Mr. Bennet Lawes (as he then was) commenced experiments with different manuring substances, first with plants in pots, and afterwards in the field at Rothamsted, Hertfordshire, into the hereditary possession of which he had entered on his majority in 1834. Of all the experiments so made, those in which the neutral phosphate of lime in bones, boneash, apitite, was rendered soluble by means of sulphuric acid, and the mixture applied for root-crops gave the most striking results. The data so obtained on a small scale led to more extensive trials in the field in 1840 and subsequent years. In June, 1843, at which date Dr. Gilbert became associated with Sir John Lawes in the Rothamsted investigations, more systematic field experiments were commenced, and a barn, which had already been applied to laboratory purposes, became almost exclusively devoted to chemical research.

The experiments so set on foot, and which may truly be said to have revolutionised agricultural practice, were conducted entirely at the cost of Sir John Lawes, who further set apart a sum of £100,000, the laboratory—built by public subscription of agriculturists, and presented to Sir John Lawes in July, 1855, since which date the old barn laboratory was abandoned—together with certain areas of land, for the continuance of the experiments after his death. The necessary trust deeds were executed in the early part of 1889, and, in accordance with its provisions, trustees and a committee were appointed.

The fact that agricultural experiments are of little or no practical utility unless they are continued from year to year for a long period, and tried in good and bad seasons in a manner which allows us, if not to eliminate, yet clearly to recognise, the disturbing influences of climate, seasons, conditions of soils, and other circumstances which often affect the produce in a higher degree than the manures on which we experiment, was from the very first recognised by Messrs. Lawes and Gilbert; so that the general plan of the Rothamsted field investigations has been to grow some of the most important crops of rotation, each separately, year after year, for many years in succession, on the same land, without manure, with farmyard manure, and with a great variety of chemical manures; the same description of manure being, as a rule, applied year after year to the same plot.

Experiments with different manures on the mixed herbage of permanent grass-land, on an actual course of rotation, on potatoes, oats, beans, and various leguminous plants, without manure, and with different manures were likewise made.

Obviously, an investigation of the scientific principles of agriculture would be incomplete if it were not extended to the question of the feeding of the animals of the farm. Accordingly, experiments with such animals were commenced early in 1857 and continued at intervals. Among the points investigated have been:—(1) The amount of food and its several constituents consumed in relation to a given live-weight of animal within a given time. (2) The amount of food consumed to produce a given amount of increase in live-weight. (3) The composition of the solid and liquid excreta (the manure) in relation to that of the food consumed.

Supplementary investigations have also been made on the application of town sewage to different crops, including experiments on the feeding qualities of the produce grown, the amount of increase yielded by oxen, and the quantity and quality of the milk yielded by cows being determined. The chemistry of the malting process, the loss of food constituents during its progress, and the comparative feeding value of barley and malt have also been made.

The results of these numerous agricultural researches in the field, the feeding shed, and the laboratory, have been given in a series of papers, too long for enumeration here, which, as regard the agricultural history, progress, and literature of the past fifty years, are one of the glories of the English tongue.

The funeral is fixed for to-morrow (Tuesday) at Rothamsted.

THE DAIRY.

Tring Milking and Butter-Test Trials.

Judge's Report.

The Tring milking and butter test trials of 1900 are chiefly remarkable for the large weight of butter obtained from milk of one of the Shorthorn cows, and for the general excellence of all the Shorthorn cattle exhibited.

For the first time at this show the awards in the milking trials were given by points, the period of lactation being taken into account, these points being as follows:—One point for every 1lb. of milk, fractions of 1lb. being worked out in decimals. One point for every ten days since calving, deducting the first forty days.

Mr. Dawe's cow Cherry, which won the first prize in both the milking and butter-test classes for cattle over 900lbs. live weight, was a Shorthorn weighing 1,289lbs., and gave 36lbs. 8oz. of milk in the morning (thirteen hours), and 31lbs. 2oz. milk in the evening (eleven hours), a total of 67lbs. 10oz. of milk of very rich quality, evidenced not only by the butter ratio, 15.79, but confirmed by the sample of morning's milk which, through the Babcock tester, under Mr. F. J. Lloyd's care, showed a very large percentage of butter fat.

The butter ratio showed that the milk from this cow was as rich as that from the Jerseys. Compare the figures of the gold and bronze medal cows in the test, but it is certainly remarkable to find milk so rich when the yield is so large.

Referring to the excellence of all the Shorthorns exhibited, if the figures of this, the eighth year of the Tring trials, be compared with the figures of the year 1893 it will be seen that this particular breed has improved in every way, a satisfactory proof of the practical value of these competitions.

(1) The averages of all the Shorthorn cows tested in 1893 and 1900.

(2) The yields of butter and milk respectively of some of the best Shorthorns whose milk passed the standard of 3 per cent. fat.

TABLE I.

Year.	No of Cows.	Days in Milk.	Milk. lb oz.	Butter. lb. oz.	Butter ratio.
1893	20	72	43 6¾	1 8¾	28·07
1900	25	60	49 0	2 0¾	24·12

TABLE II.

MILK YIELD. 1893. lb. oz.	1900. lb. oz.	BUTTER YIELD. 1893. lb. oz.	1900. lb. oz.
56 14	67 10	2 2¾	4 4½
48 10	62 4	2 1¾	2 12
47 7	59 14		2 9¾
	58 0		2 3¾
	57 14		2 3¾
	56 12		2 2¾
	(2) 56 6		2 2¾
	54 10		
	54 0		

The whole of the milking prizes in the class for cows over 900lbs. live weight were won by tenant farmers, and this is another satisfactory feature of these trials.

The Jerseys, on the average, did not come out so well as they usually do, owing, I think, to the fact that the cattle were in many cases rather too young. Out of the thirty-five animals tested, ten were over four and under five years of age, six were three and under four years of age, and four over two and under three years of age; so that twenty out of thirty-five can hardly be said to be in their prime.

The averages of the Jerseys are as below:—

No. of cows.	Days in milk.	Milk. lb. oz.	Butter. lb. oz.	Butter ratio. lb.
35	100	32 6	1 11¾	19·01

The English Jersey Cattle Society's gold, silver, and bronze medals were awarded as below:—

Name of cow.	Days in milk.	Milk. lb. oz.	Butter lb. oz.	Butter ratio.	Prize and points.
Colonel McCalmont's Freedom	111	34 14	2 10½	13·20	Gold medal, 49·35
Dr. Watney's Lady of the Sunny Isles	124	46 12	2 6¾	19·30	Silver medal and £5, 47·15
Viscount Enfield's Musk	194	29 12	2 0¾	14·53	Bronze medal and £3, 44·75

The test was carried out on the same lines as at previous shows, the cattle being milked out on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at six p.m. The milk of Wednesday was passed through a Farmer's Alfa steam turbine separator on the evening of that day, and on Thursday the various lots of cream were churned, the awards being published at 12.30 p.m.

The arrangements for carrying through the trials were (as they always are at Tring) perfect, and my thanks are due to all those who so ably assisted me in the work. I would especially mention Mr. Richardson Carr and his assistant, Mr. Young, the stewards, the assistant-secretaries to the English Jersey Cattle Society, and the dairymaids, all of whom worked with a determination to make the trials a success. ERNEST MATHEWS.

BUTTER TEST.

COWS NOT EXCEEDING 900lbs. LIVE WEIGHT 32 ENTRIES.

	Days in milk.	Milk yield. lb.	Butter yield. oz.	Butter ratio.	Pints
1st prize, £20, to Col. McCalmont's Freedom (Jersey)	111	34·14	2 10½	13·20	49·35
2nd prize, £15, to Dr. Watney's Sharab (Jersey)	117	31·8	2 0¼	15·62	44·25
3rd prize, £10, to Viscount Enfield's Gloaming 4th (Jersey)	94	38·10	2 5½	16·48	42·90
4th prize, £5, to Mrs. McIntosh's Fairy (Jersey)	108	51·11	2 3¼	23·46	42·05

COWS EXCEEDING 900lbs. LIVE WEIGHT, 34 ENTRIES.

1st prize, £20, to Mr. E. Dawe's Cherry (Shorthorn)	41	67·10	4 4½	15·79	68·60
2nd prize, £15, to Dr. Watney's Lady of the Sunny Isles (Jersey)	124	46·12	2 6¾	19·30	47·15
3rd prize, £10, to Viscount Enfield's Musk (Jersey)	194	29·12	2 0¾	14·53	44·75
4th prize, £5, to Mr. C. Birdney's Florence (Shorthorn)	23	44·14	2 12	16·31	44·00

ENGLISH JERSEY CATTLE SOCIETY'S PRIZES FOR THE THREE BEST JERSEYS IN THE TEST.

Gold medal or £10 to Colonel McCalmont's Freedom.

Silver medal and £5 to Dr. Watney's Lady of the Sunny Isles.

Bronze medal and £3 to Viscount Enfield's Musk.

MILKING TRIALS.

COWS NOT EXCEEDING 900LB. LIVE WEIGHT, 32 ENTRIES.

	Days in Milk.	Milk yield.
1st prize, £20, to Mrs. McIntosh's Fairy (Jersey)	108	51·11
2nd prize, £15, to the Duke of Marlborough's Water Lily (Jersey)	125	47·6
3rd prize, £10, to Lord Braybrooke's Dewberry (Jersey)	114	43 8
4th prize, £5, to Hon. Murray-Smith's Lorna (Jersey)	183	35·12

COWS EXCEEDING 900LB. LIVE WEIGHT, 34 ENTRIES.

1st prize, £20, to Mr. E. Dawe's Cherry (Shorthorn)	41	67·10
2nd prize, £15, to Mr. A. Bonest's Milkmaid (Shorthorn)	17	62·4
3rd prize, £10, to Mr. Ellingworth's Daisy (Shorthorn)	67	58·0
4th prize £5, to Mr. J. Even's Judy (Shorthorn)	76	56·14

SOCIETIES.

Durham.

The council of the Durham County Agricultural Society met on the 25th ult. at the Rose and Crown Hotel, Durham, to receive the statement of accounts in connection with the society's recent show at West Hartlepool. Mr. Robert Richardson, of West Rainton, presided over a good attendance.

The secretary (Mr. Chrystal) submitted an abstract of the accounts. These showed a net loss on the show of £252 17s. 2d., as against a loss of £306 17s. 3d. on the previous year's show held in Durham. The total receipts were £1,136.

It was announced that Sir Christopher Furness and Mr. Stephen Furness had intimated their willingness to become vice-presidents of the society.

At the Taunton Police Court on Saturday week, Thomas Cornwall, a cattle dealer, was charged with having stolen nineteen crossbred lambs, value £27, the property of Mr. Marwood Stone, of Sweethay Farm, Trull, on the 21st ult. The prisoner, who is a rough-looking man, of middle age, was arrested at Bridgwater, where he was endeavouring to dispose of the lambs. Evidence was given to the effect that prisoner was seen in the neighbourhood of Trull driving the animals on Tuesday evening, and on Wednesday morning a drover, employed at Bridgwater Market in putting up the pens, saw him there with the sheep. He asked him to whom they belonged, and prisoner answered, "Mr. Edwards, of Chiselwood, Trull." The drover, however, reminded him that Mr. Greenslade lived there, and again asked him where he got them. He then said he had them from a field at Culmstock, in Devon. Prisoner was ordered to take the lambs out of the market, and subsequently he offered the drover half a sovereign to put them into an auction, and an additional sovereign if they were sold all right. The drover then communicated with the police, and Superintendent Barnett, of the borough police force, went to the market and pretended that he wanted to buy the lambs. Prisoner then gave his address as "Mr. Edwards, of Kingston." Superintendent Barnett, doubting the truth of the statement, took him to the police office, and ascertained that he was a drover named Cornwall. He was eventually handed over to the Taunton police. Prisoner was committed for trial at the next Quarter Sessions for the county.

FARM.

Agricultural Returns of Great Britain, 1900.

Preliminary statement for 1900, compiled from the returns collected on June 4th, and comparison with previous years:—

Crops and Live Stock.	1900.	1899.	1898.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Wheat	1,845,042	2,000,981	2,102,206
Barley	1,990,265	1,982,108	1,903,666
Oats	3,026,088	2,959,755	2,917,760
Potatoes	561,361	547,682	524,591
Clover and rotation grasses — For hay	2,201,781	2,214,883	2,381,551
Clover and rotation grasses — Not for hay	2,557,377	2,593,068	2,529,799
Total	4,759,158	4,807,951	4,911,350
Permanent pasture — For hay	4,373,099	4,339,085	4,536,315
Permanent pasture — Not for hay	12,365,936	12,291,662	12,023,077
Total	16,729,035	16,630,747	16,559,392
Hops	51,308	51,843	49,735
	No.	No.	No.
Cows and heifers in milk or in calf	2,620,901	2,671,260	2,587,190
Other cattle, two years and above	1,372,532	1,341,310	1,381,595
Ditto, one year and under two	1,460,808	1,388,511	1,315,844
Ditto, under one year	1,350,929	1,394,639	1,307,735
Total of cattle	6,805,170	6,795,720	6,622,364
Ewes kept for breeding	10,350,326	10,460,837	10,137,932
Other sheep, one year and above	5,963,869	6,040,600	6,203,858
Ditto, under one year	10,278,031	10,737,317	10,401,404
Total of sheep	26,592,226	27,238,754	26,743,194
Sows kept for breeding	332,521	375,911	362,200
Other pigs	2,049,411	2,247,902	2,089,395
Total of pigs	2,381,932	2,623,813	2,451,595

1900 COMPARED WITH 1899.

Crops and Live Stock.	Increase.		Decrease.	
	Acres.	Per cent.	Acres.	Per cent.
Wheat	—	—	155,939	7·8
Barley	8,157	0·4	—	—
Oats	66,333	2·2	—	—
Potatoes	13,679	2·5	—	—
Clover & rotation grasses — For hay	—	—	13,102	0·6
Clover & rotation grasses — Not for hay	—	—	35,691	1·4
Total	—	—	48,793	1·0
Permanent pasture — For hay	34,014	0·8	—	—
Permanent pasture — Not for hay	64,274	0·5	—	—
Total	98,288	0·6	—	—
Hops	—	—	535	1·0
	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.
Cows and heifers in milk or in calf	—	—	50,359	1·9
Other cattle, two years and above	31,222	2·3	—	—
Ditto, one year and under two	72,297	5·2	—	—
Ditto, under one year	—	—	43,710	3·1
Total of cattle	9,450	0·1	—	—
Ewes kept for breeding		—	110,511	1·1
Other sheep, one year and above	—	—	76,731	1·3
Ditto, under one year	—	—	459,286	4·3
Total of sheep	—	—	646,528	2·4
Sows kept for breeding	—	—	43,390	11·5
Other pigs	—	—	198,491	8·8
Total of pigs	—	—	241,881	9·2

The Plague of Thistles.

Writing to the *Irish Times*, a "County Wicklow Man" draws attention to the plague of thistles, which is really disastrous to a grazing country like Ireland, and says methodical steps should be taken to stamp it out unless farmers wish the feeding value of their fields to be reduced by one-half. In Holland a fine is exacted for every thistle found in a field, as the thistle-down flies all over the country, and no man has a right to injure his neighbour's property, however careless he may be about his own. It is supposed that if thistles are cut in full bloom, when the strength has gone out of the plant they will die, but the only effective remedy is to pull them out by the roots. The new Agricultural Department should take the matter up. The destruction of thistles is quite as important as potato-spraying.

Awards at the Paris Exhibition.—Spratt's Patent, Limited, has received a gold medal for its display at the Paris Exhibition. Mr. George Vickers, of 172, Strand, has received the highest award—a medal—in competition with other well-known English makers of ink. Within three years this firm has obtained no less than twenty-two prizes, which is something of a record.

FARM LABOURERS' WAGES.

Board of Trade Report.

A most interesting report has been issued by the Board of Trade on the wages and earnings of agricultural labourers in the United Kingdom. Mr. Wilson Fox, Assistant Commissioner for Labour, and who was Assistant Commissioner both to the Royal Commission on Labour 1892-94 and to the Royal Commission on Agriculture 1894-96, is the writer of the report, which covers nearly three hundred pages, and deals separately with England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. Preliminary to the detailed report there is a summary of the main conclusions, and attached to this is a coloured map showing for each county in the United Kingdom the average earnings of ordinary agricultural labourers in 1898, including all extra cash payments and the value of payments in kind.

Systems of Engagements.

In Scotland, Wales, the north of England, and the north of Ireland the majority of the farm servants are, broadly speaking, on yearly or half-yearly terms of engagement, and are paid a regular wage, board and lodging being usually provided free in the farm houses for the unmarried men and cottages in many districts for the married men. This applies generally to all classes of farm servants in Scotland and in Northumberland and Durham. In the other northern counties of England and also in Wales the yearly or half-yearly engagements are mainly confined to the unmarried men, while the majority of the married men regularly attached to the staff of a farm are usually on weekly engagements. It is a frequent custom in Wales and Ireland to give the married men their meals in the farmhouses on working days. In other parts of England (excepting the counties abutting on the Welsh border) and in Ireland, except in the north, the majority of agricultural labourers are, as a general rule, on weekly engagements, though the men in charge of animals are frequently engaged for longer periods. Throughout the greater part of England the custom of lodging and boarding men in the farmhouses has practically ceased to exist. The system of hiring nearly all classes of farm servants at hiring fairs obtains in Scotland, the north of England, the north of Ireland, and in a few districts in Wales, chiefly in the north. In other parts of the United Kingdom the system is nearly extinct, and it is declining to some extent in all districts.

Earnings.

It is shown that though time-payments in cash form the main part of the agricultural labourer's earnings, the method of remuneration greatly varies in different parts of the United Kingdom. Where the hiring system prevails, extra cash payments for piecework, hay and corn harvest, overtime, etc., are few, if any, while allowances in kind, such as board and lodging for unmarried men, and free cottage, potatoes, fuel, etc., for married men, are frequent. On the other hand, where the engagements are shorter and the rates of cash wages are lower, as in the arable districts of the eastern and southern counties of England, more piecework is done, and extra payments in cash at hay and corn harvests and for overtime can be earned, while men in charge of animals often receive lamb money, journey money, etc., free cottages, and other allowances in kind. A comparison between the wages of agricultural labourers in different parts of the United Kingdom is, therefore, of not much practical advantage without an accompanying statement of the actual annual earnings, including the extra amounts obtained in cash from all sources and the value of all the allowances in kind. The report gives a statement of the cash wages and earnings of the various classes of agricultural labourers in each county of the United Kingdom. The following are the final averages obtained for the earnings of ordinary agricultural labourers in England and for the classes of labourers most nearly corresponding to them in other parts of the United Kingdom for the year 1898:—

Country.	Average earnings per week in 1898 (including the value of all allowances in kind).
	s. d.
England	16 10
Wales	16 5
Scotland	18 1
Ireland	10 1

These averages are arrived at by combining the earnings for each county with the total number of agricultural labourers in each county according to the 1891 census. The census figures include classes of labourers not covered by the average earnings given for each county, but as they show roughly the proportionate number of labourers in the various counties it is considered that the resulting averages for England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland may be taken as approximately correct.

Highest and Lowest Wages.

The report shows that the earnings were highest in Scotland, England, and Wales near the large industrial and mining centres. This is also true of Ireland, where, however, the earnings were uniformly lower than in Great Britain, the highest earnings there being in County Dublin and in the counties of Down, Antrim, and Armagh in Ulster. There are six counties in the United Kingdom where the earnings exceed 20s. a week, viz., Renfrew, Lanark, Stirling, and Dumbarton, Durham, and Northumberland, the highest being in Scotland, in the county of Renfrew, where they averaged 21s. 9d. a week. The county where the earnings were lowest in England was Suffolk, the earnings being 14s. 5d. a week. In Cardiganshire, in Wales, the earnings were 15s. 9d. In Scotland, in Sutherland, Orkney, and Caithness the earnings were 14s.; while in Mayo, in Ireland, the earnings were 8s. 7d. In Ireland there were eighteen counties where the average weekly earnings in 1898 were under 10s. a week. In many districts in the province of Connaught, and also in county Donegal in Ulster, agricultural labourers, as a class, do not exist, the holdings in such districts being generally small, and worked by the owners and their families. Large numbers of these small farmers and their sons go to work as labourers on farms in various districts in England and Scotland during the spring, summer, and autumn.

Wages for a Series of Years.

Information has been obtained for a considerable number of farms in the United Kingdom as to the rates of weekly cash wages paid on them for a long series of years. The inquiry goes back to the last fifty years, there has been a marked increase of wages. The changes in England and Wales are shown on charts. The returns as a whole indicate that the average increase from 1850 to 1899 in the rates of weekly cash wages paid on thirty-three farms amounted to 48 per cent.

The information as to the rates of wages paid during the last five years is of a much more complete and detailed character than that for earlier years. Dealing with the changes which have taken place from 1895 to 1900, there has been a progressive upward movement in England, Wales, and Scotland. The information received from January up to June, 1900, from all parts of England, Wales, and Scotland points in the same direction. In Ireland there has been but little change, except in the neighbourhood of the large towns or in districts where railways have been constructed. Where changes have taken place, they have been in an upward direction, most of these changes having taken place in Ulster. Generally speaking, the rates of agricultural wages in Ireland have not altered much for the past ten years. The rise in the rates of cash wages in England and Wales from 15s. 5½d. to 16s. amounted to about 11½d. per head of the agricultural labourers in the districts reported on. In 1899, as compared with 1898, wages rose by about 4d. per head, and in June, 1900, as compared with June, 1899, by about 8½d. per head.

Cottage Rents.

In determining the annual earnings of agricultural labourers the question of cottages is, it is pointed out, a most difficult one to deal with, more particularly in the counties where there is a mixed system. For instance, some labourers get free cottages and others cottages at a low rental, and in both cases they may or may not be receiving a lower rate of cash wages than that current in the district. On the other hand, some may be paying full rental for their cottages but receiving full cash wages. Though it may be stated generally that in the greater number of counties the ordinary agricultural labourers do not get free cottages, it would no doubt be true to say that in every county there are numerous instances in which they are held at low or almost nominal rents. The counties in which ordinary agricultural labourers frequently get cottages free are Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, Westmorland, the North Riding of Yorkshire, and to a less extent the West Riding, Shropshire, Gloucester, Hereford, Dorset, Wilts, Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall. In the western counties many men who get cottages free receive a rather lower rate of wages than those who pay rent for their cottages. Some landowners, when letting their farms, keep the cottages in their own hands in order to give the labourers greater security of tenure, as well as to ensure the cottages being kept in a good state. But farmers frequently stipulate that they shall at any rate have the letting of a certain number, more particularly for men in charge of animals. In some districts the cottages held direct from the landowner are called "free cottages," and those rented from the farmer "tied cottages." The rent received for cottages by landowners has generally no relation to the initial cost of building them. They are frequently erected on farms with the object of inducing a good class of tenant to take the farm, in the rent of which the cottages are included without any separate calculation of their value. The landowner, it is pointed out, may also be desirous of improving the appearance of his property or be willing to spend freely on the habitations of the labourers on his estate for philanthropic reasons.

Scarcity of Labour.

One of the most interesting points in the report has reference to the scarcity of labour in recent years. The rise in wages in England and Wales, and also in Scotland, in the last five years is usually attributed by employers to the scarcity of labour, which is said to be increasing, particularly of the more skilled and educated men, owing to the competition of other industries during the last period of general prosperity. Many farmers in England consider there is a special difficulty in getting young men to take charge of animals, and that this is partly a

to their objection to Sunday work. Employers of labour have complained for many years of the difficulty of keeping the younger and more efficient men on the land, but never has the complaint been so general as at the present time. The scarcity has been accentuated in many districts by the calling out of the Reserves and the Militia towards the end of 1899 and in 1900. The employment of women and children in agriculture in England has been gradually decreasing during the last twenty years, until it has nearly ceased to exist in almost every county, thus depriving the farmers of cheap labour at busy seasons, and in the last few years the resident casual labourer who could be secured for hoeing and weeding, hay and corn harvest, and potato lifting, etc., has almost or entirely disappeared in many districts. The farmers have tried to meet the difficulty in some localities, especially since the price of corn sank to such a low level, by keeping more land in grass and by using self-binding machines at harvest. As it is nine years ago since the last census was taken, it is not possible to give figures showing what changes have taken place in the number of agricultural labourers in the last ten years, but the evidence of employers in England, Wales, and Scotland is to the effect that there has been considerable migration to the urban centres, especially in the case of the younger men, during that period. In Scotland, where women are still largely employed at field work in many districts, it is generally stated that they, and also the young women engaged for dairy and other work in the farmhouses, are steadily decreasing year by year owing to their preference for situations in towns, either in shops or domestic service. It is, the report points out, sometimes asserted that the migration to the towns is due not only to a desire to obtain higher wages, but also to the wish to secure employment to which a higher social position is attached, and to lead a life which is less arduous and monotonous. However this may be, it is observed that the complaints of scarcity of labour come from the high-wage districts in the north of England and in Scotland, where regular employment is afforded, as well as from the south of England, where the terms of engagement are usually short. The report adds that, comparing one purely agricultural district with another, say, in Northumberland and in Suffolk, there is not much difference, if any, in the cost of cottage rents or of living generally.

The Collection of Information.

There is a chapter of the report showing how the large body of facts and figures has been obtained. In England alone over 9,000 returns were sent to employers asking for information as to the rates of wages and the actual annual earnings of all the men in their employ, and particulars were received relating to 18,069 labourers. In addition the rates of weekly cash wages paid in the rural districts were sent by the chairmen of Rural District Councils. A large number of employers in Wales, Scotland, and Ireland also sent information. Altogether the book contains a large mass of most useful details bearing on the agricultural problem, and Mr. Wilson Fox is to be congratulated on the manner in which he has presented the information.

Doncaster Races.— The Great Northern Railway Company are, as usual, making very extensive and complete arrangements in connection with this year's Doncaster Races. The ordinary splendid service of seventeen express trains from London will be fully maintained, and the following additional special expresses will be run:—On Monday, September 10th, first and third class expresses at ordinary fares will leave London (King's Cross) at 3.18 and 5.40 p.m. On Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, September 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th, special express with first and third class luncheon cars attached will leave King's Cross at 9.40 a.m. and arrive at Doncaster at 12.40 p.m. On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, September 11th, 12th, and 13th, a special first and third class dining car express will leave Doncaster at 6.5 p.m., and arrive at King's Cross at 9.5 p.m.; and on Friday, September 14th, a special first and third class dining car express will leave Doncaster at 5.0 p.m., and arrive at King's Cross at 8.25 p.m. First and third class luncheon or dining cars are attached to the ordinary trains leaving Doncaster at 10.45 a.m., 11.1 a.m., 6.20 p.m., and 7.32 p.m., arriving at King's Cross at 1.55 p.m., 2.10 p.m., 9.30 p.m., and 10.45 p.m., respectively. To enable visitors from the Metropolis to return immediately after the last race on Friday, September 14th ("Cup" Day), special expresses will be run, leaving Doncaster at 4.18 p.m. and 4.40 p.m., arriving at King's Cross at 7.35 p.m. and 8.8 p.m. Cheap excursions will be run as under to Doncaster:—Monday, September 10th, for 3 or 5 days, from Moorgate at 1.56 p.m., Aldersgate 1.58, Farringdon 2.6, King's Cross (G.N.) 2.45. Wednesday, September 12th ("St. Leger" day), for 1 or 3 days from Woolwich (Arsenal) at 6.25 a.m., Dockyard 6.27, Charlton 6.30, Maze Hill 6.35, Greenwich 6.40, Deptford 6.43, Blackheath 6.20, New Cross 6.30, Spa Road 6.45, Moorgate 6.37, Aldersgate 6.39, Farringdon 6.41, King's Cross (G.N.) 7.0. Friday, September 14th ("Cup" Day), for 1 day, from Moorgate at 6.37 a.m., Aldersgate 6.39, Farringdon 6.41, King's Cross (G.N.) 7.0. For these trips the low fares of 13s. 6d. for 1 or 3 days, and 14s. for 5 days, third class, will be charged.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

How to Thresh.

The question of *when* to thresh dealt with last week leaves less to the individual judgment than the very important point of *how* to do it.

A great deal of prejudice still exists in the minds of many men in favour of flail or hand-threshing. Grain so treated is assumed to be free from so very many of the defects commonly attributed to machine action when an ordinary threshing machine is used. Fair comparison of a series of average samples treated by the differing processes would show that the old-fashioned system has not the marked superiority over the newer methods enthusiasts or theorists claim for it. There are still remaining with us a few maltsters and barley merchants who contend that hand-threshed barley is worth up to 2s. (two shillings) per quarter more money than the same barley if run through a machine.

Cut and Chipped Grain

is gravely injured without doubt, and as it is so entirely open to prevention the damage ought not to be allowed to be longer perpetrated; but in reality, if the drum of the machine is properly regulated and constructed, and is driven at a steady and proper speed with uniformity observed in feeding, a great deal less harm is done to the barley than by even very careful hand-threshing.

The main things to attend to when any fairly well-constructed machine is used is to see that the drum is true and properly fitting—*i.e.*, that the beater is perfectly round and well centred as well as straight, and that the bed is truly concave and flat or straight also. As a matter of everyday practice, no really respectable maker now sends out a machine in which the workmanship in these particulars leaves anything to be desired. Commonly, it is only when, by improper driving and excessive feeding, or from very lengthened use, that drums get irregular and defective.

It is not at all difficult to find the defect, nor is it an expensive matter to apply the remedy.

Irregular Driving

and injudicious feeding have really more to do with defective results than imperfections in the machine, but in any case a very small amount of intelligent care and attention given by the farmer when the work is in progress can stop a very large part of any or all of the evils complained of.

Injudicious attempts to get the utmost amount of work done regardless of its quality are sure to lead to chipping and peeling or other abrasion of the grain. It seems a pity that so many growers do not get imbued with the conclusion that the skin of a barley-corn must be kept intact with the same care as is shown in keeping brood eggs from chipping or cracking. There is only one way to make sure of this, and that is by personal attention being given to the points already mentioned.

Any machine which is overworked by excessive speed or by too crowded feeding cannot possibly do its work well or efficiently in any sense, but for every evil arising from these causes it is quite clear the maker of the machine ought not to be blamed or held responsible.

Hiring by the Day

has much to answer for in this matter, so many farmers try to get the maximum amount of work done possible during the day. When payment on the results or piecework is attempted then the owner of the machine tries for the same reasons to do all he possibly can. The final outcome, of course, is the conclusion inevitably arrived at, that on the whole the grower does best who hires by the day and sees to the quality of the work done regardless of quantity.

It is much cheaper in the end to have a fine uninjured sample as the outcome of five days' working than to secure the same quantity in four days, but with a large number in almost every bushel of it of broken, chipped, cracked, or peeled berries.

Maltsters and buyers might do a good deal in this particular by pointing out that had the sample been properly threshed they would have gladly given another shilling or two a quarter for it. Still more practically useful would it be if they could grumble at so-called small or minor defects, and also in those cases where a sample is rejected altogether for this cause to make it quite clear that the true reason is known by the grower.

The Scarcity of Prime Samples

this year in many districts should make any grower who has any stacks in good condition doubly careful. There are one or two little practical matters which even good and careful managers are sometimes apt to overlook.

The top of a stack should not be allowed to go with the head corn until each sack, after careful examination, has been found fit to be so treated. Nor should the setting of the machine be ruled by the first start. Under no circumstances ought a long interval to elapse between examination of samples solely with a view to determine that no danger is being done.

Engine drivers only too frequently are allowed to be careless as to the head of steam they keep, or, in other words, the boiler pressure preserved. Fluctuations in pressure necessarily affect the speed of the engine, and consequently the quality of the work done. No engine is allowed to run without one or more pressure gauges, and the majority of them have a red line to indicate the safe or best working pressure. It is a simple matter to see how closely the index keeps to this line, and frequent reference to it has an excellent effect.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.

Condition of Crops in Germany.

The subjoined report of the condition of crops throughout the empire was issued by the Imperial Bureau of Statistics in the middle of August. No. 1 represents very good, 2 is good, 3 an average, 4 below an average, and 5 is bad:—

—	Wheat.		Rye.		Barley.	Oats.	Potatoes.	Clover.	Lucerne.	Hay.
	s.	w.	s.	w.						
Prussia	2.6	2.6	3.1	3.1	2.6	2.5	2.4	3.4	2.9	3.0
Oldenburg	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.3	2.2	2.4	3.1	2.9	2.7
Saxony	2.1	2.2	3.2	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.5	2.3	2.5
Hesse	2.5	—	2.5	—	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.7	2.8	2.5
Bavaria	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.7	2.4	2.3	2.3
Wirtemberg	—	—	—	—	—	2.4	2.0	2.9	2.6	2.8
Baden	—	—	—	—	—	2.3	1.9	2.9	3.0	2.9
Alsace-Lorraine	3.0	—	2.6	—	2.7	2.8	2.2	3.7	3.3	3.9
German Empire:—										
August	2.5	2.4	3.0	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.3	3.1	2.8	2.8
against										
July	2.4	2.4	2.9	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.2	3.1	2.6	2.6
June	2.6	2.5	3.1	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.5	3.2	2.8	2.9
May	2.7	2.6	3.2	2.6	2.6	2.7	—	3.0	2.8	2.8
April	2.7	—	2.9	—	—	—	—	3.0	2.7	2.8
August, 1899	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.8	2.6	2.9
,, 1898	2.1	2.5	2.2	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.3		2.4
,, 1897	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.5	2.6		2.5
,, 1896	2.4	2.6	2.5	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.8		2.5
,, 1895	2.6	2.8	3.0	2.8	2.6	2.7	2.4	2.6		2.6
,, 1894	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.1	2.2	2.7	2.5		2.1
,, 1893	2.8	3.2	2.6	2.9	3.1	3.9	2.5	3.8		3.2

The severely hot weather of July was not favourable to the condition of field crops, and harvest prospects show a slight decrease on those of last month in all crops except summer wheat and clover. In comparing them with those of the last seven years we see that the note for August is better in the case of potatoes, better than in six years for summer wheat, better than five for oats, and four for summer rye and barley. It is, however, worse than in six years for winter rye and clover, and worse than in five for lucerne and hay. Winter wheat shows about the average of the last seven years. The note from Baden and Wurtemberg is generally satisfactory. The yield in straw is not so good. The crops were carried well in East Prussia. Harvest is in full swing in all parts, but was hindered by rainfalls in the early part of the month, which have also caused some damage. Hot, dry weather prevailed during the last few days. Hailstorms have done some damage in parts. Rye harvest is mostly ended, and the note has chiefly reference to the yield. That for the whole empire is 3.0, while Prussia, Saxony, Saxe-Weimar, Saxe-Altenburg, and Mecklenburg-Strelitz remain below the average. The note for Bavaria is the most favourable, but is not so good as that of last year. Wheat suffered from brand and rust, and was also prematurely ripened by the July heat. It is, however, a good average crop. Mecklenburg-Schwerin alone shows a report below the average. Bavaria is above an average. Summer crops are above the average for the last seven years, but complaints are heard of premature ripening, beating down, loss of grain, etc., from wind and hail. Potatoes are in good condition almost everywhere, and tubers are good. A few complaints are heard of disease and small tubers owing to the drought. The note for the empire, which is 2.3, shows that harvest prospects are exceptionally good. They have never been better during the last seven years in August. Clover and lucerne have suffered much from the drought; some fields are, however, in better condition since rain fell in the beginning of August. It is feared that there will be a fodder famine. The condition of hay is not uniform. Aftermath will be small; some meadows recovered after the rain. Conditions are unfavourable in Posen and Alsace Lorraine. Unfavourable reports are to hand from many other parts.

The Leicestershire coroner has held an inquest at Cosby, on the body of a farm labourer, named John Burbage, who was killed in the harvest field under singular circumstances. He was loading a cart with wheat rikings when a blast of wind blew the load over, and buried the poor fellow under it. On being extricated it was found that death had been almost instantaneous, his neck having been broken. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes

The Borough.

My country friends may, I think, at last congratulate themselves that the market is moving in their favour. Their patience has, I know, been sorely tried, and at one time it appeared almost impossible for any change to be effected in the cloudy aspect of the trading sky. But gleams of sunshine are at last breaking through, slowly and with difficulty, I admit, but with sufficient force to give promise of a brighter, healthier atmosphere in the early future. To come to business facts, there has been quite an active trade this week. More inquiry has set in for yearlings, and several lots have been sold at fully 5s. advance, while more could have been disposed of had not holders withdrawn them from offer. Then some new hops have arrived, and have been eagerly looked after by buyers. The quality was generally disappointing, but, nevertheless, East Kent bramblings, not free from a suspicion of mould, and not fully matured, were taken at 95s., which is a fairly satisfactory indication of the trend of the trade.

I hope and believe I shall have still better news to tell next week, and in the meantime I am confirmed, by the general tone of remarks in the Borough, in the advice I have ventured to offer to growers. While it is not wise to open the mouth too wide at first, as it is bad policy to frighten buyers into retreat, I do not think 1s. per lb. for sound hops of fair quality at all too high for an opening price. Growers are entitled to claim this figure as a minimum, and if they are firm thereat, I anticipate that they will meet with sufficient buyers to justify them in demanding and obtaining higher figures as the picking proceeds.

With Regard to the New Crop,

the more I hear concerning it the more difficult does a correct conclusion become. The patchy character of the growth creates uncertainty, from which it is almost impossible to extricate oneself. An experienced grower who is also an absolutely impartial and careful estimator, told me this week that he had never been so much puzzled. In his own plantations his crop was most unpromising. He had already condemned about twenty-five acres to be left unpicked, and expected only a very small crop of but poorish hops from the remainder. His immediate neighbours were in a similar condition, and an inspection of some 2,000 acres elsewhere in Kent had convinced him that the general crop could not nearly attain an average weight. But in Hampshire he had been through gardens that were a surprising as well as a pleasing picture. The bine, well washed, was perfectly clean and free from mould. Laterals had grown out splendidly, and the whole of some extensive grounds were crowded with well developed, healthy, and handsome hops, which he had hardly ever seen excelled for quality, while the yield of quantity would be all that could be desired. I am bound to add that this is the only report of such a character that I have received, and I am certain it must be quite exceptional and can only felicitate the growers on their good fortune.

However, when I take a general survey of the position and make allowances for all the improvements that have been manifest during the past few days, putting against it the run of mould produced by the recent muggy and cold weather, I cannot do otherwise than adhere to my previous estimate, expecting our official returns to give us an average very little beyond 6cwt. per acre. If this should even be exceeded by 1cwt. or so the growth will not be too heavy for the requirements of the year, and remunerative prices should consequently and will most certainly rule.

The English Acreage

has been reduced by 535 acres. This reduction is mainly found in Kent, where the hop area has been diminished by 474 acres. Hants, Surrey, and Sussex have also fallen off a little, the total reduction in the southern district being 688 acres. A slight increase is visible in Herefordshire, and Worcestershire has enlarged the area by 176 acres. The reduction on the whole does not exceed 1 per cent., but it is sufficient to account for a reduced average crop to the extent of over 200 tons of hops.

From the Plantations.

Special to the Secretary N.A.E.H.G.

SHOREHAM.—Hops are improving slowly, though the north-easterly winds blowing against the lews have done some damage. Unless we get warmer weather speedily the fruit will be small and our previous low estimate will not be reached.

SMARDEN.—Some improvement can be seen in part of the gardens hereabout, but hops are coming out very unevenly and the general crop must be light, not more than one-third of last year.

MAIDSTONE.—We hope to gather hops of good quality, though the yield will be below an average in quantity. Where good cultivation has been practised satisfactory results are apparent.

EAST PECKHAM.—I regret I cannot report very favourably of the average of gardens in this locality. There are certainly some pieces which will grow sound hops of good quality, but mould has been rampant in very many, and the efforts made for its destruction have been foiled by the weather. Our total crop will be light, and our average quality not too attractive.

CANTERBURY.—The cones have developed with the help of warmer weather, but the few days of recent cold winds have again been detrimental and promoted the spread of mould, which is to be found in most gardens to a greater or less degree. I fear but few of our hops will grow out to their full size, and the final prospect is no more promising than it was a week ago. Somewhere about half of last year's crop seems to be the best estimate I can make.

BIDDENDEN. The low temperature we have had lately has hindered development; cones will be consequently small, and will only come down light. Mould is spreading rapidly, and will lower both the quantity and the quality of the crop. I do not expect an average in this district of more than 5cwts.

BINSTED.—Washed hops have grown out fairly, and may produce an average crop. The unwashed will be almost a failure, certainly will not give more than 2 to 3 cwts. Only about half the acreage in this parish has been washed.

RYE.—The hops round our "ancient town" have distinctly improved lately, development has proceeded, and the prospect is perhaps a little brighter. The greater part of the gardens are now estimated at about a third of last year, though some may produce half, and in exceptional cases a little more. Picking will be general next week.

PETERSFIELD. There are some splendid hops in this neighbourhood, which stand out as quite exceptional to the reports generally current. At Weston the gardens are a picture, the bine being strong and fully fruited with well-developed hops. The prospect here both for quantity and quality is all that can be desired. Further up country near Midhurst there are also some very good-looking gardens. Mould has not been prevalent, and with good cultivation and incessant washing it appears as if satisfactory results will be attained.

WORCESTER. Recent rain has been beneficial in most of our plantations, especially where proper attention has been given to cultivation and washing, but where neglect has prevailed the bine is weakly and some grounds will be left unpicked, as the crop cannot be sufficient to pay for the labour.

STOURPORT (Worcestershire).—We have had a deluge of rain during the week ending August 25th, which will much enhance the quality and size of our crops, provided it is followed by warm weather. We may possibly grow nearly half of last year's crop here, but in the Ledbury district I saw quite 600 acres which cannot grow more than 1cwt. per acre.

HOLT.—Though hops were injured locally they have not recovered from the effects of the heavy blight, and therefore can only produce a very light crop.

CLIFTON-ON-TEME.—The severe blight, the worst we have had for years, has left its marks on all our plantations; some yards will grow a good picking, but where washing has been persevered in a moderate crop will be gathered.

HANLEY.—The rough weather and the change in temperature have been fatal to many hops, the sunshine being now reduced by 2cwt. to 3cwt. per acre, so that we do not expect to harvest on the average more than one-third of last year's crop.

BRANSFORD.—Our bine is light, and the prospect for crop does not exceed half of last year's. Some improvement is readily visible, but we want warmer and dryer days and nights, or else we shall not get full development.

BISHOP'S FROME (Hereford).—The season presents much irregularity, some of the well-known yards are promising well, while others are just as disappointing. The average of the bine is light, and although I think we are on the whole in a favourable condition as any district in our county, our average crop will hardly exceed one-third of last year.

LEDBURY.—The hops in this district have made very satisfactory progress during the last fortnight, and where the blight was successfully dealt with they have come out of burr a good size, and have an exceptionally clean and healthy appearance. With favourable weather present prospects point to a small crop of first-class quality. Picking will be general about the 10th inst.

KENT AND SUSSEX.—Since I last wrote (on July 24th) there has been no material change in the prospects of the hop crop. I have visited and inspected quite a considerable number of gardens situate in the border-land of both counties, and I cannot say that I was at all inspirited by what I saw. It is essentially a top crop, the bine having apparently lacked the vigour necessary to throw out the lateral shoots which usually do so much in helping the yield. I did indeed see one ground (I believe it is in the parish of Trant) which was an exception to the rule, and here 8cwt. and perhaps more will probably be gathered on each acre; but on the whole I am satisfied that your last week's estimate of 6cwt. is quite as much as will be realised; indeed, I think your view is a little too rosy, and that when we come to realise actual results the yield will be found nearer 5cwt than 6cwt., at all events, in this district. But we shall soon know how they "come down." On a few exceptionally early grounds picking commences this week. Some are to start next Monday if weather is favourable, but the work is not expected to be in full swing before the 10th.—MID KENT (August 28th).

N.A.E.H.

An important meeting of growers in conjunction with the Council of the National Association will be held at the Central Office, Hop Exchange, on Monday next, September 10th, at 1.30 p.m.

The prospects of the crop and market will be considered, and the terms of the circular issued annually to growers by the association discussed and decided upon.

It is hoped that a numerous attendance will be secured, as the course of the market may probably be largely affected by the course adopted by growers on this occasion.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The attention of traders is now being directed to the new crop hops, which are arriving in some quantity. The quality of these deliveries is not so attractive as was expected, as most of them are unripe, being picked too soon to save them from deterioration. Consequently prices have been somewhat lowered from recent quotations, and this tendency is assisted by the desire of holders of medium or bad parcels of yearlings to clear off their stocks. For several parcels of very Württemberg of inferior character 120s. to 130s. have been realised, and as the news from the plantations indicates a very uneven crop which can only produce on the whole substantially less than last year, there is little doubt that a firm and rising market will be established as soon as supplies of the fully matured crop are put forward.

Belgium.

Business being at present confined to the most necessities of brewers, it might have been expected that values would have receded, but on the contrary firmness is maintained, both for 1899 hops and for forthcoming crop of this year's growth. The former are held at 55 to 67½ francs, and these are given at Alost, 8 marks, 1900, at 92½, while sellers demand

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interst and benefit to the members of the society*

95 francs. Poperinghe town hops are realising 95 francs per 50 kilos, equal to about 75s. per cwt.

Although the weather is favourable for the development of the cones, and the general aspect of the plantations is therefore improving, there is no advance on recent estimates of the yield, which will hardly reach and certainly cannot exceed one-half of last year's growth. Taken in connection with the probable deficiency of supply from other sources, the Belgian shortage will therefore create a higher market in the near future.

Belgian imports of hops during July last were nearly double those of the same month in the previous year, and the exports showed a considerable falling off from July, 1899. The largest quantity was sent from England, while the shipments to this country were merely nominal.

France.

Reports from Burgundy do not indicate any important change in the condition of the growing crop, which has suffered from unfavourable climatic influences, and the final output will therefore be considerably below that of last year. The quality is, however, expected to be generally good, and growers are declining to contract with buyers at the advanced rates they are now offering, as they expect still higher prices later on.

The French commercial returns for France for seven months ending July 31st last show that nearly 100,000 kilos of hops have been imported for French consumption in excess of the same period of 1899. The exports for the period have exceeded those of last year by about 35,000 kilos, giving a net increase of local purchases to the extent of about 65,000 kilos, or 1,300 cwt. The demand for beer in France is steadily expanding, and unless the growth of native hops is enlarged, this country must be a buyer of greater importance than heretofore.

America

The latest intelligence from New York reports the tone of the market as being considerably stronger. Buyers are operating freely, in order to secure available lots before the expected advance in value is confirmed. Already quotations have commenced to move upwards, and, as the previously reported shortage of the crop is now being generally accepted as inevitable, it is most probable that much higher prices will be heard of before long.

Further News from the Plantations

has not come to hand very freely, but I hear that the yards in Cobleskill Valley, Schoharie Co. (N.Y.), are in excellent condition and very promising, but the rest of the country looks poor, and the average will be 50 per cent. deficient of last year. The *Waterville Times* says that vines seem to be doing well, though in some cases blight is reported. Sales of small lots of early pickings have been made at 18 cents to 19 cents. In Oneida Co. (N.Y.) the opinion that hops will yield below an average is general, and growers are disinclined to contract unless at 15 to 20 cents, according to quality. From Puyallup (Wash.) I hear that, the weather being favourable, the vines are growing nicely, and arming out freely, being in full burr. A good crop is looked for. In King Co. (Wash.) the hops have been attacked by a grub which is threatening to destroy many yards. A report from Yuba Co. (Cal.) says hops are in fair condition, and promise at least an average crop.

Acreage of Hops.

The following is the preliminary statement, compiled by the Board of Agriculture from the returns collected on June 4, 1900, showing the acreage under hops in each county of England in which hops were grown, with a comparative statement for the years 1899, 1898, and 1897.

Counties.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Gloucester	47	42	40	40
Hants	2,331	2,319	2,263	2,306
Hereford	7,287	7,227	6,651	6,542
Kent	31,514	31,988	30,941	31,661
Monmouth	–	–	2	2
Salop	138	138	126	129
Suffolk	4	4	3	2
Surrey	1,310	1,388	1,313	1,416
Sussex	4,823	4,949	4,820	5,174
Worcester	3,964	3,788	3,567	3,591
Total	51,308	51,843	49,735	50,86

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 305, 307.)

At Ballycastle Fair, co. Antrim, on the 28th ult., there was a very small supply. Cattle in good condition sold well. Calves, second class, £3 to £3 15s.; third class, £1 15s. to £2 10s. Yearlings, second class, £5 to £7; third class, £3 10s. to £4 12s. 6d. Two-year-olds, second class, £8 10s. to £10 10s.; third class, £5 10s. to £7 10s. Three-year-olds, third class, £7 6s. 3d. to £7 10s. Springers, second class, £11 12s. 6d. to £14 10s.; third class, £9 5s. Good demand for sheep. Lambs, second class, 19s. to £1 4s.; third class, 10s. to 15s. Hoggets, second class, £1 6s. to £1 10s.; third class, 15s. to £1. Two-year-olds and over, third class, £1 to £1 3s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, averaged about 18s. each.

THE GARDEN.

Except in the case of winter greens of sorts and a few other late crops, the season for growth is now over, and our efforts should be directed chiefly to promoting or encouraging the maturing principle. To this end all vacant plots or beds, as well as the spaces between rows of vegetable crops of all kinds, should be carefully hoed and cleaned of the weeds, which have been growing at an alarming rate recently, and indeed all through the season. Any exhausted crops, such as peas, dwarf beans, over-grown cabbages or lettuce, etc., should also be cleared away, so as to admit all the light and air possible to late peas, scarlet runners, Brussels sprouts, and other advancing crops.

Some seed of the Tripoli, Giant Rocca, or Spanish onion had better be sown at once. In some places these do well when sown early in September, but as a rule August is probably the better month.

Spinach—the prickly-seeded or winter variety, of course—is usually sown twice in August (early and late in the month), and again in the early part of September. In any case a good bed or two had better be sown at once. There is now a new Giant variety of this subject to be had, which is decidedly preferable to the old kind.

Turnips for autumn and early winter supplies should, of course, have been sown in June or July, but for late or spring use any time in August will do, and such small, late-sown roots withstand frost much better than the larger ones. I have had nice sound little bulbs in the spring from seed sown the first week in September, though this is rather late. Even if not required thus, these will afford plenty of often acceptable turnip greens in the spring.

Unless it has already been done, lose no time in stopping the growth of all outdoor tomatoes by pinching out the point of each beyond the last truss, and at the same time removing every vestige of lateral growth. The leaves, too, if at all luxuriant—and in most places they are very much so this season—had better be shortened to half or a third of their length. With fine weather next month a lot of the fruit now formed and swelling up will ripen yet, especially where the plants stand at the foot of a sunny wall.

The middle of September, or a few days later, is probably the best time to sow seed of tomatoes to stand the winter in small pots and afford the earliest gatherings next season.

The World's Harvest

The Hungarian Minister of Agriculture has just published his report giving an estimate of the world's crops. In regard to Hungary the report states that this year's wheat crops have undergone an improvement since the statement of July 31. It is also shown that the quality of the wheat has improved, owing to favourable weather while it was ripening and in harvest time, so much so that there appears an improvement in the quality over that of last year. Rye also shows an improvement in quality since the statement of July 31, but barley shows a falling off. As regards quantity, the report estimates the yield of wheat at from 4 to 5, of rye at from 22 to 23, of barley at from 15 to 16, of oats at from 13 to 14 per cent. less than the respective yields of last year.

The area of the land sown with winter and summer wheat amounts to 5.51 million yokes, with a yield of 36.63 million meterzentner, as compared with 38.45 million meterzentner last year, showing a decrease of 1.82 million meterzentner. One decimal eight million yokes were sown with rye, and the yield amounted to 9.5 million meterzentner, as compared with twelve million meterzentner last year, showing a decrease of 2.5 million. The land sown with barley amounted to 1.78 million yokes, with a yield of 11.30 million meterzentner, against 13.40 million last year, showing a decrease of 2.1 million meterzentner; 1.68 million yokes were grown with oats, and the yield showed a decrease of 1.6 million meterzentner. The maize crops are satisfactory in almost the whole country, and the yield is estimated at 35,000,000 meterzentner, as compared with 29.40 millions last year.

The report estimates this year's world's crops of wheat as yielding from 870,000,000 to 890,000,000 hectolitres, as compared with from 966,000,000 to 970,000,000 hectolitres last year. It estimates the yield of this year's rye crops at from 480,000,000 to 493,000,000 hectolitres, as compared with 567,000,000 to 570,000,000 last year; this year's barley yield at from 308,000,000 to 320,000,000 hectolitres, as compared with 324,000,000 to 330,000,000 last year; this year's oat yield at from 1,085,000,000 to 1,100,000,000 hectolitres, as compared with from 1,130,000,000 to 1,140,000,000 hectolitres last year; and the maize yield at from 979,000,000 to 992,000,000 hectolitres, as compared with 998,000,000 to 1,000,000,000 hectolitres last year.

At the time of sowing, the stocks already in hand amounted to:—Wheat, 70,000,000 to 80,000,000 hectolitres; rye, 29,000,000 to 32,000,000 hectolitres; barley, 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 hectolitres; oats, 41,000,000 to 54,000,000 hectolitres; maize, 28,000,000 to 35,000,000 hectolitres.

The report gives the following estimate of the average yearly consumption:—Wheat, 926,000,000 to 963,000,000 hectolitres; rye, 520,000,000 to 540,000,000 hectolitres; barley, 327,000,000 to 346,000,000 hectolitres; oats, 1,101,000,000 to 1,143,000,000 hectolitres; maize, 981,000,000 to 1,005,000,000 hectolitres.

THE WEATHER.

Monday (August 27th).—The country was divided between two types of weather. North of the Trent the conditions were governed by an Arctic anticyclone, which was increasing in intensity, with light north-westerly breezes and fair to fine dry weather. On the other hand, the southern districts were affected by a cyclonic system working up the Bay of Biscay, occasioning strong and increasing north-easterly winds, a gale and rough sea being experienced in some parts of the Channel, and rain falling in several localities, a large quantity being measured in the Channel Islands, the sky being dull and heavy generally over the more southern counties. Temperature was maintained at a level rather below the normal nearly everywhere, few of the afternoon maxima being as high as 65deg., the metropolis, with its gloomy sky, succeeding in only just passing above 61deg.

Tuesday (August 28th).—The Arctic anticyclone continued to increase, both in extent and intensity, its central space occupying North Britain. This had caused the cyclonic system of the previous day to travel on an easterly course across France, and it was at the same time filling up slowly. While, therefore, the winds still held mainly from some point between north and east over our islands, its strength along the southern and south-eastern coasts had greatly diminished. In most parts of the country the weather was fair or fine and dry, but the south-eastern counties were under a dense canopy of gloomy clouds, with a little moisture floating in the air. Many of the northern and western night temperatures had been well down in the forties, and the north-east wind kept the afternoon values below the normal all round, London reaching 61deg.

Wednesday (August 29th).—The entire area of the United Kingdom was completely within the influence of the great anticyclone, whose central space has been over North Britain since the beginning of the week. Gentle to very light breezes from some easterly quarter prevailed over nearly the whole country, with the weather from overcast to cloudless, the sky dull and gloomy locally, and a slight drizzle falling in Dorsetshire. With the weaker breezes the feeling was not so cold, and the temperature, which had been rather high over the southern counties in the night, was improving, many afternoon maxima being sixty-five degrees and upwards, London touching sixty-nine degrees.

Thursday (August 30th).—An anticyclonic type of atmospheric conditions was again in the ascendant, the whole of the western half of Europe being occupied, and the core of the system lying over the eastern counties of England throughout the day. Very light breezes from all directions were general at first, with dry weather, but with a cloudy and rather dull sky, and mist or gloom in many localities. Occasionally there were fine, bright intervals. As the day advanced there were indications of some change approaching the north-western coasts, where the barometer was giving way at an increasing rate, the wind backing into the south-west and freshening decidedly, accompanied by rain in the north of Ireland. The air had lost its cold harsh feeling, and temperatures in the sixties were experienced very generally.

Friday (August 31st).—A distinct change in the type of atmospheric conditions was observable over the British Isles to-day. The anticyclone of previous days was slowly drifting south-eastward for the Continent, and the cyclonic disturbance which had been indicated out on the Atlantic on Thursday was travelling along the north-western and northern coasts, while another one seemed to be about to follow it. The wind had drawn into south-west and south, and blew fresh or strong in exposed situations, a moderate gale in the extreme north-west, rain falling in considerable quantities in Ireland and Scotland, while England had a good deal of morning mist, succeeded by a fair to fine day. There was a softer feeling in the air, and the night and day temperatures showed a disposition to increase all round. In London, the thermometer rose as high as seventy-five degrees.

Saturday and Sunday (September 1st and 2nd).—During these two days atmospheric conditions of a very changeable type have been experienced over the British Isles, cyclonic and anti-cyclonic systems following each other in quick succession, the latest reports showing the country to be once more coming under a large system of high pressure, which promises a renewal of dry, quiet weather. The wind was mostly from a south-westerly quarter on Saturday; it has since become northerly, and from both directions brisk breezes have been felt in places. Rain was universal through the first half of Saturday, and in several districts the amounts measured were rather large, two-tithis of an inch in London. Yesterday was wet and foggy across the mouth of the Channel, the weather elsewhere being on the mend. Temperatures in the sixties were general on Saturday, but Sunday was cooler, only southern localities reaching 60deg.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Durham.

Unsettled weather delays harvest work, and agricultural prospects are not so favourable as they were a few weeks ago. Corn crops have suffered from rain and wind. Cutting is now general, but very little secured as yet. It is doubtful if even wheat, which was so very promising, will reach an average crop, while barley and oats will both be something below. Potatoes and turnips are still well spoken of, though they have had rather much moisture. Hay was a good crop, but a portion won in only moderate condition. Grass is plentiful, and live stock is doing well.—R. (September 1st).

Hampshire (East).

Harvest is almost completed. A few fine days will now ensure its conclusion. Threshing of new wheat is very disappointing. I have heard of two cases where the yield is only three sacks, and on land which is farmed above the average, I know of yields of only five and seven sacks respectively, and the corn itself is not such as will commend itself to millers. Root crops are now coming on well and will be very good if only the weather continue warm.—G. S. M. (August 30th).

Lancashire (North).

The past month taken generally has been quite propitious for the farming interests of this part. The heavy rain of early August did not do much damage to grain (wheat at any rate being too thin on the ground to take much harm), and with fine weather later crops have matured, been cut, and, generally speaking, safely stacked. So little threshing has been yet done that we cannot speak definitely as to the yield of cereals, but have reason to believe that no one crop will be up to the average, and in all probability we shall find wheat 8 to 10 per cent., oats 10 per cent., and barley 5 per cent. under. The rain which caused fears as to cereals greatly benefitted roots, and during the month turnips and mangolds have made marked progress, and look like marking a full average. We are pleased to note an absence this year of the general complaints of finger-and-toe, and whilst straw will not be plentiful a large bulk of roots will be available for winter feeding. Potatoes are variously spoken of, some districts complaining of disease making great strides, whilst other localities claim to be perfectly sound, and the crop certainly, generally speaking, is getting off a heavy crop. The opinion we come to as to yield is that it will probably show, taking all things into consideration, about 5 per cent. under average. Pastures continue full of meat, and all stock is doing well. Prices of beef and mutton keep up well, and considerably above the range of values we have been accustomed to of late years. Lean stock, it is needless to say, maintains the advance established in the early spring, and both breeders and graziers should be quite satisfied with their operations so far. An active demand is still experienced for horseflesh, whether heavy or light. Orchards are well supplied with fruit, although price offers to be low. The farming classes should therefore be, and are, on the whole, very cheerful.—E. J. S. (Aug. 31).

Middlesex.

Prospects rather gloomy. Little sun, much wind. The afternoon farmers about here (and their name is legion) have allowed much of their hay to spoil. The wheat ripened too quickly, and will yield badly, with little straw. On the whole, I consider the season fairly good. The grass and roots have continued to grow. There is plenty of labour about here, but it is principally employed in building operations, and many hands are employed in road-making upon the many estates that have been given over to the builders. Fruit is very abundant and practically of little value, the markets being glutted with windfalls. Several Welsh strings of good horses and colts have gone through to Barnet September Fair, and will doubtless sell well.—F. K. (August 31st).

North Devon.

Taking 100 to represent an average crop, I estimate wheat at 100, barley 95, oats 100, potatoes 65, roots 100, and grass 80. The first crop of early potatoes has been good, but it is feared that late potatoes will be one-third diseased. Corn crops seven-eighths harvested, mostly in good condition.—J. H. (Aug. 30).

Somerset.

With rain during the early harvest the prospect of roots and grass was greatly improved, after which the weather was all that could be desired for harvest operations, and on farms fully equipped with labour the whole was secured in fine condition; but where the fine weather was not taken full advantage of the harvest is not yet completed, and some damage has been done to the crops and extra labour entailed by the recent rains, which, apart from the harvest, have been beneficial to all farm crops and operations. The corn crop generally should prove about an average, whilst roots are more promising than for many years. The young seeds also are a full plant which has not been the case for some years past, whilst grass is sufficient, and the late rains will continue its growth. The teams are now busy on the stubbles, and the sowing of mustard, trifolium, etc., is proceeding apace. Sheep and cattle generally have done well during the summer, and there is now a prospect of a sufficient supply of food during the autumn and winter. The weather appears to be again settled, and there is every prospect of the later harvest being carted in good condition.—S. K. (Aug. 30).

Shropshire.

Beautifully fine days to close the corn harvest. Stackyards filling better than expected. A nice breeze of wind fans the workers and tempers the heat. Dutch barns with iron roofs save a lot of thatching. No threshing here yet.—J. G. (Aug. 30).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—Wheat crop advices continue to be not very precise, and any approximate estimate is hardly yet obtainable. As the threshings advance some foresee an average outturn, others a deficient one, and these advices vary in the same region. The quality is generally fine, but the threshings do not give what the heavy ears led one to suppose. Oats are of variable quality, yield moderate, and specific weight very irregular.

SPAIN.—Latest postal advices from Madrid speak of heavy rains and inundations in the provinces of Corunna and Barcelona, with much damage to all the outstanding crops. According to official data the yield of the wheat crop in 1899 reached 11,600,000qrs., and it is estimated by experts that from the present outlook the crop will exceed 14,440,000qrs., it being affirmed that it is one of the biggest crops in the Peninsula for many years.

ITALY.—A recent report from Milan states that the wheat crop in the upper provinces is estimated at under an average. In Piedmont the outturn is 10 to 20 per cent. less, but of excellent quality, and similar reports come from Emilia. In Venetia the yield is inferior to last year's, and condition leaves something to be desired. In Lombardy the crop is a fine and abundant one. Maize is in general satisfactorily spoken of, especially in Piedmont, where the quality is good and a full average.

HOLLAND.—In several localities the weather for some days was very bad and prevented farmers from carrying their still outstanding crops, but with a change to drier conditions the wheat and oats were being rapidly ingathered.

GERMANY.—Harvesting of all the crops is nearly finished, and results are rather favourable for oats and wheat, although a little under that of last year. Rye, however, is affirmed to be under an average.

RUSSIA.—According to the latest agricultural report the condition of the autumn crops has in most instances improved under the influence of more favourable weather, and in general in European Russia the yield is expected to be above an average and good over a considerable portion of the black soil zone. With regard to the spring crop it must be observed that owing to the tardy setting in of mild weather the growth and development of the grain was much delayed, and the harvest in a great measure depends upon further meteorological conditions.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says the past week has been favourable for maize, and indications now suggest about three points decline for August. The interior offerings of wheat are tending towards a reduction of holdings, and the sentiment is strengthening.—*Dornbusch.*

On Friday afternoon, at the meeting of the Northwich Rural District Council, Mr. Millington presiding, Dr. Gough (Medical Officer of Health) reported that the police had notified to him than anthrax had broken out on a farm at Cuddington, near Northwich. The sale of milk from the farm had been stopped, and none would be utilised for human consumption until the veterinary inspector reported the premises free from infection. Mr. Holland (Little Budworth) asked how it was that the Rural Council had been notified when they had no power. Dr. Gough: We have no power so far as notification is concerned, but we have a voice in the distribution of milk. Anthrax is undoubtedly communicable to human beings, and in that way we have control. The Agricultural Board are the authority who deal with it, and the Chief Constable is the responsible party. They are empowered to deal with it in a very drastic manner. Mr. Holland asserted that it had been discovered in other cases that the disease was amongst the young stock and not in the milking herd. Was the milk stopped in that case? Dr. Gough believed that in the present case it was amongst the milking stock. Mr. Gerrard (Weaverham) regarded it as a very serious thing that the entire milk supply should be stopped from one farm simply because a single cow had had the disease and had been killed. Dr. Gough said it was laid down that no milk was to be sold until the veterinary surgeon was satisfied that there was no further danger of infection.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Horse and the Empire.

SIR,—May I be allowed a little space to [illegible] to [illegible] my letter, and to say yet another word on this important subject. Since the appeal was made on August 14th a move has been made, and a small committee has been formed locally, consisting of Mr. William Pinckney, treasurer, manager of the Old Bank, Sherborne; Colonel Lovett, formerly Master of the South Wilts Foxhounds; and myself, the idea being to get a strong committee formed to meet in London and endeavour to start with [illegible] which one could go to the general public for a shilling membership fund, and so create a general interest in the question. The difficulty will be to obtain the £5,000; if it is not forthcoming the thing may fall through, as after the election it would not be much use. It is most important, therefore, to strike now. The politicians do not mean to trouble about it, and the only way is to get an expression of opinion from the people themselves, which could be done through a Horse and Empire Society, if they were properly educated up to the case in point. For my part, I do not believe in neglecting the question. I do not believe in relying on a chance supply of horses from beyond the seas when we may be opposed by hostile and active navies. I hold that the certainty of an annual supply in time of peace, and a strong reserve which ought to be an equal certainty in time of war, would be a most untold blessing towards the security of the nation. The only efforts we are making at present to encourage horse breeding are a sum of £5,000 in England and another of £3,000 in Ireland. These sums are provided by Government and divided among the owners of the sires and mares in certain districts. Not one of the foals that are bred on those lines are really available for the English Army, inasmuch as they are all bred for the open market and are mostly bought up by the foreigner and the big dealers. Some get into our Army, but not many. In Ireland especially the foreign remount buyers sweep the place. Would it not be better if we bred for the English Army instead of the French, and made sure that the effort that certainly ought to be made should result in the benefit being assured for those who needed it? But, as I said before, it cannot be done without money, and if that is not forthcoming the thing must fall to the ground.—Yours faithfully,

W. PHILLPOTTS WILLIAMS

Llangarran, Salisbury, August 26th.

Pigs at the Lancashire Show.

SIR,—Had "Anon" endeavoured to scribble something to prove up to the hilt that portion of your footnote in which you truly state that "many persons show by their actions that they hate a breeder more than they love a pig" he could not have achieved a greater success.

Instead of offering that apology which was due to your readers for his mistatements, which we will charitably attribute to his want of knowledge, he goes off at a tangent to attack someone whom he imagines might be "Nemo." The breeder who has aroused the jealousy of "Anon" and his friends by his long-continued and unparalleled successes is, I believe, quite capable of defending his actions. There appears to be nothing further in "Anon's" second contribution calling for notce, save that in it, as in his former letter, there are errors which tend to show either ignorance or something worse on his part. He wrote: "As to pigs at the Bath and West, the entries average 6½ per class; at the R.L.A. Show 8¼ per class, and was (sic) filled with quality." The actual facts are: Entries at the Bath and West of England, 6¾ per class, or 135 entries in 20 classes, at the R.L. not quite 8¼ per class, or 90 entries in 11 classes. Then in the classes for younger pigs at the Bath and West of England pairs of pigs were shown, and at the R.L. only single pigs. In this way there was an increase of 30 pigs, or of one-third the total entry at Rochdale. But even more important still, nearly two-thirds of the Rochdale winners would not have won at the Bath and West Show had they been there.

NEMO.

[*** No good purpose can be served by the continuance of this correspondence, which must now be closed. ED. *M. J. F.*]

LITERARY NOTICES.

We have received a copy of a pamphlet on "India and Her Wild Birds," written by Sir Charles Lawson. It demonstrates the need of preserving those marvorous birds of India, whose wholesale slaughter for the sake of their plumage [illegible] fields at the mercy of insect pests that [illegible] deplorable scarcity of [illegible] and the [illegible] of human ratepayers, besides inflicting penury on individuals and [illegible] on the State. The Society is endeavouring to enlist in India Society for the Protection of Birds, and appeals for the support of all interested in the Indian Empire.

Anthrax in Dorset.—Anthrax is a troublesome [illegible] has broken out on a farm at Bradpole, in West Dorset, occupied by Mr. Miller. The Local Committee was immediately summoned, and vigorous measures have been adopted with the view of preventing the disease spreading.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: No alteration since our last report. Barley: 3d per qr dearer. Wheat advanced 6d to 1s per qr on the week. Oats: Made 3d per qr more money. Maize: Improved 9d per qr. Flour: About 6d per sack dearer. —NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Old home-grown wheat is scarcely to be had, and the new crop is so backward this year that there is practically nothing submitted either here or on the country exchanges. Fine white from Kent held for 32s per qr delivered. American descriptions again rather firmer. In the flour market consumers were again determined to pause, apart from sellers being reserved, and there was no alteration fixed in either English or American brands. The London Millers' Association made no change at this afternoon's meeting. Grinding barley, on continued scarcity, is upheld. Persian still supplies any requirements, while a little Russian is obtainable. Black Sea remains off the market, and American is very scarce. English malting (fine), 30s per qr, imperial measure. Californian brewing, about 27s. Oats unaltered, but with next to nothing doing in most cases it was difficult to test to-day's market. Maize in small supply, and, while assisted by America, again tended upwards.

Mark Lane, Friday.—English wheat remains extremely scarce, and is inclined to be dearer. Scarcely anything is submitted, while threshings make the same slow progress. Fine white, 32s 6d; and red, 31s 6d per qr 504lb; old crop in the meantime not being mentioned. Stocks of flour continue ample, but the market showed no deviation. The London Millers made no alteration at their meeting this afternoon. Flat maize lost part of the advance established during the week, and was devoid of incident, even at the concession. Meanwhile, the supply on hand continues small. Mixed American quoted at 20s 7½d sellers ex ship (to which buyers failed to respond during the afternoon), and 20s 9d ex quay. Odessa, 21s 6d ex ship to come, and 25s 3d ex quay. The market for oats is none too well supplied at present, and sellers still maintain reserve, while a good country trade is reported this week. Grinding barley unaltered, Persian still supplying requirements, while named at 17s 9d ex ship, 18s ex quay. Black Sea remains unobtainable. Although there was insufficient passing in beans and peas to make a market, holders still command the situation, scarcity being greatly felt, and arrivals come up slowly.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Samples of new corn were not numerous, though wheat, oats, and beans were all represented. English wheat was firm, and about 6d dearer on the week. New black oats, 18s to 20s, but some light ones did not command more than 16s to 17s per quarter. New white oats, 19s to 22s; and old ones about 1s more. New tick beans, 29s 6d to 31s; and old ones, 32s 6d to 33s 6d. Round maize, 26s to 27s; and flat, 23s to 24s per quarter. Flour, scaling, 23s; seconds, 25s; households, 26s; whites, 28s per sack.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Increased show of new wheat, which realised 6d per quarter advance on last Saturday's rates. Barley, oats, and beans in short supply; prices unchanged. Old wheat, 30s to 32s per quarter; new ditto, 27s to 29s.

Banbury Thursday.—Wheat, white (old), 30s 6d to 31s 6d per qr; wheat (red), 29s to 30s per qr; barley, 25s to 30s per qr; beans (old), 32s to 34s per qr; oats (new), 20s to 22s per qr; oats (old), 18s to 19s per qr. New wheat in small supply at about last week's prices.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Corn in very small supply, but a firm trade at last week's prices. A few samples of new barley showing, quality irregular and prices unsettled.

Brigg, Thursday.—There was only a moderate attendance, and very little grain on offer. A few samples of new wheat were shown, and prices may be quoted at 28s to 29s per qr. Old wheat, 30s to 30s 6d. A little new barley was offered, which realised about 28s to 30s per qr. New oats, 18s 6d per 24 stones.

Bristol, Thursday.—At our market to-day there was a rather moderate attendance. Foreign wheat in demand at about 6d advance. English rather more offering at about 3d to 6d dearer. Quality variable. Flour in better demand at about 6d advance. Barley 6d. Maize 1s dearer. Oats about the same.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—With the exception of to-day, we have had a week of fine harvest weather, and farmers have made good progress with their crops. In this immediate neighbourhood harvest is practically finished, but in the Fens a good deal remains to be done. The trade has been quite firm, with a steadily hardening tendency. At this market to-day we had a fair show of new wheat, which met a good demand at 6d to 1s more money for dry lots. Many samples lack condition. Red wheat 27s to 31s, and white up to 31s per 504lbs; old makes up to 32s. Barley was also in fair supply, with some little inquiry, but prices are not yet established. A sample of new beans made about 30s.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat rather firmer, supply moderate. Some good barley showing. Closing quotations: White wheat, 31s to 33s; red ditto, 29s to 32s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; ditto black, 16s to 20s; peas, 28s to 30s; tick beans, 30s to 32s; mazagans, 28s to 29s; flat maize, 21s 6d to 22s; round, 26s to 27s per quarter; winter tares, 6s 6d to 7s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day. Fair sale at unchanged prices, 22s to 24s; new, 20s 6d. —THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a small attendance, and little trade passed in English grain. Old wheat firm at last week's prices. New in small supply, quality and condition variable. Old oats in good demand, and fully 3d per bushel dearer. Indian corn sold freely at 3d per sack advance. Quotations:—Old white wheat, 4s 5d to 4s 6d; and new, 4s 4d per 75lb; new grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb; old beans, 5s 6d; and new, 5s per 80lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was still only a small supply of wheat here to-day; trade firm at about 6d per qr over last week. A few samples of barley; prices irregular; oats and beans firm.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Cork, Wednesday.—208 cwt barley, 7s 6d per cwt; 182 cwt black oats, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 45 cwt white oats, 6s 6d.

Dorchester, Saturday.—New English wheat to hand in very variable condition, and millers cautious in dealing. Prices from 26s to 29s; old wheat firm at 29s to 31s. Foreign 6d per quarter dearer than last week. Grinding barley, owing to scarcity, rather dearer. Feeding stuffs met a firm trade. Maize dearer.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat firm, and some descriptions held for 3d per boll advance. Flour firm, and sellers ask an advance of 3d to 6d per sack, but without response. Grinding beans and Canadian pease are firm, and held for an advance of 1½d per boll. Home oats, new and old, firm, and in good request. Foreign oat and barley steady. Oatmeal, new and old, quiet. Bran and thirds firm, but unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Small attendance; values of grain without change, with lower prices for wheat, but few samples offering. Foreign barley, wheat, and maize 3d to 6d per quarter dearer. Quotations: Wheat—white 3s 6d to 3s 10d per bushel; red, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; barley, 3s to 3s 9d; oats, 2s 3d to 3s; beans, 3s 10d to 4s; maize, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; vetches—winter, 4s to 6s; and spring 3s 6d to 5s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Very little wheat on offer; old worth from 30s to 32s for red, and 33s for white. Samples of new fetched from 28s to 30s, according to quality and condition. A sample or two of new barley, quality unsatisfactory, and prices not fixed. Oats steady. Maize rather dearer. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The weather has been more favourable the last few days, still much corn has been stacked in defective condition, and reports of short yield become more numerous. The wheat trade though firm is short of activity, millers stoutly resisting the advance which holders and shippers demand, consequently the business passing is limited at 6d over last Tuesday's rates. Maize 3d and beans 6d dearer. Oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—The demand for both English and foreign wheats continues limited, without any further advance upon Tuesday's prices, new English coming in more freely, prices varying according to condition. Oats and peas show a further hardening tendency. Barley, maize, and flour firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with moderate supplies of wheat, in very variable condition. Fine samples firm, inferior slow trade. Prices, 31s to 34s per 36 stones. Beans quiet. Fine oats in good demand.

Lincoln, Friday.—Several samples of new wheats shown, condition inferior, prices 29s to 30s; old wheats 6d dearer, foreign 6d higher. New oats also inferior in quality; old oats made full money. Old beans very dear. Peas firm. Maize unaltered.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat quiet with a small trade. White wheats ½d dearer, reds unchanged. Flour a quiet trade at Tuesday's prices. Maize, the demand has been disappointing owing to lower advices from America, and only a moderate consumptive trade has transpired for mixed at ½d to 1d over last Tuesday. European and Plate are steady at ½d improvement. Barley is firm for feeding and ½d dearer. Brewing has a good demand, and full prices are obtainable. Beans steady with a moderate trade. Peas firm with a fair business at ½d advance. Oats have a good trade for English, but without alteration in values. Foreign are firm and ½d dearer. Oatmeal is dull, unchanged. Oilcake has a better inquiry, and prices in sellers' favour.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Wheat did not sell so freely to-day as last week. The supply of new, though not large, sufficient to check any advance; so at about former quotations is the report. Barley of this season does not show yet; old is at previous rates. Oats are 3d per qr dearer, and maize 9d per qr up. Beans and peas, very little trade. Winter tares are rather a high figure, 7s to 7s 6d per bushel. Rye is about 26s per qr. No change in brank, hemp, sedge, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—A firm tone has prevailed during the last few days, and English wheat commands 6d per qr more than a week ago. American kinds are raised about 1½d per cental. Flour keeps in only moderate demand, but prices here also are 6d per sack higher. Indian corn has gained 2d per cental on the week. No change noticeable in oats, peas, beans, or barley.

Newark, Wednesday.—Only a small show of grain at this market. There were a few samples of new oats and wheat on offer, wheat making 29s to 31s, according to condition. Oats varying in price from 17s to 19s.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At to-day's market English and foreign wheat ruled steady at last week's rates. Maize firm, and in the favour of sellers. Barley, peas, and beans without change in value. Scotch oats in favour of sellers. Foreign no change. Flour 6d per sack dearer on the week.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—The wheat market remains firm but not fast; however, factors seem to have a promising time. Flour tends better. Feeding stuffs closed unchanged, yet the tendency is against buyers.—G. W. WATSON and CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—Wet unfavourable weather interferes with harvest progress. A very limited attendance, with a small supply of samples, and demand inactive, caused prices to be similar to last week. A few samples of new wheat were on the market. White wheat, 32s to 33s; red wheat, 30s to 32s; new wheat, 29s to 30s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; oats, 19s to 21s; old fine, 24s; beans, 30s to 35s for fine old; flour, 23s to 27s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat was again a poor show at our market to-day, and very little business passing. The weather of the past week has been mostly fine, enabling farmers to get on well with the harvest, which is now in a forward state. New wheat, 30s per qr; old wheat, 32s per qr. Corn Inspectors return for the week ending August 27th, 1900:—Wheat, 1349-3, 27s 10½d. Barley, 22-3, 25s 0½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat, fair supply of the new crop, quality and condition various: prices ranged from 29s to 31s 504lbs; old parcels, 31s to 33s. Only a very few samples of the new crop of barley on offer, condition fair, quality moderate, not sufficient passing to test prices. New oats poor in condition and quality, 18s to 20s. Old 6d dearer on the week. Old beans scarce and 1s higher.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering, making 6d to 1s over last week. Old, 31s to 34s; new, 29s to 32s. A few samples of barley offering, quality very various, and values scarcely established.

Peterborough, Saturday.—We have had fine weather this week, and a fair quantity of corn has been got together in good order. There has been rather more wheat offering to-day, which met a good demand, but at prices about 6d under those of last week. Not much spring corn showing, and values are not yet unsettled.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was an average attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Prices for all stuffs remain quite firm, a little dearer on the week if anything. Flat maize is making 21s 9d; round, 22s 3d; barley, 20s 6d; and oats (Libau), 16s 6d. Fine weather has again set in, thus enabling the farmers to get on with the harvest.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—A great scarcity of wheat was the chief feature of to-day's market. There was very little offering and the trade naturally ruled firm, the rates of last market being always maintained. There was only a limited supply of barley also, and a firm business was experienced at prevailing rates. The supply of other descriptions of corn was about the average, and prices did not change from last week.

Ripon, Thursday.—Old wheat and round maize show a firmer tone; other kinds unchanged. The show of samples is light, with a poor attendance. Prices:—Wheat, English, 30s to 31s; ditto foreign, 31s to 35s; barley, grinding, 24s to 25s; oats, 22s to 25s; round maize, 27s; flat maize, 23s per qr; beans, 11½d per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat was fully 6d per quarter dearer than last week. Red wheat made from 29s to 31s 6d, and white wheat 30s to 32s 6d per qr. There was only a small supply on offer. New rye made 26s to 27s per quarter.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The attendance was moderate. Good wheat very scarce, old being as much as 1s dearer. Maize and beans gradually advancing, and in the old trade there is a very much greater demand at considerably enhanced prices. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d; red, 32s to 33s per 504lb; oats, old white, 26s; ditto old black, 22s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 28s to 29s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small, 26s to 29s; ditto American mixed, 22s 6d to 23s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Wheat was 6d per qr dearer, at 29s to 30s per cwt. There was mostly new wheat, there being very little old on offer. New oats, 17s to 18s; old oats, 22s; new barley, 25s to 30s. Peas and beans were steady at previous prices. All new corn was spoken of as in moderate condition.

Stamford, Friday.—Only a few samples of new wheat, showing, which made 28s to 29s 6d; old wheat, 30s to 31s 6d. Very little barley showing. Old oats, 19s to 22s; new, 17s to 18s. Maize 6d dearer.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Farmers being engaged with harvest work, which proceeds slowly owing to unsettled weather, are offering but little grain. Wheat 6d to 1s dearer. Barley and oats held for higher prices. Arrivals coastwise: oats, 224 qrs; foreign wheat, 5,240 qrs —E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Wheat a firm trade at last week's full prices. Grinding barley and maize 6d per qr dearer. Oats and beans steady.

Wakefield, Friday.—English wheats are quoted 1s, and foreign a turn dearer, on our market to-day; but the business passing is only nominal. We quote feeding stuffs 3d per quarter dearer, with the exception of oats. A few samples of new Yorkshire barleys at market, and, should the present fine weather continue, we expect to see some good quality shortly.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—Wheat remains exceedingly firm with an upward tendency, as there can be no longer any doubt that this year's yield is a deficient one. Foreign wheats are generally 3d, and old English 1s per qr dearer on the week. New sells irregularly, quality and condition being very various. Maize and beans 3d dearer. Oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Winchester, Saturday.—A very short supply of wheat on our market to-day, which met a firm trade at 6d to 1s advance on the week. Barley, little offering, grinding sorts 6d higher, with fair inquiry. Oats unaltered. Maize 3d to 6d higher. Flour 24s to 25s.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of grain at market; samples of the new crop vary in quality and condition. New wheat sold at 28s to 30s; old up to 32s. New oats, 17s to 19s; old, 21s to 24s. Barley, 25s to 28s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A very quiet market, owing to farmers being busy with their corn harvest. English wheat, 13s per 216lb, springs 6s 4d, and Duluths 6s 6d to 6s 7d per cental; oats, 14s to 15s; beans (old), 14s to 15s per 196lb; flat maize, 22s 9d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Few more samples of new grain on offer, mostly in damp condition; trade slow. Old wheat scarce and more firmly held. Barley, maize and oats show a further hardening tendency. Old white wheat, 30s to 32s; red, 28s to 30s.

York, Saturday.—Few samples of wheat offering, very firmly held at 6d per quarter advance on last week's prices. The following are the quotations:—Fine white, 30s 6d to 31s 6d; red and mixed, 29s 6d to 30s 6d per quarter of 36 stones. The price of new malting barley is hardly fixed yet. Old oats are 6d to 1s per qr dearer. Old black, 21s to 22s; old short, 22s to 24s; new black, 18s to 19s; new white, 19s to 20s per qr of 24 stones. Rye, about 7½d to 8d per stone; old beans, 11d ditto. The average prices of corn, according to the official weekly return, computed by standard imperial measure, are as follows:—Wheat, 28s 6d; oats 19s 3d.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has shown a firm tone, and prices have even been tending upwards. The yield of wheat in some of the French country districts is stated to have been over-estimated, and threshing has been attended with some disappointment. If the quality of the grain is excellent, the quantity is somewhat deficient: it is still thought, however, in some quarters that the year's crop will prove about an average one. Foreign wheat is standing at a somewhat higher level than French, but a large number of French farmers being in want of money are pressing sales, and are sacrificing the advantages which they might derive from the situation. Business in wheat has been quiet at Paris, the milling trade having only purchased sparingly. Flour for consumption has shown little change in the French capital. Disposable wheat has remained without variation at Konigsberg and Dantzig. The Russian provincial wheat markets have been inactive; the supplies brought forward have been restricted, but they have been sufficient to meet the demand. Prices have, however, been about maintained. In the Southern Russian ports there has been some demand upon export account, and the general tendency has been good. It appears to be now considered that the harvest in Southern Russia will be attended with much less satisfactory results than had been hoped for, the wheats having suffered from excessive heat and boisterous winds. The quantity of wheat now *en route* for the Continent returned at 1,085,000 qr, as compared with 1,430,000 qr at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,085,000qr representing the quantity of wheat now *en route* for Europe is made up as follows:—France, 45,000 qr; Belgium, 360,000 qr; Holland, 290,000 qr; Germany and the North, 180,000 qr; and Italy, Spain, etc., 210,000 qr.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather fine and seasonable. We have a firm market for all articles. New grain is as yet in scanty supply, and quality varies considerably, the effect of too much rain being perceptible in many of the samples. The imports during the last two weeks amounted to 11,893 tons wheat, 6,450 tons rye, 4,032 tons barley, 32,361 tons maize. Wheat in fair demand and firm in value. Offers of new are scarce as yet. Fine new red Holstein and Saale is selling at 28s to 28s 6d per 504lb f.o.b. Fine River Plate on the spot is held at 30s 9d to 31s 9d per 504lb f.o.b. Hard Winter 2, to arrive, 28s to 28s 6d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Prices of rye are tending upwards, 9 10-15 South Russian prompt is held at 22s 9d, 9 15-20 at 22s 3d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. There is now some business doing in malting barley, finest mellow Saale having been taken for England at 39s to 41s. Our brewers took good Saale at 32s to 34s, fine up to 38s, Mecklenburg and Prussian at 30s 6d to 33s per 448lb f.o.b. Good Bohemian is offering at 35s to 37s, fine at 39s to 40s 6d; white, fair quality of Moravian is held at 41s to 42s f.o.b. Feeding barley firm; South Russian on the spot is selling at 19s 9d, September-October shipments at 18s 6d per 400lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Russian and Danubian sellers rebought here. Maize in fair demand. Mixed prompt is selling at 20s 3d, November shipment 19s 9d, January-February 19s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. River Plate floating, 20s 3d c.i.f.—JOHN TAYLOCK.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report: Our barley crop is finished now and all housed in good condition; in fact, the average quality is a very nice one, still prices keep extremely high, as our brewers and maltsters, especially in South Germany, pay very high prices, which makes an export to England almost impossible. Perhaps when supplies increase things will alter later on.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

August 24 to 31, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	37,924 qrs.
Flour	42,256 ,,
Total	80,149 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Deficiency	25,851 ,,

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

August 24th to 31st, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	1,352	..	..	36,572	37,924
Barley	477	..	..	13,045	13,522
Malt	19,591	500	..	..	20,091
Oats	1,308	..	..	71,000	72,308
Rye	400	..	..	1,250	1,650
Beans	83	..	..	197	280
Peas	146	..	..	140	286
Maize	..	..	..	23,602	23,602
Tares	300	..	..	..	300
Lentils	..	..	..	15	15
Linseed	..	..	..	12,103	12,103
Rapeseed	50	..	..	3,000	3,050
Cottonseed	..	..	..	..	..
Farm Seeds	100	..	..	1,205	1,305
Flour { Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	15,162	..	..	41,075	56,237

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.					
Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.		May 13	72,852 qrs.	
,, 14	108,380 ,,		,, 20	101,429 ,,	
,, 21	128,902 ,,		,, 27	108,772 ,,	
,, 28	51,234 ,,		June 3	73,846 ,,	
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,		,, 10	126,781 ,,	
,, 11	82,912 ,,		,, 17	160,574 ,,	
,, 18	204,974 ,,		,, 24	101,205 ,,	
,, 25	108,273 ,,		July 1	152,500 ,,	
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,		,, 8	112,761 ,,	
,, 11	63,103 ,,		,, 15	116,850 ,,	
,, 18	122,541 ,,		,, 22	89,245 ,,	
,, 25	86,309 ,,		,, 29	118,314 ,,	
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,		Aug. 5	104,234 ,,	
,, 8	133,261 ,,		,, 12	102,160 ,,	
,, 15	101,518 ,,		,, 19	103,353 ,,	
,, 22	70,984 ,,		,, 26	82,367 ,,	
,, 29	68,573 ,,		Sept. 2	73,600 ,,	
May 6	96,343 ,,				
1900.					
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.		May 11	52,859 qrs.	
,, 13	95,084 ,,		,, 18	97,412 ,,	
,, 20	114,928 ,,		,, 25	71,390 ,,	
,, 27	124,652 ,,		,, 31	177 744 ,,	
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,		June 8	93,147 ,,	
,, 10	75,000 ,,		,, 15	88,125 ,,	
,, 17	66,804 ,,		,, 22	193,116 ,,	
,, 24	62,191 ,,		,, 29	142,185 ,,	
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,		July 6	132,950 ,,	
,, 10	63,702 ,,		,, 13	101,253 ,,	
,, 17	162,985 ,,		,, 20	82,294 ,,	
,, 24	111,409 ,,		,, 27	55,908 ,,	
,, 31	69,356 ,,		Aug. 2	86,167 ,,	
April 7	48,302 ,,		,, 11	192,077 ,,	
,, 13	131,085 ,,		,, 18	138,510 ,,	
,, 20	82,357 ,,		,, 25	182,517 ,,	
,, 27	43,783 ,,		,, 31	80,149 ,,	
May 4	104,535 ,,				

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1899.									
Aug. 12 ..	37,177½	24	8	184½	22	6	5,551½	17	9
,, 19 ..	33,399⅜	24	7	437⅞	26	11	6,120⅜	17	4
,, 26 ..	34,523¼	24	7	1,594½	26	5	9,205¼	17	1
Sept. 2 ..	47,572⅜	25	0	6,709⅝	25	10	15,958⅜	16	7
,, 9 ..	67,996½	25	5	17,408½	26	5	16,195	16	6
,, 16 ..	80,281½	25	4	33,143⅜	27	1	19,291½	16	2
,, 23 ..	85,104½	25	4	77,678½	27	4	22,128	16	1
,, 30 ..	79,612½	25	6	97,917⅜	26	11	23 193	16	5
Oct 7 ..	71,152⅜	26	0	169,315½	28	0	21,440½	16	5
,, 14 ..	63,040⅜	27	3	191,901⅜	27	9	18,024½	16	5
,, 21 ..	64,242	28	2	192,268½	27	6	18,983⅜	16	10
,, 28 ..	85,178⅛	28	1	219,75?	..	..	20,034½	16	3
Nov. 4 ..	82,769⅜	27	2	203,071½	27	2	17,895½	16	7
,, 11 ..	66,741⅜	26	7	166 786½	26	9	15.216⅜	16	5
,, 18 ..	65,470½	26	1	163,915⅜	26	4	16,313½	16	7
,, 25 ..	67,308½	25	8	164,362¼	26	2	17,047½	16	7
Dec. 2 ..	72,974⅞	25	7	163,441⅜	25	10	22,575½	16	6
,, 9 ..	10,982½	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421⅜	16	5
,, 16 ..	78,772½	25	4	135,344⅜	25	7	22,880½	16	1
,, 23 ..	67,102⅜	25	6	116,757⅝	25	10	16,447⅜	16	0
,, 30 ..	47,685½	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,463¼	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6 ..	40,086	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅝	16	4
,, 13 ..	57,021⅜	25	11	83,421⅝	25	5	19,708	16	6
,, 20 ..	68,463¼	26	0	100,925⅜	25	8	23,122⅜	16	5
,, 27 ..	65,381½	25	10	108,357⅜	25	9	17,814⅜	16	8
Feb. 3 ..	73,796⅜	25	8	90,769⅜	25	4	22,061½	16	3
,, 10 ..	71,482⅜	25	10	80,543⅜	25	3	20,822¼	16	2
,, 17 ..	76,611⅜	26	1	80,414⅜	24	11	20,986⅜	16	1
,, 24 ..	69,534½	26	3	63,931½	25	1	21,132¼	16	10
Mar. 3 ..	68,153¼	26	4	51,727½	24	6	18,499½	16	11
,, 10 ..	58,703½	25	11	44,921½	24	8	16,224	16	11
,, 17 ..	76,435⅜	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,104⅞	16	10
,, 24 ..	69,944½	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042⅝	17	1
,, 31 ..	72,762	25	10	34,387½	24	11	15,200⅝	17	2
April 7 ..	67,743⅜	25	10	20,402⅜	24	10	13,757⅜	17	2
,, 14 ..	66,412¼	25	11	19,519½	24	5	9,672⅜	17	8
,, 21 ..	54,977⅜	26	0	11,673¼	24	9	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28 ..	70,006⅜	26	0	7,785⅜	25	2	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5 ..	75,410⅜	25	11	8,159½	25	3	8,658½	18	0
,, 12 ..	82,190⅜	25	11	10,417⅜	24	10	12,245½	17	11
,, 19 ..	83,941⅜	25	7	5,638½	24	5	9,942	18	5
,, 26 ..	95,574⅜	25	5	3,521¼	23	11	7,350⅞	18	2
June 2 ..	68,906⅜	25	5	1,752⅜	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9 ..	64 747½	25	3	990⅜	23	8	6 053½	18	8
,, 16 ..	55,340⅜	25	6	1,486⅜	23	8	7,225¼	18	11
,, 23 ..	54,324½	25	9	1,312½	23	5	5,344½	18	11
,, 30 ..	44,930⅜	26	11	495½	23	4	4,706½	19	3
July 7 ..	34,344½	27	10	486⅜	22	10	4,391½	19	5
,, 14 ..	22,099½	28	7	949½	23	2	2,911½	19	1
,, 21 ..	26,716⅜	29	0	765¾	23	8	3,771½	19	3
,, 28 ..	33,088	29	3	194½	24	4	3,335½	19	9
Aug. 4 ..	45,748⅜	28	10	409¾	23	10	3,458⅜	19	4
,, 11 ..	37,844⅜	28	7	311½	23	7	3,391	19	8
,, 18 ..	32,812½	28	10	698½	23	8	3,593½	19	11
,, 25 ..	26,427½	28	10	787½	24	10	5,340½	18	8
Sept. 1 ..	30,393½	28	8	1,978½	25	2	9,606½	18	1

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	July 28.	Aug. 4.	Aug. 11.	Aug. 18.	Aug. 25.	Sept. 1.
29s. 3d...						
29s. 0d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 10d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 8d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 7d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
27s. 10d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
26s. 0d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
25s. 11d...	..	..	..	..	..	..

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890 ..	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891 ..	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892 ..	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893 ..	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894 ..	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895 ..	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896 ..	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897 ..	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898 ..	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899 ..	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats	1900 Wheat.	Barley	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	..	..	..
September ..	25 4	26 10	16 5	..	..	..
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November....	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Sept. 1st, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	30,393½ qrs.	28s.	8d.
Barley	1,978½ qrs.	25s.	2d.
Oats	9,606½ qrs.	18s.	1d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Sept. 1st, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

Years.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	64,187⅜	.. 23	1	14,815½	.. 21	11	11,240⅜	.. 13	11
1897....	66,457⅜	.. 33	7	2,205⅜	.. 25	11	8,388	.. 17	0
1898....	28,281⅜	.. 28	1	1,932½	.. 27	8	4,719½	.. 18	11
1899....	47,572⅜	.. 25	0	6,709⅜	.. 25	10	15,958⅜	.. 16	7

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 28th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure.	Total Amount.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.
	Quarters. Bus.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wheat	1,811 6	2,718 1 8	1 10 0
Barley	152 4	188 5 3	1 4 8
Oats	966 4	933 1 6	0 19 1

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICE CHANGES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1899.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1.....	(per sack) 26	6	(per sack)	23	6
,, 4.....	,, 26	0	,,	23	0
,, 25.....	,, 26	6	,,	23	6
October 2.....	,, 27	0	,,	24	0
November 20.....	,, 26	6	,,	23	6
,, 27.....	,, 26	0	,,	23	0
December 11.....	,, 25	6	,,	22	6
,, 18.....	,, 26	0	,,	23	0
May 14.....	,, 25	6	,,	22	6
June 18.....	,, 26	0	,,	23	0
,, 20.....	,, 26	6	,,	23	6
,, 25.....	,, 28	6	,,	25	6
,, 27.....	,, 29	6	,,	26	6
July 2.....	,, 29	0	,,	26	0
,, 16.....	,, 28	6	,,	25	6
,, 23.....	,, 28	0	,,	25	0
August 13.....	,, 28	6	,,	25	6

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	..		22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	..		23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov. ..	..		22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	25	0	25	6½	29	11
June ..	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July ..	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	..		27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	..		25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	..		24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	..		24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec. ..	..		24	6	29	0	39	8	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	244,000	103,000	431,000	1,000	5,000
Russia	151,000	—	5,000	192,000	104,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary ..	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	5,000	—	20,000	5,000	—
Argentina	152,000	—	85,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	—	5,000	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ..	17,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	669,000	128,000	561,000	227,000	119,000

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, saturday.—The demand slow prices difficult to obtain. Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s; Boston, 2s to 2s 3d; Sussex, 2s 6d to 3s; Welsh, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; Irish, 1s 6d to 2s; Surrey, 3s to 3s 6d. Aylesbury ducks, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d. Boston rabbits, 10d to 1s 3d; fatted, 2s 6d to 3s; wild rabbits, 7d to 9d; tame, 1s to 1s 4d each. Australian, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per dozen; hares, 3s to 3s 6d; leverets, 2s to 2s 6d each; young grouse, 4s to 4s 6d; old, 2s 9d to 3s per brace. Venison, haunches, 18s to 20s each; ditto forequarters, 3d per lb.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: The market has ruled firm, but consumptive demand is only moderate and to-day buying is limited. Hams remain steady in value, and the inquiry is fair. Lard exhibits no new feature, trading is limited. Pork: Steady and unchanged. We quote finest prime mess, 68s to 72s per 200lb. Cheese.—The demand has been small, but there is a firm undertone, and values are little altered on the week. We quote finest coloured Canadian, 51s 6d to 52s 6d; white, 51s to 52s.; finest States, coloured, 51s 6d to 52s; white, 51s to 51s 6d. Second grades are in light supply, and selling readily from 42s to 50s, but there is no inquiry for lower qualities, nominally offered 20s to 35s per cwt. Butter.—A slight break has occurred in the price of Danish produce, and has somewhat influenced the value of Canadian which is in moderate demand. We quote fancy Canadian creamery, in boxes, 103s to 107s; States, 96s to 100s; finest ladles, imitation creamery and Canadian dairy, in moderate request, 78s to 80s; finest Danish, 112s to 120s; Irish creamery, 108s to 112s; Cork firsts, 90s; seconds, 87s; thirds, 86s per cwt.—HODGSON BROTHERS.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 120s to 126s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 112s to 116s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 9d to 2s; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d per lb. Settle: 1½d to 1s 0½d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Spalding: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Stone: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Boston: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Colne: 1s 1½d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d per lb. Hereford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Knaresborough: (Wholesale), 1s 6d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Louth: (Wholesale), 1s 1d per lb. Market Drayton: Best, 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb; seconds, 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Masham: 1s 0d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Whitby: 1s 3d per lb. Worksop: 1s 4d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Devizes: (wholesale) 1s 1d to 1s 2d; (retail), 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Driffield: 1s 1d per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d per lb. Ripon: 1s 5d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 3d per lb. Wetherby: 1s to 1s 2d per lb.

Friday.—Chester: 1s 2d per lb. Crewe: 1s 2d per lb. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Grimsby: Choicest Danish, 122s to 124s. Dutch, 112s to 116s; Canadian 106s to 110s per cwt. Helmsley: 11d to 1s per lb. Leeds: Danish, 120s to 126s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 112s to 116s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls 1½lb, 1s 9d to 2s; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Otley: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Sandbach: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Stockport: 1s 3d per lb. Stratford-on-Avon: 10d to 1s 2d per lb. Whitchurch: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 13 for 1s. Gainsborough, 13 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 10s to 11s per 120; Irish, 8s to 9s 6d; Danish, 7s 9d to 9s 6d; Austrian blues, 6s 10d to 7s 3d; ditto reds, 5s 9d to 6s 3d. Settle: 12 to 13 for 1s. Sheffield: 12 to 13 for 1s. Spalding: 13 for 1s. Stone: 13 or 14 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 10 and 11 for 1s. Boston: 11 and 12 for 1s. Colne: 1s 8d per score. Goole: 13 for 1s. Hereford: 12 to 13 for 1s. Keighley: 10 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 12 and 13 for 1s. Knaresborough: 11 or 12 for 1s. Market Drayton: 13 or 14 for 1s. Market Weighton: 13 or 14 for 1s. Masham: 13 or 14 for 1s. Northallerton: 12 to 13 for 1s. Stockton: 10 or 11 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per score. Whitby: 11 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 10d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 13 or 14 for 1s. Devizes: 14 to 16 for 1s. Driffield: 14 for 1s. Penistone: 12 for 1s. Ripon: 12 or 13 for 1s. Scarborough: 9 or 10 for 1s. Wetherby: 11 or 12 for 1s.

Friday.—Chester: 12 and 13 for 1s. Crewe: 11 and 12 for 1s. Derby: 10 and 11 for 1s. Grimsby: Australian, 8s 10d to 9s 11d; Russian, 8s 6d to 9s 4d; Danish, 8s 3d to 9s 4d; Swedish, 8s 6d to 8s 8d per 120. Helmsley: 13 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 10s to 11s per 120; Irish, 9s to 9s 6d; Danish, 8s to 9s 3d; Austrian blues, 6s 10d to 7s 3d; ditto reds, 5s 9d to 6s 3d. Leyburn: 13 or 14 for 1s. Lincoln: 12 or 13 for 1s. Nantwich: 12 and 13 for 1s. Otley: 12 or 13 for 1s. Stockport: 10 for 1s. Whitchurch: 11 and 12 for 1s.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel. Saturday.—[illegible]

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London. [illegible]

Lower Street, E.C.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

A great authority on British Agriculture has passed into the silences. It seems difficult to write of an English harvest without thinking of Sir John Lawes and wondering what his annual estimate would be. The services which he rendered to farmers receive fitting appreciation elsewhere than in these market columns, but on Friday at Mark Lane one could but be struck by the fact that the sad news from historic Rothamsted was the first utterance on all lips. Before the Government gave us averages of English wheat yields we had them from the famous farm in the Southern Midlands, and Sir John Lawes had the immense gift of being able to criticise his own estimates, and of freely warning farmers when he had reason to believe that Rothamsted figures could not be trusted for the entire kingdom. Thus in 1897 he warned us that his estimate was probably too low, and he has similarly told the trade when he thought his own part of the country had been more than usually fortunate. This high intellectual honesty and freedom from bias is a great bequest which all who have to deal with statistics will do well to cherish. Of the wheat crop, now mostly harvested, it may to-day be said that there is a general agreement that the magnificent July handed to the harvest month a crop "worth" 29 bushels to the acre. How much has been actually realised? That is the question. The answers vary from twenty-seven bushels to practically the original twenty-nine, but the mood of the latest moment is rather pessimistic, and few farmers believe in twenty-eight bushels having been actually exceeded. The area under wheat shows a decline of 156,000 acres, which, at twenty-eight bushels per acre, reduces the feed by 4,368,000 bushels, apart from the character of the season.

The foreign harvests are beginning to group themselves about as follows:—"Probably better than last year": Spain, Roumania, Bulgaria, Russia"; "Probably inferior to last year": England, France, Germany, Austria, Hungary, the United States, and Canada. The total production of wheat in the first group averages 80 to 84 million qrs., in the second group 145 to 155 millions. The situation, therefore, is as a whole modified in sellers' favour, and when the first rush of autumnal deliveries is over, this is likely to become increasingly apparent.

The markets have been supplied pretty fairly with new wheat, rye, winter tares, and winter oats, but of ordinary spring-sown barley and oats very little is as yet to hand. The new wheat ranges from 29s. to 32s., the new rye from 26s. to 29s., the winter tares from 56s. to 64s., and the winter oats from 17s. to 20s. per qr. These are not high prices, except for tares, but they represent a small profit on production, whereas the cereal year just concluded opened too frequently at a slight loss. The demand for new samples is encouraging.

Some small crops may thus be reckoned according to the advices which August brought:—

MIXED CROPS IN 1900.

Tares	750,000 qrs.
Rye	275,000 ,,
Beans	1,000,000 ,,
Peas	650,000 ,,
Linseed	100,000 ,,

The last three estimates are rather high for the acreage, but we fancy it has been by no means a bad year for pulse, and the few English growers of linseed speak well of that crop.

The old cereal year ended on Friday night, and the following preliminary estimate of imports is submitted:

Wheat	15,011,000 qrs.
Barley	4,210,000 ,,
Oats	7,284,000 ,,
Maize	13,312,000 ,,
Flour	8,532,000 sacks.

The year's trading has been healthy, and no speculative waves have broken the even course of legitimate business. The South African and Chinese wars have been almost *too* absolutely ignored, for while "in quietness and confidence" there is "much strength," it is difficult to see how either of these virtues would feed us in case of a political crisis such as there has admittedly been encountered more than once during the twelvemonth's diplomacy. The new cereal year opens with the following prices ruling on the Continent, etc. The foreign market prices have been in each case reduced by us into English money for quarters of 480lb. weight.

	Wheat.	Rye.
Paris	34s. 9d.	23s. 9d.
Marseilles	34s. 3d.	—
Antwerp	29s. 3d.	—
Berlin	33s. 9d.	31s. 3d.
Amsterdam	27s. 9d.	22s. 9d.
St. Petersburg	29s. 6d.	18s. 9d.
Buda-Pesth	28s. 3d.	23s. 6d.
New York	28s. 3d.	—

The dearness of rye in Germany should be noted, for it may affect and increase the demand for wheat in that country. The London average is 30s. for wheat, and about 27s. for rye. At these prices Russia and Holland may be tempted to ship the minor staple, but for wheat our offer of 30s. is obviously "no catch" in the present state of the Continental markets. America is affected by the freights, 3s. 6d. per qr. (with insurance and lighterage), which makes the minimum selling price 31s. 9d., and this price is made with difficulty even for really fine winter wheat.

During the cereal year ended 31st August London white flour (credit terms) advanced 2s. per sack, opening at 26s. 6d. and closing at 28s. 6d. Town Household flour similarly rose from 23s. 6d. to 25s. 6d. per sack. The price of the quartern loaves (credit and delivery) opened at 5d. and closed at 5½d. Top price and fine Hungarian flour, as used for fancy bread and pastry also show 2s. per sack nett advance on the cereal year. Town Household flour, cash ex mill, is 2s. 3d. dearer on the twelvemonth, but 3s. 6d. cheaper on the two years. Ordinary flour of recent years was dearest in May, 1898, when 39s. 9d. cash terms was reached, and was cheapest in February, 1895, when 17s. 9d. was accepted. A range of 22s. per sack shows that possibilities of profit and loss in the flour trade are still considerable, and that the idea of free trade levelling value has not been justified in practice to the extent which theory alone would have indicated.

Supplies of cereals on passage at the beginning of a new cereal year are as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Maize. Qrs.
Sept. 1, 1900	1,945,000	313 000	701,000
,, 1899	1,654,000	346,000	823,000
,, 1898	1,089,000	150,000	752,000
,, 1897	921,000	430,000	580,000
,, 1896	1,163,000	310,000	1,103,000

These figures indicate that September should have fair supplies of all the three leading staples, but they argue no depressing or overwhelming arrivals. The wheat total includes 850,000 qrs. of Californian, the bulk of which will not arrive until later than Michaelmas.

The four leading staples begin a new cereal year at the following prices per ton:—

	£ s. d.
Wheat	6 14 6
Barley	6 19 0
Oats	6 14 0
Maize	5 0 0

The demand for maize has been good of late, but on the Friday and Saturday there was a decided pause. Five pounds per ton is cheap enough, but buyers have been rather spoilt by the extremely low terms ruling of recent years. It was feared a year ago that cheap maize would, if the wheat market rose, lead to much adulteration, but the difference of £1 14s. 6d. per ton is evidently not enough to tempt many, and if wheat ever became really dear a mixture of maize might have its advantages. The mixed loaf is less digestible, and at the same time less nourishing than one of pure wheat, but it is doubtful if it is inferior to certain loaves which a West End fancy calls for. It is greatly to be regretted that the British people put so high a value on white colour, and that a certain moderate amount of rougher meal is not tolerated in the loaf. Black bread was doubtless unpleasant, and the sign of poverty, but the period of its prevalence ceased before the present reign, and science ought to be heard when it tells us that excessively fine grindings are neither the best to nourish us nor the easiest to digest.

Forward speculation on new oilseed crops has begun in earnest with the new cereal year; in fact, it had been well launched by the third week in August. On Sept. 1 the following prices were paid for futures:—

Russian linseed, November shipment	49s. 6d.
Argentine linseed, February shipment	46s. 6d.
Cawnpore rapeseed, April shipment	41s. 9d.
Guzerat rapeseed, April shipment	43s. 9d.
Bombay poppyseed, April shipment	40s. 9d.
Egyptian cottonseed, January shipment	£6 0s. 3d.

Thus we have presumptive values for something like six months ahead. The general conclusion to be derived from the above figures is that oilseeds will be maintained at a good price all through the winter, and that the large new crop of Roumanian rapeseed will not be very depressing in its influence, the deficiency in Indian linseed fully balancing the increase in the other oilseeds.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

		s.	d.
January 1, 1900	(per sack)	28	0
April 2, ,,	,,	27	0
June 22, ,,	,,	30	0
,, 27, ,,	,,	31	0
July 4, ,,	,,	30	6

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was not brisk, but the Hungarian Minister of Agriculture estimates the world's wheat production at 24,000,000qrs. less than last year, and this strengthens holders. Foreign wheat made 32s. 6d. for some fine South Australian, 32s. for long-berried New Zealand, and 31s. 6d. for short-berried. English sales were slow, 30s. to 32s. for most samples both old and new. Some fine old South Russian maize made 25s. 6d., but Argentine was not so strong as on Friday, and 21s. 6d. was taken. American was 6d. up on the week; 21s. is asked and 20s. 9d. not refused to a good buyer. Barley was quiet, 27s. to 32s. for new English. Oats were 3d. dearer for heavy grades, but 304lb. kinds were rather out of favour. Some Mexican beans found buyers at 29s. to 29s. 3d. per quarter, and Egyptian split lentils made 12s. per cental.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

SEPT. 3, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	31	— 33
Red	,,	30	— 32
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	30	— 37
Brewing	,,	25	— 30
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Brown	,,	29	— 32
OATS, English	,,	19	— 23
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 19
RYE, British (new)	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 28
(old)	,,	24	— 25
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	43	— 45
Winter	,,	30	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	— 76
,, Dun	,,	32	— 34
,, Maple	,,	40	— 42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

WHEAT, per 496lb.	s.	s.	
Finest Duluth	34	— 34/6	
American Spring	33/6	— 34	
Hard Manitoba	33/6	— 34	
Red Winter	31	— 31/6	
Kansas	30/6	— 31	
Californian	31/6	— 32/6	
Walla Walla	30/6	— 31/6	
Australian	30/6	— 31/6	
New Zealand	29/6	— 31/6	
Argentine	28/6	— 31/6	
Danzig	33/6	— 34/6	
Saxonka	32/6	— 33/6	
Azima	31/6	— 32/6	
Ghirka	30/6	— 31/6	
Persian	29/6	— 30/6	
MAIZE, per 480lb.:			
Cinquantina	25	— 26	
Roumanian	24	— 25	
Russian	23	— 25	
Caucasian	23	— 23/6	
Argentine	22	— 22/6	
American	20	— 21	
OATS:			
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26	
Canadian (320lb.)	16	— 17	
American (320lb.) White	16	— 17	
,, Mixed	15	— 16	
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17	
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	— 17	
,, (304lb.)	14	— 15	
Libau, white (304lb.)	13	— 13/9	
,, black ,,	15	— 15/3	
White Sea (304 lb.)	14	— 14/6	
BEANS, per 480lb.:			
Egyptian	30	— 31	
Smyrna	27	— 29	

BEANS (*continued*).			
Konigsberg	28	— 29	
Barbary	27	— 28	
Mexican	28	— 30	
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:			
Cyprian	106	— 112	
PEAS, per 504 lb.:			
Canadian, White	29	— 30	
Indian, White	28	— 30	
,, Green	25	— 27	
Barbary	26	— 28	
Australian, White	40	— 41	
,, Dun	26	— 27	
LENTILS, per 504 lb.:			
Egyptian	31	— 33	
Indian	36	— 38	
DARI, per 480 lb.:			
Syrian	25	— 26	
Smyrna	26	— 27	
RYE, per 480 lb.:			
Russian	24	— 25	
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb.:			
French	28	— 29	
Russian	25	— 26	
BARLEY:			
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 29	
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 32	
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 24	
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22	
Syrian (400 lb.)	25	— 22	
Persian (400 lb.)	18	3—19	
American (400 lb.)	20/9	—21	
MALT, per 336 lb.:			
Californian	34	— 37	
Smyrna	33	— 36	

OIL SEEDS

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.	RAPESEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	58	to 60	English	56	to 60
Dutch	55	to 59	Dutch	54	to 56
Argentine	54	to 56	French	47	to 48
Canadian	57	to 59	Roumanian	43	to 45
Russian	51	to 53	Cawnpore	46	to 47
Calcutta	54	to 55	Calcutta	43	to 44
SESAME. per 424lb.			Guzerat	48	to 49
Bombay	50	to 52	Ferozepore	44	to 45
Kurrachee	53	to 54	Ravison	29	to 31
COTTON SEED. per ton.			POPPYSEED. per 377lb.		
Egyptian	126	to 128	Indian	47	to 48

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 *p.m.*

TRADE WAS FIRM, BUT SALES WERE NOT PUT THROUGH WITH EASE. PRICES AS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Sept. 3.

The market to-day was slow at 6d. rise in the leading kinds; that is to say millers insisted but bakers resisted, and business was therefore reduced to narrow channels. Town households were in better request than other English kinds. American flour was a quiet market, with patents rather better than the bakers' grades. Hungarian flour was in fair request at 38s. for good types. French flour was neglected. Some fine Oregon flour made 24s. 9d., and 25s. is now asked. Although the finest milling offals easily reach (and surpass) £6 per ton, there is bran still to be had at £4 2s. 6d., and pollard at £4 10s. For the finest Midlothian oatment £15 10s. is paid, and £13 is asked for Aberdeen.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	30
Town Whites	,,	—	27
,, Households	,,	—	24
No 2.	,,	—	22

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	—	26
Fine Roller made	,,	—	24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	—	23
Best Stone made	,,	—	22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	—	21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	—	26
,, Second Patents	,,	23	24
,, First Bakers'	,,	20	21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	25	25/6
,, Bakers'	,,	21	22
Kansas Patents	,,	24	24/6
Cascadia	,,	24/6	25
Canadian	,,	23/6	24
Australian	,,	23/6	25
Hungarian	,,	28	31
French	,,	20	22

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	178	180
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	109	111
Bran, London Broad	,,	97	102
,, Fine	,,	76	82
,, Country Flake	,,	106	108
,, ,, Broad	,,	94	96
Pollard	,,	84	88
Fine Middlings	,,	112	116
Coarse Middlings	,,	98	104
Oat Meal	,,	212	272
Oat Flour	,,	337	362
Maize Flour	,,	132	134
Maize Meal	,,	114	124
Maize Cones	,,	144	150
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	100	104
Pea Meal	,,	128	158
Bean Meal	,,	152	172
Rice Meal	,,	90	94

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day at South Sea House, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—	Aug. s. d.	Oct. s. d.	Dec. s. d.
Aug. 27 noon	6 7	6 8	6 9
4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
Aug. 28 noon	6 7	6 8	6 9
4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
Aug. 29 noon	6 7	6 8	6 9
4 p.m.	—	6 8	6 9
Aug. 30 noon	—	6 9	6 10
4 p.m.	—	6 9	6 11
Aug. 31 noon	—	6 9	6 11
4 p.m.	—	6 9	6 11
Sept. 1 noon	—	6 9	6 11
To-day noon	—	6 8	6 9

A few speculative sales for March delivery were put through at 6s. 11d. per cental.

August sales on the Term Market were 37,800,000 centals, of which 260,000 centals were taken for actual delivery.

Maize is quoted 4s. 2d. to 3d. per cental for Sept, Oct., and Nov. delivery., but 4s. is accepted for Dec.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report cloverseed firm ; America in particular, is cabled to be rapidly advancing her quotations. Trifolium moves off slowly ; business in this article has this season proved somewhat disappointing. As regards alsyke, white, trefoil, and especially Italian ryegrass, very full prices are asked. New mustard and rapeseed find buyers on former terms. Seed rye and winter tares are inquired for. In both canary and hempseed, the movement of values is against buyers. There is more doing in blue peas, whilst haricot beans have advanced 1s per qr.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report : The market continues to harden ; 1899 hops are being secured by consumers. The new crop comes very sparingly to hand ; those that have been picked come down less than half of last year.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour : There has been a fair trade to-day at 3d. to 6d. advance on the week, both spot and forward. —T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

The trade for milling offals is unchanged at last week's prices.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Wheat arrivals moderate. A quiet trade at 6d. and 1s. per qr. advance. Flour is 3d. and 6d per sack dearer. Maize and barley 3d. higher. Oats quiet, unchanged.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Offals—Bran and pollard in fair request. As compared with last week's prices rather firmer. Weather fine, counteracting in some measure damage done by recent heavy rains. —GREENHILL BROTHERS, Belfast, September 1.

Flour—The firmness noted last Wednesday has continued, and sellers now hold for 6d. per sack advance, at which some business for shipment is practicable. Grain—Indian corn has been strong during the week, and 4½d. per boll advance paid. Beans are 3d. dearer, and there is a like improvement on pease to arrive. Oats are unchanged. Barley scarce. Millstuffs—Bran and thirds are in sellers' favour.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, September 1.

Wheat quiet with a small trade. White wheat ½d. per cental dearer. Red unchanged. Flour a quiet trade at Tuesday's prices. Maize — The demand has been disappointing owing to lower advices from America, and only a moderate consumptive trade has transpired for mixed at ½d. to 1d over last Tuesday. European and Plate are steady at an ½d. improvement. Barley is firm for feeding and ½d. dearer. Brewing has a good demand and full prices are obtainable. Beans steady with a moderate trade. Peas firm with a fair business at ½d. advance. Oats have a good trade for English but without alteration in values. Foreign are firm, and ½d. dearer. Oatmeal is dull, unchanged. Oilcake has a better inquiry and prices in sellers' favour—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, September 1.

Mark Lane, Sept. 3rd, 2 p.m.
[SPECIAL.]

There is a little corner in cotton-seed, and nothing is to be had under £7 per ton on spot.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.
STATE OF TRADE.

Cargoes of wheat near at hand are rather dull, but for future shipment the market is firm. Australian, Manitoban, and Russian all show a strong feeling. American is irregular. American maize cargoes are rather less firm from the close of last week, and Argentine cargoes are neglected. Barley is fairly strong, and so are American oat cargoes for future shipment.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Argentine, 29s 6d, on passage ; Australian, 30s 9d, arrived ; Californian, 31s 3d, Sept. shipment ; Manitoba, 32s 6d, Sept. shipment ; No. 1 Northern, 31s 6d, Sept. shipment ; best Duluth, 32s 3d, Sept. shipment ; Russian Azima, 31s, Sept. shipment ; Russian Ghirka, 30s 6d, Oct. shipment.

MAIZE.—American, 20s 3d, on passage ; ditto, 20s 3d, Sept. shipment ; ditto, 19s 9d, Dec. shipment ; ditto, 19s, Feb. shipment (new crop) ; Bessarabran, 25s, Sept. shipment.

BARLEY.—Roumanian, 19s 3d, October shipment (new crop) ; Persian, 17s 9d, Sept. shipment ; Odessa, 19s 3d, October shipment ; Oregon, 23s 6d, October shipment.

OATS.—White Labau, 13s, September shipment ; Vologda, 13s 9d, September shipment ; Canadian, 15s 3d, September shipment ; Clipt White (38lb), 15s, September shipment.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 48s, January shipment (new crop).

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6, January shipment (new crop).

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from foreign ports last week were 9,153 bales bacon. The bacon market was again very flat last week, and prices were further reduced some 3s to 4s in all descriptions of goods. At the close of the market on Friday there seemed to be more steadiness. Prices ruling were :—Irish, 54s to 60s up to 66s ; Danish, 52s to 60s up to 66s ; Canadian, 52s to 56s up to 58s. Butter was very slow indeed, and very little business of any sort doing. Prices were about the same as previously reported. Danish, 110s to 118s ; French, 86s to 110s ; Irish, 96s to 110s ; Canadian, 100s to 106s. Lard was steady. American, 35s 6d to 37s 6d ; Irish, 44s to 54s ; Danish, 44s to 46s.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake.—Market firmer and likely to go dearer owing to the extreme scarcity of foreign supplies and high price of linseed. Decorticated cotton cake 2s 6d dearer, undecorticated also 2s 6d up. Linseed very firm at recent advance.

English linseed cake	£8	0	0	to	8 5 0	ex mill
American Calcutta linseed cake	—			to	—	ex quay
American Western linseed cake	7	12	6	to	—	ex quay
Russian oil cake	7	15	0	to		ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 p.c. oil)	—					ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	6	17	6	to	7 0 0	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6	10	0		—	ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	4	10	0	to	—	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4	5	0	to	4 7 6	ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4	10	0			on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4	10	0	to	—	ex warehouse.
American linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2	15	0	to	—	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2	15	0	to	—	ex warehouse

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Sept. 3rd, 1900.

	British.	Total.	Sept. 4th, 1899.
Beasts	1,349	1,349	1,270
Sheep and lambs	5,999	5,999	6,182
Calves	5	5	9
Pigs	20	20	—
Milch cows	69	69	49

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	3 2 —	4 4 —	5 0
Sheep	3 4 —	5 4 —	6 0
Lambs	5 4 ..	5 8 ..	6 2
Pigs	2 4 ..	3 6 ..	4 2

Milch cows, per head, £— to £—.

British arrivals include as follows :—Scotland, — ; Eastern Counties, 24 ; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,194 ; Devon, 40 ; Ireland, 83.

We note to-day a rather larger supply in the beast market, though fat beasts showed practically no increase but those there being a steady demand ; rates ruled from 1d to 2d per 8lb in favour of the seller. Except for middling description Shorthorns, all on offer with fair buyers. Less demand for fat butchering cows, but no alteration in price can be noted, owing to a short supply. Fat bulls were in good request, and made 2d per 8lb more, as also did rough cattle from the south-western districts.

The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal) :—

	To-day.	Sept. 4th, 1899.
Devons	4s 8d to 4s 10d ..	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Herefords	4s 10d to 5s 0d ..	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 10d to 4s 11d ..	4s 4d to 4s 5d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d —	3s 10d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 4d to 4s 6d ..	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat cows	3s 10d to 4s 0d ..	3s 4d to 3s 6d

To-day's supply numbered 210 less than on Monday last, and included about 540 from the Eastern counties, 210 Scotch and 1,900 Irish. Best quality wether sheep met a slow but steady trade at late rates ; other grades were a shade easier in price. Ewes, being short in number, met with a readier sale at a slight advance in values, all on offer finding buyers.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned :—

	To-day.	Sept. 4th, 1899.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d ..	5s 6d to 5s 8d
9-stone ditto	5s 8d to 5s 10d ..	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10-stone half-breds	5s 6d to 5s 8d ..	5s 2d to 5s 4d
11-stone Lincoln	5s 4d to 5s 6d ..	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	5s 4d to 5s 6d ..	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Down ewes	4s 4d to 4s 6d ..	4s 2d to 4s 4d
11-stone half-bred ditto	4s 0d to 4s 2d ..	3s 8d to 3s 10d
5-stone Down lambs	5s 10d to 6s 0d ..	6s 2d to 6s 4d
6-stone half-bred ditto	5s 6d to 5s 8d ..	5s 6d to 5s 8d

Calf trade nominal.

The few pigs on offer found buyers, but trade ruled dull and dragging ; best small breeds were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d per 8lb.

London Central, Monday. — Good supplies ; trade slow. Beef (carcasses), 4s to 4s 2d ; hindquarters, 4s 6d to 4s 8d ; roastings, 4s 10d to 5s 2d. Sheep : Ewe, 3s 4d to 3s 8d ; wether, 4s 8d to 5s ; hindquarters, ewe, 4s 4d to 4s 8d ; wether, 5s 6d to 5s 10d. Pigs : Large, 3s to 3s 4d ; small, 3s 8d to 4s.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—A few beasts were due by steamer from the United States, but did not arrive in time, consequently no market was held to-day either for beasts or sheep. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates :—Beasts, 1,278, 4s to 4s 3d per 8lb to dress about 720lb ; sheep, 160, 4s to 4s 1d, to dress from 72lb to 74lb.

Liverpool, Monday.—Demand fair for best quality of cattle, at fully late rates ; middling and inferior kinds unchanged. Sheep and lambs in larger numbers ; demand good for best qualities at higher prices ; other classes if anything lower. Beef, 7d to 8d per lb ; mutton, 8d to 8d per lb ; lambs, 8d to 6d per lb. At market : 1,145 cattle and 10,125 sheep.

IMPORTS INTO LIVERPOOL FOR THE CEREAL YEAR.

Wheat	4,589,000 qrs.
Barley	348,000 ,,
Oats	256,000 ,,
Beans	105,000 ,,
Peas	33,140 ,,
Maize	3,701,000 ,,
Flour	1,746,500 sacks

CORK BUTTER.

—	ORDINARY. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	MILD CURED FIRKINS. Superfine.	Fine.	Mild	FIRKINS IN MARKET
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	90	86	85	81	96	89	99	100
Tuesday ..	89	86	85	79	95	89	—	271
Wednesday ..	90	87	86	81	96	89	100	285
Thursday ..	90	87	86	—	97	89	100	281
Friday ..	90	88	87	—	99	90	97	356
Saturday ..	90	88	87	83	99	90	—	400

At Mullingar, co. Westmeath, on the 29th, the fair was smaller than usual, and composed chiefly of two and three year old cattle, demand being very brisk for forward stores. Almost a complete clearance effected. Calves, best sorts, £4 15s. to £5 1s. ; second class, £3 15s. to £4 10s. Yearlings, first class, £7 15s. to £8 10s. ; second class, £5 10s. to £7. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 10s. to £12 15s. ; second class, £8 10s. to £10 15s. Three-year-olds, first class, £14 to £16 2s. 6d. ; second class, £11 10s. to £13 10s. ; third class, £7 2s. 6d. to £9 15s. Springers, first class, £15 15s. to £17 10s. ; second class, £12 10s. to £14 10s. Average supply of sheep ; demand slow. Lambs, first class £1 5s. 6d. to £1 15s. ; second class, £1 2s. 6d. to £1 6s. Hoggets, first class, £2 to £2 1s. ; second class, £1 12s. 6d. to £1 14s. 6d. Two-year-old and over, first class, £2 to £2 6s. ; second class, £1 15s.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The business tone of the Islington Market was on Monday, for both prime and second quality beasts, of a healthier nature, not that there was any increase in the demand, but that there was a rise reported at the Dead Meat Market, and a light supply at Deptford. Though not higher rates were quotable, still it should be noted the tendency was markedly that way. As usual at this season of the year, the bulk of the supply consisted of Herefords, runts, and Lincoln Shorthorns; a few Devons also put in an appearance, as well as eighty-three from Ireland, the best of these being shipped from Dublin, the remainder from Waterford. Fat cows and bulls for butchering purposes throughout the week also met with firmer trade at an advance of 2d. per 8lb. At the Foreign Cattle Market trade showed more life, sales being readily effected at an advance on Monday of 2d., as compared with the previous week, followed on Wednesday and Saturday with a further rise of 2d. per 8lb. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets was 4,421 (decrease 847), consisting of 1,320 British (increase 100) and 3,101 foreign (decrease 947). The latter consisted of 2,021 from the United States and 1,080 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d.; 90-stone runts, 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.; 80-stone Devons, 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 4d.; 90-stone Irish, 4s. 6d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 4d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 95-stone Canadians, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; ditto ranchers, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90-stone fat cows, 4s.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. The sheep trade, which was confined to the Islington market, was firm both in regard to tone and value, wethers making last week's rates, whilst ewes, being short in number and meeting with more demand, sold readily at an advance of from 2d. to 4d. per 8lbs. Lambs are arriving in fairly good numbers, but the best are very scarce. A few extra choice Southdowns to dress about 36lbs. were shown on Monday, and made fully 4d. more than our top quotation. The total number penned was 9,820, as against 10,123 during the previous week. Best pens made per 8lbs. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 6s.; 9-stone ditto, 5s. 10d.; 8-stone Scotch, 6s.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 6d.; 11-stone Lincolns 5s. 4d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 6d.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 4s. 2d.; 5-stone fat Oown lambs, 6s. 4d.; 6-stone halfbred ditto, 6s. Calves, being short in number (60), met a firmer trade, the best making 6s. per 8lbs., or 4d. more than during the preceding week.

Trade in the West.

There have only been moderate deliveries of stock at the leading cattle markets during the past week, the result of agriculturists being just now in the thick of the harvest; but there has been considerable improvement in the quality, and a corresponding advance in values, the trade just at present being unusually firm for almost everything, either fat or store. Ripe, well-finished steers and heifers find a very free sale at from 11s. 6d. to 12s. per score (or from £21 to £23 a-piece) for animals of medium weights, and good-quality cows also make quite 11s. The veal trade is also very strong, good calves making 7½d. to 8d., and the poorer grades 6½d. to 7½d. Mutton, more especially wethers, is selling as readily as we ever remember, considering the high prices ruling—8¼d. to 8⅔d. wethers, 7⅔d. ewes, and 10d. to 11d. for best lamb (or 35s. to 40s. for Downs and cross-breds). Pigs are also selling much more readily with cooler weather, up to 10s. per score. Dairy stock continues to meet a very active sale, and barreners are worth from 10s. to 30s. per bullock more, consequent on the abundance of keep everywhere. Altogether the markets are going very strong.

Trade in Ireland.

With a number of strangers from cross-Channel, who were presumably combining business with pleasure during "Horse Show week," and a decrease of over 300 cattle and close upon 4,000 sheep, Thursday's market in Dublin was brisker than it has been for several weeks. All classes of cattle commanded a readier sale, with values more or less favouring sellers. In a few cases the advance might be as much as 20s. per head, but all round prices were from 10s. to 15s. better. Rough cattle moved off readily, and an early and satisfactory clearance was effected. Prime ox and heifer beef made from 55s. to 57s. 6d. per cwt., and for some fancy lots 60s. to 62s. 6d. was paid; second quality 50s. to 54s., and inferior 42s. 6d. to 47s. 6d. The mutton department also showed a very decided improvement, and currencies were from 1s. to 2s. per head up on all classes of sheep, fully wiping out the late depression. Prime wether mutton was worth from 6½d. to 7d. per lb.; prime ewe, 5⅔d. to 6½d.; and inferior, 5d. per lb. Medium hoggets were worth from 30s. to 42s., and best heavy hoggets from 44s. to 54s. a head. Good lambs commanded more money, and were easier to place, prices ranging from 15s. to 34s. each. Veal was scarce, and best calves made up to 8d. per lb. A limited show of milch cattle and prime springers and new milch cows in active demand, some extra good ones making up to £22 and £23. Store cattle at the various large sales held during the week sold at very satisfactory prices. The rise in cattle and sheep did not extend to the pork department, where trade was slow and prices much the same as last week.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The supplies of fat cattle have been small, but about the same as last week, and the trade also has been much similar, the best class of cattle easily maintaining last week's high prices and all kinds selling well. Fat sheep and lambs have been forwarded in exceedingly large numbers; there has been a very good demand, and the best class of shop sheep and lambs have sold well. Others and secondary sorts have been slightly in buyers' favour. Fat calves were a large and good show, and met a dear trade, while pigs, which were more numerous, sold rather cheaper. In the store market there have been large supplies of both sheep and lambs. For those of good quality there has been a good inquiry at satisfactory prices, about equal to those current of late. Secondary classes have been somewhat stiffer, however; some of these have been left over unsold. There is very little doing among store cattle just at present, farmers waiting until after the harvest. Very few were offered for sale, and those, if good, have been fairly well sold. A much larger show of milch cows met considerably more inquiry and a good trade. Quotations:—Best beef, extreme top, 9s. per stone, and from 8s. 6d., current 8s. to 8s. 6d. per stone; mutton from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies and steady sale. Arrivals of beef included 30 tons Scotch, 520 Liverpool sides, 2,100 hindquarters, and 800 forequarters American refrigerated. Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American Deptford-killed, 4s; Liverpool, 3s 10d to 4s; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; seconds, 3s 4d; forequarters, 2s 7d to 2s 8d; seconds, 2s 2d to 2s 4d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s 2d to 5s 6d; English wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; English lamb, 5s to 5s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 8d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Good supplies, but trade ruled slow. Arrivals of beef included 40 tons Scotch, 680 Liverpool sides, 3,000 hindquarters, and 2,400 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations:—Beef: Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 4s; Liverpool, 3s 10d to 4s; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s; seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 7d; forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s; English wethers, 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Canterbury, 2s 2d to 2s 5d; Wellington, 2s 1d to 2s 3d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s. Lamb: English, 4s 8d to 5s. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d. Pork: English, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Good supply of beasts on offer for Thursday, and although chiefly consisting of fat bulls and rough cattle, met with fair support at steady rates. Sheep pens were filled to a moderate extent, but the inquiry for both wethers and ewes ruled quiet at about late currencies. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 10d to 6s; 9-stone, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; 11-stone half-bred, 3s 10d to 4s. Lamb trade moved quietly; 5-stone fat Downs, 6s to 6s 4d. Calves met with a fair inquiry, the best on offer making 5s 4d to 5s 6d. Pig trade steady; neat small, 4s to 4s 2d per 8lb, offal given in. Total supplies: 100 beasts, 3,650 sheep and lambs, 60 calves, 160 pigs, and 10 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Best beef sold well, small prime heifers and steers making 11s 6d to 12s 6d per score; medium beasts, 10s 6d to 11s 6d; and cows, 8s to 10s. Mutton: Downs and half-bred wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; choice Kents, 5s to 5s 6d; medium Kents, 4s 6d to 5s; and barrens, 3s 8d to 4s per 8lb. Prime veal made up to 5s 4d per stone, and ordinary qualities, 4s 8d to 5s. Lambs of good quality seldom exceeded 6s per stone. Pork: Roasters and five to 10 score hogs, 10s per score. A few Southdown rams ranged between £5 5s and £6 16s 6d per head.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 43 fat beasts, 70 calves, 678 fat sheep and lambs, 143 pigs, and 49 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £13 5s to £19 15s; fat calves, 80s to £6 5s; small, 20s to 60s; fat wethers, 42s to 56s 6d; fat ewes, 29s to 42s; fat lambs, 26s to 49s 6d; fat porkers, 40s to 58s; small, 29s to 38s; stores, up to 20s; dairy cows, £10 10s to £17. Fat beasts met a slower trade, without much change in values for the prime quality lots. Prime quality Devon steers made up to £19 10s; heifers, £16 10s; Shorthorn steers, £19 15s; young Angus steers, £15 5s, etc. A good show of fat sheep and lambs met with a brisk competition from a numerous attendance of buyers. A clearance made with better prices all round. Prime Hants Down wethers and ewes made 50s 6d, 54s 6d, 55s, 52s 6d, 43s, 55s 6d, 54s 6d, 56s 6d, 47s, 46s 6d, 52s, 43s, 51s, 42s 6d. Eight-months-old fat lambs, 38s, 37s, 45s, 43s 6d, 49s 6d, 44s 6d, 36s 6d, 47s, 40s, 42s, 50s, 46s, 47s. Southdown lambs, 34s, 32s. Three-months-old sucking lambs, crossbreds, Exmoors, and Scotch, 16s, 33s, 15s, 26s. Old ewes, 42s, 30s, 41s 6d, 29s 6d, 38s 6d, 35s 6d, 39s 6d. Rams, 46s, 56s, 44s, 43s, 36s. Black-face Scotch wethers, 29s 6d, 28s 6d, 28s, 27s. Store lambs, 27s 6d, etc. With a short supply of milch cows on offer, prices ruled higher, with a better demand. Store cattle, with more inquiry, found a firmer trade. Fat calves are in request, with a brisk trade. Fat porkers sold readily at late rates. Store pigs were cleared, with a fair demand. Ruling values:—Fat Devon beasts, 6½d to 7¼d per lb; ditto Shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6¾d; bulls, cows and inferior beasts, 5d to 5¾d per lb. Best quality sheep and big lambs, 8¾d to 9¼d; second ditto, 8d to 8¾d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 6¼d to 7¼d; choice fat lambs, 9d to 10d per lb. Fat calves, 6½d to 9d per lb. Fat porkers, up to 10s 6d per score.

Braintree, Wednesday.—A firm trade was found at Messrs. Balls' auction mart. Prices: Beef, 4s 6d; and mutton, 5s per stone; pork, 9s 6d to 10s per score. Numbers penned: Beasts 30, fat sheep 100, hogs 50, Londoners and store pigs 100.

Brigg, Thursday.—The supply of horned stock was below the average, and business was of a sluggish description. Milch cows and in-calvers, £13 to £17; drapes, £9 to £12 each. Other kinds about late rates. A fair number of sheep, mostly ewes, and prices ranged from 36s to 42s per head.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a moderate supply of beef, for which trade was slow. Best qualities made 62s, second qualities 58s to 60s. Five hundred fat beasts were sold at the docks this week. Mutton and lamb were in good supply, and trade was very slow. Best wethers fetched 7⅞d to 8d, ewes 6d, and lambs 8d. There were 600 pigs, bacoaers making 9s, porkers 9s 9d to 10s. Very few store cattle were on offer, for which there was scarcely any inquiry. Bristol Fair will be held next week.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under	9s 0d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in.	8s 6d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2⅔ in.	7s 9d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND Co., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 224; sheep, 946; pigs, 434; horses, 42. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 5s 4d to 6s; pork, 5s 9d to 6s 6d. A few more store beasts, but trade slow. Fat beasts a fair show, prices unchanged. Fat sheep, very little alteration in the trade. Stores, a good number to hand. Lambs, a fair trade. Ewes rather slow. Fat pigs, not quite so brisk as last week. Stores, fair trade all round.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a fair supply of both sheep and lambs, the quality of most of the former being good. Small lambs ranged from 11s to 17s, and others strong and forward in condition made up to 22s to 26s, the latter being almost ready for the butcher. Ewe tegs but poor in condition were selling at from 28s to 33s. Old sheep, realised from £1 to 32s. A fair trade, but a few pens of lambs were not sold.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Larger supplies of Irish store cattle, a number of which were suitable for at once tying up for stall-feeding. Fair attendance and inquiry at about late values. Smaller heifers made prices from £6 10s to £8 10s; and the more useful qualities from £10 10s to £17 10s. Pigs, a small show and slow sale at prices up to 26s.

Chester, Thursday.—Supplies were in excess of demand, and market was very quiet both for dairy and store stock, but holders refused to accept lower rates, and last week's prices were maintained. Smaller show of sheep; trade quieter. Quotations:—Welsh cows, £14 to £21; calves, £13 to £19; barrens, £9 to £13; heifers, £8 to £14; stirks, £5 to £8; sheep, 22s to 26s.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Good supply, with fairly active trade, both for beef and mutton. Good offer of well grazed beasts, for which good demand. Heifers and calves ranged from £14 to £17; cows and calves, £13 to £15; barreners, £25 to £33 per pair. Fat heifers made up to £21; seconds to £17. Firm trade for mutton; ewes, 41s to 47s; wethers, 47s to 51s: lambs, 28s to 33s.

Dublin, Thursday.—More buyers in evidence, and demand all round good and well sustained all through. Prime finished cattle made more money, rougher sorts perhaps not quotably dearer, but the better demand induced an earlier and more satisfactory clearance. Brisker trade for all classes of sheep and lambs, and a good clearance effected. Cattle (best), 54s to 55s per cwt. Other descriptions, 28s to 31s per cwt. Mutton, 5d to 7½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND Co.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 317, calves 52, sheep 1,830, lambs 844, pigs (fat and sows) 7, sucking pigs 154, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 85, pigs (stores, more than ten) 18, horses 2, colts 3. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 9½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—Slightly improved supplies of stock, in good condition. Milch cows in demand, at £16 to £25 per head. Bullocks, flat, £9 to £14 each. Calves in slow demand.

Lincoln, Friday.—The supply of beasts was limited almost to cows, which found buyers at from £14 to £20 each. The few other animals offered fetched late rates, no improvement whatever being noticeable. There was an average show of sheep and a fairly satisfactory trade was done. Store lambs sold principally at 21s to 28s, though a few made as high as 32s. Store ewes realised 20s to 32s, and breeding ewes fetched all prices between 32s and 52s. In the pig department stores were parted with at 25s to 40s, and suckers at from 15s to 20s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—The supply of beasts was very limited—16—but trade was only fair. Year ings, £7 to £9; young bullocks, £10 to £12; milch cows, £16 to £22 per head. Sheep totalled 340, and a fair trade was experienced. Lambs from 20s to 34s; ewes, 26s to 54s each.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Better trade and improved prices for the best stock. Numbers:—Cattle, 1,750 sheep and lambs, 9,476 calves, 64 pigs. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s to 8s 6d; pork, 7s to 7s 9d per stone; mutton, 6d to 8½d; lamb, 8d to 8¾d; veal, 5d to 9d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts was larger here to-day, shorthorns and Irish being especially offered; trade ruled quiet at previous rates. Fat beasts, which were in about average supply, brought 7s 6d to 7s 9d and 8s per 14lb. The supply of store sheep and lambs was not large; there was a fair demand, and lambs commanded an advance of 1s per head; breeding ewes were quoted at 35s to 50s; and shearlings at 40s to 46s per head. Fat sheep, which were in moderate supply, moved off readily at 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb.

Peterborough, Wednesday.—1,05 beasts, 520 sheep, 140 pigs, and 2 calves. Beef, 7s 6d to 8s 3d per stone. Sheep, 6½d to 8¾d per lb. Lamb, 8d to 9d per lb. Pork, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per stone. At Saturday's market: 59 beasts, 1,772 sheep, 44 pigs, 11 calves, and 20 horses.

Romford, Wednesday.—An average supply of fat beasts and trade a little better. Best animals made 4s 6d to 4s 8d, and middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply and trade fair, at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Sheep in average supply and trade a little better; best sheep made 5s 6d to 5s 8d, and middlings 5s 2d to 5s 4d. Lambs in short supply and trade fair, at 6s to 6s 4d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Pig trade about the same. The market was visited by several large buyers from Gosport, Aldershot, and Salisbury.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was not much demand for milch beasts, and consequently there was only a moderate show. The better qualities made from £15 to £23; and the poorer from £13 to £15.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Grand trade for all fat stock with scarcely one quarter of the quantity required on offer, buyers being present from all parts. High prices all round for same. Small supplies. Quotations: Lamb 7d to 9d. Beef 6½d to 7¾d; mutton, 8d to 9d; and veal 7½d to 9½d per lb. Porker pigs, 9s 6d to 10s 6d; and bacons, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per score. Cows, with calves, up to £—. Numbers offered: 405 cattle, 42 cows with calves, 1,884 sheep and lambs, 68 calves, 70 fat, 136 porket and 143 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—An improved trade for beef, best quality, 7s 6d to 8s 6d; cow beef, 7s per stone. Mutton was better, selling well at 8¾d per lb for half-breds, and 7¾d to 8d for Lincolns. Store sheep, 42s to 46s a head.

Taunton, Saturday.—Small attendance, medium supply, and a moderate trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a shorter supply of stock, but a great improvement in the trade, and a clearance was effected at better prices. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 80 fat beasts, and a few heifers and calves, 282 fat sheep and lambs and stores, 81 fat and weaning calves, and 161 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £17 to £21 15s; fat heifers, £14 to £23 7s 6d; heifers and calves, £15 to £16 2s 6d; fat wethers, 45s to 56s; fat ewes, 34s to 48s; fat lambs, 28s to 39s 6d; store ewes, 27s to 42s; fat calves, £3 to £4 10s; cow calves, 25s to 57s; bull calves, 14s to 42s; fat pigs, 10s per score. Stores a good trade.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Much firmer tone for both beef and mutton, with prices in favour of dealers. Prime beef made 6½d to 7d per lb; other sorts, 5d to 6½d; lambs, 9d per lb; small sheep up to 8½d; strong sheep, 7½d to 8d; ewes and tups, 6d to 7d. Numbers penned:—Fat beasts, 1,324; sheep and lambs, 2,782.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a fair supply, and fair trade. Lambs small supply, good demand. Sheep moderate supply, slow trade. Calves small supply, fair demand. Beef, 5½d to 7½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 8½d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb. Milch cows large supply, fair trade, much cheaper. Bacon pigs, 9s 3d to 9s 6d per score; porkets, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score; sows, 7s 6d per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Fat cattle in moderate supply, and fair trade at late rates. Large entry of sheep, and quiet trade, without change in values. Fat calves and lambs in request, but not much demand for pigs. Best beef, 7d; inferior, 6d; wether mutton, 8d; ewes, 6d; lamb, 8d to 8½d; and veal, 7d per lb.

York, Friday.—Calves, 8d per lb: small sheep, 8½d to 9d per lb; large sheep, 8½d per lb; ewes, 6d to 7d per lb; lamb, 9d per lb; small pork pigs, 6s 6d per stone; large pork pigs, 6s per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies totalled 1,036, being a decrease of 125 as against last Wednesday's figures, and comprised 585 United States and 451 Canadian. A good demand prevailed, a sharp clearance being effected at stiffer prices. United States sold 4s 5d to 4s 8d; Canadian best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; ranchers, 3s 10d to 4s per 81b to sink the offal. No sheep offered.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—The demand has been moderate, and shipments for the week fully up to present requirements; at the close, however, prices are better, owing to speculative demand. Linseed cakes firm. London made, £8 to £8 5s. Russian, £7 15s to £7 17s 6d ex dock. American Westerns, at £7 12s 6d to £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes continue steady. London made, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d. Rapeseed continues firm, but not much business doing. Cottonseed continues very quiet, owing to the scarcity of offers caused by the difficulty in obtaining freights.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—There is only a limited quantity of foreign on offer, for which there has been a steady trade during the past week, and values may be quoted 2s 6d per ton dearer. Russians are only obtainable in small lots at an advance of 1s 3d per ton. Americans do not offer on spot, but for early arrival are the turn dearer. English sell rather more freely at 2s 6d per ton more money, and are good value. Cotton Cakes.—A fair business has been done in Egyptian at last week's prices, and holders are inclined to advance prices. English sell quietly at a slight advance. Decorticated are only in retail demand, and values remain dear and unaltered on account of scarcity, while a steamer parcel of meal just arrived also offers at last Monday's quotations. Rape Cakes.—Unchanged. Maize Germ Meal.—The market is almost bare of stocks, and quotations are nominal for both American and English. Rice Meal.—The tone of the market has slightly improved, and landed parcels are now held for an advance of 2s 6d per ton.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... per ton ex mill	8 0 0	to	8 2 6
American in bags ..... to arrive	7 12 6	„	7 13 9
Russian in mats ..... „	7 12 6	„	7 13 9
Russian in bags ..... „	7 15 0	„	7 16 3
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	4 7 6	„	4 10 0
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 5 0	„	4 6 3
„ „ Nov.-April shipment	4 8 9	„	4 10 0
Decorticated ..... „	6 16 3	„	6 17 6
Meal, on spot	—	„	6 10 0
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 10 0	„	—
Ravison ..... „	4 7 6		—
Nutted, in bags ..... „	4 12 6		—
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American) ..... ex dock	—	„	5 7 6
„ (English) ..... ex mill	—	„	5 5 0
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	—	„	4 10 0

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—At to-day's market home-grown wheat of the old crop meets a fair demand at 6d per qr advance on the prices of last Tuesday. All descriptions of foreign are also 6d per qr dearer. Barley unaltered. Oats meet a steady sale at full prices. Beans rather in favour of sellers. Flat maize steady at last week's prices. Round Odessa, from extreme scarcity, commands 3d per qr more money. Cottonseed: Without material change in prices the market during the past week has been quiet, and only a moderate business done at £6 11s 3d spot and passage. Oil seed cakes: A quiet demand with steady market.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 17s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £8 15s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £4 12s 6d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per pack of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb: Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7d to 1s 7¾d; scoured average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; South Australian, greasy average, 6½d to 7d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 4½d to 1s 5½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; Cape, scoured superior, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; fleece average, 8d to 9d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 7½d to 7¾d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 10d to 1s; New Zealand, fine, 9d to 10d; ditto medium, 7¾d to 8½d; ditto coarse, 6d to 7d.

Bradford, Thursday.—The tone of the market is rather better, whilst merinos have not gone down any further. Crossbreds and English are now quite steady. Mohair remains quiet, though there is a little doing in fine descriptions at full rates. There is no improvement to record in regard to yarns and pieces.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade continues dull at recent prices. Kent fleeces do not exceed 6d per lb; and lambs' wool, from 4½d to 5d.

Leicester, Saturday.—Wool dull and depressed. Consumers are now more cautious in operating in merinos and choice cross-breds. There is a fair turnover in the secondary cross-breds, while Shropshires are steady. In yarns there is fair activity in completing old contracts, but no great influx of new orders.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A large supply of vegetables was offered, but trade ruled quiet. Good supplies of fruit were available, and met a fair demand. Greensuth:—Cabbages, 2s to 4s; marrows, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per lady; scarlet beans, 1s 6d to 3s per sieve; carrots, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; turnips, 3s to 3s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; mint, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s to 1s 6d per bundle. Potatoes, 3s to 5s per cwt. Fruit: English grapes, 1s to 3s; Channel Islands, 6d to 1s 3d per lb; Dema, 4s 6d to 5s per barrel; English apples, 2s 6d to 5s; pears, 2s 6d to 6s per bushel. Californian, 7s 6d to 9s 6d per half case; French Williams, 2s 6d to 5s per box; greengages, 2s to 3s; plums, 2s to 4s per half-sieve; peaches, 3s to 8s per dozen; Valencia melons, 6s to 10s per case; bananas, 5s to 10s per bunch; lemons, 10s to 20s per case.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals of home grown potatoes this morning have been moderate, but the trade has been dull, and prices difficult to maintain. English—Beauty of Hebrons, 3s 3d to 4s; Early Puritans, 3s 3d to 4s; Snowdrops, 3s 3d to 4s; Early Regents, 3s to 3s 6d; Professor Maerker, 3s to 3s 6d; and Up to Dates, 3s to 3s 6d per cwt.

London (King's Cross), Saturday.—Trade fair; prices hardly so firm; blight in most samples. Puritan, 60s to 80s; British Queen, 60s to 80s; Up to Date, 60 to 75s; Snowdrop, 70s to 90s; Blackland, 60s to 65s.—COUPE AND TAYLOR.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Hop picking will be general by the 4th. The crop is found to come down short of expectations, though excellent under good management. The crop is not expected to exceed one-half the yield of last year.

Worcester, Saturday.—Fair trade in all classes of 1899 Worcesters, and growers generally ask 10s to 15s per cwt more money than they were willing to accept a month ago.

Worcester, Saturday.—There is no change to report in our market this week; the trade remains very quiet, but prices continue very firm. The reports from the plantations vary, but on the whole are favourable, especially in the best grounds, but it is now evident that there are many grounds where very few hops will be produced. Picking commences next week, but will not become general until the week after.—PIERCY AND CO.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—There is a somewhat active inquiry for basic slag for autumn delivery, and annexed are the values of the various tests. An increased demand is experienced for feeding stuffs, and late rates are well maintained on this market owing to the firmness at the ports of shipment abroad. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £8 2s 6d to £8 7s 6d per ton; East India bone meal, in bags, £4 5s per ton; kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 12s 6d to £7 16s 3d per ton; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 to £8 7s 6d per ton; linseed cake, foreign, prime, in bags, £7 17s 6d to £8 per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, sound, in bags, £6 10s to £6 15s per ton; cottonseed cake, English decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £6 15s to £7 per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £6 15s per ton; maize germ meal, English, prime, in bags, £5 2s 6d per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 10s to £4 11s 3d per 240lb; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 11s 3d to 11s 9d per qr, 416lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 1s to £3 2s 6d per cwt; N.A. cloverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags; D.N.S. Brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, per ton, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d per ton; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 12s 6d to £1 13s 6d per ton; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 16s to £1 17s 6d per ton, at the producing depots.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

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4. Sale of Lincoln Longwool Shearling Rams, the property of Mr. F. Ward, at Quarrington.
5. Winslow Stud Shire Horse Society's Show, at Winslow
5. Bath Horse Show, at Bath
5. Alfreton Agricultural Society's Show, at Alfreton.
5. Peterborough Agricultural Society's Foal Show.
5. Guildford Agricultural Association's Show, at Guildford
5. Sale of Shorthorns, the property of Mr. James Watt, at Knowefield, Carlisle.
5. Peterborough Ram Fair.
5. Sale of Pedigree Hackney and Harness Horses, at the Peterboro' Repository.
5. Sale of Lincoln Longwool Sheep, the property of Mr. J. R. Langdale, at Leconfield Park House, Beverley.
6. Abergavenny Horse Show and Agricultural Association's Show, at Abergavenny.
6. Royal and Central Bucks Agricultural Association's Show, at Aylesbury.
6. Uttoxeter Horse Society's Show
6. Market Drayton Agricultural Society's Show
6. Autumnal Sale of Shropshire Sheep, in Bingley Hall, Birmingham.
6. Sale of Store Stock, in Shrewsbury Cattle Market.
6-7. Sale of Horses, at Crewe Repository.
6-7. Bull Show and Sale, at Carlisle.
7. Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association's Sale, at Lincoln.
7. Dorchester Agricultural Society's Show.
7-8. Leek and District Agricultural and Horticultural Society's Show, at Leek, North Staffs.
7. Second Sale of Rams, Ewes, and Ewe Lambs, at Gippeswyk Park, Ipswich, in connection with the Secretary of the Suffolk Sheep Society.
7. Sale of Mr. H. Ker Colville's Shorthorns, at Bellaport Market Drayton, Salop.
7. Sale of Pedigree Hackney and Harness Horses, the property of Mr. J. W. Moorhouse, at Alverthorpe near Wakefield.
8. South Tyne Agricultural Society's Show, at Bellister Parks.
9. Gillingham Agricultural Society and Farmers' Club Show, at Gillingham.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes were advancing during the last four days of August, but September came in with a weaker tendency. Prices recorded during the week include Californian at 31s. 6d., Argentine at 29s. 9d., Siberian at 29s. 6d., No. 1 Northern at 29s. 6d., hard winter at 28s. 6d., North Russian at 29s. 6d., Walla Walla at 29s. 9d., Blue Stem at 31s., New Zealand at 30s., Australian at 32s., Azoff 30s. 9d., Odessa Ghirka at 30s. 3d., fine Azima at 32s., Roumanian at 30s., Bulgarian at 29s., No. 1 Chicago spring at 31s., best Manitoba at 31s. 7½d., and No. 2 red winter at 29s. 6d. per qr.

Maize is a quiet trade, but far from inactive at the root of it, as may be imagined from the fact that several cargoes of American new crop for February shipment have been placed at Liverpool for 4s. per cental, and 3s. 11d for March is accepted. London is more conservative, and is not buying much ahead of November; for shipment in that month 20s. is paid. The cargo sales of the week include Galatz at 22s. 6d., Bessarabian at 23s. 6d., and Argentine at 21s. 3d. per qr.

Barley sales show no eagerness to acquire cargoes either on passage or for future shipment; but the following sales may be recorded: Odessa, 20s.; Nicolaieff, 19s. 9d.; Oregon, 26s. 6d.; Californian, 25s. 6d.; Gaza, 23s. 6d.; and Roumanian, 416lb. sample, 24s. 6d. per qr.

Oats are 3d. dearer to buy, but the large shipments from Russia oppose a steady barrier to price advance. Recorded transactions include:—New Irish at 16s. 6d., white Canadian at 15s. 4½d., American mixed at 14s. 1½d., and St. Petersburg at 13s. 6d. per qr.

Other cargo sales of the week comprise:—Azoff rye at 24s. 3d., Smyrna beans at 27s. 9d., Canadian peas at 28s. 3d., Calcutta linseed at 54s. 3d., linseed oil at £32, Roumanian rapeseed at 41s. 9d., Ravison at 30s. 3d., Calcutta poppyseed at 45s., and Egyptian cottonseed at £6 17s. 6d. Cargo arrivals last week were one wheat, one maize, one beans. The wheat and maize were from Buenos Ayres, and the beans were from Saffi. Arrivals Jan. 1 to Aug. 31 were:—257 of wheat, ten of maize, thirty-four of barley, eighteen of beans, nine of oilseeds, and ten of various staples, such as dari, millet, etc. These arrivals are for the ports of call.

The Outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease near Rhyl.

Two fresh outbreaks of foot and mouth disease occurred on Wednesday, near Rhyl. The stock at the vicarage grounds, Dyserth, as well as that on a farm close by, are affected. It is feared that the disease is gradually spreading. The Board of Agriculture have resident inspectors in the district, and the affected farms are guarded day and night.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending August 25th 1900:—

| | | |

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

A few years back, at the dispersion sale of Longhorn cattle at Calk Abbey, then the property of Sir John Hooper, with a view to breeding some good cross-bred cattle, Mr. Watson made a selection for that purpose, since using good, heavy-fleshed, Shorthorned bulls, at the same time not losing sight of the dairy qualities of their dams. As beef-makers, the plate on page 309 represents three sold at his sale in September last, two of which were bought by a local feeder, he securing the "Champion Cups" at the Cockermouth and Whitehaven Christmas Fat Shows, and the third or right-hand beast was purchased by Mr. Tickle, of Hill Side Farm, Warrington. He secured similar honours at the Warrington Fat Stock Show, Christmas, 1899, thus repeating his honour of 1898 by a beast bought at this sale the same year. Any person who will pay Mr. Watson a visit on Friday, the 7th September, will meet with a hearty welcome, see the few grand dairy cattle of similar cross, and cannot but pronounce that Mr. Watson, in the words of our American friends, has succeeded in producing what they call a dual purpose cow.

The Highland bull Laoich 1260 was exhibited at the Royal Show at York, when he won for the Earl of Southesk, of Kinnaird Castle, Brechin, first prize in his class, and in addition the champion prize of £15 offered by the Highland Cattle Society for the best Highland bull. Laoich was bred by Mr. John Stewart, Ensay, Portree, Inverness-shire, and is by Caetharnach Buidhe 719, dam Shellay 3rd by Morair.

The Shire filly Dunsmore Combine was bred by Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., of Dunsmore, Rugby, by whom she was exhibited at the London Shire Horse Show in the spring. Dunsmore Combine is a chestnut by Dunsmore Willington Boy 13021, out of that celebrated mare 14655 Dunsmore Gloaming by Harold 3703, and won at the Shire Horse Show first prize in the class for three-year-olds and the cup for the best animal in the younger female classes.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

A New York correspondent of a morning newspaper states that it is estimated that in Chicago, New York and other big cities in the United States more than ten thousand horses have been killed by the heat this summer.

The Council of the Norfolk Agricultural Association have arranged to hold next year's Spring Horse Show at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, on March 30th, 1901, and the Summer Show on Wednesday and Thursday, June 19th and 20th, 1901.

Alfred Mansell and Co.'s first store stock sale of the season will be held on Thursday next, September 6th. An unusually large entry of first-class cattle has been received. The show of polled Angus and polled Angus-Shorthorn crosses, breeds which are much sought after in this market, will be one of the best ever seen in the Shrewsbury Smithfield, all of which are consigned by old and well-known breeders. Shorthorns will also be well represented, a really good lot of bullocks and heifers coming from the usual consignors, whilst there will be a good display of Herefords. A large number of the foregoing are cattle in forward condition and fit for finishing off for Christmas beef. There are also a number of good lots of well-bred cattle of different breeds, not quite so forward, but suitable for wintering in the yards, whilst special entries of 250 Clun wethers are also to hand, as well as Clun ewes. All cattle are weighed and the weight announced as each lot passes through the sale ring.

The annual autumnal sale of Shropshire sheep in Bingley Hall, Birmingham, will be held on Thursday next, September 6th, by Messrs. Lythall and Walters, for which sale about 150 grand shearling rams of great size and substance, and 500 shearling ewes of undeniable breeding, are catalogued. Entries are made by the old-established Royal prize-winning flocks of Messrs. A. S. Berry, A. Bradburne, T. F. Cheatle, P. S. Mills, T. S. Minton, E. Nock, H. C. G. Parker, and M. Williams, and the catalogue also comprises drafts from the well-known flocks of the Earl of Dartmouth, The Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorn, Messrs. Adcock, Clive, Dee, Gerrard, Instone, Joliffe, Kemp, Nevett, Pilgrim, H. Williams, and others. Several winners at leading shows this season are themselves included in the sale.

A number of Hackneys and harness horses will be sold by auction at Peterborough Repository, on Wednesday, September 5th, 1900 (the day of the Peterborough Foal Show), by Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck. Catalogues of the sale are now ready, and may be obtained of the auctioneers.

I have been informed that the recent shipment to Canada of 106 Shropshire sheep by Alfred Mansell and Co., for Mr. W. C. Edwards, M.P., per the s.s. Lycia, comprised the following high-class specially selected animals from the following flocks:—Twenty beautiful shearling ewes from Messrs. Evans, sired by such celebrated sheep as Montford Monarch 10016, bred by Mr. T. S. Minton, by the 120gs. Royal winner Phenomenon 8680; Star of the Morning 10145, bred by Mr. A. E. Mansell, by Dream Star 8977 (a son of the famous Montford Dreamer); Star of Fame 10144, bred by Messrs. Evans, by Star of the West 8764, by Hold Tight 6141. Messrs. Evans also supplied a high-class ram by Star of the Morning from a ewe by the renowned Rare Stamp 4761, and owning as its grandsire The Rector 1769, winner first R.A.S.E. Ten grand ewes were from Mr. Harry Williams' noted flock, all of which were sired by the Royal winner, Manchester Guardian 9569, or Sam's Best 9668, bred by Mr. Nevett, by The Thorpe Deemster 8269 (a son of the 190-guinea The Deemster). Twenty very choice ewes were from the Yorton flock, the property of the late Mr. W. Nevett, owning as their sires such well-known rams as Corrie Varkie 9418, bred by Mr. Buttar, by the renowned Lord Patriot 4627, Buttar's Jubilee 9378, by Bonaparte 7330, The Thorpe Deemster 8269, by The Deemster 7165, Rare Brand 9199, a son of the famous sire Rare Stamp 4761, the progenitor of upwards of sixty showyard winners. Then from Mr. T. S. Minton were selected twenty-five extra good ewes, sired by the 120-guinea Phenomenon, a first prize Royal winner, by the 175-guinea Montford Dreamer; Montford B 10007, bred by Mr. Minton, by Downton Jubilee 9455, a Royal winner by Parish Councillor; Montford A 10006, by the same sire from a Fair Star ewe. It will be remembered that in 1895 thirty-two sons by Fair Star at the Harrington sale averaged £42 3s. Mr. Minton also supplied seven good rams bred on the same lines. Fifteen good ewes and eight very smart ram lambs were from Mr. T. Davies's carefully-bred flock, and were sired by Long Harry 10405, bred by Mr. R. C. Pryce, by the 70-guinea Old Harry 8666; Danegelt 9876, bred by Mr. R. Brown, by Old Castle Choice 9162; Ness Schoolboy 9138, bred by Mr. W. Nunnerley, by Baron Thorpe 5013. Altogether this comprised one of the most valuable collections of Shropshires which has ever been exported, and should put Mr. Edwards in the front rank as a breeder of this popular breed of sheep.

A couple of fine black Berkshire pigs, selected by Mr. Tait, Her Majesty's steward, from the stock on the Prince Consort's Farm, Windsor Park, have been sent to Queensland.

The fine herd of Black Polled cattle belonging to Col. W. N. Tufnell, of Langleys, Chelmsford, which is to be sold by auction by Messrs. Thornton and Co., on Thursday, October 11th, has been in existence about ten years, and was started with the purchase of a very good cow, Black Beauty of Roos, from Mr. Arthur Egginton's herd in Yorkshire, from whom was also obtained the bull Tinto 7937. The issue of these highly bred animals was the fine bull Lord Monken 9341, who is now healthy and active in his tenth year. For several years he was successfully exhibited, winning first as a yearling at the Essex Show and was placed among the prize winners as an aged bull at the Royal at Leicester, 1896. There are a good lot of young stock by him for sale, showing his great value as a first-class sire.

Purchases were afterwards made from Mr. C. W. Schroeter's large herd at Tedfold, Sussex, and Mr. F. Crisp's of Southgate, several of the animals being descended from the herds of the Earl of Aberdeen, Mr. W. Stewart, Mr. A. Mackenzie, and other good breeders in Scotland. At the dispersion of Lord Rookwood's herd some purchases were made, including Corksie 2nd of Down Hall 22213, the dam of Castilla and Corniche, both prize heifers at the Northamptonshire Show. In 1894 the handsome bull Eureka 10826, a son of Kinochtry Erica, was purchased from the Tedfold herd. He became a well-known prize bull, winning first at the Bath and West of England Show at Taunton as well as other prizes. Doodle 13314, a son of Sir George McPherson Grant's Gold-seeker of Ballindalloch, was purchased from Mr. C. P. Sykes, of West Ella, Yorkshire. He too has been a very successful prize bull, and is still in service, several of the lots for sale being by him.

Lord Southesk's Highland Bull Laoich, First at York.

Col. Tufnell's herd has been exhibited since 1892 with marked success. A list of the prizes is given at the end of the catalogue. The animals are in excellent health and in a good breeding state. Most of the cows have strong, good, hairy calves running with them, and are again forward in calf to Lord Monken 9341, Doodle 13314, or Pluto of Southgate 17937, bred by Mr. F. Crisp. They comprise nearly the whole of this very choice prize herd, and can be well recommended to breeders of Black Polled cattle in the south of England, or to gentlemen who may be forming a herd.

On the 13th inst. Messrs. Thornton and Co. will sell a number of Shorthorns, the property of the Marquis of Exeter, as well as the small choice herd belonging to the late Mrs. Franklin, of Syston Old Hall, at Burghley Park. Many of the animals for sale, the descendants of Sea Gull, trace to the celebrated cow Innocence, entered in the second volume of the Herd Book, who, as well as her dam, were both by Mr. Charles Colling's

celebrated bull Windsor 698, a son of Favourite 252. Innocence bred Empress, the dam of the famous bull Emperor 1014, who was illustrated, in his sixteenth year, in the second volume of the Herd Book. Dove, dam of Ringdove, lot 15, a granddaughter of the well-known prize cow Sea Gull, is lineally descended from the old Innocence tribe. She has maintained its merit to the present day, as she was entered, with her offspring, Pet, Petrel, and Telemachus 34th, at the Yorkshire Show at Doncaster, and took the reserve place in the large family class. There are a number of this tribe for sale, as well as of the Louisas, descended from Mr. Charge's Mary by Western Comet 689, from which family was bred the famous bull Telemachus 27603, winner of upwards of £1,071 in prize-money and cups, from 1869 to 1875.

The late Mrs. Franklin's small select herd, removed from Syston Old Hall, Grantham, will also be sold. The animals are full of good blood, some of them being descendants of Sea Gull; others are bred from the stock of the late Hon. Chas. Fitzwilliam and the old Alnwick and Gate Burton herds. The bull Czar of Ruddington 66895, bred by Mr. P. L. Mills from the best Scotch strains, was used, and at present in service and for sale is Bestwood Red Robin 76155, by Mr. Ecroyd's Red Robin, from a beautiful cow of the Blanche tribe.

On the following day (September 14th), the herd of Shorthorns bred by Mr. John Cooper will be sold at Brook Hill, East Haddon, Northampton. This herd was started in 1876, with purchases from Mr. J. Beasley, of Chapel Brampton, and Mr. Bagshaw, of Newton, two of the oldest breeders in Northamptonshire. There are a number of the old and favourite J tribe, which are lineally descended from Mr. Robt. Colling's Princess, the ancestress of the old Gwynne family. The Vestris, an excellent milking tribe, well known in the herd of Mr. I. N. Edwards, of St. Albans, came from Mr. Drake, of Shardeloes, Bucks. The Knightleys, of which there are some beautiful specimens of the Fawsley family, came from Mr. Sheldon, of Brailes, and Capt. Ashby, of Naseby. There are also a few representatives of the Duchess Sarahs from Althorp. The most numerous tribe is the well-known old Daisy, obtained from Mr. Basset, of Pilton, Barnstaple, who had them from the late Rev. W. Holt Beever.

On Monday, the 20th August, Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, shipped, per the s.s. Teutonia, from Hamburg, to the order of Messrs. G. Harding and Son, of Waukesha, thirty-two very high-class Rambouillet Merino rams, specially selected from the leading German flocks by Mr. Alfred Mansell, of the above firm.

The s.s. Morayshire, which left London on Monday for Fremantle, has on board six valuable pedigree bulls, which have been selected by the Hon. W. T. Loton, M.L.C. of Western Australia, who is now on a visit to this country, for his model farm in the Swan district. He returns to the colony in about a fortnight's time.

CATTLE.

Sale of the Endale Herefords.

On Tuesday Messrs. A. and D. Edwards sold by auction the whole of the well-known Endale herd of pedigree Hereford cattle, the property of Mr. Edward Yeld. In calling attention of breeders to the catalogue, the auctioneers pointed out that the herd had been in existence for nearly a century, Mr. Edward Yeld's grandfather having won a first prize in the Hereford classes at the Herefordshire Show in the year 1801. The late Mr. G. Yeld then continued breeding very successfully for a number of years, amongst his herd being the prize winning bull Commerce, No. 354. Mr. Edward Yeld had been carrying on the herd at Endale for the last twenty-seven years, and had bred over 200 prize winners at the Royal, Bath and West of England, Herefordshire and Worcestershire, Leominster, and Ludlow Shows. A large and representative company assisted in the dispersion, and excellent prices were realised.

Prize List.

COWS AND CALVES.

	Gs.
Royal Princess, s Lead On ..... Mr. Morris, Pembridge	26
Her heifer calf ..... Mr. Morris	10
Wilton Primrose, s Hope ..... Mr. Reynolds, Ludlow	20
Her buff calf ..... Mr. A. Benn	16
Royal Primrose, s Royal Hero — Mr. J. Somer, Upton-on-Severn	24
Her heifer calf ..... Mr. Benson, Berrington, Tenbury	15
Hero's Princess, s Royal Hero ..... Mr. Somer	21
Royal Cynthia, s Cavalier — Mr. T. Lawson Walker, Knightwick	24
Endale Cynthia, s Royal Hero .... Mr. Foster, Bridgnorth	40
Queenie, s Royal Hero ..... Mr. Vaughan, Builth	19
Her bull calf ..... Mr. S. Robinson, Lynhales	13
Lady Hope 4th, s Hope On ..... Mr. Tom Vale	16
Her heifer calf ..... Mr. Vale	34
Luna Wilton, s Tom Wilton ..... Mr. J. Somer	14
Her bull calf ..... Admiral Britten, Kenswick	10
Lady Pearl, s Hope ..... Mr. Walker	15
Her bull calf ..... Mr. Gilbert, Hay	11
Rose Hope, s Hope .... Capt. E. L. A. Heygate, Buckland	35
Her heifer calf ..... Mr. Evan Lewis, Kimbolton	14
Royal Luna 2nd, s Hope — Mr. Hyslop, Sheepcote, Clifford, Hay	42
Luna May, s Hope — Mr. James Evans, Perryditch, Leominster	25
Her bull calf ..... Mr. Yapp, Clifton-on-Tame	12
Royal Luna, s Hope .. Mr. W. Homes, Gold Hill, Bosbury	25
Her heifer calf ..... Mr. Davies, Beulah, Garth, Brecon	10
Lady Una, s Lead On — Mr. G. Butters, Newton, Leominster	18
Her bull calf ..... Mr. G. Butters	6
Luna Pearl, s Lead On ..... Mr. R. Bright, Leominster	30
Her bull calf ..... Mr. Vaughan, The Drum, Leominster	18
Lady Luna 2nd, s Lead On — Mr. Bounds, The Lowe, Pembridge	20
Her bull calf ..... Mr. G. Butters	4
Lady Lind 2nd, s Hope — Mr. Apperley, Withington, Herford	30
Her heifer calf ..... Mr. G. Butters	12
Fraulein Hope, s Hope .... Mr. Hedley Jones (for Sir Joseph Pulley), Lower Eaton, Hereford	55
Endale Fraulein 2nd ..... Lord Llangattock	30
Her heifer calf ..... Mr. Davies, Beulah, Garth	11
Rosabelle, s Lead On — Mr. Hedley Jones (for Sir Joseph Pulley)	60
Royal Daisy, s Assurance ..... Mr. G. Butters	34
Twin heifer calf, Daisy Twin I. .. Mr. Morris, The Weston	13
Twin heifer calf Daisy Twin II. ..... Mr. Morris	12
Royal Daisy II., s Hope (for exportation to America) — Mr. Harry Yeld	71
Her heifer calf ..... Lord Llangattock	34
Leominster Daisy, s Lead On ..... Lord Llangattock	81

TWO-YEAR-OLDS.

Rhoda Lind, s Rhodesia ..... Mr. T. Lawson Walker	15
Douglas Pearl, s Endale Hero ..... Mr. Hyslop	26
Nancy, s Lysander .. Mr. J. Melling, Lady Halton, Ludlow	21
Double Lily, s Knight — Mr. Price, Ladymeadow, Leominster	22

YEARLING HEIFERS.

Crinkie, s Great Hero ..... Mr. Somer	20
Luna Yet, s Endale Hero .... Mr. Thomas, Garth, Brecon	11

Mr. F. S. Lewin, Holbrook, acted as stewards. The entries were about the same as last year. The foals were good, but they did not come up to quite the same bloom, and there was a general feeling that the fixture was this year somewhat too late. The judges had not a very difficult task in awarding the prizes. They gave the chief honour to a horse foal by Smith's Dimple Dick, bred by Mr. Geo. Stedman, Stowupland, as likely to grow into the best cart horse, but there were some who preferred the horse foal by Quilter's Prince Wedgewood, bred by Mr. Geo. W. Hammond, which was second. A filly foal by Quilter's Prince Wedgewood, bred by Mr. W. Ling, Tunstall, was third; a horse foal by Smith's Dimple Dick, bred by Mr. Geo. Skeet, Badingham, was highly commended, and another horse foal, by Smith's Prince Albert, bred by Mr. H. Hawes, Hasketon, commended. The sale was preceded by luncheon, at which the President of the Suffolk Horse Society, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P., presided. He was supported by the Earl of Stradbroke, many members of the Society, and a large number of visitors, including Mr. A. A. Dangar, from New South Wales, Messrs. Abraham, from New Zealand, and other gentlemen.

Subjoined are the prices realised at the sale, which was evidently a very satisfactory one:—

NOMINATION FOALS.
(The property of the Suffolk Horse Society.)

	Gs.
Filly foal, breeder, Mr. W. Ling, Tunstall, s Quilter's Wedgewood .... His Highness Prince Dhuleep Singh	17
Horse foal, breeder, Mr. H. Hawes, Hasketon, s Smith's Prince Albert ..... Mr. Alfred Smith	17½
Horse foal, breeder, Mr. F. Smith, Stutton, s Berners's Windsor Chieftain ..... Mr. Rising, London	15½
Horse foal, breeder, Mr. Geo. Stedman, Stowupland, s Smith's Dimple Dick .. Mr. Hy. Clarke, Worlingworth	17
Horse foal, breeder, Mr. Geo. Clarke, Foxhall, s Berner's Windsor Chieftain ..... Mr. A. H. E. Wood, Sudbourne	15

THREE CHAMPION BULLOCKS, BRED BY MR. JOHN R. WATSON, THE MOSSES FARM, WRIGHT GREEN STREET, COCKERMOUTH.

Treble Lily, s Great Hero ..... Mr. W. Holmes	11
Dorcas 3rd, s Great Hero — Mr. J. P. Apperley, Withington	17
Great Princess, s Endale Hero ..... Mr. Foster	27
Good Cynthia, s Great Hero ..... Mr. J. Mellings	15
Worcester Daisy, s Havelock — Mr. George Wood, The Valletts, Whitfield	25
Early Primrose, s Forard On — Mr. Vaughan, Llwynmadoc, Hundred House, Builth	18
Dewy Eve (Twin), s Forard On ..... Mr. J. Mellings	20
Rosy Morn (Twin), s Forard On — Mr. T. D. Burlton, The Hill, Leominster	18

BULLS.

Rhodesia (19,044), s Royal Hero ..... Mr. Mellings	27
Commerce (19,950), by Lysander — Mr. Cartwright, Dunstan Pillar, Lincoln	81

HORSES.

Suffolk Horse Show and Sale at Ipswich.

The third annual sale of pedigree Suffolk horses, held under the auspices of the Suffolk Horse Society, took place on Thursday, at Gippeswyk Park, Ipswich, the auctioneers being Mr. Alfred Preston, in conjunction with Mr. Fred Smith, secretary of the Society. The sale attracted a large number of agriculturists and several colonial buyers. As usual, the sale was preceded by a show of nomination foals, entered for competition in accordance with the Breeding Scheme of the Suffolk Horse Society. The judges were:—Mr. Robert H. Wrinch, Harkstead, and Mr. Walter Whitlock, Great Yeldham, while Mr. W. Shipley, M.R.C.V.S., Great Yarmouth, was the veterinary surgeon, every animal two years old and upwards being sold with veterinary's certificate of soundness. Mr. W. H. Hewitt, Copdock, Mr. Edwin H. Preston, Worlingworth, and

Horse foal, breeder, Mr. Geo. Skeet, Badingham, s Smith's Dimple Dick ..... Mr. Gerald Smith, Bealings	18½
Filly foal, breeder, Mr. Jas. Youngman, Charsfield, s Pratt's Golden Grain ..... Mr. Chas. Pratt, Melton	17½
Filly foal, breeder, Mr Samuel Orford, Campsey Ashe, s Quilter's Prince Wedgewood ..... Mr. Rising	14½
Horse foal, breeder, Mr. J. Punt, Bealings, s Smith's Prince Albert ..... Mr. A. H. E. Wood	14½
Horse foal, breeder, Mr. W. Durrant, Butley, s Quilter's Prince Wedgewood ..... Mr. Gerald Smith	13½

FOALS.

From Sir J. Gorrell Barnes, Stratford St. Mary.

Horse foal, breeder owner, s Hewitt's Mars — Mr. H. Biddell, Playford	10

From Mr. W. R. Hustler, Cockfield.

Hailstone, horse foal, s Johnstone's Sunshine — Mr. A. H. E. Wood	13

From Mr. Leonard Smith, Hasketon.

Filly foal, breeder owner, s Pratt's Golden Grain — Mr. A. H. E. Wood	35
Horse foal, breeder owner, s Cook's Border Minstrel — Mr. Chambers	19
Filly foal, breeder owner, s Smith's Dimple Dick — Mr. A. H. E. Wood	25

From Mr. H. E. Smith, Walton.

Horse foal, breeder, owner, s Cordy's Homocea — Mr. W. Everitt	17½

From Mr. W. Thompson, Dallinghoo.

Filly foal, breeder, owner, s Smith's Prince Albert — Mr. Chas. Pratt	25
Filly foal, breeder, owner, s Smith's Dimple Dick — Mr. W. Whitlock, for Mr. Geo. Courtauld, Halstead	16
Lord Bobs, horse foal, breeder, owner, s Cook's Border Minstrel ..... Mr. Edwd. Quilter, Bentley	36

From Mr. Geo. Rope, Blaxhall.

Horse foal, breeder, owner, s Tuffer's Vespasian — Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P.	10

From Mr. E. Tydeman, Stonham.

Horse foal, s Mumford's Tattler ..... Mr. Chambers	13

From Mr. R. Cuthbert, Letheringham.

Khaki, horse foal, breeder, owner, s Pratt's Golden Grain — Sir Cuthbert Quilter	34

MARES AND FOALS.

From Mr. E. F. Quilter, Bentley, Ipswich.

Patience, 1st class breeder Mr. H. Cotswold's Exors., Trimley St. Martin, s Biddell's Prince Albert — Col. Batten, Devonshire	30
Filly foal, 1st February, 1900, s Berner's Windsor Chieftain — Sir Cuthbert Quilter	30

MARES AND FILLIES.
From Mr. Charles Hugh Berners, Woolverstone Park.

Woolverstone Joan, f 1898, s Berner's Windsor Chieftain — Col. Bullen — Gs. 52

Woolverstone Dorothy, f 1898, s Berner's Windsor Chieftain — Mr. W. F. Grimwood — 40

From Mr. E. B. Quilter, Bentley.

Violet, f 1897, breeder, Mr. G. Stedman, Stowupland, s Mumford's Tattler — Sir Cuthbert Quilter — 50

Bentley Lass, f 1898, breeder, Mr. F. C. Le Starkie, Woodlands, Farnboro', Hants, s Starkie's Dr. Jim — Mr. Ludbrook — 41

Confusion, f 1898, breeder, Mr. A. B. Corrie, St. Osyth, s Corrie's Pilgrim — Mr. W. Balls, Mutford — 36

From Mr. John Symonds, Thistleton Hall, Burgh.

Diamond Jubilee, f March, 1897, breeder, owner, s Everitt's Warrior — Mr. Kindred, Cransford — 60

From Mr. Geo. Rope, Blaxhall.

Blaxhall Lorna, f 1899, breeder owner, s Smith's Wedgewood — Mr. Geo. Symonds, Burgate — 42

From Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P., Bawdsey.

Bawdsey Christabel, f 1898, breeder owner, s Quilter's Prince Wedgewood — Mr. Geo. Symonds, Burgate — 42

Bawdsey Snapshot, f 1898, breeder owner, s Quilter's Prince Wedgewood — Earl Stradbroke — 34

From the Right Hon. the Earl of Stradbroke, Henham Hall.

Duchess, f 1899, breeder, owner, s Earl of Stradbroke's Farmer — Mr Wm. Whitlock — 24

From Mr. W. Henry Hewitt, Copdock.

Orange Pip, f 1899, breeder, owner, s Hewitt's Mars — Sir Cuthbert Quilter — 52

Gippeswick Lass, f 1899, breeder, Mr. G. W. Hammond, Easton, s Quilter's Prince Wedgewood — Mr. T. Bixby, Copdock — 45

From Mr. A. J. Smith, Rendlesham.

Rendlesham Lady, f 1897, breeder, owner, s Smith's Wedgewood — Mr. Geo. Symonds — 43

Rendlesham Merry, f 1898, breeder, owner, s Smith's Wedgewood — Mr. A. A. Dangar — 53

From Mr. E. Le Heup Cocksedge, Beyton Grange.

Glitter, f 1893, breeder, owner, s Wolton's Dauntless — Sir J. Gorrell Barnes — 46

From Mr. George Courtauld, Gosfield.

Blossom, f 1893, breeder, Mr. J. G. Everett, Falkenham, s Condor — Sir J. Gorrell Barnes — 46

Veta, f 1898, breeder, Mr. F. F. Girling, s Biddell's Playford Glory — Mr. C. Girling — 38

GELDINGS.
From Mr. F. C. Starkie, Woodlands, Farnborough, Hants.

Matt, f April, 1898, s Starkie's Dr. Jim — Mr. Chas. Pratt — 55

From Mr. Fred. Smith, Woodbridge.

Prince, f 1894, s Smith's Wedgewood — Mr. Chas. Pratt — 55

From Mr. J. Fox Haggar, Burstall, Ipswich.

Captain, f 1894, breeder, Sir W. N. Abdy, Bart., Manifold Wick, Tolleshunt Knights, s Sir W. N. Abdy's Gosbeck Hero — Mr. Bentall, Heybridge — 55

From Mr. W. H. Hewitt, Copdock.

Ronald, f May, 1899, breeder, owner, s Hewitt's Mars — Mr. Chambers — 14½

STALLIONS.
From Mr. W. P. Harris, Church Farm, Brome, Scole.

Brome Rodney, f May 6, 1893, breeder, owner, s Smith's Freston Tip Top — Col. Bullen — 20

From Mr. A. H. E. Wood, Sudbourne Hall.

Sudbourne Brownie, f 1897, breeder, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, M.P., s Quilter's Prince Wedgewood. Passed at 155 gns.

Sudbourne Park, f 1898, breeder Mr. W. Wilson, Raydon, s Heywood's Lowestoft — Mr. Dangar — 90

Sudbourne Sirdar, f 1898, breeder Mr. W. E. Long, Hurts Hall, Saxmundham, s Pratt's Eclipse. Passed.

Sudbourne Bouncer, f 1898, breeder Mr. Thos. Pettit, Iken Hall, Wickham Market, s Pratt's Eclipse — Mr. Dangar — 60

From Mr. Wm. Everitt, Levington, Ipswich.

Butley Marquis, f 1895, breeder Mr. W. Easthaugh, Butley. Passed.

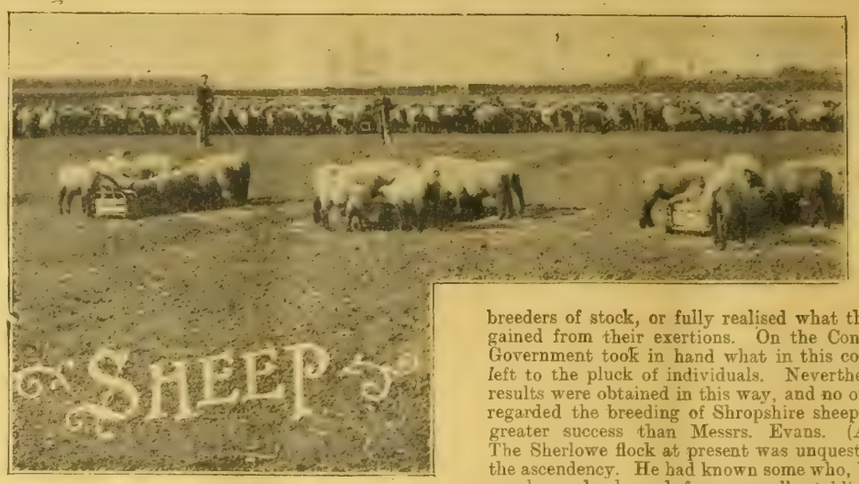
Stratton Warrior, f 1898, breeder Mr. Spencer Dawson, Stratton Hall, s Everitt's Warrior — Mr. E. F. Quilter — 73

Horse Sale at Glasgow.

A sale of horses was held on Wednesday by Messrs. Dixon and Wallace, when there were 119 animals catalogued, consisting of harness, van, and cart horses, as well as a few cobs and ponies. Trade during the sale was of a satisfactory character. Mr. Wallace occupied the rostrum as auctioneer. The ages of the animals ranged from five to ten years, and they were from 12.2 to 17 hands high. A number of the horses were guaranteed sound in wind, free from vice, and quiet in all harness. Harness and cart horses experienced the best demand and sold well. Cobs had a fair dear-selling trade. Best carriage-horses sold up to 36gs.; secondary and inferior, six to 18gs.; cart horses, to £35, and down to 6gs., according to style and action; best vanners, to 32½gs.; secondary and inferior, six to 16gs.; cobs, eight to 22gs.; and ponies, five to 14gs. A good clearance was effected at a late hour.

Unsound Beef.—Fred Wade, a farmer of Mixenden, was summoned by the Halifax Corporation, on Tuesday, for having deposited in his premises, for the purpose of sale, four pieces of beef, weighing 194lb., which were discovered to be unfit for food. A fine of £20 and costs was imposed, the chairman remarking that the only question was whether a fine would meet the case, or whether the seriousness of the offence should not be met with a term of imprisonment. The fine was paid.

Ballintubber, co. Roscommon. Held on 25th August. Small fair; very slow demand. Calves, first class, £3 10s. to £5 15s.; second class, £2 5s. to £4 5s. Yearlings, second class, £6 to £7 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £12 15s. to £13 10s.; second class, £9 to £11 15s. Three-year-olds, second class, £14. Springers, first class, £17 to £18 13s. 4d.; second class, £13 to £15. Good demand for ewes suitable for breeding purposes. Lambs, first class, £1 6s. to £1 8s. 3d.; second class, £1 2s. to £1 5s. Hoggets, first class, £1 19s. to £2 2s.; second class, £1 13s. Two-years-old and over, first class, £2 0s. 6d. to £2 10s.; second class, £1 13s. to £1 19s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 17s. to 25s. each.



Sale of Mr. D. Buttar's Shropshires.

The annual draft of pedigreed rams and ewes from the famous Corston flock, belonging to Mr. David Buttar, was exposed for sale at Corston. The sheep put through the ring were in every respect equal, if not superior, to any lot ever seen there, and amongst the rams were some of the highest breeding and merit; whilst sheep for crossing purposes, and of strong and robust constitution, were obtainable. At the luncheon which preceded the sale, Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., presided, and in proposing the health of Mr. Buttar, referred to the ever-increasing popularity of the breed, and to the high standing now attained by the Corston flock. Sixty rams were catalogued for sale, but No. 3 on the list—a sheep of great value—had died as the result of an accident. The remaining fifty-nine brought prices ranging from 6½ to 100 guineas, the latter price being paid by the Earl of Strathmore for the splendid ram which took first place at Stirling, and was highly commended at York. The fifty nine rams fetched the total sum of £892 0s. 6d., being an average of about £15 3s., as compared with last year's yield of £14 15s. 6d. Fourteen extra rams were sold at prices from five to seven guineas, the average for these being £5 13s. 3d. Eighteen pens of nice ewes, which were greatly admired, found ready purchasers at from 56s. to 136s. 6d. each, the average bringing out the sum of about £4 4s. The total sum drawn by the sale was as follows:—Fifty-nine catalogued rams, £892 0s. 6d.; fourteen extra rams, £79 5s. 6d.; eighty ewes, £335 7s. 6d.—£1,306 13s. 6d.

Mr. W. Thomas's Shropshires.

Mr. William Thomas's annual sale of Shropshire sheep was held at the Beam House, near Shrewsbury, on Tuesday. Prices were:—Shearling rams: 14gs., Mr. A. Everall; 15gs., Mr. F. Gregory; 14gs., Mr. Everall,; 9gs., Mr. Russell; 10gs., Mr. Russell; 9gs., Mr. Reynolds; 8gs., Mr. J. G. Eve; 8gs., Captain Mytton; 7gs., Mr. William Roberts; 8gs., Mr. Richards; 7½gs., Mr. Brache; 5½gs., Mrs. Rogers; 6gs., Mr. J. Harding. Pasture rangers: 13gs., Mr. Joseph Everall; 9gs., Mr. Edward Griffiths; 8½gs., Mr. J. Davies; 10gs., Mr. Reynolds; 8½gs., Mr. Gregory, Walford; 12gs., Mr. Basnett; 8½gs., Mr. Roberts; 10gs., Mr. J. Corden; 10gs., Mr. A. Everall; 8gs., Mr. J. Cureton, Hordley; 11gs. (to let), Mrs. Rogers; 6gs., Mr. Hilton; 13gs., Mr. J. Gregory; 10gs., Mr. Richard Bromley; 8½gs., Mr. Moore; 8gs., Mr. Wackerell; 9gs., Mr. Vaughan; 8gs., Mr. Morris, Wood Eaton; 8½gs., Mr. Morris; 7gs., Mr. Griffiths; 7½gs., Mr. Maxwell; 5½gs., Mr. Wilde; 6gs., Mr. Prince; 5gs., Mr. J. Crane; 6½gs., Mr. J. Rogers. Ewes: 5gs. and 4gs., Mr. Muntz; 110s. and 62s., Mr. P. A. Evans; 57s. 6d., 55s., 57s. 6d., and 62s. 6d., Mr. Ledger; 3½gs., Mr. Russell; 52s. 6d. and 47s. 6d., Mr. Maxwell; 57s. 6d., Mr. Bellyse; 60s., Mr. Timmis; 57s. 6d., Mr. J. T. Nickels; 52s. 6d., Mr. T. Rogers; 50s., Mr. Brocklehurst.

Sherlowe Sale of Shropshire Sheep.

On Friday, the 24th ult., this annual event took place at Sherlowe, near Wellington, Salop, in the heart of the Shropshire sheep-breeding country. The sale was a great success, the sheep being worthy in every way of the high reputation this grand old flock enjoys among the admirers of the popular Shropshire. Luncheon was served in the usual style in a marquee in front of the house, at which all leading breeders were present, and notwithstanding harvest operations an excellent all-round company assembled. After full justice had been done to the good things provided, the chairman (Mr. P. A. Evans) proposed the usual loyal toasts, which were duly honoured. Mr. A. E. Mansell then proposed the toast of "Messrs. Evans, and Success to the Sale." He said he could conceive of no greater pleasure than that of drinking the health of Messrs. Evans, the sons of the late Mr. J. Evans, of Uffington, who was an ideal breeder of stock. (Applause.) He did not think the country quite appreciated the efforts and the anxieties of breeders of stock, or fully realised what the country gained from their exertions. On the Continent the Government took in hand what in this country was left to the pluck of individuals. Nevertheless, good results were obtained in this way, and no one had, as regarded the breeding of Shropshire sheep, achieved greater success than Messrs. Evans. (Applause.) The Sherlowe flock at present was unquestionably in the ascendency. He had known some who, by making purchases haphazard from a well-established flock, had eventually got around them a very valuable lot of sheep. It was safe to predict a very prosperous future for Shropshires since Australia now had the breed in great favour. At every sale of Shropshire sheep this season rams had been bought for exportation to Australia and New Zealand, and his advice to them was to breed sheep that would meet the demands of that trade, remembering that none but the best would be required. He concluded by a reference to the reputation Mr. P. A. Evans had won as a judge in the premier showyards of the country. The chairman, in reply, acknowledged the extent to which the flock was indebted to the enterprise of his late father for the high qualities they now possessed. He had taken every opportunity to learn from him his views in the breeding of pedigree stock, and he had not regretted the interest which he had always shown in Shropshire sheep and Shorthorn cattle. The demand by foreigners for sheep of the Shropshire breed was never greater than it had been during the past few months, so that no difficulty was likely to arise in disposing of their stock as long as they were able to offer the best. (Applause.) Mr. George Evans also suitably responded. An adjournment was then made to the sale ring, when Mr. Alfred Mansell, in opening the sale, alluded to the antiquity and the present outstanding merits of the Sherlowe sheep. The bidding started in that quick, brisk way that always characterises a good sale. No. 1, a magnificent shearling, after starting at 50gs., eventually became the property of Mr. J. E. Farmer (Ludlow) at 120gs. No. 2 filled a commission for Canada at 38gs. No. 3, a very typical sheep, with beautiful fleece and skin, was bought for Australia for 70gs. No. 4, one of the smartest, went to Mr. R. P. Cooper's flock at 53gs.; while No. 6, a long, good ram, with a capital head, was bought by Mr. S. Nevett for 40gs. For No. 7 there was a sharp competition; he was a sheep of great bone and substance, and was purchased by Sir Joseph Pulley's agents at 70gs. No. 9 was bought for the Hon. Victor Cavendish for the Holker flock; others also made excellent prices. The first six rams made the high average of 70gs. each, the forty-two sheep making an average of nearly 20gs. each. The ewes also sold well, the best going to Holker. A highly and very satisfactory sale was completed by 4 o'clock.

Shropshire Breeders' Sheep Sale.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. held their annual sale of pedigree Shropshire sheep in Shrewsbury Smithfield on the 25th ult., when about a thousand rams and ewes were catalogued. The attendance of buyers was large, and competition was brisk. The prices made included:—Six rams from Colonel Sandbach, Abergele, 6gs. to 10gs.; three from Mr. J. Corden, Great Chatwell, 6gs., 6gs., and 7gs.; fourteen from Mr. S. F. M. Nevett, 7½gs. to 18gs.; ten from Mr. H. Williams, Newton-on-the-Hill, 7gs. to 19gs.; ten from Mr. H. C. G. Parker, 5½gs. to 8½gs.; five from Mr. P. Everall, 5½gs. to 7½gs.; eight from Mr. R. C. Pryce, 6gs. to 7gs.; three from Mr. J. S. Harding, Bridgnorth, 6gs. to 8½gs.; six from Mr. M. Williams, Whiston Hall, 8gs. to 9gs.; twelve from Mr. J. H. James-Moore, 7½gs. to 13gs.; four from Mr. W. Nunnerley, Kenwick, 6gs. to 8gs.; nine from Mr. R. Raywood Harley, 6gs. to 9gs.; eight from Mr. T. Cartwright, The Buildings, 5½gs. to 7½gs.; two from Mr. W. Dickin, 5½gs. and 6gs.; four from Mr. T. G. Juckes, 5½gs. to 14gs. Ewes made up to 62s.

Sale of the Leconfield Lincolns.

Mr. Robert Fisher, the well-known breeder and sheep judge, had his annual sale of Lincoln long-woolled sheep on Wednesday, when a goodly number of farmers and sheep breeders assembled at Leconfield. Eighty very large framed, well fleeced shearlings were submitted for competition by Mr. Sugdon, and it was evident that high prices were to be the order of the day. After some spirited bidding the first sheep was knocked down to the bid of Mr. H. Dudding, of Riby Grove, Stallingborough, Lincolnshire, for 110gs. The remainder met with ready purchasers. The best prices were 71, 50, 20, 16, 28,

22, 23, 19, and 5 guineas by Mr. Church, who was buying for exportation to the Argentine. Mr. H. Dudding secured other rams at 67 and 20 guineas, Mr. Marris, of Kirmington, gave 38. 26. and 24 guineas, and Mr. G. M. Gale, of Atwick, 26 guineas. Messrs. Wright, of Nocton Heath, Mr. Miller, of Birkenhead, and Mr. Williamson, of Nottinghamshire, were amongst the buyers. The whole flock of eighty were sold, the total sum realised being £1,267 7s., or an average of £15 17s. each.

Southdown Rams at Glynde.

The tenth annual sale of Southdown rams and ram lambs was held at Glynde, Sussex, on the 24th ult. There were 213 rams and ram lambs on the catalogue, and the sale was conducted by Messrs. Herbert Morris and Son, of Lewes, and Messrs. Drawbridge and Ansell, of Haywards Heath. The sheep included in the sale were the property of the following flockmasters: The Earl of Ashburnham, Lord Northbourne, Sir James Duke, Bart., General Gadman, J.P., Messrs. D. Aylwin, R. Bannister, T. Bushby, W. P. Hampton, W. O. Hammond, A. Heasman, R. Lambe, H. Padwick (Thorney Island), A. Parks, A. D. Potter, H. M. Simmonds, F. Stanford, J. Tompkins, W. S. Wallis, R. A. Warren, and Mrs. Stephenson Clarke. The sheep were better than last year, taking them throughout in quality, class, and size. The highest price of the sale was that realised by a shearling ram belonging to Mr. Heasman, of Littlehampton, which fetched 20gs. A considerable number of sheep which were not disposed of at the auction changed hands during the afternoon. Mr. Ansell commenced selling at 11.30, the results being as follows:—

Property of Mr. H. Padwick, Manor House, West Thorney, Emsworth: Shearling ram, at 4 guineas, Sir Meyrick Burrell.

Property of Mr. Thomas Bushby, Wes: Preston Manor, near Worthing: Ram lambs, five at 3 guineas, Mr. Mercer, of Bourne Street.

Property of Mrs. Stephenson Clarke, Brook House, Haywards Heath: Shearling ram, at 6 guineas, Mr. Scrase.

Property of Mr. W. P. Hampton, Lingdon Abbey, Dover: Shearling rams, six at 4 guineas, Mr. Scrase.

Property of Mr. John Tompkins, Ancharring, Worthing: Ram lambs, one at 7 guineas, one at 3 guineas, Mr. Bannister; one at 10 guineas, and one at 9½ guineas, Mr. Pickard; ram lamb, at 5½ guineas, Mr. Bannister.

Property of Mr. F. Stanford, Middleton Manor, Bognor: Shearling ram, at 5½ guineas, Mr. Berry.

Property of Mr. A. Heasman, Court Wick, Littlehampton: Shearling rams, one at 10 guineas, one at 8½ guineas, one at 8 guineas, Mr. Sturgeon; one at 20 guineas, Mr. Porter; one at 15½ guineas, two at 8 guineas, Mr. Simmonds; one at 14½ guineas, Mr. W. Brown.

Property of Mr. W. T. Wallis, Southerham, Lewes: Full-mouthed rams, two at 4 guineas, one at 3½ guineas, Mr. R. Brown, jun.; one at 6 guineas, Mr. Porter.

Property of Mr. R. A. Warren, Preston Place, Worthing: Yearling rams, two at 4 guineas, Mr. Russell; one at 4 guineas, Mr. Hassell.

Property of Mr. H. M. Simmons, Eastbourne: Ram lambs, one at 5 guineas, Mr. Bannister; two at 5 guineas, Mr Scrase; three at 4 guineas, and one at 3 guineas, Mr. Aylwin; one at 4½ guineas, Sir Meyrick Burrell.

Property of Mr. W. O. Hammond, St. Albans Court, Kent: Shearling rams, one at 6½ guineas, two at 5 guineas, Messrs. J. and H. Robinson; one at 7½ guineas, Mrs. Plumptree; one at 7 guineas, Mr. Bray.

Property of Mr. A. Parks, Sidley, Bexhill: Two-tooth rams, one at 10½ guineas, Mr. Plumptree; one at 5½ guineas, the East Sussex County Council.

Property of Sir James Duke, Laughton, Shortgate: Shearling rams, one at 10 guineas, Mr. Luther Martin; one at 4 guineas, Mr. Holding.

Property of the Right Hon. Lord Northbourne: Shearling rams, one at 5 guineas, one at 5½ guineas, and one at 5 guineas, Mr. Haynes (Lavant); one at 7 guineas, one at 5 guineas, Mr. A. Wadman (Firle); one at 5½ guineas, Mr. Haynes; two at 4 guineas, Mr. Holding.

Property of Mr. Thomas Bushby: Ram lambs, one at 3 guineas, Sir Meyrick Burrell; one at 3 guineas, Mr. Scrase; one at 3 guineas, Mr. Thompson (Laughton).

Property of Mr. John Tompkins: Ram lambs, one at 3 guineas, Mr. Haynes; one at 4½ guineas, Mr. Bannister; two at 4 guineas, Mr. Lee; one at 7 guineas, and one at 6 guineas, Mr. Pickard.

Property of Mr. A. Heasman: A shearling ram at 10½ guineas, Mr. Sturgeon.

Property of Mr. H. M. Simmons, Eastbourne: Ram lambs, two at 3 guineas, Mr. Aylwin; one at 3 guineas, Mr. Bannister.

Property of Mr. W. O. Hammond: Ram lambs, two at 4 guineas, Sir Meyrick Burrell; one at 4 guineas, Mr. A. Wadman.

Property of Mr. H. M. Simmons, Eastbourne: Ram lambs, one at 3 guineas, Mr. Bannister; one at 3 guineas, Mr F. J. Gorringe (Laughton).

Sale at Hereford.

Messrs. Alfred and Dearman Edwards's first special sale this season of stock ewes and rams was held on Wednesday at Hereford. The attendance was large, and some good prices were realised. Four Shropshire rams, the property of Mr. A. P. Turner, The Leen, were disposed of as follows:—Mr. Paul Foley, two, 10gs. each; Mr. Bishop, Tarrington, one, 5½gs.; and Mr. Murch, Huntington, one, 7½gs.; shearling ram, the property of Mr. E. Farr, Court of Noke, 5gs., Z. Watkins, Brinsop; twenty Shropshire ewes, the property of Mr. W. Haves, Burghope, Mr. Webb, Gloucester, 47s. each; fifteen ditto, Mr. C. Green, Credenhill, 47s. each; forty stock ewes, the property of Mr. J. Nott, The Woodhouse, Mr. C. Hodgetts, Birmingham, 37s. each; twenty ditto, the property of Mr. C. Lewis, Breinton, Mr. C. Hodgetts, 40s.; twenty stock ewes, the property of Mr. T. Lewis, Stretton Grandison, 35s., Mr. C. Hodgetts; forty stock ewes, the property of Mr. A. Farr, Chipps House, Mr. Powell, 40s.; twenty yearling ewes, the property of Mr. Phillips, Wellington, 43s., and twenty ditto at 42s., Mr. Meredith; twenty-five stock ewes, the property of Mr. Inmus, Knookes Court, Mr. Moore, Field's Place, 45s.; Clun Forest ewes fifteen, the property of Mr. H. J. Bishop, Little Trington, 36s., and fifteen at 36s., Mr. C. Hodgetts; twenty ditto, the property of Mr. D. Cave, Hall End, Much Cowarne, 36s., Mr. P. Pitt; fourteen ditto, 35s., Mr. Webb, Gloucester; thirty two Cheviot ewes, the property of Captain E. L. A. Heygate, Lower Buckland Farm, Mr. A. Allington, 29s.; fifteen ditto, the property of Mr. A. Pearman, Mr. C. Green, 36s.

Ram Sale at Haverhill.

At Haverhill Mr. Charles Boardman, in conjunction with Mr. Ernest Prentice (secretary Suffolk Sheep Society), held his annual special sale of Suffolk sheep on the 24th ult. The highest price realised for a ram lamb was for one from Mr. Thos. Goodchild, which made £9 10s., being purchased by Mr. Geo. Unwin, of Baythorne Hall; ten others were purchased by Mr. R. Smith for £5 each, and one for the same amount by the Hon. Mrs. Ives. The highest price realised in a consignment of ram lambs from Mr. A. V. Rugg'es-Brise, of Spains Hall, was 67s. 6d. Good prices were realised for Suffolk ram lambs, sent by Mrs. Lowe, of Gosfield Hall, 130s., 125s., 90s., etc. The highest price in the consignments sent by Mr. D. M. Gurteen, of Hanchett Hall, was 67s., and that in the lot of Mr. J. T. Stockburn, of Clare, 82s. 6d. One exceptional ram lamb in a consignment from Messrs. W. B. and J. Gurteen, of Wilsey Farm, sold at £8 10s., while another realised £4 15s. The ewes from registered flocks averaged from 30s. to 23s.

Sale of Rams at Lockerbie.

Messrs. Smith and Dalgleish, auctioneers, held the opening ram sale for the season at Lockerbie on Thursday. For good rams there was a brisk competition, and satisfactory prices were obtained. The market was topped by a fine ram consigned by Mr. Moffat, Garwald, for which Mr. David Bell Irvine, Knockhill, paid £17. Other rams out of this famous stock were secured by Mr. Haddow, Castle Crawford, at £15; Mr. Hunter, Glenochar, at £12; Mr. Johnstone, Alton, at £11 10s.; and Mr. Smith, Twiglees, one at the same figure. The Garwald lambs also made the highest average of the day, £8 16s. 4d. A well-proportioned ram out of the Craigdarroch consignment made the second highest price of the day, £16, and was bought by Mr. Johnstone, Craigieburn. A fine ram out of the Attonburn consignment was secured by Mr. Hunter, Glenochar, at £11. The pick of the Craigieburn lot was purchased at £10 by Mr. Johnstone, Archbank. Border Leicester rams also sold well, the top price of £11 being got for one consigned by Mr. Smith, Lenston, East Lothian, the buyer being Mr. Drysdale, Granton, another out of the Skipmyre lot selling at the same price.

Sale of the Dunsmore Shropshires.

The annual sale of Shropshire rams and ewes, the property of Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., was held at Dunsmore, Rugby, on Friday, Messrs. Lythall and Walters being the auctioneers. The flock has been most successful in the showyards this year, and consequently the sale was very largely attended. A company of about 250 were present, including nearly all the leading breeders and several foreign buyers, and the biddings were very brisk, and a most satisfactory trade resulted. The Royal winning rams sold at 100gs. (Colonel W. Worswick), 65gs. and 36½s. (Colonel Sandbach), 46gs. (Captain Townshend), 26gs. (G. Brown), and 16gs. (Colonel Worswick). Other rams sold at 70gs. (M. Williams), 52gs. (P. L. Mills), 31gs. (J. Darling), 26gs. (F. J. Stanhope), 25gs. (Duke of Sutherland), 20gs. (T. Holdcroft), 15gs. (Duke of Grafton), 17gs. (J. W. Phillips), 15gs. (let to W. Thomas), 15gs. (Captain Townshend), 15gs. (J. Goodman), 12gs. (J. T. Glover), 12gs. (F. J. Sumner), 11½gs. (F. E. Muntz), 11gs. (J. W. Sanders), 11gs. (Mrs. Perry Herrick), 11gs. (Berridge), 10½gs. (T. Johnson), 10gs. (J. P. Arkwright), 10gs. (John Smith), 10gs. (J. R. Jones). Ewes sold at 120s. per head and 95s. (R. G. Huddlestone), 105s. (Dr. Wall), 77s. 6d. (J. Darling), 77s. 6d. (Captain Townshend), 72s. 6d. (Colonel Sandbach), 70s. (F. J. Stanhope), etc.

The forty-three rams averaged £20 14s. 6d., and the sixty ewes £3 16s. 6d.

Sale of Sir J. B. Lennard's Southdowns.

The sale of this old established flock of Southdown sheep was held at Woodingdean, on the Sussex coast, near Brighton, on Friday last. Several breeders from the eastern counties were present, as well as a large company of local breeders. There was a good demand for the ewes, although they were in rather poor condition, but they sold up to 105s. each. Pagham Harbour Co.). Among the other good purchasers were Lord Brassey, the Earl of Derby, Messrs. L. Currie, J. Drew, Sir R. Glyn, J. H. Mathews, and Garrett Taylor. The rams and ram lambs found a ready sale, Mr. J. Drew paying 1gs. and 12gs. respectively for two lambs, the Duke of Grafton securing the best yearling at 15½gs., and Earl of Derby's agent another at 10gs. The sale was considered one of the best of the season, the shearling ewes fetching £3 15s. 10d. each, the yearling rams an average of £7 16s. 8d., and the ram lambs £5 15s. The entire flock of 350 sheep realised £1,234 8s., or just over 70s. a head. A few Large White pigs were also sold at farmers' prices.

Ilsley Fair.

On Monday, Messrs. Franklin Gale and Newton held their annual sales of Hampshire Down and Cotswold rams and ram lambs from several well-known flocks, about 140 lambs being offered. There was a good demand, and nearly all the lambs were cleared at prices which showed a decided advance on the previous fair. The result of the sale of each selection is appended:

Hampshire Downs.

The first draft offered was twenty shearling rams and ram lambs from Mr. John Kelly's celebrated South Moreton flock, and every lot found a purchaser at prices averaging £4 9s. 6d., one lamb making 6gs., and several others 5½gs.

The next offered was twenty ram lambs from the Childwick flock, the property of Sir J. Blundell Maple, M.P. This is the first occasion on which lambs from this flock have been submitted to auction at Ilsley, and not a single lamb failed to change hands. The top average was made by them, viz., £4 19s., about half the number making from 5 to 6½gs.

Thirty-nine shearling rams and ram lambs from the flock of Mr. K. R. Mackenzie next came to the hammer, and the majority of the lots were readily disposed of, 6gs. being the highest price and the average £4 11s.

Mr. W. T. Twidell's selection of 30 ram lambs concluded the sale of Hampshire Downs, and here again a clearance was effected. Amongst this lot there were several very nice specimens which were keenly competed for, one lamb making 7gs., one other 6½gs., and two 6gs., while the average was £4 13s. 6d.

Cotswolds.

Thirty ram lambs from Mr. Henry Akers' celebrated Black Bourton flock were very well received, 7gs. being made for one lamb, and six others 6gs. and 5½gs., the average price being £4 16s. 6d.

Carlisle Sheep Fair.

Carlisle Fair was held on Saturday week, and was attended by graziers from all parts of the kingdom. The business was, as has been the case for many years, confined to the two auction marts, where about 26,000 sheep and lambs, consigned by the principal graziers in the South of Scotland and Cumberland, were offered for sale. The wretched weather affected the trade, and prices were from 1s. to 1s. 6d. down from those current at recent markets.

Dorchester September Sheep Fair.

At this special sheep fair, held on Saturday, about 4,000 sheep and lambs were penned, and, with plenty of necessitous buyers present from over a very wide area, a speedy clearance was effected at an improvement of 2s. to 3s. a head on working lambs, and quite 4s. a head on better class lambs. A general run for horn ewes was from 38s. to 42s., but these were very ordinary lots; horn wethers, 41s. to 43s. 6d.; horn lambs, 25s. to 32s. Down ewes made 35s. to 44s.; wethers, 39s. to 46s.; best lambs, 34s. to 37s. 6d.; working ditto, 34s. to 37s. 6d.; cross-bred lambs, 31s. to 36s. Both Mr Ensor and Messrs. Duke and Son held extensive auction sales, which were attended with highly gratifying results.

Glasgow and Leith Wool Sales.

There has been no change of importance during last month in the Scotch wool markets. There was a good attendance of buyers at the Leith sales on 7th and 8th, and half-bred and cross wools were in demand at an advance on previous rates, but Cheviots were not so much in request and were unchanged in price. Blackfaced was rather neglected. At the Glasgow sales on 22nd the number of buyers was not up to the average, and little was done publicly. Half-bred and cross again attracted most of the bidding, while Cheviots were not wanted to any extent. In Blackfaced the quantity sold by auction was small, but a fair amount has been taken up privately for the home trade, and there have also been some shipments to America. Prices realised:

	Washed		Unwashed	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Half-bred hoggs	0 [illegible] to 0 9½		0 [illegible] to 0 [illegible]	
Ditto wedders	0 7 to 0 7½		0 [illegible] to 0 [illegible]	
Cheviot hoggs	0 8 to 0 9½		0 [illegible] to 0 [illegible]	
Ditto wedders	0 7 to 0 8		0 6½ to 0 7	
Cross-bred hoggs	0 6 to 0 6½		0 5½ to 0 5½	
Laid Cheviot	0 5 to 0 5½		0 3½ to 0 4	
Blackfaced white	0 5 to 0 5½		0 4½ to 0 5	
Ditto laid	[illegible]		[illegible]	

For Sutherland wool [illegible] were to be realised.

J. and W. Greig

SHOWS.

The Dublin Show.

Horses and Sheep at Balls Bridge.

The summer show of horses and sheep held annually by the Royal Dublin Society was held last week at their permanent showyard at Balls Bridge, Dublin. The show opened on Tuesday, when there was a good attendance. Although this year there is a falling off in the number of entries, the actual number of horses in the show is not less, dual entries representing the falling off of thirty-nine in the total of 1,397. Thoroughbred brood mares with foal at foot, for instance, number thirty-two against twenty-five last year, but in the harness and trotting classes there is a slight falling off, which, as a rule, counts double in the two styles of harness. On Wednesday, the show was visited by the Lord Lieutenant who has almost recovered from his recent illness, and the Countess Cadogan, accompanied by a large party from the Vice-regal Lodge. The visit was a semi-State one, and his Excellency was escorted by a squadron of the 21st Lancers.

Horses.

THOROUGHBRED HORSES.

In the class for Thoroughbred Stallions under ten years old to get weight-carrying hunters or high-class harness horses there were only four entries, and after a long consultation the judges gave the first place to Court Ball, the property of Mr. D. Owens, Strokestown, co. Roscommon, a splendid brown horse nine years old, bred by Mr. K. Forest Todd, Rabley Hall, Barnet, sire Royal Hampton, dam Polka. In Class 2, thoroughbred stallions to get racers, there were ten fine entries, but the event was not equal to last year. The judges had some difficulty in ultimately arriving at a decision, but they finally selected Astrologer and Royal Mask for equal first place. Astrologer, the property of Mr. William Pallin, of Athgarvan Stud, Curragh, was bred by Mr. Chaplin, of the Blankney Stud, and is a very handsome and stylish chestnut, fifteen years old, by Hermit—Stella. The bracketed winner, Royal Mask, owned by Mr. Edmond Mitchell, of Derryvullen, Enniskillen, is by Mask—Princess Victoria. Royal Mask is, generally speaking, a stronger and finer horse than Astrologer. The Croker Challenge Cup—the only cup awarded to-day—was again given to Royal Mask, who got in last year as the best weight-carrying thoroughbred stallion in the show. The brood mares are not quite so fine a class as in former years.

The yearling colts and fillies are, as is always the case, one of the finest features of the thoroughbred classes. Ambergate, a fine, neat, level yearling, by Bend Or—Queen Helen, and owned by Lord Fermoy, took first prize among seventy competitors, from whom he stood out conspicuously. In the yearling fillies nothing finer has been seen at Balls Bridge for some years than the first prize-winner, a bay filly by Buckingham—Capri, and bred and exhibited by the Greenfield Stud Company, Tipperary.

HUNTERS.

The class for weight-carrying hunters up to 15st. had sixty-two entries, but the merit was very small. Many of the horses should never have been shown at Balls Bridge, but the supposed clearing of high-class hunters from Ireland induced many with second-class animals to send them up. The first prize went to a chestnut gelding, the property of Mr. Charles H. Reade, Donishall, Carnew, County Wicklow, sired by Passion Flower. It is a fine, upstanding species, every inch a hunter. Sir Larry, also sired by Passion Flower, and owned by Mr. Rice, of Lucyville, Whitehouse, Belfast, got second place. In Class 10, for hunters up to 13st. and 14st., five years and upwards, which was one of the redeeming features of this section, the first prize went to Canon Arthur, a chestnut five-year-old, sired by Canon, and owned by Mr. A. T. McNeille, Dollanstown, County Westmeath, Messrs. Slocok, of Carlow, getting second award with Delight, a brown five-year-old, by Narcese. There were 161 entries, and the process of weeding out the best half-dozen was a very long and tedious one.

The class for hunter mares from 13st. to 15st., five years old or upwards, had sixty-five entries, and a very passable lot they were, though not including anything of superior merit. Mr. William Blacker, of Castlemartin, Newbridge, got first place with an unnamed brown five-year-old sired by Goldbill, and in every respect a perfect huntress. Kate, a chestnut roan, owned by Mr. J. J. Gilmour, Lishoy House, Omagh, got second place. The section for young horses suitable for hunters displayed much more merit than the made hunter classes. The four-year-old mares up to 13st. to 15st., with twenty-two entries, were a very atractive lot, but the four-year-old geldings, with a similar qualification, were not so good as last year. The class for four-year-old mares or geldings, the awards in which were not announced, was very strong, containing seventy-nine entries of more than average merit. The first prize went to a very useful looking chestnut gelding named Don Juan, sired by Conqueror, and owned by Mrs. H. H. Fetherstonhaugh, of Thurles. The second prize went to England, being awarded to Carlton Atsay, a gelding bred in Yorkshire, and sired by Downey Bird. Carleton is owned by Mr. Noel Partridge, of Castle Hill, Blackingley, Surrey, and well deserves the blue rosette. Mr. Nathaniel Morton's bay mare Emerald, by Mascarille, got third place, and also the gold medal for the best young mare.

The three-year-old geldings were a small but good class, and Mr. William Bootham, of Miley Hall, Blessington, got first place with Navan, a bay sired by King of the Nest, by Favo; and Old Gold, a chestnut sired by Sydenham, dam by Hercules, owned by Mr. A. T. Brown, of Marr Grange, Doncaster, was awarded second place. Old Gold richly deserved his place, and will yet be heard of in the prize ring. The two-year-old colts, entire, out of half-bred mares, looked well, and the first prize went to May Boy, owned by Mr. Patrick Turley, of Castlewellan, which also got the gold medal offered by the Hunters' Improvement Society, for the best two-year-old entire colt got by a thoroughbred sire on the Royal Dublin Society's register, and out of a mare registered in the Hunters Improvement Society's record of hunter mares and sires.

The class of geldings to carry up to 14 and 15 stones contained among its thirty-five entries some very good animals. Mr. H. B. Warren, Garrendenny Castle, Carlow, was first with a chestnut five-year-old of his own breeding. Mr. Thomas Donovan, Fernhurst, Cork, came second with Klondyke, a stylish brown six-year-old, bred by Sir Richard Musgrave, co. Waterford, and got by Mesmerist. Mr. Ernest Bellaney, Esker House, Lucan, furnished the third prize-winner in Tact, a five-year-old, bred in co. Tipperary. The class for four-year-old mares or geldings to carry up to 15 stones was headed by Glenart, a brown gelding, bred at Dromore, co. Down, belonging to Mr. David Johnston, Gracehill, Lurgan, and sired by Prime Minister. Mr. Patrick McCaffrey, Armagh, was second with Miss Orr, a chestnut mare, bred in co. Cork, and got by Mackintosh. A gelding by Southern and bred at Leitrim, and owned by Mr. H. Croskery, Ballywarren, Downpatrick, was third.

Among the four-year-old gelding hunters up to 14 to 15 stones, Mr. Nathaniel Morton, Brookville, Ballymena, was first and third with Wooloomolloo and Rathkeltar respectively. The first-named was the winner at Belfast, and has plenty of substance, though a bit coarse, and not moving as well as could be desired. Mr. Joseph Sheehy, Rathkeale, co. Limerick, was second with a useful horse, Roving Devil, a bay, after Fra Diavolo, by Robert the Devil. Mr. James Flood's Sacaru, from Athboy, was fourth.

ROADSTERS AND HARNESS HORSES.

The roadsters and harness horse classes are largely represented by English and Scotch exhibitors. In the class suitable for roadsters or harness Mr. H. H. Smiley, of the Inver Stud, Larne, with Fandarin, a bay gelding, defeated the two cracks, Ayrshire Adonis and Ayrshire Extravagance. Mr. Nathaniel Morton's Condy II., and Country Maid are also a perfect pair in almost every respect.

In the double harness class Mr. Godsell, Stroud, Gloucestershire, took first honours with a very dashing, grand-stepping pair of brown geldings named Lord Bath and Duke of York, which again won the first prize in the tandem class. He also got the second honours in the latter class with a dun and chestnut, not so well matched as the other, but the chestnut gelding, which led, was a grand stylish stamp, with great strength over the hocks and knees and the finest of bone and feet under. Messrs. E. and A. Baxter took first prize in the double harness pony class with a very handsome pair of bays named Musk and Miss Howard. These were again deservedly first in the pony tandem class.

Amongst the fast trotters in sulkies Lord William Beresford, Dorking, Surrey, competed against a fine group of American-bred horses with a very handsome symmetrical grey named Piloter. In the mile record he again appeared, but he was here unable to meet the rakish, out-stepping Americans.

JUMPING.

The jumping was carried out over the usual course, which includes six obstacles. The first event had forty-eight entries, and the ultimate selection of the winners occupied a considerable time. The jumping was much superior to last year, most of the horses being well up to their work in the showground. The first prize was awarded to Tim, a black gelding, the property of Captain A. W. Hayley, Ballina, Derry Moate, who performed without the slightest trace of a mistake. The other awards were:—2, Mr. N. Morton's The Sparrow; 3, Mr. Robert Nixon's Defiance; 4, Mr. St. J. H. Donovan's Ardfert. After the decision of this event there was a parade of handsomely turned out four-in-hand coaches, six in number. The second event was also over the course, for young horses suitable to make hunters, and resulted as follows:—1, Mr. N. Morton's Wooloomolloo; 2, Mr. John Copeland's Mafeking; 3, Mr. S. Baillie's Merry Monk; 4, Mr. S. Baillie's Oswald. A prize for cobs, in which two competed, concluded the jumping, and the huge crowd of fully 20,000 spectators dispersed.

Sheep.

Seldom has such a fine show of sheep been seen at Ball's Bridge. The number stand much in the same proportion as last year, but with the exception, perhaps, of the Shropshires, which used to make the finest display of this section. The Border Leicesters made up the feature of this section. It was not altogether the superlative merit so much as the want of weeds that was specially noted, but Mr. Doyne's challenge cup group presented as fine a lot of prize-winning animals as one might wish. His first prize winning two-shear and shearling rams were grand typical sheep, with great backs, fine, well-poised heads, and great shoulders and ribs; while as a test of the even merit of the breed it may be mentioned that, in Class 2, of twelve entries, every animal disappointed of a prize was awarded a consolation ticket by the judges.

The Roscommons, though not presenting the same level character, made up a fine section. They attracted the general admiration of a number of foreign visitors by their fine massive physique, and it is interesting to note that while Ireland contributes the smallest breed of British cattle, she owns the largest breed of sheep. Roscommons have been making great strides since uniformity and fixity of type was secured by the introduction of the Flock Book a few years ago, and they own the distinction of being now on richer lands, a prime mutton breed, as well as a good wool-carrier. In connection with the latter a novel and interesting feature was shown by Mr. Flanagan in exhibiting two hogget rams and a pair of hogget ewes clipped according to the regulations, but with a tuft of the lamb's wool left behind the shoulder to give an indication of their wool-bearing properties. This tuft measured in case of rams nineteen inches, and seventeen inches in the ewes, of very fine staple, and as the growth of wool since the sheep were shorn on the 2nd March measures just six inches, the growth for twelve months would amount to thirteen and 11¼ inches respectively.

There was a very pretty show of black faces, nearly all shown by Mr. Barton. The type was led by the older first winner, Young Rostrevor, a grand prize-winning ram, which was second in Belfast as a yearling, first in Dublin last year, and third in Belfast, and first in Belfast and again in Dublin. Among short wools Shropshires are, of course, by far the most important, but they did not make the same fine show as they have done in the past. There were a number of good specimens from Meyne House and Aghavee, but the dispersal of Mr. Naper's flock at Loughcrew has evidently detracted greatly from the tone of this breed. Southdowns were shown for the first time, and made but a poor show. Oxford Downs were greater in numbers, but not so even as might be desired, while the Hampshires, though a smaller section again, contained a couple of very finely-ribbed, well-placed specimens of the breed in Mr. Wm. Young's first winners.

Judges.

HORSES.—Referee: Rt. Hon. The Earl of Coventry. 1, Balfour Place, Park Lane, London, W. Heavy-weight Hunters: Captain D. Beatty, The Moat, Rugby; Mr. William Forbes, Callendar House, Falkirk, N.B. Medium and Heavy-weight Hunters: Mr. Maxwell Angas, Whissendine, Oakham; Hon. A. E. Parker, Bangor-on-Dee, Wrexham. Light and Medium-weight Hunters: Mr. Charles J. Cunningham, Wooden, Kelso, N.B.; Mr. T. R. Miller, The Manor House, Cricklade, Wilts. Roadsters, Saddle Horses, Cobs and Riding Ponies: Mr. Tresham Gilbey, The Grange, Bishops Stortford; Mr. W. G. Lambarde, 12, Sloane Court, London, S.W. Medium and Light-weight Hunters and Three-year-olds: Mr. R. A. Barkley, Palgrave Priory, Diss; Mr. E. P. Rawnsley, Girsby Manor, Lincoln. Thoroughbreds and Brood Mares: Mr. A. Alexander, Cockburn Hill, Balerno, Midlothian; Hon. Cecil Parker, Eccleston House, Chester. Hunter Brood Mares and Entire Colts: Mr. C. M. Prior, Adstock Manor, Winslow, Bucks; Mr. T. Warner Turner, Welbeck Abbey, Worksop, Notts. Harness Classes and Hackney Cars and Cabs: Mr. W. G. Lambarde, 12, Sloane Court, London, S.W.; Mr. John Thompson, Knockmaroon House, Castleknock, Co. Dublin. The Pembroke Cup, the Hunters' Champion Cup, the Produce Cup, and Group Prizes: Capt. D. Beatty, Mr. Maxwell Angas, Mr. Charles J. Cunningham, and Mr. R. A. Barkley. Jumping Competitions—Wednesday: Col. H. de Robeck, The Kennels, Naas; Mr. Percy La Touche, Newberry, Kilcullen. Thursday: Capt. R. H. Fowler, Rahinston, Enfield; Mr. Percy Maynard, Ratoath. Friday: Mr. James B. Charters, Annebrook, Mullingar; Major Trocke, Hillbrook, Parsonstown.

SHEEP.—Border Leicesters: Mr. John Twentyman, Hawkrigg House, Wigton, Cumberland. Roscommons: Mr. Samuel Johnston, Fohena, Ahasoragh. Lincolns: Mr. E. H. Cartwright, Keddington Grange, Louth. Black-faced and Cheviots: Mr. William Whyte, Hatton of Eassie, Glamis, N.B. Shropshires: Mr. Andrew E. Mansell, Harrington Hall, Shifnal. Oxford Downs: Mr. Frederic Street, Somersham, St. Ives, Hunts. Hampshire Downs, South Downs, and other Breeds: Mr. Henry Lambert, Babraham, nr. Cambridge.

CHALLENGE CUPS AND SPECIAL PRIZES.

The Croker challenge cup, value £50, and silver medal for the best weight-carrying thoroughbred stallion, awarded to Edward Mitchell, for Royal Mark.

The Pembroke cup, value £100, and silver medal, presented by the Earl of Pembroke for the best animal in Class 13 to 21 inclusive, bred in Ireland by exhibitor: G. J. Ball's chestnut gelding by Royal Meath.

The Hunters' champion cup, value 50 guineas, and silver medal, presented to the Royal Dublin Society by Messrs. Sewell Son and Simpson, for the horse best suited for a hunter; all horses in Classes 8 to 17 inclusive are eligible to compete for this cup: A. J. McNeill's Canon Arthur.

Produce cup, value £10, for the best mare or gelding in Classes 8 to 21 inclusive, a prize winner, the produce of a prize thoroughbred stallion of this or previous shows of the Society since 1881: W. H. Rice's Sir Larry.

Gold medal, offered by the Hunters' Improvement Society for the best filly in Class 19: Patrick M'Caffrey's Cathleen (1036).

Gold medal, value 10 guineas, offered by the Hunters' Improvement Society, for the best two-year-old entire colt got by a thoroughbred sire: Patrick Turley's May Boy (1048).

The Breeders' group: Four prizes of £10 each, to be paid to the breeders of the animals in the winning group, and the Society's silver medal to the owner of the stallion, for the best group of four animals exhibited in any of the classes

from 8 to 21 of this year's prize list, the produce of the same registered stallion, won by a quartette of N. Morton's Master of Hounds: H. H. Smiley's Duke of York; N. Morton's Emerald, and H. H. Smiley's Spartan; sire Mascarille by Master Kildare.

Prize List.

HORSES.

STALLIONS.

Thoroughbred Stallions, under ten years old: 1, D. Owens, Strokestown (Court Ball)

Thoroughbred stallions, not eligible to compete in Class 1: William Pallin, Athgarvan Stud, Curragh, Co. Kildare (Astrologer), and Edward Mitchell, Derryvullen, Enniskillen (Royal Mask).

BROOD MARES

Thoroughbred mare, with foal at foot: 1, Laurence Hope, Clongriffin, Enfield, Co. Meath (Darkie); 2, Daniel Byrne, Prospect, Milltown (Balisarda); 3, Richard Shaw, Curragh View, Kildare, (Curragh Star); 4, R. G. Nash, Finnstown, Lucan (Sea Dream); r and hc, D. R. O'Callaghan, Brackenstown House, Swords, co. Dublin (Moira); c, S. Rait Kerr, Rathmoyle, Edenderry, King's County (Hippolyte); E. Kennedy, Barcarath, Straffan (Magnitude); R. C. Dawson, Cheghrata, co Dublin (Glenwood Rose); Miss Roche Kelly, Castlebagot, Hazlehatch (White Rose); Joseph R. O'Reilly, Sans Souci, Booterstown (Sapphe). Best thoroughbred colt foal at foot in this class: 1, D. R. O'Callaghan (Moira); r and hc, R. G. Nash (Sea Dream) Best thoroughbred filly foal at foot: Miss Roche Kelly (White Rose); r and hc, R. C. Dawson (Glenwood Rose).

Mares calculated to produce weight-carrying hunters, or high-class harness horses, with foal at foot: 1, Thos Clarke, Trimgate Street, Navan (Helen); 2, Richard George Carden, Fishmoyne, Templemore (Grey); 3, William Healy, Ballymee House, Doneraile, co Cork (Nosey); 4, James Stewart Kincaid, 4, Ailesbury Road, Dublin (Scene Shifter's Pride); 5, Richard George Carden, Fishmoyne, Templemore (Lady Clare); r and hc, J. O'Sullivan, Clonakilty, co. Cork (Zerlina); hc, J. L. Handcock, Wellingtonbridge, Wexford (Victoria). Best colt foal at foot in this class: Lieut.-Col T. Hussey de Burgh (Miss Mack). Best filly foal at foot: Thomas Clarke (Helen).

Mare, not exceeding six years old, to produce weight-carrying hunters, or high-class harness horses, with foal at foot: 1, William C. Merrey, Park View, Blessington (Delia); 2, Robert Panton, Crosscool Harbour, Blessington, co. Wicklow (Primrose Dame); 3, Mrs. Boyd-Rochfort, Middleton Park, Castletown, Westmeath (Rose); 4, Maurice M'Nally, Newtown, Rathcoole, co. Dublin (Lyrist); 5, R. G. Nash, Finstown, Lucan (Goodwood); r and hc, John T. Byrne, Cherrywood House, Loughlinstown (Minnichaha II.) Best colt foal at foot in this class: Robert Panton (Primrose Dame); r and hc, R. G. Nash (Goodwood). Best filly foal at foot: Maurice M'Nally (Lyrist); r and hc, Mrs. Boyd-Rochfort (Rose).

YEARLINGS.

Thoroughbred yearling colt: 1, Lord Fermoy; 2, Michael F. Miller, Ballylopen, Charleville; 3, Lord Fermoy, Rockbarton, Kilmallock; 4, R. G. Nash, Finnstown, Lucan (Little Boy); r and hc, Michael Smith, Curraghtown, Navan; hc, D. R. O'Callaghan and T. F. Sparrow, Williamstown, Kells, co Meath; c, Patrick Quinlan, Knockmoy, Bruff; Thomas M'Mahon, Bree House, Castleblayney; Colonel R. T. Bond Moorefield, Newbridge, co. Kildare (Follow Me); W. T. Trench, Redwood, Birr; John W. A. Harris, Victor Stud, Kilmallock, co. Limerick; J. C. O'Sullivan.

Thoroughbred yearling filly: 1, The Greenfields Stud Company, Tipperary (Manager, J. Peard, King Street, Cork); 2, Michael R. Cleary, Galtee House, Hospital, co. Limerick; 3, Thomas L. Plunkett, Portmarnock, Baldoyle (Sly-foot); 4, Harris Bros. (Rose Donald); r and hc, Lord Fermoy; hc, Thomas M'Mahon and R. H. Metge, Athlumney, Navan; c, Lord Fermoy; John W. A. Harris (Dress Rehearsal); D. R. O'Callaghan (Cheerful Duchess); Timothy Sheehan, Glountane, Mallow.

HUNTERS

Weight-carrying hunters, up to 15 stone, five years old or upwards: 1, Chas. H. T. Reade, Donishall, Carnew; 2, W. H. Rice, Lucyville, Whitehouse, Belfast (Sir Larry); 3, Nathaniel Morton, Brookville, Ballymena (Carelinty); 4, Thomas Donovan, Fernhurst, Cork (Perfection); r and hc, Samuel M'Morran, Lisbarnett, Comber, co. Down (Washington); hc, Daniel Byrne (Dispatch); c, S. Rait Kerr, Rathmoyle, Edenberry, King's County, and R. L. Blackham, Ballymount, Clondalkin (Sabin).

Hunter gelding, up to 14 stone to 15 stone, five years old or upwards: 1, H. B. Warren, Garrendenny Castle, Carlow (Guy Fawkes); 2, Thomas Donovan (Klondyke); 3, Ernest Bellaney, Esker House, Lucan (Tact); 4, Nathaniel Morton (Master of Hounds); r and hc, Wm. Gregg, Glenbrook, Castlereagh, co. Down (Groomsport); hc, Hon. A. Roche, Old Court, Doneraile (Skibbereen); c, W. F. M'Keever, Parsonstown Manor, Barterstown, co. Meath (Long Tom), and John H. Lambert, Redmount, Ballinasloe (Tipperary Chief).

Hunter gelding, up to 13 stone to 14 stone, five years old or upwards: 1, A. J. M'Neile, Dollanstown, Kilcock (Canon Arthur); 2, Messrs. Slocock, Carlow (Delight); 3, Major M. J. Balfe, South Park, Castlerea (Harvester); 4, Anthony F. Maude, Drumadeavry, Irvinstown (Killoran); r and hc, Bertie Mahony, Marysboro', Glanmire, Cork (Clonmult); hc, Arthur E. Goodbody, Obelisk Park, Blackrock, co. Dublin (Whiteleg); c, James O'C. Murphy, Breemount House, Laracor, Trim (Auburn), and Studdert and Fletcher, Grennanstown, Athboy.

Hunter mare, up to 13 stone to 15 stone, five years old or upwards: 1, William Blacker, Castle Martin, Newbridge; 2, John J. Gilmour, Lisboy House, Omagh (Kate); 3, R. A. Sinclair, Dundarg, Coleraine (Dame Fortune); r and hc, Lady Kilmorey, Mourne Park, Kilkeel, co. Down; c, J. J. Stafford, 5, George's Street, Waterford (Lady Jane).

Hunter, up to 12 stone to 13 stone, five years old or upwards: 1, T. Bate, Kelsterton, Flint, N.W. (Sirdar); 2, Major M. J. Balfe (Cornhill); 3, Studdert and Fletcher; 4, William Blacker, Castle Martin, Newbridge; r and hc, M. Quinn, 21, Montpelier Hill, Dublin (J.P.); hc, Daniel Byrne (Alarm), and Chas. Reade, Donishall, Carnew.

Class 13.—Four-year-old mares or geldings, up to 15 stone: 1, David Johnston, Gracehall, Lurgan (Glenart); 2, Patrick M'Caffrey, Lower English Street, Armagh (Miss Orr); 3, Horatio Croskery, Ballywarren, Downpatrick; 4, Samuel M'Morran, Lisbarnett, Comber, co. Down (Foxhunter); r, W. H. Rice, Lucyville, Whitehouse, Belfast (Dundonald); hc, James Milling, The Square, Comber (Excelsior); c, Horatio Croskery, Ballywarren, Downpatrick (Shamrock)

Best mare in this Class: Patrick M'Caffrey, Armagh (Miss Orr).

Four-year-old gelding, up to 14 stone to 15 stone: 1 and 3, Nathaniel Morton (Woolomoloo) and (Rathkeltar); 2, Joseph Sheehy, Square, Rathkeale, co. Limerick (Roving Devil); 4, James Flood, Killtheelan, Athboy (Saum); r and hc, Studdert and Fletcher; hc, Richard Johnson (Cahirmee and Lord Salisbury); c, Warren, Straberry Field, Liverpool (Royal Red).

Class 15.—Four-year-old geldings, up to 13st. to 14st: 1, James Clarke, Dunmoe Cottage, Navan (Golden Drop); 2, Major M. J. Balfe, South Park, Castlerea (Golden Vale); 3, Studdert and Fletcher, Grennanstown, Athboy; 4, Studdert and Fletcher, c, R. G. Nash, Finnstown, Lucan (Royal Duke); hc, Messrs. Slocock, Carlow (Lord Bob); M. Quinn, 21, Montpelier Hill, Dublin (The Gem); c, John H. Lambert, Redmount, Ballinasloe (Odd Socks); Messrs. Slocock, Carlow (Favourite); A. J. M'Neile, Dollanstown, Kilcock (Colonel Frank).

Four-year-old mare, up to 13 stone to 13 stone: 1 and 2, John B. M'Roberts, Ballycran, Drumbeg, co Down (Dundee), 3, James Milling, The Square, Comber (Miss Hubby); r and hc, John Carpenter (Merry Girl); hc, John Kernohan, V.S., Ballymena (Mint Sauce).

Four-year-old mare or gelding, up to 12 stone to 13 stone: 1, Mrs. H. H. Fetherstonhaugh, Thurles (Don Juan); 2, Neil Partridge, Castle Hill, Bleechingley, Surrey (Carleton); 3, Nathaniel Morton, Brookville, Ballymena (Emerald); 4, Miss Norah Persse, Newcastle, co Dean (Cadet); r and hc, Richard J. Huston (Kathleen); hc, M. Quinn (Mollie Morgan); c, David M'Kelvey, Greenbrook, Ballinderry, co. Down (Ardmarcin)

Three-year-old gelding: 1, Walton Beddington, Moss Hall, Blessington (Navan); 2, Andrew J. Brown, Marigrange, Doncaster (Old Gold); 3, George J. Ball, Moorside, Nuul; r, hc, and c, Lowton and Sons, Curraghhill, co Cork (Paddock Bay and Bridgetcher); hc, James Lawson and Sons (Huntsman); c, William Boobbman, Miley Hall, Blessington (Ranji)

Three-year-old fillies: 1, Patrick M'Caffrey, Lower English Street, Armagh (Cathleen); 2, Andrew J. Brown (Wexford); 3, Daniel Kiernan, Balrath, Mullingar (Sweet and Gay); r and hc, Capt. H. E. de Comyn Wheeler, Willfield, Stradbrook, Dublin (Ladysmith); hc, Mrs. Boyd-Rochfort (Flying Dutchman); c, P. J. O'Connor, 49, Queen Street, Dublin (Melody), and R. H. Metge, Athlumney, Navan

Two-year-old colts, entire: 1, Patrick Turley, Decoment, Castlewellan (May Boy); 2, Richard George Camden, Fishmoyne, Templemore (The Dutchman)

One-year-old colt, entire: 1, R. G. Nash, Finnstown, Lucan (Bay Duke); 2, Miss Marion de S. Harman, Barrowmount House, Goresbridge, co. Kilkenny (Ballyhenry)

ROADSTERS, SADDLE HORSES, AND COBS.

Horses suitable for Roadsters or harness: 1, H. H. Smiley, Inver Stud, Larne (Mandarin); 2, 3, and hc, Andrew Watson, North Main Stepps, near Glasgow (Ayrshire Adonis, Ayrshire Extravagance, Lord Kilbride); r and hc, P. T. Cumisky, Tankerville, Balbriggan (Hard Held).

Riding horse, suitable for covert or park hack, 15 hands and over: 1, Robert M'Bride, North Street, Belfast (Gay Lad); 2, J. Bromley Jones, 9, Princess Street, Cork (Victoria); 3, Nathaniel Morton (Great Expectations); r and hc, S. Graham, Holywell, Antrim (Sunset); hc, George A. Moorhead, Tullamore (Willie).

Cobs, over 14 and under 15 hands: 1 and c, Alex. Gemmell, Chelston, Ayr (Lord Burnham and Ayrshire Golden Lily); 3, John Jones, Whitegate Stud, Wrexham, N. Wales (Whitegate Squire); r and hc, J. Brown, 48, Moore Street, Glasgow (Gentleman John); hc, Alex. Morton, Gowanbank, Darvel (Contention II.).

HARNESS HORSES

Double harness, not less than 15.3 hands: 1, E. Godsell, Stroud, Gloucester (Lord Bath and Duke of York; 2, Robt M'Bride (Redlight and Starlight); 3, Alexander Gemmell (Ayrshire Phenomenon and Ayrshire Performer); r and hc, Robert M'Bride (Sensation and Searchlight)

Double harness, over 15 and under 15.3 hands: 1, Nathaniel Morton (Candy II. and Country Maid); 2, A. Wilson (Ayrshire Adonis and Ayrshire Extravagance); 3, Robert M'Bride (King George and Greylight); r and hc, Alex Gemmell (King of the Forest and Ayrshire Squire)

Double harness, over 14.2 and not exceeding 15 hands: 1, Alex Gemmell (Ayrshire Golden Lily and Ayrshire Hope); 2, James Hamilton, Aldersyde, Uddingston, N.B. (Ace of Hearts and Queen of Hearts).

Class 28.—Tandems, over 14.2 hands: 1, Mr. Godsell (Lord Bath and Duke of York); 2, Mr. Godsell (Heathfield Squire and Norbury Squire); 3, Mr. M'Bride (Starlight and Sunshine).

Class 30.—Single harness, not less than 15.3 hands: 1, R. M'Bride (Brilliance); 2, R. M'Bride (Starlight); 3, A. Gemmedl (Ayrshire Phenomenon)

Class 31.—Single harness, over 15 and under 15.3 hands: 1, R. M'Bride (King George); 2, N. Morton (Country Maid); 3, R. M'Bride (Sunshine).

Class 32.—Single harness, over 15 hands: 1, E. Godsell (Lord Bate); 2, A. Wilson (Ayrshire Adonis); 3, Messrs. Baxter (Lady Nell)

Class 33.—Single harness: Over 14 and not exceeding 15 hands: 1, N. Morton (Sir Ronald); 2, W. Cropper; 3, J. Jones (Whitegate Squire).

Class 34.—Single harness, over 13 and not exceeding 15 hands: 1, N. Morton (Sir Ronald); 2, Messrs. Baxter (Miss Howard).

Class 35.—For the best harness horse, the property of a lady, and driven by a lady, in single harness: 1, Miss Mary Godsell (Heathfield Squire).

PONIES

Double harness, 14.2 hands and under: 1, E. and A. Baxter (Musk and Miss Howard); 2, Mrs. Gemmell (Uriah Heap and Talk of the Town); r and hc, J. Brown (Lady Bang and Lady Go-Bang).

Class 37.—For the best pair, 14.2 hands and under, driven tandem: 1, E. and A. Baxter, Hutton Hackney Stud, Brentwood, Essex (Musk and Miss Howard); 2, Mrs. Gemmell, Chelston, Ayr (Uriah Heep and Talk of the Town); 3, John Brown, 48, Moore Street, Glasgow (Lady Bang and Lady Go-Bang)

Class 38 Ponies over 13 and not exceeding 14 hands, single harness: 1, J. Jones (Whitegate Fairy); 2, Mrs. J. Jones (Lovely Lottie).

Class 39 – Single harness ponies, 13 hands or under: 1, J. Garratt (McGinty); 2, G. E. Franklin (Pom Pom).

RIDING PONIES

Ponies, over 13 and not exceeding 14.2 hands: 1, Miss M. Cochrane, Quilley, Coleraine; 2, Denis Brennan, Kilcullen, co. Kildare (Young Tom).

Ponies, 13 hands or under: 1, George E. Franklin, The Field, Derby (Pom-Pom); 2, Alexander Morton (Little Britannia); r and hc, Evans and Co., Abbey House, Waterford (Timepiece); hc, J. R. Adam, 60, St. Vincent Crescent, Glasgow (Zenith); c, James M'Cartney, Central Horse Bazaar, 42, May Street, Belfast (Charlie).

TROTTING HORSES

(To be driven in Sulkies, over a style, and price to be considered.)

Class 42 – Ponies, 14 hands or under: 1, Mrs. Gemmell, Chelston, Ayr (Uriah Heap); 2, John Jones, Whitegate Stud, Wrexham, N. Wales (Whitegate Fairy); r, William Townsley, 372, Newtownards Road, Belfast (First and Last); hc, Michael Horan, 27, Ellis's Quay, Dublin (Kathleen).

Class 43.—Over 14 hands: 1, Lord William Beresford, The Deepdene, Dorking, Surrey (Piloteer); 2, James Gilmore, 60, Melling Road, Aintree, Liverpool (Harry G.); 3, William Townsley, 372, Newtownards Road, Belfast (General White); r, Frederick C. C. Stewart, The Lodge, Dunmurry, co. Antrim (The Quaker).

Class 44.—Fast trotting horses, to be driven in Sulkies, one mile record: 1, James Gilmore, 60, Melling Road, Aintree, Liverpool (Harry G.); 2, William Townsley, Belfast (General White); 3, Michael Horan, 27, Ellis's Quay, Dublin (Flying Fox); r, B. C. Muntz, 68, William Street, Dublin (Empress))

SHEEP

[illegible]

Class 2.—Shearling rams: 1 and 2, C. M. Doyne; 3, William [illegible]

[illegible]

Class 5.—Pen of three ewes of the same flock, having reared lambs up to July 1st this year, bred by the exhibitor: 1, C. M. Doyne; 2, [illegible]

[illegible]

Class 7.—Two shearling ram lambs: 1, C. M. Doyne; 2, [illegible]

Class 8.—Shearling ram: 1, Patrick Keane, Templepatrick, [illegible]

Class 9.—Pen of three shearling ewes, the property of the exhibitor: 1, Matthew Flanagan; 2, John Keane; c, P. J. Fitzmaurice; r, Patrick Keane

Class 10.—Pen of three shearling ewes, the property of the exhibitor: 1, Richard George Carden; 2, Thomas L. Hodgins; r, Richard George Carden; hc, Thomas L. Hodgins and John R. Lloyd, Trevallyn, Newgale, co Pembroke

Class 11.—Pen of three ewes of the same flock, having reared lambs up to July 1st this year: 1, P. J. Fitzmaurice, Elphin; 2, Matthew Flanagan; r, Captain Longworth-Dames, Greenhill, Edenderry

Class 12.—Pen of three ewes of the same flock, having reared lambs up to July 1st this year, bred by the exhibitor: 1, P. J. Fitzmaurice; 2, Matthew Flanagan; r, John Keane; hc, P. J. Fitzmaurice

LINCOLN

Challenge cup, value £10, for the best [illegible] in the Lincoln Classes, bred and owned by exhibitor: Richard J. Carden, Fishmoyne

Silver cup, value £10, presented by the Lincoln Sheep Breeders' Association for the best [illegible] Shearling ram which has been [illegible] in the register of the Association: Richard G. Carden

Class 13.—Two shearling rams: 1 and 2, Richard George Carden; r, Thomas L. Hodgins; hc, Thomas L. Hodgins and John R. Lloyd, Trevallyn, Newgale, co Pembroke

Class 14.—Shearling ram: 1, 2, and 3, Richard George Carden; r, Richard George Carden; hc, Thomas L. Hodgins; c, Richard George Carden

Class 15.—Pen of three ewes [illegible] this year, bred by the exhibitor: 1, Richard George Carden; 2, Thomas L. Hodgins; r, Richard George Carden; hc, Richard Reynell

Class 16.—Pen of three shearling ewes [illegible] Richard George Carden; rec. for 2, Thomas L. Hodgins.

Class 17.—Pen of three ewes of the same flock, having reared lambs up to July 1st this year: 1, Richard George Carden; 2 and r, Thomas L. Hodgins; hc, Richard Reynell.

Class 18.—Pen of three ewe lambs of the same flock, dropped this year, bred by the exhibitor: 1, Richard George Carden; 2, Thomas L. Hodgins; r, Richard George Carden.

BLACK-FACED

Class 19.—Two-shear ram and upwards: 1, 2, and r, H. D. M. Barton, The Bush, Antrim.

Class 20.—Shearling ram: 1 and 2, H. D. M. Barton; 3, Robert Hassard, Desertcreat, Dungannon, co. Tyrone; r, H. D. M. Barton.

Class 21.—Pen of three shearling ewes [illegible] 1 and 2, H. D. M. Barton; r, Robert Hassard

SHROPSHIRE WOOLLED

Challenge cup, value £10, for the best three shearling rams in the Shropshire Classes, bred and owned by exhibitor: Robert F. H. White, Aghavoe, Abbeyleix; r, Richard Barter, St. Anne's Hill, Cork

Special prize of £5, or a gold medal, presented by the Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association for the best Shropshire ram in the show: Robert F. H. White; r, R. Hamilton Stubber.

SHROPSHIRE

Class 22 – Two-shear ram and upwards: 1, R. Hamilton Stubber; 2, The Earl of Longford; r, John C. Gow, Ballystokes, Downpatrick, co. Down.

Class 23.—Shearling ram: 1 and 2, Robert F. H. White, Aghavoe, Abbeyleix; 3, Richard Barter; r, Richard Barter; hc, Robert F. H. White; c, Richard Barter.

Class 24.—Pen of three ram lambs of the same flock, dropped this year, bred by the exhibitor: 1, R. Hamilton Stubber; 2, James Lenox Naper; r, [illegible] Hamilton Stubber; hc, Miss Rose [illegible] c, Richard Barter.

Class 25.—Pen of three ewes [illegible] lambs up to July 1st this year: 1, The Earl of Longford; r, R. Hamilton Stubber.

Class 27.—Pen of three ewe lambs [illegible] this year, bred by the exhibitor: 1, Robert F. H. White; 2, James Lenox Naper; r, The Earl of Longford; c, Richard Barter

SOUTHDOWNS

Class 28.—Shearling ram: 1, 2, 3, r, and hc, Captain Longworth-Dames; [illegible]

Class 29.—Pen of three ewes [illegible] this year, bred by exhibitor: 1, Captain Longworth-Dames; 2, Richard Barter; r, R. Hamilton Stubber; hc, Miss Rose [illegible] Mahony; c, Richard Barter.

Class 30.—Pen of three ewes [illegible] and 2, Captain Longworth-Dames

Class 31.—Pen of three ewe lambs [illegible] this year, bred by exhibitor: 1, Captain Longworth-Dames; 2, Richard Barter; r, R. Hamilton Stubber; hc, Miss Rose [illegible] Mahony; c, C. Cuffe, Clonskeagh, co. Dublin; r and c, Captain Longworth-Dames

BERKSHIRES

Class 32.—Shearling boar: 1, Wm. Young; 2, [illegible] Trim, co. Meath; 3, Wm. Young; r, John C. Hanbury.

[illegible] bred by exhibitor: 1 and 2, Wm. Young.

Class 34.—Shearling [illegible]

Class 35.—Pen [illegible] bred by exhibitor: 1 and 2, H. D. M. Barton

Cheshire.

On Wednesday the annual show of the Cheshire Agricultural Society took place at Congleton. The weather was favourable, and accordingly there was a large attendance not only from different parts of the county, but also from North Staffordshire and from Lancashire. The entries totalled up to 1,208, the main sections contributing being dogs and horses with entries of 365 and 308 respectively. Seeds and vegetables were responsible for 158 entries, cattle 135, cheese and butter 77, honey 69, and implements forty. The total was just over 100 less than the number at Northwich last year, but double the number at Macclesfield in 1898.

There was a large number of entries in the Dairy section, and the competition was so keen that the day was well advanced before the awards were made and the cheese tent was thrown open to visitors. For some years it has been complained here and there that Cheshire cheese-making is falling off. Little support for this assumption could be derived from yesterday's display, for the entries were numerous and the quality was generally allowed to be quite up to the average.

Cattle made a capital show. The winner of the £10 prize was a beautiful red and white Shorthorn cow owned by Mr. H. Ker Colville, of Market Drayton, who also took the second card with a very promising beast. Other premier cards were taken by T. Rawes and Sons, Newcastle, Staffordshire; F. Miller, Birkenhead; Richard Hull, Nantwich; C. W. Kellock, Audlem; Richard Clarke, Warrington; Samuel W. Gould, Lymm; Lord Crewe, G. D. Lloyd, Rossett; A. John Solly, Congleton; and M. Pinkstone, Ringway. In the class for bulls above two years old the competition was extremely keen, the judges experiencing considerable difficulty.

Heavy horses have improved greatly in Cheshire of late years, a result which is largely attributed to the action of the Tarporley Hunt Club. The members have introduced into the county two Shire stallions, which are gratuitously placed at the service of farmers, and the results are being seen in improved agricultural horses. Amongst the lighter breeds some of the best of north-country horses were again exhibited. A fine lot of hunters is always forthcoming, and a pretty display was headed by Mr. Charles Griffiths' Lady Templar, a winner at the Royal Show at Maidstone, and since then successful elsewhere. In the class for Hackney mare or gelding Mr. A. L. Goodson took honours with Heathfield. For quality in the heavy horse section Mr. Kenworthy was once more well to the front. At this show it is not usual to look for any distinctive superiority amongst the sheep, but the long-woolled classes were fairly well represented.

Judges.

Cattle: Mr. G. Ashburner, Kirkby-in-Furness; and Mr. J. Westgarth, Penrith. Heavy Horses: Mr. H. R. Hart, Cannock, and Mr. J. Paisley, Huntingdon. Light Horses: Major Kearsley, Nantwich, and Mr. H. U. Wilson, Holmes Chapel. Sheep: Mr. S. F. M. Nevett, Shrewsbury, and Mr. J. V. Williamson, Corwen. Cheese and Butter: Mr. F. Bebbington, Manchester, and Mr. H. J. Fish, Whitchurch.

Prize List.

CHEESE.

Four white cheeses, made in the year 1900, not less than 50lbs. weight each: 1, John Williams, Hollin Green, Sound, Nantwich; 2, J. A. Jackson, Tattenhall; 3, William Moore, Blakenhall. Four coloured cheeses, made in the year 1900, not less than 50lbs. weight each: 1, Norman Dale, Tarporley; 2, I. A. Brown, Tarporley; 3, Benjamin Dutton, Nantwich. Four white cheeses, made in the year 1900, not less than 25lbs. nor more than 50lbs. weight each: 1, Joseph Williams, Audlem; 2, John Williams, Nantwich; 3, Samuel Evans, Chester. Four coloured cheeses, made in the year 1900, not less than 25lbs., nor more than 50lbs. weight each: 1, Richard Dutton, Ellesmere; 2, Richard Booth, Crewe; 3, Seymour A. Bonell, Audlem.

BUTTER.

Three pounds of butter: 1, Miss Edith Dale, Brereton; 2, Philip Reade, Swanley; 3, Mrs. G. Robinson, Nantwich.

CATTLE.

Bull, above two years old: 1, T. Rawes and Sons, Newcastle, Staffs; 2, F. Miller, Birkenhead; 3, I. A. Brown, Tarporley. Bull, above one and under two years old: 1, F. Miller; 2, I. A. Brown; 3, T. C. Heath, Newcastle, Staffs. Bull, under two years old, bred in the Society's district: 1, R. Hull, Nantwich; 2, G. Lewis, Weston; 3, The Earl of Crewe. Calf: 1, C. W. Kellock, Audlem; 2, The Earl of Crewe; 3, T. C. Heath. Shorthorn cow, in milk, of any age: 1 and 2, H. Ker Colville, Market Drayton. Pair of dairy cows: 1, R. Clarke, Warrington; 2, S. S. Raingill, Ringway; 3, I. A. Brown. Dairy cow, in milk: 1, S. W. Gould, Lymm; 2, S. S. Raingill; 3, T. C. Heath. Best dairy cow, in calf: 1 and 3, The Earl of Crewe; 2, T. C. Heath. Best heifer, under three years old, in milk or in calf: 1, G. D. Lloyd, Rossett; 2, H. Ker Colville. Heifer, under two years old: 1, H. Ker Colville; 2, S. W. Gould, Lymm; 3, I. A. Brown. Heifer calf: 1, S. W. Gould; 2, J. R. Newton, Warburton. Channel Island cow: 1, A. J. Solly, Congleton; 2, F. Stanway, Wildboarclough. Labourer's cow: 1, M. Pickstone, Ringway; 2, A. Cooper, Somerford; 3, T. Evans, Barthomley. Offered by the Congleton Local Committee to residents within nine miles from Congleton Town Hall: Bull, any age: 1, R. Goodwin, Biddulph; 2, N. Thompstone, Siddington. Pair of dairy cows, in milk, or in calf: 1, C. Bibbey, Astbury; 2, J. Hill, Congleton. Dairy cow, in milk or in calf: 1 and 3, C. Bibbey; 2, W. S. Billington, Sandbach. Heifer, three years old: 1, P. Hollinshead, Stoke-on-Trent; 2, C. Bibbey. Heifer, two years old: 1, W. S. Billington, Sandbach; 2, C. Bibbey; 3, A. J. Solly, Congleton. Best heifer calf, not over twelve months old: 1 and 2, W. S. Billington. Richard Clarke, Warrington, won the "Day" challenge cup.

HEAVY HORSES.

Shire stallion, foaled prior to the year 1897: 1, Thomas Lowndes, Tutbury. Shire stallion, foaled in 1897: 1, J. W. Kenworthy, Kelsall; 2, Thomas Jeffs, Helsby. Shire stallion, foaled in 1898: 1, J. W. Kenworthy; 2, F. W. Lowndes, Tutbury. Pair of agricultural horses, mares, or geldings: 1, J. W. Kenworthy. Mare or gelding, for agricultural purposes: 1, Earl Egerton of Tatton; 2, S. S. Raingill; 3, Arthur Nicholson, Leek. Brood mare and her foal, for agricultural purposes: 1, James Colclough, Alsager; 2, Eli Pennington, Senr., Adlington. Brood mare, foaled prior to the year 1897, the property of an exhibitor principally dependent on farming: 1, F. W. Lowndes; 2, Chas. Baker, Congleton; 3, Jas. Gould, Lymm. Foal for agricultural purposes: 1, Lewis Dodd, Bickerton; 2, James Colclough; 3, Chas. Baker. Gelding or filly, for agricultural purposes, foaled in 1897: 1, John W. Chadwick, Lawton; 2, S. S. Raingill; 3, Wm. Millington, Gawsworth. Gelding or filly for agricultural purposes, foaled in 1898: 1, Jas. Gould; 2, Robert Canning, Nantwich; 3, Robert Dodd, Eaton. Colt or filly for agricultural purposes, foaled in 1899: 1, N. Thompstone, Siddington; 2, Richard Clarke, Warburton Park; 3, F. W. Lowndes. Pair of cart horses for agricultural purposes: 1, Charles Baker; 2, Charles Corbishley. Draught horse, mare or gelding: 1, Charles Baker; 2, J. W. Chadwick. Brood mare, with foal at foot: 1 and 2, Charles Baker. Gelding or filly, two years old: Joseph Nixon, Congleton; 2, John Beckett, Rode Heath. Yearling gelding or filly: 1, N. Thompstone; 2, I. Ford, Barthomley.

LIGHT HORSES.

Hackney stallion (open): 1, J. Makeague, Newton-le-Willows; 2, J. W. Macfie, Chester. Brood mare, for breeding roadsters, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, Wm. Ferguson, Butley; 2, A. C. Sparkes, Altrincham; 3, John Beckett, Rode Heath. Foal, likely to make a roadster: 1, Wm. Ferguson. Colt or filly, foaled in 1899: 1, Wm. Ferguson.; 2, A. C. Sparkes. Hackney mare or gelding, foaled in 1898: 1, Lees Knowles, M.P., Pendlebury; 2, Jas. Laithwood, Congleton. Hackney mare or gelding, foaled in 1897: 1, Lees Knowles, M.P.; 2, Jas. Laithwood. Hackney mare or gelding, foaled prior to 1897: 1, A. L. Goodson, Knutsford; 2, G. Pimlott, Altrincham. Brood mare, for breeding hunters, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, Charles Griffiths, Northwich; 2, John Ravenscroft, Plumbley; 3, James Storrar, jun., Chester. Foal, likely to make a hunter: 1, Thomas Rutter, Bunbury; 2, R. Prescott, Northwich. Hunter, colt, or filly, foaled in 1898: 1, Massie Harper, Congleton; 2, A. Haslewood, Buxton. Hunter, mare or gelding, foaled in 1898: 1, Isaac Farish, Northwich; 2, T. Brassington, Nantwich. Hunter, mare, or gelding, foaled 1897: 1, John Prescott, Kinderton; 2, Evan Langley, Tarporley. Hunter, mare or gelding, foaled prior to 1897, to carry 14 stone and upwards: 1, Arthur Brocklehurst, Prestbury; 2, H. Reginald Cooke, Nantwich; 3, Alfred Ashton, Holmes Chapel. Hunter, mare or gelding, foaled prior to 1897, to carry under 14 stone: 1, Alfred Ashton; 2, Arthur Brocklehurst; 3, Joseph Lewis, Northwich. Cob, mare, or gelding, 13.2 and not exceeding 14.2: 1, Alfred S. Day, Crewe; 2, W. Galbraith, Market Drayton. English or Eastern mare, not exceeding 14.2: 1, G. Norris Midwood, Tabley; 2, J. J. Edge, Mobberley. Stallion polo pony, not exceeding 14.2: 1, G. Norris Midwood. Pony, mare or gelding, over 12.2, and not exceeding 13.2: 1, Alfred S. Day; 2, J. Makeague, Newton-le-Willows. Pony, mare or gelding, 12.2 and under: 1, John Beckett, Rode Heath; 2, W. H. C. Holt, Congleton. Offered by the Tarporley Hunt Club: Brood mare, likely to breed a hunter with foal at foot: 1, Charles Griffiths, Northwich; 2, John Ravenscroft, Plumbley. Foal, likely to make a hunter: 1, R. Prescott; 2, Joseph Millington, Middlewich; 3, Walter Harrison, Manley.

SHEEP.

Long-woolled ram, of any age: 1, John E. Ward, Middlewich; 2, O. Russell Ward, Great Warford. Shearling long-woolled ram: 1, John E. Ward; 2, Charles Hollinshead, Elton. Long-woolled tup lamb: 1, John Hill, Congleton; 2, John E. Ward. Three long-woolled ewes, of any age, having had lambs this year: 1, John E. Ward; 2, O. Russell Ward. Three long-woolled shearling ewes: 1, O. Russell Ward; 2, John E. Ward. Three long-woolled ewe lambs: 1, J. H. Richardson, Leighton; 2, John E. Ward. Short-woolled ram, of any age: 1, Arthur Nicholson, Leek; 2, John Barnett, Market Drayton. Shearling short-woolled ram: 1, J. W. Kenworthy, Kelsall; 2, J. E. Bourne, Market Drayton. Short-woolled tup lamb: 1, J. E. Bourne; 2, John Barnett. Three short-woolled ewes, of any age, having had lambs this year: 1, John Barnett; 2, Arthur Nicholson. Three short-woolled shearling ewes: 1, J. W. Kenworthy; 2, John Barnett. Three short-woolled ewe lambs: 1, J. W. Kenworthy; 2, John Barnett.

Lancaster Agricultural Show.

The thirty-seventh annual meeting of the Lancaster Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday at Lancaster. The weather was unsettled, but the show was one of the best which the society has held, all classes being well filled. There was an increase in the total number of entries as compared with last year—1,163 against 931. There were eighty-three cattle entries, as against 108; ninety-five sheep, as against 104; 138 heavy horses, as against seventy-four; eighty-two Hackneys, as against forty-seven; forty-six hunting and harness, as against forty-seven; 106 saddle and harness, as against eighty-five. There was a considerable increase in the entries of dogs and poultry. One of the principal animals in the cattle section was Mr. John Handley's Lord James Douglas, which has won honours at the leading shows of the country, and which now appeared in good form. Mr. Richard Hall, of Lancaster, was, as usual, prominent in the dairy section with animals of a fine dairy type, and the leading farmers of the district were well represented in the local classes. In sheep there was a fine display of Wensleydales and crossbreds, and such well-known exhibitors as Messrs. Gibson and Son, Kendal; Lord Henry Bentinck, and Mr. R. J. Huddleston, Kendal, appeared in the list of winners. In the heavy horse department there was a large number of animals from the Fylde district. Messrs. Whinnerah, of Carnforth, won with their yearling which received notice at the Royal Lancashire Show, and Mr. John Gornall, of Nateby, and Colonel Bird, Garstang, also exhibited fine horses of the Shire type. Mr. Gornall's two-year-old beat Mr. Victor Cavendish's entry, which had won at the North Lonsdale Show the day before. A feature of all the horse sections was the large number of special prizes which were offered, for which the competition was very keen. In the Hackney section most of the winners were animals which had been previously noticed in Lancashire showyards.

Judges.

Green Crops and Roots: Mr. W. Wilcock, Quernmore, and Mr. John Hutchen, Garstang. Cheese and Butter: Mr. E. G. Smith, Lancaster. Horned Cattle: Mr. A. Dobson, Sowerby, and Mr. J. Howard, Gargrave. Sheep: Mr. A. Ewan, Kirkby Lonsdale; Mr. W. Carr, Clitheroe; and Mr. H. Toppin, Penrith. Heavy Horses: Mr. L. R. Duckworth, Bury, and Mr. Joseph Hill, Congleton. Hackneys: Mr. A. C. Carr, Chester. Hunting and Harness Horses: Mr. Whitfield, Liverpool. Saddle and Harness Classes: Mr. R. Whitfield and Mr. A. C. Carr. Hunters: Mr. R. Whitfield. Leapers: Mr. R. Burrow, Mr. J. Turner, and Mr. M. Tyson.

Prize List.

HORSES.

AGRICULTURAL

Yearling gelding or colt: 1, E. and J. Whinnerah, Warton; 2, E. Thompson, Westby. Yearling filly: 1 and 2, Colonel C. H. Bird, J.P., Cockerham. Two-year-old gelding: 1, J. Gornall, Nateby; 2, D. Simmon, Cockerham. Two-year-old filly: 1, J. Gornall; 2, T. A. Eaves, Woodplumpton. Three-year-old gelding: 1, R. Parker, Milnthorpe; 2, J. Dobson, Burton. Three-year-old filly: 1, W. Cottom, Milnthorpe; 2, E. Willacy, Nateby. Colt foal: 1, H. Mackereth, Whittington; 2, D. Simpson. Filly foal: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish, Cark; 2, E. Thompson. Brood mare, which has produced a foal in 1900: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish; 2, T. Longton, Morecambe; 3, E. Arkwright, Cockerham. Mare, any age: 1, W. Cottam; 2, E. Willacy. Pair of draught horses in gears, three years and upwards (competitors to reside within twenty-five miles of Lancaster Town Hall): 1, Colonel C. H. Bird; 2, E. Willacy. Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, W. M. Pye, Thurnham. Mare, three years and upwards, the property of a tenant farmer: 1, W. Cottam. Filly in the heavy horse classes, any age not exceeding three years: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish. Foal, yearling, two-year-old, or three-year-old shire filly: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish. Shire mare, filly, or filly foal: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish. Collection of horses, for agricultural purposes, the property of a tenant farmer, to consist of one brood mare and two young horses: 1, E. Thompson; 2, T. Longton. Collection of three young animals in the agricultural classes, three years or under: 1, T. Longton

HACKNEYS.

Yearling colt, gelding, or filly: 1, R. M. Birley, Houghton Hall; 2, L. Knowles, M.P., Pendlebury. Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, L. Fish, Barton; 2, W. Lawson, Blackpool. Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, W. Lawson; 2, J. Clarkson, Carnforth. Colt filly: 1, R. M. Birley; 2, R. Burrow, Whittington. Filly foal: 1, T. B. Sykes, Poulton-le-Fylde; 2, H. T. Parke, Withnell Fold. Mare, which has produced a foal in 1900: 1, J. W. Liver, Barnacre; 2, L. Fish. Pony mare, three years and upwards, not exceeding 14 hands: 1, R. Harrison, Chorley; 2, H. T. Parke. Foal or yearling (colt, gelding, or filly), or two-year-old (gelding or filly), within fifteen miles of Lancaster Town Hall: 1, E. D. M'Naughton, Milnthorpe; 2, Col. W. H. Foster, M.P., Hornby Castle; 3, R. Burrow. Foal, yearling, two-year-old, or three-year-old filly: 1, T. B. Sykes. Pony mare, filly, or filly foal: 1, L. Fish

HUNTING OR HARNESS.

Yearling colt, gelding or filly: 1, Colonel W. H. Foster, M.P.; 2, J. Kidd, Milnthorpe; 3, Exors. of Richard Dowthwaite, Priest Hutton. Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. Kidd; 2, R. Ball, Bolton-le-Sands. Three-year-old gelding: 1, Exors. of T. Dixon, Priest Hutton; 2, J. Hartley and Co., Carnforth. Three-year-old filly: 1, R. Newsham, Hornby; 2, T. A. Cornthwaite, Burton. Colt foal: 1, E. Barton, Carnforth; 2, A. Orr, Hornby. Filly foal: 1, H. L. Storey, Lancaster. Brood mare, which has produced a foal in 1900: 1, E. Barton; 2, J. S. Rigg, Appleby; 3, H. L. Storey. Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, W. Lawson. Foal, yearling, two-year-old, or three-year-old filly: 1, R. Ball. Collection of horses in the light horse sections to consist of one brood mare and two young horses: 1, R. Burrow; 2, A. Orr. Hackney mare or gelding, over 14½ hands: 1, T. Mitchell, Bradford; 2, Mrs. F. Holmes, Shipley; 3, J. R. Irving, Blackburn. Cob, mare, or gelding, not exceeding 14½ hands: 1, Mrs F. Holmes; 2, W. Lawson. Hackney or cob, mare or gelding, any height (confined to residents within ten miles of Lancaster Town Hall): 1, E. Cousins, Lancaster; 2, Misses Leeming, Lancaster. Single turnout, including horse over 14½ hands, harness, and two or four wheeled conveyance: 1, T. Mitchell; 2, Mrs. F. Holmes. Single turnout, including cob (14½ hands or under), harness, and two or four-wheeled conveyance: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, C. V. Howarth, Poulton-le-Fylde. Turnout, including horse or pony (any height), harness, and two or four-wheeled conveyance (confined to residents within ten miles of Lancaster Town Hall): 1, J. W. Liver; 2, E. Cousins. Milk kitter's turnout: 1, W. Nelson, Ashton; 2, J. W. Fox, Aldcliffe.

CATTLE.

Short-horned bull, two years and upwards: 1, J. Handley, Milnthorpe; 2, T. Thompson, Hest Bank. Yearling short-horned bull: 1, W. Atkinson; 2, J. Handley. Bull calf, not less than six months old: 1, W. Richardson, Kendal; 2, J. Handley. Shorthorn stock and dairy cow, in calf or milk: 1, R. Hall, Lancaster; 2, T. Thompson. Two-year-old Shorthorn heifer, in calf or milk: 1, W. Bateman, Halton; 2, Lady Henry Bentinck. Heifer calf, not less than six months old: 1, D. A. Warbrick, Garstang; 2, R. Metcalfe, Quernmore. Two dairy cows, in calf or milk: 1, R. Hall; 2, J. Makinson, Kirkby Lonsdale.

TENANT FARMERS' CLASSES.

Shorthorn bull, two years and upwards: 1, J. Towers, Nether Kellet; 2, W. Bateman. Yearling bull: 1, T. Bainbridge, Carnforth; 2, J. Bibby, Carnforth. Bull calf, not less than six months old: 1, T. Bainbridge; 2, W. Bateman. Two-year-old heifer, in calf or milk: 1, W. Bateman; 2, J. W. Fox. Yearling heifer: 1, R. Hall; 2, W. Bateman. Heifer calf, not less than six months: 1, R. Metcalfe; 2, R. Hall. Two dairy cows, in calf or milk: 1 and 2, R. Hall. Collection of three female animals, consisting of one cow, one two-year-old, and one yearling: 1, Lady Henry Bentinck; 2, R. Hall. Male or female in the cattle classes, any age, the property of a tenant farmer, resident within seven miles of Lancaster Town Hall: 1, R. Hall. Fat heifer: 1 and 2, Executors of J. Smith, Catterall Hall. Pair of bullocks, not having any broad teeth: 1, H. Dawson Greene, Whittington Hall; 2, J. Baxter, Overton. Collection of cattle, the property of a tenant farmer, to consist of one male and three female animals, any age: 1, R. Hall

SHEEP

DOWNS of any breed, and other Short-woolled.

Ram, one shear and upwards: 1, R. J. Huddleston, Natland Park; 2, J. Gibson and Son, Natland Hall. Ram lamb: 1, H. L. Storey, Lancaster; 2, R. J. Huddleston. Three one-shear gimmers: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, R. Huddleston. Three ewes: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, R. J. Huddleston. Three gimmer lambs: 1, W. Cottam, Oxcliffe Hill; 2, J. Gibson and Son.

WENSLEYDALE.

Ram, two-shears and upwards: 1, T. Woof, Sedbergh; 2, J. Gibson and Son. Shearling ram: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, T. Thompson. Ram lamb: 1, Lord Henry Bentinck; 2, J. Towers, Nether Kellet. Three one-shear gimmers: 1, Lord Henry Bentinck; 2, J. Gibson and Son. Three ewes: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, Lord Henry Bentinck. Three gimmer lambs: 1, Lord Henry Bentinck; 2, J. Ireland, Bulk. Three half-bred one-year gimmers: 1 and 2, J. Gibson and Son. Pen of three ram lambs, of any long-woolled breed: 1, T. Thompson; 2, Mrs. E. Milner, Slyne Hall. Pen of sheep, consisting of one male and three female (any breed): 1 and 2,

J. Gibson and Son; 3, R. J. Huddleston.

CHEESE AND BUTTER.

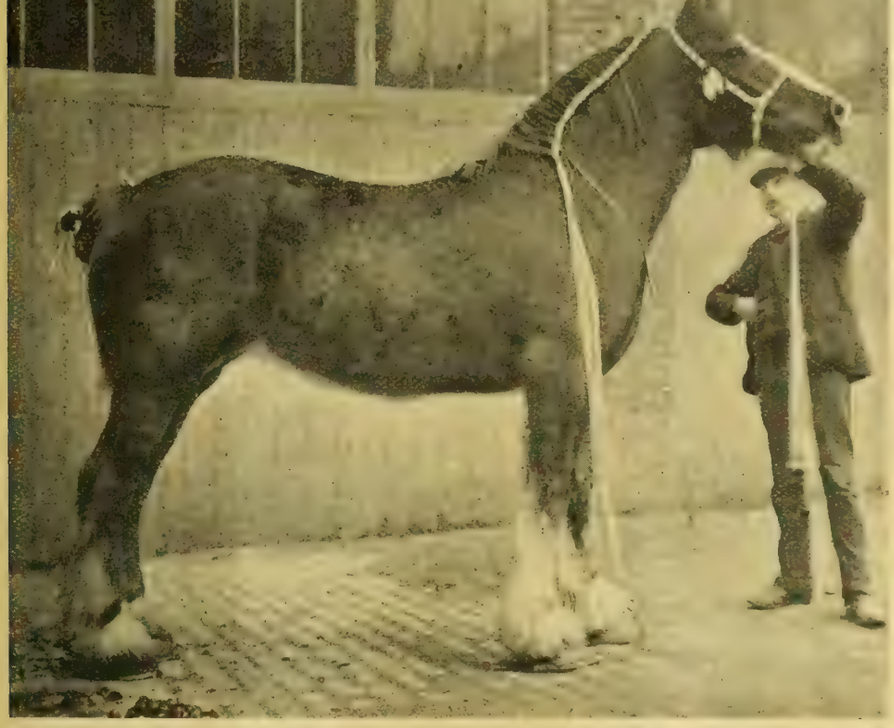
Dairy of cheese, not to weigh less than 112lb.: 1, J. Shepherd, Churchtown; 2, R. Hall, Forton. Butter, 3lb., made up in 1lb. or ½lb., without salt: 1, W. Clegg, Inglewhite; 2, W. G. M. Townley, Hardcragg; 3, W. Atkinson, Overthwaite. Fresh butter, 3lb. made in 1lb. or ½lb., with salt added: 1, W. G. M. Townley; 2, Sarah Orr, Hornby; 3, Elizabeth Nelson, Ashton.

GREEN CROPS, ETC.

Swedish turnips (limited to tenant farmers within ten miles of Lancaster Town Hall): 1, W. Wilson, Bare; 2, E. Cook and Sons, Red Bank; 3, A. Kilshaw, Hillam. Mangold wurtzel: 1, W. Wilson; 2, A. Kilshaw. Two statute acres of Swedish turnips: 1, W. Wilson; 2, A. Kilshaw. Six roots of long mangold wurtzel grown within twenty-five miles of Lancaster Town Hall: 1, J. Parker, Lancaster; 2, S. T. Parker, Parker; 2, J. Parker. Six roots of Swedish turnips: 1, W. Wilson; 2, J. Thornton, Heaton. Six roots of turnips (any variety, not swedes): 1 and 2, S. T. Parker. Three cabbages: 1, S. T. Parker. Potatoes of fluke shape: 1, J. Parker; 2, S. T. Parker. Round potatoes: 1, J. Parker; 2, S. T. Parker. Sheaf of wheat: 1, H. Mackereth, Ashton; 2, J. Gorst, Quernmore. Sheaf of oats: 1, R. Gerrard, Glasson; 2, W. Nelson, Ashton. Sheaf of barley: 1, J. Gorst; 2, W. Nelson. Sheaf of beans: 1, J. Gorst; 2, T. Taylor and Sons, Heaton. Three dishes of potatoes: 1, J. Parker; 2, S. T. Parker.

The Warwickshire at Coventry.

Favourable weather greatly assisted to make a success of the show of the Warwickshire Agricultural Society, which took place on Wednesday and Thursday last at Coventry. It was unfortunate that the entries showed some falling off as compared with last year, the totals being 622, against 724, but as compared with 1894 the decrease was still greater, the figure on that occasion being 886. The greatest falling off is in regard to horses, which may be due in some measure to the demands which the war has made upon breeders. The cattle entries, however, show a fairly substantial increase, the total being, in fact, a record one for the society. The detailed figures are as follows:—Horses 269, against 341 in 1899; cattle 180, against 156; sheep 39, against 57; pigs 17, against 24; goats 0, against 20; dairy produce 67, against 78; and implements 50, against 38. The usual encouragement is given to labourers, for whom field competitions, including ploughing, hedging, draining, and thatching are arranged. Premiums have also been awarded for long service, to shepherds for rearing lambs, and to cottagers for neatly-kept gardens.



Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P.'s, Shire Filly "Dunsmore Combine," the Best Filly at the Shire Horse Show.

Horses.

AGRICULTURAL HORSES.

In the agricultural section the entries show a great reduction, for the total dropped from 166 last year to 108. The class for two-year-old Shire stallions, though meagre, is one of the most important. Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., one of Warwickshire's most successful breeders, capture first and second with Dunsmore Judge and Dunsmore John o' Gaunt. Lockinge Lord, Mr. J. Parnell's yearling colt, winner of premier honours in his class, has several awards to his credit. He is a thick, strong-bodied colt. There is not a great deal to choose between him and Mr. P. A. Muntz's bay, which is not, however, so forward. The class for yearling fillies produced some grand entries. The fight for supremacy lay between Halstead Violet, from the stables of Mr. J. Bradley, and Mr. J. Parnell's Rokeby Hora. There are only two exhibits in the class for yearling gelding, where Mr. J. P. Toone's chestnut leads. The same animal gets second in the local filly or gelding class, the first card going to a filly of really good quality with close and stylish action and excellent limbs. She belongs to Mr. W. Drackley.

A weighty two-year-old filly, Rokeby Hypatia, of Mr. Parnell's comes to the front in her class. She beat Mr. Muntz's Buscott Flora, which stood first at Burton and other shows. Mr. J. P. Toone is the only exhibitor of two-year-old geldings, and he gains a first for a compact short-legged horse, Victor. A useful filly is that of Mr. Scotforth. Six roots of globe or tankard mangold: 1, S. T. J. Oldacre's, which secures leading place in the local class for two year olds. She is closely followed by a well-made animal from the stable of Mr. W. Drackley. Mr. J. P. Toone's two-year-old gelding, Victor, remains a victor in the local class, and two of Mr. J. Parnell's fillies are first and second among the three-year-olds; his Cowdale Starlight, a fine big animal full of quality, except that it is rather out of hair, being first, and Tatton Juliet following closely. To Messrs. J. Gowling and Sons goes the first and only award for three-year-old gelding. In the closed class for three-year-old fillies Black Lady, a useful mare of excellent quality belonging to Mr. E. Bostock, is in the leading place, Mr. J. Spencer being second. First award among the three-year-old geldings (local) is assigned to Messrs. J. Gowling and Son, and to one

to Mr. J. Harrison. The winner in the next class for fillies of four years and upwards is one of the most notable horses in the show. Embargo, from the Dunsmore stud of Mr. P. A. Muntz, has already many honours to her name, and the judges gave her the Shire Horse Society's silver medal for best Shire horse, as well as first card in her class. Her merit is not so great as that of Lockinge Lord, but then the latter, being a previous winner, is not eligible. Mr. P. A. Muntz also wins the second card in the four-year-old filly class with his Dunsmore Grachly, a big, roomy mare with remarkably good limbs and feet, but rather out of condition. A brown belonging to Mr. W. Wynn is foremost in the corresponding class for geldings. The four-year-old fillies are a very good lot. They are headed by Mr. Tickle's Heiress and Mr. J. P. Toone's Primula, the former of which carries off the challenge bowl for the best cart horse shown by a Warwickshire farmer. A powerful draught horse is Mr. W. Wynn's which is placed in the front rank among the four-year-old geldings (local), and she has a strong competitor in Mr. E. B. Wynn's Jolly. There are some useful workable animals in the large class for pair of horses most suitable for agricultural work.

Another noteworthy animal finds a premier place among the Shire mares with foal, Lockinge Belle, from the stables of Mr. P. A. Muntz, who also gains second prize. The local class for brood mare with foal is well filled, and is headed with Mr. W. Tickle's Heiress, Primula (Mr. J. P. Toone's) being a good second. There was keen competition for the prize offered for foals, and that which secured first prize for Mr. P. A. Muntz; out of Dunsmore Golden, is a foal which has won all over the country. [illegible] tenant farmers' foals are led by Mr. J. P. Toone's Primeval.

HACKNEYS AND HUNTERS.

The Hackney classes are well filled with animals of good average quality. Mr. F. J. Batchelor's Famous ranks best in the class for best mare or gelding exceeding fifteen hands, and in that he must with foal at foot. Another first goes to him by Wild Agnes, the best in the class for mare or gelding over fourteen and not exceeding fifteen hands. Mr. E. Nichols, Mr. E. Peacock, and Mr. W. King are the other winners of premier cards.

Mr. E. Nichols also secures first in the hunting section for half-bred yearling colt with a promising colt sired by Hackwell. The same pen for fillies is headed by Mr. R. W. Smirthwaite's Mr. G. H. Hardy has an excellent filly, but has to be content with second place. A very pretty mare is the two-year-old half-bred of Mr. J. Hawkins, which captures first honours in its class, with Jeddah, belonging to Mr. E. Nicholls, ranks second. In addition to the best prize for two-year-old half bred filly, Mr. R. W. Smirthwaite's Fiery Star secures a silver medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society. She is a very stylish hunter with good points. Another Victor is forthcoming in the local class for two-year-old filly or gelding. This animal belongs to Mr. S. Tidy, and gains premier position, defeating Mr. P. S. Danby's Sunstroke. Among the mares adapted for breeding hunters, with foal at foot, Mr. H. R. Roe is first with Finale, a mare full of quality, with a well-grown foal. Florence, from the stables of Mr. F. T. Cooper, though also very meritorious, has to be satisfied with second place. A similar class is arranged for local breeders, and produces a lot of excellent mares, Mr. H. Ansell's Columbine, a speedy creature with very close and true action, claiming first prize and the Hunters Improvement Society, while Florence is again second.

There are eight animals shown in the three-year-old class. Mr. B. Wall's Masterman is a handsome upstanding gelding, full of quality, and well deserves first place. His most serious competitor is Sirdar, belonging to Mr. E. Hoyle, which is given second card. Only one prize is awarded in the local class for three-year-old filly or gelding likely to grow into a hunter, and this is won by Mr. H. E. Thornley. A very fine hunter is Mr. J. H. Stoke's mare which captures first award and medal in the "best hunter" class, where Mr. W. J. Cheney's Prattler is only able to reach second place. There is also a closed class for hunters, in which Mr. J. W. Lea took premier position with a well-proportioned and workable gelding, Limerick, Mr. J. Harrison's Naomi, a mare which has taken prizes before, being given a second. There is a very full show of light-weight hunters, and competition was very keen. Mr. J. H. Stokes is adjudged first, but there is not a great deal to choose between his bay gelding and that of Mr. Drage. A third bay gelding, curiously enough, captured the third award. In the next two classes for mid-weight and weight carriers Mr. J. H. Stokes is first again, his hunters showing plenty of breeding and quality. Mr. J. Drage takes a second and third. About a dozen good animals are entered in the local class for mare or gelding, where Mr. P. S. Danley scores a leading success, and Mr. E. Kemp is second.

Cattle.

SHORTHORNS.

The cattle classes, of which there were twenty-two, were well filled, totalling 180 entries. Shorthorns open the list, and are included in the first nine classes. The class for old bulls has filled well, both as regards numbers and quality. Mr. R. P. Cooper's Duke Carolus 14th, which heads them, is a prize-winner at Bingley Hall. Messrs. Bewley Brothers' Ewerby King, which is in the second place, is a very nice roan, two years and three months in age and little inferior to the winner. Mention may also be made of two other very good animals in the class, Chorlton Essence, belonging to Mr. C. F. Hobson, Eccleshall, and Edward 8th, the property of Mr. W. F. Inge, Tamworth. The local class for bulls up to two years of age brings out a set of very useful beasts. Mr. Bostock's Prince William, a roan of just under twenty months, is massive, but the point which gave him the first position was his even flesh. Mr. W. R. Dewhurst's Stanley, a roan of nineteen months, on the other hand, is inclined to be fat and to grow coarse. Another very nice bull is Ewerby Sirdar, belonging to Messrs. Gowling and Son. There is a very good entry in the open class for young bulls, and in this Prince William is defeated by a Scotch-bred red bull, Rotherfield Augustus, belonging to Colonel Makins. Mr. Dewhurst's Stanley is in this instance relegated to the position of reserve, while Saturn, a red bull belonging to Mr. R. P. Cooper, which has been successful in other show rings, is passed over. There is a moderate amount of competition for the Shorthorn Society's prize offered for the best bull in Warwickshire calved in 1899. Mr. Dewhurst's Stanley is more fortunate in this class, as he is given the award. The reserve is a very stylish red, Jasper Prince, belonging to Mr. J. H. Wheatley, of Berkswell Hall, Kenilworth. The class for cows of any age in-calf or in the encouragement of pure bred milking Shorthorns is numerically strong. It brings out two very well known animals in Mr. C. W

Brierley's Autumn Queen and Col. Makins's Welsh Gem. The former wins. In the next class for cows above three years which have calved within nine months, Autumn Queen is again first, but Welsh Gem has to take third place to a younger white cow, called Ingrams Queen, also the property of Mr. C. W. Brierley. The open class for heifers under three years old is not very great, though a worthy prize-winner is found in Mr. Brierley's Lavender Queen. In Fair Lass Mr. James Booth also shows a nice heifer. The tenant farmers do not do better in the similar class which is confined to them. The pairs of heifers under two years of age provide a very good exhibition, though it can hardly be said that the pairs are in all cases particularly well matched. This was the case with Mr. Brierley's pair, Queenly Duchess and Royal Jewel. Queenly Duchess is a splendid roan heifer, just over twenty-one months of age, and there is not another heifer in the class to equal her. Her companion, however, "pulls her off" considerably, though it has to be admitted that she is superior to Mr. Cooper's second. Mr. Cooper's couple are a fourteen months' roan, and Longley Gazelle, a red of fifteen months, and though better matched neither possess the quality of Queenly Duchess.

LONGHORNS.

The Warwickshire is one of the few shows where even the smallest measure of encouragement is given to Longhorns, and there were three classes moderately well filled. Mr. Jasper Selwyn's Wootton Wonder, a dark brindle, three years and a half in age, was placed first. Romeo II., belonging to Mr. W. Hanson Sale, is younger, but at the same time a nice specimen of the breed. Mr. Selwyn is also the owner of the bull placed third. Mr. Sale was much more successful in the class for cows, as he obtained both the first and second awards. Daisy's Fairest and Best beat her companion, Barton Sunshine, though the latter was first at the Royal Show this year. The other cow was, however, out of condition at that time, and was not taken to York. In fact, this was her first appearance in the showyard this year, and the placing confirmed that of last year's Warwickshire show at Leamington. A nice brindle-and-roan belonging to Mr. Joseph Green, Whitley Fancy, well filled the third place. Mr. Selwyn and Mr. Sale had matters all their own way in the heifer class, the former showing a very stylish brindle called Black-eyed Susan, which defeated Mr. Sale's red-and-white Rose of Sharon.

OTHER BREEDS.

The two classes for Kerries and Dexters were monopolised solely by Dexters, not a Kerry being shown. There were six bulls shown, and with a nice two-year-old red called Tod Sloan, Lieutenant-General the Hon. Somerset Gough Calthorpe headed the list, with Mr. Stallard's Malvern Signor a good second. There were four more cows and heifers. La Mancha My Fancy, which most pleased the judges, is the property of Mr. B. de Bertodano. The competition she met with from Mr. Stallard's Malvern Smart was fairly close. The animal was shown with success at Gloucester and the Royal.

In the class for bulls of any other acknowledged pure breed there were only three beasts shown, and the Earl of Coventry secured his only cattle successes with a couple of Herefords, Mercury and Barber, which were first and second respectively.

Jerseys took both prizes in the corresponding class for cows or heifers, the winner being Major Beech's Musk, and the second Mr. C. A. Smith-Ryland's Daisy.

The five dairy classes were well filled. The catalogue revealed no difference in the qualification for the first two classes in this section, but the result was very different. The first brought out a number of good animals, but few of them appeared well adapted to the special purpose for which the classes were provided. Mr. F. J. Stanhope's Ada was an easy winner. The second class, on the other hand, was a very fine one. Mr. Danby's Lady Northmoor is a valuable cow in every way for dairy purposes. Mr. T. O. Lloyd's roan scarcely showed so good an udder and it was in the same direction that Mr. Danby's Lady Langford fell off to third position.

Sheep.

This section was one of the weakest, there being only thirty-nine animals shown as against sixty-seven in 1899, and ninety-five in 1895. Quite a notable ram was the Oxford Down of Mr. George Roberts, which was awarded the special prize for best short-woolled shearling ram in the yard. Running it very closely for championship honours was the Hampshire ram from the flock of Mr. Denston Gibson, of Leamington. There was very little competition in most of the classes. The three Shropshire shearling rams were each of good enough type to be given a prize, though Mr. Gibson's exhibit, which so narrowly missed championship honours, was easily the first. Mr. A. S. Berry took both second and third cards. There were some very fair pens of ten ewe lambs, Mr. B. Wall, of Coleshill, being first with a half-score of neat, matchy animals. The two pens of ten ewes were of excellent type, Mr. Charles Pratt's first prize ewes being well-fleshed, finely coated creatures. Second award went to Mr. H. E. Thornley. Mr. Pratt again scored in the class for five ewes, taking both first and second prizes with the ten which were successful in the larger class, and which were remarkable for size, firmness, and coating. The best two Shropshire ram lambs belonged to Mr. B. Wall, who had as his chief competitor Mr. D. Gibson.

The class for shearling rams of any acknowledged pure breed other than Shropshires contained the championship animal, Mr. George Roberts's handsome Oxford Down. The same competitor captured the second prize with another Oxford of great substance, with a fine square back and good wool. Mr. Roberts was the only competitor in the class for five shearling ewes. The ten ewe lambs belonging to Mr. B. Hanbury soon caught the eye of the judges. Mr. J. Phipps Smith was the second winner. There were also some useful lambs in the class for ten cross-bred ewes.

Pigs.

Swine fever regulations have resulted in decreasing exhibits in the pig section during the past few years, but the few pigs which were shown were, however, above the average in point of quality. A fine specimen of the Tamworth breed was the Knowle Hiawatha of Mr. D. W. Philip. The boar has all the characteristics of the breed, and was, in fact, one of the finest seen at the Warwickshire show. Other good animals were shown in the various classes by Mr. J. Hicken, who captured three firsts.

Judges.

Agricultural horses: Messrs. J. P. Hiorns, Maidstone, and H. Smith, Nottingham. Hunting horses, Hackneys, ponies, etc.: Messrs. W. H. Robson, Wiltshire, and John Hill, Shropshire. Jumping and driving: Captain Beatty, Rugby. Cattle (Shorthorns): Messrs. T. Parton, Crewe, and J. P. Terry, Aylesbury. Longhorns: Mr. W. Shaw, sen., Lichfield. Kerry and Dexters: Mr. H. D. Betteridge, Cambridge. Coventry master butcher classes: Messrs. T. Beasley, sen., Rugby, and Joseph Roberts, Kenilworth. Sheep: Messrs. T. S. Minton, Shrewsbury, and J. Bryan, Witney. Pigs: Mr. J. Barron, Derby.

North-East Somerset.

The North-East Somerset Farmers' Club held their annual show on Wednesday at Farrington Gurney. The show was favoured with fair weather, which assisted in making the meeting a success. Agricultural horses occupy the leading place in the catalogue. Mares and foals turned out capitally. Mr. G. F. King took the leading premium, the gift of Sir J. H. Greville Smyth, Bart., with his handsome black, Chewton Smart, by her side being a promising bay filly foal by Buscot Harold. Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., M.P., was second with Jolly, her filly foal being by Calwich Prince. The restricted class for foals was headed by Mr. Hassell, of Chew Stoke, with one by Pride of the Mill. Mr. E. Thompson, of Pensford, was second with a roan colt by Delight, and Mr. J. Loxton, Queen Charlton, third. The yearlings were more noticeable for quality than numbers, and the result was similar to that in the mares, Mr. G. F. King being first, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., M.P., second, and Messrs. Haydon and Paget reserve. Positions were reversed in the two-year-olds, when Sir W. H. Wills was first with Rickford Lady Harold, and Mr. G. F. King second with Chewton Earl. Nags made a good show. Both prizes and the reserve number in the brood mare class were captured by Mr. Brightric Gee, respectively with Kitty, Malago Maid, and Zoe. Mr. H. J. Candy, Ston Easton, and Mr. J. Clare, Hallatrow, wer first and second in the locals. The foals of the present year were a promising lot, Mr. Clare, Hallatrow, and Mr. E. Dewdney, Chewton Mendip, taking the prizes.

The hunters generally were well up to the requirements of neighbouring packs. Weight-carriers (13st.) brought out three competitors. The judges' award went in favour of Messrs. Flower and Mattick's four-year-old Norman. The hack class for entries not exceeding 15.2 was a praiseworthy one all round. Mr. Frank Leigh's bay, Banjo, by Fitzroy, was well to the fore. There were some superior ponies shown, the best in the judges' opinion being Mr. S. Wait-Tomkins' brown gelding, Mr. A. E. Gould's admired bay, Little Wonder, being placed second.

Both of the senior bull classes fell to the entries of Mr. G. F. King. In a strong class of bull calves Mr. King took first and second prizes, with two of Viceroy's offspring, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., being third. The Channel Islands competition, thanks to the support of Sir Greville Smyth, Bart., Colonel Barton Scobell, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., M.P., and Mrs. Hippisley, made a pretty display. The sheep classes did not fill very well.

Judges.

Agricultural Horses: Mr. T. Chapman, Orchard Portman, and Mr. J. Caple, Bitton. Nag Horses and Jumping: Mr. J. E. Gough, Bodenham, Leominster, and Mr. B. Heap, Weston-super-Mare. Cattle: Mr. J. Watts, Fairgreen, Chipping Norton, and Mr. G. Taylor, Cranford. Channel Island: Mr. W. E. Budgett, Henbury. Sheep and Pigs: Mr. Jeffry Matthews, Winterbourne, and Mr. J. Gage, Walton, Clevedon.

Prize List.

HORSES.

Cart mare and her foal: 1, G. F. King, Keynsham (Chewton Smart); 2, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Jolly); r, S. J. Knight (Dundry Blossom).

Foal, draught or agricultural: 1, Messrs. Haydon and Paget, Midsomer Norton (Hero of Mendip); 2, A. W. Hull, Ston Easton; r, S. J. Knight (Dundry Swell).

Foal of the present year, by Delight, Orchard Portman, Pride of the Mill, or English Pride: 1, W. Hasell, Chew Stoke; 2, E. Thompson, Pensford; 3, J. Loxton, Queen Charlton; r, G. P. Caple, Stanton Prior.

Horse or filly, foaled in 1899, draught or agricultural: 1, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., M.P. (Rickford Jewel); 2, G. F. King (Chewton Markeaton Harold); r, Messrs. Haydon and Paget, Midsomer Norton (Mendip Conqueror).

Gelding or filly, foaled in 1898, draught or agricultural: 1, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart. (Rickford Lady Harold); 2, G. F. King (Chewton Earl); r, S. J. Knight.

Pair of horses, draught or agricultural: 1, E. Thompson, Pensford (Blossom and Captain).

NAG HORSES.

Mare with foal: 1, 2, and r, Brightric Gee, Bristol (Kitty, Malago Maid, and Zoe); c, E. Dewdney, Chewton Mendip (Sunbeam).

Mare in foal, or with foal at foot: 1, H. J. Candy, Ston Easton (Polly); 2, J. Clare, Hallatrow (Kathleen).

Foal, field or road: 1, J. Clare, Hallatrow (Birdie Bright); 2, E. Dewdney, Chewton Mendip (Guardsman); hc, H. J. Candy, Ston Easton; J. Clare, Hallatrow (Countess).

Horse or filly, field or road: 1, E. Dewdney, Chewton Mendip (Scotch Lassie); 2, J. Clare, Hallatrow (Emerald).

Gelding or filly, foaled in 1898, field or road: 1, Brightric Gee (Yorick); 2, E. Dewdney (Watchman); hc, J. Clare (Ruby).

Hunter, gelding, or mare, equal to thirteen stone, over a hurdle: 1, Messrs. Flower and Mattick, Ston Easton (Freeman); 2, J. F. Fowler, Norton Malreward (The Druid); 3, J. Clare, Hallatrow (Royal); hc, T. Blanning, Halatrow.

Hunter, gelding, or mare, equal to thirteen stone, over a hurdle: 1, Messrs. Flower and Mattick (Norman); 2, J. Baldwin, Bath (Cahirmee); hc, Brightric Gee (Dauntless).

Harnessed roadster, not under 14 hands: 1, H. Poole, Marksbury; 2, J. and G. Watts, Corston; 3, W. Holbrook, Marksbury; hc, R. H. Killen, Farrington Gurney.

Hack, not exceeding 15.2 hands: 1, F. Leigh, Westbury-on-Trym (Banjo); 2, Dr. Fuller, Long Ashton; 3, Mrs. Ella Pillers, Keynsham (Game Chicken); hc, W. Bendall, Priston.

Harnessed roadster, not under 13 hands: 1, Oliver Reakes, Emborough; 2, Dr. H. W. Aubrey, Bristol.

Pony, not exceeding 13 hands: 1, S. Wait Tomkins, Henbury (Great Heart); 2, A. E. Gould, Redland (Little Wonder); r, H. Poole, Marksbury (Dapper); c, R. Bailey, Bristol (Game Bantam).

Gelding or mare in harness, to assist in general farm work: 1, R. H. Killen; 2, R. Petheram, Whitchurch (Kitty); r, W. Holbrook, Marksbury; hc, W. W. Keel, Stanton Drew.

JUMPING.

Jumper (members only): 1, Brightric Gee (Dauntless); 2, W. W. Mattick, Radstock (Legs and Wings); r, W. W. Keel, Stanton Drew (Topthorn).

Open: 1, J. Baldwin, Bath (Diana); 2, C. A. Daniel (Newcastle); 3, Brightric Gee (Dauntless).

Jumper not having previously won a prize (open): 1, Glenross Bros., Frome (Pale Face); 2, C. A. Daniel, Atworth (Sportsman); 3, W. T. Weaver, Dunkerton.

CATTLE.

Bull, above two years: 1, G. F. King (Chewton Oxford Cornelius).

Bull, above one and under two years: 1, G. F. King (Bapton Victor's Champion).

Bull calf, under a year: 1, G. F. King (Chewton Count Victor); 2, G. F. King (Chewton Belvedere Victor 2nd); 3, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., M.P., Blagdon (Lord Roberts); r, R. H. Killen, Farrington Gurney; c, R. Batt, Clapton, Bath; c, E. C. Flower, Ston Easton.

Dairy cow: 1, E. Dewdney; 2, G. F. King.

Heifer, above two and under three years old: 1, G. F. King (Scotch Favourite 6th); 2, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., M.P., Blagdon (Charity 4th).

Pair of heifers, above one and under two years: 1, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., M.P. (Charity 5th); 2, G. F. King (Silverlocks 2nd).

Pair of heifer calves: 1, G. F. King.

Dairy cow: 1, E. Dewdney; 2, J. Weaver, Winford; 3 and c, A. C. James, Ston Easton; r, O. Reakes, Emborough; hc, W. C. Lyde, Stowey; c, W. Blinman, Farrington Gurney; c, R. H. Killen.

Heifer, above two and under three years old, suitable for dairy purposes, bred by the exhibitor: 1, J. H. Flower; 2, E. Dewdney; r, W. Blinman; hc and c, H. Gibbons.

Pair of heifers, above one and under two years old: 1, H. Gibbons; 2, E. Dewdney; r, R. H. Killen.

Pair heifer calves: 1 and 2, W. C. Lyde, Stowey; r, E. Dewdney; hc, R. H. Killen.

Channel Island cow: 1 and 2, Colonel Scobell, Kingwell Hall; r and hc, Sir J. H. G. Greville Smyth, Bart., Ashton Court; c, Mrs. Christine Hippisley, Ston Easton.

SHEEP.

Down or short-woolled ram over one year old: 1, S. Pritchard, Wilmington; 2, S. Bennett, Chew Stoke.

Cross-bred or long-woolled ram, over one year old: 1, S. Bennett.

Down or short-woolled ram, under a year old: 1, H. and J. Miles, Radstock.

Cross-bred or long-woolled ram lamb, under a year old: 1, J. F. Fowler, Norton Malreward.

Five six-tooth ewes: 1, S. Pritchard; 2, J. B. Parker.

Five four-tooth ewes: 1, S. Pritchard; 2, J. B. Parker.

Five two-tooth ewes: 1, I. Weaver, Winford; 2, J. B. Parker; hc, S. Pritchard.

Five chilver lambs: 1, S. Pritchard.

Airedale.

The holding of the Airedale Show during Bingley Feast week always assures a gratifying local attendance, and when the weather is favourable, as it was on Thursday, there is generally a large influx of visitors from the surrounding districts. In the sections specially appealing to the agricultural community there are horse and cattle classes limited to within a radius of ten miles, classes for animals which have never won a first prize, and open classes. The response on the part of local farmers was, however, very meagre, causing much disappointment to the Council. Numerically the show was an average one, and the quality was of a high order, though in the horse and cattle departments there were not many fresh aspirants for honours, as the Bingley meeting comes nearly at the end of the season. The total number of entries was 1,780, as against 1,885 in the previous year, and 1,860 in 1896. All these totals were exceeded at the two days' shows in 1897 and 1898, when the aggregates were 1,951 and 1,947. The sectional entries for 1900 and 1899 were as follows, the figures for Thursday being given first:—Cattle, 43 and 54; horses, 152 and 156; sheep, 28 and 26; pigs, 0 and 31; poultry, 304 and 335; butter and eggs, 18 and 23; dressed poultry, 6 and 6; pigeons, 613 and 631; rabbits, cats, and cavies, 320 and 288; dogs, 286 and 325; stands, 10 and 10. The prizes were of the value of £600.

Agricultural horses were rather light in numbers. The greatest interest centred upon the judging of the

aged mares and geldings, the coveted ticket falling to Messrs. Oldroyd, of Newsam Green, Woodlesford, for Lawns Sunflower, which has been in the ring fifty-seven times, and has won as many prizes. Her victor at Keighley—Messrs. Prince and Son's Duke was unplaced. The leading two-year-old was Mr. Henry Yates's (Cleckheaton) Girton Bluebell, the winner of the cup and two first premiums at Tong, and prizes at Bradford and elsewhere. As a rule, the Hackney classes were also thinly filled, and where the competition was very keen it arose chiefly through the meeting of the entries by Mrs. Fred Holmes, of Shipley, and Mr. G. C. Waud, of Bingley. In a restricted saddle class Mr. Waud scored with Frivolity, defeating the equally well-known Pickwick. The Baildon breeder sucessfully introduced into the ring The Doctor, brother of Sam Weller, but through some misunderstanding his two entries in the driving local class were late in parading, with the result that Mrs. Holmes's famous Love Letter had a walk over. The star of the Staveley Grange Stud continued in the ascendency. In the open pony saddle class, not exceeding 14 hands, Mrs. Holmes brought out for the first time Madam, and this handsome chestnut prevented Mr. Waud from getting at the top of the list with a mare that was likewise unknown in the ring. Love Letter, the property of Mr. Holmes, managed to lower the colours of Mr. Waud's Frivolity, but when the pair were shown in harness the tables were turned. Notwithstanding this defeat, Love Letter has thirty-seven first prizes to her credit. Mr. Waud supplied the winning sire in Cullingworth, which was placed at Islington, besides furnishing the best tandem team. The other prize-takers included Messrs. W. Hurst, Sandal; W. Sugden, Cullingworth; A. Illingworth, Halifax; Robert Burrow, Kirkby Lonsdale; James Lee and Sons, Hipperholme; and John Robinson, Hull. Through the efforts of Mr. D'Arcy Wyvill, who was accompanied on the showground by Sir Barrington Simeon, M.P., the Government sent three troop horses from York to enable farmers to see the stamp of mounts needed by the War Office.

The Gainford Hall herd accounted for eight of the cattle prizes, and a couple of awards were won by animals from Green Head, Milnthorpe. Mr. George Harrison was represented by Shorthorns which have over and over again figured in the prize list, and his representation, together with the rest of the exhibits, made a grand display. Sheep were rather select, but the quality was good.

Judges.

Horses: Messrs. C. W. Brierley, Brimfield, Herefordshire, and L. R. Duckworth, Bury. Cattle: Messrs. T. Leake, Swillington, and E. F. Jordan, Driffield. Sheep and Dressed Poultry: Messrs. T. Graham, Kirkbythorpe Hall, and R Mallinson, Rawdon.

Prize List.

HORSES.

Draught or agricultural colt, gelding, or filly, one year: 1, Oldroyd Bros., Woodlesford; 2, H. Yates, Cleckheaton. Draught or agricultural colt, gelding, or filly, two years: 1, H. Yates; 2, A. Lindley, Sandal. Draught mare or gelding, any age: 1, Oldroyd Bros.; 2, A. W. Hainsworth, Farsley. Mare or gelding, for agricultural purposes, which has never won a first prize: 1, S. E. Murgatroyd, Luddendenfoot; 2, Dibb Bros., Cottingley. Hackney colt, gelding, or filly, one year: 1, W. Hurst, Sandal; 2, R. Berry, Hipperholme. Hackney colt, gelding, or filly, two years: 1, W. Sugden, Cullingworth; 2, R. Burrow, Whittington, Kirkby Lonsdale. Hackney gelding or filly, three years: 1, A. Illingworth, Halifax; 2, J. Rhodes, Pontefract. Hackney brood mare and foal: 1, R. Burrow; 2, W. Sugden. Hackney foal: 1, J. Lee and Sons, Hipperholme; 2, R. Burrow. Trade or business turnout: 1 and special: E. H. Brayshaw, Bradford; 2, J. Seed, Bingley; 3, J. Robinson, Shipley. Trade or business turnout, comprising mare or gelding with heavy vehicle: 1 and special, Co-operative Society, Bingley; 2, T. Taylor. Hackney mare or gelding, shown in saddle, exceeding 14 hands: 1, G. C. Waud, Baildon; 2, Mrs. Holmes, Staveley Grange, Shipley. Pony, shown in single harness, not exceeding 14 hands: 1, G. C. Waud; 2, W. Brigg, Frizinghall. Hackney mare or gelding, shown in single harness, exceeding 14 hands: Mrs. F. Holmes. Pony, in saddle, not exceeding 14 hands: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, G. C. Waud. Hackney mare or gelding, three years old and upwards, that has never taken a first prize: 1, G. C. Waud; 2, L. Snowden and Sons, Starbeck. Hackney mare or gelding, not exceeding 15 hands: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, G. C. Waud. Hackney mare or gelding exceeding 15 hands: 1, J. Robinson, Hull; 2, E. Barrett, Skipton. Selling class: Horse or mare suitable for riding or driving purposes: 1, H. Daniel, Hutton Ambo, York; 2, J. A. E. Mitchell, Keighley; 3, J. H. Greenwood, Apperley Bridge. Draught stallion: 1 and 2, A. Lindley. Hackney stallion: 1, G. C. Waud; 2, W. Sugden. Pony in harness, not exceeding 14 hands: 1, G. C. Waud; 2, A. P. Robinson, Wakefield. Pony in harness, not exceeding 14 hands, which has never taken a first prize up to the time of entries closing: 1, G. C. Waud; 2, H. Wilkinson. Pony in saddle, not exceeding 14 hands, which has never taken a first prize up to the time of entries closing: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, W. Brigg. Horse or mare in single harness: 1, G. C. Waud; 2, Mrs. F. Holmes. Pair of horses in harness, tandem or otherwise: 1, G. C. Waud.

SHORT-HORNED CATTLE.

Bull calf, under twelve months: 1, G. Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington; 2, J. Handley, Green Head, Milnthorpe; 3, Crosland Bros., South Stainley Shed, near Leeds. Bull calf, over one year, and under two years: 1, G. Harrison; 2, J. Evans, Burton, near Lincoln; 3, Mrs. E. Gill, Silsden. Bull calf, over two years: 1, J. Handley; 2, G. Harrison. Heifer calf, under twelve months: 1, G. Harrison; 2, Mrs. Cass; 3, R. Garnett, Eldwick. Heifer, over twelve months and not exceeding two years: 1, G. Harrison; 2, T. Atkinson, Redvales, Bury; 3, W. Walsh, Bingley. Heifer, over two years: 1, G. Harrison; 2, T. Adamson, Bolton; 3, T. Atkinson. Cow, any age: 1, G. Harrison; 2, S. W. Hackney, Chapeltown Road, Leeds; 3, T. Atkinson. Two Shorthorns: 1, G. Harrison; 2, T. Adamson. Cow, for dairy purposes: 1, Dibb Bros., Cottingley; 2 and 3, W. Walsh. Cow or heifer, any age: 1 and 2, W. Walsh

SHEEP.

Best long-woolled ram: 1, J. Bellas, Woodside, Penrith Ram lamb, any pure breed: 1 and 2, T. Leake, Swillington. Three ewes or gimmer shearlings, long or short woolled: 1 and 2, T. Bellas. Three long-woolled gimmer lambs: 1, T. Leak. Three cross-bred ewes or gimmer shearlings: 1, G. Smith, Eastburn, near Crosshills; 2, W. Coates, Lower Laithe, Barrowford; 3, J. Bellas. Three cross-bred gimmer lambs: 1 and 2, C. Smith, Headen. Ram, any age and breed, confined to residents within the parish of Bingley, and which has never taken a first prize: 1, J. Seed, Bingley; 2, Bailey Bros., Keighley.

DRESSED FOWLS, BUTTER, AND EGGS.

Couple of dressed chickens: 1, W. Lancaster, Ewsick; 2, Mrs. C. Simpson, Bingley; 3, Mrs. Cass, Spellcroft. Two pats or prints of butter: 1, Miss Lawes, Clayger, Burnley; 2, Mrs. W. E. Mudd, Thornthwaite, Ripley; 3, Mrs. Joseph Marston, Snowden, Otley. Dish of seven new-laid white hen eggs: 1 and 3, R. Uttley, Ovenden; 2, Mrs. Cartwright, Penistone. Dish of seven new-laid coloured hen eggs: 1 and 3, R. Uttley; 2, H. Hartley, Ovenden.

Settle.

The North Ribblesdale Agricultural Society held their annual show on the 25th ult. at Settle, when there was an exceptionally good display of cattle, the entries this year in this department being fifty more than a year ago. In one class no less than twenty-three head of cattle entered the ring, and the task of deciding on their merits occupied a very considerable time. The special prize of £10, given by Mr. Walter Morrison, M.P., for the best bull in the district was, as usual, keenly competed for, as were the specials offered by the president of the Society (Mr. T. B. P. Ford), the vice-president (Mr. C. A. L. Swale), Mr. J. A. Farrer, and others. Sheep comprised blue-faced, half-bred, and Scotch specimens. With a view to improving the quality of the wool, and to encourage farmers to use such salve, clip, or wash as will not discolour or spoil the wool or falsely add to its weight, a special prize is to be added to next year's premiums.

In the horse classes the most interesting contest was that for the best hunter which had regularly hunted with the Craven, Pendle Forest, or Vale of Lune hounds during last season. The verdict of the judges in placing Mr. Oscar Greenwood's Star first after a hard struggle with the chestnut exhibit of Colonel Foster, M.P., was a popular one. The Hackney Horse Society's silver medal went to Mr. Burrow, of Kirkby Lonsdale.

Judges.

Cattle: Mr. Richard Ewbank, The Temple, Leyburn, and Mr. George Lancaster, Stock Farm, Bracewell, Gisburn, Clitheroe. Horses: Mr. Joseph Towers, Nether Kellet, Carnforth, and Mr. Richard Thornton, Gibstick Hall, Winmarleigh, near Garstang. Sheep: Mr. William Dinsdale, Manor House, Carperby, Aysgarth, and Mr. Richard Faweett, West Shaw, Hawes.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

Two bullock calves (calved since 1st September, 1899): 1, W. Frankland, Settle; 2, W. Cookson, Giggleswick. Two bullock stirks (not having more than two broad teeth): 1, J. Makinson, Melling, Lancaster; 2, J. Cottam, Nether Kellet, Carnforth. Bull calf (calved since 1st September, 1899): 1, A. A. Watkins, Austwick, Lancaster; 2, R. Lamb, Giggleswick. Bullock calf (calved since 1st September, 1899): 1 and 2, W. Rhodes, Westhouse, Kirkby Lonsdale. Pair of bullocks (calved since 1st August, 1899): 1, W. Frankland; 2, W. Cookson. Bull, under two years old (proof of age to be given), to be located within nine miles from Settle Market Cross, and to serve cows of members at 5s. each for six calendar months from show day, and subject in all other respects to the rules of the Society: 1, L. Carr, Mewith Head, Bentham. Yearling bull (proof of age to be given): 1, R. Ewbank, Austwick, Lancaster; 2, J. Lawson; 3, Mrs. Chamley and Son. Heifer calf (calved since 1st September, 1899): 1, J. Maudsley; 2, W. Rhodes. Yearling heifer (not to have more than two broad teeth): 1 and special, G. Bargh, Scaleber, Gargrave; 2, J. Heseltine, Horton, Settle. Two-year-old heifer (not to have more than four broad teeth): 1, W. Coultherd, Clapham, Lancaster; 2, R. Metcalfe and Sons, Hawes. Heifer, in calf (or calved and in milk) and not to have more than six broad teeth: 1, R. Metcalfe, Settle; 2, W. Coultherd. Cow, in calf or milk: 1, R. D. Taylor, Hellifield; 2, J. Sladen, Austwick, Lancaster; 3, R. Metcalfe and Son. Two-year-old heifer (not to have more than four broad teeth): 1, G. Bargh; 2, W. Clark. Dairy cow or heifer, in calf or milk: 1, J. Makinson; 2, S. Foster, Settle. Dairy cow, in calf or milk: 1, J. Makinson; 2, S. Foster. Heifer, in calf, or calved and in milk, and not to have more than six broad teeth: 1, G. Bargh; 2, J. Simpson.

SHORT-HORNED.

Open to tenant farmers.—Heifer calf, in the hands of the breeder, or purchased within thirty days of birth, calved since 1st September, 1899: 1, W. Rednayne, Clapham Station, Lancaster; 2, W. Bentham, Cragg Hill, near Settle. Yearling heifer, in the hands of the breeder, not to have more than two broad teeth: 1, W. Bentham. Cow, in calf or milk: 1, Sedgwick Bros.; 2, S. Foster. Two young stock cows or heifers, under 12cwt. each on show day: 1, R. Metcalfe and Son; 2, W. Cookson; 3, Wooler Bros., Long Preston. Three heifers or cows, in calf or milk: 1, A. A. Watkins; 2, R. Metcalfe and Sons; 3, J. Metcalfe.

ANY BREED.

Fat cow or heifer: 1, G. J. Beardall, Settle; 2, J. Cottam. Beast, fed on Thorley's food: 1, H. D. Green. Best beast on the field in any unlimited class, age considered (bulls excluded): 1, W. Frankland; 2, J. Maudsley. Two dairy cows (not entered in any other class), in exhibitor's possession on show day, not more than one month calved or within two months of calving: 1, W. H. Wolfenden; 2, A. A. Watkins. Bull calf, calved since September 1st, 1899: 1, R. Lamb; 2, Mrs. Chamley and Son. Heifer calf, calved since September 1st, 1899: 1, W. Rhodes; 2, W. Redmayne. Group of animals, consisting of cattle (one male and two females), sheep (one Wensleydale tup and two ewes), ewes of any distinct breed (the best of any distinct class): 1, T. and W. Hunter. Heifer calf of any breed, calved since September 1st, 1899: 1 and 2, J. Maudsley. Cow or heifer, fat or calver: 1, J. Makinson; 2 and 3, W. Rhodes.

HORSES.

Foal, for road or field (led in the ring): 1, A. Orr, Hornby; 2, R. Burrow, Whittington, Kirkby Lonsdale; 3, A. S. J. Musgrave, Settle. Yearling colt or filly, for road or field: 1, Colonel Foster, M.P., Hornby Castle; 2, W. L. Simpson, Settle; 3, W. Buxton, Settle. Two-year-old gelding or filly, for road or field: 1, E. and J. W. Phillip, Hellifield; 2, W. Morphet, Long Preston; 3, G. E. Maud, Burton-in-Lonsdale. Three-year-old gelding or filly, for road or field: 1, J. Clarkson, Carnforth; 2, R. Newsham, Hornby Castle; 3, W. Edmondson, Earby. Foal, for draught purposes (led in the ring): 1, T. Askew, Slyne, Lancaster; 2, A. Orr. Yearling colt or filly, for draught purposes: 1, H. Meckereth, Whittington, near Kirkby Lonsdale; 2, [illegible] Settle. Brood mare, for draught purposes: 1, H. Meckereth; 2, J. B. Dewhurst, Skipton; 2, R. Taylor, Hackney or roadster brood mare: 1, R. Burrow; 2, E. and J. W. Phillips. Hunting brood mare: A. Orr; 2, J. Sanderson, Wigglesworth, Settle. Brood mare, for draught purposes: 1, H. Meckereth; 2, J. B. Dewhurst. Horse or mare, exceeding 14½ hands, for saddle: [illegible] age, saddled and ridden before the judges: 1, J. [illegible] Barnacre, Garstang; 2, J. Cookson; 3, L. Hasleh. Shetland Pony, not exceeding 11½ hands, saddled and ridden before the judges: 1, A. S. J. Musgrave; 2, J. Thompson, Carnforth; 3, J. Whipp, Settle. Hackney or pony mare [illegible] [illegible] engine for the purpose of [illegible] Hackney Horse Society's silver medal. R. Berry, Kirkby Lonsdale.

SHEEP.

Blue-faced tup lambs, in the hands of the breeder: 1 and 2, W. Rhodes, Lundholme, Westhouse, Kirkby Lonsdale; 2, R. Ewbank, Lookand Green, Ayrshire, Lancaster. Shearling tup, to cross with a white-faced or half-bred ewe: 1, W. Rhodes; 2, R. Ewbank. Tup of any age: 1, W. Rhodes; 2, R. Burrow, Gate, Sedbergh. Pen of three gimmer lambs, in the hands of the breeder: W. Rhodes. Pen of three gimmer shearling gimmers, in the hands of the breeder: 1, W. Rhodes; 2, R. Burrow. Pen of three gimmers (not over one year old for breeding purposes) that have suckled lambs this season: 1, W. Rhodes; 2, R. Ewbank. Shearling tup, suitable to cross with a Scotch ewe: 1, W. Rhodes; 2, R. Burrow. Tup of any age, suitable to cross with a Scotch ewe: 1 and R. Ewbank. Tup (Teeswater, Wensleydale, or Leicester): W. Rhodes.

HALF-BRED AND SCOTCH SHEEP.

Pen of three half-bred gimmer lambs, in the hands of the breeder, from a Scotch ewe, and not fed for the butcher: 1, W. Robinson, Kettlewell, Skipton; 2, W. Carlisle, Bell Busk; 3, R. Clapham, Staggarth, Bentham. Pen of three half-bred gimmers, from a Scotch ewe: 1 and 2, W. Coultherd, Clapham, Lancaster. Pen of three ewes, of any age, from a Scotch ewe: 1, J. Walker; 2, W. Garnett, Swabeck, Giggleswick. Scotch tup lamb, in the hands of the breeder: J. M. Akrigg and Son, Hind Field, Garsdale, Sedbergh; 2, Mrs. Chamley and Son, Scotland House, Horton-in-Ribblesdale. Scotch shearling tup: 1 and 2, T. Rawlinson, Park House, Kirkby Lonsdale. Scotch tup, any age: 1 and 2, T. Rawlinson. Pen of three Scotch gimmer lambs, in the hands of the breeder: 1, T. R. Bownass; 2, Mrs. Chamley and Son. Pen of three Scotch shearling gimmers, that have been on less than two months in the hands of the exhibitor, and kept solely on high land: 1, T. Blackburn; 2, T. R. Bownass. Pen of three two-shear Scotch ewes, kept solely on high land and for breeding purposes, and that have suckled lambs this season: 1 and 2, T. and W. Hunter. Pen of three Scotch stock ewes (to be kept over a year for breeding purposes), that have suckled lambs this season: 1, W. Robinson; 2, J. Swinbank, Beecroft Hall, Horton-in-Ribblesdale. Scotch tup: T. Rawlinson. Pen of good-bred sheep or lambs, dipped with the All-Round Sheep Dip: W. Rhodes. Pen of three tups or sheep in the show (any breed), dipped with Barratt's Dip: W. Rhodes.

Herefordshire Horse Show.

The Herefordshire Horse Show, held on Wednesday on the Wyeside Ground at Hereford, contrasted very favourably with the previous exhibitions. This year Lord Llangattock is president. There are nearly 400 entries, and the judges were:—Hunters: Sir R. D. Green Price, The Grove, Presteign, Radnorshire; and Mr. T. O. Springfield, Swainsthorpe, Norwich. Hacks and harness: Mr. S. B. Carnley, Norbury Stud, Alford, Lincolnshire; and Mr. T. H. Hutchinson, Manor House, Catterick. Cart horses: Mr. John T. C. Eadie, Manor House, Barrow-on-Trent, Derby; and Mr. F. Coney, Lower Court, Cotheridge, Worcester.

The hunters were a remarkably strong lot, and the competition was exceptionally keen. The yearlings formed the poorest lot. The principal prize-winners were R. C. B. Cave, Colwall; T. C. and T. H. Downes, Richards Castle; F. E. Gough, Bodenham; J. and N. Gray; J. T. Rogers, How Capel; T. L. Walker, Docklow; C. de Cliff Vigors, Eardisley; Miss A. Edwards, Malvern; H. R. Evans, Weobley; G. H. Green, Leominsterline; T. Nicholls, Abergavenny; E. R. Apperley, Cheltenham; A. W. [illegible], Brockhampton. Second and third awards were to C. and L. H. Downes; W. Till, Treworgan; R. C. B. Cave; J. T. Rogers; A. J. N. Pilliner; J. Ingram, Leominster; R. O. Backhouse, Sutton; A. Allington, Hereford; D. A. G. Birchley, Colwall; T. L. Pugh, Little Dewchurch. The special prize was won by Misty Son, owned by Miss Edwards, the second being Mr. Walker's Voracious. In the local champion class T. H. Whiteman, Ashton Court, Leominster, took the prize offered jointly by the North and South Herefordshire Hunts, with a fine [illegible] gelding.

In the Hackney class T. Nicholls, Abergavenny, obtained the first award, and Mr. Allington second. The hacks were not numerous, but the majority of them, in point of merit, were exceedingly good. The first prizes fell to E. R. Apperley, Mrs. A. W. Foster, Mrs. A. K. Apperley (Cheltenham), and Mr. G. H. Godsell.

The cart horses made a fine show. While some were high-priced animals others were nearly up to the standard. The chief winners were R. Green, The Whittern; J. James; J. Edwards, Monnington; F. and A. Edwards, Byford; W. H. B. Cave; F. W. Barling, Ross; Mrs. E. Morgan, Pontrilas; S. J. Cotterell, and H. Hodgkiss, Holme Lacy. A special prize offered in classes for local Sires was won by Mrs. F. Morgan.

The Hunters Improvement Society's medals were to C. and L. H. Downes, for brood mares; Mr. H. R. Evans, for fillies; Miss A. Edwards, for geldings; and Messrs. J. and N. Gray, for hunters of either sex.

Worsley.

The annual show of the Worsley and District Agricultural Society was held on the 25th ult. in Worsley Park. In the heavy horse Mr. W. [illegible], M.P., was prominent, showing the best horse. Cu-

sidering the influence of Earl Ellesmere's stud, the display of heavy horses was disappointing. In light horses Mr. Lees Knowles, M.P., Mr. Levi Fish (Preston), Mr. W. Lawson (Blackpool), Mr. Norman Read (Blackburn), Mr. Edward Hoyle (Bacup), and Mr. R. Harrison (Chorley) secured some of the principal cards. This section was chiefly noticeable by reason of the presence of animals from a distance, most of which had previously won honours. Mr. Hoyle was awarded the cup for the best hunter with his bay mare Countess. In cattle Mr. F. Miller, of Birkenhead, had entered several famous bulls, but they failed to put in an appearance, and animals owned by Mr. Thomas Atkinson (Bury), Mr. Thomas Adamson (Lostock Junction), Messrs. W. and O. Gregory, and the Bridgewater Trustees were to the front.

Prize List.

HORSES.

Draught or agricultural stallion: 1, Exors. of T. Valentine; 2, Clifton and Kersley Coal Co. Draught or agricultural mare, four years and upwards: 1, Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P.; 2, Oswald Russell Ward. Draught or agricultural gelding, four years and upwards: 1, Jackson Brothers; 2, Peter Davies; 3, John W. Pollitt. Draught or agricultural brood mare: 1, Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P.; 2, W. Lindsay; 3, Oswald Russell Ward. Confined to the Society's district. Draught or agricultural gelding or mare: 1 and 2, Jackson Brothers; 3, Pendleton Co-operative Society. Draught or agricultural three-year-old gelding or filly: 1 and 2, Jackson Brothers; 3, George Johnson. Draught or agricultural two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Thomas Wild; 2, Robert Heaton. Draught or agricultural foal: 1, Jackson Brothers; 2, Thomas I. Taylor. Open to the United Kingdom.—Roadster stallion: 1, Lees Knowles, M.P.; 2, James Carter; 3, W. H. Cresswell. Roadster brood mare, with foal at foot: 1, Levi Fish; 2, Lees Knowles, M.P.; 3, William Ferguson. Roadster foal: 1, Levi Fish; 2, Lees Knowles, M.P. Confined to the society's district. Roadster, two or three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, E. Maltby; 2, John J. Cookson. Roadster yearling, colt, mare, or gelding: 1, Edward Hoyle; 2, Samuel Isherwood; 3, Alfred Ashton. Roadster, 15 hands or over, to be shown in saddle: 1, A. L. Goodson; 2, George Ledson. Cob, under 15 hands, to be shown in saddle: 1, William Lawson; 2, G. Ledson; 3, John Heath. Pony, under 14 hands, to be shown in saddle: 1, D. Bradshaw; 2, Levi Fish; 3, Richard Harrison. Pony, under 13 hands, to be shown in saddle: 1, Richard Harrison; 2, H. R. Bannister. Cob, under 15 hands, to be shown in saddle: 1, F. Ellis, jun.; 2, Thomas Ward. Pony, under 14 hands, to be shown in saddle: 1, D. Bradshaw; 2, F. Ellis, jun.; 3, John J. Cookson. Groomed cart horse, in gear: 1, Samuel Higginbottom; 2, W. and O. Gregory.

CATTLE

Open bull: 1, Thomas Atkinson; 2, Thomas Adamson. Cow, any breed, in milk or in calf: 1, Thomas Atkinson; 2, W. and O. Gregory. Cow, Channel Islands, in milk or in calf: 1 and 2, Bridgewater Trustees. Two-year-old heifer: 1, Thomas Atkinson; 2, Thomas Adamson. Confined to the Society's district.—Bull, under two years old: 1, Thomas Adamson; 2, Roger Walker. Pair of cows, for dairy purposes: 1, James Parker; 2, John Heaton. Cow for dairy purposes: 1, James Parker; 2, John Heaton. Two-year-old heifer: 1, Thomas Adamson; 2, W. and O. Gregory. Yearling heifer: 1, Thomas Adamson; 2, Richard Rigby. Heifer calf: 1, Thomas Adamson; 2, Thomas I. Taylor. Special prizes, given by the Bridgewater Trustees. Two-year-old heifer: 1 and 2, W. and O. Gregory. Yearling heifer: 1, Richard Rigby; 2, Peter Boardman. Calf, under twelve months old: 1, W. Hurst; 2, Thomas I. Taylor. Bull, under three years old: 1, John Seddon; 2, Roger Walker.

Paris International Horse Show.

The International Horse Show, organised by the Direction des Haras of the French Ministry of Agriculture in connection with the Paris Exhibition, opened on Sunday in the grounds of the annexe to the Exhibition at Vincennes, and will remain open to the public daily from nine a.m. to 5 p.m. until Monday, the 10th inst., when it will close after an auction sale on that day. According to the official catalogue, which has just been issued, a total of 1,718 animals have been entered for the show, of which 1,191 are sent by exhibitors in France and 527 from exhibitors of other countries. Of the latter, England has entered 62 horses; Austria, 20; Belgium, 154; Denmark, 1; Germany, 96; Holland, 40; Hungary, 44; Italy, 3; Russia, 89; and Turkey, 18.

The animals will be judged by a jury, the members of which will be divided into sections. Purely French breeds will be judged by French members of the jury, but in the case of breeds open to all nationalities French judges will be assisted by judges from the various countries represented. The judges from the United Kingdom are the Hon. Cecil T. Parker, of Eccleston, Chester (Section 1, English thoroughbreds); Colonel Allan Maclean, of Brook House, Bracknell, Berks (Section 2, Arab and Barb stallions); Mr. Christopher Wilson, of Rigmaden Park, Kirkby Lonsdale (Section 3, Arab and Barb mares); Mr. C. W. Tindall, of Wainfleet, Lincolnshire, and Mr. Frederick Wrench, of the Irish Land Commission, Dublin (Section 18; Hackneys, ponys, Shires, Clydesdales, and Suffolks). The judging will commence at eight a.m. on Tuesday, the 4th inst., and will be continued on the following days until finished.

Mushrooms In some districts in South Leicestershire mushrooms are being gathered by the cartload. In others they are being spudded in the same way as thistles, the prices given being insufficient to repay the cost of distribution.

As a proof of the unusual abundance of stone fruit this season, a correspondent informs the *Standard* that at Newbury Market on Thursday several tons of plums were on offer, and heavy sales took place, the price being remarkably low. Large quantities of ripe plums in sound condition only realised one halfpenny per pound.

Britain's Peril: an Empty Bread-basket.

Thomas G. Read's Solution.

Early in 1897, and again in 1899, the question of our food supplies in time of war was discussed in the House of Commons.

In 1897, the scheme placed before Parliament to reduce the danger was a system of national granaries. They would prove no remedy, as the grain stored would chiefly consist of foreign wheat, and thus no arrangements could be made to automatically replace the reserve during times of peril. Should the war last some time, the contents of the granaries having been eaten and our home producers neglected, the time of agony would simply have been prolonged.

In 1899, national granaries did not occupy such a prominent position, the debate being chiefly on the insurance by the Government in some form or another of maritime risks in time of war. Such a solution appeared to be impracticable.

A noticeable feature of the debate was that any suggestion that we should produce more food at home was cheered.

The reason we do not produce more wheat is because it does not pay to grow under our present system. Were we to pay a bounty on home-grown wheat to counteract the loss on production, we should soon be producing half our requirements, and, were this wheat kept in ricks for six months, we should commence each year with one year's supply in the country—six months' in our rick-yards, and six months' in our wheat-fields. Although a bounty on home-grown wheat would cause a decrease in the price it has been suggested it would increase the price of bread. No example can be produced where a bounty has had any other effect than to decrease the price of the actual article receiving the bounty. Take the effects of the export bounty paid by certain countries on sugar, in order to attract money to them that otherwise would go elsewhere. The export bounty causes the sugar that has received the bounty to be sold at a low price abroad, whereas that consumed in the country paying the export bounty not having received any is sold at a high price, because the producers refuse to sell unless they receive an increase in the price equal to the bounty they could obtain by exporting. Thus the want of a bounty causes sugar to be high priced where an export bounty is paid.

It has been suggested that all the money paid as a bounty on home-grown wheat would go into the pockets of the landlords. Surely the labourers would obtain a large part of the bounty by increased wages; if they did not more labour would not be attracted back to the land. The landlords could hardly invent a means of obtaining the labourers' share.

The occupiers would not be likely to pay rent higher than the returns justified.

The landlords would justly receive an increase in their rent-rolls, as their share, as much derelict land and unprofitable pasturage would be again placed under the plough to produce food for the people, and, besides giving employment, would yield rent.

The original advocates of free trade expressed no wish to interfere with the home producer. Well, to counteract the loss on the production of wheat in this country, by such means as a bounty, is the complement of free trade in wheat, as it would prevent our farmers from being interfered with, and would make them free to grow wheat without suffering a loss.

How much bounty would be required to counteract the loss on production?

The following detailed estimate is believed to be a fair average of the cost of producing an acre of wheat in this country:—

Twelve carts of manure, at 5s. per cart, £3; ploughing, 10s.; rolling, 1s.; harrowing twice, 2s.; seed, 7s. 6d.; drilling, 2s.; harrowing after the drill, 1s.; striking up, 1s.; water farrowing, 1s.; harrowing in spring, 1s.; rolling, 1s.; hoeing over, 2s. 6d.; harvesting, 15s.; thatching, 2s.; thrashing, 7s.; carting out, 5s.; rent, 12s.; taxes, 2s. 6d. Total expenses of producing one acre of wheat, £6 13s. 6d.

The average yield of wheat in this country is about 29 bushels per acre: thus a bushel costs about 4s. 7¼d. to produce, and, since there are eight bushels in a quarter, the cost of producing a quarter of wheat is on an average about 36s. 10d. in this country. If we add 3s. 2d. per quarter to pay for the farmer's time and labour and interest on the money invested, we find that our home producers should have 40s. per quarter returned to them for their wheat.

It is proposed that the average price of wheat for the year being taken the returns should be made up to about 40s. per quarter by paying a bounty the next year sufficient to produce such returns.

Should the bounty be paid on the acreage harvested, or on the quantity produced?

It has been suggested that were it paid on the acreage harvested, bad farmers would receive as much per acre as good. Surely every farmer would in his own interest endeavour to grow as large a crop per acre as possible.

Were it paid on the quantity produced the amount received per acre would vary considerably. If 10s. per quarter were paid, the farmers growing 40 bushels per acre would obtain 50s. per acre bonus, besides, at 30s. per quarter, £7 10s. for the wheat, or altogether £10 per acre for the crop; whereas men with poor land producing 20 bushels per acre would obtain 25s. per acre bonus, and £3 15s. for the wheat, or altogether—£5 per acre for the crop. That is, the farmers who sadly require help would have 25s. per acre bounty and those who do not require it as badly would obtain 50s. per acre.

Were the bounty paid in two instalments, the first on the acreage harvested and the second on the number of quarters thrashed, it would help men with poor land, besides tending to encourage good farming; but it is believed that a bounty on the acreage harvested is the more practical, as there is little doubt that could be more cheaply and more easily determined than the quantity thrashed.

If inspectors were employed to see that the quantities returned were thrashed an army of inspectors would be required, whereas the acreage harvested could be quickly checked by the Ordnance Survey maps.

It is quite probable that if a bounty were paid on the quantity thrashed there might be a tendency for some farmers to exaggerate the yield; but, juggle how you may, you cannot make an acre of land other than an acre.

If the market returns were taken as the quantity thrashed the wheat would have to be sold before the bounty could be paid.

If paid on the acreage harvested the wheat might remain in the rick long after the bounty had been paid. The growers, in return for the bounty, should undertake to reserve their wheat for at least six months in ricks built on pins, so that rats and mice could not reach it, and they should be prepared to sell the grain at a fixed price, should such a course appear in the best interests of the nation.

It is probable that the Government would never have to interfere concerning the sale of wheat, as speculators would not be likely to force up the price when there was a possibility of the Government stepping in to keep it at a reasonable figure.

Much wheat is now thrashed just after harvest, because the farmers require the money the grain will return to pay various accounts, which become due at Michaelmas; if the Government lent money at a low rate of interest on the wheat-ricks many small farmers would be able to reserve their wheat who, under present conditions, cannot afford to do so. Thus a small farmer, with some bullocks fattening for Christmas beef, would be able to borrow money from the Government on his wheat-rick, and when he sold his bullocks could pay this back. The Russian Government have lent their own farmers money on wheat. Our annual wheat crop is not worth £10,000,000. If we produced six months' supply each year, or 15,000,000 quarters, and our farmers received about 40s. per quarter in return for that, our annual crop would be worth £30,000,000. That would be an increase in the returns from wheat growing in this country of over £20,000,000 per annum. An increase in the amount of money circulating in our rural districts would improve the position of all industries in this country. Not only would agriculture be revived, but the whole nation would reap considerable advantages.

How can we raise the revenue to pay a bounty on home-grown wheat?

Why not from the foreigner by import duties on wheat?

The original advocates of free trade never proposed abolishing all customs duties—merely such as hindered the trade of this country.

Import duties usually increase the price of an article about 50 per cent. of the duty; thus in France, where an import duty of 12s. 3d. per quarter is levied on wheat, the price is usually 6s. higher than in this country.

It appears that were a bounty paid on home-grown wheat that the revenue to pay it might be obtained in such a manner, without hindrance to trade, by import duties on wheat as to cause them to counterbalance the decrease in price that would take place owing to a bounty.

Last year we imported over three-fourths of the wheat we consumed, and the average price in this country was about 25s. per quarter—thus if we had levied import duties of 5s. per quarter on wheat from foreign countries and 2s. 6d. per quarter on that from our Colonies, we would have raised sufficient revenue from the exporters of wheat to have paid our home wheat growers a bounty of 15s. per quarter without the consumers of this country contributing a farthing. A bounty of 15s., plus the market price of 25s. per quarter, would have returned our farmers 40s. per quarter for their wheat without any increase in the price of bread.

On February 10th, 1898, during the debate on the Address, the President of the Board of Trade stated that the bounties given for shipping were of a different order from the sugar bounties; they were really given in the form of subsidies to establish quick communication by sea, and services were performed for them. It appears that no more important service can be performed in return for a subsidy than securing the nation from famine and surrender. We spend many millions each year on our Navy and on our Army for the protection of

the country, and it appears very foolish to run the risk of these large establishments proving useless in time of need, because we do not insure the production of six months' supply of bread at home, although we have so many acres of derelict land and unprofitable pasturage from which our forefathers used to produce magnificent crops of wheat.

It has been suggested that were a bounty paid on home-grown wheat, logically, similar relief could not fairly be withheld from any other industry similarly affected—for instance, the hop industry, the sugar industry, and the iron trade; but it appears it has to be proved that an uninterrupted supply of such products is of equal importance for the safety of the whole nation as a secure supply of wheat. For some years England has given bounties for shipping in order to be able, in time of war, to have the use of certain ships as cruisers. Annually ten shillings per horse has been paid to certain owners so that the Government, in time of need, may be able to obtain a number of horses. To encourage an increased supply of horses, suited for our cavalry, the Government annually finds money, which is paid away as premiums or bounties, for thorough-bred sires; and the Government pays £2 bounty to men serving in the Foot Guards, who, on completing their three years with the colours, are willing to extend to seven years, and those enlisted for seven years who extend to twelve years.

Thus we have many precedents, which will permit us to pay away money to encourage an increased growth of wheat in this country, in order to secure us from the peril of famine and surrender in time of war.

No change of our fiscal policy is involved; if it were, such a fact should condemn our fiscal policy, as the safety of a nation should be above all doubt.

It is to be hoped that many voters at the forthcoming General Election will cause the candidates to understand that our present hand-to-mouth system, of obtaining our daily bread chiefly from those who may some day be hostile, is a matter which must be altered in the near future.

The Deering Harvesting Machinery at the Paris Exhibition.

To write of all the United States exhibits that received awards would fill volumes, says Captain A. H. Mattox, official Press representative of the United States Exposition. But there are several exhibitors from the United States who, for the great expense attending their exhibition in Paris, its elaborateness, and superior quality, deserve (he says) special mention. One exhibit that has attracted the attention, surprise, and admiration of foreigners from every nation, as well as American, which carried off the honours of a Grand Prize, two gold medals, and a silver medal, is that of the Deering Harvester Company, of Chicago. Again, at Paris in 1900, as at the World's Fair of Chicago in 1893, the Deering Harvester Company has proven itself worthy of its laurels, a leader, as it always has been, in its line of manufacturing, and then at Paris has added laurels to their fine records of mechanics from the United States.

The Deering Harvester Company at Paris has received the highest recognition given any company engaged in the manufacture of similar machines.

From its beginning in 1858 with the Marsh Harvester, a machine which revolutionised harvesting machines, and again in 1878 with the Appleby Automatic Twine Binder, which further revolutionised existing methods, up to the present time with its modern automobile mower, the Deering Harvester Company maintains its position as foremost.

The Deering Harvester Company has been neither sparing in its expenses nor efforts to make its exhibits interesting and instructive. Its general exhibit in the American Annex attracts greater crowds from day to day than any other exhibit on the Champ de Mars. The farm scene at one hand of which is a bronze medallion of Obed Hussey, one of the inventors of the reaper, and the other one of C. W. Marsh, inventor of the harvester, with its miniature mower in operation drawn by two horses with a landscape fading away in the distance presents a panorama of great interest, especially to foreigners who have never seen an American farm, and it is true to life.

The model of the factory, though inadequately representing the original, covering as it does 85 acres of ground, when considered in connection with the photograph of the 9,000 employés which is seen just below the model in the exhibit, gives a slight conception to the spectator of the magnitude of the concern whose exhibit is before him. No one feature of the exhibit better demonstrates to the public the fact that the Deering Harvester Company is a progressive one, constantly on the lookout for improvement or innovation, than the automobile mower on its revolving pedestal, the first one ever invented and exhibited to the world. This machine, the result of six years of effort and six years of success in the fields of America, deserves more attention and is worthy of more to those interested in agriculture than any other one thing in this great universal exposition. This machine is, in fact, a mowing machine of the most perfect type, having a petroleum motor mounted thereon, of sufficient power to meet all requirements. A picture of this machine is found in the official Retrospective Exhibit of the Exhibit depositing, giving the development of harvesting machinery prepared by the Deering Harvester Company, of Chicago (by request of the Exposition authorities and by appointment of the Department of Agriculture of the United States of America).

Besides the automobile mower, the general exhibit comprises the regular machines manufactured by the company, a self-binding harvester, a reaper, two mowers, and hay rake, all of the above machines with the exception of the hay rake being provided with roller and ball bearings, an innovation introduced for the first time in harvesting machinery by the Deering Harvester Company in 1891. These machines, of exquisite finish, show the highest development in the art of harvesting machinery and are minutely examined by many admiring spectators. The adaptation of ball and roller bearings was for a long time bitterly opposed and fought by other manufacturers, but the success was so marked that competitors, in keeping with their past history, forced to accept the inevitable, made a half-hearted attempt by introducing only roller bearings, and now some even claim the credit of having been the originators.

The world has had many benefactors, but none has been more truly a benefactor than William Deering, of Chicago, to whose efforts are due, not only the introduction of the modern twine binder, but also that of the single strand manila and sisal binding twine. After his introduction of the Appleby automatic binder, Mr. Deering saw the need of a twine which at once possessed the essential qualities of strength and suppleness; he therefore applied to Mr. Fitler, a rope manufacturer of Philadelphia, who undertook the manufacture of several hundred tons of the twine according to Mr. Deering's ideas, on condition that Mr. Deering assume all costs and responsibility. For some years the twine was furnished by rope manufacturers, but in 1885 the Deering Harvester Company felt that the time was opportune to begin the manufacture of twine for its own machines; it immediately set to work and began the manufacture, which has constantly increased, so that at the present time the annual output exceeds 30,000 tons, over one-third of the entire world's output of this commodity. The twine exhibit of the Deering Harvester Company at the Paris Exposition is instructive in its aims in that an attempt is made to present to the eye of the spectator the various processes employed in thus obtaining the fibre and in the manufacture of the twine.

This Manila fibre is derived from a species of plantain or banana tree which grows on the Philippine Islands. Sisal is obtained from the leaves of a plant belonging to the cactus family, which thrives chiefly along the gulf coast of Yucatan. Fibres are shown in the various stages of preparation, as well as the waste materials used for fuel and the manufactured article. At one end of the glass case, wax figures of a Philippino in the act of cutting a wild banana stock and a Mexican cutting a Sisal leaf are graphically shown, while at the other end a small farm scene is presented with a model twine binder, which shows the use of the twine. Above the farm scene is suspended a miniature binder with a sheaf of wheat about to be bound. Many coloured photographs of the machines at work in the factory with their operators further illustrate the greatness of this branch of the business.

A special feature of this great Exposition of 1900 lies in the fact that so many retrospective exhibits of the different arts have been made, but none have succeeded better than the "Deering Retrospective" exhibit of the development of harvesting machinery in the United States' section of the Department of Agriculture. In the autumn of 1898 the Deering Harvester Company was nominated to the French authorities by the Hon. Ferdinand Peck, U.S. Commissioner-General, as a proper party to whom to entrust the making of the official retrospective exhibition. This exhibit is truly a novelty, as it is the first of the kind ever attempted.

In glass wall cases on three sides of the space and in seven transverse cases, all occupying an area of 1,000 square feet, are exhibited nearly 200 models, paintings, and photographs showing the various machines in operation and farm scenes from all parts of the world. The models, about 100 in number, have been made according to the drawings and descriptions found in old cyclopedias and records of the patent office. Every record which could be found was consulted, and every American manufacturer of harvesting machinery examined and approved the models of machines made by him or his predecessors. The machines exhibited are those which mark the various stages in the development of the art, for it comprises within its scope the whole history of harvesting machinery, from the beginning with the Gaul machine down to the modern twine binder. The whole history of modern methods of harvesting may be divided into three great epochs:—

1. The epoch of the reaper, invented in England in 1826 by Patrick Bell, and in America by Obed Hussey, and successfully put in the market in 1833.

2. The epoch of the hand-binding harvester, invented by C. W. Marsh in 1858, and manufactured up to the year 1875 by the Deering Harvester Company.

3. The epoch of the twine binder, invented by John F. Appleby in 1858, adopted and introduced by the Deering Harvester Company in 1878.

That the Deering Harvester Company was selected as the proper party to make the official retrospective exhibit becomes obvious, as by its efforts the two great epochs, that of the hand-binding harvester and that of the automatic self-binding harvester, were ushered in. Up to 1858, the year of invention of the Marsh harvester, all the grain was bound upon the ground; but by this invention the labour was reduced more than one-half, two labourers now doing as much as five formerly. For many years manufacturers of reapers forgot the Marsh harvester, but the tide of opinion was against them, and they were forced to recognise its superiority as an effective machine.

The last epoch, that of the twine binder, was ushered in by William Deering's adoption of the Appleby twine binder, the first, and, as it has proven, the only practical twine binder.

Mr. Appleby, in 1858, when a boy of eighteen on a farm, expressed the belief that he could make a machine which would bind grain automatically, whereupon he was jeered by his employer. He constructed a knotter which is the last of one shown in the retrospective exhibit. This knotter is of the kind used to-day to bind nine-tenths of all the grain in the world, and is used by all manufacturers with one exception.

The "Deering Retrospective Exhibit" has been pronounced by many competent persons to be the finest at the Paris Exhibition of 1900, and has had many illustrious vistors, such as M. Loubet, President of the Republic, who showed great interest and asked many questions in regard to models. He was accompanied on his visit by M. Picard, Commissioner General; M. Delauney Belleville, Assistant-Commissioner-General; M. Millerand, Minister of Commerce, and many other notables, all of whom were delighted. Among the many others who have honoured these efforts by a lively interest and a kindly sympathy may be mentioned M. Leon Bourgeois, formerly Prime Minister; M. Cambon, Ambassador of France to the United States at Washington, and Mme. Réjane, the greatest living actress of France.

Other exhibits made by the Deering Harvester Company are the following:—

On the third floor of the American Annex, near the Corn Kitchen, may be found a Corn Harvester in a miniature field of corn, which is placed here to serve an object lesson.

The Deering Harvester Company has many special machines, used to make the different parts for the myriads of machines which are sent out to all parts of the world to meet the constantly growing demand.

Three of these machines are on exhibition in the department of special machinery. Besides all of the exhibits before mentioned, the Deering Harvester Company, in the Civil Engineers' building of the Exposition, has a model of its works, and in a special department of the Exposition, at the Bois de Vincennes, displays a very interesting exhibit, in a paper twine-making machine. The remarkable and elaborate exhibit made by the Deering Harvester Company at the Paris Exposition of 1900 shows the high and enviable position this Company occupies in the mercantile and producing world, and is in reality far greater than can be inferred from its seven exhibits at the Paris Exposition of 1900.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

14470.—J. J. Christian, of London, for an invention for "Improved machine or apparatus for ticking hay, picking potatoes, and similar purposes."

14580 J. Voss and J. Prok, of London, for an invention for "Improvements in ploughs."

14013 G. J. Grapes, of London, for an invention for "A new or improved hoe."

Patents Sealed.

9029.—P. Ehmke, of Neustettin, Germany, for an invention for "Mowing."

9103.—L. Biddle, of Syston, Leicestershire, for an invention for "Fruit, flowers, and the like gathering."

9521 A. Dandoleit, of Munich, Bavaria, Germany, for an invention for "Improvements relating to pedal cycles."

The Dublin Wool Sales. At the sale rooms, Usher's Quay, Messrs. Grady Sons, and Co. held their third auction of wool for this season when 137 bales of various grades of Irish-grown wools were submitted for competition. There was a good demand for bright parcels with quality, the prices for such showing [illegible] up to the level ruling at the July sale, but for Scotch and other coarse sorts the bidding was languid and low prices the rule. There was a good attendance of buyers and prices reported by the trade. The following prices were realised: Super and Downs [illegible] to 8d; Hogs 7½d to 8d; super and medium [illegible] to 7½d; inferior [illegible] to 6½d; Scotch [illegible] to 6d.

WATERLOO ROUND CAKES,

Acknowledged as the Best Feeding Cake in the Market for all Classes of Stock, and especially the Young.

Prices, samples, and particulars free on application to Ayre Bros., The Avenue, High Street, Hull, or to the

WATERLOO MILLS CO., LIMITED, HULL

"WORTH ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD."—*Prof. Buckman.*

Used on the Royal Farms. Known in all parts of the world. Supplied to Colonial Governments.

STEPHEN PETTIFER & SONS'

"SANTOVIN,"

—OR— (Regd.)

HERBAL TONIC or FLOCKMASTER'S FRIEND.

("SANTOVIN,"—*New Name Registered to prevent fraudulent substitution.*)

A SURE REMEDY AND PREVENTIVE

For Tapeworms, Stomach and Intestinal Worms, Husk or Hoose, Fevers, Scour or Diarrhœa, Dysentery, and Debility in Sheep and Lambs.

IN BOTTLES ONLY (30 TO 40 DOSES), 5s. EACH.

SHEEP BOOK FREE.—"Health for Sheep," 32 pages, illustrated, and with useful information and world-wide testimony.

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STEPHEN PETTIFER & SONS, SHEEP MEDICINE, SPECIALISTS,

MALMESBURY, WILTS.

Of all Chemists or direct. £1 worth Carriage Paid.

CAUTION.—Beware of Imitations. Note particularly Firm's Name. ONLY ADDRESS *and* TRADE MARK (*Roman Shepherd with Sheep, as here represented*).

Sufficient and ONLY Address—**PETTIFERS, MALMESBURY.**

ROBERT BOBY, Ltd.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

BOBY'S PATENT

Corn Dressing & Screening Machinery

35,000 MANUFACTURED AND SOLD.

Oat Clippers

Cockle

Cylinders

Haymakers, Horse Rakes, Hand Drills.

SEED AND LINSEED DRESSERS.—(*See Catalogue.*)

BREWERS', MALTSTERS', DISTILLERS',

AND ALLIED TRADERS'

22nd ANNUAL

EXHIBITION AND MARKET

Royal Agricultural Hall, London, N.,

OCTOBER 20 to 26, 1900.

MALTING AND SEED BARLEY COMPETITION,

Entries Close October 11th.

HOP COMPETITIONS,

Entries Close October 4th.

MOST VALUABLE CASH AND OTHER PRIZES.

This Exhibition is the best Market for Buyers of Grain Cleaning Machinery and Seed Barley.

For the few eligible positions still to let in the Great Hall early application is essential.

Schedules of Prizes and all information can be had of the Managing Directors,

ARTHUR T. DALE and JOHN REYNOLDS, Exhibition Offices, 46, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Printed and Published by the Proprietor, at the Offices, 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.—Sole Colonial Agents: Robert A. Thompson and Co., 180, Pitt Street, Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; 7, King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Capetown.

The

Mark Lane Express

and

Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(Registered as a Newspaper at the General Post Office.)

Vol. LXXXIII. No. 3598. LONDON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1900. THIRTY-TWO PAGES PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.

(Founded June, 1894.)

PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.

HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, ESQ., Beltring, Kent.

SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.

CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

FOURTH ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE OF REGISTERED KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH RAMS, under the management of the above Association, will take place on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH, 1900, IN THE CATTLE MARKET, ASHFORD, KENT, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M. SHARP.

The entries, which number 445, have been made by the following breeders:—The Right Hon. Earl Sondes, Mr. A. Amos, Mr. J. P. Barnes, Mr. G. Buley, Mr. N. Clayton, Mr. F. de B. Collard, Mr. G. Farmer, Mr. C. File, Messrs. C. File and Sons, Mr. Arthur Finn, Mr. J. H. Harvey, Mr. E. P. Hogben, Mr. W. E. Long, Mr. J. D. Maxted, Mr. W. Millen, Mr. F. Neame, Mr. L. H. Page, Mr. J. E Quested, and Mr. H. Rigden.

The judging will take place at 9 a.m. on Friday, September 28th, and the Sale will commence at 10.30 prompt. Refreshments will be obtainable on the Sale ground as usual.

The annual dinner, to which members and the public are invited, will take place at the Saracen's Head Hotel, Ashford, under the presidency of the Right Hon. A. Akers-Douglas, M.P., on Thursday, September 27th, at 7 p.m. Tickets, price 5s. 6d., to be obtained at the Hotel.

Catalogues and all information in respect to the Show and Sale to be obtained from W. W. CHAPMAN, Secretary, Room 32, Fitzalan House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.

FROME DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GREAT EXHIBITION AT FROME, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH NEXT.

Prizes above the value of £500 in cash, three Gold Medals and plate for Cheese, Butter, Working Dairy, Horses, Cattle, Farm Servants. ALL ENTRIES CLOSE SEPTEMBER 12TH NEXT. Schedules of the Secretary.

T. C. HARDING, Auctioneer, Frome.

SOCIETIES.

RUGBY AND DUNCHURCH AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

CATTLE, HORSE, AND FOAL SHOW WILL BE HELD AT RUGBY, ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1900, when £370 will be given in Prizes.

Entries close September 1, 1900.

EDWIN TAIT (Auctioneer), Secretary and Treasurer, 2, Albert Street, Rugby.

BIRMINGHAM AUTUMNAL SHORTHORN SHOW AND SALE

The FORTY-EIGHTH GREAT SHOW and SALE will be held at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH.

240 Head of Highly-descended COWS, HEIFERS, and BULLS, including many prize winners, are entered from the most noted Breeders,

And will be SOLD by AUCTION, by Messrs. LYTHALL and Co., without any further reserve than entering them at not more than £21 each.

Judging at 8 30. Sale at 11 o'clock.

Admission 1s. Catalogues 7d., free by post.

W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

SHAP AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SHOW will be held at SHAP on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH, 1900.

Prizes will be given for Jumping, Flat and Handicap Trotting Races, open to all comers.

For particulars apply to THOS. GELDART, Secretary.

Mill Flatt, Shap.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL HORSE SHOW AT WELSHPOOL, THURSDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER, 1900.

Classes for Shire Horses, Agricultural Geldings, Hunters, Hackneys, Ponies, Leaping, Turn-Outs and Trotting.

General entries close SEPTEMBER 3rd; for Leaping, &c., SEPTEMBER 10th.

JOHN EVANS, Secretary.

24, Broad Street, Welshpool.

HITCHIN FOAL SHOW and SALE.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH.

CHARLES CROUCH, Secretary.

Ridgmont, Aspley Guise, Beds.

NEWBURY HORSE SHOW.

TENTH ANNUAL SHOW, SEPT. 12, 1900. President, E. WINTHROP, Esq., Barton Court, Newbury.

ABOUT £374 IN PRIZES.

H.I.S. and S.H.S. Gold and Silver Medals.

Schedules, etc.,

F. ROBINSON, Asst. Sec. Broadway, Newbury.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NORTH WALES, BANGOR.

A constituent College of the University of Wales AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT. IN COLLEGE COURSES. 1. A complete course in theoretical and practical Agriculture extending over two years, and suitable for farmers and land agents. 2. Advanced course for a third year in Agricultural Chemistry. 3. Short course of eleven weeks, commencing in October and consisting of Agriculture, Chemistry, Bookkeeping, and Land Surveying. The degree of B.Sc. in Agriculture of the University of Wales may be taken by students who pursue a three years' post matriculation course of study at the College. LLEDWIGAN FARM (300 acres) has been taken by the College for teaching and experimental purposes. Diploma (two years) and Degree (three years) students will in future follow courses for at least one year at the farm under the supervision of the Professor of Agriculture. Special arrangements will be made to take farm pupils for practical instruction only. The College is recognised by the Surveyors' Institution as a place of approved professional instruction for land agents. The cost of board and lodging, with tuition fees, varies from £30 to £40 for the College year. The Scholarship examination will commence on September 18.

Prospectus, with full particulars as to Scholarships and Diplomas, may be obtained from JOHN EDWARD LLOYD, M.A., Secretary and Registrar.

July 17th, 1900.

ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.

Trustees: The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of Edinburgh.

J. R. M. DEWAR, F.R.C.V.S., Principal.

SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION commences OCTOBER 2nd, 1900.

The INAUGURAL ADDRESS will be delivered on October 3rd by Sir JOHN GILMOUR, Bart., of Montrave.

For Prospectus apply to the Principal.

THE YORKSHIRE COLLEGE, LEEDS, AND THE MANOR FARM, GARFORTH.

Complete Course of Agricultural Education. Lectures in College and at the Farm from October to March. Special provision for practical instruction. Fee, £10. Students are prepared for the N.D.A. Examination. There is also a special course for the B.Sc. Degree.—Prospectus from the REGISTRAR.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, UCKFIELD, SUSSEX,

With Farm and Complete Equipment for Home and Colonial Farming. Successful preparation for outside examinations.

PRINCIPAL . . . W. J. MALDEN.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURE COURSE.—For prospectus, regulations for degree of B.Sc., and for Garton Lectures on Colonial and Indian Agriculture, apply, CLERK SENATUS.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF KENT COUNTY COUNCIL OF SURREY

South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, near Ashford, Kent. This Residential College gives a complete Scientific and Practical Training to future Farmers, Land Agents, etc. Preparation for the Examinations for the National Diploma in Agriculture and the Surveyors' Institution. Resident Staff of seven Professors and Lecturers. Farm of 270 acres. Next Term begins October 1st.—For Prospectus and further particulars apply to the Principal, A. D. HALL, M.A., late Scholar of Balliol College, Oxford.

AUCTION SALES.

SALES OF PURE BRED STOCK

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

THURSDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 13.—The MARQUIS OF EXETER'S SHORTHORNS at Burghley House, Stamford.

FRIDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 14.—Mr. JOHN COOPER'S SHORTHORNS, at East Haddon, Northampton.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.—Mr. DAVID MUTTON'S JERSEYS, at Plumpton, Sussex.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—Mr. S. A. LEIGH'S JERSEYS, some SOUTHDOWN YEARLING EWES, and choice BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Frog Firle, Lewes.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.—The late Mr. R. DEWHURST'S SHORTHORNS at Shelford House, Burton Hastings, Nuneaton.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.—Mr. F. H. PADWICK'S JERSEYS at Manor House, West Thorney, Emsworth, Hants.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—The late Mr. HENRY WYATT'S SHORTHORNS, at Walton Grange, Aylesbury.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.—Sir WILLIAM B[illegible]'S entire herd of SHORTHORNS, at Wakehurst Place, Ardingley, Sussex.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes-street, Hanover-square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

KELSO GREAT ANNUAL RAM SALES ON FRIDAY, 14th SEPTEMBER 1900.

1,704 RAMS

from the most important Breeders of BORDER LEICESTERS, HALF-BREDS, OXFORD DOWNS, SUFFOLKS and HAMPSHIRES are entered for Sale. Sales in Field close to Railway Station, in Six Rings, commencing at 10 a.m.

Catalogues, 6d. each, and admission to the Field, to be had from ALLAN STEVENSON, Secretary, Border Union Agricultural Society.

Kelso, August, 1900.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

SALE OF PURE BRED PEDIGREE WELSH BLACK CATTLE.

MESSRS. WM. DEW & SON beg to announce that the NORTH WALES BLACK CATTLE SOCIETY will hold their SALE of PEDIGREE BULLS, COWS, HEIFERS, and YOUNG CATTLE at Madryn Home Farm, near Pwllheli, and Aber Stations on the L. and N.W. Ry. (by the kind permission of Colonel Henry Platt, C.B.), on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25th, at one o'clock.

Catalogues free on application to the AUCTIONEERS, Ruthin and Llanrwst.

DISPERSAL SALE OF PEDIGREE LARGE BLACK PIGS AT TRESCOWE, BODMIN, CORNWALL, ON TUESDAY, SEPT. 25TH, 1900.

MR. J. TEACH HAWKEY is [illegible] by his friend [illegible] Esq., who has left the County, will SELL by AUCTION without reserve [illegible] LARGE BLACK PIGS [illegible] MR. RICHARD'S OLIVER [illegible]

Sale at 3 o'clock p.m. (after sale of Shire Horses).

[illegible]

PAWLEY [illegible]

Ipswich.

REGISTER OF BRITISH LIVE STOCK BREEDERS.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. — Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners; yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

HACKNEYS.—JOHN N. ANTHONY, Sedgeford, near Lynn, Norfolk, breeder of Pedigree Hackneys. On hand, Colts and Fillies by most of the leading sires.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions, at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath Station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

CLEVELANDS

HORSFALL, F. WILSON, Potto Grange, Northallerton.—Breeder of pure-bred CLEVELAND BAY and YORKSHIRE COACH HORSES. This stud has won far more prizes than any other again this year, and has won twice as many as any other during the last fifteen years with Clevelands. Many Royal and Great Yorkshire prize-winners for sale. One of the Stud Horses is Champion Broomgrove Pride 1249—first and champion R.A.S.E. Show, Maidstone, 1897; first R.A.S.E. Show, Birmingham, 1898; first and champion Great Yorkshire, Leeds, 1898; only times shown; fee £5 5s. Also breeder of pure-bred Shorthorns. Bulls and heifers for sale. Amongst others added to this herd in 1899 were Daisy Perfection, Richmond Daisy, and Highland Daisy, all bought at the Duke of Northumberland's Sale, at 210 guineas, 72 guineas, and 72 guineas respectively. Also breeder of Sussex black pigs, and several breeds of white poultry.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some gold Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

TAUNTON, H. PERCY, Redlynch, near Salisbury, Wiltshire. Shire-bred STALLIONS MARES, FILLIES, and GELDINGS of the most fashionable breeding always for sale at moderate prices. The animals are kept entirely out of doors and in natural condition.

PONIES.

THE LARGEST STUD of SELECTED WELSH PONIES IN WALES.—Dinarth Hall Pony Stud Farm, Colwyn Bay, North Wales. Over 120 Ponies now on hand, including forty Brood Mares of the pure Welsh type, and several high-class Ponies, great goers, with style and action. 150 prizes won in 1898 and 1899. Ponies purchased from this Stud have won first prizes at Manchester, Birmingham, and Maidstone Royal Shows; also first and medal Crystal Palace, 1899. Sale in 1899 included two Entire Ponies purchased by the Government for Cyprus, several to America and France. Stud Horse JULIUS CÆSAR II. 5666, sire of first prize two-year-old pony filly, the first of his produce exhibited, London Hackney Show, 1900.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, S. Wales, extensive Breeder and Exporter of the best class of WELSH MOUNTAIN PONIES and COBS. References and particulars on application.

MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley, Winslow, Bucks.—Prize PONIES always FOR SALE. Arab Polo Pony Stallion "Mootrub" (32), winner of a championship, silver medals, and many prizes. Particulars on application.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY PARK SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

LANGFORD HOUSE ESTATE HERD of pure and highly-bred SHORTHORN CATTLE, the property of Mr. Sidney Hill, J.P. All bred from the best and leading herds in the Kingdom. Sires now in service: Wiltshire Victor, 71,888 (roan), by Count Victor, 66,877. Puck, 73,333 (roan), by Alto, 68,147. Count Valiant, 74,307 (roan), by Count Arthur, 70,194. Langford Lavender, 74,819 (roan), by Wiltshire Victor, 71,883. Bulls and heifers always on sale, also registered flock of Southdown sheep. Inspection invited. Telegrams, Langford Station, Congresbury, G.W.R. Particulars from J. D LOVELESS, Estate Office, Langford, Bristol.

GARNE, R. & W. T., Aldsworth, Northleach, Glos., breed SHORTHORN CATTLE of great size, thick flesh, good milkers. Young Bulls and Heifers on sale. Stock Bulls: Wrestler, 66,582, Lord Harry, 65,180, and Now or Never, 67,544. Inspection invited.

HEREFORDS.

SALTMARSHE CASTLE ESTATES, HEREFORDSHIRE, Prize winning pure bred HEREFORD CATTLE. Champion Happy Hampton in service. Inspection invited. Good selection for sale.—Apply, J. W. MILLYARD, Estate Office, Littlebridge, Bromyard.

PEDIGREE HEREFORD CATTLE.—One of the oldest herds extant.—Young bulls and heifers of the purest lineage and excellent quality for sale.—J. R. HILL, Orleton Court, R.S.O., Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton, Williton, Taunton, breeder of pure breed Devon cattle. Breeding animals always on sale; some are prize-takers, others deep flesh, good form animals of the best milking strains and beef producers.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

DALMENY PARK ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

OSENTON, GEORGE, Mariners, Westerham.—Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.

JERSEYS.

HEASELANDS HERD of PEDIGREE JERSEYS, COWS and HEIFERS of the best blood at moderate prices.—Pedigrees, etc., on application to the owner, WALTER LLOYD, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

ILMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS. — Choice about 100 finest quality Cows and Heifers, in profit and calving all seasons; prices moderate; inspection invited; shipper to all parts.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

BLACK POLLED.

BLUNT, H. LAYTON, Orton Longueville, Peterborough.—Breeder of Black Polled Cattle. BULLS and HEIFERS for sale, also GRAZING STEERS.

PIGS.

YORKSHIRES.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H.—NEWLAND HERD OF PEDIGREE LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES; all pigs entered or eligible for entry in Herd Book; choice, well-grown young boars and sows of the best strains always on sale.—Apply, BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Ellel, near Lancaster. Station: Bay Horse.

PIGS *(contd.)*.

YORKSHIRES.

WALTON HERD of PEDIGREE PIGS, owned by SIR GILBERT GREENALL, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington; unsurpassed for purity of breed, size, and general excellence, as proved by the numerous championship and class prizes won at all the leading shows. Large, Middle, and Small White Yorkshires. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale. Stock carefully shipped. For particulars, apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

DALMENY HERD OF LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.—Apply MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Improved Pedigree Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest Herds of pure-bred Pigs in the United Kingdom. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford, pedigree LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS. Also few BERKSHIRES for sale. All bred on farm. 200 to select from. One champion, 28 firsts, 24 seconds, 15 thirds won this year.

BERKSHIRE.

SMITH, C. C., Kingstone Common, Wantage.—Pedigree Berkshire BOARS and GILTS for Sale. Eligible for Herd Book.

BURBIDGE, EDWARD, Wraxhall, Bradford-on-Avon. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, bred from Royal and Bath and West Champion blood. Acknowledged one of largest type of Berkshires in England. Purchasers met by appointment.

TAMWORTH.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTH PIGS. A few young boars and gilts from prize-winning strains, for sale.—Apply, Farm Bailiff, Middlewood Hall, Barnsley.

TAMWORTHS (PEDIGREE RED) from Two Months Old.—For prices apply to W. V. BOWATER, Esq., Bury Hall, Lower Edmonton, N.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes, including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

HOYLES, GEORGE, Manor House, Skidby, near Hull.—Pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP. Registered Flock 136. Sires used: Skidby Constitution 3069, sire Skidby Conservative 1346, g. sire Old Constitution 308; Skidby Tory 1583, sire Riby A 358; Leconfield Pride, sire Casswell (16) 1753; Skidby Friar, sire Abbot 1—from the celebrated flocks of Messrs. Henry Dudding, J. Casswell, Hy. Smith, jun., etc. Heavy-wool Sheep for export. Also prize and prize-bred Polled Angus, Shire Horses, and English Ponies for inspection and sale.

SHEEP *(contd.)*.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Chapel Farm, Barton-on-Humber, Lincolnshire, Breeder of pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP. Flock Book 106. These sheep are noted for having hardy constitutions, true character, and long, lustrous wool.—Telegrams: "John Anderson, Barton-on-Humber."

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179 six tooth ewes,
204 full mouthed ewes,
325 ewe lambs,
335 Wether lambs, rams and ram lambs.
This flock has been in the White family for seventy years, and since being brought into Sussex from Dorsetshire by Mr. Walter White ten years ago, has been crossed with the Southdown.
The Ewes are very prolific and hardy of constitution, possessing the quality of the Southdown with greater size and scale. They will be sold in their natural condition, and work on the Downs for their living until day of sale.
Together with
48 GRAND HEAVY MILKING DAIRY COWS AND HEIFERS,
all with calves at foot or due to calve.
All the above cows and heifers are a Shorthorn and Hereford cross, were bred on the farm from cows specially selected for their milking qualities, and are well worth the attention of buyers.
The remainder of the Dairy Stock, with the Horses and tackle, will be sold on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 next.
Sale to commence at 1.45 with the Cows.
Luncheon obtainable on the premises.
Catalogues of the Auctioneer, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 63, East-street, Chichester.

MONDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 17TH, 1900.

BRIDGNORTH, SALOP.

200 SHROPSHIRE SHEEP
comprising about
100 RAMS and RAM LAMBS
100 EWES and STORE WETHERS
100 EWE LAMBS and WETHER LAMBS
sale with the Ewes at 10.30 to the minute.
NOCK, DEIGHTON, and KIRKBY
Auctioneers.

AUCTION SALES.

By Order of the Executor.

BASINGSTOKE.

To Manufacturers, Millers, Investors, and Others.

MR. ALFRED W. TYRRELL has received instructions from the Executor (for the purpose of closing an estate) to SELL by AUCTION, at the Red Lion Hotel, on Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 26th, 1900, the VALUABLE LONG LEASEHOLD PROPERTY, comprising the SIX FLOOR STORE with Siding on the Goods Yard of the London and South-Western Railway Company, the PUMPING STATION, MACHINERY, and WATER SUPPLY let on lease to the Basingstoke Corporation, FIVE COTTAGES with Good Gardens, the WORKSHOP in the occupation of Mr. C. Neville, and the GROUND RENT on the SALVATION ARMY BARRACKS, all situate abutting and part fronting on the Reading Road, Basingstoke.

Further particulars in future advertisements or of Charles Wallis, Esq., Solicitor, Basingstoke, and of the Auctioneer, Basingstoke.

OXFORD DOWNS, 1900.

THE KELMSCOTT FLOCK, the property of ROBERT W. HOBBS, Kelmscott, Lechlade.
RAM LAMBS
or
SHEARLING RAMS
from this old-established flock will be SOLD by AUCTION at the undermentioned Fairs:—
KELSO, SEPTEMBER 14th.
NORTHAMPTON, SEPTEMBER 19th.

Yearling ewes for sale at home privately.
Prizes won by lambs from this flock this year are four firsts and four seconds at the Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and Gloucestershire Shows.

GREAT SHOW and SALE of Early Lambing DORSET HORN SHEEP on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th, 1900, Dorchester Poundbury Great Sheep Fair, Dorset. Mr. T. ENSOR will hold his usual SHOW and SALE by AUCTION, in the above Fair, on Thursday, September 27th, 1900, at 9.30 a.m., when will be offered nearly 10,000 EWES, EWE LAMBS, WETHERS, and WETHER LAMBS, mostly from registered flocks.
Catalogues of the Auctioneer, who will execute commissions.
Offices of the Dorset Horn Sheep Breeders' Association, 54, Soeth-street, Dorchester, Dorset.
THOMAS H. ENSOR, Secretary.

TENDERS.

ARMY CONTRACTS.

FORAGE AND PAILLASSE STRAW.

SEALED TENDERS for the SUPPLY of FORAGE and STRAW for Paillasses, for Military Services, during six months, from the 1st NOVEMBER, 1900, will be received until 12 o'clock noon, on WEDNESDAY, the 26th day of SEPTEMBER, 1900, by the Officers in charge of the undermentioned Districts:—

Scottish District	Edinburgh.
North Eastern District	York.
North Western District	Chester.
Western District	Devonport.
Southern District.....	Portsmouth.
South Eastern District	Dover.
Eastern District.....	Colchester.
Thames District.....	Chatham.
Woolwich District ..... (omitting Oats and Hay)	Woolwich.
Home District	23, Carlton House Terrace, S.W
Aldershot District..... (omitting Hay)	Aldershot.

Forms of Tender and Conditions of Contract may be obtained on application at the above-named District Headquarter Offices, by letter addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General, or in person between the hours of Ten and Four o'clock, and no Tender will be entertained unless made upon the form so obtained.
The Tenders must be properly filled up, signed and dated; and no Tenders will be noticed unless delivered in time, at the above-named District Offices, under sealed envelope, marked "Tender" on the outside.
A. MAJOR,
Director of Army Contracts.
War Office, Pall Mall, S.W.,
September, 1900.

BOROUGH OF SHOREDITCH.
HORSE PROVENDER.

TENDERS are invited for the supply of CLOVER, OATS, BRAN and MAIZE, for three, six, or nine months from SEPT. 29th, 1900, for about fifty Horses.
Sealed Tenders on forms to be supplied accompanied by marked samples, endorsed "Tender for Provender," to be sent to the undersigned not later than Wednesday, Sept. 19th, 1900, at noon.
(Signed), H. MANSFIELD ROBINSON,
Solicitor and Clerk.

TENDERS.

TENDERS FOR FLOUR.

THE CONJOINT FLOUR COMMITTEE of the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue and the United Synagogue are about soliciting TENDERS for the supply of about 1,600 to 1,800 sacks of best HOUSEHOLD FLOUR, to be made of sound English Wheat, the Flour to be delivered free of all charges in such quantities and at such times and in such places in London as may from time to time be directed.
The grinding of the Flour must begin about the end of October, and be completed within six weeks, a mill being exclusively set aside for the purpose. The preparation of the mill, as well as the grinding of the Flour, will have to be carried out under the superintendence of the Jewish Ecclesiastical Authorities.
Millers desirous of tendering can obtain full particulars and copy of form of tender on application to Mr. P. Ornstien, Secretary of the United Synagogue, 2, Charlotte Street, Portland Place, London, W.
No Tender will be received after three o'clock in the afternoon of Thursday, the 20th September, nor unless made on the printed form provided for the purpose. The committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.
Sept. 6th, 1900.

CONTRACTS FOR WHEAT FLOUR AND WHOLEMEAL.

THE PRISON BOARD is prepared to receive TENDERS for the supply of the above to the following prisons, viz.:—
Aylesbury, Bedford, Birmingham, Bodmin, Bosttal, Brecon, Bristol, Cambridge, Canterbury, Cardiff, Carlisle, Carmarthen, Carnarvon, Chelmsford, Dartmoor, Derby, Devizes, Dorchester, Durham, Exeter, Gloucester, Hereford Holloway (with Newgate), Hull, Ipswich, Knutsford, Lancaster, Leeds, Leicester, Lewes, Lincoln, Liverpool, Maidstone, Manchester, Newcastle, Northallerton, Northampton, Norwich, Nottingham, Oxford, Parkhurst, Pentonville, Plymouth, Portland, Portsmouth, Preston, Reading, Ruthin, St. Albans, Shepton Mallet, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Swansea, Usk, Wakefield, Wandsworth, Warwick, Winchester, Worcester, Wormwood Scrubbs, and York.
Forms of tender, with all necessary particulars, can be obtained at any of the prisons, or at the Prison Commission Office, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W., where also samples may be seen.
Tenders must be delivered at the Prison Commission Office, prepaid, not later than noon on Tuesday, the 18th of September, 1900.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, ISLINGTON.
CONTRACT FOR HAY, STRAW, CLOVER MIXTURE, OATS, AND BRAN.

THE CATTLE MARKETS COMMITTEE of the CORPORATION of LONDON will meet at GUILDHALL, on WEDNESDAY, the 19th SEPTEMBER, 1900, at half-past two o'clock p.m. precisely, to receive TENDERS for the supply of the finest upland ENGLISH MEADOW HAY, STRAW, CLOVER, ENGLISH MIXTURE, RUSSIAN OATS, and BRAN, to the Metropolitan Cattle Market, Islington, for a period of TEN MONTHS, from 25th November next to 25th September, 1901.
A printed form of tender, with conditions, may be had on application at the Town Clerk's Office, Guildhall, or at the Office of the Clerk and Superintendent at the Market.
The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.
Tenders must be delivered by hand at the Hall-keeper's Office, Guildhall, on Wednesday, the 19th September, 1900, between the hours of half-past One and half-past Two o'clock.
MONCKTON.
Guildhall,
September, 1900.

HAYWARD'S "YELLOW" PASTE

THE IMPROVED SULPHUR DIP.

Mixes readily with cold water. Kills all Ticks, Lice, etc. Sticks in the fleece and thus prevents a further crop of Parasites. Keeps off the Maggot Fly, and leaves the Wool in a healthy, lustrous condition.

In Packets, 1s., for 20 to 25 Sheep.

Sold by Agents.

ONLY ADDRESS:

TOMLINSON & HAYWARD,
LINCOLN.

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ALFRED MANSELL & CO.,
LIVE STOCK AGENTS AND EXPORTERS,
SHREWSBURY.

BREEDING & FEEDING SHEEP.—Shropshire Rams and Ewes (all classes) supplied at *lowest rates*, also rams and ewes of other breeds, Shropshire, Clun, Kerry, and Welsh Wethers and Lambs for feeding purposes, bought on Commission.
WINTERING CATTLE. — Hereford, Shorthorn, Polled Angus, Blue-Grey, and Welsh Bullocks and Heifers can be supplied on favourable terms.
PERSONAL BUYING.—All orders are executed by Mr. Alfred Mansell or Mr. G. G. Blantern, a guarantee in itself that selections will be made with *good judgment*.
Specialities: Shropshire and Clun Sheep, Hereford and Polled Angus Cross-bred Cattle.

ADDRESS:
ALFRED MANSELL & CO.,
Secretaries of the Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association, Shrewsbury.

Telegrams:—"PEDIGREE," SHREWSBURY.
National Telephone, No. 21, Shrewsbury.

ASHWORTH'S
Feeding Cakes.
ASHWORTH OIL CAKE.
"A very valuable Cake for fattening purposes."—Dr. T. WILLIAMS, F.C.S., M.S.C.I., etc.
THE ASHWORTH FEEDING CAKE.
"I consider this Cake to be of sterling quality for Dairy Cattle."—Dr. T. WILLIAMS, F.C.S., M.S.C.I., etc.
The Oil Cake is far cheaper than the best English Linseed Cakes, and will give as good results, using weight for weight, for fattening Cattle. Nothing surpasses the Ashworth Cake for producing such quality in Milk and Butter.
PURE ENGLISH DECORTICATED COTTON CAKE.
Best quality and value on the Market.
ASHWORTH'S LEGACY CALF FOOD.
A perfect Cooked Food.
ASHWORTH'S RELIABLE CALF MEAL.
Contains all the requirements to substitute milk. Thousands of Calves reared on this Meal annually.
Condiment, Pig Food, and all other kinds of Cakes and Feeding Stuffs.
Manufacturers of all kinds of Manures to any standard.
Write to ASHWORTH'S, Ltd., Oil Cake Mills, Bone and Manure Works, Frodsham Bridge, via Warrington, for samples, testimonials, etc.
AGENTS AND WHOLESALE BUYERS WANTED.

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RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY

ALEXANDRA PALACE
GREAT DOG SHOW,
SEPTEMBER 25, 26, AND 27, 1900,
Under the patronage of
THE KENNEL CLUB.

THE INTERNATIONAL KENNEL CLUB.
Patron: H.R.H. The PRINCE OF WALES.

THE LADIES' KENNEL ASSOCIATION.
Patron: H.R.H. The PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Great Northern Company will convey Dogs, etc., for Exhibition at this Show from Inverness, Aberdeen, Perth, Dundee, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Newcastle, York, Hull, Leeds, Halifax, Bradford, Wakefield, Liverpool, Manchester, Huddersfield, Burnley, Blackburn, Bolton, Sheffield, Barnsley, Rotherham, Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, Lincoln, Grimsby, Boston, Spalding, Lynn, Wisbech, Peterboro', Cambridge, and other towns on and in connection with their system, to Wood Green and Alexandra Palace Stations.
Through Vans will be run for the conveyance of Dogs for Exhibition at this Show where necessary.
☞ The Rates charged will in no case exceed those in force by any other route.

RETURN TRAFFIC.

Arrangements will also be made for the return of the traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors wishing to avail themselves of these facilities should consign and address their exhibits "Per Great Northern Railway," and be careful to write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.
A Great Northern representative will be in attendance at the Show prepared to give every information to exhibitors, and to facilitate the removal of their exhibits. The removal order issued by the Secretary should be sent to the Superintendent of the Line, King's Cross, at commencement of the Show.
For further information apply to the Superintendent of the Line, Great Northern Railway, King's Cross Station, London, N.
CHARLES STEEL,
General Manager.
London, King's Cross, July, 1900.

WM. CROSSKILL & SONS,
BEVERLEY,

MANUFACTURERS OF

Market Carts, Liquid Manure and Water Carts, Farm Carts, Rullies, Waggons, Cattle Carts, Brewers' Floats, &c.

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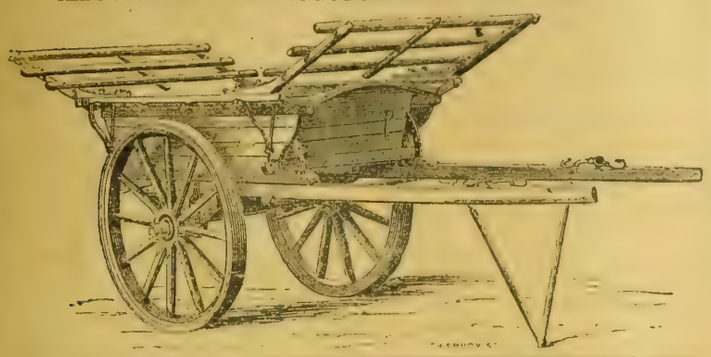
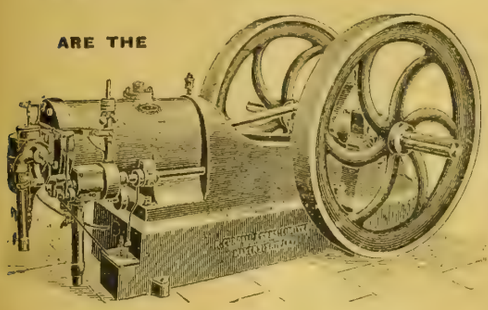


CONTRACTORS TO HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT.

"CUNDALL'S PATENT" ENGINES

ARE THE



SIMPLEST TO WORK.

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"The 35 B.H.P. Oil Engine that you supplied to drive our Stone Working Machinery is doing its work satisfactorily. It is running 10 hours a day without a stop, with a consumption of rather over one gallon of petroleum per hour (it consumed 42 gallons of oil in 39 hours)."

THE MOST ECONOMICAL.

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They will Grind into the Finest Meal all kinds of Grain, Chemical, Vegetable or Mineral Substances.

MADE IN ALL SIZES, to suit Hand, Horse, Gas, Water or Steam Power.

PRICES from £4 5s. upwards, CARRIAGE PAID. **Oat Crushers, from £2 15s. each.**

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THE WORLD'S BEST GRINDING MILLS

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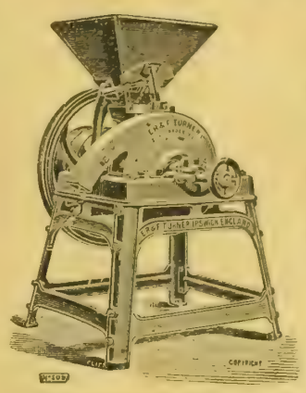

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PORTEUS, Engineer, LEEDS.

CHAFF CLEANING & PROVENDER MACHINERY.

Specialty.

See PORTEUS Patent ASPIRATOR and SIFTER before purchasing.

TEST SAMPLES. Every machine guaranteed to free the Chaff from Dust without taking any nutritious matter out whatever.

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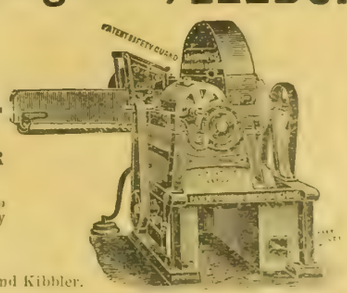
IMPROVED OAT ROLLERS, combined with Sifter and Kibbler.



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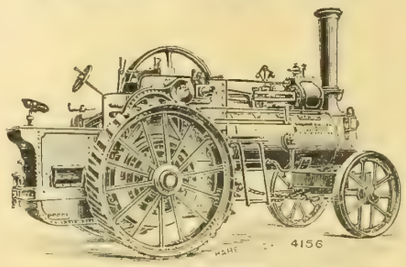

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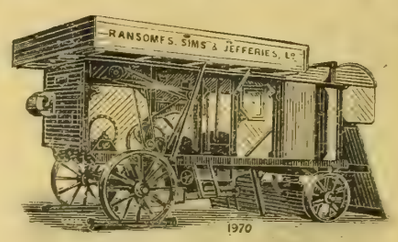
FINISHING THRASHING MACHINES SUPPLIED TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN AND H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.

These Machines produce a perfectly uniform sample of full-size grain, free from tail corn, and make all the usual separations in the most perfect manner.



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To rear Calves economically and profitably use SILCOCK'S SOLUBLE CALF MEAL. Thousands of Calves are reared on it annually; it is a true milk substitute, is very easily digested, dissolves at once in water, gives least trouble in preparing, does not scour, is very economical in use, as one pint makes one gallon of thick gruel, and it fits early for cake feeding. It contains about 80 per cent. of soluble feeding digestible ingredients, while in milk, butter-milk, and whey the figures stand at 12½, 9, and 6 per cent. respectively. With the minimum of cost and trouble SILCOCK'S CALF MEAL gives the maximum results. Use SILCOCK'S SOLUBLE CALF MEAL, feed regularly, in right quantity and at correct temperature and you will have little trouble in rearing paying calves.

Price, 12/6 *per cwt., carriage paid. 5 cwt. lots,* 12/-.

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CELEBRATED
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Effectual—Speedy—Permanent.

Used by the chief Ram Breeders and Flock-masters in the Kingdom.

IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF. TRY IT.

May be had through any Chemist; or will be sent post free at the rate of 1s. per tin, 20s. per case of two dozen tins (not less than a case at the latter rate), by the Sole Proprietor,

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Branches at London, Newcastle, Manchester, Newport, Derby, Glasgow, and Birmingham. Weighbridges readily and cheaply converted into cattle Machines.

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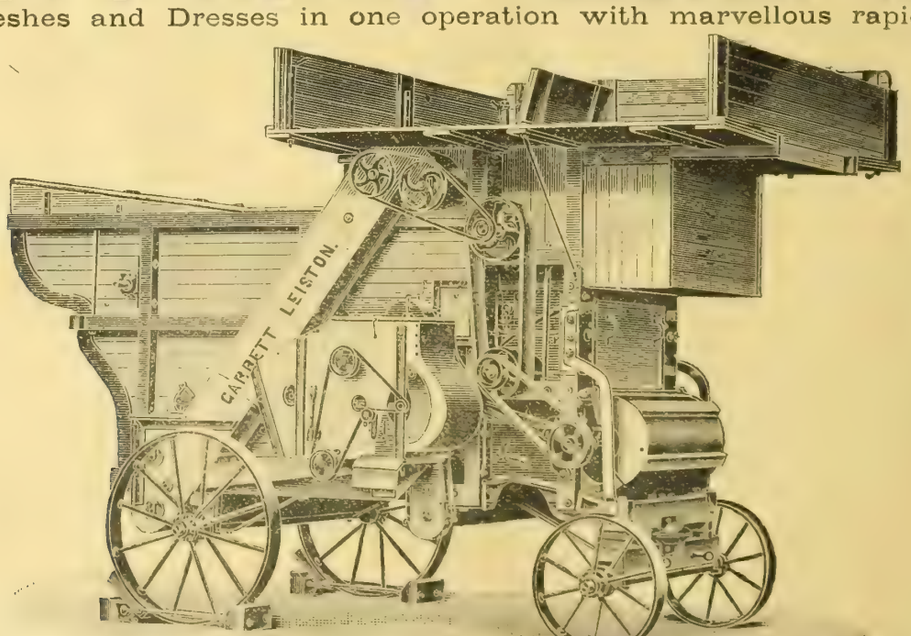

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WEBBS' NEW "MONT BLANC" WHEAT,
12s. 6d. per bushel. Sow 2 bushels per acre.

WEBBS' NEW HARDY WINTER BLACK OAT.
7s. per bushel. Sow 3 to 4 bushels per acre.

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SCHOLEY'S SQUARE HEAD WHEAT, 40s a Quarter.
Both Wheats 63lb. to the bushel. The seed was direct from the growers in 1899.
Apply, HENRY H. CAVE, Estate Office, Rugby.

"CATCH CROP" SEEDS.
ALL OF BEST QUALITIES.
Descriptive priced list post free on application.

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One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."
We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk and 507 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly

445 selected the "Cream Equivalent" fed Calves as having been fed on New Milk.

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The Only English Journal devoted exclusively to Agriculture.

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FLOCK DECADENCE.

The most regrettable feature in the preliminary statement of the Agricultural Returns of Great Britain is the decline in the number of sheep found in the country last June, compared with those recorded either in 1899 or 1898. It may be said that the shrinkage appears to be no greater than was expected, inasmuch as for several decades fewer sheep have always been wintered after bad turnip seasons, and the crop of 1899 was not merely an indifferent one but a complete failure in many places. The actual decrease from the return of 1899 is 646,528, from 27,238,754 to 26,592,226, or 2.4 per cent. When we take into consideration the fact that the average number of sheep in Great Britain was, taking the decade 1867 to 1877, about two millions over our return of the present year, matter for very grave reflection presents itself to our attention. The return of 1867, the first year of agricultural returns being gathered, gave the number of sheep as 28,919,101, and ten years later it stood recorded as 28,161,164. Those disastrous years 1879 and 1880 brought that terrible plague, liver rot, to sweep off entire flocks of sheep, and the decline in numbers was shown by the statistics of 1882 to have brought down the return of that year to 24,319,768. Ten years later, however, in 1892, the recovery had been very nearly great enough to make the British flocks once more approach approximately to the high standard of the sixties and seventies, for it was 28,734,704. This circumstance is particularly noteworthy, proving as it does incontestably, that it has not been agricultural depression, or the changes in systems of farming caused thereby, which have caused the enormous declines in sheep numbers of recent years, but the very considerable proportion of drought summers and bad turnip years which have been experienced since 1892.

In his preface to the returns of 1893, Major Craigie wrote as follows:—"Turning to sheep, which had in 1892 again reached the average level of 1871-5, although it had not quite arrived at the high-water mark of sheep farming of 1873-4, it is matter of regret rather than surprise to find that sheep farmers have not been able to maintain the advance in 1873, but have had to confess to a serious diminution in their flocks." The severity of the drought summer of 1893 caused the number returned the following June to be only 25,861,500. The return was still less in 1895, but the following year there came once more a considerable increase, entirely attributable to a better turnip season. Then another drought summer led to fluctuation in the reverse direction, but advances were once more shown by the returns of 1898 and 1899, British flocks in the latter year swelling to 27,238,754. Now, however, we have to confess to a most humiliating revelation of the state of things, inasmuch as we must go back five years, to 1895, to find a less number of sheep recorded.

We will explain why the sustentation of flock numbers to their normal standard ought not to depend so much on the realisation of a good turnip crop as it has been made to do in the past. Major Craigie, in prefacing the returns of 1894, had to admit a loss of near three million sheep in two years, but he offered the following consolation for the deplorable result: "It is to be remembered that the numbers of sheep have always been subject to considerable variation, and if the 25,862,000 now returned are from four and half to five millions under the record of the exceptional years of 1874 and 1868 the present total is still larger than the flocks of 1882 by more than a million and half."

But although the flocks of Great Britain have fluctuated to this enormous extent in the past, there appears to be not the slightest reason why they should be permitted to do so in the future. All the most intelligent, careful, and skilful flockmasters avoid such severe fluctuations, or, in other words, are not subject to them, simply because they take precautionary measures to prevent the failure of one crop from causing so great a calamity as the partial unstocking of their farms. They grow more cabbages, mangels, thousand-headed kale, and kohl rabi than the generality of their fellow farmers, and, by not carrying all the eggs in one basket, manage to avoid the evil which, in very truth, has proved utterly ruinous to vast numbers. The drought summer of 1899, so far from being fatal to the winter fodder crops last named, caused them to produce fairly good returns. Those who had most of them were not only best off, but found themselves able to keep their usual numbers of sheep throughout last winter, without the slightest diminution.

But there is yet another way by which the evil might be entirely overcome, which is by growing many more ensilage crops and making considerable provisions of silage to take the place of turnips in those winters when they prove so very scarce. Investigation into circumstances will show that a great many fresh green crops for silage could be grown without displacing any raised at present. For instance, thousands of acres of stubble lands, which now remain totally barren or merely weed-growing from harvest until June, and sometimes July, might be made to produce an ensilage crop of trifolium, vetches, rye, winter barley, or winter oats, without drawing much nutriment from the soil or damaging the prospects of the turnip crop intended to be raised. If this were done at all generally, and such catch crops were cut in May and June, and placed green into ensilage stacks, such large provisions of winter food would be made that we should no longer hear of flocks diminishing by the million owing to failure of turnips.

There is one item in the preliminary returns just published of a rather puzzling nature. The lambs are fewer than the ewes, for whilst the latter are 10,350,326, the former are only 10,278,031. How, then, can the fact of there having been in June last 72,295 fewer lambs than breeding ewes be accounted for? There might have been more lambs fattened than usual, and sent to the shambles last spring, perhaps, but presumably not to this extent. The lambing crop was certainly not so prolific as it is sometimes, but there were a great many twins in some flocks, and no one entertained the supposition that there were fewer lambs than ewes on the aggregate. The return of June, 1899, showed 278,480 more lambs than ewes, and that of 1898, 2,503,472 more. In every previous year since 1895, when the ewes were first given separately, the lambs have exceeded them.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

The Secretary for War, I am informed, has directed that the provisions of the War Office letter of March 31st, relating to furloughs for Militiamen, to enable them to take part in harvesting work, may be extended to any men whose services are urgently required by employers of labour. The total number of furloughs granted for all purposes must not, however, exceed fifty per cent. of each unit; and the conditions laid down in the War Office letter referred to will be applicable to all.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to September 1st, 1900, were £41,988,663 against £42,188,660 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £71,704,657 against £44,404,578 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on September 1st, 1900, amounted to £5,212,852, and at the same date in 1899 to £3,703,975.

The Board of Trade (Customs) returns for the past month show, on the face, satisfactory results; but considerable allowance has to be made for the inflation of prices, which have largely increased values of both raw materials and manufactured articles. Our home exports for August were valued at £24,984,000, an increase of £2,726,000 upon those for the corresponding month of last year, or nearly 12¼ per cent., while the total for the year so far shows an increase of nearly 12¾ per cent. Imports were valued at £42,097,000, an increase of £1,403,000, or over 3½ per cent., making the average augmentation for six months 6½ per cent. Re-shipments represented a total of £5,409,000, an increase of £355,000, equal to fully 6 per cent., but the result for the whole period is a fractional decline compared with last year.

The exports for the month, according to the summary, show an increased value of £1,627,000 in raw materials (chiefly coal and wool), and, as regards manufactures, yarns and textile goods have fallen off to the extent of £684,000, due to the stoppage of the China trade, and machinery and millwork record a slight reduction, but other branches, including metals and metal manufactures (£933,000), new ships (£234,000), apparel, chemicals, and other articles, all show improvement.

Of imports, with the exception of reductions in tobacco, chemicals, and (happily) manufactured articles, the summary exhibits expansion chiefly in articles of food and drink, whether duty free or dutiable, metals, and raw materials for sundry industries. As regards the imports of corn, those of wheat for the month were rather smaller, but the value greater, at £2,264,000, and the quantity received since last harvest (say September 1st) has been 15,170,000 quarters, against 15,630,000 quarters in the preceding twelve months. As to the export of spirits and beer and ale, the increase in the former has been chiefly to South Africa, and the decline in the latter mainly to the exports of spirits and beer and ale, the States, South Africa, and Australia have taken more.

Dr. Timbrell Bulstrode, one of the members of, and Mr. Charles J. Huddart, secretary to the Food Preservatives Committee, have, during the past month, visited Amsterdam, Hamburg, nd various places in Denmark, for the purpose of studying the dairying industry and the methods of transport of dairy produce, with special reference to the milk and butter supplies in Holland, Germany, and Denmark, and the butter export trade, in relation to the use or non-use of chemical preservatives. The commissioner and the secretary are proceeding to Ireland during the present week with a like purpose in view, and propose to give special attention to the south and west of Ireland, although visits will also be paid to the Province of Ulster in the same connection. The committee will probably spend the rest of the month in their study of the above matters in Ireland prior to reporting.

THE DAIRY.

Canada and English Cheesemaking.

The Minister of Agriculture for the Province of Quebec, Canada, has recently been examining into the manufacture of cheese in the province. Believing that there were certain defects in the method of manufacture now followed in the province, he has referred the matter to a special commission. After carrying out certain experiments in Quebec, the manufacturer and chemist in charge of the investigation have come to England to seek the co-operation and assistance of Mr. F. J. Lloyd, whose "Report on the Manufacture of Cheddar Cheese," recently published by the Board of Agriculture, had attracted the attention of the Minister of Agriculture for Quebec.

Mr. E. Bourpeau and Mr. G. Henry, who are carrying out this inquiry, have paid a visit of several days' duration to the cheese school of the Bath and West of England Society, where they have had the double advantage of not only seeing the cheese made by the instructor, Miss Cannon, but of meeting Mrs. Sage, who, as the previous teacher at the school, carried out all the practical part of the many investigations made by Mr. Lloyd between 1890 and 1898.

Messrs. Bourbeau and Henry have also visited Mr. James McAdam at Castle Douglas, who is preeminent as a maker of Scotch Cheddar. Mr. McAdam's system is similar in the main to that used in Canada, but has been greatly modified as a result of the exceptional experience, skill, and study which he has devoted to this industry. By the changes which have been so introduced, an attempt has been made to overcome some of the defects of the Canadian system, and the commissioners were keenly interested in both the operations and conversation of their genial host.

Messrs. Bourpeau and Henry will remain in England for some time, in order to complete their investigations. Among other things they are remaining to examine some experimental cheeses made by them in Canada before they left, and which are expected to arrive in England shortly. This enterprising action on the part of the province of Quebec shows how keen is the desire of our colonies to take every step that may lead to progress, and there can be no doubt that the cheese-makers of the province will reap a rich reward. That Canadian cheese can ever hope to compete with the best home-made article is not probable; but that it may take the first place among imported cheese is possible and not unlikely.

Cheese Fairs.

The annual fair for summer-made cheese was held at Ashbourne on Tuesday. There was a larger pitch than usual, over 10 tons—all Derbys—and the quality all round was very fair. Business ruled flat throughout, very few buyers being present, and only a few lots changed hands; the highest figures did not exceed 50s. to 55s. per cwt. The general figures realised were from 40s. to 50s. At the close a number of dairies returned home unsold.

At Nantwich, on Thursday, was held the monthly chees fair. There was for sale 55 tons, or about an average for September. There was a considerable attendance of buyers, and in a little over an hour a clearance was effected, at an advance of 10s. per cwt. over the rates quoted last month. Fine Cheshire realised from 62s. to 67s., and medium qualities 52s. to 60s. per cwt.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

The Hadlow Experiments.

On Tuesday last the members of the Permanent Nitrate Committee paid their annual official visit to the agricultural experiment station conducted by Mr. F. W. E. Shrivell, F.L.S., at Golden Green, Hadlow, Tonbridge, under the direction of Dr. Bernard Dyer.

The experiments, which have before been described in our columns, are now in their seventh year, and some thirty different kinds of vegetables and fruits are kept constantly under cultivation and observation, with a view to studying the most economical methods of manuring them. Each kind of vegetable has allotted to it annually a space of nearly one-eighth of an acre, subdivided into six plots, each measuring one-fiftieth of an acre in area. Two of these plots are annually treated with London dung alone, at the rate of twenty-five loads (about 12½ tons) per acre on one plot and fifty loads (about 25 tons) per acre on the other, without the addition of any chemical fertilisers. Of the other plots, three receive the lighter dressing of dung, with the addition of phosphates and quantities of nitrate of soda, varying in different cases from a minimum of 1 cwt. to a maximum of 6 cwt. per acre. One plot on each section receives no dung, but merely an annual dressing of chemical fertilisers. All the plots on which phosphates and nitrate of soda are used, with or without dung, are again subdivided into two, one-half receiving a dressing of some form of potash salts, the other half being left undressed with potash.

Year by year the results of the experiments show that the use of heavy dressings of purchased dung entails an extravagant outlay and produces far less satisfactory results than a judicious combination of a lighter dressing of dung with chemical fertilisers; while in some cases—as, for example, Brussels sprouts—it has been year after year demonstrated that it is more economical to rely upon chemical fertilisers and dispense with dung altogether. The most economical chemical dressings to combine with dung are found, as might be expected, to vary for different crops. During the first six years the seasons were for the most part dry, but this year the summer has been wetter, and the plots look, perhaps, better than in any previous year.

In our brief notice of last year it was mentioned that a number of fruit plots were planted, such as plums, black and red currants, raspberries, and gooseberries. The fruit trees being yet young, it is early to say much about the effects of manures, but the chemical dressings certainly give increased colour to the foliage, and the active life of the leaves appears to be prolonged; for, where dung alone is used, the leaf is often already yellow and dropping off. More wood, too, is apparently being made where chemical fertilisers are used, as compared with the plots getting dung alone.

The summer lettuces look particularly fine this year. Hundreds of the lettuces already cut have weighed over 3lbs. each, and the quality as regards tenderness and crispness is most remarkable where the produce has been grown rapidly with the aid of phosphates and nitrate of soda, as compared with dung alone. The onion crop, both as regards winter or tripoli onions and as regards summer onions, is exceptionally fine, and both these crops show very markedly the value of the chemical manures used in conjunction with dung. The main crop potatoes at present show very markedly in their foliage the effect of the heaviest dressing (4cwt. per acre) of nitrate of soda. The tops are still green and growing vigorously, whereas on the plots receiving dung alone without chemical fertilisers the tops are ripening off. From the aspect of the haulm—which, however, cannot always be relied upon- it would appear as though the heaviest dressing of nitrate of soda will give a very much greater crop of potatoes than where fifty loads of dung per acre are used. The effect of the chemical dressings is also shown very markedly on Brussels sprouts, cauliflowers, and cabbages, the leaf development in all cases being most strikingly greater, where nitrate of soda and phosphates are used, than on the merely dunged plots. The celery crop, too, is very fine this year, even on the plot receiving only chemical fertilisers, which, in the case of this crop, is this year receiving—in addition to a large dressing of phosphates—as much as 8 cwt. of nitrate of soda per acre. The beetroots on the phosphated and nitrated plots are far larger and better developed than on the most heavily dunged plot.

Adjoining the vegetable plantations is a series of plots of lucerne, which have been down for some years, and of which Dr. Dyer contributed an account to the current number of the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society. The effect of nitrate of soda on this crop has been year after year very striking, and the results are attracting a good deal of interest. The discovery, made some years since, of the power of leguminous plants to assimilate directly, through the micro-organisms of their root nodules, the free nitrogen of the atmosphere, thus rendering them capable of reaching maturity independently of the supply of combined nitrogen, whether from the soil or from manure, has led many people to the too hasty conclusion that leguminous crops, owing to their potential independence in this respect, are necessarily unresponsive to nitrogenous manure. This is not the case, and ample evidence has been furnished, at Rothamsted and elsewhere, that leguminous plants, although they undoubtedly gather nitrogen from the air, do also absorb, in the ultimate form of nitrates, the combined nitrogen existing in or supplied to the soil. There are at Hadlow four lucerne plots, one receiving phosphates and potash salts only, the other three receiving phosphates and potash salts with dressings of nitrate of soda varying from 1 cwt. to 4 cwt. per acre. By far the best plot hitherto has been that receiving only 2 cwt. of nitrate of soda per acre. The plots have been already twice cut this year, and on the occasion of the recent visit the third crop was still standing, and the superiority of the plot receiving 2 cwt. of nitrate of soda per acre over the other plots was strikingly manifest. These results have led Dr. Dyer and Mr. Shrivell to add peas and beans this year to their vegetable experiments. The result is that nitrate of soda has proved for French beans to be a valuable addition to dung, phosphates, and potash salts. Where no nitrate of soda was applied, but merely dung, phosphates and potash salts, the beans are over, and the leaves have died off: but where 2 cwt. of nitrate of soda per acre has been used in addition to the other dressings beans are still being picked, and Mr. Shrivell roughly estimates that the produce will be probably double that of the plot receiving no nitrate of soda. In the case of peas, although the nitrate of soda has produced a marked effect on the growth, no such striking difference will appear in the yield. These experiments will be repeated next year.

Mr. Shrivell is an extensive hop farmer, and on another field on his farm is the now well-known experimental acre of hops, the results from which have been year by year chronicled in these columns. Although Mr. Shrivell's hops, like others of the neighbourhood, have passed through a very severe attack of aphis, persistent washing and careful treatment have pulled them well through. On the experimental plots the effects of manuring are very strongly visible. One experimental plot receives dung alone, and the produce here is obviously exceedingly small compared with that of the plots receiving 4 cwt., 6 cwt., and 8 cwt. of nitrate of soda per acre, with phosphates and potash, but without dung. The plot grown with phosphates and potash salts alone, without any nitrate of soda, depending simply upon the natural nitrates of the soil, shows, as usual, the smallest crop of all. The plots, like the rest of the garden and the other gardens on the farm, now look throughout very healthy and clean. The hops throughout the farm, apart from the experimental acre, have this year been dressed with dung, phosphates, and 3 cwt. of nitrate of soda per acre. The quantity of the last-named fertiliser is decidedly smaller than that which has hitherto produced the best effects on the experimental acre, but it is to be borne in mind that the nitrated plots on the experimental acre receive no dung at all, while Mr. Shrivell is this year using dung throughout.

It may be added that Mr. Shrivell is always pleased to show the experimental plots to visitors, who should, however, write beforehand to enable him to make an appointment. Golden Green is between four and five miles from Tonbridge Junction station.

Mr. Rider Haggard on "Town v. Country."

The following letter has been addressed to the *East Anglian Daily Times* by Mr. H. Rider Haggard:—

Sir,—At the end of your article to-day on the growth of London and the depletion of rural East Anglia you ask "Why should not Mr. Rider Haggard become a seer?" Well, for what it is worth, here is the vision.

Unless this exodus from the country to the towns is stopped, or greatly checked, the decadence of England—gradual or sudden—is not far off. It may be said that even if this island ceased to be great, her colonies and dependencies would still flourish. Perhaps, but of what use is it to the withered heart that the toes and fingers have developed an individual life? Already those who run may read signs and tokens of this national decadence. What else, for instance, is the love of excitement that has become so universal? What the loud-voiced boasting and the passion for exaggeration? What the contempt for that which is old-fashioned, and steady-going, and dull? Does it not mean that already the nervous system of the people has been weakened by city life, and by those things which come from cities? And when the nerves are shaken or shattered, for how long will the body remain sound? And when the collective body ceases to be sound, how will it face the gathered enmity of jealous Powers, and uphold the vast burden of Empire under which it labours? Providence made man to dwell upon the land, and thence by his pure and honest daily toil to win food for himself and his offspring, and with that food, strength, health—a mind, slow, perhaps, but not easily disturbed even in the worst shocks of private or public woe, reverence for the works of Nature, and, through them, for Him by whom they were created; and last, though not least, unfailing fecundity, that strength of nations, the lack of which brings them to gradual yet certain ruin. But the Englishman of to-day deserts the country and crowds into the town. What he finds there, we know; and what the fruits of his finding to the people and to the individual are, and must be, we know in their full calamity, or if we do not, the lesson is written large in the records of the human race. What we do not know is how that calamity may be averted.

Yet, trying in some measure to fit myself to the seer's cloak which you are so good as to offer for my wear, I will venture a suggestion.

It will be noted that of late, more than in any former time, we have set up two great idols to worship—the Gog of Trade and the Magog of a somewhat immoderate Imperialism, which twain really are one idol. Trade follows the flag, therefore the flag must go everywhere, "even at the cost of war"—that is the argument—or one of them. In short, the flag is the source, not only of Empire but of wealth, the wealth which has become so necessary and admired among us that a man cannot even offer to represent his fellows in Parliament unless he is prepared to spend from one to two thousand pounds whilst searching for that arduous honour. The country of the trader has always been and must always be the country beloved by the luxurious rich; the country of the agriculturist, that of health, and rough, hard-won plenty, not of startling and unequal gains. We choose the first—Rome, not Sparta, is our model.

To apply these premises, this is my suggestion: that it should be pressed on Governments that in the end it will profit them nothing if they gain the whole world and lose their own land. The Gog of Trade may fall. A few more strikes, another ten shillings on the price of coal, a little more foreign competition, and what will happen to his feet of clay. The Magog of the new Imperialism, that of the spread-eagle variety, may prove unmanageable, and no longer feed the maw of his brother, Trade. But the home soil always remains to be the mother and the great precep or of those who tend it. Shall the earth that has borne so many generations of our island race cease to bear? Shall her kind breast be suffered to run dry? This, more than any other, is the vital question of our age. Yet we all know the stereotyped answer of the politician. "My dear sir, these are economic changes with which it is impossible for Governments to interfere."

I ask what is the use of a Government that will not or cannot face an economic change which, as men of reasonable intelligence, they must see is drawing their country into danger. But this no Government attempts, perhaps because they can see no remedy which would not interfere with the prospect of their obtaining votes at the next election.

Yet, as I think, there are remedies. "We repeat that our village life must be made more attractive." I quote from your own article. Well, how can it be made more attractive? To my belief in one way only by Ownership, the ownership not of the land but of the money. That which men own they love, by that which they love they will hide, leaving families who will love it also. In short, given such ownership as is present to my mind, the yeomanry which made England, but now is vanished, would out in the condition of affairs created by the conquering trader class, would rise again to keep her great. Of course the objections to such a remedy are obvious. Any such measures, involving as they must do capital outlay, would be unpopular with the great towns whose citizens want the money to spend upon their own enterprises, and wars such as has begun in China, which they hold to be necessary to the opening of new markets. Also it is urged that if they wish, men can take a farm; a very different thing, by the way, to owning the farm. Well, they can and do, often more readily than their means justify. One such poor man, getting into difficulties through an insufficiency of capital, hanged himself in a barn near my gate the other day.

Now, to come to the point. Under conditions and restrictions, which it is useless to elaborate here, I would have made it possible for that man, a worthy and hard-working person, to obtain, in place of a rope, the capital he needed, or even the money to purchase his little holding, should the owner be willing to sell; and, if not, another. In short, I suggest State aid for selected tillers of the land, in order to keep our population on the land, and to preserve our country from pressing and incalculable dangers.

Would it pay? For my part I think it would, since a small man, working with his family, can make a living, where the former, contending with an expensive and inefficient labour supply would starve. At the worst, the risk would not be overwhelming. I believe—though this is mere guesswork—that a hundred millions (about the cost of a single South African war) would cover the total cost of the experiment made on a large scale and for a period of years. If Governments can find money to settle soldiers in the Orange River Colony, why cannot they find it to settle them upon the unpeopled fields in, let us say, the Eastern Counties? Our interests in the Orange River Colony, with which we do a large trade in precious stones and other things, are great, but are not our interests in the English counties greater? A man is more precious than the gold of Ophir, said Isaiah long ago, and the remark still applies—even to the diamonds of Kimberley.

Sir, can none who have the strength to force a hearing be found to urge upon Governments dominated by our trader classes, and, in the main, elected by the voice of towns, to do the will of towns, the elementary fact that they are killing, or suffering to die of sheer neglect, the goose of rural life which lays the golden egg of a healthy and normal national manhood—that with the dwindling of the people country born and bred, will dwindle their own and their nation's prosperity, power, and renown, which cannot long draw vital and inspiring breath from the crowded streets of cities? I am, etc.,

H. Rider Haggard

Ditchingham, August 29, 1900.

An East Anglian Comment.

The *East Anglian Daily Times* makes the following useful—even valuable—remarks on Mr. Rider Haggard's letter above printed:—

We frankly confess that Mr. Rider Haggard's vision is clear, sane, and honest. Never have we printed a letter with keener appreciation than we publish the epistle which appears in our columns today. It is the letter of a man who, freeing himself from the paroxysm of the moment, has allowed his own prescience to indicate a clear and immediate danger. Aye, we emphasise this phrase—"a clear and immediate danger." This is too grave a subject to be made political capital of. It has too momentous an issue associated with it. It has been approached by Mr. Haggard in too reverential a [illegible] to be made the dail of the mere politicians, of the mere men with whom the science of government means only the success of party-dom. Yet whether this be politic-sm or not—and we protest this is not our purpose—his frank and knightly tilt against a false Imperialism which would rear a new Golgotha, and build up a false shrine of debt as glowing as an Eastern gin-palace in its fascinations, for the sake of adventurous piracy abroad, when the land at home is perished for want of the tool of sympathy—this must command the appreciation of all followers of the faith that makes for popular progress. His chivalrous demand for the establishment of a system (we pray he may not dislike our phrase, but it is an instance of personal perplexity as in harmony with the old time battle that besought in Parliament and out of it but a multiplicity of the privilege of ownership in the interest of the State. The leaders of Europe point too significant a lesson on this head to permit of even the most wanton of statesmen disregarding it. Denmark is too potent a factor in the supply of the daily necessities of this State—most of which could be supplied from this country—to permit of a heedless recognition of its importance. Thus Mr. Rider Haggard's protest against the policy which, framed only in the interest of the landless, gives the more Parliamentary spendthrifts to reach St. Stephen's, the men who would debauch constituencies through objects with which they have no sympathy, has the true note of the reformer. And would that our Legislature of the self-seekers contented only of using it to their own social and financial ambitions. There be men who have used the House of Commons as they would manipulate the figures on the chess-board, as pawns in the story of their sordid ambitions; and these have been oftenest the men who have poured out their purses most freely for the behoof and unmanliness of the electors. All these declarations of Mr. Rider Haggard are well. They reveal the man whose soul is greater than shibboleths and platitudes.

We descend to a depth deeper than Mr. Rider Haggard has penetrated in his remarkable letter. We go to a depth suggested by his denunciation of a mock Imperialism which mingles its Mafeking hurrahs with the death-shrieks of its victims. Aye, how many men have reflected that the cost of this war—and only one touch of the points remained in dispute, so averted Mr. Chamberlain on the eve of the outbreak of hostilities—would have established two million men on the land—three acres and a cow holding, and allowed £50 to each in the pound. We had Mr. Haggard in his character of village reformer. We rejoice in his appearance as the man who perceives in our villages the hope of our more or past. Village life is now bereft of every element of benefit of the lighter side, which, paradoxical as it may relates man for his more stalwart work of the day. It has even yet, however, associated with it the priceless treasure of unpolluted air, and, as a sequel, good health.

Our purpose is to ask Mr. Rider Haggard to take the lead in this business of village redemption. The Mark Lane Express has, as he well knows, a better right to speak for the tenant-farming class of the villages than any other journal in England. It has appealed again and again—appealed alike with the vociferation of threats and with the gentle supplication of entreaty, to the villages to take their political destiny into their own hands. What has been the result? While the urban centres, in which men are herd in fœtid dens, and which add little to the sum of England's manliness, have dominated the attention of Parliament, simply because they have cultivated a Bashan bull-like shout, the villages, with grievances far more portentous than their own, have become their emissaries and satellites. Let us take two instances: A Bill was introduced into the House of Commons the other day whose purpose was to sanitarise the villages. Did the villages, did the farmers, did the labourers raise a word either in favour of the half-hearted Bill or of the principle? This principle is that the State should assert itself as eagerly to secure the sanitation, which means the morality, of the villages as it should to secure the sanitation of the towns. They raised never a word. Take Mr. Rider Haggard's own admirable proposal for State-aid for selected tillers on the land. Appeal with [illegible] to the village electors, be they farmers or be they labourers, and they would relinquish it at once in favour of any quack cry coming from the towns. Nay, if any [illegible] Mr. Haggard, and beg you to forgive this Anglo-Saxon, and [illegible] Socialism, every hair of their particular head would rear on end in magnificent protest. We want a man who is gifted with the spirit of prophesy, and who will not hesitate to prophesy to the world. Mr. Rider Haggard has partially taken upon himself the role. We beg to persuade him wholly to the ambition. May we outline his first aims:—

1. Ownership of the soil by the cultivator.
2. State-aid for these selected tillers.
3. [illegible] of a [illegible] Imperialism for the benefit of the people at home.
4. The [illegible] Parliament without imposing upon them a fine almost [illegible]

This policy would not [illegible] the towns; [illegible]

purpose would not alienate the God of Trade and the Magog of true Imperialism. In the towns they already know that the denudation of the villages means the concentration in the centres of active life of a mass of undisciplined labour. It means, indeed, the underselling of trade rates; it makes for the unholy concentration of life; and, in the end, it induces social immorality and economic trouble. In the towns they desire relief from this demoralising competition. We might, as a fact, have the towns with us in this purpose. Its realisation would make for the saner life of those towns, and the more regular life of the villages. It would make, in a measure, for true Imperialism, and for the fecundity of the soil. To this in all sincerity we inspire Mr. Haggard. May he not relapse from the fine ambition of his letter. What we want is the organisation of the village elector in a strenuous purpose.

MILLING.

The Preparation of this Year's Crop for Grinding.

The trade in flour has been steady at about late rates, but offals of all sorts, especially bran and sharps, continue to make good prices. English wheat has only been in small supply, and in some parts has been making from 1s. to 2s. more per quarter for moderately good samples. It is not often that quality and condition vary so much as is the case this year. Odd lots are very good, and mill well, but the bulk is decidedly inferior to the last two crops, and will give more trouble to the miller than is usually the case.

The fine condition of the wheat from the harvests of 1898 and 1899 will have had the effect of spoiling country millers to some extent, who were able to reduce the grain with very little trouble during those years, whereas the present crop will call for especial attention and manipulation of rolls and coverings. Those members of the trade who have been able to instal a drying apparatus will have the advantage, because a great deal of the crop will come to hand in bad condition, and will need the application of hot air so as to do in some measure what the sun has failed to effect, and to counteract the ill-effects of recent rains.

Foreign Wheat and the Use of Washers.

Everyone agrees, too, that the crop is a much smaller one, and this really means that millers will have to use more foreign sorts. This, again, points to the necessity for another set of appliances—a washing plant, consisting of a washer and whizzer, the latter being necessary to get rid of the bulk of the moisture before submitting the damp wheat to the action of the hot and cold air in the dryers. A great revolution has been experienced with regard to these two machines—the washer and the dryer—and they can now be bought from most milling engineers at very cheap rates. A few years ago both washers, whizzers, and dryers were cumbrous machines, and the prices charged for them were prohibitive to many millers, while still more could not spare the room necessary for their erection. But all that is altered now. The large horizontal washers have been supplemented by small and neat-looking machines; the whizzer has been made smaller, and yet has a great deal more capacity; and the dryers have been got into a great deal less space, while they are equally effective.

Water and Heat as Profit-Makers.

In mentioning these machines as being more than ever before, perhaps, necessary to millers, the writer does not at the present time propose to go into the various ways of treating different wheats in washers and dryers. It is only desired to point out the broad principles which guide their use, for washing and conditioning have outgrown their infancy, and will ultimately be adopted by the great body of British and Irish millers. Some years ago elaborate dry cleaning depended more on space and power than on necessity, but as the demand for whiteness in flour increased millers had to bow to the inevitable and spend more money on machines, and the writer of these articles predicts exactly the same in regard to the application of water and heat as profit-makers in scientific milling. Twenty years ago the public were not so particular and did not so much mind being supplied with a dark flour. Nowadays the miller who turns anything on to his first break except perfectly clean wheat may as well close his mill at once. What, therefore, proved to be the case with dry cleaning will be repeated in the case of what has been called "laundrying."

The Object of Conditioning.

What wheats millers will have to use to replace the scarcity of the home-grown product depends upon several things, not the least of which is the cleaning plants they possess. But the aim is ever the same—to bring all sorts into that state in which they are best fitted for making flour, and this assumes that they are brought into exactly the same condition, a difficult operation unless the miller has adequate means for applying water and heat. Whizzers now run at 700 revolutions, or even more, per minute, and may be depended upon to get rid of all superfluous moisture, while they will leave some wheats in an efficient milling condition without any further trouble. In buying wheat dryers, millers should also make sure that the particular machines they examine are capable of passing a larger volume of warm air through a thin layer of descending grain. Of course, efficiency depends upon the inflow and outflow of a constant stream of warm air, always bearing in mind that an exposure of five minutes to a temperature of 130 degrees is more beneficial for most wheats than one of 200 degrees or more for two minutes. At the same time, there is less risk of over-drying than under-drying; it is leaving the wheat too soft which is to be feared. It will not be in the power of every miller to wash, but that is no reason why they should not instal a drying apparatus. There are several on the market, both cheap and efficient. What small millers want is a machine which will take up little space, use little power, and require little attention. The necessity for dryers will more than ever make itself felt this year. A good deal of the wheat will want ripening and hardening, in order to facilitate its reduction.

Economic Transmission of Power: Distance Between Bearings.

Arising out of the last article on the economic transmission of power about the mill, a question has been asked as to what is the proper distance between the bearings which support the shafting. The question is a very important one, because if the bearings are too near there will be more friction and consequent loss of power, while if they are placed too far apart the shaft will have a tendency to bend. No haphazard method should be employed, and most authorities give the following formula for finding the distance in feet between the bearings, the shafting being supposed to carry its own weight only:—Five times the cube root of the shaft diameter in inches squared. To take an example, let the diameter of the shaft be 2 inches. The square is 4, and the cube root of 4 is, approximately, 1.6. This multiplied by 5 gives 8, so that a shaft of 2 inches diameter should have bearings 8 feet apart. When the ordinary proportion of pulleys, etc., are carried on the shaft, multiply the cube root, etc., by 4.8, instead of 5. As another example, let the diameter of the shaft be 4 inches. The square is 16, and the cube root of 16 is, approximately, 2.5. This multiplied by 4.8 gives 12 feet, the correct distance between the bearings.

MILLER-FARMER.

Funeral of Sir John Lawes.

The funeral of Sir John Bennet Lawes, of Rothamsted, took place at Harpenden Parish Church on Tuesday. The service was conducted by the rector of Harpenden, assisted by the Rev. W. K. Suart and the Rev. W. A. Long. The mourners were Sir Charles Bennet Lawes and other members of the family. Among a very large gathering of friends who attended were Sir J. Henry Gilbert, F.R.S. (colleague of the late Sir John Lawes), Sir John Evans, F.R.S. (trustee and chairman of the Lawes Agricultural Trust Committee), Dr. Horace Brown, F.R.S., Professor H. E. Armstrong, F.R.S., Mr. Herbert Rix (representing the Lawes Agricultural Trust Committee), Dr. J. Augustus Voelcker (the Consulting Chemist to the Royal Agricultural Society), Mr. J. E. Compton-Bracebridge (the Assistant Director), and Mr. William Carruthers, F.R.S. (the Society's Consulting Botanist), Professor Tilden, F.R.S. (the Chemical Society), Mr. A. B. Kempe, M.A., Major P. G. Craigie (Board of Agriculture), the Earl of Verulam, Sir W. T. Thiselton-Dyer (Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew), Dr. Rudolph Messel (Society of Chemical Industry), Mr. William Marriott (Royal Meteorological Society), Mr. Spencer Pickering, F.R.S. (Woburn Experimental Fruit Farm), Mr. S B. L. Druce (Farmers' Club), Mr. T. Elborough, Dr. Bernard Dyer, F.C.S., Professor R. Warington, F.R.S., Mr. T. S. Dymond, F.C.S., Mr. H. J. Toulmin (Mayor of St. Albans), Mr. E. P. Delaham (deputy town clerk, St. Albans), Mr. James McDougall, Mr. George Oakley, Mr. Thomas Bennet, Mr. George Berry, and Mr. George Murdoch. [We are requested to state that Mr. E. W. Stanyforth (chairman of the Chemical Committee of the Royal Agricultural Society), Sir Ernest Clarke, and Mr. Martin J. Sutton were unavoidably prevented from attending the funeral.]

At Longford Fair, held on the 6th inst., the demand was slow, except for cattle in forward condition. Calves, first class, £3 to £6; second class, £2 5s. to £5. Yearlings, first class, £10; second class, £5 15s. to £8. Two-year-olds, first class, £13 10s.; second class, £8 10s. to £12. Three-year-olds, first class, £16; second class, £13 2s. 6d. to £14. Springers, first class, £18 to £20; second class, £13 to £15 10s. Very small supply of sheep, good demand. Lambs, first class, £1 7s. to £1 10s.; second class, £1 2s. to £1 5s. Hoggets, first class, £2 4s.; second class, £1 15s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, first class, 21s. to 24s.; second class, 15s. to 18s. 6d. each.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Barley Growing Stagnant.

The returns of the area under cultivation for barley are out, and for the third successive year they show no diminution. They exhibit a stagnancy that is like the lull before the storm. Although it may not pay to grow barley, it pays still less to cultivate wheat. Hence, after the temporary or spasmodic spurt in wheat, the inevitable relapse has set in, and with a heavy decrease in acreage for wheat we find a very slight gain in barley.

The actual figures are 1,990,265 acres in 1900, as against 1,982,108 last year, and 1,903,666 in 1898. This shows a gain of 8,157 acres of barley against a loss of 156,939 of wheat.

Of the total loss of arable land, after allowing for the increase in oats, much might be said, but for the present it must suffice to direct attention to barley.

Diminished Demand

directly causes diminished prices, and, after all is said and done, the chief factor in the whole position is the price secured. So long as a good return can be assured, we might be sure that the area grown would not diminish. Prices are steadily going down, and have been doing so for years. Unfortunately with barley more than with any other crop, market quotations do not truly reflect the prices obtained by the grower.

Averages at the best are very apt to prove delusive, and in no other commodity is this so true as with barley; the range of prices is very wide, and the quantities and values fluctuate immensely.

A glance at the table showing the Imperial weekly averages given in the market reports each week shows this. In one week last year (August 12th) the total quantity of barley returned was only 184qrs., whilst in the corresponding week a year later (August 11th last) is stood at 311qrs. In a few weeks this quantity rises to over 200,000qrs., yet the strange thing is the fluctuation in the average price is relatively very slight, the minimum quotation being 22s. 6d., whilst the maximum for the whole year was 28s. last October at the opening of the new season.

The Best Price

given for much malting and seed barley it is well known was more than half as much again. Some exceptional lots changed hands at more than double the money.

Leaving these out of the question, the real problem that growers have to face is, What is likely to be the ruling price this season? Shall we still go on the descending scale? Will it pay to hold on, or will it be best to sell promptly?

Properly, an increased consumption of beer ought to lead to improved demand for barley, with the corresponding hardening of values. In reality the larger demand for beer is met by ever-increasing use of substitutes for malt by brewers. This year also there can be no doubt that the increased consumption of beer by the public has been met by brewers by the ingenious but well-known plan of

Reducing Gravities.

The plain English of this is making a larger quantity of beer from the same quantity of malt and its substitutes. The dealings of the year show clear proof of this. Some of the larger breweries have already reported a diminution in the actual number of barrels of beer sold and an increase in the amount of beer duty paid. But the sums paid do not amount to anything like the amount they should do if the gravity of all the beer brewed had been maintained at the former level. In these cases we have the stereotyped expressions from the Board of the firm determination to keep up the credit of the beers in every way. Such expressions do not mean much.

Unhappily, we can never get at the truth of the matter, as it is impossible from the manner in which the returns are made to know truly how much beer is really made. As I have so often shown, a brewer can make ten barrels of beer from the quarter of malt or three barrels.

The Duty Paid

is the same in both cases, and the quantity of beer officially returned as having been made is four barrels.

The one solid fact the country has to face is the very serious one that the area of land devoted to barley growing has dropped for the third year in succession below the two million acre limit. With market prospects standing as they do, will this area be increased or still further diminished. A little depends probably upon the weather of the next two months, but there is every probability of a good time for preparing for getting in wheat.

The real question to many is rapidly getting down to the keenly practical one: Does it pay to grow barley even for maltsters' use? Year by year the average is getting lower and lower, but still worse is it in the sense that the best or top prices for malting barleys are decreasing much more than the averages show. It would be of great interest and utility if we could ascertain how much of this year's crop will fetch 35s. or over.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

The new hops arriving this week do not appear to have aroused much interest amongst buyers, although the buoyancy of general values has been well maintained. The business has been mainly in 1899's, which are being dealt with freely at advancing rates, some transactions in the better parcels showing improvement to the extent of 10s. on the currency of previous week. Holders of good yearlings are very firm, and several of them, being encouraged thereto by the poor results of last week's pickings, have withdrawn from offering. The unsold balance of last year's crop is now reduced to very narrow limits, and we shall soon hear of important transactions in the new growth, and according to general expectation values will be established on a basis that will be far in excess of the average of the past few years. But, as I have repeatedly stated, the key of the market is held by growers, and upon their action depends the course of the trade to be done therein.

The Output of the Crop

seems likely to be less than the general estimate, as development has not proceeded, and so many of the cones are small, that the weight will be, as it has thus far been, disappointing. A skilful and usually successful grower told me of his experience being very discouraging, as a plot of fifteen acres, which is generally fruitful, had only given him twenty-one pockets this season. A friend near Maidstone writes: "I have no doubt the average crop will be less than at present estimated, and many grounds are in an uncertain state through mould, which the cold nights cause rather to increase. I do not intend picking anything that is not worth £5 at the time of picking. If other growers make up their minds to do likewise the trade would be improved, also the prospects for another season." A correspondent at Plaxtol says: "The crop in this district is almost a total failure. An average of 3cwt. is more than will be picked. The new growth will, I believe, come short of estimate in every district." From Herefordshire a careful observer writes: "I think that in estimating the crop at two-fifths of last year I put it too high. Most of the yards I have been through since beginning of this month will not yield above 1 to 2 cwts. per acre." In a Kentish parish, generally famous for its good crops, the average is set at 5cwts. per acre, or a total yield of about seventy tons, the same gardens having grown nearly 200 tons last year.

Picking is now in full activity everywhere except in the Midlands, where it will be general this week. In all directions, with few exceptions, I hear of the rapidity with which the workers are getting through the gardens. Fortunately there are here and there gardens whose sheltered position or other favourable circumstances will enable their owners to come out well at the end, for where a planter can bring 10cwt. to 12cwt. per acre of sound clean hops to market he will benefit this season by his good fortune and justify the remark in the *Standard* that some growers have made their hops "pay handsomely." I trust there will be many with this satisfying experience.

In confirmation of these remarks I may quote the results of inquiries instituted by an eminent contemporary concerning the condition of all English crops. It is found that, disheartening as was the aspect of the hop crop at the beginning of August, when its average condition was represented by the figure 72, it had fallen off 7 points during the month, standing on September 1st at only 65. The average condition for the past five years on September 1st works out at 83.4, so that the present outlook is 18.4 below this average, equalling a deficiency of over 21 per cent., and as this calculation includes the record year of 1899, it will be seen that the present comparison is even more favourable than it would be if a longer period of averages were taken into account.

Imports and Exports.

During August very few hops arrived, the total being 2,210 cwt., of which the U.S.A. sent us 1,308 cwt. This total is over 800 cwt. less than arrived in August last year. The exports for the month were 1,076 cwt., against 436 cwt. in 1899, thus the balance against our market in August last year was 2,576 cwt., and this year it is only 1,134 cwt.

We are now in a position to ascertain the result of our foreign trade during the "hop year," extending from September 1st to August 31st. It is gratifying and should be encouraging to English planters to find we only imported in 1899-1900 146,434 cwt., while in the previous corresponding season 225,996 cwt. were dumped upon our market. These figures show a falling off in imports of no less than 79,462 cwt., and as exports during same periods have been practically the same, the balance against us for the year stands as above. I trust we shall see still further reduction in the new season, and it can be safely estimated from all foreign reports I have received that this will probably be the case.

The military doings of the gallant President of the Hop Growers 'Association,

Colonel Brookfield,

present a record of the greatest interest. Evidently his desire for active service has been fully gratified, as he has been engaged in several important actions, has conducted expeditions with large forces of artillery, cavalry, and infantry, and has been invariably successful in all that he has undertaken. Having been promoted to the command of a brigade, and placed on the staff of General Hunter, his conduct in the field has gained for him the honour of special mention in dispatches from Lord Kitchener to the Command-in-Chief, and the confidence reposed in him by his superiors is evidenced in his appointment as Military Governor of Bethlehem and afterwards of Fouriesburg. Having escorted the wife and children of ex-President Steyn from Fouriesburg to Bloemfontein, he was on August 10th awaiting further orders in the capital of the Orange River Colony. Personally I consider that having done his duty to his country so efficiently, Colonel Brookfield deserves a well-earned rest. I hope, therefore, soon to hear of his return home, where he will be welcomed most heartily by his hosts of friends.

Steinberg Brothers' Report.

Once again we have pleasure in presenting to you our annual report.

The weather has from the beginning been anything but beneficial to the growth of the young plant. The winter was mild, and dragged on for many months into the present year, and when the hop-plant made a start, late in the month of May, it was checked by frost on and off to the end of June, and at that time it was in a very backward and weakly state. In addition to the late start, fly appeared early in July, and left such heavy deposits that the hop crop of 1900 was threatened with a general blight. Washing was energetically resorted to by most growers, and persevered with; but, in spite of this, it seemed that the vermin would not be conquered. However, real tropical heat set in about the middle of July, and, holding for several weeks, had the desired effect of destroying the vermin. Unfortunately, the weather became very changeable during August, and at this critical time for the plant, wet, cold, and heavy gales again checked it; therefore, it is not to be wondered at that we are forced to the conclusion to-day that only a small crop of hops, which we believe, on the whole, will be of good quality, can be gathered. Although not a large crop, it will, however, be a most remunerative one to those of our friends who have again spared nothing to obtain a crop.

Picking is now in full swing, and new hops have been sent to market, for which, up to the present, there is by no means a brisk demand. A few parcels have changed hands at prices varying from £4 to £6, but these being chiefly early varieties, they are no criterion whatever as to what prices will be when good hops are about, and the market is in a settled state.

The acreage this year is smaller by 575 acres, and in taking an average of 7 cwt. per acre of 51,308 acres under cultivation, we arrive at a total of 359,156 cwt., which we have reason to believe will be only possible to harvest under the most favourable conditions.

On the Continent the hop crop will be smaller to 15 per cent. to 20 per cent. against that of last year, and the old stocks which are on hand there are only small. America will also produce about 30,000 cwt. less than last year.

With the brewing trade in a highly satisfactory condition all over the world, we do not think we are wrong when we predict good prices this season for the hop grower. STEINBERG BROTHERS.

45, Borough High Street, London, S.E.,
September, 1900.

Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May's Annual Report of the Hop Crop.

Although the date of issuing our annual circular on the world's hop crop is a fortnight later than that of last year, owing to the lateness of the season, we are only now able to judge the probable yield of the English growth.

We have made, as usual, a very exhaustive examination of the hop gardens of England, and the conclusion we have come to is that the crop cannot reach, under the most favourable circumstances from now, half of the actual growth of last year, or about an average of 7 cwt. per acre. The quality generally will be exceptionally good, as the sparseness of bine enables the hop to get all the sun and air, so that the cones are likely to be very full of lupulin, although, owing to the lowness of the temperature, many will be small. The Government have just issued their annual return of the hop acreage, and they give a total of 51,308 acres, being a decrease from that of last year of 535 acres.

We estimate that—

			cwt.			cwts.
31,514	acres in	Kent will average	8	per acre,	making	252,112
4,823	,,	Sussex ,,	6	,, ,,		28,938
2,221	,,	Hampshire ,,	6	,, ,,		13,326
7,287	,,	Hereford, Worcester ,,	5	,, ,,		62,755
3,964	,,					
1,300	,,	Surrey, Gloucester ,,	8	,, ,,		1,512
47	,,					
138	,,	Shropshire, Suffolk ,,				
4	,,					
		Making a total growth of				358,703

Our reports from the Continent agree that the crop there, taken as a whole, will be less than that of last year, some putting it at 15 per cent., and others as much as 25 per cent. less. Now, as the Continent did not keep sufficient hops for her own consumption last year, but had to reimport hops from England to make up her deficiency, we feel justified in estimating that the utmost that the higher prices ruling in England this season will be able to draw from there will not exceed 50,000 cwt. (last year they sent us 54,296 cwt.).

With regard to the American hops, we are creditably informed that the crop cannot reach that produced last year. Sonoma is put down at about half. Washington and Oregon about the same as last, and New York State at about two-thirds. As stocks of 1899 are almost exhausted there, we feel ourselves on sure ground in putting the greatest quantity she can export to England at 100,000 cwt. (last year she sent to England 92,238 cwt.).

Thus, taking our estimate of the English growth at 350,000 cwt., the probable import from the Continent at 50,000 cwt., and that from America at 100,000 cwt., gives only a total of 500,000 cwt. to satisfy our brewers, exporters, bakers, and manufacturers of non-alcoholic beers. We estimate their total requirements at least at 800,000 cwt.; for we find, according to the excise returns, that 37,153,051 barrels of beer paid duty last year. Now this at 2¼lbs. per barrel, which no one can say is an overwhelming amount of hops to use (and it is well known that export and stock beers want at least double this weight), makes 746,378 cwt. required by our brewers, whilst our export trade, yeast makers, and non-alcoholic beer brewers, require at least 50,000 cwt.

The stocks in the hands of brewers will be thinned low before another crop can be gathered to supply the deficiency between the production and consump-

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interst and benefit to the members of the society*

tion during the next twelve months, and the position of the market this time next year will be very different if the 1901 crop should happen to be a short one. This being the position of affairs, hop-growers are warranted in their expectation of realising such a price for their crop as will fairly pay them for all the trouble they have had during one of the most trying seasons ever known; they have had to combat one of the most serious aphis attacks, and only those who washed early and persistently will secure a fair crop. They also experienced one of the most severe gales when the hops were in a most delicate condition, and also great changes in the temperature during the time the burr was developing into hop cones.

We advise growers to be most careful in picking and drying; the price likely to be realised this year will warrant a little extra outlay in having the hops picked clean.—67, Boro' High Street, London, S.E., September 6th, 1900.

Manger and Henley's Hop Report.

From the start the hops felt the effects of the phenomenal crop grown last year, and presented a very weakly appearance; then followed an unusually heavy attack of vermin, which seemed to poison the bine, and has been only overcome by frequent washing. Where this was neglected the result is disastrous.

The dry summer retarded the progress of the plant, and it was only with great difficulty and good cultivation that the bine could be got to the wires or top of the poles.

At the beginning of August (when the burr was just formed and very tender) a heavy storm came from the S.S.W., repeated three days later from the N.E. accompanied with a low temperature—which whipped and injured the hops, reducing the prospect considerably, and making them develop very slowly and finish up small in size.

North and West Kent, Bastard East Kent, and West Sussex will grow very few. There will be some very choice hops in the best parts of East and Mid Kent, and a few favoured parishes in the Weald, if nothing further arises to damage them.

The yield in Worcester and Hereford promises to be about 6 cwt. per acre. Farnham is very short.

The acreage is reduced 535 acres in the year; it is now 51,308 acres. We expected this after the unremunerative prices which prevailed last year, and it must continue to decline if the growers do not receive a fair price to compensate them for the anxiety, worry, and cost of production.

This is a year when it is most difficult to estimate the growth gardens and districts being so various; but we venture to think it cannot exceed 7 cwt. per acre all round, or about £180,000 Old Duty.

We do not anticipate the Continental crop will interfere with us; it is a little less, on the whole, than last year, and their stocks are quite exhausted. The States and Pacific Coast will also yield less, their surplus not being sufficient to create any uneasiness in our minds. They have already a steadily rising market, which should influence ours.

Although the brewers have a good stock in hand, the fact that all over the country there is full employment for all who are willing to work must have its influence on the consumption, and we see no reason why this short crop—which is certainly less than half of last year's—should not be absorbed by them if we only exercise a little patience.

59, Borough, London, Sept. 5th, 1900.

From the Plantations.

THE FARLEIGHS AND DISTRICT.—Picking has commenced in earnest, although there is no doubt everyone has begun too soon; but there were signs of red mould, and it was thought they would go off. What have been picked come down very light, and the pickers get over the ground very fast. No doubt hops this year will be very much overset, and therefore the price should be more than is talked about at present.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

New crop hops are now arriving pretty freely, and attract much attention from buyers. First cost prices, *i.e.*, the prices paid to growers, are approximately as follows for the best qualities:—Marktwaare, 95s. to 100s.; Hallertau, 110s. to 120s.; Wolnzach, 115s. to 130s.; Spatt, 125s. to 135s.; Saaz, 140s. to 150s.; Wurtemberg, 110s. to 120s.; Baden, 105s. to 115s.; Alsace, 100s. to 110s. It is found, however, that the green hops are unusually heavy with moisture this season; there is, therefore, great loss in the final drying, and quotations to brewers are advanced proportionately.

The quality of the new growth gives general satisfaction, but the traders now accept the fact of deficiency in the total growth, which it is estimated as being nearly a fourth less than last year.

Much variation both in quantity and quality is reported from most of the districts. In Bohemia and Bavaria there are many remarkable instances, where, side by side with plantations producing hops which for richness in lupulin and delicacy of aroma leave nothing to be desired, are others where the cones are but partially developed, and are lacking in those special qualities usually characteristic of the produce of these celebrated grounds. There is, therefore, little doubt that as soon as the choicer growths are available they will be speedily taken up by brewers, who will not be unwilling to pay full prices for them.

The following Reports

present in brief a survey of the present prospects:—

SPALT.—Hops are looking well, and a crop of excellent quality is expected.

HERSBRUCKER.—Though improvement is evident, the crop will be less than last year.

HOHENSTADT.—The yield will be about one-third below last year. Quality is good generally.

AISCHGRUND.—Early hops are of good quality and colour.

HALLERTAU.—Picking is in progress; crop will be one-third less than last year.

WOLNZACH. Crop will be of excellent quality if weather remains favourable, but is perceptibly below last year's yield.

KINDINGER.—A crop about equal to last year's in quantity and of sound and well-devloped hops will be gathered.

UPPER FRANCONIA.—Weather being favourable to development, hops are in good condition.

PLANSITZ.—Early hops have been sold at 85s. to 88s. Late varieties ripen slowly. The total yield will be smaller than last year.

BADEN.—Quality of early hops is satisfactory, but the crop will be only an average.

WURTEMBERG. Early hops being picked, and later sorts have grown out well during past fortnight.

TETTNING.—Yield is on the whole satisfactory, and quality is very good. Present values are 115s. to 120s.

ALSACE AND LORRAINE.—The crop is now estimated at about a fair average.

NEUTOMISCHEL.—The hop cones are growing out well and promise a good crop.

NASSAU.—Weather has favoured development, but the yield will probably not exceed two-thirds of last year.

AUSTRIA.—High gardens are suffering from drought, but those in valleys are more satisfactory.

SIEBENBURG.—Crop promises to be of excellent quality. Early hops were very sound and more attractive than they have been for some years. The yield will not be very abundant.

VIENNA.—Rainfalls have assisted development, and both quality and quantity now present better prospects than previously.

Burgundy.

The crop prospects are far from satisfactory, and it is not thought probable that any surplus will be available for exportation. Local values are rapidly advancing, the latest quotations being 125 francs (about 100s. per cwt.), and planters are very confident that higher prices will be realised when the time for actual business in the new crop arrives.

Belgium.

A temporary calmness has fallen upon the market, and speculative figures for the 1900 crop are rather lower than they were. The "bears" are offering only 82½ francs for Alosts, but sellers decline to recede below 85. There are sellers of Poperinghes at 95 francs, buyers refusing to operate at this figure. In the meantime the trade in yearlings, though not very active, is sufficiently firm to maintain both Alosts and Poperinghes at 65 to 67½ francs.

The New Crop

is favourably reported upon in regard to quality, but the yield cannot be increased, and there is no doubt that it will be less than half that of last season. In the Assche districts it is said that very few hops will be gathered.

Holland.

The plants in the Vlymen district have developed well, so that it is now expected that about half of last year's crop will be harvested. The outlook for quality is good if the weather remains suitable during the picking season.

America

The anticipation of shortage in the new crop has aroused brewers to activity, and parcels of yearlings are being readily taken up at New York at somewhat higher prices. The tone of the market is very firm, with distinct tendency towards further advancement. Inquiries from England have come to hand, but in the face of higher quotations no business has resulted.

The 1900 Crop is Estimated

by several experts at various figures, but all agree that it cannot reach the yield of last year, and that the deficiency will be so substantial as to produce a decided effect upon market values.

The following calculation is made by a firm who are engaged in the production of hop extract, and who, being extensive buyers, are not likely to put their figures lower than are warranted by the actual position. They estimate the production thus: California, 40,000 bales; Oregon, 75,000; Washington, 70,000; New York, 45,000, making a total of 190,000 bales, which is 30,000 less than the ascertained crop of last year.

An Oneida correspondent of the *American Agriculturist* says that prospects favour growers. He remarks:—"Allowing the same crop per acre as last year, the ploughing up means 20 per cent. less crop. Correspondingly, if we are growing as many bales as last year, the existing 80 per cent. acreage must produce 25 per cent. better crop to make the bales. Clearly this increase is not in yards. A well-posted dealer tells me he thinks many more acres were ploughed up than anyone is aware of. With less bales in New York State, Cal. Wash, and Ore, with the stock of old hops the lightest ever known, and the consumption continually increasing, why is not the situation very strong?"

The Syndicate of Hop Commissioners of Nuremberg.

This body publishes an annual circular at this season, and from their latest issue I translate the following remarks concerning Continental prospects:

"The harvest will be retarded this year by about a fortnight.

"The wet and cold weather which prevailed in May and June was very unfavourable to the development of the plant, but since then the fairly constant heat has sensibly improved the growth. Nevertheless, the yield will be without doubt inferior to that of the preceding year.

"In the Bavarian districts of Hersbruck, Lauf, Altdorf, Aischgrund, and Hallertau the crop will be about four-fifths of that of 1899, but in the Spalt country the yield will probably surpass that of last year. We estimate the total production of Bavaria at 240,000 quintals, against 290,000 in 1899.

"Wurtemberg will produce nearly the same quantity as last year, and the same may be said of the Duchy of Baden.

"The produce of Alsace will hardly reach 75,000 quintals, against 100,000 in 1899.

"The district of Posen and Eastern Prussia promise to yield about the same quantity as they did last year.

"The total crop of the whole of Germany may be estimated at 500,000 quintals, in place of the 1899 crop, which amounted to 565,000 quintals.

"The Austrian crop is valued at 50,000 quintals less than last year, but the yield in Russia may be taken as about on an equality with that of 1899.

"We estimate that, taking into consideration the stock held by brewers, this year's crop will fairly meet their requirements, and although prices cannot be so low as during last season, they will be at least sufficiently moderate and accessible."

World's Production and Consumption of Hops.

To the Editor of the MARK LANE EXPRESS.

Sir,—I take the liberty to communicate to you statistics which will be sure to interest those of your readers who are hop growers.—Sincerely yours,

C. BECKENHAUPT.

Altenstadt, Wissembourg, Alsace,

WORLD'S PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF HOPS.

Showing:—

1. Consumption of beer, from the statistical table of the *Gambrinus* (Brewers' Journal, Vienna).
2. Consumption of hops, from the statistical table of the *Gambrinus* (Brewers' Journal, Vienna).
3. Production of hops (average figures from the statistical tables of German Hop Growers' Society, the *Gambrinus*, the *Allgemeine Brauer und Hopfenzeitung*, and Messrs. Barth and Sons (Nurnberg).
4. Over and under production of the year.
5. Total stock at the end of the year.

Year.	Consumption of beer. hl.	Consumption of hops. cwt.	Production of hops. cwt.	Over and under product	Total stock at the end of the year.
1884	149,012,960	1,514,900	1,606,450	+57,450	57,450
1885	—	1,664,000	1,823,750	+159,750	217,200
1886	—	1,588,000	1,791,905	+203,305	420,505
1887	173,486,089	1,698,026	1,620,250	−77,776	342,729
1888	171,363,649	1,615,900	1,514,266	−101,634	241,095
1889	173,662,617	1,608,486	2,007,251	+400,764	641,859
1890	195,678,328	1,546,915	1,173,000	−363,915	277,944
1891	196,418,000	1,566,642	1,516,220	−50,422	227,522
1892	199,670,765	1,592,311	1,655,357	+63,046	290,568
1893	204,000,390	1,669,791	1,463,150	−196,640	93,928
1894	207,664,396	1,725,762	2,373,207	+647,445	741,377
1895	214,269,959	1,774,439	2,086,477	+312,038	1,053,415
1896	232,207,788	1,923,756	1,865,900	−57,856	995,559
1897	235,496,460	1,985,199	1,623,791	−356,408	639,151
1898	247,479,272	1,993,773	1,461,390	−532,383	106,768
1899	252,281,808	2,087,146	2,213,000	+125,854	232,622

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 335, 337.)

Langport Horse Fair.—The annual horse and colt fair was held on Monday last, and was largely attended, both by graziers and dealers from various parts of the country. There were upwards of 500 animals on offer—hardly so many as last year, but the quality was quite up to the average. Working horses were scarce, and consequently dear, but there were more suckers on offer than usual. The colts generally were in very good condition, and the prices for the best animals were from £35 to £50, inferior colts realising from £30 to £35; cart suckers, £10 to £17; nag suckers, £6 to £10; worked horses, £25 to £45.

FARM PROSPECTS

Bedfordshire.

Since the 26th ult. we have been favoured with splendid harvest weather, which has enabled all farmers of good land to sing "Harvest Home!" But their song is somewhat saddened by the pessimistic reports of the yield, even on well-farmed land. The threshing machines tell a gloomy tale, and I am much afraid that the year 1900 will be

A Disappointing One

for the much-abused agriculturist. I wonder how many of your readers saw the letter in the *Daily News*, August 31st, from an anonymous Wiltshire correspondent, headed "On adding field to field." I don't think those who know me will say that I have no sympathy for the poor and the agricultural labourers, but I am compelled to state that this letter signed "Præsagus" shows the most absurd ignorance of the hard-pressed farmer's real position. This letter was cleverly and bravely answered by "A Farmer's Wife" last Tuesday. If an ordinary farmer (those who have no speciality) is year by year growing corn at a loss, if his capital is constantly diminishing, how can he farm as his father did before him, who lived in the good old times, when the English people were

Wise enough to Protect Home Industries,

and the greatest of these is agriculture? It grieves any Englishman's heart to see the way our land is fast going out of cultivation, but it is worse than cruel to blame the farmer for it. It is only adding insult to injury.

The beginning of this week I travelled 125 miles to the south of England. I

Saw Enough to Sadden

any true lover of his country, for I came to the conclusion that agriculture is fast going to the deuce, thanks to the so-called free trade fetish. If we could but live on thistles we could defy the foreigner to do his darned worst, but when Great Britain in the future is beset by her many foes—when we hold in our trembling hands our last crust of bread—this anonymous *Daily News* correspondent will be ready to own that we can't keep out the foreigner on thistles. He and his brother free traders will then curse themselves because in the day of their power they short-sightedly prevented the farmers from growing sufficient

Precious Wheat

in our sea-girt home to make us independent of the foreigner and strong to fight him. A gentleman in this county who farms the glebe land in his parish threshed his wheat the other day, and was heard to say, "There's nothing of it. There won't be enough pieces to pay for the parson's sermons. I don't know how the singers and the ringers will get on. The parson will have to make his sermons precious short next year."—T. S. (Sept. 6th).

Cumberland.

The first and last Fridays of August were bad. The one blew and poured and laid the heavier cereal crops flat. As a consequence right and left reapers had during the month to be used instead of one self-binder. More labour and expense, and the quality somewhat injured, have had to be put up with, and then next came a damper on the other Friday, which for a day or two stopped leading.

Leading

now, however, is in full swing; lads from school are employed, and green crops are very good. So all is well that ends well. But is all well? Is it well to be so dependent for cereal food and other food on foreign supplies? These supplies are, as far as wheat is concerned, six million tons less than last year, and the oat decrease is nearly three million tons! Barley and rye are also short, the former more, proportionately, than wheat and oats put together. And what does that mean? It means

Bad Beer and Whisky,

but not less drinking, though Sir Wilfrid Lawson became the father of twenty twins, and every one of them talked twice as much as their father. It is time to think about home. Africa is far away, and China is farther. Workers at home, and under no handicap, is the need of our day. Forty millions with mouths to feed cry for a change in the management of our land, and the spending of our money and of our men.—H. M. K. (Sept. 7th).

Gloucestershire.

Beautiful weather to finish the harvest, and all the late crops are gathered in prime condition, but I never remember

Corn Spoiling

so much in a short time as in the warm wet days from the 22nd to the 26th ult.; luckily, a drying wind then stopped further damage. What little threshing has been done is very disappointing in this district, which is not farmed badly. There will be more crops of wheat under than over 20 bushels per acre, about half what it was in 1898. Other corn will be better, but

None up to the Average.

Roots, especially swedes, continue to grow well, and the meadows are getting full of grass. The young seeds are also a better plant than it has been for some years past, so the prospects of keep are very promising, yet the price of store stock keeps very disappointing.

Hop-picking

will commence on Monday, and as the warm weather has forced them on since they came out of bine I think we compare favourably with neighbouring districts. Apples and pears are coming down a fair crop, but the price very low. J. H. W. (September 7th).

Shropshire.

Weather continues fine, though the sky is cloudy, and a few drops of rain fall. The dry weather is just as needful for stubble cleaning as harvest. A new American cultivator like a horse rake, with some of the tines inverted and a nice seat for the driver, is all the go here. When cleanly worked a little trifolium or vetches sown for early cutting would be a great advantage. Grass and turnips flourish luxuriantly now.—J. G. (Sept. 7th).

Somerset.

With the exception of a few late sown pieces the corn harvest in the Bath district is finished. Wheat, oats, and barley are fairly well filled in the ear, but the two former are very irregular in bulk, much of the wheat being thin on the ground, and the oats patchy. Barley appears the most bulky crop, but the quality of the grain is much below that of last year.

Hay is a good average crop and well made, though many fields laid up for cutting are now being

Fed with Stock,

presumably on account of the labour difficulty. Roots are good, but some are damaged owing to delay in hoeing. Grass has been fairly plentiful, and the pastures are at present looking fresh and sound. Fruit is abundant, and potatoes are good, and generally free from disease. The frequent and great variations of temperature appear to have adversely affected dairy cattle, and the

Yield of Milk

has been short. Other live stock is doing fairly well; there is a free sale for all kinds at moderate prices. The labour question and the greatly increased cost of imported feeding stuffs are the chief causes of complaint just now.—C. P., September 7th.

Somerset.

The weather has been a good average for agriculture. Wheat on heavy soils in the Taunton district good; on light land plain, thin, and weedy. Barley, the chief crop, is far below an average in bulk of corn or straw, showing the effect and loss from the root crop of last year, barley in the main following. Sample not so bright and good as last year. Hay well made, and may be considered average. The roots of late have greatly improved, in fact, saved by the rain received in July and some since, and will be a fair crop, whilst the grass is set growing and making keep plentiful.

Potatoes up to the last few weeks bid to be good, but since, in most cases, the haulm has died away, giving a smell

Indicative of Disease.

Apples, plums, and pears plentiful. Cattle and sheep healthy and doing well. Harvest completed, and nothing spoilt. Labour busy hoeing late turnips, trimming hedges, sowing catch crops, and cleaning stubbles. Good prices for all produce is much needed to meet expenses.—A. B. (September 6th).

South Lincolnshire.

The weather during the past fortnight has been much more favourable than its predecessor, and we have been able to gather in the crops almost without interruption and in good condition. Almost all the white corn is made safe, and several fields of beans an second crops of clover are in stack. Threshing is in full swing, but the corn carrier will not have such a tight job as last year. Various reports are heard as to yield, but as far as can be ascertained we may estimate it from

Two to Three Sacks per Acre Less

than last year; have heard of one 6qrs. per acre, but it was the heaviest crop I have seen, and plenty of straw for 8qrs. The average will not be more than nine sacks per acre. Oats are coming out very badly, about 7qrs. per acre. Of course, there are exceptions. I heard of one farmer getting 11qrs. Not much barley threshed at present, about 4qrs. to 5qrs. per acre. Beans and peas are somewhat of a failure, having been attacked by fly and dying off too soon. I think I need not quote market prices, as farmers all over are fully aware of them. I hear of a good sample of oats being sold to-day at 15s., and wheat at from 28s. to 30s. I

Scarcely Dare Mention Potatoes

as I fear when we get fully into lifting them that we shall be very disappointed with them. They looked very promising a month since, but now they very much resemble fields of beans. Keep is plentiful, and stock are doing well. Beef and mutton sell well, but stores are as dear in proportion. Not many Michaelmas fairs in the district, but some good grazing land sold to-day at Sutton at about £90 per acre. Weather still fine, but barometer is falling.—R. M. W. September 8th.

Sussex.

In the Weald harvest is now practically completed. Very little threshing yet done, but what has been is with

Disappointing Results

wheat being much lighter both in yield and weight than was anticipated at one time. No doubt a good deal of this is due to the crop having ripened off so quickly. Oats are short in straw, and many pieces came in two crops, ripening unevenly, and where this is the case the sample is bound to be inferior. Very little barley grown, but good will be below average. Peas fairly good. Every prospect of good crops of roots and seed, generally a good plant. Abundant crops of fruit. Live stock, breeding well and better prices have been realised for both beef and mutton. The Lisbon question will be a question by some more serious every year.—W. S. C. (September 8th).

Wiltshire

We have had an excellent season so far as the weather is concerned; sufficient rain to prevent drought and to suit the roots to perfection, but not sufficient to do much harm to the corn or to seriously prolong the harvest, which is now about completed in this district.

Wheat is Yielding Well,

and must be a large crop on good land, but on inferior soils it is a very small one, and everywhere of inferior quality to the last three seasons. Barley is of greater bulk than last year, but of very inferior quality. Oats are a decidedly light crop. Roots are extra good but suffer from lack of hoeing, labour being scarce and dear. Hay was abundant on the cultivated land, but lighter on the old pastures. Sheep are selling at about 8s. per head for ewes and 5s. for lambs above the low prices of last year, due, no doubt, to the abundant food supply. All classes of cattle are making fair prices.—J. S. (September 8th).

Foreign Prospects.

GERMANY.—The weather has been fine and seasonable and eminently serviceable for the ingathering of the last of the cereal crops.

DENMARK.—The weather in the first half of August was unsettled, but since with relatively drier weather a good harvest might be considered as assured. The harvest compared with last year's is somewhat later. The rye is cut and partially carried, and although the return is not yet known, the yield of straw in some localities is extraordinarily abundant. The potatoes stand well, and the early planted will give a large output.

BELGIUM.—Very favourable weather has been experienced in the past week, and all the cereal crops may be considered as ingathered.

SPAIN.—This year's harvest is considered a rather good one, and in some localities the wheat crop is said to be even rather better than last year's; but, on the contrary, in other places the yield is inferior to that of last season through drought and heat.

HOLLAND.—The weather has been more propitious, and enabled farmers to carry the last of their outstanding crops, so that there is now not much left on the fields.

HUNGARY.—In the principal districts of production the maize promises a satisfactory yield. The Minister of Agriculture estimates the crop of wheat at 16,876,000qrs., against 17,729,000qrs. in 1899. At Budapest the wheat market has ruled quiet with no material change in values.

RUSSIA.—The temperature, except in the Kuban, was above the normal range throughout the empire, while the rainfall exceeded the mean. In the Baltic Provinces a medium yield of the winter cereals is expected, and in places a good outturn, excepting Courland, where meteorological conditions militated against the development of the crops and the rye will only reach an average. Wheat, however, will give a better yield. The condition of the oats and barley is favourable. In the Volga Governments the harvest is not so good as was anticipated. In Samara the rye was carried with favourable weather, and wheat cutting has since followed. Fair statistical reports are heard from Ufa, Perm, and Orenburg, good crops is having a favourable ripening process. In Saratoff rain and snow have somewhat injured the wheat, and yield estimates have to be reduced 25 to 50 per cent.

ROUMANIA.—The cereal crop promises to give an exceptionally good yield this year. In the upper districts of Botosani, the yield, it is represented, will be an average, but a little under it in Bovrino. On the richer land in Ialomitza the crop will give 4 to 5 kilo per pogon, or even more, it is said. Farmers are now busy in preparing the land for the autumn sowings.

UNITED STATES.—The [illegible] says maize is maturing favourably, and promises to be of excellent quality with [illegible] beginning early. Wheat is [illegible] yet [illegible]

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.— Malt: The inquiry continues limited. Barley: Advanced 3d per qr. Wheat: A slow trade. Oats steady. Maize: 6d per qr dearer on the week. Flour: Improved 6d per sack.—NIXON, GOWER, AND Co.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Both old and new crop English wheat continue in such diminished supply as to render business next to impracticable, but more of the latter is soon expected both here and on the country markets. Although the quality varies a good deal, taken as a whole, conditions are satisfactory. Fine white (old and new) up to 32s 6d, and red of similar sample, 31s 6d, 504lb delivered. American descriptions are well supplied on spot, but arrivals are not heavy, while holders are assisted by rising freights. The firmness of wheat only naturally influences the market for flour, sellers remaining quite indifferent, at the abnormal quietness which still exists, and, in view of the present situation, look forward to even a better range than that now ruling. Grinding barley continues to denote firmness, and Persian still supplies the main requirements, the quantity on hand being still kept down. Flat maize was easier to-day, and offers failed to meet with any ready response, and 20s 6d ex ship accepted, 20s 9d being named ex quay. Round corn firm and unchanged. Although the market for oats again pursued a dragging course, there was nothing to influence any actual recession, but the small consumptive business passing pointed in buyers' favour.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Dulness pervaded the general department of the Corn Exchange to-day, but firmer freights prevent offers being lower, and render some little relief to the present existing monotony. Flour unaltered for both English and American brands, and consumptive inquiries at unremunerative rates are not entertained. A close bid, within 3d per sack of the market value, was made for a good line of the latter, but refused; while in view of the present situation, holders look forward to better times. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. While there was again a general disposition on the part of consumers of oats to pause, with shipments of Russian coming up fast, holders were less reticent in their demands, and the tendency points downwards. Flat maize is fully 3d lower on the week, although steady to-day at the decline, but bids were disappointing, and 20s 4½d quoted ex ship, 20s 9d landed. Round corn firm. The market for beans and peas remains scarce and unaltered, more especially the latter, and buyers find is difficult to transact except at late stiff figures.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—There was no great amount of new corn on offer, owing to farmers being too busy to thrash. Wheats were firm, and in some cases a little dearer on the week. White wheat made 30s to 33s, and red 30s to 31s per quarter. New white oats fetched 19s to 22s; old ditto, 20s to 23s; new black oats, 16s to 17s for medium qualities, and 18s to 20s for fine ones; grinding barley, 20s to 22s; new mazagan beans, 28s to 30s; old ditto, 30s to 32s; new ticks, 29s to 31s; old ditto, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; small maize, 26s to 27s; flat ditto, 23s to 24s per quarter. Flour unchanged.

Aylesbury, Saturday. — Average attendance, with increased quantity of wheat on offer, trade for which was quiet at late rates, viz., 28s to 31s per imperial quarter. No change in barley, oats, or beans.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (white), 28s to 30s per qr; wheat (red), 28s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 33s to 34s per qr; oats (new), 19s to 21s; old, 18s to 19s per qr. English wheat is still in small supply, and fully maintains the rates of last week.

Boston, Wednesday.—A better attendance, and an improvement in the trade. Wheat, 28s 6d to 29s; oats, 17s to 18s; black peas, 50s to 60s; beans, 28s to 30s; maize, 22s 9d.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been very steady, without much animation. The supply is limited, and prices tend against the buyer. We have had a fine week, and the condition is somewhat better. At this market to-day there was a small show of wheat, which found buyers readily at the full prices of last Saturday. Red, 27s to 31s, and white up to 31s per 504lbs. Barley was in rather larger supply, and quality appears better than expected. Prices range from 28s to 35s for malting lots.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A steady trade at firm prices. New wheat and black oats are rather thin. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 31s to 33s; red ditto, 30s to 32s; grinding barley, 21s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; ditto black, 16s to 20s; peas, 30s to 32s; tick beans, 30s to 32s; mazagans, 28s to 29s; flat maize, 22s to 23s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per quarter; winter tares, 7s 6d to 8s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand for old. New samples very poor quality. Old, 22s to 24s; new, 17s 6d to 18s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—Small trade passing in English grain. New wheat of good quality commanded slight advance; old oats were scarce, and full prices were made. Quotations:—Wheat new, 4s 1d to 4s 2d; old, 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 75lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb; beans, new, 5s to 5s 6d per 80lb; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; old, 3s to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn, 10s 9d to 11s 3d per 240lb.

Colchester, Saturday. — There was only a moderate supply of wheat here to-day; samples in condition sold readily at the extreme price of last week. Barley was more freely offered, but prices are as yet somewhat irregular. Oats, beans, and peas firm.—FRANCIS AND Co.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Moderate attendance and fair supply of corn. New English wheat was freely offered, but many of the samples were of indifferent quality. Trade was very dull, and prices were with difficulty maintained. Foreign wheat a dragging trade. Little doing in barley. Feeding stuffs quiet.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—To-day there was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange. Wheat and flour steady at last week's prices. Indian corn firm at 1½d to 3d per boll advance on the week. Canadian pease firm, and the turn dearer. Bran, 2s 6d per ton dearer. Thirds firm at late rates. Other articles steady, but quotably unaltered.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Guildford, Saturday.—Short supply of all kinds of grain. Wheat, 28s to 33s per qr; barley, top price, 33s 6d per qr; several lots bad in colour.—LEGGATT, BLAKE, AND TYE.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Quiet market. Few more samples of new grain offering at, for wheat about 3s 6d per bushel of finest quality. Quotations: Wheat—white 3s 6d to 3s 10d, red, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per bushel; barley, 3s to 3s 9d; oats, 2s 3d to 3s; beans, 3s 10d to 4s; maize, 2s 8d to 3s 10d; vetches, winter, 4s to 6s; and spring 3s 6d to 5s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Small supply of wheat. Trade firm for all descriptions. New, 29s to 30s; old, 30s to 32s; white, 33s per qr. Grinding barley firm. Maize steady. Oats quiet. Beans and peas firm.

Leicester, Saturday.—Moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, and the new samples were rather variable in condition and irregular in price. Old wheats, 31s to 33s per 36 stones. Barley a slow trade. Fine oats firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—We have to report a quiet but firm market for wheat. Foreign limits continue unaltered, buyers offering in vain less money. Old English commands higher prices; new is rather neglected, the business passing is limited. Beans 3d to 6d dearer. Maize and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND Co

Leeds, Friday.—Buyers are still cautious about supplying their wants, which they can do without any advance upon Tuesday's prices for all descriptions of English and foreign wheats, the tendency of values if anything being in their favour. Beans the turn dearer. Peas, barley, oats, maize, and flour firmly held.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair supply of new English wheats, condition indifferent, prices may be quoted 28s per qr. Old wheats very firm. No change in foreign wheats. Good show of new oats. Prices: Black, 16s to 17s; white, 18s to 19s. Old oats dear. Maize, peas, and beans firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat a moderate trade at late rates. Flour very steady with rather more doing at extreme prices for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers. Mixed maize moves steadily into consumption at last market's figures. Small round, owing to extreme scarcity, asks 2d to 3d advance. Plate is in fair request at unchanged values. Barley is firm for malting at 6d to 1s advance, with a good trade doing. Feeding firm and in fair request. Beans firm, inactive. Peas are unchanged with a better inquiry. Oats firm, with more inquiry for English; foreign kinds are steady at quotations. Oatmeal, small trade at late rates. Oilcake firm with a good demand at an advance of 2s 6d to 5s per ton.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat meets a quiet sale, at prices which are 6d per qr lower on the week. Foreign, 1d per cental easier. Flour keeps quiet: prices unchanged on the week. English oats are steady, with a fair demand. Foreign also unchanged. Peas and beans are without new feature. Indian corn is slightly favouring the buyer.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a quiet trade at rather less money than last week. Barley a few samples showing, but prices are irregular, the malting trade having scarcely begun. Oats at about prevous rates.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—The weather keeps unsettled, and checks harvest operations. To-day's market had the usual attendance. Wheat closed firm for old samples, but new opened irregular and ended unsteady. Flour no change. Barley for malting opening up without fixed prices as yet. Old oats not so strong, new coming in at fairly handy prices. Beans, peas, and maize no material alteration.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—The demand for wheat at our to-day's market was slow. Factors, however, refused to take below last week's prices. Maize ruled firm, and 3d to 6d per qr over last week's prices was maintained. Beans and peas 6d dearer on the week. Scotch oats firm at late rates. Foreign in favour of buyers. Flour no change.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND Co.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat firm in price, but showed little change on the week. Maize was firm and 6d dearer. Barley, 3d to 6d dearer. Oats and beans showed no change. Flour (fines), 24s. Offals very firm.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small market. Not much of anything on offer; what was sold was at about last week's price. White wheat, 31s to 32s; red, 29s to 31s; new red wheat, 28s to 29s; barley, 25s to 28s; oats, 19s to 21s; old fine, 23s; beans, 30s to 35s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Very little new wheat offering at our market to-day, and the trade was about the same as last week. Fine weather has mostly prevailed during the past week, and harvest in this district is practically finished. Wheat, red, 29s to 31s per qr, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending September 3rd, 1900:—Wheat, 483-2, 27s 4½d. Barley, 40, 23s 9d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in good supply; best samples maintained their values, while common sorts were 6d less. More barley offering, of various qualities, but at present maltsters are holding off buying, and prices are not settled. New oats, quality inferior, and but little doing. Old are in seller's favour. Old beans scarce and 6d to 1s higher. New, dry, making from 33s to 34s per 532lb.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Not much wheat showing, but it meets a steady demand at fully last week's prices. A few samples of barley offering; prices irregular at present, 28s to 35s.

Peterborough, Saturday.—A fine week has enabled most of our farmers to finish their harvest, and we have had a fair attendance at market. Wheat trade was slow at about 6d less money. Barley very irregular in quality and price. Oats not much in demand, but values about as last week.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was an average attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. All stuffs are firmly held; if anything, an upward tendency, but not much doing, and anything that is in the favour of the buyers. Flour is very inactive at present. Weather very fine with summer heat by day.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND Co.

Reading, Saturday. — Business to-day ruled firm, there being a more plentiful supply of wheat than at last market. Prices remain unaltered from those recently quoted. The barley supply was only limited, despite which trade ruled slow, last week's prices prevailing. Other sorts of corn came to hand in average quantities, and sold steadily at unaltered quotations.

Romford, Wednesday.—The wheat trade was 6d per quarter dearer than last week. There was a very small supply owing to the farmers being busy with ploughing. Red wheat made 30s to 31s 6d, and white wheat 30s to 32s per qr.

St. Neots, Thursday.—A very small supply of new wheat, and no old. 30s was about the value of best samples. A few samples of barley were offering, but hardly enough business done to determine values.—ELGOOD AND SON.

Salisbury, Tuesday.—There was a small attendance, but the supply of grain was larger than for some weeks past. Trade was firm throughout. New barley came to hand in excellent condition. Quotations:—Wheat, 27s to 34s; oats, new, 17s to 21s; ditto, old, 20s to 23s; barley, 28s to 33s; beans, 32s to 36s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Poor attendance. Old wheats is dearer; new wheats same as last week, but variable in quality. Indian corn and beans 6d a quarter dearer. Oats about the same. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d; red, 32s to 33s per 504lb; oats, old white, 26s; ditto old black, 22s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 28s to 29s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small, 26s to 29s; ditto American mixed, 22s 6d to 23s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Wheats were a shade lower, selling at 28s 6d to 29s per qr, whilst last week the top price was 30s. New oats, 17s to 18s. Not much doing in barley. Old beans dear. Nothing much doing in peas. Wheat and oats varied in quality and condition very much.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were a few samples of new crops showing in very moderate condition, which made 29s 6d per qr. In foreign wheat the trade remains very firm, and owing to scarcity white wheats are fully 9d dearer on the week. Red wheats and oats sold at last week's prices. Maize was 6d to 1s dearer.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little grain offering at this day's market, and prices remain nominally unaltered from last week. Arrivals nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Both old and new barley sold at last week's full prices, with rather a small supply. Feeding stuffs unchanged.

Wakefield, Friday. — Harvest is nearing completion, quality and condition of the new crop vary considerably, the yield is reported below an average. Foreign: Hard white and fine strong red wheats are held for 6d advance, which tends to check business. New English wheat more freely offered, without change in value. Malting barley begins to be looked after, but business is still limited, and prices difficult to quote. Maize, beans, and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND Co.

Wakefield, Friday.—Californian wheats have advanced 6d per quarter during the past week, and English is quoted firm at late rates. A quiet tone prevails on our market to-day, and malsters as yet show little inclination for new Yorkshire barley, which is in rather better supply than last week. We quote no alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Winchester, Saturday.—A moderate supply of new wheat on our market to-day, which met a slow but firm trade at fully last week's prices. Old wheat scarce and dear. Barley quiet at late rates. Oats fair demand at unaltered prices. Round maize 6d dearer. Flour 24s to 25s.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND Co., LD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Moderate supply of grain; samples of new wheat are improved in condition. New red, 28s to 30s.; old up to 32s; new oats, 17s to 19s; old up to 21s. Barley irregular in quality and price.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A fair attendance, but business quiet. Quotations:—English wheat (old), 33s to 33s 6d per 216lb; spring, 6s 4d; Duluths, 6s 6d per cental; old oats, 14s 6d to 15s 6d; new oats, 10s to 11s 6d; old beans, 14s to 15s; new beans, 12s 6d to 13s 6d per 196lb; flat maize, 23s 6d to 24s per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade quiet; old wheat scarce and firmly held. New samples varied in quality and came rather cheaper. Foreign quiet, at late rates. Maize, 3d to 6d dearer. Barley, oats, and beans unchanged. Wheat, white, 29s to 31s; red, 28s to 30s per qr.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance and a few samples of new wheat in fair condition on offer. New barley was also fair, but new white oats were scarce, in bad condition, and unsaleable. White wheat, old, 30s to 31s; ditto new, 27s to 28s; new malting barley, 28s to 30s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; white oats, old, 24s to 26s; ditto new, 18s to 19s; black oats, old, 21s to 22s; ditto new, 17s to 19s; maize, flat, 23s to 25s; ditto round, 27s to 28s per qr.

York, Saturday.—A few new samples of wheat are on offer, generally in moderate condition, and sell at about last week's prices. The following are the quotations:—Fine old white, 31s to 32s; old red and mixed, 30s to 31s; new about 2s per quarter of 36 stones less in each case. Malting barley is of irregular quality, and prices can hardly yet be quoted. Old short oats, 24s to 26s; old black, 21s to 22s; new short, 18s to 19s; new black, 18s to 19s per qr of 24 stones.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has ruled firm, with a regular current of business. We are still without definite official information as to the results of the French harvest, but it appears to be thought that an average will be maintained with difficulty, and that the wheat crop will scarcely exceed 100,000,000 hectolitres. The event of the last few days in France has been a commercial congress at Dijon; a feeling of considerable indecision prevailed at this congress with respect to the future of the French wheat trade; the milling trade of the south showed little disposition to purchase, alleging that prices were too high. Wheat quotations would, no doubt, be strengthened if French farmers did not press sales for, say, a month, but, so far from their pursuing a policy of reserve of this kind, they have been offering their wheat freely, and buyers have not been slow to profit from this tendency. Business in wheat has been inactive at Marseilles; last week's sales only amounted to 4,000 quintals. At Paris holders of wheat have demanded and obtained an advance of 2½d per quintal. Flour for consumption has not shown much change in the French capital, but a firm tone has prevailed. Disposable wheat has shown little variation at Konigsberg and Dantzic. The Russian provincial markets have been quiet, but business has, upon the whole, been pretty well maintained. In the Volga district the tendency has been firmer; flour has advanced, the demand having become more active. In the southern Russian ports prices have also shown more strength. The quantity of wheat now *en route* for Europe is returned at 1,070,000qr, as compared with 1,420,000qr at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,070,000qr was made up as follows:—France, 85,000qr; Belgium, 340,000qr; Holland, 310,000qr; Germany and the North, 120,000qr; and Italy, Spain, etc., 215,000qr.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report: Market rules firm, but quiet. Prices are fairly maintained, although the demand is by no means brisk. Still several parcels of choice Saale and Bohemians have been taken for export to England, and for further lots there are bids in the market, but holders are unwilling to make any concession, as freights from the interior are very high in consequence of shallow water in our river. A very fine selection is possible, as a good many samples are shown, and should supplies further increase per haps holders will have to give way.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

August 31 to September 7, 1900, Inclusive.

Wheat	36,269 qrs.
Flour	22,125 ,,
Total	58,394 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Deficiency	47,606 ,,

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

August 31st to September 7th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	1,416	..	..	34,853	36,269
Barley	805	..	..	4,752	5,557
Malt	21,500	900	..	..	22,400
Oats	1,628	100	500	110,000	112,228
Rye	167	..	..	235	402
Beans	436	..	..	2,000	2,436
Peas	400	..	..	1,681	2,081
Maize	..	..	..	28,547	28,547
Tares	..	..	..	317	317
Lentils	..	..	..	2,400	2,400
Linseed	..	..	..	7,972	7,972
Rapeseed	50	..	..	77	127
Cottonseed	..	..	..	48	48
Farm Seeds	500	..	..	1,400	1,900
Flour { Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	14,987	..	..	14,453	29,440

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.

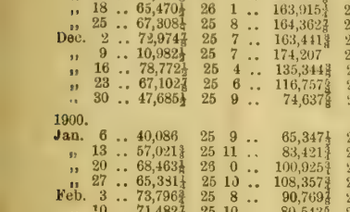
Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.		May 13	72,852 qrs.	
,, 14	108,380 ,,		,, 20	101,429 ,,	
,, 21	128,902 ,,		,, 27	108,772 ,,	
,, 28	51,234 ,,		June 3	73,846 ,,	
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,		,, 10	126,781 ,,	
,, 11	82,912 ,,		,, 17	160,574 ,,	
,, 18	204,974 ,,		,, 24	101,205 ,,	
,, 25	108,273 ,,		July 1	152,500 ,,	
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,		,, 8	112,761 ,,	
,, 11	63,103 ,,		,, 15	116,850 ,,	
,, 18	122,541 ,,		,, 22	89,245 ,,	
,, 25	86,309 ,,		,, 29	118,314 ,,	
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,		Aug. 5	104,234 ,,	
,, 8	133,261 ,,		,, 12	102,160 ,,	
,, 15	101,518 ,,		,, 19	103,353 ,,	
,, 22	70,984 ,,		,, 26	82,367 ,,	
,, 29	68,573 ,,		Sept. 2	73,600 ,,	
May 6	96,343 ,,		,, 9	83,791 ,,	

1900.			1900.		
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.		May 11	52,859 qrs.	
„ 13	95,064 „		„ 18	97,412 „	
„ 20	114,928 „		„ 25	71,390 „	
„ 27	124,652 „		„ 31	177 744 „	
Feb. 3	70,835 „		June 8	93,147 „	
„ 10	75,000 „		„ 15	86,125 „	
„ 17	66,804 „		„ 22	193,116 „	
„ 24	62,191 „		„ 29	142,185 „	
Mar. 3	79,976 „		July 6	132,950 „	
„ 10	63,702 „		„ 13	101,253 „	
„ 17	162,985 „		„ 20	82,294 „	
„ 24	111,409 „		„ 27	55,998 „	
„ 31	69,356 „		Aug. 2	86,167 „	
April 7	48,302 „		„ 11	192,077 „	
„ 13	131,085 „		„ 18	138,510 „	
„ 20	82,357 „		„ 25	182,517 „	
„ 27	43,783 „		„ 31	80,149 „	
May 4	104,535 „		Sept. 7	58,394 „	

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
1899.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
Aug. 19	33,399⅜	24	7	437⅞	26	11	6,120⅞	17	4
„ 26	34,523½	24	7	1,594½	26	5	9,205¾	17	1
Sept. 2	47,572⅜	25	0	6,709⅜	25	10	15,958½	16	7
„ 9	67,996¼	25	5	17,408¾	26	5	16,195	16	6
„ 16	80,281¼	25	4	33,143⅞	27	1	19,291⅛	16	2
„ 23	85,104½	25	4	77,678½	27	4	22,128	16	1
„ 30	79,612⅜	25	6	97,917⅜	26	11	23 193	16	5
Oct 7	71,152⅜	26	0	169,315½	28	0	21,440½	16	5
„ 14	63,040¼	27	3	191,901⅜	27	9	18,024½	16	5
„ 21	64,242	28	2	192,268½	27	6	18,983⅛	16	10
„ 28	85,178½	28	1	219,75[illegible]			20,031⅛	16	3
Nov. 4	82,769⅜	27	2	203,071⅜	27	2	17,895½	16	7
„ 11	66,741⅜	26	7	166,786⅜	26	9	15,210⅜	16	5
„ 18	65,470¼	26	1	163,915½	26	4	16,313½	16	7
„ 25	67,308½	25	8	164,362⅜	26	2	17,047⅜	16	7
Dec. 2	72,974⅞	25	7	163,441⅜	25	10	22,575½	16	6
„ 9	10,982½	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421⅞	16	5
„ 16	78,772⅜	25	4	135,344⅜	25	7	22,889½	16	1
„ 23	67,102¼	25	6	116,757⅜	25	10	16,447⅜	16	0
„ 30	47,685½	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,463⅜	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6	40,086	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅜	16	4
„ 13	57,021⅜	25	11	83,421⅜	25	5	19,705	16	6
„ 20	68,463¼	26	0	100,925¼	25	8	23,122⅜	16	5
„ 27	65,331¼	25	10	108,357⅜	25	9	17,814⅜	16	8
Feb. 3	73,796⅜	25	8	90,769⅜	25	4	22,061⅛	16	3
„ 10	71,482¼	25	10	80,543⅜	25	3	20,822⅜	16	2
„ 17	76,611⅜	26	1	80,414⅜	24	11	20,986⅜	16	1
„ 24	69,534⅛	26	3	63,931⅜	25	1	21,132½	16	10
Mar. 3	68,153¼	26	4	51,727¼	24	6	18,499½	16	11
„ 10	58,703½	25	11	44,921¼	24	8	16,224	16	11
„ 17	76,435⅜	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,104⅜	16	10
„ 24	69,944¼	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042⅜	17	1
„ 31	72,762	25	10	34,387⅜	24	11	15,200⅜	17	2
April 7	67,743⅞	25	10	20,402⅜	24	10	13,757⅜	17	2
„ 14	66,412½	25	11	19,519½	24	5	9,672⅜	17	8
„ 21	54 977⅞	26	0	11,673⅜	24	9	7,400⅜	17	3
„ 28	70,006⅞	26	0	7,785⅜	25	2	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5	75,410¼	25	11	8,159½	25	3	8,658½	18	0
„ 12	82,190⅜	25	11	10 417⅛	24	10	12,245½	17	11
„ 19	83,941⅜	25	7	5,638½	24	5	9,942	18	5
„ 26	95,574⅜	25	5	3,521¼	23	11	7,350⅜	18	2
June 2	68,906⅜	25	5	1,752⅜	24	4	6,702	18	6
„ 9	64 747½	25	3	99⅜	23	8	6 053¼	18	8
„ 16	55,340⅜	25	6	1,486⅜	23	8	7,228⅜	18	11
„ 23	54,324⅛	25	9	1,312¼	23	5	5,344½	18	11
„ 30	44,920⅜	26	11	495⅞	23	4	4,706½	19	3
July 7	34,344⅜	27	10	486⅜	22	10	4,391½	19	5
„ 14	22,009¼	28	7	949½	23	2	2,911⅞	19	1
„ 21	26,716⅞	29	0	767⅜	23	8	3,771½	19	3
„ 28	33,088	29	3	194¼	24	4	3,335½	19	9
Aug. 4	45,748⅞	28	10	409½	23	10	3,453⅜	19	4
„ 11	37,644⅜	28	7	311½	23	7	3,391	19	8
„ 18	32,812⅜	28	10	608½	23	3	3,593½	19	11
„ 25	26,427⅜	28	10	787½	24	10	5,349½	18	8
Sept. 1	30,393⅞	28	8	1,978½	25	2	9,606⅜	18	1
„ 8	34,755½	28	7	6,140⅜	25	8	11,042½	17	10

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
	s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	„	28	2	„	20	0	„
1892	30	4	„	26	2	„	19	11	„
1893	26	4	„	25	6	„	18	9	„
1894	22	10	„	24	6	„	17	1	„
1895	23	1	„	21	11	„	14	6	„
1896	26	2	„	22	11	„	14	9	„
1897	30	2	„	23	6	„	16	11	„
1898	34	0	„	27	2	„	18	5	„
1899	25	8	„	25	7	„	17	0	„

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(193 Market Towns.)

	1899.			1900		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	19 5
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	..	..	..
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Sept. 8th, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria cap. 37.

Wheat	34,755½ qrs.	28s. 7d.
Barley	6,140⅜ qrs.	25s. 8d.
Oats	11,042½ qrs.	17s. 10d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Sept. 8th, in each of the years from 1896 to 1900.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.		
	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
1896	57,525½	23	9	25,302½	23	4	9,479½	14	1
1897	67,587½	33	1	7,323½	27	4	9,254½	17	8
1898	46,777⅜	26	10	10,949½	27	9	8,841½	17	10
1899	67,996¼	25	5	16,195	26	5	16,195	16	6

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, 8 p'cember 4th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	965	0	1,455	19	2	1	10	9
Barley	624	5	767	13	3	1	4	6
Oats	1,663	4	1,550	19	0	0	18	7

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	222,000	237,000	391,000	80,000	87,000
Russia	111,000	—	2,000	141,000	159,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary ..	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	174,000	—	1,000	6,000	—
Argentina	51,000	-	54,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	15,000	5,000	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ..	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	593,000	257,000	471,000	247,000	256,000

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites.			Town Households.		
	s.	d.		s.	d.	
September 1	28	6	„	25	6	

(No official change since last date given).

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	s.	d.
Sept. 1, 1900 .....(per sack)	30	0

(No official change since last date given).

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900.		1899.		1898.		1897.		1896.		1895.		1894.		1893.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb.	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept.	..	..	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct.	..	..	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov.	..	..	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec.	..	..	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900.		1899.		1898.		1897.		1896.		1895.		1894.		1893.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb.	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June	28	6	27	6	35	5	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept.	..	..	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct.	..	..	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov.	..	..	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec.	..	..	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—The plentiful supplies this morning met with a fair demand. Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d; Surrey, 3s to 3s 6d; Sussex, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Essex, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Welsh, 1s 9d to 2s, Irish, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; Geese, 3s 9d to 4s 6d; Aylesbury ducks; 2s 6d to 3s; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s; feathered ditto, 7d to 9d; wild rabbits, 8d to 1s each; Australian, 7s 6d to 10s per dozen; hares, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; leverets, 1s 6d to 2s 6d each; young grouse, 4s to 4s 9d; old, 2s 9d to 3s; young partridges, 3s to 3s 6d; old, 1s 6d to 1s 8d per brace. Venison haunches, 16s to 22s each; ditto forequarters, 3d per lb.

Berkeley, Wednesday.—About ten tons of prime single Gloucester (summer make) were brought in, and realised higher prices than late quotations, viz., from 56s to 60s per cwt.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: There has been a steady consumptive demand, and the market rules firm, with improving tendency and generally healthy tone. Hams move somewhat slowly, and the quotations, especially for long cut, are easier. Lard rules fairly steady at the quotations; there is a fair inquiry. Cheese.—The market has developed more firmness this week under the influence of improving cables, and more disposition on the part of dealers to operate on cool fresh landed goods, and quotations show an advance of 1s to 1s 6d on the week, and closing firm. We quote to-day finest cool coloured Canadian 52s 6d to 54s; white, 52s to 53s; finest States coloured, 49s 6d to 50s 6d; white, 49s to 49s 6d. Second grades, in light supply, sell more readily from 44s to 45s, but lower qualities ruled dull and neglected, offering from 20s to 35s per cwt. Butter.—The market for finest qualities rules steady, with only a moderate demand. There is a better inquiry for medium grades, which are in light supply. We quote to-day fancy Canadian creamery, in boxes 103s to 107s; States, 96s to 100s; finest ladles, imitation creamery, and Canadian dairy, 80s to 88s; finest Danish, 114s to 120s; Irish creamery, 108s to 112s; Cork firsts, 90s; seconds, 88s; thirds, 86s per cwt.—HODGSON BROTHERS.

Newport, Wednesday.—Good supply and fair trade. Cheese: Cheddars, 56s to 58s; singles, 50s to 54s; truckles, 56s to 60s; Cheddars, 56s.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 2d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 120s to 126s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 112s to 116s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 9d to 2s; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d per lb. Settle: 11½d to 1s 0½d per lb. Spalding: 1s 1d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Boston: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Colne: 1s 1½d per lb. Goole: 1s 3d per lb. Keighley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s per lb. Knaresborough: (Wholesale) 1s 0d to 1s 0d (retail), 1s 0d to 1s 0d per roll of 24oz. Louth: (Wholesale) 1s 1d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Masham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 0d to 1s 0d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s 3d per lb. York: 1s 4d per lb. Hereford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Uttoxeter 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Brigg 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Bristol: Canadian creamery, 108s to 110s for best; Irish centrifugal, 110s to 114s. Driffield: 1s 1d per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

Friday.—Chester: 1s 2d per lb. Crewe: 1s 1d and 1s 2d per lb. Derby: 1s 3d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 118s to 122s; Dutch, 106s to 112s; Canadian, 100s to 110s per cwt. Helmsley: 10d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 120s to 126s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 112s to 116s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls 1½lb, 1s 9d to 2s; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 3d per lb. Otley: 1s 6d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Stratford-on-Avon: 10d to 1s 2d per lb. Whitchurch: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Sandbach: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Nantwich: 1s 2d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 11 or 12 for 1s. Gainsborough: 13 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 10s to 11s 6d per 120; Irish, 9s to 9s 6d; Danish, 8s to 9s 8d; Austrian blues, 6s 10d to 7s 3d; ditto reds, 5s 9d to 6s 3d. Settle: 12 to 13 for 1s. Sheffield: 10 to 12 for 1s. Spalding: 13 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 10 or 11 for 1s. Boston: 11 or 12 for 1s. Colne: 1s 8d per score. Goole: 13 for 1s. Keighley: 10 or 11 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 12 and 14 for 1s. Knaresborough: 10 or 11 for 1s. Louth (wholesale), 14 for 1s. Market Weighton: 13 or 14 for 1s. Masham: 13 or 14 for 1s. Northallerton: 11 to 13 for 1s. Stockton: 10 or 11 for 1s. Whitby: 11 for 1s. Worksop: 2s per score. Hereford: 13 for 1s. Market Drayton: 11 or 12 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per score.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 9 or 10 for 1s. Brigg: 13 or 14 for 1s. Driffield: 13 or 14 for 1s. Penistone: 11 for 1s. Ripon: 11 or 12 for 1s. Scarborough: 10 for 1s. Wetherby: 11 or 12 for 1s.

Friday.—Derby: 10 for 1s. Easingwold: 12 or 13 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 6s to 7s; Russian, 5s to 6s 10d; Danish, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per 120. Helmsley: 13 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 10s 6d to 12s per 120; Irish, 9s 3d to 9s 6d; Danish, 8s to 9s 8d; Austrian blues, 6s 10d to 7s 3d; ditto reds, 5s 9d to 6s 3d.; Leyburn: 12 or 13 for 1s. Lincoln: 13 for 1s. Nantwich: 11 and 12 for 1s. Otley: 11 and 12 for 1s. Sandbach: 11 and 12 for 1s. Stockport: 9 for 1s. Stratford-on-Avon: 1s 3d to 1s. 5d per score. Whitchurch: 10 and 11 for 1s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Good supplies of vegetables met a slow sale. Fruit, in fair supply, met a steady trade. Potatoes slow. Cabbages, 3s to 3s 6d; marrows, 1s to 2s per tally; cauliflowers, 2s per dozen; scarlet beans, 3s 6d per bag; carrots, 2s 9d; turnips, 2s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d; leeks, 3s; mint, 2s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s per bundle; Valencia onions, 5s 6d per case; Dutch, 4s per bag. Fruit: English grapes, 9d to 2s; Channel Islands, 8d to 1s 3d per lb; Denia, 4s 6d to 8s per barrel; English apples, 1s to 4s 6d; pears, 1s 6d to 5s per bushel; Californian, 7s 6d to 9s per half-case; French Williams, 2s 6d to 5s per box; greengages, 1s to 3s; plums, 1s 6d to 3s 6d per bushel sieve; peaches, 2s to 7s 6d per dozen; English melons, 9d to 1s 9d each; Valencia, 5s to 10s per case; bananas, 5s to 10s per bunch; pineapples, 1s 3d to 4s each; oranges, 17s to 24s; lemons, 8s to 18s per case. Potatoes, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per cwt.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—Moderate supplies, slow demand, and prices lower. English Beauty of Hebrons, 3s 3d to 4s; Early Puritans, 3s 3d to 4s; Snowdrops, 3s 3d to 4s; Early Regents, 3s to 3s 6d; Professor Maerker, 3s to 3s 6d; and Up-to-Dates, 3s to 3s 6d per cwt.

London (King's Cross), Saturday.—Trade good; prices not quite so firm, some foreign coming had a depressing effect on the market. Snowdrops, 70s to 90s; Puritan, 65s to 80s; British Queen, 70s to 80s; Blacklands, 60s to 65s.—COUPE AND TAYLOR.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A considerable acreage has already been cleared. It is impossible now that the bulk can exceed one-half that of last year. Mould has affected some of the gardens, but the bulk of the crop will be of excellent quality, the recent rains and the sprightliness of late picking to enable the fruit to open off exceptionally well.

Worcester, Saturday.—Hop picking commenced this week in several grounds, and a few days' time in the remaining will be general. One or two samples were offered at market to-day, and showed fine quality for the time, but there is very little demand for new hops at present. Some trade is passing in yearling Worcesters which command fair prices.

Worcester, Saturday.—A few samples of the new crop were on offer at our market to-day, but very little business was done, growers often preferring to keep their samples in the privacy of the cart; sales noted. Picking is to be generally commenced during next week, and a better variety of samples will be on offer at our next market. Very little trade doing in last year's hops, but prices are very firm.—PIERCY AND CO.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Supplies of hay moderate. Best meadow, 80s to 110s; inferior to good, 50s to 75s; best clover, 90s to 120s; inferior to good, 50s to 80s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 90s; and straw, 25s to 30s per load.

Bristol, Tuesday.—The supply of hay was small, and there was a fair demand at last week's prices. Old meadow, 75s to 85s; new meadow, 60s to 70s; new clover, 80s to 90s; and straw, 40s to 45s.

Leeds, Tuesday.—A good demand for hay, and prices are firm. Prices:—Meadow hay, best quality, 75s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; best clover, 90s to 100s; inferior ditto, 70s to 80s; best mixed, 80s to 90s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s per stone; straw, 30s to 34s per load.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather for the first ten days of September has been highly favourable to the completion of harvest work in the north and west of England. The rain in Scotland, however, has been heavy, and it is feared that a good deal of the oats in the Highlands will not ripen at all this season. The English barley crop is now better spoken of than was the case a fortnight ago. Much of it, certainly, is stained, but the early threshings were indiscreet, and gave the markets an unduly unfavourable notion of what the bulk of the crop was. As regards yield, thirty-two bushels is accepted by most authorities. There are plenty of parishes in East Anglia where this is much exceeded, but the poor yields in counties like Wilts and Somerset, Hereford and Worcester, Devon and Cornwall, have to be considered. The yield of oats is extremely irregular; many growers in the south have less than four quarters to the acre, while five quarters are common in Lincolnshire, and six have been attained in the north and north-west on favoured farms. The average for the whole country is not expected to exceed thirty-six or, at most, thirty-seven bushels. The French wheat threshings go on briskly, and reveal a deficiency in weight per bushel, as well as in yield per acre. French imports in 1901 may easily be considerable.

We have had for the first eight months of 1900 almost exact an average rainfall; but too much of it fell in August.

	RAINFALL. This Year.	Fifty Years' Average.
January	2·75	1·80
February	3·81	1·62
March	1·10	1·63
April	0·72	1·80
May	0·98	2·10
June	2·73	1·99
July	1·20	2·70
August	3·06	2·40
	16·35	16·04

The damp condition of too many of the new samples witnesses all too obviously to the frequent and heavy character of the August "showers," but the land is not at all lacking in kindly moisture for starting the growth of catch crops and for nourishing roots, and at the same time even low-lying fields are seldom in any way waterlogged. Farmers should sow autumn wheat early this year.

During the cereal year the total sales of wheat at the statutory markets are reckoned to have been 40 per cent. of the total yield. This is a figure which has been foreseen and represents, in fact, the usual calculation by statisticians. Barley sales are larger by 45 per cent. This is thought to be somewhat above the average rate of market sales for the last quarter of a century; farmers, for one thing, tend to brew less ale at home. Oats show that the local and home demand is still the greatest by far. Market sales represent little over 7 per cent. of the total crop production. The direct sales off the farm to horse owners are a feature of this trade.

The average values have been :—

CEREAL YEAR'S AVERAGES. 1899-1900.	s.	d.
Wheat	26	4
Barley	25	0
Oats	17	4

The best wheat average of recent cereal years was in 1897-8, when 36s. 2d. was averaged; the worst was 1894-5, when 21s. 5d. was the mean. The best barley average of recent years was in 1890-1, when 28s. was reached, while the worst year was 1894-5, with 21s. 5d. as the mean. Oats were dearest in 1891-2, when 20s. 8d., an excellent price, was the mean. In 1895-6, on the other hand, the depression was extreme, and only 14s. 1d. was averaged.

Details of breadstuffs imports for the cereal year have now been compiled from official returns, and the imports are seen to have been moderate on the whole.

WHEAT AND FLOUR IMPORTS COMPARED. Cereal year.	Wheat (in qrs.).	Flour (reduced to qrs.).
1899-1900	15,011,000	7,151,000
1898-1899	15,338,000	7,508,000
1897-1898	15,310,000	6,625,000
1896-1897	14,906,000	6,646,000

The disconcerting point about these figures is that the proportion of flour imported has increased considerably since 1897. The wheat imports then were larger, those of flour smaller than on the past twelvemonth. English millers have reason to view these figures with interest :—

FARMERS' WHEAT SALES.	Qrs.
1899-1900	7,324,000
1898-9	7,871,000
1897-8	5,704,000
1896-7	5,843,000

The crop of 1899 was more than 547,000 qrs. inferior to that of 1898, so that the 7,324,000 qrs. sold have reduced stocks of old English wheat to a small compass.

The fairly liberal stocks of imported produce prevent the exhaustion of old English wheat from greatly affecting the trade.

American and English wheat stocks at the beginning of a new cereal year thus compare :—

	American.	English.	Total.
Sept. 1, 1900	6,246,000	2,215,000	8,461,000
,, 1899	4,340,000	2,350,000	6,690,000
,, 1898	740,000	680,000	1,420,000
,, 1897	1,935,000	827,000	2,762,000

Thus, the two great wheat trading countries start a new campaign with 1,771,000 qrs. increase in their known resources.

The wheat supplies on passage to the United Kingdom are as follows :—

	Qrs.
Russian	85,000
Californian	855,000
American	385,000
Argentine	330,000
Australasian	215,000
All other countries	15,000
Total	1,885,000

Imports of the week comprised 390,000 qrs. of wheat, 95,000 sacks of flour, 269,000 qrs. of maize, 80,000 qrs. of barley, and 145,000 qrs. of oats. Stocks of foreign oats are known to be heavy, and of barley light. Of maize they are probably about an average.

Of barley there are 390,000 qrs. on passage, against 355,000 qrs. last year, and of maize 775,000 qrs., against 845,000 qrs. last year. The markets are decidedly firm for maize. Owing to the large shipments from America there are pauses and hesitations at different exchanges, but the trade as a whole is excellent, and as America shipped freely in September last when 16s. 3d. was accepted for cargoes, supply is naturally pushed on when 20s. 3d. is quoted. The price of Argentine after a brief decline is again appreciating as the shipments from La Plata have not come up to expectations. The round maize of Russia, Roumania, and Asia Minor is in more demand than supply, and as a consequence value ranges 3s. to 3s. 6d. above the terms for flat.

Barley is a very small trade as yet. It is not until October is with us that this trade assumes its full dimensions. The Persian consignments at an 18s. level have come in very handy this summer.

Oats are a liberal supply of cheap Russian sorts at 14s. and 14s. 6d. per quarter. America is sending a slightly superior article at 15s., and the Canadian oats at 15s. 6d. to 16s. are preferred to the American. Fine heavy oats from Sweden and Finland are very scarce. There is also a market spot scarcity of tares, of cottonseed, and of buckwheat, so that holders of these staples are doing well. The new crop of linseed in Russia is said to be very disappointing.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are slow, but firm. A moderate trade of a speculative nature has been done in American spring wheat for March shipment at 33s. 6d. per qr.—a price arguing belief in a fairly substantial rise during the winter. For October shipment 31s. 9d. is taken. Other sales include finest Duluth at 32s. 6d., Californian at 31s. 6d., Walla at 30s., Oregon at 31s. 9d., Argentine at 30s. 3d., Roumanian at 29s., and fine Azima, Odessa shipment, at 31s. per qr.

Maize, despite large recent shipments from the United States, makes 20s. 3d. for October shipment, Odessa makes 26s., Galatz 22s. 6d., Argentine 21s. 6d. Barley has made 19s. 6d. for a large cargo of South Russian, 18s. for arrived Persian, and 26s. 9d. for new Californian brewing just shipped. The other sales of the week include Roumanian rye at 26s., Canadian peas at 28s. 9d., and Smyrna beans at 28s. per qr.; American linseed cake at £7 13s. 9d., Egyptian cottonseed at £7, linseed oil at £33 5s., rape oil at £29, and cottonseed oil at £21 10s. per ton.

The following is a return of the grain and seed-laden vessels due to arrive within a week :

To Ports of Call.	For Orders. Wheat.	Barley.	Flour.	Total.	For Direct Ports U.K. Wheat.	Maize.	Barley.	Linseed.	Total.
From Azov	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	4
,, Black Sea	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3
,, Danube	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, India	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
,, Atlantic Ports	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, California and Oregon	9	2	1	12	—	—	—	—	—
,, Chili	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, La Plata	4	—	—	4	6	4	—	—	10
,, Australasia	2	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	2
,, Egypt	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	15	2	1	18	10	5	4	5	24

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The hot, fine weather in London to-day—it was 77 degrees in the shade at noon on the Corn Exchange—caused trade to open with reserve, and prices have ceased advancing. New English wheat was in improved condition, and the 32s. freely paid for good, heavy samples gave the market an air of greater firmness than it actually possessed. Foreign wheat was not saleable at any advance. Barley was a small trade. Persian at 18s. 6d. and Californian at 27s. were the sorts chiefly in evidence, and *they* were not plentiful. Maize was irregular, the weather is against a large retail use. The price of oats was tending in buyers' favour. Miscellaneous sales include good new Essex mustard-seed at 13s. per bushel, Dutch carraways at 36s., Larache canary-seed at 35s. per 464lb., Smyrna dari at 26s. for best, buckwheat at 29s. for finest, French and Torrified barley at 24s. per qr.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

SEPT. 10th, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	31	— 33
Red	,,	30	— 32
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	28	— 36
Brewing	,,	24	— 28
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Brown	,,	29	— 32
OATS, English	,,	19	— 23
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 19
RYE, British (new)	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 29
(old)	,,	25	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	43	— 45
,, Winter	,,	30	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	— 76
,, Dun	,,	32	— 34
,, Maple	,,	40	— 42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	34	— 35
American Spring	33/6	— 34
Hard Manitoba	33/6	— 34
Red Winter	31	— 31/6
Kansas	30/6	— 31
Californian	31/6	— 32/6
Walla Walla	30/6	— 31/6
Australian	30/6	— 31/6
New Zealand	29/6	— 31/6
Argentine	28/6	— 31/6
Danzig	33/6	— 34/6
Saxonka	32/6	— 33/6
Azima	31/6	— 32/6
Ghirka	30/6	— 31/6
Persian	29/6	— 30/6
MAIZE, per 480lb. :		
Cinquantina	26	— 27
Roumanian	24	— 25
Russian	23	— 25
Caucasian	23	— 23/6
Argentine	22	— 22/6
American	20/9	— 21
OATS :		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	16	— 17
American (320lb.)		
,, White	16	— 17
,, Mixed	15	— 16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	— 17
,, (304lb.)	14	— 15
Libau white (304lb.)	13	— 13/9
,, black ,,	15	— 15/3
White Sea (304 lb.)	14	— 14/6
BEANS, per 480lb. :		
Egyptian	30	— 31
Smyrna	27	— 29
BEANS (*continued*).		
Konigsberg	28	— 29
Barbary	27	— 28
Mexican	28	— 30
LOCUST BEANS, per ton :		
Cyprian	106	— 112
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Canadian, White	29	— 30
Indian, White	28	— 30
,, Green	25	— 27
Barbary	26	— 28
Australian, White	40	— 41
,, Dun	26	— 27
LENTILS, per 504 lb. :		
Egyptian	31	— 33
Indian	36	— 38
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	26	— 27
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb. :		
French	28	— 29
Russian	25	— 26
BARLEY :		
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 24
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Syrian (400 lb.)	25	— 22
Persian (400 lb.)	18/3	— 19
American (400 lb.)	20/9	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb. :		
Californian	34	— 37
Smyrna	33	— 36

OIL SEEDS

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	58	to 60
Dutch	55	to 59
Argentine	54	to 56
Canadian	57	to 59
Russian	52	to 54
Calcutta	55	to 57
SESAME. per 424lb.		
Bombay	50	to 52
Kurrachee	53	to 54
COTTON SEED. per ton.		
Egyptian	140	to 142
RAPESEED. per 416lb.		
English	56	to 60
Dutch	54	to 56
French	47	to 48
Roumanian	43	to 45
Cawnpore	46	to 47
Calcutta	43	to 44
Guzerat	48	to 49
Ferozepore	44	to 45
Ravison	29	to 31
POPPYSEED. per 377lb.		
Indian	47	to 48

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

A FAIR TRADE WAS DONE IN WHEAT AND MAIZE AT CURRENCIES. IN OATS AT 3d. TO 6d. DECLINE. LINSEED AND ALL OILSEEDS WERE HELD FOR MORE OR LESS FANCY PRICES. A RISE OF 5s. PER TON IN OILCAKES WAS EFFECTED.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Sept. 10th.

The market to-day was fairly well attended, as the big exhibition at Islington brings many bakers to town. But prices were certainly no better from last week. Town households at "a full 24s. 6d." sold fairly well, and country patents made 24s. for best. The great majority of country-made roller flour samples came at 22s. per sack. American sorts, patents and baker's, about kept old rates. Barley meal was in fair request at 19s. for best, bean meal at £8 for best, pea meal at £6 17s. 6d. for medium, pea chips at £9 5s., the finest Farina at 10qs., American maize starch at £9, maize cones at 18s. 6d. for No. 1 feeding, uncleaned rice at 6s. per cwt. and rice cones at 22s. per sack. The close of the market was in favour of holders for bran, pollard, and middlings, while rice meal was generally held for 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton advance on the week.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)		— 30
Town Whites	,,		—27/6
,, Households	,,		—25/6
No 2	,,		—22/6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	— 26
Fine Roller made	,,	— 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	— 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	— 26
,, Second Patents	,,	— 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	— 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	—25/6
,, Bakers'	,,	— 22
Kansas Patents	,,	24 —24/6
Cascadia	,,	24/6 —25
Canadian	,,	23/6 —24
Australian	,,	23/6—25
Hungarian	,,	28 — 31
French	,,	20 — 22

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	178—180
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	109—111
Bran, London Broad	,,	97—102
,, ,, Fine	,,	76 — 82
,, Country Flake	,,	105—108
,, ,, Broad	,,	94 — 96
Pollard	,,	90 — 92
Fine Middlings	,,	116—120
Coarse Middlings	,,	100—106
Oat Meal	,,	220—280
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	132—134
Maize Meal	,,	114—124
Maize Cones	,,	144—150
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	102—106
Pea Meal	,,	128 —138
Bean Meal	,,	152—172
Rice Meal	,,	90 — 94

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day at South Sea House, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sept. 3 noon	6 7	6 8	6 9
4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
Sept. 4 noon	6 7	6 8	6 9
4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
Sept. 5 noon	6 7	6 8	6 9
4 p.m.	6 7	6 7	6 9
Sept. 6 noon	6 7	6 7	6 8
4 p.m.	6 7	6 7	6 8
Sept. 7 noon	6 6	6 7	6 9
4 p.m.	6 6	6 8	6 9
Sept. 8 noon	6 6	6 8	6 9
To-day noon	6 7	6 7	6 8

Some sales for March delivery were put through at noon to-day at 6s, 10d. per cental.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

THE BALTIC, Monday, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

Wheat cargoes are fairly steady, but sales are rather difficult. Barley for future shipment is a little pressed on sale. Oats and maize are quiet, but not lower from Saturday.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Californian, 31s 6d, arrived; Argentine, 29s 6d, arrived; fine South Australian, 32s, on passage; Red Winter, 29s 9d, on passage; Red Winter, 30s, prompt shipment; No. 1 Northern, 31s, prompt shipment.

Maize.—Roumanian, 20s 9d, new crop, January shipment; American, 19s 9d, October shipment.

Barley.—Roumanian, 19s, October shipment; Californian, 26s 3d, October shipment.

Oats.—No. 2 White Clipped American, 14s 9d (new crop), October shipment; St. Petersburg, 13s 3d, prompt shipment.

Linseed.—Calcutta, 56s 9d, arrived.

Cottonseed.—Egyptian, £7 1s 3d, on passage.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour, a steady trade at last week's full prices.—T. S. Medill.

The trade for milling offals remains unaltered, with buyers objecting to the high prices which are now current.—Richard Doggett, Mark Lane.

Wheat, liberal arrivals. A slow trade at prices of last Monday. Flour steady in value. Barley dull, unchanged. Oats, heavy arrivals, 3d. per qr. cheaper.—Coventry, Mark Lane.

There is still a fair demand for early trifolium and other seeds for autumn sowing. Winter tares are in better supply and the term cheaper. A large business is passing in Irish grasses. The French crop is the smallest for many years, and growers will not sell. Owing to the bad crop reports of red clover from America, Germany, and France, there has lately been a large trade in yearling seed, and prices have advanced considerably. To-day's values for English show an advance of from 10s. to 12s. since close of last season. English red clover is now being harvested, but in most cases the yield is expected to be very light. New Essex mustard now offering, quality fine but prices not yet fixed. Bird seeds are firm.—J. Picard and Co., Mark Lane.

Offals: Bran and pollard in good request, prices firm. Weather favourable for harvest operations.—Greenhill Brothers, Belfast, September 8.

Flour.—The market continues quiet, with here and there some demand at prices under replacing values. Grain: Indian corn has continued firm, and a further advance of 1½d per boll paid. Beans are unchanged. Pease firm and about 3d per boll higher on spot. Barley very scarce. Canadian oats not being so plentiful are 1½d. up. Mill stuffs: Bran and thirds in good demand at full prices.—McKinnon and McDonald, Glasgow, September 8.

Wheat a moderate trade at late rates. Flour very steady, with rather more doing at extreme prices for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers. Maize.—Mixed maize moves steadily into consumption at last market's figures. Small round, owing to extreme scarcity, asks 2d. to 3d. per cental advance. Plate is in fair request at unchanged values. Barley is firm for malting at 6d. to 1s. advance, with a good trade doing. Feeding firm and in fair request. Beans firm, inactive. Peas are unchanged with a better inquiry. Oats firm, with more inquiry for English; foreign kinds are steady at quotations. Oatmeal small trade at late rates. Oilcake firm with a good demand at an advance of 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton.—Ross T. Smyth, Liverpool, September 8.

New oats appeared on Dundee market as early as August 16, and are now in fairly good supply at all Scotch markets south of the Grampians. Very wet weather has delayed harvest north of the chain, and we fear that with a low temperature setting in many fields in Inverness, Elgin, and other northern counties will now never ripen.—Dundee, September 10, 1900.

Norwich.—Milling offals.—The good sale of middlings and pollard has been fortunate for millers, and has helped to turn the scale where the price of 22s. for sound roller-made flour has been rather discouraging. The price of the maize germ meal from America has also been raised, and English-made shares in the general stiffness.

Dublin.—The Irish wheat crop.—In Ireland the wheat crop is estimated at twenty-six bushels per acre on 53,797 acres, or 1,398,722 bushels altogether. This must be added to ordinary calculations of the yield for Great Britain when the wheat crop of the United Kingdom is being considered.

Edinburgh.—Oatmeal.—Oatmeal millers to the number of fifty have banded themselves together to protect the purity of their trade, and to guarantee purchasers against adulteration. We may regret that a proposal to admit the press to their meetings has been negatived, but the present law of libel seems in many ways designed solely in the interest of the evil-doer, and we can perceive how names might have to be mentioned the printing of which would render the original speaker liable to prosecution.—Our Edinburgh Correspondent.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report a strong market for clover seeds. American advices indicating a still higher level of values. Full prices are asked for alsyke, white trefoil, and timothy seeds. Perennial and Italian rye-grasses are still tending upwards. Seed rye and winter tares keep exceedingly firm. There is no fresh feature in the trade for birdseeds. Blue peas and haricot beans are steady in value and demand.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington, Monday, Sept. 10th, 1900.

	British.	Total Sept. 11th 1899.
Beasts	1,479	1,479 — 1,745
Sheep and lambs	6,310	6,310 — 7,253
Calves	—	— 6
Pigs	15	15 — —
Milch cows	70	70 — 65

Quotations per stone (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	3 4 —	4 4 —	5 0
Sheep	3 3 —	5 2 —	6 0
Lambs	4 —	— —	— —
Pigs	3 4	— —	4 4

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £22.

British arrivals include 0 Lothians, Northern —, Eastern Counties 41, Midland Home and Western Counties 1,433, Devon, 60; Ireland, 136.

There was a rather larger supply of beasts on offer to-day than last Monday, arrivals from Midland Counties and Ireland being somewhat heavy, while Scotch were very moderate, consequently late rates were quoted for all grades, a number of sales at a decline of 1d to 2d per stone. But few cattle of prime beef were in evidence, and choice Lincolns and Herefords were readily sold at about late rates, and fairly good to ready sales at about same rates as early last week were effected.

The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Sept. 11th, 1899.
Devons	4s 10d to 4s 11d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Herefords	4s 10d to 4s 11d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 10d to 4s 11d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	3s 10d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat cows	3s 6d to 3s 8d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

In the sheep market the supply showed an increase compared with last Monday, and included two-thirds from the Eastern counties and 1,000 from Ireland. Best qualities were in short supply, and sheep scarce sold readily at late rates, but mealy descriptions were slow of sale, even at a reduction of 2d per 8lbs. Ewes were in short supply but steady in value. For lambs there was little inquiry; best quality small breeds however, maintained last week's rates.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs (sinking the offal) and are for the best of each class pointed:—

	To-day.	Sept. 11th, 1899.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
9-stone ditto	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10-stone half-breds	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
11-stone Lincoln	5s 3d to 5s 4d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10-stone Irish	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10 stone Down ewes	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11-stone half-bred ditto	4s 0d to 4s 2d	3s 8d to 3s 10d
5-stone Down lambs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
6-stone half-bred ditto	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 6d to 5s 8d

Pig trade slow, except for best small breeds, which made 4s 6d per 8lb.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 570, sheep, lambs 2,127, pigs 131 horses 5. Beef 7s 3d to 8s 0d; mutton, 7s to 9s 4d; lamb 8s 9d; pork, 6s 9d to 7s; sows 5s to 5s 9d. Fat beasts good demand, stores slow. Fat sheep good demand, stores slow. Fat and store pigs ditto. Milch cows, fair trade, prices £14 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,803. To-day's supply, compared with last market day (Saturday), showed an increase of 414, and consisted of 1,215 from the United States and 678 from Canada; besides the above number 182 in the country were held back, the majority arriving and offered for sale being ranche cattle. Owing to the warmer weather and larger supplies expected in the north, trade ruled slower at a slight decline in value, a clearance of part on the quay. The following were the quotations, offal given in:—Best States, 4s 6d, 10-stone ditto, 4s 3d to 4s 4d; Canadians to 9-stone Canadians, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; Runners, 3s 10d to 4s. There were no sheep on the market. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 2,560, 3s 11d to 4s 2d per 8lb to dress about 72¼lb; sheep, 1,836, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8lb, to dress from 65lb to 72lb.

Liverpool, Monday. Trade slow for cattle, and last week's rates barely maintained except for finished quality. Demand slow for sheep and lambs, and prices lower all round, especially so for middling and inferior sorts. Beef, 7d to 8d per lb; mutton, 8d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8d to 9d per lb. At market: 1,630 cattle and 11,365 sheep.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland for the last two weeks were 6,105 bales bacon, and from foreign ports last week, 9,717 bales bacon. There was a marked improvement in the demand for bacon, and notwithstanding a considerable increase in the arrivals from Denmark, prices hardened to the extent of some 2s against buyers, at the close the market was fairly well sold up. Prices ranged:—Irish, 56s to 62s up to 66s; Danish, 54s to 62s up to 66s; Canadian, 54s to 58s up to 60s. Butter of all descriptions opened a very slow market and buyers found plenty of room in their favour, and quotations can almost be said to be nominal. Danish, 110s to 118s; French, 84s to 88s; Irish, 84s to 88s; Canadian, 100s to 108s. Lard in steady demand and unchanged prices.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Feeding stuffs are very firm and mostly dearer, with rather a slow trade. Linseed cake 2s 6d, rice meal 2s 6d, and cotton cake 7s 6d up. Linseed 2s dearer.

English linseed cake	£5	5 0 to 5 7 6		ex mill
American Calcutta linseed cake	7 17 6	to	—	ex quay
American Western linseed cake	7 15 0	to	—	ex quay
Russian rape cake	7 [illegible]	to	—	ex quay
Feeding cake (Schmidsen's S P.K. (guar. 12 p.c. oil)	[illegible]			ex Liverpool
Decorticated cotton cake	6 17 6	to	7 0 0	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	[illegible]			ex quay
London made cotton cake	[illegible]			ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4 12 6	to	—	ex quay
Bunton decorticated AK grades (bags included)	4 [illegible]			on rail, Bunton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4 12 6	to	4 15 0	ex warehouse
American linseed in bulk, per [illegible]	[illegible]			ex quay
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 480 lbs	2 17 0	to	—	ex warehouse

—Rigby and Jen Hewes.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: [illegible] what they were estimated. Yearling hops are going into consumption at increased value.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Though there was a rather larger supply of fat beasts at the Islington Market on Monday (none on sale on Thursday), and but little corresponding increase in the demand, trade from start to finish was of a decidedly steadier character, notwithstanding the higher rates—1d. to 2d. per 8lb. asked and obtained—this remark applying to both prime and second quality, of which a clearance was made. Fat bulls, being short in number and wanted, also made better prices, whilst fat butchering cows were easier to purchase. Both Runts and Irish are now arriving in larger numbers, the latter being consigned from Dublin and Waterford. Rough cattle were difficult to cash, owing to so many having been seized on account of tuberculosis. At Deptford trade on Wednesday was sharp at an advance of fully 1d. per 8lb., but on Saturday was a shade slower and easier. On that day only a little more than half of the arrivals were put on the market, 1,150 being withheld. The total number on offer for sale on both markets was 3,929 (previous week, 4,421), consisting of 1,430 British (increase 110) and 2,499 foreign (decrease 602). These latter comprised 2,358 from the United States and 136 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—90-stone Herefords, 5s.; 80-stone Devons, 4s. 10d.; 90-stone Runts, 4s. 11d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 110-stone ditto. 4s. 4d.; 90-stone Dublins, 4s. 6d. ;95-stone Waterfords, 4s. 4d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 88-stone Canadians, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 100-stone fat cows, 4s.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. The sheep trade, which was confined to the Islington Market, was of a slow nature, but for the best Downs and halfbreds late rates were well maintained, whilst middling quality, of which too many were forwarded, met with forced sales, with rates ruling in favour of the buyer. A clearance of these; on the second market day (Thursday) a good many were turned out unsold. For lambs the general top rate was 9d. per lb., but 9½d. to 9¾d. per lb. was paid on Monday for a few pens of extra choice Southdowns to dress about 68lb. Plenty of ordinary lambs made no more than 8d. The total number of sheep and lambs penned was 8,860, as against 9,820 during the preceding week. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s.; 9-stone ditto, 5s. 10d.; 8-stone Scotch, 6s.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 6d.; 11-stone Lincolns, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 6d.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 8d. Calves numbered fifty-five, trade for which was much slower, except for the very choicest, which made 6s. per 8lb., sinking the offal.

Trade in the West.

The store sheep trade is as good now as it has been for a long time past, prices all round showing a rise of from 3s. to 6s. a head compared with this time last year; but the improvement is more marked in respect to lambs than as to ewes, this being due to the large amount of keep now available for the use of this class of stock. Another factor influencing the trade is the splendid root crop prospects, which has seldom ever been better. Store bullocks are also finding a ready sale, barreners in fresh condition even more so than milchers, though these are, like barreners, making good prices, ranging from £24 to £33 per pair for the best, and £16 to £22 for plainer kinds. Fat bullocks of the steer or heifer class make 11s. 6d. to 12s. per score (or from £18 to £23 apiece); whilst cows are an equally firm trade at 10s. 6d. to 11s. Fat sheep are, from scarcity, very dear, others making up to 8½d. per lb., and ewes 7½d. Lamb is also in demand at very fair prices—10d. to 11d. per lb. Other stock is proportionately dear, the prospect all round being very hopeful indeed.

Trade in Ireland.

Although there was an excellent attendance of local and cross-Channel buyers at last Thursday's Dublin market, their presence was to a great extent neutralised by the very large increase of over 700 cattle and 1,100 sheep, and prices retreated to from 10s. to 15s. per head on the former, and from 1s. to 2s. per head on the latter, as compared with the market of the previous week. Trade for beef opened well, and last week's terms were generally repeated in the morning for prime cattle, but subsequently a quieter tone prevailed, and market closed with average beasts fully 1s. per cwt. cheaper, and lean, rough cattle considerably lower. Choice ox and heifer beef, 56s. to 60s., and for some fancy lot 62s. per cwt.; medium, 50s. to 55s.; inferior, 42s. 6d. to 47s. 6d. per cwt. Best qualities of wether mutton met with a steady trade, but on average sheep there was a falling off, and middling descriptions of shipping hoggets underwent a very decided shrinkage in price. Dairy cattle in larger supply with slow sale, except for best springers and new milch cows, which made from £20 to £22 each, average selling from £10 up. Not many stores in market, but at some large country fairs stock has been going briskly at good prices. Some very large sales of rams and ewes will shortly take place in Dublin. The pig market was liberally supplied with ordinary hogs, but choice light-weight descriptions scarce, and held firmer figures. Heavy pigs in slow demand at about 2s. per cwt. lower. Best light hogs, 44s. to 46s. per cwt.; coarse, 34s. to 36s. per cwt., and inferior from 30s. per cwt. Number of cattle in market, 3,772; sheep and lambs, 8,858.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The supplies of fat cattle have been rather larger, and the quality generally fairly good. There has been a good demand and prices have been good, especially for the best class, last week's rates being easily maintained. Fat sheep and lambs have again been a very large show, though not quite so large as last week; there has been a fair trade, but prices have been rather lower than last week, and except for the best class of young shop sheep a reduction of about 1s. had to be taken. Fat calves an exceeingly large and good show; best sold dear, others rather cheaper. Pigs, an average show, sold dear. In the store market there were fair supplies of sheep, which met a moderate demand, the best class selling at about the same prices as last week, and some of the secondary quality remaining unsold. Store cattle were a considerably larger show, and generally of better quality. There has been more inquiry, and all offered were easily disposed of at fully late rates. Large numbers of milch cows have again been offered, and they have met a dear trade. Quotations:—Best beef, 8s. 6d. to fully 8s. 9d. per stone; current, 8s. to 8s. 6d. per stone; mutton from 7½d. to 8¼d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies and trade steady for all descriptions, excepting mutton, which was quiet. Arrivals of beef include 420 Liverpool sides, 1,600 hindquarters, and 800 forequarters American refrigerated. Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; American Deptford-killed, 4s 1d to 4s 2d; Liverpool, 4s 1d to 4s 2d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s; wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Fair supplies on offer, and firm trade for all kinds, with the exception of mutton, which ruled very slow. Arrivals of beef include 60 tons Scotch, 640 Liverpool sides, 3,500 hindquarters, and 2,000 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations:—Scotch beef, short sides, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; American, Deptford-killed, 4s to 4s 2d; Liverpool, 4s 1d to 4s 2d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 4s to 4s 2d; forequarters, 2s 10d to 3s; New Zealand hindquarters, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 3d. Mutton: Scotch, 5s; wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s; Wellington, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; Canterbury, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Sydney, River Plate, 2s to 2s 1d. English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s; New Zealand lamb, 2s 10d to 3s. Pork: English, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s. Veal: English and and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—There was to-day, compared with last Thursday, a slight decrease in the number of beasts on offer, the supply consisting of middling quality butchering cows and fat bulls, for which there was a rather slacker demand, and consequently a slower trade, rates ruling slightly in favour of the buyers. In the sheep market the number penned showed a decrease of 750, the supply including 140 Irish. Wether sheep of best quality made Monday's rates, but other grades were easier. The few ewes on offer found early buyers, and were steady in value. Best quality lambs scarce, and rates consequently were steady; half meaty sorts difficult to cash. Leading pens made per 8lb as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 6s; 9-stone, 5s 10d; 10-stone Irish, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Downs, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10-stone half-bred, 5s 8d; 10-stone ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; 11-stone Lincolns, 5s 6d; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s; 6-stone halfbred ditto, 5s 4d. There being less demand for calves, sales were more or less forced at a slight decline in value, best being quoted at 5s 10d per 8lb. The pig trade was slow, top value 4s 6d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Best steers and heifers were quoted up to 13s per score; medium beasts, 10s 6d to 11s 6d; and cows, 8s to 10s. The inferior kinds of mutton were harder to sell. Choice Downs made 5s 4d to 5s 8d; best Kents, 5s to 5s 4d; medium Kents, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; and barrens, 3s 8d to 4s per 8lb. Veal and lamb were unchanged, but pork sold rather better, small roasters going up to 10s 6d per score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 39 fat beasts, 69 calves, 606 fat sheep and lambs, 282 pigs, and 68 head of store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £13 to £20 10s; fat calves, 80s to £5 15s; small, 25s to 52s 6d; fat wethers, 41s to 59s; fat ewes 24s to 39s 6d; fat lambs, 36s to 49s 6d; fat hogs, 56s to 70s; fat porkers, 46s to 54s; small, 25s to 42s; store pigs, 15s to 25s; dairy cows, £7 10s to £16 15s. The trade for fat beasts was without fresh feature, last week's prices ruling in most cases and a clearance made. A clearance very nearly made of the supply of sheep and lambs, good quality wethers and young ewes made full prices. Big lambs in less demand, but a better trade for ewes and lambs in store condition. Milch cows and heifers are shown in shorter numbers and are making more money. Store cattle meet a great trade. Fat calves are a ready sale at late rates. Fat porkers were cleared with a firm trade all-round. Store pigs are dearer with a good demand.

Boston, Wednesday.—A moderate show of cattle. Best bullock beef, 7s 9d to 8s 3d; cow beef 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone; store beasts, £16 to £17; young steers, £9 10s to £11 10s; milch cows; £18 to £21; heifers in calf, £16 to £18 10s; calves, 65s to 68s; wether mutton, 8d to 8¼d; ewe mutton, 5½d to 6d per lb; lambs, 24s to 32s; Hampshire rams, £3 10s to £4 5s.

Braintree, Wednesday.—At Messrs. Balls' auction mart a good all-round trade prevailed. Numbers penned: Beasts 37, fat sheep 247, hogs 28, store pigs 375, milking cows 5, calves 12, and store sheep and lambs 700. The supply of beasts was limited, sheep and pigs preponderating. Store lambs sold well, cows and calves met a ready sale. Prices: Beef, 4s 8d to 5s; and mutton, 5s to 5s 6d per stone; pork, 8s to 8s 6d per score.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under..	8s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in.	8s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs ..	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	7s 3d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 372; sheep, 815; pigs, 263; horses, 5. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 4s to 5s 8d; pork, 5s 9d to 6s 3d. Very few store beasts to hand Fat beasts a large show, and fair trade. Fat sheep, a good number to hand, and a good trade at late rates. Stores, not so many to hand, and trade slow. Fat pig trade trade not quite so good as last week. Stores, a fair trade all ound.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Short supply of lambs, which met slow sale. A few very strong Kents went up to 26s, but average animals ranged from 14s to 21s; old sheep, 22s to 28s; useful heifers were selling at about £7 10s. A number of rough cows and calves were also offered.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Large supply of Irish store cattle this last week, consisting chiefly of useful wintering heifers. With the improvement in the weather the attendance was larger and trade more active at full prices, which were quoted at £5 5s to £8 10s for smaller sorts, and £10 10s to £14 10s for the most useful winterers. Stall-feeders made prices up to £17 10s. S nall supply of pigs, and slow sale at 20s to 25s.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Small supplies came to hand. Milch beasts made a very good trade. Heifers and calves sold from £14 to £17; cows and calves, £11 to £13; barreners, £16 to £26; fat bullocks, £13 to £19 10s; fat cows, £14 to £17. Sheep met a fair trade; ewes made from 38s to 44s; wethers, 46s to 51s; lambs, 28s to 34s 6d; crossbreds, 31s to 36s.

Dublin, Thursday.—A well sustained demand for all choicely finished cattle, and prices fully equal to the enhanced values of last week. Inferior and thinly meated cattle much in excess of demand, with prices perhaps a shade weaker. Clients are requested to note that it would be better not to cut the tails of cattle before forwarding. Fair demand for all classes of sheep and lambs at about late rates. Cattle (best), 32s to 35s per cwt. Other descriptions, 28s to 31s per cwt. Mutton, 5¾d to 7¼d per lb. Lambs, 18s to 35s each.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Average supplies. Beef in good demand, making 38s per live cwt. Horned bullocks made up to £19; Galloway bullocks, to £21; polled bullocks, to £15 10s; Galloway bullocks, to £21; Ayrshire bullocks, to £16; polled heifers, to £15 15s; Highland bullocks, to £14; and calving cows and heifers, to £14 each.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Supplies were small, and a dull trade was reported; shorthorned bullocks, 14 guineas; polled, £15; stirks to £10; best shorthorned cows, £22 to £27; Cheviot sheep, 34s to 50s; half-breds the same figure.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Numbers: 743 cattle, and 10,687 sheep and lambs; trade fair. Prices for top Scotch cattle, 66s to 68s per cwt; top Irish, 60s to 62s; top mutton, 8d to 8¼d per lb; secondary, 7d to 7¾d; top lambs, 8¾d to 9d. Dead meat firm. Best Scotch beef, 6½d to 6¾d; best States, 6d; cows, 5½d to 5¾d.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with better supplies of stock in good condition. Trade steady. Milch cows in demand at £16 to £20 each. Bullocks £10 to £14 per head. Calves a slow trade.

Lincoln, Tuesday.—Good show of beasts, and a fair trade. Prime beef, 7s 6d to 8s; lower qualities, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per stone. The supply of sheep was small, and trade was good. Ewe mutton, 6½d to 7d; wether ditto, 8d to 9d; lamb, 8¾d to 9d per lb.

Lincoln, Friday.—The supply of cattle was very small, being almost confined to milch beasts, there being scarcely any store beasts on sale. Milch beasts made from £14 to £20, each. There were several pens of sheep, but no trade was done buyers being absent at the ram fair.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Good average supplies, prices easier for sheep and lambs, and higher for veal. Numbers:—Cattle, 1,726; sheep and lambs, 9,907; calves, 68; pigs, 567. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s to 8s 6d; pork, 7s to 7s 9d per stone; mutton, 5½d to 8d; lamb, 7¾d to 8½d; veal, 5½d to 9d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a heavy supply of store cattle on offer here to-day; the demand was, however, also good, and previous prices were about maintained. Fat beasts, which were in average supply, were firm at 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. The supply of store sheep was moderate; a good business was passing at slightly higher rates, lambs making 25s to 35s, and keeping shearlings 40s to 47s per head. Fat sheep brought 8s to 8s 6d and 9s per 14lb. Rains yesterday and to-day have somewhat improved keep prospects in Norfolk.

Romford, Wednesday.—There was about an average supply of fat beasts, and trade about the same. Best animals made 4s 6d to 4s 8d, and middlings 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Calves were in short supply, and trade was a little better, at 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Sheep were in large supply, and trade was a little slower. Best sheep made 5s 6d to 5s 8d, and middlings 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Lambs were in short supply, and trade was slower, at 6s to 6s 4d per stone. There was a slow demand for the few store beasts on offer. Some inquiries were made for pigs, owing to the approach of the season. Small porkers made 4s to 4s 2d, and large hogs, 3s to 3s 4d per stone.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a slight increase in the number of cattle, and a good demand at late rates. The supply of sheep and lambs was about 500 less than last week. There was a brisk demand for both, and the tendency of prices was in favour of the sellers. Fewer calves on offer, and an improved trade at better prices. Quotations:—Cattle, 5½d to 7d; sheep, 6¾d to 8¼d; lambs, 7d to 8¾d; calves, 5¼d to 7¼d per lb. At market—Cattle, 2,026; sheep and lambs, 11,237; calves, 95; pigs, 76.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—About an average show of milch beasts. A fair trade was done, the best qualities making £18 to £22; secondary, £12 to £15 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Numbers offered—370 cattle, 16 cows with calves, 3,471 sheep and lambs, 91 calves, 25 fat, 132 porket and 38s store pigs. Larger supply of fat cattle and sheep, which met with a good demand. Pigs were brisk all round. Cows with calves firm. Quotations: Beef, 6¾d to 7¼d; mutton, 8d to 9d; and veal, 7¼d to 8¾d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s 6d; and bacons, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per score. Cows, with calves, up to £22.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A very good trade for both beef and mutton. Of beasts there was a short supply; best quality, to 8s 3d per stone; cow beef, 7s 6d. Stores sold well. Mutton dear, making quite 8d per lb: half-breds, ½d per lb. more. Breeding ewes sold well.

Stockton, Wednesday. There were 151 cattle, 2 calves, 315 sheep, 320 lambs, and 223 pigs on offer. Best cattle were very scarce, and trade was firm at 8s 3d per stone; rougher kinds 7s to 7s 6d. There was a good demand for young sheep and lambs, at 8d to 8½d per lb; rough sheep, 5d to 6½d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Small supply fairly good attendance, medium trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a fair supply of stock, but

the trade was not very fast, except for choice quality, which made fully late rates. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 98 fat beasts and a few down calving heifers, 278 fat sheep and stores, 63 fat and weaning calves, 105 fat and store pigs, and 15 cart horses. Fat bullocks made £17 to £21 5s; fat heifers, £14 to £22 15s; down calving heifers, £12 to £15; wether sheep, 44s to 63s; fat ewes, 32s to 46s 6d; fat lambs, 29s to 37s 6d; store and Scotch lambs, 12s each; fat calves, £3 to £5 4s; weaning cow calves, 22s to 63s; bull calves, 17s to 41s; fat pigs, 9s 6d per score. Stores a better trade. Cart horses made £11 to £20.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Larger supply of both beasts and sheep, and prices easier all round. Best beef, 6¾d per lb; other qualities, 5d to 6½d; best small, 8½d. Strong sheep, 7½d to 8d; heavy and fat sheep, 6½d; ewes and tups, 5d to 6d. Numbers penned:—Fat beasts, 1,408; sheep, 3,252.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a good supply, and fair trade for best. Sheep and lambs fair supply; slow trade. Calves small supply, fair demand. Milch cows, very large supply; prices in favour of buyers. Beef, 6d to 7¼d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8d to 8¾d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb. Bacon pigs, 9s 3d to 9s 6d per score; porkets, 9s 6d to 10s per score; sows, 7s per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Moderate supplies and trade quiet generally. Prices were firm for best quality cattle, but there was not much demand for other sorts. Wether mutton sold for rather more money. Firmer trade for pork pigs. Beef, 6½d to 7¼d; inferior, 5d to 6d; wether mutton, 8d to 8¾d; ewes, 7d; lamb, 8d to 8½d; and veal, 8d per lb. Pork pigs, 9s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A good show of stock and an excellent attendance, and a brisk all-round trade. Best beef made good money, realising up to 8s; secondary, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per stone; veal, 10d per lb. Good show of sheep; best 7½d to 8½d; ewe and other mutton, 5d to 6d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies 1,020, being 16 head less than shown on Wednesday last, and comprised 884 United States and 136 Canadian. With brisk demand trade ruled sharp, and prices dearer at 4s 6d to 4s 8d for the former and 4s 4d per 8lb, to sink the offal, for the latter. No sheep to hand.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per packet of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb: Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7d to 1s 7½d; scoured average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; South Australian, greasy average, 6½d to 7d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 4½d to 1s 5½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; Cape, scoured superior, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; fleece average, 8d to 9d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 7½d to 7¾d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 10d to 1s; New Zealand, fine, 9d to 10d; ditto medium, 7¾d to 8½d; ditto coarse, 6d to 7d.

Bradford, Thursday.—The tension at market is being relieved, and although there is very little business so far in fine wools, top makers show a distinctly firmer attitude, and prefer to hold rather than sell at present rates. Coarser descriptions of crossbreds continue to be freely bought, but at very cheap rates. There is a little more doing in English wools. The yarn trade remains quiet.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Staplers are not eager buyers, and present quotations do not induce holders to press sales. Kent fleeces, 6d; lambs' wool, 4d to 5d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—Wool trade continues depressed, with only a small turnover. Merchants are unwilling to make concessions, but are finding business impossible without doing so. Yarn spinners are fairly busy, though the local trade is not so good as it was. The only houses well employed are those engaged on Government contracts.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—Owing to moderate shipments, a good Continental demand, and an increased inquiry for oil, prices have improved considerably. Linseed cakes are dearer. London made, £8 5s to £8 7s 6d. Russian, £7 17s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £7 12s 6d to £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes are again dearer in sympathy with seed. London made £4 7s 6d to £4 10s. Rapeseed continues firm and dearer. Cottonseed has been a strong market in Hull, but scarcely anything doing to London; Alexandria is excited.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—The market is again dearer in the absence of any offers from abroad, and stocks of all descriptions are practically exhausted and very little on passage. Americans are firmly held for £7 15s to £7 17s 6d per ton ex dock, and at last Monday's price for October-November shipment. Russians are scarcely to be got, but any small parcels in warehouse command 2s 6d per ton more money on the week. English crushers are firm at an advance of 5s per ton. Cotton cakes.—Only a few very small parcels of Egyptian are to be found in warehouse, for which buyers are compelled to pay a large advance, and English are also relatively dear. Decorticated are unchanged in value at which there is a very small inquiry. Bright meal is quoted the turn cheaper. Rape cakes.—Unchanged. Maize germ meal is the turn dearer ex dock and for September-October dispatch from the west; English is also dearer. Rice meal.—A large business has been done for October-January shipments at £4 11s 3d per ton ex ship, and the same price is now asked for January-March. Spot values are 5s per ton dearer.

LINSEED CAKES.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
London made ..... per ton ex mill	8	5	0	to	8	7	6
American in bags ..... ex dock	7	15	0	„	7	17	6
American Oct.-Nov. ..... „	7	12	6	„	7	15	0
Russian in mats ..... „	7	15	0	„	7	16	3
Russian in bags ..... „	7	17	6	„	—		
COTTONSEED CAKES.							
London made ..... ex mill	4	12	6	„	4	15	0
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4	11	3	„	4	12	6
„ „ Nov.-April shipment	4	8	9	„	4	10	0
Decorticated ..... „	6	16	3	„	6	17	6
Meal, on spot	6	8	9	„	6	10	0
RAPE CAKES.							
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4	10	0	„	—		
Ravison ..... „	4	7	6	„	—		
Nutted, in bags ..... „	4	12	6	„	—		
MAIZE.							
Germ meal (American) ..... ex dock	5	8	9	„	5	10	0
„ „ „ Sept.-Oct. „	5	2	6	„	5	3	9
„ „ (English) ..... ex mill	5	6	3	„	5	7	6
RICE MEAL.							
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	4	12	6	„	4	15	0
„ Oct.-Jan.	4	11	3	„	—		
„ Jan.-March	4	11	3	„	—		

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—To-day the market is very firm at the extreme prices of last Tuesday, for old English wheat; a few samples now offering, varying in quality and condition, prices averaging 28s, 29s 504lbs. Foreign steady, at full rates, some descriptions being 3d per quarter dearer on the week. No change in barley. Oats fully as dear, except for inferior new, which are rather cheaper to buy. Beans continue with an upward tendency. Flat maize unaltered from last wek. Round Odessa from scarcity commands 3d per qr advance. Linseed.—The market, since last week, has gathered considerable strength. In cottonseed, since our last issue there has been a stronger tone owing to moderate supplies here and light shipments. Oil seed cakes.—All kinds are 2s 6d per ton dearer on the week. Deliveries good, but fresh orders not plentiful.—KEIGHLEY MANSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 2s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 0s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 5s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Basic slag continues in increased inquiry for autumn deliveries, and a fair amount of sales have transpired at the following rates. Feeding stuffs are firmly held, at advancing rates in some instances, and are moving more freely into consumption. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £8 2s to £8 7s 6d per ton; East India bone meal, in bags, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d per ton; kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 12s 6d to £7 16s 3d per ton; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 0s to £8 10s per ton; linseed cake, foreign, round, prime, in bags, £7 17s 6d to £8 10s per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, fairly soft, in bags, £6 10s to £6 15s per ton; cottonseed cake, English, decorticated, prime, very soft, in bags, £6 15s to £7 per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 15s to £4 17s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, crushed, 20 to 25 per cent oil, prime, in bags, £6 15s per ton; maize germ meal, English, prime, in bags, £5 2s 6d per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 7s 6d to £4 10s per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 11s 6d to 12s per 240lb; linseed, fine boil feeding, in bags, £3 1s to £3 3s per qr, 416lb; N.A. cloverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, per cwt.; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, per ton; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol, in bags, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d per ton; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 12s. 6d. to £1 15s 6d. per ton; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 16s to £1 17s 6d per ton, at the producing depots. H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Imports of Butter and Cheese.

The remarkable way in which the imports of butter have regularly increased for many years is, state Messrs. Weddel and Co., in their review for the season 1899-1900, again exemplified by the year which closed on the 30th June last. In the year ended June, 1891, the total import of butter was 102,500 tons, and for the year ended June, 1900, it was 170,700 tons, which shows an average annual increase in the decade of 6,800 tons. This growth has been on the whole very uniform, any disturbance in its uniformity being more attributable to the deficient seasons in our Colonies and foreign countries than to the bountiful seasons at home. Twice in the decade has the import of butter from Colonial sources fallen off slightly from the previous year, viz., in 1896 and 1898, while only once has there been any decrease in the foreign supply, and this occurred during the present year. In 1896 the Colonial supply fell off 5,000 tons, principally due to drought in Australia, but from foreign countries this deficiency was more than wiped out, as the increased import from these sources exceeded 16,500 tons.

In the present year the position has been reversed, for while the foreign import fell away to the extent of 9,000 tons, the supply from the Colonies exceeded that of last year by 15,000 tons, thus leaving a gain in the quantity of imported butter of 6,000 tons on the year. Distinguishing the two sources of supply for the past ten years, the import of Colonial butter has been augmented by 34,600 tons, and that of foreign by 33,600 tons, so that the increased import for the period is fairly divided between Colonial and foreign sources. If, however, the last five years be taken, it will be seen that the growth of Colonial butter has far exceeded that from foreign countries. During this quinquennial period the annual import of Colonial butter has increased by 24,500 tons, while that of foreign has virtually made no progress whatever. It is but fair, however, to note that the effect of an abnormal increase in Colonial and an unusual deficiency in foreign for this past year modifies to a great extent this position. Still, on the whole, the progress in the import of Colonial butter far exceeds that made by foreign.

If we examine in detail these two classes of imports, it will be seen that the Australasian Colonies have increased their quota since 1891 by 13,400 tons, and Canada by 11,100 tons. Turning to foreign countries, Denmark, as was to be expected, shows the greatest development in the supply of imported butter, which has increased in the past ten years by 28,678 tons. Next come Russia and Holland with increases respectively of 7,207 tons and 6,589 tons. Sweden, which made a steady progress from 1891 to 1896, has since then declined, and this year sent 1,400 tons less than ten years ago. France and Germany are rapidly falling away, and the latter country will soon cease its supply altogether. Five years since it was 6,000 tons annually, this year it was 1,850 tons. France, which in 1891 sent 26,000 tons, has regularly declined, and this year sent only 16,800. Among the countries sending smaller quantities, Argentina, Belgium, and Norway are all gradually increasing their supplies, but their totals are comparatively small, as they together contribute only 6,400 tons out of a total foreign supply of 133,000 tons. The United States has been erratic in its supplies during the decade, and up to now has not made butter specially for export to the United Kingdom as all the other foreign countries have done. Consequently it is only when supplies from elsewhere fail that American butter is sought for by British buyers. The large amount of salt in American butter, although suitable for the American palate, prevents it ever becoming popular in the United Kingdom.

As regards the coming season, Messrs. Weddel say: "The Canadian supply most probably will show another large development, but it is unlikely that the United States will supply more than they have done in the past season. From the Continent of Europe larger imports are almost certain to come, as owing to the drought and heat which existed during the latter half of 1899 the Continental production was very largely restricted and the imports from this source alone, during the year ended 30th June, were reduced by 8,000 tons. In the ordinary course of things, therefore, an augmented supply may be expected during the coming season. In regard to the production of butter in the United Kingdom, a moderate increase may be anticipated.

There is no such increase to be reported in the import of cheese as in butter. Cheese is year by year becoming less an article of general consumption, owing, undoubtedly, to the growing poverty of the working classes, who formerly largely relied upon this commodity in their dietary, but are now able to purchase more butcher's meat instead. During the decade the import of cheese has grown by only 24,500 tons, while that of butter has increased by 71,000 tons. The home supply has decreased by 17,000 tons. Distinguishing the sources of supply of cheese, it is seen that the import of Colonial cheese has increased since 1891 by 31,500 tons, while that from foreign countries has diminished to the extent of 6,900 tons. The actual imports of both kinds in 1891 were—Colonial, 43,228 tons (of which 41,375 came from Canada), and foreign, 60,816 tons. In 1900 the figures are—Colonial, 74,702 tons (70,549 being Canadian), and foreign, 53,903 tons.

In Colonial imported cheese it is thus seen that Canada virtually has the field to itself, for the only other Colonial cheese which finds its way here is New Zealand, but the amount of this kind is comparatively insignificant, being only 4,000 tons out of a total import of 128,600 tons. Australia has during several seasons since 1891 sent small quantities, but they are not worth quoting. The Canadian import shows a steady increase from 1891 to 1898, but since then it has declined by nearly 5,000 tons, apparently because the Canadian dairymen have turned their attention more particularly to the export of butter, which has increased in the period by 6,000 tons. Although the import of New Zealand cheese is comparatively small it shows on the whole a steady increase, the total for the five years ending 1895 being 10,980 tons, while for the last five years it is 14,089 tons.

From foreign countries the decline in the import of cheese is mainly from the United States, which sent 10,000 tons less in 1900 than in 1891. France also is losing its cheese trade in British markets, and is being supplanted by Belgium. In 1891 France supplied over 3,000 tons; this year the import was below 2,000 tons. Belgium in 1891 supplied less than 1,000 tons, but now contributes 2,500 tons. The import trade in Dutch cheese remains almost absolutely stationary. In 1891 it amounted to 15,300 tons, in 1899 it was 15,600 tons. This year, owing to exceptionally high prices here, which stimulated the manufacture, it reached 17,000 tons, but this seems likely to be only a temporary increase.

Speaking of the prospects for next season Messrs. Weddel and Co. say with regard to butter it would be almost unreasonable to expect an equal increase, but still there is every appearance of a large augmentation in the supplies during the season of 1900-1.

In summing up the prospects for next season, Messrs. Weddel say:—"The manufacture of cheese during the past two seasons has proved more profitable than the making of butter, and as there appears a reasonable prospect of this state of things continuing during another season, the supply of cheese is likely to be enlarged, especially if the weather for the remainder of the cheese season continues favourable for its manufacture."

CORK BUTTER.

	ORDINARY.				MILD CURED FIRKINS			
	Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	Firkins 1st Marks.
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	91	86	82	77	99	93		94
Tuesday ..	90	85	81	77	96	89	94	100
Wednesday ..	91	85	81	77	94	88	89	
Thursday ..	90	85	81	77	93	88		
Friday ..	91	86	81	77				46
Saturday ..	91	86	81					96

Stack Fire at Lowestoft. On Tuesday afternoon a fire broke out on the premises of Mr. W. R. Seago, known as Pope's Farm, Norwich Road, Lowestoft. The fire originated in a part of a screw stack, and spread quickly to two ricks of barley and oat stack, the whole of which were destroyed. The fire is supposed to have been caused by children playing in the vicinity, and the damage is estimated at £200.

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Shire stallion Hitchin Ringleader is the property of Mr. Arthur Ransom, of Hitchin, Herts, for whom he won at the Bath and West Show first and champion prizes; at the Royal Show at York, however, he only secured a second prize. Hitchin Ringleader was bred by Mr. E. E. Harcourt-Vernon, of Grove, Retford, his sire being Calwich Heirloom 14547, dam Grove Vera, by Harold 3703.

The Aberdeen-Angus bull Diaz was exhibited by Mr. W. S. Adamson, Careston Castle, Careston, Forfarshire, at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at York, when he won first prize in his class, and in addition the champion gold medal offered by the Polled Cattle Society for the best Aberdeen-Angus animal exhibited. Diaz 14272 was calved in 1896, and is by Enthusiast of Ballindalloch 8289, dam Pride of Burnshangie, by Pilchard 7827, his breeder being Mr. Patrick Chalmers, Aldbar Castle, Brechin.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

The attention of meat dealers and butchers throughout the kingdom has recently been directed to a new process of preservation, the invention of a German patentee, which it was claimed would revolutionise previous methods of dealing with meat supplies during the voyage from South America and other sources of importation. The first consignment of meat brought across from South America under treatment by the new method arrived at Liverpool by Messrs. Houlder Bros.' steamer the Southern Cross, and it was examined with considerable interest.

Unfortunately for the hopes of the promoter of the new treatment (says the Liverpool correspondent of the *Yorkshire Post*) it would appear that either the meat suffered from some practical defect in the application of the system or the system itself does not possess the advantages claimed. The consignment immediately upon arrival in Liverpool was examined in the ordinary course by the inspector appointed by the Corporation, with the result that a large proportion was seized and condemned at once as unfit for human food. As to the remainder it was offered in the market, the mutton being sold at 2d. per lb. and the beef at something under 3d. per lb. The ordinary price obtainable for North American chilled beef at present is about 5¼d. per lb."

Three sales of Jersey cattle are announced at early dates by Messrs. John Thornton and Co. The first consists of about thirty animals from the old established English-bred herd of Mr. D. Mutton, of the Triangle, Plumpton, Sussex, and a few animals from Mr. R. J. Pope, Beresford Manor. This sale will also include some pure-bred Berkshire pigs from Mrs. Hepburn, Chailey, Lewes, and will take place on Wednesday, September 19th. The herd of Jersey cattle at Plumpton was founded in 1872 by the purchase of an excellent Jersey cow from the Duke of Richmond's dairy at Goodwood, which had been bred from the Island stock for upwards of a century. The result of this careful breeding from the best old dairy strains has been the raising of a herd of excellent milkers.

The second sale is of pure-bred Jersey cattle, pure-bred yearling Southdown ewes and Berkshire pigs, the property of Mr. S. Austen Leigh, at Frog Firle, three miles from Berwick Station, on the L.B.S.C. Railway, between Lewes and Eastbourne, on Thursday, September 20th. The herd at Frog Firle was founded in 1877 by the purchase of some good cows from the Island of Jersey, bulls being specially selected from some of the best milking strains in this country. The herd has been hardily and carefully bred with especial regard to the milking qualities. The accommodation being limited, it has been decided to part with all the young stock without exception; all the two-year-old and yearling heifers are to be sold, some of them being good enough for exhibition. Many of them are by Athol Brose 2nd 5064, bred by Mr. D. Mutton, whose herd has been so long bred with the view of obtaining the hardiest cows and heaviest milkers and butter producers. A few heifers are also included from Mr. F. Barchard's well-known herd at Horsted Place, in the same county. These are chiefly of the old Dauncey and Empress strains.

The next sale is of about sixty first-class pure-bred cattle, bred by Mr. Herbert Padwick, on Tuesday, September 25th, at the Manor Farm, West Thorney, three miles from Emsworth Station on the London Brighton and South Coast Railway, and five miles from Havant. Thorney, formerly an island on which stood an old monastery, comprises about twelve hundred acres, and is mostly farmed under the Manor farm. About thirty years ago the Island was connected with the mainland by banking out the estuary of the sea, which formerly flowed on its north side, and thus a large area of reclaimed land was added to the holding. This produces poor grass, but is fairly good land for growing young cattle. There is better and sheltered pasture on the Island, where a herd of Jerseys, established by the present proprietor's grandfather, has been in existence a great number of years. About 1879 considerable improvement took place, a few good cows were purchased, and particular attention was given to the selection of the bulls. About a hundred cows are kept in milk for supplying butter to Brighton, many of them yielding upwards of 14lbs. weekly, and some of the cows have given a thousand gallons in the year. The herd having outgrown the accommodation, about sixty young cows and heifers, many in full milk and others coming on for winter dairying, as well as the bulls Edward 4th and Goodwood, will be offered for unreserved sale. The animals for sale are young and mostly in full profit, having recently calved, or are forward in calf, coming on for winter dairying. They are robust in constitution without coarseness, and live out of doors winter and summer, or in the strawyards. Milk fever is unknown for the past ten years, and the animals by their robustness and large rich milking properties are well adapted to go into pure-bred herds or to enrich the yield of the ordinary cows in large dairies.

Lord Tredegar's shows are fixed this year for Tuesday and Wednesday, November 27th and 28th next.

The entire herd of Shorthorns bred by the late Mr. Robinson Dewhurst will be sold on September 21st, at Shelford House Farm, Nuneaton, by Messrs. Thornton and Co. The animals have mostly been bred on the farm, except the bulls in service; they are of well-known and distinguished families. The Queens, originally from Mr. W. Mitchell, of Cleasby, are descended from Fairy Queen, bought of Mr. J. Bousfield, Croft House; Sir Charles Knightley's old Walnut tribe traces from Lady Winsome Walnut, bought of Mr. G. Thompson, Mousley End; the old Daisies from Florence Daisy, both of which were by Grand Duke Winsome 57414, the son of that magnificent cow Winsome Colleen by Duke of Connaught; and the Votaresses, a great milking tribe, are bred from the stock of Captain D. H. Mytton, of Garth, Welshpool. The bull Baron Bridekirk 4th 62119, first used, was bred by Mr. J. Barnes, Baurgh Syke, Cumberland, and was son of Prosperity, first prize bull at the R.A.S.E. Show at Windsor in 1889. He was followed by Mr. Morris' Statesman 66400, who became the sire of several prize winners at the Birmingham shows and sales. Shelford Imperial 69571, a prize winner, was next used, and succeeded by May King 78986, a fine bull, sold afterwards for exportation to South America; and Baron Underley 74027, a bull of exceptional quality, also sold at a high price for exportation. At present in service is the handsome roan bull Staffordshire Duke 71659, winner of several first prizes, bred by Mr. C. J. Morris, Wood Eaton, and by Mr. J. Deane Willis' Captain Quadroon, a well known sire used by Mr. Morris in Staffordshire, and Mr. J. W. Barnes at Aik Bank, Cumberland; he was the winner of several prizes in each country.

There is a great foreign demand this year for the Barton flock of Lincolns. The fifteen rams Mr. John Anderson advertised for sale by auction at Lincoln by Messrs. Calthrop and Brigg have been sold to go to South America; also fifteen other rams out of the same flock, making thirty in all, which were to leave per steamer Hyanthes from Liverpool Docks on Saturday, 8th inst., for Buenos Ayres.

The ss. Port Elliott, which left the Thames last week for Sydney, took out two magnificent roan Shorthorn bulls, bred respectively by the Right Hon. Lord Brougham and Mr. C. A. Scott Murray, of Hambleden.

The Board of Agriculture on Monday issued an Order modifying the restrictions imposed upon cattle remaining within the affected area in Flintshire and Denbighshire, no further cases having developed themselves. Butchers and cattle dealers will be permitted to move their cattle about within the area, and this will enable stock to be killed at the various slaughter-houses, instead of on the farms, an operation which has caused great annoyance and inconvenience to the tenants.

CATTLE.

Bull Sale at Carlisle.

On Thursday Messrs. Harrison and Son, Carlisle, held a sale of Shorthorn bulls, about seventy being forwarded from breeders in the north of England, including Lord Brougham, Lord Barnard, and others. There was a good attendance of buyers, and the best class of bulls met a good and satisfactory sale. In the open class Lord Brougham was first with Boreas, which sold for 56gs. to Mr. Millar, for the Earl of Derby; second, Mr. Fisher, Knells, with Royalist, 29gs.; third, Mr. Hewson, Parton, Baron Warthol, 50gs.; commended, Mr. Dalton, Snowhope Close, Stanhope, British Lad, 42gs. Bulls not exceeding two years—1, Messrs. Muncaster and Sons, Dolphenby, 65gs., to Mr. Dudding, Riby Grove, Lincolnshire; 2, Lord Barnard, 36gs.; 3, Lord Brougham, 37gs.; commended, £25, Mr. Thompson, Demesne.

Sale of Mr. J. Watt's Shorthorns.

On Wednesday, at Knowlefield, Carlisle, Messrs. John Thornton and Co., the London auctioneers, disposed of Mr. James Watt's herd of Shorthorns. The weather was fine, and the attendance at the luncheon and sale was numerous, the Queen and the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Derby, and other landed gentry being represented. Sir Wilfrid Lawson was one of those actually present, a number of the animals in the catalogue being of his own well-known Benson strain. In the Knowefield herd three notable strains of Shorthorn blood have been blended. The famous Bates Duchesses and Booth's Countesses have been blended in the Lancasters and Field Marshals of Cruickshank blood. Several animals in the herd have either been bred by the Queen and Prince of Wales or have descended from stock bred at Windsor and Sandringham. Many of the younger animals in the Knowefield herd are direct descendants of the famous bull New Year's Gift, which was sold at the Queen's sale for 1,000 guineas. Before that sale Mr. Watt had bought a bull calf by that high-priced sire out of the Field Marshal cow Daisy. It was named Knowefield, turned out well, and, after standing at the head of the Knowefield herd for several years, was sold at a high price to go to the Argentine. His descendants of the first, second, and third generations are well represented in the herd. He was replaced at the head of the herd by New Year's Promise, by Knowefield, out of Butterfly Princess. For cows and heifers the highest price paid was 50gs. for Duchess Deans, a six-year-old cow, the purchaser being Mr. Tait, for the Queen. The highest price paid for a bull was 35½gs.

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Cherry Lass, red and little white, c Mar., 1896, s Lord Brougham 57629 ..... H.M. the Queen 30
Lady Lancaster 7th, red and little white, c Dec., 1890, s Chesterfield 57443 ..... Mr. Brown 20
Bonny Princess, red and little white, c April, 1891, s Royal Sultan 45848 ..... Mr. Lambert 20
Mertoun Red Rose, red and little white, c Sept., 1891, s Windsor Royal 56941 ..... Mr. G. J. Bell 22
Border Lass, red and white, c Nov., 1891, s Alderscough 60252 ..... Mr. Brown 20
Knowefield Butterfly Princess, light roan, c March, 1892, s Patriarch 58887 ..... Mr. Parkin-Moore 30
Gretna, red, July, 1892, s Royal Winds 59882 ..... Colonel Green Thompson 40

Farewell Rose, roan, c May, 1893, s Aldercough 60252 Gs. Sir John Gilmour 24
Red Princess, red and little white, c Dec., 1893, s Bertie 65146 ..... Mr. Lambert 21
Benson 51st, red and white, c Jan., 1894, s Bendigo 62181 ..... Mr. Shepherd 21
Baroness Dacre 17th, red, c April, 1894, s Knowefield 62828 ..... Mr. Handley 26
Blackford Precious, roan, c May, 1894, s Knowefield 62828 ..... Mr. Grandage 27
Duchess Deans, red, c Oct., 1894, s Duke of Cumberland 65370 ..... H.M. the Queen 50
Baron's Rose, red, c Oct., 1894, s Baron Bolton 20th 65103 ..... Mr. Harris 37
Bright Morning, roan, c April, 1895, s Knowefield 62828 Mr. Toppin 26
Lemon, light roan, c April, 1895, s Knowefield 62828 Mr. Grandage 25
Honey Queen, roan, c June, 1895, s Knowefield 62828 Sir John Gilmour 35
Bright Morning 2nd, roan, c Feb., 1896, s Knowefield 62828 ..... Mr. Waters 21
Lady Mary 18th, red roan, c April, 1896, s New Year's Hope 73134 ..... Mr. G. J. Bell 20
Winsome Wild Eyes 9th, roan, c April, 1896, s New Year's Hope 73134 ..... Mr. Townley Parker 26
Honeydew, roan, c May, 1896, s Knowefield 62828 Mr. Jos. Harris 20
Rose Blossom, roan, c June, 1896, s Knowefield 62828 Colonel Green Thompson 40
Knowefield Darling, red and white, c Sept., 1896, s Knowefield 62828 ..... Mr. Christie 22
Duchess Sarah, light roan, c Jan., 1897, s Knowefield 62828 ..... Mr. Toppin 28
Baroness, roan, c Jan., 1897, s Knowefield 62828 Mr. Vickers 23
Welcome Rose, roan, c March, 1897, s Knowefield 62828 Mr. Clarke 23
Lady Honesty 2nd, roan, c April, 1897, s New Year's Hope 73134 ..... Mr. Grandage 22
Beautiful Rose, roan, c May, 1897, s Oxford Duke of Calthwaite 30th 69211 ..... Mr. Leyland Naylor 30

Transactions in Store Stock.

[From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.]

The fair at Templemore, co. Tipperary, on the 3rd September was a small one. Brisk demand; nearly all the cattle exposed sold. Yearlings, first class, £8 15s. to £10; second class, £7 5s. to £8 15s.; third class, £6 12s. 6d. to £7. Two-year-olds, first class, £12 to £13; second class, £10 to £11. Springers, first class, £18 10s. to £21 5s.; second class, £12 10s.; third class, £10 10s. Good demand for sheep. Lambs, first class, £1 7s. to £1 8s.; second class, £1 3s. to £1 6s. Hoggets, first class, £2 to £2 2s.; second class, £1 16s. to £1 18s. Two year-olds and over, second class, £1 18s.

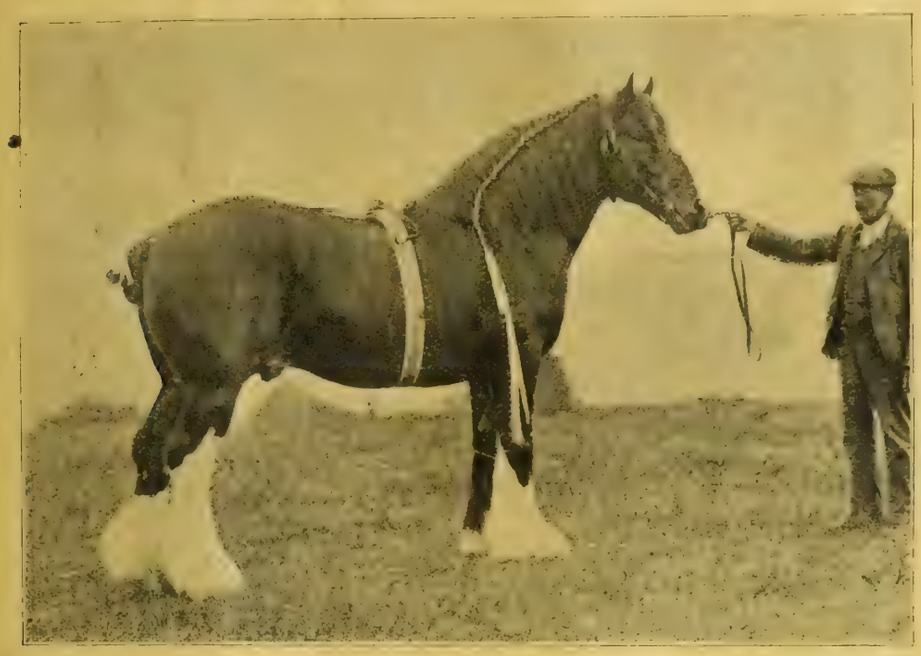
At Newry Fair, co. Down, held on 3rd September, the demand was good. Calves, second class, £3 13s. 9d. to £4 10s. Yearlings, first class, £8 15s.; second class, £6 to £7 2s. 6d.; third class, £3 16s. 3d. to £5. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 5s. to £12 2s. 6d.; second class, £8 3s. 9d. to £9 10s.; third class, £5 16s. 3d. to £7. Springers, first class, £16 to £20; second class, £13 to £14 12s. 6d.; third class, £8 15s. to £10 5s.

The fair at Galway was held on the 4th September, being smaller than usual, composed to a great extent of second and third class cattle of a rough description; demand brisk for well-conditioned cattle, but others rather difficult to sell. Calves, second class, £3 7s. 6d. to £4; third class, £1 17s. 6d. to £2 15s. Yearlings, second class, £5 10s. to £7; third class, £3 15s. to £4 5s. Two year-olds, first class, £10 10s. to £11 10s.; second class, £7 15s. to £9; third class, £5 2s. 6d. to £7. Three-year-olds, first class, £13 10s. to £14; second class, £10 10s. to £11 15s.; third class, £7 7s. 6d. to £9 5s. Springers, second class, £10 7s. 6d. to £12 10s.; third class, £8 10s. to £9 15s.

At Ennis Fair, co. Clare, held on September 3rd, there was a small supply of cattle, composed chiefly of three-year-olds, for which there was smart demand. Springers scarce and selling well. Yearlings, first class, £8 to £8 15s.; second class, £6 5s. to £7 15s.; third class, £5 to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 to £12 15s.; second class, £8 15s. to £10 15s.; third class, £6 15s. to £7 10s. Three-year-olds, first class, £15 to £16 15s.; second class, £11 10s. to £14 10s.; third class, £9 to £10 10s. Springers, first class, £15 to £18; second class, £11 10s. to £14 10s.; third class, £8 to £9 10s. Large supply of sheep, moderate demand. Lambs first class, £1 5s. to £1 7s.; second class, £1 1s. to £1 4s. Hoggets, first class, £2 to £2 5s.; second class, £1 17s. to £1 19s. Two years old and over, first class, £2; second class, £1 9s. to £1 16s.

At Londonderry Fair, held on the 4th inst., all classes of cattle sold well. Calves, first class, £4 12s. 6d. to £5; second class, £2 11s. 3d. to £3 4s. 2d. Yearlings, first class, £8 to £9 10s.; second class, £5 10s. to £7 7s. 6d.; third class, £3 to £4 5s. Two-year-olds, first class, £12; second class, £8 to £9 10s.; third class, £5 10s. to £7. Three-year-olds, third class, £7 12s. 6d. Springers, first class, £16 10s. to £19 2s. 6d.; second class, £11 7s. 6d. to £14 7s. 6d.; third class, £7 12s. 6d. to £9 7s. 6d. Very small supply of sheep, demand slow. Lambs: First class, £1 5s. to £1 8s.; second class, £1 1s. to £1 3s.; third class, 12s. to 15s. Hoggets, first class, £2 to £2 3s.; second class, £1 10s. to £1 16s. 6d.; third class, 17s. 6d. to £1.

Ballinasloe Fair, co. Galway, was held on the 5th inst. It was a large one, and composed almost exclusively of first and second class ewes suitable for breeding purposes, for which there was brisk demand, and a complete clearance effected. Lambs, second class, £1 1s. to £1 5s.; third class, 14s. to 18s. 6d. Hoggets, second class, £1 11s. 6d. to £1 14s. Two years old and over, first class, £1 19s. to £2 3s. 6d.; second class, £1 12s. to £1 18s.; third class £1 6s. to £1 10s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 17s. to 22s. 6d. each.



Mr. A. Ransom's Champion Shire Stallion, "Hitchin Ringleader."

Her bull calf, c July, 1900, s Lord George 72876 Mr. Leyland Naylor 17
Winsome Wild Eyes 10th, roan, c May, 1897, s New Year's Hope 73134 ..... Mr. G. J. Bell 25
Knowefield Brilliant, white, c May, 1897, s Bretherdale Butterfly 66727 ..... Mr. J. W. Barnes 20
Rosebud, roan, c May, 1897, s Bretherdale Butterfly 66727 Mr. Townley-Parker 40
Knowefield Princess, red, c Jan., 1898, s Bretherdale Butterfly 66727 ..... Mr. Clarke 26
Primrose Day, roan, c Feb., 1898, s Cherry King 72205 Mr. Grandage 31
Lady Dacre, red and little white, c Feb., 1898, s Cherry King 72205 ..... Mr. Townley-Parker 23
Cardigan Princess, roan, c March, 1898, s Cherry King 72205 ..... Mr. Hewitson 22
Ripe Cherry, red, c March, 1898, s New Year's Promise 73137 ..... Mr. Howard Taylor 20
Winsome Wild Eyes 11th, roan, c April, 1898, s Brilliant Butterfly 72109 ..... Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P. 38
Lady Mary 19th, roan, c April, 1898, s Brilliant Butterfly 72109 ..... Mr. Grandage 33
Lady Lancaster 9th, red, c Feb., 1899, s New Year's Hope 73134 ..... H.R.H. The Prince of Wales 22
Lady Benson, roan, c April, 1899, s New Year's Promise 73137 ..... Mr. Hudson 25
Cherry Blossom, roan, c April, 1899, s New Year's Promise 73137 ..... Mr. Howard Taylor 21
Butterfly Princess 6th, light roan, c May, 1899, s Cherry King 72205 ..... Mr. Townley-Parker 25

BULLS.

New Year's Promise 73137, white, c March, 1896, s Knowefield 62828 ..... Withdrawn at 50
Red Butterfly, red, c July, 1897, s Village Chief 68046 Mr. Barnes 31
Knowefield Prince, roan, c Jan., 1899, s New Year's Promise 73137 ..... Mr. Jas. Robinson 20
Baron of Dacre, roan, c Feb., 1899, s New Year's Promise 73137 ..... Earl of Derby 33
Mertum Prince, roan, c March, 1899, s New Year's Promise 73137 ..... Mr. Battye-Wrighton 40
Morning Star, red and little white, c May, 1899, s Cherry King 72205 ..... Major Scobie 21
Burnside Rover, roan, c August, 1899, s Norse King 68186 Mr. Fisher 26
Baron Deans, roan, c Jan., 1900, s New Year's Promise 73137 ..... Mr. Jas. Barnes 23

HORSES.

Stock Breeding in Ireland.

The very important question of the improvement of the breeding of horses and other live stock, to for some months engaged the serious attention of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction. The department are now appointing special committees to assist it in preparing schemes applicable to the various districts of the country in accordance with which the aid of the department may be systematically administered. The preliminary meetings of these committees were held on Friday, 31st ult., at the offices of the department.

The following are the names of the members of the committees:—

Special Committee on Horse Breeding.—The Vice-President, the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary in Respect of Agriculture, ex-officio; P. La Touche, Esq., F. S. Wrench, Esq., P. J. O'Neill, Esq., J.P., T. M. Carew, Esq., Hugh P. Ryan, Esq., Edward M. Archdale, Esq., M.P., A. R. Bourne, Esq., Major Balfe, D.L., Nicholas B. King, Esq., Peter Fitzgerald, Esq., T. Pallin, Esq., V.S., Joseph R. O'Reilly, D.L., and Lord Rathdonnell and Captain Cecil Fetherstonhaugh, D.L., nominated by the Royal Dublin Society.

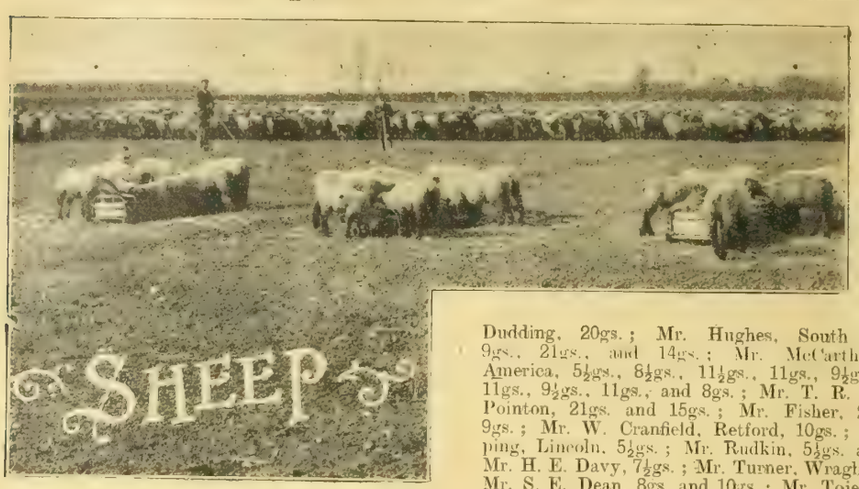
Live Stock Exclusive of Horses Committee.—The Vice-President, the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary in respect of Agriculture, ex-officio; Colonel N. T. Everard, D.L., James Byrne, Esq., J.P., Wm. Field, Esq., M.P., Toler R. Garvey, J.P., Richard Barter, Esq., J.P., A. W. Shaw, Esq., M. J. Cleary, Esq., M.R.C.V.S., C. U. Townshend, Esq., J.P. (nominated by Royal Dublin Society), Captain Lewis Riall, D.L. (nominated by Royal Dublin Society), C. M. Doyne, Esq., D.L., F. Shaw Taylor, Esq.

Woodbridge Annual Horse Show.

In presenting their annual report and balance-sheet for 1900, the committee of this show state that they are glad to be able to report a highly successful show, and at the same time a slight increase in the amount of their balance in hand. Taking into account the unusual claim on the generosity of the public in connection with the war in South Africa, and also the extra call for support arising from the visit of the Suffolk Agricultural Society to Woodbridge, the committee have pleasure in reporting that as regards the number of entries and quality of exhibits the spring show of 1900 compares most favourably with previous years. The receipts at the gate however were less than last year, owing no doubt to the fact that Bank Holiday falling late in the season the show could not be held on that day without ignoring to a great extent the breeders' interests. The committee desire to thank all those to whose generous support the success of the show is mainly due, and confidently anticipate their continued co-operation with a yet more favourable result in the future. They also appreciate the ability and energy of their secretary, Mr. G. Shipman, in making a success under the difficult circumstances above referred to.

G'asgow Horse Market.

The first of the September horse markets was held in the Cattle Market on Wednesday. The weather was favourable—so favourable that there was a felt absence of farmers, who were engaged at the harvest. The supply of horses was a moderate one, both for numbers and quality. There was a distinct absence of big horses, though a few very good ones were on sale. Generally the strings were made up of medium but useful kinds. For draught horses business was in no way brisk, but a few were reported as selling, and the trade was largely with contractors, and one or two dealers from a distance at—say—prices £40 to £60 in value. Harness horses had an indifferent demand. The lateness of the season and the indifferent weather are having their effect on coaching circles. Prices had a very restricted range. The best class of draught horses made prices to £85, and harness horses to 40gs. Mr. Crawford, of Kilmarnock, reported having sold draught horses to £85, and a few selling, at an average trade: Mr. Daniel Riddell, of Blackhall, Paisley, sold cart horses to £80, and down to £30, and business quiet; Mr. Murray, Glasgow, sold draught horses up to £65—little doing in harness. Rates went similar among smaller holders. A large margin of stock was left unsold.



Lincoln Long-wool Sheep Breeders' Sale.

On Friday the eleventh annual ram sale of the Lincoln Long-wool Sheep Breeders' Association was held at Lincoln, when about 350 rams were offered. The sheep were put up at 5gs. each, and on the whole the sale was a good one. No sensational prices were made, but the averages were fair, and the sales more even than is sometimes the case. The total sum realised was over £2,617.

Mr. H. Smith, jun., Cropwell Butler, Notts (auctioneers, Messrs. T. B. Richardson and Son):—Mr. A. Hughes, Buenos Ayres, 15gs. and 10gs.; Major-General Wilson, Rauceby Hall, 6gs.; Mr. Gooseman, Bradley, 10gs. and 5½gs.; Mr. H. Dudding, Riby Grove, 15gs.; Mr. Langford, 6gs.; Mr. T. R. Casswell, Pointon, 6gs.; Mr. Parker, Ingleby, 5½gs.; Mr. A. H. Hanker, Holland, 3½gs. Aggregate, 87½gs.; average, £9 3s. 9½d.

Mr. J. Pears, J.P., The Mere, Lincoln (auctioneer, Mr. W. A. Richardson):—Mr. Tojeiro, South America, 6gs., 6gs., and 5½gs.; Mr. H. Dudding, Riby Grove, 40gs.; Mr. W. Bayles, Welton, 25gs.; Mr. Hanker, Holland, 15gs.; Mr. Hesseltine, Killington, Malton, 17gs. and 11gs.; Mr. C. Featherstone, 12gs., 5½gs., and 5½gs.; Mr. W. Sergeant, Ranby, 5½gs. and 7½gs.; Mr. Giles, Peterborough, 7gs.; Mr. Davies, Tathwell, 9gs.; Mr. Bygott, Ulceby, 11gs.; Messrs. Tomlinson and Hayward, 5½gs.; Mr. E. G. Allen, Louth, 6½gs. Aggregate, 200½gs.; average, £11 13s. 11½d.

Mr. G. T. Melbourn, Nocton Heath (auctioneer, Mr. J. E. Walter):—Mr. Bishop, Berks (Hungerford), 6gs. and 6gs.; Mr. Brooke, Revesby, 6½gs.; Mr. Hughes, South America, 6½gs.; Mr. Rowland, Fishtoft, 6½gs.; Mr. Harrison, Barlings, 6gs.; Mr. McCarthy, 6½gs., 9½gs., 6gs., 6gs., and 6gs.; Mr. Atkinson, Kirkstead, 5½gs.; Mr. Johnson, 5½gs.; Mr. J. T. Needham, Huttoft, 11gs. and 11gs. Aggregate, 104½gs.; average, £7 6s. 4d.

Messrs. R. and W. Wright, Nocton Heath and Scamblesby (auctioneers, Messrs. T. B. Richardson and Son):—Mr. Tojeiro, South America, 8gs., 12gs., 10gs., 8gs., 10gs., 6gs., and 7½gs.; Mr. H. Dudding, Riby Grove, 14gs. and 40gs.; Mr. J. Lett, Killington, Yorks, 35gs.; Mr. Watson, Temple Bruer, 10gs.; Tomlinson and Hayward, 13gs.; Mr. J. Evens, Burton, 25gs.; Mr. Byron, Normanby-le-Wold, 18gs.; Mr. Vergette, Market Deeping, 13gs.; Mr. Smart, Ropsley, Grantham, 5½gs.; Mr. Lambe, Aubourn, 9gs. and 8gs.; Mr. Davey, Tathwell, 8gs.; Mr. W. Scorer, Sudbrooke, 7gs.; Mr. Wm. Casswell, 8gs.; Mr. Money, Silk, Willoughby, 10gs.; Mr. Woodiwiss, Cuffield, Derby, 12gs.; Mr. Sergeant, Edlington, 10gs.; Mr. Jones, 7½gs. Aggregate, 314½gs.; average, £13 4s. 2d.

Mr. Tom Casswell, Pointon (auctioneers, Messrs. Saul):—Mr. McLaurin, Buenos Ayres, 25gs. and 28gs.; Mr. Rowland, Fishtoft, 10gs. and 10gs.; Mr. H. Dudding, 12gs., 12gs., 10gs., 18gs., and 19gs.; Mr. G. Mowbray, Fishtoft, 11½gs.; Mr. Jackson, Bridlington, 21gs.; Mr. Henderson, 10gs.; Mr. H. Robinson, Worlaby, 5½gs.; Mr. J. Tomlinson, Burthorpe, 21gs.; Mr. R. O. Williams, Wragby, 11gs.; Mr. Gooseman, Grimley Field, 9½gs., 6½gs., and 7gs.; Mr. W. Wood, Harby, 8gs.; Mr. Kirkham, Biscathorpe, 14gs. Aggregate, 269gs.; average, £14 2s. 6d.

Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall (auctioneers, Messrs. Saul):—Mr. Taylor Sharpe, Boumber, 50gs.; Tomlinson and Hayward, Lincoln, 12gs., 13gs., and 16gs.; Mr. Cross, 12gs.; Col. Thorpe, Coddington Hall, Newark, 30gs.; Mr. Sutton, Ashby-de-la-Launde, 10gs.; Mr. Wordsall, 7gs.; Mr. Webster, Manton, Worksop, 9½gs. and 8gs.; Mr. Tojeiro, 18gs. and 11gs.; Mr. H. Dudding, 30gs. and 16gs.; Mr. Wm. Casswell, North Ormsby, 11gs.; Mr. Williams, Wragby, 10gs. and 8½gs.; Mr. Gray, Malton, 7gs.; Mr. W. S. Fox, Potterhanworth, 7gs.; Mr. Turner, Wittering, Stamford, 11gs. Aggregate, 297gs.; average, £15 11s. 10d.

Mr. Taylor-Sharpe, J.P., Boumber Park (auctioneers, Messrs. Dickinson and Riggall): Mr. H. Dudding, 20gs.; Mr. Hughes, South America, 9gs., 21gs., and 14gs.; Mr. McCarthy, South America, 5½gs., 8½gs., 11½gs., 11gs., 9½gs., 10gs., 11gs., 9½gs., 11gs., and 8gs.; Mr. T. R. Casswell, Pointon, 21gs. and 15gs.; Mr. Fisher, 25gs. and 9gs.; Mr. W. Cranfield, Retford, 10gs.; Mr. Copping, Lincoln, 5½gs.; Mr. Rudkin, 5½gs. and 7gs.; Mr. H. E. Davy, 7½gs.; Mr. Turner, Wragby, 12gs.; Mr. S. E. Dean, 8gs. and 10gs.; Mr. Tojeiro, 8gs.; Mr. H. Wilson, Carkwell, Lancs., 9gs.; Mr. Ground, Horncastle, 8gs. Aggregate, 320gs.; average, £11 1s. 8d.

Mr. J. E. Casswell, Laughton (auctioneers, Messrs. Saul):—Mr. F. Ward, Quarrington, 30gs.; Mr. H. Dudding, 26gs. and 14gs.; Mr. J. Laverack, 11gs.; Mr. T. Thurlby, Cranwell Lodge, Sleaford, 21gs. and 12gs.; Mr. Abraham, 23gs.; Mr. Croft, Barrowby, 10gs.; Mr. Strickland, Yorks, 12gs.; Mr. R. Bell, Aubourn, 11gs.; Mr. Wood, Wootton Dale, Welby, 11½gs.; Mr. Jonas Webb, 8gs.; Mr. Barrett, Muskham, Newark, 11gs. Aggregate, 200½gs.; average, £16 3s. 11d.

Mr. C. Clarke, Scopwick (auctioneers, Messrs. Hincks and Co.):—Mr. R. Bell, Aubourn, 6½gs.; Mr. Dixon, Ashby-de-la-Launde, 8½gs.; Mr. J. E. Casswell, 7gs.; Mr. Needham, Huttoft, 12gs.; Mr. Hughes, South America, 11½gs. and 5½gs.; Mr. Chambers, Blankney Fen, 5½gs.; Mr. Peck, Ollerton, 7gs.; Mr. McCarthy, South America, 6gs.; Mr. Jennings, Laceby, 7½gs.; Mr. Bullivant, Cammeringham, 11½gs.; Mr. Copping, Timberland, 7gs.; Mr. Brothwell, Bourne, 7½gs.; Mr. Williams, 8½gs.; Mr. Overton, Blankney, 5½gs. Aggregate, 119gs.; average, £8 6s. 7d.

Mr. W. C. Tong, Kirton Lindsey (auctioneers, Messrs. Calthrop and Briggs):—Mr. Tojeiro, 7½gs. and 5½gs.; Mr. Hughes, 21gs.; Mr. Heath, 7gs. Aggregate, 47½gs.

Mr. J. Evens, Burton, Lincoln (auctioneers, Messrs. T. B. Richardson and Son):—Mr. Webster, Timberland, 5½gs.; Tomlinson and Hayward, Lincoln, 7½gs. and 5½gs.; Mr. Cade, Welton, 6gs. and 8gs.; Mr. C. F. Paddison, 5½gs., 5½gs., and 5½gs.; Mr. Baker, 6gs.; Mr. J. Burtt, 6gs.; Mr. McCarthy, 7gs., 5½6gs., 6½gs.; Mr. Newball, Nottingham 6gs. Aggregate, 98gs.; average, £6 8s. 7d.

Mr. J. Cartwright, Dunston Pillar (auctioneer, Mr. J. E. Walter):—Mr. McLaurin, 36gs., 44gs., and 18gs.; Mr. J. Redmore, Hemingsby, 14gs.; Mr. Atkinson, Thimbleby, 10gs.; Mr. McCarthy, 10½gs. and 16gs.; Mr. Wright, Nocton, 18gs.; Mr. Wilson, 15gs.; Mr. J. E. Davy, Tathwell, 8½gs.; Mr. Hurdman, Mareham-on-the-Hill, 7½gs.; Mr. Burchnall, Branston, 12gs. and 16gs.; Mr. Fox, Potterhanworth, 20gs.; Mr. Garratt, 11gs. Aggregate, 256½gs.; average £17 19s. 2d.

Mr. Edward J. Howard, Nocton (auctioneer Mr. W. A. Richardson):—Mr. W. Scorer, Sudbrooke, 6½gs. and 6gs.; Mr. Wood, 16gs.; Mr. Abraham, 7½gs. and 8gs.; Mr. Overton, 9gs.; Mr. Roberts, Nocton, 17gs.; Mr. Quibell, Stapleford, 19gs.; Mr. McCarthy, 10gs. and 10½gs.; Mr. Byron, 9gs. Aggregate, 125gs.; average, £10 18s. 9d.

Messrs. Casswell Brothers, Skegby, Newark (auctioneers, Messrs. Saul):—Mr. Price, 11gs.; Mr. Gaunt, Edlington, 10gs.; Mr. J. Brocklebank, 9gs.; Mr. McCarthy, 12gs. and 13gs.; Mr. Tojeiro, 16gs.; Mr. Smarthwaite, Sutton, Retford, 10½gs.; Mr. Dore, Bonby, 6gs.; Mr. C. Marfleet, Boothby, 6½gs.; Mr. Smith, Deeping, 7½gs. Aggregate, 101½gs.; average, £10 13s. 2d.

Messrs. J. T. and A. W. Needham, Huttoft (auctioneers, Messrs. Dickinson and Riggall):—Mr. Lill, Sutton, 5½gs. and 8½gs.

Messrs. O. and W. B. Quibell, Stapleford (auctioneers, Messrs. T. B. Richardson and Son:—Two to Mr. Tojeiro at 5½gs. each.

Mr. W. H. Robinson, Spilsby (auctioneers, Messrs. Dickinson and Riggall):—Mr. Gibson, Bassingthorpe, 5½gs.; Mr. McCarthy, 5½gs.; Mr. Taylor Sharpe, 14gs.; Mr. J. Evens, Burton, 6½gs.; Mr. Herring, Redbourn, 5½gs. Aggregate, 37gs.; average, £7 15s. 5d.

Mr. E. W. Howard, Coleby Lodge (auctioneer, Mr. J. E. Walter):—Mr. Cartwright, Dunston, 5½gs.; Mr. Pepper, 13gs.; Mr. Barnes, 6gs. and 6½gs.; Mr. Ward, Quarrington, 6gs., 6gs., 6½gs., and 6gs.; Mr. McCarthy, 6gs. Aggregate, 61gs.; average, £7 2s. 4d.

Messrs. W. and W. H. Watson, Temple Bruer (auctioneers, Messrs. T. B. Richardson and Son):—Mr. W. B. Burtt, 5½gs.; Mr. Clarke, Boothby, 5½gs. and 5½gs.; Mr. C. Marfleet, 5½gs.; Mr Overton, 5½gs.; Mr. McCarthy, 5½gs. and 6½gs.; Mr. Ward, 9gs. Aggregate, 49½gs.; average, £6 9s. 11d.

Mr. C. S. Dickinson, Branston, Lincoln (auctioneer, Mr. J. E. Walter):—Mr. Wilkinson, Scotton Grange, 5½gs.; Mr. Copping, Timberland, 6gs., 6gs., and 5½gs.; Mr. Cranfield, Retford, 6gs.; Mr. Crowson, Nottingham, 5½gs. and 5½gs.; Mr. H. Atkinson, 5½gs.; Mr. Beard, Worksop, 6gs.; Mr. Dunham, High Toynton, 6gs.; Mr. J. J. Herring, Redbourne, 5½gs.; Mr. Gaunt, Wispington, 6gs. Agregate, 69gs.; average, £4 16s. 7d.

Mr. T. Brown, Harworth Grange, Tickhill, Rotherham (auctioneer, Mr. W. Richardson):—Mr. Dore, Bonby, 5½gs. and 9½gs.; Mr. R. Wright, Nocton, 6½gs. and 5½gs.; Mr. J. E. Davy, Tathwell, 7gs. and 10gs.; Mr. Wilson, 5½gs.; Mr. Burroughs, Metheringham, 5½gs. Aggregate, 55½gs.; average, £8 6s. 6d.

Sir J. Thorold, Bart., Syston Park, Grantham (auctioneers, Messrs. Hincks and Co.):—Mr. Lynn, Grantham, 9gs.; Mr. McCarthy, 6gs., 11gs., and 7½gs.; Mr. Wright, Nocton, 5½gs.; Mr. Heath, Thornton, 8gs.; Mr. Sandare, Scampton, 13½gs.; Mr. J. Tomlinson, 13gs. and 10½gs. Aggregate, 84gs.; average, £8 16s. 4d.

Mr. Henry Goodyear, The Austerby, Bourne (auctioneers, Messrs. Saul):—Mr. Taylor Sharpe, 7gs.; Mr. Dods, 6gs.; Messrs. Clarke and Son, 40gs.; Mr. J. E. Casswell, 7gs.; Mr. Scholey, Metheringham, 8½gs; Mr. Cheffings, 11gs., 12gs., 8gs., and 10gs.; Mr. J. A. Riggall, 6gs.; Mr. Robinson, Worlaby, 7½gs. Aggregate, 129gs.; average, £11 5s. 9d.

Suffolk Sheep Sale at Ipswich.

On Friday Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons, in conjunction with Mr. Ernest Prentice, secretary of the Suffolk Sheep Society, held their second special sale of pedigree Suffolk sheep for this season at Gippeswyk Park, Ipswich. The importance of the sale attracted a large number, not only from various parts of the Eastern Counties, but also from more distant parts of the country. The catalogue contained some 1,500 Suffolk ewes and ewe lambs, and over 300 rams, and the prices realised were on the whole satisfactory.

The first lots were from Mr. W. T. S. Peck, Brockford, who sent fifty shearling ewes and rams, bred by Mrs. Lowe, Mr. J. W. Eagle, and Mr. S. R. Sherwood. One lot of ten made 75s., the next twenty 73s., and a third 61s. Forty shearling ewes belonging to Mr. Harry Long, Ringshall, made 62s. and 55s. in two lots; and the same number, belonging to Messrs. F. J. and C. Haward, Thorndon, made 63s. and 61s.

The Roydon Hall registered flock, the property of Mr. A. H. Cobbald, were next offered. There were about 200 shearling ewes, bred by Mr. G. Arthur Paley, Mr. J. D. Cobbald, and Mr. J. J. Scott. Mr. J. C. Dawson secured the first lot of ten at 76s., and the next three twenties fetched 66s., 63s., 59s., and 62s. respectively. The others made from 61s. to 56s.

Then came 270 shearling, two-shear, and three-shear ewes, the property of Mr. Arthur H. Cobbald, Eldo House, Bury, and Rise Hall, Akenham. Mr. Woodiwiss took the first two lots of twenty shearling ewes at 65s. and 57s.; Mr. T. Haward, Mr. Warnes, and Mr. Barker three lots at 55s. 50s., and 53s.; and two others made 50s. each. The two-shear fetched 44s. and 45s., and the three-shear 51s.

The Sladburies Farm flock was next offered. The first three lots of ten shearling ewes fetched 90s. each to Mr. H. Munson, who also bought another at 80s. The two next went to Mr. P. Hay (for Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P.), at 75s. and 71s. Mr. Munson secured the first three lots of ten two-shear ewes at 90s., 80s., and 77s., and the same gentleman took all the three-shear ewes, the first two tens at 120s. and 105s., and the rest at 80s. and 70s. The full-mouthed ewes made from 80s. to 60s., to Mr. Munson, while Mr. J. B. Dimmock bought one lot at 53s. Ten choice ewe lambs went to Mr. S. Traylen, at 135s. Mr. Percy Heaton bought another lot at 92s. 6d., and Mr. Harvey one at 85s.

There was a good demand for ewe lambs. Forty sent by Mr. E. J. Cheney, Brockford Hall, made 35s. and 32s. 6d., in two lots, and a score sent by Mr. Harry Long, Ringshall, went to Mr. Percy Noble at 40s.; 120 consigned by Mr. Thomas Keeble, Bentley Hall, sold well, the first three lots of twenty making 57s., 50s., and 47s.; and two others 52s. and 45s. 6d., the buyers including Mr. Wentworth Reeve, Mr. Munson, and Mr. A. Fenning. One hundred consigned by Mr. William Long fetched 39s., 34s. 6d., 32s. 6d., and 27s.

Mr. J. W. Eagle, Walton-on-the-Naze, sent a score rams, one by Walton Gunner II. making 9gs., another 5gs., and several others made 4½gs. and 4gs. Three by Baronet IV. were knocked down at 5gs. each. Mr. Clarke bought one of Mr. Henry Lingwood's rams at 9½gs., and Mr. A. Mumford another at 5½gs. Eleven belonging to Mr. S. R. Sherwood, Playford, made a good average. Mr. R. Sherwood taking one at 15gs., Mr. Grenville one at 13gs., Mr. P. Hay (for Sir Cuthbert Quilter) one at 10gs. and another at 9½gs. The rest made about 4½gs. Mr. D. Abbott Green, Finringhoe, however, made the highest price of the day, viz., 19gs.; two others sold at 9gs. each, another at 5gs. In Mr. Thomas Keeble's second consignment was one which fetched 13gs., to Mr. R. L. Everett, and another 11gs. to Mr. A. Hayward, while Mr.

Nunn gave 7½gs. for a third. Mr. Clement C. Smith sent half-a-dozen, one going to Mr. R. L. Everett at 10gs. Mr. P. Hicks gave 12gs. for one belonging to Mr. Holmes White. The other consignors of rams included:—Mr. Herbert E. Smith, Mr. W. H. Borrett, Mr. Thomas Goodchild, Mr. A. H. Mumford, Mr. Percy A. Noble, Sir Hugh Edward Adair, Mr. Samuel Scott, and Mr. C. F. Marriner. Several made 7gs., others 5gs., and a good many 4gs. Two shearling rams, belonging to Mr. Alfred Smith, fetched 9gs. and 7½gs. respectively, to Mr. A. Pratt; one other sold at 5½gs., and two more at 5gs., and two at 4gs. and 4½gs.

Sale of the Kirmington Lincoln.

The seventh annual sale of these pure-bred Lincoln rams, the property of Mr. George Marris, Kirmington House, was offered for sale by Messrs. Briggs and Calthorpe, and Messrs. Dickenson and Riggall on Thursday. These rams have made a distinct advance in favour during the last few years, and the average of Thursday was £11 14s., an advance of £2 9s. upon the previous year. Fifty rams were submitted, only six of which remained unsold. Mr. Hughes, of South America, was the principal purchaser, he giving 36gs. and 30gs. for two sheep, the sire of which is Laughton Anchor. Mr. Coates, of Searby, gave 26gs. for a sheep by one of Mr. Dudding's rams, Riby Martin.

Sale of Shropshire Sheep at Bingley Hall.

The autumnal sale of Shropshire sheep was conducted on Thursday in Bingley Hall, Birmingham, by Messrs. Lythall and Walters. There was a good company present, and a brisk trade. Mr. A. Bradburne's rams sold up to 10gs.; Mr. E. Nock's 26gs., 19gs., 13gs., 10gs., 10gs., 10gs.; Mr. A. S. Bury's up to 10gs.; Mr. M. Williams's 15gs., 10gs., 10gs., 10gs.; Mr. H. Williams's 17gs., 12gs., 11gs., 11gs., 11gs., 10gs.; Mr. T. F. Cheatle's up to 10gs.; Mr. H. C. G. Parker's up to 12gs.; Mr. C. H. Jolliffe's up to 10gs.; Mr. Gibson's up to 15gs.; Mr. P. L. Mill's 12gs., 11gs.; Earl of Strathmore's up to 10gs.; Mr. P. A. Clive's up to 9gs.; Mr. G. Gerrard's up to 10gs.; Earl of Dartmouth's ewes up to 54s. each; Mr. A. S. Bury's 80s., 66s., 61s.; Mr. M. Williams's 61s., 60s., etc.; Mr. Instone's up to 60s.; Mr. T. F. Cheatle's up to 70s. Principal buyers were the Marquis of Zetland, the Earl of Macclesfield, the Earl of Warwick, Sir H. Wiggin, Bart., Lieutenant-Colonel Innes, Colonel Leach, Messrs. Ramsden, T. H. G. Newton, P. L. Mills, Royston, R. O. Williams, F. J. Sumner, W. Darlington, H. S. O'Brien, etc. Ten rams were sold for exportation to South America.

Mr. J. E. Farmer's Shropshires.

On Tuesday Mr. J. E. Farmer's (Felton) annual sale of Shropshire sheep and store cattle was conducted by Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., when the following prices were realised:—

Shearling Rams.—The Rev. and Hon. Bridgman 20gs., Mr. O'Brien 13gs., Mr. T. Cooper 7gs., Mr. Cordon 18s., Mr. T. Cooper 6gs., Mr. H. Horton 6gs., Lord Coventry 12gs., Mr. J. Downes 7gs., Mr. Rogers (The Leys), 6½gs., Mr. J. Rawlings 8gs., Mr. T. S. Minton 7gs., Mr. T. Cooper 5½gs., Mr. W. Ainsworth 7gs., Mr. W. L. Danford 5½gs., Mr. Russell 8gs., Mr. Ainsworth 8gs., Mr. Jones (Chander Castle) 8½gs., Mr. F. R. Hill 9gs., Mr. Russell 8gs., Mr. T. Cooper 5½gs., Mr. W. L. Danford 5½gs.

Shearling Ewes.—Four shearling ewes, Mr. Green £5 15s. each, five ditto Mr. Evans £5, Mr. Russell £3 7s. 6d. and £2 10s., Mr. Coxon £2 15s. and £2 12s. 6d., Mr. Evans £3 5s., Mr. Pooler £2 7s. 6d., Mr. Baxter £2 5s., Mr. R. R. Twiddy £2 9s., Mr. T. McMicking £2 5s., £2 9s., Mr. Pooler £2 10s. 6d., Mr. H. Lloyd £2 10s.

Sale of the Dunsmore Shropshires.

The annual sale of Shropshire rams and ewes, the property of Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., was held at Dunsmore, Rugby, on August 31st, Messrs. Lythall and Walters, of Birmingham, being the auctioneers. The flock has been most successful in the showyards this year, and consequently the sale was very largely attended. The biddings were very brisk, and a most satisfactory trade resulted. The Royal winning rams sold at 100gs. (Colonel Worsley-Worswick), 65gs. and 36gs. (Colonel Sandbach), 46gs. (Captain Townshend), 26gs. (G. Brown), and 16gs. (Colonel Worsley-Worswick). Other rams sold at 70gs. (M. Williams), 52gs. (P. L. Mills), 31gs. (J. Darling), 26gs. (F. J. Stanhope), 25gs. (Duke of Sutherland), 20gs. (T. Holdcroft), 15gs. (Duke of Grafton), 17gs. (J. W. Phillips), 15gs. (let to W. Thomas), 15gs. (Captain Townshend), 15gs. (J. Goodman), 12gs. (J. T. Glover), 12gs. (F. J. Sumner), 11½gs. (F. E. Muntz), 11gs. (J. W. Sanders), 11gs. (Mrs. Perry Herrick), 11gs. (Berridge), 10½gs. (T. Johnson), 10gs. (J. P. Arkwright), 10gs. (John Smith), 10gs. (J. R. Jones). Ewes sold at 120s. per head and 95s. (R. G. Huddlestone), 105s. (Dr. Wall), 77s. 6d. (J. Darling), 77s. 6d. (Captain Townshend), 72s. 6d. (Colonel Sandbach), 70s. (F. J. Stanhope), etc. The forty-three rams averaged £20 14s. 6d., and the sixty ewes £3 16s. 6d.

Leconfield Park House Ram Sales.

Sixty shearling long-wool rams (Flock Book No. 43), bred by Mr. J. R. Langdale, Leconfield Park House, were offered for sale by Mr. H. Sugdon. The company present was smaller than usual. The highest price obtained was 13½gs., given by Mr. Dale, of Buttercrambe. Mr. Heward, of Kipling Cole's, gave 8½gs.; Mr. Stubbings, of Grindale, 8gs.; and Mr. Featherstone, of Caythorpe, 7½gs. Twenty five of the sheep were returned. The remaining 35 were sold at an average price of £6 9s. each.

Scotch and Border Lambs.

A special sale of Scotch and Border district lambs was held at Annan. The stock consisted of half-bred, Suffolk cross, cross-bred, and Cheviot lambs. There was a brisk demand for lambs. Prices for cross-breds and half-breds made about the rates of the special sale a fortnight ago. Cumberland buyers were fairly well represented, and bought several lots. Compared with the prices of the corresponding sale of last year lambs were considerably higher.

Lamb Sale at Hawick.

Messrs. Andrew Oliver and Son concluded their two days' special lamb sale at Hawick by selling 9,800 Cheviot wedder lambs, 2,200 Cheviot ewe lambs, 1,300 Leicester cross lambs, and 650 black-faced lambs. Small lambs were in most request, and, compared with the corresponding sale of last year, they advanced in price from 2s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. per head. The fine lot from Nether Cassock topped the sale at 18s., while another choice lot of Deadwater made 17s. 6d. The Cheviot ewe lambs concluded the sale, and these met the dearest trade of the season so far, prices being fully 2s. up from last sale a fortnight ago.

Sale of the Quarrington Rams.

Mr. Fred Ward, of Quarrington, held his annual sale of shearling rams on his premises at Quarrington on Tuesday, when Messrs. Hincks and Turner offered by auction eighty animals. Bidding was brisk, and the sale, on the whole, was more than satisfactory. Only three out of the eighty rams were passed, and the amount realised was £807 19s. 6d., or an average of £10 19s. 10d. each. The highest price paid for one animal was 40gs., by Mr. R. Wright, of Nocton. Mr. A. W. Dean, of Dowsby Hall, paid 36gs. for a son of Riby Quarrington 70gs., a ram with a splendid countenance, and one which was good enough for any flock in the country. Another of Nocton Profit's sons was secured by Mr. R. Mowbray, of Gosberton, for 23gs. Mr. McCullough, who was purchasing for shipment to South America, secured several rams, for which he paid 104gs. The top price was 20gs. for a magnificent son of Bourne Big Neck, whilst one of Riby Quarrington 42gs. cost him 17gs., sons of Riby General and Quarrington Knight II. 15gs. each, one of the Dowsby Impressive's progeny 13gs., and two others by Nocton Profit and Bayard's Champion 12gs. each. For New Zealand Mr. Harrison purchased eight rams, and these fetched from 6 to 9gs. Major-General Willson, of Rauceby, paid 17gs. for a son of Quarrington Prince, and 10½gs. for one by Nocton Sandow. Another of Quarrington Prince's rams was sold to Mr. Gooch for 18gs., and the same gentleman purchased one by Riby Quarrington 70gs. for 9gs. A ram sired by Scopwick 98 went for 14gs., the purchaser being Mr. Gilliatt, of Spalding. Nineteen guineas was the price paid by Mr. Smith, of Navenby, for a nice compact sheep on short legs, a shearling by Quarrington Duke, and another fine descendant from Scopwick 98 made 18½gs., Mr. Barnes, of Helpringham, becoming its owner. Twelve and a-half guineas was paid by Mr. W. Barnes, of Terry Booth, for a ram by Riby 70gs., and 12gs. each by Mr. Hilton, of Wellingore, for sons of Nocton Profit and Quarrington Prince, and by Mr. E. Bailey, of Birthorpe, for one from Nocton Sandow. Two rams by Riby Quarrington 70gs. each made 11½gs. Mr. Redford, of Sempringham, and Mr. Sharpe, of Swineshead, securing them. Three very good rams were sold at 11gs. each, their purchasers being Messrs. J. E. Casswell (Laughton), Webster (Martin), and Pick (Lenton). The remainder were sold at prices ranging from 5gs. to 10gs.

Battle Fair.

Battle (Sussex) sheep and lamb fair was held on Thursday. The weather being fine, there was a very large attendance of farmers and sheep breeders. The catalogues comprised upwards of 2,600 sheep, lambs, and rams. Selling started briskly at the first and was well maintained, the whole of the lots being sold and fetching very good prices. In some instances there was keen competition for the better class lambs and sheep. Southdown wether lambs were sold from 35s. 6d. a pen of twenty from Mr. H. Comber, of Westmeston, to 24s., and ewes from 32s. to 24s. Some of the cross breds realised 31s. The highest price of the sheep was 48s. 6d. for a pen of twelve wether tegs from Sir Arundel Ashburnham's flock, and 47s. 6d. for a pen of ewe tegs from the same flock; Kent ewes were knocked down at 34s., and Southdown sheep at 45s. to 23s. There were 25 rams under the hammer, the highest price being 9gs. for a Southdown four tooth ram, bred by Mr. T. Bushby, and from Kidbrooke Farm the property of Ashburnham and ten fine Southdown ram lambs. Three of these were sold before the sale for 6gs. a piece, but the others did not bring nearly so much, the best price being £4.

Blandford Fair.

There was a very full attendance of buyers at this fair, which was held on Monday. The Corporation of Blandford again offered a prize of 5gs. for the best pen of 100 Down wether lambs. The judges were Mr. J. J. Forrester, of Bryanstone, and Mr. George E. Richards, of Wimborne. The pen sent in by Mr. Edward Lock, Bryanstone, undoubtedly proved the best on the field; it was a grand lot of lambs, but they were run very close by a very excellent pen of Mr. Edward Cave, of Shapwick. The placing of the two pens in this order of merit was confirmed by the purchasers at the auction, the winning pen making 52s. per head at Messrs. Senior and Godwin's sale, and Mr. Cave's from 50s. 6d. to 51s. 6d. at Mr. Ensor's. The number of sheep penned—a very large proportion of which were lambs—was nearly 9,000, Mr. T. Ensor having about 5,600 catalogued and Messrs. Senior and Godwin nearly 4,000. The prices obtained were from 3s. to 5s. per head in advance of those current at last year's fair.

Bury St. Edmunds Fair.

The annual Bury sheep fair was held on Tuesday. The most important part of the fair was the sale conducted by Messrs. Simpson and Sons, at which there was a good attendance of buyers. The sale commenced with the Suffolk rams, and all those from the best flocks made good prices. Several Cotswold rams realised fair prices, while Oxford Down ram lambs, of which there was a good show, made a brisk trade, from 8½gs. to 4½gs., and ewes and lambs made decidedly more money than of late. Another feature of the sale was the disposal of Mr. J. Sturley Nunn's Whelnetham flock (registered No. 212). Of the Suffolk ram lambs, eleven from Mr. E. P. Frost's (West Wratting) registered flock made from 70s. to 44s. 6d.; shearling rams from Mr. B. B. Booth's, Plashwood Park, realised about 44s. 6d. Two shearlings from Mr. R. P. Fyson, Great Barton, fetched 50s. and 45s. respectively. A two-shear Suffolk ram, from Mr. J. Scott's (Thorp registered flock, made 50s.; eight ram lambs, from the registered flock of Mr. H. E. M. Davies' Exors., Herringswell, realised prices ranging from £4, £3 10s., £3 5s., down to £2 15s., and a Suffolk ram lamb, from Col. H. McCalmont, M.P.'s Cheveley flock, fetched £3. Ten ram lambs, from Mr. C. Morbey, Soham, made from £2 17s. 6d. to £2 5s., whilst a Suffolk shearling ram, from Sir E. Walter Greene's (Nether Hall), realised £6 6s. Nine ram lambs, from Mr. R. Barclay's (Higham registered flock, ranged in prices from 55s. 6d. to 42s. 6d. A ram lamb from Mr. J. Wood's (Hengrave) flock made £4 10s., another £4, another £3 15s., and two others £3 10s. Sixteen from Mr. P. Eagle, Risby, secured purchasers at prices ranging from £6 6s. down to about £3, and just over half a score, consigned by Mr. J. T. Stockburn (Clare), sold at from £7 7s. to £3 each. Out of a lot of twelve, from Mr. H. Northend (Moulton), the highest price made was £5, and a score from Mr. R. Burrell's Westley Hall flock, went at prices ranging from £8 8s., £4 15s., £4, down to £2 15s. Of a dozen from Mr. Thomas Goodchild (Great Yeldham), one made £8 8s., another £7 17s., two £6 16s., and two £5 15s., the lowest price in the consignment being £4 14s. 6d. Mr. G. B. Robins' (Moulton) consignment of nine, went at from £3 16s. 6d. to £2 10s. Five shearling rams, from Mr. C. Morbey (Soham), averaged about £2 10s. Ten ram lambs, from Mr. A. H. Cobbold, Eldo House, made from £4 5s. to £2 10s. Messrs. F. and S. Traylen's (Great Barton) consignment of seven ram lambs, ranged from £5 15s. 6d. to £2 17s. 6d. Mr. E. Swann, Dunstall Green, sent three ram lambs, for which the top price was £2 12s. 6d. Shearlings from Mr. W. N. Champion's flock, Riddlesworth, ranged from £2 5s. Out of Mr. J. Fyson's Clee Hall consignment, the top price was £2 15s. Four shearlings, from Mr. W. Boocock's (Gazeley), made 50s. each, and others from Mr. W. E. Cawston, from £2 10s. to £2 2s. 6d. Long-woolled shearling rams, from Mr. T. Thornton's (Cavenham House), ranged from £3 17s. 6d. downwards.

Pedigree Cotswold rams bred by Mr. F. Cheshire, Eastington, Gloucestershire, made good prices, ranging from £8 8s., £5 15s. 6d., £4 10s., down to £3. Thirty grand Oxford Down ram lambs, from the Kelmscott flock, the property of Mr. E. W. Hobbs, made from £5 5s. to £3 13s. 6d. A score of Oxford Down ram lambs, the property of Mr. J. White, Home Court, Bampton, Oxon, made from

£8 8s. down to £4 4s., whilst a similar number from Messrs. Treadwell, Adams, and Worley's flock, ranged from £8 18s. 6d. down to £5 5s. Southdown shearling rams, from Earl Cadogan's, K.G. (Culford), realised from £6 6s. to £2 7s. 6d., others from Col. H. McCalmont, M.P., averaging about £2 5s.

Among the Suffolk ewes, those from Mr. J. Stirley Nunn's flock went as follows: Shearling ewes 73s. to 56s., two-shear ewes 76s. to 64s., three-shear ewes 65s. to 55s., full-mouthed ewes 55s. to 46s., ewe lambs 46s. to 36s., two rams £7 7s. and £5 5s. respectively

Buckingham Fair.

This fair was held on the 1st inst., when there was a large consignment of sheep and the attendance of dealers and farmers was large. Messrs. Geo. Bennett and Sons' pens were occupied by very useful drafts of ewes and lambs, which with few exceptions sold at very satisfactory prices. With one exception the sixteen shearling rams, bred by Mr. Treadwell, of Astwell, were a very level good lot, and excluding the one mentioned, made an average price of £6 5s., the highest price being 8gs., reached by two of the sheep. All sold readily. Upon the auctioneer introducing these sheep, Mr. Treadwell remarked that he had been breeding Oxford Downs for over fifty years. Mr. A. J. Robarts, of Tile House, sent as usual a very nice consignment of fifteen ram lambs, which also met a ready sale, and averaged £3 2s. 8d., the highest price being £4 5s. Lord Penrhyn consigned four ram lambs from his Little Hill Farm at Wicken. These averaged £2 10s. 8d., the highest price being £3.

Messrs. Harrison and Sons had a very large number of sheep (upwards of 1,000) consigned to them again this year from most of the best flocks in the neighbourhood. The sale included consignments of Oxfordshire Down rams and ram lambs. Lord Penrhyn's ram lambs were sold at prices ranging up to £4 5s., to Messrs. C. Lepper, Wm. Hedges, J. Robertson, Jeff, Treadwell, Withington, Evered, Batchelor, Phipps, etc. Mr. Robert Dickens's seven went for 50s., and Western sheep 40s. to 45s. Mr. E. Gillett also had five shearling rams, which sold at from 5½gs. to 6gs., as well as Messrs. Coates, Hedges, Roots, etc.

Cirencester.

The September fair was held on Monday last, and was the largest fair of sheep ever held at Cirencester, upwards of 5,000 sheep being penned. There was a large attendance, and a great number of buyers from all parts of the country, especially for breeding ewes and theaves, but the trade for rams and ram lambs was not so good as at the August fair, contrary to general expectations. Mutton was scarce and dear, and best qualities made up to 8½d. and 9d. per lb., while fat ewes sold better. Stock sheep sold well, with a good trade, ewes making from 37s. to 42s. a head, and anything like good theaves realised up to 50s. a head. Good lambs sold readily up to 32s. and 33s. each. Of the rams and ram lambs, only the best sold. Pigs dear.

Mr. C. F. Moore sold Cotswold rams and ram lambs for Mr. Russell Swanwick, of the Royal Agricultural College Farm, which averaged from 3gs. to 5½gs. For Mr. J. B. Stevens, of Ogbourne, he sold twenty-four Hampshire Down ram lambs, which averaged £5 15s. 6d., making up to 8½gs., which price was paid by Mr. E. Fowler, of Aston. For Mr. Henderson, M.P., of Buscot Park, fourteen Hampshire Down ram lambs were sold at an average of £4 10s. 6d. Of Oxford Down ram lambs an unusually nice lot of sixteen from Mr. Jefferies, of Black Bourton, was sold by Mr Moore at an average of £6 16s. 6d., Mr. F. P. Bullev, of Marston Hill, giving the top price, 9gs. He also sold ram lambs of the same breed for Mr. A. Mace, of Kelmscott, at an average of £5 15s.6d.

Mr. A. F. Hobbs was entrusted with extensive consignments of mutton, stock sheep, and ram lambs. The mutton sold readily at prices already quoted. For the Earl of St. Germans he sold 100 Oxford Down theaves from the Down Ampney estate, which averaged 42s. a head, and 100 ewes, which made an average of 38s. a head. For Mr. J. H. Large, of Crudwell Manor, he also sold Oxford Down ewes at an average of 45s., and for Mr. W. T. Stevens, of Ranbury, at an average of 43s.; while smaller lots from other breeders, including Mr. R. Cole (Wiggold), Mr. R. Cole (Fairford), Mr. T. J. Penson (Fairford), Mr. H. Penson (Eastleach), Mr. J. Plumbe (Ashton Field), and others, he sold ewes and theaves at from 36s. to 45s. a head. The trade for ram lambs was not particularly brisk, but Mr. Hobbs found purchasers for a large proportion of those entrusted to him. Of the Oxford Down ram lambs the following results were reported:—Mr. J. H. Large's twenty (Crudwell) averaged 3½gs.; Mr. William Arkell's thirty (Kempsford), averaged 5gs.; Mr. R. W. Hobbs's thirty (Kelmscott), averaged £5 11s. 9d., the highest price being 7gs. to Mr. E. Parson, Coates; Mr. W. T. Stevens's twenty (Ranbury), averaged 4gs.; Mr. W. Reading's twenty (Langford), averaged £5 13s. 6d., the highest price being 7½gs. to Mr. W. Arkell, Kempsford; and Mr. Hugh Baker's fifteen (Chedglow), averaged £4. The same auctioneer also had a consignment of thirty Hampshire Down ram lambs from Mr. W. F. Hobbs (Langford), which realised an average of £5 2s. 6d., the highest price being 9gs., paid by Mr. W. Large, Cirencester.

Messrs. Acock and Tayler sold Oxford Down shearlings for Mr. Herbert Lord, of Lillybank, Charlton Kings, at an average of 5gs.; and for Mr. T. James, Charlton Kings, at an average of 5½gs.; while Oxford Down ram lambs from Mr. G. Adams, of Pidnell, Faringdon, sold at from 5½gs. to 9gs., Mr. Raymond Lewis, of Shawswell, purchasing at the latter figure, the whole twenty being all but cleared. Of the Cotswold breed this firm offered twenty shearling rams from Mr. F. Craddock, Eastington, and twenty from Mr. W. Houlton, of Broadfield, which met with a poor trade.

Messrs. Castle and Pope, in addition to several lots of mutton and stock sheep, sold six Cotswold shearling rams for Mr. John Fowler, of Aston, at an average of 6gs., and a dozen ram lambs at about 2gs. each.

Peterborough Ram Fair.

This fair was held on Wednesday, when the attendance was good. The small show of Lincolns made no fancy prices, Down rams, which are now the more popular at Peterborough, being a fair trade at prices ranging from 4gs. to 12gs. The whole of the rams penned, however, were not sold. Messrs. Fox and Vergette sold 182, including animals from the folds of Mr. Buxton, which made from 4gs. to 12gs.; Mr. Young, from 5gs. to 12gs., several of which realised 10gs.; Mr. Scott Murray, from 4gs. to 9gs.; Colonel Blake, from 3gs. to 5gs., and several others averaging 6gs.

The Bakers' Exhibition at Islington.

The eighth annual Confectioners, Bakers, and Allied Traders' Exhibition opened at the Agricultural Hall on Saturday, and will be continued throughout the week. The object of the exhibition, which is to improve trade generally by giving an opportunity to its various members of seeing the latest improvements in everything appertaining to their business, is fully attained in the present exhibition. The stalls contain every article that could be required for bread and pastry making, from the flour to the cart in which to deliver the finished article. The stalls are most tastefully and attractively set out, and the whole show is of an eminently practical nature. A feature is the model bakery in which the whole of the process of bread-making is carried out by machinery, and the turn-out for the week will be about thirty thousand loaves. Competitions of all kinds connected with the business, including bread-making and pastry-making, are to be held, and for the window-dressing competitions a special terrace of inviting shops has been erected. In the course of the week three scholarships available at the National School for Confectioners, as well as numerous other prizes and medals for proficiency and excellence in all branches of the work, will be awarded.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Sept. 1st, 1900:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	186	302 384 203	14,699	3,542 32,381 31,746		
	Outbreaks	No.	29	32 34 25	149	1,839 1,855 1,783		
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Other Animals	No.	:	: : :	:	: : 14		
	Cases Reported. Dogs.	No.	:	: : 2	:	4 14 117		
Pleuro-pneumonia.	Cattle slightly affected but not Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	: : :	:	690 718		
	Diseased.	No.	:	: : :	:	1 42		
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	: : :	:	1 6		
Glanders and Farcy.	Animals Attacked	No.	47	14 34 31	1,205	951 1,179 1,000		
	Outbreaks.	No.	29	12 14 21	751	518 593 595		
Foot and Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	3	: : :	212	: : :		
	Outbreaks.	No.	1	: : :	13	: : :		
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	24	31 7 8	647	793 693 645		
	Outbreaks.	No.	19	26 5 6	477	650 553 503		
Period.	Week ended Sept. 1, 1900							
	Corresponding week in { 1899 / 1898 / 1897 }							
	Total for 35 weeks 1900							
	Corresponding period in { 1899 / 1898 / 1897 }							

Note.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

SHOWS.

Bath Horse Show.

The seventeenth exhibition in connection with the Bath Horse Society was held on Wednesday and Thursday. The entries were numerous, and attractions for the general public were liberally provided. The committee were fortunate in obtaining, through the kindness of Messrs. Louis W. and Walter Winans, the presence of some of those gentlemen's famous trotters and pacers, which, as on the previous day, gave exhibitions of their powers, although the course was not altogether favourable. One feature of the American trotting exhibition was the appearance of Mr. Walter Winans' Lake Erie and Princell, the holders of the world's two-mile pair-horse record, who were shown to pole in a speed wagon.

The judges were the Rev. Cecil Legard, Mr. Digby Collins, Mr. H. Fusby, Mr. C. E. Galbraith, and Mr. E. Burbidge.

Hunters.

The entry in the open hunters, heavy weights—15 stone and upwards—numbered five, and at roll-call there was not an absentee; Mrs. R. Charteris, of Grosvenor Square, London, being represented by Perfection, a bay gelding; Mr. J. Drage, of Northampton, with his grey gelding, Snowdon; Mr. J. H. Stokes, Market Harborough, with Pasha, a chestnut; Mr. T. Blackman, of Corsham, with a bay gelding, Sportsman; and Mr. F. R. Fry, of Keynsham, with his chestnut, Merry Boy. Small as the class was, its quality was fairly good, most of the entries being known previously to the ring. Pasha was selected for first honours; he is a handsome chestnut, with a good stride, a five-year-old, and by Turco. The grey of Mr. J. Drage was placed second; he is also a five-year-old, and is by Belgrave; and Mr. Frank Fry's Merry Boy, by Maroni, was held in reserve.

The restricted class for weight carriers which had not won a prize of £10, or upwards, in a hunters' class, prior to the last day of entry, brought a much more satisfactory entry, for thirteen turned out in the ring from a list of fifteen in the catalogue. The result was to place the winners in the same order as in the previous class. Both Pasha and Snowdon were entitled to show in this class, and Mr. Stokes's chestnut again headed the list. Mr. Drage took second place with Snowdon; a smart six-year-old grey gelding, the property of Mr. G. W. Sumner, Market Harborough, was put third. A compact chestnut gelding, Wine Bibber, the property of Mr. J. G. Ruddle, Devizes, was given the reserve rosette, and Mr. F. Fry's Merry Boy, which was reserved in the open class, was commended. Mr. J. Pethick's chestnut gelding Parapet and Mr. J. B. Till's Queen were also the recipients of commended rosettes.

The 14-stoners (open) made up a small field, and the judges had little trouble in making their selections, for the winners stood fairly out. In point of merit they were placed as follows:—Mr. J. Drage's grey, Brampton, and Mr. E. Hoyle, of Bacup, with Countess, a bay six-year-old, by Spendthrift; and Major D. F. Boles, of Minehead, reserve with Meath, a bay gelding by Miads. For the like class for horses not having previously won a £10 prize there was a strong entry, sixteen being ridden in. The preliminary tests over, there was still half of the class before the judges, who at the finish found themselves unable to get away from Brampton, Mr. Drage's grey, which won in the open class. Second prize was captured by another of Mr. J. H. Stokes' entries, this time by Royal Flush, a chestnut four-year-old, by King of Trumps, Messrs. Apperley and Louis, of Cheltenham, standing third with a nice-looking brown named Sporting Luck, and Mr. G. W. Sumner reserve with Pytchley, a six-year-old bay gelding. The judges were so well pleased with this class that they endorsed their slips "very good."

A strong class of novices occupied the attention of the judges for some time, and the first went to the second in the last class, Mr. Stokes's Royal Flush. Messrs. Apperley and Louis were placed second with Sporting Life. Mr. Sumner's Pytchley was third, and a powerful grey gelding, Victor, also from Mr. Sumner's stable, was reserved. Mr. Stokes secured another first in the four-year-old hunter class with a brown mare, Treasure. Mr. Stokes was second with Royal Flush, and Mr. Gulley's Moor Bird was third. For the silver cup offered by Captain Forester, open to the first six hunting classes, four came out—Mr. Stokes's Pasha, the winner of the open heavy weights; Mr. Drage's Brampton, winner of the open 14 stone class; Mr. Stokes's Royal Flush, second in the four-year-old and restricted 14-stone classes; and a brown mare Treasure, also owned by Mr. Stokes. The judges subjected them all to a severe test, and the cup was eventually awarded to Mr. Drage's Brampton, which displayed plenty of galloping power, as well as weight-carrying abilities. Treasure was reserved.

The yearlings led out were fairly up to the standard of promise usually met with at the exhibition. Mr. C. Wakely, of Axminster, produced the winner in a chestnut colt, named Ruby, bursting a distinguished ancestry, which includes the redoubtable Hermit. Mr. O. N. Holt-Needham was second with Topaz, by Yard Arm. To Mr. J. L. Nickisson, of Bracknell, Berks, went the third prize, for March Wind, a chest-

nut, by Whisperer. The reserve rosette was handed to Mr. C. C. Gouldsmith, of Cirencester, for his chestnut gelding Matrimony, by Yard Arm; Mr. E. Hoyle, of Bacup, and Mr. W. Palmer, of Barnet Gate, Herts, were commended.

The open two-year-olds followed, and were led by hand. Eight had entered, and all were present, making up a class which was in every way replete with interest. That old exhibitor, Mr. T. H. Miller, of Sherborne, eventually won with Mainsail, another of Yard Arm's splendid progeny. The winner is a fine-coloured bay and, with ordinary good fortune, should be heard of another day. Mr. C. Kelway-Bamber, of Chelmsford, was given the second rosette for his chestnut mare Homely Lass, Mr. Holt-Needham's Dancing Girl being third and Mr. J. E. Taylor, of Chippenham, reserve with Letty Lind. Mr. S. Berry (Bath), Mr. W. R. Emmott (Chipping Sodbury), and Mr. J. Walmesley (Chippenham) were commended.

Another strong class was shown in the three-year-olds, there being a good muster and plenty of quality. Mr. J. C. Barton, of Fairford, Gloucestershire, had the honour of leading this excellent lot with a grand brown gelding named Sportsman, by Perfection. The winner has strength, form, and pace, and should develop into one of the best. Mr. O. N. Holt-Needham stepped in and took possession of the second prize with Killarney, a chestnut filly, by Yard Arm; Mr. B. Wall, of Coleshill, Birmingham, was third with a chestnut gelding named Masterman, by Master Maurice; and Mr. L. H. Taylor, of Chippenham, was held in reserve. The commendeds included Mr. Frank R. Fry's black gelding Game Cock, Mr. T. M. de Cliffe Vigors' (Eardisley, Herts) Maid of Ross and Roulette, Mr. E. Hoyle's Sirdar, and Mr. T. H. Miller's Marquis.

About half a dozen entries competed for the Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal, and it was won by Mrs. A. R. Poole, Dursley, with a bay filly by Yard Arm, Mr. F. Ward, of Bath, being reserve with Lady Beatrice.

For brood mares, in addition to the three prizes for the class £12, £8, and £5 the Hunters' Improvement Society offered its gold medal. Eight entered, and Mr. O. N. Holt-Needham took the leading premium with his bay Goodcraft, by King Crafty, with a foal by Yard Arm; Mr. L. H. Taylor, Chippenham, second with Platypus, whose foal is by Grand National; and Mr. W. H. Barber, Henley-on-Thames, third with his mare Sunbeam, a nice chestnut, with a foal by Yard Arm.

The Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal for mares was not awarded, but the Society's silver medal, open to the nine classes of hunters, fell to Mr. T. H. Miller's bay gelding Mainsail, which won in the open two-year-old class, Mr. Holt-Needham's Goodcraft being held in reserve.

Hacks and Riding Horses.

Hacks and riding horses opened with weight-carrying cobs up to at least 15st., not over 15 hands high, and not less than four years old. There was not a large entry, and the winner was forthcoming in that pretty chestnut Golden Drop, owned by Mr. D. S. Carr, of Twerton, Mr. William Foster being next in order of merit with Mel-Valley Modjeska, a stylish brown mare by Anconeus II.: Mr. J. Pethick's Plympton third, and Dr. J. Fuller, of Long Ashton, reserve with Lady Louise.

There were no restrictions for covert hacks, action was not deemed necessary, and height was optional. There was a good entry, and competition was fairly sustained. This event ended in a win for Nobleman, the chestnut gelding of Messrs. Apperley and Louis, Mr. G. P. Finch, of Exeter, standing second with one of Tel-el-Kebir's progeny, a chestnut gelding named The Parson, and Mr. E. Hoyle, of Bacup, whipped in the prize list with his bay Bonaparte: Mr. L. Unwin, Tiverton, taking reserve with a really good-looking bay mare, Dainty.

Hacks between 14.2 and 15.3—outside previous £10 winners—were fairly well represented. Dainty, the reserve in the previous class, was now under the different conditions quite to the fore. Miss F. Hawkins, of Porlock, took second with Graceful, a four-year-old bay; another lady exhibitor, Mrs. Edward Martindale, of Paddington, being close up with a five-year-old dark chestnut mare named Rosie Morn; and The Parson, which was second as a covert hack, had now to be content with reserve position.

The saddle horses between 13.2 and 14.2 were quite a nice lot, notwithstanding that ten-pounders could not compete. Mrs. A. K. Apperley won with her chestnut gelding Silver Star; Messrs. M. Tucker and Son, of Bath, stood second with their bay mare, Lady Vix; Major Duncan, of Harley Street, London, third, with a bay mare by Conjurer II., named Enchantress; and Dr. J. Fuller again reserve with Lady Louise.

The entries for novices not exceeding 15.3 hands was a taking class having regard to the ruling conditions. It gave Mrs. Martindale her opportunity, and with Rosie Morn, which took a third prize earlier in the judging, she topped the lot, somewhat closely pressed by Dr. J. Fuller, whose bay mare Mignon carried off second honours; Mr. J. W. Riddler, of Minehead, being third; and Mrs. Beamish, of Bath, reserve.

The open ponies, not exceeding 13.2 hands, brought out a pretty string, which was headed by Miss B. Platt's South Kensington Lucy Glitters; Mr. Arden, of Exeter, second with Magpie, one of Lord Bang's; Prince Charming, the property of Mrs. A. K. Apperley, third; and Master M. Fry's Novice reserve. The Hackney Society's silver medal was subsequently awarded to the winner of this class, Lucy Glitters.

The whole of the five pairs entered for the double harness event put in an appearance, some well known exhibitors being well represented. For instance, Mr. C. J. Wertheimer, of Bourne End, Bucks, had Hopwood Squire and Jubilee King, chestnuts; Mr. G. F. Johnson, of Woodbridge, Suffolk, sent his bays, Searchlight and Brilliance; Mr. J. Pethick, his black browns, Lord Bang and Lord Bang II.; Messrs. Godsell's browns, Lord Bath and Duke of York; and Mr. E. Ames well upheld the honour of Bath with a pair of bay geldings, Marvel and Movement. The chestnut pair of Mr. Wertheimer's settled down at once, and went exceedingly well, and the same can be said of Mr. Johnson's bays. Messrs. Godsell's horse, however, would not lay down to work, and in any other hands than Mr. Alfred Butcher's they might just as well have been driven back to their stalls, but that good whip by his patience did something. It came, however, a little too late to be of real service, and a third prize was all that the judges could give on form. Mr. Wertheimer's chestnuts were first, and Mr. Johnson's bays second, Mr. E. Ames' bays being held in reserve.

The single harness classes opened with an exhibition by the celebrated American trotters and pacers, the property of Mr. Louis W. Winans and Mr. Walter Winans. The first illustration of pace was given by Eggnog, which was shown in a speed wagon, and Barney F., a winner of many races (mile trial, 2min. 17sec.). The Messrs. Winans drove their flyers, and the pace attained was watched with great interest by the spectators.

The single harness class for entries under 14.2 hands filled and turned out well, to the extent of a dozen. The top half were fairly close, and gave the judges some little trouble. The leading prize went to Lord Go Bang, shown by Mr. G. E. Franklin, of Derby, an entry which in the open riding class was unnoticed. Mr. A. S. Day, of Crewe, was second with his chestnut mare Sunshine, and Lucy Glitters, the winner of the riding pony event and the Hackney Society's medal, third; Mr. J. Pethick's Phyllis was reserve.

The not less than 14 hands 2 inches brought out a really first-class lot, the public quite appreciating the efforts of the competitors, pace and form being of high quality. Messrs. Godsell's chestnut, Heathfield Squire, headed the list, and Lord Bath, from the same stable, was second, Mr. W. Pearson, of Harrogate, being third; Silver Star and Hopwood Squire both h.c.

Further exhibitions by the celebrated Winans' trotters followed, including a spin round by Princell and Lake Erie, the holders of the world's two miles pair horse record. Their speed was marvellous for harness horses.

The open tandem was well won by Mr. Selman's (Bristol) team, Mr. G. F. Johnston being second, and Mr. R. I. Weight third.

The class for harness horses not less than 14.2, restricted to those animals which have not won a £10 prize previous to the last day of entry, went to Mr. W. Foster's showy brown mare Mel-Valley Modjeska, which was second in the open hack class on Wednesday. Mr. E. Ames's Marvel was second, and an aged bay gelding, Sir Robert, the property of Dr. G. King-Martyn, was third.

There was a good entry in the class for cobs or ponies under 14.2, which have not won a £10 prize, and here Major Duncan's smart bay mare Enchantress earned the chief prize, while a very capable second was found in Mrs. Apperley's speedy little black gelding Prince Charming, Dr. Francis, Brecon, was third with his brown mare Garton Lass, and for his bay gelding, Metpool Swell, Mr. Selman, Clifton, secured the fourth prize. Dr. Fuller's mare, Lady Louise, was awarded the reserve rosette.

Mrs. Apperley obtained the first prize in the next class for ponies no. over 13.2, and which had not won a prize of £8, with Prince Charming. Mrs A. N. Budd's dun gelding, Little Nipper, was second, and Mr. G. H. C. Arden, Exeter, was reserved with his bay mare, Magpie.

The local class for ponies and cobs, not less than 14 hands, which had not won an £8 prize, gave Mr. E. Ames's Marvel another prize, this time at the top of the list. Dr. G. King-Martyn was second with Baden-Powell. Mr. R. I. Weight was third with Lord Kitchener. Mr. L. W. T. Vachell's gelding Odd Spots was reserved.

The under 14 hands local class was won by Mrs A. M. Budd's Little Nipper. Mr. R. Monk's grey mare, Patchwork, the property of Mr. L. W. T. Vachell, took the third prize. Mr. J. White's mare, Nancy, was reserved, and Mr. Berry's Jorrocks commended.

A class for harness animals not over 15 hands, the property of exhibitors residing within three miles of the Bristol Corn Exchange, only brought three entries, the first prize going to Mr. S. R. Selman's bay gelding Metpool Swell. Mr. R. I. Weight's Lord Kitchener [illegible] and Mr. W. H. P. [illegible] Princess third.

The open [illegible] over 14.2 [illegible] every one [illegible] and [illegible] with [illegible] and [illegible] Lucy Glitters, the property of Mr. G. F. Franklin, was placed first. Miss A. M. Budd's Little Nipper, and Miss B. Platt's Lucy Glitters, the winner of the Hackney Horse Society's medal, Wednesday, was third. Mr. A. S. Day, of Crewe, was reserved with Darkie Bess. Miss Apperley's Prince Charming and Messrs. Godsell's Jorrocks were commended.

The open [illegible] for pairs over 14.2 brought out a [illegible] on Wednesday [illegible] Mr. G. F. Johnson's pair of [illegible] were second in the tandem class, and Mr. [illegible] Searchlight, Little Nipper and Lucy Glitters were third. Mr. R. I. Weight's grey and roan pair were reserved.

Four came out for the [illegible] Hackney Horse Society for the best [illegible] more or getting not less than 14.2. The medal was awarded to Mr. C. J. Wertheimer's grand chestnut gelding Hopwood Squire, who [illegible] ning pair in the open 14.2 class. Mr. W. S. Cunard's grey gelding Silver King was reserved.

The open tandem class—not less than 14.2—brought out the [illegible] Mr. Wertheimer's Hopwood Squire and Jubilee King, chestnuts; Mr. J. Johnson's bays, Searchlight and Brilliance; Mr. J. Pethick's [illegible] Lord Bang and Lord Bang II.; Mr. E. Ames' bays, Marvel and Movement; Messrs. Godsell's [illegible] chestnut, Northity Squire and Heathfield Squire; and Mr. J. Walmesley's [illegible] Songster. A better lot no one could wish to see in the ring. The leader of Mr. Johnson's [illegible] little too mettlesome, which prevented the team being seen at its best. Mr. Wertheimer's [illegible] were given first prize; they [illegible] pick team, but essentially [illegible] to hold [illegible] Messrs. Godsell were second; Mr. [illegible] boys third; and Mr. Johnson's [illegible] remainder being commended.

A further exhibition of American trotters followed, and Mr. J. Burrell, the winner of the open [illegible] event the previous day, [illegible] well-known local trotter Secret Service.

Mr. S. Campbell Cory's presentation cup, value £25, to the best [illegible] gelding [illegible] harness, was practically the [illegible] prize of the division. It was open without [illegible] only those from Classes 21 to 25 inclusive. At first this might look like a big entry, but owners knew to a "T" their chances, with the result that only Messrs. Godsell's Heathfield Squire and Mr. Wertheimer's Jubilee King were entered. The cup was awarded to Heathfield Squire, and it was [illegible] judges to get away from this entry when in single harness. In case of [illegible] Jubilee King was held in reserve.

An exciting harness class was the trotting competition, for which two prizes were offered, providing there were five entries, [illegible] to be considered. There were only [illegible] of whom turned up. Mr. Selman's Lord Cardigan, and Mr. G. C. Lane's Nellie. The former got off badly, and did the mile course in 4mins. 4secs.; Nellie, accomplishing it in 3mins. 33secs., won the [illegible]

Jumping.

[illegible] featured [illegible] The first [illegible] and then over [illegible] including hurdles, bush gate, [illegible] and water. The best [illegible] Mr. Butcher's bay mare Miss May, ridden by Miss May Butcher. Mr. J. Wheeler's Red Letter also cleared all the jumps very cleanly. Mr. C. A. Daniell's roan gelding New [illegible] and Mrs. Blockley was equally successful with her chestnut gelding Alfred, but the pace at which the jumps were negotiated [illegible] slow. Stag, a grey gelding owned by Mr. Grundy, jumped well, but was [illegible] round. Mrs. Blockley's Alfred was given the first [illegible] Stag was placed second and Mrs. Wheeler's Red Letter third. Mr. Grundy's Swallow was reserved.

The next jumping [illegible] walls, and open water, the winners of first and second prizes in the last competition being barred. Mr. G. Reynolds's brown gelding [illegible] a smartly-executed [illegible] Mr. J. Ford's Easter Morn was second, and Mr. W. W. Grundy's Swallow third. Mr. [illegible] second with The Rogue.

The jumping for the second day opened with an [illegible] numerous entry, but the first and second winners of the previous day [illegible] course her chances were gone. Mr. Olver's Barmaid did well, except at the water. Mr. Grundy's Swallow

Miss May, ridden by Miss Butcher, was not quite so amiable as on the previous day, and consequently did not jump so well. Mr. F. W. J. Firkins' Artist showed good form and pace, taking everything in style, and Mr. Wheeler's Red Letter, next in order, cleared everything, much amusing the crowd by the free way it kicked out between the jumps. Newcastle, ridden by Mr. T. Blinman, went round in workmanlike style, but was a trifle disappointing at the water. For several others the loose rails proved a trap. These were not too high for the horses, but they ought to be made white so as to let the jumper know what is wanted. The second round opened with Red Letter, which took the course very well, but a tell-tale splash proved that the water had not been successfully negotiated. The next called in was The Rogue, ridden by Mrs. Martindale, and the lady gave a very good show. Mr. Wheeler's Laddie was a little wild, but it cleared everything which had to be jumped freely and well. Diana, belonging to Mrs. Blockley, but ridden by a stable lad, took all obstacles, putting in a remarkably fine leap at the water. This ended the second round, and the judges proceeded to hand out their selections, Diana proving to be first choice, Laddie second, The Rogue third, and Red Letter reserve.

There was more good jumping in the class for timber, stone walls, and open water. Artist, which had such scanty justice in the first jumping of the day, was fortunate enough to catch the judge's eye, and so survived for the second round, as did also Red Letter, Fear Not, The Rogue (ridden by the owner, Mrs. Edward Martindale), and Diana, Mr. J. Baldwin's aged bay mare, whose rider made the usual mistake of too powerfully applying the whip within a length or two of the water, which means a complete footbath. The judges did not apply the closure so promptly as in the previous events, and a third round was called, in which the following participated: Red Letter, which did well except at the rail; Fear Not, the little pony which was in best form, and to the delight of the spectators cleared everything. On the first prize being awarded to Fear Not, the small steed was accorded an ovation; second prize went to Red Letter; The Rogue was given third; and Artist, which distinctly deserved a higher place, had to be content with reserve position.

Uttoxeter Horse Show.

The third annual show promoted by the Uttoxeter and District Horse Society was held on Thursday. The entries exceeded those of previous years. The light horses formed an excellent show, many well-known winning animals being put into competition. The principal prize winner was Mr. R. Hussey, of King's Bromley. In the class for best mare for breeding harness horses he won with Maud. The Hackneys, on the whole, were a very fair lot. Mr. Hussey's Atroich Surprise was first. The same exhibitor was successful in the class for two-year-olds, geldings or fillies. Mr. Hussey's Bog Myrtle topped his class for three-year-old geldings or fillies. The Shire classes were very good in quality, the local element coming out strongly. Mr. Brandon, of Aston Hall Farm, Stone, won the Shire horse medal with May Queen. The foals were a particularly good lot, the colt foal cup being won by Mr. Everard's Bardon Bobs. In the filly foal class the first prize and cup were awarded to Mr. Victor Cavendish's Holker Minerva. The two-year-old geldings were numerically weak, and the three-year-olds were topped by Mr. Lowe's Royal Excelsior. Mr. Muntz's Lockinge Belle, which has won some valuable prizes, was beaten by a local mare, namely, Mr. John Orme's Rimler. In the harness, hunter, and saddle classes there were an excellent show of stock, the principal winners being Sir Peter Walker, Bart.; Mr. G. H. Stokes, Market Harborough; Mr. Connop, Brailsford; and Mr. Robert Hussey. Mr. Hussey's Maud won the Hackney Horse Society's medal.

Foal Show at Otley.

The eighth annual foal show in connection with the Wharfedale Agricultural Society was held in the Otley Cricket Field on Saturday, when there was an excellent exhibition of brood mares, foals, working sheep dogs, agricultural and garden produce. The entries were quite equal both in quality and quantity to previous years. The judges were as follows: Heavy mares and foals, Mr. J. Oakes, Manchester; light mares and foals, Mr. Anthony Orr, Hornby; sheep dog trials, Mr. R. S. Piggin, Long Eaton; agricultural produce, Mr. James Bailey, Keighley, and Mr. Thomas Leake, Swillington; garden produce, Mr. Arthur Rhodes, F.R.H.S., Guiseley. The awards were as under:—

Prize List.

Heavy brood mare (open): 1, Oldroyd Bros., Woodlesford, Leeds (Lawn's Sunflower); 2, W. H. Dawson, Otley; 3, J. Dale, Arthington (Cheskell Blossom). Hackney brood mare (open): 1 and 3, D. Hopkinson's executors, Bradford (Golden Belle and Lady Bradford); 2, J. W. Booth, Calverly (Daisy Bell). Hunter brood mare (open): 1, F. W. Dolby, Leeds; 2, T. L. Smithes, Ripley. 3, M. Mulberie, Arthington. Agricultural brood mare and foal (eight miles radius), the property of a tenant farmer: 1, J. Dale; 2, C. Watkinson, Clifton, Otley; 3, A. Rendell, Baildon. Agricultural brood mare and foal, the property of a tenant farmer farming not less than fifty acres of land within the boundaries of Bramham Moor country: 1, C. Watkinson; 2, W. Proctor, Weston, Otley. Heavy colt foal (open): 1 and 3, W. H. Dawson; 2, C. Watkinson. Heavy filly foal (open): 1, J. Sale; 2, G. Escreet, Cookridge; 3, A. Randell. Heavy foal by Bramhope Stud horses: 1, J. Dale; 2, G. Escreet; 3, A. Rendell. Heavy foal by Yorkshire Echo: 1, A. Greenwood, Wilsden, Bradford; 2, T. Dawson, jun., Cookridge. Heavy foal, bred by a tenant farmer (eight miles radius): 1, J. Dale; 2, G. Escreet; 3, A. Randell. Hackney colt foal (open): 1, J. H. Greenwood, Apperley Bridge; 2, J. Lee and Sons, Hipperholme; 3, W. Johnson, Wetherby. Hackney filly foal (open): 1, J. Yates, York; 2, J. M. Tankard, Baildon; 3, J. Hodgson, Esholt. Hackney foal by Ganymede: 1, J. H. Greenwood; 2, J. Lee and Sons; 3, W. Johnson. Hackney foal by Hayton Performer: 1, J. M. Tankord; 2, Parkinson Bros., Burley-in-Wharedale; 3, J. Hardisty, Otley. Hunter foal (open): 1, T. L. Smailes; 2 and 3, J. Ingledew, Bedale. Hunter foal, by the Right Hon the Earl of Harewood's Ismeno: 1, E. A. Brotherton, Arthington Hall; 2, P. P. R. Garnett, Otley; 3, J. H. Ingle, Otley. Light foal, bred by a tenant farmer (eight miles radius): 1, J. H. Greenwood; 2, Parkinson Bros.; 3, R. Dykes, Headingley.

Barrow-in-Furness.

The annual show of the Barrow-in-Furness Agricultural Society took place on the 1st instant, and with fine weather and a good entry the Society can congratulate themselves upon a successful day. Heavy horses have always been the strong section of the Barrow Show, and this year they were more numerous than on any previous occasion. Of the seventy-five entries in this department of the show a fair proportion went to the Holker representatives, the five-year-old bay mare, Boro Quality, a hack belonging to Mr. Cavendish, gaining the Shire Horse Society's silver medal, as well as leading in the open class for mares in foal or with foal at foot. In the light horse classes there were 104 entries, bringing the total horse exhibits up to 179. The most notable feature here was the fact that Mr. Tom Mitchell's ubiquitous and well-nigh unconquerable Sam Weller had to make way for the fine chestnut gelding Featherby Squire, owned by Mr. Irving, of Blackburn. The Eccleshill representative, however, had his revenge later in the day by heading a strong driving class. Mr. Liver's exhibit, Marie, to which second place was assigned, boasts Danegelt lineage.

Of the eleven classes over which sixty-six cattle entries were spread two only were open, the others being confined to Lonsdale north of the sands, and to Cumberland south of the Esk. Sheep were twice as numerous as a year ago, and in the poultry section the increase was equally substantial.

Judges.

Cattle and sheep (other than Herdwicks)—Mr. J. Graves, Heskett Hall, Wigton, and Mr. J. Vickers, Churchfield, Kirkby Lonsdale. Herdwick sheep—Mr. J. B. Bland, Scar Green, Calder Bridge. Heavy horses—Mr. Jas. Cliffe, Castle Hill, Kelsall, and Mr. M. Marshall, Stranraer, N.B. Light horses—Mr. J. E. Cook, The Moorlands, Axby, Yorks, and Mr. George Mulcaster, Burgh-by-Sands, Carlisle. Pigs—Mr. William Boulton, Croft House, Barrow-in-Furness, and Mr. James Kendall, Gleaston.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

Open.—Short-horned Bull, one year old and upwards: 1 and 2, G. Ashburner, Low Hall, Kirkby-in-Furness; 3, W. Watson, Millom Castle, Millom. Short-horned Cow or Heifer, one year old and upwards: 1, J. and R. Barrow, Burblethwaite Hall, Grange-over-Sands; 2, J. K. Shepherd, High Brow, Millom; 3, G. Ashburner. Confined to exhibitors residing in Lonsdale, north of the sands, and such parts of Cumberland south of the River Esk.—Short-horned Bull, two years old and upwards: 1, W. Watson. Short-horned Bull, above one and under two years old: 1 and 2, G. Ashburner; 3, J. Tyson, Manor Farm, Furness Abbey. Short-horned Bull Calf, under one year, and not less than 5 lunar months old: 1, G. Ashburner; 2, W. J. Graveston, The High, Greenodd; 3, J. K. Shepherd, High Brow, Millom. Short-horned Cow or Heifer, in calf or milk, three years old and upwards: 1, W. Dowbiggin, New Hall, Millom; 2, J. K. Shepherd; 3, G. Ashburner. Short-horned Heifer, in calf or milk, two and under three years old: 1, C. C. Curtis, Raikes Moor, Barrow-in-Furness; 2, J. and R. Barrow, Grange-over-Sands; 3, G. Ashburner. Short-horned Heifer, intended for breeding, above one and under two years old: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Holker Hall; 2 and 3, G. Ashburner. Short-horned Heifer Calf, under one year and not less than four lunar months old: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P.; 2, J. Dacre, Newby Bridge; 3, J. and R. Barrow. Cow, adapted for the dairy: 1 and 2, J. Barton, Gargreave, Kirkby-in-Furness; 3, W. Case, New Close, Barrow-in-Furness. Cow, adapted for the dairy, and owned by a ratepayer resident with the borough: 1 and 2, W. Case; 3, J. Jackson, Roose, Barrow-in-Furness.

SHEEP.

Confined to exhibitors residing in Lonsdale, north of the sands, and such parts of Cumberland south of the River Esk. Ram, of the Leicester or Long-woolled breed, one year old and upwards: 1, J. Phizacklea, Bell Hall, Kirkby-in-Furness; 2, T. K. Postlethwaite, Stank, Barrow-in-Furness. Ram Lamb, of the Leicester or Long-woolled breed: 1, J. Newton, The Haws, Millom; 2, W. B. Coward, Colt Park, Ulverston. Pen of Three Leicester or Long-wool Ewes: 1, J. Newton; 2, R. Rigg, Wells House Farm, Cartmel. Pen of Three Ewe Lambs, of the Leicester or Long-wool breed: 1, W. B. Coward; 2, R. Ormandy, Breast Mill Beck, Dalton-in-Furness. Shropshire or other Down Ram, one year old and upwards: 1 and 2, J. Ratcliffe, Boarbank Hall, Grange-over-Sands. Shropshire or other Down Ram Lamb: 1, R. Rigg, Wells House Farm, Cartmell; 2, J. Ratcliffe. Pen of Three Shropshire or other Down Ewes: 1 and 2, J. Ratcliffe. Pen of Three Shropshire or other Down Ewe Lambs: 1, J. Ratcliffe; 2, R. Rawsthorne, Gate Side, Cartmel. Herdwick Ram, one year old and upwards: 1, J. Dove and Son, Field Head Outgate, North Lancashire; 2, J. Newby, Aulthurstside, Broughton-in-Furness. Herdwick Ram Lamb: 1, J. Newby; 2, J. Dove and Son. Pen of Three Herdwick Ewes: 1, J. Dove and Son; 2, T. and J. Hodgson, Fell Side, Bootle, Cumberland. Pen of Three Half-bred Shearling Ewes, from Herdwick or horned Scotch ewes, by a Leicester, long-wool, or Down ram: T. K. Postlethwaite, Stank, Barrow-in-Furness. Pen of Three Half-bred Ewe Lambs, from Herdwick or horned Scotch ewes, by a Leicester, long-wool, or Down ram: T. K. Postlethwaite.

HORSES.

HEAVY HORSES.

Open to the United Kingdom.—Mare, either in foal or with foal at foot: 1, Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Holker Hall (Boro' Quality); 2, W. Dowbiggin, New Hall, Millom (Scottish Mysor); 3, W. Dowbiggin (Sallie). Three-year-old Gelding or Filly: 1, W. Cottam, Low Levens, Milnthorpe (Beauty); 2, J. Teasdale, Ulverston. Two-year-old Gelding or Filly: 1, H. Meckereth, Low Hall, Whittington, Kirkby Lonsdale; 2, Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P. (Holker Mother Shipton). Yearling Colt: 1, E. and J. Whinnerah, Warton, Carnforth (Searchlight); 2, T. Allonby, Sandscale Farm, Dalton-in-Furness. Yearling Filly: 1, Victor C. W. Cavendish (Holker Kinswoman); 2, W. Dowbiggin. Foal, to be shown in halter: 1, Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P. (Holker Quality); 2, W. Huddleston, Roose Cote, Barrow-in-Furness; 3, W. Dowbiggin. Three Agricultural Mares, served by any of the Holker Shire horses in the season 1900, to be competed for by tenant farmers only: Exors. of G. Robinson, Biggar, Walney, Bute. Turnout—Horse (Mare or Gelding), Cart, and Gear—the whole to be the property of the exhibitor, who must be a tenant farmer: 1, W. Cottam, Low Levens, Milnthorpe (Beauty); 2, Exors. of G. Robinson, Bute; 3, C. C. Curtis, Raikes Moor, Barrow-in-Furness (Blossom). Pair of Agricultural Horses (Mares or Geldings), must be bred by and be the bona fide property of the exhibitor, to be shown in gears, confined to district of North Lonsdale: 1, J. Teasdale, Trinkelt, Ulverston; 2, W. and J. Barton, Gascow, Ulverston. Shire Mare, Filly, or Filly Foal, that is registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book: 1, Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P. (Boro' Quality); 2, H. Mackereth, Low Hall, Whittington, Kirkby Lonsdale (Holker Moonlight). Horse (Mare or Gelding), in the Agricultural Class, confined to the district of North Lonsdale: 1, J. Towers, Nether Kellet, Carnforth (Kellet Belle); 2, J. Teasdale, Trinkelt, Ulverston; 3, J. Edmondson, Ulverston. Mare or Gelding, for agricultural purposes, insured with the Horse, Carriage, and General Insurance Co.: 1, J. Teasdale; 2, W. Huddleston, Roose Cote, Barrow-in-Furness (Echo Star).

LIGHT HORSES.

Open to the United Kingdom.—Mare, either in foal or with foal at foot: 1, A. Orr, The Priory, Hornby, Lancaster; 2, R. M. Birley, Hoghton Hall, near Preston; 3, L. Fish, Blacow Stud, Barton, near Preston. Three-year-old Gelding or Filly: 1, The Exors. of T. Dixon, Priest Hutton, Carnforth (Major); 2, J. Clarkson, Carnforth (Lady Derby); 3, J. Kidd, Haverflatts, Milnthorpe (War Eagle II.). Two-year-old Gelding: 1, N. Dixon (Sir Thomas); 2, A. Haslewood, Fairfield Stud, Buxton (Chaser). Two-year-old Filly: 1, L. Fish; 2, E. D. McNaughton, St. Anthony's, Milnthorpe. Yearling Colt or Gelding: 1 and 2, R. M. Birley. Yearling Filly: 1, J. J. L. Irving, Park Gate, Blackburn (Thomasina); 2, H. Ainslie and Co., Lindal Moor, Ulverston. Foal, to be shown in halter: 1, H. T. Parke, Withnell Fold, Chorley; 2, R. M. Birley; 3, G. Fell, Flookburgh, Cark-in-Cartmell. Hackney Mare or Gelding, to be shown in saddle: 1, J. J. L. Irving, Blackburn; 2, T. Mitchell, The Park, Eccleshill, Bradford. Pony, not exceeding 14 hands, to be shown in saddle: 1, H. T. Park.

HUNTERS AND TURNOUTS.

Hunter, four years old and upwards, to carry not less than 12 and up to 14 stones (saddle and bridle included): 1, J. J. L. Irving (The General); 2, C. H. Wilson, Oxenholme, Kendal. Turnout—Horse, Harness, and Vehicle (mare or gelding exceeding 14½ hands high)—the whole to be the property of the exhibitor: 1, T. Mitchell, The Park, Eccleshill, Bradford (Sam Weller); 2, J. W. Liver, Bornacre House, Calder Vale, Garstang (Marie). Tradesman's Horse, Harness, and Vehicle (mare or gelding not exceeding 14½ hands high): 1, H. T. Parke, Chorley (Handy Jane); 2, H. T. Parke (Cassius). Tradesman's Turnout on Springs, four wheels, horse, harness, and vehicle to be taken into consideration, confined to the borough of Barrow-in-Furness: 1, J. Hunter and Co., Barrow-in-Furness; 2, A. Brooks, Barrow-in-Furness; 3, J. and H. Charles, Barrow-in-Furness (Samson). Tradesman's Turnout, on two wheels: 1, J. Hunter and Co.

Peterborough Foal Show.

Peterborough Foal Show took place on Wednesday. The judges were: Hunter foals, Mr. A. Britten, Great Billing, Northampton; Hackney foals, Mr. Wm. Dickie, Wolferton, King's Lynn; Shire foals, Mr. T. Forshaw, Carlton-on-Trent, Newark; and Mr. Jos. Grimes, Palterton, Chesterfield. The number of entries was seventy-three, as against seventy-one last year. Lord Rothschild won in the Shire colts with a grand roan foal who quite stood out from the rest of the class. The president (Mr. Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P.) won in the filly class with his Belper Champion Stalmine, by Premier out of Melody, the best filly seen out this year, and he was also awarded the championship for the same animal.

Prize List.

Hunter foals: 1, J. H. Sedgeley, Church Langton, Market Harborough; 2, Francis Perceval, Thenhaugh, Wansford; 3, the Earl of Sandwich; r, Harold Martin, Wainfleet; hc, the Earl of Sandwich; c, Rev. W. Hopkinson, Sutton Grange, Wansford.

Hackney foals: 1, A. Collen, Saffron Walden; 2, John Tibbett, March, Cambs; 3, J. Tibbett, jun., Doddington, March; r, Dr E. Waller, Peterborough.

Shire colt foals: 1, Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Herts; 2, E. H. Cartwright, Keddington, Louth; 3, P. A. Muntz, Dunsmore, Rugby; r, Captain Duncombe, Waresley Park, Sandy; hc, George White, East Markham, Tuxford; c, C. J. Morris, Thorney, and John Tibbett, jun.

Shire filly foals: 1, Victor C. W. Cavendish, Holker, Carke-in-Cartmel, Carnforth, Lancs; 2, William Horrell, Thorney; 3, Lord Rothschild; r, Captain Duncombe; hc, William Richardson, Doddington, March (twice); c, Hamer Towgood, Little Shelford, Cambs.

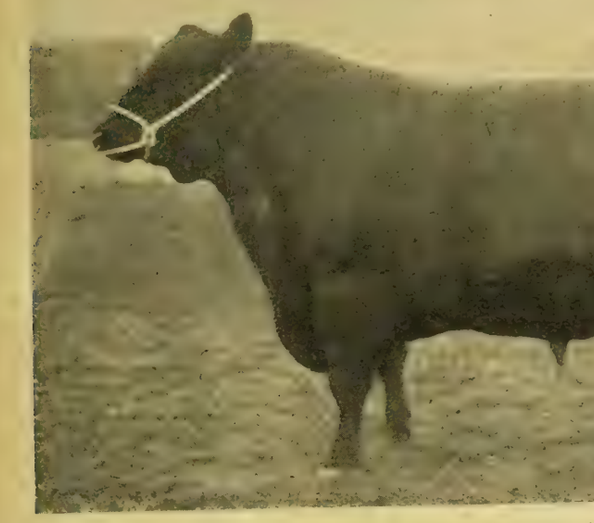
Shire foals, the property of tenant farmers residing within thirty miles of Peterborough and farming not more than 200 acres: 1, W. R. Odam, Newboro'; 2, F. Stokes, Tansor, Oundle; 3, S. Neaverson, Glinton; r, W. R. Odam.

Shire foals, by Stroxton Tom: 1, William Horrell; 2, William Richardson; 3, J. Tibbett, jun.; r, F. Stokes; hc, F. Palethorpe, Holme (two foals); c, W. J. Thompson, Crowland.

Champion prize: Victor C. W. Cavendish; r, Lord Rothschild. With the same exhibit Victor C. W. Cavendish secured the subscription silver challenge cup, value £30, for the best Shire foal in the show. Lord Rothschild receiving the reserve ribbon for his filly entered in Class 4.

Craven.

The Craven Agricultural Show was held at Skipton on the last day of August. The entries did not come up to those of the last two years, there being 1,414 this year, against 1,689 in 1899 and 1,667 in 1898. The decreases mainly occurred, however, in minor sections, such as poultry and pigeons, for cattle numbered but nine less, while the entries in regard to horses were sixteen more than last year. Sheep, for which good grazing is found on the fells which surround Skipton, maintain the excellence of their quality, and the Shorthorn cattle have rarely, if ever, made a better display. The Shorthorns, indeed, were the feature of the show. Tenants in the Craven district do not seem to have taken seriously to horse-breeding as a means of revenue in these keen times, and knowing the conditions that obtain it was not surprising to find that many of the entries in this section came from outside districts. Although the bulk of the draught horses in the district are Shire bred, there is still a sprinkling of the Clydesdale blood and not a little crossing, and this was seen in one or two notable instances in the yard. The heavy horses, however, were not of great account, and perhaps better class was shown by the light horses, which, again, provided greater competition. Here were to be found the descendants of some of the best-known Yorkshire horses. Hackneys were not so strong in the pedigree classes as might have been expected, but still there was a very respectable entry, led by the mares of Mr. Hartley, of Blackburn, and Mr. Burrow, of Whittington, both of whom have won many prizes. Sheep, as has been indicated, were numerous, and the judges were particularly complimentary in regard to the younger classes. Annexed is the



Mr. W. S. Adamson's Champion Aberdeen-Angus Bull, "Diaz."

Prize List.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS

(Open to local competition.)

Bull, over eighteen months and under three years old: Mrs. E. Gill, Silsden. Bull, under eighteen months old: 1, W. Robinson, Sriths, Bolton Abbey; 2, R. Ewbank, Lawkland, Settle. Cow in calf or milk, of any age: 1, R. Wrathall, Skipton; 2, W. Williamson, Stirton. Cow, for dairy purposes: 1, R. Wrathall; 2, J. Clay, Bradley. Cow or heifer (with not more than six broad teeth up), in calf or milk: 1, J. Clay; 2, W. Frankland, Thorlby, Skipton. Heifer (with not more than four broad teeth up), in calf or milk: 1, G. Barge, Scaleber, Gargrave; 2, R. Wrathall. Cows, in calf or milk (not being pure-bred Shorthorns), of any age: 1, R. Wrathall; 2, W. Williamson. Yearling heifer: 1, W. Walsh, Bingley; 2, W. L. Land, Brockabank, Gargrave. Bull calf, under twelve months old: 1, W. Robinson; 2, Mrs. Cass, Spofforth. Heifer calf, under twelve months old: 1, Mrs E. Gill; 2, T. Thornton, Skipton. Pair of bullock stirks (not having any broad teeth up): 1, S. Spensley, Highgate, Gargrave; 2, J. Spensley and Sons, Thorlby, Skipton. Fat cow: 1 and 2, R. Wrathall. Fat heifer: 1, F. Newall, Easby, Skipton; 2, J. Teale, Eastburn, Crosshills. Cow or heifer (with not more than six broad teeth up), in calf or milk: 1, J. Clay; 2, W. Frankland. Heifer (with not more than four broad teeth up), in calf or milk: 1, Mrs. Earnshaw, Banknewton, Gargrave; 2, R. Lund, Cracoe. Yearling heifer: 1, W. Walsh; 2, R. Lund. Heifer calf, under twelve months old: 1, Mrs. E. Gill; 2, J. Pratt, Bell Busk. Open to bona-fide farmer within the Skipton Poor Law Union, whose chief means of livelihood is derived from farming, and whose farms do not exceed eighty acres in extent: Cow, not exceeding four years, for dairy purposes: 1, F. Roberts; 2, J. Clay. Heifer, under two years old, bred by exhibitor: 1, W. Williamson; 2 and 3, R. Lund. Open to farmers who have used not less than one ton of compound cake or meal during three months preceding the show day: Bull, cow, or heifer, over eighteen months: 1, Mrs. E. Gill; 2, R. Wrathall; 3, W. Williamson. Bull, heifer, bullock, stirk, or calf, under twelve months. 2, Mrs. E. Gill; 3, W. A. Proctor.

HORSES.

(Open to the United Kingdom.)

Hackney stallion: 1, G. C. Waud, Baildon; 2, W. Sugden, Cullingworth. Shire or Clydesdale stallion: 1, A. Lindley, Sandal; 2, Major Tottie, Bell Busk. Brood mare for Hunters or coaching: 2, W. Wilkinson, Thornton-in-Craven. Brood mare for Hackneys: 1, R. Burrow, Whittington; 2, W. Sugden. Brood mare for draught: 1 and 2, Oldroyd Bros., Newsam Green, Woodlesford. Draught mare or gelding four years old and upwards: 1, Oldroyd Bros.; 2, J. Clark, Burnley. Three-year-old gelding or filly, for Hunters or coaching: 1, J. Kidd, Haverflatts, Milnthorpe; 2, C. Lord, Coniston Cold. Two-year-old gelding or filly, for Hackneys: 1, R. and P. Hartley, Balderstone, Blackburn; 2, E. Pratt, Haxhills, Silsden. Two-year-old gelding or filly, for draught: 1, H. Yates, Cleckheaton; 2, J. B. Deadhurst, Skipton. Three-year-old gelding or filly, for Hunters or coaching: 1, J. Kidd; 2, J. Harker and Co., Carnforth. Three-year-old gelding or filly, for Hackneys: 1, J. Clarkson, Cantcliffe; 2, C. Edmondson, Earby. Three-year-old gelding or filly, for draught: 1, Oldroyd Bros., Woodlesford; 2, J. B. Deadhurst. Hackney Foal: 1, J. Lee and Son, Happerhouse; 2, R. Brear, Drighlington. Draught foal: 1, J. Clark, Hapton, Burnley; 2, H. Yates; 3, A. W. Hewson, the Priory. Foal, by the champion Hackney stallion West Rolang M.P.: 1, R. Wilcock, Bradley Mere, Keighley; 2, S. Baugh, Hellifield; 3, G. Baugh, Screeton, Gargrave; 4, T. Clark, Silsden. Draught foal: 1, J. Crook; 2, W. H. Dawson, Otley. Yearling colt, gelding, or filly, for Hackneys: 1, W. Sugden, Cullingworth. Yearling colt, gelding, or filly for draught: 1, J. Clark; 2, Major Tottie, Bell Busk. Gelding or filly, for Hackneys, not to exceed 15½ hands, ridden: 1, E. Howarth, Nelson; 2, F. de B. Pan, Barrowford. Colt, not to exceed 14½ hands, ridden: 1, Manley and Hartley, Nelson; 2, H. Wilkinson, Keighley. Horse or mare, shown in single harness: 1, E. Howarth; 2, E. Barrett, Skipton.

SADDLE OR HARNESS

(Open to the United Kingdom.)

Horse or mare, any age, not exceeding 14½ hands, shown in single harness: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes, Shipley; 2, H. Wilkinson. Horse or mare, any age, exceeding 14½ hands, shown in single harness: 1, Capt. Preston, Gargrave; 2, T. Ellison, Skipton. Mare or gelding, for Hackneys, any age, ridden: 1, Mrs. F. Holmes; 2, C. Edmondson, Earby.

SHEEP

WENSLEYDALE OR LONGWOOL

(Open to the United Kingdom.)

Ram, two years old and upwards: Exors. of the late T. Willis, Carperby, Aysgarth. Shearling ram: Exors. of the late T. Willis, and S. W. Ryder, Middlesmoor, equal firsts. Tup lamb: 1, J. Ireland, Lancaster; 2, Exors. of the late T. Willis. Pen of three ewes, of any age: Exors. of the late T. Willis. Pen of three shearling gimmers: Exors. of the late T. Willis. Pen of three gimmer lambs: 1, Exors. of the late T. Willis; 2, J. Ireland.

MOUNTAIN SHEEP (SCOTCH BREED)

(Open to local competition.)

Black-faced ram: 1, T. Blackburn, West Hall, near Ilkley; 2, J. F. Liddle and Sons, West End, Dacre Banks. Shearling ram: 1, W. Robinson; 2, G. H. G. Garnett-Orme, Greenfield, Buckden. Tup lamb: 1, W. Robinson; 2, T. Blackburn. Pen of three ewes: 1 and 2, W. Robinson. Pen of three shearling gimmers: 1, G. Barker, Fiddling Clough, Earby; 2, T. Blackburn. Pen of three gimmer lambs: 1, G. H. G. Garnett-Orme; 2, W. Robinson.

LONG SHEEP

(Open to local competition.)

Ram, of any age: Walton Bros., Rawtenstall. Tup lamb: 1, Walton Bros.; 2, S. Lund, Laycock, Keighley. Pen of three ewes or shearlings: Walton Bros. Pen of three gimmer lambs: 1, E. Smith, Cowling; 2, T. Harrison, Hart Hill, Crawshawbooth.

HALF-BRED.

(Open to local competition.)

Pen of three half-bred blackfaced Scotch ewes: 1, R. Lund; 2, S. Spensley. Pen of three half-bred blackfaced shearling gimmers: 1, J. Robinson; 2, R. Lund. Pen of three half-bred blackfaced gimmer lambs: 1, W. Carlisle, Bell Busk; 2, W. Robinson. Pen of three ewes, half-bred lonk: 1, J. Teale, Eastburn, Crosshills; 2, W. Walsh, Bingley. Pen of three half-bred lonk shearling gimmers: 1, George Smith, Eastburn, Crosshills, Keighley. Pen of three half-bred lonk gimmer lambs: 1 and 2, C. Smith, Howden. Pen of three wether or gimmer lambs, out of half-bred Scotch ewes by longwoolled ram (first cross from Scotch ewe): 1, J. Spensley and Son; 2, S. Spensley. Pen of three fat lambs, any breed or cross: 1, J. Spensley and Son; 2, S. Spensley.

PIGS.

Boar, Tamworth, Berkshire, or Suffolk, any age: 1, A. Dewhirst, Dudley Hill; 2, G. Dean, Whalley. Boar of any breed: 1, H. H. Owtram, Ellel, near Lancaster; 2, A. Dewhirst. Sow of any breed: 1, A. Dewhirst; 2, T. Veevers, Brierfield. Gilt for breeding purposes, under nine months, any breed: 1 and 2, A. Dewhirst. Boar of any breed: 1, A. Mason; 2, E. Holmes, Newmarket Street, Skipton. Boar, under nine months, any breed: F. Smith, Crawing. Sow of any breed: 1, R. Walker, Skipton; 2, D. Duckworth, Cononley. Gilt for breeding purposes: 1, G. E. Dixon; 2, M. Rishworth, Cowling.

BUTTER

(Open to local competition.)

Basket of butter, not less than 2lb.: 1, Miss Howard, Clitheroe; 2, Miss Howard, Greenmount, Tottington; 3, Miss Metcalfe, Thrushcel; 4, Mrs. Ogden, Sowerby, Keighley.

CHEESE

(Open to local competition.)

Two Wensleydale or Cheddar cheeses, made in 1900. Stilton shaped: 1, Mrs. W. Thwaite, Oughtershaw, Skipton; 2, Mrs. [illegible]. Two Cheshire cheeses, made in 1900. Shaped: 1, [illegible]; 2, [illegible]; 3, Mrs. W. Thwaite, Oughtershaw, Skipton; 4, Mrs. Varley, Mrs. Lund, Scosthrop, Ripley; 5, Mrs. R. Metcalfe; 6, Mrs. Briggs, Pendleton, Clitheroe.

Mid-Somerset.

The forty-eighth annual exhibition of the Evercreech and Mid Somerset Agricultural Society took place on Tuesday at Shepton Mallet.

The show tent, as ever, one of the features of the show, and the [illegible] committee secured one of the best entries on record. Several changes have been introduced, and the prizes in one of the classes have been increased in value, with beneficial results as regards the entries. The dairy test prizes for cows, of course, attracted the most interest. The first award was for English dairy cows, and the leading award fell to Mr. W. G. Norman, of Cannard's Grave, Shepton Mallet, whose entry yielded 23lb. of milk and secured twelve lactation points. Mr. E. Creed, of Gilcombe, Bruton, stood second with 23lb. of milk and eleven lactation points, and Messrs. Tilley Bros., of East Compton, Shepton Mallet, third, with 22lbs. of milk and twelve lactation points. This class was open only to competitors residing within ten miles of the town market cross. A like restricted class for cows which had calved since Midsummer Day, 1900, was a win for Mr. A. J. Thorn, Ashwick, Oakhill, whose entry yielded 34½lbs. of milk; Mr. T. Wilcox, Prestleigh, Shepton Mallet, carried off second award for a result of 32lbs. of milk and three lactation points; and Messrs. Tilley were again third, this time with a yield of 30lbs. of milk. There were only two entries in the Channel Island test, Mr. C. C. Tudway, Wells, and Mr. A. J. Thorn, of Pilton, Shepton Mallet. Both cows were Jerseys. The first-named exhibitor was winner with Mayfair 2nd, bred by Mr. A. Gibbs, the yield being 16lbs. The second prize cow Sunbeam gave 11½lbs. of milk.

The cattle generally were excellent, and quite up to county form. The old bulls included entries from several well-known Shorthorn breeders. Mr. G. F. King's Chewton Oxford Comelius headed the class; Mr. John Little standing second with Vain Lord, originally from the herd of Mr. T. N. Hulbert. For the bulls calved since Michaelmas, 1898, there was a good representation, quite a dozen being set out. The Chewton Keynsham breeder was again to the fore, this time Mr. King winning with Bapton Victor, an acquisition from Mr. J. D. Willis's herd; Mr. Sidney Hill, of Langford, took second with Wilbur; Mr. Graham Bush, of Bitton, reserve with Bitton Augustus; Mr. George Haskins, of Horfield Green, near Bristol, secured a highly commended rosette. The bull calves were rather disappointing. Dairy cows in the aggregate were one of the best lots ever got together at a district show, and the judges expressed unstintingly their approbation. For the class for cows in calf or milk nearly 20 were shown. Mr. R. Clapp, of Alston Manor Farm, Weare, Axbridge, took the lead with a very fine model of a dairy cow; Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun., Motcombe, second. The minor honours were shared by Messrs. G. F. King, Arnold Hall, J. Day, jun. (Huxham, East Pennard), J. Hoddinott (Shepton Mallet), H. J. Davies (Hurlington, Shepton Mallet), Mr. J. Day, jun., of East Pennard, headed the class for pair of dairy cows, and Mr. Robert Clapp, of Axbridge, had a like honour for two heifers in calf. For a pair of heifer calves (after Michaelmas, 1899), Mr. Sidney Hill, of Langford, was the winner. The four Channel Island classes filled well, several well-known patrons of the breed being represented. The bull class was headed by Mrs. J. M. Spencer's Jersey Joan, Mr. Tudway, of Wells, standing second with Brasenose. The last-named exhibitor was second in the cow class with Mayfair 2nd, and first also in the heifer calf class. The fat stock was not numerous, but what there was looked uncommonly well. In the ox class every entry received some notice at the hands of the judges. The winner was a massive Devon steer, shown by Mr. Hugh P. S. Leathead, of Cannington. In the [illegible] heifers Mr. J. D. Allen, of Shepton Mallet, headed the class.

The horse classes generally filled well, both agricultural and other departments showing a really first-rate lot of quality. The heavy-weight hunters resulted in a win for Colonel, the chestnut gelding of Messrs. J. Nixon Gray and Co., of Cardiff, and the same exhibitors also carried off the leading premium for the light-weight class, the winner on this occasion being the bay six year old gelding Spectator. Messrs. Fowler and Mattick, of Ston Easton, headed the local hunting class with a four-year-old brown gelding named Jester. The driving class resulted in a win for Mr. R. J. Weight's (Bristol) Lord Bang. The brood mares were few and fairly good, and the young stock generally was full of promise. In the agricultural classes several old competitors met, and recent results were generally upheld.

Judges.

Cheese: Messrs. William Cary (London), G. F. Butcher (Bath), J. E. Way (Wells), Ernest F. Hill (Evercreech). Milk test: Mr. L. Robinson (Evercreech). Cattle: Messrs. Henry Butler (Badminton) and J. C. Lock (Saltford). Channel Island: Mr. W. E. Budgett (Henbury). Hunters and hacks: Messrs. Robert Lemon (Sherborne) and R. W. Burn-

ham (Hull). Cart horses: Messrs. J. Nix (Derby) and Thomas Chapman (Taunton).

Prize List.

CHEESE.

Four Cheddar cheese, not less than 60lb. each (open): 1, T. C. Candy, Cattistock; 2, H. G. Ashman, Shepton Mallet; 3, Herbert W. Watts, Stounton; 4, Henry White, Puddleton; 5, O. N. Holt-Needham, Castle Cary; 6, F. W. J. Crocker, Cattistock; r, H. J. Weeden, Ibberton; h c, F. and M. Portch, North Cadbury; E. Dewdney, Chewton Mendip; c, N. J. Sims, Bruton; John Day, Huxham.

Four cheese, not less than 56lb each (open only to the County of Somerset): 1, John Day, Shepton Mallet; 2, H. G. Ashman; 3, Walter W. Keel, Stanton Drew; 4, C. Candy, Shepton Mallet; 5, Edmund Pearce, East Chinnock, Yeovil; r, William A. H. White, Beckington; h c, N. J. Sims; Alfred Stone, Shepton Mallet; T. L. Jackson, Wincanton; c, James Bartlett, Galhampton; c, Mrs. M. A. Portlt Wincanton; Henry Cannon, Evercreech.

Four cheese, not less than 56lb each (open to those only who have not taken a first prize): 1, T. C. Candy; 2, Walter W. Keel; 3, Edmund Pearce; 4, Herbert W. Watts; 5, H. G. Ashman; r, Edwin C. Sims, Meare; v h c, A. Osborne, Mapowder; h c, R. and C. Tucker, Steeple Ashton; James Bartlett, Galhampton; c, Albert White, South Petherton; Henry White, Puddletown; Frances Osborne, Sandford Orcas; Henry Cannon, Evercreech; Joseph H. Butler, Evercreech.

Small dairies: Four cheese not less than 56lb. each, produced from dairies not exceeding 30 cows: 1, Alfred Stone; 2, Henry White; 3, H. J. Weeden; 4, Walter W. Keel; r, A. E. Crocker; h c, Albert White, South Petherton; c, John C. Moody, Castle Cary.

Loaf cheese (six in number): 1, Walter W. Keel; 2, George Lester, Martock; 3, J. Board, East Pennard; r, Henry White; h c, John Brunt, Hilfield Cerne; c, C. Candy, Shepton Mallet.

Champion cup for the best lot of cheese in the show: T. C. Candy, Castle Cary.

DAIRY TEST PRIZES.

Dairy Cow, not Channel Island, giving the most and richest milk: 1, W. G. Norman, Shepton Mallet; 2, Edward Creed, Gillcombe, Bruton; 3, Messrs. Tilley Bros., Shepton Mallet; h c, John Harding, Shepton Mallet; c, J. M. Green, Stoke Lane.

Dairy cow, not Channel Island, having calved since Midsummer Day, 1900: 1, A. J. Thorn, Oakhill; 2, T. Wilcox, Shepton Mallet; 3, Messrs. Tilley Bros., Shepton Mallet; v h c, E. White, Wells; h c, G. A. Reakes, Binegar.

Channel Island cow or heifer, giving the most and richest milk: 1, C. C. Tudway, Wells; 2, J. D. Allen, Shepton Mallet.

CATTLE.

Bull, of any age: 1, G. F. King, Chewton Keynsham (Chewton Oxford Cornelius); 2, John Little, Trowbridge (Vain Lord); r, Sidney Hill, Langford; h c, G. T. Chafyn Grove, North Coker.

Bull, calved after Michaelmas, 1898: 1, G. F. King (Bapton Victor's Champion); 2, Sidney Hill, J.P. (Wallace); r, H. G. Bush, Bitton (Baton Augustus); h c, George Haskins, Hanham Green (Priam); J. Thorley, Faringdon.

Bull calf, calved after Michaelmas, 1899: 1, J. Thorley; 2, Arthur Hiscox, jun., Motcombe; r, T. C. Candy, Cattistock; h c, Arnold Hall; George G. White, Galhampton, Bath.

Dairy cow, in calf or in milk, or to have calved within eight weeks of the show: 1, Robert Clapp, Axbridge; 2, Arthur Hiscock, jun.; h c, G. F. King; Arnold Hall, Chilcote, Wells; T. Day, jun., East Pennard; John Hoddinott, Shepton Mallet; H. J. Davis, Shepton Mallet.

Two dairy cows in calf and in milk: 1, J. Day, jun., East Pennard; 3, Edward Creed, Bruton; r, Arnold Hall; h c, Robert John Hoskins, Shepton Mallet; Tilley Bros.

Two heifers, calved before Michaelmas, 1897, in calf and in milk: 1, Robert Clapp, Weare, Axbridge; 2, J. Day, jun.; 3, A. J. Mullins, Ansford, Castle Cary.

Two heifers in calf: 1, Robert Clapp, Axbridge; 2, O. N. Holt-Needham, Castle Cary; r, John Little, Trowbridge.

Two heifer calves, calved after Michaelmas, 1899: 1, Sidney Hill; 2, J. D. Allen, Shepton Mallet; r, G. G. White, Bath.

CHANNEL ISLAND BREED.

Bull of one year and above: 1, Mrs. J. M. Spencer, Oakhill; 2, C. C. Tudway, Wells; r, C. C. Tudway; hc, Robert Poole Wheadon, Ilminster; c, Mrs. J. M. Spencer; W. W. Hughes-d'Aeth, Wincanton.

Cow or heifer in milk: 1, Robert Poole Wheadon, Ilminster; 2, C. C. Tudway; 3, J. D. Allen, Shepton Mallet; r, C. C. Tudway.

Heifer calved after Michaelmas, 1899, in calf or in milk: 1, C. C. Tudway, Wells; 2, Mrs. J. M. Spencer, Oakhill; r, Robert Poole Wheadon.

Heifer calf calved after Michaelmas, 1899: 1, C. C. Tudway; 2, C. C. Tudway; r, C. M. Moody, Evercreech; r, Robert Poole Wheadon.

FAT STOCK.

Fat ox: 1, Hugh P. S. Lovibond, Cannington; 2, W. D. Saunders, Grenton, Bridgwater; r, J. Thorley; h c, Nathaniel Benjafield, Shaftesbury; J. D. Allen, Shepton Mallet.

Fat heifer: 1, J. D. Allen; 2, O. N. Holt-Needham; r, Henry Hoddinott, Frome.

HORSES.

Hunter, equal to over 14 stone: 1, J. Nixon Gray and Co., Cardiff; 2, William H. Munckton, Long Sutton; h c, Charles Wakely, Axminster; John Day, jun., East Pennard.

Hunter, up to 13 stone: 1, J. Nixon Gray and Co.; 2, Edgar Bown, Sherborne.

Hunter, mare or gelding, three years old or over, allowance to be made for age in judging: 1, Flower and Mattick, Stoke Easton; 2, J. Day, jun., East Pennard; r, Flower and Mattick; h c, C. S. Creighton, Shepton Mallet; J. Day; A. C. Clarke, Shepton Mallet; T. W. Whitney, Shepton Mallet.

Nag horse, driven in harness: 1, R. J. Weight, St. George, Bristol; 2, W. H. Burston, Taunton; r, H. Banfield, Honiton; h c, Norman Stephens, Glastonbury.

To the lady who rides best: Equal 1, Mrs. Hubert Watts, Wells, and Miss Gertrude Burston, Taunton.

Pony not exceeding 13 hands, to be driven: 1, S. Wait Tomkins, Cribbs Causeway; 2, J. Stone, Bath; r, R. Monk, Kingswood, Bristol.

To the lady who drives best: 1, Miss Lucy Burston, Norton, Taunton; 2, nominee of Oliver Reakes, Emborough, Bath; r, Miss May Dyke, Shepton Mallet.

Fencer, any height: 1, P. Blockley, Madeley, Staffs; 2, B. Sims, Cheltenham; 3, Walter W. Grundy, Worcester; r, C. A. Daniell, Atworth, Melksham.

Fencer, any height (local): 1, Glencross Bros., Garth, Frome; 2, J. Coles, Frome; 3, W. T. Weaver, Dunkerton, Bath; r, Glencross Bros.; h c, H. L. Hall, Oakhill, Bath; Walter Cooper, Wells.

Brood mare and foal at side: 1, O. N. Holt-Needham; 2, T. W. Whitney, Shepton Mallet; r, Robert Parker, Shepton Mallet.

Filly or colt, hunter, foaled in 1900: 1, Henry Clark, North Wootton; 2, Joshua Clare, Oakhill; h c, Robert Parker, Shepton Mallet; c, G. F. Tilley, Huntspill.

Foal, calculated to make hunter: 1, Henry Clark; 2, Joshua Clare; h c, Joseph Salisbury, Shepton Mallet; Robert Parker, Shepton Mallet; G. F. Tilley, Huntspill.

Filly or gelding, hunter, foaled in 1897: 1, J. Nixon Gray and Co., Cardiff; 2, O. N. Holt-Needham; h c, Medford Millard, Wedmore; T. H. Miller, Sherborne.

Filly or gelding, hunter, foaled in 1898: 1, O. N. Holt-Needham; 2, C. Kelway-Bamber, Chelmsford; h c, J. Nixon Gray and Co.; T. H. Miller, Sherborne; c, Ernest Dewdney, Chewton Mendip.

Filly or colt, hunter, foaled in 1899: 1, Charles Wakely, Axminster; 2, O. N. Holt-Needham; h c, Robert Parker, Shepton Mallet; Hunters' Society medal, T. Rowley, Huntspill.

Brood cart mare in foal, or with her foal at side: 1, James Webber, Huish; 2, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., M.P.; 3, H. Percy Taunton, Salisbury; r, C. M. Moody, Evercreech; c, G. F. King, Chewton Keynsham; W. H. Brake, Bridgwater; George Cowing, Calne.

Cart filly or colt: 1, C. M. Moody; 2, W. H. Brake, Bawdrip; r, C. M. Moody.

Cart filly or colt, got by Nyn Admiral, foaled in 1900: 1, W. Rugg, Shepton Mallet; 2, G. Sidney Cox, Frome; r, M. Muldment, Batcombe.

Cart filly, foaled in 1898: 1 and medal, James Webber, Puxton; 2, H. Percy Taunton, Salisbury; r, George Cowing, Calne; c, W. H. Brake, Bridgwater.

Cart gelding, foaled in 1898: 1, Harry Chambers, Bridgwater; 2, G. F. King; r, John Lovell, Shepton Mallet; c, J. D. Allen, Shepton Mallet.

Cart filly or colt, foaled in 1899: 1, G. F. Anstee, Chippenham; 2, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., M.P.; r, H. Percy Taunton, Salisbury; h c, C. M. Moody; G. F. King; c, R. C. Tilley, Huntspill.

Royal and Central Bucks.

The Royal and Central Bucks Agricultural Association held their annual show on Thursday at Aylesbury. Entries were good, and this, combined with fine weather, made the meeting a great success. The number of entries in the 79 classes was 564—21 of agricultural labourers and servants, 14 of butter, 68 of roots, 158 of agricultural horses, 144 of hunters and nags, 82 of horned stock, 43 of sheep, and 34 of pigs. Entries of agricultural labourers continue to decrease, those of butter remain about stationary, roots showed an increase of about a dozen, horses a considerable falling off in both classes, horned stock were fewer by 17, sheep exactly the same, and pigs were nearly double the number penned at Bletchley.

Agricultural Horses.

The judging was got through expeditiously and satisfactorily under the new arrangement of appointing two sets of judges. Miss Alice de Rothschild's fine brown mare, Lily, which excited so much admiration last year at Bletchley, put in an appearance, and with equal success, winning, with a promising filly foal by Markeaton Royal Harold, first prize for mare and foal of 1900 in a very strong class. The foal was also awarded first prize in her class against severe competition, and Lily was again selected to receive the Shire Horse Society's silver medal, with her foal and Mr. Thomson's mare as reserves. There were two fairly good classes of old mares, Mr. John Thomson's Woodperry Watercress, a strong brown mare of good blood, being placed first in the open class, while a wonderfully well-preserved fourteen-year-old mare, Duchess of Bridgwater, with a pretty head, shown by Mr. Arthur Ransom, was second. In the local class a sturdy broad-chested brown mare, Flower, shown by the executors of the late Mr. W. Flowers, was first, and a lighter mare of Mr. Rowland's, Creslow Gipsy, second. Messrs. Flowers also furnished the winner in the three-year-old mares' class with the singularly named Sea Poppy, a handsome brown, which also won for her fortunate owners the Marquis of Londonderry's champion prize, while Flower, just mentioned, brought them in Lord Rothschild's second champion prize. Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Madge, first in a good two-year-old mare class, did credit to her owner's famous Shire stud. Mr. Hudson had another very gratifying success in the Mentmore Cup class, his promising bay colt, Beachendon Royal Harold, winning the valuable cup in a very good class of youngsters. Mr. Rowland's second prize filly, Creslow Belle III., was also awarded Sir R. J. Harvey's champion prize for the best mare the property of and bred by a tenant farmer; Messrs. Flowers supplying the reserve number with Beachendon Lassie, third in the class. Mr. John Harper's good-looking light bay or sandy, as he laughingly described it himself was first in a meritorious class of geldings, four years and upwards, and with his two companions, also won for the same gentleman the valuable team prize from some formidable competitors. The younger geldings' classes were not well filled, but Mr. Alfred Lepper's red roan three-year-old and Mr. Hudson's two-year-old, first in their respective classes, were useful animals. The valuable Ferdinand de Rothschild Memorial Cup, presented by Miss Alice de Rothschild, for gelding or mare four years old and upwards, although limited to tenant farmers within seven miles of Waddesdon, produced a good competition, and the prize was for the second time awarded to Mr. Tom Kingham, for a nice light chestnut, Drayman, Mr. G. C. Terry's handsome dark chestnut being reserved. Mr. Arthur Ransom, who sent several good representatives of his well-known Shire stud, but did not meet with the best of luck, supplied the winner in a nice class of colt foals with a scion of Careful. The Executors of the late Mr. Charles Paine won the President's prize for cart foal by Royal Alfred 2nd.

Light Horses.

The Farewell Challenge Cup appeared, presumably, in the catalogue for the last time, Messrs. Flowers, who have won it twice previously, again carrying it off with Royal Dispatch, by Bumptious. This very handsome trophy now becomes their absolute property. It is a somewhat singular coincidence that Mr. B. F. J. Gates, who won the cup last year, while Messrs. Flowers' representative was only reserve number, this year occupied just the same position that this year's winner did then, their relative positions being thus exactly reversed. Royal Dispatch was also first in a local hunters' class. Some very nice foals were shown, Mr. T. R. Seaton supplying the winning number. The Meyer de Rothschild's Memorial Cup was again stoutly contested for, and Mr. John Thomson's popularly-named Khaki proved the winner. The Hon. Mrs. Howard, who met with a good many disappointments, received a solatium in the valuable prize presented by Messrs. Chinnery and Freeman for hunting mare and foal. Mr. W Manning, who generally sends a few good things, won two first prizes for hunters, one of his representatives being also awarded the President's Champion Prize for tenant farmers. Mr. J. H. Stokes supplied the best hunter, horse or mare, in the open class, Mr. C. Brooks, with Goldstick, being successful in that for local horses. Mr. W. Smith was first for general purposes nag with a nice chestnut mare, Miss Nelly.

The jumping and driving competitions were very popular, and, as usual, provoked keen competition.

Cattle.

Although not very numerous, the animals shown here were mostly much above the average in regard to quality. The selections from the late Mr. H. Wyatt's valuable Shorthorn herd, which have usually made a brave show in these classes, were much missed, and in their absence Miss Alice de Rothschild had it almost all her own way. She was first for bulls, two-year-old and upwards, with a fine animal, Royal Prince; first for bulls, one year and under two; second in the same class with Landsman; third for bulls under one year with Provost; first for cow in milk or calf with a big strawberry roan cow, Bructer Queen, with a pretty little calf by her side; third in the same class with Waddesdon Beauty, a red cow; first and third for heifers with a compact, finely-bred red, Rose of Underley 6th, and Roan Duchess; first and second for pairs of heifers, one to two years; first for ditto not exceeding one year, with a nice white and a roan; second for three dairy cows; first and second for fat oxen, with a well-fed Shorthorn and a black polled ox; first for fat cow or heifer with a meaty black poll heifer. Her fine cow, Bructer Queen, was also awarded both the champion prizes—Mr. Leopold Rothschild's and the president's. Colonel Makin supplied the first prize bull under one year with a promising roan. Mr. Alfred Lepper was first in the important class for three milking cows in fairly good company. Lady de Rothschild, with her sweetly pretty light fawn Jerseys, won first prizes for heifers under three years, for three Jerseys for dairy purposes, also her own first and second prizes for Channel Islands or Ayrshire cows, and the second prize for champion cow. Mr. H. Landon, who was second to Miss Rothschild for pairs of heifers, had the honour of beating her in the class for three dairy cows, not Jerseys. Mr. Landon, who always enters some useful animals, was also first in the local class for dairy cows.

Sheep.

The show of sheep was an interesting though only a small one. Miss Rothschild was very successful here also, winning firsts for fat ewes, fat wethers, breeding ewes, and theaves, the latter also taking the champion prize. It would be difficult to find anywhere a better lot of sheep than these four pens of Oxfordshires. Mr. W. G. Amos was first for rams with a good Oxford, and Mr. Joseph Clarke for store ewe lambs with five nice Hampshires, and for ten ewes, untrimmed, besides being three times second. Mr. R. E. Horwood was first with a useful lot of theaves, and Mr. J. R. Simons carried off Lord Rothschild's valuable prize in the important class for twenty ewes with a good pen.

Pigs.

The show of pigs was much the best we have seen for years, there being scarcely an indifferent animal in the pens, while many were of superlative excellence. Mr. C. A. Barnes beat several of our best local breeders in the boars' class with a fine well-bred Berkshire, which was also accorded championship honours, Mr. Richard Fowler's sow being reserve number. Mr. Fowler was first in the local class for sows with a valuable Berkshire sow and ten strong pigs. In the open class Mr. J. H. R. Horwood was first with a large well-bred sow of the same breed. He was also first for two fat pigs in a good class, while Mr. R. E. Horwood, besides three seconds and a third, was first for yelts, with two nice level animals.

A Gold Medal has been awarded to the Campbell Gas Engine Co., Limited, for an exhibit of gas and oil engines at the Paris Exhibition. In addition to this, no less than seven members of the company's staff, foremen, and workmen, have been awarded silver and bronze medals for the work which they have done in connection with the exhibit.

SOCIETIES.

British Dairy Farmers' Association.

A meeting of the Council was held at 12, Hanover Square, London, on Wednesday, September 5th. Present: Professor Long (in the chair), Mr. Wm. Ashcroft, Mr. Geo. Barham, Mr. A. Dunlop, Mr. W. J. Grant, Mr. P. McConnell, Mr. S. P. Page, Mr. S. J. Pocock, Mr. J. H. Ross, Mr. G. F. Roumieu, Mr. J. A. Smith, Mr. J. F. Spencer, Mr. A. Stapleton, Mr. A. Tisdall, Mr. J. Welford, Mr. J. Willcox, Mr. F. J. Lloyd (consulting chemist), and the secretary (Mr. Wm. C. Young).

A report was received from the Finance and General Purposes Committee, on whose recommendation cheques amounting to £90 5s. 7d. were passed for payment.

The Education and Journal Committee brought up a report with reference to their arrangements for forthcoming numbers of the Society's Journal. The report was agreed to.

Upon the recommendation of the Conference Committee it was decided, after discussion, that the Dairy Conference for 1901 should be in one of the British counties, leaving the exact locality to be hereafter determined upon.

The Show Committee reported to the Council their proposals in regard to advertising catalogue and awards (the latter to be printed separately), demonstrations in scone-baking, to illustrate one of the uses of butter-milk; trussing demonstrations, refreshments, band, fodder, and other matters connected with the Dairy Show next month. The report was adopted.

A list was prepared of members of the Council retiring by rotation (eligible for re-election) and of new candidates nominated.

Nominations were made of a president and vice-presidents for the ensuing year, and the general meeting of members was fixed to be held on the second day of the Dairy Show, October 10th, at 2 p.m.

The Royal Lancashire.

A quarterly meeting of the Council of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society was held on Monday in Liverpool. Mr. Geo. C. Hale presided.

The secretary (Mr. James Birch) reported that the approximate financial result of the Rochdale Show would be about £750. He said that the year's working had proved very satisfactory. In reply to a question by Mr. W. J. Fitzherbert-Brockholes, of Garstang, the secretary said that he had been in communication with the society's botanist with respect to the adulteration of agricultural seeds, and he expected a reply from him shortly.

A long discussion next took place as to whether Mr. T. Miller, an exporter of pedigree Shorthorn cattle, was entitled to the prize which he won in the county class at the recent Rochdale Show. It was pointed out that when Mr. Miller made his entry the secretary called his attention to Rule 30, which provides that an exhibitor in this section must have the whole, or at least two-thirds of his holding within the County Palatine. Mr. Miller replied that he considered he was perfectly justified to show, as his business was in Liverpool. It was also announced that no protest had been made, although a number of exhibitors had raised the point as to Mr. Miller's right to exhibit in the local class. Mr. J. Mercer (Widnes) contended that the wording of Rule 30 was so lax that there might be a loophole for Mr. Miller to slip out of, and especially seeing that the secretary had accepted his entry. He suggested that the best course would be to withhold the prize money for the present, and to take counsel's opinion as to the wording of the rule. Mr. T. Backhouse (Liverpool) seconded Mr. Mercer's proposal. The secretary further stated that Mr. Miller had replied that the whole of his holding was in Lancashire, and that he only had his residence in Cheshire. It was also, he said, invariably the custom of the society not to consider these matters unless there had been a protest lodged. Mr. Lawrence Rawstorne (Preston) pointed out that if counsel advised that the word "holding" covered the word "office," the sooner the rule was altered the better. It was decided that the secretary should procure further information from Mr. Miller as to his business, and that the society's legal adviser should be consulted on the point.

The secretary announced that at the Rochdale Show Mr. F. Stapleton Bretherton presented a £10 cup for the best draught horse, suitable for agricultural purposes, the property of a tenant farmer, principally depending on farming for a living. This was originally won by Mr. J. Fox, of Corless Mill, Ellel. A representation was, however, afterwards made by Messrs. Jackson Bros., of Middle Hulton, near Bolton, to the effect that they had not been brought into the ring when the competition for the cup was taking place, and that their horse, having been placed above the entry of Mr. Fox's in a previous class, they were entitled to the trophy. After a prolonged discussion the matter was deferred for further investigation.

A letter was read from the secretary intimating that he desired to retire from that position at the end of the present financial year. The chairman spoke in eulogistic terms of the valuable services Mr. Birch had rendered to the Society, and said he was extremely sorry to hear that he had decided to resign his position. Mr. J. T. Wood (Liverpool) referred to the earlier days of the Society, and said that Mr. Birch had played an important part in bringing the Society from a state of chaos and the verge of bankruptcy to one of the most flourishing organisations in the country. (Hear, hear.) The Society was in a sound, healthy condition, and he trusted that Mr. Birch would be induced to reconsider his decision. Captain Withington (Warrington) suggested that Mr. Birch should hold the position for, at all events, another year. Mr. Birch expressed his thanks for the kind remarks that had been made, but said he regretted that he could not alter his decision. Mr. J. W. Fair spoke of the desirability of the offices of the Society being situated in a more central position—for instance, at Preston, but said that if Mr. Birch could be persuaded to continue to undertake the duties for a little longer the offices should not be changed until he had resigned from the post of secretary. The further consideration of the matter was ultimately postponed until the next meeting at Preston. The chairman said that nothing definite had been decided with regard to the selection of the site for next year's show, and the consideration of the matter was deferred.

Somerset County Agricultural Association.

The Sites Committee held a meeting at the Municipal Offices, Taunton, on Tuesday last. The secretary read a letter from the secretary of the Taunton Local Committee offering the Association two sites for selection for the Taunton meeting next year, namely, No. 1, a site known as the Horse Show Ground, situated on the Holway Road, about fifteen acres; No. 2, a site adjoining the Vivary Park, with foot passengers' entrance from the Vivary gates at the top of High Street, and entrances for the heavy traffic through Wilton, acreage up to seventeen acres. The committee then viewed both sites, accompanied by Messrs. W. A. Wrenn (Mayor of Taunton), A. E. Perkins, M. Fardoe, and Samuel Kidner, and their secretary (Mr. W. R. J. Greenslade). After such view the Sites Committee deliberated, and were unanimous in approving the selection of site No. 2, adjoining Vivary Park, subject to the usual conditions being entered into by the Taunton Local Committee.

The Royal Counties Agricultural Society.

A meeting of the council of the above Society was held at the Town Hall, Basingstoke on Wednesday, September 5th. Present: Mr. W. M. Harries (in the chair), the Mayor of Winchester (Mr. Alderman Marks), the ex-Mayor of Winchester (Mr. Councillor Forder), Sir W. Pink, Rev. A. G. Barker, and Messrs. S. H. Allen, J. Burbidge, C. Barfoot, T. J. Cottrell, P. Chasemore, H. J. Gibbs, G. Judd, F. M. E. Jervoise, E. Lyne, W. Newton, W. E. Pain, W. Perkins, R. Robey, J. Stratton, E. Whitfield, Charles Simmons (treasurer), and the secretary, Mr. Franklin Simmons.

Letters of apology were read from Viscount Baring, Sir William D. King, and Messrs. A. F. Jeffreys, M.P., T. Sturton, G. Adams, W. H. Dunn, and J. Willis-Fleming.

The Secretary read telegrams received from Her Majesty the Queen and H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught acknowledging the votes of sympathy on the occasion of the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg. The replies were ordered to be entered on the minutes.

The Chairman proposed a vote of sympathy and condolence with the family of the late Sir Henry Simpson, whose valuable services to the Council he warmly eulogised. This was seconded by Mr. James Stratton and unanimously carried.

The Secretary read a letter from the Town Clerk of Winchester conveying a resolution of the Corporation of that city thanking the council of the Society for their courteous reception on the occasion of the opening of the Winchester meeting in June last. The Mayor of Winchester stated that the local committee's accounts in connection with the Winchester Show showed a surplus of about £168, and that at a meeting of the subscribers it was unanimously resolved to hand the same to the Royal Counties Society. He therefore had much pleasure in carrying that resolution into effect, and regretted that bad weather and other circumstances had affected the financial success of the show. The chairman briefly thanked the Mayor of Winchester and the ex-Mayor for the energy and interest which they had evinced in promoting the success of the show, and for the valuable contribution towards the Society's funds.

The Secretary submitted the draft report of the Finance Committee with reference to the Winchester meeting, and it was resolved that any deficit arising therefrom should be dealt with by arrangement with the Society's bankers rather than by sale of invested capital. The auditors to the Society were re-appointed for the present year.

The date of the annual general meeting was fixed for Wednesday, November 28th.

The date for the Weymouth (1901) show was fixed for Tuesday, June 4th, and three following days. The secretary reported that Lord Portman had consented to accept the office of president in connection with the Weymouth show, and that the local arrangements were proceeding satisfactorily.

A discussion took place as to the probable effect of the decision of the Royal Agricultural Society to establish a permanent showyard in the vicinity of London on the shows of the Royal Counties Society, and a committee was appointed to inquire into the matter and make a report to the council.

The council unanimously decided that the brood mare Patience, exhibited by Mr. T. D. John and awarded the first prize in Class 55 at the Winchester Show, was not eligible to take the prize inasmuch as she did not comply with the conditions of entry.

Agriculture at the British Association.

In the Economic Science and Statistics Section the presidential address was given by Major P. G. Craigie. In opening, he claimed that the right production, the proper treatment, and the wise grouping of garnered facts concerning men and his relations to the State as a member of society, constituted a study second in importance to no other form of research. Such discussion as ought to be possible in that section should prove, moreover, a factor of (no small moment in its bearing on the) advancement of science in its broadest sense, whether physical, economic, or political. He came, not as some of his predecessors in the chair, with eminence won either in the highest fields of politics or earned by patient work in the cloistered retreats of academic study, but rather as representing those who formed the hewers of woods and drawers of water from the economic controversialists of the day. Of all

Statistical Work

the enumeration of the units of population must ever take the foremost place, and on the eve of the census to be taken before many more months have passed, a reference to that great impending task could hardly be omitted. In common with all students of the machinery of census-taking, he was sure he echoed the feelings of the section, as he did those of the Royal Statistical Society, who had long laboured in this direction, in deeply regretting that the first census of the twentieth century was not to possess the distinction many had hoped to see conferred upon it of being by preliminary announcement—as he hoped it might prove to be in ultimate fact—the first of a series, not of decennial, but of quinquennial, countings of the people. The growing complexity of social conditions and speed of life in all its functions at the present date, contrasted with the leisurely movements of a hundred years ago, would alone and amply justify a more frequent stock-taking of the inhabitants of Great Britain than had been the practice in the past. The practical wants of our much multiplied system of local government could not fail ere long to bring about the granting of an intermediate numbering, even if for a moment other considerations over-ruled the more academic pleas of statisticians for this reform, or the arguments which he believed to be sound, for a permanent census office, a permanent Census Act, and a trained and continuous census staff to whom preparation of the machinery beforehand and detailed elaboration of the results after the actual census year might with real economy be entrusted. In the near future the attention of statistical critics would doubtless be drawn again to the massive collection of materials respecting local taxes, their growth and pressure which might be looked for from the final report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation. This was the field in which he first made some inquiry during his residence in a Yorkshire township thirty-four years ago, when local government and local rates of necessity came home with primary concern to one who happened, like himself, to be the sole inhabitant householder of an area constituted for several purposes a unit of local administration.

Quite as full of difficult problems and disputed, non-comparable figures, the President continued, would be found to be the use of statistics of

Production and of Trade.

The varying and scanty records of one period might have to be viewed in connection with and interpreted by the better and fuller data of the day, and the conditions of one country might have to be compared with those of another, while the puzzling variations in the system employed had to be allowed for and discounted in the conclusions. Perhaps the difficulties of just comparison between the records of one time and another, or one State and its neighbour, came home with peculiar emphasis when the statistics dealt with related to [illegible] In the records of the numbers of animals there was room for much misunderstanding. Horses were defined differently in different countries, sheep being in lambs, or not, [illegible] one thing in one country and another in another. These were but examples of the danger of [illegible] too close reliance on figures of this kind in international comparisons. In any attempt to compare the returns of the imports of the past twenty or thirty years, even in those valuable statistics, as between one country and another, the [illegible] with respect to [illegible] and as usually compared [illegible] part of the address dealt with agricultural statistics. In conclusion, he pointed out that if there had been, as he had shown, such [illegible]

facts on which a conclusion could be built as to the past history of the relative growth of live stock or of cereal culture and the supply of bread stuffs, how much greater must the difficulty be of those who attempted, on the basis of such data, to forecast the course of events for a generation yet to come! The prime qualifications for safe statistical deductions were redoubled caution in handling calculations, a very guarded use of data giving records of single and isolated years, and a wise reservation in any prophetic pictures of the future of agricultural production, whether of wheat or cotton, in meat or in wood, of the contingency always present, of altered conditions which ever and anon in the past had altered and falsified the predictions of earlier observers.

Mr L. L. Price moved a vote of thanks to the President, of whose work at the Board of Agriculture he spoke in terms of high praise.

The Bishop of Ripon seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr. S. Bourne, F.S.S., and carried.

Experimental Work in Agriculture.

In the Economic Science and Statistics Section, over which Major Craigie presided, Dr. Saunders, Director of the Canadian experimental farms, gave an account of the satisfactory results of experimental work in agriculture carried on in the Dominion under Government organisation. He stated that in 1886 an Act was passed by the Parliament of Canada, authorising the Government to establish a central experimental farm and four branch experimental farms in different parts of the Dominion. The results of twelve years' experience had shown that these institutions had been highly beneficial to the farming community. Experimental research had been carried on along the lines prescribed by the Act by which these farms were established, and much information had been accumulated and distributed freely to the farmers of Canada. Benefits had thus been conferred on Canadian farmers in connection with all the more important farm crops, in the development of stock and dairy industries, in the production of fruits, in the growing of trees for shelter and timber, and in the advancement of other branches of arboriculture. Much attention had been given to experiments relating to the maintenance of the fertility of the land, to the best methods of cultivating the soil, to a proper rotation of crops, to the best time for sowing and the selection of the best and most productive varieties for seed. By freely spreading the information gained, supplemented by a liberal distribution of samples of the best and most productive cereals, crops had been improved, and the attention of farmers generally awakened to the importance of adopting such measures as would result in increased crops. The steady advancement which had taken place within recent years in Canada, and the increasing prosperity of agricultural industries, might, in large measure, be attributed to the useful work of these experimental farms established and maintained by the Government in different parts of Canada.

Mr. Somerville, the recently-appointed Professor of Agriculture at Cambridge University, said many of them had for the past few years been endeavouring to formulate suitable schemes for the improvement, on scientific lines, of the agriculture of Great Britain, and, more recently, of Ireland. Experiment by Act of Parliament was apt to be hampered by restrictions; but in Canada the legislation which authorised the work had, with advantage, been so comprehensive as to leave the workers with a practically free hand. One leading distinction between our own efforts and those of Canada or the United States was that we relied much more upon local effort. There was no experimental work in agriculture, and almost no agricultural work of an educational kind, in this country which was supported entirely from Government sources. But the requirement of local co-operation had ensured local interest. He was assured by farmers that the somewhat extensive work carried on during recent years in connection with various agricultural colleges, aided by the Board of Agriculture, had been of practical value, and, moreover, it had set farmers thinking about possible improvements of method.

Mr. Hall, Principal of the Agricultural College at Wye, remarked that, as some of the best experimental work in agriculture had originally been done in this country, it was rather unfortunate that our haphazard methods of encouraging it should contrast somewhat unfavourably with the more complete and consistent methods officially employed in Canada. There was little actual research work done here, except at Rothamsted. He doubted how far it was effective to throw upon teachers the work of research.

Mr. Hughes commended the experimental work done in Canada, which, he said, was of special interest in this country, as we depended upon Canada for so much of our food supply.

Growth of Beet.

The next subject discussed in the same section was "The Economic Possibilities of the Growth of Beet Sugar in England," upon which a paper was read by Mr. Hall, of the South-Eastern Agricultural College. The somewhat unfavourable view taken by the reader of the paper was confirmed in the course of debate by Dr. Ginsburg. Mr. F. P. Walker followed with a historical sketch of the chief phases of agricultural labour. Mr. J. C. B. Kershaw afterwards read a paper in which he discussed the theory of a connection between trade fluctuations and agricultural prosperity.

THE WEATHER.

Monday (September 3rd).—A well-developed anticyclone covered the British Isles, the barometer being very high, and rising in most places, but falling slightly in the north under the influence of a disturbance which was moving eastward beyond the Shetlands. Except for a strong wind in the Hebrides, moderate to very light breezes were reported very generally from a northerly to easterly direction over nearly the whole of England, and from the westward over the rest of the kingdom. Fair to very fine and dry weather prevailed extensively during the day, apparently no rain being registered anywhere. There had been a considerable fall of temperature at the majority of stations in the night, minima little short of the freezing point occurring in Scotland and Ireland, Nairn being as low as thirty-three degrees.

Tuesday (September 4th). The anticyclone was still the controlling power in the weather over the western half of Europe, its centre remaining over a great part of the United Kingdom. During the day, however, the barometer exhibited a general downward tendency, and the system appeared to gravitate towards the Continent. Very light breezes were experienced all over our islands, the westerly current spreading southward, and the easterly breeze was limited to a few places along the western end of the Channel. The sky was dull and overcast locally in Scotland and Ireland; but, as a rule, very fine autumnal weather was in the ascendant, no rain being reported anywhere, though it was tending towards wet in the north. The night had been cool in many districts, with temperatures about forty degrees, and in the afternoon there were few maxima as high as sixty-five degrees.

Wednesday (September 5).—The leading feature of the atmospheric conditions over Western Europe was again the extensive anticyclone which has maintained its ground since the beginning of the week, but it seems to be dissolving very slowly, as the barometer was everywhere on the decline throughout the day. There were some signs of cyclonic disturbances trying to spread down upon us from the north, westerly to south-westerly breezes having become general round our coasts, but they had hardly any strength, and did not look like freshening. Rain had set in over Scotland in the night, and it continued most of the day. England and Ireland, on the other hand, had splendid weather, clear and sunny in the south, rather more cloudy in the north. Moderately low temperatures occurred in a few places at night, the afternoon being seasonably warm, London rising to 71deg.

Thursday (September 6th).—A cyclonic disturbance which passed eastwards beyond our northern coasts ocasioned a moderate amount of rain over Scotland during Wednesday night; but on Thursday the influence of the anticyclone centred over the southern districts extended to all parts of the kingdom, the barometer having commenced to ascend again in many localities, and seemed to give promise of a continuance of settled conditions for the present. Gentle easterly breezes were reported along all the southern coasts, and equally light westerly brezes everywhere else. Locally about the Bristol Channel and in the neighbourhood of London the atmosphere was rather foggy in the first part of the morning; but with this exception, and a litle overcast sky at some places in the North, the day witnessed a repetition of the very fine autumnal weather of previous days, the afternoon temperatures being at about seventy degrees in many districts.

Friday (September 7th). Meteorological reports showed that the conditions over Western Europe were undergoing changes of considerable magnitude, the barometer being on the decline, the recent anticyclone had passed away from our shores to Central Europe, and a cyclonic system had appeared off the West of Scotland. The general outlook, therefore, had become much more unsettled, but although overcast, dull, or gloomy in most parts of the kingdom, only the northern and north-western regions experienced light to moderate rain, there being some fog along the southern and south-western coasts. Notwithstanding the change in the prevailing type, the winds remained extremely light in force everywhere, the direction being from between south-west and south-east. Except in a few localities, the night had been mild, most of the temperatures being up in the fifties; the afternoon values generally being in the sixties, London touching seventy-five degrees.

Saturday and Sunday (September 8th and 9th). The weather during the two days was of an indefinite description, an anticyclone endeavouring to spread in from the south-westward, while depressions were skirting the northern coasts, others apparently being about to approach the western coasts. Over most localities the winds were generally from some north-western point of the compass, and very light in force. There was a good deal of fair to very fine weather, but not of the same character as was experienced on previous days, and at times most districts had rather a dull, threatening sky, with now and again some gentle falls of rain. Temperature was mainly in the fifties at night, and in the sixties in the afternoons, London rising to seventy degrees each day.

THE GARDEN.

Since the new moon came in on the 25th ult. there has been a decided improvement in the weather on the whole. We still get an occasional wet day, but, as a rule, the sun shines more or less brightly most days, and fairly high temperatures are maintained, but the nights are getting decidedly cool now.

Potatoes of all the earlier varieties will in most cases be ripe enough by this time to be lifted, and, as a rule, this had better be done at once, before the spores of disease can be washed down to the roots by more rain. In this and many other districts the haulm is now pretty generally affected by the mur-rain, and as it is scarcely possible to prevent the germs or spores falling to the ground, they are in time sure to reach the roots, unless these can be got up and stored before this occurs, particularly if we get any more rain. With few exceptions, however, the late kinds are not yet sufficiently matured to allow of the crops being safely lifted, so that these must "take their chance," so to speak, for a little longer, though where the haulm is at all badly diseased it will be advisable to cut off and burn the haulm at once.

In all probability the late or main crops of potatoes will suffer worse from the disease than the earlier kinds, and it is by no means unlikely that we may have potatoes unusually scarce and dear before the new crop comes in again next season. In order to avoid as far as possible any shortage of the kind, great care should be taken in lifting, sorting, and storing the crop, getting the tubers out of the ground at the earliest possible date consistent with a sufficient degree of ripeness, laying the crops out thinly in a dry place, and sorting out all that exhibit the least signs of disease, not only when storing, but at frequent intervals subsequently.

All tubers intended for seed must be left in the ground until thoroughly ripe; when lifted it is a good plan to lay these out in some sunny, sheltered spot until they become quite green.

We are now using a batch of "Schoolmaster" potatoes grown on the "lazy-bed" system, and without any manure whatever. In spite of the wet season these are most delicious, cooking dry and floury, with a sweet nutty flavour. By this system the beds are raised so much above the level of the alleys between them that they cannot possibly become sodden, and consequently the tubers are much more dry and firm in character than those grown on the level.

A plot had better be prepared now for the July-sown cabbages, which ought to be fit for planting out about the middle of the month. If they stand at all thickly in the seed-beds or rows, some of the strongest had better be thinned and planted out as soon as possible.

Early apples and pears are ripening fast now, and as a rule the crops are good. The former should be eaten as far as possible straight from the tree, but pears are better gathered a few days before they are quite ripe, and stored until mellow. Mr. Gladstone is a very pretty early apple, and the earliest of all to ripen; other good early dessert kinds are Irish Peach, Devonshire Quarrenden (this is a very favourite market variety), Kerry Pippin, and Worcester Pearmain. The best early culinary apples are the good old Keswick Codlin, the Manx Codlin, Cellini, and Lord Suffield.

All the lateral growths on vertical cordon fruit trees, whether apples, pears, or plums, should now be cut back to within one or two buds or eyes of the base, so as to form spurs.

Beds of begonias are in great beauty now, and in a season like this beat the "geraniums" hollow. Many of the fibrous-rooted or winter-flowering begonias also "bed out" capitally, blooming very profusely, and affording an excellent effect.

Whether a previous batch of cuttings of the "bedding" and other geraniums has been inserted previously or not, a good number had better be got in at once, either in pots or boxes. Keep them out of doors as long as the weather remains fine, and then remove to a sunny and well-ventilated house or pit. Insert cuttings of petunias, marguerites, heliotropes, and others in a frame over a very gentle hotbed at once.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

The Thistle Pest.

Sir, I have found that these troublesome weeds may be eradicated by chopping them off with a sharp hoe about an inch and a half or two inches underground, on the principle that if they are prevented from forming leaves, the roots of necessity must die. They are not so likely to shoot again if cut off below the surface. The botanical name of the perennial sort, which gives such trouble on grass land in the summer, is "Cirsium pratense." Yours, truly,

Constant Reader.

NEWS NOTES.

Drogheda, co Louth.—Held on 27th August. Small fair; demand fair. Calves, first class, £4 15s. to £5. Yearlings, first class, £8 to £9; second class, £6 15s. to £7. Two-year-olds, first class, £9 15s. to £10 10s.; second class, £9 to £9 10s. Three-year olds, first class, £11 15s. to £14; second class, £11 to £11 5s. Springers, first class, £16 to £21; second class, £12 to £13.

Farm Fire near Colchester.—On Wednesday evening a fire broke out at Eight Ash Farm, Copford, in the occupation of Mr. Miller. A barn, with stabling, cow-houses, and a shed were destroyed, together with several implements and stacks, representing the produce of three acres of winter oats, nine acres of barley, and an acre of peas.

Paris Exhibition Awards.—With their exhibits in Group 7, Class 35, at the Paris Exhibition, Messrs. Bamford and Sons, of Uttoxeter, have obtained a gold medal award for the "Royal" mowers and reapers, the "Rapid" corn-grinding mills, the "Progress" double-action haymaker, and the new patent "self-feeding" chaffcutter. A special silver medal has also been obtained this week at the Warwickshire Show, Coventry, for Messrs. Bamfords' "self-feeding" chaffcutter, with new patent self-acting stop motion. The improvements in this machine securely protect the attendant from personal injury, and also prevent straining or breakage of the shafts and gearing, through blockage or choking of the feed rollers, that so frequently cause breakdowns in ordinary chaff cutters.

A Death-dealing Horse.—An extraordinary double fatality is reported from Shere, a village near Guildford. A day or two ago a lad named Cumper, in the employment of Mr. Arthur Vaughan, a baker, was found by his master lying in an unconscious state in the stable, suffering from a compound fracture of the skull. It appeared that while descending a ladder the youth slipped and fell, and was kicked by a horse which was standing in one of the stalls. Cumper succumbed to his injuries, and at the inquest the coroner made a startling statement. He explained that in the ordinary course the deceased lad's employer would have been in attendance to give evidence, but, while the youth lay in a precarious condition at the hospital, Mr. Vaughan went for a ride on the horse that dealt the fatal kick, was thrown, and killed on the spot. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

14801. F. Schinze, of London, for an invention for "An improved potato harvesting machine."

14887. F. N. Tressel, of Stroud, London, for an invention for "Improvements relating to machines for loading hay or the like."

14901. R. Peel, of Kendal, Westmoreland, for an invention for "Improvements in hammers for agricultural purposes."

15111. A. Marsden, of London, for an invention for "Improvements in apparatus for digging or taking up potatoes."

15162. G. Ledson, of Liverpool, for an invention for "Improvements in machines for digging and gathering potatoes."

Patents Sealed.

9495. T. E. Martin, of Barmer, near King's Lynn, Norfolk, for an invention for "Improvements relating to steering implements, hoes, horse, hoeing, seeds, sowing."

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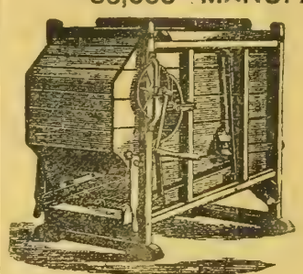

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VOL. LXXXIII. No. 3599. LONDON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1900. THIRTY-TWO PAGES PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.

(Founded June, 1894.)

PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.

HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, ESQ., Beltring, Kent.

SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH, 1900,

IN THE

CATTLE MARKET, ASHFORD, KENT, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M. SHARP.

The entries, which number 445, have been made by the following breeders:—The Right Hon. Earl Sondes, Mr. A. Amos, Mr. J. P. Barnes, Mr. G. Buley, Mr. N. Clayton, Mr. F. de B. Collard, Mr. G. Farmer, Mr. C. File, Messrs. C. File and Sons, Mr. Arthur Finn, Mr. J. H. Harvey, Mr. E. P. Hogben, Mr. W. E. Long, Mr. J. D. Maxted, Mr. W. Millen, Mr. F. Neame, Mr. L. H. Page, Mr. J. E Quested, and Mr. H. Rigden.

The judging will take place at 9 a.m. on Friday, September 28th, and the Sale will commence at 10.30 prompt. Refreshments will be obtainable on the Sale ground as usual.

The annual dinner, to which members and the public are invited, will take place at the Saracen's Head Hotel, Ashford, under the presidency of the Right Hon. A. Akers-Douglas, M.P., on Thursday, September 27th, at 7 p.m. Tickets, price 5s. 6d., to be obtained at the Hotel.

Catalogues and all information in respect to the Show and Sale to be obtained from W. W. CHAPMAN, Secretary, Room 32, Fitzalan House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.

FROME DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GREAT EXHIBITION AT FROME, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH NEXT.

Prizes above the value of £500 in cash, three Gold Medals and plate for Cheese, Butter, Working Dairy, Horses, Cattle, Farm Servants.

ALL ENTRIES CLOSED.

Schedules of the Secretary,
T. C. HARDING, Auctioneer, Frome.

SOCIETIES.

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W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

SHAP AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

The THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SHOW will be held at SHAP on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH, 1900.

Prizes will be given for Jumping, Flat and Handicap Trotting Races, open to all comers.

For particulars apply to
THOS. GELDART, Secretary.
Mill Flatt, Shap.

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JUMPING COMPETITIONS will also take place, the judging in them being by points.

During the afternoon the AMERICAN TROTTERS belonging to Messrs. WALTER and LOUIS W. WINANS will, by kind permission of their owners,

ATTEMPT TO LOWER THE WORLD AND EUROPEAN RECORDS, which they already hold.

All information of the Secretary,
VERO SHAW.
77, Fleet Street, London.

ENTRIES CLOSE SEPTEMBER 22ND.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, 10TH TO 14TH DECEMBER, 1900, AT THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.

Entries close as follows: Implement Department, 1st October. Post entries, 5th October.

Live Stock, Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs and Carcase Competition, 1st November. Post Entries 5th November. Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and other information can be obtained on application to E. J. POWELL, Secretary. 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

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FRIDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 21.—The late Mr. R. DEWHURST'S SHORTHORNS, at Shelford House, Burton Hastings, Nuneaton.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.—Mr. F. H. PADWICK'S JERSEYS, at Manor House, West Thorney, Emsworth, Hants.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—The late Mr. HENRY WYATT'S SHORTHORNS, at Walton Grange, Aylesbury.

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Auction Sales continued on page 36.

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WELLS.

Bowring, R., Auctioneer, Surveyor, and Estate Agent (Bowring and Hawkins, at Glastonbury).

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(AND DISTRICT).

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MISCELLANEOUS.

CHEMICALLY DRESSED "PECK" CLOTH SHEETS.—Waterproof and Rotproof, the foundation of which is Pure Flax Canvas, lettered and roped complete, 9ft. by 6ft., 10s. 6d.; 10½ft. by 8ft., 16s. 4d.; 12ft. by 9ft., 21s.; 15ft. by 9ft., 26s. 3d.; 15ft. by 10ft., 29s.; 15ft. by 12ft., 35s.; 18ft. by 12ft., 42s.; 21ft. by 12ft., 49s.; 21ft. by 15ft., 61s.; 21ft. by 18ft., 73s. 6d.; 24ft. by 18ft., 84s. Sample and price list on application. Immediate delivery of any other size at proportionate price, viz., 1s. 9d. per square yard.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Waterproofers, Wigan. Estd. 1808.

CART COVERS FOR MILLERS, BAKERS, AND CONFECTIONERS.—Made from best quality double texture White Mackintosh. Waterproof Sheeting, any size at 3s. 6d. per square yard. Samples free.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Waterproofers, Wigan. Estd. 1808.

WATERPROOF OIL SHEETS.—Improved flexible, made from pure flax canvas, hand dressed, lettered, with tie-ropes complete. 8ft. by 6ft., 9s.; 9ft. by 7ft., 11s.; 10½ft. by 8ft., 14s.; 12ft. by 9ft., 18s.; 12ft. by 10ft., 20s.; 15ft. by 8ft., 20s.; 15ft. by 9ft., 22s, 6d.; 15ft. by 10ft., 25s.; 15ft. by 12ft., 30s.; 16½ft. by 10ft., 28s.; 16½ft. by 12ft., 33s.; 18ft. by 12ft., 36s.; 21ft. by 12ft., 42s.; 21ft. by 15ft., 53s.; 24ft. by 18ft., 72s. These and all other sizes in stock at proportionate prices, carriage paid; thoroughly seasoned. Every cover guaranteed flexible.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Waterproofers, Wigan.

HORSE CLOTHS.—Made from flexible Oilcloth, Black or Yellow, chemically dressed "Peck" Cloth, or best White Mackintosh. Any size to order. Illustrated price list post free.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Waterproofers, Wigan. Estd. 1808.

BINDER TWINES.—Our "RECORD" brands. Samples and special prices on application.

OILS.—Guaranteed of highest quality. In drums fitted with brass tap and vent plug. Neatsfoot: 5 gallons, 22s. 6d.; 10 gallons, 40s. Linseed: 5 gallons, 18s.; 10 gallons, 32s. 6d. Machinery: 5 gallons, 12s. 6d.; 10 gallons, 20s. Drums allowed for when returned in good condition, carriage paid: 5 gallons, 4s.; 10 gallons, 5s.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Wigan. Estd. 1808.

MANILLA BINDER TWINE.—Good quality; hundreds of tons sold no complaints. Cash price, 6½d. lb.; ½ cwt. sample bale sent carriage paid.—WESTON AND CO., 49, Princes Road, Wimbledon.

SEEDS, PLANTS, ETC.

200,000 AUTUMN SOWN CABBAGE PLANTS, Fidler's Early Eclipse, the earliest and best spring cabbage in cultivation, 3s. 3d. 1,000; Wheeler's Imperial and Early Offenham, 3s.; spring sown Scotch Kale and Sprouting Broccoli, 3s.; white spring Broccoli, 4s.—W. HORNE and SONS, Cliffe, Rochester, Kent.

WINTER BARLEY.—New six-rowed variety, Jarman's Prolific. A customer writes:—"Your winter barley is my best paying crop. I have, after a corn crop, nearly 10 qrs. to the acre, with an imperial weight of 56½lb. per bushel." Price 6s. 6d. per bushel, 50s. per qr.; carriage paid.—E. J. JARMAN, Seed Grower and Merchant, Chard, Somersetshire.

CABBAGE PLANTS for spring cutting now ready. Sale's Improved Early, Ellam's Early, Flower of Spring, Enfield, Nonpariel, Wheelers, etc., 6d. 100; 2s. 500; 3s. 1,000. Large quantities to offer.—SALE and SON, Seedsmen, Wokingham. (Established 1818.)

SITUATIONS, AGENCIES.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of ICHABOE GUANO, the highest Ammoniacal Guano, also for high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS and CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

AUCTIONEER'S PUPIL REQUIRED by country firm, to fill vacancy. All branches of the profession taught. Premium 40 gns. Address "Pupil" at Horncastle's, 61, Cheapside, E.C.

BARLEY.—PRACTICAL FARMER, with good connection amongst Norfolk Barleys (Archer's, Hallett's, etc.), SEEKS ENGAGEMENT with reliable firm to buy for them on commision. State terms; references given and required.—"A. B.," care of Miller, Stationer, Fakenham.

FARM BAILIFF.—WANTED for Mr. Jeremiah Colman's Gatton Park Farms a thoroughly experienced BAILIFF. Must understand management of arable and pasture land, be a good judge of stock and economical manager. Wife to undertake dairy of 15 to 20 cows, and must be first-class butter maker.—State age, experience, wages required, family and references by letter only to Mr. ANTHONY R. CRAGG, Estate Office, Gatton Park, Reigate.

WANTED, APPOINTMENT as STEWARD or BAILIFF of a farm or estate; experienced; used to stock; good references.—"F.," 29, Salisbury Road, Bexley, Kent.

SITUATIONS, AGENCIES, ETC.

FARM BAILIFF.—WANTED, a competent and experienced man to manage a large corn and stock Farm where a Hampshire Down breeding flock and a dairy of cows are kept.—Apply, giving full particulars of qualifications and references, to FRANKLIN, GALE, and NEWTON, Estate Agents, Wallingford, Berks.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC.

SUSSEX.

CORN, COAL, and HAY BUSINESS to be DISPOSED OF. Thoroughly genuine business, only changed hands once in nearly forty years, doing between £14,000 and £15,000 per annum. Price £1,600, including freehold, extensive business premises and house, goodwill, horses, vans, utensils in trade, stock at valuation. Present owner retiring after sixteen years' very successful occupancy.

Fullest particulars given (personally preferred) by RICHARDSON AND GARRAWAY, 30, Monson Road, Tunbridge Wells.

TO LET, modern stone built 120 quarter MALT KILN, situate Pontefract Road, Barnsley.

For particulars, apply B. RODGERS, 5, Victoria Street, or Messrs. Dibb and Clegg, Solicitors, Regent Street, Barnsley.

BAXTER, PAYNE, AND LEPPER,

LAND AGENTS,

FARM AND TIMBER VALUERS, SURVEYORS, HOUSE AGENTS, AND AUCTIONEERS.

Undertake valuations of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE, either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.

MORTGAGES arranged, also Railway and other Compensations, Dilapidations, Division and Apportionment of Tithe Rent Charges, etc.

PREPARATION of PLANS, Superintending the Erection or Repairs of Farm Buildings, and Laying-out of Estates for Building, Planting, Drainage, etc.

Special attention paid to the Management of LANDED ESTATES, including LETTINGS, Collections of Rents, Tithes, and Valuation of Tenant Right.

SEPARATE LIST OF FARMS.

Auction dates are fixed as may be required.

London office: 69, King William Street, E.C.

Country offices: Bromley, Kent; and at Beckenham.

FARMS, ESTATES, MILLS, BUSINESSES, ETC.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., & Sevenoaks, Kent.

FARM TO BE LET.

TO BE LET, compact FARM, ample and well-arranged Homestead, good House, plentiful supply of water, labourer's cottage, 200 acres arable, orchards, and 60 acres of meadow. Rent £250.—For further particulars, apply to VERNON AND SON, High Wycombe; GOODWYN AND SONS, Granville Chambers, Portman Sq., London, W.

TO BE LET, at Michaelmas next, "THE HERMITAGE," situate in the centre of the village of Boxley, close to the church, and within 2 miles of L.C. and Dover Station, Maidstone. Containing two reception rooms, five bedrooms, bath room, good offices, stabling and coach-house, with well stocked walled kitchen garden. For further particulars and order to view, apply Messrs. SEYMOUR and WARING, 46, Earl street, Maidstone.

MILLERS.—FOR DISPOSAL STEAM MILL with small corn and hay trade attached, low rent, incoming easy, excellent opportunity for a young man. Full particulars, Mr. JAMES ROGERS, Estate Agent, Maldon.

SUSSEX.

STOPHAM, near PULBOROUGH.

TO LET from Michaelmas, 1900, the MANOR FARM, with fine old-fashioned Farmhouse, substantial and well-arranged Farm Buildings, and about 163 acres Arable and Pasture Meadow and Brookland. Rent £300.—Apply, W. B. HOY, Stopham Estate Office, Pulborough.

GENUINE Corn Factor's business for Sale in London; full particulars at interview.—Apply, HORNER HARGREAVES, Solicitor, Camberwell.

UPPER THAMES STREET (Dowgate).—CAPITAL WHARF possessing a frontage of 42 ft. to the Thames, and occupying an area of upwards of 5,000 superficial feet. Capital warehouse of three floors, fitted with cranes and loophole doors, also a building of three floors and basement, suitable for offices or foreman's dwelling.

RENT OF THE WHOLE £300 PER ANNUM.

Apply to Messrs. FAREBROTHER ELLIS and CO., 29, Fleet Street, Temple Bar, E.C.

AUCTION SALES.

Continued from front page.

HOLT HOUSE FARM, LEZIATE, NEAR KING'S LYNN,

Five minutes walk from Middleton Station on the G.E.R., and fifteen minutes walk from Gayton Road Station on the M. and G.N. Joint Railway.

Highly important sale of Live and Dead FARMING STOCK as follows: 20 HORSES, including 12 young and active cart mares and geldings, 2 promising cart yearlings, 3 capital foals, 2 nags, and a children's pony. A herd of 42 pure-bred RED POLLED CATTLE, of 11 cows, 20 heifers, 4 bulls, and 7 steers forward in condition. A flock of 441 pure-bred SUFFOLK SHEEP, of which there are 214 young and healthy breeding ewes, 223 capital lambs, and 4 tups. 85 head of Swine, including 9 sows and 76 stores. The IMPLEMENTS embrace, amongst other items, 6 wagons (three of which are nearly new), 5 tumbrils, wood and iron single and double-furrow plough, Massey Harris cultivator, a THRESHING TACKLE, of engine, drum, and elevator, by Roby; four capital corn, manure, turnip, and small seed drills, dressing machine by Roby, "Buck-eye" grass-cutter, reaper by W. Woods, chaff-cutting machine by Maynard. A quantity of DAIRY UTENSILS, POULTRY, and other effects, which

MESSRS. CRUSO AND WILKIN have received instructions from the proprietor, MR. GEORGE E. HAWKINS, in consequence of his leaving the county, to SELL by AUCTION, upon the above farm, on

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 1900,

commencing at 10.30 o'clock punctually.

Luncheon at 1 o'clock.

Full descriptive catalogues may be obtained from the AUCTIONEERS, King's Lynn, one week prior to sale.

CATTLE MARKET, DERBY.

The FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW and SALE of SHIRE-BRED FOALS and OLDER HORSES will take place on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3rd and 4th. £45 in PRIZES.

Entries close September 18th.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3RD.

250 SHIRE-BRED FILLY and COLT FOALS.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4TH.

250 SHIRE-BRED YEARLING and TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES; MARES, three years old and upwards; YOUNG GELDINGS; and GELDINGS, five years old and upwards, for town work.

Judging at 9. Sale at 11 o'clock prompt.

Catalogues ready one week prior to sale from the Auctioneer,

ANDREW SMITH,
16, Derwent-street, Derby.

The entries already received include:—

10 from The Rt. Hon. Lord Belper, Kingston.
1 „ Sir Peter Walker, Bart., Osmaston Manor.
9 „ Jno. Hodson, Esq., Mickleover.
6 „ W. T. Everard, Esq., Bardon Hall.
4 „ J. N. Woodiwiss, Esq., Duffield.
etc., etc.

KENT.

NEWINGREEN, close to Westenhanger Station, S.E.R., where a good supply of trucks will be on hand, and passenger trains will call.

BREEDING EWE, TEG, AND LAMB SALE

MESSRS. W. & B. HOBBS will hold the above SALE on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th, 1900, at 10 a.m. sharp.

4,546

KENT AND HALF-BRED SHEEP AND LAMBS,

INCLUDING

916 Kent Lambs	546 Wether Tegs
457 Half-bred Lambs	50 Half-bred Tegs
1,924 3-Lamb Ewes	443 Ewe Tegs
210 1 and 2-Lamb Ewes	5 Kent Ram Tegs

Also an excellent CROSS-BRED DAIRY COW and CALF; a heavy milker.

The up trains leaving Dover at 9.35 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. will call at Westenhanger Station for this Sale.

Luncheon provided.

Stock must be in the field by six o'clock.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SALE OF PURE BRED PEDIGREE WELSH BLACK CATTLE.

MESSRS. WM. DEW & SON beg to announce that the NORTH WALES BLACK CATTLE SOCIETY will hold their SALE of PEDIGREE BULLS, COWS, HEIFERS, and YOUNG CATTLE at Madryn Home Farm, midway between Llanfairfechan and Aber Stations on the L. and N.W. Ry. (by the kind permission of Colonel Henry Platt, C.B.), on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25th, at one o'clock.

Catalogues free on application to the AUCTIONEERS, Bangor and Llandudno.

AUCTION SALES (*Continued*).

GARTH HALL, WELSHPOOL.

Three miles from Welshpool station, where conveyances will meet trains.

LYTHALL AND WALTERS will SELL BY AUCTION, WITHOUT RESERVE, on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25th, by direction of Captain Devereux H. Mytton,

79 Pure-bred SHORTHORN COWS and HEIFERS and their CALVES.

The Cows are all young, are regular breeders, and will be offered in store condition. There are a large and good lot of two-year-old Heifers, nearly all with calves at foot, as well as several yearlings with great showyard promise. The Royal prize-winning Cow "Silene" is included in the sale.

9 GRAND YOUNG BULLS, fit for service, and

55 FAT AND STORE SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.

Luncheon at 12. Sale immediately after.

Catalogues from the Auctioneers, Bingley Hall, Birmingham, who will execute commissions to purchase.

OXFORD DOWNS, 1900.

THE KELMSCOTT FLOCK, the property of ROBERT W. HOBBS, Kelmscott, Lechlade.

RAM LAMBS
or
SHEARLING RAMS

from this old-established flock will be SOLD by AUCTION at the undermentioned Fairs:—

KELSO, SEPTEMBER 14th.
NORTHAMPTON, SEPTEMBER 19th.

Yearling ewes for sale at home privately.

Prizes won by lambs from this flock this year are four firsts and four seconds at the Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and Gloucestershire Shows.

GREAT SHOW and SALE of Early Lambing DORSET HORN SHEEP on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th, 1900, Dorchester Poundbury Great Sheep Fair, Dorset. Mr. T. ENSOR will hold his usual SHOW and SALE by AUCTION, in the above Fair, on Thursday, September 27th, 1900, at 9.30 a.m., when will be offered nearly 10,000 EWES, EWE LAMBS, WETHERS, and WETHER LAMBS, mostly from registered flocks.

Catalogues of the Auctioneer, who will execute commissions.

Offices of the Dorset Horn Sheep Breeders' Association, 54, Soeth-street, Dorchester, Dorset.

THOMAS H. ENSOR, Secretary.

TENDERS.

EDMONTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TENDERS FOR OATS.

The Edmonton Urban District Council invite TENDERS for the supply and delivery of OATS at the Edmonton Sewage Farm, or at the Cemetery, Hyde Side, Edmonton, for the period between the 30th September, 1900, and the 31st March, 1901, or the 30th September, 1901, at the option of the Council.

Forms of tender and full particulars may be obtained of Mr. G. Eedes Eachus, Engineer to the Council, Town Hall, Edmonton.

It will be a condition of Contract that the firm whose tender may be accepted shall pay to all workmen in their employ not less than the Trade Union Rate of wages in force within the District.

Tenders endorsed "Tender for Oats" (with samples) to be delivered at my office not later than 12 o'clock (noon) on Tuesday, the 25th day of September instant.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender, and any person whose tender may be accepted will be required to enter into a proper contract with bond and to supply sureties to be approved by the Council, such contract and bond to be prepared executed and completed in every respect at the expense of the Contractor.

By Order,
WM. FRANCIS PAYNE,
Clerk to the Council.

Town Hall, Edmonton.
September 13th, 1900.

CONTRACTS FOR WHEAT FLOUR AND WHOLEMEAL.

THE PRISON BOARD is prepared to receive TENDERS for the supply of the above to the following prisons, viz.:—

Aylesbury, Bedford, Birmingham, Bodmin, Bosttal, Brecon, Bristol, Cambridge, Canterbury, Cardiff, Carlisle, Carmarthen, Carnarvon, Chelmsford, Dartmoor, Derby, Devizes, Dorchester, Durham, Exeter, Gloucester, Hereford Holloway (with Newgate), Hull, Ipswich, Knutsford, Lancaster, Leeds, Leicester, Lewes, Lincoln, Liverpool, Maidstone, Manchester, Newcastle, Northallerton, Northampton, Norwich, Nottingham, Oxford, Parkhurst, Pentonville, Plymouth, Portland, Portsmouth, Preston, Reading, Ruthin, St. Albans, Shepton Mallet, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Swansea, Usk, Wakefield, Wandsworth, Warwick, Winchester, Worcester, Wormwood Scrubbs, and York.

Forms of tender, with all necessary particulars, can be obtained at any of the prisons, or at the Prison Commission Office, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W., where also samples may be seen.

Tenders must be delivered at the Prison Commission Office, prepaid, not later than noon on Tuesday, the 18th of September, 1900.

TENDERS (*Continued*).

VESTRY OF ST. JOHN, HAMPSTEAD.

TENDERS FOR FORAGE.

The Vestry invite TENDERS for the supply of HORSE PROVENDER for one year from 29th September, 1900. Forms of Tender may be had and full particulars obtained on application to C. H. Lowe, M.I.C.E., Surveyor, at the Vestry Hall. Tenders to be delivered at my office by 4 p.m. on Thursday, 27th September.

No Tender will be received unless accompanied by £10 in cash or bank notes (not to be enclosed), as an evidence that the Tender is made *bona fide*; the amount to be returned if Tender not accepted, but to be retained in the other case until contract is duly signed. In the event of a Tender being withdrawn the deposit will be forfeited.

The expenses of preparing and stamping contract to be paid by the contractor.

The Vestry do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By Order,
ARTHUR P. JOHNSON,
Vestry Clerk.

Vestry Hall, Hampstead.
12th September, 1900.

TENDERS FOR FLOUR.

THE CONJOINT FLOUR COMMITTEE of the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue and the United Synagogue are about soliciting TENDERS for the supply of about 1,600 to 1,800 sacks of best HOUSEHOLD FLOUR, to be made of sound English Wheat, the Flour to be delivered free of all charges in such quantities and at such times and in such places in London as may from time to time be directed.

The grinding of the Flour must begin about the end of October, and be completed within six weeks, a mill being exclusively set aside for the purpose. The preparation of the mill, as well as the grinding of the Flour, will have to be carried out under the superintendence of the Jewish Ecclesiastical Authorities.

Millers desirous of tendering can obtain full particulars and copy of form of tender on application to Mr. P. Ornstien, Secretary of the United Synagogue, 2, Charlotte Street, Portland Place, London, W.

No Tender will be received after three o'clock in the afternoon of Thursday, the 20th September, nor unless made on the printed form provided for the purpose. The committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Sept. 6th, 1900.

RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY

ALEXANDRA PALACE
GREAT DOG SHOW,
SEPTEMBER 25, 26, AND 27, 1900,
Under the patronage of
THE KENNEL CLUB.

THE INTERNATIONAL KENNEL CLUB.
Patron: H.R.H. The PRINCE OF WALES.

THE LADIES' KENNEL ASSOCIATION.
Patron: H.R.H. The PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Great Northern Company will convey Dogs, etc., for Exhibition at this Show from Inverness, Aberdeen, Perth, Dundee, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Newcastle, York, Hull, Leeds, Halifax, Bradford, Wakefield, Liverpool, Manchester, Huddersfield, Burnley, Blackburn, Bolton, Sheffield, Barnsley, Rotherham, Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, Lincoln, Grimsby, Boston, Spalding, Lynn, Wisbech, Peterboro', Cambridge, and other towns on and in connection with their system, to Wood Green and Alexandra Palace Stations.

Through Vans will be run for the convey ance of Dogs for Exhibition at this Show where necessary.

☞ The Rates charged will in no case exceed those in force by any other route.

RETURN TRAFFIC.

Arrangements will also be made for the return of the traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors wishing to avail themselves of these facilities shou'd consign and address their exhibits "Per Great Northern Railway," and be careful to write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.

A Great Northern representative will be in attendance at the Show, prepared to give every information to exhibitors, and to facilitate the removal of their exhibits. The removal order issued by the Secretary should be sent to the Superintendent of the Line, King's Cross, at commencement of the Show.

For further information apply to the Superintendent of the Line, Great Northern Railway, King's Cross Station, London, N.

CHARLES STEEL,
General Manager.

London, King's Cross, July, 1900.

FARM, FIELD AND FIRESIDE.—An Illustrated Agricultural, Rural, and Domestic Journal, published weekly, price One Penny. Contains in a condensed form valuable and most useful information to all interested in the Farm, the Dairy, Live Stock, the Stable, Poultry, Bees, Garden, and the Household. The average sale of Farm Field and Fireside is greater by many thousands of copies per week than that of all its immediate contemporaries combined. Can be obtained everywhere. Price One Penny. Offices:—1, Essex Street, Strand.

HALL'S
SANITARY
WASHABLE
DISTEMPER
(PATENTED)
A NEW SANITARY WATER PAINT,
HAS GREAT ADVANTAGES.
SOME OF WHICH ARE AS FOLLOWS:—

It sets hard, Kills Vermin, and Disinfects.

It is washable in 3 weeks, does not scale, and can be Painted or Varnished. Made in two qualities, for inside and outside work.

It is made in Dark Rich Shades as well as in Light Tints, contains no Lead, and does not Turn Black.

It only requires the addition of Water to make it ready for use, so that anybody can apply it.

It is Cheaper, Cleaner, Healthier, and more Artistic than Wall Paper.

It makes an excellent Shading for Greenhouses, the inside quality lasting about 9 months, the outside quality several years

Sold by Leading Chemists, Drysalters, and Ironmongers, and Manufactured by—

SISSONS BROS. & Co., LTD.,
HULL,
from whom Samples, Shade Card, and other particulars can be obtained.

READERS of ADVERTISEMENTS in these pages will assist us by mentioning "MARK LANE EXPRESS when writing to our Advertisers.

Frank Miller's
HARNESS COMPO.
Larger Box, better value than any other make, does more work with less labour, blacks, oils, and finishes with one application. Suitable for all users of heavy harness. Saddle Soap, Axle Oil, Hoof Dressing, Harness Oil.

Frank Miller's Peerless Shoe Blacking
Shines like Diamonds.

FRANK MILLER'S CROWN DRESSING
for Ladies' and Children's Boots and Shoes.

Tower Chambers, Moorgate, London, E.C.

WORTH ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD."—*Prof. Buckman.*

Used on the Royal Farms. Known in all parts of the world. Supplied to Colonial Governments.

STEPHEN PETTIFER & SONS'

"SANTOVIN,"

—OR— (Regd.)

HERBAL TONIC or FLOCKMASTER'S FRIEND.

("SANTOVIN,"—*New Name Registered to prevent fraudulent substitution.*)

A SURE REMEDY AND PREVENTIVE

or Tapeworms, Stomach and Intestinal Worms, Husk or Hoose, Fevers, Scour or Diarrhœa, Dysentery, and Debility in Sheep and Lambs.

IN BOTTLES ONLY (30 TO 40 DOSES), 5s. EACH.

SHEEP BOOK FREE.—"Health for Sheep," 32 pages, illustrated, and with useful information and world-wide testimony.

SOLE PROPRIETORS AND MANUFACTURERS,

STEPHEN PETTIFER & SONS, SHEEP MEDICINE SPECIALISTS,

MALMESBURY, WILTS.

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CAUTION.—Beware of Imitations. Note particularly Firm's Name. ONLY ADDRESS *and* TRADE MARK (*Roman Shepherd with Sheep, as here represented*).

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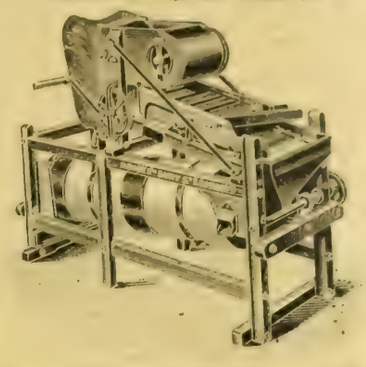

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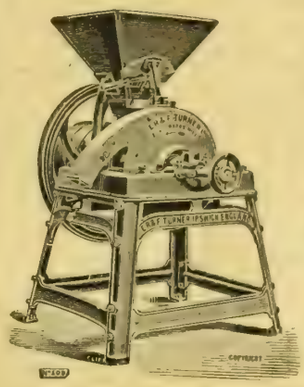

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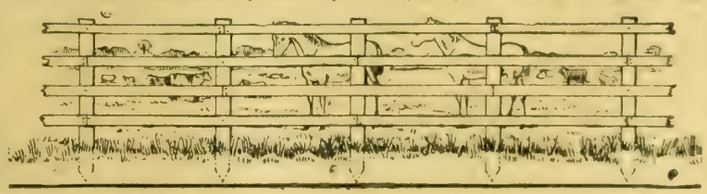

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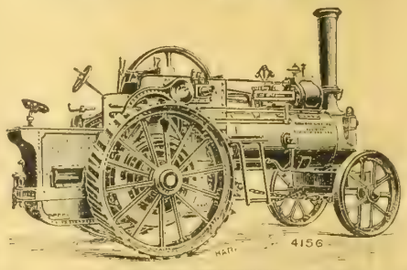

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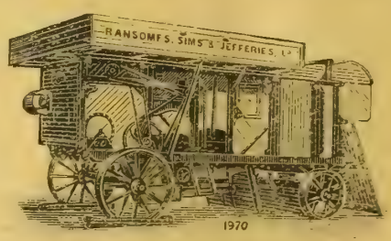

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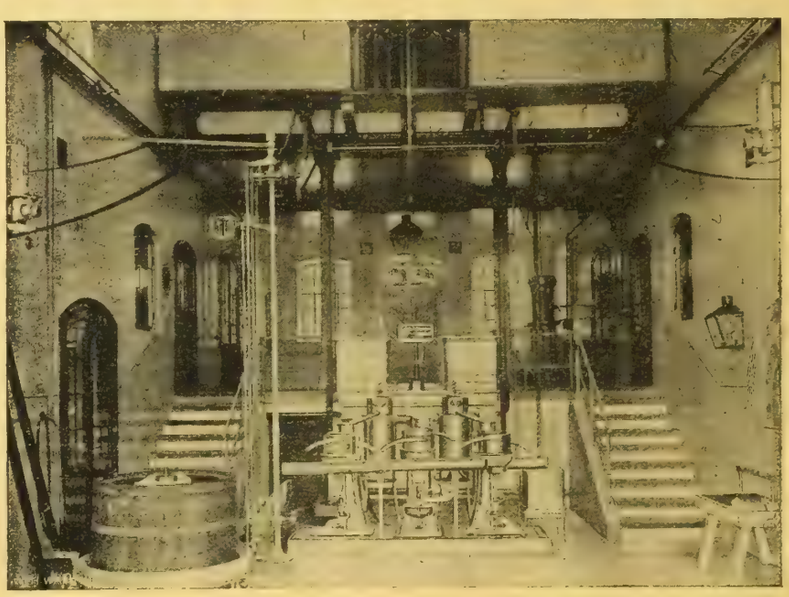

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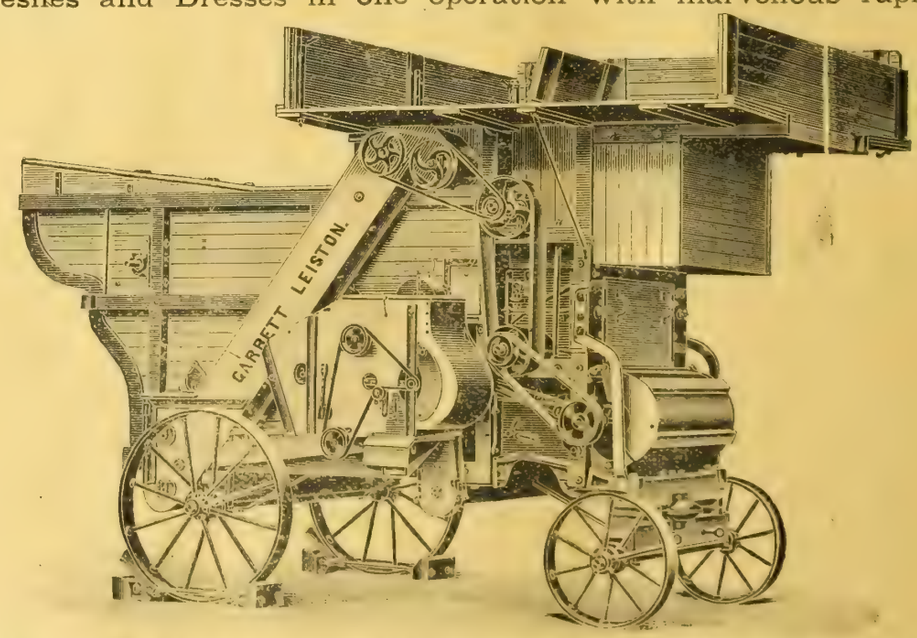

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Both Wheats 63lb. to the bushel. The seed was direct from the growers in 1899.
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Trial Pot free from the Manufactory.
SCAB IN SHEEP CURED IN ONE DIPPING.
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"CREAM EQUIVALENT" for CALVES.

An Ounce of Fact is worth a Ton of Theory.

A STRIKING FACT.

In our Spring number of "Bibby's Quarterly" we reproduced the photographs of two groups of Calves which are now being reared at the Hornby House Farm, Bedale, Yorks, by his Grace the Duke of Leeds.
One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."
We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

445 selected the "Cream Equivalent" fed Calves as having been fed on New Milk.

We think the above striking FACT speaks volumes for "Cream Equivalent."
The "Cream Equivalent" can be had at 15s. per cwt., carriage paid to nearest station.

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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal.

The Only English Journal devoted exclusively to Agriculture.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

A STRANGE DECISION.

A recent case in the Ripon County Court seems to call for somewhat serious comment. It dealt with the responsibility of a railway company in the matter of carriage of live stock. The owner of three head of cattle sued the North-Eastern Railway Company for damages, which he estimated at two pounds, on account of the refusal of the servants of such company to carry such cattle from Masham to Ripon for the live stock mart. It appears from the evidence produced in the case that the plaintiff gave notice to the station master at Masham on the Saturday that he intended to send his cattle on the Monday morning. His story was that he was told when he arrived with the animals at the station on the Monday morning that they could not be forwarded by the market train, as there was not room in the trucks. It appears from the evidence that the Board of Trade had made a special regulation by which the railway company should be entitled to attach two cattle trucks to the morning train from Masham to Ripon on Monday. It further appears that farmers who had stock to dispose of were in the habit of making arrangements to share trucks between themselves. It was further stated that in this particular instance the only truck available for cattle had been filled with sheep unknown to the station master—a contention which we cannot possibly understand as having anything whatever to do with the case. The contention of the plaintiff was to the effect that if there had been a reasonable arrangement of the animals consigned by this particular train, the plaintiff's cattle could have been included, and that he could reasonably have expected that they would have been delivered in due course and in plenty of time for the market for which he intended them.

The defence which was raised by the railway company was that as the plaintiff had not ordered a truck, and had been content to take his risk of there being room in a truck ordered by another person, the company could not be held liable for the delay. There was some suggestion as to the possibility—or, perhaps, probability—of a special train being made up if a definite order had been given; but the evidence upon this point does not seem to have been very convincing, particularly as the truck which would be necessary was at the other end of the distance to be covered. The judge decided that the station master was justified in the action that he took, and that the risk of the cattle not going fell upon the plaintiff himself. He had the chance of ordering a truck for himself, but relied upon sending the cattle in another person's truck. Seeing that it was a misunderstanding, his Honour came to the conclusion that the justice of the case would be met by a verdict for the defendants, but without costs. With the greatest of respect to the learned judge, we cannot help thinking that the decision is a mistaken one. The railway company had clearly gone to the trouble of obtaining power from the Local Government Board to attach a limited number of cattle trucks to a particular passenger train for market purposes. A railway company is not in the position of an ordinary trader, for it possesses more or less of a monopoly, and when Parliament grants such a privilege it is naturally necessary that certain duties should also be imposed. In this particular case the North-Eastern Railway Company had a right to object to any other railway being made to compete with it, but, on the other hand, it had certain duties to perform. In all reasonableness, the first duty is to accept such goods as are delivered to it for transit. It can hardly be right for a railway company to advertise special arrangements for market purposes, and then to try and escape liability by raising technical points. This case makes us think that there is some ground for the people in the North-East who are anxious to see some competition.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

Owing to the comparatively favourable early rainfall in the districts where the early sowings of gingelly are most largely made, the area sown with the crop this year up to the end of July has been, according to the first report of the Madras Department of Land Records and Agriculture, very considerably in excess of the average for recent years, and still more markedly above the sowings of the crop last year. The excess is most marked in the Carnatic districts, where about double the average area has been sown. In the Deccan districts there has been some deficiency. On the whole the crop is a promising one, though it suffered in some parts for want of rain in June. The total area sown is 381,800 acres, as compared with 319,200 in 1899.

The Bombay Department of Land Records and Agriculture has now issued its preliminary memorandum on the ground-nut crop in the Bombay Presidency for the season of 1900-1901. The estimates are made up to August 5th, and it is stated that the oil-seed is cultivated mainly

in the British districts of the Deccan, Belgaum of the Karnátak and the adjoining native States. The information received is very incomplete. In Khándesh rain for sowing was deficient, and has restricted area sown. Elsewhere season favourable. The area under the oil-seed, however, will not reach the normal owing to extended cultivation of food-grain crops consequent on last year's scarcity. Dearness of seed is also reported from places. The sown crop is progressing satisfactorily.

Not long ago there was great lamentation in the United States about the introduction of the Russian thistle. It was regarded as a calamity, like the sparrows in America and the rabbits in Australia. Now, however, matters are regarded differently, for the *National Stockman* speaks of it as "another supposed evil turns out as a blessing in disguise." It tells us that some sections of the West have just harvested their Russian thistle hay, and that the crop this year is a good one. It adds:—"Such announcements as this would have been regarded as plain lies a few years ago, but now they are merely a statement of facts. The Russian thistle is becoming an important adjunct to the wintering of stock in some parts of the grazing country. Live stock likes thistle hay, and, according to reports of ranchmen, does well on it."

Discussing in a Transatlantic contemporary the practical results of agricultural education in the United States, Mr. J. R. Dodge, at one time Statistician to the Department of Agriculture in that Republic, says that the inculcation of scientific principles in the agricultural colleges and their application on college farms have eliminated much of the uncertainty and waste of labour in the cultivation of the land. The work of the farmers' institutes and the dairy schools has, he affirms, brought directly to the farming classes the means of greater precision and efficiency, vastly improving the results of labour. These influences, he thinks, are year by year becoming more pervading, with cumulative effect; and there never was in the past a time when so little effort or expenditure in agriculture was wasted as there is now. The economy of production, as rendered necessary by competition and low prices, is effectually taught in the theory and practice of modern agricultural education, and evidence of the successful application of such instruction, he declares, is abundant.

The Crop Bulletin for August, published by the Ontario Department of Agriculture, states that the yield of fall wheat is above the average, notwithstanding the losses sustained by winter-killing on low and undrained land and the injury occasioned by dry, backward weather in spring in many localities. The crop has been harvested for the most part in excellent condition, the heads being large and well filled, and the grain plump, with the straw bright and clean. It is free from rust or smut except in a few instances. The grain ripened somewhat unevenly, and in some parts was over-ripe when cut, and shelled when handling. The weather was, as a rule, highly favourable for harvesting operations, which took place in the great majority of cases from the middle to the end of July. Several correspondents note better returns from early than from later sown wheat. The principal cause of injury next to the losses from frost was the ravages of the Hessian fly, which was reported more especially in the western part of the province. The cut-worm and other pests also did some damage. Of spring wheat the yield will be in excess of the average, although the conditions have not been altogether favourable.

In their first forecast of the til crop of 1900 the Department of Land Records and Agriculture for the North-Western Provinces and Oudh state that rain commenced late, about the middle of July, and sowings were in progress till near the close of that month. Germination is good; but in only a few districts has the crop grown sufficiently to require weeding. Prospects are good so far; but rain is generally required. This report relates to condition up to August 10th. The Central Provinces Department has also issued its first forecast on the same crop. It is stated that owing to the deficiency of the rainfall the sowings were effected much later than usual, and are not yet complete in Saugor and Damoh. Sowings were on the whole successfully carried out on a larger scale than usual. Germination was generally good, and the early sowings suffered less than cotton from the long spell of dry weather in June and beginning of July. In only some parts of Mandla and Nimar was resowing necessitated. Damage from insects is reported from Narsinghpur and Nimar. It is probable that the recent heavy rain has caused the insects to disappear. The condition of the young plants is at present satisfactory, and prospects are favourable. The cold weather crop, which is of importance in the southern districts, is not yet in the ground.

A month or six weeks ago it was hoped (says the *Statist*) that the drought in Queensland was broken. But the rain which then fell abundantly has not been followed, and apprehension is again springing up. Much good, of course, has been done by the rains; but the drought is not completely brought to an end. Still, it is to be recollected that we may have good summer rains. Outside of Queensland the outlook is favourable. Speaking generally, the drought is at an end in New South Wales and the other colonies. In New South Wales more particularly it is gratifying to learn that vegetation is making most satisfactory progress. Some time ago it was said that during the long drought the soil had in many cases been practically swept away, that the land had been turned into what was very little better than a sandy desert, and that the dust and sand had been blown away, except where it was swept into hollows or stopped by fences of some kind. The most gloomy forecasts were, therefore, formed; but the *Statist* is glad to say that recent information tends entirely to overturn these gloomy forebodings. Everywhere almost the vegetation is making most satisfactory progress, and it looks as if the country would be in as good a condition as ever in a very little while.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to September 8th, 1900, were £44,061,601, against £44,099,660 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £75,836,638, against £46,518,425 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on September 8th, 1900, amounted to £3,503,809, and at the same date in 1899 to £3,501,128.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

Agricultural Education in Essex.

The agricultural work of the Essex Technical Instruction Committee is carried on at, or organised from, the County Technical Laboratories at Chelmsford. These include laboratories and class-rooms fitted up for practical instruction in the sciences upon which agriculture depends, a building for the travelling dairy school when resident at Chelmsford, workshops, and store rooms for the apparatus for external lectures, and within ten minutes' walk a large garden with potting shed, and glass house for horticultural instruction. The committee have recently issued a pamphlet giving a brief account of the work carried on by them. It includes a winter school of agriculture, a school of horticulture, classes for instruction in agricultural chemistry, botany, zoology, and dairy bacteriology. Normal science classes, travelling dairy school, external lecture classes, field meetings, agricultural excursions, field experiments, laboratory work, agricultural analysis, etc.

The complete course of instruction in the winter school of agriculture comprises three three-weeks' courses, each course being held in turn during the three weeks immediately preceding and succeeding the Christmas vacation, and therefore at a time of year when young farmers or farm pupils can be spared from the farm. The subjects of the three courses are:—Course 1, the soil; Course 2, farm crops; Course 3, farm stock. The lectures upon agricultural biology and chemistry are accompanied by practical laboratory work, and those upon practical agriculture by field demonstrations, but no instruction in the actual processes of the farm is given, it being held that these must be learnt upon the farm itself. The course of instruction is free to selected students, but no grant is made towards travelling expenses or the cost of board and lodging.

The classes for instruction in agricultural chemistry, botany, zoology, and dairy bacteriology are held usually once a week during the winter months from eleven to five, and are open to all persons engaged in agricultural pursuits. The dairy bacteriology class is intended for students of the travelling dairy school, who are thus afforded an opportunity for the practical study of the bacteria of milk and the relation of bacteria to the production of butter and cheese. The classes are free to selected students and travelling expenses are paid.

External lectures and classes are given in suitable localities throughout the rural parts of the county. They have been important factors in securing the establishment and the successful carrying on of the schools of agriculture and horticulture at Chelmsford. The courses vary in length from four to twelve lectures or more. The principal agricultural subjects taught are:—(*a*) Agricultural chemistry: the soil, manures, crops, foods, feeding, etc. (*b*) Biology: plant life, animal life, insects, bacteriology, etc. (*c*) Horticulture: vegetable culture, fruit culture, flower culture, cottage gardening, etc. (*d*) Agriculture: ploughing (with competitions), shepherding (practical), farriery (practical), treatment of live stock, thatching (practical), hay-cutting and straw-binding (practical), etc. (*e*) Poultry keeping (three-day courses). (*f*) Bee-keeping.

THE DAIRY.

The Price of Milk.

As the time for making Michaelmas milk contracts is at hand, I beg to draw the attention of dairy farmers that send milk to London to the fact that dairymen are paying more this year than they have been paying for some years past.

No farmer in the Eastern Counties has to my knowledge received less on the new contracts than 1s. 8d. per seventeen pints for the six winter months, or 9½d. per imperial gallon, and the prices that have been ruling for the six summer months are from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d. for the barn gallon.

If the farmers are to be anything like adequately rewarded for their never-ending toil they must get at least 1s. 8d. in the winter and 1s. 4d. in the summer for seventeen pints, or 9½d. and 7½d. per imperial gallon.

There is no conspiracy here to rush up the price to the consumer. In the East of London, where milk is sold at 3d. to 4d. per quart in quantities of a farthing's-worth upwards, the farmer gets about 2d. per gallon more than the farmers that send into the North and West of London, where the milk is sold in much larger quantities at 4d. to 5d. per quart.

M. MACPHERSON.
Asst. Sec., Eastern Counties Dairy Farmers' Society,
129, Angel Lane, Stratford.

The Position of the Butter Market.

Messrs. W. Weddel and Co., in their monthly market report, say that the arrival of Australian butter on the market has begun earlier this season than ever before. Already three shipments have arrived, consisting of 4,700 boxes in total, and other shipments will arrive weekly except for the week ending September 23rd. The total arrival of Australian butter in August was 1,561 cwts., against 1,833 cwts. last year, but that came on the very last day, while this year the first arrival was in the middle of the month. The butter is mostly fresh-made winter butter, but it finds few customers, and the great bulk is going into cold store until a demand for it arises. For the "choicest" grade holders are asking 110s. to 112s. per cwt., but accepting a shilling or two less. "Finest" makes 104s. to 106s. In Canadian supplies a big falling-off has taken place compared with last year. For the eight weeks ended September 1st this year the import was 60,317 cwts., against 86,477 cwts. last year, or 26,160 cwts. deficiency. For the month of August the imports of colonial butter are 14,053 cwts. less than in 1899, while the imports of foreign butter are 23,321 cwts. short for the month, thus making a total deficiency in import for August of 37,374 cwts. The prices for Canadian butter are 104s. to 106s. for "choicest" quality.

There is a very strong "bear" movement just now among agents selling Australian and New Zealand butter. This occurs at the beginning of every season, only this year it is stronger than usual. Whether this movement originates with those agents who are dealers as well as commission agents it is difficult to decide, but that it is carefully nurtured by both Australian and English agents who are dealers is beyond any doubt, as it plays distinctly into their hands. The object of these agents is to drive prices down at the beginning of the season so that they can buy the output of Australasian factories at a low figure, and thus secure large profits for themselves.

The great and rapid rise in the Copenhagen official quotation at the end of July and the beginning of August has already expended itself, and, for the last three weeks, it has been very difficult to maintain the price at its present level of 105 kroner. The market value has declined during the past fortnight, and the quotation is quite out of harmony with landed values. The imports of Danish butter during August were 118,496 cwts. against 131,910 last year, and 150,814 for the year before. France, Holland, and Sweden all show similar reductions; hence it is difficult to understand the present opinion of buyers, who are imagining that

the market will be flooded with butter and prices will sink to a record. The holders of these views may find to their sorrow that "it is always the unexpected that happens." A few months hence they may wonder how they could ever have imagined such a thing. The Agricultural Returns for Great Britain show that on the 4th of June this year the milking herd was 50,000 cows below last year, which was 97,000 above 1898. This shortage of cows will cause a deficiency in English butter of over 3,000 tons, and it is most probable that the Continental milking herds are similarly reduced, as the drought which brought about the reduction in Great Britain was equally severe on the Continent.

The demand for Canadian cheese on the spot is good, and the speculative c.i.f. demand is improving. Prices on the spot are 52s. to 53s. per cwt. for "choicest," and 50s. to 1s. for "finest." C.i.f. prices are quite 3s. above these figures. The exports of cheese from Montreal between 1st May and 25th August this year are 114,000 cheeses in excess of the same period last year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Income-Tax Overcharges.

Sir,—The preparations of the Inland Revenue for the demand for first payment of Income Tax, at the rate of 5 per cent. upon the amount of the income, are well advanced, and the blue notices of charge are now being delivered. Your readers who have made returns which have been ignored, or who have been assessed for the current year at a sum greater than the average of their profits for the three years ending April 5th, 1900, must at once give notice of appeal, in accordance with the instructions on the notice of charge. If they can furnish an account of their business transactions (which is very simple by employing the "Taxpayers' Cash Book"), the best course is to appeal to the "Special Commissioners," as these gentlemen are Government officials, and, not being rival tradesmen, nor influenced by personal, political, or other local feeling, may be relied upon to act with the greatest fairness. Moreover, if they find that the profits of the three years named show an average profit less than the amount upon which they paid tax for 1899-1900, they should give notice of appeal in respect of that year also, and claim repayment of the amount overpaid. There is no time to lose in business appeals, while a claim to set-off a loss in farming or business against income from other sources must be lodged before October 6th next.

Many people are now entitled to make a claim for three years to April 5th last, where the income arises from investments, even when dividends are paid "free of Income Tax," and the tax recoverable might amount to over £30.

We shall be pleased to advise your readers gratuitously whether they are entitled to any repayment, on their sending us full particulars of their incomes from all sources, and a stamped directed envelope for reply.—Yours faithfully,

THE INCOME-TAX ADJUSTMENT AGENCY, LTD.
12 and 13, Poultry, London, E.C.,
September 11th, 1900.

The Thistle Pest.

Sir,—As I am greatly troubled by thistles on my farm, I am glad to read the letter of "Constant Reader" in your last issue, and hope that the means of eradicating them which he suggests is really effective. There are on my farm several distinct varieties of thistle, three of them being particularly troublesome.

(1) A tall thistle flowering at the top with large blooms and multitudinous seeds, which, if allowed to ripen, blow all over one's land and one's neighbours' too. This kind, I think, is propagated only by seeds, and may be easily got rid of by being cut down an inch or so below the ground when the thistle first comes into bloom.

(2) A shorter variety which, as it propagates itself by running roots, is more difficult to eradicate, though it may be weakened and prevented from coming into flower by being mown down.

(3) This, perhaps, is the most troublesome of all. It is known in this country as a moss thistle; it grows very close to the ground, and takes a very flat shape, and it propagates itself not only by seed—one bloom growing in the centre of each thistle—but if cut off the roots send out shoots again. I do not think I exaggerate when I say that in a field of 23 acres the thistles in it would cover at least half an acre, and the amount of herbage that they render useless would be at least another half acre.

I hope some of your readers will give their experience of how to deal successfully with this pest.—Yours faithfully, WARWICKSHIRE.
September 12th, 1900.

A Dalziel's telegram from Bordeaux states that a forest fire has been raging in the Landes since Friday. 12,000 acres of pine have already been destroyed, and there is no means of checking the flames.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

The Barley Show.

The schedules of the forthcoming barley show at the next Brewers' Exhibition are at last issued, although even now the list of classes is not quite complete. The number of special and extra prizes is much greater than in any former year, and there are no less than five additional classes, without reckoning Kent, for which good barley county prizes are offered, but the terms and conditions are not finally determined, although it is expected they may be in time for the competition this year.

The total number of awards offered is upwards of 270, ranging from 50-guinea cups and gold medals down to diplomas. Many substantial prizes are offered in cash, should winners prefer to take it, or plate. The value of diplomas is, however, in some cases considerable, as on many occasions in the past winners of the MARK LANE EXPRESS seed diplomas have readily fetched high prices from seedsmen and others

For Seed Purposes.

With a long lot of barley an extra 10s. or 15s. per quarter means a very substantial sum. Each year the quantity of barley so disposed of at this Exhibition increases.

Probably the chief good which has been accomplished through the show has been its influence upon the opinions of growers as to the benefit and ultimate economy of good seed. Many of our best seedsmen have fought splendidly for very long the battle of good seed against bad. They have had very little to thank the Royal or other of the great societies for, having to depend upon their own exertions at their own charges.

It has often been a difficult matter for them to convince a sturdy grower that it is a good thing to use seed costing as much as 10s. per bushel. Still, happily, many have been so convinced, and the greatest credit is due to several good firms for their persistence and liberal action.

Seven Firms of Seedsmen

now offer prizes at the Exhibition for the seed-barley used, and in addition several of them also offer very substantial sums, in some cases over £50, for the same barleys if manured with the special manures of these firms.

Other dealers and chemical manure makers also offer very numerous and substantial prizes. Amongst these the Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works not only retain the premier place which they were the first to take many years ago, but they have this year more than trebled the value of the prizes offered, as well as added a complete class, in which the prizes offered run to £40. Notwithstanding the large number of classes, the winners of first prize in every class are open to take two guineas if they have used Ohlendorff's guano. Several other firms offer nearly as much, including the Permanent Nitrate Committee, Fison's, Webb's, and others.

The New Classes

include the important county of Norfolk, where, through the generosity of Messrs. F. and G. Smith, the honoured name of Mr. Clare Sewell Read will be associated with the county prizes, it may be hoped for many years to come. Few men have done so much for the agriculture of the whole country, as well as for his own county, as Mr. Read, and it ought never to be overlooked that he has given one and more often two days each year for many years past to the arduous task of judging at the Brewers' Exhibition.

The next East-Anglian county, Suffolk, not only retains the foremost place, but its rich list of prizes has been further added to by the liberality of Capt. Pretyman, who is a much more staunch and able friend to agriculture than is commonly recognised or known. It is greatly to be hoped that both East and West Suffolk will be sufficiently well represented to merit both Capt. Pretyman's and Sir Cuthbert Quilter's special prizes, as well as the large number of others offered from various sources.

The new class for the

Best Threshing Machine

is very likely to bring to the front in a most useful way the thorny question of proper threshing. It will be interesting to learn how the judging in this class will be conducted. Inferior barleys with thick tough skins, which stand no chance of recognition for malting purposes, may nevertheless be quite faultless so far as any defect arising from the machine is concerned. If, therefore, entry of a lot of such samples with the sole view to take the silver medal for threshing should be made, it may tend to lower the standard of quality of the majority of the exhibits which has tended to show such marked and steady improvement year by year. Old frequenters of the show can remember how very poor many samples used to be, but last year scarcely a single sample was sent up that did not merit some recognition from the judges.

What will happen this year is being watched with great keenness by various interested parties.

LITERARY NOTICES.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the "Statistical Year Book of Canada for 1899, issued by the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. This is the fifteenth year of issue, and the present volume, consisting of over six hundred pages, contains several new features.

From the New Zealand Department of Agriculture we have received a copy of its seventh annual report. It is a bulky volume, containing much useful information and many illustrations, statistical tables, etc.

There recently appeared in the *English Illustrated Magazine* an article by A. L. Bensusan on "The Cruelties and Torture Practised in Training Performing Animals." This, together with some additions from other sources, has now been published in pamphlet form, in the hope "that when its contents are generally known all exhibitions of trained animals will steadily be discountenanced." If animals cannot be taught to perform without being tortured as the writer describes it will be the wish of every lover of dumb animals that the writer's hopes may be realised.

Messrs. Thomas Kennedy and Co.'s catalogue of select Dutch flower roots, etc., for 1900-1901 has now made its appearance. The collection offered has been selected with their usual care from the best growers in Holland, and contains only such kinds as are known to be of undoubted value. Messrs. Kennedy's address is High Street, Dumfries.

The September number of the *Badminton Magazine* is a good one. Now that the hunting season is close upon us, the paper by Arthur W. Caten on "Hunting Changes—Old Masters and New" will be read with considerable interest. Another topical contribution is that by the Hon. A. E. Gathorne Hardy, who has something to say concerning the partridge. Daniele B. Varé describes "Some Types of Continental Sportsmen"; Lady Mabel Howard gives an account of an interesting riding tour; L. H. De Visme Shaw gives some hints re "Rabbiting," and Arthur H. Sharp gives a graphic description of "Sport in Portuguese East Africa"; whilst fiction is represented by a good story, entitled "Tommy, a Bombay Boy," from the pen of George Raven Dale.

Messrs. Barr and Sons, of 11, 12, and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, have now issued the 1900 edition of their catalogue of hyacinths, tulips, narcissi, crocuses, gladioli, and other bulbs and tubers for either spring, summer, autumn, or winter flowering. As in former years it is alphabetically arranged, and is thus easily referred to. They have also published their new price list of daffodils, for which flower they are noted, having been awarded a very large number of gold and silver medals and cups, and also certificates of merit, etc.

Scottish Chamber of Agriculture.—A special meeting of directors will be held within No. 5, Saint Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, 19th inst., at 10.30 a.m. Business: (1) Letters from the President and Secretary Board of Agriculture *re* Holdings Act; (2) scales of compensation under Holdings Act; (3) Mr. Long's Glasgow conference—resolutions, delegates, speakers; (4) Privy Council on sheep dips; (5) arrangements for annual meeting, conference, etc.

The Sulphate of Ammonia Committee have now issued in pamphlet form a report on and the results of the competitions for prizes given by them during the season of 1899. The report is written by Mr. John Hunter, County Analyst, Edinburgh, and he states that while the reports on the experiments for the season show some improvement in the systems of manuring, there is still much room for improvement on the part of many agriculturists, as is evidenced by the mixtures and methods of application recorded. In these reports there are but few references made to results obtained from the use of nitrate of soda as compared with sulphate of ammonia, but where there are any they once more point undoubtedly to the increased appreciation of the latter. Experiments are being carried out this season in various parts of England and Scotland, where sulphate of ammonia and nitrate of soda are being carefully tested against each other on the one crop, and the results are being awaited with considerable interest. Mr. Hunter points out that the reduced use of sulphate of ammonia implies the conjoint use of *all* the essential manurial constituents of which lime and magnesia are sometimes quite important if not more so than phosphates and potash, as nothing else, and it is the substitution of this important but what has been the cause in the past of probably every one of the disappointments that have been experienced in the using of sulphate of ammonia. He is of the opinion that with this neglect remedied there is no other purely nitrogenous manure that will not compare unfavourably with sulphate of ammonia.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

We have not yet entered upon the rushing busy time which usually characterises the opening of our season's market. Trade has been rather quiet this week except for some activity in the demand for 1899's, several parcels of which have been sold at good prices considering their quality. I saw a range of samples the other day of very unattractive appearance, which the factor told me he could not have given away two months ago, but he had just sold them at 60s. The desire of buyers to secure these low-priced lots is, I think, sufficient answer to the statements that have been freely circulated concerning the extent of brewers' stock. Such hops would not be bought for holding, but for immediate use, and these transactions, of which there have been many, seem to prove that as soon as the bulk of the new hops is available buyers will be ready to operate. In the meantime, some sales of the new growth have been effected, but I consider that the prices are not adequate or proportionate to the value actually created by the position. Certainly we have not yet seen many choice samples. Several have come under my notice, both in the Borough and on Saturday at Canterbury, and I regret I cannot confirm the reports as to superior quality which have reached me. The hops were certainly sound and of good colour, but they were all somewhat deficient of lupulin, and, therefore, did not rub down satisfactorily. Nevertheless, they are worth more than the figures at which they have been sold, and I can only suppose that when 80s. to 90s. only have been realised, there has been some pressure to sell, of which buyers have taken advantage. In a few cases where quality is better and growers were firm, as much as £5 15s. has been paid, and in a few instances the figures of £6 to £6 6s. have been reached. It is now becoming more clearly evident that

The Crop will be Smaller

than most of the estimates. I went on Saturday through a large garden about a mile from Canterbury, where not a hop had been picked, for there were practically none for the pickers to gather. With a plentiful supply of strong bine, the fruit was conspicuous by its absence. I hear there are many such gardens in East Kent, and even where the yield promised fairly well growers are being sadly disappointed by the final results. Some few gardens are fulfilling the expectation of their cultivators, but one of the most extensive planters assured me that the average for this usually fruitful district can hardly reach 7cwt. per acre. Another grower writes me that the crop will be very light, and that all the gardens in his neighbourhood which were expected to give 10cwt. are not yielding 7cwt. Roung Wingham they are better off, but even there the average will not exceed 7cwt. to 8cwt. A Sussex grower gives me this fact. He says that from the same land which yielded 10,120 bushels in 1899 he has only picked the year a small half of that quantity. I have similar reports from almost every district in the South, and when I look at the experience of my friends in Worcester and Hereford I find that it is even worse. One correspondent says, "There is no doubt that the present crop is the smallest grown since 1890," and another tells me that his hops are coming down fully 2cwt. per acre less than his lowest estimate. The Teme Valley district is an exception to the rule, being favoured this year by the soil and other conditions, added to the attention which local planters have given to cultivation and washing. It is, however, generally admitted that the Midland Counties crop will hardly succeed in surpassing an average of 5cwt.

There is general agreement in lamenting the

Want of Unity amongst Growers,

by means of which, if it could be brought about, the value of hops could certainly be raised this year to a remunerative level. The figures named as the lowest which should be accepted for hops of fair quality is £8 per cwt., and I quite believe that it is possible to establish this value if planters determine upon it. One of my correspondents compares the growers to a bundle of sticks, "which the buyers pull out one by one and break singly across the knee, or even between the thumb and finger." This is a fair illustration of the state of affairs, and planters can only correct it by organised combination, by which the bundle of sticks could be tied together, and thus be capable of resisting all the efforts put forth to break them. The nucleus of such an arrangement already exists in the N.A.E.H.G., and I cannot help wondering why this association is not more extensively supported, when its beneficial influence in favour of the industry is so manifest.

But even without combination, I would counsel growers to take courage this season, and as far as they can to act individually in their own defence. Values are gradually but surely creeping up. I was told last week by a factor that he expected the establishment of

An Advance of £1 per cwt.

in the course of a few days. I hope to be able to record next week that this is an accomplished fact, as, if so, further upward movement is almost sure to follow very speedily. If growers are true to themselves, such results must issue from the present position; but if they are vacillating and weak, their interests will certainly be sacrificed, and the already ample profits of wealthy merchants and brewing companies will be proportionately enhanced.

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will upon contain all current information likely to be of interst and benefit to the members of the society.*

National Association of English Hop-Growers.

Annual Meeting and Report.

A meeting of planters in conjunction with the council of the N.A.E.H.G. was held at the Hop Exchange, Borough, on Monday last. The chair was occupied by Mr. Laurence Hardy, M.P., who was supported by many representative growers from East, Mid. and Weald of Kent, Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire, and Worcestershire.

Apologies for absence were read from Mr. A. Baldwin, M.P., Lieut.-Col. Bourne, and Messrs. E. Albert White (hon. treasurer), W. W. Berry, H. Fitzwalter-Plumptre, L. E. Maude, J. Chapman, J. W. Lord, A. H. Savory, J. C. Davies, and many others, all of whom cordially approved of the object of the meeting, and trusted that steps would be taken to secure adequate remuneration to growers this season for the small yield of hops of good quality that they would bring to market.

The Secretary presented an array of statistics showing that not only in England, but in almost all the other hop-producing countries of the world, the crop was expected to come down considerably short of last year's yield, while the world's requirements would probably exceed those of last year.

His statements and estimates with respect to the English growth were confirmed by the evidence of each of the growers who were present, and after discussion and careful examination of the figures proposed it was resolved that the Secretary be instructed to formulate a circular to be addressed to all English planters which should embody the results arrived at, and tender advice as to the course to be adopted by growers in bringing their hops forward.

The following was subsequently issued in accordance with the wish of the meeting:—

Most recent reports from English plantations show that hops are coming down very light and below the earlier estimates, and that the great majority of gardens will only give poor results. Inquiry into the yield thus far of various districts induced the meeting to confirm the probability of the following averages:—

Kent	7	cwts. per acre.
Sussex and Hants	6	,, ,,
Worcester	5½	,, ,,
Gloucester and Salop	5	,, ,,
Hereford and Surrey	4½	,, ,,

On this basis it appears unlikely that the total English crop of 1900 will exceed *an average of 6 cwts. per acre*, or 307,848 cwts. for the 51,308 acres at present under hop cultivation, but in the subsequent table we have set it at 320,000, as an approximately safe figure.

The crop to be gathered this year from the European continent will be undoubtedly much smaller than in 1899. Throughout a considerable portion of Bavaria a substantial reduction is evident, and on the whole it is estimated that in this country the deficiency will represent at least 15 per cent. Alsace is showing a shortage of 25 per cent., and though in Wurtemberg and Baden the crop is expected to equal last year, the estimated deficiency throughout the German Empire is estimated at 65,000 cwts., or over 10 per cent. The Austrian crop is also expected to be short of last year by at least 50 000 cwts. Belgium will hardly produce half of her yield of 1899, and about the same may be said of Burgundy.

The estimates of the American crop vary, but there is universal acceptance of the fact that the yield both in the Eastern and Western States will be substantially reduced from last year. It is considered most probable that the 1900 crop will not exceed 200,000 bales or about 320,000 cwts., but in order to cover contingencies we have taken the figure for the U.S.A. at 340,000 cwts.

The World's Crop for 1900 may therefore be thus estimated:—

England	about	320,000 Cwts.
America	,,	340,000 ,,
Germany	,,	460,000 ,,
Austria	,,	200,000 ,,
Belgium and Holland	,,	45,000 ,,
France	,,	30,000 ,,
Russia	,,	65,000 ,,
Australasia and Canada	,,	15,000 ,,
		1,475,000 Cwts.

The world's demand for hops is increasing annually, in proportion to the enlarged consumption of beer. It has been stated by the highest statistical authorities to have reached the total of 2,087,146 cwts., in 1899. Accepting this figure as approximately correct, it will be seen that the yield of the crop now being gathered will not nearly approach the requirements of brewers, as a deficiency on the year appears to the extent of over 600,000 cwts This will doubtless be met in some degree by stocks of Yearlings in the hands of the trade and their customers, but we are credibly informed that such stocks are exceptionally small on the Continent and in America and they are certainly not excessive in England.

It will be seen from the foregoing remarks that the probability of our market being over-burdened with imports this season is very remote.

We are aware that it is practically impossible to arrive at exact figures in these calculations, which must always be more or less of a speculative character. Therefore we have endeavoured in the present statement to avoid exaggeration, and have confidence in recommending our figures to your attention as being at least impartial and fairly correct. If such prove to be the case, we need not hesitate to conclude that *a substantial improvement in the value of hops is inevitable*, and as under present circumstances English growers can certainly control the course of the English market, it rests with themselves whether they will take advantage of the position, or allow others to gain the profits.

The unanimous opinion of our meeting was, that growers should be advised to be cautious in offering their hops, and to be reasonably firm in the prices they ask, as it seems very probable that such a course will bring about an active trade at gradually improving rates, especially as the quality of the later pickings is likely to be exceptionally fine.

We beg to emphasise this decision and in your own interest earnestly commend it to your consideration.

LAURENCE HARDY, Vice President, N.A.E.H.G. (Chairman).
THOMAS IRONMONGER, Secretary, N.A.E.H.G.

The chairman referred to the absence of their president (Colonel Brookfield, M.P.), who, at an age when most men with his happy surroundings would prefer to seek their personal ease, had gone out to South Africa to take part in the war being waged there on behalf of the rights of the British Empire, and who had there done most brilliant work, for which he had been mentioned more than once in dispatches, and had received the commendations of Lord Roberts. They could not forget also the excellent service he had rendered to their industry both in and out of Parliament. Colonel Brookfield having certainly taken more personal interest in English hop growing than any other member. While, therefore, they regretted his prolonged absence, they could not help being proud of him, and trusted he would soon return safe and sound to receive the thanks and personal congratulations of his numerous friends. He (the chairman) had pleasure in proposing the following resolution, requesting their secretary to forward a copy of it to the president:—

The members of the N.A.E.H.G. assembled in their annual meeting, having heard with satisfaction and pride of the gallant deeds of their president during the campaign in South Africa, most cordially congratulate him upon his successes, which they are pleased to observe have gained the special commendations of the Commander-in-Chief. Being aware that Colonel Brookfield has encountered many and imminent dangers, and has also endured severe privations, they are profoundly thankful that he has hitherto come safely through them, but they earnestly trust that he may soon return in good health to his native land, where his numerous friends and admirers are waiting to welcome him, and to thank him for the good service he has done.

This was carried with acclamation, and after a vote of thanks to the chairman the proceedings terminated.

Wests, Jones and Co.'s Report.

As our market is now being supplied with the new growth, we have much pleasure in forwarding you our annual circular.

We doubt very much if the hop plantations ever experienced a more persistent attack of blight, and this has greatly reduced the growth. Washing and good cultivation have, however, prevented a failure of the crop. Most of the hops grown promise to be perfectly clean, healthy, and of excellent quality, but we cannot, in face of the reports we are daily receiving from the plantations, estimate the crop at more than £160,000 to £170,000 old duty.

Considering the very large yield of last year, it is most satisfactory to find so few 1899 hops still in the hands of planters, showing that the consumption has not only been large, but that it is on the increase.

The accounts from the Continent report a crop smaller than that of last year, and this is also the case both in New York States and on the Pacific Coast, and in these countries high prices are demanded by the planters for their new growth. These estimates point to a crop quite insufficient for the yearly consumption, and brewers, despite the hops they may have in hand, will, before another season comes round, find the stocks of hops practically exhausted. The bulk of the present supply consists of earlies, and several parcels have been sold at from 75s., 90s., to 100s. per cwt. Bramlings have realised from 90s. to 120s. per cwt., but when our market fairly opens we anticipate a good demand at enhanced prices. The inquiry for 1899 continues, and prices are firm at the late advance.

We urge that the greatest care should be taken in picking and drying, and we feel sure our friends will be well repaid for any extra trouble they may take in these most important items. The acreage on which the presnt growth is produced is 51,308 acres, a reduction of 535 acres on that of last year.

We beg to inform you that Mr. Henry Phillips has, agreeably with his own wish, concluded his arrangement with us. He will, therefore, from now cease to represent our firm.—WESTS, JONES AND CO., 16, St. Thomas's Street, Borough, London, S.E., September 15th.

The American Crop.

The following is an extract from an article which appeared in the *American Agriculturist*, August 30th:—

"There has been a considerable reduction in acreage in this country, somewhat slight on the Pacific coast, but estimated as high as 20 per cent. over last year in New York State. In that section conservative growers estimate that it costs 10c. per lb. to produce hops, and the average price received by growers last year for their crop did not equal this in many of the hop producing centres. In consequence, many of the yards were ploughed up or neglected. The decrease in acreage on the Pacific coast is probably about 10 per cent. A conservative estimate of the 1900 crop of the U.S. would be not over 200,000 bales, or 40,000 short of last year.

"Added to the smaller acreage, a somewhat lighter yield is indicated on the remaining acres. While the weather conditions have been favourable for splendid quality and good growth, the fact that the vines bore a very heavy crop last year so exhausted them that they are not in any condition to repeat it again. This accounts for the lighter average yield in face of favourable weather conditions.

"There has been but little lice, blight, or mould, and the quality of the crop bids fair to be good. Of course, this can yet be spoiled by rainy weather during the next two weeks while picking is in progress; still, a large part of the early hops are already picked.

The surplus of the phenomenal yields of 1893, 1894, and 1895 was used up a year ago by brewers, and helped out the crop of 1896 and 1898. That left but few old hops in the market when the crop of 1899 came in, which was just about enough to supply current needs. Early returns indicated a light crop, and brewers and dealers were active buyers of all old hops offered, so that the price has advanced 1c. to 2c. in the past month with very light offerings. Reports from our correspondents in all towns of the hop counties indicate very few bales of the 1899 crops in growers' hands, and none of previous crops. No returns are higher than 5 per cent., and in many towns there is not a bale to be found.

"Every indication, therefore, points to an active demand for the new crop. Brewers' stocks are low, and they have not been able to lay up a surplus because there were none to buy. Brewers must, therefore, soon become active buyers of new hops to supply present and future needs. Dealers in the hop producing sections of N.Y. have been offering 12c. to 15c. on contract and as high as 17c. in places. On the Pacific coast they have been trying to contract at 10c. to 12c., and have been successful in securing a large part of the crop in California. It is reported that not over 3,500 bales of the 12,500 estimated for the Sonoma crop are not under contract, while only 4,000 bales are available in the Russian river section, and but two growers in Yolo County have not contracted.

"Growers are inclined to hold in N.Y., Oregon, and Washington until they get a clearer idea of the prospective crop."

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The business in new hops is extremely active, and the opening prices are distinctly in favour of growers. A few days ago quite a feverish excitement set in, but the trade has since settled down to greater steadiness, as supplies come to work more freely. Hallertau hops, being in good dry condition, are in demand at very firm prices, and the growths of middle Franconia find great favour, and are eagerly bought up, though they do not arrive as dry as they should be. Wurtembergs also have been sold in some quantity at full rates, which are gradually hardening. The arrivals by road and rail amounted to about 4,600 bales last week, the total sales being about equal to the supply. Naturally buyers are at present most interested in the choicest samples, but all grades are being dealt in, demonstrating that the stocks in the hands of consumers are not large, and that higher values may be expected in the near future.

The Most Recent Quotations

for best qualities are given as follows: Market hops, 105s. to 112s.; sealed Hallertaus, 120s. to 126s.; Wurtembergs, 120s. to 130s.; Spattland, 130s. to 140s.; Badens, 120s. to 125s.; these being first cost prices, which are considerably enhanced by the time the hops are baled, in consequence of the exceptional loss from evaporation or moisture during the final drying process.

The Gathering of the Crop

is being rapidly proceeded with, and the experience of planters thus far shows that in many districts the yield is not equal to previous estimates, although the quality and colour are generally satisfactory. In Gustenstetten, Wolnzach, Baden, and several other localities it is now certain that the yield will be at least one-third less than last year, and these pickings will therefore soon be completed. The Saaz crop is expected to be one fourth in excess of last season, and a similar result is expected in Neutomischel (Prussia).

The Ministry of Agriculture at Vienna reports that in Upper Austria the hops have fairly recovered from the checks they received during the unfavorable weather in the early part of the season, and are now well developed and sound. In Styria, the hot weather of the last three weeks has somewhat improved the prospect, and early pickings yielded well, both in quality and quantity, but the later sorts will only be an average crop, though quality will be good. The Bohemian plantations suffered much from drought, and the plants did not bloom so well as in former years. A moderate crop will therefore result The Moravian outlook has improved with more genial weather, and the cones have developed better than was expected, but the crop will be at least one-third less than last year. In Galicia the condition has not at all advanced, and a very small crop will be gathered in many districts. The Austrian yield, taken as a whole, will come down considerably short of last season.

The Russian crop is expected to be fairly satisfactory. From Kieff, Wolhynia, it is reported that the plants are generally in good condition. They are rather backward in the Dubno district, but the foliage is healthy and free from vermin. The area under hops has been enlarged since last year, and a better yield is expected.

Belgium.

The position of the speculative market has been rather pitier this week. On Wednesday, Aalst 8 marks 1900 crop were on offer on the Brussels Bourse at 85 francs, but buyers were unwilling to operate at more than 82½ francs. Poperinghe hops were dealt with at 90 francs, and dealers are quoting to brewers both Poperinghes and Alosts at 95 to 100 francs, with still higher prices for exceptional qualities. The attitude of growers remains firm; they manifest very little disposition to sell, except at higher prices than can be obtained at present. Picking is proceeding satisfactorily, being hastened by favourable weather, and in Poperinghe two-thirds of the harvest has already come down. The yield thus far does not give any promise of increase upon previous estimates, and it may now safely be accepted that the total growth will only amount to a small half of last year's crop.

Burgundy.

The shortage that has been frequently predicted is confirmed by the picking now in progress, which is finished in the neighbourhood of Dijon. The weather having been very suitable for the ultimate development of the cones, and their gathering, the quality on the whole will be exceptionally good, but the quantity will hardly reach the half of the 1899 crop, that being only a moderate one. Dealers are offering 100 to 110 francs for growers' samples at least 12s and are disappointed because before the Dijon fair, which takes place September 30th.

America.

Brewers are actively buying all the yearling hops they can find on the New York Market and have sent orders to the Pacific Coast, with the result that [illegible] bales have been secured. The market therefore holds a very firm position, and the [illegible] an upward movement of prices [illegible] market every week.

Reports from the Yards

[illegible]

I have received a letter from Mr. J. T. Gear, of Puyaleup, dated August 30th, in which he says that he [illegible] that county, that the crops in the [illegible] and with [illegible] prospect the hops will be [illegible] that has been known for years. The [illegible] favourable and would [illegible] about five years ago. But the yield will not be heavy, and growers are [illegible] to [illegible] fully one-half [illegible] picking. Many [illegible] nothing [illegible] to contract, though planters are not at all anxious to close with them, as there is a general opinion that higher prices are before them.

For Hop Market Reports, see page

SHOWS.

Yeovil.

The committee of the Yeovil Agricultural Society have cause to congratulate themselves on the result of Thursday's show at Yeovil. The quality of the stock was a great improvement on previous years, and the weather being beautifully fine the [illegible] ance of visitors was most satisfactory; in fact, the show was a success all round. With regard to the cattle, there was a very good lot in the Shorthorn bull class, and some fairly useful animals were seen in the class for bulls under two years. The dairy cows were a fair lot, and the heifers were very good. Of the sheep the judges spoke very highly; considering the drought, they were agreeably surprised. The improvement was [illegible]able, perhaps, to the new policy of classifying the breed. The Dorset sheep were very strong, and the fat sheep were also of good quality and condition, giving the judges considerable trouble. The agricultural horses were a good feature of the show. In the cart stallion class the first prize went to a big brown horse with plenty of weight and bone, and the second to a promising three-year-old likely to develop into a capital horse, but lacking feather. Brood mares were a good class, and there was little difference between first and second. Foals were tolerably good. Class 24, cart geldings or fillies, was the best, including several horses fit for the Bath and West or Royal Shows. There were four useful colts among the yearlings, and a promising animal, belonging to Mr. W. W. Tilley, of Huntspill, Bridgwater, took first prize. Hunters, hacks, driving horses, and ponies furnished a keen competition, producing some very satisfactory entries. The cheese was also worthy of the show. In Class 59, for four cheeses of not less than 56lb., the quality was high and the competition close. There was a great improvement on last year in the local classes; though there were a few inferior exhibits, the standard on the whole was good.

Prize List.

CATTLE

[illegible]

North Coker; 2, T. C. Candy, Cattistock; r, Wardlaw Bros.

[illegible]

Bull, under two years old, any breed: 1, G. Troyte Chafyn-[illegible]; 2, [illegible]

[illegible]

Mullins, Ansford; 2, John Day, Huxham; r, G. Troyte [illegible]

three years old: 1, J. Day, Huxton; 2, A. J. Mullins; r, [illegible]

O. N. Holt-Needham; 2, A. J. Mullins; r, J. Arthur, Sutton [illegible]

1, G. Troyte Chafyn-Grove; r, A. J. Rowles, Broadstone.

[illegible]

Fat ox or steer: 1, J. D. Allen, West Pennard; 2, F. Miles, [illegible]

[illegible]

Ten fat sheep: 1, S. Y. Brake, Limington; 2, W. P. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Mr. Joseph [illegible]

Pen of thirty Somerset or Dorset horn stock ewes, ten of each age, two, four, and six teeth: 1 and 2, J. H. Creed; r, G. D. Templeman, Haselbury.

Pen of thirty Down stock ewes, ten of each age, two, four, and six teeth: 1, J. Brain, Corton Denham; 2, E. Hodder, Odcombe; r, H. Dampney.

Pair of Somerset or Dorset horn ram lambs, not exceeding twelve months old: 1 and 2, G. D. Templeman.

Pair Down ram lambs, not exceeding twelve months old: 1, H. Dampney.

Pen of Somerset or Dorset horn chilver lambs, not less than thirty in number, and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, G. D. Templeman; 2, G. Troyte Chafyn-Grove; r, J. H. Creed.

Pen of Down chilver lambs, not less than thirty in number, and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, H. Francis, Sherborne; 2, H. Dampney; r, J. Brain, Sherborne.

HORSES.

AGRICULTURAL.

Cart stallion for agricultural purposes: 1, J. Bucknell, Cannington; 2, Trott and Thomas, Axminster; r, J. Bucknell.

Cart mare, with foal at foot, the property of a resident within fifteen miles of Yeovil Town Hall: 1, J. Chick, Compton Vallence; 2, C. M. Moody, Evercreech; r, G. W. Moody, Martock; hc, A. Compton, Beaminster.

Cart colt, not exceeding one year old, by Scropton Harold (Shire Horse Society, 15,829), the property of Colonel Goodden, Compton House, Sherborne: 1, R. J. Conway, Sherborne; 2, S. G. Bartlett, West Coker; r, H. Dampney.

Cart gelding or filly, foaled after 1st January, 1898: 1, H. M. Webber, Puxton; 2, H. Chambers, Othery; r, F. W. Parsons, Speckington; hc, F. Gent, Burrowbridge; c, F. B. Rowsell, Stoke St. George.

Cart yearling colt or filly, sired by either of the horses of Mr. James Bucknell, of Cannington, Bridgwater: 1, W. W. Tilley, Bridgwater; 2, W. H. Munckton, Bineham; r, W. Tucker, Chedzoy.

Two-year-old cart gelding or filly, sired by either of the horses of Mr. James Bucknell, of Cannington, Bridgwater: 1, H. Chambers; 2, F. Gent, Harrowbridge; r, J. D. Allen, West Pennard.

Pair of cart horses, to be shown in harness, the property of a resident within fifteen miles of Yeovil Town Hall: 1, F. C. Parsons, Speckington; 2, S. and A. Hiscock, West Stour and Motcombe; hc, G. W. Moody, Stapleton.

HUNTERS.

Brood mare, with foal at foot, calculated for the purpose of breeding hunters: 1 and hc, T. H. Miller, Oborne; 2, C. Wakely, Axminster; r, J. Sawtell, Yeovil.

Colt, sired by Colney Confidence (Hackney Stud Book, No. 2,410), the property of Mr. S. A. Hiscock, of North Hayes Stud Farm, Motcombe: 1, E. A. Vigar, Chilthorne; 2, S. G. Bartlett, West Coker.

Weight-carrying hunter, gelding, or mare, not having won a prize exceeding £10 previous to last day of entry: 1, T. H. Vinnicombe, Weymouth; 2, N. McLean, Sherborne; r, Sir H. A. Hoare, Bart., Stourhead; hc, E. Bown, Sherborne; c, H. Gilham, Taunton; c, J. P. Heath, Exeter.

Weight-carrying hunter, not having won a prize exceeding £10 previous to last day of entry, the property of a resident within a radius of fifteen miles of Yeovil Town Hall: 1, N. McLean; 2, E. Bown; r, R. Shingleton, Henstridge; hc, C. A. Moody, W. H. Munckton, Long Sutton.

Light-weight hunter: 1, E. Bown; 2, A. T. Drake, Sherborne.

Light-weight hunter, not having won a prize exceeding £10 previous to last day of entry, the property of a resident within fifteen miles of Yeovil Town Hall: 1, E. Bown; 2, A. T. Drake; r, Miss Ethel Palmer, Bower Hinton; hc, T. S. Cable, Evershot; Cuff Bros., Burton Pynsent; W. Corry, Over Compton; J. W. Munckton.

Special open prizes for three-year-old hunter: 1, C. and G. W. Moody, Stapleton; 2 and r, E. R. Bartlett and Son.

HACKS, HARNESS HORSES.

Hack or roadster, gelding or mare, not having won a prize exceeding £5 previous to last day of entry: 1, G. Finch, Exeter; 2, J. Brockway, West Stour; r, Dr. White, Milborne Port.

Hack or roadster, gelding or mare, not less than 15 hands high, the property of a resident within a radius of fifteen miles of Yeovil Town Hall: 1, T. S. Cable, Evershot; 2, Miss Ethel Palmer; r, Dr. Colmer, Yeovil.

Fencer, gelding, or mare, any height: 1, R. Tugwell, Tetbury; 2, F. England, Shepton Beauchamp.

Fencer, any height, the property of a resident within fifteen miles of Yeovil Town Hall: 1 and 2, England Bros., Shepton Beauchamp.

Cob, gelding, or mare, under 15 hands high, the property of a resident within a radius of fifteen miles of Yeovil Town Hall: 1, W. Corry, Over Compton; 2, J. G. Holt, North Cadbury; r, E. B. Savile, Chard.

Harness horse, gelding or mare, to be shown and driven in harness: 1, S. R. Selman, Clifton; 2, W. H. Burston, Taunton; r, W. J. Peake-Mason, Sherborne; hc, C. Wakely, Kilmington; hc, J. G. Holt, North Cadbury.

Harness horse, gelding, or mare, to be shown and driven in harness, exceeding 13.2 hands and not exceeding 15 hands high, the property of a resident within a radius of fifteen miles of Yeovil Town Hall: 1, J. G. Holt; 2, W. Corry; r, E. B. Savile.

Tandem, to be driven: 1, S. R. Selman; 2, Lock and Porter, Lopen.

Pony, driven in harness, not exceeding 13.2 hands high, the property of a resident within a radius of fifteen miles of Yeovil Town Hall: 1, B. J. Lock, Lopen; 2, C. Porter, South Petherton; 3, J. J. Brook, Yeovil; r, Mrs. Leach, Yeovil; hc, J. Warr, Alvington.

CHEESE.

Four cheeses of not less than 56lb. each, any system or make, open to the counties of Somerset, Gloucester, Wilts, and Dorset: 1, A. Osborne, Mappowder, Blandford; 2, H. White, Piddletown; 3, H. J. Weeden, Blandford; 4, E. C. Sims, Mere; 5, F. and M. Portch, North Cadbury; 6, R. and C. Tucker, Trowbridge; 7, H. G. Ashman, Shepton Mallet; vhc, H. Watts, Bath; F. W. J. Crocker, Cattistock; hc, S. Burch, Blandford; T. C. Candy, Cattistock; W. Farthing, Tintinhull; c, O. N. Holt-Needham; C. Collins, Frome; E. Pearce, Yeovil.

Four cheeses of not less than 28lb. or more than 56lb. each, any system or make, open to the counties of Somerset, Gloucester, Wilts, and Dorset: 1, T. C. Candy; 2, H. Hoddinott, Sherborne; 3, W. C. Spencer, Yeovil; hc, W. Farthing, Tintinhull; c, H. White, Piddletown; E. Pearce.

Three cheeses of not less than 28lb. each, for exhibitors (being the renter or owner of dairy) living within a radius of ten miles of Yeovil, and not having taken a prize over £5: 1, — Collins, Yeovil; 2, A. White, South Petherton; 3, E. White, Yeovil; c, T. Crabb, Sherborne.

Six cheeses of not less than 10lb. or more than 20lb. each, known as Cheddar make, open to Somerset, Gloucester, Wilts, and Dorset: 1, W. W. Keel, Bristol; 2, H. J. Weeden, Blandford; 3, W. Butler, Bruton; hc, H. White, Piddletown; c, E. C. Sims, Mere.

Three cheeses of not less than 28lb. each, or eight loaf cheeses: 1, J. Brunt, Cerne; 2, H. Cannon, Evercreech; hc, G. Lester, Martock.

Four cheeses, any make or size, made with Hanson's rennet: 1, H. D. Moorse, Wincanton; 2, T. C. Candy.

Three cheeses, any size over 40lb. each, or eight truckles under 14lb. each: 1, A. Gould, East Chinnock.

Six cheeses, known as Dorset blue: 1, Joel Trott, Weymouth; 2, E. A. Diment, Dorchester; r, R. Walden, Beaminster.

Chipping Norton.

The inhabitants of Chipping Norton gave a very hearty and hospitable welcome to the Stow, Chipping Norton, Moreton, and Northleach Agricultural Society on Wednesday. The show is held annually in rotation at the places named, so that it is four years since it was held at Chipping Norton, and on all hands could be heard expressions of gratification at the progress which had been made during these years. Charming weather favoured yesterday's meeting, and the attendance was much larger than upon any previous occasion. The society is one of the oldest in the neighbourhood, but never was it in a more prosperous condition than it is to-day. Mr. Albert Brassey, M.P., M.F.H., is the President, and he visited the show, being accompanied by the Hon. Mrs. Albert Brassey and the Misses Brassey. There was a grand show of cattle, the Earl of Coventry carrying off premier honours for two-year-old bulls with a fine Hereford, which won the champion prize of a silver medal given by the proprietors of the *Oxford Journal*. Mr. John A. Bloss was to the front in the class for young bulls amongst exhibits which had much to recommend them all round. Mr. C. E. Baring Young was first in the class for breeding cows—a class in which some excellent breeders were shown, and Mr. R. Singer was first in the next class, for heifers two years and upwards, which had not a great deal to recommend them. In the young heifer class the winner, the property of Mr. George Freeman, was an animal of superior merit, but Mr. John A. Bloss' animal ran him a good second. The animals in the class for pairs of Shorthorn or Hereford cows showed a good supply of milk, but there was only a poor entry. In the sheep classes there was only one entry for Cotswolds. The ten sheep shown in the first class (for ten breeding ewes) were grand speciments of the breed, and it seemed a pity that such a valuable lot should not have been better represented, as they were formerly the breed of the district, but they have now gone out of fashion, the Oxford Downs taking their place. The latter breed were shown in great force, and were very good, especially from the district where the Heythrop flock is well known. Mr. W. A. Treweeke, of Ryne Hill, Chipping Norton, was the winner of the first prizes in all three classes. The Hampshires were not so well represented, but some good animals were shown. The agricultural horses were in every way excellent—quite superior to what were shown at Chipping Norton four years ago, and the judges asked the stewards to give extra prizes in several classes, the animals shown being of such high merit. The show all round, in this department, was also superior to that held at Stow-on-the-Wold last year. All the classes contained some very useful animals, which would have done credit to their owners anywhere. There were five classes for Hackneys and hunters, and the competition in each was good. The jumping competitions were, as usual, a great attraction, and occupied most of the time after luncheon.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

Bull, of any breed, exceeding two years old: 1, The Earl of Coventry, Croome Court, Worcester; 2, C. E. Baring Young, Daylesford; r, Thomas Walker, Burford.

Bull, of any breed, under two years old: 1, John A. Bloss, Bourton-on-the-Water; 2, Robert Singer, Northleach; r, Fredk. E. Bee, Bourton-on-the-Water.

Breeding cow, of any breed, and being in calf or in actual milk on the day of exhibition: 1 and 2, C. E. Baring Young; r, W. H. Tremaine, Sherborne.

Heifer, above two and not three years old, being in calf or in actual milk on the day of exhibition: 1, Robert Singer, Sherborne; 2, John A. Bloss; r, John Wilkes, Honington.

Heifer, under two years old: 1, George Freeman, Sherborne; 2, John A. Bloss; r, W. H. Tremaine.

Pair of Shorthorn or Hereford cows, in actual milk on the day of exhibition: 1, Thomas Walker, Burford; 2, Thomas H. Powell, Churchill; r, John Wilkes.

Silver medal (given by the proprietors of the "Oxford Journal"), for the best horned animal in the show: The Earl of Coventry.

SHEEP.

LONGWOOLS.

Ten breeding ewes, each to have brought up a lamb this season: 1, Thomas Walker.

Ten breeding theaves: 1, Thomas Walker.

Ten ewe lambs: 1, Thomas Walker.

OXFORDSHIRE DOWNS.

Ten breeding ewes, each to have brought up a lamb this season: 1, W. A. Trewecke; 2, Frederick Penson, Charlbury; r, Mrs. Margaret A. Witts, Stow-on-the-Wold.

Ten breeding theaves: 1, W. A. Trewecke; r, Frederick Penson.

Ten ewe lambs: 1, W. A. Trewecke; 2, Mrs. Margaret A. Witts.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS AND OTHER SHORTWOOLS.

Ten breeding ewes, each to have brought up a lamb this season: 1, John H. Gregory, Dunthrop; r, H. Sydney Waller, Farmington.

Ten breeding theaves: 1, H. Sydney Waller.

Ten ewe lambs: 1, John Gregory.

Premium, the gift of Messrs. Acock and Taylor, for the best pen of theaves in the show: 1, W. A. Treweeke.

PIGS.

Breeding sow, of any age, with a litter of pigs (her own offspring), under three months old: 1, Miss Audrey Reid, Shipton-under-Wychwood.

AGRICULTURAL HORSES.

Draught stallion, under eight years old, that has served mares within six miles of Stow-on-the-Wold, Chipping Norton, Moreton-in-the-Marsh, or Northleach during the last season: 1, Chellington Shire Horse Society; 2, James S. Wilkes, Tredington, Shipston-on-Stour; r, William E. Mayo, Shipston-on-Stour.

Mare for agricultural purposes, and foal (her own offspring): 1 and 2, William Lidsey, Lemington; 3 and r, the Misses F. and H. E. Bull, Great Wolford.

Cart gelding or filly, two years old: 1, Walter Bury, Hook Norton; 2, Misses F. and H. E. Bull; 3, Urban Rose, Churchill; r, Arthur W. Ashton, Newbold-on-Stour.

Sucking colt by any horse belonging to the Chadlington Shire Horse Co., Ltd.: 1, for colt, Viscount Dillon; 2, for filly, Joseph Hughes, Great Rollright; r, Williams and Son and C. E. Baring Young.

Yearling cart colt or filly: 1, Arthur W. Ashton; 2, The Hon. R. Hardinge, Burford; r, J. S. P. Camden, Moreton-in-Marsh.

HACKNEYS AND HUNTERS.

Hackney, under seven years old, not exceeding 15.1 hands, and capable of carrying 14 stone: 1, F. Baguley, Moreton-in-Marsh; 2, Charles Williams, Little Rollright; 3, John Wilkes; r, Wcolliams Brothers, Addlestrop.

Cob or pony, under seven years old, and not exceeding 14.1 hands: 1, G. A. G. Lousada, Shipston-under-Wychwood; 2, John Wilkes; r, W. H. Hawker, Chipping Norton Junction.

To the exhibitor, being a bona-fide tenant farmer, a member of the association, of the best horse or filly, not exceeding five years old, possession the qualities of a hunter: 1, W. J. Rogers; 2, W. H. Hawker; r, James S. Wilkes.

Weight-carrying hunter, under seven years old, the property of a tenant farmer or his son, residing within twelve miles of Stow-on-the-Wold, Chipping Norton, Moreton-in-Marsh, or Northleach, and ridden last season with the Heythrop, Cotswold, North Cotswold, Warwickshire, or Earl Bathurst's Hounds, and capable of carrying 14 stone: 1 and 2, W. H. Hawker; r, Thomas Walker.

Mare for hunting purposes, and foal (her own offspring) by a thorough-bred stallion: 1, Albert Brassey; 2, W. C. Jeffries; r, James S. Wilkes.

Gold medal (given by the "Oxford Times" Company, Ltd.), for the best hackney or hunter in the show: Captain D. St. G. Daly.

DRIVING.

Horse, 15 hands or over in height, to be driven in any two-wheel vehicle: 1, F. Baguley; 2, Woolliams Brothers.

Horse under 15 hands in height, to be driven in any two-wheel vehicle: 1, F. Baguley; 2, Woolliams Brothers; 3, H. W. Stacey Alcock; r, John Wilkes.

JUMPING.

Jumper, 15 hands or over in height: 1 and r, Captain D. St. G. Daly; 2, John Wilks.

Jumper, under 15 hands in height: 1, B. Sims, Cheltenham; 2, A. A. Stokey; r, F. Guppy, Todenham.

Jumper of any height: 1, B. Sims; 2, James S. Wilkes; 3, John Wilks.

Brough.

The twenty-fifth annual show of the Borough (Westmorland) Agricultural Society was held on Thursday. The entries showed an increase on last year, the total being 555, as against 526, whilst the quality, too, was an improvement. Glorious weather prevailed, and a large company witnessed the judging, the visitors including Sir Joseph Savory, M.P., and Lady Savory, and Mr. R. Rigg, president of the Society and Liberal candidate for North Westmorland. The judges were:—Cattle and pigs: Mr. W. Powney, Shap; Mr. A. Cleasby, Sedbergh, R.S.O. Heavy horses: Mr. T. Dawson, Gainford. Light horses: Mr. Threlkeld, Kirkoswald. Sheep: Mr. R. Thornborrow, Swaledale; Mr. G. Brown, Stotley Hall; and Mr. J. Wills, Appleby. The principal awards were:—

Prize List.

CATTLE.

Bull, two years old and above: 1, W. Dent and Son, Kaber Fold; 2, A. Burnes, Bank End. Bull, above one and under two years old: J. W. Pickering, Kaber. Bull calf, under twelve months old: 1, M. Alderson, New Hall; 2, J. Close, Winton. Cow in milk or calf: 1, C. Barker, Kirkby Stephen; 2, A. Burns, Bank End. Two-year-old heifer: 1, T. Cleasby; 2, J. Close. One-year-old heifer: 1, J. Close; 2, T. Furness, Bontage Moor. Champion bull: W. Dent and Son. Champion beast: W. Dent and Son.

HORSES.

AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

Brood mare, with foal at foot: 1, J. Coward, Winton; 2, W. Burton. Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, W. Burton; 2, A. Burnes, Bank End. Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, W. Dalton, Sandford; 2, J. Taylor, Syke Side. One-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. E. Bailey, Tofte; 2, Messrs. Hutchinson. Foal: 1, J. Allinson, Musgrave; 2, R. Wharton, Flitholme. Farmer's turn-out: J. Coward. Horse or mare, for agricultural purposes, not exceeding 15.2 hands, three years old or upwards: 1, N. Bousfield, Duckin' Tree; 2, J. Allinson. Pair of draught horses, used in husbandry, three years and upwards: 1, W. Burton; 2, A. Burnes.

FIELD, ROAD, OR HARNESS.

Brood mare, with foal at foot: 1, P. W. Rudd, Broomrigg; 2, G. Metcalfe, Little Musgrave. Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, T. H. Spooner, Warcop; 2, J. Patterson. Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. Dixon, Riddlesay; 2, J. and J. Rudd, Row End, Soulby. One-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Major Brecks, Helbeck Hall; 2, Mrs. Dixon, King's Head, Kirkby Stephen. Foal: 1, Mrs. Dixon; 2, J. W. Harrison, Blandswath.

DALES PONIES.

Brood mare, with foal at foot, not to exceed 14.2 hands: 1, J. Coward; 2, P. W. Rudd. Two-year-old gelding or filly, dam not to exceed 14.2 hands: 1, J. Taylor; 2, W. Burton. One-year-old gelding or filly, dam not to exceed 14.2 hands: 1, J. M. Bainbridge, Belah; 2, J. Hastwell, Sandwath. Foal, dam not to exceed 14.2 hands: 1, J. Coward; 2, R. Metcalfe, Musgrave. Brood mare, not exceeding 13.2 hands, with foal at foot: 1, T. Tunstall; 2, R. W. Lambert, Burtergill. Two-year-old gelding or filly, dam not to exceed 13.2 hands: 1, J. Dent; 2, R. W. Lambert. One-year-old gelding or filly, dam not to exceed 13.2 hands: 1, T. Tunstall, Hag Gap; 2, Mrs. Binks, Field Head. Pony foal, dam not to exceed 13.2 hands: 1, R. W. Lambert; 2, J. Dent.

SHEEP.

Aged Blue-faced tup: 1, Messrs. Hutchison; 2, J. Coward. Shearling Blue-faced tup: 1, Messrs. Hutchison; 2, T. Bainbridge, Brough Castle. Two Blue-faced ewes: 1, H. and J. Abram, Bleau; 2, J. Coward. Two Blue-faced shearlings: 1, H. and J. Abram; 2, T. Bainbridge. Collection: 1, H. and J. Abram; 2, T. Bainbridge. Two half-bred ewes: 1, Messrs. Hutchison; 2, J. W. Pickering. Two half-bred gimmer shearlings: 1, W. E. Thwaites, Espland; 2, Messrs. Hutchison. Aged tup: 1, D. Closey, Hoggrounds; 2, J. Head, High Spout. Shearling tup: 1, A. and J. Sowerby, Swindle Head; 2, D. Closey. Three ewes: 1, G. Alderson, Barras; 2, J. Head. Three gimmer shearlings: 1, G. and J. Alderson, Oak Bank; 2, G. Alderson, Barras. Gimmer lambs: 1, G. Alderson; 2, J. Head. Aged tup (any breed): 1, W. E. Thwaites; 2, J. Salkeld. Shearling tup: 1, W. E. Thwaites; 2, J. Salkeld. Three Black-faced ewes: 1, W. E. Thwaites; 2, J. Salkeld. Three gimmer shearlings: 1, W. E. Thwaites; 2, J. Salkeld.

[Other shows will be found on pp. 377-382.]

FARM PROSPECTS.

Aberdeenshire.

In Aberdeenshire grain crops are ripe and ready to be cut down, but unfortunately the weather is far from what is required for harvesting operations. In the earlier portions of the county cutting is pretty well advanced, but in the later portions a commencement has only been made, and the meteorological conditions at present do not indicate a cheerful time to the farmers. So far as I have seen the crops in stook

Do not Promise the Bulk

that was anticipated before cutting. Owing to the continuous downpours of rain during the past ten weeks, turnips have naturally suffered severely. Except upon dry land with an open bottom to allow the superabundance of moisture to escape, roots will generally be a light and unsatisfactory crop. Upon stiff and retentive soils the crop will be remarkably poor indeed, and farmers having these poor crops will require to economise their supply of roots to stock. As a consequence of the bad prospect of the root crop,

The Value of Store Cattle

has been falling of late, and it may naturally be expected that a further fall in value may result. Potatoes, which until lately generally looked well, have begun to manifest signs of disease, and I hear of numerous complaints of the tubers being badly spoiled and the disease making rapid progress.

Lamb Sales

are now in full swing, and as the price of mutton is better than last year, and plenty of foggage in the fields, trade has during the past two weeks become more cheerful and prices have advanced a little; especially has the rise been noticeable in the price of cross lambs. Half-bred lambs started at the beginning of the trade with more life, hence the advance in that class has not been correspondingly great. J. B. (September 11th).

Cornwall.

Those who have not carried all their corn—and there are still a few lots about—have the benefit of ideal weather for conditioning it. Much disappointment is expressed at the wheat crop, and

On all Sides are Complaints

of bad samples and unsatisfactory yields. Before harvest wheat was generally thought to have been over average, and there was little complaint as to the prospects. Barley and oats are much more encouraging in sample and quantity, but prices remain at a low level—5s. to 5s. 6d. for 114lbs. of oats is a poor return for the expenses of cultivation. Grass is plentiful, and the

Root Crops

are generally all that can be desired. Mangolds are looking particularly healthy. One of the finest sales of stock which has been held in the county for many years has taken place during the last week, and is that of Mr. Richard Olver, of Trescowe. Mr. Olver has for many years devoted great attention to the breeding and care of his stock. It is almost invidious to individualise where there was so much to admire, but one farmer was heard to remark that the pigs were the finest lot he had ever seen.—G. G. B. (Sept. 15th).

Gloucester.

The season up to now has been "in my opinion" a productive one all round, and stock of all kinds have done well. Prices have also been a fair average. I have seen more grass in the pastures at this time of the year, and a lot less. Hay was a bulky crop, and well secured.

The Prices of Milk

to the farmer are still too low, considering what consumers have to pay for it. Corn is variable this year, as are also roots. The labour difficulty has been a real one, and wages have risen about 1s. per week. If machinery were not in extensive use I don't know what farmers would do, as with increased wages men are more independent and do less for it. Fruit of all kinds is plentiful, but of little value.—J. W. (September 10th).

Herefordshire.

We have had rather a long harvest owing to wet days and the very rough weather in August blowing the crops about, making them very bad to cut; but very little of the corn was damaged. The wheat crop is decidedly a light one, certainly not more than three-quarters of last year's crop. Barley is the best crop, and is a good average. Oats, beans, and peas cut up lighter than they looked standing, and are barely an average. Potatoes, not many grown for sale, and not a heavy crop. Grass and roots have very much improved, and we have

A Much Better Prospect

of getting through the winter with our stock than last year. Apples are nothing like the heavy crop they were last year, but, with so much cider left, will be quite enough. The hops are bad generally; many yards will not be worth picking. Taking our county through, I think we shall not get more than about 60 per cent. of an average crop, but in the good yards they have grown out well, and should be very good quality. Store stock of all kinds are selling at fair prices; beef is making from 6d. to 7d., and mutton 6d. to 8d. per lb. Good cart horses are making big prices. Labour is rather more plentiful than it was in the spring.—D. E. (September 13th).

Northampton.

Harvest is now completely finished in the district around Kettering, and there is no doubt but that here it is one of the worst we have had for many years. Not one single grain crop will be nearly an average either in quantity or quality. Threshing proves this. Wheat will hardly average 32s. per acre less in many places. Barley not much more, whilst not one good-quality sample has been shown. Oats are the worst crop of all, and many fields will

Not Yield the Amount of Seed Sown.

The same remark applies to spring beans. Winter beans, though better, are not an average. Mangolds good everywhere; kohl rabi and turnips fairly so, but only in places. Young clovers are good and grass plentiful. The cold nights and burning sun by day will, however, check their growth, unless there is a change in the weather shortly. So far, stock have done well. Beef and mutton selling well where farmers have anything fit for the butcher. As for the price of corn, it is, as usual, disappointing, and with such a diminished yield our prospects are not promising, and the good time for farmers seems to be as far off as ever. (September 13th.)

Somerset.

At the time of writing the weather is very fine, and looks settled for a spell of fine weather. The corn harvest is finished, and is put together in fairly good condition, but it is not a good crop, and the straw is very short. Wheat is under average; oats are a poor crop—in fact, I have not seen a good piece of oats this season. Young clovers are a good plant, and looking well. Mangolds, as a rule, are a good crop. Swedes are late, and will not be a heavy crop, and finger-and-toe has made its appearance in several pieces. Potatoes were a fair crop, but since the last rains the

Disease has made its Appearance,

and I hear in some cases half the tubers are diseased, so I fear the main crop will be a disappointing one. Cider apples are very plentiful, and cider will be cheap this winter. Keep is plentiful, and as hay was a good crop, and generally well made, there is a good prospect for winter keep. Cattle and sheep are doing well, and making fair prices, except ewe mutton, which is a poor trade. Dairy cows have done well, and given a fair quantity of milk, and a fair quantity of cheese has been made through the summer, but this, I hear, is not selling well at present; but, as so many are selling milk instead of making cheese, I think prices must improve again shortly.—E. D. (September 13th).

Vale of Glamorgan.

The harvest in this part of the county is now practically finished. This beautiful autumn weather has enabled farmers to gather what second crops they had. Crops have been fairly good, taking them all round; but a great drawback for those farmers facing the Bristol Channel was the storms from the 12th of August to the 18th. The losses must have been very serious; on some farms the shedding was so bad that you could not put a stock on the ground without touching barley that shed. Following that we have had excellent weather, and what we may now consider a good wind up. As to harvesting, the

Yield is not Equal to Last Year,

especially with the barley, nor has the hay crop been so heavy. Roots are certainly looking well, but the unfortunate part of it is that there is a great scarcity of sheep, as a good many large breeders sold early last year, owing to the scarcity of roots. The aftermath is now growing apace. The great difficulty in this part has been the scarcity of labour. This has for many years been a great problem in this part of the county, owing to proximity to great ironworks and coalfields. Consequently, every farmer or nearly so—had to fall back on binders and other labour-saving machines. The sowing of mustard is good. Sowing of winter tares is now going on, with every preparation for sowing wheat, as we have had occasional rains, which have done much good.—E. J. (September 13th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—Weather conditions have permitted the steady prosecution of ploughing and sowing, and considerable progress has been made in these matters. Opinions respecting the wheat crop are still conflicting, the *Echo Agricole* adhering to the estimate of 100 million hectols., say, 71,100,000qrs; the grain is said to be mostly of excellent quality. Oats have proved rather a poor crop. Barley generally is of good quality.

GERMANY.—The return of fine weather has reduced complaints respecting the potato crop, and farmers are busy preparing for autumn cereal sowings.

RUSSIA.—Recently the mean temperature has been considerably under the normal range, and, in some localities in the Eastern governments frost is reported. The rainfall in the South and Centre of the Empire did not reach the normal quantity; but in the North, West, and East the fall was in excess of the average.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says recent weather has been maturing maize favourably, and an early crop somewhat exceeding 2,000,000,000 bushels is likely. Wheat is being fed more freely, except where the quality is imparted. *Bradstreet*

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY September 10th.—The barometer was rising all over the kingdom, another anti-cyclone was steadily marching in upon us from the Atlantic, and throughout the day continued to increase in intensity. As a result of this alteration, the winds drew to the northward of west generally, and in the north of Scotland blew very briskly, but elsewhere they had very little strength. With the spread of the anti-cyclone the rain showers were passing away, and fine, quiet weather was again becoming universal. The night had been mild, with most of the temperatures up in the fifties, but the afternoon was not too warm, few places touching seventy degrees.

TUESDAY September 11th.—Although an extensive portion of the great anti-cyclone still remained out on the Atlantic, at least the whole of the western half of Europe was covered by it, all the cyclonic disturbances had disappeared, and the conditions, therefore, had become of a very quiet type. Gentle westerly breezes were reported over our northern districts, and northerly to easterly elsewhere, with dry, and fair to very fine autumnal weather generally, interrupted in one or two localities by unimportant showers. A moderately cool night had been experienced in the more central parts of England and Ireland, where the temperature dropped to forty degrees and under, against minima in the fifties on the seaboard. Nearly all the afternoon readings were in the sixties, London rising to sixty-five degrees.

WEDNESDAY (September 12th).—Very fine weather was experienced again over our islands, but fog or mist was prevalent in the early morning at many of our English coast stations. A large anticyclone still embraced nearly the whole of western Europe, the central area, or region of highest barometer readings, being situated over England and Ireland. The winds were everywhere light, the direction being westerly in the north and north-westerly in the southern portion of the kingdom. The morning was cool in London, but the day was very fine and bright, and in the afternoon the thermometer in the shade registered seventy degrees.

THURSDAY (September 13th).—The type of weather was still anti-cyclonic over our islands, and the barometer was everywhere high and uniform. No rain was reported in any part of the kingdom, but fog was again prevalent over a large portion of England. The winds were very light and variable, except at the entrance of the English Channel, where a fresh easterly wind was blowing. There was a fair amount of bright sunshine, and the shade temperatures at midday touched 70deg in the South of England and the South of Ireland. The weather was very fine and bright in London, and in the afternoon the thermometer rose to 71deg.

FRIDAY (September 14th).—Fine weather prevailed again in nearly all parts of our islands, and no rain was reported anywhere in England or Ireland, while in Scotland the fall was scarcely appreciable. There was still a good deal of fog or mist in many parts of England, and the sky had become more cloudy than of late. Thursday night was rather warm, the thermometer in the south of England not falling below 55deg., although at some of the inland stations as well as in parts of Scotland the temperature was below 50deg. The day was fine, but rather cloudy in London, and the thermometer rose to 67deg.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY September 15th and 16th).—Fine weather prevailed in most parts of our islands during the last two days, although slight rain fell in places on Saturday and fog or mist was very general. A southerly wind spread over our islands, and this was accompanied by a rise of temperature. On Sunday the thermometer exceeded seventy degrees in places, and on Sunday the readings were somewhat higher. Saturday night was warm, except in the north; and at Jersey the thermometer did not fall below sixty-two degrees. In London the highest temperature on Saturday was seventy-two degrees, but on Sunday the shade reading was eighty-two degrees, which is the highest temperature for about a month. Slight rain fell in the metropolis on Sunday evening, this being the first rain for about a fortnight.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: We have no change to notice since our last. Barley: Dull. Wheat: The trade remains quiet. Oats: Rather easier on the week. Maize: Made about 3d per qr more money. Flour: Steady.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Increased firmness prevailed, the stability of freights still helping the markets, but the attendance of buyers was small, and almost an entire absence of interest attached to business throughout. New crop English wheat 6d firmer, and in continued scanty supply, while there is very little procurable either here or on the country markets. The condition fast improves while favoured by more genial weather. American descriptions 3d firmer for reds, whites being fairly plentiful. The flour market is also generally 6d firmer since last Monday, but consumers fail to follow the advance. The tone is, however, strong. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Grinding barley, although now in better supply, keeps at fully late rates. Oats in continued heavy supply, and neglected at last Monday's concession. Flat maize advanced a further 3d since last Monday, while in small supply, mixed American held 21s ex ship, 21s 6d landed. Round corn unchanged.

Mark Lane, Friday.—English wheat still comes up in anything but plentiful supply, and is very sparingly submitted, while fetching enhanced rates. Fine white, 33s, and red of similar sample, 32s per qr 63lb delivered up. American descriptions were again fully maintained, and towards the afternoon holders inclined towards a higher range. The market for flour is fully 6d dearer since Friday last, and holders are by no means anxious. Town household, 25s 6d, and whites 28s 6d per sack were the prices named this afternoon by the London Millers' Association; English patents, 24s 6d to 27s, according to quality; and roller whites, 23s to 24s. American first patents quoted at 26s to 27s; second ditto, 24s to 25s; first bakers, 21s to 22s, and second 20s to 21s; Hungarian, up to 30s; and Australian patents 21s to 22s per sack, 280lb. Of feeding stuffs, grinding barley continues very steady, while the supply is not nearly over-abundant, being chiefly centred on Persian. The market for oats was less depressed at the recent decline, but to embark upon fresh engagements consumers found no difficulty in dictating reasonable terms. Flat maize is 3d to 6d dearer on the week, and scarce, round being well maintained.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Although the attendance was small, the tone of trade was very good. Wheat held its own, and all descriptions of feeding corn were firm. The first samples of malting barley were shown, but there was no amount of business done. Prices: White wheat, 30s to 33s; red ditto, 30s to 32s; malting barley, 29s to 34s; grinding ditto, 20s to 22s; white oats, 19s to 22s; black oats, 16s to 20s; maxagan beans (new) 28s to 31s; tick ditto (new) 29s to 31s; small maize, 26s to 27s; flat ditto, 23s to 24s per quarter. Flour was unchanged. Feeding cakes tend to higher prices.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—With fair quantity of wheat on the stands, trade ruled firm, and the business transacted was at the full rates of Saturday last. Barley, oats, and beans, underwent no change. New and old wheat, 28s to 31s per imperial quarter.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (white), 28s to 30s per qr; wheat (red), 28s to 30s per qr; beans (new), 33s to 34s per qr; oats (new), 19s to 21s per qr; oats (old), 18s to 19s per qr. Market very firm at fully last week's quotations.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 28s to 29s; malting barley, 27s to 28s; grinding barley, 25s; oats, 16s to 18s; peas, 50s to 58s; old beans, 34s; maize, 23s 6d to 25s 6d.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has had a hardening tone. Supplies are still short, and the small yield makes farmers hold their samples very tenaciously. We have had a week of hot weather, and the condition has improved. At this market to-day there was a better supply in improved condition, which met a ready sale at 6d over last week's full prices. Red wheat, 28s to 31s; and white up to 31s per 504 lb. Barley was in fair supply, and good lots made last week's rates. Barley, common, 25s to 28s; fine up to 32s.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat scarce and firm; trade slow. A little more barley shown. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 31s to 33s; red ditto, 30s to 32s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; ditto black, 16s to 20s; peas, 30s to 32s; tick beans, 30s to 32s; mazagans, 28s to 29s; flat maize, 22s to 23s; round ditto 27s to 28s per quarter; winter tares, 7s 6d to 7s 9d per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Better supply of oats in our market to-day, fair sale at previous prices. New, 17s 9d to 18s 9d; old, 22s 6d to 24s per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—English wheat has been more freely delivered, but quality generally is poor. Finest samples were quoted 1d to 2d per bushel higher. New oats are turning out badly, and attracted few buyers. Beans and barley steady. Indian corn in good demand at an advance of 6d per sack. New white wheat, 4s 1d to 4s 3d; old, 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 75lb; old oats, 3s to 3s 6d; and new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d per 40lb; new grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Very moderate supply of wheat; farmers asked a considerable advance, and a rise of 1s per qr. was established without difficulty. There was a fair show of barley, but maltsters still keep out of the market, and prices are irregular. Beans, peas, and oats, very firm.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Good attendance but trade was not brisk. Large quantities of English wheat were offering but met a quiet trade, there being no change in price. Foreign wheat slightly firmer. Feeding stuffs unchanged. Grinding barley firm trade.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—To-day there was a fair attendance at our corn exchange. Wheat and flour firm, and the turn dearer. Indian corn firm at an advance of 3d to 4½d per boll on the week. Canadian peas firm at 9d per boll more money, owing to scarcity on spot. Grinding beans firm, but much unsold. Foreign oats steady at late rates. Home, old, steady. New offering freely at a decline of 9d to 1s per boll on the week. Oatmeal very quiet, and 1s per sack lower on the week. Barley firm and scarce. Bran and thirds firm and unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There can no longer be any doubt that the English crop is a deficient one both in quality and yield, and only the liberal quantity of foreign wheat now available prevents an advance in prices. Values for shipment are gradually hardening, and sooner or later importers will have to concede more money. Market firm at 3d to 6d advance since last Tuesday, but business slow. Barley meets some inquiry. New Yorkshires range from 24s to 28s, quality generally being poor. Maize 3d to 6d dearer. Beans and oats firm.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—There is very quiet demand for wheat, with little or no change from Tuesday's prices except for fine descriptions which are the turn dearer. Maize firmly held, but no higher, as crop prospects are more favourable from abroad. Flour, oats, beans, peas, and grinding barley fully realise late values.

Leicester, Saturday.—A fair attendance of buyers and dealers. Larger supplies of wheats, in variable condition; new wheats, quiet; old wheats firm prices, 30s to 31s per 36 stones. Oats steady.

Lincoln, Friday.—Only a small supply of new wheats, for which advanced rates were asked; trade slow at 28s to 29s. Foreign wheats, 6d to 1s dearer. Few new barleys, prices not fixed. New oats 6d lower. Maize and beans 6d dearer. Peas firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat firm with good consumptive business. White wheat ½d to 1d; and red 1d to 1½d dearer. Flour is firm with a better demand at 6d advance for foreign. The Liverpool and North-Western Millers' Associations have advanced the minimum price of Bakers 6d per sack. Maize strong owing to continuation of good demand and depleted stocks, mixed American making a full 1d advance. Small round scarce and 1d to 1½d dearer. Plate firm at unchanged prices. Barley firm for feeding and malting with a good demand for Chevalier. Beans firm with a better trade doing at last market day's prices. Peas firm with a good demand at full prices. Oats, English, are firm with a fair trade. Foreign firm but quiet. Oatmeal firm, but only a small enquiry. Oil-cake is firm with a good demand, Americans making 2s 6d to 5s advance.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—A fair supply of wheat at market to-day, the trade firm, but quiet, and last week's prices were about the rule. More new barley on show, which is disposable on satisfactory terms. Oats are not in much request, and no change in value. Winter tares have receded slightly in the rate of cost. No alteration in the value of brank, maize, hemp, rye, sergo, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—A moderate trade has occurred in certain sections of our market to-day and during the week. English wheat though nominally the same as last week in quotation actually is slightly in favour of the buyer, but foreign descriptions are the turn dearer. Flour may be called firm at previous rates ruling. English oats are well held. Peas, beans, and barley show no change, being steady. Indian corn is 1½d per cental dearer.

Market Drayton, Wednesday.—Wheat, white, old, 13s to 13s 9d per 225lb; red, old, 13s to 13s 9d per 225lb; white, new, 12s 9d to 13s 6d per 225lb; red, new, 12s 9d to 13s 6d per 225lb. Oats, white, old, 15s to 16s per 200lb; white, new, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per 200lb. Barley, malting, 12s to 13s per 210lb. Indian corn, 11s 9d to 12s per 240lb. Beans, new, 13s to 14s per 240lb; beans, old, 17s to 18s per 240lb. Peas, white, 17s to 18s per 240lb.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at our market to-day ruled steady at late rates. Maize advanced 1s per 480lb over last week's quotations. Old Scotch oats firm, new in buyers' favour. Foreign steady, no change in values. Beans and peas favouring sellers. Flour 6d dearer.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—September, so far, has been a good harvest month. To-day's market was moderately attended, and buyers not anxious. English wheat slow, foreign steady and occasionally dearer. Malting barley attracting attention, but prices not yet fixed. Old oats not fast, as new being much cheaper naturally causes buyers to hesitate. Beans and peas unchanged. Flour nominally the same.—GEO. WATSON AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat 6d to 9d dearer. Maize strong, 6d to 9d dearer. Barley showed no change in price, neither did beans or oats. Flour (fine) was dearer, at 24s 6d. There were a few samples of English wheat of good quality on offer. There was a paucity of business.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was more new wheat on offer to-day, which was in better condition, and values firmer. Very little old wheat now offering. The weather of the past week has been principally fine, with cool N.E. breezes. Wheat, red, 30s to 31s per qr, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending September 30th, 1900:—Wheat, 2036-2, 27s 10¾d. Barley, 125, 22s 9½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat, a good supply of new, some parcels in very fair condition; late rates fully supported in some cases 6d more obtained. The barley trade hardly yet in swing; the samples of new offering vary in quality, and prices are very irregular. New oats are mostly inferior. Old are held for high prices. The same may be said of old beans.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford Saturday.—Not much wheat offering, making 6d to 1s over last week's prices. Old wheat, 31s to 31s 3; new, 29s to 31s. Barley a little more moving, but prices still somewhat irregular.

Peterborough, Saturday.—We have had less wheat offering to-day, which met a fair sale at 6d more money than last week. The demand for barley is checked by the warm weather, and trade was slow. Oats firm at late rates.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—To-day's market business uncertain. Wheat very firm. Maize 3d advance. Oats steady. Barley unchanged. English wheat in good demand. A few winter samples—tawny. Oats shown in good condition, but at prices above ideas of buyers.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—The wheat supply here to-day was scanty, and, as a consequence, trade ruled firm. Old wheat as well as new maintained last week's figures, old realising 32s to 34s per qr, and new 26s to 30s per qr. Little doing in other descriptions of corn. A few samples of new oats were shewn, but these were of poor quality.

Romford, Wednesday.—The wheat trade was the same as last week. Several samples were out of condition. There was only a small supply. Red wheat made 29s to 31s, and white wheat 30s to 32s 6d per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Poor attendance owing to farmers being busy harvesting. Beans very scarce at late rates. Maize quiet trade at same prices as last week. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d; red, 32s to 33s; new, 31s to 32s per 504lb; oats, old white, 26s; ditto old black, 22s; new, 18s 6d to 22s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 28s to 29s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small, 26s to 29s; ditto American mixed, 22s 6d to 23s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—The trade for wheats was firm, at a shade less money than last week, at 28s to 28s 6d per qr. Oats dropped 6d per qr. A small show of barley, which sold at late prices. Beans and peas unchanged. No quotable alteration in other articles.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were very few samples of new crops showing. These were in fair condition, but the quality was below last year, and 30s per qr was realised. The foreign wheat trade keeps very firm, and with a continued scarcity of white wheats holders made 6d more money. Strong red wheats were in request at 6d advance on last week. Oats and maize unaltered.

Sudbury, Thursday.—Not much new wheat was on sale, price ranging from 30s to 31s; old wheat up to 32s per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Farmers are still engaged with harvest work, which has made good progress this week. Very little business passing to-day. Wheat firm, and rather dearer. Oats and barley steady, and unchanged in value. Arrivals coastwise nil; foreign wheat 2,476 qrs.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Wheat firm at full prices of last week, with small quantity offering. Malting barley quality variable, at from 28s to 38s. All feeding stuffs firm, at late rates.

Wakefield, Friday.—The wheat trade is very firm. All hard qualities are tending against buyers, though the demand is by no means active; English wheats are quite dry and cured. The Yorkshire barleys showing a lot of poor quality and sell slowly at 22s to 26s on rails. Foreign is mostly held too high. Maize 3d dearer. Beans and oats slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—Since our last report we have had a week of fine weather. To-day at our market fine foreign wheats are held for more money, which buyers are reluctant to pay, whilst English maintains late rates. A fair supply of Yorkshire barleys showing, but prices not yet fixed. Feeding stuffs firm, with maize 3d per qr dearer.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of grain; samples in better condition. Wheat steady at late rates. New 29s to 31s; old up to 32s. Oats 3d lower; new, 17s to 19s; old up to 24s. Barley, variable, 26s to 28s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A moderate attendance and quiet trade. Quotations:—English wheat (old), 13s to 13s 6d per 216lb; springs, 6s 4d; Duluths, 6s 6d per cental; old oats, 14s 6d to 15s 6d; new oats, 10s to 11s 6d; old beans, 14s to 15s; new beans, 12s 6d to 13s 6d per 196lb; flat maize, 23s 6d to 24s per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Moderate supplies of home-grown wheat, and the new samples were rather variable in condition and irregular in price. Old wheats firm. Foreign slightly dearer. Barley favoured buyers, but maize was dearer. Wheat, white, 30s to 32s; red, 28s to 30s per quarter.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance and a moderate show of grain, the new being in fair condition. Old white wheat, 32s to 33s; new, 27s to 29s; old red, 31s to 32s; new ditto, 27s to 28s; malting barley (best), 29s to 31s; seconds, 27s to 29s; grinding, 26s to 27s; old white oats, 24s to 26s; old black, 22s to 24; new white oats, 18s to 20s; new black, 17s to 19s; flat maize, 25s to 26s; round, 27s to 28s per qr.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has been pretty well maintained. The supplies of wheat brought forward upon the French country markets have been much restricted, as farmers are anticipating somewhat better prices; at the same time, a good many of them are pressed for money, and are compelled, accordingly, to accept current rates for their produce. An advance of 2½d per quintal has been noted in wheat for Lyons. The Marseilles wheat trade has shown rather more activity; last week's sales amounted to 10,500 quintals. The milling trade has been obliged to accept a moderate advance in quotations at Paris. Flour for consumption has also ruled firm in the French capital. The latest estimate as to this year's French wheat crop is that of 107,535,000 hectolitres. The average production of wheat in France for the ten years ending with 1899 inclusive was 110,739,280 hectolitres, so that this year's crop is very nearly an average one. Wheat has shown little change at Konigsberg and Dantzic. Holders of wheat have maintained an attitude of reserve at Odessa, as they consider that the wheat crops of the principal producing countries this year are appreciably smaller than those secured in 1899. The quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is returned at 1,020,000qr, as compared with 1,385,000qr at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,020,000qr, representing the quantity of wheat now en route for the Continent, is made up as follows:—France, 110,000qr; Belgium, 295,000qr; Holland, 230,300qr; Germany and the North, 140,000qr; and Italy, Spain, etc., 290,000qr.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report: Trade rules quiet, still holders decline to reduce their limits, so that few transactions are taking place, and the bids made for English account are difficult to carry through. Finest is, of course, looked after, but for such extravagant prices are asked and few transactions are taking place. I quote:—Fine Chevalier, Saale, and Bohemian, 34s to 36s; extra fine, 37s to 40s; choice, 41s to 43s per 1461b, f.o.b. str. here; whilst Moravians are held still above these figures, say at 39s to 44s for extra fine to choice, according to quality.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Sept. 7 to 14, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	72,266 qrs.
Flour	44,800 ,,
Total	117,066 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Surplus	47,696 ,,

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

September 7th to 14th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	1,557	..	..	70,709	72,266
Barley	1,381	..	..	34,895	36,276
Malt	22,697	..	..	..	22,697
Oats	2,749	300	..	149,767	152,516
Rye	50	..	..	1,200	1,250
Beans	73	..	..	208	281
Peas	267	..	..	2,441	2,708
Maize	..	..	..	56,681	56,681
Tares	121	..	..	..	121
Lentils	..	..	..	..	..
Linseed	100	..	..	51,906	52,006
Rapeseed	..	..	..	607	607
Cottonseed	..	..	..	50	50
Farm Seeds	525	..	..	1,210	1,735
Flour (Barrels....	..	..	..	..	..
Flour (Sacks	19,467	..	..	36,585	56,052

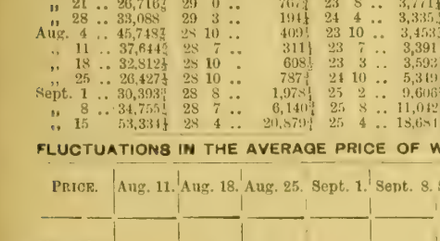
LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.					
Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.		May 20	101,420 qrs.	
,, 14	108,380 ,,		,, 27	103,772 ,,	
,, 21	123,902 ,,		June 3	73,946 ,,	
,, 28	51,234 ,,		,, 10	126,781 ,,	
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,		,, 17	160,574 ,,	
,, 11	82,912 ,,		,, 24	101,205 ,,	
,, 18	201,074 ,,		July 1	152,500 ,,	
,, 25	108,273 ,,		,, 8	112,761 ,,	
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,		,, 15	116,350 ,,	
,, 11	63,103 ,,		,, 22	89,245 ,,	
,, 18	122,541 ,,		,, 29	118,314 ,,	
,, 25	86,309		Aug. 5	104,234 ,,	
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,		,, 12	102,160 ,,	
,, 8	133,261 ,,		,, 19	103,353 ,,	
,, 15	101,518 ,,		,, 26	82,367 ,,	
,, 22	70,984 ,,		Sept. 2	73,690 ,,	
,, 29	68,573 ,,		,, 9	83,791 ,,	
May 6	96,343 ,,		,, 16	107,084 ,,	
,, 13	72,852 ,,				
		1900.			
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.		May 18	97,412 qrs.	
,, 13	95,034 ,,		,, 25	71,390 ,,	
,, 20	114,928 ,,		,, 31	177,744 ,,	
,, 27	124,652 ,,		June 8	93,347 ,,	
Feb. 3	79,855 ,,		,, 15	86,125 ,,	
,, 10	75,090 ,,		,, 22	193,116 ,,	
,, 17	69,864 ,,		,, 29	142,185 ,,	
,, 24	62,191 ,,		July 6	132,950 ,,	
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,		,, 13	101,253 ,,	
,, 10	63,762 ,,		,, 20	82,294 ,,	
,, 17	162,985 ,,		,, 27	97,098 ,,	
,, 24	111,409 ,,		Aug. 2	83,167 ,,	
,, 31	69,856 ,,		,, 11	192,077 ,,	
April 7	48,302 ,,		,, 18	138,510 ,,	
,, 14	131,085 ,,		,, 25	188,017 ,,	
,, 20	82,357 ,,		,, 31	80,149 ,,	
,, 28	43,783 ,,		Sept. 7	58,394 ,,	
May 4	104,535 ,,		,, 14	117,066 ,,	
,, 11	52,859 ,,				

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1899.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Aug. 26 ..	34,523½	24	7 ..	1,594½	26	5 ..	9,205½	17	1
Sept. 2 ..	47,572½	25	0 ..	6,709½	25	10 ..	15,958½	16	7
,, 9 ..	67,996½	25	5 ..	17,408½	26	5 ..	16,195	16	6
,, 16 ..	80,281½	25	4 ..	33,143½	27	1 ..	19,291½	16	2
,, 23 ..	85,104½	25	4 ..	77,078½	27	4 ..	22,128	16	1
,, 30 ..	79,612½	25	6 ..	97,917½	26	11 ..	23 193	16	5
Oct 7 ..	71,152½	26	0 ..	169,315½	28	0 ..	21,440½	16	5
,, 14 ..	63,040½	27	3 ..	191,901½	27	9 ..	18,024½	16	5
,, 21 ..	64,242	28	2 ..	192,268½	27	6 ..	18,983½	16	10
,, 28 ..	85,178½	28	1 ..	219,75[illegible]		..	20,064½	16	3
Nov. 4 ..	82,769½	27	2 ..	203,017½	27	2 ..	17,895½	16	7
,, 11 ..	66,741½	26	7 ..	169,786½	26	9 ..	15,216½	16	5
,, 18 ..	67,470½	26	1 ..	163,915½	26	4 ..	16,313½	16	7
,, 25 ..	67,308½	25	8 ..	164,362½	26	2 ..	17,017½	16	7
Dec. 2 ..	74,974½	25	7 ..	163,141½	25	10 ..	22,575½	16	6
,, 9 ..	10,982½	25	7 ..	174,207	25	10 ..	21,471½	16	5
,, 16 ..	78,772½	25	4 ..	135,314½	25	7 ..	22,889½	16	1
,, 23 ..	67,102½	25	6 ..	116,757½	25	10 ..	16,447½	16	0
,, 30 ..	47,685½	25	9 ..	74,637½	25	5 ..	10,463½	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6 ..	40,086	25	9 ..	65,347½	25	7 ..	13,380½	16	4
,, 13 ..	57,021½	25	11 ..	83,421½	25	5 ..	19,703	16	6
,, 20 ..	68,463½	26	0 ..	100,925½	25	8 ..	23,122½	16	5
,, 27 ..	65,381½	25	10 ..	108,357½	25	9 ..	17,814½	16	8
Feb. 3 ..	73,796½	25	8 ..	90,769½	25	4 ..	22,061½	16	3
,, 10 ..	71,482½	25	10 ..	80,543½	25	3 ..	20,822½	16	2
,, 17 ..	76,611½	26	1 ..	80,414½	24	11 ..	20,980½	16	1
,, 24 ..	69,534½	26	3 ..	63,931½	25	1 ..	21,132½	16	10
Mar. 3 ..	68,153½	26	4 ..	51,727½	24	6 ..	18,499½	16	11
,, 10 ..	58,703½	25	11 ..	44,921½	24	8 ..	16,224	16	11
,, 17 ..	76,435½	25	10 ..	46,053	24	6 ..	20,104½	16	10
,, 24 ..	69,944½	25	11 ..	38,147	25	0 ..	17,042½	17	1
,, 31 ..	72,762	25	10 ..	34,387½	24	11 ..	15,201½	17	2
April 7 ..	67,743½	25	10 ..	20,402½	24	10 ..	13,757½	17	2
,, 14 ..	66,412½	25	11 ..	19,519½	24	5 ..	9,672½	17	8
,, 21 ..	54,977½	26	0 ..	11,673½	24	9 ..	7,400½	17	3
,, 28 ..	70,006½	26	0 ..	7,785½	25	2 ..	11,101½	17	11
May 5 ..	75,410½	25	11 ..	8,159½	25	3 ..	8,658½	18	0
,, 12 ..	82,190½	25	11 ..	10,117½	24	10 ..	12,245½	17	11
,, 19 ..	83,941½	25	7 ..	5,638½	24	5 ..	9,942	18	5
,, 26 ..	95,574½	25	5 ..	3,521½	23	11 ..	7,350½	18	2
June 2 ..	68,900½	25	5 ..	1,752½	24	4 ..	6,702	18	6
,, 9 ..	64 747½	25	3 ..	990½	23	8 ..	6 053½	18	8
,, 16 ..	55,340½	25	6 ..	1,480½	23	8 ..	7,228½	18	11
,, 23 ..	54,321½	25	9 ..	1,312½	23	5 ..	5,344½	18	11
,, 30 ..	44,920½	26	11 ..	495½	23	4 ..	4,706½	19	3
July 7 ..	34,344½	27	10 ..	486½	22	10 ..	4,391½	19	5
,, 14 ..	22,009½	28	7 ..	949½	23	2 ..	2,911½	19	1
,, 21 ..	26,716½	29	0 ..	767½	23	8 ..	3,771½	19	3
,, 28 ..	33,088	29	3 ..	194½	24	4 ..	3,335½	19	9
Aug. 4 ..	45,748½	28	10 ..	409½	23	10 ..	3,453½	19	4
,, 11 ..	37,644½	28	7 ..	311½	23	7 ..	3,391	19	8
,, 18 ..	32,812½	28	10 ..	608½	23	3 ..	3,593½	19	11
,, 25 ..	26,427½	28	10 ..	787½	24	10 ..	5,349½	18	8
Sept. 1 ..	30,393½	28	8 ..	1,978½	25	2 ..	9,606½	18	1
,, 8 ..	34,755½	28	7 ..	6,140½	25	8 ..	11,042½	17	10
,, 15	53,334½	28	4 ..	20,879½	25	4 ..	18,681½	17	1

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890 ..	31	9 per qr. ..	28	8 per qr. ..	18	7 per qr.
1891 ..	37	1 ,, ..	28	2 ,, ..	20	0 ,,
1892 ..	30	4 ,, ..	26	2 ,, ..	19	11 ,,
1893 ..	26	4 ,, ..	25	6 ,, ..	18	9 ,,
1894 ..	22	10 ,, ..	24	6 ,, ..	17	1 ,,
1895 ..	23	1 ,, ..	21	11 ,, ..	14	6 ,,
1896 ..	26	2 ,, ..	22	11 ,, ..	14	9 ,,
1897 ..	30	2 ,, ..	23	6 ,, ..	16	11 ,,
1898 ..	34	0 ,, ..	27	2 ,, ..	18	5 ,,
1899 ..	25	8 ,, ..	25	7 ,, ..	17	0 ,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(195 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats	1900 Wheat.	Barley	Oats.
January.....	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May.....	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August.....	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	19 5
September ..	25 4	26 10	16 5	..	..	..
October.....	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November....	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Sept. 15th, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria cap. 37.

Wheat	53,334½ qrs.	28s. 4d.
Barley	29,789½ qrs.	25s. 4d.
Oats	18,684½ qrs.	17s. 1d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Sept. 15th, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	55,500½ ..	24	0	40,972½ ..	24	8	13,643½ ..	14	6
1897....	76,213½ ..	33	10	24,948 ..	28	11	13,347½ ..	17	0
1898....	58,338 ..	25	7	27,879½ ..	26	10	13,674½ ..	16	10
1899....	80,281½ ..	25	4	33,143½ .	27	1	19,291½ .	16	2

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, September 11th, 1900.

	Total Quantities (Imperial Measure		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	1,538	0	2,204	7	10	1	8	8
Barley	1,017	2	1,142	9	0	1	7	7
Oats	2,760	1	2,500	14	6	0	18	1

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	287,000	149,000	357,000	45,000	80,000
Russia	146,000	—	2,000	185,000	396,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary ..	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	60,000	—	14,000	10,000	5,000
Argentina	54,000		124,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia ..	19,000	5,000	—	—	3,000
Miscellaneous ..	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	586,000	169,000	517,000	260,000	414,000

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 1.....	,, 28	6	,, 25	6

(No official change since last date given).

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900. s. d.

Sept. 1, 1900 .....(per sack) 30 0

(No official change since last date given).

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	24	0	21	9	27	0	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	..		22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	..		23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov. ..	..		22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	26	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June ..	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July ..	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	..		25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	..		24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	..		24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec. ..	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Moderate supplies met a fair demand. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 3s; Surrey, 3s to 3s 6d; Sussex, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s; Welsh, 1s 9d to 2s; Irish, 1s 6d to 2s; Geese, 4s to 5s; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; country ditto, 2s to 2s 4d; Bordeaux pigeons, 8d to 11d; feathered ditto, 6d to 8d; rabbits, wild, 9d to 11d; tame, 1s to 1s 2d each; Australian, 7s to 9s per dozen; hares, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; leverets, 1s 6d to 2s each; young grouse, 4s to 4s 6d; old, 2s 6d to 3s; young partridges, 3s to 3s 6d per brace. Venison, haunches, 15s to 18s each; ditto forequarters, 3d per lb.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of cheese in the Glasgow market were free. There was a fair trade passing. The trade is beginning to realise that the highest price has been touched. Cheddars and Dunlops, 54s to 65s per cwt. The business in Americans is somewhat restricted, owing to the dear price sought on the other side.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: There has been a steady consumptive deman for all cuts, the markets closing firm at 1s per cwt above our last quotations. Hams: The demand is dull, and of a retail character, prices, owing to free arrivals, giving way about 1s per cwt. Lard in moderate request at a slight advance over last week's rates. We quote pails and kegs, 38s to 38s 6d; prime western (in tierces), 36s per cwt. Pork, though firmly held, is without change in value. We quote finest prime mess, 69s to 73s 6d per 200lb. Cheese.—With the advance in prices, the demand is somewhat checked, buyers holding back, the market, however, closing firm. We quote to-day finest coloured Canadian, latest arrivals, 54s to 55s; white, 54s; finest States coloured, 53s 6d to 54s 6d; white, 53s to 54s. Grades under finest and full cream find ready buyers at prices from 1os to 5ls per cwt. Butter.—The demand is slow for all grades, finest being now offered at less money, with holders free sellers. Kiel has declined 4s to 5s per cwt on the week, the liberal shipments of Colonial now on the way rather earlier than usual causing an easier feeling generally on best grades. We quote to-day fancy Canadian creamery, in boxes, 94s to 105s; States, 95s to 98s; finest ladles, imitation creamery, 80s to 85s; finest Danish, 112s to 116s; Irish creamery, 105s to 110s; Cork firsts, 90s; seconds, 87s; thirds, 83s per cwt.—HODGSON BROTHERS.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a good supply and a good demand. A clearance was effected at the following rates:—Clorphilles, 50s to 56s; fancy dairies, 58s to 64s; singles, 50s to 54s; truckles, 54s to 60s; doubles, 58s; Cheddars, 56s.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 108 to 120s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 104s to 110s; Yorkshire, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per stone; ditto 60oz rolls, 1½lb, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d per lb. Settle: 11½d to 1s 0½d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Spalding: 1s per lb. Stone: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Wednesday. Barnsley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Easton: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Colne: 1s 11d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d per lb. Keighley: 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 11d to 1s per lb. Knaresborough: (Wholesale) 1s 3d to 1s 6d, (retail) 1s 6d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Louth: (Wholesale) 1s 1d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Masham: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Worksop: 1s 6d per lb.

Thursday. Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Driffield: 1s 1d per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 3d per lb. Devizes (wholesale), 1s 1d to 1s 2d; (retail), 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Friday. Chester: 1s 2d per lb. Crewe: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Derby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Grimsby: Choicest Danish, 120s to 126s per 112lb; seconds, 110s to 116s; Dutch, 108s to 112s; Canadian creameries, 102s to 106s per cwt; Irish creameries, 102s to 106s. Yorkshire, 14s to 15s per stone; ditto long rolls 1½lb, 1s 2d to 1s 3d

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The season has not been unfavourable for the completion of harvest in England, Germany, Scandinavia, and in the spring wheat regions of Russia, while Canada and Manitoba have completed their cereal ingatherings without frost. The Scotch and Irish wheat crops have not been so well secured, as there has been a rather heavy rainfall. Threshings of the new English wheat do not proceed with any briskness, and farmers are well advised in their present policy. Prices will probably be better in 1901 than they are to-day, and the rise should come with the first severe cold. We notice an increased proportion of 63lb. lots among the new deliveries, and this of course is an excellent sign. For fine 63lb. red 32s. is generally obtainable. At the Kentish markets 64lb. samples of white have been met with, and at 32s. 6d. they have been a good bargain. The West, we must admit, has already accepted 27s. to 28s. for new English, but these samples were neither very dry nor very heavy. The estimate of a 28-bushel yield for the United Kingdom is rather more firmly established than it was a fortnight ago. Allowing for the decline in the area under cultivation, we may reckon that we shall need 14,260,000 bushels more foreign wheat than we did last year. As the cereal season's imports of breadstuffs equalled 174,480,000 bushels (corrected returns) we may put the new cereal year's import requirements at 188,740,000 bushels, or 23,592,500 quarters. This is a considerable quantity, but out of the 53,172,000 bushels of English nominally available fully 8,000,000 bushels must probably be deducted for seed and tail corn respectively. This leaves us only 5,646,500 qrs. of English new wheat to come to the miller.

The Italian wheat crop is thus returned : –

	Bushels.
1895	114,000,000
1896	140,000,000
1897	84,240,000
1898	133,160,000
1899	128,000,000
1900	120,000,000

It is difficult to call the crop of the present year deficient, but it is evidently a disappointment after the yields of 1898 and 1899.

The statement in a popular halfpenny morning paper that the Indian wheat crop is 30,000,000 qrs. this season has been extensively reprinted, so that it is necessary to say that the real total is somewhat under 23,000,000 qrs. Possibly the Indian Government figures (which are in tons) have been inaccurately converted into quarters. We do not say that this is so, but many amateurs conclude (and not very unnaturally) that "a quarter" is a quarter of a *ton*. But a quarter (480lb.) is 3-14ths of a ton (2,240lb.).

The *Price Current* of Cincinnati reaffirms its belief that the American wheat yield will reach 550,000,000 bushels, or six million qrs. above the estimates commonly accepted.

The following is the past cereal year's return of :

AMERICAN SHIPMENTS.

Wheat :	A.P. to U.K.	6,819,000 qrs.	
"	" " Cont.	4,536,000	"
"	Cal. " U.K.	2,276,000	"
"	" " Cont.	5,000	"
	Total	13,666,000 qrs.	
Flour :	A.P. to U.K.	6,981.000 sacks.	
"	" " Cont.	1,613,000	"
"	Cal. " U.K.	452,000	"
"	" " Cont.	3,000	"
	Total	8,959,000 sacks.	
Maize :	To the U.K.	10,541,000 qrs.	
"	" Cont.	12,746,000	"
	Total	23,287,000 qrs.	

It will be seen that the U.K. is now practically the only buyer of Californian wheat, a fact which tends to give us an increasing control of the market. Could not California grow a stronger average sample? The climate is hotter, fiercer, and brighter than that of our northern and cloudy skies.

The figures brought by the last mail include a useful comparison with three previous cereal years :—

AMERICAN CEREAL YEARS.

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sacks.	Maize. Qrs.
1899-1900	13,666,000	8,959 000	23,287,000
1898-1899	18,270,000	9,340,000	21,190,000
1897-1898	20,220,000	7,810,000	24,610,000
1896-1897	10,140,000	6,800,000	21,085,000

The flour shipments have increased very noticeably. In 1897-8 we observe more than 6,000,000 qrs. more wheat shipped than in 1899-1900, but over 1,000,000 sacks less flour. There are now fifty leading sorts of American flour recognised and dealt in at Mark Lane, and Liverpool has some extra types specially consigned for its demand. The American firms do not have everything their own way either; for the mills are most situated far inland, and the wages bill is probably 25 per cent. heavier than in the United Kinghom. The flour, however, rather gains than loses by the sea passage.

Corrected returns of spring corn imports for the cereal year are now officially ascertainable, and are as follows :—Barley, 4,256,687 qrs. ; oats, 7,112,237 qrs. ; beans, 367,502 qrs. ; peas, 553,383 qrs., and maize 13,474,151 qrs. The quantities of grain at present on passage to the United Kingdom are : Wheat, 1,900,000 qrs. ; flour, 370,000 sacks ; maize, 810,000 qrs. ; barley, 410,000 qrs. ; linseed, 95,000 qrs. ; rapeseed, 3,000 qrs. ; and cottonseed, 5,750 tons. The market for maize fluctuates, but on the whole it is healthy and even vigorous. Round corn has been exceedingly scarce at Liverpool. Barley is a quiet trade, new is very rarely offered in any appreciable quantity ; 30s. seems about a level for new malting at the country markets. London value is still quite unfixed. Oats are not selling very well, either English or foreign. There is a good sale for new winter tares, also for trifolium. The latter makes 56s. to 60s. per cwt. for late white and 45s. to 48s. for late red. New Italian millet comes at 53s. per qr. Beans and peas are no more than steady in value, but lentils tend to rise in price.

The oilseed trade has been passing through a period of some excitement. Since the 1st January supplies have been 1,036,000 qrs. of linseed, 64,000 qrs. of rapeseed, and 268,000 tons of cottonseed, against 1,061,000 qrs. of linseed, 116,000 qrs. of rapeseed, and 208,000 tons of cottonseed last year. Thus there has been no real scarcity of the first two staples, while of cottonseed there has been an increased supply ; yet prices are up "all along the line," and from a year ago we quote £1 per ton rise in cottonseed, 15s. per qr. rise in linseed, and £6 per ton rise in rape oil, in which more than in the seed itself London chiefly deals. The rise in cottonseed oil on the twelvemonth is fully five guineas per ton, and in linseed oil the advance is greatest of all, £12 per ton.

THE BALTIC.

The demand for cargoes for future shipment when only we are launched on a new cereal year quickly becomes fair. Already there have been sufficient transactions to give us the following levels of value :—

PRICES FOR FUTURES.

	Oct. s. d.	Nov. s. d.	Dec. s. d.	Jan. s. d.	Feb. s. d.	Mar. s. d.
Oregon Wheat	32 6 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
Californian	32 0 ..	32 0 ..	32 3 ..	— ..	— ..	—
Walla Walla	30 3 ..	30 3 ..	30 6 ..	— ..	— ..	—
No. 2 Red Winter	30 0 ..	30 3 ..	30 6 ..	— ..	— ..	—
Hard Winter	29 6 ..	29 6 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
Kansas	29 0 ..	29 0 ..	29 0 ..	29 6 ..	— ..	—
No. 1 Northern	31 6 ..	31 9 ..	32 3 ..	— ..	32 6 ..	32 9
Best Duluth	32 3 ..	32 3 ..	32 6 ..	— ..	33 0 ..	33 6
Manitoba	31 9 ..	32 0 ..	32 3 ..	— ..	— ..	—
Russian Azima	32 0 ..	31 9 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
" Ghurka	30 6 ..	30 3 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
Argentine	29 9 ..	29 6 ..	— ..	30 6 ..	30 3 ..	30 0
American maize	20 9 ..	20 6 ..	19 6 ..	19 0 ..	18 9 ..	—
Russian "	25 9 ..	25 3 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
Argentine "	21 9 ..	21 6 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
Russian barley	19 6 ..	19 3 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
Californian "	26 6 ..	26 0 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
Canadian oats	15 0 ..	14 9 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
American Oats	14 9 ..	14 6 ..	14 3 ..	14 0 ..	14 3 ..	14 6
Petersburg Oats	13 3 ..	13 0 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
Canadian Peas	29 0 ..	28 9 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
Egyptian Beans	30 0 ..	29 9 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
Egyptian Cottonseed	148 0	146 0	135 0	130 0	125 0 ..	—
Indian Linseed	56 0 ..	56 6 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
Russian Linseed	54 0 ..	52 0 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	—
Argentine Linseed	53 0 ..	52 0 ..	51 0 ..	50 0 ..	49 6 ..	49 0
Best Indian Rapeseed	47 0 ..	46 0 ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	45 0
Best Indian Poppyseed	47 0 ..	— ..	— ..	.. ..	— ..	42 0

Sales of cargoes on passage have been inclusive of wheat. Californian at 31s. 6d., Blue Stem at 30s. 6d., South Australian at 31s., 9d. Roumanian at 29s., Rosario at 30s. 3d., and Manitoba at 31s. 6d. Maize.—American at 21s., Odessa at 26s., and Argentine at 21s. 9d. Barley.—Californian at 26s. 3d., and Azoff at 19s. 3d. ; and oats, White Sea at 13s. ; No. 1 Canadian at 15s. 3d. and 15s., Black Libau at 14s. 9d. per qr.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 4 wheat (1 Portland (O), 1 Port Townsend, 1 Rosario, 1 Tacoma) ; total, 14.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 2 wheat (1 Cardiff, 1 Runcorn), 1 beans (Ayr) ; total, 3.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been 247 wheat, 13 wheat and barley, 1 wheat and pease, 6 flour, 10 maize, 1 maize and oats, 23 barley, 16 beans, 7 locust beans, 1 linseed, 2 canaryseed, 5 valonea ; total, 332.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 219 wheat, 10 flour, 3 maize, 6 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 7 beans, 1 locust beans, 5 linseed, 4 canaryseed, and 7 valonea ; total, 264.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

New English wheat is in better supply to-day than at any time since its first appearance at Mark Lane on the 20th ult. ; the prices asked for the best samples are also fully 6d. better on the week. New white, weighing 62lbs. to 63lbs., were sold at 33s. per quarter, while samples of red fetched 31s. per quarter. Rye fetched 28s. 6d., and barley was in better request, but the supply was small. Feeding Persian sorts made 18s. 6d. Oats were irregular, as the supply of new was small. Beans and peas steady, but with not much demand. New English tares made 54s. per qr.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

SEPT. 17th, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s. s
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	31 — 33
Red	"	30 — 32
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	28 — 36
Brewing	"	24 — 28
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22 — 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 40
Scotch	"	36 — 38
Brown	"	29 — 32
OATS, English	"	19 — 23
Scotch	"	22 — 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17 — 19
RYE, British (new)	(per 480 lb.)	27 — 29
" (old)	"	25 — 26
BEANS, Pigeon	"	43 — 45
" Winter	"	30 — 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72 — 84
" Blue (boiling)	"	68 — 76
" Dun	"	32 — 34
" Maple	"	40 — 42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

WHEAT, per 496lb. s. s.
Finest Duluth 34 —35
American Spring 33/6 —34
Hard Manitoba 33/6 —34
Red Winter 31 —31/6
Kansas 30/6 —31
Californian 31/6—32/6
Walla Walla 30/6—31/6
Australian 30/6—31/6
New Zealand 29/6—31/6
Argentine 28/6—31/6
Danzig 33/6 —34/6
Saxonka 32/6—33/6
Azima 31/6—32/6
Ghirka 30/6—31/6
Persian 29/6—30/6

MAIZE, per 480lb. :
Cinquantina 26 — 27
Roumanian 24 — 25
Russian 24 — 26
Caucasian 23 — 24
Argentine 22 — 23
American 21—21/3

OATS :
New Zealand (384lb.) 22 — 26
Canadian (320lb.) 16 — 17
American (320lb.)
" White 16 — 17
" Mixed 15 — 16
Revel (320lb.) 16 — 17
St. Petersburg (320lb) 16 — 17
" (304lb.) 14—14/3
Libau, white (304lb.) 13—13/9
" black " 15—15/3
White Sea (304 lb.) 13/9—14

BEANS, per 480lb. :
Egyptian 31—32
Smyrna 28 — 29

BEANS (*continued*).
Konigsberg 28 — 29
Barbary 27 — 28
Mexican 28 — 30

LOCUST BEANS, per ton :
Cyprian 106 — 112

PEAS, per 504 lb. :
Canadian, White 29 — 30
Indian, White 28 — 30
" Green 25 — 27
Barbary 26 — 28
Australian, White 40 — 41
" Dun 26 — 27

LENTILS, per 504 lb. :
Egyptian 31 — 33
Indian 36 — 38

DARI, per 480 lb. :
Syrian 25 — 26
Smyrna 26 — 27

RYE, per 480 lb. :
Russian 24 — 25

BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb. :
French 28 — 29
Russian 25 — 26

BARLEY :
Californian (448 lb.) 26 — 29
Danubian (400 lb.) 22 — 32
Black Sea (400 lb.) 21 — 24
Azoff (400 lb.) 21 — 22
Syrian (400 lb.) 25 — 32
Persian (400 lb.) 18/3—19
American (400 lb.) 20/9—21

MALT, per 336 lb. :
Californian 34 — 37
Smyrna 33 — 36

OIL SEEDS

LINSEED.	per 416lb. s. s.	RAPESEED.	per 416lb. s. s.
English	60 to 62	English	56 to 60
Dutch	59 to 61	Dutch	54 to 56
Argentine	54 to 56	French	47 to 48
Canadian	57 to 59	Roumanian	43 to 45
Russian	53 to 55	Cawnpore	46 to 47
Calcutta	56 to 58	Calcutta	43 to 44
SESAME.	per 424lb.	Guzerat	48 to 49
Bombay	50 to 52	Ferozepore	44 to 45
Kurrachee	53 to 54	Ravison	29 to 31
COTTON SEED.	per ton.	POPPYSEED.	per 377lb.
Egyptian	142 to 144	Indian	47 to 48

Argentine Wheat Shipments.

The past month's shipments from the Argentine Republic have been over half a million quarters, and this rate of shipment in the later months of the shipping year from the Antipodes looks as though Argentina had not only "come to stay" as a first-class shipping Power, but had made trade arrangements so far perfect that exports could in future take place pretty regularly all through the season, demand being met month by month as it arose. The price of Argentine wheat averages 30s., but there is a good choice of the different sorts, from the hard grain of Uruguay and Paraguay to the medium soft samples of Bahia Blanca and the region to the south of Buenos Ayres.

Of La Plata wheat five types are now ordinarily obtainable at Mark Lane :—

1. Argentine fair average quality.
2. Santa Fé.
3. Entre Rios.
4. Bahia Blanca.
5. Barletta.

They are well worthy of inspection, and millers should provide themselves with the standard samples supplied at a nominal charge by the London Corn Trade Association, 2, Lime street-square, E.C.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, SEPT. 17th.

The close, hot weather that has now set in which would have been welcomed some weeks ago makes the flour trade very dull, business being difficult to do, but prices are decidedly better. The town households made 25s. 6d., and millers were not inclined to take less. American sorts were 3d. per sack dearer. Hungarian made 31s. 6d.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	30
Town Whites	,,	27	— 28
,, Households	,,	24	— 25
No 2	,,	22	— 23

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	21 — 23
Best Stone made	,,	21 — 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	20 — 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	— 26
,, Second Patents	,,	— 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	— 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	— 25/6
,, Bakers'	,,	— 22
Kansas Patents	,,	24 —24/6
Cascadia	,,	24/6—25
Canadian	,,	23/6—24
Australian	,,	23/6—25
Hungarian	,,	28 — 31
French	,,	20 — 22

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	180—182
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	111—113
Bran, London Broad	,,	99—101
,, ,, Fine	,,	78 — 84
,, Country Flake	,,	108—110
,, ,, Broad	,,	96 — 98
Pollard	,,	92 — 94
Fine Middlings	,,	118 —122
Coarse Middlings	,,	102—108
Oat Meal	,,	220—280
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	132—134
Maize Meal	,,	114—124
Maize Cones	,,	144—150
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	104—108
Pea Meal	,,	128—158
Bean Meal	,,	152—172
Rice Meal	,,	90 — 94

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day at South Sea House, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—	Sept. s. d.	Oct. s. d.	Dec. s. d.
Sept. 10 noon	6 7	6 7	6 8
4 p.m.	6 6	6 7	6 8
Sept. 11 noon	6 7	6 8	6 8
4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 8
Sept. 12 noon	6 6	6 8	6 8
4 p.m.	6 6	6 7	6 8
Sept. 13 noon	6 6	6 7	6 8
4 p.m.	6 6	6 7	6 8
Sept. 14 noon	6 6	6 7	6 8
4 p.m.	6 6	6 7	6 9
Sept. 15 noon	6 7	6 7	6 9
To-day noon	6 7	6 8	6 9

Maize makes 14s. 3d. for Sept. delivery, but 4s. 1d. is accepted for Dec. and 3s. 11d. for March delivery.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are more firmly held, and merchants express confidence in prices, especially where the cargoes are not expected to arrive before Christmas. Barley is well held. Oats, owing to an excessive spot supply, are out of favour for October shipment. Rapeseed and cottonseed cargoes are held above buyers' ideas.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Siberian, 31s 3d on passage; Azima, South Russian, 30s 9d, on passage; ditto, 31s 6d new crop, Nov. shipment; Californian, 31s 9d, Oct. shipment; Walla Walla, 30s 3d, Oct. shipment; South Australian, 31s 9d, on passage; Argentine 30s, on passage; ditto, 29s 9d, Oct. shipment; Roumanian, 29s Oct. shipment; No. 1 Northern, 31s 3d, Sept. shipment; ditto, 31s 6d, Nov. shipment; No. 2 Red Winter, 30s 6d, Oct. shipment,

MAIZE.—American, 21s, October shipment; Argentine, 21s 9d, September shipment; Roumanian, 20s 9d, September shipment; Odessa, 20s, September shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 19s 6d, September shipment; Californian, 26s 3d, September shipment.

OATS.—St. Petersburg, 13s 6d, September shipment; Canadian white, 15s 3d, September shipment.

LINSEED.—La Plata, 51s 3d, January shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £7 5s, on passage

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Offals—Bran and pollard continue in fair request Prices of the former, both for broad and medium qualities, have advanced 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton within the last few days. Small bran scarce.—GREENHILL BROTHERS, Belfast, September 15.

Flour: There is an improved demand all round at 3d. to 6d. per sack advance from bottom prices. Grain: Indian corn strong at 6d. per boll advance. Beans are quiet but firm. The prospect of small supplies of peas until new crop shipments arrive has enabled sellers to make 6d. to 9d. advance on the week. Scotch and Irish new oats are now plentiful and cheaper. Canadian oats are unchanged. Mill stuffs: Bran and thirds met a good demand, and the latter are rather dearer.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, September 15.

Prices of British Grain.

The following are the monthly prices made for British grain during the cereal year just concluded :—

BRITISH GRAIN PRICES. CEREAL YEAR	Wheat. £ s. d.	Barley. £ s. d.	Oats. s. d.
Sept., 1899	1 5 4	1 6 10	16 5
Oct., ,,	1 7 5	1 7 8	16 7
Nov., ,,	1 6 5	1 6 7	16 6
Dec., ,,	1 5 7	1 5 9	16 3
Jan., 1900	1 5 10	1 5 7	16 3
Feb., ,,	1 6 0	1 5 2	16 8
March, ,,	1 5 11	1 4 10	17 0
April, ,,	1 5 11	1 4 9	17 6
May, ,,	1 5 9	1 4 10	18 2
June, ,,	1 5 10	1 3 8	19 0
July, ,,	1 8 10	1 3 8	19 5
Aug., ,,	1 8 9	1 3 10	19 5
Average	1 6 4	1 5 0	17 4
Gradient	0 3 6	0 1 0	3 2
Dearest	July	October	July
Cheapest	Sept.	July	Jan.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended September 8, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	9,444	11,758	Wheat ..	972,200	1,935,100
Sheep ..	4,980	3,066	Flour ..	55[illegible],300	341,100
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	346,500	318,400
			Oats ..	444,700	5[illegible],200
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	33,6[illegible]	19,890
Beef ..	84,363	84,401	Beans ..	24,400	58,000
Mutton	40,304	70,632	Maize ..	1,236,400	1,917,3[illegible]
Pork ..	6,705	9,913		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	140,708	103,707	†Bananas	—	25,678
Beef, salt	3,382	3,287		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	57,624	35,978	Apples ..	34,974‡	18,187
Pork, salt	6,205	4,901	†Apricots & Peaches	—	35
Meat, salt & fresh	7,049	8,329	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	11,659	5,335	†Currants	—	—
Butter ..	59,927*	69,543	†Gooseb'r's	—	—
M'rg'rine	20,196	21,198	Grapes ..	56,044‡	24,454
Cheese ..	68,151	102,651	Lemons	26,358‡	6[illegible]0
Con. Milk	17,270	21,728	Oranges	495‡	1,432
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	46	124	Pears ..	54,094‡	45,723
			Plums ..	35,926‡	27,315
			†Stra'b'r's	—	—
			Oth'r Fr't	92,240	32,806
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	2,591	2,713
Eggs ..	3[illegible],0,2 4*	3[illegible],261*		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	101,966	16[illegible],476
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£2,193	£2,457	Hops ..	535	566
			Potatoes	26,795	45,185
	Cwt.	Cwt.	§Tom'to's	—	22,407
Rabbits	13,942	6,306	Other Veg'bles	Value. £37,137	Value. £10,695
Lard ..	37,925	24,056			

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

Sale of Coach Horses. — Amongst the horses offered for sale at Aldridge's Repository, St. Martin's Lane, on Wednesday, by Messrs. W. and S. Freeman, were twenty horses, the property of Mr. George Whithead, of Gordon Square, W.C., which have been working the "Tantivy" coach between Folkestone and Canterbury during the past season; and forty-seven horses belonging to Messrs. W. J. Garrett and Son, of Montagu Place, Portman Square, which have worked the "Age," Oxford and London coach, up to the 9th of the present month. Both of the teams were shown in the best possible condition. Of the "Tantivy" horses fifteen were sold, and realised a total of 624gs., or an average of about 41½gs. The highest price was 100gs., which was given for a grey gelding Killarney, five years old and 16 hands high. A black gelding, Devil, seven years old and 15.3 hands high, brought 60gs.; a chestnut gelding, Prince, five years old, 15.1 hands, by Field Marshal—Constance, 52gs.; and 50gs. was paid for a grey mare, Snowstorm, six years old and 15.2 hands high. Of the "Age" coach horses twenty-seven were sold out of the forty-seven offered, and the total realised was 1,088gs., an average of rather over 40gs. The highest price, 69gs., was given for a bay gelding, Bathurst, six years old and 16 hands high. A bay gelding, Paddy, six years old and 15.3 hands high, brought 67gs., and the other prices varied from 31gs. to 57gs.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Sept. 17th, 1900.

	British.	Total. Sept. 17th, 1900	Sept. 18th, 1899
Beasts	1,770	1,770	1,[illegible]0
Sheep and lambs	7,230	7,230	8,[illegible]0
Calves	10	10	[illegible]
Milch cows	60	60	[illegible]

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

	ENGLISH. Inferior. s. d.	Second s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	3 4 to	4 [illegible]	4 [illegible]
Sheep	5 [illegible] to	[illegible]	5 10
Lambs	6 4 to	[illegible]	6 9

Milch cows, per head, £[illegible] to £[illegible]

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, . Essex Counties, 1; Midland, Home and Western Counties 1; Devon, 60; Ireland, 312.

In the beast market to-day the supply was larger, but the per equally to heavier arrivals from Ireland. The sheep, which were short, for which there was a ready demand, yesterday were quoted at rise to 1d., two-year-old cattle and cows one year old 1d to 2d. Both prime and second quality beasts were dow of sale even at a reduction of ½d per 8lb. Fat bulls were in steady demand, cake-fed quoted equally beasts them; fat cows were easier in price.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Sept. 18th, 1899
Devons	4s 8d to 4s 9d ..	to —
Herefords	4s 8d to 4s 9d ..	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 8d to 4s 9d ..	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 9d to 4s 11d ..	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Irish	4s 4d to 4s 8d ..	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat cows	3s 4d to 3s 10d ..	3s 4d to 3s 6d

There was an increase in the sheep market compared with Monday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes was dull, the demand being less owing to the holiday season and rates lower by fully 2d per 8lbs for wethers and 1d for ewes. Lambs were short in number; best quality sold readily at late rates. The supply included 2,500 Irish, 460 from the Eastern counties, and 300 Scotch.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:

	To-day.	Sept. 18th, 1899
7½ to 8 stone Downs ..	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
9-stone ditto ..	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10-stone half-breds ..	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
11-stone Lincoln ..	5s 0d to 5s 2d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish ..	5s 0d to 5s 2d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Down ewes ..	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
11-stone half-bred ditto ..	3s 8d to 3s 10d	— to —
5-stone Down lambs ..	5s 10d to 6s 0d	6s 2d to 6s 4d
6-stone half-bred ditto	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 6d to 5s 8d

London Central, Monday. Large supplies trade very bad. Beef: Carcases, 3s 11d to 4s 1d; hindquarters, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; roastings, 5s to 5s 4d. Sheep: Ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wether, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Pigs, large, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; small, 3s 8d to 4s 4d.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 650, sheep and lambs 3,323, pigs 438. Beef, 7s 4d to 8s 4d; mutton 7s to 9s 10d; pork, 6s to 7s 3d. Fat cattle good demand, stores fair. Fat sheep good demand. Fat and stone pigs fair trade. Milch cows fair trade, prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,144. To-day's supply compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 400 and consisted of 649 from the United States and 495 from Canada; owing to the warmer weather a full supply reported at the dead meat market. Trade here ruled dull and dragging sales being more or less forced. The following were the quotations per 8lb., offal given in:—90-stone States, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; 85 to 90-stone Canadians, 4s to 4s 2d; Ranche ditto, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. Sheep 490, too small a supply to create competition trade in consequence very slow. Top value 4s per 8lb. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year with the current top rates:—Beasts, 1,236; 4s to 4s 2d per 8lb. Sheep, 1,400; 4s 2d per 8lb.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report red cloverseed dearer. American quotations coming again higher. Meantime, Alsyke, white, Timothy and Lucerne keep very firm. Full prices are asked for perennial and Italian rye grasses. Seed rye and winter tares move off slowly on former terms. Trifolium has been in slow request. For cord seeds the trade is quiet, but steady. Blue peas have advanced 2s per qr., whilst haricot beans favour holders.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

15,362. J. H. Pim, of Bradford, for an invention for "Improvements in reaping and harvesting machines."

15,[illegible]. E. J. Edwards, of Pwllheli, North Wales, for an invention for "A device for sowing seeds at differently regulated distances and depths."

Patents Sealed.

10,138. I. Galwer, of Riga, Russia, for an invention for "Improvements relating to harvesting machines."

10,155. H. G. Flemming, of London, Bridge, for an invention for "Improvements in reaping and harvesting machines."

10,214. H. K. Borchgrevink and J. F. Johnson, both of Racine, Wisconsin, U.S.A., for an invention for "Improvements relating to milk-pails."

At [illegible] sales on Thursday an increased value of about 2s per head was realised. Keeping lambs of good quality and grass fed sold well, and one with a sell. There was an exceptionally heavy consignment on the Barnard Castle and [illegible] dale Farmers' Auction Mart Company's sales. The [illegible] sold for [illegible] each, and [illegible] wethers 2s 6d each. Scotch wethers, two-crossed lambs, and fat shearlings were eagerly sought after.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington market there was but a poor show of beasts, few of really choice quality being on sale; in fact, taking the market as a whole, the foreign supply compared more than favourably with it. The best Herefords, runts, and Devons met a ready sale, last week's rates governing all transactions, but middling quality beasts, of which too many were on offer, met with a dull and dragging trade at less money, notwithstanding which a clearance could not be made; but butchering bulls and cows, being short in number and meeting a rather better demand, sold readily at an advance of 2d. per 8lbs. A few yearling stores were on sale, these arriving from Ireland. At the foreign cattle market trade on all three days was firm and steady, both in regard to tone and value, though below-stated quotations are somewhat lower than last week owing to the quality not being so good. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets was 5,573, consisting of 1,605 British and 3,968 foreign, these latter comprising 2,767 from the United States and 1,201 from Canada; total increase 1,644. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal): 80 to 90-stone Herefords, 5s.; 90-stone runts, 4s. 11d.; 80 stone Devons, 4s. 10d. to 4s. 11d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s 4d.; 90-stone Dublins, 4s. 6d.; 95-stone Waterfords, 4s. 4d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 6d.; 86 to 88-stone Canadians, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; Ranchers, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90-stone fat cows, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d. The sheep trade was again confined to the Islington market, and so far as numbers were concerned showed a material increase. Lambs, however, being shorter in number and meeting with less demand, only the very choicest maintained late rates, other qualities, of which too many were marketed, being more difficult to dispose of at less money. Prime quality Downs and half-breds were ready of sale, but were a shade easier in price; ewes being short in number were rather dearer. The total number of sheep and lambs penned was 9,440 (increase 530). Leading pens made per 8lbs. as follows (sinking the offal): 7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 8 stone Scotch, 6s.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 12-stone half-breds, 5s. 2d.; 11-stone Lincolns, 5s. 4d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 6d.; 11-stone half-breds, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 5s. 6d. The calf trade, with a short supply, was of a slower nature at a decline of fully 4d. per 8lbs. The number on offer consisted of only 30 head, the best of which were quoted at 5s. 8d. per 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Trade in the West.

With good deliveries of stock at all the local fairs and markets, prices have been steadily maintained, with, generally speaking, a decidedly upward tendency for most things. This has been more marked in respect to sheep and lambs, the rise varying from 2s. up to as much as 6s. a head. This must be ascribed as entirely due to the abundance of keep, necessitating the retention of as large a number of working sheep and lambs as can be obtained. Whilst this continues sheep are bound to be very dear, and we believe the present month will close with higher rates than those with which September opened. Good working lambs are now worth from 33s. to 43s. apiece, whilst young ewes make 36s. to 46s. or 47s. Store cattle are also relatively dearer, barreners being still in very active request at from £22 to £28 per pair for those requiring but little in the way of finishing or to come out at Christmas. Milch beasts maintain their firmness, the present selling price being from £16 to £19 each. Fat bullocks have been a shade easier, 11s. 6d. per score being now an outside figure, and the mutton trade has also slightly favoured buyers. Veal and pork still rule firm. The outlook all round has seldom been more encouraging for farmers than at present.

Trade in Ireland.

A heavy increase of nearly 400 cattle and 1,300 sheep had an unfavourable effect on last Thursday's market, even though there was a large attendance of both shippers and home butchers. The general run of the fall on previous week might be marked at from 10s. to 20s. per head on cattle, and from 1s. to 2s. on sheep, business in both departments being of a very dragging nature, and a clearance difficult to accomplish. The inquiry for really well-finished bullocks and heifers was good, but there was a scarcity of such, and choice lots met a ready enough sale at last week's prices. Choice ox and heifer beef made from 56s. to 60s., and for some extra lots 62s. per cwt.; medium, 49s. 6d. to 54s.; and other sorts, 42s. 6d. to 47s. per cwt. The enormous supply of sheep (10,200) gave a check to trade, causing a fall on last week of from 1s. to 2s. per head. Choice veal scarce, and worth 8d. per lb.; coarse calves neglected. Prime springers and new milch cows brought prices equal to those of last week. Though there was a larger supply of pigs on market, there was no quotable change in price to be noted. Nice, light pigs were in demand.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The supplies of fat cattle on offer this week have been larger, and the quality about an average; the best class of bullocks still continue to sell well at late rates, but for anything short of best quality trade has been rather slower, and a slight reduction in price has had to be taken. Fat sheep and lambs were forward in shorter numbers than last week; the former met a trade as nearly as possible equal to last week, except for fat ewes, which were dear at a good advance in price. Lambs met a fair trade. Fewer fat calves and pigs; both met a dear trade at high prices. In the store market there have been large supplies of sheep, the greater number of which have been of a very secondary class; while for good sheep and lambs there has been a fair inquiry at late rates; anything else has been almost unsaleable. Store cattle have been a fairly good show; those of good quality and with some condition have been easily sold at good prices, but secondary sorts have met a very slow demand, and a number of these have been unsold. Milch cows were forward in larger numbers, and trade was stiff, prices being lower than those of last week. Quotations: Top price of the best beef, 8s. 3d. to 8s. 9d. per stone; current, 7s. 9d. to 8s. 3d. per stone; mutton from 7¼d. to 8¼d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—A slow demand again prevailed, for the fair supplies on offer. Arrivals of beef include 25 tons Scotch, 530 Liverpool sides, 1,550 hindquarters, and 600 forequarters American refrigerated. Beef: Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s to 4s 2d; English, 4s 2d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 10d to 4s; American refrigerated hindquarters, 4s to 4s 3d; forequarters, 2s 10d to 3s. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8s to 5s; wethers, 4s 4d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English lamb, 4s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Dutch, 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Slow demand, good supplies on offer. Arrivals of beef included 60 tons Scotch, 400 Liverpool sides, 3,100 hindquarters, and 2,600 forequarters. Beef: Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 9d to 3s 10d; Liverpool, 3s 9d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 10d to 4s 1d; forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 10d; New Zealand hindquarters, 3s to 3s 4d; forequarters, 2s 3d to 2s 4d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8d to 5s; wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Wellington, 2s 4d; Canterbury, 2s 4d to 2s 6d. Lamb: English, 4s 8d; New Zealand, 2s 10d to 3s 2d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s 4d to 4s 6d. Pork: Country, 4s to 4s 4d; Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s; Irish, 3s 8d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—A good number of beasts, and, although the bulk consisted of fat bulls and rough cattle, trade ruled steady. Sheep entries moderate, but very slow demand for both wethers and ewes, rates being generally 2d per 8lb lower. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9-stone, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 3d to 4s 4d; 11-stone half-breds, 3s 10d to 4s. Lamb trade dull and easier. 5-stone fat Downs, 5s 8d to 5s 10d. Calves met a moderate inquiry, the best on offer making 5s 8d to 5s 10d. Pig trade generally quiet. Neat small, 4s to 4s 2d per 8lb to sink the offal. Total supplies:—135 beasts, 3,130 sheep and lambs, 30 calves, 130 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashbourne.—Scarcely an average show of horned stock at the fortnightly market, but some good calving cows and useful fat beasts. Calving cows, £20 to £23; best secondary, £17 to £19; calving heifers, £14 to £17; beef, best qualities, 6½d to 6¾d per lb; secondary, 6d to 6½d per lb. Good and useful fat beasts and spring calves were submitted by auction, the former realising up to £19 apiece, and the latter £14 to £17. A fair average show of sheep; store lamb, 25s to 28s; wethers, 35s to 40s apiece.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Owing to an over supply of horned cattle, sheep, and pigs, trade all round was slow and dragging. The choicest steers and heifers did not command more than 12s per score; while other qualities declined fully 1s per score, and sold at 9s 6d to 10s 6d for secondary quality, and 8s to 9s for butchering cows. All mutton was fully 2d per 8lb cheaper. Down wethers did not exceed 5s 6d, or Kents 5s 2d per stone, while ewes sold at 3s 6d to 3s 10d per stone. Roasting pigs were 6d cheaper on the week, but commanded about 10s per score. Lamb was cheaper, and there was little demand, but veal was in good request.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 48 fat beasts, 54 calves, 541 fat sheep and lambs, 201 pigs, and 37 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £10 15s to £22 5s; fat calves, 50s to £7 10s; small, 20s to 50s; fat wethers, 42s to 52s 6d; fat ewes 29s to 38s 6d; fat lambs, 25s to 47s 6d; fat hogs, 60s to 71s; fat porkers, 40s to 51s; small, 27s to 38s; store pigs, 14s 6d to 16s; dairy cows, £7 10s to £19 15s, etc. A fair supply of fat beasts included some excellent polled Angus from Wolverton Park, and Devons from west country feeders, and a few useful Shorthorns, the remainder being of second class quality. Polled Angus steers made up to £22 5s; heifers, £17 5s; young Devon steers, £16 5s; Shorthorn steers, £16 5s; heifers, £17 10s; cows, £13 10s. There was a fair show of fat sheep and fat lambs, but the attendance of butchers was not so good, and as a consequence the trade for big fat lambs and fat sheep suffered, but there was more enquiry for store sheep. Lambs. Hants down wethers and ewes made 40s, 43s, 49s, 41s, 46s, 40s, 54s, 42s, 40s 6d, 50s 6d, 50s, 52s 6d, 51s, 45s, 47s 6d. Kent ditto, 49s 6d. Southdown wethers, 50s. 8 months old Hants down ewes and wethers, 47s 6d, 48s 6d, 45s 6d, 38s 6d, 48s, 47s, 36s, 44s 6d, 47s 6d, 39s, 38s, 46s 6d, 44s. Southdowns, 34s, 38s 6d. 12 months old sucking lambs, 58s, 57s, 31s. Old ewes, 38s 6d, 35s 6d, 37s, 37s 6d. Kent ewes, 40s. Black face Scotch ewes, 32s. Store Lambs, 26s 6d, 28s. With a short supply of dairy cows, fair prices ruled higher for all the best description of milkers. Store cattle met a better demand. Fat calves sold readily with a brisk trade. Fat porkers with a good enquiry were cleared at an advance. Store pigs met a slow trade. Rating values. For polled Angus and Devon beasts, 7d to 7¼d; Shorthorns, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 6d per lb.; fat calves, 6½d to 9d per lb.; best sheep, 8½d to 9d; second ditto, 8d to 8½d, old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6½d to 7½d; choice fat sucking lambs, 9d to 9½d per lb.; fat porkers up to 10s 6d per score.

Birmingham, Wednesday.—There was a good supply of beasts and a small supply of sheep at our market to day. Trade slow. Beef, 6d to 7½ per lb; mutton, 7d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 7¾d to 8½d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 2d to 9s 3d per score; sows, 9s 6d per score; porkets, 10s 10d per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—A good show all round, and a greatly improved trade. Best beef, 8s; and cow beef, 7s per stone; store beasts, £14 10s to £17; young steers, £9 to £10 10s; milch cows, £18 to £20 10s; calves, 55s to 60s; wether mutton, 8d; ewe mutton, 6½d per lb; store lambs, 20s to 33s; ewes, 40s to 50s; Hampshire rams, £4 to £5.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a good supply of beef at our market to-day, which met a steady trade. Best qualities made 60s to 62s per cwt, and secondary 58s. A full number of sheep and lambs, for which trade was very dull. Best light wethers made 7¾d per lb, ewes 6d, and lambs 7½d to 8d per lb. There was a moderate supply of pigs on offer, with a steady trade, baconers making 8s 6d per score, and porkers 10s. About 300 store cattle were on sale from Ireland. A fair inquiry, and nearly all sold at late rates.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs ..	2½ in. and under.. ..	8s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in. ..	8s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in. ..	7s 3d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in. ..	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at the market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 439; sheep, 930; pigs, 332; horses, 29. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 10d; pork, 5s 9d to 6s 6d. A few lots store beasts all sold. Fat beasts, large show, prices unchanged. Fat sheep, a good number to hand, and a fair trade. Stores, a fair show, some good lots of ewes. Fat pigs a good brisk trade. Stores, a better trade for all classes.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A short supply, everyone being busy harvesting and hopping. Working lambs are selling at from 15s 6d to 17s; and better class animals from 22s to 25s, the latter being an occasional score of large picked lambs. Old sheep, 20s to 27s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The show of Irish store cattle was similar to that of last week, over 400 heifers, chiefly for wintering purposes, being exhibited. Good attendance of buyers, and fairly strong demand at about the usual rates, the smallest specimens being as low as £5 10s, and the best sorts up to £16 10s. Young pigs a small show, and met a ready sale at 22s upwards.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Large supplies of milch beasts and barreners, while sheep were in short supply and met a good demand. Heifers and calves sold from £16 to £19; in-calf cows, £9 10s to £12 15s each; barren cows, £21 10s to £28 pair. Fat heifers met a dull sale at prices ranging from £18 10s to £21 15s; cows, £14 5s to £15 10s. Horn wethers sold from 52s to 55s; crossbreds, to 56s 6d; down ewes, 41s 6d to 47s 6d; lambs, 24s to 27s 6d; two-teeth maiden ewes and heifers, 36s 6d to 40s.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market:—Beasts, 4,166, increase, 394; sheep, 10,201, increase, 1,348; calves, 51, decrease, 7. Slow and disappointing trade for all classes of cattle, the improvement in prices noted recently being quite reversed. Sheep and lambs of all classes again on the downward grade, purchasers securing their wants on better terms. Middling and inferior lots very difficult to place. Cattle (best), 31s to 34s per cwt. Other descriptions, 27s to 30s per cwt. Mutton, 5½d to 7d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday. — Large supplies. Beef in good demand, realising up to 36s per live cwt. Horned bullocks made up to £19; polled bullocks, to £17; polled heifers, to £15; Galloway heifers, to £13; Galloway bulls, to £16; Ayrshire cows to £12; and Ayrshire heifers, to £12 15s. A good show of sheep, which made last week's rates.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Larger supplies of store sheep and cattle. Quiet trade for sheep and lambs. Cheviot dinmonts, 21s to 24s; grey-faced sheep, 30s to 35s; half-bred sheep, 37s; best polled bullocks, £15 10s to £16 10s; horned cattle, £14 12s 6d. Fine trade for cows. Shorthorns, £22 to £25; Ayrshires, £17 to £19.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies shorter, with a moderate demand. Prices steady. Top Scotch cattle, 66s to 68s per cwt; top Irish, 60s to 62s; top mutton, 8¼d per lb; secondary, 7d to 7½d; top lambs, 8½d. Dead meat in fair request at late values. Best Scotch, 6½d to 6¾d; best States, 6d; secondary, 5½d to 5¾d; cows, 5½d to 5¾d.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 288, calves 52, sheep and lambs 5,994, pigs (fat and sows) 16, sucking pigs 17, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 153, pigs (stores, more than ten) 48, colts 1. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 9½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There was a larger supply of cattle in the market to-day, the numbers being 580 compared with 564 last week. Sheep show a considerable increase, totalling 2,620, as against 2,050 at the previous market. Dealers and buyers were fairly represented, but owing to the finer weather and the increased supplies business generally ruled very slow, only the best quality of beef and mutton meeting with anything like a good demand. The entry of cattle was of good quality, chiefly from the North of England, with a large number from Ireland. Cattle dealers found business difficult to arrange, but last week's prices were about realised. Choice heifers and bullocks made 6¾d, good useful beef 6d to 6½d, and cow and inferior beef 5d to 6d per lb. The increased supply of sheep caused business to rule very slow all through the market, this being most pronounced in ewes and rough sheep, which were almost unsaleable. Prices in consequence were slightly lower than last week. Nice small shearlings made 8½d, large and heavy sheep 7d to 7¾d, and ewes and tups 5d to 6d per lb. An average supply of calves were offered, the best veal descriptions making 7d to 7¼d per lb. Dairy cattle met with a quiet demand. Best milkers realised £16 to £20. Numbers at market—Cattle 580, sheep 2,620, calves 12.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Very heavy deliveries of home-fed bullocks, in excellent condition, came to hand, and a brisker trade was done in choice qualities at firmer rates. Choice bullocks made 6¾d to 7d per lb; secondary, 6d to 6½d per lb; and heifers, 7d per lb. Sheep were a large supply, and sold freely at 8¾d to 9d per lb for light-weights, large sheep making 7¾d to 7¾d per lb. Calves were a very dragging trade.

Leicester, Saturday.—Very large supplies of stock in excellent condition. Trade rather sluggish, but prices firm. Bullocks made £14 to £18 per head; milch cows, £16 to £23. Sheep were a slow trade, but choice rams firmer.

Lincoln, Friday.—So few cattle offered that prices are absolutely unquotable. From the large number of sheep, it being the September fair, best breeding sheep made as a rule, up to 35s; inferior animals 25s. Lambs and ewes, 28s to 33s; lambs, 25s to 28s. Large supply of pigs, but practically no dealers, latter being scared by the reports of swine fever. Stores sold at 35s to 40s and sucking pigs at from 12s to 18s.

Newcastle, Tuesday. Large supplies, heavy trade, prices easier. Numbers:—Cattle, 1,957; sheep and lambs, 9,389; pigs, 698; calves, 67. Prices (sinking offal):—Beef, 5s to 8s 3d;

pork, 5s to 7s 6d per stone; mutton, 5d to 8d; lamb, 5½d to 8½d; veal, 5d to 9½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a good supply of cattle, sheep, and lambs, but only a moderate trade. Prices ruled about the same as last week.

Norwich, Saturday. The supply of store cattle here to-day was considerable, and was made up largely of Irish lots; a good trade was passing at former rates. The supply of fat beasts was also large; prices ranged from 7s 9d to 8s and 8s 3d per 14lb. Store sheep were in average supply, and there was a good demand at an advance of 1s to 2s per head, ams making 25s to 38s, and keeping shearlings 40s to 48s per head. Fat sheep were quoted at 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb.

Preston, Wednesday.—A fair supply of fat beasts, and rade slow. Best animals ma e 4s 6d to 4s 8d, and middlings s to 4s 4d per stone. A large supply of sheep, and trade very low. Best sheep made 5s 6d to 5s 8d, and middlings 5s to s 4d per stone. Very few lambs offered. Calves in short upply, and trade fair, at 5s to 5s 8d per stone. No store beasts. ig trade good.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A fair show of mulch beasts and a good demand for the best lots, which made from £18 to £22; econdary, £13 to £16.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—834 cattle, 61 cows with calves, 780 sheep and lambs, 102 calves, 35 fat pigs porkers and 203 tore pigs. Larger supplies all round. Fat stock firm at late ates. Cows with calves and store stock brisk. Quotations:— Beef, 6d to 7½d; mutton, 7½d to 8½d; and veal, 7½d to 8½d per b. Porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s 6d; and bacons, 8s to 9s 6d per core. Cows, with calves, up to £21 17s.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A fair show of beasts, and a good rade for beef, the top price being 8s per stone. Stores, £10 to £16. In the sheep market there was a brisk trade, all breds, 8½d; long woods, 8d per lb. Good d mand for reeding ewes.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were 182 cattle, 1 calves, 51 sheep, and 130 lambs on offer. Best cattle were a small how, and trade was rather slow at 8s to 8s 3d per stone; rougher inds, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; grazing cattle, £7 and £9. For oung sheep and lambs there was a fair demand at 8d and 8½d; wes, 7d; tups, 5d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Fairly good supply, moderate ttendance, but good trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a full supply of stock of all descriptions, and with a good attendance of buyers trade ruled irm, the best quality selling at higher prices than of late. Mr. Bond had a busy day. His entries comprised 120 fat beasts and own calving heifers, 399 fat sheep and stores, 85 fat and reaning calves, 134 fat and store pigs, and 2 hor es. Fat bullocks made £16 to £19; fat heifers, £14 to £22 5s; down calving eifers, £13 to £17 10s; fat wethers, 43s to 56s 6d; fat ewes, 8s to 52s; fat lambs, 28s to 42s; Scotch lambs, 11s 6d ach; fat calves, £3 to £5 16s; cow calves, 21s to 60s; bull alves, 18s to 40s; fat pigs, 9s 6d per score. Stores made late prices.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Slow trade for both beef and mutton, but late rates were fairly well sustained. Best beef 9d per lb; useful beef, 6d to 6½d; and other kinds, 5d to 6d. Nice small sheep 8½d; strong sheep, 7½d to 8d; ewes and tups, d to 6d; lambs, 8½d to 9d. Numbers penned:—Fat beasts, 462; sheep, 3,547.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—The beef trade is very slow, nd to meet buyers dealers have to take less money. Consequently last week's top price for choice beef of 6¾ cannot be uite maintained. Mutton also drags, and it is with difficulty hoice sheep make 8½d; good strong sheep 7¾d, and ewes from ¼d per lb. Beasts penned—1,462; sheep, 3,547.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a good supply, ad trade. Sheep and lambs: Fair number offered, slow rade. Calves small supply, fair demand for best. Milch ows, a very large supply of good animals and much cheaper. Beef 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8d o 8½d per lb; veal, 7d to 8½d per lb. Bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 6d er score; porkets, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score; sows, 7s per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was an increased attendnce and better supplies. Good trade for beef, at full prices, nd wether mutton sold well. Lambs and fat calves were learer. Pigs made late rates. Beef, 6d to 7d; wether mutton, ¼d; ewes, 7½d; veal, 8d; and lamb, 9d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—The best market for years on eger day—almost up to the average. About 80 beasts, 200 heep, and 40 pigs shown. Good attendance of buyers, and air prices were realised. Beef, 6s to 8s per stone. Good demand or sheep, up to 8½d per lb for best, and ewes, etc., 6d per lb.

York, Friday.—Calves, 7¾d per lb; small sheep, 8d per lb; arge sheep, 7¾d per lb; ewes, 5d to 6d per lb; lamb, 9d per b; small pork pigs, 7s per stone; large pork pigs, 6s 6d per tone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies comprised 941 ead, this being a decrease of 89 as compared with last Wednesday's figures, and were made up of 758 United States, and 83 Canadian, the latter consisting entirely of ranch cattle. Trade was firm at 4s 4d to 4s 6d, and 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb to sink the offal respectively.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—The market was steady early in the week, but latterly demand having fallen off, prices have declined. Calcutta spot London passage August-September, 50s; and September-October, 56s; April-June, 45s 6d. Hull quiet, Calcutta April-June, 46s 6d. Azov, Black Sea, prompt and September-October, 56s; October-November, 56s 3d. La Plata, December-January, 50s 6d; January-February, 48s 9d; February-March, 48s 3d. To the continent Bombay is quoted March-May, sellers 49s 6d; buyers 48s 6d. Calcutta to Hamburgh August-September, 50s 3d; April-June, new crop 46s 9d. Linseed oil is quieter and prices for forward delivery are lower. We quote spot pipes and barrels £33 10s; October-December, £32; January-April, £29. Hull spot naked £33; October-December, £31 17s 6d; January-April, £29. Linseed cakes are again firmer. London made, £8 7s 6d. to £8 10s. Russian, £7 17s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £7 12s 6d to £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes are again dearer in sympathy with seed. London made £4 15s to £4 17s 6d. Rapeseed.—Owing to the firmness of holders business is much restricted. Yellow Guzerat, March-May, £5s. Yellow Cawnpore, March-May, 43s 6d. Brown Cawnpore 40s 6d. Brown Calcutta, October-November, sold at 44s. Ravison to Hull, September, 38s 6d. Cottonseed.—The disaster at Galveston, and the excitement in cotton have tended to keep the market strong. London, however, continues to abstain from buying. New seed just arrived has sold at £7 7s 6d; old in warehouse is quoted £7 2s 6d. September, £7 8s 9d new; October, £6 18s 9d; November-January, £6 12s 6d. Hull dearer, spot and passage, £7 5s; September, £7 7s 6d; October, £6 17s 6d; November-January, £6 11s 3d paid.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—Values are again tending upwards, and there is decidedly more inclination to buy, as stocks are practically exhausted, and few buyers have filled their ordinary requirements for the season. Russians are very scarce on spot and afloat, held for an advance of 1s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. per ton. American are unchanged for October-November shipment, while spot parcels are the turn dearer. English are firm at last week's quotations and attract more attention. Cotton cakes.—There have been very few arrivals, and no offers for future shipment, some parcels spot and future paper are held for an advance of 5s. to 5s. per ton. Maize.—Germ meal is again 2s. 6d. per ton dearer for prompt delivery while a fair trade has been done for September-December dispatch at a slight advance. Rice meal has been attracting a good deal of attention at the advance of 3s. 9d. to 5s. per ton for September-December shipments, as it is relatively a very cheap article.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... per town mill	8 5 0	to	8 7 6
American in bags ..... ex dock	7 15 0	„	7 17 6
American Oct.-Nov. ..... „	7 12 6	„	7 15 0
Russian in mats ..... „	7 17 6	„	7 18 9
Russian in bags ..... „	7 18 9	„	8 0 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	4 17 6	„	5 0 0
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 15 0	„	4 17 6
„ „ Nov.-April shipment	4 15 0	„	4 16 3
Decorticated ..... „	6 17 6	„	6 1 0
Meal, on spot	6 10 0	„	6 12 6
RAPE CAKES			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 15 0	„	—
Ravison ..... „	4 7 6	„	—
Nutted, in bags ..... „	4 12 6	„	—
MAIZE			
Germ meal (American) ..... ex dock	5 8 9	„	5 10 0
„ „ „ Sept. Oct. ..... „	5 2 6	„	5 4 0
„ „ (English) ..... ex mill	5 7 6	„	5 10 0
RICE MEAL			
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	4 12 6	„	4 15 0
„ Oct.-Jan. ..... ex ship	4 12 6	„	—
„ Jan.-March ..... ex ship	4 11 3	„	—

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—[illegible] supply of new home-grown wheat, which obtains about the same prices as on Tuesday last; old sound and mouldy are extreme rates. Foreign meets a steady sale at unaltered prices. The new English barley offering is not fin , and ranges from 25s to 28s per 14-lb to growers. Old oats command fully late rates, new unaltered. Beans fully as dear. Flat maize sells steadily at quite late rates. The market is about cleared of spot Odessa. Linseed.—The arrivals are 93 qrs from Amsterdam, 103 qrs Harlingen, 2,325 qrs Hamburg, 250 qrs Libau, 3,531 qrs Petersburg, 13 qrs Rotterdam; total, 6,315 qrs. Linseed has been firm throughout the week at again gradually improved pr ces. Calcutta on the spot does not offer, but April-June new crop is quoted 46s 6d. Black Sea has changed hands September-October and October-November at 55s 9d and 56s. Petersburg, July-August, 56s wanted. Riga and Libau, monthly shipments up to March, 52s. River Plate, December-January, 54s 3d to 54s 6d; January-February business done at 48s 3d. 48s 6d now mostly asked. Cottonseed.—The market has been firm all the week, and further improved in prices all round. Old crop f und buyers at £7 to £7 5s spot and passage, which latter paid September-Fayoumi, and still obtainable. First half October £7, all the month £6 16s 3d, and a fair business done November-January at £6 3s 9d to £6 7s 6d; subsequently, however, this position receded again to £6 5s, which accepted on Saturday, but yesterday there was more inquiry with one or two sales made at £6 6s 3d; and to-day £6 7s 6d to £6 8s 9d paid, but sellers over at latter. Old seed cakes.—All are dearer with firm market. Hemp firm.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND Co.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 2s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 0s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 5s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per packet of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb: Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7d to 1s 7½d; scoured average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; South Australian, greasy average, 6½d to 7d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 4½d to 1s 5½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; Cape, scoured superior, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; fleece average, 8d to 9d; greasy average, 6¾d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 7½d to 7¾d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 10d to 1s; New Zealand, fine, 9d to 10d; ditto medium, 7¾d to 8½d; ditto coarse, 6d to 7d.

London, Saturday.—The list of arrivals for the sales commencing on October 9 was closed yesterday, when the total amounted to 251,321 bales (219,924 bales Australasian and 31,397 bales Cape). Deducting what has been forwarded direct, but adding the wools held over from last series, the total available amounts to 366,000 bales, of which about 136,000 bales are crossbred. It having been decided that no sixth series is to be held this year, the above quantity represents the entire supply in the London market until the commencement of the first series in 1901 on January 15. Assuming the total quantity available for next series to be sold, or a moderate quantity remaining on hand to be balanced by direct importations up to November 30, the date when the import list for the season was closed last year, the total deliveries will amount to only 1,600,000 bales, against 1,924,000 bales in 1899, thus showing a reduction of 324,000 bales. We estimate that the actual decrease in production amounted to only 120,000 bales, all merino wools, viz., 70,000 bales Australasian and perhaps 50,000 bales Cape, though it is extremely difficult to form a correct idea of the Cape production, as there are still large stocks in South Africa. The balance would represent the quantity to be shifted from the present year to the next. Since the close of the July sales the market has remained perfectly quiet. The reports from the manufacturing districts in this country were fairly satisfactory up to the last week in August, when the collapse in the North of France occurred, and even in this [illegible] general position, though the lower prices in the home market have naturally affected the values of coarse fine lots.—HELMUTH SCHWARTZE AND Co., 3 and 4, Moorgate-street buildings, E.C.

Bradford, Thursday.—No important alteration in rates at this market to-day: standard 60s; botany top are probably sold at 1s 9½d, but holders are by no means anxious to sell 40-6's; and lower cross-breds are steadily enquired for, but values, which are very low, remain unaltered in English wools. Lustre hogs are in [illegible] rates.

Canterbury. [illegible] in prices. [illegible] 4d to 5d; cross-breds rather lower at from 6d to 7d per lb.

Leicester. [illegible] still maintained [illegible] cerned. There is a fair [illegible] and an improved inquiry has a tendency to harden prices. In other sorts business and values are steady, except in the most inferior kinds, which are depressed and weak. There is an encouraging sale for lambs' wool and knitting yarns. Trade in fine cashmeres is dull.

MANURES.

Liverpool [illegible]

[illegible]

ditto, English, prime, in bulk, £3 10s to £3 15s per ton;

N.A., decorticated, prime, in bags, £6 13s 9d to [illegible]

[illegible]

phosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, per [illegible]

36 sol., in bags, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaran[illegible]

[illegible]

to 45 phos., in bags, £1 16s to £1 17s 6d per ton, at the [illegible]

Winsford Cheshire [illegible]

screened rock salt, 8s 6d per ton, for truck loads in bulk.—

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

Sept.

12. Hedley [illegible]

13. [illegible]

Mains, Aberdeenshire.

18. Sale of Mr E. K. Buckley's Shropshire Sheep, at The Fields, Ellesmere, Salop.

19. [illegible]

Mr R. S. [illegible]

13. [illegible]

19 and 20. [illegible]

19. [illegible]

19. [illegible]

19. [illegible]

19. Sale of Mr. G. J. Littlejohn's herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, and a portion of Mr. G. Cran's herd, at Wellhouse, [illegible]

19. [illegible]

19. [illegible]

19. [illegible]

19. [illegible]

19. [illegible]

19, 20, and 21. Sale of Horses at Cheshire Repository, Crewe.

20. Sale of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, the property of various [illegible]

20. Grantham Agricultural Association's Show.

20. [illegible]

20. [illegible]

Oswestry.

20. Brumpton Agricultural Society's Show.

20. Birmingham Shorthorn Show, at Bingley Hall.

20. [illegible]

20. Sale of Mr. S. A. Leigh's Jerseys and Southdowns, at Frog [illegible]

20. Sale of Mr. F. Crisp's Shire Horses, at Girton, Cambs.

20. Sale of Cattle and Shire Horses, the property of Mr. T [illegible]

21. Sale of the late Mr. R. Dewhurst's Shorthorns, at Shelford [illegible]

21. Sale of Shire Mares and Foals at Peterborough Repository.

24. [illegible]

25. [illegible]

25. Sale of Shorthorns and Shropshire Sheep, the property of Capt. R. H. Mytton, at Garth Hall, Welshpool.

25. [illegible]

25. [illegible]

25. [illegible]

25. [illegible]

26. Befield Foal Show.

26. [illegible]

26. Sale of Devon Cattle, belonging to Mr J. G. Davis, at [illegible]

26. [illegible]

Mr. J. R. Adderley, at Mansley, Penrhos.

26. [illegible]

26. [illegible]

26. [illegible]

26. [illegible]

27. Ashbourne Shire Horse Show.

27. Altrincham Agricultural Society's Show, at Dewsdale.

[illegible]

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Black-faced Mountain ram is the property of the executors of the late Mr. T. Dargue, Burneside Hall, Kendal, Westmorland, who exhibited it at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at York this year, and it came out top of the class for rams of the breed two-shear and upwards. It was bred by Mr. Fleming, Threepland, N.B., and was born about April 20th, 1898.

The photograph from which our illustration of a Harness Horse was reproduced was taken at the recent Royal Dublin Show. This horse, which was driven by Miss Arnold, of Inverness, won the first prize in its class.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

I would remind horse breeders that Saturday next (September 22nd) is the last day for making entries for the Wembley Park Horse Show, which takes place on Wednesday, the 26th inst. The trotting display was one of the features of last year's show, and it promises to be so again on Wednesday week, for it is announced that Mr. Walter Winans' Lake Erie and Princell will attempt to beat the two mile pair-horse record of 5 minutes 37½ seconds now held by them. Mr. Walter Winans will also himself drive Barney F. to beat the amateur drivers' and waggon mile record of 2 minutes 52 2-5 seconds held by his horse Fides Stanton. Mr. Louis W. Winans' Passing Belle and Rhoda Ferrand will attempt to beat the English pair mile record of 2 minutes 35 1-5 seconds which they at present hold; and a horse of his will attempt to beat the English quarter-mile record of 38 2-5 seconds at present held by his Moxie. Mr. Vero Shaw, 77, Fleet Street, E.C., is the secretary and manager of this show, and from him can be had prize schedules, entry forms, etc.

Mr. J. J. Cridlan, of Home Farm, Maisemore Park, Gloucester, has sold the yearling Aberdeen-Angus bull Cavalier of Maisemore (16370) to Mrs. Calmady, of Newton Abbot, Devonshire, who has a polled herd; the bull is of the choicest strain of the Pride of Aberdeen tribe, the sire being Blackwood, brother of Bion, the 300-guinea bull at the head of Sir George Macpherson Grant's Ballindalloch herd, and whose grandsire is the incomparable champion Equestrian, of the Auchorachan herd.

The fourth annual show and sale of registered Kent or Romney Marsh rams, held under the auspices of the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association, takes place on Friday, the 28th inst., in the Cattle Market, Ashford. The entries, which number 445, have been made by the following breeders:—The Right Hon. Earl Sondes, Mr. A. Amos, Mr. J. P. Barnes, Mr. G. Buley, Mr. N. Clayton, Mr. F de B. Collard, Mr. G. Farmer, Mr. C. File, Messrs. C. File and Sons, Mr. Arthur Finn, Mr. F. H. Harvey, Mr. E. P. Hogben, Mr. W. Millen, Mr. F. Neame, Mr. L. H. Page, Mr J. E. Long, Mr. J. D. Maxted, Mr. W. E. Quested, and Mr. H. Rigden. The judging will take place at 9 a.m., and the sale will commence at 10.30 prompt. The annual dinner, to which members and the public are invited, will be held at the Saracen's Head Hotel, Ashford, under the presidency of the Right Hon. A. Akers-Douglas, M.P., on Thursday, September 27th, at 7 p.m. Mr. W. W. Chapman, Room 32, Fitzalan House, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C., is the secretary of the association, and from him can be had catalogues and fuller information respecting the show and sale.

The entries for Volume 6 of the Polo Pony Stud Book close on Monday, October 1st. The acknowledged utility of the mounted infantry in the present war in South Africa has demonstrated the value of the pony of 14.2 hands, and the society has already represented to the Government the necessity for encouraging the breeding of the riding pony. Breeders should therefore be prepared to meet the undoubted demand that must arise. The Polo Pony Stud Book affords them the best information procurable as indicating the strains to which they can resort in the production of the animal required, while enabling them to register their young animals.

Per the ss. Paparoa, which left London on Wednesday last, Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, shipped to Mr. Mitchell, of Jericho, Tasmania, Mr. P. L. Mills' highest-priced ram of this season, a sheep of beautiful character, with a close, merino-like fleece, and all the best attributes of the modern Shropshire. This ram was sired by Odstone Peacemaker (10048), bred by Mrs. Barrs from a Childe Harold ewe, and owning as his great-grandsire Viscount Harrington (8494), bred by the late Mr. T. Mansell.

On Monday, the 3rd inst., Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., Shrewsbury, shipped from Liverpool, per the ss. Hyanthes, two valuable three-year-old Clydesdale mares to a leading estanciero near Buenos Ayres, viz., Lily Flashwood, by the Glenklen's premium horse, Flashwood's Best (9211), and Fair Diplomat, by Mr. Picken's grand horse Crown Agent (10053), a grandson of Prince of Wales (673). This is the second consignment by Messrs. Mansell and Co. of Clydesdales for the same estancia.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, shipped on Wednesday, to Mr. G. Simonds, of Tasmania, from the port of London, per the s.s. Paparoa, a high-class Shropshire shearling ram, selected from Messrs. Evans's flock, by Star of Fame (10144), a well-known sire by Star of the West (8764), dam by Star of the West (8764), and going back to two noted showyard winners, Corston Artist (5948), winner Highland Agricultural Show, 1882, and Royal Sceptre (3705), winner Shropshire and West-Midland Show. This ram was specially selected for his fine dense fleece and clear, cherry skin, combined with high quality, a beautifully-covered head, and perfect type.

The entries for the forty-eighth Birmingham autumn exhibition and sale, which takes place on the 20th inst., number 236, as compared with 195 at last year's show. The catalogue comprises 97 cows and heifers, a large proportion of these having calves at foot, and many others shortly due to calve. There are 59 entries in the class for bulls between twelve and eighteen months old, and 80 in the extra stock class for bulls of any age, entered for sale only. Amongst the animals entered are many which have gained honours at the principal county and other shows, and also winners of the Shorthorn Society's premiums.

Mr. Charles Showell, of Snitterfield, Stratford-on-Avon, is taking advantage of this opportunity to dispose of his entire select herd of 17 well-bred cows, heifers, and bulls, including several show animals. Mr. W. Arkell, of Kempsford, Fairford, is sending ten heifers of good milking strain from his well-known dairy herd. These are being disposed of owing to the farm being overstocked. Mrs. Holland, of Newport, Salop, has entered 17 cows, heifers, and bulls, and other noted herds represented are:—The Duke of Manchester, the Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Camperdown, the Earl of Powis, the Earl of Suffolk, Viscount Baring, Lord Lilford, Lord Penrhyn, Lord Sherborne, the Right Hon. F. J. S. Foljambe, Sir Joseph Pulley, Bart., Sir James Rankin, Bart., Colonel Blake, C.B., Colonel Makins, Captain Mytton, Captain Reeve, Captain Whitting, Messrs. S. H. Allen, D. Arkell, J. W. Barnes, N. Benjafield, R. Blezard, C. W. Brierley, F. P. Bulley, R. P. Cooper, J. R. Crawley, J. P. Cross, P. A. and G. T. Evans, G. Freeman, F. R. Fry, John Garne, W. T. Garne, G. Gerrard, J. and T. Harrison, A. Hiscock, jun., W. J. Hosken, T. R. Hulbert, G. F. King, W. S. Marr, C. E. Morris, J. Naylor, J. A. Preece, B. Read, Leopold de Rothschild, W. W. Slye, T. Stokes, J. Thorley, J. C. Toppin, W. H. Tremaine, J. H. Wheatley, R. Wood, etc.

This exhibition and sale affords an excellent opportunity to secure, at reasonable prices, valuable stock of the highest order of merit, the pedigree of every animal being guaranteed by the exhibitors as eligible for, or already entered in, the herd book. No higher reserve than twenty guineas can be placed on any animal entered, and a large number are for unreserved sale. The judging commences at 8.30, and the sale at eleven o'clock. Catalogues (price 7d. each by post) may be obtained from the secretary, Mr. W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

Mr. L. A. Macpherson, of Wyrley Grove, Pelsall, Staffordshire, having let one of his farms, has instructed Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Limited, Perth, to sell by auction on Friday, the 28th inst., a number of his pure-bred Aberdeen-Angus cattle, the catalogue comprising twenty-eight cows, eleven two-year-old and five yearling heifers, four heifer calves, and three bulls. Mr. Macpherson's herd was founded in the autumn of 1890 by the purchase of two cows and eight heifers from Mr. John Rattray, Phoineas, and the following spring the bull Roisterer was purchased from Sir George Macpherson Grant's herd, and since then females have been purchased from the Advie, Naughton, New Southgate, Glamis, and Cullen House herds, whilst only bulls from the best herds have been used. Animals from this herd have rarely been exhibited, but this year a few were sent to the Royal, the Great Yorkshire, and Staffordshire Shows, and won one first, four second, and three third prizes, besides special prize for the best beast in the show at Stafford.

Mr. George Wainwright's entire stud of Shire mares, fillies, and foals is to be sold without reserve at the Monks Heath Hall Shire Stud, Chelford, Cheshire, on Wednesday, the 26th inst. All the mares are nicely bred, the Premier blood predominating as the most suitable to mate with the home stud horse Ercall Wynn, by Lincolnshire Lad II. The fillies and foals are also a good lot. Monks Heath is very getatable from Crewe or Manchester, and the sale being fixed for the day before the Ashbourne and Altrincham Shows will prove convenient to those attending from a distance. The sale will commence after a 12 o'clock luncheon, and will be conducted by Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck.

I would draw attention to the fact that to-morrow (Tuesday) is the date of the Hitchin Foal Show and Sale. For the sale, which will commence at one o'clock, Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck have already secured an entry of about sixty animals, the property of various gentlemen, amongst whom are several well-known breeders.

On Thursday next, Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck will dispose of a number of Shire horses belonging to Mr. F. Crisp, J.P., D.L., at the Girton Stud, Cambridge. This will be the last of the series of annual sales held by Mr. Crisp, as, having recently let two farms on the estate, he has decided to reduce his breeding stud, and for the future go back to his original plan of periodical sales. The catalogue for Thursday contains some thirty-five brood mares and fillies, and all the foals reared at the stud this year. All will be sold without reserve, and seeing how well they are bred, the sale should prove most attractive. Amongst the foals are two direct descendants of Starlight, by Bury Victor Chief and Marmion II., out of the dams of Southgate Charm and Girton Sunlight. Other foals are by Marmion II., Mormaer of Batsford, Markeaton Royal Harold, and Southgate Lincolnshire Lad, the mares being put to the same sires again. The mares will be sold according to age, commencing with the oldest in each class. All the foals are entered as produce for the next volume of the stud-book.

Captain Devereux H. Mytton's Garth Hall herd of Shorthorns, which was established on good sound old blood about thirty years ago, has been so prolific that a sale is now absolutely necessary, and on the 25th inst. Messrs. Lythall and Walters will dispose of eighty-six cows, heifers and bulls, at Garth Hall, which is about three miles from Welshpool. The animals have a good reputation as beef and milk producers, and being bred and reared in a hilly district in North Wales, are very robust in constitution. The cows are all young (one only being over five years old), are regular breeders, and free from any known defect in any way, and, with one exception, will be offered in ordinary store condition from their pastures. There are a large and good lot of two-year-old heifers, nearly all with

calves at foot, as well as several yearlings of great promise for show purposes. In former years the bulls have met a ready sale at Bingley Hall, where remunerative prices and several honours have been obtained, and specimens from the herd there selected have afterwards been winners at the R.A.S.E. and other important exhibitions. The animals bought for export will be sold subject to the tuberculin test. The catalogue will also contain fifty-five well-bred Shropshire sheep. The sale will commence after a twelve o'clock luncheon.

I have had sent me a copy of the prize-list for this year's fat stock show of the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society, which will be held in Bingley Hall on December 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th. The classes and prizes are exactly the same as last year, and there is but little change in the list of challenge cups and special awards. In the pig section the twenty-guinea silver challenge cup for the best pen is this year given by the hotel and innkeepers of Birmingham, and they do not offer, as before, a five-guinea cup for the best pig in the single classes. Last year the challenge cup was given by the Bingley Exhibition Hall Company, Ltd. I only noticed two other alterations. In the corn section a ten-guinea silver cup is offered for the first time by Mr. Henry Mitchell for the best sample of one bushel of barley, which must represent a bulk of not less than ten quarters; and instead of the ten-guinea cup for the heaviest beast in the show there will this year be a prize of five guineas for the heaviest beast, three guineas for the second, and two for the third heaviest beast in the butchers' class. The entries close on November 1st with the secretary, Mr. W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

At Grantown-on-Spey, on Thursday in this week, Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Company, Limited, of Perth, will hold a sale of pure-bred Aberdeen-Angus cattle, the animals—seventy-three in number—being from the herds of various breeders in the Strathspey district.

At the Peterborough Repository, on Friday, Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck will conduct a special sale of show mares, fillies, and foals, the proceedings to commence at one o'clock. The catalogue consists of fifty-three animals, selected from the shows of about five-and-twenty breeders in different parts of the country.

The first sale of pedigree Welsh Black cattle held under the auspices of the North Wales Black Cattle Society, of which Colonel Henry Platt, C.B., is president, will take place on Tuesday, the 25th inst. at the Madryn Home Farm, which is midway between Aber and Llanfairfechan, on the Chester and Holyhead section of the London and North-Western Railway. Sixty-two animals are catalogued, and they are from the herds of Colonel Henry Platt, C.B., Colonel Sandbach, Messrs. R. M. Greaves, Thomas Roberts, Aber; C. F. Priestley, Hirdrefaig; J. R. Jones, Bodfeirig; O. Parry Jones, Plas Llechylched; R. W. Pritchard, Coedmarion; Ed. Griffith, Tyddyn Canol; J. Williams, Cerrig Barcut; D. Roberts Jones, Crugeran; Owen Jones, Bodafon; Thomas Jones, Cefnmaesoglan; Hugh W. Roberts, Llandinorwig; and William Jones, Marian. All the animals which will be offered have either been already entered in the published volumes of the Society's Herd Book, or are eligible for entry in its next volume (now in course of preparation), and the showyard records of such as have already been exhibited, as well as of the sires and dams of many of the younger animals, indicate the high class of the cattle. The auctioneers are Messrs. W. Dew and Son, Wellfield, Bangor, and Trinity Square, Llandudno, and from them catalogues and further information can be had.

Mr. John Robert Jefferies, of St. Helen's Lodge, Ipswich, and a member of the firm of Messrs. Ransomes, Sons, and Jefferies, Ltd., Orwell Works, died suddenly on Wednesday. Mr. Jefferies, who was in his sixtieth year, had been ailing for some time, but on Tuesday became worse, and Mr. A. T. Wood, his medical attendant, and Mr. Jefferies' son-in-law, Dr. Ward, deemed an operation necessary. Dr. Herbert Brown was called in for the purpose, and so satisfactorily was the operation performed that there appeared every hope that the patient would recover. However, later he showed signs of relapsing, and succumbed on Wednesday morning from appendicitis.

The Foot-and-Mouth Disease.

The following circular was issued on Thursday by the Board of Agriculture to the clerks to the local authorities throughout England:—

"I am directed by the Board of Agriculture to draw the particular attention of your local authority to the fact that within the past six weeks outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease have occurred in the East Riding of Yorkshire and in Denbighshire, whilst today the disease has been declared to exist in the neighbourhood of Melksham, in Wiltshire.

"The Board cannot but regard the fact that the disease has appeared within a few weeks in districts so widely separated, as an indication that foot-and-mouth disease has in all probability existed in unknown centres for some time past, and they fear that unless the utmost vigilance is exercised by local authorities, a grave danger of a widespread epidemic may arise. I am, therefore, to ask you to be so good as to at once call the attention of your local authority to the matter, and to ask them to use every possible means to obtain immediate information as to the appearance of any suspicious case of the disease in their district, and in the event of such reports being received to at once put in force and rigidly carry out the provisions of the Foot and Mouth Disease Order of 1895.—I am, etc.,

"T. H. Elliott, Secretary."

Jerseys as Farm Stock.

There are possibly thousands of instances in which a herd of Jerseys, either large or small, might be kept with advantage for the production of butter, or even of milk where milk is retailed by the farmer himself. First, with regard to milk, there is a danger, as has already been pointed out in this column, that the price of milk may permanently decrease, but we would urge upon the consumer the importance of paying a good price in his own interest, and insisting upon a first-class article.

Milk should be Rich

to commence with, but there is no milk which can compare with that of the Channel Islands cattle, and if a farmer can retail that at 4d. a quart it will pay him to do so, while it will still better pay the consumer who has the good fortune to obtain such milk. Although the remark does not apply to the supply from every dairyman, still we are convinced that pure Jersey milk purchased by any head of a family may be once skimmed of its cream and still prove equal in quality to the average sample left at the door, and be it remembered that cream obtained from this milk is beyond all comparison superior to anything else which is purchasable at any price. We would rather pay 50 per cent. more for pure Jersey milk, which we knew to be clean, than for the average milk of the average dairyman, often unclean and equally often imperfect. The purity can only be guaranteed when milk has been what is termed "sterilised" and delivered in bottles, but this question we propose to deal with on another occasion.

Jersey Butter.

Let us, however, deal with the question of butter production from the Jersey cow. It so happens that there are large numbers of tenant farmers who have no sale for their milk for various reasons, but who are compelled to produce butter. In the first place, the butter yield of the Jersey is probably a third larger than that of the average cattle of the country. A good cow will produce 300 lb., and there is no reason why, with proper care in selection and in breeding, a herd of cows should not be collected which average this, or very nearly this quantity. It must be admitted that anything approximating to 300 lb. per cow must pay handsomely, inasmuch as Jersey butter, thoroughly well made, readily sells at 16d. a pound, and in some hands at 18d. But the question will be asked, How about the skim milk? If Jersey milk is skimmed under the principle of shallow setting, the butter will be all the better, and but a very small portion of cream will be lost, but that small portion will be sufficient to so enrich the milk that it will be practically adequate to the feeding of calves in their second stage. Jersey milk is not only richer in fat than other milk, but also richer in casein and albumen, and consequently more valuable as a calf food. Thus, in our opinion, a Jersey herd might be

Made to do Double Duty

—cows producing butter for the market and milk for the rearing of calves, which are much more profitable than those who do not rear commonly suppose. It has frequently been shown, and especially by the Yorkshire College authorities, that skimmed milk may be enriched with oil or fat for feeding calves right along; but we believe that where Jersey milk is used, not only would less oil be essential in the first stage of milk feeding, but that in the second stage it might be dispensed with altogether; for, much as we value the separator in the dairy, we have never been able to ignore the practice of the farmers in parts of Normandy where calves are fattened for the market upon milk which has been once skimmed for the production of the finest butter.—*Yorkshire Post.*

Sale of Mr. Ker Colville's Shorthorns.

Messrs. John Thornton and Co. sold by auction on the 7th inst., at Bellaport, Shropshire, a large portion of the Shorthorn herd belonging to Mr. H. Ker Colville. The cattle had been bred on a cold high-lying farm, and were good milkers. During the last three years the first prize has been won each year for the best lot of bulls bred by the exhibitor at the Crewe Show. The highest price was 60gs., paid by Sir Oswald Mosley for Bellaport Faithful, a nice roan heifer that won first prize at the Cheshire Show this year. We give below a sale list of the principal lots, with purchasers' names and prices:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Valentine Ruffian, roan, c Feb. 1898, s [illegible]	[illegible]
ed 28414 ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
Lingfield Nell Gwynne, red and [illegible]	[illegible]
1892, s Duke of Birmingham [illegible] ..... Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Lady Oxford York 3rd, red, c Feb. [illegible], s Marquis	
59447 ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
Lady Tyrley 38th, red and white, c Feb. [illegible], s Duke	
of Waterloo 15th, 58838 ..... Mr. Wilkinson	21
Bearstone Nell Gwynne, red roan, c Dec. [illegible], s Duke	
Kirk Connaught 8771 ..... M. [illegible]	
Benson 48th, roan, c Feb. 1893, s Comptroller [illegible]	
..... Mr. Norcott	33
Daisy Gordon, roan, c March, 1833, s Douglas Gordon	
52750 ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
Cream Bride, red, c July, 1895, s Marquis [illegible]	
..... Mr. Norcott	32
Ballet Girl, roan, c Jan. 1894, s Fairy Duke [illegible]	
..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
Bearstone Dale, roan, c April, 1894, s [illegible]	
2nd 60343 ..... Mr. Howarth	25
Bellaport Gwynne red and white, c [illegible]	
of Langford 70581 ..... Mr. F. Punchard	30
Bearstone Sonata 3rd, red, c Jan., 1895, s Golden Ingram	
64037 ..... Mr. E. Powell	24
Bearstone Dale 2nd, red and white, c [illegible]	
Golden Ingram 64037 ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
Bearstone Mermaid 3rd, red and white, c April, 1895,	
s Golden Ingram 64037 ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
Bellaport Gwynne 2nd, red and little white, c April,	
1896, s Golden Ingram 64037 ..... M. [illegible]	47
Darlington Queen, [illegible] and white, c [illegible]	
s Golden Ingram 64037 ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
Bearstone Benson [illegible] ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
Heifers.	
[illegible] roan, [illegible] ..... Mr. Norcott	12
Bellaport Snowdrop, white, c Oct., 1896, s Golden Ingram	
64037 ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
Bellaport Gwynne 3rd, [illegible] ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
Ingram 64037 ..... Mr. Mellroyd	41
Bearstone Dale 3rd, roan, c May, 1897, s Lord Cleveland	
[illegible] ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
Bearstone [illegible] ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
64037 ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
Bearstone Benson 3rd, roan, c Oct., 1897, s Golden	
Ingram 64037 ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
Cowslip 38th, red and white, c Dec., 1897, s Prince of	
[illegible] ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]
19th 68043 ..... Mr. Anderson	28
Lady Bellasort, roan, c Feb., 1898, s Lord Cleveland	
13th 68043 ..... Mr. Lloyd	45
Bearstone Wenlock, white, c March, 1898, s Kirkdale	
[illegible] ..... M. [illegible]	[illegible]

	Gs.
Beauty Rose, white, c March, 1898, s Kirkdale 70724 Mr. J. A. Atkinson	26
Bellaport Faithful 3rd, roan, c April, 1898, s Lord Cleveland 19th 68943 ..... Sir Arthur Stepney	27
Towneley Duchess 9th, red and little white, c Oct., 1898, s Duke of Leicester 34th 72403 .... Mr. Wilkinson	21
Bellaport Faithful 4th, red and white, c April, 1899, s Duke of Leicester 34th 72403 ..... Mr. Ledger	40
Bellaport Lothian 5th, roan, c May, 1899, s Duke of Leicester 34th 72403 ..... Sir O. Mosley	60
Bearstone Nell Gwynne 4th, roan, c May, 1899, s Duke of Leicester 34th 72403 ..... Sir O. Mosley	20
Bearstone Raglan, roan, c August, 1899, s Lord of the Dale 70846 ..... Mr. J. W. Philips	20
Bearstone Cream, red and white, c Nov., 1899, s Duke of Leicester 34th 72403 ..... Mr. Norcott	22
Bellaport Gwynne 8th, red roan, c Dec., 1899, s Duncan's Heir 66971 ..... Mr. J. W. Philips	20
Bearstone Benson 4th, roan, c Dec., 1899, s Duncan's Heir 66971 ..... Mr. Brocklehurst	48
BULLS.	
Tulip's Duke, red and little white, c Jan., 1899, s Duke of Leicester 34th 72403 ..... Mr. G. Knowles	22
Bellaport Captain, red and white, c June, 1899, s Bright Captain 66734 ..... Mr. G. Knowles	26
Bates Duke, roan, c Nov., 1899, s Duke of Leicester 34th 72403 ..... Mr. Goodwin	32
Cleveland Harlequin, red and white, c Nov., 1899, s Oxford Harlequin 73172 ..... Mr. Williamson	30
Duncan's Hero, red, c Nov., 1899, s Duncan's Heir 66971 Mr. Furnival	28
Dido's Heir, roan, c Dec., 1899, s Duncan's Heir 66971 Mr. Wilkinson	31
Towneley Duke, roan, c Jan., 1900, s Duke of Leicester 34th 72403 ..... Mr. Nuttall	27

SUMMARY.	Average.		Total.
52 Cows	£27 10 8	..	£1,431 13 6
15 Bulls	22 4 6	..	333 7 6
67 Head	£26 7 0	..	£1,765 1 0

Sale of Shorthorns at Burghley Park.

The greater portion of the old-established herd of Shorthorn cattle bred by the Marquis of Exeter, and the small, choice herd bred by the late Mrs. Franklin, of Grantham, were sold by auction on Thursday last by Messrs. John Thornton and Co., at Burghley Park, Stamford. There was a good local company, and many of the lots were purchased to keep in the county. Mr. J. Langham, of Stroxton, secured three well-bred cows and the stock bull Jack Tar for his herd near Grantham. The entire herd realised £937 2s. 6d., an average price of nearly £21 each. We append a sale list of the highest priced lots:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.	Gs.
Princess Royal, roan, c June, 1891, s Inglewood Stump 57417 ..... Mr. J. Langham	22
Violet 13th, roan, c Jan., 1895, s Prince Victor 64605 Mr. R. Stretton	26
Sea Foam 2nd, red and little white, c Feb., 1895, s Lambert 64250 ..... Mr. J. R. Bradshaw	21
Circe 5th, roan, c Jan., 1896, s Prince Victor 64605 Mr. C. T. Turnell	21
Countess, white, c March, 1896, s Prince George 66056 Mr. S. Spencer	32
Rose of Ravensdale, roan, c April, 1896, s Sir Brian Riby 63361 ..... Mr. H. Dudding	22
Waterloo Princess, roan, c May 1896, s Prince of the South 67664 ..... Mr. J. Langham	21
Favourite Princess, red, c June, 1896, s Favourite Ideal 68634 ..... Mr. A. J. Sheriff	20
Violet 16th, roan, c March, 1897, s Bevington 66705 Mr. C. P. Tebbutt	22
Ringdove, roan, c June, 1897, s Bevington 66705 Mr. J. Langham	34
Gipsy Gwynne, red and white, c Jan., 1898, s Prince Tulip 71271 ..... Mr. B. Wrightson	26
Princess Olga, red and white, c March, 1898, sire Czar of Ruddington 66895 ..... Mr. R. Shelton	21
Victoria Gwynne 2nd, red and little white, c May, 1898, s Prince Tulip 71271 ..... Mr. B. Wrightson	22
BULLS.	
Jack Tar 72728, roan, c June, 1897, s Warrior 69779 Mr. Langham	32
Earl of Clarence 16th, roan, c Dec., 1897, s Scottish Chief 67813 ..... Mr. H. Dalton	28
Bestwood Red Robin 76155, red, c Feb., 1898, s Red Robin 71337 ..... Mr. S. Stokes	26
Rank-borough Common, red and little white, c June, 1898, s King Harold 68851 ..... Mr. J. How	22
Bevington Prince, red and little white, c Dec., 1898, s Bevington Gwynne 72047 ..... Mr. S. S. Walker	28
Telemachus 33rd, roan, c Feb., 1899, s Bevington 66705 Mr. C. B. Hill	27
British Tar, red and little white, c Feb., 1899, s Albion 69857 ..... Mr. G. Knowles	22
Favourite Prince, red and little white, c July, 1899, s Bevington Gwynne 72047 ..... Mr. J. Haynes	23
Ranksborough Brigadier, red and little white c Aug., 1899, s King Harold 68851 ..... Mr. G. Knowles	21

SUMMARY.	Average.		Total.
26 Cows and Heifers	£21 16 6	.....	£567 10 6
19 Bulls	20 10 1	.....	369 12 0
45 Head, averaged	£20 16 1	Total	£937 2 6

Sale of the Trescowe Herefords.

This fine herd of Hereford cattle, which has been reared in Cornwall by Mr. R. S. Olver and his father for over half a century, was sold by auction on Tuesday by Messrs. John Thornton and Co. Very few Hereford breeders attended the sale, although there was a large local company. The cattle were rather wild, having scarcely been handled, but they were all in a healthy breeding condition. Prices ruled very low, and there was little competition. The following were a few of the highest priced lots:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.	Gs.
Rebecca 2nd, c March, 1895, s Rubio Head [illegible] Mr. Ambley	22
Honey 3rd, c June, 1895, s Rubio Head [illegible] Mr. Hedley	18
Nancy, c April, 1895, s Lollipop 16814 .... Mr. Menchik	18½
Fairmaid 4th, c May, 1895, s Willoughby 18184 [illegible]	40
Bluebell 2nd, c Jan., 1897, s Belmont 17112 Mr. Ralph Palmer	22
Fruitful 2nd, c Jan., 1897, s Belmont 17112 .. Mr. Spears	18½
Hopeful 3rd, c April, 1897, s Belmont 17112 H.M. the Queen	21
TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.	
Bluebell 3rd, c Jan., 1898, s Belmont 17112 Mr. R. Palmer	22
Alice, c May, 1898, s Belmont 17112 ..... Mr. W. Tait	18½
BULLS.	
Clarence 15944, c March, 1891, s Merlin 7851 .. Mr. Firkins	40
Baron 15838, c March, 1898, s Belmont 17112 Mr. Lennie	22
Bellringer, c Jan., 1899, s Belmont 17112 .. Mr. Liddicote	18

Sale of Sir W. Walrond's Devon Cattle.

On Thursday a large company of breeders was present at Bradfield, Cullompton, Devon, for the sale of Sir William Walrond's herd of Devon cattle. Sir William started the Bradfield herd about ten years ago, and from time to time he has gained successes at all the chief shows. He has been careful to secure the best blood, and, as a result, the animals were just those most likely to be of service in connection with other herds. Nearly the whole of the animals which Messrs. Hawkes, Risdons, and Andrew brought under the hammer on Thursday were in excellent breeding condition. About eighty animals were catalogued, and the whole were submitted without reserve, with the exception of three—Moss Rose 22nd of Pound, the beautiful cow which was formerly shown by Mr. A. C. Skinner, and won so many prizes. At Bradfield she has been used entirely for breeding purposes, and is now in calf by Masterpiece. The reserve price was not reached, and Sir William was rather glad to keep her. The second animal on which a reserve was put was Bradfield Pearl 1st, by Royalist, a very graceful heifer, up to show form and full of character. She was also bought in. The other animal on which there was a reserve was the stud bull Royalist the 22nd of Pound, a son of Masterpiece. The biddings were slow at the start, but the sale was a very satisfactory one for the young stock.

The cows and calves were first submitted. Columbine, which led the way into the ring, originally came from Mr. Rogers's herd, and was thought by many to be the best cow in calf offered. She was secured by Mr. Hemborough, of Honiton, for 26gs. Mr. Bowerman, of Williton, gave 26gs. for Lady Portman, the sixth descended from the Cothelstone herd, while Mr. A. Skinner, of Pound, bought for 23gs. Curly 2nd of Pound, which has the old Cutsey blood in her. The best bull calf by General Mercier and Moss Rose was bought by Mr. Norris, of Copplestone, for 17gs. A Royalist 2nd of Pound calf was secured by Mr. Salter, of Culmstock, for 13gs., and another by the same sire went to Mr. Hartley for a corresponding amount, while a third by the same sire was bought by Mr. Bennett, of Morchard Bishop, for 10gs. The cow calves were a numerous and promising lot, and sold well. One by General Mercier, from Curly 2nd, was purchased by Mr. Brown, of Buckland Filleigh, for 15½gs., while another by the same sire was sold to Mrs. Earle, of Highampton, for 11gs. The heifers were a very good lot. Mr. Anderson, of Ilfracombe, gave 19gs. for one by Bradfield, K.C.B., out of Broad the 2nd, Mr. Chichester, of Barnstaple, giving 14½gs. for another from the same sire. The Royalist heifers were in good demand. Sir Thomas Acland gave 16½gs. for one, Mr. Perry 15gs. for another, Mr. Pratt (of Payhembury) 13½gs. for one, Mr. Hoult (of Exeter) 12gs., and Mr. Bowerman 10gs. A Fireaway heifer was purchased by Mr. Abid, of Dulford House, for 14gs. There were five bulls in the catalogue—Royalist the 2nd of Pound; sires the 3rd, 6th, 8th, and 9th, of Bradfield. Royalist the 2nd took first prize at the Bath and West of England, Devon County, and other shows in 1897, and also carried off several prizes in 1899. On being submitted to auction the reserve price was stated to be 50gs., and there being no bid, the animal was withdrawn. Sire the third made 15½gs., being secured by Mr. P. A. Leach, of Thorverton. For 26gs., Sire the 6th was secured by Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Webber, for 17½gs., purchased Sire the 8th. Sire the 9th passed into the hands of Mr. J. Norman, of Stoodleigh, at 23gs. Four fat steers were offered. Mr. W. Row, of Willand, bought two at £23 and £18 respectively, the other two going to Mr. P. Rew, Willand, for £19 5s. and £16.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.]

The fair at Hospital, co. Limerick, on Monday, was a small one, composed chiefly of calves and one-and-a-half-year-old cattle, for which the demand was very good. There was a fair supply of sporters, but demand only moderate. The small supply of lambs met a ready sale. Prices: Calves, best class, £5 5s. to £6 6s. 8d.; second class, £4 to £5. Yearlings, first class, £8 10s. to £9 15s.; second class, £6 to £8; third class, £4 10s. to £5 5s. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 15s. to £14; second class, £9 to £10 10s. Springers, first class, £15 to £18; second class, £11 10s. to £14 10s.; third class, £9 to £10. Lambs, first class, £1 to £1 5s.; second class, £1 to £1 5s. 6d. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 18s. to 22s.

At Kells Fair, co. Meath, held on Monday, there was only a small supply of stock. A keen demand prevailed for nice shapely cattle, and only inferior animals remained unsold. Prices:—Yearlings, first class, £8 10s. to £9 10s.; second class, £7 to £8. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 15s. to £12 15s.; second class, £10 10s. to £11. Three-year-olds, first class, £14 to £17; second class, £12 5s. to £13. Springers, first class, £15 to £18; second class, £12 10s. to £13 10s.

At Cavan Fair, held on Tuesday, there was only a small supply of cattle, which met a good demand; especially one and two-year-old heifers. Springers were plentiful and sold well. Sheep were few, and lambs in good condition met a ready sale. Prices:—Calves, second class, £3 13s. 4d. to £4 2s. 6d. Yearlings, first class, £8 to £8 11s. 3d.; second class, £6 to £7 6s. 8d. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 2s. 6d. to £13; second class, £8 5s. to £10 5s. Springers, first class, £16 to £19 10s.; second class, £12 10s. to £15 10s.; third class, £9 10s. to £10 10s. Lambs, first class, £1 10s. to £1 15s.; second class, £1 5s. to £1 8s. Hoggets, second class, £1 12s. 6d. to £1 16s. 8d.

HORSES.

Horse Sale at Glasgow.

On Tuesday Mr. Vine held a sale of horses at his horse bazaar, opposite Buchanan Street Station, Port Dundas Road, Glasgow. There were ninety animals catalogued, consisting principally of carriage and coaching horses, while there were also a number suitable for van and cart purposes, as well as a few cobs and ponies. Among the chief consigners were: Mr. Robert M'Intyre, Rothesay; Mr. Bartholomew, Millport; Mr. Fairlie, Dunoon; Mr. A. Pattison, Dunoon; Mr. James M'Ginty, Yoker; Mr. Smith, Partick; and Messrs. Brown, Smith, and Co., Buchanan Street. When the sale started there was a good attendance of buyers forward from all parts. Business was good, the demand for all classes being keen throughout. Carriage and harness horses experienced the best demand. Bids came for them readily, and they realised satisfactory prices. Cobs and ponies had a fair selling trade. Cart horses of a good class were in request, and they sold dear. Carriage horses of the best class realised up to 40gs., secondary to 23gs., and inferior down to 7gs. Coaching horses realised from 6 to 36gs., according to style, substance, and action. Cart or draught horses of the best class made 35gs., secondary and inferior from 5 to 20gs. Ponies and cobs sold from 5 to 23gs., all according to style and action. Vanners sold from 5 to 30gs.

SHEEP.

The Condition in which Sheep Should be Exhibited.

At a recent meeting of the committee of the Irish Cattle Traders' and Stockowners' Association, the president, Mr. William Field, M.P., said that it had been brought under his notice recently at Ball's Bridge that an esteemed member of the Association had exhibited rams and sheep with an unshorn patch of wool left on each. He thought this was a practice that ought to be insisted on at all shows where sheep are exhibited, as it enabled both judges and spectators to estimate the amount of wool which might be expected from any particular fleece, and he regarded this as a matter of much importance on account of the amount and quality of the wool forming a large element in the market value of sheep. He was convinced that the enforcement of the practice at shows would conduce to honest uniformity of shearing, which was hardly the case at present, and he felt certain that if such a rule were enforced there could be more accurate judging, and in that way enterprising and intelligent stockowners would be encouraged to propagate from the very best class of animals—wool-growing as well as meat-producing—to the great advantage of the sheep trade of the country. Attention was called to another objectionable feature in the showing of sheep, namely, the frequent use of colouring pigments in oil on the wool of certain breeds, as the practice prevented animals from being shown in their true and natural condition, the latter being obviously what is desirable in the interests of fair dealing. The secretary was instructed to communicate on these subjects with the Royal Dublin Society, the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and the Highland and Agricultural Society.

Wensleydale Sheep Breeders' Show and Sale.

The Wensleydale Sheep Breeders' Association's eleventh annual show and sale took place on Wednesday at Leyburn. The ewes from distance were not numerous owing to the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. The prizes were very much divided among exhibitors. The judges were Mr. Fisher Mewse, of Clapham, Lancashire, and Mr. R. Estbeck, of Lowood, Settle. After the show Mr. W. Lane sold on behalf of the Northallerton Live Stock Mart Co. a large number of pure Wensleydale sheep. The awards at the show were as follows:—

[illegible] 1, R. Bell, Bainbridge; 2, [illegible]; 3, [illegible], Penhill; Wensley [illegible]. The shearling [illegible]

President's silver cup, J. Rhodes, Wetherby; 2, R. Raw; 3, W. Cleasby, Isleheck Grange. Shearling ram: 1, J. Rhodes; 2, W. Cleasby. Ram lamb: 1, G. R. Etherington, Harmby; 2, T. C. Dobson, Kirkby-in-Cleveland; 3, F. J. Ireland, Bulk Bottoms, Lancaster. Ewes: 1, J. Rhodes; 2, W. Cleasby.

At the sale Mr. T. Jother's (Howgrave Walk) shearling rams sold at £5 5s. to £6 15s. Mr. Geo. R. Etherington sold a shearling ram to Mr. Geo. Carter, of Sandhill, Bedale, for £7 5s., while he reserved his shearling ram at £10 10s. Mr. J. P. Sowerby's, of Stokesley, shearling ram sold for £4 7s. 6d. Mr. R. Raw reserved his first and second prize rams at £10 5s. and £12 respectively. Mr. Hugh S. Rowlandson, of Newton Morrell, Barton, Darlington, sold a shearling ram to Mr. J. Chapman, of Leyburn, for £15, while his other rams sold up to £7 5s. Mr. B. J. Hodgson, of Hallwith, Spennithorne, sold his shearling rams up to £6 5s. Mr. T. Styan, of Park Gate, Wensley, sold his second prize three-shear ram to Mr. C. Fawcett, of Craggs Lane, for £10 10s. Mr. W. Cleasby reserved his prize shearling rams at £9. Mr. J. Rhodes, of Stockeld, Wetherby, sold his first prize shearling ram to Mr. John Jackson, of Hunsingore, for £11. His other shearling rams were reserved up to £15. Mr. F. E. C. Dobson's (Carlton-in-Cleveland), ram lambs were sold at £2 5s. to £4 2s. 6d. each. Mr. G. R. Etherington reserved his prize ram lamb at £8 2s. 6d. Mr. J. P. Sowerby, of Stokesley, sold his ram lambs at from £2 2s. 6d. to £4 2s. 6d.; Mr. Henry Storey, of Harmby, sold a ram lamb to Mr. Scott, of Wensley, for £3 5s. Mr. V. E. C. Dobson's ram lambs sold, the second prize ram lamb to Mr. R. V. Ward, of High Ellington, Masham, for £3 8s., and others at £3 15s. each. Shearling rams owned by Mr. F. E. C. Dobson sold at from £3 2s. to £3 5s. Mr. W. Cleasby, of Thirsk, reserved his shearling ewes at £3; while Mr. W. Saul, of Farton Bank, Garstang, sold his ewe lambs from 38s. to 40s. apiece. The principal buyers were Messrs. W. Foster, J. O. Trotter, B. J. Hodgson, M. Wood, J. Rhodes, J. Chapman, Dewhirst (Skipton), Penrose, Maunby, Lee (Manfield, Darlington), Thos. Thompson, C. Fawcett, Geo. Carter, and James Simpson.

A Black-Face Mountain Ram.

The Willoughby Lincoln Longwools.

The annual sale of shearling rams of the Lincolnshire Longwool breed, drawn from the Willoughby flock, took place on Tuesday at Bleak House, West Willoughby, near Grantham. Mr. W. F. Turner, of Sleaford, being the auctioneer. Messrs. Rudkin have generally offered from sixty to eighty rams, but this year, owing to the fact that Lincolnshire wool is somewhat out of fashion and down in price, whilst the demand is not so great as in recent years, only thirty-eight rams came under the hammer, and of these twenty-nine were sold for £260 18s. 6d., or an average of £9 each. The average was not quite so good as the owners could have wished, for the rams were a wonderfully even lot, and as good specimens of the Lincolnshire breed as a farmer could desire. The highest price paid was 26gs., by Mr. Wm. Knight, of Balderton, for a son of The Dean. Mr. John Burrows, of Harrowby, gave 14gs. for a ram by Willoughby Right Buck. A two-shear ram by Best Selected was sold to Mr. Fred Ward, of Quarrington, for 14gs. Mr. Henry Reade, of Great Hale, bought a shearling by King George III. for 11½gs., and 12gs. was the price paid by Mr. J. Freeman for a son of Willoughby Right Buck. A two-shear ram by King George IV. was knocked down to Mr. W. Knight for 11gs., and a son of King George III., a shearling, was bought by Mr. C. Rudkin, of Sapperton, for 10gs. The other prices given were: Mr. W. Fillinghaun, 7½gs.; Mr. H. M. Foster, Sapperton, 8½gs.; Mr. W. Topps, Pickworth, 6½gs.; Mr. G. W. Anyan, Braceby, 8gs.; Mr. J. Freeman, Balderton, 8½gs.; Mr. Holmes, Ingoldsby, 6½gs.; Mr. H. Minta, Burton Coggles, 7gs.; Mr. H. Reade, 6gs.; Mr. G. Strawson, Burton Coggles, 9½gs.; Mr. T. Dickens, Fulbeck, 7gs.; Mr. B. Weston, Stainsby, 6½gs.; Mr. J. W. Hoyes, Ingoldsby, 5½gs.; Mr. E. A. M. T. Fisher, Welby Warren, 9½gs. and 6gs.; Mr. J. Burrows, Harrowby, 5½gs.; Mr. Grayson, Lenton, 7gs.; Mr. J. Freeman, 5½gs.; Mr. Slater, Thorney, 7½gs.; Mr. E. J. Greenwell, 5gs.; Mr. R. Lowe, Pickworth, 6½gs.; and Mr. Rawlinson, Swaton, 5½gs.

Leicester Sheep-Breeders' Association's Sale.

At Driffield on Thursday was held the annual sale of pure-bred shearling rams, tup lambs, ewes, and gimmer shearlings, entered in the Leicester Sheep Breeders' Association Flock Book. The rams were from the flocks of the following breeders: Mr. E. W. D. Walkinson, Weaverthorpe (six); Mr. Joseph Cranswick, Rudstone (ten); Mr. W. D. Megginson, Towthorpe, York (twenty); Mr. John Cranswick, Hunmanby (twelve); and Mr. John J. Simpson, Pilmoor House, Hunmanby (twenty). Mr. Walkinson sent six tup lambs, twenty-one ewes, and eleven gimmer shearlings. The sale was conducted by Messrs. Hornby and Cranswick, and there was a good company present. Mr. Walkinson's rams were all sold at an average of £7 13s. 9d., the highest price being paid by Mr. J. Thompson, of Wauldly, who gave £12 for one (by Helperthorpe 4th, 507), while Mr. T. Stamper gave £10 for another by the same sire. None of the tup lambs found purchasers, but the ewes and gimmer shearlings from the same flock made an average of £2 12s. per head, a pen of four shearling gimmers making £3 2s. each. Only two of Mr. Joseph Cranswick's changed hands, these being at £5 5s. each. Of Mr. Megginson's lot thirteen were sold at an average of £8 6s. 2d., Mr. E. F. Jordan, Eastburn, taking the pick of the lot at £20 5s. From Mr. Simpson's consignment fourteen were sold at an average of £7 5s. each, Mr. Joseph Thompson giving the highest figure, £10 15s., while Mr. Nightingale took one at £9. Mr. John Cranswick only sold two from his flock, at £5 5s. each.

Pedigree Ram Sale at Sleaford.

The annual show and sale of pedigree sheep at Sleaford took place on Thursday, and there was a large attendance of breeders and dealers. Messrs. Hincks, Shakespear, and Lawrence offered 157 pedigree longwool rams, 25 Hampshire Down rams, and 2,130 Lincolnshire longwool theaves, ewes, and lambs. The first prize for the best pen of five rams was awarded to Mr. J. E. Criswell Laughton, and the second to Mr. Charles Clarke (Byard's Leap). The first prize for the best pen of twenty theaves went to Mr. Edward Baker (Morton); second, Mr. J. Tomlinson (Birthorpe). The judges were Mr. R. Bemrose (Frieston) and Mr. A. Dean (Dowsby). Ewes realised 41s. 6d. to 50s. each; theaves, 52s. to 58s.; rams, 5gs. to 20gs.; lambs, 32s. to 36s.

Sale of Leicester Sheep at Pictonshill.

Mr. W. S. Ferguson, of Pictonshill, near Perth, held his fourth annual sale of Leicester sheep on Tuesday, when the company of buyers was the largest seen at any of the sales of the central counties in Scotland in recent years. At the same time Mr. George Pople, of Newhouse, Perth, put forward the whole of his Leicester ewe flock and ewe lambs, in consequence of his farm being now laid to grass. The Pictonshill rams, which numbered sixty-six, were an exceedingly level well-bred lot, shown in a nice natural condition and very active on their legs. Mr. Pople's lots showed great breeding and true Leicester character. The first of the Pictonshill gimmers, a very stylish shearling that was first at Crieff Show this season, was taken by Mr. Thomas M'Intyre, Balgarran, at £20 10s.—the top price of the day. Dr. Shirra, of Boon took No. 3 at £15, this being second prize winner at Crieff. Sir Jean Gilmour, of Montrave, took No. 10 at £14. Many other prices ranged from £8 to £13, the average coming out at fully £7 5s., against £6 12s. last year. The gimmers, which were all drawn in place, united condition, and very good and even lots of their made from 3[illegible] to £20, the highest price being £2 15s. Mr. Pople [illegible] stylish, beautiful-bred lot, fetched from 50s. to 105s. each, the latter figure being paid by Mr. W. G. [illegible]. The [illegible] were [illegible] by Mr. [illegible] M'Intyre, the buyer of the [illegible] shearlings.

Horncastle Fair.

This [illegible] sold readily. Gimmers made 45s. to 50s.; [illegible] of Markham Hall, made the top price of the fair, [illegible] Mr. J. F. Walker [illegible] Mr. Dodds, of Miningsby, averaging £8 12s. 1d.; there from Mr. John Redmore, Hemingby, average £6 11s.; seven from Mr. R. Roberts, Thimbleby, average £5 7s. 6d.; three from Mr. E. Crowder, Thornton, average £3 18s. 9d.; four from Mr. Sargeant, Ranby, average £3 13s.; and four from Mr. C. Hensman, Horncastle, average £3 12s. 6d.

Wilton Fair.

Wilton great sheep fair was held on Wednesday in beautiful weather. There was a good attendance of buyers, and trade was very brisk, [illegible] a considerable advance on quotations at recent fairs. The supply of sheep was rather shorter than last year, the total number penned being estimated at between 37,000 and 38,000. The average of recent years has been about 40,000, but many regular attendants at the fair can remember when the supply [illegible] 60,000. While [illegible] was [illegible] demand was very keen, especially for working lambs, which were from 5s. to 6s. a head dearer than at any recent fairs. There was a very considerable improvement in the price of meaty lambs, but they were not so dear as stores, an advance of from 3s. to 4s. a head being a fair estimate of the general trade. The demand for ewes was not nearly so keen as for lambs, and trade for these was only a little better than at Britford. The bulk of the sheep penned were offered at the auction sales of Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, Mr. J. T. Woolley, and Mr. H. G. Saunders, and there was about the usual supply in the open fair, where a brisk business was done. Wether lambs made from 35s. to 46s. a head, some superior lots making up to 50s.; chilver lambs from 35s. to 42s. Two-teeth ewes made from 40s. to 50s., some exceptional lots making up to 58s.; and wether sheep made from 46s. to 52s.

As usual, two cups were offered for wether lambs, and it seems a pity that there should not have been more competition. There were two entries in the open class, but only one in that confined to tenant farmers, Mr. T. K. Harding, of Ashton Gifford, Mr. J. Futcher, of Fovant, and Mr. F. Best, of Andover, [illegible] the [illegible] judges, and their awards were as follows:—

A piece of plate of the value of £5, given by the Earl of Pembroke, for the best 100 wether lambs.—Mr. J. Brown, Chilhampton; h.c., the Earl of Pembroke.

A piece of plate of the value of £5, given by the Corporation of Wilton, for the best 100 wether lambs, to be competed for by tenant farmers who have less than 100 breeding ewes—Mr. J. Brown.

Mr. Brown's pen, which secured both prizes, comprised an exceptionally fine lot of sheep. These were eventually sold at the satisfactory price of 58s. a head. It may be mentioned here that Mr. Brown's [illegible] pen [illegible] Earl of Pembroke's [illegible] mended by the judges, were sold at 56s. a head, and another 100 belonging to Mr. Brown made 48s.

Shrewsbury Store Stock Sale.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell [illegible] autumn sale at Shrewsbury on the 6th inst., when 971 [illegible] and 800 sheep were penned. These sales are justly renowned for the high-class of stock exhibited, but Thursday's display far exceeded anything seen [illegible]. The [illegible] were [illegible] and [illegible] Shrewsbury or any other mart. The sheep were sold first and met a good trade, prices being very satisfactory. Promptly at one o'clock Mr. Alfred Mansell [illegible] £12 10s., £12 15s., to £13 10s. Blue grey Welsh

bullocks, £12 5s. to £15 15s. Hereford bullocks, £13 2s. 6d., £14 12s. 6d., £15 5s., £17 5s. Hereford heifers, £10, £11 5s., £12. Black-polled bullocks, £13 10s., £13 15s., £14, £14 10s., £14 15s., £15 5s., £15 15s., £15 17s. 6d., £16 15s. Black-polled heifers, £12 5s., £13 2s. 6d., £13 12s. 6d., up to £14 2s. 6d. Shorthorn heifers (quite the feature of the sale), £13 7s. 6d., £13 10s., £13 17s. 6d., £14 2s. 6d., £14 12s. 6d., £15, £16 7s. 6d., £17 2s. 6d. Shorthorn bullocks, £14 5s., £14 10s., £14 12s. 6d., £15, £15 7s. 6d. Red Polled steers and heifers, £13, £13 15s. The buyers at this sale principally hailed from the southern and eastern counties, and the fact that the sale was concluded, and all the lots removed for their various destinations by 4.45 o'clock, shows the expedition with which the business was conducted. The next sale to be held by this firm is announced to take place on Friday, October 5th.

Lothian Ram Sales.

The first of the two sales held by the Lothian Ram Society took place at Murrayfield, Edinburgh, on the 5th inst., when, as usual, the blackfaced and Cheviot rams and blackfaced ram lambs were disposed of. Messrs. John Swan and Sons (Limited) conducted the sale of the blackfaces, and at the Cheviot ring Messrs. Oliver, Swan, and Cairns officiated. There was again this year a considerable falling off in the entries, due doubtless to the disappointing prices realised last year. Eleven blackfaced flocks were represented—the same number as last year—but the numbers were thirty-two down from a year ago, while the Cheviots were seventy less than at last year's sale. The quality of the stock was as good as it has been for a year or two, and in most cases the average prices show an advance on those of last year. As usual, the sale was preceded by the show, for which prizes are given by the society, by the auctioneers, and by the breeders for the best blackfaced shearling ram and the best group of blackfaced shearling rams, and for the best Cheviot shearling ram and the best group of Cheviot shearling rams. In the blackfaced classes Messrs. Cadzow Brothers, Borland and Stonehill, were the most successful, securing first and second for the single sheep and first for the group. The second ram, though defective in neck and shoulder, was a grand sheep, and was apparently a greater favourite with those around the ring. As it turned out, at the sale he fetched £4 more than the first prize sheep. The third place was taken by a ram belonging to Mr. J. T. Mungle, North Cobbinshaw. The rest of the class were only of mediocre character. There were seven entries for the group of blackfaces. Messrs. Cadzow's lot were very equal in quality, having good thick faces and wide ribs, and standing remarkably well on their legs. The second lot, which were from Mr. John Murray's flock at Mid Crosswood, were bigger sheep, but lacked in quality compared with the other pen. The third prize went to Overshiels, but, although a lot of useful sheep, they were shown in a leaner condition than the others. As usual, Mr. John A. Johnstone, Archbank, was prominent in the Cheviot classes. He had first, third, and highly commended for single shearling rams and first for his group, all his sheep getting a place. The second prize shearling ram, which belonged to Messrs. A. and J. K. Smith, Leaston, was also a fine sheep, and made the top price of the Cheviots.

The sale commenced with the blackfaces, but the trade was a rather stiff one. Mr. Murray, Mid-Crosswood, had the highest average of the sale, viz., £11 9s. 9d., and he also secured the best individual price, one of his rams being bought by Sir Thomas Gibson Carmichael, M.P., for £25. Messrs. Cadzow Brothers came next with an average of £10 14s. 2d. Their first and second sheep went at £16 and £20 respectively to Mr. Fisher, Balmore, and Mr. Hamilton. Woolfords, while their group of five realised an average price of £14 8s. Mr. Bryden, Burn Castle, sold a ram at £22 to Messrs. Cadzow, which was got by a £72 ram he had bought from the latter at Perth two years ago; and Mr. Murray, Mid-Crosswood, disposed of one of his second prize group for £21 to Mr. Linton, Oakwood. Messrs. A. and J. K. Smith had the best average in the Cheviot classes (£9 5s. 6d.), and, like Mr. Murray, the best individual price. This was secured, as already stated, by his ram which was placed second in the class for shearlings. It was purchased by Mr. Matheson, Shoestanes, at £22. Mr. Johnstone had the next best average (£8 2s.), but his first prize sheep was sold for £8, and his third prize winner for £14, the latter to Mr. Hunter, Machrie Hill.

The second sale took place on Thursday at Murrayfield, Edinburgh, and the weather being favourable, there was a big attendance of buyers. As usual, Leicesters formed the bulk of the consignments, with the addition of Suffolks, Oxford Downs, and half-breds. Altogether 687 sheep were offered for sale, and the best of them found a brisk market, averages, as a rule, being considerably above those of last year. Still, there were no sensational prices, and it must be acknowledged that the Lothian sales now occupy a very moderate place in the estimation of breeders and buyers. Prior to the day's proceedings, Mr. Deans, Dalkeith Park, judged the animals entered for the prize competitions, and gave his awards as follows: Leicester shearling ram: 1st, Wm. Ford, Fentonbarns; 2nd, R. G. Murray, Spittal; 3rd and 4th, A. and J. K. Smith, Leaston. Group of five Leicester shearling rams: 1st, A. and J. K. Smith; 2nd, R. G. Murray; 3rd, John Mark, Sunnyside. The best price of the day, £27, was given at the first ring by Mr. Gordon, Halmyre, for one of the Spittal lot, a nice sheep, sired by Leaston Favourite, and thus one of the Messrs. Smith's breed, which in the competition gained only second prize. Messrs. Smith themselves had the good average of £11 6s. 6d., the top price, £25, being commanded by one of the first prize group. For the first prize ram Mr. Ford, Fentonbarns, got no more than £15, which is £12 less than Mr. Murray got for the second prize animal. There was a fair show of Oxford Down rams, and among the consigners was a newcomer in the well-known English breeder, Mr. Treadwell, Winchenden; but there was not much demand for this class of sheep, and prices were rather low, considering the quality of the stock. The highest average and the highest price were obtained by Mr. Elliot, Hollybush, whose top figure of £16 5s. 6d. was paid by Mr. James Ellit, Dunerahill.

Perth Ram Sales.

The annual show and sale of Leicester and Shropshire Down shearling rams and ram lambs and of Leicester and Shropshire ewes and gimmers took place in Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co.'s auction mart, Perth, on Wednesday. At Ring No. 1 there was a large attendance of buyers when Mr. Wedderburn took up the hammer. Bidding was not very brisk until the lot of Mr. M'Intosh, Balquharn, was put into the ring. The first was parted with a £23, while the third-prize winner at the Angus went for £25. The second-prize single sheep was taken out by Mr. Smith, Longniddry, at £40, while the fourth went at £30. Other prices ranged from £5 to £19 10s. In Ring No. 2, where Mr. Stewart was the auctioneer, bidding at the start was fairly brisk. For one of the second-prize winners in a pen of ten belonging to Mr. Hume, Barrelwell, Colonel Rait, Annistoun, gave £13 10s. The first-prize single belonging to the same exposer, fetched £31, while others belonging to the second-prize pen of ten brought from £9 10s. to £13 10s. Other sellers got fair prices.

On Thursday the blackfaces were sold, the number catalogued being about 1,000 rams and 700 ram lambs. The sale was held on the new ground in Glasgow Road, and there was a large attendance of buyers. In Ring 1, conducted by Messrs. Macdonald and Fraser, nothing exceptional took place in the way of prices until the Glenbuck breed entered the ring. There was very keen competition for this lot, the best price given being £130 for one of the prize animals by Mr. Maxwell, Carlisle. Mr. Clark, Achyturn, took out one at £33, while another went to Captain Mitchell for £54, and another at £62. The average for twenty of the Glenbuck breed was £29 15s., almost £5 above last year's figures. Messrs. Cadzow, Boreland, who were third for pens of ten, had a good sale, their highest price being £50, given by Mr. Duncan Balfour. Mr. Whyte, Spott, with forty sheep, came out with an average of ten guineas. Mr. Findlay got £22 from Mr. Millar, Lambhill. All over, the prices were very good.

In Ring No. 2, where the shearlings were disposed of jointly by Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., and Messrs. Swan and Co., there was a good attendance, and the stock brought forward was in many instances of exceptionally good quality. Among the outstanding lots were those forward from the Messrs. Cadzow, Borland, and Stonehill, and for an animal possessing many good points they realised £50. Mr. Hope, of South Brownhill, with a nice lot, also secured some good prices, his highest being £66. Mr. Fisher, Auchrioch, sold one at £25; Mr. Campbell, Roroyan, one at £29; Mr. Hamilton, Nether Wellwood, one at £24; Mr. Craig, South Halls, one at £25; and Mr. Fisher, Ardeonaig, one at £31. The competition here was very good, and was before previous years.

Sale of Black-faced Rams at Lanark.

Symington's fourteenth annual show and sale of black-faced rams at Lanark took place on Tuesday, when there were sold 449 shearling and 652 lamb rams. The judging took place on the previous evening, and, as usual, the competition in all the classes was very keen. There were fifteen pens of competing shearlings and twenty pens of lambs, and altogether the show was one of the best yet held here. For the best five shearlings Mr. Howatson, Glenbuck, was first; Messrs. Cadzow, Boreland, second and fifth; Mr. Pate, Allarstocks, third; Mr. Millar, Lambhill, fourth. In the lamb section the breeding and quality were quite up to the average, but owing to the recent wet weather their skins were a little out of order, and they were not quite in such bloom as in some former years. Mr. Wobthop, Gurvald, was placed first; Messrs. Clark, Auchenlongford, were second and fifth; Mr. Lumsden, Arden, was third; Mr. Anderson, Over Whitehaugh, was fourth; and Mr. Anderson, Greenockdyke, was sixth. There was, as usual, a very large and influential attendance of breeders from all quarters. Trade all through was steady, and high prices were realised for the best animals, but for the secondary class and those adapted for ordinary purposes purchasers were determined to have them at £5 or under, and a large number of very useful sheep were sold at from £3 to £5. The top price of the day was made for a Borland shearling, which went to Mr. Scott, Bogside, at £125. A considerable number of the best sheep made from £50 to £90, and a large number of others from £25 to £45. The lamb section was topped by one of the Fermielhaugh lot, which went to Mr. M'Kinley, Andershaw, at £26, and a number of others made from £6 to £17. Notwithstanding the numbers a more satisfactory sale has not been experienced for a number of years past.

Irish Ram-Breeding Association's Sale.

The thirtieth annual sale of pedigree rams held under the auspices of the Irish Ram-breeding Association took place on the 6th inst. at Mr. Gavin Low's paddocks in Prussia Street, Dublin. The entries amounted to 300 head of various breeds, and the company attracted by the sale was a large and representative one. The usual rules of the Association applied to the reserve price on each animal, and the order of the catalogue being arranged by ballot. The demand was exceptionally brisk for well-built and meritorious shearlings, particularly Shropshires, some of which made very fancy prices, notably those entered by Mr. R. F. H. White, of Abbeyleix; Mr. J. Lenox Naper, of Oldcastle; and Mr. Barter, of Cork. The sale opened with Border-Leicesters as follows:—Mr. C. M. Doyne, of Gorey, ten shearlings, 4½gs. to 18gs.; Captain Riall, eight shearlings, 4½gs.; Mr. William Webster, ten shearlings, 5½gs. to 6gs.; Miss Staples, four shearlings, 5½gs. to 8½gs., and one shearling, 13gs.; and Lord Ashbrook's shearlings, 4½gs. to 6½gs. Hampshires: Three shearlings from Mr. William Young, 7½gs. to 8gs. Shropshires: The entries in this part of the catalogue were somewhat extensive, and we note the following:—Mr. R. F. H. White, ten shearlings of grand quality and size, 51gs. (prize-winner); Lord Longford, 31gs., ditto; Mr. Boylan, 13gs.; Marquis of Devonshire, 43gs.; Lord Fitzwilliam, 13½gs., 16gs., 14½gs., 12gs. (two), 9gs.; Mr. J. Lenox Naper, ten shearlings, 8½gs., 9gs., 11gs. (two), 12gs. (two), 14gs., 20gs., and 21gs. respectively; Mr. Richard Barter, ten shearlings, 9½gs. to 20gs. and 25gs.; Miss Rose, Monaghan, ten shearlings, 6½gs. to 10½gs.; Mr. R. Hamilton Stubber, 6½gs. to 8½gs.; Miss Jameson Bray, 4½gs. to 7gs.; Lady Margaret Charteris, ten shearlings, 4½gs. to 6gs., etc. Lincolns: In this class several entries were withdrawn at a reserve of 5gs. Six shearlings from Mr. J. R. Lloyd, of Nanagh, made 5½gs. to 8gs.; eight from Mr. Thomas L. Hodgins, of Marlborough, 5½gs. to 10½gs.; eight from Mr. R. G. Carden brought 6gs. and 7½gs. and one 15gs. Captain Longworth Dames's ten shearling Oxford Downs made 8¾gs. to 14½gs., and three Roscommons 6gs. to 8½gs. In the second ballot Hampshire lambs drew 3¼ to 4gs.; Mr. Barber's ten Shropshire shearlings 7gs. to 9gs.; Mr. White's five ditto, 6½gs. to 9gs.; and Miss Rose's six ditto and two lambs, 3½gs. and 5½gs.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Sept. 8th 1900:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	176	385	736	597	14,573	33,957	33,117
	Outbreaks		No.	19	23	34	31	1,518	1,801	1,806
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Other Animals	No.	:	:	:	:	:	:	14
		Dogs.	No.	:	2	6	:	:	9	14
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Reported.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	:	:	:	:	220	215
		Diseased.	No.	:	:	:	:	:	1	6
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	:	:	:	:	1	6
Cattle-Disease (Contagious).	Animals Attacked		No.	31	36	34	54	1,209	1,241	1,264
	Outbreaks.		No.	23	21	18	23	774	796	817
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.		No.	:	:	:	:	912	:	:
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	:	:	:	13	:	:
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	26	1	1	1	673	735	681
	Outbreaks.		No.	9	2	2	2	86	95	90
Period.				Week ended Sept. 8th 1900.	Corresponding week in 1899.	Corresponding week in 1898.	Corresponding week in 1897.	Total for 36 weeks 1900.	Corresponding period in 1899.	Corresponding period in 1898.

Note.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

SHOWS.

Cardiff Horse Show.

The Cardiff and South Wales Horse Show took place on Wednesday and Thursday, and was in every respect the most successful and best show ever held there. Not only were the entries bigger and better than usual, but the attendance of visitors was a record one. The officials put the total for the two days at 20,000, which is quite 3,000 more than the previous best. This public appreciation was all the more gratifying to the committee, whose stand in objecting to take certain widely-known exhibitors' entries was regarded in some quarters as certain to have a contrary effect upon the gathering. Competition in the numerous classes judged was again keen, and in evenness of general merit the show of 1900 will stand in relief among the whole and now long series of exhibitions held in this district. In point of number the entries exceeded those of last year, being about 580 as against 530 in 1899, a gratifying feature when it is stated that the general standard of excellence was quite equal to anything previously seen at the show. In the Hack classes some splendid animals were exhibited, and all the classes were large. The hunter classes, as usual, formed a leading feature of the show. The yearling and young hunters were somewhat disappointing, but the other hunter classes, both in number and excellence of entries, were quite worthy of past traditions. The cart horse classes also were very good. The entries were large, and so far as quality goes must be adjudged a very sound lot—a distinct improvement on what has sometimes been seen.

The judging extended over the two days, and was performed by the following gentlemen:—Hunters—the Hon. A. Roche, Doneraile, Ireland; Mr. Digby Collins, Callington, Cornwall; Mr. T. Wickham Boynton, Driffield, Yorkshire. Hackneys and harness horses—Mr. S. B. Carnley, Alford, Lincolnshire; Mr. E. Edmondson, Knowle, Warwick; Mr. Henry Moore Craswick, Hull. Cart horses—Mr. E. Lewis, Garth Mill, Berriew; and Mr. John H. Yeomans, Hereford.

Taking the classes in order of judging, the yearlings came first under notice. The chief award was given to a nice level mare by Pirate II.—Flyaway, a bay filly, the property of Mr. J. Wynford Philipps, M.P., Manorbier, Pembrokeshire. On the whole the class was below the average at a first-class show. Class 2, for two-year-olds, was also somewhat disappointing. Again the winner was sired by Pirate II., and is also the property of Mr. J. Wynford Philipps, M.P. In the class for three-year-olds, mare or gelding, Messrs. Lawton and Son's Brown Boy, Mr. Edward Hoyle's Sirdar, and Mr. J. Wynford Philipps's Firefly were decidedly good specimens. The winner is an animal of considerable promise, and has previously earned honours at Limerick. In the local class, with similar conditions, the entries were numerically weak, and not particularly strong in point of quality. Still Firefly, the third in the open, is a fairly good filly of high quality. A far different state of things was seen in the remaining hunters' classes, and the judges commended every animal exhibited in 5 and 6. Class 5 was for four-year-old mares or geldings, and here the first prize winner was Mr. J. H. Stokes's (Market Harborough) Royal Flush, by King of Trumps—Bide-a-Wee. Pennant, a chestnut roan gelding, owned by Major-General Watson, and Mr. R. T. Bassett's County Clare, who came out second and third, were horses of considerable merit. In point of numbers the class for four-year-olds and upwards to carry up to 13st. was even stronger than the last, and a string of four-year-old horses were here in competition with many that have been favourably known in the hunting field and have won honours in the ring. Redskin, that won most favour from the judges, was shown by Mr. Stokes, of Market Harborough. He is a bay gelding, and was more evenly balanced and certainly a more consistent goer in his slow paces than Wales, also a bay gelding, with which Mr. Drage, of Chapel Brampton, secured second prize. Taking this class as a whole it was conspicuous for high quality.

The next class was for medium-weight hunters, and the keenness in competition was made patent by the length of time it took the judges to make the awards. The entries included winners of several prizes, and among them was Brampton, holder of this year's championship at Bath. After an exhaustive test, each of the judges riding all the placed horses, the blue ribbon was given to Pelcomb, the exhibit of Mr. L. F. Craven, the ex-Master of the Pembrokeshire Hunt, Brampton coming second. Messrs. Apperley and Louis's Sporting Luck was third, and Mr. Stokes was fourth with Second String. Then came the heavy-weight carriers. Only five came into the ring, but all were real hunters. The characteristic of this class was its evenness. As at Bath, Mr. Stokes's Pasha secured chief honours. Second fell to a classy grey gelding in Snowdon, but Mr. Drage's exhibit was a bit light in bone, and hardly seemed up to the weight.

The championship classes, one for light weights and another for heavy weights, attracted considerable interest, the competition being keen. A long time was spent in judging the former class, and, after consultation with a referee, the award was given in favour of Treasure, a brown mare, built compactly, easy-going, and speedy. Treasure won for Mr. Stokes a first in her class at Bath Show, and was reserved for the open championship. The heavy-weight hunter class was also a good one. All the exhibits had previously appeared, and no surprise was created at the preference shown for Pasha, the property of Mr. Stokes, this and the other placings being similar to the awards at Bath.

In the brood mare classes there were some very useful specimens shown. In the open class for mares calculated to produce hunters, in foal or with foal at foot, the placings were very similar to those at Bath, Mr. Leonard H. Taylor's Platypus coming first, while Mr. Herbert Cory's Clytha and Mr. W. H. Barber's Sunbeam followed her in the order named. In adjudicating on the foals, curiously enough, the winner did not come from the mares selected by the judges for winning honours, but, nevertheless, they had little difficulty in picking out a first-class foal from Mr. D. H. Thomas's Heroine, a mare on the small side. The foal from Platypus was given the second prize. In the class confined to residents in South Wales and Monmouthshire, Mr. Herbert Cory's brown mare, Circus Girl, now ten years old, was first, although she was without foal; but as she had previously bred, the judges had no reason to think she was barren. Mr. D. H. Thomas's Mrs. Jones, a good mare, but with straight shoulders, was second, and the same gentleman's Heroine was third.

The Hunters' Improvement Society offered a gold and silver medal. The gold medal was for the best hunter brood mare possessing certificate of soundness from hereditary disease, and was secured by Mr. D. H. Thomas, Carmarthen, with his Mrs. Jones. Mr. R. S. Forestier-Walker, Marshfield, was reserved with Swallow. The competition was not so keen for the silver medal, which was competed for by hunter fillies not exceeding three years old. Mr. Wynford Philipps, M.P., Manorbier, Pembrokeshire, won the award easily with Flyaway. Mr. G. Hatton, of Bristol, was reserved with Fanny Fern.

Taken as a whole, the several classes for hacks were good in quality, and competition was generally keen. In the first class that came under review—that for a mare or gelding over 15 hands and not under four years old—only half a dozen competed, but they were full of quality. Popular opinion around the ring did not coincide with the official finding in giving premier honour to Mr. Batchelor's Eunice, while the well-known Nobleman was placed reserve. According to the spectators' judgment, Graceful, a bay mare, the property of Miss F. S. Hawkins, of Porlock, who was awarded second, should have changed places with Norbury Squire. In the next class—over 14 hands and not above 15 hands, four years old and upwards—there was a fair entry, but the standard was little below the average for this show, and Hackneys were again prominent. Snoatta, who won the Cardiff Championship in harness three years ago and has secured many triumphs for Mr. Arthur Evans, Wrexham, proved the winner. Mr. Charles Radcliffe (Cardiff) gained second with Princess Royal, third going to Mrs. Apperley, of Cheltenham, with Silver Star. The local class brought out a handy lot. Mr. Beavan, Llantrisant, won well with a very good bay mare, Mr. Thomas Nicholas, Port Talbot, being second with Margam Squire. The riding ponies, not above 13.2 hands, made a good class, and there was no room for criticism at the placing of Lord Go Bang, a neatly built bay gelding, exhibited by Mr. G. E. Franklin, of Derby. But in the next class adverse comment on the decisions was general. It was the local class for weight-carrying cobs, the requirements being ability to carry up to not less than 14 stone, while not above 15 hands. The nicest hack among the lot was a chestnut gelding shown by Mr. John Worthington, of Fishguard, Pem., but to the surprise of the spectators this was turned out of the ring in company with every one of the typical hacks or riding horses as contrasted with the Hackneys preferred by the judges. Class 24 (local for single harness) was numerically good, and its quality has never been excelled. Many stylish trappers with nice action and perfect physique were shown, and the prize was won after the closest possible competition. The championship class brought out a really good collection. Mornington Cannon added another championship to the many he possesses, his record of wins now exceeding 200. Snoatta, who won the championship in harness a couple of years ago, was second, and Mr. Batchelor's Eunice was third, with Silver Star fourth.

The Hackneys were a very showy lot. In the class for brood mares there was a fine entry, Mr. James Howell, of the celebrated Llanmaes Stud Farm, being responsible for no fewer than eight exhibits. Mr. Charles Galbraith's Queen of the West, a winner in London, was awarded the red rosette, whilst Mr. F. J. Batchelor's chestnut mare, Eunice, was second, and Mr. James Howell's Gilly Flower, a dark chestnut mare, third. In the competition for foals by mares in this class Mr. Thomas Nicholas, of Port Talbot, showed a colt by Polonius which possesses many of the characteristics of its sire, and was deservedly given first prize, the second place being secured by a foal from Lady Kate, belonging to Mr. Lysaght, of Chepstow. Mr. James Howell was reserved for a foal from Jennie Rufus. In the class limited to residents in South Wales and Monmouthshire Mr. James Howell literally swept the board, taking all the money prizes and a reserve. Gilly Flower III. was awarded the red rosette. In the local class for yearling colt or filly there was a very keen competition, Mr. Herbert Cory's St. Athan's, a worthy descendant of his champion sire, Royal Danegelt, was first, Hyam's Lord Prim, a chestnut, the property of Mr. Jas. Howell, being a good second, whilst Mr. Whitting's Queen of Day was third. In the local class for yearling colt or filly, Mr. Howell again secured the three prizes, Hyam's Lady Tenlyth being a better type of Hackney than Mr. J. H. Jones's animal, which was reserved. Mr. Galbraith was an easy first in the open class for two-year-old colts or fillies with three well-known yielding Arbon and Mr. Herbert Cory was second with Dr. Jessop's Kashmir.

First Prize Winner in Single Harness Horses at Dublin. Driven by Miss Arnott, of Inverness.

In the stallions class Mr. James Howell was again a good first with Golden Fireaway, bred by himself at Llanmaes, and he also secured the second award. with Lord Elsham, who scored over St. Mellons, the property of Mr. Herbert Cory, of Druidstone. The gold medal for mare or gelding not less than 15.2 was won by Mr. Mark Pearson's representative, Lord Lofty. The Hackney Horse Society presented a gold medal, or £10 its equivalent value, for the best animal in the Hackney and pony classes. This was won by Queen of the West, a chestnut roan mare, exhibited by Mr. Chas. F. Galbraith, Dumfries In the event of Queen of the West proving unsound the medal goes to Heroine, owned by Mr. D. H. Thomas, Starling Park, Carmarthen. Mr. James Howell secured the medal given by the society for the best Hackney stallion with Golden Fireaway, who stood well in front of his competitors.

In the section for harness horses the show retained its place so far as merit is concerned, while in the various classes there was more evenness than is customarily seen among the exhibits. In the only double harness class four pairs took the ring. Lord Bath and Duke of York, Mr. Godsell's handsome brown geldings, were excellently tooled by Mr. Butcher. They took some time to settle down, but then they went along very well. They were beaten on merit by a beautiful pair of chestnuts shown by Mr. C. J. Wertheimer, of Bourne End, Bucks, who with Jubilee King and Hopwood Squire surpassed his three opponents in most of the scoring points for double harness, their particular strength lying in their superior quality, uniformity of movement, and quicker pace as a pair. Ten were brought before the judges in the class for mare or gelding over 13.2 and not above 14.2. There was a deal of style in this class, the winner turning up in Norbury Lincoln, a capital and speedy mover, with Garton Lass a good second. Over 15.2 Mr. Godsell's Lord Bath was a winner, with the now equally well known Hopwood Squire next and Duke of York third. In the next and last class for harness horses judged on Wednesday, Heathfield Squire, who won for Mr. Godsell the champion cup at Bath, won first place. Lord Lofty, shown by Mr. Mark Pearson, of Harrogate, a nice looking bay gelding, was se ond, and Lady Confidant, a roan mare owned by Mr. Morris, of Morriston, was third. The single harness championship class was distinctly good, and Heathfield Squire was the winner. He is a magnificent chestnut, using himself well all round, with splendid action and no sky-scraping. The decisions at Bath Show were reversed so far as second and third were concerned, Lord Bath now having to take second place to Lord Lofty. Only three teams turned out in the harness tandem class, and two of them were of good quality, the first being above the average. Mr. Wertheimer's Jubilee King and Hopwood Squire gained the chief honours, and they scored the winning point through the leader. Mr. Godsell secured the second award with a team perfectly matched in colour and style of going, but Duke of York and Lord Bath showed signs of wear. The third team was owned by Mr. F. S. Miles, of Pontypridd.

There was unquestionably a remarkably good show of cart horses, and it is a matter for congratulation that not a single unsound exhibit came under the notice of the judges. In the class for dray or cart horses suitable for a brewer, builder, timber merchant, or any other tradesman, Mr. W. H. Evans, of Radyr Court, Llandaff, showed a beautiful horse, Captain, which has grand legs, and was an easy winner. The class for cart mare or gelding above 15.2 was, as a whole, a most excellent one, and all the animals entered put in an appearance. The judges were occupied a long time in the process of weeding out, although it was apparent from the outset that Lord Llangattock's grey mare, Emblem, and Miss Talbot's bay mare, Maud, stood out prominently from the rest. Eventually Lord Llangattock was awarded the premier position, Miss Talbot second, and Mr. W. Emerson, Sweldon Farm, near Cardiff, came third with the bay gelding, Sweldon Lad. In order to encourage the breeding of horses for colliery purposes, the committee allotted the class for mare or gelding not above 15.2, suitable for underground work, and Mr. John Miles obtained first prize with Chance, whilst Mr. R. S. David, Wilton, Cowbridge, and Mr. Rowland Thomas, Llanedarne, were second and third respectively. The yearling cart colt or filly exhibits consisted of a good lot. Lord Llangattock again won premier honours with Hendre Sultan, a fine bay colt. Lord Llangattock also came in first in the two year old cart colt or filly class, his exhibit being Hendre Champion.

There were only seven entries in the class for brood mares suitable for breeding polo ponies, and the exhibits were somewhat disappointing, and the disappointment was increased by the fact that in almost every instance the mares had been served by Hackneys. The winner turned up in Mr. Frank Matthews's Marie Stewart, a very creditable specimen, and with a foal that promises to be as big as its mother when it becomes a yearling. Mr. Matthews secured the Polo Pony Society's silver medal for the best brood mare suitabel for breeding polo ponies exceeding 13.2 and not above 14.2, the property of a resident of South Wales or Monmouthshire, and was also reserved.

There were several jumping and trotting competitions, and these, as usual, were witnessed with interest by large crowds.

Prize List.

HUNTERS.

Yearlings: 1, Mr. Wynford Philipps, M.P., Manorbier (Flyaway); 2, Mr. B. G. Hatton Gee, Bristol (Fanny Fern II.); 3, Mr. E. M. Southwell, Bridgnorth (Theory); r., Mr. E. Nichols, Worcester (Flying Fox).

Two year old: 1 and 2, Mr. J. Wynford Philipps (Captain Morgan and Captain Kidd); 3, Mr. E. Nichols, Worcester (Jeddah); r., Mr. E. M. Southwell, Bridgnorth (Sir Theo).

Mare or gelding, three years old: 1, Lawton and Sons, Carrigtwohill, co. Cork (Brown Boy); 2, Mr. E. Hoyle, Bacup (Sirdar); 3, Mr. J. Wynford Philipps, M.P. (Firefly); r., Lawton and Sons (Ray Lad).

Mare or gelding, three years old, the property of a resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire: 1, Mr. J. Wynford Philipps, M.P. (Firefly); 2, Mr. H. J. Cory, Castleton (Satisfaction); 3, Mr. J. Hurman, Llanishen (Lady Ethel).

Mare or gelding: 1, Mr. J. H. Stokes, Great Bowden, Market Harborough (Royal Flush); 2, Major-General H. E. Watson, Pantaguesta, Pontyclun (Pennant); 3, Mr. R. T. Bassett, Crossways, Cowbridge, County Clare; hc, Mr. T. H. Whiteman, Ashton Court, Leominster (Country Lad).

Mare or gelding, 4 year old and upwards, to carry under 13 stone: 1, Mr. J. H. Stokes (Redskin); 2, Mr. J. Drage, Northampton (Wales); 3, Mr. W. Henry Barber, Henley-on-Thames (Freemason); 4, Messrs. Apperley and Louis, Cheltenham (Jerrocks).

Mare or gelding, four year old and upwards, to carry 13 stone and under 15 stone: 1, Mr. L. F. Craven, Haverfordwest (Pelcomb); 2, Mr. W. J. Drage (Brampton); 3, Messrs. Apperly and Louis (Sporting Luck); 4, Mr. J. H. Stokes (Second String); hc, Mr. Edward Hoyle, Bacup (Countess); r, Mr. H. S. Brenchley, Cardigan (Relief).

Mare or gelding, four years old and upwards, to carry 15 stone and upwards: 1, Mr. J. H. Stokes (Pasha); 2, Mr. W. J. Drage (Snowdon); 3, Mr. L. F. Craven (Starlight); 4, Messrs. Apperly and Louis (Sporting Life); r, Mr. Alfred M. Pilliner, Llangarw, near Newport (Soloman).

Mare or gelding, four years old and upwards, the property of a resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire, up to not less than 12 stone: 1 and 2, Major-General H. E. Watson (Pennant, Swimon); 4, Mr. L. F. Craven (Sportsman); hc, Mr. Walter R. Shirley, Leckwith (Shem); c Mr. Hugh Drury, Plasturtongardens (Aristocrat); r, Lord Tredegar, Tredegar Park (Charles Surface).

Mare or gelding, four year old and upwards, the property of a resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire, up to not less than 14 stone: 1, Mr. H. S. Brenchley (Passing Fancy); 2, Mr. Robert Jones (The General); 3, Mr. L. F. Craven (Starlight); 4, Mr. R. T. Bassett; r, Mr. H. S. Brenchley (Relief).

Four years old and upwards, to carry 13st. 7lb.: 1, Mr. J. H. Stokes (Treasure); 2, Mr. J. Drage (Wales); 3, Messrs. Apperley and Louis (Jorrocks); r, Mr. W. Henry Barber (Freemason).

Four year olds and upwards, to carry 13st. 7lb. and upwards: 1, Mr. J. H. Stokes (Pasha); 2, Mr. J. Drage (Brampton); 3, Mr. J. H. Stokes (Royal Flush); r, Messrs. Apperley and Louis (Sporting Luck).

Brood mare, calculated to produce hunters, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, Mr. Leonard H. Taylor (Platypus); 2, Mr. Herbert B. Cory, (Cardiff Clytha); 3, W. H. Barber (Sunbeam); r Mr. W. H. Johnstone (Prioress).

Foals: 1, Heroine foal, Mr. D. H. Thomas; 2, Platypus foal, Mr. Leonard H. Taylor; r, Prioress foal, Mr. W. H. Johnstone; hc, Sunbeam foal, Mr. W. H. Barker.

Brood mare, calculated to produce hunters, in foal, or with foal at foot, the property of a resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire: 1, Mr. Herbert B. Cory (Circus Girl); 2 and 3, Mr. D. H. Thomas (Mrs. Jones and Heroine); c, Mr. Roland S. Forestier-Walker, Church Farm, Marshfield, Cardiff (Julia).

Foals: 1, Mr. D. H. Thomas (Heroine); 2, Mr. R. S. Forestier-Walker (Swallow); r, Mr. D. H. Thomas (Mrs. Jones).

RIDING HACKS AND PONIES.

Mare or gelding, exceeding 15.0 and not under four years old: 1, Mr. Frank J. Batchelor, Alvechurch, Worcestershire (Eunice); 2, Mr. Edward Godsell, Stroud (Norbury Squire); 3, Miss F. S. Hawkins, Porlock (Graceful); r, Messrs. Apperley and Louis (Nobleman).

Mare or gelding, exceeding 14 and not above 15, and not under four years old: 1, Mr. Arthur E. Evans, Wrexham (Sonata); 2, Mr. Chas. Radcliffe, Cardiff (Princess Royal); 3, Mrs. A. K. Apperley (Silver Star); hc, Mr. D. E. Morgan, Llantrisant (Llantrisant); r, Major Duncan, London (Enchantress).

Mare or gelding, exceeding 14.2 and not above 15.2, the property of a resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire: 1, Mr. W. T. Bevan (Lady Confident); 2, Mr. Thomas Nicholas, Port Talbot (Margam Squire); 3, Mr. D. E. Morgan (Llantrisant); hc, Mr. Rhys James, Llandovery (Lady Skip); c, Mr. David Powell, Brecon (Baden-Powell); r, Mr. Charles Radcliffe, Cardiff (Princess Royal).

Mare or gelding, not above 13.2: 1, Mr. G. E. Franklin, The Field, Derby (Lord Go Bang); 2, Mrs. A. K. Apperley (Prince Charming); 3, Mr. Alfred S. Day, Berkeley Stud, near Crewe (Berkeley Bobs); hc, Willmitt and Dare, Roath Market, Cardiff (Little Queen); c, Mrs. A. M. Budd, Kingsfield, Bradford-on-Avon (Little Nipper), and Mons. Depeaux, Eagle Chambers, Swansea (Perfection); r, Dr. William Howells, Watton House (B.P.).

Weight carrying cob (mare or gelding), up to not less than 14 stone, and not above 15 hands, the property of a resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire: 1, Mr. Thomas Nicholas (Margam Squire); 2, Mr. F. S. Miles, Pontypridd (Lady's Primrose); 3, Mr. A. G. Fennell, Cardiff (Lord Bute); hc, Mr. Alfred Stevens, Cardiff (Lord Exeter); c, Mr. David Francis Pritchard, Newport, Mon. (Lord Roberts); r, Mr. James Evans, Narberth (Sunrise).

Champion prizes, exceeding 14 hands, and not under four years old: 1, Mr. John Robinson (Mornington Cannon); 2, Mr. Arthur E. Evans, Wrexham (Sonata), 3, Mr. Frank J. Batchelor (Eunice); 4, Mrs. A. K. Apperley (Silver Star); hc, Mr. Charles Radcliffe (Princess Royal); r, Major Duncan (Enchantress).

HARNESS HORSES.

Mare or gelding, exceeding 15.2: 1, Mr. Edward Godsell (Lord Bath); 2, Mr. C. J. Wertheimer, Hedson House, Bourne End, Bucks (Hopwood Squire); 3, Mr. Edward Godsell (Duke of York); hc, Mr. Henry Radcliffe (Lord Cardigan); r, Mr. Arthur E. Evans, Wrexham (Kharki).

Mare or gelding, exceeding 14.2 and not above 15.2: 1, Mr. M. Godsell (Heathfield Squire); 2, Mr. Mark Pearson, Harrogate (Lord Lofty); 3, Mr. William Morris, Morriston (Lady Confidant); hc, Mr. John Pethick (Lord Bang); c, Mr. Charles Radcliffe (Butterfly); r, Mr. J. Trenchard, Wenvoe (Miss Danegelt).

Exceeding 14 hands and not under 4 years old: 1, Mr. M. Godsell (Heathfield Squire); 2, Mr. Mark Pearson (Lord Lofty); 3, Mr Edward Godsell (Lord Bath); 4, Mr. J. Mitchell (Norbury Lincoln); r, Mr. C. J. Wertheimer (Hopwood Squire).

Mare or gelding, exceeding 13.2 and not above 14.2: 1, Mr. James Mitchell, Hereford (Norbury Lincoln); 2, Dr. George P. Francis (Garton Lass); 3, Mr. A. G. Fennell (Lord Bute); hc, Mrs. A. K. Apperley (Silver Star); r, Alfred S. Day (Sunshine).

Pony, mare or gelding, not above 13.2: 1, Mr. G. E. Franklin (Lord Go Bang); 2, Mr. A. S. Day (Berkeley Bobs); 3, Mr. A. M. Budd (Little Nipper); r., Mrs. A. K. Apperley (Prince Charming); h.c., Dr. W. Howells (B.P.); c., Willmitt and Dare (Little Queen).

Mare or gelding, exceeding 14.2, the property of a resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire: 1, Mr. William Morris (Lady Confident); 2, Mr. James Evans (Sunshine); 3, Mr. David Powell (Baden-Powell); h.c., Mr. James Evans, Narberth (Sunrise); c, Mr. Arthur E. Bishop (Magpie), and Mr. Henry Radcliffe (Lord Cardigan); r., Mr. J. Trenchard (Miss Danegelt).

Mare or gelding, exceeding 13.2 and not above 14.2, the property of a resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire: 1, Dr. George P. Francis (Garton Lass); 2, Mr. A. G. Fennell (Lord Bute); 3, Mr. Thomas Davies (Wait-a-Bit); h c, Mr. Charles Ratcliffe (Butterfly); r., Mons. Depeaux (Lily of the Valley).

Pony (mare or gelding) not above 13·2, the property of a resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire: 1, Messrs. Willmitt and Dare (Little Queen); 2, Dr. William Howells (B.P.); 3, Mons. Depeaux (Perfection); hc, Mr. D. B. Morgan Lewis (Princess); c, Mr. F. Thomas (Peggy Pekin); r, Miss G. W. Gunn, Strathearn, Cardiff (Newmarket Mary).

Harness tandem, exceeding 14·0: 1, Mr. C. J. Wertheimer (Hopwood Squire and Jubilee King); 2, Mr. Edward Godsell (Lord Bath and Duke of York); 3, Mr. Francis S. Miles (Lady's Maid and Lady Primrose); r, Mr. John Pethick (Lord Bang and Lord Bang II.).

Harness, double, mare or gelding, exceeding 14.0: 1, Mr. C. J. Wertheimer (Jubilee King and Hopwood Squire); 2, Mr. Edward Godsell (Lord Bath and Duke of York); 3, Mr. John Pethick (Lord Bang and Lord Bang II.); r, Mr. Francis S. Miles (Lady's Maid and Lady's Primrose).

Single harness (mare or gelding), the property of a tradesman resident within the limit of the Cardiff Union, used solely by him, and driven regularly by his servants for the delivery of goods sold by him for a period of not less than three months prior to September 13, 1900: 1, Mr. T. B. Clode, Llandough (Lady Confident); 2, Mr. Harry Thomas, Cardiff (Lady Kitty); 3, Mr. Albert Hayes, Cardiff (Daisy Bell); hc, Messrs. Snook and Sons, Cardiff (Lampeter Bobs); c, Mr. John Sperring, Cardiff (Young Bang); r, Mr. A. F. Small, Cardiff (Ladybird).

TROTTERS AND JUMPERS.

Trotting, mare or gelding, exceeding 14.2, action and speed to be considered: 1, Mr. William Beale, St. Mary-street, Cardiff (The Earl); 2 and 3, Mr. Walter Winans, Pluckley, Ashford, Kent (Princell and Fides Stanton).

For best jumper in classes 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10: 1, Mrs. Blockley, Moor Hall, Madeley, Staffordshire (Alfred); 2, Mr. F. Firkins, Leigh, Worcestershire (Artist); 3, Mr. O. A. Daniell, Church Farm, Atworthy (Newcastle); r, Mrs. Blockley (Omega).

Best jumper, exceeding 14 hands: 1, Mrs. Blockley (Alfred); 2, Mr. W. W. Grundy, Worcester (Swallow); r, Mr. Charles A. Daniell (Newcastle).

Best (jumper in classes 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10—1, Mr. W.W. Grundy (Stag); 2, Mrs. Brockley (Omega); 3, Mr. C. A. Daniel (Newcastle).

Best jumper of any height: 1, Mr. C. A. Daniel (Newcastle); 2, Mr. F. Firkins (Artist); r, Mr. W. W. Grundy.

Best jumper, the property of a resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire: 1, Mr. J. Trenchard (Spider); 2, Mr. J. G. Blagrave (Celery); 3, Mr. Hugh Drury, Topthorne; r, Mr. R. Jones, Swansea (Empress).

Dray or carthorse, mare or gelding, to be exhibited with gear on, suitable for and having been worked by a brewer, builder, timber merchant, or any other tradesman, corporation, or haulier: 1, Mr. William Hier Evans, Radyr Court, Llandaff (Captain); 2, Mr. S. A. Brain and Co., Cardiff (Prince); 3, Mr. John Moon, Cardiff (Heath Primrose); hc, Mr. John Matthews, Cardiff (Lion); c, Mrs. E. Couch, Pontypridd (Virgin); r, Mr. George Aiden, Llandaff (Surly).

Cart mare or gelding, above 15.2: 1, Lord Llangattock (Emblem); 2, Miss E. C. Talbot, Port Talbot (Maud); 3, Mr. W. Emerson, Cardiff (Sweldon Lad); hc, Messrs. Edwards, Byford, and Marsh, Hereford (Byford Countess), and Mr. Angus G. McGregor, Cheltenham (Lady Hitchin); r, Peter Stubs, Newnham, Glos. (Depper).

Mare or gelding, not above 15.2, suitable for, but that has not been worked, underground in a colliery, the property of a tenant farmer resident in Glamorganshire or Monmouthshire: 1, Mr. John Miles, St. Fagan's (Chance); 2, Mr. R. S. David, Cowbridge (Bright); 3, Mr. Rowland Thomas, Llanedarne (Victoria).

Yearling cart colt or filly: 1, Lord Llangattock (Hendre Sultan); 2, Mr. C. Ivor Lowrie, Radyr Farm, near Cardiff (Radyr Harold); 3, Mr. Peter Stubbs, Newnham (Blaisdon Prince); r, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., M.P., Biagdon (Rickford Jewel).

Yearling cart colt or filly, the property of a tenant farmer resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire: 1, Mr. C. Ivor Lowrie; 2, Mrs. Sarah Loveluck and Son, Pyle, Bridgend (Madam).

Two year old cart colt or filly: 1, Lord Llangattock (Hendre Champion); 2, Mr. J. Williams (Buscot President); 3, Mr. P. Stubbs (Blaisdon Welcome); hc, Mr. F. Pick (Maud); r, Messrs. Edwards, Byford, and Marsh (Byford Countess).

Two year old cart colt or filly, the property of a tenant farmer resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire: 1, Mr. J. Williams (Buscot President); 2, Mrs. S. Loveluck and Sons (Champion); 3, Mr. E. Morgan (Snowdrop).

Cart mare in foal or with foal at foot: 1, Lord Llangattock (Emblem); 2, Miss E. C. Talbot (Maud); 3, Mr. Peter Stubs (Depper); hc, Mr. M. B. Stabbins (Jolly), Mr. Angus G. McGregor (Lady Hitchin); c, Messrs. Edwards (Byford Countess); r, Mr. C. Ivor Lowrie (Rosamond).

Cart mare, in foal, or with foal at foot, the property of a tenant farmer resident in Glamorgan or Monmouthshire: 1, Mr. C. Ivor Lowrie (Rosamond); 2 and 3, Mr. W. Emerson (Madam and Sweldon Fashion); hc, Mr. G. H. Williams (Glamorgan Fashion), and Mr. R. S. David (Mayflower); c, Mr. Daniel Matthews (Fashion); r, Mr. James Board (Bounce).

POLO PONIES.

Brood mare, suitable for breeding polo ponies, exceeding 13.2 and not above 14.2, in foal or with foal at foot, the property of a resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire: 1, Mr. F. Matthews, Glan Ely, near Cardiff (Marie Stewart); 2, Mr. R. Wiltshire, St. Mary-street (Dolly Varden); 3, Mr. J. Cording, Tonypandy (Miss Tarr); r, W. Prosser, Clifton-street, Cardiff (Lady Clifton).

Pony mare, not above 13.2, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, Mr. J. Howell (Queen Bee); 2, Mr. F. Thomas (Peggy Pekin); 3, Mr. H. Lewis (Nancy); r, Mr. W. Jones (Lady Mary).

HACKNEYS.

Brood mare, registered, exceeding 14.2, four years old or upwards, in foal to or with foal at foot by registered Hackney sire: 1, Mr. C. E. Galbraith, Dumfries (Queen of the West); 2, Mr. Frank J. Batchelor (Eunice); 3 and r, Mr. James Howell (Gilly Flower and Jennie Rufus).

Foals: 1, Mr. Thomas Nicholas (Royal Duck); 2, Mr. W. R. Lysaght (Lady Kate); r, Mr. James Howell (Jennie Rufus).

Hackney mare, exceeding 14.2, four years old and upwards, in foal or with foal at foot by registered Hackney sire, the property of a resident in South Wales and Monmouthshire: 1, 2, 3, and r, Mr. James Howell (Gilly Flower III., Jessamine, Lady Tenby, and Lady Fewson).

Foals: 1, Mr. Thomas Nicholas (Royal Duck); 2, Mr. W. R. Lysaght (Lady Kate); 3, Mr. James Howell (Lady Fewson).

Yearling colt or filly, by a registered hackney sire and dam: 1, Mr. H. B. Cory (St. Athans); 2, Mr. J. Howell (Hywel's Lord Prim); 3, Mr. E. M. Whitting, Weston-super-Mare (Quarter Day); r Mr. J. Howell (Hywel's Lord Roberts).

Yearling colt or filly by a registered hackney sire, the property of a resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire: 1, 2, and 3, Mr. J. Howell (Hywel's Lord Prim, Hywel's Lord Roberts, and Hywel's Lady Tenbryite); r, J. H. Jones, Glanrynys Llandilarog, Carm; hc, Mr. J. Price Jones, Middleton, Narberth (Gentleman John).

Hackney stallion fully registered, or eligible to be entered in the Hackney Society's Stud Book, and not under four years old: 1 and 2, Mr James Howell (Golden Fireaway and Lord Elsham); 3 and r, Mr. Herbert B. Cory (St. Melton's and Druidstone).

Two year old colt or filly, by a registered hackney sire and dam: 1 Mr. Charles E. Galbraith (Atbara); 2, Mr. Herbert B. Cory (Druidstone Kathleen),; 3, Mr. D. M. Price, Hendre, Builth (Errand Boy).

Hackney, two year old colt or filly by a registered hackney sire, the property of a resident in South Wales or Monmouthshire: 1, Mr. Herbert B. Cory (Druidstone Kathleen); 2, Mr. J. D. Lewis (Trustful); 3, Mr. F. L. Davis, Caerleon; r, Mr. D. M. Price (Errand Boy).

Derbyshire.

The Derbyshire Agricultural and Horticultural Society's annual exhibition was held at the Cattle Market and Holmes Ground, Derby, on Wednesday and Thursday, in most beautiful weather, and the attendance of visitors was very large. In 1897 the exhibits numbered 818, but in 1898 the total had fallen to 629, and it was not much higher in the following year. This year's catalogue, however, contained no fewer than 807 exhibits, and the improvement in the figures was almost wholly in the classes for horses. The total entry was 462, which is just over 100 in advance of last year, and fifty more than in 1896, which was the highest number previously recorded. The advance must be regarded as a striking testimony to the increased interest taken by the farmers in horse-breeding. The horticultural section was again a strong feature of the show, and the other attractions included horse-jumping contests, butter-making competitions, and a capital display of machinery in motion.

The following table shows the number of entries received in the chief departments for this year and the preceding four years:—

	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Cattle	151	142	130	140	146
Horses	411	389	299	356	462
Sheep	56	74	44	38	44
Pigs	41	40	35	41	41
Butter and Cheese	67	80	24	19	23
Roots	64	50	53	33	60
Butter Making	44	43	44	41	31

Cattle.

Taken as a whole, the display of cattle was well up to the average. The Shorthorns were a representative collection, though, perhaps, not quite so numerous as in previous years, and included many animals familiar to the showyard. There was keen competition in each of the bull classes. The two-year-olds were headed by Royal Seal, a massive red, the property of Messrs. Rawes and Son, Newcastle. Duke Carolus 13th, an attractive three-year-old roan, shown by Mr. R. P. Cooper, Shenstone, was second. The same exhibitor had also to be content with a similar position in the one-year-old class, the winner being Mr. J. Evens's Royal Burton. There were several other promising animals in this class, which was one of the strongest in the section. Bulls under twelve months old numbered six, and made a strong show. Mr. G. Harrison's Red Rose Prince, a well-bred roan, aged eleven months, was placed first, and he was closely followed by Break of Day, a stylish son of Village Knight 2nd. The best Shorthorn bull, the property of a local tenant farmer, was shown by Mr. Richard Smedley, Derby, the honour falling to Blanco, a well-developed white, now close on two years old. The same breeder secured premier position with Fitzherbert, a promising bull calf. The class for the best Shorthorn bull in Derbyshire and Staffordshire calved last year was a small one, only three animals being entered. Success was easy for Mr. R. P. Cooper, who showed Noel Duke, a magnificent roan. There were eight cows, in milk or expected to calve this year, the chief of which was Dot, belonging to Mr. L. Broadbent, Whaley Bridge. In both classes some wonderfully good heifers were shown. Mr. G. Harrison headed the two-year-olds with Welfare, and Mr. J. Platt, of Newark, the younger class with Scottish Waterloo. Tenant farmers were responsible for a strong show of cows suitable for dairy purposes. Mr. A. Stretton, of Wicknor, usually a successful exhibitor at this show, took the chief award; while to the executors of the late Mr. J. Woodward, Twyford, was given the fifty guinea challenge cup (presented by the Duke of Devonshire, president) for the best local tenant farmer's animal in the cattle classes. The display of Channel Island cattle was superior to anything seen at Derby for several years. One-year-old bulls were numerously represented, the class being headed by Scout, a stylish grey fawn, shown by Mr. P. Phipps, of Rushton, Kettering. He had a close competitor in Mr. L. G. Gisborne's Marmion, an animal which has been extremely successful this season in the showyards of Northampton, Leicester, and Birkenhead. Thirteen cows were stalled in the three-year-old open class, and Mr. Phipps was again placed first, with Lady Lavinia 6th, a deep milking cow, a worthy descendant of the well-known Orme. The Duke of Portland secured second honours with Lily 4th. Lady Lavinia also distinguished herself in the cow or heifer class, while another animal from the Rushton herd—Lady of the Lake—was a good first in the two-year-old heifer class. Mr. Gisborne's Maisonnette was second. The section devoted to Kerry and Dexter Kerry cattle was small, but on this account the quality of the exhibits did not suffer. With one exception all were Dexters, and the winners were thoroughly representative animals. Mr. R. S. Warren, of Matlock, won the first award in each class, and the second positions were awarded to Mr. J. N. Woodiwiss, of Duffield.

Horses.

The collection of horses was the strongest seen for many years. Compared with last year there was the substantial increase of 100, and the character of the animals was well maintained. Agricultural horses were again a strong feature, and an improvement was particularly noticed in the young stock, especially in regard to filly foals. Derby is in the Meynell Hunt district, and upon the borders of the South Notts country, and it is only necessary to say that the collection of hunters and hacks was as strong as it should be. Speaking first of the Shires, half a dozen colts were entered, and an excellent lot they were. The winner was Caistor, a chestnut of nice quality, owned by Mr. J. Nix, and he had a strong competitor in Mr. W. T. Everard's Bardon Baronet. A fine, sprightly-moving yearling entered by Messrs. J. and M. Walwyn, of Etwall, was an easy winner in the tenant farmers' class, and the same breeders also took the chief award in the open class with Bearwardcote Blaze, a bloodlike bay. The Shire mares, both in the local and open classes, were a good show, and quite half a dozen were of outstanding merit. Mr. J. Eadie, of Barrow Hall, Derby, headed the open class, his exhibit being Vulcan's Pride, an animal many times distinguished in the showyard. Mr. Oakes, of Alfreton, who was second with Lidding's Princess Ida 2nd, also won in the filly foal class, which was by far the largest in the show; Mr. Eadie was a good second with a nice-quality bay sired by Barrow Victor. No fewer than thirty foals bred and exhibited by tenant farmers were stalled, and in point of quality they were a great improvement on previous shows. Messrs. J. and M. Walwyn captured chief honours, and Mr. F. Topham, of Morley, was a good second. Many special prizes were offered, and £2 premiums were won by colts or filly foals sired by any horse belonging to the Markeaton Stud, belonging to Messrs. J. Bingham, Denby, Egerton Orme, T. Roe, Sudbury, J. Hodson, Mickleover, and J. Downing, Sawley. The Shire Horse Society's gold medal fell to Hendre Twilight, the property of Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart. She comes from Lord Llangattock's stud, and possesses all the Shire characteristics. The three-year-old filly class was headed by Broughton Diamond, the property of Mr. J. Tipper, and Mr. J. Eadie came out first in the two-year-old class. Mr. F. B. Wilkinson, of Newark, was a successful exhibitor in the hunter classes. He took premier position in the brood mare and colt classes, and also secured the medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society with a fine youngster, by Kilmarnock. A similar honour fell to Mr. A. W. Haslewood, Buxton. Hunters up to fifteen stones were not a numerous class, but the five animals stalled were all of almost uniform excellence. Mr. H. Charrington, of Tutbury, was placed first with his magnificent chestnut Colonel, and Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Market Harborough, was a good second. Heathfield Conceit, a four-year-old hack, shown by Mr. A. L. Goodson, was well ahead of the rest of his class. Harness horses, 14 hands, were a representative collection, which was headed by Surprise, belonging to Mr. G. Ledson, and the first prize taker in the pony class was Prince Ideal, a stylish fast-going chestnut, exhibited by Mr. J. B. Pearson, Derby. Mr. F. J. Batchelor's well-bred pair of chestnut ponies greatly impressed the judges, and he had no difficulty in carrying off the premier award. The silver medal of the Hackney Society was awarded to the Beeston Stud Company's brood mare Pepina, which won the first prize in her class and repeated her last year's success. Beeston Princess, her five-months-old daughter, was reserved.

Sheep and Pigs.

There was not a big show of sheep. Mr. N. Woodiwiss won several prizes with specimens of the long-woolled breed, and the Sheffield Coal Company also headed a couple of classes, and took a special prize for the best sheep in the yard. Mr. W. Gibbs, of Kirk Langley, secured nearly all the awards with his short-woolled sheep. Pigs numbered forty-one—strangely enough, the same number as penned last year. Mr. J. Barron, Borrowash, and Mr. G. J. Bushell, Derby, pretty well divided the positions in the Large White breed classes, and Mr. R. S. Warren, Matlock, and Mrs. E. M. Mundy, Shipley, were among the chief prize-winners with Berkshires. Sir Oswald Mosley showed several good specimens of the Tamworth reds.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Bull, two years old and under five (open): 1, T. Mace, Rawes, and Son, Newcastle (Royal Seal); 2, R. P. Cooper, Shenstone, Lichfield (Duke Carolus XIII.); r, Richard Smedley, Asher Fields, Pentrich (King Cup); hc, B. Langdale Barrow, Sydnope Hall, near Matlock (Lord Fairy Butterfly).

Bull, above one and under two years old (open): 1, John Evens, Burton, near Lincoln (Royal Burton); 2, R. P. Cooper, Shenston, Lichfield (Saturn); r, George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington (First Favourite).

Shorthorn bull, above one and under two years old, the property of a tenant farmer residing within the Society's area: 1, Richard Smedley (Blanco); 2, Joshua Lomas, Yeardsley Hall via Stockport (Lord Esher).

Bull, under twelve months old (open): 1, George Harrison (Red Rose Prince); 2, C. W. Kellock, Highfields, Audlem, Cheshire (Break of Day); r, R. P. Cooper (Noel Duke).

Bull calf, under twelve months old, entered in Channel Island Herd Book (open): 1, Lees Broadbent (Cedar Pride II.); 2, R. Lord Sudeley, Toddington, Winchcombe (Bridge of Canes Pride II.); r, Lees Broadbent (Cedas Pride II.).

Best Shorthorn bull in Derbyshire and Staffordshire calved in the year 1899: 1, R. P. Cooper (Noel Duke); 2, Lees Broadbent (Cedas Pride II.).

Cow in milk or to calve in 1900 (open): 1, Lees Broadbent (Dot); 2, John Evens; r, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., Rolleston Hall (Vesper Countess).

Heifer, under three years old, in milk, or to calve before March, 1901 (open): 1, George Harrison (Welfare); 2, John Woods, Draycott House, Marchington (Daisy Foggathorpe); r, J. W. Smith, Twyford.

Heifer, under two years old (open): 1, Frederick Platt, Barnby Moor, Newark (Scottish Waterloo); 2, George Harrison (Village Queen); r, Henry Wynne, Brick House Farm, Hadley (Duchess of Pride); hc, Rowson and Co., Farm, Reading (Lady Rose).

Pure bred Shorthorn cow, in milk, of any age, eligible for and entered in Channel Island Herd Book, the property of a tenant farmer entry previous to the show (open): 1, Lees Broadbent (Dot); 2, George Harrison (Rose of Europe); r, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart. (Lady Alice).

CATTLE OF ANY BREED BUT QUALIFIED FOR ENTRY IN THE CHANNEL ISLAND HERD BOOK.

(To be exhibited in store condition.)

Bull, two years old and under five (tenant farmers): 1, Richard Smedley (King Cup).

Bull, above one and not exceeding two years old (tenant farmers): 1, John Falder, Lockington (The Duke); 2, William White, Lockington; r, Joshua Lomas, Yeardsley Hall (Lord Esher).

Three cows, three years old or upwards, and in calf or in milk for dairy purposes, the property of a tenant farmer residing within the Society's area, to be in milk, or to calve in 1900 (tenant farmers): 1, A. Stretton, Wichnor; 2, Exors. of late James Woodward, Twyford; 3, J. F. Hollingworth, Weston Coyney; hc, William Yates, Duffield.

Cow in milk, or to calve in 1900, best adapted for dairy purposes (tenant farmers): 1 and hc, A. Stretton; 2, John Gadsby (Whatedge), hc, Exors. of late James Woodward, Twyford.

Heifer under three years old, in milk or to calve before March, 1901, bred by exhibitor (tenant farmers): 1 and r, J. W. Smith; 2, Exors. of late James Woodward.

Heifer, under two years old, best adapted for dairy purposes, bred by exhibitor (tenant farmers): 1 and r, A. Stretton; 2, Exors. of the late James Woodward.

Heifer calf, over six and under twelve months old (tenant farmers): 1, Reuben Shelton (Lady Rosella); 2, A. Stretton.

Bull calf, over six and under twelve months old (tenant farmers only): 1 and 2, A. Stretton; r, Richard Smedley (Fitz Herbert).

CHANNEL ISLAND.

Bull, above one year old (open): 1, Pickering Phipps, Rushton Hall, Kettering (Scout); 2, Lionel G. Gisborne, Allestree Hall (Marmion); r, His Grace the Duke of Portland, Welbeck Abbey (Sardius); hc, William Shepherd, Ivy House, Scropton (Scropton Chinese Shot).

Cow, three years old or upwards, in milk or to calve in 1900 (open): 1, Pickering Phipps (Lady Lavinia); 2, His Grace the Duke of Portland (Lily IV.); r, Richard Wright, Chestall, Rugeley (Red Fern); hc, Pickering Phipps (Lily IV.), A. S. Marsden Smedley (Victoria's Legacy), J. Reid Walker (Red Fern).

Cow or heifer, in milk, or in calf, bred in Great Britain or Ireland (open): 1, Pickering Phipps (Lady Lavinia VI.); 2, Lionel G. Gisborne, Allestree Hall (Marigold); r, Pickering Phipps (Trust IV.).

Heifer, calved in the year 1898 (open): 1, Pickering Phipps (Lady of the Lake); 2, Lionel G. Gisborne (Maisonnette D.); r, Pickering Phipps (Trustful).

KERRY AND DEXTER KERRY.

Kerry or Dexter Kerry bull, under four years old (open): 1, Robert S. Warren, Alderwasley (Sedgemere Nigger); 2, Isaac Newton Woodiwiss, Chevin Stud Farm (Sedgemere Aristocrat XCIX); r, Sir Peter Walker, Bart., Osmaston Manor (Acorn Slave).

Kerry or Dexter Kerry cow or heifer, in milk or in calf (open): 1 and 3, Robert S. Warren (Ridgewood Biddy and Ridgewood Wee Kitty); 2 and c, Isaac Newton Woodiwiss (Sedgemere Bonny Maid and Sedgemere Birthday); r and c, J. Reid Walker (Little Bo Peep and Cahir Star).

HORSES

AGRICULTURAL.

Two-year-old entire Shire colt (open): 1, John Nix, Alfreton (Caistor); 2, W. T. Everard, Bardon Hall (Bardon Baronet).

Yearling entire Shire colt (tenant farmers): 1, J. and M. Walwyn, Bearwardcote (Bearwardcote Blaze); 2, J. W. Whitehurst, Markeaton (Viceroy of Markeaton).

Yearling entire Shire colt (open): 1, J. and M. Walwyn (Bearwardcote Blaze); 2, James Eadie, Barrow Hall (Barrow Boss); r, J. W. Whitehurst, Markeaton (Viceroy of Markeaton); c, Albert Armitage, Cotgrave Place, Nottingham (Cotgrave Regent Duke).

Two-year-old cart gelding (landlord or tenant): 1, G. F. H. Wade, Alvaston; 2, G. H. Bennett, Sawley (Duke); r, F. Topham, Broomfield Farm, Morley (Flash Light); c, W. White, Lockington.

Three-year-old cart gelding (landlord or tenant): 1, Timothy Lowe, The Oaklands, Walton-on-Trent (Walton Royal); 2, James Eadie (Barrow Sam); r, R. Finney, Hemington (Captain).

Cart gelding, four years old and upwards (landlord or tenant): 1, James Brooks, Trent House, Willington (Draryman); 2, Cook Bros., Kegworth.

Shire mare, with foal at foot (tenant farmers): 1, Egerton Orme, Ash, Etwall (Extraordinary); 2, John Orme, Sutton (Smiler); 3, R. Moore and Sons, Bilborough (Sedate); 4, Thomas Roe, Aston House, Sudbury; r, F. Farnsworth, Ratcliffe, Atherstone (Rose of Europe).

Shire mare, with foal at foot (open): 1 and r, James Eadie (Vulcan's Pride and Hendre Lassie); 2, [illegible] (Princess Ida II.); hc, Alfred Wright, Chestall, Rugeley (Red Fern); John Orme, Sutton, c, R. Moore and Sons (Sedate).

Shire colt foal (landlord or tenant): 1, C. R. Hanson, Cloverlands; 2, John Hodson, Mickleover; 3, Egerton Orme; r, R. M. Sims, Barrow Hall; hc, J. Bingham, Waingrove Hall, Denby; W. T. Everard, Bardon Hall (Bardon Bobs); J. and M. Walwyn, Bearwardcote.

Special prizes [illegible] Princess, and shown in [illegible] John Bingham; 3, J. and M. Walwyn; r, R. Vale.

Shire filly foal (landlord or tenant): 1, James Oakes; 2, James Eadie; 3, J. and M. Walwyn; r, W. T. Everard; hc, Joseph Downing, Sawley; R. Orme.

Special prizes [illegible] farmers, and exhibited in preceding class: 1, J. and M. Walwyn; 2, F. Topham; 3, Thomas Roe; r, J. Hill.

For [illegible] Markeaton Stud, and entered in any previous classes: Equal 1, J. Bingham, Waingrove Hall, Denby (Bardon Bobs), and [illegible]; 2, [illegible]; 3, [illegible]; r, [illegible]; hc, [illegible].

For [illegible] entered in a previous class: 1, Thomas Roe; r, Joseph Downing.

For [illegible] Markeaton Stud, and entered in any previous classes: 1, [illegible]; 2, [illegible]; 3, [illegible]; r, [illegible]; hc, [illegible].

For [illegible] entered in a previous class: 1, Thomas Roe; r, Joseph Downing.

surance Company, Limited: 1, F Topham; 2, Joseph Spalton; r, T Bassett Bullock

Shire mare, four years old and upwards, without foal (landlord or tenant): 1, F Lowndes, Rolleston Park (Rolleston Enchant); 2, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart (Hendre Twilight); r, James Oakes (Riddings Princess Ida III)

Three-year-old Shire filly (tenant farmers): 1, James Tipper, The Green, Church Broughton (Broughton Diamond); 2, F W Gilbert, Meckleover (Bounce); 3, William Bull, Pinfold Farm, Repton (Repton Queen)

Three-year-old Shire filly (open): 1, James Tipper (Broughton Diamond); 2, James Oakes (Riddings Princess Ida IV); r, James Eadie (Holker Betty); hc, John Hodson (Desford Royal Lady)

Two-year-old Shire filly (tenant farmers): 1, F. W. Gilbert (Goadby Queen); 2, James Brooks, (Rustic Queen); 3, J. Y Hibbard, Thrumpton (Thrumpton Playmate); r, Stephen Rain, Stockley Park, Burton-on-Trent (Vanilla); hc, John Heathcote, Perwich Leys, Ashbourne (Jenny)

Two-year-old Shire filly (open): 1, James Eadie (Buscot Songstress); 2, F W. Gilbert (Goadby Queen); 3, James Brooks (Rustic Queen); r, W T Everard (Bardon Forget-Me-Not)

One-year-old Shire filly (tenant farmers): 1 and hc, G. F. H Wade (Alvaston Gleaming and Alvaston Queen); 2, John Spalton (Mackworth Bountiful); 3, Charles Etches, Royston Grange, Ballidon (Lady Magnum); r, W. White, Lockington (Countess).

One year-old Shire filly (open): 1, G. F. H. Wade (Alvaston Gleaming); 2, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart (Brookside Lassie); 3, John Spalton (Mackworth Bountiful); r, Charles Etches (Lady Magnum)

HUNTERS AND HACKS

Brood mare, best fitted for breeding hunters, with foal at foot (open): 1 and 2, F. B. Wilkinson, Cavendish Lodge, Edwinstowe; r, Charles Miles, Tatenhill (Lot's Wife); hc, A. O Haslewood, Buxton (Hill Top); c, Clifford Schwabe, Arden (Whisper Low)

Hunter colt or filly foal (open): 1, F. B Wilkinson; 2, Clifford Schwabe; r, W. D Winterbottom, Aston Hall.

Yearling colt or filly, for hunting purposes (landlord or tenant): 1, A. O. Haslewood, Buxton (Macdougall); 2, T. H. Tomlinson, Dale Farm, Willington (Ruiksborough); r, Colonel Swinfen, Swinfen Hall, Lichfield (Dawn)

Two-year-old gelding or filly, for hunting purposes (landlord or tenant): 1, Sir Peter Walker, Bart, Osmaston Manor; 2 and Hunter's Society's silver medal, A. O Haslewood (Chaset); r and hc, for Hunter's Society silver medal, Charles Miles, Tatenhill (Lavinia)

Three-year-old gelding or filly, for hunting purposes (landlord or tenant): 1, F B. Wilkinson; 2, J Raynor, Wollaton (Elvaston); r, Hugh S. Charrington, Dove Cliff (Red Cross)

Hunter, four-year-old and upwards, up to 12 stones; period in possession from July 1st, 1900 (landlord or tenant): 1, W. D Winterbottom; 2, Sir Peter Walker, Bart (Rocket); 3, F. B Wilkinson; r, Henry Charrington, Castle Hill, Tutbury (Landley)

Hunter, up to 15 stones; period in possession from July 1st, 1900 (open): 1, Henry Charrington (Colonel); 2 and 3, J. H. Stokes, Great Bowden; r, Sir Peter Walker, Bart. (Curlew).

Hunter, four years old and upwards, up to not less than 13 stones; period in possession from July 1st, 1900; within the Meynell Hunt district of Derbyshire (tenant farmers): 1, T. H. Tomlinson, Dale Farm, Willington; 2, J. F. Hollingsworth, Weston-on-Trent; r, P. Walker, Shipley (Topthorn).

HACKNEYS OR ROADSTERS.

Brood mare, most suitable for breeding hacks or roadsters, with foal at foot (landlord or tenant): 1 and Hackney Horse Society's silver medal, Beeston Stud Co., Trent Vale Farm, Beeston (Pepina); 2, A. S. Marsden Smedley (Snowdrop); r, J. T. C. Eadie (Barrow Lady Jean); hc, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart (Brilliance)

Hackney colt foal (landlord or tenant): 1, George Welsh, Castle Donington; 2, A. S. Marsden Smedley (Norman Cadet); r, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart. (Rolleston King).

Hackney filly foal (landlord or tenant): 1, and reserve for Hackney Horse Society's silver medal, Beeston Stud Co (Beeston Princess); 2, J. T. C Eadie; r, Harry Hole, Talbot Street, Derby (Chellaston Countess).

Hack or roadster, 15 hands and upwards, to be ridden; period in possession from July 1st, 1900 (open): 1, A. L. Goodson, Heathfield (Heathfield Conceit); 2, Frank J. Batchelor, Hopwood Stud Farm, Alvechurch (Wild Agnes); 3, Geo. Ledson, Manor House, Bromborough (Astonishment); r, J. B. Pearson, Waverley Livery Stables, Derby (Lady Lofty)

Hack or roadster, to be ridden; period in possession from July 1st, 1900 (landlord or tenant): 1, Robert Hussey, Eastfields, Lichfield (Boy Myrtle); 2, Edward McInnes, Littleover Old Hall (Punch); 3, Beeston Stud Co. (Pepina); r, Colonel Swinfen Brown, Swinfen Hall, Lichfield (Daphne); hc, Henry Shrimpshaw, 29, Radford Road, Nottingham (Pride of the Forest).

HARNESS CLASSES.

Harness horse or mare, 15 hands and upwards; period in possession from July 1st, 1900 (open): 1, Frank J. Batchelor (Wild Agnes); 2, George Ledson (Astonishment); 3, A. L. Goodson (Heathfield Conceit); r, J. B Pearson (Lady Lofty); hc, Frank Newton Hobson (Wollaton Cadet)

Harness horse or mare, 14 hands and under 15 hands; period in possession from July 1st, 1900 (open): 1, George Ledson (Surprise); 2, Frank J Batchelor (Lord Alington); r, R Hussey (Boy Myrtle); hc, Edward McInnes (Punch).

Harness pony under 14 hands; period in possession from July 1st, 1900 (open): 1, J. B Pearson (Prince Ideal); 2, E. T Emery, Vernon Street, Derby; r, W Preston, Clarendon Hotel, Derby (Doctor); hc, B Johnson, Derby

For the best pair to be drawn in the ring; period in possession from July 1st, 1900 (open): 1, Frank J. Batchelor (Wild Agnes and Lord Alington); 2, Edward McInnes (Punch and Brewer); r, Lady Walker (Gamecock and Gamester).

SHEEP.

LONG WOOLLED.

Five breeding ewes having had lambs in 1900, and suckled them up to the 1st June: 1, Isaac Newton Woodiwiss; 2, Richard Smedley; r, William Futtit, Whitwell

Five long-woolled theaves: 1, Isaac Newton Woodiwiss; 2, William Futtit; r, J. W. Whitehurst, Markeaton.

Five long-woolled ewe lambs: 1, Robert Turner, Lockington; 2, J. B. Mellor, Over Haddon; r, Isaac Newton Woodiwiss; hc, William Futtit

Long-woolled ram, any age above a shearling: 1, and special Sheffield Coal Company's, Birley Moor Farm, Gleadless; 2 and r for special, Sheffield Coal Company; hc and c, Isaac Dean, Kirk Ireton.

Shearling long-woolled ram: 1, Sheffield Coal Company; 2, Isaac Newton Woodiwiss

Long-woolled ram lamb: 1, Isaac Newton Woodiwiss; 2, and r, Isaac Dean.

SHORT WOOLLED.

Five breeding ewes having had lambs in 1900, and suckled them up to the 1st June: 1, W Gibbs, Kirk Langley; 2, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart.

Five short-woolled theaves: 1, W Gibbs; 2, R. H. Archer.

Five short-woolled ewe lambs: 1, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart.

Short-woolled ram, of any age above a shearling: 1, R. H. Archer; 2, W. Gibbs; r, Joseph Spalton, Bowbridge; hc, William Futtit.

Shearling short-woolled ram: 1, R. H. Archer; 2 and r, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart.

Short-woolled ram lamb: 1, W. Gibbs; 2, R. H. Archer.

Pen of five fat wether sheep, not exceeding twenty-two months old: 1, F. W. Gilbert; 2, G. D'Arcy Clark, Burnaston; r, Joseph B. Smith, Draycott Fields.

PIGS.

LARGE WHITES.

Boar, of any age, best adapted for general use (landlord or tenant): 1, 2, and special prize, John Barron, Elvaston House, Barrowash (Barrowfield Topsman and Barrowfield Eclipse); r, G. J. Bushell, The Union, Derby (Prince); hc, James Hill, White Lion, Derwent Street, Derby (Barrowfield Topsman VII.).

Sow, of any age, suckling or in pig (landlord or tenant): 1 and r, G. J. Bushell (Markeaton Lass and Markeaton Lady); 2, Charles Ecob; hc and c, J. F. Hollingworth

Three breeding pigs, of one sex, farrowed in 1900 (landlord or tenant): 1, John Barron; 2, G. J. Bushell; r, J. F. Hollingworth; hc, Charles Mort.

BERKSHIRES.

Boar, of any age, best adapted for general use (landlord or tenant): 1, Mrs. E. M. Mundy, Shipley (Prince, Victor); 2, Albert F. Hurt, Alderwasley (The Sirdar); r, Wm. Matthews, Green Stoup Farm, Mercaston.

Sow, of any age, in pig or suckling (landlord or tenant): 1, 2, and reserve for special prize, Robert S. Warren, Alderwasley; r, Mrs. E. M. Mundy (Flossie); hc, Albert F. Hurt (Seccotine); c, Wm. Matthews (Green Stoup Model)

Three breeding pigs, of one sex, farrowed in 1900 (landlord or tenant): 1, Robert S. Warren; 2, John Barron; r, Wm. Matthews.

ANY OTHER BREED.

Boar, of any age (landlord or tenant): 1, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart. (Masher's Jewel); 2, F. W. Gilbert, Mickleover; r, T. Musson, Canal Street, Derby (Royal Albert).

Sow, of any age, in pig or suckling (landlord or tenant): 1, Sir Peter Walker, Bart. (Osmaston Beauty); 2 and r, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart (Rolleston Daisy and Rolleston Princess)

Three breeding pigs, of one sex, farrowed in 1900 (landlord or tenant): 1, 2, and r, F. W. Gilbert, Mickleover.

Newbury Horse Show.

Newbury Horse Show was held on Wednesday in fine weather, which resulted in a successful show. The hon. sec. of the Society, Colonel Ricardo, is away in South Africa with the Imperial Yeomanry, and during the afternoon a cable was despatched to him stating that the show was a successful one. Hunters were judged by Mr. Romer Williams and Mr. P. Muntz. In Class 1, an open competition for the best brood mare and foal, there were five entries, including Goodcraft, a bay mare with a filly by Yard Arm, who was undoubtedly the best shown in the class, but inasmuch as she had previously won, the award went to Cockade, a useful mare with a good filly. In the local class for the same sort of animal there were ten entries. The quality was not so noticeable here, but the winner, a bay mare with filly by Boscawen, possessed plenty of room and scope, and was a useful animal. For the best hunter to carry not less than 14 stone the first prize went to Limerick, an exceptionally nice horse, full of quality and capable of weight-carrying. Waterproof, placed second, was also up to good weight, and galloped strongly. Class 4, also open, was for the best hunter qualified to carry less than 14 stone, and here the judges met with the best horse that came under their notice in Mavis, a seven-year-old chestnut gelding. The second in this class, Hermit, was also a fine mover, but not capable of carrying much over 12 stone. In Class 6 there were fifteen entries, and the competition for first and second places was very keen. The horses eventually securing these positions were the property of the same owner, Mr. James Bishop, of Hamstead Park. The judges were a long time in arriving at a decision, but eventually gave the first award to the chestnut mare Steller, who was possessed of more quality and was better on her forelegs than Gamester, who, however, was a very powerful galloper. Classes 7 to 12, which embraced young stock, were judged by Mr. T. K. Elliott and Mr. E. Legg, and in the open competition for the best mare or gelding foaled in 1897 calculated to make a hunter, there were five entries, and Mr. Holt-Needham, of Castle Cary, repeated successes he has gained here, this time with Killarney, a stylish mare, who, however, was run close by the bay gelding of Mr. Jefferies.

In the agricultural department, the judging was undertaken by Mr. B. Bucknell and Mr. J. Forshaw. Perhaps the most noteworthy feature was the success of Mr. W. H. Godding, of Brimslade, Marlborough, whose four-year-old stallion, Savernake Bar None Conqueror, won in the open class. Mr. Godding was also successful in the local class with Savernake Bar None, a son of the winner in the above. There were eight entries of cart mares with foal in the open class, and here Lord Wantage gained the blue rosette with Tatton Flower and a filly foaled in May last. Mr. Alexander Henderson, M.P., occupied second place, and Mr. Godding's two exhibits secured the third and commended. In the local class, where there were five competitors, Mr Godding swept the board. The first prize for the best cart mare or gelding not under three years went to Duchess of Bridgwater 3rd, who would have received the Shire Horse Society's silver medal had she not already gained one of their prizes, and under these circumstances the medal went to the second, Lord Wantage's exhibit. The chief interest for the great bulk of the public, however, was centred in the jumping and driving competitions, which followed the general parade of exhibits in the large ring.

Prize List.

HUNTERS.

Best brood mare and foal for breeding hunters (open): 1, J. A. Mulleus, Barrow Hills, Longeross, Surrey (Cockade); 2, A. Gorham, Telscombe, Lewes (Sally Brass); r, Lionel Barlow, Priors Court, Newbury (Zoo).

Best brood mare and foal for breeding hunters (open): 1, Commander H. G. W. Thirold, R.N., Silchester Hall; 2, Lionel Barlow, Priors Court (Zoo); r, E. B. Black-Hawkins, Upper Link, St. Mary Bourne (Diana); hc, Edney Hayter, Breach Stud Farm, St. Mary Bourne (Sweet Seventeen).

Best hunter, qualified to carry not less than 14 stone, four years old (open): 1, Hon. L. P. Bouverie, Freelands, Wherwell, Andover (Limerick); 2, A. Gorham, Telscombe, Lewes (Waterproof); 3, J. Stratton, Chilcombe, Winchester (Gay Lad); r, H. P. Woolcott, Wanborough Plain, Swindon (Mullingar); hc, Colonel G. P. Townshend, Eliot Park.

Best hunter, qualified to carry less than 14 stone, four years and upwards (open): 1, Leonard H. Taylor, Biddestone, Chippenham (Marvis); 2, H. P. Woolcott, Swindon (Hermit); 3, Miss Mary Rennie, Denford (Red Deer); r, Harry Dyson, Pamber, Basingstoke (Barley Sugar).

Ditto, local: 1, B. H. Lay, Steventon; 2, C. H. Whatley, Wanborough (Baden Powell); 3, Harry Dyson (Confectioner)

Hunter, to carry 13 stone and upwards, property of residents within the Craven Hunt or twelve miles of Newbury: 1, J. Bishop, Hamstead Park, Newbury (Steller); 2, J. Bishop (Gamester); 3, H. P. Woolcott (Mullingar); r, B. H. Lay, Steventon; hc, H. P. Woolcott (Hermit); c, Miss Mary Rennie, Denford (Red Deer); Harry Dyson, Pamber (Confectioner).

YOUNG STOCK.

Best mare or gelding calculated to carry a hunter, foaled in 1897 (open): 1, O. N. Holt-Needham, Castle Cary (Killarney); 2, A. Jefferies, Goosey, Faringdon; 3, E. B. Black-Hawkins (Killarney Boy); r, Sir F. W. Carden, Bart., Stargroves, Woodhay (Ouida).

Best mare or gelding calculated to make a hunter, foaled in 1897 (local): 1, F. B. Johnston, East Woodhay House (Estralda); 2, B. H. Lay, Harwell, Steventon; 3, E. B. Black-Hawkins (Killarney Boy); hc, Sir F. W. Carden, Bart. (Ouida).

Best colt, gelding, or filly calculated to make a hunter, foaled in 1898 (open): 1, C. Calway Bamber, Springfield Lodge, Chelmsford, Essex (Homely Lass); 2, Leonard H. Taylor, Beddestone, Chippenham (Letty Lind); 3, O. N. Holt-Needham (Dancing Girl); r, A. Gorham (Dick Swiveller).

Best colt gelding or filly, calculated to make a hunter, foaled 1898 (open): 1, W. H. Godding, Brimslade, Marlborough (Lady Doreen); 2, J. A. Rutherford, Highclere; r, Sir F. W. Carden.

Best colt, gelding, or filly, calculated to make a hunter, foaled 1899 (local): 1, Blackwell Simonds, Bradfield (Bobs); 2, E. B. Black-Hawkins (Lady Grey); 3, E. B. Black-Hawkins (Ladysmith); r, E. H. Fox, Adbury (Primrose).

HACKS.

Best hack not over 15.2 hands (open): 1, Captain J. Yorke Worthington, Benham Lodge, Newbury (The Rector); 2, W. E. Royds, 7th Hussars, Aldershot (Monkey); 3, W. E. Royds (San Toy); hc, Blackall Simonds, Bradfield House (Tamworth).

DRIVING

Best gelding or mare, to be driven in ring (open): 1, E. and A. Baxter, Hutton Hackney Stud, Brentwood, Essex (Lady Nell); 2, R. T. Thornton, Brentwood, Essex (Amandor); 3, Dr. B. Lyne Stevens, Enham Place, Andover (Smart Dungelt); r, R. T. Thornton (Princess May).

For best gelding or mare, the property of a resident within a radius of twelve miles of Newbury: 1, Mrs. Carstairs, Welford Park, Newbury (Billy); 2, O. W Rayner, Chieveley Manor (Gordon); 3, W. H. Coldicutt, Newbury (The Pauper); r, V. M. Hudson, Snelsmore, Newbury (Rumbidge).

For best gelding or mare, the property of tenant farmers or tradesmen within a radius of twelve miles of Newbury (local): 1, T. S. Hewer, Hungerford (Peter); 2, W. H. Coldicutt (Khaki); r, G. Warner, Midgham (Tiffler).

Best pony not over 14 hands (open): 1, E. W. Headington, Slough (Snowball); 2, G. Matthey, Goring-on-Thames (Silver Duke); r, G. T. Polley, Reading.

For the best tandem (open): 1, Mrs Carstairs, Welford Park (Billy and Sam); 2, R. T. Thornton, Brentwood (Armada and Princess May); r, W. E. Royds, 7th Hussars, Aldershot (Monkey and San Toy).

Best pony not over 13.2, property of a resident within twelve miles of Newbury: 1, W. H Coldicutt (The Pauper); 2, Mrs. C. Toubs, Newbury (Magic); 3, Dr. R. Maples, Kingsclere (Billy); r, Miss Fort, Speen, Newbury (The Dwarf).

AGRICULTURAL HORSES.

Three exhibits, best cart stallion, four years old and upwards: 1, W. H. Godding (Savernake Bar None Conqueror); 2, Rev. W. C. Dicker, St. John's Vicarage, Birkenhead (Mechanic II.).

Best cart stallion, 1897 or 1898 (local): 1, W. H. Godding (Savernake Bar None); 2, T. S. Hewer, Knighton, Hungerford (Khaki Boy)

Best cart mare and foal (open): 1, Lord Wantage, Lambourn, Wantage (Tatton Flower); 2, Alexander Henderson, M.P., Buscot Park, Faringdon (Moore's Cambria); r, W H Godding (Savernake Gloaming); hc, R. W. Hudson (Lockinge Nellie), c, W. H Godding (Savernake Orchard Princess).

Best cart mare and foal, the property of a tenant farmer or tradesman residing within twenty miles of Newbury or within limits of Craven Hunt: 1, 2, 3, and r, W. H. Godding (Savernake Gloaming, Savernake Princess May, Savernake Orchard Princess, and Savernake Gipsy).

Cart foal, residents within twenty miles of Town Hall: 1, T. S. Hewer; 2, W. H. Godding; 3, T. W. Waldron, Eastridge, Ramsbury; r, J. Lay, Thatcham; hc, W. H. Godding; c, Reading Sanitary Authority.

Best foal, got by Harold's Rival: 1, T. S. Hewer; 2, R. Cook, Radley, Hungerford; 3, E. Waldron, Ramsbury; 4, J. Lay, Thatcham; r, R. Osmond, Wootton; hc, R. Osmond

Best cart gelding or filly, foaled 1898, the property of tenant farmers or tradesmen, within twenty miles of Newbury: 1, F Stevens, East Isley; 2, J. Lay (Wells's Constance); 3, F Stevens; hc, T. S Hewer (Thrupp Belle); hc, Charles H Meese, Elcot: r, T S Hewer (Thrupp Belle); hc, R Cook, Radley

Ditto, open: 1, R. W. Hudson, Donnehold Great Marlow; 2, T S Hewer; 3, W H Godding (Savernake Duke); r, Reading Sanitary Authority (Whitefoot Hermione); hc, H Boxendale, Greenham (Lockinge Field Marshall); c, J Lay (Lockinge Chancellor)

Best cart filly or gelding, foaled the property of tenant farmer or tradesman (local): 1, J Lay (Wells's Belle); 2, W H Godding, Marlborough (Savernake Princess); 3, T S Hewer, Hungerford; hc, E. Church, Ridgemoor, Newbury (Thrupp Belle).

Best gelding or mare, the property of farmer or tradesman residing within twenty miles of Newbury: 1, W H Godding, Marlborough (Savernake Gloaming); 2, T S Hewer, Hungerford (Thrupp Eastcote); 3, T S Hewer (Savernake); r, W H Godding, Marlborough (Savernake Princess May); hc, W H Gerford (Whitefoot).

Best pair of agricultural horses, any age, the property of tenant farmers residing within twenty miles of Newbury, such pair to be shown in plough harness and driven in ring: 1, W H Godding, Marlborough (Savernake Orchard Princess and Savernake Gloaming); 2, T S Hewer, Hungerford (Drummer and Souvenir); 3, T S Hewer, Hungerford (Thrupp

Fashion and Thrupp Magpie); r. W. H Godding (Savernake Princess May and Savernake Gipsy).

Best cart mare or gelding, not under three years old (open): 1, Arthur Ransom, Hitchen (Duchess of Bridgewater III.); 2, Lord Wantage, Wantage (Blythwood Guelder Rose); r, Alexander Hedderson, Buscot Park, Faringdon (Morris Cambria); hc, R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Great Marlow (Lockinge Nellie); c, W. H. Godding, Marlborough (Savernake Gloaming).

JUMPING.

Best horse or mare, over 15 hands, jumping only point of merit (open): A. N. Smith, Redhill (Grasshopper); 2, A. N. Smith, Redhill (Little Lady); r, A. N. Smith (Rat).

Horse or mare, not exceeding 15 hands, jumping the only point of merit (open): 1, R. Tugwell, Tetbury (Dainty); 2, divided between A. N. Smith (Starlight); and Hayden Bros., Winchfield (Corky Boy).

Middlewich.

The forty-second annual show of the Middlewich and District Agricultural Society, held on Wednesday, was favoured with glorious weather, an increased number of entries, and a splendid attendance, thus making the event a most successful one. There were 1,281 entries, as compared with 1,125 last year, but the increase is made more apparent when it is considered that this year, owing to the prevalence of swine fever in the district, no pigs were shown, whereas a year ago there were forty-eight entries in this department. In 1890 the number of entries was only 485, and there has been a steady increase year by year. There was a standard of excellence in the horses which had not been exceeded at Middlewich before, and many useful animals were shown. The number of exhibits in this department was 180, as against 156 last year, and the improvement was noticeable both in the light and heavy classes. The Shires included several winners at recent shows, and the one and two year olds were a very likely collection. The judges experienced considerable difficulty in judging of the merits of the two-year-old mares or geldings. There were several excellent specimens of the Shire horse with plenty of power and weight. In the class for four-year-old mare or gelding Mr. MacIntyre's roan, Redlynch Duke, won with ease. There was no lack of merit amongst the light horses, both hunters and for carriage purposes. The tenant farmers of the district made it apparent that they are possessed of roadsters of an excellent type. Of the cobs over 13½ hands and under 14½ Mr. Nelson's Butterfly, an American, proved the best in the yard, showing exceptional bone and feet. There was a distinct improvement in the exhibits of horned cattle as compared with last, or any previous year, there being forty-one entries, as against 32, and the quality was of exceptional excellence. Of the bulls, two years and upwards, Mr. T. Cliffe, of Crewe, was the winner with a fine beast of extraordinary weight, which has met with success in many parts of the country. Mr. J. A. Brown, of Tarporley, won easily in the class for bulls under two years old. There was not a numerous entry for bull calves, but the first and second prize winners were good specimens of the Shorthorned type. There were some exceptionally fine entries in the class for pairs of dairy cows, premier honours being gained by Mr. R. Clarke, of Warrington, with a beautiful pair of whites. There was also a fine collection of dairy cows in the next class. The judges found some difficulty in deciding upon the almost equal merits of the first and second winning pairs of two-year-old heifers, and in the one-year-olds there was little to choose. There were good classes of cottagers' cows and heifers, the former being a distinct improvement as compared with last year.

The principal awards were as follows:—

CATTLE.

(For tenant farmers in the Society's radius.)

Bull, two years and upwards: 1, I. A. Brown, Tarporley; 2, Thomas Cliffe, Crewe; 3, George Moreton, Middlewich.

Bull, under two years: 1, I. A. Brown, Tarporley; 2, Richard Hull, Nantwich; 3, George Lewis, Crewe.

Bull calf, under one year, to be reared for stock purposes: 1, Sam W. Gould, Lymm; 2, Peter Maddock, Middlewich; 3, Richard Clarke, Warrington.

Bull calf, under one year, to be reared for stock purposes, and to have been bred at Ravenscroft: 1, Peter Maddock, Middlewich; 2, Thomas Percival, Middlewich.

Pair of dairy cows, in milk or in-calf: 1, Richard Clarke, Warrington; 2, George Moreton, Middlewich; 3, I. A. Brown, Tarporley.

Dairy cow, in milk or in-calf: 1, S. S. Raingill, Altrincham; 2, W. S. Billington, Sandbach; 3, Sam. W. Gould, Lymm.

Pair of two-year-old heifers for dairy purposes: 1 and 2, George Moreton, Middlewich.

Pair of one-year-old heifers for dairy purposes: 1, Sam. W. Gould, Lymm; 2, I. A. Brown, Tarporley.

Pair of heifer calves, under one year: 1, Sam. W. Gould, Lymm; 2, I. A. Brown, Tarporley.

Best cow, in milk or in-calf, the property of an agricultural labourer, mechanic, artisan, or general labourer, keeping not more than two cows nor holding more than five acres of land: 1, M. Pickstone, Altrincham; 2, George Byrom, Middlewich; 3, Joseph Dodd, Sandbach.

Best heifer, under two years (conditions same as in previous class): 1, John Pownall, Tarporley; 2, Henry Craddock, Church Minshull.

HEAVY HORSES.

Pair of horses for agricultural purposes, mares or geldings (open): 1, Charles Baker, Congleton; 2, Mrs. Parton, Nantwich; 3, Thomas G. Parton, Nantwich.

Mare or gelding for agricultural purposes (confined to tenant farmers in the Society's radius): 1, S. S. Raingill, Altrincham; 2, J. T. Hocknell, Holmes Chapel; 3, Exors. of Edwin Stubbs, Middlewich.

One-year-old mare or gelding: 1, N. Thompstone, Crewe; 2, J. W. Burston, Tarporley.

Two-year-old mare or gelding: 1, Robert Dodd, Tarporley; 2, Robert Canning, Nantwich.

Three-year-old mare or gelding: 1, J. T. Colclough, Betchton; 2, Mrs. Parton, Nantwich.

Four-year-old mare or gelding: 1, A. M'Intyre, Lymm; 2, Charles Baker, Congleton.

Best cart mare, with foal at foot: 1, Charles Baker, Congleton; 2, James Colclough, Stoke-on-Trent; 3, Lewis Dodd, Malpas.

Cart horse, mare, or gelding: 1, A. M'Intyre, Lymm; 2, James Colclough, Stoke-on-Trent.

Cart foal: 1, Lewis Dodd, Malpas; 2, James Colclough, Stoke-on-Trent.

LIGHT HORSES.

Foal, likely to make a hunter: 1, Charles Griffiths, Northwich; 2, W. Lea, Crewe.

Tarporley Hunt Steeplechase (cup): prizes for the best brood mare suitable for breeding hunters: 1, A. E. Hesketh, Wainford; 2, C. Griffiths, Northwich; 3, J. Millington, Middlewich.

Three-year-old mare or gelding, suitable for a hunter: 1, Evan Langley, Tarporley; 2, John Prescott, Middlewich.

Four-year-old mare or gelding, suitable for a hunter: 1, Richard Leech, Northwich; 2, Joseph Lewis, Oakmere.

Hunter, mare or gelding, up to not less than fourteen stone: 1 and 2, Alfred Ashton, Holmes Chapel.

Hunter, mare, or gelding, under fourteen stone: 1, Sylvanus Reynolds, Northwich; 2, H. Reginald Cooke, Nantwich; 3, Richard Leech, Northwich.

Gelding or filly, over one year and under two years, for field purposes: 1, John Prescott, Middlewich; 2, R. Prescott, Northwich.

Gelding or filly, two years old, for field purposes: 1, O. and F. Hesketh, Winsford; 2, Isaac Fairish, Northwich.

Mare for road purposes, with foal at foot: 1, John Beckett, Rode Heath; 2, John Richardson, Sandbach.

Roadster, mare, or gelding (confined to tenant farmers only): 1, John Beckett, Rode Heath; 2, Richard Hull, Nantwich.

Roadster, mare, or gelding: 1 and 2, G. Pimlott, Altrincham; 3, Robert Lee, Knutsford.

Best pony, not exceeding 13½ hands, mare or gelding: 1, C. E. Luxmoore, Middlewich; 2, John Beckett, Rode Heath.

Best cob, over 13½ hands, but not exceeding 14½ hands: 1, John Nelson, Hartford; 2, Thomas Walley, Nantwich.

SHEEP.

Long-woolled ram: 1, J. E. Ward, Middlewich; 2, O. R. Ward, Great Warford.

Three long-woolled ewes: 1, O. R. Ward; 2, J. E. Ward.

Three long-woolled ewe lambs: 1, J. E. Ward; 2, J. H. Richardson, Crewe.

Long-woolled ram lamb: 1, J. E. Ward; 2, O. R. Ward.

Three short-woolled ewes: 1, Joseph Millington, Middlewich; 2, J. W. Kenworthy, Kelsall.

Three-short-woolled ewe lambs: 1, J. W. Kenworthy.

Short-woolled ram: 1, J. W. Kenworthy.

Short-woolled ram lamb: 1, J. W. Kenworthy; 2, Thomas G. Parton, Nantwich.

Guildford.

Last year the Guildford Summer Show took place under most unfavourable climatic conditions, a thunderstorm breaking over the showground about noon. On the 5th inst., however, the weather was all that could be desired, being of the most brilliant description, and this year's show was a big success. By the kindness of Mr. W. E. Horne, who is the president for the year, Stoke Park was again the site, than which one more admirably adapted for the purpose it would be difficult to find. Hackneys and sheep were, numerically, the weakest features of an otherwise well-filled catalogue, which contained upwards of 470 entries, being in excess of the total twelve months ago; while the prize money offered amounted to over £550. The exhibition fully maintained its reputation for excellence of quality, and many of the exhibits were of exceptional merit. A steady improvement was noticeable in the cattle classes; but as regards sheep, the three classes allotted to that department only secured the patronage of three exhibitors and nine pens altogether. Classes for pigs had been arranged and entries received, but owing to swine fever restrictions no animals could be shown. The cart horses were again a grand lot. As usual, the riding, driving, and jumping competitions provided the chief attraction of the afternoon, the grand stand, running nearly the entire depth of that portion of the park, was crowded, and there was a capital ring of spectators all round; in fact, the attendance of visitors at the show was a record one.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

Bull of any pure breed but Channel Islands, calved in 1898: 1 and 2, Earl of Derby, Witley; r, Mr. J. Godman, Park Hatch, Godalming; c, Mr. C. Hawkins, Mellersh's Farm, Compton, and Mr. D. E. Higham, Coombelands, Addlestone.

Shorthorn bull, calved in 1899: 1, Mr. W. E. Horne, Hall Place, Shackleford, Godalming; 2, Reading Sanitary Authority; r, Mr. John Jay, Land End, Shere; c, Mr. Walpole Green well, Marden Park, Woldingham.

Bull calf of any pure breed but Channel Islands, calved in 1900: 1, Earl of Winterton, Shillingle Park, Petworth; 2, Mr. J. Godman; r, Earl of Derby; c, Mr. J. Godman.

Channel Islands' bull: 1, Miss Emily Moore, Leatherhead; 2, Mr. E. D. Stern, Fan Court, Chertsey; r and hc, Mrs. C. M. Perkins, Oak Dene, Holmwood.

Jersey bull, under two years of age, bred in England by the exhibitor, and eligible for entry in the English Jersey Herd book: 1, The Duke of Northumberland; r, Mrs. C. M. Perkins.

Best bull entered in either of the foregoing classes by a tenant farmer: 1, Mr. C. Hawkins; 2, Mr. T. Jones, Quarry Farm, Godstone; r, Mr. A. Holm, Lawrence Farm, Buckland, Betchworth.

Cow for breeding purposes, to calve before March 31st, or with her own calf at foot, not exceeding six months: 1, The Earl of Derby; 2, Mr. Owen Older, West Molesey; r, Mr. W. E. Horne.

General purpose cow with her own calf at foot, not exceeding four months, to be judged in the following points: 20 for good temper, 25 for milk, 25 for beef, 25 for healthy offspring: 1, Mr. Owen Older; r, Reading Sanitary Authority.

Channel Islands cow or heifer in milk or to calve before March 31st: 1, Mr. J. R. Corbett, More Place, Betchworth; 2 and r, Mrs. C. M. Perkins.

Jersey heifer in milk, under two years old: 1, Her Grace Lily, Duchess of Marlborough, The Duchess, Dorking; 2, Mrs. C. M. Perkins; r and hc, Miss Emily Moore.

Channel Islands heifer, over one year and under two years, bred by exhibitor: 1, Miss Emily Moore; 2, Mrs. C. M. Perkins; r and hc, Miss Emily Moore.

Heifer of any breed but Channel Islands, and exceeding three years, to calve before March 31st, or with her own calf at foot, not exceeding six months: 1, Mr. J. Innes, Morden Hall, Morden; 2, Mr. W. E. Horne; r, Lieut.-Col. Cunnesmaker, Westwood, Normandy.

Pair of heifers, of any pure breed but Channel Islands, calved in 1899: 1, Earl Winterton; 2, Mr. J. Innes; r and hc, Col. A. F. Walter, Bearwood, Wokingham; c, Lieut.-Col. Cunnesmaker.

Heifer of any breed but Channel Islands, calved in 1900: 1, Mr. J. [illegible]; 2, Mr. H. E. [illegible]; r, Mr. [illegible]; hc, Mr. [illegible]; c, Mr. [illegible].

Pair of heifers, of any pure breed but Channel Islands, calved in 1900: 1, Mr. [illegible]; 2, Mr. [illegible]; r, Mr. [illegible]; hc, Mr. [illegible]; c, Mr. [illegible].

Cow, of any pure breed but Channel Islands, in milk or in-calf: 1, Mr. [illegible]; 2, Mr. [illegible]; r, Mr. [illegible]; hc, Mr. [illegible]; c, Mr. [illegible].

Cow, of any pure breed but Channel Islands, in milk or in-calf, the property of a tenant farmer: 1, Mr. Owen Older; 2, Mrs. Smallridge; r, Mr. [illegible]; hc, Mr. [illegible]; c, Mr. [illegible].

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

CART HORSES.

Mare and foal: 1, Mr. Walpole Greenwell; 2, Mr. R. W. Hudson; r, Mr. [illegible]; hc, Mr. [illegible]; c, Mr. [illegible].

Mare or gelding, [illegible] years: 1, Mr. [illegible]; 2, Mr. A. Holm; 3, Mr. R. Barrow, Elm Grove, Brockham Betchworth; r, Mr. L. Deadman, Brockhampton Farm, Hascombe; hc, Mr. [illegible]; c, Mr. [illegible].

Mare or gelding [illegible]: 1, Mr. T. Jones; 2, Mr. A. Holm; r, Mr. R. Barrow; hc, Mr. [illegible]; c, Mr. [illegible].

Horse or gelding [illegible]: 1, Mr. W. [illegible]; r, Mr. W. Fleming, Orange Farm, Great [illegible].

Mare exhibited in the previous class [illegible]: 1, Mr. W. Fleming; 2, Mr. T. [illegible]; r, Mr. W. Neal, Gatehouse Farm, Great [illegible].

Gelding over three and under four years: 1, Mr. A. Holm; 2, Mr. H. Fortescue Young, Perryafield, Oxted; 3, Hon. Col. Lely, Duchess of Marlborough.

Gelding over three and under four years, exhibited in the previous class by a tenant farmer: 1, Mr. A. Holm; 2, Mr. H. Fortescue Young; 3, Mr. W. Shorter, The Lees, [illegible]; r, Mr. T. Allan.

Gelding under three years old: 1, Mr. Louis Deadman; 2, Mr. R. Hunt, Westbury Manor, Petersfield; 3, Mr. N. H. Sand; r, Lord Calthorpe, Easenhall Park, Warwick.

Filly under three years: 1, Lord Calthorpe; 2, Mr. R. W. Hudson; 3, Mr. R. Barrow; r, Mr. A. Holm.

Gelding or filly under three years, the property of a tenant farmer, exhibited in the [illegible] class: 1, Mr. R. Barrow; 2, Mr. N. Hosking; r, Mr. A. Holm.

Gelding or filly [illegible] years: 1, Mr. W. [illegible]; 2, Mr. R. W. Hudson; 3, Mr. A. Holm; r, Mr. H. F. [illegible] Young.

Gelding or filly [illegible] years, the property of a tenant farmer, exhibited in previous class: 1, Mr. A. Holm; 2, Mr. H. Fortescue Young; r, Mr. H. H. White, Shackleford, Godalming.

Yearling Shire filly, the property of a tenant farmer, bred by the exhibitor: 1, Mr. H. Fortescue Young.

Yearling colt, by a Shire stallion, entered [illegible] entry in the Shire Horse Stud Book [illegible] and all hereditary nasal [illegible]: 1, Mr. R. W. Hudson; [illegible] Walpole Greenwell; 3, Mr. Louis Deadman; [illegible] Mr. E. [illegible].

Colt foaled in 1900: 1, Mr. Walpole Greenwell; 2, Mr. Louis Deadman; 3, Mr. R. W. Hudson; [illegible] Mr. N. H. [illegible].

Filly foaled in 1900: 1, Mr. R. [illegible]; 2, Mr. N. H. [illegible]; Mr. R. Barrow; r, Col. A. F. Walter.

The Shire Horse Society's [illegible] mare, filly or filly foal, in the stud [illegible] registration in their stud book [illegible] Jones.

A special prize of £5 5s., for the best colt or filly foal by Comisbro, exhibited in the [illegible] Shire Horse [illegible].

CART HORSES IN HARNESS.

Pair of horses harnessed in a van, waggon, or other heavy vehicle: 1, Mr. A. Holm; 2, Mr. D. E. Higham; r, Mr. W. E. Horne.

For the best exhibits in the foregoing class by a tenant farmer: 1, Mr. A. Holm; 2, Mr. J. M. Kelly, Beswell, Clandon; r, Mr. H. Plumer, Shackleford, Godalming.

Horse harnessed in a van, waggon, or other heavy vehicle: 1, Mr. T. Bett, Down Place, Guildford; 2, Mr. A. Holm; r, Mr. D. E. Higham.

Best exhibits in the foregoing class by a tenant farmer: 1, Mr. A. Holm; 2 and r, Mr. J. M. Kelly.

HUNTERS.

Weight-carrying hunter [illegible] any age up to 14 stone [illegible] saddle: 1, Mr. T. Radmore, Cuddington Farm, Cheam; 2, Mr. W. Bellamy, The Tilt, Cobham; 3, Mrs. M. M. Litkie, Spokane, Manor Road, Aldershot; [illegible] Mr. G. St. [illegible] Horsley.

Gelding or mare, under four years, likely to make a weight-carrying hunter: 1, Mr. F. J. Mirrielees, Pasture Wood, Dorking; 2, Mr. J. A. Mullens, Barrow Hills, Chertsey.

Light-weight hunter [illegible] any age, [illegible]: 1, Mr. A. H. Rawle, Highfield, Sutton; 2, Mr. J. A. Mullins; 3, Mr. H. S. Ellis, Summersbury, Shalford; r, Mrs. A. H. Shotter, the Manor Farm, Witley.

Gelding or mare [illegible] years, [illegible] best hunter: 1, Mr. J. A. Mullins; r, Miss A. C. Perkins.

Hunter brood mare and foal: 1, Mr. R. W. McKergon, The Grange, Twineham; 2, Miss A. C. Perkins; 3, Mr. T. Graham Cooper; r, Mrs. Sherwood Browne, Weybourne House, Farnham.

HACKNEYS.

Stallion of any age: 1, Mr. T. Rolmore; 2, Mr. E. J. Vaughan, Mabledge Stud, Cranham; 3, Mr. [illegible] man, Fordham Grange, [illegible].

Filly or gelding foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. E. J. Vaughan; 2, Mr. W. Lloyd, Heaslands, Haywards Heath; 3, Mr. V. T. Tayler, Ashcroft, Dormans Land, East [illegible] of Derby.

Brood mare [illegible] years [illegible] a foal in 1900): 1, Mr. J. Wallis, The Banks, Beddington; 2, Mr. C. E. W. Brinckman; 3, Mr. W. Lloyd; r, The Earl of Derby.

Hackney foal, [illegible]: 1, Mr. W. Lloyd; 2, Mr. W. Butler, Tolworth Lodge, Surbiton; r, Mr. J. Wallis.

HORSES IN HARNESS.

Best [illegible] mare [illegible]: 1, Mr. A. W. Woods, 1, Park Terrace, Worcester Park; 3, Mr. J. [illegible]; r, Mr. [illegible]; hc, Mr. [illegible]; c, Mr. [illegible].

Gelding [illegible]: 1, Mr. [illegible]; 2, Miss E. K. Cunliffe, Tyrrell's Wood, Leatherhead; 3, Mrs. E. [illegible], Clapham; r, Mr. E. H. Goad, Mead House, Redhill.

Gelding or mare, under 14.3, shown in single harness: 1, Mr. A. N. Smith, Dormansland; 2, Mr. [illegible]; 3, Mr. J. J. Taylor, Angel Hotel, Godalming; r, Mr. J. C. Bevis, 3, St. [illegible]; hc, Mr. [illegible]; c, Mr. [illegible].

Whittaker Wright; r, Mr. E. H. Goad.

Pair of horses of any height: 1, Miss F. K. Cunliffe; 2, Mrs. F. Bevis; 3, Mr. [illegible]; hc, Mr. [illegible]; c, Mr. [illegible].

1 and 2, Mr. J. J. Taylor; 3, Mr. F. Allen.

[illegible] ing 15 hands, shown in saddle: 1, Mr. A. N. Smith; 2, Mr. J. [illegible]; r, Mr. [illegible]; hc, Mr. [illegible]; c, Mr. [illegible].

[illegible]; r, Miss A. Cunliffe, Tyrrell's Wood, Leatherhead; hc, Mr. [illegible]; c, Mr. [illegible].

Perkins; 2, Mr. E. H. Goad; 3, Miss A. C. Perkins.

JUMPING COMPETITIONS.

Gelding or mare, over 15 hands: 1, Mr. J. Colman, Epsom; equal seconds, Mr. A. N. Smith, and Mr. E. L. Clarke, Southsea. The second and third prizes were divided between the two last-named).

Gelding or mare, not exceeding 15 hands: 1, Mr. A. N. Smith; 2, Mr. Alfred Curnich, Long Ditton House, Long Ditton; 3, Mrs. M. M. Litkie.

Gelding or mare being a bona-fide hunter, and which had been regularly hunted during the past season with any recognised pack: 1 and 2, Mr. A. N. Smith; 3, Mr. F. W. Henderson, Westerland, Petworth.

Bury Colt and Foal Show and Sale.

The annual show of Suffolk, Shire-bred, and other cart colts and foals, cart mares and geldings, and hunter foals and brood mares, at Bury St. Edmunds, was held on the Playfield, adjoining the Cattle Market. There was a very large attendance. The annual show is evidently increasing in popularity, and the exhibition on Wednesday was certainly the best of its kind ever held in Bury. Sir E. Walter Greene, Bart., is the President, and the Vice-Presidents include—His Excellency Earl Cadogan, K.G., Viscount Chelsea, M.P., Lord Iveagh, Mr. Malcolm, M.P., and Mr. H. W. Mortimer. The judges were Mr. E. A. Cook, of Dennington Lodge, and Mr. B. B. Johnson, of Ingham, whose awards are as follows:—

FOALS.

Suffolk colt or filly foal: 1, Mr. W. Biddell, Lavenham Hall; 2, Mr. C. S. Wolton, Ixworth; r, Mr. E. J. Johnstone, Rougham Hall; c, Mr. W. Biddell, and Mr. Turner.

Colt or filly foal, other than Suffolk: 1, Messrs. J. Gough and Sons; 2, Mr. H. Button, Thelnetham; r, Mr. J. Sturley, Nunn; c, Mr. J. P. Bauly.

YEARLINGS

Suffolk colt or filly, foaled in 1899: 1, Mr. E. J. Johnstone, Rougham Hall; 2, Mr. W. R. Hustler; r and c, Mr. R. Edgar.

Colt or filly, other than Suffolk, foaled in 1899: 1, Mr. J. S. Nunn; 2, Mr. F. H. Jennings, Cockfield Hall; r, Mr. H. Button, Thelnetham.

TWO-YEAR-OLDS

Spffolk gelding or filly, foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. E. J. Johnstone; 2, Mr. W. Biddell (Stately II.); r, Mr. R. Edgar; c, Mr. W. R. Hustler.

Suffolk gelding, other than Suffolk, foaled in 1898: 1, Mr. F. Baldwin, Great Barton; 2, Mr. F. H. Jennings; r, Mr. F Baldwin.

GELDINGS AND MARES.

Cart gelding or mare, of any pure or cross bred, three, four, or five years old: 1, Mr. J. Sturley Nunn, Little Whelnetham Hall; 2, Mr. F. Baldwin; r, Mrs H. Sturgeon, Rushbrooke.

SALE CLASS

Cart mare or gelding, of any pure or cross breed, and of any age, not to be drawn from any other class, the reserve on any animal not to exceed £50: 1, Mr. Cordy S. Wolton, Ixworth; 2, Mr. W. Cross, Ixworth; 3, Messrs. J. Gough and Sons, Wickhambrook.

BROOD MARES.

Mare, of any pure or cross breed, that has bred and reared a foal in 1899; not to be drawn from other classes: 1, Mr. J. Sturley Nunn; 2, Mr. H. Button; r, Mr. W. Biddell.

HUNTER FOALS.

Hunter colt or filly foal: 1, Mr. O. S. Jaques; 2, Mr. W. A. Lloyd; r, Mr. P. M. Browne.

HUNTER BROOD MARE.

Hunter brood mare: 1 and 2, Mr. P. M. Browne.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

A silver cup, or £5, for the best colt foal by the late Mr. H. L. M. Davies' Cleveland bay horse, King Frederick the Great, was won by the executors of Mr. Davies, theirs being the only colt foal.

The silver cup, of £5, for the best filly foal by King Frederick the Great, was won by Mr. O. S. Jaques, Risby. Another, Queen of Cavenham, dam Nellie Farren 571, shown by the late Mr. H. E. M. Davies' executors, was reserved.

The Sale.

Mr. W. H. Salter conducted the sale on behalf of Messrs. Simpson and Sons, and said he was pleased to see so large an assembly, and took that opportunity of congratulating the promoters of the show on its continued success. Many of the horses exhibited were not for sale. Amongst the foals brought under the hammer were:—Mr. Turner's Suffolk colt, which fetched 12gs.; Mr. Biddell's horse foal, 25gs.; Mr. Biddell's Suffolk filly foal, 20gs.; Mr. Bauly's bay filly, 18½gs.; Mr. Button's bay colt foal, 19gs.; Messrs. Gough's bay foal, 25gs.; Messrs. Gough's black filly, 16gs.; Mr. E. Terry's filly foal, 15gs. Yearlings included Mr. Edgar's entire Suffolk colt, Lord Crewe, which realised 32gs.; Mr. Edgar's entire Suffolk colt, Cockfield Hero, 41gs.; Mr. Button's Wayland Lass, 38gs. Two-year-olds included Messrs. Rolfe's brown colt, which made 35gs. Others included Mr. Browne's brown gelding, five years, which ran up to 57gs.; Mr. J. E. Alston's black mare, Violet, eight years, 26½gs.; Mr. P. M. Browne's brown gelding, six years old, made 48gs.; Mr. G. Le-Heup Cocksedge's Suffolk mare went up to 42gs.; Mr. Cross's brown gelding, three years, was withdrawn at 42gs.; his bay mare, three years old, made 53½gs.; Messrs. Gough's bay gelding, five years, fetched 51gs.; Mr. Cordy S. Wolton's Suffolk gelding, Duke, five years, fetched 54gs.; Mr. Button's bay mare, Wayland Princess, three years, reached up to 58gs.

The buyers included: Mr. Donne (agent to the Marquis of Bristol), Messrs. R. Edgar (Cockfield), Pratt (Melton), W. R. Hustler (Cockfield), Halls, Baker (Lavenham), Traylen, Unwin, Turner, T. W. Gaze, Carlton, and others. Several horses not entered for the show were also sold. They included: Mr. Cordy S. Wolton's Suffolk mare, Barmaid, which fetched 35gs.; also Mr. Cordy Wolton's Suffolk filly, Sunlight, which made 30gs.; Mr. Palmer's bay mare, 5yrs., 32gs.; Mr. C. E. Hammond's black mare, Depper, 5yrs., 35gs.; a bay gelding, 9yrs., 35gs.; Mr. A. Boldero's chestnut gelding, 6yrs., 32gs.; Mr. T. F. Taylor's bay mare, 5yrs., 45gs.; his bay gelding, rising 4yrs., 37gs. Hackneys included a brown mare, 4yrs., 16 h.h., sent by Mr. E. Jillings; this fetched 45gs.; Mr. Jacques' bay brood mare made 17gs.; Mr. Biddell's Suffolk filly, Moggy's Daughter, 2yrs., fetched 26½gs.; his Suffolk gelding, Sharper, 3yrs., made 23gs.; his yearlings from 17gs.

Rugby and Dunchurch.

The tenth annual exhibition of the Rugby and Dunchurch Agricultural Association took place on Wednesday, and proved one of the best yet held in the grounds of Rugby Lodge. Not only were the entries up to the average, but in every department the quality of the exhibits displayed a marked improvement compared with previous years. The total number of entries was 400, and increase of seventeen on the year. The aggregate included the entries in several subsidiary departments, in which the principal feature was a small but useful collection of farm produce. This has been a suitable season for roots, and a number of capital specimens grown by tenant farmers were on view. The greatest interest, of course, centred in the live stock, the entries numbering 334, an increase of five on the year. There were fifty-two entries of cattle, as compared with forty-eight, and seven pens of pigs, against six twelve months ago, and 236 horses, a falling off of nineteen. On the other hand, there was an exceptionally good entry of sheep, thirty-nine pens being catalogued, as against only twenty last year, and twenty entries of samples of produce was very satisfactory, the increase being three on the year. The weather during the day was beautifully fine, and there was a large attendance of visitors.

Cattle.

The display of cattle, sheep, and pigs was of a most gratifying description, the exhibits being the property of tenant farmers and small breeders. In the cattle classes an admirable lot of competitive beasts were entered, and as farmers' stock the bulls, cows, and calves reached a high standard. There were, too, a number of very fine fat beasts practically ripe for the butcher. In the class for fat steers under four years, Mr. A. Wotherspoon, Monks Kirby, was placed first with a Hereford of good quality, while the executors of the late Mr. J. C. Harrison, Parlton Fields, were second and third with a couple of three-year-old meaty steers. Mr. T. Beasley, Rugby, headed the class for steers under three years with a smart polled animal, the second and third prizes going to Mr. J. Swingler, Rugby, with a couple of Shorthorns. The executors of the late Mr. J. C. Harrison were first for fat maiden heifers, Mr. J. Elland, Woolscott, taking second prize, and the prizes for fat cows or heifers went to Mr. W. Barnett, Bilton Hall, and Messrs. Holm, Carlton, Curliew, and Tilton. The bulls made an excellent show. In the class for bulls above two years there was strong competition, and every exhibit was noticed by the judges. The winner was Staffordshire Duke, a four-year-old roan Shorthorn, the property of Mr. W. R. Dewhurst, Nuneaton. This bull has won several prizes this season, and he easily defeated Florizel, a three-year-old roan, the property of the executors of the late Mr. J. C. Harrison. The third award went to Messrs. Bewley, Old Milverton, with a roan Shorthorn. Mr. Dewhurst was again first in the class for bulls under two years with the roan Stanley, a promising youngster.

The executors of the late Mr. J. C. Harrison were second, and Messrs. J. Gowling and Sons, Radford, were third. The best cow was the red Lady Langford, the property of Mr. P. S. Danby, Offchurch; Mr. Dewhurst this time had to be content with second place with a roan Shorthorn, while a red and white also belonging to Mr. Danby received the third prize. All three were good milking cows. The executors of the late Mr, J. C. Harrison took the first prize for heifers in milk or in calf, beating Messrs. Holm, their representatives being of very fair quality. Some creditable youngsters were also shown, Mr. J. Oldacres, Cestersover, carrying off the prizes for pairs of yearling steers, and the executors of the late Mr. J. C. Harrison and Mr. Dewhurst the awards for pairs of yearling heifers.

Sheep.

The six classes of sheep were tolerably well filled, and there was plenty of keen competition. Some rather smart ewes and lambs, from the point of view of the tenant farmer, were entered, and the judges in several instances distributed cards of commendation. Mr. W. T. Rathbone, Hillmorton, showed the best pen of five Shropshire breeding ewes, the well fleshed animals carrying capital fleeces, and Mr. J. W. Crofts, Stretton-under Fosse, was placed second, also with a creditable pen. The pens of five ewes of any other breed looked well, the prizes going respectively to Mr. F. J. Sumner, Easthorpe Parke, and T. Riddell, Church Lawford, with strong, healthy sheep. The best class was for pens of five short-wool breeding theaves, Mr. Sumner being placed first with five admirably-matched specimens, Mr. J. Livingstone, Long Lawford, running a good second with a useful pen. The short-wool ewe lambs were of splendid quality, the prizes going to Mr. F. J. Sumner and Mr. W. T. Rathbone. Mr. Sumner and Mr. J. Parnell were the most successful exhibitors of short-wool wether lambs, and the chief pens of cross-bred lambs were shown by Mr. T. Garner, Bitteswell, and Mr. T. Florendine, Thurlaston.

Pigs.

The seven pens of pigs were divided into two classes, one for pens of three breeding gelts and the other for sows or gelts of any breed. Several pens were of high-class quality, and there was some smart competition. A useful pen of Large White breeding gelts seven months old secured the first prize for Mr. T. Florendine, while Mr. J. Hicken, Bourton, was second with a pen of Middle Whites of the same age. Mr. G. Hawes, Onley Fields, Rugby, showed the best sow, a speciment of the Middle White breed, Mr. W. Barnett, Bilton Hall, being second with a fine representative of the Berkshire type.

Horses.

Of the 236 entries of horses 119 were in the heavy department. The first seven classes were exclusively confined to cart horses the property of tenant farmers. With very few exceptions, the whole of the exhibits were of the Shire breed, and it may be safely stated that a better display of tenant farmers' horses has rarely been seen at Rugby. In the class for filly foals, Mr. W. Lowick, Harlestone, Northamptonshire, came first with a granddaughter of Dunsmore Combination, five months old, which also won the champion cup in the tenant farmers' classes. Mr. J. P. Toone, Rugby, was a capital second with Primeval, nearly six years old, sired by Coleshill Carbon, and Mr. W. Tickle, Cotsford, was placed third with a three-months-old daughter of Calthorpe Loyalty. A healthy-looking lot of colt foals were on view, Mr. J. Oldacres, Cestersover, showing the best, a bay son of Rock Hydro, while Mr. J. Barnwell, Rugby, ranked next with the three months daughter of Dunsmore Masterman. Strength characterised the classes of fillies and geldings in point of number and also quality. Several interesting yearlings were paraded, the best being Danetree Peggy and Danetree Gaiety, the property of Mr. J. Bromwich, Daventry, which received the first and second prizes. Messrs. Gamble, Brannstone, Leicester, owned the leading two-year-old, a nice roan filly, sired by Eastern Harold, and the principal three-year-old was a chestnut gelding, the son of Calthorpe Disraeli. The mares and geldings, four years old and upwards, were a choice lot. Mr. J. Oldacres showing the first prize-taker, Waffra Bracelet, a well-built bay, while the second honour went to a useful-looking black, Whitefoot, belonging to Mr. E. Bostock, Kenilworth. The brood mares with foals were not numerous, but they were full of quality and sterling character. Mr. W. Tickle led the class with a four-year-old daughter of Dunsmore Masterman, Mr. J. P. Toone's Primula being second. The open classes were filled with an exceptionally fine collection of Shires, which would have done credit to any leading county show. In the colt foal class Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., Dunsmore, was first with a bay son of Dunsmore Masterman, four years old, which has won several prizes already during its brief career. Mr. J. Parnell, Rugby, came second with a bay son of Desford Vulcan Chief, occupying the same position to the winner as at the Leicester show. The fillies formed a stronger collection, and the class was conspicuous for the fact that it contained perhaps the best filly foal which has been seen out this season. It is a brown daughter of Dunsmore Combination, five months old, and the property of Mr. W. Lowick. The second honour went to another daughter of Dunsmore Combination belonging to Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., a three-months old bay. Mr. J. Parnell was first and second for yearling fillies with two splendid animals, and after a capital contest the same exhibitor beat Mr. P. A. Muntz in the yearling colt class, the exhibits being of surpassing excellence. Mr. P. A. Muntz turned the tables on Mr. Parnell in the two-year-old filly or gelding class, while the member for North Warwickshire swept the board of the prizes for mares three years old and upwards, and mares or geldings exceeding three years. In the latter class Bouquet, a seven-year-old mare which has won numerous prizes, also carried off the silver medal offered for the best mare, filly, or filly foal.

The classes for hunters were filled with useful animals, well bred and of high character. The best in the class for animals five years old and upwards was a chestnut gelding, Joyful, shown by Mr. J. H. Sedgley, Church Langton, while Mr. A. Fabbing, Grandborough, came next with the brown gelding Charley. Mr. J. Harrison, Pailton, led the four-year-old class with a handsome well-bred mare, Naomi, a grey gelding, Gray Morn, the property of Mr. W. P. Cowley, Braybrooke Lodge, being second. The two and three-year-old geldings or fillies were poorly represented, Mr. J. Hawkins, Lilbourne, taking the chief prize with a capital two-year-old chestnut gelding which promises to grow into a valuable lady's hunter. The yearlings were a somewhat indifferent lot, but there was a fair collection of nag foals. The class for mares was very strong. Mr. H. R. Roe, Cranoe, taking first prize with the chestnut Finale, a splendid mover which has won many prices of late years. Mr. G. Linnell, Sulby, was second with the grey Snowflake, an animal which possesses strong, healthy limbs and better action than the third winner, Madge, shown by Mr. J. H. Sedgley. The hacks and ponies were very attractive.

North-West Bucks.

The annual show in connection with the North-West Bucks Agricultural Association took place in beautiful weather on Tuesday, at Buckingham, in meadows kindly let by Mr. R. S. Budgett. The show was not quite up to the average as regards the number of entries, there being a great falling off in the classes for hunters, in which the entries numbered 96 against 167 last year. At the same time it should be borne in mind that in 1898 there were only 86 entries in these classes, and in 1897, 107. The decrease is said to be due principally to the war, and the absence of farmers and others at the front. There was also a falling off in the entries in the cart-horse classes, these numbering 61 against 94, the total being the lowest for years, as in 1898 there were 117 entries, and in 1897 85. There was a slight increase in the entries for cattle and sheep, the former numbering 43 against 41, and the latter 24 against 20. There were no pigs shown this year. The total entries were 227, against 330 last year, and 275 in 1898. The quality of the stock was good, but owing to the paucity of horses, the exhibition was to some extent shorn of one of its principal features. There was one new class this year, an open driving class, and it may be considered very successful, as eight entries were received. It was stated that one reason for the falling off in the entries for the nags and hunter classes was that a number of the entries for this show were by mistake despatched to Abingdon, and not received back in time for insertion in the catalogue. The President for the year was Mr. J. P. Heywood Lonsdale, the Master of the Bicester Foxhounds, who gave the show his personal patronage, and took the chair at the luncheon.

The jumping and driving competitions in the afternoon were witnessed by a large company, and, as usual, created considerable interest. They were, however, marred by two serious accidents, which, unfortunately, happened in the last of the jumping classes. One of the horses belonging to Mr. W. Lucas, of Tingewick, swerved at the double, and, catching the side hurdles, fell, and rolled over its rider (Arthur Gough, a groom), who was removed in an unconscious condition on a stretcher. The competition was then resumed and finished. As the winning horse, belonging to Mr. H. Deverell, of Bourton, was being taken round the ring after receiving the ribbons, it bolted, and attempted to leap the barrier. One of its feet struck a young man named George Soton, a cabinet maker, on the face, knocking him down. The horse fell over the barrier and rolled over Soton. Medical attendance was soon forthcoming, and the unfortunate man was carried to the tent. Later on he was removed in a very precarious condition to the Nursing Home. His nose was smashed and his face otherwise injured. We regret to have to add that Soton succumbed to his injuries about ten o'clock the same night, this sad result casting quite a gloom over the town, in which he was much respected. Gough is stated to be progressing favourably. The rider, Master Edgar Deverell, was uninjured.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

Shorthorn cow, in calf or in milk: 1, H. Landon; 2, Lord Penrhyn; r, A. Lepper.

Shorthorn heifer, in calf or in milk, under three years old: 1 and 2, Lord Penrhyn; r, A. Lepper

TENANT FARMERS' PRIZES

Shorthorn bull, above one and under three years old: 1, H. Landon; 2, W. Godfrey.

Shorthorn bull, under one year old: 1, H. Landon; 2, R. Mashiter; r, A. C. Rogers.

Shorthorn cows, in calf or in milk: 1 and 2, A. Lepper; 3, R. Dickins; r, J. Mashiter.

Dairy cow, in calf or in milk: 1 and 3, G. Markham; 2, J. F. Roper.

Pair of Shorthorn heifers, in calf or in milk, under three years old: 1, R. Mashiter; 2, A. C. Rogers.

Pair of Shorthorn heifers, under two years old: 1, H. Landon; 2, R. Mashiter; 3, A. C. Rogers.

Pair of Shorthorn heifer calves, not exceeding one year old: 1, R. Dickins; 2, H. Landon.

CART HORSES.

Cart mare with foal at foot: 1, J. F. Roper; 2, A. C. Rogers; 3 and r, A. Lepper.

Sucking cart colt: 1, A. Lepper; 2, F. W. Lester; r, W. J. Viccars; c, W. H. Hinton.

Sucking cart filly: 1, B. Welch; 2, A. C. Rogers; r, H. J. Tomes; c, J. P. Roper.

Cart gelding, five years old and upwards: 1, J. Harper; 2, R. M. Hiorns; r, T. P. Willis

Cart mare, five years old and upwards: 1, Exors. of W. Flowers; 2, J. Harper.

Cart gelding or mare, four years old: 1, B. Welch; 2, A. Lepper; r and c, R. Rowland.

Cart gelding or mare, three years old: 1, Exors. of W. Flowers; 2, R. Rowland; r, S. Clarke; c, A. Lepper

Cart gelding or filly, two years old: 1, Exors. of W. Flowers; 2, B. Welch; r, H. J. Tomes; r, A. Evered.

Yearling colt for agricultural purposes: 1, C. Lepper; 2, H. J. Tomes; r, A. Evered.

Yearling filly for agricultural purposes: 1 and r, R. Rowland; 2, Exors. of W. Flowers.

Shire Horse Society's silver medal for Shire mare filly, or filly foal, registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book: Exors. of W. Flowers; d, B. Welch

HUNTERS

Mare, with foal at foot, best adapted for breeding hunters: 1, W. J. Viccars; 2, L. C. Maydon; r, W. R. Monk

Foal likely to make a hunter: 1, W. J. Viccars; 2, W. R. Monk; r, L. C. Maydon.

Mr. T. C. C. Morgan's prizes to the owners of the foals sired by one of the Stowe Stud: 1, J. Nichols; 2, J. F. Roper.

Yearling colt or filly likely to make a hunter: 1, S. Clarke; 2, C. Anstee; r, W. Manning.

Colt or filly, two years old, likely to make a hunter: 1, G. A. Elliott; 2, S. Clarke; r, W. Manning.

Colt or filly, three years old, likely to make a hunter (to be ridden): 1 and 2, W. Manning; r, J. W. King.

Sweepstake for colts or fillies (bred by exhibitor), sire a thoroughbred, one or two years old, likely to make hunters: 1, W. Manning.

Sweepstake for colts or fillies, three years old, likely to make hunters: 1, W. Manning; r, Hope Brooke

Hunting-like gelding or mare, four years old: 1, W. Flowers; 2, J. W. King; r, Hope Brooke.

Light-weight hunter, four years old: 1, C. Brooks; 2, S. Clarke.

Hunting-like gelding or mare: 1, B. F. J. Gates; 2, C. Brooks; r, C. M. Prior.

Hunting-like gelding or mare, fit to carry 14st. at least: 1, W. Manning; 2, C. M. Prior; r, J. W. King

RIDING AND HARNESS HORSES.

Riding pony, not exceeding 14.2 hands: 1, G. C. Pratt; 2, Lord Penrhyn; r, G. T. Drake.

Gelding or mare likely to make a chrirger, must be three years old or over, unbroached and mane not hogged: 1, Exors. of W. Flowers; 2, W. Manning; r, W. E. Lane.

Gelding or mare shown in single harness, not under 14 hands (price and action specially to be considered): 1, P. H. Buller; 2, H. Lever; 3, S. Tyzack.

Nag mare or gelding six years old or under, for general purposes, and quiet in harness: 1, W. Manning; 2, P. H. Buller; r, G. Warr

Gelding or mare shown in single harness, not under 14.2 hands, and not exceeding six years old: 1, P. H. Buller; 2, L. J. Chapman; r, W. Manning

Gelding or mare shown in single harness, under 14.2 hands, and not exceeding six years old: 1, A. E. Cavin; 2 and r, G. E. Reynolds.

Best jumper: 1, H. Deverell; 2, Hope Brooke; 3, J. T. Marshall

Open jumping class.—Gelding or mare, which shall jump the fences in the best form: 1, — Robins; 2, Messrs. Jerome; r, C. Brooks.

SHEEP.

Ram, of any age or breed: 1, J. T. Oxley; 2, R. Dickins.

Ten shearling ewes that have bred, suckled and brought up lambs this season: 1, Lord Penrhyn; 2, E. Slater, Harrison; r, R. Dickins.

Ten theaves: 1, J. T. Oxley; 2, R. Dickins; r, Lord Penrhyn.

Ten store ewe lambs: 1, R. Dickins; 2 and r, Lord Penrhyn.

Ten wether lambs: 1, G. Verey; r, R. Dickins.

Horncastle Foal Show.

The annual foal show at Horncastle took place on Thursday in most favourable weather, and was well attended. The entries totalled 102, which is the largest number received for many years past, but the quality was quite up to the average. Mr. C. B. Robswell, of Cawkwell, Mr. J. W. Ward, Withcall, and Mr. Joseph Oxley, Bole, Gainsborough, officiated as judges, and their awards were as follows.—

Cart colt foal: 1, B. G. Upton, Raithby, Louth; 2, J. B. Tomblin, Low Toynton.

Cart filly foal: 1, W. Rose, Haintor; 2, J. Rutter, Fulletby; 3, G. W. Leggate, Wildmore

Cart foal, colt, or filly (open): 1, E. H. Cartwright, Keddington.

Cart foal, colt, or filly (small holders' class): 1, G. W. Leggate; 2, F. Y. North, Scamlesby; 3, J. and G. Till, Scamlesby.

Cart mare, with foal at heels: 1, E. Turnor, Panton Hall; 2, G. Upton, Raithby.

Colt or filly foal, calculated to make a hunter by a thoroughbred horse: 1, J. T. Bower, Horncastle; 2, A. Short, Aswardby; 3, R. Fletcher, Hemingby.

Colt or filly foal, calculated to make roadsters: 1, W. Crowder and Sons, Horncastle; 2, J. W. Till, Martin Dales; 3, J. Gaunt, Wispington House.

Cart foal or filly, by any one of Mr. Fred Ward's horses: 1 and r, J. H. Tomblin; 2 and 3, J. Rutter.

Yearling cart colt: 1, Mr. Leedale, Woodhall; 2, Mrs. M. Mundy, South Ormsby.

Yearling cart filly: 1, H. Tyson, Donnington-on-Bain; 2, G. W. Clarke, Belchford.

Hunter mare, with foal at heels: A. Short.

For other Show reports see page 363.

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Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

FOURTH ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE OF REGISTERED KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH RAMS, under the management of the above Association, will take place on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH, 1900, IN THE CATTLE MARKET, ASHFORD, KENT, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M. SHARP.

The entries, which number 445, have been made by the following breeders:—The Right Hon. Earl Sondes, Mr. A. Amos, Mr. J. P. Barnes, Mr. G. Buley, Mr. N. Clayton, Mr. F. de B. Collard, Mr. G. Farmer, Mr. C. File, Messrs. C. File and Sons, Mr. Arthur Finn, Mr. J. H. Harvey, Mr. E. P. Hogben, Mr. W. E. Long, Mr. J. D. Maxted, Mr. W. Millen, Mr. F. Neame, Mr. L. H. Page, Mr. J. E Quested, and Mr. H. Rigden.

The judging will take place at 9 a.m. on Friday, September 28th, and the Sale will commence at 10.30 prompt. Refreshments will be obtainable on the Sale ground as usual.

The annual dinner, to which members and the public are invited, will take place at the Saracen's Head Hotel, Ashford, under the presidency of the Right Hon. A. Akers-Douglas, M.P., on Thursday, September 27th, at 7 p.m. Tickets, price 5s. 6d., to be obtained at the Hotel.

Catalogues and all information in respect to the Show and Sale to be obtained from W. W. CHAPMAN, Secretary, Room 32, Fitzalan House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.

FROME DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GREAT EXHIBITION AT FROME, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH NEXT.

Prizes above the value of £500 in cash, three Gold Medals and plate for Cheese. Butter, Working Dairy, Horses, Cattle, Farm Servants. ALL ENTRIES CLOSED.
Schedules of the Secretary,
T. C. HARDING, Auctioneer, Frome.

SOCIETIES. (*continued.*)

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, 10TH TO 14TH DECEMBER, 1900, AT THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON. Entries close as follows: Implement Department, 1st October. Post entries, 5th October.
Live Stock, Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs and Carcase Competition, 1st November. Post Entries 5th November. Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and other information can be obtained on application to E. J. POWELL, Secretary. 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

WEMBLEY PARK HORSE SHOW,
PRESIDENT—THE EARL OF COVENTRY,
WILL BE HELD
ON WEDNESDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 26,
WHEN PRIZES WILL BE OFFERED FOR
HUNTERS, HARNESS HORSES, HACKS AND PONIES.

JUMPING COMPETITIONS will also take place, the judging in them being by points.

During the afternoon the AMERICAN TROTTERS belonging to Messrs. WALTER and LOUIS W. WINANS will, by kind permission of their owners,
ATTEMPT TO LOWER THE WORLD AND EUROPEAN RECORDS, which they already hold.

All information of the Secretary,
VERO SHAW.
77, Fleet Street, London.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NORTH WALES, BANGOR.
A constituent College of the University of Wales
AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT. IN-COLLEGE COURSES. 1. A complete course in theoretical and practical Agriculture extending over two years, and suitable for farmers and land agents. 2. Advanced course for a third year in Agricultural Chemistry. 3. Short course of eleven weeks, commencing in October and consisting of Agriculture, Chemistry, Bookkeeping, and Land Surveying. The degree of B.Sc. in Agriculture of the University of Wales may be taken by students who pursue a three years' post matriculation course of study at the College. LLEDWIGAN FARM (360 acres) has been taken by the College for teaching and experimental purposes. Diploma (two years) and Degree (three years) students will in future follow courses for at least one year at the farm under the supervision of the Professor of Agriculture. Special arrangements will be made to take farm pupils for practical instruction only. The College is recognised by the Surveyors' Institution as a place of approved professional instruction for land agents. The cost of board and lodging, with tuition fees, varies from £30 to £40 for the College year. The Scholarship examination will commence on September 18.
Prospectus, with full particulars as to Scholarships and Diplomas, may be obtained from JOHN EDWARD LLOYD, M.A., Secretary and Registrar.
July 17th, 1900.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,
UCKFIELD, SUSSEX,

With Farm and Complete Equipment for Home and Colonial Farming. Successful preparation for outside examinations.

PRINCIPAL - - - W. J. MALDEN.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION. (*Continued.*)

ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.
Trustees: The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of Edinburgh.
J. R. U. DEWAR, F.R.C.V.S., Principal.
SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION commences OCTOBER 2nd, 1900.
The INAUGURAL ADDRESS will be delivered on Wednesday, October 3rd, at 12.30 p.m., by Sir JOHN GILMOUR, Bart., of Montrave.
The Rt. Hon. SIR MITCHELL THOMSON, Bart., Lord Provost, in the chair.

THE YORKSHIRE COLLEGE, LEEDS, AND THE MANOR FARM, GARFORTH.

Complete Course of Agricultural Education. Lectures in College and at the Farm from October to March. Special provision for practical instruction. Fee, £10. Students are prepared for the N.D.A. Examination. There is also a special course for the B.Sc. Degree.—Prospectus from the REGISTRAR.

TENDER.

VESTRY OF ST. JOHN, HAMPSTEAD.

TENDERS FOR FORAGE.

The Vestry invite TENDERS for the supply of HORSE PROVENDER for one year from 29th September, 1900. Forms of Tender may be had and full particulars obtained on application to C. H. Lowe, M.I.C.E., Surveyor, at the Vestry Hall. Tenders to be delivered at my office by 4 p.m. on Thursday, 27th September.
No Tender will be received unless accompanied by £10 in cash or bank notes (not to be enclosed), as an evidence that the Tender is made *bona fide*; the amount to be returned if Tender not accepted, but to be retained in the other case until contract is duly signed. In the event of a Tender being withdrawn the deposit will be forfeited.
The expenses of preparing and stamping contract to be paid by the contractor.
The Vestry do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.
By Order,
ARTHUR P. JOHNSON,
Vestry Clerk.
Vestry Hall, Hampstead.
12th September, 1900.

BANKS, INSURANCES.

SPECIAL ADVANTAGES TO PRIVATE INSURERS.

THE IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED. FIRE. Established 1803. 1, Old Broad Street, E.C., 22, Pall Mall, S.W., and 47, Chancery Lane, W.C. Subscribed Capital, £1,200,000. Paid up £300,000. Total Funds over £1,500,000. E. COZENS SMITH, General Manager.

BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.
(Incorporated by Royal Charter 1885.)
4, Threadneedle Street, London.
Paid up Capital, £1,600,000.
Reserve Fund, £800,000.
Reserve Liability of Proprietors under the Charter, £1,600,000. Letters of Credit and Drafts issued on any of the numerous Branches of the Bank throughout Australia and New Zealand.
Bills negotiated or sent for collection.
Telegraphic Transfers made.
Deposits received in London at interest for fixed periods on terms which may be obtained on application.
R. W. JEANS, Manager.

BANKS, INSURANCES. (*Continued.*)

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE.
19, Lombard Street, and 57, Charing Cross Road.
Established 1782.
LOWEST Current Rates.
Liberal and Prompt Settlements.
Assured Free of all Liability.
Electric Lighting Rules supplied.
F. B. MACDONALD, Secretary.

AUCTION SALES.

SALES OF PURE BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—
THURSDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 27.—The late Mr. HENRY WYATT'S SHORTHORNS, at Walton Grange, Aylesbury.
FRIDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 28.—Sir WILLIAM BOORD'S entire Herd of SHORTHORNS, at Wakehurst Place, Ardingley, Sussex.
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3.—About 50 SHORTHORNS, from Mr. R. W. HOBBS' Herd, at Kelmscott, Lechlade, Gloucestershire.
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5.—Mr. W. ATKINSON'S extensive Herd of SHORTHORNS at Overthwaite, Milnthorpe, Westmorland.
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10.—Miss E. MOORE'S Herd of JERSEYS, at Kingston House, Leatherhead.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11.—Col. W. N. TUFNELL'S ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, at Langley, Great Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex.
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12.—The Herd of ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, belonging to Col. J. F. BROCKLEHURST, at Peterborough.
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16.—Sale of the late Mr. W. WRIGHT'S (of Wollaston) Herd of SHORTHORNS and YOUNG BULLS, from other breeders, at York.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes-street, Hanover-square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

On FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1900 (12 o'clock)
MANSELL'S NEXT AUTUMN STORE STOCK SALE
IN THE
SHREWSBURY CATTLE MARKET
BY
ALFRED MANSELL AND CO.
1,200 CATTLE (all Breeds)
600 SHROPSHIRE and CLUN SHEEP

N.B.—Large entries of weaned and forward-conditioned Cattle have already come to hand, and an exceptionally fine lot of Polled Angus Crosses, Shorthorns, and Herefords are intended; also a number of Cattle suitable for wintering on the straw yards have been entered.
Commissions to buy faithfully executed.
Write for further particulars to ALFRED MANSELL AND CO., Auctioneers and Exporters' Cattle Salesmen, SHREWSBURY.

ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4TH (11 o'clock).
FINAL SALE OF THE SEASON OF SHROPSHIRE AND CLUN SHEEP.

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. will hold their FINAL SALE at the SHREWSBURY SMITHFIELD on the above date
120 RAMS AND RAM LAMBS.
800 to 1,000 SHROPSHIRE EWES AND EWE LAMBS
500 CLUN EWES AND WETHERS LAMBS AND CROSS EWES
Commissions faithfully executed.
CATALOGUES on application.

REGISTER OF BRITISH LIVE STOCK BREEDERS.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. — Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners; yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

HACKNEYS. JOHN N. ANTHONY, Sedgeford, near Lynn, Norfolk, breeder of Pedigree Hackneys. On hand, Colts and Fillies by most of the leading sires.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions, at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is ½ miles from Hayward's Heath Station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

CLEVELANDS

HORSFALL, F. WILSON, Potto Grange, Northallerton.—Breeder of pure-bred CLEVELAND BAY and YORKSHIRE COACH HORSES. This stud has won far more prizes than any other again this year, and has won twice as many as any other during the last fifteen years with Clevelands. Many Royal and Great Yorkshire prize-winners for sale. One of the Stud Horses is Champion Broughton Pride 1220—first and champion R.A.S.E. Show, Maidstone, 1897; first R.A.S.E. Show, Birmingham, 1898; first and champion Great Yorkshire, Leeds, 1898; only times shown; fee £5 5s. Also breeder of pure-bred Shorthorns. Bulls and heifers for sale. Amongst others added to this herd in 1899 were Daisy Perfection, Richmond Daisy, and Highland Daisy, all bought at the Duke of Northumberland's Sale, at 210 guineas, 72 guineas, and 72 guineas respectively. Also breeder of Sussex black pigs, and several breeds of white poultry.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham —Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some gold Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

TAUNTON, H. PERCY, Redlynch, near Salisbury, Wiltshire. Shire-bred STALLIONS MARES, FILLIES, and GELDINGS of the most fashionable breeding always for sale at moderate prices. The animals are kept entirely out of doors and in natural condition.

PONIES.

THE LARGEST STUD of SELECTED WELSH PONIES IN WALES.—Dinarth Hall Pony Stud Farm, Colwyn Bay, North Wales. Over 120 Ponies now on hand, including forty Brood Mares of the pure Welsh type, and several high-class Ponies, great goers, with style and action. 150 prizes won in 1898 and 1899. Ponies purchased from this Stud have won first prizes at Manchester, Birmingham, and Maidstone Royal Shows; also first and medal Crystal Palace, 1899. Sale in 1899 included two Entire Ponies purchased by the Government for Cyprus, several to America and France. Stud Horse JULIUS CÆSAR II. 5666, sire of first prize two-year-old pony filly, the first of his produce exhibited, London Hackney Show, 1900.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, S. Wales, extensive Breeder and Exporter of the best class of WELSH MOUNTAIN PONIES and COBS. References and particulars on application.

MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley, Winslow, Bucks.—Prize PONIES always FOR SALE. Arab Polo Pony Stallion "Mootrub" (32), winner of a championship, silver medals, and many prizes. Particulars on application.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY PARK SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

LANGFORD HOUSE ESTATE HERD of pure and highly-bred SHORTHORN CATTLE, the property of Mr. Sidney Hill, J.P. - All bred from the best and leading herds in the Kingdom. Sires now in service: Wiltshire Victor, 71,883 (roan), by Count Victor, 66,877. Puck, 73,333 (roan), by Alto, 68,147. Count Valiant, 74,307 (roan), by Count Arthur, 70,194. Langford Lavender, 74 819 (roan), by Wiltshire Victor, 71,883. Bulls and heifers always on sale, also registered flock of Southdown sheep. Inspection invited. Telegrams, Langford Station, Congresbury, G.W.R. Particulars from J. D LOVELESS, Estate Office, Langford, Bristol.

GARNE, R. & W. T., Aldsworth, Northleach, Glos., breed SHORTHORN CATTLE of great size, thick flesh, good milkers. Young Bulls and Heifers on sale. Stock Bulls: Wrestler, 66,582, Lord Harry, 65,180, and Now or Never, 67,544. Inspection invited.

FOR SALE, very promising Shorthorn yearling BULL, by pure Cruickshank bull bred by Mr. Deane Willis, dams pure Booth blood; also very fine two-year-old BULL; prices moderate. — Apply, Mr. C. WATT, The Cottage, Farran, co. Cork.

HEREFORDS.

SALTMARSHE CASTLE ESTATES, HEREFORDSHIRE. Prize winning pure bred HEREFORD CATTLE. Champion Happy Hampton in service. Inspection invited. Good selection for sale.— Apply, J. W. MILLYARD, Estate Office, Littlebridge, Bromyard.

PEDIGREE HEREFORD CATTLE.—One of the oldest herds extant. —Young bulls and heifers of the purest lineage and excellent quality for sale.—J. R. HILL, Orleton Court, R.S.O., Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton, Williton, Taunton, breeder of pure breed Devon cattle. Breeding animals always on sale; some are prize-takers, others deep flesh, good form animals of the best milking strains and beef producers.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

DALMENY PARK ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

OSENTON, GEORGE, Mariners, Westerham.—Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.

JERSEYS.

HEASELANDS HERD of PEDIGREE JERSEYS, COWS and HEIFERS of the best blood at moderate prices.—Pedigrees, etc., on application to the owner, WALTER LLOYD, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

ELMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS. — Choice about 100 finest quality Cows and Heifers, in profit and calving all seasons; prices moderate; inspection invited; shipper to all parts.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

BLACK POLLED.

BLUNT, H. LAYTON, Orton Longueville, Peterborough.—Breeder of Black Polled Cattle. BULLS and HEIFERS for sale, also GRAZING STEERS.

PIGS.

BERKSHIRE.

SMITH, C. C., Kingstone Common, Wantage.—Pedigree Berkshire BOARS and GILTS for Sale. Eligible for Herd Book.

PIGS *(contd.)*.

BERKSHIRES.

BURBIDGE, EDWARD, Wraxhall, Bradford-on-Avon. Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, bred from Royal and Bath and West Champion blood. Acknowledged one of largest type of Berkshires in England. Purchasers met by appointment.

YORKSHIRES.

WALTON HERD of PEDIGREE PIGS, owned by SIR GILBERT GREENALL, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington; unsurpassed for purity of breed, size, and general excellence, as proved by the numerous championship, and class prizes won at all the leading shows. Large, Middle, and Small White Yorkshires. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale. Stock carefully shipped. For particulars, apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

DALMENY HERD OF LARGE WHITE PEDIGREE PIGS, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. YOUNG BOARS and SOWS of the very best quality and choicest breeding for SALE at moderate prices.— Apply MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, by Edinburgh.

NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Improved Pedigree Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest Herds of pure-bred Pigs in the United Kingdom. Boars and Gilts at moderate prices.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford, pedigree LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS. Also few BERKSHIRES for sale. All bred on farm. 200 to select from. One champion, 28 firsts, 24 seconds, 15 thirds won this year.

OWTRAM, HERBERT H.—NEWLAND HERD OF PEDIGREE LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRES; all pigs entered or eligible for entry in Herd Book; choice, well-grown young boars and sows of the best strains always on sale. — Apply, BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Ellel, near Lancaster. Station: Bay Horse.

TAMWORTH.

PEDIGREE TAMWORTH PIGS. A few young boars and gilts from prize-winning strains, for sale.—Apply, Farm Bailiff, Middlewood Hall, Barnsley.

TAMWORTHS (PEDIGREE RED) from Two Months Old.—For prices apply to W. V. BOWATER, Esq., Bury Hall, Lower Edmonton, N.

STORE.

STORE PIGS.—R. D. GARRATT, Barton, Ampthill, can deliver *from Free Districts* any quantity good white, black, and crossed; between 18s. and 35s.; also selected breeders. Write for circular of particulars, with hundreds of latest testimonials from all parts of Great Britain, waste consumers, farmers, gentry, etc., etc.—Author of "Practical Pigkeeping" posted 1s. 2d. from above address.

SHEEP.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL

HOYLES, GEORGE, Manor House, Skidby, near Hull.—Pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP. Registered Flock 136. Sires used: Skidby Constitution 3069, sire Skidby Conservative 1346, g. sire Old Constitution 308; Skidby Tory 1583, sire Riby A 358; Leconfield Pride, sire Casswell (16) 1753; Skidby Friar, sire Abbot 1—from the celebrated flocks of Messrs. Henry Dudding, J. Casswell, Hy. Smith, jun., etc. Heavy-wool Sheep for export. Also prize and prize-bred Polled Angus, Shire Horses, and English Ponies for inspection and sale.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Chapel Farm, Barton-on-Humber, Lincolnshire Breeder of pure-bred LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP. Flock Book 106. These sheep are noted for having hardy constitutions, true character, and long, lustrous wool. — Telegrams: "John Anderson, Barton-on-Humber.

SHEEP *(contd.)*.

LINCOLN LONGWOOL.

DUDDING, HENRY, Riby Grove, Gt. Grimsby, Lincolnshire, has always for inspection and sale a large flock of pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, including many prize-winners, having taken the leading prizes for many years at the Royal and other shows for both rams and ewes including champion medals at both the Paris Exhibitions, Vienna, Amsterdam, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and all the leading prizes at Chicago; also the first for the best collection of Lincoln fleeces of wool at the Royal Windsor Show, which proves the character of this flock, which is most famous for their great size and 125 years' good breeding. Rams from this flock made the highest average on record last year. Riby Grove is seven miles from Great Grimsby, and three from Stallingboro' Station. Telegrams, "Dudding, Keelby."

FIELDSEND, C. S., Belmont, S. Willingham, Lincoln. Flock No. 59. Pedigree RAMS and EWES for SALE.

T. C. DIXON, Brandesburton, Hull.—Pure LINCOLN LONGWOOL SHEEP, of best blood. Wool a speciality, with quality and size combined. F.B. 69. Rams, Ewes, and Lambs for Sale. Inspection invited. Telegrams as above

HAMPSHIRE DOWN.

FLOWER, JAMES, Chilmark, Salisbury. Undoubtedly the leading flock of the day; in show yard records at all the largest shows, including the Challenge Cup at the Salisbury Great Prize Sheep Fair six years in succession; also highest average for same period for 100 ram lambs at annual sale, at Britford Fair, August 12. The Flock is one of the oldest existing, combining fine quality, strength, constitution, and true character. "Fossil," sire of the highest-priced Hampshire Down Ram ever sold, was bred at Chilmark, and in service there last two seasons.

COLES, CARY, late C. and T., Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury.—Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWNS, prize-winners at the Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and other shows. Sheep of all ages for sale; selections from 1,000.

SHROPSHIRE.

COOPER, WILLIAM, AND NEPHEWS, "Cooper's Dip" Works, Berkhamsted, England. Breeders and Exporters of pure Shropshire Sheep. First and Third Prize for Ewes, Royal Show, 1898. Five hundred breeding Ewes. The largest export flock of Shropshires in England. The sires used present season include 310 Guinea Champion "Royal Record," Two First, One Second, and One Third Royal Show Prize winners.

LIVE STOCK AGENTS.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Agent, Ellandonan, Inverness, established 1870, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK. He attends all the leading markets to purchase Stock at lowest rates. References can be given if desired to customers who have been annually supplied. All orders are personally attended to. List of classes and approximate prices sent on application. Reference required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." J.A. is now booking orders. N.B.—Polled Angus or West Highland Heifers for crossing or feeding, in truck loads, at moderate prices. Fat Stock of all classes also purchased.

LARGEST Live Stock Agency in England.—E. GOODWIN PREECE, Portland House, Shrewsbury, will be glad to receive orders for RAMS, EWES and WETHERS, of various breeds, of which he buys annually large numbers on commission. SHROPSHIRES, CLUNS, and KERRIES, a SPECIALITY. HAMPSHIRES, OXFORDS, SOUTHDOWNS LINCOLNS, LEICESTERS, and COTSWOLDS. Also CATTLE of various classes for GRAZING or DAIRY. References to practical farmers all over England, who have been regularly supplied for many years. All personally bought. Prices on application.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SANFORD'S POISON, best stuff known for Killing Rats. Mr. Bliss, farmer, Leighton, writes that he found 136 dead, one dressing.—Ald. Ashton, Huntingdon, states he killed 70 rats with 1s. box. Send 1s. 2d. to SANFORD and SON, Sandy, and try it; also Mice Poison for dressing Wheat Ricks. Sold by Chemists.

FARMERS! save your horses, time, and mower by using one of our "NATIONAL" HOLDERS for sharpening Mowing Machine Knives; instantly attached; packs in tool box; takes any knife; unbreakable malleable iron throughout; sent carriage paid for 7s. 6d.—WOODROFFE AND CO., Rugeley.

895 800 YARDS WIRE NETTING. Galvanised, new. Cash prices per roll of 50 yds.: 3-in. mesh, 2 ft., 3s. 9d.; 3 ft., 5s. 6d.; 4 ft., 7s. 6d.; 2-in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 6d.; 3 ft., 6s. 9d.; 4 ft., 9s.; 1½-in. mesh, 2 ft., 5s. 6d.; 3 ft., 8s. 6d.; 4 ft., 11s.; 1-in. mesh, 2 ft. wide, 8s. 3d.; 3 ft., 12s. 5d. 4 ft., 16s. 6d. Any other size or width, equally cheap. Warranted very best quality. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING, 50-yd. rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4-in. mesh with centre strand, 8s. 3d., 9s. 3d., and 11s. 6d. per roll. Carriage paid on lots of 50s. and upwards. Wrought Iron Stakes for fixing netting, 9s. 6d. per dozen, carriage paid. Iron Hurdles, 6 ft. long, 4 bars, 36s. 0d. per dozen; [illegible] 14 bars, strong, 50s. per dozen. Challenge Field Gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 24s. each. JOHN BELL and SON, Limited, Tower Hill, Bristol.

TARPAULINS.—I have a great quantity of large pieces of Tarpaulin some new, but all of the best Navy canvas, purchased from Government, useful for covers for carts, waggons, and machinery, at 2os. per cwt., name size required. A quantity of Odd Pieces, suitable for covering buildings, at 8s. per cwt.—From H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

RICK COVERS; quite new; all sizes; 6 by 6yds., 2½s.; 7 by 6yds., 24s. 6d.; 8 by 8yds., 37s. 6d.; 10 by 10yds., 58s. 4d.; good hemp rope fitting, or any size to order; carriage paid; great quantity in stock ready to be despatched on receipt of order. H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

WATER TANKS for Storing Water.—Will hold 400 gallons; wrought iron, with manhole at top; weight 476lb., size 4ft. 3in. square; carriage paid for £4 2s. each from H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

BASIC SLAG or Thomas Phosphate Powder. The cheapest and most efficacious fertiliser for grass land. Please note guarantee 38 to 45 per cent. Phosphates. Order early. Purchasing agents wanted. THOMAS BRADBURN, Wolverhampton

BASIC SLAG (Thomas' Phosphate Powder). State quantity required and station, when prices, with guaranteed analyses and full particulars, will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

OLIVOLINE.—A perfect Lubricating Oil, durable and non-gumming. Thirty years in use. Agents required in districts unrepresented. — DUNCAN, WATSON, and CO., Oil Refiners and Wagon Sheet Manufacturers, Dashwood House, New Broad Street, London, E.C.

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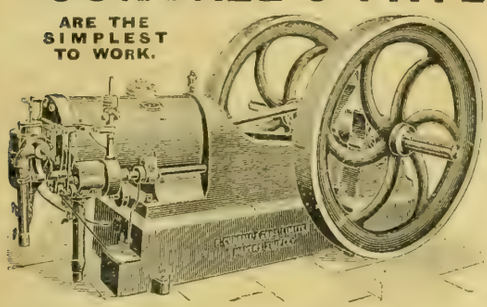

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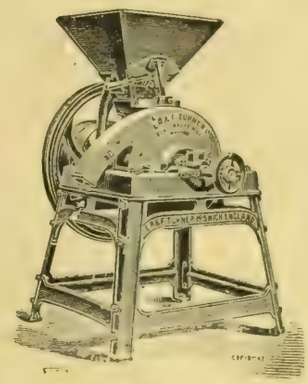

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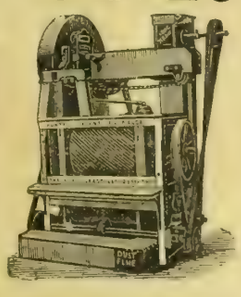

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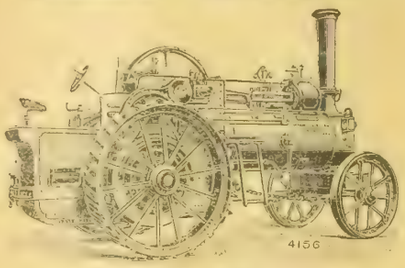

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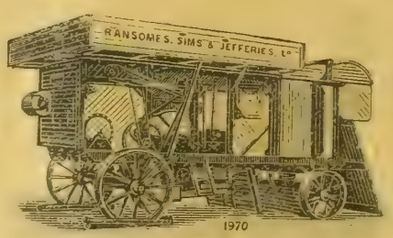

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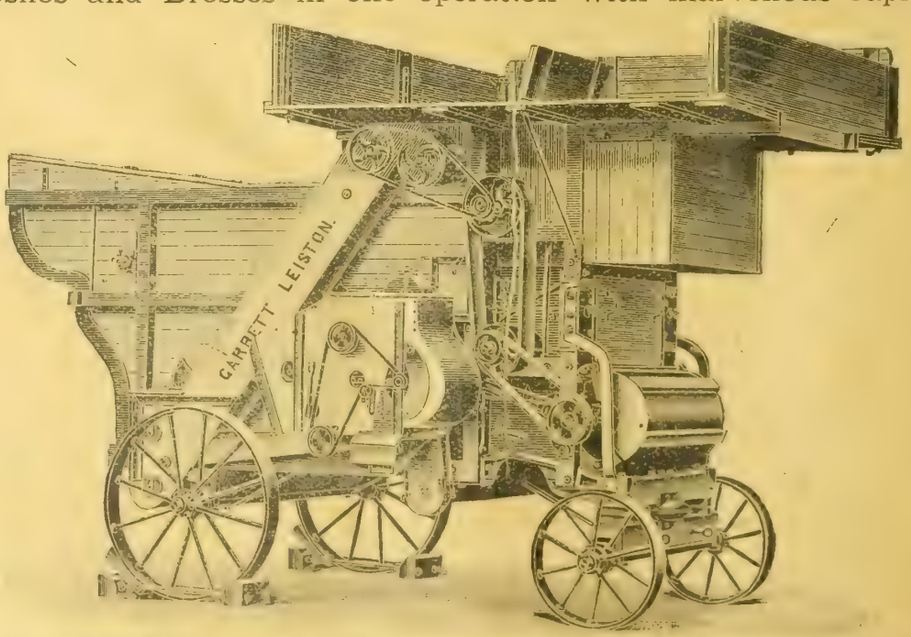

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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARE RESTRICTIONS TOO WIDE?

Every now and then a wail is raised in some rural district on Government interferences with agricultural trading customs, and the prohibition of live stock removals from place to place, in exercising the administration of the powers confered by the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act. Until recently these complaints were mostly raised against the too arbitrary enjoinments of the Swine Fever Orders. Not only has the craft of the pig-jobbers been continually placed in jeopardy by the squeals and gruntings of the swinish multitude being no longer heard to resound from market places in towns, but farmers were prevented from sending their pigs stubbling on to fields where acorns lay underneath trees, when a public road had to be crossed in driving them thither.

By far the greatest storm of public indignation against Disease Orders was that, however, raised in Norfolk last spring when, just as farmers were requiring to turn their cattle out to grass, the police barricaded the way. What occurred is tolerably well known. Farmers having starving cattle at their homesteads, and abundant grass at a little distance over the prescribed line, disobeyed the law, and got prosecuted. The magistrates sympathised with the law-breakers, and only inflicted nominal fines. Mr. Long, the President of the Board of Agriculture, sent them a sharp rebuke in consequence, and he was lectured in turn by Mr. Clare Sewell Read, on the ground that the Orders had been needlessly harassing and vexatious, and that the prescribed areas had been made tenfold wider than there was any occasion for.

Unfortunately there have been three more outbreaks at widely distant places since—one in the East Riding, a second in North Wales, and that of more recent occurrence at Melksham, Wiltshire. In all these cases the cattle attacked, and all beasts that had come in contact with them, were promptly slaughtered. But measures did not stop here, cordons being drawn round the centres extending many miles, out of which boundaries no cattle could be moved while the Orders remained in force. For example, in the most recent outbreak, although only a very few cattle had to be slaughtered, the area placed under the ban is very large indeed. No cattle, sheep, goats or swine can be moved out of the wide district of country comprising the petty sessional divisions of Melksham, Trowbridge, Westbury, Chippenham, Calne, Bradford, Devizes, Warminster and Whorwellsdown, and the boroughs of Chippenham, Calne, and Devizes, in Wilts, and the petty sessional divisions of Weston, Kilmersdon and Frome, and the City of Bath, in Somerset, so long as the Foot and Mouth Disease Order bearing date the 15th of September remains in force.

Concurrent with this order a circular was issued to all local authorities throughout England calling particular attention to the fact of three outbreaks coming so widely distant from one another in the short space of six weeks, leading to the probability that the disease had been harboured, but not reported for some time past. This leads the Board of Agriculture to fear that "unless the utmost vigilance is exercised by local authorities a grave danger of a wide-spread epidemic may arise." The circular concludes by urging local authorities to use every means of hunting out suspicious cases, and to give the earliest information of their occurrence to the proper officer for investigation.

This is, of course, all very right and proper, with the exception of the Board drawing the cordon of prohibition for live stock removal over a region comprising nearly the whole of North Wilts and a tolerably large slice of East Somerset. Whatever may have been the cause of these recent outbreaks, there can be no doubt but that it is pre-eminently desirable the foot-and-mouth epidemic should be stamped out, and that with this object all local authorities should second the efforts being made at headquarters by seeking to prevent any harbouring of suspicious cases, and being as much on the alert as possible in discovering them. But while giving this wholesome advice the Board has exercised its powers unwisely in making the so-called infected area needlessly large. If they had limited it to the immediate district of the markets the stock of the farm had been connected with it would surely have been all-sufficient.

Few outsiders understand how very serious are the inconveniences and losses to stock-owners when all traffic or removal of animals is prohibited except by special licence. The Wilts and Somerset territory under ban is full of dairy herds, and large numbers of pedigree stock are bred therein also. Several local shows are held in the autumn, the old-established Frome Show having been appointed to take place on Wednesday next, the 26th inst., which must in all probability be now denuded of its accustomed good cattle display. This deprivation is small indeed, however, compared to the inability of sellers of stock to find customers for them now that traffic and removal have been rendered so difficult. Many farmers have declared the Swine Fever Orders remedy to be far worse than the disease, and it is only natural that those having not the slightest apprehension of the scourge of foot-and-mouth visiting them, being in the midst of a district with a clean bill of health, should murmur at having to submit to arbitrary interferences with their business entailing grievous losses.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

I hear that all but one of the Greenock sugar refineries are closed. This is on account of the price of raw sugar and the high price of coal, which make it impossible for refining to be carried on with a profit, and until the new crop of beetroot sugar is in the market the works will remain closed.

An American firm of agricultural machine makers recently issued show-cards representing the Goddess of Liberty in society as driving a mowing machine drawn by Bengal tigers. They sent a large number of them to their Berlin agent, but, the *Pall Mall Gazette* says, advertising art had no charms for that gentleman, who sent the following amusing letter of protest to his employers:—"The picture of your admirable machines, of which I the receipt of 10,000 acknowledge, is not useful in this country, and it is of no benefit to me that I request to receive them postage. The women of our country, who by custom are to do agricultural work compelled, do not dress as your picture shows is the custom of your wonderful country, and would not deem such garments with modesty to consist. Also we do not tigers for draught purposes cultivate, they not being to the country native, nor is our experience for such work well suited. I have to my customers explained with earnestness that your picture is a sinnbild (allegory), and does not mean that your ad[illegible] should be painted by women for little children, nor is it necessary that the place of business shall be alongside from the Zoologischer Garten be taken. I cannot use them as you intend, and your further advices hopefully await."

In the last issue of the 1900 edition [illegible] of the Central Provinces issued by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Central Provinces, it is stated that sowings were successfully effected in most districts on a larger area than that of last year. In Chanda and Nagpur the increase is estimated at 75 and 50 per cent. respectively. Germination has been generally good, but some re-sowing has necessitated in parts of Narsingpur, Hoshangabad, Nimar, Chhindwara, Wardha and to a somewhat considerable extent in the Katol tahsil of the Nagpur District, where the early sowings failed owing to the deficiency of the rainfall. In the Warora tahsil of the Chanda district the plants have been injured by excessive rain and some re-sowings had to be done. The re-sowings have everywhere germinated well. In Nimar insects were causing some damage to the plants, but the recent rain has caused them to disappear. At the present time the prospects of the standing crops are excellent, and promise a full yield.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to September 15th, 1900, were £45,404,601 against £45,595,660 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £73,790,192 against £47,618,425 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on September 15th, 1900, amounted to £3,590,755, and at the same date in 1899 to £3,897,128.

Though there appears no great prospect of sugar beet growing and sugar manufacturing in Great Britain, the industry is making way in the United States of America. Of late its extension has been so rapid that it seems an important economic place among the factors of general prosperity. Perhaps the information that there are in operation in the United States beet-sugar factories having a daily capacity of 18,450 tons, that factories in process of erection will add daily 2,800 tons to the output, will come as a surprise to the reader who has not watched recent developments, yet this information is correct. To what proportion the increase will swell depends largely upon the success to be won at stations perhaps yet experimental; but at least, so far as California is concerned, the growth of beets and their conversion into a marketable commodity has passed the stage of trial and proved commercially both to farmers and manufacturers.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

Now, there is one fact in connection with the General Election which it would be an egregious blunder to pass over; and that is that the Government has an indubitable right to appeal to the rural electors for sympathy. It has passed three measures of great importance to the rural interest. The first is, of course, the Rating Act; the second is the Bill amending the Agricultural Holdings Act Amendment Act; and the third is the extension of the Workmen's Compensation Act to labourers. True, it has failed to pension its peoples to entrance old age pensions for the workers; but still these three measures constitute such a claim as no Government for many years has possessed.

I am indifferent [illegible] shout khaki and some anti-khaki. I am indifferent [illegible] the fact that the war has been [illegible] and that the country [illegible] but it is a crime. Selfishness is the chief inspiration of the political man nowadays; and all I remember is that the Government [illegible] disarm it and [illegible] the three measures [illegible] the Unionists [illegible] and the Liberals. Yet I am not going to dispute the fact that the Tories are [illegible] the advantage of the Liberal

any more than I will seek to deny that the amendment of the Agricultural Holdings Act must operate to the sole advantage of the farmer.

However, if the rural electors be wise they will discriminate. I pay this general tribute to the Government, but I again aver that if the electors be wise they will insist on the return to the House of Commons of such friends of the farmers as the Liberal Mr. George Lambert, the Liberal Mr. Strachey, and the Liberal Mr. Fletcher Moulton (who, however, I now remember, is not opposed). They will devote all the ardour they possess to securing the election of men of the type of Mr. Adeane, who is seeking election as a Liberal for South Hunts, and who has placed agriculture under a grave obligation by a series of well-meant investigations and scientific inquiries; and of the type of Colonel William Woods, the Hampshire squire, who is seeking election for Wigan, and who has the courage—and it is courage in these days of khaki enthusiasm and imperialistic ecstacy—to give rural questions a distinct place in his campaigning manifestoes.

When agriculture becomes less the slave of party than it has been, when it shows that it is harnessed to the car of no particular set of politicians, then—this is a paradox which will commend itself to all who know aught of St. Stephens—it will have the support of parties. Party politicians are so constituted that they only seek the suport of those who flout them.

One other paradox of the situation is that Mr. Walter Long should be compelled to seek political refuge in a thriving, humming hub of life like Bristol. Essentially a country squire, redolent of rural life, having faiths which bespeak the park and the farm in every phrase, Mr. Long has been compelled to ask the urban elector to elect him. Ejected from Liverpool because he had the manly courage to refuse to become the agent of mere schismatics, he has had to seek another seafaring centre. His friends are in fact not those who plough the lea, but those who plough the ocean.

Of course, it would have been in the perfect fitness of things had he stood for one of the Wiltshire seats. Four families inevitably suggest themselves as providing desirable sources of Wiltshire Members of Parliament. Three are the Sotheron-Estcourts, the Bouveries, the Herberts, and the Longs. Not one, singularly enough, will be in the electoral lists of the county at this election. I apologise when I say "not one." After all a Chaloner is only a Long; and Colonel Chaloner—a Long born and a Chaloner only by preference—shares all the sympathies and many of the abilities of his brother.

It says something for the catholicity of our urban centres of life that they are willing to accept a rural politician rather than one who devotes himself to the more sensational problems which have been born of the social conditions of the towns. I, however, attribute this rather to the fascination of Mr. Long's character than to any sympathy with his ideals.

Will the coming election concern even in the slightest degree the rural situation? Not one scrap, beyond that, in the sane moments of khaki enthusiasm, it may be asked as to how far the rural districts will remain the chief recruiting centres of the kingdom. Not a single politician of first-class importance, beyond Mr. Chaplin, has ever thought agriculture of sufficient importance to give it a single line in his address.

It is the old historic industry of the country. It represents to-day the yeomen who made English fame—the men of the cloth-shaft and the yew-bow. Its future is fraught with grave and portentous possibilities for the country. It is itself in a state of practical and economic evolution; but it is disregarded, neglected, passed by.

Even Mr. Chaplin's reference to it is simply retrospective and platitudinarian, and has no more value in a suggestive sense than any of the addresses of the political ne'er-do-wells and nondescripts who seem to me to compose the majority of the new recruits to the electioneering ranks. Khaki and South Africa are undeniably the more lurid themes of the hour. They are the themes which induce men to fling themselves into mock-heroics and perfervour. Still, I should have thought that a word might have been given to agriculture.

I remember that the editor of the MARK LANE EXPRESS, in the fulness of his optimism and faith, expressed the hope a few weeks back that this election would witness the inception of an attempt to organise an agricultural party. There is no more prospect of this attempt being realised than of the clouds raining little apples or yellow potatoes. "In a moral point of view," once said Lord John Russell, "the life of the agriculturist is the most pure and holy of any class of men; pure, because it is the most healthful, and that vice can hardly find time to contain it, and holy because it brings the Deity before his view."

Yes, and in a political point of view the life of the agriculturist is the most perfect example of trust and faith again and again abused and again and again proffered that the Parliamentary records can produce. The MARK LANE EXPRESS should have been heeded over this question, but its advice was only sympathised with, only commended, and then passed by as being too Utopian. Why?

Even while this election is in progress, even while the combatants are sharpening their oratorical sabres on the whetstone of personal vanity, we have had the question as to the causes of the denudation of the villages treated in a more or less luminous fashion in the columns of the lay Press. We have had the arch-priest of anti-denudation, Mr. Rider Haggard, preaching in periods whose beauty of phrase has fascinated. We have had a score of less interesting personages taking up the same theme and poorly illumining it. We have had one or two daily newspaper editors devoting to it a few of the sonorous sentences which they keep on their shelves to be applied to any subject from the debatable Dan to the debatable Beersheba.

We have had all this; but we have not had a candidate who has thought it worth while to give it an hour's real earnest thought. There is no need to argue the cause of this; it is apparent. The weal of agriculture is not a fashionable fad. It has nothing exciting, pulsating, emotional in it. It only concerns every county in England. If its condition concerned one big town the heavens would reverberate with magniloquent appeals.

Mr. Rider Haggard! No man has of late given a more intelligent attention to agriculture; no man has brought to it a clearer perception; no man has shown himself more sanely wise in his suggestions. Might he not become a future leader of a future agricultural party, *vice* Mr. Jeffreys, politically indisposed? Yet even he—the author of the one spasm of interest which has been exhibited in agriculture in modern days—is out of the electoral list. This is the fate of agricultural reform. Every man who would do it good seems to be afflicted with infirmity of purpose.

As a postscript I should mention that I have neglected to say that one of the old guard of agricultural reformers—Mr. Felix Cobbold—is in the lists for the Woodbridge division of East Anglia. If I mistake not, he was a great personal friend of Howard of Bedford and of Farmers' Alliance fame. He deserves to go back to the House. But why is his friend Mr. Everett out of the list of Radical candidates? He prates wisely on his old theme; but in refusing a Liberal candidature he shows that the oil of energy courses sluggishly through his veins.

The election will be—thus I sum up—of no serious moment to agriculture. But I will return to this point.

Fatal Quarrel amongst Harvestmen.—An army pensioner named Rodgers, aged forty-three, who had just finished his harvest, met other harvestmen in the village of Chrishall, Cambridge, on Saturday, the 15th, and the party decided to go to the village beerhouse to spend an hour or two together. They called for beer, and songs were sung, accompanied on an accordion. An altercation arose, caused, it is said, by some offensive remarks on the harvest work of some of those present. From words they got to blows, and Rodgers was seen to fall and die almost immediately

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

An Agricultural School for Hampshire.

The Hampshire County Council have just established a farm and horticultural school at Old Basing for male and female students, who will be received at different periods of the year. The farm comprises sixty-one acres, and the buildings include a large detached house to accommodate about sixteen students, with farmhouse, dairy, and other necessary outbuildings. The instruction will be kept as far as possible on practical lines, with sufficient science to secure a proper understanding of the practical operations. Among the subjects taught will be the general work of a farm, butter and cheese making, poultry and bee keeping, etc. For the female students there will be special instruction in cookery, needlework, laundry work, and domestic economy, while both sexes will receive instruction in elementary agricultural chemistry, botany, injurious insects, farm book-keeping, land measuring, and drawing. Mr. William Nixon is manager and head teacher, and the chairman and secretary of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society are on the committee.

Grants for Agricultural Education and Research, 1899-1900.

The annual report made by Major Craigie on grants for agricultural education and research to the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture is as follow:—

I have now to submit my report on the distribution of grants for agricultural education and experimental research during the year ended March 31st, 1900.

The individual awards to each of the institutions receiving assistance from the Board are set out in the usual form in the table on page 10, the total amount distributed amounting to £7,750 compared with an expenditure of £7,350 in the year 1898-99. As in former years, the sums above mentioned do not include the expenses incurred by the Board in the necessary inspection of the educational and experimental work of the several institutions aided, or of inspection of the similar work of certain county councils conducted at the request of these local authorities. The totals are also exclusive of the outlay on special investigations now being conducted by certain of the local centres on behalf of the Board of Agriculture.

The larger portion of the funds distributed in grants by the Board consists, as formerly, of subventions of a general character, awarded to collegiate centres of agricultural education in England and Wales. These centres, eight in number, have all been established during the past ten years to make local provision for the higher forms of agricultural instruction, and they are now working in connection with thirty-seven separate administrative counties, which have more or less closely associated their educational machinery with the colleges receiving grants from the Board. This arrangement continues to provide, in addition to the primary functions of the colleges in direct education, an efficient and economical means of systematising the various local schemes of technical instruction in agriculture, which the considerable sums placed by Parliament at the discretion of the local authorities have enabled county councils to set on foot. The collegiate staffs are in a position to aid the counties with scientific advice and the assistance of qualified lecturers, and they are able to provide effective supervision for the local demonstration plots and agricultural experiments, which are, as the details appended to this report will indicate, being maintained throughout the country, with considerable and increasing advantage to those already engaged in the practical business of farming.

In several instances it will be observed that the aided centres are entrusted with the supervision of complete farms, either hired directly by the college authorities, as at Bangor or Wye, or acquired by local authorities for educational and experimental purposes, as in the case of the farm provided by the Northumbrian County Council in connection with the centre at Newcastle, and that more recently established by the East and est Ridings of Yorkshire, in connection with the college at Leeds.

Subsidiary grants have also been continued by the Board for another year to exceptional institutions supplying facilities for dairy instruction other than those available in the ordinary machinery of the aided colleges. The British Dairy Institute at Reading, the Eastern Counties Dairy Institute at Ipswich, and the Midland Dairy Institute, near Derby, are included in this group; and the work from each of these special schools is understood to have benefited the dairy industry of the surrounding districts, and numerous pupils have been in attendance throughout the courses with the aid of scholarships from various county councils.

In a third category may be placed the sums awarded in the form of grants in aid of the cost of certain specific experiments undertaken under arrangement with the Board in districts not served, in this respect, by collegiate centres in receipt of general subventions. In the year under review, certain field experiments and a special investigation into the conditions of cider-making, conducted by the Bath and West and Southern

Counties Society, have been again aided; and the continued operations of the Agricultural Research Association of Aberdeen, supported by the North-Eastern counties of Scotland, have also received further acknowledgment by the Board.

Reports, as in previous years, setting out the conditions and the character of the instruction provided at each of the educational centres aided by the Board, with the staff available for teaching purposes, the attendance of pupils, and the special features, if any, of the past year's work, are set out in detail in the appendix, the counties associating their work with the agricultural departments of each of the several colleges being also shown.

At the examinations conducted under the joint auspices of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, for the recently established "national diploma," six out of the seven diplomas awarded were, it may be noted, won by students from the colleges receiving subventions from the Board.

Increased grants were awarded by the Board during the past year to the Yorkshire College at Leeds, where the educational and experimental work has been reorganised on a satisfactory footing, and to the South-Eastern Agricultural College at Wye, where the development of instructional facilities has been marked. New arrangements, explained in last year's report, have enabled the University of Cambridge to establish an Agricultural Department placed under the supervision of a special Board of Agricultural Studies representing the various scientific departments of the University and the ten county councils in the East of England which have seen their way to support the centre by direct financial aid. The responsibilities, hitherto discharged by the Agricultural Education Committee for this district, were accordingly taken over by the University Department on the 1st October last. In recognition of the material advantages likely to accrue to the scientific aspects of agriculture by this development of the Cambridge centre, and in view of the facilities which it offers for placing within the reach of undergraduates while at the university instruction likely to be of permanent value to those connected in any way with the ownership and management of land, considerably increased assistance has been awarded by the Board in the past year to the funds of the scheme.

Attention may be directed to the valuable opportunities given by the new arrangements at this university, and now, in a greater or less degree, by all the several institutions receiving assistance from the Board, for affording counsel to farmers on practical questions arising locally on which scientific advice is sought, and especially in the early detection or prevention of plant diseases and insect attacks. The equipment of the aided colleges now qualifies them to be of the most material benefit, in the direction indicated, to the agriculturists or horticulturists of the counties associated with each centre. The securing of these multiplied facilities for furnishing reliable advice on local emergencies is to be regarded as one of the advantages the Board have had in view by the expenditure of public money which they have authorised on these institutions during the decade which is now closing.

In addition to the descriptions given of the immediate educational work of each centre, I have appended to this report, as on previous occasions, a variety of notices of the experiments now being conducted with the aid of the Board's grants. Although it is impossible to do more in this report than provide selected summaries of some of the more typical enquiries, efforts are now, it is understood, made by the authorities of the experimenting institutions, both to arrange for local visits by farmers to interesting stations and field plots, and to diffuse by detailed reports, the widest possible knowledge of what is being done. The Board are now making arrangements to assist a movement, initiated by the representatives of the colleges, to compile a general index of the matters which have been made the subject of agricultural experiments, by both local and central bodies, in the course of the past ten years.

The rotation experiment conducted jointly by several institutions is again reported on in the summary given in the accompanying pages. This experiment has now been in progress since 1897 at the three original stations in Northumberland, Cambridgeshire, and Yorkshire; a similar experiment has been subsequently started in its entirety at centres in Yorkshire, Norfolk, Hertfordshire, and Suffolk, and partially at other stations in the counties of Kent, Cambridge, and Nottingham. Besides this uniform inquiry, which it is hoped may, when complete, furnish useful conclusions, arrangements are being made for the continuation on a comprehensive scale and on the same lines as in Northumberland, of the special experiment which has been fully described on former occasions on the effect of manures on grass land as shown in the relative production of mutton in sheep grazed on experimental plots of considerable area. Preparations are being made to repeat this investigation under the agricultural conditions obtaining on sheep lands in the South of England, where the Bath and West and Southern Counties' Society has secured a sufficient area for the purpose, and in the Midland counties under the supervision of the new department of agriculture at Cambridge.

The summaries now appended afford many illustrations of the more ordinary work of the botanical and feeding experiments, and give a general idea of the scope of the investigations which are proceeding, under qualified scientific supervision and with the aid of the Board's grant, in the various counties of England and Wales.

LIST OF GRANTS AWARDED 1899-1900.

Institutions aided.	Work.	Grant 1899-1900.
		£
University College of North Wales, Bangor	Collegiate centre	500
University College of North Wales, Bangor	Farm	200
Durham College of Science, Newcastle-on-Tyne	Collegiate centre	800
Durham College of Science, Newcastle-on-Tyne	Farm	200
South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye	Collegiate centre	800
South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye	Farm	200
University College of Wales, Aberystwith	Collegiate centre	800
Reading College	Collegiate centre	800
Yorkshire College, Leeds	Collegiate centre	800
Cambridge University Agricultural Department	Collegiate centre	800
University College, Nottingham	Collegiate centre	400
University College, Nottingham (Midland Dairy Institute)	Dairy instruction	300
British Dairy Institute, Reading	Dairy instruction	300
Eastern Counties Dairy Institute, Ipswich	Dairy instruction	300
Bath and West and Southern Counties Society	Field experiments	50
Bath and West and Southern Counties Society	Cider experiments	100
Agricultural Research Association, Aberdeen	Agricultural experiments	100

The Midland Agricultural and Dairy Institute.

The Midand Agricultural and Dairy Institute, Kingston-on-Soar, has just issued its prospectus for 1900-1901. The courses for this session have been entirely rearranged and considerably extended, particularly the course for dairy teachers and also for factory managers, these being now perhaps the most complete of their kind in the country. The Institute was established by the co-operation of the County Councils of Derbyshire, Leicestershire, the Lindsey Division of Lincolnshire, and Nottinghamshire, and is administered by a governing body consisting of representatives from these counties. An annual grant is made by the Board of Agriculture towards the cost of the scheme of education carried on at and in connection with the Institute. The dairy buildings were opened in September, 1895, by the Duke of Devonshire, and since that date over 800 students have passed through the courses. The addition of the Agricultural Department, which was transferred from the University College, Nottingham, was made this year.

The Institute is situated at Kingston, in the county of Nottingham, and consists of fully-equipped buildings and appliances for giving both theoretical and practical instruction in all branches of agriculture and dairying. Horticulture and poultry management are also dealt with, to a certain extent, as far as they come within the scope of the ordinary farm. Students of both sexes are admitted.

The scheme of work administered by the governing body consists of the following branches:—At the Institute courses of ten, twenty, and thirty weeks' instruction in agriculture and allied subjects for farmers' sons, etc.; courses of six, twelve, twenty-four, and thirty-six weeks' instruction in the principles and practice of dairying; and special courses of varying lengths of instruction in agricultural chemistry, bacteriology, seed testing, etc., for teachers and others wishing to specialise in any branch. Analyses of manures, foodstuffs, and general farm products at special rates for farmers resident in the co-operating counties can be had at the Institute.

The outside work consists of courses of lectures varying in number from three to twelve in the following branches:—Agriculture, agricultural experiments, dairying, veterinary surgery, poultry management, horticulture. Courses of instruction in dairying by means of the travelling dairy school; and experiments conducted on farms in the co-operating counties. The staff of the Institute are always available free of charge for advice and consultation by farmers, dairymen, etc., resident in the area of the co-operating counties, and wherever practicable a visit of a member of the staff to a farm or dairy where any difficulty has occurred may be arranged. Fuller information may be had on application to the director or manager of the Institute.

Caught in a Hay Press.—Gerald Anderson, aged twenty-eight, living in Brookeley Street, Islington, was admitted to the Great Northern Hospital on Wednesday suffering from terrible injuries through being crushed in a machine. He was engaged at one of the presses for the pressing of forage for use in South Africa, at Messrs. Whithorne and Company's works, in the Liverpool Road, Islington, when he was accidentally caught in the irons.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

The General Election.

The dissolution of the existing Parliament, and the election of a new one to take its place, happen to be events of almost unique interest. It is never [illegible] call to mind a parallel case. A strong Government voluntarily gives up the reins of power at an earlier date than is necessary in order to determine the free opinion of the electorate upon its past and future policy.

There can be little difference of opinion upon the result, as it is practically a foregone conclusion. Our foreign policy, and the development of the Imperial feeling throughout the length and breadth of our vast Empire appeal to the popular imagination in a manner little to be understood. Every shade of political feeling merges more or less in the predominant "khaki" tint. Taxpayers cheerfully assent to heavier levies, and the only obligation laid upon the great spending departments is to urge that sufficient be spent to ensure efficiency.

All Political Aspects

are subordinated to the emphatically expressed wish of the vast majority of the most sensible men on our midst that the great strength of the Empire shall be exerted to extend its limits and foster its interests in any and every position possible. But all this can be done without sacrificing other and notably home interests. As a fact, due fostering of these other interests can most efficiently help to preserve existing Imperial interests, and tend to extend and strengthen them. We may cheerfully assent to the grave need of strengthening the Government to the utmost limit of reason, but it does not follow that we need lose sight of important points when even the shortsighted want of understanding of real facts can be and is productive of much mischief.

Needless loss and waste are discreditable to even the strongest Governments, and straightforward pointing out of such matters is directly necessary in grave national crises like that we are now plunging into.

Excessive Taxation

of industries employing home products is a needless and cruel waste which may be consistently resisted at all times. At the present moment it is necessary and right to bring forward all such matters.

British or other barley used by brewers is unfairly handicapped, and it has passed the reasonable limit of what it may reasonably carry.

Directing attention to the fact, and pointing out the remedies to be forthwith adopted, ought not to imply any disapproval of Government action or policy. Every Chancellor of the Exchequer admits the wisdom of refraining from killing geese that lay golden eggs. Even the present one, whom we all wish to see returned to his high office at the earliest moment, is now aware that it is barley which pays duty and not beer. The barley-grower is directly productive of the eggs, not the brewer, and then only through the medium of the consumers. The latter constitute

The Great Electorate.

If only they understood the question they would insist upon barley having fair play. The present beer duty is levied upon the actual yield of the material mashed or dissolved by the brewer in the initial stages of his process when brewing beer. The quantity of wort made from a given quantity of material has absolutely nothing to do with the amount of duty charged. Two cyes may stand side by side in the same fermenting room, and be the product of one heap of malt; one may contain ten barrels of wort, and the other a hundred. Yet both can be entered in the books as forty barrels, and the duty in either case is charged exactly as though forty barrels had been made and entered.

To take the illustration further, two other cyes may be fermenting at the same time and place, and the wort is the product of raw grain and sugar. The wet capacity may be still the same, say one hundred barrels, but in this case the duty charged is only thirty-five barrels.

This gives a

Premium upon Substitutes

which is unfair, and ought not to be tolerated. Without touching upon the question of adulteration, the perfectly legal working of existing regulations and methods of charging duty permit competition with barley malt in beer, which is monstrously unfair.

The present is the proper time to bring the matter forward, and the representatives of barley-growing counties ought to have the matter put plainly before them, and promises should be exacted that in the near future not only shall the duty on beer be reduced, but as matter of necessity that be placed on such a footing that all malt ground in mash tuns shall at least not be unduly charged.

Pending [illegible] the duty on the use of either raw grain, maize or rice, and low class sugars, [illegible].

Promises on these heads can be secured now, and it behoves those interested to see to it that they are given and kept.

By LUPULIN.

Wandering in Hopland.

The ancient city of Canterbury abounds with attractions for the man who is a bit weary of London commercial life, who has a liking for old-world scenes, and who can find in the contemplation of noble buildings that are associated with centuries of our national history food for restful thought. As I strolled up the High Street, passing under the venerable castellated gate which spans the road, and hearing the musical tones which now and then floated lazily down from the cathedral tower, the pleasant character of my surroundings created a sensation of peace and happiness which it is easier to experience than to describe. Pausing for a few moments to look down upon the sluggish stream of Stour, its clear water and the long green aquatic plants bending gracefully to the influence of the current, the artistic fitness of the gable-ended and creeper-draped houses on the bank attracted me, forming with the river such a charming picture. The old city has changed but little during the lapse of years; the little river flows on in the same slow fashion as when Chaucer's pilgrims plashed through it when they sought their rest-house, whose groined arches and cool, dark passages still bear witness to the long drawn out story of England's birth and growth and present sturdy strength.

Such musings were, however, speedily put an end to as I advanced further and found myself in the midst of a busy crowd of "men of Kent" assembled in front of the Corn Exchange and engaged in discussing the results of the hop crop, and the values likely to be attained for their produce this year. These farmers, whose occupation of their lands and whose interest in hop culture has been handed down to them by many preceding generations, are mostly keen men of business. They feel that they have a reputation to maintain, as the growth of hops in England had its origin in their county, and the fame of East Kent in this branch of agriculture is something to be proud of, and is worthy of every effort they can make for its continuance. They are especially desirous this year that events may issue in their favour. Several seasons have passed during which their labours have not been sufficiently remunerated. Last year their crops were certainly large, but the prices were so low that in the majority of cases they hardly saw their own again.

This season, whether on account of exhaustion of the roots, of unfavourable weather, or of severe and persistent aphis blight, the yield is exceptionally small, and planters are therefore nervously anxious that the prices to be realised should be commensurate with the deficiency of the crop. Many were the inquiries from the factors from London, who were in attendance to examine samples and receive the instructions of their clients, and even I was singled out for information as to the trend of the Borough trade. I think we tried to advise the growers to take courage and have faith in the early future. Their ideas seemed generally to be centred upon the average price of £8 per cwt. They certainly deserve to have it, and the outlook of the world's crop for 1900 seems to indicate that their desires will eventually be gratified if they handle their produce discreetly.

A delightful ramble through some of the bye-ways of the city soon brought me into the calmer atmosphere of the country road leading to Chilham and Chartham. Arriving at Thanington I entered an oast house, where the pungent aroma arising from the heaps of hops on the cooling floor most pleasantly affected my olfactory nerves. I noted that one heap was conspicuous by the wholeness of the cones, and, examining them, I found that, though they were somewhat small, and, being of the white bine variety, had only delicate bracts which were fully ripened, their roundness and compactness were evident throughout the heap. Upon inquiry, I ascertained that this superior condition was due to the fact that they had been cured upon a kiln fitted with Blackie's patent apparatus. This being the first time that I had seen this system in operation, I asked permission to enter the kiln, and there had ocular demonstration of the ease with which the hops were managed, and the practical certainty of the result. The dryer expressed his satisfaction with the new plan, and remembering the conservative opinions generally held by these workers, I accepted his testimony as unbiassed and conclusive in proving the efficacy of this system in protecting the hops from injury during this critical process, and in preserving for the benefit of brewers all the lupulin and other essential elements for which this plant is cultivated.

A short walk into some neighbouring gardens showed me some samples of the irregularity of yield which is characteristic of the present season. Side by side with a garden full of bine, but absolutely devoid of fruit, was another from which a fair crop had been harvested. In the one case neglect, and in the other attention, had probably prevailed.

I retraced my steps, and soon found myself again in the quaint city streets, which were enlivened by the presence of a contingent of jolly Jack Tars from the Sheerness Gunnery School, enjoying a day's holiday. They boarded their waggonettes, hoisted the Union Jack, and, roaring out patriotic songs, departed amid much enthusiasm. My photographic eye lingered lovingly on the high lights and deep shadows brought into prominence in the varied architecture by the bright beams of the evening sun, and it was with regret that I said good-bye to the city so crowded with agreeable associations.

Hops are strongly in evidence round about Tunbridge Wells, and during a short drive to the picturesque "High Rocks," whose geological wonders and sylvan beauties I enjoyed for the first time, I passed gardens completely or partly picked, where healthy crops demonstrated the care bestowed upon them, and wherein the pickers grouped in charming relief on backgrounds of graceful green foliage proved the value of this culture to the working population.

Back again, and away to Staplehurst, noting *en route* the great extent to which the crop is gathered and the rapidity with which the workers are getting through their task this season. The S.E. and C. Railway gives the traveller plenty of opportunity for making observations during his journeys by local trains, the slow rate of progression, the long waits at stations and elsewhere on the line being of service in this particular. Let us give this much-abused company credit for all that is due to them!

A drive through the pretty village of Staplehurst, along a splendid road for about two and a-half miles, passing on the way the extensive park and beautiful mansion of one of our best known London bankers, brought me to a farm belonging to Mr F. S. W. Cornwallis, M.P. for Maidstone, who will, I trust, retain his seat at Westminster in the new Parliament. Hops are here an important consideration, many acres being devoted to them. A large piece of Goldings was in course of picking, three-fourths of it having already come down, the remainder evidently ripening fast, and the whole having yielded very well for the season. But I understand this year's weight will not exceed much more than half that of last year.

Coming to the oast house, I found that here again Blackie's apparatus was under trial, and had thus far given entire satisfaction, in the wholeness of the hops cured by it. Some samples of Henhams were produced and examined. This somewhat coarse variety, with its thick green petals and heavy cones, does not often, even under the most favourable circumstances, make an attractive sample, but these were certainly improved in appearance by the process they had gone through, the boldness of the cones at the tops of the samples and the thickness of the side cut being very marked. A heap of Goldings on the cooling floor, though in my judgment rather overdried, and therefore tending to brittleness, were nevertheless kept entirely whole, thus in an especial manner demonstrating the advantages to be derived from this well-considered arrangement.

The next day was spent in the neighbourhood of Paddock Wood, whereabouts hops are decidedly the leading feature. The population seems to think hops and talk hops, and almost nothing else. It is not to be wondered at when it is remembered how large a number of country labourers are employed in this industry all the year round, the proportion per acre being far in excess of those required in any other department of farming. At this season the dwellers in towns also arrive in their thousands to work in the gardens, and if they are favoured, as this year, with fine weather, making a month's beneficial and enjoyable holiday for themselves and their families. As I walked from the station I soon became aware of this fact by a crowd of white tents, set in a meadow by the roadside. It had all the appearance of a military encampment, the tents in regular lines, with a large marquee for the superintendent, and another occupied by the sisters of the Medical Mission, who give gratuitous advice and medicine to any of the workers who need such help. The order and cleanliness of the pickers' colony spoke volumes for the supervision of the management, whose constant attention is needful, seeing that these plantations employ 2,000 pickers, so that probably more than double that number, including hosts of children, have to be provided for and looked after. The novelty of the scene induced me to borrow a camera and take a couple of pictures of it.

These extensive plantations would occupy more than a day's march for complete inspection. I was therefore compelled to limit myself to part of them, and in every direction was confronted with evidence that while trifles may make up perfection, perfection, when attained, is no trifle. An infinite capacity for taking pains is a prominent element in the methods under which this business is conducted. The system of registration of the smallest facts and observations, the careful study of all the varying circumstances and conditions affecting the plant, from the earliest movement of the root sap to the final maturity of the fruit, the exact watching of the manufacturing process, which commences when the pokes of green hops are carried into the oast house, and is only concluded when the samples are drawn and packed up, all these unite in raising hop culture to a science, the value of which is constantly recognised by those engaged on this estate.

Ever ready to test the latest suggestions for improvements in any of their processes, the managers have had Blackie's patent fitted to several of their kilns. I do not know what opinions they may finally arrive at concerning the working of the system, but perhaps I may venture to say a word on the subject, premising that I am only expressing my individual views. Having had the privilege of seeing samples drawn from about twenty pockets of hops grown on this plantation and cured on this apparatus, I can hardly imagine that the most exacting critic could desire anything better. Full of the condition which is due to careful attention, absolutely free from any sign of disease that had been eradicated by constant washing, and of exquisite even colour, the hops were as whole as they were on the bine, and but for the pressure exercised in the bagging had lost none of their beauty of form. Their richness in preservative resins and their delicacy of flavour were equal to anything that is quoted as being perfect, and I think the inventor cannot fail to be satisfied with the results, and also expect that the verdict of the managers will be favourable to him.

In passing through the grounds on my way to the station I met with a striking instance of the possibilities of hop growing in a piece which had been planted only last spring. The bine had grown so luxuriantly on low poles, and was so laden with fruit, that it was expected to yield several cwts. per acre. I never met with a more satisfactory proof that English planters can at least equal the doings of their American competitors, who have been known to boast that only on the Pacific Coast can hops produce a weighty crop the first year of planting.

This closed my "wandering," and left upon my mind a very satisfactory conviction that as regards English hop culture "there's life in the old dog yet."

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interst and benefit to the members of the society*

Home Notes.

The Borough.

Our factors are rather nonplussed by the slow progress being made in the trade. Merchants tell them that their customers will not operate, and that the samples of new hops being carried by their travellers still remain on hand for the most part. Yet there is a steady demand for yearlings, which are being sold daily at prices proportionately much higher than can be realised for the new growth. There are, however, many indications that this period of uncertainty will soon come to an end, and that when brewers understand the actual shortage of the English crop, which becomes more pronounced daily, they will throw off their reserve, and begin to buy in order to avoid the contingency of the advanced value which is inevitable. Merchants know what is before them, and are moving warily, but certainly, forward. When a grower is asking £6, and gets a bid one day at £5 5s., the next day advanced to £5 10s., and the following day to £5 15s., he must be aware which way the wind is blowing, especially when his factor, who being in personal touch with the buyer can feel his pulse, advises him to hold out for his price which legitimately represents the lowest value of the growth. I have, therefore, no fear as to the ultimate issue, and although the upward movement has not come about so soon as I expected, I can only advise my friends to be of good courage, and to have confidence in an early change in the position.

Audi Alteram Partem

is a sound motto. Every man is more or less prejudiced in his own favour, and cannot always judge rightly for himself. But when his opponent agrees with his view of the position he can safely conclude that he stands on an unquestionable basis, and that his arguments deduced therefrom may be accepted. For such reasons I quote from the *Brewers' Journal*, the most influential organ of the brewing industry, in which I find the following remarks at the conclusion of an examination of the probabilities of the hop crop of 1900: "From what we have seen, and from information gathered from disinterested and reliable sources, we feel bound to say that it is not at all assured that an average of 7cwt. per acre will be reached, though we are hopeful of such a result. The opinion of those who take the most sanguine view of the situation is that the crop will not be larger than that of 1898."

Statistically, the position is, therefore, as strong as it well can be, and distinctly encourages the expectation that much higher value must eventually and speedily be heard of.

Worcester Hop Fair,

held as usual on Wednesday last, the 19th inst., provided a striking object lesson, confirmatory of the views I have expressed. With respect to attendance it was a record for the small number present. Owing to the lateness of the picking, but few growers could leave their farms, and buyers seemed to feel that it would be almost useless to put in an appearance, as there was but little chance of picking up bargains. But the difference of opinion as to values between the planters and merchants who did attend was very pronounced. The former asked 100s. to 120s. for what the latter offered 80s. to 100s. Therefore, most of the samples were taken home again, as planters were generally so full of confidence that they resisted the blandishments of the buyers almost to a man. A little business was done. I heard of one transaction in good hops at 1s. per lb., and a few others for medium samples at 80s. per cwt. The chief selling was, I understand, of some Kent and Sussex hops, which had been bought in the Borough from needy growers, and were carried down to Worcester to be held up as bogies to the planters there. The total quantity of new crop hops weighed on the public scales up to Wednesday last was 558 pockets. What a contrast is this report to the fair of 1800, concerning which it was then stated in *Berrow's Journal*: "Hops were more numerous than was expected, and in general of good quality; 1,141 pockets were weighed, the current prices of which were from £16 10s. to £17 17s. per cwt." Would that we could revive these "good old times" for the hop industry!

The General Election

may possibly retard the establishment of business on a solid basis, although the ultimate result to the hop trade should be beneficial, as during this exciting period a larger supply of beer will probably be required by thirsty voters. Our direct interest in the new Parliament is limited to but few members, but I hope to hear of Colonel Brookfield's triumphant majority over the opponent who has been brought forward during the Colonel's absence on the battle field of South Africa. I am glad to know that our gallant Colonel is on his way home, and that he may be expected to land in England about the end of this week. Mr. Lawrence Hardy, Captain Boscawen, Lieut.-Colonel Warde, Mr. Cornwallis, Sir James Rankin, Mr. Ratcliffe Cooke, and Mr. W. G. Nicholson should also be returned again to sit at Westminster. I regret that we shall lose our good friend Mr. Gorell-Barnes, who is retiring in consequence of failing health, but an efficient successor has been found towards whose return I trust all hop-growers in the division will if needful lend a helping hand.

Messrs Piercy and Co.'s Report.

In a season like this, when the hop crop is still largely gathered, it is not possible to be quite so confident as usual in our estimate of the probable yield in quantity and quality of the various producing districts. From our careful inspection of the yards, and making due allowance for those that are quite hopeless, we feel justified in placing the total crop in Kent, Sussex, and Worcester at about half last year's, and though the samples already offering show immense variety, they are quite up to the average in brewing properties. Our Worcester Mathons, Goldings, and Bramblings promise to equal in condition those of recent years, but greater care will be necessary in their selection. Prices are wild to-day for the few lots of sound hops showing, and will probably not settle until Saturday.—PIERCY AND Co., 6, Sansome Street, Worcester (September 19th, 1900).

Mid-Kent.

Picking is now almost completed, and it is therefore possible to compare results with previous estimates. In the vast majority of cases the hops have come down considerably lighter than had been generally anticipated. Not a few growers who had looked for seven or eight cwt. per acre have been sadly disillusioned by the scale test, which has proved that the crop had been over-estimated by from one to two cwt. an acre. The season indicates in a striking manner the erratic nature of hops, very great diversity being found not only in the same parish, but even in the same field. The finest specimen I have seen this year was grown in Sussex, but their colour was not quite what it should be, and I do not anticipate they will produce a really fine sample. On the other hand, there are fields in the same locality that will yield under 4 cwt., and those of scarcely second rate quality; indeed, if the general crop had been more abundant they would probably have been left on the poles as not worth gathering, but the scarcity may give them a value. When I wrote last I intimated my opinion that your estimate of 6cwt. was outside the mark, and I have since seen nothing to induce me to alter my view. Grounds that will yield over 7cwt. are few and far between. There are very many more that will not scale above 4cwt., and even these few are in most cases below par in quality. What the factors describe as "good coloury samples" will be scarce, and those who have been fortunate enough to secure a crop of good quality should not, I think, be in a hurry to part with them.—MID KENT (September 20th, 1900).

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The demand for choice hops continues to be very active, and prices for such qualities are well upheld, the anxiety of the brewers to secure the best growths diverting their attention for the moment from the samples of medium or inferior grade. A slight depression in the value of the lower sorts is therefore evident, but the general healthy tone of the market, confirmed by the comparatively moderate supplies that are coming forward, and the certainty of the shortage of this year's crop, is sufficiently satisfactory to induce confidence in its future course. No doubt exists that full prices will eventually be realised, as it is now quite clear that the yield will barely suffice to meet the requirements of consumers during the season.

English buyers are becoming interested, and, contrary to usual customs, some orders for export to England have already been placed. About 300 to 400 bales have been purchased, but it was not without some difficulty that exporters were able to carry these transactions through.

A Few Recent Reports

of the crop are to hand, from which I condense the following:—

LOWER AUSTRIA.—Early pickings are yielding rather better than expected, and it is anticipated that the later sorts, which will not be picked till this week, will also come down fairly well. The hops are generally rich in lupulin and free from any trace of disease.

STYRIA.—The crop is coming down at the rate of a fair average. Trade is brisk, and good prices are obtained. The prospects in the south-west are not so favourable, as the bine was injured by the dry weather in July. Late hops are estimated to yield one-third less than last year.

SAAZ (Bohemia).—The expectation of a full crop has been lessened by want of rain, the development of the cones having been checked thereby. In some plantations, however, the crops are more promising, and on the whole a full average will probably be harvested.

MORAVIA.—A smaller crop than last year is expected, the plants having suffered much from the condition prevalent in early spring, from which they have not fully recovered. Recent drought and cold nights have also been detrimental, and the cones are consequently very small generally.

WEST GALICIA.—Rain falling in the early part of last month caused the formation of additional cones. The present aspect of the crop, therefore, shows much irregularity, ripeness and immaturity being visible on the same lines. The yield will probably be at best one-third less than last year.

EAST GALICIA.—In consequence of some of the plantations having failed to recover from the effects of bad weather during the early stages of the growth, the yield must be small, and is estimated as not likely to exceed one-third to one-half of last year's crop. Growers are not pressing to sell, therefore very little business is being done.

Belgium.

The speculative market at Brussels has remained rather quiet of late, and prices in that position have slightly receded. Buyers of Alosts are now only offering 80 francs, but sellers are still firm at 82½. Poperinghes are not being dealt in on the Bourse by reason of the very firm attitude of sellers, whose quotations of 90 francs hinder business. To the consumers the general quotation of dealers ranges from 90 to 95 francs both for Alosts and Poperinghes.

The Belgian Harvest

is almost completed. By the end of this week the whole of the crop will be gathered. With fine weather for the picking, the quality is generally turning out satisfactorily, but almost all growers complain that the quantity is not equal to their own estimate. They are consequently refusing the offers made to them, hoping to get higher prices later on. My friend, the editor of *La Petit Journal du Brasseur*, thinks that it is likely their expectations in this direction will be disappointed.

America.

Though the volume of recent business on the New York market has not been large, the tone of the trade, caused by the evident desire on the part of consumers to safeguard their position is distinctly stronger. The stocks in the hands of dealers are exceptionally small, and the careful operations of brewers throughout the year lead to the conclusion that they must soon replenish their stores.

Though the crop is generally coming down in fine condition, colour and quality being excellent in most cases, the quantity is even lower than the lowest previous estimates. Throughout New York State the reduced acreage will tell, in addition to the comparatively small average yield. Reliable reports from California, Oregon, and Washington speak somewhat despondently, as the experience of growers during the picking has revealed that the harvested weight will come much short of the promises presented before the harvest commenced.

In the country districts values are therefore rising rapidly. Dealers are offering 15 cents for choice and 12cents for medium hops. Very few growers are willing to accept these prices, and the general tendency is in the direction of a strong and healthy trade.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 399, 401.)

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

15,787.—H. L. Friedmann, of London, for an invention for "A new or improved box or case for conveying or carrying eggs."

15,788.—W. Ridlington, of Holbeach, Lincs., for an invention for "A machine for digging and picking potato or other root crops."

15,821.—M. Tonko, of London, for an invention for "Improvements in potato setting machines."

15,983.—S. L. Roberts, of Water Street, Liverpool, for an invention for "An improved cream separator."

10,017.—W. J. Green, of Upper Holloway, London, for an invention for "A perforated manger trough."

Patents Sealed.

10,303.—W. A. Hutcheson, of Fordyce, Banffshire, for an invention for "Crops, cut, stacking."

10,539.—W. H. Sleep, of Plymouth, Devonshire, for an invention for "Improvements relating to ploughs, cultivators."

Corn Merchant Killed whilst Cycling.—An inquest was held on Monday on the body of Mr. [illegible], corn merchant, of Stratfield-more, near Reading, who died from injuries received in an accident which occurred last Thursday. It appeared that deceased ran against a Post Office mail cart, with the result that his head was fractured and he died the following morning. Mr. Hutcheon was a well-known figure at all the markets in Berkshire and Hampshire.

SHOWS.

Stokesley Agricultural Show.

That the Stokesley Agricultural Society increases in popularity every year was evidenced at the show held on Thursday, for the entries reached the record number of 1,911, and the attendance of visitors was so great that one had difficulty to get about the ground. Cattle numbered 104, which is exactly the same as last year; sheep 156, an increase of 10; pigs 40, an increase of 5; and horses 370, as compared with 366 last year; but the greatest increase was in the miscellaneous departments, the total number of exhibits here being 1,241, as against 1,003 last year. Some of the finest bred Shorthorns in England graced the cattle section, but Mr. George Harrison's exhibits proved invincible in every class. In the class for bulls of any age, the sturdy young Favourite, of Sanguahar, had next to him Mr. J. Fryer's Merry Harbinger, who is just ten months his senior; and Mr. A. J. Dorman's Grand Waterloo 26th was placed second to the well-known Welcome in the cow class. Mr. J. W. Harrison and Mr. Fryer both did well with second prize winners, but it was with Mr. Geo. Harrison that the premier honours rested. Mr. A. J. Dorman was the most successful exhibitor of cattle of any breed, and Mr. Robert Brunton headed the tenant farmer class for two non-pedigree Shorthorns. For sheep of the Leicester or Lincoln breed Mr. George Harrison was again distinguished, while Mr. J. P. Sowerby had the best of it in the Wensleydale classes. The cross-breds gave rise to rather more competition; nevertheless the sheep show, as a whole, was a highly satisfactory one; there were several tip-top classes, and the quality all round was good. The pig prizes were limited to the immediate district, and full advantage seemed to have been taken of the fact.

The total of 370 horses included over four score for agricultural purposes, an even bigger lot of hunters, and a nice sprinkling of hacks, in addition to about sixty of the Cleveland bay and coacher type. It was a capital collection, and did credit to the district. The Cleveland bays, naturally, claim first attention. They were quite up to the average, embracing both "Royal" and "Yorkshire" winners. The brood mares, headed by Lady Stainton, with May Blossom second, made a fine display. Two and three-year-old fillies also were choice, Mr. William Wood having the place of honour with Queen's Rocket. Equally worthy was the group of coaching brood mares, a very strong class compared with the short numbers through the rest of the section. Messrs. R. and J. Davison were, as usual, well to the fore with their representatives of the heavy breed. As was only to be expected, Mr. James S. Darrell and Messrs. T. and H. Ward sent a selection of their best of the hunting type. Diana won in the brood mare class, and Lord Clare distinguished himself over and over again. A strong class of colt foals was led by a son of Knight of Ruby, shown by Mr. James Ingledew. Three nice roadster classes passed before the judges.

The following is a list of the awards in the principal departments:—

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Bull of any age: 1, G. Harrison, Gainford; 2, J. Fryer, Howden-le-Wear; 3, R. Dixon, Great Ayton.

Bull, under two years: 1, G. Harrison; equal 2, J. W. Harrison, Lealholm, and J. Fryer, Howden-le-Wear.

Bull calf, under twelve months: 1, G. Harrison; 2, J. W. Harrison; 3, Crosland Bros., South Stainley.

Cow, in calf or in milk: 1, G. Harrison; 2, A. J. Dorman, Grey Towers; 3, F. W. Horsfall, Potto.

Two-year-old heifer, in calf or in milk: 1, G. Harrison; 2, F. W. Horsfall.

One-year-old heifer: 1, G. Harrison; 2, J. W. Harrison; 3, J. Fryer.

Heifer calf, under twelve months: 1, G. Harrison; 2, J. W. Harrison; 3, J. Fryer.

Two non-pedigree Shorthorn cows, property of tenant farmer in district: 1 and 3, R. Brunton, Marton; 2, T. Petch, Little Ayton.

Two or three-year-old non-pedigree heifer, in calf or in milk, limited to district: 1 and 3, T. Petch; 2, G. Smith, Castlelevington.

ANY BREED.

Two bullocks or heifers, any age or breed: 1, A. J. Dorman; 2, T. Wilkinson, Maltby; 3, T. Petch.

Two grazing bullocks or heifers with not more than four broad teeth: 1, T. Wilkinson; 2, T. Petch; 3, W. Scarth, jun., Carlton.

Two bullocks, with not more than two broad teeth: 1, A. J. Dorman; 2, J. L. Dugdale, Crathorne; 3, W. Kearsley, Kirby-in-Cleveland.

Two heifers with not more than two broad teeth: 1, A. J. Dorman; 2, W. M. Hall, Stokesley; 3, J. H. Hall, Stokesley.

Two bullocks or heifers without broad teeth: 1, A. J. Dorman; 2, W. M. Hall; 3, T. Buckle, Scamer.

Couple of non-pedigree calves, calved in 1900, bred by exhibitor, and property of tenant farmer: 1, T. Petch; 2, W. Robinson, Marton; 3, W. M. Hall.

Cow, in calf or milk, the property of a labouring cottager whose rent does not exceed £15 per annum: 1, E. Stevens, Great Ayton; 2, R. Durham, Crathorne.

SHEEP.

LEICESTER OR LINCOLN

Ram, any age: 1 and 2, G. Harrison; 3, J. Dowson, Danby.

Pen of three breeding ewes: 1, H. T. Allison, Stanghow; 2, J. W. Harrison; 3, J. Brown, Hawsker.

Pen of three shearling gimmers: 1, G. Harrison; 2, J. Dowson; 3, J. W. Harrison.

Pen of three gimmer lambs: 1 and 2, G. Harrison; 3, J. W. Harrison.

Tup lamb: 1 and 2, G. Harrison; 3, H. T. Allison.

WENSLEYDALE

Ram, any age: 1, J. P. Sowerby, Stokesley; 2, W. Hutchinson, Nunstainton; 3, F. E. C. Dobson, Dromonby.

Pen of three breeding ewes: 1, A. E. Pease, Pinchingthorpe; 2, F. E. C. Dobson; 3, T. C. Dobson, Kirby.

Pen of three shearling gimmers: 1 and 3, J. P. Sowerby; 2, T. C. Dobson.

Pen of three gimmer lambs: 1 and 3, J. P. Sowerby; 2, F. E. C. Dobson.

Tup lamb, belonging to member of Wensleydale Sheep Breeders' Association, and eligible for entry in same: 1 and 3, T. C. Dobson; 2, J. P. Sowerby.

CROSS-BRED.

Pen of three half-bred ewes, for breeding purposes, which have reared lambs this season, to be first cross from a Cheviot ewe: 1, E. Anderson, Thornaby-on-Tees; 2, T. Wilkinson; 3, T. Petch.

Pen of three grey-faced ewes for breeding purposes, which have reared lambs this season, to be first cross from a Scotch ewe: 1, W. Hutchinson; 2, W. M. Hall.

Pen of three fat shearlings of any other cross breed: 1, 2, and 3, G. Myers, Great Broughton.

Pen of three fat lambs, to be not more than twice crossed from a Cheviot ewe: 1 and 3, T. Wilkinson; 2, J. Dent, jun., Marton.

Pen of three fat lambs, to be not more than twice crossed from a Scotch ewe: 1 and 3, T. Wilkinson; 2, J. H. Hall.

Pen of three fat lambs of either sex, or mixed, first cross from a Moor ewe by any pure-bred ram, the second breed of ram to be stated at time of entry: 1 and 2, E. Hall; 3, G. Raw, Fryup.

MOOR.

Ram, any age: 1 and 2, J. P. Waind, Ankness; 3, S. Boocock, Danby.

Pen of three breeding ewes: 1 and 3, S. Boocock; 2, J. P. Waind.

Pen of three gimmer lambs: 1, J. Frank, Farndale; 2, S. Boocock; 3, G. Raw.

Tup lamb: 1 and 2, F. Farrow, Rosedale Abbey; 3, G. Raw.

PIGS (limited to district).

Boar: 1 and 2, S. Boocock, Danby; 3, I. G. Richardson, Stokesley.

Sow, in pig or milk: 1 and 2, S. Boocock; 3, I. G. Richardson.

Sow, with litter under ten weeks old: 1, G. Myers; 2, T. Hugill, Busby; 3, G. Alexander, Newby.

Pig, not more than fourteen stone: 1, Guardians of Stokesley Union; 2, G. Myers; 3, J. Boocock, Ainthorpe.

Pig, of any weight above fourteen stone: 1, J. Boocock; 2, Guardians of Stokesley Union; 3, G. Myers.

Pig, not more than fourteen stone, property of and fed by bona-fide labouring cottager: 1, C. Corps, Stokesley; 2, J. Harper, Stokesley; 3, J. Armstrong, Stokesley.

HORSES.

AGRICULTURAL.

Brood mare: 1, R. and J. Davison, Nawton; 2, T. Petch, Little Ayton; 3, J. Struthers, Stainsby.

Colt foal: 1, S. Barker, Langton-on-Swale; 2, J. L. Dugdale, Crathorne; 3, R. P. Petch, jun., Skelton.

Filly foal: 1, Exors. of R. Allison, Thornton Watlass; 2, J. Ingledew, Fencote; 3, A. W. Boville, Walk Mill.

Yearling gelding: 1, Miss Peirson, Kirby Bridge; 2, J. R. Moon, Tanton.

Yearling filly: 1, T. Petch; 2, G. Chapman, Helmsley.

Two-year-old gelding: 1, J. and W. Wilkinson, Preston; 2, W. Benton, Rookbarugh.

Two-year-old filly: 1, A. S. Benton, Kirbymoorside; 2, R. and J. Davison.

Three-year-old gelding: 1, R. and J. Davison; 2, J. Struthers.

Three-year-old filly: 1, F. E. C. Dobson; 2, J. Struthers.

Four to eight years old mare or gelding: 1 and 2, T. Petch; 3, J. Struthers.

Pair of horses, mares, or geldings, for agricultural purposes, two or three years old, property of a tenant farmer in the district: 1, J. Struthers; 2, G. H. Sickling, Yarm; 3, W. J. Humphrey, Acklam.

Pair of horses, mares, or geldings, for agricultural purposes, harnessed: 1, R. and J. Davison; 2, T. Petch; 3, J. Struthers.

HUNTERS.

Brood mare with a foal at foot, by a thoroughbred horse: 1, J. S. Darrell, West Ayton; 2, W. Dent, Fighting Cocks; 3, J. Ingledew.

Colt foal: 1, J. Ingledew; 2, J. Baxter, Kildale; 3, J. R. Raley, Cayton.

Filly foal: 1, W. Dent; 2, J. S. Darrell; 3, J. Dent, Marton.

Yearling gelding: 1, J. S. Darrell; 2, T. Curry, Morton Carr.

Yearling filly: 1, J. Pickard, Salton; 2, T. Clark, Great Smeaton.

Two-year-old gelding: 1, T. and H. Ward, Pinchingthorpe; 2, A. G. Ramshay, Catterick.

Two-year-old filly: 1, T. Newton, Easington; 2, W. Maddison, jun., Bishop Middleham.

Three-year-old gelding: 1, T. and H. Ward; 2, J. S. Darrell.

Three-year-old filly: 1, J. S. Darrell; 2, J. R. Raley.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

Pony, mare, or gelding, not more than 14½ hands, ridden in ring: 1, W. Lakin, Pickering; 2, H. Calendar, jun., Bishopton; 3, T. T. Campion, East Heslerton.

Pony, mare or gelding, not more than 13 hands, ridden in ring: 1, G. Bradley, Newton; 2, J. Walton, Guisborough; 3, M. Pearson, Harrogate.

Lady's Hackney, mare or gelding, ridden in ring: 1, E. H. Pease, Darlington; 2, J. W. P. Page, Norton; 3, Sir J. W. Pease, Hutton Hall.

Nag, mare, or gelding, from four to eight years old, ridden in ring: 1, J. Robinson, Hull; 2, H. Callendar, jun., Bishopton; 3, A. E. Scanlan, Middlesbrough.

Three or four years old hunter, mare or gelding: 1 and 2, T. and H. Ward; 3, J. Hugill, Sockburn.

Hunter mare or gelding, from four to eight years old, property of tenant farmer in the district: 1 and 2, T. and H. Ward; 3, W. Chapman, Sexhow.

Hunter, mare, or gelding, from four to eight years old (President's prize): 1, T. and H. Ward; 2, D. Smallwood, Whitby; 3, W. Jordison, Thirsk.

Single harness mare or gelding, driven on show ground: 1, M. Pearson, Harrogate; 2, A. E. Scanlan, Middlesbrough.

Single harness mare or gelding, driven on show ground, property of bona-fide tenant farmer or tradesman in Cleveland: 1 and 2, J. Walton, Guisborough; 3, C. T. Sickling, Acklam.

Horse of any age, sex, or breed, to leap fences: 1, T. E. Lavin, Ripon; 2, T. and H. Ward; 3, D. Smallwood.

ROADSTERS.

Brood mare: 1, J. Taylor, Stamford Bridge; 2, T. Binnington, North Dalton; 3, H. Stephenson, Ebberston.

Colt foal: 1, T. Binnington; 2, H. Stephenson.

Filly foal: 1, C. Moore, Upper Helmsley; 2, H. Creaser, Pickering.

Colt or filly foal by Tranquillity: 1, J. Smith, Acklam; 2, J. T. Swales, Hutton Rudby.

Yearling gelding or filly: 1, H. Creaser; 2, F. R. Hansell, Sutton.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. W. Kirby, High Scambridge; 2, J. Burton and Sons, Copthewick.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, W. Lakin, Pickering; 2, J. Watson, Hutton Lowcross.

CLEVELAND BAYS.

Brood mare, three years old and upwards, stinted to a Cleveland bay horse entered in the Cleveland Bay Stud Book: 1, G. Elders, Aislaby; 2, J. Hutton, Kettleness; 3, T. Petch, Skelton.

Colt foal: 1, T. Petch; 2, J. Gill, Ingleby Greenhow; 3, F. E. C. Dobson.

Filly foal: 1, J. Hutton.

Yearling colt: 1, G. Elders; 2, J. Fell, Easby.

Yearling filly: 1, W. Wood, Bilsdale West; 2, J. Morley, Goathland.

Two-year-old filly: 1, W. Wood; 2, Mrs. Petch and Son, Little Broughton.

Two or three years old filly, the property of a tenant farmer in the district: 1, W. Wood; 2, T. Petch; 3, M. Young, Overdale.

COACH HORSES.

Brood mare: 1, I. Duell, Hinderwell; 2, R. Brunton; 3, S. Boocock.

Colt foal: 1, R. V. Robinson, Fryup; 2, Mrs. Petch and Son.

Filly foal: 1, G. Elders; 2 and 3, K. Rickaston, Trenholme Bar.

Yearling colt or filly: 1, T. Knaggs, Marske-by-the-Sea; 2, R. Brunton.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, T. Robinson, Ainthorpe; 2, M. Wilson, Whithy.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, G. H. Chapman, Guisborough; 2, I. Duell.

(*For other show reports see pages* 409 *to* 415.)

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (September 17th).—The weather was fine and dry in most parts of our islands, but there was a good deal of fog or mist in places. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, at a few places in different parts of the country, but the amounts were mostly very small. Sunday night was warm, especially over England, where the temperature did not generally fall below fifty-five degrees, and at Yarmouth the lowest reading of the thermometer was sixty degrees.

TUESDAY (September 18th).—The weather had become generally less settled than of late, and cyclonic disturbances were arriving rather frequently on our northward coasts from the Atlantic. The wind was blowing freshly from the south-west at several places, and the sea was rather rough on the south coast of Ireland. Rain fell since Monday at many stations in the west and south-west. The weather was generally dull, with mist or fog in many places, and the midday temperatures were not so high as on the two or three preceding days. In London the weather was dry; but the sky was mostly cloudy, although the air was still warm, the thermometer registering 71deg.

WEDNESDAY (September 19th).—The weather was fine over Great Britain, and the rainfall in Ireland was very slight. The barometer had risen over the entire country, and an anticyclone was spreading over us from the Atlantic. Westerly winds were general, and the force was nearly everywhere light. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, at nearly every station reporting to the Meteorological Office, but the amounts were mostly small. The temperature scarcely anywhere touched seventy degrees. In London the day was very fine and bright, and the highest temperature was seventy-one degrees.

THURSDAY (September 20th).—Fine and bright weather prevailed in most parts of England; but there was a good deal of cloud in other parts of our islands, and rain fell at places in Ireland. The early morning temperatures were low over the central parts of England, and there was a slight ground frost at Loughborough. The midday temperatures were again fairly high, especially in the south of England. The barometer was still high and uniform over the southern portion of the kingdom; but a brisk fall had set in over Scotland and Ireland, where the wind had considerably increased from the southward, and a moderate gale was blowing at several places on our coasts. The day was very fine and bright in London, and the temperature rose to seventy-two degrees in the afternoon.

FRIDAY (September 21st).—The weather was very fine and warm over England, but the sky was cloudy in Scotland and Ireland, and rain fell at places in the north-west. Slight rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day over the northern and western portions of the kingdom. Temperature was high during Thursday night in most parts of England, the readings at the southern stations falling very little below 60deg. The day was rather warmer than on Thursday, and in the southern part of our islands the thermometer in the shade exceeded 70deg. Brilliant weather was experienced throughout the day in London, and the thermometer in the screen rose to 76deg., which is fully 10deg. above the average.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (September 22nd and 23rd).—The weather continued fine and dry during the two days over England; but small amounts of rain were measured at several of the Scotch and Irish stations. On Saturday the midday temperature rose to 70deg. and above at many places in the southern portion of the Kingdom, and on Sunday the thermometer was rather higher, the sky being for the most part clearer. Saturday night was very warm, the lowest temperature being 59deg. or 60deg. in many parts of England. Slight rain fell in parts of London on Saturday morning, but the remainder of the day was fine, and the thermometer in the shade rose to 71deg. On Sunday the weather was brilliant, and the shade temperature registered 75deg., while the heat was very great in the sun's rays.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Dorset.

The later harvest has been well taken and is in excellent threshing condition. Rain is badly wanted, and cultivation proceeds with great difficulty. Ley lands are almost uncultivable. Rye, tares, and the like are sown, but are not likely to come up well. The springs are much drier than they have been for years, and many well's are completely dry. Roots are being affected by the drought, and cannot bulb well for want of moisture. The abundance of grass feed is very much lessened, and the hayricks for the dairy cattle will have to be commenced in many places. The cattle trade for all good quality things is well supported, and best mutton and beef make fair prices with a slow trade. G. S. (September 20th).

Durham.

The crops in the north-east district have for the most part been secured in good order, but in the later districts much of the hay got spoiled owing to the excessive wet weather which continued throughout August. The corn crops also got much laid and twisted from the same cause. Barley in this district seems to be the

Best Crop of the Year,

and will likely turn out above the average. Wheat is a fairly good crop, but oats are very deficient, and will be far below an average yield. Turnips, where not attacked with finger-and-toe, are an excellent crop, but in some districts there is great loss from the disease named. Potatoes have the appearance of being an excellent crop, but in many cases it is too evident the disease has got amongst them, and in the meantime it is impossible to say how they will turn out. Both cattle and sheep are selling well, and hay and grain are also yielding rather better prices. The weather during September has been, so far, first rate for harvest operations.—R. B. (September 20th).

East Ulster.

The farmers in the north of Ireland have had a spell of beautiful harvest weather, of which they have availed as largely as the conditions of labour permit. Labourers indeed are few.

Cereals.

Everywhere expressions of satisfaction are heard in reference to the produce of cereals. Oats, the principal crop, are excellent, and the small patches of barley and wheat have also yielded well in the fields. The reaping is not yet finished except in the warmer valleys, but on the higher lands and northern aspects of hills there are many fields not yet ready for the reaper; however, the weather continues good, and all hands are busy from dawn until dusk. No eight hours day for farmers.

Grass Seeds.

There was much difficulty in saving upland grass owing to the broken weather, and consequently the grass seeds have not worked out so well as in better seasons, but the prices are pretty good, and may pay for the trouble.

Flax.

The flax crop, of which there is a much larger acreage than usual, has been on the whole good; but the retting, drying and scutching are technical operations in which many farmers often blunder and suffer loss. Yet so far as the crop at the time of pulling is concerned it may be set down good.

Potatoes and Other Root Crops.

The potato crop, especially early kinds, has suffered much from disease, and at present appears very largely a failure; but it will only be after raising and picking the tubers that the exact amount of loss can be known. Swedes and other root crops look healthy and are growing well.

Cattle.

For young stock and stores the prices are falling, so that it appears as if graziers would lose money to men who buy in for winter feeding, but even that depends largely upon the prices of foreign feeding stuffs.

Fruit.

Fruit crops are abundant, but there is a good deal of small, inferior fruit.—E. U. (September 20th).

Hereford.

We see few fragments of harvest still in places, though the weather has been everything we could wish for cleaning it up. Have not heard of a day's threshing being done in this part. Very little corn grown. Fifty years ago there was more corn grown on one farm in this parish than is grown now, and add six others to it adjoining. It is turned into a stock-raising district, though more land could be kept under tillage, but the expenses would be too great to meet the extra cost, and therefore the land is gone down into indifferent pasture, except where the sheep troughs have been freely used or top-dressing followed up. In this case you find a good turf.

The Prospects for Winter Keep

are good; an average cut of hay well gathered, and the root crop may get to an average; it is growing fast after two or three plantings. What few potatoes are grown in this part are a very poor crop; they seemed all right to start with until about the time they were moulded; then the tops died away, and they are not more than a third of a crop.

The Hops

are very variable, some places good, in others hardly worth gathering. I see the average for the county is put at 4¼ cwt. Some land will produce double, and others less than 1 cwt. per acre. Up the Teme Valley, from Ham Bridge to Tenbury, they will grow nearly an average crop, having been well washed and cultivated. I hear a good many were sold at Worcester Fair yesterday (19th inst.) at £5 and over.—W. H.

Shropshire.

The weather continues mild, with some showers of rain; the sky variegated with clouds. Thermometer 30.2, barometer 60. All hands are busily engaged in picking plums here. There is a fair crop, but the price is extremely low—about 2s. per bushel. The meadows keep their beautiful green verdure. The ploughed land is fairly worked, but few weeds left to grow. It has now got a little damp. Farmers are now selecting the best Shropshire Down rams they can get to put to the ewes, that breed having got into favour, though this district keeps the pre-eminence. The breed is called for for foreign countries. Perhaps no other breed combines all good qualities of wool and carcase so perfectly, being also more easily got around here, and so generally preferred, the quality and quantity of the whole being good. A quiet disposition to settle down in the good pastures of this county promotes a fattening disposition, and their lambs are in favour with the butchers. The small Welsh breed often purchased for feeding in Shropshire gives trouble by their wandering disposition. They need close watching, close timing, or, as a Scotchman said, "tooth lining" in a good pasture.—J. G.

Suffolk.

Harvest completely finished. Threshing proves wheat to be a bad crop. Barley and oats not an average. Winter beans a fairly good crop, but spring beans nearly a failure. Peas only a fair crop. Roots and pastures would now welcome a good rain. Live stock healthy; beef and mutton selling well. Butchers have increased the price of meat.—J. S. (September 22nd).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—Dry weather makes ploughing difficult, and rain is also needed for the seed already sown.

HOLLAND.—Weather continues favourable for field work, and farmers are busy on the land.

BELGIUM.—Seasonable weather keeps farmers engaged with autumn sowings.

GERMANY.—Summerlike weather permits the rapid lifting of potatoes, and complaints of injury have ceased.

RUSSIA.—Although farmers are largely occupied in field work, the supply of grain continues good in the inland depots and at the ports.

ROUMANIA.—Wheat thrashing is nearly terminated. Although the yield is below expectation, still the crop is an abundant one, and of good quality. Latest advices state that the maize crop continues to look in excellent condition, except in a few localities in Moldavia.—*Dornbusch*.

The Plenteousness of Fruit.—Fruit-growers in the Peterborough district are complaining of the prejudicial effect which exaggerated newspaper reports have had upon the trade. It having been stated that there was a glut, buyers have acted on the information, and refuse to buy except at very unremunerative prices. Consequently the crop, which is about an average one, is being wasted. In the orchards around Peterborough tons of fruit, particularly stone fruit, lie rotting beneath the trees. A local buyer admitted last week that he purchased at £6 a ton plums which in London readily fetched a price equivalent to £40 a ton.

Farmer Charged with Shooting a Boy.—Henry Corbett Wilkinson, farmer, of Manor Farm, Old Wolverton, North Bucks, was charged at Stony Stratford Police-court on the 14th inst. with shooting a boy named Roger Stimpson. The evidence showed that Stimpson and another boy were trespassing in the defendant's fields gathering mushrooms. The defendant appeared, and fired both barrels of the gun he was carrying. Stimpson was hit in his legs and arms by about twenty shots. The wounds, however, were very trifling. For the defence it was stated that the gun was fired in the air merely to frighten the boys; but, unfortunately, Stimpson was accidentally hit. The magistrates committed the defendant to Aylesbury Assizes. Bail was allowed.

Irish Crops of 1900.

In many ways the season just drawing to a close has been one of the most trying through which Irish farmers have passed for a number of years, says the *Irish Farmers' Gazette*, speaking upon the crops and harvest of 1900. To begin with, the spring was a somewhat backward one, and in many districts work was from a fortnight to three weeks late right down to the time of getting in the turnip crop. Wheat is but sparingly grown; even in parts of the country in which it was at one time extensively cultivated it is now practically unknown as a farm crop. Where it still figures to any extent, however, it is satisfactory to know that it merits the description of being included among the crops which are generally described as "a good average." Second only to that through which we have just passed are notoriously disappointing to barley growers. Of all our cereals barley is by far the most exacting as to matter of weather, as in order to enable the crop to produce that plumpness and uniformity of grain for which our maltsters are always clamouring, bright sunshine and a high temperature are absolutely essential while the filling up and ripening of the corn are in progress. These sub-tropical climatic conditions were denied to the crop this year during the most critical stage of its growth, and as a consequence it is to be feared that when the result of the season's threshings find their way to market their quality will not be so good as for some years past.

In view of the importance of the part which it plays in our agricultural systems, it is very satisfactory to find that the oat crop is this season one of the best for a number of years. Alike as regards yield of straw, and weight and quality of grain, it is returned as almost everywhere up to, and in not a few places considerably over, the average, and though, as in the case of wheat and barley, the cost of harvesting it was considerable—from 20 to 30 and even to 40 per cent. in excess of recent years—there is reason to believe that its fine yield will more than make amends for the extra expense thus entailed. The flax crop is another regarding which there is room for congratulation. It has not been an unqualified success everywhere, but it is a good many years since reports have been so generally favourable. Like the leading cereals, the leading root crops—mangolds and turnips—are this year bulking up well. In some districts the roots are not quite so large as at this time last year, but the fine growing weather recently experienced has brought about a marked improvement in them in this respect, and as they have several weeks' growth still before them, there is every prospect that they will yield well up to, if not in excess of, the average. A better year for grass has not been experienced in a generation. All through the season pastures have carried quite a remarkable wealth of herbage, and at present grass lands are as green and fresh in appearance as if it were only mid-summer.

The Irish Potato Crop.

The worst has been realised in regard to the potato crop. When we ventured to hazard the opinion some weeks ago, continues the Irish *Farmers' Gazette*, that half an average yield of sound tubers was about the best that could be hoped for this season, we were criticised in some quarters as needlessly apprehensive and unduly pessimistic—guilty, in short, of an exaggerated estimate of the havoc which was then being wrought by the disease. The condition of affairs which the reports describe is, so far as the potato crop is concerned, depressing to a degree. The ravages of the disease have been widespread and complete, and except in those cases in which adequate advantage was taken of the spraying machine, the present condition of the crop is hopeless in the extreme. Not only will the yield of sound tubers be a small one, but their quality will be inferior, and in those districts in which the potato enters to such a large extent into the food rations of the people the outlook for the small farmers must be more than dispiriting; in some cases it must be even extremely critical. By a fortunate coincidence, however, it so happens that in the very districts in which the effects of a potato failure would be most keenly felt the crop is this year least seriously affected by the disease.

All over the congested districts of the west, north-west, and south-west spraying operations seem to have been much more extensively undertaken, and more effectively carried out, than in the more favoured localities in other parts of the country, and the consequence is that while in districts like the co. Dublin (in which the disease never appears in anything like ordinary years) the potato crop this season has been literally ruined, there are some places in which the blight had not made any headway up to within ten days ago. Speaking generally, however, the crop will be one of the worst for a number of years, and we believe we were even rather than under the mark in stating some weeks ago that the yield over the whole of the country would not amount to more than half an average. No more interesting proof of the potato position of the crop could be given than the fact that potatoes are now selling in almost all parts of the country at more than double the usual price for this season of the year.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: No change since last Monday. Barley rather easier for grinding. Wheat about 6d per qr dearer on the week. Oats firm. Maize improved 6d to 9d per qr. Flour advanced 6d per sack.—NIXON, GOWER, AND Co.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Home-grown wheat is now fairly submitted on the country exchanges, being less scarce, and farmers are satisfied at the range of currencies now obtainable. Fine white quoted up to 34s, and red of similar sample, weighing 63lb, 33s. American reds firm at fully the last advance, notwithstanding stocks being large. The flour market remained unaltered during the day, with mill offers only entertained at high prices. Consumers' requirements in the meantime are fairly satisfied. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Grinding barley steady, unchanged. Fine home-grown malting meets with attention by maltsters, 26s to 35s being the general range as to quality. Oats easier, being about 3d to 6d lower since last Wednesday, and the quantity on hand with that coming forward tends to further depress the market. Flat maize barely up to last Monday, and round firm. Plate maize also sustained. Beans and peas on continued scarcity command enhanced rates, but business is still checked.

Mark Lane, Friday.—English wheat of the new crop comes up in smaller supply, and is sparingly submitted on the country exchanges, while next to nothing seems on offer here. Fine white ranges up to 33s, and red of similar sample to 32s per qr 63lb delivered. American reds 3d firmer since last Wednesday, and not pressed, while whites are fairly plentiful. Although the consumptive demand was again slow to-day for flour, owing to easier cable news from America and fine weather, there was no giving way respecting the trend of prices, which ruled fully up to 6d advance since last Friday, both English and American in the meantime remaining scarce. Grinding barley is now in sufficient supply for wants, but steady, Persian being the main source of supply, 18s ex ship, 18s 3d ex quay. Flat maize is fully 3d lower, although steady to-day at the decline. Mixed American, 20s 10½d ex ship, 21s 4½d ex quay. Round corn unchanged.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat firm at last week's sales or a little over. One sample of old white realised 34s, the top price made for some time past. A fair quantity of malting barley was disposed of at 29s to 33s. All descriptions of feeding corn from white oats, 19s to 23s; black ditto, 17s to 21s; beans, 28s to 33s; round maize, 26s to 27s; flat ditto, 23s to 24s per quarter.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Wheat firm, and the parcels disposed of were at fully last Saturday's rates. All other descriptions of grain unchanged in values. Wheat, 28s to 31s per quarter.

Boston, Wednesday.—A small attendance and a slow trade. Wheat, 27s to 29s; grinding barley, 23s to 23s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 30s; oats, 16s to 20s; beans, 30s; peas, 45s to 55s; maize, 23s 6d.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been gradually hardening. Supplies continue small, and farmers accept current rates very reluctantly. Weather remains very warm and dry, and condition of grain is improving. On Saturday a fair show of grain. Wheat was difficult to buy at last rates, fine lots making 6d advance. Red, 29s to 31s; and white up to 31s per 504lb; old wheat up to 33s. Barley was a dull trade for anything but the best, for which there is a good demand. Prices, 26s to 30s; fine up to 34s.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Supplies continue limited; trade dull at recent rates. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 31s to 33s; red ditto, 30s to 32s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; ditto black, 16s to 20s; peas, 30s to 32s; tick beans, 30s to 32s; mazagans, 28s to 29s; flat maize, 22s to 23s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per quarter; winter tares, 7s 6d to 7s 9d per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Good supply of oats in our market to-day. Fair demand, at 6d qr less money—17s 3d to 18s for new, 22s 6d to 24s for old per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—The fine weather tempting farmers to thresh their corn, samples were more freely offered to-day. There was no alteration in the ruling prices of barley, oats, and wheat. Quotations: Wheat, new, 4s 1d to 4s 3d; old, 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 75lb. Grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb. Beans, 4s 10 to 5s 6d per 80lb. Oats new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; old, 3s to 3s 6d per 46lb. Indian Corn, 11s 3d to 11s 9d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Wheat was in small supply, and prices were 6d to 1s dearer on the week. There was a fair attendance.

Colchester, Saturday. — More wheat offering, firm market at fully last week's prices. Barley irregular in both quality and value. Beans, peas, and oats, firm.—FRANCIS AND Co.

Dorchester, Saturday.—There was a large supply of English wheat, which sold at late rates. Foreign advanced 6d. on the week. Little doing in barley. Feeding stuffs unchanged.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our corn exchange to-day. Wheat firm at an advance of 3d to 6d per boll on the week. Flour firm, and 6d to 1s per sack more money asked. Indian corn steady, and 4½d per boll dearer. Canadian peas advanced 6d per boll owing to scarcity. Grinding beans firm, but unchanged. Foreign oats steady at late rates; home, new, are offering freely at about 6d per boll below last Wednesday's prices; old continue firm. Barley firm and scarce. Oatmeal dull and 1s per sack lower. Bran and thirds firm, but unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour practically unchanged since Monday, but on the week the former is 6d and the latter 1s dearer. The higher prices are checking sales. Indian corn scarce, and held for 4½d advance on the week; price 12s 4½d. Canadian peas scarce, and values advanced 9d since Wednesday. Beans and barley firm; sale quiet. Home oats lost 6d; foreign steady.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Very small supply of wheat, trade firm at an advance of from 6d to 1s per qr. New reds, 29s to 30s 6d; old, 32s; white, 33s. Barley in fair supply, trade slow at present, prices vary from 26s to 33s according to qual ty. Oats unaltered. Maize rather dearer. Beans and peas firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Notwithstanding the heavy shipments of the past week, the market must be quoted 3d to 6d dearer than last Tuesday for all kinds of hard wheat; soft descriptions do not participate in the improvements. More doing in barley, prices very irregular. Maize and beans 6d dearer. Oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND Co.

Leeds, Friday.—Millers continue very cautious in their purchases, and wait the expected downward tendency in prices to change to-day from Tuesday's quotations, inferior being the turn easier. Maize and flour fully maintain the recent upward tendency. Beans, oats, and barley firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday.—A good attendance, with fair supplies of wheats, in variable condition; trade slightly brisker; newwheats, 28s to 31s; old wheats, 31s to 33s per 36 stones. Barley, slow trade.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair supply of new wheats, trade steady at last week's rates, viz., 28s to 29s per qr. Foreign wheats dearer on the week. Moderate show of barleys, no fine, useful sorts, 27s to 30s. New oats rather lower; old firm. Maize a trifle higher. Beans and peas firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat a fair consumptive trade all round. Springs occasionally ½d, whites ½d to 1d dearer. Flour a fair trade. American qualities generally 6d to 1s dearer. Maize meets with a fair consumptive demand at ½d per cental less than Tuesday for Mixed American. European and Plate kinds have a fair inquiry at last market day's figures. Barley has an improved inquiry and a fair trade has transpired at unchanged values. Feeding firm with a good demand. Beans are firm with a moderate trade. Peas steady with a small trade. Oats are firm, with a better inquiry for English; foreign quiet and only a small demand. Oatmeal firm, inactive. Oilcake firm with only a moderate inquiry, owing to the recent advance. —SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Wheat realised the full prices of last week, and an occasional advance of 6d per qr. Barley of good quality sold freely at satisfactory prices. Oats are rather dull, especially foreign. Beans and peas about as before. Maize 3d per qr up. Tares are rather on the decline. No change in rye, hemp, brank, sergo, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—A firm tendency has prevailed throughout the week. Business has been steady, at full quotations. To-day an advance of 6d per qr was asked on English wheat, foreign being 2d per cental higher. Flour in fair demand, quotations being 6d higher. No change has been experienced in English oats, the conditions being unsatisfactory. Peas and beans are firm, at quotations. Indian corn is the turn dearer.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a small show, at 6d per quarter dearer. Barley prices irregular, maltsters buying little. Oats and beans at previous prices.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—This day's market closed inactive for wheat, although we must confess that sellers had the gain. Flour steady, unchanged. Malting barley met with more inquiry, and full prices made for best samples. Oats shaky, the new samples coming in cheap. Beans and peas repeated late prices. Maize holds its own well, and with the approaching winter looks like no drop.—G. W. WATSON AND Co.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at to-day's market ruled firm, but buyers were less anxious in buying; maize was fully as dear as last week with a good demand. Old Scotch oats steady at late rates, new easier to make sales. Foreign oats steady at late rates. Peas and beans firm at last week's prices; the malting barley trade was very disappointing buyers having all their own way. Flour sold at late rates.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND Co.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—A large attendance. Wheat firm, and 6d dearer on the week. Maize firm, unchanged; barley 6d to 9d lower; oats and beans no change; flour, fines, 24s 6d per sack; offals were dearer.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small market, with a limited show of new and old wheat. New was 27s and 29s; fine old, 31s to 32s; barley, 22s to 24s; for grinding and for malting, 25s to 30s. The quality of malting barley is very indifferent; new oats from 19s to 24s; fine old, 25s; flour, 23s to 27s. Business was generally dull without much life.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat was in small supply to-day for the time of year, and in some cases 6d per qr more money was realised. Barley is now being offered, but maltsters are at present not eager buyers; medium qualities fetch from 28s to 30s per qr. Fine and warm weather has prevailed during the past week. Wheat, red, 30s 6d to 31s 6d per qr, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending September 17th, 1900:—Wheat, 2,238, 28s 11½d. Barley, 1,559-3, 26s 7d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat, only a moderate show. Holders asked an advance of 1s per qr, but business ruled slow. Barley fair supply, condition disappointing, and price irregular. Oats new, rough, and prices not fixed. Old, 6d dearer. Beans, dry parcels, 31s to 33s per 532lb.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—A fair supply of wheat at market; trade not fast, but prices about 6d dearer than last week. Barley slow; buyers hold back at present, weather being warm. Oats steady at late rates.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was an average attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Oats and barley are 3d easier. Maize remains steady. English wheat unaltered, owing to disappointing qualities, but foreign wheats have advanced 1s. —ORLANDO DAVIS AND Co.

Reading, Saturday.—The quantity of wheat on offer at the Exchange to-day was much smaller than usual, and, as a result, trade ruled very firm, the prices secured at last week's market being fully maintained, and in some instances slightly exceeded. The demand experienced for other sorts of corn was certainly limited, and a dragging trade ensued at late quotations.

Salisbury, Tuesday.—There was again a good supply of grain, and a large attendance of buyers. Trade was brisk throughout, at the following rates:—Wheat (new), 27s to 32s; ditto (old), 32s to 35s; barley (best malting), 31s to 35s; ditto secondary, 25s to 29s; peas (new), 16s to 20s; ditto (old), 20s to 23s; beans, 32s to 37s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Fair attendance at corn market today. Foreign wheat 6d to 9d per qr advance on the week. English wheat making advance of 6d. Flat maize in fair demand 6d to 9d advance on the week. Beans and oats unchanged. Flour 6d per sack dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d; red, 32s to 33s; new, 31s to 32s per 504lb; oats, old white, 26s; ditto old black, 22s; new, 18s 6d to 20s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 28s to 29s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small old, 21s to 29s; ditto American mixed, 23s to 23s 6d per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Wheat, 29s per qr, 1s advance on the week. New oats were a slow trade at 16s to 18s per qr, some of the samples being of bad colour, but the better quality oats were inquired for. Old oats, 24s to 26s; old beans, 35s. There was a fair demand for new beans for seed purposes, 31s to 32s. Nothing doing in barleys.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was practically no farmers' wheat showing. The foreign wheat trade keeps very firm, with a fair inquiry for millers at about last week's prices. Maize and oats about 6d dearer on the week. There were only a few samples of malting barley, and these were of only moderate quality at 24s to 26s 6d per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little grain offering. Wheat 1s per quarter dearer. Spring corn unchanged. Arrivals coastwise:—Wheat, 1,770 qrs; oats, 170; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.— Fair attendance. Wheat a firm trade at last week's extreme prices. Malting barleys in greater supply, with steady trade. Feeding stuffs quiet.

Wakefield, Friday.—The wheat market continues to exhibit firmness, with a gradually hardening tendency; business is, however, restricted by the high pretensions of shippers, whose limits have for some time been considerably in advance of spot values. Californian and other hard wheats are 3d to 6d dearer, as also old English; no advance obtainable on other descriptions. Barley meets a poor demand, fine samples of both English and foreign are scarce, and held above buyers' ideas. Other articles unchanged.—DUNNS AND Co.

Wakefield Friday.—Foreign wheats have advanced 6d to 9d per qr on the week, and English are quoted very firm at late rates on to-day's market, but the actual business doing is only nominal. No alteration in feeding stuffs. New Yorkshire barleys are in fair supply, but there is very little tendency on the part of buyers to operate.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Winchester, Saturday.—A moderate supply of new wheat on our market to-day, which met a firm trade at fully last week's prices. More barley offering of irregular quality, grinding sort 1s. cheaper. Maize unaltered. Oats, good demand at late rates. Flour, 24s to 26s.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND Co., LD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of grain at market. Wheat advanced 6d per qr, 29s to 31s. New oats, 17s to 19s; old upto 24s. Barley, 24s to 28s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance, and prices practically unaltered. English wheat, old, 13s to 13s 6d per 216lb; oats, old, 14s 6d to 15s 6d; new, 10s to 11s 6d; beans, old, 14s to 15s; new, 12s 6d to 13s 6d per 196lb; maize, 24s to 25s per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Wheat firm all round; English 6d, and foreign 6d to 9d dearer on the week. Feeding stuffs steady at last week's values, except barley, which favoured buyers. Wheat, 28s to 32s per quarter.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A considerably better inquiry, especially for old wheats and barleys. Good attendance of buyers, and brisker trade all round. New white wheat, 29s to 29s 6d; new red, 28s to 28s 6d; old wheats to 33s per qr; best barleys, 30s to 33s; secondary, 26s to 28s; grinding 25s; new beans, 32s; old ditto, 33s to 37s; new white oats, 17s to 19s; new black, 15s to 16s 6d; old white (very scarce), 24s to 25s; flat maize, 24s; tares, 48s to 50s per qr.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has ruled firm, with a regular current of business. Quotations for wheat have shown a firm tone upon the French provincial markets, but prices have still remained extremely low. French farmers are placing some reliance upon the existence of a deficit in this year's French wheat crop, while it is contended that the general wheat resources of the world are not in excess of current requirements. Many French cultivators will be compelled to sell their wheat in order to put themselves in funds, and to persons in this position any advance which may take place in prices will probably come too late, as, when it is established, they will have nothing, or next to nothing, to sell. Last week's sales of wheat at Marseilles amounted to about 10,000 quintals. Business in wheat has been quiet at Paris, and prices have shown little change. Flour has also remained without any material variation in the French capital. The harvest is now not only quite over in France, but a commencement has even been made with autumn sowing; there have been some complaints of drought. Disposable wheat has shown scarcely any change at Dantzic. The Konigsburg wheat market has been weak. Wheat threshing has been attended with about average results in Hungary; the quality of the new crop leaves something to be desired. The grain trade has shown more animation during the last few days at Braila and Galatz under the influence of more inspiring advices from the United States. The quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is returned at 915,000 qr as compared with 1,305,000 qr at the corresponding date of 1899.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley report: Market rules quiet here, and demand remains poor, as the high prices asked by the holders offer little inclination for buyers to operate; besides, the weather remains rather warm, so that most people have hardly commenced to malt, and at the present prices feel not disposed to lay in any stocks. Perhaps with colder weather things will alter, and trade become more active.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday. — We have very fine weather favouring the lifting of potatoes, which in general turn out a good crop. The imports during the week amount to:—Wheat, 3,247 tons; rye, 5,713 tons; barley, 9,097 tons; maize, 13 223 tons. Wheat, both foreign and native, is in good demand, particularly dry, heavy sorts. For fine Holstein, Mecklenburg, and Saale, 28s 3d to 29s 3d per 504lb, f.o.b., is being paid, while light Holstein fetches only 27s, 27s 6d f.o.b. Hard Winter 2 is selling at 29s to 29s 9d, River Plate at 26s 9d to 29s 9d per 80lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye quiet, new German coming forward more freely, but prices are kept up, as Russian sellers are refusing here on account of the advanced rates of freight. 9 15-20 South Russian September shipment is offering at 23s per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Malting barley continues in fair demand for England, particularly the best mellow sorts, which, however, are very scarce, and for finest Saale 39s to 41s 6d f.o.b. has been paid. Finest Slovakian fetched 42s 6d f.o.b., good Saale is selling at 32s to 34s 6d, fine at 35s to 36s 6d, good Bohemian at 35s to 37s per 448lb f.o.b. Feeding barley less inquired after, 60-61 Ko. South Russian is offering at 18s 3d to 18s 6d per 400lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed maize continues in fair demand. It appears dealers in the interior allowed stocks to run low, expecting to see lower prices, and they are now in want of stuff. Prompt shipments are selling at 20s 6d, November 20s, January-March 19s per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS

Sept. 14 to 21, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	56,236 qrs.
Flour	49,725 ,,
Total	105,961 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Deficiency	39 ,,

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

September 14th to 21st, 1900, inclusive.

		English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	qrs.	2,696	..	..	53,540	56,236
Barley		1,855	..	..	3,548	5,403
Malt		16,853	..	..	250	17,103
Oats		4,598	..	..	144,123	148,721
Rye		..	..	..	2,750	2,750
Beans		108	..	..	2,660	2,768
Peas		321	..	..	3,254	3,575
Maize		..	..	..	33,636	33,636
Tares		87	..	..	500	587
Lentils		..	..	..	..	..
Linseed		..	..	..	24,902	24,902
Rapeseed		98	..	..	221	319
Cottonseed		..	..	..	9,600	9,600
Farm Seeds		345	..	..	4,977	5,322
Flour	Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
	Sacks	18,545	..	..	47,832	66,377

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.

Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	May 20	101,420 qrs
,, 14	108,380 ,,	,, 27	108,772 ,,
,, 21	128,892 ,,	June 3	73,846 ,,
,, 28	51,234 ,,	,, 10	126,781 ,,
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	,, 17	160,574 ,,
,, 11	82,912 ,,	,, 24	101,205 ,,
,, 18	204,974 ,,	July 1	152,510 ,,
,, 25	108,273 ,,	,, 8	112,791 ,,
Mar. 4	79,432 ,,	,, 15	116,850 ,,
,, 11	63,103 ,,	,, 22	89,245 ,,
,, 18	122,541 ,,	,, 29	118,314 ,,
,, 25	86,309	Aug. 5	104,234 ,,
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	,, 12	102,160 ,,
,, 8	133,261 ,,	,, 19	103,353 ,,
,, 15	101,518 ,,	,, 26	82,367 ,,
,, 22	70,984 ,,	Sept. 2	73,600 ,,
,, 29	68,573 ,,	,, 9	88,791 ,,
May 6	96,343 ,,	,, 16	107,684 ,,
,, 13	72,852 ,,	,, 23	131,880 ,,

1900.			
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	May 18	97,412 qrs.
,, 13	95,034 ,,	,, 25	71,390 ,,
,, 20	114,928 ,,	,, 31	177 744 ,,
,, 27	124,652 ,,	June 8	93,147 ,,
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,	,, 15	80,125 ,,
,, 10	75,035 ,,	,, 22	193,116 ,,
,, 17	66,804 ,,	,, 29	142,185 ,,
,, 24	62,191 ,,	July 6	132,350 ,,
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,	,, 13	101,253 ,,
,, 10	63,702 ,,	,, 20	82,294 ,,
,, 17	182,985 ,,	,, 27	55,998 ,,
,, 24	111,409 ,,	Aug. 2	86,167 ,,
,, 31	60,356 ,,	,, 11	192,077 ,,
April 7	48,302 ,,	,, 18	138,510 ,,
,, 13	131,085 ,,	,, 25	182,517 ,,
,, 20	82,357 ,,	,, 31	80,149 ,,
,, 27	43,783 ,,	Sept. 7	58,394 ,,
May 4	104,536 ,,	,, 14	117,066 ,,
,, 11	52,859 ,,	,, 21	105,951 ,,

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1899.									
Sept. 2 ..	47,572⅜	25	0 ..	6,709⅝	25	10 ..	15,958⅞	16	7
,, 9 ..	67,996⅛	25	5 ..	17,408¼	26	5 ..	16,195	16	6
,, 16 ..	80,281¼	25	4 ..	33,143¾	27	1 ..	19,291¼	16	2
,, 23 ..	85,104¼	25	4 ..	77,678⅜	27	4 ..	22,123	16	1
,, 30 ..	79,612½	25	6 ..	97,917⅜	23	11 ..	23 193	16	5
Oct 7 ..	71,152⅜	26	0 ..	160,315¼	28	0 ..	21,410½	16	5
,, 14 ..	63,040⅜	27	3 ..	191,991⅜	27	9 ..	18,021¼	16	5
,, 21 ..	64,242	28	2 ..	192,268½	27	6 ..	18,983½	16	10
,, 28 ..	85,178¼	28	1 ..	219,75[illegible]		..	20,051½	16	3
Nov. 4 ..	82,769⅝	27	2 ..	203,071⅜	27	2 ..	17,895¼	16	7
,, 11 ..	66,741⅜	26	7 ..	166 783¼	26	9 ..	15.216⅝	16	5
,, 18 ..	65,470¼	26	1 ..	163,915¼	26	4 ..	16,313¼	16	7
,, 25 ..	67,308½	25	8 ..	161,362¼	26	2 ..	17,047⅜	16	7
Dec. 2 ..	72,974⅜	25	7 ..	163,441⅜	25	10 ..	22,575½	16	6
,, 9 ..	10,982⅜	25	7 ..	174,207	25	10 ..	21,421⅞	16	5
,, 16 ..	78,772½	25	4 ..	135,344⅜	25	7 ..	22,889¼	16	1
,, 23 ..	67,102⅜	25	6 ..	116,757⅝	25	10 ..	16,447⅝	16	0
,, 30 ..	47,685⅛	25	9 ..	74,637⅜	25	5 ..	10,463¼	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6 ..	40,086	25	9 ..	65,347½	25	7 ..	13,380⅜	16	4
,, 13 ..	57,021⅜	25	11 ..	83,421⅜	25	5 ..	19,705	16	6
,, 20 ..	68,463¼	26	0 ..	100,925⅜	25	8 ..	23,122⅜	16	5
,, 27 ..	65,331½	25	10 ..	108,357⅜	25	9 ..	17,814⅜	16	8
Feb. 3 ..	73,796⅞	25	8 ..	90,769⅛	25	4 ..	22,061⅛	16	3
,, 10 ..	71,482⅜	25	10 ..	80,543⅜	25	3 ..	20,322⅜	16	2
,, 17 ..	76,611⅜	26	1 ..	80,414⅜	24	11 ..	20,986⅜	16	1
,, 24 ..	69,534⅛	26	3 ..	63,931⅜	25	1 ..	21,132⅛	16	10
Mar. 3 ..	68.153⅛	26	4 ..	51,727¼	24	6 ..	18,490½	16	11
,, 10 ..	58,703⅛	25	11 ..	44,921¼	24	8 ..	16,214	16	11
,, 17 ..	76,435⅜	25	10 ..	46,051	24	6 ..	20,104⅞	16	10
,, 24 ..	69,944¼	25	11 ..	38,147	25	0 ..	17,042⅜	17	1
,, 31 ..	72,762	25	10 ..	34,387⅜	24	11 ..	15,209⅜	17	2
April 7 ..	67,743⅜	25	10 ..	20,40⅝	24	10 ..	13,757⅛	17	2
,, 14 ..	66,412⅝	25	11 ..	19,519¾	24	5 ..	9.672⅜	17	8
,, 21 ..	54,977⅛	26	0 ..	11,673⅜	24	9 ..	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28 ..	70,006⅜	26	0 ..	7,785⅜	25	2 ..	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5 ..	75,410⅜	25	11 ..	8,159⅜	25	3 ..	8,658⅛	18	0
,, 12 ..	82,190⅞	25	11 ..	10,417⅜	24	10 ..	12,245⅜	17	11
,, 19 ..	84,941⅜	25	7 ..	5,638⅜	24	5 ..	9,942	18	5
,, 26 ..	95,574⅜	25	5 ..	3,521⅛	23	11 ..	7,359⅜	18	2
June 2 ..	68,906⅜	25	5 ..	1,752⅜	24	4 ..	6,702	18	6
,, 9 ..	64 747⅛	25	3 ..	990⅜	23	8 ..	6 053⅜	18	8
,, 16 ..	55,340⅜	25	6 ..	1,486⅜	23	8 ..	7,228⅛	18	11
,, 23 ..	54,324⅛	25	9 ..	1,312⅛	23	5 ..	5,314⅜	18	11
,, 30 ..	44,920⅜	26	11 ..	4952	23	4 ..	4,706⅛	19	3
July 7 ..	34,344⅜	27	10 ..	486⅛	22	10 ..	4,391⅛	19	5
,, 14 ..	22,099⅛	28	7 ..	949⅛	23	2 ..	2,911⅜	19	1
,, 21 ..	26,716⅞	29	0 ..	767⅜	23	8 ..	3,771⅛	19	3
,, 28 ..	33,088	29	3 ..	1911⅛	24	4 ..	3,335⅜	19	9
Aug. 4 ..	45,748⅜	28	10 ..	4095	23	10 ..	3,453⅜	19	4
,, 11 ..	37,644⅝	28	7 ..	311⅛	23	7 ..	3,391	19	8
,, 18 ..	32,812⅜	28	10 ..	608⅜	23	3 ..	3,593⅜	19	11
,, 25 ..	26,427⅛	28	10 ..	787⅛	24	10 ..	5,319⅛	18	8
Sept. 1 ..	30,393⅜	28	8 ..	1,978⅛	25	2 ..	9,603⅜	18	1
,, 8 ..	34,755⅛	28	7 ..	6,140⅜	25	8 ..	11,042⅛	17	10
,, 15 ..	53,331⅜	28	4 ..	20,879⅛	25	4 ..	18,681⅛	17	1
,, 22 ..	61,468⅛	28	4 ..	41,284⅛	26	0 ..	21,729⅜	17	1

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	Aug. 18.	Aug. 25.	Sept. 1.	Sept. 8.	Sept. 15.	Sept. 22.
29s. 3d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
29s. 0d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 10d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 8d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 7d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 4d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
26s. 0d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
25s. 11d...	..	..	..	..	..	..

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1830 ..	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891 ..	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892 ..	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893 ..	33	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894 ..	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895 ..	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896 ..	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897 ..	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898 ..	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899 ..	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(193 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900 Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January.....	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May.....	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August.....	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	19 5
September ..	25 4	26 10	16 5	..	..	..
October.....	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November....	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, September 18th, 1900.

	Total Quantities (Imperial Measure		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	2,416	4	3,615	6	8	1	10	2
Barley	1,449	2	2,193	6	6	1	10	3
Oats	1,593	3	1,430	11	11	0	17	11

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average prices of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Sept. 22nd, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Vict. cap. 37.

Wheat	61,468½ qrs.	28s. 4d.
Barley	41,284½ qrs.	26s. 0d.
Oats	21,729½ qrs.	17s. 1d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Sept. 22nd, in each of the years from 1896 to 1900.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	64,416½ ..	24	4	72,057 ..	26	3	14,056⅜ ..	14	1
1897....	82,523⅜ ..	33	11	78,231⅝ ..	29	7	16,767⅛ ..	16	5
1898....	70,639¼ ..	25	5	57,034⅜ ..	26	9	19,977⅛ ..	17	1
1900....	85,104¼ ..	25	4	77,678⅜ ..	27	4	22,123 ..	16	1

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	433,000	210,000	431,000	60,000	115,000
Russia	224,000	—	11,000	240,000	235,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary ..	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	123,000	—	10,000	6,000	—
Argentina	71,000	—	118,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia ..	5,000	5,000	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ..	30,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	886,000	230,000	590,000	326,000	360,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900. s. d.

Sept. 1, 1900 .....(per sack) 30 0

(No official change since last date given).

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	..	..	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	..	..	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov. ..	..	..	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..	..	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9	

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June ..	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July ..	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	..	..	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	..	..	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	..	..	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec. ..	..	..	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..	26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½	

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A good demand. Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d; Surrey, 3s to 3s 6d; Sussex, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Welsh, 1s 9d to 2s; Irish, 1s 6d to 1s 10d; Geese, 4s to 6s 6d; Ducks: Aylesbury, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; country, 2s to 2s 6d; Pigeons: Bordeaux, 8d to 10d; feathered, 7d to 9d; Rabbits: Wild, 8d to 10d; tame, 1s to 1s 2d each; Australian, 7s 9d to 9s 6d per dozen; hares, 2s 6d to 3s; leverets, 1s 6d to 2s 3d each; Grouse: Young, 5s 6d to 6s; old, 3s to 3s 6d; Partridges: Young, 3s 6d to 4s; old, 1s 8d to 2s per brace.

Chester, Wednesday.—The farmers brought in supplies of about 50 tons, or rather under the average for September. There was a good attendance of buyers from all parts of the country, and with an excellent demand, fine cheese was quickly sold, at 60s to 70s per cwt. Medium quality cheese met a slower sale, and prices ranged from 50s per cwt and upwards. The quotations were about the same at the September fair last year.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: With an improved consumptive demand both from the country and locally, together with stronger American advices, the market closes firm, and some Cuts, chiefly Irish and Fancy Cuts, are quotably higher. Hams: With only a moderate demand and a plentiful supply quotations are again easier and in buyers' favour. Lard: With a sharp advance in c.i.f. quotations lard on spot is firmly held, and prices are 1s. 6d. to 2s. better on the week. Beef is quiet and without change. Pork is in steady demand, but quotably unaltered. Cheese.—The demand was slow early in the week, and some holders were easier in their views—but towards the close the position has again hardened on stronger cable advices, and high prices being paid freely for September makes in Canada and New York—from 55s 9d to 57s 6d c.i.f.—and with a better inquiry here the market must be now quoted firm. For finest current arrivals Canadian, coloured, 54s to 55s; white, 53s to 54s; States coloured, 53s to 54s 6d; white, 52s 6d to 53s 6d. There is a good inquiry for full cream second grades at 45s to 50s, but very few obtainable. Butter.—There is very little improvement in the demand, and with a further decline in Kiel, and increased Colonial supplies, prices are slightly lower all round, though chiefly on the better grades. We quote to-day Canadian creamery in boxes, 100s to 104s; Scotch 94s to 98s; finest ladles, imitation creamery, 80s to 84s; finest Danish, 108s to 112s; Irish creamery, 100s to 106s; Cork firsts, 90s; seconds, 84s; thirds, 78s per cwt.—HODGSON BROTHERS.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 7½d to 1s 9d per lb. Leeds: Dairies 116s to 124s per cwt., Irish creameries 104s to 114s, York dairy, best, to 124s per stone, ditto long rolls 14½d. to 1s 2d to 2s; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d per lb. Boston: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Colne: 1s 3d per lb. Goole: 1s 4d per lb. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Keighley: 1s 2d per lb. Knaresborough: (Wholesale), 1s 6d to 1s 8d; (retail), 1s 8d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz. Louth: Wholesale, 1s 1d per lb. Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Northallerton: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Thirsk: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Thursday.—Driffield: 1s 1d per lb. Devizes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

Friday.—Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per lb. Grimsby: Danish 11½ to 12s per 112lb. Dutch, 108 to 112s; Coreendom 108 to 112s. Hornsey: 1s per lb. Leeds: Danish 116s to 120s per cwt., Irish creameries, 100 to 114s; York lumps 14s 6d to 16s 6d per stone, ditto long rolls 14½d. to 1s 6d to 2s; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Otley: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Stratford-on-Avon: 11d to 1s 2d per lb. Whitchurch: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 11 or 12 for 1s. Gainsborough: 12 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 11s to 14s per 120; Irish, 8s 6d to 10s 6d; Danish, 8s 3d to 10s; Austrian blues, 6s 7d to 7s 3d; ditto reds, 5s 9d to 6s 3d. Settle: 12 or 13 for 1s. Sheffield: 10 to 12 for 1s. Spalding: 13 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 10 for 1s. Boston: 13 or 14 for 1s. Colne: 1s 9d per score. Goole: 14 for 1s. Hereford: 12 for 1s. Keighley: 10 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 13 or 14 for 1s. Knaresborough: 10 or 12 for 1s. Louth: 14 for 1s. Market Drayton: 10 or 12 for 1s. Market Weighton: 13 or 14 for 1s. Northallerton: 12 for 1s. Stockton: 10 or 11 for 1s. Whitby: 10 or 11 for 1s. Worksop: 1s per score. Gloucester: 1s 2d to 1s 9d per score.

Thursday.—Devizes: 14 to 16 for 1s. Driffield: 13 to 14 for 1s. Penistone: 11 for 1s. Ripon: 11 for 1s. Scarborough: 10 or 11 for 1s. Wetherby: 11 for 1s. Birmingham: 9 for 1s. Kidderminster: 12 for 1s.

Friday.—Derby: 9 and 10 for 1s. Easingwold: 12 or 13 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 6s to 7s per 120; Russian, 5s 10d to 7s; Danish, 8s 6d to 9s 3d; Canadian, 6s 6d to 7s 6d. Helmsley: 13 or 16 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 11s to 12s per 120; Irish, 9s 3d to 9s 9d; Danish, 8s to 9s 6d; Austrian blues, 6s 8d to 7s; ditto reds, 5s 9d to 6s 3d. Leyburn: 12 for 1s. Lincoln: 13 for 1s. Otley: 9 or 10 for 1s. Stratford-on-Avon, 1s 6d to 1s. 10d per score. Whitchurch: 11 and 12 for 1s.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per packet of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb: Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7d to 1s 7½d; scoured average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; South Australian, greasy average, 6½d to 7d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 4½d to 1s 5½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; Cape, scoured superior, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; fleece average, 8d to 9d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 7½d to 7¾d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 10d to 1s; New Zealand, fine, 9d to 10d; ditto medium, 7¾d to 8¼d; ditto coarse, 6d to 7d.

Bradford, Thursday.—The market for strong wools is firm, but business is no greater in quantity. Deep green worsted and English half-breds command a better sale where holders do not attempt a slight advance. The values of fine wools are still irregular. Mohair is very firm. The yarn trade shows a better tone, but business is not improved substantially, though more demand for lustres and some twofolds. Prices are barely

Canterbury, Saturday.—There is no improvement in the trade, and prices with some difficulty maintained. Only 6d per lb is offered for Kent fleeces and from 6½d to 7½d for lambs' wool. Half-breds, 6½d to 7d; down fleeces, 8d to 10d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—During the past week there has been a slight improvement in the wool market, but it has not extended to merinos and fine cross-breds, neither holders nor consumers being inclined to operate only for immediate requirements. In the best sorts of home-grown produce there is more doing, and the tendency of the values is against the buyer. The lower classes of wools are still much depressed at irregular rates. There is an encouraging tone of feeling in the yarn trade.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A good supply of vegetables were offered, and the demand was [illegible]. Potatoes and Vegetables [illegible] 3s; [illegible] 2s 6d; [illegible] 1s 6d; [illegible] 2s 6d; [illegible] 1s 6d; [illegible] 1s 6d; [illegible] 1s 3d to 1s 6d per [illegible]; [illegible] 1s 3d to 1s 6d per [illegible]; Dutch, 3s to 3s 6d per [illegible]; [illegible] 1s 6d per [illegible]; [illegible] 1s 6d per [illegible]; [illegible] 6s to 8s per [illegible]; [illegible] 1s 6d to 2s per [illegible]; [illegible] 1s 6d to 2s per [illegible]; [illegible] 1s 6d to 2

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather has been perfect for ploughing up the stubbles and for getting into the soil those "catch crops" which are nowadays almost synonymous with efficient farming. In a few instances we have found farmers sowing wheat quite a fortnight before the usual date even of a forward district. Farmers seem to believe that the South African war was but the prelude to an era of strife, and that wheat will be a good deal dearer than of yore. If this impression coincides with an early and favourable sowing season we may have a perceptible recovery in the wheat acreage to report. The rise in coals, in cotton, in metals, and in many other articles has helped to nourish the idea that wheat will participate in the forward movement. Our individual conviction that wheat should show a moderate rise in 1901 has already been expressed in this column, but farmers need to be warned that the production of an extra million qrs. would almost certainly defeat its ends and check advancing tendencies. Not until for three years running have we had a yearly average above 30s. will there exist such conditions as should warrant any material increase in the area under wheat. Of another autumn crop, rye, we should like to see a good deal more sown, for it serves a double purpose, affording an excellent green feed if the next season prove short in such food, and yielding little less per cwt. than wheat in the market, if allowed to complete its growth. Threshings of the year's crops are proceeding, but as yet no undue haste has been shown.

In France the sowing of wheat proceeds apace, and the weather has been almost too dry. The threshings of new wheat reveal a finer quality than had been anticipated, but the weight is lighter on the average than that of the 1898 and 1899 crops. Germany is occupied lifting the gigantic potato crop annually produced in Central Europe. There is little disease, but the tubers do not run large. The new Russian crop of winter wheat is in brisk request for shipment to Italy and the Netherlands, but England, France, and Spain are not buying at all freely. The freights are higher than usual, and will be enhanced still further with the approach of winter and rough weather. India has experienced an extremely heavy rainfall, and the promise of the early autumn sown cereals is said to be good. There is, however, a great danger in prophesying, in September almost any harvest which is not to be reaped before April, and to speak of a bumper yield as in any way assured to India in 1901 is to run the risk of being gravely out in calculations when the crops have to be dealt with otherwise than merely in statistics.

The British wheat markets of the past week have been rather dearer as a rule, but trade has been exceedingly uneventful. The demand for English wheat is, relatively speaking, better than for foreign. Flour is 6d. dearer on the sack at all markets. The supply of flour made from new English wheat has been small at all the chief centres, and America has enhanced her terms by a shilling on all the leading patents.

The prices of principal staples per cwt. thus compare:—

	Per cwt. s.	d.
Wheat	7	2
Barley	7	1
Oats	6	2
Maize	5	1

The imperial wheat average of 28s. 4d. equals 29s. 9d. per 504lb., the quarter by which English wheat is sold at Mark Lane, and the London official average of 30s. 2d. equals 31s. 8d. at the same 504lb. weight. The need for uniform practice over the returns is very great; even *habitués* have constantly to be on their guard under the present market system.

The sales of breadstuffs for the week have been:

	Qrs.
British wheat	120,000
Foreign ,,	360,000
,, flour	158,000
Total	638,000
Requirements	567,000
Surplus	71,000

The stocks in granary may accordingly be reckoned as increased to that extent.

The quantities of wheat on passage on 22nd inst. were:—

	Qrs.
Californian	900,000
North American	500,000
South ,,	275,000
Australasian	220,000
Russian	65,000
All other countries	100,000
Total	2,060,000
A year ago	1,815,000

Of flour there are 432,000 sacks on passage against 396,000 sacks in 1899, and 306,000 sacks in 1898.

The maize trade has been somewhat irregular, but, on the whole, it is surprising how well the price of an article in such large supply keeps up. Last week 296,000 qrs. were imported, but scarcely any exchange admitted a decline; yet it is very few years since an importation of 200,000 qrs. was described in ordinary market circulars and reports as "depressing." The quantities of maize afloat are as follows:—

	Qrs.
22nd Sept., 1900	735,000
1899	815,000
1898	660,000

The barley trade is preparing for the big burst of business which October inaugurates. The threshings are giving a better sample than was the case a month ago, but the few early samples of later August were in no sense indicative of the general crop. The imports last week were 117,500 qrs., while there are now 480,000 qrs. on passage against 446,000 qrs. a year ago and 550,000 qrs. in 1898.

The trade in oats is very quiet, 371,000 qrs. landed in the last fifteen days representing a rate of supply from abroad for which the markets are not wholly prepared. The American and Russian shippers are not, however, competing with each other so fiercely as usual. Russia has temporarily distanced America, and free offers to ship at 12s. 9d. to 13s. per qr. indicate that the control of the market thus assumed by the Baltic and Black Sea ports will not be relaxed until the winter impedes navigation. The market for beans is very steady. Alexandria holds less, and is shipping less than at this time last year. The London and Glasgow markets are inclined to favour holders of peas. The American and Canadian crops of pulse are stated to be less than last year, but the home production is probably rather larger than in 1899. Linseed remains dear, and with only 71,000 qrs. on passage against 267,000 qrs. on Sept. 22, 1899, the holders on spot have every warrant for a firm attitude. Cottonseed derives spot strength from a like source, only 3,745 tons being afloat as compared with 7,500 tons at this time last year.

THE BALTIC.

A cargo of No. 1 Californian wheat arrived on 14th inst. fetched 31s. 9d.; another arrived on the 20th made 32s. 6d. This indicates 9d. rise in six days. The proverbial difficulty of judging of a house from a single brick is, however, brought home to us by noting that a cargo of Walla Walla sold on Sept. 15 for 30s. 9d., and that a similar cargo made only 31s. on the 22nd. The rise in wheat cargoes since the 14th inst., then, is 3d. to 9d.; that is as near as we can get. Other sales of wheat cargoes during the period under notice have included Australian at 31s. 9d., fine Argentine at 31s. 3d., fine Azima Russian at 31s. 9d., and No. 2 winter red American at 29s. 6d per qr. The maize sales have been numerous, several American cargoes for October shipment being placed at 20s. 6d., one for Nov. at 20s., one for Dec. at 19s. 9d., and four for Jan. (new crop) at 18s. per qr A cargo of fine Russian has made 25s. 3d., but Argentine has been held above buyers' ideas. Barley has been quiet; 17s. 9d. has been accepted for a cargo of Persian just shipped. Oats have made 15s. for three cargoes of American, but Russian cargoes wait for buyers, though offered at 12s. 9d. prompt shipment. Other cargo sales include Argentine linseed at 50s. 9d., Calcutta linseed at 58s. 3d., Indian rapeseed (Cawnpore brown) at 44s. 9d., Calcutta poppyseed at 46s. 3d. French buckwheat at 28s., and best Smyrna dari at 25s. 6d.; all per qr.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 4 wheat (3 Oregon, 1 Rosario), 1 barley (San Francisco), 1 beans (Casablanca), 1 fenugreek seed (Casablanca); total, 7.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 4 wheat (1 Antwerp, 1 Cardiff, 1 Hull, 1 Tyne Dock), 1 canaryseed (Bristol); total, 5.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been 254 wheat, 13 wheat and barley, 1 wheat and pease, 6 flour, 10 maize, 1 maize and oats, 24 barley, 18 beans, 7 locust beans, 1 linseed, 3 canaryseed, 1 fenugreek seed, 5 valonea; total, 344.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 228 wheat, 10 flour, 3 maize, 6 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 8 beans, 1 locust beans, 5 linseed, 5 canaryseed, and 7 valonea; total, 275.

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	28	6	,,	25

(No official change since last date given).

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was firm, but dull for most imported descriptions of grain. New English wheat made 33s. for fine white. There is a demand for seed wheat at 36s. to 40s. per qr. for "pedigree" types. The American wheat samples, whether spring or winter, are held for 6d. more money, but it is seldom paid. Argentine is firm. New malting barley from North Norfolk commanded 34s. to 36s., and from Cambridgeshire 31s. to 34s. per qr. Russian at 20s. and Persian at 18s. 6d. had only a slow sale, while Californian at 27s. was neglected. Maize was firm on spot, but weak for future supply. Foreign oats were hard to place. New English oats were not very plentiful, 18s. to 19s. commanded the majority of samples. New Maple peas from Essex were in request at 37s. to 39s., according to sample. New rye at 27s. was a fair sale. Torrified barley had its buyers at 23s. 9d. to 24s. per qr.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

SEPT. 24th, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	31/6	–33
Red	,,	30	–32/6
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	28	– 36
Brewing	,,	24	– 28
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	– 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	– 40
Scotch	,,	36	– 38
Brown	,,	29	– 32
OATS, English	,,	19	– 23
Scotch	,,	22	– 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	– 19
RYE, British (new)	(per 480 lb.)	27	– 28
,, (old)	,,	25	– 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	43	– 45
,, Winter	,,	30	– 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	– 84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	– 76
,, Dun	,,	32	– 34
,, Maple	,,	40	– 42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

WHEAT, per 496lb.	s.	s.
Finest Duluth	34	– 35
American Spring	33/6	–34
Hard Manitoba	33/6	–34
Red Winter	31/6	–32
Kansas	31	– 32
Californian	32	– 33
Walla Walla	31	– 32
Australian	31	– 32
New Zealand	30	– 32
Argentine	29	– 32
Danzig	34	– 35
Saxonka	33	– 34
Azima	32	– 33
Ghirka	31	– 32
Persian	30	– 31
MAIZE, per 480lb.:		
Cinquantina	26	– 27
Roumanian	24	– 25
Russian	24	– 26
Caucasian	23	– 24
Argentine	22/6	–23
American	21	–21/6
OATS:		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	– 26
Canadian (320lb.)	16	– 17
American (320lb.)		
,, White	16	– 17
,, Mixed	15	– 16
Revel (320lb.)	16	– 17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	– 17
,, (304lb.)	14	–14/3
Libau, white (304lb.)	13	–13/9
,, black ,,	15	–15/3
White Sea (304 lb.)	13/9	–14
BEANS, per 480lb.:		
Egyptian	31	– 32
Smyrna	28	– 29

BEANS (*continued*).	s.	s.
Konigsberg	28	– 29
Barbary	27	– 28
Mexican	28	– 30
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Cyprian	106	– 112
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	29	– 30
Indian, White	28	– 30
,, Green	25	– 27
Barbary	26	– 28
Australian, White	40	– 41
,, Dun	26	– 27
LENTILS, per 504 lb.:		
Egyptian	31	– 33
Indian	36	– 38
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Syrian	25	– 26
Smyrna	26	– 27
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	– 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb.:		
French	29	–29/6
Russian	27	– 28
BARLEY:		
Californian (448 lb.)	26	– 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	– 28
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	– 24
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	– 22
Syrian (400 lb.)	25	– 22
Persian (400 lb.)	18/3	–19
American (400 lb.)	20/3	–21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	34	– 37
Smyrna	33	– 36

OIL SEEDS

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	60	to 62
Dutch	59	to 61
Argentine	58	to 58
Canadian	59	to 61
Russian	55	to 57
Calcutta	58	to 60
SESAME. per 424lb.		
Bombay	50	to 52
Kurrachee	53	to 54
COTTON SEED. per ton.		
Egyptian	145	to 155

RAPESEED. per 416lb.	s.	d.
English	56	to 60
Dutch	54	to 56
French	47	to 48
Roumanian	44	to 46
Cawnpore	46	to 47
Calcutta	43	to 44
Guzerat	50	to 51
Ferozepore	44	to 45
Ravison	30	to 32
POPPYSEED. per 377lb.		
Indian	48	to 50

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

OATS CLOSED AT 6d. DECLINE, BUT OTHER STAPLES WERE AS PREVIOUSLY QUOTED.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Sept. 24th.

The sales of flour to-day were up to a full average, but there is very little speculation. London makes were firm at a slight advance on the ordinary qualities. Country flour, all English new crop, made 23., but a mixture with old crop at 23s. 6d. was preferred, and the best demand of all was for the "patent" mixtures, as they are somewhat inexactly called, of various high-class East Anglian firms, These houses can be relied upon to blend old and new English wheat wit ha justly-chosen percentage of the sort of foreign which best suits the local product. For such flour a special price is often paid, up to 27s. being obtained at Mark Lane to-day in more than one instance, though, speaking generally, 24s. to 26s. is quite as high a price as can be quoted. Hungarian flour to-day was the turn in sellers' favour. American flour was difficult to buy, as the agents here were advised to hold for a rise, which bakers resisted. American flour sales, so far as they were actually made, included "Gold Medal" at 27s. and "Sun" at 27s. 3d. Below these rather fancy prices were "Gilt Edge" at 20s. 6d., "Iron Duke" at a guinea, "Good Hue" at 23s., and Kansas "Dazzle" at 24s. 3d. and 24s. per sack. Whole meal was 6s. to 7s. per ton dearer, and 188s. to 190s. was demanded. But the germ meal was obtainable at 110s. to 112s. per ton.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	30
Town Whites	,,	—	28/6
,, Households	,,	—	25/6
No. 2	,,	—	23/6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24	— 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23	— 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	21	— 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	20	— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	26	— 27
,, Second Patents	,,	24	— 25
,, First Bakers'	,,	21	— 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Milwaukee Patents	,,	25	— 27
,, Bakers'	,,	21	— 23
Kansas Patents	,,	24	— 26
Cascadia	,,	24/6	— 25
Canadian	,,	24	— 25
Australian	,,	24	— 25
Hungarian	,,	20	— 32
French	,,	21	— 24

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	183	—190
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	110	—112
Bran, London Broad	,,	99	—101
,, ,, Fine	,,	78	— 84
,, Country Flake	,,	108	—110
,, ,, Broad	,,	96	— 98
Pollard	,,	92	— 94
Fine Middlings	,,	118	—122
Coarse Middlings	,,	102	—108
Oat Meal	,,	220	—280
Oat Flour	,,	340	—360
Maize Flour	,,	132	—134
Maize Meal	,,	114	—124
Maize Cones	,,	144	—150
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	106	—110
Pea Meal	,,	128	—168
Bean Meal	,,	152	—172
Rice Meal	,,	90	— 94

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day at South Sea House, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.	March.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sept. 17 noon	6 7 .. 6 8	.. 6 9	.. —	—
4 p.m.	6 8 .. 6 9	.. 6 10	.. 7	0
Sept. 18 noon	6 8 .. 6 9	.. 6 10	.. 7	0
4 p.m.	6 8 .. 6 9	.. 6 10	.. 7	0
Sept. 19 noon	6 8 .. 6 9	.. 6 10	.. 7	0
4 p.m.	6 9 .. 6 9	.. 6 11	.. 7	0
Sept. 20 noon	6 9 .. 6 9	.. 6 11	.. 7	1
4 p.m.	6 10 .. 6 10	.. 6 11	.. 7	1
Sept. 21 noon	6 10 .. 6 10	.. 6 11	.. 7	1
4 p.m.	6 10 .. 6 10	.. 6 11	.. 7	1
Sept. 22 noon	6 10 .. 6 10	.. 6 11	.. 7	1
To-day noon	6 10 .. 6 11	.. 7 0	.. 7	2

The sales of maize for future delivery include purchases for actual delivery within this month at 4s. 5d. per cental and at 3s. 11d. for speculative supply of new American in February. Thus the opinion of the forward market points to temporary scarcity of Indian corn to be followed by plenty.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Wheat: The demand is not active, but holders are very firm at 6d. advance on the week. Flour 6d. dearer. Maize and barley without alteration. Oats 6d. lower on the week. - W. P. Wood and Co., Mark Lane.

Flour.—A very firm trade at 9d. to 1s. over last week's prices.—T. S. Medill, Mark Lane.

The trade for milling offals remains unchanged from Monday last.—Richard Doggett, Mark Lane.

Arrivals are large both of wheat and flour. Wheat in steady demand and prices 6d. and 9d. higher. Flour 6d. per sack advance. Maize unchanged in value. Barley a slow sale at late prices. Oats with heavy arrivals are 3d. and 6d. cheaper. Coventry, Mark Lane.

We have few buyers at to-day's market. Red clover seed is still in demand for export and very firm. Alsike is also strong. White clover and trefoil are steady. Italian and perennial rye grasses tend upwards. For winter tares the demand is disappointing and the orders for trifolium are small. Birdseeds quiet. Mustard and rape are very firm. Blue peas tend upwards.—John Picard and Co., Mark Lane.

Offals: The advanced quotations for bran are somewhat checking sales. Smaller qualities are still scarce. There is a moderate enquiry for pollard; prices rather dearer.—Greenhill Brothers, Belfast, September 22.

Flour: The amount of business put through this week has only been limited by sellers asking a further advance. Mill prices now prevent purchases for shipment. Grain: The supply of Indian corn on spot and afloat to this market is very small, and the demand being good, buyers are obliged to pay very full prices. Oats do not participate in the general improvement in values. Scotch and Irish oats are cheaper, and foreign oats are also in buyers' favour. Canadian pease are 3d. up. Beans are unchanged. Of barley there is none on spot. Mill stuffs: Bran and thirds are unchanged.—McKinnon and McDonald, Glasgow, Sept. 22.

Wheat a fair consumptive trade all round. Spring occasionally ½d, white ½d. to 1d. per cental dearer. Flour a fair trade. American qualities generally 6d. to 1s. dearer per sack. Maize meets with a fair consumptive demand at ½d. per cental less than Tuesday for mixed American. European and Plate kinds have a fair inquiry at last market day's figures. Barley has an improved inquiry, and a fair trade has transpired at unchanged values. Feeding firm, with a good demand. Beans are firm with a moderate trade. Peas steady with a small trade. Oats are firm, with a better inquiry for English; foreign quiet and only a small demand. Oatmeal firm, inactive. Oilcake firm, with only a moderate inquiry, owing to the recent advance.—Ross T. Smyth, Liverpool, September 22.

THE BALTIC, Monday, 1 p.m.

State of Trade.

Holders are firm for wheat cargoes, American are held for 3d. rise from Saturday. Maize cargoes, on the other hand, are not quite so strong as on the 22nd. Barley is neglected, but oats are selling fairly well, though the prices both for American and Russian cargoes must be accounted low.

Business Done.

Wheat.—Californian, 32s 6d, arrived; Argentine, 30s, new crop, Jan. shipment; Manitoba, 31s 9d, Oct. shipment; Northern Spring, 31s 3d, Oct. shipment; best Duluth, 32s 3d, Oct. shipment; Odessa Ghirka, 32s, Oct. shipment; Fine Azima, 32s 6d, Oct. shipment; Australian, 31s 9d, due.

Maize.—Argentine, 21s 9d, on passage; Odessa, 26s, on passage; American, 20s 6d, Oct. shipment; American, 18s 9d, December shipment.

Barley.—Persian, 17s 6d, October shipment.

Oats.—White Libau, 13s, October shipment; Vologda, 13s 6d, October shipment; American white clipped, 16s, October shipment; American mixed clipped, 14s, October shipment; No. 1 Canadian, 15s 6d, October shipment; No. 2 Canadian, 15s, October shipment.

Beans.—Smyrna, 27s 9d, on passage.

Dari.—Persian, 22s 6d, October shipment.

Linseed.—Argentine, 56s, on passage.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that samples of new American red cloverseed are now coming to hand, but the prices asked for same appear high. Some English trefoil has been changing hands at long figures. There is no quotable change in either alsyke or white cloverseed. Full rates, meantime, are demanded for perennial and Italian ryegrasses. The sale for trifolium, tares, and rye has of late, owing to the lack of rain, been meagre. As regards mustard and rapeseed, the market keeps firm. Blue peas and haricot beans still favour holders. Canaryseed remains dull. The Liverpool imports of this article for the year ending August 31, 1900, were only 8,000 bags, against 20,300 bags, for the corresponding previous twelve months. The total stocks in Liverpool are to-day only 7,843 bags.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington

Monday, Sept. 24th, 1900.

	British.	Total. Sept. 25th, 1899.
Beasts	1,470	1,470 — 1,990
Sheep and lambs	6,470	6,470 — 7,770
Calves	10	10 — 10
Milch cows	50	50 — 50

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

	ENGLISH. Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	3 4	4 2	4 10
Sheep	3 2	5 0	5 10
Lambs	5 4 .. 5 10	.. 6 4	

Milch cows, per head, £11 to £21 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, —; Eastern Counties, 13; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,297; Devon, 40; Ireland, 120.

We note to-day a decrease in the beast market of 520 head due to fewer arrivals from the Midland Counties and Ireland. Prime quality beasts made late rates, other grades were slow of sale at less money. Fat bullocking cows and bulls were in less demand and consequently ended in prices. Amongst the Irish arrivals were thirty-six yearling stores, which were quoted at from £6 1s to £7 per head.

The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day	Sept. 25th, 1899.
Devons	4s 8d to 4s 9d	— to —
Herefords	4s 8d to 4s 9d	4s 10d to 4s 10d
Runts	4s 6d to 4s 9d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 8d to 4s 9d	4s 10d to 4s 10d
Irish	4s 2d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Fat cows	3s 6d to 4s 8d	3s 4d to 3s 6d

In the sheep market there was a decrease compared with Monday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes was slow, the latter making 2d per 8lb less money, the former maintaining late rates. A few choice lambs were on offer, and were soon disposed of at Thursday's higher rates. The supply included 270 Scotch, 2,250 Irish, and 680 from the Eastern counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Sept. 25th, 1899.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
9-stone ditto	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10-stone half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-stone Lincoln	— to —	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	4s 8d to 4s 10d
10-stone Down ewes	4s 6d to 4s 8d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
11-stone half-bred ditto	3s 8d to 3s 10d	— to —
5-stone Down lambs	6s 2d to 6s 4d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
6-stone half-bred ditto	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 4d to 5s 6d

Calf trade nominal.

London Central, Monday.—Good supplies, trade very slow. Beef: Carcases, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; hindquarters, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; roastings, 5s to 5s 4d. Sheep: Ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wether, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Pigs, large, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; small, 3s 8d to 4s.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 721, sheep and lambs 2,010, pigs 423. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s 3d; mutton, 7s to 9s 11d; pork, 6s to 7s 3d. Fat cattle good demand, stores fair. Fat and store sheep good demand. Fat and store pigs fair. Milch cows fair show and trade, prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 327. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 817, and consisted of consignments from the United States. Owing to the small number on offer, there was but slight competition, consequently trade was on a slow and dragging nature, the tendency in regard to value being fully 1d. per 8lb. in favour of the buyer. The best on offer to dress about 720lb. made from 4s to 4s 1d per 8lb. (offal given in). No sheep on the market. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 958; 4s 4d per 8lb. Sheep, 1,370; 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8lb.

Liverpool, Monday.—Trade slow for cattle, and prices considerably lower for all classes. A slow demand for sheep at prices about the same as last week. Quotations: Beef, 6½d to 4¾d per lb; mutton, 8d. to 5½d per lb. At market: 1,356 cattle and 8,382 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—The linseed cake market is very firm, but demand is poor. Decorticated cotton cake and meal have an upward tendency. Cotton cake, very firm. Linseed, 6d dearer.

English linseed cake	£8	5	0	to	8 10	0 ex mill
American Calcutta linseed cake	None			to	—	ex quay
American Western linseed cake	7	17	6	to	—	ex quay
Russian oil cake	7	17	6	to	8 5	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 p.c. oil)	6	5	0			on rail Liverpool
Decorticated cotton cake	6	17	6	to	7 2	6 ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	—				6 12	6 ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	5	0	0	to	5 2	6 ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	—				—	ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4	10	0			on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4	12	6	to	4 15	0 ex warehouse
Russian linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2	17	0	to	—	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2	18	0	to	—	ex warehouse

—Robt. and John Hewetson.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough Highstreet, London, S.E., report: There is rather more trade doing, but growers are exceedingly loth to offer hops on the present basis of prices. Now that picking is practically over it is proved that the estimates of the growth made before picking commenced have not been reached.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland for the past forty-eight were [illegible] and from foreign ports 17,087 boxes butter. The home trade was steady at, with a quiet demand, but arrivals cleared fairly well as they came along at unchanged prices. Canadian supplies were somewhat smaller than previous week. The market closed quiet but steady. Prime salted Irish [illegible] Danish [illegible] 92s to 94s. Canadian, 88s to 90s. Irish [illegible] Danish 106s to 112s. Irish [illegible] Canadian, 98s to 100s. Bacon was a moderate inquiry at somewhat improved prices for American. Irish, 44s to 45s. Canadian, 43s to 44s 6d.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At Islington on the chief market day of the week there was a larger supply in the beast market, due to larger arrivals from the Midland counties and from Ireland, included in the latter being 150 stores, for which there was a very slack demand at following quotations:—Yearlings, £6 10s. to £7 per head; two years old, £8 to £9; three years old, £12 to £13. For fat beasts of both prime and second quality trade was of a decidedly slower nature, sales having to be more or less forced, and rates lowered by fully 2d. per 8lbs., at which reduction a clearance could not be made. Fat bulls on that day sold readily at higher prices; but on Thursday rates were lower, fat butchering cows, meeting with less inquiry, were slower of sale, and consequently favoured the buyer. At Deptford there was a larger supply, Monday's transactions being governed by last week's quotations, whereas on Thursday not only was trade slower, but less money had to be accepted to effect sales, especially as regards ranche cattle, several of which remained unsold last week. The total number on sale at both markets was 6,900 (previous week 5,570), consisting of 1,905 British, the remainder consisting of shipments from the United States and Canada, chiefly the former. The following were the top quotations paid per 8lb., sinking the offal:—90-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d.; 80-stone Devons, 4s. 10d.; 90-stone runts, 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.; 80-stone Highland Scots, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 4d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 2d.; 90-stone Irish, 4s. 6d.; 95-stone Waterfords, 4s. 4d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 85-stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; ranche ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; 90-stone fat cows, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. The sheep trade chiefly confined to the Islington market, very few being on sale at Deptford, was dull and dragging at a decline of 2d. per 8lb. for both wethers and ewes, the same remark applying to lambs on Monday, which, however, on Thursday sold quickly at an advance of 4d. per 8lb.; the total number penned was 10,910, of which 10,420 were British. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows, sinking the offal:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 9-stone ditto, 5s. 8d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 10d.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 11-stone ditto, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 3s. 10d.; 8 to 8½-stone Canadians, 4s.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s. on Monday and 6s. 4d. on Thursday; 6-stone halfbred lambs, 5s. 6d. and 5s. 10d. The calf supply was very short, only forty being on sale, and for this small number trade was dull, the best on offer were quoted at from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

The want of rain is occasioning a shortage of pasture keep, and affecting the roots, considerable breadths of which in certain districts are showing signs of mildew. If this continues it must seriously affect prices of stock. So far, however, the sheep trade is unusually brisk. Good class ewes now make 42s. up to 50s. for the younger ages, and older drafts 35s. to 40s. In many districts very fresh wether lambs are in much demand at high rates for finishing off, and there is an equally good inquiry for working lambs in those districts where keep still continues plentiful. Barreners of a good stamp also sell well, as also do milch beasts, prices of which are very firm. Fat stock prices are well maintained. Best beef, 11s. to 12s.; seconds, 10s. to 10s. 6d.; best mutton, 8½d.; seconds, 7½d.; lamb, 9d. to 10d.

Trade in Ireland.

With a smaller market and a better all-round inquiry, prices were firmer and more uniform than last week. The stiffening of rates was particularly noticeable on prime bullocks and choice heifers for the London and Scotch markets, and the drop of last Thursday was practically recovered. Secondary and rough cattle also met with a better demand, prices being firmer and sales much easier effected. Buyers tried hard to keep to the rates current last day, but sellers were firm, and a slight advance was eventually obtained. In the sheep department very little change could be noted from the previous day. Prime wether mutton, 6d. to 6¾d. per lb.; ewe, 4½d. to 5½d. per lb.; hoggets from 29s. to 52s., and lambs, 14s. to 32s. each. Veal of best quality in demand, and sold as high as 8s. per lb., but rough calves hard to move. There was a great scarcity of prime milch cattle, and any in evidence realised extreme rates, but second quality and rough cows were fully equal to the demand, and moved rather slowly at late rates. In the pig department, with moderate supply, sales were effected with freedom, and an early clearance made. Light bacon and shipping pigs sold at from 42s. to 44s., and coarse pigs down to 32s. per cwt.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies on offer, but trade quiet. Arrivals of beef include 20 tons Scotch, 400 Liverpool sides, 1,400 hindquarters, and 750 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef: Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s to 4s 2d; English, 3s 10d to 4s; American Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 7d to 3s 10d; forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d: wethers, 4s to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d. Pork, country, 4s to 4s 4d; Dutch, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Better demand for fair supplies on offer. Arrivals of beef include 60 tons Scotch, 600 Liverpool sides, 3,500 hindquarters, and 3,000 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s to 4s 2d; English, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; New Zealand hindquarters, 3s to 3s 2d; forequarters, 2s 3d to 2s 4d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s 4d; Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s; Wellington, 2s 5d to 2s 6d; Canterbury, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d. Pork: Country, 4s to 4s 4d; Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Only small supply of beasts, chiefly fat bulls and rough descriptions, which met quiet demand. Sheep supplies small, but demand for both wethers and ewes slow, at about last Monday's decline. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 11-stone halfbreds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. Lambs moved very slowly. 5-stone fat Downs, 5s 10d to 6s. Calves slow of sale. Top price, 5s 6d per 8lb to sink the offal. Total supplies:—60 beasts, 1,680 sheep and lambs, 35 calves, 80 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade was dull all round in consequence of the hot weather. Best beef did not exceed 12s per score, and a good many prime animals went at 11s 6d. Inferior beasts made 10s to 11s, and cows 8s to 9s. Mutton met with a slow demand at prices nominally the same as a week ago. Veal in the midst of the general depression was selling at good prices, best calves going as high as 5s 8d per stone. Pigs were irregular, but not cheaper on the whole; a good roaster was worth about 6d per lb.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a full attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 40 fat beasts, 85 calves, 660 fat sheep and lambs and store sheep, 227 pigs, and 61 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £13 10s to £21; fat calves, 80s to £5 10s; smaller, 20s to 47s 6d; fat wethers, 40s 6d to 60s; ewes 26s 6d to 38s 6d; fat lambs, 25s to 48s 6d; fat hogs, 65s to 75s; porkers, 42s to 54s; small, 26s to 38s; store pigs, up to 23s 6d; dairy cows, up to £22, etc. The greater part of the supply of fat beasts was of second class quality, for which the trade was slow with lower prices. Best quality beasts of moderate weights are wanted and sell readily at full rates. Shorthorn steers made up to £19; heifers, £16 10s; cows, £15 5s: young Devon steers, up to £19, etc., etc. With a good show of sheep and lambs, prices were maintained for the best lots, a slower trade for old ewes and inferior fat sheep. Store sheep and lambs are wanted. Hants down wethers and young ewes made 48s, 46s, 45s 6d, 45s, 43s, 47s 6d, 44s 6d, 56s, 60s, 58s, 46s 6d, 55s, 54s 6d, 40s, 44s, 54s, 51s 6d, 45s; 9-months old wethers and ewes, 45s. 42s 6d, 35s, 47s, 46s, 48s 6d, 48s, 38s, 43s 6d, 36s, 43s, 31s, 43s, 38s; Southdowns, 35s 6d; 3-months old sucking lambs, 25s, 34s 6d, 32s 6d, 25s 6d, 30s. Old ewes, 37s, 36s 6d, 37s 6d, 33s 6d, 35s, 36s 6d, 32s, 38s 6d. Rams, 44s, 40s, 47s, 57s. Southdown ewes, 37s. Cheviot lambs, 28s 6d; Cheviot wethers, 33s. Hants down store lambs, 34s 6d to 38s 6d. With an average entry of dairy cattle, last week's prices for the best lots were maintained. Store cattle are a short supply and showed a better enquiry. Fat calves met a brisk trade, and a trifle more money. Fat porkers sold readily at late rates. Store pigs also met a better enquiry. Ruling values: Prime quality Devon beasts, 7d to 7½d; ditto Shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6¾d; bulls, cows, and inferior sheep, 5d to 6d per lb.; best quality sheep, 8½d to 9d; second ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 6d to 7d; choice fat sucking lambs, 8½d to 9d per lb.; fat calves, 6d to 9d per lb; fat porkers up to 10s 6d score.

Boston, Wednesday.—A small show of cattle, but a good show of sheep. Best beef, 7s 6d to 8s; cow beef, 6s 9d to 7s per stone; heifers, £16 to £18; in-calvers, £18 to £20; calves, 55s to 60s; wether mutton, 7¾d to 8d; ewe mutton, 5½d to 6d per lb; store lambs, 28s to 32s; shearlings, 44s to 50s; fat lambs, 34s to 38s each.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2¼ in. and under	8s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¼ in.	8s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	7s 3d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 674; sheep, 272; pigs, 437; horses, 11. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 8d; pork, 5s 6d to 7s. A few more lots of store beasts, but trade was not brisk. Fat beasts, a fair trade all round at late rates. Fat sheep not so good as last week. Stores a much larger show; some fine lots lambs and ewes trade slow. Fat pigs a brisk trade at late rates. Stores a fair trade all round.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a considerable supply of sheep, but not quite so many lambs. Old sheep ranged from 20s to 32s; best breeding ewes made up to 36s; wether tegs, 32s to 34s; lambs, 13s to 16s; and for the best pens, 20s per head. Some Irish calves were shown, but there was little inquiry. Trade was slow all round.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish store stock was again a good one, consisting of over 400 heifers of a good type for wintering purposes. The attendance of buyers was about the average, and the recent good demand was maintained. Small beasts made £7 10s to £10 10s, and the best specimens realised as much as £17 10s. Young pigs a fair show; quiet sale at 24s to 28s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Small supply of fat stock, and business was done at prices which showed a somewhat rising tendency. Store sheep were plentiful, but there was not such a brisk demand as on the last occasion, although prices on the whole were well maintained. The attendance was up to the average.

Dorchester, Saturday.—A heavy supply of beef. Heifers and calves made £16 to £19; fat steers, £17 to £21; fat heifers, £14 to £18; cows and calves, £9 to £13; barreners, £8 10s to £12. Moderate offer of mutton, wethers making 41s to 48s; Down ewes, 38s to 42s; lambs, 22s to 30s.

Dublin, Thursday.—Considerably more animation prevailed in the beef market, due to the presence of more buyers. Best finished cattle were perhaps easier to sell at slightly higher prices, but rough and unfinished sorts, although in better demand, cannot be quoted higher. Slow dragging trade for sheep at prices favouring sellers, some middling and inferior lots remaining unsold. Beef, first class, 30s to 34s per cwt; second class, 26s to 29s per cwt. Mutton, 5d to 7d per lb. Lambs out of season.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Average supplies maintained late currencies. Best beef, 38s per live cwt; horned bullocks, to £20; polled heifers, to £13; polled bullocks, to £15; Highland bullocks, to £15; Galloway bullocks, to £17; Galloway heifers, to £15; calving cows, to £16.

Driffield, Wednesday.—A light show of beef, which made 7s to 7s 6d per stone. A good number of sheep were on offer: shearlings, 7d to 7½d; ewes, to 6d; lambs 8d; veal, 7d to 8d per lb.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Best class of sheep met a good trade. Half-breds made 30s to 41s; Cheviot hogs, 30s to 37s; grey-faces, 35s; Shorthorn bullocks, £13 10s to £14 5s. Best Shorthorn cows were in good demand, making to £24 15s; Ayrshire, £17 to £19.

Glasgow Wednesday.—Prices a shade dearer. Top Scotch scarce. Dealers maintained that the show was the poorest of the season. Scotch cattle, 66s to 68s; Irish, 60s to 62s per cwt. Top mutton, 8¾d to 8¼d; secondary, 7¾d to 7¾d per lb. Good lambs scarce at 8¼d to 9d per lb. Milder weather injured the dead meat trade; best Scotch beef, 6d to 6¼d; States, 5¾d to 5¾d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 411, calves 44, sheep and lambs 5,304, pigs (fat and sows) 7, sucking pigs 21, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 137, pigs (stores, more than ten) 113, horses 1, colts 1. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6¾d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 9½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robt. Bond and Sons report fat cattle were short in numbers, and all the best descriptions sold well at the rates current last week; £24 was the highest price obtained. Fat lambs were in request, choice Suffolks making up to 57s. The fat sheep pens were well filled. Trade for shearlings was dull; but fat ewes sold well. Several lots of ewes and young lambs were offered, and changed hands freely at the improved prices recently current. Calves were numerous, those for weaning making more money. Fat calves in demand, up to £4 17s 6d. Fat swine were well represented, and a brisk trade was experienced for all descriptions. Well-bred stores were also in request. This being the first autumn sale of grazing cattle, 140 stores and heifers were forwarded, which included several grand Highland Scots, and some forward lots of shorthorns. The attendance of buyers was large, and a capital trade was experienced for all animals in good condition, but for those that were poor biddings were slow, and good value for money was obtained. Eighteen shorthorn steers, about 20 months old, made from £12 5s to £11. Nineteen two and three-year-old Highland Scots, which had been caked during the summer, sold in three lots, made £13, £10 10s, and £7 17s 6d. Twenty-six shorthorn steers made from £8 5s to £7. Several cows were on offer, but the trade was not so good, and prices ruled lower. Numbers on sale—Beasts, 714; calves, 58; sheep, 1,272; swine, 1,852; horses, 30.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Cattle were offered in smaller numbers to-day—534 against 580 last week—and comprised a good assortment of home district, North of England, and Irish stock. There is not much improvement to note in the amount of business passing compared with last Tuesday. Buyers were again indifferently represented, and business generally ruled slow, the close of the market being exceptionally dull. There was a moderate demand for the very choicest heifers and bullocks, but other qualities were neglected. The primest lots of heifers and bullocks realised 6¾d. good beef made 6d to 6¼d, and cow and inferior beef 5d to 6d per lb. The entry of sheep was much smaller than last week—2,030, compared with 2,620. Business was very disappointing to sellers, all descriptions except the very choicest shearlings meeting with a poor market. Buyers were reluctant to invest, and sellers were firm in their demands, consequently the prices of last week were about maintained. Choice shearlings made 8¼d, large and heavy sheep 7d to 7¼d, and ewes and tups 5d to 6d per lb. Rather more calves were offered. Best veal 7d to 7¼d per lb. Small display of dairy cattle, and trade slow at slightly lower prices. Best milkers £15 to £20. Numbers at market—Cattle 534, sheep 2,030, calves 18.

Leicester, Saturday.—Very heavy supplies of stock in excellent condition. Trade rather slow, but prices firm. Milch cows made £18 to £24 per head; bullocks, £12 to £18. Sheep were a large supply, and sold freely at firm prices.

Lincoln, Tuesday.—Fairly good supply of beasts, and trade slow. Prime beef, 7s 6d to 8s; lower qualities, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per stone. Sheep about an average, and trade dull. Ewe mutton, 5¼d to 6d; wether ditto 7¼d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 8¼d per lb.

Lincoln, Friday.—Much better supply of milch and store beasts, but trade not brisk. Milch beasts, £14 to £20. Very little alteration in prices of store cattle. Breeding sheep made up to 56s; drape ewes, 20s to 30s; and lambs, 20s to 35s.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Smaller supplies, prices firm, but unaltered. Numbers:—Cattle, 1,870; sheep and lambs, 774; pigs, 613; calves, 63. Prices (sinking offal):—Beef, 5s to 8s 3d; pork, 5s to 7s 6d per stone; mutton, 5d to 8d; lamb, 5¼d to 8¼d; veal, 6d to 9¼d per lb.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—Average supply of stock and brisk trade. Beef (best), 6¾d to 7d per lb; beef (secondary quality), 6d to 6¼d; wethers (best), 7¼d; ewes, 6d to 6¼d; lamb, 8d; veal, 7d to 7¾d; pigs (porkers), 10s to 10s 3d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store cattle here to-day was unusually large; trade was quiet, and a complete clearance was not effected; prices remained at about their former level. Fat beasts, which were in good supply, made 7s 9d to 8s and 8s 3d per 14lb. Store sheep and lambs were in large supply; trade was quiet, and late rates were barely maintained; lambs were quoted at from 27s to 38s, and keeping shearlings at from 40s to 48s per head. Fat sheep made 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Best beef, 7s 9d to 8s per stone; moderate beef, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; best mutton, 8d to 8¼d per lb; ewes, 6d per lb; lambs, 9d per lb; calves, 7¾d to 8d per lb.

Preston, Wednesday.—Full supplies in every department, and a fair attendance. Trade was rather slow, and prices for beef just easier. Beef, heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6¾d; cows and bulls, 5¾d to 5¾d; mutton hoggs, 7¾d to 7¾d; tups and ewes, 5¾d to 6¾d; Cheviot wethers, 5¾d; lambs, 7¾d to 8¼d; calves, 6¾d to 8d. At market—210 cattle, 2,250 sheep, and 120 calves.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a smaller supply of both cattle and sheep. Cattle experienced a moderately good demand, but prices were no better. There was a fair demand for sheep, but trade ruled slow and prices were against the seller. The lamb trade was also slow and prices lower. About the same number of calves on offer as last Tuesday, and trade slow, prices having a downward tendency. Quotations:—Cattle, 5¾d to 6¾d; sheep, 6d to 8d; lambs, 6¾d to 8¼d; calves, 5¾d to 7¾d per lb. At market—Cattle, 2,454; sheep and lambs, 11,065; calves, 124.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A very small show of milch beasts. The best lots were sold from £18 to £23; secondary, £13 to £16.

Spalding Tuesday.—There was a good show of cattle; best fat beasts, 28s to 24s per head; good useful stores, £16 to £18; beef, 8s per stone. In the sheep market a little less money was made, but lambs sold well, and mutton made 7¾d to 8d per lb.

Stockton Wednesday.—There were on offer 221 cattle, 446 sheep, 160 lambs, and 261 pigs. Best cattle was an average show, at 8s and 8s 3d; rougher kinds, 7s and 7s 6d per stone; lambs, 8¼d; young sheep, 8d; ewes, 7d; tups, 5d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Fair supply; moderate attendance. Business somewhat dull.

Thame, Tuesday.—The market was well supplied with stock of all descriptions, but the trade, with the exception of the best quality, was rather slow. Weaning calves showed a great improvement in prices, and met with a keen competition, several Norfolk buyers being present. Mr. Bond's sale com-

prised no less than 131 fat beasts, 15 store heifers and down calvers, 857 fat sheep and stores, 88 fat and weaning calves, 117 fat and store pigs, and 2 horses. Fat bullocks made £17 to £20; fat heifers, £14 to £19 10s; two-year-old heifers, £8 to £10 each; fat wethers, 43s to 57s 6d; fat ewes, 38s to 50s; fat lambs, 29s to 37s 6d; store lambs, 17s to 35s; fat calves, £3 to £4 17s; cow calves, 28s to 69s; bull calves, 18s to 70s; fat pigs, 9s per score. Stores a better trade.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Quiet trade all round at about last week's rates. Best beef, 6½d per lb; other kinds, 5d to 6½d; lambs, 8½d to 9d: small sheep, 7½d to 8d; ewes and tups, 5d to 6d. Numbers penned:—Fat beasts, 1,432; sheep and lambs, 3,137.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a moderate supply, slow trade. Sheep and lambs fair supply, quiet demand. Calves small supply, fair demand for best. A large supply of milking cows and fair demand. Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 7½d to 8½d per lb; veal, 7½d to 8d per lb. Bacon pigs, 9s 3d to 9s 6d per score; porkets, 9s 6d to 10s per score; sows, 7s to 7s 6d per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Beef was in fair demand at steady rates. Wether mutton firm; ewe mutton and lamb favoured buyers. Best beef, 7d; inferior, 6d; wether mutton, 8½d; ewes, 7d; veal, 7½d per lb; pork pigs, 10s; bacon, 9s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A full market, and good attendance, prices showing little variation from last week. Best beef, 7s 6d to 8s; secondary, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; best mutton, 7½d to 8½d; secondary, 5½d to 6d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast entries totalled 1,005 head, 64 more than shown on Wednesday last, and comprised 723 United States and 282 Canadian. Trade was extremely dull, and even at easy prices, a good many were left unsold. The former quoted 4s 2d to 4s 4d; best of the latter, 3s 10d, with ranch 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8lb to sink the offal. No sheep offered.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—Small shipments and a fair demand have caused prices to advance considerably. Calcutta spot London 58s, near 58s 3d; August-September and September-October, 58s 3d; April-June, 46s. Hull firm Calcutta April-June, 47s. Azov, Black Sea, September-October, sold at 56s; October-November, 55s 9d paid. Duluth, September-November 54s 6d. La Plata, December-January 51s 3d; January-February, 50s. To the Continent Bombay is quoted March-May, sellers 51s. Calcutta April-June, new crop 47s 6d. La Plata December-January, 51s 6d; January-February, 50s. The imports into London for the week have been 21,587 qrs; and since 1st January, 548,029 against 517,382 qrs corresponding time last year. Linseed cakes continue firm. London made, £8 7s 6d. to £8 10s. Russian, £7 17s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £7 17s 6d to £8. Cotton cakes are firm and advancing. London made, £5; Egyptian, £4 15s to £4 17s 6d. Rapeseed.—In good demand at advancing prices. To the Continent we quote, Yellow Guzerat, October-November, 49s; March-May, 45s 9d. Yellow Cawnpore, October-November, 48s 6d. March-May, 44s 6d. Brown Cawnpore October-November, 46s; March-May, 42s. Brown Calcutta, October-November sold at 45s. Ravison to Hull, September, 33s 6d. The imports into London for the week have been 1,076 qrs; and since 1st January 36,721 qrs. against 41,216 qrs corresponding time last year. Cottonseed has continued to advance in Alexandria causing prices to harden on this side. London, however, still continues very quiet. Warehouse seed has made £7 10s and is now held for £7 15s 6d. September quoted £7 12s 6d; October, £7 2s 6d; November-January, £6 17s 6d, Hull closes quieter. Spot and passage, £7 7s 6d; September, £7 12s 6d; October, £7; November-January, £6 12s 6d. Cargoes November, £7 2s 6d wanted.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday. — Linseed Cakes. — The trade generally has been less active during the past week, but with the prospect of short supplies and a further advance in c.i.f. quotations, values are firmly held up. Russians only offer in limited quantity at 1s. 3d. per ton advance. Americans for early arrival are good value. English remain in small production, and unchanged. Cotton cakes.—Stocks of foreign are nearly exhausted, while very little offers for shipment next month, and holders in consequence ask rather more money for landed parcels. Decorticated are scarce and dear at last week's full prices, but meal may still be bought at £6 10s. both in spot or forward positions. Maize germ meal.—The market is almost bare of stocks, and near at hand parcels of American fetch extreme prices, while English in warehouse is unchanged. Rice meal.—A further large business has been done in September to December parcels of Rangoon, while spot meal sells steadily and unchanged.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... per ton ex mill	8 10 0	to	8 12 6
American in bags ..... ex dock	7 15 0	„	7 17 6
American Oct.-Nov. ..... „	7 12 6	„	7 15 0
Russian in mats ..... „	7 18 9	„	8 0 0
Russian in bags ..... „	8 0 0	„	8 2 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	5 0 0	„	5 2 6
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 17 6	„	4 18 9
„ „ Nov.-April shipment	4 16 0	„	4 17 6
Decorticated ..... „	6 17 6	„	6 18 9
Meal, on spot	6 10 0	„	6 12 6
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 15 0	„	—
Ravison ..... „	4 7 6	„	—
Nutted, in bags ..... „	4 12 6	„	—
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American) ..... ex dock	5 8 9	„	5 10 0
„ „ „ Sept.-Oct. c.i.f.	5 2 6	„	5 3 9
„ „ (English) ..... ex mill	5 7 6	„	5 10 0
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	4 12 6	„	4 15 0
„ Oct.-Jan. ..... ex ship	4 12 6	„	—
„ Jan.-March ..... ex ship	4 11 3	„	—

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—The market to-day rules very firm, prices tending upwards for both home-grown and foreign, the former being 6d and the latter 3d to 6d per quarter higher than last Tuesday. Barley sells at irregular prices, owing to variation in quality of the new crop. Oats in moderate supply and unaltered in value. Beans maintain full prices. Flat maize, 3d to 6d per qr dearer, and round quite as dear as last week. Linseed.—The arrivals are 295 qrs from Harlingen, 1,883 qrs Kurrachee, 10,247 qrs Petersburg; total, 12,425 qrs. Linseed, during the last few days, has shown considerable activity, and prices have again moved upwards. Calcutta on the spot does not offer; the same applies to April-June new crop. Black Sea 56s 9d to 57s has been paid for seed afloat and shipping, September-October 56s.; October-November 55s 3d the value, sellers now asking 55s 6d. Petersburg, July-August, 55s the value. Riga and Libau, monthly shipments October-March, business done at prices ranging from 51s to 51s 6d; 52s now asked. River Plate, December-January, has been sold at 50s 6d; the value now being 51s; January-February 49s 6d now asked. Cottonseed.—Continued firmness in this article and higher prices again paid. Business done spot and passage at £7 6s 3d, which asked for old crop September. New, first half October £7 2s 6d, and £7 paid October. Good sales have transpired in November-January at up to £6 16s, the market being rather easier to-day and business done at £6 13s 9d. Oil seed cakes.—Linseed cakes are 2s 6d dearer. Cotton cakes steadier. Hemp easier.—KEIGHLEY MANSTED AND Co.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 2s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO-SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 0s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 7s 6d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Prices were unchanged. Best clover, 70s to 105s; inferior, 55s to 65s; per cwt.; pocket hay, 32s 6d; good ditto, 70s to 75s 6d; inferior ditto, 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 55s to 65s; and straw, 25s to 30s per load.

Bristol, Tuesday.—The prices quoted at to-day's market were:—Old clover hay, 75s to 80s per cwt.; old meadow do. 70s to 75s; new hay, 60s to 70s; and straw, 1[illegible]

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—Supplies are again very moderate and a fair demand for hay and clover, but straw is quite quieter. We quote Canadian timothy and clover mixtures, 87s 6d; good Dutch clover, 82s 6d to 85s; good Dutch hay, 75s; common hay, 62s 6d to 65s; large bale French wheat straw, 48s; small bale French wheat straw, 45s; small bale French oat straw, 44s. All these prices are per ton, delivered by barge alongside.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10 Great Tower Street, E.C.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals this morning have been heavy, for which trade has been slow, but prices were steady. English: Beauty of Hebron, 3s 3d to 4s; Early Puritans, 3s 3d to 4s; Snowdrops, 3s 3d to 4s; Reading Giants, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Professor Maerkers, 3s to 3s 6d; Up-to-Dates, 2s 9d to 3s 3d per cwt.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—With the approach of autumn the inquiries for basic slag increase, and a fair amount of business has transpired; particulars of the various tests are annexed. For other fertilisers there is practically no demand. Of fish guano a parcel is selling testing 9 per cent. ammonia and 13 per cent. phosphates at £5 10s to £5 12s 6d per ton. The market for all descriptions of feeding stuffs is strong, and latterly values of oil cakes, etc., have improved to the extent of 5s to 15s per ton, and at the advance a fair consumptive demand is experienced. Today's values are as subscribed. At auctions 1,323 bags Peruvian cotton cake, all faults, sold at £6 to £6 2s 6d, and 1,357 bags Pernambuco cotton cake meal at £6 10s per ton, b. th ex quay, old since then 550 bags Peruvian cottonseed cake have changed hands at £6 11s 3d to £6 15s per ton. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £8 5s to £8 7s 6d per ton; East India bone meal, in bags, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d per ton; kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 15s to £8 per ton; ditto, English, prime, in bulk, £8 12s 6d to £9 per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, fairly soft, in bags, £6 15s to £7 per ton; ditto, English ditto, prime, very soft, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s per ton; ditto, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 15s to £5 per ton; cottonseed (crushed) 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 5s per ton; maize germ meal, English, prime, in bags, £5 10s to £5 12s 6d per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 12s to 12s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, screened, in bags, £3 3s to £3 5s per qr of 416lb; N.A. cleverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, £2 12s 6d to £2 18s per cwt; D.N.S. brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, per ton; ditto, ditto, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, per ton; ditto, ditto, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, per ton, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d per ton; ditto, ditto, 35 to 40 phos., in bags, £1 12s 9d to £1 14s per ton; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 phos., in bags, £1 16s to £1 17s 6d per ton, at the producing depots. H. JONES LANGAR AND Co.

Winsford (Cheshire), Saturday.—Current prices for salt at the works: Common white salt, 11s per ton; fine screened rock salt, 8s 6d per ton, for truck loads in bulk. THE SALT UNION, LTD.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended September 15, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	10,988	7,717	Wheat ..	974,500	1,541,400
Sheep ..	3,990	1,331	Flour ..	458,500	173,400
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	441,400	400,100
			Oats ..	366,300	496,400
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Peas ..	78,200	54,900
Beef ..	86,720	99,390	Beans ..	2,300	2,300
Mutton	50,922	66,121	Maize ..	975,200	1,267,600
Pork ..	12,502	12,302		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	129,701	133,382	†Bananas	—	23,041
Beef, salt	3,750	4,544		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	46,273	31,312	Apples ..	43,179	26,715
Pork, salt	7,090	5,908	†Apricots & Peaches	—	66
Meat, salt & fresh	6,391	8,545	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	12,037	21,695	†Currants	—	—
Butter ..	66,110	59,217	†Gooseb'r's	—	—
Mrg'rine	19,519	17,943	Grapes ..	65,870	34,068
Cheese ..	74,083	55,300	Lemons	17,000	9,048
Con. Milk	17,572	14,920	Oranges	1,100	941
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	31	96	Pears ..	6,615	30,446
			Plums ..	55,300	14,876
			†Str'b'r's	—	—
			Oth'r Fr't	28,641	21,574
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	3,113	1,032
Eggs ..	336,667	425,321		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	1,672	185,477
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.	Hops ..	Cwt.	Cwt.
	£2,929	£1,940		945	746
			Potatoes	20,142	56,765
	Cwt.	Cwt.	§Tom toes	—	2,665
Rabbits	7,625	10,775	Other	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	34,732	33,003	Veg'bles	£33,288	£29,171

Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

Sept.
24. [illegible]
25. [illegible]
25. [illegible]
26. [illegible]
26. [illegible]
26. [illegible]
26. [illegible]
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28. [illegible]
28. [illegible]
28. [illegible]
28. [illegible]
28. [illegible]
28. [illegible]
28. [illegible]
28. [illegible]
October.
2. [illegible]
2. [illegible]
2. [illegible]
2. [illegible]
2, 3, 4, and 5. Sale of Horses, at the North Wales Repository, Wrexham.
3. [illegible]
3. [illegible]
3. [illegible]
3 and 4. Derby Foal Show and Sale.
4. [illegible]
4. [illegible]
4. [illegible]
4. Sale of Shire Mares and Foals, at Tuxford.

Failing to notify Glanders.—At the Westminster Police Court, on Thursday, Frederick Johnson, a cab proprietor, of Odell Stables, Chapel Street, Chelsea, appeared, before Mr. Francis, to a summons under the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894, at the instance of the London County Council, for failing to notify to the police that he had a horse suffering from glanders. Mr. Collman, who prosecuted on behalf of the Council, said that on July 24th the defendant sold a bay mare for £6 to a cabman, who proposed using the animal for a four-wheeled cab. At the time sores and lumps were noticed, but they were disregarded. The next day the horse was harnessed and attached to a cab, but only went a few yards, and then fell down in the street. A veterinary surgeon was called, and he pronounced the animal suffering from glanders of some days' standing, and ordered it to be slaughtered. Mr. Ridler, veterinary surgeon and inspector under the Diseases of Animals Act, said the horse was undoubtedly glandered. There was a passage from [illegible] enlarged glands, and ulcers. In his opinion, had a veterinary surgeon been called in the day before the horse was sold [illegible] Free from disease, the horse would have been worth £10. The defendant called his veterinary surgeon, his saddler foreman, and other witnesses, who said there were no symptoms of glanders at the time the horse was sold. The defendant himself urged that it was not safe to [illegible] dered horse among thirty sound ones. The magistrate thought there was a good deal in this contention, and said he thought it would be sufficient if [illegible] the defendant to pay £2 2s. the costs of the proceedings.

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Southdown ram is the property of and was bred by Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambridge. Our photograph was taken at the Royal Show at York, where this ram won first prize in the class for two-shear rams of its breed, and also carried off the Southdown Sheep Society's champion prize for the best Southdown ram.

The Shorthorn bull calf Macbeth, by Royal Star 71502—Countess of Groam 5th, was bred by the Right Hon. Lord Lovat, Beaufort Castle, Beauly, N.B., who exhibited him at the Birmingham Shorthorn Show, held in March. Here Macbeth won first prize in the class for bull calves over nine and under twelve months old, and at the subsequent sale was bought at 200gs. by Mr. Duthie, of Collynie.

The hunter gelding is a chestnut by Royal Meath, dam Rasheen, by Playactor, and is the property of and was bred by Mr. G. J. Ball, Moorside, Naul. At the recent show of the Royal Dublin Society this gelding was only third in its class, but it also won the Pembroke Challenge Cup, value 100gs., offered for the best animal in classes 13 to 21, bred in Ireland by the exhibitor, and continuously owned by him up to the time of entry.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

Messrs. William Cooper and Nephews, of Berkhamsted, have just made a deal in cattle through the cable, and have purchased 1,400 cattle for their Estancia in Paraguay at a cost of 19s. 3d. per head. No wonder that at this price their agent advised them to take advantage of the bargain.

At a meeting of the Council of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society last week it was stated that the total attendances at the Doncaster show were 20,193, whilst the average of the previous ten years were 60,458. The gross receipts from turnstile, season tickets, and grand stand were £1,466 6s., as against an average of £3,998 0s. 3d. for the previous ten years. The site was everything that could be desired, being one of the finest in the country, the Mayor of Doncaster and the local committee spared no effort to make the show a success, the weather was most favourable, yet the attendance was the least for over 30 years.

In the course of a short speech made at the luncheon prior to the sale of Mr. Mutton's Jersey herd at Plumpton on Wednesday, Mr. F. W. Le Brocq, of St. Heliers, said that breeders in the island of Jersey had had a very good season, thanks to a number of American gentlemen who had bought a lot of cattle at prices ranging from £50 to £200.

At the end of the present week Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. will dispose of two well-known herds of Shorthorn cattle. On Thursday the late Mr. Henry Wyatt's animals come under the hammer at Walton Grange, Aylesbury, and on Friday the sale will be at Wakehurst Place, Ardingly, Sussex, the herd being that of Sir T. William Boord, Bart. The Walton Grange herd was founded in 1876, and thanks to judicious breeding it has become a very high-class one. The cows are of large scale on short legs, with good shaped udders, the calves running with their dams in the celebrated Broughton pastures. The heifers are a very good lot, and there are a number of strong, good, robust bulls, fit for service. The animals are in excellent natural condition, having been grazed out most of the year through, and in consequence of the untimely death of the proprietor are to be sold without any reserve. Sir William Boord's herd has been kept especially for supplying the large quantity of milk and butter required on the estate, and with this object in view have been reared on skim milk, and kept in good hardy condition. With the exception of a few bulls at the Sussex Show the herd has not been exhibited.

Messrs. Thornton and Co. have also two important Shorthorn sales for next week. On the Wednesday they will sell a number of pure-bred dairy cattle, the property of Mr. Robert W. Hobbs, Kelmscott, Lechlade, Gloucestershire, and on the Friday the entire herd of Mr. William Atkinson, at Overthwaite, Milnthorpe, Westmorland. Mr. Hobbs's herd was established in 1873, and the chief bulls used have come from the famous Maiseyhampton herd, and to-day the Kelmscott herd consists of heavy milking cows, which supply a contract in connection with a great London dairy. Occasionally the animals have been exhibited at the Oxfordshire shows and prizes won in the milking classes. The young bulls have proved well and a demand has arisen for them. About a score are now offered for unreserved sale. They are mostly well grown, good fleshed yearlings, of a deep red or rich roan colour. The cows have mostly calved or are close at profit for winter dairying, and their capacious udders show their adaptability for dairy purposes.

The Overthwaite herd will be sold without reserve in consequence of Mr. Atkinson's increasing years and declining health. Overthwaite is a large grass farm in the Kendal district, near Milnthorpe Station on the London and North Western Railway, between Carnforth and Oxenholme Junctions, and has long been celebrated for its high class dairy Shorthorns, Mr. William Atkinson having been a well known dairy farmer, breeder, and judge for forty-eight years. His first occupation was at Selside, where he won the late Mr. Jonathan Rigg's silver cup for the best general stock in 1859. He afterwards removed to Burneside Hall, where his farm took one of the prizes given by the Royal Agricultural Society of England when its show was held at Carlisle in 1880. In 1884 he occupied Mr. Wakefield's farm at Overthwaite, where the herd has since been carried on and greatly improved. He has won the late Earl of Bective's ten-guinea prize for the best general stock every time the farm became eligible, viz., every fourth year since 1872, at the Kendal Agricultural Show, also Lord Bective's ten-guinea prize at the Burton and Milnthorpe Shows for the best stock in 1876, 1880, 1887, and 1891, and Lady Henry Bentinck's ten-guinea prize in 1895 and 1899. His system has been butter making, and calf rearing, the cows being sold off on their third calf to the Edinburgh and Yorkshire dairies. The herd is large and remarkably uniform. The feminine, nice, even character of the cows, is very striking. With the exception of four, the whole of the animals have been bred on the farm. The young stock are equally good, and the beautiful lot of yearling heifers show their careful breeding. The sale will commence after a twelve o'clock luncheon.

The Liverpool shipping trade is feeling keenly the recent order of the Argentine Republic prohibiting the importation of live stock after the 13th inst. Liverpool is the chief port for the shipment of valuable pedigree stock, special facilities being offered for this trade. Extensive business was done, and the restrictions will be a great blow to many English breeders of prize cattle, sheep, and pigs. It is feared the valuable cargoes now *en route* may have to be slaughtered.

Messrs. John Jones and Son, Dinarth Hall Pony Stud, Colwyn Bay, have sold to Mr. White, for exportation to Australia, two pure-bred Welsh brood mares; both are prize winners, and represent the best class of typical Welsh ponies. The sales during the month from the stud also include three Welsh prize ponies to Mr. Pringhorn, Germany, and ten ponies and cobs to various English centres

In the note concerning the Birmingham Fat Stock Show which appeared last week there was a slight error. It was stated that the ten guinea cup for the heaviest beast in the show would not be offered, and that three other money prizes had been substituted. This, however, is not the case, the three prizes being in addition to the cup.

The annual Shire Horse Show at Ashbourne, Derbyshire, takes place on Thursday this week, and on the following day Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck will hold a special sale of pedigree Shires in the show ground, the animals, which number eight-four, being the property of various exhibitors at the show. The sale will commence at eleven o'clock.

An American View of English Shows.

Americans would be surprised to see what a personal interest is taken in agriculture, and especially in the breeding of all kinds of farm stock, by the nobility and the political heads of the Government of England. From the Queen down they are found exhibiting their live stock at all the leading fairs in England, Ireland, and Scotland, and losing to some poor tenant farmer quite as often as they win; but losing a game never hurts an Englishman and never humiliates him. This year at the Royal the Prince of Wales competed with his royal mother in the Shorthorn classes; in some cases they won, in others they lost to their most humble subjects. These royal exhibitors make no display. Their animals occupy boxes no better in any way than the poorest tenant's, and they are sent into the ring to win or lose, asking no favours, expecting none, and receiving none, from society or judges. In horses, cattle, sheep, and swine it was a race between lords and farmers, dukes and breeders, squires and their tenants, the Queen of England and the Prince of Wales. But do you say you should not think the common tenant farmers could compete with the Queen and Prince, who can go out and buy the best? There is where you make a mistake. They could do so, but they are too good sportsmen to do a thing of that kind. They only exhibit animals that are bred or raised on their own farms. They may show a cow they bought as a calf at a public sale, or something of that sort, but that's all. They are in the game to win by the fairest kind of fair play. Not only is this true of the Queen and the Prince of Wales, but of the gentlemen of the nobility as well. Therefore they all meet on a common level, and the common tenant farmer usually comes out ahead. However, this year the Prince of Wales has been particularly fortunate in winning the three great races of England with a young horse of his own breeding, reared and trained on his own farm by his own servants, *i.e.*, the Oaks, the St. Leger, and the Derby. Although he has had a horse in these races every year, for I do not know how long, this was his year. A game, gentlemanly sportsman, he may never win again, but he will be in the game in the future, as in the past, to do his best.

It was a sight to see him at the Royal meeting this year at York, walking about a large enclosure, where possibly stood fifty farmers and shepherds holding as many rams for the Prince's inspection. As His Royal Highness, in plain dress and manner, walked down the line, stopping here and there to shake hands with some weather-beaten old farmer, with a kind word to a shepherd who was holding a ram while the Prince parted the fleece to examine the quality and length of staple, a "thank you, lad," to a shepherd boy who had his hands more than full trying to make a refractory ram show to the best advantage, a smile and a nod to a big, red-faced Scotchman, who, in his anxiety to display the wool of his favourite black-faces, forgot to remove his cap. Do you wonder that every Briton loves the Prince? It was a stirring sight at Cowes last year to see a hundred yachts dress ship to offer homage to the man who, cripple though he was, came out to honour the occasion with his presence; or, as at the Queen's Jubilee, surrounded by pomp and splendour that dazzled the world; or, again, at the great Naval Review, when twenty-five miles of battleships belched forth thunders of applause. But never did the Prince of Wales look so supremely great to me as on the day when he walked down the line of farmers and shepherds at the Royal Agricultural Show. At such a sight, every true Briton, sportsman and gentleman, takes off his hat, and says: "*He is a man!*"—F. S. Peer, in the *County Gentleman* (Albany, U.S.A.).

Iron Acton September Fair.—This fair was held on the 13th inst., and was very largely attended. This fair is chiefly noted for the supply of colts, but these were not so numerous as on former occasions, and good animals of this class were scarce. The highest price realised for sucking colts was for a cart colt by Mr. Alfred Anstey's horse Spark Harrod, which was sold by Mr. A. Willcox, of Oldbury-upon-Severn, to Mr. George Jones, of Badminton, at £30. Mr. Jones also secured another colt by Mr. Anstey's horse Bar Naught, for which £20 was paid. Several other sucking colts changed hands at prices ranging from £8 to £18 each. There were but few good two-year-old cart colts on offer, for which, in a few instances, as high as £40 was asked without finding purchasers. Some very fair animals changed hands at from £25 to £55 each. There were no really good horses in the fair, and the horse trade throughout must be termed very dull. A few store cattle were sent to the fair, trade in which was unaltered. A good average supply of sheep was penned, the same commanding a good sale, at prices fully maintaining late quotations. Messrs. George Nichols, Howes, Young, Alder, and Co.'s sale included a number of horses and colts, several pens of sheep, store ewes realising from 42s. to 46s. per head, and stock lambs from 26s to 30s

Fattening Bullocks without Roots.

Although the coming winter will not be one in which roots for live stock will be short, as they were last year, there are many farmers in the pastoral districts who do not grow roots at all, and they may be disposed to follow a plan of fattening bullocks without roots, pursued with great success last season by Mr. Duthie, of Mill of Manis, Dundee, who has described his experiment in the *Dundee Advertiser*. He bought ten black polled Irish bullocks on the 16th of October and fed them until the 29th of May upon undecorticated cotton cake, cotton-seed meal, maize meal, treacle, straw, and a little salt. Their average consumption of the concentrated foods was 12¾lb. per day each, and this was made up to from 40lb. to 50lb. per day with rough straw chaff, treacle water, and salt, the mixture being allowed to lie for a day before being used. Long straw was also supplied, but was not consumed to any considerable extent.

The quantities of concentrated foods consumed during the whole period of feeding were 20cwt. of cake, 41¾cwt. of cotton-seed meal, 169¼cwt. of maize meal, and 25cwt. of treacle; and the ten beasts made a live-weight increase of 36cwt. 3qr. 14lb. in 144 days, or the remarkably good daily gain of 2.13lb. per head. They were bought at £70, and sold at £171 5s., while their food, without valuing straw or salt, cost £67 14s. 5d. Deducting the cost of the animals and of the concentrated food from the return, and setting the manure against straw, salt, and attendance, a profit of £33 10s. 7d. was left, or £3 7s. a head.

It is stated that the beasts were turned out to grass for about half of each day in the first instance, but for how long is not stated; and no charge is made for the grass. That the animals were not of high quality is shown by the lowness of their cost price; but probably better-bred beasts, though they would have cost more, would have given a still better return for their food.

Mr. Duthie might have gone more into detail by stating the quantities of his ration consumed at different periods of the feeding process, as, no doubt, he gave the bullocks less at the start than towards the finish. The figures show that the average daily ration per head consisted of 11b. of cake, 2lb. of cotton seed meal, 8½lb. of maize meal, 1¼lb. of treacle, and about 30lb. of straw chaff. The animals consumed very little water, apart from that which was used to moisten the chaff and other food.

Sale of Jerseys and Berkshire Pigs at Plumpton.

The first of the two Jersey sales in Sussex last week was held at Mr. D. Mutton's farm at Plumpton, Sussex, on Wednesday, when a portion of his own herd and a few from Mr. Pope's, of Beresford Manor, were sold by Messrs. John Thornton and Co. Both herds have been well represented in the show ring, and the cattle were a useful, promising lot, and made fairly satisfactory prices. For the bulls there was very little demand. The twenty-nine head of cattle sold realised £429 19s. 6d. A number of well-bred Berkshire pigs from Mrs. Hepburn's herd at Cailey were also sold, and made from 1g. to 6gs. each, the average price of the twenty young pigs sold being over 50s. each.

We give below a sale list of the principal lots:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.	Gs.
Joan 4th, Vol. vi., p. 295, whole colour, c April, 1899, s St. Gatien 2375 ..... Mr. C. P. Cunliffe	20
Pop, Vol. vi., p. 477, whole colour, c Sept., 1891, s Bacchus 3036 ..... Mr. C. P. Cunliffe	24
Neater, Vol. x., p. 301, whole colour, c May, 1896, s Rosy's Boy 4993 ..... Mr. A. Loder	18½
Lady Beaconsfield, Vol. x., p. 271, broken colour, c May, 1896, s Athol Brose 2nd 5064 ..... Mr. S. A. Leigh	26
Miss Sarah, Vol. x., p. 296, whole colour, c July, 1896, s Athol Brose 2nd 5064 ..... Mr. C. P. Cunliffe	20
Good Old Mother 2nd, Vol. x., p. 257, whole colour, c August, 1895, s Rosy's Boy 4993 ..... Mrs. Hepburn	27
Lily, Vol. xi., p. 277, whole colour, c June, 1897, s Rosy's Boy 4993 ..... Mr. W. H. Hollis	27
Silver Moon, whole colour, c March, 1898, s Rosy's Boy 4993 ..... Mrs. Perkins	17
Ivorena Beresford (Mr. Pope's), whole colour, c March, 1898, s Aristocrat 5783 ..... Mrs. Perkins	17½
Irene Beresford (Mr. Pope's), whole colour, c June, 1898, s Jim Crow 6285 .... East Sussex County Council	22
Daisy Belle, whole colour, c July, 1898, s Medusa's Boy 5986 ..... Mr. A. Loder	20
Dorothy Beresford (Mr. Pope's), whole colour, c Oct., 1898, s Nizam ..... Capt. Smith Neill	17
BULLS.	
Triangle King 6732, nearly whole colour, c July, 1898, s Rosy's Boy 4993 ..... Mr. W. Hook	11
Jack Beresford (Mr. Pope's), whole colour, c May, 1899, s North Lad 6660 ..... Mr. G. C. Knight	10
BERKSHIRE PIGS.	
Queen, sow, f March, 1897, s Master's Choice 7489 ..... Mr. C. P. Cunliffe	4½
Chailey Empress 7487, sow, f March, 1898 ..... Mr. C. P. Cunliffe	3
Fairy Queen, sow, f Jan., 1899, s Chailey Benjamin 7490 ..... Mr. Martin	6
Sow, f Jan., 1900, s Chailey Benjamin 7490 .... Mr. Cook	3
Sow, f Jan., 1900, s Chailey Benjamin 7490 .... Mr. Gear	3
Sow ..... Major Thurlow	3
Sow ..... Mr. S. Springate	3

Sale of Mr. J. Cooper's Shorthorns.

The old-established herd of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle belonging to Mr. John Cooper was disposed of by auction at Brook Hill, East Haddon, Northampton, on the 14th inst. by Messrs. John Thornton and Co. This herd having a well-deserved and wide reputation in the surrounding counties, there was a capital attendance of buyers, who bidded briskly, and the result of the sale—£1,519 7s. for fifty-seven head—was considered most satisfactory. The animals were very uniform, in nice condition, and were excellent milkers with well-shaped udders. Three of the best heifers were bought by Earl Spencer, who presided over the luncheon which preceded the sale. Below we give a complete list of the animals sold, together with the prices realised, purchasers, etc.

COWS AND HEIFERS.	Gs.
Lady Fawsley 14th, red and little white, c Nov., 1899, s Duke of Barrington 22nd 55602 ..... Mr. R. H. Dyke	28
Rosedale Verity, red, c April, 1892, s Rosedale Duke 64701 ..... Mr. C. Shrives	20
Haddon Daisy 3rd, red, c May, 1892, s Oxford Duke of Killhow 9th 54769 ..... Mr. W. Smart	22
Mollington Fawsley, red and little white, c July, 1892, s Earl of Fawsley 22nd 62483 ..... Colonel Makins	33
Haddon Fawsley, red, c Sept., 1893, s Thurlaston Duke 20th 75781 ..... Mr. C. A. Scott Murray	41
Floore, red and little white, c Jan., 1894, s Mogul 61335 ..... Mr. W. Rhodes	34
Haddon Daisy 4th, red, c May, 1894, s Rosedale Duke 64701 ..... Colonel Makins	21
Rosedale Lily, red and little white, c May, 1894, s Rosedale Duke 64701 ..... Mr. A. J. Sherriff	27
Haddon Daisy 5th, red, c Feb., 1895, s Catthorpe Baron 74191 ..... Hon. W. F. D. Smith	41
Haddon Daisy 6th, red, c March, 1895, s Catthorpe Baron 74191 ..... Mr. Scott Murray	33
Haddon Daisy 7th, red, c May, 1895, s Catthorpe Baron 74191 ..... Mr. H. F. Plumptre	30
Haddon Daisy 8th, red, c July, 1895, s Catthorpe Baron 74191 ..... Mr. F. T. Stanley	29
Fawsley Duchess, red, c Sept., 1895, s Thurlaston Duke 20th 75781 ..... Mr. R. H. Dyke	38
Haddon Daisy 9th, red and little white, c Feb., 1896, s Catthorpe Baron 74191 ..... Mr. W. Rhodes	22
Haddon Lily 2nd, red, c March, 1896, s Catthorpe Baron 74191 ..... Mr. Hickling	20
Her bull calf, red, c July, 1900, s Relative 75411 ..... Captain Bellasis	14
Rose Vestris, red, c April, 1896, s Catthorpe Baron 74191 ..... Mr. J. P. Cross	21
Her bull calf, red, c Sept., 1900, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. Daniels	5½
Joy 6th, red, c April, 1896, s Catthorpe Baron 74191 ..... Mr. Hickling	22
Haddon Daisy 11th, red, c August, 1896, s Catthorpe Baron 74191 ..... Mr. A. Butlin	19
Haddon Daisy 13th, red, c August, 1896, s Catthorpe Baron 74191 ..... Hon. W. F. D. Smith	33
Fawsley Queen, red, c Oct., 1896, s Haddon 76827 ..... Mr. J. P. Cross	58
Catthorpe Duchess Sarah, red, c August, 1897, s Kinsman 57th 68861 ..... Earl Spencer	55
Viscountess Jersey 8th, red, c August, 1897, s Kinsman 57th 68861 ..... Earl Spencer	71
Rosedale Lassie 2nd, red and little white, c Jan., 1898, s Starlight 75746 ..... Earl Spencer	28
Floore 3rd, red, c March, 1898, s Starlight 75746 ..... Mr. W. Rhodes	33
Haddon Vestris 4th, red and little white, c March, 1898, s Starlight 75746 ..... Mr. G. Steele	27
Haddon Daisy 17th, red, c March, 1899, s Starlight 75746 ..... Mr. Hickling	26
Haddon Daisy 18th, red and little white, c April, 1899, s Starlight 75746 ..... Mr. F. T. Stanley	22
Haddon Daisy 19th, red, c April, 1899, s Starlight 75746 ..... Mr. J. P. Cross	30
Verity 8th, red, c Jan., 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. H. [illegible]	24
Haddon Fawsley 2nd, red, c April, 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. [illegible]	30
Haddon Daisy 21st, red, c April, 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. J. P. Cross	25
Joy 7th, red, c April, 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. W. Maynard	14
Haddon Daisy 22nd, red, c May, 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. H. [illegible]	24
Haddon Vestris 5th, red and little white, c May, 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. H. H. Dyke	12
Haddon Daisy 23rd, red, c May, 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. T. W. [illegible]	22
Haddon Vestris 6th, red, c May, 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. W. Ellard	11
Haddon Daisy 24th, red, c May, 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. W. H. D. Smith	19
Haddon Daisy 25th, red, c June, 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. F. T. Stanley	19
Haddon Daisy 26th, red, c Dec., 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. J. P. Cross	18
Verity 9th, red, c Jan., 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. S. E. Sharp	24
Rosedale Lassie 3rd, red, c Feb., 1900, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. G. [illegible]	12
Haddon Daisy 27th, red, c Feb., 1900, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. A. Britten	8
Floore 5th, red and white, c March, 1900, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. A. J. Sherriff	12
Haddon Daisy 28th, red, c March, 1900, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. C. B. [illegible]	10
Haddon Vestris 7th, red, c April, 1900, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. G. [illegible]	9
Haddon Daisy 31st, red, c May, 1900, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. H. F. Plumptre	17½
BULLS.	
Relative 75411, red, c Jan., 1897, s Kinsman 57th 68861 ..... Captain Townshend	28
Lowland Lad, red and little white, c Feb., 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. C. E. [illegible]	10
Duke of Haddon 2nd, red, c May, 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. J. Staddon	28
Baron Burleigh, red, c June, 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. H. Saunders	27
Royal Prince, red, c Nov., 1899, s Rosedale Duke 64701 ..... Mr. J. T. Foskett	16½
Lord Haddon 3rd, red, c Nov., 1899, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. J. R. Gutter	27
Duke of Haddon 3rd, red, c April, 1900, s Lord Haddon 77991 ..... Mr. W. P. Mackenzie	10
Jupiter, red, c April, 1900, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. J. F. Gurney	12
Viceroy, red and little white, c April, 1900, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. R. H. P. Harrison	9
Squire Fawsley, red and little white, c April, 1900, s Relative 75411 ..... Mr. M. [illegible]	8

SUMMARY.	Average.	Total
47 Cows and heifers	£27 10 3	£1,292 1 6
10 Bulls	22 12 6	227 5 6
57 head	£26 13 2	£1,519 7 0

Sale of Shorthorns in County Tyrone.

Before an influential gathering of stock breeders at Favour Royal, Augnacloy, co. Tyrone, Messrs. Robson, of Belfast, last week successfully disposed of by auction about thirty head of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle, belonging to Mr. Anketell Montray. There was a brisk trade from start to finish, and prices all through were good. Below we give a list of the animals sold, prices, and purchasers:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.	Gs.
Ella, s Lord Fitzsimeon 61168 ..... Mr. Wm. [illegible]	20
Sunbeam, s King Perfection 87 ..... Mr. M. K. [illegible]	22
Perfection's Acme, s King Perfection ..... Mr. J. [illegible]	12
Emma, s Lord Fitzsimeon ..... Mr. Tipping	30
Canary, s Golden Prince 65590 ..... Mr. Andrews	16
Eva, s King Perfection ..... Mr. [illegible]	20
Countess, s President ..... Mr. Scott	32
Greek Girl, s Lord Fitzsimeon ..... Mr. Sawers	20
Oona, s Lord Fitzsimeon ..... Mr. Turner	1
Augusta, s Golden Prince ..... Mr. Crawford	1
Stephanotis, s President ..... Mr. Scott	33
Matilda, s Edward 72476 ..... Mr. [illegible]	1
Aileen, s Golden Prince ..... Mr. Mc[illegible]	13
Fairy, s President ..... Mr. Bell	2
Falka, s Golden Prince ..... Mr. Bell	23
Farewell, s Lord Fitzsimeon ..... Mr. Wishart	19
Pelle, s President ..... Mr. [illegible]	2
Blanche III., s Golden Prince ..... Mr. Crawford	12
White Camelia, s Golden Prince ..... Rev. Mr. M'Kenna	18
Charity, s Edward ..... Mr. [illegible]	12
Pansy, s President ..... Mr. Crawford	22
Cygnet, s Golden Prince ..... Mr. Weir	17
Sweetbriar, s Edward ..... Mr. [illegible]	14
Thorn, s President ..... Mr. [illegible]	1
[illegible]	
Usnach, s Edward ..... Mr. [illegible]	1
Longbow, s Edward ..... Mr. [illegible]	14
Leviathan, s Golden Prince ..... Mr. [illegible]	2
General French, s Golden Prince ..... Mr. [illegible]	20
Starlight II., s Golden Prince ..... Mr. M'Clintock	22
Magician, s Golden Prince ..... Mr. [illegible]	1
Lord Methuen, s Edward ..... Mr. Crawford	23
Bull calf, s Edward ..... Mr. Barklie	9½

Sale of Herefords at Caradoc.

Acting under instructions from Mr. T. Cadwick and Mr. F. W. Cadwick, Messrs. A. and D. Edwards offered for sale on Tuesday, at Caradoc near Ross, a draft from the Caradoc and Lucksall herds of Hereford cattle. The animals were [illegible] that had been well known [illegible] years as [illegible] herding of pedigree [illegible] Mr. [illegible] local shows, the Herefordshire and [illegible] Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Royal and [illegible] Shropshire and West Midland, Royal [illegible] Birmingham, and others. The [illegible] a useful lot, the [illegible] were very [illegible]

COWS AND CALVES.	Gs.
[illegible] ..... Mr. [illegible]	1
[illegible] ..... Mr. [illegible]	1

		Gs.
Eva, s Barrington 11328	Mr. George Wood	17
Her steer calf, s Gold Finder 20041	Mr. T. Meats	6½
Daisy 2nd, s President 14639	Mr. Evans	10½
Her heifer calf, s Gold Finder	Lord Llangattock	13
Caradoc Jewess, s President	Mr. Caleb Barnes	10½
Her bull calf, s Bruce	Mr. T. A. Lewis	5
Damsel, s Balcom 14550	Lord Llangattock	23
Rose of Caradoc, s Blagdon 16541	Mr. Bradley	15
Dahlia, s Brigand	Mr. Caleb Barnes	11½
Her bull calf, s Gold Finder 20046	Mr. David Bowen	5½
Emmie, s Blagdon 16548	Mr. T. E. Drinkwater	12
Her bull calf, s Bruce 18258	Mr. T. E. Drinkwater	5½
Caradoc Jewess, s Blagdon 16548	Mr. Mayo	14
Her heifer calf, s Bruce 18258	Mr. Mayo	3½
Nicola, s Blagdon 16548	Lord Llangattock	35
Daisy 4th, s Blagdon 16548	Mr. Mayo	14
Her heifer calf, s Bruce 18258	Mr. Mayo	7
Blossom 5th, s Blagdon	Mr. Mayo	13
Her bull calf	Mr. Mayo	5
Diana, s Bruce	Lord Llangattock	20
Her heifer calf, s Gold Finder	Lord Llangattock	5
Jessica, s Bruce	Mr. T. Meats	13
Her heifer calf, s Gold Finder	Mr. T. Meats	3
TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.		
Beauty, s Bruce	Walker Pye	20
Dewdrop, s Royal Caradoc 19070	Mr. Walter Pye	21
Bright Eye 6th, s Bruce	Mr. D. Edwards	13
Judy, s Bruce	Mr. D. Edwards	16½
YEARLING HEIFERS.		
Emily, s Bruce	Mr. Bradley	12
Bright Eye 7th, s Bruce	Mr. W. Drew	12½
Bud, s Bruce	Mr. Drew	13
Dewdrop, s Bruce	Mr. Bradley	11½
Jessamine and Ella, s Bruce	Mr. Bradley (the pair)	21
BULLS.		
Caradoc Conqueror, s Bruce	Mr. W. Drew	21
Caradoc Rival, s Bruce	Mr. D. Edwards	20

Sale of Aberdeen-Angus Cattle at Alford

On Wednesday Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co. conducted an important sale at Wellhouse, Alford, where Mr. Littlejohn put his herd under the hammer, together with a draft of eighteen head from the herd of Mr. George Cran, Morlich. There was a large attendance of buyers from the Scottish centres and several from the north and south of England, and the demand was exceptionally good. One of the best figures was 75gs., which Mr. Bambridge, Newcastle, paid for the seven-year-old cow Mavis of Midmill, which at the Aberdeen Show this year won the medal as the best female in the class for those which had formerly gained highest honours. Mr. Basset, Devonshire, paid 33gs. for a four-year-old cow, Fairy Queen, descended from the noted herd of the late Mr. M'Combie, of Tillyfour. One of the most fancied females in the sale was a four-year-old cow, Molly of Morlich, a noted winner at the Kildrummy and Tarland shows, this being a handsome female of immense substance and cover of flesh, which fell to the offer of Mr. Kennedy, Doon Holme, Ayr, the price being 96gs., the top figure of the sale. Mr. Matheson, Shoertane Heriot, Midlothian, bought some of the best specimens in the ring at prices ranging from 31gs. to 41gs. Mr. Kennedy, Doon Hulme, in addition to the purchase mentioned, took out a promising three-year-old cow from the Morlich draft, Jemima 34th, at 42gs. Mr. Schroeter, Sussex, and Mr. Geddes, of Blairmore, paid 43gs. each for two of the best of the Morlich draft. Mr. Bambridge, Newcastle, bought the pick of the yearling heifers, Queen Bess of Wellhouse, which was champion of the Alford Show this year, the price in this case being 54gs.

The following are the averages for the two drafts:—Wellhouse—Sixteen cows, £34 6s. 4d.; seven two-year-old heifers, £28 12s.; nine yearling heifers, £20 18s. 6d.; nine heifer calves, £17 1s. 10d.; two bulls, £36 4s. 6d.; six bull calves, £17 17s. Forty-nine animals made an average of £25 19s., the total assets being £1,271 11s.

The Morlich draft, the following averages: Four cows, £32 10s.; seven two-year-old heifers, £35 11s.; four yearling heifers, £27 6s.; three heifer calves, £19 19s.—or for eighteen animals an average of £34 17s. 8d. and a total of £627 18s.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*]

Strokestown Fair (co. Roscommon) took place on Monday. There was only a small supply, and for cattle the demand was slow, except for springers. There was a good demand for lambs and hoggets, but not so brisk for aged ewes, which were bought for breeding purposes. Prices:—Calves, first class, £3 10s. to £6; second class, £2 3s. 9d. to £5. Yearlings, first class, £9 to £9 15s.; second class, £6 to £8. Two-year-olds, first class, £13 to £13 10s.; second class, £9 to £11. Three-year-olds, first class, £15 10s.; second class, £12 9s. to £12 15s. Springers, first class, £18 to £20 10s.; second class, £13 10s. to £16. Lambs, first class, £1 10s. to £1 13s.; second class, £1 3s. to £1 8s. Hoggets, first class, £2 1s. to £2 5s.; second class, £1 15s. to £1 18s. Two-year-olds and upwards, first class, £2 to £2 2s.; second class, £1 15s. to £1 19s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, first class, 21s. to 24s.; second class, 16s. to 19s. each.

Rathkeale Fair (co. Limerick), held on the same day, was also a small one, but a good demand prevailed all round. Prices:—Calves, first class, £4 17s. 6d. to £5; second class, £3 5s. to £4 15s.; third class, £2 10s. to £2 15s. Yearlings, first class, £8 3s. 10d. to £9; second class, £6 10s. to £8; third class, £4 to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 7s. 6d. to £14; second class, £8 15s. to £11; third class, £7 5s. to £8 2s. 6d. Springers, first class, £15 to £18; second class, £11 10s. to £14; third class, £8 to £9 10s. Lambs, first class, £1 5s. to £1 11s.; second class, £1 to £1 4s. Hoggets, second class, £1 15s. to £1 17s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 18s. to 22s. each.

The fair at Skibbereen, co. Cork, on Monday, was a small one, and a good demand was experienced. Prices:—Calves, second class, £3 15s. to £4 1s. 10d.; third class, £3 to £3 10s. Yearlings, second class, £6 to £6 8s. 9d.; third class, £3 10s. to £5. Two-year-olds, second class, £9 to £10; third class, £7 10s. to £8. Three-year-olds, third class, £8 10s. to £8 12s. 6d. Springers, first class, £16 7s. 6d. to £17 10s.; second class, £12 15s. to £14; third class, £8 15s. to £10. Lambs, second class, £1 2s. to £1 2s. 6d.; third class, 16s. 6d. to 17s. Hoggets, second class, £1 13s. 4d. to £2; third class, £1 10s. to £1 12s.

The fair at Kinsale, co. Cork, on Wednesday, was larger than usual, and the cattle shown were of better quality. There was a brisk demand, and all the animals were sold. Prices:—Calves, second class, £3 17s. 6d. to £4 2s. 6d.; third class, £3 to £3 10s. Yearlings, second class, £6 to £6 17s. 6d.; third class, £4 2s. 6d. to £4 17s. 6d. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 7s. 6d. to £12 12s. 6d.; second class, £8 10s. to £9 5s.; third class, £7 10s. to £8. Springers, second class, £13 to £13 10s.; third class, £9 5s. to £10 10s. Lambs, second class, £1 2s. to £1 6s. 6d.; third class, 17s. 6d. to £1. Hoggets, second class, £1 12s. 6d. to £1 16s. 6d.; third class, £1 7s. 6d. to £1 12s. 6d. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 19s. to 23s. each.

There was only a small supply of cattle at the fair at Naas, co. Kildare, on Wednesday. The demand was brisk for well-conditioned animals, especially two and three year-olds, but other sorts met a slow sale. First class yearlings realised up to £9 15s.; second class, £6 to £8 15s. Two-year-olds, first class, £12 15s.; second class, £8 10s. to £12 5s. Three-year-olds, first class, £16 15s.; second class, £12 2s. 6d. to £14 10s. There was an average supply of sheep, consisting chiefly of Wicklow mountain ewes, for which there was fair demand. Two-year-olds and upwards, second class, £1 6s. to £1 10s.

Another Outbreak of Foot-and-Mouth Disease.

Foot and mouth disease has broken out among a number of sheep at Westerton Crieff, and the Board of Agriculture has scheduled forty-four parishes in which the movement of cattle or sheep is prohibited.

HORSES.

Sale of Girton Shires

On Thursday Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck conducted an unreserved sale of Mr. Fred Crisp's Shire horses, at Girton Stud Farm, Cambridge. This was the last of a series of annual sales of Shires held by Mr. Crisp, as, having recently let two farms on the estate, he has decided to reduce his breeding stud, and for the future to go back to his original plan of periodical sales. All the foals reared at the stud during this year were disposed of, and the sale, which comprised fifty-eight lots, was very successful. At the luncheon which preceded the sale there were present representatives of all the principal Shire horse breeders in the country, the company numbering about 700. In replying to the toast of "The jolly good health of one of the best men and one of the best sportsmen in Cambridgeshire," which was proposed by Mr. P. P. Pratt, of St. Asaph, Mr. Crisp said he thought there were no animals so profitable to farmers, large or small, as the Shire horses. He had tried hunters and thoroughbreds, but he found Shires the animals of the day. He urged breeders to cultivate geldings.

The bidding at the sale was brisk, especially for some of the filly foals, and some good figures were realised. The highest bid was 190gs. for the seven-year-old brood mare Sudbury Sunflower, which was knocked down to Mr. C. W. Victor Cavendish, M.P. Among the other brood mares Cade, a seven-year-old, was bought by Mr. J. Topham for 130gs.; Desford Duchess, of the same age, was knocked down to the Earl of Verulam for 120gs.; whilst Waxlight, a four-year-old, went to Sir J. Blundell Maple for 110gs. The three filly foals, sold without dams, realised splendid figures. Girton Belle was knocked down at 150gs. to Sir J. Blundell Maple, while Girton Charm and Girton Peerless realised 140gs. and 120gs. respectively, their purchasers being Mr. Fred W. Griffin, Boro' Fen, and His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. Of the foals sold with their dams, Girton Edith and Girton Dora, purchased by Lord Llangattock, realised the highest prices, viz., 85gs. and 86gs. As to the fillies, the yearlings were productive of the most competition, the top figure being 110gs. paid for Girton Empress by Mr. Frohock. The only colt foal, Girton Meteor, produced keen competition, and was knocked down to Mr. A. H. Clarke for 80gs. Mr. Crisp afterwards offered him 100gs. for his bargain.

Below we give a list of the principal prices realised:—

	Gs.
BROOD MARES AND FOALS.	
Hard Cheese 28827, br, f 1887, s Brailsford Hero 3484 Mr. Nesbitt	40
Girton Hard Heart, br, f 1900, s Marmion II 9885 Mr. A. C. Rogers	36
Crown Princess 14475, bay, f 1888, s Bar None 2388 Sir J. Blundell Maple	70
Girton Crown Prince, ch, f 1900, s Harold's Pilot 11564 Colonel Baldock	28
Casket 23264, ch, f 1889, s Royal Albert 1885 Mr. Oakleigh	72
Girton Gem, bay, f 1900, s Marmion II. 9885 Mr. Auckland	52
Banksia 16047, bay, f 1891, s Harold 3703 Mr. Rogers	72
Girton Cavalier, ch, f 1900, s Tatton Cavalier 14890 Col. Baldock	31
Rowena 24637, bay, f 1891, s Measham Chief 6124 Mr. Dewhurst	50
Thornton Empress 21033, bay, f 1892, s Thornton Premier 12551 Mr. Sands	72
Girton Emperor, bay, f 1900, s Mormaer of Batsford 15242 Mr. Clark	35
Croxden Dora 18032, bay, f 1892, s Don Carlos 2416 Mr. Rankin	48
Girton Dot, bay, f 1900, s Somersham Hatherton 15359 Mr. Scratton	45
Blossom (Vol. XXII), bay, f 1892, s Regent II 6316 Mr. Long	63
Girton Bloom, b, f 1900, s Southgate Lincolnshire Lad 16403 Col. Baldock	33
Cade 17934, b, f 1893, s Bury Victor Chief 11105 Mr. Topham	130
Girton Cade, br, f 1900, s Marmion II. 9885 Mr. Muntz, M.P.	65
Ercall Dora 18176, bay, f 1893, s Don Carlos 2416 Mr. Nesbitt	91
Girton Dora, bay, f 1900, s Mormaer of Batsford 15242 Lord Llangattock	86
Sudbury Sunflower 20957, bay, f 1893, s Harold 3703 Mr. Victor Cavendish	190
Girton Sunrise, bay, f 1900, s Mormaer of Batsford 15242 Sir Walter Gilbey	62
Tatton Countess 20992, bay, f 1894, s Royal William II. 12207 Col. Baldock	64
Editha 23630, black, f 1894, s Prince Harold 14228 Mr. Moseley	91
Girton Edith, bay, f 1900, s Southgate Lincolnshire Lad 16403 Lord Llangattock	85
Cannock Virtue 21484, bay, f 1894, s Shaftesbury 10390 Mr. Sands	93
Girton Valiant, bay, f 1900, s Southgate Lincolnshire Lad 16403 Mr. Frohock	41
Madryn Lady 22096, bay, f 1895, s Burgundy 12862 Mr. Long	53
Waxlight 25067, bay, f 1896, s Ruddington Lord Chancellor 14259 Sir J. Blundell Maple	110
Girton Waxlight, br, f 1900, s Childwick Majestic 17254 Col. Baldock	49
Girton Prudence 26053, bay, f 1896, s Cœur-de-Lion IV. 11233 Mr. Norman	51
Girton Prude, bay, f 1900, s Marmion II. 9885 Mr. Scratton	46
Waresley Damsel 25056, bay, f 1896, s Kennett 13206 Mr. Norman	65
THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLY.	
Regina 26725, bay, f 1897, s Regent II. 6316 Mr. Rankin	58
TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.	
Girton Rose, bl, f 1898, s Southgate Marmion 15859 Mr. Brown	46
Girton Blackbird 25710, bay, f 1898, s Kingsland Tom 17434 Mr. Hewson	67
YEARLING FILLIES.	
Girton Smile, br, f 1899, s Marmion II. 9885 Col. Walters	87
Girton Empress, bay, f 1899, s The Forest Chief 17021 Mr. Frohock	110
Buckingham Lizzie, bay, f 1899, s Harold's Pilot 11564 Mr. Blofield	31
FILLY FOALS.	
Girton Charm, br, f 1900, s Marmion II. 9885 Mr. Fred Griffin	140
Girton Belle, br, f 1900, s Marmion II. 9885 Sir J. Blundell Maple	150
Girton Peerless, bay, f 1900, s Mormaer of Batsford 15242 H.R.H. the Prince of Wales	120
COLT FOALS.	
Girton Meteor, bl, f 1900, Bury Victor Chief 11105 Mr. Clark	80
BROOD MARES.	
Scarsdale Sparkle, 10836, b, f 1889, s Royal Spark, 4659 Mr. Nicholson	47
Dunsmore Empress, 11840, b, f 1890, s Harold, 3703 Mr. Langham	90
Dunsmore Belle, 16576, bay, f 1890, s Canute, 2736 Mr. Nesbitt	71
Hempfield Beauty, 20075, bay, f 1892, s Salisbury, 5324 Mr. Cooke	71
Rokeby Hannah, 18785, b, f 1892, s Harold, 3703 Mr. Burrell	60
Princess May 17234, bay, f 1892, s Prince William 3956 Mr. Nicholson	56
Playmate 18724, bay, f 1893, s Vulcan 4145 Mr. Frohock	78
Desford Duchess 13090, bay, f 1893, s Albert Edward 5467 Earl of Verulam	120

We regret to announce that Mr. Alfred Agate, the well-known breeder of Sussex cattle, and frequent winner of the Blue Ribbon and other distinctions at the Smithfield Show, died on Monday morning at Horsham, at the age of seventy-four. He celebrated his golden wedding on May 1 last year.

Sale of Geese at Wimborne.—Mr. Ensor's special Michaelmas sale of young geese took place at Wimborne, Dorset, on Tuesday, when about 200 herd were offered, and all sold, meeting a capital trade. Considering this to be the first sale of the kind at this season of the year held in this famous poultry district, it bids fair for future success. Among the principal consignors were Messrs. W. R. Little (St. Giles), O. S. Little (Winterbourne Kingston), H. Friend (Brockington), E. Thorne (Verwood), Reader (Stoke), J. Pike (Tarrant Keynstone), H. Tozer (Bere Regis), Barter (Broadstone), Perrett (Parkstone), Hembury (Parkstone), Nicklen (Alderholt). The birds from these breeders made from 4s. 6d. to 5s. 3d.; others up to 4s. 3d. In the majority of cases 5s. was the standard price.

SHEEP.

Sale of Mr. C. Tulley's Southdown Flock.

The dispersal of Mr. Charles Tulley's flock of Southdown sheep at Pangdean Farm, Pyecombe, near Brighton, on Wednesday, attracted a large company of breeders from all parts.

There was exceptional interest in the sale, owing not only to its important character, but to the fact that Mr. Charles Tulley, who is retiring from farming, has held the farm for nearly a quarter of a century, and his flock has acquired considerable repute throughout the country. It cannot be said how many years ago the Pangdean Southdown flock was established, but when the late Mr. George Baker quitted the farm in 1877, Mr. Tulley purchased largely as the incoming tenant, and has since introduced into the Pangdean flock rams bred by many well-known flockmasters. The catalogue included 1,047 ewes, 309 stock ewe lambs, fourteen rams, and ten ram lambs. The sale, which was conducted by Mr. W. G. Ansell, of the firm of Messrs. Drawbridge and Ansell, Haywards Heath, was a very satisfactory one. Prices were good, better than were anticipated. They worked out as follows:- The full-mouthed ewes averaged 45s., the six-tooth ewes 53s. 9d., the four-tooth ewes 60s. 3¾d., the two-tooth 65s. 2½d., the over-age ewes 39s., the stock ewe lambs 39s. 8½d., the rams, 79s. 2d., and the ram lambs 46s. 2½d. The total amount realised by the sale was £3,448 2s., an all-round average of 55s. 0½d. The ewes, reckoning all ages, averaged 54s. 1¾d., but, taking the usual flock ages, they averaged 55s. 0¾d.

Champion Southdown Ram, the Property of Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambridge

Sale of Mr. E. K. Bickley's Shropshires.

On Tuesday, Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, in conjunction with Messrs. Parry and Batho, offered for sale Mr. E. K. Bickley's carefully selected flock of Shropshires. Previous to beginning business Mr. and Mrs. Bickley entertained the numerous company assembled to an excellent lunch, which was served in a spacious marquee erected near the house. After several toasts had been duly honoured, the company adjourned to the sale ring. Mr. Mansell occupied the rostrum, and in commending the flock to the attention of purchasers, he pointed out that they were all in good, healthy, working condition. He hoped the company would rally round Mr. Bickley and give him a successful sale, and he felt sure they would never regret having made purchases out of the really good lot of animals he had to dispose of. The buyers seemed to have acted on Mr. Mansell's advice, as satisfactory prices were realised all round, and the breeding ewes and ewe lambs in particular sold very well. The following were the prices paid:—

Shearling Rams (pasture rangers) -Mr Humphreys, 4gs; Mr Edwards, 4½gs; Mr Roscoe, 5½gs; Mr Lee, 7½gs; Mr Davies, 4gs; Mr Edwards, 6gs; Mr Batho, 4gs, 4½gs; Mr Ellis, 4gs; Mr Legh, 4gs; Mr Lea, 3½gs; Mr Griffiths, 3½gs; Mr Simcox, 3½gs; Mr Davies, 3½gs; Mr Cooke, 3gs; Mr Lee, 3gs.

Two-shear Rams—Mr Gresty, 9gs; Mr Darlington, 5gs.

Ram Lambs—Mr Dodd, 2½gs; Mr Lloyd, 2½gs; Mr Jones, 3gs; Mr F Bowen, 2½gs; Mr T Topham, 3½gs; Mr Lewis, 3½gs; Mr Topham, 3½gs; Mr Mottrell, 2½gs; Mr Timons, 2½gs; Mr Lewis, 3 ; Mr R Topham, 2½gs; Mr Edwards, 2½gs; Mr Dickin, a ir 3½gs; Mr Bright, 2½gs; Mr Lea, 3½gs; Mr Jones, 2½gs, 3½gs Pairs Mr T Topham, 5½gs, 14gs; Mr Lloyd, 3½gs; Mr Edwards, 4½gs. Lots of four—Mr Timons, £6 8s; Mr T Topham £8 10s; Mr Timons, £6. £5 5s.

Shearling Ewes—Mr J Edwards, 62s 6d, 65s; Mr Griffiths, 60s; Mr W Thomas 55s; Mr Dodd, 57s 6d; Mr W Humphreys, 47s 6d.

Two-shear Ewes—Mr Timons, 67s 6d, 65s; Mr Legh, 60s 57s 6d.

Young Stock Ewes—Mr Legh, 65s, 62s 6d, 60s, 57s 6d, 52s 6d. Mr W Oakley, 65s, 60s. Mr Holding, 57s 6d; Mr Parry, 55s.

Ewe Lambs—Mr W Thomas, 50s. Mr Cureton, 45s. Mr J Davies 40s, 35s, 30s; Mr F Horne, 40s, 37s 6d; Mr Hill, 32s 6d, 28s; Mr Gresty, 32s 6d; Mr H Williams, 31s.

Middleton Hall Flock.

A sale of sheep belonging to Mr. R. Bowness, of Middleton Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale, took place at the Hall on the 14th inst. There was a good attendance of buyers, and prices commensurate with the quality of the stock were realised. Messrs. M. B. Hodgson and Son were the auctioneers, and disposed of the following lots: 550 half-bred gimmer and wether lambs, at prices varying from, wethers, 13s. 6d. to 23s. 9d.; gimmers, 13s. 3d. to 25s. 6d.; 100 draft black-faced ewes, 12s. 9d. to 17s. 9d.; 80 black-faced wether lambs, 7s. to 11s. 3d.; 30 black-faced wethers, 23s. 6d. to 26s. 6d.; fat ewes, 21s. 6d.; rough tups, 18s. to 24s.

Sale at Bridgnorth.

The great annual sale at Bridgnorth was held in the Smithfield on Monday by Messrs. Nock, Deighton, and Kirkby. The entry was much larger than the previous year, and comprised 4,000 ewes and wethers, 1,000 ewe and wether lambs, and 100 rams and ram lambs. The sheep were chiefly Shropshires, and were a capital lot throughout. Buyers were present from Northampton, Nantwich, Market Drayton, Wellington, Worcester, Kidderminster, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and other parts of the Midlands. The prices were considered to be very satisfactory to the vendors, the highest price for stock ewes being 53s. Ewe and wether lambs met a fair trade and made up to 33s. The rams were chiefly Shropshires and were of a good type, the trade being brisk, making up to 14gs. Ram lambs made as high as 5gs.

Carlisle Fair.

Large sales of sheep and lambs were held at Carlisle on Wednesday, it being the Latter Fair day. At Harrison's Mart about 10,000 were forward. The annual sale of rams was also held, 220 being shown, including a consignment of Border Leicester and Shropshire lambs from Lord Polwarth's flocks at Mertoun. The best classes of Border Leicesters and Oxford Down rams met a good trade at £5 to £10; Shropshires and Suffolks did not sell so well. Prizes were offered, and were won as follows: Five shearlings—1, Mr. Twentyman, Hawkrigg; 2, Mr. Thompson, The Mains; 3, Lord Polwarth. Border Leicester Shearling Ram—1, Mr. Winter, Lotherton Park; 2, Mr. Twentyman; 3, Mr. Watson, Stone House. Down Shearling Ram—1, Mr. Riley, Ennim; 2 and 3, Lord Polwarth. Cross ewes made 37s.; half-bred ewes, 33s. 3d.; Leicester ewes, 39s.; Cheviot ewes, 21s. 6d.; cross gimmers, to 27s. 6d.; halt breds, to 5[illegible] 9d. Border Leicester gimmers, to 40s.; cross lambs, to 24s. 9d. Feeding sheep: Cheviots, to 24s.; crosses, 59s.; Cheviot lambs, 17s 9d each.

At Hetherington's Mart 10,000 sheep and lambs were forward, and there was a good demand. The first and second prize Border Leicester shearling rams were from Mr. Roper, The Leazes, and brought £5 15s. and £5; the first and second Down rams were from Mr. Jones, Wrexham, and brought £2 12s. 6d. and £1 16s.; cross feeding sheep made to 27s.; Cheviot gimmers to 18s. 9d.; cross ewes, 35s.; half-bred gimmers, to 35s.; half and three-quarter bred lambs, to 23s. 6d. each. There were about 300 Irish cattle on the South, the bulk being well suited for wintering. Trade was brisk. The best sorts made £14 10s. to £16 10s.; medium, £10 10s. to £12 10s.; and the smallest lots £5 5s. each.

Lincoln September Ram Fair.

The above fair, held on the 13th inst., was attended by a good number of buyers, and a large number of rams were disposed of. Trade ruled good and prices were against sellers. Mr. J. E. Walter sold twenty rams belonging to Mr. M. Dixon, Norton, at an average of £14 4s.; twenty-five property of Mr. J. Cartwright, Dunston, at an average of £7 2s.; and eight, bred by Mr. F. G. Battle, of Potterhanworth, at an average of £7 5s. The same auctioneer also disposed of twenty rams belonging to Mr. C. S. Dickinson, Branston, and about 500 breeding sheep and rams. Fifteen, the property of Mr. Heathcote, made up to £7 5s. each, and a number of ewes and gimmers found purchasers at 56s. 6d. to 60s. 6d. apiece. Messrs. Richardson and Son sold by auction fourteen rams belonging to Mr. J. Evans, of Burton, for 64½gs., prices ranging from 4½gs. to 6¾gs. each; and seven of Mr. E. J. Howard's, Nocton, at 5½gs. to 15gs., Mr. Wilkinson, Nettleham, giving the top price.

Sale at Monmouth.

Messrs. Nelmes, Poole, and Atkins' annual sale of sheep took place on Thursday last, in beautiful weather, in a field close to Troy Station, Monmouth, and was the most successful ever held here, the catalogue comprising some 3,000 ewes and store lambs, and 170 rams. Nearly the whole of the lots were cleared at a considerable advance on last year, ewes being quite 4s. to 5s. per head dearer. Customers attended in large numbers, and competition was keen throughout.

Beaminster Fair.

Beaminster (Dorset) Great Prize Sheep Fair was held on Wednesday, when there was an exceptionally large number of sheep penned (about 7,000), a large offer of horned cattle, and other stock. Buyers also attended in large numbers from all parts of the country, but more especially from the West of Shires. Messrs. Morey and Son, of Bridport, had the whole of the business in their hands, and, with a good demand throughout, a capital trade was experienced at the full prices of Wilton and other late fairs; and even higher rates would have been realised had there been a little rain just previous, as was the case in some districts. A general run for horn ewes from 45s. to 53s. for best, and 38s. to 44s. for seconds; couples, 54s. to 64s.; horn wethers, 36s. to 47s.; best wether lambs, in fresh condition, 34s. to 43s.; others, 28s. to 32s.; horn chilver lambs, 29s. to 36s. Down ewes, of which there was not a large offer, ranged from about 34s. to 45s.; wethers, 32s. to 42s.; wether lambs, 28s. to 34s. for best; others, 24s. to 27s.; chilvers, 30s. to 36s.; mixed lambs, 24s. to 35s. Cattle made full prices, heifers and calves up to £15 and barreners to £26 per pair.

Kelso Ram Sales.

The great sale of Border Leicester-bred (Leicester-Cheviot) and Southdown rams held annually under the auspices of the Border Union Agricultural Society took place on the 14th inst. at Kelso in brilliant weather and in the presence of a large company of flockmasters and agriculturists from all parts of the country. As in former years, there were six rings in which the sales were carried on simultaneously, and in which all the local auctioneering firms, to the number of seven, were engaged. The catalogue comprised 1,708 rams of the various breeds, or 466 fewer than last year. This reduction was to some extent anticipated, owing to the somewhat indifferent encouragement extended to the exposers of rams from the more formally established flocks, and some of whom did not realise anything like profitable prices. As usual, the bulk of the stock was of the Border Leicester breed, but the predominance of this class was not so marked as formerly, owing to the circumstance that while there were nearly 300 fewer offered this year, the numbers in the other classes were well maintained. The relative numbers were: Border Leicesters, 893; other classes, 815.

From the outset business assumed a lively character, and this was maintained throughout. The averages generally showed a decided advance on those of last year, in some cases being nearly doubled, and in only a few cases was there anything like a serious reduction. Without any invidious reflection on it, may be said that the highest sale was to be found in

Ring No. 4, where Messrs. J. Swan and Son, Limited, had for disposal no fewer than 400 sheep. Mr. James Swan presided, as usual. The first lot brought forward were those from Leaston (Mr. Smith's). Last year their average was £18 9s. 2d.; this year they realised £22 15s. 2d. The highest-priced one was £95, the purchaser being Mr. Murray, Spittal. Mr. M'Connell, Glasnick, had one at £40; Mr. Grant, New Gelland, one at £35; and some half-dozen others went at from £28 to £30. The Mertoun rams (Lord Polwarth's) came on early in this ring, and met a very satisfactory demand. No. 1 of the lot was secured for the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour at £120; one was taken for the Earl of Rosebery at £100; while Mr. Ridley, Peelwill, took two at £90 and £45. Mr. Elliot, Maskle, bouht one at £71; and Mr. Thomson, Mungoswalls, one at £35; whilst others went at prices well over £20. The Markle lot (Mr. Elliot's) averaged £11 14s. 7d., as against £5 16s. 9d. last year. Of these Mr. Hitchison, Carlisle, secured one at £27; and Mr. Wood, Brookbushes, one at £21. The Leicesters in the other rings sold relatively well. Halfbreds were also in most cases up on the average, but not to such an extent as the Leicesters. Oxford Downs made fair prices on the whole.

Findon Fair.

The September Sheep Fair at Findon, Sussex, was held on the 14th inst., when close upon 8,000 sheep were penned, which number was a slight decrease compared with last year. The fair opened briskly. Lambs particularly were in demand, and a good many lots changed hands before eleven o'clock. The prices all round were good. Ewes varied from 30s. to 44s., the latter price being obtained by Mr. Pyle, of Angmering. A number belonging to Sir Henry Fletcher were bought by Mr. Haines of Chichester, for 42s., and the Rev. John Goring disposed of one of his lots at 37s. 6d. The highest price for lambs was secured by Mr. Tompkins, of Angmering, who sold some at 42s. Both Mr. King, of Steyning, and Mr. Short, of Findon, obtained 40s. for a number of theirs. The Rev. John Goring sold some at 37s.; Mr. Lee, of Sompting, 100 at 36s.; Mr. Duke, Angmering, 100 at 34s. 6d. and 100 at 31s.; Mr. Phillips, of Lancing, some at 32s.; Mr. J. A. Miller, 100 at 25s. 6d. and 40 at 23s.; Mr. Lee, 90 cull lambs at 25s. Mr. J. Hampton, of Findon, secured 4gs. apiece for ram lambs. There was a short supply of tegs, the principal lot changing hands being the property of Col. Margesson. They fetched 46s. 6d.

Show and Sale of Rams at Glasgow.

Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co.'s (Ltd.) sixteenth annual show and sale of rams and ram lambs at Glasgow was held on Tuesday at their premises adjoining the Cattle Market. The total number of animals catalogued was 819, comprising sixty Leicesters, 230 blackface shearlings, and 523 blackface ram lambs. These numbers show a slight increase over last year. All the usual well-known flocks in the midland and southern counties of Scotland were represented at this sale, and many of the lots shown were of great merit. The weather being fine the sheep were brought out in remarkably good form, and this was all the more evident when the various lots were drawn out for competition. In the shearling class as many as nine pens of five were placed before the judges, and eleven pens of five ram lambs. The judges were Mr. M'Diarmid, Camusericht, Rannoch, and Mr. M'Dougall, Claggan, Kenmore. For shearlings the first prize was won by Miss Coubrough, Craigend, which averaged £15 12s.; the second by Mr. Buchanan, Wellwood, which averaged £14 5s.; and the third by Mr. Stewart, Carrot, average £6 13s.; the commended ticket going to the pen owned by Miss Coubrough, Craigend, which averaged £7 15s. For lambs the place of honour was given to Mr. Cadzow, Westown; the second to Mr. Pate, E. Bramcastle; and the third to Messrs. Clark and Sons, Auchenlayford; and the commended ticket to Mr. Watson, Greenfield. The sale started with the Leicesters, Mr. Paton officiating as auctioneer. There was a crowded attendance, buyers being forward from a wide radius of Scotland and the Western Islands. Hitherto Glasgow has always been the centre of attraction for Irish buyers, but owing to the present regulations no sheep of any kind can be sent into Ireland. This fact, however, did not seem to affect prices much, as trade all round was found to be quite as good for all classes.

Sale of Half-breds at Hawick.

Messrs. Andrew Oliver and Son held their annual special sale of half-bred ewes and gimmers at Hawick on Wednesday, when they presented 5,700 ewes and 650 gimmers. There was a good attendance. Prices for ewes were up from 2s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. per head, the average rise being 4s. 9d. above the corresponding sale last year. A lot from Hallrule topped the market at 47s. 3d., another lot from Flex making 47s., and Spittal 46s. 3d. For the better class of gimmers trade was good at a similar rise to the ewes, and the class was topped by a fine lot from Cavers Home Farm at 51s. 6d., a lot from Courthill making [illegible].

Technical Terms Used in the Bradford Wool Trade.

It is always as well to have a clear idea as to what the consuming end of the trade has when dealing with any commodity, and in presenting this description of how wool is dealt with by Bradford sorters, growers will be able to follow more intelligently and more correctly estimate the different parts of their shorn fleeces.

Wool-classing we define to dealing with the fleece as a whole. There need be no hard and fast rules made, as fleeces show up very differently, and when they are straight and uniform they do not demand that classing and skirting as do fleeces that are "ragged" and wanting in uniformity. In classing it is usual to make three sorts of sound combings, also a cast, and two if not three sorts of clothing. In the combings the great bulk will consist of first combing, being an average quality and length of the whole clip, and it must be even and sound. Super-combing when made consists of parts of fleeces that usually are a little shorter than the first, but much finer, quality here being the chief desideratum. The second combing should contain much longer, stronger, and deeper-grown wool than the first combing, and consist of nothing but sound wool. The cast should include all cross and very low fleeces which does not near approach the general run of the whole flock. In clothing the classes should be made according to quality, and are usually made independent of length. Super-clothing consists of the highest quality, the staple being shorter than the combing, with good colour, density, fine serrations, well fitted for felting purposes, and soft and kind to the touch. First clothing contains the bulk of the shorter wool, providing it is clean and free, is usually a little longer than the super, and not so fine, but due attention should be paid to brightness, softness, and elasticity. Second combing, when made, is composed of a very wide grade of wool, but when super and first combing is made there need be no second clothing attempted only when a big clip is to be classed, or when the super is knocked off there should then be a first and second clothing, circumstances determining the line of action at the time being. We rather incline to lean to the line of action that when second clothing cannot be properly made the wool should go to the pieces. Generally this sort is of much bolder growth than the other two sorts, and always sells on a par with the other parts of the fleece. This past few years good shafty pieces have been in much request, and sold very well indeed.

Let us now look at the expressions one hears every day among Bradford woolmen, and see what they mean. The word combing really means long wool, a term used to distinguish from short wool; a wool specially adapted to the worsted trade. Clothing, a short wool; a term used to distinguish from combing or long wool, a wool used in the cloth or woollen trade round Leeds, Dewsbury, and Huddersfield. Teg, hog, or hogget. The first fleece from a sheep that has not been shorn as a lamb. Shurled hogget, first fleece from a sheep after it has been shorn as a lamb. Wether wool (English), all fleeces cut from sheep after first or hogget fleece has been removed. Wether wool (colonial), all fleeces shorn from unsexed sheep after the hogget fleece has been removed. Brightness refers to demi-lustre, a soft shade of lustre. Fineness: smallness of fibre. Quality signifies fineness with high character of breeding. Silkiness: a combination of softness, fineness, and brightness. Broad or thick-haired: denoting loss of character, straight-fibred, devoid of elasticity. Hardness: dry, unkind feel. Stringy: thin, delicate-stapled wool. Mushy: open and fuzzy. Noily: wasty, mushy, and the staple usually being starved and perished. Discoloured: stained by dead yolk. Cast: a rough, coarse, bad-bred fleece. Cot: a matted or felted wool. Kemps: white brittle hairs; a fibre grown on sheep, which cannot possibly be dyed, and is always either an indication of want of purity of breed or put down to a bad class of low and coarse-bred sheep. Dags: matted fibres, dirt and wasty matter of all character.

In presenting these technical descriptions of wool, readers will be able to understand and value them at their proper worth, and those growers to whom they refer cannot do better than carry them out carefully and systematically when preparing their wool for market. With the vastly increased quantity of wool now thrown on to the market growers can no longer skip and scamp their wool clip, and the observation of a lifetime leads one to say that there is nothing more satisfactory in the eye of a buyer than to see a good clip, and that wool nicely done up.—*British Australasian and New Zealand Mail.*

Sale of the "Old Times" Coach Horses.—The sale of the "Old Times" coach horses that have during the season been working the road to Virginia Water attracted a good many people to Aldridge's, St. Martin's Lane, on Wednesday afternoon. A very fair trade was done, the stud of thirty-six realising 2,310gs., or an average of 64gs. each animal. Sir Harry, out of the chestnut team, made 125gs.; Deacon, a bay, 120gs.; Charming, bay mare, 110gs.; and a pair of roans, Columbia and Kate, 160gs. Two hunters, named Isaac and Princess, changed hands at 120gs. and 110gs.

PIGS.

Sale of Mr. Frank Allmand's Large White Pigs.

Mr. Frank Allmand's herd of Large White pigs was disposed of by auction at Wrexham on Thursday week, Messrs. Frank Lloyd and Sons being the auctioneers. There was a large attendance of buyers, nearly all the principal breeders in England being represented. The highest price of the day was paid by the Earl of Ellesmere's representative for the large White sow Wrexham Hawthorn; the same buyer also secured Wrexham Venus and Wrexham Minera, at 16gs. and 17½gs. respectively. Wrexham Heatherbell was purchased by Mr. Walker, Wigan, for 15gs.; Wrexham Gem II. was knocked down at 13gs. to Mr. Hope, Scarborough; Wrexham Jason, 11½gs., to Mr. Albert Armitage, of Nottingham; Wrexham Bessie, 10½gs., to Mr. J. P. Smith, Evesham; Wrexham Juno II., 10gs., to Mr. Davies, West Bromwich; Large White gilt, 12gs., to Mr. Prescott, Liverpool; also Large White sow, Ruby, 14½gs. Six months' old gilts realised up to 8gs., and younger ones up to 6gs.

Sale of the Trescowe Large Black Pigs.

The old-established herd of Large Blacks, owned by Mr. R. S. Olver, of Trescowe, Cornwall, was dispersed on Tuesday, the sale being conducted by Mr. Ernest Prentice, secretary to the Large Black Pig Society, who in his preliminary remarks alluded to the services Mr. Olver had rendered as President of the Society since its incorporation, and to the value of a herd which had been purely bred for over fifty years, expressing the opinion that in the near future the Trescowe strain of blood would be sought after, and breeders who possessed it would find themselves able to command remunerative prices.

The large company included breeders in the south-western counties, and also representatives of the eastern, midland, and northern counties, and the eighty lots catalogued realised excellent prices. The top price of the day was 25gs., given by Mr. R. O. Feilden, Penkridge, Staffordshire, for the sow Trescowe Belle II., 556, farrowed March, 1897, and at 23gs. Mr. C. F. Marriner, Thorpe Hall, Hasketon, became the purchaser of a fine lengthy sow, Trescowe Jet, 564, farrowed 1898; Trescowe Beauty II., 554, went to Mr. H. A. Hope, of Cloughton, Yorkshire, at 12gs.; Trescowe Bonny II., 558, to Mr. J. B. Dimmock, of Shotford Hall, Harleston, at 10gs.; Trescowe Black Belle, 710, to Mr. A. H. Cobbald, Eldo House, at 7gs.; and Trescowe Ebony, 562, 7gs.; Trescowe Smut, 566, 6gs.; and Trescowe Black Bess, 708, 4gs., were taken by Mr. W. H. Pinhey, of Castle Hedingham. The average price for ten sows was £10 14s. 6d. per head.

Gelts, farrowed in October, 1899, made up to 10gs., at which price Mr. H. A. Hope took the winner of first prize at Launceston Show, 1900. Mr. C. F. Marriner was a purchaser at £6 5s., Mr. W. H. Pinhey, three lots, at £5 15s., £5 5s., and £4 5s., and Mr. Robt. Graham, of Stutton, at £5. Gelts, farrowed January and February, 1900, made from £5 15s. to £4; Mr. A. Harvey, of Wattisham, buying at £5. Twenty gelts, three to five months old, made up to £5 5s., the average price for the thirty-six lots being £4 4s. 6d. per head. The majority of the boars were only three to five months old, and with a few exceptions, made but little more than store prices. A promising young boar, farrowed January, 1900, realised £7, to Mr. C. F. Marriner, and Mr. R. B. Bond, of Sproughton, was the purchaser of a boar farrowed May, 1900, at £2 10s. Ten lots of capital store pigs averaged £3 16s. 6d. per head.

Sale of Large Black Pigs.

The formation of the Large Black Pig Society has resulted in increased attention being paid to this breed. It will be remembered that there was a sale of animals from registered herds, which, by the way, are generally confined to the Eastern counties and Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall, held at Ipswich last May. The result was so satisfactory that it was determined to hold an autumn sale, which duly came off on Friday week. No doubt, the high prices made last spring induced breeders to send a good many more animals to this sale. Breeders had evidently, indeed, been tempted to keep more than they were, perhaps, justified in doing for breeding purposes, and a very large proportion were young stock, the ages of the majority ranging from ten weeks to ten months. There was, however, a good demand for the best animals. Mr. G. F. Hempson bought the first sow in the catalogue, sent by Mr. H. W. Packard, Shotley, at 5½gs., while an exceptionally large animal from Cockwell made 8gs. One sent from South Devon, farr. November, 1899, made 7gs. to Mr. J. W. N. Moss, Kelvedon, while Mr. C. S. Sherwood secured one consigned by Mr. James Goddard, Tunstall, of the same age, at 7½gs. Two others belonging to the same herd made 7gs. and 6½gs. to Mr. Cottee and Mr. G.

F. Hempson. Three gilts, a year old, belonging to Mr. Percy Turner, realised 3gs. each. Mr. George Courtauld, Halstead, sent several gilts, farr. last February, and they made £2 15s., the buyers including Mr. Southgate, Mr. Gage Harper, Mr. Gwilt, and Mr. J. Watkins. Mr. G. Watkins also had a dozen gilts. Three farr. last December sold at 6gs., 5gs., and £4 15s., the buyers including Mr. Cottee and Mr. Cordy. Another one, farr. January, 1900, was taken by Mr. J. Watkins at 6gs. Mr. C. F. Marriner also had seveal entries from his Hasketon herd; one farr. last March making £4 15s.; other farr. in May, and sold in pairs, went at about 40s.

Three belonging to Mr. T. P. Brand, Shimpling Hall, farr. last January, sold at £5, £3 5s., and £4 respectively, to Mr. Cottee, Mr. Fox, and Mr. C. S. Sherwood. The others made satisfactory prices. Mr. A. H. Cobbald, Eldo House, Bury St. Edmunds, consigned a considerable number of sows and pigs. A sow, Eldo Beauty, farr. 1898, made £5, and five, farr. March, 1899, were knocked down at £4, £3 17s. 6d., to £3 12s. 6d. The gilts made from £2 15s., the purchasers being Mr. Hood, Mr. Ranson, Mr. J. W. Moss, Mr. Brand, Mr. S. T. Harwood, Mr. Moorsom (for Capt. E. G. Pretyman, M.P.), and others. A gilt, farrowed last March, from the Colonial College, Hollesley Bay, went at £3; another one making £2 15s., and three others £2 17s. 6d. each. Mr. John Matthew, Earl Stonham, made £4 2s. 6d. of a gilt farrowed last January, and 75s. and 70s. each of three others, Mr. Gage Harper, Mr. Burgess, Mr. Crook, and Mr. Graham being amongst the buyers. There were several other consignors, amongst them being Mr. John Rock, of Dunningworth Hall,

Shorthorn Bull "Macbeth," purchased by Mr. Duthie for 200gs.

whose consignments sold well, to Mr. Edwin H. Preston, Worlingworth, Mr. Cousins, and Mr. Ross.

As to the boars, one farrowed in March last, belonging to the Colonial College, realised 10½gs., the top price of the day, and another one 9½gs., to Mr. Cousins and Messrs. J. and G. Stannard. Mr. Burgess secured one from Cornwall at 7gs.; while Mr. Sidney Traylen gave £5 for one sent by Mr. John Goddard, farrowed in May. Mr. Walter Wrinch, Erwarton, had several farrowed in April last, the first three being purchased at £3, 2gs., and £2. It is satisfactory to note that buyers came from outlying districts, including Derby, Westmorland, and Dumfries.

The introductory lecture for the new session at the Royal Veterinary College will be delivered at that institution on Tuesday, the 2nd October, at noon, by Prof. McFadyean, M.B., B.Sc., M.R.C.V.S.

Sale of Live and Dead Farming Stock.—Mr. John Barton, of Hackwood Farm, Hants, has decided to retire from farming, and to-morrow (Tuesday) Messrs. Raynbird and Sons, Basingstoke, will dispose of the whole of the live and dead stock on the farm. This comprises a flock of registered Hampshire Down sheep—540 in all—seven well-bred Shire mares and fillies, nineteen cart horses and colts, a seven-year-old bay cob and four-year-old bay nag filly, eight Shorthorn cows and heifers, a two-year-old steer, a pedigree Shorthorn bull, five pure-bred Berkshire sows and young pigs and one boar, seventy pure-bred dark Dorking fowls, twelve ricks of sainfoin, clover, and meadow hay, and all the implements, surplus household furniture, etc. Hackwood Farm, which is three miles from Basingstoke railway station, has for many years been well known as the home of first-class farm stock, and this dispersal is sure to attract a large gathering of buyers, who will be well repaid for their visit. The sale will take place on the premises, and will commence at eleven o'clock precisely.

SHOWS.

Birmingham Shorthorn Show and Sale.

The autumnal show and sale of Shorthorns promoted by the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society was held at Bingley Hall on Wednesday. It must have been gratifying to the promoters to note that the falling off in the number of entries which occurred last year was this autumn recovered. There were in all 236 animals shown, as against 195 last year and 237 in 1898. The show is not, of course, of the same importance as that held in the early part of the year, and the animals do not come up to the same high standard of merit. Yet there were several notable Shorthorns stalled on Wednesday, with others which, although serviceable beasts, were not of show type. There was a fair attendance of buyers, though several gentlemen who generally purchase largely did not put in an appearance. A good number of animals were bought for export, chiefly to South Africa and South America, but not so many as in some former years.

Cows and Heifers.

The class for cows and heifers exceeding three years of age was a fairly strong one, both in numbers and quality, and prices reigned pretty high. There were sixty-four animals entered, including the calves. Mr. Charles Showell, a large exhibitor, who owned some remarkably fine cattle, was awarded the first prize for Bella, a handsome and well-developed milker, bred by the Right Hon. F. J. S. Foljambe, out of Beauty by Leonidas. Mr. Kaye purchased this prize-winner for 35gs. Second award went to Crumpet 4th, bred and exhibited by Mr. S. H. Allen, and sold to Mr. Kaye for 47gs. Mr. Showell was the owner of the reserve cow, an excellent animal, also by Leonidas, which was purchased by Mr. Kaye for 40gs. In regard to prices, Mr. J. A. Preece headed the list for the class, he receiving from Mr. J. H. Wheatley 82gs. for a three-year-old, Duchess of Barrington 41st, who came of a famous line of Barringtons, and was highly commended by the judges. Mr. A. R. Motion paid 42gs. for Morwenna, a Leicester prize winner in 1898, and her two cow calves, born in August last. Another of Mr. Charles Showell's animals, Jessamine, which received the commended card, was sold to Mr. Hiscock for £41. She was the winner in 1897 of prizes at Bingley Hall and at the Warwickshire show. From the same herd came Snitterfield Lass, which was purchased by Mr. Jackson for 34gs. Duchess of Cumberland 20th, a roan from the herd of Mr. W. Bewley, went to Mr. Lloyd for 32gs., Mr. Motion bought Hardbelle 7th from Mr. G. Gerrard for 36gs., and Mr. R. Symonds paid 25gs. for Blushing Rose, a prize winner on other occasions, belonging to Mr. A. Hiscock, jun., while Mr. Green purchased a cow from Mr. W. Arkell for 34gs., and another, with calf, from the same breeder for 31gs. In the heifer section the animals were of very good character all round, especially in the classes for calves and one year olds. The best beast among the two-year olds, Warton Lady, belonged to Mrs. L. H. Holland, and was a roan in prime condition. She was disposed of for 36gs. to Mr. Townley Parker. Second honours were secured by Barr Lady, a well-grown, level heifer. Mr. Brain bought her for 25gs. Mr. Kaye purchased Bellebone 2nd, a red bred by Mr. Charles Showell, for 27gs. Mr. T. R. Hulbert's Heliotrope was placed reserve in this class.

Premier honours among the yearling heifers fell to Mr. H. Wynne, in respect of Ombersley Pride, which he sold to Mr. Dudding for 67gs. Other prize winner, a fine roan bred by Mr. T. Harrison, falling to Mr. [illegible] Parker at 31gs. Mr. B[illegible] gave 47gs. for the second animal, belonging to Mr. G. Freeman, and Mr. Hastings' [illegible] Red Blossom was secured by Mr. Dudding for 36gs. To Mr. Charles Showell belonged Jessamine 3rd, which Mr. Motion bought for 2[illegible] [illegible] of the Right Hon. Chaplin, Position 4th, Coquette 3rd, and a pair of two-year-old heifers, Coquette 2nd and Coquette 4th, in the order of their numbering. Second honours were secured by Mr. Wynne, and her yearling heifer, Duchess of Clarence Ruth, was the second prize animal, and she was sold to Mr. W. H. Thomas for Mr. Dudding for 30gs. The same pen [illegible] by Mr. Thorley to Mr. J. Harrison for the reserve heifer, Fairy Queen.

Bulls.

In the [illegible] for bulls [illegible] offered there was the most [illegible] be less than twenty-six entries, [illegible] and of these forty-two were [illegible] ton there were really a [illegible] entered for competition, to the [illegible] A few of the animals shown were [illegible] who could well have [illegible] good people on their [illegible] ter, and certainly all [illegible] A magnificent [illegible] Duke, [illegible] hibited by Mr. J. H. Wheatley, out of Fairy Princess 2nd, and sired by Jasper 2nd. He was calved in May, 1899, [illegible] the judges at the recent Warwickshire [illegible] a deep-set, level beast, with a good [illegible] and was far and away the best in the hall. No less than 135gs. was paid for him on behalf of Marquis Camden. A high price was also given for the second prize animal, Vain Duke, from the herd of Captain E. [illegible] Wheatley, for which Mr. Bucka was content to pay 82gs. Mr. C. E. Morris was the exhibitor of Lady Bountiful, which won third award, and which was knocked down to Mr. Trevethen for 42gs. Rockhill Fancy, belonging to Mr. F. R. Fry, ranked fourth, and 46gs. was the price given for him by Sir H. N. Wrixon-Becher. Makins gained fifth award with Omdurman, a well-matured yearling, and the reserve card was given to Mr. Thomas Diggle, for Ewerby's Hope, bought by Mr. Bucka for 39gs. A similar price was given by Mr. H. Maclean for Chewton Marquis, a bull belonging to Mr. G. F. King, while it was exceeded by one guinea by the price paid for Misfit, a yearling from the herd of the Right Hon. Lord Lathom, by Mr. Motion. Messrs. P. and G. Evans were the purchasers, for 46gs., of Vain Duke's brother, by Captain E. M. Whitting, and 40gs. was paid by Mr. Kaye for Haycroft, a bull of Mr. R. Singer's 3gs. less being the price at which Mr. C. E. Morris' Perfection was sold to Colonel Blake, and Mr. S. Hill's Lancaster Archer to Mr. Wynne. For 32gs. Mr. Jagger was able to secure Gerome, belonging to Mr. J. P. Cross, and Mr. J. Graves's British Knight, brother to Wrangler, recently sold for £125, was secured to Mr. Gilding for 35gs. Mr. Kaye paid 34gs. for Patriot, a bull from the herd of Mr. W. J. Hosker, and 32gs. was given by Mr. Johnson for Mr. J. Thorley's Beaconsfield, Mr. S. H. Allen's Crowdown fetching the same price from Mr. J. Lucas. Mr. Tillard became the possession of Stonehouse, a bull, bred by the Right Hon. Viscount Baring for 30gs. Mr. W. G. G. Pitcher sold his Hermit to Mr. Wardell for 28gs., and Mr. G. Freeman his Oxford Freshman to Mr. Atkinson for 21gs. A number of other bulls were disposed of at lower figures. Among the extra stock the highest price realised was for Baron Wisbury, a very fine [illegible] last year. It was shown by Mr. J. Lawson and bought at 66gs. for the Marquis of Exeter. Mr. J. Grave's Paul Kruger was sold to Mr. Chettle for 36gs., and 35gs. each were given, on behalf of Lord Sherbourne, for Mr. E. P. Bulley's Majestic, and by Mr. Adams for Messrs. Bewley Brothers' Ewerby King.

Westmoreland.

The exhibition of the Westmoreland Agricultural Society's [illegible] in the town of Kendal [illegible] on Tuesday last, the entries [illegible] exhibits being above the average and almost equal to the high [illegible] Shire Horse Society's [illegible] were held [illegible] not expected, as special inducements were then offered. [illegible] The most noticeable falling off in entries was among the agricultural horses, and no reason could be assigned for that unless it was the separation of Clydesdales and [illegible] Shorthorns, and on this occasion there was an excellent [illegible] successful, and [illegible]

offering the new prizes which were given. Indeed, it was a question whether the tenant farmers' stock was not really better than those of the wealthier breeders. The majority of the other cattle are bred more for flesh-forming properties than for milk, whilst the tenant farmers' cattle combined the dual qualities of milk and beef. The class for bull calves was the best of those for males, containing some most promising animals. The old bulls were not quite so numerous as usual, but they were of very good quality. The class for breeding cows was a very full one. The horses, both light and heavy, were a most atractive lot, especially the former, which were well represented. Mr. W. Dowbiggin carried off the palm with his beautiful brood mare Scottish Mysor, which won in her class, and also secured the medal for the best agricultural horse in the show. Some high class hunters were exhibited. Taken generally, the sheep were of exceptional merit, particularly the Wensleydales, which in recent years have been bred considerably more than previously.

The following gentlemen officiated as judges:—Cattle and pigs: Mr. John Patton, Alnwick; and Mr. Thomas Richardson, The Wreay, Wigton. Hunters: Mr. G. T. Brown, Exton, Oakham. Hackneys: Mr. R. Whitworth, South Wood, Halifax. Shires: Mr. T. Walsh, Poulton-le-Fylde. Clydesdales: Mr. James Lowther, Quarry House, Harperley. Sheep: Longwools, Mr. H. Smith, jun., Cropwell Butler; Shropshire or other Down, Mr. T. A. Buttar, Cupar-Angus, N.B.; Wensleydale and halfbred, Mr. Robert Ewbank, Clapham; Scotch Blackfaced and Rough Fell, Mr. James Greenshields, Lesmahagow; Herdwicks, Mr. Edward Nelson, jun., Gatesgarth, Buttermere.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Bull of two but not exceeding six years old: 1, J. Handley, Greenhead, Milnthorpe; 2, A. Cleasby, Podgercroft, Sedbergh; 3, E. Potter, Lewfield, Kirkby Lonsdale.

Bull, above one and under two years old: 1, R. Braithwaite, Fellside, Middleton; 2, W. G. Atkinson, Raines Hall, Kendal; 3, J. Handley, Greenhead, Milnthorpe.

Bull calf, under twelve months old: 1, W. Richardson, Laverock Bridge, Kendal; 2, W. Atkinson, Overthwaite; 3, A. Cleasby.

Cow for breeding stock, in calf or milk, three years old or upwards; 1, E. Mason, Watercrook, Kendal; 2, R. J. Huddleston, Natland Park, Kendal; 3, R. Parker, Moss End, Milnthorpe.

Heifer, above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Holker, Cart-in-Cartmel; 2, James Hodgson, Fairies Lodge, Newbiggin Dacre, Penrith; 3, E. Mason.

Heifer above one and not exceeding two years old: 1, W. Taylor, Wharton Hall, Kirkby Stephen; 2, W. Atkinson; 3, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P.

Three cows for breeding stock, in calf or milk: 1, E. Mason; 2, Rev. T. Butler, Rectory Farm, Bowness; 3, A. Cleasby.

Cow for dairy purposes, in calf or milk, three years old and upwards: 1, R. J. Huddleston; 2 and 3, E. Mason.

Heifer calf, under three months old: 1, E. Mason; 2, J. Handley.

Calf, bull, or heifer, under six months old: 1, A. Cleasby; 2, W. Taylor; 3, Rev. T. Butler.

SMALL TENANT FARMERS' CLASSES.

Bull, over twelve months old: 1, W. Cannon, Birks, New Hutton; 3, T. Edmondson, Low Garths, Hutton.

Bull calf, under twelve months old: 1 and 3, Mrs. Atkinson, Brunthwaite, Old Hutton; 2, J. Woof, Crook of Lune, Howgill, Sedbergh.

Cow for breeding stock, in calf or milk, three years old or upwards: 1 and 3, T. Park, Natland, Kendal; 2, E. Moorhouse, High House, Natland.

Heifer, above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, T. Park; 2, Mrs. Atkinson; 3, Collinson, Crosthwaite.

Heifer, above one and not exceeding two years old: 1, J. Milner, Croft House, Stainton, Penrith; 2, Mrs. Moorhouse; 3, J. Wood, Crook of Lune, Howgill, Sedbergh.

Heifer calf, under twelve months old: 1, J. Woof; 2, J. Airey, Barwick Hall, Middleton; 3, T. Edmondson.

Best collection of animals: 1, R. J. Huddleston, Natland Park, Kendal; 2, R. Parker, Moss End, Milnthorpe; 3, H. C. Hodgson, High Foulshaw, Milnthorpe.

Two Shorthorns, one male and one female, or two females: 1, W. Atkinson; 2, W. Taylor; 3, T. Park.

Bull or heifer under twelve months old: 1, W. Atkinson; 2, J. Morton, Skelsmergh Hall; 3, W. Taylor.

For collection of animals, viz., one horse, one stock cow or heifer, one dairy cow, and three female sheep of any breed: 1, W. Cottam; 2, J. Morton; 3, J. R. Airey.

Shorthorns. Best of all the first prize male animals: J. Handley.

SHEEP

LONG-WOOLLED.

Aged ram: 1, J. Wakefield, Sedgwick House, Kendal; 2, R. Parker; 3, Messrs. J. Sedgwick and Sons, Lambrigg Head, Lambrigg.

Shearling ram: 1, R. Parker.

Tup lamb: 1 and 2, J. R. Airey; 3, R. Parker, Moss End, Milnthorpe.

Three ewes, which have each reared a lamb in the current year: 1, R. Parker; 2, J. Wakefield; 3, J. R. Airey.

Three shearling gimmers: 1, R. Parker; 2, J. R. Airey; 3, J. Wakefield.

Three gimmer lambs: 1, J. R. Airey; 2, J. Wakefield; 3, R. Parker.

SHROPSHIRE OR OTHER DOWNS.

Aged ram: 1, R. J. Huddleston, Natland Park, Kendal; 2, J. Gibson and Son, Kendal.

Shearling gimmer: 1 and 3, R. J. Huddleston, Natland Park, Kendal.

Tup lamb: 1 and 3, R. J. Huddleston; 2, J. Todd, Stainbank Green, Kendal.

Three ewes which have each reared a lamb in the current year: 1, R. J. Huddleston; 2, J. Gibson and Son, Kendal.

Three shearling gimmers: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, R. J. Huddleston.

Three gimmer lambs: 1, R. J. Huddleston; 2, J. Gibson and Son; 3, J. Todd.

WENSLEYDALE AND HALFBRED.

Aged ram: 1, W. Rhodes, West House, Kirkby Lonsdale; 2, J. Gibson and Son; 3, Lord Henry C. Bentinck, M.P.

Shearling ram: 1, W. Rhodes; 2, J. Gibson and Son; 3, Lord Henry C. Bentinck, M.P.

Three shearling gimmers: 1, W. Rhodes; 2, J. Gibson and Son; 3, Lord Henry C. Bentinck.

Three gimmer lambs: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, W. Rhodes; 3, Lord Henry C. Bentinck.

Wensleydale Blue-faced Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock Book Society's special prizes for pair of Wensleydale lambs (either sex): 1, Lord Henry C. Bentinck, M.P.; 2, Messrs. James Gibson and Son.

Special prizes: 1, William Rhodes; 2, Messrs. James Gibson and Son; 3, Lord Henry C. Bentinck.

SCOTCH BLACK-FACED.

Aged ram: 1, Executors of the late T. Dargue, Burneside Hall, Kendal; 2, T. Rawlinson.

Shearling ram: 1 and 2, Executors of the late T. Dargue; 3, T. Rawlinson.

Tup lamb: 1 and 3, T. Rawlinson; 2, Executors of the late T. Dargue.

Three ewes which have each reared a lamb in the current year: 1, T. R. Bownass, Barbon; 2, Executors of the late T. Dargue; 3, Thos. Harrison, Biggins Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale.

Three shearling gimmers: 1, Executors of the late T. Dargue; 2, T. Rawlinson; 3, T. R. Bownass.

Three gimmer lambs: 1, Executors of the late T. Dargue; 2, T. Rawlinson; 3, E. Rawlinson, Docker Hall, Grayrigg.

ROUGH FELL (other than Black-faced).

Aged ram: 1 and 2, Mrs. H. Wharton, Ashstead, Whinfell.

Shearling ram: 1 and 3, Jas. Shuttleworth, Castle Bank, Grayrigg; 2, Ed. Swidenbank, Whelpside, Whinfell.

Tup lamb: 1 and 2, Ed. Swidenbank; 3, H. Wharton.

Three ewes which have each reared a lamb in the current year: 1, Joseph Wood, Cooper House, Selside; 2, W. G. Atkinson; 3, Mrs. Atkinson, Low Groves, Kendal.

Three shearling gimmers: 1 and 3, Jos. Wood; 2, Mrs. Atkinson.

Three gimmer lambs: 1 and 2, Jos. Wood; 3, Mrs. Atkinson.

HERDWICK.

Aged ram: 1 and 3, Wm. Abbott, Hartsop Hall, Patterdale; 2, Messrs. John Dove and Son.

Shearling ram: 1 and 3, W. Mackereth, Green Bank, Ambleside; 2, J. Dove and Son.

Tup lamb: 1 and 3, W. Mackereth; 2, J. Dove and Son.

Three ewes which have each reared a lamb in the current year: 1, J. Dove and Son; 2, W. Mackereth; 3, R. Rigg, Windermere Hotel.

Three shearling gimmers: 1, W. Mackereth; 2, J. Dove and Son.

Three gimmer lambs: 1, W. Mackereth; 2, J. Dove and Son.

HALF-BREDS.

Three ewes which have each reared a lamb in the current year: 1 and 2, J. Gibson and Son, Kendal.

Three shearling gimmers: 1 and 3, J. Gibson and Son; 2, Lord Henry C. Bentinck, M.P.

Three gimmer lambs: 1 and 2, T. Dixon and Son, Ellers Farm, Caton, Lancaster; 3, J. Wood, Cooper House, Selside.

Five sheep, four females and one male, to be Herdwick, Black-faced, or half-bred females with a pure-bred ram: 1, Exors. of the late T. Dargue; 2, T. Rawlinson.

Five sheep, four females and one male, of any pure-breed other than those mentioned in the previous class: 1, R. Parker, Milnthorpe; 2, J. R. Airey, Patton.

One tup and three females, any age, Longwood, Wensleydale, Shropshire, or Leicester: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, R. J. Huddleston.

One Long-woolled or Wensleydale ram and three half-bred gimmer lambs: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 3, J. Wood.

One tup and three females, any age, Rough Fell or Herdwick: 1, J. Wood; 2, J. Dove and Son.

PIGS.

Boar, large breed, above six months old: 1 and 2, H. H. Owtram, Newland Hall, Ellel, near Lancaster.

Boar, small breed, above six months old: 1, W. Askew, Oaks Farm, Cartmel Fell; 2, C. Thompson, Halfpenny Stainton.

Breeding sow, large breed: 1, H. H. Owtram, Newland Hall, Ellel, near Lancaster; 2, G. Wilson, Bridge End, Milnthorpe; 3, M. Robinson, Carus Green, Kendal.

Breeding sow, small breed: 1, C. Thompson, Halfpenny Stainton; 2, M. Robinson.

HORSES

HUNTERS.

Brood mare, in foal, or with foal at foot: 1, J. S. Rigg, Appleby; 2, J. Wilson, Helsington Laithes, Kendal; 3, T. Edmundson, Low Garths, Hutton.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Exors. of T. Dixon, Priest Hutton, Carnforth; 2, J. Hartley and Co., Mill Head, Carnforth; 3, T. Harrison, Bowness.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1 and 2, J. Wilson, Helsington Laithes, Kendal; 3, T. Tomlinson, The Hagg, New Hutton.

One-year-old colt, gelding, or filly: 1, W. F. Egerton, Gawithfield, Ulverston; 2, Major R. L. Breeks, F.R.A., Helbeck Hall, Brough, Kirkby Stephen; 3, T. Edmondson, Low Garths, Hutton.

Colt or filly foal: 1, T. Atkinson, Woodhouse, Milnthorpe; 2, J. S. Rigg, Appleby; 3, J. Wilson, Helsington Laithes, Kendal.

Hunter up to 15 stone: 1, R. Hothersall, Preston; 2, C. H. Wilson, Kendal; 3, J. Wilson, Kendal.

Hunter up to 12 stone: 1, C. H. Wilson, Kendal; 2, Dr. E. S. Jackson, Carnforth; 3, T. Atkinson, Milnthorpe.

HARNESS AND HACKNEYS.

Brood mare, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, J. W. Liver, Calder Vale, Barnacre; 2 and 3, J. Wrigley, Holbeck, Windermere.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. Clarkson, stone merchant, Carnforth; 2, Exors. of J. Howorth, Low Sizergh, Kendal; 3, T. H. Spooner, Mill Hill, Warcop.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, R. and P. Hartley, Ulverston; 2, Dr. G. W. Brumwell, Stricklandgate, Kendal; 3, W. Wray, High Crag, Burneside.

One-year-old colt, gelding, or filly: 1, M. Robinson; 2, J. Wrigley; 3, Dr. G. W. Brumwell.

Colt or filly foal, the property of the exhibitor: 1, M. Robinson; 2, R. Burrow, Greenbank, Whittington; 3, Exors. of J. Howorth.

Pony of any age, mare or gelding, not exceeding 13½ hands: 1, T. G. Benn, Newton Reigney, Penrith; 2, A. S. J. Musgrave, Abbey Lands, Stackhouse, Settle; 3, C. Iveson, Sedbergh.

Hackney (any age, mare or gelding, over 13½ and not exceeding 15½ hands: 1, T. G. Benn, Newton Reigney, Penrith; 2, J. W. Liver; 3, S. Harper, Loftus Hill, Sedbergh.

Lady's hack of any age, mare or gelding, from 13 2 to 15 2 hands: 1, N. Dixon, Priest Hutton, Carnforth; 2, J. Hudson, High House, Crook; 3, J. Case, Gwen Holme, Morecambe.

Road or cob, mare or gelding, of any age, not exceeding 15 hands: 1, J. W. Liver; 2, G. W. Dalston-Ewebanke, Brough, Kirkby Stephen; 3, A. S. J. Musgrave, Abbey Lands, Stackhouse, Settle.

Best turn-out: 1, S. Harper, Loftus Hill, Sedbergh; 2, E. McNaughtan, St. Anthony's, Milnthorpe; 3, J. Clarkson, Carnforth.

Best by Cleveland: 1 and 3, M. Robinson; 2, F. C. Bowness.

Best by Gazette: 1, Exors. of J. Howorth; 2, Mrs. Pagnam, Winster, Windermere.

The Hackney Horse Society's silver medal: 1, T. G. Benn.

Best first prize horses, mares or geldings, in the classes for Hunters, Harness, and Hackneys, etc.: J. Wilson.

AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

SHIRES.

Brood mare, in foal or with foal at foot: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Holker; 2, J. Fox, Corless Mill, near Lancaster; 3, E. Whittaker, Windermere.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, R. J. Huddleston, Kendal; 2, J. Towers, Carnforth; 3, J. Dobson, Burton, Westmorland.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, H. Mackereth; 2, J. Towers; 3, H. Robinson, Old Hutton.

One-year-old colt, gelding or filly: 1, T. Allonby, Dalton-in-Furness; 2, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P.; 3, Lord Henry C. Bentinck, M.P.

Colt or filly foal: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P.,; 2, E. Rawlinson, Grayrigg; 3, E. Whittaker.

Shire Horse Society's silver medal: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P.; r, J. Towers.

CLYDESDALES.

Brood mare, in foal, or with foal at foot: 1, W. Dowbiggin, Millom; 2, H. C. Hodgson, High Foulshaw; 3, R. Hudson, Windermere.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, W. Griffiths, Castlesteads, Plumpton, Penrith; 2 and 3, A. Mansell, Crossrigg, Penrith.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1 and 2, A. Mansell; 3, W. Cottam.

One-year-old colt, gelding, or filly: 1, W. Dowbiggin; 2, Messrs. Hodgson; 3, W. Carr.

Colt or filly foal: 1, H. C. Hodgson; 2, W. Carr; 3, R. Addison.

The Clydesdale Horse Society's bronze medal: 1, A. Mansell; 2, W. Dowbiggin; he, A. Mansell.

Pair of agricultural horses, mares or geldings, shown in gear: 1, W. Griffiths; 2, A. Mansell, Crossrigg, Penrith; 3, R. Parker.

Foal of any breed: G. Bownass, Gilpin Bridge, Kendal.

Single agricultural horse, mare or gelding, shown in gear: 1, W. Dowbiggin; 2, R. Hudson; 3, R. Parker.

Agricultural horse, mare or gelding, shown in cart and gear: 1, H. C. Hodgson; 2, R. Hudson.

Three agricultural mares, any age: 1, J. Lancaster; 2, R. J. Huddleston; 3, T. Clement, Cinderbarrow, Levens.

The Society's silver medal for best of all the first prize horses, mares or geldings, in classes for agricultural purposes: 1, W. Dowbiggin; r, V. C. W. Cavendish.

South Tyne.

The annual show of the South Tyne Agricultural Society was held in Bellister Park under most favourable auspices on the 8th inst. The attendance of visitors was very good, and the day's takings constituted a record in the Society's history. The gate money amounted to £140 8s. 9d.; catalogues sold, £16 4s. 6d.; grand stand, £3 1s.; guessing competition, £5 9s. 6d.; total, £165 3s. 9d., against £118 odd last year. There was a falling off in the total entries compared with last year, the principal decrease being in the cattle. Shorthorns, which numbered fifty-seven against seventy-one last year, contained on this occasion no representatives from Bellister Castle, but there were several from Mr. Henderson, East Elrington, and Mr. Thomas Lambert, Elrington Hall, which took the cream of the awards, though Mr. Carr, Bunker's Hill; Mr. E. Joicey, Blenkinsopp Hall; Mr. Edgar, Birchfield-gate; and Mr. J. W. Johnson, Whitfield, received favourable notice. Galloways and half-breds, too, were short of last year's numbers, being fifty-six and thirty-six respectively against eighty-four and fifty-two in 1899. A characteristic of these, and indeed of the cattle generally, was a high level of merit all through, and not, as is sometimes the case, a few animals of surpassing merit and a larger number of the mediocre stamp. Mr. Dove, of Thorngrafton, and Messrs. Stothert, Cleugh Foot, were the most successful among the Galloways, but the Nether Denton district was strongly represented by the exhibits of Messrs. Fenwick, the Temon; Thomlinson, Cleugh Head; and Holliday, of Low Row, while the cow belonging to Mr. Graham, of Gapshield, repeated his victory at Brampton. As might be expected in such a blue-grey district the half-breds were a capital lot. The Leicester sheep were scarcely so numerous as last year, but were on a high level as regards quality, and had the honour of producing the best sheep exhibited on the ground, the two year ram of Mr. Nichol. Black-faces, however, were a special feature of the day, both as to numbers and quality, such as has not been exhibited before on the South Tyne ground, and Messrs. Lowdon, of Whitelees, Blanchland, and Robson, of Newton, Bellingham, who divided most of the honours pretty fairly between them, are to be congratulated on the merit of their representatives.

Agricultural horses reached a total of eighty entries, against sixty last year. The first class of brood mares in foal or with foal at foot always comes out well at Haltwhistle, and the present occasion was no exception. Most of the regular exhibitors in this section were represented, but the winner hailed from Alston. Mr. Lancaster's three-year-old roan adding another to her owner's already long list of honours gained in the show ring. Mr. C. Waugh's Broomhouses yearling filly, which took first last year among the foals, was now awarded the special ticket for the best animal in the agricultural horse classes. Roadsters were also more numerous than last year—fifty-seven against fifty-one—and were a good useful class, in which the more immediate local exhibitors more than held their own. A reduction in the hunter classes, rendered expedient by the fact that the district is now not hunted, would account for the falling off in this department from thirty-four to seventeen, or exactly one-half. Ponies were about the same, but Hackneys were less numerous. As the classes for hunters and Hackneys are open they included some noted prize-winners, amongst which was Mr. Benn's Melford Maid, which took 105 first prizes last year, and has taken forty-seven more this year. The subsidiary sections of the show, shepherds' dogs, butter, etc.,

were well up to previous standard. The two leaping events each attracted good entries and excited the utmost interest.

The following were the chief awards:—

Prize List.

CATTLE

SHORTHORNS.

Bull above two years old: 1, W. Henderson, East Ellington, Haydon Bridge (Ellington Stamp); 2, Thos. Lambert, Ellington Hall, Haydon Bridge (Cornwallis); 3, Mr. Carr, Bunkers Hill, Alston.

Bull above one and under two years old: 1, Thos. Lambert (Royal Cardigan); 2, W. Henderson (Chancellor); 3, E. Joicey, Blenkinsopp Hall (Terra Rem).

Bull calf: 1, Wm. Henderson; 2, Jacob Edgar, Birchfieldgate, Tattwhistle; 3, Joseph Yeats, Todhillward, Coanwood; r, E. Joicey.

Cow in calf or milk, above three years old: 1, W. Henderson; 2, Mr. Carr; 3, Messrs. Pickering, The Lees, Haydon Bridge.

Heifers, above two and under three years old: 1, Thomas Lambert; 2, W. Henderson.

Heifer, above one and under two years old: 1 and 3, W. Henderson; 2, Messrs. Pickering.

Heifer calf: 1 and 2, W. Henderson; 3, Mr. Carr.

Pair of bullock stirks (retaining their calf teeth): 1 and 2, W. Johnson, Parmontley Hall, Whitfield, R.S.O.

Special prize (confined to tenant farmers) Best three Shorthorns: W. Henderson.

GALLOWAYS

Bull, above two years old: 1, T. J. Dove, Thorngrafton, Bardon Mill (Royal Jubilee of Thorngrafton); 2, Thos. Cowing, Low Hall, Hayden Bridge (Black Prince of Thorngrafton)

Bull, above one and under two years: 1, T. J. Dove; 2, George Tweddle, Wydon, Haltwhistle.

Bull calf: 1, John Thomlinson, Clough Head, Low Row Parish Councillor); 2, Thomas Fenwick, Tenton, Low Row; r, John J. Wigham, Hangill House, Coanwood.

Cow in calf or milk above three years: 1, Edwin Graham, Sepshields, Gilsland; 2, John Holliday, Broom Hill, Low Row; r, John Oliver, Cawfields, Haltwhistle; hc, Messrs. Stothert, Cleughfoot, Haltwhistle; c, Joshua Sowerby, Gallowshieldegg, Bardon Mill.

Heifer, above two and under three years old: 1 and r, Messrs. Fenwick; 2, John Thomlinson; hc, T. J. Dove.

Heifer above one and under two years old: J. Messrs. Stothert; 2, John Thomlinson; r and hc, Messrs. Fenwick.

Heifer calf: 1 and 2, Messrs. Stothert; r, T. J. Dove.

Pair of bullock stirks retaining their calf teeth: 1, John Oliver; 2, Thomas Mitchinson, Mess House, Coanwood.

Special (confined to tenant farmers in the Union)—Three Galloways: 1, T. J. Dove.

HALF-BREDS.

Polled Milch cow in calf or milk: 1, John J. Armstrong, Doctor's Bogg, Haltwhistle; 2, Joseph Bell, Woodhouse, Coanwood; r, Jos. Robinson, High Closaburns, Haltwhistle.

Polled heifer above two and under three years old: 1 and c, John Oliver, Cawfields; 2, S. Lee, Featherstone, Haltwhistle.

Dairy cow: 1, Jacob Edgar, Birchfieldgate; 2, Joseph Bell; c, John J. Armstrong.

Special for pair of fat heifers or steers bred on "Bibby's Mike":—1 and 2, M. Thompson, Plenmellor, Haltwhistle.

Special for blue-grey heifer stirks retaining their calf teeth: 1, S. Lee; 2, John Oliver; r, J. W. Johnson, Low House, Haltwhistle.

Special for pair of half-bred bullock stirks, retaining their calf teeth: 1, S. Lee; 2, John Oliver; c, J. W. Johnson.

SHEEP.

LEICESTERS.

Best ram above two years: 1, Messrs. Hudspith, Hindley Hill, Allendale; 2, John W. Nichol, Lough Green, Lanchester-Tyne; hc, Messrs. Pickering, The Lees, Haydon Bridge.

Best ram above two years: 1 and special, John W. Nichol; Messrs. Pickering.

Ram lamb: 1, Joseph T. Armstrong, Hindley Hill; 2, Messrs. Hudspith.

Pen of two gimmers: 1, John W. Nichol; 2, Messrs. Pickering; hc, George Tweddle, Wydon.

Pen of two gimmer lambs: 1, Messrs. Pickering; 2, Joseph Armstrong; hc, Messrs. Hudspith.

Special for Leicester ram, any age; 1, John W. Nichol.

BLACK-FACED (HILLS).

Ram above two years: 1, Messrs. Lee, Hesketh-in-the-Moor, Allendale; 2, John Robson, Newton, Bellingham; r, George Millburn, Garrets Hall, Sinderhope, Allendale.

Ram under two years: 1, John Lowdon, Whitelees, Bromlands; 2, John Robson; r, Messrs. Raine, Thornhope, Scraggyford.

Ram lamb: 1 and 2, John Robson; r, Messrs. Lee.

Pen of two ewes: 1, John Robson; 2, Messrs. Lee; r, John Lowdon.

Pen of two gimmers: 1, John Lowdon; 2, John Robson.

Pen of two gimmer lambs: 1, John Robson; 2, Messrs. Raine; r, Jos. W. Stephenson, Limnolds, Hexham; hc, Frank Moscrop, Butterburn, Gilsland.

Special for male Black-faced sheep any age: John Robson.

Female Black-faced sheep, any age: John Lowdon; 2, John Robson.

Special for group of Black-faced sheep (not including rams), unfed, direct from the hills), consisting of two ewes, two shearling gimmers, and two gimmer lambs: 1, John Lowdon; 2, Jos. W. Stephenson, Limnolds, Hexham; hc, Frank Moscrop, Butterburn, Gilsland.

HALF-BREDS.

Pen of five shearling gimmers, half-bred between Leicester and Black-faced: 1, J. W. Johnson, Parmontley Hall; 2, George Tweddle.

Pen of five gimmer lambs, half-bred between Leicester and Black-faced: 1 and r, J. W. Johnson, Low House; 2, Thomas Mitchinson, Mess House.

Pen of five shearling gimmers, half-bred between Leicester and Cheviot: 1 and 2, J. W. Johnson; 3, Joseph T. Armstrong, Hardrodin.

Pen of five gimmer lambs, half-bred between Leicester and Cheviot: 1 and 2, R. E. Woodman, Crow Hall, Bardon Mill; r, Joseph T. Armstrong.

Special prize for best pen of sheep in Classes 33, 34, 35, and 36: 1, J. W. Johnson; 2, R. E. Woodman.

Special for best sheep in show, of any class: J. W. Nichol.

PIGS

Best sow, any breed: 1, George Crowe, Bellister Heights, Haltwhistle.

Cottagers' pig, any breed or age: 1, W. Reed, West End.

Mr. G. J. Ball's Hunter Gelding, Pembroke Cup Winner, Dublin Horse Show, 1900.

HORSES.

AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

Brood mare in foal, or with foal at foot: 1, Jos. Lancaster, Alston (Lady); 2, R. E. Woodman, Crow Hall, Bardon Mill (Fair Helen); r, Jos. Storey, Lipwood, Haydon Bridge (Blossom); hc, Edward Joicey, Blenkinsopp Hall, Haltwhistle (Modest Maid).

Foal: 1, Messrs. Pickering, The Lees (Lady Lees); 2, J. T. Liddell, East Unthank; r, J. W. Johnson, Low House; hc, Thomas Woodman, Beamwham, Haydon Bridge.

Filly, one year: 1, Cheriton Waugh, Broom House, Haltwhistle; 2, R. W. Clemitson, Plenmellor, Haltwhistle; r and c, E. Gibson, Grindon Hill, Haydon Bridge.

Colt, one year: 1, Joseph Lancaster; 2, Joseph T. Armstrong, Hardriding.

Filly, two years: 1 and 2, E. Gibson; r, Joseph Lancaster.

Colt, two years: 1, Joseph Lancaster; 2, Joseph T. Armstrong; hc, B. Spraggon, Wormwoodhaugh.

Mare or gelding, three and four years old: 1, J. W. Johnson, Low House; 2, B. Spraggon; r, Joseph Lancaster.

Cart mare or gelding, three years and upwards not exceeding 15.2 hands: 1, Matthew Usher, Shaws Farm, Rothbury; 2, Messrs. Stothert, Cleughfoot; r, Mrs. A. Martin, Stone Style, Allendale.

Special for mare or gelding, not exceeding 15.0 hands, to be ridden by tenant farmers in the Society's district: 1, C. Waugh; r, E. Gibson.

Special for mare served this season by the Society's stallions: 1, R. E. Woodman; 2, Matthew Usher; 3, Edward Joicey.

ROADSTERS.

Brood mare in foal or with foal at foot: 1, Messrs. Pickering, The Lees; 2, T. J. Dove, Thorngrafton; r, E. Joicey, Blenkinsopp Hall; c, J. Kennedy, Low Row.

Foal: 1, E. Joicey; 2, Thomas Nicholson, Spring House, Gilsland; hc, Messrs. Pickering.

Colt, three years old: 1, Mrs. Armstrong, Hardrodin, Bardon Mill; 2, R. E. Woodman, Crow Hall, Bardon Mill; r, Mrs. W. Lowes, High Shield, Bardon Mill.

Colt or filly, two years: 1 and r, J. Joicey.

Mare or gelding, three years and upwards (not exceeding 15.2 hands) mounted: 1, John J. Tweddle, Burnfoot, Haltwhistle; 2, W. Milburn, Spadeadam.

Foal by Prince Stockwell: 1, E. Joicey; 2, Messrs. Pickering; hc, Thomas Foster, Green Hill, Stapleton, Brampton.

HUNTERS.

Colt or gelding, three years old: 1, T. G. Bell, Hallcrag, Brampton; 2, Messrs. Pickering; hc, R. Graham, Kirkcambeck.

Mare or gelding, four years old (not qualified for Shorncliffe, Corbridge; 2, B. Spraggon; hc, E. J. Smith, Dotland Hall.

Special for mare or gelding, three years old (not qualified for Shorncliffe, Corbridge; 2, B. Spraggon; hc, E. J. Smith, Dotland Hall.

Special for mare or gelding, four years old (not qualified for Shorncliffe, Corbridge; 2, B. Spraggon; hc, E. J. Smith, Dotland Hall.

Special for mare or gelding, five years old (not qualified for Shorncliffe, Corbridge; 2, B. Spraggon; hc, E. J. Smith, Dotland Hall.

For the best mare or gelding, three years old and upwards, 14 hands and under 15 hands: 1, Thomas Foster, Carrshields, West Allen, Whitfield, R.S.O.; 2, W. Morrison, Spadeadam; r, T. G. Bell, Hallcrag, Brampton; hc, Jackson Dove, Wood Head.

Mare or gelding, three years old (not qualified for Shorncliffe, Corbridge; 2, B. Spraggon; hc, E. J. Smith, Dotland Hall.

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Special for mare or gelding, five years old (not qualified for Shorncliffe, Corbridge; 2, B. Spraggon; hc, E. J. Smith, Dotland Hall.

Mare or gelding, any age or size, not having previously won a first prize: 1, J. R. Spraggon, Willimoteswick; 2, M. Grier, Gilsland.

Melton Mowbray Horse Show.

The eleventh annual show of Melton Mowbray took place on the 15th inst. in Egerton Park, kindly lent for the occasion by the Countess of Wilton and Mr. W. Pyott. Although unfavourable weather was experienced in the early part of the morning, it brightened up considerably as the day advanced, and the show was quite as successful as any of its predecessors. Considering that the entries, with the exception of one class, are limited to exhibitors residing within a radius of twelve miles of Melton Mowbray Church, the quality of the Shire horses and hacks, as well as the hunters shown, was a credit to the district. The number of entries this year showed a decided and satisfactory increase, the total being 467, an increase of thirty-seven entries in the horse classes, and several more in the classes for dairy produce. The exhibits of Shire horses were remarkably good, the judges themselves expressing admiration of many of the horses shown, the two-year-old fillies being an exceptionally good class. Colts foaled last year were well represented, the premier prize in this class being secured by Mr. Charles Maclean, of Walkcote, with a bay sired by Dunsmore Masterman. Mr. Frank Needham, of Oakham, was second with a brown colt by Monks Prince, possessing good feet and giving great promise. Shire fillies foaled in 1899 were both strong in number and quality, Mr. Joseph Rigby, South Croxton, being first with a big bay of the upstanding type, which was closely rivalled by Mr. Maclean's well-turned grey, to which the second prize was awarded. Messrs. A. and J. Holm, of Carlton Curlieu, were third with a promising youngster. The 1898 geldings were an exceptionally weighty lot, and were considered the best that have been shown in the county this year. Mr. R. C. Cooper was first with a well-balanced black of good quality. As closely intimated, fillies of the same age made a strong class, Mr. Maclean again being the winner of the first place with Without Lolly, by Nonsense Adjutant, a well-grown animal, with plenty of bone and other first-class qualities. Mr. M'Turk was second with a big filly of excellent quality. Fillies foaled in 1897 produced another strong entry, the first award going to a well-known prize winner in Mr. H. Smith-Carrington's Rocks Madam, which was first at the Royal, being sired by Calwick Heirloom. Three and four year old geldings were all useful animals, although they possessed few, if any, characteristically strong features of merit. The class for pairs aroused keen competition, but Mr. Matthew Hubbard's entry from Essex was ultimately awarded the first prize Mr. Cooper being a good second. Mr. R. Crawford, of Lowesby, was first for Shire bred mares with foals, with a thoroughly good mare, the second award falling to Mr. A. Shipman, Thorpe Arnold, with a useful black mare which had been placed first in another class.

The classes for hunters and hacks produced many exceptionally fine exhibits, the general opinion being that this section of the show could not be attained or anything previously seen at Melton. The class for mares with foals at foot only attracted three entries, and Messrs. Carr and Crawford, of Oakham, had no difficulty in obtaining the premier honours with their respective exhibits. Pleasure [illegible] by Cadi. There was a good entry [illegible] Mr. R. L. Pickering [illegible] Mr. W. Pickering [illegible] Mr. J. Pickering [illegible] Mr. J. C. Page [illegible] Dalby Hall [illegible] by Polonius; and Mr. J. C. Page [illegible] Cadi. In the [illegible] were a large

entries. The judges awarded Mr. J. A. Jackson the premier award for a chestnut filly, Starlight, sired by the renowned Marioni, which one of the judges said was the best foal he had seen this season. Mr. J. W. Musson, of Wartnaby, was second with a bay filly by Cylinder, which was also an animal of considerable merit, but not up to the standard of the winner. In the class for the best hunter foaled in 1898 Mr. Charles Brown, Melton, was an easy winner, the second prize being awarded Mr. W. Mount, of Waltham, Melton. Mr. Algernon Hack's Merry Lad was deservedly awarded the premier prize in the class for four-year-olds and upwards capable of carrying 14 stone. The whole of the other classes were of equally good quality, the jumping competitions aroused considerable interest, each of the events being keenly contested.

Prize List.

SHIRES.

Shire colt, foaled in 1899, entered in Stud Book or eligible for same: 1, C. Maclean, Withcote, Oakham; 2 and r, F. Needham, Melton Road, Oakham.

Cart gelding, foaled in 1899: 1, J. Craig, Three Gates, Billesdon; 2, A. Shipman, Thorpe Arnold, Melton; 3, R. Crawford, Lowesby, Billesdon; 4, W. T. Kirk, Scalford.

Shire filly, foaled in 1899: 1, J. Rigby, South Croxton; 2, C. Maclean; 3, A. and J. Holm, Carlton Curlieu and Tilton; 4, M. Hubbard, Ivy House, Eaton, Grantham; r, W. Carter, Goadby Marwood, Melton; hc, G. Simpson, Hickling, Melton; c, John Barker, Ragdale.

Cart gelding, foaled in 1898: 1, R. C. Cooper, Waltham, Melton; 2 and hc, J. Houghton, Manor House, Cold Newton, Billesdon; 3, T. H. Wright, Wycombe, Melton; 4, W. Carter, r, M. Hubbard; c, W. H. Abbott, Garthorpe, Melton.

Shire filly, foaled in 1898: 1, C. Maclean; 2, W. M'Turk, Hallaton; 3, H. H. Smith-Carrington, Ashby Folville, Melton; 4 and hc, J. Houghton; r, F. Needham; hc, M. Hubbard; c, T. Johnston, Withcote Lodge, Oakham.

Shire filly, foaled in 1897: 1, H. H. Smith-Carrington; 2, T. Johnson; 3, W. T. Kirk; 4, Rev. W. A. H. Thorold, Stainby Rectory, Grantham; r, W M'Turk.

Cart gelding, three years old: 1, M. Hubbard; 2, W. T. Kirk; 3, R. C. Cooper; r, T. H. Wright.

Gelding, four years old or upwards: 1, M. Hubbard; 2, C. J. Phillips, Old Dalby Hall, Melton; 3, Carr and Crawford, Gunthorpe, Oakham; 4, J. A. Scorror, Thorpe Arnold, Melton.

Shire or draught mare, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer, four years old or upwards: 1, A. and J. Holm; 2, W. T. Kirk; 3, Exors. of late T. Shipman, Croxton Lodge, Grantham; r, M. Hubbard; hc, R. Crawford.

Cart gelding, four years old and upwards, suitable for town or dray purposes, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer residing within ten miles of Melton: 1, silver cup, R. C. Cooper; r, Carr and Crawford.

Pair of mares or geldings, or mare and gelding, over four years and under eight years old, that are good and quiet workers and most suitable for town or dray purposes, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer residing within ten miles of Melton: 1, M. Hubbard; 2, R. C. Cooper; r, Exors. of late T. Shipman.

Shire brood mare with foal at foot, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer: 1 and 4, R. Crawford; 2, A. Shipman; 3, A. L. Rinkin, Launde, Tugby; r, J. Rigby; hc, M. Hubbard.

Shire brood mare with foal at foot: 1, A. Shipman; 2, M. Hubbard; r, T. Dowell, Hungarton.

Draught mare or gelding, suitable for farm work, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer, residing within the district and whose sole occupation is farming, occupying not more than sixty acres of land: 1, T. Dowell; 2, J. Greaves, Nether Broughton Lodge, Melton; r, J. S. F Earp, Brantcliffe Lodge, Bagrave.

Shire colt foal: 1, R. Crawford; 2 and r, J. Houghton; 3, T. Dowell; 4, G. Simpson.

Shire filly foal: 1, J. Houghton; 3, W. Carter; 4, W. M'Turk; r, M. Hubbard.

Foal suitable for farm work, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer residing within the district, and whose sole occupation is farming, occupying not more than sixty acres of land: 1, T. H. Rippin, Braunstone, Oakham; 2, T. Dowell; r, J. Greaves.

Foal, by any of Mr. Kirk's horses: 1, W. Carter; 2, E. Spreckley, Burton Lazars, Melton; r, J. T. Lord, Waltham, Melton.

Foal, by any of Mr. Hubbard's horses: 1, Catherine Rippin, Wyfordby Grange, Melton; 2, Geo. Draper, Knipton, Grantham; r, Elizabeth Burgin, Waltham, Melton.

Foal, by Black Prince: 1, J. Westerdale, Cold Newton.

Colt or filly foal, by any of the Desford Stud horses: 1, R. Crawford; 2, J. Houghton; 3, W. Carter; r, T. C. Keyworth.

Silver cup, value £5 5s, for the best filly three years old or under, entered in Stud Book or eligible for same, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer, bred in the district: 1, C. Maclean; 1 r, J. Rigby; 2 r, W. M'Turk.

Five-guinea cup for the best Shire foal in the show, bred in the district, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer, and eligible for the S.H.S.B.: 1, R. Crawford; r, J. Houghton.

Five-guinea cup for the best Shire mare foaled in 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, or 1896, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer in the district, occupying over sixty acres of land: A. and J. Holm.

Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal, that is registered in the Stud Book, or entered for the subsequent volume, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer residing within the district: 1, R. Crawford; r, C. Maclean.

HUNTERS AND HACKS.

A five guinea cup or piece of plate for the best hunter, four years old or under, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer, bred in the district: 1, D. Robinson, Kirby Lodge, Melton; r, Fanny Green, The Priory, Manton, Oakham.

Hunter mare, with foal at foot, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer residing within the district: 1, Carr and Crawford; 2, G. W. Musson, Wartnaby, Melton.

Mare adapted for breeding hunters, with foal at foot: 1, R. L. Fenwick, Wymondham, Oakham; 2, C. J. Phillips; 3, J. Otho Paget, Thorpe Satchville, Melton; 4, G. W. Musson, Wartnaby, Melton; r, Capt. W. A. Lawson, Staveley Lodge, Melton; c, C. Brown, Norman Street, Melton.

Hunter foal: 1, J. A. Jackson, Stroxton, Grantham; 2, G. W. Musson; 3, Oliver Tyler, Queniborough, Syston; 4, Muntz and Richardson, The Grange, Leesthorpe, Melton; r, Capt. W. A. Lawson, hc, Otho Paget; c, Carr and Crawford.

Hunter foaled in 1899: 1, Fanny Green; 2 and r, Capt. W. A. Lawson; 3 and c, R. L. Fenwick; 4, A. Jackson; c, A. H. Stirton.

Hunter foaled 1898: 1, C. Brown, Norman Street, Melton; 2, W. Mount, Waltham, Melton; 3, G. Doubleday, Colston Bassett, Grantham; 4, Carr and Crawford; r, R. L. Fenwick; c, Captain Barnes, Heritage Scraptoft; C. J. Phillips.

Hunter foaled 1897: 1, D. Robinson, Kirby Lodge, Melton; 2, Fanny Green; 3, J. Bramhead, Barley, Oakham; 4, R. L. Fenwick; r, G. S. Hanson, Kirby Cottage, Melton; c, C. Pears, Hose, Melton; his Grace the Duke of Rutland, K.G., Belvoir Castle.

Hunter, four years old and upwards, capable of carrying not less than fourteen stone, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer, whose sole occupation is farming, residing in the district: 1, A. Hack, Buckminster, Grantham; 2, J. Mackley, Stapleford, Melton; 3, C. A. Muntz, The Grange, Leesthorpe, Melton; r, J. Stafford, Whissendine, Oakham; hc, G. W. Brewitt, Melton; c, E. Collington, Wymeswold, Loughborough.

Hunter, four years old and upwards, capable of carrying not less than twelve stone, and under fourteen stone, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer, whose sole occupation is farming, residing within the district: 1, W. Carter; 2, R. C. Cooper; 3, T. E. Hack, Burton Lazars, Melton; r, A. Hack, Buckminster, Grantham; c, G. W. Brewitt, Melton; E. Collington.

Hunter, four years old and upwards, capable of carrying not less than fourteen stone, the property of any person residing within the district: 1 and 2, W. Gale; 3, R. L. Fenwick; 4, H. T. Barclay; r, H. Gale; c, Captain W. A. Lawson.

Hunter, four years old and upwards, capable of carrying not less than twelve stone and under fourteen stone, the property of any person residing within the district: 1, E. Hanbury, Braunston, Oakham; 2, H. Gale; 3 and 4, W. Gale; r, C. Brown; hc, Exors. of the late W. Wright, Saxelbye Park; c, W. Carter, W. Chaplin, Melton.

Riding mare or gelding, over 14.2 hands and not exceeding 15.2 hands: 1, Miss Duncan, Knossington Grange; 2, C. A. Muntz; 3, C. Brown; 4, R. L. Fenwick; r, C. J. Phillips.

Pony, not exceeding 14.2 hands: 1, W. Gale; 2, R. Palmer; 3, C. J. Phillips; r, T. Elson; hc, the Exors. of the late W. Wright.

HARNESS.

Gelding or mare over 14.2, to be shown and driven in harness: 1, Sir Ernest Cassel, Little Dalby Hall, Melton; 2, W. T. Hayr, Tur Langton; 3, A. V. Pryor; r, T. B. Musson; c, W. Chaplin.

Gelding or mare, not exceeding 14.2 hands, to be shown and driven in harness: 1, J. Gray, East Norton; 2, Oliver Tyler; 3, H. Gale; 4, T. Elson; c, W. A. Ainge.

Pony, not exceeding 14 hands, to be shown and driven in harness: 1, O. Tyler; 2, H. Gale; 3, W. Billson; r, T. Elson; c, Miss M. Duncan, Knossington Grange, Oakham, and W. A. Ainge.

Tradesman's turnout: 1, Midland Brewery Company, Ltd., King Street House, Melton; 2, H. W. Sampey, Melton; 3, Bryan Bros., Melton; c, E. J. Steele, Leicester Street, Melton.

JUMPING.

Horse, any height, which shall be considered by the judges as the best jumper: 1, C. and J. Jerome, Holland House, Sutton Coldfield; 2, W. Constable, Kirkby Laythorpe, Sleaford; r, Bellamy, Grantham.

Horse, any height, which shall be considered by the judges as the best jumper, the property of any person residing within the district: 1, H. W. Sampey, Melton; 2, C. Brown, Melton.

Chester Foal Show.

The Chester Farmers' Club's eighteenth annual foal show was held on the Linen Hall, Chester, on the 15th inst., and was well attended by farmers and well-known horse breeders from all parts of the country. The entries reached record figures, being 264, as compared with 222 last year, whilst in point of quality the show was considered to be one of the best held under the auspices of the society. Animals possessing exceptionally good points were shown. For the best hunter mare with foal at foot, Mr. Parker, of Stanney, captured the coveted trophy (a silver cup), with his chestnut, Ruddigore—Dora, which won the 100 guinea cup at Birkenhead. In the class for roadster colt or filly foal, Mr. Buller, Rowton, and Mr. J. Stonar, jun., Chester, were first and second prize winners respectively with animals of the right stamp, both sired by Rowton Vinca. The Hackney mare section contained some first-rate exhibits, of which the district might well be proud. Mr. Stonar distinguished himself by winning the Hackney Society's medal with an excellent mover, which showed good quality. The special prize offered by Mr. Stonar for colt or filly foal by any of his stallions went to Dr. F. E. Williams, of Wrexham, who exhibited a capital foal by Crusader. Mr. Denson, Picton, won the special prize by Austin C. Carr for the best yearling by his horse Elevator. Mr. Woodhall, of Bollington, took the primary award for the best foal by Elevator, with a big and strong filly, possessing all its sire's good points.

Prize List.

Agricultural colt foal: 1, P. Allen, Willaston; 2, M. Carrier, Sealand; 3, J. Beecroft, Malpas.

Agricultural filly foal: 1, L. Dodd, Bickerton; 2, T. Lea, Waverton; 3, S. Jones, Poole Hall.

Two-year-old agricultural gelding or filly: 1, R. Dodd, Tarporley; 2, W. Parker, Stenney; 3, A. J. E. Shore, Picton.

Yearling agricultural gelding or filly: 1, A. S. Gaskell, Printon Hall; 2, W. Allen, Backford; 3, J. Gerrard, Stoke.

Shire mare, with foal at foot: 1, S. Jones, Poole; 2, P. Allen, Willaston; 3, J. Beecroft, Malpas.

Hunter colt or filly foal: 1, W. Parker, Stanney; 2, D. W. McCulloch, Eastham; 3, T. Rutter, Bunbury.

Roadster colt or filly foal: 1, T. Butler, Rowton; 2, J. Stonar, jun., Chester.

Yearling colt or filly by a registered Hackney sire: 1, G. Denson; 2, J. Motershead, Coddington; 3, W. H. Roberts, Tryddyn.

Two-year-old colt or filly by a registered Hackney sire: 1, W. H. Roberts, Trynddyn; 2, J. Davies, Pentre Robin; 3, G. Denson, Picton.

Yearling hunter, colt, or filly: 1, J. E. Shore; r, W. T. Gilham, Goistella.

Two-year-old hunter, colt, or filly, by a registered thoroughbred or hunter sire, owned and exhibited by a bona-fide tenant farmer, registered or eligible for registration: 1, J. Snelson, Northwich; 2, W. T. Gilham; 3, G. Lloyd, Trafford.

Hackney mare, with foal at foot, owned and exhibited by a bona-fide tenant farmer or member of Chester Farmers' Club: 1, 2, and silver cup, J. Stonar, Chester; 3, W. H. Roberts, Tryddyn; 4, W. Parker, Stanney; 5, Dr. F. E. Williams, Wrexham.

Hunter mare, with foal at foot, owned and exhibited by a bona-fide tenant farmer: 1, and silver cup, W. Parker, Stanney; 2, W. Parker, Roden's Hall.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

Shire Horse Society's medal for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal: Mr. S. Jones, Poole Hall.

Best agricultural colt or filly foal: 1, P. Allen, Willaston; r, Carrier, Sealand.

Silver cup for two-year-old or yearling agricultural gelding: 1, R. Dodd, Tarporley; 2, A. S. Gaskell, Prenton.

Best colt or filly foal by J.P.: 1, Carrier, Sealand; 2, J. Beecroft, Duckington; 3, E. Evans, Belgrave.

Agricultural colt or filly foal by any of Mr. J. W. Kenworthy's Shire horses: 1, P. Allen; 2, L. Dodd, Bickerton; 3, S. Jones, Poole Hall.

Best colt foal by Kesterton: 1, P. Allen; 2 and 3, T. J. Dutton, Saltney.

Best filly foal by Kesterton: 1, T. Lea, Waverton; 2, H. S. Whalley, Bickerton; 3, T. L. Okell.

Best colt or filly foal by any of Mr. J. Stonar's stallions: 1, Dr. F. E. Williams, Wrexham; 2, G. Denson; 3, W. Dyke, Pulford; 4, Benson.

Yearling by Elevator: 1, G. Denson, Picton; 2, J. Mottershead, Coddington.

Foals by Elevator: 1, L. Woodhall, Bronington; 2, S. Gerrard, Clutton Hall; 3, G. Denson, Picton.

Best foals by Mr. F. Jeffs (Hapsford) horse: 1, J. Noden, Alvanley; 2, Mrs. Roberts, Eaton.

Compton Stud Show and Sale.

The fifteenth annual show and sale in connection with the Compton Stud Company took place at Horsington Park, by kind permission of Mr. R. Doddington, on Tuesday and Wednesday. Although threatening at times, no rain fell during the judging on Tuesday, but despite the fine weather there was apparently a falling off in the attendance on that day, but was made up for on the second day. The entries, however, showed but little diminution in numbers, there being only five less than last year. Considering the large number of animals produced in the district over which the Stud is used for service abroad and to replace home mounts it is surprising that the decrease was not larger. What deficiency there was in numbers in connection with the older animals was nearly made up by the increase in the younger stock, whilst the quality of the animals shown generally compared most favourably with that of other years. The entries for the various classes on Tuesday were:—Brood mares, 54; foals, 29; ponies, 8; yearlings, 12; two-year-olds, 12; three-year-olds, 19; total, 134. For the show on Wednesday there were 98 entries:—Hacks, 18; harness cobs, 4; horses, 13; light-weight hunters, 30; heavy-weights, 18; four-year-old light-weights, 9; heavy-weights, 6. The operations of the stud and the influence it has had on the increased quality of local-bred hunters, etc., has been so often described and is so well known throughout the south-west that it is superfluous for us to enlarge on its many advantages. The company have been particularly careful in the choice of sires, and the fact that their progeny bear away some of the prizes at the national shows, and almost sweep the boards at local exhibitions, amply proves that the selection of sires leaves nothing to be desired. Thirty-four horses have been used for stud purposes, but there have been no fresh additions since the last show.

On Tuesday judging began with the farmers' brood mares, which were a very large and fairly strong class. There was a small quantity of rather rough stock, but the mares picked out for services were a very smart lot, and the whole of them well suited for breeding a good type of hunter. Mr. C. Wakely's bay mare Shamrock, which took first prize, had an exceptionally good foal at foot. The mare of Mr. W. Andrews was given the reserve number, and would have been well in the first six, but was thrown out, having taken a premium before. In the open class nineteen mares were judged, and they proved an exceptionally excellent collection. The leader was again Mr. Wakely's mare Shamrock. Mr. Holt Needham's bay mare Goodcraft was also of excellent type, as indeed were all of the four mentioned, and it is seldom four better dams are seen in the same class. The winner in the two classes was also awarded the championship prize given by the Hunters' Improvement Society. There was a strong competition for the five equal prizes given for the best five foals. The youngsters may be termed a most likely looking lot. The first six were all nice colts and did their dams and sires justice. Some of the mares shown have been heavy winners at various shows.

The three-year-olds were the best of the young stock, and an exceptionally nice gelding, Pioneer, the property of Messrs. Moody, of Stapleton Manor, was undoubtedly the pick of them, and was awarded the prize for champion youngster of the show. In the same class Mr. T. Miller's Marquis, which has already taken several prizes in good company, was awarded the second honours, Mr. Munckton's Monarch, a very useful gelding, being a good third. The majority of the two-year-olds were decidedly good. Mr. Hoddinott's chestnut gelding Acton was placed first, as being a good all-round type and likely to grow into a valuable animal. A neat brown gelding, belonging to Mr. Hillard, Fivehead, was given the second card, but was driven closely by the chestnut mare of Mr. A. E. Pitt-Rivers, which was awarded the silver medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society for the best hunter filly in the show, also Mr. T. S. Metcalfe's chestnut Handy Man, to which the judges awarded the reserve number. Mr. T. H. Miller's Mainsail, a very useful type, which took first honours in a strong class at the Bath Show, failed "to catch the eye" of the judges. There were twelve entries in the yearling class, which was not a very superior batch taken as a whole. There were, however, a few very useful looking youngsters, which give evidence of becoming fair specimens of the hunter type later on. The

ponies were not largely represented, only eight being entered. Although a small they were a fairly neat class, the best of which was undoubtedly Mr. A. Hoddinott's bay gelding Flying Fox.

As on Tuesday, the judging on Wednesday commenced early in the forenoon, and was completed soon after twelve o'clock. The first class to come under notice was that for hacks, fillies or geldings, four years old and upwards, not exceeding 15.2 hands, and sired by one of the Compton Stud stallions. There were eighteen entries, and amongst them were some very fine animals. A remarkably good mare named Elegance, the property of Mr. G. T. Tilley, came out top, but was closely followed by Major Towers-Clark's Cocoatina, both being four years old. Some very fair animals were shown in the class for light-weight hunters, fillies or geldings, but there was nothing particularly striking, and on the whole they were not quite so good as those exhibited last year. The Hunters' Improvement Society's medal for the best hunter got by a premium stallion or by a registered hunter sire out of a registered mare was won by Mr. J. Day, Huxton, Shepton Mallet, with his brown mare Maggie, a five-year-old by Yard Arm, and she also carried off the champion medal for the best of the four winning hunters in the show. The heavy-weight hunters constituted a sterling class, Mr. Day's Maggie being the first prize winner, while Mr. C. Warr's Marshal was a very nice second, and would make a first-rate charger. As a whole, the class for four-year-old light-weight hunters was good, the first prize winner, Mr. J. Day's Edward by Master Ned, being a gelding of high quality, while Mr. G. T. Tilley's Elegance, who came second, was a charming mare. Some particularly good hunters were included in this lot, displaying both grace of action and symmetry of build. The corresponding class for heavy-weights embraced some smart animals, but on the whole the quality was only of a moderate character. The two other classes were filled with good animals, and the prize winners well deserved their awards.

Prize List.

TUESDAY.

Half-bred brood mares covered this year by one of the thoroughbred stallions, or for young mares (not exceeding five years), with foals at foot, sired by one of the thoroughbred stallions (open to tenant farmers): C. M. Wakely, Rugg's Farm, Kilmington, Axminster; T. H. Miller, Oborne, Sherborne; C. W. Francis, Horsington Farm, Templecombe; F. H. Sawtell, Lavant, Chichester; H. P. Woolcott, The Manor, Wanborough Plain, Swindon; R. W. Andrews, Church Farm, Cucklington, Wincanton, Bath.

Half-bred brood mares, covered this year by one of the thoroughbred stallions, or for young mares (not exceeding five years), with foals at foot, sired by one of the thoroughbred stallions (open) 1, C. M. Wakely (Shamrock); 2, O. N. Holt-Needham, Castle Cary (Goodcrabb); r, H. P. Woolcott (Lady Ned); hc, C. W. Francis (Clousilla).

Five prizes of 30s. each, for the five best foals sired by one of the thoroughbred stallions (open): R. Parker, Shepton Mallet; J. W. Shute, Shaftesbury; H. Clark, North Wootton, Shepton Mallet; J. Clare, Hallatrow, near Bristol; T. H. Miller; r, H. Raymond, Bourton, Dorset.

Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal, or £5, with bronze medal, for the best hunter brood mare in foal to, or with foal at foot, by a thoroughbred horse, or registered hunter sire: Mr. C. M. Wakely (Shamrock).

Three-years-old geldings or fillies, sired by one of the thoroughbred stallions (open): 1, Messrs. C. and J. Moody, Stapleton Manor, Martock (Pioneer); 2, T. H. Miller (Marquis); r, W. H. Munckton, Bineham, Long Sutton, Somerset (Monarch); hc, N. J. Sims, Pitcomb, Bruton (Marquis); c, N. Biggin, Liberty Farm, Halstock, Yeovil (Grey Leg).

Two-year-old geldings or fillies sired, by one of the thoroughbred stallions (open): 1, R. Hoddinott, Springfield, Gillingham (Actor); 2, R. W. Hillard, Fivehead, Taunton (Musket); r, T. S. Metcalfe, Rooke Court, Salisbury (The Handy Man); hc, A. E. Pitt-Rivers, Hinton St. Mary, Blandford.

Yearlings, colts, or fillies, sired by one of the thoroughbred stallions (open): 1, R. Hoddinott, Springfield, Gillingham (Marquis); 2, R. Parker (Lord Scot); r, T. H. Miller; hc, Major Towers-Clark (Chance); c, A. E. Pitt-Rivers.

Ponies, fillies, with geldings, one, two, or three years old, by one of the Compton Stud stallions (open): 1, A. Hoddinott (Flying Fox); 2, A. T. Manger, Stockill, Gillingham (Weigalia); r, Dr. T. F. Hanly, Gillingham.

Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for the best hunter filly (not exceeding three years): Mr. A. E. Pitt-Rivers.

Hunters' Improvement Society's medal for the champion youngster of the prize-winners in classes 4, 5, and 6: Messrs. C. and J. Moody (Pioneer)

WEDNESDAY

Hacks, fillies or geldings (four-year-olds and upwards), not exceeding 15.2 hands, and sired by one of the Compton Stud stallions (open): 1, G. F. Tilley (Elegance); 2, Major Towers-Clark (Cocoatina); r, C. M. Wakely (Dauntless)

Light-weight hunters, carrying 13st. 7lbs. and under, fillies or geldings (four-year-olds and upwards), sired by one of the thoroughbred stallions (open): 1, F. H. Dowling, Hedge Farm, Shepton Mallet (Kaffir); 2, G. F. Tilley (Elegance); hc, H. and J. Miles, Church Farm, Radstock, Bath (Mendip); W. H. Munckton (Melody); W. Corry, Over Compton, Sherborne (Cora); r, E. H. Roach, Coombe House, Glastonbury (Birdcatcher).

Hunters' Improvement Society's medal for the best hunter got by a premium stallion or by a registered hunter sire out of a registered mare: J. Day, Huxham, Shepton Mallet (Maggie)

Heavy-weight hunters, carrying 14st. and over, fillies or geldings (four-year-olds and upwards), sired by one of the thoroughbred stallions (open): 1, J. Day (Maggie); 2, C. Warr (Marshal); r, Sir H. Hoare, Bart., Stourhead, Bath (Crafty); hc, W. H. Munckton (Maxim)

Four-year-old hunters, light-weights, carrying 13st. 7lb and under, fillies or geldings, sired by one of the thoroughbred stallions (open): 1, J. Day (Edward); 2, G. F. Tilley, Alstone Court, Huntsgill (Elegance); 3, S. W. Green, Swiss Farm, Henley-on-Thames (Maid Marion); hc, Sir H. Hoare, Bart. (Redlight); c, J. Perrett, Hartmoor Farm, Pulham, Dorset (Duke).

Four-year-old hunters, heavy-weights, fillies or geldings, carrying 14 stone and over, sired by one of the thoroughbred stallions (open): 1, T. H. Miller (Miss Molly); 2, J. W. Munckton (Masthead); r, C. and T. Perrett (White Foot).

Harness mares or geldings (four years old and upwards), not exceeding 15 hands, and sired by one of the Compton Stud stallions (open) 1 and 2, C. P. V. Lester Weston House, Buckhorn Weston, Wincanton (Dandy and Baldwin)

Harness horses, mares, or geldings (four years old and upwards), exceeding 15 hands, and sired by one of the thoroughbred stallions (open): 1, W. Hall, Kilkenny, Shepton Mallet (Nelson); 2, A. C. Clarke, Shepton Mallet (Patience); r, Sir Harold Peily, Bart., Thorngrove, Gillingham (Macaroni); hc, L. B. Beauchamp, The Grange, Midsomer Norton (Black Bess)

The Sales.

There was a good company present at the selling on each day. Mr. Somerville Tattersall taking his place on the rostrum shortly after one o'clock. On Tuesday he offered about ninety-two lots, and on Wednesday a little over eighty. There was a very poor demand, and a large number of the animals did not change hands. The following were the principal prices:—Mr. T. Cridland's colt, 4½ months, 19gs.; Mr. J. W. Shute's colt, 6 months, by Pantomime, 14gs.; Mr. J. Ralph's colt, 6 months, by Pantomime, 14gs.; Mr. T. H. Miller's black mare Midnight, 40gs., and Mr. T. H. Miller's colt, 6½ months, by Scotch Hazel, 16gs.; Mr. R. Parker's filly foal, 4 months, by Grand National, 25gs.; Mr. H. Raymond's three-year-old bay filly, Miss Ned, 40gs.; Major C. D. Sherston's three-year-old chestnut filly, by Yard Arm, 32gs.; Messrs. Ponting's bay gelding, Ivanhoe, 32gs.; Mr. N. Biggin's three-year-old bay gelding, Grey Leg, 35gs.; Mr. A. E. Pitt-Rivers' two-year-old chestnut filly, by Pantomime, 50gs.; Dr. T. F. Hanly's two year-old gelding, by Lifeboat, 15gs.; Mr. A. E. Pitt-Rivers' yearling chestnut gelding, by Pantomime, 27gs.; Mr. T. H. Miller's brown yearling filly, by Pantomime, 25gs.; Mr. C. M. Wakeley's black mare, Dauntless, 60gs.; Mr. W. Curtis's black mare, Lady Ryan, 35gs.; Mr. A. C. Clarke's bay mare, Patience, 71gs.; Mr. Walter McCreery's chestnut gelding, V.C., 27gs.; Mr. W. Beaton's grey gelding, Lively, 47gs.; Mr. S. Y. Brake's bay mare, Catherine, 36gs.; Mr. H. Mead's grey mare, Countess, 43gs.; Mr. W. H. Munckton's chestnut mare, Melody, 7gs.; Mr. W. Corry's brown mare, Cora, 71gs.; Mr. E. H. Roach's bay gelding, Birdcatcher, 51gs.; Mr. T. H. Miller's chestnut mare, Miss Molly, 120gs.; Mr. J. Day's brown mare, Maggie, 165gs.; Mr. H. Bugg's black gelding, Reuben, 20gs.; Mr. W. Field's chestnut gelding, Marengo, 39gs.; Mrs. L. Forbes' bay gelding, Glenmore, 59gs.; Mr. W. H. Munckton's chestnut gelding, Maxim, 120gs.; Mr. Walter McCreery's chestnut gelding, Mario, 64gs.; Mr. C. Warr's chestnut gelding, Marshal, 100gs.; Mr. Warr's chestnut gelding, Warrior, 100gs.; Mr. J. Day's brown gelding, Edward, 110gs.; Mr. W. A. Adams's chestnut mare, Red Light, 45gs.; Mr. L. B. Beauchamp's black mare, Black Bess, 50gs.; Mr. A. H. Farrant's black mare, Gipsy Queen, 25gs.

Kington Horse Show.

The Kington Horse Show Society's twentieth annual show was held on Wednesday in the Recreation Field, Kington. This show has made great strides in the competition for premiership, and now stands third on the list in the United Kingdom. Mr. Richard Green (The Whittern) is the president for the year. There were eleven entries in the class for cart mares and foals, and it was the opinion of the judges that a better lot was never shown in the county. The old prize-winner, Temeside Mettle, was first, Mr. Green's old mare looking in the pink of condition, with a promising colt by her side. Messrs. Edwards came second, and Mr. Peter Coats third. Class 2 was for cart mare and foal foal to be by registered sire and bred by exhibitor There were eight entries, and first prize was awarded to Mr. Henry Lilwall, Logason, for a grand mare by Castle Bromwich Hero. The same exhibitor also took second prize for cart geldings, and Mr. Peter Coats first for cart mare, four years old. For the best pair of cart mares, with foals at foot, the first prize was awarded to Mr. James Mainwaring, Bridge Court, and the second to Messrs. Edwards There were twelve entries for yearling cart fillies, and a most promising lot they were, the judges having much trouble in arriving at a decision. Mr. Richard Green (Whittern) was awarded first, Mr. John R. Bache second, and Mr. John Trewin third. For colt foals Mr. J. H. Edwards won the first prize, and Mr. Richard Green second. The champion prize of £10 for the best exhibit in Classes 3 to 11 was awarded to Mr. Peter Coats, Sheepcote, Clifford, for his bay mare, Clifford Bright Light, which also secured the Shire Horse Society's silver medal. There were ten entries in the class for two-year-old geldings or fillies. Mr. Nicholls, Worcester, was an easy first, Captain Heygate, Leominster, coming second with a chestnut filly by Valley King. In the class for gelding or mare best adapted for hunters up to 14st., the first prize of £20 and also the second of £10 was won by Messrs. John and Nixon Gray. Messrs. Gray also won the first prize of £10 for weight-carrying hunter up to 12st., Mr. Edward Hoyle, Scarborough, being second. Mr William Till, Trewonga, Ross, won the Hunters' Improvement Society's medal for the best hunter filly by a thoroughbred horse. Mr. B. Davies won first prize for Hackney mare, not exceeding 14.2; Mr. James Michell, Hereford, being second. For three-year-old Hackneys Mr. Robert Hussey secured the first prize and Messrs. Bovill and Horne second. In the next class, for two-year-old Hackneys, Mr. Hussey again won the first prize with a fine filly by Duke of Connaught, Mr. Nicholls [illegible] second. For the best yearling, Hackney colt or filly, Mr. John Thomas was a good first with a chestnut filly by Babington, Mr. B. Davies being second. The jumping tests were of great interest, and thousands of spectators lined the ropes. In the heavy weight the first prize of £20 was won by Mr. Grundy, Worcester. The brothers Mr. Blockley taking the second with his bay breeding colt Omega. Mr. Grundy took third with The Stag. Mrs. Trimm, Cheltenham, took first for light weight hunters. Mr. Frank Batchelor gained a prize for tandem team. Mr. Cotterill being second. Mr. Batchelor also secured first prize out of a large entry for horse or mare.

Buxton Horse Show.

The twenty second annual show of the Buxton and High Peak Horse Show Society, which took place on the 14th inst., was the biggest and best ever held in the Peak district. Delightfully situated, the show ground at Silverlands commands an excellent view of interesting country, and with bright sunshine to favour the proceedings the gathering was large and fashionable. The Duke of Devonshire (the patron of the society) was unable to be present, but his Grace was represented by Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., who has consented to be the president of the society next year. All departments of the show had some distinguishing feature, and there were other healthy signs of progress. The list of entries numbered 369, as compared with 342 last year, and 193 when the first show of the society was held twenty-two years ago. The class for brood mares in the Shire horse section attracted some of the best known prize breeders in the country, and so excellent was the quality of the stock that the judges had the greatest difficulty in making their award. They took three-quarters of an hour in deciding between Mr. Joseph Wainwright's black mare Harold Brunette and Saxon Empress, owned by Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P. The premier card ultimately went to the massive Brunette, who had the advantage of her rival in build and smartness. Their respective foals at foot were proportionately as good as their dams. They were each victorious in the colt and filly class respectively, having very little to beat. Mr. Wainwright's mare was further sucessful in securing the Wainwright challenge cup and the Shire Horse Society's silver medal. Light horses were strong numerically, and generally of excellent quality. The Hackney Horse Society's silver medal for females was secured by Mr. A. W. Hickling's Adbolton Duchess, a graceful and shapely chestnut from Nottingham. History repeated itself to this extent, that Mr. Tom Mitchell's noted winner Sam Weller defeated Mr. A. L. Goodson's Heathfield Conceit in the saddle class, just as he did a year ago. In single harness the six-year-old son of Ganymede was preferred to Mr. Mark Pearson's Lord Lofty. Another Yorkshire horse, Mrs. Fred Holmes's Love Letter—a successful showyard mare—was again the best of the cobs not exceeding 14½ hands, beating Mr. G. E. Franklin's Lord Gobang both in saddle and harness. Hunters made a creditable show. The winner of the Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal for brood mare was a good quality animal called Whisper Low, owned by Mr. C. Schwabe, of Altrincham. In her class, however, she had to yield to Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's well-known pair, Norah and Lady Grosvenor, placed in that order. The silver medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society for the best filly was given to Mr. John Smurthwaite for his Fitaway, a beautiful, good-moving daughter of that successful sire Havoc, now at Welbeck. Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's Yorkshire winner Castaway topped the two-year-old class.

Prize List.

SHIRES

Open—Brood mare, with [illegible] has had 1 foal 2 [illegible] 1 and challenge cup: 1, J. W. [illegible] Bar[illegible] 2, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P. [illegible] R. B. M[illegible] Bar[illegible]

Colt foal: 1, J. Wainwright [illegible] E. W. Lees, Bar[illegible]

Filly foal: 1, V. C. W. Cavendish, M.P. [illegible] R. Ireland, Blackburne, Lytham

Three-year-old mare [illegible] 1, R. W[illegible] Bar[illegible]

2, C. Eccles, Ashbourne [illegible] 3, S. S. Bar[illegible] Bar[illegible]

Two-year-old [illegible] [illegible] A. C. [illegible]

2, J. Rimell, Staffs [illegible] E. W. Lees, Bar[illegible]

One-year-old [illegible] Bar[illegible] J. W[illegible] J. F. Wardle, Buxton [illegible] C. [illegible]

[illegible]

Brood mare and foal: 1, R. B. M[illegible] Bar[illegible] J. [illegible] Hope

Colt foal: F. W. Lees, Bar[illegible]

Filly foal: 1, J. [illegible]

Filly foal: 1, J. Lomas, Buxton; 2, G. Salt, Buxton.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, E. W. Lees, Buxton; 2, J. Bagnall, Bakewell

Year[illegible] [illegible] Bar[illegible] J. F. W[illegible] Bar[illegible]

Year[illegible] [illegible] J. F. W[illegible] Bar[illegible]

Mare [illegible] [illegible] J. F. W[illegible] Bar[illegible]

Frith; 2, R. Whitehead

[illegible]

Open, R[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] J. W[illegible] M[illegible] E. W. Lees, Bar[illegible]

church; 3, A. C. Sparkes

[illegible] J. W[illegible] A. W[illegible] Derby

Yearling colt or filly: 1, W. Ferguson; 2, A. C. Sparkes, 3, W. G. Wheeldon, Derby

Exp. [illegible] of Mr. Haslewood's horses: Rev. T. H. Feste, Buxton.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Lees Knowles, M.P.; 2, J. K. Ford, Derby; 3, J. W. Hewitt, Thelwall.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1 and silver medal, A. W. Hickling, Nottingham; 2, Lees Knowles, M.P.; 3, R. Hussey, Eastfields.

DISTRICT COMPETITION.

Brood mare, with foal at foot, or has had a foal in 1900: 1, W. Ferguson; 2, J. Hutchinson, Bakewell; 3, C. J. Wills, Chapel-en-le-Frith.

Foal: 1, W. Ferguson; 2, J. Hutchinson; 3, Mrs. C. Dixon, Monsal Dale.

Mare or gelding: 1, R. Whitehead, Buxton; 2, Mrs. C. Dixon, Monsal Dale; 3, T. A. Collier, Macclesfield.

Ditto.—Open: 1, Tom Mitchell, Bradford; 2, A. L. Goodson, Knutsford; 3, Frank J. Batchelor.

COBS AND PONIES.

Open.—Cob, mare or gelding, not exceeding 14.2 hands: 1, Mrs. Fred Holmes, Shipley; 2, G. E. Franklin, Derby; 3, Mrs. C. Dixon, Monsal Dale.

Pony, not exceeding 13.2 hands: 1, G. E. Franklin; 2, W. Harrison, Chorley; 3, J. Makeague, Newton-le-Willows.

HUNTERS.

Open.—Brood mare, with foal at foot, or has had a foal in 1900: 1 and 2, F. B. Wilkinson; 3 and gold medal, C. Schwage, Arden.

Foal: 1, C. Schwabe; 2, F. B. Wilkinson; 3, C. Griffiths, Northwich.

Brood mares, calculated to breed horses able to carry 12 st. 7lb. and upwards with hounds, the property of persons resident or occupying land in Derbyshire, Cheshire, or Staffordshire, with foal at foot by, or stinted to, a thoroughbred registered hunter stallion: T. C. Fitton; C. Schwabe, and R. Needham, Buxton, all equal.

Foal, by any of Mr. Haslewood's horses: 1, T. C. Fitton; 2, F. W. Ashton, Chapel-en-le-Frith.

Yearling colt or filly: 1 and silver medal, J. Smurthwaite, Retford; 2 and 3, A. Haslewood, Buxton.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, F. B. Wilkinson, Newark; 2, A. Haslewood; 3, Sir Peter Walker, Bart., Derby.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, R. Whitehead, Buxton; 2, F. B. Wilkinson; 3, J. R. Eastwood, Buxton.

Mare or gelding, exceeding 13 stone 7lbs.: 1, H. Charrington, Tutbury; 2, J. H. Stokes, Market Harboro'; 3, J. and N. Gray, Cardiff.

Not exceeding 13 stone 7lbs.: 1 and 3, J. and N. Gray; 2, J. H. Stokes.

DISTRICT COMPETITION.

Brood mare, with foal at foot, or has had a foal in 1900: 1, T. C. Fitton; 3, R. Needham, Buxton.

TURNOUTS.

Open.—Horse, in single harness, exceeding 14.2 hands: 1, T. Mitchell, Bradford; 2, Mark Pearson, Harrogate; 3, F. J. Batchelor, Alvechurch.

Stone wall jumping (open to members or subscribers to the High Peak Harriers or any other hounds hunting any portion of the society's district): 1, R. Whitehead; 2, J. H. Lawson.

Loughborough.

The sixty-second annual exhibition in connection with the Loughborough Agricultural Association was held at Southfield, on Wednesday, by the kind permission of Mr. W. B. Paget, and once again proved its great utility in promoting the best interests of husbandry, as well as useful stock-breeding. The continued success of the Loughborough exhibition also justifies its separate existence, though there have been some who would like to see it absorbed in the County Society. The schedule was practically the same as last year. The only alterations were the prizes offered by Messrs. W. and J. Thompson for the best colt or filly Shire foal got by any of the Desford Stud horses. Three prizes of £3, £2, and £1 were offered, with a free nomination in addition to the first prize to the horse travelling the district. The only stipulation was that the third prize was to be withheld if there were not more than three entries. Taking the entries altogether, they came within five or six of any previous number. There was a strong entry of cattle, though the total was not so good as 1899, which was an exceptional year, and quite above the average. In the classes for heavy horses there was an advance of thirteen entries over last year—sixty-three against fifty. One would expect a nice show of hunters in the Quorn country, and visitors were not disappointed. Here there was a slight advance over last year's figures. Sheep also showed a slight increase. The quality of the cattle was generally good. The class for a dairy cow owned by a tenant farmer was a strong one, Mr. White, of Lockington, securing both first and second prizes. The premier cow was a very good young beast, but although superior in other points it was beaten as regards the udder by its farm companion, which, in its turn, was behind Mr. Fox's winner of the third prize in the same respect. The Exors. of the late Mr. Jos. Faux, Coleorton, were very successful in the class for bulls under a year old, securing the two premier awards. The exhibits in the classes for animals owned by cottagers were a big improvement on those of last year, a fact which should ensure a larger entry next year.

The show of sheep was very good all round. Mrs. Perry Herrick's exhibits, as usual, were very successful—two firsts, four seconds, and one reserve number. Mr. Hallam, of Wymeswold, obtained three firsts and one reserve, and Mr. Henson, of Prestwold, took two firsts, one second, and one reserve. The quality of cross-bred lambs was very high. Mr. Hallam was first, and Mr. Turner, Lockington, second, and the judges awarded the highly commended badge to all the other animals in this class. The classes for short-woolled lambs were well filled with some extraordinarily good animals. There were a satisfactory number of entries in the classes for draught horses, although none of the animals shown were of special merit. There were some of good quality, but others were very indifferent. In the class for mares with foal at foot there were some good animals shown, Mr. R. Crawford's Loseby Ruth, by Paxton, being a particularly nice four-year-old grey, and easily obtaining the first prize. This mare had won firsts at both the Leicester and Melton Shows, and was a nice compact animal with good legs and feet. In the class for colt foals of the cart kind Mr. R. Crawford showed a promising youngster of five months by Sopwell Duke. He had been successful at Melton last week, and easily took the first prize in this class. The class for filly foals of the cart kind was not of special note, nor was that for cart geldings between two and three years of age. The majority of the exhibits in the section for hunters, hacks, and harness horses were of good quality, some of the hunters shown being of exceptional merit. In the class for the best brood mare of the hunting kind, with a foal at foot, Mr. Tom Firr, of Quorn, was awarded the premier honour for Hilda, a brown mare, with a bay foal by Undecided, although the judges' decision met with some criticism, the opinion being held that Mr. D. Ward, of Nailstone, who was second, should have had the first place. In the next class, for the best brood mare of the Hackney kind, with foal, the first prize deservedly fell to Mr. G. H. Stocker, of Gotham, the Beeston Stud Company being a good second with a chestnut mare with a foal by Lord Derby. Mr. David Ward, of Nailstone, was an easy winner in the class for yearling hunters with a bay filly of excellent all round characteristics, by Gonsalvo. This animal met with much praise, and shows promise of becoming a future prize winner. There were six entries in the class for yearling Hackneys, and competition was somewhat keen, the red ribbon being ultimately awarded to Mr. H. Shardlow, of Hyson Green, Notts, for a chestnut colt with good feet and of all-round qualities, sired by Grand Cadet. There were only two entries in the class for three-year-old geldings or fillies adapted for hunting purposes, and only one prize was awarded, this falling to Mr. Samuel Marshall, for his roan gelding Bird-catcher, by the famous Marioni.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

Dairy cow in calf or in milk: 1, R. H. Ratcliff, Stanford Hall; 2, S. W. Fox, Humberstone; r, R. Moore and Sons, Bilborough.

Dairy cow, in calf or in milk, the property of a tenant farmer: 1 and 2, W. White, Lockington; 3 and r, S. W. Fox; vhc, G. Dickens, Station Street, Loughborough.

Heifer, in calf or in milk, under three years of age: 1, W. White; 2, W. H. James, Hamilton Ground; r, R. H. Ratcliff, Stanford Hall.

Heifer under two years of age: 1 and r, H. T. Hincks, Wigston Hall; 2, Mrs. Perry Herrick, Beaumanor Park; hc, W. Fox; c, R. H. Ratcliff.

Bull not exceeding twelve months old: 1 and 2, Exors. of the late J. Faux, Coleorton; r, L. Faux, Snareston; c, A. Nelson, Wanlip.

Bull, the property of a tenant farmer, above one year and not exceeding two years old: 1, J. Sim, Hoton Hills; 2, J. Falder, Lockington; 3, W. White; c, Exors. of the late J. Faux.

Bull over two years old: 1, T. Turner, Kingston; 2, Mrs. Perry Herrick; r, H. T. Hincks.

Cow, which has had a calf since January 1st, 1900, the property of a cottager wholly employed in agriculture, and occupying not more than fifteen acres of land, attention being paid to constitution and milk: 1 and r, J. Draycott, Hathern; 2, J. Monk, Wymeswold.

Cow or heifer, in calf or in milk, the property of a cottager occupying not more than thirty acres of land, who must be a member of the Association: 1, G. Dickens, Station Street, Loughborough; 2 and c, B. B. L. Underwood, Loughborough; r, Mary Hallam, Willoughby.

SHEEP.

Long-woolled ewes, having suckled lambs to the 1st June, 1900, and to be kept by the same flockmaster for breeding purposes: 1, J. Hallam; 2, Mrs. Perry Herrick; r, H. T. Hincks.

Long-woolled theaves, to be kept by the same flockmaster for breeding purposes: 1, H. T. Hincks; 2 and r, Mrs. Perry Herrick.

Five long-woolled ewe lambs: 1, J. Hallam; 2, Mrs. Perry Herrick; r, R. Turner.

Five short-woolled ewes, having suckled lambs to the 1st June, 1900, to be kept by the same flockmaster for breeding purposes: 1, G. Henson; 2, Mrs. Perry Herrick; r, G. De Lisle, Onebarrow.

Five short-woolled theaves, to be kept by the same flockmaster for breeding purposes: 1, G. Henson; 2, Gerard De Lisle, Onebarrow; r, H. T. Hincks.

Five short-woolled ewe lambs: 1, H. T. Hincks; 2, G. Henson; r, J. Moss.

Five cross-bred ewe or wether lambs: 1, J. Hallam; 2, R. Turner; r, J. Hallam.

Ram of the long-woolled breed, which shall be used by a member for his own flock, age and symmetry considered: 1, Mrs. Perry Herrick; 2, A. Baker, Sutton Bonnington; r, J. Hallam.

Ram of the short-woolled breed, which shall be used by a member for his own flock, age and symmetry considered: 1, Mrs. Perry Herrick; 2, G. de Lisle; r, G. Henson.

PIGS.

Sow of the black Berkshire breed: 1, J. W. Taylor, Shelthorpe House, Loughborough; 2 and r,, R. Bell, Salmon Street, Loughborough.

Boar of any other breed: 1, Rev. T. J. Davies, Ratcliffe College; 2, V. Wells, Seagrave; r, R. Bell.

Sow of any other breed, for breeding purposes: 1, Rev. T. J. Davies; 2, J. Harvey, Six Hills; r, J. Cooper, Sileby.

Gilt of any other breed, under twelve months old, and to be retained for breeding purposes: 1, H. Parkinson, High Street, Sileby; 2, V. Wells; r, J. Cayless, Derby Road, Loughborough.

DRAUGHT HORSES.

Mare, with foal at foot, of the draught kind: 1, R. Crawford, Loseby; 2, R. Moore and Sons, Bilborough; 3, Gamble Brothers, Braunstone; 4, M. Hubbard, Scalford.

Colt foal of the cart kind, the property of a tenant farmer: 1, R. Crawford; 2, A. Clowes, Long Whatton; 3, T. Dowell, Hungarton; 4, R. Moore and Sons.

Filly foal of the cart kind, the property of a tenant farmer: 1, R. A. Haywood, Nailstone; 2, J. W. Sheppard; 3, M. Hubbard; 4, W. Carter.

Colt or filly Shire foal got by any of the Desford stud horses: 1, R. Crawford; 2, R. A. Haywood; 3, W. Carter; 4, W. H. James, Hamilton Grounds.

Gelding of the cart kind, above two and under three years of age: 1, W. Porter, Dishley Grange; 2, M. Hubbard; 3, G. H. Bennett, Sawley; 4, W. Loseby.

Filly of the cart kind, above two and under three years of age: 1, Gamble Brothers; 2, J. V. Hibbard; 3, J. Tansley.

Gelding of the cart kind, above one and under two years of age: 1, W. C. W. Woodroffe, Burton-on-the-Wolds; 2 and 3, George Henson.

Filly of the cart kind, above one and under two years of age: 1, J. Barker, Ragdale; 2, W. White; 3, F. Cramp, Swing Bridge Farm, Loughborough.

Pair of geldings or mares of the cart kind, above three years, that have been regularly worked, the property of a tenant farmer, and to be shown in G. O. tackle: 1, G. E. Laban, Normanton Hill; 2 and 3, W. Porter; 4, G. Henson.

Tradesman's turnout of the heavy kind, regularly used in his business: 1 and 4, Shardlow Brewery Co., Shardlow; 2, Ind Coope and Co., Loughborough.

HUNTERS, HACKS, AND HARNESS HORSES.

Brood mare of the hunting kind, with a foal at her foot: 1, T. Firr, Quorn; 2, D. Ward, Nailstone; 3, M. J. Joyce, Alton Grange, Ashby.

Brood mare of the Hackney kind, with a foal at her foot: 1, G. H. Stocker, Gotham; 2, Beeston Stud Co., Beeston, Notts; 3, J. W. Taylor, Shelthorpe House, Loughborough.

Yearling of the hunter kind: 1, D. Ward; 2, H. B. Black Frishy-on-the-Wreake; 3, H. T. Hincks, Wigston Hall.

Yearling of the Hackney kind: 1, H. Shardlow; 2, W. G. Wheeldon, Friargate, Derby; 3, H. Bamber, Thurcaston.

Gelding or filly, two years old, adapted for hunting purposes: 1, S. Marshall, Hickling Manor; 2, H. T. Hincks; r, M. A. Thompson, The Oaks, Loughborough.

Gelding or filly, three years old, adapted for hunting purposes: 1, S. Marshall.

Tradesman's turnout of the light kind regularly used in his business: 1, T. Summerfield, Castle Donington; 2, J. S. Underwood, Sparrow Hill, Loughborough; 3, E. B. Pickworth, Coalville.

Hack, not exceeding 15.1 hands high: 1, G. R. Apperly, Paddocks, Cheltenham; 2, F. Tyler, Stoneygate Road, Leicester; 3, J. Moss, Loughborough.

Weight carrying hunter, four years of age and upwards, up to not less than 14 stone and upwards: 1 and 2, J. H. Stokes, Great Bowden; r, J. H. Sedgley, Church Langton.

Hunter, four years of age and upwards, up to not less than 12st. 7lbs., and not more than 14st.: 1, J. H. Stokes; 2, H. Custance, Oakham; r, G. R. Apperly, Paddocks, Cheltenham.

Light-weight hunter, four years of age and upwards, up to not more than 12st. 7lb.: 1, W. Gale, Waltham; 2, J. H. Stokes; r, G. W. Sumner.

Hunter, four years of age and upwards, the property of a tenant farmer, who has no other business, and gets his living entirely by farming, residing within the limits of the Quorn Hunt: 1 and 2, H. Bamber; 3, S. Marshall.

Gelding or mare, 14.2 hands high and upwards, best adapted to harness purposes, to be driven on to the show ground, speed and action to be specially considered: 1, J. S. Underwood; 2, J. G. Parr, F.R.C.V.S., Leicester; r, A. J. Betts, Coalville.

Cob, under 14.2 hands high, to be driven in harness on to the show ground: 1, J. Walley, Market Place, Loughborough; 2, G. E. Franklin, The Fields, Derby.

JUMPING.

Mare or gelding, of any height, which shall jump the artificial fences in the best manner: 1, C. J. Jerome, Sutton Coldfield; 2, T. G. Foster, Brailsford, Derby.

Gelding or mare, under 15 hands, which shall jump the artificial fences in the best manner: 1, T. G. Foster, Brailsford, Derby; 2, C. J. Jerome.

Mare or gelding of any height, which shall jump the artificial fences in the best manner, for amateurs only within the radius: 1 and 2, L. Faux.

Carnforth.

For many years past the annual exhibitions of the Burton and Milnthorpe Agricultural Society have been worked at a financial loss, so that this year the committee resolved to extend their area, and the Carnforth district became affiliated with the association, which will continue under the name of the Carnforth Agricultural Society, shows being held in alternate years at Burton, Milnthorpe, and Carnforth. The alteration seems to have been a good one, for the show held on the 15th inst. at Carnforth attracted an unusually large number of exhibitors, and also spectators, the weather being all that could be desired. The society has this year been enabled to augment the premiums, upwards of £400 being offered, as contrasted with a little over £200 last year, and the total entries were 799. The quality of the animals was satisfactory, and the society should be able to in future record balances on the right side instead of deficits. The judges were:—For cattle and sheep, Messrs. D. Linton, Bedale, and G. Harrison, Gainford; light horses, Messrs. T. H. Hutchinson, Catterick, and N. Morton, Ballymena, Ireland; Wensleydale sheep, Mr. J. W. Fothergill, Brownber; agricultural horses and pigs, Messrs. W. R. Trotter, South Acomb, and R. Robinson, Worsley. The following is a list of the principal awards:—

Prize List.

CATTLE.

(Restricted to a radius of thirty miles of Burton.)

Shorthorn bull, two years old and upwards: 1, J. Handley, Green Head; 2, W. Bateman, Braunston Grange; 3, J. Casson, Beetham.

Shorthorn bull, above one and under two years old: 1, R. Braithwaite, Pelside, Milnthorpe; 2, W. G. Atkinson, Raines Hall; 3, W. Atkinson, Overthwaite.

Shorthorn heifer, above one and under three years old: 1, J. Gibson and Son, Kendal; 2, Lady Henry Bentinck, Underley Hall; 3, J. R. Airey, Park, near Kendal.

Shorthorn heifer, above one and under two years old: 1, W. Atkinson; 2, Lady Henry Bentinck; 3, J. Cottam, Nether Killet.

Three Shorthorn cows: 1, W. Bateman; 2, R. Parker, Moss End; 3, Lady Henry Bentinck.

Shorthorn cow: 1, R. Hall, Lancaster; 2, R. J. Huddleston, Kendal; 3, T. Park, Nateland.

Dairy cows in calf or in milk: 1 and 3, R. J. Huddleston; 2, J. Makinson, Kirkby Lonsdale.

The Society's silver medal for the best male Shorthorn: J. Handley.

Dressing the best female Shorthorn: W. Atkinson.

SHEEP.

Long-woolled sheep, any breed except Wensleydale: 1, J. Wakefield; 2, J. R. Airey.

Shropshire or other Down sheep, Three ewes: 1 and 3, R. J. Huddleston; 2, J. Gibson.

Three one-shear gimmers: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, R. J. Huddleston.
Ram, any age: 1 and 3, R. J. Huddleston; 2, J. Gibson and Son.
Three ewes: 1, W. Dowbiggin; 2, J. Wakefield; 3, R. Parker.
Three one-shear gimmers: 1, J. Wakefield; 2, J. R. Airey.
Ram, any age: 1 and 2, J. Gibson and Son, Natland Hall.
Three ewes: 1, Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P.; 2, J. Gibson and Son.
One-shear gimmers: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, Lord Henry Bentinck.
Lady Henry Bentinck's prizes for three Wensleydale ram lambs: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, J. Towers.
Half-bred sheep, from a Blackfaced, Mountain, or Herdwick ewe, by any pure ram—Three ewes: 1, J. Gibson and Son; 2, E. Barton.
Three one-shear gimmers: 1 and 2, J. Gibson and Son.

PIGS.

(Within a radius of thirty miles of Burton.)

Boar, any breed: 1, T. Graveson, Warton.
Breeding sow, any breed: 1, G. Wison, Milnthorpe; 2, E. Barton, Warton Grange.

HORSES.

(Within a radius of thirty miles of Burton.)

HUNTERS.

Mare, having a foal at foot, or in foal: 1, A. Orr, Hornby; 2, J. S. Rigg, Appleby.
Yearling colt or filly: 1, H. Staveley, Wray; 2, T. Taylor, Heaton.
Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. Wilson, Kendal; 2, T. Tomlinson, New Hutton; 3, J. Kidd, Hauer Flatts.
Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Exors. of T. Dixon, Priest Hutton; 2, E. Barton, Warton Grange.
Colt or filly foal: 1, E. Barton; 2, A. Orr.
The Society's silver medal for hunting gelding, colt, or filly, three years old or under: 1, T. Jackson, Netherbeck, Carnforth; 2, J. Hartley and Co.
The Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for hunter of either sex, any age: T. Tomlinson, New Hutton.

HACKNEY OR HARNESS.

Yearling colt, gelding, or filly: 1, Colonel Foster, M.P.; 2, J. Wrigley, Windermere.
Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, N. Dixon; 2, E. D. McNaughton, Milnthorpe.
Mare, with a foal at foot, or in foal: 1, R. Burrow, Whittington; 2, J. Williams, Carnforth.
Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, J. Wrigley; 2, J. Clarkson, Carnforth.
Colt or filly foal: 1, R. Burrow; 2, J. Williams.
Prizes given by the ladies of the district to encourage the breed of small horses for military purposes, for mares, 14.2 to 15.1, three years old and upwards: 1, T. Edmondson, Old Hutton; 2, J. W. Liver, Garstang; 3, R. Burrow.
The Society's silver medal for Hackney colt, gelding, or filly, three years old and under: R. Burrow.

FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

Yearling colt or gelding: 1, T. Allonby, Sandscale; 2, J. Dobson, Burton.
Yearling filly: 1, W. Dowbiggin; 2, Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P.
Two-year-old gelding: 1, W. Cottam; 2, J. C. Webster, Beetham Hall.
Two-year-old filly: 1, H. Mackereth, Whittington; 2, J. Towers.
Mare, having a foal or in foal: 1, W. Dowbiggin, Millom; 2, R. Hudson, Windermere; 3, H. C. Hodgson, Milnthorpe.
Three-year-old gelding: 1, H. C. Hodgson; 2, R. Parker.
Three-year-old filly: 1, W. Cottam, Low Levens; 2, E. Willacy, Nateby.
Colt foal: 1, H. Mackereth; 2, T. Askew, Slyne.
Filly foal: 1, Mrs. Wilson, Yealand; 2, G. Lawson, Cockerham.
Pair of horses for agricultural purposes, mares or geldings, three years old or upwards: 1, W. Cottam; 2, J. C. Webster.
Single agricultural horse or mare, three years old or upwards: 1, W. Dowbiggin; 2, R. Hudson.

HACKNEYS.

(Open to the United Kingdom.)

Hackney, exceeding 14.2, saddled and ridden in the ring: 1, J. W. Liver; 2, N. Read; 3, J. Clarkson.
Hackney, not exceeding 14.2: 1, E. Cousins; 2, A. S. J. Musgrave; 2, H. W. Cheadle.

TURN-OUTS.

Mare or gelding, exceeding 14.2, shown and driven in harness: 1, N. Read, Blackburn; 2, J. Clarkson, Carnforth; 3, W. Brown, Lancaster.
Mare or gelding, not exceeding 14.2, shown and driven in harness: 1, A. S. J. Musgrave, Settle; 2, H. W. Cheadle, Silverdale; 3, T. W. Speight, Morecambe.
Hackney mare or gelding (within a 15-mile radius of Burton), saddled and ridden in the ring: 1, J. W. Liver; 2, E. Cousins, Lancaster; 3, E. Johnson, Morecambe.

Wayland.

The annual show of the Wayland Agricultural Association was held on the 12th inst. for the forty-first time at Watton. Considering the invariable lateness of this fixture, the society were particularly fortunate in the matter of weather. The sun shone in a fashion that would have been appropriate to the middle of July, and the result was that the attendance was exceptionally large. The features of the show were in the main identical with those of the last few years, but there was a new development of some importance from a spectator's point of view—a grand stand commanding a view of the competitions in the ring had been provided. Numerically considered, the entries well maintained the reputation of the Wayland district as being able to produce one of the best supported of local shows. The horse classes were particularly strong. The only department in which it would be possible to complain of inadequate competition was the cattle, there being in four out of the eight classes no more than two entries each. It has been suggested that an extension of the prize list will be necessary before an improvement can be expected. Both the heavy horse and the Hackney classes contained some noteworthy animals. This makes the third year in succession that Mr. W. R. Welcher, of Griston, has taken the Shire Horse Society's silver medal, the winner on this last occasion being a shapely cart foal of five months, bred by the exhibitor, and sired by Calwich Blaze. The mares and foals were all good, and as much may be said of the Hackney classes. Taken all round, the most satisfactory animal in this department was Lord Walsingham's Go It, in the class for Hackney stallions over two years of age. He well deserved the honours he received. Both the prize winners in the class of Hackney foals were sired by Go It. The cattle classes are not greatly to be commended. They reached a presentable average; but except among the Red Polls there was nothing calling for particular mention. The most notable animal was Lord Amherst's Didlington Davy 11th, first in the class for polled heifers in calf or in milk, not more than three years old. She makes an admirable specimen of the breed. The strongest class among the sheep was the one for ewe lambs, which would do credit to any show, not even excluding the Royal, as one of the judges declared.

Prize List.

HORSES.

Cart stallion, over two years of age, open to the county: 1, F. J. Cresswell, Aldery Grange (Comerden Hardy); 2, T. Hall, Saham (Saham Albion); r, J. Quantrill, Wreningham (Prince Albion).
Cart mare: 1, W. R. Welcher, Griston (Brown); 2, L. J. Wace, Oarbrooke; r, W. R. Welcher (Violet).
Pair of cart mares or geldings: 1, L. J. Wace; 2, W. R. Welcher (Violet), and H. G. Burnham, Griston (Queen Prudence); r, J. H. Gurney, Saham (Scott and Gipsy); and W. R. Welcher, Griston (Brisk).
Three-year-old cart colt, filly, or the second best ditto, the Society's prize, £1: L. J. Wace.
Yearling cart colt or filly: 1, J. Jarrad, Shipdham (Tom); r, Hon. C. B. Hanbury.
Cart gelding of any age: L. J. Wace; r, J. T. Clarke.
Cart foal: 1 and silver medal, 2, r, and c: W. R. Welcher.
Cart foal, sired by Mr. W. R. Welcher's Holkham Tom: 1, J. Martins, Scoulton; 2, A. J. Wade, Merton.
Cart foal, sired by Mr. L. J. Wace's Saxon: A. Middleton, Ovington; r, Adcock and Sons, Watton.
Cart foal, sired by Mr. Thomas Hall's Helmdon Tom or Saham Albion: J. Jarrad, Shipdham.
Hackney stallion, over two years of age, open to the county: 1, Lord Walsingham, Merton; 2, J. T. Clarke; r, G. H. K. Francis, Mattishall.
Hackney stallion, two years old or under, open to the county: 1, W. B. Fryer, Wymondham; 2, G. H. K. Francis.
Brood mare, suitable for saddle or harness purposes, with foal at foot, or having bred a live foal this year: 1, Earl Egerton of Tatton; 2, Abbot Bros., Thuxton; r, G. H. K. Francis; c, T. Hall.
Hackney foal: 1, G. H. K. Francis; 2, Abbot Bros.; r, C. H. Colman; c, W. Quadling.
Hackney foal, sired by Lord Walsingham's Go It: 1, M. Rae; 2, A. J. Wade.
Hackney filly, foaled in 1897, 1898, or 1899, to be shown in hand: 1, Abbot Bros.; 2, T. Hall; r, Earl Egerton of Tatton; c, W. Quadling.
Mare or gelding for saddle purposes: 1 and 2, Earl Egerton of Tatton: r and c, Lord Walsingham; c, W. S. Hall.
Mare or gelding, over 14.2, to be shown in harness: 1, G. H. K. Francis (Kitty); 2, Earl Egerton of Tatton; r, Lord Walsingham; c, W. S. Hall.
Mare or gelding, not exceeding 14.2, to be shown in harness: 1, W. Patterson, East Dereham (Fashion); r, M. Rae, Watton; hc, R. Waters, Watton (May).
Two or three-year-old hunter open to the county: 1, H. Blofield, Quidenham (Mary); 2, Mr. Cross, Earlham; r, A. Gayford, East Harling; c, W. R. Harvey, Illington.
Hunter, the property of a Norfolk farmer, open to the county: 1 and c, A. Gayford; 2, W. R. Goulder; r, A. Cloud; c, W. S. Hall.

CATTLE.

Horned bull of any age: F. W. Bernard, Eccles; c, Abbot Bros.
Polled bull of any age: C. F. Newton, Saham (Marquis of Meadland); hc, Perkins' Executors, Saham.
Horned cow of any age, in calf or in milk: Abbot Bros. (Thuxton Rose).
Horned heifer, in calf or in milk, not exceeding three years of age: Abbot Bros. (Lady Delight); hc, E. E. Smith.
Polled cow of any age, in calf or in milk: Lord Amherst of Hackney; hc, Hon. Charles B. Hanbury; c, C. F. Newton.
Polled heifer in calf or in milk, not exceeding three years of age: Lord Amherst of Hackney; hc, Hon. Charles B. Hanbury; c, C. F. Newton.
Fat beast: 1, W. Whalebelly, Watton; 2, A. G. Scorer, Caston; hc and c, T. A. Barton.
Beast fed on Thorley's food as per conditions: W. Whalebelly.

SHEEP.

Ram of any age: 1, T. A. Barton; 2, A. Betts, Ashill; hc, Captain A. B. Fielden, Reymerstone.
Five shearling ewes for breeding purposes: 1, Lord Cranworth; 2, Captain A. B. Fielden.
Five ewes of any age, crones excepted: 1, Captain A. B. Fielden; 2, Abbot Bros.; hc, Lord Cranworth.
Ten ewe lambs: 1, Captain A. B. Fielden; 2, Lord Cranworth; hc, T. A. Barton.
Ten wether lambs: 1, Lord Cranworth; 2, W. R. Welcher.

PIGS.

Boar pig of any age: Adcock and Sons, Watton; c, A. G. Scorer, Caston.
Breeding sow of any age: Adcock and Sons; hc, Hon. C. Hanbury.
Litter of not less than six pigs, under twelve weeks old: Adcock and Sons; c, Hon. C. B. Hanbury.
Fat pig, fed on food seasoned with Wilson's Canadian pig powders: 1 and 2, A. Middleton, Ovington.

Changes in the Highland Prize List.

On account of animals failing to comply with the regulations as to calving and foaling, a few changes have taken place in the official prize list of the Highland Show at Edinburgh in 1899. These changes are as follow:—

Shorthorn cattle—Colonel Munro's cow May Blossom 3rd, which was placed fourth, failed to produce a calf within nine months, and the prize of £2 went to Lord Polwarth for Lady Beatrice.

In the class of two-year-old Shorthorn heifers, Mr. George Harrison's animal Fairy Queen, which was placed third, and Mr. William Bell's Comely, placed very highly commended, having failed to produce a calf within nine months of the show, the third prize of £3 has gone to Joseph Harris, Calthwaite Hall, Carlisle, for Empress 12th, and the fourth prize of £2 to A. Robertson, Bolleshin, Badlinluig, for Tulip Blossom.

Aberdeen-Angus cattle—Sir George Macpherson Grant's cow Elixir 1,809, which was placed fourth, failed to produce a calf within nine months, and the prize of £2 went to George Willshe, Pippenscale, Auchencheyne, for Black Velvet 27,361.

The three-year-old heifer, Jipsy of Ben, 26,124, which was shown by Mr. Clement Stephenson, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and which was placed second, having failed to produce a calf within nine months of the show, the second prize of £3 has gone to George A. Ross, Rhyme, Fearn, for Gazelle of Rhyme; the third prize of £2 to James M'Kelvie, Hatton House, Kirkmichael, for Lady Lauder; and the fourth prize of £2 to W. S. Ferguson, Perth, for Juniper Jam.

Galloway Cattle.—Sir Robert Jardine's two-year-old heifer Cowslip of Cavenagh, 1,022, which was placed second, having failed to produce a calf within nine months, the second prize of £3 has gone to the animal, Nora Lee 3rd, of Castlemilk, which was placed third; the third prize to Colonel Dalrymple, of Cargen, for Beauty 2nd, the fourth prize of £2 having been forfeited to the society.

Highland Cattle.—The Duke of Atholl's three-year-old heifer Beauty 6th of Atholl, which was placed second, having failed to produce a calf within nine months, the second prize of £3 has gone to the Earl of Southesk, K.T., for Lady Clare; the third prize of £2 to Wm. Macfadilyean, Corrie, Dunblane, and the fourth prize of £2 to Thomas V. Smith, of Ardvorlich, for Scotstoun 21st, 3,221.

Yield Clyde Ide mares.—Prince the Queen Mab, the property of the late Mr. W. H. Lambton, of Biddick, which was placed third, and Mr. R. Smith's Scott's Scottish Prettess, placed fourth, failed to produce foals within twelve months of the show, and the first and second prizes go to the only two mares that proved in foal, viz. Flirt, £12, for F. Murdoch, Eccl. Holsyde, Newton, for Lady M'Clelland; second £10, Hebers Wells, Mains House, Fence Houses, for Lady Lambton.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Sept. 15th, 1900:—

| | | |

WM. CROSSKILL & SONS,

BEVERLEY,

MANUFACTURERS OF

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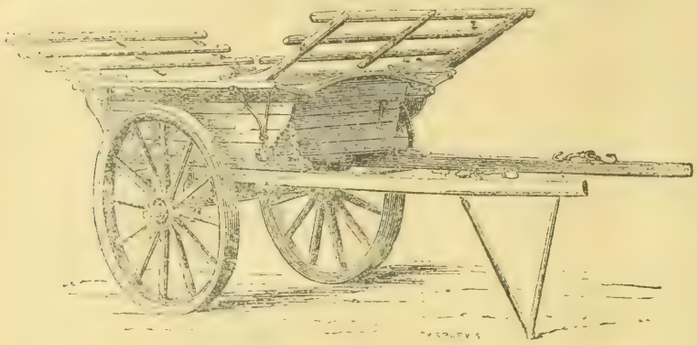

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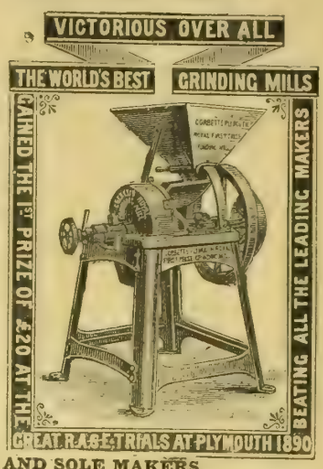
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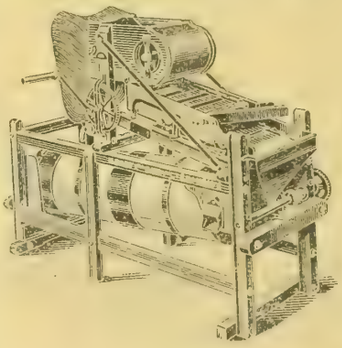

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1900.

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22nd ANNUAL

EXHIBITION & MARKET,

Royal Agricultural Hall, London, N.,

OCTOBER 20 to 26, 1900.

MALTING AND SEED BARLEY COMPETITION,

Entries Close October 11th.

HOP COMPETITIONS,

Entries Close October 4th.

MOST VALUABLE CASH AND OTHER PRIZES.

This Exhibition is the best Market for Buyers of Grain Cleaning Machinery and Seed Barley.

For the few eligible positions still to let in the Great Hall early application is essential.

Schedules of Prizes and all information can be had of the Managing Directors,

ARTHUR T. DALE and JOHN REYNOLDS, Exhibition Offices, 46, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Published and Printed by the Proprietor, at the Offices, 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C. September 24, 1900. State Country Agents—Robert A. Thompson and Co., 180, Pitt Street, Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; 7, King William Street, Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Capetown.

The

Mark Lane Express

and

Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXIII. No. 3601. LONDON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1900. THIRTY-TWO PAGES PRICE—3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.

(Founded June, 1894.)

PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.

HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, ESQ., Beltring, Kent.

SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.

CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the COUNCIL of the CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE will be held (by permission of the Society of Arts) at the House of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, on Tuesday, November 6, 1900, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

Members of Council representing either the Central Chamber or Associated Chambers are requested to attend.

Subscribing Members of the Central Chamber are invited to be present, and may speak by permission of the Chairman, but are not entitled to move resolutions or to vote.

AGENDA.

To transact General Business.
To receive Communications.
To consider Alterations in the Laws and Bye-Laws proposed by the Business Committee.
To receive Reports of Committees (if any).
To receive "Statement of Legislation required in the Agricultural Interest," prepared by the Business and Parliamentary Committees in pursuance of Council's resolution of May 29th last.
To consider the following subjects:—
(1) The Report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation (if issued).
(2) Agricultural Insurance.

Associated Chambers and Clubs are requested to consider the above subjects, and to send up any resolutions which they may pass thereupon to the Secretary of the Central Chamber before the Meeting of the Business Committee, at 8 p.m. on Monday, November 5th, 1900. Suggestions of subjects for discussion at future Meetings of the Council should be forwarded at the same time.

ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, DECEMBER 10 to 14, 1900, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.

Entries close as follows:—Live Stock (Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Carcase Competition), Nov. 1; Post Entries, Nov. 5. The entries for Implements have already closed, on Oct. 5. Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and other information can be obtained on application to E. J. POWELL, Sec., 12, Hanover-square, London, W.

SOCIETIES. (*continued.*)

DAIRY SHOW.

AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON,

TUESDAY till FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 10, 11, 12.

CATTLE, GOATS, POULTRY, PIGEONS.

ALL KINDS OF DAIRY PRODUCE, APPLIANCES, ETC.

MILKING AND BUTTER TESTS AND BUTTER-MAKING COMPETITIONS.

BAND OF THE COLDSTREAM GUARDS.

TUESDAY, October 9, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., 2s. 6d.; 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., 1s.
WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, 1s., from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS ON PRINCIPAL LINES.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NORTH WALES, BANGOR.

A constituent College of the University of Wales AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT. IN-COLLEGE COURSES. 1. A complete course in theoretical and practical Agriculture extending over two years, and suitable for farmers and land agents. 2. Advanced course for a third year in Agricultural Chemistry. 3. Short course of eleven weeks, commencing in October and consisting of Agriculture, Chemistry, Book-keeping, and Land Surveying. The degree of B.Sc. in Agriculture of the University of Wales may be taken by students who pursue a three years' post matriculation course of study at the College. LLEDWIGAN FARM (360 acres) has been taken by the College for teaching and experimental purposes. Diploma (two years) and Degree (three years) students will in future follow courses for at least one year at the farm under the supervision of the Professor of Agriculture. Special arrangements will be made to take farm pupils for practical instruction only. The College is recognised by the Surveyors' Institution as a place of approved professional instruction for land agents. The cost of board and lodging, with tuition fees, varies from £30 to £40 for the College year. The Scholarship examination will commence on September 18.

Prospectus, with full particulars as to Scholarships and Diplomas, may be obtained from JOHN EDWARD LLOYD, M.A., Secretary and Registrar.

July 17th, 1900.

THE YORKSHIRE COLLEGE, LEEDS, AND THE MANOR FARM, GARFORTH.

Complete Course of Agricultural Education. Lectures in College and at the Farm from October to March. Special provision for practical instruction. Fee, £10. Students are prepared for the N.D.A. Examination. There is also a special course for the B.Sc. Degree.—Prospectus from the REGISTRAR.

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Trustees: The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of Edinburgh.
J. R. U. DEWAR, F.R.C.V.S., Principal.

SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION commences OCTOBER 2nd, 1900.

The INAUGURAL ADDRESS will be delivered on Wednesday, October 3rd, at 12.30 p.m. by Sir JOHN GILMOUR, Bart., of Montrave.

The Rt. Hon. SIR MITCHELL THOMSON Bart., Lord Provost, in the chair.

BANKS, INSURANCES.

SPECIAL ADVANTAGES TO PRIVATE INSURERS.

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Agents wanted in Metropolitan Districts. Applications to be made to either of the above London Offices.

Norwich, Sept. 29th, 1900.

AUCTION SALES.

SALES OF PURE BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 3.—About 50 SHORTHORNS, from Mr. R. W. HOBBS' Herd, at Kelmscott, Lechlade, Gloucestershire.

FRIDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 5.—Mr. W. ATKINSON'S extensive Herd of SHORTHORNS, at Overthwaite, Milnthorpe, Westmorland.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10.—Miss E. MARSH'S Herd of JERSEYS, at Kingston House, Leatherhead.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11.—Col. W. N. TURNELL'S ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, at Langley, Great Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12.—The Herd of ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, belonging to Col. J. F. BROCKLEHURST, at Peterborough.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16.—Sale of the late Mr. W. WEIGHTS (of Wollaton, Nottingham) & large portion of Col. BROCKLEHURST'S herd, at Lowther, YOUNG SHORTHORN BULLS, at York.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes-street, Hanover-square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

AUCTION SALES (*Continued*).

ON THURSDAY OCTOBER 4TH (11 o'clock)

FINAL SALE OF THE SEASON OF SHROPSHIRE AND CLUN SHEEP

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO. will hold their FINAL SALE in the SHREWSBURY SMITHFIELD, on the above date.

59 RAMS AND RAM LAMBS
500 to 800 SHROPSHIRE EWES AND EWE LAMBS
500 CLUN EWES, WETHERS AND LAMBS AND CROSS-BREDS.

Commissions faithfully executed
Catalogues from ALFRED MANSELL AND CO., College Hill, Shrewsbury.

On FRIDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 5th (12 o'clock).

MANSELL'S STORE STOCK SALE (on live weight basis),
will be held in the SHREWSBURY CATTLE MARKET by

ALFRED MANSELL AND CO.

1,200 WELL-BRED STORE CATTLE (all Breeds and Ages).

Specially reserved by well-known breeders for this sale, extra well-bred and very forward condition.

144 POLLED ANGUS and SHORTHORN CROSS-BRED BULLOCKS,
100 DRAFT HEIFERS,
80 SHORTHORN BULLOCKS,
104 SHORTHORN HEIFERS,
40 POLLED ANGUS and HEREFORD CROSS BRED BULLOCKS and HEIFERS,
40 HEREFORD and SHORTHORN CROSS and POLLED SHORTHORN BULLOCKS
500 SHROPSHIRE and CLUN SHEEP,

Including 350 CLUN EWES and 150 CLUN WETHERS,
Sold in lots to suit all buyers.
Commissions to buy faithfully executed.
Full particulars from the Auctioneers ALFRED MANSELL AND CO., Shrewsbury.

The FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW and SALE of SHIRE BRED FOALS and OLDER HORSES,
CATTLE MARKET, DERBY,
On WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3rd & 4th.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION BY
MR. ANDREW SMITH.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3RD.
104 SHIRE-BRED FILLY FOALS
173 SHIRE-BRED COLT FOALS.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4TH.
57 SHIRE BRED YEARLING and TWO-YEAR OLD FILLIES
63 SHIRE BRED MARES 3 years old and over.

Many of these Mares and Fillies are already [illegible] the Stud Book.

47 MARES and GELDINGS, many of them town work, 3 years old and 4 over.
12 YEARLING and TWO-YEAR OLD GELDINGS
50 LIGHT FOALS, BROOD MARES, COBS and HARNESS HORSES

[illegible] Catalogue (free) to [illegible]

The entries [illegible]
1 from THE R. HON. L. [illegible] Kingston.
1 ,, SIR PETER WALKER, Bart., Osmaston Manor.
9 ,, JNO. HODSON, Esq., Mickleover.
6 ,, W. T. EVERARD, Esq., Bardon Hall.
4 ,, J. N. WOODIWISS, Esq., Duffield etc., etc.

REGISTER OF BRITISH LIVE STOCK BREEDERS.

HORSES.

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MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. — Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners; yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

HACKNEYS.—JOHN N. ANTHONY, Sedgeford, near Lynn, Norfolk, breeder of Pedigree Hackneys. On hand, Colts and Fillies by most of the leading sires.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions, at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath Station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

CLEVELANDS

HORSFALL, F. WILSON, Potto Grange, Northallerton.—Breeder of pure-bred CLEVELAND BAY and YORKSHIRE COACH HORSES. This stud has won far more prizes than any other again this year, and has won twice as many as any other during the last fifteen years with Clevelands. Many Royal and Great Yorkshire prize-winners for sale. One of the Stud Horses is Champion Broomgrove Pride 1249—first and champion R.A.S.E. Show, Maidstone, 1897; first R.A.S.E. Show, Birmingham, 1898; first and champion Great Yorkshire, Leeds, 1898; only times shown; fee £5 5s. Also breeder of pure-bred Shorthorns. Bulls and heifers for sale. Amongst others added to this herd in 1899 were Daisy Perfection, Richmond Daisy, and Highland Daisy, all bought at the Duke of Northumberland's Sale, at 210 guineas, 72 guineas, and 72 guineas respectively. Also breeder of Sussex black pigs, and several breeds of white poultry.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some gold Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

TAUNTON, H. PERCY, Redlynch, near Salisbury, Wiltshire. Shire-bred STALLIONS MARES, FILLIES, and GELDINGS of the most fashionable breeding always for sale at moderate prices. The animals are kept entirely out of doors and in natural condition.

PONIES.

THE LARGEST STUD of SELECTED WELSH PONIES IN WALES.—Dinarth Hall Pony Stud Farm, Colwyn Bay, North Wales. Over 120 Ponies now on hand, including forty Brood Mares of the pure Welsh type, and several high-class Ponies, great goers, with style and action. 150 prizes won in 1898 and 1899. Ponies purchased from this Stud have won first prizes at Manchester, Birmingham, and Maidstone Royal Shows; also first and medal Crystal Palace, 1899. Sale in 1899 included two Entire Ponies purchased by the Government for Cyprus, several to America and France. Stud Horse JULIUS CÆSAR II. 5666, sire of first prize two-year-old pony filly, the first of his produce exhibited, London Hackney Show, 1900.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, S. Wales, extensive Breeder and Exporter of the best class of WELSH MOUNTAIN PONIES and COBS. References and particulars on application.

MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley, Winslow, Bucks.—Prize PONIES always FOR SALE. Arab Polo Pony Stallion "Mootrub" (32), winner of a championship, silver medals, and many prizes. Particulars on application.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY PARK SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

LANGFORD HOUSE ESTATE HERD of pure and highly-bred SHORTHORN CATTLE, the property of Mr. Sidney Hill, J.P. All bred from the best and leading herds in the Kingdom. Sires now in service: Wiltshire Victor, 71,883 (roan), by Count Victor, 66,877. Puck, 73,333 (roan), by Alto, 68,147. Count Valiant, 74,307 (roan), by Count Arthur, 70,194. Langford Lavender, 74,819 (roan), by Wiltshire Victor, 71,883. Bulls and heifers always on sale, also registered flock of Southdown sheep. Inspection invited. Telegrams, Langford Station, Congresbury, G.W.R. Particulars from J. D LOVELESS, Estate Office, Langford, Bristol.

GARNE, R. & W. T., Aldsworth, Northleach, Glos., breed SHORTHORN CATTLE of great size, thick flesh, good milkers. Young Bulls and Heifers on sale. Stock Bulls: Wrestler, 66,582, Lord Harry, 65,180, and Now or Never, 67,544. Inspection invited.

FOR SALE, very promising Shorthorn yearling BULL, by pure Cruickshank bull bred by Mr. Deane Willis, dams pure Booth blood; also very fine two-year-old BULL; prices moderate. — Apply, Mr. C. WATT, The Cottage, Farran, co. Cork.

HEREFORDS.

SALTMARSHE CASTLE ESTATES, HEREFORDSHIRE, Prize winning pure bred HEREFORD CATTLE. Champion Happy Hampton in service. Inspection invited. Good selection for sale.— Apply, J. W. MILLYARD, Estate Office, Littlebridge, Bromyard.

PEDIGREE HEREFORD CATTLE.—One of the oldest herds extant. —Young bulls and heifers of the purest lineage and excellent quality for sale.—J. R. HILL, Orleton Court, R.S.O., Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton, Williton, Taunton, breeder of pure breed Devon cattle. Breeding animals always on sale; some are prize-takers, others deep flesh, good form animals of the best milking strains and beef producers.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

DALMENY PARK ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

OSENTON, GEORGE, Mariners, Westerham.—Pedigree Aberdeen-Angus Cattle.

JERSEYS.

HEASELANDS HERD of PEDIGREE JERSEYS, COWS and HEIFERS of the best blood at moderate prices.—Pedigrees, etc., on application to the owner, WALTER LLOYD, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.

ILMINSTER HERD PEDIGREE JERSEYS. — Choice about 100 finest quality Cows and Heifers, in profit and calving all seasons; prices moderate; inspection invited; shipper to all parts.—R. WHEADON, Ilminster.

BLACK POLLED.

BLUNT, H. LAYTON, Orton Longueville, Peterborough.—Breeder of Black Polled Cattle. BULLS and HEIFERS for sale, also GRAZING STEERS.

PIGS.

BERKSHIRE.

SMITH, C. C., Kingstone Common, Wantage.—Pedigree Berkshire BOARS and GILTS for Sale. Eligible for Herd Book.

PIGS (*contd.*).

BERKSHIRES.

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Continued from front page.

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ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL,
ISLINGTON, LONDON.
OCTOBER 9, 10, 11, and 12, 1900.

The Great Northern Railway Company will convey Exhibits for above Show from Inverness, Aberdeen, Perth, Dundee, Oban, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Berwick, Newcastle, Sunderland, Durham, Darlington, West Hartlepool, Whitby, Scarboro', York, Harrogate, Hull, Goole, Blackburn, Accrington, Burnley, Oldham, Rochdale, Brighouse, Huddersfield, Mirfield, Keighley, Halifax, Bradford, Leeds, Batley, Dewsbury, Wakefield, Pontefract, Doncaster, Liverpool, Warrington, Manchester, Stockport, Barnsley, Rotherham, Sheffield, Worksop, Retford, Newark, Burton, Derby, Ilkeston, Nottingham, Grantham, Grimsby, Gainsboro', Lincoln, Louth, Horncastle, Sleaford, Boston, Spalding, Yarmouth, Cromer, Norwich, Lynn, Sutton Bridge, Wisbech, Peterboro', Huntingdon, Sandy, Cambridge, Hitchin, Dunstable, Luton, Hertford, St. Albans, and other towns on and in connection with their system.

Through Vans for the conveyance of Exhibits will be run to King's Cross wherever necessary.

☞ Rates for conveyance of the traffic may be obtained on application to any Great Northern Station-master or agent, and they will in no case exceed those in force by any other route.

Arrangements will be made for the return of Exhibits, etc., at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors should be careful to mark the address labels "Per Great Northern Railway."

A Great Northern Company's representative will be in attendance at all Shows, prepared to give all information as to train service, etc.

Cheap excursions will be run to London (King's Cross), for this Show, from the principal towns on, and in connection with, the Great Northern system. For full particulars, see bills, to be obtained at the various stations and agencies.

Holloway and King's Cross Stations on the Great Northern Railway are the nearest stations to the Royal Agricultural Hall.

CHARLES STEEL,
General Manager.

LONDON & NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

DAIRY SHOW.
TO BE HELD AT THE
AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON,
OCTOBER 9th to 12th, 1900.

For the convenience of Exhibitors at the above Show, the London and North-Western Railway Company have made arrangements for Through Vans for the conveyance of Exhibits to be run to London on Monday, October 8th, by the Trains leaving—

Carlisle	at	8.30 a.m.
Liverpool (Lime Street)	„	12. 0 noon.
Manchester (London Road)	„	12. 0 „
Shrewsbury	„	12.35 noon.
Wolverhampton	„	1.35 p.m.
Birmingham (New Street)	„	2.10 „
Northampton	„	3.37 „

These will be in addition to the Vans running regularly on the Through Trains to London.

Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, &c., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the Show.

Rates for the conveyance of Exhibits, which in no case exceed those charged by any other route, can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line.

Arrangements will also be made for the return of the traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors wishing to avail themselves of these facilities are requested to order their consignments "Per London and North-Western Railway."

Exhibitors are requested to be careful to write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.

The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer inquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey. All information can be obtained of MR. ROBERT TURNBULL, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; the Company's District Superintendents, MR. J. GROOM, Euston Station, London; or MR. R. F. CASTLEMAN, Broad Street Station, E.C.

FRED. HARRISON, General Manager.
General Manager's Office,
Euston Station, London, N.W.
September 26, 1900.

LONDON & NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

KENNEL CLUB'S "CENTURY" DOG SHOW,
TO BE HELD AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE,
OCTOBER 16 to 18, 1900.

For the convenience of Exhibitors at the above Show, the London and North-Western Railway Company have made arrangements for Through Vans for the conveyance of Dogs, to be run to the Crystal Palace on Monday, October 15, by the trains leaving—

Carlisle	at	8.30 a.m.
Liverpool (Lime Street)	„	12. 0 noon.
Manchester (London Road)	„	12. 0 „
Shrewsbury	„	12.35 „
Wolverhampton	„	1.35 p.m.
Birmingham (New Street)	„	2.10 „
Northampton (Castle)	„	3.37 „

These will be in addition to the Vans running regularly on the Through Trains to London.

Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, etc., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the Crystal Palace.

Rates for the conveyance of Dogs, which in no case exceed those charged by any other route, can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line.

Arrangements will also be made for the return of the Traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors wishing to avail themselves of these facilities are requested to order their consignments "Per London and North-Western Railway."

Exhibitors are requested to be careful to write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.

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FRED. HARRISON, General Manager.
General Manager's Office,
Euston Station, London, N.W.
September 24, 1900.

HALL'S
SANITARY
WASHABLE
DISTEMPER
(PATENTED)

A NEW SANITARY WATER PAINT,

HAS GREAT ADVANTAGES,
SOME OF WHICH ARE AS FOLLOWS:—

It sets hard, Kills Vermin, and Disinfects.

It is washable in 3 weeks, does not scale, and can be Painted or Varnished. Made in two qualities, for inside and outside work.

It is made in Dark Rich Shades as well as in Light Tints, contains no Lead, and does not Turn Black.

It only requires the addition of Water to make it ready for use, so that anybody can apply it.

It is Cheaper, Cleaner, Healthier, and more Artistic than Wall Paper.

It makes an excellent Shading for Greenhouses, the inside quality lasting about 9 months, the outside quality several years

Sold by Leading Chemists, Drysalters, and Ironmongers, and Manufactured by—
SISSONS BROS. & Co., LTD.,
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Used on the Royal Farms and by Large Flockmasters everywhere.

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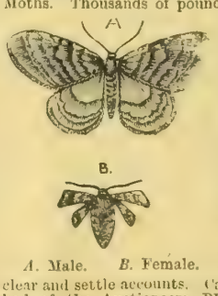
HORNE'S FRUIT TREE DRESSING has stood the test of 12 years as the best remedy for capturing the Caterpillas Moths. Thousands of pounds' worth of fruit has been saved by its use that otherwise would have been lost if left to the ravages of the caterpillar pest. Invaluable. Write at once for pamphlet, post free. Please note, A GREAT FRUIT TREE SALE of 200,000 TREES will take place, on the premises, Oct. 10 & 11. One month allowed to clear and settle accounts. Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneers, PROTHEROE and MORRIS, 67, Cheapside, London; or, Messrs. HORNE and SONS, Cliffe, Rochester Kent.



A. Male. *B.* Female.

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PATENT
CATTLE WEIGHBRIDGES
FOR AUCTIONEERS, FARMERS, &c.
Sole Makers: HENRY POOLEY & SON,
Ltd., Weighing Machine Makers,
ALBION FOUNDRY, LIVERPOOL.
Branches at London, Newcastle, Manchester, Newport, Derby, Glasgow, and Birmingham. Weighbridges readily and cheaply converted into cattle Machines.

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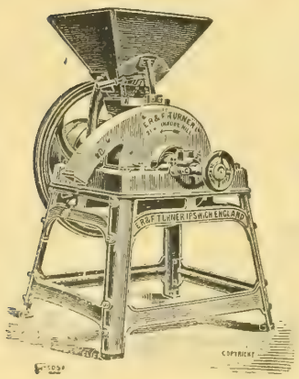
THE POTATO:
IN FIELD AND GARDEN.
BY W. J. MALDEN,

London: "MARK LANE EXPRESS" OFFICE, 1, ESSEX ST., STRAND.

THE
"INKOOS" MILL
IS THE
"Best Grinding Mill in the World,"



Having beaten Messrs. Corbett's Mill and been awarded
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SOLE MAKERS:
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Best are Cheapest.
J. RANDS & JECKELL'S COVERS
FOR WAGGONS, ENGINES, AND MACHINES

Are guaranteed Rot-Proof and Waterproof. Experience has proved them to be "The Best in the Market."

It will answer your purpose to procure Samples, Prices, and Testimonials before placing order elsewhere.

Any size to order made up complete with Brass Eyelets and Cords. Quality A, 2/6; B, 3/-; C, 3/6 per sq. yard.

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By Special Royal Warrant to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales

Under the Distinguished Patronage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the largest Wheat Growers in the King

D. CLARKE'S Carbolized
WHEAT PROTECTOR.

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BEST AND CHEAPEST DRESSING FOR SEEDS.

In use in England for OVER FIFTY YEARS, and is now being used extensively in the Colonies of Australia, New Zealand, and Central Africa.

A 9d. PACKET DRESSES 8 BUSHELS OF SEED.

This specific takes the place of Bluestone, and by its use the Seed is strongly carbolized and is protected both by the smell and taste from being eaten by birds and other pests. The seed also germinates quicker by its use.

Numerous Testimonials have been received, testifying that the "PROTECTOR"

Prevents Smut in Wheat, Oats, and Barley.
Prevents Destruction of Seed by Birds or Worms.
Seed germinates a fortnight earlier.
Saves a quarter bushel of Seed per acre.

SOLE MANUFACTURER:
G. B. CLARKE, Manufacturing Chemist, Woburn, Beds
May be obtained from Chemists, Seedsmen, and Corn Merchants.

SOWING
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UNDER THE SPECIAL PATRONAGE OF

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN,
H.R.H. THE LATE PRINCE CONSORT,
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES,
And Patronised by the Principal Noblemen, Landowners, & Agriculturists in the Kingdom.

DOWN'S FARMERS' FRIEND
(CARBOLISED)

Has stood the test of upwards of 60 years, and is acknowledged to be the safest and most effectual preventive of

SMUT IN WHEAT,
BARLEY, OATS, &c.,

The Ravages of the Slug, Grub, and Wireworm, and the incursions of Rooks and Vermin.

It will also promote the Germination and Growth of Seed Wheat, and Increase the produce of the Crop equal to a change of Seed.

A Ninepenny Packet is sufficient for Six Bushels of Seed Wheat, which can be dressed and fit to sow in a quarter of an hour.

Manufactory: WOBURN SANDS, BEDS.

MACKINDER'S PORRIDGE MEAL
FOR WEANING CALVES.

Price 11s. per cwt., free at all Stations.

See directions for use. Testimony from every county.

Wm. Joscelyn, Esq. (Suffolk), writes:—"I find my calves do better on your Porridge Meal than anything I have ever used."

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12th Year of Competition.

To Farmers and Growers of Barley.

MESSRS.

GILSTRAP, EARP & CO.,
MALTSTERS,
OF
NEWARK-ON-TRENT,

Are again prepared to award

PRIZES AMOUNTING TO
£50
IN VALUE OR IN CASH,

To the Farmers whose BARLEY, bought by them direct, is delivered in the best condition as regards Dressing and

FREEDOM FROM BROKEN AND PEELED CORNS.

FIRST PRIZE, £25; SECOND, £15; THIRD, £10.

Samples of every delivery of not less than 25 Quarters bought between

OCTOBER 10th, 1900,
AND
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will be kept, and comparison made, and disinterested judgment secured for awarding the Prizes.

MALTINGS AT NEWARK, RETFORD, GRANTHAM, GRIMSBY, AND FLEETBORO'.

NEWARK, September, 1900.

MOLASSINE

— FOOD FOR —

HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, and PIGS.

Replacing an Equal Quantity of Fodder.

A STAPLE FOOD AND CONDIMENT COMBINED.

Annual Consumption:—

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It is adopted throughout

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and during the few months it has been on the Market in the United Kingdom it has met with a most favourable reception, which is evidenced by the many Repeat Orders we are daily receiving, and assurances of its permanent adoption.

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36 to 40 per cent. of **Sugar,** and is a combination of **Sugar, Treacle,** or **Syrup with Vegetable substances.** It is guaranteed to consist exclusively of natural organic materials. The vegetable ingredients **entirely overcome** the disadvantages of the use of sugar products.

The **sweet taste** of Molassine gives a welcome **relish** to the usual fodder, which becomes **perfectly chewed** and **digested;** the best proof of this is that the mangers of the most **delicate-feeding** horses are **quite cleared.**

Molassine is a special preventive **against gripe, diarrhœa** and similar diseases.

Sugar has a very soothing effect upon the mucous membrane, therefore Molassine acts as a preventive against cough.

RESULTS OF FEEDING WITH MOLASSINE.

Strength, Highest Working Power. It Stimulates the Appetite. Improves Digestion. Gripe and Diarrhœa Completely Disappear. The Horses Look Well and Get Smooth Glossy Coats.

For Samples and Prices apply to

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BIBBY'S
"CREAM EQUIVALENT" for CALVES.

An Ounce of Fact is worth a Ton of Theory.

A STRIKING FACT.

In our spring number of "Bibby's Quarterly" we reproduced the photographs of two groups of Calves which are now being reared at The Hornby House Farm, Bedale, Yorks, by his Grace The Duke of Leeds.

One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."

We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 7% Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

445 selected the "Cream Equivalent" fed Calves as having been fed on New Milk.

We think the above striking FACT speaks volumes for "Cream Equivalent."

The "Cream Equivalent" can be had at 15s. per cwt., carriage paid to nearest station.

SOLE MANUFACTURERS:—

J. BIBBY & SONS,
Exchange Chambers, Liverpool.

ALFRED MANSELL & CO.,
LIVE STOCK AGENTS AND EXPORTERS
SHREWSBURY.

BREEDING & FEEDING SHEEP.—Shropshire Rams and Lambs (all classes) supplied at *lowest rates*, also rams and lambs of other breeds Shropshire, Clun, Kerry, and Welsh Wethers and Lambs for feeding purposes, bought on Commission.

WINTERING CATTLE.—Hereford, Shorthorn, Polled Angus, Blue Grey, and Welsh Bullocks and Heifers can be supplied on favourable terms.

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Specialities: Shropshire and Clun Sheep, Hereford and Polled Angus Cross-bred Cattle.

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LEARNER'S PATENT FOOT-ROT CURE.

Leaves the hoof soft and pliable.
3/- & 10/- per tin. Four 3/- or 10/- Carr. Free.
ALFRED J. LEARNER, REDHILL, Surrey.

THE MOST NUTRITIOUS

EPPS'S
GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.
COCOA
BREAKFAST—SUPPER.

NO CURE! NO PAY!!
G. F. DAWES'

Is the only Guaranteed Cure for Lame Sheep, leaves the hoof and feet soft and healthy. Price 3s. and 1s. 6d. In Brown Pots only, sufficient to dress 50 Sheep and Lambs.

Trial Pot free from the Manufactory.

SCAB IN SHEEP CURED IN ONE DIPPING.
NO CURE, NO PAY.
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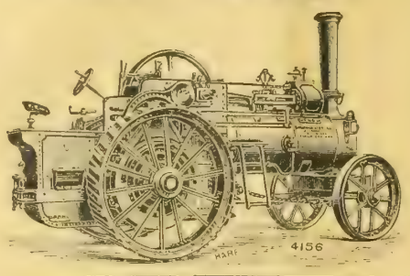
RANSOMES, SIMS & JEFFERIES,

MANUFACTURE LTD.,

THE BEST THRASHING MACHINERY,

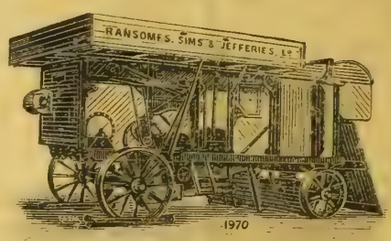
TRACTION ENGINES.



THESE Engines are well proportioned, simple, and easy to manage, and are suitable for drawing and working Thrashing Machinery, for Steam Cultivation, Sawing, Pumping, etc.

FINISHING THRASHING MACHINES SUPPLIED TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN AND H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.

These Machines produce a perfectly uniform sample of full-size grain, free from tail corn, and make all the usual separations in the most perfect manner.



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CONSTITUTION BALLS

Testimonial.

Burgh-by-Sands, Carlisle.

Having used Cupiss' Constitution Balls for over 20 years, I have always found them exceedingly useful for purifying the blood and keeping in excellent condition.

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HORSES — For Grease Swelled Legs, Cracked Heels, Coughs, Colds, Sore Throats, Disordered Liver, Broken Wind, Influenza, Loss of Appetite, &c., &c.

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CALF REARING.

To rear Calves economically and profitably use SILCOCK'S SOLUBLE CALF MEAL. Thousands of Calves are reared on it annually; it is a true milk substitute, is very easily digested, dissolves at once in water, gives least trouble in preparing, does not scour, is very economical in use, as one pint makes one gallon of thick gruel, and it fits early for cake feeding. It contains about 80 per cent. of soluble feeding digestible ingredients, while in milk, butter-milk, and whey the figures stand at 12½, 9, and 6 per cent. respectively. With the minimum of cost and trouble SILCOCK'S CALF MEAL gives the maximum results. Use SILCOCK'S SOLUBLE CALF MEAL, feed regularly, in right quantity and at correct temperature and you will have little trouble in rearing paying calves.

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Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

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GARTON'S "RED KING" WHEAT,
Price 5 Guineas per Quarter of 504 lbs.

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Price 5 Guineas per Quarter of 504 lbs.

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Price 21s. per Bushel of 56 lbs.

Also Thousand Headed Kale, Trifolium, Italian Rye Grass, and all other kinds of seeds for Autumn sowing. Descriptive priced catalogue free on application.

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"VESTA" Milk Meal for CALVES?

Read what others say:

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☞ **GIVE IT A TRIAL.**
Price 12/6 per cwt. delivered.

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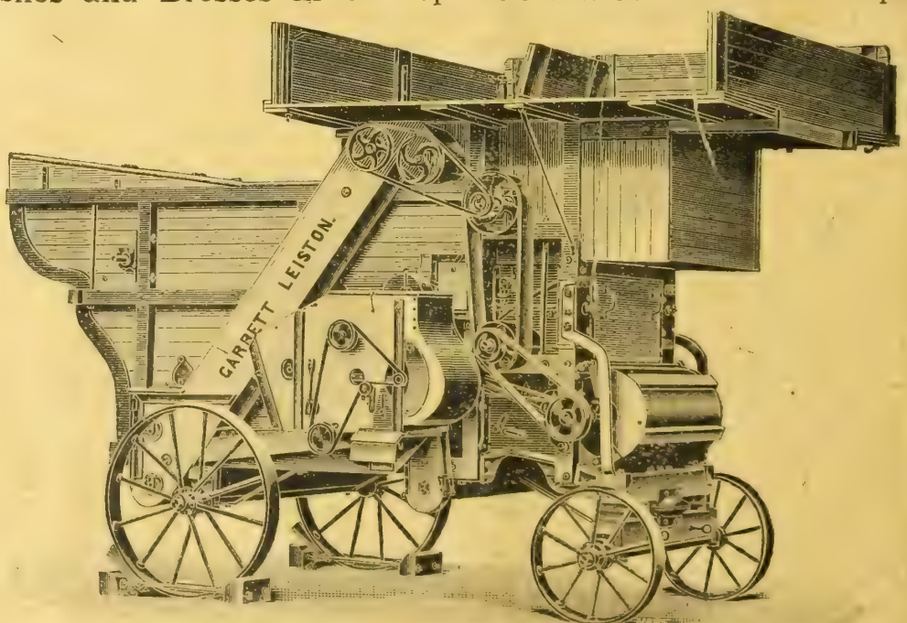
Threshes and Dresses in one operation with marvellous rapidity.



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New and Improved varieties of

SEED CORN

Webbs' New "Mont Blanc" Wheat,
12s. 6d. per bushel. Sow 2 bshls per acre.

Webbs' New Standard Red Wheat.
10s. 6d. per bushel. Sow 2 bshls per acre.

Webbs' New White Queen Wheat
9s. 6d. per bushel. Sow 2 bshls. per acre.

Webbs' New Hardy Winter Black Oat
7s. per bushel. Sow 3 to 4 bshls. per acre.

For full particulars of these and other varieties see WEBB'S CORN CATALOGUE, gratis and post free.

WEBB & SONS,
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R. W. COOLD & CO.,
London, Carlis'e, Drumburgh. Estd. 50 years.

CHIEF OFFICES:
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TO FARMERS.—Before buying elsewhere ascertain what we can do for you.

High-grade Manures, Guanos, Phosphates, Bones, Nitrate of Soda, Sulphate Ammonia, Potash, Sheep Dips, Disinfectants, Insecticides, Feeding Cakes, Farm Implements and Machinery, Seeds, etc., etc.

For full information apply to above address.

FOOT-ROT.

STRAWSON'S
CELEBRATED
FOOT-ROT OINTMENT.
Effectual—Speedy—Permanent.

Used by the chief Ram Breeders and Flockmasters in the Kingdom.

IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF. TRY IT.

May be had through any Chemist; or will be sent post free at the rate of 1s. per tin, 20s. per case of two dozen tins (not less than a case at the latter rate), by the Sole Proprietor,
G. STRAWSON, Chemist, Bishop's Castle.

ASHWORTH'S
Feeding Cakes.

ASHWORTH OIL CAKE.

"A very valuable Cake for fattening purposes."—Dr. T. WILLIAMS, F.C.S., M.S.C.I., etc.

THE ASHWORTH FEEDING CAKE.

"I consider this Cake to be of sterling quality for Dairy Cattle."—Dr. T. WILLIAMS, F.C.S., M.S.C.I., etc.

The Oil Cake is far cheaper than the best English Linseed Cakes, and will give as good results, using weight for weight, for fattening Cattle. Nothing surpasses the Ashworth Cake for producing rich quality in Milk and Butter.

PURE ENGLISH DECORTICATED COTTON CAKE.

Best quality and value on the Market.

ASHWORTH'S LEGACY CALF FOOD.
A perfect Cooked Food.

ASHWORTH'S RELIABLE CALF MEAL.
Contains all the requirements to substitute milk. Thousands of Calves reared on this Meal annually.

Condiment, Pig Food, and all other kinds of Cakes and Feeding Stuffs.

Manufacturers of all kinds of Manures to any standard.

Write to ASHWORTH'S, Ltd., Oil Cake Mills, Bone and Manure Works, Frodsham Bridge, via Warrington, for samples, testimonials, etc.

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Frank Miller's
HARNESS COMPO.
Larger Box, better value than any other make, does more work with less labour, blacks, oils, and finishes with one application. Suitable for all parts of heavy harness. Saddle Soap, Axle Oil, Hoof Dressing, Harness Oil.

Frank Miller's Peerless Shoe Blacking
Shines like Diamonds.

FRANK MILLER'S BLACK WAX POLISH
A Liquid Blacking for Box Calf.

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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal.

The Only English Journal devoted exclusively to Agriculture.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

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THE GENERAL ELECTION.

We are now in what the daily Press describes as "the throes of a general election." What does this mean to the farmer and the landlord? The matter is of the most serious import to both, but it needs a few words to explain it. We have explained more than once when a general election has happened that from the strictly agricultural point of view the farmer ought to have a policy, but that he ought not to have any politics. "Policy" and "politics" are very different things. Nowadays there are many political parties, although in the old days there were only two. It does not matter what a party is called: all we have to do is to find out what it does. It must be remembered that what it does is a very different matter to what is promised, although many people seem to quite overlook that fact. There is no wonder that the farmer who takes the trouble to show an intelligent interest in the doings of the Legislature—and, unfortunately, too few do—comes to the conclusion that there is no political party that will really help him to face the many difficulties that meet him at every turn. Throughout the whole of the present century the farmer has been made the plaything of the politician. All parties have made promises to him; but no party has fulfilled them. He has been told over and over again that his grievances were to be dealt with; in fact, that they were to be placed in the front rank of legislation, but that has been all. We do not pretend to say that one political party is any better or worse than another; but we do say that they are much alike as far as the interests of agriculture are concerned. They have simply made promises in a way which has been just as lavish as their performances have been mean.

There is no good, however, in dwelling on past performances; we had much better look to the future. What is to be done? The proper course is for every farmer to refuse to vote for every candidate who will not give some definite pledge that he will see to the interests of the suffering agriculturist — whether landlord or tenant—and endeavour to promote legislation with such an object. As to what should be done, there is much to be said, and there may be much difference of opinion upon the subject; but there cannot be the least doubt that something ought to be done. For example, the question of unfair foreign competition is one which is well worth attention, and it is one which is quite apart from that of Protection. Then, again, the railways have much to answer for, and the unreasonable way in which they favour foreign produce is a matter to which Parliament might well give some attention. Again, it is by no means certain that the laws relating to contagious diseases of animals are anything like as perfect as they might be. Then the new Agricultural Holdings Act is so far from perfect that there is no wonder that some farmers are beginning to say that it would have been better unpassed. There are also other reforms required, such as have been indicated by the Central Chamber of Agriculture, and also by various other bodies who have a right to speak on behalf of agricultural interests. We cannot go into every point at once, for the ground is wide and the grievances are many; but we can safely say that it will pay the farmer better to consider the candidates who ask for his vote from the point of view of the agriculturist rather than from that of the party politician. If the farmer would assert himself he could become the greatest power in the land. It is a pity that he will not do so.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

The export trade in agricultural seeds from Great Britain to New Zealand, formerly of considerable importance, has dwindled almost to vanishing point. In fact, the balance is probably the other way at present. A gentleman largely interested in the trade states that, whereas his firm, four years ago, shipped 100 tons of grass and clover seeds, valued at £8,000, to New Zealand, the quantity going out through them this year is so trivial as to be unworthy of mention. The Colony, he says, is now growing all the white clover, timothy, and other grass seeds it requires, and has, moreover, established quite a flourishing export trade to this country in cow grass seed. The New Zealand growth of this variety is in great and growing esteem here, and sells readily at 70s. in London. There is also a variety of fescue grass seed, known as Chewing's, grown in the Colony, which appears likely to come into general favour here on account of the rapidity with which it forms a close, even turf, suitable for lawns, cricket pitches, bowling greens, and the like.

While the wool industry in Europe has been disorganised by the collapse of the speculation at the end of last year, and the consequent difficulties of the speculators, the high prices then obtained (the *Statist* tells us) have helped materially to revive business in Australia. It will be recollected that European houses, and more particularly Continental houses, sent out agents in exceptionally large numbers to Australia in the latter part of last year, and that they bought wool on a great scale. Then followed the eager purchasing at our own December sales, when the speculation culminated. The great prices obtained during the last three or four months of last year gave extraordinary results. We have heard of one case in which, from a certain property where the sales never previously brought in more than £8,500, last year they gave nearly half as much again. Part of the increase was due to a better clip. But the larger part was the result of the extraordinary prices obtained. And this is only a single instance typical of what took place on much larger properties and over vast areas. Much, therefore, of the losses which the European trade has suffered have gone to enrich the flock-owners of Australia and Argentina; and that enrichment is one of the causes of the marked revival that is taking place in our Colonies.

Considerable amusement, I am told, was caused at a political meeting in the Sleaford Division last week by one of the speakers declaring that he was strongly in favour of beer being brewed from pure "malt and mops."

It is officially announced that, according to reports of the Prefects, the French wheat harvest for the year 1900 is estimated at 109,025,960 hectolitres; meteil (mixture of rye and wheat 3,732,790 hectolitres; and rye, 22,393,320 hectolitres (one hectolitre equals 2¾ bushels).

Mr. Walter Long, President of the Board of Agriculture, who was to have attended the Agricultural Conference in Glasgow next week, has forwarded a telegram expressing regret that he cannot be present.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to September 22nd, 1900, were £48,051,601 against £48,177,660 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £3,919,173. The net expenditure was £81,919,407 against £49,514,308 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on September 22nd, 1900,

amounted to £2,302,540, and at the same date in 1899 to £4,573,245.

The Revenue returns for the past quarter show a net increase of £1,797,389, compared with the corresponding period last year. As there was a decrease of £1,144,372 in the previous quarter, the net increase upon the first half of the financial year is £653,017. In the past quarter the increases include £744,133 from Customs, £650,000 from Excise, £280,000 from Property and Income Tax, £260,776 from Estate Duties, and £150,000 from the Post and Telegraph Service. There was a diminution of £250,000 from Stamps. The total revenue for the quarter was £27,213,377, of which £1,901,222 was paid to local taxation account.

I notice that Professor Long is addressing audiences on behalf of the Unionist candidates in the five agricultural constituencies—Launceston, Bodmin, Truro, Camborne, and Tavistock in Devon and Cornwall, having been asked to place his services at the disposal of the Liberal Unionist party. I think it is a pity that we have not agricultural speakers all over the country, for the electors really know little or nothing about the subjects which are of greatest importance to farmers.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

I have visited four agricultural districts during this contest, and I am bound to make this confession: Not once have I heard one of the subjects referred to in the statement issued by the Central Chamber of Agriculture to the local chambers. It is idle to disguise this fact, and it would be criminal of me if I failed to enforce the lesson to be deduced from it. The men most concerned in the vitality, the success, and the future of agriculture are absolutely disregarding it as an electoral question.

How many addresses of rival candidates refer to that most crucial and significant of all questions, local taxation, and to the desirability of providing an uniform assessment? How many have referred to the grave injustice of giving preferential rates to foreign produce? How many have declared that they will demand compensation for tuberculous animals slaughtered in the public interest? I have read twenty addresses at the very least, and I do not remember one that has even revealed the most distant interest in these problems.

The agricultural voter is, in fact, pursuing that old policy which the MARK LANE EXPRESS can at least declare that it has stoutly faithfully condemned—the policy of unselfishness. In politics unselfishness is not far removed from insanity. It means the renunciation of yourself to the advantage of somebody not half so deserving. It means a readiness to allow yourself to be disregarded by the makers of statecraft. To take a back seat may be a desirable thing as an indication of personal modesty. In the political world it shows little wisdom. I know my local chamber of agriculture. I know that as a debating assembly of academic themes it is sometimes admirable. But how many of them will approach the political candidates with the admirable questions which have been so clearly and succinctly outlined by the secretary of the Central Chamber? Will a dozen local chambers go to the trouble? I doubt it.

I will take the more purely rural constituencies which will poll this week for the purpose of enforcing my moral. These be South Derbyshire, the Maldon division of Essex, the Watford division of Hertfordshire, North Hunts, South Hunts, the Melton division of Leicestershire, the Sleaford division of Lincolnshire, South Norfolk, Mid-Northamptonshire, Rutlandshire, the Newport division of Shropshire, Chichester, the Appleby division of Westmoreland, the Abingdon division, the Aylesbury division, the Wirral division, the Honiton division, the Ilkeston division, North Dorset, South-West, East, and Mid Kent, the Hornsastle division, South Monmouth, East Norfolk, East Northamptonshire, the Henley division, the Oswestry division, the Wells division, Stowmarket, Nuneaton, Stratford-on-Avon and Tamworth, Devizes, West Worcestershire, the Holmfirth and Richmond divisions of Yorkshire, Chelmsford, the Thornbury division, and the Lewes division.

Now, these be the divisions whose present and future, whose every hope, is concerned in the welfare of agriculture. If agriculture fail, then these districts relapse into desuetude and misery, into non-success and failure. Yet in neither of those constituencies has any of the questions propounded by the Central Chamber been even suggested.

Of course, I cannot say that the election was altogether sprung upon us. It is true that I could not bring myself to believe that the country gentlemen in the Cabinet would allow themselves to be coerced into following a policy which I am persuaded their better judgment did not approve. Yet it is the fact that the majority of the people of this country believed that an election was close upon us; and it is a fact, too, that the ordinary political and electoral organisations had prepared for it. I know nothing of the immediate circumstances, but it is certain that in many constituencies the suggestions of the Central Chamber must be absolutely unavailing. It will be impossible to even call the local chambers together in time to allow of the questioning of the candidates. Political manifestoes are splendid, a desire to concentrate a clear attention upon agricultural necessities is better; but it would be more practical to see to it that the manifestoes intended to influence public attention are issued in time.

What is my view, it may be asked, as to the general result of the election? The Radicals will win a few of the urban seats. This is due to the fact that the miserable spirit of incohesion and rivalry which wrecked the party at the last election does not prevail in so strident a character even at this election. The Radicals will, so far as I can see, make no headway in the rural districts. Their philippics against the maladministration of the war, against the tragic mistake which led to so many deaths, and to the maiming all unnecessarily of so many men, have not penetrated to the villages. I will not say that the Mafficking-spirit has so piquant an expression there as it had; but it is certain that the revulsion of feeling created in the big towns by the knowledge of the administrative muddling and bungling has not so definite a character in the villages, simply because the facts which were the parents of that revulsion have not penetrated in all their appalling force to the rural parts of the country. The village-vote will be a patriotic vote. A patriotic vote, alas! will permit of little heed being given to the necessity of the villages or to the necessities of farming.

What has struck me in this election is not merely the indifference of the farmers to their own interests, but the fact that the farmers have agreed to this indifference so readily as to induce the candidates to think they are absolutely acting in obedience to the rural desire. I have seen the county papers of twelve shires. I have noted the meetings in each. I have not perceived any disposition to heckle. There has been, in Mr. Bret Harte's classic phrase, "narry a heckle." Farmers would seem to have entered into an electoral conspiracy to harm themselves.

Of course, my readers will urge that I am repeating now what I have said a score of times. This may be true; but it is all the same the one lesson of the contest. Two appalling and even astounding facts have impressed me. They are—and I beg that I may be allowed to set them out in all the significance of separate paragraphs—

1. Statesmen in their manifestoes, and politicians in their speeches, have absolutely disregarded the interest of agriculture.

2. The farmers have readily acquiesced in this disregard.

I am half-inclined to paraphrase Ebenezer Elliott, and to prayerfully ask—

> When wilt thou save the farmers, Lord?
> O, God of Mercy, when?

The Board of Agriculture is right in advising the farmers that they can insure against the operation of the Act extending compensation for accidents to persons engaged in agriculture, and that the premium charged for the policies need not proceed beyond 3s. for every £100 of wages paid annually. This sum has been found to be sufficient even in a semi-dangerous industry—to wit, the mineral water industry.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Agriculture and the General Election.

The following letter has been addressed by the secretary of the Central Chamber of Agriculture to the local Chambers of Agriculture throughout the country:—

"Central Chamber of Agriculture,
"Broad Sanctuary Chambers, Westminster, S.W.,
"September 26th, 1900.

"Dear Sir,—In view of the General Election about to take place, the accompanying 'Statement of legislation required in the agricultural interest' has been prepared by the Business and Parliamentary Committees of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, in accordance with the terms of the resolution passed by the Council on the 29th May last.

"It must obviously rest with the local Chambers and other bodies associated with the Central Chamber throughout the country to decide as to the steps which it may be desirable to take with the view of bringing under the notice of Parliamentary candidates the various subjects mentioned. Following, however, the precedents set in connection with previous General Elections, it is suggested that at the forthcoming election it is expedient that a general effort should be made to secure, as far as possible, the return of representatives favourable to the views entertained by the Chambers on the questions included in the 'Statement.'—I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

"(Signed) ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary."

Statement of Legislation Required in the Agricultural Interest.

Prepared by the Business and Parliamentary Committees of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, in pursuance of the following resolution of the Council, dated May 29th, 1900:—"That authority be given to the Business and Parliamentary Committees to prepare from the previous resolutions of the Central Chamber a statement of the legislation required in the agricultural interest, and to issue such statement in the event of a General Election before the next meeting of the Council."

1. LOCAL TAXATION.
   (*a*) That a permanent and comprehensive measure be passed, giving adequate relief from the excessive and unfair burdens at present imposed upon agriculture.
   (*b*) That steps be taken to remedy the anomalies disclosed by the First Report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation of December 16th, 1898, and especially to provide one uniform assessment for all purposes, both Imperial and local.
2. RAILWAY RATES.
   (*a*) That the granting by railway companies of preferential rates and facilities for foreign produce be absolutely prohibited, and that the Board of Trade be empowered and instructed to enforce the law.
   (*b*) That more ready means be provided for obtaining the reduction of unreasonable rates on English produce.
3. TUBERCULOSIS.
   That in any legislation dealing with the important national question of tuberculosis, due provision be made for compensation in respect of tuberculous animals or carcases slaughtered or seized in the public interest.
4. COMPULSORY DIPPING OF SHEEP.
   That power be conferred upon the Board of Agriculture to order the compulsory dipping of sheep for the purpose of preventing and eradicating sheep scab.
5. BEER DUTIES AND BREWING MATERIALS.
   (*a*) That the beer duty be readjusted by a reduction in the duty charged on beer brewed only from barley-malt and hops; and that a like amount be added on beer containing any substitute for barley-malt and hops.
   (*b*) That brewers and publicans be compelled to declare the ingredients of their beer.
   (*c*) That effect be given to the suggestions contained in the Majority and Minority Reports of the Departmental Committee on Beer Materials, as to the insertion in the brewing books and in the information furnished in the Parliamentary Returns of separate columns for hops and hop-substitutes, and as to the publication of returns by brewers for sale and of the use of hop-substitutes.
6. SALE OF CORN.
   (*a*) That there be one uniform weight for the sale of corn.
   (*b*) That the highest and lowest prices of each kind of grain, in addition to the summary of the total quantities sold and the average prices of such grain, be published in the weekly returns now made by the Government officials at the statute markets of this country.
7. FRAUDULENT SALE OF FOREIGN MEAT.
   That in the interests of both producers and

consumers all retail vendors of imported dead meat be registered, and prominent notice of the fact displayed in every shop held by each person registered.

8. Damage to Crops by Sparks from Railway Engines.

That railway companies be rendered liable to pay compensation for damage done to growing crops, plantations, fences, etc., by fires caused by sparks from their engines, and thus in this respect be placed upon an equal footing with the owners of road locomotives.

9. Law of Trespass.

That the existing law of trespass, which is obsolete and ineffective, be amended, particularly in the direction of providing for the protection of products, which, though of natural growth, are of a marketable character.

10. Injuries to Farm Stock by Uncontrolled Dogs.

That steps be taken to prevent or secure compensation for sheep-worrying or other injuries inflicted upon farm stock by dogs, either by the enactment of the provisions of the Dogs Regulation Bill of last Session, or by other legislative means.

N.B.—The order in which the above subjects are printed does not necessarily involve an expression of opinion as to their relative importance.

The Sale of Poisons and the General Election.

Sir,—The following is a question which my Society (The Traders in Poisons or Poisonous Compounds for Technical or Trade Purposes Protection Society) is forwarding to be answered by each candidate at the coming General Election:—

"Are you prepared to support a Bill in Parliament making it legal that chemical compounds (although containing poisons) which are not for medicinal use nor intended for the preparation of medicine may be retailed by traders such as agricultural agents, seedsmen, nurserymen, corn dealers, iron and hardware dealers, and other tradesmen (including pharmacists) for any trade or technical purpose in original sealed packages as received from the wholesale dealer or manufacturer?"

I trust that your readers who are interested in the subject will use their best endeavours to also bring the question to the front.—Yours faithfully,

T. G. Dobbs, Secretary.

Offices: 5, Clement's Inn, Strand,
London, W.C., September 26th, 1900.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease—Agricultural Rating Act, etc.

Sir,—Our Board of Agriculture appears to believe that in consequence of so many isolated outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease, the malady must have existed in those localities some time before it was reported to the Department. If this most contagious malady had existed anywhere without any restriction, it would certainly have spread, whereas, thanks to the energetic action of the Board in applying immediate slaughter, all the recent outbreaks have hitherto been happily confined to the several farms where the disease originated. Had this policy been adopted in the primary outbreaks in Suffolk and Norfolk, similar success would probably have been obtained.

At Fritton, where the disease had not been known for over twenty years, it might be a valid excuse that neither master nor man were aware of the nature of the disease. But since the whole kingdom has been alarmed, it seems incredible that foot-and-mouth should exist without it being at once recognised. This raises the question, How did the germs of the disease come to be carried to such widespread localities as Yorks, North Wales, and Wilts? May it not be possible that as thousands of cattle from Argentina, in the worst stages of the disease, were allowed for six weeks after the malady was detected to land in this country the microbes multiplied to such an extent as to be carried somehow all over the country? Unless foot-and-mouth has a spontaneous origin in these islands (which I do not for one moment believe), the germination of millions of these bacteria within our shores must be a source of great and mysterious danger.

There was a report some time ago that the Minister of Agriculture would seek a seat in the new Parliament as M.P. for London. Whereupon the *City Press* asserted that it would never do for London to be represented by the head of the Agricultural Department. I do not see much difference in the great commercial cities—first Liverpool, and now Bristol—being represented by the President of the Board of Agriculture, but it does show how powerless the farming interest is to assert itself in Parliament when the most popular member of the Government in the House of Commons cannot find an agricultural constituency that will return him.

South Africa will be the main question that will be decided at this election, but we farmers should remember the Agricultural Rating Act (for which we have to thank Lord Salisbury's Government) soon expires, and we should withhold our support from any candidate who would not promise to uphold that measure, or some similar Act giving the farmer his just relief from local taxation. The towns should help us in insisting that foreign meat and other products should not be sold as British, and the working man ought to go in strongly for Sir Cuthbert Quilter's Pure Beer Bill.

Clare Sewell Read

Antiseptic Grain Storage.

Sir,—Business men are sometimes slow in making practical use of scientific discoveries, and although a large quantity of grain (and especially Argentine maize—that is shipped in apparent good condition, arrives in Europe heated and decayed, the real cause of this trouble does not seem to be studied according to the lights of modern science, nor is the fact that Indian peasants can keep their grain for many years in underground pits appreciated properly.

Some twenty-five years ago Pasteur demonstrated that fermentation does not result from the generation of gases, but from the action of living microbic organisms, and it is now known to bacteriologists that some 95 per cent. of the germs which cause fermentation in grain require oxygen (as well as a certain amount of heat and moisture) for their development, and it is also known that under favourable conditions their rate of increase is prodigious.

The vitality of these germs can be suspended by a sufficiently low temperature (as is done in refrigerator chambers for fresh meat—and although it is impracticable to apply cold storage to cargoes of grain, it should be easy to sterilise the air in the holds of a steamer sufficiently to retard fermentation, without causing any injury to the grain or to the crew, if suitable precautions are taken. On the other hand what is called "ventilation" of the holds is surely a grave error if Pasteur is right, and must assist fermentation just as the admission of fresh air assists combustion in a furnace.

It is interesting to note the arrival last week in London, free from weevils and in perfect condition, of a cargo of Argentine maize, which appears to have been treated antiseptically, and this has occurred at a time when all other Argentine maize cargoes are arriving in bad order, and when claims for damage during the voyage have been settled for some £12,000 in one week.

Attention has been called to this cargo because a grain sampler, who, without permission, removed the hatches of one of the holds and went down, became insensible, and died forty-eight hours afterwards from the effects of inhaling carbonic acid gas. Evidence was given at the inquest to the effect that the maize had been sprinkled during shipment with some chemical preparation, and that the holds had been kept closed during the voyage. A verdict of accidental death was given, but the jury censured the shippers for using chemicals, and the captain of the steamer for having allowed them to do so, and also for neglecting to ventilate the cargo, a verdict that may have unpleasant after consequences, because of precedents established by the rulings of judges.

About three years ago the owners of the ss. Bellasco were condemned to heavy damages because some of the hatches and ventilators were closed during the voyage, and many steamship owners immediately gave their captains notice that they must be able to prove that ventilation had been provided and used, notwithstanding any instructions to the contrary on the part of shippers of the cargo.

Chemists say that inexpensive compositions of a perfectly harmless nature in their after effects on human food can be used to sterilise an air chamber—that is, either to consume or drive out the oxygen contained in atmospheric air—and that their application to the holds of a steamer or to suitable warehouse silos would only need reasonable precautions; but it is very desirable that some joint action be taken by grain trade and steamship associations, not only to arrange for a careful study of the entire subject in order to ascertain what methods are safe and efficacious, but also to protect as far as possible from unfair legal penalties shippers and others who make the necessary experiments, because when juries or arbitrators have to decide on cases of death by misadventure or damage to produce, there is always a tendency to deal harshly with any departure from old methods.

The logical sequence of Pasteur's discovery should be a radical change in the method of storing grain and indeed nearly all other food products, and it would appear that the air in storage chambers, at sea or on land, can be more economically sterilised with carbonic acid gas than by any refrigerating process, and the subject being of national importance calls for proper investigation. Yours truly,

William Goodwin, of Buenos Ayres.

London, September 21st, 1900.

■ **The** immense wool warehouse of the Magasins Generaux Compagnie, Roubaix, France, has been totally destroyed by fire. **The** damage is estimated at nearly £200,000.

THE DAIRY.

Frome Cheese Fair.

The great autumn cheese fair at Frome was held in the Market Hall on Wednesday, the day of the Frome District Agricultural Society's Show, which took place near the town. Upwards of eighty tons were pitched but this is slightly below the average. The market was crowded as ever, and there was a large number of dealers, both old and from a distance, in attendance. The largest proportion on sale was Cheddars, and the quality was variable, consequently trade was not so brisk as was expected, and prices were 2s. to 4s. a cwt. less than quoted last month. Of heavy Cheddars sold from 54s. to 56s., a few fine lots, including some in the cheese for competition, realising from 60s. to 64s. Some cheese are now in manufacture, so as to be procurable; loaves were disposed of at from 50s. to 56s.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

The September Cheese Fair held at Whitchurch on Wednesday was well attended by buyers, and the pitch was a fair average one. Today's cheese were well up to the standard of late quality, and eagerly sought after by buyers, but those which were over-kept and of medium quality had to be sold at a reduction of 2s. to 3s. per cwt. The cause of this was an over-supply of cheese keeping their cheese for better prices, the cheese being of quality in the meantime. Prices were: 64s. to 70s.; medium and lower, from 50s. to 62s.

Molassine.

"Molassine" is the name of a combined food and condiment for horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs, which has just been introduced into this country, although for some time past largely used on the Continent, the annual consumption having within the short space of five years grown from 26,000cwt. to 1,200,000cwt. This fact speaks volumes for the feeding value of "Molassine," and owners of all classes of live stock would do well to obtain prices and particulars from the Molassine Company, Limited, 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C., who have just issued a pamphlet containing some excellent testimonials from well-known breeders after having given the preparation a trial with most satisfactory results. Expert opinions show from a hygienic point of view that the use of "Molassine" increases the appetite, aids digestion, and gives to the horse greater strength and working power. It is also recommended as a cure for colic, diarrhœa, etc., and from the nature of its ingredients improves the animal's general condition, imparting a smooth and glossy coat. "Molassine" is used in the stables of the Emperors of Germany, Russia, and Austria, and has also been adopted throughout the German Army. "Molassine" contains about 35 per cent. of sugar and nitrogenous and other digestible substances, in addition to the usual mineral matter contained in fodders, its comparative feeding value given in units being as follows:—Oats, 75.1; barley, 83.8; bran, 83.6; hay, 43.9; "Molassine" food, 85.29. "Molassine," which is a British manufactured article, should commend itself to owners of all classes of farm live stock, the present growing demand forecasting for it a prominent position amongst the many well-known animal-foods already in the market.

Market Weighton Fair.—The September Fair at Market Weighton took place on Tuesday, when there was a fair sprinkling of horned stock, and the sheep numbered more than for years past. There was a fair attendance of buyers, but the prices asked for grazing lambs was very high, and many were left unsold. Mr. John J. Kempley offered by auction a quantity of rams, ewes, and gimmer shearlings. The rams were from Mr. J. Thompson's (Wauldby) flock. Mr. J. Watson's ewes made 39s. to 42s.; thirty-five gimmer shearlings from Mr. C. Mitchell (Enthorpe), 47s. to 52s. each. Mr. Kempley disposed of thirty cross-bred grazing lambs from the Hasgrove Hall estate at prices ranging from 27s. to 32s. each. Mr. S. Sharp offered a quantity of sheep, which made the following prices:—Gimmers, 52s. 6d.; ewes, 25s. to 34s.; rams, £5 10s. to £6 each.

Stamford Bridge Fair.—A very large number of cattle and sheep changed hands at Stamford Bridge on the 22nd inst. During the afternoon a strike was noticed pending in a paddock at Bridge Farm, in the occupation of Mr. F. A. Vaizey, and in a very short time a considerable crowd had assembled. The fire had obtained a good hold of the stacks, and attention was instead turned to the buildings, which, with but a slight exception, and also fourteen stacks of wheat and barley, were saved. In all fourteen stacks were burned down, eleven of these consisting of wheat, barley, beans, etc., the other three being straw stacks. The cause of the fire is unknown, but as some men had been working in a field adjoining the stacks it is thought likely that some lighted matches may have done the mischief. The damage amounts to about £2,000, which is stated to be covered by insurance.

By LUPULIN.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

I do not know whether the election can be held entirely responsible for the uneventful character of the hop trade during the past week, but it is a fact that I am sorry to record that business has been very slow, and comparatively little interest is being manifested by buyers in the new crop. They are still looking after yearlings and paying full prices for them, but they are not making satisfactory offers for new hops, and it is generally admitted that hardly ever has the end of September arrived with the completion of so little business. Rightly, as I think, growers are firm in their demands. They know how general is the shortage of the yield, and they seem, this season, to be fully aware of the strength of the position they occupy with respect to the real value of their produce. It is therefore most described that they show no sign of weakness. If ever there were a season in which they were justified in holding out, it is certainly the present one. Intelligence from every quarter of the hop-growing world confirms and accentuates the estimates of small crops, and despite the independence arising from the possession of some stocks now being shown by brewers, they must be brought to market by the necessities of their future requirements, and it is unquestionable that as soon as they begin to operate the present and even the advanced views of growers will most certainly be gratified.

On Saturday last I found some indications which lead me to think that we shall hear of developments in the desired direction within a few days. There was more inquiry then had been previously met with. More readiness to entertain quotations was apparent, and I look for enlargement of this movement in the course of this week.

A Violent Attack

upon the Borough system of trading in hops appeared in an article on agriculture in the *Standard* last Tuesday. There was some truth in the writer's statements, but very much extravagant exaggeration. He described the methods of the trade as "atrociously bad" and "abominable," and made certain assertions with respect to the relationship existing between factors and merchants, the errors in which proved that he could not be fully conversant with the facts of the case.

I have consistently advocated the desirability of some changes in the system of business. For instance, I cannot understand the necessity for the intervention of two profit-making traders between the producer and consumer of hops, and still hope to see the time when the transfer of our produce will be more direct. The present system has, however, existed so long, and seems to be accepted as permanent and necessary, that we should rather try to see its advantages, and, where necessary, improve it by reasonable reforms.

All growers must admit that the factors are frequently very serviceable to them. There are cases, unfortunately, perhaps, too many, in which factors render great help in the way of financing their clients, and I have reason to believe that they do not usually exercise the power they thus gain to the detriment of the interests of growers. It would be better if all temptation in this direction were removed by the abolition of this system of advancement of money. But it is as it is, and is doubtless appreciated by those who need its help. In the matter of warehousing the present system is also convenient to growers, and I have no doubt that if factors' books were examined the balance between the rentals received and the expenses incurred would generally be found on the debit side. There are these good points to be found, and the factors deserve that they should be recognised.

The scale of remuneration should, I think, be put, in the interests of growers, on a different basis to the present. Their commission should be calculated by a percentage on the actual amount of the transaction, instead of, as now, being alterable by intervals of 20s. per cwt. in the price at which the hops are sold.

But whatever may be the objections to the system which now prevails in the Borough (and I do not for a moment suggest there are not some), it certainly does not call for such strong adjectives as I have quoted. I am sure there is not a reasonable grower who would endorse such expressions; therefore I feel impelled to protest against them, especially as having included them in the same paragraph in which the writer noticed the report of one Association, he appeared to make the N.A.E.H.G. responsible for them.

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interst and benefit to the members of the society*

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The activity that marked the opening of the trade in new hops, gave place during a few days to comparative quietude, during which quotations were slightly relaxed. But it has been succeeded this week by a resumption of demand, with the establishment of corresponding firmness in values. The present tendency of the market is towards higher prices, but its future course depends almost entirely upon the stocks held by breweries, concerning which there appears to be some difference of opinion. From the information which reached me before the picking commenced, I was convinced that the reserves at the command of brewers were exceptionally small; recently I have been told that they are well supplied, and that for this reason they can control the market according to their wishes. The course of business thus far hardly supports this latter view, and, therefore, I am inclined to believe that this statement does not possess sufficient value to affect the outlook for a gradually hardening market, this condition being generally expected.

The Latest Quotations

for best qualities at first cost are given as follows:—Marktwaare, 80s. to 90s.; Hallertaus, 100s. to 115s.; Wolnzachs, 100s. to 125s.; Wurtembergs, 105s. to 115s.; Spalts, 115s. to 130s.; Saaz, 140s. to 150s.; Badens, 95s. to 120s.; Alsace, 85s. to 100s. per cwt.

"Le Bulletin des Halles,"

an important Parisian journal devoted to agricultural market matters, quotes from a German authority, which estimates the world's crop this year at 1,940,000cwts., being nearly half a million cwts. in excess of the estimate of our English Hop-growers' Association. But this total is arrived at by making the English and Belgian crops much larger than they turn out to be, and by a somewhat extravagant estimate of the yield in America. The *Bulletin* is not able to confirm this high figure, which certainly surpasses all the calculations I have yet examined, and the hop contributor of the French journal adopts as more correct the medium total of 1,746,000cwts. Even if this latter figure be realised, a marked and serious deficiency on the present year must be evident, as it is admitted by most of those best qualified to judge, that the world's consumption will exceed two million cwts., and that after making full allowances for the unused surplus of the 1899 crop there can only be sufficient available hops to meet the requirements of consumers, while it is more than possible that before the next crop is gathered there may be an absolute dearth of supply. Therefore I fail to discern any reason for the anticipation of lower prices, and can only argue from the present aspect of affairs that in every hop market values must necessarily be enhanced as the season progresses.

Belgium.

The speculative market on the Brussels Bourse has receded about 2½ francs this week, and in consequence of this "bear" pressure growers, who were compelled to sell, have been obliged to lower their demands. There are sellers now on the Bourse at 80 francs, and buyers at 77½. But in the country districts values are somewhat higher, being 85 francs in Poperinghe and 80 francs in Alost. Considering the very limited yield which the completion of the harvest has disclosed, and the generally excellent quality of the later pickings, I am prepared to hear of a reaction from the present retrograde movement. When the "bears" have been satisfied, they will probably change their tactics and appear upon the scene as "bulls," pushing quotations upward. It is an unfortunate fact that the Belgian hop trade is so much at the mercy of these gamblers, who control and manipulate prices at their pleasure, regardless of the actual value of the commodity.

Burgundy.

The crop being a very small one, and the average quality being quite satisfactory, prices are steadily advancing, and now stand at 100 to 110 francs for 50 kilos, with a distinct tendency towards further improvement.

America.

A very firm tone characterises the New York market, and the values of both old and new hops are gradually moving upwards. The supply of yearlings is very small, and is steadily going into consumption. Choice '99's are now quoted up to 15½ cents, and reports from Washington show that buyers have advanced their offers for contracts on the new growth by 20 per cent. since picking began.

The yield of certain Californian ranches, concerning which I have reliable information, proves to be considerably less than the original estimates. These were expected to produce 5,800 bales; at the commencement of picking they were set at 4,400 bales, and the actual produce is only 3,800 bales. This example is an index to the general crop of California, but Oregon is expected to harvest fully as much as last year, the estimate of the hop association in this State being 75,000 bales.

The Production of Beer

in the U.S.A. is increasing rapidly, the revenue from this source in July last being nearly 700,000 dollars in excess of July, 1899. The total number of barrels brewed in the year ending June 30th, 1900, exceeds the output of the previous year by nearly four millions, or about 10 per cent. This enlarged consumption, in connection with the limited crop, will necessarily bring exports to Europe down to a very small figure.

The Carriage of Hops to London.

Mr. Howard Kennard, of Tilden, Marden, writes to the *Kentish Express* as follows:—"I think it is quite time the hop-growers of Kent made a stand against the most unfair treatment they are receiving at the hands of the South-Eastern and Chatham and Dover Railway. Recently I sent twenty-seven pockets of hops to Marden station, arriving by nine o'clock. The stationmaster informed my waggoner that orders had been received by him that no hops were to be taken at Marden station until further orders. On my man's return I sent him with the hops to Maidstone, with the result that after refusal at both stations he had to unload at a warehouse at a charge to me of 6d. per pocket. Last season it was almost the general thing for one's horses to have to wait at Marden Station from the morning of one day until mid-day of the next to get unloaded, because of no trucks, or if there were trucks there were sure to be no waterproof sheets. This seems very one-sided when compared with the conditions of conveyance issued by the railway company, of which I will quote a part:—'One hour will be allowed for the detention of each vehicle when at the warehouse of the consignee, and if not discharged by the time the hour has expired a demurrage charge will be made of 5s. for every hour or fractional part of an hour up to four hours. If the vehicles are not unloaded at the expiration of four hours the hops will be taken away and warehoused at the expense of the consignee.' Before the amalgamation of the two lines we generally had a remedy, as the L.C. and D.R. were only too glad to get anything away from the S.E.R., but at the present time

I think you will agree with me that our only remedy is to forward our hops by water from Maidstone. I have this morning received a letter from Messrs. Storr and Co., saying that they are willing to take my hops to London at a charge of 1s. 8d. per pocket, this includes insurance and all expenses to factor's warehouse, and is at the rate of about £1 1s. 8d. per ton, taking thirteen pockets to the ton; but then there is the overweight and also extra gain in travelling through damper atmosphere. The rail charges are:—Maidstone, 15s. 2d. per ton, 4d. per pocket for delivery to warehouse in London. Marden, 14s. 6d. per ton, 3d. per pocket delivery."

Hops in their Botanical and Commercial Aspect.

An interesting work, entitled as above, written by Emanuel Gross, Professor at the Higher Agricultural College, Tetschen-Liebwerd, and translated into English by Charles Salter, is before me.

The scheme of the author is to present in a condensed form all that is known about hops, especially from the German aspect of the matter, and with the assistance of several scientists and practical men he has well accomplished his task.

In the course of his sketch of the history of the hop plant and its application to brewing in past years, he remarks that "the introduction of hop-growing into the United States marks a turning point in the history of this industry, the consequences being adverse to the interests of European growers on account of the quantity now sent over," and concludes that, "notwithstanding the greater intelligence nowadays bestowed on the cultivation of the hop, the position of the grower is far from being a bed of roses."

Following upon the recital of these historical facts, we meet with a lengthy essay upon the botanical features of hops, and the course of their growth, noting that the plant is diœcious, the male and female being separate individuals, but as no agricultural value attaches to the male hop, the saying of Professor Lintner is quoted: "A hop garden should resemble a nunnery, all males being excluded." Numerous and well-executed engravings illustrate this section, which conveys much valuable information.

The varieties grown are classified as red, green, and pale green hops. The most celebrated for fine and aromatic odour are said to be the red hops, grown in the districts of Spalt and Saaz, but these do not yield more than 3cwt. to 5cwt. per acre, although it is found they are more profitable than the green sorts, which give a heavier crop, because of the higher prices they command. The Dauba district of Bohemia, Neutomische, and Rottenburg produces principally green hops, with an average yield of 10cwt., but the aroma is inferior, and tinged with a smell of garlic, which reduces their value. In North Germany, and to some extent in Bohemia, the pale green variety is found, and, given equality of situation, these are superior in character to the green sorts, while for productiveness they stand between the red and the green.

The red or golden Saaz hop is singled out as undoubtedly the best of its class, being richest in lupulin and finest in aroma, but is only met with in perfection in its native district. The writer gives the premier place amongst English varieties to the Goldings, which he considers occupy in their own country the same position as that filled by Saaz hops on the Continent.

In the chapter dealing with "injuries to growth" we find a copious description of malformations, diseases produced by conditions of soil or climate, vegetable and also animal enemies, with all of which the grower has to contend in a greater or less degree. For instance, the formation of barren cones is attributed by Kraus to too lavish dressings of nitrogenous manures. Honeydew is described as being of two kinds, vegetable or animal, the former being sap excreted by the leaves and stems under rapid and extreme fluctuations of temperature, and the latter is the excretory product of the aphis. The cryptogamous parasites infesting the plant, which are the cause of the most serious anxiety, are the black brand or smut and the white mouse, the latter being described as "the dreaded foe of the hop," for which the only remedies proposed are flowers of sulphur, although some good results are said to have been obtained by spraying thoroughly with a half per cent. solution of bicarbonate of soda. Evidently Continental planters are not free from the troubles which are found in English gardens, as amongst the animal enemies of the hop mentioned are the familiar May bug, wireworm, ghost moth, ground beetle, weevil beetle (very destructive in Styria), nematode or eel-worms, red spider, aphis, hop fleas, and several other pests, whose ravages are more or less dangerous to growth and development.

In the section devoted to cultivation the importance of favourable climatic surroundings is emphasised, it being admitted that "the hop cannot stand sharp and oft-repeated fluctuations of temperature, their occurrence invariably resulting in evil consequences; therefore any district subject to marked contrasts of heat and cold must be considered as fundamentally unadapted for hop-growing." Again, the value of light to growth and ripening is demonstrated by the habit of the wild hop, which climbs rapidly upwards, the flower bearing branches exhibiting an unmistakable tendency to grow out of the overshadowing bushes and develop their flowers and cones in the open, free and unshaded.

Some carefully prepared tables are included in this section of the work, showing the amount of distribution of warmth and rainfall in the hop growing districts of the world, and the influence exercised thereby upon the crop.

Soils, selection of hops suitable thereto, the application of manures, and the various methods of cultivation are subjects which occupy many pages of the book, the sum of the matter being found in the following sentence: "The endeavour of the brewer to employ the best raw material in the production of his beer is undoubtedly a weighty circumstance which should induce the grower to prefer the finer varieties of hops, and only to cultivate the coarser though more productive sorts so far as economic conditions render this course imperative."

Want of space forbids me enlarging upon various other interesting details contained in the 330 pages of which the book consists. Suffice it to say that the various systems of curing in vogue on the Continent receive full notice, and are illustrated by numerous drawings of kilns, etc. Statistics of production throughout the world are given, the trade customs connected with the industry are described, and certain conclusions for the furthering and bettering of the position of Continental growers are set forth, which, as they appeal with equal force to English planters, I summarise for their edification.

It is advised that:—

1. Area under inferior sorts be restricted in favour of better varieties.
2. Experimental gardens be established for investigation of all the obscure questions connected with hop culture.
3. Careful picking, grading, and drying be constantly practised.
4. Cost of production be reduced as far as possible.
5. Intellectual status of the industry be raised, by means of lectures and meetings, etc.
6. Hop shows and competitions be frequently organised.
7. Unscrupulous middlemen be rooted out, by growers uniting to form sale associations.
8. Adjustment of imports and freight tariffs affecting hops.
9. Regulation of the conditions of agricultural credit, to relieve farmers from the necessity of compulsory sales.

I commend these excellent proposals to the attention of my readers, and can assure them that if they decide to purchase and peruse the work I have briefly noticed they will find that their outlay and trouble will be amply recompensed.

The publishers of the book are Messrs. Scott, Greenwood, and Co., 19, Ludgate Hill, London.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 431, 433.)

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended September 22, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	11,014	13,755	Wheat ..	1,264,500	1,123,000
Sheep ..	11,233	3,820	Flour ..	581,500	477,300
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	285,600	322,300
			Oats ..	357,300	558,400
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	53,000	18,900
Beef ..	93,501	104,575	Beans ..	33,300	109,400
Mutton	47,109	52,491	Maize ..	1,077,000	744,400
Pork ..	12,394	11,832		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	106,575	93,759	†Bananas	—	31,840
Beef, salt	2,524	3,010		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	28,561	29,658	Apples ..	57,761‡	32,211
Pork, salt	3,741	6,102	†Apricots & Peaches	—	166
Meat, salt & fresh	7,426	8,131	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	14,369	9,198	†Currants	—	4
Butter ..	70,249	59,956	†Gooseb'rs	—	—
Marg'rine	18,089	14,302	Grapes ..	49,910‡	28,785
Cheese ..	70,260	84,698	Lemons	24,562‡	8,194
Con. Milk	17,667	17,540	Oranges	2,772‡	565
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	56	31	Pears ..	29,098‡	27,652
			Plums ..	580 9‡	12,031
			†Straw'b'rs	—	—
			Oth'r Fr't	38,23	12,575
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	3,551	3,399
Eggs ..	269,754‡	397,255‡		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	128,141	170,433
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£3,294	£4,884	Hops ..	1,431	2,068
			Potatoes	20,154	20,420
	Cwt.	Cwt.	§Tom'to's	—	24,403
Rabbits	10,145	17,511	Other Veg'bles	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	23,145	30,757		£27,794	£27,096

‡ Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

The Produce Brokers' Company, Limited, inform us that in consequence of the removal of the Baltic Exchange they have taken new offices at 29, Great St. Helen's, E.C.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

The Excise Returns.

The forty-third Report of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue is just published, and as usual it gives much interesting and valuable information. The chief point, as it has generally been around the Beer Duty, which, whilst being one of the largest direct sources of revenue is also one of paramount interest to several important sections of the community, notably barley growers, maltsters, and beer brewers.

The Commissioners referred at length to the large loss from the collection of the duty from beer instead of malt in the twenty-fifth report (1865), since which they have been content from year to year to give statistical details of a more or less incomplete and puzzling type.

This year they give more than a page of explanatory matter, which throws a good deal of light upon some of the little known difficulties attending the collection of the Beer Duty, and of the remarkable results which have followed its imposition.

The Repeal of the Malt Tax

is described as "certainly, from an administrative point of view, the greatest fiscal change effected in modern times." Its financial aspect is naturally the point that appeals most to the Commissioners, but they also refer to the continuous decrease in the number of brewers as the most noticeable feature in the brewing trade.

The number of brewers for sale has declined from 22,000 to under 7,000, but this decline is pointed out as following a steady diminution from 1838 to 1880 from 49,200.

With private brewers the falling off is still greater, as, whilst the number in 1882 exceeded 110,000, it now stands at less than 13,000.

The amount of beer brewed and duty paid has just as steadily increased as the number of brewers has diminished, although the Commissioners quite naïvely observe that "the Revenue derived from beer-duty did not—contrary to expectation—at first exceed the amount derived from the Malt Tax, and it practically remained stationary until 1888." On May 17th, 1888, the use of

Saccharin was Prohibited!

It was three years earlier, the dilution of beer by brewers and retailers had been made illegal, so there need never be any confusion of the fiscal influences of the dual restriction.

It is much to be regretted that dilution by brewers in the practical sense is not more seriously regarded by the Excise authorities, if for no other reason than for the sordid point of view of protection of revenue. It has long been contended in these columns that the gravity of beer is steadily being reduced to the grave disadvantage of barley-growers and maltsters, together with much loss of revenue and fraud upon consumers. When the duty was raised six months ago I pointed out (April 2nd last, page 394 *M.L.E.*) "the desirability of an additional column in the returns giving the actual number of gallons declared (or brewed), instead of the perpetuation of the absurdity of estimating the number of barrels made."

In the returns just issued this has been done for the first time, and at last we have an index to the amount of beer actually made

As might be expected and I have persistently claimed would prove to be the case—

The Official Standard

is exceeded in practice. On page 23 we have one table showing the official number of barrels of beer said to be brewed each year from 1891 to 1900, calculated at the standard gravity. This is followed by a statement of "the number of bulk or liquid barrels of beer without distinction of gravity" actually made.

The nominal number of barrels for 1900 is 36,578,156, but the actual is 38,373,449, so that British public really consumed no less than 2,895,293 barrels more beer than had ever been disclosed in any previous return.

The Commissioners are to be deeply thanked and very heartily congratulated upon the production of these figures. Had they been given ten years ago the beer duty to-day would produce nearly fifteen millions instead of the twelve and odd millions gathered in. Nothing is said in this report about the immensely important alteration in the amount of duty levied when raw grain, maize, rice, and other substitutes was put upon

A Fairer Basis of Charge

than heretofore when it was allowed to be charged as malt at 42lb. per bushel. Nor is anything suggested to fix the gross loss to Revenue inflicted by the existing method of charging sugar used as "priming."

All these are points calling for attention and remedy. Happily the Excise authorities make it a point of conscientious duty to do their utmost to protect the Revenue and gather in the interests of the king. The report goes to the legal cases seeming to show the need of supplementing such as pool sales with a back duty to give support to receipts in account books for moneys collected on behalf

of the Bank, and so on. All this is eminently right and proper, but to guard against the suggestion of ability to strain at gnats and swallow camels, vigilance must be shown and intelligent understanding brought to bear upon the vast sums lost now upon the sugar used as priming, and which accounts for so large a proportion of the nearly three millions of barrels of beer which pay no duty.

Another grave defect is the publication of the figures now of a year ago indiscriminately mixed with duties charged to the end of February and March 31st last.

Barley and Beer.

The following letter, forwarded by Mr. Jasper More to the *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, though addressed to Shropshire farmers, appeals most strongly to those who live in other counties:—

"Sir,—I find the question of when and where shall I sell my barley? foremost in the minds of Shropshire farmers. The barley competition at the Brewers' Exhibition in London, I believe, gives one of the best opportunities for sale. Entries close on the 11th of October at 44, Cannon Street, London. Some of the farmers, I find, say their crop is very good, but the colour not so light as last year. Is not this remark founded on misapprehension? I am told by good brewers that the colour, except in extreme cases, makes no difference whatever. It may be true that at restaurants the taste is for very light coloured beer, but let anyone notice the beer sold at public-houses to the real beer drinkers. It is not light-coloured at all. We don't hear of maize being rejected because it is not light coloured. Why should it be used in preference to barley when it is known that the beer drinkers don't like it? The ordinary people in the country feel more strongly on this than on any point. Those who brew at home never think of using anything besides barley malt, hops, and a little sugar. About 1,200 houses in Shropshire thus brew free, or only with a nine-shilling licence, and why more don't take the trouble to do so when they are anxious to have beer that is brewed only from barley, malt, and hops may be accounted for by the fact that they don't know how easily it is made. If barley, malt, and hops could only have been conveyed to Bloemfontein, I am sure that many cottagers' wives in my division could have brewed such light and pure beer from it as would have saved the extraordinary number of cases of enteric fever there. Temperance advocates (as we all are, without also being teetotalers) should say how they would deal with a case where there is only polluted water and no firewood to boil it, except what is taken from pulling farmhouses to pieces. I tried to draw attention to this question at the dinner given to Mr. Green at Shrewsbury before the Yeomanry went out to South Africa. Our Yeomanry have been singularly free from enteric fever, but there were said to be 13,000 cases in Bloemfontein. What soldiers should drink, and how to convey it to them, will be one of the interesting cases arising out of the recent war. I see eminent medical authorities are explaining in the Press what are the bacteria in water that cause enteric fever. What to drink so as to avoid it where there is any chance of the water being polluted is certainly an important question for young people. After the age of forty-five, Sir Herbert Jenner told me, the constitution is not liable to it.

"With regard to the barley competition at the Brewers' Exhibition, anyone has merely to write to the secretary of the exhibition, 44, Cannon Street, to enter for competition. He must be prepared to state what is the soil and subsoil of his field, what were the preceding crops in 1899 and 1898, what seed was sown, is sweated or steeped before planting, what manaure was used, and the date at which it was used, and the quantity per acre, the dates of sowing and cutting, the quantity grown equal to sample, the name of the maker of the dressing machinery, the name of the maker of the threshing machine, the price of the barley, and how much is offered for sale. "R. Jasper More.

"September 18th."

Sale of Coach Horses.—The sale of the stud of coach horses which have been working the Perseverance during the past season on the London and Dorking road attracted a large gathering of coaching men at Aldridge's Repository on Wednesday. The competition was very keen, and some excellent prices were recorded. The top figure was obtained by the very shapely brown gelding Benito, a capital wheeler, which eventually changed hands at 165gs. Included in the sale was the handsome chestnut team which was selected to represent the stud on the occasion of the stage coach competition at the Ranelagh Club on July 7, and which then won the challenge cup. This team made the following prices: Cragsman, by Dalesman, chestnut gelding, leader, 150gs.; Diamond, chestnut gelding, leader, 140gs.; Marguerite, by Commander, chestnut mare, wheeler, 150gs.; Charmion, chestnut mare, by Agility, wheeler, 155gs. In all twenty of the horses realised 100gs. and over, and the thirty-five fetched an aggregate of 3,635gs., or the average of over 103gs.

MILLING.

This Year's English Wheat.

Since these notes last appeared the weather has been more suitable for threshing, and more wheat has been on offer. Prices are quite firm, and, indeed, have advanced for very good samples. Flour is 6d. per sack of 280lb. dearer, and all offals are making good prices. In some parts broad bran is making as much as £6 10s. per ton, and fine sharps quite as much, or even more. It is universally acknowledged that the great bulk of the crop is inferior to last year, and so must be dried before being used. In fact, the condition is very irregular, while smut is too often seen. In a recent article the writer emphasised the necessity of having dryers, even where no washing plant finds a place. At the same time, a good many country millers have neither, and yet they will find that they cannot satisfactorily grind much of this year's crop without some sort of preparation. Fortunately, in the absence of machinery there is a method which may be employed, provided the miller can secure some sort of dry, absorbent wheat like Cali or Chilian. If equal proportions of English and one of these wheats be taken, perfectly mixed, and placed in bins or silos (or even on the floors of warehouses, which would allow for occasional turning), the wheats become more uniform the longer they lie together. The process may be employed if the English be not too damp and out of condition, when it will give up a portion of its moisture to the dry kind, which will readily absorb it and become more like the former.

Conditioning by Mixing.

Even where they come to the mill in good condition, soft wheats, such as English and the softer Canadian and Dantzic sorts, will not lie for any length of time without being covered with mildew and injured; so that in the best of seasons it is always a good plan to mix soft wheats with extra dry kinds. How much more, then, is it necessary when they are extra soft and moist? Some millers who have dryers as a part of their plant send all English wheat through them, and then mix it when it is hot and sweating with some dry sort, and it is wonderful what good results may be obtained by this treatment, provided due care has been taken in regard to the temperature in the dryers.

When the process is carried out to secure safe storage also the assimilation is easily seen even after a week or two, while in twice or three times that period a still greater uniformity is observed. Even in good seasons these soft wheats are a constant loss and worry, and unless they are mixed in this manner they need constant aeration and turning. But a good and efficient dryer settles the whole question, and in the present season, and with such native samples as we are now getting, if once passing through the machine does not have the desired effect, the operation should be repeated.

Washing for Smut

In the absence of a washing plant smutted wheat must be left severely alone, as it is impossible to perfectly get rid of this bad impurity without immersion. Neither should inexperienced millers attempt to wash soft wheats like English, or they will come to grief. In this case as little water should be used as is necessary for the operation; the wheat should only be immersed for a very short time, and it should be dried as quickly as possible at not too high a temperature. It requires a great deal of experience and skill to wash soft wheats, and for this reason some millers prefer to dispense with the process, even in cases where they are not afraid to wash the harder and dryer kinds. On the other hand, some millers wash all wheats, sometimes for other reasons than cleansing, believing that a proper application of water and heat will improve the resulting flour both in quality and percentage.

Garlic in Wheat.

There is one other impurity in home-grown wheat, which is also occasionally found in Red Winter, which is very tiresome to eliminate, and that is garlic. Fortunately, it does not occur so frequently as was the case some years ago, neither does it often occur in excess. In the latter case the mischief is soon found in the mill. It is a soft raw substance, with a very objectionable flavour, very much like that of onions. As most millers know, its worst effect is on the rolls, which become gummed over, needing constant cleaning. Every succeeding machine feels the effects; silks cannot dress properly, and the miller who is working on wheat of this kind will find that he can neither get a good yield nor a well-cleaned bran. There have been special machines on the market from time to time for the removal of garlic, but, so far as the writer knows, one and all have been a failure. When it is of the same size as wheat it is not easily removed, and especially when the wheat comes in damp. Strong air currents do some good, but the best plan to remove it is to well dry the wheat, The drier the latter, the drier will be the garlic bulbs, making them more likely to be lifted out by aspiration.

The Different Strains on Shafting.

With regard to the transmision of power about the mill it should be remembered that all shafting is subject to two different strains—a bending strain, on account of its own weight and the weight of the pulleys on it, as well as of the pull of the belts, and a torsional or twisting strain, owing to its rotation. It is the former which mainly causes friction to avoid which as much as possible it is necessary to have perfect alignment, the correct distance between bearings, which was mentioned in my last article, and proper lubrication. It has been shown that the power absorbed in driving shafting varies from about one-tenth to one-fifth of the whole power derived from the engine, and in view of the present price of fuel this is a matter worthy of most earnest consideration. It will therefore be understood how necessary it is to have all shafting well designed, carefully erected, and well lubricated. It will also be recognised that the diameter plays a most important part in the erection of shafting. Just as there is a correct distance between the bearings of shafting of different diameters, so the diameter plays a most important part in the saving of power. There is no need to give a formula; most engineering manuals give tables of horse powers which shafting of different diameters will safely transmit at various speeds. So really the three things to be considered, and which can be found out from these tables, are the power to be transmitted through the shafting, the speed at which the shaft must run to safely do the work, and the diameter of the shaft itself. The nearer perfection is reached in these three conditions, the less will be the friction and the greater the power saved. Friction is a necessary evil, and cannot be entirely abolished, but it can be minimised considerably in many mills, with a double advantage—the saving of power and the lessening of danger from fire.

Miller-Farmer.

Roller Mills Spoil the Bread and Destroy the Teeth.

The following letter is copied from the *Lancet*, the leading medical journal. It deals with a subject of great importance, but which the general public fail at present to estimate at its proper value:—

"The Decay of Teeth Committee of the British Medical Association in their report to the council suggest among the causes that by the civilised methods of preparing food thorough mastication is rendered unnecessary, and that this limitation of the action of the muscles of the jaw is further shown by atrophy of the jaw, as a consequence of which the teeth become overcrowded. These statements appear to only half meet the case. With bread made from roller-flour additional mastication is really necessary in order to obtain a large supply of saliva to promote digestion, and it is quite possible that the low nutritive value of roller-flour is a great factor in atrophy of the jaw. To properly appreciate the difference in the nutritive value of roller-flour as compared with stone-made, it appears necessary to briefly consider the modes of manufacture. In

Old Stone Mills

the wheat to be ground is fed in through a hole in the upper or running stone, when by reason of the dress or cut put into the surfaces of the stone, assisted by centrifugal force, the wheat becomes pulverised on its way to the periphery or skirt of the stones, whence it passes through mechanical sifters and dressers, and the coarse parts are separated from the flour. By this method all parts of the wheat grain are cut up more or less, and the resulting flour contains particles of all parts.

"In the modern invention,

The Roller-Mill

the wheat is at first only rolled to smash it, in order to separate the kernel from the husk and the germ, and the operation is repeated several times between fluted iron rollers, until the object aimed at is obtained, and then the parts of the kernel pass on to be ground between smooth iron rolls. This rolling is succeeded by dressings in cylinders covered with silk, through which the flour made between the smooth rolls passes, and the rollings and dressings are repeated until all the flour is extracted and only the pollard is left. By this method only parts of the kernel are ground up, and the resulting flour does not contain any particles of husk or germ. The husk, although very rich in lime salts, is very indigestible. The lime salts contained in the germ are easily assimilated. The germ is the vital part of the grain, and acts very like a stomach for the young wheat plant, the diastase it contains converting the starch of the kernel into grape-sugar, which helps to nourish the young plant. One part of the diastase contained in the wheat germ will convert a thousand parts of starch into grape-sugar. The starch in the dough must be gelatinised or scalded in order to obtain the full effects of the diastase upon it. The heat at which wheat-starch becomes gelatinised is 150.5 degrees F. Thus, when the dough is placed in the oven and the required heat is reached, the starch cells burst, and the diastase acts upon it. After the heat of 180 degrees F. has been reached, the power of diastase ceases.

"Since starch forms about 60 per cent. of wheaten flour the

Nutritive Quality of Bread

is considerably lowered by removing the germs in roller-milling. It can be easily understood that if we get the dough at a point at which the starch is gelatinised, and at the same time have a certain amount of diastase intermingled with it that will convert a portion of the starch into grape-sugar, we have succeeded in obtaining a bread which will be easily digested. The bread made from flour ground in a roller-mill, even if well masticated and swallowed with a good supply of saliva, is not so easily digested and assimilated as when the flour is obtained from a stone mill.

"As teeth are often the first part of the body to show signs of the effects of malnutrition, the removal of all parts of the wheat-germs from the roller-flour used to make the higher priced bread must have largely helped to cause much dental caries and atrophy of the jaws amongst the rich.

The Wheat Germs

which the roller-miller has removed in making the flour for his higher-class customers are mixed with low-grade flour and made into cheap bread for the poor. The stone-made flour largely used to make the lower-priced bread contain particles of husk and the lime salts and diastase of the wheat-germ, and, therefore, is well adapted to help in the development of strong jaws and sound teeth. Bread made from roller flour from which the wheat germs have been removed being deficient in nutritive qualities appears to have considerably helped to cause atrophy of the jaw and the resulting defective teeth.—I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

"THOMAS G. READ,
"D.M.D. Harvard, L.D.S.R.C.S. Eng.
"Cavendish Square, W., September 3rd, 1900."

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (September 24th).—Cloudy weather prevailed over a large part of our islands, with rain in several places. A large cyclonic disturbance was situated to the north of Scotland, and a shallow subsidiary disturbance was travelling across England. The winds were mostly south-westerly in the eastern districts, with a high temperature for the time of year. In Ireland and the West of England the wind had become north-westerly, with a rising barometer, and the temperature had fallen considerably. Rain was measured in the morning as the result of the fall since the previous day at most places in the north and west, and the fall was very heavy in the extreme north and north-west. The day was mostly dull in London, with slight rain at times, and the mid-day temperature rose to seventy-one degrees.

TUESDAY (September 25th).—Fine weather prevailed in nearly all parts of the British Islands, but the air was distinctly cooler than it had been for some time past. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, in most parts of the kingdom, and slight rain was reported again during the day at a few places in the west. Monday night was cool in the northern and midland districts, the sheltered thermometer falling below forty degrees in several places. The midday temperatures touched sixty degrees in the South of England, but elsewhere the highest readings were generally several degrees lower. The day was very fine and bright in London, and the thermometer rose to sixty-five degrees.

WEDNESDAY (September 26th).—The high barometer, which has continued with such persistence over our islands, was completely giving way, and a storm area of some importance was approaching our coasts from the Atlantic. The outlook was sufficiently threatening for the storm signals to be hoisted on all coasts, and in the afternoon the wind was already blowing with the strength of a gale in parts of Ireland. Rain was measured in the morning at all the northern and western stations, and the rain continued during the day in places. Tuesday night was cold in Scotland, the thermometer falling to within one or two degrees of the freezing point at several of the coast stations. The day was fairly warm in the southern districts, but the temperature was low in the north. In London the weather was dull and gloomy, but the thermometer rose to sixty-seven degrees.

THURSDAY (September 27th).—Rainy and unsettled weather prevailed over a large part of our islands, and the winds were mostly strong and squally from the south-west. Large amounts of rain were measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day in the northern and western districts, and smaller amounts fell in other parts. Temperature had risen briskly over the northern portions of the kingdom, but the midday temperatures were nowhere high. Rain fell again during the greater part of the day in London, and the highest temperature was sixty degrees.

FRIDAY (September 8th).—The weather continued showery in many parts of England, and the sky was generally cloudy. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the preceding day, over the entire Kingdom, and the rain was heavy in several parts of the country. A westerly wind was blowing in the south of our islands, where the temperature was fairly high; but in the north the wind was easterly, and the weather was cold for the time of year. Showers were experienced at times in London, and the clouds were heavy and threatening; the mid-day temperature was sixty-five degrees.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (September 29th and 30th).—Unsettled weather prevailed in many parts of our islands during the two days, and in the northern and western districts the rainfall was heavy. The winds freshened considerably from the south-west and west, and the sea was rough in the English Channel. The day temperatures rose to about sixty-five degrees in most parts of England, and the nights continued warm for the time of year. Both the days and nights were rather cool in the north. In London, Saturday was fine, and the temperature rose to sixty-six degrees, but rain fell for some hours on Sunday, and the highest midday temperature was sixty-four degrees.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Hunts.

Save for a shower on Monday and Wednesday, the severe drought continues. The grass lands are brown and scorched up, the meadows have no feed on them, and the kohl rabi and swedes are suffering from want of moisture. The mangolds make but slight increase of weight. Manure carting has been done with a minimum of horse power, and where it was possible to plough the seeds and the stubbles the result has been grand. On the sharp gravel lands ploughing has been impossible. Wheat drilling should commence next week, but rain must come first.—S. P. (September 29th).

Somerset.

A shower or two of rain has fallen this week, which was badly wanted in the Cheddar district, as in many instances the pastures have become brown, and grass and water scarce. The little corn grown in this district was secured in good condition, but the crops rather light in straw and grain. Mangolds are a good crop, but few turnips grown. Disease has made its appearance, and many tubers are affected, but the crop of potatoes is good. Many apples were blown down during the storm that prevailed a short time since, and the fruit is smaller than usual, so the crop will not be a good one.

The Flow of Milk

at the dairy herds is not good, which no doubt in great measure is due to the brown pasturage. Cattle and sheep are generally healthy, but are rather low in condition.—A. L. O. (September 28th).

North Somerset.

We have been taking advantage of this long spell of dry weather for getting out our potatoes and doing what threshing we could, and regret to find that the yield is very disappointing. For instance, three acres of square wheat, a good crop, but which had been served out cruel by the sparrows as well as by that windstorm on Bank Holiday, turned out only

Twenty Bushels an Acre.

Oats also are short in yield, and the sample thin and of a bad colour. If this dry weather continues (the rain of yesterday is all gone) it will be serious, for already we have to cart water to the cattle, the pools and ditches being nearly dry. The swedes are mildewed, and therefore spoiled, while the mangolds are checked in growth at what is usually their best growing time. Kohl rabi seems to hold out best of any, doubtless from their habit of rooting deeper, thus enabling them to revive the flagging leaves of the day in the course of the night. There is

No Surplus of Grass

in the pastures, as is usual at this season, and it is too late to expect much growth now, so that an early application to the hay mows will be necessary. Fortunately good hay is fairly plentiful, and this, we think, is the reason that stock of all kinds is selling so well. The election fever is on again, and Codlin and Short are with us doing their best to blame each other for the shortcomings of the past, but very little is said about the future. The remarks of your "Lobbyist" do seem very severe on the poor cultivator trying to see his way through this political haze, but the more he hears the more he gets befogged, so he turns to co-operation in buying and selling as a means of self-help, and leaves the agricultural position to drift.—R. B. (September 28).

Foreign Prospects.

GERMANY.—Weather has been very fine and favourable to the lifting of potatoes, which, in general, are turning out a good crop; but rain would be welcome to make the land fit for ploughing.

SWEDEN.—Weather of late has been warm and dry, and the cereal crops have been harvested in the best condition, only potatoes are now in the fields. Home-grown supplies have been very small, but of good quality.

SPAIN.—Ploughing and sowing have begun in many parts of the Peninsula under favourable auspices.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says a considerable portion of the wheat crop is belated, but on the whole the new month is favourable, and a full average wheat area is indicated. Green fly rings are reported. The previous indication concerning maize are maintained, promising early marketings of good quality.—*Dornbusch.*

German Crop Reports.

The following report concerning the condition of potatoes, clover, lucerne, and hay, and the probable yield of the same was issued in the middle of September by the Imperial Bureau of Statistics. No. 1 represents a very good crop; 2, good; 3, an average; 4, below an average; 5, a very small crop.

	Potatoes.	Clover.	Lucerne.	Hay.
Prussia	2 8	3 4	3 0	3 0
Oldenburg	2 8	2 7	2 9	2 5
Saxony	2 2	2 9	2 8	2 7
Hesse	2 3	2 5	2 7	2 5
Bavaria	1 8	2 6	2 1	2 5
Wirtemberg	2 1	3 0	2 8	3 1
Baden	2 0	—	—	—
Alsace Lorraine	2 4	3 8	3 6	3 9
German Empire —				
September, 1900	2 6	3 2	2 8	2 9
against August	2 3	3 1	2 8	2 8
July	2 2	3 1	2 6	2 6
June	2 5	3 2	2 8	2 9
May	—	3 0	2 8	2 8
April	—	3 0	2 7	2 8
September, 1899	2 7	3 0	2 8	3 0
1898	2 7	2 5		2 8
1897	2 7	2 4		2 5
1896	3 1	2 8		2 7
1895	2 6	2 9		2 7
1894	2 9	2 4		2 0
1893	2 5	3 7		3 2

The fine weather has been most favourable for carrying all cereal crops. Fodder crops and potatoes suffered from the drought, especially in Posen, Silesia, and Alsace-Lorraine. Autumn work is made heavier by the drought. The potato crop was good, and sometimes very good in South Germany, Brunswick, Mecklenburg Schwerin, Anhalt, and some parts of Thuringia. The crop was unfavourable in Posen, Oldenburg, Schaumburg Lippe, and Hesse, where tubers are not well developed in consequence of the drought; in some places they are rotting or diseased owing to frequent rainfalls. Clover and lucerne are backward in growth, owing to the drought. The crop was carried dry, but the yield was small. The yield was satisfactory as to quality and quantity in some parts of South Germany, and near the Elbe. Young clover is in good condition, except in places where the drought still prevails. The second crop of hay is cut, and is satisfactory in low lying and well-watered meadows. High-lying meadows suffered from the drought, and the aftermath is not good. There is a dearth of fodder in Posen, Upper Plausitz, and Swabia.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Sept. 22nd, 1900:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	67	396 440 938	15,100	38,877 31,134 38,847
	Outbreaks.	No.	18	33 36 32	1,560	1,999 1,977 1,852
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Other Animals	No.	1		1	
	Cases Reported. Dogs.	No.	2	21	21	7 11 126
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Sighted. Exposed to Infection.	No.				8
	Cattle Sighted. Diseased.	No.				1
	Outbreaks.	No.				1
Glanders (incl. farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	37	44 57	1,350	1,961 1,114
	Outbreaks.	No.	25	34 43	938	1,360 1,114
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	6		395	
	Outbreaks.	No.	2		16	
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	12		72	
	Outbreaks.	No.	11		11	
Period.			Week ended Sept. 22, 1900	Corresponding Week in 1899	Total to 38 weeks in 1900	Corresponding Period in 1899

Last figures for the calendar year are approximate only.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt : Only a limited trade. Barley : Grinding was 3d per qr cheaper. Wheat : Advanced 6d per qr on the week. Oats : Declined about 3d per qr. Maize : Firm. Flour : Made 6d per sack more money.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—New English wheat continues in scanty supply, and the little submitted is mainly on the country exchanges. Fine white ranges up to about 34s, and red to 33s 6d, 63lb, delivered. American descriptions unaltered. The tendency of the flour market showed no alteration to-day respecting either English or American. The London Millers' Association made no alteration in prices since last Monday afternoon. Town households, 26s ; and whites, 29s per sack. American first patents quoted at 27s to 28s ; second ditto, 25s to 26s. First bakers, 22s to 23s : second ditto, 20s to 21s. Hungarian up to 30s 6d per sack. Grinding barley unaltered, and in fair supply. Persian, 18s 6d ex ship, 18s 6d ex quay ; Azof, 19s 6d ship just due ; Black Sea, 20s ex quay. Oats in plentiful supply and against sellers, but quotations were not reduced to-day, although remaining nominal. American mixed clipped, about 14s 6d ex ship, 15s ex quay ; and white clipped in these positions, 15s 6d and 15s 9d respectively. Maize firm and unchanged.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Home-grown wheat continues in scanty supply, and commands full rates, most of what little business transpires being on the country exchanges. Fine white up to 33s 6d, and red of similar sample 33s per qr, 63lb, delivered. American descriptions well maintained, in spite of heavy stocks. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Town households, 26s; white, 29s per sack, being last Monday's advance. American first patents quoted at 27s to 28s ; second ditto, 25s to 26s. First bakers, 22s to 23s ; and second, 20s to 21s. Hungarian up to 30s 6d per sack. Grinding barley unaltered. Persian being in fair supply at 18s ex ship, 18s 6d ex quay. Oats neglected and depressed by recent heavy supplies, and in buyers' favour. American mixed clipped, 14s 3d ex ship, 14s 6d to 14s 9d ex quay. Mixed American maize held for 21s 1½d ex ship, and 21s 6d ex quay, and round corn unchanged. Odessa, ex ship, distant, 25s, and ex quay 25s 3d. The market for beans and peas retains firmness, and there is still little on hand.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Surplies moderate, with firm trade. Flour advanced 1s per sack for all qualities. Wheat firm, with short supply.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Wheat in fair supply, but a quiet feeling pervaded the trade, and the parcels disposed of were at late rates, viz., 28s to 31s per imperial quarter. Barley, oats, and beans without change.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 28s 6d to 30s per qr ; ditto (old), 32s to 33s per qr ; beans (old), 33s to 34s per qr ; oats (new), 19s to 21s per qr ; oats (old), 26s to 18s per qr. Wheat in fair supply, at the full rates of last week to 1s dearer.

Boston, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance, and a moderate trade. Wheat, 29s to 29s 6d ; grinding barley, 25s ; malting barley, 26s to 39s ; oats, 16s to 18s ; new beans, 30s ; maize, 23s 6d to 25s 6d ; peas, 50s to 63s.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Good attendance and firm trade, reds making from 30s to 32s, and white 31s to 33s per qr.

Brighton, Thursday.—Wheat in good supply. Fair trade at late rates. Small attendance. New white wheat, 30s to 31s 6d ; new red ditto, 29s to 31s ; old white ditto, 31s to 32s ; old red ditto, 30s to 31s ; grinding barley, 22s to 23s ; oats, English, 17s to 19s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been a moderate trade since our last. At to-day's market English wheat was in moderate supply and 6d higher. Foreign, 3d to 6d dearer. Grinding barley, maize, and oats, about late rates. Flour was 6d to 1s per sack dearer.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been very steady, without change in value. Supplies continue small, and buyers experience some little difficulty in getting their requirements. A fair supply of old offering. At the market to-day there was a rather better supply, and a good demand existing, farmers made full prices of last week. Wheat, red, 29s to 31s ; and white up to 31s per 504lb. Barley was in fair supply, but common sorts predominated, good quality being very scarce. Beans steadier, at 30s ; old up to 34s. Barley, common runs from 24s to 30s ; fine up to 34s.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A steady demand for wheat at firm prices. A little doing now in malting barley. Ruling prices :—White wheat, 31s to 33s ; red ditto, 30s to 32s ; malting barley, 28s to 35s ; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s ; white oats, 18s to 21s ; ditto black, 16s to 20s ; peas, 30s to 32s ; tick beans, 30s to 32s ; mazagans, 28s to 29s per quarter.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Larger supply of oats in our market to-day. Slow sale at fully last week's prices. New oats, 16s 6d to 18s 6d 336lb ; old oats, 23s to 24s 6d 336lb ; wheat, new, 29s 504lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday. — The samples of English grain offered were few, and wheat, generally speaking, was of poor quality ; no change in values, except that in consequence of good demand. Better prices was asked for old oats. Quotations : Wheat, new, 4s 1d to 4s 3d ; old, 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 75lb. Grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb. Oats new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d ; old, 3s to 3s 6d per 46lb. Indian corn, 11s 3d to 11s 9d per 240lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat better supply, dull trade at barely last week's prices. Barley, more offering ; there is some demand for the better qualities, but the lower qualities are neglected. Beans, peas, and oats firm.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—A fair quantity of English wheat offered, but the demand was quiet, and last week's rates were barely maintained. Foreign dull. Grinding barley firm, at late rates. Malting barley was plentifully offered, but the samples varied a good deal in quality and prices had a wide range. Feeding stuffs, quiet trade.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—To-day there was a small attendance at our corn exchange. Wheat quiet, but steady, at an advance of 3d per boll on the week. Flour steady, at an advance of 6d per sack. Indian corn very scarce on spot, and firm at an advance of 6d to 7½d per boll. Canadian and Indian pease steady at late rates. Grinding beans scarce on spot and slightly firmer. Foreign oats quiet but steady. Home oats offering less freely, and are held for 3d to 6d per boll advance. Barley firm. Oatmeal quiet. Bran and thirds firm but unchanged. —GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Market firm for wheat and flour, and prices 3d to 6d dearer on the week, but buyers respond slowly. Indian corn extremely scarce on spot, and 7½d per 280lb dearer on the week ; price 13s to arrive. An advance of 3l on the week is conceded with demand. Good peas still scarce and firm. New home oats easy and irregular ; foreign steady. Beans and barley unchanged.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A very active market, supplies of English grain being large. Wheats moved off at last week's prices, specially fine samples making a fraction more money. Old wheats firm without quotable change. Malting barleys very disappointing in quality, and business was difficult to do except at low figures. Oats quietly steady. Beans freely offered without change. Wholesale prices :—Wheat, white, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per bushel ; red, 3s 5d to 3s 7d ; barley, 3s to 3s 9d ; oats, 2s 3d to 3s ; beans, 3s 8d to 4s ; maize, 2s 8d to 3s 2d ; vetches, winter, 4s to 6s ; and spring, 3s 6d to 5s.

Hull, Tuesday.—Wheat and maize firm, with good consumptive demand. A fair supply of English wheat, which sold more freely at 29s to 30s. Prices :—Wheat (Californian), 31s 3d ; Walla, 29s 6d ; Russian (red), 30s 6d ; River Plate, 31s; Danubian, 30s ; maize (mixed American), 21s 3d; ditto (to arrive), 21s 3d ; Odessa (to arrive), 25s 6d ; Galatz-Fox, 24s 6d beans (washed Saffe), 29s ; oats (Russian), 15s 6d ; barley (Azov and Black Sea spot), 22s ; to arrive, 21s 6d.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—A much better attendance to-day. Small supply of wheat ; trade steady at fully last week's rates. Red, 30s to 33s ; white, 34s. Good supply of barley, for which there was a fair demand at from 28s to 34s. Oats quiet. Maize steady. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—We do not note any material change in the trade since this day week. Holders occasionally ask 3d to 6d more money, but millers resist any advance, and the demand for all descriptions of wheat is limited to actual requirements. Best samples of barley make slightly more money ; many maltsters are not yet in the market. Maize 3d dearer. Beans and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—There is a very limited demand for either English or foreign wheat, and Tuesday's advanced prices are barely maintained, except for the finest descriptions, which are firmly held. Maize fully realises the late advances. Beans, peas, oats, barley, and flour show no perceptible change.

Leicester, Saturday.— Fair attendance of buyers and dealers, with moderate supplies of wheats, which sold more freely at 29s to 33s per 36 stones. Barley, a slightly better trade.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair supply of new wheats. Trade steady at full rates, viz., 28s to 29s. Foreign slightly dearer on the week. Good show of barley, which made 27s to 30s. Oats a trifle easier. Maize, beans, and peas firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat quiet, with a moderate extent of business at Tuesday's prices. Flour a quiet trade at Tuesday's prices. Maize moves more slowly into consumption, and ½d per cental decline was accepted for Mixed. European, owing to scarcity, is steadily held with a moderate trade. Prime Plate steady at quotations. Barley for malting is firm with a good demand for Chevalier and Californian, and full prices are obtainable. Feeding steady unchanged. Beans are slow, at about unchanged prices. Peas steady, but quiet, at ½d decline for Canadians ; other sorts unchanged. Oats.— English are firm, with a good demand ; foreign sorts are quiet, and the turn in buyers' favour. Oatmeal firm, with a moderate trade at 6d advance. Oilcake firm, but high prices check business.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Louth, Wednesday.—Good attendance. The wheat trade was firm, and prices were slightly in advance of last week. Oats met with a slow trade. Peas were in good demand, and beans were a steady trade at prices unchanged from last week.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The first wet day we have had for a while, and attendance in consequence not so large as usual. Wheat firm, but larger supplies being anticipated, 6d per qr rise is the most. Barley moves off well at fair prices. Oats are slightly easier. Beans and peas no change. Winter tares are reduced in cost, and maize droops rather late'y. We do not make any alteration in rye, brank, hemp, sergo, or millet.

Malton, Tuesday.—The official return gives these details : —Wheat (60lb per bushel), 394 qr 6 bushels, at £1 8s 3d ; barley (50lb per bushel), 380qr 3 bushels, at £1 2s 7d ; and oats (39lb per bushel), 119qr 4 bushels, at 19s per Imperial quarter average.

Manchester, Thursday.—The general tone here is very firm, English wheat being held at the rates of last Thursday. Foreign slightly dearer for prompt delivery. Flour is reported to be 6d per sack dearer on the week. English oats in moderate demand at steady rates. Foreign dull. Indian corn is ½d per cental dearer. No change is noticeable in peas, beans, or barley.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a firm trade, at last week's prices. Barley a large show of inferior quality, which met with a difficult sale at less money. Oats and beans quiet, at previous prices.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—There was only a moderate attendance, with a limited demand for wheat. Saturday's full prices were, however, firmly maintained. Maize scarce and in sellers' favour. Oats, beans, and peas were steady. Flour slow at full prices.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at our to-day's market changed hands at last week's prices. Maize advanced 9d per 480lb since our last market day. Scotch oats quiet for new, a fair demand for old at late rates. Foreign slow trade and easier to sell. Peas and beans firm. Barley steady. Flour no change.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—This day's market closed steady for wheat and flour, the former being anything but active ; the latter shows signs of improvement. Malting barley is in better request, and inclined to harden as to values. Oats weak, and favouring buyers. Beans and peas no change. Maize, as previously reported, holds its own marvellously well, and prices look like holding up. Weather fine.

Newport (Mon), Wednesday.—Good business in wheat, which was rather dearer on the week ; maize very firm and dearer ; barley rather cheaper ; oats and beans about the same ; fines, 25s ; offals dearer.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was more wheat offering at our market to-day, with no appreciable alteration in the trade. Barley trade about the same as last week. The weather of the past week has been cooler, with occasional showers of rain. Wheat, red, 30s 6d to 31s 6d per qr, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending September 24th, 1900 :—Wheat, 3,642, 29s 3½d. Barley, 2,718-7, 26s 4½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in fair supply, but millers acted cautiously, and trade ruled slow at last week's prices. Supply of barley not large ; inferior lots were slightly easier. Best parcels commanded full rates. Oats.—Finest samples sold readily at full prices ; inferior slow sale. Old beans scarce, and maintained their value ; new dry made from 32s to 33s 6d per 532lb.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Quiet market. Wheat barely as good as last week, but farmers reluctant to meet the decline. Barley firm for good qualities ; secondary more showing, and rather easier to buy.

Penrith, Tuesday.—About average supplies of grain, without material change in prices. Old oats, 25s to 27s ; new ditto, 18s to 20s per qr.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been only a slow trade for wheat to-day. Middling qualities could be bought on easier terms. The demand for barley still hangs fire, and to force sales rather less money must be taken. Oats quiet at late rates.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was an average attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Business is still in favour of the buyers. Barley and oats are 3d cheaper. English wheat is about the same as last week ; while foreign has advanced 6d ; and maize 3d during the week.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO

Reading, Saturday. — We had an excellent attendance to-day, and business was fairly good. The supply of wheat was good, and with a steady inquiry recent quotations were well upheld. Old wheat realised up to 35s per qr, and new sorts from 28s to 32s per qr. In the trade for other sorts of corn, including barley and oats, there was practically no alteration of prices from those prevailing at recent markets.

Ripon, Thursday.—There is a good show of samples of new wheat and barley, which vary in condition. A moderate attendance. Wheat, English (new), 28s to 30s per qr, according to condition ; ditto (old), 31s 6d to 32s 6d ; ditto foreign, 31s to 35s ; barley, malting, 24s to 28s ; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s ; oats (old), 25s to 26s : ditto (new), 17s to 19s ; round maize, 27s to 27s 6d ; flat maize, 23s 3d per qr ; beans (old), 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Red wheat made 30s to 32s, and white wheat 31s to 33s per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday. — Moderate attendance to-day. Wheat 3d to 6d dearer on the week ; beans 3d per qr dearer, and maize in fair demand at late rates. Oats and barley unchanged. Quotations :—Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d ; red, 32s to 33s ; new, 31s to 32s per 504lb ; oats, old white, 26s ; ditto old black, 22s ; new, 18s 6d to 20s per 336lb ; peas, grinding, 28s to 29s ; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb ; beans, Egyptian, 33s ; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb ; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d ; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb ; Indian corn, small old, 28s to 29s ; ditto American mixed, 23s to 23s 6d per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—At the Corn Exchange there was an improvement in the wheat trade, which was firm at late rates. Barley was inquired after, but there were not many especially good samples. Good trade for oats, also for peas and beans, prices for which were unaltered.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were a few samples of English wheat showing, which realised about 30s per qr. The foreign wheat trade keeps firm, with a fair demand from millers, but it was difficult to obtain any advance over last week's prices. Oats and maize were unaltered. There were a good few samples of malting barley shown, but they were only of moderate quality, for which 25s to 28s per qr was realised.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Few samples of new wheat offering yet, which sold at about late rates. Spring corn steady. Arrivals coastwise :—Wheat, 78 qrs ; oats, 270 ; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Wheat, a firm trade at last week's prices. Good supply of malting barley, which sold freely at 26s to 34s. Oats and beans firm.

Wakefield, Friday.—We have no change to report in the wheat trade to-day. American advices are a shade weaker, but with advancing rates of freight the cost of imports is, if anything, raised, and millers are compelled to pay full prices; the demand, however, rules quiet. Good stout Yorkshire barleys sells at 26s on rails, inferior is bad to sell. Maize, beans, and oats slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—English and foreign wheats are quoted firm at late rates on our to-day's market, but the business doing is small. The trade, however has been very fair during the past week. No alteration in feeding stuffs. New Yorkshire barley continues to come to market in good supply, but maltsters show little inclination to operate as yet.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Winchester, Saturday.—Wheat in moderate supply on our market to-day, which met a firm but slow trade at fully last week's prices. Best barley in fair demand at prices ranging from 28s to 34s. Inferior sorts, quiet trade at late rates. Oats and maize unaltered. Flour, 24s to 26s.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A very short supply of grain. Wheat in demand at full prices, red 30s, white up to 31s 6d. Oats, slow trade, new 17s to 18s ; old up to 24s. Barley, 25s to 28s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Small attendance and little business passing. English wheat, old, 13s to 13s 6d per 216lb ; oats, old, 14s 6d to 15s 6d ; oats, new, 10s to 11s 6d : beans, old, 14s to 15s ; oats new, 12s 6d to 13s 6d per 196lb ; maize, 24s to 25s per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—The market remains quiet, with very little change in prices. English wheat held for last week's full rates. Foreign rather firmer. Maize and oats steady. Barley favoured buyers. White wheats, 30s. to 32s. ; red, 28s to 30s per quarter.

Worksop, Wednesday.— Very good attendance. Fair supply of grain, and a fairly brisk market. White wheat (new), 29s to 29s 6d ; red wheat (new), 28s to 28s 6d ; old wheats up to 33s ; best barleys, 30s to 33s ; secondary, 26s to 28s ; grinding, 25s ; new beans, 32s ; old ditto, 34s to 37s ; white oats (new), 17s to 19s ; black ditto (new), 15s to 16s 6d ; white oats (old), very scarce, 24s to 25s ; flat maize, 24s per qr.

York, Saturday.—The wheat trade was slow at last week's prices, and the qualities generally were poor. The averages of the week, according to the official corn return, based on imperial measure, have been :—Wheat, 27s 6d ; barley, 23s 11d ; and oats, 16s 11d per qr.

FOREIGN.

Antwerp wheat market has been pretty well maintained, but the amount of business passing has been somewhat restricted. The latest estimate as to the French wheat crop places it at 107,533,000 hectolitres, as compared with 129,005,500 hectolitres in 1899. The estimated falling off in this year's crop as compared with that of 1899 is accordingly 21,472,500 hectolitres. The cause of this deficit was the less favourable atmospheric conditions which prevailed in the early part of the year ; some of the winter wheat was frozen, and had to be replaced with other cereals. The annual consumption of wheat in France, including wheat required for seeding, is estimated at 123,000,000 hectolitres, so that the deficiency for the year is about 15,500,000 hectolitres. It is calculated that the stock of wheat in farmers' hands at the commencement of August amounted to 20,800 000 hectolitres. Of course, however, wheat will have to be imported into France, to some extent, in 1900-1, and, upon the whole, some advance in prices is not improbable. The milling trade has shown, however, a disposition at present to resist any upward movement, and transactions have been carried through with some difficulty. Last week's sales of wheat at Marseilles amounted to 9,500 quintals. The wheat trade has shown no improvement at Paris. Flour for consumption has remained without change in the French capital. The Konigsberg and Dantzic wheat markets have also remained unaltered. The Odessa wheat market has ruled firm, but the demand on foreign account has, at the same time, not been active. At Ibrail business on export account has shown a fair amount of activity. The quantity of wheat now on route for Europe is returned at 960 000qr. as compared with 1,260,000qr at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 960,000qr is made up as follows :—France, 80,000 ; Belgium, 310,000qr ; Holland, 265,000qr ; Germany and the North, 115,000qr ; and Italy, Spain, &c., 190,000qr.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather seasonable. In the interior rain is wanted, shallow water in the rivers impeding traffic. The imports during the week amounted to :— Wheat, 3,367 tons ; rye, 3,490 tons ; barley, 9,782 tons ; maize, 6,660 tons. There is a fair demand for wheat hereby Holstein and Saale selling at 28s 6d to 29s 3d ; common Holstein at 27s 6d to 28s per 504lb f.o.b. For Hard Winter 2 29s 6d, and for River Plate 29s to 30s per 480lb is being paid. Rye quiet, 9 to 15. South Russian is offering at 22s 3d to 22s 9d per 448lb. c.i.f. Good to fine Saale barley is selling at 32s to 34s, finest at 36s to 38s, and the few choice lots offering are held at 38s to 40s 6d per 448lb. f.o.b. Fine Bohemian is held at 36s to 40s. Oderbruch at 31s 6d to 34s ; Moravian and Hungarian at 31s to 33s per 448lb f.o.b. Feeding barley quiet, 60-61 Ko. South Russian is offering at 18s 3d to 18s 6d per 400lb c.i.f. Hamburg. There is but little consumptive demand for maize ; most of the business done is for covering purposes. Mixed prompt is selling at 20s 9d to 21s, November-December at 21s, February at 19s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. JOHN PARISIUS.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley rules quiet, and prices are hardly maintained. Holders cannot get on and have to name limits. There is certainly some business after finest prices but when limits are named buyers are withdrawing. The selection is rather good and some lots of Saale and Bohemian of choice quality are obtainable at reasonable figures but Moravians are generally held at absurd prices.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Sept. 21 to 28, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	83,877 qrs.
Flour	74,900 ,,
Total	158,777 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Surplus	52,777 ,,

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

September 21st to 28th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	1,936	..	..	81,941	83,877
Barley	5,444	..	..	19,055	24,499
Malt	17,156	..	..	100	17,256
Oats	2,509	..	..	146,000	148,509
Rye	..	..	..	1,500	1,500
Beans	332	..	..	300	632
Peas	202	..	..	2,349	2,551
Maize	..	..	..	14,322	14,322
Tares	144	..	..	..	144
Lentils	..	..	..	165	165
Linseed	..	..	..	12,057	12,057
Rapeseed	40	..	..	1,091	1,131
Cottonseed	—	—	—	—	—
Farm Seeds	350	..	..	1,200	1,550
Flour { Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	19,252	..	..	80,493	99,745

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.

Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.		May 27		108,772 qrs.
,, 14	108,380 ,,		June 3		73,846 ,,
,, 21	128,902 ,,		,, 10		126,781 ,,
,, 28	51,234 ,,		,, 17		160,574 ,,
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,		,, 24		101,205 ,,
,, 11	82,912 ,,		July 1		152,500 ,,
,, 18	204,974 ,,		,, 8		112,761 ,,
,, 25	108,273 ,,		,, 15		116,850 ,,
Mar. 4	79,432 ,,		,, 22		89,245 ,,
,, 11	63,103 ,,		,, 29		118,314 ,,
,, 18	122,541 ,,		Aug. 5		104,234 ,,
,, 25	86,309 ,,		,, 1		102,160 ,,
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,		,, 9		103,353 ,,
,, 8	133,261 ,,		,, 26		82,367 ,,
,, 15	101,518 ,,		Sept. 2		73,600 ,,
,, 22	70,984 ,,		,, 9		83,791 ,,
,, 29	68,573 ,,		,, 16		107,684 ,,
May 6	96,343 ,,		,, 23		131,880 ,,
,, 13	72,852 ,,		,, 30		61,997 ,,
,, 20	101,429 ,,				

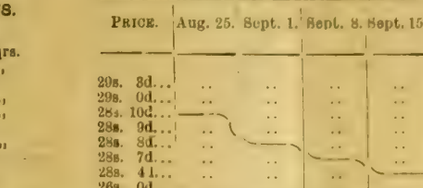
1900.

Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.		May 25		71,390 qrs.
,, 13	95,034 ,,		,, 31		177 744 ,,
,, 20	114,928 ,,		June 8		93,147 ,,
,, 27	124,652 ,,		,, 15		86,125 ,,
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,		,, 22		196,116 ,,
,, 10	75,000 ,,		,, 29		142,185 ,,
,, 17	66,804 ,,		July 6		132,950 ,,
,, 24	62,191 ,,		,, 13		101,253 ,,
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,		,, 20		82,294 ,,
,, 10	63,702 ,,		,, 27		55,098 ,,
,, 17	162,935 ,,		Aug. 2		86,167 ,,
,, 24	111,409 ,,		,, 11		192,077 ,,
,, 31	69,356 ,,		,, 18		138,510 ,,
April 7	48,302 ,,		,, 25		182,517 ,,
,, 13	131,085 ,,		,, 31		80,149 ,,
,, 20	82,357 ,,		Sept. 7		58,394 ,,
,, 27	43,783 ,,		,, 14		117,066 ,,
May 4	104,535 ,,		,, 21		105,931 ,,
,, 11	52,859 ,,		,, 28		158,771 ,,
,, 18	97,412 ,,				

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1899.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Sept. 9 ..	67,996½	25	5 ..	17,408½	26	5 ..	16,195	16	6
,, 16 ..	80,281½	25	4 ..	33,143⅞	27	1 ..	19,291½	16	2
,, 23 ..	85,104½	25	4 ..	77,678½	27	4 ..	22,128	16	1
,, 30 ..	79,612½	25	6 ..	97,917½	26	11 ..	23,193	16	5
Oct 7 ..	71,152½	26	0 ..	169,315½	28	0 ..	21,440½	16	5
,, 14 ..	63,040½	27	3 ..	191,901½	27	9 ..	18,024½	16	5
,, 21 ..	64,242	28	2 ..	192,268½	27	6 ..	18,934½	16	10
,, 28 ..	85,178½	28	1 ..	219,75[illegible]			20,034½	16	3
Nov. 4 ..	82,769⅜	27	2 ..	203,071⅜	27	2 ..	17,895½	16	7
,, 11 ..	66,741⅜	26	7 ..	166,786⅜	26	9 ..	15,216⅜	16	5
,, 18 ..	65,470½	26	1 ..	163,915⅜	26	4 ..	16,313½	16	7
,, 25 ..	67,308⅜	25	8 ..	164,362½	26	2 ..	17,017½	16	7
Dec. 2 ..	72,974½	25	7 ..	163,441⅜	25	10 ..	22,575½	16	6
,, 9 ..	10,982½	25	7 ..	174,207	25	10 ..	21,421½	16	5
,, 16 ..	78,772½	25	4 ..	135,341⅜	25	7 ..	22,889½	16	1
,, 23 ..	67,102½	25	6 ..	116,757⅜	25	10 ..	16,447⅜	16	0
,, 30 ..	47,685½	25	9 ..	74,637⅜	25	5 ..	10,463⅜	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6 ..	40,086	25	9 ..	65,347½	25	7 ..	13,380⅝	16	4
,, 13 ..	57,021⅞	25	11 ..	83,421⅞	25	5 ..	19,705	16	6
,, 20 ..	68,463⅛	26	0 ..	100,925⅜	25	8 ..	23,122⅜	16	5
,, 27 ..	65,381⅛	25	10 ..	108,357⅜	25	9 ..	17,814⅜	16	8
Feb. 3 ..	73,796⅜	25	8 ..	90,769⅛	25	4 ..	22,061⅛	16	3
,, 10 ..	71,482⅞	25	10 ..	80,543⅜	25	3 ..	20,822⅜	16	2
,, 17 ..	76,611⅛	26	1 ..	80,414⅜	24	11 ..	20,986⅜	16	1
,, 24 ..	69,534⅛	26	3 ..	68,931⅜	25	1 ..	21,132⅜	16	10
Mar. 3 ..	68,153⅛	26	4 ..	51,727⅛	24	6 ..	18,499⅛	16	11
,, 10 ..	58,703⅛	25	11 ..	44,921⅛	24	8 ..	16,224	16	11
,, 17 ..	76,435⅝	25	10 ..	46,053	24	6 ..	20,101⅝	16	10
,, 24 ..	69,944⅛	25	11 ..	38,147	25	0 ..	17,042⅝	17	1
,, 31 ..	72,762	25	10 ..	34,387⅜	24	11 ..	15,200⅜	17	2
April 7 ..	67,743⅜	25	10 ..	20,402⅜	24	10 ..	13,757⅜	17	2
,, 14 ..	66,412½	25	11 ..	19,519½	24	5 ..	9,672½	17	8
,, 21 ..	54,977⅜	26	0 ..	11,673⅜	24	9 ..	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28 ..	70,006⅜	26	0 ..	7,785⅜	25	2 ..	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5 ..	75,410⅛	25	11 ..	8,159⅛	25	3 ..	8,658⅛	18	0
,, 12 ..	82,190⅜	25	11 ..	10,417⅜	24	10 ..	12,245⅜	17	11
,, 19 ..	83,941⅜	25	7 ..	5,638⅛	24	5 ..	9,942	18	5
,, 26 ..	95,574⅜	25	5 ..	3,521⅛	23	11 ..	7,350⅜	18	2
June 2 ..	68,906⅜	25	5 ..	1,752⅜	24	4 ..	6,702	18	6
,, 9 ..	64 747½	25	3 ..	990⅜	23	8 ..	6 053⅜	18	8
,, 16 ..	55,340⅜	25	6 ..	1,486⅜	23	8 ..	7,228⅛	18	11
,, 23 ..	54,324⅛	25	9 ..	1,312⅛	23	5 ..	5,344⅛	18	11
,, 30 ..	44,920⅜	26	11 ..	495⅜	23	4 ..	4,706⅛	19	3
July 7 ..	34,341⅜	27	10 ..	486⅜	22	10 ..	4,391⅛	19	5
,, 14 ..	22,009⅛	28	7 ..	949⅜	23	2 ..	2,911⅜	19	1
,, 21 ..	26,716⅜	29	0 ..	767⅜	23	8 ..	3,771⅛	19	3
,, 28 ..	33,088	29	3 ..	194⅛	24	4 ..	3,335⅜	19	9
Aug. 4 ..	45,745⅜	28	10 ..	400⅛	23	10 ..	3,453⅜	19	4
,, 11 ..	37,644⅜	28	7 ..	311⅛	23	7 ..	3,391	19	8
,, 18 ..	32,812⅛	28	10 ..	608⅜	23	3 ..	3,593⅜	19	11
,, 25 ..	26,427⅛	28	10 ..	787⅛	24	10 ..	5,319⅛	18	8
Sept. 1 ..	30,393⅜	28	8 ..	1,978⅛	25	2 ..	9,606⅜	18	1
,, 8 ..	34,755⅛	28	7 ..	6,140⅜	25	8 ..	11,042⅛	17	10
,, 15 ..	58,334⅛	28	4 ..	20,879⅜	25	4 ..	18,684⅛	17	1
,, 22 ..	61,468⅛	28	4 ..	41,284⅛	26	0 ..	21,729⅜	17	1
,, 29 ..	72,604	28	9 ..	68,844½	26	1 ..	25,620⅛	17	2

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL)

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890 ..	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891 ..	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892 ..	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893 ..	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894 ..	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895 ..	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896 ..	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897 ..	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898 ..	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899 ..	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat	Barley.	Oats	1900. Wheat.	Barley	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	19 5
September ..	25 4	26 10	16 5	..	..	..
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, September 25th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	3,723	4	5,088	2	0	1	10	7
Barley	1,009	4	1,506	4	0	1	9	10
Oats	2,416	4	2,153	8	6	0	17	10

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Sept 29th, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	72,604 qrs.	28s.	9d.
Barley	68,844½ qrs.	26s.	1d.
Oats	25,620½ qrs.	17s.	2d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Sept. 29th, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	56,787⅞	.. 25	2	128,125	.. 28	7	12,512⅞	.. 14	9
1897....	81,542	.. 33	4	127,008	.. 29	10	15,106½	.. 16	4
1898....	80,909½	.. 25	9	117,759⅜	.. 27	0	27,014½	.. 16	7
1899....	79,612½	.. 25	6	97,917⅜	.. 26	11	23,193	.. 16	5

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	36	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	..		22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	..		23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov. ..	..		22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..	22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9	

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June ..	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July ..	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	..		25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	..		24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	..		24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec. ..	..		24	6	29	0	39	8	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..	26	9	45	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½	

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 1.....	28	6	25	6
,,	....		....	

(No official change since last date given).

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	221,000	176,000	240,000	105,000	69,000
Russia	21,000	—	4,000	254,000	252,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary .	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	115,000	—	3,000	57,000	—
Argentina	80,000	—	63,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia ..	—	5,000	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ..	30,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	467,000	191,000	330,000	436,000	331,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	s.	d.
Sept. 1, 1900 ..... (per sack)	30	0
,, ...	....	

(No official change since last date given).

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Trade slow, prices firm. Quotations. Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Surrey, 2s 3d to 3s 6d; Sussex, 2s 6d to 3s; Welsh 1s 9d to 2s; Boston, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Irish, 1s 6d; geese, 4s 6d to 6s 6d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 6d to 3s; country 2s 3d to 2s 9d. Bordeaux pigeons, 7d to 9d; wild rabbits, 8d to 10d; tame, 1s to 1s 3d each; Australian, 7s 9d to 9s 6d per dozen; hares, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s 6d each; young guinea-fowls, 6s 7s; old, 3s 6d to 4s; young partridges, 4s to 4s 6d; old, 1s 10d to 2s per brace; venison, haunches, 15s to 18s each; forequarters, 3d per lb.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: With strong cables for vices, and steady country consumptive demand, there was a firm market, especially for Irish cuts, which are in light supply, and there is an advance in quotations with higher tendency for next week. We quote, to-day, choice Cumberland cut, 20lb to 22lb, 46s to 51s; 26lb to 30lb, 46s to 50s; 34lb to 38lb, 43s to 49s; long middles, rib-in, 18lb to 22lb, 49s to 52s; clear bellies 14lb to 16lb, 47s 6d to 51s 6d; 18lb to 20lb, 47s to 51s; Staffordshire cut (lean on), 35lb to 40lb, and Birmingham cut, 33lb to 31lb, 44s to 46 6d; clear Staffords (lean off), 40lb to 44lb, and Yorkshire cut, 40lb to 45lb, 43s 6d to 45s 6d; singed Wiltshire, Canadian, 45lb to 55lb, 58s to 61s; American, 44lb to 56lb, 48s to 50s; short clear backs, 12lb to 16lb, 44s 6d to 48s; 16lb to 20lb, 43s to 43s 6d; fat backs (export), 39s 6d to 41s 6d; long clear middles, 35lb to 40lb, 44s to 45s; 40lb to 45lb, 43s to 44s; short clear middles, 45lb to 50lb, 42s to 42s 6d; short middles (rib in), 18lb to 23lb, 48s 6d to 51s. Shoulders steady, square cut, 12lb to 14lb, 36s to 41s; 14lb to 16lb, 35s to 39s; New York cut, 11lb to 13lb, 32s 6d to 34s per cwt. Hams are in better request and a shade dearer in value. We quote choice long cut, 8lb to 12lb, 48s to 53s; 14lb to 16lb, 47s 6d to 52s; short cut and A.C., 10lb to 12lb, 47s 6d to 51s 6d; 12lb to 14lb, 46s to 50s; 14lb to 16lb, 44s to 48s per wt. Lard is very firmly held, but there is no advance in quotations. We quote pails and kegs, 39s 6d to 40s; prime Western (in tierces), 37s 9d to 38s per cwt. Beef quiet but steady. We quote extra India mess, 70s to 75s; plate and packet, 65s to 67s 6d per 304lbs. Pork, with light supplies, has advanced in price. We quote finest prime mess, 70s to 75s per 200lbs. Cheese.—The demand has ruled moderate, but with steady cables holders have been firm in their ideas of value of strictly finest qualities, and the market is about unchanged on the week. We quote finest Canadian, coloured, 54s to 55s; white, 53s 6d to 54s 6d; States coloured, 53s 6d to 54s 6d; white, 52s 6d to 53s 6d. Second grades in light supply sell readily from 46s to 51s per cwt. Butter quiet and easier, quotations for Continental and Irish being lower. We quote, to-day, finest Canadian creamery, in boxes, 100s to 102s; States, 92s to 98s; finest ladles, imitation creamery, 80s to 85s; finest Danish, 106s to 112s; Irish creamery, 100s to 105s; Cork firsts, 90s; seconds, 82s; thirds, 79s per cwt. — HODGSON BROTHERS.

Newport, Wednesday.—The supply was good, and there was a fair attendance. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 54s to 56s per cwt; fancy dairies, 58s to 62s; singles, 50s to 54s; Cheddars, 58s to 60s; doubles, 58s to 60s.

Preston, Tuesday.—The monthly cheese fair was largely attended. The market opened firm, sellers asking the extreme price. A slow trade was done at higher rates than at the last fair, Common 48s to 55s 6d; medium 58s to 63s; best 65s 6d to 71s; one or two lots fetching 74s per cwt.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A good supply of vegetables ruled slow. Potatoes met a better demand. Good supplies of fruit were in fair demand. Cauliflowers, Cabbages, 3s 6d to 4s; beetroots, 3s per tally; cucumbers, 6d to 2d per dozen; carrots, 2s 6d; turnips, 2s 3d to 3s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d; leeks, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; celery, 9s to 12s per dozen bundles; horseradish 1s to 1s 3d per bundle; Valencia onions, 5s 6d per case; Dutch, 3s 6d per bag. Potatoes:—Beauty of Hebron, 70s. Snowdens, 90s to 100s; Early Regents, 60s; Early Puritans, 70s to 80s per ton. Fruit:—English grapes, 6d to 1s 3d per lb; Denia, 3s to 6s per barrel; English apples, 1s to 5s. [illegible] per bushel; ditto Williams, 1s 6d to 2s per half-sieve; Californian, 4s to 7s per case; French Williams, 3s to 5s per crate; plums, 1s to 1s 6d; damsons, 1s to 1s 6d per half-sieve; English peaches, 2s to 3s 6d per dozen; Valencia melons, 3s to 6s per case; pine-apples, 1s 6d to 3s 6d each; bananas, 5s to 9s per bunch; lemons, 8s to 12s per case.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—At this morning's [illegible] were in [illegible] and [illegible] steady, with prices from [illegible] to 4s; Early Puritans, 3s 6d to 4s; Scotch, 3s 6d to 4s; Reading Giants, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Dunbars, 3s 6d to 3s 6d; Up-to-Dates, 3s to 4s per cwt.

Worcester, Saturday.—[illegible] week's very quiet trading [illegible] The [illegible] steadily [illegible] is the [illegible] pleasing [illegible] pockets have [illegible] this week [illegible] AND CO.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—[illegible] over, and [illegible] some, however, [illegible] until after the [illegible] at 2s 10s. per cwt. [illegible] and [illegible]

Worcester, Saturday.—[illegible] week's very quiet trading [illegible] The [illegible] steadily [illegible] is the [illegible] pleasing [illegible] pockets have [illegible] this week [illegible] AND CO.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

September had, up to the close of Michaelmas Day, a total rainfall of less than one inch in the Home Counties, and of less than two inches even in Cornwall and Wales. The crops have been secured with ease and comfort, and the losses through unripened grain are the smallest that the North has known for years. The root crop promises to be very heavy of swedes and mangolds, but potatoes run small and the turnips would have preferred another two inches of September rainfall.

The French Government report on the crops gives the wheat yield in that country at 37,500,000 qrs., so that 1900 will rank with the medium years. Following are French crop yields, in millions of qrs.:

Good years.	Medium years.	Bad years.
1890 : 41	1892 : 39	1891 : 28
1894 : 44½	1900 : 37½	1893 : 33
1895 : 41	.....	1897 : 30½
1896 : 42		
1898 : 45		
1899 : 44		

France has had six good crops out of eleven, and only three bad ones. The stock of old wheat is reckoned at fully 3,000,000 qrs., which brings up the total of the farmers' holdings to 40½ millions, leaving only 2½ millions to be imported. We question, however, if the prudent and prosperous French farmer will sell much of the three millions, and the imports of France in the new cereal year may easily reach five million qrs.

The eagerness of Indian merchants to secure British gold payments is evidenced in attempts already making to sell the April harvest. The English merchants are bidding 31s. to 32s. for white Calcutta wheat, and as 32s. 6d. is the price asked by Calcutta firms business will to some extent probably be done. The Indian Government should, in our opinion, prohibit grain exports from India until it is known that there is an export surplus. It is strange but true that several Indian grain ships have in the past been on their way to England with bought cargoes, passing coasts where natives were dying by thousands for want of grain. The promise of the growing wheat in India is excellent, but a drought from January to harvest would alter this prospect completely. No contract in English law is valid if it be contrary to public policy, but contracts to ship grain from India are legally enforceable there, even if the time for shipment finds a province starving.

The wheat markets of the United Kingdom for the last six days of September were slow, with imported produce only saleable at a slight decline. The demand for London and country flour is up to an average, but American flour is rather neglected.

The quantity of wheat on passage to the United Kingdom on 1st October is estimated as follows:—

	Qrs.
Russian	120,000
Californian	875,000
North American	460,000
South ,, ...	245,000
Australasian	230,000
All other countries	10,000
1st Oct., 1900	1,940,000
1st Oct., 1899.....	1,535,000
1898.....	1,130,000
1897.....	1,215,000
1896.....	1,585,000

The present quantity is below the ten years' average of 2,000,000, but it exceeds that of any year since 1895. The comparatively small totals on 1st October are due of recent years to slower shipments of the American new crop, by which we mean not that the shipments come more slowly when once started (for steamers are coming more and more into use), but that the former rush to sell has been replaced by a more conservative feeling. American farmers are better off than they were five years ago, and can afford a more leisurely placing of their grain.

Of spring corn the following quantities are estimated as being afloat, the comparison, as in the case of wheat, being with the 1st October in the four preceding years:—

	Maize.	Barley.
	Qrs.	Qrs.
1st Oct., 1900.....	765,000 ..	570,000
,, 1899.....	965,000 ..	510,000
,, 1898.....	570,000 ..	460,000
,, 1897.....	835,000 ..	580,000
,, 1896.....	1,130,000 ..	570,000

The maize now afloat includes 420,000 qrs. of flat and 300,000 qrs. of yellow corn, while of the barley 245,000 qrs. are coming from California, and 240,000 qrs. from Russia. There are 11,000 qrs. of beans on passage; 5,000 qrs. from Egypt.

The imports of wheat of late have been fair, and the supplies of English show some increase. Last week's figures are;—

	Qrs.
Foreign wheat sales	262,000
,, flour sales	160,000
Total.....	422,000
English wheat sales	138,000
Total.....	560,000

Stocks are estimated at 2,378,000 qrs. of foreign wheat. Imports of spring corn are as follows:—

	Qrs.
Barley	90,245
Oats	205,725
Maize	173,700
Beans	25,250
Peas	7,000

There is a good sale of seeds at very irregular prices. Quality always varies greatly in the offerings on the seed market, but it is the common remark that scarcely ever has it done so to the extent observable this autumn. Trefoil is in good request, but foreign sorts are of poor quality for the most part. New Dutch mustard seed moves off briskly. Good winter tares continue to sell well and to command 8s. to 10s. per qr. more money than at the end of September last year. The heavy showers of the 27th and 28th were very welcome to farmers waiting to sow. New American red clover-seed was on offer at Mark Lane on Friday last; 55s. was asked for choice and 48s. for ordinary, prices which buyers resisted. The price of Canadian clover-seed makes 64s. for red and 80s. for white, while Canadian Alsyke has buyers at 74s. to 76s., German at 50s. to 64s. French lucerne commands 58s. for finest, with very fair quality on offer at 54s. to 55s. per cwt.

The market for miscellaneous feeding stuffs is fairly good, and the choice is wide. There is a certain sale of ground rice at 10s. per cwt., of rice flour at 24s. per sack, and of rough uncleaned rice at 6s. per cwt. It is said to be a fair equipoise in a ration to the effect of maize meal, which is a trifle laxative. There is a good demand for buckwheat, mainly for pheasants, and Germany is shipping small parcels of fifty to 100 tons at 27s. to 27s 6d. per qr. The action of brewers in raising the price of "brewers' grains" 5s. to 7s. 6d. per ton is likely to turn buyers' attention in other directions. Malt cooms are difficult to obtain. Rye flour has a certain sale at 21s. for best. Some fine American middlings are reaching our ports, and 117s. 6d. per ton landed is asked.

The oilseed trade continues to be in a special position. Of linseed only 60,000 quarters are on passage against 235,000 quarters a year ago. This difference is not to be denied, and in face of it to call the present state of the oilseed market "a corner" is a misnomer. The prices asked for linseed, however, are extremely high, and with neither India or Argentina able to respond to buyers' requests it is hard to say how any fall is to be looked for. The Indian new crops are being freely speculated in, but not a sack of Indian linseed is likely to be sold on Mark Lane before May day, and between now and then the crushers and makers of linseed cake have to meet the winter demand. The Egyptian cottonseed crop is now being secured, and shipments of new cottonseed will begin from November 1 next. How far this will meet the demand for oilseeds remains to be seen, but old cottonseed of the 1899 crop has touched £8 per ton, the highest price for many years.

THE BALTIC.

The speculative trade in grain to-day took up rooms (while the new premises in St. Mary Axe are being completed) at the Great Eastern Hotel, 190, Bishopsgate-street. The quarter is somewhat inconveniently east for the majority of frequenters, but of course the difficulties of finding temporary accommodation were very great. The hotel moreover offers exceptional facilities for all sorts of refreshments, and the rooms are on the ground floor.

Wheat cargoes have been rather difficult to place of late, but the following sales have been effected:—

	Arrived.	On Passage.	Futures.
Californian.....	32s. 6d.	32s. 6d.	32s. 6d.
Walla Walla	—	31s. 0d.	—
Argentine	—	—	31s. 0d.
Australian.....	32s. 3d.	31s. 6d.	—
Duluth	32s. 3d.	32s. 6d.	—
Odessa Ghurka ..	—	31s. 6d.	—
No. 1 Northern ..	32s. 6d.	31s. 3d.	—

A cargo of Indian new crop was sold on Saturday for April shipment at 32s. 3d. per qr.—a price arguing a strong confidence in the course of trade after 1901 is once reached.

Other cargo sales of the week embrace American maize at 20s. 3d. on passage, clipped American oats at 14s. on passage and 14s. 3d. arrived, barley at 26s. 6d. for Californian prompt shipment, and 30s. 6d. for Saida beans, also prompt shipment.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 2 wheat from California, 1 fenugreek seed (Saffi)—total, 3.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 3 wheat (1 Cardiff, 1 Cork, 1 North Shields), 1 barley (Mistley), 1 beans (Girvan), 2 fenugreek seed (Hull) total, 7.

The cargo trade may be reminded that at the end of this week the premises of Dornbusch will be removed to No. 11, Tokenhouse Yard, facing the north side of the Bank of England.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was steady for new English wheat, of which the supply was by no means large. Foreign was very dull. New Zealand long berried was held for 32s. 3d., short berried for 31s. 3d. per qr. American sorts were generally above the ideas of buyers. The Russian shipments are in fair request, but then the total supply thereof is short. Persian barley was 3d. lower, 17s. 9d. offered, 18s. taken; for English less money was not accepted, but sales were poor for the first market of October. The best Canadian oats were offered at 15s. 6d. per qr., and the best Scotch and New Zealand made 24s. Between these prices ordinary English sorts were slow. Russian sorts, at 14s. upwards, were hard to place. Some peas from Morocco found buyers at 28s. per qr. Lentils had a certain sale at 13s. per cental for split Egyptian. The trade in maize was against holders, but for immediate delivery a tolerably good price continued to be obtainable. The trade in oilseed showed excellent prices still ruling.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

OCT. 1st, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	31	— 33
(old)	,,	32	— 34
Red (new)	,,	29	— 32
(old)	,,	30	— 33
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	28	— 36
Brewing	,,	24	— 28
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Brown	,,	29	— 32
OATS, English (new)	,,	18	— 20
(old)	,,	20	— 23
Scotch	,,	22	— 24
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 19
RYE, British (new)	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 28
(old)	,,	25	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	43	— 45
,, Winter	,,	33	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	— 76
,, Dun	,,	32	— 34
,, Maple (new)	,,	37	— 38
,, (old)	,,	39	— 41

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	34	— 35
American Spring	33/6	—34
Hard Manitoba	33/6	—34
Red Winter	32	— 33
Kansas	32	— 33
Californian	32	— 33
Walla Walla	31	— 32
Australian	31	— 32
New Zealand	30	— 32
Argentine	29	— 32
Danzig	34	— 35
Saxonka	33	— 34
Azima	32	— 33
Ghirka	31	— 32
Persian	30	— 31
MAIZE, per 480lb.:		
Cinquantina	26	— 27
Roumanian	24	— 25
Russian	24	— 26
Caucasian	23	— 24
Argentine	22	— 23
American	21	— 22
OATS:		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	16	— 17
American (320lb.)		
,, White	16	— 17
,, Mixed	15	— 16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	— 17
,, (304lb.)	14	—14/3
Libau, white (304lb.)	13	—13/9
,, black ,,	15	—15/3
White Sea (304 lb.)	13/9	—14
BEANS, per 480lb.:		
Egyptian	32	— 33
Smyrna	29	— 30

	s.	s.
BEANS (*continued*).		
Konigsberg	28	— 29
Barbary	27	— 28
Mexican	28	— 30
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Cyprian	106	— 112
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	30	— 31
Indian, White	28	— 30
,, Green	25	— 27
Barbary	26	— 28
Australian, White	40	— 41
,, Dun	26	— 27
LENTILS, per 504 lb.:		
Egyptian	31	— 33
Indian	36	— 38
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	26	— 27
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb.:		
French	29	— 30
Russian	27	— 28
BARLEY:		
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 28
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Syrian (400 lb.)	25	— 29
Persian (400 lb.)	18	—18/3
American (400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	34	— 37
Smyrna	33	— 36

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED.	per 416lb. s.	s.
English	60	to 62
Dutch	59	to 61
Argentine	56	to 58
Canadian	59	to 61
Russian	55	to 57
Calcutta	58	to 60
SESAME.	per 424lb.	
Bombay	30	to 32
Kurrachee	53	to 54
COTTON SEED.	per ton.	
Egyptian	155	to 160

RAPESEED.	per 416lb. s.	s.
English	56	to 60
Dutch	54	to 56
French	47	to 48
Roumanian	44	to 46
Cawnpore	46	to 47
Calcutta	43	to 44
Guzerat	50	to 51
Ferozepore	44	to 45
Ravison	30	to 32
POPPYSEED.	per 377lb.	
Indian	47	to 49

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE MARKET CLOSED THREEPENCE PER QUARTER LOWER FOR FEEDING STUFFS. WHEAT AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Oct. 1st.

The flour market to-day was 6d. lower for some sorts, but not as a rule cheaper. The strength of the American market, which upholds spot values here, is felt to be very uncertain. Town Households were quoted 25s. 6d., with sellers' cash ex-mill at 25s. For country patents 25s. was seldom refused; ordinary roller-made was 3d. to 6d. down on the week. Of the finest American sorts those of Pillsbury, Washburn, and Morrison tie at 27s. to 27s. 6d. per sack, while "Star," the top-price North-Western type, is at 28s. 3d. to 28s. 6d. per sack. The good secondary grades come at 26s. for Briggs's Patent, down to 21s. 6d. for Iron Duke. Kansas "Dazzle" may be quoted at 25s., while "Phœnix" and other sorts of high-class feeding flour are at 15s. to 15s. 6d. per sack. These are not sorts intended for human consumption, but for mixture in rations for live stock. Hungarian flour to-day made 31s. per "Six Anchors," 30s. 6d. for "Five Roses," 28s. for E. O. P. "Three Stars," and 27s. 9d. for "Two Anchors." All other Hungarian sorts were unchanged.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	30
Town Whites	,,	—	28/6
,, Households	,,	—	25/6
No. 2	,,	—	23/6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	25	— 27
Fine Roller made	,,	24	— 25
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22	— 24
Best Stone made	,,	21	— 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	20	— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	26	— 27
,, Second Patents	,,	24	— 25
,, First Bakers'	,,	21	— 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Milwaukee Patents	,,	25	— 27
,, Bakers'	,,	21	— 23
Kansas Patents	,,	24	— 26
Cascadia	,,	24/6	—25
Canadian	,,	24/6	—25
Australian	,,	23	— 24
Hungarian	,,	29	— 32
French	,,	21	— 24

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	190	—192
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	110	—112
Bran, London Broad	,,	99	—104
,, ,, Fine	,,	78	— 84
,, Country Flake	,,	108	—110
,, ,, Broad	,,	96	— 98
Pollard	,,	92	— 94
Fine Middlings	,,	118	—122
Coarse Middlings	,,	102	—108
Oat Meal	,,	220	—280
Oat Flour	,,	340	—360
Maize Flour	,,	132	—134
Maize Meal	,,	114	—124
Maize Cones	,,	144	—150
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	106	—110
Pea Meal	,,	128	—158
Bean Meal	,,	152	—172
Rice Meal	,,	92	— 98

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day at South Sea House, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—	Sept.	Oct.	Dec.	March.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sept. 24 noon	6 10	6 11	7 0	7 2
4 p.m.	6 10	6 10	7 0	7 1
Sept. 25 noon	6 10	6 10	7 0	7 1
4 p.m.	6 10	6 10	7 0	7 2
Sept. 26 noon	6 10	6 10	7 0	7 2
4 p.m.	6 11	6 10	7 0	7 1
Sept. 27 noon	6 11	6 10	6 11	7 2
4 p.m.	6 11	6 10	6 11	7 2
Sept. 28 noon	—	6 10	6 11	7 1
4 p.m.	—	6 10	6 11	7 2
Sept. 29 noon	—	6 10	6 11	7 2
To-day noon	—	6 9	6 10	7 0

Maize cargoes made to-day 3s. 10d. for June delivery, and 4s. 4d. for October. Dates between show 4s. as the price expected to prevail at Christmas.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that, although red clover-seed has of late been less active, full prices are asked by holders. Alsyke white and trefoil show this week no quotable alteration. As regards the ryegrass market holders exhibit extreme firmness. Seed rye and winter tares, owing to the recent meagre demand, have favoured buyers; whilst for blue peas and haricot beans the tendency of values is still upwards. Canary-seed is quiet, but hempseed is dearer. More money is asked for rapeseed; meantime mustard remains steady. The Board of Trade Returns give the imports of clover and grass seeds into the United Kingdom for the month of August as 6,162 cwt., value £11,467, as against 14,361 cwt., value £32,605, for August, 1899.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Wheat and flour arrivals are large. Trade is quiet, and prices of both articles are unchanged. Maize, barley, and oats are all 3d. and 6d. per qr. lower.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Flour: A quiet trade at 3d. to 6d. under last Monday's prices.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

There is no great change to record in the market for town-made milling offals. Fine and coarse middlings continue to be delivered slowly to previous purchasers, but fresh buyers are scarce. Bran is firm at last week's prices.—RICHARD DOUGETT, Mark Lane.

The arrivals of wheat and flour into London have again been liberal. Although there is little variation in quotations, the trend of prices is certainly in buyers' favour. Oats, with heavy supplies, are 3d. lower. Barley 6d. and maize 3d. cheaper. Flour held generally at last week's values. W. P. WOOD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Offals.—The inquiry for bran at the moment is dull; consumptive demand very poor, prices unchanged. Pollard in moderate request, without alteration in value. Weather showery.—GREENHILL BROTHERS, Belfast, September 29.

Flour: Prices are unchanged on the week; buyers appear to have filled their wants meantime. Grain: Indian corn still extremely scarce and for delivery to-day 13s. per 280lb. is paid. Oats dull and Canadians are 1½d. per boll cheaper. Canadian peas and grinding beans are in sellers' favour. Mill stuffs: Thirds are unchanged, but bran for immediate delivery is rather easier.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, September 29.

Wheat quiet with a moderate extent of business at Tuesday's prices. Flour a quiet trade at Tuesday's prices. Maize moves more slowly into consumption, and ½d. per cental decline was accepted for mixed. European, owing to scarcity, is steadily held with a moderate trade. Prime Plate steady at quotations. Barley for malting is firm, with a good demand for Chevalier and Californian, and full prices are obtainable. Feeding steady, unchanged. Beans are slow at about unchanged prices. Peas steady but quiet at ½d. decline for Canadians; other sorts unchanged. Oats—English are firm with a good demand. Foreign sorts are quiet and the turn in buyers' favour. Oatmeal firm, with a moderate trade at 6d. advance. Oilcake firm, but high prices check business.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, Sept. 29.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

The cargo market is occasionally 3d. lower for wheat on passage and for October shipment. Maize cargoes, on the other hand, are a better trade from Saturday. Barley cargoes favour buyers. Oats are lower for both Russian and American cargoes for October shipment.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 32s, on passage; Walla Walla, 30s 6d, on passage; Argentine, 30s 3d, on passage; Australian, 31s, on passage; best Manitoba, 33s, Oct. shipment; No 1 Northern, 32s 3d, Oct. shipment; best Duluth, 33s 3d, Oct. shipment; Calcutta white, 32s 1½d, April shipment.

MAIZE.—Galatz, 22s 9d, Oct. shipment; Argentine, 21s 6d, Oct. shipment; American, old crop, 20s 6d, Oct. shipment; American, new crop, 18s 6d, Feb. shipment.

BARLEY.—Californian, 26s 3d, October shipment; Persian, 17s 3d, October shipment; Odessa, 19s 6d, on passage.

OATS.—White Canadian, 15s, on passage.

BEANS.—Saida, 30s, October shipment; Smyrna, 27s 6d, October shipment; Chilian haricots, 45s, October shipment.

DARI.—American, 21s 6d, October shipment.

BUCKWHEAT.—French, 26s 6d, October shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 57s 6d, arrived; 46s 6d, May shipment.

RAPESEED.—Guzerat, 50s, October shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £8, due; £7, October shipment.

All firms customarily addressed "South Sea House" may, whilst the Baltic is rebuilding, be addressed Great Eastern Hotel, 190, Bishopsgate-street Without, E.C.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 2,805 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 8,160 bales bacon. Owing to a shortness of supply from both Denmark and Canada there was a very strong market for bacon last week, and on Friday prices were advanced on Irish and Danish some 2s to 4s. Canadian remained unchanged. The killings are still reported light, so the prospect is for continued firmness. Irish, 56s. 6s. to 64s; Danish, 58s. 6s. to 65s; Canadian, 56s to 60s. The butter trade continued very quiet. Danish was again somewhat easier, trade generally being slow. Danish, 108s to 110s; Irish, 92s to 106s; Colonial, 102s to 106s; Canadian, 98s to 102s. Lard very firm at unchanged rates.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: The trade doing is limited to what the growers will allow factors to offer. More business might be done if the growers would listen to current rates, but the crop coming down so exceedingly light makes them very conservative in their offerings. Now that the picking is finished it is ascertained that 6½ cwts per acre is the utmost that England has produced this year.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Oct. 1st, 1900.

	British.	Total Oct. 2nd 1899.
Beasts	1,[illegible]	1,[illegible]
Sheep and lambs	[illegible]	[illegible]
Calves	30	10
Pigs	70	1
Milch cows	20	70

Quotations per stone (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior. s. d.		Second. s. d.		First. s. d.
Beasts	3 4	—	4 [illegible]	—	4 [illegible]
Sheep	3 2	—	5 0	—	5 10
Lambs	[illegible]		[illegible]		[illegible]

Milch cows, per head, £[illegible] to £[illegible]

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, —; Eastern Counties 10; Midland Home and Western Counties 1,[illegible]; Devon, 30; Ireland —.

There was to-day a fair average supply of [illegible] on offer, the majority of which [illegible] second quality, and [illegible] trade at lower rates. Amongst the best [illegible] were two three-year-old steers [illegible] [illegible] of 1[illegible] to £[illegible] 10s. per head. [illegible] Hereford and [illegible] rates. For [illegible] were [illegible] prices, and met with a little inquiry.

The following are top quotations per stone (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Oct. 2, 1899.
Devons	4s [illegible] to 4s 0d	[illegible]
Herefords	4s [illegible] to 4s [illegible]	4s [illegible] to 4s [illegible]
Runts	4s [illegible] to 4s 0d	4s [illegible] to 4s [illegible]
Lincolns	4s 0d to 4s 4d	3s 10d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s [illegible] to 4s [illegible]	4s [illegible] to 4s [illegible]
Fat cows	3s [illegible] to 4s 2d	3s [illegible] to 4s [illegible]

There was a decrease of one-third in the number present in the sheep market, this being due to a scarcity of really best quality were soon disposed of at [illegible] rates. Foreign sheep trade ruled firm, with an [illegible] demand; [illegible] were short in number rates were easier. There were [illegible] 210 Scotch, 1,200 Irish and [illegible] from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per [illegible] (including the offal), and are for the best of each class [illegible]:

	To-day.	Oct. 2nd, 1899.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s [illegible] to 5s [illegible]	5s [illegible] to 5s [illegible]
9-stone ditto	5s 0d to 5s 8d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10-stone half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-stone half-breds	5s 0d to 5s 2d	— to —
12-stone Lincoln	— to —	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Down ewes	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11-stone half-bred ditto	5s 0d to 5s 2d	— to —
5-stone Down lambs	6s 0d to 6s 2d	— to —
6-stone half-bred ditto	5s 6d to 5s 8d	— to —

Calf trade nominal.

London Central, Monday.—Good supplies; trade [illegible]. Beef: Carcases, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; [illegible] to 4s 2d; hindquarters, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; forestings, 3s to 3s 4d. Sheep: Downs, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wether, 5s 4d to 5s 10d. Pigs, large, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Liverpool, Monday.—The supply of cattle in market to-day was larger and of sheep smaller than last week. Demand good for beef, though prices were not quotably higher. Sheep made late rates. Little [illegible] inquiry for best [illegible]. Beef, 10d to 11d per lb; mutton, 9d. to 9½d per lb. At market 1,435 cattle and 7,901 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake quiet trade with prices unaltered. Cotton cake 2s 6d dearer. Decorticated cotton cake inclined to be dearer owing to scarcity. Linseed 1s 9d lower on the week.

English linseed cake	£8 10 0	to	8 12 6	ex mill
American Calcutta linseed cake	None	to	—	ex quay
American Western linseed cake	—	to	7 17 6	ex quay
Russian oil cake	—	to	8 0 0	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 p.c. oil)	6 5 0			on rail Liverpool
Decorticated cotton cake	6 17 6	to	7 2 6	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6 12 6	to	—	ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	5 5 0	to	—	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	—		4 16 3	ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4 11 0			on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4 12 6	to	4 15 0	ex warehouse
Russian linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2 17 6	to	—	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2 18 0	to	—	ex warehouse

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

CORK BUTTER.

—	ORDINARY. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	MILD CURED FIRKINS. Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	SALTED FIRKINS.
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	91	87	81	76	93	88	—	108
Tuesday ..	91	86	82	72	92	—	—	383
Wednesday ..	91	85	82	[illegible]	92	88	—	—
Thursday ..	91	85	82	75	[illegible]	[illegible]	85	[illegible]
Friday ..	90	85	80	76	93	88	—	44
Saturday ..	90	82	80	77	92	88	—	678

Arrivals of Grain.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been 256 wheat, 13 wheat and barley, 1 wheat and pease, 6 flour, 10 maize, 1 maize and oats, 21 barley, 18 beans, 7 beans and oats, 1 linseed, 3 canary seed, 2 fenugreek seed, [illegible] cloves; total, 347.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 240 wheat, 10 flour, 3 maize, 6 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 8 beans, 1 beans and oats, 6 linseed, 5 canary seed, and 7 various; total, 288.

A farm [illegible] named Robert Gosken, aged seventy-three years, [illegible] on Sunday week from injuries received [illegible] being gored by a bull on a farm at Banham, Norfolk.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

So far as British beasts were concerned, the supply fell 365 short of last week's numbers, owing to small arrivals from the Midland Counties and also Ireland included in the latter being a few yearling stores, for which there was but little request, the prices asked ranging from £6 10s. to £7 per head. For fat beasts of both prime and second quality trade was of a very slow nature, with a slight downward tendency in value, though not sufficiently so to alter late quotations. On the chief market day a clearance was found to be impossible. Though there was a lighter supply of both butchering cows and bulls, they were more difficult to cash, the former meeting with less country demand; rates for both were consequently easier. At the foreign cattle market on neither of the three market days were the total arrivals shown, no less than 752 being held back and 1,755 shown. Trade on all days ruled extremely dull, rates being fully 2d. per 8lbs. lower than during the preceding week; even at this reduction sales were more or less forced. Amongst the arrivals from Canada was one of a large proportion of plain ranche cattle. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets was 6,067, consisting of 1,540 British and 4,527 foreign, these latter comprising 3,367 from the United States (decrease 103) and 1,160 from Canada (decrease 249). The following were the top prices paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—90-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d.; 80-stone Devons, 4s. 9d.; 90-stone Runts, 4s. 9d.; 100-stone ditto, 4s. 7d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 4d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90-stone Irish (Dublins), 4s. 6d.; 95-stone Waterfords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 1d. to 4s. 2d.; 85-stone Canadians, 3s. 7d. to 3s. 8d.; 90-stone fat cows, 3s. 8d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d. The sheep trade at Islington, so far as wethers were concerned, showed an entire absence of life, but in regard to value no alteration can be noted. The majority of the supply consisted of Downs, half-breds, and Irish arrivals from the Midland counties being much shorter. Ewes were more difficult to dispose of even at a reduction of 2d. per 8lbs. There is still inquiry for best quality lambs, even at higher rates, but any below this class were slower of sale. At Deptford trade ruled dull, but rates were steady. The total number penned at both markets was 9,679 (decrease 1,231), consisting of 8,350 British (decrease 2,070) and 1,329 Canadian (increase 839). Best pens made per 8lbs. as follows:—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 2d.; 12-stone half-breds, 5s.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d.; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 8½-stone Canadians, 4s.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 4d.; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 5s. 10d. Calves numbered sixty, being a slight increase on last week's numbers, and met a slower trade at less money, being quoted at 5s. 4d. per 8lbs., or 4d. lower than last week. Pigs were in fuller supply, and sold readily at an advance of 4d., best small breeds, 8 to 9-stone, making 4s. 10d. per 8lbs., sinking the offal.

Trade in the West.

The much-wanted rain has come at last, though we fear too late to have any very material effect on prices of store stock. Therefore the rain, if not beneficial in one way has been in another, and transactions have been entered into during the last few days at some of the latest fairs—notably that of Poundbury, Dorset. With a good delivery of the now famous Dorset Horns, to say nothing of the Downs penned, prices were well maintained here for the most serviceable drafts of flock ewes, which sold from 43s. up to 53s. apiece, lambs selling equally well. Store cattle are again in more request now there is a prospect of keep, and both barreners and dairy cows are already showing a little more buoyancy than of late; but fat bullocks and sheep have declined quite ½d. per lb. if not more, with a much quieter trade at the price. Veal keeps as does pork; but the fat stocks are made slower all round than they were, though it must be said that most of the stock now brought out is of a very ordinary stamp as a rule.

Trade in Ireland.

Though there was a good attendance of butchers and exporters at Dublin Market on Thursday last business was of a very dull nature, and cattle must be quoted from 10s. to 15s. per head down, and sheep 2s. to 3s. per head worse. With 1,276 beasts in market, an increase of 233 on previous week, this fall was so much to be wondered at, but in the case of sheep, with 7,949, a decrease of very close on 1,000, such a heavy fall was hardly to be expected. Really prime bullocks were scarce and brought full prices of last week, but choice heifers were not in the same demand. The fall was most noticeable in coarse, rough cattle, which moved very slowly, but towards the close of the market a good number of useful shipping beasts were picked up by exporters. Quotations may be given as follows: Prime ox and heifer beef, 55s. to 58s., and in a few cases 60s. per cwt.; second quality, 52s. to 54s.; and inferior, 44s. to 51s. per cwt. A clearance was effected with difficulty. In the sheep department, the trade for best wethers was fairly good, at about last week's rates, but all other classes met with a very slow dragging sale. The reasons advanced for the dulness in mutton are that the Transatlantic arrivals have been very heavy of late, and that large consignments of Iceland sheep are being imported at present; the latter are said to be of very inferior quality, but still their presence has a bad effect on the market. Prime wethers made from 6d. to 7d. per lb.; prime ewe, 5d. to 6d., and coarse, inferior sheep from 4½d. to 5d. per lb. Hoggets sold at from 30s. for light to 52s. for best heavy. Lamb season practically over, but a few nice fat ones made up to 30s. per head, choice milk-fed veal more in demand, owing to the close of the lamb season, and best calves made from 7½d. to 8d. per lb., but coarse descriptions were slow and cheap at from 4½d. to 6½d. per lb. All sorts of milch cattle continue to sell well, particularly best springers and newly-calved cows, which brought from £18 to £21 per head. Few store cattle in market, but at some large auctions held during the week prices were very satisfactory and demand good. The pig market fairly supplied, and buyers in good attendance. Trade steady, with prices about the same as last week, and an early clearance effected. Choice lightweight hogs made from 44s. to 46s. per cwt.; coarse, 35s. to 38s.; and inferior, 30s. to 34s. per cwt.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Ltd., give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The supplies of fat cattle on offer this week have been rather larger, and the general quality fair. The trade has been fairly steady, at prices much similar to those of last week, though secondary descriptions have sold slightly in buyers' favour. Fat cows have made more money. The supplies of fat sheep and lambs have been lighter. The best class of shop sheep have met a good demand, and prices have been maintained throughout for all classes. A good show of fat calves have met a dear trade, and a larger number of fat pigs continue to make high prices. In the store market there have been again large supplies of sheep and lambs. There has been a good inquiry, and everything has been easily sold at good prices. A considerably larger number of store cattle have been offered, and the most of them of a good description. There has been plenty of demand, and the majority have been sold at satisfactory prices to the seller. Milch cows were a small show, and met a trade similar to last week, the best class making a fairly good trade. Quotations:—Beef, from 8s. to 8s. 6d. per stone; mutton, from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies and steady sale. Arrivals include 40 tons Scotch, 820 Liverpool sides, 1,600 hindquarters, and 650 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef: Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 11d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8d to 5s; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 4d, Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork, English, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; and Dutch, 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Good supplies, but trade slow. Arrivals of beef included 60 tons Scotch, 800 Liverpool sides, 3,600 hindquarters, and 2,200 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; Liverpool, 3s 9d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; forequarters, best, 2s 5d to 2s 8d; seconds, 2s 2d to 2s 4d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8d to 5s; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 4d; Wellington, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; Canterbury, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s to 2s 1d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast entries fair, and chiefly fat bulls and rough cattle; trade slow. Sheep entries light, but inquiry very slack, late rates, however, being unaltered. 7½st to 8st Down wethers, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9st. 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10st half-breds, 5s¾d; 10st Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 11st half-bred, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. Calves, in fair supply, were about steady, the best making 5s 6d per stone to sink the offal. Pig trade quiet. Total supplies:—70 beasts, 1,880 sheep, 50 calves, 140 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef, good supply, with slow trade, making, prime 11s to 12s; medium, 9s 8d to 10s 6d; cows, 7s 6d to 8s per score. Mutton, 4d per stone cheaper all round. Pork: Roasters, 9s 6d to 11s per score; medium hogs, 9s to 10s; large hogs, 8s to 9s; little pigs (about six weeks), 10s 6d to 17s 6d.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons sale yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 31 fat beasts, 68 calves, 560 fat sheep and lambs, 267 pigs, and 58 head of dairy and store cattle, which realised the following prices:—Fat beasts, £12 10s to £22 5s; fat calves, 80s to £5 10s; small, 15s to 30s; fat wethers, 10s 6d to 50s 0d; fat ewes, 20s to 3 8s; fat lambs, 26s to 46s; fat hogs, 60s to 95s; fat porkers, 42s to 56s; small, 26s to 38s; store pigs, up to 15s; dairy cows, up to £21. The show of fat beasts included some prime quality Galloways from Wolverton Park and young Devons from Norsebury, which were cleared at very full prices, Galloway steers realising £18 10s; young heifers, £16 5s; young Devon steers, £15 15s; heifers, £14 5s; shorthorn steers, £16 10s; heifers, £15; and cows, £15 15s. For best quality fat sheep and lambs there is a good demand, but at rather low prices. Lean sheep are a dull trade, and prices lower. Hants down wethers and young ewes made 48s, 35s 6d, 46s 50s 6d, 45s, 50s, 44s 45s 6d, 44s 6d, 42s, 52s, 48s; 9 months old ditto, 32s, 43s 6d, 36s 6d, 40s 6d, 45s, 43s 6d, 41s 6d, 42s, 34s 6d, 46s, 37s, 37s 6d; southdowns, 33s 6d, 30s; 3 months old sucking lambs, 26s 6d, 37s, 20s 6d; old ewes, 39s, 38s 6d, 39s, 28s, 30s, 35s, 36s 6d; rams, 40s, 37s 6d; black face Scotch wethers, 29s; Dorset ewes, 34s 6d, 35s; southdown ewes, 31s, etc., etc. With an average entry of dairy cows on offer, prices throughout ruled better. Store cattle continues a slow business. Fat calves met a clearance with a brisk trade. Fat porkers are in demand, meeting a ready sale at an advance. Fat hogs made more money. Store pigs found a better inquiry. Ruling values: Prime Devon and Galloway beasts, 7d to 7½d per lb; ditto Shorthorn, 6d to 6¾d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 5½d; best quality sheep, 8¼d to 8¾d; second ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 6½d; choice fat sucking lambs, 8d to 9d per lb; fat calves, 6½d to 9d per lb; fat hogs, to 8s 6d; and porkers up to 11s per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—Best beef, 7s 6d to 8s; cow beef, 6s 6d and 7s 6d per stone; stores, £14 to £16 10s; in-calvers, £18 to £21; heifers, £15 to £17 10s; calves, 55s to 60s; wether mutton, 7½d to 8d; ewe mutton, 5½d and 6d per lb; gimmers, 40s to 45s; Hampshire rams, £4 10s to £5 10s.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs ..	2½ in. and under.. ..	8s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in. ..	8s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in. ..	7s 3d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 863; sheep, 728; pigs, 510; horses, 3. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 8d; pork, 6s to 7s. A larger show of store beasts, but trade rather slow. Fat beasts, a fairly good trade for all classes. Fat sheep a good show and late rates maintained. Stores only a few lots to hand. Fat pigs a good brisk trade. Stores not quite so good as last week.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Large supplies of stock, but the shortness of keep is affecting the sheep trade very considerably. Sales were difficult to negotiate. Working lambs ranged from 13s to 17s, and better quality from 20s to 24s 6d. Ewe tegs, 27s 6d to 33s; good wethers, 34s to 37s; and old sheep averaged about 20s per head, with better class from 22s to 32s. One especially good lot of ewe tegs made from 35s to 41s. No demand for horned stock.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish cattle was similar to last week's, there being about 400 wintering heifers on offer. Fair attendance of buyers, and trade steady at from £7 10s to £10 10s for the smallest specimens, and up to £16 10s for the best. Good show of young pigs and quiet sale at 20s to 26s.

Doncaster, Tuesday.—Quite an average supply of cattle, and fair inquiry. Beef made 7s to 8s, and up to 8s 3d for best lots. Plenty of sheep, and though trade was not very brisk, many lots changed hands at fully late rates. Ewes 5½d to 6½d; shearlings, 7d to 7¾d; and small cross-bred sheep, 8d to 8¼d. Veal, 7d to 8d per lb.

Dorchester, Saturday.—A good supply of stock, including beef and mutton. Trade ruled firm for best fat beasts. Milch beasts met a good demand for the best, at £15 to £21 10s; barreners, £24 to £29 per pair; fat bulls, £17 10s; best fat heifers, £16 to £22; steers—to £19. Horned ewes, 38s to 43s; wethers 48s to 53s; lambs, 28s to 33s.

Dublin, Thursday.—Larger supplies of cattle, and demand slow for all classes. Best qualities barely maintained last week's prices; other descriptions lower, and a clearance difficult to effect. Cattle (best), 31s to 33s per cwt; other descriptions, 27s to 29s per cwt. Mutton—No alteration.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Larger supplies to-day, but mostly of secondary descriptions; good cattle scarce and dear. Top Scotch, 69s to 70s per cwt; secondary, 62s to 68s; Irish, 69s; top mutton, 8¼d per lb; secondary, 7d to 7¼d; top lambs, 8¼d; secondary, 7¼d. Dead meat sharper owing to colder weather Best Scotch beef, 6¼d to 6¾d; States, 6d; cows, 5¼d to 5¾d.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 548, calves 96, sheep and lambs 4,453, pigs (fat and sows) 16, sucking pigs 62, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 207, pigs (stores, more than ten) 115, horses 1. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 9½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Leeds, Tuesday.—To-day's supply of cattle compared with last Tuesday shows an increase of 73, and comprised some excellent animals from the home district and the North of England, together with a good assortment from Scotland and Ireland. There was again a falling off in the number of buyers present, and competition ruled very slow throughout the market, dealers having to concede about ¼d per lb all round to do business. The choicest heifers and bullocks realised 6¼d, good useful beef made 6d to 6¼d, and inferior and cow beef 5d to 6d per lb. Sheep totalled 1,970, a decrease of 60 compared with last week. No improvement can be reported on the last week or two, buyers being fewer and business more difficult to transact. The demand was chiefly for the best quality of shearlings, and here the business was anything but active. For ewes and rough sheep there was scarcely any inquiry, and a very unsatisfactory market resulted. The choicest shearlings sold at 8d, large and heavy sheep 7d to 7½d, ewes and tups 5d to 6d per lb. Veal calves were about an average number, the best making 7d to 7½d per lb. There was a small supply of dairy cattle, which were more than equal to the demand, business ruling slow. The best milkers realised from £15 to £20. Numbers at market:—Cattle 607; sheep 1,970; calves 13.

Leicester, Saturday.—Heavy supplies of stock in good condition. Trade rather sluggish, sellers demanding high prices. Milch cows, £17 to £24 per head. Bullocks, £12 to £16. Young stock flat; sheep large supply. Trade slow at easier rates.

Lincoln, Tuesday.—Beasts were only fairly numerous, and trade was good. Prime beef, 7s 6d to 8s; inferior, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per stone. Supply of sheep not large, and trade better. Ewe mutton, 5½d to 6½d; wether ditto 8d to 8½d; lamb 8d to 8½d per lb.

Lincoln, Friday.—Only small show of cattle; fair demand. Milch beasts fetched up to £22. Best bullocks, £14 to £17; two year-olds, £8 to £12; and young stock, £6 to £8. Of sheep large supply, but business slack. Best grammers ranged up to 54s. Lambs sold at from 18s to 35s. Poor demand for pigs; stores, 28s to 45s; and young pigs, 13s to 18s.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Excellent market all round; prices in favour of sellers. Numbers:—Cattle, 2,015; sheep and lambs, 7,830; calves, 101; pigs, 457. Prices (sinking offal):—Beef, 5s to 8s 3d, and 5s 6d to 7s 9d per stone; mutton, 5½d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8¾d; veal, 5d to 9d per lb.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—Large supply of stock, but best quality cattle and lambs were scarce. Good all round demand. Best beef made 6¼d per lb; secondary quality, 6d to 6¼d; wether mutton, 7½d to 8d; ewes, 6½d to 6¾d; lambs, 8d; veal, 7d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store cattle was considerable here to-day. Trade was dull, at about late rates. Fat beasts which were in large supply, made 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. Store sheep were in average supply, late rates were generally maintained. Lambs making 28s to 38s and keeping shearlings, 25s to 30s per head. Fat sheep brought 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb. Keep prospects appear to be pretty good in Norfolk.

Romford, Wednesday.—Best fat beasts made 4s 4d to 4s 6d,

and middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves, 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Best sheep, 5s 6d to 5s 8d, and middlings 5s to 5s 2d per stone. A fair demand for store beasts. Pig trade about the same.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was again smaller, but owing to lower prices for beef at Birkenhead rade rule l slow, and sellers had to accept less money. There was a smaller supply of sheep and lambs. Trade was slow but firm for both, last market day's quotations again ruling. Fewer calves on offer, and a better trade at higher prices. Quotations:—Cattle, 5d to 6½d; sheep, 6d to 8¼d; lambs, 7d to 8½d; calves, 5½d to 7¾d per lb. At market Cattle, 2,346; sheep and lambs, 9,843; calves, 136; pigs, 93.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The show of milch beasts was about the average, and a fair trade was done with the best lot, which made £19 to £23; secondary, £13 to £14.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A fair trade for beef; best, 8s per stone; cow beef, about 7s. Store beasts did not sell well, owing to the large supply. A large show of sheep, but trade slow. Lincolns, 7¼d; half-breeds, 7½d per lb. Not much demand for stores.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 188 cattle, 610 sheep, 220 lambs, and 150 pigs. The general quality of cattle was not so high. Trade was firm for the best at 8s to 8s 8d per stone; rougher kinds, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; sheep, 8½d; lambs, 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Very short supply. Fairly good attendance. Dull trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a good supply of stock at market, and with a large attendance of buyers trade ruled firm, and a clearance was effected with few exceptions. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 101 fat beasts, 5 down calving heifers, 200 fat sheep, 127 fat and weaning calves, and 183 pigs. Fat bullocks made £16 to £23 10s; fat heifers, £14 to £19 10s; down calving heifers, £14 2s 6d each; fat wethers, 46s to 55s 6d; fat ewes, 39s to 51s; fat lambs, 28s to 35s; fat calves, £3 to £4 13s; cow calves, 23s to 61s; bull calves, 16s to 58s; fat pigs, 9s per score. Porkets a good trade. Stores made late prices.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—There was a good show of beef, 1,484 fat beasts being penned, as against 1,432 at the previous market. Irish animals were freely offered, and constituted the bulk of the supply, which included a goodly number of Scotch cows. The beef trade ruled very heavy, and prices were about 1½d per lb lower than last week. Choice beef made 6½d per lb, useful animals 6¼d, and inferior lots 5d to 6d. There was a light show of lambs and sheep, only 2,857 being offered, against 3,137 last week. Although the supply was light it was fully equal to the demand, which was very limited, many butchers securing foreign meat from Birkenhead. Lambs and choice and small young sheep met with a moderate demand at 8d to 8¼d per lb, but other sorts moved off slowly. Good strong sheep 7d to 7¼d, ewes and tups 5d to 6d. A good supply of fat calves, which made 5d to 7¼d per lb. Milch cows were freely offered, and met with a steady sale. The best were disposed of at £20 to £22 10s each, and inferior £13 to £18.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Very small supply of all kinds of stock, particularly in mutton, but the demand was so slow that these were quite sufficient, even at a slight reduction on last week's rates. Best beef 6¼d per lb; other kinds, 5d to 6d; small sheep, 8d; heavy and strong qualities, 5d to 7¼d. Numbers at market:—Beasts, 1,484; sheep, 2,857.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts and sheep a fair supply; trade slow. Calves a small supply; moderate demand. Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8¼d per lb; lamb, 8d to 8½d per lb; veal, 6d to 8d per lb. Milch cows a short supply: prices lower. Bacon pigs, 9s 3d to 9s 6d per score; porkets, 9s 6d to 10s per score; sows, 7s to 7s 6d per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—There were large supplies at this market in all departments, but trade was rather quiet. Values were maintained for best beef and mutton, but inferior qualities were easier. Best beef, 6¼d to 7d; inferior, 5d to 6d; wether mutton, 8d; ewes, 7d; lamb 8d; and veal, 7½d per lb. Pork pigs, 10s; bacons, 8s 6d per score.

York, Thursday.—This was the off weekly market. A few English store cattle and also a fair supply of Irish were on offer, but there was no trade. Calving and milch cows, £15 to £22 10s. Fair show of all classes of sheep, for which there was poor trade at less money. North country ewes, 42s to 48s; ditto lambs, to 30s; South country lambs, 25s to 30s; Masham shearlings, 38s to 44s; ditto ewes, 36s to 44s; ditto lambs, 18s to 23s; twice crossed shearlings, 42s to 48s; ditto lambs, 26s to 34s each.

York, Friday.—Calves, 8d per lb; small sheep, 8½d ditto; large sheep, 8d ditto; ewes, 6d ditto; lamb, 9d ditto; small pork pigs, 7s per stone; large pork pigs, 6s 6d to 6s 9d ditto.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies 2,465, being 1,060 more than shown on Wednesday last, and comprised 1,563 United States and 902 Canadian. Trade slow at 3s 10d to 4s 1d for the former, and 3s 6d to 3s 8d for the latter, with ranch 3s 4d to 3s 6d; 1,329 Canadian sheep sold steadily at 4s to 4s 2d per 81b to sink the offal.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—A sale of United States and Canadian cattle was held in the afternoon, when there were penned in the sheds 362 cattle landed by the Amarynthia, from Montreal. Bullocks formed the greater proportion of the total number. Although the cattle were only landed an hour or two before the sale, they showed remarkably well while being presented. There was a large attendance of buyers, and trade was of a very satisfactory character, the demand being very keen throughout, and the values all round showed an increase of from 25s to 30s a head on last week's prices. Bullocks of the best class met a very strong trade, and they sold dear. Secondary and heavier animals were in request, and they made more money than a week ago. Bulls were scarce, and they realised high prices.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Leeds: Danish, 116s to 121s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 110s to 114s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 9d to 2s; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d per lb. Settle: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Spalding: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Stone: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Boston: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Colne: 1s 2d per lb. Goole: 1s 3d per lb. Keighley: 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 11d to 1s per lb. Knaresborough: (wholesale), 1s 6d to 1s 8d; (retail), 1s 7d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Louth: 1s 1d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Northallerton: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Worksop: 1s 4d per lb.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Devizes (wholesale): 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb, retail 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Driffield: 1s per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb.

Friday.—Derby: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Grimsby: Choice Danish, 116s to 118s; Dutch, 100s to 106s; Canadian, 100s to 103s per cwt. Helmsley: 11d to 1s per lb. Leeds: Danish, 112s to 118s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 106s to 110s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls 1½lb, 1s 9d to 2s; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 5d to 7d per roll of 24oz. Stratford-on-Avon: 11d to 1s 2d per lb Whitchurch: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 11 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 11s to 12s per 120; Irish, 9s 3d to 9s 9d; Danish, 8s to 9s 6d; Austrian blues, 6s 8d to 7s; ditto reds, 8s 9d to 9s 6d. Settle: 11 or 12 for 1s. Sheffield: 9 or 10 for 1s. Spalding: 13 or 14 for 1s. Stone: 11 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 9 or 10 for 1s. Boston: 12 or 13 for 1s. Colne: 1s 10d per score. Goole: 13 for 1s. Keighley: 9 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 13 or 14 for 1s. Knaresborough: 10 or 12 for 1s. Louth (wholesale): 14 for 1s. Market Weighton: 13 for 1s. Northallerton: 10 or 11 for 1s. Stockton: 9 or 10 for 1s. Worksop: 1s 10d to 2s per score.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 9 or 10 for 1s. Brigg: 13 to 16 for 1s. Devizes: 12 or 14 for 1s. Driffield: 15 for 1s. Kidderminster: 11 for 1s. Penistone: 10 for 1s. Ripon: 10 for 1s. Scarborough: 10 or 11 for 1s. Wetherby: 9 or 11 for 1s.

Friday.—Derby: 9 and 10 for 1s. Easingwold: 12 or 13 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 6s to 7s. Russian, 5s 11d to 6s 11d; Danish, 8s 6d to 9s 11d; Canadian, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per 120. Helmsley: 11 or 12 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 11s to 12s per 120; Irish, 9s 3d to 9s 9d; Danish, 8s to 9s 6d; Austrian blues, 6s 8d to 7s; ditto reds, 8s 9d to 9s 6d. Leyburn: 10 or 11 for 1s. Lincoln: 12 or 13 for 1s. Stratford-on-Avon, 1s 8d to 1s. 11d per score. Whitchurch: 10 or 11 for 1s.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per packet of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb: Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7d to 1s 7½d; scoured average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8¾d to 9½d; South Australian, greasy average, 6¾d to 7d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 4½d to 1s 5½d; greasy average, 8¾d to 9¾d; Cape, scoured superior, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; fleece average, 8d to 9d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 7½d to 7¾d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 10d to 1s; New Zealand, fine, 9d to 10d; ditto medium, 7¾d to 8½d; ditto coarse, 6d to 7d.

Bradford, Thursday.—Quiet market to-day in wool. Top makers are decidedly firm, and business which could be done at the merest fraction below present demands is stopped. In merinos things are, perhaps, easier for the buyer. English half-breds and lustres are steady. Mohair is firm. Yarn trades unchanged. Piece trade badly hit by dearness of cotton.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Prices are without improvement, but a fair amount of business is being transacted. Best Kent fleeces are quoted up to 6d, lamb-wool is making from 4d to 5d, and Downs from 8d to 10d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—There is still an improved feeling in the local wool trade, but the elections have interfered with business to some extent.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—The total absence of shipments from India last week caused prices to harden early in the week, but has since given way. Calcutta spot London, 57s 9d, near 57s 9d; August-September and September-October, and October-November, 57s 9d; April-June, 46s 6d. Hull firm. Calcutta April-June, 47s 6d. Azov, Black Sea, September-October, 56s 3d; October-November, 55s. La Plata, December-January, 50s 6d; January-February, 49s 6d. To the Continent—Bombay is quoted March-May, sellers 51s. Calcutta April-June, new crop 47s 6d. La Plata December-January, 50s 6d; January-February, 49s 6d. The imports into London for the week have been 10,136 qrs; and since 1st January, 558,165 against 542,540 qrs corresponding time last year. Linseed oil is flat and prices have somewhat given way. We quote spot pipes, £33 10s, barrels £33 12s 6d; October-December, £33; January-April, £30. Hull spot naked, £33 5s; October-December, £32; January-April, £29 10s. Linseed cakes continue firm. London made, £8 10s. Russian, £7 17s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £7 17s 6d to £8. Cotton cakes are firm. London made, £5; Egyptian, £4 17s 6d. Rapeseed continues firm. To the Continent we quote, Yellow Guzerat, October-November, 50s; March-May, 45s 9d. Yellow Cawnpore, October-November, 49s. March-May, 44s 9d. Brown Cawnpore October-November, 46s; March-May, 41s 9d. Brown Calcutta, October-November, sold at 44s 9d, April-June, 40s 6d. Ravison to Hull, September, 34s. November-December, 33s 6d. Cottonseed continues firm with little doing. Warehouse seed is held for £7 15s. September quoted £7 12s 6d; October, £7 5s; November-January, £6 15s. Hull closes quiet. Spot and passage, £7 7s 6d; September, £7 12s 6d; October, £7; November-January, £6 12s 6d. Cargoes November, £7 2s 6d wanted.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—Supplies of foreign continue to come along in limited quantity, but with very little country demand values although firm are not quotably dearer. Russians may still be bought at last week's prices; Americans move off quietly and are relatively best value. English are only in small production, and crushers ask full prices of last week. Cotton Cakes.—There is a fair trade passing, and stocks being small sellers are inclined to raise their limits. Decorticated are scarce and dear, with meal unchanged. Maize germ meal.—Parcels of American to London are more freely offered at slightly easier terms, while some quantity of English has again changed hands. Rice meal is without change for landed lots of Rangood, while a fair trade has been done in parcels afloat.

		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.				
London made	per ton ex mill	8 10 0	to	8 12 6
American in bags	ex dock	7 15 0	„	7 17 6
American Oct.-Nov.	„	7 12 6	„	7 15 0
Russian in mats	„	7 18 9	„	8 0 0
Russian in bags	„	8 0 0	„	8 2 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.				
London made	ex mill	5 0 0	„	5 2 6
Egyptian, in bags	ex dock	4 17 6	„	4 18 9
„ „	Nov.-April shipment	4 16 3	„	4 17 6
Decorticated	„	6 17 6	„	6 18 9
Meal, on spot		6 10 0	„	6 12 6
RAPE CAKES.				
East Indian Seed	ex mill	4 15 0	„	—
Ravison	„	4 7 6	„	—
Nutted, in bags	„	4 12 6	„	—
MAIZE.				
Germ meal (American)	ex dock	5 5 9	„	5 10 0
„ „	Sept.-Oct. c.i.f.	5 5 0	„	5 6 3
„ „ (English)	ex mill	5 7 6	„	5 10 0
RICE MEAL.				
Rangoon	ex warehouse	4 12 6	„	4 15 0
„ Oct.-Jan.	ex ship	4 12 6	„	—
„ Jan.-March	ex ship	4 11 3	„	—

—PINSENT BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—To-day there is a fair supply of English wheat, which meets a fair demand at fully last week's prices. Foreign held for 3d to 6d per qr advance, at which a limited business is doing. Oats maintain late rates. Barley unaltered from last week. Beans 10s to 20s dearer. Maize rather slow sale at last week's prices for all sorts. Linseed.—During the early part of the week the market was firm, but towards the close there was an inclination to ease, with again no immediate sales on the information of the arrival of any cheap cargoes from the River Plate, Bombay or Calcutta. The latest is only steady Calcutta, nothing offering on spot, September-October to London 58s 9d per qrter. Black sea to Hull was asked by the vessel, 57s 9d offd., was to arrive September-October, and 58s to [illegible]

[illegible] Petersburg Linseed [illegible] Riga October-March Seed [illegible] December-January Linseed [illegible] Cotton Cakes [illegible] Linseed [illegible] Cakes [illegible] Rapeseed [illegible] Maize [illegible] Rice [illegible] Beans [illegible] Peas [illegible] Oats [illegible] Barley [illegible] Flour [illegible] Bran [illegible] Pollard [illegible] Hay [illegible] Straw [illegible] Potatoes [illegible] Onions [illegible] Seeds [illegible] Petroleum [illegible] Tallow [illegible] Oil [illegible] Cotton [illegible] Wool [illegible] Hides [illegible] Leather [illegible] Iron [illegible] Steel [illegible] Coal [illegible] Freights [illegible] Exchanges [illegible] Bullion [illegible] Stocks [illegible] Shares [illegible] Consols [illegible] Money [illegible] Discount [illegible] Bank Rate [illegible] Trade [illegible] Business [illegible] Markets [illegible] Prices [illegible] Quotations [illegible] Sales [illegible] Purchases [illegible] Contracts [illegible] Orders [illegible] Shipments [illegible] Arrivals [illegible] Departures [illegible] Cargoes [illegible] Ships [illegible] Steamers [illegible] Sailing [illegible] Ports [illegible] Docks [illegible] Warehouses [illegible] Agents [illegible] Brokers [illegible] Merchants [illegible] Manufacturers [illegible] Millers [illegible] Farmers [illegible] Growers [illegible] Producers [illegible] Consumers [illegible] Buyers [illegible] Sellers [illegible] Dealers [illegible] Traders [illegible] Companies [illegible] Limited [illegible] Ltd. [illegible] Co. [illegible] & Co. [illegible] Bros. [illegible] Sons [illegible] Messrs. [illegible] Mr. [illegible] Mrs. [illegible] Miss [illegible] Dr. [illegible] Esq. [illegible] Jun. [illegible] Sen. [illegible] II. [illegible] III. [illegible] IV. [illegible] V. [illegible] VI. [illegible] VII. [illegible] VIII. [illegible] IX. [illegible] X. [illegible] XI. [illegible] XII. [illegible] XIII. [illegible] XIV. [illegible] XV. [illegible] XVI. [illegible] XVII. [illegible] XVIII. [illegible] XIX. [illegible] XX. [illegible] XXI. [illegible] XXII. [illegible] XXIII. [illegible] XXIV. [illegible] XXV. [illegible] XXVI. [illegible] XXVII. [illegible] XXVIII. [illegible] XXIX. [illegible] XXX. [illegible] XXXI. [illegible] XXXII. [illegible] XXXIII. [illegible] XXXIV. [illegible] XXXV. [illegible] XXXVI. [illegible] XXXVII. [illegible] XXXVIII. [illegible] XXXIX. [illegible] XL. [illegible] XLI. [illegible] XLII. [illegible] XLIII. [illegible] XLIV. [illegible] XLV. [illegible] XLVI. 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LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Shorthorn heifer Cicely is the property of, and was bred by, Her Majesty the Queen, Prince Consort's Shaw Farm Windsor. Cicely is a roan, calved February 21st, 1898, her sire being Prince Victor 73320, and her dam Cristobell, by Crœsus 58706. At the Royal Counties Agricultural Society's Show at Winchester this year she won first prize in her class, that for heifers in 1898.

The polo mare Girton Girl is the property of Mr. Dunbar Kelly, for whom she won a first prize and gold medal at the Tunbridge Wells Show last July.

Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. Walton Hall, Warrington, is the owner and also breeder of the Large White boar Walton Turk 5341, by Senator 5305, out of Walton Magneta 6790. At the Peterborough Agricultural Society's Summer Show Walton Turk came out top of his class, but at the Royal Lancashire Show at Rochdale he did not get a money award.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

The entire herd of pure-bred black-polled Aberdeen-Angus cattle belonging to Colonel Brocklehurst, of Ranksborough, Oakham, is to be sold by auction at Peterborough Horse Repository on the 12th of this month by Messrs. John Thornton and Co. The reason of the sale is that the herd having been so prolific, together with the large amount of other stock, it has outgrown the limited accommodation of the farm during the prolonged absence of the owner with the forces in South Africa. The foundation of the herd was laid by the purchase of seven good cows and heifers from Captain the Hon. A. Greville, of Burghley Paddocks, near Stamford, which had come from the herds of Sir R. J. Abercromby, Bart., and Mr. Adam Todd, of Crathes, in Scotland. Heiress of Wildrington 2nd was afterwards purchased from Colonel Lambert, and Lady Carbiston 2nd from the exors. of the Hon. T. W. Fitzwilliam, Alwalton. The bull Fair Actor 15444 was first used; he was a son of King of Paris 6869, bred by Mr. George Wilkin, and who was by Paris 1473, winner of both the champion prizes at the French International Exhibition in 1878. He was followed by Vandyke of Glamis 12165, a bull of fine quality and a good sire, still in service and for sale. Russophil, a handsome young bull purchased from Mr. J. H. Bridges, of Horley, Surrey, has also been recently used, and many of the heifers are in calf to him. He is by Rover of Craibstone 1294, the first prize yearling bull at Perth in 1899, sold at a big figure to Mr. Greenfield, Haynes Park, Beds.

Speaking at the luncheon held in connection with the Kington Horse Show, Lord Coventry had something to say about docking, a subject on which he said he felt very strongly. So many men, so many minds, and all tastes, we were told, said his lordship, were respected; but at the same time he could not see how anyone could admire a very short tail pulled and drawn so as to resemble a shaving brush. He could not see how they could possibly call such an adornment beautiful; the mane and the tail were two of the most perfect attributes of its nature. From what he had seen in the course of his peregrinations about the country he thought the docking of the horses' tails was a passing fancy, and seemed to be dying out, particularly amongst young horses. Very few of the latter were now shown with docked tails, and it was not only an improvement as regarded their appearance, but it was also an advantage to the farmer and the breeder to allow the tail to grow long, because the animals were then available for carriage horses and chargers, which they would not otherwise be. He thought it was a mistake to dock them, and he trusted that in future years they would see longer tails, and then those who bought the horses could use their own judgment as to whether they would have them cut or not.

On Saturday, the 22nd ult., Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., the well-known live stock exporters of Shrewsbury, shipped from Hull for Riga, per ss. Thomas Wilson, of the Wilson Line, the following high-class stock, viz., fourteen Clydesdale stallions and mares, twenty red and roan Shorthorn heifers, five red Shorthorn bulls, one white bull, four Jersey heifers, twenty-five Shropshire rams, one Oxford ram, ten Shropshire ewes, and twenty Large White and Berkshire boars and sows. The animals had all been specially selected from high-class breeders, and should be the means of securing further orders. All the animals were carefully put on board under the personal superintendence of Mr. Alfred Mansell. We hope to give further particulars in our next issue.

The champion R.A.S.E. Shropshire ram of this season, bred by Mr. A. E. Mansell, was shipped to Melbourne per the ss. Afric (White Star Line) on Saturday last, September 22, by Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., live stock importers, Shrewsbury. The same boat also took two high-class Shropshire rams to Adelaide, selected by the same firm, for Mr. A. J. Simpson. Full particulars will appear in a later issue.

On the 15th ult., Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, shipped by the Wilson Line two high-class Shropshire rams to Stettin on account of Herr Rechholtz, of Germany.

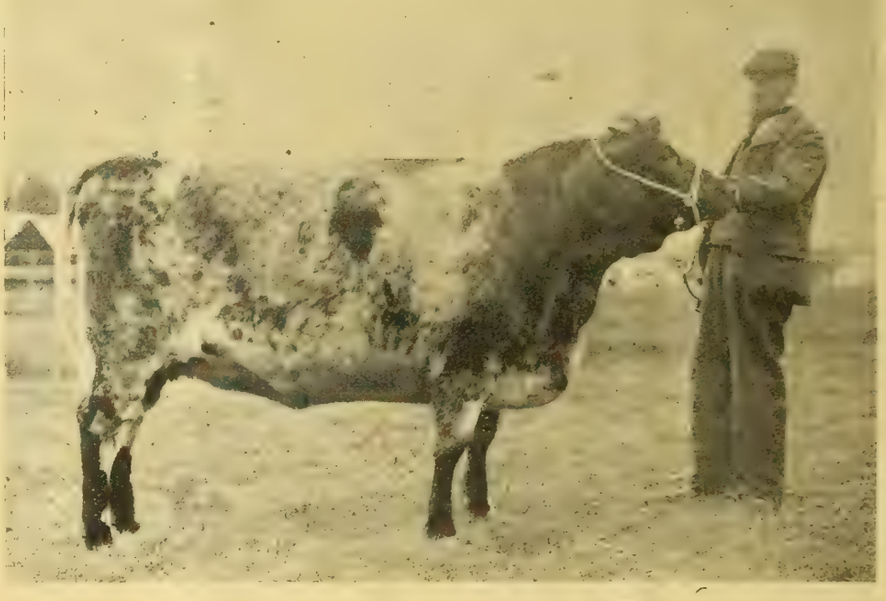
The Leeds Smithfield Club's Show will be held on December 4th, 5th, and 6th in the Engineers' Drill Ground, Camp Road, Leeds. A copy of the prize list has come to hand, and I see that in addition to very good class prizes, there is a large number of specials spread over all the sections, which include cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, and dairy produce. The last day for entries is Friday, November 24th. The secretary is Mr. J. H. Clark, Hirsts Yard, Duncan Street, Leeds.

Holywell Manor, near St. Ives, Hunts, so long and honourably known for its largest of all herds of pigs, is likely to become renowned for its Shorthorns. A grand young bull was recently exported to one of the Government experiment stations in the United States. The bull was selected by Professor C. T. Plumb, after visiting several English and Scotch herds; its breeding is equally as good as its points, being by Count Valiant, a son of that great bull Count Lavender, and out of a first-rate milking cow bred at Holywell from one of its best strains of pure Shorthorns.

The export trade in Yorkshire pigs goes steadily on. A pair of choice Large White pigs and a pair of very promising Middle Whites have recently left the Holywell Manor herd, the property of the veteran breeder, Mr. Sanders Spencer, for the largest stock-breeding farm in Holland. Another pair of Large Whites were shipped by Mr. Spencer to the Purdue University, La Fayette, Indiana, United States. The boar pig was out of the noted sow Holywell Kathleen, one of whose sons, Holywell Royalty II., has proved himself the best boar of his age at the various shows this season. The young sow is descended from a long line of winning ancestors, and is herself a prize winner.

The Board of Agriculture have received telegraphic information through the Foreign Office that the Government of the Argentine Republic have prohibited the importation of cattle, sheep, and swine from the United Kingdom.

Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., invited the tenants of his twelve largest farms to Rolleston Hall, on the 22nd ult., to consider a scheme for placing pedigree Shorthorn bulls within reach of the whole of his tenantry. In an interesting address by the genial baronet upon the advantages of using pedigree sires, he explained his scheme which, after questions from several tenants relating to various details, was cordially adopted. By this scheme twelve pedigree Shorthorn bulls will be lent to as many tenants for two years, the smaller tenants having the use of the bulls at a nominal fee. Four of the bulls will be located in the parish of Rolleston, five in the parish of Tutbury, and three in the township of Anslow. They were paraded for selection in a paddock adjoining the Home Farm, and formed, in the opinion of those present, an excellent collection. They had been carefully chosen for their breeding, size, and quality, from several noted herds besides the landlord's own. Should the experiment succeed, it may lead to a little friendly rivalry in the exhibition of their female progeny a couple of years hence.



H.M. THE QUEEN'S SHORTHORN HEIFER "CICELY."

During the present week Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck will hold two special horse sales. On Wednesday at the Peterborough Repository they will dispose of about twenty-five harness and heavy town horses, the property of various breeders; whilst on Thursday Tuxford, Newark, will be the scene of the sale, the catalogue comprising thirty pedigree Shire horses, belonging to exhibitors at the Tuxford Shire Horse Show, which is held on that day.

Space is being well taken up for the Brewers' etc., Exhibition and Market, which opens at the Agricultural Hall, London, on the 20th prox. All the bays will this year be occupied by engineering firms, and several houses that have not been represented for some years in the Hall will this year be in evidence. The entries for the mineral water, etc., competition are very satisfactory, and the alterations in the schedule are evidently appreciated.

Bourne Fair. — The September cattle fair at Bourne was held on Thursday, and was well attended. There was a large show of beasts, particularly stores. Fat bullocks sold well at improving rates. Trade was not brisk for grazing beasts, and only the best changed hands. The sheep trade was slow, at about 2s. per head lower on the week. A few rams were on offer, but no fancy prices were realised. Two-year-old grazing cattle £11 to £14. year-and-a-half-old ditto to £11. There was a demand for in-calvers; cows to £20, heifers to £18 10s. each.

CATTLE.

Sale of Garth Hall Shorthorns.

The reputation of Captain D. H. Mytton as a successful breeder of Shorthorns attracted a numerous company to Garth on Tuesday, on the occasion of the sale, by Messrs. Lythall and Walters, of Birmingham, of some of his stock. Established some thirty years ago, the herd has been so extremely prolific that it has quite outstripped the accommodation of the farms, and a sale had become absolutely necessary. At the luncheon a large company sat down, Mr. W. Forrester Addie presiding. In reply to the toast of "The Health of Captain Mytton, and Success to the Sale," Captain Mytton said so far as he knew there was not an animal which had a distinct fault or drawback. Any animal he had found that was not fit for sale he had withdrawn. They must not think for one moment that he was relaxing his efforts to produce the best Shorthorns in the world; he would go on as long as he lived trying his very best to be a credit to Shorthorn breeding, for he did not believe there was any breed that could compete with it. With regard to auctions, he considered auctions had been spoiled throughout the country by gentlemen bidding for their own stock. He had seen that repeatedly in the auction marts, and he did not think it was fair either to the auctioneer or the buyer. All his lots would be offered perfectly free, and without competition on his part.

Mr. Lythall occupied the rostrum. There was keen competition for all the lots, but the greatest interest was, of course, centred in Silene, which is considered to be the best cow in England of her age. She was started at £50, and the price was gradually run up by bids of £10 to 340gs., at which figure she was knocked down to Mr. Kellock, of Adderley. This is the highest price realised by any Shorthorn this year. There was also a spirited competition for Silene's bull calf Sheriff, a beautifully-shaped youngster of great promise. This also went to Mr. Kellock for the handsome figure of 100gs. The prices of the other principal lots are given below. The average of the fifty-four females, some with calves at foot, was £36 11s., and the bulls £23 11s. After the cattle had been disposed of a number of Shropshire sheep were offered, and they realised satisfactory prices. Five pens of five shearling ewes sold at 45s. 44s., 44s. 6d., and 44s. per animal; four pens of five fat wethers sold at 48s., 49s. 6d., 49s., and 47s.; five ewe lambs fetched 34s. each, and five ram lambs went as follows:—67s., 44s., 56s., 50s., and 51s.

	Gs.
COWS AND HEIFERS.	
Gertrude (H. B., Vol. 43, page 595), roan, c Dec., 1833, s Nine of Diamonds 61363 ..... Mr. Price	30
Balm (H. B., Vol. 42, page 544), roan, c April, 1895, s Sherlowe Baron 66316 ..... Mr. Howarth	26
Moonshine (H. B., Vol. 42, page 546), white, c August, 1895, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. Sewell	35
Gentle (H. B., Vol. 42, page 545), roan, c Nov., 1895, s Sherlowe Baron 66316 ..... Mr. Howell	29
Gloire, red and white cow calf, c August, 1900, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Mr. W. Nevett	9½
Valour (H. B., Vol. 43, page 597), white, c Feb., 1896, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. Green	21
Venosa, roan cow calf, c April, 1900, s Baron Hobbs 65472 ..... Mr. F. Lloyd	18
Oxygen (H. B., Vol. 43, page 596), red, c March, 1896, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. S. Nevett	17
Bull calf, roan, c April, 1900, s Baron Freeford 2nd 74007 ..... Mr. Naylor	15
Erica (H. B., Vol. 43, page 595), roan, c April, 1896, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. E. Green	17
Bull calf, red and white, c Jan., 1900, s Baron Freeford 2nd 74007 ..... Mr. F. Lloyd	12½
Veritas (H. B., Vol. 43, page 598), roan, c April, 1896, s Sherlowe Baron 66316 ..... Mr. Chesters	27
Vienna, red and white cow calf, c May, 1900, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Lord Powis	10
Silene (H. B., Vol. 43, page 597), roan, c May, 1896, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. Kellock	340
Holly (H. B., Vol. 43, page 595), red and little white, c May, 1896, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr S Nevett	18
Bull calf, red and white, c July, 1900, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Mr. Nevett	9
Maple (H. B., Vol. 43, page 596), red and little white, c August, 1896, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. Lucas	16½
Bull calf, roan, c Jan., 1900, s Baron Freeford 2nd, 74007 ..... Mr. Franco-Hayhurst	13½
Magnolia, red and little white, c August, 1896, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. P. A. Evans	24
Bull calf, roan, c August, 1900, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Mr. F. Lloyd	8
Vine, roan, c Nov., 1896, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. P. A. Evans	25
Rosalind (H. B., Vol. 43, page 597), roan, c Dec., 1896, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. S. Nevett	30
Doreen (H. B., Vol. 44, page 570), red and white, c Jan., 1897, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Sir Pryse Pryse-Jones	18½
Earnest (H. B., Vol. 44, page 570), white, c May, 1897, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. Powell	14
Mona (H. B., Vol. 44, page 571), roan, c May, 1897, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. Beck	14
Cow calf, roan, c May, 1900, s Baron Freeford 2nd 74007 ..... Mr. S. Nevett	9
Sapphire (H. B., Vol., page 572), roan, c July, 1897, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. Howarth	22
Eagle (H. B., Vol. 44, page 570), red and little white, c July, 1897, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. F. B. Owen	23
Christabel, white, c July, 1897, s Fairy King 65479 ..... Mr. F. Green	16½
Jessie (H. B., Vol. 44, page 570), red and little white, c Dec., 1897, s Prince Henry 71227 ..... Mr. Cowan	17
Fawn (H. B., Vol. 44, page 570), roan, c Dec., 1897, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Mr J Hill	37
Box (H. B., Vol. 45, page 607), roan, c April, 1898, s Prince Henry 71227 ..... Mr. Naylor	35
Calf, s Red Rival ..... Mr. Naylor	8
Cream, red, c July, 1898, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Mr. E. R. Owen	20
Siren (H. B., Vol. 45, page 609), roan, c August, 1898, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Mr. Naylor	40
Miranda (H. B., Vol. 45, page 609), white, c Oct., 1898, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Mr. Sewell	37
Viola (H. B., Vol. 45, page 610), roan, c Nov., 1898, s Baron Hobbs 66572 ..... Mr. Sewell	22
Diadem (H. B., Vol. 45, page 608), roan, c Nov., 1898, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Mr. Pryce	30
Harebell (H. B., Vol. 45, page 608), roan, c Dec., 1898, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Earl of Powis	30
Pansy, red, c Jan., 1899, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Mr. S. Nevett	25
Battle, roan, c Jan., 1899, s Baron Freeford 2nd 74007 ..... Mr. Ledger	21
Orchestra, roan, c April, 1899, s Baron Freeford 2nd 74007 ..... Mr. Dykes	35
Susan, roan, c April, 1899, s Baron Freeford 2nd 74007 ..... Mr. Colville	33
Rance, white, c Sept., 1899, s Baron Freeford 2nd 74007 ..... Mr. Hobson	22
Potentilla, roan, c Dec., 1899, s Baron Freeford 2nd 74007 ..... Mr. Naylor	28
BULLS.	
Olympus, red, c May, 1899, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Mr. W. P. Hole	21
Millstone, roan, c May, 1899, s Baron Freeford 2nd 74007 ..... Mr. E. Jones	28
Macedon, red and little white, c July, 1899, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Mr. F. Lloyd	23
Medic, red and little white, c August, 1899, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Mr. Black	20
Crown, roan, c Dec., 1899, s Baron Freeford 2nd 74007 ..... Mr. Hobson	20
Euripides, roan, c Jan., 1900, s Baron Freeford 2nd 74007 ..... Mr. Ledger	30
Sheriff, roan, c Jan., 1900, s Baron Hobbs 66672 ..... Mr. Kellock	100

Sale of the late Mr. Henry Wyatt's Shorthorns.

On Thursday Messrs. John Thornton and Co sold the entire herd of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle kept by the late Mr. Henry Wyatt, at Walton Grange, Aylesbury. The weather was fine, and there was a large attendance of well-known breeders and others. The top price of the sale was realised for Ada, a fine red heifer calved in 1895, which was purchased by Mr. G. A. Sims for Miss Alice de Rothschild for 100gs. Mr. Walter Hazell purchased the second highest-priced heifer, Pomegranate, a splendid animal, calved in 1897, giving 97gs. for her, and he also bought the highest-priced bull, Spartan 3rd, for 58gs. Mr. Hazell has become the tenant of Walton Grange Farm, in succession to the late Mr. Wyatt, and he will carry on the breeding of pedigree Shorthorn stock on the famous Broughton pastures on the same lines as those followed by his lamented predecessor. Naturally he was a large purchaser, and he took no fewer than thirty-one lots, totalling in all £1,025 15s. The eighty-nine cows and heifers totalled £2,938 19s., or an average of £33 0s. 6d. each; fifteen bulls made £416 6s. 6d., or £29 15s. 4d. each; the 104 head of cows and bulls realised together £3,355 5s. 6d., and average of £32 5s. 3d. each; whilst the five steers offered made £71 12s., this bringing the total of the sale to £3,430 17s. 6d.

Below we give a list of the lots which realised 20gs. and over:—

	Gs.
COWS AND CALVES.	
Duchess 3rd, red, c Jan., 1890, s Vale Duke 58245 ..... Mr. Watkins	21
Jessamine 9th, red, c Nov., 1890, s Royal James 54972 ..... Mr. J. Coleman	24
Marigold 43rd, red, c March, 1891, s William of Orange 50694 ..... Mr. C. J. Jolliffe	37
Heifer calf, roan, c June, 1900, s Mountain Victor 67520 ..... Mr. Potter	51
Avalanche, roan, c April, 1892, s Sittyton Scarlet 58763 ..... Mr. Jolliffe	31
Silence 26th, red, c Jan., 1893, s Scottish Baron 61763 ..... Mr. Coleman	45
Lavender Lady 2nd, red, c March, 1893, s Scottish Baron 61763 ..... Lord Rothschild	27
Waresley Waterloo 5th, roan, c July, 1893, s Liberator 64260 ..... Mr. Cooper	26
Marigold 44th, red, c Nov., 1893, s Rupert 66258 ..... Mr. Cooper	30
Missie 134th, red and little white, c Nov., 1893, s Rupert 66258 ..... Mr. F. Fison	46
Bull calf, red, c Jan., 1900, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. Fison	30
Apple Blossom 4th, roan, c Nov., 1893, s Scottish Baron 61763 ..... Lord Rothschild	47
Ruth, red, c Nov., 1893, s Scottish Baron 61763 ..... Mr. Coleman	70
Bull calf, red, c July, 1900, s Friday 70477 ..... Mr. F. S. Stanley	21
Makepeace 8th, red and white, c Jan., 1895, s Hercules 54424 ..... Mr. Sheriff	21
Moss Rose 30th, red and little white, c Feb., 1895, s Hercules 54424 ..... Mr. W. Hazell	27
Lady Sunbeam 3rd, red roan, c March, 1895, s Hercules 54424 ..... Mr. W. Hazell	43
Walton Gem, red and little white, c April, 1895, s Hercules 54424 ..... Mr. Hazell	51
Marigold 45th, red, c April, 1895, s Rupert 3rd 71529 ..... Mr. George	36
Apple Blossom 6th, red, c July, 1895, s Hercules 54424 ..... Mr. W. Hazell	37
Walton Duchess 9th, red, c Dec., 1895, s Rupert 66258 ..... Mr. Hazell	27
Caroline, red and little white, c Dec., 1895, s Hercules 54424 ..... Mr. W. Hazell	29
Heifer calf, roan, c May, 1900, s Mountain Victor 67520 ..... Miss Alice de Rothschild	32
Ada, red, c Jan., 1896, s Hercules 54424 ..... Miss Alice de Rothschild	100
Ada 2nd, red, c Jan., 1900, s Friday 70477 ..... Mr. Chapman	43
Rosebud 5th, white, c Feb., 1896, s Waverley 68672 ..... Mr. Verey	25
Bellona 2nd, red roan, c March, 1896, s Livy 61118 ..... Sir Arthur Stepney	35
Jewel, red and little white, c March, 1896, s Hercules 54424 ..... Mr. Hazell	26
Makepeace 10th, red and little white, c April, 1896, s Hercules 54424 ..... Mr. W. Hazell	82
Makepeace 15th, red, c Jan., 1900, s Friday 70477 ..... Mr. Fison	50
Pomegranate 2nd, red, c April, 1896, s Sigmund 67905 ..... Mr. W. Hazell	70
Heifer calf, red, c June, 1900, s Mountain Victor 67520 ..... Mr. Hazell	26
Josephine 2nd, red and little white, c July, 1896, s Harold 68759 ..... Captain Gosselin	27
Josephine 5th, red and white, c August, 1896, s Friday 70477 ..... Mr. Hazell	22
Dora 2nd, roan, c Jan., 1896, s Rupert 66258 ..... Mr. Hazell	31
Marigold 46th, red, c July, 1896, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. Fison	71
Marigold 47th, red, c Sept., 1896, s Friday 70477 ..... Mr. Fison	30
Missie 135th, red, c June, 1896, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. Fison	35
Arabella, Dora and Rose, c Oct. bull, 1896, s Friday 70477 ..... Mr. Hazell	35
Makepeace 11th, red, c August, 1896, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. Cooper	50
Missie 136th, red, c Dec., 1896, s Harold 68759 ..... Captain Duncombe	47
Marigold 47th, red and little white, c Jan., 1897, s Golden King 62663 ..... Captain Duncombe	26
Marigold 48th, red, c August, 1896, s Friday 70477 ..... Mr. Hazell	21
Waterloo, roan, c Feb., 1897, s Golden King 62663 ..... Mr. Mullins	26
Arrowhead 4th, red, c Jan., 1897, s Friday 70477 ..... Mr. J. T. Hazell	25
Pomegranate 3rd, red, c Oct., 1897, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. W. Hazell	47
Spruce 27th, red and little white, c Oct., 1897, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. Hazell	42
COWS AND HEIFERS.	
Daisy 4th, roan, c Jan., 1896, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. Sheriff	25
Marigold 48th, red, c Jan., 1898, s Golden King 62663 ..... Mr. Cooper	28
Duchess 7th, red, c Jan., 1898, s Baron Bridekirk 11th 63628 ..... Mr. Horley	41
Makepeace 13th, red, c Jan., 1898, s Baron Bridekirk 11th 63628 ..... Mr. [illegible]	1
Moss Rose 32nd, red, c Feb., 1898, s Golden King 62663 ..... Mr. Hazell	23
Avalanche 3rd, red, c Feb., 1898, s Golden King 62663 ..... Mr. J. T. Hazell	25
Ruth 3rd, red, c April, 1898, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. Cooper	36
Broughton Duchess 8th, red and white, c May, 1898, s Golden King 62663 ..... Mr. Cooper	29
Lavender Lady 3rd, red, c June, 1898, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. W. Hazell	53
Camelia 4th, red, c August, 1898, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. Hazell	21
Makepeace 14th, roan, c Oct., 1898, s Spartan 70477 ..... Miss Rothschild	5
Waterloo 2nd, red, c Feb., 1899, s Prince Edward Albert 69282 ..... Mr. Potter	33
Avalanche 4th, red, c March, 1899, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. W. Hazell	5
Ruth 4th, red, c April, 1899, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. Hazell	30
BULLS.	
Mountain Victor 67520, roan, c Feb., 1894, s Mountain Lord 64466 ..... Mr E. W. Clarke	26
Friday 70477, red, c July, 1896, s Cash 65230 ..... Mr. Cooper	23
Mariner, roan, c Jan., 1899, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. Colby	5
Spartan 3rd, red and white, c Jan., 1900, s Spartan 70477 ..... Mr. Hazell	5
Master, red, c Jan., 1899, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. P. Paxton	21
Marine, roan, c March, 1899, s Prince Edward Albert 69282 ..... Mr. Bucker	10
Harold 4th, red and little white, c March, 1899, s Prince Edward Albert 69282 ..KK ..... Mr. Bucker	31
Ronald 3rd, red, c Sept., 1899, s Friday 70477 .. Mr. Dyke	35
Patriot, red, c Sept., 1899, s Lavender Lad 3rd 74826 ..... Mr. Watkins	22
Peacemaker, red, c Oct., 1899, s Harold 68759 ..... Mr. A. Brittain	21

Sale of Mr. R. Dewhurst's Shorthorns

The herd of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle, bred by the late Mr. Robinson Dewhurst, was sold by auction the day after the Birmingham Shorthorn sale, by Messrs. John Thornton and Co., at Shelford House, Nuneaton. For the best of the lots there was good competition, some of the cattle being good milkers, mostly roans in colour. As at other recent sales, there was scarcely any demand except for the best bulls, but the thirty head sold for nearly £700, or an average price of £22 17s. each.

We give a sale list of the principal lots:—

	Gs.
COWS AND HEIFERS.	
Stella, roan, c June, 1892, s Kingsley 61066 ..... Mr. W. Bewlay	25
Daisy's Beauty, roan, c Feb., 1893, s Baron Bridekirk 4th 62119 ..... Captain Keane	25
Shelford Belle, red and little white, c Feb., 1894, s Royal Hal 63265 ..... Mr. A. P. Turner	24
Florence Bride, roan, c Feb., 1895, s Statesman 66400 ..... Captain Keane	35
Shelford Winsome Walnut, roan, c Jan., 1896, s Statesman 66400 ..... Captain Keane	30
Shelford Lady Winsome, roan, c Nov., 1899, s Mac King 70986 ..... Mr. H. Ker Colville	27
Shelford Winsome, roan, c Oct., 1899, s Staffordshire Duke 71659 ..... Mr. R. P. Cooper	33
Elegance Maid, roan, c Dec., 1899, s Staffordshire Duke 71659 ..... Mr. H. Ker Colville	32
BULLS.	
Staffordshire Duke 71659, roan, c August, 1896, s Captain Quadrille 63789 ..... Mr. F. J. Stevens	39
Stanley, roan, c Jan., 1899, s Cornelius 66344 ..... Mr. A. Bucker	54

SUMMARY

	Average.		Total.
27 Cows	£21 3 1	..	£571 4 0
3 Bulls	38 3 3		114 9 9
30 Head	£22 17 1		£685 13 9

Mr. J. G. Davis's Sale of Devon Cattle and Sheep.

An important sale of pure Devon cattle and long-woolled sheep, the property of Mr. J. G. Davis, of Bidwell Barton, near Thorverton, was held on the farm on Wednesday, the auctioneers being Messrs. Hawkes, Bisdon, and Andrew, in conjunction with Messrs. Cook and Birmingham, of Thorverton. The herd, which is a well-known one, comes into the market in consequence of the retirement of Mr Davis, who is known to a wide circle as a breeder of Devon cattle of more than ordinary success. The

estate is one of high repute, having been farmed by that eminently practical agriculturist, Lord John Somerville, somewhat over a century ago, and has since lost none of the reputation which accrued to it. In spite of the threatening weather, the sale was attended by large numbers of the agricultural community of Devon and Somerset, and those breeders elsewhere who have turned their attention to Devon stock breeding. Among the purchasers was Her Majesty the Queen, who gave 53gs. for Lovely 5th, born May, 1893; 20gs. for Cowslip 7th, born in the same year; and 17½gs. for Dorothy, calved September, 1894, and 18gs. for Nellie 10th. The cows and heifers, which numbered twenty five, averaged a little under £27 3s. each, the two bulls going to Mr. Dennis for 20gs. and 10gs. Sir W. H. Walrond bought the two-year-old steers at £33 10s., £30, and £30 per pair, and the yearling steers made from £16 5s. to £25 10s. per pair.

The sheep comprised some thirty-three lots, and were bought up readily. Breeding ewes made from 30s. top price to 37s., ewe lambs 17s. to 32s., wether lambs 32s. to 33s., and rams from 2½gs. to 3½gs. About a dozen horses were submitted, but did not appear to be wanted. Smart, however, a roan mare, 16 h.h., and five years old, fetched 29½gs., given by Mr. Crook, of Brampford Speke; Madam, a fine brown mare, 16.3 h.h., five years, sold at 35gs., these being the only prices of note.

The following were the principal prices realised for the cows and heifers: —

		Gs.
Nellie 5th 13325, c March, 1891	Mr. Leverton	14½
Her cow calf	Mr Shrimpton	4
Lovely 5th, c May, 1893	Her Majesty the Queen	33
Cowslip 7th, c 1893	Her Majesty the Queen	20
Beauty 9th, c October, 1893	The Hon. B. Portman	35
Her cow calf, s Gipsy Boy	Mr R. Cook	13
Cowslip 7th's bull calf	Mrs. Earle	25
Prettyface 3rd, c June, 1894	Mr. Leach	15½
Her bull calf	Mr. Shrimpton	13½
Dorothy, c Sept., 1894	Her Majesty the Queen	17½
Pink 11th	Mr. Murch	18½
Her cow calf	Mr. A. C. Skinner	10
Cowslip 10th, c March, 1895	Mr. Orchard	18½
Her cow calf	Mr Shrimpton	8½
Cowslip 12th, c Feb., 1896	Mr. G. Risdon	22
Beauty 10th, c Nov., 1896	Mr. A. J. Hill	15½
Her cow calf	Mr. T. Rawle	12
Nellie 10th	Her Majesty the Queen	18
Nellie 11th, c Feb., 1897	Mr. Murch	16½
Dainty, c March, 1897	Mr. Tuckett	31½
Cowslip 17th, c Sept., 1897	Mr. Orchard	16½
Nellie 13th, c Oct., 1897	Mr. Orchard	16
Davona, c Nov., 1897	Mr. Murch	22
Pink 14th, c Nov., 1897	Mr. Murch	15
Cowslip 19th, c Sept., 1898	Mr. G. Risdon	16½
Pink 16th, c Oct., 1898	Mrs. Earle	20

Sale of Aberdeen-Angus at Tedfold.

Acting upon instructions received from Mr. Charles W. Schroeter, Messrs. Macdona'd, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., of Perth, submitted for auction at Tedfold, Billingshurst, Sussex, on Thursday, a number of very choice pure-bred Aberdeen-Angus cattle. Unfortunately for the comfort of those attending the sale, the weather was most inclement, but despite this bidding ruled fairly brisk, and satisfactory prices were obtained. The herd, for which Mr. Schroeter has become so famous, was established some twenty years since. The principal families of the breed represented in the catalogue were the Ericas, Prides of Aberdeen, Kinochtry Favourites, Victorias of Kelly, Sybils, etc., the Sparks (a very prolific family of good milking, well-fleshed cattle out of Spark 12916, by Icon 2158, own brother to Iliad 2843), and the Alices, which have bred a number of good fat show cattle in the South of England. The herd has achieved a great reputation at the Smithfield, the Royal, and other shows, and has won upwards of £1,200 in prizes. The prices realised were as follows: —

		Gs.
COWS AND CALVES.		
Saucy, c Dec., 1889	Mr. Sofer-Whitburn	24
Proud Girl of Hartford, c April, 1891	Mr. Walker	17
Her cow calf, Pride of Sussex 6th, c Feb., 1900	Mr. R. S. Hudson	40
Waterside Sybil 6th, c April, 1891	Mr. Cridland	19
Her steer calf, c March, 1900	Mr. A. Parks	19
Pride of Mormond, c March, 1892	Mr Drummond	15
Her bull calf, Pill Box, c April, 1900	Sir Raymond Burrell, Bart.	12
Drochil, c Dec., 1894	Mr. Bridges	28
Her bull calf, Dredger, c Jan., 1900	Mr. Wilson	10
Princess 3rd of Stondhurst, c March, 1893	Mr Wilson	36
Her cow calf, Princess of Tedfold, c Jan., 1900	Mr. Stanford	15
Victoria Tedfold 2nd, c Jan., 1895	Mr. Hudson	30
Her bull calf, Vengeance, c April, 1900	Mr. Myrams	7
See-saw, c March, 1895	Mr. Bridges	29
Her cow calf, Semele, c Dec., 1899	Countess De La Warr	15
Pride of Tedfold 3rd, c Dec., 1895	Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand	18
Her cow calf, Pride of Tedfold 7th, c March, 1900	Mr. Stanford	11
Alice of Tedfold 6th, c Jan., 1896	Mr. Wilson	28
Her cow calf, Alice of Tedfold 9th, c April, 1900	Mr. Hudson	20
Tedfold Favourite 7th	Mr. Parks	20
Her cow calf, Tedfold Favourite 14th, c May, 1900	Mr. Drummond	8
TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS AND CALVES.		
Tedfold Favourite 8th, c Dec., 1896	Countess De La Warr	20
Her cow calf, Tedfold Favourite 12th, c March, 1900	Mr. Stanford	10
Elvira, c Dec., 1896	Mr. F. Crisp	35
Her steer calf, c Feb., 1900	Mr. Parks	13
Tedfold Spark 4th, c Jan., 1897	Mr. Sofer-Whitburn	26
Her steer calf, c Dec., 1899	Mr Sofer-Whitburn	18
Victoria of Tedfold 3rd, c Dec., 1896	Mr. Drummond	22
Her steer calf, c Dec., 1899	Mr. Parks	13
TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.		
Victoria of Tedfold 2nd, c Jan., 1895	Mr. Hudson	30
Tedfold Pixie 3rd, c Jan., 1898	Mrs. Hills	5
Minetta, of Laughton, c March, 1898	Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand	26
Rose Queen of Tedfold, c May, 1898	Mr. Wilson	32
YEARLING HEIFERS.		
Symphony, c Jan., 1899	Mr. Bridges	19
Alice of Tedfold 8th, c March, 1899	Mr. Crisp	23
Pride of Tedfold 6th, c May, 1899	Mrs. Hills	19
BULLS.		
Duncan, c Dec., 1899	The Duke of Richmond and Gordon	22
Prizemethers, c Nov., 1899	Mr. Bridges	15

Sale of Aberdeen-Angus at Craibstone Mains.

The herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle belonging to Mr. Pirie, of Duneeht, and a draft from Mr. Walker's herd, at Portlethen, were sold by auction at Craibstone Mains, Aberdeenshire, on the 10th ult., Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co. being the auctioneers. There was a large and representative gathering of breeders, and the cattle exposed found their way into all three divisions of the kingdom. The cattle were of a thoroughly useful type, and met a ready demand, the number of the autumn sales of the breed this year being fewer than has frequently been the case. The highest price of the day was 81gs., which was given by Mr. Kennedy, Dunure, Ayr, for the thick, straight, handsome two-year-old heifer Isla 3rd of Craibstone, tracing to Japonica 864, the ancestress also of the Portlethen Jacobinas. Mr. Walker put into the ring a number of the old family of Japonicas, which have been for long bred at Portlethen. One of the best was the ten-year-old Jacobina 10th, a massive, sweetly fleshed, and nicely ribbed cow which was first at Laurencekirk this year. Mr. Stevenson, Blairshinnoch, was after her from the beginning, and it was to him that she was knocked out at 60gs. The eight-year-old Pride cow, Pride of Powrie 4th, was also in demand, for this cow has a good showyard record, including a premier place at the Highland. Colonel Grant, Auchorachan, offered for her, and although he did not get her the cow goes to the same district, being taken out by Mr. Grant, Cromdale, at 41gs. Colonel Grant was fortunate, however, in getting at 40gs. the big, handsome, good cow Annuity of Craibstone, of the well-known Aldbar family. Mr. Smith, Powrie, got back, at 34gs., one of his own Witches in the eight-year-old Witch of Endor 22nd. Mr. Schroeter took with him to Sussex a few very pretty things, one of the best being Arabella 12th, from Portlethen, for which he paid 25gs. The calves sold cheaply, and pulled down the average considerably. Below we give a list of the principal prices realised: —

The Property of Mr. Walker.

		Gs.
COWS.		
Prima Donna 19098	Mr. Brock	26
Jacobina 10th 18638	Mr A. O. Stevenson	60
Jacobina 20th 26271	Mr. Mathieson	24
Deodara 27693	Colonel Grant	35
TWO YEAR OLD HEIFERS.		
Brunhilda 7th 27692	Mr. Stewart	21
Sybil 3rd 27698	Mr. Penny	33
Petunia 8th 27697	Colonel Morison	28
YEARLING HEIFERS.		
Petunia 9th 29358	Mr. C. J. Bruce	24
Arabella 12th 29351	Mr. Schroeter	25
Wilton Beauty 7th 29355	Mr. Thomson	23
Jacobina 21st 29354	Countess of Seafield	22
Petunia 10th 29359	Mr. M'Intosh	21
Sugarplum 9th 29362	Mr. A. O. Stevenson	24
Sybil 4th 29363	Mr. Still	21
Petunia 11th 29360	Colonel Innes	31
HEIFER CALVES.		
Sugarplum 10th	Mr Adamson	17
Jacobina 22nd	Mr. Penny	18½
Petunia 12th	Mr. Cran (Craibstone)	15

The Property of Mr. Pirie.

		Gs.
COWS.		
Pride of Powrie 4th 19818	Mr Grant	41
Witch of Endor 22nd 21085	Mr. T. Smith	34
Annuity 20910	Colonel Grant	40
Pride 5th 23371	Colonel Ferguson	36
Bella Cook 24128	Mr. Troup	28
Witchcraft 23830	Mr. Kennedy	32
Jemima 2nd 25948	Mr. Penny	36
Witch 25953	Colonel Ferguson	37
Molly of Tochineal 26138	Mr. Anderson	33
TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.		
Isla 3rd 27368	Mr. Kennedy	81
Aberdeen 136th 27370	Mr. Mathieson	27
Pride 9th 27371	Mr Leith Hay	36
Stumpie 27372	Mr. Smythe	38
Merita 27369	Mr. P. Chalmers	36
YEARLING HEIFERS.		
Bella 29012	Mr. Leith Hay	45
Pride 10th 29014	Mr. Mathieson	24
Witch 2nd 29016	Mr Schroeter	31
HEIFER CALVES.		
Witch 3rd	Mr. M'Intosh	14
Rosemary	Mr Schroeter	14
Pride 12th	Mr Cran	13
Bella 2nd	Mr. Maitland	17
Minnie	Mr. Cran	14
Jemima 4th	Mr. Milne	13½
Pride of Aberdeen 151	Mr. Cran	18
BULL CALVES.		
Buller	Mr. Birnie	13
Armourer	Mr Birnie	10½
Priam 2nd	Colonel Innes	21
Rosencranz	Mr Knight	13½

SUMMARY.

	Average	Total
Mr Walker's.		
6 Cows	£33 12 0	£201 12 0
5 Two-year-old heifers	25 10 3	127 11 6
12 Yearling heifers	22 14 1	272 9 6
6 Heifer calves	16 0 3	95 1 6
29 Head	£24 1 2	£697 14 6
Mr. Pirie.		
16 Cows	£31 10 0	£504 0 0
5 Two-year-old heifers	45 15 7	228 18 0
6 Yearling heifers	25 14 6	154 7 0
11 Heifer calves	13 18 8	153 6 0
6 Bull calves	13 4 3	79 5 6
44 Head	£26 9 0	£1,119 16 6

Aberdeen-Angus Sale at Grantown-on-Spey.

A sale of Aberdeen-Angus cattle from the herds of various breeders in the Strathspey district was held at Grantown-on-Spey on the 20th ult., but was rather poorly attended, and trade was not very brisk. A noticeable feature was, however, that, though there was practically no bidding for animals without quality, classes of all ages where there was shown anything like breeding, and with plenty of flesh, found a market, which, considering the company, must be set down as fairly good. There was little demand for cows, the highest price being 27gs., given by Mr. Anderson, Ballachraggan, for the West Lethendry three-year-old cow Lady Lucy of Advie, by the Balliol College Farm bull Rustler, which has bred so many good things for the Advie herd, and of the Lucy of Portlethen family. Mr. Macpherson, Mains of Mulben, had forward a fine draft of two-year-old heifers. For Pride of Aberdeen 131st, by the Auchorachan bull Larch, he received 39gs., the purchaser being Mr. Grant, Carr-Bridge; while for a nicely-topped member of the same family, also by Larch, Mr. Grant, Boat of Garten, gave 46gs. For another Pride of Aberdeen, by the Erica bull Eridale, Mr. Macpherson received from Mr. Grant, Cromdale, 29gs. The top price for yearling heifers was 19gs., given by Mr. Beaton, Cullen House, for the Inverallan heifer Hairbell 4th, by the third prize Highland Society winner, Quintus M., bred at Auchorachan. Several of the heifer calves sold well, the highest price being 28gs., given by Mr. M'Kessack, Aseisk, for the prize-winning calf Patroness 3rd, of the Nancy of Tillyfour family, out of the noted prize cow Quality of Kinloss, and by the Blairmore bull Interdict. For bulls the highest price was 20gs., given by Mr. M'Intosh, Balquharn, for the Vine of Tillyfour two-year-old Vinet, from Mains of Curr, and by the Powrie bull Melville Castle. Of the seventy-three animals catalogued forty-nine were sold, and the following is a list of the principal lots: —

		Gs.
The Property of Mr J M'Aiush, Kinchundy.		
COW.		
Lavender 14th 17357	Mr. M'Intosh	15½
HEIFER CALVES.		
Pride 3rd (Vol. 25)	Mr. Beaton	22
Prudence (Vol. 25)	Mr. Grant	17
The Property of Mr. A. Robertson, jun., West Lethendry.		
COWS.		
Lady 5th 20925	Mr. M'Intosh	20
Lady Lucy 26940	Mr Anderson	27
The Property of Mr. G. Grant, Finlarig.		
COW.		
Eriskay 20559	Mr Bruce	19
YEARLING HEIFERS.		
Merry Maid 28187	Mr. M'Intosh	15
Polly 2nd 28188	Mr Anderson	17½
The Property of Mr. J. Grant, Dalreigh.		
HEIFER CALVES.		
Maid (Vol. 25)	Mr. Grant	20
Fancy (Vol. 25)	Mr Ingram	13½
BULL.		
Baden	Mr. Lawson	15
The Property of Mr. R. Grant, Polowick.		
COW.		
Belle 28532	Mr. Reid	18½
HEIFER CALF.		
Idea (Vol. 25)	Mr. Grant	21
The Property of Hon. C. Carnegie, Aldmaghty		
COW.		
Bequest 26838	Mr Bruce	20
YEARLING HEIFER.		
Pride 145th 29487	Mr Walker	16½
BULL.		
Egmund 16572	Mr M'Intosh	19½
The Property of Mr. R. Forbes, Woodhead.		
TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.		
Miss Stables 26827	Mr. Grant	19
Missie Forsyth 26825	Mr. Green	20
YEARLING HEIFER.		
Survey 28392	Mr. M'Intosh	16
HEIFER CALF.		
Patroness 3rd (Vol. 25)	Mr. M'Kessack	28
The Property of Mr J. Macpherson, Mulben.		
TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.		
Pride 131st 27189	Mr. Grant	39
Black Beauty 2nd 27177	Mr. Reid	24
Pride 132nd 27190	Mr. Grant	29
Ra y2nd 27196	Mr. Grant	27
Blue Bell 27178	Mr. Whyte	22
Pride 133rd 27191	Mr Grant	42
Gem 3rd 27183	Mr. Allan	27
Lintie 3rd 27187	Mr Green	25
The Property of Mr. J. Smith, Inverallan.		
YEARLING HEIFER.		
Hairbell 4th 29196	Mr. Beaton	19
The Property of Mr J. Allan, Ballintomb.		
YEARLING HEIFER.		
Moss Rose (Vol. 25)	Mr. Anderson	15
The Property of Mr. A. Cumming, Mains of Curr.		
HEIFER CALVES.		
Favourite Flower	Mr Forbes	11
Flora 3rd	Mr Grant	9
BULL.		
Vinet 16164	Mr M'Intosh	20

Sale of Jerseys near Lewes.

A number of Jersey cattle and Southdown ewes, belonging to Mr. S. Austen Leigh, and a few Jersey heifers from Mr. T. Barchard's herd at Hopsted Place, were sold by auction by Messrs. J. Thornton and Co., at Frog Firle, Lewes, on the 20th ult. There was a fairly good attendance of buyers, but as will be seen from the following list of the chief lots of cattle sold the prices obtained were very low. The Southdown yearling ewes averaged 47s. each, the prices ranging from 43s. to 50s.

		Gs.
COWS AND HEIFERS.		
Artful, c April, 1887	Mr. Austen Leigh	10
Nameless, c August, 1894	Mr Woods	16
Nesta, c July, 1894	Mr Bray	13½
Barbarella, c August, 1897	Lady Brassey	11

		Gs
Amy III., c October, 1898	Lady Brassey	12
Luckless VIII., c July, 1899	Lady Brassey	12
Shriek, c January, 1899	Colonel Shaw Hellier	30
Empress 23rd, c October, 1899	Colonel Shaw	15
Bountiful 5th, c October, 1895	Mr. A. Ingoldsby	12
Dillie 5th, c April, 1899	Mrs. Perkins	12
Dangwort, c February, 1899	Mr. Perkins	12
Brimme 2nd, c November, 1895	Mr. Marchant	15
Dishwasher 2nd, c October, 1898	Lord Gage	15
BULLS		
Helot, c April, 1899	Mr. Hill	10
Henry 6590, c June, 1898	Mr. Hill	8½
Artful Dodger, c July, 1899	Mr. Spencer	

Pedigree Cattle Sale at Dublin.

An important sale of pedigree cattle was held at the Paddocks, Prussia Street, Dublin, on the 20th ult., and was attended by a large and representative company of breeders, etc. The catalogue comprised the whole of the Aberdeen-Angus herd belonging to Major Sir Anthony Weldon, Bart., a large draft from the Shorthorn herd of Major Cradock, a number of Aberdeen-Angus cattle belonging to Mr. E. M. Archdale, M.P., Lord Crofton, Mr. Fletcher Moore, Major Alexander, etc. A good demand prevailed throughout the sale and some satisfactory prices were realised. Below we give a list of the principal lots sold, together with purchasers' names, prices, etc.:—

ABERDEEN-ANGUS

		Gs
The Property of Lord Crofton.		
Geraldine XIII. 20379, s Gay Knight 8351	Lord Ormond	23½
Mayfield of Mote 22774, s Czar of St. Wolsham's 5887	Mr. Atkinson	25
Her cow calf, Mayflower of Mote II., s Gay Boaz 13489	Major Kenna's	14
Gladys of Johnstown 24354, s Heatherette 10943	Mr. Atkinson	25
Beauty of Mote 26637, s Erin's Hope 1648	Mr. Kerley	28½
The Property of Sir Anthony Weldon, Bart.		
Fair Helen of Kilmoroney 22496, s Gallant 7553	Mr. Kerley	19
Her bull calf, by Gaylark 15490	Mr. Kerley	21
Princess of Kilmoroney 21253, s Lothario 9349	Mr. Atkinson	18½
Queen Anne of Kilmoroney 23402, s Anakim 13125	Mr. Kierly	27
Antæus, bull, s Anakim 13125	Mr. Kierly	22
The Property of Mr. Fletcher Moore.		
Lily of Kilbride, s Potentate of Dalmore	Mr. Atkinson	24½
The Property of Mr. E. M. Archdale, M.P.		
Flora II. of Riversdale 37854, s Acting Dog	Mr. A. J. Owen	25
The Property of Major Alexander		
Milford Vine, s Gay Knight	Mr. Atkinson	20
The Property of Mr. A. J. M'Neile.		
Coquette of Bardenside, s Entail	Mr. Atkinson	22

SHORTHORNS.

The Property of Major Cradock.		
Violet XXIII., s Allen's Albion	Mr. R. M'Cullogh	14
Flower of Youth II., s Roan Prince 51630		13½
Diagram XV., s Ardfert 62089	Rev. M. Wilson	21
Diagram XVI., s Ardfert	Mr. R. Low	14
Her bull calf, by Prince Caradoc	Mr. J. Robertson	20
Maybelle II., s Royal Fitzgwynne 64724	Mr. J. B. Atkinson	12½
Her bull calf by Prince Caradoc 69273	Mr. J. B. Atkinson	31
Royal Medora, s Royal Fitzgwynne; also calf	Lord Duncannon	25
Diagram XX., s Royal Fitzgwynne	Mr. G. Smith	12
Her bull calf, by Prince Caradoc	Rev. Mr. Wilson	20½
Lady Sarah V., s Royal Fitzgwynne	Mr. R. Graham	18
Lady Sarah VI., s Royal Fitzgwynne	Mr. Robt. Low	18½
Royal Medora II., s Prince Caradoc	Mr. R. Graham	15
RED POLL		
The Property of Captain Trench, Glenmalyre.		
Roderick 5168, s Minstrel Boy 3219	Mr. H Brereton	19½

Transactions in Store Stock.

[From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.]

At Kilbeagh, co. Cork, on Monday, there was an average-sized fair, and bullocks in good condition sold well. Calves, second class, £4 2s. 6d. to £4 10s. Yearlings, first class, £7 4s. to £7 12s. 6d.; second class, £5 15s. to £6 15s.; third class, £4 17s. 6d. to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 15s. to £12; second class, £8 10s. to £9 10s.; third class, £6 10s. to £8. Three-year-olds, first class, £13 15s.; second class, £11 to £11 15s. Springers, first class, £15; third class, £10 5s. to £11.

At the fair at Elphin, co. Roscommon, on Monday, a very good demand prevailed for cattle in fair condition and also for lambs. Prices: Calves, first class, £3 2s. 6d. to £6; second class, £2 12s. 6d. to £4 10s. Yearlings, first class, £9 to £10 10s.; second class, £6 to £8. Two-year-olds, first class, £12 15s. to £15 10s.; second class, £9 10s. to £10 10s. Three-year-olds, first class, £14 5s. to £16 5s.; second class, £12 10s. Springers, first class, £18 10s. to £21; second class, £13 10s. to £16. Lambs, first class, £1 8s. to £1 11s.; second class, £1 2s. to £1 6s. Hoggets, first class, £2 to £2 4s.; second class, £1 11s. to £1 16s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, first class, 22s. to 24s.; second class, 16s. to 18s. each.

The fair at Westport, co. Mayo, on the 22nd ult., was a large one, and a good demand prevailed. There was a particularly large supply of aged horned ewes, for which a good demand was experienced. Prices: Calves, third class, £1 15s. to £2 10s. Yearlings, second class, £6 5s. to £8 17s. 6d.; third class, £4 10s. to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, second class, £8 15s. to £10 15s.; third class, £6 to £7. Three-year-olds, second class, £10 10s. to £13; third class, £7 to £9. Springers, second class, £12 10s. to £14 5s.; third class, £8 10s. to £10. Horned ewes, two-year-olds and upwards, third class, 13s. to 16s.

Oughterard Fair (co. Galway), held on Wednesday, was an average-sized one, composed almost exclusively of third class cattle of indifferent quality. A brisk demand prevailed for forward pollies, which were bought up early, but other sorts were difficult to sell. There was only a small supply of sheep, but quite sufficient for the demand, which was by no means brisk. Prices:—Calves, third class, £1 17s. 6d. to £3. Yearlings, second class, £6 to £7 2s. 6d.; third class, £3 15s. to £5. Two-year-olds, second class, £7 15s. to £9 5s.; third class, £5 5s. to £6 17s. 6d. Three-year-olds, third class, £7 5s. to £8 15s. Springers, third class, £6 15s. to £8 17s. 6d. Lambs, second class, 18s. to £1 1s.; third class, 10s. 6d. to 14s. 6d. Two-year-olds and over, second class, £1 13s. 6d. to £1 16s.; third class, 15s. to £1 7s.

At Kenmare Fair (co. Kerry), held on Wednesday there was a large supply of stock, which met a good demand, and a fair clearance was effected. Prices:—Yearlings, second class, £5 15s. to £6 5s.; third class, £3 10s. to £5 16s. 3d. Two-year-olds, second class, £8 5s. to £9 10s.; third class, £4 15s. to £7 18s. 6d. Springers, third class, £6 17s. 6d. to £8 10s.

Mr. Dunbar Kelly's Polo Pony "Girton Girl."

HORSES.

Sale of Shire Horses.

Messrs. Sexton, Turner, and Beck held their annual sale of Shire horses, the property of Mr. George Wolfe, at the Monks Horse Hall Stud, Carlton-on-Trent, on Wednesday, the 12th ult. There was a good attendance, and the animals were all in good form and condition. The prices realised were excellent, the total amount realised being £2,240 1s. The highest price given was for the yearling colt Monks Peter (Vol. xxii.), bred by Mr. Bryars, and sold for 210gs.

Prices and purchasers were:—

Mr. A. Pudifoot	23
Mr. Bryars	41
Mr. Bryars	210
Mr. Norbury	41
Mr. J. Wainwright	115
Mr. J. Wainwright	60
Mr. Hill	145
Mr. Jeffs	32
Mr. Goodson	36
Mr. J. Forshaw	36
Mr. Neil	39
Mr. Hawley	44

Sale of the Hatfield Hackney Stud.

Mr. W. Bainbridge, of Lancaster, sold by auction in the Glasgow Paddocks, at Doncaster, on Tuesday, the Hatfield Stud of Hackneys and ponies, belonging to Mr. A. H. Greatbatch, and twenty-seven lots belonging to other breeders. There was a good attendance, and a few high prices were made. Mr. Greatbatch's stud realised 1,505gs., the following being the principal lots:—

Lady May, bay, s Gordon Pasha	Mr. Batchelor 150

Sale at Gainsborough.

The annual autumn sale of horses at Gainsborough Cattle Market was held on Tuesday, the [illegible] being Mr. H. Hanson. Some of the best stock found ready buyers, [illegible] for the trade. [illegible] ring, [illegible] won prizes [illegible] foal by Cashier 5th was bought by Mr. Campbell, of Redcastle, for 20½gs.; [illegible] 20½gs. by Mr. G. Brown, of Sturton; a Midville Squire colt foal for 18gs. by Mr. W. B. Sleightholme, of Grayingham, who also gave 25gs. for another colt foal by the same sire. Mr. J. Reedy, of Hilltop,

bought an Ashwell Duke filly foal for 19gs.; Mr. Neal, of Northorpe, a Midville Squire filly for 16½gs.; Mr. C. E. Duckering, of Kirton, a two-year-old filly for 30gs.; Mr. Foster, West Burton, a Midville Squire colt foal for 16½gs.; Mr. W. B. Sleightholme, a Midville Squire cart gelding for 29gs.; Mr. Sutton, of Scampton, a Midville Squire cart colt, one year old, for 22½gs.; Mr. Eyre, of Ulceby, a seven-year-old cart mare for 23gs.; Mr. Staniland, of Knaith, two yearling cart fillies for 26½gs. and 26gs. respectively; Mr. John Byron, of Gringley, a cart foal for 19gs.: Mr. J. Oxley, of Bole, bought a carting filly for 38gs. Among those selling horses were Mr. A. Oglesby, Hamswell; Mr. J. Oxley, Bole; Mr. W. Wareing, Blyton; Mr. Pye, Blyton, etc.

Crewe Horse Sales.

Messrs. Frank Lloyd, Nuttall, and Co. held their three days' great quarterly prize sales in the Cheshire Horse Repository, Crewe, on the 19th, 20th, and 21st ult. Buyers attended in large numbers, and a clearance was effected throughout. The first day's sale contained 150 hunters, match pairs, and single harness horses. The awards and prices realised were:—Hunter mare or gelding 15.2 or over, Mr. J. R. Freme, 64gs.; harness mare or gelding 15.2 or over, Mr. A. Illingworth, 72gs.; match pair, realising 100gs. or over, Lord Delemare, with a pair of grey mares sold for 150gs. Thursday's sale included 250 small harness horses, show cobs, and ponies. Thi day's awards were:—Mare or gelding 15.1 and over, Mr. R. J. C. Mitchell, 55gs.; mare or gelding over 14.2 and not exceeding 15 hands, Mr. H. West, 55gs., r. Mr. E. Powell, 82gs.; mare or gelding over 14 hands and not exceeding 14.2, Mr. D. Donellon; pony mare or gelding under 14 hands, Mr. J. Hepherd, 29gs. The principal prices on the two first days (obtained for a considerable number of horses) ranged from 40gs. to 61gs., and many other animals found purchasers at prices ranging from 25gs. to 40gs. The last day of the sales was set apart for heavy horses of all classes, and the prizes were:—Cheshire Champion Cup, value 10gs., for best mare or gelding in the sale, Mr. T. Simpson, 85gs.; mare or gelding under 16.1, Mrs. Parton, 51gs.; parcel cart mare or gelding under 15.3, Mr. Simpson, 35gs.; gelding or filly, foaled in 1897, Messrs. Turner Bros., 47gs.; gelding or filly foaled 1898, Messrs. Turner Bros., 43gs. The top prices for heavy horses were 85gs., 80gs., 75gs., and 74gs., and others sold at from 43gs. to 64gs. Many active light lurry and van horses sold at prices ranging from 30gs. to 70gs.

Horse Sale at Glasgow.

Messrs. Dixon and Wallace held a sale of horses at Glasgow on Wednesday, the catalogue containing 100 animals. They consisted principally of carriage and coaching horses, while there were also a number suitable for van and cart purposes. There were also a few cobs and ponies included. There was an extra large attendance of buyers, farmers and contractors being well represented. Horses of good class met a fairly good trade. Bids came readily for them, and they realised good prices. Other lots met a very stiff trade, and they were very hard to cash. Carriage horses of the best class realised up to 40gs.; secondary, from 10gs. to 23gs.; and inferior made down to 6gs. Cart horses of the best sort realised from 20gs. to 35gs.; secondary and inferior, from 4gs. to 14gs. Vanners of the best class made up to 26gs.; secondary and inferior, from 4gs. to 10gs. Ponies, from 5gs. to 18gs., according to style, substance, and action. Cobs of the best class realised up to 23gs.; secondary and inferior, from 4gs. to 14gs. Mr. Dixon also sold a few sets of harness, polo carts, and carriages. They met a satisfactory trade, and they realised the standard prices.

Serious Farm Fire.—One of the most serious fires that has occurred on the Duke of Westminster's Eaton estate took place on the 22nd ult., at the Stonege Farm, Churton, near Farndon, in the occupation of Mr. Edwin Lewis. A smell of fire attracted the attention of some of the farm employees, who, on visiting a large building which was full of hay, clover, and grain, and articles used in connection yith the farm, discovered a fire raging. The alarm was quickly spread, and every effort was made by the men and willing helpers from the adjoining farms to remove some of the produce in the building. The fire, however, had not been discovered very long before flames shot out of the building, and very soon several parts of the structure were enveloped in flames. The local fire brigade were unable to subdue the fire, and late in the day the Chester brigade was summoned. They arrived in good time, and after raging for close upon twenty-four hours the fire was practically extinguished. The building, which was about forty yards long and eleven yards wide, was utterly destroyed, and not a particle of the produce in the building was left fit for use. This is to be regretted, as the upper room contained a quantity of hay and clover to supply forty cows with provender for the whole of the winter. Mr. Lewis will also have a difficulty now in finding a place to accommodate his stock. The damage is estimated at about £1,200, and is covered by insurance. The cause of the fire is unknown.

Sale of Shropshires at Coventry.

Messrs. Whittindale and Watson's annual sale of pedigree Shropshire sheep on the Butts Sale Ground, Coventry, took place on the 21st ult., when upwards of 200 rams, ram lambs, ewes, and theaves, and ewe lambs were penned. There was a very large attendance of purchasers from all parts of the country, and excellent competition, the whole of the lots being disposed of at prices highly satisfactory to the vendors. The rams and ram lambs, which numbered up to 150, went as follows:—Rams, Mr. E. L. Driver, Elmsthorpe, 8½gs., 7gs., 6½gs.; Mr. J. Hollick, Stivichall, 6½gs., 6gs., 5½gs.; J. S. Dugdale, Esq., Q.C., 5½gs.; Mr. A. S. Berry, Great Barr, 5½gs. Ram lambs: Dr. B. Wall, Blythe, 5½gs., 4½gs.; Mr. T. S. Neale, Exhall, 3½gs., 4½gs.; Mr. E. L. Driver, 5½gs., 4½gs.; Mr. T. Pearman, Ryton, 3¼gs.; Mr. J. H. Greves, Corley, 3½gs., 2¾gs.; Mr. S. W. Greves, Mercote, 3½gs., 2¾gs.; Mr. W. Pridmore, Wyken, 2¼gs.

The highest price in the 300 pens of ewes and theaves was 65s. for a pen of choice theaves from Mr. J. Tomlinson, Stechford, his other pens making 60s., 59s., 54s. 6d. Mr. C. Blythe, Balsall, theaves 56s., ewes 44s.; Mr. G. L. Hammerton, Fletchamstead, theaves 52s. 6d., ewes 47s.; Mr. J. King, Sedgmoor, ewes 53s.; Mr. R. S. Potter, Coleshill, theaves 47s., ewes 46s.; Mr. C. Mills, Wroxall, theaves 48s., ewes 49s.; Mr. J. Hollick, Stivichal, theaves 49s., ewes 49s.; Dr. B. Wall (Clun ewes), 36s.; Coventry Corporation theaves, 46s., ewes 48s.; Sir F. Peel, theaves 43s., ewes 44s.; Mr. T. Pearman, Ryton, theaves 48s., ewes 43s.; Mr. W. L. Riley, Wyken, ewes 45s.; Mr. J. S. Neale, Exhall, ewes 43s.; Mr. J. Blundell, Wolston, theaves 45s.; Mr. A. Redfern, Packington, ewes 47s.; Mr. C. Walker, Coleshill, ewes and theaves 44s.; Miss M. E. Swinnerton, Cryfield, ewes and theaves 46s.; Mr. A. Silk, Flechamstead, ewes 47s., theaves 44s.; Mr. P. J. Whittem, Mount Nod, ewes 46s.; Mr. John Skelton, Binley, theaves 47s.; Mr. E. Bostock, Baginton, ewes 45s.; Mr. John Townsend, Fillongley, ewes 45s. The 200 ewe lambs made up to 33s.

Sale of the Swanborough Southdowns.

The well-known Swanborough flock of Southdown sheep, the property of Mr. R. R. Verrall, was dispersed at Swanborough Farm, near Lewes, on Wednseday, on account of Mr. Verrall being about to leave the farm. The catalogue embraced 712 ewes, 200 stock ewe lambs, and 26 rams. The flock, which bears the registered number 94 S.F.B., was descended from that established early in the present century by the late Mr. Richard Verrall, father of the present owner. In 1833 it was purchased in its entirety by the late Mr. John Verrall, brother of Mr. R. R. Verrall, and at its dispersal by auction in 1877 the present owner was the purchaser. Since that period the high character of the flock has been maintained. There was a good attendance of buyers on Wednesday, and after a capital luncheon had been partaken of the sale was commenced. Mr. Frank Gorringe (Laughton) gave the highest price for over-age ewes, viz., 38s.; Mr. Hobgen, the top figure for full-mouth ewes, namely, 60s.; and also for six-tooth ewes, namely, 62s.; while Mr. H. Willett gave 67s. for four-tooth ewes. Mr. H. Willett gave the highest price for yearling ewes, viz., 70s., and also the highest price for lambs, 50s. Mr. M. R. Holman gave 5gs. for a full-mouthed ram. Mr. Wallis gave 12gs. for a three-year-old animal, Mr. Allan 7gs. for a two-year-old, and Mr. Hodson 6½gs. for a yearling ram. The average prices obtained were: Full-mouthed ewes, 45s. 6d.; six-tooth ewes, 48s. 4d.; four-tooth ewes, 60s.; two-tooth ewes, 60s. 6d.; lambs, 40s. 8d.; and rams, £5 5s. Details follow:—

OVER-AGE EWES (sires, sons of rams bred by Colonel Western out of Palmer flock ewes): Mr. Frank Gorringe (Laughton) bought ten at 38s., and Mr. Scrase nine at 35s.

FULL-MOUTHED EWES (sires, sons of rams bred by Mr. H. Penfold out of Palmer flock ewes): Mr. Hobgen bought five at 60s., five at 52s., and ten at 43s.; Mr. R. Combe bought five at 55s., and ten at 45s.; Mr. W. Brown bought ten at 50s., and ten at 42s.; Mr. Peckham bought ten at 38s., and ten at 43s.; Mr. A. Cook bought ten at 45s., and ten at 43s.; Mr. Matthews (Essex) bought ten at 43s., ten at 42s., and ten at 40s.; Mr. Sandford (for Count Munster) bought ten at 42s.; Mr. F. Gorringe bought ten at 42s.; and Mr. Holman seven at 41s.

SIX-TOOTH EWES (sires, sons of rams bred by Mr. H. Penfold out of Palmer flock ewes): Mr. Hobgen bought five at 62s., ten at 51s., ten at 48s., and ten at 44s.; Mr. E. J. Gorringe bought five at 60s.; Mr. Spencer Leigh bought five at 58s., and ten at 50s.; Mr. Matthews, ten at 48s., and ten at 44s.; Mr. H. Stacey, ten at 44s.; Mr. A. Cook, ten at 48s.; Mr. Hodson, ten at 54s., and ten at 49s.; Count Munster, ten at 47s.; Mr. Holman, eleven at 46s.; Mr. W. Brown, ten at 45s.; Mr. Ford, ten at 43s.

FOUR-TOOTH EWES (sirts, sons of Duke of Richmond's "Royal Warwick" out of Palmer flock ewes, and sons of rams bred by Mr. H. Penfold out of Palmer flock ewes): Mr. H. Willett bought ten at 67s.; Mr. E. J. Gorringe bought five at 66s., and ten at 56s.; Mr. Wallis, ten at 65s.; Mr. Scrase, ten at 63s.; Mr. J. Jenner, ten at 55s., and ten at 52s.; Mr. Taylor, ten at 62s., twenty at 58s., and ten at 54s.; Mr. Cook, eleven at 62s.; Mr. Lloyd (Mayfield), ten at 61s., ten at 60s., and ten at 58s.; Mr. Matthews, ten at 60s., and ten at 59s.; Mr. Webb, ten at 60s., and ten at 52s.

YEARLING EWES (sires, sons of Mr. Penfold's "Selsey Boy," out of Palmer flock ewes): Mr. H. Willett bought five at 70s., five at 67s., ten at 66s., and ten at 63s.; Mr. Taylor, ten at 68s., ten at 62s., ten at 60s., eleven at 58s., and ten at 57s.; Mr. Lloyd, five at 63s., and five at 62s.; Mr. Jenner, ten at 62s., ten at 58s., and ten at 57s.; Mr. Hobgen, ten at 61s., ten at 59s., ten at 58s., and seven at 50s.; Mr. Matthews, ten at 60s.

LAMBS (sires, five sons and one grandson of "Chirkhall," Mr. Henry Webb's No. I., Vol. 1 A.D., out of Palmer ewes): Mr. Willett bought ten at 50s.; the Hon. Ralph Nevill twenty at 45s., and ten at 43s.; Mr. Levett, ten at 42s., and ten at 38s.; Mr. Matthews, ten at 42s., and ten at 40s.; Mr. Jenner, ten at 42s.; Mr. Beard, ten at 41s.; Mr. Hobgen, ten at 41s.; Mr. W. Brown, ten at 41s.; Mr. Martin, ten at 40s.; Mr. J. Kenward, ten at 39s.; Mr. Cooper, ten at 38s.; Mr. J. Stacey, ten at 37s.

RAMS (Full-mouthed): Mr. M. R. Holman bought one at 5gs.; Mr. A. Wadman, one at 4gs., one at 3½gs., and one at 2½gs.; Mr. Willett, one at 2gs.; Mr. Ford, one at 2gs.

THREE-YEAR-OLD RAMS: Mr. Wallis bought one at 12gs.; Mr. M. R. Holman, one at 7gs; Mr. H. Willett, one at 4½gs; Mr. Cowley (Ovingdean), one at 4gs.; Mr. Taylor, one at 3½gs.; Mr. Matthews, one at 2½gs.

TWO-YEAR-OLD RAMS: Mr. Allen Cooper bought one at 7gs.; Mr. J. Lade, one at 6½gs., and one at 5½gs.; Mr. Hodson, one at 6½gs., one at 6gs., and one at 5gs.; Mr. A. Wadman, one at 6½gs.; Mr. Matthews, one at 5½gs.; Mr. Huggett, one at 4gs.

YEARLING RAMS: Mr Hodson bought one at 6½gs., one at 5gs., and one at 4½gs.

Lamb Sales at Hawick.

Messrs. Andrew Oliver and Son concluded another two days' sale on Thursday, when they sold 130 lots of lambs of all classes, numbering 5,500, making a total for the two days of 17,000. There was a good attendance of customers, and a ready sale. Three-parts bred lambs made 18s. to 25s.; half breds, 15s. 3d. to 22s.; crosses, 15s. 9d. to 21s.; Cheviot wedders, 9s. 9d. to 17s. 6d.; Cheviot ewe lambs, 7s. 6d. to 12s. 3d.; blackfaces, 6s. 3d. to 8s. 9d. each.

Scunthorpe Ram and Lamb Fair.

Scunthorpe September Ram and Lamb Fair was held on Monday, and attracted a large attendance of farmers and dealers. There was a large show of Lincoln rams, breeding ewes, and lambs. Messrs. Spilman and Glasier sold nineteen of Mr. C. S. Holgate's rams for 3½gs. to 5gs. each, the average being 3½gs. Fourteen of Mr. Marris's Kirmington flock made from 5¼gs. to 12½gs., the average being 6¾gs. The top price was paid by Mr. J. Beaulah, of Ravensthorpe. Six rams sent by Mr. E. Dore, Bonby, were sold at from 4¼gs. to 5½gs., the average being 4½gs. Six rams belonging to Mr. C. Spilman averaged 5gs., 4½gs., to 7gs., being the prices made. Six of Mr. J. Benson's rams (Somerby) made from 6½gs. to 10gs., averaging 7¼gs. each. Mr. J. Spilman, of Clixby, averaged 4¼gs. for nine rams. At the fair ewes made 5½d. to 6d. per lb., wethers 7½d. to 8½d. per lb., lambs made 24s. to 32s. each, and breeding ewes 35s. to 48s. each.

Aberdeen Leicester Club's Sale.

The annual sale of sheep under the auspices of the Aberdeen Leicester Club took place on Wednesday at Belmont Auction Mart, Aberdeen. The entries numbered 581, compared with 545 last year. There was a rather meagre attendance of buyers, and while the better lots were readily picked up at moderately good prices, many others were withdrawn from the ring. The highest average was made by Mr. Hume, Barrelwell, Brechin, who obtained £7 2s. 8d. for eleven head of shearling tups—some of them being the third prize animal at the show which was held the previous day, and which went to Mr. Cooper, Dunnydeer, at £12. The highest priced animal, however, was a shearling tup belonging to Mr. Barron, Meikle Endovie, Alford,

which went to Mr. Brebner, Balquhindochy, at £13 5s. The second best average was realised by the well-known Scottish breeder and exhibitor, Mr. Taylor, Pitlivie, Carnoustie, who had £6 18s. 6d. for twenty shearling tups. A lot of five Shropshire tups belonging to Mr. Buttar, Corston, Cupar-Angus, made an average of £4 7s.

Dorchester Poundbury Fair.

About 11,000 sheep were penned at Dorchester Poundbury Prize Sheep Fair, which was held on the old Roman Encampment at Dorchester on Thursday. Rain fell heavily during the morning, but the welcome showers came too late to greatly affect the trade. Still an active demand prevailed, and prices were better than expected. Prizes were offered as usual, the judges being Mr. E. C. Legg (Combe Down), and Mr. P. Pitfield (Eype). Mr. Elworthy (Alton) won first of £5 5s. in one class, and the executors of the late Mr. Mayo (Waddon) second, £2 2s. Mr. C. Mayo (Waddon) secured premier honours in another class. Sheep were in good order, and were bought largely for Somerset, Devon, and adjacent counties, and extensive purchases were also made for the Midlands. Horn ewes made 45s. to 53s.; wethers, 35s. to 38s.; chilver lambs, 27s. 6d. to 33s.; horn couples, 47s. to 55s. Down sheep also sold well. A prime lot of Mr. Horner's Down ewes made up to 49s. Down wethers up to 43s.; wether lambs,, 27s. to 38s.; chilvers, 29s. to 36s.

Lewes Fair.

The annual sheep fair at Lewes was held on the Downs near the Civil Prison, on the 21st ult., and there was a large attendance of agriculturists from all parts of the county. The number of sheep penned was nearly 17,000, and sales generally were good. The top prices realised were obtained by Mr. J. Burder Powell, of Mayfield, who sold tegs at 51s., and Mr. Allan Cooper, of Norton, who obtained 47s. for ewes. Mr. T. W. Pickard, for Admiral Brand, sold seventy ewes at 34s., fifty at 33s. Mr. Allan Cooper secured the top price in the fair, viz., 100 ewes at 47s. He also sold nineteen at 36s. Mr. W. T. Wallis (Southeram) sold 100 ewes at 45s., and thirty-six ewes at 39s. Mr. E. J. Gorringe (Chyngton) sold 100 ewes at 44s. 6d., 100 at 42s., 100 at 38s. 6d., fifty ewes at 36s., and a number of cull lambs at 28s. 6d. Mr. Harry Willett sold seventy mixed tegs at 46s., 100 lambs at 32s. 6d., and fifty cull lambs at 27s. Mr. W. A. Cowley (Ovingdean) sold 120 ewes at 40s. Mr. J. Bannister, for Count Münster, sold six rams at 5gs. each. Mr. Covell sold seven at 6gs. and a number at 4gs. Mr. J. Kenward sold thirty-two lambs at 30s. Mr. R. R. Verrall sold 100 ewes at 44s. Mr. R. Lambe sold fifty ewes at 44s. Mr. F. Stanford (Middleton) sold ram lambs at 3½gs. and 4½gs. Mr. J. Hodson (Kingston) sold 100 lambs at 36s. Mr. R. Brown (Landport) sold ewes at 47s. and 42s., cull lambs 23s. Mr. R. Brown, jun., sold cull lambs at 28s., and cull ewes at 37s. Mr. J. B. Powell (Mayfield) sold tegs at 51s. Mr. Ingram, for the Countess of Chichester, sold 100 ewes at 41s. and 100 lambs at 32s. 6d. Mr. Heasman (Wick, Littlehampton) sold ram lambs at 4gs. to 6gs. Mr. J. Brown (Patching) sold a number of ewes at 44s., 40s. 6d., and 38s., and lambs at 32s., 29s., 27s., and 26s.

Ram Sale at Hawick.

Messrs. Andrew Oliver and Son's annual sale at Hawick took place on the 21st ult., when they offered 656 Cheviot rams and 219 Leicesters, a decrease of about 40 Cheviots, but just about the same number of Leicesters. All the crack lots usually presented were forward, besides a large number of medium class sheep. The quality of these was somewhat similar to last year, and there were a number of very superior sheep, which had taken prizes at many of the leading shows in England and Scotland, and the show on the whole was quite up to the usual standard. The day was favourable, and there was a large attendance of flockmasters and others; but, contrary to most of other years, no buyers were forward from Ireland, the present restrictions preventing sheep going from that country to the Emerald Isle. The demand was rather irregular, as the variation of ups and downs in the average show, and while better class sheep generally met a ready sale, and made a good price, a large number only sold indifferently, and in many cases consigners were rather disappointed. On the whole, however, medium class sheep sold fairly well, and most of the averages for this class show an advance from last year. The highest-priced Cheviot tup of the day was £61, given by Mr. Hall, Larriston, for a very choice two-year-old in the Hindhope lot; but the average of the whole shows a decline of £3 2s. 8d. from last year, when £100 was got for one of the same flock. In Cheviots, out of the Hartside lot, Mr. Dodd, Riccarton, purchased the highest-priced ram at £22 10s. From Laidlawsteel, Mr. Smith, Mowhaugh, purchased a nice animal at £31. From the Skelfhill consignment, Mr. Menzies, Blairech, bought Stormproof, sire Newcastleton, for £24; Mr. Murray, Parkhall, gave £21 for Tom Elliot, sire Lord Percy. Out of Newton, Bellingham, Mr. Elliot, Attonburn, secured Bonnie Scotland (1121), sire Bonnie Davie (993), for £23; Mr. Hedley, Howpasley, gave £20 for another; Mr. A. Douglas, Riccarton, gave £21 for Pride of the Lammermoors. There was a fine lot from Attonburn, the highest price being given by Mr. Willins, Hartside, viz., £37. Mr. Elliot, Hindhope, purchased one at £22; Mr. Dunn, Laidlawsteel, one at £20. Out of Mowhaugh, Mr. Bertram, Hartside, chose one at £23 10s. Out of the well-known Hindhope lot, Mr. D. Hall, Larriston, had the highest price ram of the sale, Jedforest, sire Newcastle Champion, a two-year-old, for which he gave £61. For John Clay, another two-year-old, sire Glencrosh, Mr. Stavert, Thorlieshope, paid £52; Mr. Hamilton, Caplegill, gave £48 for a dinmont, Jimmy Telfer, and another dinmont, Mosspaul, brought £36 from Mr. Paton, Glencaple. Mr. Tress, Saughill, gave £34 for a two-year-old, Sir Lancelot, and Mr. Haddow, Castle Crawford, £27 for another.

Market Rasen September Fair.

The supply of sheep at the September Fair at Market Rasen on Tuesday was not so large as usual. There was a brisk trade, and good prices were realised. Lambs made 24s. to 35s.; ewes, 30s. to 45s.; gimmers, 40s. to 50s. Mr. Topliss, Market Rasen, disposed of 107 gimmers at 48s. 6d. each to Mr. Lear, of Hull. Mr. Shaw, Peterborough, had a consignment of Hampshire Down rams from the flock of Carycoles, Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire. They found ready purchasers at 4½gs. to 5½gs. The Bleasby rams, disposed of by Messrs. Dickinson and Riggall, realised an average of £4 17s. 10d., the highest price, 8gs., being given by Mr. Odling, of Torrington. The best price obtained for the North Kilney rams was 8½gs., given by Mr. J. M. Pilley, of Tealby.

Lamb Sales in Teesdale.

Wednesday was an unusually busy day at the Barnard Castle and Teesdale Farmers' Auction Mart, when a very large number of keeping lambs were sold. 250 halfbred lambs from Messrs. Bell, of Langleydale, reached 29s. a head; 130 halfbred lambs, Mr. Peacock, Washton, 26s. 3d.; 40 halfbred lambs, Mr. Sutherland, Lonton, 29s.; 40 halfbred lambs, Mr. S. Bayles, 29s. 6d.; 70 twice-crossed lambs, Mr. Ireland, Doe Park, 33s. 9d.; 20 halfbred lambs, Mr. Thompson, Stotley, and a number of similarly bred lambs from Mr. Cooper, reached 34s. 6d. per head. Gimmer lambs were most eagerly sought after, the late advanced rates being fully maintained.

Sale of Kentish Rams at Rochester.

The tenth annual sale of Kentish rams, the property of Mr. C. J. G. Hulkes, of Pettings House, Ash, Sevenoaks, took place on Tuesday at Rochester Cattle Market. There was a fair demand for them, but at a lower range of prices than was expected would be the case, for they were very well bred, and of a good character. Ten were, however, purchased for export to Chili by Messrs. J. Howe and Co., at £9 15s., £8 15s., £7, £6. £5 10s., £5 5s., £4 10s., and three at £3 5s. Mr. E. B. Gascoigne purchased at £7 5s.; Mr. F. Wright at £4 10s. and £3 5s.; Mr. J. Hales at £4 and £3 10s.; Mr. A. Whitebread at £4 10s.; Mr. W. Batchelor, two at £3 5s. and one at £3 10s.; whilst two stud rams went to Mr. E. B. Gascoigne at £5 15s., and Mr. F. Wright at £4 15s.

Ayr Ram Show and Sale

The Ayr Ram Society's annual sale of blackface and Border Leicester rams and tup lambs was held in the Cattle Market, Ayr, on Wednesday, when there were catalogued 445 blackface shearlings and 602 lambs, 111 Border Leicester shearlings, and 46 lambs. The show was held on the previous evening, the following being the awards:—Blackface shearlings: First, James Murray, Low Ploughland; second, William Dunlop, Dunure Mains; third, Colonel Blair, of Blair; fourth, John Craig, Southhalls. Pen of five blackface shearlings: First, Carzow Bros., Borland; second, Messrs. M'Millan, Glencrosh; third, Robert Cadzow, Weston. Blackface tup lamb: First, W. and A. Wardrop, Fernhaugh; second, William Riddell, Crosswoodhill; third, Thomas Carsewell, Chirmorrie. Pen of five blackface tub lambs: First, G. and R. Richmond, Drumshang; second, R. Sinclair Scott, Flatt Farm; third, William Clark, Auchenlongford. Two-shear blackface rams: First, William Anderson, Witshaw; second, John Craig; third, J. and A. Sloan, Alton Albany; fourth, Q. Dunlop, Morriston. Border Leicester shearlings: First, James Calderwood, Windyhill; second, James Dunlop, Midlands; third, Q. Dunlop. Border Leicester tup lamb: First and second, Robert Picken, Langside. Rain fell heavily during the greater part of the day of the sale, and made matters disagreeable. The fact of the Irish ports being closed and the restrictions in force in Perthshire caused the attendance of buyers from these quarters to be less numerous than usual. The quality of stock was equal to that of former shows, but trade was by no means brisk, and prices, especially for shearlings, rather disappointing for exposers. The following are the prices the prize-winners sold at:—Single blackface shearlings: First prize, £20; second prize, £27; third prize, £12. Ram lambs: First prize, £15 5s.; second, £7 5s.; third, £5 10s. One of Messrs. Cadzow's prize pen of five brought £51, the highest figure of the sale. For Border Leicesters there was a brisk demand. The first prize shearling sold at £7, the second at £7 10s; and the third at £10 10s. The first and second prize lambs sold at £5 10s. each, and the third at £5 2s. 6d.

Kent and Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association Sale.

The [illegible] and sale of ram tegs in connection with the Kent and Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association was held in Ashford Cattle Market on Friday. The rams, which numbered 445, or nearly 100 more than last year, were a magnificent lot, stronger than those of last year, and probably the finest collection of Kent ram tegs ever seen. At the same time they were most kindly, and the levelling up in type was particularly noticeable. Under these circumstances competition was very keen for the challenge cup given by Mr. Laurence Hardy, vice-president, held during the past year by Mr. A. Amos, of Wye, and to which is added a five guinea prize given by the Right Hon. A. Akers-Douglas, presented for the year, and a second prize of three guineas given by Messrs. Battle, Maltby and Battle, Sheep-dip Manufacturers, London. The challenge-cup is perhaps the most difficult prize to capture for ram tegs during the year, and is therefore the more largely sought after by the breeders. Altogether thirty-eight ram tegs competed. The judges: Mr. Julius Finn Kelsey, of Old Romney; Mr. C. J. G. Hulkes, of Ash, Sevenoaks; and Mr. T. G. Pearson, of Appledore—had a long and difficult task to accomplish before making their final decision. The first prize fell to a wonderfully strong teg to Mr. Geo. Buley's, who was closely followed by Mr. J. E. Quested with both second and third prizes, Mr. A. Amos being reserve and Mr. C. File commended. Mr. Geo. Buley's teg was purchased at 26gs. by Mr. Hulkes, one of the judges, who thus substantially backed his opinion. Last year Mr. Millen's champion ram fetched 21gs., but the second prize-taker of Mr. Amos's sold at 50gs.

Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs disposed of Mr. A. Amos's consignment, and the following were the prices obtained and purchasers:—Mr. H. Rigden, 20gs., 16gs., and 13gs.; Messrs. Waldron and Co., 16gs., 12½gs., 12gs. (four times), 11gs., 10½gs. 10gs. (three times), 9½gs. (twice), 9gs. (twice), 8½gs. (four times), 8gs. (three times), [illegible] (twice); Mr. H. Meeson, 9gs., 7½gs., 5gs.; Mr. J. Powell, 16gs., 15gs.; Mr. F. Baker, 11½gs., 9gs.; Mr. G. Farmer, 18gs.; Mr. H. Buss, 12gs., 8½gs.; Mr. E. Wacher, 10gs., 9½gs.; Mr. Rayfield, 9gs., 8½gs., 8gs.; Mr. Solley, 9½gs.; Mr. W. Millen, 23gs.; Mr. Birch, 16gs.; and Mr. L. Hardy, 12gs. The total for the fifty ram tegs was 539½gs., or an average of £11 4s. 7d., as against £10 10s. 2d. last year.

Mr. G. Bulley's ram tegs were disposed of by Messrs. W. and C. Petley, who obtained the following prices for them:—Mr. Elgar, 8gs.; Mr. Harvey, 4½gs.; Messrs. Waldron and Co., 12½gs. (twice), 9gs. (twice), 5gs., 7½gs., 4gs.; Mr. Hulkes, 26gs.; Mr. Miskin, 11½gs., 8½gs., 7gs.; Mr. Rayfield, 4gs.; Mr. Stone, 9gs. (twice); Mr. H. Rigden, 13gs., 11gs.; Messrs. Hallett and Collard, 6gs.; Mr. Bushell, 5gs. Altogether twenty were sold for 182gs., giving an average per head of £9 11s. 1d. Last year the same number only averaged £6 5s. 5d.

For Mr. H. Rigden's lot, which was sold by Messrs. Reeve and Finn, the following were the prices and purchasers:—Messrs. Waldron and Co., 7gs., 8gs. (twice), 7½gs. (twice), 7gs. (twice), 6½gs. (twice), 5½gs. (twice), 5gs. (twice), 4½gs. (three times). Mr. G. Neve, 10gs.; Mr. R. Kenward, 10gs. (twice), 7½gs., 7gs., 6½gs.; Mr. Meeson, 7gs., 6½gs. (twice), 6gs. (twice), 4½gs. (three times), 4gs.; Mr. T. Hilder, 5gs., 4gs.; Mr. Hambrook, 7gs., 6gs.; Mr. Dowls, 5gs., 4gs. (twice); Mr. H. Pye, jun., 5½gs., 5gs., 4½gs. (five times), 4gs.; Mr. Colman, 5gs., 4gs.; Mr. Long, 8gs., 7½gs., 7gs.; Mr. Brice, 4gs. (three times); Mr. Hardy, 5½gs. (twice), 4gs.; Mrs. Deedes, 4gs. (twice), Mr. Arthur Finn, 9gs., 8gs.; Mr. A. Collard, 7½gs., 6gs.; Mr. Petley, 5gs., 4gs.; Mr. Collick, 4gs. The total realised for the 74 rams was 420gs., an average of £5 19s. 2d. At the last sale 47 animals were sold at an average of £5 4s. 4d. per head.

Nottingham Races and Goose Fair.—In connection with these important events the Great Northern Railway Company are making special arrangements for the convenience of persons from London. On October 1st and 2nd special trains will leave King's Cross (Great Northern) at 10.15 a.m., and arrive at Nottingham (Victoria) at 1.0 p.m. Returning they will leave Nottingham at 4.50 p.m. for King's Cross (G.N.) at 7.39 p.m. On October 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th cheap excursions will leave King's Cross (G.N.) at 8.45 a.m. for one, two, three, or four days, and on October 6th from King's Cross (G.N.) at 8.45 a.m., Finsbury Park 8.50 a.m., for one day. A special cheap half-day excursion will leave [illegible] at 1.0 p.m. on Saturday, October 6th, arriving Nottingham at 4.10 p.m., and returning same night from Nottingham at 11.5 p.m. For [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] fare [illegible]

SHOWS.

Wembley Park Horse Show.

It will be remembered that in June last year a most successful two-day horse show, under the management of Mr. Vero Shaw, was held at Wembley Park. This was well advertised, and brought an entry of considerably over three hundred. The second show, which was limited to one day—Wednesday last—was not made so widely known, so that an entry of over two hundred animals, the quality of which was first class, must be considered very satisfactory. The Hackney and pony classes were so good that the judges had great difficulty in making their awards, and it was late in the day before their task was completed. The hunters and jumping classes were judged by Mr. Walter Buckmaster and Mr. C. B. E. Wright, harness horses by Mr. W. Foster and Mr. W. J. Mitchell, and saddle horses by Captain Burt and Mr. Forestier Walker.

Hunters were first on the list, the novice class, in which there was an entry of a round dozen, being headed by Messrs. Mason and Brown's Kilrush, a capital stamp of weight carrier, with fair action and good middle. Harlequin, a bay gelding, owned by Mr. Arthur Balding, was second; and Messrs. J. A. Preece and Sons' Gold Edge, a useful-looking chestnut, third. Hunters in saddle up to and under 14st. proved a gift for Mr. J. H. Stokes, the well-known Midland breeder, who was first and second with a brown and a bay gelding respectively; and in another saddle class, up to 14st. and over, honours went to the same stud, the winner here, a bay gelding, afterwards gaining the sectional championship. Mr. Panmure Gordon was second, and Messrs. Mason and Brown third with Kilrush, seen out in an earlier class. There was a very fair turn out of saddle horses, Graceful, owned by Mr. F. Vivian Gooch, being rather an easy winner from Mr. E. Kirke's Ruby and Mr. J. H. Stokes's brown gelding in a novice class. In under 14 hands, the very stylish Berkeley Bobs, a beautiful mount, was the winner from Mr. G. E. Franklin's Lord Go Bang and Mr. Ernest W. Headington's Snowball, a nice grey gelding not quite so stylish in appearance as those placed above him; whilst Mr. Arthur Balding's Frivolity, a bay mare by Launcelot, was very close up in reserve position. The winning cob, Mr. A. S. Day's Sunshine, had not much to spare from Lord Go Bang, whilst in a class for saddle hacks, 15 hands and over, Ruby, second in novices, had a lot in hand from an unnamed gelding exhibited by Mr. J. H. Stokes.

As usual, the harness section proved very interesting. Mr. Franklin's Lady Go Bang, very clean in action and well driven, being winner in the novice class. Somerton, the property of Mrs. Hartley Batt, was second, and Mr. Edwin Kirke's Brandy, a stylish chestnut gelding, a capital third. In the under 13.3 class Mr. Franklin's pair, Lord and Lady Go Bang, were divided by Mr. Day's Berkeley Bob, and the only new one in the under 14.2 class was a local horse, Mr. Buchanan's Viroflay, a very nice-mannered brown gelding, not stylish enough in action. The two extremes were seen in the remaining classes, Mr. C. J. Wertheimer's Jubilee King, a grand-looking and powerful animal over 15.1 in height, and Mrs. Young's very charming pony, Pretty Good, well under 10.2, being among the winners of special prizes; while in a small single harness class, for horses 14.2 and over, in which price and action were the points judged, Princell and Governor Roosvelt, owned by Mr. Walter and Mr. Louis W. Winans, were easy winners.

There were several jumping competitions which were watched with keen interest, but the most popular feature of the day was the attempt of Mr. Walter and Mr. Louis W. Winans to beat the world and European trotting records, which they now hold. Mr. Walter Winans's Lake Erie and Princell attempted to beat the English two-mile pair-horse record of 5min. 37½sec., which they succeeded in doing by 10sec., the pair being driven by Armstrong. Mr. W. Winans, himself driving his Barney S, failed by 2sec. to beat the European mile waggon record and the European mile amateur record of 2min. 52 2-5sec., now held by his Fides Stanton. Mr. Louis Winans was not so fortunate as his brother, his horses Passing Belle and Rhoda Ferrand frequently breaking away in the attempt to beat the one-mile pair-horse English record of 2min. 35 1-5sec., which they now hold. His horse Tamerlane also failed by 4sec. to beat the English quarter mile record of 38 2-5sec., now held by Mr. Winan's Moxie.

Prize List.

HUNTERS.

Novices in saddle who have never won a first prize: 1, Messrs. Mason and Brown (Kilrush); 2, Mr. Arthur Balding (Harlequin).

In saddle up to under 14 stone: 1 and 2, Mr. J. H. Stokes.

In saddle up to 14 stone and over: 1, Mr. J. H. Stokes; 2, Mr. Panmure Gordon (Forrester).

SADDLE HORSES.

Novices, any height, which have never won a first prize: 1, Mr. F. Vivian Gooch (Graceful); 2, Mr. Edwin Kirke (Ruby); 3, Mr. J. H. Stokes.

SADDLE PONIES.

Under 14 hands: 1, Mr. Alfred S. Day (Berkeley Bobs); 2, Mr. G. E. Franklin (Lord Go Bang).

SADDLE COBS.

Under 15 hands: 1, Mr. Alfred S. Day (Sunshine); 2, Mr. George E. Franklin (Lord Go Bang); 3, Major W. Duncan (Enchantress).

SADDLE HACKS.

Fifteen hands and over: 1, Mr. Edwin Kirke (Ruby); 2, Mr. J. H. Stokes.

JUMPING CLASSES.

Novices, any height, who have never won a first prize: 1, Mr. Joseph Wheeler; 2, Mr. Wheeler (Sir Peter); 3, Mr. Charles Young (Rattler).

Under 15 hands: 1, Mr. J. Holloway (Humming Bird); 2, Dr. Wadds (Billy the Grey); 3, Mr. C. Hawkins, jun. (Flirt).

Fifteen hands and over: 1, Mr. J. Holloway (Ben Bolt); 2, Mr. Charles Young (Gamecock); 3, Mr. Joseph Wheeler.

SINGLE HARNESS.

Novices, any height, which have never won a first prize: 1, Mr. G. E. Franklin (Lady Go Bang); 2, Mr. H. F. Batt (Somerton); 3, Mr. Edwin Kirke (Brandy).

Under 13.3 hands: 1, Mr. G. E. Franklin (Lord Go Bang); 2, Mr. A. S. Day (Berkeley Bobs); 3, Mr. G. E. Franklin (Lady Go Bang).

Under 14.2 hands: 1, Mr. G. E. Franklin (Lord Go Bang); 2, Mr. A. S. Day (Sunshine); 3, Mr. G. E. Franklin (Lady Go Bang).

Under 15.1 hands: 1, Mr. G. E. Franklin (Lord Go Bang); 2, Mr. A. S. Day (Sunshine).

15.1 hands and over: 1, Mr. C. J. Wertheimer (Jubilee King); 2, Mr. Mark Pearson (Lord Lofty); 3, Mr. C. J. Wertheimer (Hopwood Squire).

Pace and action, under 14.2 hands: 1, Mr. Tom Bumstead (Benedictine); 2, Mr. Stockton (Silver Bell).

14.2 hands and over: 1, Mr. Walter Winans (Princell); 2, Mr. L. W. Winans (Governor Roosevelt); 3, Mr. Walter Winans (Barney F.); r, Mr. Will Bishop (Jack Robinson).

PAIRS OR TANDEMS.

Any height: 1, Mr. C. J. Wertheimer (Hopwood Squire and Jubilee King); 2, Mrs. Hartley F. Batt (Somerton and Winterton).

Show and Sale of Dairy Cattle at Bingley Hall.

The fourteenth exhibition and sale of Jersey and other dairy cattle took place on Thursday at Bingley Hall, Birmingham. The entries, seventy-six in number, were somewhat fewer than last year, and testified to the drain that has of late been made upon this class of stock. The quality of the animals shown, however, was fairly well maintained, and average prices were afterwards realised at the sale conducted by Mr. Lythall. A well-built silver grey cow, Speedy, bred in the Channel Islands, and the property of Mr. Edward Smith, King's Norton, was the winner of the first prize in her class, and when offered for sale was bought at the highest figure given during the sale, namely, 22gs., at which price she became the property of Mr. Turnell. She had a close competitor, however, in Mr. A. E. MacMullen's Baroness 2nd, for which Mr. G. Wright gave 20gs., a sum which was also paid by Mr. Ames for the highly-commended heifer Storm, belonging to Messrs. Fowler and De la Perrelle. The winner of the third prize was Mr. Edgar Flower's Lady Templar, whilst the reserve place was filled by Patineuse, exhibited by Mr. Edward Smith. The first and second awards for Channel Island-bred heifers were taken by Mr. E. Smith's Brownie's Dandy and Mr. A. E. McMullen's Keepsake, both of which were knocked down for 19gs. to Mr. Turner and Lord Burton respectively. Two guineas less were given for Messrs. Fowler and De la Perrelle's Coral, which had been awarded third place. The premier award for cows not bred in the Channel Islands was very deservedly secured by Mr. J. Spencer-Evan's Moriani, for which 20gs. was paid by Mr. W. C. B. Cave; whilst the reserve animal, belonging to Captain A. B. S. Frazer, changed hands at 19gs. Mr. A. E. McMullen's Privet carried off the first prize in the class for Jersey heifers not bred in the Channel Islands, and she passed to Mr. Everard for 19½gs. Dairy Wonder, a handsome animal exhibited by Mr. Edgar Flower, was given the reserve card. In the class for Kerry or Dexter heifers, the first place was secured by Framfield Dusky, belonging to Mr. Ernest P. Peyton, but another exhibit standing in this gentleman's name, although having to be content with the reserve card, was more successful when facing the buyers, Colonel Makins becoming her owner at 10gs. A silver medal offered for the best Jersey bull of any age, was won by Mr. H. S. Leon's Bletchley Starling, a yearling that bids fair to do great credit to a successful ancestry. The reservist in a class that was noteworthy for its strength was Mr. John Bamford's Oldfield Pride.

Frome.

The Frome District Agricultural Society's thirtieth annual show was held on Wednesday, and though the weather was threatening, it fortunately remained dry, and the attendance of visitors was about an average one. The show was originally established as a cheese and butter exhibition, but cattle and horses were subsequently added, and the combination has since been continued, with good results. On Wednesday, however, for the first time since the introduction of cattle in the schedule, they were unrepresented in the showyard, as the result of the Board of Agriculture restrictions checking the movement of cattle from one part of the district to another, the order following upon an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. An unfortunate feature in respect of this Order was that it was promulgated after the date of entry, when an increase in the cattle classes had already been secured. In other departments of the exhibition the entries were fairly maintained, although there was a falling off noticeable in the cheese tent, the figures reading 316 for 1899, against 277. Butter and horses were both above last year's returns. The cheese at Frome is a great sight, for there is no other place in the kingdom where so much excellent Cheddar can be seen got together for the purposes of exhibition. Practically side by side with this, in the adjoining Market Hall, is also held the annual great cheese fair, an account of which appears in another column. There were twenty entries secured for the cheese fair competition. This is open for the best pitch by a farmer, dairyman, or factory, the lot to be not less than a half-hundredweight for each cow in the dairy. There were five prizes in all, varying from £15 to £2, and a £5 gold medal for the first prize. The first fell to A. Osborne, of Blandford. In the working dairy within the exhibition there were two butter-making contests, the first for experienced makers, and the other for competitors who had not previously taken a first prize at Frome. In the first event the prize-takers and those winning honourable mention were all outside the neighbourhood of Frome. Speaking of the cheese within the show ground, it cannot be said that the all-round quality was up to the standard of last year. Mr. Walter W. Keel, of Stanton Drew, was successful, and on merit compared with the other entries he quite deserved the first prizes which came his way. The butter classes were conspicuous for the marked success of the Williams family, not only the whole of the prizes going to members of it in the open classes, but Mrs. T. Emery, of Elm Tree, Portbury, who has not been showing for some time, signalised her re-appearance by carrying off the champion prize. The horses generally were exceedingly good in quality, and the jumping events were very closely competed for.

Prize List.

CHEESE.

Four cheeses of not less than 70lb. each, of any system or make (open): 1 and gold medal, W. W. Osborne, Spillman's, Hilmarton; 2, T. C. Candy, Woolcombe Farm, Cattistock; 3, H. White, Allar Anstey, Puddletown; 4, H. G. Ashman, Beacon Farm, Shepton Mallet; 5, J. Day, Huxham; 6, A. Osborne, Mappowder, Blandford; 7, H. J. Weeden, Marsh Farm, Ibberton; 8, S. Burch, Styles Dairy, Mappowder, Sturminster Newton; r, H. E. Tucker, Church Farm, Steeple Ashton; vhc, S. H. Perry, Charlton Musgrove; hc, H. W. Watts, Stourton; B. J. Bush, Laverton; W. A. H. White, Beckington, and F. and M. Portch, Blackford, North Cadbury; c, J. Hoddinott, Chesterblade; T. L. Jackson, Wincanton; Mrs. M. A. Burfit, Bayford, and F. Osborne, Sandford Orcas.

Four cheeses of not less than 56lb. each (open): 1, W. W Keel, Stanton Drew; 2, F. W. J. Crocker, Batcombe, Cattistock; 3, T. C. Candy, Cattistock; 4, E. C. Sims, Mere; 5, E. T. Green, Frome; 6, E. T. Green, Steeple Ashton; r, R and C. Tucker, Steeple Ashton; vhc, H. G. Ashman, Shepton Mallet; hc, Herbert W. Watts, Stourton, and W. A. H. White.

Ten loaf cheeses of not less than 10lb. or more than 16lb. each, Cheddar make (open): 1, W. W. Keel; 2, A. E. Crocker, Oucklington; 3, T. C. Candy; r, H. White, Allar Anstey, Puddletown; vhc, H. E. Tucker.

Four cheeses, loaf excepted (subscribers only): 1, J. D. Armstrong, Frome; 2, R. Hoddinott; 3, J. C. Horsey, Bayciffe, Maiden Bradley; 4, J. Cary, Buckland Dinham; hc, J. H. Bush, Laverton.

Two cheeses, loaf excepted: 1, H. H. Pickford, Stanton St. Bernard; 2, R. and C. Tucker; hc, W. W. Keel, S. H. Perry.

Four cheeses of not less than 28lb. each, loaf excepted (county of Somerset only): 1, W. W. Keel; 2, R. Hoddinott; 3, Miss L. Butler, Evercreech; 4, E. Pearce, East Chinnock; r, J. Day; hc, J. Hoddinott and F. and M. Portch; c, S. H. Perry and W. Farthing, Tintinhull; C. Candy and I. Cox, Egford.

Four cheeses of not less than 56lb. each, of any make except Stilton (open): 1, W. H. Keel; 2, Mrs. R. Court, Kingston Deverill; 3, W. O. Long, Horningsham; r, M. Perry, Laverton; hc, E. Pearce, East Chinnock.

Two cwt. of cheese, any make or size, Stilton excepted: 1 A. White, South Petherton; 2, A. E. Crocker; hc, O. G. Apsley.

Six Caerphilly cheeses of not less than 6lb. or more than 8lb. each (open): 1, Miss A. Thomas, Pembury; 2, J. E. Hawkings, Burnham; 3, W. Board, Edingworth; r, J. D. Champion, Burnham; vhc, L. C. Tibbotts, Marksbury and E. Dibble, Brean; hc, A. J. Westover, Witham Friary.

Four cheeses of any make or size, loaf excepted (open): 1, T. C. Candy; 2, J. C. Horsey.

Two cheeses (1899) of not less than 56lb. each (open): 1, H. White; 2, J. H. Bush; 3, H. Cannon

CHEESE FAIR COMPETITION.

Lot of cheese pitched for sale by a farmer, dairyman, or factory: 1, A. Osborne; 2, W. W. Osborne; 3, W. Mackay; 4, W. A. H. White; 5, I. Cox; r, W. S. Green; hc, H. E. Tucker, B. J. Bush.

BUTTER.

Fresh butter, not less than 3lb. weight (open): 1, Mrs. J. Williams, Winford; 2, Mrs. T. Emery, Portburr; 3, M. J. Williams, Winford; r, Mrs. J. E. Shepherd, Butcombe; hc, C. Hayes, Frome.

Fresh butter, not less than 3lb. weight, in 1lb. rolls (open): 1 and c, Mrs. T. Emery; 2, Mrs. J. Williams; 3, M. J. Williams; r, R. Lawrence, Dinder; vhc, A. Gibbs, Tyntesfield; hc, Mrs. J. W. Steeds, Nunney; c, C. Hayes, Frome; Mrs. J. E. Shepherd

Fresh butter, not less than 3lb. weight, in 1lb. rolls (open): 1, R. Lawrence; 2, G. Appleby; 3, Mrs. J. T. Dibsdall; r, M. J. Williams; vhc, Mrs. J. W. Steeds and Miss G. Prideaux, Motcombe; hc, Miss Hughes D'Aeth, Wincanton; c, C. Hayes, A. Gibbs, Mrs. R. Newton, and Mrs. J. E. Shepherd.

Fresh butter, not less than 3lb. in weight, in 1lb. rolls: 1, Mrs. J. W. Steeds; 2, R. Lawrence; 3, Mrs. J. Weavre; r, Mrs. J. T. Dibsdall; hc, Miss Evans; c, B. Read and Miss H. Shepherd

Fancy butter, not less than six designs, for table use: 1, Mrs. F. C. Lexton, Bath; 2, Miss H. M. Trenchard, Axminster; vhc, Miss M. Bush; hc, Miss E. Follett, Pewsey; c, C. Hayes, and Miss Edith Fry, Chippenham

WORKING DAIRY.

Butter-making contests (open to both sexes): 1, Mrs. H. Shepherd; 2, Miss Evans; r, Miss G. Lawrence, Dinder; hc, Miss H. M. Trenchard; c, Miss K. Cosp and Miss L. Northeast.

Butter-making contests, for those who have never taken a first prize at Frome: 1, Miss M. G. Prideaux; 2, Miss E. Fry; 3, Miss E. K. Weaver; r, Miss G. Lawrence.

HORSES.

Nag mare and foal: 1, O. N. Holt-Needham, Castle Cary; 2, C. Wakely, Kilmington; 3, L. H. Taylor, Chippenham; r, H. Clark, Shepton Mallet

Nag gelding or filly, foaled in 1898: 1, L. H. Taylor; 2, O. N. Holt-Needham; r, R. Hoddinott, Gillingham; hc, T. H. Miller, Sherborne.

Nag colt or filly, foaled in 1899: 1, C. Wakely; 2, R. Hoddinott; r, F. Arnold, Road.

Two-year-old cart gelding or filly: 1, J. Webber, Puxton; 2, H. Chambers, Othery; 3, F. W. Parsons, Ilchester; r, T. H. Vallis, Maiden Bradley.

Cart mare or gelding, not over seven years old: 1, R. Pocock, North Petherton; 2, S. A. Hiscock, Motcombe; 3, C. M. Moody, Evercreech; r, J. W. Slute, Shaftesbury.

Cart mare and foal: 1, J. G. Williams, Winford; 2, J. Chick, Compton Valence; 3, C. M. Moody; r, Haydon and Paget, Kilmersdon.

Foal by Nyn Admiral or Brown Champion, the property of Major Sherston: 1, W. H. Rugg, Shepton Mallet; 2, G. S. Cox, Whatley; r, F. Rouse, Frome.

Hunter, under six years old: 1, F. H. Vinnicombe, Weymouth; 2, H. P. Woolcott, Swindon; r, J. Baldwin, Bath.

Light-weight hunter, the bona-fide property of a tenant farmer residing in either Somerset, Wilts, or Dorset: 1, H. P. Woolcott; 2, T. H. Pearce, Long Ashton; 3, E. H. Pope, Horningsham; r, Flower and Mattick, Stoke Easton.

Jumper (local): 1, J. Coles, Frome; 2, Glencross Bros., Frome; 3, A. Hill, Shepton Mallet.

Mare or gelding, exceeding 15 hands (harness): 1, Mrs. E. M. Hinde, Westbury; 2, the Right Hon. Lord Ludlow, Westbury; r, W. Hill, Shepton Mallet.

Mare or gelding, not exceeding 15.2 hands: 1, G. S. Cox; 2, Mrs. Hinde; r, F. C. Penny, Kilmersdon

Pony, not exceeding 13.2 hands, to be driven: 1, Mrs. A. M. Budd, Bradford-on-Avon; 2, J. Stone, Bath; r, R. Monk, Kingswood.

Altrincham.

Thursday's show of the Altrincham Agricultural Society, held at Devisdale, Bowdon, will undoubtedly rank as one of the best one-day agricultural fixture held this year. There was a slight fall of rain during the afternoon, and the forenoon was dull and threatening, but even these drawbacks did not deter some thousands of visitors from patronising the exhibition. The list of entries numbered 4,641, as compared with 3,520, and the prize money was also increased by something like £200, the total amount being £1,450. This is, surely, abundant evidence of the vigour and vitality of the society. Although in many of the departments of the show the quality of the exhibits would do credit to any other similar exhibition, some of the young stock showed a backward movement, and was considered by judges to be not worthy of the farmers of Cheshire. There was a good show of cattle, the open classes being well filled. Among the prominent exhibitors were Mr. G. Harrison, of Darlington; Messrs. Rawes and Sons, Newcastle, Staffordshire; Mr. S. W. Gould, of Lymm; and Mr. C. W. Kellock, of Audlam. It was noteworthy that Mr. Harrison's representatives were defeated in both the bull classes, Messrs. Rawes's Royal Seal taking the first prize in the aged bull class, and Mr. Adamson's well-known Dunottar's Style receiving the first award in the class for bulls under two years old. The prizes for Channel Islands cattle were divided between Earl Egerton of Tatton and Mrs. Cyril Greenall, of Warrington. Earl Egerton was also successful in the district competition for Jersey cattle. A feature of the local dairy classes was the success of Warburton farmers. In the department for heavy horses the entries were numerous, and the quality was excellent, being quite up to the average of previous shows. In the class for draught stallions, Mr. T. Hardy, of Mere Hall, with his Mere Duke, beat Earl Egerton's well-known Tatton Victor, which was younger by two years than the winner. Earl Egerton showed some good animals in the gelding and filly classes, and won easily among the yearlings with Lockinge Athena, a very promising youngster. The foals shown by local breeders were very good throughout, and were a feature. Competition was also very keen in the light horse section, many of the winners at north-country shows being present. The brood mare classes were particularly good. The sheep were few in number, and the awards were practically divided between Mr. O. R. Ward, of Great Warford, Mr. J. E. Ward, of Middlewich, and Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, of Kelsall. The agricultural produce made a good show, and butter and cheese were excellent. In the butter class, Lord Rosebery showed for the first time, and won the first prize, beating Earl Egerton. The judges described the butter exhibited by Lord Rosebery as a perfect quality.

The chief awards were as follows:—

Prize List.

CATTLE

Bull, over two years (open). 1, Messrs. T. Rawes and Sons, Newcastle, Staff.; 2, Mr. G. Harrison, Darlington.

Bull, under two years: 1, Mr. T. Adamson, Lostock; 2, Mr G. Harrison.

Heifer, under two years: 1, Mr. S. W. Gould, Lymm; 2, Mr. S. S. Raingill, Ringway.

Heifer, under three years: 1 and 2, Mr. C. W. Kellock, Audlem.

Cow, in milk or in calf: 1, Mr. J. Evens, Burton; 2 and 3, Mr. S. S. Raingill, Ringway

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

Bull (open): 1 and 2, Mrs. C. Greenall, Warrington.

Cow or heifer, in milk or in calf: 1 and 2, Mrs. C. Greenall, Warrington; 3, Earl Egerton of Tatton.

JERSEYS.

Cow, in milk or in calf (district competition): 1, Earl Egerton; 2, Mr. H. Fildes, Mobberley.

Heifer, over two years: 1, Mr. J. Wilkinson; Mere.

Heifer, under two years: 1, Earl Egerton; 2, Mr. N. Pennington.

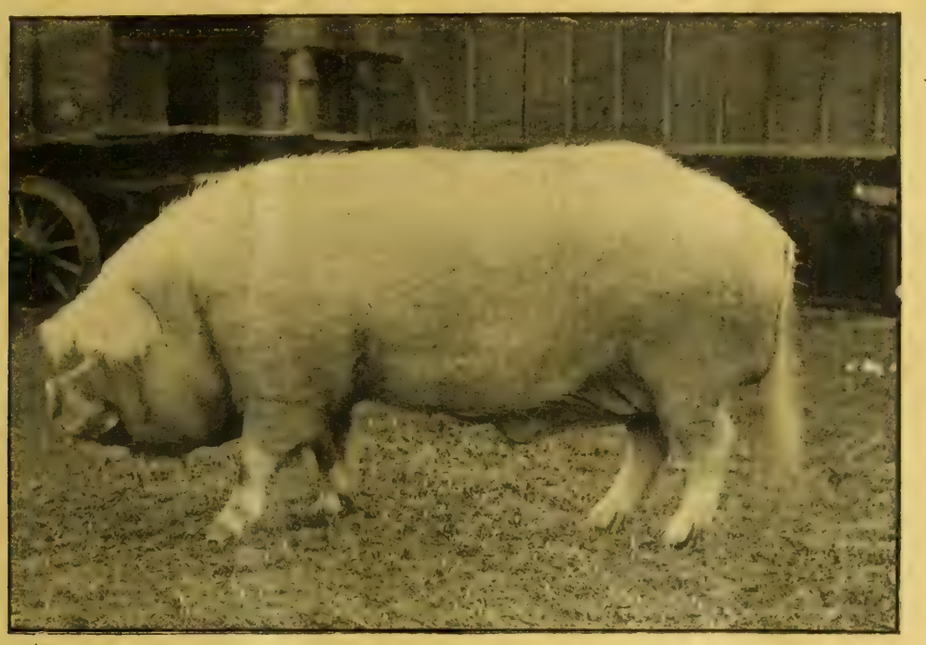
SHORTHORNS.

Bull, under two years (district competition) 1, Mr. C. Schwabe, Ashley; 2, Mr. S. S. Raingill.

Bull calf, under one year: 1, Mr. J. R. Newton, Warburton; 2, Mr. R. Clarke, Warburton

Cow or heifer, in milk or in calf: 1, Mr. S. S. Raingill; 2, Mr. J. R. Newton.

Heifer, under two years: 1, Mr. J. R. Newton; 2, Mr. S. W. Gould.



SIR GILBERT GREENALL'S LARGE WHITE BOAR, "WALTON TURK."

Heifer calf, under one year: 1, Lieut.-Colonel H. Cornwall Legh; 2, Mr. S. W. Gould.

DAIRY CATTLE.

Bull, under four years (district competition): 1 and cup, Mr. P. Mee and Co., Peover.

Bull, under two years: 1, Mr H. Bayley, Mobberley; 2, Mr. R. Clarke.

Bull calf, under one year: 1, Mr. S. W. Gould; 2, Mr. S. S. Raingill.

Pair of dairy cows, in milk or in calf: 1, Mr. R. Clarke; 2, Mr. S. S. Raingill.

Dairy cow, in milk: 1, Mr. S. S. Raingill; 2, Mr. R. Clarke.

Dairy cow, in calf: 1 and 2, Mr. S. S. Raingill.

Cottager's cow (rental not to exceed £15 per annum): 1 and 2, Mr. W. Jackson, Dunham Town.

Heifer, under three years: 1, Mr. A. Barff, Warburton; 2, Earl Egerton.

Heifer, under two years: 1, Mr. S. W. Gould; 2, Earl Egerton; 3, Mr. G. H. Newton, Carrington.

Heifer calf, under one year: 1, Mr. S. W. Gould; 2 and 3, Earl Egerton.

Cow, heifer, or bullock, showing the best symmetry, fat, and weight: 1, Mr. S. S. Raingill; 2, Earl Egerton

HEAVY HORSES.

Draught stallion under three years: 1, Mr. J. Gould; 2, Mr N. Pennington.

Pair of draught horses, mares or geldings: 1, Mr. O. R. Ward, Great Warford; 2, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Kelsall

Draught horse, mare or gelding: 1, Mr. A. McIntyre, Lymm; 2, Mr. S. S. Raingill.

Brood mare, with foal at foot: 1, Mr. O. R. Ward; 2, Mr. A McIntyre.

Weaning foal: 1, Mr. N. Pennington; 2, Mr. W. Blackburn, Rostherne.

One-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Earl Egerton; 2, Mr J. Gould, Lymm.

Two-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Earl Egerton; 2, Mr. J. Gould.

Three-year-old gelding or filly: 1, Earl Egerton; 2, Mr. O. R Ward.

Draught stallion, under three years: 1, Mr J. Gould, 2, Mr. N. Pennington.

Pair of draught horses, mares or geldings: 1 and 2, Mr Peter Davies, Warburton

Draught horse, mare: 1, Mr J. Gould; 2, Mr S. S. Raingill; 3, Mr. A. C. Sparkes, Altrincham.

LIGHT HORSES.

Brood mare for road purposes, with foal at foot, or shall have had one during the season of 1899 (open): 1, Mr W. Fergusson, Butley; 2, Mr. Lees Knowles; 3, Mr J. W. Hewitt, Lymm

Brood mare for road purposes, with foal at foot, or shall have had one during the season of 1900: 1 and 3, Mr. C. Schwabe; 2, Mr. C. Greenall, Broken Cross

Weaning foal for road purposes (district): 1, Mr. Lees Knowles; 2, Mr. A. L. Goodson, Knutsford; 3, Mr E. J. Sidebotham, Bowdon

Weaning foal for road purposes (district): 1 and 3, Mr. C. Schwabe; 2, Earl Egerton.

Year-old gelding or filly for field purposes (open): 1, Mr. A. Haslewood, Buxton; 2, Mr. H. Thackeray Schwabe, Macclesfield; 3, Mr. R. Prescott, Aston-by-Budworth.

Two-year-old gelding or filly for field purposes (open): 1, Mr. T. C. Fitton, Macclesfield; 2 and 3, Mr. A. Haslewood

Three-year-old gelding or filly for field purposes (open): 1, Mr. A. N. Clegg, Mobberley; 2, Mr. R. Whitehead, Buxton; 3, Mr. R. Leech, Lettwych

Thoroughbred stallion (open): 1 and 2, Mr. A. Haslewood.

Roadster stallion (open): 1 and 2, Mr. Lees Knowles

One-year-old gelding or filly for road purposes (open): 1, Mr A. C. Sparkes; 2, Mr. Lees Knowles

One-year-old gelding or filly for road purposes (district): 1, Mr. A. C. Sparkes; 2, Mr. Lees Knowles

Two-year-old gelding or filly for road purposes (open): 1, Mr. Lees Knowles; 2, Mr. J. W. Hewitt.

Two-year-old gelding or filly for road purposes (district): 1, Mr. Lees Knowles; 2, Mr J. W. Hewitt

Three-year-old gelding for filly for road purposes (open): 1, Mr. N. Read, Blackburn; 2, Mr. H. Hardy.

Three-year-old gelding or filly for road purposes (district): 1, Mr. H. Hardy; 2, Mr. Lees Knowles.

Roadster, mare or gelding (open): 1, Mr A. C. Sparkes; 2, Mr. F. Hardy.

Roadster, mare or gelding (district): 1, Mr. A. C. Sparkes; 2, Mr. F. Hardy

Cob, exceeding 13.2, but under 14.2 (open): 1, Mr R. Whitefield, Liverpool; 2, Mr. J. Wrigley, Oldham

Cob, exceeding 13.2, but under 14.2 (district): 1, Mr S. Leiward, Hale; 2, Mrs. Joule, Northenden

Pony, exceeding 12.2, but under 13.2 (open): 1, Mr J. Garnett, Liverpool; 2, Mr. A. P. Robinson, Wakefield

POLO PONIES.

Polo pony, mare, not exceeding 14.2 (open): 1, Mr. G. N. Midwood, Tabley; 2, Mr. A. B. Midwood, Knutsford.

Polo pony, entire, not exceeding 14.2: Mr. G. N. Midwood.

SHEEP.

Ram, long-wool breed (open): 1, Mr. J. E. Ward; 2, Mr. O. R. Ward

Pen of three ewes, long-wool breed: 1, Mr. J. E. Ward; 2, Mr. O. R. Ward.

Pen of three yearling ewes, long-wool breed: 1, Mr O. R. Ward; 2, Mr. J. E. Ward.

Pen of three lambs, long-wool breed: 1, Mr. J. E. Ward; 2, Mr. O. R. Ward.

Ram, short-wool breed: 1, Mr. J. W. Kenworthy; 2, Mr. T. Rigby, High Legh.

Pen of three ewes, short-wool breed: Mr. J. W. Kenworthy.

Pen of three yearling ewes, short-wool breed: Mr. J. W. Kenworthy.

Pen of three lambs, short-wool breed: 1 and special, Mr J. W. Kenworthy; 2, Mr. J. J. Brewin, Birkenhead.

PIGS

Boar, Large breed (district): Mr. H. May, Altrincham.

Sow, Large breed: Mr. A. Perkin, Lymm

Boar, Small or Middle breed: Mr. R. W. Platt, Plumbley

Sow, Small or Middle breed: Earl Egerton.

Boar, any age, Berkshire: Earl Egerton.

Sow, any age, Berkshire: Mr. G. N. Midwood.

Pair of fat pigs: Mr. H. J. Hampson

Pair of gilts, under nine months old, any distinct breed: Mr. D. Oldfield.

Fat pig for cottagers, rental not to exceed £15 per annum: Mr. D. Oldfield.

Hitchin Foal Show.

The annual foal show and sale at Hitchin was held on the 18th ult., and proved an average success. The district classes were very good indeed; yearlings, though less in number, were fair in quality. The open classes contained some good animals, and by experts the show as a whole was pronounced an excellent one. There were only fourteen foal classes, as against nineteen last year, but the number of entries exceeded those of 1899 by one. The open championship was won by Lord Rothschild, of Tring Park, with a six months roan, sired by Blythwood Spark out of Hendre Sunlight, and the same animal was chosen for the silver medal as being the best colt in the show, the reserve to this animal in each case being a five months filly by Mr. Cole Ambrose, of Ely, and Lockinge Favourite, a yearling colt exhibited by Sir J. Blyth, of Blythwood. The district championship was won by Sir J. Blundell Maple with his six months bay filly, sired by Childwick Majestic, out of Juno of Worsley 9th. Mr A. Ransom's five months chestnut colt by Tarnacre Crown Prince, out of Flower, was reserve. The silver medal for the best filly in the show went to Sir J. Blundell Maple for his yearling filly Kathleen, by Harold out of Wykeham Mabel, the reserve being Sir J. Blyth's Victorine of Wimpole.

Prize List.

SHIRES.

Shire colt (open): 1, Lord Rothschild; 2 and 3, A. Ransom; r and hc, C. Marsh, Little Offley; hc, Cole Ambrose, Stuntney Hall, Ely; A. P. McMullen, Hertingfordbury Park; c, T. Priest, Ickleford, and J. Lloyd, Astwick Manor

Shire filly (open): 1, Cole Ambrose; 2, Sir J. B. Maple, Childwick; 3, Lord Rothschild; r and hc, C. S. Marsh; hc, C. S. Marsh and Messrs. J. King and Sons, Bourn; c, C. S. Marsh

Shire colt (district): 1 and 2, A. Ransom; 3, E. S. Fordham, Ashwell; r and hc, A. Ransom; hc, A. Ransom (2), A. P. McMullen, and C. S. Marsh; c, A. Ransom and J. Lloyd.

Shire filly (district): 1, Sir J. B. Maple; 2, C. S. Marsh; 3, Messrs. J. King and Sons; r and hc, A. Ransom; hc, E. S. Fordham, and A. Ransom; c, E. S. Fordham, A. Ransom, and J. Lloyd.

Cart colt or filly, the property of [illegible] whose principal business is [illegible] likely: 1, H. F. Woollatt, Wheathampstead; 2, G. D. and W. J. Pigg; 3, A. W. Edwards; r and hc, F. Bevington; hc, J. H. Marsh; c, J. F. Hall, [illegible]

Cart filly or [illegible] the property of [illegible]

whose principal business is breeding for the purpose of a livelihood: 1, G. Muirhead, Knebworth; 2, J. King and Sons; 3, E. Abbott, Pulloxhill; r and hc, W. W. Low, Meppershall.

Foal by either of the Hitchin stud horses: 1, G. Muirhead; 2, T. Priest; 3, A. W. Edwards; 4, E. Abbott; r and hc, J. F. Hedley; hc, T. Priest.

Yearling Shire colt (district): 1, Sir J. Blyth, Blythwood (Lockinge Favourite); 2, E. S. Fordham (Ashwell V.C.); r and hc, R. Long, Upper Standon.

Yearling Shire filly (district): 1, Sir J. B. Maple (Kathleen); 2, Sir J. Blyth (Victorine of Waresley); 3, G. Street, Maulden (Maulden Lady Bedford 3rd); r and hc, G. M. Hunter, Stevenage Rose); c, J. J. Maulden, Stratton (Sunderland Duchess)

Two-year-old cart gelding (district): 1, R. Long, Upper Standon; 2, C. S. Marsh; r and hc, Sir J. Blyth (Blythwood Gilt); hc, G. M. Hunter (Prince).

HUNTERS AND HACKNEYS.

Hunter colt (district): 1, W. Mills, Cardington; 2, E. Logsdon, Hitchin; 3, H. C. Coggin, Watton-at-Stone; r and hc, T. F. Harrison, Kingswalden (Maxima).

Hunter filly foal (district): 1, R. Long; 2, M. McMullen; 3, R. Kingsley, Hitchin; r and hc, S. S. Berger, Bragbury, Knebworth (Peahen)

Hackney foal (district): 1, S. S. Berger (Fizzle); 2, G. T. Palmer, Shillington; 3, Rev. H. Izod Rogers, Cottered Rectory; r and hc, C. F. Ansell, Hitchin; c, C. Careless, Buldock; c, Rev. H. Izod Rogers.

Yearling hunter: 1, R. Long; 2, W. B. Moss, Hitchin (Lorne); r and hc, S. S. Berger (Peacock).

The Sale.

After the show the usual auction sale was held by Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck, auctioneers. There was a fairly good attendance of buyers round the ring, and some satisfactory prices were realised, as the following list will show:—

Vendor.	Purchaser.	£	s.	d.
T. Priest	Mr. Foster	23	2	0
T. Priest	Mr. Whiteworth	21	0	0
J. Lloyd	Mr. Coleman	25	4	0
Earl Cowper	Mr. Ambrose Cole	18	18	0
J. Lloyd	Colonel Blake	26	5	0
A. Ransom	Mr. Robinson	63	0	0
A. Ransom	Mr. Rouse	21	0	0
A. Ransom	Mr. Howkins	22	1	0
T. Priest	Mr. Sherriff	15	15	0
T. Priest	Mr. Kedwin	16	16	0
A. Ransom	Mr. Cross	28	7	0
T. Priest	Mr. Purvis	22	1	0
H. J. Marsh	Mr. Sherriff	11	11	0
J. Day	Mr Purvis	28	7	0
E. Abbott	Mr. Purvis	21	0	0
W. W. Low	Mr. M'Neil	18	18	0
H. J. Marsh	Mr. Browning	15	15	0
Kingsley	Mr. Blundell	13	13	0
C. S. Marsh	Mr. Ardleigh	47	5	0
Earl Cowper	Mr. Brigg	42	0	0
T. Priest	Mr. Richardson	32	11	0
T. Priest	Mr. Gee	15	4	6
J. Day	Mr. Goodson	52	10	0

Northallerton.

The show of the Northallerton Agricultural Society, held on the 21st ult., was a satisfactory one in every respect. The weather, though threatening in the morning, turned out favourable to the occasion, and there was a good attendance of visitors. The entries numbered 1,317 as against 1,278 last year, the main increase being in the cattle section, which attracted 110 entries as against sixty-three. Horses, which numbered 320, were about a score fewer than last year, but this fact was speedily lost sight of in view of the capital quality of the animals shown. Agriculturists in the Northallerton district are generally breeders of capital horses for heavy work, and there were many excellent specimens of this stamp of animal exhibited. But the cattle undoubtedly provided the strongest section. One man assisted largely to bring about this distinguishing feature. Mr. George Harrison brought the best of his Gainford Hall stock, and, as usual, he carried everything before him. The classes for agricultural horses were well fil'ed, and the quality can be gauged from the fact that many animals which received honours at recent shows were now altogether out of the hunt. Mr. J. H. Snowden, of Clifton, York, was a successful exhibitor in this section, and on the whole the work of the judges was regarded as satisfactory to all concerned. There were some some good coaching horses, although competition was limited. One feature was the triumph of Mr. T. Knagg's yearling bay over Mr. E. Connell's youngster by Mischief. At the Yorkshire Show the latter was placed first, but the decision was reversed in the present instance. Roadsters and hunters both repaid attention. Mr. J. S. Darrell's West Ayton stud was again prominent, though, as on the previous day at Stokesley, Mr. George Marton's chestnut, Actor, took precedence over the three-year-old Silverdale.

Prize List.

HORSES.

AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES

Mare for breeding agricultural horses, with a foal or stinted: 1, J. H. Snowden, Clifton, York; 2, F. Pinkney, Northallerton; 3, R. P. Petch, Priestcroits, Skelton-in-Cleveland.

Colt foal, for agricultural purposes: 1, J. H. Snowden; 2, S. Barker, Osmby Wiske; 3, R. J. Dennis, Thirsk.

Filly foal: 1, Exors. R. Allison, Thornton Watlass; 2, J. Ingledew, Fencote, Bedale; 3, R. Dale, Hornby.

Yearling colt: 1, W. Loftnouse, Bishopthorpe; 2, J. Greaves, Snape Castle; 3, Capt. Duncombe, Jefferson, York.

Yearling filly: 1, T. Petch, Little Ayton; 2, G. Chapman, Hornby.

Two-year-old gelding: 1, W. Beaton, Rockbaurgh, Kirby-moorside; 2, T. O. I. Pick, Thirsk.

Two-year-old filly: 1, A. S. Benton, Cowldyke, Kirbymoorside; 2, R. and J. Davison, Lund Court, Nawton.

Three-year-old gelding: 1, R. and J. Davison; 2, G. Kendrew, Scruton; c, [illegible].

[illegible]: 1, W. Webster, Stockton-on-Forest; 2, H. Newbould, Sexton.

[illegible] mare: 1, J. Strother, Stonebyr; 2, J. H. Snowden.

Mare for breeding agricultural horses, with a foal or stinted: 1, F. Pinkney; 2, T. O. I. Pick.

COACHING.

Mare for breeding coach horses, with a foal or stinted: 1, R. Dutton, Tockwith; 2, I. Duell, Hinderwell.

Colt foal for coaching: 1, R. Dutton; 2, Mrs. Petch, Little Broughton, Northallerton.

Filly foal: J. Henrici, Northallerton.

Yearling colt: 1, T. Knaggs, Marske-by-the-Sea; 2, E. Connell, Heslington.

Yearling filly: J. Henrici.

Two-year-old gelding: 1, M. Wilson, Whitby; 2, J. Turner, Newton-le-Willows.

Two-year-old filly: 1, W. Wood, Bilsdale West; 2, G. T. Petch.

Three-year-old gelding: 1, E. Connell; 2, G. H. Chapman, Guisborough

Three-year-old filly: 1, I. Duell; 2, W. Cooper, South Otterington

Challenge bowl, with £2 added by the society, for best Cleveland mare or filly not exceeding four years, entered in Cleveland Stud Book, and exhibited in above class: 1, T. Petch; 2, W. Wood.

ROADSTERS, HACKNEYS, AND PONIES

Mare for breeding roadsters, with a foal or stinted: 1, H. Brown, Strensall; 2, J. Taylor, Stamford Bridge.

Colt foal for a roadster: 1, H. Stephenson, Snainton; 2, T. Binnington, North Dalton, Driffield.

Filly foal for a roadster: 1, C. Moore, Upper Helmsley; 2, H. Creaser, Pickering.

Yearling colt or filly for a roadster: 1, H. Creaser; 2, C. Moore.

Two-year-old gelding or filly for a roadster: 1, J. W. Kirby; 2, D. Nicholson, Hutton Cranswick.

Three-year-old gelding or filly for a roadster: 1, W. Laking, Burgate, Pickering; 2, J. Palliser, Helmsley.

Hackney mare or gelding, under six years old, to be ridden in the ring: 1, J. Taylor, Stamford Bridge; 2, J. T. Hansell, Spital Hill, Thirsk

Pony, not exceeding 14 hands, to be ridden in the ring: 1, W. Lancaster, Kilton Hall, Brotton; 2, W. Tinckler, Hilton, Yarm

HUNTERS.

Mare for breeding hunters, with a foal or stinted: 1, J. Ingledew; 2, J. S. Darrell, West Ayton.

Colt foal: 1, J. Benson and Son, Huby, Easingwold; 2, J. Ingledew.

Filly foal: 1, J. S. Darrell; 2, J. Dent.

Yearling colt: 1, E. L. Pease, Hurworth Moor; 2, J. S. Darrell.

Yearling filly: 1, G. Marton; 2, J. Pickard, Salton, Nunnington.

Two-year-old gelding: 1, A. G. Ramshay, East Appleton, Catterick; 2, T. and H. Ward, Pinchingthorpe.

Two-year-old filly: 1, T. Newton, Easington; 2, J. R. Hague, Stockton.

Three-year-old gelding: 1, G. Marton; 2, J. S. Darrell.

Three-year-old filly: 1, J. S. Darrell; 2, J. R. Raley, Clayton

Four-year-old gelding or mare, ridden in the ring: 1, F. J. and H. Grainger, Burton Agnes; 2, G. Marton; 3, T. and H. Ward.

Hunter, gelding or mare, under seven years, by a thoroughbred horse, capable of carrying 13½ stones with hounds: 1, W. Jordison, Thirsk; 2, F. J. and H. Grainger; 3 and 4, T. and H. Ward.

DRIVING CLASSES.

Geldings or mares, 14 hands and upwards, any age, in single harness: 1, M. Pearson, Harrogate; 2, R. J. Dennis, Thirsk; 3, E. G. Ayre, Northallerton.

Geldings or mares, under 14 hands, any age, in single harness: 1, D. Rodger, Darlington; 2, W. Lancaster, Brotton.

Gelding or mare, any age, in single harness, for tradesmen and tenant farmers: 1, W. Bulmer, West Rounton, Northallerton; 2, R. Wallace, Northallerton; 3, G. Kendrew, Northallerton.

Best jumper: 1 and 2, T. and H. Ward; 3, D. Smallwood, Whitby.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Bull, above two years old: 1, G. Harrison, Darlington.

Bull, above one and under two years old: 1, G. Harrison; 2, B. J. Hodgson, Spennithorne, Leyburn.

Bull calf, under twelve months old: 1, G. Harrison.

Cow or heifer, two years old and upwards, in calf or milk: 1 and 2, G. Harrison.

Heifer, under two years old: 1, G. Harrison.

Heifer, under twelve months old: 1, G. Harrison; 2, J. Kirby, Barstow, Northallerton.

DISTRICT PRIZES.

(For animals of Shorthorn character, not eligible for Herd Book.)

Bull, having not more than two broad teeth: 1, F. Penrose, Maunby, Thirsk; 2, J. Johnson, Bank Close.

Bull calf, having no broad teeth: 1, R. P. Sowerby, Kilvington, Thirsk; 2, J. Ratson, Newby Wiske.

Cow, above three years old, in calf or milk: 1, G. Kendrew; 2, Miss Severs, Deighton.

Heifer, having not more than four broad teeth, in calf or milk: 1, Miss Severs; 2, J. Cowton.

Heifer, having not more than two broad teeth: 1, A. Gibson, Brompton Lodge; 2, J. Johnson.

Heifer, having no broad teeth: 1, F. Penrose; 2, J. Rutson Newby Wiske.

DAIRY COWS OF ANY BREED

Cow for dairy purposes, in calf or milk: 1 and 2, Mrs. Wilson and Son, Northallerton; 3, T. Bloomian, Jeckelow.

Cow for dairy purposes, the property of a cottager, being a householder, whose total rental does not exceed £30 per annum: 1, J. Wetherill, Northallerton; 2, J. Harrison, Malt Shovel House; 3, Mrs. Dickens, Romanby.

Pair of grazing bullocks, with not more than two broad teeth, owned by tenant farmers, and bred in the district: 1, Mrs. J. Pearson, North Otterington; 2, T. O. I. Pick, Newsham.

SHEEP.

LEICESTER OR LONG-WOOL.

(Open to all.)

Shearling ram: 1, W. Cleasby, Islebeck, Thirsk; 2, G. Harrison, Gainford

Pen of three gimmer shearlings: Equal 1st, G. Harrison and W. Cleasby.

DISTRICT PRIZES.

Ram, any age: 1, J. and D. Linton, Bedale; 2, W. Wood, West Harlsey.

Shearling ram: 1, J. and D. Linton; 2, R. Carter, Borrowby, Thirsk

Pen of three ewes, having suckled lambs in 1900: 1, R. Taylor, Ladybield; 2, J. and D. Linton.

Pen of three gimmer shearlings: 1, J. and D. Linton; 2, H. Blenkin.

Pen of three gimmer lambs: 1 and 2, J. and D. Linton (Open to all.)

Pen of three ewes, first cross from Black-faced Scotch ewes having suckled lambs in 1900: 1, W. Hutchinson, Ferryhill; 2, W. Chapman, Northallerton.

Pen of three gimmers, first cross from Black-faced Scotch ewes: 1, W. Hutchinson, Ferryhill; 2, E. Horseman, Richmond.

PIGS.

Boar: 1, H. Clark, Thrintoft; 2, D. Ellis, Borrowby.

Sow, large breed, in pig or milk: 1, D. Ellis; 2, Hon. T. Dundas, Aislerby Hall.

Sow, Berkshire or small breed, in pig or milk: 1, Hon. T. Dundas; 2, W. Chapman, Northallerton.

Ashbourne Shire Horse Show.

The twentieth annual show of the Ashbourne Shire Horse Society was held in the Hall grounds on Thursday in favourable weather. There was a slight decrease in the number of entries, but the quality of the exhibits was never better, especially in the young classes. A large number of well-known winning animals were present, including exhibits belonging to Mr. Muntz, Sir Blundell Maple, Bart., Mr. Victor Cavendish, and other well-known exhibitors. The Ashbourne Foal Cup was won by Mr. Victor Cavendish with a very good-looking filly. The Ashbourne Tradesmen's Challenge Cup, for mares, went to Mr. Orme's Empress, and the Ashbourne Tradesmen's Filly Cup to Mr. Tipper's Broughton Diamond, whilst the local mare cup was awarded to Mr. Lowndes's well-known Rolleston Fuschit, who later in the day was awarded the Edward Coke Memorial prize—a beautiful silver cup. Mr. Sargeant's five-month-old filly, by the well-known Colwich veteran, Harold, carried off the local foal cup, and the Wainwright Challenge Cup fell to Sir J. Blundell Maple for his Dunsmore Gloaming, who further increased her record by taking the Shire Horse Society's gold medal. The judges were Messrs. Thomas Charnock, Hale, near Liverpool; F. W. Griffin, Bord Fen, Peterborough; J. Lewis Trwst, Llewelyn, Montgomery; and H. Smith, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham.

Prize List.

Mare, foaled in or previous to 1897, with foal at foot (open): 1, Mr. P. A. Muntz, Dunsmore, Rugby; 2, Mr. Victor C. W. Cavendish, Hulker Hall; 3, Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Herts.

Mare, foaled in or prior to 1896, with foal at foot (local): 1, Mr. Thos. Appleby, Hixon, Staffs; 2, Mr. Egerton Orme, Etwall, Derby; 3, Mr. John Orme, Sutton-on-the-Hill, Derby.

Mare, without a foal, foaled in or prior to 1896 (open): 1, Sir J. B. Maple, St. Albans; 2, Mr. Fred. Crisp, Girton Stud Farm, Cambridge; 3, Lord Rothschild.

Mare, without foal, foaled in or prior to 1896 (local): 1, Mr F. W. Lowndes, Burton-on-Trent; 2, Mr. Thos. Appleby; 3, Mr. John Blunt.

Fillies, three years old, foaled in 1897 (open): 1, Lord Rothschild; 2, Mr. J. H. Allen, Grindley Cottage, Blythe Bridge; 3, Mr. James Tipper, Church Broughton.

Fillies, three years, foaled in 1897 (local): 1, Mr. James Tipper; 2, Mr. Chas. Etches, Ashbourne; 3, Mr. John Sargeant, Leek.

Fillies, two years old, foaled in 1898 (open): 1, Mr. P. A. Muntz; 2, Sir J. B. Maple; 3, Mr. Joseph Grimes, Chesterfield.

Fillies, two years old, foaled in 1898 (local): 1, Mr. J. Grimes; 2, Mr. John Brandon, Stone, Staffs; 3, Mr. Stephen Rains, Burton-on-Trent.

Fillies, yearlings, foaled in 1899 (open): 1, Mr. Walter Done, Rugeley; 2, Sir J. B. Maple; 3, Mr. John Spalton, Mackworth, Derby.

Fillies, foaled in 1899 (local): 1, Mr. Walter Done; 2, Mr. John Spatton; 3, Mr. John Bailey, Uttoxeter.

Filly foals (local): 1, Mr. William Sargeant, Churnet Grange, Leek; 2, Mr. Thomas Appleby; 3, Mr. Chris. Gibson, Ashbourne.

Colt foals (local): 1, Mr. Samuel Walley, Stoke-on-Trent; 2, Mr. Egerton Orme; 3, Mr. James Birch, Leek.

Mr. A. C. Duncombe's prize—Foals or colts: 1, Mr R. G. Hanson, Kimberley, Notts; 2, Mr. William Sargeant; 3, Mr. S. Walley.

Colt foals (open): 1, Lord Rothschild; 2, Mr. P. A. Muntz; 3, Mr. R. G. Hanson.

Filly foals: 1, Mr. Victor C. W. Cavendish; 2, Miss Alice de Rothschild, Aylesbury; 3, Colonel Ireland, Blackburne, Hale Hall, Liverpool.

Imperial Live Stock Insurance Company—Foals: 1, Mr. William Sargeant; 2, Mr. Thomas Appleby; 3, Mr. Arthur Done.

Newark Fair.—The annual fair at Newark took place on Wednesday, and was fairly well attended. Messrs. E. Bailey and Son penned 3,200 sheep, of which they sold 3,000. The trade in rams was very poor, only one making up to 10gs. Good gimmers realised from 45s. to 55s., but a good pen sent by Mr. S. H. Barratt, of Muskham, made 77s. Lambs sold at 28s. to 34s., the highest price realised being 38s. for a pen from Mr. W. E. Denison, of Ossington. There was a good supply of beast, the prices made being about the average. In cheese the trade was fairly brisk. Gorgonzola making 8d. to 9d. per lb., Stilton 10d. to 1s. 2d., Cheddar, 8d. to 10d., Derby 8d.

Birmingham Onion Fair.—On Thursday the Birmingham streets were crowded with visitors, mostly from the surrounding country districts, to the Michaelmas Onion Fair. There was a fairly large supply of onions in the market, and they were of good quality, for the present season has been a favourable one. Although trade was good, prices were rather low. Reeve onions fetched from 5s. 6d. to 6s. per dozen; Bedfords from 3s. 6d. to 4s. per cwt.; Dutch from 2s. 9d. to 3s. 3d. per cwt.; pickling from 4s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. per cwt.; and Spanish from 6s. to 8s. 6d. per case. The horses were paraded as usual in Bristol Street, but there was a small supply, and those that were exhibited did not seem to find much favour with the purchasers. In trade was slow. There were, however, a few good, useful animals. About 188 horses were offered for sale, and 170 colts. Wagon and cart horses were sold at from £30 to £80 each. Welsh colts from £20 to £25, and English cobs from £20 to £28.

SOCIETIES.

Hunters' Improvement Society.

In the unavoidable absence of the President, Mr. J. C. Straker, the Hon. Alexander E. Parker, chairman of the Horse Show Committee, occupied the chair at a general meeting recently held in Dublin. Amongst others present were:—Lord Ashtown, Mr. W. de Salis Filgate, Mr. W. T. Trench, Sir Douglas Brooke, Bart., Major C. K. O'Hara, Captain Bernard Daly, Colonel de Robeck, Mr. W. E. Ruttledge, Mr. John Barker, Mr. Tresham Gilbey, Mr. R. Airth Richardson, etc.

Hon. Alexander Parker, in opening the meeting, stated that its object was to present a short statement of the Society's operations in Ireland during the past year, and to invite suggestions for furthering and improving this work in the future. He therefore asked the Secretary (Mr. A. B. Charlton) to read the Council's report:—

The result of the conference of last year was to specially emphasise the desirability of encouraging the owners of colts out of registered mares to keep them entire, and this by joint action with the Royal Dublin Society and the shows of the associated Irish Societies. The Council at their October meeting fully considered the views put forward, and resolved to offer the Royal Dublin Society for competition at the present show two gold medals value 10gs. each for the best three-year-old colt, and for the best two-year-old colt got by a stallion on their Register out of mares registered in the Hunter Stud Book. The Royal Dublin Society accepted one of these medals for the best two-year-old colt, as no class was provided in their schedule for three year-old colts. In addition the Council offered them a gold medal for the best hunter filly not exceeding three years old, which was also accepted.

At the last London Spring Show a class was also established for colts, three years old and upwards (H.B.) calculated to make hunter sires, each colt to show three crosses of thoroughbred blood—sire, dam's sire, and granddam's sire. This class was favourably commented upon by the judges, and it must be gratifying to you to learn that the first prize and special premium for the best colt in the class was taken by an Irishman. The entries received from Irish exhibitors were also maintained, as ten horses were entered for the show by six members hailing from Ireland.

The Irish associated shows, numbering eleven, are this year offering eight gold and fifteen silver medals of the Society, and have been increased by the adhesion of the Queen's County Agricultural Society.

Since the meeting last year the Council have taken the important step of changing the title of the Record to that of Hunter Stud Book. As you are doubtless aware, the Society has been registering since Vol. V. hunter stallions whose pedigrees or performances complied with the conditions laid down by the Council. In last volume issued (VIII.) the prospective dams of several stallions under the pedigree qualification had been received for registration, and the Council felt the time had come when the Society's book should fall into line and title with the registers of other horse-breeding associations.

The Council look with confidence to the support of their Irish members in this departure, and trust that the breeders will register up the back pedigrees of their mares to entitle their hunter colts to registration. In connection with this it is gratifying to report that the Irish section in the last volume showed an increase upon Vol. VII., and as this section contains all the winners of gold and silver medals throughout Ireland the Council venture to think that a sure foundation stock is being laid to which the breeder of hunters requiring reliable data will be able to turn with confidence.

The Council have also drafted a scheme by which they hope something may be done towards ensuring the soundness of stallions serving outside the Government's schemes, and to which they would briefly refer. It will come into operation in 1901, as you have doubtless seen from the particulars enclosed in your notice papers. Owners are invited to enter their stallions by January 1st next, after which they will be jointly inspected by two members of the Council, and, if deemed suitable, will be examined by the qualified veterinary inspector appointed by the Society, who must certify that the stallion is free from unsound wind, ringbone, unsound feet, navicular disease, spavin, and cataract. Upon passing the vet. examination the stallion will be entered and classified in a special register, which will be issued to every member of the Society, thus giving publicity to sound animals, and increasing the number of horses to which a breeder may resort who is unfavourably situated as regards one of the Government stallions. Each year the application of the certificate must be renewed, and the original certificate returned before any application for re-examination can be entertained.

The Council are fully alive to the national importance of the horse supply of the country, and have already been in correspondence with the War Office. A special committee has drafted a series of suggestions as a basis of a conference, and they hope to meet the Inspector-General of Remounts early in the autumn, when some scheme beneficial alike to the breeder and to the country should be the outcome of these deliberations.

In conclusion the Council feel sure that the Society is doing good work in Ireland as well as in England and Scotland, but they are desirous of having the opinion and suggestions of its Irish members upon matters intimately affecting themselves. They would like to see their numbers increased, and perhaps the members present will be able to assist the Council in this direction by securing the support and co-operation of their friends.

The Chairman, in commenting upon this report, thought that their Irish membership, numbering sixty members out of 1,600, should be higher in view of the money which the Society gave in Ireland, and the privileges secured to the members of the associated Irish societies, and he therefore trusted that those present would do all they could to assist the Council as suggested in the last paragraph of the Report. He must remind them that the new class at the last London Show was only tentative, as horses entered in that class were not necessarily eligible for entry to be registered in the Stud Book. They no doubt shared his satisfaction with the change in the title of the Society's publication, especially as he hoped that they would in time have a recognised breed of hunters without going outside their Stud Book. Unfortunately it would take a long time. Another important step taken by the Council was their intention to give certificates of soundness to stallions serving outside the Government schemes. They had not sufficient stallions to meet their requirements, and their members had to send their mares very long distances to the premium stallions. It was hoped by this scheme to place at the disposal of the breeder a sound stallion, probably as good as the premium stallion, so that farmers would have the benefit of breeding from a sound sire. As regards the question of remounts, he hoped the Government would do something, though they were usually slow in adopting any innovation. Personally he would like to see the Government, instead of waiting till a horse was five years old, buy it at a fair price at three years old, and do the breaking-in themselves. He invited suggestions from the members present.

Mr. Trench desired to thank the Hunters' Improvement Society for the interest which they showed in promoting the horse-breeding industry in Ireland, especially as a supply of Irish horses was of such vast importance to the Empire; the more the Irish horse-breeding industry was upheld, the better it was for the country at large. The supply of suitable stallions to mate with their light mares was an all important matter. They could not put them to thoroughbred horses without increasing the number of the already numerous unsaleable light horses. With some people the thoroughbred was a fetish. They in Ireland wanted an animal with blood, but they wanted the substance too, and he was sure that if a proper stamp of hunter sire was forthcoming, it would have the effect of increasing and improving not only the thoroughbred horse, but also of producing the 14st. galloping hunter. There was a consensus of opinion in the country as to the necessity of some action in this matter, and the crux of this question was how to keep the colts entire. They must catch the colt when a year old and uncut; as a two-year-old it would be too late. He would like to suggest that a joint committee be appointed by the Council to consider this matter, with special reference to the requirements of Ireland. A conference between three representatives of the Irish members of the Hunters' Improvement Society and three members of the Council was desirable.

Mr. Trench then moved the adoption of the report, stating that the work done by the Hunters' Improvement Society in Ireland deserved their fullest praise.

Lord Ashtown seconded the report.

Sir Douglas Brooke said that he was personally in favour of the proposed hunter sire, as he thought it would be the means of bringing them back to where they were once before—the champion hunter-breeding country of the world.

Captain Daly was of opinion that the Government should deal direct with the farmer, as at present the dealers were alone benefited. They bought up misfits at £18 and sold them to the Government for £34. The Government should, therefore, deal direct with the farmer and start stud farms. In his opinion there were plenty of good stallions in the country.

Mr. Ruttledge said that Mr. Trench had alluded to one side of the question, while Captain Daly had touched upon another side. The former dealt with the article to be produced and the latter with the disposal of the article when produced, but Captain Daly's experience as to there being a good supply of stallions did not apply to his part of the country. Fillies by registered Irish stallions put in their turn to other registered stallions produced animals so light that it was impossible to sell them, and the farmers were getting tired of it. He would like to see the various counties encouraged to send up to the Dublin Show their young entire colts and a selection of the prize-winners purchased and sent for service into the local districts. As regards remount, why did not the Government utilise some of the waste barracks which were now empty, and which could be used for breaking in the young horses suitable for military purposes?

Major C. K. O'Hara did not agree with the previous speakers. He was a believer in strong thoroughbreds with bone and substance, and they could be got if owners would give a proper price for them.

The Chairman said that the desirability of breeding 14st. blood hunters was an engrossing question on both sides of the Channel. There was only one opinion as to its desirability, but the point was how to do it. It was impossible to hope to do it in a short time, and it would probably take years. As regards the selection of a suitable sire there seemed to be no golden rule. He knew of a small thoroughbred horse of 15 hands which had got many good hunters up to from 14st. to 15st. He thought that the conditions obtaining in Ireland were somewhat different to England. Very many of the Irish half-bred mares were to a great extent free from cart horse blood, and a hunter sire (not thoroughbred) might possibly, in such cases, prove beneficial, but in England many of the mares were not so well bred, and he considered that for such mares the thoroughbred was a necessity. He could assure the members present that their remarks would have the fullest consideration of the Council.

A cordial vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings.

Darlington Farmers' Protection Association.

A meeting of the members of the South Durham and North Yorkshire Farmers' Protection Association was held at Darlington on the 12th ult. Mr. G. Smurthwaite presiding. The sale of corn, a subject which has been previously before the Association, was again discussed, and to protect the interests of farmers it was suggested that two samples of barley or other grain intended for sale should be taken, one to be handed to the purchaser in Darlington market, and the other to gentlemen appointed by the Association.

The regulations with regard to the movements of pigs were considered, and, on the proposition of Mr. J. P. Clark, seconded by Mr. T. Fenwick, it was decided that the Durham County Council be petitioned to allow pigs intended for immediate slaughter to pass from Durham into Yorkshire.

Mr. Kent, the hon. secretary, stated that arrangements were being made to visit the experimental farm of the East and West Ridings of Yorkshire at Garforth, and the 2nd of October was mentioned for the purpose.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for The Mark Lane Express by Mr. C. D. Howard Hughes, Solicitor and C.E., Patent Agent, 56, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

16042. William Benjamin Gray, Belfast, for an invention of "Improvements in machines for treating fibrous plants."

16076. Robert Edward Gardiner, London, for an invention of "Improvements in scissors, shears, and the like."

16099. John McDonald, Glasgow, for an invention of "A new or improved device for use when planting cabbages."

16101. Frederick Moore, Birmingham, for an invention of "Improvements in or relating to fruit gatherers."

16103.—John Shutt, Manchester, for an invention of "A double cut garden hedge or shrub trimmer."

16326. Gedeon von Rohonczy, Manchester, for an invention of "Frame for the transport of fruit."

16442. Franz Kmietowicz, Berlin, Germany, for an invention of "Garden shears."

16447. Edward William Parish and Jeffery William Eady, London, for an invention of "Improvements relating to apparatus for steaming chaff hay and other vegetable products."

Mr Herbert Close, a confidential clerk of Messrs. Marr and Loveridge, well known corn merchants, in High Street, Hull, has been arrested on a charge of alleged serious defalcations, said to total between £4,000 and £5,000. Mr. Close, who is well connected, had been in the firm's employ for nearly twenty years, and the defalcations are said to extend over a lengthy period. He was brought up at the City Police Court, and remanded on a charge of stealing £100 on August 20th last.

Three Boys Cause the Destruction of a Village

The village of Warboys, Hunts, was devastated by fire on Wednesday. It was caused by three boys playing with matches in a stackyard. The dry straw was quickly in a blaze, the stacks of new wheat and straw, the farmhouse, and the buildings soon became involved, and, fanned by a strong breeze, the conflagration spread to two other farmsteads. The horses on each farm were saved, but the young cattle and pigs and hundreds of poultry perished. The sparks ignited the thatch of some cottages in the High Street, and a whole row of them were burned down, the fire spreading to another row on the opposite side of the street. The firemen and police were quite unable to cope with the flames, and all the panic-stricken villagers could do was to secure what furniture they could. A brewery and cycle store were also burnt out, and great consternation was caused by the explosion of a large quantity of gunpowder in the store, several of the firemen being blown off their feet and having narrow escapes. The damage amounts to some thousands of pounds.

Spalding Cattle and Horse Fairs.—The September Cattle Fair took place at Spalding on Tuesday, when there was a very large show of both beasts and sheep. The best fed bullocks realised £24 apiece, or 8s. per stone. The pick of the grazing bullocks made £19 a head; two-year-old beasts, £12 to £14; a year and a half old, £8 to £10; and young beasts, £6 to £8. Trade was slow, and some lots were unsold. There was a good demand for milk cows, which ranged up to £21; whilst heifers commanded £18 to £20. Over a thousand sheep were penned, and trade was slow at 2s. a head lower on the week. The best fat Lincolns made 54s. apiece, and best Leicesters 50s. For store sheep there was only a poor trade, the price of gimmers being 44s. each. The horse and foal fair was also held, and was largely attended. There was a big show of horses, especially of mares and foals. Trade was brisk, prices having risen. Foals sold at £15 to £30; two-year-olds from £25 to £40; and aged agricultural horses realised £20 to £40 each. There was only a limited supply of nag horses, but the best sold readily at good prices.

LITERARY NOTICES.

The Lawes Agricultural Trust Committee have lately issued a memoranda of the origin, plan, and results of the field and other experiments conducted on the farm and in the laboratory of the late Sir John Bennet Lawes, Bart., at Rothamsted, Herts. This memoranda is written by Sir J. Henry Gilbert, F.R.S., who since 1843 has been associated with Sir John Lawes in the conduct of the experiments, and has had the direction of the laboratory. Accompanying it is a booklet containing plans and summary tables of the experiments, arranged for reference in the fields.

We have just received a copy of the prospectus of the Agricultural Department of the Durham College of Science for 1900-1901. The department provides courses of instruction suitable for all classes of students, at a moderate cost. The recent successes of its students have been very gratifying. At the last three public examinations of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, the first place and gold medal has been gained twice, and the second place once, by candidates from the Durham College of Science, and at last year's examinations of the Science and Art Department in Agriculture one student gained a bronze medal and first place, and another third place, in the honours list. The old students who have taken up teaching as a profession have been successful in obtaining work, five being now lecturers in agricultural colleges, and five science masters in secondary schools. The prospects of young men who combine a first-class university training and qualifications with a good practical knowledge of agriculture are considered at present to be very favourable.

In July last Professor Wallace read before the Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture an interesting paper on "Agricultural Education in Cheshire," and this has now been published in pamphlet form.

"Animal Painters of England," an important work by Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., will be issued by Messrs. Vinton and Co., Ltd., early in October. The two handsome quarto volumes contain a brief history of the lives and works of fifty artists, from the year 1650, and the illustrations comprise fifty-eight specimens of their works and portraits. The same firm have in the press for early publication two other books by Sir Walter Gilbey: "Ponies Past and Present" and "Horses Past and Present," which will be ready about the same time. Messrs. Vinton and Co. will also issue a handsome work by William Royle, entitled "Dalmatia Illustrata," which contains thirty plates from original drawings by the author. "Baily's Hunting Directory" will, as usual, make its appearance early in November, and a sumptuous album bound in full morocco, "British Horses Illustrated," is now ready.

The New South Wales Sheepbreeders' Year-Book for 1900 has come to hand during the past week. A great part of it is taken up with an account of the Society's sixth annual show, a report of the annual meeting, and also of the Sydney stud sheep sales, but there are several interesting articles dealing with sheep which should prove of great service to breeders "down under." It is satisfactory to find that the Association, which is doing a large amount of useful work, although in debt in 1897 and 1898, has now the fine balance in hand of £650.

There has just come to hand a copy of the September number of the Journal of the Jamaica Agricultural Society. Among the many articles it contains are "Horses and Horse-Breeding in Jamaica," "The Modern Garden and Modern Gardening Tools," "About Queen Bees," "The Manufacture of Cocoa," etc.

The autumn number of "Bibby's Quarterly" is one of the biggest and the best that has appeared so far. The cover is beautifully printed in colours, the front leaf containing an excellent photograph of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, whilst on the back is a coloured reproduction of a painting by Percy Bigland, entitled "Place à l'Enfant." Eight extra pages have been added to this number, the reading matter, as usual, being of a serviceable and interesting nature to those for whom it was written, whilst the illustrations are of the highest class. This is the last number, it is stated, that will be published at threepence, the Christmas issue appearing as a sixpenny magazine, at which price it will be good value for money if conducted on the same lines as now.

Messrs. Webb and Sons, Wordsley, Stourbridge, have now issued a catalogue of seed corn for the season 1900-1901. The new and improved varieties of cereals supplied by Messrs. Webb are well known, and in the publication named, which, like all the others sent out from Wordsley, is a most artistic one, ample proof of the general excellence of these cereals is given.

The eminent entomologist, Miss Eleanor A. Ormerod, LL.D., etc., has now published a work entitled "Flies Injurious to Stock," in which is given the life histories and the means of prevention of a few kinds of flies commonly injurious, whilst there are special observations on the ox warble or bot fly. Miss Ormerod states that, as the infestations referred to are for the most part very noticeable, both from their size and from the effects of their attacks, specimens have not infrequently been sent to her for many years back, together with inquiries and observations, sometimes embodying notes of such serviceable interest that it has seemed desirable to collect the observations (which are not very accessible as scattered notes in the original reports), and to use them to complete the histories of the pests for practical service, together with additions of some observations from published works of various leading Continental writers on cattle fly infestations, which give points that have not hitherto been studied in this country. It will thus be seen that this publication cannot fail to be of great value to stock breeders, and, as it is published at the low price of sixpence, it is within the reach of all. The publishers are Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent, and Co., Letd., Stationers' Hall Court, E.C.

We are in receipt of two catalogues from Messrs. Vilmorin, Andrieux et Cie, 4, Quai de la Mégisserie, Paris, one dealing with seeds for autumn sowing, and the other with bulbs and strawberry plants.

We have received a copy of a catalogue of bulbous roots for 1900 from Mr. W. Watt, of Cupar, Fife, and Perth. It is a rather small one, but is sufficiently extensive enough to allow of a good collection of roots at a moderate price being selected from it.

We have received from Mr. J. W. Beckwith, horticultural sundries merchant, 65, Columbia Road, Shoreditch, London, E., a copy of a price list (wholesale and export only) for 1900-1901. In order to avoid confusion with other firms of the same family name with whom he has no connection, Mr. Beckwith intends trading under the style of Holland Beckwith and Co.

Mr. John K. King, of Coggeshall, Essex, and Reading, Berks, has just issued his new catalogue of pedigree seed corn. It is a pamphlet which should be in the hands of every wheat grower. The value of sowing pedigree seed corn is now generally recognised, and Mr. John K. King emphasises the fact in a short article at the commencement of the catalogue. There are some splendid illustrations of Mr. King's well-known varieties, and special attention is called to two new kinds, "The Rent-payer" and "Imperator." The catalogue may be had post free.

The 1900 catalogue of Dutch flower roots issued by Messrs. Ben Reid and Co., Ltd., the well-known seedsmen, of Aberdeen, contains particulars of bulbs and collections of flowers which will suit the taste and also the pocket of all classes of gardeners.

Cattle and Pigs Burnt to Death at a Farm Fire.—A disastrous fire occurred at Grimston Hall Farm, Trimley, on Monday. Grimston Hall, an historic place, was at one time the home of the Cavendish family, and the present tenant, Mr. John Last, possesses relics of the past in the shape of oak chests, which indicate by inscriptions, dating back to the fifteenth century, that an historic interest attaches to Grimston Hall. Fortunately the wind was blowing in such a direction as to carry the flames, sparks, and burning débris away from the house. The outbreak occurred about noon in a substantial brick-built barn, with thatched roof, in which threshing operations were proceeding, and it is generally surmised that the fire, which was first noticed on the roof of the barn, was caused by a spark from the engine, standing just outside. The intervening space between this barn and another large one, containing many quarters of barley and wheat chaff, was covered with cattle sheds, containing a number of pigs and two sows, and cart lodges. These, together with the live stock, which it was impossible to liberate, were destroyed. Mr. Last, who was in the barn when threshing was in progress, says that after the fire was first noticed it spread, by the aid of a strong southerly wind, with such amazing rapidity that before they had any opportunity of attempting to limit the fire to the barn, his farmyard appeared all ablaze. Realising that those premises, which were ultimately razed to the ground, were doomed, attention was directed towards preventing the fire spreading to the numerous stacks of wheat, barley, oats, beans, and hay, which formed the bulk of this year's crops. A peastack adjacent to the cattle sheds was destroyed, and being in close proximity to a wheat-stack, containing the produce of some twenty acres, the latter was only saved by the application of wet blankets and a copious supply of water. The engine used in threshing was moved to a safe distance, but the dressing machine, which, together with the engine, was the property of Mr. W. Everett, was destroyed. The total damage is put at £3,000, and, although Mr. Last's loss is covered by insurance, he will nevertheless be a sufferer, as he is now without premises in which to prepare his wheat and barley for immediate sale upon the market.

THE GARDEN.

The autumnal equinox is now past, and the evenings are "drawing in" rapidly—too fast, indeed, for they herald the approach of chill autumn and dreary winter. The country side, however, shows very few signs of the near approach of the "fall" (the "back-end" they call it about here, which amuses the writer vastly), the foliage on most of the trees being still fresh and bright, the grass green, and even the bracken on the mountain sides has scarcely yet begun to don its autumn suit of russet. This is a result, of course, of the comparatively cool summer (we have had none of the intense heat complained of in other parts here) and the frequent showers.

It is some years since we experienced such a "growing" season, on the whole, as this has been, and as a consequence vegetables of nearly all kinds are unusually abundant. In some of the large markets there is quite a glut of such things as scarlet runners and vegetable marrows, and even here we have so many we do not know what to do with them. So, as we can neither sell nor use the half, we are having a quantity put down with salt in deep jars, in the manner I have frequently described in this column. French beans, if young and tender, also make excellent pickles, as also do the small, green tomatoes, of which plenty are to be found about now, both indoors and outside. Any spare cauliflowers, small cucumbers, etc., may also be profitably employed in the same way.

Tomatoes growing in the open air had better be watched carefully now, as a sudden night's frost will destroy the lot, fruit and all. Any that are showing the first signs of colouring had better be gathered and taken indoors to "finish" daily—they will ripen and colour all right in any warm but not necessarily light place—a greenhouse shelf, or even one in the kitchen, will do nicely. An admirable plan, which I have tested myself before now, is to grow a good batch of tomatoes in the open in large pots, plunging these in the ground to save watering, etc. Never mind if they root through a bit; they will be all the better for it, and with a little care and feeding any good, dwarf kind will set and carry a heavy crop—weather permitting. In the autumn, when the first frosts may be expected, lift the lot, and remove them to a moderately warm house, giving plenty of water for a time, and they will ripen off almost every fruit.

Continue planting out the young cabbage plants, and finish hoeing and thinning out turnips, spinach, etc. Brussels sprouts, broccoli, and other winter greens had better be moulded up moderately—this supports them to a great extent, and also protects them at a rather vulnerable point.

By the way, I see that that fine old potato, Beauty of Hebron, which I have so frequently "cracked" up in this and other magazines, has quite recently been given an award of merit by the authorities at Chiswick. There is a bit of a fuss about this in horticultural circles, as the variety is by no means a new one, having been introduced (from the U.S.) sixteen or more years ago, and though sent for trial, has never been favourably reported on or awarded any recognition before. Now they find it such a heavy cropper, so sound, and good in every way, as well of such excellent flavour, that it could not escape receiving one of the only four awards given to these out of a considerable number of kinds. The white form, however, is considered synonymous with both Duke of Albany and Puritan, but with this I cannot quite agree, at least, as I have grown them myself.

In spite of the heavy storms in August, the fruit crop has proved to be a really enormous one, especially as regards apples and plums, while pears also appear to be very plentiful and cheap, English "Williams" only realising about three shillings per bushel in London this week. Good apples are to be had at one shilling per bushel, or less, only a few of the finer, showy kinds, such as Worcester, Pearmain, Yellow Ingestre, etc., realising anything like a fair price. In some parts the apples are lying about under the trees by tons, not being worth even the picking up. Plums, too, are quite a drug, greengages selling retail in Worcestershire at a halfpenny per lb., and egg plums and Victorias going at any price—almost unsaleable.

If not already done, all the young lateral growths on (vertical) cordon trees (apple and pear) should be cut back to within one or two eyes of their bases, so as to form spurs.

All plants of at all a tender nature that it is desired to preserve had better be carefully lifted, potted, and housed now, affording them pots just large enough to hold the roots comfortably, with a little fresh soil round them. The requisite number of geranium cuttings should have been taken and inserted before this, but a good proportion may still be rooted, if necessary, in boxes placed on a shelf in a sunny greenhouse. Failing sufficient cuttings, the old stumps are often useful, and if lifted now and placed in as small pots as the roots will go into, they will afford a lot of useful cuttings in the spring.

Chrysanthemums in pots should be housed directly the colour of the flowers appears, and, indeed, in cold or windy districts they had better be all got under cover at once.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.

Natural History of Queensland.

As in other parts of Australia the marsupials (animals which carry their young in a pouch) abound throughout Queensland. Kangaroos and wallabies are the most common form of the larger marsupials. The platypus is one of the most interesting of all animals, owing to its possessing physical resemblance to many other creatures. It has fur like a seal and the bill of a duck; it lays eggs and yet it suckles its young. Another curious form of animal life found in the colony is the dugong, or sea cow, which grows to ten feet in length, living under the water in the bays upon sea grasses. The flesh when cured is very palatable. There are no noxious animals in Queensland, and the snakes of the colony are of a retiring disposition. The salt-water and river fish are very numerous, and three hundred known species are suitable for food. The giant groper, weighing a quarter of a ton, the schnapper, barramundi, gar-fish, are amongst the best known and liked. One Queensland fish, the Ceratodus, is something of an amphibian, for it is enabled, by having a lung capable of breathing atmospheric air, to take its walks abroad when it wants a change. Queensland is rich in insect life; one soon gets accustomed to the mosquito, and the ants perform excellent service as scavengers.

In bird life Queensland is well off; the cassowary and emu are still roaming through the ranges of the north; the parrot and cockatoo scream in the trees, and the laughing jackass, the friend of man, selects a convenient roof wherefrom to make his curious song. Queensland has birds which construct bowers to play in, and birds which build mounds in which to bury their eggs for the heat to hatch. The lagoons furnish good sport.

The trees and plants of Queensland are so numerous and so valuable for commercial and social purposes that the services of a gentleman have to be retained as a "Colonial Botanist," to classify the different kinds. First and foremost come the rich natural pastures of the colony, which have great fattening properties and astonishing vitality in resisting dry weather. A few showers of rain will convert a burnt-up plain to a prairie smiling with verdure.

The gum-tree is found all over Queensland, and its wood is used for many purposes. Plenty of timber for building and fencing purposes is available throughout the colony, and some of the most valuable sorts are exported to other countries. The wild flowers of Queensland very different to the prim blossom of an English hedgerow or meadow—are beautiful indeed. The lagoons are covered with immense lilies; the downs are in good seasons ablaze with many-hued flowers, and in the north, flower forms of curious shape and sparkling hue are met with. One of the commonest plants in the bush, the wattle (an acacia), has a delicate blossom, the perfume from which pervades whole districts. People who have lived in the bush and breathed the wattle scented air can never forget the perfume. Grape vines grow well in the colony, and in many districts are cultivated systematically to produce wine.

NEWS NOTES.

Milk Prosecutions.—The St. Ann's Farm Dairy Company, Limited, 62, Fenchurch Street, were on Tuesday, at the Thames Police Court, fined £4 for having sold milk adulterated with 12 per cent. of water. On the same day, at Bow Street, the Wilts United Dairy Company were fined £5 and ordered to pay two guineas costs for having sold milk from which 26 per cent. of fat had been abstracted. For the defendants it was stated that they had purchased the milk under a warranty, and had every reason to believe that it was pure and unadulterated. The magistrate, however, held that the fact of the churns being labelled "pure milk" was not sufficient warranty, the full warranty for the whole consignment having been lost, and he offered to state a case if the defendants desired it.

Obtaining Barley by False Pretences.—Before the Stradbroke Bench, on the 20th ult., Benjamin Cooper, of East Ham, was charged by Ernest Harry Reynolds, farmer, Hoxne, with obtaining five coombs of barley and five sacks by false pretences. The prosecutor deposed that early in the year he advertised some seed barley for sale, and received an application from Thomas Cooper, of East Ham, asking for samples, which were sent; the price was 15s. per coomb. An order for five coombs was received, and the barley was forwarded on the 24th February by the Great Eastern Railway, but no reply was received to several letters, none of which had been returned, until one was sent threatening to put the matter into other hands, if it was not attended to in a few days. This was returned, whereupon Superintendent Page was consulted. A railway carman deposed to delivering the barley at 14, Priory Road, East Ham, a private house, on the 26th February; he took Mrs. Barrett's receipt on the delivery sheet. Detective-Sergt. eLwis Liddle [illegible] the defendant on the 6th September. He said, "That's all right; I had the barley, and if they had been any according to sample I might have paid for them." He said he did not want the warrant read over to him. He was conveyed to Forest Gate Police Station, where he was detained, and subsequently handed over to Sergt. Page. In answer to the clerk, the witness said he had known the defendant for twenty or thirty years; he did not carry on any business excepting such as he was now charged with. For years he had obtained all kinds of goods by false pretences from all parts of the country under the names of Baker, Ward, Cooper, etc. Witness had several times cautioned him. Defendant pleaded guilty, and, wishing to be dealt with summarily, was sentenced to six months with hard labour.

Sale of Live and Dead Farming Stock.—Mr. J. Darton, of Hackwood Farm, Basingstoke, is going to bad health, retiring from farming and on Tuesday his live and dead stock was sold by auction, the sale attracting a very large company. The catalogue comprised about 400 lots, and with numerous buyers bent upon business, the whole was sold in great time. The dead stock, which was in good condition, was quickly disposed of at highly satisfactory prices. Amongst the principal items were: A set of four-horse harness, 10½gs.; self-binder, 20gs.; elevator and gear, £20; corn drill, £16 10s.; double thill waggans, £23, £24, and £30; Scotch carts, £13; spring carts, £16. For the thirteen ricks of hay there was a good competition, every rick being cleared. Then came the special attraction of the sale in twenty-eight cart horses, Shire mares and colts, which met a keen competition, the prices realised being: For cart horses, 75gs., 74gs., 62gs., 60gs., 58gs., 54gs., 46gs. (twice), 39gs., and 37gs.; Shire mares, selling at 60gs., 50gs. (twice); three-year-old colts, 46gs., 39gs.; two-year-old colts, 31gs. down to 28gs.; yearling colts, 33gs., 26gs.; sucking colt, 20gs.; and a seven-year bay colt realised 44gs. The registered Hampshire Down flock of ewes and ewe lambs were submitted to auction stock condition, the following prices being realised: 12 2-tooth ewes, 57s., 56s., 54s., 53s., 51s.; 110 4-tooth ewes, 58s., 57s., 55s., and 53s.; 100 6-tooth ewes, 55s., 54s., 52s., 51s.; 65 draft ewes, 45s. to 43s.; 140 ewe lambs, 47s., 45s., 43s., 40s., etc.; seven shearling rams and ram lambs, 61s., 58s., 56s. The horned cattle met a brisk inquiry, selling at £22 10s. down to £17 per head. The Berkshire sows and pigs sold at from £7 5s. to £9 5s. a lot. The sale concluded with the surplus furniture, for which there was much competition.

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DR TIBBLES' Vi-Cocoa

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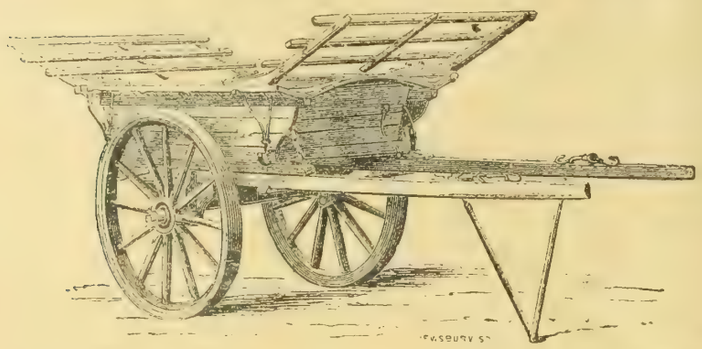

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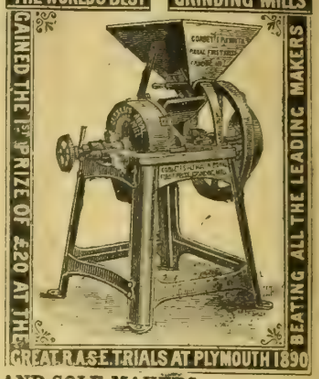

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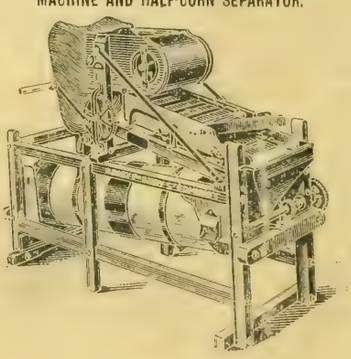

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22nd ANNUAL
EXHIBITION & MARKET,
Royal Agricultural Hall, London, N.,
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MALTING AND SEED BARLEY COMPETITION,
Entries Close October 11th.
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MOST VALUABLE CASH AND OTHER PRIZES.

This Exhibition is the best Market for Buyers of Grain Cleaning Machinery and Seed Barley.

For the few eligible positions still to let in the Great Hall early application is essential.

Schedules of Prizes and all information can be had of the Managing Directors,
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(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXIII. No. 3602. LONDON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1900. THIRTY-TWO PAGES PRICE—3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June, 1894.)

PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.

HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, ESQ., Beltring, Kent.

SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.

CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the COUNCIL of the CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE will be held (by permission of the Society of Arts) at the House of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, on Tuesday, November 6, 1900, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

Members of Council representing either the Central Chamber or Associated Chambers are requested to attend.

Subscribing Members of the Central Chamber are invited to be present, and may speak by permission of the Chairman, but are not entitled to move resolutions or to vote.

AGENDA.

To transact General Business.
To receive Communications.
To consider Alterations in the Laws and Bye-Laws proposed by the Business Committee.
To receive Reports of Committees (if any).
To receive "Statement of Legislation required in the Agricultural Interest," prepared by the Business and Parliamentary Committees in pursuance of Council's resolution of May 29th last.
To consider the following subjects:—
(1) The Report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation (if issued).
(2) Agricultural Insurance.

Associated Chambers and Clubs are requested to consider the above subjects, and to send up any resolutions which they may pass thereupon to the Secretary of the Central Chamber before the Meeting of the Business Committee, at 8 p.m. on Monday, November 5th, 1900. Suggestions of subjects for discussion at future Meetings of the Council should be forwarded at the same time.

ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, DECEMBER 10 to 14, 1900, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.

Entries close as follows:—Live Stock (Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Carcase Competition), Nov. 1; Post Entries, Nov. 5. The entries for Implements have already closed on Oct. 5.

Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and other information can be obtained on application to E. J. POWELL, Sec., 12, Hanover-square, London, W.

SOCIETIES. (*continued.*)

DAIRY SHOW.

AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON,
TUESDAY till FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 10, 11, 12.

CATTLE, GOATS, POULTRY, PIGEONS.
ALL KINDS OF DAIRY PRODUCE, APPLIANCES, ETC.
MILKING AND BUTTER TESTS AND BUTTER-MAKING COMPETITIONS.
BAND OF THE COLDSTREAM GUARDS.

TUESDAY, October 9, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., 2s. 6d.; 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., 1s.
WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, 1s., from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS ON PRINCIPAL LINES.

ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY.

WINTER SHOW, 1900.

BALL'S BRIDGE, DUBLIN,
DECEMBER 11, 12, 13.

Fat Stock, Grain, Roots, Dairy Produce, Poultry and Implements.
Entries close (single fees), November 10th.
" (double) " " 16th.
Prize Lists may be had from the Agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.
(By Order),
RICHARD J. MOSS, Registrar.

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Prospectus, with full particulars as to Scholarships and Diplomas, may be obtained from
JOHN EDWARD LLOYD, M.A.,
Secretary and Registrar.
July 17th, 1900.

THE YORKSHIRE COLLEGE, LEEDS, AND THE MANOR FARM, GARFORTH.

Complete Course of Agricultural Education. Lectures in College and at the Farm from October to March. Special provision for practical instruction. Fee, £10. Students are prepared for the N.D.A. Examination. There is also a special course for the B.Sc. Degree.—Prospectus from the REGISTRAR.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION. (*Continued.*)

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AUCTION SALES.

SALES OF PURE BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—
THURSDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 11.—Col. W. N. TUFNELL'S ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE, at Langley, Great Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex.
FRIDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 12.—The Herd of ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE belonging to Col. J. F. BROCKLEHURST, at Peterborough.
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16.—Sale of about 70 YOUNG SHORTHORN BULLS, at York, as well as the late Mr. W. WRIGHT'S entire herd (of Wollaton, Nottingham), and a large portion of Col. BROCKLEHURST'S herd.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Prince's Street, Hanover-square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

AUCTION SALES (*Continued*).

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About 1 mile from Kemsing Station, S.E. and C.D. Railway.
HERD OF PEDIGREE SHORTHORNS and FLOCK of SHROPSHIRE SHEEP.

MESSRS. CRONK have received instructions from SIR MARK W. COLLET, Bart., the farm being let, to SELL BY AUCTION, on the premises as above, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1900, at 12 o'clock precisely, the whole of the valuable LIVE and DEAD FARMING STOCK, comprising 6 Powerful Cart Horses, the excellent herd of 10 PEDIGREE SHORTHORN COWS, and 5 BULLS, 20 GALLOWAY STEERS and HEIFERS, 173 PURE-BRED SHROPSHIRE EWES and LAMBS, 26 PURE-BRED SHROPSHIRE RAM LAMBS, and 83 KENT and HALF-BRED EWES and LAMBS, also the usual Farm Implements, and 4 H.-P. PORTABLE STEAM ENGINES. On view morning of SALE.

Catalogues may be obtained of MESSRS. VIGERS and CO., 4, Frederick Place, Old Jewry, London, E.C., Land Agents, etc.; and of MESSRS. CRONK, Auctioneers and Surveyors, Sevenoaks, Kent, and 12, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE FOURTH ANNUAL SHIRE HORSE SHOW and SALE will be held at DROITWICH, on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12TH, 1900, when Prizes to the value of £50 will be given by the Auctioneers, as follows:—
HEAVY MARE or GELDING suitable for town work, 1st prize, £6; 2nd prize, £3.
MARE with FOAL at foot, 1st, £3; 2nd, £2.
FILLY or GELDING (Three-year-old), 1st, £4; 2nd, £2.
FILLY or GELDING (Two-year-old), 1st, £4; 2nd, £2.
FILLY or GELDING (Yearling), 1st, £4; 2nd, £2.
FILLY FOAL, 1st, £4; 2nd, £2.
COLT FOAL, 1st, £4; 2nd £2.
Valuable SILVER CUP will be given by John Corbett, Esq., for the best FOAL by his Horses.

Entrance FREE, and will close September 25th, 1900.

Forms can be obtained from the Auctioneers and Secretaries, COTTON and CHAPPELL.
Broomhall.

HOSELAW SHORTHORN HERD.
SALE at KELSO on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1900.

THE SUBSCRIBERS are favoured with instructions to SELL at KELSO AUCTION MART, as above [illegible] with a special Store Stock Sale, the SHORTHORN HERD belonging to Major OLIVER, who is giving up farming.

The Herd comprises 15 Cows, with their calves, and may be seen at Hoselaw (Kelso Station 7 miles, Sunlaws and Maudrim 4 miles) any day prior to the Sale, and at the Mart on Sale morning.

Sale at 12 o'clock precisely.
Catalogues may be had from Major Oliver or the Auctioneers.
PENNY & KAY, Auctioneers.
Kelso, [illegible]

HAYWARDS HEATH, SUSSEX.
TO BREEDERS OF SUSSEX CATTLE.
MR. T. BANNISTER will hold his ANNUAL AUTUMN SALE of PURE-BRED SUSSEX CATTLE in the SHOW YARD, HAYWARDS HEATH, on FRIDAY, OCTOBER [illegible], when he will Sell [illegible] Calves, 11 Cows and Heifers, and 2 Yearling Steers, [illegible]
Catalogues may be obtained [illegible] Auctioneer, Market Place, Haywards Heath.

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HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. — Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners; yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

HACKNEYS.—JOHN N. ANTHONY, Sedgeford, near Lynn, Norfolk, breeder of Pedigree Hackneys. On hand, Colts and Fillies by most of the leading sires.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions, at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath Station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

CLEVELANDS

HORSFALL, F. WILSON, Potto Grange, Northallerton.—Breeder of pure-bred CLEVELAND BAY and YORKSHIRE COACH HORSES. This stud has won far more prizes than any other again this year, and has won twice as many as any other during the last fifteen years with Clevelands. Many Royal and Great Yorkshire prize-winners for sale. One of the Stud Horses is Champion Broomgrove Pride 1249—first and champion R.A.S.E. Show, Maidstone, 1897; first R.A.S.E. Show, Birmingham, 1898; first and champion Great Yorkshire, Leeds, 1898: only times shown; fee £5 5s. Also breeder of pure-bred Shorthorns. Bulls and heifers for sale. Amongst others added to this herd in 1899 were Daisy Perfection, Richmond Daisy, and Highland Daisy, all bought at the Duke of Northumberland's Sale, at 210 guineas, 72 guineas, and 72 guineas respectively. Also breeder of Sussex black pigs, and several breeds of white poultry.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some gold Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

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GARTON'S WHITE MONARCH WHEAT.—A wonderful cropper, with splendid straw, on rail at Holmwood, 42s. per quarter in new sacks.—Apply, Bailiff, Antic Grange, Holmwood, Surrey.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CHEMICALLY DRESSED "PECK" CLOTH SHEETS.—Waterproof and Rotproof, the foundation of which is Pure Flax Canvas, lettered and roped complete, 9ft. by 6ft., 10s. 6d.; 10½ft. by 8ft., 16s. 4d.; 12ft. by 9ft., 21s.; 15ft. by 9ft., 26s. 3d.; 15ft. by 10ft., 29s.; 15ft. by 12ft., 35s.; 18ft. by 12ft., 42s.; 21ft. by 12ft., 49s.; 21ft. by 15ft., 61s.; 21ft. by 18ft., 73s. 6d.; 24ft. by 18ft., 84s. Sample and price list on application. Immediate delivery of any other size at proportionate price, viz., 1s. 9d. per square yard.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Waterproofers, Wigan. Estd. 1808.

CART COVERS FOR MILLERS, BAKERS, AND CONFECTIONERS.—Made from best quality double texture White Mackintosh. Waterproof Sheeting, any size at 3s. 6d. per square yard. Samples free.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Waterproofers, Wigan. Estd. 1808.

WATERPROOF OIL SHEETS.—Improved flexible, made from pure flax canvas, hand dressed, lettered, with tie-ropes complete. 8ft. by 6ft., 9s.; 9ft. by 7ft., 11s.; 10½ft. by 8ft., 14s.; 12ft. by 9ft., 18s.; 12ft. by 10ft., 20s.; 15ft. by 8ft., 20s.; 15ft. by 9ft., 22s. 6d.; 15ft. by 10ft., 25s.; 15ft. by 12ft., 30s.; 16½ft. by 10ft., 28s.; 16½ft. by 12ft., 33s.; 18ft. by 12ft., 36s.; 21ft. by 12ft., 42s.; 21ft. by 15ft., 53s.; 24ft. by 18ft., 72s. These and all other sizes in stock at proportionate prices, carriage paid; thoroughly seasoned. Every cover guaranteed flexible.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Waterproofers, Wigan.

HORSE CLOTHS. — Made from flexible Oilcloth, Black or Yellow, chemically dressed "Peck" Cloth, or best White Mackintosh. Any size to order. Illustrated price list post free.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Waterproofers, Wigan. Estd. 1808.

BINDER TWINES. — Our "RECORD" brands. Samples and special prices on application.

OILS. — Guaranteed of highest quality. In drums fitted with brass tap and vent plug. Neatsfoot: 5 gallons, 22s. 6d.; 10 gallons, 40s. Linseed: 5 gallons, 18s.; 10 gallons, 32s. 6d. Machinery: 5 gallons, 12s. 6d.; 10 gallons, 20s. Drums allowed for when returned in good condition, carriage paid: 5 gallons, 4s.; 10 gallons, 5s.—J. H. PECK AND CO., LD., Wigan. Estd. 1808.

COW MILKER! COW MILKER! The celebrated self acting Cow Milker supersedes hand labour. Milk each cow in four minutes effectually. Price 6s. each, delivered.—Circular, with testimonials, on application. N. BUCHANAN, 9, Sandon Place, Sheffield.

RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

LONDON & NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

DAIRY SHOW.

TO BE HELD AT THE

AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON,

OCTOBER 9th to 12th 1900.

For the convenience of Exhibitors at the above Show, the London and North-Western Railway Company have made arrangements for Through Vans for the conveyance of Exhibits to be run to London on Monday, October 8th, by the Trains leaving—

Carlisle	at	8.30 a.m.
Liverpool (Lime Street)	„	12. 0 noon.
Manchester (London Road)	„	12. 0 „
Shrewsbury	„	12.35 noon.
Wolverhampton	„	1.35 p.m.
Birmingham (New Street)	„	2.10 „
Northampton	„	3.37 „

These will be in addition to the Vans running regularly on the Through Trains to London.

Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, &c., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the Show.

Rates for the conveyance of Exhibits, which in no case exceed those charged by any other route, can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line.

Arrangements will also be made for the return of the traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors wishing to avail themselves of these facilities are requested to order their consignments "Per London and North-Western Railway."

Exhibitors are requested to be careful to write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.

The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer inquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey. All inquiries can be obtained of Mr. ROBERT TURNBULL, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; the Company's District Superintendents, Mr. J. GROOM, Euston Station, London; or Mr. R. F. CASTLEMAN, Broad Street Station, E.C.

FRED HARRISON, General Manager.
General Manager's Office,
Euston Station, London, N.W.
September 26, 1900.

Re-insertions of announcements continued on page ...

RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW,

AT

CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM,

OCTOBER 16, 17, AND 18, 1900.

The Great Northern Railway Company will convey Dogs for Exhibition at above Show from Inverness, Aberdeen, Perth, Dundee, Oban, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Berwick, Newcastle, Sunderland, Durham, Darlington, West Hartlepool, Whitby, Scarboro', York, Harrogate, Hull, Goole, Blackburn, Accrington, Burnley, Oldham, Rochdale, Brighouse, Huddersfield, Mirfield, Keighley, Halifax, Bradford, Leeds, Batley, Dewsbury, Wakefield, Pontefract, Doncaster, Liverpool, Warrington, Manchester, Stockport, Barnsley, Rotherham, Sheffield, Worksop, Retford, Newark, Burton, Derby, Ilkeston, Nottingham, Grantham, Sleaford, Stamford, Bourne, Grimsby, Gainsboro', Lincoln, Louth, Horncastle, Boston, Spalding, Yarmouth, Cromer, Norwich, Lynn, Sutton Bridge, Wisbech, Peterboro', Huntingdon, Sandy, Cambridge, Hitchin, Dunstable, Luton, Hertford, St. Albans, and other towns on and in connection with their system.

Through vans will be run for the conveyance of dogs for this show wherever necessary.

☞ Rates for carriage of dogs may be obtained on application to any Great Northern Station Master or Agent, and they will in no case exceed those in operation by any other route.

RETURN TRAFFIC.

Arrangements will be made for the return of exhibits at the close of the show, and exhibitors should be careful to mark their labels "per Great Northern Railway."

A Great Northern Railway Company's representative will be in attendance at all shows, prepared to give all information as to train service, etc., to exhibitors and others.

CHARLES STEEL,
General Manager.

LONDON & NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

KENNEL CLUB'S "CENTURY" DOG SHOW,

TO BE HELD AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE, OCTOBER 16 TO 18, 1900.

For the convenience of Exhibitors at the above Show, the London and North-Western Railway Company have made arrangements for Through Vans for the conveyance of Dogs, to be run to the Crystal Palace on Monday, October 15, by the trains leaving—

Carlisle	at	8.30 a.m.
Liverpool (Lime Street)	,,	12. 0 noon.
Manchester (London Road)	,,	12. 0 ,,
Shrewsbury	,,	12.35 ,,
Wolverhampton	,,	1.35 p.m.
Birmingham (New Street)	,,	2.10 ,,
Northampton (Castle)	,,	3.37 ,,

These will be in addition to the Vans running regularly on the Through Trains to London.

Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, etc., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the Crystal Palace.

Rates for the conveyance of Dogs, which in no case exceed those charged by any other route, can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line.

Arrangements will also be made for the return of the Traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors wishing to avail themselves of these facilities are requested to order their consignments "Per London and North-Western Railway."

Exhibitors are requested to be careful to write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.

The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer enquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey. All information can be obtained of MR. ROBERT TURNBULL, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; the Company's District Superintendent, MR. J. GROOM, Euston Station, London; or MR. R. F. CASTLEMAN, Broad Street Station, E.C.

FRED. HARRISON, General Manager.
General Manager's Office,
Euston Station, London, N.W.
September 24, 1900.

Gold Medal, Paris, 1900.

SAFETY FEEDER CHAFF CUTTERS

TO COMPLY WITH THE NEW ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

GREAT COMPETITION at the Royal Agricultural Society of England's BirminghamShow,1898.

SIXTEEN DIFFERENT APPLIANCES WERE TESTED AT THE TRIALS.

The Judges awarded the PRIZE of £10 to RICHMOND & CHANDLER, LIMITED, for their "MULTIPLEX" PATENT SAFETY FEEDER. Since Improved and numerous other Prizes have been awarded. Send for List to

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HORNE'S FRUIT TREE DRESSING

A. Male. *B.* Female.

Has stood the test of 12 years as the best remedy for capturing the Caterpillar Moths. Thousands of pounds' worth of fruit has been saved by its use that otherwise would have been lost if left to the ravages of the caterpillar pest. Invaluable. Write at once for pamphlet, post free.

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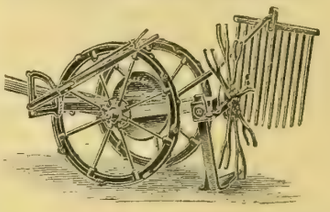
FOR AUCTIONEERS, FARMERS, &c.
Sole Makers: HENRY POOLEY & SON, Ltd., Weighing Machine Makers, ALBION FOUNDRY, LIVERPOOL.
Branches at London, Newcastle, Manchester, Newport, Derby, Glasgow, and Birmingham.
Weighbridges readily and cheaply converted into cattle Machines.

JOHN WALLACE & SONS', LIMITED, CHAMPION POLE POTATO DIGGER HAS NEVER BEEN BEATEN.



For Light Draught, Simplicity, Clean Digging, Handiness, and Substantial Construction, above Digger cannot be excelled.

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"OLIVER" CHILLED PLOWS

Have the Largest Sale in the World
Over 100,000 sold yearly.

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Lightness of Draught, Scouring and Clearing Qualities, Ease of Management, Great Wear of the Metals, thereby effecting a considerable saving to the user.

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IN FIELD AND GARDEN.
BY W. J. MALDEN,

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Used on the Royal Farms and by Large Flockmasters everywhere.

Mr. Jas. Bennett, Aure, Glos., writes:—"I have never had any Food of any sort or kind on which lambs did so well."

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Hundreds of Testimonials, Samples, Pamphlets, etc., free through agents, or direct.

MACKINDER'S LAMB FOOD MILLS LINCOLN.

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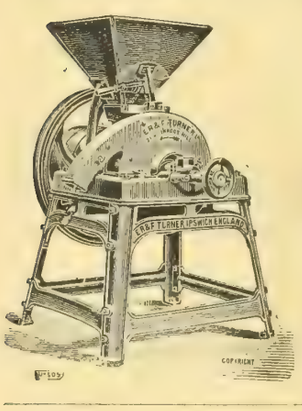

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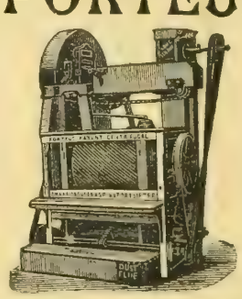

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Every Machine guaranteed to free the Chaff from Dust without taking any nutritious matter out.

MALT MILLS, &c.

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Best are Cheapest.

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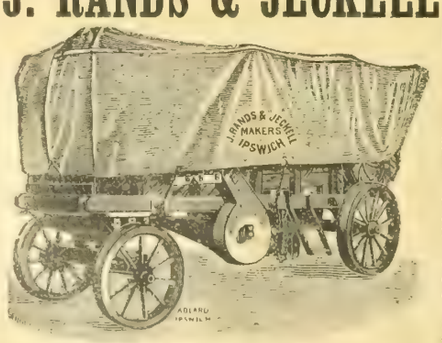

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Any size to order made up complete with Brass Eyelets and Cords. Quality A, 2/6; B, 3/-; C, 3/6 per sq. yard.

Five per cent. discount for Cash. Carriage paid on orders of £2.

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SACK, RICK CLOTH, & TENT MANUFACTURERS.
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Under the Distinguished Patronage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the largest Wheat Growers in the Kingdom

D. CLARKE'S Carbolized WHEAT PROTECTOR.

WHEAT

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BEST AND CHEAPEST DRESSING FOR SEEDS.

In use in England for OVER FIFTY YEARS, and is now being used extensively in the Colonies of Australia, New Zealand, and Central Africa.

A 9d. PACKET DRESSES 8 BUSHELS OF SEED.

This specific takes the place of Bluestone, and by its use the Seed is strongly carbolized and is protected both by the smell and taste from being eaten by birds and other pests. The seed also germinates quicker by its use.

Numerous Testimonials have been received, testifying that the "PROTECTOR"

Prevents Smut in Wheat, Oats, and Barley.
Prevents Destruction of Seed by Birds or Worms.
Seed germinates a fortnight earlier.
Saves a quarter bushel of Seed per acre.

SOWING

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SOLE MANUFACTURER:

G. B. CLARKE, Manufacturing Chemist, Woburn, Beds.

May be obtained from Chemists, Seedsmen, and Corn Merchants.

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UNDER THE SPECIAL PATRONAGE OF

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The Ravages of the Slug, Grub, and Wireworm, and the incursions of Rooks and Vermin.

It will also promote the Germination and Growth of Seed Wheat, and Increase the produce of the Crop equal to a change of Seed.

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Price, 12/6 *per cwt., carriage paid. 5 cwt. lots*, 12/-.

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THE MOST NUTRITIOUS.

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GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.

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The SEAHAM HARBOUR STUD, Ltd.,

Having acquired from the MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY his well-known and famous studs of CLYDESDALES and PONIES, have resolved to continue the Annual Sales, and have fixed the first to take place at SEAHAM HARBOUR, near SUNDERLAND,

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At Twelve o'clock prompt, when the following high-class Stock will be offered without reserve:—

CLYDESDALES.

25 COLT AND FILLY FOALS,
11 FILLIES, One, Two, and Three Years,
6 ENTIRE COLTS, One and Two Years,
4 BROOD MARES,
15 GELDINGS, from Two to Five Years.

PONIES, COBS, &c.

27 SHETLAND HORSE PONIES,
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10 TRAINED COBS,
1 HARNESS HORSE, 16.1 h.h.,
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The Clydesdales are a splendid lot, well worth the attention of all those who either wish to found or augment a Stud. Amongst them are some grand yearling and foals by Lord Stewart, which are always favourites, both in the show-yard and sale-ring.

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PRICES from **£4 5s.** upwards, CARRIAGE PAID.
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PRICE LISTS and full particulars free on application to the

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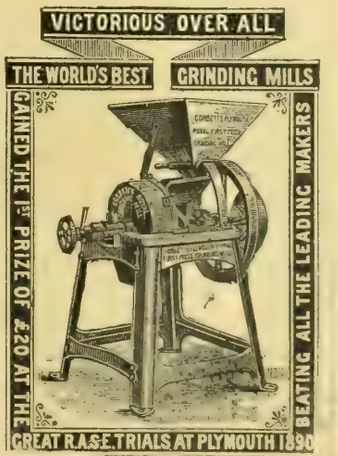
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In our Spring number of "Bibby's Quarterly" we reproduced the photographs of two groups of Calves which are now being reared at the Hornby House Farm, Bedale, Yorks, by his Grace the Duke of Leeds.

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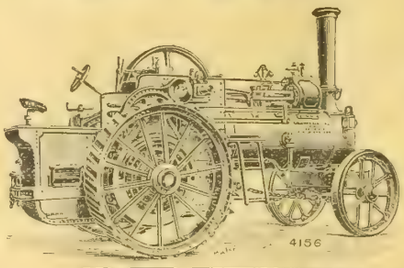
THE BEST THRASHING MACHINERY,

TRACTION ENGINES.



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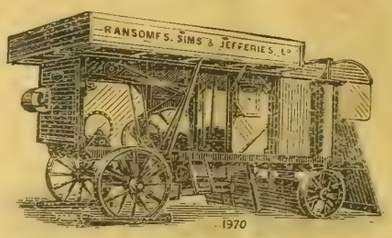

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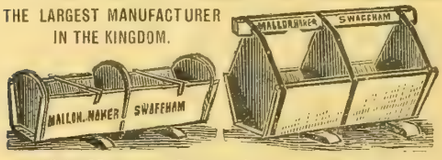

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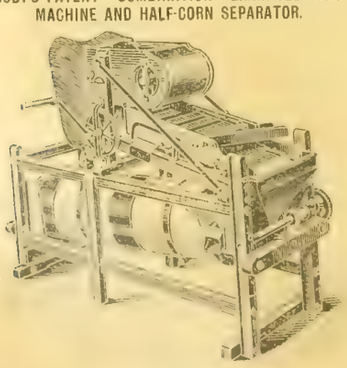

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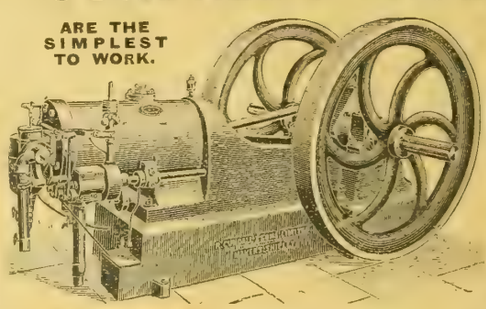

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1900.

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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

THE DAIRY INTEREST.

The British Dairy Farmers' Association holds a grand festival this week in the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, and there is every probability that the exhibition of cattle, cheese, butter, dairy utensils, and miscellaneous products will be equal, if not superior, to any former show. This association has progressed with the times, by recognising the fact that dairying is no longer a mere rural industry, but has become an art and a science. Thus it has from the first promoted increased knowledge and skill, studious application to all technicalities in the conversion of milk into dairy goods, established milking and butter trials to show how varied are the capabilities of different kinds of cows to respond to the demands made on them; and also caused its shows to have a leading feature in a working dairy to excite emulation in the acquirement of proficiency in butter-making. Nor is this all, for the association has a training college for students at Reading and a Journal issued quarterly, in which the fruits of observation and research are recorded. British dairy farmers may be congratulated on the season having proved tolerably favourable for their industry. If not an abundance, there has been a sufficiency of grass on all but the most arid and worst pastures. The only material drought of the summer did not manifest itself until September, and proved neither so lengthy nor severe as either of the disastrous periods of 1898 and 1899, when hay or some other dry food had to be given to the cows daily for several weeks, and even for a couple of months in some cases, there having been absolutely nothing to be cropped from the burnt-up grasslands.

In regard to prices for milk, butter, and cheese, we have perhaps little on which to congratulate dairy farmers. Still, if market rates have sometimes been higher, they have occasionally plunged lower, under worse circumstances for production than those of this year. At Frome Show and Cheese Fair, on the 26th ult., the general run for well-made Cheddars was from 55s. to 60s. per cwt. For very prime fully 5s. more could have been obtained, and, of course, there were fancy prices for prize lots. Pessimists will no doubt declare that cheese-making can never pay at such rates, and probably they are right to this extent, that it would be more profitable to send away the milk by rail for direct sale to town merchants, even at comparative low rates, than to make it into cheese. But to do this the cheese-maker must get a customer, and the direct milk sale trade seems to be already overdone.

The best resource for cheese-makers, we incline to think, therefore, will be found in studious application in the endeavour to master the technical details of manufacture so as to be able to turn out the primest possible article. If by this means an average gain of 5s. per cwt. more could be realised for the farmer's entire make, a profit would most likely be secured in cases where it seemed impossible to look for one previously. Experience has proved that to make good cheese, whether Cheddar, Cheshire, Stilton, or any other kind, almost everything depends on management. Scotch Cheddars have often been found richer and of better flavour than what has been produced in the very heart of the native district for this article, and at Frome Show the leading prizes are often won by Dorset exhibitors. Knowledge, experience, and skill have been able to conquer most of the difficulties which formerly stood in the way of making good cheese from indifferent soils and pastures.

Although technical skill in butter-making has proved equally successful in causing high quality wares to be produced, the British wholesale butter trade is not to be wrested from the grasp of foreigners without the general establishment of co-operative creameries or grading factories. Uniformity rules the trade, and such having been perfectly well known for many years past, it seems strange that the butter factory system should not have made more headway than it has done in this country. Mr. Rew, in a paper on co-operation, read to the Farmers' Club, four years since, attributed it to the British farmer, by habit and prejudice, being averse to the principle. But this appears scarcely to be a sufficient cause, inasmuch as British farmers have been accustomed to co-operate largely among themselves, for a great many years, in the establishment of horse clubs and stud farms for their mutual benefit.

Some of the larger dairy farmers have for many years past managed to make milk production a paying concern by combining it with another interest. For instance, both Mr. George Adams and Mr. John Treadwell, by the continual employment of pedigree bulls in their herds, impart to them so much grazing character that they systematically produce vast quantities of beef for the shambles, while fulfilling heavy milk contracts. Others, chiefly in Gloucestershire and the surrounding counties, by using the same means, get a nobler outcome for their surplus stock. An object-lesson fully proving this was presented to the public view last week at the Kelmscott Shorthorn sale, where the majority of the animals offered were of short pedigree, only just eligible for entry in the Herd Book. They were of new tribes, which Mr. Robert Hobbs has created from the heaviest milkers in a herd large enough to have 180 cows always in profit. Several of these cows yielded at the auction from 40gs. to 50gs. each. The demand

for deep-milking pedigree Shorthorns is getting to be so strong that they are preferred, although possessed of short lineage.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

I see with pleasure that Colonel W. G. Webb has been returned unopposed member of Parliament for the Kingswinford Division of Staffordshire. Colonel Webb is the senior partner in the firm of Webb and Sons, the Queen's Seedsmen, Wordsley, Stourbridge.

The Land Law Reform Association have issued a manifesto, signed by Sir Walter Foster, the President, in which they say the rating of ground values is needed, so that the increasing value of land in towns shall go into the pockets of the community through whose industry and enterprise the increased value arises, instead of into the pockets of those who have done nothing to earn it. Effective housing laws are essential, so that the State can cure the dearth of healthy houses which prevails both in town and in country. Small holdings are necessary to enable rural labourers to remain in the villages, and a reform in the laws dealing with the relations between landlord and farmer required in order that the farmer may obtain security of tenure and full compensation for all improvements he makes in his holding, that he may be induced to use the land to the best advantage, and that agriculture may prosper.

The "Baltic" is no longer located in the premises so familiar to dealers in corn. It is building itself entirely new premises in St. Mary Axe, and during the process of construction the business will be transacted in temporary premises obtained from the Great Eastern Railway Company, facing Bishopsgate Street, and adjoining the company's hotel. The room assigned to the trade is a very fine apartment, over a hundred feet in length, and half as wide. It is quite new, and will eventually form a portion of the new Great Eastern Hotel.

The Old Age Pension Act of the Belgian Parliament, which has come into operation this year, provides (1) for the addition of 60c. to every franc invested either through provident societies or directly in the "Caisse de Retraite," and (2) for the annual payment of 65f., as from January 1st, 1900, to every Belgian working man aged 65 and in want. The Act contains clauses limiting the amount invested to which the 60c. will be added per franc, prescribing the conditions which must be fulfilled, and defining the categories of persons entitled to profit by the provisions of the statute. A sum of 12,000,000f. (£480,000) will be voted annually to meet the anticipated expenditure, and if this sum should prove inadequate, Parliament will be asked to pass a supplementary vote.

I hear from the Greek Consul-General in London that further advices from Southern Greece and the Ionian Islands confirm the reports that the currant crop is almost entirely destroyed by the blight peronosperos. Instead of the yield being 160,000 tons it will not exceed 38,000 tons. Against this, consumers in the United Kingdom require for use on Christmas Day alone 17,500 tons, whilst between now and Yuletide we want some 35,000 tons in addition. Since the arrival of the first steamer the prices of currants have gone up very high. The Vostizza grades are fetching from 75s. to 80s., and even 110s. per cwt. Ordinarily they fetch from 22s. to 35s. per cwt. The outlook is gloomy, as there is reason to fear that currants will be hard to procure, even at famine prices. I am told that the cultivators and labourers in Greece are ruined, that subscriptions are already being asked for, and that some well-known firms have given considerable sums.

An Irish correspondent who disbelieves in the spraying of potatoes for the prevention of disease, puts forth another remedy. He says:—"I am glad to say what the Bordeaux Mixture has failed to accomplish when applied to the tops, I have succeeded in doing with common salt (chloride of sodium) applied to the roots, which not only checked the disease, but utterly annihilated it. I have placed the results of my experiments in the hands of the New Irish Agricultural Department, and it is to be hoped they will lose no time in making arrangements in the various districts throughout Ireland most subject to disease, and put my experiments to a practical test, the result of which, if properly carried out, I await with confidence."

I have received from the Punjab Department of Land Records and Agriculture four leaflets, all dated August 17th. They comprise the first forecast of the indigo, sugar cane, sesamum, and cotton crops of the Punjab for the present year. With regard to indigo the crop has only been reported from seven out of thirty-one districts, the same as in 1899, and the total sowings—97,100 acres—do not differ much from those of the last year. The crop is chiefly sown in canal irrigated lands. The district of Dera Gházi Khan shows an increase of 10·5 per cent. in the irrigated area, while Muzaffargarh shows an increase of only 1·8 per cent. In the other districts the area shows little change. The unirrigated area under the crop is not considerable. It is only 300 acres. The condition of the crop is said to be good, and the recent rains, it is expected, will much improve its prospects.

Estimates of first forecast of sugar cane crop were received from the sixteen selected districts. The total area has decreased from 366,700 to 339,900 acres, or 7·3 per cent. of the area finally returned last year. The total irrigated area is about normal—only 1·6 per cent. less than it was last year. Jhang reports an enormous increase of 122 per cent. owing to the inclusion in the present year's return of the figures of the two tahsíls of Toba Tek Singh and Samundri in the Chenab Colony, while in Tahsíl Shorkot the area under sugar cane is reported to be half of what it was last year owing to the lateness of rains and emigration of the tenants to the Chenab Canal.

The unirrigated sowings show a falling-off of 22,400 acres, or 26 per cent., and the decrease is visible in almost all districts except Amritsar. In several districts, especially Rohtak, Delhi, Jhang, Lahore, Gujrát, Gujránwála, Pesháwar and Bannu, the unirrigated area under sugar cane is insignificant. The decrease in the area under this crop is, of course, mainly attributable to the drought. In Gurdáspur the failure of last year's crop is said to have discouraged the zamíndárs from repeating the experiment, and in Siálkot loss or removal of their plough cattle has also caused a contraction in agricultural operations. In Pesháwar, however, the season has been favourable, and in Hoshiárpur, one of the largest cane-growing districts in the Punjab, the area under sugar-cane is only 4 per cent. below the normal. The condition of the crop on irrigated lands is said to be good, and on unirrigated lands fair or good.

The total estimated area sown with sesamum in sixteen out of thirty-one districts by the end of July, 1900, when compared with last year, has gone down from 216,400 to 174,500 acres, or 19·4 per cent. as finally returned. The falling off is chiefly in the unirrigated lands, the total irrigated area being about normal. In District Mooltan there is an increase of 4 per cent.; in the five districts of Gurgaon, Kángra, Siálkot, Gujrát and Muzaffargarh it is normal; and other districts show a considerable decrease, due mainly to insufficient rains at the time of sowings. The unirrigated area shows a total decrease of 39,900 acres, or 25 per cent. over last year's sowings, which is mainly attributable to the long-continued drought, and partly to the fact, as reported from Gurdáspur, that fodder crops have in some districts taken its place.

It is reported from Hissar that the sowings are yet going on, and from Siálkot that if there is more rain in August it is anticipated that further sowings will be possible. At present Siálkot and Gujrát are the only districts which show some increase in sowings on dry lands. Hissar, Gurgaon, Karnál, Lahore and Gujránwála have suffered the most for want of timely and sufficient showers. The total area in Hissar has greatly decreased, viz., from 13,400 to 4,500 acres. The crops, so far, are on the whole in a good condition, and if the rains continue at intervals larger sowings and a good crop are expected.

The total area sown with cotton in the Punjab this season is estimated at 997,300 acres as compared with 1,015,600 acres shown in the final return last year. The total area is 1·8 per cent. below last year's figures; but there is an increase of 8·5 per cent. on irrigated lands, while on unirrigated lands there is a decrease of 83,900 acres, or 34 per cent. Throughout the greater part of the Province cotton is sown between February and April, and on unirrigated lands the possibility of sowing at this period depends of course on the winter rains, which this year were notoriously late and deficient. In the Delhi Division, however, cotton is sown on unirrigated land between June and August, depending on the early advent of the monsoon. The late monsoon this year has therefore had the effect of contracting the area of báráni cotton in this Division.

As regards the increase in the area sown on irrigated lands it is explained in several of the District Reports that land which, owing to the failure of the winter rains, could not be sown with spring crops was subsequently sown with cotton. The high price obtainable for their cotton last year may also have induced zamíndárs to grow cotton on irrigated land. Against this must be placed the fact that, as a result of the famine owing to the want of seed and absence of cultivation, sowings in some districts were not so extensive as they would have been. This is especially noticed in the report from the Jhelum District. The monsoon rains have been very late, and there has been a great danger of the entire loss of the crop on unirrigated land. Fortunately the good rains lately received have, it is hoped, revived the crop, which is reported to be good on irrigated lands and fair or good on unirrigated lands.

The *Statist* this week treats its readers to a discussion on rising prices and trade, and how home business will be affected. It will appear at once, it says, that "the indebted classes generally will be relieved, the landed classes in particular. It may be that the competition of the newer countries with our own farmers will prevent any great improvement in the grain industry, though that remains to be seen. But in any case there is sure to be a rise in the prices generally of agricultural produce, and that will immediately benefit the land-owners. Moreover, the burden of debt will be reduced. As money will buy less commodities when prices rise, the quantity of commodities of all kinds which those who have mortgaged their lands will have to pay to the mortgagees will be lessened. The tenants will also benefit at first, for rents have now been reduced to the level of prices that has prevailed for several years; while, on the other hand, the produce of farms will obtain higher prices. Therefore in the beginning the tenant classes will reap an advantage. After a while, however, rents will be readjusted, and then the greater benefit will pass from the tenant to the land-owner."

Furthermore, continues our contemporary, all owners of tithe will benefit. For the tithe rentcharge is now arranged according to the prices of certain agricultural produce. "Thus there will be a gain to the landed classes in general and to the clergy. . . It is also to be borne in mind that a great benefit will accrue to the business classes while prices are rising. They will purchase materials at a lower price, and will sell the manufactured article at a higher. Beyond this manifest advantage there will be a feeling of greater hope and greater confidence, generated by the mere fact that prices are rising. This in its turn will enable larger numbers to be employed, will induce new capital to be invested in various industries, and thus will increase the purchasing power of the commercial classes, and thereby benefit the landed interest once more."

The receipts on account of revenue from the 1st of April, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to the 30th September were £50,002,789, as against £49,427,508 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which commenced with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £87,916,757, as against £53,112,065 to the corresponding date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on Sept. 30th, 1900, amounted to £1,746,378, and at the corresponding date of 1899 to £2,415,336.

From October 1st the London address of the *Pastoralists' Review* will be 35, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

There is, I am glad to say, one portion of England besides Cornwall which has secured for itself something like a defined agricultural ambition. This is East Anglia. Can this be due—it was thus I soliloquised to myself when in Mid-Norfolk on Thursday—to the influence of Mr. Clare Sewell Read? Can it be that the electors are now in these later days moved by the splendid zeal of the man who gave to agriculture so great a fidelity in the House of Commons? Well, let the cause be what it may, there is the fact that in East Anglia the electors have desired their candidates to speak of something else than the lurid issues of the war—that there is there a distinct desire to know what the candidate will do for agriculture, and what are the economic bases on which he has erected his desire for reform?

Of course, if any part of England should reveal this spirit it is East Anglia. It has not only had a Sewell Read associated with it, but it has listened to the intelligent teachings of that excellent man Robert Gurdon, and at this moment it possesses that advocate of pure beer Sir Cuthbert Quilter and that delightful champion of freed houses Frederick Wilson. However, it has, I am glad to repeat, risen to the realisation of its duty, and revealed an intelligence which admirably becomes it. It is not merely that the farmers have shown a proper anxiety as to whether the Rating Act will be—if the candidates have their way—renewed; but they have shown an equally practical desire to know what will be the attitude of the candidates towards the report of the Commission on Local Taxation. It is, of course, perfectly well known in agricultural circles that that report, without containing any drastic proposals, will yet include suggestions—I have already indicated them—which will seriously affect the incidence of taxation. "Have the candidates"—this question has actually been put to one—"a proper appreciation of the real nature of that incidence?"

It must not be assumed that the East Anglian farmers have adopted the disciplined method of the East Cornwall men. They have no Callington platform, with its definite proposals in regard to tenure, its firm pronouncement in regard to unexhausted improvements, and its rather Radical contention in regard to fair rents. The anxiety to establish land courts after the Irish fashion has not penetrated there. Still, the spirit shown is an eminently practical one, and is best illustrated in the care exhibited in the framing of the interrogations.

I am bound to say that one or two of the candidates have shown a rather unnecessary surprise at the exhibition of this rather revolutionary spirit. One of them in his astonishment asked permission of a public meeting to consider the attitude he should adopt towards the cogent question put him. He had expected, evidently, that if he played long enough and vigorously enough upon the khaki drum, the men whom he expects to make his constituents would be so fascinated that he need attend to naught else. They would, in a word, be dulled by the prevalent fever to their own interest. Is the aroused spirit of the farmers a portent? Are we at last going to see them acting something more than the part of pawns in the political game? Are they at last going to be wisely selfish of their own interest?

The return of the Hon. Robert Spencer recalls an interesting political memory. Mr. Spencer was once known to fame as "the masher who is not an agricultural labourer." If the word "masher" means a mere empty-headed noodle, then the title could never be justly applied to Mr. Spencer. If the word means a great swell it surely could be. Well, in a debate on, I think, the Parish Councils Bill, the honourable gentleman thought it wise to preface his speech with the assurance that "I am not an agricultural labourer." The idea of such a beautifully-groomed, splendidly-tailored, and daintily-perfumed elegant assuming that such a protestation was necessary was too much for the House; and it dissolved in a burst of inextinguishable laughter.

I have never discriminated in this column between parties. I have simply regarded each proposed policy and each candidate through the spectacles of agricultural sympathy. Hence the expression of my regret that the farmers of South Hunts have not returned Mr. Adeane to Parliament. Mr. Adeane is one of those few men built after the manner of the late Sir John Lawes. He has given a disciplined attention to the scientific side of agriculture, and he has not indulged in the worldly-wise selfishness of keeping the results of his investigations to himself. He is a Liberal, but does not follow that type of Radical politician who regards the farmer as the inevitable enemy of human progress. He would be a most desirable man to have in the House of Commons, and that—apart from his scientific attainments—because he would exercise a restraining influence on the more turgid side of Radicalism. Of course, I do not expostulate with the South Hunts farmers—they had upon them the duty of exercising their cherished convictions after the manner suggested by their conscience. Still, I am sorry Mr. Adeane will not be in the new Parliament.

The return of Mr. Macnamara for Camberwell is a matter of moment to the agrarian community. The doctor is the arch-reformer of village education. His attitude towards the present system is that of an iconoclast. So far as I understand him, he would reform it root and branch. He is now satisfied with naught that pertains to it. He believes the general curriculum to be ill-attuned to agricultural necessities. He believes that the schools are ludicrously under-staffed. He believes that the teachers are ludicrously under-paid. He avers that they are housed in a manner that casts a bad reflection upon our humanity. He is a stern and strenuous opponent of anything like parson control, and is a strong advocate of control by School Board.

The farmers cannot regard him and his purpose with indifference or serene complacence. His policy means a great expenditure in the Village Education Bill. Can their pockets bear it? Should not the Radicals themselves hesitate to place this new infliction on the shoulders of the farmers, whom they have told us with damnable reiteration have derived no benefit under the Rating Act? Mr. Macnamara will have to be keenly watched by those who think the price we pay for the education of the children of the villagers is sufficiently high.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

The Yorkshire College Farm

Between forty and fifty members of the South Durham and North Yorkshire Farmers' Protection Association paid a visit to the experimental farm of the Agricultural Department of the Yorkshire College at Garforth on Tuesday. The party first inspected the buildings, and showed special interest in an experiment in calf-rearing. Last year's experimental calves were looking exceedingly well, those reared on new milk weighing on the average 7cwt. 2qr. 8lb., those on separated milk and cod liver oil 7cwt. 3qr. 0lb., and those on separated milk and calf meal 7cwt. 1qr. 17lb. In the case of calves put under experiment this year those reared on new milk averaged 3cwt. 0qr. 15lb., whilst the calves getting separated milk and cod liver oil weighed 2cwt. 2qr. 4lb. The arrangements near the buildings for dipping sheep and preventing foot-rot received a good deal of praise. Cross-bred lambs obtained by the use of seven rams from different breeds with Lincoln and North-country ewes were closely examined. At present the heaviest lambs (113lb.) are those from Lincoln ewes crossed with the Wensleydale ram, the next heaviest being the Suffolk cross with the Lincoln ewe, and Leicester with North Country ewe. An inspection of the numerous plots on pasture and arable land concluded the visit.

The fair at Fermoy, co. Cork, on Monday, was an average-sized one. First and second class bullocks sold well, as did also lambs in condition. Prices: Calves, second class, £4 to £4 10s.; third class, £3 10s. to £3 15s. Yearlings, first class, £7 17s. 6d. to £9 10s.; second class, £6 to £6 17s. 6d.; third class, £5 2s. 6d. to £5 15s. 10d. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 5s. to £11 15s.; second class, £8 5s. to £9 15s.; third class, £7 to £8. Three-year-olds, first class, £13; third class, £8 7s 6d. to £10 10s. Springers, first class, £15 15s. to £16 10s.; second class, £12 10s. to £14; third class, £10 10s. to £10 15s. Lambs, first class, £1 6s. to £1 12s.; second class, £1 1s. to £1 5s.; third class, 19s. to £1. Hoggets, first class, £1 17s. 6d. to £2 2s.; second class, £1 12s. to £1 15s.

FARM.

Farm Labour.

Various opinions have been expressed as to the cause of the present dearth and inefficiency of farm labour. There are some who attribute it to the introduction of education of a higher standard; but whatever may be our individual desires upon the point, morally speaking such introduction was entirely on the right lines. If we were to discuss the question from the industrial point of view, omitting agriculture for the moment, we should find that we should arrive at the conclusion that our own position as a manufacturing and trading people is being endangered in the world in consequence of the advanced knowledge which has been acquired by the working classes of the United States, of Germany, and of other countries. Curiously, however, technical knowledge—and this is the whole crux of the question—which has been long within the reach of the town population, has practically passed over the heads of the countryman. He has not been technically instructed; he has received a smattering at the Board or parochial school, just sufficient to enable him to read the ever increasing cheap literature, and to induce him to become discontented with his lot. He mentally demands the society which town life affords, the means of enjoyment which he believes are there provided. He thinks nothing of the advantages of a country life, its health-giving power, and its economical value. It is possible that education has had something to do with the aspirations and feelings of the country workman, but it can scarcely be denied that these aspirations have been fostered materially by the increasing demand for men in our great cities, where labour is growing in a host of forms, and where wages have risen out of all proportion to the cost of the necessaries of life, or to the value of that labour itself. We may take it, indeed, that in proportion as pay is increased the cost of food and clothing has decreased, together with the efficiency of labour.

Having studied this question very carefully in practice, the contact of the writer with a multitude of agriculturists induces him to believe that so far from rents being to-day the bar to agricultural prosperity, that bar is to be found almost entirely in the labour question. The increasing demands of our population are so great that almost any man who is competent to perform the work can obtain a livelihood upon the land if he can successfully overcome the labour difficulty. We have just received a letter from Western Australia in which the writer tells us that he is personally assisting in the work of threshing corn, and that it is no uncommon thing to get through a hundred acres in a day. That same individual has been from day to day during the past summer reaping 15 acres of wheat by the aid of a self-binder. On an adjoining farm two young fellows, who are in partnership, last year, without any help, ploughed 150 acres of land, most of which they prepared for corn, cut and stacked 50 acres of hay and over 100 acres of wheat, milked their herd of cows which, with their pigs and poultry, they daily managed, did all their own cooking and house work, and in addition built a stable with timber which they were compelled to haul from a long distance to their land. It would be scarcely possible to put one's hand on a man in this country capable of doing such work as this if he were paid in wages a higher sum than these young men would receive in their pioneer life.

No doubt in some parts of the country there are, among the older men, hands who are trustworthy, and who can be depended upon to do good work; but 90 per cent. of the labourers of to-day in other parts of the country, especially the younger men, are not to be trusted out of the employer's sight; while the work they perform, under ordinary conditions, is utterly inadequate, far less than has been done in the past, less than they are capable of performing by steady application, and often more or less useless to the farmer. I call two cases to mind which are illustrative of what is going on. On a recent occasion I was present on a farm early in the morning; the duty of one employee was to milk a small herd of cows, and to take the produce to the station. His work was completed at seven o'clock, and he was off by ten minutes after the hour with a horse and cart, which he kept in excellent order. Almost the entire day was given to work upon the farm, and after six o'clock at night he is to be found looking round the premises almost as the master does himself to see that all is right. On the other farm, where similar work is performed, I understand that the stockman takes an hour and a quarter, or more, to get his cattle from the fields before he starts to milk, and that a large portion of the morning is passed away before he is free for another job. I was shown this man's day's work as an example of what he usually accomplishes, and I should place it at 5s. on piece work scale, this being the result of labour from breakfast time to four o'clock. But instances of the kind might be repeated by the score, and it is the very general complaint that a remark made to a man of this character is followed by a counter complaint of an untruthful, insulting, or vicious nature.

It is true that the severity of the labour question

is felt more generally in the south than in the north, for it is less a question of cost than of efficiency. That farmers continue to rest on their oars is most astonishing. If they continue in this attitude until the question is chronic, the difficulties, the anxiety, and the loss will be enormous. Parliament can practically do nothing, but we would point out that there are thousands of young Irishmen who might be induced to become permanent residents among us, and who would make excellent workmen if they were trained, and trained early. The older men occupy holdings in which they have a personal interest, and although these holdings in so many cases are mere hovels, surrounded by nearly barren land, they spell the word "home," and that to an Irishman is, perhaps, more sentimental than an Englishman; for which reason he declines to leave his native land. The young men and youths have no such attachment at present, and we are persuaded both from observation and experience that great help might be obtained in this direction, if it is obtained at once.—*Yorkshire Post.*

Not Fashionable.

When farmers meet, certain items of farming will most assuredly come under discussion. It was so the other day. An untidy hayrick was observed, and in the course of some criticisms one well-known local agriculturist said that it was not fashionable to have a tidy one nowadays. Apparently his words are only too true. Farmers nowadays have neither the time nor money nor labour to produce the tidy ricks and neat rickyards that their forefathers did. Who cannot remember the old time adage, "When making a hayrick tread it until you can see your nail points. Keep your corners up and your middle level." The old time rick maker had time to do this when the hay had to be pitched up by the brawny sinews of the farm labourer, and good was the man who could pitch off a load in half an hour. Now, by means of the elevators, a load is dumped on top of the rick in ten minutes, and the mow-maker's efforts are directed to keeping on the top with a semblance to shape. Consequently when the rick is cut in the winter, it comes out in lumps and curls.

Then, in the olden time the rick had to be pulled until its corners stood out in geometrical lines, and in cutting out a knife mark could scarcely be seen. Nowadays the rake does the pulling, and very often the knife is not used, yet it pays to cut a rick, as there is a lot of waste where the outside comes into contact with the land, and then the tapping up and thatching are conducted in a very perfunctory manner, the main idea being to hurry over it as quickly as possible, and to economise both spars and straw. Consequently, a really water-tight roof is seldom found, and the badly-made rick beneath also tends to make the thatcher's work really worse than it is. The rick, instead of settling down even, pitches into humps and hollows, and where the latter are, surely will the water penetrate, and then there is a pipe in the hay rick.

Where are the neat and tidy corn stacks of the days gone by, when one could scarcely see a single ear for the sparrows neatly balanced on their caps and pins? The latter may now be only too often seen lying disused in some odd corner of what used to be a fat and prosperous rickyard, crammed with the good things of harvest, and with not a few kept over from the previous harvest. Nowadays, seemingly, the quicker a farmer can thresh his corn the better, and thus there are no national reserves to fall back upon in time of scarcity. They managed it better in this respect half a century ago; but those days are gone, and the tidy rickyards with them.

There is no doubt that the average British farmer is entering upon a hasty period of negligent farming. He has in some respects more advantages, such as the purchase of foreign feeding stuffs, and cheaper artificial manures more easy of application. He now farms his best bits, and allows the odd corners and poorer ones to go. Yet one can truthfully state that better average crops are grown than when Mendip lime kilns were kept alight and the putt wheels, laden with rich manure, were seen more often on the land. Thus, in some respects it will be seen that we have advanced, whilst in others we have dropped back. Is the ploughman of to-day, with all the advantage of better implements, the equal of the farmer's carter of twenty years ago? The whistling ploughboy is gone. It is not fashionable to be a ploughboy now, and learn to guide the glittering ploughshare on the straight lines, as one's parents did in the days gone by.

How many farmers' wives bake their own bread as in the days of yore? This is another country item that has become unfashionable. And whoever sees a farm labourer gleaning in the fields in these days of the fivepenny loaf? To ride a bike or take a trip on the roundabouts is apparently very much more fashionable than to stay at home and do a little domestic needlework and put the barm "a-rising." But I forget. Good, honest old barm, grown on genuine malt wort, has likewise become unfashionable. When we come to consider the number of unfashionable items that have been weeded out of our country life it seems a marvel that there is anything fashionable left with work attached to it.—NORTH SOMERSET.

Wheat: New Breed against Old.

The threshing machine has now given the result of the crops of wheat grown by the Earl of Denbigh on the home farm at Newnham Paddox, in the county of Warwick, and, though it is not suggested that this one experiment can settle the superiority of one wheat over the other, yet it will not do to put on one side the good old Square Head until the new breeds of wheat can show a better return than was the case at Newnham Paddox this last season.

The two wheats tried were the White Monarch wheat, raised by Messrs. Garton, and the old Square Head wheat, grown on warp land by Mr. Scholey. Both wheats were grown on two adjoining fields, and the land is of very similar quality—namely, a fair loam on a clay subsoil, and the rental may be put at 25s. an acre.

The cultivation of the land has been the same in both cases, and for some years has been ploughed to a depth of from 8 to 10 inches, and the only difference to be mentioned is that the White Monarch wheat was grown after a clover ley, and the Square Head after a crop of beans. The clover ley was broken up early in September, 1899, and the bean stubble ploughed about the same time. The White Monarch wheat was sown on the 11th of October at the rate of 2½bus. to the acre, and the Square Head on the 17th of October, and also with 2½bus. to the acre. Before the wheat was sown both fields were harrowed three or four times, and afterwards the harrows were again used, the intention being to thoroughly break up the soil, but it was not rolled, and the ground was left fairly rough on the top. The only other cultivation was more harrowing, probably three times, in the spring, as soon as the land was dry enough to bear the horses. No manure of any sort was used for either crop. The Square Head wheat was always flourishing—it started well, and never lost either colour or plant; but this was not the case with the White Monarch, as it came up rather thin, and did not look well in the winter; but after the harrowing in the spring the crop stooled, and was soon a very good colour, and by May time was looking nearly as well as the Square Head.

Several gentlemen viewed the crops on the 25th of July, and at this time the appearance of both was as good as could be wished. They were standing well up, and the straw was nearly six feet high, but the White Monarch had a little the best in this respect. The storms at the end of July and early in August altered the appearance, but in neither case to any serious extent; and at the second view of the crops, on the 11th of August, one gentleman remarked he could grow as large crops as those on the Newnham Home Farm, but he could not get them to stand up in the same way. There would have been no difficulty in cutting the crops with a self-binder if it had not been for the great length of the straw. The Square Head was fit to cut on the 13th of August, and the White Monarch a few days later, and they were harvested in very good condition, and they have now been thrashed.

The exact area was carefully measured by an independent surveyor, and he gives 6 acres 3 roods for the Square Head, and 5 acres for the White Monarch. The wheat was weighed as taken from the machine, and again when it was delivered at the granary, and the result is that there are 47qr. 17st. 2lb. of the Square Head, and 24qr. 4bus. 12st. of the White Monarch, and this gives for the Square Head 56bus. 17lb., and for the White Monarch 39bus. 56.4lb. for each acre. The wheat was weighed at 63lb. net for each bushel.

On August 11th several tenants of the estate and some friends examined the crops, and it was arranged to have a guessing competition as to the probable yield, and the winners were Mr. J. Davy and Mr. J. Dunn for the White Monarch, who both put the crop at 40bus. to the acre, and for the Square Head, Mr. J. Brierley and Mr. T. W. Foster, who estimated the yield at 55bus. an acre. The highest guess was 46bus. for the White Monarch and 66bus. for the Square Head, and the lowest 34bus. 20lb. and 38bus. 40lb. respectively. It is a curious fact, but those gentlemen who estimated the highest yields occupy some most productive land, and they did not perhaps quite realise that the Home Farm is far from being the best yielding land on the estate.

As mentioned above, it is not contended that this experiment is in any way a proof that the Square Head is 2qr. an acre better than the White Monarch, and perhaps another season the result might be different; but there can be question that, considering the land and the season, the crops were very good, and show most unmistakably that deep cultivation will return good crops.

There is one other point that may be noted. It was found by careful examination that the average number of corns in one head of the White Monarch was 46.44, and for the Square Head 50.44, but the weight of 100 corns of the White Monarch was 88.3 grains and of the Square Head 71.5. This would show that 100 corns of the White Monarch weigh nearly as much as 124 of the Square Head, the respective weights of those quantities being 88.3 and 88.66 grains.

HENRY H. CAVE.
Agent to the Earl of Denbigh.

Estate Office, Rugby, October, 1900.

A New Cabbage Planter.

We have received from Mr. John Macdonald, of Burnbank, Lenzie, N.B., one of his cabbage planters. The operating of the machine is a very simple matter. The plants are laid on the drills, care being taken to have the root placed exactly on the spot where it is intended the plant should grow. The operator, without lifting the plant from the ground, catches the plant in the fork of the implement just a little way up the stem of the plant from the root, then the man presses the planter into the ground to the required depth, and the dibble being self-closing, the operation is completed. A thousand plants an hour can be put in, so the maker says, and so do persons who have tried it. The tool is inexpensive (2s. 3d. post free), and does its work well. A test on a piece of stiff ground for the special benefit of our representative showed that it worked satisfactorily and left all the plants alike straight. We can highly recommend it for the farm and garden.

THE DAIRY.

When is Butter not Butter?

The quality of butter imported into England from Holland is on its trial in London, a test action having been brought in the City Court by one of the largest butter merchants against one of the principal Dutch exporters for loss of profit on a contract.

The importers purchased over nine tons of butter that was, according to both parties, of very good quality, but not of the best. The price was about 9d. per lb.

Expert evidence was called on both sides, and, of course, the experts disagreed. Dr. Otto Hehner and Mr. Cassel said the butter contained 10 per cent. of margarine, and Mr. Leo Taylor said it was first-class butter without adulteration.

Dr. Hehner jokingly remarked that it was possible to make a cow give pure margarine—that is to say, that by improper feeding the butter made from the milk would not contain the 60 per cent. of volatile fatty acids that practically constitute the only difference between butter and margarine. Mr. Cassel also bewildered some of those present by complaining of the adulteration at the other end of the cow, stating that the butter was adulterated if the cow was improperly fed.

It came out in the course of evidence that at the present time butter was most scientifically adulterated in Holland, so that it was most difficult to tell whether the lowness in quality was due to a change in feeding the cow or poor pasturage, or to the addition of margarine.

Fortunately the foreman of the jury was himself an expert, and he intimated that the jury would not give a verdict until fresh samples of the butter had been chosen and tested in a special manner. The case was accordingly adjourned *sine die*.

When they give their decision the jury will, it was stated, give the tests butter would have to pass in order to be sold as pure butter.—*Daily Mail.*

Victoria Butter in London.

The report of the Butter Deterioration Board will state that the drop in the price of Victorian butter in London, as compared with Danish, is due to want of regularity in placing supplies on the market rather than to any serious decline in quality. It is also proposed that a board consisting of representatives of all the colonies exporting butter should be formed in London for the purpose of arranging for storage and regulating the market supplies, a practice which, it is believed, would lead to better prices. Where Victorian butter companies want financial assistance the Government will be advised to loan them money on the Credit Foncier system.

Cheese Fairs.

Lancaster October Cheese Fair, the most important of the year, was held on Wednesday, and attracted a large and representative attendance of cheese factors from the principal towns of the north-western district. The pitch being considerably larger than last year, trade dragged, farmers having big anticipations, which were not in every case realised. Prices:—Common, 55s. to 60s.; medium, 63s. to 68s.; best, 70s. to 73s. per cwt.

The supply at Nantwich Cheese Fair, which was held on Thursday, amounted to 55 tons, which is heavier than usual. The demand was hardly as keen, and prices fell 2s. to 3s. per cwt. below those current at the last fair. Fine Cheshire realised 60s. to 70s., and medium 48s. to 57s. per cwt.

FIRST-CLASS representatives and agents required throughout the United Kingdom for the sale of "MOLASSINE"—Write for particulars to the "MOLASSINE" Co., LTD., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

By LUPULIN.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

In order to find some explanation for the otherwise inexplicable condition of the hop trade, we have all fallen back upon the General Election fever which is affecting the whole country, urban and rural districts alike. There is doubtless something in it, as it is well known that brewers, as a rule, are keenly interested in politics, and despite the probability of increased taxation which is sure to result from the prolongation of the South African war, our customers are sufficiently Imperialist to do their utmost to give a further lease of power to the Unionist Government. I am quite inclined to believe that these circumstances have had some influence in checking the progress of our business, and am looking for a better state of affairs now that the electoral excitement is passing away, especially as the Government has secured a large majority of supporters, whereby the confidence arising from a sense of stability will be restored to our people.

Indeed, there are already signs that the hop trade is settling down to a realisation of its true position, for within the past week there have certainly been more enquiries, and the manifestation of greater readiness on the part of buyers to accept hops at growers' valuation. Well-managed East Kents have been sold at £6 10s., and some parcels of good Sussex has changed hands at £6. Some Hereford Mathons, submitted for valuation, were appraised at 92s. to 94s., and these are but instances of the growing tendency towards higher values, which I am pretty confident will be developed within the next few days.

Growers may be Encouraged

to hold on firmly and to gradually but seasonably advance their demands. Leading factors, instructed by the down-coming of the crop, have publicly reduced their earlier estimates of 7cwts. to 6½cwts. per acre, and others whose ideas were not so extensive originally are firm in adhering to their first statement, and still declare that £160,000 old duty is the utmost figure that will be reached. But it is needless to debate about a few thousand cwts. more or less, as, if you accept the highest calculation that has been put forward, we shall find that even that will not suffice to provide for the requirements of the year, and I have yet to be convinced that the stocks held by brewers are so large as to make them independent of this year's growth, as I have been informed some of them boast they are.

We may be quite sure that every hop grown this year must pass into the hands of consumers before the season has expired. The present position is one of "bluff" by the buyers, who wish to make us believe that they can do without us, and that therefore we must throw ourselves upon their merciful consideration. If growers were but as staunch Unionists in their business as they are in their politics we should soon see a change in the tone adopted by consumers. Meanwhile I can only exhort them to be brave and firm.

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interst and benefit to the members of the society*

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The local business in hops is somewhat quieter during the past few days, although it appears that consumers have been buying freely. An agreement has been arranged between some of the principal brewers to send their agents to the chief centres of production for the purpose of negotiating direct with planters, thus trying to free themselves from the pressure exercised by the Nuremberg dealers, whose united action is considered to be frequently detrimental to the interests of brewers. This experiment will be noted carefully, not only in Nuremberg, which city has for a long period practically controlled the Continental hop trade, but also in other centres, as it is a step towards the establishment of more intimate relationship between producers and consumers, which has long been desired by the latter, and which I think must eventually result in benefit to both. In England, where a large number of the planters are men of substance, and produce very considerable quantities of hops, it is quite possible for them to take the initiative, and to make direct offers of their finished produce to brewers, but this is hardly practicable on the Continent, where the hops are generally raised by small farmers. Having no apparatus for drying and packing, they transfer their crops in a partially dried or green state to dealers, who complete the curing and baling, and thus prepare them for the brewer's use. It is therefore necessary, under these circumstances, for consumers to make the first advance towards direct trading, and the brewers will have to arrange for the completion of the process. Doubtless this has been considered and provided for, and I shall watch with interest the development of the scheme, which marks a new departure in the hop-growing industry.

Reports from Country Districts

do not indicate any want of activity in demand. In Upper Franconia, where the yield is not so large as last year, sales have been numerous at prices very satisfactory to growers. The area cultivated in this district is a little over 5,000 acres, and the present crop does not exceed 9,500 cwt.—a very poor result from our point of view. In East Prussia the crop averages somewhat over 6 cwt. per acre, the quality being excellent. The quality of the crop in Upper Austria is also generally good, but the quantity does not exceed an average, and some plantations have produced very little, having been damaged by hail-storms. It is estimated that the late hops will turn out better. Business is fairly active at full rates. The yield in Styria shows a full average, though, in consequence of the drought in July, the crop is comparatively small in the south-western district. The hops are generally rich in lupulin, and buyers are anxious to operate, but growers are holding out for better offers. The Moravian crop is not much less than that of last year. Demand is active, and values are well maintained. The Saaz growth totals 80,000 to 90,000 cwts., being much below last year, but the quality is quite satisfactory. Growers are holding out for 400 crowns per 100 kilos, but at present buyers are not offering more than 380 crowns for choice samples. In Galicia the crop is disappointing as to quantity, being from 30 to 40 per cent. below that of last year. Generally, quality and colour are good.

Burgundy.

The small crop is increasing the firmness of growers, and although offers have advanced to 115 francs, there is not much business. The quality being good and the yield so limited, higher values are expected.

Holland.

The quality of the new growth is generally satisfactory, but the available quantity does not exceed half the produce of last season. Prices are therefore very firm.

Belgium.

The picking being practically concluded has settled the question of shortage, which is now definitely accepted, but the tone of the speculative market has not yet been strengthened, and the comparative business which has recently characterised operations on the Bourse continues. The "bears" are still at work consistently, meeting lowered offers by reduced bids; thus business is almost at a standstill. In the country markets this influence is also felt, and although growers are making good resistance to the downward trend of prices, they have been compelled in many cases to submit to lower and more reasonable figures than they were justified in expecting. Quotations, but a. Alost and Poperinghe are nominally 75 to 85 francs, but they are hardly maintained, in the face of the weakness of the general trade, as during this period of suspense brewers are naturally slow to give orders.

America.

But little change is reported this week concerning the New York market. Values have not actually advanced, though there is a strong tendency in that direction. Dealers are freely offering 15 cents to growers, but the latter, being aware of the general deficiency of this year's crop, are steadily refusing to accept this figure, being convinced that higher prices will soon be realised. During the latter days of picking in Central New York severe wind storms have visited the plantations, reducing the quantity and damaging the quality of the crop. No further news has arrived from the Pacific Coast, but I hope to give next week details of the latest calculations of the total American production for 1900, which will, I believe, confirm previous estimates, and will show that practically the whole of the growth will be required by American brewers, and that the balance available for export will be exceptionally small.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 463, 465.)

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended September 29, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	7,095	12,779	Wheat ..	1,925,800	1,970,600
Sheep ..	8,850	7,268	Flour ..	5. 5,900	[illegible]
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	31 [illegible]	[illegible]
			Oats ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	[illegible]	26,200
Beef ..	58,055	82,255	Beans ..	43,900	[illegible]
Mutton ..	22,848	73,013	Maize ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pork ..	13,257	11,108		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	119,693	[illegible]	Bananas	—	[illegible]
Beef, salt	2,520	4,000		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	27,958	26,937	Apples ..	129,802‡	53,139
Pork, salt	9,014	4,279	Apricots & Peaches	—	727
Meat, salt & fresh	7,875	4,571	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	8,100	8,8 4	Currants	—	—
Butter ..	75,129	55,977	Gooseberr	—	—
M'rg'rine	22,774	12,034	Grapes ..	71,405‡	24,612
Cheese ..	27,498	54,412	Lemons	[illegible]	[illegible]
Con. Milk	16,050	22,936	Oranges	2,661‡	772
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	20	138	Pears ..	23,19[illegible]‡	20,743
			Plums ..	22. [illegible]‡	[illegible]
			Strawberrs	—	—
			Oth'r Fr't	[illegible]	[illegible]
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	4,215	[illegible]
Eggs ..	499,952*	[illegible]		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	289,174	189,285
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£3,031	£2,780	Hops ..	2,403	1,7[illegible]
			Potatoes	29,809	[illegible]
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Tom to's	—	[illegible]
Rabbits	5,812	[illegible]	Other	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	54,860	34,157	Veg'bles	£[illegible]	£9,019

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

Destructive Farm Fire.—The quiet little village of Martham, near Yarmouth, was the scene of a destructive fire on Monday evening. Situated on the road from Martham to Damgate stands a compact farmhouse occupied by Mr. Henry Grimson, with numerous outbuildings, covering an area of upwards of a quarter of an acre. Adjoining the outbuildings were two stacks, the one being the produce of nineteen acres of marsh hay, and the other a [illegible] Between the stacks and the farmhouse stood a large corn barn, and at the back of these premises was a large stable, a cattle yard, and an engine shed. The outbreak apparently occurred in one of the stacks, and being dry and inflammable, the flames spread with remarkable rapidity, and the adjoining premises being so closely situated and the wind favouring the flames, they were very quickly all ablaze. The farm buildings were burnt to the ground and also the stable, the horse being [illegible] Several agricultural implements, too, in the engine-shed were also destroyed, and, worse than all, the haystack, which Mr. Grimson valued at £[illegible], was totally ruined. Situated immediately opposite the premises were several [illegible], and these [illegible] had marvellous escapes, and but for the plucky action of the neighbours, must have been destroyed. The supply of water was very limited, being confined to one well. The damage is estimated at at least £500. The house and outbuildings were insured.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Our Barley Area.

In the recently issued Journal of the Board of Agriculture the returns for the areas under the principal crops are given for Great Britain for the two years 1899-1900. In these the most noteworthy features are the relatively large decrease under wheat and the stationary position of barley. It is also not a little singular that although, on the whole, wheat and barley are curiously alike in area, wide differences occur in a number of counties.

There can be no doubt about this year's returns indicating a sad spirit of disheartenment on the part of barley growers, for although wheat has lost 156,000 acres in the year, barley has only gained 8,000 acres. Even if we add the gain of oats of 66,000 acres, it still leaves the total loss of land growing cereals for the year of over 81,000 acres.

What this means in actual loss to the country is too lamentable to define. Were it only understood, it is quite certain it would not be permitted to continue, but there seems very little prospect at present of

The Nation Awaking

to the stern realities involved. With those nominally at the head of the great industry of agriculture acting with entire disregard of arable farming, such a state of things is only reasonably to be expected. We cannot expect to see the question understood when the leaders of thought are at fault or too careless to pay attention.

The number of counties growing 200,000 acres or upwards of barley is only three, viz., Lincoln, York, and Norfolk, whilst two more only follow a long way after with over 60,000 acres—Suffolk and Essex. Of the total number of counties one-fourth (ten) grow under 10,000 acres of barley, each leaving three-fourths (30) to exceed that area, but of these again one-half (15) do not equal 30,000 acres.

Placing the counties in order of importance as to the area under barley for each of the two years, we see the distribution of gains and losses is fairly uniform.

In Scotland only a single county has 30,000 acres, and in Wales not one county has 20,000 acres. Scotland has only eleven counties with over 10,000 acres, and Wales has only four of the same size. The particulars of each county in Great Britain will be found in detail in page 477.

The Brewers' Exhibition.

Next Thursday (11th) is the last day for making entry of barley at this show. Enough has already been said to indicate the large increase shown over any former year in the number of prizes offered and classes open. It will be very desirable for a corresponding increase to be shown in the number of entries made.

A great lack of independent action is shown by many growers. They show their samples to sundry people, all of whom are not always disinterested advisers, and remain afraid to compete. Last year, for instance, not a man from so big a barley county as Cambridge had the courage to send. Yet there are sundry prizes open to men from that county, some of them even being exclusively confined to it. In these, however little chance they might have stood of getting the highest awards in the open classes, some of them would have had all their own way in their own county.

The Cost of Entry

is very small, and the whole expense of showing a mere trifle. Yet the smallest distinction or award possible wipes it all out several times over.

A good show of samples from a county means in many cases the presence of buyers in all the markets of the district who would otherwise not have felt disposed to attend. If a county is not represented it looks as if it has nothing to show, and big growers form their own conclusions. The benefit to growers of a few Burton buyers in a market is too well known for it to be necessary for me to waste ink in describing it.

On another subject I have a few words to say.

Prejudice Against Goldthorpes

is being stirred by some industrious busybodies who might readily find better employment. They are making the absurd assertion that it is useless to send a sample of Goldthorpes to the exhibition, as the judges have decided not to notice it, and are strongly prejudiced against it. Now this is entirely wrong. The judges when they act are admonished to put aside every personal feeling, predilection, or prejudice. They have one duty only to perform, and that is to find the best samples solely on their merits, and place them strictly in the order of merit.

The only information vouchsafed is the country or county the grain grew in, and the class in which it stands entered. Not only do they not know more, but special care is taken that they cannot get at it, even if they wished. But it is almost superfluous to add there is not one of them who wishes for more.

It must be borne in mind that only a few years ago these judges (or a very large majority of them) gave the champion prize and all the other highest awards to Goldthorpe samples, and it is absolutely certain that if the best sample in the show is a Goldthorpe or any other variety grown in Timbuctoo or Connemara it will get every honour it is entitled to without let or hindrance.

Grain Exhibition at Blandford.

The annual malting barley and other grain exhibition of the Dorset United Farmers' Clubs will be held at the Corn Exchange, Blandford, on Thursday next, the 11th inst., which is Blandford sheep sale day. This is the first year in which the show has been held at Blandford, and naturally it is expected that members of the clubs will make a special effort to ensure a success. As the entries only closed on Saturday it is impossible to say here the number of exhibits there will be, but it is estimated that about twelve thousand sacks of grain will be on offer. The entry is open only to members of the Dorchester Agricultural Society, and Blandford, Milborne St. Andrew, and Winfrith Farmers' Clubs.

There will be six classes, and three prizes are offered in each, providing that at least ten entries are received, otherwise no prize will be given. The first-class is for malting barley from bulk sample of 50 quarters, and the prizes here are £7, £4, and £2. In the second class, which is for malting barley from bulk sample of 30 quarters, the prizes are £6 £3, and £1 10s., whilst in the third class, for malting barley from bulk sample of 20 quarters, £5, £2, and £1 are the awards. The two following classes are for wheat from bulk sample of 25 quarters, the first for white and the second for red wheat, the awards in both cases being £6, £3, and £1. The last class is or spring oats, also from a bulk sample of 25 quarters, and here the prizes are £3, £2, and £1. There are two champion prizes, one of £15 for the best malting barley, and the other of £10 for the best wheat.

We may mention that it is possible for one sample to take prizes amounting to £22, and as samples securing notice from the judges are sure to sell at good figures it will be seen that the show is a most attractive one for farmers in the district, and does much to urge them to grow the best grain.

Experiments in Manuring Potatoes.

Experiments on the growth of different varieties of potatoes under various systems of manuring have been carried out during the past two years by the Agricultural Department of the University College, Nottingham, at Althorpe, Lincs., Hodsock, and Blidworth, Notts. The season in 1899 was not on the whole favourable for potatoes and did not afford a fair opportunity for the action of artificial manures, but the results are stated to have been fairly satisfactory, and owing to the absence of any considerable amount of disease the crop was lifted in good condition. The trials at Althorpe were carried out in connection with the Lindsey County Council, and were intended to ascertain the most suitable varieties for the class of land and climate, and the most efficient systems of manuring.

The artificial manure that gave the best result was a mixture of 1½cwt. nitrate of soda with an equal weight of sulphate of ammonia and 6cwt. of superphosphate, costing £2 1s. 6d.; this gave an average yield from eight varieties of 10tons 9cwt. 3qrs., as compared with a produce of 8tons from the unmanured plot. The increase, valued at 50s. per ton, gave a profit over the cost of the manure of £4 3s. This manure was also very efficient in 1898, and stood at the head of the list, but the other manures did not exhibit uniform results in the two years. Owing to the want of rain, the plots on which the manure or part of it was broad-casted did not succeed better than where it was put in with the sets. None of the new varieties of potatoes tried surpassed the three sorts that are generally considered the best in the locality, viz., Selected Giant, Up-to-date, and Scottish Triump.

Experiments were carried out at Hodsock in a field which had received a dressing of two tons of Crich lime per acre in the autumn of 1898. Only one variety of potato was planted, viz., Up-to-date. There were in all nineteen plots, two of which received no manure, four received varying quantities of farmyard manure, four farmyard manure and artificials, and nine plots received artificials alone.

With regard to the plots which received farmyard manure alone, it will be seen from the table below that a moderate dressing of dung gave an increase of 4tons 3cwt., and 4tons 8cwt. over the unmanured plots, but no profitable increase was obtained from the heavier applications of farmyard manure. The addition to dung of a complete dressing of artificials, consisting of 4cwt. superphosphate, 1½cwt. nitrate, and 2cwt. kainit per acre, did not result in any increase over the plots which received farmyard manure only, except in one case, and then only of about 11cwt. The table shows the results obtained both from the plots which received farmyard manure only, and from those which received in addition a complete dressing of artificials. It may be observed that the yields on the two unmanured plots were 7 tons 7cwt. 1qr., and 7 tons 2cwt. per acre respectively.

	Dung only. Tons. cwts. qrs.	Dung with complete dressing of artificials. Tons. cwts. qrs.
10 loads farmyard manure	11 10 0	11 10 0
15 " "	11 11 2	11 9 0
20 " "	11 12 0	12 3 1
25 " "	11 16 3	11 4 3

The plots treated with artificials alone yielded considerably less than those which received dung in conjunction with artificials, but satisfactory results were only obtained when all three ingredients, phosphorus, potash, and nitrogen, were present; the omission of any one of them caused the crop to fall almost to the level of the unmanured plots. As will be seen from the following figures nitrate of soda gave better results than sulphate of ammonia:

	Yield per acre. Tons cwts. qrs.
4 cwts. super., 1½ cwts. nitrate, and 2 cwts. kainit	9 17 1
1½ cwts. nitrate	8 0 2
2 cwts. kainit	7 15 2
4 cwts. super.	7 14 2
1½ cwts. nitrate and 2 cwts. kainit	8 12 3
2 cwts. kainit and 4 cwts. super.	7 13 3
1½ cwts. nitrate and 4 cwts. super.	7 10 2
2 cwts. kainit, 4 cwts. super., and 1½ cwt. ammonia	7 12 0
2 cwts. kainit, 4 cwts. super., ⅝ cwt. nitrate, and ⅞ cwt. ammonia	8 11 1
No manure	7 7 1 7 2 0

Compared with the unmanured plots it will be observed that the increase which was obtained by the use of ten loads of dung exceeded 4 tons per acre, while the largest increase obtained with artificials alone was about 2½ tons on the plot where a complete dressing was supplied.

Experiments which were carried out on light land at Blidworth did not show such a good result from the application of dung, but in the case of the artificial manures they confirmed the results furnished by the experiments at Hodsock, viz., that whilst a satisfactory increase may be obtained from a manure containing nitrogen, potash, and phosphates, the omission of any one of these ingredients, and particularly of potash, resulted in a very material decline in the produce. Farmyard manure at the rate of ten loads per acre yielded 8 tons 8cwt., and kiln dust at the rate of ½ ton per acre yielded 10 tons and 2qr.

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (October 1st).—The weather was fine over Great Britain, but slight rain fell again in Ireland. Rain was measured in the morning as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over the entire kingdom, but the amounts were mostly small. The barometer had risen generally, but the type of weather was still cyclonic, and the winds were south-westerly, the air being drawn from the Atlantic. The temperature was rather low during Sunday night in the Northern and Midland districts, where the thermometer fell below 40deg., but at many of the English coast stations the readings did not fall below 50deg. The mid-day temperatures slightly exceeded 60deg. over the southern portion of the kingdom. In London the day was very fine, and in the afternoon the thermometer in the shade rose to 63deg.

TUESDAY (October 2nd).—Slight showers occurred in many parts of the British Islands, but the rainfall was not heavy. At all the western stations rain was measured in the morning as a result of the fall since the previous day, and in parts of Ireland the amounts were large. Monday night was cold in Scotland, but in other parts of the kingdom the temperature was fairly high, the readings not falling below 50deg. in the South of England. The mid-day temperatures were again high over the Southern portion of the country, where the thermometer registered 60deg. and upwards, while in the North the readings were in fair agreement with the normal. The day was mostly fine in London, and the temperature rose to 65deg.

WEDNESDAY (October 3rd).—The weather was generally very fine, and a decided fall of temperature occurred in most parts of the country. Rain was measured in the morning nearly everywhere as the result of the fall since the preceding day; but the amounts were mostly small. Thunder and lightning had occurred over the Northern parts of England and Wales. Tuesday night was cold over the Northern and Western portions of the kingdom, the thermometer falling to within a few degrees of the freezing point at several stations. It was only in the South of England that the midday temperatures touched 60deg., and at many places in the North the readings throughout the day were below 50deg. The day was very fine in London, and the highest temperature was 59deg.

THURSDAY (October 4th).—A storm area had arrived on our west coasts from the Atlantic, and gales were experienced in many parts of the British Islands. The disturbance was apparently travelling to the northward, but dull and rainy weather had spread over the entire country. Very heavy rain was measured in the morning at several of the western stations, as the result of the fall since the previous

day, and at Roche's Point the amount in the twenty-four hours exceeded an inch and a-half. Frost occurred in the screen in parts of Scotland during Wednesday night, and there was a ground frost in the English midlands. Rain fell heavily for some hours in London during the afternoon. The exposed thermometer on the grass registered two degrees of frost in the southern suburbs early in the morning, but during the day the shade temperature rose to sixty-two degrees.

FRIDAY (October 5th).—Sharp showers were experienced in most parts of our islands, and the weather continued very unsettled. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, over the whole kingdom, and at several places the amounts were large. Thunder and lightning occurred in the South of Ireland in the morning, and lightning was seen in other parts of the country during Thursday night. The midday temperatures rose to about sixty degrees in the South of England, but at the North-western stations the readings scarcely touched fifty degrees. The winds were south-westerly, and they were strong at many places on our coasts. The day was showery in London, but the temperature rose again to sixty-two degrees.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (October 6th and 7th).—Weather of a varied character was experienced during the two days, the southern and eastern districts being under the influence of an anticyclone situated over the Continent, and the rest of the kingdom affected by cyclonic disturbances from off the ocean moving up the western coasts. Fresh or strong southerly to westerly winds were therefore experienced generally, and on several sections of the north-western coasts gales were felt each day, locally about the Irish Sea rather severe. Fair to very fine dry weather prevailed in most parts of England, while in the west and north the conditions were very changeable, with frequent, and in many places heavy, rain. With the wind in the mild quarter, temperature remained above the normal practically everywhere, many of the night values being in the fifties, and the day maxima in the sixties.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Aberdeen.

Harvest work is progressing fairly well. Last week was very suitable for the work, and a great deal of crop was put into the stook, and in the earlier districts, where crops were ready for carting, leading was carried on briskly. The crops generally are not to bulk so well as at one time expected. Clean land in many instances is very deficient where under oats. Where barley has been grown on that break, which is often the case, the bulk is better, and I fancy the financial results also will be better. As yet I have not heard many farmers speak of threshing. I think well-ripened oats will do pretty well, but I fear barley will not be up to the standard weight of grain, and in all probability it will be deficient in colour on account of the wet and sunless season which has been experienced in this county. Turnips are to be a light crop, and are setting too early, indicative of early maturity and a light carting crop. Unless farmers are prepared to use

Artificial Feeding Stuffs

on an extensive scale, they must stock lightly during the winter months. The county continues to keep free of disease among the herds and flocks, and it is to be hoped that the strenuous measures adopted in the south will be the means of preventing the disease getting a hold in the north. When foot-and-mouth disease was rampant in the county last time—now a good many years ago, fortunately—farmers suffered incalculable loss, and the business of buying and selling stock was much paralysed, thereby causing great inconvenience to all interested in agriculture. During the past fortnight I have heard of many complaints of disease among potatoes in the field. The quality is only middling, and the tubers poor in the run, meaning a remarkably poor crop of very indifferent quality of potatoes.—J. B. (October 2nd).

Bucks.

The dry weather and frosty nights have sent the keep in the pastures away very fast, and roots and green crops have not done so well as they would have done if the weather had been showery. The arable land ploughs up very dry, and no rye or vetches have been put in until the last few days, and then too dry.

Rain is Wanted

to enable planting to be got on with. Wheat does not make so much money as it did. Store sheep are dear, the prospects of the root crop having made them so. Not much thrashing has been done until lately. We now hear much complaint of the yield of wheat, and the few samples of barley that have been shown appear to be of middling quality mostly.—J. T. (October 2nd).

Devonshire.

The harvest has been good and conducted at small cost. The drought has told on the root crops, and ground so hard that team labour on the farm and preparations for future crops backward. The pastures very bare, and keep short. Fruit crops abundant. Stock healthy. The lifting of potatoes and mangolds will soon begin, but rain required very badly, that cultivation for wheat may proceed.—G. H. (October 3rd).

Glamorganshire.

The month of September having been beautifully fine, with the exception of one or two showers, has enabled the later harvest to be gathered in good condition, and the corn stubbles to be worked and cleaned. To be able to accomplish this latter task satisfactorily in the autumn gives a comfortable feeling to the farmer of arable land, who can reconcile his mind to the fact that he will not have much work to do to the land for roots next spring. Grass keep is not so plentiful as it was in the beginning of September, but the showers of the last few days have stimulated its growth a little.

Roots.

It has also helped to wash the mildew off the swedes and turnips, which had appeared to a certain extent. Swedes on the whole may be considered a fairly good crop, also mangolds, and although there were rumours of potato disease some time ago, the tubers turn up generally in good condition. The yields from threshings of wheat and barley have proved disappointing, and the barley is deficient in good colour from a maltster's point of view.—C. J. S. (October 4th).

Nottinghamshire.

The weather in North Notts during the past week has been somewhat variable in characted, with a lower temperature. The showers which have fallen were badly wanted, as the land was hard and dry, making ploughing of clover leys and stubbles rather stiff work. Many have been taking advantage of the spell of dry weather by lifting their potatoes and doing what thrashing that was required. The yield of corn, however, proved to be

Very Disappointing and Poor,

compared with last year; below an average, even at its best. The potato crop, especially the early varieties, has suffered much from disease, and at present appears very largely a failure, but it will only be after raising and picking the tubers that the exact amount of loss by disease can be known. Roots and pastures now look luxuriant, and stock are doing well thereon.

Mangolds

are an exceptionally good crop, and common turnips of late have grown remarkably well. Manure carting has been done with a minimum amount of horse-power owing to the dry weather, but labourers are still very scarce hereabouts. The preparation of the fallows for the reception of seed wheat has been proceeded with under very favourable conditions; in fact

Wheat Drilling

will commence next week. Many apples were blown off the trees during the storm of wind last week, and there is an abundant crop of all kinds of fruit which is still fetching a wretchedly poor price. The fruit is generally smaller than usual, but as a whole the crop is a good, fair sample of an average one. We are spared the worry and bother of an election contest in Bassetlaw, the late member being returned unopposed, whereas over the boundary farmers are fairly in the throes of the election, striving to do their level best to return the member which will help them in Parliament.—AGRESTIC (October 5th).

North Wilts.

The summer we have had this year of more than usual brilliancy and duration seems now to have come to a close. If the crops of cereals have scarcely been up to the usual average, those of hay in this district have been in quality and quantity very satisfactory. Although more rain would have been useful for the pastures, the stock on the whole have done well, and the prices have not been much to complain of. Among the troubles and trials are those of scarce and dear labour, which it is hoped in this district, as the railway works approach completion, may be lessened.—(October 5th).

Shropshire.

Heavy showers of rain falling, stopping all out-door work. It is well it did not come a week or two ago, but there is much fruit still on the trees. We are now hoping the weather to take up again. Barley was thrashed with good yield, about seven bags per acre, but it grew on highly manured land. Temperature has fallen to 54 degrees; barometer 29.7. Ploughing ley for wheat is carried on on this dry land; the wet has helped the work. Our flocks of sheep have not escaped the maggot-fly.—J. G.

Staffordshire.

There are fairly good prospects on the farm, both with respect to work on arable land and as regards keep for live stock. With the coming of colder weather there is naturally a check in the growth of grazing cattle, and also in the yield of dairy cows. Additional food in the shape of corn and cake should now be given, although pastures are for the time of year well furnished with good grass. Nothing is more useful during the first spell of cold in autumn than a little dry fodder, preferably old hay. Arable land still continues dry, and cultivation of stubbles in which the season has encouraged the growth of couch and other weeds has been pushed forward in favourable weather. In several respects the

Present Condition of Autumn Crops

is very decidedly better than in two preceding years. In place of patchy and diseased turnips noticeable at the corresponding period of 1898 and 1899 we have now crops of swedes and other turnips which give good promise of a crop of healthy roots. And in place of a thin and weak plant of young seeds in the stubbles, we have the fullest and strongest bed of clover for many years past.—T. C. S. (October 4th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—According to the returns of the Minister of Agriculture, the wheat crop this year equals 37,500,000qrs. (by measure), compared with 44,160,000qrs. and 44,050,000qrs. in two previous years. This discrepancy is apparently regarded with equanimity by our neighbours, who realise that considerable reserves remain over from former crops, and, should there be any likelihood of shortage, it can be dealt with as the occasion arises.

BELGIUM.—Fine weather keeps farmers busy on the land, and in Holland farmers are busy finishing autumn sowings under favourable conditions.

GERMANY.—In the interior rain is wanted, as the shallow water in the rivers is impeding traffic; otherwise weather is seasonable.

SPAIN.—The sowings are being effected in the Two Castilles and Navarra under favourable auspices. The wheat harvest in Castilla la Nueva and Leon has proved an abundant one.

ITALY.—The rainfall has been most beneficial to the already sown fields, but fine weather is now needed for rice cutting and the vintage.

HUNGARY.—The continued absence of rain has militated against the preparation of the fields for the season's sowings. Budapest reports quiet trading in wheat for consumption, and only moderate demand for distant delivery.

ROUMANIA.—According to official returns the wheat crop produced 6,842,000qrs., against 3,158,000qrs. in 1899. Barley yielded 1,766,000qrs., compared with 550,000qrs. The outlook for the maize crop is satisfactory, and taken altogether it appears probable that Danubian grain will be much in evidence this year in Western Europe.

RUSSIA.—In Black Sea ports there is an improved export demand and prices are hardening. In Azov ports supplies come forward in sufficient quantities to meet shipping inquiry, but business is hampered by the high range of steam freights. Frost is reported in eastern districts, the rainfall has been slight, and altogether insufficient in Southern and Black Soil governments.

ASIA MINOR.—Weather continues very favourable for the ingathering of the last crops, but rain is now much desired for preparing the fields for the autumn sowings.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says that the wheat crop and its trade features have not essentially changed. Seeding is progressing under conditions generally favourable.—*Dornbusch.*

Addingham Autumn Fair.—The annual fair for the sale of sheep and lambs at Addingham was held on Tuesday. There was a good attendance, and a large number of sheep and lambs were on offer. The prices obtained were higher than last year. Half-bred ewes made 38s. to 42s.; Lonk ewes, 23s. to 30s.; Scotch ewes, 17s. to 22s.; Cheviot ewes, 20s.; lambs, 19s. to 24s.; and Scotch wether lambs, 12s. 6d. each.

Bandon Fair (co. Cork), which took place on Wednesday, was a large one, and a good demand prevailed for all classes of cattle in condition. Prices: Calves, second class, £4 10s. to £4 12s. 6d.; third class, £3 to £3 15s. Yearlings, first class £7 10s. to £8 10s.; second class, £7 to £7 5s.; third class, £4 12s. 6d. to £6 5s. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 5s. to £11 10s.; second class £9 to £9 10s.; third class, £7 12s. 6d. to £8 5s. Springers, first class, £14 5s. to £17, second class, £12 to £13 15s.; third class, £9 to £11. Lambs, second class, £1 to £1 5s.; third class, 15s. to 16s.; over twelve months and under twenty-four months old, first class, £1 17s. to £2; second class, £1 13s. to £1 15s.; third class, £1 9s. to £1 10s.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt : Very little doing. Barley : Grinding declined 6d per qr, a fair demand for malting. Wheat was about the same as last Monday. Oats in buyers' favour. Maize declined 3d to 6d per qr. Flour firm.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—New English wheat was in a shade better supply, but holders were not pressing either here or on the country exchanges. Fine white rules up to 33s, and red of similar sample 32s per 63lb delivered. American descriptions maintained, and white fairly plentiful. Flour unaltered, although to sell consumers would no doubt receive any little advantage. The London Millers' Association kept prices on a par with last week's advance. Sellers of grinding barley were not so firm in their demands, and by the close of business Persian was perhaps 3d cheaper since last Monday. Oats, although no lower to-day, were easy at the recent decline, and supplies are plentiful at present, both of American and Russian. Maize unaltered.

Mark Lane, Friday.—The attendance continued scanty throughout. New English wheat unaltered, and in slow request, although not pressed. Fine white, 33s ; and red, 32s per 63lb delivered. American whites continue fairly plentiful. Despite a slow consumptive demand for flour, quotations were no lower since last Wednesday. American first patents quoted at 26s to 27s ; second ditto, 24s to 25s. First bakers, 21s to 22s ; and second, 19s to 20s. Hungarian up to 30s 6d. Oats steady at the recent decline for American, and Russian tends more in sellers' favour. American mixed clipped quoted at 14s ex ship, 14s 3d ex quay ; white clipped in these positions, 15s 3d and 15s 6d, 40lb. Flat maize, although not too plentiful, is 6d lower on the week, being steady to-day at the reduction. Mixed American, 20s 6d ex ship, 20s 9d ex quay ; Odessa, 25s 6d ex quay. The market for beans and peas displayed no material change, except that for the latter.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat fair supply, about 6d to 1s cheaper. New oats, some lower prices even than 12s being quoted. The supply of malting barley quite equals demand. Flour, 24s ; seconds, 26s ; households, 28s ; whites, 29s.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—The wheat trade was not so good, and occasionally at 6d per qr less money on the week. Barley, oats, and beans unchanged. Wheat, 28s to 30s per imperial quarter.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 28s 6d to 30s 6d per qr ; ditto, ditto (old), 31s to 32s 6d per qr ; barley, 24s to 34s per qr ; beans (new), 29s to 30s per qr ; beans (old), 33s to 34s per qr ; oats, 17s to 19s per qr. Wheat a quiet trade at about last week's rates.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 28s to 28s 6d ; grinding barley, 23s to 24s ; malting barley, 26s to 30s ; oats, 15s to 17s ; beans, 29s to 30s ; maize, 23s to 25s.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Small supply of wheat and a quiet trade, reds making from 30s up to 33s, and white 34s to 35s per qr. More barley showing, and a better trade. Middle qualities made from 24s to 30s ; better samples up to 36s.

Bristol, Thursday.—Trade has been quiet since our last. A small attendance at our to-day's market. Wheat, 6d lower ; foreign, a turn easier. Grinding barley, maize, and oats, without change. Flour dull with little doing.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the corn trade has been quiet and steady. Supplies still continue small, and farmers successfully resist any reduction in price. At this market to-day a small supply of wheat met with a dull trade, and prices were scarcely so firm as last Saturday. Red from 29s, and white up to 31s per 504 lb. Barley in good supply, and, good lots being scarce, also found a better demand.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat, in short supply, sold at full prices. A little more inquiry for malting barley. Oats dull. Ruling prices :—White wheat, 31s to 33s ; red 30s to 32s; malting barley, 28s to 35s ; grinding, 21s to 24s ; white oats, 18s to 21s ; black, 16s to 20s ; peas, 30s to 32s ; tick beans, 30s to 32s ; mazagans, 28s to 29s ; flat maize, 22s to 23s ; round, 27s to 28s per quarter. Winter tares, 7s 6d to 7s 9d per bushel.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a freer trade in English grain, with very little alteration in the values of wheat. Old oats, in good demand, were dearer. Quotations : Wheat, new, 4s 1d to 4s 3d ; old, 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 75lb. Grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb. Oats new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d ; old, 3s 2d to 3s 7d per 46lb. Indian corn, 11s 3d to 11s 9d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday. — Although there was a fair attendance, the tone of business was quiet. Wheat was rather inactive, and no change occurred in prices. Feeding stuffs steady, with a fair consumptive demand. Malting barley and flour unaltered.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat, moderate supply, sluggish trade at about last week's prices. Barley, supply very moderate, good samples in demand and made full prices. Beans and oats fully firm.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Good attendance. English wheat quiet at last week's prices. Foreign easier. Large quantity of malting barley, most of medium quality, but only the best was wanted. Grinding barley firm.

Dover, Saturday.—White wheat, 30s to 32s ; red, 28s to 33s. Barley, malting, 26s to 34s ; grinding, 24s to 26s. Oats, white, 17s to 20s ; black 14s to 17s. Peas, 30s to 31s. Beans, 30s to 32s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—To-day there was a small attendance at our corn exchange. Wheat and Flour dull and unchanged, with a slightly easier tendency. Indian cord still scarce, and held for late rates. Barley scarce on spot, and held for full prices. Oats steady. Beans and pease unaltered. Oatmeal steady.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour dull and unchanged, with a slightly easier tendency. Indian corn still scarce and held for late rates. Barley scarce on spot and held for full prices. Oats steady. Beans and barley unaltered. Oatmeal steady.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Supplies of English grain considerable. English wheats a turn in buyers' favour. Barley very dull and hard to sell, with a tendency towards lower prices. Oats firm, at recent rates. Maize slightly easier on the week ; no change in the value. Vetches scarce. For beans and peas moderate demand. Quotations (wholesale) : Wheat, white, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per bushel ; red, 3s to 3s 9d ; oats, 2s 3d to 3s ; maize, 2s 8d to 3s 2d ; vetches, winter, 4s to 6s ; and spring, 3s 6d to 5s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Small supply of wheat, trade slow, at barely last week's rates. Reds new, 31s to 32s ; old, 32s 6d ; white, 34s. Fair supply of barley, fine samples in request at from 34s to 36s ; other descriptions slow of sale at from 26s to 30s. Oats slow. Maize quiet. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There has been less animation in the wheat trade during the past week, and prices have come back 3d to 6d per qr from late extreme figures ; the tone, however, remains healthy ; the demand is rather restricted. Malting barley unchanged, with a more general inquiry. Maize 3d lower. Beans and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday. The demand for both English and foreign wheat continues of a retail character, and Tuesday's easier prices are not realised except for the best description. Malting and feeding barley quiet and the turn lower. Beans, peas, oats, maize, and flour all firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, which sold steadily at 29s to 33s per 36 stone. Old oats firm. New quiet. Barley in fair demand.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good supply of new wheats, with a steady trade, at about last week's rates, viz., 28s to 30s. Foreign quiet. Large show of barley, mostly common, prices, 27s to 32s. Oats dull at slightly reduced rates. Maize, beans, and peas unaltered.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat quiet, small business. Kansas wheat ½d lower ; other sorts unchanged. Flour firm, with a rather better demand for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers'. Maize has a good consumptive demand for mixed and yellow American, and firmly held at 1d to 1½d over last Tuesday. European and Plate have a steady trade and occasionally ½d lower. Barley has a fair inquiry for malting at unchanged prices. Feeding steady trade at quotations. Beans are slow and favour buyers at last market day's figures. Peas have an improved inquiry at ½d per cental decline for Canadians, other sorts unchanged. Oats firm, but quiet at last market day's full prices for English. Foreign has a better inquiry at unchanged prices. Oatmeal steady, with only a moderate business at about late rates. Oil-cake firm with a fairly good demand ; prices unaltered.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Our wheat trade to-day was firm, and 6d over per qr from last week's prices. Barley, if of good quality, sells well, and the full rates of previous day maintained. Oats are a trifle easier in cost. Maize a slight decline. Beans and peas no change. Winter tares are on the run down. Not any alteration in rye, hemp, brank, sergo, or millet.

Newark, Wednesday. — Wheat repeated last week's prices. Barley a dragging trade, except for the best samples. Oats and beans at rather lower prices.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Buyers of wheat at our to-day's market had a slight advantage in prices. Maize firm and favoured sellers. Barley, peas, and beans without quotable change. Oats firm for fine qualities ; common sorts 6d per 336lbs easier. Fl our unchanged. Showery weather.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—The wheat trade is disappointing to factors, and if anything rather easier. Flour remains unchanged. Malting barley goes badly for sellers, but may improve. Oats, certainly, better for buyers, the new samples coming in freely. Beans, peas, and maize, no change. White wheat, English, 28s to 32s ; ditto foreign, 31s to 33s ; red wheat, English, 28s to 30s ; ditto foreign, 29s to 31s per 504lb ; malting barley, English, 24s to 28s per 448lb ; oats, English, 21s to 27s ; ditto foreign, 17s 6d to 19s 6d per 336lb ; beans, 31s to 32s 6d ; peas, 30s to 32s per 504lb ; maize, 22s to 23s 6d per 480lb ; flour, 22s to 27s per 280lb ; hay, 1899 crop (old), 80s to 90s ; crop 1900, 75s to 80s per ton ; clover, 1899 crop (old), 105s to 110s ; crop 1900, 90s to 100s per ton. Weather unsettled, showery.—GEO. W. WATSON AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—Our corn market manifested no fresh feature ; dulness and inactivity was general as regards buying and selling. Supply and demand and prices were about as heretofore :—White wheat, 31s to 33s 496lb ; red, new, 27s to 30s ; red, old, 30s to 32s ; malting barley, 26s to 30s ; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s ; oats, 17s to 22s. ; old, 24s ; beans, 28s to 30s ; old, 32s to 35s ; flour, 23s to 27s, 280lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—At our market to-day wheat was rather in buyers' favour. Barley is now being freely offered, the condition being much improved and prices ranged from 26s to 30s per qr for average sorts. Rough and boisterous weather has prevailed during the past week with heavy showers of rain. Wheat, red, 30s 6d to 31s 6d per qr, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending October 1st, 1900 :—Wheat, 3,764-5, 28s 11½d, barley, 4,362, 27s 2½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in less supply, but business passing was slow at previous currencies. Barley, plenty offering, the bulk of which of inferior quality and condition. Such were slow of sale, and irregular prices, while fine dry parcels commanded full rates. Oats in moderate supply and values supported. Beans unaltered in value.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Wheat slow trade. Oats, 29s to 32s. Barley in demand for best qualities, but inferior very slow sale.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The supply of wheat to-day has been small, and trade was flat, but purchases could not generally be made for less money. Barley offered freely, and all but the best samples were lower. Oats made late rates.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Electioneering seems to have stopped all signs of business. Wheat alone remains firm, while barley, maize, and oats are unchanged.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—The wheat supply of to-day proved considerably above the average, and business was more bright, although prices were slightly lower than last week. Old parcels of wheat sold readily at 30s to 34s per qr ; and new, 28s to 32s per qr. Other kinds of corn, including barley and oats, experienced a steady demand at recent currencies.

Ripon, Thursday.—There are a few inquiries for seed wheat from farmers. Malting barley is rather dull. The attendance is below the average Wheat, English (new), 28s to 30s ; ditto (old), 31s 6d to 32s 6d ; ditto foreign, 31s to 35s ; barley, malting, 24s to 28s ; ditto, grinding, 23s to 24s ; oats (old), 25s to 26s ; ditto (new), 17s to 19s ; round maize, 26s to 27s 6d ; ditto, flat, 23s per qr ; beans (old), 1s per stone ; bran, £5 to £5 5s per ton.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade was slow at last week's prices. A fair supply. Red wheat made 30s to 31s, and white wheat 31s to 32s 6d per qr.

St. Neots, Thursday.—Poor attendance and a very small supply of wheat, but prices showed no improvement, 29s to 30s being the value of the new crop. Fair show of barley, some samples being of good quality, and prices ranged from 26s to 34s.—ELGOOD AND SON.

Salisbury, Tuesday.—There was a moderate attendance of buyers, and a fair supply of grain. Wheat met a slow trade, and prices were 6d per qr lower than last week. Barley was in fair demand. Oats sold at last week's rates. Beans were firm. The quotations were :—Wheat, old, 32s to 36s ; ditto new, 28s to 32s ; best samples of barley, 32s to 36s; ditto secondary, 26s to 29s ; oats, new, 16s to 20s ; ditto, old, 20s to 23s ; beans, 32s to 36s.

Scarborough, Thursday.—A good show of barley, which made 24s to 28s ; wheat, 28s to 29s 6d ; small supply of both black and white oats ; black made 16s 6d to 17s 6d ; and white, 17s 6d to 18s 6d.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was a moderate attendance, and trade in wheat was slow at last week's prices. American maize was 3d cheaper, small 6d dearer, and beans 3d per qr more. Quotations :—Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d ; red, 32s to 33s ; new, 31s to 32s per 504lb ; oats, old white, 26s ; ditto old black, 22s ; new, 18s 6d to 20s per 335lb ; peas, grinding, 28s to 29s ; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb ; beans, Egyptian, 33s ; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb ; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d ; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb ; Indian corn, small old, 28s to 29s ; ditto American mixed, 23s to 23s 6d per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—At the corn market there was a drop of 6d per qr in the price of wheat, which sold at 28s 6d. Oats were also down 6d per qr, making 15s to 17s. Barley was a slow trade at 1s less money. Beans and peas and other articles unchanged.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was a fair quantity of farmers' wheat showing of good quality, which made 29s to 30s per qr. During the week the trade in foreign wheat has been quiet; and prices show no change. Oats and maize unaltered. A good show of malting barley, which made 24s to 27s 6d per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Farmers as yet are offering their grain sparingly. Wheat quiet, unchanged, and no alteration in value of barley or oats. Arrivals, coastwise : — Barley, 391 qrs. Foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Wheat, a quiet trade ; firm for best qualities, slightly easier for inferior. Malting barley, steady trade for best qualities ; inferior a little easier. All feeding stuffs steady, and unchanged.

Wakefield, Friday.—The constant changes in the American markets tend to unsettle the trade in this country and cause consumers to keep off forward purchases. Wheat meets a quiet demand to-day, last week's rates being maintained. No change in demand or prices of Yorkshire barley; south county qualities are held above buyers' views. Maize, beans, and oats slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—There is an easier tone in English wheats to-day, and foreign maintains late rates, but the business doing in both is small. A fair supply of New Yorkshire barleys, and no trade of any importance has been done as yet. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A scanty supply of grain. Wheat trade slow at 6d decline. Red, 29s to 30s ; white, 31s. Oats, new, 16s to 18s ; old up to 24s. Barley 25s to 28s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Very few people at market and business was quiet. English wheat, old, 13s to 13s 6d per 216lb ; oats, old, 15s to 16s ; new, 10s to 11s ; beans, old, 14s 6d to 15s 6d ; new, 12s 6d to 13s 6d per 196lb ; maize, 24s to 25s per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—A quiet market for all kinds of grain. English and foreign wheats showed an easier tendency. Maize 3d and barley 6d per quarter lower. Oats and beans sold slowly at about late rates. Wheat, white, 29s to 31s ; red, 28s to 30s per quarter.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good attendance, large show of barley, and good show of grain, all round. White wheat, old, 30s to 33s ; red wheat old, 31s to 32s ; white wheat new, 28s to 29s ; ditto red, 27s to 28s ; best malting barley, 30s to 32s ; seconds, 28s to 30s ; grinding, 23s to 25s ; white oats, old, 24s to 26s ; black ditto, 22s to 24s ; white oats, new, 18s to 20s ; flat maize, 25s to 26s ; round maize, 28s to 29s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Wheat slow at last week's prices. Fine white, 29s 6d to 30s 6d ; red and mixed, 28s 6d to 29s 6d per qr of 36 stone. Good samples of malting barley sold readily at last week's prices, fine 27s to 29s ; good, 25s to 27s ; ordinary, 23s to 25s per qr of 32 stone. Oats without change, and rather scarce ; old, 23s to 25s ; new short, 17s to 19s ; blacks, 17s to 18s per qr of 24 stone. Rye, 7½d ; old beans 11d per stone.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has shown rather a better tendency, and prices have, if anything, been the turn in favour of sellers. Another official estimate as to the French wheat crop has just appeared. It shows a total of 109,025,950 hectolitres, and it supports the conclusion that France will have to import wheat this year to make good her deficit—a deficit of little importance probably, but still a deficit. French farmers are anticipating that this will have some effect upon prices, and that they will become more satisfactory to growers without at the same time sensibly increasing the cost of bread. For the present, wheat quotations have not advanced in France, notwithstanding the reserve shown by holders in regard to supplies ; the milling trade has made strong efforts to check any decidedly upward tendency, and thus far it has succeeded in doing so. Last week's sales of wheat at Marseilles amounted to 8,000 quintals. Wheat quotations have shown little change at Paris. Wheat has been dull and weak at Berlin ; disposable wheat has also barely supported previous rates at Dantzic. There are complaints of drought in Hungary ; autumn wheat sowing has been delayed in consequence of this difficulty. The Odessa wheat market has exhibited a firm tone. The quantity of wheat now on route for Europe is returned at 1,120,000qr, as compared with 1,280,000qr at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,120,000qr is made up as follows :—France, 100,000 ; Belgium, 295,000qr ; Holland, 315,000qr ; Germany and the North, 95,000qr ; and Italy, Spain, &c., 305,000qr.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley market remains quiet here, and buyers are hard to find, although holders are disposed to allow a reasonable reduction in price ; some fine samples are shown, and the selection is really good, but the best lots are held firm, and buyers cannot make up their mind to pay the extreme figures asked for such lots.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather seasonable. Market more quiet than usual at this time of the year. The rich crop of fruit in Germany tells upon the consumption of bread-stuff. The imports during the week amounted to :—4,127 tons wheat ; 4,158 tons rye ; 7,316 tons barley ; 10,520 tons maize. New German wheat, particularly dry Saale, was in fair demand and sold for export at 28s 6d to 29s ; good Holstein and Mecklenburg fetched 28s 6d, common Holstein, 27s to 27s 9d per 504lb, f.o.b. Hard Winter No. 2 and fine River Plate is held at 29s 3d to 29s 9d per 480lb. Rye quiet, 9 10 15. South Russian is offering at 22s 9d per 480lb. c.i.f. Fine Saale barley on the spot has been taken by our brewers and for England at 36s to 36s 6d, finest at 39s 6d, 40s per 448lb. f.o.b. Good Saale is offering at 32s, 34s. Good Bohemian is selling at 34s to 35s, fine at 35s 6d to 37s per 448lb. f.o.b. Feeding barley quiet, 60-61 Ko South Russian is offering at 18s 3d per 400lb. c.i.f. There is but little actual demand for maize, the business done being chiefly for covering purposes. For September steamer parcels 21s has been paid. October, 20s 6d. November, 20s. February-March, 18s 9d, 19s per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Sept. 28 to Oct. 5, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	77,633 qrs.
Flour	105,750 ,,
Total	183,383 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Surplus	77,383 ,,

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

September 28th to October 5th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	3,118	..	..	74,515	77,633
Barley	1,225	..	..	34,288	35,513
Malt	16,669	621	..	..	17,290
Oats	3,134	150	300	100,075	103,659
Rye	..	..	..	2,500	2,500
Beans	693	..	..	49	742
Peas	596	..	..	2,458	3,054
Maize	..	..	..	44,197	44,197
Tares	76	..	..	..	76
Lentils	..	..	..	50	50
Linseed	..	..	..	12,593	12,593
Rapeseed	..	..	..	290	290
Cottonseed	..	..	..	1,616	1,616
Farm Seeds	693	..	..	2,000	2,693
Flour (Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour (Sacks	23,123	..	..	118,026	141,149

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.

Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.		May 27	108,772 qrs.	
,, 14	108,380 ,,		June 3	73,846 ,,	
,, 21	128,902 ,,		,, 10	126,781 ,,	
,, 28	51,234 ,,		,, 17	160,574 ,,	
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,		,, 24	101,205 ,,	
,, 11	82,912 ,,		July 1	152,500 ,,	
,, 18	204,974 ,,		,, 8	112,761 ,,	
,, 25	108,273 ,,		,, 15	116,850 ,,	
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,		,, 22	89,245 ,,	
,, 11	63,103 ,,		,, 29	118,314 ,,	
,, 18	122,541 ,,		Aug. 5	104,234 ,,	
,, 25	86,309 ,,		,, 1	102,160 ,,	
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,		,, 19	103,353 ,,	
,, 8	133,261 ,,		,, 26	82,367 ,,	
,, 15	101,518 ,,		Sept. 2	73,600 ,,	
,, 22	70,984 ,,		,, 9	83,791 ,,	
,, 29	68,573 ,,		,, 16	107,684 ,,	
May 6	96,343 ,,		,, 23	131,880 ,,	
,, 13	72,852 ,,		,, 30	61,997 ,,	
,, 20	101,429 ,,		Oct. 7	121,032 ,,	

1900.

Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.		May 25	71,390 qrs.	
,, 13	95,064 ,,		,, 31	177 744 ,,	
,, 20	114,928 ,,		June 8	93,147 ,,	
,, 27	124,652 ,,		,, 15	86,125 ,,	
Feb. 3	70,335 ,,		,, 22	193,116 ,,	
,, 10	75,000 ,,		,, 29	142,185 ,,	
,, 17	66,804 ,,		July 6	132,950 ,,	
,, 24	62,191 ,,		,, 13	101,253 ,,	
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,		,, 20	82,294 ,,	
,, 10	63,702 ,,		,, 27	55,998 ,,	
,, 17	162,985 ,,		Aug. 2	86,167 ,,	
,, 24	111,409 ,,		,, 11	193,077 ,,	
,, 31	69,356 ,,		,, 18	138,510 ,,	
April 7	48,302 ,,		,, 25	182,517 ,,	
,, 13	131,085 ,,		,, 31	80,149 ,,	
,, 20	82,357 ,,		Sept. 7	58,304 ,,	
,, 27	43,783 ,,		,, 14	117,066 ,,	
May 4	104,535 ,,		,, 21	105,961 ,,	
,, 11	52,859 ,,		,, 28	158,771 ,,	
,, 18	97,412 ,,		Oct. 5	183,383 ,,	

LIVERPOOL STOCKS.

(Millers' holdings not included).

	Sept. 29, 1900.	August 31, 1900.	Sept. 30, 1899.
Wheat .....Centals	2,129,616	2,181,977	2,099,411
Barley ..... ,,	86,736	87,186	103,756
Oats..... ,,	63,785	27,316	55,079
Beans ..... ,,	44,261	9,668	70,921
Peas..... ,,	15,210	24,608	7,194
Maize ..... ,,	356,036	270,489	679,509
Oatmeal..... Loads	2,153	2,778	4,330
Flour ..... Sacks	59,240	80,936	114,798

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1899.									
Sep. 16 ..	80,281½	25	4	33,143⅞	21	1	19,291½	16	2
,, 23 ..	85,104¼	25	4	77,678⅜	27	4	22,128	16	1
,, 30 ..	79,612½	25	6	97,917⅜	26	11	23,193	16	5
Oct 7 ..	71,152⅝	26	0	169,315½	28	0	21,440½	16	5
,, 14 ..	63,040¾	27	3	191,901⅛	27	9	18,024¼	16	5
,, 21 ..	64,242	28	2	192,268½	27	6	18,983¼	16	10
,, 28 ..	85,178¼	28	1	219,751½	27	4	20,064¼	16	3
Nov. 4 ..	82,769⅝	27	2	203,071½	27	2	17,895½	16	7
,, 11 ..	66,741⅜	26	7	166,786½	26	9	15,216½	16	5
,, 18 ..	65,470½	26	1	163,915½	26	4	16,313¼	16	7
,, 25 ..	67,308¼	25	8	164,362½	26	2	17,047⅜	16	7
Dec. 2 ..	72,974⅞	25	7	163,441⅜	25	10	22,575¼	16	6
,, 9 ..	10,982¼	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421⅜	16	5
,, 16 ..	787,72½	25	4	135,344⅜	25	7	22,889¼	16	1
,, 23 ..	67,102¾	25	6	116,757⅝	25	10	16,447⅝	16	0
,, 30 ..	47,685½	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,463⅜	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6 ..	40,086	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅝	16	4
,, 13 ..	57,021⅜	25	11	83,421⅞	25	5	19,706	16	6
,, 20 ..	68,463¼	26	0	100,925¼	25	8	23,122⅜	16	5
,, 27 ..	65,381½	25	10	108,357½	25	9	17,814½	16	8
Feb. 3 ..	73,796⅜	25	8	90,769¼	25	4	22,061¼	16	3
April 7 ..	67,743⅜	25	10	20,402⅝	24	10	13,757⅜	17	2
,, 10 ..	71,482¼	25	10	80,543⅝	25	3	20,822¼	16	2
,, 17 ..	76,611⅜	26	1	80,414¼	24	11	20,986⅜	16	1
,, 24 ..	69,534½	26	3	63,931⅜	25	1	21,132⅜	16	10
Mar. 3 ..	68,153½	26	4	51,727¼	24	6	18,499½	16	11
,, 10 ..	58,703¼	25	11	44,921¼	24	8	16,224	16	11
,, 17 ..	76,435⅝	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,104⅞	16	10
,, 24 ..	69,944¼	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042⅜	17	1
,, 31 ..	72,762	25	10	34,387¼	24	11	15,200⅜	17	2
,, 14 ..	66,412½	25	11	19,519½	24	5	9,672⅜	17	8
,, 21 ..	54,977⅜	26	0	11,673⅜	24	9	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28 ..	70,006⅜	26	0	7 785⅜	25	2	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5 ..	75,410⅜	25	11	8,159½	25	3	8,658½	18	0
,, 12 ..	82,190⅝	25	11	10,417⅜	24	10	12,245½	17	11
,, 19 ..	83,941⅜	25	7	5,638⅜	24	5	9,942	18	5
,, 26 ..	95,574⅜	25	5	3,521½	23	11	7,350⅜	18	2
June 2 ..	68,906⅜	25	5	1,752⅞	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9 ..	64,747½	25	3	990⅜	23	8	6,053⅞	18	8
,, 16 ..	55,340⅜	25	6	1,486⅞	23	8	7,228½	18	11
,, 23 ..	54,324⅜	25	9	1,312½	23	5	5,344½	18	11
,, 30 ..	44,920⅜	26	11	495⅞	23	4	4,706½	19	3
July 7 ..	34,344⅜	27	10	486⅜	22	10	4,391½	19	5
,, 14 ..	22,009¼	28	7	949½	23	2	2,911⅜	19	1
,, 21 ..	26,716⅜	29	0	767¾	23	8	3,771½	19	3
,, 28 ..	33,088	29	3	194½	24	4	3,335⅜	19	9
Aug. 4 ..	45,748⅞	28	10	1409¼	23	10	3,453⅜	19	4
,, 11 ..	37,644⅜	28	7	311½	23	7	3,391	19	8
,, 18 ..	32,812½	28	10	608¾	23	3	3,593⅜	19	11
,, 25 ..	26,427⅜	28	10	787¾	24	10	5,349½	18	8
Sept. 1 ..	30,393⅜	28	8	1,978½	25	2	9,606⅜	18	1
,, 8 ..	34,755½	28	7	6,140¾	25	8	11,042½	17	10
,, 15 ..	53,334½	28	4	20,879¾	25	4	18,684½	17	1
,, 22 ..	61,468¾	28	4	41,284½	26	0	21,729⅜	17	1
,, 29 ..	72,604	28	9	68,844½	26	1	25,620½	17	2
Oct. 6 ..	66,690	28	9	94,282	26	2	23,865	16	10

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Oct. 5th, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	66,690	qrs.	28s. 9d.
Barley	94,282	qrs.	26s. 2d.
Oats	23,865	qrs.	16s. 10d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Oct. 5th, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	56,246 ..	26	7	170,072⅜ ..	29	5	13,617½ ..	15	3
1897....	67,731½ ..	32	1	177,655½ ..	28	9	14,205 ..	16	0
1898....	87,106⅝ ..	26	6	167,705¼ ..	27	5	22,636½ ..	16	7
1899....	71,152⅝ ..	26	0	169,315½ ..	28	0	21,440½ ..	16	5

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	Sept. 1.	Sept. 8.	Sept. 15.	Sept. 22.	Sept. 29.	Oct. 6.
29s. 3d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
29s. 0d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 10d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 9d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 8d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 7d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 4d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
26s. 0d...	..	..	..	..	..	..

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890 .. 31	9 per qr.	..	28	8 per qr.	.. 18	7 per qr.
1891 .. 37	1 ,,	..	28	2 ,,	.. 20	0 ,,
1892 .. 30	4 ,,	..	26	2 ,,	.. 19	11 ,,
1893 .. 26	4 ,,	..	25	6 ,,	.. 18	9 ,,
1894 .. 22	10 ,,	..	24	6 ,,	.. 17	1 ,,
1895 .. 23	1 ,,	..	21	11 ,,	.. 14	6 ,,
1896 .. 26	2 ,,	..	22	11 ,,	.. 14	9 ,,
1897 .. 30	2 ,,	..	23	6 ,,	.. 16	11 ,,
1898 .. 34	0 ,,	..	27	2 ,,	.. 18	5 ,,
1899 .. 25	8 ,,	..	25	7 ,,	.. 17	0 ,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900 Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January.....	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 6	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	24 9	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	19 5
September ..	25 4	26 10	16 5	28 6	25 7	17 6
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November....	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 2nd, 1900.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	1,191	4	1,827	18	0	1	10	8
Barley	2,493	2	3,850	19	6	1	10	10
Oats	2,783	6	2,482	8	1	0	17	10

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	308,000	208,000	278,000	7,000	104,000
Russia	242,000	—	3,000	205,000	280,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary..	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	217,000	—	1,000	2,000	—
Argentina	52,000	—	30,000	—	—
Chili..	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia ..	—	5,000	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ..	30,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	849,000	228,000	332,000	234,000	394,000

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	0	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	..		23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov. ..	..		22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June ..	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July ..	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	..		24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	..		24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec. ..	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 1 ..... (per sack)	28	6	.... (per sack)	25	6
October 1 ..... ,,	29	0	.... ,,	26	0

(No official change since last date given.)

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	s.	d.
Sept. 1, 1900 .....(per sack)	30	0

(No official change since last date given).

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Demand ruled fairly firm for poultry supplies, however, were heavier. Quotations: Fowls, Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s; Boston, 2s to 2s 3d; Surrey, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Sussex, 2s 6d to 3s; Welsh, 1s 9d to 2s; Irish, 1s 6d to 1s 10d; turkey (cock), 8s 0d to 9s; hen, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; ducks, country, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; pigeons, Bordeaux, 9d to 11d; feathered, 7d to 9d; wild rabbits, 1d to 1s; tame, 1s to 1s 3d each; Australian, 7s 6d to 9s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 3s 6d to 5s 6d; partridges, young, 3s 6d to 4s; old, 1s 10d to 2s; grouse, young, 6s to 7s; old, 3s 9d per brace; hares, 3s to 3s 6d; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s 9d; widgeon, 1s 9d; pintail, 10d to 1s; teal, 8d to 10d; golden plover, 7d to 9d; black, 4d to 5d; venison, haunches, 16s to 18s each; fore-quarters, 5d per lb.

Berkeley, Wednesday.—There was a good supply of single Gloucester cheese brought in, which sold readily at prices ranging from 54s to 58s per cwt.

Glasgow Wednesday.—Arrivals smaller than lately but fully ample for the demand, and sellers willing to meet buyers; prices range from 54s to 64s per cwt. Nothing doing in Canadians. Others quiet.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon has further hardened in value under the influence of strong cable advices and good consumptive demand, and the market closes firm. We quote to-day, choice Cumberland cut, 20-22lbs, 55s to 56s; Wiltshire, 48s to 51s 6d; 32-38lb, 45s to 50s; long middles, rib-in, 18-22lbs, 50s to 56s; clear bellies, 14-16lbs, 49s to 52s 6d; 18-20lbs, 48s to 52s; Staffordshire cut (lean on), 35-40lbs and Birmingham cut 33-38lbs, 46s to 48s; clear Staffords (lean off), 40-44lbs, and Yorkshire cut, 40-45lbs, 44s 6d to 46s 6d; singed Wiltshire, Canadian, 45-50lbs, 58s to 63s; American, [illegible] short clear backs, 12-16lbs, 44s to 46s; 16-20lbs, 44s to 45s; fat backs (export), 40s to 42s; long clear middles, 35-40lbs, 45s to 46s; 40-45lbs, 44s to 45s; short clear middles, 45-50lb, 42s 6d to 43s 6d; shoulders, square cut, 12-14lbs, 37s 6d to 42s; 14-16lbs, 36s to 40s; New York cut, 11-13lbs, 33s to 34s per cwt. Hams are also more firmly held, and with increased inquiry there is some little improvement in prices. We quote choice long cut, 8 to 12lb, 48s 6d to 54s; 14 to 16lb, 48s to 53; short cut and AC, 10 to 12lb, 47s 6d to 52s; 12 to 14lb, 46s to 52s; 14 to 16lb, 44s to 48s per cwt. Lard is again dearer and in good demand. We quote pails and kegs, 40s to 41s; prime Western (in tierces), 39s to 39s 6d per cwt. Beef remains quietly steady. We quote extra India mess, 70s to 75s; Plate and packet, 65s to 67s 6d per 304lb. Pork firm but in moderate request. We quote finest prime mess, 70s to 75s per 200lb. Cheese.—The market has been quiet, demand being moderate, but with a firm undertone there is no material alteration in prices. We quote finest Canadian, coloured, 54s to 54s 6d; white, 53s 6d to 54s; States coloured, 53s to 54s; white, 52s to 53s. Second qualities full cream sell readily from 44s to 51s per cwt. Butter shows no alteration on the week; there is perhaps a little more inquiry for finest qualities. We quote finest Canadian creamery, in boxes, 98s to 102s; States, 92s to 98s; finest ladies and imitation creamery, 78s to 84s; finest Danish, 106s to 114s; Irish creamery, 100s to 105s; Cork firsts, 91s; seconds, 83s; thirds, 77s per cwt.—HODGSON BROTHERS.

Newport, Wednesday.—Supply good, and fair attendance of buyers. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 50s to 56s per cwt; fancy dairies, 58s to 61s; single Gloucesters, 50s to 54s; doubles, 58s to 60s; truckles, 58s to 60s; Cheddars, 58s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Good supplies of vegetables were offered, but the demand was very slow. Potatoes were in better request. A good supply of fruit met a fair sale. Greenstuffs:—Cabbages, 3s 6d to 4s; beetroots, 2s 6d per tally; cauliflowers, 6d per dozen; spinach, 1s 9d per bushel; carrots, 2s 6d; turnips, 2s; parsley, 1s 6d; leeks, 3s per dozen bunches; celery, 12s to 14s per dozen bunches; horse-radish, 1s to 1s 3d per bundle; English onions, 4s 6d per cwt; Valencia, 6s 6d per case; Dutch, 3s 9d per bag. Potatoes: Beauty of Hebrons, 4s 6d; Early Regents, 4s; Snowdrops, 4s 6d to 5s; Up-to-Dates, 3s 6d to 4s per cwt. Fruit: English grapes, 6d to 1s 6d per lb; Denia, 3s to 5s per case; English apples, 1s to 4s; ditto pears, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per bushel; ditto Williams, 1s 6d to 2s per half-sieve; Californian, 4s to 7s per case; French Williams, 4s to 5s per crate; plums, 1s 6d to 2s; damsons, 1s to 1s 9d per half-sieve; English peaches, 2s to 6s per dozen; Valencia melons, 4s to 6s per case; pineapples, 1s 6d to 4s each; bananas, 5s to 9s per bunch; lemons, 8s to 18s per case.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields. Saturday.—Arrivals have been moderate. The trade has been steady, with prices for best samples slightly improved. Quotations: English: Beauty of Hebrons, 3s 3d to 4s 3d; Early Puritans, 3s 3d to 4s 3d; Snowdrops, 3s 3d to 4s 6d; Reading Giants, 2s 9d to 3s 0d; Professor Maerkers, 3s to 3s 3d. Up-to-Dates, 3s to 4s per cwt.

Magdeburg, Wednesday.—Absolutely nothing doing. The business in our home market is satisfactory, and every one possesses good prices this season, because the crop of Seconds is not good, and it must partly be replaced by new [illegible]. We are at present selling in England our "Excel" brand at 3s 3d per bag, f.o.b., Hamburg, nett cash, against B/L., for shipment within fourteen days, in lots of [illegible]. There is no better guarantee to be had here than each parcel passes under our constant personal control. Offers [illegible] for our "L" brand, 3s 9d above terms. This brand will advance before long. Potatoes: English, and even Scotch, are already travelling in our country, and also coming into market, as usually, so that it is very [illegible] stuff at a reasonable price. All farmers, and [illegible] persons, know already that "potatoes grow [illegible] soil." Almost all English buyers [illegible] with small dealers and [illegible] new purchase with reliable [illegible] reported in England. We [illegible] per cwt. per rail, per public; Magnum Bonum [illegible]. Potatoes: Magnum Bonum [illegible] per ton, f.o.b., Hamburg, for cash, against [illegible] shipment, if unsold.—R. WILHELM AND CO.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A [illegible] done during the week, but most growers decline to sell at present rates. Choice East Kent [illegible] and some exceptional [illegible] sold at £6.

Worcester, Saturday.—Picking [illegible] in this district, and the result shows that the crop was considerably [illegible] well under last year's growth. A [illegible] again shown. Best [illegible] medium [illegible] and [illegible] for less money.

Worcester, Saturday.—[illegible] be sold [illegible] values [illegible] the week ending [illegible] AND CO.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The season is in close accord with farmers' wishes, and the commencement of October has been as propitious as was the entire course of the preceding month. The record of September rainfall, as made by us, indicates a fall for the thirty days of 1·33 inches less than the mean :—

	1900.		1889-90.
January	2·75	....	1·85
February	3·81	....	1·53
March	1·10	....	1·54
April	0·72	....	1·69
May	0·98	....	2·00
June	2·73	....	1·94
July	1·20	....	2·58
August	3·06	....	2·38
September	1·01	....	2·34
	17·37	....	17·85

The close agreement of 1900 experiences with the average of the last twenty years is a good sign, and despite the dry September the land is by no means destitute of moisture. Some stations in September recorded nearly half an inch of rain, others a full two inches, but our London register gives a very fair idea of the general rainfall for Great Britain, though not for Scotland or Ireland. The showery weather of the 4th and 6th of the present month was not unfavourable to farmers, who are glad when the ground for October sowings is a little less hard on the surface than it is at present. The subsoil is in a good state – neither too wet nor too dry.

The tremendous rainfall between the banks of the Rhone and the straits of Gibraltar has been the meteorological event of the week. Spain will for the most part benefit agriculturally, but the vintage has been sadly interrupted, and the flooded rivers include such great streams as the Rhone, Garonne, Ebro, and Tagus.

The Russian crops are stated by our correspondents to be excellent and to be much in excess of what has been given as the probable yield in importers' lists in this country. We can only wait for further light on this difficult subject; the areas are so enormous in Russia that estimates are very untrustworthy if made from the survey of even a region as large as France. The high freights are keeping back the shipments, yet even with this impediment against them they are very considerable.

The British markets since October came in have been in buyers' favour for almost every staple except oilseeds. The large imports of breadstuffs, maize, and oats, the increase in the supply of barley on passage, and the interruption of trade by the elections, have all told against the position of holders of grain.

The imperial averages show the following changes: Wheat, 3d. decline on the month; barley, 1s. 9d. advance, and oats, 1s. 11d. decline. These alterations are due in the case of barley to the increased supply of malting samples, and in that of oats to the lower value of new grain to old and seasoned corn for horses. The slight change in wheat may be accepted as a real alteration, nor do new and old samples differ much in price from one another.

The rise of 1s. 3d. per sack on the month in town household flour was induced by a rise of 1s. to 1s. 6d. in the terms asked by American millers for those north-western kinds which have such an influence at Mark Lane, Glasgow, and Liverpool. Paris shows little change in flour prices from a month ago, and the latest notes from Mark Lane indicate a reaction from the September advance.

The influence of American wheat reserves, extending as it does to British, French, and Netherlands markets, makes the following return as cabled very well worth studying. These figures include Canada and California; not usually given in the weekly cable.

AMERICAN WHEAT STOCKS.

	1900.	1899.	1898.
1st January	12.6	6.97	9.1
1st February	11.8	7.1	7.0
1st March	11.5	7.0	6.2
1st April	10.8	6.7	5.2
1st May	10.6	6.3	4.2
1st June	9.6	6.4	4.0
1st July	7.5	6.5	3.5
1st August	9.0	6.6	3.2
1st September	8.8	6.3	2.8
1st October	10.4	8.0	2.8
1st November	—	10.2	4.7
1st December	—	11.7	6.4

The unit is *a million quarters*—that is to say, the return for October 1st, 1900, given as 10.4, is 10,400,000 qrs.

The following is a return, in round numbers, of London arrivals for the three months ending with Sept. 30. The large receipts of oats and flour will be specially noted.

THREE MONTHS' ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

July 1 to Sept. 30.

Wheat,	qrs. 763,000	Malt,	qrs.	....	271,000
Barley,	,, 166,000	Tares,	,,	....	500
Oats,	,, 1,436,000	Lentils	,,	....	2,500
Beans	,, 16,000	Farmseeds	,,	....	41,000
Peas	,, 33,000	Flour,	brls.	....	1,200
Maize	,, 494,000	,,	sks.	....	1,934,000

The estimated requirements and supplies of breadstuffs work out about as follows :—

	Qrs.
A quarter's supply	1,540,000
,, wants	1,378,000
Surplus	162,000

London stocks, therefore, should show an increase of about 162,000 qrs. of breadstuffs. The actual increase revealed in the official returns issued on October 6 was 127,000 qrs. of wheat and 44,000 sacks of flour. If we reckon the flour as wheat we shall have 160,000 qrs. of breadstuffs actual increase. These figures witness to a fair average rate of food wants in London. The large receipt of oats has put 223,000 qrs. on to the stocks, but 166,000 qrs. of barley have not proved sufficient, and 35,000 qrs. in granary on July 1 have gone into use. The London stocks a.e as follows :

OCTOBER 1, 1900.

Wheat, qrs.	260,217	Malt, qrs.	1,741
Barley ,,	55,246	Tares ,,	330
Oats ,,	461,500	Rye ,,	686
Beans ,,	11,076	Linseed ,,	1,975
Peas ,,	6,821	Rapeseed,,	5,663
Maize ,,	66,754	Flour, sacks	408,000

The holdings of grain in the twelve chief ports are as follows: Wheat, 1,452,000 qrs.; flour, 814,000 sacks; maize, 418,000 qrs.; barley, 373,000 qrs.; oats, 635,000 qrs.; beans, 36,150 qrs., and peas 14,150 qrs. A few returns are sent up from the ports as "estimates, official figures not yet out," but it is not likely that the full particulars will introduce any material change.

As compared with a year ago our holdings of foreign oats are largely increased, those of foreign barley are reduced, and those of maize and of peas are much reduced. The ultimate figures for October 1, 1900, for wheat, flour, and beans are likely to coincide very closely with those for October 1, 1899.

The following quantities of grain are now on passage to the United Kingdom :—Wheat 1,900,000 qrs., flour 412,000 sacks, barley 600,000 qrs., maize 726,000 qrs., beans 11,000 qrs., peas 23,000 qrs., linseed 60,000 qrs., rapeseed 5,000 qrs., and cotton-seed 7,450 tons. The week's imports into the United Kingdom were as follows :—

Foreign wheat	460,000 qrs.
,, flour	202,000 qrs.
Total	662,000 qrs.
English wheat sales	164,000 qrs.
Total supply	826,000 qrs.
Total wants	567,000
Surplus	159,000 qrs.
Stocks, October 1, 1900	2,378,000
Stocks, October 8, 1900	2,537,000 qrs.

The imports of spring corn were :—

Maize	205,380 qrs.
Barley	165,000 qrs.
Oats	118,136 qrs.
Beans	4,236 qrs.
Peas	4,283 qrs.
Linseed	13,575 qrs.
Rye	12,000 cwt.

The market for maize has receded 6d. per flat corn, but round and yellow, though weakened in position by this retrogression, are seldom parted with for less than September's closing values.

Barley has receded 3d. per qr. for both Persian and Russian, while oats are depressed at nearly all markets. The trade in oilseeds continues to be marked by extremely high rates, which, however, may be modified by the new Egyptian cottonseed crop now being secured.

THE BALTIC.

Business opened at the Great Eastern Hotel on Monday last, and the temporary location was not found inconvenient. The week's trade has been quiet, and the following sales show a disposition to take a little less money for nearly all cargoes. Wheat; Argentine, 31s.; Hard Duluth, 32s. 9d.; Hard Winter, 30s.; Californian, 32s. 3d.; Victorian, 32s. 3d.; Azoff, 33s.; Roumanian, 31s.; Bulgarian, 30s.; Odessa Glinka, 31s.; No. 1 Northern, 32s. 6d., and fine Manitoba, 32s. 9d. Maize: American, 20s.; and Argentine, 21s. 3d. Barley: Azoff, 19s.; and Persian, 16s. 9d. Oats: Petersburg, 13s., and Canadian White, 15s. 3d. Linseed; Argentine, 52s.; and Calcutta, 60s. per qr.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 4 wheat (1 Adelaide, 1 Rosario, and 2 from California)—total, 4.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been 260 wheat, 13 wheat and barley, 1 wheat and peas, 6 flour, 10 maize, 1 maize and oats, 24 barley, 18 beans, 7 locust beans, 1 linseed, 3 canary-seed, 2 fenugreek seed, 5 valonea—total, 351.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 241 wheat, 10 flour, 3 maize, 6 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 8 beans, 1 locust beans, 6 linseed, 5 canaryseed, and 7 valonea—total, 289.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

Better quality is to be noticed in the samples of new wheat and barley sent to London, and this makes those staples steady where others are against sellers. Some very good Kent wheat, weighing a full 63lbs., is on offer at 31s. 6d., and a few 64lb. samples from both Kent and Berkshire are to be met with at 32s. to 33s. The Norfolk samples weigh about 62lbs., and come at 30s. to 31s. per qr. Some chicken wheat, chiefly from Essex, is offered at 27s. per qr. The new barley includes some 37s. to 38s. per qr. lots, but 32s. to 34s. commands ninety per cent. at least of the offerings. The new oats are fairly cheap at 17s. 6d. to 19s. Foreign produce is 6d. lower for almost all sorts of wheat and barley, and again 3d. lower for light oats. The maize market for October delivery is firmer. Beans and peas are steady. Rye is cheaper on the week. Oilseeds are dear, 60s. paid for good linseed.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

OCT. 8th, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN

		s. s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	30/6 — 33
(old)	,,	32 — 34
Red (new)	,,	29 — 31/6
(old)	,,	30 — 33
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	28 — 36
Brewing	,,	24 — 28
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22 — 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 40
Scotch	,,	36 — 38
Brown	,,	29 — 32
OATS, English (new)	,,	17/6 — 19
(old)	,,	19 — 23
Scotch	,,	21 — 23
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17 — 19
RYE, British (new)	(per 480 lb.)	27 — 27/6
(old)	,,	26 — 26/6
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	43 — 45
,, Winter	,,	30 — 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72 — 84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68 — 76
,, Dun	,,	32 — 34
,, Maple (new)	,,	38 — 39
,, (old)	,,	39 — 41

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

WHEAT, per 496lb.	s. s.	BEANS (*continued*).	
Finest Duluth	33/6 — 34/6	Konigsberg	28 — 29
American Spring	33 — 33/6	Barbary	27 — 28
Hard Manitoba	33 — 33/6	Mexican	28 — 30
Red Winter	31/6 — 32/6	LOCUST BEANS, per ton :	
Kansas	31/6 — 32/6	Cyprian	106 — 112
Californian	31/6 — 32/6	PEAS, per 504 lb. :	
Walla Walla	30/6 — 31/6	Canadian, White	30 — 31
Australian	30/6 — 31/6	Indian, White	28 — 30
New Zealand	29/6 — 31/6	,, Green	25 — 27
Argentine	28/6 — 31/6	Barbary	26 — 28
Danzig	33/6 — 34/6	Australian, White	40 — 41
Saxonka	32/6 — 33/6	,, Dun	26 — 27
Azima	31/6 — 32/6	LENTILS, per 504 lb. :	
Ghirka	30/6 — 31/6	Egyptian	31 — 33
Persian	29/6 — 30/6	Indian	36 — 38
MAIZE, per 480lb. :		DARI, per 480 lb. :	
Cinquantina	27 — 29	Syrian	25 — 26
Roumanian	24 — 25	Smyrna	26 — 27
Russian	24 — 26	RYE, per 480 lb. :	
Caucasian	23 — 24	Russian	24 — 25
Argentine	22 — 23	BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb. :	
American	20/9 — 21	French	29 — 30
OATS :		Russian	27 — 28
New Zealand (384lb.)	22 — 26	BARLEY :	
Canadian (320lb.)	16 — 17	Californian (448 lb.)	26 — 29
American (320lb.)		Danubian (400 lb.)	22 — 28
,, White	16 — 17	Black Sea (400 lb.)	21 — 24
,, Mixed	15 — 16	Azoff (400 lb.)	21 — 22
Revel (320lb.)	16 — 17	Syrian (400 lb.)	25 — 22
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16 — 17	Persian (400 lb.)	17/9 — 18
,, (304lb.)	13/6 — 14	American (400 lb.)	20 — 21
Libau, white (304lb.)	12/9 — 13	MALT, per 336 lb. :	
,, black ,,	14/6 — 15	Californian	34 — 37
White Sea (304 lb.)	13/6 — 14	Smyrna	33 — 36
BEANS, per 480lb. :			
Egyptian	32 — 33		
Smyrna	29 — 30		

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s. s.	RAPESEED. per 416lb.	s. s.
English	60 to 62	English	56 to 60
Dutch	59 to 61	Dutch	54 to 56
Argentine	56 to 58	French	47 to 48
Canadian	59 to 61	Roumanian	44 to 46
Russian	55 to 57	Cawnpore	46 to 47
Calcutta	58 to 60	Calcutta	43 to 44
SESAME. per 424lb.		Guzerat	50 to 51
Bombay	50 to 52	Ferozepore	44 to 45
Kurrachee	53 to 54	Ravison	30 to 32
COTTON SEED. per ton.		POPPYSEED. per 377lb.	
Egyptian	155 to 160	Indian	47 to 49

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE MARKET CLOSED DULL, AND IN BUYERS' FAVOUR.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Oct. 8th.

The market for English and American flour was adversely affected by the warm weather, and 6d. decline was conceded in order to effect sales of town whites, town households, and of all the American brands. Country flour was also fully 6d. cheaper. The best grades of American made 26s. 3d. for Pillsbury's, 28s. for Star, and 26s. 6d. for Morrison's, while good second grades came at 21s. for Iron Duke, 20s. 6d. for Manhattan, 21s. for Improved Nicollet, and 20s. 6d. for Gilt Edge. Kansas flour made 25s. for Magnate, Dazzle, and Syndicate patents, and 24s. for Sunbean. Finest Hungarian flour, such as Six Anchors, made 31s. Australian flour at 23s. was in fair request, and the supply being quite small, trade was stronger than for other sorts of flour. Oregon flour favoured the buyer.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)		— 30
Town Whites	,,		— 28
,, Households	,,		— 25
No. 2	,,		— 23

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24	— 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23	— 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	21	— 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	20	— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	26	—26/6
,, Second Patents	,,	24	—24/6
,, First Bakers'	,,	21	—21/6
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Milwaukee Patents	,,	25	—26/6
,, Bakers'	,,	21	— 23
Kansas Patents	,,	24	— 25
Cascadia	,,	24	—24/6
Canadian	,,	24	—24/6
Australian	,,	23	—23/6
Hungarian	,,	29	— 32
French	,,	21	— 24

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	192	—194
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	109	—111
Bran, London Broad	,,	99	—104
,, ,, Fine	,,	78	— 84
,, Country Flake	,,	108	—110
,, ,, Broad	,,	96	— 98
Pollard	,,	92	— 94
Fine Middlings	,,	118	—122
Coarse Middlings	,,	102	—108
Oat Meal	,,	220	—280
Oat Flour	,,	340	—360
Maize Flour	,,	132	—134
Maize Meal	,,	114	—124
Maize Cones	,,	144	—150
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	106	—110
Pea Meal	,,	128	—158
Bean Meal	,,	152	—172
Rice Meal	,,	91	— 95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—	Oct. s d.	Dec. s. d.	March. s. d.
Oct. 1 noon	6 9	6 10	7 0
4 p.m.	6 10	6 11	7 1
Oct. 2 noon	6 10	6 11	7 1
4 p.m.	6 10	6 11	7 1
Oct. 3 noon	6 10	6 11	7 1
4 p.m.	6 10	6 11	7 1
Oct. 4 noon	6 10	6 11	7 1
4 p.m.	6 10	6 11	7 1
Oct. 5 noon	6 10	6 11	7 1
4 p.m.	6 10	6 11	7 1
Oct. 6 noon	6 10	6 11	7 1
To-day noon	6 9	6 10	7 0

The maize market for futures shows 4s. 3d. per cental obtained for November delivery, but 3s. 10d. taken for next June. The American new crop will cheapen prices after February.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

The Term market is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate-street, ground floor.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that cloverseeds generally exhibit a quiet but steady tone. High prices are realised for trefoil. There is no change in either alsyke or white cloverseed. Perennial ryegrasses are easier; meantime, imported Italian keeps strong. Timothy is dear this season. Some arrivals are noted of New Zealand cocksfoot, which is obtainable on moderate terms. Mustard and rapeseed are in short supply and favour sellers. The business passing in winter tares and seed rye is limited; and as regards birdseeds there is no fresh feature. Some choice New Zealand wrinkled seed peas, just landed, are offering at tempting rates; whilst for blue peas and haricot beans the tendency continues upwards.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour.—A quiet trade at last week's prices.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

The market for milling offals remains steady without change from last week, except that buyers of middlings and pollard are reserved, and demand is slow, but sellers ask last week's price. Bran sells at former quotations. RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Business in wheat has again been of a very limited character, at prices generally unaltered on the week. Maize, about 3d. dearer. Barley unchanged. American oats 3d. higher, other sorts unaltered.—W. P. WOOD AND CO., Mark Lane.

We have only a moderate attendance at to-day's market, and little is doing in seeds. Red clover, supported by foreign advices, continues strong. Very few samples of new English have yet appeared. New American shows very poor quality. White Clover, Alsike, and Trefoil are quiet, but firm. In grasses there is little passing. Bird seeds are inactive. Blue peas continue strong. Rapeseed and mustard seed tend upwards.—JOHN PICKARD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Wheat with liberal arrivals meets a poor demand, and prices are rather easier. Flour a slow trade at last week's prices. Maize 3d. dearer for flat, round unchanged. Barley is unchanged except Persian, which is 3d. and 6d. per qr. lower. Oats a large supply, and prices are supported.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Offals: The demand for bran has been only moderate. No alteration in values, with less disposition to speculate than during last month. Pollard in fair request at late rates. Weather showery.—GREENHILL BROS., Belfast, October 6.

Flour.—Whilst values are unchanged, business is checked by the prices asked for shipment. Grain.—Indian corn has maintained last week's prices, although the scarcity has been slightly relieved by arrivals. Oats remain particularly dull. Canadian peas and grinding beans are quiet, the former 1½d. to 3d. cheaper to arrive. Mill stuffs.—The demand for bran is better at the reduced quotation; thirds firm. — MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, October 6.

Wheat quiet, small business. Kansas wheat ½d. per cental lower; other sorts unchanged. Flour firm, with a rather better demand for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers' grade. Maize has a good consumptive demand for mixed and yellow American, and firmly held at 1d. to 1½d. per cental over last Tuesday. European and Plate have a steady trade and occasionally ½d. lower. Barley has a fair inquiry for malting at unchanged prices. Feeding steady trade at quotations. Beans are slow and favour buyers at last market day's figures. Peas have an improved inquiry at ½d. per cental decline for Canadians, other sorts unchanged. Oats firm, but quiet at last market day's full prices for English. Foreign has a better inquiry at unchanged prices. Oatmeal steady, with only a moderate business at about late rates. Oilcake firm with a fairly good demand; prices unaltered. —ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, October 6.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are 3d. lower both for those off coast and for those on passage. Futures are fairly steady. Maize sells well at last week's decline, but an attempt to recover ground then lost stops the sale. Barley and oats are dull. Oilseeds are firm for near dates, but decidedly cheaper for dates in 1901.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Oregon, 32s, arrived; Californian, 32s 6d, just shipped; Walla Walla, 30s 3d, arrived; Walla Walla, 31s, prompt shipment; best Duluth, 33s, prompt shipment; No. 1 Northern, 32s 6d, November shipment; No. 2 Red Winter, 31s, November shipment; No. 2, Hard Winter, 30s, November shipment.

MAIZE.—Roumanian, 20s 6d, May shipment; Galatz, 22s 3d, November shipment; Argentine, 21s 3d, on passage; American, 20s, on passage.

BARLEY.—Persian, 17s, on passage; Odessa, 19s 6d, on passage.

OATS.—White Libau, 12s 9d, arrived; American mixed, 14s, on passage.

BEANS.—Saida, 30s 6d, October shipment; Smyrna, 27s 6d, October shipment.

LINSEED.—Libau, 53s, November shipment; Argentine, 51s 6d, December shipment.

RAPESEED.—Brown Calcutta, 44s 6d, November shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £7 1s 3d, December shipment.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 3,525 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 7,810 bales bacon. The continued scarcity of bacon has caused a further advance in prices, and on Friday Irish, Danish, and Canadian were all 4s., 5s. dearer. The market was very strong, and all goods arriving sold. Irish, 60s, 67s, to 69s; Danish, 60s, 67s, to 69s; Canadian, 60s to 64s. There was a steadier feeling in the butter market, and prices showed a slight improvement generally, most noticeable in Danish at 112s to 114s; Irish, 92s to 106s; Colonial, 102s to 106s; Canadian, 98s to 102s. Lard, a hardening market at slightly improved prices. Irish, 40s to 54s; American pails, 41s to 42s.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Oct. 8th, 1900.

	British.	Total.	Oct. 9th, 1899.
Beasts	1,429	1,429	1,399
Sheep and lambs	6,110	6,110	7,600
Calves	5	5	—
Pigs	110	110	—
Milch cows	55	55	60

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior. s. d.	Second. s. d.	First. s. d.
Beasts	3 4 —	4 0 —	4 10
Sheep	3 2 —	5 0 —	5 10
Lambs	5 4 ..	5 8 ..	6 4
Pigs	3 2 ..	4 0 ..	4 8

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 0; Eastern Counties, 30; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,184; Devon, 30; Ireland, 170.

In the beast market there was a fair average supply amongst which were a few from Scotland, the first this season. Trade was decidedly firmer, with an upward tendency in value for fat butchering cows and bulls. There was more demand by country buyers, rates for the latter being higher. No Irish stores on the market.

The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

		To-day.			Oct. 9, 1899.
Devons	4s	7d to 4s 9d	..	—	to —
Herefords	4s	8d to 4s 10d	..	4s 0d	to 4s 8d
Runts	4s	7d to 4s 9d	..	4s 5d	to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s	0d to 4s 4d	..	3s 10d	to 4s 2d
Irish	4s	2d to 4s 4d	..	4s 0d	to 4s 2d
Fat cows	3s	8d to 3s 10d	..	3s 4d	to 3s 6d

In the sheep market there was an increase of 350 head compared with Monday last. For wethers trade was slow, but late rates were obtained. Ewes being in less demand were difficult to dispose of even at a reduction of 2d per 8lb. The supply included 180 Scotch, 1,950 Irish, and 521 from the Eastern Counties. Best quality lambs met with a ready sale at late rates.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:

	To-day.			Oct. 9th, 1899.
7½ to 8-stone Downs	5s 8d	to 5s 10d	.. 5s	6d to 5s 8d
9-stone ditto	5s 6d	to 5s 8d	.. 5s	4d to 5s 6d
10-stone half-breds	5s 4d	to 5s 6d	.. 5s	2d to 5s 4d
12-stone Lincoln	4s 10d	to 5s 0d	.. 4s	10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	5s 0d	to 5s 2d	.. 4s	10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Down ewes	3s 10d	to 4s 0d	.. 4s	0d to 4s 2d
11-stone half-bred ditto	3s 4d	to 3s 6d	.. —	to —
5-stone Down lambs	6s 2d	to 6s 4d	.. —	to —
6-stone half-bred ditto	5s 8d	to 5s 10d	.. —	to —

Calf trade nominal.

Trade for pigs was firm, with a larger supply; best small breeds were quoted at 4s 8d per 8lb.

London Central, Monday.—Moderate supplies, trade slow. Beef: Carcases, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; hindquarters, 4s to 4s 4d; roastings, 5s to 5s 4d. Sheep: Ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s 4d to 4s 8d: wether, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Pigs, large, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 1,104, sheep and lambs 1,429, pigs 358. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s 6d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d; pork, 6s to 6s 9d. sows 5s 6d to 6s. Fat and store cattle good trade. Fat and store sheep fair. Fat pigs good demand stores fair. Milch cows fair, prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,454. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 676, and consisted of 1,198 from the United States and 256 from Canada, most of the latter consisting of ranchers. Trade for the former was of a slightly firmer and steadier nature, both in regard to tone and value, but for ranche cattle extremely dull and dragging at less money by fully 2d. per 8lbs. The following were the quotations per 8lbs, offal given in: 85 to 88 stone States, 4s 1d to 4s 2d; second quality ditto, 3s 10d; best Canadians, 3s 8d; Ranche ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 6d. No sheep on the market. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 1,819, 4s 2d to 4s 3d per 8lb, to dress from 7.0 to 760lb; sheep, 3,214, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8lb, to dress about 72lb.

Liverpool, Monday.—Demand fair for the best quality of cattle at about last week's rates; middling a shade lower. Sheep.—Trade slow, and, excepting prime quality, prices lower all round. Prices: Beef, 6½d to 4¼d per lb; mutton, 8d to 5½d per lb. At market: 1,781 cattle and 8,466 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Market very steady, but not much trade. Cotton cake firm. Decorticated cake tending dearer. Meal 2s 6d dearer. Linseed still advancing.

English linseed cake	£8 10 0	to	—	ex mill
American Western linseed cake	7 17 6	to	8 0 0	ex quay
Russian oil cake	8 0 0	to	8 5 0	ex quay
Decorticated cotton cake	7 0 0	to	7 2 6	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6 15 0	to	—	ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	5 5 0	to	5 7 6	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	5 2 6		—	ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4 10 0			on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4 15 0		—	ex warehouse
Russian linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2 17 6	to	—	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	3 0 0	to	3 2 0	ex warehouse.

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: Growers are still maintaining their firm attitude, consequently the business is limited to those hops which the growers are willing to offer. Prices must be quoted firm.

CORK BUTTER.

	ORDINARY. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	MILD CURED FIRKINS. Superfine.	Fine.	Mild	FIRKINS IN MARKET.
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	91	86	79	—	92	88	—	115
Tuesday ..	91	83	78	—	91	86	—	97
Wednesday ..	91	84	77	75	92	86	—	77
Thursday ..	91	85	77	75	92	86	—	115
Friday ..	91	84	79	75	92	86	81	83
Saturday ..	91	87	81	75	97	87	86	

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The market for fat beasts at Islington not only showed no improvement, but was of a decidedly slower nature, with a downward tendency in value, though the very best Herefords, Runts, and Devons maintained last week's quotations. The cause of the downward slide in second quality was the larger number forwarded for sale. On both market days sales of fat cows and butchering bulls were more forced, owing to a slacker demand, and this naturally meant the easing of prices. The few rough cattle were difficult to dispose of, owing to so many being seized of late owing to tuberculosis. Though the number on sale at Deptford showed a decrease of 415 as compared with last week, the arrivals were heavier, as on Saturday 1,163 were withheld. Trade for good beasts was fairly steady, both in regard to tone and value, but plain ditto, consisting of Canadian ranche cattle, could not be cleared. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets was 5,852, consisting of 1,740 British (increase 200) and 4,112 foreign, these latter comprising 2,999 from the United States and 1,113 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—90-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d.; 85 to 90 stone Runts, 4s. 9d.; 80-stone Devons, 4s. 9d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 4d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90-stone Irish (Dublins), 4s. 4d.; Waterfords, 4s. 2d.; 90-stone fat cows, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d.; 90-stone States oxen, 4s. to 4s. 1d.; 85-stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; ranchers, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. With respect to the sheep trade, which was entirely confined to the Islington Market, it was void of life, with the choicest Down and halfbreds of neat, handy rates alone maintaining late rates, these clearing early. For ewes there was less demand, rates favouring the buyers. There was again a fair inquiry for lambs (the best only) at last week's improved rates. Best pens of sheep made per 8lbs. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 9-stone ditto, 5s. 8d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 2d.; 12-stone half-breds, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 3s. 10d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d.; 6-stone halfbred ditto, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. Calves were short in number (45), and met a steady trade, the best making 4s. 8d. per 8lbs. Pig trade slow; best small breeds were quoted at from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.

Trade in the West.

The rain has worked wonders both with the pastures and the root crops, and the result has been a corresponding improvement in the trade. Flockmasters at once took advantage of the improved outlook to ask higher rates for their draft stocks, which have been rather more than maintained since Prindlbury and Bridport fairs, whilst sales of barreners have shown a corresponding improvement, as also have all classes of dairy beasts, the best of which are now once more bringing £20 to £22 each, and barreners from £24 to £32 per pair, or a rise of 10s. to 15s. per bullock. Young stock are likewise commanding a much readier sale. But fat bullocks or sheep have not improved in a corresponding ratio; at some markets beef has favoured buyers a litt'e, as has also mutton, which all round may be written ½d. per lb. lower; but veal and pork, on the contrary, are rather the other way.

Trade in Ireland.

Inquiry for good bullocks and heifers opened fairly active, and last day's top rates were fully maintained, some excellent Polled Angus making rather more money. Second class and half-meated beasts sold rather draggingly, and rough sorts were very hard to move. Prices were for best ox and heifer beef from 56s. to 58s., and for a few lots 60s. per cwt.; second class, 48s. to 54s.; and coarser descriptions, from 40s. to 46s. per cwt. In the mutton department very little alteration was to be noted from the previous market in any class of sheep. Choice hoggets for the London trade met with a rather more animated inquiry, and late rates were easier realised. Aged wethers and heavy ewes for home consumption were scarce and full rates maintained. The number of sheep and lambs in market was 7,216, or 733 less than previous Thursday. Prime wethers from 6¼d. to 6¾d. per lb.; ewe, 4½d. to 5¼d.; and inferior, from 4d. per lb. A clearance was not effected. Prime veal cheaper at from 6½d. to 7½d. per lb., and inferior neglected and only bringing from 4d. per lb. up. A moderate market of dairy cattle. Prime springers and newly-calved cows met with a good sale at late rates, but second class and rough cows irregular. Best animals were worth from £17 to £21, and other sorts from £9 up. A limited supply of pigs, and with a full attendance of cross-Channel buyers prices improved fully 1s. per cwt. on the week. Choice lightweight pigs, from 44s. to 46s. per cwt., and coarse bacon pigs from 34s. to 40s. per cwt.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies offered, and best beef met slightly improved demand; other qualities ruled slow. Arrivals of beef included 40 tons Scotch, 500 Liverpool sides, 1,450 hindquarters, and 600 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 10d to 4s; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 4d to 4s; forequarters, best, 2s 6d to 2s 8d, seconds, 2s 2d to 2s 6d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8d to 5s; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Good supplies offered, but trade very slow. Arrivals of beef included 80 tons Scotch, 450 Liverpool sides, 3,700 hindquarters, and 2,300 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 4s; seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; seconds, 2s 4d to 2s 6d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 4d; ewes, 2s 10d to 3s 2d; Canterbury, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; Wellington, 2s 5d to 2s 7d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 2d to 2s 3d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s; and Irish, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Moderate number of beasts on offer; quite demand, fat bulls and rough cattle again forming the chief proportion. Sheep pens were only filled to a moderate extent, but the inquiry for both wethers and ewes was of a slow character, at about late prices; 7½st to 8st down wethers quoted 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9st ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10st down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 11st half-bred ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 8d. Calves in moderate supply sold steadily, the best on offer making 5s 6d to 5s 8d per lb, to link the offal. Total supplies: 40 beasts, 1,490 sheep, 35 calves, 140 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Good supply of beef, with slow trade; prime makes up to 11s 6d, and in some cases 12s; medium, 9s 6d to 10s 6d; cows, 7s 6d to 8s per score. Mutton remains about the same. Pork, roasters, 9s 6d to 11s; medium hogs, 8s to 9s 6d; large hogs, 8s to 9s.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a very large attendance of buyers to meet a supply consisting of 40 fat beasts, 77 calves, 534 fat sheep and lambs, 390 pigs, and 124 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £14 to £22; fat calves, 70s to 97s 6d; small, 18s to 50s; fat wethers, 42s to 55s 6d; fat ewes, 29s to 40s; lambs, 31s to 51s; fat hogs, 60s to 88s; fat porkers, 42s to 58s; small, 26s to 34s; store pigs, 11s to 24s; dairy cows, £8 10s to £20. The show of fat beasts was mostly of a second rate quality, for which there was a dull inquiry. The few choice lots met a ready sale at late rates. A good show of fat sheep and fat lambs met a brisk trade, with a clearance at full prices. Store sheep and lambs met a ready sale, and wanted. Prime quality Hants Down wethers and young ewes made 48s, 53s, 56s, 48s 6d, 55s 6d, 47s, 48s 6d, 52s, 47s, 55s 6d, 51s, 46s, 42s, 40s, 47s, 45s; 9 months old ditto, 43s, 44s 6d, 46s, 46s 6d, 47s 6d, 48s, 51s, 44s, 41s, 40s 6d; Southdown lambs, 31s; rams, 54s, 38s, 46s, 47s, 40s, 42s, 45s 6d; old ewes, 35s 6d, 35s, 36s, 37s, 40s, 38s, 29s; 3 months old sucking lambs, 35s, 17s 6d, 24s; store lambs, 31s 6d. With a large entry of dairy cattle on offer, for the best descriptions there was a ready sale. Inferior sorts are difficult to dispose of. Store cattle are a dull trade. Fat calves met a moderate trade at less money. Fat hogs and porkers met a brisk trade, with a clearance at late rates. Store pigs also sold well. Ruling values: Best quality Devon steers, 7d to 7¼d per lb; ditto Shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6¾d; bulls, cows, and inferior ditto, 5d to 5½d; best quality sheep, 8¼d to 8¾d; second ditto, 7¾d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior ditto, 6d to 6½d; three months old sucking lambs, 8¾d to 9d; fat calves, 6d to 8½d; fat hogs up to 8s 6d; and porkers, 11s per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—Best beef, 7s 9d to 8s; cow beef, 6s 3d to 7s per stone; useful steers, £14 10s to £16 10s; yearlings, £4 to £8; in-calvers, £19 to £22; heifers, £15 10s; calves, 55s to 60s; store sheep, 42s to 46s.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under	9s 0d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in.	8s 6d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	7s 9d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 857; sheep, 900; pigs, 412; horses, 14. Beef, 6s to 8s per stone; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 8d; pork, 6s 3d to 7s 3d. A smaller show store beasts, and trade slow. Fat beasts, very little alteration in the trade. Fat sheep a fair trade all round at late rates. Stores, a fair show of lambs, and several lots sold. Fat pigs, a good brisk trade at more money. Store trade not so good as last week. Hay, straw, and roots, short supplies.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Large supply of sheep, slow trade. Lambs, 13s up to 16s; better class animals, 17s to 22s. Some half-bred lambs, strong in condition, averaged 27s 6d. Old sheep sold at declining prices owing to the shortness of keep. Good useful ewes ranged from 26s to 28s; younger animals up to 32s; ewe tegs, 27s 6d to 35s 6d; wether tegs, 31s to 33s 6d; yearling bullocks found purchasers at from £6 12s 6d to £8, and dairy cows at from £12 to £17 per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—About 250 Irish store cattle offered. The bulk were fine wintering heifers. Small attendance, and fair trade, at £6 to £8 10s for small beasts, and up to £15 10s for the best specimens; bullocks to £11 10s. Young pigs a small show and slow sale, at 22s to 28s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a large supply of store sheep, and on the whole a good selling trade was experienced at about late rates. Fat mutton and beef met a fair demand at unchanged prices.

Derby, Tuesday.—Fair attendance of buyers, and an average supply. Prices not altered, but firm all round. Beef, 5½d to 6¼d; mutton, 7d to 8d per lb.

Doncaster, Tuesday.—A moderate supply of cattle and sheep, and average trade. Beef, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per stone; mutton, 5½d to 8d per lb.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Large supply of beef, much in excess of demand; dragging trade. Milch beasts sold from £6 to £19 10s; fat heifers, £16 10s to £21 each; barreners, £9 to £13; fat cows, £11 to £14; steers, £16 10s to £21; cows and calves, £9 to £13; sheep firmer at late rates. Down ewes, 38s to 45s; wethers 43s to 51s; crossbred lambs, 20s to 33s.

Dublin, Thursday.—A fair demand for all classes of cattle with some irregularity in prices. Choice finished beef was perhaps slightly dearer, but rougher sorts were more difficult to clear. Sheep unaltered in value, and a fair clearance effected. Cattle (best), 30s to 33s per cwt; exceptional, 34s 6d per cwt; rough and unfinished descriptions, 27s to 29s per cwt. Mutton, 5½d to 7d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Large supplies of beef met a good demand, but scarcely made the top prices of late market. Horned bullocks to £18; polled bullocks, to £21; Galloway bullocks, to £17; Ayrshire bullocks, to £19; Galloway heifers, to £13; Ayrshire cows, to £15; calving heifers, to £13.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Trade fair, and prices for best qualities well sustained. Top Scotch cattle, 68s to 71s per cwt; secondary, 65s; Irish, 63s to 65s; best States, 60s; Canadians, 58s per cwt. Sheep in good demand, especially prime ewes; quotations, 8¼d to 8½d; secondary, 7½d to 8d per lb. Dead meat steady.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 496, calves 87, sheep and lambs 3,337, pigs (fat and sows) 39, sucking pigs 74, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 200, pigs (stores, more than ten) 10, horses 6. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6¾d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5¾d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 9¼d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs Robert Bond and Sons report a short supply of fat cattle, which met a very sharp trade at higher prices, neat yard-fed animals making up to £22, and grass cattle to £21 15s. Fat sheep were well represented, and realised last week's prices, lambs making up to 51s and 52s 6d. Grazing sheep sold without alteration in value; an excellent lot of about six score first-class lambs (in nice condition) averaged 32s 6d. Various lots of ewes and young lambs changed hands freely. A large entry of weaning calves, and a brisk trade for all the best. Fat calves made from £3 to £4 17s 6d. The number of fat and store swine on offer was not so large; the demand was strong, and recent high quotations were well maintained. This being the second autumn sale of grazing cattle, 229 steers and heifers were penned, there were more buyers present, and a demand prevailed. A consignment of well-bred cattle were disposed of at the following prices:—Ten shorthorn Scots, £9 2s 6d; eleven north country heifers, £7 10s; twelve home-bred steers, eighteen months old, made £10 5s to £9 15s; forward shorthorn steers; twenty months old, £11 7s 6d; fifteen Cumberlnd yearlings, £7 5s; twenty very choice north country shorthorn steers, sixteeen months old, made from £10 2s 6d to £8 15s; twelve good roan north country heifers made £9 and £8 17s 6d; red poll heifers, £7 17s 6d; ten yearlings, £6 12s; polled steers, £7 10s; twenty home-bred calves from £4 15s to £5 17s 6d. A large entry of cows, a shorthorn realised £22; polled cows, £16 10s. Numbers at sale:—Beasts 1,008, sheep 1,770, pigs 1,930, horses 20, calves 51.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle and sheep was slightly below last week, the former numbering 601, against 607, and the latter 1,930, compared with 1,970. Dealers were fairly well represented, but buyers, as had been the case for the past few weeks, were not so numerous. There was a good entry of cattle, which comprised a choice assortment of home-district stock, together with a very large and useful consignment of Irish cattle. Business generally ruled quiet for beef, only the best quality meeting with a ready sale, coarse and inferior meeting with a dragging and unsatisfactory sale. The choicest heifers and bullocks made from 6¼d to 6½d per lb., the higher quotation being the exception. Good useful beef made 6d., and coarse and inferior from 5d per lb. Although sheep were slightly below the aggregate of last week, the supply was more than equal to the demand. A moderate selling trade was experienced for the best class of sheep, but the market on the whole was dull and slow, and the rougher kinds of sheep were altogether neglected. Nice small shearlings made 8d to 8½d; large and heavy sheep 7d to 7¼d, ewes and tups 5d to 6d per lb. Rather fewer calves were offered, best veal animals making 7d to 7½d per lb. Dairy cattle were a small entry, a moderate trade being experienced, the best milkers maintaining recent prices, which ranged from £15 to £20 10s. Numbers at market—Cattle 601; sheep 1,930; calves 10.

Leicester, Saturday.—Heavy supplies of stock in good condition. Trade sluggish at easier rates. Milch cows sold freely at £16 to £24 per head; bullocks £12 to £16. Sheep large supply, and trade slow at easier prices.

Lincoln, Tuesday.—There was a smaller show of beasts, and a better trade. Prime beef, 7s 6d to 8s; lower qualities, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per stone. The supply of sheep was fair and trade steady. Ewe mutton, 5½d to 6½d; wether ditto, 8d to 8½d; lamb, 8d to 8½d per lb.

Lincoln, Friday.—Trade not very brisk. Milch beasts, £17 to £21; store bullocks, £14 to £17; two-year-olds, £8 to £12; and young stock, £5 to £8. Good number of lambs; best made 35s to 36s each; and other sorts, 28s to 32s.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Cattle, sheep, and lambs in favour of buyers. Numbers:—Cattle, 2,292; sheep and lambs, 7,157; pigs, 981; calves, 49. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s to 8s; pork, 5s to 9s 6d per stone; mutton, 5d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8½d; veal, 5d to 9d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—The show of store cattle here to-day was large; prices showed scarcely any change, but sales proceeded slowly. Fat beasts made about former terms, viz., 7s 6d to 7s 9d and 8s per 14lb. The supply of store sheep and lambs was about an average; lambs made 28s to 36s per head, and breeding ewes 35s to 58s per head. Fat sheep brought 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb. Keep prospects are pretty good in Norfolk.

Romford, Wednesday.—A large supply of fat beasts, and trade very slow. Best animals made 4s 4d to 4s 6d, and middlings 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves in short supply, and trade about the same, at 4s 8d to 5s per stone. Sheep in short supply, and trade a little better. Best sheep made 5s 6d to 5s 8d, and middlings, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Only a slow demand for the few store beasts offered. A little more demand in the pig trade. An average supply. Small porkers made 4s to 4s 4d, and large hogs 3s 8d to 3s 10d per stone.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was about the same as last week. Trade was rather better, but there was no improvement in the prices obtained. There was a decrease of about 1,000 in the number of sheep and lambs on offer. Choice quality of both met with an improved demand at late rates, but rough and inferior changed hands slowly. The calf trade was quiet, last market day's prices being obtained. Quotations:—Cattle, 5d to 6¼d; sheep, 6d to 8¼d; lambs, 7d to 8¼d; calves, 5¼d to 7¾d per lb. At market—Cattle, 2,369; sheep and lambs, 8,367; calves, 117; pigs, 108.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Only a very small show of milch beasts, but a good demand for the best lots, which made from £15 to £23, others £16 to £19.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Cows with calves, pigs and calves a better trade. Beef and mutton in fair demand at late prices. Quotations:—Beef, 6¼d to 7¼d; mutton, 6¾d to 8¼d; and veal, 7¼d to 8¼d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s to 10s; and bacons, 8s to 9s per score. Cows, with calves, up to £23 12s 6d. Hay, up to £3 10s; and straw, up to £2 5s per ton. Numbers offered:—87 rams, 387 cattle, 46 cows with calves, 4,165 sheep and lambs, 83 calves, 48 fat, 110 porket, and 264 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—There was to-day a good trade for beef at 7s 6d to 8s per stone; cow beef, 7s. Stores sold fairly well, and cows and heifers were in demand at good prices. There was an improved trade for mutton, which made 7¾d to 8d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 195 cattle, 535 sheep, 100 lambs, and 299 pigs. Fair supply of best cattle, but customers were few, and trade slow, at 7s 6d to 8s 3d; rougher sorts, 6s 6d to 7s 3d per stone. Young sheep and lambs, 8¼d; ewes, 6d; tups, 5d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Moderate supply, small attendance, and quiet trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a very full supply of stock at market, and trade for best qualities showed an improvement, but the half-meaty animals were a dragging trade. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 122 fat beasts, 278 fat sheep and store

lambs, 121 fat and weaning calves, and 160 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £16 to £19 5s; fat heifers, £14 to £19; fat wether sheep, 44s to 57s; fat ewes, 38s to 51s; store lambs, 25s to 37s; fat calves, £3 to £4; cow calves, 23s to 61s; bull calves, 17s to 52s; fat pigs, 9s per score. Porkets a good trade. Store pigs made 14s to 27s.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Smaller supplies of both beef and mutton, and a very slow demand for both, and prices ruled at about last week's rates. Best beef made 6½d per lb; other qualities, 5d to 6d; choice small sheep moved off slowly at 8d; inferior animals making 5d to 6d. Numbers:—Beasts, 1,454; sheep, 2,807.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply all round, very slow trade. Beef, 5d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8¼d per lb; lamb, 7½d to 8½d per lb; veal, 7d to 8d per lb. Milch cows a good supply; fair trade from £12 to £22. Bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 3d per score; porkets, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score; sows, 7s 6d per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Good supplies of fat and store cattle, and an increase in the number of pigs and sheep. Beef rather dearer. Mutton firm. Pigs unchanged. Best beef, 6½d to 7d; inferior, 5½d to 6½d; wether mutton, 7d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7d; and veal, 7d per lb. Pork pigs, 9s; and bacons, 9s 9d per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—The show of stock was good, including some excellent beasts and sheep. Best beef, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per stone; inferior, 6s 6d to 7s; best mutton, 7½d to 8½d per lb; secondary, 5d to 6½d per lb.

York, Thursday.—The offer of English and Irish store cattle was large, and trade was rather dull, with prices tending downwards, but prices asked were high and customers scarce. The chief trade was in three-year-old bullocks, which made up to £15; two-year-olds, £10 to £12; stirks, £6 to £8. Calving cows made a little more money. This was the largest sheep fair of the year. Nearly 50,000 were penned. Trade was flat, and prices had a tendency downwards to the extent of about 1s per head.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast entries amounted to 1,820, this being 640 less than on Wednesday last, and comprised 1,431 United States and 389 Canadian. Trade dull, and prices easier at 3s 10d to 4s 1d for the former, and 3s 6d to 3s 8d for the latter, with ranch 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 8lb to sink the offal. No sheep offered.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Leeds: Danish, 110s to 116s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 106s to 110s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 7d to 1s 9d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Settle: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Spalding: 1s per lb. Stone: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 3d per lb. Boston: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d per lb. Hereford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: (retail), 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 10d to 1s per lb. Knaresborough: (wholesale), 1s 6d to 1s 7d; (retail), 1s 7d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Louth: (wholesale), 1s 1d per lb. Market Drayton: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Northallerton: 1s 5d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s per lb. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Driffield: 1s per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d per lb. Masham: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d per lb. Crewe: 1s 2d and 1s 3d per lb. Derby: 1s 3d and 1s 4d per lb. Easingwold; 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Grimsby: Danish and Swedish, 112s to 115s per 112lb; Dutch, 100s to 103s; Canadian, 96s to 108s. Helmsley: 11d to 1s per lb. Leeds: Danish, 112s to 118s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 104s to 110s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls 1½lb, 1s 7d to 1s 9d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Nantwich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Otley: 1s 5d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Sandbach: 1s 3d per lb. Stockport: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per lb. Whitchurch: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 10 or 11 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 11s to 12s per 120; Irish, 9s 3d to 9s 9d; Danish, 8s to 9s 6d; Austrian blues, 6s 6d to 7s; ditto reds, 5s 9d to 6s 3d. Settle: 10 or 11 for 1s. Sheffield: 9 or 10 for 1s. Spalding: 12 for 1s. Stone, 11 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 9 or 10 for 1s. Boston: 11 or 12 for 1s. Colne: 2s per score. Goole: 11 for 1s. Hereford: 12 or 14 for 1s. Keighley: 9 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 12 or 13 for 1s. Knaresborough: 10 or 11 for 1s. Louth (wholesale): 14 for 1s. Market Drayton: 10 to 11 for 1s. Market Weighton: 12 for 1s. Northallerton: 11 for 1s. Stockton: 8 or 9 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 2s 3d to 2s 5d per score. Whitby: 10 for 1s. Worksop: 2s 4d to 2s 6d per score.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 8 or 9 for 1s. Brigg: 11 or 12 for 1s. Driffield: 14 or 15 for 1s. Kidderminster: 12 for 1s. Masham: 11 or 12 for 1s. Penistone: 10 for 1s. Ripon: 10 for 1s. Scarborough: 10 and 11 for 1s. Wetherby: 10 and 12 for 1s.

Friday.—Crewe: 9 and 10 for 1s. Derby: 9 and 10 for 1s. Easingwold: 12 or 13 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 6s 6d to 6s 10d per 120; Russian, 5s 10d to 6s 11d; Danish, 8s 6d to 9s 8d; Canadian, 6s 3d to 7s 3d. Helmsley: 11 or 12 for 1s. Knutsford: 9 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 11s to 12s per 120; Irish, 9s 3d to 9s 9d; Danish, 8s to 9s 6d; Austrian blues, 6s 6d to 7s; ditto reds, 5s 9d to 6s 3d. Leyburn: 10 or 11 for 1s. Lincoln: 11 or 12 for 1s. Otley: 9 or 10 for 1s. Sandbach: 9 and 10 for 1s. Stockport: 8 for 1s. Whitchurch: 9 and 10 for 1s.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Fair supply, trade steady. Prices:—Best clover, 85s to 100s; inferior ditto, 80s to 85s; specially picked hay, 92s 6d; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 90s; and straw, 25s to 36s per load.

Leeds, Tuesday.—A good demand prevails in the warehouses for hay and straw, prices being fully maintained. Quotations:—Meadow hay, 6½d to 7d; clover, 7d to 7½d; wheat straw, 5½d; oat straw, 5d; rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Bristol, Tuesday.—The prices quoted at to-day's market were:—Old clover hay, 75s to 80s per ton; old meadow hay, 70s to 75s; new hay, 60s to 70s; and straw, 45s to 50s.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—Hardly anything has passed this week, owing to cheaper offers of English stuff, and Continental holders asking extreme prices, which are from 2s 6d to 5s over those obtainable here. Straw is quiet, but steady. We quote: Timothy and clover mixture, 85s to 87s 6d; Dutch 1st cut clover, 92s 6d; ditto, 2nd cut clover, 92s 6d to 95s; good Dutch hay, 75s; common hay, 65s; large bale French wheat straw, 46s 6d; small ditto, ditto, 43s; ditto, 43s. To do business at least 2s 6d less would have to be taken for clovers. All these prices are per ton delivered by barge alongside.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10, Great Tower Street, E.C.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per packet of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb: Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; scoured good, 1s 7d to 1s 7½d; scoured average, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average to fair, 10½d to 11½d; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; South Australian, greasy average, 6½d to 7d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 4½d to 1s 5½d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; Cape, scoured superior, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; fleece average, 8d to 9d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d; Natal, scoured, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 7½d to 7¾d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 10d to 1s; New Zealand, fine, 9d to 10½d; ditto medium, 7¾d to 8d; ditto coarse, 6d to 8d.

Bradford, Thursday.—Market is quiet, buyers and sellers alike being disposed to await the result of the next London sales. Values are not quotably changed, but it may be said that whilst in strong wools prices are steady, there is a tendency to cheapen in the finer sorts. Mohair is firm. Yarn and piece trade unchanged.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Quiet trade, without alteration in prices. Kent fleeces do not exceed 6d per lb, with half-breds at 6½d to 7¼d; and Downs from 8d to 10d; lamb-wool, 4d to 5d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—Market quiet during the week, especially in merinos and fine cross-breds. Best home-grown classes met a fair demand, and values steady. Inferior sorts difficult to sell, even at low rates. Yarns in moderate demand, at steady rates.

Liverpool, Wednesday.—The fifth series of periodical wool auctions for this year began on the 25th ultimo, East India wool being catalogued on that and two following days, and sundry descriptions yesterday and to-day. A total of 20,955 bales was catalogued, and nearly 16,000 bales disposed of; America getting about 1,400 bales, France 2,100 bales, and the home trade 12,500 bales. The selection comprised a good quantity of both Joria and Vicanere whites, but Kandahar whites were far from plentiful, and medium to good yellows decidedly scarce. Middle and piecy whites, common yellows and greys, as well as native skin and goat hair, were in large supply. A full attendance of both home and Continental buyers was secured, and competition pretty well maintained throughout. There was not much change from July currency, and on the average sellers were the gainers. White Vicanere was generally ½d per lb dearer, but Joria whites were slightly easier, and Kandahar whites unchanged; yellows, suitable for export, brought rather more money. Common whites and fine greys were stiffer, but the lower greys in wasty condition, as well as native skin and goat hair, favoured buyers to a slight extent.—RONALD AND RODGER, Wool Brokers.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—Imports for the week are again light, but with only a moderate demand values are with difficulty maintained. Russians offer rather more freely for shipment, but spot prices are not quotably lower. Americans remain scarce and firm on spot, but for early arrival there are sellers at a trifle less money. English are without change. Cotton cakes: There have been no fresh arrivals of Egyptian during the week, and warehouse parcels have sold freely at 2s 6d per ton advance. London-made cakes are in fair request and also the turn dearer. Decorticated cakes and meal sell slowly and unchanged. Maize germ meal is a slow trade at slightly easier prices. Rice meal is again inclined to advance, landed parcels being sparingly offered at last week's prices, while 1s 3d per ton more money is asked ex ship for a steamer parcel now due.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
LINSEED CAKES.							
London made ..... per ton ex mill	8	7	6	to	8	10	0
American in bags ..... ex dock	7	15	0	„	7	16	3
American Oct.-Nov. ..... „	7	12	6	„	7	15	0
Russian in mats ..... „	7	18	9	„	8	0	0
Russian in bags ..... „	8	0	0	„	8	2	6
COTTONSEED CAKES.							
London made ..... ex mill	5	2	6	„	5	5	0
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	5	0	0	„	5	1	3
„ „ Nov.-April shipment	4	17	6	„	4	18	9
Decorticated ..... „	6	17	6	„	7	0	0
Meal, on spot	6	10	0	„	6	12	6
RAPE CAKES.							
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4	15	0	„	—		
Ravison ..... „	4	10	0	„	—		
Nutted, in bags ..... „	4	15	0	„	—		
MAIZE.							
Germ meal (American) ..... ex dock	5	7	6	„	5	8	8
„ „ Sept.-Oct. c.i.f.	5	5	0	„	5	6	3
„ „ (English) ..... ex mill	5	8	9	„	5	10	0
RICE MEAL.							
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	4	12	6	„	4	15	0
„ Oct.-Jan. ..... ex ship	4	12	6	„	—		
„ Jan.-March ..... ex ship	4	11	3	„	—		

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—The wheat trade is dull to-day. English meets a slow sale at barely last week's prices. Foreign in only poor demand at unaltered prices. Malting barley difficult to sell, especially the commoner qualities, at late rates. Grinding, 6d per quarter cheaper on the week. Oats unaltered. Beans continue scarce and dear. Flat maize 3d per quarter lower; round corn unaltered from last week. Linseed.—The arrivals are 100 qrs from Cantania, 98 qrs Harlingen, 759 qrs Odessa, 25 qrs Rotterdam; total, 982 qrs. The market has again experienced fluctuations, losing ground the early part of the week, but closing again firm on the news of repeated short shipments. Calcutta to London, Sept.-Oct. and Oct.-Nov., which came down as low as 57s 9d, has recovered to 59s, with buyers at the price. Black Sea and Azof are, perhaps, a shade easier, 57s being now the quoted value of arrived seed and seed afloat, whilst 55s 6d is the quotation for Sept.-Oct., and 55s Oct.-Nov. Petersburg 95 per cent. arrived and afloat offers at 54s 6d. Riga, for monthly shipments, Oct.-March, is named 52s 3d to 52s 6d. River Plate, the last business done is Dec.-Jan. at 50s 3d, and Jan.-Feb 49s 3d. Cottonseed.—The market has ruled firm all the week and higher prices paid in every position. Old crop on spot and near at hand sold at £7 7s 6d to £7 8s 9d. September new done at £7 11s 3d to £7 12s 6d. First half October made up to £7 8s 9d, and all the month £7 5s. A fair quantity November-January changed hands at £6 12s 6d to £6 18s 9d, and to-day sellers scarce under £7. Oil seed cakes.—Linseed cakes firm at previous rates. Cotton cakes are 5s dearer, with strong tone. Hemp.—No change.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 15s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 2s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 0s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 17s 6d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Basic slag is in fair request at the quotations, but here is little or no business passing in other fertilisers; an all-round improvement of 2s 6d per ton has occurred in the value of superphosphate of lime. The tone of the market for feeding stuffs is firm, and in some instances further advanced prices have been established; so far the autumn demand is unimportant, but buyers on the colder weather more inquiry is experienced. Values as per [illegible]: Nitrate of soda, best quality, 1 cwt., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £9 7s 6d to £9 7s 6d per ton. East India bone meal, in bags, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d per ton; kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 8s per ton; linseed cake, American, oblong, prime, in bags, £7 15s to £8 per ton; ditto, round, prime, in bulk, £8 15s to £9 per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, fairly soft, in bags, £9 [illegible] per ton; ditto, English [illegible], prime, very soft, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d per ton; ditto, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £5 5s to £5 12s 6d per ton; rapecake (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 5s to £7 10s per ton; maize germ meal, English, prime, in bags, £5 10s to £5 12s 6d per ton; rice germ meal, Rangoon, imported, in bags, per ton, nominal; Indian meal, crushed, fine grinding prime, in bulk, 12s to 12s 6d per 280 lbs.; Indian meal, bold feeding, in bags, £3 3s to £3 5s per ton; N.A. clover seed, new red, fair to good, in bags, per cwt., [illegible]; D.N.S. brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 25 to 27 per cent., in bags, per ton, ditto, ditto, 35 to 37 per cent., in bags, per ton, ditto, ditto, 36 to 38 per cent., in bags, per ton; mineral basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 32 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d per ton; ditto, ditto, ditto, 35 to 40 phos., in bags, £1 12s 6d to £1 14s per ton; ditto, finest quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 phos., in bags, £1 16s to £1 17s 6d per ton, at the producing depôts. H. JONES, LANCASTER AND CO.

Winsford (Cheshire), Saturday.—Current prices of salt at the works: Common white salt, 11s per ton; fine screened rock salt, 2s 6d per ton, for truck loads to bulk.—THE SALT UNION, LIMITED.

NEWS NOTES.

On Friday there was a very large fair, composed almost exclusively of first and second class cattle, and the demand was brisk, more especially for bullocks. Almost a complete clearance was effected at prices favouring sellers. Quotations: Calves, first class, £4 12s. 6d. to £5 7s. 6d.; second class, £3 15s. to £4 10s.; yearlings, first class, £7 15s. to £8 10s.; second class, £5 15s. to £6 10s.; two-year-olds, first class, £11 7s. 6d. to £12 15s.; second class, £9 8s. 9d. to £10 5s.; third class, £6 10s. to £7 5s.; three-year-olds, first class, £13 15s. to £16; second class, £11 5s. to £13 10s.; third class, £7 14s. 8d. to £9; springers, second class, £12 15s. to £13 10s.

Serious Fire at Welbeck Abbey.—A serious fire, the origin of which has not yet been ascertained, broke out in Welbeck Abbey, the seat of the Duke of Portland, at an early hour on Friday morning, and before it could be subdued that part of the building known as the Oxford Wing, on the west front, was destroyed. The valuable pictures, furniture, and objects of art were saved, but damage was done to the extent, it is estimated, of £25,000. The Duke and Duchess of Portland were not in the abbey, being on a visit to the North of Scotland. Their three children, however, were sleeping in bedrooms near the spot where the fire broke out, but fortunately they were rescued uninjured.

Big Farm Fire at Whitchurch.—One of the most disastrous fires known in Cheshire for many years took place on Wednesday morning at the farm of Mr. Cooper, of Cholmondeley, a noted Cheshire cheese maker. When Mr. and Mrs. Cooper were awakened at three o'clock the stockyard, consisting of the entire produce of this year and a large quantity of hay and corn harvested last year and the year previous, together with a long range of farm buildings, principally stabling, were one dense mass of flames. In due course the engines from Whitchurch, eight miles away, Malpas and Cholmondeley, were on the scene, but by this time all efforts to save any portion of the produce or the buildings was hopeless, but, fortunately, the contiguous buildings were prevented from taking fire by dint of great exertion, there being but little wind and a good supply of water. A locomotive engine, carts, and farm implements were destroyed. The farm belongs to the Marquis of Cholmondeley. The loss is very great, but all is insured. The cause of the fire is a complete mystery, but is believed to be the work of an incendiary.

An Automobile in the Harvest Field.—In the current number of *Engineering* there is an illustration of a mowing and reaping machine fitted with a petrol engine, by which it is driven without aid from horses. This machine is exhibited by the M'Cormick Harvester Machine Company, of Chicago, in their pavilion at the Vincennes branch of the Paris Exhibition. The motor is a double-cylinder 10 horse-power gasoline engine of American design, and this operates the machine. The power from the motor is transmitted by an endless chain to a sprocket wheel and friction clutch placed on the cross-shaft of the mower. This clutch is so arranged as to engage either one bevel-gear wheel or another placed on each side, and in this way the machine can be made to advance or go backward at will. The speed of the motor can be increased or diminished while the machine is at work, by simply changing the regulating lever. The in-and-out-of-gear motion is controlled by a lever conveniently placed at the foot of the operator, and connected by a crank to the friction movements. Steering is effected by a crank placed within easy access of the operator, and connected below by a steel bar direct to the guide wheel, which is in front of the cutter-bar. This wheel is placed in a line with the right-hand main wheel, and in this way the grass cut on the previous round is not disturbed, the machine straddling the window completely.

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Guernsey bull Frolic 6th is the property of and was bred by Mr. W. A. Glynn, Seagrove, Sea View, Isle of Wight. This bull was calved on February 28th, 1896, his sire being Frolic 5th 612, and his dam Favourite 13th 1852 by Calais Chief 458. Frolic 6th has had a varied career in the principal showyards this year. At the Bath and West he was not even noticed, but at the Royal Counties he was highly commended, and at the Royal Show came out top of his class.

Mr. H. B. Warren, of Garrendenny Castle, Carlow, is the owner of the hunter gelding Guy Fawkes, which at the Royal Dublin Society's Show in August last won first prize in the class for hunter geldings up to 14st. or 15st., five years old and upwards.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

It is reported from Shanghai that rinderpest is raging among the cattle bought by the German Commissariat Department for the use of the troops in China.

On Tuesday, the 16th inst., Messrs. John Thornton and Co. will hold a special sale of Shorthorn cattle in the wool sheds adjoining the cattle market at York. From the catalogue which has just come to hand I see that the animals to be offered are: The entire small herd belonging to the late Mr. William Wright, of Wollaton, Nottingham; a large portion of Col. Brocklehurst's, Banksborough (Oakham) herd; a number of young bulls bred by Lord Armstrong, Sir John Swinburne, Bart., and other well-known breeders; and also about half-a-dozen pure-bred Guernsey cows and heifers from the herd belonging to Mr. J. E. Ellis, Wrea Head Farm, Scalby, Scarborough.

The Council of the Tunbridge Wells and South Eastern Counties Agricultural Society have fixed Thursday and Friday, July 25th and 26th, 1901, as the dates for their next annual exhibition. In future the society show will be held each year on the corresponding days.

With the exception of a few aged cows, the whole of the herd of pure-bred Aberdeen-Angus cattle belonging to Mr. Fred Crisp, D.L., J.P., will be sold by auction on the 16th inst., at the Stud Farm, New Southgate, London, N. The cattle include a nice lot of cows, two-year-old heifers, yearling heifers, and heifer calves, the first-class stock bull Governor of Abergeldie 14,447, three young bulls, and four bull calves, comprising representatives of the most valued and sought-after families of the breed. The animals are all in healthy breeding condition, having been in no way fed up for sale. The herd has been shown to a limited extent of late years, and the prizes taken at summer shows this year comprise seven firsts, one second, and championships. The record of Gilderoy 9208, the well-known stock bull, is known to all breeders of Polled cattle, and he has been retained by Mr. Crisp. The sale will commence immediately after a 12 o'clock luncheon, and will be conducted by Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., of Perth.

On Thursday week Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck will sell by auction at the Hendre Stud Farm, Monmouth, a number of pedigree Shires belonging to the Right Hon. Lord Llangattock. This will be the second unreserved sale of animals from the Hendre Stud, and on this occasion there will be offered ten brood mares, twenty-nine fillies and foals, and five yearling and two-year-old colts, being thus pre-eminently a breeder's sale of young stock, which are for the most part by that most successful sire Prince Harold, or his sons, Hendre Crown Prince, Calwich Prince, Hendre Marksman, and Hendre Baronet. The half-score brood mares included in the sale are nearly all well-known either as prize-winners or dams of winners, and they are without exception very valuable mares, and are mostly covered by Prince Harold, those by him being covered by a good young horse Watnall Victor, who is in the sale. The young stallions include two first prize winners and the champion at the Royal Show at York, and all five should make stock horses of the first rank.

The entire herd of pure-bred Jersey cattle belonging to Miss Moore, of Kingston House, Leatherhead, is to be sold by auction on Wednesday, the 10th inst., in consequence of the milk business having been sold and the farm given up at Michaelmas. The herd, which has supplied a large milk business at Leatherhead, has been selected with great judgment by Miss Moore from the best English stock. At the dispersion of Mr. G. A. Fuller's herd, in 1885, Comely, the best and highest priced heifer, was purchased. Amy, another fine specimen, came from Mr. Robinson's herd at Chorleywood, and other beautiful animals were purchased from Mrs. Perkins, of Oakdene, the late Mrs. Hopwood, of Ketton Hall, Stamford, as well as from the late Captain Cooper, of Stoke d'Abernon, Cobham, and other first-class breeders. To these choice cows Island bulls were selected, and in addition to these, occasionally good English bred sires have been used. The heifers calve down at about two years old, and have not been retained in the herd unless they yielded from ten to twelve quarts daily, and this yield increased with maturity to fourteen to sixteen quarts. The animals are famous for their longevity. Daphne and Crocus, two well-known cows, lived till they were respectively seventeen and fifteen years old, Vignette till she was seventeen years, Tasmania 4th till fifteen years, and Amy till eighteen years; the two last are still both alive on the farm at the present time, and have been presented to the old steward Maskell. The animals have only been exhibited at the Guildford and Croydon shows, where they have been winners of prizes, often defeating Royal and County winners. The sale, which will commence at two o'clock and be conducted by Messrs. J. Thornton and Co., will be held at Vale Lodge Farm, which is about half-a-mile from Leatherhead Station.

Messrs. Cronk, of Sevenoaks and 12, Pall Mall, London, have received instructions from Sir Mark W. Collet, Bart., who has at his farm at Lower St. Clere, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, to sell by auction on the premises, on Thursday next, the whole of the live and dead farming stock, which comprises six powerful cart horses, the herd of ten pedigree Shorthorn cows and five bulls, twenty Galloway steers and heifers, one hundred and seventy-three pure-bred Shropshire ewes and lambs, twenty-six pure-bred Shropshire ram lambs, and eighty-three Kent and half-bred ewes and lambs, also the usual farm implements. Twelve o'clock is the hour set down for the commencement of this sale.

The Board of Agriculture have received a notification from the Foreign Office that by a Decree, which came into force on the 18th September last, the importation into Italy of swine flesh salted, smoked, or otherwise prepared for keeping, is permitted from the United Kingdom, provided it be accompanied by a sanitary certificate of the authorities of its place of origin.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*]

Ballinasloe Sheep Fair took place on Tuesday, when the supply was apparently smaller than usual, and consisted chiefly of two-year-old wethers and aged ewes. There was an active demand for wethers, which were all bought up, but ewes exceeding two years old were more or less a drug. Prices:—Lambs, second class, £1. Over twelve and under twenty-four months old, first class, £1 18s. to £2; second class, £1 12s. to £1 14s. 6d. Two years old and upwards, first class, £1 19s. to £2 16s.; second class, £1 14s. to £1 19s.; third class, £1 8s. 6d. to £1 12s.

There was a very small supply of cattle on Thursday, and they were Kerries of an inferior kind, but demand was brisk for all kinds, and almost a complete clearance was effected. Prices: Calves, first class, £5; second class, £3 5s. to £4 10s.; third class, £2 12s. 6d. to £3; two-year-olds, first class, £11 5s. to £12 7s. 6d.; second class, £8 15s. to £10; third class, £4 10s. to £6 15s.; three-year-olds, third class, £7 to £9 5s.

CATTLE.

Sale of Sir W. Boord's Shorthorns.

This small herd of Shorthorn cattle was sold by auction on Friday, the 28th ult., by Messrs. John Thornton and Co., at Wakehurst Place, Sussex. A good local company was present, but the cattle generally were thin and in poor condition, and there was but little competition. The highest price was 31gs., paid by Mr. A. J. Mullins for Edith Gwynne, a red five-year-old cow. Altogether forty-one head were sold, and the total realised was £642 12s., giving an average of £15 13s. 6d. each.

We give below a few of the best priced lots:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.	Gs.
Kennet Lass 4th, roan, c Sept., 1889, s Bismarck 55379 Mr. T. Bannister	13½
Ruby Lassie, red, c April, 1892, s Beeswax 58508 Mr. A. J. Mullins	24
Edith Gwynne, red, c March, 1895, s Charming Land 66814 Mr. A. J. Mullins	31
Charming Gwynne, roan, c June, 1895, s Charming Land 66814 Mr. T. Bannister	15½
Elizabeth, roan, c Nov., 1895, s Scotch Rose 66297 Mr. C. File	17½
Siddington Lady, red, c Nov., 1896, s Ranger 66103 Mr. C. Bell	28
Poll Gwynne, red, c Feb., 1897, s Ralph 71298 Mr. A. J. Mullins	21
Kennet Lady, roan, c August, 1897, s Ralph 71298 Mr. W. W. Harrison	17½
Ethel Gwynne, roan, c Oct., 1897, s Coral Count 70185 Mr. C. File	20
Pink of Fashion, roan, c Nov., 1897, s Ralph 71298 Mr. M. Trewhella	20
Autumn Pine, red and little white, c Dec., 1897, s Ralph 71298 Mr. M. Trewhella	20
Madeline, roan, c August, 1898, s Royal Studley 75548 Mr. J. J. Froud	18
Elsa, white, c April, 1899, s King Athol 72764 Mr. A. J. Mullins	20
BULLS.	
Grand Duke 61st 67146, red and little white, c Jan., 1894, s Duke of Underley 8th 57229 Mr. F. G. Bolton	24
Game Boy, roan, c April, 1899, s King Athol 72764 Mr. J. Wells	20
Kennet Lad, roan, c June, 1899, s Grand Duke 61st 67146 Mr. W. W. Harrison	21

Sale of the Kelmscott Shorthorns.

Few men are more popular in the county of Gloucestershire than Mr. R. W. Hobbs, of Kelmscott. His fine herd of dairy Shorthorns, his capital flock of Oxford Downs and his well-known stud of Shires have attracted many visitors to his hospitable farmhouse. On Wednesday last a small portion of the Shorthorn herd was sold by Messrs. John Thornton and Co., and a large company of people assembled. The cows were mostly in full profit, were typical milking Shorthorns, and fit to go into any breeder's herd. Mr. W. T. Garne paid the highest price, 70gs., for Musa 4th, a good red-and-white cow, and 40gs. for Solo 40th, a roan four-year-old. Several of the best cows were purchased by Mr. Dickson Park for founding a new herd near High Wycombe. The bulls also met with a ready sale, selling up to 57gs., which sum was paid by Lord Sherborne for Volunteer 2nd, a smart yearling, bred from the late Mr. Bowly's old Chorus strain. The average for the cows was just over £46, and for the bulls £31 15s., or a total of £1,630 2s. 6d. for forty-one head. We give below a sale list:—

COWS AND HEIFERS	Gs.
Galentia 16th, red, c Nov., 1893, s Nelson 64471 Hon. R. Craven	36
Handsome 5th, red, c Nov., 1893, s Cambrian 63749 Mr. E. Dickson Park	44
Solo 31st, red and little white, c Jan., 1894, s Bellford 63687 Hon. R. Craven	20
Her cow calf, red, c August, 1900, s Vain Soldier 73799 Mr. A. Henderson	17
Musa 4th, red and little white, c May, 1895, s Gloucester 64082 Mr. W. T. Garne	70
Galentia 24th, red and white, c Dec., 1895, s Earl of Southrop 125th 66988 Hon. R. Craven	33
Spotless 17th, roan, c Sept., 1895, s Earl of Southrop 125th 66987 Mr. E. Dickson Park	41
Galentia 22nd, red, c Sept., 1895, s Gloucester 64082 Mr. J. Thorley	52
Primula 40th, white, c April, 1896, s Earl of Southrop 125th 66987 Dr. Macan	29
Decentia 20th, red, c Oct., 1896, s Sir Arthur 63585 Mr. E. Upton	33
Marchioness 11th, red and little white, c Oct., 1896, s Rowley 25th 67345 Hon. R. Craven	30
Musa 7th, red and little white, c Oct., 1896, s Sir Arthur 63585 Mr. W. Cooper	31
Sol 36th, roan, c Nov., 1896, s Rowley 25th 67345 Mr. W. T. Garne	40
Gilderoy 32nd, red roan, c Sept., 1897, s Earl of Southrop 125th 66988 Hon. R. Craven	21
Solo 42nd, red, c Nov., 1897, s Earl of Southrop 125th 66987 Mr. W. Cooper	32
Her cow calf, roan, c August, 1900, s Royal Sunshine 60th 75532 Mr. A. Henderson	20
Primula 49th, roan, c Feb., 1898, s Earl of Southrop 125th 66987 Mr. J. T. Hobbs	40
Jack Sheppard 71759, red, c Sept., 1899, s Earl of Southrop 125th 66988 Mr. J. Chalcraft	37
Jack Sheppard 71759, red, c Sept., 1899, s Earl of Southrop 125th 66988 Mr. D. Reeve	30

Beau, red and little white, c Jan., 1899, s Beau Brummel 69963	Hon. R. Craven	Gs. 29
Kelmscott Earl, roan, c March, 1899, s Earl of Southrop 125th 66988	Mr. C. Bennett	35
Volunteer 1st, red and little white, c July, 1899, s Vain Soldier 73799	Mr. E. Lyne	31
Crimson Duke, red, c July, 1899, s Viator 71769	Mr. T. Large	16
Volunteer 2nd, red, c August, 1899, s Vain Soldier 73799	Lord Sherborne	57
Magic Lord, roan, c August, 1899, s Magic Lad 2nd 74970	Mr. W. M. Plummer	16½
Volunteer 3rd, roan, c August, 1899, s Vain Soldier 73799	Mr. J. G. Pascoe	17½
Volunteer 4th, roan, c August, 1899, s Vain Soldier 73799	Mr. J. Snook	17½
Volunteer 6th, roan, c August, 1899, s Vain Soldier 73799	Mr. R. Hussey Freke	26
Trojan 2nd, roan, c Sept., 1899, s Trojan 73777	Mr J. Chalcroft	32
Trojan 3rd, red roan, c Sept., 1899, s Trojan 73777	Mr E. Hadley	39
Trojan 4th, red roan, c Sept., 1899, s Trojan 73777	Mr. G. T. Date	42
Volunteer 7th, red, c Oct., 1899, s Vain Soldier 73799	Mr. J. Jeffries	29
Volunteer 8th, red, c Oct., 1899, s Vain Soldier 73799	Mr. J. Bryan	26
Trojan 5th, red and little white, c Nov., 1899, s Trojan 73777	Mr. J. Chalcraft	26
Trojan 6th, red roan, c Dec., 1899, s Trojan 73777	Mr. A. J. Hounsfield	26
Trojan 7th, red, c Dec., 1899, s Trojan 73777	Mr. W. T. Hobbs	39

SUMMARY.

	Average.		Total.
23 Cows	£46 0 10	..	£1,058 18 6
18 Bulls	31 14 8	..	571 4 0
41	£39 15 2		£1,630 2 6

Mr. H. B. Warren's Hunter Gelding "Guy Fawkes."

The Smallest of the Wild Cattle.

Among the larger mammals the species or varieties inhabiting islands are more or less markedly inferior in point of size to their nearest Continental relatives. In the case of the smaller islands, like Sardinia and Corsica, the reason of such a diminution in stature is not far to seek, and it is therefore not in the least surprising to find that the Corsican red deer is a very inferior edition of its prototype of the mainland. The buffalo of the small island of Mindoro, in the Philippines, is greatly inferior in size to the wild buffaloes of the tall grass-jungles of Assam. In the case of islands of the dimensions of Sumatra and Borneo the reason of the phenomenon is by no means apparent, especially when we find them inhabited by a man-like ape (the orangutan), almost rivalling in bulk and stature the gorilla of Western Africa. Nevertheless, even in such areas the same feature is to a certain extent noticeable, the wild buffalo of Borneo being considerably smaller than its Indian relative. As regards its actual area, the island of Celebes occupies a kind of intermediate position, since it is much inferior in extent to either Sumatra or Borneo, although far too extensive to come under the denomination of a small island. From its peculiar shape, which recalls the form often assumed by an amœba, it has, however, a much smaller area than could be enclosed by a ring fence than many islands of less than half its acreage, and this may really bring it, so far as the development of animal life is concerned, into the same category as a small island.

Be this as it may, Celebes has the distinction of being the home of the smallest living representative of the wild cattle, or, indeed, of the wild cattle of any period of the earth's history, for no equally diminutive fossil member of the group appears to be known to science. An idea of the extremely diminutive proportions of the anoa, or sapi-utan, as the animal in question is respectively called by the inhabitants of Celebes and the Malays, may be gained when it is stated that its height at the shoulder is only about 3ft. 3in., whereas that of the great Indian wild ox, or gaur, is at least 6ft. 4in., and may, according to some writers, reach as much as 7ft. In fact, the anoa is really not much, if at all, larger than a well-grown Southdown sheep, and scarcely exceeds in this respect the little domesticated Bramini cattle shown a few years ago at the Indian Exhibition held at Earl's Court.

The anoa has many of the characters of the large Indian buffalo, but its horns are relatively shorter, less curved, and more upright. In this, as well as in certain other respects, it is more like the young than the adult of the last-named species; and as young animals frequently show ancestral features which are gradually lost as maturity is approached, it would be a natural supposition that the anoa is a primitive type of buffalo. This idea receives a remarkable confirmation from the circumstance that in the latter Tertiary strata of Northern India there occurs skulls of anoa-like buffaloes, which, however, in correlation with the continental area where they are met with, indicate animals of considerably larger dimensions than the living Celebes animal. In fact the latter, together with the somewhat larger wild buffalo, or tamarau, of the island of Mindoro, and the aforesaid extinct Indian species, constitute an altogether peculiar and primitive group of the buffalo tribe.

In its young state and during middle life the anoa is covered with a fairly thick coat of somewhat woolly hair, which is at first yellowish brown, but eventually becomes dark brown or blackish. In common with other Asiatic buffaloes, the hair is reversed along the middle line of the neck and back as far as the haunches; that is to say the tips are directed towards the head instead of towards the tail. What may be the precise object of this reversal (which is also met with among many antelopes and deer) is not yet ascertained. Possibly it may have something to do with the manner in which the animals rub themselves against the stems or boughs of trees and bushes.

In old individuals, especially those of the male sex, the coat of hair almost completely disappears, leaving the black skin bare and shining, like that of old buffaloes in general. From the more typical buffaloes the anoa differs by the general presence of white markings. These usually take the form of a gorget on the lower part of the throat, and of one or two spots on each side of the under jaw, as well as patches above the lateral hoofs; but there may also be white blotches on the neck and back, and in front of the eyes, while more or less of white may appear on the muzzle and the whole of the lower portion of the limbs. The special interest attaching to these white markings is that the spots on the sides of the face as well as the gorget on the throat are also met with among certain antelopes, such as the kudu and the bushbucks; and from this it has been inferred that the anoa is more nearly related to the antelopes than is any other member of the ox tribe. Although this may be true to a certain extent, the connection with the kudu tribe is remote.

According to the meagre accounts we at present possess of the creature in its native haunts, the anoa dwells in pairs on the elevated ground of the interior of Celebes, where it passes most of its time in thick forests in the neighbourhood of water. In associating in pairs it is quite unlike all other wild cattle, with the possible exception of the Philippine tamarau; and here again it presents a resemblance to the kudu and bushbucks, which also generally go about in pairs or small family parties.

Examples of the anoa are but rarely seen alive in England, although they do not appear very difficult to procure. The first specimen exhibited in the London Zoological Gardens was purchased in May, 1871, and a second was obtained by exchange in June, 1880. Between the latter date and 1890 (when the last complete list of the animals in the menagerie was published) not a single example of this very interesting little buffalo was obtained. At Woburn Abbey a pair dwelt in a good-sized paddock by themselves and flourished for a considerable period, but unfortunately one has since died.

Apart from the interest attaching to it as a primitive island type, and as being the smallest representative of the ox tribe, it cannot fairly be said that the anoa is a very attractive animal. It has nothing specially to commend it from an æsthetic point of view, being, in fact, a rather ugly and ungainly creature; and from its pugnacious disposition it is not adapted for turning out in British parks among other horned animals. Moreover, it has a decidedly delicate constitution, which alone would be sufficient to render it unfit for this kind of life.—R. Lydekker in *Knowledge*.

HORSES.

The Supply of Army Remounts.

Sir John Gilmour, Bart., delivered the opening address of the seventy-eighth session of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Edinburgh, and took as the subject of his remarks the best means of supplying our service with army remounts. The question, he said, naturally divided itself into two heads—the supply of remounts in the time of peace, and the supply of remounts in the time of emergency, but he would not express any decided opinion under the latter head until those interested in horse-breeding in this country could have the benefit of the experience of those in charge of the remount stations in South Africa. Dealing with the first head of his subject—the supply of remounts in time of peace—he said that during the five years previous to the outbreak of the South African war the number of remounts required was about 1,500 per annum. His opinion was that these remounts ought to be bred in this country by our own farmers, and purchased direct from them by the remount department. He knew that certain remount authorities did not consider this plan a feasible one.

The other day General Trueman was asked by Mr. Charles Tyndall if the department were prepared to take from the farmers unbroken three-year-old horses, and the General, replying in the negative, said their best horses in the war were a lot of Argentines, landed in South Africa at £14 apiece, and which were properly broken and knew their business. He (Sir John) thought it would be found that this lot of Argentines were a very exceptional lot, and that they would be balanced by others from the Argentine that were not properly broken and did not know their business. He would also like to know if the price stated included the expenses of the remount officers in the Argentine. From information he had received he could speak of a lot of eighty Argentines served out to a company in which he had a considerable interest. They were supplied at Stellenbosch, and at Wellington, which was not far from the camp, several died, while at Potchefstroom very few remained. Even though they only cost £14, he thought they were pretty dear at that figure. While these remounts would go fairly well in the ranks, when they were ridden separately they neither answered bit nor leg.

He was not one of those who at all approved of

the Government starting large horse-breeding establishments, as the risk and uncertainty of such a scheme would be too great. He found from the statistics of the Royal Commission on Horse-Breeding, of which he was a member, that on an average 60 per cent. of foals were left by the Government or Queen's premier stallions, and he was certain that by purchasing the young horses after they had reached their third year the country would get far better value for its money than at present. He maintained that the farmers of the United Kingdom could breed the animal required, and with a little encouragement they would do so, but he admitted that they could not break and handle a young horse properly. If, instead of the present method of not purchasing until the horses were four or five years of age, and only giving a top price of £40 or £45 for Army remounts, the Government would buy at three and a-half years of age, they would secure many horses of very considerable value, which could be sold to officers joining the service, who had at present to pay good prices to fashionable dealers for high-class chargers.

The money now placed at the disposal of the Royal Commission on Horse-Breeding—£5,000 per annum was ridiculously small and insufficient, but in spite of that the Commission were able to send out to districts in England, Scotland, and Wales twenty-nine thoroughbred stallions to serve half-bred mares at the small fee of 42s. 6d. During the thirteen or fourteen years in which they had carried on the work they had been able to put in the country as sound stallions as it was possible for three veterinary surgeons to make them, and that had undoubtedly resulted in choking off the roads thorough brutes, which propagated their kind and did immense harm to half-bred stock. They served annually about 1,500 mares, which left between 800 and 900 foals.

The scheme had worked so successfully that it only required to be enlarged to place the remount department of the country in the way of having at its disposal admirable half-bred stock to select from. But in order to do so the grant to the Commission must be increased by three or four times the present sum, so that a larger number of approved stallions might be subsidised, and breeders should be assured of a fair market for their stock at three and a-half years old. If such a scheme were properly worked for a few years, he did not think there would be much need for the country to depend on foreigners for its remounts.

Show and Sale of Horses at Whitchurch.

Messrs. Frank Lloyd and Sons held their annual horse show and sale in Whitchurch Smithfield(Salop) on the 28th ult. The catalogue comprised 310 heavy town, light lurry, and van horses, one two, and three year old Shire geldings and fillies, Shire foals, harness horses, and half-bred geldings and fillies, and light foals. £29 10s. was offered for competition, and the following were the awards: Shropshire Challenge Cup for the best mare or gelding in the sale—1st, Mr. John Griffiths, Dearnford Hall, sold at 78gs.; r, Mr. John Horton, Tilstock, 76gs. Lurry horse—1st, Mr. W. K. Hobson, Wood Farm, 50gs. Three-year-old cart gelding or filly—1st, Mr. G. H. Caldecott, 38gs. Two-year-old gelding or filly—1st, Mr. Willis. Yearling gelding or filly—1st, Mr. Thos. Topham. Cart filly foal, 1st, Jas. Ikin, 31gs.; r, Mr. Speed, Coloverley. Cart colt foal—1st, Mr. J. Griffiths, 27gs.; r, Captain Lonsdale, 25gs. Foal by Nailstone Royal Ensign (the gift of Captain Lonsdale), Mr. S. Green, Cloverley. Foals by Dunsmore Ambassador (the gift of Mr. Frank Lloyd)—Mr. J. Griffiths, 27gs. Foal by Elevator (gift of Mr. H. Carr) -Mr. Woodhall, Bronnington. Foal, insured with the County Live Stock Insurance Co.—Mr. Jas. Ikin, Steele. A number of heavy horses sold at from 45gs. to 50gs., and others from 30gs. to 44gs.; two and three year olds, from 29gs. to 48gs.; yearlings, up to 33gs.; Shire mares and foals (Captain Lonsdale), 59gs., 64gs., and 86gs.; Shire foals, 14gs. to 30gs.; harness cobs and ponies, 20gs. to 30gs.; light foals, up to 20gs. Buyers were in good attendance from a very wide district. Trade throughout was sharp, and a capital clearance was effected.

Sale of Shires at Ashbourne.

In accordance with their usual custom Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck held, on the day after the Ashbourne Shire Horse Show (September 28th), a sale of pedigree Shire horses in the showyard. Nearly a hundred animals were catalogued, and about half the number changed hands. Both the filly and colt foals were a fine lot, and their owners very naturally placed high reserves upon them. In the two-year-old fillies, Mr. Rains, of Burton-on-Trent, refused 115gs. (the price at the fall of the hammer) for his bay filly, foaled in 1898. This very promising filly took first at Stafford this year, as well as at Burton; second at Tutbury, and second at Uttoxeter. In the class for yearling fillies, Mr. Appleby's chestnut Blanche, sire Limecrofts Harold, was sold for 40gs. to Mr. Stebbing. A very useful colt, not catalogued and the property of Mr. A. C. Duncombe, sire Harold, dam Premier, was sold to Sir William Foulkes for 25gs. Three-year-old fillies made 32gs. and 33gs., and two-year-olds 31gs., 41gs., 40gs. Mr. Bestwick's yearling filly, by King of the Peak, sold for 61gs. to Mr. J. Eadie; and other yearlings made 30gs., 31gs., and 28gs. Mr. Bestwick sold a filly foal for 32gs., and others made 18gs., 10gs., 18gs., 15gs., and 21gs. Colt foals made from 20gs. to 40gs., the latter price being obtained for Mr. J. H. Reeves's colt by Harold.

Wrexham Horse Sales.

Messrs. Frank Lloyd and Sons commenced their October horse sales on Tuesday and Wednesday in the North Wales Repository, Wrexham, with light horses. Over 600 high-class match pairs, harness horses, hunters, Hackney, show cobs, and ponies were offered, and a grand trade was effected, with a splendid clearance all through. There was a very large attendance of buyers from all parts of the United Kingdom. Mr. J. T. Oliver, Carnarvon, sold a grand hunter for 175gs. and a pair for 175gs. Messrs. Evans and Co. sold a pair for 165gs.; and Mr. E. Bailey, Ashbery Heath, a pair for 175gs. Mr. J. Jones, Whitegate Stud, sold a black cob, 13.3 hands, for 200gs. This was a grand cob, a first-prize winner at Dublin this year. The same gentleman also sold a chestnut gelding for 150gs. Other principal prices were as follows:—Mr. Hugh Romery, Ballymena, 75gs., for a chestnut mare; Mr. E. H. Lloyd, 65gs., for a bay gelding; Mr. R. G. Thomas, Calverhall, 70gs., for a brown gelding; Mr. J. T. Oliver, Carnarvon, 90gs., for a bay gelding, and 68gs., for a bay gelding; Mr. J. H. Roberts, Brynlewenalls, 68gs., for a black gelding; Mr. J. H. Wyther, Crowle, 90gs., for a roan gelding; Mr. J. S. Whalley, Whitchurch, 73gs., for a bay gelding; Mr. T. Nicholas, Port Talbot, 76gs., for a chestnut gelding; Mr. W. Foster, Meb Valley, 80gs., for Modjeska, and 60gs., for Primrose, and 85gs., for High and Mighty; Mr. Morgan, Boissant, 76gs., for a bay gelding; Mr. R. Whitworth, 85gs.

Sale of Harness and Agricultural Horses at Carlisle.

Hetherington's Auction Company held their monthly horse sale at Carlisle on Thursday, when sixty saddle and harness and agricultural horses, cobs, and ponies were catalogued. Some useful animals were forward, for which, with a fair attendance of buyers, there was a strong demand at good prices; whilst secondary sorts only met a slow dragging trade. A good number, however, changed hands. Cart horses made to 69gs. from Mr. Wm. Rush, Carlisle, to Messrs. Carr and Co., Carlisle; grey mare, four years old, 35gs., to Mr. Graister, Cross Hill; bay horse, from Mr. Armstrong, Cotehill, 33½gs., to Mrs. Nicholson, Kirkhampton; bay horse, from Mr. Armstrong, Ecclefechan, 29½gs., to Mr. M'Lean, Winder Bogg; bay horse, from Mr. Bell, The Lonning, 30gs., to Mr. Wm. Rush. Saddle and harness horses made to 24gs. for a black mare from Mr. Robinson, Newlands, to Mr. Waddell, Otterburn; Irish gelding, from Mr. Keswick, Dormont, Lockerbie, 23gs., to Mr. Briggs, Upperby. Cobs and ponies to 22½gs., from Mr. Joseph Nicholson, Carlisle, to Mr. Harrison, Brampton; 16gs., from Mr. Ritson, Burdon Mill, to Mr. Laidlow, Newcastle; 16gs., from Mr. Hamilton, Parkhead, to Mr. Musgrove, Carlisle; £15 for a bay pony from Mr. Sander, Low Todhills, to Mr. Wm. Rush.

Horse Sale at Glasgow.

On Tuesday afternoon Mr. J. Vine held a sale of carriage and cart horses at his Horse Bazaar, Glasgow, about 100 animals being catalogued. There was a large attendance of buyers from all parts of the country, and business was of a very satisfactory character. The demand for good horses was very keen; others met a fair selling trade. The ages of the animals ranged from five to twelve years, and they were from 14 to 17 hands high; ponies from 11 to 13.2 hands high. Carriage horses of the best class realised up to 43gs.; secondary, from 20gs. to 30gs.; and inferior from 6gs. to 12gs. Cart horses of the best sort realised up to 40gs.; secondary, from 12gs. to 23gs.; inferior from 4gs. to 12gs. Vanners realised up to 30gs., and they made down to 5gs. Lorry animals made from 6gs. to 38gs., according to substance, style, and action. Ponies, from 4gs. to 20gs.; and cobs, from 5gs. to 25gs.

Sale of Horses at York.

Messrs. Walker and Son's first October stud sale of hunters, harness horses, etc., took place at their Repository, York, on Thursday, when they had a catalogue of about seventy horses. The attendance was good, and trade was keen for anything useful, especially hunters. The following were the principal prices realised:—

	Gs
Chestnut mare, five years, 16 hands	70
Velveteen, chestnut mare, six years, 16 hands	72
Horncastle, chestnut gelding, six years, 16 hands	30
Martin, dark bay gelding, seven years, 16.1 hands (Irish)	32
Bay gelding, nine years, 15.3 hands	55
Bridget, chestnut mare, five years, 15.2½ hands	40
Brown gelding, four years, 15.2½ hands	40
Black gelding, six years, 16 hands	45
Bridget, black mare, six years, 16 hands	50
Bay gelding, six years, 16.1 hands	45
Sportsman, grey gelding	40
Brown gelding, four years, 16 hands	35
Chestnut gelding, six years, 16.1 hands	50
Nun, bay gelding, five years, 15.2½ hands	57
Jester, grey gelding, five years, 15.2½ hands	53
Sally, grey mare, six years, 15.3 hands	31
Warwick, bay horse, 16.2 hands	31
Grey gelding, six or seven years, about 16 hands	48
Bay mare, five years, 16.1 hands	40
Chestnut gelding, six years, 16.1 hands	53
Miss Palliser, bay mare, five years, 16 hands	35
Queen, brown mare, seven years, 16 hands	34
Cream-Laid, chestnut thoroughbred mare, f 1886	50
Grey pony, rising five years, 13.3 hands	37

Making Up Horses for Show and Sale.

In getting draft horses ready for the show ring we (says a writer in the *Breeders' Gazette* of Chicago) usually try to start with them sound, or at least suffering from only such slight blemishes as will readily pass the critical eye of the judge. It has already been stated that it is never good policy to try to win with a colt or horse, mare or filly, that is either unsound or a poor individual. Therefore not only must we start with them sound, but we must so exercise, treat, and feed them that they will stay sound during the period of conditioning or "fitting," and, as they say in the story books, "ever afterwards"

It is an easy matter to feed a horse off his legs. Many and many a time has that been done, and that is perhaps the principal reason why so long a period is necessary to get the condition on properly. Haste in getting them ready and hard grain almost always lead to disaster. There are some horses that it hardly ever pays to try to show, notwithstanding that they are big-bodied enough and perhaps outwardly sound enough to pass muster in the ring. One of these is the gummy-legged beast and another is the one too delicate in constitution. Leave these two at least at home, for the first will give no end of bother from the time he ought to begin to do really well, and the other is likely to contract pneumonia, or some other trouble just when he is most wanted.

Having made choice of the animals on hand, picking out as nearly as possible a "full show," they ought to be stabled, so that the work of feeding may be got through with as easily as possible. Get the youngsters together, the mares and foals together, and the two-year-old and other stallions together, as nearly as may be. Begin slowly with the feeding. Crushed oats, bran, and cut hay, with roots or a little green corn for succulence, must form the breast of the food for some time with the older ones. The mares and foals have already been dealt with, so they may be eliminated from consideration in this article. The yearlings must not be shown over fat, but they must be big and "bowsy," showing that they are growing well and thrifty.

Right here let it be said that it is not possible to name positively any set quantity of food to be given these young things, but a safe rule to follow is to give the yearlings a net half of that which is given the aged stallions. If the older stallions are getting four pounds of the crushed oats at a feed, begin slowly, and increase the feed of the yearlings up to two and so on. Then from that the intelligent feeder can quickly tell where he is with every one under his care. But hasten slowly with them.

In feeding for showing it is better to divide the daily rations up into four parts, giving the first at 6 a.m., the second at 10, the third at 2 p.m., and the fourth at 6. As the fitting for the shows must at least be partly done in the summer the fillies ought to be turned out in the yards at night so that they may escape the attacks of he flies. This was fully covered in the article dealing with the conditioning of foals and mares already alluded to. As stated, the crushed oats, bran, and cut or chopped hay must be the main reliance of the feeder with the young things. He may with advantage cut up some clover and some nice bright oat straw for them by way of a change, and he will find that he may use a larger proportion of the cut clover to the best advantage. A trifle of the oil meal may also be given with the food and the whole ought to be fed damp as previously described. If the reader will turn to the article on getting mares and foals ready he will find the necessary data regarding the feeding of green stuff. As the corn (maize) grows a small ration of it may be fed, but the ripening of the ears should be watched most closely, and whenever the grain gets to the milky stage, and the ears must be pulled off. If the green stalks are fed ears and all due allowance must be made for the latter in measuring the dry grain ration. It is no hard matter to set a horse or mare all wrong by giving too much green corn without reducing the grain fed besides. This is a point well worth the keen attention of all feeders.

As the conditioning period advances the amount of grain must be increased. The crushed oats ration may be varied through the summer with a little rolled barley or ground corn, perhaps with a little soaked rye, though but a very little of the rye ought ever to be fed to mares. Placing the main dependence on the crushed oats, bran, and cut hay, enough of variety may be obtained to keep the appetite whetted well without straying very far along the list of available foods. As the weather gets colder

in the fall and the roots come in, substitute them for the green corn, and substitute education at the halter or bridle for the nightly run to grass. If the fillies are left out on cold nights they may take no severe hurt, but their coats will soon show it. Teach them to go with nothing but a neat rope halter on their heads. Mares always look best thus in the ring. Teach them to walk off squarely and to trot off promptly when given the word, and take advantage of the temperature to give them brief periods in smooth yards where they may exercise, but run few risks of slipping. As the date of showing comes on add a little boiled barley to the ration of all the mares, giving them this in the six o'clock feed. Now, too, they may with the rest of the show horses be given a "drink" in the evening, say at half-past eight or nine o'clock.

It is not hard to get fillies one, two, and three years old up into condition for showing at almost any season of the year. The main point is to keep their appetites sharp, give them plenty of succulent food, and while giving them abundant exercise take plenty of time to teach them what is expected of them in the ring. Too much stress can hardly be laid on this last point. They must be schooled to walk and trot when wanted, and if the schooling is well given the fillies will take pleasure in giving their little show, and do it willingly and well. Put yourself in the judges' place. Which would you prefer, the filly that has to be whipped into motion or the one that steps off proudly and promptly? Teach them to stand still in the proper position. Do not stretch them overmuch, but selecting a piece of ground with just a trifle of a rise in it, school them to pose pleasantly with their legs set well under them and to stand peaceably until turned around. Time and money spent in this sort of education will come back fourfold. Indeed, an animal is hardly fit to be shown unless it knows this part of the game.

Yearling stallions may be conditioned in much the same way as the fillies, save that they cannot be turned out so much. It is a mistake to turn two young stallions of this age together in a lot. They will wrestle and scramble and paw until one or other of them is lamed. Give them much exercise at the halter. As a rule they will need a little more feeding than the fillies, but not much. In the opinion of most folks, a yearling draft colt of the proper conformation looks best docked. This is, however, so purely a matter of taste and conviction that it need not be dealt with here. It is certain, notwithstanding, that docking gives a squarer, fuller look to the quarters. Yearling stallions respond generously to good care, but they must not be overdone on any account. It is better to show them a trifle low in condition, yet withal fat and round, than it is to show them with too mature a look about them. They must have plenty of exercise. It is best as a rule to teach them early to lead beside a pony and give them a right good go-as-you-please every day but Sunday.

Two-year-old stallions require much the same care as older ones. The foods required are the same and they must be kept up at all times, so they require the most abundant exercise in hand. If as yearlings they were broken to lead beside the pony they should be exercised in that way. Some men are apt to go too quickly if trusted with the pony, and for that reason only a sensible and fully trustworthy man ought to be charged with the exercising of the colts. It is hardly possible to give them too much exercise if it is given right, but when the man can ride he may err on the score of giving too much trotting at too smart a gait. Draft stallions vary so much in size, temperament, and constitution, that again it is impossible to name fixed quantities of food, but for those that weigh from 1,700 pounds upwards the quantities and kinds of feed named already when dealing with the feeding of geldings will do very well to begin with under the same conditions of preparation. The foodstuffs then described are all that need be used, and intelligent variation of the rations is always helpful. The two-year-olds also should have their turns in schooling for the ring. If they learned the trick as yearlings, they ought not to be allowed to forget it; if they were never shown before, they must begin at the beginning of the course.

Live Stock in the Counties.

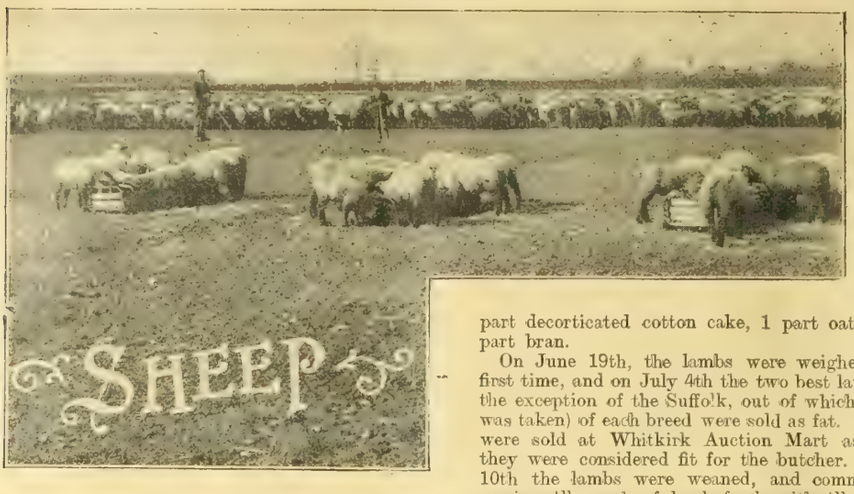
PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER OF CATTLE, SHEEP, AND PIGS IN THE SEVERAL COUNTIES OF GREAT BRITAIN, COMPILED FROM THE RETURNS COLLECTED ON THE 4TH JUNE, 1900, WITH A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT FOR 1899.

COUNTIES.	Cattle.		Sheep.		Pigs.	
	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
TOTAL FOR GREAT BRITAIN	6,805,170	6,795,720	26,592,226	27,238,754	2,381,932	2,623,813
ENGLAND	4,848,698	4 841 852	15.844,713	16 261,417	2,021,422	2,225 420
WALES	758,386	736,691	3,432,516	3,416,357	228,097	258 154
SCOTLAND	1,198 036	1,217,177	7,314,997	7,560,980	132,413	140,239
ENGLAND.						
Bedford	34,833	34,576	104,759	105 914	25,280	27,385
Berks	45.161	44,974	184,797	184 624	22,130	25,455
Buckingham	75,183	74,830	195,567	2 0,0 8	28,098	32,44
Cambridge	57,112	56,123	208,272	214,472	46,180	48,472
Chester	182,633	182,231	103,456	107,173	70 126	76,627
Cornwall	203.983	199 148	399,756	416,137	88.559	94 486
Cumberland	148,339	149,313	580,618	594,820	18,816	22,781
Derby	143,609	141 387	171,364	175,698	31,108	34,596
Devon	279,728	275,997	846,324	882,526	95,044	109 184
Dorset	87,904	89,128	360,491	374,740	50,930	59,077
Durham	78,183	76,029	258,257	251,856	10,624	11.841
Essex	90,807	90,377	295 334	295,051	80,866	88,743
Gloucester	124,708	124 867	364,785	374,041	67,438	76 681
Hants	86,666	87,282	378,951	394,318	63,302	70,552
Hereford	96,503	94,802	333,270	336,095	24,286	29,689
Hertford	35,732	35,95	112,413	117,816	24,424	25,553
Huntingdon	30,746	30,432	96,459	99,972	17,443	18,768
Kent	77,662	78,572	917,237	942,645	58,361	63,133
Lancaster	239,501	243,581	334,859	346 524	60,617	60,766
Leicester	141,876	140,309	321,029	334,507	24,569	26 579
Lincoln	256,942	252,214	1,159,603	1,217,892	102,392	106,565
London	5,409	5,866	4,262	5,816	2,518	2,607
Middlesex	16,456	16,742	16 175	18,717	11,685	13 271
Monmouth	49,799	48,615	227,142	223,186	16,426	17,755
Norfolk	134,527	139,760	547,245	541,132	100,712	105,739
Northampton	126,341	126,539	403 434	414,484	28,340	31,195
Northumberland	113,724	117,424	1,065,206	1,086,725	10,250	11,650
Notts	86,091	83 490	196,680	208,884	28,295	31,083
Oxford	61,851	60 695	230,325	244,431	31,032	36,595
Rutland	19,118	19,2 5	84,754	85.420	2,277	2,251
Salop	180,113	177,456	470 577	476,108	66 5 4	75,140
Somerset	239.663	240,731	519,670	542.458	118,884	133,938
Stafford	164 058	162,923	236,351	251,246	50 533	56,249
Suffolk	78,426	79,834	433,013	432,803	149,030	157,653
Surrey	42,751	45,021	69,757	72 630	21 017	21,943
Sussex	115,877	115,667	434,236	440,278	38,781	42,594
Warwick	108,592	106,884	272,189	280,556	36,405	39,666
Westmoreland	67,608	68,146	374,453	380,900	4,274	4,695
Wilts	115,900	116,449	520,888	531.843	60,334	67,560
Worcester	69,057	68,035	170,617	173,942	39.794	44,231
York, E. Riding	88,860	89,940	429,856	462,128	56.074	63,400
,, N. Riding	174,744	175,264	733,757	727,512	47,673	58,765
,, W. Riding	271,922	275,069	676,485	693,409	89,001	98,059
WALES.						
Anglesey	56,653	54,082	82,145	76,625	15,438	18,685
Brecon	41,920	41,335	489,417	496,665	8,232	9,586
Cardigan	72,229	69,200	274,955	263,551	22 897	24,927
Carmarthen	123,361	120,416	271,809	276,444	36,514	40,366
Carnarvon	57,357	56,254	260,692	257,671	19,028	21,589
Denbigh	70,882	68,052	339,502	340.371	26,409	31,872
Flint	38,426	36,762	86,215	84,984	18,124	20,521
Glamorgan	56,485	55,387	330,060	328,022	16,406	17,823
Merioneth	39,518	38,783	433,720	434.895	8,137	9,379
Montgomery	73.273	72,080	433,145	428,330	22,521	26,373
Pembroke	93,744	90,281	138,199	140,032	29,482	31,312
Radnor	34,538	34,029	283,590	288,767	4,900	5,721
SCOTLAND.						
Aberdeen	175,482	175,407	228,315	232,863	11,815	12,346
Argyll	60,900	61,698	926,337	984,304	4,020	4,285
Ayr	101,090	101,885	381,960	386,098	14,612	13,920
Banff	44,249	44,561	70,000	71,400	2,775	2,735
Berwick	16,787	16,832	313,162	315.958	3,503	3,706
Bute	9,554	9,751	46,588	47,897	589	621
Caithness	22,109	21,780	127,279	130,006	1,485	1,495
Clackmannon	3,516	3,686	12,876	14,446	1,660	1,729
Dumbarton	15,251	15,384	70,579	76,287	1,803	1,339
Dumfries	62,137	62,016	559,585	565,490	9,482	10.915
Edinburgh	20,080	21,450	182,666	191,403	7,511	8,194
Elgin or Moray	21,640	22,296	69,412	72,514	2 413	2,472
Fife	47,673	51,020	109,730	121,539	5,511	5,519
Forfar	50,090	51,668	162,168	167,219	6,675	6,743
Haddington	8,958	10,115	120,590	131,221	1,631	2,171
Inverness	51,520	52,321	606,350	628,695	2,419	2,669
Kincardine	25,353	25,752	43,238	44 483	2,456	2.544
Kinross	6,627	7,091	37,409	40,920	565	671
Kirkcudbright	49,949	49,539	392,229	399,338	7,413	8,265
Lanark	73,335	75,408	245,665	252,199	6,709	7,213
Linlithgow	12,215	12,239	22,095	26,476	1,751	1,996
Nairn	6,047	6,246	19,526	19,360	634	690
Orkney	28,056	28,428	35,789	36,836	2,307	2,586
Peebles	7,124	7,498	196,790	201,538	532	618
Perth	73,097	75,728	710,993	746,685	7,212	7,594
Renfrew	26,155	26,813	40,072	42,584	1,178	1,458
Ross and Cromarty	43,550	43,965	307,256	326,144	4,245	4,790
Roxburgh	17,851	17,787	520,410	532,989	3,001	3,260
Selkirk	3,075	3,223	179,040	184,957	346	373
Shetland	18,679	18,859	110,573	110,795	2,445	2,301
Stirling	33,377	33,902	123,930	122,584	2,278	2,096
Sutherland	12,077	12,051	204,467	208,540	816	815
Wigtown	50,483	50,778	127,939	127,032	10,621	12,020

Royal Veterinary College.

The Royal Veterinary College, Great College Street, opened for the winter session on Tuesday, the introductory lecture being given by Professor McFadyean, who at the outset of his address said that this was the one hundred and ninth session. The past one was a very successful one, and in no previous years had there been greater diligence or greater success at the exhibitions. The great event of the year, the war in South Africa, had had a special interest for themselves. Early in the year, when there was a call for volunteers, seven of their students sought and obtained leave of absence in order to fight for the Queen and country. (Cheers.) He grieved to say that one of them had been killed in action. The lecturer then proceeded to trace the history of the Veterinary College. He said they still had much to learn regarding the nature and treatment of animals, but a considerable number of diseases had now been definitely ascertained, and what they had learned with regard to them would never have to be unlearned. Were it not for the experimental methods of investigation, they would never have attained such successful results as had been the case with regard to the discovery of the causes of disease. As to the struggle with animal disease, to this country belonged the system of stamping out purely contagious disease. The outbreak of the cattle plague in 1865 cost this country three millions of money, a big sum to be paid for ignorance. The system of stamping out had not escaped unfavourable criticism. For one thing, it was said to be unscientific, a reproach that was meaningless. Students should widen and deepen their knowledge of all that related to the health and the diseases of animals. Let them each try and do what they could to add to the knowledge of veterinary science.

Sugar Bounties.—Representatives of Germany, Austria-Hungary, and France will meet in Paris within the next few days in order to reopen the discussion on the sugar bounties question. The resumption of the deliberations which were held in Brussels last year on this matter, without, however, leading to any result, is due to the initiative of France. The German delegates are now going to Paris without definite instructions, and it will depend on the result of the preliminary discussion in the French capital whether the Brussels Conference shall be regularly resumed. The chief determining factor in this respect will be the question whether or not France is prepared so to enlarge her concessions in the bounties question as to justify the hope that on the bases of these concessions an understanding will be arrived at among the sugar-producing countries with regard to the abolition of the bounties.



Sheep Breeding Experiments in Yorkshire.*

The questions dealt with in this test primarily concern those farmers who are accustomed to purchase in the autumn a flock of draft ewes, and cross them with a ram of some of the improved breeds, with the express purpose of producing lambs which are to be sold either as fat lambs, or to be fed off on turnips in the succeeding winter, and where the ewes themselves are renewed every year. Farmers who work in this way are usually said to keep a "flying flock." This term will be adopted in this report.

That the return from a flying flock must vary with the quality of the ewes purchased and the district whence they come, as well as with that to which they are transferred, is fully recognised. Perhaps to this circumstance is due the fact that a diversity of opinion exists as to the relative merits of the various rams employed. It is also largely due to the fact that farmers have not the time, nor the opportunity, for making tests extending over a series of years with the same breeds of rams in order to acquire sufficient data on which to base conclusions. The work being conducted at Garforth, and here to be described, aims at providing this information. Obviously many difficulties stand in the way of carrying out tests of this nature with that degree of uniformity which it is desirable should characterise all tests, but by persistently sticking to one line of investigation it is hoped eventually to determine certain facts which will be of value to agriculture.

Outline of the Test.

The ewes employed were those which are extensively kept as flying flocks in Yorkshire, viz., improved Lincoln, and what is known in Yorkshire as the North Country ewe, and north of the Border as half-bred ewes, viz., a cross between a Cheviot ewe and a Border Leicester ram. Fifty of each of these ewes were purchased in September, 1898, the cost per head in each case being 43s. For the most part their teeth and milk vessels were in satisfactory condition. After being run on grass for a few weeks they began to receive, a fortnight before tupping time, a small quantity of barley and cotton cake. After the tupping season they were allowed nothing but grass until about Christmas, when they began again to receive about ½lb. of a mixture of maize and cotton cake, together with about 12lbs. swedes per head.

Five rams were used, viz.:—Lincoln, Oxford, Hampshire, Shropshire, and Suffolk. The Hampshire ram was purchased in York Market. The others were supplied on loan by the following gentlemen:—Lincoln, Mr. R. Fisher, Leconfield, Beverley; Oxford, Colonel Staveley, Eastlands, Tibthorpe, Driffield; Shropshire, Lord Wenlock, Escrick; Suffolk, Lord Ellesmere, Stetchworth Park, Newmarket.

Ten Lincoln ewes and ten North Country ewes were put to each ram. In order, however, to guard against irregularity in the date of the births of the lambs, and also to secure as far as possible uniformity in selection, the ewes were put to the rams in the order in which they came into season, the rams being taken in rotation.

Lambing began on the 6th March. After this the ewes received about 1lb. each of a mixture of 2½ parts linseed cake, 1½ part decorticated cotton cake, 1½ part dried grains, and 1½ part bran, together with about 1 stone of swedes. On May 12th, the ewes and lambs were put for the first time upon seeds, where they continued to graze during the day. In the evening they were removed to an old permanent pasture. They were fed thereafter on a mixture composed of 1 part linseed cake, 1 part decorticated cotton cake, 1 part oats, and 1½ part bran.

On June 19th, the lambs were weighed for the first time, and on July 4th the two best lambs (with the exception of the Suffolk, out of which one only was taken) of each breed were sold as fat. The ewes were sold at Whitkirk Auction Mart as soon as they were considered fit for the butcher. On July 10th the lambs were weaned, and commenced to receive ¼lb. each of lamb food, with ¼lb. of equal parts of linseed cake and maize meal. On October 10th, a few cabbages were given in the field, and between that day and the 19th the lambs were gradually accustomed to turnips, and on the latter date the food was changed to ½lb. each of a mixture composed of 2 parts of decorticated cotton cake, 1 part oats, 1 part crushed maize, and 1 part linseed cake.

On November 7th they commenced to get hay. On account of the small crop of swedes and the necessity for having the hoggs fed off early, the trough food was increased gradually until November 25th, when they received 1lb. per head of a mixture of equal parts of linseed cake, decorticated cotton cake, undecorticated cotton cake, maize, and oats. On November 30th the Green Globe turnips being finished, the lambs were put on swedes without any change in the trough food. It was found that they were consuming about this time ½lb. hay per head per day. On December 16th the trough food was increased to 1¼lb. per head. The swedes consumed were occasionally weighed, and found to be about 1 stone per head per day. On February 2nd all the lambs were sold to Mr. Pickering at an average price of 7½d. per lb., with the exception of five of the best of each breed (with the exception of Suffolk-Lincoln cross), which were kept for the purpose of further testing the rate of increase and the quality of the wool. On March 13th the swedes were finished and the lambs were then given a few mangolds. On April 3rd they were clipped and sent to the Co-operative Stores, Leeds, at an average price of 7½d. per lb.

The Wool.

The wool from each cross was weighed and sent to Mr. Collinson, Bradford, to whom the College is much indebted for the great trouble he has taken in furnishing valuable information on the value of the wool. The following table gives particulars with reference to the two breeds of ewes:—

	Lincoln Ewes.	North Country Ewes.
No. of ewes purchased	50	50
Cost per head	43s.	43s.
Number died before lambing	—	1
Number died during and after lambing	5	7
Average period of gestation	148 days	147 days
Number of lambs—single	9	6
Number of lambs—double	58	60
Number of lambs—triple	3	24
Total lambs dropped	70	90
Ratio of no. of ewes to no. of lambs	1 to 1·4	1 to 1·8
No. of ewes barren	10	4
Weight of wool per head	9·1 lbs	6·3 lbs.
Price per lb. of wool	7½d.	6¼d.
Average price obtained for ewes that reared lambs	45s. 3d.	36s. 6d.
Average period ewes kept after weaning	2½ weeks	5¼ weeks

Comparing these two breeds of ewes, it will be seen that the death rate was highest in the north country ewes, but this may be expected from the greater number of lambs from this breed. Compared with the Lincolns the north country ewes are much more prolific, and much better mothers. On the other hand this very fact renders them more difficult to fatten off for the butcher, and the price received was then much smaller than in the case of the Lincolns. The average price received for the Lincolns was 2s. 3d. more than cost price, while the north country ewes lost 6s. 6d. per head in value. Indeed, it is in these two particulars that the breeds differ most, viz., the smaller number of lambs from the Lincolns, but the greater aptitude of this breed to fatten off early.

Condition of the Lambs.

The lambs (with the exception of the best, which were kept to ascertain the value of their wool) were killed at the Co-operative Stores, at Wakefield, and the carcases were carefully examined by the Manager and Mr. Pickering. The following are their remarks on the character of the mutton of each lot:—

Hoggs from Lincoln Ewes.

Lincoln.—Very fat and full of suet.

Oxford.—Excessively fat, especially breasts and back. Not good for cutting chops. Too much fat to be cut off to make them saleable.

Hampshire.—Very good; more lean than in any of the other Lincoln crosses. Quite as nice and lean mutton as that from the North Country Hoggs.

Shropshire.—Killed well, but very short, and not serviceable from a butcher's point of view.

Hoggs from North Country Ewes.

Lincoln.—Very useful good cross, nice lean meat, and very serviceable in all ways.

Oxford.—Not so fat as the Lincoln Oxfords. Splendid mutton in all ways. Could not wish for anything better.

Hampshire.—Nice and lean, but quite fat enough. Good users.

Shropshire.—Very fat, but better quality than the other Shropshire cross.

Suffolk.—Very prime mutton. Soft in the bone; excellent for making chops; not so fat on the back as some of the other crosses.

As already stated the five best lambs out of each lot were kept until the 29th March, and were then clipped and killed at the Co-operative Stores, Leeds.

Conclusions.

As these experiments are to be continued for a series of years it is undesirable to do more on the present occasion than place the actual figures on record. It would be a very simple matter to draw up a statement as to which of these crosses had done best for any particular purpose, but as future tests will in all probability yield somewhat different results, it is a wiser course to postpone drawing conclusions until the results of a number of years have been obtained.

In fair play to the Suffolk breed it ought to be stated here that that breed has not had a fair trial owing to the large number of barren ewes in this year's experiment. In referring to the tables it is observed that in the cross from the Lincoln with this ram there were never more than three hoggs, and these were throughout poor specimens of the breed. But for the sake of uniformity in the tables, this column might have been entirely omitted. The experiment is being repeated this year on exactly the same lines. Already there is evidence that the Suffolk cross with both breeds of ewes will give a better account of itself than last year.

Another point of difference in the present experiment may be noted, viz., that in addition to the five breeds of rams used last year a Wensleydale and Leicester have been added to the number.

* From Professor J. R. Campbell's first report on the sheep-breeding experiments carried out by the Yorkshire College, Leeds, and the East and West Ridings Joint Agricultural Council.

Sale of Draught Ewes and Lambs at Langholm.

A special sale of draught ewes and lambs was held at Langholm Mart on Thursday by Messrs. Harrison and Co. The stock comprised about 3,500 head, the great bulk of which were Cheviot ewes. There was a good company of buyers forward, and prices on the whole were decidedly in sellers' favour. A fine lot of Cheviot ewes from Terrona topped the market at 26s. 9d., a lot off Glencartholm bringing 3d. less. Other lots from Murtholm, Westwater, etc., made about 2s. less. The market was a good one, being a little better in price than some of the recent sales, and compared with last year prices generally were 2s. to 3s. a head better. The lambs forward were chiefly seconds and thirds, but brought good prices.

Sale of Breeding Sheep at York.

Messrs. Thomas Walker and Sons held their second sale this season of breeding sheep at York Cattle Market on Thursday, when they had forward eighty-seven Oxford Down, Hampshire Down, and Lincoln long-wool shearling rams and lamb rams. There was a large company of buyers present, and keen interest was maintained throughout the sale. The Oxford Down shearling rams sold at an average of 5½gs., the Oxford lambs making an average of 4gs. Some grand Lincoln shearling rams from the flock of Mr. Langdale averaged £6 4s., while those from the flock of Mr. Hoyle made an average of £4 15s. A few Hampshire Down shearling rams sold at an average of 4gs.

Sale of Cheviots at Wooler.

At Wooler Mart, on Wednesday, the second annual sale of rams, ewes, gimmers, and lambs was held, the catalogue comprising over 5,500 head. There was a very large attendance of buyers, and a capital all-round sale resulted. Several lots of rams were sold, making up to £5 5s. The Cheviot ewes came next, and these met with a ready trade, in nearly every instance showing a rise on last year's prices. The crossed Cheviot ewes were also in good demand, the Fowberry Moor lot of eighty being 8s. 6d. up at 24s. The average rise would be about 4s. a head. Mules and Blackfaces also brought more money, the consignment of 100 from Wrangham being 4s. 6d. up. Among the three-parts-bred ewes several lots made a considerable advance on last year's figures. Melkington, at 58s., showing a rise of 18s.; Ford Hill, unwarranted, at 37s., were 15s. up. The half-bred ewes were in equal request, Kirknewton, at 35s., being 6s. 6d. up, the unwarranted lot, at 31s., showing a

rise of 9s. a head; North Hazelrigg, at 42s., were 4s. 6d. up; and Dunsall, at 43s. 6d., were 6s. up. The three-parts-bred gimmers sold well. West Fenton, at 43s. 6d., were 2s. 6d. up; Melkington, at 51s., showed a rise of 6s.; and West Horton, at 43s. 6d., made 11s. 6d. more. The half-bred were in equal demand. South Doddington being 9s. up at 34s. Several lots of Cheviot gimmers and the three-parts, half-bred, Cheviot, and mule lambs were a brisk trade.

The Kentish Ram Sale at Ashford.

The great features of the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association's ram sale at Ashford, on the 28th ult., of which we were only able to give a brief report in our last issue, were the large demand for export purposes and the greater evenness in the prices realised for the rams. No fewer than ninety-three of the 380 rams sold are destined for South America and other foreign parts, Messrs. Waldron and Co., the buyers for export, purchasing in addition to a large number of average quality animals a considerable number at from 10gs. to 16gs. per head. In regard to the second feature it is interesting to notice that while last year and the year before the top values were considerably higher, this year's average was much more satisfactory than in those years. The first sale organised by the association was in 1897, when with a top value of 46gs. 516 tegs averaged £7 15s. 7d. per head; but in the next two years the trade fell off and prices dropped. At the same time it is somewhat curious to find that the highest price made for a single Kent ram teg at any of the association's sales was last year, when the average value was the lowest, and that this year when the top value is the lowest the average value is next to the highest. The following tables will show in a more striking manner the facts stated above:—

TOP VALUES.

	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.
	gs.	gs.	gs.	gs.
G. Buley	26	14½	21	10½
C. File	25	10	25	7
A. Amos	23	50	30	15½
F. Neame	20	20	25	21
N. Clayton	20	—	—	—
Arthur Finn	16	21	10½	—
J. E. Quested	15½	5½	9	12
W. Millen	14½	21	16	46
F. de B. Collard	14	—	—	—
G. Farmer	10½	11	15	29
J. H. Harvey	10	10	—	—
H. Rigden	10	13½	13	29
Earl Sondes	6½	6	5½	6
W. E. Long	6	15	5	14
J. D. Maxted	5	9½	5	10
C. File and Sons	5	6	8	8
G. P. Hogben	4½	5	—	—
L. H. Page	4	7	—	—

AVERAGE VALUES.

	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
C. File	236 10	124 11	165 10	105 0
N. Clayton	234 6	—	—	—
A. Amos	224 7	210 2	170 0	152 0
G. Buley	191 1	125 5	190 0	115 10
F. Neame	175 6	140 0	152 1	192 7
A. Finn	168 0	180 7	130 2	—
J. E. Quested	161 8	99 9	122 6	128 9
G. Farmer	152 9	136 6	174 3	282 9
F. de B. Collard	152 3	—	—	—
J. H. Harvey	150 0	118 6	—	—
W. Millen	134 7	170 6	240 0	311 7
H. Rigden	119 2	104 4	128 4	139 4
Earl Sondes	106 9	95 9	84 4	103 0
W. E. Long	92 9	133 2	91 0	121 9
J. D. Maxted	90 9	105 0	87 0	106 3
G. P. Hogben	86 7	92 9	—	—
C. File and Sons	86 6	91 0	101 6	91 6
L. H. Page	84 0	147 0	—	—

TOTALS AND AVERAGES.

	Number sold.	Amount realised. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
1897	516	4,014 3 0	7 15 7
1898	325	2,475 15 0	7 12 2
1899	385	2,663 17 0	6 18 4
1900	380	2,930 11 0	7 14 2

Below we give particulars of the various consignments sold which were not noticed in our last issue.

Mr. F. Neame's rams were sold by Messrs. Nethersole and Honeyball, who disposed of forty-nine animals for a total of £429 19s. 6d., or an average per head of £8 15s. 6d. The following were the prices:—Mr. J. S. S. Godwin, 10½gs.; Messrs. Webb and Co., 4½gs.; Mr. Wacher, 5½gs. (twice), 6½gs.; Mr. English, 5½gs., 5gs., 4gs. (twice); Mr. R. Wood, 8½gs., 7gs., 6gs., 5½gs.; Messrs. Waldron and Co., 14½gs. (twice), 12½gs. (twice), 11gs., 9½gs., 7gs., 6gs (twice), Mr. Champion, 14gs., 11½gs., 7gs.; Mr. Checksfield, 12gs., 10½gs.; Mr. J. E. Quested, 20gs., 17½gs., 12gs.; Mr. Elgar, 10gs. (twice), 5gs.; Mr. H. Marsh, 8½gs.; Mr. H. Spanton, 4gs. (five times); Mr. Millen, 12gs.; Mr. Pilcher, 5½gs.; Mr. Ward, 6gs., 5½gs.; Mr. Mair, 9gs., 7gs.; Mr. Clifford, 6gs.; Exors. of Mr. Wood, 5½gs.; Mr. Prebble, 8½gs.

Messrs. W. and C. Petley disposed of Mr. F. de Collard's and Mr. G. P. Hogben's consignment, twelve of the former going for £91 7s. and eight of the latter for £38 13s. Mr. de Collard's rams sold as follows:—Mr. S. Champion, 11gs., 7gs., 4½gs.; Mr. E. Wacher, 8½gs., 6½gs., 5½gs., 4½gs. (three times; Mr. A. Amos, 14gs.; Messrs. Webb and Co., 10gs.; Mr. Solly, 4½gs. The prices realised for Mr. Hogben's lot were:—Mr. Graves, 4½gs., 4gs. (three times); Mr. Prebble, 4½gs., 4gs. (twice); Mr. Spanton, 4gs.

Mr. W. Millen's consignment, sold by Messrs. W. Millen and Son, went as follows:—Mr. Dixon, 10½gs., 4gs.; Mr. F. Mair, 6½gs., 6gs.; Mr. H. Neame, 14½gs., 10gs., 6gs. (twice); Mr. A. Ambrose, 7½gs., 7gs., 4gs. (twice); Messrs. Waldron and Co., 7gs., 6½gs., 5gs.; Colonel Thompson, 5gs.; Messrs. Webb and Co., 6gs.; Mr. Clifford, 6gs. (twice); Mr. F. Wood, 6½gs.; Mr. F. Neame, 4gs.; Mr. T. Byron, 4gs. The total realised for the twenty-three rams was £154 17s. 6d., or an average per head of £6 14s. 7d.

Six rams from Earl Sondes' flock, sold by Messrs. Swaffer Bros., made £32 0s. 6d., the purchasers being Mr. Ward, 5gs.; Mr. R. Strouts, 5½gs.; Mr. Broadley, 4gs.; Mr. F. Mair, 4½gs.; Mr. W. Horn, 6½gs., and 5gs.

Mr. J. H. Harvey's seven rams averaged £7 10s. per head, he prices being:—Mr. Harvey, 5gs.; Mr. F. Collard, 10gs.; Mr. G. Webb, 5½gs.; Mr. G. Collard, 10gs. (twice), 5½gs.; and Mr. G. Clements, 4gs.

Messrs. Reeve and Finn had by far the largest catalogue, they disposing of over seven consignments. For Mr. W. E. Long's eighteen rams they obtained a total of £83 9s. 6d., or an average of £4 12 9d. The prices were: Messrs. Webb and Co., 5gs., 4gs.; Mr. H. Pye, jun., 4gs. (five times); Mr. Bensted, 4gs.; Messrs. Waldron and Co., 5gs., 4½gs.; Mr. T. Hilder, 4gs.; Mr. Moses, 5gs.; Colonel Thompson, 5½gs., 4½gs., 4gs.; Mr. Rigden, 6gs., 4gs.; Mr. Nettlefold, 4gs.

Twenty-one from Messrs. C. File and Sons' flock realised £90 16s. 6d., Messrs. Waldron and Co. buying five at 4gs.; Mr. White one at 4gs.; Mr. Millen, 5gs., 4½gs., 4gs.; Mr. R. Wood one at 4gs.; Mr. Willett two at 4gs.; Mr. Meeson four at 4gs.; Mr. T. Pilcher one at 4gs.; Mr. P. Collick two at 4gs.; Mr. A. Hambrook one at 4gs.; Mr. R. Strouts one at 5gs.

For twenty animals belonging to Mr. G. Farmer £152 15s. 6d. was obtained, the individual prices being:—Mr. T. Powell, 9gs., 8gs.; Mr. Meeson, 4½gs. (twice),; Mr. A. Ambrose, 8gs., 7gs., 4½gs.; Mr. Bensted, 9½gs., 8gs.; Mr. Long, 10½gs.; Messrs. Webb and Co., 9gs., 8½gs.; Messrs. Waldron and Co., 8½gs (twice); Mr. T. Broadley, 5½gs., 4gs.; Mr. F. Collard, 8gs. (twice), 5gs.

£8 1s. 8d. was the average of the fifteen from Mr. J. E. Quested's flock, and the buyers and prices were: Mr. S. Millen, 10gs., 8gs., 7gs.; Mr. H. Spanton, 6½gs. (twice), 5gs., 4gs.; Mr. Rayfield, 5½gs.; Mr. Meeson, 10gs., 6gs., 5gs.; Mr. J. Finn-Kelcey, 15½gs.; Mr. Elgar, 8½gs.; Mr. Selmes, 9gs. (twice).

Mr. Arthur Finn's twenty realised the total of £163, the top price being 16gs., paid by Mr. T. J. Pearson, who also purchased at 11½gs., 8½gs., and 7½gs. Other prices were:—Messrs. Waldron and Co., 11½gs., 10gs., 7½gs., 6gs., 5½gs., 4½gs. (twice); Mr. G. Brann, 10gs., 5gs., 4½gs., 4gs.; Mr. E. Finn, 7½gs., 7gs., 6gs.; Mr. A. Brown, 12gs., 11gs.

Mr. C. File's lot sold as follows:—Mr. Arthur Finn, 25gs.; Mr. W. F. Collard, 20gs., 16gs.; Mr. G. Farmer, 25gs.; Mr. Elgar, 10gs.; Mr. Willett, 4gs.; Mr. Page, 7gs.; Mr. Levett, 9½gs., 8½gs., 8gs., 7½gs., 5½gs.; Messrs. Waldron and Co., 9½gs., 9gs., 8½gs., 7½gs., 7gs., 5½gs.; Mr. R. Neve, 11½gs. (twice). The total for the eighteen was the fine one of £213 3s., or an average per head of £11 16s. 10d.

The prices obtained for Mr. J. D. Maxted's rams were:—Mr. Elgar, 5gs., 4½gs., 4gs.; Mr. Moses, 4gs.; Messrs. Waldron and Co., 5gs., 4gs. (twice); Mr. Pilcher, 4gs.; Mr. Harvey, 5gs.; Mr. Whitehead, 4½gs.; Mr. Tuff, 4gs. (thrice); Mr. Scott, 4½gs. The total for fourteen was £63 10s. 6d.

Ripon Fair.

The October Sheep Fair at Ripon took place on Thursday. There was a very good show, and prices were high, but trade slow, farmers being disinclined to buy on account of mildew among turnips in some quarters. A few Wensleydale rams on offer made £7 to £8; half-bred ewes, 42s. and upwards. There was a small show of good-bred sheep; twice-crossed lambs sold at 30s. to 35s.; and Masham half-bred lambs 22s. each.

Northallerton Fair.

Northallerton October cheese fair was held on Thursday in wretched weather. There was, compared with previous years, a small show. Trade was generally slow, and a lot of sheep remained unsold. The prices realised were as follows:—Half-bred lambs, 16s. to 20s.; twice crossed lambs, 28s. to 32s.; half-bred ewes, 38s. to £2; Scotch ewes, 10s. to 16s.; shearling rams, £3 10s. to £4 10s.; rams, £5 to £6; tups, to £10 10s. each.

New Zealand Sheep.

An interim report of the sheep in New Zealand on April 30th gives the number at 19,347,346, showing a decrease of 1,160 as compared with the previous year. The decrease is in the South Island, where it amounted to 40,153, while in the North Island there was an increase of 38,993. Evidently the great advance in the export of frozen mutton is telling on the flocks, as in the Canterbury district, which is the largest exporter, there was a decrease of 67,898, despite the drafts received from other parts of the colony.

Glasgow and Leith Wool Sales.

There has been rather a quiet feeling in the Scotch wool trade during September. No public sales have taken place, and the private transactions have not been important. The approaching elections here and in America have rather distracted attention from business in both markets. When these are over and the South African war has been brought to a successful close, more activity is expected in the trade. There has been some movement in half-bred wools and cheviots at firm prices, and stocks of these kinds are moderate. In black-faced the demand has been mostly for present consumption in the home trade, and the amount taken for shipment has not been large.

	Washed	Unwashed
	s. d. s. d.	d. d.
Half-bred hoggs	0 8½ to 0 9	
Dame cheviots	0 7½ „ 0 7½	0 5½ „ 0 5½
Cheviot hoggs	0 8 „ 0 9½	
Dame cheviots	0 7 „ 0 8	0 6½
Cross-bred hoggs	0 6½ „ 0 7	
Leicester hoggs		0 3½ „ 0 4
Blackfaced hoggs	0 5 „ 0 5½	0 4½
Dame blackfaced		0 2½ „ 0 3

* Fine Southdown wool 2d. to 2½d. more can be realised.

J. AND W. GREIG.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Sept. 29th, 1900:—

			1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.
Swine Fever	Outbreaks.	No.	18	34	30	25
	Animals slaughtered as diseased or exposed to infection.	No.	102	604	501	254
Rabies. Cases Reported.	Dogs.	No.	:	:	:	1
	Other Animals	No.	:	:	:	:
Pleuro-Pneumonia. Cattle Slaughtered.	Outbreaks.	No.	:	:	:	:
	Diseased.	No.	:	:	:	:
	Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	:	:	:
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Outbreaks.	No.	:	:	:	16
	Animals Attacked.	No.	:	:	:	225
Scab in Sheep.	Outbreaks.	No.	29	21	20	17
	Animals Attacked.	No.	44	46	33	57
Anthrax.	Outbreaks.	No.	9	13	10	9
	Animals Attacked.	No.	10	13	10	9
Period.						
Week ended Sept. 29, 1900				416	712	
Corresponding week in	1899			857	1,414	
	1898			682	1,115	
	1897			880	1,070	
Total for 39 weeks 1900				6,555	9,675	
Corresponding period in	1899			9,025	14,171	
	1898			7,855	12,361	
	1897			8,501	12,500	

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Dispute over a Cattle Transaction.—At Shrewsbury County Court, before his Honour Judge Harris Lea, Henry Russell, auctioneer, Shrewsbury, sued William John Hatley, cattle dealer, Birmingham, to recover £4, said to be due in a cattle dealing transaction. It was stated that on June 26th Mr. Russell held a sale of stock in Shrewsbury Smithfield, and defendant was one of the purchasers. When the accounts were made up, an unendorsed cheque was found among the receipts. The cheque was subsequently returned by the bank as dishonoured, and plaintiff alleged it had been traced to the defendant. Being written to, defendant said if the cheque were sent to him he would forward one of his own to cover the amount. This was done, but when Mr Hatley's cheque was presented at the bank it was found to have been stopped. Replying to Mr. Eastley, the plaintiff said his clerk, who received the cheque, believed he had it from the defendant. Cash was received from the defendant that day on another transaction. Other Birmingham men bought stock the same day, and he took cheques from all his customers, but inquiries which had been made showed that the cheque in question came from the defendant. Cheques were often received unendorsed from regular customers. Mr Eastley said the defendant paid cash for all he bought on the day in question, and it was not until ten days or so after the sale that he received a letter from Mr. Russell stating that the cheque had been dishonoured. The cheque was sent to him, and he drew out a fresh one, and forwarded it to complainant, but payment was subsequently stopped because it was found that the dishonoured cheque had not been in defendant's possession prior to his receiving it from the plaintiff. It was stated that the person who drew the first cheque was prepared to pay the amount, and after hearing the defendant's evidence a verdict was given in his favour.

SHOWS.

The Dairy Show.

The twenty-fifth annual show of the British Dairy Farmers' Association opens to-morrow (Tuesday) at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, and will remain open to the public until the following Friday. To-morrow the public will be admitted to the Agricultural Hall at 10 a.m., the charge for entrance being 2s. 6d. until 6 p.m., when it will fall to 1s., and will remain at the latter figure on the three following days. The show has been arranged upon similar lines to those of late years, and the attractions include cattle, goats, poultry, pigeons, all kinds of dairy produce, appliances, etc., milking and butter tests and butter-making competitions, and the band of the Coldstream Guards.

Tuxford.

The twenty-third annual show of the Tuxford Agricultural Society, which was held on Thursday, was, unfortunately, marred by rain, and the Society will doubtless suffer heavy loss. The prize-money amounted to upwards of £200, for which there were a large number of entries, and the show of Shire horses as a whole was well up to the standard that has for many years been maintained at Tuxford. Encouragement of agriculture in its own immediate district being the motto of the Society, the exhibits in all the sections were restricted to a radius of twelve miles in a direct line from Tuxford. The chief feature of the show was the horses, cattle being very few, whilst there were no sheep or pigs, but good displays of poultry and farm produce. There were fourteen classes devoted to horses, and these contained some first-class animals. The prizes in the first three classes were given by the Duchess of Newcastle for the best animals by Nyn King Charles, Royal Derby, or Tom Cribb. The winner for the best filly foal by Nyn King Charles or Royal Derby was owned by Mr. Arthur, Apley Head, Mr. Hewitt taking second place. In the colt foal class Dr. Whitington showed the winner, and Mr. G. Tomlinson, Tuxford, was second. For colts or fillies the winner turned up in a roan colt exhibited by Mr. Headland. This animal was afterwards bought privately by Mr. Talbot, Tuxford, who obtained the second prize. The first prize for cart colt or filly foal, the property of a tenant farmer not occupying more than seventy acres of land, was readily awarded to Mr. Saul's bay King Holt filly, which has won many prizes this year. Mr. White's (East Markham) Downham Ben colt, which has also won several prizes, came second. The reserve was awarded to Mr. Dakin's brown filly by Capston Harold. She has also been a great winner at numerous shows, and with only receiving reserve spoke highly of the merits of her class. For the best Shire mare that has bred a foal in 1899 or 1900, the first prize was won by Mr. Staniland, Carlton-on-Trent, with his four-year-old mare. Mr. Forshaw took second with a level lean mare, the reserve going to Mr. Ashton's brown mare, which won the Duke's cup at Clumber. Mr. Saul came out again at the top in class six with his slashing big two-year-old bay filly, which has been winning all over the country. She also won first afterwards in Mr. Forshaw's class. The second prize filly, a winner of several prizes, was the property of the Duchess of Newcastle. The yearling colts was a capital class, Mr. Wareing, of Blyton, having an easy win with his big Midville Squire. He has a lot of bone and hair, and very good feet, and was afterwards sold for a good figure on the ground. The second winner was owned by Mr. Wilkinson, of Hockerton. Mr. Addington, Carlton, came out at the top in the next class with a very lengthy good-looking filly, but a great number of the onlookers preferred the second one, owned by Mr. W. Hird. For the best Shire filly foal, the winner was easily spotted in Mr. Forshaw's beautiful filly by Nailstone Cœur de Lion, out of the famous Tom's Flower. It is about as correct on its legs and feet as could be wished, and has never been beaten in its own sex yet. The second was by the same sire, owned by Mr. J. Pinder, Farndon. The shire colt foal class brought together fourteen exhibits. Mr. Chilton, Southwell, took the premier award with a black foal by Nailstone Cœur de Lion, Mr. White being second with his Downham Ben Colt, which took a similar position in Class 4. In the next class, the winners (as in the previous one) were placed in the same order. In the open radius filly foal class, the winner (a bay), owned by Mr. Wareing, was also by Nailstone Cœur de Lion. She afterwards won the 50-guinea cup and the Shire Horse Society's medal for the best female on the ground, and was purchased at a big figure by Mr. Forshaw, who afterwards sold her to go to the south. Mr. Pinder's Nailstone Cœur de Lion foal came second, which was second in Class 9, and Mr. Saul's King Holt filly was third, which was first in Class 4. This was a capital class and found the judges no end of trouble to put them in their right positions. In the open class for the best mare served by any horse belonging to Mr. J. Forshaw, Carlton Stud Farm, there were twenty-seven entries. Mr. Saul came out first with a beautiful two-year-old filly, which was afterwards sold at a very long figure to go into Cheshire. Mr. Baddiley, Blyth, was second with his Clarborough winner.

Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck, Peterborough, held a sale of pedigree Shire horses in a tent, in consequence of the wet, but only a few were purchased. A great many foals and colts were sold privately before the auction commenced. There was keen competition for Nailstone Cœur de Lion foals, and amongst the purchasers were Mr. Oxley (Brant Broughton), Mr. Richardson (Cambs), Mr. Forshaw, and several others from out of the south.

The following were the awards in the horse and cattle sections:—

Prize List.

HORSES.

Filly foal by Nyn King Charles or Royal Derby: 1, Mr. J. B. Arthur, Apley Head; 2, Mr. J. Hewitt, Haughton Park; 3, Mr. C. E. Whitington.

Colt foal by Nyn King Charles or Royal Derby: 1, Mr. C. E. Whitington, Tuxford; 2, Mr. G. Tomlinson, Tuxford; 3, Mr. Crossland, Lound Hall; r, Mr. C. P. Popple, Weston.

Colt or filly foal by Tom Cribb: 1, Mr. Headland; 2, Mr. G. S. Talbot, Tuxford.

Cart colt or filly foal, bred within the radius, the property of a tenant farmer not occupying more than seventy acres of land: 1, Mr. W. Saul, Bolham; 2, Mr. G. White, East Markham; r, Mr. James Dakin, Scarthingmoor.

Shire mare that has bred a foal in 1899 or 1900: 1, Mr. A. Staniland, Carlton-on-Trent; 2, Mr. J. Forshaw, Carlton-on-Trent; r, Mr. H. B. Ashton, Gamston.

Two-year-old Shire filly, bred within the radius: 1, Mr. W. Saul; 2, the Duchess of Newcastle; r, Mr. T. J. Cullen, Rolleston.

Yearling Shire colt, bred within a twenty-five miles radius of Tuxford: 1, Mr. Wareing, Blyton, Gainsborough; 2, Mr. R. Wilkinson, Hockerton, Southwell; r, Duchess of Newcastle.

Yearling Shire filly, bred within the radius: 1, Mr. W. P. Addington, Carlton-on-Trent; 2, Mr. W. Hird, Wheatley; r, Mr. W. Saul.

Shire filly foal, bred within the radius: 1, Mr. J. Forshaw; 2, Mr. J. Pinder, Farndon; r, Mr. W. Saul; he, Mr. J. Harrison, Everton.

Shire colt foal, bred within the radius: 1, Mr. R. Shilton, Southwell; 2, Mr. G. White, East Markham; r, Mr. H. Richards, Lound Field.

Shire colt foal, owned or bred within a radius of twenty-five miles of Tuxford: 1, Mr. R. Chilton; 2, Mr. G. White; 3, Mr. E. A. M. T. Fisher, Welby Manor.

Shire filly foal, owned or bred within a radius of twenty-five miles of Tuxford: 1, Mr. W. Wareing; 2, Mr. J. Pinder; 3, Mr. W. Saul; r, Mr. J. Forshaw.

Shire mare, served by any of Mr. J. Forshaw's horses (open to the united Kingdom): 1, Mr. W. Saul; 2, Mr. J. E. Baddiley, Blyth; 3, Mr. R. Moore and Sons, Bilborough; r, Mr. E. A. M. T. Fisher.

Challenge cup, value 50gs., for the best colt or filly foal shown in one of the above classes, and eligible for the Stud Book: Mr. W. Wareing; r, Mr. W. Chilton.

CATTLE

Cow, in calf or in milk, three years old and upwards: 1, Mr. G. Cartwright, Ragnall; all; 2, Mr. J. Forshaw; 3, Mr. J. Dakin, Weston.

Heifer, under three years old: 1 and 3, Mr. C. H. Stafford, Fledborough; 2, Mr. J. Dakin.

Cow, the property of a cottager not occupying more than twenty acres, in calf or in milk: 2, Mr. R. Dakin, Sutton-on-Trent.

Shorthorn bull, under two years old: 1, Mr. J. Hollely, Westwood.

Moreton-in-Marsh Horse Show.

The Moreton-in-Marsh Shire Horse Society's annual show took place on Tuesday on the Cricket Ground at Moreton, and was in every way a success. Gratifying evidence was given of the improvement in Shire horse breeding in the neighbourhood, while exhibits sent by many noted breeders made the show additionally attractive. The class for mares three years old and upwards was not only the best ever seen at Moreton, but in the opinion of many qualified to judge, one of the best seen at any show in England this year. The twelve entries gave the judges much trouble. The first prize went to Miss Alice de Rothschild (Aylesbury) for Lily, a mare by Royal William II., bred by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild. Mr. P. A. Muntz was second with Lockinge Belle, a mare of greater size, which has been first at many shows, including Ashbourne, where the winner here was placed fifth. Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., was third with Moors Cambria, a good, stylish mare. There was a strong local class of colt-foals, and here Mr. W. Lidsey, of Lemington Moreton, a local breeder, was first with a very excellent colt by Markeaton Royal Harold, Mr. W. Darlington, of Malvern, being second with a very promising and stylish colt, Clevelode. Lord Roberts, Mr. H. Juffs (Moreton) was third. In the open class, Mr. Lidsey's colt was beaten by Mr. A. Henderson's Briscot Gladiator, a very handsome colt. There were seven or eight very promising filly foals in the local class, and Mr. Lidsey was again first with an excellent short-legged bay, by King of Keele. Mr. W. Darlington was second with Clevelode Little Gem, a nice black. There were some excellent exhibits in the open filly foal class. Miss Alice de Rothschild was easily first with an offspring of the mare which was first in the class before-mentioned, a foal with a wonderful development of body for her age. Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., was second with Buscot Lilac, a filly of beautiful outline, which was only beaten in weight. Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., was third with a big, weighty filly, and Mr. S. E. Shirley, of Ettington Park, reserved. In a class for tenant farmers' yearling filly, the Misses Bull (Great Wolford) were first with Bashful, and Mr. A. N. Ashton (Newbold-on-Stour) was second and third with Armscott Wine and Armscott Credit. It was noteworthy that all three winners were by Doemster. In the open class for yearling filly Mr. J. Bradley, of Tilton, Leicester, was first with Halstead Violet, a filly considered one of the best of her age in England; Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., was second with Lockinge Harriet, a big, upstanding, stylish filly; and Armscott Credit was third, the owner having preferred to enter this filly instead of the one which was placed before her in the local class.

The yearling colts in the open class were a good lot. Mr. P. A. Muntz was first with a fine big colt by Dunsmore Masterman. Mr. H. P. Taunton (Redlynch, near Salisbury) was second, and the Hon. R. Hardinge (Burford) third. Dunsmore Sterling Harold, a stylish, upstanding horse, shown by Mr. Muntz, was first in the open class for two-year-old colts, beating Lockinge Soudan, belonging to Lord Wantage, which was a good second. In a good class of two-year-old fillies, Mr. Muntz was again first with a very big and true black by Harold, Dunsmore June Rose. Mr. R. W. Hudson (Great Marlow) was second with Danesfield Madge, and Mr. J. Bradley third with Halstead Lady Harold. There was a capital show of mares in the local classes, the chief prizes going to Mr. P. Slatter (Bourton-on-the-Hill), Mr. W. M. Jones (Banbury), Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., Mr. W. W. Hands (Evenlode), and the Misses Bull (Great Walford). The champion prizes were awarded as follows:—Colt foal, Mr. Henderson's Buscot Gladiator; filly foal, Miss Alice de Rothschild; tenant farmer's two-year-old mare, Mr. W. M. Jones's Marvellous; gold medal presented by the Shire Horse Society for best mare or filly, Miss Alice de Rothschild's Lily.

The show of hunters, polo ponies, and the jumping and driving competitions, which have been added to the show during the last two years, proved an attractive feature. In a class for mare calculated to breed a hunter, Mr. H. S. J. A. Sandford (Broadway) was first with Irish, and Mr. A. Rushout, M.F.H., second with Greling. Mr. A. B. Freeman Mitford, C.B., was first with Mattishall in a class for foal sired by his horse Hamlet, and Mr. F. Clayton (Moreton) was second. For hunter, mare or gelding, under seven, Mr. F. Hargreaves (Halford Manor) was first and second. In a class for light-weights Mr. J. S. Wilkes, of Tredington, took first honours, and Mr. G. A. G. Lonsada (Shipton-under-Wychwood) second. First and second prizes for polo ponies went to Mr. A. Flower (Stratford-on-Avon). Mr. F. Baguley, of Moreton, took two first prizes in driving competitions with well-known steppers—Daylesford King and Daylesford Confidence; and other winners in these classes were Mr. A. G. Shepard (Stourton), Messrs. Woollianis (Adiestrop), P. J. Wilkes (Honington), and C. Williams (Little Rollright). Mr. Wilkes and Mr. J. Wheeler (Seudley) were first and second respectively in a class for horses that have never won a jumping prize value £5. The open jumping prize was won by Artist, belonging to Mr. F. Firkins (Leigh, Worcester), Mr. T. Wadams (Alvechurch) being second with Jolly Boy.

Shaftesbury.

The annual show of the Shaftesbury Farmers' Club was held on Wednesday in a field on Burton Hill. Fine weather favoured the exhibition, and the attendance of the public was consequently large. There was a general consensus of opinion that the show was one of the best ever held at Shaftesbury, and the success which attended it must have proved very gratifying to the promoters. The entries numbered 347, as compared with 321 last year, and all the sections contributed to this increase, with the exception of that for hunters, hacks, and harness horses; but, if fewer in number, the animals shown were in quality equal, if not superior, to those seen at former exhibitions. This section, as usual, was distinct from the other parts of the show, and was managed by a separate committee. The Horse Show Committee, following the precedent of previous years, had arranged a capital programme of driving and jumping competitions in the large horse ring, which proved most interesting to the large crowd of spectators that lined the ropes. There was a fair entry of agricultural horses, but the prize-winners stood well out from the rest of the competitors. Mr. S. A. Hiscock was, as usual, the most successful exhibitor in this department, taking all three first prizes and one second. There was a better muster than ordinary of horned stock, the entries in the dairy classes being of exceptional merit. Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun., secured eight out of the nine first prizes offered with animals which for all-round excellence were equal to anything he has ever shown at Shaftesbury. The champion prize, given by Mr. A. Hiscock, jun., for the best cow in the dairy classes, was won by Mr. N. Benjafield with one of a pair which took first prize in Class 8. The donor of the prize, Mr. Hiscock, did not enter his cattle for the championship. Mr. N. Benjafield took two second prizes in addition to the champion award. Following the example of the Gillingham Society, the Shaftesbury Farmers' Club this year offered prizes for herds of dairy cows, which were judged on the farms of the different exhibitors. Mr. A. Hiscock, jun., won easily, and Mr. J. H. Macey, of Bowerstock, Dinton, was second. There was about an average show of breeding pigs, and the honours were divided between Mr. A. Hiscock, jun., and Mr. N. Benjafield. Mr. G. Goldie showed the best pen of bacon pigs. Sheep were a small entry, but some

excellent pens were shown. The successful competitors were Mr. G. Jeffrey, Donhead; Mr. H. Richards, Charlton; Mr. F. W. Richards, Childbridge, Wimborne; and Mr. G. Goldie, Compton. Dead poultry and eggs were introduced for the first time this year, and the innovation proved a success. As usual, the butter-making competition attracted a great deal of attention, and the judges considered that the quality of the butter made by the competitors was of a very high standard.

Judging in the great horse ring commenced about noon. There were seven entries in the local harness class, but the animals shown were a moderate lot. Mr. H. Johnson's cob stood out from the rest of the competitors, and Mr. Hiscock's Klondike, which took the second award, was a useful trapper. In the open pony class Mr A. Hiscock carried off the blue rosette with a dun-coloured cob, Mr. A. Hardy, of Blandford, being second. The tenant farmers residing within twelve miles of Shaftesbury showed some useful hunters. Of the eight entered four were quickly weeded out by the judges, but the others took some looking over. First prize went to a well-bred bay horse of Mr. Knott's, and the second to another horse shown by the same exhibitor. There was a strong show of hacks, but Mr. Apperley's Nobleman, a fine chestnut with good action and manners, was an easy first. Mr. H. P. Woolcott, of Swindon, took second with The Monk. The open heavy-weight hunter class was well filled, and included some remarkably good horses. Mr. E. R. Apperley's Jorrocks, a grand-looking horse, gained the premier award, with Mr. N. Learmonth's The Saxon a good second. Sixteen horses faced the judges in the light-weight class, and the first and second prizes went respectively to Mr. Woolcott and Mr. Knott. There were some good exhibits in the open harness classes, the first prizes going to Mr. Brook and Mr. Corry. Tandems were a poor show, Mr. Wilson's team winning easily.

Prize List.

CART HORSES.

Cart mare or gelding over three years of age, in work: 1 and 2, Mr. S. A. Hiscock, Motcombe; r, Mr. J. W. Shute, Motcombe.

Cart gelding or filly under three years of age: 1, Mr. S. A. Hiscock; 2, Mr. J. W. Shute; r, Mr. J. Ralph, Stour Row; hc, Mr. G. Goldie, Compton.

Cart mare and foal: 1, Mr. A. Hiscock; 2, Mr. A, Tucker, Motcombe.

CATTLE.

Dairy cows in calf, which have been regularly milked to within two months of due time to calve: 1 and champion, Mr. N. Benjafield, Motcombe; 2, Mr. Arthur Hiscock; r, Mr. W. Mullins, Melbury Abbas; hc, Mr. Edwin Hiscock, Marnhull.

Dairy cow, with offspring under nine months old: 1, Mr. Arthur Hiscock; 2, Mr. F. J. Hunt, Fifehead; r, Mr. M. S. Tucker, Black Ven, Fontmell Magna.

Two heifers, under 36 months old, in calf or in milk: 1, Mr. Arthur Hiscock, Motcombe; 2, Mr. A. Tucker; r, Mr. J. Woodford, Sedghill.

Two best heifers, under 24 months old: 1, Mr. Arthur Hiscock; 2, Mr. A. Tucker; r, Lord Wolverton; c, Mr. G. Goldie, Compton Abbas, and Mr. A. T. Carpenter, Shaftesbury.

Heifer calves, under 12 months old: 1, Mr. Arthur Hiscock; 2, Mr. N. Benjafield, Motcombe; r, Mr. A. Tucker; hc, Mr. G. Goldie.

Dairy cow, for dairy purposes: 1 and r, Mr. Arthur Hiscock; 2, Mr. A. T. Carpenter; hc, Mr. Edwin Hiscock, Marnhull.

Bull, any age: 1 Mr. Arthur Hiscock; 2, Mr. N. Benjafield.

Bull, under 24 months old: 1, Mr. Arthur Hiscock; 2, Lord Wolverton, Iwerne Minster; r, Mr. N. Benjafield; c, Mr. Albert Hiscock, West Stour.

Bull calf, under 12 months old: 1, Mr. Arthur Hiscock; 2, Mr. J. T. Mitchell, Mere; r and c, Mr. N. Benjafield.

PIGS.

Breeding sow with litter under 10 weeks old: 1, Mr. N Benjafield, Motcombe; 2, Mr. A. Hiscock, Motcombe; r, Mr. Carpenter, Shaftesbury.

Sow in farrow: 1, Mr. A. Hiscock; 2, Mr. N. Benjafield.

Best boar: 1, Mr. A. Hiscock; 2, Hon. C. B. Portman, Childe Okeford, Blandford; r, Mr. N. Benjafield.

Pen of ten bacon pigs, of weight, shape, and quality best calculated to meet the requirements of the trade, to be the *bona-fide* property of and fattened by the exhibitor, and to be removed from the show field for immediate slaughter: 1 Mr. G. Goldie, Compton; 2, Mr. W. Goldie, Compton; 3, Mr. W. Lear, Sherborne Causeway; 4, Mr. Baker, Whitings.

SHEEP.

Breeding ewes, two, four, and six teeth, from flocks under 300, two of each age; from flocks of 300 and under 400, three of each age; and from flocks of 400 and over, four of each age; and declared by the owner to be kept for stock: 1, Mr. H. Richards, Charlton; 2, Mr. G. Goldie; r, Mr. G. Jeffrey, Donhead.

Ram, over one year old: 1, Mr. G. Jeffrey, Donhead; 2, Mr. G. Goldie, Compton; r, Mr. H. Richards, Charlton.

Ram lamb; 1, Mr. G. Goldie; 2, Mr. W. Goldie.

Chilver lambs, from flocks under 300, six lambs; from 300 and under 400, nine lambs; and over 400, twelve lambs: 1, Mr. G. Jeffrey; 2, Mr. G. Goldie; r, Mr. W. Goldie.

Pen of ten chilver lambs (open): 1, Mr. F. W. Richards, Childbridge, Wimborne; 2, Mr. G. Jeffrey, Donhead.

BUTTER.

Six pounds of butter, rolls or lumps: 1, Lord Portman, Bryanston; 2, Mr. Jehu Moore, Bryanston; 3, Mr. A. Harris, Stourton Caundle; r, Mrs. T. Imber, Shaftesbury; hc, Mr. C. Prideaux, Motcombe.

Six pounds of butter, rolls, or lumps (open): 1, Mr. H. Fricker, Cann; 2, Mr. Jehu Moore, dairyman to Lord Portman, Bryanston; equal 3, Mr. A. E. L. Pitt-Rivers, Rushmore, and Mr. A. Eastment; r, Mr. C. Prideaux.

CHEESE.

Two cwt. of cheese: 1, Mr. H. Watts; 2, Mr. Arthur Hiscock, Motcombe; 3 and r, Mr. M. S. Tucker, Fontmell Magna; c, Mr. Edwin Hiscock, Marnhull.

Special cheese prize, open to all England.—Two cwt. raw milk cheese, made by exhibitor or his servant: 1, Mr. T. C. Candy, Woolcombe Farm, Cattistock; 2, Mr. H. Hoddinott, Milborne Wick, Sherborne; 3, Mr. H. Moorse, Stoke Trister, Wincanton; 4, Mr. H. J. Weeden, Marsh Farm, Blandford; r, Mr. S. E. Richards, Coldcot Farm, Stourton.

BUTTER-MAKING COMPETITIONS.

Open to members and their families and all persons who have received instruction at either of the Dorset Technical Butter Schools: 1, Miss A. Hurford, Thorncombe, Chard; 2, Miss L. Goldie, Manor Farm, Compton Abbas; 3, Mr. Jehu Moore; 4, Mr. B. G. M. Dare, Bowshot Farm, Wootton, Charmouth; r and vhc, Miss L. S. P. Harris, Search Farm, Stourton; hc, Miss Dora Marsh, Stroud Farm, Lydlinch, Sturminster.

Open to members and persons residing in the counties of Wilts and Dorset: 1, Mr. Jehu Moore; 2, Miss L. Goldie; 3, Mr. B. J. Gare, Wootton, Charmouth; 4, Miss M. Russell, Donhead; r, Miss E. Courtney, Drimpton, Beaminster; hc, Miss L. S. P. Harris.

HERDS OF DAIRY CATTLE.

Open to all members of the Society: 1, Mr. Arthur Hiscock, Motcombe; 2, Mr. J. H. Macey, Baverstock, Dinton; 3, Mr. J. White, Zeals Park, Mere; r, Mr. Edwin Hiscock, Marnhull; vhc, Mrs. Trowbridge, Fernbrook, Motcombe; c Lord Wolverton, Iwerne Minster.

HUNTERS, HACKS, AND HARNESS HORSES.

Horse, being the *bona fide* property of a member of the Society, to be driven in harness: 1, Mr. H. Johnson, Shaftesbury; 2 and r, Mr. W. Hiscock, Wincanton; 3, Mr. Arthur Hiscock.

Pony, not exceeding 13.2, to be driven in harness: 1, Mr. Arthur Hiscock; 2, Mr. W. Hardy, Blandford; r, Mr. R. H. H. Eden, Sherborne; hc, Mr. J. J. Brook, Middle Street, Yeovil.

Hunter, being the *bona fide* property of a tenant farmer residing within twelve miles of the town of Shaftesbury: 1 and 2, Mr. S. Knott, Sturminster Newton; 3, Mr. E. H. Pope, Horningsham, Warminster; r, Mr. W. Curtis, Stalbridge.

Hack: 1, Mr. E. R. Apperley, The Paddock, Cheltenham; 2, Mr. H. P. Woolcott, Wanborough Plain, Swindon; 3, Mr. S. Knott, Sturminster Newton; r, Mr. E. Brown, Antelope Hotel, Sherborne.

Weight-carrying hunter, up to 14 stone (open to England): 1, Mr. E. R. Apperley; 2, Mr. N. Learmonth, Hanford; 3, Miss A. Tyrwhitt Drake, Holnest Park, Sherborne; r, Mr. H. P. Woolcott.

Light-weight hunter (open to England): 1, Mr. H. P. Woolcott; 2, Mr. S. Knott; 3, Mr. N. Learmonth; r, Mr. Cable, Cattistock.

Horse, to be driven in harness: 1, Mr. J. J. Brook; 2, Mr. W. Corry, Over Compton, Sherborne; 3, Mr. W. Hiscock, Wincanton; r, Mr. Arthur Hiscock, Motcombe.

Horse, under 15 hands, to be driven in harness: 1, Mr. W. Corry; 2, Mr. W. Hiscock; 3, Mr. Arthur Hiscock; r, Mr. H. Johnson, Shaftesbury.

Tandem, any height, to be driven (open to England): 1, Mr. Wilson, Fifehead; 2, Mr. A. Butler, Gillingham; r, Major Williams, Sherborne.

Fencer (open to England): 1, Mr. C. A. Daniell, Atworth, Melksham; 2, Mr. B. Sims, Cheltenham; 3, Mr. Gilbert Coles, Westmoreland, Frome.

Fencer: 1, Mr. Gilbert Coles; 2, Mr. R. H. H. Eden, Sherborne; 3, Mr. Hill, Broadport, Shepton Mallet.

Mr. W. A. Glynn's Guernsey Bull "Frolic 6th."

West Middlesex Horse Show.

The first of what is hoped will prove a successful series of Horse Shows was held on Thursday, in the Churchend Paddocks, Willesden Green, the attendance being most satisfactory, whilst the entry proved quite a surprise, many of the best horses in the country competing. There were only two classes for hunters, and, although the entry was not large, the appearance of Gendarme and Sportsman, now the property of Mr. Nixon Grey (Cardiff), redeemed the section. Both headed their classes, Mr. Charles Brook's unnamed gelding being second in the heavy-weights, and Mr. A. Hardie Jackson's The Rector next to Sportsman in the under 14st. class. Hacks were more numerous, and, taken all round, were more even as regards quality. Mrs. Graves's Ask Mama and Messrs. J. A. Preece and Sons' Gold Edge being the respective leaders. A very choice Irish mare, exhibited in the 15-hands and over class by the Brentwood breeders, Messrs. E. and A. Baxter, was the pick of the section, after the two winners. The harness classes were the largest in the show, Mr. E. Blackman, Mr. T. W. Johns, and Miss N. Dayer Smith being the leading winners; whilst in a section for hacks of any height, to be ridden by ladies, there was no denying the claims of the well-known chestnut gelding, Herald, owned by Miss Violet Haines. Only a pair lot of polo ponies were formed, Messrs. H. and F. Rich's Arago easily winning the silver cup offered as a prize; and among the leading winners in the ever-popular jumping competition was Mr. W. W. Grundy, of Worcester, who won first and third prizes in the over 14-hands 2in. class, with Swallow and Stag, the former being particularly clever over his fences.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

October

9. Sale of Shorthorn bull calves, belonging to Mr. W. Dornie, Collynie, and Mr. W. S. Mare, Uppermill, at Tellycairn, Oldmeldrum, Aberdeenshire.
9. Worcestershire Horse Society's Show and Sale of Cart Horses, Colts, and Foals, at Worcester Cattle Market.
9. Sale of the late Mr. Felix Goldwin's herd of Lincoln Red Shorthorns, at Upper Hall, near Louth.
9, 10, 11, and 12. British Dairy Farmers' Association's Show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington.
9 to 13. Horse Show and Sales at Crewe Horse Repository.
10. Chertsey Agricultural Association's Show.
10. Sale of the herd of Jerseys, belonging to Miss E. Moore, at Kingston House, Leatherhead.
10. Sale of Shorthorn Bull Calves, from the herds of Newton, Pirriesmill, and Strowan, at Newton, Insch, Aberdeenshire.
11. Sale of Shorthorns, belonging to Messrs. Low, of Mains of Sunnyair, Forres.
11. Sale of Mr. Harold Martin's herd at Lincoln Red Shorthorns, at Wainfleet, Lincolnshire.
11. Sale of Clydesdales, Hackneys, and Shetland Ponies, at Seaham Harbour.
11. Sale of Col. W. M. Tufnell's Black Polled Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, at Langley, Great Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex.
11, 12, and 13. Glasgow Agricultural Society's Autumn Show.
12. Worcestershire Shire Horse Show and Sale, at Droitwich.
12. Sale of the herd of Black Polled Aberdeen-Angus cattle, belonging to Col. J. F. Brocklehurst, of Rainsboro', Oakbourn, at the Horse Repository, Peterboro'.
12. Sale of Mr. G. Inglis' herd of Shorthorns, at Inverness Auction Market.
12. Sale of pedigree Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs, and also Fat Stock, belonging to Mr. W. Parker, at Great Stanney Hall, near Chester.
12. Sale of pure bred Sussex Cattle at Haywards Heath.
13. Liverpool District Farmers' Club's Show, at North Haymarket, Liverpool.
13. Sale of Mr. J. Brooks-Wood's Nettleton herd of Lincoln Red Shorthorns, at Caister Fair.
15. Sale of pure bred Dutch Cattle, belonging to Messrs. Rumbal and Sons, at Pond Green Farm, Walthamstow, Essex.
16. Sale of the late Mr. W. Wright's herd of Shorthorns and young bulls from other herds, at York.
16. Sale of Mr. F. Crisp's Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, at the Stud Farm, Whitchurch, New Southgate.
16. Sale of Clydesdales, Hackneys, Shetland Ponies, etc., at Seaham Harbour.
16 and 17. Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association's Show at Chester.
17, 18, and 19. Sale of Horses, at Cheshire Repository, Crewe.
18. Galloway Cattle Sales' Association's Heifer Show at Castle Douglas.
18. Sale of the Right Hon. Lord Llangattock's Shire Horses at The Heath, Monmouth.
18. Sale of Shetland Ponies, belonging to the Countess of Hopetoun and Mr. R. W. R. Mackenzie, at Hopetoun House.
19. Sale of Red Polled Cattle, the property of Mr. J. E. Platt, at the Dale Hall, Ipswich.
19. Show and Sale of Shire Horses, at Lichfield.
20 to 25. Breeders' Exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington.

Twenty new members were elected at the Council meeting of the British Dairy Farmers' Association on Wednesday last.

SOCIETIES.

Dairy Trade and Can Protection Society.

The Council meeting of this Society took place at the offices, 57 and 58, Chancery Lane, on Wednesday. The first business on the agenda was the election of a president for the remaining term of office held by the late Mr. James Leggett. It was proposed by Mr. J. T. Horner, and seconded by Mr. Barton, that Mr. F. Ramsay be elected president, which was carried unanimously, and that gentleman then took the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The following gentlemen were admitted members of the Society:—Mr. G. B. Ramsay, Great Quebec Street, W., and Mr. J. Susser, Faulkland Road, Kentish Town.

The secretary then read the can exchange report for September, which showed that 510 cans and one churn had been recovered, and the delivery was 383 cans and eleven churns.

Messrs. Redwood and Destailes, the Society's analysts, informed the Council that during the month of September they had received direct from the members of the Society eighty-nine samples of milk for examination. Three were found to be of poor quality and twenty adulterated. Their inspector took at the railway stations twenty-six samples, one of which was considered poor. The secretary then reported the prosecution of Eliza Danton for stealing forty-seven cans and milk from various places, the property of the members, and who, after remand, was sentenced at Marylebone Police Court to three months' imprisonment with hard labour. He also reported a second prosecution, that of a boy, John Boucher, for stealing milk and cans and barrow straps, the property of the members, and who was sentenced at Clerkenwell Police Court to be birched. He also reported on several complaints of property being missing, and which he had recovered.

Totnes Union Chamber.

A meeting of Totnes Union Chamber of Agriculture was held on Tuesday at Totnes, to consider the position of agriculturists in connection with the General Election. The President (Mr. W. Blackler) occupied the chair, and there was a moderate attendance.

Mr. A. Tucker, the secretary, reported that he had written the Parliamentary candidates in the county asking if they were prepared, if returned, to support the re-enactment of the Agricultural Rates Act, and any measures brought before Parliament in the agricultural interest. Mr. Mildmay, M.P., wrote that he was certainly in favour of the re-enactment of the Act as well as the removal of any unjust burdens upon land. Mr. Rankin (Torquay) was in favour of it, and would support any other Bill having for its object the removal of unfair burdens on land. Mr. J. A. Nix (Mid-Devon) replied that he would support it unless legislation having the same object should be required on broader lines as a result of the Royal Commission on the incidence of local taxation, and also any legislation that had for its object the removal of unfair burdens on land. Mr. E. J. Soares (Barnstaple) would support the Act, but wished to see Mr. Lambert's amendments introduced. Sir W. C. Gull (Barnstaple, was strongly in favour of the Act, and would do all he reasonably could to see that burdens were placed on the persons and industries best able to bear them. The Secretary, in reply to a question, said Mr. Seale-Hayne had not replied. Mr. White (Paignton): Silence gives consent, I expect.

The President welcomed Mr. Mildmay, M.P., saying that there was special reason for them being proud of Mr. Mildmay, because in South Africa he had upheld the honour of the country in a splendid manner, and also the Yeomanry he went out to represent.

Mr. Mildmay, received with cheers, said he was glad to think he had been again returned to the Totnes Division. He plainly realised how much he owed to the support the agriculturists had constantly given him. It would always be his endeavour to act in Parliament as may best benefit the farming community. He should like to see a great many more practical agriculturists in the House of Commons, and hoped there would be as the result of this election. He continued to hold the same opinions as he always did, and should never change them. The foundation of his opinions was that England could not be prosperous without a prosperous agriculture. He wanted to see a revision of the whole system of local taxation on a comprehensive basis. The Union Government passed a measure which only justly lightened the burden of local taxation pressing on the farmers. They did not ask for that as a mercy, but as an act of simple justice. The farmer should not be taxed on his capital, but on his profits like other professions. With regard to his Bill, he was still of opinion that the people ought to know when they were buying foreign meat. It was said that would be advertising the foreigner, but he contended that they knew English meat was good honest stuff, and did not want to buy faked-up foreign stuff, but would be glad to have the quality of the meat guaranteed. He should do his best to press it in future. He acknowledged the way in which the farming interest had supported him, and said he hoped he should do nothing to forfeit their very kind indulgence.

The President moved "that this meeting is strongly of opinion that no candidate for Parliament should receive the support of the agricultural interest who will not pledge himself to vote for the renewal of the Agricultural Rates Act and support the interests of agriculture generally." This was seconded and carried.

Mr. Evans (Littlehempston) moved that the Chamber petition the Local Government Board to amend the law so as to give all Rural District Councils the power to prune the hedges, fences, and trees adjoining the highway. Mr. G. Coaker (Rattery) seconded ,and the resolution was carried by 13 votes to 3.

Suffolk Sheep.

At a meeting of the Suffolk Sheep Society on Friday, Mr. S. W. Slater presiding, the following gentlemen were elected members:—Mr. Felix T. Cobbold, Felixstowe; Mr. John Sherwood, Ipswich; Mr. A. V. C. Lambert, Foxearth Hall; Mr. H. Wainwright, Botesdale; Mr. Charles Cuthbert Eley, East Bergholt; Mr. R. Collingham, Cuckney, Mansfield; Mr. Roland Dawson, Kirton Hall; Mr. R. H. Sherwood, Birdbrook; Hon. Sir J. Gorell Barnes, Stratford Hills; Mr. G. W. Bendall, Shottisham; Mr. J. Westren, Elmsett; Mrs. Clotilde Davies, Herringswell; Mr. W. G. Fairhead, Brick House, Peldon, Colchester; Mr. A. E. Gray, Wenhaston; Mr. David Johnson, Middleton Hall, Mendham; Mr. Charles Jiggens, Burgate; Mr. C. S. Wentworth Reeve, Livermere Park; Sir Emilius Laurie, Bart., Maxwelton House, N.B.; Mr. Edward Brooke, Ufford Place; and Mr. Sam Woodiwiss, Graveleys, Great Waltham, the last-named gentleman being a life member.

The secretary (Mr. Ernest Prentice) stated that the entries for the flock competitions for 1900 were as follows:—

District A, Challenge Cup.—Sir Hugh E. Adair, Bart., Flixton Hall, 300 ewes; Mr. S. R. Sherwood, Playford, 253; Mr. H. S. Smith, Walton Grange, 180; and Mr. R. Holmes White, Boulge Hall, 183.

District B, Challenge Cup.—Mr. A. H. Cobbald, Eldo House, Bury St. Edmunds, 512 ewes; Mr. B. Hitchcock, Creeting All Saints, 127; Mr. Henry Lingwood, Needham Market, 22; and Mr. Joseph Watkins, Claydon Hall, 210.

District C, Challenge Cup.—Major E. W. Baird, Exning, 142 ewes; Mr. Robert Barclay, Higham, 453; Marquis of Bristol, Tuddenham, 235; Mrs. Clotilde Davies, Herringswell, 271; Mr. E. R. Pratt, Royston Hall, Downham, 282.

District D, Challenge Cup.—Mr. A. W. Ruggles-Brise, Spains Hall, Braintree, 303 ewes; Mr. Thomas Keeble, Bentley Hall, 300; Sir T. Barrett Lennard, Bart., Aldham Hall, 149; and Messrs. Stanford Brothers, Beaumont Hall, 295.

Pretyman Challenge Cup.—Major E. W. Baird, 12 ewe lambs; Mr. Robert Barclay, 51; Mr. A. W. Ruggles-Brise, 28; Marquis of Bristol, 25; Mr. Herbert E. Smith, 18; Messrs. Stanford Brothers, 30; and Mr. R. Holmes White, 19.

The secretary remarked that there were twenty-four entries, as against twenty-one last year, there being only two entries in District C, as against five this year.

The following gentlemen were appointed as judges:—Mr. D. Abbott Green, Mr. J. W. Eagle, Mr. J. R. Grimsey, and Mr. J. C. Dawson; Mr. George Pettit reserve.

The Marquis of Bristol was nominated Vice-President, and Mr. S. R. Sherwood, Mr. Thomas Goodchild, and the secretary (Mr. Ernest Prentice) representatives upon the Council of the National Sheep-Breeders' Association in 1901.

Gloucestershire.

The cash account of the Gloucestershire Agricultural Society up to September 25th last shows receipts amounting to £2,303 1s. 6d., the principal items in which are: Transfer from deposit account, £250; subscriptions, £294 18s.; prizes given by members, £218 5s.; entry fees, £394 1s.; Gloucester Local Committee, £350; royalties, £107; and gate money, £654 15s. 9d. The principal amounts on the expenditure side are: Balance due to bankers brought forward, £221 1s. 11d.; prizes, £768 5s.; advertising, bill-posting, stationery, and printing, £214 6s. 4d.; shedding and grand stand, £549 19s.; band, £80; expenses of judges, stewards, dinner to Mayor and Corporation, refreshments (including polo players), and travelling expenses, £139 5s. 9d.; secretary's salary, £100; balance at bank, £128 5s 10d. The last-named amount has been added to cash on deposit at the Capital and Counties Bank, which now stands at £478 5s. 10d.

All farm live stock should be given "Molassine." It is an excellent food and condiment combined. See advertisement on back page of this issue.—[ADVT.]

MILLING.

Wheat from a Miller's Standpoint.

At the annual meeting of the Cheshire, Shropshire, and North Wales Farmers' Supply Association, Mr. J. Hastings Brown, of Crewe, read a paper on "Wheat from a Miller's Standpoint," which contained some valuable hints on wheat-growing, and elicited a very interesting discussion. Mr. Brown said: In this short paper I shall not try to persuade you that when growing wheat you should consider millers' interests before your own. I take it for granted that what all farmers wish to grow is a crop that will give them the best cash return for their expenditure in growing it. I am strongly of the opinion that the very best millers' wheat should also be the best paying wheat for farmers to grow; and that, while endeavouring to produce a large and bulky crop, you should not forget to aim also at the production of grain of the most perfect description for the purpose for which it is required.

Many farmers tell us "wheat is not worth growing at the wretched price you millers give us for it." I admit that it is most discouraging to receive such low prices for your grain as have been ruling of late years, but I submit that no grain crop should be altogether condemned as a non-paying one until it has been produced of the very highest quality for its purpose that your land and our home climate will allow of. Wheat is a cereal grain that is in ever increasing demand in almost every country in the world, and it is a strange and sad fact that with a steadily increasing consumption the home production of it has dwindled down to about half what it was at the time of our grandfathers. The United Kingdom requires, roughly speaking, about thirty million quarters of wheat each year to feed its population, and toward this large quantity we grow at home only between seven and eight million quarters, taking the average of the past ten years.

Now, why is it that with an active consumptive demand at your very doors for four times the quantity of wheat you now grow, your wheat is often a drug on the market, and sells for shillings per quarter under the price paid at the same time for the better classes of foreign wheat? In my opinion the chief reason is, that in face of a growing demand for increased strength and quality in flour, there has been a steady deterioration in the strength and quality of English grown wheat, owing to the introduction and use of heavy cropping but inferior varieties of seed With the advance in general prosperity, the British people have become more and more fastidious about their bread. They insist upon having a large loaf for their money, and are not satisfied if it is not also of good texture and colour.

To make such a loaf, the bakers demand a strong and glutenous flour, and if some millers cannot, or will not, supply them with this, there are hosts of foreign millers' agents and representatives ready and willing to do so. It is useless for us to say to a baker, "Here is a fine-looking sack of English wheat flour; it is whiter and of better flavour than any foreign stuff you can get for the same money." He tells us at once, "It is of no use to me; it may be all you say as to colour and flavour, but it is not strong enough to bake into decent bread by itself, nor will it turn out sufficient bread per sack." What he requires is, first of all, strength, combined with as good colour and flavour as we can give him with strength.

Now, this quality of glutenous strength is exactly what your modern English wheat lacks, and this is the reason why millers, taking an average of the whole country, cannot use more than about 25 per cent. of it in their grists. Since seedsmen have introduced and farmers have taken to growing soft and inferior yellow wheats of the square head type, this want of strength and general all-round quality has been greatly accentuated, and millers are thereby limited to using a much smaller proportion of it than they otherwise would do. At certain seasons of the year, when your wheat is offered for sale in larger quantities than millers can use it, its price is naturally depressed, and much below the stronger foreign wheats. At such times Duluth and Manitoba spring wheats are held from 3s. 6d. to 4s. per quarter more money than English, and millers have to pay this difference for extra strong wheats to blend with weak English, to make up for its deficiencies.

Really strong wheats are nearly always of a dark greyish brown in colour, hard and flinty in appearance, and when broken across the grain do not look very soft and chalky white inside. From pure white wheat of the best varieties we get a beautifully white, clear flour, which, although weak, is not weaker, and is of better quality generally than can be made from any yellow-skinned wheat of the square head type. As white wheat is, however, a more delicate grain, more easily weather soiled, and more risky to get properly harvested in our moist climate, I think most farmers would be safer to grow the stronger and hardier dark wheats. You may perhaps now ask, "How are we to grow this strong wheat: where is the seed to be had, and how are we to know that it is the right sort to give us a bulky crop of good quality?" This is, I admit, a difficulty, but not an insuperable one.

The old and better milling wheats, such as Red

Launnas and Red Nursery, have almost, if not altogether, disappeared and gone out of cultivation in favour of the heavier cropping, but inferior, yellow kinds, which are weak, starchy, and characterless. I do not suggest that any wheat should be grown that is not a good heavy cropper. What is wanted is a variety which will give both weight and quality of grain, and for the attainment of such I would make the following four suggestions:—First, that farmers should do more experimental work, both on their own farms and in association through their agricultural societies and colleges. Second, that they should get their local supply associations to procure for them from distant counties a change of seed of the best and strongest kind available. Third, that when ordering seed wheat from their seedsmen they should insist that the strength quality of the grain is quite as important as its bulk producing properties.

Lastly, that they should consult the miller to whom they usually sell their wheat as to his opinion of the seed before actually purchasing. Some of their well-known strong foreign wheats might with advantage be experimented with on a small scale, with a view to acclimatising them to English soil. I do not ask you to believe that by growing stronger and better wheat from a miller's point of view you can thereby raise the standard of value to the old high level that our fathers and grandfathers can tell us of, but I do claim that it should be possible to grow wheat that would give better monetary results both to the growers and to those who manufacture it into flour for the nation's use, than do these miserable soft wheats of the square head type so generally grown of late years.

By sowing the right seed at the right time, by using suitable manures and reaping the crop before it gets too ripe, I believe it quite possible to produce a heavy out-turn of strong and good quality grain. I do not suggest that English farmers can ever grow wheat with the excessive strength of the strongest foreign. It may not be possible even to grow wheat sufficiently strong to be used altogether by itself. What is wanted is either pure white wheat of superlatively white colour, or red wheat that has sufficient backbone of gluten in it to enable us safely to use, say, 60 per cent. of it in our mixes, without having bakers growling at us, and going to the foreign miller for what they cannot get from us.

Millers have found by experience that it is easier far to supply what there is a good demand for, than to waste their time and energy in endeavouring to create a demand for what is not wanted. At present farmers experience an indifferent demand, at an indifferent price, for the comparatively small quantity of wheat they grow. Would it not be a wise course to make every effort to supply the class of wheat there is the largest demand for, instead of offering for sale grain which millers can only use very sparingly? I venture to say that of good strong wheat you might grow double the acreage now grown, and at the same time have millers tumbling over one another for every sack of it at comparatively better prices than you now receive. We cannot all attain the highest and best in either farming or milling, but we must aim high to shoot high, and I would say in conclusion that the only possible way to successfully meet the competition of foreign countries is to keep the quality of all our productions at least equal to, and if possible, superior to theirs. Unless we do this, we must inevitably lose ground and fall behind in the competitive race of nations.

The subject of old-age pensions has always received a great amount of attention from politicians and others, and during the present election it has come in for a good share of discussion. One of the chief difficulties to overcome in the matter is the great cost, the sum estimated by the Departmental Committee of the Local Government Board being £10,300,000 for a pension of from 5s. to 7s. per week. This figure, however, was stated by Mr. Sinclair, in an interesting letter to the *Times*, to be wrong, Mr. Sinclair showing that £2,700,000 would cover the cost of such a pension. The letter mentioned has, together with other interesting facts concerning old-age pensions, been printed in pamphlet form, and all who take any interest in this important subject would do well to give the pamphlet a careful perusal.

Stack Fire near Brighton.—A stack on Mr. Thos. Duplock's Farm, situated on the Ditching Road, near Brighton, was totally destroyed by fire on the 29th ult., the loss being estimated at £200. How the outbreak originated is not known. Both the police and the Volunteer Fire Brigade turned out, but on arriving the firemen found that not a drop of water was available. Fortunately, Mr. Colman, of the Brighton Waterworks, who was present, knew of water being obtainable from a hydrant on the farm at the bottom of the hill some distance away. This source of supply was immediately tapped, but it was at once seen that the amount of water procurable fell far short of what was anticipated. It was found, indeed, on affixing the hose that the water could not be pumped up the hill, and therefore nothing could be done but to let the fire burn itself out, the firemen taking protective measures to prevent another stack, situated but little more than the length of a cricket pitch away, from sharing the same fate. The stack was fully insured.

Crop Acreage in 1900.

THE FOLLOWING IS A PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF THE ACREAGE UNDER WHEAT, BARLEY, OATS CLOVER, AND PERMANENT PASTURE, COMPILED FROM THE RETURNS COLLECTED ON THE 4TH JUNE, 1900, WITH A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT FOR 1899.

Counties.	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Clover and Rotation Grasses.		Permanent Pasture.	
	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.
	Acres.	Acres	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres	Acres.
TOTAL FOR GREAT BRITAIN	1,845,042	2,060,981	1,990,265	1,982,108	3,026 088	2,959,755	4,759,158	4 807 951	16,729,035	16,630,747
England	1,744,556	1,899 827	1,645,022	1,636,634	1,860,513	1,781,640	2,768,038	2,806,610	13,301,877	13.324,160
Wales	51,654	53,898	105,048	105,978	216,447	220,233	396,682	394,687	1,929 045	1,919,610
Scotland	48,832	47,256	240,195	240,496	949,128	957,873	1,594,438	1,606,654	1,498,113	1,386,977
ENGLAND.										
Bedford	37,149	40,528	19,473	19,484	18,779	16,748	26,471	26,332	102,794	101,770
Berks	36,034	39,301	27,270	26,886	32 943	30,857	41,953	43,685	169,304	167,717
Buckingham	34,298	37,042	18,682	17,693	29,803	27,959	31,470	31,872	243,887	242,810
Cambridge	95,439	101,235	52,484	52,924	49,619	45,366	57,166	58,174	117,321	117.722
Chester	16,740	16,252	1,630	1,883	61,019	61,009	70,987	73,145	339,023	339,882
Cornwall	28,010	30,773	32,300	31,905	64,340	62,464	189,313	186,120	238,806	240,590
Cumberland	3 174	3,578	1.988	2,350	73,039	73,918	115,532	115,215	344,428	342,403
Derby	15.560	15,656	6,133	6,152	24,543	25,038	21 697	25 417	401,830	401,015
Devon	57,376	65,094	44,235	42,797	122,025	117,101	219,091	218,878	634,427	634,027
Dorset	21,817	25,060	29,075	27,951	28,779	26,392	46,933	46,346	299,312	298,399
Durham	14,114	15,131	17,492	17,114	32,750	32,723	51,780	53,518	280,190	278,850
Essex	118,722	126,244	84,059	86,778	62,336	55,367	90,543	99,364	271,907	266,047
Gloucester	47,379	52,717	28,237	27,376	33,553	31,098	89,214	89,800	397,718	393,504
Hants	59,880	65,969	40,863	39,615	76,417	74,711	113,120	113,113	284,103	280,074
Hereford	25,356	29,078	20,246	20,061	24,808	22,819	38,237	37,603	297,421	294,154
Hertford	51,391	54,755	27,766	29,037	36,237	32,943	45,667	45,374	120,687	119,033
Huntingdon	31,161	34,028	20,957	20,696	12,842	11,744	20,066	17,260	84,151	80,469
Kent	42,993	50,757	36,748	36,546	47,413	45,315	48,996	52,940	415,087	408,674
Lancaster	21,259	20,145	6,321	6,627	72,776	73,350	81,374	84,158	576,616	575,614
Leicester	24,193	24,730	13,822	13,634	24,968	25,988	22,668	24,146	359,124	356,888
Lincoln	175,288	195,004	211,471	208,497	125,378	117,156	187,109	193,691	499,293	498,135
London	94	240	66	40	124	153	142	148	8,775	8,922
Middlesex	3,159	3 543	759	969	2,972	2,733	1,890	2,517	73,215	73,040
Monmouth	6.824	7,384	5,020	5,002	8,942	8,605	14,368	14,890	196,545	195,405
Norfolk	126,574	110 173	200,409	198,466	6 ,959	54,887	163,147	164,583	289,189	289,142
Northampton	43,187	47,633	43,676	43,897	27,714	24,673	33,655	31,982	354 912	353,997
Northumberland	6,776	7,581	34,837	34 093	44,342	44,386	76 657	76 906	492,169	490 825
Notts	39,067	41,545	38 073	38,890	34,522	32,485	54 257	56,051	209,274	208 161
Oxford	36.180	40,082	42,016	41,783	31,912	29,616	50,111	51,419	193,716	193,348
Rutland	4,790	5,292	10,697	10,590	3,964	3,674	6, 49	6,805	50,906	51,416
Salop	32,219	35,998	53,848	55,438	40,960	38,011	71,149	70,512	458,027	455 161
Somerset	32,329	37,999	28,593	25,029	27,266	25,997	50,139	51,877	654,659	652 761
Stafford	22,798	24,620	16,987	17,307	37,522	36,590	45,509	47,050	429,421	426,185
Suffolk	105,806	115,711	136,682	139,879	42,498	35,267	106,987	105,812	180,712	179,845
Surrey	19,722	21,532	7,773	7,926	23 918	23,065	22,208	23,305	155,993	155,9 8
Sussex	52,244	56,508	11,911	10,405	61,076	59,852	61,148	60,179	392,340	390,957
Warwick	36,927	38,311	13 383	13,696	29,558	28,493	33,174	34 391	334,583	332,626
Westmoreland	169	177	794	897	14,995	15,387	16,899	16,543	206,360	205,965
Wilts	53,507	57,630	40,030	39,918	46,833	44,133	74 213	75,400	423,854	421,777
Worcester	31,009	34,066	9,549	9 580	19,259	17,999	28,136	27,741	252,005	250,887
York, E. Riding	64.254	64,562	73,623	72,483	95,231	96,993	92,232	97,739	214,220	206,905
„ N. Riding	27,200	27,857	76,388	75,158	73,179	73,724	71,918	75,785	518,972	515,660
„ W. Riding	47,388	48,306	58,656	58,182	75,900	75,880	74,463	78,515	827,630	825,679
WALES.										
Anglesey	219	278	1,615	1,649	19,778	21,354	44,721	42,678	76,810	76,979
Brecon	3,731	3,793	4,629	4,772	12,949	13,134	20,893	21,612	153,298	151,148
Cardigan	6,176	6,056	15,415	15,726	26,883	27,753	51,995	49,367	156,965	157,089
Carmarthen	8,490	8,738	14,331	14,103	29,208	29,851	33,915	33,978	344,772	343,444
Carnarvon	363	466	5,690	5,832	10,698	10,860	41,282	41,195	115,820	115,710
Denbigh	5,787	6,280	14,180	14,792	24,691	25,105	52,408	53,628	154,422	152,875
Flint	4,318	4,754	5,637	5,751	11,296	11,791	23,774	23,695	72,812	71,730
Glamorgan	5,285	5,756	8,138	7,899	11,513	11,673	21,824	23,530	214,3 5	212,381
Merioneth	836	879	3,997	4,035	9,074	9,109	18,698	19,141	116,559	115,872
Montgomery	10,111	10,344	8,446	8,954	21,011	21,301	30,941	32,0 3	192,099	188,671
Pembroke	3,260	3,333	19,220	18,757	27,231	26,581	39,998	37,744	210,485	212,936
Radnor	3,078	3,221	3,700	3,658	12,115	11,821	16,173	16,116	120,718	120,175
SCOTLAND.										
Aberdeen	17	4	29,619	29,415	182,517	184,478	282,545	283,065	33,580	30,563
Argyll	1	5	1,635	1,726	17,349	17,326	26,822	27,897	78,734	76,137
Ayr	976	1,197	1,661	1,634	44,412	45,271	101,407	102,644	154,628	152,503
Banff	52	24	10,158	10,504	47,367	46,874	67,599	67,665	9,539	9,826
Berwick	1,903	2,120	21,139	21,143	34,122	33,375	58,467	58,182	43,633	42,978
Bute	—	12	133	85	4,902	4,954	8,656	8,305	9,364	9 407
Caithness	4	1	1,212	1,257	33,699	33,758	32 287	32,205	28 920	28,438
Clackmannan	282	214	494	591	2,912	3,021	3,431	3,474	6,237	6,509
Dumbarton	1,037	978	289	246	6,704	6,842	16,917	16,416	22,270	22,432
Dumfries	123	142	659	831	42,732	43,370	80,878	80,848	111,780	110,790
Edinburgh	4,104	4,158	6,098	5,804	22,793	22,812	31,801	32,813	47,825	47,279
Elgin or Moray	886	1,209	14,141	14,432	20,421	20,213	39,456	38,964	8,221	8,473
Fife	10,028	9,270	22,569	22,475	38,665	38,732	64,341	65,567	75,878	75,505
Forfar	8,640	8,572	30,472	30,095	46,817	47,858	86,019	86,644	29,513	28,936
Haddington	5,162	5,087	16,340	16,382	16 815	17,314	28,029	27,530	19,660	19 852
Inverness	36	5	7,526	7,502	30,048	30,051	30,219	31 365	63,310	61 710
Kincardine	793	692	13.958	13,520	27,189	27,517	47,332	48,257	9,487	8,742
Kinross	14	32	482	486	6,261	6,297	11,827	12,576	13,025	12,323
Kirkcudbright	49	104	65	106	27,310	27,255	63,373	63 348	85,623	84,845
Lanark	2,580	2,184	355	409	36,648	37,651	92,696	102,006	103,516	93,734
Linlithgow	1,300	1,296	3,414	3,498	9,482	9,778	17,113	15,054	20,748	22,456
Nairn	—	1	3,489	3,447	5,462	5,491	10,384	10,014	1,847	2,087
Orkney	—	—	4,594	4,600	33,392	33,620	34,180	33,805	17,275	17,440
Peebles	24	7	436	459	8,036	8,164	17,709	18 254	17 909	16,669
Perth	5,764	5,104	15,460	15,398	63,731	64,553	99,918	100,371	105,745	105,146
Renfrew	1,583	1,687	57	57	10,961	11,249	25,657	24,773	47,967	48,551
Ross and Cromarty	789	813	12,707	12,853	29,868	29,685	44,342	43,219	27,736	28,342
Roxburgh	488	518	13,224	13,231	28,740	29,028	52,372	52,650	62,803	62,236
Selkirk	8	—	441	476	4,880	4,746	9,133	9,116	12,537	12,391
Shetland	—	—	1,746	2,003	7,626	7,292	1,375	1,245	43,606	43 717
Stirling	1,821	1,361	3,255	3,497	17,797	17,965	31,590	31,541	51,926	52,017
Sutherland	—	—	1,371	1,387	7,817	7,862	8,608	9,062	9,975	9,530
Wigtown	368	459	996	947	32,747	33,471	67,947	66,977	34,397	34 [illegible]

Brough Hill Fair.—The attendance at this fair on Monday was the largest of recent years, but there was a comparatively light show of horses. Heavy animals were unusually scarce, and owners were able to command high prices. In special cases £70 to £80 was quoted, while £60 was frequently asked. The demand for harness horses was not so great, and prices ranged from £15 to £60. There was a light show of unbroken stags, and business ruled slow at £6 to £20. A few Yankee colts and fillies realised to £27. There was an active trade in sheep, black-faced lambs realising from 8s. to 10s., and grey-faced lambs, 25s. Tuesday's proceedings were spiritless and uninteresting. Very few better-class horses were paraded for sale. A fair business in inferior animals was effected, and several heavy batches were moved away during the afternoon. Business in unbroken pony stags was resumed at £6 to £12, and prices for work horses covered a very wide range.

Stack Fire near Bury St. Edmunds.—Early on Tuesday morning a fire was discovered on the farm premises of Mr. W. S. Peddar, of Higham Hall, about midway between Bury St. Edmunds and Newmarket. Several members of the fire brigade were called out, and very promptly put in an appearance, but it was impossible to save several stacks from destruction. The drum of a threshing machine was also destroyed. The origin of the fire has not at present been discovered. The property was insured.

About nine o'clock on Wednesday morning a fire broke out in the covered stackyard of Cliff Farm, Flamborough, adjoining Cliff House, occupied by Miss E. Marsden. The workmen were threshing at the time, and it is not known whether the fire originated through a spark from the engine or owing to friction of the elevator. The adjoining stables were destroyed, and also the threshing machine elevator. The total damage is estimated at over £500, and this is only partly covered by insurance.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Experiments in Sugar Beet Growing.

Sir,—As you are aware, I have for several years past carried out very successful experiments in sugar beet growing in different parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland. Encouraged by the success which has attended my efforts I intend to continue the experiments in 1901, and have pleasure in repeating my offer of former years to supply gratuitously a quantity of sugar beet seed to farmers willing to experiment.

As in many of my previous experiments, a manuring with basic slag (supplying phosphoric acid and lime to the land) has given very satisfactory results, it seems to me desirable that this fertiliser should be more extensively tried in this country, all the more as the Germans use it very largely, and with good results, for this purpose. For beets they generally sow it broadcast during autumn or winter, preferably before ploughing.

I am pleased to say that I have induced a leading firm of producers to place a quantity of basic slag at my disposal for experimental purposes, to be supplied gratis to the farmers who undertake a careful experiment with the seed which I shall supply, the experimenters to forward sample roots to me in due course for analysis.

As in previous years, I shall make no charge for analysis and report.

SIGMUND STEIN,
Technical Sugar Expert.

323, Vauxhall Road, Liverpool, October 1st, 1900.

Corn from India.

Sir,—In your corn trade report I observe an interesting notice that "the eagerness of Indian merchants to secure British gold payments is evidenced in attempts already making to sell the April harvest." Further, that this export may come, as in the past, from the close vicinity of famine districts. This actually happened in the Irish famine of 1847. I believe I am correct in saying that food daily was exported from Ireland sufficient to have stayed the famine.

It would take up too much of your valuable space to fully develop my argument; but my researches into the question persuade me that this inequitable state of things was directly attributable to the financial system of this country, and your statement discloses an exchange operation involved in it. It must not be supposed that in stating this I am raising any question of the standard of value, with which I am well satisfied; but I do raise a question against the Bank Charter Acts, whereby eighteen million pounds' value of notes emanate from the Issue Department of the Bank of England without any deposit of gold and without any distinction from the issues represented by bullion deposited for safe custody. It is the above oversight that, as I allege, warps the working of our financial system, and this is directly attributable to Statute Law.

Thus arises the anomalous methods noticed by the late Walter Bagehot, which our bankers are forced to pursue, and, further, from this arises our present agricultural depression and the fierce commercial competition, socially ruinous, which has characterised the past century, the relief of which depends, and alone depends, on the pen of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. THOMAS W. HUSKINSON.

Eppustone, Notts, October 5th, 1900.

Wine Growing in Victoria.

The Royal Commission (Victoria) appointed to inquire into the wine industry have presented their report. The first recommendation is that established winery companies should be reorganised on an extended co-operative principle, and strengthened by Government advances in the shape of loans at the following rates:—To co-operative winery companies with a share-list of at least 100 vignerons, and a paid-up capital of £5,000, £10,000, in sums of £2,000 annually; and companies of half that size, £5,000, in sums of £1,000 annually, the interest to be 3½ per cent., with 1 per cent. added as a sinking fund. The loans are to be spent on buildings, plant, and the purchase of wine, at least 50,000 gallons yearly, by the large companies, and 25,000 gallons by the smaller. The repayments of the loans are to begin at the end of three years, and are to extend over twenty years, with the right of paying off the whole or part at any time. The Commission favour the provision of a central cellar, at a cost of £7,500, to be under the control of a thoroughly competent wine handler, and the establishment of a depôt in London, under an expert manager, to receive wines in bulk, bearing the Government stamp. They want £5,000 spent in advertising the wines in the United Kingdom, legislation of a vigorous nature to prevent adulteration of wines, and the establishment of a thorough system of inspection of wine shops. Under this scheme, if adopted, growers will receive up to 1s. per gallon cash on delivery at the winery, and the balance from the sales in London.

THE GARDEN.

The days are shortening rapidly now, and the sun sinks lower and lower in the sky. Soon—too soon—we shall have "chill November" here again, and then Christmas! How quickly the years go by now; and the older one grows, the faster they fly.

Although October is now in, we have had no touch of frost here yet, and the garden shows very few signs of the hand of autumn, the frequent showers experienced for some time past having kept everything in a growing condition. Potatoes are nearly all dug and stored, the haulm having completely died off, and the tubers are much better off in a dry shed than they would be in the damp ground. They should be very carefully sorted over before being stored away, rejecting every one showing the least indications of the disease, as, especially when stored in bulk, this will spread rapidly. Those only slightly affected are boiled and fed to chickens or pigs, the really bad ones being burnt, but fortunately we have very little disease, on the whole, which I attribute to having used no animal manure at all this season—nothing but the turf or grass turned in, and a little artificial.

By the way, one plot that was manured with a light sprinkling of "Fertility" (from the Anglo-Continental Guano Company) only, produced a splendid crop at the rate of just over twenty tons to the acre! Many of the tubers scaled from ½lb. to 1lb. in weight, and not a bad or unsound one in the lot, while there were very few small ones, and no chats at all! This is the best potato fertilizer I have ever used, and it is nearly or quite as good for tomatoes.

The variety was my old favourite Beauty of Hebron, which, I am pleased to see, has just been given an award of merit by the Royal Horticultural Society, at Chiswick. Although it was introduced (from the U.S.A.) sixteen or more years ago, it seems it has never received an award of any kind before, though sent for trial more than once, but this season it turned out so well, both as regards cropping and quality (when cooked, etc.), that the award could not be withheld. The affair has created a mild sensation, especially as it is by no means a new variety, but there are very few of the new ones that can come up to this yet, when it is properly grown.

Another grand potato for flavour is Schoolmaster, but as it is not a very heavy cropper it is seldom grown to any extent now, which is a pity. It is a white round, with a rough, netted skin, and very firm, white flesh. It does well here, and we have a good crop from two moderate-sized beds, very sound and free from disease, but its flavour is its strong point, and in this respect it is almost unequalled.

Continue planting out the young cabbage plants from the sowing made in July or August. Rows of Brussels sprouts, Savoys, broccoli, etc., already established had better be moulded up moderately, as this not only affords the plants a good deal of support, but also protects them at a rather vulnerable point.

Green vegetables of nearly all kinds, and especially scarlet runners, vegetable marrows, cauliflowers, etc., etc., are exceedingly abundant and fine just now, owing to the showery and on the whole mild and "growing" weather experienced for some time past. I seldom remember such a crop of scarlet runners as we have now, and as we cannot possibly use half of them, we are having a quantity put down in deep jars, with salt, in the manner I have frequently referred to in this column.

Any small green (or ripe) tomatoes, of which there ought to be plenty now, both indoors and out, may be utilised for making pickles, which when rightly done are most excellent. Small cucumbers, of any kind, may be similarly used, also any spare cauliflowers, French beans (while small or young), and so forth.

Lose no time in preparing any ground to be planted with hardy fruit trees or bushes presently. Except in the case of heavy clay soils, which I believe are as a rule best left almost undisturbed, planting the trees in slight mounds on the surface, and depending chiefly on surface drainage—I am in favour of working the soil well, and rather deeply, before planting. But in the case of any of the bush fruits (gooseberries, currants, raspberries, etc.), the land ought to be rather liberally manured as well as being dug or trenched, while for the larger fruits—apples, pears, etc.—no manure should be used when planting, unless, of course, the soil is desperately poor.

Again, where a heavy, damp, or cold soil prevails, only apples on the Paradise, and pears on the Quince stocks ought to be employed, as these form chiefly surface roots, but on a deep, light, or free formation apples on the crab and pears on the natural or "free" stock will in the case of most varieties be found to afford the best results.

There is still a good deal of bright colour here. Late roses are grand, and fuchsias, the Michaelmas daisies, torch lilies, and chrysanthemums, with the white and other antirrhinums, African marigolds, and begonias of several kinds, are still quite gay.

Any more or less tender plants now outside which it is desired to preserve had better be lifted, potted, and housed at once. Chrysanthemums in pots must go inside directly the buds begin to show colour, and in most places the entire collection had better be housed now. Insert cuttings of roses in a sheltered border, and those of calceolarias in cold pits or frames.

White Root Rot.*

The Board of Agriculture have had their attention directed to a disease likely, if not checked, to prove destructive among fruit trees. The attack is found to be caused by a fungus belonging to the genus *Rosellinia*, the spawn or mycelium of which spreads below the surface of the soil, extending rapidly from the root of one tree to another. The following information concerning the features of this attack has been taken from an article in the Kew Bulletin for 1896.†

Amongst the numerous root diseases of various plants caused by parasitic fungi, none are better known, or extending over a greater area, than the Pourridié of the French, which occurs in France, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, south-west Germany, and has recently been recorded from several widely separated localities in Britain. The fungus causing this disease is called *Rosellinia necatrix*, Prill. and Del. (=*Dematophora necatrix*, Hartig), which frequently devastates vineyards and orchards; its attacks, however, are unfortunately not confined to vines and fruit trees; potatoes, beans, beet, etc., are also destroyed, and Hartig states that the mycelium soon kills young maples, oaks, beeches, pines, and spruces.

The mycelium first attacks and kills the youngest rootlets, and then enters into the larger branches of the root, in which it rapidly spreads and forms an irregular network of slender strands; finally bursting through the cortex and enveloping the roots in a snow-white, fluffy mycelium, here and there running into slender, cord-like strands, which traverse the soil, and by this means spread from one tree to another. At a later stage of development, numerous minute, black compact masses of mycelium or *sclerotia* are formed in the cortex of the roots, and from each of these spring several slender spines, each of which bears an abundant crop of conidia or reproductive bodies at its tip. In addition to the white mycelium, a very characteristic pale brown or olive mycelium is also present on the surface of the roots, formed of septate or jointed threads of variable thickness, having pear-shaped swellings at intervals; these swollen portions finally become free by the disappearance of the intermediate portions of the mycelium, and form bodies capable of germinating and giving origin to a new crop of mycelium. Under certain conditions some of the sclerotia, instead of producing the spine-like bodies bearing conidia, become converted into hollow spheres or *pycnidia*, containing in their interior numerous minute reproductive bodies or stylospores, which germinate at once and produce new plants. Finally, the highest, or ascigerous form of fruit is rare, and only develops on old trunks that have been dead and decayed for a long time.

Rosellinia necatrix is almost entirely confined to heavy clay soils, where the water drains away with difficulty, whereas *Rosellinia glomerata*, Viala, an allied, but much rarer fungus, with a similar destructive habit, hitherto observed only in France, is met with attacking plants growing in loose sandy soil, where the subsoil is wet.

Preventive Measures.

Owing to the habit of the fungus in penetrating and spreading in the living tissues of the root of its victim, cure is practically impossible when a plant is once permeated with mycelium; and keeping in view the varied modes of reproduction, facilitating the rapid spread of the disease, no efforts should be spared for preventing this when the presence of the fungus is once detected.

Undoubtedly the most frequent and rapid mode of spreading is by means of the mycelium travelling in the soil, and a good method of isolating diseased patches is to cut a narrow trench, from nine inches to a foot deep, round each, care being taken to throw the excavated soil on the diseased portion, and not outside of it. This method, which was first suggested by Hartig for the purpose of preventing the spread of subterranean fungi in the German forests, cannot be too strongly commended, especially where the diseased patches are small in area. The amount of success depends entirely on the thoroughness, combined with an intelligent method of carrying out the work. Half attempts invariably result in a loss of time and labour without benefit. It may be enough to point out that the disease may be spread by the spores of the fungus, by infected soil carried on the shoes of labourers, by dirty tools, wheels of carts, animals, etc., from diseased centres. Diseased and fallen trees, and especially stumps and roots, should be at once destroyed by burning. The soil surrounding diseased stumps should be burned after the stumps have been removed, so as to destroy the smaller diseased portions of the root that remained behind. Quicklime should be mixed with the soil in places from which diseased plants have been removed.

A second preventive method, which has proved of service in France, is to lay bare the trunk as far below the surface of the soil as can be done without injury to the tree, and to liberally coat the exposed trunk and adjoining soil with powdered sulphur.

Stagnant water should not be allowed to remain in the soil, as this favours the spread of the fungus.

* A Board of Agriculture leaflet, which may be obtained free of charge and post free on application to the Secretary, Board of Agriculture, 4, Whitehall Place, London, S.W. Letters of application should be addressed, and not be stamped.

† "Root Diseases Caused by Fungi," by Geo. Massee, F.L.S., Kew Bulletin, Jan., 1896, p. 1.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Agriculturists and the Workmen's Compensation Act.

The Board of Agriculture desire to call attention to the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1900, the object of which is to extend to workmen in agriculture the benefits of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897. The new Act comes into operation on July 1st, 1901; and if, on or after that date, any personal injury by accident, arising out of, and in the course of, employment in agriculture is caused to a workman, his employer will be liable to pay him compensation, subject to certain provisions referred to below. But no employer is liable to pay compensation under the Act unless the habitually employs one or more workmen in agriculture.

The term "workman" includes every person who is engaged in agriculture, whether by way of manual labour or otherwise, and whether his agreement is one of service, or apprenticeship, or otherwise, and is expressed or implied, is oral or in writing.

The expression "agriculture" includes horticulture, forestry, and the use of land for any purpose of husbandry, inclusive of the keeping or breeding of live stock, poultry, or bees, and the growth of fruit and vegetables. It should be observed that this definition is very wide in its terms, and that the Act, therefore, imposes a liability not only upon farmers and other persons engaged in agriculture, in the more limited and ordinary sense of that expression, but also upon many other persons, as, for instance, persons who habitually employ one or more gardeners or others in garden work, whether in the way of trade or business or otherwise, and whether the gardens are attached to houses or not.

Where a workman is employed by the same employer mainly in agriculture, but partly or occasionally in other work, the Act applies also to the employment of the workman in such other work.

The amount of compensation payable under the Act is regulated by the following provisions of the Act of 1897:—

(*a*) where death results from the injury—

(i) if the workman leaves any dependants wholly dependent upon his earnings at the time of his death, the amount is to be a sum equal to his earnings in the employment of the same employer during the three years next preceding the injury, or the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds, whichever of those sums is the larger, but not exceeding in any case three hundred pounds, provided that the amount of any weekly payments made is to be deducted from such sum, and if the period of the workman's employment by the said employer has been less than the said three years, then the amount of his earnings during the said three years is to be deemed to be 156 times his average weekly earnings during the period of his actual employment under the said employer;

(ii) if the workman does not leave any such dependants, but leaves any dependants in part dependent upon his earnings at the time of his death, the amount is to be such sum, not exceeding in any case the amount payable under the foregoing provisions, as may be agreed upon, or, in default of agreement, may be determined, on arbitration, to be reasonable and proportionate to the injury to the said dependants; and

(iii) if he leaves no dependants, the amount is to be the reasonable expenses of his medical attendance and burial, not exceeding ten pounds;

(*b*) where total or partial incapacity for work results from the injury the compensation is to be a weekly payment during the incapacity after the second week not exceeding fifty per cent. of his average weekly earnings during the previous twelve months, if he has been so long employed, but if not, then for any less period during which he has been in the employment of the same employer, such weekly payment not to exceed one pound.

In fixing the amount of the weekly payment regard is to be had to the difference between the amount of the average weekly earnings before the accident and the average amount which he is able to earn after the accident, and to any payment not being wages which he may receive from the employer in respect of his injury during the period of his incapacity.

Any weekly payment may be reviewed at the request either of the employer or of the workman, and on such review may be ended, diminished, or increased, subject to the maximum above provided, and the amount of payment is, in default of agreement, to be settled by arbitration.

Where any weekly payment has been continued for not less than six months, the liability therefor may, on the application by or on behalf of the employer, be redeemed by the payment of a lump sum, to be settled, in default of agreement, by arbitration, and such lump sum may be ordered by the arbitrator to be invested or otherwise applied as above mentioned.

An employer is not, however, liable to pay compensation in respect of any injury which does not disable the workman for a period of at least two weeks from earning full wages at the work at which he was employed.

If it is proved that the injury to a workman is attributable to the serious and wilful misconduct of that workman, any compensation claimed in respect of that injury will be disallowed.

To meet cases of sub-contracting the new Act specially provides that where an employer agrees for the execution of any work in agriculture by or under a sub-contractor, such employer shall be liable to pay compensation to any workman employed in the execution of the work, whether the workman is entitled to obtain it from the sub-contractor himself or not; but, if the workman takes advantage of this provision, the employer so made liable is entitled to be indemnified by any other person who would have been liable independently of this provision. Examples of such sub-contracting in agriculture are cases where work is done through a ganger, or where crops are cut for the occupier by a farmer with his own men and implements.

These enactments as to cases of sub-contracting do not apply where the sub-contractor's work is merely ancillary or incidental to, and is no part of, or process in, the trade or business carried on by the person who entrusts the work to the sub-contractor; and in cases in which the sub-contractor provides and uses machinery driven by mechanical power for the purpose of threshing, ploughing, or other agricultural work, he and he alone is liable to pay compensation to any workman employed by him on such work.

In cases where damages in respect of an injury are recoverable from some person other than his employer, the workman may, at his option, proceed either at law against that person to recover damages, or against his employer for compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, but not against both; and if compensation be paid under the Acts, the employer is entitled to be indemnified by the said other person.

All questions as to compensation under the new Act are, in case of difference, to be settled by arbitration in accordance with the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897.

In view of the liability attaching to farmers and others under the above-named Acts, the Board of Agriculture desire particularly to call attention to the fact that many of the leading insurance companies are now issuing farmers' insurance policies which provide for the payment of compensation on the basis of the Workmen's Compensation Act for all accidents occurring to workmen in the course of employment in agriculture, and cover, in addition, the existing liability of farmers in connection with accidents to their servants under the Employers' Liability Act, 1880. The annual premiums charged for these policies range from about 3s. for every £100 of wages paid.

The Food Preservatives Committee.

The members of the Food Preservatives Committee, Dr. Timbrell Bulstrode and Professor Tunnicliffe, and Mr. Charles J. Huddart, secretary, who proceeded last month to Ireland, for the purpose of investigating the dairying industry of that country in relation to the use of chemical preservatives, have now returned to town. The inquiries made embraced the city of Dublin and the surrounding district and the great butter-making centres in the south and west of Ireland. In the north, time sufficed only for a visit to the county of Cavan, but in that county, as in those which were visited in the south and west, large tracts of country were traversed, and detailed inspection made of farms and farm premises, and the several operations which precede the actual despatch of milk to the large creameries and of butter to the markets and factories. The processes of manufacture at creameries and butter factories, as well as at bacon and margarine factories, also engaged the attention of the committee at one and another place. In Dublin itself not only were the officials of the Government Departments interviewed, but the Committee had the privilege of repeated conferences with Sir Charles Cameron, the Health Officer for the City, and with his colleagues. The mass of information acquired as a result both of the visit paid to the Continent, especially to Denmark, and of the visit to Ireland, just concluded, will need collation and summarising, with a view to the presentation to the whole Committee of Reports on those results, which reports will need very careful consideration before the Committee proceed to draw up their report upon the evidence before them.

Howden October Cattle Fair took place on Tuesday. There was a pretty good attendance, but not a good show of cattle. Bullocks about two years old sold at £9 to £12 each. In-calvers were not numerous, neither were milk cows. The latter made £16 to £18 each. There was a fair show of horses, foals ranging from £10 to £15 each.

LITERARY NOTICES.

A copy of a wall calendar for October, 1900, to September, 1901, has come to hand from Messrs. W. S. White and Co., general merchants, of 515, High Street, Lincoln, who are most widely known for their fine wheat sharps, etc.

"Ideal Homes for the People" is the title of a small book by Mr. G. E. Clare, M.S.A., and Mr. W. G. Ross, A.R.I.B.A., who point out the difficulties met with in building for the working classes in rural districts, and give particulars of a new, substantial, but cheap form of construction which they maintain will be found to constitute a remedy. The authors first of all give a graphic description of the problem, then they devote a chapter to the remedy, which is succeeded by twenty-five plates, showing some recently executed examples of cottages, farm buildings, gentlemen's bungalows, and small country houses, etc. This work is worthy the attention of all land owners, farmers, and all employers of labour. It is nicely printed on art paper, and sold at 1s. net.

We have received from the Nitrate Association of Propaganda, Iquique, Chili, an album of views of the Chilian Nitrate works and ports. The views, which number close on sixty, are excellent, and give one a good idea of the extensiveness of the industry.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

16,512.—Gilbert Harris, Cheddar, Somersetshire, for an invention of "The modern potato raiser."

16,544.—Friedrich Kuchelmeister and Leopold Nobis, London, for an invention of "An improved apparatus for roasting coffee malt and the like."

16,662.—Ferdinand Konig, London, for an invention of "Improvements in harness for cattle."

16,752.—John Scott, Glasgow, for an invention of "Improvements in the application of seeding, ridging, and planting apparatus to motor cultivators and other wheeled vehicles."

16,887.—Frederick St. Barbe Sladen, Coalbrookdale, Shropshire, for an invention of "Improvements in lawn mowers."

16,913.—John Sibley, London, for an invention of "An improved tine and point for cultivators and the like and an improved method of connecting same together."

Northallerton October Fair.—This fair was held on Wednesday. There was a small supply of grazing stock, while grazing sheep and lambs were not so numerous as in former years. Trade throughout ruled very slow, and not a great amount of business was done. Milk cows sold at £16 to £22; two-year-old bullocks, £12 to £14; yearling bullocks and heifers, £7 to £9; geld heifers, £11 to £12; geld cows, £10 to £11. A small number of grazing sheep and lambs, but a fair trade was done. Half-bred lambs, 18s. to 22s.; twice-crossed lambs, 26s. to 30s.

Retford Fair.—There was a very large show of horned stock at this fair on Tuesday, and also about 7,000 sheep were penned. Among these were a large number of shearling rams from the best Lincolnshire flockmasters, and the prices realised were satisfactory, some of the best making 8gs. to 10gs. per head. Lambs made 30s. to 36s., and ewes £2 to £2 10s., milch cows £18 to £24, two-year-old bullocks £13 to £16, and young beasts £8 to £10 per head. In the horse fair a few good heavy horses suitable for town work made £40 to £50 each. A few useful foals made from £20. Light horses suitable for cab work were eagerly sought after by London dealers, and made £28 to £30 per head. There was a large show of ponies, which made from £5 to £13. In the cheese fair Trent side dairy cheese sold at 70s. to 80s. per cwt.

Herts, Beds, and Bucks Valuers' Association.—The fiftieth annual meeting of this Association was held at the Trocadero Restaurant, London, on Friday week, when there was a large attendance of members. The prices of agricultural produce, etc., were discussed and recorded as usual. Being the jubilee of its existence, Mr. F. J. Brown, of Tring, read an interesting history of the Association, extracts from which it is proposed to publish. Before the introduction of the Agricultural Holdings Bill last year, the Association appointed a committee to draw up the amendments which in their opinion were necessary to the 1883 Act. The secretary now reported that all the important introductions and most of the minor ones are to be found in the Agricultural Holdings Amendment Act, 1900. The annual dinner followed, Mr. J. R. Eve, of Bedford, chairman of the Association, presiding. Many guests were present, amongst others being Mr. S. B. L. Druce (secretary to the Farmers' Club), Mr. Julian C. Rogers (secretary of the Surveyors' Institution), Professor F. J. Lloyd, and Mr. E. H. Godfrey (secretary of the Central Chamber of Agriculture). The membership of the Association now amounts to fifty-two.

DAIRY SHOW, OCT. 9th to 12th.

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22nd ANNUAL

EXHIBITION & MARKET,

Royal Agricultural Hall, London, N.,

OCTOBER 20 to 26, 1900.

MALTING AND SEED BARLEY COMPETITION,

Entries Close October 11th.

HOP COMPETITIONS,

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Schedules of Prizes and all information can be had of the Managing Directors,

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The

Mark Lane Express

and

Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXIII. No. 3603. | LONDON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1900. THIRTY-TWO PAGES PRICE—3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June, 1894.)

PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.

HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, ESQ., Beltring, Kent.

SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.

CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

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Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the COUNCIL of the CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE will be held (by permission of the Society of Arts) at the House of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, on Tuesday, November 6, 1900, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

Members of Council representing either the Central Chamber or Associated Chambers are requested to attend.

Subscribing Members of the Central Chamber are invited to be present, and may speak by permission of the Chairman, but are not entitled to move resolutions or to vote.

AGENDA.

To transact General Business.
To receive Communications.
To consider Alterations in the Laws and Bye-Laws proposed by the Business Committee.
To receive Reports of Committees (if any).
To receive "Statement of Legislation required in the Agricultural Interest," prepared by the Business and Parliamentary Committees in pursuance of Council's resolution of May 29th last.
To consider the following subjects:—
(1) The Report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation (if issued).
(2) Agricultural Insurance.

Associated Chambers and Clubs are requested to consider the above subjects, and to send up any resolutions which they may pass thereupon to the Secretary of the Central Chamber before the Meeting of the Business Committee, at 8 p.m. on Monday, November 5th, 1900. Suggestions of subjects for discussion at future Meetings of the Council should be forwarded at the same time.

ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, DECEMBER 10 to 14, 1900, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.

Entries close as follows:—Live Stock (Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Carcase Competition), Nov. 1; Post Entries, Nov. 5. The entries for Implements have already closed on Oct. 5.

Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and other information can be obtained on application to E. J. POWELL, Sec., 12, Hanover-square, London, W.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY.

WINTER SHOW, 1900.

BALL'S BRIDGE, DUBLIN, DECEMBER 11, 12, 13.

Fat Stock, Grain, Roots, Dairy Produce, Poultry and Implements.
Entries close (single fees), November 10th.
" " (double) " " 16th.
Prize Lists may be had from the Agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.
(By Order),
RICHARD J. MOSS, Registrar.

£15 IN PRIZES.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS offers a FIRST PRIZE of £10 and a SECOND PRIZE of £5 for the best Papers on the subject of BIRD PROTECTION; length not to exceed 5,000 words.

Particulars may be obtained from the Hon. Sec., Society for the Protection of Birds, 3, Hanover-square, London, W.

BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW.

The 52ND GREAT ANNUAL EXHIBITION of FAT CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, CORN, ROOTS, and IMPLEMENTS, will be held in BINGLEY HALL, on DECEMBER 1ST, 3RD, 4TH, 5TH, and 6TH.

Entries Close:—IMPLEMENTS, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20TH; STOCK, POULTRY, &c., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST.

Prize Lists and Entry Forms may be obtained from W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

CONTRACT.

ARMY CONTRACTS.

BREAD, FLOUR, LIVE CATTLE AND SHEEP, AND DEAD MEAT.

SEALED TENDERS for the SUPPLY of BREAD, FLOUR, LIVE CATTLE AND SHEEP, and MEAT, for Military Services, during six months, from the 1st DECEMBER, 1900, will be received until 12 o'clock noon, on the following dates:—Meat and Live Cattle and Sheep Tenders, on WEDNESDAY, 24th OCTOBER, 1900. Bread and Flour Tenders, on FRIDAY, 26th OCTOBER 1900, by the Officers in charge of the undermentioned Districts:—

Scottish District	Edinburgh.
North-Eastern District	York.
North-Western District	Chester.
Western District	Devonport.
Southern District	Portsmouth.
South-Eastern District	Dover.
Eastern District	Colchester.
Thames District	Chatham.
Woolwich District	Woolwich.
Home District	23, Carlton House Terrace, S.W.
Aldershot District	Aldershot.
Guernsey and Alderney	Guernsey.
Jersey	Jersey.
Belfast District	Belfast.
Dublin District	Dublin.
Cork District	Cork.
Curragh District	Curragh Camp.

Forms of Tender and Conditions of Contracts may be obtained on application at the above-named District Headquarter Offices by letter addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General, or in person between the hours of Ten and Four o'clock.

The Tenders must be properly filled up, signed and dated; and no Tenders will be noticed unless delivered upon the proper form, in time, at the above-named District Offices, under sealed envelope, marked "Tender" on the outside.

A. MAJOR,
Director of Army Contracts.
War Office, Pall Mall, S.W.,
October, 1900.

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J. R. U. DEWAR, F.R.C.V.S., Principal.
SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION commences OCTOBER 2nd, 1900.
The INAUGURAL ADDRESS will be delivered on Wednesday, October 3rd, at 12.30 p.m., by Sir JOHN GILMOUR, Bart., of Montrave.
The Rt. Hon. SIR MITCHELL THOMSON, Bart., Lord Provost, in the chair.

TENDER.

WANTED, TENDERS from merchants for the SUPPLY of CORN, BRAN, etc., to the Jersey Eastern Farmers' Association.—Apply, C. R. GRUCHY, Grouville, Jersey.

AUCTION SALES (*Continued*).

On THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25th, (12 o'clock).

MANSELL'S STORE STOCK SALE
IN THE SHREWSBURY SMITHFIELD.

1,200 CATTLE (all breeds and ages), including a good selection of extra well-bred POLLED ANGUS CROSSES, SHORTHORNS, HEREFORDS, WELSH, and CROSSBREDS.

400 SHEEP.—SHROPSHIRES, CLUNS, and CROSSBREDS.

All cattle weighed before entering the sale ring.

Commissions faithfully executed.

Full particulars from ALFRED MANSELL AND CO., Live Stock Salesmen, Shrewsbury.

HOLMEWOOD, LANGTON, TUNBRIDGE WELLS (within 2 miles of the S.E.R. Station at Tunbridge Wells, and about the same distance from Groombridge Station on the L.B. & S.C.R.).

MR. EDWARD JAS. CARTER has been instructed by J. J. Barrow, Esq., to SELL by AUCTION at SPRINGBANK FARM, LANGTON, on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1900, at 12 o'clock punctually,

85 HEAD OF HORNED STOCK, including 63 Three-year-old Cross-bred STEERS (fat or forward in condition), 8 HEIFERS, 7 COWS, and 7 CALVES.

175 FAT SHEEP.

8 UPSTANDING CART HORSES, including 1 Four-year-old GELDING, 1 Three-year-old GELDING, and 1 One-year-old GELDING.

10 PEDIGREE HACKNEY MARES AND FOAL, including a three-year-old NAG COLT by Speculation, 5 MARES and 4 FOALS.

8 HUNTERS, all selected with the greatest care and well known with the Local Packs, and

6 VERY VALUABLE CARRIAGE HORSES.

Catalogues may be obtained in due course on the Premises, or of the AUCTIONEERS, 3, The Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells.

THE OLDEST STATUTE CATTLE FAIR IN ENGLAND.
Established 1226.

BRIDGNORTH, OCTOBER 29th, 1900.

ST. LUKE'S FAIR
GREAT ANNUAL
STORE STOCK SALE,
on live weight basis.

About
700 HEAD OF CATTLE,
1,000 HEAD OF SHEEP, PIGS, AND CALVES.

Sale at 10.30.

NOCK, DEIGHTON, AND KIRKBY, Auctioneers and Live Stock Salesmen, Bridgnorth (Salop).

Fat stock will be sold as usual.

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SPECIAL SALE OF RED POLLED CATTLE.

SPURLING AND SONS are favoured with instructions from the TRUSTEES of the late Duke of Hamilton, K.T., and Her Grace the Duchess of Hamilton to SELL by AUCTION on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16TH, at One o'clock,

47 CHOICE RED POLLED COWS, HEIFERS and BULLS, including 17 Cows, 20 Heifers, and Heifer Calves, 10 Young Bulls and Bull Calves.

Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneers, 81, Princes Street, Ipswich.

REGISTER OF BRITISH LIVE STOCK BREEDERS.

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MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. — Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners; yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

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LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Sta lions, at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath Station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

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PIGS *(contd.)*.

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Manchester (London Road)	„	12. 0 „
Shrewsbury	„	12.35 „
Wolverhampton	„	1.35 p.m.
Birmingham (New Street)	„	2.10 „
Northampton (Castle)	„	3.37 „

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Exhibitors are requested to be careful to write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.

The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer enquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey. All information can be obtained of MR. ROBERT TURNBULL, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; the Company's District Superintendent, MR J. GROOM, Euston Station, London; or MR. R. F. CASTLEMAN, Broad Street Station, E.C.

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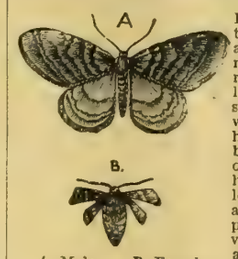

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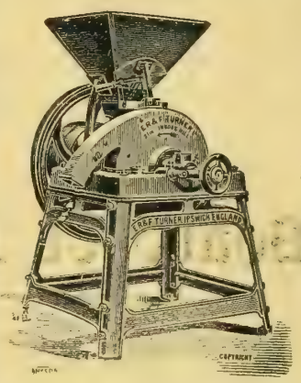

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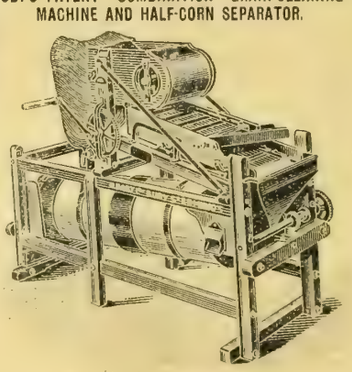

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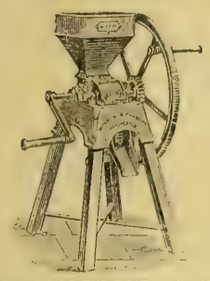

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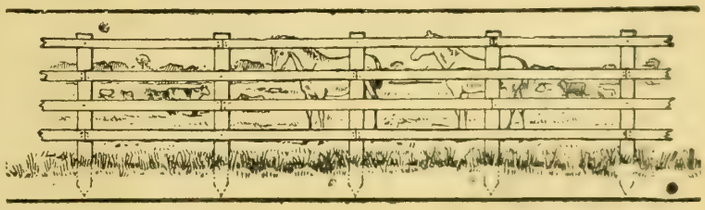

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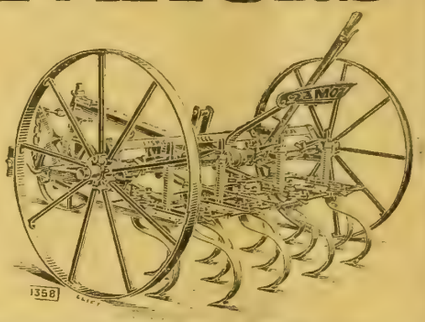

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A STRIKING FACT.

In our Spring number of "Bibby's Quarterly" we reproduced the photographs of two groups of Calves which are now being reared at the Hornby House Farm, Bedale, Yorks, by his Grace the Duke of Leeds.

One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."

We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 1t Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

445 selected the "Cream Equivalent" fed Calves as having been fed on New Milk.

We think the above striking FACT speaks volumes for "Cream Equivalent."

The "Cream Equivalent" can be had at 15s. per cwt., carriage paid to nearest station.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

SHEEP AND TAR.

The annual meeting of the Black-faced Sheep Breeders' Association was held last week at Castleton. This society is an extremely useful one, although it bears such an ambiguous title—for, owing to the way in which the title is framed, it is not at all clear whether it is the breeders or the sheep to which the adjective applies. The point, however, which was raised at the meeting is not affected, whether the breeders have black faces or whether it is their stock that possess this distinction. This point was as to the use of tar and other similar materials for the marking of sheep. In the old days the farmer believed in the truth of the proverb "don't lose your sheep for a ha'porth of tar"—a proverb which, by the way, is often misquoted, and made to refer to ships instead of sheep. In those days such a precaution may have been necessary, for then fences were few and far between, and almost all sheep were reared upon vast ranges of unenclosed land. It appears that the tar branding iron was the only method which had then presented itself to the sheep-owner, although later on some genius or other hit upon the idea of nicking the ears in some particular fashion. The chief difficulty of adopting this method seems to have been that of finding a sufficiently large number of easily distinguishable marks. The use of tar has certainly decreased the value of the wool, and that in two ways. In the first place, it meant a certain amount of loss, which, although small in proportion to each fleece, might mean a considerable weight in a large clip; and, in the second place, if any of the tar happened to be overlooked in the process of sorting, it might stain a considerable portion of wool in the course of the washing process, and so either depreciate the colour or cause extra trouble and expense in bringing it up to the mark again. The question has been raised more than once by wool merchants and manufacturers, and with but small success.

Now that the Association has taken the matter up, we may expect some better results. At the meeting referred to a resolution was adopted which runs: "That it would be an advantage to sheep-breeders if the Government would take steps to prevent deleterious dips from being placed on the market, and that the use of tar was to be deprecated." The use of tar does not only mean the marking of sheep as above referred to, but also to its use in sheep dips. There is little doubt that this compound and other kindred substances, such as pitch oil, have been frequently used in some kinds of dips, and some farmers have gone to the length of using a crude mixture of common tar and rancid butter, under the belief that it was the best thing possible for killing parasites and keeping out the cold. This mistaken idea has undoubtedly been responsible for the injuring of much wool, and must have consequently assisted materially in the reduction of prices. The substances referred to by no means exhaust the list of materials which may prove injurious when taking a place in the composition of sheep dips, for many have been found which have caused more or less serious injury, not only to the fleece, but also to the skin. As the law stands at present, the sheep farmer is pretty much at the mercy of the manufacturer, for it would be impossible to insist upon a chemical analysis in every case before purchasing. Probably the proper course would be to require such matters to be put upon the same footing as fertilisers and feeding-stuffs, and to require the county council officials to deal with the matter in the same manner. The Board of Agriculture might well give some attention to the question.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

The wheat yield of New South Wales promises well, and if the weather continues favourable will probably exceed that of last year. A record year for grain traffic is expected on the railways. I also hear that the wool received from the country, so far, shows a considerable increase on the corresponding period of the previous season.

In the New South Wales Legislative Assembly on Wednesday was read for the first time an Old Age Pensions Bill, which provides for the grant, after continuous residence for twenty-five years in the Colony, of an annual allowance of £35 to married couples and of £20 to single individuals. The Act will be administered by a board under certain restrictions.

I hear that Lord Carrington, whose interest in the provision of allotments is so well-known in Buckinghamshire and Lincolnshire, has just offered, in response to a demand for land for allotment holdings at Aylesbury, thirty-seven acres to the Urban District Council of that

town, at the same rent at which the ground is at present let.

According to the returns published by the Italian Minister of Agriculture the quantity of corn produced in Italy during the present year is estimated to be 42,200,000 hectolitres, or 6,400,000 hectolitres less than last year.

The receipts on account of revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to October 6th, were £51,342,811, as against £51,010,580 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which commenced with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £93,688,973, as against £58,296,179 to the corresponding date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on October 6th, 1900, amounted to £1,307,684, and at the corresponding date of 1889 to £2,599,294.

Viscount Fujianmi, Master of the Horse to the Emperor of Japan, is travelling through Europe for the purpose of purchasing horses and cattle for his Imperial master. He has already visited France, and gone through Scotland and various parts of England, making extensive purchases. On Saturday the Viscount left for Russia, whence he returns to Japan.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

One of the most interesting facts in connection with the later part of the General Election is the return of Mr. Spear for the Tavistock division of Devonshire. Mr. Spear has been described as a Unionist edition of Mr. George Lambert. He is a landlord—not by any means a rich one—who farms his own land, and farms it intelligently. He has an excellent conception of agricultural necessities, and he has revealed this conception in a series of pregnant speeches. He goes to Westminster with a decided programme. For instance, he believes in the Rating Act, and will demand its renewal. He regards the Agricultural Holdings Act Amendment Act as a wise measure, which can, however, be amended in one or two particulars. He has strong views in regard to local taxation, and will, if he can, carry into practical legislative effect what are expected to be the recommendations of the Royal Commissioners. Mr. Spear is the kind of man the farmers ought to return to the House of Commons—a practical farmer, with sensible ideals and a common-sense sympathy.

It is an excellent thing—I would I could regard it as a portent—that Mr. Spear should have been returned by the farmers themselves. It was they who were his sponsors and supporters—they who were the officers in his army of sympathisers. This I regard as being due to the fact that Tavistock is in close proximity to Callington, the centre in which the now famous Callington Platform is ever and anon revised.

The Callington Platform is thus of more value than ever I anticipated it could be. It is something more than a platonic assertion. It first of all induces politicians to accept its planks; and, next, it induces farmers to the duty of wise-selfishness—to, in a word, work for those politicians as though it were a matter of personal honour. If this were done in every county—if we had a contagious Callington Platform in every shire—then we should find the House of Commons giving heed to the necessities of agriculture in something other than the present discursive and irrelevant spirit.

I am, however, more strongly impressed than even I was last week by the comparative unimpressionability of the rural electors to the khaki-cry. They must, of course, have in a measure been infected by the furious wave of patriotism that has swept over the country. But they have not been carried off their feet by it. They have still retained their mental balance. This explains why it is that the questions like old-age pensions, the housing of the working population, and the desirability of enlarging the facilities for securing small holdings have figured prominently in the rival orations of the shires.

This explains, too, why it is that the Radical orators have been even more persistent than of yore in alluding to the workhouse as "that hideous Bastille of our incomplete civilisation." They have done this in obedience to their comprehension of the fact that the electors require it and desire it. The rural candidates have in many cases whitewashed, or, as the case may be, denounced Mr. Kruger only in the most perfunctory and methodical manner. The fires of their oratory have been withheld until they have come to deal with what I may describe as the labourers' bread-and-butter politics.

In no county have I been impressed with this fact in the course of my electoral peregrinations so much as in Norfolk. There the Radical candidates disregarded the khaki-fever as though it were non-existent, or, if they dealt with it at all, only did it in order that they might denounce the tragic maladministration of the war. Outside their formal addresses they confined their attention entirely to the labourer and his needs. Indeed, a local Small Holdings Association—whose purpose is to enable the labourer to purchase small holdings by easy instalments, but which had possessed little vitality until the election—suddenly assumed the most significant economic importance, and was made the excuse for painting pleasant pictures of the county, radiant with a small army of peasant proprietors.

What was the result of this policy? Why, that the Radical candidate in each instance seriously improved his electoral position. Of course, I am not advising that the farmers should adopt this policy of disregarding all Imperial issues and selfishly excluding themselves from every movement that should make us great. There is an old Persian proverb which tells us that the snail thinks his shell the world. I would a little of this conceit possessed the farmer. But now that the labourers are demanding a sympathetic heed to their weal we may hope that the farmers will at last not be indifferent to their own interest.

One of the men whom every farmer should hope to see in the House of Commons—I regret that I should be compelled to write my article ere the result of his fight in the Saffron Walden division can be known—is Mr. Wing Gray. He is a second Mr. Spear. When he sat in the House for the Maldon division he revealed a splendidly practical sympathy with the agricultural interest. No man that I know brought so clear a head to the discussion of agrarian problems. He was fortunate certainly in securing the ear of the House. However, he was thus fortunate because the politicians perceived that he was a common-sense man with a common-sense purpose. Usually your mission-possessed man is a sore-toned, dour-eyed individual from whom you instinctively recoil. Mr. Gray attracted attention by the fact that his purpose did not sour his temperament.

Could not, however, the Tory organisers have found him a constituency even in his own loved Essex, where the electoral fates were not so unsmiling as in Saffron Walden? In 1895 the Radicals had a majority of 425; in 1892 it was 1,181; in 1886, 740; and in 1885, 1,749. It may be that Mr. Wing Gray preferred a sturdy fight. There are, we know, some men who are never so happy as when badly handicapped in a contest. Still, Mr. Gray deserved a better fate than to be sent into a fight in which, if electoral indications go for anything, he could only woo defeat.

Herein lies one of my grievances against the Conservative organisers. The Tories are under a debt of overwhelming gratitude to the farmers. How have they requited it? How many Spears and Wing Grays have they sent into the electoral field? How many Spears have they offered the prospect of a winnable seat? Of course, the reply may be that all the Spears and Grays in Toryism do not possess the financial capacity to fight a seat. This is no doubt true.

What is equally true is that official Conservatism is ever ready to lend financial aid to candidates who are wise enough to secure its good opinion. It is perfectly well known in political circles that over a score of Tory candidates have received considerable assistance. I could myself name a dozen. There is no abasement in receiving this help. You are fighting a fight for patriotism's sake, and the patriot needs money for his purpose just as much as does the traitor. When, however, has official Toryism held its opened purse to farmer candidates? It will help military men by the dozen, and they have no diffidence in receiving this help. Why should they not extend it to farmers, and why should the farmers exhibit diffidence?

I am thankful Mr. Spear has been returned. He certainly did not receive, or seek, or want financial help. He had, however, official countenance. This same countenance might well have been extended to a score of such men as he.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

Beet Hay.

In an article entitled "Fostering Competition by Food Exports," the *Breeders' Gazette* of Chicago says:—"As the years go by it grows more and more astounding that American meat-makers should permit so many thousands of tons of flesh-forming materials either to go to waste completely or in handy shape for shipment to some other country to enable its farmers to make competition for them in the world's markets. The British farmer annually fattens his beeves with American cotton-cake and oil-cake, while the Continental farmer makes meat of many substances not familiarly in use in Albion. The last item of the United States' export commerce to excite remark in this immediate connection is 'beet hay.' It is well known that the pulp of the sugar beet, after it has been treated so as to remove the bulk of the saccharine matter, makes very satisfactory feed for both sheep and cattle, even for hogs, and with the very limited amount of this product for disposal in the country one would think, in view of the extremely profitable returns obtained from feeding it, that it would all be quickly snapped up at the very reasonable prices asked for it. This, unfortunately, is not the case, but the German farmer is not blind to his opportunity. The pulp as it comes from the machinery of the sugar refinery cannot be shipped long distances on account of the amount of water it contains, so a system of driers has been patented, and now the dried pulp is labelled "beet hay," baled and sent to Germany. The beet sugar refinery at Binghamton, N.Y., is the first to have one of these driers and to put in operation the process that retains the nutritious elements with the fibrous product. An ample market in Germany has been found for all the 'hay' this refinery can furnish, and at the most remunerative prices. A ton of ordinarily good hay sells in Germany for about £4; for the best 'beet hay' £5 can readily be obtained. All this sounds extraordinary, but what sounds still more so is that the same pulp before drying, and of course relatively containing more nourishment, is sold by the same refinery for a shilling a ton. It may not be possible always to take the pulp to the stock, but it is possible to take the stock to the pulp."

Destructive Farm Fire.—Earl on Monday last a serious fire occurred on the farm of Mr. J. Evison, at Ramsey, Hunts, the whole produce of the harvest being burned. Twelve stacks of corn, large quantities of roots, all the farm implements, including a complete set of threshing tackle, together with the whole of the buildings, were destroyed. The Ramsey Fire Brigade, with a steam engine, were quickly at work, but were only able to save the live stock and an adjoining cottage. The cause of the outbreak is unknown.

The Excelsior Wheat.—This is an improved and selected type of square head wheat produced and sold by Mr. T. Chettle, of the Manor Farm, Reading. It is claimed for it that it is the heaviest cropping (eight quarters per acre, Imperial), combined with the best quality grain and the strongest and best storm-resisting straw of any variety grown. Judging from the numerous testimonials Mr. Chettle has received, a few of which are given in a circular issued by him, his claims are by no means imaginary ones. The Excelsior is not a sport, or even a so-called new variety of wheat, but it is an improvement on an old favourite made by careful selections during the past nineteen years. Mr. Chettle states that for three years in succession one of the largest seed firms bought all he grew on an eleven hundred acres farm, and in 1887 they bought 1,700 bushels to sell again at double the price he is now charging. The seed he is offering this year was hand-picked before reaping, and the whole was cut by self-binders. We should advise those who [illegible] to purchase seed wheat to obtain a copy of Mr. Chettle's circular, for it is a well known saying that "a change of seed always pays."

THE DAIRY.

National Diploma in Dairying.

At a meeting of the National Agricultural Examination Board held on Thursday, October 11th, at 13, Hanover Square, Lord Moreton in the chair, it was announced that the following candidates had been successful in the examinations for the National Diploma in Dairying, held recently at Reading and Kilmarnock:—

AT READING.

Ernest Christopher Brown, Midland Dairy Institute, Kingston Fields, Derby.
Ella Evans, Tyn-y-Coed, Sarn, Pwllheli, N. Wales.
Edith Morton Jackson, Erw Wen, Llangollen, N. Wales.
Margaret Robertson McDuff, British Dairy Institute, Reading.
John Percival, Harper Fold Farm, Radcliffe, near Manchester.
Charles Donald Stewart, Yarrow Bridge, Duxbury, Chorley.

AT KILMARNOCK.

Jane Barbour, Redwells, Cardenden, Fifeshire.
John Donald, Burrowin, Bogside, Stirling.
Agnes Kinross, Wester Balbeggie, Kirkcaldy.
Jemima A. Veitch, Backshot, Forth, Lanarkshire.
Philippa Wilkinson, Needingworth, St. Ives, Hunts.

Each of these competitors will therefore receive the National Diploma in the Science and Practice of Dairying. It was decided by the Board to hold similar examinations in the autumn of next year (1901), under practically the same regulations at the two centres of Reading and Kilmarnock.

Macclesfield Cheese Fair.

The annual prize cheese fair at Macclesfield was held in the Drill Hall on Monday, when there were twenty-four pitches of excellent quality, though in some cases it was rather over-ripe through the heat in September. The judges were Mr. J. Hancock, of Manchester, and Alderman Thomas, J.P., of Crewe. The highest price realised was 75s. per cwt., which was paid for the first-prize lot, exhibited by Mr. C. E. Thornycroft, of Thornycroft Hall. For the other lots there was a fair trade at prices ranging from 55s. to 67s. per cwt. The awards were:—Twenty cheeses over 50lb. each: 1, C. E. Thornycroft, Thornycroft Hall; 2, Wm. Thompstone, Henshall Hall, Siddington; 3, James Hague, Walker's Heath, Gawsworth; 4, Nathan Thompstone, Northwood, Siddington. Twenty cheeses under 50lb. each: 1, John Worth, Sand Bank, Siddington; 2, P. Ford, Tan House Farm, Eaton; 3, James Davenport, Lower Gresley, Wincle; 4, Mrs. Lomas, Mill End, Gawsworth. Best three half-pounds of butter: 1, C. E. Thornycroft; 2, Miss Dora Brocklehurst, Marton; 3, Miss A. Cooke, Pott Shrigley.

Leicester October Cheese Fair.

There was a good average pitch of both flat Leicestershire and Stilton cheese at the October Cheese Fair at Leicester on Thursday, and there was a moderate attendance of buyers. The season, as a whole, had proved very favourable for cheesemaking, and the flat cheese came to hand in good, ripe, buttery condition. The demand was not keen, only the best dairies being sought after. Choice flat cheese made 85s. to 90s. per cwt.; secondary qualities a dull trade at 68s. to 70s., and inferior quite neglected at 60s. to 65s. Stilton cheese were plentiful, but a considerable proportion was lacking in ripeness and flavour, and trade ruled slow. Choice prime dairies were in brisk demand at 9d. to 10d.; secondary qualities, 7½d. to 8½d.; and inferior lots, 6d. to 7d. per lb. A good many lots were left unsold.

Impure Dutch Butter.

In the City of London Court on Thursday, an action was brought by Messrs. Ellers and Co., merchants, Water Lane, E.C., against Van Upen and Co., merchants, Water Lane, E.C., to recover £50 as damages for selling impure butter. It appeared that in June last the defendants imported to this country a parcel of Dutch butter valued at about £1,000, and they offered it to the plaintiffs in the ordinary course of business. The defendants bought it and sold it again at a profit. Then they found out that it was adulterated with 10 per cent. of margarine, and they lost their profit. It was suggested that the butter which was imported to this country was frequently so skilfully adulterated that even the public analysts had a difficulty in detecting impurities.

Defendants asserted that the butter was perfectly pure, although it was of a low class. The case had been adjourned and ten samples drawn from the bulk for examination under the Court's orders. Of these four were pure, four were considerably suspicious, and two were clearly adulterated.

The jury found for the plaintiffs for the full amount claimed, but they said they did not think the defendants knew the butter was adulterated. At the same time they thought that the English public ought to be protected from Dutch adulterations, and the Deputy Judge (Mr. Pitt-Lewis, Q.C.), in concurring, said that no one cared to eat margarine thinking it was butter. He regarded the case as one of great public importance, and he certified for costs on the higher scale.

FARM.

Memoranda on Manures.*

Since this publication is intended for circulation among our farmers, it has been thought advisable to take advantage of its issue by reprinting some of the notes which have appeared in former bulletins, and adding a few additional particulars from works which have recently appeared regarding the application of natural manures and artificial fertilisers.

It is nearly fifty years since Stoeckhardt, at that time professor in the agricultural school of Tharandt, Saxony, said that a farmer who bought guano, bonemeal, or other artificial fertilisers, and at the same time neglected to make proper use of the dung of the cattle on his own farm, must be regarded as an agricultural spendthrift. Every intelligent farmer in Canada will in these modern days agree with the old German professor, and maintain that the treasury of the farm is the dungstead, and that leaks and emanations from it of valuable fertilising constituents must lead to financial embarrassment and possibly ruin.

This statement may be positively made without in the slightest degree detracting from the merits of artificial fertilisers, for, when properly selected and applied, their value becomes abundantly evident. The question as to whether their use is remunerative has been frequently discussed, and depends to a large extent on the care employed in their selection. Supposing that the intelligent farmer has considered composition, cost, etc., to the best of his ability, made his selection, and applied the fertiliser, he may still be in doubt as regards the result, unless he takes steps to make a manure trial with it. As regards the best way of doing this, Hellriegal† has related his experience. He recognises how difficult it is for practical agriculturists, fully occupied with their regular work, and engaged in meeting all the difficulties caused by workmen, weather and market rates, to carry out regularly planned manure experiments. He therefore describes a method which experience in his estimation had justified, and recommends it for the purpose of ascertaining whether any application of lime, marl, dung, or fertilisers had really produced the improvement which, from the point of view of cost, had been expected. This plan is to pass over, at one or several places, properly selected, a few square rods of the field without applying the dung or fertiliser. In this way unmanured plots, which do not require to be measured with great exactitude, but merely paced, and do not need to be harvested separately, are left in the manured field, by means of which any improvement in the latter may be remarked and valued.

This plan exacts that it should be possible to *see* a distinct difference between the unmanured plots and the manured field, not only as regards the height and density of the resulting crop, but also in reference to the fulness of the ears and the development of the grains. In the event of such a distinct difference being invisible, the manure is justly discredited as unfit for its intended purpose. It would seem advisable to recommend this plan to farmers who use fertilisers, because some of them may manure the whole field, fail to see any improvement on account of being unable to make comparisons, and perhaps condemn the fertiliser unjustly. The simplicity of the plan above described, and its applicability everywhere and every year, would appear to commend it to the practical agriculturist. At the same time it is necessary to remark that there are instances on record of fertilisers having been applied and remaining utterly without effect owing to some defect in the soil. Such defects have often been cured by a previous application of marl or lime, which not only produced good effects themselves, but improved also the action of the fertilisers afterwards applied.

The Care of Nitrogen.

This element is the most valuable of fertilising constituents, and one which is exceedingly liable to loss.

In many of the fertilisers described in this and former reports their cost is very much increased by the admixture of nitrogenous constituents. This cost farmers might save by properly caring for the stock of nitrogen on their farms, and this stock might even be increased by cultivating those crops which have the power of appropriating the nitrogen of the atmosphere. Nevertheless the fertiliser manufacturers still seem to be under the necessity of supplying this element in considerable quantity in their goods, and of charging for it. In the case of the mixed fertilisers, this extra charge varies from 8dols. to 14dols. per ton, which the farmer must pay if he purchases, and which he can readily save in his own stables, or produce upon his own farm. Nearly the whole of the nitrogen in the fodder fed to farm stock is to be found in the excreta of the animals, and one-half of it is contained in the urine. It is further well known that 95 per cent. of the potash contained in the food of cattle and sheep may be recovered by carefully saving the liquid manure only. It has, moreover, been ascertained that stable-yard manure experiences considerable loss of its fertilising constituents, but more especially of nitrogen, when left to itself in the dung heap. According to the experiments of Wolff, this loss amounts to 55 per cent. of the nitrogen contained in fresh manure from horned cattle. The later experiments of Heiden and Holdefleiss place it at 23.4 per cent. These results were obtained when ordinary reasonable care is taken of the manure, but give no data for estimating the loss which occurs when, as is very frequently the case in Canada, the manure is treated with the grossest neglect. It is safe to assume that, generally, 50 per cent. of the nitrogen contained in the barn-yard manure of this country returns unutilised to the atmosphere, or is otherwise lost by careless treatment. Supposing that an average quantity of 36,000lbs. is produced in fresh condition annually by each animal, and that it contains 0.4 per cent. of nitrogen, it follows that a loss of 72lbs. of nitrogen, worth 8.64dols., takes place for each head of cattle. This loss can be prevented by daily strewing the stables with 2lbs. of ground plaster for each animal, which at once prevents any smell of ammonia from arising in the stable. The quantity prescribed means 700lbs., or a cost of about 2.50dols. annually for each 1,000lbs. live weight, but, by adopting this plan, the farmer would to a great extent be relieved from the necessity of purchasing the nitrogen of artificial fertilisers.

In a pamphlet published by Vieweg in 1859, entitled "Ein Pfund Stickstoff kaum einen Groschen," which may be freely translated, "A pound of nitrogen for a penny," Dr. Meyer-Altenberg maintained that ground gypsum is the very best preservative of barn-yard manure when applied in the stable, because it secured "certainty and completeness of effect, ease of execution, and the lowest possible cost." He further described the effect of its application on the domain of Beberbeck in Hesse, and other impoverished farms, showing that it is possible to bring such into a fertile condition, without the purchase of manure or fertilisers or feeding stuffs, excepting a little straw for bedding and oats for the horses.

Treatment of Stable-yard Manure.

Dr. Meyer-Altenberg, in the little work above mentioned, takes care to point out that the use of gypsum, without subsequent careful treatment of the dungheaps, does not give the desired effect, and he dwells on the importance of having the manure thoroughly trodden down, and made as compact as possible. This is also shown in Dr. J. König's prize essay, "How can the farmer preserve and increase the stock of nitrogen on his property?" (Berlin, 1887.) In a special chapter of this work the author discusses "The evolution of free nitrogen during the fermentation and storage of stable manure," describes the experiments which were made from 1860 to 1885 regarding its treatment and gives finally the results of the discussion from which the following sentences may be translated with advantage:—

1. In the decomposition of nitrogenous substances of every nature a loss, more or less considerable, of free nitrogen takes place.

2. This loss is the greater the more the atmosphere has access to the decomposing mass.

3. Too much moisture is just as hurtful as too little. Stable manure requires such a degree of humidity as permits its components to lie close to each other.

4. The addition of substances which fix ammonia (such as gypsum, kainite, and kieserite) prevent or reduce the loss of nitrogen. These substances are, however, of little or no value if care is not taken at the same time to prevent as much as possible the access of air.

12. In storing stable manure in dungsteads the latter must be watertight and roofed in, and the treading down of their contents by the farm animals is to be recommended.

One thing in connection with this question is perfectly certain, and that is that the use of gypsum, or ordinary ground land plaster, prevents any loss of nitrogen in the stable, and while the manure is being forwarded to the dungheap. Further, if the work from which the foregoing quotations have been made be carefully studied, and also the experiments and writings of Holdefleiss, Vogel and others, it appears to be quite certain that the use of the same article, or of the gypsum produced in the manufacture of "acid-phosphate," completely prevents the loss of ammonia from the liquid part of the manure, and also from the organic nitrogen of the solids, provided the whole has, previous to fermentation, been made thoroughly compact, and atmospheric air almost completely excluded. Where it is found impossible to attend to the latter precautions, the safest way will probably be found to lie in avoiding fermentation altogether, by conveying the fresh manure, after treatment with gypsum, on to the field to be manured and bringing it under the soil as rapidly as possible. The latter practice has been proved to be most advantageous by the experiments which have been carried on for some time past, at the Central Experimental Farm by Director Saunders. (See Reports for 1898.)

Not only has the addition of substances which have the faculty of fixing ammonia been recom-

* Fertilisers, 1900. Bulletin No. 70. Laboratory of the Inland Revenue Department, Ottawa, Canada.

† Dungungsversuch und Vegetationsversuch; Berlin, 1897.

mended for stable manure, but its improvement to a greater extent has been proposed by the addition of fertilisers. The following quotation is taken from Bulletin No. 45 (for March, 1897) of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, and was written by Dr. C. A. Goessmann, chemist for that institution:

"*The practice of adding to the manurial refuse materials of the farm, as stable manure, vegetable compost, etc., such single commercial manurial substances as will enrich them in the direction desirable for any particular crop to be raised, does not yet receive that degree of general attention which it deserves.*" (The italics are in the original.) An addition of potash in the form of muriate or sulphate of potash, or of phosphoric acid in the form of fine ground South Carolina or Florida soft phosphate, etc., will in many instances not only improve their general fitness as complete manure, but quite frequently permit a material reduction in the amount of barn-yard manure ordinarily considered sufficient to secure satisfactory results.

"Average composition of seventy-five samples of barn-yard manure:—

	Per cent.	Lbs. per ton.
Moisture	67·00	1,340·0
Nitrogen	0·52	10·4
Potassium oxide	0·56	11·2
Phosphoric acid	0·39	7·8

"The average barn-yard manure contains, it will be noticed from the above statement, a larger percentage of nitrogen, as compared with its potash and phosphoric acid, than is generally considered economical. An addition of from thirty to forty pounds of muriate of potash, and of one hundred pounds of fine ground natural phosphate (soft Florida or South Carolina floats) per ton of barn-yard manure would greatly increase its value as an efficient and economical general fertiliser."

These are no doubt most excellent suggestions, and there is no reason why these substances should not be introduced into the stable manure in the same manner as in the case of the ground plaster above mentioned. Plain superphosphate and kainit might also be used, some of the constituents in which would be useful in fixing the ammonia, as soon as formed from the organic nitrogen. Should this suggestion be found to have practical value, there is no doubt that our fertiliser manufacturers would be found able to supply our farmers, at a moderate cost, with a mixture of ground plaster, superphosphate, and kainit, in such proportions as experience might show to be most advantageous. No better application can be made of the wood ashes produced in the farmer's household than by mixing them with the barnyard manure, and most excellent results are known to have followed this practice.

(To be continued.)

MILLING.

The Kinds of Wheat Millers Require

A week ago English wheat was making a little more money than when these notes last appeared, but it has returned to the old figure, and prices are not firm at that. The fact of it is, there is a great deal of very poor quality on offer, and millers do not care much about buying it. There is a poor sale for flour, too, at 6¼d. less on the past week, and some kinds of offals, notably ordinary bran and sharps, are not making so much by 5s. to 10s. per ton as they fetched a fortnight ago. At the same time, broad bran is in much request, and commands big prices.

I agree with a great deal Mr. Brown, of Crewe, said in his paper, which was published in the MARK LANE EXPRESS of the 8th inst., but am not quite so sanguine as he appears to be in regard to growing fairly strong wheats with high yield. It is a notable fact that all the strong wheats, or practically all, produce less grain to the acre than the weaker sorts. At the same time, the reader of the paper—and others—are doing yeoman service to the trade in calling attention to the matter and in urging millers to press upon farmers the necessity for improving their seed wheat, with a view to giving us more strength, as well as colour and flavour. Undoubtedly the wheats of years ago were much stronger than the bulk of those cultivated now. Some of the starchy varieties we have to grind at the present time are notoriously weak, and although we can never expect to produce wheats anything like those of the North-West of America, farmers might, and could, grow far better wheats for us to mill, and they, doubtless, would do so if millers made it worth their while. Given that

The Stronger and More Desirable Wheats Yield Less,

millers must make it right with agriculturists by paying some 2s. or 3s. per quarter more. If the wheat is better and more valuable to millers, it is a self-evident fact that it is worth more money. Of course, this is supposing that we cannot produce fairly strong wheats in this country of high, or even average, yield, and then the matter resolves itself into a question of price, and until we, as a trade, show our appreciation of the efforts made by farmers on our behalf by paying a little more money, they will do what everyone else would do under the circumstances—grow the sorts which yield the best.

It is well known that the stronger and better quality wheats like Red Lammas will not yield like the starchy sorts of the Squarehead and Windsor Forest type, and therefore there must be a *quid pro quo*, or they will go uncultivated. For several years now experiments have been made in different parts of the country, and even abroad, as to the possibility of growing the hard wheat of the North-West of America, of Russia, and of Hungary, but they have not proved altogether satisfactory. In this country some excellent samples, really strong and just what we millers want, have been raised in the first year, but the cultivation of them for two or three years generally has the effect of making them soft, and of the English types, while the yield, as few as the experience of the writer goes, has always suffered. It is

Purely a Question of Soil and Climate,

and it seems that although our wheats can, and in fact have been greatly improved by experimentalists in cross-breeding, we can never grow very strong kinds in this country. If farmers would give us these stronger sorts we should use home-grown wheat a great deal more in our mixtures than we care to do at present. It would be unwise to underestimate the splendid colour and flavour of home-grown wheat, and it would also be unwise to sacrifice these qualities in the search for that excessive strength which will never be acquired on our soils and in our climate. In other words, what millers want is colour and flavour, with as much strength as farmers can give them. Every member of the trade knows that red wheats make a darker flour than the lighter coloured varieties, but to obviate this they can be mixed with the delicate white kinds, while the yellow-skinned sorts, which are often coarse, may well be rejected altogether.

Mr. Brown admits that to grow strong wheats with a remunerative yield constitutes a difficulty, but he thinks, and perhaps rightly thinks, that it is a difficulty which will be overcome. At any rate, it would be interesting to know how some of the new evolved sorts which have been advertised in the agricultural journals of late turn out as to colour, flavour, strength, yield, and general bread-making properties. It would also be interesting to know how long they will keep true to these qualities. As they are probably the progeny of many kinds of strong foreign sorts with home-grown wheats there is certainly

More Probability of their Retaining their Strength

than wheats imported straight from abroad, where soil and climate are so different. During the progress of cross-breeding they have had gradually blended into them, as it were, in the same climate in which they are intended to grow, the very qualities which we millers need. What has been aimed at in these experiments which have been conducted by our leading scientists and seedsmen during recent years too has not only been improved quality and enhanced yield, but length and strength of straw. Freedom from disease and earliness in ripening have also been taken into consideration. The latter is very important in a climate like ours. These qualities, however, refer more to the farmer than the miller, but at the same time they indirectly affect the latter and are very desirable. The danger, perhaps, is in expecting too much in the direction of strength, for it is quite certain that millers will not be willing to sacrifice anything in the way of colour and flavour. Millers may be a hard body to please in regard to the wheats supplied for milling purposes, but there is one consolation—they are no worse in this country than in America and the Colonies. In the United States experiments in the improvement of home-grown kinds have been conducted for some time by the Department of Agriculture. Hungarian wheats have also been tested, while an effort is being made to introduce strong hard wheats into Australia. All this striving after better qualites augurs well for the trade, and the future may see us better supplied than ever before.

Quality, not Quantity, Wanted.

It may be stated that the strength of flour depends in the first place upon dryness, the capability of absorbing a large quantity of water, and in the second place upon its containing a sufficient quantity of gluten of good quality to retain that moisture. It has been defined as "the measure of the capacity of the flour for producing a bold, large-volumed, well-risen loaf." Unfortunately there is no certain method of judging the strength of flour except by baking, although inferentially it may be judged by the character of the gluten. Of this product it is quality which is wanted, and not quantity. After a wet, unsatisfactory harvest time in this country, it is often found that English wheat contains a great deal of gluten, but it is of that ragged kind which is no use in helping to pile the loaf. Very nearly all instruments which have been invented to test gluten have failed in that they have measured quantity instead of quality. In short, the attempts which have been made to determine the quality of the gluten apart from its actual percentage have generally proved disappointing. An expert can tell something of the quality of the wet gluten by feel and appearance. Some glutens are firm and elastic and will stretch a long way, and these are the qualities which make a flour valuable for bread-making. Others are soft and sticky, possessing no "spring," and the flours from which they have been washed are always disappointing. In judging these glutens there is nothing so satisfactory and so reliable as the baking test.

MILLER-FARMER.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

New and Old Breeds of Wheat.

Sir,—Some years ago a writer in the *Field* gave the results of the growth of some different sorts of wheat which seemed to reflect seriously and unfairly on the merits of varieties produced by one particular firm. As I had myself grown all the different kinds referred to, and knew very well that, to say the least, on an average of seasons, one was as good as the other, I called attention to the fact that the preparation of the land as given, on which the discredited crops were grown, was undoubtedly the reason for their apparent failure, the cultivation described being contrary to sound and experienced practice.

I notice in your last issue a letter written by the agent to the Earl of Denbigh, giving the results of a so called trial between Carter's "White Monarch" and "Scholey's Square Head," the endeavour evidently being to show that the latter is the better variety. I should like, however, to point out that the wheats were grown on two different fields, and after different crops. We are told that the cultivation of the land had been the same, the only difference being that the "Square Head" was grown after clover, and the "White Monarch" after beans. That I submit is sufficient explanation. Everyone knows that clover is the very best preparation for a wheat crop, probably on an average giving one quarter per acre more than a crop after beans with more straw. Again, if the land on which these crops were sown requires 2½ bushels of Square Head, it is obvious that the much larger corns of the White Monarch would require at least another peck. Under exactly similar conditions I grew over 5qrs. per acre of White Monarch, although that part of the field was thinned by wire worm, as against about 4qrs. of Square Head and another wheat, the straw being a foot longer and stronger.

When I bought the White Monarch I asked whether it was one of the wheats Messrs. Garton have bred, for which they claim greater strength—that is, increased gluten—and was told that it was not, but a large yielder with still straw. I believe their present (1900) issue has that distinctive feature.

As I am not in any way connected with Messrs. Garton, I should not have intervened had not I received by the same post a circular advertisement of "Warp Grown Square Head," in which, besides two testimonials from Mr. Cave, I found a copy of his letter.

I have grown Square Head with the best results, but I believe that the best wheats we have can, and will be, beaten. It is a well-known fact that in some districts Messrs. Garton's oats have fairly knocked out other varieties.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN FRANCIS BEDDALL.

LITERARY NOTICES.

"Every-day Farming," by Paul Gill, and published by Messrs. Henry Good and Son, 12, Moorgate Street, E.C., is a small work intended for the ordinary or what may be termed everyday farmers, who have neither the training, time, means, or the inclination to grapple with the higher branches of the subject. In this treatise the author first of all reviews the past and present state of depression in agriculture, and then states how a farmer can avoid past losses and in future make a profit. He advocates the addition of pigs and poultry to the farm stock, and shows that the old cry of some agriculturists that "pigs and poultry don't pay" is wrong. For the last chapter Mr. Gill gives a sketch of how he would manage a hundred acre farm. The writer has used only the simplest and plainest terms and phrases, and altogether the work is a very good one for those for whom it is intended.

Barnsley October Fair.—There was a large attendance at this horse and cattle fair, which was held on Thursday. There was a good show of cattle, calving cows making £15 to £20, and this class of stock was in most demand. Two year olds, £6 to £13; and yearlings, to about £5. A good show of sheep, chiefly of the Lincoln and crossbred class. Shearlings, 48s. to 52s. each. A large number of horses were shown, but generally the class was only moderate. Some useful horses made £25 to £30; light horses, £35 up to £40; ponies, £7 to £10 each.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

I am glad to be able to report that with the practical closing of the electoral disturbances of our commercial atmosphere there is very satisfactory evidence of the commencement of a better condition of trade in hops. During the past week we have been encouraged by more inquiries and much more resulting business. Something like a normal state of activity has prevailed, with the pleasing consequence of the realisation of higher prices than have been heard of this season. On Monday values advanced at least 5s., and before the end of the week this was certainly doubled, so that I am not exaggerating in putting the upward movement at about 15s. on the week. The improvement is principally noticeable in the medium qualities, which are the samples mostly before the buyers at present, the larger and better growths from East and Mid Kent being as yet held in reserve. A few choice Kents have been sold, and I hear that it is not difficult to obtain 130s. for them, and that even 140s. has been reached.

The Tide Has Turned

and is flowing in favour of growers, who may now reasonably expect that their produce will float on the top of it. I do not wish to be too sanguine, or to disappoint my friends by painting too bright a picture, but I am not alone in anticipating that henceforward we shall see a steady improvement in the tone of the market, which must be upheld throughout the season. To what extent the strength arising from the admitted condition of affairs will carry values it is difficult to say. But there are now current confident predictions that choice hops will be saleable at 160s. before long, and some optimists are declaring that £10 will be reached by the end of next month. It is, at any rate, quite clear that the future of the trade is entirely under the control of planters, and I trust they will rightly utilise the advantage thus placed in their hands.

The Official Crop Repor

is not yet issued, though the Board of Agriculture was b en pressed to hasten the publication of the figures, for the reason that they are specially required at an early date this year. We do not, however, need them to convince all concerned that the crop is exceptionally small, and if further evidence be required it is to be found in a recent agricultural report in a contemporary, which places the general condition of the hop crop on October 1st at the figure of 61. This statement shows a falling off during the four months of observation, as it stood on July 1st, at 71, on August 1st at 72, on September 1st at 65, concluding with the figure quoted above. The average of the condition at the end of the picking in the five years 1895 to 1899 is 87.7, so that our present record is 26.7 points lower, representing a reduction from the average (which includes the excessive crop of last year) of nearly 30 per cent.

Under these circumstances we naturally look with some anxiety to

The American Crop,

concerning which I refer my readers to the report elsewhere in this issue, and which I am assured by experts is a practically correct statement. Prices are rapidly advancing on the other side the Atlantic. Merchants who have contracted with growers there before the crop was known are now selling the produce on this side at 100s. to 105s., and are not pressing sales thereat, as they have full confidence in higher prices later on. It is also expected that our imports from America will be abnormally small; indeed, it is stated by some that local consumption will require all the hops that America will grow, and only if they are tempted by very high prices on this side will any appreciable shipment take place. We may, at any rate, be satisfied that we have nothing to fear from American competition, and the same may be said of the Continental growth, which will be practically absorbed by their own brewers.

Imports and Exports

during September do not present any remarkable features. The total imports are 5,189 cwt., being 216 cwt. less than in the corresponding month last year; but exports have somewhat increased, being 1,356 cwt., against 1,118 cwt. in September, 1899. The balance of the month affecting our markets may therefore be taken as 3,833 cwt., the similar balance last year being 4,287 cwt.

The New Parliament

will be sufficiently satisfactory regarding the representation therein of the hop-growing industry. Our old and well-tried friends, Lieut.-Col. Warde, Captain Boscawen, and Mr. Lawrence Hardy, have again been returned for Kent. I regret we have lost, through indisposition, Mr. F. Gorell Barnes, but he is succeeded in the Faversham division by Captain Howard, who will doubtless be as ready as his predecessor to do his best for planters. I do not think the electors of Maidstone have been wise in displacing Mr. Cornwallis, but we must accept the chances of election time, and hope we may find a friend in Mr. Barker. In Sussex we have two good members, Lord E. B. Talbot and Sir H. Fletcher, Bart., and just as I am writing I have a telegram conveying the gratifying news that the hop growers' champion,

Colonel Brookfield,

has been elected for the Rye division by the great majority of 2,489. Our esteemed president returned from South Africa in time to put in four days' work in the election battlefield. He was accorded a right royal reception by the Mayor, Corporation, and inhabitants of the ancient town of Rye, and I cordially congratulate him upon the triumph he has achieved in again adding M.P. to his name in such a substantial manner.

Our good friend Mr. W. G. Nicholson has been returned unopposed for the Petersfield division of Hants. We have Viscount Cranbourne for Rochester, and the Hon. H. Cubitt and the Right Hon. St. John Brodrick for the two divisions of Surrey.

In the Midlands Sir J. Rankin, Bart., retains his seat for Leominster, and Mr. M. Biddulph, who represented the Ross division of Hereford, is succeeded by Mr. P. Clive, a solid Unionist. The retirement of Mr. Radcliffe Cooke from the representation of the city of Hereford allowed the return of Mr. J. S. Arkwright, whose election was unopposed, such an occurrence not being recorded in the history of the city for over two centuries. In Worcestershire we have Lieut.-Col. Long for Evesham, and our loyal supporter, Mr. A. Baldwin, for Bewdley.

Although Colonel W. G. Webb is not perhaps directly representative of our industry, he is so closely connected with it by the large business done by his firm in hops that I must express my pleasure at my old friend's entry into Parliament as the member for the Kingswinford division of Staffordshire, and trust that as opportunity arises he will exercise his influence in the House on behalf of our English hop planters.

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* Mark Lane Express, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society.*

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

Without any notable changes in the market the course of the trade in hops has been scarcely sufficient strength to create a tendency in favour sellers, who are holding firmly to their quotations refusing to entertain the lower offers made to them. Consequently transactions are somewhat limited as brewers are evidently endeavouring by their reserve to break down prices, but thus far these efforts have not succeeded. The principal business done has been for export, and in this direction about 3,000 bales have been disposed of, of which the largest proportion were Frieomonts, these being now nearly cleared out.

Munich.

Brewers in this important centre are not buying freely, the sales of the week not having reached 1,000 kilos, while the arrivals total nearly 150,000 kilos. Quotations for best qualities are approximately as follow: Hallertaus, 160s. Spalt and Kunding 185s.; Badens, 140s.; Wurtembergs, 150s.; Saaz, 210s.; other Bohemian growths, 170s. The stocks in dealers' hands on October 5th are estimated at 2,740 cwts.

Wolnzach.

About 1,800 bales have been weighed up from this district. Business is fairly steady, although buyers are not ready yielding to the demands of growers.

Stuttgart.

The business at the last market was active, buyers being numerous and willing to operate at prices asked. The greater part of the hops offered were sold.

Nassau.

The hops of this district are of good colour and quality, and nearly half of the crop has been sold at prices varying from 100s. to 115s.

Burgundy.

The annual hop fair at Beisse-le-Chatel, which is usually an important gathering, was attended by but few buyers this year. These were hardly disposed to do business at the prices demanded by growers, who were very firm in refusing to lower their quotations. A few sales were made at 100 to 105 francs. The position had not materially changed from that at the Dijon Fair, fifteen days previously, when planters were asking 100 to 110 francs for ordinary qualities, and 110 to 120 francs for fine samples. The latest report from this district states that values seem to have settled down, and that 110 to 115 francs are now the current prices at which business is progressing.

France.

The Department du Nord is one of the most important hop-growing districts, about one-third of the French produce having its origin there. The harvest is rather later than in the South, and is only just completed. The quality of the crop promises to be very good, and the yield is calculated at 11 to 12 double quintals per hectare of 2½ acres. The chief centres of the industry are Hazebrouck, Cambrai, and Avesnes, these together having a hop area of about 810 hectares or 2,025 acres. Prices are now quoted in Hazebrouck at 105 to 110 francs per 50 kilos, the value a year ago being only 80 to 90 francs.

Belgium.

The downward movement of prices appears to have been checked, the speculative market being now stationary at 77½ to 80 francs on the Brussels Bourse. But in the country a stronger tone prevails, and figures up to 90 francs are quoted. Growers are very firm in their demands, having full confidence in the ultimate realisation of higher prices than are current at present. Both at Alost and Poperinghe inquiries are numerous and business is generally healthy, the completion of the harvest demonstrating that the expected deficiency has not been exaggerated. It is calculated that the yield in the Alost district is at least 10,000 bales less than last year.

The open market at Asse, held October 2nd, showed that very satisfactory progress in Belgian hop culture is being made, and the bales of samples submitted for prizes strikingly bear out the opinion that the harvesting and curing left nothing to be desired. All the hops exposed for sale were readily taken by buyers at good prices.

America.

Buyers on the New York market are readily taking up all the 1899 hops of fine [illegible] but are slow in finding the new crop, preferring to wait till they can obtain more complete evidence of the average quality. In the meantime a very firm tone is general, and all dealers are [illegible] that under any circumstances higher prices will be realised in the near future. The *American Agriculturist* says: "A short crop at fair values is more satisfactory than a crop producing [illegible] and [illegible] does increasing values as the season goes on."

The reports from the State of New York districts are cheering to growers, and in some cases 16 cents to growers are not keeping these prices, have decided to put their hops into [illegible] and await further developments.

A telegram from San Francisco to hand on Saturday

day tells a similar story, enquiries being active, and recent prices of 14 to 15 cents being easily obtained.

Brewers' stocks are much decreased, and the holdings of dealers and speculators are exceptionally light. There is, therefore, every probability of the establishment of substantial advances within a short time, and it appears absolutely certain that the market throughout the season will be strong for sellers, while the quality available for exportation must be smaller than it has been for many years.

The American Hop Crop for 1900.

The following figures, extracted from the *American Agriculturist*, are the results of a very careful and impartial investigation, and may, therefore, be safely accepted as sufficiently reliable to form the basis of a correct forecast of the probable course of the market during the coming year. The comparisons of the acreage and yield of the various hop districts given below are especially interesting, the quantities of hops being given in bales of 180lbs. each:

New York. Year.	Acreage.	Crop.	Old Stock.	Total Supply. Bales.
1900	16 000	46,000	3,000	49,000
1899	19,0 0	58,000	5,000	63,000
California.				
1900	6,100	44,000	500	44,500
1899	6,750	55,000	4,000	59,000
Oregon.				
1900	15,040	68 000	2,000	70,000
1899	16,000	80,000	700	80,700
Washington.				
1900	5,000	40,000	1,200	41,200
1899	5,250	47,000	800	47,800

These returns indicate that the total area under hops in the U.S.A. has decreased from 47,000 acres, at which it stood last year, to 42,140 acres in 1900. All the States have reduced their acreage, but in different proportions, New York showing a falling off of about 17 per cent., California about 10 per cent., Oregon about 6 per cent., and Washington about 5 per cent.

Not only in acreage, but also in yield, do the figures demonstrate that the hop-growing capacity of our competitors has diminished this year. The total growth of 1899 was 240,000 bales, or 385,714 cwt., and the produce of 1900 only amounts to 198,000 bales, or 318,215 cwt., the general average being 8.20 cwt. per acre in 1899 and 7.55 cwt. in 1900. The stocks at the opening of the '99 season were estimated at 10,500 bales, and this season only 6,700 bales were reckoned to be in hand. Therefore the total deficiency in the present available supply may be taken as exceeding 70,000 cwt., and it may thus be reasonably calculated that not only must the American brewers be compelled to pay considerably more for their supplies than they have been recently doing, but also that very few hops can be spared for exportation to England or to any other market.

It is stated that unless the American growers obtain better remuneration this season than they have received within the last few years, a further decrease in acreage will be effected, especially in New York State, and, although the diminished area is not so pronounced on the Pacific Coast, there is there a decided tendency to plough up the poorest yards, and not to plant new ones until it is evident that the farmers can secure more profit for their outlay and their labour.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 495, 497.)

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

17,114.—John Anketell, Regent Street, London, for an invention of "A new or improved machine for planting potatoes and other root crops."

17,116.—William Henry Wortman and John Henry Hall, Chancery Lane, London, for an invention of "Improvements in barrel churns."

17,223.—Thomas Budworth Sharp, Birmingham, for an invention of "Improvements in or appertaining to the manufacture of lard and other edible animal fats, also to butter and the like."

Patents Sealed.

11,694.—J. E. Atterbury, Clare College, Cambridge, for an invention of "Improvements in distributing liquids and manures on crops."

11,875.—F. Franck, Germany, for an invention of "Improvements in manuring and fertilising."

12,257.—C. Kohlert, Berlin, Germany, for an invention of "Improvements in ploughs, agricultural."

Tralee Fair was held on Tuesday, and there was an average supply of stock. Calves and yearlings sold well. Prices: Calves, second class, £4 to £4 12s. 6d.; third class, £2 17s. 6d. to £3 15s. 9d. Yearlings, second class, £5 16s. 3d. to £7; third class, £4 2s. 6d. to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, second class, £7 10s. to £10; third class, £5 10s. to £7. Three-year-olds, third class, £6 10s. to £8. Springers, second class, £11 10s. to £14 5s.; third class, £8 to £10 2s. 6d.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Beer Duties.

The General Election is at an end so far as its interest or any further effect upon political action are concerned. The result indicates much more than is apparent upon the surface, for, whilst the majority are busy congratulating the Government upon the splendid return the country has made to its appeal, the thoughtful few read between the lines deep and serious warnings.

It is recognised that our foreign policy, and more especially our Imperial aggrandisement, conform to the views and wishes of a vast number of our electors. So far as these are concerned, our Cabinet can pursue an unbroken line of policy with increased vigour and lavish outlay.

But Imperial politics have no place in these columns other than their influence and effects upon

Domestic Policy.

Unhappily the two can never be altogether dissociated, for the simple but eminently practical reason that "ways and means" dominate both, with the cross relation that internal affairs have to be so managed and controlled that the costs of waging foreign war must be provided from home resources.

Home industries and domestic incomes have to be taxed to maintain armies on the outer fringes of our possessions or ships fit for action upon the high seas. As a consequence, however belligerent our tone may become, it behoves us to keep a keen eye open to watch the course of trade and other events within our own borders.

Keeping this view of the position in sight, it is surprising how little attention generally has been given in the struggle from which we are just emerging to the interests centreing around agriculture. It cannot be said that these interests have been altogether overlooked. We had at the earliest practicable moment the eminently practical and

Comprehensive Statement

prepared and issued by the business and Parliamentary Committee of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture. No less than ten points were advanced of grave practical interest and value. All of these have been discussed in the past, not only at the Central Chamber, but in many of the clubs and societies throughout the length and breadth of the land. Of these proposals the only ones I am able to refer to here are those relating to the beer duties and the use of brewing materials. These directly affect the prosperity of arable farming and the amount derived by the State from that inexpensive and reliable source of income, the duty on beer, although other matters of much importance ought not to be seemingly overlooked, such as the uniform sale of corn by weight and the fraudulent sale of foreign meat. On all these points we must make it understood that care must be given. The trade of China or of South Africa is an important matter, but it is as yet of less direct value to us than the success or ruin of our own great industry vested in our land. When children require food a good milch cow in the paddock is worth many bulls in Bashan. Even such grave and responsible persons as Chancellors of the Exchequer have referred to

"Brewers as Milch Cows,"

and at a comparatively early date their ability to continue to pay the existing excessive taxation they collect for the State or not will be discussed and should be settled.

Now, in this discussion there are two factors demanding attention which are far too commonly overlooked. These are the interests of the producers of the raw material supposed to enter into the composition of beer and those also of the general public or consumers. It is obvious that the duty of tax collectors should be to study so to raise revenue that no harm is done to producers or loss to the public.

One of the surest and best methods of securing these desirable ends will be to adopt the resolution of the Central Chamber so "that the beer duty be readjusted by a reduction in the rate of duty charged on beer brewed only from barley-malt and hops, and a like amount be added on beer containing any substitute for malt and hops."

Hops Pay no Duty,

and consequently the insertion of the name in the resolution is unfortunate. Sufficient would be gained by keeping the alteration to beer containing any other dutiable material than barley-malt. We cannot escape from the fact that the law directly sanctions the use of many substances by brewers, some of which are known to and permitted by the Excise authorities, but of which no notice is taken in any form.

Every pound of substitute for malt is, however, known and carefully entered. In the case of some of the articles they are insufficiently charged with duty. These can be placed upon a fair and just footing, and now is the time for the necessary steps to be taken to secure that result. No election of late years has been fought so independently of the all-powerful influence of beer, and perhaps no recent House would have looked so fairly and equitably into the true merits of the case. In any case, it is much to be desired that the members so soon to reassemble ought to have clear intimation of what is wished in the matter

Brewers' Exhibition.

This important annual fixture, the twenty-second of a successful series, takes place at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, from October 20th to 26th, and in the display of the latest appliances and inventions of interest to the trade will be found in every way up-to-date. Although essentially a business gathering there is always much to attract the general public, and even temperance reformers take a special interest in the improved processes for the production of high-class non-alcoholic drinks, for which this exhibition has been mainly responsible. The malting barley competition, which has done so much towards spurring on the farmer to obtain better seed and to devote more care to barley cultivation, will again form one of the leading features of the show. The prize list has been considerably added to, and the entries promise to reach a satisfactory total. Cash prizes and diplomas are also being offered for English hops, and medals will be given for best samples of soda water, ginger beer, and hop ale. The railway companies are affording facilities for country visitors, and the prospects of a successful trade gathering are assured.

Grain Show at Blandford.

The third annual exhibition of grain grown in the county of Dorset was held at the Blandford Corn Exchange on Thursday. The exhibitions are promoted by the committees of the four agricultural societies of the county, and the headquarters of which are at Dorchester, Blandford, Milborne St. Andrew, and Winfrith. The entries were fairly large, but not quite so numerous as at the previous exhibitions. They were judged by Mr. W. Collis, Alresford; Mr. J. D. Taylor, Bath (for barley); Mr. W. H. Yeatman, Poole (wheat); and Mr. J. J. Forrester, Bryanston (oats). The quality of the barley and the threshing of it showed a great improvement on that of previous years, and especially on that of two years ago. Much greater attention had been paid to the threshing, but it would be greatly to the benefit of the agriculturist if still an advance were made in this detail. In the threshing department both prizes went to Mr. Gifford. One lot was a very useful barley, whilst the second was very steely. It was wonderfully well threshed, and reflected great credit on the machinist. As a whole the quality of the barley shown was very good, and above expectation for the year. The majority of the exhibitors had left their barleys to mature and ripen, important details in the influencing of the judges' opinions. More attention had been paid to screening, but the agriculturists' interests would be improved by a still further amount of care being bestowed in this department, which does much in influencing the prices offered at the various markets. The champion sample of barley was a very excellent one, the quality being good, very kind, and well tackled. It was grown by Mr. Henry Spicer, of Affpuddle. Colonel W. E. Brymer, of Puddletown, was awarded the reserve card for a very good sample, which was as well managed as the champion lot. The oats exhibited were not up to the usual standard, being deficient in colour and weight, whilst in some cases they were by no means sweet. In the wheat section were some good supplies of nice stamp wheat, but in several instances the condition of the grain could be improved upon. Mr. J. Andrews, of Tarrant Rushton, was awarded the champion prize for an excellent stamp of white wheat, grown on a light loam and chalk soil after turnips. The reserve number, which was exhibited by Mr. J. Lockyer, of St. Giles, was a red variety in good condition.

At the dinner which followed, the newly-elected member for the division, Mr. Wingfield Digby, presided. The toast list included the health of the president, and it was proposed in fitting terms by Mr. G. E. Woodhouse, who congratulated Mr. Digby on being re-elected. In the course of his remarks, in responding, the President said he hoped these exhibitions at the Corn Exchange would do a great deal towards encouraging the growth of good barley in the county. In responding to the toast of "The Judges," Mr. Collis said there had been a very great improvement both in the quality and the threshing of the barley since he judged it at Dorchester two years ago, and the judges had a great difficulty in selecting the best samples. He laid special stress on the necessity of agriculturists paying stricter attention to threshing, etc. Mr. Yeatman spoke in high terms of the quality of some of the samples of wheats shown; but the opinion of Mr. Forrester with respect to the oats was not a very favourable one.

Prize List.

Class 1.—Malting barley from bulk of forty quarters: 1, Mr. G. H. Bissell, Affpuddle; 2, Mr. J. P. Gifford, Dorchester; 3, Mr. G. Mitchell, Rogers Hill.

Class 2.—Malting barley from sample: 3sqrs; 1, Mr. G. H. Bissell; 2, Mr. C. Trowbridge, Iwerne; 3, Mr. J. E. Tory, Broadmayne.

Class 3.—Malting barley from bulk of sample of 20qrs.

1, Mr. H. Spicer, Affpuddle; 2, Colonel Brymner, M.P.; 3, Colonel Brymner, M.P.

Class 4.—White wheat, bulk and sample of 25qrs.: 1, Mr. J. Andrews, Rushton; 2, Mr. T. Taylor, Pimperne.

Class 5.—Red wheat: 1, Mr. R. Rogers, Muston; 2, Mr. J. Lockyer, St. Giles; 3, Mr. C. J. Waters, Woodyates.

Oats (spring): 1, Mr. R. Rogers, Muston; 2, Mr. T. R. Spiller, Luccombe; 3, Mr. H. Spicer, Affpuddle.

Threshing and dressing.—Wheat: 1, Mr. J. Lockyer; 2, Mr. C. J. Waters.

Barley: 1 and 2, Mr. J. P. Gifford.

Champion prizes.—Barley: Mr. H. Spicer; r, Col. Brymner. Wheat: Mr. J. Andrews; r, Mr. J. Lockyer.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Berkshire.

The weather has been remarkably fine, and it has been a wonderful time for autumn cultivation, and this will very much forward the work in the spring, and make it much more healthy for planting where it has been done. It has also been a capital time for carting the manure on the land, but in consequence of the dry weather very little of the wheat land has been ploughed, and scarcely any wheat planted. There is a full quantity of rye and vetches put in for next year's crop, and some trifolium, but from the dry weather this last useful plant has made but little progress, and what comes up by the last rains will be too late for a certain crop. The young grasses are a good plant. As

Threshing

proceeds the yield per acre tells a sad tale, for wheat is below an average. Barley is scarcely an average, with a poor quality, and oats are a bad crop. Straw is very cheap, and although the crop of hay was a light one the price does not improve. Mangolds are good, and swedes and turnips have done very well where they were properly attended to, so that the root crop is the best we have had for three or four years. Cattle are dull of sale, at about the same rates that have been for the last three months. Sheep were a good trade for a time, but now it is rather dull and a little lower in price. Pigs sell fairly well at late prices. Fruit is very plentiful, and orchards have made more money than usual. Potatoes are sound and free from disease. Labour is the great difficulty, and there is not sufficient men left to keep the land in good cultivation, for nearly all the young men are gone for soldiers, policemen, or porters, and then, how can the land be cultivated, for those few that are left demand higher wages, and how is the money to be found with the present low prices and bad yield of the produce? And in the end it will be known that all the poor land will fall down to grass, and not be cultivated at all. J. L. (October 11th).

Carmarthen.

Glorious weather continuing again, rain when it is wanted, and sunshine. I am an old man and do not remember a more prolific summer. Abundance of grass, and cattle are thriving well upon it, and are in demand at the fairs, and good prices are given for them. The sheep are not quite as brisk at from 7d. to 8d. per lb. Horses of all kinds fetch high prices. Mangolds and swedes are growing well, and seem to be a good crop. The potatoes are small, and do not seem to be quite healthy. Fruit is very plentiful, especially apples, and we could have a good supply of cider

If we Knew the Way to Make it.

All stone fruit is a very full crop. There is very little corn thrashed yet of the little that is set here, and does not seem to be an average yield. Milk is in request, which is sent to Swansea, Cardiff, and other towns from this county at from 7½d. to 8½d. per gallon. Butter is selling at 1s. to 1s. 2d per lb. Very little cheese is made, and the skim milk from the separators is given to calves and to fatten pigs, which sell at 8s. 6d. per score, and find it pay better than making skim cheese, which sells at about 3d. per lb.—October 12th.

East Suffolk.

The result of harvest is being proved, and is very unsatisfactory. The crop in many cases is very small, and the price is bad. It is pitiful to hear of how small a sum an acre of wheat or barley brings in. The day of

Abatement of Rent

or permanent reduction has come again, for the grant of half the rates is not enough any longer. The increased cost of labour also makes an appeal to the landlord a necessity, or it will be a necessity to leave the land in the landlords' hands. Of course, if the tenant could have full liberty and security, it might soon be possible to pay more rent. But at present landlords do not see this, and the House of Lords forbids it to be provided by act of Parliament. Hence farms, especially large ones in East Suffolk, have to advertise for tenants.

The Greatest Drought

of the year appears to be now upon us. Swedes are feeling it, and feed grows short. At present mangolds seem growing. Healthy cattle and sheep we gladly report. Swine fever is somewhat about, but not much public noise is made of that now. Plough cannot get on much on the dry, hard land, for autumn sowing of beans, tares, oats, and wheat. Steam cultivation is not thought the right thing for wheat, and one hears of winter oats taking the place of wheat.—J. G. (October 12th).

Mid Essex.

The weather has been exceptionally fine for cleaning the land, which is so hard and dry that a good bit of ploughing must wait for rain. Wheat-sowing has begun, but sowing generally must wait for rain. Wheat, threshed, is yielding less than was expected, bad farmers being hit harder than where land is done well. Barleys also are yielding badly, and to all present appearances the crops will yield

Two Quarters per Acre Less

than last year. Prices for barley are disappointing, but there are few good samples and the berries are small and often stained. Oats, beans, and peas are all below the average. Mangolds have grown well this mild weather, but the crop will be lighter than last year, a good, heavy crop being the exception in a few places. All sheep feed has improved, and sheep and lambs have correspondingly improved in price. Beef and mutton are selling fairly well, but pigs have taken a decided turn for the better. The tempting price of sows for London feeding has very materially reduced the stocks. Labour continues scarce and dear, and with small crops the effects will be felt considerably, with increased taxes; and, strange to note, everything a farmer wishes to purchase is dear, and his corn produce drags out as bad a price as ever; but, no doubt now, with another strong Government, we shall have

Railway Rates Looked Into

and altered, so that the foreigner will be made to pay as much as the home producer, as at present it is much cheaper to get wheat from America into the centre of our little island than for the English farmer to rail his corn just a few stations on any line.—Mid Essex (October 13th).

Shropshire.

Weather keeping dry; barometer 30.3; thermometer 54; mornings chilly. All work going on well in the fields, gardens, and orchards. Common turnips are used for dairy stock to keep them to their milk, and the maggot fly is driven off the sheep.—J. G.

Westmorland.

If ever the month of September deserved the character and importance attached to it by our forefathers, namely, that of being the balancing month of the year, certainly the month just expired is worthy of it, as it is marvellous how greatly it has redeemed the mischief done by the violent storms of wind and rain which took place early in August, laying and twisting the uncut corn in all directions, which rendered cutting a tedious and prolonged operation, causing considerable waste through shedding of over-ripened corn. September has been all that the most sanguine farmer could desire, and has enabled all who have exercised ordinary patience to secure their crops in splendid condition, fit for threshing and marketing if the demand was forthcoming and prices remunerative. The yield of oats is disappointing, especially on light soils, caused to some extent by shedding of over-ripened crops, but more by the extreme forcing weather of July. Aftermaths are less satisfactory than usual, but stock of every kind is getting the full benefit of what the season has produced, as there is no waste by trampling into the dry ground.

Store Cattle

are not coming to market in that splendid condition which the abundance of grass through summer would lead one to expect; in fact, they are generally below average for the period. There is, however, abundance of provender, both green crop and dry, and the latter generally well secured, which adds considerably to its value. Store stock of all kinds are in good demand at fair prices; fat, on the other hand, has receded in value, and cannot now be remunerating the feeder. October has opened out unfavourably, and is blocking the lifting of potatoes, which are proving a disappointing crop, the tubers being generally small and the early varieties much diseased.—T. B. (October 10th).

Foreign Prospects.

France.—Autumn sowings of wheat, rye, and barley proceed steadily in changeable but, on the whole, suitable weather.

Holland.—Fine weather has permitted the practical conclusion of wheat and ryesowings.

Germany.—The weather during the past week has been of a seasonable character, and advantageous for agriculture.

Spain.—With copious rains in many localities in the Peninsula the wheat sowings this season will be effected in good condition in a well-prepared seed bed.

Italy.—Weather recently has been favourable for agricultural work. According to an official estimate this year's wheat crop amounted to 14,442,000qrs., as compared with 15,990,000qrs. in 1899, and 16,656,000qrs. in 1899.

Roumania.—Farmers are complaining of the absence of rain; ploughing and sowing are being actively followed, but the work is difficult through the dryness of the soil. Maize has profited by the recent favourable weather, and a good and abundant crop is anticipated.

Russia.—The temperature in most parts of the empire continues high, and complaints are common of the unseasonable dryness of the weather, which retards Azima wheat and rye sowing, and prevents germination in those fields already sown.

United States.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says there has been good weather for farm field work, and wheat seeding is progressing favourably. The crop is growing well in the west, but ily is appearing in the early sown portions of Ohio and Indiana. Corn is drying well.—*Dornbusch*.

THE WEATHER.

Monday (October 8th).—Magnificent weather prevailed over the South of England, and the conditions were generally fine over Great Britain. A cyclonic disturbance was travelling to the north-eastward along our west coasts, and rain fell in parts of Ireland. Heavy rain was measured in the morning in the northern and western districts as the result of the fall since the previous morning, and in the North of Ireland the amount measured nearly two inches. Sunday night was warm in England and Ireland, the temperature at many coast stations falling very little below 60deg. The midday temperature rose to 70deg. and above in the South of England.

Tuesday (October 9th).—Exceptionally fine weather again prevailed over the South of England, and the temperature was very high for the season. The conditions were still unsettled over the northern and western portions of the kingdom, where the sky was generally cloudy, and rain fell in many places. Heavy rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, in Ireland, and at a few stations in the West of England. The day was very bright and fine in London, and the thermometer in the shade was above seventy degrees for several hours, the highest reading being seventy-five degrees. The temperature throughout the day was nearly twenty degrees above the average.

Wednesday (October 10th).—Cooler weather spread over the whole of the British Islands, and in parts of Scotland the early morning temperatures were only a few degrees above the freezing point. The mid-day temperatures were generally between fifty and fifty-eight degrees, the readings at many places in the south and south-east of England being fully fifteen degrees cooler than on the previous day. Rain was measured in nearly all parts of the country in the morning, as the result of the fall since Tuesday, and at many of the northern stations the fall was heavy. Slight rain fell in London in the early morning, but the day was fine, although there was a good deal of cloud at times. The highest temperature in the metropolis was sixty degrees.

Thursday (October 11th).—The weather was fine over the southern portion of the country, but the conditions were decidedly unsettled in the north. Light easterly winds were blowing in the English Channel, but over the greater part of England the winds were light and variable. On our north and north-west coasts the wind was strong and squally from the south-west. Wednesday night was cold in the northern and inland districts, and ground frost occurred in places. The midday temperatures were everywhere lower than of late, the readings only touching fifty-five degrees in a few places. The exposed thermometer registered two degrees of frost in the suburbs of London in the early morning, and the highest temperature during the day was fifty-six degrees.

Friday (October 12th).—The weather was fine in the South of England, but there was more cloud than of late, and in the northern and western portions of our islands the sky was mostly overcast. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the previous twenty-four hours, in Scotland and in the North of Ireland, and slight rain fell again during the day at a few of the western stations. Thursday night was cold in the northern and inland districts, the sheltered thermometer falling to within a few degrees of the freezing point. The midday temperatures were very little above fifty degrees, except in the South of England, where, however, the readings fell short of sixty degrees. The day was fine in London, and the highest temperature was fifty-eight degrees.

Saturday and Sunday (October 13th and 14th).—Unsettled weather prevailed over our islands during the two days, and strong winds or gales occurred on all our north and west coasts, accompanied by a rough sea. Rain fell on Saturday over nearly the entire kingdom, and rather large amounts were measured in Scotland. On Sunday showers of rain wer general, and hail occurred in places. Snow fell in parts of Scotland, and on Saturday night temperatures were low nearly everywhere, the sheltered thermometer falling below the freezing point at Nairn, and within a degree or two of the freezing point in Scotland and in the north of England. Sunday was cold in London, the thermometer not exceeding fifty degrees.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: No alteration since last Monday. Barley: Grinding, 3d per qr cheaper. Malting rather quiet, without alteration in price. Wheat slow, at barely late rates. Oats declined about 3d per qr. Maize: Flat 3d per qr dearer; round steady. Flour dull.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—New home-grown wheat was not materially altered, although prices inclined easier. Country markets still practically absorb everything that comes up. Very fine white quoted at 33s, and red of similar sample 32s 63lb delivered. Foreign sorts also tended in buyers' favour, and the stock of American remains heavy. No. 1 Northern Spring, 33s 6d to 33s 9d ex ship, and nominal ex quay in absence of offers. No. 1 hard Manitoba, 33s 9d in the former, and 34s in the latter position. Hard Duluth, 34s ex ship, 34s 6d landed. Australian, 33s to 33s 6d 496lb. The market for flour moved in sympathy with wheat, quotations of the leading brands being maintained with difficulty. The London Millers' Association kept prices similar to those current last Monday afternoon. Town household, 26s, and whites, 29s per sack. Both Persian and Black Sea barley were rather more firmly held, although manifesting no decided change in values. Nothing fresh occurred in oats, sellers being fairly reserved, apart from the slack consumptive demand which prevailed. Arrivals show a falling off. Maize more firmly held, apart from the slow movements carried on, and supplies restricted.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Only a small attendance of buyers was noticeable since the commencement of business. New English wheat is 6d easier on the week, and fairly submitted on the country exchanges. Fine white, 32s 6d, and red of similar sample 31s 6d 63lb delivered. American descriptions 3d easier, and stocks continue heavy. Flour is also 3d lower, even at which concession consumers fail to enter the market. The London Millers' Association made no alteration this afternoon. Town household, 26s; whites, 29s per sack. American first patents nominal, at 25s 6d to 26s 6d; and second ditto, 23s to 24s. First bakers, 21s to 22s; second, 19s to 20s. Hungarian up to 30s. Australian patents, 22s to 23s 280lb. Grinding barley unaltered, and the supply of Persian continues adequate. Black Sea is fairly plentiful. Fine malting, 30s, 33s; medium sorts being in ample supply. American oats firm at fully late rates. Flat maize maintained, and firmer on the week; round being also against buyers. Mixed American, 20s 9d ex ship, and 21s ex quay. Odessa 25s ex ship to come up, and 25s 6d ex quay. Good sound new Plate, 23s ex quay. Beans and peas remain lifeless markets, and Egyptian splits held for 20s 6d ex mill.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—White wheat, 30s to 33s; red ditto, 30s to 32s; white oats, 16s to 22s; black ditto, 14s to 20s; malting barley, 27s to 29s (medium), and 30s to 33s (best).

Aylesbury, Saturday.—The wheat trade, despite a good attendance and fair quantity on offer, was dull, with a decline of 6d per qr on the week. Barley, beans, and oats unchanged. Wheat, 27s 6d to 29s 6d; barley, 26s to 36s; beans, 30s to 35s; oats, 18s to 24s per quarter.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (white), 30s to 32s per qr; wheat (red), 30s 6d to 31s per qr; barley, 28s to 29s per qr; beans (new), 28s to 30s per qr; oats (new), 24s to 26s per qr; oats (old), 24s to 26s per qr. Wheat in fair supply at barely last week's rates.

Boston, Wednesday.—A fair show and declining prices. Wheat, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; oats, 15s to 17s; beans, 29s to 30s; maize, 23s to 25s 6d.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Average supply, and fair trade. Red wheat as last week, prices ranging from 30s to 32s 6d per qr; white wheat slightly better, prices from 32s to 35s. More barley showing, best qualities making up to 36s; others averaged about 27s.

Bristol, Thursday.—The demand has been slow since our last. English wheat was in moderate supply at to-day's market at about 6d lower. Foreign also made from 3d to 6d less money. Grinding barley and flat maize 3d easier. Round maize and oats without change. Flour slow trade.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been dull, and supplies have been rather better. Prices are hardly so firm as last week. At this market to-day wheat was in moderate supply, and, with only a languid demand, prices were slightly easier. Wheat, 29s to 31s, and white up to 31s per 504lb. There was a dull trade for barley for anything like good lots. Beans unaltered.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat and barley slow; maize a little firmer. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 31s to 32s; red ditto, 30s to 32s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; black, 16s to 20s; peas, 30s to 32s; tick beans, 30s to 32s; mazagans, 28s to 29s; flat maize, 22s to 23s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per quarter; winter tares, 6s to 6s 6d per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day. Quick sale at full rates. New, 16s 6d to 18s 6d per 336lb; old, 23s to 24s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a larger offering of English grain. Wheat was unchanged in value; oats were steady; but Indian corn, through scarcity, was 3d per sack dearer. Quotations: Wheat, white and red, 4s 1d to 4s 3d per 75lb. Grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb. Beans, 4s 10d to 5s 6d per 80lb. Oats new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; old, 3s 2d to 3s 7d per 46lb. Indian corn, 11s 6d to 11s 9d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Small attendance and quiet market, business generally being on a limited scale. Wheat was the turn easier. Feeding stuffs also had a drooping tendency. Flour unchanged.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat, short supply, poor demand; prices 6d to 1s per qr lower. Barley, freely offered, best samples sold at good prices. Inferior runs neglected. Beans, peas, and oats unaltered.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Good attendance, but trade was not brisk. There was a large quantity of malting barley offering, most of inferior quality, for which it was difficult to find buyers.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Wheat in good demand at late rates; average price 28s 8d. Oats dull: average 21s 8d. Barley exceptionally dull, at 6d cheaper; average 23s 4d. Best Midlothian flour brought 26s 6d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour quiet, but quotably unaltered. Indian corn firm, but unchanged. Grinding beans steady. Canadian pease 6d lower, owing to a fresh arrival at quay. Foreign oats steady. Home oats firm, with a slightly dearer tendency. Barley firm. Oatmeal quiet. Bran and thirds unaltered.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour quiet but quotably unaltered. Indian corn firm but unchanged. Grinding beans steady. Canadian peas 6d per boll lower owing to a fresh arrival at the quay. Foreign oats steady. Home oats firm, with a slightly dearer tendency. Barley firm. Oatmeal quiet.

Hull, [illegible]. A fair supply of English wheat, which met a slow sale at lower prices, fine new making 29s and old 31s per qr. [illegible] wheat also easier at 28s to 32s per qr. Malting barley [illegible] slow at 23s to 28s; grinding barley easier at 22s. Oats rather slow, new making 18s and fine old 22s per qr. English beans in fair request at 30s to 35s, and foreign 29s 6d. Maize scarce, especially round, which sold at 26s and flat at 21s per qr.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat, and trade dull at about 6d less than last week. Reds, 30s to 31s; white, 32s 6d. Good supply of barley, and fine samples were in request at from 34s to 35s; other descriptions 26s to 30s. Oats steady. Maize firm. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—With heavier shipments during the past week and weaker American advices, the wheat trade has become inactive, with the tendency of prices slightly in buyers' favour. Millers confine their purchasers to-day to pressing requirement at occasionally 3d per qr under late rates. Barley meets still a restricted demand, common qualities proving very unsaleable. Maize, 3d dearer. Beans and oats slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—The demand for both English and foreign wheat is still restricted to pressing wants, although prices are from 3d to 6d below Tuesday's reduced rates, new English being offered as low as 27s, and old from 30s to 32s. Maize firmly held. No change in beans, peas, oats, barley, or flour.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with moderate supplies of wheats. Old samples steady. New wheats slow trade. Prices 29s to 32s per 36 stones. Barley in steady request. Fine oats firmer.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good supply of new wheats, trade steady at somewhat easier rates. Reds, 27s to 28s. Whites, 28s to 29s. Foreign, quiet. Large show of barley, prices ruled from 25s to 34s. Oats dull. No change in peas, beans, and maize.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat quiet, with a steady business at late rates, except Kansas wheat, which is ½d to 1d 100lbs. lower. Flour—There is only a quiet trade passing for flour, and prices show no change from last market day. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of English. Maize has experienced a fair consumptive demand at last Tuesday's prices for mixed American. European and Plate have a fair inquiry, values showing no change. Barley for brewing is fairly active, Chilians having a good demand, and full prices are obtainable. Beans are slow, and 3d lower for Egyptian and flat kinds, other sorts unchanged. Peas have a quiet trade at ½d decline from Tuesday. Oats—English oats have experienced a firm trade and 1d advance for new has been registered; foreign kinds have a moderate demand, but steady at Tuesday's values. Oatmeal firm trade at unchanged prices. Oilcake—Only a moderate business has taken place, but prices are firmly held at last market day's currencies.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Business at the market to-day was slow, and the wheat on offer did not move off at all freely; the prices of last week were about realised. Barley, if of good quality, has a good demand, the cost of which is slightly over recent rates. Oats are a little easier to-day. Beans and peas no change, though the latter are scarce. Winter tares are to be obtained at less money than at the first of the season. Not any alteration in rye, brank, hemp, sergo, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—A quiet tone has prevailed during the greater part of the week, and in no quarter have we heard of more than a moderate trade being done. English wheat favours the buyer to the extent of 6d per qr, whilst foreign is about 1½d per cental lower. Flour is very slow, prices quotably unaltered. English oats are firm at late rates. Peas and beans easy. Indian corn 1½d per cental dearer on the week.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat closed in buyers' favour this day by 3d to 6d per quarter. Flour in slow demand, and disappointing to sellers. Feeding stuffs, generally, had the turn against sellers.—GEO. W. WATSON AND CO.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at our to-day's market ruled quiet, prices rather in favour of buyers. Maize firmly held, factors refused to accept last week's prices. Barley easier. Old Scotch oats firm, new easier. Beans and peas steady at late rates. Flour unchanged.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat: Slow sale and rather easier. Maize: Good demand at last week's prices. Barley: No change on the week. Oats: No change. Fines, 24s 6d. Offal very firm.

Northampton, Saturday.—Good attendance, with more showing. Generally speaking, the trade was quiet, and in some cases a little lower than last week's prices. White wheat, 30s to 33s; red, new, 27s to 30s; ditto, old, 31s to 33s; malting barley, 26s to 30s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; oats, 17s to 22s; old, 24s; beans, 30s to 32s; fine old, 35s; peas, 26s to 34s; flour, 23s to 27s.

Norwich, Saturday.—The wheat trade was about the same as last week, being rather against the seller. A good supply of barley on offer, which sold freely at last week's prices. We had unusually mild weather at the beginning of the week, but the past few days have been cold and damp. Wheat, red, 30s to 30s 6d per qr, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending October 8th, 1900:—Wheat, 4,080-3, 29s 3¾d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in less supply, but trade ruled steady at previous rates. Barley a fair trade in fine parcels, which commanded full prices; inferior sorts almost unsaleable. Oats in moderate supply, moderate trade at unaltered prices. Beans, small show and firm.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been a small supply of wheat to-day, but trade was slow, and last week's prices barely supported. Good barley firm, middling qualities still flat. Oats steady and unchanged.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was an average attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Very little has been done during the week. The prices for all stuffs remain unchanged, and business is very quiet.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—We had an abundant supply of wheat on offer to-day at the Exchange, and business ruled brisk. There was, however, a slight fall in prices, which were 6d per qr less than last week. The barley supply was an average one, and a good demand ensued at figures which were very similar to those of previous markets, and other sorts sold at recent rates.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat 6d a quarter cheaper. A fair supply. Red wheat made 29s 6d to 31s, and white wheat 30s to 31s 6d per qr.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Moderate attendance. Market for wheat slow, but former prices firmly adhered to. Indian corn advanced another 6d per qr. Beans and oats firm at former prices. Flour unaltered. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d; red, 32s to 33s; new, 31s to 32s per 504lb; oats, old white, 26s; ditto old black, 22s; new, 18s 6d to 20s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 28s to 29s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small old, 28s to 29s; ditto American mixed, 23s to 23s 6d per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Wheat was 6d easier making up to 28s, and a little more for seed wheat. Oats were 6d lower, selling at 15s to 17s. A slow trade for barley at previous prices. Beans and peas unchanged in value.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were few samples of farmers wheat showing, which made 30s per qr. The foreign wheat trade keeps very dull owing to large arrivals and millers buying only for immediate requirements. There is no quotable change to record. Maize, 3d to 6d per qr dearer. Oats unchanged. There was only a small show of malting barley, which met a slow trade at last week's prices.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Wheat quiet and in buyers' favour. Barley and oats steady without change. Arrivals: Coastwise, oats, [illegible] qrs.; foreign, nil.—E. and F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Good attendance. Wheat, a quiet trade, at 6d per quarter decline. Large supply of malting barley, which sold slowly at last week's rates. All feeding stuffs slightly easier.

Wakefield, Friday.—Wheat trade dull an inanimate, millers seemingly being determined to reduce stocks. Foreign shippers have scarcely reduced limits and holders on this side are quite content to await a renewal of demand. Malting barley meets a limited sale, many maltsters not yet operating to any extent; prices rather favour buyers. Maize, beans, and oats very slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—There is a very slight business on to-day's market in wheats, and 6d per quarter less money is occasionally accepted for both English and foreign. We have a fair supply of new Yorkshire barley, but maltsters as yet have not operated to any extent. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Winchester, Saturday.—Wheat in short supply, which met a slow trade at barely last week's prices. A fair quantity of barley on offer at 28s to 35s, according to quality. Maize 6d lower. Oats in fair request at late rates. Flour 24s to 26s, with small demand.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Very little grain offering. Wheat slow at late rates. New red, 29s; white, 30s; old up to 31s. Oats steadier, new 17s to 19s; old up to 24s. Barley irregular in quality and price.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Worcester, Saturday.—English wheat offering in fair quantity, but dull demand and trade inactive. Old samples sold at about last week's rates, but new made less money. Foreign also easier. Grinding barley cheaper. Other feeding stuffs quiet at late rates. Wheat, white, 28s to 30s; red, 26s to 28s per quarter.

Worksop, Wednesday.—There was a large attendance of both farmers and factors. An exceptionally large show of barley, and best qualities found ready buyers, but secondary qualities were rather difficult to sell. Wheat was a small show, but made fully last week's prices. White wheat, old, 31s to 32s; old red 30s to 31s; white wheat, new, 28s to 29s; red wheat, new, 27s to 28s; best malting barley, 30s to 32s; secondary, 28s to 30s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; old white oats, 25s to 27s; old black, 24s to 25s; new white oats, 18s to 20s; new black, 17s to 18s; maize, flat, 24s to 25s; ditto round 23s to 24s per qr.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has ruled quiet, and prices have, if anything, been tending slightly downwards. Autumn sowing has been rapidly proceeded with in France, recent rains having rendered field work easier, but floods have occurred in the Valley of the Rhone and some of the Southern Departments. The hopes entertained by French farmers of an improvement in prices in consequence of the less abundant crop of wheat in France this year, have not thus far been realised. Only a comparatively limited business has been passing in wheat at Marseilles; hard wheat, however, has been pretty well maintained. Wheat has also shown little activity at Paris. Flour for consumption has remained at about previous rates in the French capital. Wheat has continued dull at Berlin, and prices have slightly fallen. Advices from Ibrail report only a restricted business in wheat on export account. Wheat has been dull and weak at Konigsberg and Dantzic. Copions rains have fallen in various parts of Spain, and wheat sowing has been proceeded with under favourable conditions. The weather has also been favourable for field work in Italy. Wheat quotations have given way at Odessa, in sympathy with the lower prices reported from New York, and in consequence of an absence of any active foreign demand. The quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is returned at 1,130,000 qrs. as compared with 1,345,000 qrs. at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,130,000 qrs, representing the quantity of wheat now en route for the Continent, is made up as follows:—France, 80,000 qrs; Belgium, 330,000 qrs; Holland, 325,000 qrs; Germany and the North, 95,000 qrs; and Italy, Spain, etc., 300,000 qrs.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather remarkably fine for the time of year. Trade quiet, breadstuffs being little inquired after, and the high prices for feeding stuff impel business, farmers trying to get on with their home produce, instead of buying imported grain. The imports during the week amounted to 2,175 tons wheat, 3,453 tons rye, 5,763 tons barley, 9,785 tons maize. Offers of dry new German wheat are scarce, farmers being busy on the fields which prevents their threshing freely. Fine yellow Holstein, Mecklenburg, and Saale is held at 28s to 28s 6d; secondary quality at 26s 9d to 27s 6d per 504lb. f.o.b. Hard Winter No. 2 and River Plate is offering at 29s to 30s 6d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye quiet. 9 20-25 Taganrog is offering at 22s 6d to 23s per 480lb. c.i.f. Good Saale barley is selling at 31s 6d to 34s, fine is held at 33s to 42s; good Bohemian has been taken at 33s 6d to 36s. Mecklenburg, Prussian, and Holstein at 25s 6d to 28s per 448 b. f.o.b. Russian feeding barley is held at 18s 3d to 18s 9d per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed maize in scanty supply, but at the same time, owing to the high prices, there is not much demand. We quote—prompt, 21s; Dec., 19s 6d; Jan., Feb., March, 19s per 480lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. River Plate maize, Oct. shipment, 20s 3d to 20s 6d c.i.f. rye terms.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley market remains quiet and there is little doing, as buyers decline to operate at the high prices asked by the holders. Prices are certainly open to reasonable counterbids, but decline to agree to a material reduction. The big Burton brewers pick out a few of the best lots for special purposes, but don't entertain any medium quality. I quote good to fine new Chevalier, Saale, and Bohemian, 30s to 34s; extra fine to choice, 35s to 40s per 448lb f.o.b., steamer here.—FRANCIS M. FU[illegible]DENT.

CORN STATISTICS.

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Oct. 5 to Oct. 12, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	78,815 qrs.
Flour	78,000 „
Total	156,815 „
Requirements	106,000 „
Surplus	50,815 „

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

October 5th to 12th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	2,466	..	..	76,349	78,815
Barley	[illegible]	[illegible]	..	[illegible]	38,418
Malt	14,915	..	..	..	14,915
Oats	[illegible]	200	..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rye	..	..	..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beans	747	..	..	1,389	2,136
Peas	[illegible]	..	..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Maize	..	..	..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tares	[illegible]	..	..	..	[illegible]
Lentils	..	..	..	..	..
Linseed	[illegible]	..	..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rapeseed	..	..	..	..	..
Cottonseed	..	..	..	..	..
Farm Seeds	[illegible]	..	..	[illegible]	2,250
Flour { Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	[illegible]	..	..	[illegible]	[illegible]

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.					
Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	June 3	73,846 qrs.		
,, 14	103,380 ,,	,, 10	126,781 ,,		
,, 21	123,902 ,,	,, 17	160,574 ,,		
,, 28	51,234 ,,	,, 24	101,205 ,,		
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	July 1	152,500 ,,		
,, 11	82,912 ,,	,, 8	112,761 ,,		
,, 18	204,974 ,,	,, 15	116,850 ,,		
,, 25	108,373 ,,	,, 22	89,245 ,,		
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,	,, 29	118,314 ,,		
,, 11	63,103 ,,	Aug. 5	104,234 ,,		
,, 18	122,541 ,,	,, 1	102,160 ,,		
,, 25	86,309 ,,	,, 9	106,353 ,,		
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	,, 26	82,367 ,,		
,, 8	133,261 ,,	Sept. 2	73,600 ,,		
,, 15	101,518 ,,	,, 9	83,791 ,,		
,, 22	70,984 ,,	,, 16	107,684 ,,		
,, 29	68,573 ,,	,, 23	131,889 ,,		
May 6	96,348 ,,	,, 30	61,907 ,,		
,, 13	72,852 ,,	Oct. 7	121,032 ,,		
,, 20	101,429 ,,	,, 14	97,050 ,,		
May 27	108,772 ,,				
1900.					
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	May 31	177 744 qrs.		
,, 13	95,064 ,,	June 8	93,147 ,,		
,, 20	114,928 ,,	,, 15	86,125 ,,		
,, 27	124,652 ,,	,, 22	193,116 ,,		
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,	,, 29	142,185 ,,		
,, 10	75,000 ,,	July 6	132,050 ,,		
,, 17	66,804 ,,	,, 13	101,253 ,,		
,, 24	62,191 ,,	,, 20	82,294 ,,		
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,	,, 27	55,998 ,,		
,, 10	63,702 ,,	Aug. 2	86,167 ,,		
,, 17 ..	162,985 ,,	,, 11	192,077 ,,		
,, 24	111,409 ,,	,, 18	138,510 ,,		
,, 31	69,356 ,,	,, 25	182,517 ,,		
April 7	48,302 ,,	,, 31	80,149 ,,		
,, 13	131,085 ,,	Sept. 7	58,394 ,,		
,, 20	82,357 ,,	,, 14	117,066 ,,		
,, 27	43,783 ,,	,, 21	105,951 ,,		
May 4	104,535 ,,	,, 28	158,771 ,,		
,, 11	52,859 ,,	Oct. 5	193,383 ,,		
,, 18	97,412 ,,	,, 12	156,815 ,,		
,, 25	71,390 ,,				

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1899.									
Sep. 23 ..	85,104⅛	25	4 ..	77,673⅜	27	4 ..	22,128	16	1
,, 30 ..	79,612⅛	25	6 ..	97,917⅜	26	11 ..	23 193	16	5
Oct 7 ..	71,152⅜	26	0 ..	169,315⅛	28	0 ..	21,440⅛	16	5
,, 14 ..	63,040⅜	27	3 ..	191,901⅜	27	9 ..	18,024⅛	16	5
,, 21 ..	64,242	28	2 ..	192,268⅜	27	6 ..	18,983⅜	16	10
,, 28 ..	85,178⅛	28	1 ..	219,751⅜	27	4 ..	20,064⅛	16	3
Nov. 4 ..	82,769⅛	27	2 ..	192,267⅜	27	2 ..	17,895⅛	16	7
,, 11 ..	66,741⅜	26	7 ..	166.786⅜	26	9 ..	15.216⅜	16	5
,, 18 ..	65,470⅛	26	1 ..	163,915⅜	26	4 ..	16,313⅛	16	7
,, 25 ..	67,308⅛	25	8 ..	164.362⅜	26	2 ..	17.047⅜	16	7
Dec. 2 ..	72,974⅜	25	7 ..	163,441⅜	25	10 ..	22,575⅛	16	6
,, 9 ..	10,982⅛	25	7 ..	174.207	25	10 ..	21,421⅞	16	5
,, 16 ..	787.72⅛	25	4 ..	135,344⅜	25	7 ..	22,889⅛	16	1
,, 23 ..	67,102⅜	25	6 ..	116,757⅜	25	10 ..	16,447⅛	16	0
,, 30 ..	47,685⅛	25	9 ..	74.637⅜	25	5 ..	10,463⅜	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6 ..	40.086	25	9 ..	65,347⅛	25	7 ..	13,380⅝	16	4
,, 13 ..	57,021⅜	25	11 ..	83.421⅝	25	5 ..	19,703	16	6
,, 20 ..	68,463⅛	26	0 ..	100,925⅜	25	8 ..	23,122⅜	16	5
,, 27 ..	65,381⅛	25	10 ..	108,357⅜	25	9 ..	17,814⅛	16	8
Feb. 3 ..	73,796⅜	25	8 ..	90.769⅞	25	4 ..	22,061⅛	16	3
April 7 ..	67,743⅛	25	10 ..	20.402⅜	24	10 ..	13,757⅜	17	2
,, 10 ..	71,482⅜	25	10 ..	80,543⅜	25	3 ..	20,822⅝	16	2
,, 17 ..	76,611⅜	26	1 ..	80,414⅜	24	11 ..	20,98⅛	16	1
,, 24 ..	69,534⅛	26	3 ..	63,931⅜	25	1 ..	21,132⅛	16	10
Mar. 3 ..	68,153⅜	26	4 ..	51,727⅛	24	6 ..	18,499⅛	16	11
,, 10 ..	58.703⅛	25	11 ..	44,921⅝	24	8 ..	16,224	16	11
,, 17 ..	76,435⅝	25	10 ..	46,053	24	6 ..	20,104⅞	16	10
,, 24 ..	69,944⅛	25	11 ..	38,147	25	0 ..	17,042⅝	17	1
,, 31 ..	72,762	25	10 ..	34,387⅜	24	11 ..	15,200⅝	17	2
,, 14 ..	66,412⅛	25	11 ..	19,519⅛	24	5 ..	9,672⅝	17	8
,, 21 ..	54,977⅜	26	0 ..	11,673⅛	24	9 ..	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28 ..	70,006⅜	26	0 ..	7 785⅜	25	2 ..	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5 ..	75,410⅜	25	11 ..	8,159⅛	25	3 ..	8,658⅛	18	0
,, 12 ..	82,190⅜	25	11 ..	10,417⅜	24	10 ..	12,245⅛	17	11
,, 19 ..	83,941⅜	25	7 ..	5,638⅜	24	5 ..	9,942	18	5
,, 26 ..	95,574⅝	25	5 ..	3,521⅛	23	11 ..	7,350⅞	18	2
June 2 ..	68,906⅜	25	5 ..	1,752⅜	24	4 ..	6,702	18	6
,, 9 ..	64.747⅛	25	3 ..	990⅜	23	8 ..	6,053⅞	18	8
,, 16 ..	55,340⅞	25	6 ..	1,486⅞	23	8 ..	7,228⅝	18	11
,, 23 ..	54,324⅛	25	9 ..	1,312⅛	23	5 ..	5,344⅛	18	11
,, 30 ..	44,920⅝	26	11 ..	495⅜	23	4 ..	4,706⅛	19	3
July 7 ..	34,344⅜	27	10 ..	486⅜	22	10 ..	4,391⅞	19	5
,, 14 ..	22,009⅛	28	7 ..	949⅛	23	2 ..	2,911⅜	19	1
,, 21 ..	26,716⅜	29	0 ..	767⅛	23	8 ..	3,771⅛	19	3
,, 28 ..	33,088	29	3 ..	1944	24	4 ..	3,335⅜	19	9
Aug. 4 ..	45,748⅜	28	10 ..	409⅛	23	10 ..	3,453⅜	19	4
,, 11 ..	37,644⅜	28	7 ..	311⅛	23	7 ..	3,391	19	8
,, 18 ..	32,812⅜	28	10 ..	608⅛	23	3 ..	3,593⅜	19	11
,, 25 ..	26,427⅛	28	10 ..	787⅜	24	10 ..	5,349⅛	18	8
Sept. 1 ..	30,393⅜	28	8 ..	1,978⅛	25	2 ..	9,606⅜	18	1
,, 8 ..	34,755⅛	28	7 ..	6,140⅜	25	8 ..	11,042⅝	17	10
,, 15 ..	53,331⅛	28	4 ..	20,879⅜	25	4 ..	18,684⅛	17	1
,, 22 ..	61,468⅜	28	4 ..	41,284⅛	26	0 ..	21,729⅝	17	1
,, 29 ..	72,604	28	9 ..	68,844⅛	25	1 ..	25,620⅛	17	2
Oct. 6 ..	66,690	28	9 ..	94,232	26	2 ..	23,865	16	10
,, 13 ..	70,314⅜	28	9 ..	134,277⅛	26	2 ..	18,350⅞	17	1

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Oct. 13th, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	70,314⅜ qrs.	28s. 9d.
Barley	134,277⅛ qrs.	26s. 2d.
Oats	18,350⅞ qrs.	17s. 1d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Oct. 13th, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	59,158⅛ ..	27	10	215,741 ..	29	7	14,288⅛ ..	15	9
1897....	53,902⅜ ..	31	10	201,158⅛ ..	28	3	14,860 ..	16	1
1898....	73,992 ..	26	6	220,632⅛ ..	27	11	22,685⅜ ..	16	6
1899....	63,049⅜ ..	27	3	191,901⅜ ..	27	9	18,024⅛ ..	16	5

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

Price.	Sept. 8.	Sept. 15.	Sept. 22.	Sept. 29.	Oct. 6.	Oct. 13.
29s. 3d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
29s. 0d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 10d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 9d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 8d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 7d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 4d...	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 0d...	..	..	..	..	..	..

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890 ..	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891 ..	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892 ..	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893 ..	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894 ..	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895 ..	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896 ..	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897 ..	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898 ..	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899 ..	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(19 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January.....	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	19 5
September ..	25 4	26 10	16 5	28 6	25 7	17 6
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November....	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 9th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	3,937	3	6,049	11	0	1	10	6
Barley	3,246	3	5,152	3	0	1	11	9
Oats	2,695	2	2,282	9	8	0	17	6

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7⅜	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	30	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	..	..	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	21	3½
Nov. ..	..	..	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..	..	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money per sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	0½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June ..	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July ..	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	..		24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	..		24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec. ..	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fair supplies were offered this morning, and met an improved demand. Quotations. Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s; Welsh, 1s 8d to 2s; Surrey, 3s to 3s 6d; Sussex, 2s 6d to 3s; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 6d to 3s; country, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; turkey (cocks), 5s 6d to 7s 6d; hen, 3s 6d to 4s 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 11d; feathered, 7d to 9d; wild rabbits, 8d to 10d; tame, 1s to 1s 3d each; Australian, 7s 6d to 9s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 5s 6d to 6s; young partridges, 3s to 3s 6d; old, 1s 6d to 1s 10d; young grouse, 5s to 6s; old, 3s to 3s 6d per brace; hares, 3s to 3s 3d; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; wild ducks, 1s 6d; pintail, 1s 3d; teal, 8d; widgeon, 1s; woodcock, 2s; snipe, 6d; golden plover, 7d to 9d; black, 4d to 5d; venison, haunches, 16s to 18s each; forequarters, 3d per lb.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: The market rules firm, but the demand is moderate and restricted to immediate needs. We quote, to-day, choice Cumberland cut, 20lb to 22lb, 49s to 52s 6d; 26lb to 30lb, 49s to 52s; 32lb to 38lb, 46s 6d to 51s 6d; long middles, rib-in, 18lb to 22lb, 52s to 58s; clear bellies, 14lb to 16lb, 49s 6d to 52s 6d; 18lb to 20lb, 49s to 52s; Staffordshire cut (lean on), 35lb to 40lb, and Birmingham cut, 33lb to 38lb, 46s to 49s; clear Staffords (lean off), 40lb to 44lb, 44s 6d to 47s; singed Wiltshire, Canadian, 45lb to 55lb, 58s to 63s; American, 40lb to 50lb, 49s to 53s; short clear backs, 12lb to 16lb, 44s to 46s; 16lb to 20lb, 43s to 45s; fat backs (export), 40s to 42s; long clear middles, 30lb to 40lb, 45s to 46s; 40lb to 45lb, 44s to 45s; short clear middles, 45lb to 50lb, 43s to 43s 6d; short middles (rib in), 18lb to 23lb, 48s to 51s. Shoulders, square cut, 12lb to 14lb, 38s to 42s; 14lb to 16lb, 37s to 41s; New York cut, 11lb to 13lb, 34s to 35s 6d per cwt. Hams are in steady request at about unaltered values. We quote choice long cut, 8lb to 12lb, 48s to 54s; 14lb to 16lb, 47s to 52s; short cut and A.C., 10lb to 12lb., 47s to 52s; 12lb to 14lb, 46s to 51s 6d; 14lb to 15lb, 44s to 48s per cwt. Lard is in moderate demand, and c.i.f. quotations being reduced causes lower prices to be quoted on spot. We quote pails and kegs, 34s 6d to 35s; prime Western (in tierces), 33s 6d to 33s per cwt. Cheese.—The demand has been limited, but with improved cables holders are firm, and there is little alteration to report in price. We quote finest Canadian, coloured, cool late makes, 54s to 55s; white, 54s to 54s 6d; States coloured 53s to 54s; white, 52s 6d to 53s 6d. Lower grades, in small supply, sell readily from 44s to 50s per cwt. Butter.—The market is firmer, and with higher quotations for Continental more attention is being given to fancy fresh-made Canadian, which is also improving in value. We quote to-day, fancy Canadian creamery, in boxes, 100s to 104s; finest States, 96s to 100s; finest ladies and imitation creamery, 80s to 88s; finest Danish, 104s to 106s; Australian, 104s to 106s; Irish creamery, 103s to 108s; Cork firsts, 93s; seconds, 85s; thirds, 78s per cwt. —Hobson Bros. Ltd.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 1d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 114s to 120s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 104s to 110s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 7d to 1s 9d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Settle: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Spalding: 1s 1d per lb. Stone: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Boston: 1s 4d per lb. Colne: 1s 2d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d per lb. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 11d to 1s per lb. Knaresborough: (wholesale), 1s 5d to 1s 7d per lb. Louth: (wholesale), 1s 1d per lb. Market Drayton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s 1d per lb. Northallerton: 1s 0d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 11d to 1s per lb. Worksop: 1s 1d to 1s 5d per lb. Dorchester: 1s 1d to 1s 5d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Driffield: 1s per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Penistone: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Friday.—Chester: 1s 2d per lb. Crewe: 1s 3d per lb. Derby: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Easingwold: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Grimsby: Choicest Danish and Swedish, 116s to 118s per 112lb; Dutch, 104s to 106s; Canadian, 96s to 102s. Russian, 88s to 93s per cwt. Helmsley: 11d to 1s per lb. Leeds: Danish, 115s to 121s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 106s to 110s; York lump, 14s 6d to 15s 6d per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 81 to 1s 10d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per roll of 24oz.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 10 for 1s. Gainsborough: 13 or 14 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 11s to 12s per 120; Irish, 9s 6d to 10s; Danish, 8s to 9s 6d; Austrian blues, 6s 6d to 6s 11d; ditto reds, 5s 7d to 5s 10d. Settle: 9 or 10 for 1s. Sheffield: 9 or 10 for 1s. Spalding: 11 or 12 for 1s. Stone, 10 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 8 or 9 for 1s. Boston: 10 for 1s. Colne: 2s per score. Dorchester: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per dozen. Goole: 11 for 1s. Hereford: 10 to 11 for 1s. Keighley: 8 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 11 or 12 for 1s. Knaresborough: 9 or 10 for 1s. Louth: 14 for 1s. Market Drayton: 9 and 10 for 1s. Market Weighton: 12 for 1s. Masham: 12 for 1s. Northallerton: 9 or 10 for 1s. Stockton: 8 or 9 for 1s. Whitby: 10 for 1s. Worksop: 2s 6d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 11 or 12 for 1s. Driffield: 13 for 1s. Kidderminster: 10 for 1s. Penistone: 9 for 1s. Ripon: 9 for 1s. Scarborough: 10 or 11 for 1s. Wetherby: 8 or 9 for 1s.

Friday.—Derby: 9 and 10 for 1s. Easingwold: 12 or 13 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 6s 6d to 7s; Russian, 6s 6d to 7s; Danish, 8s 6d to 9s 11d per 120. Helmsley: 10 or 11 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 11s to 12s per 120; Irish, 9s 6d to 10s 6d; Danish, 8s 3d to 9s 9d; Austrian blues, 6s 4d to 6s 11d; ditto reds, 5s 7d to 5s 10d. Leyburn: 10 or 11 for 1s. Lincoln: 9 for 1s. Otley: 9 or 10 for 1s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—The prices of choicest Australian butter are 108s to 110s per cwt, with a few sales of small lots at 112s. Finest makes here to-day fine, 98s to 99s. The Copenhagen official quotation which stood at 101 kroner when the last report was issued, fell to 95 kroner on 27th September, and since then has risen two kroner a week, and now stands at 99 kroner, which is 13 kroner lower than twelve months since. There has been an easier tone this week owing possibly to the stocks of July cheese which have been released from cold store in Canada and were sold for forward delivery on a basis of 53s to 54s. This is temporarily discounting the market for autumn cheese.—W. Weddel and Co.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Vegetables sold quietly. Good supplies of home-grown fruit met a fair demand. Grapes sold: Hamburgs, 3s to 3s 6d per lb.; Gros Colmans, 2s to 3s per dozen; Muscats, 2s per lb.; Almeria, 1s per lb.; Tomatoes, 2s per bushel; carrots, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; turnips, 2s to 2s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d; leeks, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s 3d per bundle; celery, 12s to 14s per dozen bundles; Brussels sprouts, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen; cauliflowers, 3d to 1s per head; cabbages, 5s to 6s per cwt. Vegetable marrows, 1s per dozen. Potatoes, 60s to 90s per ton. Fruit: English grapes, 6d to 1s 6d per lb.; Dessert, 3s to 5s per barrel; English apples, 1s to 3s per bushel; William pears, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen. Cobnuts, 4s to 7s per cwt. French Walnuts, 6s to 8s per cwt.; Brazils, 5s to 5s 6d per cwt. Bananas, per bunch, 1s to 3s; per dozen, 1s to 1s 6d per bunch. Lemons, per case, 3s to 3s 6d; per box, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen. Oranges, per case, 3s to 4s per cwt.; per dozen, 1s to 1s 6d. Watercress, 3d per dozen bunches. Mushrooms, 1s to 1s 6d per lb.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields.—Supplies were very large this morning, but the demand was good, and prices ruled steady, with prices for most sorts unchanged. Prices: Penny Blues, 3s to 3s 6d; Early Rose, 3s to 3s 6d; Snowdrops, 3s to 3s 6d; Reds, 3s to 3s 6d; Professor Maerkers, 3s to 3s 6d; Early Rose, 3s to 4s per cwt.

Goole.—Wednesday. Potatoes: Good supplies were made to-day, as an advance of 1s per ton was asked. Prices, 65s to 75s per ton.

HOPS.

Canterbury.—Saturday. There was a large attendance of growers and dealers at the Corn Exchange to-day, when a few parcels of Hops were offered for sale. Business was very quiet, and prices were nominally unchanged. Best Kents realised from £3 10s to £4 per cwt.; seconds, £2 10s to £3; and inferior, £1 10s to £2. Mid and East Sussex Hops have been in request, and prices have ruled firm. Best Sussex realised £3 10s to £3 15s per cwt.

Worcester.—Saturday. There was a fair attendance of growers and dealers at the Corn Exchange to-day, when a few parcels of Hops were offered for sale. Business was very quiet, and prices were nominally unchanged. Best Kents realised from £3 10s to £4 per cwt.; seconds, £2 10s to £3; and inferior, £1 10s to £2. Mid and East Sussex Hops have been in request, and prices have ruled firm. Best Sussex realised £3 10s to £3 15s per cwt.

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—ADVT.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Wales, Scotland and Ireland appear to have secured more nearly average crop yields than England this year. The fine weather late in the season helped the Welshman and the Scot, while Ireland escaped our harsh and ungenial spring. The oat crop in Cumberland, Westmoreland, and the Lake District is grown on many upland acres on little more than the chance of its ripening. This year the fine and warm September enabled farmers to harvest the crop to the last sheaf. There were oats out in North Wales as recently as the 9th inst., but this was due to the wonderfully genial opening of October, which led the farmers to leave them fully to ripen, despite a sowing so late as to render mature grain unlikely. Taking the whole of the United Kingdom it is probable that oats will be the least below average of the year's crops. Wheat is the poorest of the three yields.

The American Bureau issued no report on wheat on the 11th inst., the date for which a return was due. A review of the wheat crop, based on threshings as well as on estimators' reports, will be issued later in the year. This is an approximation to the English system, and will probably give more satisfaction in the end. There is not much doubt expressed concerning the American wheat yield on the markets, where a crop of about 65,000,000 qrs. is the general assumption. This would leave 21,000,000 qrs. for exportation. American shipments for August and September were 4,020,000 qrs., being at the rate of 24,120,000 qrs. *per annum.* On the crop estimate, therefore, we may expect that American exports will soon begin to abate.

The growing crops in the Antipodes are the subject of contrasting advices, for while the five Australian colonies all send excellent reports, Argentina and Chili have suffered from constant rainstorms. As the Antipodean October is our June, the injury to the wheat may easily be imagined.

The supplies of breadstuffs for the week have been as follows: —

	Qrs.
Foreign wheat	422,000
„ flour	160,000
Total	582,000
English wheat	150,000
Total supplies	732,000
„ wants	567,000
Surplus	165,000
Stocks October 8	2,537,000
Stocks October 15	2,702,000

The imports of spring corn included 241,000 qrs. of maize, 235,000 qrs. of barley, and 180,000 qrs. of oats, and in each case were in excess of the current rate of requirements.

The quantity of barley on passage is 653,000 qrs., including 280,000 qrs. Russian, 100,000 qrs. American feeding, 210,000 qrs. malting, and 60,000 qrs. Persian, Turkish, and Syrian; of maize 625,000 qrs. are on passage, as compared with 990,000 qrs. in 1899 and 602,000 in 1898.

Imports since a new cereal year was with us, *i.e.*, from Sept. 1 to Oct. 13, show the following rate of receipts: —

	Qrs. per annum.
Breadstuffs	27,500,000
Barley	7,146,000
Oats	9,810,000
Maize	11,767,000

The receipts of last cereal year were recorded as follows, after deducting exports and re shipments:—

	Qrs.
Breadstuffs	21,031,000
Barley	4,515,000
Oats	7,615,000
Maize	13,340,000

In a consideration of these figures will be found a clue to the chief price movements since October came in. The rate at which wheat has been imported is quite six points in 27—a considerable percentage—ahead of the requirements. The imports of oats have been at a rate probably 30, and possibly 40 per cent. larger than is needed. Hence wheat and oats have, despite moderate deliveries of the home crop, proved reactionary in tendency.

The following is the record of wheat on passage on October 12th for this and three preceding years:—

	Qrs.
From California	895,000
„ North America	385,000
„ South „	210,000
„ Australasia	220,000
„ Russia	125,000
All other countries	70,000
Oct. 12th, 1900	1,905,000
Oct. 12th, 1899	1,605,000
1898	1,205,000
1897	1,575,000

An average of 2,000,000 qrs. on passage is generally assumed, so that October figures are seen to have been moderate for now four consecutive years.

The wheat markets of the last six days have been depressed by reason of the large imports, but as these receipts leave only moderate quantities on passage a gradual recovery may be anticipated. In London the indisposition to do business which involves cash payments from 15th to 31st December may delay the recovery till November is past, but in the provinces an earlier recovery is looked for

Flour is about 6d. lower on the week, and is not a brisk sale even at this decline. The American houses are not holding their flour quite so stiffly as had been thought likely. Strange as it may seem to us, there is a strong movement in France in favour of the Bill giving a bounty of 2s. per sack, or thereabouts, on flour exports. The idea of course is that wheat should be imported, and the French workman get the profit of converting the raw material into flour. So far as we can see, the bill would give England French flour at, allowing for shippers' profits, 1s. per sack under cost price.

Maize has been in improved request. The American Government estimate of the 1900 yield was published on Friday, and the total given, 1,950,000,000 bushels, is 128,000,000 bushels less than that of the 1899 crop. The sale of small round maize is steady, though the price is high.

Barley has been in better demand for malting purposes, but the quality is not first rate, and 30s. is much nearer the mean for malting samples than 35s., which should be averaged in any good year. London now quotes 31s. 9d. per quarter. Feeding barley is 3d. cheaper at the very important market of Bristol, but London is scarcely changed.

THE BALTIC.

The trade in wheat cargoes shows a decline of 3d. to 6d. on most kinds, while maize cargoes are a little firmer on the week. In barley there is no change to mention, but oats and oilseeds have favoured buyers. Recorded sale include:—Wheat: Argentine, at 31s.; South Australian, 31s. 9d.; Walla Walla, 30s. 3d.; Hard Winter, 29s. 9d.; Odessa Ghirka, 31s. 6d.; No. 1 Duluth, 32s. 6d.; and No. 1 Northern, 31s. 6d. per qr. Maize: La Plata, at 21s.; Galatz, at 22s.; Mixed American, 20s., and fine Cinquantina, 27s. 6d. per qr. Barley: Roumanian, at 18s. 9d.; Russian, 18s. 9d., and Persian, at 17s. per qr. Oats: American, at 14s. 6d., and Baltic, 304lb., at 13s. per qr. Linseed; Argentine, at 51s. 9d. per qr., and Cottonseed, Egyptian, at £7 7s. 6d. per ton.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports of call since last review have been nine, as will be seen by the following table:—

Cargo	Total.	Danube	Saffi.	Argentine Republic.	Calif. and Oregon.	Chili, Australia, and N.Z.	Total last week.	Total since Jan. 1, 1900.	Total same time 1899.
Wheat	5	1	—	1	2	2	4	280	254
Maize	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	12	3
Barley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36	6
Rye	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Beans	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	10
Linseed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Valonea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	6
Sundries	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	15	6
Total	9	2	2	1	2	2	4	372	291

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	291,000	209,000	270,000	64,000	68,000
Russia	254,000	—	5,000	182,000	222,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	172,000	—	1,000	10,000	—
Argentina	101,000	—	55,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia		5,000	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	30,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	848,000	224,000	351,000	276,000	300,000

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites.		Town Households.	
	s.	d.		s. d.
September 1 (per sack)	28	6	(per sack)	25 6
October 1 „	29	0	„	26 0

(No official change since last date given.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900. s. d.

Sept. 1, 1900 (per sack) 30 0

(No official change since last date given).

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

There is difficulty to-day in obtaining promises of October delivery from the docks, and the prospects of a lighterman's strike is disconcerting to buyers and sellers alike. English wheat was offered at 6d. to 1s. decline for ordinary samples, as the supply is increasing for the moment faster than the demand. Foreign wheat was 1s. cheaper, wherever the buyer was content with delivery "as soon as reasonably possible," but wherever "time was of the essence of the contract," full prices had to be paid. Maize, barley, and oats were in rather better request at Friday's full prices. Wisconsin peas are very scarce, and 50s. is paid, while fine white Australian make 45s. per qr. Egyptian beans sell best for the split pulse at a guinea for three cwt. The buckwheat commands over 27s. for good Russian dari, up to 28s. for the very best, and Sorkhum 23s. The price of Tonifred barley is 6d. per 336lb. lower on the week. Turkish canaryseed is also somewhat lower.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

OCT. 15th, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN

		s. s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	30/6 — 33
(old)	„	32 — 34
Red (new)	„	29 — 31/6
(old)	„	30 — 33
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	26 — 27
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	27 — 37
Brewing	„	24 — 28
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22 — 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34 — 40
Scotch	„	36 — 38
Brown	„	29 — 32
OATS, English (new)	„	17 6 — 19
(old)	„	19 — 23
Scotch	„	21 — 23
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17 — 19
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	26 — 27
BEANS, Pigeon	„	43 — 45
„ Winter	„	30 — 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72 — 84
„ Blue (boiling)	„	68 — 76
„ Dun	„	32 — 34
„ Maple (new)	„	38 — 39
(old)	„	39 — 41

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s. s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.	
Finest Duluth	33 — 34
American Spring	32/6—33
Hard Manitoba	32/6—33
Red Winter	31 — 32
Kansas	31 — 32
Californian	31 — 32
Walla Walla	30 — 31
Australian	30 — 31
New Zealand	29 — 31
Argentine	28 — 31
Danzig	33 — 34
Saxonka	32 — 33
Azima	31 — 32
Ghirka	30 — 31
Persian	29 — 30
MAIZE, per 480lb.:	
Cinquantina	27 — 29
Roumanian	23 — 24
Russian	23 — 25
Caucasian	22 — 23
Argentine	22 — 23
American	21 —21/3
OATS:	
New Zealand (384lb.)	22 — 26
Canadian (320lb.)	16 — 17
American (320lb.)	
White	16 — 17
„ Mixed	15 — 16
Revel (320lb.)	16 — 17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16 — 17
„ (304lb.)	13/3 —14
Libau, white (304lb.)	12/9 —13
„ black „	14/3 —15
White Sea (304 lb.)	13 — 14
BEANS, per 480lb.:	
Egyptian	32 — 33
Smyrna	29 — 30
BEANS (*continued*).	
Konigsberg	28 — 29
Barbary	27 — 28
Mexican	28 — 30
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:	
Cyprian	106 — 112
PEAS, per 504 lb.:	
Canadian, White	30 — 31
Indian, White	28 — 30
„ Green	25 — 27
Barbary	26 — 28
Australian, White	40 — 41
„ Dun	26 — 27
LENTILS, per 504 lb.:	
Egyptian	31 — 33
Indian	36 — 38
DARI, per 480 lb.:	
Syrian	25 — 26
Smyrna	26 — 27
RYE, per 480 lb.:	
Russian	24 — 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb.:	
French	29 — 30
Russian	27 — 28
BARLEY:	
Californian (448 lb.)	26 — 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	22 — 28
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21 — 24
Azoff (400 lb.)	21 — 22
Syrian (400 lb.)	25 — 22
Persian (400 lb.)	17/9—18
American (400 lb.)	20 — 21
MALT, per 336 lb.:	
Californian	34 — 37
Smyrna	33 — 36

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s. s.	RAPESEED. per 416lb.	s. s.
English	59 to 61	English	56 to 60
Dutch	58 to 60	Dutch	54 to 56
Argentine	55 to 57	French	47 to 48
Canadian	58 to 60	Roumanian	44 to 46
Russian	54 to 56	Cawnpore	46 to 47
Calcutta	57 to 59	Calcutta	43 to 44
SESAME. per 424lb.		Guzerat	50 to 51
Bombay	50 to 52	Ferozepore	44 to 45
Kurrachee	53 to 54	Ravison	30 to 32
COTTON SEED. per ton.		POPPYSEED. per 377lb.	
Egyptian	145 to 150	Indian	47 to 49

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 *p.m.*

THE MARKET CLOSED 6d. DOWN FOR BREADSTUFFS. 6d. UP FOR CERTAIN SORTS OF FEEDING STUFFS. TRADE WAS NOT BRISK IN ANY STAPLE.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Oct. 15th.

The demand for London makes was not brisk, and 6d. decline was allowed both on Town Whites and Town Households. The country supply was large, and all sorts were fully 6d. lower on the week. The mixtures of new English wheat flour with stronger American types sold fairly well, and are in favour with bakers. The fine Hungarian pastry flour is in fair request at currencies. French is neglected. American makes vary, as usual, a good deal in price, 28s. 3d. being paid to-day for Star brand, while 14s. was taken for Red Dog, the latter, of course, feeding flour only. The three great houses of Washburn, Pillsbury, and Morrison asked 26s. 6d. to 26s. 9d. for their finest patents, while such serviceable sorts as Gilt Edge and Happy Medium were quoted at 20s. per sack. Kansas flour made 24s. for Crosby's best, and the best Chicago made 25s. per sack. There is a fair demand for rice at 9os. per ton for feeding purposes, while rice flour is in some request at 22s. for cones and at 24s. for flour itself. Ground rice at 10s. per cwt. goes steadily into use. With rice may be classed off products of maize. These also sell well firm maize starch at £8 15s. per ton, down to coarse maize meal at £5 10s. per ton. Maize cones have now a regular sale at Mark Lane, 19s. per 280lbs. being paid for first grade and 18s. 6d. for secondary. The price of maize grits is about £6 2s. 6d. per ton. Some specially fine white English-made maize germ meal fetches £5 10s. per ton.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	30
Town Whites	,,	27/6	28
,, Households	,,	24/6	25
No. 2	,,	22/6	23

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24	26
Fine Roller made	,,	23	24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22	23
Best Stone made	,,	21	22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	20	21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	26	26 6
,, Second Patents	,,	24	24/6
,, First Bakers'	,,	21	21/6
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	21
Milwaukee Patents	,,	25	26/6
,, Bakers'	,,	21	23
Kansas Patents	,,	24	25
Cascadia	,,	24	24/6
Canadian	,,	24	24/6
Australian	,,	23	23/6
Hungarian	,,	29	32
French	,,	21	24

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	192	194
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	109	111
Bran, London Broad	,,	99	104
,, ,, Fine	,,	78	84
,, Country Flake	,,	108	110
,, ,, Broad	,,	93	98
Pollard	,,	92	94
Fine Middlings	,,	118	122
Coarse Middlings	,,	102	108
Oat Meal	,,	220	280
Oat Flour	,,	340	360
Maize Flour	,,	132	134
Maize Meal	,,	114	124
Maize Cones	,,	144	150
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	106	110
Pea Meal	,,	128	158
Bean Meal	,,	152	172
Rice Meal	,,	91	95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—	Oct.	Dec.	March.
	s d.	s. d.	s. d.
Oct. 8 noon	6 9	6 10	7 0
4 p.m.	6 9	6 10	7 0
Oct. 9 noon	6 9	6 10	7 0
4 p.m.	6 9	6 10	7 0
Oct. 10 noon	6 9	6 10	7 0
4 p.m.	6 9	6 10	7 0
Oct. 11 noon	6 8	6 9	7 0
4 p.m.	6 8	6 9	7 0
Oct. 12 noon	6 8	6 9	7 0
4 p.m.	6 8	6 9	7 0
Oct. 13 noon	6 8	6 9	7 0
To-day noon	6 8	6 9	6 11

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

The Term market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate-street, ground floor.

Some speculative sales for June delivery took places this morning at 6s. 11d. per cental ; maize made 4s. 4d. per cental for November delivery.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

The trade for milling offals is firm at the full prices of last week.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Our market is very quiet at present. Buyers of cloverseeds are waiting for definite information about the home and foreign crops before operating. Judging by the continuous advance in the U.S. the American crop of red must be as short in quantity as it certainly is poor in quality. Perennial ryegrass is recovering. Mustard and rapeseed continue strong. Birdseeds are dull. Blue peas quiet.—JOHN PICARD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Flour : A quiet trade, at prices 3d. to 6d. lower on the week.—J. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

The demand for foreign descriptions of wheat is still very limited, and supplies continuing liberal, sellers have to submit to a reduction of 6d. on the week. Maize on the spot is about 6d. dearer. Barley steady, unaltered. Oats are 3d. dearer. W. P. WOOD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Arrivals of wheat and flour are moderate. Prices have declined 3d. per qr. in wheat, and 3d. and 6d. per sack on flour. Maize sells at 6d. per qr. advance. Grinding barley is 3d per qr. dearer. Oats are firm and occasionally 3d. per qr. dearer.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Offals.—Weather upon the whole rather mild. The demand for bran and other offals only moderate. No change in values.—GREENHILL BROTHERS, Belfast, October 13.

Flour.—Prices are rather easier on the week, and the demand is very slow. Grain.—Arrivals of Indian corn are being wiped up immediately. Value is 1½d. per boll lower. Oats are in better demand. Canadian pease are 9d. per boll lower on spot. Beans unchanged. Barley quiet. Milistuffs—Bran dull. Thirds firm.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, October 13.

Wheat quiet with a steady business at late rates except Kansas wheat, which is ½d. to 1d. per 100lb. lower. Flour—There is only a quiet trade passing for flour, and prices show no change from last market day. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of English. Maize has experienced a fair consumptive demand at last Tuesday's prices for mixed American. European and Plate have a fair inquiry, values showing no change. Barley for brewing is fairly active, Chilians have a good demand, and full prices are obtainable. Beans are slow, and 3d. per qr. lower for Egyptian and flat kinds, other sorts unchanged. Peas have a quiet trade at ½d. per cental. decline from Tuesday. Oats—English oats have experienced a firm trade, and 1d. advance for new has been registered. Foreign kinds have a very moderate demand, but steady at Tuesday's values. Oatmeal firm trade at unchanged prices. Oilcake—Only a moderate business has taken place, but prices are firmly held at last market day's currencies.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, October 13.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes were neglected, and maize lost the briskness observable at the close of last week. On the other hand there was a rally in oats, which at present low prices are at last attracting speculative purchases for holding till winter demand sets in. Rye cargoes declined 6d and linseed 1s per qr on the week. Cargoes of cottonseed showed a decline of 5s to 10s per ton on the week.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—No. 2 Red Winter, 30s 3d, prompt shipment ; No. 1 Northern, 31s 6d, prompt shipment ; Fine Manitoba, 32s 3d, on passage ; Australian, 31s, on passage.

MAIZE.—Roumanian, 19s 6d, April shipment ; Argentine 21s 3d, on passage.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 18s 3d, on passage ; Persian, 16s 9d, on passage.

OATS.—Black Libau, 304lb, 14s 9d, prompt shipment ; St. Petersburg, 320lb, 14s 9d, prompt shipment ; American, 320lb, 14s 9d, November shipment.

LINSEED.—Bombay, 52s, May shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 17s 6d, December shipment.

LOCUST BEANS.—Portuguese, £4 18s 9d, November shipment.

OATMEAL.—Canadian Maple Leaf, £10 7s 6d, November shipment.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 3,112 bales bacon, and from Continental ports 8,370 bales bacon. The marked for bacon remained very firm, and prices were unchanged, all bacon of every description being wanted as soon as it arrived. The market closed firm. Irish, 64s to 69s ; Danish, 64s to 68s up to 69s ; Canadian, 60s to 64s. The butter market was distinctly better, and sellers were enabled to make an advance of some 2s to 4s generally over previous rates. Danish at 114s to 118s ; Colonial, 104s to 110s ; Irish, 96s to 106s ; Canadian, 98s to 102s. Lard a steady demand at unchanged rates.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Oct. 15th, 1900.

	British.	Total.	Oct. 16th, 1899.
Beasts	1,470	1,470	1,900
Sheep and lambs	6,480	6,480	8,120
Calves	5	5	15
Pigs	10	10	—
Milch cows	65	65	75

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	3 4 —	4 2 —	5 0
Sheep	3 2 —	5 2 —	6 0
Lambs	5 4 ..	5 8 ..	6 2
Pigs	3 0 ..	4 0 ..	4 10

Milch cows, per head, £14 to £21 10s.

British arrivals include as follows :—Scotland, 5 ; Eastern Counties, 30 ; Midland, Home and Western Counties 1,2—, Devon, 40 ; Ireland, 100.

To-day's supply, consisting chiefly of Herefords, Runts, and Shorthorns, numbered fifty more than on Monday last and was but poorly represented in regard to quality. For the primest sales ruled firm at a slight advance in value, and quality also meeting with more inquiry, there being a good trade at Deptford to-day. Fat butchering cows and bulls also sold to rather better advantage. A general clearance was made.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal) :—

	To-day.	Oct. 15th, 1899.
Scotch	4s 10d to 5s 0d ..	— to —
Devons	4s 10d to 4s 11d ..	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Herefords	4s 10d to 4s 11d ..	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Runts	4s 8d to 4s 10d ..	4s 6d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 2d to 4s 4d ..	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 3d to 4s 6d ..	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat cows	3s 11d to 4s 0d ..	3s 6d to 3s 8d

The sheep trade for both wethers and ewes ruled firm, higher rates being both asked and obtained. The supply included 958 from the Eastern Counties, 310 Scotch, and 2,050 Irish. For best quality lambs there was a fair inquiry, but prices ruled easier, half meaty sorts were difficult to cash.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned :—

	To-day.	Oct. 16th, 1899.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d ..	5s 6d to 5s 8d
9-stone ditto	5s 8d to 5s 10d ..	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10-stone half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d ..	5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-stone Lincoln	— to — ..	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	5s 2d to 5s 4d ..	4s 8d to 4s 10d
10-stone Down ewes	4s 0d to 4s 2d ..	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11-stone half-bred ditto	3s 6d to 3s 8d ..	— to —
5-stone Down lambs	6s 0d to 6s 2d ..	— to —
6-stone half-bred ditto	5s 6d to 5s 8d ..	— to —

A small supply of pigs with a better demand ; best small breeds were quoted at from 4s 8d to 4s 10d per 8lb, sinking the offal.

London Central, Monday. — Good supplies, trade bad. Beef : Carcases, 3s 8d to 4s ; hindquarters, 4s 2d to 4s 8d ; roastings, 5s to 5s 4d. Sheep : Ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 4d ; wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d ; hindquarters, ewe, 4s 4d to 4s 8d ; wether, 5s 6d to 5s 10d. Pigs, large, 3s 6d to 3s 10d ; small 4s 2d to 4s 6d.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 1,132, sheep and lambs 1,440, pigs 412. Beef, 7s 6d to 8s 3d ; mutton, 7s 9d to 9s 11d ; pork, 6s 10d to 7s ; sows 5s to 5s 6d. Fat store cattle good demand Fat and store sheep fair. Fat pigs good trade. Stores fair. Milch cows fair trade ;prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—No market to-day, as there are no arrivals of either beasts or sheep.

Liverpool, Monday.—The supply of cattle was considerably less than last week. Trade fair, prime quality making fully late rates ; others unchanged. Sheep in large numbers. A slow demand for all classes, rougher descriptions lower. Beef, 6½d to 4¾d per lb ; mutton, 8d to 5½d per lb. At market : 1,457 cattle and 8,775 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake : Market very firm, and tending dearer. Decorticated cotton cake very scarce, and 2s 6d dearer ; undecorticated as last. Linseed still rising, 9d to 1s up on the week.

English linseed cake	£8 10 0	to	8 12 6	ex mill
American Western linseed cake	7 17 6	to	—	ex quay
Russian oil cake	8 0 0	to	8 5 0	ex quay
Feeding cake, Primix (10 to 12 per cent. oil)	6 15 0	—		ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	7 5 0	to	—	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6 15 0	to	—	ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	5 5 0	to	5 7 6	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	5 0 0	to	5 2 6	ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4 10 0			on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4 15 0		—	ex warehouse
Russian linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2 17 6	to	—	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	8 1 0	to	—	ex warehouse
American linseed, in bulk, per 416lb	2 15 0			

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that a quiet feeling just now characterises the seed market. The recent speculative inquiry for red cloverseed has fallen off for the moment, whilst of consumptive sowing requirements there are at present few to be satisfied. It is estimated that the new crop of English red cloverseed will prove scarcely one-fourth of last year's. Meantime, prices all round show considerable steadiness with respect to winter tares and seed rye. As the supply of these exceeds the demand, lower quotations are accepted. For mustard and rapeseed on the other hand the tendency of prices is upwards. Birdseeds continue dull and featureless. Blue peas and haricot beans, although in diminished request, keep firm in value. The Board of Trade Returns give the imports of clover and grass into the United Kingdom for the month of September as 14,573 cwts. value £26,540, as against 14,416 cwts., value £41,487 for September, 1899.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report : There is a decided improvement in the hop market, and all grades have benefited by it. Buyers now realise the absolute shortness of the growth.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The trade for fat beast at Islington on the chief market day of the week opened with a show of firmness both in regard to tone and value, but after the wants of the principal buyers were met it became of an extremely dull and dragging nature, sales having to be forced at less money; though towards the finish sellers were willing to accept 2d. per 8lbs. less money, a clearance could not be made, notwithstanding that the supply was much smaller. A few Scotch beasts arrived, thus marking the start of the season, which begins three weeks earlier than last year. Fat butchering cows were in steady demand at the beginning of the week's business, but finished off dull and heavy at less money. Fat bulls, on the other hand, being in short supply, sold firmly at a slight advance on last week's quotations. Very little demand for rough cattle, sales of which were chiefly confined to Thursday. At Deptford, where the supply was shorter, trade ruled firmer and steadier, each market day showing a slight advance in value, more especially on Saturday. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets was 5,233—previous week, 5,852—consisting of 1,500 British and 3,733 foreign, these latter comprising 2,694 from the United States, 1,039 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal): 90-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d.; 85-stone Runts, 4s. 9d.; 80-stone Devons, 4s. 9d.; 90-stone Dublins, 4s. 4d.; 95-stone Waterfords, 4s. 2d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 4d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s.; 90-stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 5d.; 85-stone ditto, 4s.; 85-stone Canadians, 3s. 9d. to 4s.; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 8d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. There was a shorter supply at Islington in the sheep market, but an increase in the foreign arrivals. These latter met with a slow but steady trade at full value. At Islington trade for wether sheep ruled firm and steady, late rates being maintained. On the other hand, ewes were more difficult to dispose of, besides being easier in price; for best quality lambs there was a good inquiry at last week's quotations. The total number of sheep and lambs penned at both markets was 8,225 (previous week 7,270), consisting of 7,220 British and 1,003 Canadian. Leading pens made per 8lbs. as follows (sinking the offal): 7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 9d. to 5s. 10d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 2d.; 12-stone halfbreds, 5s.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s.; 11-stone halfbreds, 5s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d.; 6-stone halfbred ditto, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. The supply of calves was smaller than usual, numbering only thirty head, for which trade was very dull at fully 4d. per 8lbs. less money, the best being quoted at 5s. 4d. per 8lbs. Bad trade for pigs at less money, top value 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. per 8lbs.

Trade in the West.

The stock markets, with only very moderate deliveries, are keeping exceedingly firm, and in some cases more money has been realised for sheep for wintering purposes. Good class ewes are marketing especially well, especially good matching lots, which make from 47s. up to 58s. each, more ordinary lots selling from 35s. to 45s. or 46s. Working lambs are also much wanted at prices ranging from 23s. up to 32s. apiece. Store stock have also benefited in a corresponding ratio. Barreners are worth quite 10s. to 20s. per bullock more, and young stock also commands better prices. We can hardly quote the trade as good for fat stock. There has been a slight reaction in beef, but this is attributable as much to the excessive supply as to anything; 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score is now about the best prices. Mutton, with shorter deliveries, has been a sharper trade, but prices are still about 7d. to 7½d. per lb., and lamb 8d. to 9d. Veal is very dear, and one of the best selling things. Pork is also a very firm trade.

Trade in Ireland.

With a fairly large increase of both cattle and sheep in Dublin market last Thursday, trade started rather sluggishly, the London shippers being the only ones who bought with any freedom, and as the class wanted by them was limited, full prices had to be paid. As the day wore on the dullness experienced at the opening of the market increased, and second quality beef was very hard to place at a fall from 10s. to 15s. Best ox and heifer beef made from 52s. 6d. to 56s., and some extra lots 57s. 6d. to 59s. 6d.; good second class beef, 46s. to 50s.; and inferior, 40s. to 44s. per cwt. In the mutton department there was very little change from previous day. We [illegible] particularly 600 head of sheep. Prime [illegible] of aged wethers and ewes suitable for [illegible] sumption. Dublin victuallers moved very slowly, and consequently late rates were hard to maintain. Inquiry from cross-Channel buyers was fairly active for well-finished hoggets and large fat lambs, and full values realised; but thin inferior sheep neglected. Best wether mutton, 6d. to 6½d.; ewe, 4½d. to 5½d. per lb. Prime veal scarce and worth 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; inferior, 4½d. to 6½d. per lb. Really choice springers and newly-calved cows sold freely at late rates, but inferior kinds hard to sell. Number of cattle in market, 4,652; sheep, 7,807. A good increase in the number of pigs, but sales slow, and a general fall of about 1s. per cwt. all round.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—There have been full supplies of fat cattle on offer this week, with an unusual proportion of the best descriptions. Owing to the excessively bad weather, trade throughout has ruled quieter, and prices for the best cattle 10s., and for secondary about 20s. under previous weeks. Heavy supplies of fat sheep and lambs; these have met a decidedly worse trade, at an average fall of quite 2s. per head. Calves and pigs met a steady demand at previous week's prices. There has been a larger supply of store cattle on offer; trade has been dragging, and while the better class got well sold, a considerable number of secondary two-year-olds and inferior supplies left unsold. A large number of store sheep, many very inferior. Trade quiet, and with difficulty previous prices were obtained. A smaller number of milch cows, and met a good trade at about 20s. of an advance. Quotations: Best beef, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 3d.; secondary, 6s. 9d. to 7s. per stone; mutton, 7½d. to 8d.; secondary, 6½d. to 7d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies, but trade without improvment. Arrivals of beef included 50 tons Scotch, 350 Liverpool sides, 1,200 hindquarters, and 600 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 10d to 4s; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s to 4s 4d; English wethers, 2s 10d to 4s 2d; ewes, 2s 10d to 3s. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Good supplies met good demand at firm prices. Arrivals of beef included 80 tons Scotch, 450 Liverpool sides, 3,800 hindquarters, and 2,700 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 6d to 4s.10d; long, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 9d to 2s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8d to 5s; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Canterbury, 2s 7d to 2s 10d; Wellington, 2s 5d to 2s 7d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 3d to 2s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; and Dutch, 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—A fair number of beasts offered for a Thursday's market, being 40 head more than on this day a week ago, and mainly comprised fat bulls and rough descriptions, for which trade was slow. A small supply of sheep penned, but proved adequate to buyers' requirements, trade for both wethers and ewes ruling dull at about late quotations —7½ to 8 stone down wethers, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 6d. Calf trade steady, the best on offer making 5s 6d to 5s 8d. Pigs were in moderate demand. Neat, small, 4s 6d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Total supplies—80 beasts, 1,100 sheep, 30 calves, 100 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Best beef did not fetch more than 11s 6d per score, with limited demand. A few good Sussex cows made 10s 6d per score, but the usual rate for ordinary cows was not above 10s. Wether mutton fetched 4s 8d to 5s per 8lb, and barrens 3s 8d to 4s. Veal sold well at about 5s 8d per stone. Pork 6d cheaper on the week, small roasters making 10s 6d per score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply consisting of 47 fat beasts, 47 calves, 458 fat sheep and lambs, 278 pigs, and 58 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £13 to £19; fat calves, 80s to £5 10s; small, 20s to 50s; fat wethers, 40s 6d to 52s; fat ewes, 34s to 40s; fat lambs, 24s to 51s; fat hogs, 60s to 90s; porkers, 38s to 54s; small, 24s to 36s; store pigs, 11s 6d to 24s; cows, £7 10s to £20 5s. Best quality fat beasts of moderate weights were in good demand; for all other classes the biddings were slow, with prices drooping. Shorthorn steers made up to £19; heifers, £18 15s; and cows, £17. A short supply of fat sheep and lambs were cleared at full prices. Hants down wethers and young ewes made 45s, 43s 6d, 48s 6d, 47s, 46s, 52s, 44s, 52s, 44s, 48s, 42s, 47s, 40s 6d, 45s; 10 months old ditto, 48s, 37s, 45s 6d, 37s 6d, 51s, 45s, 39s, 46s 6d, 38s, 38s 6d; ditto Southdown, 33s 6d; Scotch wethers, 36s 6d; old ewes, 37s, 34s, 38s 6d, 35s, 40s, 36s 6d, 38s, 38s 6d; Dorset ewes, 38s 6d; Southdown ewes, 34s; choice 3 months old sucking lambs, 24s, 34s, 36s 6d, 38s, 35s. With a short supply of dairy cows prices ruled lower, with a slow trade. Store cattle were cleared with a better inquiry. Fat calves were disposed of at late rates. Fat hogs with a larger entry realised firm prices with a ready demand. Fat porkers met a brisk trade at late rates. Store pigs made less money. Ruling values:—Prime quality Devon beasts, 7d to 7½d per lb; ditto Shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6½d per lb; bulls, cows, and inferior ditto, 5d to 5½d per lb; best quality sheep, 8½d to 8¾d per lb; second ditto, 7½d to 8d per lb; old ewes, rams, and inferior ditto, 6d to 6½d per lb; choice fat sucking lambs, 8½d to 9d per lb; fat calves, 4d to 5½d per lb; fat hogs up to 9s 6d; and porkers, 10s 6d per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—Best beef, 8s; cow beef, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; stores, £9 to £13; strong stores, £13 to £15; milch cows, £17 to £20 10s; heifers, £14 10s to £17; calves, 60s to 65s; wether mutton, 7½d to 8d; ewe mutton, 5½d to 6d per lb.; stores, 2s 6d to [illegible] wethers, 15s to 20s; lambs, 30s to 35s.

Braintree, Wednesday.—A brisk trade at Messrs. Bells auction mart. Stock penned: 27 beasts, 276 fat sheep, 67 hogs, 4 in-calving cows, 1 calves and 116 store sheep. Prices: Best, 4s 8d to 5s; and middling, 4s to 4s 6d per stone; pigs, sold to 10s per score.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under	9s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in.	9s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	8s 3d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 842; sheep, 984; pigs, 313; horses, 3. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 8d; pork, 5s 9d to 7s. A much larger show store beasts, slow market, not all cleared. Fat beasts, very little alteration in the trade. Fat sheep a better trade all round. Stores, not so many to hand and all cleared. Fat pigs, a good brisk trade at late rates. Stores, short supply, brisk trade at more money. Hay, straw, and roots short supplies.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Not quite so heavy a supply of sheep, but trade very slow, except for a few of the best breeding sheep and lambs. The best lambs made 24s 6d per head, old sheep from 12s 6d to 22s 6d, and better class 27s per head. Wether tegs 37s 6d, and working ewe tegs 27s to 34s. The demand for horned stock was not brisk, but some cows and calves were sold at from £15 to £17 10s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—There was an exceptionally good show of Irish store cattle on the sands, the supply consisting of between 600 and 700 heifers and bullocks. The attendance of buyers was about the average, and a steady going trade was experienced. The smaller heifers realised from £7 10s to £10 10s, and heifers of the best descriptions changed hands at £15; bullocks were quoted at £18 10s. Young pigs were a small show, and sold slowly at 20s to 24s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Large supplies of store cattle, and one of the best trades for some time was experienced for milch beasts. The best made from £17 10s to £23 10s; others sold well from £13 10s to £15; barreners, £25 to £30 pair; cows, £12 10s to £18 pairs; in-calf heifers, £18 10s to £21. Good demand for fat beasts. Fat heifers sold from £17 10s to £19 10s; cows, £14 5s to £15 10s; steers, £16 15s to £19. Small supply of sheep. Down ewes made from 38s to 42s; Loon wethers, 41s to 43s 6d.

Dublin, Thursday.—Demand slow for all classes of cattle. Choice finished bullocks made last week's rates but all other descriptions were more difficult to realise and prices still show a falling tendency. Quieter trade in the sheep department at barely late rates, some middling and inferior lots remaining unsold. Cattle (best), 31s to 34s per cwt. Middling and inferior meated sorts, 27s to 30s per cwt. Mutton, 5½d to 6¾d per lb; extreme 7d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies of cattle and sheep less this week. Prices steady. Top Scotch cattle scarce, 68s; top Irish, 66s per cwt. Top mutton, 8½d; secondary, 7d to 7½d; top lambs, 8½ per lb. Dead meat quieter owing to milder weather; best Scotch beef, 5¾d to 6d; States, 5½d to 5¾d; Canadians, 5¾d to 5½d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 460, calves 51, sheep and lambs 2,104, pigs (fat and sows) 26, sucking pigs 44, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 177, pigs (stores, more than ten) 65, horses 9, colts 1. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 8½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs Robert Bond and Sons report a short supply of fat cattle, which again sold remarkably well, the attendance of buyers being large. The top price reached was £25. Fat sheep were not so numerous; trade was much the same, shearlings making up to 63s. A good entry of store sheep were penned, making up to 38s. A large entry of calves which made rather less money. Fat swine were in excellent demand, and in some cases higher prices were obtained. Stores sold without alteration. This being a special sale of grazing cattle, 40 cows and heifers were penned, including 22 red polls, making up to £20. There was a fair attendance of buyers round the store cattle ring, and prices corresponded with those of last week. Some pure Shorthorns made up to £9 15s. At the second Michaelmas sale of horses held at drill hall, 106 animals were catalogued. A capital trade was experienced for cart horses and colts, nearly all changed hands. Numbers at sale and market:—Beasts 913 calves 61, sheep 2,370, pigs 1,193, horses 154.

Leeds, Tuesday.—To-day's supply of cattle compared with last Tuesday shows a decrease of 37, comprising a good selection of home district and North of England stock, together with a large number of useful Irish animals. Best qualities were in fair request, but middling and inferior lots were not so easily disposed of, business generally ruling slow. The choicest home-fed heifers and bullocks made 6¾d to 6¾d per lb, and a pen of exceptional quality were reported to have realised slightly more than the latter figure. The best of the Irish cattle sold at 6¼d; good useful beef, 6d; and inferior and cow beef, from 5d per lb. There was a considerable reduction in the number of sheep offered, 1,550, against 1,930 last week. The demand was generally without improvement on recent markets, both prime and second qualities ruling slow at about late rates. The best small shearlings realised 36s; heavy and large sheep, 7d to 7¼d; ewes, etc., 5d to 6d per lb. Calves show an increase on last week. The best veal lots made up to 7¾d per lb. Dairy cattle were only a small entry, and the moderate business passing was at about recent prices. Good milkers made from £15 to £20. Numbers at market—cattle 561, sheep 1,550, calves 19.

Leicester, Saturday.—Only moderate supplies of stock and after the heavy transactions at the fair business sluggish at easier rate. Milch cows, £15 to £20 each; bullocks, £9 to £14 per head. Young stock and sheep were slow trade.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good supply; absence of demand. Best milch cows, £20 to £22; secondary, £17 to £19. Some good two-year-old steers fetched £12 12s to £15 15s. Young stock sold at from £5 to £8. Sheep were penned in extraordinary numbers. Best lambs, 32s to 35s; middling sorts, 20s to 24s; cull ewes, 28s to 30s; young ewes, 37s to 42s. Trade on the whole very slow. Same remark applies to business at pig market. Suckers realised 13s to 18s, and stores, 25s to 50s.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—A slightly smaller show of cattle than a week ago, the numbers being 2,025, against 2,292. Trade was slow and heavy, but prices were not quotably lower. Prime heifers made 7s 9d to 8s; prime steers, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; second class animals, 6s 6d to 7s; coarse and inferior, 5s to 6s 6d per stone, sinking the offal. Sheep and lambs were a larger show—5,114 against 7,967. Trade was dull. Prices:—Small, 8d; large fat, 7d to 7½d; ewes 5½d to 6d; tups, 5d to 6d; lambs, 6d to 6½d per lb. Calves numbered 64 against 80 last week, and prices showed no change at 5d to 9d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Slow trade prices with buyers. Numbers:—Cattle [illegible], sheep and lambs [illegible], calves 64, pigs, none. Prices:—Long-fed beasts, 7s 6d to 8s; short, 6s to 7s; cows and heifers, 6s to 7s 6d per stone; mutton, 5d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8½; veal, 5d to 9d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—The supply was not quite so large as last week, but was [illegible] Trade was [illegible] Prime [illegible] Best wether mutton, 7½d to 8d; ewes, 6½d to 6¾d; lamb, 7½d to 8d; veal, 6½d to [illegible] per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of stock consisted mostly of [illegible] Trade was [illegible] Prime [illegible] Best beasts were [illegible] at 7s 6d to 8s per stone. Store sheep and

lambs were in pretty good supply; trade was dull at last week's prices, lambs making 28s to 36s, and keeping shearlings 40s to 50s per head. Fat sheep were quoted at 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb.

Ripon, Thursday.—Wheat has a dull tone, and a light trade is being done. A fair attendance. Wheat, English, new, 28s to 30s per qr; wheat, English, old, 31s 6d to 32s 6d; ditto foreign, 31s to 35s; barley malting, 24s to 28s; ditto grinding, 23s to 24s; oats, old, 25s to 26s; ditto new, 17s to 19s; maize, round, 26s to 27s 6d; ditto flat, 23s 6d per qr; beans, old, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—There was a fair supply all round, and trade was about up to the average. Best fat beasts made 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone, and middlings 3s 10d to 4s; calves, 4s 8d to 5s 2d; best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; middlings, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; small porkers, 4s to 4s 4d; large hogs, 3s 6d to 3s 10d.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was about the same as last Tuesday. Primo animals met with a better demand at late rates, but trade for medium and inferior was slow, and prices tended in favour of buyers. There was little difference between the number of sheep and lambs penned to-day and the supply of last week. Choice quality of both were in good demand at the prices ruling last market day, other kinds being slow of sale at easier prices. A smaller supply of calves, and a better trade at late rates. Quotations:—Cattle, 5d to 6½d; sheep, 6d to 8½d; lambs, 7d to 8½d; calves, 5½d to 7½d per lb. At market—Cattle, 2,468; sheep and lambs, 7,864; calves, 125.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The show of milch beasts was larger than last week, and a very fair trade was done, the best qualities making from £17 to £23 10s; secondary, £13 to £15.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Fairly good trade all round. Larger supplies of cattle and pigs. Quotations:—Beef, 6½d to 7½d; mutton, 7d to 8½d; and veal, 7½d to 8½d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s to 10s; and bacons, 8s to 9s per score. Cows, with calves, up to £23. Hay, up to £4. Number offered:—34 rams, 676 cattle, 83 cows with calves, 2,992 sheep and lambs, 85 calves, 35 fat, 177 porket, and 326 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Owing to the election, many of the usual buyers did not attend, and trade was dull, beef being decidedly lower, the top not being more than 7s 6d per stone. Cows sold well, but stores were a poor trade. In the sheep market there was a fair supply, and the best realised 8d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 237 cattle, 3 calves, 551 sheep, 250 lambs, and 332 pigs. Larger show of cattle, but trade was slow, at 7s 6d to 8s per stone for the best, and 6s to 6s 6d for rougher kinds. Calves, 7d; young sheep and lambs, 8d; ewes, 6d; and tups, 5d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Fairly good supply. Moderate attendance. Rather quiet trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a full supply of stock at market, but the trade was rather dragging, except for the best qualities, which maintained their former good prices. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 91 fat beasts, and a few down calving heifers, 246 fat sheep, 144 fat and weaning calves, and 190 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £16 to £19; fat heifers, £14 to £16 12s 6d; down calving heifers, £13 to £14 7s 6d; fat wethers, 48s to 57s; fat ewes, 36s to 47s 6d; fat calves, £3; to £4 15s; cow calves, 22s to 71s; bull calves, 18s to 60s; fat pigs, 9s 6d per score; stores a better trade.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance of butchers and a larger supply of beef—1,637 fat beasts against 1,454 last week—and this caused the beef trade to be of a slow and dragging character. Choice beef, which was scarce, made 6½d per lb, useful Irish animals, which were freely offered, 6½d, and inferior qualities 5d to 6d. There was a much lighter show of sheep than last Wednesday, only 2,487 being penned against 2,877. Notwithstanding the light supply the mutton trade ruled slow, and late prices were unchanged. Choice small and young sheep sold at 8d to 8½d per lb, good strong sheep 7d to 7½d, and ewes and tups 5d to 6d. The veal trade was by no means brisk; fat calves changed hands at 6d to 7½d per lb. A good show of milch cows, but a poor attendance of buyers, and prices £1 per head lower. Good milkers made up to 20 guineas each, inferior £13 to £18.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Rather a better show of beef, but the trade passing was very slow even at a reduction of a farthing per lb. Best qualities made 6½d, other kinds from 5d. Quiet trade in mutton, about 400 less being penned; best qualities, 8d to 8½d; fat and heavy animals, 7d to 7½d. Numbers at market:—Beasts, 1,637; sheep, 2,487.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was a fair supply of beasts and sheep. Trade quiet, without quotable change in values. Best beef, 6½d to 7d; inferior, 5½d to 6½d; wether mutton, 7d to 8d; ewes, 5d to 6½d; and veal, 7d per lb. Pork pigs, 9s; and bacons, 9s 6d to 10s per score.

York, Tuesday.—Good show of cattle. Trade for both beef and mutton met a better demand than for the last two weeks. Beef made 7s to 7s 9d per stone; shearlings, 7½d to 8d per lb. Ewe mutton was still only slow to sell. Pork pigs in good demand at 7s per stone. Numbers sold—Beasts 203, calves 9, sheep and lambs 532, pigs 88.

York, Thursday.—The market was considerably affected by clashing with the annual cattle fairs at Hull and Malton. Very few store cattle, either English or Irish, were on offer, and prices were about the same as last week. Although this was one of the weekly markets held during this month, there was a fair number of sheep offered, which sold slowly. North country ewes, 40s to 48s; gimmers, to 46s; lambs, 29s to 36s; Masham ewes, 36s to 52s; lambs, 18s to 24s; shearlings, 38s to 42s; twice crossed shearlings, 42s to 48s; twice crossed lambs, 27s to 33s; Southdown ewes, 38s to 45s.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies 723, a decrease of 1,097 as compared with last Wednesday's figures, and comprised 307 United States and 416 Canadian. A good demand prevailed, and trade was firm at 3s 11d to 4s 2d for the former, and 3s 6d to 3s 9d for ranch of good quality of the latter. 1,003 Canadian sheep met a slow sale at 4s to 4s 2d per 81b to sink the offal.

WOOL.

London, Tuesday.—The fifth series of London sales of colonial wool commenced to-day, with catalogues comprising 11,571 bales out of an available total of 366,000 bales. There was a large attendance and fair competition. Prices for Australian merino, fine crossbred, and for Capes show a fall of 15 per cent. from July closing rates, while low crossbreds command former rates or are but slightly easier. The list was closed on the 14th ultimo, when the fresh arrivals amounted to 251,321 bales (219,924 bales Australasian and 31,397 bales Cape). Deducting what has been forwarded direct, but adding the wools held over from last series, the total available amounts to 340,000 bales. As at present arranged, the series will last until the 10th November.—HELMUTH SCHWARTZE AND CO., 3 and 4 Moorgate Street Buildings, E.C.

London, Tuesday.—The fifth and concluding series of public sales of Colonial wool for the current year commenced this evening, after the long interval of eleven weeks. The series as arranged at present will terminate on the 10th proximo, although the customary curtailment will undoubtedly be made. Three catalogues were submitted, and jointly totalled 11,571 bales, which comprised the following:—1,583 New South Wales and Queensland, 1,148 Victorian, 165 Tasmanian, 554 West Australian, 392 Cape, with the heavy proportion of 1,773 consisting of New Zealand. A good attendance of buyers was assembled from all parts, and competition on the part of the home trade was carried on with increased spirit than attended that of last sales, but continental representatives, to a great extent, played the part of spectators so far as bidding was concerned. In regard to currencies, the course was favourable to buyers, the following alterations being discernable on comparison with rates current at the close of last sales. Australasian and South African merinoes 10 to 15 per cent down, fine crossbreds 10 per cent. lower, and medium and coarse ditto unchanged to exceptionally 5 per cent easier. The total net available quantity for these auctions amounts to 366,000 bales, included being 160,000, which represents the accumulation of stock held over from previous sales. The following form the total:—97,000 New South Wales, 35,500 Queensland, 18,000 Victorian, 7,500 Tasmanian, 15,000 South Australian, 5,000 West Australian, 122,000 New Zealand, and 33,000 Cape and Natal. Queensland greasy combing marked Nive Downs sold 7½d to 8½d; Victorian scoured ditto Clyde, 1s to 1s 7d; clothing of the same mark, 1s 2½d to 1s 4½d; lambs, 9d to 1s 4½d. Victorian—greasy combing, Strathkellar, 7d to 7½d; comeback, 8d; clothing, 7d. New Zealand—greasy combing, Uover J, Mulholland, 7d to 8d; clothing, 7d.

London, Wednesday.—At public sale this evening two catalogues were brought forward, and jointly amounted to 12,546 bales, which comprised the following:—4,103 New South Wales and Queensland, 2,078 Victorian, 798 West Australian, 16 Tasmanian, 4,107 New Zealand, 1,382 Cape and Natal, 19 Jamaica, and 24 Spanish. A full attendance of buyers was assembled, and good competition prevailed, particularly on the part of the home trade section, and although no appreciable change can be recorded in values, slightly more regularity was discernible. New South Wales scoured combing, marked A. Tobin and Sons over Wingadee, sold 1s 2½d to 1s 5½d; clothing, 1s 5d; greasy combing, Myall Creek over New England, 8½d to 9d; clothing, 8½d; combing Kallara, 6½d to 7d; clothing, 6½d to 6¾d; pieces, 6d to 7d. Queensland—greasy combing, Walltown over Darling Downs, 8d to 9d; clothing, 7¼d to 8½d. Victorian—greasy combing, M. M. and Co over Burrabage, 7d to 8½d; clothing, 7d. New Zealand—scoured combing, Balmoral, 11½d to 1s 3½d; pieces, 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

London, Thursday.—At auction this evening 13,391 bales were brought forward by Messrs. Chas. Balme and Co. and comprised the following:—5,241 New South Wales and Queensland, 1,942 Victorian, 288 South Australian, 165 West Australian, 13 Tasmanian, 4,262 New Zealand, 1,489 Cape and Natal, and 23 Buenos Ayres. A full assembly of buyers was present, and competition ruled active, being more general than on the past two evenings, and as a result opening rates were fully upheld. New South Wales—greasy combing, marked Gunnee, sold 8¾d to 9½d; pieces, 7½d; bellies, 6d to 7¾d; scoured combing, T.E, and Co. over E in circle and Spring Vale, 11d to 1s 1½d; clothing, 6¾d to 1s; combing ditto over Flood Vale, 11d to 1s 3d; clothing, 1s to 1s 4½d. Queensland—greasy combing, D.S.W. over Kilcummin, 7¾d to 9d; clothing, 16¾d to 7½d; Queensland scoured combing, Durham Downs, 1s 3½d to 1s 5½d; lambs, 1s 2d to 1s 3½d; pieces, 1s 3½d. Victorian—greasy combing, Quamby, 8¾d to 10½d; pieces, 5½d to 8¾d; lambs, 6d to 10d. New Zealand—greasy combing J B over R in diamond, 7½d to 8½d; clothing, 6½d. Cape—snow white, Waverly Mills, 1s 2½d to 1s 5½d.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per packet of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb: Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; scoured good, 1s 5d to 1s 5½d; scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average to fair, 9d to 10d; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; greasy average, 7d to 8d; South Australian, greasy average, 5½d to 6½d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 2½d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 7½d to 8½d; Cape, scoured superior, 1s 1d to 1s 5d; fleece average, 7d to 8d; greasy average, 5½d to 6d; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6½d to 7d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 9d to 10d; New Zealand, fine, 8d to 9d; ditto medium, 7d to 8d; ditto coarse, 6d to 7d.

London, Saturday.—At auction this afternoon one catalogue was brought forward, comprising 11,186 bales, being made up as follows:—3,822 New South Wales and Queensland, 325 Victorian, 562 Tasmanian, 5,998 New Zealand, and 479 Cape and Natal. Good competition was experienced at fully late prices.

Bradford, Thursday.—The market is strengthened by the fact that the brokers are not withdrawing wools at the London sales, in spite of the heavy drop. A rather better tone is noticeable in regard to strong wools, but other sorts are unchanged. Mohair and alpaca steady. Business is poor in yarns, both for home and export. The piece trade is rather favourably affected by the change in American cotton.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Short supplies, and very little trade doing. Prices fairly steady, as under:—Kent fleeces 6d; lamb wool, 4d to 4½d; half-breds, 6½d to 7d; downs, 8d to 10d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—The opening of the London wool sales has had a beneficial effect on the local trade. It has resulted in a considerable fall in merinoes, and easier rates for fine crossbreds. Inferior sorts are depressed and irregular. The inquiry for cottons is checked by high prices. In the hosiery trade Government contracts are keeping a good deal of machinery fully employed. There is also a good demand for lambs' wools and fancy yarns.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—The market has continued firm, and prices have improved slightly for old crop Calcutta, and considerably for new. Plate, however, is offered more freely. Calcutta spot London, 60s; near 60s; September-October and October-November, 60s; April-June, 48s 9d. Hull firm. Calcutta April-June, 50s. Azov, Black Sea, September-October, 56s 9d; October-November, 56s 3d. La Plata, December-January, 51s 6d; January-February, 50s 9d. To the Continent Bombay is quoted March-May, 52s. Calcutta March-April, 51s 6d; April-June, new crop 50s 6d. La Plata December-January, 51s; January-February, 51s. Linseed cakes continue firm. London made, £8 10s to £8 12s 6d. Russian, £8 to £8 5s ex dock. American Westerns at £7 17s 6d to £8. Cotton cakes firm. London made, £5 2s 6d to £5 5s; Egyptian, £5 to £5 1s 3d. Rapeseed is firm with a fair demand. Brown Calcutta to London October-November offers at 45s. To the Continent we quote: Yellow Guzerat, October-November, 50s 9d; March-May, 47s 9d. Yellow Cawnpore, October-November, 50s; March-May, 45s 6d. Brown Cawnpore, October-November, 47s 6d; March-May, 42s 9d. Brown Calcutta, October-November, 45s 6d; April-June, 41s 6d. Ravison to Hull, passage, 31s; November-December 33s 6d. Cottonseed meals with a moderate demand, prices rather easier. Warehouse seed, £7 12s 6d. First half October, £7 10s; October, £7 7s; November-January, £7. Hull quarter Spot and passage £7 12s 6d; October, £7 5s; November-January, £7 2s 6d. Cargoes, November, £7 5s 9d asked.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: The market during the past week have been poorly attended, with very little business passing, while supplies come to hand slowly and values are slightly easier. Russians are a slow sale at 1s 3d per ton under last week's prices. Americans remain same and firm on spot and ex steamer parcels to arrive are offering unchanged. English are nearly held, but find a slow sale. Cotton Cakes: The demand is not large, but with small stocks of Egyptians, and only a limited quantity on passage, prices are not quotably lower. London made cakes are in fair request, and a trifle dearer on the week. Decorticated: Stocks are very low, and the small quantity remaining on hand is held at 5s per ton advance on last week's price. Meal is also scarce and dear. Maize germ meal: At the present ruling high figure buyers are only filling their immediate wants and with several resellers on the market, values are again the turn cheaper. Rice meal: Parcels of Rangoon in warehouse move off quietly, while for early arrival the price is unchanged.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... per ton ex mill	8 7 6	to	8 10 0
American in bags ..... ex dock	7 17 6	„	7 18 9
American Oct.-Nov. „ „	7 17 6	„	7 18 9
Russian in mats ..... „	7 17 6	„	8 0 0
Russian in bags ..... „	[illegible]		[illegible]
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	5 [illegible]	„	5 0
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	5 0 0	„	5 1 3
„ „ Nov.-April shipment	4 16 3	„	4 17 6
Decorticated ..... „	7 0 0	„	7 5 0
Meal, on spot ..... „	[illegible]	„	[illegible]
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 15 0	„	—
Ravison ..... „	4 10 0	„	—
Nutted, in bags ..... „	4 15 0	„	—
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American)..... ex dock	5 7 6	„	5 8 8
„ „ „ Sept.-Oct. „	[illegible]		[illegible]
„ „ (English)..... ex mill	5 7 6	„	5 10 0
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	4 12 6	„	4 15 0
„ Oct.-Jan. ..... ex ship	4 12 6	„	—
„ Jan.-March..... ex ship	4 11 3	„	—

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—To-day the demand for wheat is very limited, and business can only be done at a decline of 1d to 2d per qr from last Tuesday's prices for both home-grown and foreign. Good malting barley is steady request, full prices while common sorts meet a slow sale at late rates, quoting 3d to 6d per qr cheaper. Oats in fair demand at late last week's prices except for inferior, which are easier to buy. Beans quite as dear. Maize firmer for both Oct. and round and 3d per qr higher on the week. Linseed.—The arrivals are 50 qrs from Hartlepool, 500 qrs Koningsberg, 1,000 qrs New York, 912 qrs Odessa, 9,394 qrs Petersburg, 505 qrs Riga; total 13,599 qrs. Throughout the week the market has been strong, and prices daily moving upwards. Calcutta, nothing offering on the spot; Sept.-Oct. and Oct.-Nov. to London has been sold at 60s 3d; shippers price 61s; new crop April-June to Hull, Black Sea, 56s 9d Sept.-Oct., Oct.-Nov. 56s. Petersburg, afloat 55s. Riga and Libau, 55s. Oct.-Nov. shipment. Azoff at 55s 6d asked, with buyers at 55s. River Plate, Dec.-Jan., 52s; first half Feb. 51s 6d, Jan.-Feb. 51s. Cottonseed.—This article improved further in value after our last issue, but since end of Last week there has been more disposition to sell the later positions, and not much business passing. A needy buyer paid £7 15s for old crop on spot, while real business done in new crop per "Castello," due in a few days, the following boat "Urbino" making up to £7 13s 9d, which still quoted and sellers same. £7 12s 6d was paid for first half October, and £7 to all Dec. month, but there are now sellers of same at 5s per ton less. Nov.-Jan. was moderately dealt in at £6 18s 9d to £7, but £6 16s 3d now most obtainable and Feb.-March sold at £6 15s. Oil seed cakes.—A steady market all last week, enquiries and orders are very scarce. Hemp, no change.—KEIGHLEY MAXTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 15s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 5s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO-HAVE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 0s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES £[illegible] PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel. Saturday.—A steady [illegible] attended. Best old clover, 95s to [illegible]; inferior ditto, 70s to 80s; specially picked hay, 98s to [illegible]; good ditto, 90s to 95s; inferior ditto, 50s to 65s; new [illegible] and straw, 25s to 30s per load.

Leeds. Tuesday.—A [illegible] experienced in the wholesale trade and prices remain very firm. Quotations: Meadow hay, 64s to 70s; clover, 70s to 75s; wheat straw, 25s; small [illegible] 18s; oat straw, 18s. All these prices are [illegible] tail), 7d per stone.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London. Saturday.—Trade [illegible] prices remain unusually [illegible] held up to the prices. We quote: Canadian timothy and clover mixture, 95s; Dutch [illegible] Dutch and French red clover, [illegible] Dutch hay, 72s 6d to [illegible] wheat straw, 25s; small [illegible] 18s; oat straw, 18s. All these prices are [illegible] to [illegible] to [illegible] and PICKLES, [illegible] Tower Street, E.C.

MANURES

Liverpool. Friday.—A [illegible] potatoes [illegible] cakes and [illegible] advance, owing [illegible] [illegible] best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, ni bags, £8 5s to £8 [illegible] per ton. Best [illegible] to £4 [illegible] £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; linseed cake, American, thin oblong, [illegible] in bags, £7 [illegible] English, prime, in bulk, £[illegible] cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 per ton; prime English [illegible] to £7 [illegible] per ton; [illegible] bulk, £6 [illegible] per ton; [illegible] per cent. oil, prime in bags £7 [illegible] meal, English, [illegible] per ton; [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Jersey cow Buttercup III. is the property of and was bred by Mr. Antony Gibbs, Tyntesfield, Bristol. She is a fawn, 8 years 4 months and 1 week old, her sire being Sir Peter 5394, and her dam Buttercup, by Gordon 5190. At the Dairy Show last week Buttercup III. won the premier award in the Jersey class, and in the English Jersey Cattle Society's butter test was awarded a certificate of merit.

Magpie, a pure Holstein heifer, also a first-prize winner at the Dairy Show, was bred by and is the property of Messrs. Rumbal and Son, Upper Clapton Dairy Farm, Upper Clapton. Magpie, who is 2 years and 10 months old, was first in the class for heifers not eligible to compete in any other class.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

A revised prize schedule for the Royal Dublin Society's Winter Show, which will be held on December 11th and two following days, has now been issued. Prizes are slightly ahead of those of last year. In money they will reach to close on £700, and with the cups, medals, and special prizes, amounting in value to £300, the prizes all over will tot up to £1,000. This year's exhibition will, it is expected, show an improvement in the number of entries compared with those of last year, when the total was 1,933, made up of infed and outfed cattle, calves, fat sheep, and swine, butter, cream, cheese, and honey, farm produce—grain, roots, collections of potatoes, farm and garden produce, poultry, and eggs. At the coming show there will be an exhibition in the latter class of eggs preserved for several months by a patent process, which is certain to excite much interest. Entries close at single fees on Saturday, November 10th, and at double fees on the 16th of the same month. A good many, altogether from the Irish provinces, have been already received, and they are coming in fairly. Owing to the prevalence of cattle and sheep disease, no English or Scotch stock will be entered, but from these quarters a liberal display of roots, grain, and poultry is expected.

The show of dead poultry, held in connection with the Smithfield Club's show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, will take place again this year, the dates being Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, December 11th, 12th, and 13th. There are forty-one classes, and in more than half of them there will be a fourth prize, the first prize in the majority of cases being £2, the second £1, the third 10s., and the fourth 5s. These class prizes are supplemented by numerous special and champion cups and medals offered by the Corporation of the City of London, the Poulters Company, the Mercers Company, the Drapers Company, the Haberdashers Company, the Poultry Club, the National Poultry Organisation Society, and the Royal Agricultural Hall Company. This will be the seventh annual show, and it is to be hoped that it will prove as successful as have its predecessors. Tuesday, November 27th, is the last day for entries, Mr. A. B. Charlton, 12, Hanover Square, London, W., is the secretary.

Mr. J. E. Platts's herd of Red-Polls at Cheadle, Cheshire, is, with the exception of a few exhibition animals and the yearlings, to be sold by auction on Friday next, in consequence of the disposal of this estate. For the convenience of buyers the animals will be sold in the Drill Hall, Ipswich, the auctioneers being Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons. The catalogue comprises thirty-four cows, twenty-one heifers, thirteen bull and heifer calves, and four young bulls, the remainder of the herd being retained for transference to the estate recently acquired by Mr. Platt in Bedfordshire. As is well known, Mr. Platt has for many years been one of the most prominent exhibitors of Red-Polls, and has been exceptionally successful, a long list of honours having been won at all the principa of honours having been won at all the principal shows. The herd to be offered on Friday was established by selections from deep milking strains, and has frequently been replenished by purchase of the best specimens of the breed, one of the most recent additions being the bull Champion 5370, which was bought at the sale of the late Mr. J. J. Colman's herd for the record price of 320gs., and has been in use in the herd. The sale will commence at two o'clock.

At a recent special meeting of the Black-faced Sheep Breeders' Association, the question of the damage done to the reputation of Black-faced flocks and their wool by the use of pitch oil and dips of a kindred character was discussed, and the following resolution passed:—"That it would be an advantage to sheep-breders if the Government would take steps to prevent deleterious dips being placed on the market." This met with the approval of members present at the annual general meeting held on Monday. The accounts, it was stated, showed a credit balance of £17 6s. 3d.

A special meeting of the directors of the Glasgow Agricultural Society was held in the secretary's chambers on Wednesday to consider representations made by several owners of stallions that the show should be held earlier than February. After fully considering the matter, it was unanimously agreed to abide by the decision arrived at at last meeting—viz., that the show should be adjourned, and that it should be held in the beginning of February. A sub-committee was appointed to meet with any exhibitors and explain matters more fully if necessary.

In the month of September 11,780 tons of British meat were sold in the London Central markets; also 4,261 tons of foreign meat, 6,803 tons of American meat, and 7,615 tons of Australian and New Zealand meat. The American meat was classed as colonial. In the Metropolitan cattle markets in the same month there were sold 8,262 head of cattle, 49,625 sheep, 270 calves, and 477 pigs; and in the Foreign Cattle Market there were disposed of 11,784 head of cattle received from the United States and 3,368 received from Canada, the latter country contributing also 1,979 sheep. As compared with the same month last year the supply fell off to the extent of 3,500 tons of meat, while there were 10,000 fewer sheep sent to the metropolis.

An announcement of the implement trials, to be held by the Royal Agricultural Society in connection with their show, at Cardiff next June, has been issued. First and second prizes of £40 and £20 are offered for portable oil engines, not to exceed 15-horse power, and the same prizes for agricultural locomotive oil engines, not to exceed 20-horse power. For a small ice-making apparatus, suitable for a dairy, a prize of £15 is offered; and it may readily be imagined that such an invention, to produce ice cheaply, would be an invaluable acquisition to dairy-farmers.

The dairy show was a wonderful spectacle, according to a description given of it by the *Daily Mail*. The "young gentleman" who wrote it could not have had any experience (which that journal is reported to regard as unnecessary), or his experience has been so great that it bewilders an ordinary agriculturist. The *Mail* tells us that—

> It was a very joyful noise that went up to the sunny roof of the hall yesterday afternoon. Rows of cows holloed, and whistled, and chanted for the unburdening of their souls; cocks crew; ducks protested to the full measure of their bills. But there was no need to be unhappy, for there was hay, and mash, and corn, and grits for all and to spare. There was much going to and fro of sad-eyed men in gaiters and hazel-sticks; and here and there one fancied one detected a lurking dairymaid. There was much brushing of silken coats, much frizzing and plaiting of tails.

Whistling and chanting cows is good. Men going to and fro in hazel-sticks is remarkable. The lurking dairymaid is inappreciative, if not spiteful. The *Mail* juvenile should be careful, or those buxom damsels may lurk no longer, but take revenge by putting him across a butter worker, and showing him how a rude boy should be treated, using their "beaters" and "Scotch hands" in the operation. But what "stuff" to give to *Mail* readers! What can be their impression of a dairy show formed upon such material? Alas, for modern daily journalism!

The unreserved sale of Shire horses belonging to Messrs. W. and J. Thompson, of Desford Hall, Leicester, will take place on Thursday, the 25th inst. Forty-six animals will be offered, and of these thirty-eight are three years old and under, and these young fillies and colt foals are principally by the good horses that have found a home at Desford, namely, Hitchin Conqueror, Sopwell Duke, Stonewall, Eastoft Lad, Desford Vulcan Chief, Cotheridge Swell, etc. These sires and their stock are so well known and appreciated that further remarks as to the quality of the selection now to be sold are needless. The sale will commence at one o'clock, and will be conducted by Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade and Beck.

CATTLE.

Sale of Pure-bred Shorthorns at Tillycairn.

The most sensational sale of Shorthorn cattle ever held in Scotland took place yesterday at Tillycairn, when there were offered the year's crop of bull calves from the celebrated herds belonging to Mr. Duthie, Collynie, who has well been called the prince of Shorthorn breeders, and Mr. Marr, Uppermill. These annual sales take a foremost place in Shorthorn circles, but this year the success was unprecedented, a fact which was due not only to the great local demand, but to the large attendance of buyers from Canada and the United States. Mr. Campbell, Harthill, took out at 300gs. the nine-months-old calf from Collynie, Silver Mist, by the Inverquhomery bull Silver Plate, and of the old Missie family. Another of the Missie family, Conqueror's Crown, entered from Uppermill, was purchased by Mr. Simmers, Whiteside, at 190gs.; while Mr. Ward, Ohio, gave 230gs. for Spicy Marquis, from the Maud family, by the Bapton Manor bull Spicy Robin, which as a calf cost Mr. Marr 250gs. One of Mr. Duthie's lot, Silver Bell, by Silver Plate, and out of Bright Belle, dam of the £1,200 bull, Brave Archer, was purchased by Mr. Harrison, Gainsford Hall, Darlington, at 270gs. There was great competition for the ownership of the Collynie March calf, Primrose Pride, a strong, beautifully-covered roan by Pride of Morning, and out of the great breeding cow Scottish Primrose, by Scottish Archer. Started at 100gs., the price ran up to 350gs., at which figure he was taken out by Mr. Joliffe, Stratford-on-Avon. Mr. Law, Mains of Sanquhar, who was one of the runners-up for this bull, took out at 200gs. the Collynie bull Scottish Crown, of the Missie family. The highest price of the sale, however, was 355gs., given by Mr. Mills, Ruddington Hall, in opposition to the representative of the Prince of Wales, for the Collynie six-months-old calf Violet Victor, by Silver Plate.

The following were the animals sold:—

		Gs
MR. DUTHIE'S.		
Golden Sunset	Mr. Tait (Craichie)	41
Prince Lovely	Messrs. Wolf and Son (Kansas)	50
Silver Mist	Mr. Campbell (Harthill)	300
Silver Mint	Mr. Turner (Cairnton)	110
Silver Bell	Mr. George Harrison	270
Collynie Conqueror	Mr. Peterkin (Dunglass)	160
Sittyton Champion	Mr. Edwards (Canada)	96
Heir of Fame	Mr. Campbell	54
Royal Charlie	Mr. M'Laren (Forth Bank)	20
Sir Matthew	Mr. Malcolm (Dunmore)	25
Primrose Pride	Mr. Joliffe (Stratford)	350
Knight of Rosewood	Mr. Maxtone (Graham)	40
Victor of Sittyton	Lord Lovat	91
Scottish Crown	Mr. Law (Mains of Sanquhar)	200
Lord of the Manor	Mr. Edwards	185
Golden Champion	Mr. Watson (Auchronie)	50
Silver Cup	Mr. M'Kay (Elgin)	175
Violet Victor	Mr. P. L. Mills	355
Highland Champion	Mr. A. M. Gordon	120
MR. MARR'S		
Belted Earl	Mr. Hutchens (Ordley)	30
Young Wanderer	Colonel Smith (of Mimmere)	80
Conqueror's Crown	Mr. Simmers (Whiteside)	190
Royal Wanderer	Mr. A. M. Gordon	61
Spicy Marquis	Mr. Ward (Ohio)	230
Wanderer's Chief	Mr. Dudding	185
Dauntless Victor	Mr. Gerlaugh (Ohio)	100
Wanderer's King	Rev. Mr. Smith (Tipperary)	85
Wanderer's Gift	Mr. Meir (Waterloo)	101
Emperor's Heir	Mr. F. C. Fletcher (of Roseliaugh)	150
Spicy Peer	Mr. Morrison (Fingask)	100
Wanderer's Last	Mr. Campbell	150
Golden Emperor	Mr. Gerlaugh	100

The following are the Collynie and Uppermill averages for the past three years:—

COLLYNIE			
1898	24 head	£80	9 1
1899	20 ,,	123	18 0
1900	19 ,,	150	8 6
UPPERMILL			
1898	19 head	£76	4 2
1899	16 ,,	116	18 10
1900	13 ,,	126	3 2

Shorthorn Sale at Newton.

On Wednesday, at Newton, Aberdeenshire, Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co. disposed of some valuable drafts of Shorthorns from the noted herds of Mr. Gordon, of Newton; Mr. Wilson, Pirriesmill, Huntly; and Captain Grahame Stirling, of Strowan. There was a fair attendance of breeders from north and south, and good prices were realised, though not up to the high standard of the Collynie sale on the previous day. From the Newton herd the two-year-old heifer Diamond Queen, by Star of Morning, was bought by Mr. Mills, Reddington Hall, Nottinghamshire, at 160gs. Mr. Duthie, Collynie, secured at 52gs. the Sittyton Clipper heifer calf Camelia, by Cornerstone; while for bull calves the highest price was 81gs., given by Mr. Wright, Knockton Heath, Lincolnshire, for Champion Star, another Sittyton clipper, by Chrystal Star. From the Pirriesmill herd, Mr. Cameron, Balnakyle, took out a number of the best animals. This included the yearling heifer Eliza 17th, by Prince of Sanquhar, at 60gs., and Beatrice 8th at 115gs. The highest-priced bull calf, Franz Joseph, by the Uppermill bull Golden Star, was bought for Mr. Smiley, Ireland, at 50gs. In the Strowan lot the highest price was 54gs., given by Mr. Morrison, Fingask, Fraserburgh, for Strowan Buttercup 17th, by Star of Dawn. The averages of these herds were as follow:—Newton: Four cows, £33 6s. 9d.; two two-year-old heifers, £108 3s.; six heifer calves, £36 15s.; six bull calves, £28 14s.; two bulls, £59 6s. 6d. Pirriesmill: Six yearling heifers, £55 16s. 6d.; fifteen bull calves, £23 7s. 7d. Strowan: Three two-year-old heifers, £51 16s.; two heifer calves, £27 16s. 6d.

Sale of Shorthorns at Sanquhar, Forres.

A number of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle belonging to Messrs. A. W. and A. M. Law, Mains of Sanquhar, and Chas. E. Law, Holl, Keith, were sold at Sanquhar, Forres, on Thursday, in the presence of a large attendance of breeders and buyers. Messrs. Law have made a name for themselves in agricultural circles, and their Shorthorns have taken a leading place all over England and Scotland in recent years. Sixty-three animals were exposed on Thursday, the prices realised ranged from 13gs. to 150gs., the latter figure being paid by Mr. Dudding, Riby Grove, for Winsome Beauty III., a two-year-old roan heifer, and winner of several first prizes. A sum of 120gs. was paid for Lady Douglas, a red two-year-old heifer, and a similar sum for Zoe Sixth, also a red heifer, the latter finding a purchaser in Mr. H. Mackay, Elgin. Among the other purchasers were Colonel Johnston, Elgin; Captain Stirling, Fairburn; Mr. Duthie, Collynie; Mr. Marr, Uppermill, Tarves, etc. The animals averaged about £50, the proceeds of the sale, which was conducted by Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co., being £3,096.

Sale of the Overthwaite Shorthorns.

The entire herd of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle, the property of Mr. William Atkinson, was sold by auction on the 5th inst. at Overthwaite, Milnthorpe, by Messrs. John Thornton and Co. The weather was most inclement, rain falling heavily, but the north-country breeders and farmers came prepared for a wet day and a good sale. The young stock were specially good, and the older cows, with their excellent udders, and striking dairy properties, were much sought after, and readily made between 30gs. and 40gs. each. Mr. J. Colman, of Gatton, paid the highest price (71gs.) for Hawthorn Gem, a roan yearling heifer, whilst Lord Brougham and Vaux purchased for 50gs. Brilliant Chief, the first prize bull at the Lunesdale Show this year. Ninety-four head were sold, and realised £2,441, or nearly £26 each.

The following were the principal prices:—

COWS AND HEIFERS. Gs.

Barberry, roan, c Dec., 1890, s Ruling Star 58098
Mr. J. Bradshaw 24
Barmaid, roan, c Dec., 1891, sire Ruling Star 58098
Mr. F. Punchard 25
Brilliant 2nd, red, c January, 1894, s Asterisk 62094
Mr. J. Nelson 20
Flimsy, red and little white, c March, 1894, s Ruling Star 58098 ..... Mr. J. Wakefield 22
Muriel, red and little white, c March, 1894, s Ruling Star 58098 ..... Mr. D. Collyer 29
Florrie, roan, c October, 1894, s Ruling Star 58098
Mr J. Bradshaw 20
Belita 2nd, red and little white, c Nov., 1894, s Ruling Star 58098 ..... Mr. T. Thompson 25
Adela 2nd, red, c Jan., 1895, s Ruling Star 58098
Mr. A. W. Hickling 28
Sweetheart 2nd, red and little white, c March, 1895, s Ruling Star 58098 ..... Mr. G. W. Tyser 35
Blab 2nd, roan, c April, 1895, s Ruling Star 58098
Mr. A. W. Hickling 44
Broom 2nd, roan, c April, 1895, sire Jasper 65693
Mr. R. Parker 31
Jessamine 2nd, roan, c June, 1895, s Jasper 65693
Mr. T. Atkinson 32
Barmaid 2nd, red and little white, c July, 1895, s Jasper 65693 ..... Mr. T. Thompson 24
Elma 3rd, red, c Sept., 1895, s Asterisk 62094
Mr. W. Heaton 20
Rosie 2nd, roan, c Oct., 1895, s Jasper 65693
Mr. J. Wakefield 28
Rapture 2nd, red and little white, c Oct., 1895, s Ruling Star 58098 ..... Mr. J. Bradshaw 20
Vanilla 3rd, red, c Oct. 1895, s Asterisk 62094
Mr. W. Heaton 22
Adela 3rd, roan, c Feb., 1896, s Ruling Star 58098
Mr. H. Williams 32
Diamond 27th, roan, c March 1896, s Coldstream 60510
Mr. W. Parkin Moore 27
Laura 2nd, red and little white, c April, 1896, s Baron Bloom 66653 ..... Mr. W. Heaton 25
Lady Sinclair 5th, white, c April, 1896, s Ruling Star 58098 ..... Mr. J. Atkinson 27
Daisy 4th, roan, c May, 1896, s Coldstream, 60510
Mr. W. Parkin Moore 40
Blithe Girl 2nd, red, c Sept., 1896, s Asterisk 62094
Mr. J. Bradshaw 20
Broom 3rd, roan, c Oct. 1896, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. J. D. Conder 28
Brilliant 3rd, red, c Nov., 1896, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. A. W. Hickling 48
Barmaid 3rd, roan, c Nov., 1896, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. J. Lawler 28
Beauty 2nd, red and little white, c Jan., 1897, s Matchmaker 69105 ..... Mr. D. Collyer 29
Elma 4th, red, c April, 1897, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. W. Munro 22
Bridget 3rd, roan, c May, 1897, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. D. Collyer 34
Jessamine 3rd, red and little white, c Sept., 1897, s Matchmaker 69105 ..... Mr. P. Blundell 29
Jean 3rd, roan, c Oct., 1897, s Rosebery 71410
Mr. F. Alty 21
Florentine 2nd, roan, c Oct., 1897, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. J. Horlick 33
Broom 4th, red, c Oct., 1897, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. R. Hornsby 22
Lily 2nd, roan, c Oct., 1897, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. J. Horlick 40
Adela 4th, red, c Nov., 1897, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. G. W. Tyser 27
Beauty 3rd, red, c Dec., 1897, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. W. Heaton 24
Barmaid 4th, roan, c Dec., 1897, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. W. Heaton 23
Blab 3rd, roan, c Feb., 1898, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. J. Horlick 37
Laura 3rd, red and little white, c March, 1898, s British Bloom 70043 ..... Mr. W. Watson 22
Madeline 3rd, roan, c March, 1898, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. H. Williams 38
Mab 5th, red, c March, 1898, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. J. Dixon 25
Vanilla 4th, red and little white, c March, 1898, s Matchmaker 69105 ..... Mr. W. Heaton 27
Barberry 2nd, red and little white, c March, 1898, s Matchmaker 69105 ..... Mr. R. Hall 26
Bridget 4th, roan, c March, 1898, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. W. Bentham 26
Mountain Maiden, red roan, c June, 1898, s Mountaineer 63027 ..... Mr. T. H. Bingley 21
Jessamine 4th, red and little white, c June, 1898, s Matchmaker 69105 ..... Mr. P. Blundell 30
Blanche 3rd, red, c Nov. 1898, s Matchmaker 69105
Mr. W. Heaton 20
Henrietta 6th, roan, c Dec., 1898, s Cairo 72151
Mr. W. Heaton 21
Hawthorn Gem 3rd, roan, c Jan., 1899, s Cairo 72151
Mr. J. Colman 75
Elma 5th, roan, c Mar., 1899, s Cairo 72151
Mr. P. Blundell 22
Honesty 2nd, roan, c May, 1899, s Flash Boy 72537
Mr. A. Healy 22
Hetty 4th, roan, c Nov. 1899, s Cairo 72151
Lord Brougham and Vaux 28
Stella 3rd, red roan, c Nov., 1899, s Cairo 72151
Mr. J. Colman 36
Elma 6th, roan, c March, 1900, s King John 74791
Mr. G. Harrison 28

BULLS.

Merry Victor 77271, roan, c Jan., 1899, s Cairo 72151
Mr. J. Highfield 40
Bright Victor 76233, roan, c Feb., 1899, s Cairo 72151
Mr. J. Carson 22
Freedom 76717, red and little white, c April, 1899, s Cairo 72151 ..... Mr. G. Hutchinson 26
British Fancy, roan, c Oct., 1899, s Cairo 72151
Mr. T. H. Dingley 26
Duncan, roan, c Nov., 1899, s Estimation 72487
Mr. J. Bateman 21
Brilliant Chief, roan, c Nov., 1899, s Cairo 72151
Lord Brougham and Vaux 50
Beau Broom, roan, c Nov., 1899, s Cairo 72151
Mr. J. Dickenson 26
Sir John, roan, c Dec, 1899, s King John 74791
Mr. F. Punchard 28
Bruce, roan, c Dec, 1899, s Cairo 72151 .. Mr. J. G. Condar 29
Javelin, roan, c Feb, 1900, s Cairo 72151
Mr. J. Wakefield 38
Launcelot, red roan, c March, 1899, s Cairo 72151
Mr. S Dockery 22

SUMMARY.

	Average.	Total.
80 Cows and heifers	£25 13 0	£2,051 14 0
14 Bulls	27 16 6	389 11 0
94 head	£25 19 5	£2,441 5 0

Sale of Black-Polled Cattle in Essex.

A small draft from the well-known herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle belonging to Col. W. N. Tufnell was sold by Messrs. John Thornton and Co. last Thursday, at Langleys, near Chelmsford. The sale of this choice herd, which has been most successful in the show-yards during recent years, only attracted a small company of breeders and local farmers, but the animals met with a ready sale, and made fair prices. Several nice heifers were purchased by Mr. F. Cookson for his herd in Hampshire, and also by Mr. G. Hudson, to take into Sussex.

We give below a sale list:—

COWS, HEIFERS, AND CALVES. Gs

Valetta of Blooms 19923, c Dec., 1891, s Tinto 7987
Mr. W. Dan
Vaal, heifer calf, c March, 1900, s Prester 15885
Mr. W. Dannatt 8
Floriana of Blooms 21173, c Jan., 1893, s Tinto 7987
Mr. W. Dannatt 16
Faure smith, bull calf, c April, 1900, s Doodle 13314
Mr. H Shepherd Cross 14
Grace of Tedhold 10th 22231, c Nov., 1895, s Romeo of Advie 9588 ..... Mr. F. Crisp 20
Griqua, steer calf, c March, 1900, s Lord Monken 9341
Mr. G. French 10
Corskie 2nd of Down Hall 22213, c Dec., 1893, s Daisy King 9065 ..... Mr. T. Hall 15½
Celenso, heifer calf, c March, 1900, s Lord Monken 9341
Mr. J. H. Tricton 16
Burmola 23608, c Jan., 1895, s Goldseeker 10030
Mr. H. Turner 21
Enigma of Drayton 23925, c Jan., 1896, s Gilderoy 2nd 11704 ..... Mr. W. Dannatt 15
Bezula 24810, c May, 1900, s Emblem 2nd of Hillside 11629 ..... Mr W. Dannatt 15
Bloemfontein, heifer calf, c April, 1900, s Mr Crisp's Gilderoy 9208 ..... Mr. W. Dannatt 10
Hunzin 25249, c Feb., 1897, s Eureka 10826
Mr. F. Cookson 26
Hope Town, heifer calf, c Jan., 1900, s Prosser
Mr H Tritton 16
Fanal 26238, c Feb., 1897, s Eureka 10826 Mr H W. 17
Frere, steer calf, c Jan., 1900, s Doodle 13314
Mr H Tritton 12
Vava 26243, c March, 1897, s Eureka 10826 Mr G. Hudson 17
Vryberg, heifer calf, c Dec., 1899, s Ohio
Mr. H Tritton 27
Natabile 27662, c June, 1897, s Lord Monken 9341
Mr G Hudson 15
Natal, heifer calf c April, 1900, s Doodle 13314
Mr. W. Dannatt 10
Oneigla 27669, c March, 1898, s Lord Monken 9341
Mr F Cookson 25
Manna 27666, c March, 1898, s Doodle 13314
Mr. F. Cookson 25
Levante 27665, c April, 1898, s Lord Monken 9341
Mr. F. Cookson 30
Nalna 27667, c May, 1898, s Lord Monken 9341
Mr G Hudson 22
Belluti 29325, c Feb., 1899, s Doodle 13314 Mr G Hudson 22
Valetta of Langleys 29326, c May, 1899, s Doodle 13314
Mr V Dennis 19

BULL.

Debono 16443, c Jan., 1899, s Lord Monken 9341
Mr G Wicker 23

SUMMARY.

19 Cows averaged	£20 0 1	..	£380 2 0
10 Calves ,,	13 15 1	..	137 11 0
3 Bulls ,,	22 15 0	..	68 5 0
	Total	..	£585 18 0

Black-Polled Aberdeen-Angus bulls, the property of J. H Tritton, Esq., Lyons Hall:—
Sultan of Lyons 16092, s Esteban 13394..Lord A. G. Russell 23
Rastaban of Lyons 17174, s Esteban 13394..Mr. V. Dennis 19

Mansell's Shrewsbury Store Stock Sale.

The first October sale took place at Shrewsbury on Friday, October 5th, when upwards of 1,200 cattle and 400 sheep were pitched for sale. The sale ring was well lined with buyers from all the Midland counties and from Norfolk and the south-eastern feeding districts. The sale opened, as usual, with the sheep, which included some exceptionally good Clun ewes and wethers, also a consignment of some useful Scotch sheep. An adjournment to the cattle ring was made, and Mr. Alfred Mansell opened the business with some pertinent remarks. Biddings were brisk, especially for Shorthorn and polled bullocks and polled Angus crosses, notably some polled Angus crosses bred by Lord Ashtown, which were much admired, and made up to 37s. per cwt. The following are the prices realised:—

West Highland bullocks: £9 5s.
Shorthorn bullocks: £16 5s., £16, £15 5s., £15, £13 7s. 6d.
Shorthorn heifers: £15 10s., £14 5s., £14, £13 12s. 6d.
Hereford bullocks: £15 15s., £14 5s., £13 10s., £13 2s. 6d., £13, £12, £11 15s.
Hereford heifers: £14 10s., £13 5s., £12 17s. 6d., £12 5s.
Hereford barrens: £11 12s. 6d., £10 17s. 6d., £10 5s.
Hereford yearlings, £9 12s. 6d., £8 12s. 6d.
Shorthorn yearlings: £10 5s., £10 2s. 6d., £9 15s., £9 7s. 6d., £8 5s., £8 2s. 6d., £8.
Irish Polled Shorthorn bullocks: £15 12s. 6d., £14 10s., £14 7s. 6d., £14, £13 15s., £13 5s. Black Polled bullocks: £12, £11 12s. 6d., £11, £10 15s., £9 15s. Black Polled heifers: £14 10s., £14, £13 2s. 6d., £13, £12 17s. 6d., £12 7s. 6d., £12 5s. Blue grey bullocks: £12 12s. 6d., £12 7s. 6d.
Irish horned bullocks: 16 10s., £16 5s., £14 15s., £14 12s. 6d., £13 12s. 6d., £13 10s., £13 2s. 6d.
Irish horned heifers: £15 12s. 6d., £14 5s., £13 17s. 6d., £12 15s., £12 5s., £11 15s.
Irish cross-breds (Hereford and Shorthorn): £15 2s. 6d., £13 12s. 6d., £12 10s.
Welsh bullocks: £8 5s., £8, £7 17s. 6d., £7 12s. 6d.
Welsh heifers: £10 10s., £9 5s., £8 12s. 6d., £7 17s. 6d.
Cross-bred bullocks: £13 7s. 6d., £12 15s., £12 5s., £11 17s. 6d., £11 10s., £11 2s. 6d., £10 15s., £10 2s. 6d.

This firm will hold their next sale on Thursday, October 25th, for which date a good entry of forward condition cattle has been received.

Sale of Aberdeen-Angus at Peterborough.

The sale of black polled Aberdeen-Angus cattle, belonging to Colonel Brocklehurst, of Ransborough, Oakham (who is now in South Africa), at Peterborough Repository, on Friday, was very poorly attended, due no doubt to the fact that elections were taking place in the district. Messrs. John Thornton and Co. conducted the sale, which was a disappointing one, the top figure being but 20gs., paid by Mr. F. Cookson for Ransborough Amaryllis. The other chief prices were as follows:—

COWS AND HEIFERS Gs.

Squaw 24504, c 1895, s Dannay 8320 Mr. P
Phyllis of Crathes 23e 6, c 1894, s Bess M
Mr. T. R. Caswell 15½
Lady Carbston 2nd 25 , c 1895, s P
Mr. H. L. B
Gloxinia 25 , c 1895, s Ambassad
Mr. Mills 13½
Ransborough Bess Rose 2
Mr. M
Ransb
Glams 12
Ransborough Poppy 2
Mr. Maxwell 17½
Ransb
Mr. Blunt 14½
Ransb
Ransb
Mr. Maxwell 15½
Ransb
Ransberough Phyllis 2

Mary Anderson, [illegible] Vandyke 14 Glamis Mr Smith 13

BULLS.

Vandyke of Gromo 14th, [illegible] Mr. Ivans 18

Rassendyll, [illegible] Mr Smith 18

Sale of Sir Mark W. Collet's Shorthorns.

On Thursday Messrs. Cronks sold by auction the whole of the live and dead farming stock at Lower St. Clere, Kemsing, Kent, the property of Sir Mark W. Collet. Fair times prices were realised for the stock, the pedigree Shorthorns realising as under:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Coral Charm 12th, red and little white, c August, 1888, s Duke of Whittlebury 4th 54228	£16 16 0
Ruth 224th, roan, c May, 1891, s Royal Arthur 53570	20 9 6
Water Naiad, red and little white, c Dec., 1892, s Heroic 60054	28 7 0
Isolda Ruth, red and white, c Jan., 1893, s Royal Arthur 53570	16 16 0
Exton Dame, red and little white, c July, 1894, s Royal Arthur 63247	31 10 0
Coralia, roan, c May, 1896, s Royal Arthur 63247	29 8 0
Isolda Ruth 9th, roan, c Aug., 1896, s Viscount of Oxford, Riddington 5th 68054	21 0 0
Isolda Ruth 13th, red, c Nov., 1898, s St. Clere 17th 69529	31 10 0
Kemsing Charmer 2nd, roan, c Feb., 1899, s Arthur Rowing 69863	43 1 0
Roan cow calf, c Jan., 1900, s Promise 73327	21 0 0

BULLS.

Promise 73327, roan, c Jan., 1897, s Oxford Surmise 67565	42 0 0
St. Clere Victor 75574, roan, c Nov., 1895, s Mountain Victor 67520	18 18 0
Ightham Victor, red and little white, c Feb., 1899, s Mountain Victor 67520	21 0 0
Viscount Ightham 2nd, roan, c July, 1899, s Viscount Ightham 73836	17 6 6
Bull calf, roan, c May, 1900, s Promise 73327	21 0 0

The property of F. Sugden, Esq.

St. Clere 19th, roan, c July, 1897, s St. Clere 16th 69528	21 0 0
Roan bull, s St. Clere 8th	21 0 0

Outbreak of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in Staffordshire.

A serious outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease has occurred on an isolated farm near Lichfield, Staffs. On Wednesday, Mr. Harry Oliver, F.R.C.V.S., of Tamworth, accompanied by Mr. A. C. Cope, chief veterinary officer of the Board of Agriculture, visited Brook Haye Farm, tenanted by Mr. Thomas Tideswell, and found evidence of the disease in two milking cows. All the cattle on the farm will be slaughtered, and probably those on an adjoining farm.

HORSES

Sale of Show Horses at Crewe.

Six show horses, owned by Mr. George Tyson, of Halifax, were sold by Messrs. Manley and Sons at Crewe on Wednesday. The well known Lady Wiles and Sir George were put up as a pair, and were knocked down at 1,000gs. to Mrs. Batt, Elgin Avenue, London. Love Better was secured by Miss Cunliffe, London, for 210gs.; Mr. Buerley, Didsbury, gave 205gs. for Hector Macdonald; Lord Walter was sold to Mr. Gaskell, Wilmslow, for 100gs.; and Bay Leaf fetched 100gs., the purchaser being Mr. Anderton, Cadley. The total for the six animals was £1,695, or an average of £282.

Horse Sale at Glasgow.

A sale of carriage, harness, and cart horses, vanners, cobs, and ponies was held on Tuesday afternoon by Mr. Vine at his horse bazaar, Glasgow, the catalogue containing about 120 animals. The majority of the horses showed remarkably well, being of good substance, suitable ages, and fashionable colours. The attendance of buyers was scarcely so large as usual—a fact due to dirty weather and the big yearly sales coming forward, but trade was of a satisfactory character for all classes throughout. Carriage and draught horses experienced the best demand, and realised fairly high prices. Cobs, ponies, and vanners met a rather stiffer trade. Carriage horses of the best class realised up to 40gs.; secondary, 12gs. to 18gs.; and inferior, down to 6gs.; best cart horses, 35gs.; secondary, 12gs. to 20gs.; inferior, 5gs. to 11gs.; vanners, to 30gs. and down to 4gs., according to style, substance, and action; best cobs, to 25gs.; secondary and inferior, 4½gs. to 12gs.; ponies, 5gs. to 18gs.; and lorry animals, 6gs. to 37gs., all according to substance and action.

Sale of American Horses at Glasgow.

A [illegible] of American and Highland coaching horses was held by Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser and Co., Limited, at Glasgow on Wednesday. There were fifty-five animals catalogued, consisting principally of [illegible] and draught horses, while there were also [illegible] of vanners and coaching horses included. There was a good attendance of buyers forward from [illegible] country, farmers and contractors being [illegible] All the horses were of an extra [illegible] trade was brisk throughout. Harness [illegible] realised up to 110gs.; best [illegible] cart or Clydesdale horses, to 55gs.; secondary, 20gs. to 30gs.; inferior, 12gs. to 18gs.; vanners, to 42gs. and down to 10gs.; best coaching horses, to £55; secondary, £39 to £44.

Sale of Hackneys near Aberdeen.

A sale of Hackneys and roadster horses was held at Oldmill Farm, near Aberdeen, on Thursday, Mr. J. Farquhar, Old Echt, being the auctioneer. Some fine well-bred animals were included in the list of fifty-seven horses entered for sale, but the bidding was unusually slack, and only in one or two instances were satisfactory prices obtained. Lavender, the roan filly which won first prize as a two-year-old roadster at the Royal Northern Show, was bought for 29gs., by Mr. Stephen, Park Road, Aberdeen, who also purchased for 30gs. Oldmill Gipsy, a dark brown filly, which was first as a two year-old at the Royal Northern last year. Confidence Queen, a four-year-old black mare, was bought by Mr. Bannochie, Aberdeen, for 34gs. Sir Gavin, a dark bay gelding, a successful exhibit at Aberdeen shows, was sold for 37gs. to Mr. Sim, Muirton. Dr. M'Hardy, Cullen, bought to Mr. William Wisely's mare Daisy for 30gs. Mr. W. M'Kenzie, Linnhead, Foveran, gave 31gs. for General French, a chestnut gelding belonging to Mr. James Cruickshank, Kentore. Mr. Grant, Methlick, gave 37gs. for Minnie II., the first at the Royal Northern Show this year. Chestnut Belle (10770), a grand four-year-old, 15.1 hands, belonging to Mr. John Spring, Skene, and bred by Mr. Gavin Hadden, Dalmunzie, was bought by Mr. Thompson, Brecon Hill, Cults, for 63gs. A fine pair of bay mares, the property of Mr. David Davidson, Queen's Road, Aberdeen, was purchased by Mr. Littlejohn, Laurencekirk, for 100gs.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Oct. 6th 1900:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	77	360 355 367	15,279	35,887 35,190 35,08
	Outbreaks.		No.	21	23 24 30	1 695	1 987 2 021 1 857
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Other Animals	No.	:	: : :	1	: :
		Dogs.	No.	1	: : 4	3	1 5
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughtered.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	: : :	:	220 718
		Diseased.	No.	:	: : 1	:	: 1 1 4
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	: : 1	:	: 1
Glanders & Farcy.	Animals Attacked.		No.	37	31 26 21	1,461	1,148 1,156 1,191
	Outbreaks.		No.	25	21 11 14	582	633 591 (8)
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	:	: : :	225	: : :
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	: : :	16	: : :
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	14	13 24 10	726	797 657 688
	Outbreaks.		No.	11	11 24 7	427	412 431 338
Period.				Week ended Oct. 6, 1900	Corresponding week in { 1899 / 1898 / 1897	Total for 40 weeks 1900	Corresponding period in { 1899 / 1898 / 1897

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only

Navan Fair was held on Monday, and was a very large one, composed chiefly of first and second class polled bullocks. The demand was bad, prices being in buyers' favour, and a large number of animals remained unsold. There was, however, a fair demand for springers. Prices: Calves, first class, £5 10s. to £6; yearlings, first class, £8 to £9; second class, £7 to £7 10s.; two-year-olds, first class, £12 to £13 10s.; second class, £10 to £11 15s.; three-year-olds, first class, £14 7s. 6d. to £16; second class, £11 5s. to £12; springers, first class, £16 to £18 5s.; second class, £12 10s. to £14 5s.

The Fair at Manorhamilton, co. Leitrim, on Monday was on averages a good one, and a good demand was experienced for heifers, but bullocks did not sell well. Thin animals were very hard to sell. Prices: Calves, first class, £5 15s. to £6 5s.; second class, £4 to £4 3s. 4d.; third class, £2 16s. 8d. to £3 3s. 4d.; yearlings, first class, £8 6s. 8d.; second class, £6 10s. to £7 5s.; third class, £4 10s. to £5 5s.; two-year-olds, first class, £11 to £12 10s.; second class, £8 10s. to £10; third class, £6 15s. to £7 2s. 6d.; three-year-olds, second class, £12 15s. to £14; springers, first class £16; second class, £12 10s. to £15; third class, £8 5s. to £10

SHEEP.

Sales of Kentish Rams.

Mr. Arthur Finn's.

Three of the most important sales of Kentish rams of the year took place in Ashford Market on Tuesday, when consignments of ram tegs from the flocks of Mr. A. Amos, Mr. Arthur Finn, and Mr. H. Rigden were disposed of, while there were also sales of rams from flocks of lesser note. In the case of the three names mentioned the consignments were second ones of the year. Messrs. Reeve and Finn sold forty-five of Mr. Arthur Finn's Westbroke ram tegs. These were sold at from 4½gs. to 12gs., and the whole consignment realised 278½gs., or an average of barely £6 10s. per ram. Taking both the first and second consignments together Mr. Finn has realised £460 8s. 6d. for sixty-five ram tegs, an average of a fraction above £7 1s. 8d. per teg. Tuesday's buyers and prices were as follows:—Mr. E. Finn, 12gs., 11½gs., 8½gs., 7½gs., 7gs., 5½gs.; Mr. W. T. Hinds, 8½gs., 6½gs. (twice), 5½gs.; Mr. Skinner, 8½gs., 6½gs., 5½gs. (twice); Mr. H. Rigden (Ashford), 8½gs., 7½gs., 7gs.; Mr. Rickard, 6½gs. (twice); Mr. G. Brann, 5½gs., 5gs. (four times), 4½gs. (six times); Mr. Overy, 5gs. (three times); Mr. A. Brown (for Lord Hothfield), 7gs.; Mr. J. H. Monins, 6½gs.; Mr. Featherstone, 5½gs., 5gs.; Mr. George Ottaway, 7gs.; Mr. G. Hamilton, 6½gs., 5½gs. (twice), 5gs.; Mr. W. Wimble, 5½gs.; Mr. Godfrey, 5½gs.; Mr. Cornes, 5½gs.

Mr. H. Rigden's.

Messrs. Reeve and Finn also disposed of thirty-nine pure-bred Kent ram tegs from Mr. H. Rigden's (Lyminge) flock, the prices ranging from £2 to £8 15s. per head, and the whole realising £204, or an average of a little over £5 4s. 7d. per teg. The two consignments now disposed of by Mr. Rigden this year, in all numbering 113 tegs, have realised £645, or an average of barely £5 14s. 2d. per teg. The buyers and prices on Tuesday were as follows:—Mr. J. Mead, £8 15s., £8 10s., £7. £5, £4 10s.; Mr. F. Collard, £4 15s.; Mr. J Leeds, £5; Mr. Overy, £4 15s., £4 10s.; Mr Honess, £4 5s. (twice), £4 2s. 6d.; Mr. E. Finn £8 15s., £8 10s.; Mr. Marsland, £4 5s. (twice); Mr. Brakefield, £6 10s.; Mr. Reeve, £8 5s., £6 5s., £5 10s., £5 5s.; Mr. Roberts, £4 5s.; Mr. Piper, £7 5s., £4 15s.; Mr. H. Rigden (Ashford), £5 10s. (twice), £4 10s.; Mr. Collins, £4 5s.; Mr. J. Church, £4 5s. (twice); Mr. Tanton, £4 5s. (three times), £4 2s. 6d.; Mr. Bunn, £2; Mr. G. Ottoway, £4 2s. 6d.; Mr. Cheeseman, £4 2s, 6d.; Mr. Maylarn, £4 2s. 6d.; Mr. J. Pearson, £5 7s. 6d. A number of two-year-old rams from Mr. Rigden's flock realised up to 5gs. per head, and were bought by Messrs. Sutton, C. F. File, J. File, M. Seath, Prebble, Terry, Kingsmill, Smith, and J. Mead.

Mr. A. Amos's.

Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs sold thirty of Mr. Alfred Amos's ram tegs, this also being a second consignment. Prices ranged from 5½gs. to 10½gs., and the thirty realised a total of 159gs., giving an average per head of a little under £7 6s. The two consignments together numbered eighty ram tegs, realised a grand total of 678½gs., and averaged just over £8 18s. 1d. per head. Tuesday's buyers and prices were as follows:—Col. Alexander, 9½gs. (twice); Mr. G. Hamilton, 10gs., 9½gs. (twice), 9gs., 8½gs. (twice), 6½gs.; Mr. P. Collard, 9½gs., 9gs., 8½gs., 8gs. (three times), 7gs.; Mr. M. Seth, 10½gs., 7½gs., 6½gs., 6gs.; Mr. A. Mummery, 9gs.; Mr. H. Clements, 9gs.; Mr. Constable, 8½gs. twice, 6½gs.; Mr. Gambrill, 6gs.; Mr. Tomkin, 6½gs., 6gs., 5½gs.; Mr. Roberts, 5½gs.

Messrs. F. D. Brockman and Darrell Blount's

Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs also disposed of a number of ram tegs from the flocks of Mr. F. D. Brockman and Mr. Darrell Blount. Mr. F. D. Brockman's tegs (ten) sold at from £3 to £5 10s., and averaged £4 1s. per head, the buyers being Messrs. J. Missing, D. Mace, and T. Vickers; while Mr. Darrell Blount's tegs (fifteen) sold at from £3 10s. to £7, and averaged £4 16s. 8d. per head. Mr. Blount's rams were bought by Messrs. H. Hills, J. G. Benton, Brakefield, G. Bunn, D. Mace, Prebble, and J. H. Monins, the last-named gentleman and Mr. Mace each buying at the top figure.

Sale at Strood.

At Mr. H. M. Cobb's annual sale, which took place at Strood on the 5th inst., there were nineteen rams from Mr. Warwick Stunt's flock, and for these the demand was particularly slack, £7 15s. being the best price made to Mr. T. Holland, Mr. C. Lake paying £5 15s., Mr. J. Pye £5 for one and 75s. each for two others, whilst Mr. W. [illegible] Miskin purchased at £4. Those sold numbered ten, for an aggregate of £45 5s., or an average of £4 10s. per head. Mr. F. Baker, from Manor Farm, Frindsbury, had a fine lot of rams. These were only sold at home prices, but the demand was so [illegible] from being brisk. £13 10s. was made for the best animal, a real good typical Kent ram, which was secured at this by Mr. T. Holland, who also took another £6 5s. Mr. Ridgeway, from Essex, took three at £7 15s., £6 5s., and £6.; Mr. W. Miskin purchased at £7 5s., £6. £5. £4 10s., and £3 15s.; Mr. Long, from Essex, took two at £7 and £6; Mr. Brook took two

at £6 5s. and £6. The others ranged from this price down to 75s., the whole thirty being sold at an average of £5 8s. 2d.

Sale at Canterbury.

A consignment of rams and ram tegs from the well-known registered flock of Kent sheep belonging to Mr. T. Wooton, of Tile Lodge, Sturry, was disposed of by Messrs. G. W. Finn and Sons at Canterbury on the 6th inst. A few tegs sold at 4gs. per head, but the majority realised between 6gs. and 8gs. per head; but others fetched up to 12½gs., the twenty-five sold realising altogether 147gs. and averaging a little under £6 3s. 6d. per head. Messrs. Millen also disposed of some ram tegs at from £2 10s. to £6 5s. per head.

A Welsh Sheep-breeding Experiment.

Professor Winter, of the Agricultural Department of the University College of North Wales, has forwarded us a leaflet giving particulars of an experiment, with the object of ascertaining the most suitable cross for Welsh mountain ewes for the production of fat lambs, carried out at Lledwigan Farm during the past year.

Seventy-nine Merionethshire ewes, purchased in October, 1899, were divided into three lots and marked with numbered ear tags. Lot 1, consisting of twenty-nine ewes, ran with a Wiltshire ram, a white-faced horned sheep (similar to the Dorset horned sheep) which for some years has been extensively used in North Wales for crossing with mountain sheep. Lot 2, consisting of twenty-seven ewes, ran with a Shropshire ram, and Lot 3, consisting of twenty-three ewes, with a Leicester ram. The rams were turned in on October 3rd, and remained with the ewes until the end of November. Some of the ewes proved barren or cast their lambs, and a few lambs died after birth. There was, however, no difference between the various lots in this respect.

The Wiltshire-cross lambs were dropped between February 28th and March 30th, the Shropshire cross between March 3rd and April 3rd, and the Leicester cross between March 1st and April 7th. Every lamb was marked with a distinctive mark at birth. The ewes were grazed on the same pasture after the removal of the rams in December, and, except for about three weeks during the severe weather in the spring, received no artificial food.

The lambs were sold at the beginning of July on the understanding that they were to be removed as soon as they become ready for the butcher, the whole to be cleared by the end of August. At this time there were twenty-six of the Wiltshire cross, twenty-four of the Shropshire cross, and twenty of the Leicester cross. On July 9th, thirty-five lambs went to Manchester. Of this number, sixteen were of the Leicester cross, fourteen of the Wiltshire cross, and five of the Shropshire cross.

On August 6th a second draft of nineteen was selected, and the remainder were weighed on September 5th. Three tables giving particulars of each draft appear in the leaflet, and on adding the figures together we find that twenty-six Wiltshire cross lambs averaged 70.4lb. live weight, twenty-four Shropshire cross lambs 66.4lb. live weight, and twenty Leicester cross lambs 64.4lb. live weight.

In breeding lambs for the butcher the first consideration is to get them really fat. Then, provided the lambs are of good quality, the heavier they are within certain limits the higher the price obtained. Further, lambs which have, so to speak, lost their bloom never sell so well as those possessing the characteristic appearance of fat lambs. It is also very important to have lambs ready for the butcher early in the season, as prices usually become lower as the summer advances. Where the lambs are cleared off early the ewes may be fattened and sold at a better price than can be obtained in the late autumn, when they become almost unsaleable.

On looking at the results of the experiment from the standpoints enumerated above, it is seen that the advantage rests with the Wiltshire cross. They not only weighed heavier, but they handled better and had a better appearance than either of the other crosses. Further, the bulk of them were ready for the butcher early in the summer, and would have produced a considerably higher price than the Shropshire and Leicester crosses, if they had been sold separately. The Leicester crosses fattened quickly, but did not weigh as well as the Wiltshires. The Shropshire crosses were slower in fattening but attained greater weights than the Leicesters.

A similar experiment will, says Professor Winter, be carried on during the coming year, and in addition to the Wiltshire and Shropshire, a Southdown ram will be used.

Leicester October Fair.

This fair took place on Thursday, and was well attended by buyers and dealers from all parts of the kingdom. Sheep were a very large delivery and the bulk were in very good condition. Trade ruled fairly active at good prices. Lamb hogs changed hands freely at slightly advanced rates for choice qualities. Messrs. Hincks and Shakespeare sold 1,300 ewes and lambs, the lamb hoggs making 30s. to 39s. 6d. per head for choice lots, and medium 23s. to 28s. Breeding ewes realised 46s. to 56s. per head; and theaves 48s. to 54s. The same firm sold 147 rams, but the demand was not keen. Lincoln long wool rams made £4 4s. to £8 8s.; Shropshire rams, £4 10s. to £8 10s.; lambs, £3 to £6 6s.; and Oxford lambs, £3 3s. to £5 5s. each. Oxford rams, by private sale, made £6 to £10 per head; and ram lambs £3 3s. to £6 10s. A large business was done. Agricultural horses were scarce, and good colts made £30 to £40 per head.

The Dairy Show: A Corner of the Hall.

Corby Fair.

Corby fair, which is considered to be the most important fair in South Lincolnshire, was held on Monday, and was attended by dealers and agriculturists from all parts of Lincolnshire and adjoining counties. About 6,000 sheep and lambs were penned, for which there was a slightly improved trade. There was a good show of breeding sheep, and prices remained firm. Theaves made 35s. to 50s.; young ewes, 38s. to 44s.; culled ewes, 25s. to 36s.; and store lambs, 24s. to 35s. each. Several lots of rams were offered by auction, but owing to the lateness of the season no very fancy prices were realised. About 600 head of horned stock were also exhibited. In-calvers met with a good demand; cows, to £21; heifers, £15 to £17 10s.; two three-year-old bullocks, to £15; young beasts, £6 to £10. Only the best sorts changed hands.

Castleton Tup Fair.

This annual fair was held on Monday. A very large number of buyers attended from various parts of the North Riding, and a fair number of animals changed hands. In the afternoon an auction sale was held by Mr. M. Peirson, of Loftus. There was a very good attendance, and competition was fairly keen. Moor tups realised £1 1s. to £1 17s. 6d.; Scotch ewes, for breeding, 16s. to 19s. odd; gimmer lambs, 9s. 9d. to 12s.; tup lambs, 7s. 9d. to 10s. each.

THE DAIRY SHOW.

Cattle, Cheese and Butter at Islington.

The Dairy Show opened on Tuesday in weather that is seldom experienced at the time of the year. The attendance on the Agricultural Hall, as might be expected, was very oppressive, and the heat was much felt. The attendance at the show appeared to have been hardly up to the average, but the tickets off is not great, as the time was the most favourable of large numbers visiting the show. On Friday the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress paid a visit to Islington, her ladyship distributing the prizes to the successful competitors in the butter-making contests.

On Wednesday a meeting of the British Dairy Farmers' Association was held under the presidency of Lord Wenlock. The annual report showed that the British Dairy Institute at Reading was increasing both in the number of students and in its usefulness. A number of the county councils had sent students during the past year, and the Board of Agriculture have made a grant to the Institute. Lord Trecastle was unanimously chosen chairman for the ensuing year, and among the vice-presidents elected were the Marquis of Ripon and Lord Wenlock.

The following are the entries in the various sections:—

	ENTRIES.									
	1895.		1897.		1898.		1899.		1900.	
Cattle	193	..	178	..	201	..	207	..	243	
Milking and butter tests	180	..	184	..	163	..	168	..	199	
Goats	43	..	68	..	56	..	53	..	38	
British cheese	319	..	375	..	299	..	308	..	291	
Bacon and hams	66	..	54	..	30	..	30	..	55	
Butter	420	..	667	..	697	..	620	..	532	
Cream	64	..	85	..	75	..	59	..	49	
Skim milk, bread, etc.	170	..	93	..	91	..	113	..	129	
Honey, etc.	167	..	173	..	163	..	207	..	147	
Egg and butter packages	22	..	11	..	15	..	—	..	—	
New and improved inventions	28	..	29	..	15	..	24	..	18	
Vehicles for conveying milk	21	..	32	..	25	..	13	..	21	
Roots	111	..	103	..	149	..	139	..	129	
Butter-making contests	165	..	177	..	161	..	198	..	192	
Milkers' contests	—	..	—	..	—	..	49	..	59	
Trussing competition	—	..	—	..	—	..	6	..	4	

Cattle.

The cattle classes were more numerously filled than usual, and, as a consequence, the animals were much crowded and scattered about the hall some cows and heifers being fixed amongst the cheeses, whilst the bulls were mixed up with dairy utensils and other exhibits. The quality of the stock was on the whole satisfactory, though no especial features were present either as regards exceptional winners by inspection or in the results of the butter tests and milking trials. As has been the custom from its commencement, the Dairy Show officials give priority of place to the

Shorthorns,

and of these there was certainly a very good lot, both of pedigree and non-pedigree cows. In the pedigree class Lord Rothschild won first, Lady Henry Bentinck second, and Capt. Duncombe third, by inspection, with very useful cows. In the milking trials, however, Lady Bentinck's cow, which is certainly a thorough dairy cow, turned the tables upon her opponent, and came in first, Mr. J. T. Hobbs being second with a cow unnoticed by inspection, and Lord Rothschild came in third with a cow reserved in the inspection class. In non-pedigree cows Mr. J. F. Spencer won the first and second inspection prizes with two thoroughly good and typical dual purpose cows, and Lady Henry Bentinck was placed third. The milking prizes again went very differently, Mrs. Bonest being first, and also winning the Barham Challenge Cup with a cow unnoticed by inspection, and rightly so, too, for if the Shorthorn is to continue as a dual purpose breed, such type as the champion milker at Islington must be discarded, an undoubted dairy cow but quite as much of a milking machine and as little of a general purpose cow as a Jersey. The milk yield of this cow was just upon 70lbs. per day. The second prize was won by Mr. D[illegible] who was also reserved for the Challenge Cup. This cow at the Tring Show, it will be remembered, produced the extraordinary quantity of [illegible] of butter in twenty-four hours. The [illegible] prize were to a Lincoln cow of Mr. [illegible] Shorthorn heifers were [illegible] quality, however, was good. Lord Rothschild, Capt. Duncombe, and Mr. A. Henderson had the best animals the latter exhibiting [illegible] and Capt. Duncombe first. Bulls of this breed were very good this time. Mr. G. T. King's first, Lord Rothschild's second, and Mr. [illegible] being very evenly good, [illegible] we consider that they [illegible] trial or butter test winning cows.

Jerseys.

[illegible] exhibitors made [illegible] any breed in the milk. The quality [illegible] Jersey cows, Dutch and other [illegible] good, and Island-bred heifers and bulls very various, with a [illegible] sprinkling of inferior ones. The best cows in [illegible] Mr. [illegible] and Lass of Jersey 2nd, and Lord Rothschild's

Sultane, in the order named. The last-mentioned cow, however, came to the top in the milking trials, followed by Dr. Watney's Queen Bess of Ruthven and Lord Enfield's Gloaming, the latter a very fine, good cow. Jersey heifers were very numerous. In the English-bred class, Lady Rothschild had an excellent first in Carol, and also a very good third, the two being divided by a level, well-bred, and milky-looking heifer of Mr. Perkins's. The quality of the first heifer was especially fine, and she was reserved for the Blythwood Challenge Bowl, which was awarded to Mr. Gibbs's Buttercup. Island-bred heifers mustered a very large contingent, and whilst the best of them were up to the average of years, the tail end of the class were very plain and in many cases with ill-shaped bags. Mr. McMullen was given the premier position in these, Mr. Spencer Evans second, and Mr. Miller Hallett third. A good number of others were h.c. or c.

The Jersey bull class was filled very strongly, and amongst them several really first-class bulls. Col. Hankey obtained the first prize, Lord Rothschild second, and Mr. Gibbs third. Capt. Fraser, Mr. Dixon, and one or two others were also h.c. for very nice bulls.

Guernseys.

made a very fair show, the cows having very good bags in several instances, but in the milking trials and butter tests they did not come out as satisfactorily as might have been expected. Mr. H. M. Ozanne came in for the first and third prizes by inspection, the Honble. Mrs. A. Baillie Hamilton dividing these two for second place. The first cow is now some thirteen years old, but a great milker. The third-prize cow was at the top in the milking trials, a c. cow second, and Mr. Hambro's reserve third. Guernsey heifers were a little mixed, and could not be called a first-rate lot. Mr. E. A. Hambro carried off both first and second prizes with straight, milk-like heifers, with good bags under them. Mr. Fitzwalter Plumptre was placed third. Only two bulls of this breed were shown, Mr. Hargreaves having the best of them, and being awarded one of the medals. This bull was shown in the mixed class.

Red Polls

were shown in better trim than we recollect every having seen them at the Dairy Show. Breeders, however, were deprived of a good deal of the effect such a nice lot of animals would create by having them in such divided lots, the twelve or thirteen entries present being in three different companies, and the single bull of the breed shown in the mixed class. Of the cows, Mr. Platt's Bud 2nd was placed first by inspection, Lord Rothschild's Ladylike 2nd second, and Mr. A. J. Smith's Fanny 2nd third. The milking trials again resulted very differently, Lord Rothschild's Duchess 1st being first, the second prize winner holding her position, and an entry of Mr. A. J. Smith's that escaped notice by the eye being third. The heifers of this breed showed signs of great milk production. Lord Rothschild's Hastoe Red Rose was accounted best, and the others in the class were all h.c., shown by Mr. Platt, Mr. A. J. Smith, and Lord Rothschild. The single bull of the breed was shown by Mr. A. J. Smith.

Ayrshire

breeders have for many years been rather lax in forwarding stock to the Dairy Show, and this year the class was cancelled, only one or two of the breed appearing in the mixed breed classes.

Kerries and Dexters

made a very creditable show, though they were not very numerous. The Duchess of Newcastle carried off the money in the Kerry class with some very good cows, and showing fair milk vessels. The Express Dairy Company had also a couple of very useful entries that were reserved and h.c. Of Dexters the best were shown by Mrs. Leatham and Mr. E. S. Woodiwiss; Mrs. Paisley and Mr. B. de Bertodano also showed very typical animals. In the milking trials the two breeds competed together, the Duchess of Newcastle's second prize Kerry being being first, and Mrs. Leatham's first prize Dexter second. One or two very useful Dexter bulls were shown, Mr. Woodiwiss getting a medal for Redmarly.

Other Breeds.

Cows not eligible to compete in any of the classes mentioned consisted of several very good animals, Welsh, Ayrshires, and cross-breds being shown. By inspection the prizes went to Mr. Merry's Ayrshire, Mr. Wimlett's Shorthorn cross, and a blue-grey of Mr. J. F. Spencer's. The milking prizes were won by a black-and-white cross of Mr. Birdsey's, a brindle cow of Mr. Merry's, and Mr. Spencer's blue-grey.

Heifers of this section contain several very useful Holsteins of Messrs. Rumbal and Sons, one of which obtained the prize, and a very level Kerry of Captain Mansell's was reserved. In the bull class of the mixed breeds, in addition to the Guernseys, Red Polls, and Dexters mentioned, Mr. John Evans had a splendid Lincoln red that was awarded one of the medals.

Groups.

A class for the best group of three females was instituted this year for the first time, and proved a very interesting feature of the show. As is customary when different breeds are competing, each judge appeared to hang out for the breed he was appointed to judge. At the close, however, the first prize very deservedly went to three beautiful Lincoln red cows of Mr. John Evens's, the second to three of Lord Rothschild's Red Polls, and the reserve to three very good Jerseys of Mr. Mutton's.

Butter Tests.

On the average the butter yields were satisfactory, though there were no sensational yields produced, and the quality of most of the lots appeared to be very good for the time of the year.

Shorthorns had the best of it as regards quantity, Mrs. Bonest's challenge cup winner making 2lbs. 10⅜oz. Owing to points, however, this cow was only second, Mr. Dawes's famous cow being first with 2lbs. 5¼oz. after being 104 days in milk.

The Jersey prizes won were: Gold medal by Lord Enfield's Gloaming with 2lbs. 2½oz. after being in milk 157 days; silver medal by Mr. David Mutton's Brighton Queen with 2lbs. 3oz. after milking 103 days; and the bronze medal to Lord Rothschild's Sultane 4th, with 1lb. 12oz. of butter after being in milk 257 days.

Of the other breeds or crosses Lord Rothschild's Red Poll produced 1lb. 14oz. after twenty days in milk; Mr. Spencer's blue-grey 1lb. 9⅜oz. after sixty-eight days; Mr. Birdsey's Welsh cow Pansy, 1lb. 7oz. at twenty-one days after calving; and Mr. Fitzwalter Plumptre's Guernsey, 1lb. 8¾oz. after milking 147 days.

Goats.

Goats as usual formed a feature of the show, but the classes were not particularly attractive to the public apparently, as few visitors were found in the locality in which the goats were stalled. The most successful exhibitor in this section was Mr. B. Hook, who won two first prizes in addition to carrying off the Lord Mayor's cup for the best goat in the show, whilst the names of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, Mrs. J. Dawson, and Mr. R. Walter also appear as winning high honours.

Cheese.

As usual, the keenest interest centred around the Cheddar classes, as it is here that the men of Scotland try their level best to strip the laurels of the West of England makers, and this year proved no exception to the rule. There were twenty-eight entries in the class for four Cheddars, Irish or Scotch, but the general quality was scarcely up to previous years' standards. The heat of the hall on Monday was decidedly against the very rich exhibits from the West, and firm curds on departure from home were found to be most decidedly loose when cut in the Agricultural Hall. The hard makes of the North benefitted by this change of temperature, as it somewhat mellowed their rather harsh curds. First prize went to Mr. Hugh Hunter, Ayrshire, for a true and carefully made cheese. It was as clean a cutter as the most fastidious factor could desire, but it lacked flavour; second prize went to Messrs. R. and C. Tucker, Steeple Ashton, Wilts, for a cheese that, whilst richer, scarcely cut so well. Mr. W. J. Roe, West Rennard, Somerset, was placed third for a nice type of cheese. Then came in a man frae Scotland with about as hard a Cheddar as one could desire for fourth place. Mr. Herbert Tucker, who has rather been off his luck this season, had to be content with fifth prize. Reserve was taken by Mr. A. Osborne, of Mappowder, Derset, the highly commended mention being the sole reward of a Kilmarnock maker. Cheddar truckles did not make a large entry, but the quality was fairly good. Mr. T. C. Candy secured an easy first with the most perfect cutting cheese in the show. They were well matured, and this placed them well ahead of that well-known winner Mr. W. W. Keel, who took second prize with young cheese that showed a very considerable amount of acidity. Mr. Geo. Lester, of Martock, Somerset, was placed third, thus keeping the Scotch exhibits out of the mentions.

Stiltons were not nearly up to the mark of previous years, many of the exhibits lacking the much desired maturity, whilst others were decidedly salt. Mr. Henry Morris easily secured first with a cheese that was nicely blued at one end, whilst there was scarcely a vein of blue at the other. Mr. E. T. Moore was second, with Mr. A. W. Hurst rather a close third.

In the Cheshire class the judge gave the greatest satisfaction with his awards. To do this was no inconsiderable matter, as, apart from a couple of exhibits, the class must be set down as a very ordinary one, the cheese, as a rule, not being rich, and some of them desired to test the binding strength of the bandages. Had it not been for these some of the cheese could not possibly have held together. First prize was taken by a really splendid Cheshire of fine quality and fat, but slightly inclined to be tight in the curd. Mr. William Burnett followed this up with a very good one.

Double Gloucester appears to be one of the dying makes of cheese, its name, and not its character, only being left. It was therefore really surprising to find a true Double Gloucester in the class. Messrs. C. Harris and Son, Slimbridge, supplied this one, rich but very pale curd of nice flavour, though a trifle loose through heat, as showing how these classes are used as makeshifts. The second prize went to Mr. C. Candy, Shepton Mallet, Somerset; third to Mr. James Pearce, Glastonbury; and reserve to Mr. N. J. Sims, Bruton; and some of these cheese cut with all the characteristics of a Cheddar.

The Single Gloucesters were a thin lot in quality as well as in shape. First was secured by the Executors of the late George Harris, Cam, Glouces-

Shorthorn Butter Test.

Exhibitor and name of cow.	Age on Sept. 1.	Date of last calf.	Number of days in milk.	Milk yield in 24 hours.	Butter yield.	Ratio, viz., lbs. milk to lbs. butter.	Colour and Quality of Butter. Colour.	Quality.	Number of points for butter.	Number of points for lactation.	Total Number of Points.	Time. Churning began.	Churning finished.	Duration of churning.	Temperature. Room.	Cream and Churn.	Buttermilk when churning finished.	Awards.
	yrs. mos. dys.			lb. oz.	lb. oz.							H. M.	H. M.	MIN.				
Lady Henry Bentinck's Sowerby Isabella	6 9 7	July 15	87	34 5	1 1¾	30·92	—	—	17·75	4·70	22·45	2 15	3 0	45	62	52	57	—
Lady Henry Bentinck's Heroine III.	5 11 14	Aug. 10	61	52 2	1 14	27·80	—	—	30·00	2·10	32·10	2 16	3 2	46	62	52	56	—
Lady Henry Bentinck's Lady Seton	7 7 14	July 13	89	25 10	0 12¼	33·46	—	—	12·25	4·90	17·15	2 18	3 6	48	62	52	58	—
J. T. Hobbs's Musical 86	6 7 7	Sept. 23	17	42 3	1 3¼	35·06	—	—	19·25	—	19·25	2 16	2 50	34	62	52	57	—
Captain W. H. O. Duncombe's Red Robe	5 6 7	July 17	84	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lord Rothschild's Princess II.	9 8 7	April 11	182	32 3	1 2¼	28·21	—	—	18·25	12·00	30·25	2 19	2 46	27	62	52	56	—
Lord Rothschild's Olivette Ingram	6 5 21	Sept. 12	28	38 8	1 1	36·23	—	—	17·00	—	17·00	2 20	2 53	33	62	52	55	—
Lord Rothschild's Lady Rosedale	8 4 21	Aug. 22	49	52 0	1 5¼	38·02	—	—	21·75	9·00	22·65	2 19	4 23	34	62	52	58	—
J. Little's Waterloo Kate	9 5 21	May 17	146	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
J. Little's Kate Sybilla XI.	5 4 21	April 4	189	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
G. H. Proctor's Bella	9 7 7	Sept. 26	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A. Henderson, M.P.'s Pansy	5 9 7	Sept. 13	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A. Henderson's Vernon VII.	7 3 0	March 1	222	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
John Evens's Chance	6 0 0	Sept. 16	24	58 3	1 14¼	30·77	—	—	30·25	—	30·25	3 13	3 50	37	63	52	57	—
Lady Henry Bentinck's Mercer	Unknown.	Sept. 9	31	55 8	2 5	24·00	—	—	37·00	—	37·00	3 12	3 44	32	63	52	55	—
Lady Henry Bentinck's Procter	10 5 21	July 23	79	44 11	1 10¾	26·98	—	—	26·50	3·90	30·40	3 29	4 16	47	63	52	56	—
G. J. Wimlett's Cowslip	6 0 0	Sept. 26	14	48 11	1 5¾	35·81	—	—	21·75	—	21·75	3 23	4 15	52	63	52	57	—
J. F. Spencer's Molly Mine	7 0 0	Sept. 7	93	58 5	2 7¼	23·47	—	—	30·75	—	30·75	3 38	4 31	43	63	52	56	Reserve.
J. F. Spencer's Model Maid	8 0 0	Sept. 20	29	57 5	1 6¾	41·21	—	—	22·25	—	22·25	3 31	4 24	53	63	52	56	—
J. F. Spencer's Letty Lind	6 0 0	July 23	79	51 13	1 8¾	31·83	—	—	24·50	3·90	28·40	4 0	4 35	35	63	52	56	—
F. Dawe's Cherry	8 8 0	June 28	104	55 2	2 5¼	23·67	—	—	37·25	6·40	43·65	3 44	4 11	27	63	52	56	1st and Silver Medal.
G. Long's Minal	8 0 0	Aug. 24	47	61 3	1 7	42·56	—	—	23·00	·70	23·70	4 0	4 45	45	63	52	58	—
Mrs. Bonest's Granny	9 0 0	Sept. 6	31	72 7	2 10½	27·11	—	—	42·75	—	42·75	4 8	5 30	88	63	52	55	2nd and Bronze Medal.
Messrs. Rumbal and Son's Cherry	7 0 0	Sept. 12	98	46 13	1 0	46·81	—	—	16·00	—	16·00	4 16	5 5	49	63	52	56	—
A. Merry's Daisy	6 0 0	Sept. 21	19	47 13	1 11¾	26·15	—	—	39·25	—	39·25	4 33	5 18	45	63	52	58	—
C. Birdsey's Flower	6 0 0	Sept. 14	26	46 0	1 12¾	25·82	—	—	28·50	—	28·50	4 58	5 25	27	63	52	54	—
C. Birdsey's Florence	3 10 0	Sept. 10	30	47 13	1 11¾	26·07	—	—	27·25	—	27·25	5 4	5 45	41	63	52	56	—
C. Birdsey's Marion	5 0 0	Sept. 22	18	45 5	1 10¾	27·10	—	—	26·75	—	26·75	5 11	5 50	39	63	52	54	—

tershire, for a cheese showing a lot of quality, clean and well made, but a trifle loose on cutting. Mr. C. W. Prout was second, and after this much more quality was desirable throughout the class. The Council did well in cancelling the class for Leicesters, and if the Lancashires continue on the same lines these may profitably be dispensed with also. There were four entries, and only one of these received a prize, the others being weak cheese with far from a weak flavour.

Well may we ask what is a Caerphilly. Is it to be made of Cheddar curd, or is it to have and continue the former distinctive character of its own. At the Frome Show the judge selected a real Welsh-made Caerphilly for first prize, whilst at the Dairy Show all the best Caerphillys seemed to be of Somersetshire make, and the only credit for Wales was a commended card. Mr. Frederic House, Bridgewater, took first for a very pleasant-eating cheese, Mr. Jesse E. Hawking, Burnham, being a very close second.

In the Wiltshire class there was only one genuine Wiltshire in the lot. This one, which was made by Mr. Samuel Jefferys, Calne, was a very typical specimen; it was of a deep red colour, clean-cutting, and very firm in the curd.

Wensleydales constituted the poorest class of this choice make that has been seen for years. The judges only awarded one prize, and this exhibit of Mrs. John W. Spensley's cut perfectly white.

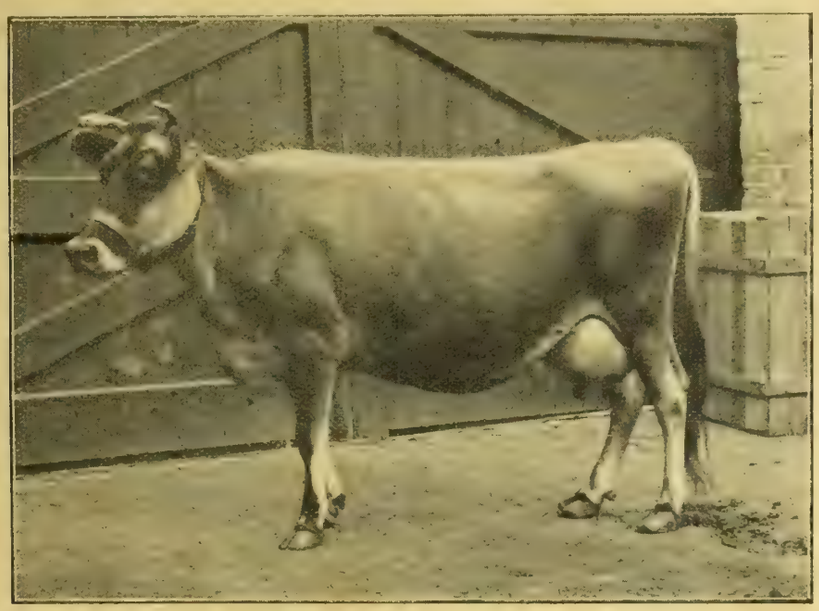
The students at the British Dairy Farmers' Institute made a very fair entry. Miss Annie Barnett received a silver medal for her cheese of Cheshire make. The cream cheese class made a very large entry, but the all-round quality could not be considered as being of the highest order of merit, and the lady judges did not add to the general advancement of the class by their selections. Miss M. K. Harris, Dorset, secured first. Soft cheese was even worse than cream cheese, and the indifferent specimens shown bore ample testimony to the fact that it will be a long time before the chief Continental makes of soft cheese will be ousted from our markets. There was one matter of satisfaction, that was that the judge was not expected to eat and digest his borings in search of the winner in the class for cheese made from machine skimmed milk. These would have been handy to the War Office—the cheese might have been used for cannon balls, and the borings for bullets. A facetious critic remarked that there would be an excellent market for them as brake blocks when leather runs short. The first prize was taken by a Glasgow firm. The cheese fair, as usual, attracted a very good entry, and subsequently some very satisfactory prices were realised in the Cheddar section. Here Mr. T. C. Candy's twenty cheeses confirmed his success in the truckle class; they were firm and clean cutting, and very uniform in flavour. Mr. A. Osborne followed up his Frome successes by securing second and third with cheese of firmer texture, yet lacking the necessary mellowness; fourth was won by one of Mr. Candy's former pupils, Mr. F. W. J. Crocker, Dorset; whilst that well-known Dorset winner Mr. Henry White had to be content with being fifth. Then a few of the novice honours were allowed to go to Scotland, Mr. Thomas Wither, Stranraer, taking reserve, and Mr. David Hood highly commended; the other highly commended mention went to Mr. Herbert P. Tucker, Wiltshire.

The class of Stiltons or Wensleydales in the cheese fair competition was neither a large nor an attractive one, the judge only awarding two out of the three prizes offered. Mr. Henry Morris was an easy first with a better cheese than he had in the Stilton class proper; being young it was scarcely even moulded. The cheese, as a whole would scarcely be considered as approaching the high level reached in some previous years.

Butter.

Though the entries of butter fell off somewhat, still the general quality would compare favourably with previous years. The dairy students of the B.D.F.A. only mustered ten entries in their class, a most inadequate number, but it was of a generally good quality. Miss C. M. B. McDuff, Blenheim Dairy, Woodstock, leading the way.

There was a large entry in the class for butter perfectly free from salt, the produce of Channel Island cattle and their crosses. The first prizes were won by the Earl of Rosebery, whose exhibit was soft but of nice flavour; Miss M. K. Harris, Dorset, whose sample cut holey, and Lord Poltimore, whose exhibit was of superb quality; seconds went to Miss Abbis, whose butter was sweet though high coloured; S. F. Berry for a nice grained butter with a strongish flavour, and to Lord Rothschild, whose exhibits were rather soft. All three of the thirds had a most decided tendency to sourness, a most undesirable feature in prize butter. The class for butter slightly salted, made from similar breeds of cattle to the preceding class, brought out a more marketable type of butter. The Earl of Rosebery again secured one of the firsts with a creamy, beautiful sample, Mrs. Charles Hayes's first being also very nice and creamy flavoured, Lord Poltimore's being excellently made. As regards the seconds, Mr. W. G. M. Townley made a splendid butter with a nice salty sprackness. Mr. E. Abiss' exhibit was very rich and deep coloured, Mr. A. F. Somerville's being also a trifle salty. The thirds in this class were also very good.



Mr. A. Gibbs' Jersey Cow "Buttercup III.," First Prize Inspection Class, Certificate of Merit, Butter Test.

The class for butter perfectly free from salt made from Shorthorns and other crosses brought out a most undesirable lot of sour and strong butters, even one of the first prize selections being quite sour on the first day of the show, the judges withholding another first. Lord Poltimore's exhibit stood far and away at the head of the class, the Hon. A. Holland-Hibbert's taking the other first. Mr. Henry Landon's second prize lot was creamy, but the other two second prize lots had a most decided tendency to acidity, and it seemed rather strange that a nice creamy exhibit like that of Mrs. Hayes should only secure a third in this class.

In the class for slightly salted, made from Shorthorns and crosses, two of the firsts were again sweet and the other one sour, whereas all the three seconds were very nice and of even quality, whilst a couple of sours found their way in amongst the thirds. The scalded cream class did not attract an overlarge entry, the Duke of Marlborough winning with a well-made firm butter, the Earl of Rosebery being second, and Lord Rothschild third. The Irishmen are determined to hold their position in the Agricultural Hall, and yearly their butter becomes much more uniform, though this is gained by a general increase of insipidness or lack of flavour. Of really bad or strong samples there were remarkably few. Nearly all the prizes in this section were taken by Irish co-operative societies, the Irvinstone being very successful.

The fancy butter classes are again gaining in numbers, but it can scarcely be said in artistic skill as well. Many of the competitors think that by colouring their butter they improve its appearance, whereas by so doing they make the petals of flowers appear thick and also to lose their lightness and semi-transparency. The first prize in the class for fancy or ornamental design in butter, with foliage or other extraneous decoration, was won by the Sussex Dairy Company with a handsome epergne of roses and ferns; but why introduce pods of peas? Mrs. R. Giddings took second with a very neat and well-made exhibit. Amongst the other exhibits was a model of Hornsey Church, stained-glass windows and all; and another showed a medallion of Lord Roberts mounted on a charger. If this was to be taken as a correct representation of "Bobs," he has been to the wars indeed on a charger that has literally gone to pieces, especially about the legs, one of the hind legs being evidently copied from human instead of equine anatomy. The class for fancy butter without extraneous decoration was marred by the sun shining full on the exhibits, and amongst these a desire for moulded, as against hand work, was very apparent. The prize-winning floral harp, the work of Mr. Townley's dairymaid, was far and away the best in the class, and this makes her first for three years in succession. It appears a pity that the Council have struck out the conditions under which the butter was made in various classes, this information to be made by the exhibitor. By its means the value of dairy crosses could be seen, and the stead advancement of the separator or other methods of dairying shown.

Bacon and Hams.

Pigs are directly connected with dairy farming, as consumers of its bye-products, but they could not be accommodated at the Dairy Show, so their cured carcases were allowed to represent them, and the entry of these was nearly twice as large as it was last year. The classes were well filled, the chief prize-winners being the Wiltshire Bacon Factory, Trowbridge; Mr. John Wyatt, of Redfield, Bristol; and Mr. Joseph Smith, of Cummersdale, near Carlisle. The Lord Mayor's cup for bacon was won by the smoked exhibit of Messrs. Bowyer, Philpott, and Payne, and that for hams by the York hams shown by Messrs. John Adamson and Co., Aldgate.

Bread.

Skim milk bread was remarkably well represented.

Honey.

There was an excellent show of honey, though the entries in some of the classes were not so numerous as on former occasions. Mr. J. P. W. Lightfoot succeeded in taking the first prize for twelve jars of medium coloured extracted honey, and the first prize for twelve sections of heather honey. The silver medal given by the British Beekeepers' Association for an exhibit of articles of food or medicine, in which honey is an ingredient, was won by Mr. F. Walker, of Gerard Street, Derby, whose exhibit was both interesting and instructive.

New Inventions.

The implement division was well filled, as usual, but there was a striking lack of new inventions. There were a few improved machines and other dairy appliances, but nothing that could be described as an absolute novelty. In the competitive classes for dairy vehicles, Messrs. Day and Monk, of Clapton; Hayes and Son, of City Road; and Vipan and Headley, of Leicester, were the most successful exhibitors. The cart for dairy farmers' use, with which Messrs. Vipan and Headley gained a first prize, is a model of what is required.

One of the most remarkable in the new invention class was the cream separator, the Little Gem, shown by Messrs. Vipan and Headley, of Leicester, which gained a gold medal at the Pau Exhibition.

Silver medals for new inventions were granted to Messrs. Allan and Barker for an oil engine, and to Messrs. Thomas Bradford and Co. for a new pattern Anglo-Hibernian churn for butter factories.

Roots.

Considering that the root crops are this year better than they have been for some time, the number of entries in this department was rather disappointing, the total being 129, against 139 last year and 149 in 1898. The quality, however, was very good, there being many mangolds and turnips of immense size. The first prizes for six specimens of long mangolds and six specimens of globe mangolds were both taken by Mr. J. Perry, of The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York. Mr. J. Reid, of Mid Sanquhar, Ayr, took the first prize for swede turnips, and Mrs. C. McIntosh, Havering Park, Romford, was successful in gaining the chief honours for the collection of roots for cattle feeding.

Poultry.

There was a very large collection of poultry and pigeons, though the entries, owing to the restricted space at the disposal of the Society, were hardly so numerous as in previous shows. The champion cup, given by the Lord Mayor for the best pen of Minorcas, Andalusians, and Leghorns, was carried off by Mr. A. Tucker, of Brampford Speke, Exeter; and the champion cup given by Spratts for the best pen of Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, and Orpingtons was won by Mr. J. Partington, of The Woodlands, Lytham.

First-class representatives and agents required throughout the United Kingdom for the sale of "Molassine." Write for particulars to the "Molassine" Co., Ltd., 5, Mark Lane, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

THE DAIRY SHOW: MILKING TESTS.

Class and Variety	Class 1.—Shorthorns.										Class 2.—Shorthorns, not eligible for Class 1.								Class 3.—Jerseys.								Class 4.—Guernseys.							
Name of owner and animal	Lady Henry Bentinck's Heroine III.		Mr. J. T. Hobbs's Musical 86.		Mr. A. Henderson's Verona VII.		Lord Rothschild's Lady Rosedale.		Lord Rothschild's Olivette Ingram.		Mrs. Bonest's Granny.		Mr. E. Dawe's Cherry.		Mr. J. Evens' Chance.		Lady Henry Bentinck's Mercer.		Lord Rothschild's Sultane 14th		Dr. Watney's Queen Bess of Ruthven.		Viscount Enfield's Gloaming IV.		Mrs. W. Barron's Lady Fussy.		Mr. H. M. Ozanne's Lady Roberts.		Mrs. A. Baillie Hamilton's Florence VI.		Mr. E. A. Hambro's Arabella.		Mr. H. M. Ozanne's Daisy des Vinnees.	
No. of Calves	—		—		—		3.		—		—		—		—		—		—		6.		—		6.		4.		—		—		11.	
Age	5y. 11m. 2w.		6y. 7m. 1w.		7yrs. 3ms.		8y. 4m. 3w.		6y. 5m. 3w.		9 yrs.		5.		6 yrs.		Unknown.		12y. 2m. 3w.		7y. 6m. 1w.		6y. 9m. 3w.		7y. 5m. 1w.		5y. 6m. 2w.		6y. 6m. 3w.		6y. 6m. 3w.		13 years.	
Last calved	Aug. 10.		Sept. 23.		Mar. 1.		Aug. 22.		Sept. 12.		Sept. 6.		8 yrs. 8m.		Sept. 16.		Sept. 9.		January 26.		May 26.		May 6.		August 26.		Sept. 20.		June 26.		Sept. 12.		Sept. 20.	
Days since calving	61.		16		222.		48.		27.		33		June 28. 103.		23		30.		256.		136.		156.		44.		19		103		27		19	
	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.
Weight of milk—first day	27·5	24·6	22·0	20·2	19·	20·5	27·0	25·0	20·5	18·0	37.4	35·0	29·8	25·3	28·7	29·5	27·7	27·8	21·2	19·6	20·5	19·6	15·8	13.8	21·3	20·8	21·9	19·3	18·5	15·5	22·6	20·4	21·5	18·4
" —second day	27·7	25·0	25·0	23·3	18·7	22·5	24·3	19·5	23·0	19·5	36·4	31·7	31·5	24·5	31·5	30·3	29·7	26·2	22·4	20·3	20·3	18·5	16·5	15·0	21·5	16·7	22·7	23·0	19·8	17·7	23·5	21·5	21·3	18·8
Total	55·2	49·6	47·0	43·5	37·7	43·0	51·3	44·5	43·5	37·5	73·8	66.7	61·3	49·8	60·2	59·8	57·4	54·0	43·6	39·9	40·8	38·1	2·3	28·8	42·8	37·5	44·6	42·3	38·3	33·2	46·1	41·9	42·8	37·2
Average	27·6	24·8	23·5	21·7	18·8	21·5	25·6	22·2	21·7	18·7	36·9	33·3	30·6	24·9	30·1	29·9	28·7	27·0	21·8	19·9	20·4	19·0	16·1	14.4	21·4	18·7	22·3	21·1	19·1	16·6	23·0	20·9	21·4	18·6
Percentage com- { Fat	3·31	4·15	3·16	3·25	2·77	3·92	2·92	4·00	3·04	3·36	3·00	4·02	4·28	3·83	3·25	3·92	3·30	4·74	4·08	5·7	44·68	4·86	6·76	6·71	4·03	4·74	3·94	4·58	4·86	4·84	3·59	4·02	3·92	4·61
position of the { Other solids	8·35	8·27	9·22	9·39	8·91	8·94	9·12	8·96	9·08	8·76	9·06	8·82	9·14	8·71	8·89	8·94	8·90	8·84	9·56	9·30	9·18	8·84	9·64	9·43	9·23	8·82	9·58	9·46	9·44	9.16	8·61	8·70	9·44	9·23
milk { Solids	11·16	12·42	12·38	12·64	11·68	12·86	12·04	12·96	12·12	12·12	12·04	12·84	13·42	12·54	12·14	12·86	12·20	13.58	13·64	15·04	13·86	13·70	16·40	16·14	13·26	13·56	13·52	14·04	14·30	14·00	12·20	12·72	13·36	13·84
Actual weight of fat, in lbs.	·92	1·06	·74	·70	·52	·84	·75	0·89	·66	·63	1·10	1·34	1·32	0·95	·98	1·18	.95	1·28	·89	1·14	·96	·93	1·04	·97	·86	·89	·88	·79	·93	·97	·83	·84	·84	·86
Calculation of points (multiply by 20)	18·40	21·20	14·80	14·00	10·4	16·8	15·00	17·80	13·20	12·60	22·0	26·8	26·4	19·0	19·68	23·6	19·00	25·6	17·8	22·8	19·2	18·6	21·8	19.14	17·2	17·8	17·6	19·4	18.6	19.4	16·6	16·8	16·8	17·2
Actual weight of solids, other than fat in lbs.	2·30	2·06	2·16	2·04	1·68	1·93	2·34	2·00	1·97	1·64	3·34	2·94	2·80	2·18	2·68	2·65	2·56	2·38	2·08	1·85	1·87	1·68	1·55	1·36	1 99	1·65	2·14	2·00	1.80	1·52	1·98	1·82	2·00	1·71
Calculation of points (multiply by 4)	9·2	8·2	8·6	8·2	6·7	7·7	9·3	8·0	7·9	6·5	13·36	11·76	11·20	8·72	10·72	10·72	10 24	9·52	8·32	7·40	7·48	6·72	6·20	5.44	7·96	6·60	8·5	8·0	7·2	6·08	7·9	7·28	8·00	6·8
Points. For time since calving		2·1		—		14·		·8		—		—		6·3		—		—		14·0		9·6		11·6		·4		—		6·3		—		—
Points. For weight of milk		52·4		45·2		40·3		47·18		40·4		70·2		55·5		60.0		55·7		41·7		39·4		30·5		40·1		43·4		35·7		43·9		40·0
Points. For weight of fat		39·6		28·8		27·2		32·8		25·8		48·8		45·4		43·2		44·6		40·6		37·8		41·2		35·0		37.0		38·6		33·4		34·0
Points. For weight of solids other than fat		17·4		16·8		14·4		17·3		14·4		25·1		19·9		21·4		19·7		15·7		14·2		11·6		14·5		10·5		13·3		15·2		14·8
Total		111·5		90·8		95·		98·7		80·6		144·1		127·1		124·6		120·0		112·0		101·1		94·9		90·0		96·9		93·3		92·5		88·8
Deductions		20·0		—		10·		10.0		—		—		—		—		—		—		—		—		—		—		—		—		—
Points gained		91·5		90·8		85·9		88·7		80·6		144·1		127·1		124·6		120·0		112·0		101·1		94·9		90·0		96·9		93·3		92·5		88·8
Remarks	1st prize and Shorthorn Society's prize.		2nd prize.		Reserve.		3rd prize.		Reserve for Shorthorn Society's prize.		1st and Lord Mayor's Cup.		2nd and r for Lord Mayor's Cup.		3rd.		Reserve.		1st prize and Lord Mayor's Cup.		2nd and r. for Lord Mayor's Cup.		3rd prize.		Reserve.		1st prize.		2nd prize.		3rd prize.		Reserve.	

Milking Tests—*Continued.*

Class and Variety	Class 5.—Red Polls.								Class 7.—Kerries and Dexters.								Class 8.—Other Breeds.								Class 20.—Goats.							
Name of owner and animal	Lord Rothschild's Duchess I.		Lord Rothschild's Ladylike II.		Mr. A. J. Smith's Peach Leaf VI.		Mr. A. J. Smith's Fanny II.		Duchess of Newcastle's Bounce.		Mrs. E. A. Leatham's Martha.		Duchess of Newcastle's Shamrock II.		Mr. B. de Bertodano's Cowbridge Dove Lost.		Mr. C. Birdsey's Winifred.		Mr. A. Merry's Dorothy.		Mr. J. F. Spencer's Blue Bell.		Mr. A. Merry's Fanny.		Mr. R. Walker's Queen Regent.		Mr. R. Walter's Trixie.		Mr. J. G. Dawson's Ginney.		Baroness Burdett-Coutts's Beechnut.	
No. of calves	4.		—		9		3		—		—		—		—		3.		5.		—		—		—		—		13.		—	
Age	5y. 6m. 1w.		6y. 7m. 2w.		8y. 1m. ow.		4y. 7m. 0w.		8 yrs. 7 mos.		8 years.		4yrs. 4mos.		3yrs. 4mos.		6 years.		5 years.		5 years.		8 years.		2 y. 6 m.		5 y. 5 m.		6 y. 5 m.		4y. 5m.	
Last calved	Sept. 20.		Aug. 14.		Aug. 24.		Sept 9.		Aug. 30.		Aug. 12.		Aug. 24.		Sept. 23.		Sept. 23.		Aug. 2.		Aug. 3.		Sept. 29.		Mar. 4.		Sept. 1.		May 22		April 22.	
Days since calving	19		56		46		30		40.		58.		46.		16.		16		68.		67.		10		219.		38.		140.		170.	
	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.
Weight of milk—first day	22·1	24·3	24·5	22·0	21·4	16·2	18.4	21·0	21·7	17·16	41·7	15·6	15·9	14·6	15·0	12·4	24·7	23.7	25·5	23·7	29·0	25.2	18·8	16·0	3·4	1·8	4·3	2·5	2·4	1·5	3·7	2·2
" —second day	24·2	22·8	25·2	23.8	22·7	21·2	21·2	19·2	21·2	19·6	14·7	16·0	16·7	15·0	17·3	14·8	26·6	24.4	25·8	24·7	25·5	24·9	22·5	20·0	3·1	2·6	3·7	3·3	1·5	2·0	3·4	2·7
Total	46.3	47·1	49·7	45·8	44·1	37·4	39·6	40·2	42·9	37·2	29 4	31·6	32·6	29·6	32·3	27·2	51·3	48·1	51·3	48·4	54·5	50·1	41·3	36·0	6·5	4·4	8·0	5·8	3·9	3·5	7·1	4·9
Average	23·1	23·5	24·8	22·9	22·0	18·7	19·8	20·1	21·4	18·6	14·7	15·8	16·3	14·8	16·1	13·6	25·6	24.0	25·6	24·2	27·2	25·0	20·6	18·0	3·2	2·2	4·0	2·9	1.9	1·7	3·5	2·4
Percentage of com- { Fat	3·07	4·78	3·43	3·42	5·02	3·09	3·40	4·68	3·9	4·06	3·50	5·15	3·48	4·50	4·43	4·16	4·09	4·23	3·57	4·12	3·35	2·78	5·82	4·39	7·84	7 89	4·94	5·83	5·90	7.24	3·77	3·86
position of the { Other solids	9·63	8·48	9·15	8·92	9·52	9 25	9·54	9·04	8·79	9·30	9·44	9·59	9·08	9·00	9 47	9·82	9·13	9·11	8·35	8·56	8·83	8·92	9·58	9·81	9·43	9·45	9·10	9·15	9·84	9·94	8·89	8·78
milk { Solids	12·10	13·26	12·58	12·34	14·54	12·34	12·94	13·72	12·69	13·36	12·94	14·74	12·56	13·50	13·90	13·98	13·22	13·34	11·92	12·68	12·18	11·70	15·40	14·20	17·28	17·34	14·04	14·98	15·74	17·18	12·66	12·64
Actual weight of fat in lbs.	·71	1·15	·85	·78	1·10	·58	·67	·94	·83	·75	·51	·81	·57	0·67	0·71	0·56	1·05	1·02	0·91	1·00	·91	·70	1·20	·79	·250	·173	·198	·170	·112	·122	1·34	·093
Calculation of points (multiply by 20)	14·2	23·0	17·0	15·6	22·0	11·6	13·4	18·8	16·6	15·0	10·2	16·2	11.4	13·4	14·2	11·2	21·0	20·4	18·2	20·0	18·2	14·0	24·0	15·8	5·00	3·46	3·96	3·40	2·24	2·44	·268	1·86
Actual weight of solids other than fat in lbs.	2·00	2·00	2·27	2·04	2.10	1·73	1·89	1·81	1·88	1·73	1·39	1·52	1·48	1·33	1·53	1·34	2·34	2.20	2·10	2·07	2·39	2·22	1·97	1·76	·310	·208	3·64	·264	·187	·168	·310	·210
Calculation of points (multiply by 4)	8·32	8·00	9·08	8·16	8·4	6·9	7·56	7.24	7·52	6·92	5·56	6·08	5·92	5·32	6·12	5·36	9·36	8 8	8·4	8·28	9·56	8·88	7·9	7·0	1·24	·83	1·456	1·056	·748	672	1·24	·84
Points. For time since calving		—		1·6		·6		—		—		1·8		0·6		—		—		2·8		2·7		—		8·0		0·7		4·8		6·0	
Points. For weight of milk		16·6		47·7		40·7		39·9		40·0		30·5		31·1		29·7		49·6		49·8		52·2		38·6		5·4		6·9		3·6		5·9
Points. For weight of fat		37·2		32·6		33·6		32·2		31·6		26·4		24·8		25·4		41·4		38·2		32·2		39·8		8·4		7·3		4·7		4·5	
Points. For wt. of solids other than fat		16·3		17·2		15·3		14·8		14·4		11·6		11·2		11·5		18·1		16·7		18·4		14·9		2·1		2·5		1·4		2·1	
Total		100·1		99·1		90·2		86·9		86·0		70·3		67·7		66·6		109·1		107·5		105.5		93. 3		23·9		17.4		14·5		18·5	
Deductions		—		—		—		—		—		—		—		—		—		10·0		10		—		—		—		—		4·0	
Points gained		101·1		99·1		90·2		86·9		86·0		70·3		67·7		66·6		109·1		97·5		95.5		93.3		23·9		17·4		14·5		14·5	
Remarks	1st and r Lord Mayor's Cup.		2nd.		3rd		Reserve.		1st.		2nd prize.		3rd		Reserve.		1st prize, & L.M. Cup.		2nd prize.		3rd prize.		Reserve.		1st and champion.		2nd.		3rd and reserve champion.		Reserve.	

Judges.

MILKING TRIALS

Wm. Ashcroft, 13, The Waldrons, Croydon; Primrose McConnell, Ongar Park Hall, Ongar, Essex; F. J. Lloyd, Museum House, 6, Trinity Square, E.C.

BUTTER TESTS

Ernest Mathews, Chequers Mead, Potter's Bar.

CATTLE

SHORTHORNS.—J. P. Terry, Berry Field, Aylesbury.

JERSEYS.—Hon. A. E. Parker, Deeside, Bangor-on-Dee, Wrexham.

GUERNSEYS.—Christopher Middleton, Marton, Middlesbro'.

KERRIES, DEXTERS, AND OTHER BREEDS.—F. N. Webb, Babraham, Cambridge.

GROUPS OF CATTLE.—Messrs. J. P. Terry, Hon. A. E. Parker, and F. N. Webb.

GOATS

W. K. Taunton, 82, Hatton Garden, E.C.

CHEESE

CHEDDAR.—James Hudson, jun., 52, Ludgate Hill, E.C.; Professor Drummond, Scottish Dairy Institute, Kilmarnock.

CHESHIRE, DOUBLE AND SINGLE GLOUCESTER, CAERPHILLY, WILTSHIRE, LANCASHIRE, AND SKIM-MILK CHEESE.—W. G. Oakey (Messrs. Spear Bros. and Clark), Bristol.

STILTON AND WENSLEYDALE.—Mrs. Nuttall, The Grange, Wigston, Leicester.

BACON AND HAMS

D. Hayden, 50, Aldersgate Street, E.C.

BUTTER.

A. T. Loram, Cathedral Dairy, Exeter; Miss A. A. Campion (Hampshire County Council), The Castle, Winchester; H. Griffith, 64, Kensington High Street, W.; Miss Estcourt, Pidford, Rookley, Isle of Wight; J. S. Aplin (Messrs. Aplin and Barrett), Yeovil; Howard Kingham (William Kingham and Sons), Reading.

CHEESE.

CREAM CHEESE, BRITISH SOFT CHEESE, CREAM AND ORNAMENTAL BUTTER.—Miss Campion and Miss Estcourt (see above).

COLLECTIONS OF DAIRY PRODUCE.—Professor Drummond (see above).

SKIM-MILK BREAD, AND SCONES.

James Leighton, The Lawn, 137, Tulse Hill, S.W.

HONEY, ETC.

P. Scattergood, Prospect Villa, Stapleford, Notts; W. F. Reid, Field Side, Addlestone, Surrey.

BUTTER-MAKING CONTESTS.

Professor Carroll, Albert Model Farm, Glasnevin, Dublin. (Champion contest only); Miss Campion (Hampshire County Council), The Castle, Winchester; Miss Estcourt, Pidford, Rookley, Isle of Wight; Professor Drummond, Scottish Dairy Institute, Kilmarnock; H. A. Howman, 2, North Villa, Montpellier, Gloucester.

NEW AND IMPROVED INVENTIONS AND VEHICLES.

Professor Blundell, Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester; W. P. Stapleforth, 146 and 148, St. Sepulchre Gate, Doncaster.

MILKERS AND ROOTS.

Christopher Middleton, Marton, Middlesbro'

Special and Champion Prizes.

Barham challenge cup, value £50, for the cow gaining the greatest number of points in the milking trials: Mrs. Bonest, Manor Farm, Mentmore, Leighton Buzzard (Granny); r, Mr. E. Dawe, Russell Farm, Wendover, Tring (Cherry).

Champion cup, value five guineas, for the best Shorthorn in the milking trials: Mrs. Bonest (Granny); r, Mr. E. Dawe (Cherry).

Champion cup, value five guineas, for the best Jersey or Guernsey in the milking trials: Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Tring (Sultane 14th); r, Dr. H. Watney, Buckhold, Pangbourne (Queen Bess of Ruthven).

Champion cup, value five guineas, for the best cow of any other breed or cross in the milking trials: Mr. Charles Birdsey, Southcott Farm, Leighton Buzzard (Winifred); r, Lord Rothschild (Duchess I.).

Shorthorn Society's prize of £10, for the cow exhibited in Class 1 gaining most points on inspection and in milking trials: Lady Henry Bentinck, Underley Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale (Sowerby Isabella); r, Lord Rothschild (Olivette Ingram).

Blythwood challenge bowl, for the best Jersey cow or heifer, in milk, in any of the Jersey classes, bred in Great Britain or Ireland: Mr. Antony Gibbs, Tyntesfield, Bristol (Buttercup III.); r, Lady de Rothschild, Aston Clinton, Tring (Carol).

Special prize of £30, offered by a member of the English Jersey Cattle Society, for the cow, of any age or breed, yielding the greatest weight of butter at any of the two following shows in 1900, viz., Bath and West, Tring, and Lendell Dairy Show: Mr. E. Dawe (Cherry); r, Viscount Enfield, Dancers Hill, South Myers, Middlesex (Gloaming IV.).

British Goat Society's ten guinea challenge cup, for the best she goat in the adult classes that has borne a kid: Mr. Bryan Hook, Beefolds, Farnham (Uma).

Champion cup, value five guineas, for the best goat: Mr. Bryan Hook (Uma).

Champion cup, value five guineas, for the best exhibit in the cheese fair: Mr. T. C. Cauley, Woolcombe Farm, Cattistock, Dorset.

Champion cup, value five guineas, for the best exhibit of bacon: Messrs. Adye and Henwood, Malmesbury, Wilts.

Champion cup, value five guineas, for the best exhibit of hams: Messrs. J. Adamson and Co., 2, Jewry Street, Aldgate, E.

British Bee-keepers' Association's special prizes: Silver medal, Mr. Francis Walker, 64, Gerard Street, Derby; bronze medal, Mr. W. Woodley, Beedon, Newbury; certificate of merit, Mr. F. R. Ford, Burwell, Cambs.

Champion cup, value five guineas, for winner in the champion butter-making contest: Miss M. K. Harris, Brownsell Farm, Stourton, Caundle, Stalbridge, Dorset.

Prize List.

COWS.

SHORTHORNS.

Class 1.—1, Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Tring, Herts (Olivette Ingram); 2, Lady Henry Bentinck, Underley Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale (Heroine III.); 3, Capt. W. H. O. Duncombe, Waresley Park, Sandy (Red Robe); r, Lord Rothschild (Lady Rosedale); hc, Mr. Geo. H. Proctor, Flass House, Durham (Bella).

Class 2.—Shorthorn cows, not eligible for Class 1: 1, Mr. J. F. Spencer, Hornsey Lane Farm, Highgate, N. (Molly Mare); 2, Mr. J. F. Spencer (Model Maid); 3, Lady Henry Bentinck (Mercer); r, Mr. John Evens, Burton, near Lincoln (Chance); hc, Mr. J. F. Spencer (Letty Lind); Mr. Edward Dawe, Russell Farm, Wendover, Tring (Cherry); c, Mr. Geo. J. Wimlett, 9, Wood Street, Stratford-on-Avon (Cowslip); Mr. Charles Birdsey, Southcott Farm, Leighton Buzzard (Flower).

JERSEYS.

Class 3.—Entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, Mr. Antony Gibbs, Tyntesfield, Bristol (Buttercup III.); 2, Mr. Antony Gibbs (Lass of Jersey II.); 3, Lord Rothschild (Sultane 14th); r, Mr. R. P. Pope, J.P., Beresford Manor, Plumpton, Sussex (Beresford Darkie); hc, Mr. David Mutton (Goody Two Shoes); Mr. David Mutton (Brighton Queen); Mrs. C. McIntosh, Havering Park, Essex (Fairy); Mrs. Walter Barron, Taplow House, Bucks (Lady Fussy).

GUERNSEYS.

Class 4.—Entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, Mr. Henry M. Ozanne, Lilyvale, Castel, Guernsey (Daisy des Vinaires); 2, Hon. Mrs. A. Baillie Hamilton, Burley Lodge, Ringwood, Hants (Jessie X.); 3, Mr. Henry M. Ozanne (Lady Roberts); r, Mr. E. A. Hambro, Hayes Place Farm, Hayes, Kent (Arabella 3226); hc, Mr. Henry M. Ozanne (Rose of Gold); Mr. H. Fitzwalter Plumptre, Goodnestone, near Dover (Lady Ashurst); c, Hon. Mrs. A. Baillie Hamilton (Florence V.).

RED POLLS.

Class 5.—Entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, Mr. James E. Platt, Howbury Hall, near Bedford (Bud II.); 2, Lord Rothschild (Ladylike II.); 3, Mr. Alfred J. Smith, Rendlesham, Woodbridge, Suffolk (Fanny II.); r, Mr. James E. Platt (Gal II.); vhc, Lord Rothschild (Duchess I.).

KERRIES AND DEXTERS.

KERRIES

Class 7.—Entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, and 2, Duchess of Newcastle, Clumber, Worksop (Shamrock II. and Bounce); r and hc, Express Dairy Co., Ltd., College Farm, Finchley (Cowslip); hc, Duchess of Newcastle (Sheen V.); Express Dairy Co., Ltd. (Gwyther); c, Express Dairy Co., Ltd. (Kildare).

DEXTERS.

1, Mrs. E. A. Leatham, Hinton House, Brackley (Martha); 2, Mr. E. Sydney Woodiwiss, Westbury Farm, Upminster, Essex (Cypria); r, Mr. B. de Bertodano, Cowbridge House, Malmesbury, Wilts (Cowbridge Love Lost); vhc, Mrs. Paisley, Waresley, Sandy (Stolen Love); hc, Mr. B. de Bertodano (Cowbridge Tiny Ann); c, Mrs. Paisley (Waresley Surprise).

COWS NOT ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE IN THE PRECEDING CLASSES.

Class 8.—1, Mr. A. Merry, Southcourt Farm, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. (Fanny); 2, Mr. Geo. J. Wimlett, 9, Wood Street, Stratford-on-Avon (Buttercup); 3, Mr. J. F. Spencer, Hornsey Lane Farm, Highgate, N. (Blue Bell); r, Mr. A. Merry (Dorothy); hc, Mr. Charles Birdsey, Southcott Farm, Leighton Buzzard (Pansy and Winifred).

HEIFERS.

Class 9.—Shorthorn heifer, in milk, entered in Coates's Herd Book, or certified by the secretary of the Shorthorn Society to be eligible for entry: 1, Captain W. H. O. Duncombe (Belle of Waresley); 2, Lord Rothschild (Darlington Cranford V.).

Class 11.—Jersey heifer, in milk, bred in Great Britain or Ireland, entered in or eligible for entry in the Herd Book: 1, Lady de Rothschild, Aston Clinton, Tring (Carol); 2, Mr. A. F. Perkins, Oakdene, Hunwood, Seaton, Devon (Miss Myra); 3, Lady de Rothschild (Golden Grain); r and hc, Mrs. Walter Barron, Taplow House, Bucks (Dora VI.); c, Lady de Rothschild (Patience); Mr. A. E. McMullen, North Road House, Hereford (Brilliant).

Class 12.—Jersey heifer, in milk, bred in the Channel Islands, entered in or eligible for entry in the Jersey or English Jersey Herd Book: 1, Mr. A. E. McMullen (Bernice); 2, Mr. J. Spencer Evans, The Close, Southampton (Hope); 3, Mr. Alexander Miller-Hallett, Grange, Chesterfield, Kent (Fame X.); r and hc, Mr. William Alexander, Les Marais, St. Mary's, Jersey (Reindeer); hc, Mr. J. Spencer Evans (Incl of Oaklands); Mr. J. E. Desreaux, Perry Farm, St. Mary's, Jersey (Blenerhill II.); c, Mr. Percival H. Fowler, Watford, Herts (Rose Bloom); Mr. William Alexander (Rose Princess 4th); Mr. John Pallot, Mount Pelier Farm, Trinity, Jersey (Cassandra); Mr. E. F. Alexander, St. Mary's, Jersey (Pridella); Mr. J. E. Desreaux (Agatha); Mr. Philip Le Brocq, La Chasse, St. Ouen's, Jersey (Duanna); Messrs. Fowler and de la Perrelle, Southampton (Viscount—Bloom Emma, and Patricia).

Class 13.—Guernsey heifer, in milk, entered in or eligible for entry in the Herd Book: 1, Mr. E. A. Hambro (Pretty Maid of the Gron); 2, Mr. E. A. Hambro (Hayes de S. Pieres 4087); 3, Mr. H. Fitzwalter Plumptre (La Richette VI.); r, Mr. E. A. Hambro (Lady No. 72).

Class 14.—Red Polled heifer, in milk, not eligible for entry in the preceding classes, entered in or eligible for entry in the Herd Book: 1, Lord Rothschild (Hester Red Rose); r and hc, Mr. Alfred J. Smith, Rendlesham, Woodbridge, Suffolk (Eyke Molly); vhc, Mr. James E. Platt, Howbury Hall, near Bedford (Lady Risky and Georgina Risky).

Class 15.—Any other heifer, in milk, not eligible to compete in previous classes: 1, Rumbal and Son, Upper Clapton Dairy Farm, Upper Clapton (Magpie); r and hc, Captain E. G. Mansel, Chinnor Hill, Wallingford, Oxon (Pansy); hc, Rumbal and Son (Mousy and Maggie).

GROUPS.

Class 16.—A group of three females (cows or heifers) in milk, of the same breed, eligible for the Herd Book of their respective breed, the property of and bred by the exhibitor. Animals in this class may be also entered in the respective classes for which they are eligible: 1, Mr. John Evens, Burton, near Lincoln (Burton Pansy, Burton Sissy, and Burton Primrose); r and vhc, Mr. David Mutton.

BULLS.

Class 17.—Shorthorn, twelve months old or over, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, Mr. G. F. King, Elm Park Farm, Chewton Keynsham, Bristol (Chewton Victor); 2, Lord Rothschild (Magna Charta).

Class 18.—Jersey, twelve months old or over, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, Colonel W. A. Hankey, Beaulieu, St. Leonard's-on-Sea (Tweedledum); 2, Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Herts (Butter Test); 3, Mr. Anthony Gibbs (Dulce's Lad); r, Mrs. C. McIntosh (Why Not); hc, Colonel W. A. Hankey (Tweedledee); Mr. Cecil F. Dixon, Jersey Farm, Nursling, Southampton (Reminder's Egyptian); Captain A. B. S. Fraser (Perry Farm Reminder).

Class 19.—Bull of any other pure breed, twelve months old and over, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, Mr. Alfred J. Smith, Rendlesham, Woodbridge, Suffolk (Eyke Don); Mr. E. Sydney Woodiwiss, Westbury Farm, Upminster, Essex (Redmarley); Mr. Frank Hargreaves, Merton Grange, Gamlingay, Cambs. (Kimberley); Mr. John Evens, Burton, Lincoln (Royal Burton).

GOATS

Class 21.—She-goats, that have won three or more first prizes in classes other than kids or goatlings on or before September 16, 1900: 1, Mr. Bryan Hook, Beefolds, Farnham (Uma); r, Sir Humphrey F. de Trafford, Bart., Hill Crest, Market Harboro' (Sunbright); vhc, Mr. R. Walter, South Street, Ponders End (Trixie).

Class 22.—Toggenburg she-goats (pure or half-bred), not eligible for Class 21: 1, Mr. Bryan Hook, Beefolds, Farnham (Gazelle); 2, Mr. C. A. Gates (Dorothy); 3, Mr. C. A. Gates, Oakdean, Ryde's Hill, Guildford (Mellissa); r, Mrs. Cokayne, Exeter House, Roehampton, S.W. (Primrose); vhc, Mr. H. R. Harrild, Westwood, West Hill, Sydenham (Skip); Mr. H. Greenway, Bylands, Redbourne, Herts (The Black Arrow).

Class 23.—Horned she-goats, not eligible for Classes 21 or 22: 1, Mr. J. G. Dawson, Askes School, New Cross, S.E. (Ginney 901); vhc, Baroness Burdett-Coutts, Holly Lodge, Highgate (Amaranth); Mr. H. Greenway (Bergamotte).

Class 24.—Hornless she-goats, not eligible for Classes 21 or 22: 1, Baroness Burdett-Coutts (Beechnut); 2, Mr. R. Walter, South Street, Ponder's End (Queen Regent); vhc, Miss Ada C. Perkins (Peridita); hc, Baroness Burdett-Coutts (Cleopatra); c, Mr. H. R. Harrild, Westwood, West Hill, Sydenham (London Pride).

Class 25.—Goatlings (any variety), over twelve months and not over two years on October 1st, 1900: 1, Mr. R. Walter (Geisha Queen); 2, Mr. R. Walter (Ruby Queen); 3, Mr. C. A. Gates (Joan); r, Mr. C. A. Gates (Maida); vhc, Baroness Burdett-Coutts (Aubretia); hc, Mr. J. G. Dawson (Rhoda).

Class 26.—Female kids (any variety) not exceeding twelve months of age on October 1st, 1900: 1 and 2, Baroness Burdett-Coutts (Wild Sage and Wild Thyme); 3, Mr. Henry Tett, Cuckoo Hall Farm, Lower Edmonton (Ladysmith); r, Mr. C. A. Gates (Christine); vhc, Mr. H. Greenway, Bylands, Redbourne, Herts (Tugela).

BRITISH CHEESE

FOR MAKERS ONLY.

Class 27.—Cheddar, English or Scotch (four cheeses): 1, Mr. Hugh Hunter, Mossbeg, Muirshiine, Ayrshire; 2, Messrs. R. and C. Tucker, New Grounds, Steeple Ashton, Trowbridge; 3, Mr. W. J. Roe, Southtown, West Pennard, Somerset; 4, Mr. Alex. Cross, Knockdon, Maybole, Ayrshire; 5, Mr. Herbert E. Tucker, Steeple Ashton, Trowbridge, Wilts; r, Mr. Joseph Martin, Lottisham, Glastonbury; hc, Mr. James Wallace, Lochlea, Craigie, by Kilmarnock; Mr. Herbert H. Pickford, Stanton St. Bernard, Pewsey.

Class 28.—Cheddar (truckles of any cheeses): 1, Mr. T. C. Cauley, Woolcombe Farm, Cattistock, Dorset; 2, Mr. Walter W. Keel, Stratton Drew, Somerset; 3, Mr. Geo. Lester, Dairyfield Farm, Ash, Martock, Somerset.

Class 29.—Seven eight (cheeses): 1, Mr. Henry Meares, Manor Farm, Saxelbye, Melton Mowbray; 2, Mr. Andrew W. Hurst, Manor House, Beeby, Leicester; 3, Mrs. C. Fisbrother, Beeby, Leicester; r, Mr. E. T. Moore; c, Mr. Henry Meares.

Class 30.—Cheshire (four cheeses): 1, Mr. Thomas Mottershead, Wm. Hall, Wem, Salop; 2, Mr. Wm. Bromley Sayerfields, Market Drayton, Salop; 3, Mr. John Reynolds, Lowdales, Oswestry, Salop; r and hc, Mr. [illegible], Mr. Thomas Mottershead; Mr. Wm. Moore; c, Mr. Wm. Dutton, Broad Hay House, Nantwich; Mr. [illegible], Oswestry; Mr. James Hobson, [illegible], Nantwich.

Class 31.—Double Gloster (four cheeses, from 26lb. to 30lb. each): [illegible]; Mr. C. Hayward and Sons, Rodney Farm, Stratford; [illegible]; Mr. C. Cauley, Woolcombe Farm, Cattistock, Dorset; Mr. James Pearce, Lottisham, Glastonbury; r and c, Mr. N. J. Sons, Pitcome Farm, Bruton.

MESSRS. RUMBAL AND SON'S FIRST PRIZE HOLSTEIN HEIFER "MAGPIE."

Class 32.—Single Gloucester cheese, from 13lb. to 15lb. each, total weight not to exceed 60lb.): 1, Exors. of late Mr. Geo. Harris, Field Lane Farm, Cam, Dursley, Glos.; 2, Mr. C. W. Prout, Elm Court Farm, Cooley, Dursley, Glos.; 3, Mr. E. L. T. Austen, Wolford Fields, Shipston-on-Stour; r, Mr. E. L. T. Austen.

Class 34.—Lancashire (four cheeses): 1, Mr. William Knowles, Latus Hall, Goosnargh, Preston; r, Messrs. James and Frank Rayton, Hill Farm, Treales, near Kirkham.

Class 35.—Caerphilly (four cheeses, not exceeding 3lb. each): 1, Mr. Frederick House, Withy Grove, Huntspill, Bridgewater; 2, Mr. Jesse E. Hawkings, Berrow, Burnham, Somerset; 3, Mr. Edward Dibble, Breach, near Burnham, Somerset; r, Mr. William Beard, North Yeo Farm, Edingworth, Weston-super-Mare; hc, Mr. John Welch, Melsbury Farm, near Wells, Somerset; c, Miss Annie Thomas, Pen-y-bidd, Pembrey, South Wales.

Class 36.—Wiltshire (lard or flat), (eight cheeses, not over 10lb. each): 1, Mr. Samuel Jefferys, Naish House, Calne.

Class 37.—Wensleydale (Stilton-shaped or flat), (eight cheeses): 1, Mrs. John W. Spensley, Woodland Park, Aysgarth R.S.O., Wensleydale; c, Mr. Alfred Rowntree.

Class 38.—One cheese each of one or more varieties, made by holders of the Cheese-making Certificate or Diploma of the B.D.F.A.: 1, Miss Barnett, Sayerfields, Market Drayton, Salop.

Class 39.—Cream cheese, made from pure cream only; no milk or curd to be added (six cheeses): 1, Miss M. K. Harris, Brownsell Farm, Stourton Caundle, Stalbridge; 2, Mid-Sussex Dairy Co., Ltd., Sheffield Park Station, Lewes; 3, Mr. Thomas P. Cobden, Viables, Basingstoke; 4, Mrs. F. C. Loxton, The Creamery, Bath; r, Mr. Joseph Brown, The Creamery, Peterboro'.

Class 40.—Soft cheese, other than cream cheese (six cheeses): 1, Buxton Dairy, Dale Road, Buxton; 2, Miss E. G. Cook, Ashford Farm, Middlesex; r, Miss Robson, Havering, Romford; hc, Mr. C. F. Crouch, Nidderdale Dairy Co., Ltd., Birstwith, via Leeds.

Class 41.—Cheese made from machine-skimmed milk (six cheeses): r and silver medal, The Northern Creameries Ltd., 58, Bath Street, Glasgow.

CHEESE FAIR.

FOR MAKERS ONLY.

Class 42.—Cheddar, English or Scotch (twenty cheeses): 1, Mr. T. C. Candy; 2 and 3, Mr. A. Osborne, Mappowder, Blandford; 4, Mr. F. W. J. Crocker, Redford Farm, Batcombe, Castistock, Dorset; r, Mr. Thomas Wither, Awirk, Stranraer; hc, Mr. David A. Hood, Balgreddan, Kirkcudbright; Mr. Herbert E. Tucker.

Class 43.—Stilton or Wensleydale (thirty-six cheeses): 1, Mr Henry Morris; 2, Mrs. C. Fairbrother; c, Mr. Y. G. Veen, The Belvoir Vale Dairies, Harby, Melton Mowbray.

Class 44.—Collection of British and Colonial dairy produce: Gold medal, Messrs. Phillips and Tribe, 33, Cock Lane, Snow Hill, E.C.; silver medal, Messrs. Aplin and Barrett, Ltd., Yeovil.

BACON.

(Open to the curers only, residing in any part of the United Kingdom.)

Class 45.—Smoked: 1, Messrs. Adye and Hinwood, Malmesbury, Wilts; 2, West of England Bacon Curing Co., Ltd., Redruth, Cornwall; hc, Mr. J. E. Cottrell, Stert Street, Abingdon, Berks; c, West of England Bacon Curing Co., Ltd.

Class 46.—Pale dried: 1, Mr. J. Smith, Cummersdale, near Carlisle; 2, Messrs. Adye and Hinwood; hc, West of England Bacon Curing Co. Ltd.

HAMS

Class 47.—Smoked (other than Cumberland and York): 1, Mr. John Wyatt, Redfield, Bristol; 2, Messrs. Walter Mitchell and Sons, Ayr; vhc, Messrs. Bowyer, Philpott and Payne, Ltd.

Class 48.—Pale dried (other than Cumberland and York): 1, 2, and vhc, Messrs Palethorpes, Ltd., Dudley Port, Stuffs; hc, Mr John Wyatt.

Class 49.—Cumberland and York (pale dried or smoked): 1, Messrs. John Adamson and Co.; 2 and vhc, Mr. Joseph Smith; hc, Messrs. William Gunstone and Sons, Ltd., 42, Broad Street, Park, Sheffield.

BUTTER.

(Open to makers only, residing in any part of the United Kingdom.)

Class 50.—Fresh (perfectly free from salt): 1, Miss C. M. B. McDuff, Blenheim Dairy, Woodstock, Oxon; 2, Miss Crook, Mentmore, Leighton Buzzard; 3, Mrs. Crook, Mentmore, Leighton Buzzard; r, Miss M. K. Harris, Brownsell Farm, Stourton Caundle, Stalbridge; vhc, Miss M. E. Cordon, Warren Farm, Mickleham, Dorking; c, Miss Hilda C. Abbiss, Home Farm, Flitwick, Beds.

Class 51.—Butter (perfectly free from salt, the produce of Channel Islands cattle and their crosses: Equal 1, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G., Mentmore, Leighton Buzzard; Miss M. K. Harris; The Right Hon. Lord Poltimore, Poltimore Park, Exeter; equal 2, Mr. E. Abbiss, Home Farm, Flitwick, Beds; Mr. S. F. Berry; Lord Rothschild; equal 3, Mr. Wm. G. M. Townley, Hard Cragg, Grange-over-Sands, Lancs; Mr. Thos. P. Cobden; Mr. Thomas Shirley Gooch, Bovingdon, Hemel Hempstead; r and vhc, Mrs. L. R. Mildon, Higher Mead, Down, Rackenford, Devon; Mr. Thomas P. Cobden; Mr. S. F. Berry, Old Wellbury, Hitchin; hc, Mr. Alfred Berry, 22, Ballingdon Street, Sudbury, Suffolk; Mrs. Smith-Neill, Wendover Lodge, Wendover.

Class 52.—Butter (slightly salted, the produce of Channel Islands cattle and their crosses): Equal 1, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G.; Mr. Charles Hayes, Keyford House Farm, Frome, Somerset; The Right Hon. Lord Poltimore; equal 2, Mr. Wm. G. M. Townley, Hard Cragg, Grange-over-Sands, Lancs; Mr. E. Abbiss; equal 3, Lady de Rothschild; Mr. S. F. Berry; Mr. A. F. Somerville, Home Dairy Farm, Dinder, Wells, Somerset; His Grace the Duke of Sutherland, Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent; r and vhc, Mr. Hugh F. Seymour, Thornhill, East Grinstead; Lord Rothschild; Mr. Anthony Gibbs; hc, Mr. Richard Fowler, Broughton Farm, near Aylesbury, Bucks; Captain Laycock, Wiseton Hall, Bawtry, Notts; c, Miss M. K. Harris; Mrs. Smith-Neill; Mr. Walter J. Burrell, Frimley, Surrey.

Class 53.—Butter, perfectly free from salt, the produce of Shorthorn and other cattle and their crosses (except Channel Islands and their crosses): Equal 1, Hon. A. Holland-Hibbert, Munden, Watford; The Right Hon. Lord Poltimore; equal 2, Mr. Roland Underwood, Little Gaddenden, Great Berkhampstead; Mr. Hy. Landon, Waton Farm, Aylesbury; Mr. Thos. Allan, Ryde Farm, Ripley, Surrey; equal 3, Mr. Chas. Hayes; Miss E. G. Cook, Ashford Farm, Ashford, Middlesex; Miss Emily Thomas, Glanyrynys, Llangendeirne, near Kidwelly, South Wales; hc, Mr. G. E. Meakin, Creswell Hall, Stafford; Mrs. S. A. Passmore, Ashley St. Ledgers, Rugby; Mrs. George Adlam, Bubwith Farm, Wookey Hole, Wells, Somerset.

Class 54.—Butter, slightly salted, the produce of Shorthorn and other cattle, and their crosses (except Channel Islands and their crosses): Equal 1, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G.; Mr. Chas. Hayes; Mr. Roland Underwood; equal 2, Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Limited, Enniskillen, Ireland; The Right Hon. Lord Poltimore; Mrs. Geo. Adlam; equal 3, Colonel A. F. Walter, Bear Wood, Wokingham; Hon. A. Holland Hibbert; Mrs. George Robinson, Baddilly Villa, Nantwich, Cheshire; hc, Miss Mabel Gee, Moor Mill, near St. Albans, Herts; Miss A. A. Walker, Whittocks End, Dymock; c, Mrs. J. Gooderham, The Heywood, Diss, Norfolk.

Class 55.—Butter, free from salt, or slightly salted, at the discretion of the exhibitor, to be made from scalded cream only: 1, His Grace the Duke of Marlborough, Blenheim, Woodstock, Oxon; 2, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G.; 3, Lord Rothschild; r, Mrs. Smith-Neill; hc, Mrs. A. G. Trevorah, Carclew Dairy, Perram-ar-Worthal, Cornwall; Mrs. L. R. Mildon, Higher Mead Down, Rackenford, Devon; Mr. A. F. Somerville.

Class 56.—Fresh butter, in 24lb. boxes of twelve rolls. Packages (non-returnable) to be taken into consideration. The rolls not to be separately wrapped: 1, Ballintrillick Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Limited, Co. Sligo; 2, Mr. Walter Thorp, Limerick; 3, Grange Co-operative Dairy Society, Limited, Grange, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick; 4, Cough Co-operative Dairy Society; 5, Drumcliffe Co-operative Dairy Society, Limited, Drumcliffe, Co. Sligo; r, Maypole Dairy Co., Charleville, Co. Cork; hc, Maypole Dairy Co., Knocklong, Co. Limerick; Maypole Dairy Co., Cullen, Co. Tipperary; c, Granagh Co-operative Dairy Society, Limited, Ballinleena, Bruree, Co. Limerick; Kinawley Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Limited, Co. Fermanagh; The Craven Creameries, Limited, Ballyhaise, Co. Cavan, Ireland.

Class 57.—Mild cured butter, in boxes of twenty-four rolls of 1lb. each, slightly salted; packages (non-returnable) to be taken into consideration, wrapping allowed: 1, Ballintrillick Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Limited, Co. Sligo; 2, Duchess of Abercorn, New Farm Dairy, Baron's Court, Co. Tyrone; 3, Mr. Walter Thorp; 4, Irvinestown Co-operative Dairy Society, Irvinestown, Co. Fermanagh; 5, Fintona Co-operative Creamery, Fintona, Co. Tyrone; r, Maypole Dairy Co.; hc, Maypole Dairy Co. (twice); Sooey Co-operative Dairy Society, Riverstown, Co. Sligo; Castlecor Dairy Co., Limited, Kanturk, Co. Cork; Dromore Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Limited, Dromore, Co. Tyrone.

Class 58.—Cured butter, not less than 28lb., slightly salted, in a pyramid; packages non-returnable) to be taken into consideration: Equal 1, Belleek Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ltd.; Duchess of Abercorn; equal 2, Fintona Co-operative Creamery; Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd.; equal 3, Ballyvistea Co-operative Dairy Society, Ltd., Emly, co. Tipperary; Grange Co-operative Dairy Society, Ltd.; equal 4, Coagh Co-operative Dairy Society; Irvinestown Co-operative Dairy Society; equal 5, Whitecross Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ltd.; Pomeroy Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Limited, Pomeroy; c, Killyman Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Limited; Sooey Co-operative Dairy Society; Aghadowey Co-operative Co., Coleraine, Ireland; Boyle Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Boyle, co. Roscommon.

Class 59.—Cured butter, 56lb. in a pyramid; packages (non-returnable) to be taken into consideration: Equal 1, Ballintrillick Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ltd., co. Sligo; Riverstown Co-operative Dairy Society; equal 2, Belleek Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Limited; Ballyvistea Co-operative Dairy Society, Limited; Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, Limited; 3, Irvinestown Co-operative Dairy Society; Whitecross Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; 4, Killeshandra Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Limited, Killeshandra, co. Cavan; Sooey Co-operative Dairy Society; 5, Fintona Co-operative Creamery; Duchess of Abercorn; hc, Coagh Co-operative Dairy Society, Limited; c, Glenwilliam Co-operative Dairy Society, Ballingarry, co. Limerick; Drumcliffe Co-operative Dairy Society, Limited, Drumcliffe, co. Sligo; Aghadowey Co-operative Dairy Co., Coleraine, Ireland.

Class 60.—Fancy or ornamental design in butter, with foliage or other extraneous decoration: 1, Sussex Dairy Co., Limited, 43, St. James Street, Brighton; 2, Mrs. R. Giddings, Erchfont, Devizes, Wilts; 3, Miss Jessie Stubbs; hc, Miss Edith Fry, High Street, Chippenham, Wilts; c, Mr. William G. M. Townley.

Class 61.—Fancy or ornamental design in butter, without extraneous decoration: 1, Mr. William G. M. Townley; 2, Mrs. R. Giddings; 3, Miss Edith Fry; r, Miss E. G. Cook; c, Mrs. C. W. Brown, Toll Farm, Thorney, Cambs.

CREAM.

Class 62.—Clotted cream (in vessels ready for sale); not less than 3lb. nor more than 4lb., in one or more vessels: 1, Miss Bessie Bryan, Townsend House, Halberton, Tiverton, Devon; 2, Cathedral Dairy Co., Exeter; r, Captain Laycock, Wiseton Hall, Bawtry, Notts; The Right Hon. Lord Poltimore.

Class 63.—Cream, other than clotted, containing not less than 40 per cent. of fat (in vessels ready for sale); not less than 3lb. nor more than 6lb. in one or more vessels: 1, Mr. Alfred Leicester, Vale of Aylesbury Creamery, Aston Clinton, Tring; 2, Maypole Dairy Co.; r, St. Clears Farmers Butter Factory Co., Ltd., St. Clears; Mid-Sussex Dairy Co., Ltd., Sheffield Park Station, Lewes.

SKIM-MILK BREAD AND SCONES.

(Mixed with skim milk in lieu of water.)

Class 64.—White bread (two loaves not exceeding 2lb. each): 1, Mr. T. E. Turner, 13, Richmond Road, Kingston-on-Thames; 2, Mr. William C. Gaines, 101, Newland Avenue, Hull; r, Mr. James Chandler, 50, Southampton Street, Camberwell, S.E.; vhc, Mr. F. W. Budden, 212, Blackfriars Road, S.E.; Mr. James R. Read, 71, South Side, Clapham Common, S.W.; Mr. Frederick Werner, 123, Vauxhall Walk, Lambeth, S.E.; hc, Mr. E. Hargreaves, 20, Lowergate, Clitheroe; Mr. James Redman, 59, High Street, St. John's Wood, N.W.; Mr. Henry Macartney, Model Bakeries, Radcliff, Lancs. (twice); c, Mr. E. Shorrock, Sunnyhurst, Darwen, Lancs.

Class 65.—Brown bread (two loaves not exceeding 2lb. each): 1, Messrs. Davis and Sons, 316a, Wandsworth Road, Clapham, S.W.; hc, Mr. James Redman.

Class 66.—Fancy bread (not exceeding 4lb.): 1, Mr. Charles George Paine, 375, Lordship Lane, East Dulwich, S.E.; 2, Mr. H. Tilbury, High Street, Potters Bar; r, Mr. Frederick Werner; vhc, Mr. John Skillman, 34, Cotham Hill, Bristol; Mr. H. W. Tilbury; hc, Mr. H. J. Tilbury, 238, Grays Inn Road, W.C.; Mr. James R. Read; Mr. Wilmot Hassall, 67, Market Street, Atherton; Mr. C. H. Denby, 16, Mottram Road, Blackheath, S.E.; Mr. George A. Rose, 40, Old Dover Road, Blackheath, S.E.; Express Dairy Co., Ltd., 60, New Oxford Street, W.C.

Class 67.—Home-made bread (two loaves not exceeding 2lb. each); bakers or members of their families are not eligible to compete in this class: 1, Mrs. C. W. Dixon, Thorpe on the Hill, Lincoln; 2, Mrs. Ibbotson, Hockerton Moor, Southwell, Notts; r, Mrs. S. Titterington, 69, Newhadhay Bridge, Rawtenstall, near Manchester; hc, Mr. Alfred Rowntree, Field House Dairy, Kirkby Overblow, Leeds; Mr. William Wossey, jun., 119, Rupert Street, Bolton.

Class 68.—Twelve scones, baked on girdle or plate, any shape, not exceeding 6oz. each: 1, Mr. James W. Read; 2, Mr. John Skillman, 34, Cotham Hill, Bristol; vhc, Mr. George A. Rose.

HONEY, ETC.

Class 69.—Twelve jars of light-coloured extracted honey, 1lb. each approximate weight: 1, Mr. Frederick R. Ford, Burwell,

English Jersey Cattle Society's Butter Test.

Exhibitor and name of cow.	Date of birth.	Date of last calf.	Number of days in milk.	Milk yield in 24 hours.	Butter yield.	Ratio, viz., lbs. milk to lb. butter.	Colour and Quality of Butter. Colour.	Quality.	No. of points for butter.	No. of points for lactation.	Total number of points.	Time. Churning began.	Churning finished.	Duration of Churning.	Temperature. Room.	Cream and Churn.	Buttermilk when churning finished.	Awards.
				lb oz	lb oz							H. M.	H. M.	Min.				
C. and M. Palmer's Matchmaid ..	Feb. 21, 1892	Aug. 25	46	35 0	1 6	25·45	Excellent		22·00	·60	22·60	9 34	10 34	60	59	52	56	—
C. and M. Palmer's Matron	Mar. 26, 1896	Aug. 1	70	33 0	1 10½	20·11	Good		26·25	3·00	29·25	9 35	10 1	26	59	52	53	Certificate of Merit.
C. and M. Palmer's May	Mar. 29, 1897	July 21	81	29 13	1 6½	21·20	Fair	V. good	32·50	4·10	26·60	9 37	10 16	39	59	52	55	—
D. Mutton's Lucy 5th	Aug. 4, 1893	Sept. 3	37	37 8	1 8	25·00	Pale	Fair	24·00	—	24·00	9 38	9 59	21	59	52	53	—
D. Mutton's Goody Two Shoes ..	Mar. 15, 1894	July 10	92	37 12	1 7½	25·07	Good	V. good	23·25	5·20	28·45	9 40	10 4	24	59	52	54	—
D. Mutton's Brighton Queen ..	Feb. 17, 1897	June 29	103	33 10	2 3	15·37	Pale	Fair	35·00	6·30	41·30	9 38	10 41	63	59	52	54	Silver Medal and £5.
R. J. Pope's Beresford Darkie ..	1895	Aug. 23	48	35 2	2 0½	17·29	Pale	V. good	32·50	·80	33·30	9 41	10 20	39	59	52	53	Certificate of Merit.
Mrs. C. M. McIntosh's Fairy ..	Mar. 5, 1896	Apr. 22	171	34 2	1 9	21·84	Fair	V. good	25·00	12·00	37·00	9 42	10 25	43	59	52	56	Certificate of Merit.
Viscount Enfield's Gloaming 4th ..	Nov. 5, 1893	May 6	157	29 10	2 2½	13·83	Excellent		34·25	11·70	45·95	10 9	11 25	76	59	52	54	Gold Medal.
Viscount Enfield's Spec	May 13, 1897	July 21	81	32 12	1 9½	20·54	Fair	V. good	25·50	4·10	29·60	9 44	10 11	27	59	52	53	Certificate of Merit.
J. R. Corbett's Camilla 21st ..	Aug. 20 1890	June 25	107	31 0	1 6½	22·29	V.g.	Excelnt	22·25	6·70	28·95	10 25	11 22	57	59	52	56	—
J. R. Corbett's Em B...	June 29, 1895	Sept. 4	36	22 0	1 4½	17·17	V.g.	Excelnt	20·50	—	20·50	10 54	11 26	32	60	52	56	—
J. R. Corbett's Mab C.	Apr. 17, 1897	July 29	73	29 3	1 6½	20·98	Good	V. good	22·25	3·30	25·55	11 2	11 31	29	60	52	54	—
J. Spencer Evans' Oakland Rosette	3yrs 6m ths	Aug. 27	44	33 14	1 10½	20·45	Pale	Good	26·50	·40	26·90	11 8	11 52	44	60	52	56	—
The Duke of Marlborough's Pulip..	..	Sept. 10	30	Absent					—	—								
Dr. H. Watney's Lady Sheila ..	May 9, 1897	Apr. 10	183	19 5	1 5½	14·54	Pale	Fair	21·25	12·00	33·25	11 15	11 42	27	60	52	55	Certificate of Merit.
Dr. H. Watney's Queen Bess of Ruthven..	Feb. 17, 1893	May 26	137	10 2	1 11½	23·13	Excl'nt	Good	27·75	9·70	37·45	11 15	11 47	32	60	52	56	Certificate of Merit.
Capt. Smith Neill's Tudtie Queen	Apr. 24, 1893	July 23	79	35 10	1 7½	24·00	Pale	Fair	23·75	3·90	27·65	11 31	12 23	52	61	52	58	—
Lord Rothschild's Sultane 11th ..	May 6, 1888	Jan. 26	257	40 13	1 12	23·32	V. fair	Good	28·00	12·00	40·00	11 30	12 30	60	61	52	57	Bronze Medal.
Capt. Fraser's Countess of March ..	May 21, 1897	May 13	150	25 12	1 4½	20·09	Fair	Good	20·50	11·00	31·50	11 41	12 28	47	61	52	59	Certificate of Merit.
Mrs. Cyril Greenall's Perowne ..	Jan. 24, 1893	June 17	115	Absent														
Mrs. Cyril Greenall's Lottie	Jan. 29, 1895	Sept. 9	31	do.														
A. F. Perkins' Virginie	Mar. 2, 1895	Aug. 1	70	26 5	1 5½	19·35	V. fair	Good	21·75	3·00	24·75	11 41	12 10	26	62	52	56	—
A. F. Perkins' Golden Tosca	July 1, 1896	Aug. 13	58	21 0	1 6	15·27	Good		22·00	1·80	23·80	11 52	12 13	21	62	52	55	—
Mrs. W. Barron's Di	Aug. 12, 1892	May 12	151	29 8	1 11½	17·16	V. pale	Poor	27·50	11·10	39·60	12 3	12 36	33	62	52	56	Certificate of Merit.
Mrs. W. Barron's Lady Fussy ..	Feb. 10, 1893	Aug. 26	15	12 2	1 15	21·71	V. pale	Fair	31·00	·50	31·50	12 11	12 44	33	62	52	54	—
A. Gibbs' Buttercup III.	Apr. 23 1892	June 6	126	30 2	1 10½	18·36	Fair	Good	26·25	8·00	34·25	12 10	12 40	30	62	52	57	Certificate of Merit.
A. Gibbs' Lass of Jersey 2nd ..	Apr. 18, 1893	Apr. 10	183	25 12	1 8½	16·64	Fair	Good	24·75	12·00	36·75	12 19	12 34	15	62	52	55	Certificate of Merit.
D. Mutton's Ladybird	June 12, 1895	Aug. 30	11	22 5	1 2½	19·29	Fair	V. fair	18·50	10	18·60	12 22	12 59	37	62	52	58	—
Capt. Fraser's Diamond Jubilee ..	Sept. 29, 1897	Aug. 2	69	24 5	1 6½	23·87	Good		16·75	2·90	19·65	2 10	2 58	48	61	52	56	—
J. S. Evans' Ino of Oaklands ..	2yrs 6m ths	Sept. 20	20	26 0	1 14	25·43	Pale	Good	17·75	—	17·75	2 10	2 34	24	61	52	53	—
J. S. Evans' Hope	Dec. 15, 1897	May 28	135	23 0	1 6	16·72	Good		22·00	9·50	1·50	2 12	2 55	43	61	52	56	Certificate of Merit.

Cambs; 2, Mr. A. Joyce, Railway View, Stockbridge, Hants; 3, Mr. C. H. Poulton, Aspenden, Buntingford, Herts; 4, Mr. H. F. Beale, Royston House, Andover; 5, Mr. Joseph Boyes, Lion Hotel, Bridge Street, Cardiff; hc, Mr Gideon Spearman, Colesbourne, Andoversford, Glos.

Class 70.—Twelve jars of medium-coloured extracted honey (other than heather honey), 1lb. each approximate weight: 1, Mr. J. P. W. Lightfoot, Pickering Bee Farm, Pickering, Yorks; 2, Mr. George W. Kirby, Salisbury House, Longwell Green, near Bristol; 3, Mr. W. W. Drewitt, Westwood Farm, Normandy, near Guildford; 4, Mr. H. W. Seymour, 53, Market Place, Henley-on-Thames; 5, Mr. John Smart, 43, East Street, Andover; hc, Mr. John Seabrook, Longfield, Kent.

Class 71.—Twelve jars of dark-coloured extracted honey (other than heather honey), 1lb. each approximate weight: 1 and 2, Mr. H. W. Seymour, 53, Market Place, Henley-on-Thames; 3, Mr. F. J. Hall, Claremont, Trent Valley Road, Lichfield, Staffordshire.

Class 72.—Twelve jars of run heather honey, 1lb. each approximate weight: 1, Mr. George W. Kirkby; 2, Mr. William Sproston, Shugborough, Great Haywood, Staffordshire; hc, Mr. John Berry, The Apiary, Llanrwst, N. Wales; c, Mr. J. P. W. Lightfoot.

Class 73.—Twelve jars of granulated honey of 1889, or any previous year, 1lb. each approximate weight: 1, Mr. John Hookway, 28, Martin's Building, Wellington, Somerset; 2, Mr. John White Lewis, Water Works House, Farnham, Surrey; 3, Mr. P. B. Govett, Tideford, St. Germans, Cornwall.

Class 74.—Twelve sections of honey, 1lb. each approximate weight: 1, Mr. W. Woodley, Beedon, Newbury; 2, Mrs. A. M. Woodley, World's End, Newbury; 3, Mr. A. Canning, Ownham, Wickham Heath, Newbury; 4, Mr. Jabez Sopp, Crowmarsh, Wallingford; hc, Mr. Harry Wood.

Class 75.—Twelve sections of heather honey, 1lb. each approximate weight: 1, Mr. J. P. W. Lightfoot; hc, Mr. Matthew Smith, Townhead Farm, Thornhill, Dumfries-shire.

Class 76.—Display of comb and extracted honey, of any year, not less than 84lbs, nor more than 112lbs. in weight: 1, Mr. W. Woodley; 2, Mrs. A. M. Woodley; 3, Mr. R. Brown, Flora Apiary, Somersham, Hunts; hc, Mr. H. W. Seymour, 53, Market Place, Henley-on-Thames; c, Mr. A. Canning, Ownham, Wickham Heath, Newbury.

Class 77.—Wax, not less than 3lb., the produce of the exhibitor's apiary: 1, Mrs. H. H. Woosnam, Rora, Bickinton, Newton Abbot; 2, Mr. H. W. Seymour; hc, Mr. John Berry.

Class 78.—Wax, not less than 3lb., the produce of the exhibitor's apiary; extracted and cleaned by the exhibitor or his assistants; to be shown in marketable cakes of uniform weight, suitable for the retail trade: 1, Mr. John Berry; 2, Mr. George W. Kirby; 3, Mr. A. Canning.

Class 79.—Interesting and instructive exhibit of a practical nature, connected with bee culture, not mentioned in the foregoing classes, including articles of food or medicine in which honey is an ingredient: 1, Mr. Francis Walker, 64, Gerard Street, Derby; hc, Mr. H. W. Seymour.

NEW AND IMPROVED INVENTIONS.

Class 81.—Any new invention relating to the dairy industry, or one showing distinct and practical improvement, not eligible for competition in any other class, and not previously exhibited at the Dairy Show: Silver medals: Messrs. Allan and Barker, Ltd., The "A. B." Gas and Oil Engine Works, Taunton, the "Infant" "A. B." oil engine, price £40; Messrs. Thomas Bradford and Co., 140, 141, 142, 143, High Holborn, W.C., a new pattern Anglo-Hibernian churn for butter factories, fitted with the following important new improvements: The bearings of the churning dash being carried outside the churn, and thereby rendering it impossible for the lubricant to come in contact with the cream; another improvement is a new sluice outlet, which has a much greater capacity, and therefore empties the churn of both the butter, and also the buttermilk with great rapidity, and entirely avoiding any damage to the grain of the butter, churning capacity, 150 gallons per hour, price £40.

VEHICLES FOR CONVEYING MILK, ETC.

FOR MAKERS ONLY.

Class 82.—Van, for wholesale or station purposes, to carry twelve churns of 17 imperial gallons: 1, Messrs. Day and Monk, High Road, Clapton, London, N.E.

Class 83.—Van, for retail sale or delivery (four-wheeled), to carry two churns of 17 imperial gallons: 1, Messrs. Hayes and Son, 197, 199 and 201, City Road, London; hc, Messrs. Day and Monk, High Road, Clapton, London, N.E.; c, Messrs. Street, White and Co., 18, 20, 21, and 23, Park Mews, Kilburn, N.W.

Class 84.—Cart, for retail sale or delivery (two-wheeled), to carry one churn of 17 imperial gallons: 1, Messrs. Day and Monk; 2, Mr. William Vincent, Reading, and at Arborfield Cross; r and hc, Messrs. Hayes and Son; c, Mr. William Vincent.

Class 85.—Perambulators and hand-trucks, to carry one churn of 17 imperial gallons: 1 and 2, Messrs. Day and Monk; r and hc, Messrs. Street, White and Co.

Class 86.—Vehicle designed for dairy farmers' use, not only for the purpose of conveying milk from farm to station or factory, but for taking calves, pigs, etc., to market: 1, Messrs. Vipan and Headly, Church Gate, Leicester.

ROOTS, ETC.

Class 87.—Six specimens of long mangolds, drawn from a crop of not less than two acres: 1, Mr. John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York; 2, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading; r, Mr. F. Warwick, farm manager, Walthamstow Urban District Council.

Class 88.—Six specimens of Globe, Tankard, or Intermediate mangolds, drawn from a crop of not less than two acres: 1, Mr. John Perry; 2, Mr. Wilberforce Bryant, Stoke Park, Slough.

Class 89.—Six specimens of swede, any variety, drawn from a crop of not less than two acres: 1, Mr. John Reid, Mid Sanquhar, Ayr; 2, Mr. John Perry; r, Mr. Wm. Maxwell, Sparnel Bank, Galston, N.B.

Class 90.—Collection of roots, etc., for cattle feeding in winter: 1, Mrs. C. McIntosh; 2, Mr. John Perry; r, Mrs. C. McIntosh.

BUTTER MAKING CONTESTS.

Class 91.—Butter-making contest, open to those who have never won a prize at any show: 1, Miss D. H. Patterson, Tunstall, Sunderland, co. Durham; 2, Miss Ella Street, Somersham, Hunts; 3, Miss Mary F. Hunter, British Dairy Institute, Reading; r, Mr. S. W. Everett, Barford Hill Dairy, Barford, Warwick; c, Miss Elsie L. Johnson, Selborne, Hants; Mrs. Crawford, Cox House Farm, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees.

Class 92.—Section A.—Butter-making contest, open to students who have attended classes at the British Dairy Institute: 1, Miss E. Follett, Easton Royal, Pewsey, Wilts; 2, Miss Hilda C. Abbiss, Home Farm, Flitwick, Beds; 3, Miss Agnes Jones, Blaennant Farm, Kelybebyll, Pontardawe, South Wales; r, Mrs. W. Green, Etchingham Dairy Co., Etchingham, Sussex; c, Miss E. T. Rowe, British Dairy Institute, Reading; Miss Mary F. Hunter; Miss M. R. McDuff, British Dairy Institute, Reading; Miss Elsie L. Johnson, Selborne, Hants.

Class 92.—Section B. Butter-making contest, open to students who have attended classes at the British Dairy Institute: 1, Mr. S. W. Everett; 2, Miss C. M. B. McDuff; 3, Miss Jane Garbutt, Asylum Farm, Tooting, S.W.; r, Mr. A. Warren, Melsbury Farm, near Wells, Somerset; c, Miss Lillian Hobbs, 29, Dorset Road, Merton Park, Surrey; Mrs. N. Comer, Surrenden Dairy, Pluckley, Ashford, Kent.

Class 93.—Section A.—Butter-making contest, open to women only: 1, Miss Annetta H. Smith, 7, Shandon Street, Edinburgh; 2, Miss Hilda C. Abbiss; 3, Miss M. E. Gordon, The Warren Farm, High Ashurst, Mickleham, Dorking; r, Miss E. T. Rowe; hc, Miss M. R. McDuff; c, Mrs. W. Green.

Class 93.—Section B.—Butter-making contest, open to women only: 1, Miss Emmie Woolfe, Hungerford House, Madeley, near Newcastle, Staffs; 2, Mrs. N. Comer; 3, Miss Ella Street; r, Miss Mary Leighton, Halloughton Grange, Whitacre, Birmingham; hc, Miss E. M. Cox, Pwlpen, Christchurch, near Newport, Mon.; Miss Gertrude L. Lawrence; c, Miss C. M. B. McDuff; Miss Jessie Stubbs.

Class 93.—Section C.—Butter-making contest, open to women only: 1, Miss Isabel A. Cable, Bagshot Park, Bagshot, Surrey; 2, Miss Lillian Hobbs; r, Miss Harriet Stubbs; hc, Miss Frances Mary Stubbs; Miss Isabella Rutherford, Summside Farm, Gateshead-on-Tyne; c, Miss Edith Fry, High Street, Chippenham, Wilts; Miss Alice Maud Mary Smith, Rydon Mills, Woodbury, Exeter; Miss Bessie F. Brown, Colton Mains, Dunfermline, Fife.

Class 94.—Section A.—Butter-making contest, open to men and women: 1, Miss J. S. A. White, Hardings Farm, Greensted, Ongar, Essex; 2, Mrs. W. Green, Etchingham Dairy Co., Etchingham, Sussex; 3, Miss Hilda C. Abbiss, Home Farm, Flitwick, Beds; r, Miss E. T. Rowe; hc, Mrs. T. Miles, Elm Farm, Holwell, Sherborne; c, Miss Nellie M. Smith.

Class 94.—Section B.—Butter-making contest, open to men and women: 1, Miss C. M. B. McDuff; 2, Miss Jane Garbutt; 3, Miss S. Hargreaves, Lightfoot House, Broughton, Preston; r, Mrs. J. Gooderham, The Heywood, Diss, Norfolk; hc, Miss Ella Street; Miss Isabella Rutherford; Miss Gertrude L. Lawrence.

Class 94.—Section C.—Butter-making contest, open to men and women: 1, Miss K. Baynes, Broxted Hall, Dunmow, Essex; 2, Miss Fanny Wilbore, Hawthorn Cottage, Wetley Rocks, Stoke-on-Trent; 3, Miss Jessie Stubbs; r, Miss Mary Leighton; hc, Miss Frances Mary Stubbs; Miss K. Austee, The Dairy, Malmesbury; Mr. S. W. Everett; Miss Bessie F. Brown, Colton Mains, Dunfermline, Fife; c, Miss Emmie Woolfe; Miss Elizabeth Cook, Passen Arms, Wrumarleigh, Carstang, Lancs; Miss E. A. Smith, Hill Farm, Sibton, Yoxford; Miss Mary Haggett, "Tunlake," Ditcheat, Evercreech, Bath; Miss A. L. Cook, Ashford Farm, Ashford, Middlesex; Miss Ella Wyse, Ridley Farm, Tarporley, Cheshire; Miss Harriet Stubbs; Miss M. Ada Bear, c.o. Mr. Gage Harper, Mason's Bridge, Raydon, Hadleigh, Suffolk; Miss Edith Fry; Miss Lillie Ryder, Home Farm, Creswell, Stafford; Mr. George Goddard, stockman to Hon. Mrs. Baillie Hamilton, Burley Lodge, Ringwood, Hants; Miss A. C. Coles, Home Farm, Easton Neston, Towcester; Miss Maria F. Wallator, Haddocks Farm, Bewdley, Worcs.

Class 95.—Butter-making contest for first prize winners of 1900: 1, Miss E. Woolfe; 2, Miss E. Street; 3, Miss K. Baines; r, Mr. S. W. Everett; hc, Miss E. Follett; c, Miss J. S. A. White.

Class 96.—Champion butter-making contest, open to winners of first prizes in the preceding classes or at the Dairy Show of 1898 or 1899; champions of any year excepted: 1, Miss M. K. Harris, Brownsell Farm, Stourton, Caundle, Stalbridge, Dorset; 2, Miss Annie B. Walker, Dog Kennel Farm, Hitchin, Herts; 3, Miss E. Woolfe.

MILKERS' CONTESTS.

Class 97.—Milking contest, open to men over eighteen: 1, Mr. John Byers, Great Hollanden Farm, Underriver, Sevenoaks; 2, Mr. J. G. Dawson; 3, Mr. A. B. Little, Paxcroft Farm, Tiverton; vhc, Mr. William Drake, Park Farm, Romford; hc, Mr. John Turner, Cockerhurst Lodge Farm, Woodcote Heath, Surrey; Mr. John Nesbet; Mr. J. L. Chalmers, Holmwood Farm, Sutton, Surrey; Mr. W. Mote, Southend Farm, Leighton Buzzard; Mr. George Cosgrove, Home Farm, Sunningdale Park, Ascot; Mr. James Thomas Cogger.

Class 98.—Milking contest, open to women over eighteen: 1, Miss M. R. McDuff; 2, Miss M. Wilson, Holly Bush Farm, Merton, near Axminster; 3, Miss Mary Nesbet, Great Parndon, Ingatestone Essex; vhc, Miss Edith Dyer, Mitchell Brotton, Sandbach, Cheshire; hc, Miss D. H. Patterson; Miss Emily Thomas, Glanyrynys, Llangendeirne, Kidwelly; c, Mrs. Eyre, Great Holmbury Farm, Dorking; Miss S. Hargreaves, Lightfoot House, Broughton, Preston; Mrs. N. Comer, Surrenden Dairy, Pluckley, Ashford, Kent; Miss Margaret S. [illegible], Long Ditton, Surbiton.

Class 99.—Milking contest, open to women under eighteen: 1, Miss Jessie Nesbet, Great Parndon, Ingatestone, Essex; 2, Miss Grace White, Hardings Farm, Greensted, near Ongar, Essex; Miss Dorothy [illegible], Great Parndon, near Dover; Mr. Thomas C. Nesbet, Great Parndon, Ingatestone, Essex; r, Mr. William Smith; c, Mr. Joseph [illegible], Coppeswich Hall, Ipswich; Mr. Lloyd, Rook Barton, Hatch Dunmow, Essex.

Shire Horse Show and Sale at Worcester.

The Worcestershire Shire Horse Society was formed about a year ago to improve and encourage the breed of cart horses in the county. Already there are over 100 members of the Society, and upwards of 200 applications have been met. The Society went in for really fashionable blood, regardless of cost, and the wisdom of their policy was demonstrated at the first show of the Society, held on Tuesday. The quality of the stock for show and entered for sale was of good quality and a most promising lot. There were 200 entries. The largest class was that of town mares and geldings suitable for town work, four years and upwards; this class numbered eighty. There were thirty three-year-old fillies and geldings, and forty one and two year old fillies and geldings. Other classes for colt foal, filly foal, and foal by the Society's horses brought up the total entry to 200. The show all round exceeded the expectations of the auctioneers, Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons, and Mr. Lloyd offered to give a 15-guinea cup—if he sold another year—for the best horse in the show. Mr. Frank Lloyd remarked that the trade in geldings was better than at Wrexham the previous week. There was a good attendance of buyers throughout the day, and most of the animals were sold.

In the class for geldings or mares, suitable for town work, of four years old and over, there were some capital animals, and the black gelding, five years old, belonging to Mr. John Powell, of Lower Wick, is a horse of the right stamp. Mr. Edwards, of Liverpool, bought the gelding for 80gs. The second prize horse was a bay gelding of Mr. W. P. Pope's, of Leigh, and is five years old, has a record as prize winner at Madresfield and Ledbury, Kingston and Wiltshire, and was knocked down for 98gs. The third prize horse, a black gelding, belonging to Mr. Pope, of Lulsley, a strong and weighty animal, was bought in at 78gs. The best of Mr. W. S. Carless's geldings went for 63gs. In the class for three-year-old fillies and geldings, promising to make town horses, there were about thirty entries, and the show, on the whole, was excellent. First prize was given to Mr. S. Bennett, Spetchley, for a blue roan gelding, sire Brigand 2nd. The second prize horse, a roan gelding, owned by Mr. S. Phelps, ran the first very closely. It appears that on the previous night the animal caught cold, and therefore was not in good condition for showing, although it has excellent feet, legs, and joints. Mr. Phelps' horse was placed before Mr. Bennett's at Evesham and Leicester, but the bidders followed the judges, Mr. Green, of Studley, paying 85gs. for the prize-winner, compared with the 74gs. paid for the second. The third prize horse, belonging to Mr. William Stallard, is a very useful grey gelding, which took second prize at Madresfield

Cross-bred and other Breeds than Jerseys or Shorthorns.

Exhibitor and name of cow.	Breed.	Age.	Date of last calf.	Number of days in milk.	Milk yield in 24 hours.	Butter yield.	Ratio, viz., lb. milk to lb. butter.	Colour and Quality of Butter.		No. of points for butter.	No. of points for inclination.	Total No. of points.	Awards.
								Colour.	Quality.				
		y. m. d.			lb. oz.	lb. oz.							
Hon. Mrs. Baillie Hamilton's Florence VI.	Guernsey	6 5 4	June 28	104	34 0	1 10½	20·72	—	—	20·50	0·40	20·90	Reserve.
H. M. Ozanne's Daisy des Vinaires	Guernsey	13 0 0	Sept.	20	39 14	1 12½	22·58	—	—	18·50	—	18·50	—
H. M. Ozanne's Lady Roberts	Guernsey	5 6 14	Sept.	20	41 3	1 11½	23·74	—	—	17·75	—	17·75	—
H. M. Ozanne's Rose of Gold	Guernsey	5 4 14	Sept. 17	21	35 7	1 5½	26·37	—	—	21·50	—	21·50	—
H. F. Plumpton's Lady Ashurst	Guernsey	5 7 14	May 16	147	31 0	1 8½	20·04	—	—	24·75	10·70	35·45	First and Medal.
E. A. Hambro's Dennis IV.	Guernsey	6 3 7	Sept. 2	38	31 14	1 6½	22·02	—	—	22·50	—	22·50	—
E. A. Hambro's Silverspade	Guernsey	3 4 14	Sept. 22	18	26 13	1 6½	18·85	—	—	22·75	—	22·75	—
J. E. Platt's Gal II.	Red Poll	10 4 7	Aug. 31	40	45 6	1 7½	30·80	—	—	23·50	—	23·50	—
A. J. Smith's Fanny II.	Red Poll	4 7 0	Sept. 9	31	39 6	1 8	26·25	—	—	24·00	—	24·00	—
A. J. Smith's Peach Leaf VI.	Red Poll	8 1 0	Aug. 24	47	37 10	1 8½	24·27	—	—	24·50	5·0	29·50	Reserve.
Lord Rothschild's Rosebush	Red Poll	5 6 7	Sept. 8	32	45 6	1 4½	34·98	—	—	20·75	—	20·75	—
Lord Rothschild's Ladylike II.	Red Poll	4 7 14	Aug. 14	57	46 8	1 5	35·42	—	—	21·00	1·70	22·70	—
Lord Rothschild's Duchess I.	Red Poll	5 6 7	Sept. 20	20	46 7	1 11	24·76	—	—	30·00	—	30·00	First and Medal.
G. J. Wimlett's Buttercup	Cross-bred	8 0 0	Sept. 13	27	33 0	1 5½	24·84	—	—	21·25	3·80	25·05	Reserve.
J. F. Spencer's Blue Bell	Cross-bred	5 0 0	Aug. 3	68	54 3	1 9½	33·66	—	—	20·75	—	20·75	Medal.
G. Long's Nancy	Cross-bred	8 9 2	Sept. 1	39	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. Birdsey's Pansy	Welsh	8 0 0	June 11	121	37 3	1 7	25·86	—	—	21·00	3·70	24·70	First and Medal.
Lord Rothschild's Fly.	Red Poll	4 6 28	Aug. 12	59	33 7	1 3½	38·90	—	—	17·75	—	17·75	—

this year. The bidders did not follow the judges here, 60gs. being the highest bid for Mr. Stallard's horse, and 64gs. for Mr. Hutchinson's entry, which received the reserve ticket. For Mr. Barneby's highly commended gelding 57gs. was paid.

The yearling and two-year-old fillies and geldings were a most creditable class for a first show. The first prize was given to Mr. W. S. Carless' bay colt by King Holt, but in the opinion of the buyers the second animal, Mr. B. Hutchinson's two-year-old filly Eckington Gem was the better animal, she being knocked down, after spirited competition, to Mr. Hall, of Bedford, for 160gs.; whilst Mr. Carless' colt went at 57gs. to Mr. Edwards, Liverpool. The third prize winner was also a two-year-old filly by Elector, belonging to Mr. Thomas Griffiths, and bred by Mr. W. Stallard. She was sold to Mr. Green, of Ombersley, for 65gs. The Shire colt foals were a fair class. Mr. Darlington was first with a promising bay foal by Lord Byron of Batsford, which fetched 36gs. The second prize went to Mr. A. Green, Ombersley, for a foal by Bar None William, which was first in the class for foals by the Worcestershire horses. He was knocked down for 25gs., only half a guinea more than was bid for the third prize winner in the open class and second in the Worcestershire class, a black colt by Bar None William, belonging to Sir Harry Vernon. Earl Beauchamp's grey colt by Madresfield Thumper was reserved in the colt class. Mr. J. Heynes, jun.'s bay colt foal by Buscot Harold, first at the Worcestershire and Herefordshire Show in 1897, was not noticed by the judges, but was sold for 88gs.

The fillies were a better class than the colts. Mr. Darlington took first prize with Clevedale Real Gem, by Brilliant 6th, one of the Cannock horses. This filly, which was second at Moreton-in-the-Marsh and an easy winner at Worcester, was sold to Mr. Rowland for 76gs. The second prize was won by Mr. Jno. Newton Jones with a bay filly by Bar None William, which was third in the Worcestershire class; 29gs. was the price realised for her. The third prize winner, Mr. J. Pope's, by Laughing Conqueror, is a better looking animal, and would have been awarded second prize but for a slight rupture. She was bought by one of the judges for 25gs. Mr. Jas. Nott's filly by Hartington 2nd, which took the reserve ticket, fetched 34gs.

Prize List.

Gelding or mare, suitable for town work, four years old and over: 1, Mr. J. Powell, Lower Wick; 2, Mr. W. P. Pope, Brocamin, Leigh; 3, Mr. J. Pope, Lulsley; r, Mr. W. T. Barneby, Saltmarshe Castle; hc, Mr. H. W. Hill, Brockhill Court, Shelsley; c, Mr. John Powell.

Three-year-old fillies and gelding, promising to make a town horse: 1, Mr. S. Bennett, Spetchley; 2, Mr. S. Phelps, Birlingham, Pershire; 3, Mr. William Stallard, Malvern Link; r, Mr. B. Hutchinson, Eckington; c, Mr. H. Crank, Martley; Mr. W. Downs, Oakley, Droitwich.

Gelding, colt, or filly, one or two years old: 1, Mr. W. S. Carless, Worcester; 2, Mr. B. Hutchinson, Eckington Gem; 3, Mr. T. Griffiths, Wadborough; r, Mr. T. H. Wythes, Droitwich; hc, Mr. Jos. Wythes, Crowle; c, Mr. A. Green, Ombersley.

Shire colt foal: 1, Mr. William Darlington, Clevelode; 2, Mr. A. Green, Ombersley; 3, Sir Harry Vernon, Hanbury Hall; r, Earl Beauchamp, Madresfield Court; hc, Mr. John Powell; c, Mr. W. S. Carless.

Shire filly foal: 1, Mr. W. Darlington; 2, Mr. J. Newton Jones, Redditch; 3, Mr. J. Pope, Clerkenleap; r and hc, Mr. Jas. Nott, Redditch; c, Earl Beauchamp.

Foal by the Worcestershire Shire Horse Society's horses: 1, Mr. A. Green; 2, Sir Harry Vernon; 3, Mr. J. N. Jones; r, Mr. W. S. Carless; hc, Mr. William Darlington; c, Mr. Morgan, Sneachill, Spetchley.

Coleshill Farmers' Club.

The eighth annual Shire Horse and Foal Show of the Coleshill Farmers' Club took place on Wednesday. In the number of entries there was no falling-off from last year, and in the general average of quality the show was the best the Club has had, though the leading animals exhibited were not so exceptionally fine as were one or two on that occasion. The colt foals were again a strong class. Mr. William Neale came first with a bay by the well-known sire, Moorland Paxton, a big, strong, upstanding foal, remarkable for quality as well as for size; Mr. Thomas Clayton being second with a nice, compact bay colt. The filly foal class was large, and quite up to the average in quality. Mr. Neale took the first two prizes, and one of his colts, a brown by Moorland Paxton, made the owner the holder of the Coleshill Challenge Cup. In the yearling geldings, a small but very good class, Mr. Dugdale was first with an exceptionally good red roan horse, while Mr. Neale was second with a stylish black colt, a son of Moorland Paxton. Among the yearling fillies, another good class, was the chestnut which last year, as a colt, won for Dr. Wall the challenge cup. This filly, sired by Willington Boy, on Wednesday won first prize in the filly class, and was placed second in the competition for the medal for the best Shire mare or filly. The second and third prizes went to Mr. Neale. The first prize for two-year-old geldings was won very easily for Mr. Charles Sprigg, of Drayton Bassett, by a bay son of Coleshill Carbon, and a smart, useful animal, the bay colt shown by Mr. A. Ibbotson, of Elmdon, being placed second. In a small class of two-year-old fillies, Mr. Charles Sprigg won the first, and Mr. J. Steadman, of Meriden, the second prize. The first prize in the brood mare class and the silver medal for Shire mares went to Dr. Wall for a bay, Hazlewood Baroness, sired by Dunsmore Bounding Willow. The second prize in this, the highest class of the show, was taken by Mr. W. Milner, of Solihull, with a bay Woodfield Diamond, sired by Hobbling Squire, who was hardly so big as the first prize mare. The third prize went to a bay shown by Mr. Sprigg.

For a hunter class there was a very good competition for the special prizes offered by Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., for foals by any of his horses that were standing at Coleshill in 1899. The colt shown by Dr. Wall in the general competition took the first prize in this class, the second going to a bigger colt, but not so good a mover, shown by Mr. D. W. Phillip, of Whitacre, and the third to the filly which took the third prize for Mr. Dugdale in the general filly class. A good class of foals also came out for the prizes offered for Mr. W. Neale, Mr. J. Parker Toone, of High Cross, Rugby, taking first prize, Mr. C. W. Gater, of Burbidge, Hinckley, second, and Mr. W. Townshend, of Gilson Hall, third. Mr. S. W. Hughes's prizes were won by Mr. W. W. Burdett, of Astley, and Mr. W. Wakefield, of Atherstone. A good class was that of geldings foaled in 1896 or 1897, owned by the exhibitor for six months before the date of entry. A very good black, the son of Dunsmore Forest King, standing quite 17 hands, with excellent legs, a good mover, took the first prize for Mr. S. Arnold, of Maxstoke; while Mr. C. Thornton, sen., of Curdworth, took the second with a very useful brown by the same sire, and Mr. Mark Wright came third with a grey sired by Dunsmore Bounding Willow.

There was a good show of roots, fruit, and dairy products, the roots, especially the mangolds, being the best that have been seen here. The first prize for butter was taken by Lord Norton, that for cheese by Mr. G. Coley, and that for fruit by Mr. D. Wall. Prizes for roots, etc., were taken by Mr. W. Townshend, Mr. W. Perkins, Mr. J. S. Dugdale, Mr. W. C. Ash, Mr. S. Arnold, Mr. G. Ward, Mr. F. Ford, Mr. A. Dale, Mr. L. Willday, Mrs. Ester Ibbotson, Mr. G. D. Willmot, Mr. J. H. Rymond, and Mr. J. Higgins (who won three first prizes).

Newport Cheese Show.

The annual cheese show promoted by the Newport (Monmouth) Corporation was held in the Provision Market, Newport, on Wednesday. There were four classes and ninety-one entries, which is a slight increase upon last year's total. The judges were Mr. J. Long, of Mountain Ash, and Mr. T. Lloyd, of Aberdare. These gentlemen spoke highly of the general excellence of the exhibits, the quality of the cheese being, in their opinion, a great improvement as compared with the previous show. This improvement was particularly marked in the local classes. At the conclusion of the judging the Mayor of Newport entertained the exhibitors and officials to luncheon in the Town Hall.

The prize list was as follows:—

Pitch of not less than 1cwt. and not more than 2cwt., and not fewer than twelve cheese to the cwt. (restricted to farmers in the county of Monmouth): 1, Mrs. Williams, Gilwern, Pontthir; 2, Mr. J. Williams, Barn, Llanwern; 3, Mrs. A. Hawker, Alit Farm, Llantrissant.

Single cheese of not less than 10lb (open to the farmers of Monmouthshire), prizes the gift of Lord Tredegar: 1, Miss Llewellyn, Lower Garn, Caerlon; 2, Mr. M. E. Watson, Samson's Court, Goldcliffe.

Pitch of not less than 2cwt., not more than 4cwt., and not fewer than twelve cheeses to the cwt. (open): 1, Mr. G. E. Puddy, Blackford, Weston-super-Mare; 2, Mr. J. Board, East Pennard, Shepton Mallet; 3, Mr. E. Washer, Berrow, Burnham; vhc, Mr. F. House, Huntspill, Bridgwater; hc, Mr. F. C. Harris, Slimbridge, Gloucester; c, Mr. W. W. House, Huntspill, Bridgwater.

Single cheese of not less than 20lb, and not more than 40lb weight (open): 1, Mr. W. W. House; 2, Mr. J. Neale, Brookend, Berkeley; 3, Mr. E. Dibble, Brean, Burnham; vhc, Mr. F. House; hc, Mr. F. C. Harris; c, Mr. C. B. House, Downside, Shepton Mallet.

The fruit crop in North Shropshire is very abundant. At Market Drayton, on Wednesday, the best damsons could be purchased at the low price of 1s. per bushel of 90lb., while second and third rate qualities fetched 4d. and upwards for the same quantity.

Bridgnorth St Luke's Fair, which is the oldest statute cattle fair in England, being established in 1226, takes place on the 29th of this month, and at it Messrs. Nock, Deighton, and Kirkby will dispose of about 700 head of store cattle and 1,000 head of store sheep, pigs, and calves. The sale, which will be conducted on the live weight basis, will commence at 10.30 a.m.

Malton Michaelmas Stock Fair.—At this fair on Thursday a good amount of business was done in both cattle and sheep. Cattle were a good quality throughout, and there was a fair demand for the better qualities. Three parts beef were dear, ranging from £13 10s. to £15 per head; strong two-year-old bullocks made £9 10s. to £12 10s., extra lots, £13; yearlings, £7 to £9; Irish cattle, £7 to £12; and a few useful cows to £14 per head. About 400 rams were penned. A moderate trade at rather less prices resulted. Some good Leicester flocks averaged about 6gs. per head, the range being 7gs. to 10gs. Horse trade quiet, except for good foals.

SOCIETIES.

Leominster.

Councillor Bright presided over the annual general meeting of the Leominster Agricultural Improvement Society at the Town Hall on the 5th inst. The balance-sheet showed that the Society had no funds, but it was free from debt.

Mr. Bach said the balance-sheet showed that they were clear for 1899 and for the cottage garden classes for the present year. The position was simply this: no debts, no funds.

The Chairman said the next business was to consider whether the Society should be continued.

The Secretary stated that the Society started in 1893. Some hedging competitions were held at the late Mr. Bright's farm, at Eaton. Mr. Bright promoted the competitions, and he (the speaker) was appointed secretary. A dinner was held after the competitions, and it was found that there was a balance in hand. It was decided that an agricultural improvement society should be started. The receipts in 1893 amounted to £76 17s. 6d., and the profit of the season's working came to £17 19s. 11d. That amount was placed in the bank. The following year the receipts were £71, and a balance of £2 10s. was banked. The proceeds in 1895 were £67 15s., but in 1896 there was a big falling off owing to the starting of the Eardisland, Dilwyn, and Pembridge Society. The subscriptions only amounted to £43 14s. 6d. In 1897 they amounted to £56 17s.; in 1898, £46 12s. 6d.; and in 1899, £48 1s. 6d. Since the Eardisland and District Society had started, a society had been formed at Mortimer's Cross, and that had further reduced their subscriptions. At the present time the receipts were not sufficient to meet the expenses and they had been compelled to take from the bank money that was deposited in 1894. He had been £20 out of pocket. He had had considerable difficulty in collecting the subscriptions during the present year, as there had been so many calls on the tradesmen. They would either have to reduce the prize money or work harder at the subscriptions.

Mr. G. Griffiths thought it was useless to attempt to hold the show, unless they could get more money. They lost £11 on the previous year's working. Other societies had started in the neighbourhood, and these had stopped their progress a good deal. He proposed that they should discontinue the competitions for the present year. Mr. Philip Bach seconded.

Mr. A. C. McNish thought it was not intended that the Society should lapse altogether.

Mr. H. Bach remarked that the present management committee had completed their term of office, so that the Society would practically cease to exist.

Mr. G. Griffiths said he would propose that the Society be discontinued.

Mr. W. A. Notley seconded, and the resolution was carried.

A vote of thanks was given to the secretary on the proposition of the chairman, and the meeting terminated.

Shropshire and West Midland.

A meeting of the council of the Shropshire and West Midland Agricultural Society was held in the lower room of the Music Hall, Shrewsbury, on the 6th inst. Mr. J. Bowen-Jones presided. It was unanimously agreed that the hon. director, Mr. W. E. M. Hulton-Harrop, be nominated president for the ensuing year.

A letter was read from Mr. W. L. Browne, regretting inability to attend. He had, he said, heard an expression of opinion from North Shropshire and Cheshire farmers that Whitchurch should again be visited by the show if that town could meet the requirements of the society.

Mr. Southam said he had heard similar expressions of opinion from farmers around Whitchurch. Some, however, thought the show was fixed permanently for Shrewsbury; he had, however, endeavoured to point out that the society was willing to go elsewhere if their rules were complied with.

Mr. Butler Lloyd pointed out that with their great outlay of capital on the Shrewsbury ground, to go elsewhere would mean a considerable loss in interest on that capital.

The Chairman said he thought it a dangerous thing to go from Shrewsbury without something definite before them.

Mr. Alfred Mansell said it should be set out definitely in their next annual report that the society was prepared to go elsewhere providing its terms were complied with; that, he said, would give towns an opportunity of making a definite offer.

The Chairman agreed that the suggestion was a good one; he thought that they had better not make a change this year, now that they were consolidating, but try and see what they could do again. It was agreed that the next show should be held on Wednesday and Thursday, June 12th and 13th.

Mr. Alfred Mansell suggested that the council should offer prizes to young men for judging stock. Such a competition, he said, would encourage young farmers to come forward to judge stock. He saw that such competitions were held in Canada. If

it were adopted he should be glad to give a first prize.

The Chairman said it was very good of Mr. Mansell to make the offer; the suggestion was quite worthy of consideration, and should be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Cheshire.

A meeting of the Cheshire Agricultural Society was held at Crewe on Monday afternoon, Mr. Joseph Hill, Smethwick Hall, Congleton, presiding. Various protests arising out of the recent show at Congleton were considered. Mr. W. Blockley protested against Mr. B. Dutton taking third prize in the heavy cheese class. He stated that Mr. Dutton took the first prize at Macclesfield in 1898, and was prohibited by rule from competing again in the same class for three years. Mr. Dutton, however, pointed out that at Macclesfield he competed in Class 1, and at Congleton in Class 2. Several members said that the classes were practically the same, but divided for exhibitors' convenience. It was decided by five to three not to accept the protest.

Mr. Isaac Brown, of Ridley Hall, Tarporley, objected to Mr. F. Miller, of Birkenhead, taking first prize in the bull class. The objection was sustained by ten votes to one, on the ground that the bull had not been in the exhibitor's possession for the time required by the rules. Mr. A. J. Solley, of Congleton, objected to Mr. W. S. Billington and Mr. C. Bibbey taking prizes for young stock in Class 23. The objection related to the ages of the stock. It was, however, not sustained.

The Secretary submitted the annual report for the year, which stated that the show at Congleton proved in every way a great success, both financially and as an exhibition. The adverse balance with which the year commenced had been wiped away, and the Society now has a credit balance of £84 1s. 6d. The gate receipts at Congleton were the highest ever taken at one day's show, and the entries would also have been considerably over the average if the regulations of the Board of Agriculture had not prevented a show of pigs.

Hereford Herd Book.

The quarterly meeting of the council of the Hereford Herd Book Society was held at Hereford on Thursday, under the presidency of Sir James Rankin (the president). Mr. Turner proposed, and Mr. Tudge seconded, that Sir James Rankin be re-elected president, and this was unanimously agreed to. Mr. H. F. Russell was also re-elected vice-president. The President moved that a committee be appointed to consider the question of the union of the Hereford Herd Book Society and the Hereford Cattle Breeders' Association, and to report to this council as to the best means to be adopted for carrying this resolution into effect, if recommended. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion was carried, and a committee was appointed of Messrs. J. W. Smith, H. J. Bailey, A. P. Turner, H. R. Hall, and L. L. Moore, with the president and vice-president.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

October.

15. Sale of pure bred Dutch Cattle, belonging to Messrs. Rumbal and Sons, at Pond Green Farm, Walthamstow, Essex.
16. Sale of the late Mr. W. Wright's herd of Shorthorns and young bulls from other herds, at York.
16. Sale of Mr. F. Crisp's Aberdeen-Angus Cattle, at the Stud Farm, Whitehouse, New Southgate.
16. Sale of Clydesdales, Hackneys, Shetland Ponies, etc., at Seaham Harbour.
16. Sale of Red Polled Cattle, belonging to the late Duke of Hamilton, at Ipswich.
16 and 17. Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association's Show, at Chester.
17. Sale of Clydesdale, Shire, and Hackney Horses, belonging to Mr. W. R. Trotter, at South Acombe Show, Stocksfield-on-Tyne.
17, 18, and 19. Sale of Horses, at Cheshire Repository, Crewe.
18. Galloway Cattle Sales' Association's Heifer Show at Castle Douglas.
18. Sale of the Right Hon. Lord Llangattock's Shire Horses, at The Hendre, Monmouth.
18. Sale of Shetland Ponies, belonging to the Countess of Hopetoun and Mr. R. W. R. Mackenzie, at Hopetoun House.
18. Sale of Mr. E. G. Legge's flock of Dorset Horn Sheep, at Coombe Down, Beaminster, Dorset.
19. Sale of Red Poll Cattle, the property of Mr. J. E. Platt, at the Drill Hall, Ipswich.
19. Show and Sale of Shire Horses, at Lichfield.
20 to 26. Brewers' Exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington.
23. Clayeross Ploughing Association, at Clayeross.
23. Show and Sale of Shire, Clydesdale, and other heavy horses, at York Horse Repository.
24. Sale of Mr. W. Lawson's stud of Hackneys, at Blackpool.
25. Gravesend and Rochester Agricultural Association's Show, at Gravesend.
25. Sale of Messrs. W. and J. Thompson's Shire Horses, at Desford, Leicester.
25. Sale of Store Stock, at Shrewsbury, Smithfield.
26. Sale of Shire Horses, at Peterborough Repository.

Barley and Wheat Stacks Burnt at Beccles.—On Wednesday afternoon, a stack of wheat straw, and another of barley straw, standing in a field belonging to Mr. N. W. Pells, of Beccles, were observed to be on fire. The fire brigade were at once apprised, but their efforts to save the straw were unavailing, and both stacks were destroyed. It is supposed the fire was someone's wilful act.

Agricultural Education for Women.

The second annual meeting of the Lady Warwick Agricultural Association for Women was held at Stafford House, St. James's, on Friday afternoon, the Countess of Warwick presiding. There was a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen interested in the scheme.

Miss Edith Bradley, the organising secretary, read the report of the Committee, which stated that the Association was formed by Lady Warwick to help in organising and directing the large amount of agricultural work now undertaken by women. The scheme had, since its inception, developed in every direction, and had now the comprehensive title which embraced as its sub-divisions (*a*) the Lady Warwick Hostel at Reading; (*b*) the Lady Warwick Agricultural Association, with its registry to bring employers and employed together; (*c*) the *Women's Agricultural Times*; (*d*) the Warden's Farm; and (*e*) the Marketing Department. For the successful accomplishment of the work of the Association it was necessary to obtain the co-operation and support of patrons and associates, but at present a falling off had to be recorded in the number of both patrons and associates. It was, however, encouraging to find that since the beginning of July there seemed to be a revival of interest in the work of the Association. The registry had been the means of bringing together employer and employed, posts having been found for nine hostel students and for four other qualified ladies. The registry was, therefore, of use, and the methods on which it was conducted were satisfactory. It was hoped that the marketing department would develop into a co-operative society, and it was already slowly but surely growing in that direction. (Hear, hear.)

Lady Warwick, who was received with applause, congratulated the Association on the progress and steady enlargement of its scope. They were meeting with great success at the hostel; an ever-increasing number of good posts were at the disposal of trained women in horticulture, dairying, poultry work, and bee-keeping, and she was convinced that the further development of the Association would lead to sound results. There were numerous openings now for ladies to start together in market produce; but a thorough practical training was absolutely necessary. No amateur could hope to succeed without training herself in sound business methods, and she would never advise anyone to compete in the business world without that thorough training. In fact, amateurishness was no use in that organisation. (Hear, hear.) She invited associates and patrons to supply definite practical information, as far as possible, based on their own experience, such as to price, position of good localities for poultry-rearing, market gardening, private dairies, apiaries, etc. In her opinion, the registry would be of great value both to employers and employed in the future. So far they had not found many good positions vacant in dairy work, but there were useful openings for ladies with capital to start dairy farming and creameries. There were also splendid openings in poultry work, both for posts and in running poultry farms, and she strongly advised women to train in this direction. We were miles behind other countries in poultry rearing. There was a constant demand for poultry and eggs, and, so far, that demand was never satisfied by home produce. In Ireland, under Mr. Horace Plunkett's splendid co-operative organisation, this poultry question was solving itself and making rapid strides, but we wanted, in this country, millions of chickens, ducks, turkeys, and eggs. As to horticulture, there was an ever-widening field of labour thrown open to trained women. There were good and well-paid posts waiting for women as good gardeners, as forewomen in glass-houses, or in sole charge of small gardens, while to those who had capital, farms of market gardening were open for specialising in fruit and flowers, vegetable or mushroom growing, all of which would be productive of a certain income. In addition to these occupations, bee-keeping was a profitable source of additional income. Having spoken of the success of the Warden's Farm at Reading, Lady Warwick concluded by urging women to train, train, train; and to be thorough, whether they grew a cabbage, milked a cow, or crammed a chicken. (Applause.)

A discussion followed in relation to the openings for women trained in the lighter branches of agriculture—(a) as gardeners, fruit and flower growers, or market gardeners; (b) as dairy women; (c) as poultry rearers; and (d) as beekeepers; much practical information being offered by the several speakers.

The report of the committee was adopted, and the thanks of the meeting were conveyed to Lady Warwick for presiding, as also for her continued interest in the work of the Association. A similar compliment was paid to the Duke of Sutherland for allowing the meeting to be held in the stately Staircase Hall of Stafford House.

Chester Horse Fair.—The October statute fair is usually one of the largest of the year, and attracts trade from all parts of the country, but the fair held on Thursday presented no special features. The show of horses was for the most part a very ordinary one, and the demand quiet, except for good lots. Prices were irregular, but were about the same for the leading classes as at the previous fair.

Imports of the Cereal Year.

The quantities and values of the principal articles of agricultural produce imported during the cereal year are given in the September number of the *Journal* of the Board of Agriculture. It is noticeable that the total value of the various articles rose up to some £9,000,000 more than in the previous year. This is due chiefly to higher values, especially of articles of animal produce, and it is probable that as regards quantity the United Kingdom was not more dependent for these commodities upon foreign supplies in 1899-1900 than in 1898-99. The receipts of live animals for food have been somewhat affected by the prohibition to import live animals from Argentina in consequence of the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in that Republic. Mainly as a consequence of this the total number of cattle show a decrease of 50,000 head, and sheep of nearly 240,000 head, as compared with the cereal year 1898-99. Fresh beef and mutton were received in increased quantity, particularly the former, of which we imported over half a million cwts. more than in 1898-99, two-fifths of the increase coming from the United States. As regards mutton, the changes are only slight. Salted beef and pork came in smaller amount, but there was a decided increase in the class of meat unenumerated. Both bacon and hams came in reduced quantities, but in both cases the value was increased, so that the country is estimated to have paid £1,000,000 more for about 150,000 cwts. less of these forms of pig-meat. In the case of bacon, Canada has sent over half a million cwts., or some 100,000 cwts. more than in 1898-99, but this was not sufficient to counterbalance the decline from the United States and Denmark. The Canadian quota of hams similarly increased at the expense of the United States.

Dairy Produce

—butter, margarine, cheese, fresh and condensed milk, and eggs—all came in slightly larger quantities; while the intrinsic values were also slightly higher, except in the case of fresh milk and cream, which was materially reduced. Of butter, Denmark sent very slightly less than in the earlier year—viz., 1,444,500 cwts. as against 1,469,000 cwts. The principal changes were, however, in the consignments from the more distant countries, the United States showing a considerable decline, and the Australasian Colonies as considerable a rise. United States cheese came in larger quantities, and another growing contributor was Australasia, which doubled its quota. The cheese imported was valued at nearly 6s. per cwt. more than in 1898-99.

Food Stuffs.

The total imports of wheat and wheat flour amounted in grain to 22,155,753qrs. as compared with 23,060,136qrs. last year. The largest proportion of wheat (in grain), viz., 31,530,000 cwts., or almost half the total, came from the United States, this representing, however, a decline of 6,578,000 cwts. from 1898-99, while the Argentine contribution has been 18,116,000 cwts., a rise of almost 11,000,000 cwts. on the year. Canada comes third on the list with 6,261,000 cwts., just over her contribution of 1898-99. Australasia sent 3,531,000 cwts., and Russia only 2,819,000 cwts., one-third of which, it may be noticed, came last August. From neither Roumania nor Chili has any wheat whatever been received during the past cereal year; and from India all but 9,000 cwts. out of a total of 1,545,000 came prior to 31st December last. Barley shows a considerable falling off, due to the comparative failure of the Russian consignments; the United States on this occasion occupying the premier position as a supplier of this grain. The imports of oats increased considerably, this augmentation coming from Russia, whence we derived over 9,500,000 cwts. as compared with less than 4,000,000 in 1898-99. Most of the maize, as is generally the case, came from the United States, though the shipments from the Argentine Republic exhibited a considerable advance over the previous year.

Among other imports, the only item calling for special mention is wool, the quantity of which fell by nearly 70,000,000lbs., while its value increased by over £1,100,000.

Messrs. Dicksons' (Chester) 1900-1901 catalogue of forest and ornamental trees, evergreens, and other hardily grown nursery stock, has just come to hand. Unlike many of its contemporaries it is not illustrated, but the descriptions will give one a good idea of what the plants listed are like.

The first meeting of the Council of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society since the summer show was held at Lincoln on Friday, Sir John T. Reid presiding. The Finance Committee reported that the income over the expenditure of the year was about £500. The dates fixed for the Peterborough and Brigg meetings next year were confirmed, and it was resolved, with a view to avoid clashing, that the resolution passed on the Spalding show ground should be reconsidered at the next meeting. The place of meeting for 1902 is to be determined upon at the February meeting.

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Waterproof Oil Sheets

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BINDER TWINE, HORSE CLOTHS, SACKS, OILS, &c.

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MOLASSINE

FOOD FOR HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, etc.

Replacing an equal quantity of Fodder.

A STAPLE FOOD AND CONDIMENT COMBINED. **Patented in all the principal Countries in the World.**

ANNUAL CONSUMPTION, 1,200,000 CWT.

Manufactured by Messrs. Henry Tate & Sons, Sugar Refineries, London and Liverpool, exclusively for the Molassine Company, Ltd. Introduced into the Imperial and Royal Stables of **GERMANY** and **RUSSIA.** It is adopted throughout **THE GERMAN ARMY,** and during the few months it has been on the Market in the United Kingdom it has met with a **most favourable reception,** which is evidenced by the **many Repeat Orders** we are daily receiving, and assurances of its **permanent adoption.**

MOLASSINE contains **36** to **40** per cent. of **Sugar,** and is a combination of **Sugar, Treacle,** or **Syrup with Vegetable substances.** It is guaranteed to consist exclusively of natural organic materials.

RESULTS OF FEEDING WITH MOLASSINE.

IT STIMULATES APPETITE, IMPROVES DIGESTION. GRIPE AND DIARRHŒA COMPLETELY DISAPPEAR.

HORSES. From 2 to 4 lbs. per day.

After a few weeks' feeding are in the **best condition,** and show **strength, highest working power,** and a **smooth** and **glossy coat.**

CATTLE. 8 lbs. per day.
SHEEP. 1½ lbs. per day.

Thrive quickly, and especially in the last period of fattening, take willingly to their food, and thus **become weeks sooner ready for the market.** The **meat is of best quality.**

PIGS. Per 100 lbs. of their own weight, from 1 lb. to 1½ lbs.

Eat Molassine greedily. The disagreeable smell of the Pig-Stye disappears, the **animals are in the best health.**

MILCH COWS. 5 lbs. per day.

After 8 to 10 days' feeding give more milk, richer in cream.

MOLASSINE replaces an Equal Quantity of FODDER.

MOLASSINE packed in bags of 1½ cwt. each.

On rails. Sugar Works of Messrs. HENRY TATE and SONS, SILVERTOWN, ESSEX.

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The

Mark Lane Express

and

Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXIII. No. 3604. LONDON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1900. THIRTY-TWO PAGES PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.

(Founded June, 1894.)

PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.

HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, ESQ., Beltring, Kent.

SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.

CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the COUNCIL of the CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE will be held (by permission of the Society of Arts) at the House of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, on Tuesday, November 6, 1900, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

Members of Council representing either the Central Chamber or Associated Chambers are requested to attend.

Subscribing Members of the Central Chamber are invited to be present, and may speak by permission of the Chairman, but are not entitled to move resolutions or to vote

AGENDA.

To transact General Business.
To receive Communications.
To consider Alterations in the Laws and Bye-Laws proposed by the Business Committee.
To receive Reports of Committees (if any).
To receive "Statement of Legislation required in the Agricultural Interest," prepared by the Business and Parliamentary Committees in pursuance of Council's resolution of May 29th last.
To consider the following subjects:—
(1) The Report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation (if issued).
(2) Agricultural Insurance.

Associated Chambers and Clubs are requested to consider the above subjects, and to send up any resolutions which they may pass thereupon to the Secretary of the Central Chamber before the Meeting of the Business Committee, at 8 p.m. on Monday, November 5th, 1900. Suggestions of subjects for discussion at future Meetings of the Council should be forwarded at the same time.

ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, DECEMBER 10 to 14, 1900, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.

Entries close as follows:—Live Stock (Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Carcase Competition), Nov. 1; Post Entries, Nov. 5. The entries for Implements have already closed on Oct. 5.

Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and other information can be obtained on application to E. J. POWELL, Sec., 12, Hanover-square, London, W.

SOCIETIES.

1900.
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HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN.
Patron:—
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
President for the Year 1900:
A. W. SOAMES, ESQ., M.P.

NORFOLK and NORWICH TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SHOW OF FAT CATTLE, SHEEP AND PIGS, FARM AND GARDEN PRODUCE, TABLE DECORATIONS, ETC., WILL BE HELD IN THE AGRICULTURAL HALL, NORWICH, ON THURSDAY, FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd, 23rd, AND 24th NEXT.

When Prizes to the value of about £700 will be offered.

The attention of Tenant Farmers farming under 100 acres, and not being members of the Association, is called to the Special Butter Prizes offered.

Attention is called to the Special Prizes offered by the Technical Education Committee of the Norfolk County Council, for Dairy Produce exhibited by Students who have attended a course of Dairy Lectures under the auspices of the County Council.

Prizes are offered to Cottagers and Holders of Allotments not exceeding 30 rods, for Garden Produce.

LAST DAY OF ENTRY, OCTOBER 27TH.

Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and all information can be obtained of the Secretary, CALEB BARKER, East Harling, Thetford; and on Saturdays at Bank Chambers, Norwich.

LORD TREDEGAR'S AGRICULTURAL AND POULTRY SHOWS.

(Open to all England without Subscription.)

Lord Tredegar has fixed the approaching Meeting for TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27 and 28.

The PRIZE LIST contains 59 regulated classes for CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, and HORSES, the prizes in which vary in value from £20 to £5.

POULTRY PRIZES to the value of £300 are also offered.

The Prize Lists, with Certificates for Entry and all particulars, may be had on application to

COLONEL JUSTICE,
Tredegar Estate Office, Newport, Mon.

N.B.—Entries close 14th November for Cattle, Sheep, Horses, and Pigs; for Poultry and Pigeons, 7th November.

BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW.

The 52ND GREAT ANNUAL EXHIBITION of FAT CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, CORN, ROOTS, and IMPLEMENTS, will be held in BINGLEY HALL, on DECEMBER 1ST, 3RD, 4TH, 5TH, and 6TH.

Entries Close:—IMPLEMENTS, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20TH; STOCK, POULTRY, &c., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST.

Prize Lists and Entry Forms may be obtained from W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

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HOLMEWOOD, LANGTON, TUNBRIDGE WELLS (within 2 miles of the S.E.R. Station at Tunbridge Wells, and about the same distance from Groombridge Station on the L.B. & S.C.R.).

MR. EDWARD JAS. CARTER has been instructed by J. J. Barrow, Esq., to SELL by AUCTION at SPRINGBANK FARM, LANGTON, on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1900, at 12 o'clock punctually,

85 HEAD OF HORNED STOCK, including 63 Three-year-old Cross-bred STEERS (fat or forward in condition), 8 HEIFERS, 7 COWS, and 7 CALVES.
175 FAT SHEEP.
8 UPSTANDING CART HORSES, including 1 Four-year-old GELDING, 1 Three-year-old GELDING, and 1 One-year-old GELDING.
10 PEDIGREE HACKNEY MARES AND FOAL, including a three-year-old NAG COLT by Speculation, 5 MARES and 4 FOALS.
8 HUNTERS, all selected with the greatest care and well known with the Local Packs, and
6 VERY VALUABLE CARRIAGE HORSES.

Catalogues may be obtained in due course on the Premises, or of the AUCTIONEERS, 3, The Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells.

On THURSDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 25th (12 o'clock).

MANSELL'S SHREWSBURY STORE STOCK SALE

On Live Weight Basis),
IN THE SHREWSBURY SMITHFIELD.

950 CATTLE (all breeds and ages), including a good selection of well-bred POLLED ANGUS CROSSES, SHORTHORNS, HEREFORDS, WELSH, and CROSSBREDS.
400 SHEEP, SHROPSHIRES, CLUNS, and CROSSBREDS.

All cattle weighed before entering the sale ring, and every assistance given to buyers. Commissions faithfully executed.

Full particulars from ALFRED MANSELL AND CO., Live Stock Auctioneers and Agents, Shrewsbury.

AUCTION SALES (*Continued*).

THE OLDEST STATUTE CATTLE FAIR IN ENGLAND.

Established 1226.

BRIDGNORTH, OCTOBER 29th, 1900.

ST. LUKE'S FAIR
GREAT ANNUAL
STORE STOCK SALE,
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About
700 HEAD OF CATTLE,
1,000 HEAD OF SHEEP, PIGS, AND CALVES.

Sale at 10.30.

NOCK, DEIGHTON, AND KIRKBY, Auctioneers and Live Stock Salesmen, Bridgnorth (Salop).

Fat stock will be sold as usual.

SHIRES AT DERBY! SHIRES AT DERBY!

SPECIAL SHIRE SHOW AND SALE.

MR. ANDREW SMITH will SELL by AUCTION in the CATTLE MARKET, DERBY, on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24th,

48 COLT and FILLY FOALS;
45 YEARLING and TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES, MARES, and GELDINGS; also
59 VANNERS and LIGHT HORSES.

£20 IN PRIZES.

Judging at 9.30.- Sale at 11 o'clock sharp. Write for Catalogues, now ready, to the AUCTIONEER, 16, Derwent-street, Derby.

IPSWICH.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SALE OF RED POLLS.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30TH.

ROBERT BOND & SONS will SELL by AUCTION, at the DRILL HALL,

80 PEDIGREE RED POLL COWS, HEIFERS, and BULLS, including the entire herd of Mrs. ALFRED MORRISON, Fonthill, Wilts, comprising—
16 GRAND COWS, some with calves, others forward in calf;
17 CHOICE HEIFERS, one and two years old;
12 GRAND STEERS, mostly two years old, suitable for grazing for exhibition.

Catalogues will be published a week previous to sale, and will be forwarded on application to the AUCTIONEERS, Old Bank House, Ipswich.

IMPORTANT SALE OF HACKNEY BROOD MARES, FOA RIDING AND HARNESS HORSES, E AT MILLFIELD, POLMONT, ON TUESDAY, 23RD OCTOBER NEXT.

THE Subscriber has been favoured with instructions from D. M. [illegible], Esq., of Millfield, Polmont, to sell there on above date a draft from this well-known Stud, consisting of 30 animals of various ages.

Catalogues may be had from D. I. PENNET, Stud Groom, Millfield, or the AUCTIONEER.

The Horses will be open for inspection on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 18th, 19th, and 20th October.

Sale to commence at [illegible].

DAVID STEVENSON, Auctioneer, Crossburn, Troon, N.B. [illegible]

REGISTER OF BRITISH LIVE STOCK BREEDERS.

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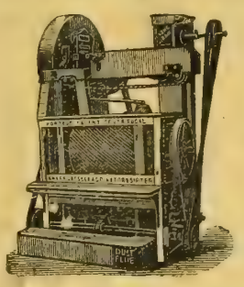

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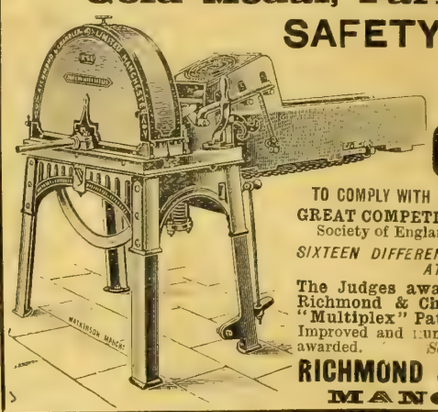

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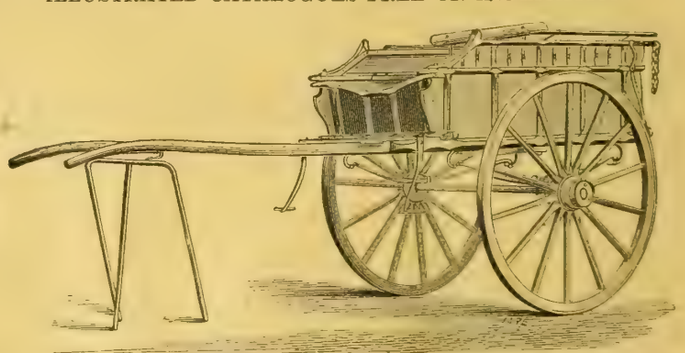

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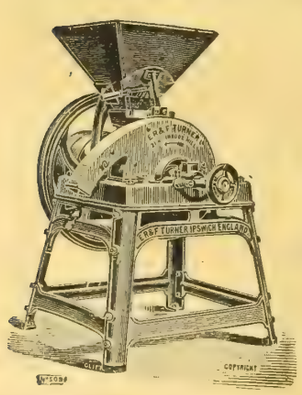

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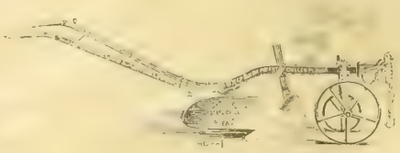

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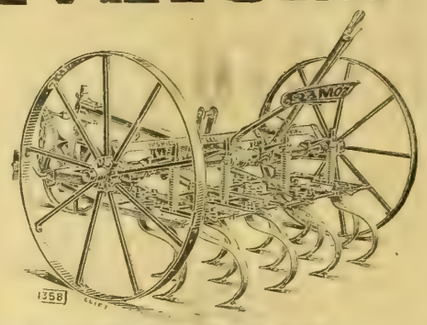

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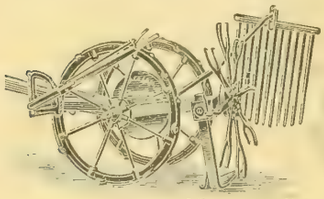

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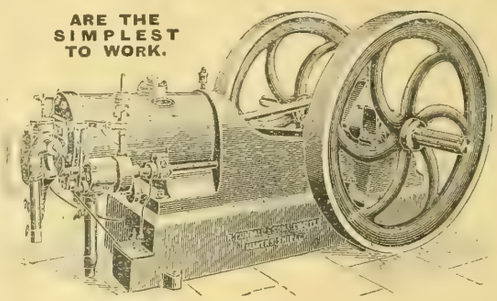

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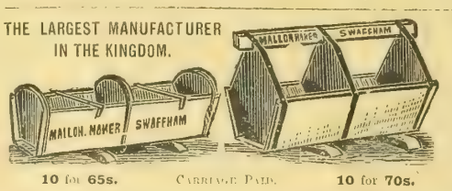

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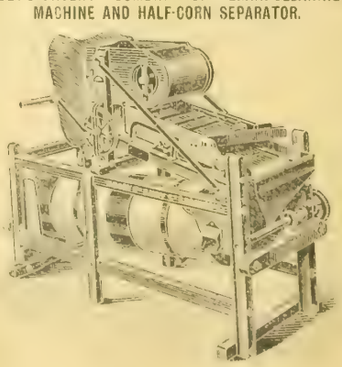

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

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PEDIGREE STILL PREDOMINANT.

The remarkably high prices realised for the Shorthorn bull calves of Mr. Duthie and Mr. Marr in Scotland, recently, gave a gratifying surprise to the fraternity of leading breeders of pedigree cattle, proving, as it did, that the Argentine prohibition will not have that serious influence on the fortunes of the foreign trade which pessimists declared to be inevitable. According to what we hear, a great many were inclined to be pessimistic about the Scotch auction just before it took place. Averages would be sure to decline immensely compared with those of the last two years, it was said, and wagers were freely offered that the Collynie one would not be more than 80gs. Instead of this we find that it largely exceeded the average of 1899, which was £123 18s., whereas at the dispersal last Tuesday week Mr. Duthie's average amounted to £150 8s. 6d. The increase in the Uppermill realisations are also equally noteworthy, being from an average of £116 18s. 10d. to £126 2s. 2d. Of the thirteen Uppermill calves nine made a hundred guineas and over, the highest figure being 230gs. Ten of the nineteen Collynie calves realised three figures, six bringing over 200gs. and three 300gs. and over, the premier price reaching to 355gs.—rather a good one for a bull calf.

The result is all the more gratifying, as it indicates that the United States and Canadian breeders are again on the alert to secure the choicest cattle this country can supply them with. Some may think that this is only for the strain of the Shorthorn breed most fashionable at present; but that would be incorrect, for Americans just now are very keen after what they deem to be the most valuable strains of Herefords, and some tolerably high-priced animals have crossed the Atlantic from England recently. In fact, the number of cattle of all breeds exported during the past nine months ending with September, despite the refusal of Argentina to have any more for the present, exceeds both in number and value those exported in the corresponding period of last year; the number is stated to be 2,272, compared with 2,201, and their value £100.790, against £88.581. Sheep, it is true, have fallen off considerably in the number exported. Still, 4,443, valued at £48,099, may be considered a sufficient magnitude of trading for British breeders to be congratulated on. Last year the number of sheep exported in the first nine months was 5.796, the value of which was £55.914.

Should the refusal of the Argentine Republic to receive sheep from Great Britain last for any material length of time, it will probably prove a serious matter for the Lincoln men. Flockmasters of several other breeds were also hoping to increase their returns by catering for the Buenos Ayres ram market, but blighted enterprise devoid of pecuniary loss is a very slight matter compared to actual sacrifice of a highly lucrative course of trading. The Lincoln breeders have had a tolerably good innings, and, although bowled out for the time being, their fielding most likely will only be short; besides which, in times past they were accustomed to realise big prices for their rams from other countries. New Zealand was known to take them at [illegible] long before the Argentine demand sprung up. "The wind bloweth where it listeth," and it may not be long ere we shall find other countries possessed of numerous flocks sorely in need of being improved by the employment of British pedigree rams.

Every year at ram sales and fairs large numbers of the Hampshire and Oxfordshire [illegible] comes are caught up for export to Germany and France. The United States and Canada have always exhibited a preference for Shropshires and Southdowns, but some of the Notts. [illegible] Longwools, causing Cotswolds to have been extensively bought in the past, but in recent years a great many Kent rams have crossed the At-

lantic. Almost every successive year brings some improved process or means for preserving meat perfectly fresh for lengthy periods, and as these come into general use all countries having large flocks capable of improvement require pedigree rams of the right sort that they may make their mutton saleable in the best markets.

There could not possibly be a greater mistake, however, than to regard British pedigree stock-breeding as chiefly dependent on export demand for success. Proof to the contrary will be found in the fact that since Shire horse breeders have lost their chief export, market prices for the best bred stallions and fillies have been far higher than ever. Stallions are not reared so generally as before perhaps, but there is abundant compensation for this in the high rates of geldings fitted for heavy dray work.

Similarly there is, and will be for many years to come, an urgent home demand for pure-bred bulls to raise the character of the bulk of the cattle reared by farmers in general. Unless this be done, successful competition with foreigners in the supply of beef cannot possibly be maintained. Some of our largest landowners are so well aware of this that they not only provide their tenants with the right kind of sires, but inaugurate estate shows, that by emulation the tardy and non-enterprising may be stimulated into action. The Council of the Northumberland Agricultural Society has deemed it to be one of its chief duties to place stud bulls at convenient stations all over that county for the service of its members, and as the need for this kind of thing becomes more urgent there will be a much greater strain on pedigree herds to supply a sufficient number of bulls than has yet been experienced. And such large demands will only cease when all ordinary herds have been improved off the face of the ground by the regular, perpetual use of pedigree bulls. The object is a formidable one certainly, but "a bull is half a herd," so that after it has commenced in earnest exchanges would be exceedingly rapid.

Taken altogether, the prospects of stock-breeding are far from discouraging. There are interests, not adverted to above, for which present circumstances are directly favourable instead of the reverse. The war has given a fillip to the breeding of cavalry horses and ponies. The high prices vanners and quick-trotting street horses have recently brought will no doubt cause occupiers of light soils to follow the example of those who till heavy ones, and by working mares cause them to breed foals as well. The latter produce dray horses, but the former could breed and rear vanners.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

The Monmouth Corporation has decided to present the freedom of the borough to Lord Llangattock, in recognition of his great generosity to the town. The last recipient of the honour was Lord Nelson, in 1802.

During the past week I have received some leaflets dealing with Indian crops from the Department of Land Records and Agriculture of Madras and also Bengal. From the former two have come to hand, and they are the first reports on the indigo crop and the sugar cane crop of 1900-1901. With regard to the indigo it is stated that, owing chiefly to the small area sown with the crop in the Kistna district, and the limited area sown in the Carnatic, the total area reported to have been sown this year is only slightly greater than last year. In the Deccan districts the area is rather below the normal, chiefly in Cuddapah, as in Kurnool it is fully as great as the average for recent years. The total area for the Presidency, 157,000 acres, is, however, only about two-thirds of the average of previous years, though considerably greater than the area reported at the corresponding date in 1898.

In some places the rainfall of July stimulated comparatively extensive sowings; in other places the rainfall has been unfavourable for sowing; but the principal causes restricting the area are the high prices ruling for food grains and the fall in the price of the dye. The reports received show that, at the end of August, the crop was in fair condition, but almost everywhere needed rain. Since the reports were made up good rain has fallen in almost all the localities where the crop is largely grown.

The area planted with sugar cane—46,900—is smaller than last year, and about ten per cent. less than the average of recent years. The cause of this is given as owing partly to the deficient supplies of irrigation water in many of the smaller works at the beginning of the current agricultural year, and to the existence of disease in the cane in parts of the Gódávari delta. The condition of the standing crop is generally reported to be fair, and with the recent general improvement in the season may be expected to do well on the whole.

The leaflets received from the Bengal Department are the final report on the jute crop and a preliminary forecast of the *bhadoi* crops of Bengal for the year 1900. The report on jute gives approximate estimates of the area and outturn of the crop up to the middle of September. Almost the whole of the jute crop of Bengal is grown in the twenty-six districts from which returns are received by this Department. It was shown in the preliminary forecast that, although the area under jute was rapidly recovering from the low figure to which it fell in 1898, it had not yet reached the normal figure, and was still smaller than the areas cultivated in the years from 1893 to 1897. Further inquiries made since the issue of the first forecast have disclosed some additions to the area then reported, but it would appear that the impetus given to extension by the high prices of 1899 has been checked by the rise in the price of rice. The total area now under jute is 2,043,400 acres, as compared with a normal area of 2,164,400 acres and areas of 1,624,400 acres in 1898 and 1,961,800 acres in 1899.

It is estimated that, in a normal year, the average outturn of jute amounts to three bales per acre. On the normal area as now shown this would amount to about 65 lacs of bales, as the outturn of a 16-anna or normal crop. It may be anticipated that the present crop will give an outturn of about 60 lacs of bales, as compared with an estimate of 61 lacs of bales in the first forecast. This represents about 92 per cent. of a normal outturn, or what would ordinarily be termed a 15-anna crop.

The preliminary forecast of *bhadoi* includes all kinds of the crop, both food crops, such as *aus* paddy, maize, and cereals, and non-food crops, such as jute, indigo, and cotton. The character of the season has not been altogether favourable to the *bhadoi* crops of the province. On the whole, the rainfall has been insufficient and badly distributed, but has not failed so badly as to seriously jeopardise the prospects of any of the crops.

The total normal area of the Province under *bhadoi* crops now stands at 16,395,700 acres against 16,495,000 acres reported last year. It is obvious, however, that the areas returned under this head are still too high in many cases, and frequently represent a maximum rather than the normal area. According to the district estimates, the total area under the different kinds of *bhadoi* crops this year is 15,786,200 acres as against the revised estimate of 15,596,800 acres of last year. The increase of 189,400 acres is partly accounted for by the fact that a much greater area has been put under Indian corn this year, last year's season having been especially unfavourable for this crop. The decrease of 96,500 acres in the area under *bhadoi* paddy is due to some paddy lands having been planted with jute this year, owing to the high prices prevailing in the jute market during the past twelve months.

Taking all the *bhadoi* crops together, it is seen from an appendix appended to the note that out of the forty-five districts in the province only four (Saran, Hazaribagh, Manbhum, and 24-Parganas) anticipate an outturn above the normal, while four others (Dinajpur, Malda, Angul, and Ranchi) expect a normal outturn. In eleven districts the outturn is expected to be 90 per cent., or between 90 and 100 per cent., while in twelve others it is expected to be between 80 and 90 per cent. Ten districts have returned an estimated outturn of between 70 and 80 per cent., and the rest forecast an outturn varying between 60 and 70 per cent. of a normal crop. The district officers' estimates show an outturn of 88 per cent. of a normal crop as compared with a 67 per cent., as finally estimated last year.

The outturn of these crops has, says Mr. G. C. Dutt, the assistant director of the Department, been clearly under-estimated in several districts, and I anticipate that an outturn of 92 per cent., for all the *bhadoi* crops taken together will in all probability be harvested.

"The Baltic has removed to 190, Bishopsgate Street Without" is the announcement on the doorway of the house in Threadneedle Street, wherein the Old Baltic Coffee-house—the headquarters of the merchants and brokers trading in tallow, oil, seed, and suchlike commodities in London—has for long been located. The names of "Dickie Thornton" (so well remembered also at Lloyd's) and Jeremiah Harman are inseparably connected with this place, and the Russian trade in the first half of the century, but the associations of the building itself are of yet greater fame, for in the early years of the last century this house was built for the notorious South Sea Company—the great bubble of that age—and has until quite recently retained the title of "The Old South Sea House."

The premises are now in process of demolition, and in a few days the long façade of red brick and stone, with its three tiers of windows and central doorway, long ago blocked up, but still substantially the same as in the palmy days of the famous swindle, will be no more. Already the window sashes and some of the stone sills have been removed, while the interior portion is gone. Formerly the house was fronted by iron railings, but these have long since been removed, and a lower series of windows inserted to light the basement. The bitterness and loss occasioned by the bursting of this gigantic bubble, which beggared so many, has long ago entirely passed away, leaving but a record of popular delusion behind, and even among the ruins of the red building there is scarcely need for a passing sigh.

In contradicting certain erroneous figures published by the Press as to the condition of beetroot culture in Russia, the *Journal de St. Pétersbourg* for the 10th ult. states that according to official statistics the area planted with beetroot amounted to 1,319,932 acres on 1st July, 1900, showing an increase of 9.3 per cent. over the area on the same date of last year, which was 447,365 dessiatines. In 52 per cent. of the total area the state of the crop was reported as very satisfactory, against 48.1 per cent. in 1899, and in 32.5 per cent. as satisfactory, against 32.8 per cent. last year. In every respect, therefore, the present year is so far more satisfactory for the beetroot industry than its predecessor.

An illustration of the existence of disguised, as well as open, sugar bounties in France may be gathered from the production returns of that country for the year 1899-1900. The total quantity of beetroot worked up (says the *Financial News*) was 7,394,475 tons. The supposed yield of sugar, estimated at 7.75 per cent. for taxation, was 573,071 tons, but the actual yield, calculated in refined sugar, was 822,377 tons, or 11.12 per cent. The difference (249,306 tons) between the quantity on which duty was paid and that produced represents the quantity that escapes taxation in France. This profit forms the indirect bounty that, added to the direct bounty, enables producers to sell their surplus to England under cost price. As France consumes only about half her own and colonial production (the latter being some 100,000 tons), it follows that upwards of 450,000 tons can be exported.

The *Statist* reminds us that the Money Lenders Act of 1900 comes into force at the end of this month. As no business is carried on without money-lending in some form or other, business men will naturally want to know how far it concerns them. By the Act a money-lender is anyone who makes (or who hopes to make) money-lending his business; but pawnbrokers in pawn broking, friendly societies, companies specially incorporated by Act of Parliament for the purpose, bonâ-fide bankers or insurance offices, or any corporation specially excepted by the Board of Trade, are not within its provisions. There

are also excepted persons bonâ-fide carrying on any business, not having money-lending as its primary object, who in the course of their business and for the purposes of it lend money.

"Not infrequently a man of business (adds the *Statist*) sees an opportunity of employing money he cannot at the time use in his own business by lending it to others, and it would be hard if such a transaction were to turn him into a 'money-lender'; and yet, as he would be lendnig money otherwise 'than in the course of his business and for the purpose of it,' he could not claim that he came within the exceptions. Probably anyone who in this way occasionally lent money would not be liable for not registering himself as a money-lender; but, on the other hand, if the transaction were harsh and unconscionable, the Court would most likely decide that for the purpose of enabling the transaction to be reopened and relief given he must be considered as a money-lender."

Our contemporary thinks it necessary to caution those persons who, while carrying on a totally different business, at the same time act as money-lenders, to register as such, or they will run the risk of the penalties the Act provides for those who do not. The fact that they were carrying on another business as well as that of money-lending will not excuse them. The register, when it is inspected, will be interesting, and may be surprising also."

The receipts on account of revenue from the 1st of April, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to the 13th of October, were £53,982,811, as against £53,489,945 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which commenced with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £98,200,000, as against £60,976,754 to the corresponding date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on October 13th, 1900, amounted to £1,841,657, and at the corresponding date of 1899 to £2,323,084.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

What will be the strength of the agricultural party in the new House? Perhaps I should have preceded this question with the interrogation, Will there be an agricultural party? Well, I believe there will. What, then, I repeat, will be its strength? I frankly confess that my anticipation is that the men directly interested in agriculture will be more numerous in the new Parliament than they were in the last. The old men we have still with us. Mr. Jeffreys, Major Rasch, Mr. Strachey, Mr. George Lambert, Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, and the like have all been returned, and their number has been added to. All the men whom we desired to see in the House will not be there. For instance, Mr. Adeane, than whom no man was more capable of voicing the necessities of agriculture, has not been sent to St. Stephen's by the farmers of South Hunts. Still, the Agricultural Band—I hope this description will not be thought indecorous—will be larger.

The unfortunate fact is, however—and I am bound to emphasise this after a careful review of the elections—that these agriculturists will go to the House pledged to nothing. Not a single agricultural question has had prominence in the contest. The further amendment of the Agricultural Holdings Act Amendment Bill, over which the Radicals prated so tumultuously when the measure was passing through Parliament, has not even been broached during the contest. "You remember that famous osier-bed clause?" remarked a successful candidate to me. "Well, though mine is a market gardening constituency, in a large measure, I never even heard it mentioned." This is the secret and the lesson of the election. You never heard a single agricultural question even dulcetly breathed. Yes, it is an unfortunate fact that the new agricultural party will go to St. Stephen's a body of inchoate and disunited atoms.

My readers will remember that I was very anxious that Colonel William Woods, a Hampshire country gentleman, should be returned to the House. Well, I had this week a conversation with the Colonel—who, by the way, has failed in his attempt—as to the attitude of the towns towards the agricultural problem. He assured me that it had not touched them one whit. During his campaign he was not questioned upon it, or questioned even upon a point having the remotest connection with it. Was he not even asked how he would relieve the terrible overcrowding of our larger towns? "Not," replied the Colonel in effect, "so far as this overcrowding affected the condition of our villages." Yet the Colonel fought a characteristic Lancashire town, which—and, mark you, this is the more serious side of the situation—has been recruited from the country. No, the towns care not for the villages, and the villages are indifferent to their own weal.

Are we about to see the small holdings question made a political business? This is an enigmatic question, so I will enlarge it. In Norfolk the Radical candidates informed the electorate that they had established an association whose purpose was to enable labourers to secure small holdings, or, rather, to own small holdings, by the easy purchase system. They are to become peasant proprietors, as the townsman becomes the owner of his furniture—by the payment of monthly instalments. This was made an argument for the support of these candidates. Now, I am anxious that agricultural questions should have a just significance in agricultural districts, but I am not anxious that the settlement of any phase of the agricultural problem should be made the occasion of a bribe. This must make for the abasement of agriculture, as it must make for the demoralisation of the electorate. If the villagers have to be cozened into an interest in themselves it will be bad for the villagers and bad for the villages. Baits like this small holdings dodge had much better be renounced.

Another Norfolk incident is the theme of this note. If landlords seek to coerce their tenants to their way of thinking they will do a very considerable ill-turn to landlordism. I am not going to lisp the hedge-asertion of extrseme Radicals and land nationalisers, and declare that landlordism is on its trial. It is not. Landlordism has not yet been brought to the bar of public justice. However, if landlordism seeks to make men bow the knee to whatever professions it advocates, then it will hasten the day of trial. A peer has no right—I place it thus highly—to turn a man from his farm because that man happens to hold different views as to the way in which he should have his soul saved or should exercise his vote or should sing a hymn. The holding of a farm does not mean the peer-possession of a man's mind and heart. I need not emphasise these views. A landlord lets his farm for income's sake, and for naught else. There is not a man in Norfolk who will fail to know what these remarks mean. The peer who coerces in the way I indicate is in danger of bringing discredit on his order. And our English peerage is a great order.

THE DAIRY.

Midland and Agricultural Dairy Institute.

Opening of Extension by Mr. Walter Long, M.P.

The Right Hon. Walter H. Long, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, visited Kingston, Nottinghamshire, on Tuesday, for the purpose of opening a new block of buildings, the erection of which has been necessitated by the transference from the Nottingham University College to the Midland Agricultural and Dairy Institute—as it will henceforth be known—at Kingston of the classes established there a few months ago for the benefit of the students attending the agricultural courses of the Institute. The Institute itself was opened five years ago, and has had a very prosperous career, no fewer than 800 students having passed through its courses. The extension consists of two chemical laboratories, a natural science room, woodwork and iron workshops, a hospital to accommodate thirteen male students, and a residence for the manager, the whole having been built at a cost of £1,200. There was a large and fashionable gathering at Tuesday's ceremony, which took place in a marquee in the Institute grounds, and during the afternoon many of the visitors were conducted through the various departments of the Institute.

Mr. T. Cope, of the Leicestershire County Council, occupied the chair, and in opening the proceedings said it was five years ago since the Duke of Devonshire opened the Institute, and thus inaugurated the work which they had since been prosecuting. That afternoon they were honoured by the presence of Mr. Walter Long—(applause)—who had come to wish them God speed in their new departure. They had now added another word to their name. They were no longer simply the Midland Dairy Institute, but the Midland Agricultural and Dairy Institute. (Applause.) Looking back over the past five years he thought they had very good cause to congratulate themselves upon their success. In the first place upwards of 800 students had passed through the courses of instruction at the Institute, and he was pleased to say that at the present moment there was a full complement of students taking advantage of the education they were able to offer. (Hear, hear.) There were two main causes which had rendered this success possible. One was the way in which various classes on the different County Councils had co-operated for the benefit of one class—the agricultural class. The other was the co-operation among the various Councils without which they could not have done anything like what they had done. Another factor was the excellent staff they had been so fortunate to secure. Having eulogised the work of Mr. Dunstan and Mr. Blackshaw, and of all the other members of the staff, Mr. Cope alluded to the keen interest taken in the institute by Lord Belper, and his cordial co-operation since the work was begun five years ago. It was to him that the idea of extending the usefulness of the institute first suggested itself, and he hoped that the counties interested would make thorough use of the additional opportunities given them. They had endeavoured to make their teaching as practical as possible. He knew full well that farming was what might be called a somewhat "lean trade." They did not generally get very fat at it, and that was one reason why he thought that no opportunity should be lost by the farmer of improving his position. The speaker concluded by expressing the hope that the success which they had experienced during the past five years would continue.

Mr. J. R. Dunstan (secretary of the Notts Technical Instruction Committee) then submitted a report, which showed the number of students who had received instruction at the institute during the five years to be 620. The amount of milk dealt with during that period had been 600,000 gallons. Fifty-three tons of butter had been manufactured, and close upon 130 tons of cheese. The stock on the farm when the work commenced consisted of four horses, 28 horned stock, and 16 pigs; to-day they had 8 horses, 56 cattle, and 93 pigs. The agricultural department at the University College was established in 1894, and the 117 who had attended the courses there brought the total number of students up to 737. On behalf of the staff, Mr. Dunstan thanked the governing body for their unvarying kindness.

Mr. Long's Speech.

The Right Hon. Walter Long, M.P., then addressed the gathering, his reception being of a most enthusiastic character. He had been asked, he said, to say a few words to the assembly in connection with the ceremony in which they had met to show their interest, namely, the opening of the additional buildings which had been provided for the instruction to be given in that institute. He need hardly say that he accepted the invitation conveyed to him by Lord Belper with the greatest possible goodwill and gratitude, because in the position he had the honour to occupy, as the Minister responsible for the agricultural affairs of the country, it was especially gratifying; and it was very helpful when they found that those who were connected with agriculture, who were conversant with its difficulties, and who had a practical knowledge of the obstacles which presented themselves in the way of success, did not invariably turn to Parliament, or to a Minister, or to any other outside source for help, but put their own heads together, and their own hands into their own pockets—which was not always the rule in this country—(laughter)—to provide such assistance as would enable their industry to be more prosperously conducted in the future. Therefore, it was a very gratifying task indeed to one in his position to be allowed to take part in a ceremony of that description. Might he say in the first place that he had been permitted, by the kindness of Lord and Lady Belper to visit that morning their institute, and to see what were the arrangements made there for the instruction of those who attended it? What struck him most in connection with the buildings was their practical character. The temptation that too often proved too strong for those who started an institute like that was to build what were called model buildings, to make the buildings a sort of fancy show place, where at all times they might go and take their friends without being aware of the fact that a cow was being milked or that a pig was being fed. (Laughter.) That was not practical agriculture. (Hear, hear.) In their buildings they had kept in mind the practical necessities and practical difficulties not only of occupying, but of owning, land, and if in an institute like that they were to be carried away by the temptation to which he had referred, and to make their buildings ornate and beautiful to the eye, more like a German toy in a shop than a real farm, they would not, he ventured to say, be helping agriculture as a whole. (Hear, hear.) They might, it was true, instruct their students in ornate buildings as well as they could in buildings like those which they had erected, but it was not only in instructing students that the good of an institute

like that was to be found. If they were going to really help agriculture it would be by setting an example which could be followed by practical agriculturists in the district in which they worked, and if they were going to set that example they must work on lines which they could follow. It was because those buildings were essentially practical in design that he had ventured to refer to this characteristic.

Like everybody connected with agriculture he was familiar with the difficulties to which the chairman had alluded. He knew that when science first came to the aid of agriculture the farmer asked the question: "Who is coming to teach me? Does he think he knows better how to cultivate my farm than I do, who have lived upon it all my life, and my predecessors before me?" And on the other hand the scientist said: "Who is this perverse individual who closes his eyes and shuts his ears to what we are able to do for him, and believe the rule of the thumb is good enough for the industry with which he is connected?" Each was prepared to find fault with the other. Each was prepared to take the beam out of the other's eye; but he did not think either realised what the position of the other was. But those times had gone by. (Hear, hear.) The scientist and the practical farmer joined hands. Each had realised that he had something to learn from the other, and the two together had learned that it was by the combination of science with practice alone that success could be attained. Science had taught a great deal of value to them, and in a few sentences he would indicate to them what seemed to him to be some of the directions in which an institute like that might lead a farmer to conduct his business better. What were some of the objects they wished to attain? They wanted to be quite certain that they had got the right stock on the right soil, that they were giving that stock the right food in the proper quantities so as to be able to produce either milk or meat in the most economical manner. In a word, they wanted to be able to produce at the lowest possible price. Was it not to science that they must turn if they were to solve these problems satisfactorily? The farmer had realised what a gigantic industry was the one in which he was engaged, and how much he had to learn if he was going to prosecute it in a successful manner. Might they not ask themselves what was meant by scientific agriculture?

The prevalent notion was that practical agriculture meant the farming carried on by the practical farmer, and scientific agriculture farming as conducted by the students in the study. Nothing could fall more short of the truth than that. They knew now that scientific agriculture was practical agriculture, aided by accurate knowledge of the great facts connected with agriculture as an industry, and it was after all only by the possession of accurate knowledge that anybody could be a good judge of work. Science meant accurate knowledge of the different problems of agriculture—the different work that was going on in the earth; the different results produced by the combination of various soils and manures; the different results produced by different feeding. He was confident that the farmers of this country, as a body, had by this time realised that they had a good deal to learn; that they were bound to take advantage of opportunities such as those provided at that institute; and he believed, further, that there was evidence in the country already of the practical advantage it derived from such knowledge as could be acquired there. Proceeding, the right hon. gentleman said they were told that agriculture in this country had been brought to a lower state than it used to enjoy by competition. What, after all, did competition mean? It surely only meant that they had somebody who was able to put on the market an article which he could sell at a lower price than they themselves could. This was one of the difficulties they had to overcome. They had got to learn how they could put the best article on the market at the lowest price they could to yield a profit. Could they do so by the old methods without the knowledge they obtained in schools of instruction like that in the interests of which they were that afternoon assembled? He believed they could do it if they learned what were the causes which led to a large amount of produce being valueless. By bringing science to the aid of practice they would be able to overcome some, at all events, of the difficulties which had hitherto stood in the way of agriculture, and would be able to obtain the results they desired.

He had been a farmer all his life. He was a small farmer now, but he would not say whether he had prospered or failed. (Laughter.) At any rate he knew that he had still a great deal to learn. Agriculturists were after all not very different from any other class of the community, and however much they knew there still remained much for them to learn. As in everything else—and he believed more in agriculture than in any other industry—there was a immense advantage to be gained by accurate knowledge of the work they had to do, of the land they had to cultivate, the crops they had to grow, and of the animals they wished to bring to perfection. There was nothing which commanded their admiration and wonder more than the results of the mysterious forces of Nature. Whatever men might do, whatever changes there might be in the world, whatever advancement there might be in science or general knowledge, there was that vast machine going on producing her marvellous results, and by means which, even at the end of the nineteenth century, they knew but little. As their industry was more closely connected with nature than any other, it behoved them to learn accurately so far as they were able what were the causes of nature which led to these great results. In conclusion, the speaker said it had given him the greatest pleasure to be present at the ceremony. It would be impertinent for him to speak of the work of the institute, having had but a passing glimpse of it; but facts and results spoke for themselves. He heartily congratulated the governing body on their past record, and wished for the institute a still more prosperous future. It was only by bringing to their aid every particle of knowledge they could acquire that they would be able to conduct successfully a trade surrounded by so many difficulties. Agriculture was the greatest of their great national industries. It had prospered, and, he believed, would prosper again. (Loud applause.)

Subsequently Mr. Long distributed the certificates gained by the students, the awards being read out by Mr. Blackshaw, who mentioned that three students entered the National Dairy Diploma Examination, and that all were successful.

Lord Belper, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Long, said they could not have had a more suitable man to perform the ceremony. One reason he interested himself in the institute was that he delighted in having so near his own home, and on his own land, an institution which he thought was of great benefit to the farmers of the district. Having attempted himself for some years to do a little in the way of farming on those very premises, it was a source of great satisfaction to him that they should be devoted to such a useful purpose. That their attempt to combine practical and scientific education had been successful was proved to some extent by the fact that the majority of the students were the sons and daughters of farmers who had recognised that they could get practical help in their own work from the instruction given at that institute. The fact that India, South America, and Australia were represented there showed at least that the work of the institution was not unknown beyond the counties directly interested. He hoped that shortly there would be a field in South Africa sufficiently large for any of the instruction that was given in institutions of that character to find fruitful ground. The extension had been made at very small cost, and they were buildings which would be eminently suitable for the instruction they intended to give in agriculture. That would be the only institution in the country in which were combined a high-class teaching of dairying and an adequate instruction in agriculture. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. R. H. Ashton seconded the resolution, which was carried, and in briefly acknowledging the vote, Mr. Long thanked the assembly for their cordial welcome.

Bath and West and Southern Counties Society.

The third draft (sixty cheeses, weighing nearly 50 cwt.) of this year's cheese made during the month of June at the Cheese School carried on by the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society for the Somerset County Council, at Vale Farm, Batcombe, Evercreech, has just been sold to Messrs. Hill Bros., of Evercreech, at 68s. per cwt. of 112lbs. 5,960 gallons of milk made 5,889lbs. of green cheese, which when sold weighed 5,466lbs., showing a shrinkage of about 7¼ per cent. Since the opening of the school on April 1st last, thirty-six students have attended it. The school closes for the season on October 31st.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

October.

23 Sale of Hackneys and Harness Horses, belonging to Mr D. Mitchell, at Millfield, Polmont, N B.
23 Sale of Shorthorn heifers, at Ipswich.
23 Clayeross Ploughing Association, at Clayeross.
23 Show and Sale of Shire, Clydesdale, and other heavy horses, at York Horse Repository.
23, 24, 25, and 26. Concluding days of the Brewers' Exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington.
24. Sale of Mr. W. Lawson's stud of Hackneys, at Blackpool.
24. Sale of Farm Stock, belonging to Mr. J. J. Barrow, at Holmwood, Langton, Tunbridge Wells.
25 Sale of pure bred Shorthorns and Aberdeen-Angus cattle, at the Agricultural Hall, Aberdeen.
25 Sale of Lincoln Red Shorthorns, the property of Mr. C. H. Stafford, at Fledborough, near Newark.
25 Gravesend and Rochester Agricultural Association's Show, at Gravesend.
26 Sale of Messrs. W. and J. Thompson's Shire Horses, at Desford, Leicester.
26 Sale of Store Stock, at Shrewsbury Smithfield.
26. Sale of Shire Horses, at Peterborough Repository.
26 Sale of pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs, the property of Mr. C. S. Marsh, at Purwell Dairy Farm, near Hitchin.
29 Sale of Store Stock, at Bridgnorth St. Luke's Fair.
29 Sale of pedigree Hackneys and Harness Horses, at York Horse Repository.

Surveyors' Institution.—The first ordinary general meeting of the session 1900-1901 will be held on Monday, November 12th, when the president, Mr. John Shaw, will deliver an opening address. The chair will be taken at eight o'clock.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

New and Old Breeds of Wheat.

Sir,—If you will allow me, I should like to notice some mis-statements in the letter of Mr. John Francis Beddall in the MARK LANE EXPRESS of October 15th.

The Square Head was not grown on clover ley, but after a crop of beans, and the White Monarch was grown after a clover ley.

The statement that "everyone knows that clover is the very best preparation for a wheat crop" only holds good on some lands, and on all strong wheat-growing soils there will be a larger return of wheat after a crop of beans than if the preceding crop had been a clover ley.

I am afraid the experience of Mr. Beddall is as limited as his assertions are incorrect.

I have grown the Square Head wheat for many years, and I have given Mr. Scholey a testimonial. I also reported favourably of the White Monarch, as it appeared just before harvest, and I wrote to Messrs. Gartons at the time, and I have been told an extract from my report appeared in one of their circulars. Mr. Scholey is a perfect stranger to me, and I have never seen him. I have met Mr. T. R. Garton once, as he was good enough to make an appointment with me at Rugby in September last, when he fully explained his system of cross fertilisation, and I am sure he is doing a great work, and I believe he will be able to very much improve the cereals, and he has my best wishes for his complete success. I have this autumn sown in the same field the Red King and White Monarch wheats of Messrs. Gartons, and the Square Head of Mr. Scholey, and the two first are in the centre of the field, with the Square Head all round them, and after next harvest I shall venture to send you a full account of the result, with the hope that you may think it worth inserting in the MARK LANE EXPRESS.—I remain, your faithfully,

HENRY H. CAVE.

Estate Office, Rugby, October 19th, 1900.

Princess Christian Visits Reading College Poultry Farm.

On Friday afternoon her Royal Highness the Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, who was accompanied by Lady Jeune and Mr. Sydney Peel, paid a visit to the poultry farm belonging to Reading College at Theale. The Princess was received at The Chestnuts by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Brown and family, by Mr. H. J. Mackinder, principal, and Mr. Francis H. Bright, registrar of Reading College. Her Royal Highness takes great personal interest in the development of the poultry industry, as evinced by the fact that she is on the committee of the National Poultry Organisation Society, and is president of the Windsor and Maidenhead branch of that society.

The various operations carried on at the farm were followed, and the college students were seen engaged in their regular duties. These include the rearing of ducks and chickens, both by natural and artificial means. The ranges of houses containing breeding stock were inspected, and the different systems of housing adopted were explained by Mr. Edward Brown, as was the fattening of fowls for killing. Princess Christian expressed herself as highly pleased with the fine stock of ducks on the farm, and her great satisfaction with what she had seen, asking many questions respecting the Reading College, which she hopes to visit on another occasion. After a tour of the establishment the Princess and her party honoured Mrs. Brown with their company at tea.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

17,345.—P. J. Parmiter, of Ansty, Salisbury, for an invention for "A machine for flat hoeing and singling turnips and other roots."

17,370.—J. H. Heath, of Chancery Lane, London, for an invention for "An improved stand for use when sharpening the knives of reaping and mowing machines."

17,636.—J. E. Rasome, of Chancery Lane, London, for an invention for "Improvements in machines for turning the swath of grass and other crops."

Patents Sealed.

12,318.—F. H. P. P. Onam, of The Hawthorns, Lordship Lane, Tottenham, for "Weeds, destroying, digging machines, agricultural."

12,319.—B. Jackle, of Locherhof, Rottweil, Wurtemberg, Germany, for an invention for "Improvements relating to thrashing or crushing machines."

12,329.—C. Harper, of Woodbridge, near Guildford, Western Australia, for an invention for "Improvements relating to thrashing machines."

12,536.—J. Barugh, of Kerikeriroa, Waikato, and W. K. Elder, of Auckland, both in Auckland, New Zealand, for an invention for "Improvements relating to agricultural ploughs."

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

The persevering firmness of growers is gaining its reward, in the steady improvement of the tone of the market, in the increased demand, and in the consequent solid advance in values which has been established. And a more satisfactory feature is to be found in the strength of the position, which creates unquestioning confidence in the continuance of the upward movement. In fact, all is going well for holders of hops, and all sections of the trade (except the brewers) are pleased. The grower will get a reasonable profit on his produce, the factor's commission will increase with the rise of prices, and the merchant's opportunity of enlarging his margin is more open. It is, therefore, to the interest of us all to encourage the present advance, and the firmness to which I would exhort growers will be really of service to each division of the trade through which hops are bound to pass before they arrive at their ultimate destination.

There is now a grand opportunity for testing the strength that arises from unity. Supplies are getting short, as so many of the smaller growers have been sold, and many of the more important planters are sitting beside their hops. Confidential association would do wonders to-day, and under its influence the market's progress would be rather by "leaps and bounds" than by steps. Perhaps the slower rate of progression is safer, but it is in any case absolutely sure, and as both sellers and buyers are looking in the same direction and expecting the same thing, there is no doubt that the climax of much higher prices is not far off.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The feature of the week has been an increased demand, with corresponding general activity in business. Brewers are not buying as freely as might be expected, and the chief trade is being done in medium qualities suitable for export, but the effect of this movement is felt throughout the market, resulting in an advance of quite 10s. per cwt. Stocks in the hands of dealers have sensibly diminished, and sales have considerably exceeded the arrivals. There are those who consider that this decided upward movement cannot be supported, but will be soon replaced by reaction. The arguments in favour of this view are founded upon the indifference manifested by brewers, who in the midst of the recent and present excitement have stood aside apparently unconscious of what is going on. It is also stated that their attitude of abstention from the market may be explained by the industrial crisis affecting the labouring classes in all countries, by the competition with beer of wine, cider, and other beverages in some districts, and by the increased cost of coal and the enlargement of general manufacturing expenses. I cannot accept these reasons as having any permanent importance, their influence can only be temporary, and when this has passed the consumption of beer will be resumed, as it is so well established as the most necessary as well as the least costly of beverages for every beer-drinking people. Instead of reaction, I am more inclined to anticipate development of the present movement towards higher values for hops, as I am satisfied that sooner or later brewers will again be prominent as buyers, especially when they realise the limitation of available supplies.

Uehlfeld.

The new crop of hops is generally of good colour and excellent quality. Two-thirds of the growth of the district are sold at full prices, but growers are not pressing sellers, and are holding back for advanced offers.

Kindingerland.

The greater part of the crop having been disposed of, the trade has become quiet, the market being denuded of supplies.

Wurtemberg.

The arrivals at Rottenburg market are small, and high prices being asked business is rather quiet. Growers are not willing to sell unless at their own estimates.

Weilderstadt.

Nearly the whole of the growth has passed out of first hands, growers being able to realise the prices demanded, which ranged from 70s. to 90s.

Vienna.

The crop in Eastern Styria turned out a fair average in quantity, and the general quality is satisfactory. In Southern Styria the colour and quality are described as excellent, and buyers being anxious to secure the hops active business resulted at full prices. Some growers are still holding in expectation of better remuneration. The harvest in Freistadt was late, owing to drought, and the yield is one third less than last year.

Keiff (Russia).

The hop crop has yielded about two-thirds of last year, and only totals 7,000 pouds, or about 2,600 cwts. The quality is good, and sales were made in September at 15 roubles (30s.) per poud of 40lbs., but in consequence of crop reports from Bavaria the value fell to 12 roubles (24s.), and this figure now represents the current price, being equal to about 67s. 6d. per English cwt.

Munich.

Business has been comparatively quiet recently, the arrivals for the week ending October 13th being about 45,000 and the sales not reaching 23,000 kilos. The stocks in the hands of dealers are fairly considerable, and there is apparently some inclination to force sales, as quotations are now reported a shade easier than the currency of last week.

Burgundy.

The hop market is very firm, with a tendency towards improvement in values. Business is, however, limited, only a few transactions being reported.

Belgium.

The firmer tone spoken of last week has been accentuated during the past few days, and the markets both speculative and actual are decidedly stronger. The realisation of the short crop, coupled with the determination of growers to be sufficiently remunerated for it, is convincing buyers that they cannot have their own way this year. Prices are therefore gradually creeping up to the figures quoted at the opening of the season, and I am prepared for a further substantial movement in the same direction within the next few days.

America.

That the local consumption of hops must be increasing is proved by the official returns of internal revenue from fermented liquors in the U.S.A., the revenue for August last being nearly 850,000 dollars, or over 10 per cent., in excess of the corresponding month in 1899. This fact, taken in connection with the acknowledged shortage of the year's crop, explains the steady advance in value which is evident in every hop-growing state. Offers by dealers to growers are rising, the current quotations of New York State being now 16½ to 17 cents, these being met by growers with comparative indifference. On the Pacific coast a smaller production is developing, and although figures are being raised very cautiously, they are certainly progressing, and a currency of 20 cents is now looked for as within the range of possibility.

The New York market remains in the meantime rather quiet, but dealers who have secured stocks are not pressing them off, preferring to wait for further developments, and, as they expect, increased profits.

The quality of the new growth, both in New York State and throughout the Pacific Coast, is generally reported as being good, free from disease, and well harvested.

(For Hop Market Reports, see page 527-529.)

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the Mark Lane Express, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society.*

To Hop Growers.—Users of Wire Work should buy the Best English Galvanised Steel Hop Strand, made by Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington, Lancs. For prices, &c., apply to their London office, 86, Leadenhall-street, E.C.; or their Sole Agent for Kent and Sussex, Mr. Edward Ball, 3, Newsteadroad, Lee, S.E.—[Advt.]

THE GARDEN.

Any hopes of a fine autumn that may have been cherished are now dashed rudely to the ground. Anything worse than the weather experienced here since the commencement of October could scarcely be imagined. According to an old weather saying, there are always nineteen fine days in October, but so far we have only had one (the 4th) really fine, and as this is the 15th the month will have to look sharp to make up the tally. It rains almost incessantly, both day and night, the squally showers being varied with falls of hail and sleet, and the sun is almost invisible.

The ground is so sodden with rain that scarcely anything can be done in the open ground, and we have had to watch for a few fine hours now and then to get up the last of the late potatoes. Those grown in "lazy beds" are on the whole much more firm, sound, and free from disease than the produce of the level ground, the sunk alleys between the beds draining the latter thoroughly, and rendering them much drier than the open quarters. Even a batch of Abundance—usually a very "soft" variety, and sadly liable to disease—from such beds is remarkably sound and good, and cooks capitally.

Scarlet runners, as well as French beans, are practically over with us; there has been no frost here, but the recent storms quite wrecked the rows, almost stripping the plants of leaves and finishing them up for the season.

Weather permitting, next month will be the right time to make a sowing of peas and beans (broad) for the earliest crops next season. It is, of course, useless to sow seed of either in the autumn except on a fairly light, warm, and well-drained soil, and in a somewhat sheltered position. Even then there is always a certain amount of risk attached to the practice, but with a not too severe winter the plants will survive, as a rule, and afford not only earlier, but also more abundant crops, especially in a dry season, than those sown in the spring. The ground should be well worked (dug or ploughed) before sowing and at the same time a liberal dressing of manure should be given. The question of the most suitable varieties for this sowing will be dealt with in another article.

While on the subject of peas, by the way, it is worth while to remark that a variety that has afforded excellent results during the season now just over is Autocrat. This is a late variety of the Ne Plus Ultra class or race, growing about 3ft. in height, and though slightly taller than Omega, is decidedly superior to this last in every other respect. As a late pea it is almost unequalled, good, well-filled pods having been gathered up to within a few days ago, in spite of the cold and wet weather, while from other districts it is reported as having withstood a good deal of drought better than any other variety. This is worth "making a note of," as Captain Cuttle would say.

Raspberries. Healthy young canes of this very useful and popular fruit may be planted at any time now—that is, wherever the soil is fairly light and warm, but on heavy or damp land I would rather plant in March. Unlike most other fruits, the raspberry usually thrives best on soil of this description, a good, rich, or deep clayey loam suiting it to perfection. If planted on light soil the only way is to trench the ground deeply and manure it well previous to planting, and never to omit the annual mulch of [illegible] manure over the roots [illegible] this being best done towards the end of April or in May on very light or warm soils rather earlier, perhaps.

Roses of the Hybrid Perpetual [illegible] comparatively hardy classes may be planted at any time now, and probably the sooner the better. Except in the warmest localities, and where a rather light and free soil prevails, the choice tea-scented kinds will be better left till next spring, however, the end of March or early in April being the best time. I will endeavour to give a brief selection of the best varieties in my next—the list of names is always increasing.

Begin planting Dutch bulbs—hyacinths, tulips, narcissi, etc.—as soon as possible, not forgetting the showy ixias and sparaxis.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

West of Scotland Agricultural College.

The internal alterations in the dwelling-house at 6, Blythswood Square, Glasgow, which has been acquired by the governors of the West of Scotland Agricultural College, are now completed, and the winter classes have been commenced. For a number of years agricultural classes were carried on in the Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College in John Street, but under a scheme formulated by the Scotch education authorities this department was combined with the dairy school at Kilmarnock, and given the title which it now bears. Last summer the governors, who are elected by the Town Council, the University, the Technical College, and the Highland and Agricultural Society, secured the commodious private residence forming No. 6, Blythswood Square, and within the last two months this house has been adapted to the purposes for which it is intended to be used.

The building consists of three floors and basement. There are three lecture rooms, a botanical and a chemical laboratory, and reading, cloak, and refreshment rooms. The laboratories are on the upper floor, and large windows in the roof afford each of them plenty of light. The class-rooms are fitted with the necessary appliances, and arranged according to a well-considered scheme. The accommodation is scarcely as large as the governors desire, but when sufficient funds are available additions will be made at the rear of the existing building. The premises are lit throughout by electricity, and special attention has been given to the ventilation.

The introductory lecture was delivered in the college on Wednesday night by Professor A. N. M'Alpine. Mr. J. Watson Stewart presided, and among others present were Councillor Dr. Dougan and Principal Wright. The Chairman, in the course of his introductory remarks, said that a large amount of educational work had been carried on in connection with agriculture and its cognate subjects by the Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College, but there had been a feeling that some special effort should be made to promote agriculture in a way which could not be expected of the Technical College, which, on account of the various industries in the city, had so many claims upon its resources. Some of the counties in the south and west of Scotland took the initiative in the matter, and through their action the Scotch Education Department called a meeting of those interested in order to devise a method whereby effect might be given to the feeling which had sprung up. The result was that there was now an Agricultural College, a separate institution, in which the instruction given would, he was sure, enable the students to pass any examination in agriculture, however stiff it might be.

Professor M'Alpine, whose subject was "Profitable Crop Plants," pointed out the various ways in which weeds and parasite fungi interfered very materially with the profits from crop-growing. The action of the soil germs had been understood only within the last few years, and the lecturer showed how farmyard manure was, in the first place, merely food for them—food which the germs so changed that it became suitable for the sustenance of the farmers' crops. Lime was applied to the soil in order to render it favourable for germ life, and by favouring germ life the fertility of the soil might be raised to a higher standard than before, and the yield of the crops correspondingly increased. The points which science had specially to deal with in connection with successful cropping were: The weed destroyers, the preventives of plant diseases, the fulfilment of the conditions necessary for active germ life in the soil, the best grass and clover mixtures, etc. Due attention ought also to be paid to selection of the best and most suitable varieties of potatoes, corn, etc., for the varieties in the markets of the present day were much more numerous than formerly, and afforded much larger scope for choice and for skill on the part of the farmer. The lecturer advised all farmers to have their grass and clover seeds tested and guaranteed as to germination and purity. The opinion was expressed that the seed-seller should be compelled by law to give a guarantee with the seed as is already the case with manures and feeding stuffs.

Monmouthshire Chamber of Agriculture.—An important general meeting (the second for the new division for Bedwellty Union-District) will be held on Thursday next, October 25th, at 2.30 p.m., at the Angel Hotel, Maesycwmmer. Business: (1) To elect new members and other routine matters. (2) To receive "Statement of Legislation required in the Agricultural Interest" which was sent to the various Parliamentary candidates in this county. (3) To receive report of Cattle Diseases Committee of Central Chamber. (4) To receive communication from secretary of Central Chamber re damage to crops by sparks from railway engines. (5) To consider "The Report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation" (is issued). (6) To consider "Agricultural Insurance." Subjects 5 and 6 are to be discussed at the next meeting of the Central Chamber in London.

Agricultural Returns for the United Kingdom.

Acreage under Crops and Grass; and Number of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs as returned upon the 4th June, 1900, and 5th June, 1899, in each Division of Great Britain, with Particulars for Ireland and Total for the United Kingdom.

	ENGLAND.		WALES.		SCOTLAND.		GREAT BRITAIN.		IRELAND.		UNITED KINGDOM, including ISLE OF MAN and CHANNEL ISLANDS.	
	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900. (*d*)	1899.	1900.	1899.
	Acres.	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*
TOTAL AREA OF LAND & WATER. (*a*)	32,549,019	32,549,019	4,774,618	4,774,618	19,458,416	19,458,416	56,782,053	56,782,053	20,706,258	20,706,258	77,681,644	77,681,644
TOTAL ACREAGE under CROPS and GRASS. (*b*)	24,713,790	24,735,961	2,824,340	2,823,456	4,899,256	4,897,690	32,437,386	32,457,107	15,229,017	15,215,357	47,789,444	47,795,270
CORN CROPS. Wheat	1,744,556	1,899,827	51,654	53,898	48,832	47,256	1,845,042	2,000,981	53,797	51,859	1,901,014	2,055,283
Barley or Bere	1,645,022	1,635,034	105,048	105,978	240,195	240,496	1,990,265	1,982,108	174,184	169,660	2,172,140	2,159,396
Oats	1,860,513	1,781,649	216,447	220,233	949,128	957,873	3,026,088	2,959,755	1,104,848	1,135,675	4,145,633	4,109,964
Rye	46,102	43,951	1,464	1,625	5,998	6,660	53,564	52,236	11,410	12,111	65,047	64,440
Beans	248,828	234,528	1,288	1,338	13,124	13,190	263,240	249,056	2,296	1,988	265,742	251,191
Peas	154,295	159,887	1,542	1,665	1,372	1,199	157,209	162,751	443	426	157,815	163,325
TOTAL	5,699,316	5,755,476	377,443	384,737	1,258,649	1,266,674	7,335,408	7,406,887	1,346,978	1,371,719	8,707,391	8,803,599
GREEN CROPS. Potatoes	396,936	387,715	33,225	32,982	131,200	126,985	561,361	547,682	654,413	662,898	1,227,569	1,222,614
Turnips and Swedes	1,160,391	1,203,880	62,981	66,836	465,234	470,277	1,688,606	1,740,993	297,895	301,455	1,994,421	2,050,422
Mangold	401,913	363,302	9,842	8,855	2,661	1,785	414,416	373,942	(*e*) 68,838	(*e*) 62,714	484,050	437,307
Cabbage, K.-Rabi, & Rape	177,857	156,490	3,848	3,579	13,978	12,967	195,683	173,036	(*f*) 47,071	(*f*) 46,057	242,967	219,283
Vetches or Tares	166,718	174,529	1,545	1,531	9,688	9,831	177,951	185,891	3,382	3,541	181,679	189,769
Other Green Crops	138,562	124,040	1,049	1,041	2,494	2,478	142,105	127,559	27,272	25,326	171,088	154,668
TOTAL	2,442,377	2,409,956	112,490	114,824	625,255	624,323	3,180,122	3,149,103	1,098,871	1,101,991	4,301,774	4,274,063
CLOVER, SAINFOIN, and GRASSES under Rotation. For Hay	1,598,566	1,622,603	196,992	198,046	406,223	394,234	2,201,781	2,214,883	607,367	624,118	2,822,418	2,852,544
Not for Hay	1,169,472	1,184,007	199,690	196,641	1,188,215	1,212,420	2,557,377	2,593,068	610,642	627,144	3,201,899	3,253,288
TOTAL	2,768,038	2,803,610	396,682	394,687	1,594,438	1,606,654	4,759,158	4,807,951	1,218,009	1,251,262	6,024,317	6,105,832
PERMANENT PASTURE, or GRASS *Not broken up in Rotation.* (*b*) For Hay	3,776,473	3,753,867	464,870	457,173	131,756	128,045	4,373,099	4,339,085	1,558,084	1,494,459	5,936,717	5,839,379
Not for Hay	9,615,404	9,570,293	1,464,175	1,462,437	1,276,357	1,258,932	12,355,936	12,291,662	9,947,103	9,947,859	22,324,812	22,261,293
TOTAL	13,391,877	13,324,160	1,929,045	1,919,610	1,408,113	1,386,977	16,729,035	16,630,747	11,505,187	11,442,318	28,261,529	28,100,672
FLAX	457	465	9	10	1	1	467	476	47,327	34,986	47,794	35,463
HOPS	51,308	51,843	...	...	...	...	51,308	51,843	...	...	51,308	51,843
SMALL FRUIT	66,749	64,867	1,109	1,106	5,922	5,553	73,780	71,526	4,356	4,809	78,687	76,772
BARE FALLOW	293,068	322,584	7,562	8,482	6,878	7,508	308,108	338,574	8,289	8,272	316,644	347,026
	No.	*No.*	*No.*	*No.*	*No.*	*No.*	*No.*	*No.*	*No.*	*No.*	*No.*	*No.*
Horses used solely for Agriculture (*h*)	834,063	839,345	90,955	91,097	153,353	154,953	1,078,371	1,085,395	(*g*) —	(*g*) —	(*g*) —	(*g*) —
Unbroken Horses:—1 year & above	224,284	230,547	40,863	41,635	30,330	32,444	295,477	304,626	(*g*) —	(*g*) —	(*g*) —	(*g*) —
" " Under one year	93,974	93,920	21,466	21,242	10,855	11,447	126,295	126,609	(*g*) —	(*g*) —	(*g*) —	(*g*) —
TOTAL OF HORSES	1,152,321	1,163,812	153,284	153,974	194,538	198,844	1,500,143	1,516,630	491,143	501,982	2,000,492	2,028,092
Cows and Heifers in Milk or in Calf	1,899,623	1,945,677	287,014	285,794	434,264	439,789	2,620,901	2,671,260	1,458,130	1,443,819	4,090,738	4,133,249
Other Cattle:—Two years & above	1,036,052	1,007,770	92,806	86,556	243,674	246,984	1,372,532	1,341,310	1,030,903	1,011,548	2,408,217	2,357,207
" " One year & under two	990,006	931,927	185,555	169,195	285,247	287,389	1,460,808	1,388,511	1,033,906	993,300	2,504,685	2,391,250
" " Under one year	923,017	956,478	193,011	195,146	234,901	243,015	1,350,929	1,394,639	1,085,504	1,058,095	2,445,262	2,462,980
TOTAL OF CATTLE	4,848,698	4,841,852	758,386	736,691	1,198,086	1,217,177	6,805,170	6,795,720	4,608,443	4,507,272	11,454,902	11,344,686
Ewes kept for Breeding	6,011,818	6,096,168	1,360,245	1,332,756	2,978,263	3,031,913	10,350,326	10,460,837	2,585,932	2,554,632	18,941,887	19,097,534
Other Sheep:—One year & above	3,454,142	3,489,128	874,674	854,906	1,635,053	1,696,566	5,963,869	6,040,600				
" " Under one year	6,378,753	6,676,121	1,197,597	1,228,695	2,701,681	2,832,501	10,278,031	10,737,317	1,800,765	1,809,444	12,112,660	12,582,691
TOTAL OF SHEEP	15,844,713	16,261,417	3,432,516	3,416,357	7,314,997	7,560,980	26,592,226	27,238,754	4,386,697	4,364,076	31,054,547	31,680,225
Sows kept for Breeding	279,782	317,041	36,130	40,884	16,609	17,986	332,521	375,911	(*g*) —	(*g*) —	(*g*) —	(*g*) —
Other Pigs	1,741,640	1,908,379	191,967	217,270	115,804	122,253	2,049,411	2,247,902	(*g*) —	(*g*) —	(*g*) —	(*g*) —
TOTAL OF PIGS	2,021,422	2,225,420	228,097	258,154	132,413	140,239	2,381,932	2,623,813	1,268,474	1,363,311	3,663,669	4,003,589

(*a*) Not including Foreshore and Tidal Water. (*b*) Not including Mountain and Heath Land. (*d*) Furnished by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.
(*e*) Including Beet-Root. (*f*) Cabbage and Rape only. (*g*) Not separately shown for Ireland. (*h*) Including Mares kept for Breeding.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Bucks.

In this district I consider that the wheat is below an average crop. Barley about 3qrs. Peas below. Beans not much grown; winter ones good, spring below the average. Roots: Mangels good; swedes not so good as mangel, but above the average of years. Seeds below average, but hay well got, especially aftermath clover. Catchy weather for harvest.—R. C. (October 15th).

Hunts (South).

The weather now reminds one more of spring than the early approach of November fogs; the birds even after to be deceived into a belief that pairing time is at hand, since they attempt to render early morning pleasant with their vigorous notes. Many of us who have finished wheat sowing would welcome a good rain to solidify the land and furnish moisture to the languishing roots, which will now take up a light crop. The mangolds will be of good quality, but the kohl rabi and swedes may be hard and sticky. The threshing machines are proving how utterly fallacious were the prognostications of those who reported nearly an average crop of corn. Two-thirds of a crop would be nearer the facts.—S. S. (October 20th).

Leicester.

I cannot say that farming prospects are very satisfactory to the occupier. Rents in most instances have been adjusted to the times, so we do not hear so much dissatisfaction as we did a few years ago. We had an exceptionally fine harvest. The thrashing machines give a disappointment of the produce of at least one quarter per acre. This means the rent of one acre that produces it without any increase of expense. Prices of all kinds of grain remain very stationary. We are having a very fine time for all farming operations. Turnips fairly good, also mangolds and pastures; these matters will make up for the deficient hay crop. Stock is selling fairly well. In our market we see the Black-faced sheep taking the place of the Longwools. I suppose our taste is becoming more refined. It is meat to roast now; forty years ago, we must have the pot on, and make some broth; these are things of past days, and I am afraid no better for all classes.—W. C. (October 19th).

Middlesex.

The weather for the past month has been all that could be wished, almost spring-like, mild and open, and the grass growing, with no frosts even to affect the tender plants in the gardens. We in the Harrow district have also had frequent showers, which were much wanted. The only trouble is that all the ponds (which are so much depended on in this neighbourhood) are still quite dry from the excessive drought of August, so that much rain is needed. Hay and straw continue a slow trade, so there is the usual grumbling. A word about the

Coun'ry Farmers' Labour Difficulties,

of which we hear so much. These are greatest in the close parishes, where game is so strictly preserved, and the gamekeepers are the terror of the neighbourhood. Young men can scarcely live there and enjoy their freedom, keep a dog, or go for a Sunday morning's walk without being suspected, and get often falsely charged, and are sometimes deprived of their liberty for a while on the oath of a gamekeeper before, perhaps, the parish clergyman, himself a county magistrate, who does the bid or the wishes of his patron lord, with whom he never refuses to dine. If the lord, who owns, perhaps, every cottage in the village, made it more his business to visit his cottages, and see that the cottagers could keep a pig and had more home comforts, and provided ample allotments upon which the young men could vie with each other for the prizes to be offered at an annual show, all would work better, and we should hear less of cottages being vacated by whole families for the better wages now earning (here in greater London especially), and of which I am often an eye-witness. We read in the papers of cottages being empty and gardens running to waste, and this leads me to what results to the young man who leaves his village home for the better wages of the towns. He soon marries the smart, well-dressed servant, a young family follows, and you find them located in "a flat" (two and sometimes three small rooms upstairs) at seven to ten shillings a week and no taxes, so that the last state of the young man (who should never have been tempted away from his village home) is worse than the first. The remedy, therefore, rests often with the country squire, although I have no sympathy with the farmer, who tries, and often succeeds, in renting and underletting cottages to the labourers, over whom he acts the tyrant at an increased rent.—F. K. (October 19th).

North Devon.

Wheat, a good average; barley, 95 per cent.; oats, 100; potatoes, 60; roots, 100; grass, 90. Wheat sowing forward; gone in well. Late potatoes one-half poor. Apples small and keeping bad. All stock healthy, and selling at fairly good prices. Agricultural prospects fairly good.—J. H. (October 18th).

West Somerset.

The drought with us cannot be said to have broken, and although occasional rains have just kept the roots going and brought away the forage crops there has at no time been enough for the grass lands, which are very bare and brown. It is now too late to hope for much growth this season, and sheep will be drawing on the winter supply of roots earlier than usual. There has perhaps never been so much of the corn crop threshed by this time of the year before, for which the weather has been favourable. The same tale is coming on all hands,

A Very Disapointing Yield,

about two sacks per acre less than last year, whilst prices for both wheat and barley are below expectations. As these were in no way beyond necessities it is difficult to see where any profits are to come from, at the same time our chief outlay in labour and feeding-stuffs seems continually on the rise. This I think must result in still more of the lower grades of arable land going down to grass, as at least one means of saving expenses.—S. K. (October 17th).

Harvest Notes.

The potato harvest, which is now being vigorously prosecuted in the Fen district of Lincolnshire, is turning out very unsatisfactorily, and it is estimated that scarcely half an average crop of eatable potatoes will be secured this year. The deficiency is said to be owing to the dry season, which prevented a proper development of the tuber. Disease has also made havoc with some crops.

On Sunday last the somewhat rare spectacle was witnessed throughout Strathearn and Strathallan and other districts of Perthshire of many farmers busily engaged carting in their long-exposed grain crops. Much of the grain has been damaged, and no little of it destroyed, by being exposed to wet and stormy weather. Hundreds of acres have been in stook for about a month, and the pecuniary losses to many agriculturists must be very heavy.

There has come to hand from the Canadian Department of Agriculture a catalogue of fruit trees under test at the Experimental Farm, at Agassez, British Columbia. This catalogue, which was compiled by the Director of Experimental Farms, Mr. W. Saunders, LL.D., F.R.C.S., F.L.S., and the superintendent of the farm, Mr. T. A. Sharpe, will give those interested in fruit growing, both in Canada and elsewhere, some idea of the great work which has been done by the Canadian Government during the past ten years in bringing together so large and valuable a collection, thus laying the foundation for an accurate and extensive acquaintance with the large fruits of temperate climates throughout the world.

Messrs. Cassell and Co., Ltd., are now issuing in fortnightly parts "The New Book of Poultry," by Lewis Wright. This is not merely a revised edition of Mr. Wright's famous work, but it has been entirely rewritten, and in it the author gives the public the benefit of his latest study of both British and American poultry matters. Among the special features claimed for this work are: The authorised standards of perfection settled by the Poultry Club have been secured for it; a series of portraits showing the alterations that have taken place in recent years in the various breeds; an account of the great American poultry farms; and a description, illustrated by means of coloured and other plates, of the many new varieties of poultry which have been produced during recent years. The work will be completed in thirty parts, and will contain thirty coloured plates, fifteen full-page illustrations, and numerous small ones. As it is published at sixpence, it is within the reach of all, and should help to make poultry keeping even more popular (and profitable) than at present.

Agricultural Hiring in Berkshire.—The great annual hiring and pleasure fair at Newbury, an important agricultural centre, was held in the spacious market square and adjacent corn and canal wharves on Thursday. The exhibitions were of an elaborate and attractive kind, and khaki or war element formed a prominent feature of the photographic and other representations. Judging from the diminishing attendance of country folk it may be concluded that these statute fairs are now used much less than formerly for the purpose of hiring agricultural servants, who, as a rule, experience little or no difficulty in securing continued or fresh engagements near their homes, and frequently through the medium of newspaper advertisements. As a matter of fact, agricultural labour in Berkshire, as in other counties, has become remarkably scarce, and it is really with the greatest difficulty that farmers have now to carry on the work incidental to their holdings. At the fair last year's wages for all classes of agricultural servants were fully maintained, and in some cases even exceeded.

THE WEATHER.

Monday (October 15th).—Rather a strong north-westerly wind was blowing in Scotland and in the North of England, and the temperature was low over the whole of Great Britain. Rain, sleet, and hail had fallen over a large part of the country, and the rainfall measurements were large in parts of Scotland in the morning, being the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours. There was a slight frost in places during Sunday night, and the mid-day temperatures were very little above fifty degrees in any part of the kingdom. There was a slight ground frost in London early in the morning, and the highest temperature during the day was fifty-four degrees.

Tuesday (October 16th).—Cloudy and dull weather was experienced over nearly the whole of our islands, and fog or mist was reported in many places. Rain was measured in the morning in the Northern and Western districts, as the result of the fall since Monday, and the fall was large in parts of Ireland. Rain again fell during the day at many places in the West. Frost occurred over a large portion of the kingdom during Monday night, and at Nairn the sheltered thermometer fell eight degrees below the freezing point. A southerly wind had spread over the entire country, and a brisk rise of temperature occurred. In London the sky was very clear throughout Monday night, and the exposed thermometer, on the grass, in the southern suburbs indicated seven degrees of frost. The day was dull and misty, and the highest temperature was fifty-two degrees.

Wednesday (October 17th).—A considerable rise of temperature occurred over Great Britain, and the weather was again quite mild. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over the entire country, but the amounts were small in the southern districts. Slight rain fell in places during the day. The winds were mostly light, the direction being westerly over the southern portion of the kingdom, and south-easterly in the north. The mid-day temperatures touched 60deg. in the south of England. Slight showers were experienced in London during the morning, but the after part of the day was very fine, and the thermometer rose to 64deg.

Thursday (October 18th).—The weather varied considerably in different parts of the country, and in the South of England the conditions were mostly fine. Rather heavy rain was measured in the morning at the Scotch stations as the result of the fall since the previous day, and smaller amounts were measured in other parts of the kingdom. The barometer had risen over our islands, and a light north-west wind had become general. The temperature was not very different from the average for the season, but the changes were decidedly irregular. The morning was very fine in London, and the highest temperature was fifty-five degrees; but slight rain fell in the afternoon.

Friday (October 19th).—High barometer readings spread over our islands from the Atlantic and merged with the anticyclone which previously occupied north-west Europe. The weather was in consequence more settled, although there was still a good deal of cloud in most parts of the country. Slight rain was measured in the morning in the northern and eastern districts as the result of the fall since the previous day, but scarcely any rain fell during the day. Ground frost occurred during Thursday night over the inland parts of England and Ireland, but at many of our coast stations the sheltered thermometer did not fall below 45deg. A light northerly wind was blowing over the entire kingdom. The midday temperatures were rather low, and not generally much above 50deg. In London the weather was dull but dry, and the highest temperature was 54deg.

Saturday and Sunday (October 20th and 21st).—The anticyclone continued to influence the weather during the two days over the entire country, and cold northerly winds prevailed generally. The night temperatures were low, and ground frosts occurred in many parts of the kingdom. The days also were cold, and in many places the highest temperatures scarcely touched fifty degrees. The weather continued very dry and cold in London, and there was a slight ground frost in the southern suburbs on Sunday morning, while the thermometer throughout the day did not exceed fifty-one degrees, the highest reading on Saturday being similar.

Death of Mr. Nathaniel Stilgoe.—We regret to have to announce that Mr. Nathaniel Stilgoe, of Adderbury, who has been in indifferent health for some time, died on Monday, aged seventy-five. Mr. Stilgoe was a widely known and highly respected agriculturist, and was a prominent breeder of Oxford Down sheep. He was for very many years a member of the Banbury Agricultural Association, in which he ever took much interest, being a member of the committee and assisting the association in many other ways. The deceased gentleman was also a member of the committee of the Oxford County Agricultural Society, and had rendered it yeoman's service for years. He was always one of the stewards of the yard at the shows.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: A quiet trade. Samples of new are coming to hand. Barley: Grinding, 3d per qr dearer. Malting firm, with a good demand. Wheat was 6d per qr cheaper on the week. Oats declined about 3d per qr. Maize advanced 6d per qr. Flour: 3d to 6d per sack lower.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Home-grown wheat comes up in better supply and in good condition, and farmers still prefer country markets, white being absolutely unsaleable. Fine red, 31s 6d to 33lb del vered. American descriptions, although offering at last week's decline, also failed to elicit response, and stocks on hand continue heavy. Granaries continue well-stocked respecting flour, and the market moves very slowly, but holders were not disposed to entertain lower offers. American first patents quoted at 25s 6d to 26s 6d; second ditto, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; first bakers about 21s to 22s; and second, 19s to 20s; Hungarian up to 29s 6d; Australian patents, 22s to 23s per 280lb; English whites, stone 21s 6d to 22s; roller, 22s to 22s 6d; Cascadias, 24s to 24s 3d; town household, 25s 6d; and whites, 28s 6d per sack, being the decline established last Monday by the London Millers' Association. Scarcity of maize on hand and the small quantity being shipped tend to stimulate this cereal, sellers being very indifferent to-day, while demanding higher rates. American mixed, 21s 6d ex ship and 22s paid landed; Odessa, 26s 6d ex quay. Grinding barley maintained and Persian more firmly held. Arrivals of oats continue to show a diminution, and demands, although few, were only met at fully late prices respecting American, while Russian sorts have been further advanced.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Country Exchanges still take most of the home-grown wheat. Fine white here rules at 32s, and red of similar sample at 31s, delivered up, 63lb, quotations being 6d easier since last Friday. Stocks of American descriptions continue excessive, but in view of the present situation holders refuse to accede to concessions. Consumers of flour were indisposed to pay previous rates, but no definite change occurred, despite the entire absence of business. American first patents quoted at about 25s 6d to 26s 6d; second ditto, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; first bakers', 21s to 22s, and second, 19s to 20s; Hungarian up to 29s 6d; Australian patents, 22s to 22s 6d per 280lb. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Grinding barley steady, and Black Sea in better supply than of late. Flat maize rather dearer landed, and held for 22s 3d, ex ship being quoted at 21s 3d. Round corn firm. Odessa, 26s 6d ex quay. The market for beans and peas remains unaltered.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade very slow for wheat at a slight reduction on last week's rates. Other things were practically unaltered.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (white), 30s to 31s per qr; wheat (red), 29s to 29s 6d per qr; beans (new), 28s to 30s per qr; oats (new), 18s to 20s per qr; oats (old), 16s to 18s per qr. Wheat in small supply and trade very quiet.

Boston, Wednesday.—A small attendance and a slow trade. Wheat, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 25s to 30s; grinding barley, 22s 6d to 23s; oats, 16s to 18s; peas, 50s to 60s; beans, 28s to 28s 6d; maize, 23s.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Average supply of wheat, prices falling 6d per qr on the week. Red wheat made from 29s to 32s, white wheat 33s to 34s. Barley same as last week.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been a moderate trade since our last. There was a fair quantity of English wheat offering at to-day's market, farmers having to submit to a reduction to sell. Foreign 3d to 6d lower. Grinding barley, maize, and oats, without change. Flour very slow trade.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Our markets are still scantily supplied with wheat, and, although trade is dull, prices are fairly well maintained. Rain is wanted. At this market to-day we had a moderate supply of wheat in first-rate condition, and trade was dull at last week's rates. Wheat—red, 29s to 31s; and white up to 31s per 504lb. Barley in smaller supply, and prices are unchanged. Beans, steady trade.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat rather dull and prices scarcely maintained. Secondary barleys are easier. Oats firm. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 30s to 33s; red, 29s to 32s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding, 21s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; black, 16s to 20s; peas, 30s to 32s; tick beans, 30s to 32s; mazagans, 27s to 29s; flat maize, 22s to 23s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per quarter; winter tares, 6s to 6s 6d per bushel.

Chester, Saturday.—The quality of English grain, of which there were a good number of samples offering, was generally poor, and lower prices had to be accepted to effect sales. Oats are also threshing out badly and lower quotations: Wheat, white and red, 4s to 4s 3d per 75lb. Grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb. Beans, 4s 3d to 5s 8d per 80lb. Oats new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; old, 3s 2d to 3s 7d per 46lb. Indian corn, 11s 6d to 11s 9d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was an average attendance, but the tone of business generally was quiet. Wheat was in moderate supply, and trade was steady at reduced prices. Maize was rather dearer.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a small supply of wheat to-day. Trade was slow at barely last week's prices. Of barley there was a good show, and best samples fetched full prices; lower quality was neglected. Beans, peas, and oats little offering, and fully as dear.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Large quantities of English wheat offering, which met with a dragging trade at 1s per quarter less money. Foreign, 6d per quarter cheaper. Malting barley in heavy supply. Grinding barley firm, and other feeding stuffs quiet.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat quiet at a decline of 3d per boll on the week. Flour dull, but quotably unaltered. Indian corn quiet, and 3d per boll cheaper. Grinding beans quiet and unchanged. Canadian peas dull, and 1½d to 3d per boll under last week's price is being taken. Foreign and home oats steady. Barley firm. Oatmeal firm. Bran and thirds quiet, but unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Hereford (Wednesday).—A considerable attendance, and large quantity of grain on offer. English wheats met with a slow demand at slightly below last week's values. Barley trade still very disappointing. Oats steady. Maize unchanged. Beans a turn in sellers' favour. Peas nothing doing. Vetches dull. Wholesale prices:—Wheat, white, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per bushel; red, 3s 5d to 3s 7d; barley, 3s to 3s 9d; oats, 2s 3d to 3s; beans, 3s 3d to 4s; maize, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; vetches, winter, 4s to 6s, and spring 3s 6d to 5s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Fair supply of wheat, trade quiet at barely last week's rates. Reds, 29s to 31s; white, 31s to 33s. Good supply of barley, trade for all descriptions at fully late rates. Oats a turn dearer. Maize steady. Beans and peas firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The trade has not been able to resist the persistent weakness in the American markets and heavy shipments. In consequence there is a distinctly easier feeling; holders being compelled to reduce prices 6d per qr, at which reduction all kinds of wheat meet only a limited demand. There is an improved inquiry for Yorkshire barley, but prices obtainable are not satisfactory. Maize, 3d dearer. Beans and oats slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—With a further decline in American and other foreign wheats and prospects of heavy supplies, Tuesday's reduced prices are with difficulty maintained, a slight reduction having to be made to do business. Maize fully realises late rates. Beans, peas, oats, barley, and flour slow sale and weaker in value.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance, with moderate supplies of home grown wheats. Trade rather slow at 29s to 32s per 36 stones. Barley in fair demand. Fine oats firmer.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair supply of new wheats, trade slow, at barely late rates. Reds, 27s to 28s. Whites, 28s to 29s. Foreign, dull. Good show of barley, prices ranging from 25s to 34s. Oats a dull trade, at less money. No change in maize, peas, and beans.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat quiet, with a moderate extent of business. Winter wheats ½d lower, other sorts firm and unchanged. Flour steady, no change in prices. Maize.—Owing to sharp declines in America, dealers are buying only for immediate needs; and mixed American, whilst extremely scarce, shows a loss of ½d from Tuesday. The demand for European and Plate is also slow, and prices slightly favour buyers. Barley.—Californian is in poor demand, and 9d per qr lower. Chilians are firmly held, but high prices check business. Feeding sorts have a slow trade at a decline of ½d. Beans.—Quiet trade at about unchanged prices. Peas.—Quiet trade at last market day's prices. Oats.—English oats meet a steady trade, without change in price. Foreign kinds in moderate demand at Tuesday's values. Oatmeal.—Only a quiet trade passing, but prices are steady at last market day's figures. Oilcake.—There is only a moderate demand for cakes, and prices remain on about the same level as last Tuesday.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Rather a better attendance than might have been expected, as yesterday was the October fair for hops, cattle, etc. Wheat was in moderate supply, and the demand slack, so that to push sales 3d to 1s per qr reduction had to be made. Barley trade is not active, and some less rates allowed for the article. Oats are inclined to lower cost. Beans and peas are scarce and realise rather more money then of late. The best round sorts of maize are too high for much use; the rough and common about the same figure as last week. Winter tares are unsaleable and drop in quotations. There is no alteration in rye, hemp, brank, sergo, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—Trade throughout the week has been quiet, and prices in most sections are favouring the buyer. American wheats are lower by about 1d per cental, and English by 3d to 6d per qr. Flour has declined 6d per sack since last Thursday. No new feature can be mentioned with regard to beans, peas, or oats. Indian corn commanda full rates, say ½d advance on the week.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a quiet trade at less money. Oats were dearer, and there was only a small show. Of barley there was only a fair show, prices being in buyers' favour. Beans made recent prices.

Newcastle-on-Tyne Saturday.—Wheat and flour neglected, and the turn favouring buyers. Malting barley a slow sale and disappointing, varying from 23s to 27s for ordinary quality. Old oats steady, new drooping. Beans and peas no change. Maize is a wonderful feature, and prices maintained.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at our to-day's market favoured buyers. Maize steady at last week's prices. Oats a good sale at late rates for fine qualities. Common sorts, however, were difficult to sell, therefore lower prices had to be accepted. Beans and peas firm. Barley a fair demand, and last week's prices maintained. Flour no change.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—Wheat quiet, and 6d to 9d cheaper on the week. Maize firm, and unchanged in price. Slow sale in barley, and price unchanged. Oats firmly held at last week's figure. Fines, 24s 6d. Offals dearer.

Northampton, Saturday.—Good attendance of farmers and buyers. Supply was good, but millers were not disposed to operate but for immediate wants, unless at lower prices. A limited trade was done at about last week's quotations, and, in a few cases, 6d to 1s more was realised. Barley trade same as last week. White wheat, 30s to 32s; red wheat, 27s to 30s; old, 30s to 32s; barley, 26s to 30s; grinding barley, 22s to 23s; oats, 17s to 22s; old, 24s; beans, 28s to 31s; old fine, 36s; peas, 28s to 36s; flour, 23s to 26s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Only a small supply of wheat at our market to-day, with a slow trade at last week's quotations. Barley a good show, with no appreciable alteration in price since last week. Wheat, red, 30s to 30s 6d per qr, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Barley, 26s to 28s for average sorts; fine lots rather more. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending October 15th, 1900:—Wheat, 2,988-2, 28s 9d; barley, 11,024-7, 26s 2¼ d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in good supply; trade ruled quiet at last week's rates. Barleys: Fine samples were dearer, being scarce, while inferior parcels, which formed the bulk, were difficult of sale. Oats in less supply, and 6d to 1s higher. Beans, but few offering and values fully maintained.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Wheat slow trade and 6d to 1s lower to sell. Barleys, a good quantity showing; best qualities in good demand, secondary dull trade. Oats and beans steady.

Peterborough, Saturday.—We have again had a small supply of wheat and a slow trade without any quotable change in prices. Middling barleys still very dull, and best qualities firm. Oats rather dearer.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was an average attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day, but with very little business doing. The prices for maize are unaltered. Wheat is quiet. Barley and oats are firm.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—At the Corn Exchange to-day the wheat trade ruled quiet, and prices generally were about 1s per qr below those of last week. Barley, on the other hand, sold freely at somewhat advanced rates. No change occurred in the value of other descriptions of corn.

Ripon, Thursday.—Moderate attendance. The show of barley is large, but of inferior quality. Wheat, English, new, 27s to 29s per qr; wheat, English, old, 31s to 32s; ditto foreign, 31s to 35s; barley malting, 24s to 28s; ditto grinding, 23s to 24s; oats, old, 25s to 26s; ditto new, 17s to 19s; round maize, 26s to 27s 6d; flat maize, 23s 6d per qr; beans, old, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—The wheat trade showed a decline of fully 6d per qr from last week's prices. There was a good supply. Red wheat made 29s to 30s 6d, and white wheat 30s to 32s per qr.

St. Neots.—There was again but a very limited quantity of wheat offering, and this alone prevented prices from falling, as trade was very dull. A fair supply of malting barley, for which as yet there is little inquiry, and many samples remained unsold.—ELGOOD AND SON.

Salisbury, Tuesday.—There was a particularly good supply of wheat at the Corn Exchange, but to effect sales holders had to accept 6d less money on the week. Best malting barley sold well. Little or no inquiry for secondary or inferior grain. Oats and beans firm. The quotations were:—Wheat, new, 27s to 32s; ditto old, 30s to 34s; best samples of barley, 32s to 36s; ditto secondary, 26s to 30s; oats, black, 17s to 20s; ditto, white, 19s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Trade slow. Former prices asked for wheat, but needy sellers had to take 6d per qr less. Indian corn firm at full prices. Other things at same prices. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 33s to 33s 6d; red, 32s to 33s; new, 31s to 32s per 504lb; oats, old white, 26s; ditto, new white, 17s 6d to 19s; ditto old black, 22s; ditto new black, 16s to 17s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto blue, 36s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small old, 29s to 30s; ditto American mixed, 23s 6d to 24s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Wheat again dropped 6d per qr, selling at 27s. Oats were a slow trade, at 15s to 17s per qr. Barley sold at late rates. Beans, peas, and other articles firm and unchanged.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was a fair quantity of English wheat showing, which made 29s to 30s per qr. During the week the trade in foreign wheat has been rather depressed owing to heavy arrivals. Millers are buying very sparingly, and only for immediate requirements, and a reduction from 6d to 9d took place. Maize 3d to 6d dearer. Oats unchanged. The malting barley shown was only of moderate quality, and made 24s to 26s per qr.

Sunderland Saturday.—Small supplies from farmers, and there is no alteration to note in value of wheat, barley, or oats from last week. Arrivals: Coastwise, wheat, 600 qrs; foreign wheat, 1,786 qrs; foreign barley, 4,160 qrs.—E. and F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Wheat sold very slowly at barely last week's prices. For malting barleys of the best qualities prices were firm, but secondary qualities were rather easier. Beans and oats unaltered.

Wakefield, Friday.—We have an average attendance at our market to-day. Wheat meets with a dull sale at about 6d per quarter under last week's rates. The finest qualities of barley are alone inquired for, and to a nominal extent. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—The market for wheat is extremely inanimate, millers simply buying to supply immediate requirements, and prices must be called 6d per qr lower. All good qualities of barley met a fair demand; common proves very unsaleable. Maize, beans, and oats slow and unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Winchester, Saturday.—Wheat in fair supply, which met a slow trade at 6d to 1s reduction on the week. Barley steady at late rates. Oats firm. Maize unaltered. Flour quiet and lower to sell.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A limited supply of grain. Wheat quiet at 6d a qr decline. Red, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; old, 30s 6d. Oats firmer, new 17s to 19s; old up to 24s. Barley, 25s to 28s. —JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A large attendance, but business was quiet. Quotations:—English wheat, old 13s to 13s 6d per 216lb; oats, old 15s to 16s, new 10s to 11s; beans, old 14s 6d to 15s 6d, new 12s 6d to 13s 6d per 196lb; maize, 24s 6d to 25s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Market well attended, but there was only a slow trade for wheats, with an easier tendency in values. Barley sold at late rates, and oats were more firmly held. Maize favoured buyers. English wheat, white, 29s to 30s 6d; red, 27s to 29s.

Worksop, Wednesday.—An excellent attendance and an exceptional show of wheat, of which best qualities sold well, secondary kinds being difficult to dispose of. Quotations were not materially changed. Old white made 31s to 32s; old red, 30s to 31s; new white, 28s to 29s; new red, 27s to 28s per qr; best malting barley, 30s to 32s; secondary, 28s to 29s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; old white oats, 25s to 27s; old black, 24s to 25s; new white oats, 18s to 20s; new black, 17s to 18s; flat maize, 24s to 25s; round, 28s to 29s; flour, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per stone; fine sharps, £6 to £6 15s per ton; barley meal, £6 13s 4d to £7; bran, £5 10s to £6 5s.

York, Saturday.—Farmers offered but little wheat, and prices remained without change. The average prices of grain for the week, according to the official return, has been:—Wheat, 28s 7d; and barley, 23s 11d per qr.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has been quiet, but prices have been pretty well maintained. The young wheats are reported to be coming up well in the French country districts, and with a few more fine days, autumn field work will have been, carried through in a satisfactory fashion. Wheat has continued to be offered sparingly upon the French country markets; on the other hand, the milling trade has persistently refused to concede any advance. The wheat trade has shown no activity in the French ports, except at Marseilles, where rather more transactions have taken place to meet the requirements of local consumption. Wheat has shown little or no improvement on the Paris market, although the supplies brought forward have been restricted. Flour for consumption has remained without change in the French capital. Disposable wheat has shown a weak tone at Konigsberg and Dantzic. Wheat has been quiet at Berlin; transactions with delivery at a future date have exhibited a downward tendency. Ibrail advices do not report any improvement in wheat; at the same time there has been some increase in business. As regards the Odessa wheat trade, an increase in supplies from all quarters and favourable weather for sowing have exerted a depressing influence upon prices. The quantity of wheat now en route for the Continent is returned at 1,215,000 qrs, as compared with 1,420,000 qrs at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,215,000 qrs representing the quantity of wheat now en route for Europe, is made up as follows:—France, 110,000 qrs; Belgium, 330,000 qrs; Holland, 320,000 qrs; Germany and the North, 140,000 qrs; and Italy, Spain, etc., 315,000 qrs.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather rainy and boisterous, with night frost. Trade quiet, but prices not materially lower. There is no pressure of stock. The imports during the week amounted to 6,824 tons wheat, 5,148 tons rye, 11,508 tons barley, 5,955 tons maize. Fine dry Saal wheat continues in scanty supply, and is firmly held at 28s 3d to 28s 6d; dry Holstein and Mecklenburg at the same price; common quality at 25s to 27s per 504lb. f.o.b. Fine River Plate and Hard Winter 2 is offering at 29s to 30s per 480lb. Rye quiet. 9 10-15 South Russian is held at 22s 3d to 22s 6d per 480lb, c.i.f. Good Saale barley is selling at 32s to 34s, fine at 35s to 37s, and choice lots are held at 38s to 40s, f.o.b. Fine Bohemian, to arrive per barge, 34s to 36s; Moravian and Slovakian, 30s 6d to 41s 6d per 448lb, f.o.b. Feeding barley firm at 18s 3d to 18s 6d per 400lb, c.i.f. Mixed maize near at hand is selling at 21s; November shipment, 20s 3d; December shipment, 19s; January-March, 18s 9d per 480lb, c.i.f., but the demand is not brisk.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

October 5th to 12th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	2,466	..	..	76,349	78,815
Barley	2,591	100	..	35,857	38,448
Malt	14,915	..	..	..	14,915
Oats	2,620	250	..	151,227	154,097
Rye	..	..	..	150	150
Beans	747	..	..	1,389	2,136
Peas	436	..	..	3,049	3,485
Maize	..	..	..	31,575	31,575
Tares	154	..	..	..	154
Lentils	—	—	—	—	—
Linseed	321	..	..	15,700	16,021
Rapeseed	..	..	..	3,260	3,260
Cottonseed	—	—	—	—	—
Farm Seeds	500	..	..	1,750	2,250
Flour { Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	27,006	..	..	76,961	103,976

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Oct. 12 to 19, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	31,725 qrs.
Flour	42,000 ,,
Total	73,725 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Deficiency	32,275 ,,

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.				1899.			
Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.			June 3	73,846 qrs.		
,, 14	108,380 ,,			,, 10	126,781 ,,		
,, 21	128,902 ,,			,, 17	160,574 ,,		
,, 28	51,234 ,,			,, 24	101,205 ,,		
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,			July 1	152,500 ,,		
,, 11	82,912 ,,			,, 8	112,761 ,,		
,, 18	204,974 ,,			,, 15	116,850 ,,		
,, 25	108,273 ,,			,, 22	89,245 ,,		
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,			,, 29	118,314 ,,		
,, 11	63,103 ,,			Aug. 5	104,234 ,,		
,, 18	122,541 ,,			,, 12	102,160 ,,		
,, 25	86,309 ,,			,, 19	103,353 ,,		
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,			,, 26	82,367 ,,		
,, 8	133,261 ,,			Sept. 2	73,600 ,,		
,, 15	101,518 ,,			,, 9	83,791 ,,		
,, 22	70,984 ,,			,, 16	107,684 ,,		
,, 29	68,573 ,,			,, 23	131,880 ,,		
May 6	96,343 ,,			,, 30	61,997 ,,		
,, 13	72,852 ,,			Oct. 7	121,032 ,,		
,, 20	101,429 ,,			,, 14	97,050 ,,		
May 27	108,772 ,,			,, 21	95,446 ,,		
1900.				1900.			
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.			May 31	177 744 qrs.		
,, 13	95,054 ,,			June 8	93,147 ,,		
,, 20	114,928 ,,			,, 15	86,125 ,,		
,, 27	124,652 ,,			,, 22	193,116 ,,		
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,			,, 29	142,185 ,,		
,, 10	75,000 ,,			July 6	132,950 ,,		
,, 17	66,804 ,,			,, 13	101,253 ,,		
,, 24	62,191 ,,			,, 20	82,294 ,,		
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,			,, 27	55,998 ,,		
,, 10	63,702 ,,			Aug. 2	86,167 ,,		
,, 17	162,985 ,,			,, 11	192,077 ,,		
,, 24	111,409 ,,			,, 18	138,510 ,,		
,, 31	69,356 ,,			,, 25	182,517 ,,		
April 7	48,302 ,,			,, 31	80,149 ,,		
,, 13	131,085 ,,			Sept. 7	58,394 ,,		
,, 20	82,357 ,,			,, 14	117,066 ,,		
,, 27	43,783 ,,			,, 21	105,961 ,,		
May 4	104,535 ,,			,, 28	158,771 ,,		
,, 11	52,859 ,,			Oct. 5	183,383 ,,		
,, 18	97,412 ,,			,, 12	156,815 ,,		
,, 25	71,390 ,,			,, 19	73,725 ,,		

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1899.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Sep. 30	79,612½	25	6	97,917⅞	26	11	23,193	16	5
Oct 7	71,152⅝	26	0	169,315½	28	0	21,440¼	16	5
,, 14	63,040⅜	27	3	191,901⅝	27	9	18,024½	16	5
,, 21	64,242	28	2	192,268½	27	6	18,983¼	16	10
,, 28	85,178¼	28	1	219,751⅞	27	4	20,064½	16	3
Nov. 4	82,769⅝	27	2	203,071⅜	27	2	17,895¼	16	7
,, 11	66,741⅜	26	7	166,786¼	26	9	15,216⅝	16	5
,, 18	65,470¼	26	1	163,915⅜	26	4	16,313½	16	7
,, 25	67,308¼	25	8	164,362⅞	26	2	17,047⅜	16	7
Dec. 2	72,974⅞	25	7	163,441⅛	25	10	22,575½	16	6
,, 9	10,982¼	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421⅛	16	5
,, 16	787,72⅛	25	4	135,344⅜	25	7	22,889½	16	1
,, 23	67,102⅜	25	6	116,757⅜	25	10	16,447⅜	16	0
,, 30	47,685¼	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,463½	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6	40,086	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅝	16	4
,, 13	57,021⅝	25	11	83,421⅔	25	5	19,703	16	6
,, 20	68,463¼	26	0	100,925⅜	25	8	23,122⅝	16	5
,, 27	65,331¼	25	10	108,357⅜	25	9	17,814⅜	16	8
Feb. 3	73,796⅔	25	8	90,769⅛	25	4	22,061¼	16	3
April 7	67,743⅞	25	10	20,402⅝	24	10	13,757⅔	17	2
,, 10	71,482⅛	25	10	80,543⅝	25	3	20,822⅝	16	2
,, 17	76,611⅛	26	1	80,414⅜	24	11	20,986⅝	16	1
,, 24	69,534⅛	26	3	63,931⅝	25	1	21,132⅔	16	10
Mar. 3	68,153⅛	26	4	51,727⅛	24	6	18,499⅛	16	11
,, 10	58,703⅛	25	11	44,921⅛	24	8	16,224	16	11
,, 17	76,435⅜	25	10	46,053	24	0	20,104⅞	16	10
,, 24	69,944⅛	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042⅝	17	1
,, 31	72,762	25	10	34,387⅜	24	11	15,200⅛	17	2
,, 14	66,412½	25	11	19,519⅛	24	5	9,672⅝	17	8
,, 21	54,977⅛	26	0	11,673⅞	24	9	7,400⅔	17	3
,, 28	70,006⅜	26	0	7 785⅛	25	2	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5	75,410⅛	25	11	8,159⅛	25	3	8,658½	18	0
,, 12	82,190⅜	25	11	10,417⅛	24	10	12,245½	17	11
,, 19	83,941⅜	25	7	5,638⅜	24	5	9,942	18	5
,, 26	95,574⅜	25	5	3,521⅛	23	11	7,350⅜	18	2
June 2	68,906⅜	25	5	1,752⅜	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9	64,747⅛	25	3	990⅜	23	8	6,053⅜	18	8
,, 16	55,340⅛	25	6	1,486⅜	23	8	7,228⅛	18	11
,, 23	64,324⅛	25	9	1,312⅛	23	5	5,344⅛	18	11
,, 30	44,920⅜	26	11	495⅞	23	4	4,706⅛	19	3
July 7	34,344⅜	27	10	486⅜	22	10	4,391⅛	19	5
,, 14	22,009⅛	28	7	949⅛	23	2	2,911⅜	19	1
,, 21	26,716⅜	29	0	767⅜	23	8	3,771⅛	19	3
,, 28	33,088	29	3	194⅛	24	4	3,335⅜	19	9
Aug. 4	45,748⅞	28	10	409⅛	23	10	3,453⅞	19	4
,, 11	37,644⅜	28	7	311⅛	23	7	3,391	19	8
,, 18	32,812⅛	28	10	608⅛	23	3	3,593⅜	19	11
,, 25	26,427⅛	28	10	787⅜	24	10	5,349½	18	8
Sept. 1	30,393⅜	28	8	1,978¼	25	2	9,606⅜	18	1
,, 8	34,755½	28	7	6,140⅜	25	8	11,042⅛	17	10
,, 15	53,334⅛	28	4	20,879½	25	4	18,684½	17	1
,, 22	61,468⅛	28	4	41,284⅛	26	0	21,729⅝	17	1
,, 29	72,604	28	9	68,844⅛	26	1	25,620¼	17	2
Oct. 6	66,090	28	9	94,282	26	2	23,865	16	10
,, 13	70,314⅜	28	9	134,277½	26	2	18,350⅜	17	1
,, 20	58,790⅛	28	4	159,007⅜	26	5	14,681¼	16	11

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Oct. 20th, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	58,790¼ qrs.	28s.	4d.
Barley	159,007⅜ qrs.	26s.	5d.
Oats	14,681¼ qrs.	16s.	11d.

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17	26 9	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	24 10	19 5
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	28 6	25 7	17 6
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Oct. 20th, in each of the years from 1896 to 1900.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896	65,880½	28	11	102,640⅜	28	6	15,868	16	9
1897	58,249⅝	32	2	203 603⅜	27	5	14,393½	16	2
1898	83,634⅛	26	8	245,714⅜	28	1	24,713½	16	6
1899	64,242	28	2	192,268½	27	6	18,983¼	16	10

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT

PRICE.	Sept. 15.	Sept. 22.	Sept. 29.	Oct. 6.	Oct. 13.	Oct. 20.
29s. 3d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
29s. 0d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 10½.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 9d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 8½.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 7d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 4½.	..	..	..	..	..	..
26s. 0d.	..	..	..	..	..	..

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 16th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	1,439	1	2,186	10	11	1	9	9
Barley	2,131	0	3,437	8	5	1	12	7
Oats	1,559	7	1,387	11	7	0	17	9

IMPORTS OF POTATOES (OFFICIAL).

CEREAL YEARS.

	1900.	1899.	1898.
September	Cwts. 213,000	117,000	78,000

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	360,000	140,000	340,000	12,000	135,000
Russia	220,000	—	2,000	141,000	138,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	182,000	—	9,000	41,000	—
Argentina	110,000	—	54,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	—	5,000	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	30,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	902,000	160,000	425,000	213,000	283,000

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb.	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	8	18	0	21	0	23	3
April	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept.	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct.	..	..	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov.	..	..	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec.	..	..	21	9	24	8	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb.	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept.	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct.	..	..	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov.	..	..	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec.	..	..	24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Crop year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 1 ..... (per sack)	23	6	.... (per sack)	25 6
October 1 ..... ,,	29	0	.... ,,	26 0

(No official change since last date given.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Crop year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	s.	d.
Sept. 1, 1900 .....(per sack)	30	0

(No official change since last date given.

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies large, trade slow. From Yorkshire: 20 to 60 coil. Lincs, 25 to 32 4d; Beds, 24 to 28 3d; Surrey, 28 to 28 6d; Kent and Welsh, 24 to 26; hens, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; turkeys, 9d to 10½d per lb; ditto, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s; rabbits, 5d to 6d; wild rabbits, 3d to 4d; hares, 1s 6d to 1s 8d each. Australian, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; young partridges, 2s to 3s 6d; old, 1s 8d to 2s; young grouse, 1s to 1s 6d per brace; hares, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; leverets, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; rabbits, 1s 3d; pintail, 1s 6d; widgeon, 1s; teal, 8d to 10d; woodcocks, 2s 3d; snipe, 7d to 9d; golden plover, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; blackbirds, 5d to 6d each.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: The demand has ruled very quiet, and although some concession is made to prevent especially of fancy cuts, dealers show no disposition to operate except for immediate needs, and the market rules dull with a declining tendency. We quote: In the wood: Lincolns, 20lb to 28lb, 47s 6d to 51s; 28lb to 36lb, 46s to 48s; 36lb to 40lb, 44s 6d to 46s; long middles, 44s 6d to 49s; long middles, rib in, 18lb to 22lb, 50s to 56s; clear bellies, 14lb to 16lb, 49s to 52s; 16lb to 20lb, 48s to 50s. Staffords: Clear cut (lean off), 25lb to 30lb, and Yorkshire cut, 33lb to 38lb, 43s to 45s; clear middles (lean off), 40lb to 44lb and Yorkshire cut, 40lb to 45lb, 43s to 44s; singed Wiltshire Canadian, 45lb to 54lb, 50s to 51s; American, 14lb to 20lb, 46s to 50s; short clear backs, 12lb to 16lb, 43s to 45s; 16lb to 20lb, 43s to 44s; fat backs (export), 32s to 34s; long middles, 34lb to 40lb, 43s to 45s; 40lb to 45lb, 42s to 44s; heavy clear middles, 45lb to 50lb, 42s 6d to 43s 6d; short middles, (rib in), 15lb to 24lb, 47s 6d to 50s. Shoulders, square cut, 12lb to 14lb, 37s 6d to 40s; 14lb to 16lb, 36s 6d to 40s; New York cut, 11lb to 13lb, 33s to 34s 6d per cwt. Hams moderately in value, with limited inquiry. Light weights are scarce. We quote choice long cut, 8lb to 12lb, 48s to 53s; 14lb to 16lb, 47s to 51s; short cut and A.C., 10lb to 12lb, 47s to 48s; 12lb to 14lb, 46s to 51s; 14lb to 16lb, 43s 6d to 46s per cwt. Lard quiet and easier, American cables coming lower. We quote pails and kegs, 38s to 39s; prime Western, 37s 6d to 38s 6d per cwt. Beef without any special feature. We quote extra India mess, 70s to 75s; Plate and Packet, 65s to 67s 6d per 304lb. Pork steady at recent currencies. We quote finest prime mess, 70s to 75s per barrel. Cheese.—The market rules steady, but with higher cables importers show more firmness, and refuse to make sales except at some advance over last quotations, but dealers do not respond. We quote finest Canadian, coloured, late makes, 54s 6d to 55s 6d; white, 54s 6d to 55s 6d; States coloured, 53s 6d to 54s 6d; white, 53s to 54s. Lower grades, where full cream, sell readily from 46s to 52s, but skims and half-meats are dull, offering from 18s to 35s per cwt. Butter.—There is more inquiry, but with free offerings from all sources there is but a little improvement in the market, which rules firm. We quote, to-day, fancy Canadian creamery, in boxes, 101s to 105s; finest States, 94s to 100s; finest ladles and imitation creamery, 80s to 86s; finest Danish, 110s to 118s; Australian, 104s to 108s; Irish creamery, 104s to 108s; Cork firsts, 91s; seconds, 87s; thirds, 81s per cwt.—Hopkins & Hopkins.

Newport, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, moderate demand, and good supply. Quotations:—Cartpattles 52s to 58s; fancy dairies, 59s to 62s; singles, 42s to 45s; doubles, 58s to 60s; Cheddars, 56s to 58s; truckles, 54s to 60s.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Settle: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Spalding: 1s 1d per lb. Stone: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Boston: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Colne: 1s 2d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d per lb. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 10d to 11d per lb. Knaresborough: (wholesale), 1s 6d to 1s 7d; (retail), 1s 7d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Louth: (wholesale), 1s 1d per lb. Market Drayton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s per lb. Masham: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 3d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 11d to 1s per lb. Worksop: 1s 4d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Driffield: 1s per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 3d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Friday.—Chester: 1s 4d per lb. Derby: 1s 2d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Grimsby: Danish and Swedish, 114s to 120s per 112lb; Dutch, 110s to 112s; Canadian, 108s to 112s, per cwt. Helmsley: 10d to 11d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 117s to 123s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 106s to 110s; York lump, 15s to 16s per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 9d to 1s 11d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 2d per lb. Nantwich: 1s 4d per lb. Otley: 1s 5d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Sandbach: 1s 6d per lb. Stockport: 1s 4d per lb. Stratford-on-Avon: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Whitchurch: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 8 or 9 for 1s. Gainsborough: 9 for 1s. Settle: 9 or 10 for 1s. Sheffield: 8 or 9 for 1s. Spalding: 10 for 1s. Stone, 9 or for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 7 or 8 for 1s. Boston: 8 or 9 for 1s. Colne: 2s 2d per score. Goole: 10 for 1s. Hereford: 8 to 10 for 1s. Keighley: 8 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 10 or 11 for 1s. Knaresborough: 8 or 9 for 1s. Louth (wholesale): 9 for 1s. Market Drayton: 8 to 10 for 1s. Market Weighton: 11 for 1s. Masham: 10 or 11 for 1s. Northallerton: 8 or 9 for 1s. Stockton: 9 or 10 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 2s 6d and 2s 8d per score. Whitby: 10 for 1s. Worksop: 2s 6d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 10 to 12 for 1s. Driffield: 13 for 1s. Penistone: 8 for 1s. Ripon: 8 for 1s. Scarborough: 9 for 1s. Wetherby: 8 or 9 for 1s.

Friday.—Altrincham: 6 for 1s. Derby: 8 for 1s. Easingwold: 9 or 10 for 1s. Grimsby: Australian, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; Russian, 5s 6d to 7s 6d; Danish, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; Irish, 6s to 7s 6d per 120. Helmsley: 9 or 10 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 120; Irish, 10s to 11s; Danish, 8s 3d to 9s 9d; Austrian blues, 6s 6d to 6s 11d; ditto reds, 5s 3d to 5s 11d. Leyburn: 8 or 9 for 1s. Lincoln: 8 or 9 for 1s. Otley: 8 or 10 for 1s. Stratford-on-Avon: 2s 2d to 2s 11d per score. Whitchurch: 8 and 9 for 1s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—There has been a fair demand for Australian butter, but prices have not advanced. Choicest quality is making 104s to 106s per cwt., but there is a shilling or two more for a fancy brand. Finest is making 100s to 102s per cwt. Other descriptions are dull and buyers are indifferent. There is no change to note in prices.—W. WEDDELL AND CO.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The Government pamphlet issued on Saturday is an anticipation of the formal Blue Book in December, and witnesses to the vigilance with which the Agricultural Office endeavours to meet the wishes of farmers and traders. There are officials of other Government departments who might do worse than serve a few preliminary years at Whitehall Place. The figures now before us include Ireland, the Isle of Man, the Channel Islands, and Scilly. The various quaint survivals of autonomy in the three last instances cause no trade inconvenience, but the agricultural Home Rule which Ireland somewhat dubiously "enjoys" is a statistical snare. The returns for Great Britain issued in later August are made up into returns for the United Kingdom by many—perhaps most—journals adding in Irish returns for the previous year. This, in the case of wheat, pulse and rye does not matter materially, and in the case of hops not at all, for Irish hop-gardens are in the position of Irish snakes. But barley, oats, and green crops returns are materially affected. Present "authentic" returns of areas cultivated are for the United Kingdom :—

	1900. Acres.		1899. Acres.
Corn crops	8,707,391	..	8,803,599
Green crops	4,301,774	..	4,274,063
Total	13,009,165	..	13,077,662

In other words, there is still a reactionary movement going on in the agriculture of the United Kingdom as a whole, and since 1899 an area of 68,497 acres has been lost to the twelve "progressive" crops of wheat, barley, oats, rye, beans, peas, potatoes, turnips, swedes, mangolds, cabbages, and tares. The tendency to turn land into pasture and to reduce the expenditure of labour and capital thereon is slackened, but is not, as many had hoped to see it, reversed. At present, autumn sowings of wheat and rye almost certainly show an increase, but we are compelled to conclude that the gain will be on the area devoted to other leading crops and not on the pastures or the fallows.

Threshings are proceeding rather faster than the markets can take the produce, and a downward tendency has manifested itself in English wheat, oats, and rye. In the case of barley the maltsters are coming to the rescue, and the sales are up to the deliveries. There is a scarcity of finest types of grain this year, whether wheat, barley, or oats, and after the over-average quality and weight of the 1898 and 1899 crops the relapse into the ordinary is felt. There is, however, no reason to suppose that the three chief cereals are in quality inferior to the average of the last quarter of a century, while the average of the three minor cereals —rye, beans, and peas—is in quality above the mean. The threshings are fully confirming the idea that all the chief crops are about 5 per cent. below the yield of an average year in bulk, and in the case of oats 10 per cent. is frequently the deficit in England, south of the Trent. The good yields of oats in Scotland, Ireland, and the English north-west probably balance this, but in Ireland the good yield per acre is now found to be itself balanced by a decline of no less than 31,000 acres in the area devoted to oats.

The imports of wheat into the United Kingdom last week were as follows :—

	Qrs.
Foreign wheat	313,000
„ flour	156,000
Total	469,000

The sales of English wheat being estimated at 158,000qrs., the total sales of breadstuffs were :—

	Qrs.
Supplies	627,000
Wants	567,000
Surplus	60,000
Stocks October 15	2,702,000
Stocks October 22	2,762,000

The following particulars throw light on the recent movements in flour :—

Flour Imports.		
September 1	83,200	sacks
„ 8	135,500	„
„ 15	189,500	„
„ 22	190,990	„
„ 29	243,160	„
October 6	191,840	„
„ 13	187,480	„
Seven weeks	1,221,670	„

In the same period of 1899 sales of foreign flour were 1,381,040 sacks, and in 1898 sales were 1,098,692 sacks. It will be seen that the trade thus far in the present cereal year has been a fair average, neither much above or much below the mean.

There are on passage to this country.—

Sacks.	1900.	1899.
American	316,000	344,000
Hungarian	30,000	36,000
All other countries	25,000	20,000
	371,000	400,000

The quantities of wheat on passage may thus be divided :—

	Qrs.
From California	960,000
America	385,000
Argentina	275,000
Australasia	250,000
Russia	110,000
All other Countries	30,000
Total Oct. 20, 1900	2,010,000
„ „ 1899	1,690,000
„ „ 1898	1,150,000

America in the flour returns includes California, and in the case of wheat the shipments from California are so large that a separate heading is used. The trade "lumps together" under "Russia," the supplies on passage from Roumania, Bulgaria, and European Turkey, and sacrifices "national" susceptibilities to everyday convenience in a manner that we fear many "national" politicians find it hard to forgive.

The imports of spring corn last week were good of maize and barley, but small of oats. The actual quantities were: Maize, 221,000 qrs. ; barley, 243,000 qrs. ; and oats, 118,000 qrs.

The supplies on passage include 540,000 qrs. of maize and 642,000 qrs. of barley, but oats can only be guessed. Russia has shipped 1,519,000 qrs. in the last six weeks, and America 576,000 qrs. If we reckon half these supplies as intended for British ports and half as already arrived, we shall get 523,750 qrs. as on passage. Of course this is a very *ad captandum* method, but it is better than no figures or estimates at all.

The barley on passage consists of 365,000 qrs. malting and 277,000 qrs. feeding, and these trades are so distinct that distinct returns would be a boon to operators.

The market for oilseeds is undergoing a certain change. As the new Egyptian crop of cottonseed is getting nearer to delivery the price on spot in England is receding. A maximum of £8 per ton was reached early in the month, but considerably less is now taken. Linseed shows a defeat of England by the Dutch, which should be brought to the attention of Dr. Clark. The Dutch samples are fetching more than the English, which are wont to top the market. About 62s. is commanded by the best samples from Holland, while hardly any English gets into 60s. per quarter. Some good Turkish linseed is on offer at 56s., and the other sorts are given in detail in our quotation lists.

Recent Mark Lane sales have included such varied staples as La Plata Sorghum at 23s.; Canadian Buckwheat at 27s. 6d.; Rubsen at 49s.; American Dari at 23s. 6d., and Torrified Barley at 23s. per qr.

THE BALTIC.

The London Corn Trade Association are revising their printed forms for contracts. Any suggestions addressed to the Secretary, 2, Lime-street Square, E.C., will be laid before the revisors if received before the 31st inst. The port of Swansea has determined to be enrolled among the harbours where vessels of all draughts can enter at all tides. The freights to such ports are apt to be very "preferential," and Swansea will doubtless find the investment worth while, though the sum, £1,500,000, is heavy.

Wheat cargoes were fairly steady from the 16th to the 18th, but the 19th and 20th were weak days, and the prices accepted thereon favoured buyers. The sales have embraced :—Californian, at 31s. 3d. ; Walla Walla, at 30s. 3d.; Manitoba, at 32s. 6d. ; No. 1 Northern at 31s. 9d. (17th), 31s. 6d. (18th), and 31s. 3d. (20th) ; No. 2 Hard Winter, at 30s., arrived, and 28s. 6d. for Nov. shipment ; fine Australian at 31s. 6d. ; New Zealand, arrived, at 29s. 6d., and for Nov. shipment at 31s. 3d. ; Roumanian at 28s., and Russian Taganrog at 29s. per qr.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports of call since last review have been seven, as will be seen by the following table :—

Cargo.	Total.	Argentina.	California.	Chili, Australia and N.Z.	Sundries.	Total last week.	Total since Jan. 1, 1900.	Total same time 1899.
Wheat	5	1	3	1	—	5	285	256
Maize	1	1	—	—	—	2	13	3
Barley	—	—	—	—	—	—	36	6
Rye	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Oats	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Beans	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	10
Linseed	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Rapeseed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cottonseed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Valonea	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	6
Sundries	1	—	—	—	1	2	16	7
Total	7	2	3	1	1	9	379	294

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[First Report.]

English fine new wheat made 32s. 6d. to 33s. to-day for seeding purposes, but ordinary samples both of white and red were the turn in buyers' favour. Some good wheat from Poland *viâ* the Baltic is to hand at 30s. per 504lb. It is strong and serviceable red wheat. Long berry New Zealand, at 31s. 3d. to 31s. 9d., had a fair sale, and short berry, at 29s. 3d. to 30s. 3d., was also looked after. American made 32s. for good red winter, 31s. for hard winter. The market was written by some firms as "weaker," but it is difficult to average a common tendency among a dozen sorts. White, generally speaking, was weaker than red. Maize made fully 23s. for sound yellow, but most samples were from slightly damaged cargoes. Flat was dearer for prompt supply, but dull for November delivery. Barley was a bigger and better trade in all malting and brewing samples, and there was an appreciably larger attendance alike of maltsters and of farmers from the eastern counties. The best touched 38s., and with common Persian at 18s., the remarkable range of a sovereign per quarter was presented. Oats were steady at previous full rates. Beans were firm for English, 6d. lower for foreign. New Canadian peas at 30s. sold fairly well.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Oct. 22nd, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	30	— 32
(old)	„	32	— 33
Red (new)	„	28	— 31
(old)	„	29	— 32
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	27	— 37
Brewing	„	24	— 28
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	„	36	— 38
Brown	„	29	— 32
OATS, English (new)	„	17	— 20
(old)	„	19	— 22
Scotch	„	21	— 23
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 19
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 27
BEANS, Pigeon	„	43	— 45
„ Winter	„	30	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
„ Blue (boiling)	„	68	— 76
„ Dun	„	32	— 34
„ Maple (new)	„	38	— 39
„ (old)	„	39	— 41

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

WHEAT, per 496lb.	s.	s.
Finest Duluth	33	— 34
American Spring	32	— 33
Hard Manitoba	32	— 33
Red Winter	31	— 32
Kansas	31	— 32
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30	— 31
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 31
Argentine	28	— 31
Danzig	33	— 34
Saxonka	32	— 33
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Persian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480lb. :		
Cinquantina	27	— 29
Roumanian	25	— 26
Russian	24	— 25
Caucasian	23	— 24
Argentine	22	— 23
American	21	—21/6
OATS :		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	16	— 17
American (320lb.)		
„ White	16	— 17
„ Mixed	15	— 16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	— 17
„ (304lb.)	13/3	—14
Libau, white (304lb.)	12/9	—13
„ black „	14/3	—15
White Sea (304 lb.)	13	— 14
BEANS, per 480lb. :		
Egyptian	32	— 33
Smyrna	29	— 30

BEANS (*continued*).		
Konigsberg	28	— 29
Barbary	27	— 28
Mexican	28	— 30
LOCUST BEANS, per ton :		
Cyprian	106	— 112
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Canadian, White	30	— 31
Indian, White	28	— 30
„ Green	25	— 27
Barbary	26	— 28
Australian, White	40	— 41
„ Dun	26	— 27
LENTILS, per 504 lb.		
Egyptian	31	— 33
Indian	36	— 38
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	26	— 27
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb. :		
French	29	— 30
Russian	27	— 28
BARLEY :		
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 28
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Syrian (400 lb)	25	— 22
Persian (400 lb.)	18	—18/3
American (400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb. :		
Californian	34	— 37
Smyrna	33	— 36

OIL SEEDS.

Linseed. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	58	to 60
Dutch	61	to 63
Argentine	55	to 57
Canadian	58	to 60
Russian	54	to 56
Calcutta	57	to 59
Sesame. per 424lb.		
Bombay	50	to 52
Kurrachee	53	to 54
Cotton Seed. per ton.		
Egyptian	144	to 148

Rapeseed. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	56	to 60
Dutch	54	to 56
French	47	to 48
Roumanian	44	to 46
Cawnpore	46	to 47
Calcutta	43	to 44
Guzerat	50	to 51
Ferozepore	44	to 45
Ravison	30	to 32
Poppyseed. per 377lb.		
Indian	47	to 49

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

The market closed with a good demand for landed samples of maize, feeding barley, oats, and pulse, but grain not out of the vessel was rather neglected owing to the lightermen's strike. Wheat was a quiet trade, but rather better at the close than the opening. All sorts of oilcake favoured sellers; in fact, 2s. 6d. per ton advance may be quoted for the chief kinds.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Oct. 22nd.

London makes to-day were steady, with a somewhat improved sale at the 6d. decline admitted on the 15th. Country flour with very good supplies was again the turn in buyers' favour. American flour was offered at a range of from 20s. 6d. to 21s. for good baking grades up to 26s for ordinary best patents and 27s 6d for Star. Hungarian takes up value where American ceases, and carries it 4s. further; 27s. 6d. to 31s. 6d. was the range. French is out of favour. The price of American maize flour is 16s. 6d. to 17s. per sack, while maize cones fetch from 17s. 8d. for the commoner American up to 19s. 3d. for English-made from American corn. Rye flour fetches 20s. per sack for best, but only 15s. for the next grade. This is a great difference, but inferior rye is a very suspected article, and where badly sprouted or suffering from ergot it undoubtedly is a danger. Malt cooms make 85s. per ton for Norwich and 70s. for Hampshire consignments. The latter are not delivered up to town. Malt screenings at London breweries are offered at 56s. to 58s. per ton.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)		— 30
Town Whites	,,		—27/6
,, Households	,,		—24/6
No. 2	,,		—22/6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22 — 23
Best Stone made	,,	21 — 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	20 — 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	—26
,, Second Patents	,,	—24
,, First Bakers'	,,	—21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	—20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	25 — 26
,, Bakers'	,,	21 — 23
Kansas Patents	,,	24 — 25
Cascadia	,,	24—24/6
Canadian	,,	24—24/6
Australian	,,	23—23/6
Hungarian	,,	29 — 32
French	,,	21 — 24

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	192—194
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	109—111
Bran, London Broad	,,	99—104
,, ,, Fine	,,	78 — 84
,, Country Flake	,,	108—110
,, ,, Broad	,,	96 — 98
Pollard	,,	92 — 94
Fine Middlings	,,	118—122
Coarse Middlings	,,	102—108
Oat Meal	,,	220—280
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	132—134
Maize Meal	,,	114—124
Maize Cones	,,	144—150
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	106—110
Pea Meal	,,	128—158
Bean Meal	,,	152—172
Rice Meal	,,	91 — 95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—		Oct.	Dec.	March.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Oct. 15	noon	6 8	6 9	6 11
	4 p.m.	6 8	6 9	6 11
Oct. 16	noon	6 8	6 9	6 11
	4 p.m.	6 8	6 9	6 11
Oct. 17	noon	6 8	6 9	6 11
	4 p.m.	6 8	6 9	6 11
Oct. 18	noon	6 8	6 9	6 11
	4 p.m.	6 8	6 9	6 11
Oct. 19	noon	6 8	6 9	6 11
	4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 11
Oct. 20	noon	6 7	6 8	6 11
To-day	noon	6 7	6 9	6 11

A few sales for June delivery have taken place at 6s. 11d. per cental. Maize is unsettled, 4s. 6d. per cental asked for prompt delivery, 4s. 2d. accepted for December, 3s. 11d. for January, and 3s. 10d. for February.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate-street, ground floor.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: There is still a good trade doing with prices in sellers' favour, a very large proportion of the growth has now passed into consumers' hands.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour.—A steady trade at unchanged prices, both on spot and to arrive.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

There is no change to note in the position of the wheat trade. Business is much impeded by the lightermen's strike, and values are mostly unaltered. Barley and maize unchanged, except for landed lots which are about 6d. to 9d. dearer, owing to scarcity. Oats are about 3d. dearer. W. P. WOOD AND CO., Mark Lane.

The market for milling offals is about the same as last week, and bran maintains the advance of 2s. 6d. per ton. Middlings and pollard are slow at the full prices asked by the trade, and buyers refrain unless able to purchase at less money. American and other feeding flour on the spot remains unchanged. The trade on the whole (except bran) may be written slow.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Our market continues very quiet, but all farm seeds are firmly held. There is some fine red clover on the Continent, but it is confined to limited districts, and prices seem likely to be maintained above English level. There is rather more inquiry for winter tares. New spring are now offering, but at prices much above buyers' ideas. Rye grasses are firmer. Birdseeds neglected. Blue peas and haricots firm.—JOHN PICARD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Wheat trade steady, prices maintained. Flour held firmly at late rates. Maize, grinding barley, and oats are 3d. per quarter dearer.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Offals—The demand for bran and feeding stuffs at the moment is poor. Values practically unchanged. Weather milder.—GREENHILL BROTHERS, Belfast, October 20.

Flour: There has been a dull trade all the week in flour, with prices irregularly 6d. down. Grain: Indian Grain is 3d. per boll lower. Foreign oats are a shade better. Canadian pease are 3d. easier on spot. Beans and barley dull. Mill stuffs: Bran is pressed for immediate delivery. Thirds are unchanged.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, October 20.

Wheat quiet with a moderate extent of business. Winter wheat ½d per cental lower, other sorts firm and unchanged. Flour steady, no change in prices. Maize.—Owing to sharp declines in America dealers are buying only for immediate needs, and mixed American, whilst extremely scarce, shows a loss of ½d per cental from Tuesday. The demand for European and Plate is also slow, and prices slightly favour buyers. Barley—Californian is in poor demand and 9d per qr. lower. Chilians are firmly held, but high prices check business. Feeding sorts have a slow trade at a decline of ¼d per cental. Beans—Quiet trade at about unchanged prices. Peas—Quiet trade at last market day's prices. Oats—English oats meet a steady trade without change in price. Foreign kinds in moderate demand at Tuesday's values. Oatmeal—Only a quiet trade passing, but prices are steady at last market day's figures. Oilcake—There is only a moderate demand for cakes, and prices remain on about the same level as last Tuesday.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, October 20.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat is 3d. cheaper for cargoes on passage, and also for near futures, but dates in 1901 are firm. Maize cargoes are firm for round, steady for yellow, dull for flat. Barley and oat cargoes are hardening.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Argentine, 30s, just sailed; Argentine, 29s, February shipment; Duluth, 32s 3d, ion passage; No. 2 Hard Winter, 28s 6d, on passage; Calcutta, white, 33s, April shipment; No. 1 Northern, 31s 6d, November shipment; Manitoba, 31s 9d, November shipment; Taganrog, 28s 9d, November shipment.

BARLEY.—Nicolaieff, 18s 6d, November shipment.; Persian, 16s 9d, on passage; Kustendje, 18s 6d, November shipment; Californian, 26s, on passage.

OATS.—Vologda, 13s 9d, prompt shipment; Canadian, 14s 6d, prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—Galatz, 22s, November shipment; Argentine, 21s 3d, on passage; American, 19s 9d, November shipment; American, 18s 9d, January shipment.

BEANS.—Saida, 29s 6d, prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 51s 9d, May shipment; Bombay, 54s 9d, April shipment; American, 59s, prompt shipment; Azoff, 58s 9d, prompt shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 17s 6d, December shipment.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that a quiet feeling now characterises the trade for field seeds. The recent speculative activity, more particularly in red clover-seed, has disappeared for the time being, whilst no consumptive wants have, for the moment, to be met. Meantime, values all round keep fairly steady. In mustard and rapeseed the tendency continues upwards. Winter tares, although in rather better request, show no improvement in price, whilst for rye the inquiry is limited. Canary and hempseed are both alike dull and neglected. Blue peas and haricot beans command former terms.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington
Monday, Oct. 22nd, 1900.

	British.	Total.	Oct. 23rd, 1899.
Beasts	2,060	2,060	1,570
Sheep and lambs	7,430	7,430	7,[illegible]
Calves	10	10	[illegible]
Pigs	70	70	[illegible]
Milch cows	80	80	75

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	3 0 — 4 1	—	— —
Sheep	3 2 — 5 2	—	— —
Lambs	5 4 .. 5 8	..	6 0
Pigs	3 0 .. 4 2	..	4 10

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 11; East Counties, 32; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,[illegible]; Devon, 50; Ireland, [illegible].

The supply of beasts on offer to-day showed an increase of 590 beasts compared with Monday last, the majority of which, however, were of middling descriptions, best qualities being scarce, sold readily; prices unaltered. Trade for other grades was dull, and sales had to be forced at less money, and are not expected to clear. Amongst the Irish arrivals were 12 shorthorns, a few only were disposed of when the report left.

The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Oct. 23rd, 1899.
Scotch	4s 10d to 5s 0d ..	— to —
Devons	4s 9d to 4s 10d ..	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Herefords	4s 8d to 4s 10d ..	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Runts	4s 7d to 4s 9d ..	4s 5d to 4s 7d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d ..	3s 10d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 3d to 4s 5d ..	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat cows	3s 8d to 3s 10d ..	3s 8d to 3s 10d

There was a slight increase in the number of sheep and lambs compared with last Monday. The supply included 250 Scotch, 820 from the Eastern Counties, and 2,100 from Ireland. The few lambs on offer of best quality were lean in prime. For wethers there was a steady demand, late rates being maintained. Ewes were more difficult to dispose of even at a reduction of 2d per 8lb.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:

	To-day.	Oct. 23rd, 1899.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d ..	5s 6d to 5s 8d
9-stone ditto	5s 8d to 5s 10d ..	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10-stone half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d ..	5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-stone Lincoln	5s 0d to 5s 2d ..	— to —
10-stone Irish	5s 2d to 5s 4d ..	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Down ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d ..	3s 10d to 4s 0d
11-stone half-bred ditto	3s 4d to 3s 6d ..	— to —
5-stone Down lambs	5s 10d to 6s 0d ..	— to —

The supply of pigs was small, and met with little enquiry; best small breeds made 4s 8d to 4s 10d per 8lb.

London Central, Monday.—Good supplies, trade slow. Beef: Carcases, 3s 9d to 3s 10d; hindquarters, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; rostings, 5s to 5s 4d. Sheep: Ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wether, 5s 6d to 5s 10d. Pigs, large, 3s 8d to 4s; small, 4s 2d to 4s 4d.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 166, sheep and lambs 1,382, pigs 414. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s 3d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 11d; pork, 6s 8d to 7s. Fat beast good demand. Stores fair. Fat and store sheep fair. Fat pigs good demand. Stores fair. Milch cows fair show, prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,496. To-day's supply compared with last market day showed a slight increase, and consisted of 793 from the United States, and 703 from Canada, the latter consisting of ranche cattle, for which trade was rather slow, but, nevertheless, at higher rates. For States beasts there was also a firmer sale at an advance of 2d per 8lb, this being due to the short supply combined with the favourable weather and light consignments on the sea. The best States made from 4s 6d to 4s 7d per 8lb, offal given in, to dress about 720lb; seconds, 4s 3d to 4s 4d. Best Canadians quoted at 4s, and second ditto 3s 9d. No sheep on the market. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 1,314, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8lbs to dress about 720lbs; sheep, 1,[illegible], 4s in the wool, to dress from 68lbs to 72lbs.

Liverpool, Monday.—There was a larger supply of cattle in market to-day. Demand good and prices firmer, particularly for finished qualities. Fewer sheep on offer, prices firmer for best descriptions; other qualities unchanged. Beef, 6½d to 4½d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 5½d per lb. At market: 1,830 cattle and 7,116 sheep.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 3,201 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 8,354 bales bacon. The high prices of bacon having considerably reduced consumption, the market last week was easier, goods offering at 3s to 4s less than previously. On Friday official rates were 2s to 3s lower, and the market closed quiet. Irish, 60s, 64s to 67s; Danish, 60s, 64s to 67s; Canadian, 56s, 60s to 62s. Butter was generally in better demand and prices slightly advanced. Danish firm at 118s to 120s; Colonial, 100s to 110s; Canadian, 100s to 104s. Lard, active demand; Irish, 50s to 58s; American pails, 40s to 44s.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Market 2s 6d dearer owing to scarcity of supplies, which are likely to be very small for two or three months. Decorticated cotton cake: Stocks exhausted, also of meal; ordinary cotton unchanged. Linseed 2s dearer on the week.

English linseed cake	£8 10 0 to 8 12 6	ex mill
American Western linseed cake	8 0 0 to —	ex quay
Russian oil cake	8 0 0 to 8 5 0	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. oil)	6 17 6 —	ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	None	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	None	ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	5 5 0 to 5 7 6	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	5 2 6 to —	ex quay
Burton decorticated ale grains (bags included)	[illegible]	on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	[illegible]	ex wharf
Russian linseed in bulks, per 416lbs	2 [illegible] to 2 1[illegible]	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	3 2 0 to 2 3 0	ex warehouse

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

Destructive Farm Fire in Cheshire.—A fire broke out here on Tuesday night on the farm premises of Mr. John Wardle, at Appleton, Cheshire, and damage to the extent of several hundreds of pounds was sustained.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At Islington on the chief market day of the week there were fat beasts of both prime and second quality to deal with more late, especially for the very choicest Scotch, Devons, and Herefords, as well as runts, these maintaining last week's quotations, but any below this description finished off dull and dragging at a slight decline in value with a difficulty in clearing the same remark applying to Shorthorns and Irish, the latter arriving in shorter numbers. For fat heifers and cows and bulls, there being more demand, rates were firmer, partly also due to a shorter arrival. Rough cattle were in better request. At Deptford the supply was shorter, with an upward tendency in value, no cattle being on sale on Monday, which has not been the case for several weeks. The total number on sale at Islington was 1,640, as against 1,500 during the previous week. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90-stone polled Aberdeens, 5s.; 90-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d.; 85 to 90 stone hunts, 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 90-stone Dublins, 4s. 6d.; 100-stone Waterfords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 3d.; 85-stone States, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 5d.; 80-stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 9d.; 100-stone fat cows, 4s.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. The trade for sheep was firmer in regard to value; this remark also applies to ewes, except on Thursday, when but little business was transacted owing to the decline of the season for lambs, the best of which, however, were steady in price. Best pens made per 8lbs. as follows (sinking the offal): 7½ to 8-stone Downs, 6s.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 6d.; 12-stone ditto, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 4d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d.; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 3s. 8d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 2d.; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 5s. 8d. Calves were in very short number, only 30 head, trade for which was very dull and dragging, the best only making 5s. 8d. per 8lbs.

Trade in the West.

Despite fairly good deliveries of both fat and store stock the tendency of prices is undoubtedly upward. At Wimborne on Tuesday beef and mutton brought more money, beef again touching 11s. 6d. to 12s. per score for well-finished steers and heifers; whilst mutton was quite in sympathy, good class ewes as well as wethers making 8d., whilst lambs in some exceeded 50s. apiece (or 9½d. to 10½d. per lb.). Really choice calves ran up to nearly £7 apiece (or quite 8d. per lb.), and seconds as well as rearers were equally as dear. Pigs of nice weights are hardening throughout the district, and it is very difficult now to purchase porkers for less than 10s. (more if anything), and 9s. to 9s. 6d. for baconers. Milch beasts are steadily going up almost everywhere, heifers with their first calves bringing £17 up to £23 apiece, and barreners £24 to £30 per pair. Store sheep, especially working lots, are in very general demand at higher prices, as the result of the improved keep prospects everywhere.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies, but with the exception of veal and pork which were firm, trade ruled slower. Arrivals of beef included 50 tons Scotch, 450 Liverpool sides, 1,600 hindquarters, and 600 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters (best), 4s; seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; forequarters (best), 2s 9d; seconds, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8d to 5s; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s to 4s 8d. Pork: English, 4s 4d to 5s; and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Good supplies but trade slow. Arrivals of beef included 100 tons Scotch, 600 Liverpool sides, 3,500 hindquarters, and 2,200 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 4s; seconds, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; forequarters, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; Canterbury, 2s 7d to 2s 10d; Wellington, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 5d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supplies good for a Thursday's market, and although chiefly consisting of fat bulls and rough descriptions met with moderate support. Sheep pens only moderately filled, but the demand for both wethers and ewes was of a quiet character, prices however, remaining without essential change from last Monday. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 10d to 6s; 9-stone, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10-stone, ditto, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 3s 8d. Calf trade steady, the best on offer making 5s 6d to 5s 8d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Total supplies 170 beasts, 980 sheep, 25 calves, 160 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Best beef sold rather better than last week, prime steers fetching fully 12s per score. There was [illegible] with regard to mutton, which varied [illegible] ewes at 5s or 5s 2d for best Kent and [illegible]. Pork was relatively dearer than [illegible] trade keeping in the case of roasters fully 10s 6d per score. Very little doing in veal or lamb. The demand for rams was not very keen.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a large attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 55 fat beasts, 92 calves, 591 fat sheep and lambs, 353 pigs, and 148 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £11 10s to £22 10s; fat calves, 80s to £6 15s; small, 20s to 55s; fat wethers, 42s to 59s; fat ewes, 28s to 45s; fat lambs, 22s to 46s; fat hogs, 64s to 79s; porkers, 42s to 56s; small, 25s to 40s; store pigs, 12s 6d to 18s; dairy cows, £10 10s to £23. Prime quality fat beasts of moderate weights are enquired for and fully maintain their value. Half fat and low quality animals are worse to sell and make less money. Shorthorn steers made up to £19 5s; heifers, £16 5s; cows, £17; Devon steers up to £16 15s; polled Scotch steers £16 10s; ditto two-year-old heifers, £16; Welsh beasts, £18; a pure red poll bull, £22 10s, etc. A good show of fat sheep and lambs and buyers numerous with a brisk demand, all the pure lots were cleared at an advance in many instances. Old ewes and inferior sheep in less demand and prices lower. Hants down wethers and young ewes made 52s, 49s, 45s, 55s 6d, 46s, 52s, 53s 6d, 55s 6d, 50s, 48s, 46s 6d, 44s, 42s, 40s; 10 months old ditto, 44s, 46s, 47s 6d, 39s 6d, 42s, 35s 6d, 37s 6d, 35s, 47s 6d, 36s, 57s 6d, 50s; Southdown, 33s 6d; old ewes, 39s, 26s, 39s, 30s 6d, 34s 6d, 30s, 31s; Dorset ewes, 36s 6d; Southdown ewes, 33s 6d; rams, 59s, 49s, 57s, 42s, 55s, 50s; 3 months old sucking lambs, 36s 6d, 33s. There was a large supply of dairy cows and heifers on offer mostly of excellent quality; prices ruled brisk with a good enquiry. Store cattle met an indifferent sale with a slow trade. Fat calves were cleared at slightly higher prices than those of last week. The pig trade throughout was firmer, good quality porkers and hogs being in demand at more money. Store pigs also showed an advance on quotations of last week. Ruling values:—For pure Devon and polled Scotch beasts, 7d to 7½d; ditto Shorthorns, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 5½d per lb; best quality sheep, 8½d to 9d; second ditto, 7d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior 5½d to 6½d; choice fat suckling lambs, 8½d to 9d per lb; fat calves, 6d to 9d per lb; fat porkers, 9s to 11s per score; hogs up to 9s score.

Boston, Wednesday.—Stores, £14 10s to £16 10s; useful beasts, £12 to £14; milch cows, £18 to £21; heifers, £15 10s to £17 10s; calves, 55s to 60s; best beef, 7s 9d to 8s; cow beef, 6s 9d to 7s 6d per stone; mutton, 7½d to 8d; ewe mutton, 5½d to 6d per lb; stores, 28s to 34s.

Braintree, Wednesday.—A very much improved trade was found at Messrs. Ball's auction mart. Numbers penned: 37 beasts, 179 fat sheep, 75 hogs, 410 pigs, and 8 cows. Prices: Beef 5s, and mutton 5s 8d per stone; pork, 10s per score.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs ..	2½ in. and under.. ..	9s 0d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in. ..	8s 6d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in. ..	7s 9d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in. ..	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND Co., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 870; sheep, 844; pigs, 423; horses, 18. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 8d; pork, 5s 9d to 7s. A good show store cattle, but trade slow. Fat beasts a good supply, with very little alteration in the trade. Fat sheep a fair trade all round. Stores, only a few lots to hand, trade not brisk. Fat pigs, a good brisk trade all round. Stores not so good as last week. Hay, straw, and roots short supply.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Plentiful supply of stock, but trade was slow. Rough lambs ranged from 13s to 15s, and some very strong half-breds from 23s to 28s. Old Kent ewes were selling at from 10s 6d to 19s 6d, and younger animals of good class from 27s to 32s. One large run of ewe tegs realised from 29s 6d up to 36s, and a lot of good one-lamb ewes from 32s to 41s. Several useful lambs were disposed of at from £2 15s to £5 5s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish store cattle was larger than for some weeks past, the last of the Hempton Fairs being always a popular one. About 700 heifers and bullocks were shown, the bullocks being of a superior description. Fair attendance of buyers, and steady trade at £7 10s to £8 10s for small heifers; and up to £15 10s for heifers of the best description; bullocks, £8 10s to £13 10s. Young pigs a small show; quiet trade, at 21s to 22s each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Fair supply of fat stock, which met with a quiet demand without material alteration in values. Store sheep were in much larger supply than at the last market, and business was somewhat slow, but prices on the whole were well held.

Dorchester, Saturday.—There was a large entry of cattle, for which a much improved trade was experienced. Heifers and calves sold well from £16 15s to £18; cows and calves, £11 10s to £14 10s; barreners, £10 to £11 10s each; in-calf cows, £8 15s to £10 10s; in-calf heifers, £10 15s to £13 15s; fat cows, £12 to £15; fat heifers, £16 5s to £18. Sheep in good supply. Down ewes sold well from 40s 6d to 45s; horn ewes, 41s 6d to 42s; horn lambs, 25s.

Dublin, Thursday.—Prime finished beef—bullock and heifer—in good demand at fully late rates. Inferior and thinly meated descriptions, of which the market was mainly composed, difficult to exchange, and prices still favouring buyers. With a little more life in the sheep department a fair clearance was effected at last week's full prices. Cattle (best), 30s to 32s per cwt. Exceptional, 33s 6d per cwt. Other descriptions, 26s to 29s per cwt. Mutton, 5½d to 6¾d per lb; extreme 7d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND Co.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Large supplies of beef, with a fair demand, making up to 37s 6d per live cwt; horned bullocks, to £17; polled bullocks, to £20; Highland bullocks, to £22; Galloway bulls, to £21; do. bullocks, to £22; horned heifers, to £16; polled heifers, to £15.

Gainsborough, Tuesday.—Good show of calves, and some splendid animals on offer, but trade was only moderate, prices ranging from 33s to 42s per head.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies shorter, and trade slow. Prices are steady. Top Scotch cattle, 61s to 68s per cwt; secondary, 62s to 64s; top Irish, 60s; top mutton, 8d per lb; secondary, 7d to 7½d; good lambs, 7½d to 8d. Dead meat quiet sale, and values easier. Best Scotch beef, 5¾d to 6d; best States, 5½d to 5¾d; Canadians, 5¼d; home cows, 4¾d to 5d.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 3,478, calves 194, sheep and lambs 2,044, pigs (fat and sows) 25, sucking pigs 73, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 192, pigs (stores, more than ten) 252, horses 331, colts 340, donkeys 2. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6½ to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 8½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a short supply of fat cattle, which met a very brisk trade up to £23. Fat sheep were not numerous, but realised up to 69s; fat lambs made up to 41s 6d. Several calves were offered; those for weaning made up to 63s; those for killing made up to 70s. Fat and store swine were short, and met an excellent trade at high prices. This being the annual sale of pedigree swine, some young boars, 7½ months old, made up to £6 15s; gilts, up to £5 5s. This being the third annual sale of grazing cattle, 28 steers and heifers were forwarded, making up to £12 15s. A consignment of Jersey heifers sold well up to 21 guineas. A good red poll cow and calf made up to £21. Numbers at sale and market:—Beasts 1,000, calves 56, sheep 2,125, pigs 1,485, horses 23.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The supply of fat stock in the market to-day shows a slight reduction on the week, and comprised an average number of North of England cattle, a large number from Ireland, and a few pens of Scotch. For the primest cattle a fair selling trade was done, but for secondary and inferior business was slow. The choicest heifers and bullocks fully maintained last week's full rates, realising 6½d per lb, good beef made 6d to 6½d, and cow and inferior beef from 5d. There was an improvement in the number of sheep offered, the entries showing an increase of 610 compared with last Tuesday. Owing to the increased supply business generally ruled slow, only the choicest small shearlings meeting with an ordinary inquiry. Secondary and inferior sheep were bad to sell, a number remaining unsold at the close. Choicest small shearlings made last week's full quotations, viz., 8d to 8¾d, large and heavy sheep 7d to 7¾d, ewes and tups 5d to 6d per lb. A very small number of calves were on sale. The best veal animals realised up to 7¾d per lb. A moderate supply of dairy cattle met with a quiet demand, but prices remained without any change. Good milkers obtained £15 to £20. Numbers at market—Cattle 539, sheep 2,160, calves 8.

Leicester, Saturday.—Full supplies of stock in excellent condition. Fair attendance of buyers, and choice qualities in good request; secondary lots flat. Milch cows, £14 to £28 per head; bullocks, £11 to £16. Sheep in fair demand and prices steady.

Lincoln, Friday.—Trade very flat. Best milch beasts, £20 to £22; common lots, £15 to £17. Prices for store beasts about as last week.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Rather dull market. Recent prices. Numbers:—Cattle, 2,203; sheep, 6,704; calves, 54; pigs, 546. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s to 8s; pork, 5s to 9s 6d per stone; mutton, 5d to 8d; veal, 5d to 9d per lb.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—Very fair trade; good supply. Quotations: Best beef, 6½d; seconds, 6d to 6¼d; cows, 5½d to 6d; wether mutton, 7¼d to 7¾d; ewes, 6¼ to 6¾d; lamb, 8d; veal, 7d to 7¼d.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store cattle here today was considerable. A fair amount of business was passing at late rates. Fat beasts, which were in good supply, also made former terms, being quoted at 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. Store sheep, which were freely offered, were dull. Hoggets were quoted at 35s to 40s; and keeping shearlings at 40s to 45s per head. Fat sheep made 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb.

Preston, Wednesday.—Good attendance and supplies. Though cattle were harder to buy, prices were practically unaltered from last week, and the same remark applies to mutton. Calves sold badly. Beef—Heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6¼d; cows and bulls, 5¼d to 5¾d. Mutton—Hoggs and lambs, 7¼d to 7¾d; tups and ewes, 5d to 6d. Calves, 5¼d to 6¾d. At market—235 cattle, 1,800 sheep, and 87 calves.

Romford, Wednesday.—There was a very short supply of fat beasts, and trade was a little better. Best animals made 4s 4d to 4s 6d, and middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Sheep in average supply, and trade about the same. Best sheep made 5s 6d to 5s 8d; and middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply, and trade a little better, at 5s to 5s 2d per stone. A fair demand for store beasts. The pig trade showed a slight improvement.

Salford Tuesday.—There was a larger supply of cattle, but a good demand, and last week's prices were maintained. The supply of sheep was much smaller than last week. There was a slow sale at the prices ruling last market day. A larger supply of calves, and buyers are not very numerous, prices being lower. Quotations:—Cattle, 5d to 6¼d; sheep, 6d to 8¼d; calves, 5¼d to 7¼d per lb. At market—Cattle, 2,724; sheep, 7,186; calves, 152; pigs, 113.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Fairly good trade all round, with larger supplies of cattle and pigs. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 7¼d; mutton, 6½d to 8¼d; and veal, 7d to 8¼d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s to 10s 6d; and bacons, 8s to 9s per score. Cows, with calves, up to £22 10s. Hay, up to £3 10s; and straw, up to £2 per ton. Numbers offered:—824 cattle, 53 cows with calves, 2,087 sheep and lambs, 93 calves, 70 fat, 139 porket, and 438 store pigs.

Spalding Tuesday.—A very small show of beasts, and good trade, the best making 8s per stone; cow beef, 7s 6d. Stores sold well at late rates, and cows were dear. In the sheep market there was a small show, and late prices were well maintained. Lincoln mutton made 8d, and half-bred up to 8½d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 235 cattle, 655 sheep, and 50 lambs. As compared with last week there was a poor show of best cattle, which met only a slow trade at 7s 6d to 8s per stone; rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; young sheep and lambs, 8d; ewes, 6d; tups, 4d to 5d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Short supply. Small attendance. Rather dull trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a good supply of stock at market except mutton, which came sparingly to hand. Trade all round showed a marked improvement upon late markets, and with a large attendance of buyers a clearance was effected with few exceptions. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 103 fat beasts, and a few stores; 160 fat sheep, 118 fat and weaning calves, 168 fat and store pigs, and 4 horses and colts. Fat bullocks made £16 to £18 2s 6d; fat heifers, £14 to £20 2s 6d; yearling stirks, £7 to £9 5s; fat wethers, 44s to 56s; fat ewes, 35s to 51s fat lambs, 29s to 38s 6d; fat calves, £3 10s to £4 15s; cow calves, 24s to 60s; bull calves, 14s to 51s; fat pigs, 9s 6d per score; porkets, 10s; stores made late prices.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—About an average supply of beef, which met a low trade at prices varying from 5d to 6¼d per lb. Better show of mutton, but the demand was below the supply. Choice small sheep made 8d per lb; inferior, 7d to 7¼d; and ewes and tups, 5½d to 6d. Numbers penned:—Beasts, 1,554; sheep, 2,976.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts: A good supply, very slow trade. Sheep: Fair supply, slow trade. Calves: Small supply, fair demand. Milch cows: Short supply, good demand. Beef 5¾d to 7d, mutton 6¼d to 8¼d, veal 6¾d to 8d.

Worcester, Saturday.—Good supply of cattle and sheep, and a good trade was done at late rates. Fewer calves offered and more demand. Pigs, large entry and better trade. Beef, best, 6½d to 7d; inferior, 5¾d to 6d; wether mutton, 7d to 8d; ewes, 5½d to 6¼d; and veal, 7d to 8d per lb; pork, pigs, 9s; and bacons, 10s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A short supply of good beasts and sheep owing no doubt to the farmers bringing them up to finish; also a less supply of pigs and a slower trade. Best beef realised up to 8s per stone; secondary, 7s to 7s 6d; best mutton, 8d to 9d per lb; ewes and other sorts 4d to 6d per stone; veal, 9d per lb.

York, Thursday.—Fat beasts, 7s 9d to 8s per stone; fat sheep, best, 8d to 8¼d; secondary, 7d to 7¾d. ewes, 5d to 6d; lambs, 9d per lb; pork pigs 6s 6d to 7s per stone. Another large offer of both English and Irish store cattle, and buyers fairly numerous. Owing to the high rates asked, trade was slow and dragging. The chief demand was for two year-old heifers, which made £10 to £12 15s each; three-year-olds, to £16; stirks, £6 to £9 10s. Principal buyers were from the south. Fair supply of calving and milch cows, and steady trade; best to £23 each; ordinary, £14 to £18 10s each. This was the last of the big ewe fairs of the season. There was a fair show of all classes of sheep, which met with a slow demand at barely last week's rates. North country ewes, 30s to 46s; north country shearlings, 38s to 44s; north country lambs, 26s to 33s; twice crossed sheep, up to 48s. Masham shearlings, 38s to 44s; Masham lambs, 18s to 24s; twice crossed lambs, 26s to 31s; cheviot ewes, 22s to 28s; south country ewes, 32s to 40s each.

York, Friday.—Calves, 7½d ; small sheep, 8d ; large ditto, 7½d ; ewes, 6d per lb. Small pork pigs, 6s 9d to 7s ; large ditto 6s 6d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast entries totalled 980 head, being an increase of 257 as compared with last Wednesday's figures, and comprised 897 United States and 83 Canadian. Trade was of a very slow character at 4s 1d to 4s 4d, exceptionally 4s 5d, for the former, and 3s 8d to 3s 9d per 8lb to sink the offal for the latter.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—At the sale of Canadian cattle there were penned in the sheds 414 cattle, landed by the Ontarian (s), from Montreal. Bullocks, as regards quality, were below the average, and were very rough in finish. Only a few of them were prime beasts. The consignment consisted for the most part of ranch cattle. There was a good attendance of buyers, both town and country being well represented. The dead-weight quotations were as follows :—Best bullocks, medium weights, 56s per cwt, and for really choice up to 58s ; second-ary and plainer, 54s to 56s ; best ranchers, up to 54s ; very rough cattle, 48s to 52s ; and bulls, 46s to 50s, according to quality and finish.

WOOL.

London, Monday.—This evening's auctions totalled 11,961 being the joint offerings of two catalogues, and comprised 5,702 New South Wales and Queensland, 1,374 Victorian, 74 South Australian, 565 West Australian, 572 Tasmanian, 2,534 New Zealand, 89 Cape, and 61 Buenos Ayres. A good attendance of buyers was present, and competition ruled brisk, there being no variation in prices, however, from those current recently. Queensland—greasy combing, marked L.D.N., sold 9d to 9½d ; ditto Bowen Downs, 8d ; scoured combing, McW over Rodney Downs, 1s 3½d to 1s 5d ; pieces, 1s 2d to 1s 3½d ; ditto Clavertor. Downs, 1s 2½d to 1s 5½d. New South Wales—scoured combing T.E. and Co. over B in circle, 11d to 1s 2d. New Zealand—greasy Lincoln flat point, 6d to 7½d ; scoured combing, J. Walsh, Botany in heart, 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

London, Tuesday.—At auction this evening two catalogues were brought forward, and together amounted to 13,500 bales, being made up as follows:—2,170 New South Wales and Queens-land, 1,395 Victorian, 740 South Australian, 197 West Austra-lian, 104 Tasmanian, 6,421 New Zealand, 199 Cape and Natal, 2,532 Punta Arenas, and 732 Falkland Islands. Good competi-tion was experienced from a full attendance of buyers, and prices ruled firm at fully the recent level for all descriptions. New South Wales and Queensland—greasy combing, marked J. G. Gringelong, 7d to 7¾d ; pieces, 5d ; bellies, 5d. New Zea-land—greasy combing, two hearts, 6¼d to 8d ; clothing, 6½d to 7¼d ; combing, Dalethorpe, 8d to 8½d. South Australian—scoured combing, H.H. over Cadelgo, 1s to 1s 2d ; pieces, 1s 0½d bellies, 11d.

London, Wednesday.—At auction this evening, Messrs. Charles Balme and Co. brought forward the total of 11,788 bales, comprising 5,141 New South Wales and Queensland, 779 Victorian, 288 South Australian, 3,526 New Zealand, and 2,074 Cape and Natal. A good attendance of buyers was present, and competition ruled keen for desirable parcels. The better sorts of merino and crossbred realised firm prices, but the former of poor quality denoted irregularity. New South Wales scoured combing, marked T. E, and Co. over B in circle, sold 1s 1½d. Queensland—greasy combing Peak Downs, 8d to 9d ; broken, 8d to 8¼d ; bellies, 6d to 6½d ; scoured combing, G. F. Bimerah, 1s 5d ; clothing, 1s 4d to 1s 5d ; necks, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d. New Zealand—Greasy combing Vesta, 5¾d to 7¼d.

London, Thursday.—Two catalogues were offered at public sale this evening, and totalled 13,470 bales, comprising 6,032 New South Wales and Queensland, 2,234 Victorian, 725 South Australian, 3,960 New Zealand, and 519 Cape and Natal. With a full attendance of buyers, good competition was ex-perienced, but merinos and fine crossbreds sold somewhat irregularly. Medium and the coarser grades of crossbreds sold with brisk biddings at fully late prices. New South Wales greasy combing, marked Wellington over Darling Downs, 8¾d to 9d ; clothing 9d ; ewes, B W G, 6½d to 7¼d ; scoured combing, A. Tobin and Sons over Wingadee, 1s 2½d to 1s 5½d ; lambs, 9½d to 11½d ; Victorian—greasy combing, M. M. and Co. over Burraliogie, 6½d to 7¼d ; fleece, 6¼d to 6¾d ; clothing, 6d to 6¾d. South Australian—greasy combing, Allen M'Farlaue, 6¼d to 7¼d ; pieces, 5d to 5¼d ; New Zealand—greasy combing, R W in diamond over Gore, 9d. Scoured combing Kaputone, 7¼d to 11½d ; pieces, 5¾d to 1s 1½d.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per packet of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s ; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s ; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8 ; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7 ; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s ; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb : Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 4d to 1s 5d ; scoured good, 1s 5d to 1s 5½d ; scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d ; greasy average to fair, 9d to 10d ; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s 1d to 1s 2d ; greasy average, 7d to 8d ; South Australian, greasy average, 5¾d to 6d ; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 2d to 1s 3d ; greasy average, 7¾d to 8d ; Cape, scoured superior, 1s 3¾d to 1s 4½d ; fleece average, 6¾d to 7½d ; greasy average, 5d to 6d ; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d ; greasy average, 6d to 6¼d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 9d to 10d ; New Zealand, fine, 8¾d to 9½d ; ditto medium, 7d to 7¾d ; ditto coarse, 5¾d to 6¾d.

London, Saturday.—At auction this afternoon Messrs. Du Croz, Doxat, and Co. offered the total of 10,101 bales, comprising 3,931 New South Wales and Queensland, 1,234 Victorian, 15 South Australian, 375 West Australian, 979 Tasmanian, 2,211 New Zealand, 95 Cape and Natal, 1,161 Falkland Islands and Punta Arenas. The attendance of buyers was on a good scale, and competition ruled fair, prices being steady.

Bradford, Thursday.—The tone is unchanged. There is scarcely any business doing in wool, and prices are not im-proved. Bradford remains the cheapest market for the raw material. In the yarn trade, too, there are no encouraging features. Orders from abroad are at prices which spinners will not accept, and little is doing for home trade. In piece trade it is very difficult to keep looms going profitably.

Canterbury, Saturday.— Staplers report a very poor demand for English wool, and do not seem at all anxious for business, even at the low rates now ruling. Kent fleeces 6d, and lamb's wool at from 4d to 5d per lb ; half-breds, 7d ; downs, 8d to 10d ; and locks from 2d to 2½d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—Prices have improved con-siderably owing to sellers of American, Azoff and Black Sea seed buying back what they had sold. Calcutta London spot and near, 42s ; October-November, 41s 9d paid ; November-December, 42s ; April-June, 43s 6d. buyers. Hull firm. Calcutta April-June, 51s. Azov, Black Sea, September-October, 38s ; October-November, 37s buyers. La Plata, December-January, 53s 6d ; January-February, 53s. To the Continent Bombay is quoted March-May, 53s 6d. Calcutta, March-April, 52s 6d ; April-June, new crop, 51s 3d. La Plata December-January, 53s 6d. January-February, 53s. Duluth, October-November, sold at 57s 3d to cancel. Linseed cakes continue firm. London made, £8 10s to £8 12s 6d. Russian, £8 to £8 5s ex dock. American Westerns at £7 17s 6d to £8. Cotton cakes firm. London made, £5 2s 6d to £5 5s ; Egyptian, £5 to £5 1s 3d. Rapeseed is firm, but slow. Brown Calcutta to London April-June, 41s 6d. To the Continent we quote : Yellow Guzerat, March-May, 47s 3d. Yellow Cawnpore, March-May, 46s. Brown Cawnpore, November-December, 47s 9d buyers, March-May, 42s 9d, brown Calcutta, October-November, 46s ; April-June, 42s. Ravison to Hull, shipping or shipped, 34s. Cottonseed has had a smart decline chiefly owing to rumours of a projected strike amongst the mill hands in Hull. At the close, however, there is a little more demand and prices have somewhat recovered from the lowest point touched. Warehouse seed, £7 7s 6d. First half, October, £7 2s 6d sellers' ; October, £7 ; November-January, £6 15s accepted. Hull spot, £7 10s, and pas-sage, £7 7s 6d to £7, according to position. October, £6 17s 6d ; November-January, £6 15s. Cargoes, November £7 2s 6d ; December, £7 1s 3d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: With only a limited quantity available on spot, and continued small sup-plies, values are quite as dear, at the same time the present ruling high prices check the demand. Russians are still offered at last week's prices. Americans come along slowly, and in some instances a slight advance is asked, especially for near parcels, which are now held at 2s. 6d. per ton ad-vance. English remain in small production, and crushers ask full prices of last week. Cotton Cakes : The demand is small, even for the time of year, but with limited stocks and no pressure to sell, values are without change. Egyptians and London made move off quietly, and are unchanged. Decorti-cated do not offer on spot, but for November shipment £6 15s. would be accepted with meal offering at £6 12s. 6d. in same position. Maize germ meal is again the turn lower in conse-quence of some heavy arrivals, with American offering at 3s. 9d. per ton under last week's price. Rice meal : Landed parcels are firmly held, but some quantity ex ship in near positions has changed hands at 2s. 6d. per ton less money.

		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
LINSEED CAKES.								
London made	per ton ex mill	8	10	0	to	8	12	6
American in bags	ex dock	7	17	6	„	8	0	0
American Oct.-Nov.	„	7	12	6	„	7	15	0
Russian in mats	„	7	17	6	„	8	0	0
Russian in bags	„	8	0	0	„	8	2	6
COTTONSEED CAKES.								
London made	ex mill	5	2	6	„	5	5	0
Egyptian, in bags	ex dock	5	0	0	„	5	1	3
„ „	Nov.-April shipment	4	16	3	„	4	17	6
Decorticated	Oct.-Nov. „	6	15	0	„	6	17	6
Meal, on spot	„ „ „	6	12	6	„	6	15	0
RAPE CAKES.								
East Indian Seed	ex mill	4	15	0	„	—		
Ravison	„	4	10	0	„	—		
Nutted, in bags	„	4	15	0	„	—		
MAIZE.								
Germ meal (American)	ex dock	5	2	6	„	5	3	9
„ „ „	Sept.-Oct. c.i.f.	4	18	9	„	5	0	0
„ „ (English)	ex mill	5	7	6	„	5	10	0
RICE MEAL.								
Rangoon	ex warehouse	4	12	6	„	4	15	0
„ Nov.-Dec.	ex ship	4	10	0	„	—		
„ Jan.-March	ex ship	4	8	9	„	—		

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—To-day the wheat trade rules very dull. Foreign is offered at 6d per qr reduction on the week, without attracting buyers. English meets a slow sale at 6d to 1s per qr under last week's prices. Barley meets a steady demand for best samples, at fall prices ; grinding unaltered from last week. Oats support late rates. Beans remain quite as dear. Flat maize in less supply at 3d per qr dearer ; round sorts un-altered. Linseed.—The arrivals are 75 qrs from Archangel, 60 qr Harlingen, 7,494 qrs Patersburg ; total, 7,629 qrs Linseed con-tinues to harden, and prices have advanced steadily ; first-hand shippers scarcely offer at the moment. Calcutta not offered to Hull, London value about 61s. Black Sea Sept.-Oct. and Oct.-Nov., 57s, nearest value. Petersburg afloat and prompt, 55s. Riga, 54s the quotation. American, 57s reported paid. River Plate, 53s quoted, Dec.-Jan. re-sellers at about 52s 9d, first half Feb., 52s 3d, all Feb., 51s 9d. Cottonseed.—The market has been a declining one all the week, and business most re-stricted, particularly in near positions. Spot, is now, sellers at £7 10s, and by steamers on the way due next week, £7 2s 6d would buy. All October has fallen to £6 17s 6d, and business done Nov.-Jan., also Feb-March, at down to £6 11s 3d, but to-day these months are rather steadier, and £6 12s 6d paid, which still obtainable. Oil seed cakes.—Linseed cakes are 2s 6d per ton dearer. Cotton cakes steady. Hemp, quiet, un-unchanged.—KEIGHLEY MANSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 15s 0d PER TON ; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 7s 6d PER TON ; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 5s. 0d. PER TON ; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 17s 6d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Trade ruled steady: Best clover, 85s to 100s ; inferior ditto, 80s to 85s ; specially picked hay, 92s 6d ; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d ; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s ; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 90s ; and straw, 25s to 30s per load.

Bristol, Tuesday.—New hay, 60s to 70s ; old clover hay, 75s to 80s ; old meadow hay, 70s to 75s ; straw, 45s to 50s.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The activity in the warehouses for hay and straw is fully maintained, prices still being firm. Quotations :—Meadow hay, 6½d to 7d ; clover, 7d to 7½d ; wheat straw, 5½d ; oat straw, 5d ; rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—This week has been again very dull, and little passing. Continental shippers are becoming a little more reasonable, which will bring them in line with our mar-ket, though at present the demand is very small. We quote—Canadian Timothy, clover mixture, 85s ; Dutch, first cut clover, 90s to 92s 6d ; Dutch and French, second cut clover, 92s 6d to 95s ; good Dutch hay, 72s 6d to 75s ; common ditto, 65s ; large bale French wheat straw, 46s 6d ; small ditto, ditto, 43s ; small ditto, French oat straw, 43s. All these prices are per ton, delivered by barge alongside.—FULLER AND PRENTIS.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A large business done during the past week, principally in copper hops, at from £3 to £5 per cwt. In view of the smallness of the crop the market is very firm, and prices are deemed sufficiently high to induce many planters to offer their produce at present. One large growth has been sold at £7 per cwt all round Choice selected parcels are making £7 7s

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade has been much more active this week, and the bulk of the 1900 crop has already been cleared off the market, with the result that there was a con-siderably diminished attendance of planters at market to-day There was a brisk demand for all useful qualities, which sold readily at last week's full rates, and occasionally realised a few shillings advance. Choice samples were held for more money

Worcester, Saturday.—The planters at market to-day were somewhat carried away by the recent advance, and though the holders of really choice hops may be justified, the bulk of the lots are not of this quality, and brewers will not readily take to them at anything like the prices asked. The highest values offering are undoubtedly the best value, and poorer samples are quite neglected. A word should be said for the splendid yearlings which can now be secured on tempting terms. 119 pockets have passed the pitches to-day and 3,172 during the week, making a total of 11,006 pockets up to date.—PIERCY AND CO.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A [illegible] stalls are [illegible] prices [illegible] were in [illegible] roots, 2s 6d to 3s per cwt ; carrots, 1s 6d to 2s 3d ; turnips, 2s to 3s ; parsley, 1s 6d per dozen bunches ; [illegible] bundles ; celery [illegible] Egyptian [illegible] 5d per case ; Valencia [illegible] Canaries, 10s to 12s per case ; Madeira [illegible] 20s to 22s per box ; French grapes [illegible] Almeria [illegible] English pears, 2s 6d to 4s per bushel ; Californian, 7s to 8s per case ; Normandy [illegible] 1s 3d each ; Valencia [illegible] each ; bananas, 5s to 6s per bunch ; pineapples, 4s to 6s per case ; English walnuts, 4s to 5s per peck. Cobnuts, 12s per bag

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals this morning have been moderate, and the whole trade has been brisk and prices firm. English Beauty of Hebron, 3s 6d to 4s ; Early Puritans, 3s 6d to 4s ; Snowdrops, 3s 6d to 4s ; Reading Giants, 3s 3d to 4s ; Professor Maerkers, 3s to 3s 9d ; Up-to-Dates, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per cwt

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—For basic slag the demand has been very moderate, and the following are the current rates :—Two cargoes at the principal depots :—Some slight inquiry has been experienced for kainit, but other fertilisers in quiet. Feeding stuffs are firm at previous rates, notwithstanding there is a good inclination on behalf of consumers to operate. Nitrate of soda, best quality, 14s guaranteed 95 per cent., paid ; ammonia £28 5s to £28 7s 6d per ton. East India bone meal, in bags, £4 7s 6d to £4 10s per ton ; kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton ; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 15s to £8 per ton ; ditto, English, prime, in bulk, £8 15s to £9 per ton ; ditto, round, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 7s 6d to £8 12s 6d per ton ; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 per ton ; ditto, English ditto, prime, very soft, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 12s 6d per ton ; ditto, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £5 5s to £5 10s per ton ; cottonseed (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s per ton ; maize germ meal, English, prime, £5 5s to £5 10s per ton ; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 15s to £4 17s 6d per ton ; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, £2 12s 6d per 240lb ; linseed fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 3s to £3 5s per qr, 41 lbs ; N A cloverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, per cwt ; D N S brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, per ton ; ditto, ditto 35 to 38 sol., in bags, per ton nominal ; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 36 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d per ton ; ditto, ditto, 35 to 40 phos., in bags, £1 13s 6d to £1 14s 6d per ton ; ditto, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 phos., in bags, £1 16s to £1 17s 6d per ton, at the producing depots.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Winsford (Cheshire), Saturday.— Current prices for salt at the works :—Common white salt, 11s per ton ; fine screened rock salt, 8s 6d per ton ; for truck loads in bulk.—THE SALT UNION, LTD.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quan-tities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended October 13, 1900, together with the quan-tities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	6,664	9,858	Wheat ..	1,657,000	1,342,700
Sheep ..	2,846	6,139	Flour ..	442,000	[illegible]
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	378,000	[illegible]
			Oats ..	[illegible]	32[illegible]
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beef ..	88,214	85,970	Beans ..	[illegible]	5[illegible]
Mutton	87,854	56,024	Maize ..	1,473,100	[illegible]
Pork ..	1,254	13,198		Bunches.	Bunches
Bacon ..	84,807	88,119	†Bananas	—	[illegible]
Beef, salt	3,783	3,617		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	22,686	20,447	Apples ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pork, salt	4,045	3,471	†Apricots & Peaches	—	[illegible]
Meat, salt & fresh	9,404	8,186	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	10,665	15,73[illegible]	†Currants	—	—
Butter ..	41,146	56,[illegible]	†Gooseberr.	—	—
Marg'rine	19,493	16,849	Grapes ..	54,214	[illegible]
Cheese ..	62,091	68,[illegible]	Lemons	[illegible]	12,172
Con. Milk	14,122	17,538	Oranges	[illegible]	[illegible]
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	139	151	Pears ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
			Plums ..	6,700	[illegible]
			†Strawberrs	—	—
			Other Fr't	50,790	[illegible]
	No.	No.		Tons.	Tons.
Eggs ..	[illegible]	[illegible]	Hay ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
			Onions ..	[illegible]	157,396
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£6,781	£4,631	Hops ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
			Potatoes	13,054	[illegible]
	Cwt.	Cwt.	§Tom'to's		16,814
Rabbits	24,823	12,[illegible]	Other	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	41,247	34,907	Veg'bles	£[illegible]	£[illegible]

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900

Flax Mills destroyed by Fire.—At Kilkel, County Down, on Wednesday, the flax mills belonging to Mr Robert Forsythe, a Liverpool merchant, were entirely consumed by fire and burnt down. A large quantity of flax owned by the farmers in the district was destroyed. A claim for £550 has been lodged in Newry [illegible]

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Shorthorn cow Granny, who belongs to and was bred by Mrs. Bonest, of Manor Farm, Mentmore, Leighton Buzzard, was exhibited at the recent Dairy Show in the class for non-pedigree Shorthorn cows, but was not noticed by the judges. In the milking trials, however, she gained the highest number of points—144.1—in her class, and took the first prize and the Lord Mayor's Cup; whilst in the Shorthorn butter test she won the second prize and bronze medal with a total of 42.75 points. Granny is nine years old, and last calved on September 6th.

The Lincoln Red Shorthorn bull, Royal Burton 1996, the winner of the first prize in the class for bulls of any other pure breed than Shorthorn and Jersey at the Dairy Show, is the property of, and was bred by, Mr. John Evens, Burton, Lincoln. Royal Burton's sire was Knight of Chewton 68867, and his dam Dairymaid 2nd by Professor 200.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

In view of the continuance of outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in Great Britain, and the consequent danger of the introduction of the infection into Ireland, the regulations of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland prohibiting the importation of all live stock liable to the disease still continue in force. It is thought advisable to bring this information to the notice of parties interested, as difficulties have arisen from ignorance of or inadvertence to the terms of the regulations.

The twenty-fourth annual Christmas show of fat cattle, sheep, pigs, farm produce, etc., of the Norfolk and Norwich Agricultural Association will be held at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, on November 22nd, 23rd, and 24th. About £700 will be offered in prizes. This sum includes, in addition to the usual prizes, several butter prizes for tenant farmers farming under 100 acres, and not being members of the Association, and garden produce prizes for cottagers and holders of allotments not exceeding thirty roods. The Technical Education Committee of the Norfolk County Council offer several specials for dairy produce exhibited by students who have attended a course of dairy lectures under the auspices of the County Council. October 27th is the last day of entry. Forms, prize lists, etc., may be had of the secretary, Mr. Caleb Barker, East Harling, Thetford.

The foreign demand for our pure-bred pigs still continues, late as is the season. On Wednesday last a quartette of Large White Yorkshires from the herd of Mr. Sanders Spencer, of Holywell Manor, near St. Ives, Hunts, were shipped from London. These pigs were purchased by the owner of one of the best herds of pigs in Belgium, Baron Peers, of Oostcamp, who has had several of Mr. Spencer's pigs on former occasions.

It is stated, on the authority of one of the United States live stock inspectors, that there are more sick pigs arriving in New York for the time of year than at any time within his recollection. Numbers are being condemned.

The Council of the Doncaster Agricultural Society have fixed Wednesday and Thursday, July 3rd and 4th, 1901, as the date of the Society's next exhibition. Mr. George Chafer, the secretary, asks other secretaries to please note this date.

Some weeks ago (the *Scottish Farmer* informs us) three Japanese gentlemen visited the famous herd of Ayrshire cattle at Southwick belonging to Sir Mark J. M'Taggart Stewart, and had some important dealings with the courteous manager of the Home Farm, Mr. Boyd. They purchased no fewer than fifteen females, including a noted prize-winning four-year-old and an equally famous showyard three-year-old. They seemed, however, to have had particular fancy for the two-year-olds, and out of a grand lot of twenty-five they selected a dozen. These included the second and third Royal winners of this year, sired by Queen's Messenger, a bull hired from Mr. Leonard Pilkington. Another was got by Yellow Bob, for which Sir Mark paid £73 as a yearling, while yet another was by the celebrated First Choice, the champion bull of his day, and still an excellent stock-getter, as several of his sons fetched high prices this year. Seven of the lot were by Prince Knockdon, a bull which fetched £83 as a yearling. After an inspection of the yearlings, they picked out a get of Zerooma of Monkland, and half-sister to the champion yearling bull sold by Mr. Boyd to the Japanese Government agents some time ago.

A special sale of pedigree Shire mares, fillies, foals, and geldings will be held by Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck at their Repository, Peterborough, on Friday next. A little over a hundred animals will be offered, and they are from the studs of various well-known breeders in all parts of the country. The proceedings will commence at 12.30 sharp.

Mrs. Bonest's Shorthorn Cow, "Granny," Winner of the Lord Mayor's Cup in the Milking Trials, Dairy Show, 1900.

Thorne October Fair.—This fair, held on Tuesday, was poorly stocked, and the quality was rarely first rate. Young stock made £7 upwards, in-calf heifers £10 to £14, and big cattle for feeding £12 to £14. Sheep were not numerous, and the main trade was in small Cheviots, for which 14s. was given. £25 was asked for agricultural foals, but for nag foals there was practically no trade. For farm horses £30 was the top price.

Bakewell October Fair.—This fair was held on Monday, when there was a very large supply of cattle and sheep, but only a few horses and pigs. Many of the cattle were of superior quality, and a brisk business was transacted, though some remained unsold. Superior in-calf and milk giving cows realised from £17 to £21 per head. Second and inferior qualities, including lying-off cows, from £15 to about £17; good in-calf heifers (at hand), from £16 to £17 10s.; inferior qualities, from £14 to £15 15s.; barren cows, from £10 to £15; superior half-meated grazing beasts, from £12 to £16; stirks and steers, from £8 to £11 each; two to three-year-old bulls from £8 to £14 each; yearling calves, £4 to £6 per head; young calves (cows), from £1 to 1 15s. each; ditto (bulls), from 17s. to 28s. each; best heifer beef made from 7s. 6d. to 8s. per stone; inferior and bulls from 6s. to 7s. 3d. per stone. The sheep fair was glutted. Good store ewes realised from 37s. to 44s. each; store wethers, from 36s. to 42s. each; best wether mutton, from 8½d. to 9d. per lb.; fat ewes from 7½d. to 8d. per lb.; hoggs, from 30s. to 34s. each. The pig trade appeared active; young stores realised from 25s. to 40s. each.

CATTLE.

The Age of a Prize Bull.

Prosecution at Birmingham.

A case of considerable interest to breeders and exhibitors of cattle occupied the attention of Messrs. W. N. Fisher and G. Tangye at the Victoria Courts, Birmingham, on Friday. It was a charge against Joseph Gowling, farmer, of Radford, Leamington, of having falsely and fraudulently pretended to William Henry Lythall, secretary of the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society, that a bull known as Cock of the North II. had been born on September 13, 1898, by means of which false representation he obtained a prize of £20.

The case, said Mr. McCardie, for the prosecution, was the first of its kind in Birmingham, and, so far as he knew, in the United Kingdom. The prosecutors, the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society, had brought the prosecution, not for any pecuniary gain, but for the purpose of purging exhibitions of cattle and other agricultural exhibitions of a system of false pretences which they had reason to suspect had been committed from time to time. In March of the present year a show was held under the auspices of the society in Bingley Hall, Birmingham, and it was then that Gowling was guilty of the alleged false pretence.

Mr. McCardie stated the facts leading up to that date. On July 23rd, 1898, the bull calf, which was called Cock of the North II., was born on the farm of Messrs. Taylor and Walton, breeders of cattle in Westmoreland. The date of the birth was entered in the Herd Book. On October 7th, 1898, a sale of cattle was held, and Mr. Gowling bought the calf. Of course, said counsel, if in exhibiting an animal he could get it entered in a younger class it would stand a better chance of winning a prize. He commenced the scheme of changing the animal's age in February, 1899. On the 8th of that month he filled up an entry form and sent it to the secretary of the Shorthorn Society of Great Britain and Ireland. The date of the animal's birth was there entered as August 23rd, 1898. This deducted a month from its age, and enabled the owner to enter it in classes he would not otherwise have been able to compete in. On January 29th of the present year, when the Birmingham Show for March was being advertised, he again altered the age of the animal, giving the date of birth as September 13th, 1898, adding a footnote in the letter to the effect that he had been informed that that was the date. The bull, which competed with younger animals, was awarded the first prize of £20. On March 8th it was sold as a first prize winner for 260gs.

Subsequently a communication from Mr. S. H. Allen, the second prize winner, caused Mr. Lythall to make enquiries, with the result that in May he wrote to Gowling stating that the bull's age had been questioned by Mr. Allen, who had brought the matter before the Council of the Shorthorn Society. To this Gowling replied that there had been several letters between him and the secretary of the Shorthorn Society. He admitted there was a mistake somewhere, but he could not find out where, as he lost the catalogue. It was his son who got information respecting the age of the animal, and he said that the calf was not more than three weeks or a month old when

he got home. There was also a paragraph in a Westmoreland paper to the effect, and he had been trying for some time to find out whether this was correct. He further said he was sorry for the mistake, which was never intended. He was quite willing to return the prize-money, and would take care that nothing of the kind ever happened again. He accordingly returned £20. After the winning of the prize a paragraph appeared in a Westmoreland paper, which described the sale of the animal for 260gs. for America, and added: "Mr. Gowling is teaching the Warwickshire gentlemen what a hard-working Westmoreland farmer is like."

Evidence bearing out this statement was then called.

Mr. Powell, the secretary of the Shorthorn Society, produced the Herd Book, with the entry of the birth of this animal on July 23rd, 1898. The auctioneer who sold it stated that no one who had any knowledge of cattle could have mistaken this for a three-weeks-old calf.

The accused pleaded guilty.

He was committed to the Quarter Sessions for trial, bail being allowed.

Mr. McCardie mentioned that since the case opened he had ascertained that there was a similar prosecution in the country in 1879.

Mr. T. Cross was for the defence, which was reserved.

Defendant was also committed on a charge of obtaining a cheque for 260gs. (the price received for the bull) by false pretences.

Shorthorn Sale at York.

On Tuesday Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. held a sale of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle at the wool sheds in the Cattle Market, York. The catalogue comprised the small entire herd belonging to the late Mr. William Wright, of Wollaton, Nottingham, a large portion of Colonel Brocklehurst's herd removed from Ranksborough, Oakham, and a number of young bulls bred by Lord Armstrong, Sir John Swinburne, and others. There was a large attendance of buyers. The highest price realised by the females was 60gs., given by Lord Middleton for Bride Elect, the property of the late Mr. William Wright. The top figure realised by the bulls was 71gs., which was paid by Mr. Jessop for Sir John Swinburne's twelve month old calf Grand Earl of Waterloo 25th, a youngster full of promise. A number of pure-bred Guernsey cows and heifers, the property of Mr. J. E. Ellis, of Scalby, were also sold, and realised prices ranging from 7½gs. to 23gs. The latter price was given by Mr. Parr for Mayworth, a two-year-old by St. Simon.

The principal prices obtained for the Shorthorns were as follows:—

	Gs.
COWS AND HEIFERS.	
Bridecake (the late Mr. W. Wright's), c 1891 Mr. Charles Williams	25
Queen Victoria (late Mr. W. Wright's), c 1893 Mr. Murchison	20
Sister Rosamond (Colonel Brocklehurst's), c 1894 Mr Howard Taylor	32
Rosedale Rose (Mr. C. R. W. Adeane's), c 1894 Mr. Ferguson	25
Verbascum (Colonel Brocklehurst's), c 1896 Mr. W. Cooke	20
Bertha 19th (Captain Dunnington Jefferson's), c 1897 Mr. Cooke	24
Merry Hannah (Colonel Brocklehurst's), c 1897 Mr. R. Booth (Warlaby)	34
Lady Jane 3rd (Captain Dunnington Jefferson's), c 1898 Mr. T. W. Horsfall	21
Bride Elect (the late Mr. Wright's), c 1898 Lord Middleton	60
Windsor Caroline (late Mr. R. Hornsby's), c 1899 Mr. Inman	27
BULLS.	
Scottish Duke 69555 (the Earl of Feversham's), c 1895 Mr. W. Harrison	33
Jubilee Duke 74774 (the Earl of Feversham's), c 1897 Mr. George Scoby	27
Ranksborough Duke 77562 (Colonel Brocklehurst's), c 1898 Mr. H. Binder	21
Howden King 76892 (Mrs. E. Gill's), c 1898 Mr. Harrison	25
Robin 77662 (Mrs. A. H. Browne's), c 1899 Hon. H. Scott	19
Merry Briton (Mr. J. Fryer's), c 1899 Mr. F. Reynard	45
Captain Brilliant 76288 (Mr. C. Howard-Taylor's), c 1899 Mr. C. Middleton	26
Queen's Messenger (late Mr. W. Wright's), c 1899 Mr. Lambert (Hedon)	26
General White 76755 (Mr. J. Webb's), c 1899 Mr. Short	24
Wild Duke of Geneva 200th 78187 (Lord Armstrong's), c 1899 Mr. Irby	21
Wild Duke of Geneva 202nd 78169 (Lord Armstrong's), c 1899 Mr. Wilkes	33
Wild Duke of Geneva 203rd 78170 (Lord Armstrong's), c 1899 Mr. Taylor (Wetherby)	38
Ranksborough Lad 2nd 77564 (Colonel Brocklehurst's), c 1899 Mr. Smith	23
Fairy Duke 49th (Mr. B. L. Barrow's), c 1899 Mr. T. Curry	30
Holker Earl Burlington 4th 76867 (Mr. R. Hornsby's), c 1899 Mr. Petch	23
Golden Hope (Mr. W. Snowball's), c 1899 Mr. Middleton	21
Prince of Woolknoll (Mr. W. Place's), c 1899 Lord Herries	19
Hovingham Ensign (Mr. R. Hornsby's), c 1890 Mr. Petch	22
Wild Duke of Geneva 206th 78172 (Lord Armstrong's), c 1899 Lord Zetland	23
Battlefield (late Mr. W. Wright's), c 1899 Mr. Hebron	23
Merton (Mr. H. Williams's), c 1899 Mr. Eyre	22
Grand Earl of Waterloo 25th 76811 (Sir J. Swinburne's), c 1899 Mr. Jessop	71
Duke of Kirby 4th (Mr. T. C. Dobson's), c 1899 Mr. T. Curry	22
Bridegroom (late Mr. W. Wright's), c 1900 Mr. Pyman (Whitby)	30

FIRST-CLASS representatives and agents required throughout the United Kingdom for the sale of "MOLASSINE."—Write for particulars to the "MOLASSINE" CO., LTD., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

Sale of Major Oliver's Shorthorns.

The select herd of Shorthorns belonging to Major Oliver, of Hoselaw Mains, was sold by auction at Kelso on the 12th inst. by Messrs. Penny and Kay. The sale attracted a large number of buyers, and the prices obtained were fairly good, the calves meeting the best demand. The highest figure paid was 31gs., this being brought by the roan Music, by the Lambden-bred sire Red Knight. The purchaser was Mr. P. Henderson, Pow Farm, Rumbling Bridge. Madcap, another roan, by Captain Hope, sold at 27gs., to Mr. James Robertson, Morebattle Mains, who also got the red-and-white Maudlin, by the same sire, at 25gs. Faith, a very smart red cow, by Captain Hope, from Lady Linton, by Prince William, was secured by Lord Polwarth at 26gs.; and he also got Lady Priapus, a red-and-white, for 20gs. Mr. James Robertson bought Priscilla, a red-and-white, by Red Knight, at 25gs.; and he also got Lady Linton 3rd, by the same sire, at 14gs. Others sold up to 18gs., and calves sold to 18gs., at which figure Lord Polwarth bought the roan bull calf Sir Carl Carew. A cow belonging to Mr. G. Elliot, Steward, elicited spirited bidding, and sold at 36gs. to Mr. Henderson.

Sale of Shorthorns at Enniskillen.

A number of pure-bred Shorthorns from the herd of the Rev. John Hall, Garvary, Enniskillen, were sold by auction at the cattle depôt adjoining the Enniskillen Railway Station, on the 9th inst., and the sale, which was conducted by Mr. G. F. Graham, of Clones, proved a most satisfactory one. There was a large and representative attendance, local farmers being present in great force, and bidding throughout was brisk, outside breeders claiming nearly all the lots. The following is a list of the sales and purchasers:—

	Gs.
COWS AND HEIFERS	
Grand Ude VI., s Gilton Jubilee Mr. McClintock	14
Rosie Duchess, s Giftie Duke Mr. Charters	15½
Mabella, s Giftie Duke Mr. Willie Wilson	17½
Duchess of Erin, s Giftie Duke Rev. Mr. Hall	16
Flower Duchess IV., s Giftie Duke Lord Rossmore	30
Flower Duchess V., s Winsome Duke Rev. T. J. Charlton	20
Flower Duchess V., s Giftie Duke Mr. E. M. Archdale, M.P.	24
Georgina VII., s Giftie Duke Mr. Carroll	22
Winsome Rose, s Winsome Duke Mr. McClintock	20
Georgina IX., s Giftie Duke Mr. Thomas	17
Mayflower, s White Bear Mr. N. Graham	14
Hetty's Pride, s Giftie Duke Mr. N. Graham	15½
Harvest Belle, s Giftie Duke Mr. Coey	17
Flower Duchess VII., s White Bear Rev. T. J. Charlton	13
Dido III., s Giftie Prince Mr. Coey	18
Rose Rose, s Giftie Duke Mr. Charters	17
Winsome Lady III., s St. Patrick Mr. Walsh	24
Flower Duchess VIII., s Giftie Duke Mr Carroll	13½
Flower Duchess IX., s White Bear Mr. Dawson	13
Rosy Duchess II., s St. Patrick Dr. Graham	17
Lady Lovely, s White Bear Mr. Dawson	9
BULLS.	
Grand Duke of Underly II., s Giftie Duke Major-General Bond	30
Easter Gift, s St. Patrick Mr Carroll	20

Sussex Cattle Sale at Haywards Heath.

The annual autumn sale of pedigree Sussex cattle, held by Mr. T. Bannister, of Haywards Heath, took place on the 12th inst., when a well-filled catalogue of very choice stock was offered at the well-known sale yard. There was a large attendance, the best perhaps yet seen at this sale. Trade was also good, every animal being sold, and satisfactory prices were realised. Bulls ranged in prices from 24gs. to 15½gs., with an average of 20gs.; bull calves realising 19gs. down to 8gs., the average being about 12½gs. per head; whilst cows sold at 16½gs. to 8gs., with an average of 13½gs. The heifers brought in the highest price of the day, 32gs., given by Mr. S. A. Hermon, of Staplefield, for Birling Gentility, calved March, 1899, sire Midnight 1563, dam Golden Gentility 6432. The following were the animals sold, purchasers, etc.:—

	Gs.
BULLS.	
Klondike 1554 Mr. A. Ward	22
Prince of Drungewick 1530 Mr. A. Ward	24
Limehurst Major 1595 Mr. A. Ward	22
Taurus Mr. H. Willett	22
Unnamed Mr. T. Shoesmith	15½
Unnamed Mr R. Pronger	15
Colenso 1670 Mr H. Willett	24
Limehurst Alderman 1656 Mr. J. Helyer	19
Brantridge Ensign 2nd 1675 Mr. J. Snodgrass	19
Bull calf Mr. J. Underwood	12
Bull calf Sir F. A. Montefiore, Bart	9
Bull calf Sir F. A. Montefiore, Bart	8
Bull calf Mr P. Stafford	10
Bull calf Mr. J. Westgate	19
Bull calf Mr H T West	10
Bull calf Sir F. A. Montefiore, Bart.	8
Bull calf Mr. G. Tanner	13
Bull calf Mr D. Dodswell	12
Florercine 2nd 1707 Mr J A Monchin	17½
COWS	
The Property of Mr. J. Braby.	
Lowland Flower 3rd 5447 Mr. L. L. Constable	14
Lady 2nd 5445 Mr. L. L. Constable	14
Piano 7304 Mr. J. B. Powell	16½
Longevity 7305 Mr. L. L. Constable	14
Syllabub 7659 Mr L. L. Constable	12
Leda 7888 Mr W Stanford	8
The Property of Miss Wolfe, Jarvis Brook.	
Noble Goldwing 2nd 7517 Mr. Alfred Stanford	12
Goldlinks Phillis 8133 Mr F. Beard	15
Young Maiden 2nd 8129 Mr. W. Stanford	13
Cro Goldwing 8132 Mr. T. T. Symons	12½
Goldlinks Princess 8130 Mr S. A. Hermon	12
HEIFERS	
The Property of Hon. Ralph Nevill, M.P.	
Birling Beauty 4th 7755 Mr. S. A. Hermon	24
Birling Twin A 7760 Mr S. A. Hermon	18
Birling Twin B 7761 Mr. W. Stanford	13
Brunette B 3 7754 Mr. S. A. Hermon	25
Birling Gentility 8035 Mr. S. A. Hermon	32
Brunette B 4 8033 Mr T. L. Symons	14
YEARLING HEIFER	
Pale yellow Mr. P. Stanford	20

Galloway Cattle Sales Association.

The fifth annual show and sale of pedigreed Galloway bred and other stock of the same breed under the auspices of the Galloway Cattle Sales Association, took place on a field adjoining Mr. Willet's new station most of Castle Douglas. There was a large attendance, the weather being favourable, but owing to the cattle restrictions in force the Irish contingent of buyers was absent, and it is believed that prices suffered somewhat in consequence. The entries were slightly in excess of last year, the increase being principally in the yearling class. The following were the awards:—

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS: 1. Mr. John Cowan, Durhamhill, Mrs. Ends III. of Durhamhill 13630, dam Follower 5042, dam Lass V. 13545; 2, Mr. W. M. Neilson of Queenshill; 2, Mr. James Wilson, Tundergarth Mains, Cherry II. of Tundergarth Mains 13[illegible], sire Walter 6550, dam Cherry of Tundergarth Mains 13[illegible], price £45—unsold; 3, Sir Robert Jardine, Bart., of Castlemilk, Lilac of Castlemilk 14091, sire Black Douglas of Castlemilk [illegible], dam Rebel II. of Torbeg 12413, sold at £35, to Mr. William Barbour, Troqueer, who, Messrs. J. and S. Nelson's Lord Hugh, Fancy Queen of Lairdhaugh 12926, sire Queen's Messenger 6558, dam Fancy VIII. of Lairdhaugh 14035—sold at £30 to Mr William Willet, Dromrash, he, Sir Robert Jardine, Bart., of Castlemilk, Maria of Comsnie 14[illegible], sire Hector of Knockbrex 6445, dam Primrose II. 11[illegible]—sold at £34 to Mr. Robert Crofts.

ONE-YEAR-OLDS: 1, Mr. C. Graham Horsfall, Arncliffe Hall, Arncliffe, Yorks, Lady Hazlehall 13649, sire The Pathfinder 3rd 8001, dam Lady Arncliffe Hazlehall 13024—sold at £21 to Messrs. M'Nee, Scroggiehall, Balmaclellan; 2, Mr. R. T. Scott, Drumhumphry, Cowslip 14th of Drumhumphry 15062, sire Cowslip IX. of Tarbreoch 5894, dam Cowslip 5th of Drumhumphry 13[illegible], sold at £19, to Mr. John Wilson, Plunton Mains, Borgue; 3, Mr. James Pender, Mutton Mains—Miss Ird, 15[illegible], sire Donegal 6761, dam Tidy Maid II. of Greenock 14276—sold at £17 10s. to Messrs. Biggar, Carpenham, who Mr. Hunter Gilchrist, Thornhill sold at £22 to Mr. John M'Ewen, Chilpark; c, Mr. J. S. Wilson, Plunton Mains, Borgue—sold at £17, to Mr. T. Graham, Dumfries.

Sale of the White House Herd of Black Polled Cattle.

The sale of the fine herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle belonging to Mr. F. Crisp, D.L., J.P., attracted most of the southern breeders on Tuesday to White House, New Southgate, when Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co. offered this choice lot of animals for unreserved sale. The company was a rather small one, but prices were remunerative. Mr. R. W. Hudson bought the two champion prize-winners in the sale at 100gs. each, namely, Lady May of Advie, the champion at the Royal Counties, Essex, and Peterborough Shows this year, and the magnificent bull Governor of Abergeldie, bred by H.M. the Queen, who was the champion male at Winchester. Several of the best cows were purchased by Mr. W. Gale and Mr. E. Hesseldine for their herds in the Eastern Counties, whilst some choice lots were purchased by Mr. L. A. Macpherson to take into Staffordshire. The cows averaged nearly £43 each and the bulls £37 3s. 5d., which must be considered a satisfactory result.

The following is a list of the animals sold, together with purchasers' names, etc.:—

	Gs.
COWS.	
Pride of Temich 14420, c Feb., 1888, s Pride of Power 5642 Mr. Sheach	22
Her bull calf Perfection of Southgate (Vol. xxv.), c Jan., 1900, s Gilderoy 9208 Mr. Sheach	13
Nightingale Beauty 18885, c March, 1891, s Jocelyn of Portlethen 6121 Mr. W. Gale	22
Esterel 13057, c Feb., 1892, s El Paso 7434 Mr. R. W. Hudson	44
Her cow calf Esterel 2nd of Southgate (Vol. xxv.), c Jan., 1900, s Gilderoy 9208 Mr. J. H. Bridgis	22
Lady May of Advie 20526, c Jan., 1896, s Prince of Advie 11217 Mr. R. W. Hudson	100
Her cow calf Lady May of Southgate (Vol. xxv.), c Jan., 1900, s Governor of Abergeldie 14447 Mr. L. A. Macpherson	35
Eutreaty 24823, c Jan., 1896, s Raconteur 12915 Mr. Sheach	31
Spring Rose 25529, c March, 1896, s Rustler 8761 Mr. Sheach	33
Her bull calf Rosebery of Southgate (Vol. xxv.), c Jan., 1900, s Gilderoy 9208 Mr. W. Stone	16
Nosegay 26th 24[illegible], c Dec., 1[illegible], s [illegible] Mr. W. Stone	34
Her bull calf Nelson of Southgate (Vol. xxv.), c April, 1900, s Governor of Abergeldie 14447 Mr. W. [illegible]	18
Jipsey of Beer 3rd 26124, Jan., 1897, s [illegible] Ballindalloch 8304 Mr. L. A. Macpherson	61
Esteem of Southgate 25225, c Jan., 1897, s Gilderoy 9208 Mr. W. Stone	30
Jean 2nd of Arngomery (Vol. xxv.), c Jan., 1897, s Norfolk 5th 7022 Mr. E. Hesseldine	23
Pride 3rd of Southgate 26635, c July, 1897, s Gilderoy 9208 Mr. L. A. Macpherson	45
TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.	
Pride 11th of Fordie 27426, c Dec., 1897, s Bowler 13208 Mr. W. [illegible]	
Exmoor Snowdrop 2[illegible], c Dec., 1897, s Exquisite Mr. [illegible]	
Archduchess [illegible] Mr. [illegible]	
Princess [illegible] 26764, c Jan., 1898, s Earwistle 14[illegible] Mr. L. A. Macpherson	

Gs.

A... 4th of Westhead 26813, c March, 1898, s Bruce of Westhead 12351 ..... Mr. E. Hesseldine 26
Cookshe 5th of Ruthven ...14, c March, 1898, s Everest of Ballindalloch 7a2... ..... Mr. E. Hesseldine 23
Fair Violet 29125, c April, 1898, s Modelman 14703 ..... Mr. E. Hesseldine 26

ONE-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

Bramble 7th of Ruthven 28851, c Dec., 1898, s Earl of ... . Mr. W. Gale 15
Lady Lovelace of Ruthven 28835, c Dec., 1898, s Earl of Ruthven 14305 ..... Mr. E. Hesseldine 18
... of Southgate 28141, c Jan., 1899, s Gilderoy ... . Mr. Sheach 24
... of Southgate 28143, c Jan., 1899, s Governor of Abergeldie 14447 ..... Mr. L. A. Macpherson 40
Edista of Southgate 28133, c Jan., 1899, s Gilderoy 9208 ..... Mr. Sheach 25
Sabrina of Southgate 28144, c Jan., 1899, s Gilderoy 9208 ..... Mr. C. Stephenson 30
Pride 5th of Southgate 28140, c Feb., 1899, s Gilderoy 9208 ..... Mr. L. A. Macpherson 25
Pride 4th of Southgate 28139, c Feb., 1899, s Governor of Abergeldie 14447 ..... Mr. Sheach 24
Juba of Powrie 29204, c March, 1899, s Silver King 16057 ..... Mr. W. Gale 19
Hawthorn of Southgate 28137, c March, 1899, s Congress of Ballindalloch 14224 ..... Mr. G. E. Hesseldine 19

HEIFER CALVES.

Rose 3rd of Southgate (Vol. xxv.), c Jan., 1900, s Royal Prince of Advie 17229 ..... Mr. J. H. Bridges 23
Pride 7th of Southgate (Vol. xxv.), c Feb., 1900, s Governor of Abergeldie 14447 ..... Mr. L. A. Macpherson 18
... of Southgate (Vol. xxv.), c Feb., 1900, s Governor of Abergeldie 14447 ..... Mr. L. A. Macpherson 30

BULLS.

Governor of Abergeldie 14447, c Jan., 1897, s Eulenberg 10825 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson 100
Pr...dent of Southgate 17130, c Feb., 1899, s Gilderoy 9208 ..... Mr. Crisp 21
Ed...ter of Southgate 16503, c May, 1899, s Governor of Abergeldie 14447 ..... Mr. J. H. Tritton 26
Earl of Southgate (Vol. xxv.), c July, 1899, s Plum of Southgate 15864 ..... Mr. Cooper 15

BULL CALF.

Proximus of Southgate (Vol. xxv.), c Jan., 1900, s Governor of Abergeldie 14447 ..... Mr. W. Stone 15

SUMMARY.

	Average.		Total.
11 Cows	£42 9 6	..	£467 5 0
16 Heifers	25 15 9	..	412 13 0
8 Calves	22 11 6	..	180 12 0
5 Bulls	37 3 5	..	185 17 0
40 Head	£31 3 2	..	£1.246 7 0

Sale of Easton Park Red Polls.

At Ipswich on Tuesday Messrs. Spurley and Sons sold by auction a number of red polled cattle from the herds belonging to the Duchess of Hamilton and the Trustees of the late Duke of Hamilton. The sale was held in the auctioneers' lower yard, and attracted a good representative company, who gave satisfactory prices for all the best animals. The young stock especially was shown in the pink of condition, and included some promising heifers and bulls, which will probably be heard of again. The entire entry was prominently noticeable for its choice quality, a characteristic for which the Easton Park herd has long been noted. Below are details of the principal lots sold:

The property of the trustees of the late Duke of Hamilton, K.T.

Carol, c April, 1896, s Minotaur ..... Mr. J. Hobbs 9½
Ethel, c December, 1897, s Minotaur ..... Mr. J. Hobbs 9½
Glee, c February, 1898, s Lord George ..... Mr. J. A. Hempson 17½
Moss, c March, 1898, s Minotaur ..... Mr. Ling 19
Wisdom, c March, 1898, s Minotaur ..... Mr. Ling 24

HEIFERS.

Water Lily, c October, 1898, s Caistor Alpha ..... Mr. W. Martin 13
Fairy Land, c Jan., 1898, s Minotaur ..... Mr. J. A. Hempson 12½
Delilah, c Feb., 1899, s Lord George ..... Mr. J. A. Hempson 11
Seclusion, c Feb., 1899, s Lord George ..... Mr. J. B. Dimmock 11
Heifer, c March, 1900, s Bismark ..... Mr. H. W. Packard 16
Heifer, c March, 1900, s Bismark ..... Mr. H. W. Packard 21½
Bull, c March, 1900, s Bismark ..... Mr. Scott 9

The property of Her Grace the Duchess of Hamilton.

Curiosity, c August, 1896, s Minotaur ..... Mr. H. W. Packard 21
Winsome 3rd, c Nov., 1896, s Caistor Spark ..... Mr. Aldred 14
Snapshot, c Dec., 1896, s Minotaur ..... Mr. Cooper 15
Glimmer, c Dec., 1896, s Minotaur ..... Mr. J. Hobbs 13
Wisdom, c Dec., 1896, s Minotaur ..... Mr. Cooper 27
Songstress, c March, 1897, s Minotaur ..... Mr. H. W. Packard 24
Wizard, c March, 1897, s Minotaur ..... Mr. Woodgate 16
Ivy, c April, 1897, s Minotaur ..... Mr. Cooper 23
Wisdom's Fairy Queen, c April, 1899, s Masterman ..... Mr. H. W. Packard 16
Song Bird, c May, 1899, s Masterman ..... Mr. H. W. Packard 21
Hasty, c July, 1900, s Masterman ..... Mr. Goode 10

CALVES.

Heifer, c Feb., 1900, s Bismark ..... Mr. Dimmock 24
Heifer, c Feb., 1900, s Bismark ..... Mr. Brown 20
Bull, c April, 1900, s Bismark ..... Capt. E. G. Pretyman 15
Heifer, c April, 1900, s Bismark ..... Capt. E. G. Pretyman 15
Heifer, c June, 1900, s Bismark ..... Mr. H. W. Packard 10
Bull, c June, 1900, s Bismark ..... Mr. Blofield 4½

Sale of Red Polls at Haverhill.

Thirty head of pure-bred Red Poll cattle belonging to the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., of Little Thurlow Hall, were brought under the hammer at Haverhill Auction Market on the 12th inst. by Mr. C. Boreham, who stated that the animals were sold owing to the herd having grown too large. Special care had been taken as to the milk yield of each cow in the herd, as was shown by the milk record printed in the catalogue. He stated that only in three instances had Mr. Smith exhibited at a show in each case he was successful. A Red Poll heifer bred from this herd, and exhibited by Mr. Duncan of York, took first prize in her class, and the Reserve Junior Championship at Smithfield Show, 1899; also in 1896, four young bulls were selected from this herd for Argentina; others were purchased for the same place in 1898, and a further batch left Little Thurlow on September 10th, this being the third consignment. There was a good attendance of buyers, and fair prices were realised, the following being the principal:—Troston Willow, c April, 1889, £12 12s.; Juno, c December, 1899, £15 4s. 6d.; Flirt II., c September, 1890, £16 16s.; Undine, c November, 1891, £13 2s. 6d.; Mabel, c April, 1896, £17 17s.; Frida, c April, 1897, £17 17s.; Friston, c May, 1897, £12 1s. 6d.; Lawens, c May, 1897, £14 3s. 6d.; Witch, c July, 1897, £15 4s. 6d.; Judy, c September, 1897, £21 10s.; Dandelion, c January, 1898, £18 18s.; Betsy, c January, 1898, £12 12s.; Rose, c February, 1898, £16 5s. 6d.; Sheilah, c February, 1898, £17 6s. 6d.; Hyacinth, c March, 1898, £13 2s. 6d.; Lily, c March, 1898, £10 10s.; Moyra, c June, 1898, £12 1s. 6d.; Alice, c July, 1898, £11 0s. 6d.; Bluebell, c December, 1898, £11 0s. 6d.; Ancienne, c February, 1899, £14 3s. 6d.; Brownie, c October, 1899, £9 9s.; Primula, c November, 1899, £7 7s.; Dudley (Red Polled bull), c December, 1898, £13 13s.

The chief purchasers were Messrs. C. S. Goodchild, J.P., R. P. Cooper (Frinton-on-Sea), Barrow (Colchester), W. H. Thomas, Goodjohn, Saville (Saffron Walden), J. T. Stockburn (Clare), E. C. Halls (Denham), John Frost (Wickhambrook), Cowling (Clare), D. K. Long (Great Bradley).

Sale of Mr. J. E. Platt's Red-Polls.

At Ipswich on Friday Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons disposed of almost the entire herd of Red-polled cattle belonging to Mr. James E. Platt, of Howbury Hall, Bedfordshire. Mr. Platt, it is necessary to state, has displayed a great interest in the breeding of Red-poll cattle, and it was owing to the sale of the estate in Cheshire, where he had been living, that he felt compelled to dispose of his herd, which included some of the best animals of the kind in the country. To his new place at Howbury, Mr. Platt has transferred a few exhibition animals and yearlings, and it is only for this small number that he has now accommodation. The herd was established from deep milking strains, and had frequently been replenished by purchases of the best specimens of the breed, one of the most recent additions being the bull Champion (5370), which was acquired at the sale of the late Mr. J. J. Colman's herd for the record price of 320gs. Mr. R. B. Bond, who conducted the sale on behalf of the firm, said before proceeding to dispose of the seventy-two animals named in the catalogue, that Mr. Platt had been one of the most successful exhibitors of Red-polls, having achieved exceptional successes in the showyard at the Royal, the London Dairy, and numerous county shows. The auctioneer emphasised the point that Mr. Platt and Lord Rothschild had accomplished more in the matter of promoting the breeding of Red-polls than other breeders. Mr. Platt had also been a consistent and generous supporter of agricultural shows for live stock, while he had heartily supported sales for the disposal of Red-polls.

There was a good company of buyers, not only from the three counties of Suffolk, Norfolk, and Essex, but from the Midlands and other parts of the country, and the bidding, which started well, soon became brisk. Of the seventy-two animals catalogued, there were thirty-four cows of deep milking strains, twenty-one choice heifers, thirteen bull and heifer calves, and four young bulls. The highest prices for cows were given by Mr. Garrett Taylor, of Trowse, who, curiously enough, bought the anima's he himself had bred some years ago. The first of these, Bud II., went for 75gs., and with the bull calf realised 91gs. in all, which was a lower figure than that which the animal was purchased for at the early part of this year, when Mr. Platt gave 115gs. The next best animal also went to Mr. Garrett Taylor, who gave 60gs. for Celia, and 11gs. for its calf. The thirty-three cows averaged £25 15s. apiece, the total amount being £23 3s. as an average price, or £463 2s. for the lot; the three bulls were sold on the average for £28 10s. 6d., or £85 11s. 6d. for all; while the twelve calves made on the average £8 apiece, or £96 in all. The total sum realised on the sale was £1,495 14s., which was very satisfactory, the prices being generally quite up to expectations. A detailed account of the principal prices is given below:

COWS.		Gs.
Gal II., c April, 1890	Mr. Garrett Taylor	32
Di III., c Jan., 1893	Mr. G. Taylor	30
Comely Cowslip II., c April, 1896	Mr. R. P. Cooper	17
Bud II., c May, 1897	Mr. Garrett Taylor	75
Bull calf, c Sept., 1900	Mr. Garrett Taylor	16
Queen D. III., c May, 1889	Mr. Mitchell Innes	26
Bull calf, c Sept., 1900	Dr. Boswell	12
Artifice, c August, 1896	Mr. Quested	19
Celia, c Jan., 1897	Mr. Garrett Taylor	60
Beautiful Bianca, c Jan., 1896	Mr. Quested	23
Buttermuid, c Jan., 1896	Mr. Harrison	30
Foliage, c May, 1893	Mr. H. W. Packard	21
Sunny Risky, c July, 1889	Mr. Quested	20
Rosy Risky, c March, 1894	Mr. Harrison	32
Comely Cowslip, c May, 1890	Mr. Rider Haggard	19½
Pancake, c June, 1896	Dr. Boswell	21
Dorothy, c Sept., 1895	Mr. R. P. Cooper	26
Elmham Rosebud XI., c June, 1897	Mr. Harrison	28
Troston Davy II., c March, 1894	Mr. G. E. Hawkins	19
Starry VIII., c Sept., 1894	Mr. Innes	25
Chocolate, c May, 1897	Mr. R. P. Cooper	28
Helena of Banstead, c Nov., 1895	Dr. Barclay	35
Miss Ruth, c Dec., 1899	Lord Rothschild	50
Buttermilk, c Nov., 1895	Mr. Quested	19½
Miss Rose, c Nov., 1895	Mr. Quested	31
Minnie, c Aug., 1892	Mr. Cooper	23
Waxy, c Nov., 1897	Mr. H. W. Packard	19
HEIFERS.		
Lady Risky, c May, 1898	Mr. F. Smith	26
Bruntwood Anna, c May, 1898	Mr. H. W. Packard	20
Mince Pie, c June, 1898	Mr. Donald Fraser	19
Bruntwood Bud, c April, 1898	Lord Rothschild	30
Able Rose, c Feb., 1898	Lord Rendlesham	21
Georgina Risky, c Dec., 1897	Mr. Innes	27
Marjorie, c April, 1897	Mr. Fraser	21
Pretty Daisy, c March, 1898	Dr. Boswell	26
Cherry Queen, c April, 1898	Mr. Mitchell Innes	31
Lady Lovely, c July, 1897	Dr. Boswell	19
Mermaid, c Sept., 1898	Lord Rothschild	26
Sweet Violet, c May, 1898	Lord Hastings	19½
Dairymaid, c Sept., 1898	Mr. Mitchell Innes	28
Rosette, c Sept., 1898	Mr. S. Nunn	16½
Seaweed, c Sept., 1898	Mr. Henry Fulcher	22
BULLS.		
Felix, c Jan., 1899	Mr. Cooper	27
Handy Man, c June, 1898	Mr. J. Hammond	36
Monitor, c Oct., 1899	Mr. Fraser	18½

Sale of Dutch Cattle at Walthamstow.

An important sale of Dutch cows, heifers, and bulls, took place on Monday at Green Pond Farm, Walthamstow, Essex, Messrs. Sexton, Grinwade, and Beck disposing of a number of animals belonging to Messrs. Rumbal and Son. These Dutch dairy cattle have been raised with special regard to their milking qualities, and although scarce in this country, are noted for their growing milk capacity. Amongst the pure-bred Dutch cows and three-year-old heifers, a fresh-calved black-and-white animal fetched 39½gs., and was bought by Mr. Girling. The other prices realised were as follows:—Dutch cows: Black-and-white (imported), Mr. Everard, 18½gs.; black-and-white, in full milk, Mr. Everard, 18gs.; ditto, Mr. Ransom, 20gs.; ditto, Mr. White, 25gs.; ditto, Mr. Martin, 18½gs.; ditto, Mr. Ratcliffe, 22½gs. Three-year-old heifers: Fresh-calved dun-and-white, Mr. Girling, 22gs.; ditto, Mr. Everard, 18½gs.; ditto, Mr. Everard, 23gs.; black-and-white (in-calf), Mr. Girling, 19gs.; dun-and-white (in-calf), Mr. Slater, 18gs.; black-and-white (in-calf), Mr. Slater, 19gs.; dun-and-white (in-calf), Mr. Martin, 19gs. Earl Egerton of Tatton bought for 14gs. a black-and-white two-year-old heifer, whilst Messrs. Slater and Woodiwiss gave 25gs. and 22gs. respectively for dun-and-white two-year-old heifers. The highest price given for cross-bred heifers was 17½gs., given by Mr. White for a four-year-old black-and-white (in-calf). Pure-bred yearling heifers realised good prices, Mr. Woodiwiss giving 15gs. for one animal, and 12gs. and 11½gs. for others. Amongst the pure-bred bulls was Zuidmeer II., a black-and-white, 2½ years old, which went to Mr. Gold for 22gs., a fifteen months' black-and-white was bought by Mr. Ransom at 23½gs., and another by Mr. Slater at 20½gs.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*]

There was a large fair at Midleton, co. Cork, on Monday, at which a good demand prevailed for well-bred cattle, whilst sheep sold well. Prices: Calves, first class, £4 15s. to £5; second class, £4 to £4 7s. 6d.; third class, £3 to £3 12s. 6d.; yearlings, first class, £7 10s. to £8; second class, £6 to £7 2s. 6d.; third class, £4 5s. to £5 15s.; two-year-olds, first class, £10 5s. to £11 15s.; second class, £8 10s. to £10; third class, £6 to £7 10s.; three-year-olds, first class, £14 to £16 2s. 6d.; springers, first class, £14 12s. 6d. to £16 5s.; second class, £12 to £13 15s.; third class, £9 15s. to £11; lambs, first class, £1 6s. to £1 10s.; second class, £1 to £1 4s.; third class, 17s. 6d. to 19s.; over twelve months and under twenty-four months old, first class, £1 17s. 6d. to £2 2s.; second class, £1 11s. to £1 15s. Young pigs eight to ten weeks old sold at from 20s. to 25s. each.

The fair at Strokestown, co. Roscommon, on Tuesday, was a moderate-sized one, but demand was slow, and a large number of young animals remained unsold. The small supply of sheep met a good demand. Prices:—Calves, first class, £2 15s. to £6 5s.; second class, £1 18s. 6d. to £4 18s. 6d. Yearlings, first class, £9 10s. to £10 10s.; second class, £7 to £8. Two-year-olds, first class, £13 10s. to £15 5s.; second class £8 15s. to £12 10s. Three-year-olds, first class, £16 to £16 5s.; second class, £12 10s. to £13 15s. Springers, first class, £18 to £21. Lambs, first class, £1 9s. to £1 12s.; second class, £1 4s. to £1 7s. Over twelve and under twenty-four months old, first class, £2 to £2 3s.; second class, £1 14s. to £1 17s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, first class, sold at from 22s. to 25s.; second class, 15s. to 19s. each.

Tuam Fair, which took place on Tuesday, was smaller than usual, and the demand was very brisk, especially for young ewes suitable for breeding purposes and first-class wethers. A good clearance was effected. Prices:—Lambs, first class, £1 6s. to £1 7s. 6d.; second class, £1 to £1 5s.; third class, 14s. 6d. to 18s. Over twelve and under twenty-four months old, first class, £1 17s. to £1 19s.; second class, £1 12s. 6d. to £1 15s. 6d.; third class, £1 8s. 6d. Two years old and upwards, first class, £1 19s. to £2 16s.; second class, £1 14s. 6d. to £1 18s. 6d.; third class, £1 7s. 6d. to £1 10s.

There was a large fair at Lisnaskea, co. Fermanagh, on Wednesday, composed chiefly of calves, for which there was a good demand. Springers were plentiful,

but demand not so good. Prices:—Calves, first class, £5 5s. to £5 12s. 6d.; second class, £3 16s. 8d. to £4 15s.; third class, £2 15s. to £3 1s. 3d. Yearlings, first class, £7 10s. to £8; second class, £6 16s. to £7; third class, £5 to £5 2s. 6d. Two-year-olds, second class, £7 15s. to £8 15s. Springers, first class, £16 to £17 5s.; second class, £12 5s. to £14; third class, £9 to £10 10s.

HORSES.

Sale of Lord Llangattock's Shires.

The second triennial sale of Shire horses belonging to Lord Llangattock took place at Amberley Court, near Monmouth. The sale, which was unreserved, was conducted by Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck, of Peterborough (Mr. Beck wielding the hammer), official auctioneers to the Shire Horse Society. Prior to the sale an open luncheon was served in a marquee to about a thousand persons, at the conclusion of which Lord Llangattock's health was proposed by Mr. Muntz, of Rugby. In doing so, Mr. Muntz referred to the high reputation of the stud, which was conferring inestimable benefits on horse-breeding generally. In reply, Lord Llangattock took occasion to transfer the whole of the credit which the stud had earned to Mr. F. Bonner Darling, M.R.C.S., who had had entire management in his hands since the commencement. The weather during the afternoon was dull, but fortunately the rain held off. There was a distinguished attendance present, and bidding throughout was brisk. The total proceeds of the sale was 9,484gs., or £9,958 4s., giving an average, excluding the thoroughbred, of £226 per horse, which constitutes a record for Shire horse sales.

Below we give details of the lots sold, purchasers, etc.:—

	Gs.
BROOD MARES AND FOALS.	
Lady Touch-Me-Not 15087, chestnut, f 1891, s Prince William 3956 ..... Sir Oswald Mosley	100
Rocks Glory 20734, black, f 1894, s Bury Victor Chief 11105 ..... Lord Egerton of Tatton	380
Rokeby Rita 22374, bay, f 1895, s Regent II 6316 ..... Sir James Blyth	200
Hendre Bessie, chestnut filly, f 1900, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Mr. Jackson	200
Dunsmore Gazelle 21705, bay, f 1895, s Dunsmore Willington Boy 13021 ..... Sir Blundell Maple	300
Hendre Gazelle, bay filly, f 1900, s Hendre Baronet 16714 ..... Mr Muntz	150
Lady Barcelona 18430, black, f 1893, s Lord Arthur 2834 ..... Mr. Topham	80
Hendre Arthur, chestnut colt, f 1900, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Mr. W. A. Ready	41
Sleaford Sunlight 15607, brown, f 1890, s Horbling Squire 5971 ..... Mr Evans	73
Hendre Daisy, brown filly, f 1900, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Mr. Crisp	61
Maypole 18575, bay, f 1893, s Duncan III. 13005 ..... Lord Abingdon	125
Hendre May Queen, brown filly, f 1900, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Lord Rothschild	115
Kelvedon Marguerite 26253, bay, f 1897, s Curf Duncan 15070 ..... Lord Wantage	480
Hendre Marguerite, chestnut filly, f 1900, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Mr. Thompson	250
Pea-hen, grey, f 1895, s Double X William 13994 ..... Lord Beauchamp	410
Emblem 21744, grey, f 1890, s Salisbury 5324 ..... Lord Abingdon	180
Hendre Starlight 23902, bay, f 1896, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Sir Blundell Maple	150
THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES	
Beverston Empress 27538, black, f 1897, s Dunsmore Masterman 12874 ..... Messrs. Brereton and Sons	390
Hendre Barmaid 26132, chestnut, f 1897, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Mr. Evans	100
TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.	
Hendre Heiress 28838, brown, f 1898, s Hendre Crown Prince 16177 ..... Messrs. Brereton and Sons	460
Hendre Fidget 28866, black, f 1898, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Sir Blundell Maple	460
Hendre Primrose 28870, chestnut, f 1898, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Mr. Ernest Tanner	125
Holker Corona 28923, chestnut, f 1898, s Hendre Crown Prince 16177 ..... Mr. E. Tanner	90
Hendre Dora 28865, bay, f 1898, s Seldom Seen 15348 ..... Mr. Evans	94
Hendre Maypole 28869, chestnut, f 1898, s Traitor 15401 ..... Major Darling	75
Holker Crown Princess 28925, chestnut, f 1898, s Hendre Crown Prince 16177 ..... Mr. E. Tanner	180
Rokeby Hera 28855, bay, f 1898, s Harold 3703 ..... Mr. Williams	115
Hendre Gloaming 28867, brown, f 1898, s Calwich Prince 15531 ..... Mr. Thompson	95
YEARLING FILLIES.	
Hendre Sultana (Vol. xxii.), black, f 1899, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Mr. S. Ridgway	270
Hendre Brisk (Vol. xxii.), black, f 1899, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Mr. Ridgway	300
Hendre Bertha (Vol. xxii.), bay, f 1899, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Mr. Smith Carrington	420
Hendre Bonny Legs (Vol. xxii.), bay, f 1899, s Homer II. 16186 ..... Sir W. H. Wills	330
Hendre Victress (Vol. xxii.), s Blaisdon Conqueror 15989 ..... Captain Duncombe	200
Hendre Mistress (Vol. xxii.), brown, f 1899, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Mr Muntz	100
Hendre Beauty (Vol. xxii.), brown, f 1899, s Hendre Marksman 16715 ..... Mr. Stephen Baker	60
Hendre Homely (Vol. xxii.), brown, f 1899, s Homer II. 16186 ..... Lord Verulam	95
Hendre Glory (Vol. xxii.), brown, f 1899, s Markeaton Royal Harold 15225 ..... Mr. Henderson	210
Hendre Medela (Vol. xxii.), bay, f 1899, s Harold 3703 ..... Sir Oswald Moseley	85
Hendre Tiresome (Vol. xxii.), bay, f 1899, s Hendre Marksman 16715 ..... Sir Oswald Moseley	75
TWO-YEAR-OLD STALLIONS.	
Hendre Hydrometer 18082, black, f 1898, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Mr. Hudson	650
Watnall Victor 18437, brown, f 1898, s Royal Rock 14837 ..... Mr. Muntz	240
YEARLING COLTS.	
Victor of Waresley (Vol. xxii.), bay, f 1899, s Waresley Triumph 16453 ..... Messrs. Brereton and Son	460
Hendre Matchless (Vol. xxii.), roan, f 1899, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Dr. F. Rutherford Harris, M.P.	320
Hendre Sultan (Vol. xxii.), bay, f 1899, s Prince Harold 14228 ..... Mr. Eadie	400
THOROUGHBRED STALLION.	
Briardale, dark brown, 16 hands, f 1892, s Raversdale ..... Mr. C. W. Tindell	80

Sale of Seaham Harbour Clydesdales.

The Seaham Harbour Stud (Limited), who recently acquired the famous breeds of Clydesdales, Shetland ponies, etc., from the Marquis of Londonderry, have decided to continue the sales held by the noble Marquis, and the first took place on Tuesday, Mr. E. A. Crow, of Sunderland, being the auctioneer. There was a total of 261 Clydesdale foals, fillies, yearlings, two, three, and four year-olds, brood mares, and geldings, also nineteen Hackneys and ponies, and pony foals, and twenty-seven Shetland ponies. Many of the animals offered were either prize-winners or descended from prize stock, and were of the purest strains. The weather was most favourable, and there was a fairly good company at the ring during the progress of the sale. Previous to the business of the day commencing, luncheon was served, at which Mr. W. Murray, factor to the Duke of Montrose, presided, supported by Mr. R. Brydon, manager of the stud. The total sum realised was 3,915gs., the top figure being 320gs., obtained for a two-year-old Clydesdale colt named Pearl Oyster, by Knight of Corval. A pair of four-year-old geldings went at 205gs., and a two-year-old colt Dawdon Dene—realised 100gs. These were the only three-figure prices obtained for any of the animals. The Hackneys and ponies averaged 31gs., ranging from 14gs. to 50gs.; other Hackneys and ponies made up to 37gs. Shetland ponies fetched up to 20gs. Violent, four years old, believed to be the smallest Shetland pony of its age, was disposed of for 17gs. Below we give particulars of the principal lots in the order as they were sold.

	Gs.
FILLY FOALS.	
Black, f 1900, s King Dick ..... Mr. Kennedy	24
Brown, f 1900, s King Dick ..... Mr. M. Marshall	25
Bay, f 1900, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. W. Park	33
Bay, f 1900, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. M'Dowall	80
Bay, f 1900, s King Dick ..... Mr. Denchar	30
Bay, f 1900, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr Ebden	72
Bay, f 1900, s Johnnie's Style ..... Mr. Humphrey	25
Brown, f 1900, s King Dick ..... Cramlington Coal Co.	22
COLT FOALS.	
Bay, f 1900, s King Dick ..... Mr. Duncan	21
Bay, f 1900, s Captain Alexander ..... Mr. Webster	32
Bay, f 1900, s Johnnie's Style ..... Mr. Meiklejohn	26
Bay, f 1900, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. Webster	64
Bay, f 1900, s Johnnie's Style ..... Lord Powerscourt	39
Brown, f 1900, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. Taylor	63
Bay, f 1900, s Captain Alexander ..... Mr. Munroe	26
Bay, f 1900, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. Trotter	37
Bay, f 1900, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. Kennedy	34
Bay, f 1900, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. Park	33
Brown, f 1900, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. Taylor	28
Bay, f 1900, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. Meiklejohn	20
Bay, f 1900, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. Riddell	20
Bay, f 1900, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. Kennedy	27
Bay, f 1900, s Crusader ..... Mr. Humphrey	20
YEARLING FILLIES.	
Bay, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. Riddell	40
Brown, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. Kennedy	91
Bay, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. Riddell	36
Bay, s King Dick ..... Mr. Riddell	27
YEARLING COLTS	
Graphite, bay, s Carthusian ..... Mr. Riddell	34
Filbert, brown, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. Marshall	35
Frivolity, bay, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. Riddell	51
Sparrow Hawk, s Lord Stewart ..... Mr. W. Taylor	35
TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES	
Belle, bay, s Cawder ..... Mr. W. H. Ferens	41
Bessie Bell, brown, s Knight of Corval ..... Mr. Craik	85
Merry Girl, bay, s Blue Blood ..... Mr. Forsyth	44
Dirie, s Warlock ..... Mr. C. A. Buckle	35
THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLY.	
Juanita, s Holyrood ..... Mr. J. P. Allison	50
TWO-YEAR-OLD COLTS.	
Pearl Oyster, grey, s Knight of Corval ..... Mr. Riddell	320
Dawdon Dene, brown, s Knight of Corval ..... Mr. Riddell	100
BROOD MARES.	
Winsome, brown, nine years, s Juryman ..... Mr. J. B. Adam	38
Elegance, bay, ten years, s Mains of Keir ..... Mr. J. Brydon	30
Petunia, bay, four years, s Goldfinder ..... Mr. N. Clark	60
Jean Johnston, bay, four years, s Prince of Johnston ..... Wear Breweries	75
Helen M'Cannon, s M'Cannon ..... Mr. Adam	31
GELDINGS.	
Black, two years ..... Mr. Kennedy	40
Bay, two years ..... Mr. Kennedy	31
Brown, two years ..... Mr. J. Brydon	24
Bay, two years ..... Mr. Strachers	30
Bay, three years ..... Mr. Reay	61
Bay, three years ..... Cramlington Coal Co.	41
Sum, three years ..... Hacton Coal Co.	56
Briton, bay, six years, 17 hands ..... Mr. Goodfellow	60
Laddie, brown, four years, 16.3 hands ..... Mr. S. H. Fraser	70
Key, brown, four years, 17.2 hands ..... Mr. Kennedy	75
Prince, brown, four years, 17.2 hands ..... Mr. Clark	71
Sack, bay, five years, 17.3 hands ..... Mr. Kennedy	75
Dick, brown, five years, 17.2 hands ..... Mr. J. Todd	65
Rizzio and Rarity, four years each, 17.2 and 17.3 hands ..... Messrs. Jones	205
HACKNEYS AND PONIES.	
Sirdar ..... Mr. Vincent	50
Matchbox ..... Mr. Vincent	46
Shotton ..... Mr. Clark	35
Histeden ..... Mr. Porter	35
Gipsy ..... Mr. S. Close	30
Dinarth ..... Mr D. Riddell	31
Kitty ..... Mr. Richardson	30
Gwen ..... Mr. Fordyce	26
Haswell ..... Mr. Cook	31
Cumberland ..... Mr. Dunbar	50
Fanny ..... [illegible]	[illegible]
Shetland mare pony ..... Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Shetland mare pony ..... Mr. W. [illegible]	[illegible]

Horse Shows and Sales at Carlisle.

About 300 horses were offered for sale at the two Carlisle marts on Wednesday. Messrs. Harrison sold 260 forward, and the following were the prize-winners and prices: Cart fillies, two years old: 1, Mr. Thomlinson, Jerriestown, 49gs.; 2, Mr. McInnes, Rickerby, 40gs.; 3, Mr. Graham, Keld House, 42gs. Yearling geldings and fillies: 1, Messrs. Richardson, Cumeatch, 37gs.; 2, Mr. Irving, Seafield, Annan, 32½gs.; 3, Mr. Watson, Stonefolds, 24gs. Three-seasoned cart horses made up to 60gs.

At Hetherington's second sale 130 were forward, and the following were the results:—Two-year-old cart fillies: 1, Mr. Davidson, Beaumont, 60gs.; 2, Mr. J. R. Beattie, bid to 37gs.; 3, Mr. T. Pattison, Dykesfield, bid to 47gs. Two-year-old cart fillies: 1, Mr. A. Pearson, Greenholme, 35gs.; 2, Mr. Forster, Hetherside, bid to 30gs.; 3, Mr. John Rickerby, Sandsfield, 31½gs. Foals: 1, Mr. Hind, The Nook, 19gs.; 2, Mr. W. Smith, Long Hirst, Low Row, 18gs.; 3, Mr. Frizell, Oughterby, bid to 18gs. Yearling geldings: 1, Mrs. Graham, Hunley, 32gs.; 2, Mr. R. Bell, Willow Hill, 25½gs.; 3, Mr. D. Beattie, Annan, 29gs.

Sale of Hopetoun and Earlshall Shetland Ponies.

A joint sale of Shetland ponies from two of the best studs in Scotland, took place at Hopetoun House on Thursday, when drafts of the Countess of Hopetoun's stud, and of Mr. R. W. R. Mackenzie's, of Earlshall, Leuchars, were disposed of. As regards the Hopetoun draft, the sale was necessitated by a reduction of the stock in view of the long absence of Lady Hopetoun in Australia; and the Earlshall consignment was sent to Hopetoun for convenience of sale. Both Hopetoun House and Leuchars have long been favourably known for the quality of their Shetland stock, and the animals presented for sale embraced some very pretty mares, fillies, foals, and stallions, which might well enhance the value of any stud. Several of the animals were prize-winners, and all were bred on reliable lines. The weather in the morning was dull and threatening, but there was no rain till near the end of the sale, and what little fell then did not materially inferfere with the comfort of the visitors, who attended to the number of about two hundred, representing breeders from all parts of the kingdom. There were twenty-four pedigree animals sold from Hopetoun, and twenty-two from the Earlshall Stud. Mr. Edward Moir, of Messrs. John Croall and Sons, was the auctioneer, and he got through his business very expeditiously.

Among the principal buyers was the representative of Lady Tichborne, who took some of the best animals to form a Shetland stud at her home in Surrey. Although there was nothing of an exciting nature in the sale, there was a general demand for serviceable ponies, and the foals were also in request at fairly good prices. The best of the Hopetoun lot was the old mare Thora, a beautiful little animal of fine breeding, and with a successful showyard career. She was sold at 37gs. to the Ladies Hope, who also purchased the next highest priced animal from the stud at 33gs. The latter was Princess, a mare bred by Lord Londonderry, and which was second at the Highland Society's Glasgow Show in 1888, first at Dumfries in 1895, first at the Royal Northern Show at Aberdeen in the same year. Mr. Mackenzie had the top price of the sale with his seven-year-old stallion Bonaparte, an animal of great power and substance, and which was first in an excellent class at Glasgow last year. He was secured by Lady Tichborne's representative at 40gs. The twenty-four ponies from Hopetoun realised £285 12s., and the twenty-two ponies from Earlshall brought £255 13s. 6d., the total proceeds of the sale of Shetland ponies being £541 5s. 6d. for forty-six animals.

Below we give particulars of the principal animals sold, purchasers, etc.:—

	Gs.
HOPETOUN SALE.	
Kathleen, seven-year-old mare, s Odin ..... Lady [illegible]	[illegible]
Fan Tan, six-year-old mare ..... Second Master [illegible]	[illegible]
Fuchsia, five-year-old mare, s Marquis ..... The Ladies Hope	[illegible]
Thora, four-year-old mare, s Odin ..... The Ladies Hope	[illegible]
Her Majesty's, s Douglas ..... Lady [illegible]	[illegible]
Princess, three-year-old mare ..... The Ladies Hope	[illegible]
Doll, yearling filly, s Douglas ..... Lady [illegible]	[illegible]
Maywold, s Marquis of Ripon ..... Mr. Chapman	[illegible]
Maybolt, s Marquis of Ripon ..... Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Magnet, yearling colt, s Marquis of [illegible] ..... Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Filly foal, s Douglas ..... Lady [illegible]	[illegible]
Filly foal, s Marquis of Ripon ..... Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Colt foal, s Marquis of Ripon ..... Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
EARLSHALL SALE.	
Bonaparte, seven-year-old stallion, s Odin ..... Lady [illegible]	[illegible]
Princess of Leuchars, seven-year-old mare, s Lord [illegible] ..... Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Maud, seven-year-old mare, s Lord [illegible] ..... Mr. George Kirk	[illegible]
Jane V., three-year-old mare, s Odin ..... Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Her Majesty, four-year-old mare, s [illegible] ..... Second Master [illegible]	[illegible]
Opal, four-year-old mare, s Monster ..... Mr. C. E. Barnes	[illegible]
Buddy, [illegible] ..... Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Fanny, [illegible] ..... Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]

Sale of Coach and Posting Horses at Glasgow.

Mr. Edward Dicks' annual sale of coach and posting horses took place in the Horse Bazaar, Cattle Market, Glasgow, on the 12th inst. There were 220 animals catalogued, and they all showed well. There was a crowded ring of buyers forward from all parts, and trade was of a very satisfactory character. The ages of the animals ranged from four to twelve years, and they were from 12.2 to 17 hands high. Coaching horses and vanners were in the best demand, and realised high prices. Cobs met a fair selling trade. Coaching horses of the best class realised up to 60gs.; secondary, 20gs. to 38gs.; inferior 8gs. to 14gs.; best vanners, to 50gs.; secondary, 10gs. to 30gs.; inferior, down to 6gs.; best cobs, to 28gs.; and secondary and inferior, 4gs. to 16gs.

On Wednesday Mr. E. Dick had a catalogue of 130 animals, consisting principally of carriage and harness horses, while there were also a number suitable for van and cart purposes, cobs and Iceland ponies. The majority of the horses showed well, being of fair substance, suitable ages, and fashionable colours. There was a large attendance of buyers, and business was keen throughout. Carriage horses experienced the best demand. Cart horses and vanners were also in request, and realised satisfactory prices. Cobs and ponies had a fair selling trade. Carriage horses of the best class realised 40gs.; secondary, 10gs. to 18gs.; inferior, 6gs. to 9gs.; best cart horses, 18gs. to 32gs.; secondary and inferior, 4gs. to 12gs.; vanners, 4gs. to 28gs.; cobs, 4½gs. to 25gs.; ponies, 3gs. to 18gs.; all according to substance, style, and action.

Sale of Hunters at Leicester.

Among a large gathering who witnessed the dispersal of a very full catalogue of well-known hunters, at the Leicester Repository, on Saturday, were the Earl of Shaftesbury, General Sir William Gatacre, Sir Oswald Mosley, and Colonel Chaplin, V.C. The Earl of Shaftesbury's six hunters readily changed hands, the prices being: Kineton, 130gs.; Spatchcock, 175gs.; White Face, 105gs.; Honeycourt, 100gs.; Rugby, 140gs.; and Idlicote, 58gs. Of the late Mr. Wright's stud, Melton made 200gs., and Stokes 105gs. Mr. Hanson's Tempest went for 130gs., whilst Mr. Puckle's Westmeath realised 175gs.

SHEEP.

Sale of Blackfaces at Swaledale.

The annual sale of black-faced sheep, etc., held by Mr. Robert W. Robinson, in Swaledale, on the 14th inst., was very successful, there being between 1,000 to 1,200 for disposal. Black-faced ewes, 22s. to 26s.; gimmer lambs, 16s. 9d. to 18s. 6d.; shearling gimmers, 24s. 6d. to 32s. 6d.; lambs, from 10s. 6d.; Wensleydale tup lambs, £2 15s.; wether lambs, 7s. 9d.; half-bred lambs, 17s. each.

Leyburn Fair.

The show of all classes of sheep at the October fair at Leyburn, held on the 12th inst., was large, and the attendance was up to the average, but trade on the whole ruled slow. Half-bred gimmer lambs made 19s. to 26s., half-bred gimmer and wether lambs (mixed) 18s. to 21s., half-bred ewes 35s. to 43s., half-bred shearling gimmers 35s. to 40s., half-bred wethers 30s. to 35s., Wensleydale shearling tups £7 to £10, secondary ditto £4 to £6, Wensleydale aged tups £5 to £8, good bred ewes 45s. to 55s., good bred tup lambs £3 to £5, good bred gimmer lambs 35s. to 50s., and twice-crossed lambs 28s. to 33s. each.

Malton Michaelmas Fair.

As usual the second day of the above fair (the 12th inst.) was devoted mainly to sheep, of which there was a good show. Shearling gimmers for breeding purposes were dear, best making 50s. to 56s.; secondary, 45s. to 48s.; Leicester ewes to 58s., and crossbreds 40s. to 44s. each. There was a good lot of lambs, and a fair trade was done. Pure Leicesters made up to 40s., useful lots 30s. to 35s. per head; crossbreds, 25s. to 28s.; and north lambs, 22s. per head. Plenty of tups changed hands at £3 10s. to £8 per head; and ram lambs made £3 10s. and upwards.

Outbreak of Pink Eye.—A serious epidemic of pink eye has broken out among the horses at West Elliot colliery, New Tredegar. The disease was first discovered the week before last, when the horses were found to be ailing, and they were immediately brought to the surface and isolated. Since then a number of fresh cases have developed. The chief veterinary surgeon of the company has the cases under his supervision, and every effort is being made to prevent a spread of the malady.

PIGS.

Sale of Large Black Pigs at Ipswich.

Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons' annual sale of pedigree Large Black pigs took place at Ipswich on Tuesday. About fifty animals were catalogued, many of them being of remarkable size for age. The attendance of buyers was large, and a good demand was experienced. Three boars of nice quality, from the Colonial College, farrowed March 22nd, 1900, realised £6 15s., £4 15s., £4 5s. Sixteen boars, bred by Mr. R. B. Bond, all by Sproughton King (123), were well competed for. Three from Sproughton Lass (476), farrowed March 22nd, made £6 10s., £5 5s., and £4 10s. Four bred from prize-winning sows, farrowed February 17th, £4 5s., £3 10s., £3 5s.; others farrowed April 27th, up to £3. Two from Mr. Walter Wrinch, farrowed May 1st, £3. The Colonial College also consigned three well-grown gilts, farrowed March 22nd, which were disposed of at £4 15s. to £4. An in-pig sow from Mr. R. B. Bond realised £5 15s., and two choice gilts, eight months old, from the same consignor, made £5 5s. and £4 10s.; those which were farrowed April 27th reached £3 15s.; those bred in July, by Mr. J. Matthew, from £2 15s. to £2 10s.; Mr. C. F. Marriner's, Mr. Fox Hagger's, and Mr. H. O. Ransom's sold on the same lines. The buyers included Mr. Walter Wrinch, Mr. E. Giles (Essex), Mr. W. Ward, Mr. C. Ling, Mr. E. J. Cheney, Mr. Alfred Stearn, Mr. Fox Haggar, Mr. E. Cooper (Essex), Mr. J. Wainwright (Essex), Mr. Jos. Watkins, Mr. Herbert Smith, Mr. T. Ashford, Mr. C. W. Haward, and others.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Oct. 13th, 1900:—

Swine Fever	Swine slaughtered as diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	79	450	15,458	16,337	
	Outbreaks		No.	13	35	1,018	2,022	1,994
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Other Animals	No.	:	:	1	:	14
		Dogs.	No.	1	1	4	8	136
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughtered.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	:	:	290	732
		Diseased.	No.	:	:	:	1	46
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	:	:	1	7
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	2	:	227	:	:
	Outbreaks.		No.	1	:	17	:	:
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	8	17	734	814	702
	Outbreaks.		No.	5	10	432	422	346
Period.								
Week ended Oct. 13, 1900					189		1,877	
Corresponding weeks in					1899		1,885	
					1898		1,857	
Total for 41 weeks 1900							76,847	
Corresponding period in							77,185	

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Leicester October Cattle Fair. Several thousand head of stock were forward at this fair, which was held on the 12th inst. Buyers and dealers were well represented, but while there was a brisk demand for choice lots at good prices, all secondary and inferior descriptions were a dull trade at a decline of 10s. to 20s. per head, and even at this reduction a good many lots were left unsold. Milch cows, £17 to £23; heifers, £12 to £13 10s.; home-bred Shorthorns, £12 to £16; young stock, £5 to £7; Irish Shorthorns, £14 to £17; Irish polled, £12 to £16. Welsh cattle in fair request, but the supplies were extremely heavy, and trade very depressed at £9 to £13 per head. Calves, 20s. to 30s. per head. Sheep and rams were a slow trade.

We are in receipt of a copy of the Worthington Souvenir of the Paris Exhibition. It is a small publication of some fifty pages, on art paper, containing illustrations of every Worthington pump shown in the Exposition by the allied Worthing companies, the collection comprising the largest exhibit of pumping machinery of a single type ever shown in an exhibition. We may mention that the entire water supply of the Exposition is furnished by four Worthington triple expansion High Duty pumping engines, which have a capacity of 40,000,000 imperial gallons a day.

SHOWS.

Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association.

The Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association's nineteenth annual show took place in Chester Market Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday, and was well attended on both days. Owing to the Association having increased the number of cheese to be shown in some of the classes, there was quite a record display of cheese, whilst the butter and farm produce were very creditable. Altogether nearly 2,000 cheese were displayed, and this was an advance of about 120 compared with last year, but there was a slight falling off in respect of the actual number of lots shown. The weight of the cheese was 70 tons, against 62 tons last year. Though the show of cheese as a whole was splendid, there were some lots not up to the usual standard, but this was probably due to the fact that the warm weather of September had affected the flavour of some of the riper and softer makes. The judges did not consider that the uncoloured cheese attained that pitch of whiteness which is necessary for Manchester—the best district in England for white cheese. It was noteworthy that the exhibitors in the medium classes were very successful in the colouring of the cheese, being, in fact, more successful in this respect than the exhibitors in some of the superior classes. The Association's gold medal for the best lot of Cheshire cheese in the show was awarded to Mr. T. Shaw, Halton Heath, Cheshire, and tenant of the Duke of Westminster, whose success in winning this and £14 for the best twelve cheese was the more marked, considering that he had not previously won first or second prize at any show in recent years.

Prize List.

CHEESE.

Twelve Cheshire cheese, irrespective of weight; made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer resident within the Association's district, whose occupation exceeds 150 acres: 1, Mr. T. Shaw, Hatton Heath; 2, Mr. R. Bourne, Bickerton; 3, Mr. J. Jones, New Farm, Dodleston; 4, Mr. N. Dale, Brassey Green, Tarporley; 5, Mr. W. Dutton, Brindley Hall, Nantwich; 6, Mr. J. Jackson, Chowley, Handley; r, Mr. T. H. Simcock, Moat Farm, Alpraham; vhc, Mr. J. Bate, Iddenshall Hall, Tarporley; Mr. J. Hulme, Kenwick Lodge, Ellesmere; and Mr. R. Dutton, Old Marton, Ellesmere; Mr. T. Blake, jun., Clay Farm, Bangor-on-Dee; hc, Mr. D. Richards, Belgrave, Pulford; Mr. W. B. Sadler, The Lodge Farm, Holt; Mr. G. H. Willis, Stoke, Stanney; Mr. S. Winward, Broughton, Malpas; Mr. J. Houlbrook, Peckforton Hall, Tarporley; Mr. A. Fearnall, Eccleston, Chester; and Mr. R. Fearnall, Aldford; c, Mr. Dutton, Hoofield, Huxley; Mr. R. Cooper, Ridley Hill, Tarporley; Mr. L. Jackson, Broughton Lodge, Malpas; Mr. W. Evans, Gatesheath Farm, Tattenhall; Mr. R. Bourne, Broxton; Mr. W. Parker, Rodens Hall, Wrexham; Mr. H. Denson, Poulton; and Mr. G. Lea, Oscroft, Tarvin.

Eight Cheshire chese, irrespective of weight; made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer resident within the Association's district, whose occupation is above 100 acres, but does not exceed 150 acres: 1, Mr. R. Davies, Round House, Edge, Malpas; 2, Mr. W. Lee, Woodlake Farm, Tattenhall; 3, Mr. H. E. Cooper, Bickley, Malpas; 4, Mr. J. Featherston, Horton, Malpas; 5, Mr. T. G. Lee, Drogan Farm, Handley; 6, Mr. W. H. Astles, Darnhall, Winsford; r, Mr. H. Rutter, Aldersey, Handley; vhc, Mr. G. Williams, Park Eyton, Wrexham; Mr. J. Hough, Shocklach; hc, Mr. R. Peacock, Hargrave; Mr. J. Gregory, Waverton; and Mr. H. S. Walley, Bickerton Hall, Malpas; c, Mr. W. H. Hobson, Wood Farm, Malpas.

Six cheese, irrespective of weight; made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer resident within the Association's district, whose occupation does not exceed 100 acres and not less than 50 acres: 1, Mr. J. Dutton, Brereton Park, Hargrave; 2, Mr. S. Faulkner, Wrenbury, Frith; 3, Mr. G. Johnson, Horton Green, Malpas; 4, Mr. P. Mottershead, Coddington, Aldersey; r, Mr. J. Jackson, The Elms, Tallern Green, Malpas; vhc, Mr. S. Evans, Woodhouse Farm, Tattenhall; and Mr. J. Williams, Hollin Green, Sound, Nantwich; hc, Mr. T. Greenaway, Burton, Tarporley; Mr. J. Williams, Little Heath Farm, Audlem; and Mr. O. W. Johnson, Hatherton, Nantwich; c, Mr. T. Dale, Lower Farm, Huxley; Mr. W. H. Jackson, Clotton, Tarporley; Mr. J. T. Jones, Brook Farm, Worthenbury; and Mr. J. Rigby, Ebnal Farm, Malpas.

Four cheese, irrespective of weight; made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer resident within the Association's district, whose occupation does not exceed 50 acres: 1, Mr. W. Garner, Tattenhall Lanes; 2, Mr. J. Parry, Oscroft, Tarvin; 3, Mr. S. Edwards, Norbury, Whitchurch; r, Mr. W. Jones, Poulton; vhc, Mr. J. Briscall, Aston Juxta Mondrum, Worleston; and Mr. J. E. Rathbone, Worthenbury; hc, Mr. E. Arden, Kinnerton; c, Mr. H. Greenway, Stamford Heath.

Four coloured cheese of any make, not less than 40lb each; made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer resident within the United Kingdom: 1, Mr. F. D. Pickering, Pigeon House, Handley; 2, Mr. R. Davies; 3, Mr. J. Jones, New Farm, Dodleston; 4, Mr. J. Hough; 5, Mrs. Walley, Frankton, Oswestry; 6, Mr. R. Dutton; r, Mr. B. Dutton; vhc, Mr. G. Dutton; Mr. J. Allwood, Churton; Mr. N. Dale; Mr. J. Noden, The Woodside, Wettenhall; and Mr. W. Jones, Poulton; hc, Mrs. J. Lloyd, Dodleston; Mr. R. Fearnall; Mr. R. Bourne; Mr. J. Williams; Mr. G. Lea; Mr. T. Shaw; and Mr. S. B. Ducker, Upton, near Chester; c, Mr. W. Houlbrooke, Brooklands, Wettenhall; Mr. J. Houlbrook; Mr. H. S. Walley; Mr. C. E. Parton, Haughton, Spurstow; and Mr. S. Lea.

Four uncoloured cheese of any make, not less than 40lb each; made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer resident within the United Kingdom: 1, Mr. J. Jones; 2, Mr. T. G. Lee; 3, Mr. T. Charlesworth, Baddington, Nantwich; 4, Mrs. Peacock, Huxley Hall, Hargrave; 5, Mr. G. H. Willis, Stoke, Stanney; 6, Mr. J. Jackson; r, Mr. T. Lea; vhc, Mr. Thos. Blake; Mr. R. Fearnall; Mr. H. Denson; and Mr. W. H. Edwards; hc, Mr. Jos. Hough; Mr. R. Peacock; Mr. P. Dutton; and Mr. G. Lea; c, Mr. J. Williams; Mrs. Walley; Mr. A. Lea; and Mr. C. F. Hobson.

For farmers who have never won a first or second prize at any agricultural or dairy show since January 1st, 1894; for the best four Cheshire cheese, coloured or uncoloured, not less than 25lb each; made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer residing within the Association's district: 1, Mr. T. Shaw; 2, Mr. R. Fearnall; 3, Mr. G. Dutton; 5, Mr. E. Lewis; r, Mr. T. Lea; vhc, Mr. C. Featherson; Mr. A. Prince; Mr. J. H. Lee; Mr. R. D. Allwood; Mr. F. Benson; hc, Mr. J. Minshall, jun.; Mr. D. Richards; Mr. J. F. Jones; c, Mr. F. Lindop; Mr. S. Winward, and Mr. J. Allwood.

Long Keeping Class.—Exhibits to comprise three cheese made prior to June 16th, 1900; all exhibits to have the Association's brand affixed on each cheese as early as possible after the close of the entry: 1, Mr. R. Dutton; 2, Mr. B. Dutton; 3, Mr. Robert Davies; r, Mrs. M. Denson; vhc,

Mr J. Siddorn; hc, Mr. H. S. Walley; Messrs. Siddorn Bros.; c, Mr. F. D. Pickering; Mr. G. Williams.

BUTTER.

Six half-pounds of fresh butter, slightly salted; exhibitors to be makers and resident within the Association's district: 1, Mr. T. Henshaw, Swanley, Nantwich; 2, Mrs. R. Johnson, Street Farm, Kelsall; 3, Mrs. T. Roberts, Dodleston; 4, Mrs. W. Shaw, Crewe Hall, Farndon; r, Mr. W. Clarke, Aldford; vhc, Mr. W. Lee; hc, Mr. S. Winward, and Mr. G. H. Willis; c, Mrs. J. Platt, Tilston, Tarporley, and Mrs. T. Jackson, Bank Farm, Isycoed, Malpas.

Six half-pounds of fresh butter without salt; exhibitors to be makers and resident within the Association's district: 1, Miss Jackson, Southley, Tarporley; 2, Mr. P. Reade, Swanley, Nantwich; 3, Mrs. R. Johnson; 4, Mr. S. Winward; r, Mrs. W. Shaw; vhc, Mrs. R. Parker; hc, Mr. M. L. Sadler, and Mrs. Jackson; c, Mr. G. H. Willis.

Two pounds of butter made up in pats of 2oz. each, by a farmer's wife or daughter resident within the Association's district: 1, Mrs. France, Bunbury, Tarporley; 2, Mr. W. Clarke; 3, Mrs. J. Hough; r, Mr. P. Reade; vhc, Mrs. J. Okell; hc, Mrs. T. Jackson; c, Mrs. G. Robinson.

Two pounds of butter, made up in half-pounds, and exhibited by any cottage tenant whose annual rent does not exceed £20, resident within the Association's district, and not keeping more than two cows in milk: 1, Mrs. J. Stokes; 2, Mr. T. Henshaw; 3, Mr. J. Vernon, Stapleford, Tarvin; 4, Mrs. Thomas; r, Mrs. Barnes, Alpraham, Tarporley; vhc, Mrs. Huxley; hc, Mr. Jos. Knight; c Mr. W. Woodcock.

Two pounds of butter, slightly salted, made up in half-pounds, and made from milk drawn exclusively from Channel Island cows: 1, Mrs. E. France; 2, Mrs. J. Stokes; 3, Mrs. T. Jackson; vhc, Mrs. James Okell; c, Mrs. Forster.

To the exhibitor of three pounds of butter, made up in most ornamental style for table, in as many pieces as approved by the exhibitor: 1, Mr. S. B. Ducker, Grange Farm, Upton.

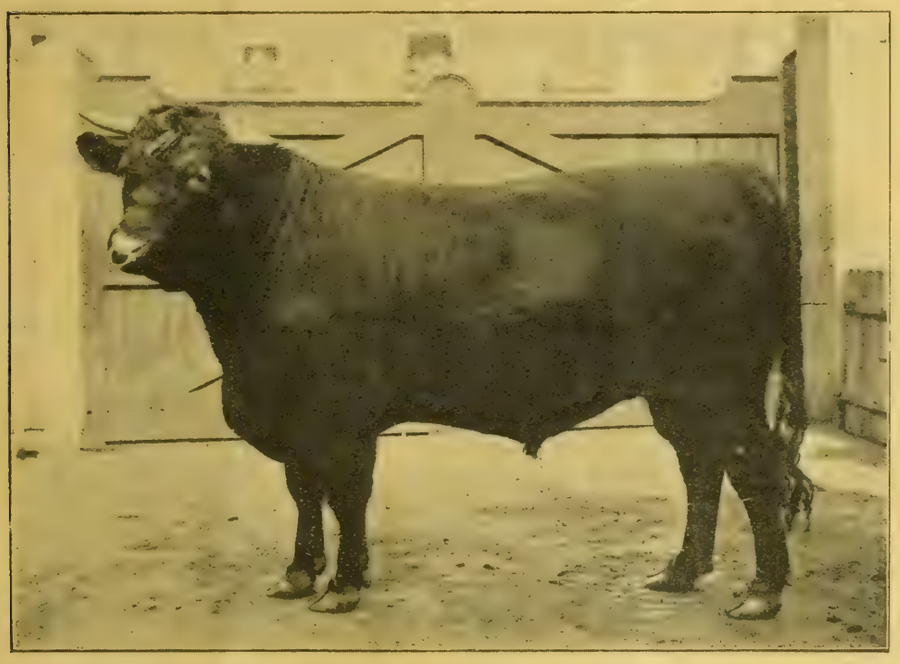
COLLECTION OF FARM PRODUCE.

Collection of dairy and farm produce; bred, fed, and grown on the premises of the exhibitor, consisting of not less than six varieties of produce: 1, Mrs. S. Evans; 2, Mr. T. Salmon; 3, Mr. M. L. Sadler.

HONEY.

Six sections of comb honey, gathered during 1900, approximate weight 1lb. each: 1, Mr. E. Maxwell, 13, Claremont Road, Liverpool; 2, Mr. Owen Dutton, Wimbolds Trafford; 3, Mr. J. Dean, The Acres, Upton; hc, Rev. E. Charley, Ince Vicarage; c Mr. F. Dutton, Huxley.

Twelve jars of run honey, in 1lb. each approximate weight, gathered during 1900 by the exhibitor's own bees: 1, Mr. O. Roberts, Willington Lodge, Tarporley; 2, Mrs. R. Parker; 3, Mr. F. Hewitt, Holmeston Hall, Tarporley; hc, Mr. E. Maxwell.



Mr. J. Evens' Lincoln Red Shorthorn Bull, "Royal Burton." First Prize at the Dairy Show, 1900.

The prizes were distributed in Chester Town Hall on Wednesday afternoon by the Countess of Crewe, who was accompanied by the Earl of Crewe and Lady Annabel Crewe Milnes. There were also present the Bishop of Chester, the Dean of Chester, Mr. Henry Tollemache, M.P., Mr. James Tomkinson, M.P., Mr. W. H. Verdin (Darnhill), Mr. Harry Barnton (Crewe Hill), and Mr. George Barbour, of Bolesworth Castle (chairman of the Council of the Association), etc.

Mr. Henry Tollemache, M.P., proposing a vote of thanks to the Countess of Crewe for distributing the prizes, heartily congratulated the honorary treasurer of the association—Mr. James Tomkinson—on having at last gained the honour for which he had fought so long and so gallantly. (Laughter and applause.)

The Bishop of Chester, in seconding, said Cheshire was the mother of cheese-making, and she was rejoicing with maternal pride, as they all knew, in having been surpassed this year at the London Dairy Show by her daughters and descendants. It appeared that the fair cheese-makers of Shropshire were daughters or descendants of Cheshire, and that their skill had really come to them as daughters of Cheshire. (Laughter.)

The vote was carried with acclamation, and Lord Crewe, in returning thanks, said he believed the Cheshire cheese trade, in spite of the occasional alarms which took place when there was a sudden change in the weather, and there was a lot of early ripening cheese on the market, was now on a very stable foundation indeed, and that they knew now pretty well what was the worst foreign competition could do. (Applause.) He was very glad to know that the class for long-keeping cheese had been very well supported at the show. He did not for a moment suppose that long-keeping cheese would ever oust early-ripening cheese from popular favour. Early-ripening cheese was what was demanded by the big towns, and farmers were bound, of course, to meet that demand; but in view of such alarms as he had mentioned it was a very good thing indeed that there should be some long-keeping cheese, so that the necessity might not occur of casting great quantities of cheese upon a bad market. (Hear, hear.) He believed some people had supposed that the advance of education and the increase of refinement had somewhat discouraged cheese-making among their farmers, and had caused some dislike to that particular work among the wives and daughters of farmers in Cheshire and other cheese producing districts. He did not for a moment believe that or accept it. (Applause.) If it were true it would certainly be a great mistake. He could not conceive why any amount of education or refinement should interfere with their becoming as good cheese-makers as their mothers. (Hear, hear.) A cheese was a work of art, and if ladies could undertake such arts as bookbinding, he could conceive no earthly reason why they should not undertake the art of cheese-making. He should certainly give the palm to cheese-making all the world over in preference to fancy work, and any nonsense of that kind. (Applause.)

The Cheese Fair.

There was a very good attendance of buyers at the cheese fair on Wednesday, at which there was a pitch of 70 tons, and some good prices were obtained. The champion cheese made 110s. per cwt., and other prize cheese made from 80s. to 100s. Cheese that was honourably mentioned realised from 70s. to 77s., and medium lots went down to about 65s. The show prices were about the same as last year, but the demand was hardly so sharp, owing, no doubt, to the very much heavier make which was brought about by a change in the weather in September.

Crewe Shire Foal Show and Sale.

The annual autumn show and sale of Shire foals at Crewe was held as usual in Messrs. H. Manley and Son's Repository on the 13th inst., being the conclusion of a four days' horse sale by these enterprising auctioneers. The show attracted a large company of visitors and compared most successfully with any previous show of young Shires in that locality. The demand also for likely youngsters was keen, and prices for female Shires showing quality and eligible for the Stud Book were unmistakably high, whether of filly foals or older mares. Two open prizes of £3 3s. each were offered by Messrs. Manley for the best filly and the best colt foal respectively. Mr. L. Dodd won the one prize with his really beautiful filly Lady Matchless, by Crofton Matchless, combining plenty of quality with correct shape and great power. She also won Mr. Kenworthy's £5 prize as the best foal by any of his horses, and was reserve for the £15 15s. champion prize offered by the auctioneers for the best female Shire in the show. At the succeeding auction sale she sold for 90gs.

The open colt foal prize was won by Mr. W. Lester with a big, upstanding young horse by Moors Thumper, possessing a lot of bone and very nice feather. This sold for 35gs. The reserve number to him was a smart colt by Kesterton, the property of Mr. P. Allen. Like the previous ones, it is a well-known prize winner, and sold for 30gs. The special prizes of £3 3s. offered by the Crewe Shire Horse Society for the best foal by their horse Monaco were won by Mr. J. Smith's grand-framed, roomy filly, which took first in her class, but was retained at home and not offered for competition, as was Mr. Burston's filly dam Crofton Primrose, the reserve to her, Mr. T. G. Parton's colt foal, which was the winner in his class, selling to 25gs. Mr. Harding's filly by Crofton's Prince won the next prize, offered by Mr. Jackson, for the produce of this sire, and sold for 26gs., Mr. Wheeler's second prize filly making 20½gs.

For the prizes offered by Mr. Kenworthy, the winning filly in the open class was first and the reserve colt in the open class second, and the stylish-looking filly by Carbineer, which won Mr. J. B. Hall's first prize, was reserve in the open class, and sold for 85gs. The best Shire mare or filly in the show, and also the winner of the £15 15s. champion cup for best female, was Mr. J. W. Kenworthy's Stapenhill Queen, by King Charming, a black of immense substance, gay carriage, and a fine mover. She made 95gs. at the auction sale. The prize for the best three-year-old was won by the same owner's Lady Grace, by Apostle, a particularly smart filly, which sold for 92gs.; and the best two-year-old was the Earl of Egerton's Tatton Forester, which, with Messrs. Manley's consent, was disposed of privately for 100gs.

Among other high-priced animals were Mr. R. Whitehead's Lady Salisbury, by Salisbury, a great winner, and here h.c. for the champion cup. She made 94gs. Mr. Kenworthy sold Delamere Lassie for 65gs., and it is noteworthy that the whole of this gentleman's exhibits—ten in number—were sold at good prices. Mr. Shawbrick's mare by Moors Thumper, with colt foal by Dunsmore Combination, made together 100gs. Mr. Christopherson's yearling by Burston Albert, 40gs.; Mr. Platt's mare, 52gs.; Mr. Askew's colt foal by Warton Starlight, a large winner in Lancashire, made 62gs.; Mr. Windsor's Nailstone Royal Ensign filly foal, 32gs., etc.

Scottish National Fat Stock Club.

The following have been selected to act as judges at the National Fat Stock Club's Show, to be held in the Waverley Market, Edinburgh, on Wednesday and Thursday, 5th and 6th December:—Shorthorn cattle, cross breeds, and the president's prizes—Messrs. John Cran, Kirkton, Bunchrew, Inverness; Alexander Beddie, Adziel, Strichen; and Charles Wilson, 19, Castle Street, Edinburgh. Aberdeen-Angus, Galloway, and Highland—Messrs. George Cran, Morlick, Glenkindie, Aberdeenshire; James Biggar, Nethertown of Grange, Dalbeattie; and John Stewart, 337, Dumbarton Road, Glasgow. Extra class and dairy cows—Messrs. David Wright, Springfield House, Halifax; William Harrison, Skibeden, Skipton; and John M'Kay, 46, Union Street, Dundee. Blackfaced, Cheviot, and half-bred sheep—Messrs. James Moffat, Gateside, Sanquhar; J. R. C. Smith, Mowhaugh, Yetholm, Kelso; and Robert Williamson, Tinwald Downs, Dumfries. Crosses and extra class—Messrs. Robert Thomson, 29, Port Street, Stirling; William S. Dods, 38, High Street, Berwick-on-Tweed; and Thomas Wederspoon, St. Leonard's Bank, Perth. Pigs—Messrs. James Hallas, Higher Walton, Warrington; and W. Campbell, 191, Perth Road, Dundee. Swedes, yellow and white turnips, cabbages, and potatoes—Messrs. John Bell, of Balbuthie, Kilconquhar; and James Stenhouse, Turnhouse, Cramond. Grain—Messrs. James Hope, East Barns, Dunbar; and George Maclennan, grain merchant, Edinburgh. Butter-making—Messrs. William Smith, 1, Grassmarket, Edinburgh; and R. J. Drummond, Dairy Institute, Kilmarnock. Referee for champion prizes in cattle and sheep sections—Mr. James Swan, Clifton Terrace, Edinburgh.

The annual root show held by Mr. J. K. King, of the Royal Seed Growing Establishments, Coggeshall, Essex, and Reading, Berks, will take place on Tuesday, November 6th, at Coggeshall. No fewer than thirty-nine valuable prizes are offered for roots and cereals, and for vegetables there are over forty awards, ranging in value from 5s. to £3. There will be a luncheon at 1.45, at which the chair will be taken by the Hon. C. H. Strutt, M.P., who will be supported by several members of Parliament, landowners, and noted farmers. The railway station is Kelvedon, on the G.E.R., and conveyances will meet the trains.

All farm and stock should be given. Messrs. [illegible] in excellent [illegible] advertisement [illegible] back page of this issue. [ADVT.]

BARLEY AND HOPS
AT THE
BREWERS' EXHIBITION.

The twenty-second annual exhibition and market of machinery, appliances, and produce used by brewers, maltsters, distillers, etc., was opened on Saturday at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, and will remain open during the whole of this week. One of the important features of the show is the increased interest manifested in the malting barley and hop competitions, for which an extra number of prizes is offered this year. The total number of entries of barley is 166 English and 10 foreign. The entries in the hop competition are in excess of those of last year, there being 41 samples submitted for judging. The past season, however, has proved unfavourable for hop-growing. In the non-alcoholic beverages section there is a great amount of competition, the entries in the three classes, soda water, fermented ginger beer, and unfermented hop ale amounting to 152.

The inaugural luncheon took place on Saturday under the presidency of Mr. John Billbie, of Billbie, Hobson, and Co., Queen Victoria Street. Mr. A. T. Dale (Dale and Reynolds) sat next to the chairman, on the right, together with Mr. Clare Sewell Read, Mr. Charles Walker (Licensed Victuallers' Central Protection Society), and Mr. H. S. Bishop (Ind, Coope, and Co.), whilst on the left were Mr. H. Stopes, Mr. R. H. Rew (Board of Agriculture), Mr. F. Flinn, M. P. Vilmorin, Mr. A. Probyn, Mr. James, Mr. S. W. Gillard, Mr. Joseph Nolan, M.P. (Sir John Power and Sons, Limited), Mr. John Clayton, Mr. P. F. Nursey, Mr. E. H. Godfrey (Central Chamber of Agriculture), Mr. C. J. Dale, Mr. A. J. Stanton (MARK LANE EXPRESS), Mr. H. Ennals (J. Fison and Co., Limited, Ipswich), Mr. A. Hassall, Dr. John Goodfellow, Mr. T. Ironmonger (National Association of Hop Growers), etc.

In proposing "Success to the Exhibition and Market," the chairman said the reason of his occupying his present position was probably whilst connected with the engineering trade he had consistently shown at the Brewers' Exhibition ever since it was started in 1879. There were various kinds of exhibitions. The first were international, such as we had seen several in the past in London. These were very beautiful and wonderful, but he thought they tended rather to mystify the mind than to improve it. He had just returned a third time from Paris very disappointed because he had not seen more. He was told that the Paris Exhibition was one of the most gigantic failures of the century; there were so many things to see that it was impossible to concentrate one's mind on anything. Then there were exhibitions such as the series which had been held at South Kensington, and though these were very interesting they were of no value from a commercial standpoint. In the Agricultural Hall they were accustomed to trade exhibitions, and in his view such exhibitions were the most beneficial of all. Those who came there from all parts of the country came to see something which would improve their trade. They were not distracted by a lot of side shows. They met there for business purposes, and were glad to meet each other and to compare notes. This exhibition, which had been carefully thought out, had always been ably managed by Messrs. Dale and Reynolds (cheers) who had never spared any personal effort to make it successful. (Cheers.) Those astute managing directors willingly acceded to any suggestion made to them for increasing the usefulness and value of the exhibition. He was pleased to see that the present exhibition was as good as any of its predecessors, and he believed it would prove to be a pronounced success, and the competitions added to the show from time to time were of great value. Barley had been much improved, and he was informed that no less than thirty English counties were represented in the show this year. Hops, too, were well represented, although, of course, hops were produced in only certain restricted districts. Of the mineral water competition no one could fail to see how enormously that trade had grown in the past twenty years, and doubtless the high standard of merit fixed at the show had been of service to the public. (Cheers.)

Mr. Arthur T. Dale, in rising to respond on behalf of his partner and himself, was greeted with loud applause. He thanked those very heartily for the enthusiastic manner in which they had received the toast. The exhibition proper in the great hall would speak for itself. It was a very comprehensive affair, every section being fully represented. There were a number of things shown this year for the first time, and these could be easily found, as they were distinguished in the catalogue by being printed in black letters. He took this opportunity of thanking the judges in the malting barley, hop, and aerated beverage competitions. They were all expert jurors, and their awards were made on a good, sound, solid basis, and on merit alone, and their services were given *con amore*. He was glad that they had with them that day Mr. Clare Sewell Read, Mr. Stopes, Mr. Flinn, and other judges, and they also welcomed M. Vilmorin, who was *par excellence* the head of the seed trade of France. He thanked them for their presence, and said he had no doubt that this year's market would afford as much satisfaction to exhibitors and buyers as any of the long series that had gone before it. (Cheers.)

Mr. R. H. Rew (of the Board of Agriculture) gave the toast of "The Judges." He took the opportunity of pointing out the great advantage to the country of keeping the plough at work. This had certainly been done by the comparative success of barley over wheat, and the show of malting and seed barleys had largely contributed to the successful cultivation of that cereal in this country; coupling with the toast the names of Mr. H. Stopes, Mr. Clare Sewell Read, Mr. Frank Flinn, and Mr. J. B. Ellis.

Mr. H. Stopes, chairman of the judges, in response to the toast, said that British farmers need fear no foreign competition in the matter of barley, for the best was grown in the United Kingdom, and this was due to both climate and soil. About 72,000,000 bushels were used annually, sixty for beer, and twelve for whisky, and nearly 2,000,000 acres were always under cultivation. Mr. Stopes does not mean by this that the English farmer should not be on the alert to improve his crops when possible. As a matter of fact, a good deal of foreign barley is shown at the Agricultural Hall. It comes from Bohemia, Smyrna, Chili, Gaza, and Beyrout. Some of the samples will be tested at the English agricultural colleges, and the results will be of great interest and value to British barley-growers, maltsters, and brewers.

Judges.

*H. Stopes (chairman), 11, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.; Thomas R. Dewar, M.P., distiller (John Dewar and Sons, Limited), 48, Lime Street, E.C.; Thos. Earp, maltster (Gilstrap, Earp, and Co.), Newark; *J. B. Ellis, Walsingham; *Frank Flinn, maltster, Bishop's Stortford, Dullingham, and Newmarket; W. R. Lane, Birmingham; H. Mackeson, brewer and maltster, Hythe; Lewis J. Meakin, maltster (L. and G. Meakin, Limited), Burton-on-Trent; *Clare Sewell Read, 91, Kensington Gardens Square, W.; C. H. Stafford, Hollow Stone, Nottingham; S. N. Thompson, maltster (S. Thompson and Sons), Smethwick; C. Howard-Tripp, managing director Ind, Coope and Co., Limited, Burton-on-Trent and Romford.

The Judges' Note Book.

Each judge had provided for use a handsomely bound note book, containing full particulars and details of the classes, prizes, and conditions. Of the entries no information whatever was given other than the sack numbers which were arranged in the order of the names of the counties placed alphabetically.

These numbers were on the left side of the page, and lines were ruled through to the right margin of the opposite page, which was blank, so ample room for remarks was provided.

The book consists of eighty-four pages of superfine hand-made paper, and has an introduction written by the chairman of the judges which, with permission, is reproduced here:—

Frequent notices of the work done at the Brewers' Exhibition in the interests of barley-growing have appeared in various papers, but it seems desirable this year to record it in more permanent form.

The Brewers' Congress, opened by Messrs. Dale and Reynolds in 1885, in conjunction with the Brewers' Exhibition, initiated a practical type of technical education. The malting and seed barley competition has been fostered with steadily increasing effort and care on the part of the judges. The value and number of the prizes offered and of the classes now shown in this book are proof of the growing influences radiating from this centre. Placed on record in this form they may be of much value and interest to students and historians hereafter.

Incidentally it may be useful to point out that towards the close of the seventeenth century (1697) a tax was laid upon malt, and paid by the maker or maltster irrespective of any other tax, duty, or licence borne by the brewer. This tax varied in the amount paid per bushel from time to time, and there were occasionally slight modifications made of the stringent regulations that hampered the freedom of action of maltsters. As the Malt Tax it continued until its repeal in 1880. The Revenue obtained from malt continued in the form of a beer duty assessed upon the actual yield of the malt, obtained by the brewer. The repeal has been frequently described as a sudden change, but in reality it was the inevitable and slow outcome of the permission given in 1847 to brewers to use sugar as a substitute for malt.

Since 1880 any other material able to take the place of malt (excepting "saccharin" from coal tar) has been permitted to be used, provided the duty assessed by the Excise authorities is paid by the user. So long as malt paid duty, or for nearly two centuries, the chief aim set by brewers before barley-growers to attain in barley for maltsters' use was the amount of extract given out.

The duty as levied upon the extract on the basis of charge being determined by the amount yielded now makes the *quality* of the extract of greater moment than its *quantity*. The *pro rata* cost of duty efficiently checks all economy on duty formerly possible by the greater yield of superfine barleys. Nearly all benefits from improved cultivation now turn on the superiority of the extract and its suitability to meet the existing requirements of brewers.

Owing to the alteration of public taste in beer the persistent reduction of gravity implies, and in many cases compels, the abandonment of the use by maltsters of barleys of defective types.

The aim the judges have steadily kept in view has been to foster agriculture and encourage barley growers to produce the most suitable types of grain. The first consideration has been the endeavour to find what brewers need, then to show how best to secure it, and, not less important, to show clearly what to avoid.

Intelligent growers have followed our awards from year to year with very marked advantage to themselves and to barley growing in Britain, as well as to the benefit of maltsters and brewers.

Our entry forms have been added to from time to time, so that we now get full details of every sample shown in the following very necessary and important particulars:—

Character of soil and subsoil; rotation followed for not less than two preceding crops; quantity and quality of manure used (if any), and the seed sown.

Other information of interest is obtained as to dates of sowing and cutting, quantities grown, and so on. The dressing machinery employed has been subject to inquiry for some years, and prizes are now offered with a view of determining to what extent undue harm by imperfect threshing can be avoided.

It is noteworthy that thus far every sample sent to the Exhibition from its beginning has been weighed. They have all been done by myself, with the same chondrometer, under like conditions, and each year the machine has been adjusted to the actual weight of an Imperial bushel, exactly and carefully measured.

It is to be hoped the high standard of efficiency of machines used, and the quality of grain shown, will be continually raised. The last year of the old century marks much distinct improvement, some of which may not unfairly be attributed to our labours. The very best as yet attained, however, still leaves much room for further development and improvement. Some of our number can remember how much of the barley submitted to us even within the past ten years, either in itself, or through being damaged in dressing, or through the admixture of other material than barley, was totally unsuited to make malt fit for brewers' use. Also we know how much grain is still grown without due regard to brewers' needs. We as judges can all agree, therefore, that the more stringently we do our duty without fear or favour we prove our single aim in inducing our own countrymen to do the best possible for all concerned.

The great industry of barley-growing is of national importance in more than one sense, and in striving to uphold and benefit it we have for fourteen years quietly been doing good service to the State.

H. STOPES.

11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.

* These gentlemen also act as jurors of seed barley

The Barley.

By Hordeum.

The most noticeable feature of this year's exhibition is the utter collapse of foreign competition. Some years ago it looked very much as if our home industry of barley-growing would be unable to hold its own against the giant strides our foreign competitors were making. This was especially notable when champion honours and the bulk of the best awards were given out of the country.

But our growers and merchants, with dogged pluck, persevered, and each year it has grown more evident that steadily progressive improvement in British barleys has not been followed up in the same degree elsewhere. Now a small number of entries gives

A Very Poor Show

from foreign countries. Our own colonies have dropped out also completely, not sending in a single sample, notwithstanding the direct encouragements offer to them last year.

The season proves one of the few when good barleys are sent in from East and West. The oldest inhabitant cannot recall a former year which has produced superb samples from Suffolk, Devon, and Somerset. Yet, in the first six samples of the whole 170 sent in these counties alone are represented, Suffolk with half, or three samples, Devon with two, and Somerset with one.

Still more curiously, any of the six suffer very little in comparison when just alongside a carefully preserved sample of the superb champion of last year from Somerset. Still, there is no doubt that a lot of the samples from Suffolk are very fine, that county being represented by no less than twenty-one exhibits, including

The Champion.

The total awards falling to this sample, as will be

seen from the appended list, are nearly a dozen, but as the grower did not make entry they are divided between the grower, Mr. Pratt, of Melton, and Mr. J. Cooper, Ipswich, who is to be congratulated on the positions taken by all his samples. Other prizes from East Anglia went away to those where the grower also made entry. Still the spoils, even when split up into three, left very substantial shares to each recipient, which should show how desirable it can prove to all concerned to take a good position at the exhibition.

The Technical Class

again proves one of great interest, although only one entry is made by Gartons, Limited, Warrington. This tasteful and well-arranged display is of very great practical and scientific interest and value. It shows clearly the open door that leads to the certain elimination of all the disadvantages in barley complained of by maltsters and brewers. Species will hereafter be led to drop undesirable characters and put on good ones at the will of the cultivator.

Careful selection has done much to improve barleys in a century and a-half. How much, of course, has to be attributed to the same cause in the previous centuries very little evidence remains to show, although there is every probability that the needed information will be forthcoming soon. Now, however, we have reached the much more advanced stage when plants yield to the superior intelligence directing their development at the will and pleasure of the operator.

Other steps, too, are being taken this year in connection with this class of which it is not necessary to speak now other than to point out the steady and direct improvement in the year's show.

The Extended Prize List,

combined with too large a number of judges, has led to delay in publication of the awards, which cannot be too strongly condemned. One of the classes, too, has suffered by reason of the strange action of the Bedford brewers and barley buyers. We shall most probably hear more about this later on. Of the threshing machine prizes it is only reasonable for proper time to be given to examine so many samples with the necessary care before determining the awards. Still, with so many judges available it ought to have been done more promptly, and, again, the mode of exposing the awards given leaves much to be desired.

Full List of Barley Awards.

Annexed is a list of the awards as far as they have been officially made:—

CHAMPION PRIZE, Gold Medal or Plate, value £10 10s

No. in Catalogue.

137. Suffolk barley: Mr. C. J. Pratt, Melton (entered by Mr. John Cooper, Barley Merchant, Ipswich)

"MARK LANE EXPRESS" CHALLENGE CUP.

137. Suffolk barley: Mr. C. J. Pratt, Melton (entered by Mr John Cooper, Barley Merchant, Ipswich)

THE BURTON CHALLENGE CUP (Ind, Coope and Co., Ltd.), Burton and Romford.

137. Suffolk barley: Mr. C. J. Pratt, Melton (entered by Mr. John Cooper, Barley Merchant, Ipswich).

THE JOSEPH FISON CHALLENGE PRIZE, £25 (cash or cup).

137. Suffolk barley: Mr. C. J. Pratt, Melton (entered by Mr. John Cooper, Barley Merchant, Ipswich).

THE ROBERT BOBY, LIMITED, PRIZE (cash or plate), value £10

137. Suffolk barley: Mr. C. J. Pratt, Melton (entered by Mr. John Cooper, Barley Merchant, Ipswich).

THE MUMFORD CUP, value £10.

137. Suffolk barley: Mr. C. J. Pratt, Melton (entered by Mr. John Cooper, Barley Merchant, Ipswich).

THE JOHN H WRINCH SPECIAL PRIZE, value £10.

137. Suffolk barley: Mr. C. J. Pratt, Melton (entered by Mr. John Cooper, Barley Merchant, Ipswich).

Class I.—BRITISH MALTING BARLEY.

137. First prize, silver medal and diploma.—Suffolk barley: Mr. C. J. Pratt, Melton (entered by Mr. John Cooper, Barley Merchant, Ipswich)

32. Second prize, bronze medal and diploma.—Devonshire barley: Mr. J. Carpenter, Pengelly's Farm, Alphington, near Exeter.

37. Third prize, diploma.—Devonshire barley: Mr. P. Paul, Splatford Farm, Kenn (entered by W. H. Scruby and Co., Harlow, Essex)

125. H.c., diploma.—Suffolk barley: Mr. A. E. Gray, Wenhaston, Halesworth.

119. C. Diploma.—Somerset barley: Mr. W. Risdon, Escott, Stogumber, Taunton.

Class II.—COLONIAL MALTING BARLEY (no entries)

Class III.—DISTILLING BARLEY

(Given by T. R. Dewar, Esq., M.P.)

137. Silver cup, value £5 5s.—Suffolk barley: Mr. C. J. Pratt, Melton (entered by Mr. John Cooper, Barley Merchant, Ipswich)

32. Second prize, silver cup, value £2 2s.—Devonshire barley: Mr. J. Carpenter, Pengelly's Farm, Alphington, near Exeter.

37. Third prize, silver tankard, value £1 1s.—Devonshire barley: Mr. P. Paul, Splatford Farm, Kenn (entered by W. H. Scruby and Co., Harlow, Essex).

Classes IV. and V.—FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (insufficient entries)

Class V.—FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (two rowed from America).

169. First prize, silver medal and diploma.—Chilian barley: Spillers and Bakers, Limited, Cardiff.

170. Second prize, bronze medal and diploma.—Chilian Barley: Spillers and Bakers, Limited, Cardiff.

Class VII.—FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (no entries)

Class VIII.—FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (not two rowed), from the Levant, etc.

167. First prize, silver medal and diploma.—Asia Minor barley: C. Paterson and Co., 30, Great St. Helen's, E.C.

173. Second prize, bronze medal and diploma.—Beyrout barley: Spillers and Bakers, Limited, Cardiff.

171. Third prize, diploma.—Smyrna barley: Spillers and Bakers, Limited, Cardiff.

Class IX.—FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (no entries).

Class X.—THE CLARE SEWELL READ PRIZES (given by F. and G. Smith, Limited, Dereham).

91. First prize, £10 10s.—Norfolk barley: Mr. J. M. Mallett, Stiff Key.

90. Second prize, £5 5s.—Norfolk barley: Mr. G. B. M. Brown, Manor House, Heacham, near Lynn.

94. Third prize, bronze medal.—Norfolk barley: Mr. A. Rushbrooke, Grove Farm, Roydon, Diss.

Class XI.—EXTRA SPECIAL LONDON BREWING PRIZES

22. First prize, £5 5.—Berkshire barley: Mr. W. S. Shelton, Heywood Farm, Maidenhead.

23. Second prize, £3 3s.—Bucks barley: Mr. J. Horwood, Manor Farm, Drayton Beauchamp.

99. Third prize, £1 1s.—Oxford barley: Mr. F. G. Castleman, North Brook, Kirtlington.

17. H.c.—Berkshire barley: Mr. A. S. Castle, Charlton, Wantage.

Class XII.—SPECIAL SHROPSHIRE PRIZES (insufficient entries)

Class XIII.—THE COLCHESTER BREWING CO.'S SPECIAL PRIZES.

57. Silver cup, value £5 5s.—Essex barley: Mr. R. Scrabrook, Tolleshunt D'Arcy.

91. Silver cup, value £5 5s.—Norfolk barley: Mr. J. M. Mallett, Stiff Key.

137. Silver cup, value £5 5s.—Suffolk barley: Mr. J. C. Pratt, Melton (entered by Mr. John Cooper, Barley Merchant, Ipswich).

Class XIV.—THE EAST SUFFOLK PRIZES (given by Captain Pretyman, M.P.).

126. First prize, £10.—Mr. A. E. Grey, Wenhaston, Halesworth.

Other Prizes subject to confirmation.

Class XV.—THE JARMAN WEST COUNTRY PRIZES.

32. Silver cup, value £2 2s.—Devonshire barley: Mr. J. Carpenter, Pengellys Farm, Alphington, near Exeter.

119. Silver cup, value £2 2s.—Somerset barley: Mr. W. Risdon, Escott, Stogumber, Taunton.

68. Silver cup, value £2 2s.—Hants barley: Mr. H. Reeks, Bockhampton Farm, Winkton.

Class XVI.—THE FLINN SPECIAL PRIZES.

72. Silver cup, value £5 5s.—Herts barley: Mr. R. E. Horwood, Upper Farm, Drayton Beauchamp.

Class XVII.—THE EAST RIDING PRIZES (insufficient entries).

Class XX.—WEST SUFFOLK SPECIAL PRIZES (given by Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P.).

141. First prize, value £10.—Mr. R. J. Thurman, Semer, Ipswich.

128. Second prize, value £5.—Mr. A. C. Kemball, Boxford, Suffolk.

Class XXI.—"MARK LANE EXPRESS" DIPLOMAS FOR SEED CORN.

Bedfordshire.

1. Mr. G. Duncombe, Cople, Bedford.

5. Mr. S. Harrison, Hill Farm, Renhold.

Berkshire.

17. Mr. A. S. Castle, Charlton, Wantage.

22. Mr. W. S. Shelton, Heywood Farm, Maidenhead.

Bucks.

23. Mr. J. Horwood, Manor Farm, Drayton Beauchamp

24. Mr. R. E. Horwood, Upper Farm, Drayton Beauchamp

Devonshire

32. Mr. J. Carpenter, Pengelly's Farm, Alphington, near Exeter.

37. Mr. P. Paul, Splatford Farm, Kenn

Dorchester

46. Mr. W. W. Peel, The Manor Farm, Broadwindsor, Dorset

52. Mr. R. H. Cooper, Wyke, Shaftesbury

Essex

57. Mr. J. Murdoch, (Executor of) Dunthorne Reeve, Essex

Mr. R. Scrabrook, Tolleshunt D'Arcy.

Mr. [illegible], Rochford, Essex

Gloucestershire

64. Mr. A. Day, Clifford Bank, Stratford-on-Avon

65. Mr. A. Day, Clifford Bank, Stratford-on-Avon

Hampshire

68. Mr. H. Reeks, Bockhampton Farm, Winkton

67. Mr. G. G. Lumley, Pamewell, Chesterfield

Herts

72. Mr. R. E. Horwood, Upper Farm, Drayton Beauchamp

76. Mr. J. R. Russell, Westmill, Buntingford

Hunts

78. Mr. F. Christmas, Great Gransden, Sandy

Kent

81. Mr. H. Fitzwalter Plumptre, Goodnestone, near Dover

80. Mr. J. A. Pell, Court Lodge Farm, Horton Kirby

Lincolnshire.

85. Mr. F. W. Shepherd Heywood, Holbeck Manor, near Hornastle

81. Mr. L. J. Briggs, Priory Farm, Stamford.

Middlesex

87. Mr. W. J. Curtis, Hethrow Farm, Heathrow.

88. Mr. W. Merrick, Manor Farm, Shepperton.

Norfolk

91. Mr. J. M. Mallett, Stiffkey.

90. Mr. G. B. M. Brown, Manor House, Heacham, near Lynn

Northampton

98. Mr. J. S. Railton, Evenley, Brackley

95. Mr. J. T. Dickens, Barnack, Stamford.

Oxon.

99. Mr. F. G. Castleman, Northbrook, Kirtlington

100. Mr. J. I. Castleman, Slade Farm, Kirtlington.

Rutland

105. Mr. L. J. Briggs, Belmesthorpe.

104. Mr. W. T. Beadsworth, Tinwell.

Salop.

109. Mr. R. Preece, Cressage House, near Shrewsbury

108. Mr. F. Herne, The Bank Farm, Cleverley

Somerset.

110. Mr. W. Risdon, Escott, Stogumber, Taunton

113. Mr. T. Lovelace, Bosington, Allerford, Taunton.

Suffolk

137. Mr. C. J. Pratt, Melton (entered by Mr. John Cooper, Barley Merchant, Ipswich)

126. Mr. A. E. Gray, Wenhaston, Halesworth.

Surrey

143. Mr. J. Webb, Great Grove Farm, Chertsey.

Warwickshire.

148. Mr. J. W. Lea, Thelsford, Warwick

150. Mr. J. W. Lea, Thelsford, Warwick

Wiltshire

152. Mr. A. Andrews, Little Langford, Salisbury

153. Mr. E. J. Ashford, Little Bathampton, Wylye, Bath

Worcestershire

158. Mr. G. Corbishley, Bricklehampton, Pershore

157. Mr. T. A. Butler, Chapel Farm, Redmarley.

Yorkshire

161. Mr. H. H. Staveley, North Dalton, Driffield.

Class XXII.—TECHNICAL EDUCATION PRIZE FOR AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

163. Cup, value £5 5s.—Messrs. Gartons, Limited, Warrington

Class XXIII.—THE PERMANENT NITRATE COMMITTEE'S PRIZES.

23. First prize, £25.—Bucks barley: Mr. J. Horwood, Manor Farm, Drayton, Beauchamp.

17. Second prize, £15.—Berks barley: Mr. A. S. Castle, Charlton, Wantage.

72. Third prize, £10.—Herts barley: Mr. R. E. Horwood, Upper Farm, Drayton Beauchamp.

85. C.—Lincs. barley: Mr. F. W. Shepherd Heywood, Holbeck Manor, near Hornastle.

Classes XXIV., XXV., XXVI., XXVII. await judges' decision

Class XXVIII.—THE BEST SHEAF OR SHEAVES OF BARLEY

174. First prize, £3 3s.—Essex barley: Messrs. E. W. King and Co., Coggeshall.

176. Second prize, £1 1s.—Essex barley: Mr. R. Scrabrook, Tolleshunt D'Arcy.

Class XXIX. awaits further examination.

In the following pages will be found a full list of the entries. The particulars given are most valuable.

English Entries (166) Grouped in Counties.

Bedford.

No	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed sown.	Manure used.	Date Sown.	Date cut.	Qnty. grown.	Cleaning Machinery.
										Qrs.	
1	Duncombe, G.	Cople, Bedford	— ; gravel	Barley	Swedes	Beds. 1899 Prize	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 21	Aug. 16, 17	25	Rainforth's
2	Duncombe, G.	Cople, Bedford	— ; gravel	Barley	Swedes	Beds. 1899 Prize	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 21	Aug. 16, 17	25	Rainforth's
3	Duncombe, G.	Cople, Bedford	— ; gravel	Barley	Swedes	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 14	Aug. 15	30	Rainforth's
4	Duncombe, G.	Cople, Bedford	— ; gravel	Barley	Swedes	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 14	Aug. 15	30	Rainforth's
5	Harrison, S.	Hill Farm, Renfold	Mixed; gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Sarle	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 5	Aug. 6	20	Boby's
6	Harrison, S.	Hill Farm, Renfold	Mixed; gravel	Wheat	Potatoes	Sarle	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 20	Aug. 9	20	Boby's
7	Harrison, S.	Hill Farm, Renfold	Mixed; gravel	Wheat	Potatoes	Sarle	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 20	Aug. 9	20	Boby's
8	Harrison, S.	Hill Farm, Renfold	Mixed; gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Sarle	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 5	Aug. 6	20	Boby's
9	Matthews, J.	Odell, Sharnbrook	Gravel; gravel	Barley	Turnips	Unknown	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 14	Aug. 13	60	Ordinary
10	Matthews, J.	Odell, Sharnbrook	Gravel; gravel	Barley	Turnips	Unknown	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 14	Aug. 13	60	Ordinary
11	Pedly, J.	Gt. Barford	Mixed; stony	Barley	Roots	Webb's Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 15	Aug. 15	50	—
12	Pedly, J.	Gt. Barford	Mixed; stony	Barley	Roots	Webb's Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 15	Aug. 15	50	—
13	Sanders, J.	Chellington, Sharnbrook	Loam; clay	Swedes	Wheat	Chevalier	Farmyard	March 6	Aug. 14	30	Gooch's
14	Sanders, J.	Chellington, Sharnbrook	Loam; clay	Swedes	Wheat	Chevalier	Farmyard	March 6	Aug. 14	30	Gooch's

Berkshire.

15	Bradfield, W. E.	Milton, Steventon	Clayey; gravel	Barley	Peans	Bradfield's Chev.	Farmyard	March 14	Mid. Aug.	25	Penney's
16	Castle, A. S.	Charlton, Wantage	Chalk loam; chalk marl	Wheat	Tares	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Nit. Soda	March 28	Aug. 18	30	Boby's
17	Castle, A. S.	Charlton, Wantage	Loamy sand	Wheat	Rye grass	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Nit. Soda	April 12	Aug. 22	25	Penney's
18	Downshire Marquis of (Ent. by J. Brown, Easthampstead Pk.)	Easthampstead Park Farm	Sandy loam; clay	Oats	Swedes	Carter's P. Prolific	Webb's	April 14	Aug. 25	20	Baker's
19	Frogley, Wm.	Westcot, Wantage	White land; chalk	Wheat	Trefoil	Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co's Amm	Mid. April	3rd week Aug.	80	Boby's
20	H. M. the Queen (Ent. by W. Tait, Steward)	Shaw Farm, Windsor	Clay; —	Wheat	Roots	Carter's P. Prolific	None	3rd wk. Feb.	2nd wk. Aug.	50	—
21	Kimber, J. E.	Kingston Bagpuize	Loam; clay	Wheat	Peas	Webb's Gol. Grain	Webb's and Sul.	March 6	Aug. 20	20	Gooch's
22	Shelton, W. S.	Maidenhead	Loam; chalk	Wheat	Fallow	Carter's	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 26	Aug. 11	25	—

English Entries (166) Grouped in Counties—*continued.*

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899	1898.	Seed sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qnty. Grown.	Cleaning Machinery.
Buckinghamshire.											
23	Horwood, J.	Drayton Beauchamp	Chalk loam; chalk stone	Clover	Barley	Carter's Prolific	Ohlen. and Nit. Soda	March 15	Aug. 14	25	Boby's
24	Horwood, R. E.	Drayton, Beauchamp	Chalk; clay	Barley	Wheat	Carter's Paris P. Prol.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 1	Aug. 16	40	Boby's
25	Major, A. C.	Ditton, Slough	Loam; blue clay	Wheat	Clover	Carter's P. Prolific	None	March 1	Aug. 25	40	Boby's
26	Wooster, E. L.	Bledlow	Chalk loam; chalk	Wheat	Beans	Carter's P. Prolific	—	End March	Mid. Aug.	50	Boby's
Cambridgeshire.											
27	Asplen, W. J.	Foxton, Royston	Chalky; clay	Beans	Wheat	Chevalier	Prentice Bros.	End March	End Aug.	25	Gooch
Cornwall.											
28	Roseveare, F. S.	Hepwell, Liskeard	—	Rape	Wheat	Garton's Standwell	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	April 17	Aug. 13	20	Brenton's
Devonshire.											
29	Adams, W. C.	Langd n Farm, Dawlish	Red gravel; sand	Grass	Barley	Jarman's Gol. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 27	Aug. 11	23	Boby's
30	Cann, Wm.	Berry Head Farm, Brixham	Limestone; loam	Wheat	Potatoes	Jarman's Gol. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 17	Aug. 10	20	Eaton's
31	Carpenter, J.	Alphington, Exeter	Red loam; red sandstone	Oats	Turnips	Garton's Standwell	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 31	Aug. 11	33	Boby's
32	Carpenter, J.	Alphington, Exeter	Red loam; red sandstone	Wheat	Clover, etc.	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 15	Aug. 14	25	Boby's
33	Gent, F.	Mosshayne, Pinhoe	Sand; loam	Wheat	Mangolds	Gent's Premier	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 27	Aug. 7	60	Rainforth's
34	Havel, F.	Pinn Court	Loamy; sand	Clover	Barley	Jarman's Gol. Chev.	—	March 13, 14	Aug. 15, 16	80	Boby's
35	Lee, W. G.	Penson Burton	Red sandstone	Clover	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 28	Aug. 15	20	Boby's
36	Loram, A. (Ent. by Collis and Potter, Alresford).	Alphington, Exeter	Red loam; red rock	Wheat	Ley	Garton's R. Standwell	—	March 8	Aug. 8	25	Boby's
37	Paul, P. (Ent. by W. H. Scruby and Co., Harlow).	Splatford	Red loam; red sandstone	Wheat	Turnips	Carter's Prolific	None	March 6	Aug. 8	45	Boby's
						Jarman's Gol. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's				
38	Pyle, E. S.	Botchell Farm, Dawlish	Rissle	Clover	—			March 27	Aug. 12	45	Boby's
39	Rew, H. G.	Whipton Barton	Red loam; red sandstone	Clover, etc.	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Nit. soda	March 8	Aug. 11	140	Boby's
40	Vosper, W.	Poltimore, Exeter	Red lime; red sand rock	Wheat	Clover	Vosper's Perfection	Nit. soda	March 7	Aug. 10	—	Boby's
41	Vosper, W.	Poltimore, Exeter	Red sand; red sand rock	Mangold	Clover	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 12	Aug. 20	50	Boby's
Dorsetshire.											
42	Cooper, R. H.	Wyke, Sherborne	Stone brash; —	Wheat	Clover ley	Jarman's Gol. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 24	Aug. 13	50	Boby's
43	Cooper, R. H.	Wyke, Sherborne	Stone brash; —	Mangolds	Wheat	Jarman's Gol. Chev.	Nitrate of soda	March 8	Aug. 15	60	Boby's
44	Gill, J. A.	Fleet Farm, Weymouth	Stone; limestone	Vetches	Turnips	Webb's New Burton	Nitrate of soda	March 9	Aug. 8	25	Colman's and Baker's
45	Parsons, J. & M.	Castle Farm, Sherborne	Stone; rock	Wheat	Mangolds	Webb's Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 12	Aug. 13	—	Baker's
46	Paul, W. W.	Bradford Abbas	Clay loam; lime-stone	Barley	Swedes	Chevalier	None	March 5	Aug. 13	100	Boby's
Elgin, N.B.											
47	Mantach, J., Exors.	Dundureas, Rothes	S'ndy loam; gravel	Green crop	Oats	Webb's Burton Malt	Nit. soda & Webb's	April 25	Sept. 2	25	Farmer's
Essex.											
48	Alexander, G.	North Eckendon	Clay; clay	Beans	Wheat	Burton's	Farmyard	April	2nd week Aug.	—	Boby's
49	Auston, E.	Ardleigh	Mixed; gravel	Mangolds	Oats	No name	W. Colchester's	2nd wk March	2nd week Aug.	—	Mason's
50	Boughtwood, C. H.	Gt. Burstead	Heavy; clay	Mangolds	Mangolds	E. W. King and Co's.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 2	Aug. 8	—	Boby's
51	Chillingworth, J. C.	Bradwell-on-Sea	Medium; loam	Mangolds	Wheat	1895 Champion	None	March 15	Aug. 17	20	Coleman's
52	Chillingworth, J. C.	Bradwell-on-Sea	Medium; loam	Rye and Swedes	Winter Oats	E. W. King and Co.'s Improved	None	March 10	Aug. 14	30	Coleman's
53	Fairhead, W. A.	Thorp-le-Soken	Heavy; clay	Mangolds	Wheat	E. W. King and Co.'s Improved	W. Colchester's	March	Aug.	50	Ward's
54	Fitch, J. A.	Frating	Light; R. gravel.	W. Turnips.	Oats	Scotch	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	April 7	Aug. 20	40	Ward's
55	Harvey, A.	Chelmsford	Medium; heavy	Mangolds	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Nit. Soda	March 24	Aug. 13	23	Ward's & Boby's
56	Lagden, J.	Shenfield, Brentwood	Mixed; loam	Wheat	Tares	Cham. Chev. '99	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 27	Aug. 23	20	Gooch's
57	Seabrook, R.	Tolleshunt D'Arcy	Mixed; —	Wheat	Red Clover	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Sulph. Ammonia	March 18	Aug. 10	20	Boby's
58	Sewell, W. (Ent. by N. H. Scruby and Co., Harlow)	Burnham-on-Crouch	Marsh; sandy	Wheat	Beans	Hallett's	None	End Feb.	Aug. 20	50	Boby's
59	Smith, J.	Little Clacton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
60	Smith, J.	Little Clacton	—	—	—	Garton's Standwell	—	—	—	—	—
61	Steele and Hurst	Southminster	Marsh; sandy loam	Wheat	Tares and Clover	Hallett's	None	Mid March	Mid Aug.	180	Gentry's
Gloucestershire.											
62	Butler, H.	Pountley Court, Newent	Sandy loam; sandstone	Wheat and Oats	Roots	Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co.	March 15, 16	Aug. 17	35	Boby's & Gooch's
63	Day, A.	Stratford-on-Avon	Loam; gravel	Potatoes	Barley	Webb's	Sulph. ammonia	March 27	Aug. 8	43	—
64	Day, A.	Stratford-on-Avon	Loam; gravel	Wheat	Peas	Webb's Chevalier	Webb's	March 15	Aug. 17	40	Boby's
65	Dowdeswell	Frampton-on-Severn	Loam; gravel	Clover	Wheat	Webb's Burton Malt	Farmyard	March 28	Aug. 2	30	—
66	Pope, W. W.	Newtown, Newent	Sandy loam; clay	Wheat	Clover	Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co.	March 6	Aug. 7	43	—
Hampshire.											
67	Lander, G. G.	Christchurch	Loam; gravel	Wheat	Clover	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Webb's	March 26	Aug. 16	—	Coleman's
68	Reeks, H.	Winkton	Red loam; gravel.	Wheat	Mangolds	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 26	Aug. 18	40	—
69	Seward, P. & C.	Sheet, Petersfield	Sand; sand	Swedes	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Salt	March 5	July 30	40	Boby's
70	Seward, P. & C.	Weston, Petersfield	Malm; malm rock	Swedes	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	—	March 8	Aug. 8	120	Boby's
71	Tuck, J. S.	Milford-on-Sea	Heavy; —	Swedes	Wheat	Carter's Goldthorpe	Jos. Fison & Co's	March	August	20	Ordinary
Hertfordshire.											
72	Horwood, R. E.	Drayton, Beauchamp	Chalk; ragg	Wheat	Clover	Carter's P. Winner	Nitrate of Soda	March 8	Aug. 20	45	Boby's
73	Palmer, G. & E.	Benger, Hertford	Loam; clay	Oats	Grass	Archer's	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 17	Aug. 15	25	Boby's
74	Pryor, T.	Botany Bay, Stevenage	Clay; chalk marl	Wheat	Peas	Archer's Stiff Straw	Nit. Soda & Phos.	March 23	Aug. 20	100	Boby's
75	Pryor, T.	Botany Bay, Stevenage	Clay; chalk marl	Turnips	Wheat	Archer's Stiff Straw	Nit. Soda & Phos.	March 31	Aug. 28	30	Boby's
76	Russel, J. R.	Buntingford	Loamy; chalk	Wheat	Fallow	Kin. Chev.	Prentice Bros.	March 30	Aug. 20	100	Boby's
Huntingdonshire.											
77	Chew, A.	Old Hurst, Huntingdon	Clay; clay	Rye	Wheat	Webb's Chevalier	Prentice Bros.	March 31	Aug. 17	—	Gooch's
78	Christmas, F.	Great Gransden, Sandy	Clay; clay	Fallow	Wheat	Hallet's	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 28	Aug. 25	150	Baker's
Kent.											
79	Cobb, H. M.	Higham	Sandy loam; chalk	Wheat	Potatoes	Webb's Kin. Chev.	None	March 22	Aug. 6	25	Boby's
80	Pell, J. A.	Horton Kirby	Chalk loam; chalk	Wheat	—	—	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 8	Aug. 15	27	Baker's
81	Plumptre, H. F. (Ent. by E. W. Amos, Steward.)	Goo lnestone	Loam; chalk	Barley	Turnips	Hallett's Chev.	None	April 3	Aug. 13	50	Boby's & Tett's
82	Pye, J. H.	Thorne, Gravesend	Loam; chalk	Barley	Oats	Webb's Burton Malt	Superphos.	March 6	July 26	50	Boby's
Leicestershire.											
83	Gilbert, W. H. R.	Aston Flamville,	Heavy; clay	Roots	Wheat	Webb's Burton Malt	Webb's	April 10	Aug. 28, 30	40	Corbett's
Lincolnshire.											
84	Briggs, L. J.	Priory Farm, Stamford	Strong; limestone	Oats	—	Chevalier	Nit. Soda	March 17	Aug. 13	20	Rainforth's
85	Heywood, F. W. S.	Holbeck Manor	S. loam; sand	Roots	Wheat	Garton's Invincible	Nit. Soda and salt	March 21	Aug. 17	65	Rainforth's
86	Heywood, F. W. S.	Holbeck Manor	S. loam; sand	Roots	Wheat	Garton's Standwell	Nit. soda and salt	March 28	Aug. 13	50	Rainforth's
Middlesex.											
87	Curtis, W. J.	Heathrow	Loam; gravel	Wheat	Potatoes	Carter's Prolific	None	March 23	August 6	20	Boby's
88	Merrick, W.	Shepperton	Sand; gravel	Peas, etc.	Barley	Standwell	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 9	July 18	70	Boby's
Montgomeryshire.											
89	Savage, R.	Penyborfa	Dry	—	Wheat	Clover	Webb's Burton Malt	—	April 26 Aug 13	20	—
Norfolk.											
90	Brown, G. B. M.	Heacham, Lynn	Heavy; clay	Barley	Mangolds	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison and Co.'s	March 28	Aug. 13	35	Boby's
91	Mallett, J. M.	Stiffkey	Mixed; chalk	Trefoil	Barley	Archer's	Fed off	March 23	Aug. 14	37	Baker's
92	Miles, C. G.	Mill Farm, Alburgh	Heavy; clay	Turnips	Wheat	Webb's Kinver	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 20	Aug. 24	—	Baker's
93	Miles, C. G.	Abbey Farm, Alburgh	Heavy; clay	Wheat	Clover	Wrinch's Premier	Prentice Bros.	March 22	Aug. 24	—	Baker's
94	Rushbrooke, A.	Roydon, Diss	Loam; gravel	Oats	Wheat	Chevalier	Prentice Bros.	Feb. 23	Aug. 8, 9	35	Turners

English Entries (166) Grouped in Counties—*continued.*

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qty. Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
				Northamptonshire.							
95	Dickens, J. T.	Barnack	Gravel ; gravel	Turnips	Barley	Webb's Gol. Grain	Webb's	March 2	Aug. 17	45	Baker's
96	Goodale, J.	Peakirk, Peterboro'	Gravel ; gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Standwell	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 30	July 31	45	Gooch's
97	Leonard, J.	Laughill, Thrapston	Stiff ; clay	Wheat	Mangolds	Webb's Burton Malt	Nit. Soda, &c.	March 24	Aug. 14	60	Baker's
98	Railton, J. S.	Evenley, Brackley	Limestone	Barley	—	Garton's Invincible	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 27	Aug. 17	20	—
				Oxfordshire.							
99	Castleman, F. G.	Kirlington	Lim'stone ; l'stone	Barley	Roots	Webb's Gol. Grain	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 19	Aug 18	40	Boby's
100	Castleman, J. I.	Kirlington	S'brash ; l'stone	Wheat	Clover	Carter's Prolific	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 12	Aug 23	20	Boby's & Gooch's
101	Castleman, J. I.	Kirlington	S'brash ; l'stone	Oats	Trefoil	Webb's Gol. Grain	Nit. Soda	Mar. 19	Aug. 21	30	Boby's & Gooch's
102	Partridge, G.	Kidlington	S'loam ; gravel	Clover	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Nit. Soda & Webb's	Mar. 9	Aug. 20	40	Boby's
				Rutlandshire.							
103	Beadsworth, W. T.	Tinwell	Light ; gravel	Wheat	Barley	Hallett's	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 13	Aug. 13	25	Boby's, Penney's
104	Beadsworth, W. T.	Tinwell	Light ; gravel	Mangolds	Potatoes	Jarman's	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 17	Aug. 7	20	Boby's, Penney's
105	Briggs, L. J.	Belmesthorpe	Light ; limestone	Wheat	Clover	Chevalier	Sul. Amm.	Mar. 15	Aug. 14	20	R inforth's
106	Pridmore, W. C.	South Luffenham	Creachy ; rocky	Barley	Turnips	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	Mar. 16	Aug. 10	40	Gooch's
107	Pridmore, W. C.	South Luffenham	Creachy ; rocky	Barley	Turnips	Webb's Kin Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 30	Aug. 22	40	Gooch's
				Shropshire.							
108	Horne, F.	Bank Farm, Claverley	Loam ; clay	Swedes	Wheat	Webb's	Webb's and Sul. Amm.	Mar. 1	Aug. 10	—	—
109	Preece, R.	Cressage, Shrewsbury	Light ; gravel	Clover	Barley	Webb's Burton Malt	Webb's	Mar. 1	Aug. 10	100	Boby's
110	Shirley, R. W.	Bancott	Loam ; clay	Wheat	Clover	Webb's Burton Malt	Farmyard	Apl. 17	Aug. 28	50	—
				Somersetshire.							
111	Cock, T.	Prior's Wood, Taunton	Stonebrash ; sand	Wheat	Mangolds	Jarman's Gold Chev.	None	March 20	Aug. 10	40	Boby's
112	Hembrow, T. H.	Bradford	Loam ; loam	Wheat	Beans	Carter's P. Prolific	Nitrate Soda	—	Aug. 21	20	Boby's
113	Lovelace, T.	Bossington, Taunton	Stonebrash ;	Oats	Swedes	E. W. King & Co's Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 28	Aug. 10	20	Boby's
114	Lovelace, T.	Bossington, Taunton	Stonebrash ;	Clover	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Webb's	April 6	Aug. 11	20	Boby's
115	Phillips, J. (Ent. by Spillers & Bakers, Ltd., Bristol.)	Minehead	Stonerush ; s'rush	Ley	Grass	Chevalier	None	1st wk. Mar.	Aug. 13	30 20	—
116	Rasole, T.	Court Place, Porlock	S'rush ; red grav.	Ley	Wheat	Carter's Prol. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 2	1st wk. Aug.	20	Boby's
117	Rasole, W. H.	Ellicombe, Dunster	R. loam ; gravel	Wheat	Ley	Carter's P. Prolific	None	1st wk. Mar.	1st wk. Aug.	25	Boby's
118	Ridler, M.	Sparkhayes, Porlock	Sandbrash ; —	Grass	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	None	March 9	Aug. 11	20	Boby's
119	Risdon, W.	Escott, Stogumber	R. sand ; s'stone	Ley	Barley	Carter's Prol. Chev.	None	4th wk. Mar.	2nd wk. Aug.	30	Boby's
120	Sanders, S. J.	Devonia, Chard	Loam ; clay	Turnips	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Sup. Phos. & Soot	March 21	Aug. 16		—
				Suffolk.							
121	Baker, H.	Baylham	Light ; gravel	[illegible]	Barley	Hallett's Pedigree	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 3	Aug. 1st 20	40	Baker's
122	Bigg — (Ent. by W. H. Scruby & Co., Harlow)	Glensford	Mixed ;—	Beany	Wheat	Sharpe's Kin. Chev.	None	Oct. 18	July 23	30	Boby's
123	Clark, E.	Ilketshall St. Lawrence	Heavy ; clay	Turnips	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	April 4	August 23	25	Baker's
124	Gostling, J. H.	Wissett	Mixed ; clay	Mangolds	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Prentice Bros.'	Mar. 9	August 13	20	—
125	Gray, A. E.	Wenhaston	Light ; mixed	Mangolds	Wheat	One and All Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 2	August 11	20	Boby's
126	Gray, A. E.	Wenhaston	Light ; sand	Turnips	Wheat	One and All Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 7	August 17	22	..
127	Gray, A. E.	Hinton	Mixed ; clay	Mangolds	Oats	Wrench's Premier	Jos. Fison & Co.'s Nit. Soda	Mar. 15	August 29	20	
128	Kemball, A. C.	Boxford	Mixed ; sand	Mangolds	Wheat	Webb's Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 10	August 17	20	Ward's
129	Kemp, J.	Healey, Ipswich	Mixed ; clay	Mangolds	Wheat	Webb's Gol. Grain	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 20	August 16	27	Phillips
130	Lawson, W. M.	Rattlesden	Clay ;—	Win. Oats	Wheat	—	Prentice Bros.'	April 3	August 15	-	Baker's
131	Pepper, W.	Coochithe	Light ; gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 31	August 15	25	Boby's
132	Pepper, W.	Coochithe	Light ; gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	April 5	August 21	25	..
133	Pepper, W.	Coochithe	Light ; gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Prentice Bros.'	April 5	August 21	25	..
134	Pepper, W. A.	Ent. by J. Cooper Ipswich.	Wherstead	Light ; sand	Wheat	Mangolds	Webb's Gol. Grain	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 9	August 5	30
135	Pratt, A.		Sproughton	Light ; crag	Root	Wheat	Webb's Gol. Grain	Packard's	Feb. 14	August 10	70
136	Pratt, A.		Sproughton	Mixed ; gravel	Wheat	Roots	Wrench's Premier	Packard's	Mar. 1	August 3	24
137	Pratt, C. J.		Melton	Mixed ; gravel	Mangolds	Wheat	Wrench's Premier	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Feb. 7	August 9	25
138	Ranson, H. O.	Sproughton	Mixed ;—	Fallow	Wheat	Wrench's Premier	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 7	August 11	20	
139	Stanford, C. F.	Campsia Ashe	Mixed ; loam	Root	Barley	Webb's Kinver	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mid. Mar.	1st week Aug	30	
140	Stanford, C. F.	Hacheston	Mixed ; loam	Root	Barley	Webb's Kinver	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mid. Mar.	Mid. "	30	
141	Thurman, R. J.	Semer, Ipswich	Mixed ; sand	Beet	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	W. Colchester's	Mar 14	July 28	20	Baker's
				Surrey.							
142	Brown, E.	Effingham	Light ; chalk	Wheat	Mangolds	Hallett's	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 27	Aug. 17	20	Gooch's
143	Webb, J.	Chertsey	Loam ; gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Carter's Goldthorpe	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 22	Aug. 2	40	Boby's
				Sussex.							
144	Brand, Hon. T. S.	Glynde, Lewes	Chalk ; chalk	Oats	Mangolds	Norfolk Chev.	None	Mar. 26	Aug. 11	25	Baker's & Le Butt's
145	Brand, Hon. T. S. (Entered by T. W. Pickard, Glynde)	Glynde, Lewes	Loam marl	Wheat	Peas	Webb's Kin. Chev.	None	April 14	Aug. 10	110	Baker's & Le Butt's
				Warwickshire.							
146	Day, A. E.	Stratford-on-Avon	Light ; gravelly	Peas	Barley	Webb's Chevalier	Nit. Soda	March	1st wk. Aug.	20	Boby's
147	Day, A. E.	Stratford-on-Avon	Light ; gravelly	Barley	Roots	Webb's Chevalier	Webb's	March	1st wk. Aug.	40	Boby's
148	Lea, J. W.	Thelsford, Warwick	Loam ; gravel	Barley	Clover	Webb's Chevalier	Webb's	Mid March	Early Aug.	20	Boby's
149	Lea, J. W.	Thelsford, Warwick	Loam ; gravel	Barley	Clover	Webb's Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mid March	Early Aug.	20	Boby's
150	Lea, J. W.	Thelsford, Warwick	Sandy ; gravel	Barley	Turf	Webb's Chevalier	Sul. Amm.	2nd wk. Mch.	Early Aug.	30	Boby's
151	Lea, J. W.	Thelsford, Warwick	Sandy ; Loam	Wheat	—	Webb's Chevalier	Nit. Soda	Early March	Early Aug.	50	Boby's
				Wiltshire.							
152	Andrews, H.	Little Longford	Light ; chalk	Kale	Win. Oats	Webb's Chevalier	Jos. Fison and Co.'s	April 14	August 24	24	Boby's
153	Ashford, E. J.	Little Bathampton	Light ; chalk	Wheat	Rape	Hallett's Pedigree	Farmyard	March 10	August 13	50	Boby's
154	Long, G.	Ogbourne St. Andrew	Loam ; chalk	Barley	Swedes	E. W. King & Co.'s Chevalier	Jos. Fison and Co.'s	April 7	August 15	20	Boby's
155	Woolcott, H.	Wanborough Plain	Loam ; chalk	Wheat	Fallow	Webb's Chevalier	None	April 4	August 20	—	Tasker's
				Worcestershire.							
156	Bomford, E. G. C.	Fladbury, Pershore	Loam ; gravel	Potatoes	Roots	Webb's "Chevalier"	Webb's	Feb. 14	July 27	100	Boby's
157	Butler, T. A.	Chapel Farm, Redmarley	Sand ; s'stone	Wheat	Vetches	Webb's "Kin Chev."	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 15	August 5	43	—
158	Corbishley, G.	Brickehampton	Loam ; gravel	Mangolds	Wheat	Webb's "Chevalier"	None	March 20	August 10	45	—
				Yorkshire.							
159	Coulson, J. A.	Watton Abbey, Beverley	Loam ; clay	Wheat	Seeds	Garton's Invincible	None	Mid. March	August	300	Stubbs
160	Smith, T. T.	New Malton	Limestone ; —	Wheat	Turnips	Webb's Chevalier	Jos. Fison and Co.'s	April 4	August 2	25	—
161	Staveley, H. H.	North Dalton	Light ; chalk	Turnips	Wheat	Goldthorpe	Jos. Fison and Co.'s	April	August	50	Baker's
162	Wagstaff, G.	Conisbro'	Limestone ; —	Turnips	Oats	Webb's	—	—	August 20	20	—

CLASS XXII.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION CUP.—(For a collection of samples illustrating growth, origin, and cultivation of new varieties, or of samples unfit for malting.)

163.—Gartons Limited, seed growers and merchants, Warrington, Lancashire.

Foreign Entries (10).

Entered by R. Liebmann, 31, Southwark Street, S.E.

CLASS IV.

164.—Sample of Bohemian barley, grown by Hauser and Sobotka, Vienna. Quantity grown, 1,000 qrs; cleaning machinery, own.

CLASS V.

165.—Sample of Smyrna barley, grown by Pierre Aliotti, Smyrna. Quantity grown, 5,000 qrs.; cleaning machinery, own.

166.—Sample of Ouchac barley, grown by Pierre Aliotti, Smyrna. Quantity grown, 5,000 qrs; cleaning machinery, own.

Entered by G. Paterson & Co., 30, Great St. Helens, E.C.

CLASS VIII.

167.—Sample of Asia Minor barley, grown by Ismail Effendi, Kutahieh. Soil, calcareous; subsoil, siliceous; manure, none; sown, February; cut, September; quantity grown, 3,000 qrs.; cleaning machinery, A. Aliotti's.

Entered by Spillers & Bakers, Limited, Cardiff.

CLASS V.

168.—Sample of Ouchac barley. Cleaning machinery, Boby's.

CLASS VI.

169.—Sample of Chilian barley. Seed sown, Chevalier; cleaning machinery, Boby's.

170.—Sample of Chilian barley. Seed sown, Chevalier; cleaning machinery, Boby's.

CLASS VIII.

171.—Sample of Smyrna barley; cleaning machinery, Boby's.

172.—Sample of Gaza barley; cleaning machinery, Boby's.

173.—Sample of Beyrout barley; cleaning machinery, Boby's.

CLASS XXVIII.

For best Sheaf or collection of Sheaves.

174.—King, E. W. & Co., growers, Coggeshall, Essex. Soil, mixed; subsoil, mixed; crops 1899, peas; 1893, peas; seed sown, E. W. King & Co.'s "Gol. Chevalier"; manure, Odam's and farmyard; sown, March 16; cut August 13.

175.—Pedley, J., grower, Great Barford, Beds. Soil, mixed; subsoil, chalk; crops 1899, barley; 1898, roots; seed sown, Webb's "Chevalier"; manure, Joseph Fison & Co.'s; sown, middle March; cut, middle August.

176.—Seabrook, R., grower, Tolleshunt D'Arcy, Essex. Soil, mixed; crops, 1899, mangolds; 1898 Lucerne; seed sown Webb's "Kin. Chevalier"; sown, March 13; cut, August 14.

The Hop Competition.

By Lupulin.

English hop growers have no other such favourable opportunity as that provided annually in this exhibition for comparing and testing the results of their labours and experiments, and for bringing their products under the notice of the consumers, into whose possession their growths must ultimately be conveyed. A large display of our hops, which occupy an equally important position in the brewery with barley, might therefore be naturally expected, but although we find the hop plant figuring conspicuously as an ornament to the official catalogue, it is disappointing to meet with so few exhibits in

one special section. This year there are only 41 entries, and although a small increase has taken place from the exhibition of 1899, it is evident that so small a number cannot be accepted as adequately representing an industry in which nearly 3,000 farmers are engaged in the cultivation of upwards of 50,000 acres of hop land.

It is hardly within my province to discuss here the reasons which may be advanced in explanation of such a meagre result, but I cannot help comparing our section with that of malting and seed barley, which, as stated in the preface to the catalogue, "has for years past formed one of the salient features of the exhibition, and continues to be regarded with the keenest interest." Here we find 166 entries for English growers, and I am not surprised at this result when I know of the special attention that has been given to the competition by competent experts, and when I glance down the long list of prizes offered. In the hop section we ought to secure at least 100 entries, and I believe this could be achieved under conditions similar to those which have brought about the success of the sister exhibition.

But I have rather to deal with the exhibits actually in evidence, and at the outset may say that, taking them as a whole, I am not able to describe them as equal in quality, and attractiveness to those of previous years. There is, with few exceptions, an absence of brightness in the samples, which, by the way, is somewhat emphasised by the unfavourable light to which they are subjected in the Arcade Gallery. Several of the samples are also tied tightly with bands of twine, thus being deprived of all elasticity, and thereby losing one of the chief characteristics sought for. I do not know who can be responsible for this manifest error, but it is clear that no samples can be done justice to under such conditions. The practice of judging from different samples from those placed on the exhibition counters deprives visitors of the advantage of seeing the hops from the same point of view as the judges. Therefore, criticism becomes difficult, and while I have not the slightest reason for the suggestion of any partiality in the judging, it would be most satisfactory to be able to confirm it in each case, which, with such different opportunities of observation, it is almost impossible to do.

The gold medal (the champion prize of the hop world) is awarded to Mr. Sydney Neame, of Selling, for his exhibit in Class 1 (East Kent Goldings, suitable for pale ales). This highly-honoured sample is peculiarly bright, very aromatic, full of condition, smart, and well-finished. But it appears to me to be rather deficient in management, and certainly the cones were more broken than they should be in a perfect sample. In comparison with the samples subamitted by Mr. W. F. Pudge, Bishop's Froome, in Class 6, I venture to suggest that Mr. Neame hardly substantiated his claim to the highest award. Mr. Pudge's hops fully sustain his previous reputation as a painstaking grower and manager. Uniformly whole throughout the bulk (hardly a single cone being broken), of delicate and even colour of palest green graduated to rich primrose, the management and finish showing a bright face and an exceptionally thick side, these samples seemed to me to stand out above all their competitors, and I venture to think that my opinion will be confirmed by many other critics during the week. Hypercriticism might suggest that the hops had been too highly pressed in the pockets, and that therefore they were shown to undue advantage. But, putting this aside as comparatively immaterial, the fact of super-excellence remains indisputable, and I am glad to see that it is recognised by the award to Mr. Pudge of both first and second prizes in his class.

The first prize in Class 2 (Mid Kent pale ale Goldings) is taken by Mr. E. J. Goodwin, Wateringbury, with a fine sample, fairly whole and of good colour.

In Class 3 (East and Mid Kents ordinary) three prizes were awarded. The first to Mr. W. Lillywhite, Thanington; the second to Mr. W. Rogers, Maplescombe; and the third to Mr. R. H. Alexander, Gordhurst. Mr. Lillywhite's is an attractive sample of bold hops, of good greenish colour, showing a thick side.

Three prizes were also awarded in Class 4 (Weald of Kent and Sussex) to Mr. P. Manwaring, Breachley; Mr. A. Roberts, Beckley; and Mr. Gilbert Eames, Midhurst, the last-named also taking first prize in Class 5. The whole of these hops are of good quality, but call for no special remark except that I think a little less drying would have improved Mr. Eames's sample in Class 5, and that a better sample might have been drawn and presented in more attractive form.

I have already noticed the Midland Counties exhibit, and therefore need only mention further in this connection that Mr. J. F. Twinberrow, Suckley, Worcester, carried off the third prize in this class with a sufficiently good sample to encourage him to exhibit next year, when he will doubtless come nearer to the front.

Arriving at Class 8 (Farnham and Country Farnham), in which such splendid specimens were shown, and where the gold medal found a claimant last year, I must confess to disappointment. Messrs. Seward (Weston), Mr. J. Chalcraft (Aldersnapp), and Mr. J. Brigent (Alton), take the three prizes awarded, and although there is not much fault to be found with the quality and management, the hops do not come up to the high standard established by the samples shown in 1899.

The luncheon speeches do not provide me with any copy, as, though the judges of hops were toasted with their *confrères* in other sections, there was, unfortunately, no response by any representative of the industry. Speakers in the interests of barley-growing took credit for the fact that thereby the plough is kept going in England, as the consumption of beer and whisky is annually increasing. But although no word of encouragement and commendation was uttered on behalf of hops, I would emphasise the fact that our industry employs more labour and occupies more capital per acre than any other branch of agriculture, and therefore is deserving of at least equal recognition, especially in a gathering whose *raison d'être* is the promotion of the interests of brewers, the only customers the hop farmer can look for.

Annexed is a list of the judges:—

Hop Judges.

Chairman: Burnett Tabrum, J.P. (Tabrum and Son), London. Factors: D. H. Gaskain (D. H. Gaskain and Co.), London; H. E. Jones (Wests, Jones and Co.), London; Stuart Neame (Wild, Neame and Co.), London; Bertram Noakes (J. T. Noakes and Co.), London. Merchants: C. Oscar Gridley (Cattley, Gridley and Co.), London; Lionel H. Hanbury (Wood, Field and Hanbury), London; J. Hopkins Meredith (J. Hopkins Meredith and Co), Worcester; Edward Webb (E. Webb and Sons), Wordsley, Stourbridge.

SOCIETIES.

Hunters' Improvement Society: The Question of Army Remounts.

Mr. J. C. Straker, M.F.H. (president) occupied the chair at a Council meeting of this Society held on Tuesday at 12, Hanover Square, London, W. On the motion of the President, it was unanimously resolved to tender to Lady Simpson the sincere condolence of the Council with the severe loss which she had sustained by the death of their late colleague, Sir Henry Simpson, who had been a member of the Society since March, 1885—in fact, was one of its original members, and had occupied a seat on the Council by election on three separate occasions.

Finance Committee.

Mr. C. W. Tindall (chairman) presented the financial statement, indicating that the balance at the bank on the current account was £144 13s.; receipts since last meeting, £102 16s. 6d.; arrears of subscription, £44 2s.; accounts for payment, £91 19s. 2d. This report was adopted.

Editing Committee.

Hon. Alexander Parker (vice-chairman) reported that the Committee had accepted the entries of the following mares, which had been inspected by members of the Society in accordance with the rules:—

Mare	Owner.
Alice	Henry Wickham.
Clover	C. Anstee.
Ladysmith	S. Lee Smith.
Polly Glint	Norman Robinson.
Quadroon	Earl of Powis.
Shamrock	John Kerr.
Stackallan	W. T. Bennett.
Sylvia	W. Henry Barber.
Thurese	Mrs. C. A. Keith-Falconer

The various letters and suggestions which had been received from Mr. W. Phillpotts-Williams urging the establishment of a national stud managed by the Hunters' Improvement Society at the expense of the Government had been printed and distributed to the Committee since the last meeting of the Council, and had been considered that day, and the Committee unanimously agreed that the suggestions put forward were not such as the Society could support.

In the discussion following the presentation of this report several members of the Council pointed out that the name of the Society had been publicly associated with the scheme, though this was the first occasion on which the Council could officially disclaim their connection with the suggestions put forward by Mr. Phillpotts-Williams. In their opinion the scheme was unworkable and very expensive.

Horse Show Committee.

Hon Alexander Parker (Chairman) stated that the dates of the 1901 show would be March 12th to 15th. The schedule of prizes had been carefully revised by the Committee, who recommended that there should be a class for thoroughbred colts, three years old, and another class for registered hunter sires, three years old and upwards, with three premiums of £10 each in each class, and £5 to the breeder of the best registered hunter sire. They recommended no alteration in the young stock classes, with the one exception that the two special prizes of £10 should be given for the best colt or gelding and for the best filly respectively. The classes for mares in the riding section should be grouped together, one for four-year-old mares and one for five and six-year-old mares, with a special prize for the best mare in these two classes. The classes for five-year-old mares and geldings, capable of carrying different weights, would be retained.

As strong representations had been made to the Committee upon the practice of covering the horses with canvas during the time that the show was open, the stewards were deputed to enforce the rule, which should in future be printed in red both in the schedule and on the entry form.

The veterinary and judging arrangements would remain the same as at the last show. The Committee had further considered the nomination of judges, etc., sent in by the council, and presented their recommendations thereon.

A statement showing the list of awards of the Society's medals at associated shows during 1900 indicated that they had been distributed as follows:

Scheme A	Gold	Brood mares	26
Scheme B	Gold	Brood mares (one-day shows)	13
Scheme C	Silver	Fillies	53
Scheme D	Silver	Colts, geldings, and fillies	10
Scheme E	Silver	Qualified hunters	13

As regards the arrangements for 1901 the Committee recommended that schemes A, B, and C be continued on the same lines, while to draft the conditions of offer in accordance with the Council's resolution of April 5th last, they suggested that under D an extra silver medal be given for the best hunter colt three years old and upwards, registered in the Hunter Stud Book, and that scheme E should be so worded as to permit the produce of all thoroughbred stallions and registered hunter sires to compete for such medals. This report was adopted.

Army Remounts.

The Chairman presented the following report of the Special Committee, which, after a very lengthy meeting on the previous day, had been drafted for the Council's consideration and approval:—

1. We are of opinion that the Queen's Premium horses in the United Kingdom should be considerably increased under the auspices of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding, if the Commission see their way to recommend the same.

2. The Government should agree to purchase in each year such animals as they may approve, at three years old off in September.

3. On September 1st the selected animals would become the property of the Government, who would pay the owner £35, and he in return would agree to keep the animal for one year, more or less, at the rate of £10 per annum, the animal to be kept in proper condition. Should the animal die the Government would sustain the loss, but the owner would in that case not be paid for the keep. Should the animal not be kept in proper condition the Government would reserve the right to reduce the amount of £10 paid for keep accordingly. Should a veterinary surgeon be called in the Government would bear the expense.

4. They should determine upon certain shows or other fixed places conveniently situated for the inspection and purchase of such horses (undocked) at the fixed price of £35.

5. Further, the Government should distribute among the farmers of the United Kingdom the cast mares from both artillery and cavalry, free from hereditary disease and suitable for breeding purposes, subject to the following conditions.

6. The mares to remain the property of the Government, being lent for breeding purposes, the Government to pay the service fee to a premium stallion or selected sire, and the Government to have the refusal of the produce at three years old off, all such as pass to be taken at the fixed minimum price of £35 on September 1st in each year.

7. That small prizes of £5, £4, £3, £2, and £1, according to the number of entries, should be given at the country shows for the best remounts at three years off, and that the Government should be able to claim all animals shown in these classes.

8. The Hunters' Improvement Society will be willing to assist the scheme in every possible way, and consider that it would further the object of encouraging the breeding of horses suitable for the Army, and would bring the Remount Department and breeders in direct communication with each other.

9. The Special Committee considered that any scheme of breeding horses or of establishing large remount depots would be much more costly to the Government than the scheme above suggested by the Committee, and further, that whereas Government breeding establishments would discourage farmers in breeding for the Army, the latter would encourage them to do so. The Committee think that unless something of this sort be done that there will be fewer and fewer available horses bred every year in this country, and in case of war breaking out there would be no remounts obtainable at hand, when, perhaps, there might be difficulties in getting them from over the seas.

The Chairman said that the Committee had been carefully constituted at the meeting of the Royal Show at York, and was fully representative of the military and tenant-farmer interests on the Council, with the result that the report now presented, after a meeting lasting the whole of yesterday, was eminently practicable, being beneficial to the producer—the tenant-farmer—while providing the Government with a scheme enabling them to secure an adequate supply of remounts at a minimum of trouble and expense. The advantages claimed for these suggestions were:—

(a) The Government would be brought in direct contact with the tenant farmer.

(b) Who would receive the full price for his animal.

(c) With the opportunity of securing one of the small prizes, enhancing the value of the animal to him.

(d) By utilising the existing shows for the inspection and purchase of these remounts the necessity for creating any new machinery for bringing the horses together would be obviated, and would save the Government any trouble in the matter.

(e) Lastly, but most important, the scheme would enlist the sympathy and support of the British tenant farmer in the production of suitable remounts upon which the Government could draw at a moment's notice in the event of our being involved in a big Continental war.

The Secretary was instructed to convey the suggestions to the Secretary of State for War through the Inspector-General of Remounts.

Medals at National Shows.

On the motion of Sir R. D. Green-Price it was unanimously resolved to offer two gold medals for the best hunter filly not exceeding three years old, exhibited at the 1901 shows of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, and two gold medals for the best hunter filly not exceeding three years old, and for the best two-year-old colt by an Irish regis-

tered thoroughbred stallion out of a mare registered in the Hunter Stud Book, exhibited at the summer show of the Royal Dublin Society.

General Meeting in Dublin.

The suggestion made at the general meeting of members in Dublin that a joint committee be appointed to consider the question of the Society's further encouragement of suitable stallions in Ireland was considered, together with a letter from Mr. W. T. Trench, and as the questions raised were of great importance, it was deemed desirable to refer the whole subject to the general meeting of members next March.

Election of Councilman.

It was resolved to invite Mr. R. Clayton Swan to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. William Wright, and the Council then adjourned till Thursday, December 13th.

English Jersey Cattle Society.

A Council meeting of this Society was held at 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, on Wednesday last.

A letter was read from Mr. H. S. Redfield, of the American Jersey Cattle Club, submitting proof of proposed alterations in the U.S.A. bye-laws regarding the entry of imported cattle, and inquiring as to the methods adopted for the identification of cattle imported from Jersey into this country. The secretary was instructed to reply to Mr. Redfield as to the methods and means of identification at present in use between England and the Island of Jersey. A communication was also directed to be sent to the secretary of the Royal Jersey Agricultural Society.

Mr. Mathews, on behalf of the General Purposes Committee, reported that they had examined the statement of funds. The balance of the current account at the bank amounted to £380 12s. 2d. Expenses in connection with the butter test prize money, etc., were recommended for payment.

Printed reports of the Society's butter tests held during the year were laid on the table, and elicited a lengthy and interesting discussion as to the comparative yields of cows exhibited at the various shows. It was finally decided to offer the following prizes for butter tests in 1901.—

	1st prize.	2nd prize.	3rd prize.	Special butter prize.
Royal Jersey Agricultural Society	Gold medal or £10	Silver medal	Bronze medal	£1
*Bath and West of England Society (two classes, open to all breeds):—				
Cows under 900 lb. live weight	£10	£3	£2	£1
Cows 900 lb. live weight and over	£10	£3	£2	
Royal Counties Society ..	Gold medal or £10	Silver medal & £5	Bronze medal & £3	£1
Tunbridge Wells Society	Do.	Do.	Do.	£1
Tring Agricultural Society	Do.	Do	Do.	£1
London Dairy Show	Do.	Do.	Do.	£1

* Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be given for the three best Jerseys in the test eligible for the Herd Book.

Mr. George Murray-Smith, of Gumley Hall, Leicestershire, was proposed a member of Council to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Ernest Mathews becoming President.

The date of the next Council meeting was left to be arranged by the Secretary in February.

Glasgow Agricultural Discussion Society.

The annual meeting of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Agricultural Discussion Society was held on Wednesday in the society's office, Hope Street, Mr. Thomas Fulton, Shields, Govan, presiding. The secretary (Mr. A. MacNeillage) submitted the annual report, which stated that the course of lectures last session had been very successful, and were well attended. There was a credit balance of £2 0s. 10d. The report also referred to the loss sustained by the society through the death of Mr. Alexander Wilson, Langfaulds, a former president of the society, and one who had been a leading member for many years. The report was adopted. On the motion of the chairman, Mr. Robert Howie, Netheraulds House, was unanimously elected president for the ensuing year. Mr. Fulton, the retiring president, was elected a vice-president.

Donington Fair.—This fair, which is one of the most important in the southern part of Lincolnshire, being noted for a very fine stamp of cart horses, was held on Wednesday. Dealers were present from London and many of the provincial centres. The best of the draught horses were in demand at prices ranging from 50gs. to 70gs. Strong horses suitable for van purposes were less difficult to sell, and some of these made up to 40gs. Drive ponies, £6 to £10; good foals, £14 to £18. In the beast fair business was not over brisk. There was a nice show of stores. Steers and heifers, £13 to £15; drapes, £10 to £13; and young stock, £5 to £7 per head. There was a demand for in-calvers; heifers, to £17 10s.; cows, £19 to £22.

LITERARY NOTICES.

French Agriculture.

Agricultural industry in France has made considerable advances during the century which is drawing to its close. Great changes are observable in practice owing to improvements in machinery which continue to be forthcoming. There has also been an increase in the yield of produce per acre, due to enlightened cultivation, the more general use of manures, and better appliances. A volume* which puts on record these changes cannot fail to be both interesting and useful. M. Convert has done this work well in the book under notice, which forms one of Baillière and Sons' "Encyclopédie Industrielle." The volume is divided into four parts, which are conveniently arranged for study. The first is devoted to climate and soil and the division of land into holdings, with explanations of the manner in which it is cultivated, either directly by the owners, by ordinary tenants, or on the metoyage system. In the latter mode the produce is divided between the owner and occupier of land, but it is less followed than formerly, only one-tenth of the land being now farmed in this manner. On the other hand, the owners, large and small, cultivate more than half the land. Details are given of the value of the land, the agricultural population, wages of workers on the soil, the cost and extent of machinery, implements, live stock, and manures. The second part of the volume treats of cereal and potato cultivation, and gives statistics relating to the export of wheat, also notes on legislation in France respecting cereals, and a history of the price of wheat. The "plantes industrielle," such as the sugar beet, colza, hemp, flax, hops, chicory, coffee, olive, and vine are similarly dealt with. In the last section are given particulars of farm animals, dairy and meat supply, and the foreign trade in cattle, as well as notes on wool and silk. The volume is a very complete and interesting account of French agriculture, and can be studied with advantage by all interested in land questions. M. Convert may be congratulated on having produced a most valuable book.

The pastoral progress of New South Wales has been much less satisfactory than the agricultural. The latest returns in regard to sheep show a total of 36,314,000; these figures are for December, 1899, and it is hoped that the numbers will not be any further reduced, as, with one exception, they are lower than those of any year since 1880. The maximum number of sheep in the colony was 61,831,000 in 1891, every year since showing a large reduction. The number of horses at the present time is 480,700—a much smaller total than in any of the previous nine years. The number of cattle is 1,883,000, which is considerably below the average of the past ten years, but so great has been the attention paid to dairying that the value of the production from cattle is yearly increasing. The number of dairy cows in the colony is now 416,000, and the weight of butter produced 31,483,600lbs., and of cheese 3,245,300lbs. In spite of the reduced number of sheep, wool has maintained its high position among the exports of the colony. Included in the total value of domestic produce exported in 1899 is wool valued at £10,020,495.

The Agent-General for New South Wales has also favoured us with a copy of a second and enlarged edition of an illustrated brochure on the New South Wales contingents to South Africa. It contains a number of portraits of the officers and men, and also of the nurses who accompanied them, whilst there is a "Roll Call of Honour," being the names of every officer and man from the colony who took part in the war in South Africa.

The Essex Technical Instruction Committee have just issued a report on the visit of the Essex farmers' party to Denmark during May and June of this year. The report was compiled by Mrs. S. Dymond from notes taken during the trip by members of the party, from manuscripts of the addresses delivered, and from information supplied by the Danish experts and others. There are several illustrations reproduced from photographs.

The West of Scotland Agricultural College has lately published a bulletin giving reports on its experiments on the manuring of potatoes carried out in 1899, written by Professor R. Patrick Wright, F.H.A.S., F.R.S.E., and a report on the influence of manures on the quality of potatoes, by Professor John H. Paterson, Ph.D.

The 1901 edition of Zadkiel's Almanac has now been published. This almanac, which is in its seventy-first year, is so well known that it needs no describing here. The latest edition is similar to its immediate predecessors, being full of useful tables, forecasts of the weather, "Voice of the Stars," and "astronomical phenomena." It is published by Messrs. Glen and Co., 14, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

* "L'Industrie Agricole." F. Convert, Professeur d'Economie rurale a l'Institut national agronomique. Paris: Librairie J.-B. Bailliere et Fils, 19, Rue Hautefeuille. 1901

NEWS NOTES.

Gored to Death by a Bull.—A farm labourer named Greensides, while crossing a field near Hull on Monday, was gored by a bull, which inflicted such terrible injuries that the man lived only half an hour after the attack.

The Crossley Gas Engine Company, Manchester, have lately issued a new catalogue and price list of their famous gas engines, in which considerable alterations both as to powers of the engines and in the prices are described. The company have entirely revised the whole of their gas engine designs and patterns, and the changes are considered to make them the finest engines of their kind in existence.

News has just come to hand of the death of Mr. John G. Springer, secretary of the American Southdown Sheepbreeders' Association. Mr. Springer died very suddenly from apoplexy, and he was actively engaged in his duties on the day of his death. He did a great deal of good work for the Association, and it will be difficult to fill his place, whilst he will also be greatly missed socially, as he was very popular.

Failure of a Notts Farmer.—At the Official Receiver's Office, Lincoln, on Monday, the first meeting was held of the creditors of Arthur Felix Gross, of Tiln Farm, Hayyton, Notts, farmer and milk dealer. The debtor's statement of affairs showed gross liabilities £6,720 4s., and a deficiency of £5,634 4s. 11d. was shown. The debtor attributed his failure to "bad seasons, loss on resale of beasts, heavy trade expenses last winter, and legal expenses." It was unanimously resolved that the estate remain in the hands of the Official Receiver for administration, and the debtor was directed to furnish an account of his transactions during the last six months.

Braintree Market Sold.—The Urban District Council of Braintree have concluded negotiations for the purchase of the market rights and tolls, together with the freehold of the market square and fair field, for the sum of £4,500. An order had been issued by the Board of Agriculture closing the market after October 1, but an extension of time has been granted to enable the Council to complete the purchase and provide proper accommodation for cattle. The Charter of the market dates from the reign of King John, and for many years the manorial rights have been in the hands of a local auctioneer. It is proposed to convert the spacious field in the centre of the town, on which fairs are held, into a public recreation ground.

The French Wine Harvest.—Though in the Bordeaux and Médoc districts the wine harvest is declared to be one of the best and most prolific of the century, very disheartening reports have been received from the Bourgogne country and the valley of the Rhone. According to a message from Paris on Tuesday there are storms in various districts daily, which are the cause of incalculable damage. These storms, though of short duration, are of extreme severity, and at Salces three horses, which were harnessed to carts loaded with grapes, were struck by lightning and killed. The *Temps* correspondent telegraphs that the disaster is general. Half the grape crop is spoiled by the rain which also prevents the threshing of the corn. The vine people have been unable to plant their autumn seeds, and their potato crop has also almost entirely been spoiled. The correspondent declares that the misery in the Eastern Pyrenees will be very great this winter. The wine growers of Auvergne, Bourgogne, the Rhone, and Saone have petitioned the Minister of War to release the Reservists from their annual training as they are extremely short-handed owing to the difficulties caused by the bad weather. The Minister has promised to accede to their desire as far as is compatible with the exigencies of the military service.

Hull Fair.—The annual fair at Hull was commenced on Thursday, when Mr. H. Swallow sold about seventy Lincoln longwool shearling rams. Mr. C. M. Johnson's (Kingsthorpe) rams fetched an average of nearly £7; ten rams belonging to Mr. Tom Sasswell (Pointon) sold at about £12 each; and Mr. Swallow's lot realised an average of £8 11s. Fifteen rams belonging to Mr. W. Watson brought £7 each, and a number from Brampton Brian, the property of Mr. Hughes, reached an average of £11 1s. each. Breeding ewes, the property of Mr. H. Fawcett, sold at 44s. each, and Lincoln longwool gimmer sheep realised an average of 52s. each. Mr. Robert Leonard sold forty shearlings belonging to Mr. G. M. Gale at an average of 5½gs. Mr. Richard Hornsey disposed of twenty-five shearling rams, the property of Mr. G. M. Hayles (Manor House), at an average of 56s. each. Mr. George Taunton sold fifteen shearling rams for Mr. Robert Taylor (Withernwick) at about £5 8s. each, and six shearlings for Mr. R. Richardson at about £5 each. At the horse fair there was a large show and a very good demand. From £25 to £30 was readily paid for some good Hackney mares and geldings, and foals realised £8 8s. to £10 10s.; useful cart horses made £18 to £25, and some good two-year-old colts £20 to £24. A lot of inferior horses were sold at £5 to £10.

MOLASSINE

FOOD FOR HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, etc.

Replacing an equal quantity of Fodder.

A STAPLE FOOD AND CONDIMENT COMBINED. **Patented in all the principal Countries in the World.**

ANNUAL CONSUMPTION, 1,200,000 CWT.

Manufactured by Messrs. Henry Tate & Sons, Sugar Refineries, London and Liverpool, exclusively for the Molassine Company, Ltd. Introduced into the Imperial and Royal Stables of **GERMANY** and **RUSSIA.** It is adopted throughout **THE GERMAN ARMY,** and during the few months it has been on the Market in the United Kingdom it has met with a **most favourable reception,** which is evidenced by the **many Repeat Orders** we are daily receiving, and assurances of its **permanent adoption.**

MOLASSINE contains 36 to 40 per cent. of **Sugar,** and is a combination of **Sugar, Treacle,** or **Syrup with Vegetable substances.** It is guaranteed to consist exclusively of natural organic materials.

RESULTS OF FEEDING WITH MOLASSINE.

IT STIMULATES APPETITE, IMPROVES DIGESTION. GRIPE AND DIARRHŒA COMPLETELY DISAPPEAR.

HORSES. From 2 to 4 lbs. per day.

CATTLE. 8 lbs. per day.
SHEEP. 1½ lbs. per day.

PIGS. Per 100 lbs. of their own weight, from 1 lb. to 1½ lbs.

MILCH COWS. 5 lbs. per day.

After a few weeks' feeding are in the **best condition,** and show **strength, highest working power,** and a **smooth** and **glossy coat.**

Thrive quickly, and especially in the last period of fattening, take willingly to their food, and thus **become weeks sooner ready for the market. The meat is of best quality.**

Eat Molassine greedily. The disagreeable smell of the Pig-Stye disappears, the **animals are in the best health.**

After 8 to 10 days' feeding give more milk, richer in cream.

MOLASSINE replaces an Equal Quantity of FODDER.

MOLASSINE packed in bags of 1½ cwt. each.

rails, Sugar Works of Messrs. **HENRY TATE and SONS, SILVERTOWN, ESSEX.**

Price per ton, £6 15s. Price per cwt. £0 7s. 6d.

For buyers of regular weekly or monthly supplies we shall be pleased to quote special prices.

WINTER STOCKS SHOULD BE ORDERED WITHOUT DELAY.

For samples and prices apply to The MOLASSINE COMPANY, Ltd, 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C.

First Class Representatives and Distributors throughout the United Kingdom wanted.

"WORTH ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD."—*Prof. Buckman.*

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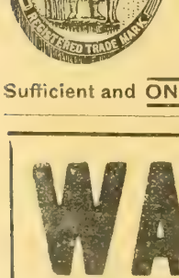
HERBAL TONIC or FLOCKMASTER'S FRIEND.

("SANTOVIN,"—*New Name Registered to prevent fraudulent substitution.*)

A SURE REMEDY AND PREVENTIVE

For Tapeworms, Stomach and Intestinal Worms, Husk or Hoose, Fevers, Scour or Diarrhœa, Dysentery, and Debility in Sheep and Lambs.



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STEPHEN PETTIFER & SONS, SHEEP MEDICINE SPECIALISTS,

MALMESBURY, WILTS.

Of all Chemists or direct. £1 worth Carriage Paid.

CAUTION.—Beware of Imitations. Note particularly Firm's Name. ONLY ADDRESS *and* TRADE MARK (*Roman Shepherd with Sheep, as here represented*).

Sufficient and ONLY Address—**PETTIFERS, MALMESBURY.**

THE MOST SUCCESSFUL MILL OF THE CENTURY.

S. CORBETT & SONS'

"PATENT PLYMOUTH" ROYAL FIRST PRIZE

GRINDING MILLS

TO THE FRONT AGAIN!

HAVING BEATEN

BARFORD & PERKINS, H. BAMFORD & SONS, WOODROFFE & CO., NICHOLSON & SONS, BLACKSTONE & CO., R. A. LISTER & CO., E. R. & F. TURNER, WOOD, & CO., C. BURRELL & SONS, J. WILLIAMS & SONS, ANDREWS & CO., AND OTHERS, AT THE GREAT R.A.S.E. TRIALS AT PLYMOUTH 1890, being the **MOST SEVERE AND EXHAUSTIVE TRIALS** Ever Held at Home or Abroad.

They will Grind into the Finest Meal all kinds of Grain, Chemical, Vegetable or Mineral Substances.

MADE IN ALL SIZES, to suit Hand, Horse, Gas, Water or Steam Power.

PRICES from **£4 5s.** upwards, CARRIAGE PAID.
Oat Crushers, from £2 15s. each.

PRICE LISTS and full particulars free on application to the

INVENTORS' PATENTEES, AND SOLE MAKERS,

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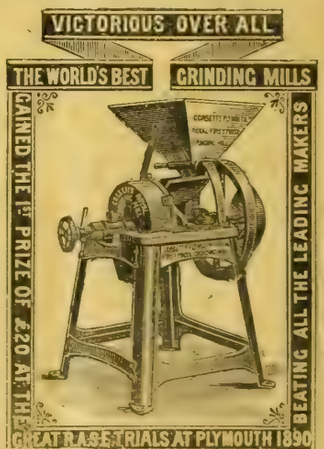
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Acknowledged as the Best Feeding Cake in the Market for all Classes of Stock, and especially the Young.

Prices, samples, and particulars free on application to Ayre Bros., The Avenue, High Street, Hull, or to the

WATERLOO MILLS CO., LIMITED, HULL.

Published by the Proprietor, at the Offices, 1, Essex Street Strand, London, W.C.—October 22, 1900. Sole Colonial Agents—Robert A. Thompson and Co., 189, Pitt Street, Sydney; 362, Little Collins Street, Melbourne; 7, King William Street Adelaide; Edward Street, Brisbane; 3, Church Street, Capetown.

The

Mark Lane Express

and

Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXIII. No. 3605. LONDON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1900. THIRTY-TWO PAGES PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June, 1894.)

PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.

HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, ESQ., Beltring, Kent.

SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.

CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the COUNCIL of the CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE will be held (by permission of the Society of Arts) at the House of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, on Tuesday, November 6, 1900, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

Members of Council representing either the Central Chamber or Associated Chambers are requested to attend.

Subscribing Members of the Central Chamber are invited to be present, and may speak by permission of the Chairman, but are not entitled to move resolutions or to vote.

AGENDA.

To transact General Business.
To receive Communications.
To consider Alterations in the Laws and Bye-Laws proposed by the Business Committee.
To receive Reports of Committees (if any).
To receive "Statement of Legislation required in the Agricultural Interest," prepared by the Business and Parliamentary Committees in pursuance of Council's resolution of May 29th last.
To consider the following subjects:—
(1) The Report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation (if issued).
(2) Agricultural Insurance.

Associated Chambers and Clubs are requested to consider the above subjects, and to send up any resolutions which they may pass thereupon to the Secretary of the Central Chamber before the Meeting of the Business Committee, at 8 p.m. on Monday, November 5th, 1900. Suggestions of subjects for discussion at future Meetings of the Council should be forwarded at the same time.

ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, DECEMBER 10 to 14, 1900, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.

Entries close as follows:—Live Stock (Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Carcase Competition), Nov. 1; Post Entries, Nov. 5. The entries for Implements have already closed on Oct. 5.

Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and other information can be obtained on application to E. J. POWELL, Sec., 12, Hanover-square, London, W.

SOCIETIES.

1900.
Life Member:
HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN.
Patron:—
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
President for the Year 1900:
A. W. SOAMES, ESQ., M.P.

NORFOLK and NORWICH TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SHOW OF FAT CATTLE, SHEEP AND PIGS, FARM AND GARDEN PRODUCE, TABLE DECORATIONS, ETC.,
WILL BE HELD IN THE AGRICULTURAL HALL, NORWICH, ON THURSDAY, FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd, 23rd, AND 24th NEXT.

When Prizes to the value of about £700 will be offered.

The attention of Tenant Farmers farming under 100 acres, and not being members of the Association, is called to the Special Butter Prizes offered.

Attention is called to the Special Prizes offered by the Technical Education Committee of the Norfolk County Council, for Dairy Produce exhibited by Students who have attended a course of Dairy Lectures under the auspices of the County Council.

Prizes are offered to Cottagers and Holders of Allotments not exceeding 30 rods, for Garden Produce.

LAST DAY OF ENTRY, OCTOBER 27TH.

Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and all information can be obtained of the Secretary, CALEB BARKER, East Harling, Thetford; and on Saturdays at Bank Chambers, Norwich.

LORD TREDEGAR'S AGRICULTURAL AND POULTRY SHOWS.
(Open to all England without Subscription.)

Lord Tredegar has fixed the approaching Meeting for TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27 and 28.

The PRIZE LIST contains 59 regulated classes for CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, and HORSES, the prizes in which vary in value from £20 to £5.

POULTRY PRIZES to the value of £[illegible] are also offered.

The Prize Lists, with Certificates for Entry and all particulars, may be had on application to

COLONEL JUSTICE,
Tredegar Estate Office, Newport.

N.B.—Entries close 14th November for Cattle, Sheep, Horses, and Pigs, and Pigeons, 7th November.

BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW.

The 52ND GREAT ANNUAL EXHIBITION of FAT CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, CORN, ROOTS, and IMPLEMENTS, will be held in BINGLEY HALL, on DECEMBER 1ST, 3RD, 4TH, 5TH, and 6TH.

Entries Close:—IMPLEMENTS, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20TH; STOCK, POULTRY, &c., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST.

Prize Lists and Entry Forms may be obtained from W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

BANKS, INSURANCES.

SPECIAL ADVANTAGES TO PRIVATE INSURERS.

THE IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED. FIRE. Established 1803. 1, Old Broad Street, E.C., 22, Pall Mall, S.W., and 47, Chancery Lane, W.C. Subscribed Capital, £1,200,000. Paid up £300,000. Total Funds over £1,500,000.—E. COZENS SMITH, General Manager.

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4, Threadneedle Street, London.
Paid up Capital, £1,000,000.
Reserve Fund, £875,000.

Reserve Liability of Proprietors under the Charter, £1,000,000. Letters of Credit and Drafts issued on any of the numerous Branches of the Bank throughout Australia and New Zealand.

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RAILWAY ACCIDENTS,
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Insured against.
THEFT INSURANCE
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RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Established 1849. Claims paid over £4,200,000.
A. VIAN, *Secretary*.
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.

TENDER.

WANTED, TENDERS from merchants for the SUPPLY of CORN, BRAN, etc., to the Jersey Eastern Farmers Association.—Apply, C. R. GRUCHY, Grouville, Jersey.

AUCTION SALES.

BASINGSTOKE.

ANNUAL SALE OF HAY AND STRAW.

MR. ALFRED W. TYRRELL has received instructions to SELL by AUCTION, at the Red Lion Hotel, Basingstoke, on Wednesday, 7th November, 1900, at 3.30 for 4 o'clock,

60 RICKS of prime old and new CLOVER, SAINFOIN, MEADOW and PARK HAY and WHEAT and OAT STRAW, the property of Gentlemen and Farmers in this neighbourhood, and all within 7 miles of Basingstoke Stations.

Catalogues and further particulars may be obtained of the Auctioneer, Basingstoke.

LEICESTER.

WARNER, SHEPPARD & WADE, LTD., are favoured with instructions to SELL by AUCTION, at the Repository, LEICESTER, on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, MR. FERNIE'S AND THE ATHERSTONE CUB-HUNTERS.

6 HORSES, the property of C. GRENFELL, Esq.
9 HORSES, the property of H. T. BARCLAY, Esq.
9 HORSES, the property of W. WALTON, Esq.
7 HORSES, the property of Baron M. DE TUYLL.
5 HORSES, the property of Capt. T. HARDCASTLE, who is in South Africa.
5 HORSES, the property of E. CHALLEN, Esq.
4 HORSES, the property of H. STUBBS, Esq.
4 HORSES, the property of Lady MARGARET LODER.
3 HORSES, the property of JOHN GRENFELL, Esq.

Also other horses. Full particulars in catalogues, which may be obtained on application. All the Stalls are engaged for this Sale.

AUCTION SALES (*Continued*).

ROTHERHITHE, within about three-quarters of a mile of the Tower Bridge, near the entrance to the proposed new Rotherhithe and Radcliff Tunnel and the Surrey Commercial Docks.—Very extensive Freehold Riverside Premises and Steam Flour Mills, fitted with valuable modern plant and machinery on the roller system, with granaries, warehouses, engine and boiler houses, dwelling-houses, yards, stabling, etc., now and for many years past in the occupation of Messrs. J. B. and T. H. Perks, and for sale, in its entirety, with possession on completion of the purchase. The property possesses the important frontage to the Thames of about 96ft. 6in., with wharfage and lay-by for barges, frontages of about 98ft. 9in. on the north side, and 104ft. on the south side of Rotherhithe-street, also a long side frontage to Gilham's-court, the total ground area being about 18,000 square feet, exclusive of the site of the old mill stream, which extends to Paradise Street in the rear, and has an area of about 7,000ft. super. The property, from its considerable river frontage, situation, and extent, would also be suitable for wharfingers, timber merchants, large manufacturing premises, electric engineering works or other purposes.—Messrs.

DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER, and BRIDGEWATER will SELL, at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, London, on Tuesday, November 27, at 2, in one lot, with possession, the exceedingly important FREEHOLD PROPERTY known as Rotherhithe Mill, and 9, 11, and 13, Rotherhithe-street, together with the whole of the valuable fixed plant and machinery. The premises comprise on the north side of Rotherhithe-street and abutting upon the River Thames a range of three two-storey granaries, all communicating, and dwelling-house adjoining; on the south side of Rotherhithe-street an open courtyard, with double entrance gates, extensive mill-house of five floors, with all necessary rolling and other machinery, gearing and accessories, engine and boiler houses, with 25-horse power beam engine and two horizontal boilers, tall chimney shaft, mill stores, yards, stabling for thirteen horses, coach-houses, large van shed, harness room, men's rooms, and loft, and dwelling-house No. 26, Gilham's-court, piece of vacant ground adjoining, also the old mill stream and water course from the River Thames. The mill premises communicate with the waterside granaries by an iron bridge over Rotherhithe-street.

Particulars of Messrs. HARRIES, WILKINSON, and RAIKES, Solicitors, 38, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, London, and of the Auctioneers, No. 80, Cheapside, London.

HOLMEWOOD, LANGTON, [illegible] miles from SOUTHBOROUGH and WELLS station, 2 miles of the S.E.R. Station at Tunbridge Wells, and about the same distance from Groombridge Station on the L.B. & S.C.R.).

MR. EDWARD JAS. CARTER has been instructed by J. J. BARTOW, Esq., to SELL by AUCTION at SPRINGBANK FARM, LANGTON, on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, [illegible] o'clock precisely,

85 HEAD OF HORNED STOCK, including [illegible] (fat or forward in condition), 8 HEIFERS, 5 COWS and 7 CALVES

175 FAT SHEEP.

8 OUTSTANDING CART HORSES, [illegible]

10 PURE-BRED HACKNEY MARES AND FOAL, including a three-year-old NAG COLT by Speculation, 5 MARES and 4 FOALS.

8 HUNTERS, [illegible]

6 USEFUL VALUABLE CARRIAGE HORSES.

[illegible] on the Premises, or of the AUCTIONEERS, 3, The Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells.

REGISTER OF BRITISH LIVE STOCK BREEDERS.

HORSES.

HACKNEYS.

MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. — Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners; yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

HACKNEYS.—JOHN N. ANTHONY, Sedgeford, near Lynn, Norfolk, breeder of Pedigree Hackneys. On hand, Colts and Fillies by most of the leading sires.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions, at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is ½ miles from Hayward's Heath Station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

CLEVELANDS

HORSFALL, F. WILSON, Potto Grange, Northallerton.—Breeder of pure-bred CLEVELAND BAY and YORKSHIRE COACH HORSES. This stud has won far more prizes than any other again this year, and has won twice as many as any other during the last fifteen years with Clevelands. Many Royal and Great Yorkshire prize-winners for sale. One of the Stud Horses is Champion Broomgrove Pride 1249—first and champion R.A.S.E. Show, Maidstone, 1897; first R.A.S.E. Show, Birmingham, 1898; first and champion Great Yorkshire, Leeds, 1898; only times shown; fee £5 5s. Also breeder of pure-bred Shorthorns. Bulls and heifers for sale. Amongst others added to this herd in 1899 were Daisy Perfection, Richmond Daisy, and Highland Daisy, all bought at the Duke of Northumberland's Sale, at 210 guineas, 72 guineas, and 72 guineas respectively. Also breeder of Sussex black pigs, and several breeds of white poultry.

SHIRES.

MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some gold Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

TAUNTON, H. PERCY, Redlynch, near Salisbury, Wiltshire. Shire-bred STALLIONS MARES, FILLIES, and GELDINGS of the most fashionable breeding always for sale at moderate prices. The animals are kept entirely out of doors and in natural condition.

PONIES.

THE LARGEST STUD of SELECTED WELSH PONIES IN WALES.—Dinarth Hall Pony Stud Farm, Colwyn Bay, North Wales. Over 120 Ponies now on hand, including forty Brood Mares of the pure Welsh type, and several high-class Ponies, great goers, with style and action. 150 prizes won in 1898 and 1899. Ponies purchased from this Stud have won first prizes at Manchester, Birmingham, and Maidstone Royal Shows; also first and medal Crystal Palace, 1899. Sale in 1899 included two Entire Ponies purchased by the Government for Cyprus, several to America and France. Stud Horse JULIUS CÆSAR II. 5666, sire of first prize two-year-old pony filly, the first of his produce exhibited, London Hackney Show, 1900.

MILLER, W. S., Forest Lodge, Brecon, S. Wales, extensive Breeder and Exporter of the best class of WELSH MOUNTAIN PONIES and COBS. References and particulars on application.

MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley, Winslow, Bucks.—Prize PONIES always FOR SALE. Arab Polo Pony Stallion "Mootrub" (32), winner of a championship, silver medals, and many prizes. Particulars on application.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY PARK SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

LANGFORD HOUSE ESTATE HERD of pure and highly-bred SHORTHORN CATTLE, the property of Mr. Sidney Hill, J.P. All bred from the best and leading herds in the Kingdom. Sires now in service: Wiltshire Victor, 71,883 (roan), by Count Victor, 66,877. Puck, 73,333 (roan), by Alto, 68,147. Count Valiant, 74,307 (roan), by Count Arthur, 70,194. Langford Lavender, 74,819 (roan), by Wiltshire Victor, 71,883. Bulls and heifers always on sale, also registered flock of Southdown sheep. Inspection invited. Telegrams, Langford Station, Congresbury, G.W.R. Particulars from J. D LOVELESS, Estate Office, Langford, Bristol.

GARNE, R. & W. T., Aldsworth, Northleach, Glos., breed SHORTHORN CATTLE of great size, thick flesh, good milkers. Young Bulls and Heifers on sale. Stock Bulls: Wrestler, 66,582, Lord Harry, 65,180, and Now or Never, 67,544. Inspection invited.

HEREFORDS.

SALTMARSHE CASTLE ESTATES, HEREFORDSHIRE, Prize winning pure bred HEREFORD CATTLE. Champion Happy Hampton in service. Inspection invited. Good selection for sale.—Apply, J. W. MILLYARD, Estate Office, Littlebridge, Bromyard.

PEDIGREE HEREFORD CATTLE.—One of the oldest herds extant.—Young bulls and heifers of the purest lineage and excellent quality for sale.—J. R. HILL, Orleton Court, R.S.O., Herefordshire.

DEVONS.

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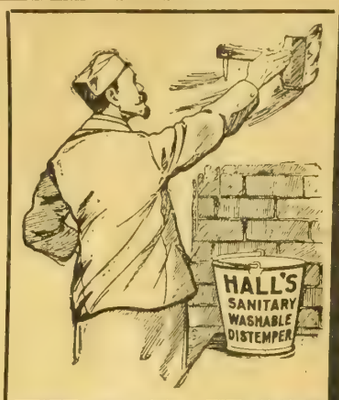

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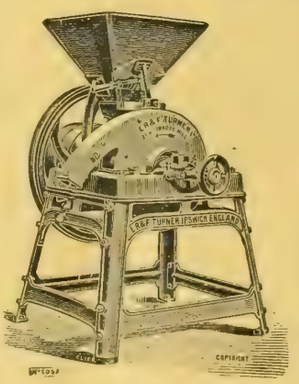

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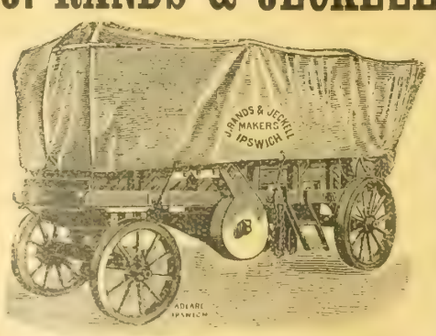

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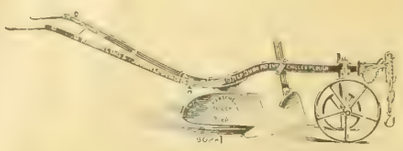

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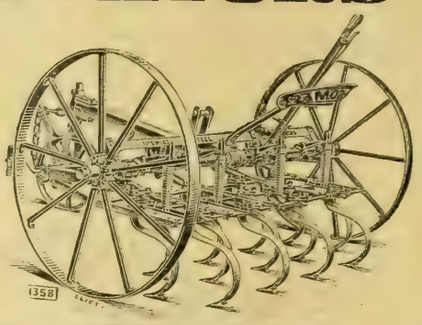

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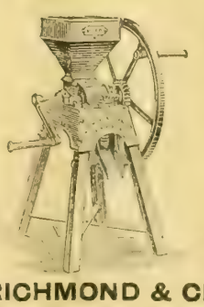

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TUBERCULOSIS IN MILK.

The District Councils, both urban and rural, in the West Riding of the County of York have formed themselves into an association for the purpose of taking united action in matters which concern them generally. The beginning is auspicious, and it is probable that much good may result. Last week there was a meeting in Leeds of the representative members of these various bodies; and the subject of discussion was as to the local autonomy required by the various bodies to enable them to fight against the spread of tuberculosis in milk. It appears that a committee had been appointed to go fully into the matter, and the report issued by that body was extremely interesting as well as useful. When the Corporation of the City of Leeds was seeking new Parliamentary powers it inserted in its Bill a clause to give it power to interfere with cowsheds and dairies situate outside its jurisdiction if they supplied milk within the city boundaries. At the time we called attention to the matter, and explained that it was not only unfair to the local authorities, but that it would also lead to that unsatisfactory state of affairs which always results from divided or dual authority. The committee appeared in opposition to this part of the Bill, and successfully, with the result that Leeds did not obtain the power to meddle with authorities beyond its borders. This was considered a victory, but it now turns out to be an extremely limited one. Shortly after this several other municipalities applied for similar powers to those asked for by Leeds. In the cases of Bradford, Halifax, and Sheffield, the committee attempted to oppose, and was much surprised in each case to find that it was held that they had no *locus standi*, and that in consequence their petitions were worthless, as they could not be heard. The absurdity of this decision needs but little explanation. If it were wrong that Leeds should have the right to interfere with matters situate beyond its jurisdiction, it is difficult to understand why Bradford, Halifax, and Sheffield should have such powers. It is a great pity that there was not an appeal, for the decision was so irrational and illogical as to only need explaining to make its absurdity apparent.

It is a still more strange thing that the President of the Local Government Board should agree to receive a deputation from the Yorkshire Councils, and then, at the last moment, refuse to do so. This hardly looks like fair treatment. The committee makes two very pertinent suggestions as to the conditions under which an outside authority should be entitled to interfere (if at all). They are that the borough or city shall not be entitled to interfere with cowsheds and dairies outside its own area unless it can show two things—first, that it has fully carried out the law upon the subject within its own boundaries; and, secondly, that the local authority with which it is endeavouring to interfere has been negligent in the execution of its duty upon the subject. These conditions seem most reasonable, and ought to be accepted by any municipality. Apart from the fact that there ought not to be one law for one city and another for its next neighbour, we cannot see any real reason for such powers. An ordinary municipal authority has quite enough—if not more than enough—to do in managing its own affairs without endeavouring to establish a sort of spurious suzerainty over its smaller neighbours. The matter must be fought out, and that right quickly. If all district councils would act as those of the West Riding of the County of Yorkshire, and then form an association representing the whole county, they would find—probably to their surprise—that they would be able to prove themselves much more powerful than all the municipalities in the country. We shall probably hear much more about the doings of the West Riding District Councils, but it will be a great pity if they are not backed up by other counties. The fight must be decided one way or the other now; and delay cannot mean any good. The claims are just as unreasonable on the part of the municipalities as it would be for the local councils to claim to go into the borough and inspect all the goods sent out.

The receipts on account of revenue from April 1, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to October 20, 1900, were £56,287,040 against £55,420,045 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £3,919,173. The net expenditure was £101,230,000 against £62,605,754 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on October 20, 1900, amounted to £2,865,886, and at the same date in 1899 to £2,725,084.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

The following statement regarding the sugar bounties question appeared in the Parisian newspapers on Friday:—"The negotiations which have been proceeding in Paris between France, Germany, and Austria-Hungary on the sugar question are nearing their conclusion. It is regarded as almost certain that an agreement will be established between the three Powers for the suppression of the export bounties which have now been in existence for some time. The agreement will be based on an equivalent suppression, that is to say France, whose direct export bounties are higher than those of Germany and Austria-Hungary, will modify the Act of 1884 in such a way as to reduce the industrial advantages accorded to French sugars by the said Act, so that only that section of the bounties clause which is essentially agricultural will be left in force. The effect of this will be that the three countries will renounce their bounties to an equal extent, but from this to the final solution of the question is a long step.

"When the Franco-Austro-German agreement is definitively consummated negotiations will have to be begun with the sugar-importing countries which have instituted countervailing duties, in order to induce them to abolish those taxes, or to dissuade those countries which may show an inclination to establish fresh ones from doing so. It is only by the securing of such a result that the abolition of export bounties can be of any avail. If Great Britain agrees to give up compensating taxes the way will be prepared for the resumption of the work of the Brussels Conference, and it will then be possible to bring forward a definite scheme for an international convention for the regulation of sugar tariffs. The meeting of the conference is thus dependent on the issue of a series of negotiations, the result of which it is still difficult to foresee."

Mr. Akers-Douglas, M.P., will attend the annual dinner of the Nonington and Goodnestone Agricultural Association at the former place on Thursday evening next. On the 6th and 7th November he will preside at the dinners of the Dover, Deal, and District Agricultural Association, at Deal, and the Chislet and Herne Agricultural Association, at Herne Bay, respectively.

According to the *Siberian Messenger*, the harvest in Manchuria has been gathered in only over an area of about 8,300 acres out of the total area devoted to raising crops. At the same time, the greater portion of the harvest on the left bank of the Amur has also been lost owing to the lack of field labourers during the spring and summer, and of harvest men at this moment. The outlook is very gloomy, and the authorities are trying to stem the tide of immigration, as all the available supplies of food and corn will be required during the coming winter for the Russian troops quartered in various districts of Manchuria.

According to the second forecast of the cotton crop in Burma, issued by the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Rangoon, on September 26th, the area under cultivation in the five principal cotton growing districts is 151,033 acres, or 2,470 acres more than last year. In Thayetmyo and the Lower Chindwin the crop has been damaged by the heavy rainfall, but otherwise the prospects are good.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

I have excellent reasons for stating that Lord Salisbury has either asked, or will ask, Mr. Walter Long to again assume direction of the Board of Agriculture. The Prime Minister was deeply impressed during Mr. Long's previous tenure of the position with his considerable ability, the courage with which he pursued what he deemed to be the wise path, and his practical comprehension of the necessities of the agricultural interest. There was at one time a fear that the state of Mr. Long's health would induce him to decline the honour which it was shrewdly suspected the Premier meditated bestowing upon him.

However, it is now comprehended that there is no further justification for this fear. The stress of the election seems to have given him quite a new nerve. After securing his own seat he went into the Westbury division of Wiltshire, and worked assiduously for his brother, Colonel Chaloner. His speeches were marked by his old-time lucidity of expression and intelligence. It is an excellent thing that we are to have Mr. Long at the Board of Agriculture. This means continuity of policy.

Of course, though Mr. Long's brother, Colonel Chaloner, is among the rejected candidates, it is certain that he will not long remain outside St. Stephen's. He has placed the Conservative party under distinct obligations to him by the effective service he has rendered at bye-elections. The Colonel's oratorical method is particularly attractive. He has not command of the same sonorous English as has his brother, but he speaks with a breeziness, a dash, and a spirit that seldom fail to attract the sympathies and touch the emotions of his hearers. He practically, until ill-health, too, afflicted him, gave himself into the hands of the organisers of the party for electoral work; and I am bound to say that they were not slow in their appreciation of his value. The Colonel will thus, I repeat, soon be again in the lists as a candidate. Party gratitude renders this inevitable.

Will Mr. Plunkett remain at the head of the new Irish Agricultural Department? This question is, of course, suggested by his electoral defeat. It is certainly the fact that when first created the post was regarded as a Parliamentary one. No one dreamed of selecting its chief from outside Parliament, Who, too, would be the Parliamentary spokesman of the Board in the event of the vice-president being a non-Parliamentary official? True, the Chief Secretary could essay the task; but assuredly he has enough already upon his shoulders.

As a fact, the Board was created partially in order to relieve him of some of his responsibilities. True, too, the Irish Attorney-General and Irish Solicitor-General will also be in the House, but their duties and position are legal and not agrarian and industrial. One, of course, would be glad to see Mr. Plunkett safely launch the organisation of which he is really the parent; but the fact remains that the non-possession of a seat in the House of Commons is a fatal disqualification. The Vice-President of the Irish Board of Agriculture must have a seat at St. Stephen's.

Those friendly critics of Mr. Plunkett—and their criticism is filling columns of the *Times*—are not quite fair when they attribute his eviction from his old Parliamentary seat to religious bigotry. It was, indeed, something more than Orange pique and Orange prejudice that secured his defeat. There was a feeling of indignation throughout the whole constituency over the fact that Mr. Plunkett should have gone to the ranks of his opponents in order to secure a man to fill the chief administrative position at his disposal.

Mr. T. P. Gill, the secretary of the Irish Board, may be an able man; he may have studied agriculture with the dry-as-dust enthusiasm of an economist; he may be diligent, conscientious, and courteous. All these qualities and attainments he may possess; but there is over all the trail of Nationalism and Plan-of-Campaignism. Mr. Gill was in other years one of the ablest men in the Parnellite party, and he was also one of the men who defended Mr. Parnell's revolutionary land ideals and schemes. Men asked themselves, on learning of this appointment, if the methods advocated by Mr. Parnell were to be authoritatively applied. If this were to be the case then the imagination could anticipate nought by agrarian chaos.

It was not as if Mr. Plunkett had a restricted area to choose from. The Ulster system years ago secured an international reputation for intelligence and fairness. Among the men who were responsible for the continuance of this system could surely have been found one who would have given a well-remunerated service to the country and to agriculture.

Such an appointment would have been accepted as an assurance that the methods which had brought a measure of prosperity to the Ulster farmers were to be applied to the whole country. It would have been an indication that the new administration would be run on sane lines. It may be, of course, that Mr. Gill possesses altered views—he may regret his Parnellism and his Plan-of-Campaignism. The country, however, possesses no evidence of the fact; and, what is more, it has since the appointment received no assurance to this effect. Irish Conservatives were possessed not only by chagrin, but by fear as a result of Mr. Plunkett's nomination of Mr. Gill.

No man would rejoice more than I myself over Mr. Plunkett's return to the House of Commons. I shall rejoice if he be able to retain his Ministerial appointment. I believe he is sufficiently strong to keep Mr. Gill in check, should that gentleman desire to make experiments in order to test the wisdom of his earlier opinions. Should Mr. Plunkett be provided with another seat he will be the wiser for his salutary lesson. I repeat that this lesson is not the child of political and religious prejudice, but the offspring of chagrin and fear. Mr. Plunkett's high intelligence, his debating capacity, his ideals, and his personal popularity should make him a successful administrator. He is one of the higher-typed politicians—he belongs to the band of men who resort to politics not for the satisfaction of sordid ambitions, but because they look upon Parliament as the best machine for realising their ideals. His absence from St. Stephen's will thus mean a distinct loss to politics, and particularly to Irish politics. Still, I can understand the influences which induced his rejection.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

The Destruction of Leaves.

Mr. Spencer Pickering, of the Woburn Experimental Fruit Farm, has writen to the *Standard* drawing attention to the wanton and pernicious destruction of plant food which goes on all over London at this period of the year, namely, the burning of fallen leaves. "In nearly every square garden," he says, "a continuous stream of smoke may now be noticed, rendering the air perceptibly thicker in the vicinity; and even in the public parks, where some intelligence might be expected in the presiding horticultural authorities, the same operation progresses merrily, but on a larger scale, while the trees close by are all the time showing unmistakable signs of wanting the very nourishment of which they are being robbed by the ignorance of their custodians.

"Every country gardener in the kingdom knows the value of leaf mould, and learns in the earliest stages of his education the simple process by which it may be made, or rather the process by which it may be allowed to make itself, and one would hardly have thought that such a knowledge is beyond the capacity of his metropolitan brothers. A few prosecutions by the County Council under the Smoke Abatement Act would give a salutary impetus to the acquisition of this knowledge, and would save in the aggregate many hundreds of pounds to the dwellers in squares, besides saving many a good tree in our parks from death by starvation."

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

17,793.—W. J. Neil and W. Ogden, both of Manchester, for an invention for "Improvements in chaff-cutting machines."

18,015.—A. Ashmore and J. Nelson, of Fenchurch Street, London, for an invention for "A combined plough and fertiliser-distributor."

18,052.—R. J. Watts, of London, for an invention for "A new or improved portable creamery."

18,146.—W. Wylie, of Pollokshields, Glasgow, for an invention for "Improved arrangement of fittings for emigrant berths adaptable for horse stalls and cattle pens."

Patents Sealed.

15,041.—R. Wallace, of Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire, for an invention for "Distributing manure, etc."

15,574.—M. Baurmann, of Karst, near Neuss, Germany, for an invention for "Improvements relating to harrows."

Bad Meat and Putrid Rabbits: Heavy Fines.—At Clerkenwell Police Court on Tuesday Edwin Wainwright, of 31, Aylesbury Street, Clerkenwell, was fined £10 and costs for depositing for sale forty-five pieces of meat which were unfit for human food, whilst Albert Jackson, of 26, Chapel Street, Clerkenwell, was fined £15 and costs for having exposed for sale twenty-one pieces of rabbit which were so putrid as to make the magistrate ill for half an hour after he inspected them.

THE DAIRY.

Tuberculosis in Milk.

A private meeting of gentlemen representing the District Councils, urban and rural, of the west Riding was held at the Hotel Metropole, Leeds, on Tuesday, for the purpose of discussing the subject of tuberculosis in milk, and the preservation of local autonomy in the matter of the inspection and regulation of dairies. The committee of the District Councils were, it seems, successful last year in getting a clause inserted into the Leeds Corporation Bill limiting the powers of the Corporation to its own area, but when they tried recently to get a similar clause inserted in the Bills of the Bradford, Halifax, and Sheffield Corporations they failed. It was to consider the situation thus created that Tuesday's meeting was held. The chair was occupied by Mr. John Farrer, chairman of the Hunslet Rural District Council, and there were present nearly forty other representotives of District Councils. Dr. J. R. Kaye, medical officer of health to the West Riding County Council, and Mr. W. L. Williams, barrister, were also in atttendance.

The executive committee of the District Councils, who had been appointed to watch legislation dealing with the subject, presented an exhaustive report. It stated that by the Milk Shops Orders, as amended in 1899, sufficient powers were given to all the local authorities adopting them to ensure a pure supply of milk and the cleanliness of plant and utensils in and about dairies. The Lords Committee modified the "Model Milk Clauses" of the Leeds Corporation Bill by providing that nothing should be done by the Corporation outside their borough except by order of two justices, and then that no order should be made unless the justices were satisfied that the local authority had neglected or declined to deal with the case. Notwithstanding this decision on the part of the Lords Committee, the modifying clause—which was accepted by the district councils' committee as a tentative measure was struck out when the Bradford Bill came before the Police and Sanitary Committee of the House of Commons. Again, when the clauses in the Halifax Bill were petitioned against the Court of Referees refused the *locus standi* of the district councils—a decision which the committee suggested should be appealed against. The committee afterwards opposed the Sheffield Bill with some confidence, but in this case also the committee allowed the milk clauses to stand without modification. Members of Parliament representing the West Riding were approached and an interview was sought with the President of the Local Government Board with the object of preserving the local autonomy of the district councils; but in the end the President declined to receive the deputation.

It is believed, the Committee went on to say, that the Leeds Corporation intend at the earliest opportunity to obtain the repeal of their present milk clauses and substitute therefor the Model Clauses. The Committee believe that Leeds has not seriously endeavoured to exercise its present powers or given them a fair trial, and they feel that the neglect to do so should debar the Corporation from obtaining drastic power in other districts. Your Committee submit it should be a condition precedent to the granting of such powers as proposed to any county borough.

1. That the county borough applying for the same has effectively dealt with all cow sheds and milk shops in its own area, and enforced the Cow Sheds Order there.

2. That the outside authorities to be affected have neglected to perform their duties in the same matters, especially after notice from the county borough or County Council.

The Committee are, they state, forced to the conclusion that unless public attention be again drawn to the matter, the Local Government Board will favour the insertion of the "Model Milk Clauses" in any Bill promoted by a county borough. They are of opinion that the question is of such importance that general legislation is needed. In this connection they draw attention to the provisions of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, section 60 and 61, whereby it is provided (shortly)—That, if the medical officer of any district has evidence that any person in the district is suffering from any infectious disease attributable to milk from any dairy without the district, or that the milk from any such dairy is likely to cause any such disease to any person residing in the district, such medical officer shall forthwith intimate the same to the local authority of the district in which such dairy is situate, and such other local authority shall be bound forthwith by its medical officer to act as therein mentioned. These provisions, the Committee go on to say, not only preserve local autonomy and fix the responsibility on the proper authority, but also give an equal right for a local authority to require the council of any other local authority (including a county borough) to enforce the law in their district on notice given to them. This the "Model Milk Clauses," they allege, do not do. In the cases of Leeds, Sheffield, and Halifax, there is a considerable area of purely agricultural land within each borough where such a power might be applied, and if this principle is capable of application there, the local districts have as much right to the power as the county boroughs.

This report was received and considered in all its bearings, and eventually a representative committee was appointed to confer with the Sanitary Committee of the West Riding County Council and the County Boroughs upon the whole subject of tuberculosis in milk and in human beings, and to give effect to such agreement as may be come to for securing by legislation or otherwise the fullest practical means for protecting the purity of the milk supply of the West Riding, and the prevention and treatment of consumption in the human being.

The Committee were also empowered to devise a scheme under which the West Riding District Councils Association shall become a permanent institution, having for its object the protection of the interests of the various district councils concerned.

The conference with the Sanitary Committee of the West Riding County Council and the County Boroughs above referred to took place on Wednesday at Wakefield. The proceedings, which were presided over by Alderman Sugden (chairman of the West Riding Sanitary Committee), were held in private, but it is understood that the representatives of the County Council were sounded as to whether they were likely to give further support to the smaller public bodies in resisting the invasion of the county boroughs into their districts. The "education of Parliament" is, however—as Mr. Milnes Gaskell recently pointed out—such a costly business that, after much discussion, it was decided to invite the representatives of the county boroughs to a friendly conference, at which the whole subject of tuberculosis in milk and in human beings will be considered.

Mention was made in the course of the proceedings of the suggestion of Dr. Kaye, the West Riding Medical Officer of Health, that the County Council should combine with the county boroughs and the other smaller authorities in the erection and maintenance of a West Riding sanatorium for consumptives. The proposal was received with favour, but ways and means have yet to be considered, and how far it may be legally possible has yet to be decided. It is, however, hoped that the county boroughs will give the matter their favourable consideration. In any case, they are to be asked to attend the joint conference next month, at which the suggestion will be discussed. Dr. Kaye estimates that there are 6,000 sufferers from consumption in the West Riding. His suggestion is that the County Council should provide a model sanatorium somewhere in their district, and make a small fixed charge for maintenance against each sanitary authority sending a patient.

Show of Wensleydale Cheese and Butter.

The annual show of Wensleydale cheese and butter at Leyburn took place in the Town Hall on the 19th inst. On the whole the quality of the exhibits was in advance of previous displays. Mr. Thomas Nuttall, of Leicester, who judged the cheese, considered that whilst there is a marked improvement, a little more attention should be bestowed on the curing. One or two cheese in a lot were inferior in this respect, and the flat-shaped was not so good as the Stilton-shaped. The judge of the butter exhibits was Mr. Thomas Fairbank, King Edgley, who remarked that he had never examined finer produce in Yorkshire. A new feature of the prize list was a silver challenge trophy for farmers, given by Mrs. C. J. Burrill, Elm House. Thirty-one competitors exhibited Stilton-shaped cheese against twenty-eight last year, and flat-shaped cheese was represented by nineteen exhibits as against twenty-one. In the farmers' butter classes there were twenty-eight entries as compared with thirty a year ago, and in cottagers' butter twelve as against ten.

The awards were as follows:—Stilton-shaped cheeses—1 and 3, R. Ewbank, The Temple, Leyburn; 2 and 4, M. Hammond, Low Gill, Aysgarth. Flat-shaped cheeses—1, M. Spensley, Castle Bank, Leyburn; 2, W. Mason, Swinithwaite; 3, G. Bell, Nappa House, Aysgarth; 4, M. Hammond. Butter.—Farmers' class—1, Mrs. Hodgson, Berry House, Hudswell, Richmond; 2, Miss Lily Ewbank, The Temple, Leyburn; 3, R. D. Capstick, West Burton, Aysgarth. Cottagers' class—1, Mrs. Sarah Metcalfe, Spennithorne; 2, Mrs. Jane Pratt, Carperby; 3, Mrs. Vayro, Jervaulx Abbey, Thornton Steward.

Irish Dairy Association's Surprise Butter Competitions.

The third Surprise Butter Competition conducted by the Irish Dairy Association was held on October 5th, and the creameries of the Co-operative Wholesale Society secured the bulk of the prizes. The competition butters were judged by Messrs. R. Gibson and J. J. O'Donovan, of Limerick, and by Messrs. C. Daly and J. H. Hickey, of Cork. The judges awarded the first prize to Lixnaw Co-operative Wholesale Society for an exhibit which secured a total of 382 marks out of a maximum of 400. The second prize was gained by Greybridge Co-operative Wholesale Society with 374. Drumcliffe Co-operative Dairy Society secured third place, running very close to the second prize winner with the same aggregate of marks, but with only 142 marks for flavour against 150 awarded for flavour to the Greybridge exhibit. Fourth place was secured by Oola Co-operative Wholesale Society with 373 marks; fifth place by Bilboa Co-operative Wholesale Society with a total of 371 marks, including 146 marks for flavour; sixth place fell to Whitecross Co-operative Dairy Society with a total of 371 marks, including 139 for flavour. Reserve number was Ballybricken Co-operative Wholesale Society with 371 marks, including 137 for flavour.

A competition in keeping butter was held under the auspices of the Irish Dairy Association recently, but was not well supported, there being only thirteen competitors. These exhibits were kept for a period of five weeks at a temperature of 40deg. Fahr., and were then judged independently by three judges. The judges in this case were Messrs. Hickey, O'Donovan, and Stokes, of Limerick. The judges reported the general character of the exhibits as disappointing with the exception of the first two exhibits. The first prize of the Irish Dairy Association's silver medal and the Moore Challenge Cup was awarded to Granagh Co-operative Dairy Society, Ballinleena, County Limerick, the reserve number being secured by Knockavardagh and Moyglass Co-operative Dairy Society, Killenaule, County Tipperary.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended October 20, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	7,951	8,303	Wheat ..	1,222,800	1,515,300
Sheep ..	5,599	3,776	Flour ..	33,400	411,500
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	650,600	584,600
			Oats ..	425,700	409,000
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	100,700	84,000
Beef ..	85,961	82,756	Beans ..	53,500	47,000
Mutton	84,705	75,076	Maize ..	1,301,400	809,400
Pork ..	19,203	21,024		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	114,515	103,485	†Bananas	—	34,561
Beef, salt	3,066	1,343		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	31,150	28,531	Apples ..	231,100‡	81,044
Pork, salt	4,27	3,768	†Apricots & Peaches	—	—
Meat, salt & fresh	7,842	9,980	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	17,071	12,095	†Currants	—	—
Butter ..	68,235	37,906	†Gooseb'r's	—	—
M'g'rine	19,547	19,078	Grapes ..	63,700‡	43,207
Cheese ..	50,879	68,891	Lemons	8,087‡	12,442
Con. Milk	17,122	17,501	Oranges	22,150‡	7,397
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..			Pears ..	15,273‡	19,134
			Plums ..	4,600‡	1,322
	47	2 9	Oth'r Fr't	38,200‡	9,728
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	2,900	941
Eggs ..	398,807	285,546		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	158,114	223,119
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£6,915	£4,353	Hops ..	7,081	2,647
			Potatoes	61,916	256,576
	Cwt.	Cwt.	§Tom'to's	—	14,165
Rabbits	15,273	30,204	Other Veg'bles	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	46,674	44,293		£12,450	£ 1,105

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

Herbert Close, who for the past twenty years had held a position of trust in the service of Messrs. Warr and Loveridge, corn merchants, was sentenced at Hull on Friday to six months' imprisonment for embezzling £100 belonging to the firm. The prisoner confessed to having embezzled over £4,000 during the last three years. The money had gone in turf speculations.

Sleaford October Fair.—This fair was held on the 20th inst., when about 600 store beasts were penned in the market, but although there was a large attendance trade was unusually slow, and sales were the exception, a result due to the high price of cake and the scarcity of feeding. Bullocks made from £15 to £23; steers and heifers, £12 to £15; bulls, £12 to £15; drapes, £10 to £14; sheep, theaves, 40s. to 42s.; lambs, 30s. to 34s. A number of young horses, unbroken, were on offer, as much as £20 being asked for second-raters, but few changed hands.

Devizes October Green Fair.—The supply of cattle at this fair, which took place on the 20th inst., was larger than was expected, having regard to the recent revocation of the orders restricting their movement, and trade, which was mainly conducted by means of auction sales, was fairly brisk, some good prices being obtained. The prospects of keep in the country are excellent, there being plenty of roots, and the recent rains have also increased the supply. The result was that most of the horn stock changed hands. In the sheep fair the supply was much smaller than usual. This is usually a large fair for culls, but on the present occasion the number penned was small. Lambs sold well, at prices quite as good as were recently obtained at Weyhill and other fairs. Ewes were not quite such a brisk sale. Tegs sold very well. The horse fair was very largely supplied, there being some good hacks and carriage horses, and a large number of cart horses and mares on offer. There was also a number of Welsh suckers, which sold readily. Many of the best animals were sold at good prices.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

The Barley Show.

The necessarily hurried and incomplete notice of the great show at the Brewers' Exhibition, which appeared last week, left much detail for further consideration.

By far the most satisfactory feature could not then be referred to with propriety. It remained to be seen what action the agricultural colleges and technical schools would take in response to the invitation of the Board of Agriculture to use the exhibition and the facilities it offers in further experiments.

The Board is to be heartily congratulated upon its wise action in this matter, and a sufficient number of stations have already taken it up to ensure a marked measure of usefulness and ultimate success.

One immediate outcome will be the preservation of a part of every sample shown under proper conditions, so that agricultural students will have carefully placed for comparison the best and worst barleys sent in the year of grace 1900 in open competition

From Thirty Counties

in Britain and nearly a dozen of the foreign countries now trying to grow barley for maltsters and brewers' use.

Another generation will look with astonished interest at some of the samples, especially those from Cornwall, Essex, Yorkshire, and Scotland. It is useful to have for comparison the very beautiful samples that took the champion and other chief honours at the show. Suffolk and Devon are the two most favoured localities of the season, but Somerset ran them pretty closely. Wrench's Premier, when grown under good conditions, takes a maltster's eye, and is doubtless an admirable variety to cultivate. Messrs. Fison, a very noted Suffolk firm, are also worthy of hearty congratulation that not only was the champion sample grown with the aid of their manures, but a very large number of the whole of the exhibits had been so treated, of which a considerable, but still undetermined, number were prize winners. The champion lot has been sold at an altogether unprecedented price.

The Dressing and Threshing Classes

have worked out much more satisfactorily than at one time seemed possible.

Boby's machinery was used by nearly two-thirds of the growers, covering a very large proportion of the prize winners. The threshers were supplied by no less than twenty firms, in which list Marshall's stood first with more than one-fourth, and Clayton and Shuttleworth with nearly as many, but the relations are not kept the same in the prize list.

The mode of judging in this class finally pursued left it entirely dependent upon the freedom from defect as to the number of marks any and every sample secured. These again were worked out to percentages, so that the actual and relative values were considered with no knowledge of the names involved until the order of merit was established. It was most satisfactory to find how very close to each other nearly all the important makers kept.

As the number of prizes and classes had been considerably increased this year, the work of the judges was greatly increased, although fortunately the

Decreased Number of Entries

assisted them greatly. Had there been anything like proper competition from abroad the difficulties would have been much enhanced. A number of good home counties lost a good deal through want of enterprise. It is not creditable that prizes are withheld from such counties as Cambridge, Salop, and Yorkshire through insufficient entries.

The actual numbers for the past three years are as under:—

Table I.

ENTRIES OF ENGLISH, COLONIAL, AND FOREIGN GRAIN FOR THE YEARS 1897-1900.

Year.	British.	Colonial.	Foreign.	Total.
1897	92	—	27	119
1898	143	—	30	173
1899	196	3	23	222
1900	166	—	10	176

The total has, however, only been exceeded once before, and, taken as a whole, the exhibition shows a marked improvement in many particulars upon all former shows.

The weight of all the barleys sent in ran much more evenly together than they ever did before. No one expected to see the weights of the last three years equalled, nor did it seem likely that a very low record would be made, but in reality over one-fourth of the samples sent in and weighed fell under 56lbs., and whilst not one went up to 60lbs., the highest was very close at 59.8lbs. Twenty-four samples exceeded 58lbs., and in all 110 samples weighed 56lbs. and upwards.

The record is as under for four years:—

Table II.

WEIGHTS PER BUSHEL.

	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
British highest	60·4	60·0	59·0	59·8
,, lowest	54·3	54·4	54·0	58·1
Foreign highest	58·0	59·5	58·4	57·5
,, lowest	45·7	42·0	48·3	52·2

that Society could take the matter up. (Hear, hear.)

How these weights work out will be shown in Table 3 next week.

At the great barley competition in connection with the Brewers' Exhibition, London, last week, the Championship of the World was won by a sample of twenty quarters grown by Mr. C. J. Pratt, of Melton, near Ipswich, and the second by Mr. J. Carpenter, of Alphington, Exeter. Both these samples were grown with Joseph Fison and Co.'s Extra Quality Barley Fertiliser, which fertiliser, in fact, carried everything before it, barleys grown with it winning no less than twenty-four prizes and twenty-two diplomas, in addition to the championship and second prizes above named.

At the annual Brewers' Exhibition, held in London this week, in the barley competition, the Championship of the World was awarded to a magnificent sample of "Wrinch's Premier." This is not the first time this variety has carried off this coveted distinction, Mr. Wrinch winning on three previous occasions.

The Brewers' Exhibition.

Completion of Prize List

The following awards were made too late for us to print in our last issue:—

Class X.—THE CLARE SEWELL READ PRIZES (given by F. and G. Smith, Dereham).

No. in Catalogue.

92. H.c.—Mr. C. G. Miles, Mill Farm, Alburgh.

Class XIV.—THE EAST SUFFOLK PRIZE (given by Capt Pretyman, M.P.)

138. Second prize, £5.—Mr. H. O. Ranson, Sproughton.

133. Third prize, diploma.—Mr. N. Pepper, Coochithe.

CLASS XVIII.—THE SPECIAL PRIZES FOR BEDFORDSHIRE FARMS.

1. First prize, £4 4s.—Mr. G. Duncombe, Cople, Beds.

5. Second prize, £3 3s.—Mr. S. Harrison, Hill Farm, Renfold.

12. Third prize, £2 2s.—Mr. J. Pedley, Great Barford.

19. Fourth prize, £1 1s.—Mr. J. Matthews, Odell, Sharnbrook.

Class XIX. is included in Class XVIII., owing to insufficient entries.

Class XX.—WEST SUFFOLK SPECIAL PRIZES (Given by Sir Cuthbert Quilter).

122. Third prize, bronze medal.—Mr. Bigg, Glensford (entered by W. H. Scruby and Co., Harlow).

Class XXI.—MARK LANE EXPRESS DIPLOMAS FOR SEED CORN.

Sussex.

144. Hon. T. S. Brand, Home Farm, Glynde (entered by Mr. T. W. Picard, Glynde).

Class XXIV.—THE SULPHATE OF AMMONIA COMMITTEE'S PRIZES.

57. First prize, £25.—Essex barley: Mr. R. Seabrook, Tolleshunt D'Arcy.

105. Second prize.—Rutland barley: Mr. L. J. Briggs, Belmesthorpe.

108. Third prize.—Salop barley: Mr. F. Horne, Bank Farm, Claveley.

63. Gloucestershire barley: Mr. A. Day, Stratford-on-Avon.

Class XXV.—JOSEPH FISON AND CO.'S (IPSWICH) SPECIAL PRIZES.

137. First prize, £25.—Suffolk barley: Mr. C. J. Pratt, Melton (entered by Mr. John Cooper, Barley Merchant, Ipswich).

32. Second prize, £15.—Devon barley: Mr. J. Carpenter, Alphington, near Exeter.

126. Third prize, £10.—Suffolk barley: Mr. A. E. Gray, Wenhaston, Halesworth.

98. V.h.c.—Northamptonshire barley: Mr. J. S. Railton, Evenley, Brackley.

99. H.c.—Oxon barley: Mr. F. G. Castleman, Northbrook, Kirlington.

42. C.—Dorset barley: Mr. R. H. Cooper, Wyke, Sherborne.

CLASS XXVI.—WEBB AND SON'S SPECIAL BARLEY MANURE PRIZES.

109. First prize, £15.—Salop barley: Mr. R. Preece, Cressage House, Shrewsbury.

148. Second prize, £10.—Warwick barley: Mr. J. W. Lea, Thelsford, Warwick.

156. Third prize, £5.—Worcester barley: Mr. E. G. C. Bomford, Spring Hill, Fladbury.

147. C.—Warwick barley: Mr. A. E. Day, Orchard Hill, Stratford-on-Avon.

CLASS XXVII.—ANGLO-CONTINENTAL (late Ohlendorff's) GUANO WORKS. PRIZES.

Insufficient entries.

CLASS XXVIII.—THE BEST SHEAF OR SHEAVES OF BARLEY.

174. First prize, £3 3s.—Essex barley: Messrs. E. W. King and Co., Coggeshall.

176. Second prize, £1 1s.—Essex Barley.—Mr. R. Seabrooke, Tolleshunt D'Arcy.

Class XXIX.—(Offered for the Machine which has been used for Threshing the largest percentage of properly dressed Barleys in every class).

First prize, Silver Medal.—Messrs. C. Burrell and Sons, Limited, St. Nicholas Works, Stetford.

Second prize, Bronze Medal.—Messrs. R. Garrett and Sons, Limited, Leistod, R.S.O., Suffolk.

Third prize, diploma.—Messrs. Clayton and Shuttleworth, Lincoln.

V.h.c.—Messrs. R. Hornsby and Sons, Limited, Grantham.

H.c.—Messrs. E. Humphries and Co., Limited, Atlas Works, Pershore.

C.—Messrs. Marshall, Sons, and Co., Limited, Gainsborough; Messrs. Burrows and Stewart; Messrs. Nalder and Nalder, Ltd., Wantage; Messrs. Ransomes, Sims, and Co., Ipswich.

Gainsborough October Horse and Cattle Fair.—At this fair, which took place on Wednesday, a large number of good quality beasts were shown, and sheep were an improvement on recent fairs. Prices were rather higher than usual. Cross-bred hogs made up to 39s.; small long wools, 26s.; and lambs, 34s. Irish forward beasts were better to sell, two to three-year-olds making from £13 to £16; older beasts, to £18 10s., and young steers, £10 to £11. There was a large attendance at the horse fair, and the following were the prices realised:—Welsh ponies, £10 to £14; agricultural foals, £14 to £22; two-year-olds, £20 to £35; medium trappers, £15 to £20.

Death of Mr. William Biddell, J.P.

We regret to have to record that Mr. William Biddell, J.P., of Lavenham Hall, after a very brief illness, which was borne with calmness and fortitude, died at his residence on Thursday evening. On Saturday week Mr. Biddell took the chair at an agricultural meeting held in Ipswich; last Wednesday he was at Bury Market, apparently in his usual health and spirits; and he has been called away, therefore, while yet in harness, and in the full vigour of a veteran manhood. His robust figure will be sadly missed for many a day to come, and the news of his death will be read with profound regret by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. It was not until his return home from last Bury Market that Mr. Biddell became seriously indisposed. He was seized with severe pain in the body—a complaint from which he had suffered in some measure for many years—and felt so ill that he went to bed, and sent for a doctor, who, after making a careful examination, came to the conclusion that it was a case of strangulated hernia, and advised that another medical man should be consulted. When the doctors had made a joint diagnosis of his condition, they decided that an operation was absolutely necessary, and this was performed by Dr. Griffiths, of Cambridge, in the presence of the local practitioners, and the first report was that it had gone on very successfully; but two hours afterwards a change for the worse was noticed, and, just half an hour later, unable to bear the shock and exhaustion, Mr. Biddell passed peacefully away in the presence of his wife, his brother from Ipswich (Mr. George Biddell), his daughter, and son-in-law. The patient himself seemed to have anticipated such a fatal termination to his illness, for during the day he gave minute instructions about several family and business matters, added a codicil to his will, and appointed his executors.

Mr. Biddell held high place in the county, and won general respect by reason of his sound judgment, his thorough knowledge of agricultural matters, and his ever-cheerful readiness to place his valuable services, in a public as well as in a private capacity, at the disposal of his friends and neighbours. He did not follow his profession in any narrow spirit. As "Colborns' New Monthly," in its series of articles on "Workers and their Work," said of him, he was a foremost speaker on all occasions in which the interests of agriculture were concerned. He may be said to have created opinion for the tenant farmers, and then represented it. By persistence in work, and the power of speech, he rose from the Farmers' Club to the Chamber of Agriculture, and finally to the House of Commons. He was the President of the West Suffolk Chamber, which he represented at the Central Chamber. At the time of his death Mr. Biddell was farming over 1,000 acres of strong arable land, and he leaves it, as he ever kept it, in the highest possible state of cultivation. After the death of his brother, Mr. Manfred Biddell, he gave some attention to the breeding of Suffolks, and won a fair number of prizes, but in a general way he regarded stock from the purely practical rather than the exhibition point of view. In looking after his farms, and seeing that everything was in order, he has up to quite recently been marvellously active for a man of his years and great physique. He weighed just upon 20 stone, but could beat many a younger man in tramping over heavy plough-land.

Mr. Biddell was an active member of the Suffolk Agricultural Association, and less than a week before his death, as already indicated, he presided at a committee meeting held at Ipswich. During the years that the West Suffolk Chamber of Agriculture was in existence, Mr. Biddell was one of the members who took keen interest in the many debates, and gained the confidence of the entire Chamber, so that he was appointed president. At Ixworth Farmers' Club, of which he was a member, his opinions were always attentively listened to. He also was a great supporter of the Lavenham Farmers' Club, an institution which was in a flourishing condition about thirty years ago. As the head of the well-known firm of Messrs. Biddell and Blencowe, land agents, auctioneers, and valuers, the deceased gentleman manifested excellent business capabilities, and his judgment was looked to as the outcome of sterling integrity, combined with sound common-sense. A typical Old English gentleman, he delighted in meeting his many agricultural friends, and on festive occasions he was a host in himself.

The funeral will take place to-morrow (Tuesday). It has been arranged that the first part of the service shall commence at 12.15 at Lavenham Church and that the procession shall then proceed to Hawstead (which is expected to be reached at three o'clock), where the deceased gentleman will be laid to rest in a family vault, beside the bodies of his first wife and their children.

A disastrous fire occurred at Morestead on Sunday night, the whole of Mr. J. S. Curtis's private racing stables being burnt to the ground. All the horses were got out safely with the exception of Joe's Luck (two years), by Savile—Reprieve, and his own brother, a yearling colt. The origin of the fire is not known.

By LUPULIN.

Hops and Nitrate.

The Permanent Nitrate Committee evidently have great confidence in the value of nitrate of soda as a stimulating manure for hops, if we may judge by the substantial prizes they offer annually to growers, and it must be admitted that their confidence is not misplaced, for an examination of the samples now on view at the Hop Exchange demonstrates the improvements that can be effected by the judicious application of this nitrogenous salt, inasmuch as the quality of the hops now submitted is, on the average, very superior to those I have previously seen in similar competitions. The use of a large quantity of nitrate is undoubtedly beneficial in producing heavy crops. The growth of bine is stimulated, and, under favourable conditions of weather, a good yield of fruit follows as a natural consequence. This is, however, almost certainly accompanied by loss of colour and brightness in the finished product, therefore it is necessary to exercise discretion in handling the manure, in order to secure all possible advantage therefrom, and to avoid the drawback to which I have referred.

The planters whose samples are now under review have profited by their previous exprience and observation, and are able to prove the possibility of securing crops which fully equal the season's average of quantity, and in several cases surpass the average of quality. Take, for instance, the sample exhibited in Class D by Mr. H. Lillywhite, of Oakshott, Hants. This is certainly the best sample in the show, and presents all the characteristics which unite in attaining perfection. The hops are ripe, and are full of lupulin, the colour is of that clear rich primrose tint which is always admired, the management is all that can be wished for, the sample being very resilient, and though the drying is absolutely complete, the cones are neither broken nor brittle, and both the face and side of the sample present that aspect which is sought after by buyers.

I have singled out this most excellent specimen for the purpose of special demonstration of the possibilities within reach of planters who may be as yet undecided as to the desirability of the application of nitrate of soda; but I do not desire that an inference may be drawn therefrom by which any detrimental comparison can be made between this and the other samples, for it is very satisfactory to me to be able to speak also in generally approving terms of the exhibits from East, Mid, and the Weald of Kent, as well as of those from Sussex and Herefordshire.

There are twenty-six samples in all. The excellence of that exhibited in Class A (East Kent) by Mr. Geo. Whiteman, Tyler Hill, Canterbury, induced the judges to award a special prize thereto. In Class B (Mid Kent), Mr. W. Rogers, Kingsdown, takes the first, and Mr. T. Welfear, East Peckham, the second prize. In Class C (Weald of Kent), the first prize was awarded to Mr. J. J. Bates, Cranbrook. In the Herefordshire class, Mr. C. T. Ockey, Castle Froome, was placed first, his sample being an excellent proof of what can be done in hop-growing when skilful experience and good judgment are brought to bear upon it. The same may be said of the sample shown by Messrs. Firkins Brothers, Bishops Froome, to whom the second prize in this class was awarded. In Class F (Sussex), there was keen competition for the premier position between Mr. Gilbert Eames, Linch, Midhurst, and Mr. A. Fairbrother, Wadhurst. The latter sample is rather the riper of the two, and is very rich in condition, but eventually the question was decided by the more delicate flavour of Mr. Eames's sample, and to this gentleman the first prize was awarded.

There is much to be said in favour of such exhibitions, in which planters are incited to do their best by prizes of sufficient importance to reimburse them for their trouble. The public comparison of samples is instructive to the industry as a whole, and is not without value to the trade, as results can thus be tested, in conjunction with the means employed to attain them, apart from the disturbing element introduced in the market, when £ s d is necessarily the most important factor in the consideration. And although the Nitrate Committee are primarily promoting their own interests as traders in putting these inducements before planters, they are also directly benefiting the English hop-growing industry. Therefore, I trust they will continue to follow the same course in future seasons.

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society.*

Home Notes.

The Borough.

A great king, whose name is associated with the highest attainment of wisdom, has recorded a warning against the danger that threatens when "all men speak well" of any of us. If such a warning be applicable to the conditions or affairs of commercial life, we may certainly take note of it now, for at the present, there is no discordant voice in the approval with which all men (except brewers) regard the progress of the hop trade, and the favourable prospect which is daily opening out before us. But fortunately I cannot discern the appearance of any cloud, not even so "big as a man's hand," in our sky, and there seems every probability that "the winter of our discontent, now made glorious summer by this sun" of prosperity that is shining upon us, will be further removed from our recollections by yet brighter and warmer rays soon to be experienced and welcomed.

The solid facts are before us. Active, healthy trade is recorded this week. Merchants are buying freely, their customers are placing more orders, the value of hops is steadily hardening as the ascertained shortage of crops, not only in England, but in all the hop-growing countries of the world, is realised, and in front of the position there stands a body of planters, not numerous, perhaps, but nevertheless strong in their resolution to protect their produce until the legitimate terms they ask for its surrender are acceded to. I am quite satisfied that my friends have no cause to fear the final issue of events, and at the same time I am not displeased that the tide has flowed somewhat in favour of the early buyers, for they have also a right to remuneration for the use of their capital and for the exercise of their business organisation in the distribution of our crops.

I do not trace that any further advance in prices has been established during the past week, but the values of the previous week have been well maintained, and a large business has been done thereat. The clearance of Weald of Kent and Sussex hops has been almost effected, and more attention is now being given to the choicer growths of East and Mid-Kent, in which we shall doubtless soon hea rof extensive transactions. In Worcesters there has also been an active trade, and although some of my friends in the Midlands sold rather too hastily, there are many others whose better patience was rewarded by satisfactory results, and there yet remain several good lots whose owners are waiting further development of the market.

An important feature of the week's proceedings has been the publication by the Board of Agriculture of the

Estimated Total Production

of hops in the present year, as under:—

County.	Estimated Total Produce.		Acreage.		Estimated Average Yield per Acre.	
	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Acres.	Acres.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Gloucester	235	619	47	42	5·00	14·74
Hants	12,291	30,589	2,231	2,319	5·51	13·19
Hereford	32,650	83,950	7,257	7,257	4·48	11·62
Kent	230,928	418,997	31,614	31,988	7·30	13·10
Salop	689	966	138	138	5·00	7·00
Suffolk	7	34	4	4	1·75	8·50
Surrey	5,311	15,213	1,300	1,388	4·09	10·96
Sussex	39,717	73,807	4,823	4,949	8·23	14·91
Worcester	26,935	37,207	3,964	3,788	6·79	9·82
	347,894	861,373	51,303	51,543	6·78	12·76

It is the general opinion of Borough experts that the total produce, 347,894cwt., showing the average of 6.78cwt. per acre as given by the Board, is in excess of the actual crop available for sale. There are those who state very positively that the real yield does not exceed 5½cwt. per acre, or about 282,000cwt., although I am disposed to think that the estimate arrived at and published by the N.A.E.H.G. is closer to the mark. This was an average of 6 cwt., making a total of 308,000 cwt. But, taking the official figures as the basis of calculation, I find that the crop of 1900 comes out 315,497 cwt. less than last year, representing an average shortage of about 47½ per cent. Doubtless this percentage is somewhat incorrect, as it is generally admitted that the official figures of last year's crop did not reach the real weight harvested.

The production of each of the counties has fallen off, though in different proportions, which will be seen by the following table, founded upon the official returns, omitting Gloucester, Suffolk, and Salop, where only a few acres of hops are cultivated.

	Average shortage per acre.	Per centage of Shortage.
Hants	7·68 cwts.	58·22
Hereford	7·14 ,,	61·44
Kent	5·80 ,,	44·27
Surrey	6·87 ,,	62·68
Sussex	6·18 ,,	44·80
Worcester	3·03 ,,	30·85

From these figures it appears that the largest average reduction was in Hampshire, and the smallest in Worcestershire, the largest percentage of shortage being in Surrey, and the smallest also in Worcester. It is a curious feature in the record that the neighbouring counties of Hereford and Worcester should present such a marked contrast in their results this year.

[In my notice of Mr. W. F. Pudge's exhibit at the recent Brewers' Exhibition, the description as printed, "too highly pressed," should read "too *lightly* pressed." This correction will make my remarks more comprehensible.]

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The recent indifference of brewers is passing away, and their influence as buyers is being felt in the market. Their purchases, added to a continued active demand for export, have created an important trade during the past week, from 6,000 to 7,000 bales having changed hands. The result is seen in the further hardening of values, as quotations are perceptibly advancing. In the earlier days of the new market inquiries were chiefly for medium qualities, Franconian hops, which were obtainable at moderate rates, being much in favour. Attention is now being given to better sorts, Hallertaus, Wurtembergs, and others being more freely handled, and during the past few days Spalt growths at full prices are in great demand. The actual deficiency of this year's growth is evidently being realised by consumers, and the tendency of affairs is so distinctly towards increased values that I am prepared to hear shortly of further substantial advances in quotations for all descriptions.

Aischgrund.

Nearly the whole of this season's growth is already disposed of at full prices. Only a small quantity remains in first hands.

Kindingerland.

The good prices bid have induced growers to sell their produce, and, with the exception of a few, the whole of the growth has been cleared at an average of 120s.

Upper Franconia.

The crop came down very short of last year, and nearly the whole of it has been taken up at prices that are quite satisfactory to growers.

Spalt-land.

The rapid advance in the value of hops has been remarkably illustrated here. In one day prices were

TO HOP GROWERS.—Users of WIRE WORK should buy the Best English Galvanised Steel Hop Strand, made by Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington, Lancs. For prices, &c., apply to their London office, 86, Leadenhall-street, E.C.; or their Sole Agent for Kent and Sussex, Mr. Edward Ball, 3, Newstead-road, Lee, S.E.—[ADVT.]

raised from 80s. to 100s., and the market closed firmly, many growers refusing to sell even at the highest figure.

Stuttgart.

The improvement in the tone of business at Nuremberg has affected this market. Trade is very brisk, and prices are rising, as every available lot of hops is at once taken up by buyers.

Rottenburg.

Last week's trade has been the best of the season; nearly 3,000 bales were sold. Brewers are buying freely, and are giving whatever prices growers are asking.

Burgundy.

Although business in hops has been rather quiet recently, there is no weakness in value, which is well supported at the advance already established, the current rates being from 105 to 120 francs per 50 kilos.

Belgium.

The reaction from the recent depression has been still further accentuated, and prices have again moved upward both in the speculative and the trading markets. Alost hops have been dealt with on the Brussels Bourse at 90 francs for October-November delivery, and higher figures are demanded for December and January. In the country it is difficult to buy Alosts at 90 francs, and at Poperinghe quotations range from 90 to 95 francs. Some advices speak of even 100 francs having been paid to planters, and there is no doubt that excessive firmness characterises the present position, with the prospect of still further progress in favour of sellers.

At the open market held at Assche last week, when hops were submitted to a jury for prizes, it was stated that the quality was remarkable for the season, and that considerable improvement in the management was evident. All the lots shown were eagerly taken up by buyers at 87 to 97 francs.

Recent imports and exports of Belgium throw some light on the hop situation in that country. The imports for September last amounted to 141,029 kilos, and in September, 1899, were only 105,115 kilos. The exports in September last were only 43,397 kilos, whereas in the same month last year they were 142,795 kilos.

America.

While the trade in the New York markets remains comparatively quiet, as consumers are buying only sufficient for their immediate requirements, the value of hops in the country districts is rising rapidly, the dealers advancing their bids in order to cover themselves against eventualities which they foresee may arise in the early future. A cable to hand on Saturday stated that both in New York State and on the Pacific coast the firmness of growers had compelled advanced offers from buyers, and that current prices for choice hops are now nominally from 17 to 18 cents per pound, showing an advance of fully 1 cent. in the past week. There is difficulty in buying even at these rates. Growers are very slow to operate, and a further improvement seems to be probable. In the mean time it may be noted that the New York market opened three weeks ago at 17 to 18 cents for choice new growth, being quite 3 cents in advance of the opening prices of last year. From Sonora Co. (California) I hear that the crop does not exceed 8,000 bales this year, and last year this district turned out 18,000 bales, and from other districts I have confirmations of previous estimates, which go to prove that the total estimate of 200,000 bales for the whole of U.S.A. is not by any means under the actual output.

The general character of the reports this week from the Continent and America is distinctly indicative of the early establishment of higher values, and the maintenance of brisk business in every direction.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 559, 561.)

Hereford October Fair.—The October fair at Hereford was commenced on the 16th inst., when there was an average supply for the first day, chiefly big bullocks, many of them in tip-top condition, and all were shown in the stock market, instead of in the streets. Graziers were present from long distances. Considering that the plentifulness of keep in the country justified an improved demand, farmers held out for prices, which buyers were loth to give, and trade was slow, notwithstanding which most of the cattle were cleared off at about last October's prices. Yearlings sold at from £11 to £14, two-year-olds and three-year-olds £14 to £19 10s., and a few prime lots of three-year-olds at £20 apiece. On the second day the supply was again about the average, and at the commencement trade was a little freer. The cattle most sought after were those that would go on for another year, and could be purchased now at from £14 to £18. Owing to the beef trade being sluggish large cattle were almost unsaleable. Yearlings ranged from £11 to £14; older animals fetched up to £20. In the horse department there was a large supply, but a very slow trade.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Bedfordshire.

It is raining hard as I write, and if it keeps at it until next Sunday morning nearly everybody will be thankful. We have experienced an extraordinary autumn. Plenty of grub for the cattle, but no water, unless carted to them; and unfortunate has been the farmer who lives away from a river. Some years ago meadow land was a bane to the occupiers, but the last three years it has been an untold blessing; the clear, running water being life and health to the cattle.

Wheat Sowing

is all behind in this district, the land being too steely for the proper reception of the seed; in fact, much of the land had become too hard to plough. I have a twelve-acre field well up and looking luxuriantly green, but this was drilled five weeks ago on fallow which was particularly fine.

The Corn Markets

get duller, but bread gets dearer. Wheat at 29s. per quarter; bread at fivepence per quartern loaf. Some time ago, when wheat was making from 45s. to 50s. per quarter, we could get our bread for sixpence per loaf, and nobody grumbled. Is this Free Trade? The General Election is over, and has proved that the loud outcry against the Agricultural Rates Act was nothing but a very hollow cry. I thought the cities and towns had such

an Awful Grievance

against the Tories because they were making them pay the farmers' rates, and were going to turn them out neck and crop, when opportunity offered, the party who so dared to neglect their interests. But the cities and towns have nearly all gone Tory, far more than the agricultural divisions, fully proving that we farmers who have received a small instalment of justice from the present Government have not such deadly enemies in the towns as certain platform orators and certain newspaper writers would have us imagine. This never ought to have been made a party question, and the Liberals have had to suffer through making it one.

British Corn.

I think your readers will own, sir, that a well-known contributor to the *Field* splendidly—although unknowingly—backs up my last "notes" to you when he says: "My own belief is that, as regards our national food supply, the nation is asleep, and that unless adequate steps are taken the day is certain to arrive when our people will endure such privations as are unknown in the history of the British people." Yet when a man like myself advocates British corn for Britons he is branded a fool; but times will prove who are the fools.—THOMAS STREET (October 26th).

Cornwall.

The weather continues remarkably dry and mild. Grass is plentiful, and live stock are doing well in the fields. A great deal of threshing has been done, and proves the yield to be much below the estimate at harvest; there is a great bulk of straw, but the yield of all grain is much below average, and the samples are indifferent. Potatoes have been dug, and also prove to be a bad crop, so that they have gone up much in price and now are making nearly double the price of a month ago. Mangolds are a fair crop, but not so heavy as last year. Swedes and turnips are generally a good crop, but in some places are diseased.

All kinds of live stock are healthy and selling at fair prices. Good horses are scarce and dear. Farm labourers are well employed. All farm work is in a forward condition. Wool is a wretched price, and all grain is cheap.—R. S. O. (October 26th).

Durham.

Farm prospects may be considered fair. Stack-yards look full. As yet, however, farmers have threshed very little grain, and they incline to think the yield will be disappointing. Potatoes and turnips are not much complained of, and grass has grown well throughout the autumn. The usual breadth of wheat will be sown.—R. (October 23rd.)

Essex.

We are suffering from one of the worst autumnal droughts ever remembered. During September I only registered 46-100ths of an inch of rain, and up to last night, in the twenty-four days of this month, only 42-100ths of an inch. We are to-day getting a few little showers, but we want a good two inches before we can satisfactorily work the land. Have not sown any wheat yet, land too dry, and clover lands too hard to plough. J. C. S. (October 25th).

Gloucestershire.

The weather during the last month has been favourable for almost all tillage operations, but too dry for the grass land, and except on low-lying meadows there has been but little growth this autumn, so stock will go on winter rations earlier than usual. The few storms have kept the roots and young clovers growing nicely, and both look better than for some years past at this time of the year. It has been too dry to do any wheat planting except on a few pieces of fallow, but most of the land is ready, and we are getting a nice rain to-day, so it won't take long to get it in when we start. The early-planted vetches and winter oats are looking well.

Husk is Very Prevalent

amongst both calves and lambs, and it seems unusually difficult to cure, but other stock continue to do well, and cattle will go into the yards in much better condition than last year. Anyone going about cannot fail to notice the

Alarming Quantity of Thistles

allowed to remain uncut in almost every part of the country. A few weeks ago the seed flying about often resembled a snowstorm. Doubtless, it is very difficult nowadays to get such work done at the right time, but if the matter is not taken in hand at once, the future penalty will be a serious question to all farmers.—J. H. W. (October 26th).

Hampshire (East).

A very genial autumn so far. Rain is now needed on some of the wheat lands. Threshing is generally disappointing, in the case of wheat especially so, both as regards yield and quality. Root crops have improved rapidly during the last few weeks, and now appear to be a full average, after a summer which at one period bid fair to give us nothing but failure.

The prices for show lambs at Winchester Fair were much lower than usual this year, and good advertisement for the Hampshire Downs that this yearly display of early maturity is, the breeders cannot but lose considerably over the business. Such very fat mutton is now to the consumer's taste, and commands no price commensurate with the cost of its production. Good beef is very scarce, and full prices are, therefore, now being realised.—G. S. M. (October 25th).

Shropshire.

Roads wet after rain, and sky is clearing. Barometer falling to 39.6, and thermometer in shade 52. What we most need is mild, dry weather to harvest the potatoes and sow and to cart the mangolds before frost. Some wheat and rye have been put in the ground under favourable circumstances. No excess of rain has yet fallen. Scarcely any frost. Now is the time to store mangolds before it comes. One American writer gives great praise to England for benefits bestowed on all conquered nations, while other Powers oppressed them. May the same results now follow the wars at home and abroad.—J. G.

Somerset.

The beautiful autumn tints again show the time of year. In West Somerset the weather has been exceptionally fine and mild, with only a little rain, not enough to chill the land, permitting the late turnips and grass to make a fair growth. The early roots have received a check, but, on the whole, I think the root crop will be nearly an average. The young grass plant is particularly good and strong. The thrashing machine has been everywhere busy telling the sad tale that barley and wheat in general is 10 bushels per acre less than expected, or

Less Than Average.

For instance, where 40 bushels per acre was expected there is only 30, and I venture to think there are less acres under 30 than over, and the barley samples also are more plain than good. Live stock are healthy, and many are still running in the fields by night. Water everywhere seems a short supply, and no doubt will be so until we get the wind and rain to break the springs. We have now to

Face the Winter

about six months. As a rule, this means an expensive time if we desire to keep our animals in a growing and thriving condition; economy, with every care and attention, is needed if we carry them through with any profit, whilst cake and feeding stuffs are so high. I do not consider there will be a margin of much profit at the end of the year unless it comes on the grazier's side.—A. B. (October 26th).

On the whole the season in East Somerset may be classed as fairly good, for though corn is perhaps hardly up to the average, the hay and root crops are above, both as to quantity and quality, while grain has been fairly plentiful all the summer. For some reason or other cows have not given a very large

Yield of Milk

this season, and milk at the present time is somewhat scarce. Except for the outbreak of foot and mouth disease live stock in this district is fairly healthy; great inconvenience and considerable loss had been occasioned by the restrictions consequent on the outbreak, and nothing short of a good prospect of freedom from it in the future can justify the measures taken. The high price of cakes and other feeding stuffs adds a good deal to the cost of meat and milk making, while many farms are showing plenty of

evidence of the labour difficulty. Very little has been heard of agriculture or

Agricultural Questions

during the recent elections; it looks as if farmers were either better satisfied with their position or were tired of expecting any help from legislation. The Agricultural Rating Act will, however, soon have to be dealt with, and it appears to be a good opportunity to deal with the whole question of local taxation in a broader and more satisfactory way than by relief to classes by grants in aid.—C. P. (October 26th).

South Lincolnshire.

After a spell of six weeks of almost unbroken fine weather a welcome rain set in yesterday morning, clearing in the afternoon, recommencing at midnight, and is still raining. Undoubtedly we have had one of the

Finest Potato Harvests,

as regards weather, that we have had for many years. Had it held fine until to-night, almost every potato would have been safe. As regards the yield, various estimates are given, but the Up-to-Dates decidedly take the palm, the British Queen coming next; 4 to 5 tons per acre are about the average yield, although there are a few crops of 7 to 8 tons. The prices are good, as much as 80s. per ton being offered. Several lots have already changed hands. Corn threshing has had to give place to the

Mustard,

which we hear is coming out very light. The seed is small, and crops that looked like seven sacks per acre have come out five. There is a great quantity of grey seed; nevertheless, a fair price is obtained, various, from 7s. to 14s. per bushel. Wheat-sowing has just commenced on the stronger lands, but not a great breadth is sown here.

Keep is Plentiful,

and stock are doing very well out at present, but must soon be housed; but farmers are a bit careful. Cotton cakes at £5 10s. per ton. Labour plentiful at 2s. 6d. per day. Beef, 7s. 6d. per stone. Mutton not quite so good a trade. Pork scarce, but stores cheap and plentiful. Barley meal too dear to buy to feed with.—R. M. W. (October 27th).

Yorkshire

We are suffering from three drawbacks—the high price of labour, the dearness of feeding stuffs, and the deficient yield of grain. The weather has been favourable of late, and a fair acreage of wheat has been sown, but there is no disposition to put in a large area. The potato crop is lifted, but has turned out the

Lightest Yield for Many Years.

There is besides a good lot of disease. Potatoes will be scarce in North Yorkshire by next spring. Turnips have never promised well all summer, but they have now grown into a decent crop. There is little that is now to be told of the agricultural situation. It has been a very bad year for farmers, and it is expected there will be

Many Changes Next Spring,

owing to men giving up their farms or retiring. The only thing that gives any promise is the price of fat stock, and for these the value is lower.—W. P. (October 25th).

Foreign Prospects.

France.—Weather being now favourable, autumn sowing is in full swing, and the work progresses speedily and in suitable conditions of soil and moisture. Farmers being too busy to attend markets, supplies continue small, but vet quite up to requirements, for millers do not care to buy while prices are falling, and their abstention keeps trade very flat.

Spain.—Wheat sowings are in full activity in most parts of the Peninsula under favourable auspices.

Holland.—Weather is damp and cool, and not unfavourable to the recent sown cereals.

Germany.—Weather has been windy and wet, with occasional night frosts; the official report of the crop condition of wheat and rye is slightly better than it was a year ago.

Hungary.—Prolonged absence of rain is causing some uneasiness, as agricultural work is considerably in arrear.

Italy.—Preparations for wheat sowings have been in active progress, and in many places the work has already begun. In most parts of the Peninsula operations were favoured by rain.

Roumania.—Rain is needed for the recently-sown wheat and rapeseed. Maize cutting has begun, and the crop promises to be a most satisfactory one throughout the country.

Russia.—Abundant rains in central and southern districts have relieved apprehensions as to the well-being of the autumn cereals. Short supplies of good seed wheat in Kama and other Eastern places cause complaints, local grain being poor and unsuitable for seed.

United States.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says the week has been favourable for the autumn-sown wheat crop, which is doing well, but there is considerable evidence of insect eggs in Ohio and Indiana which is creating apprehension. The maize supply is ample for all requirements, and the situation is unfavourable for an advancing tendency in value as the season advances.—*Dornbusch.*

THE WEATHER.

Monday (October 22nd). Fine weather prevailed over our islands, but there was a good deal of cloud in many places. Slight rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, at several stations on our east coast, but the amounts were small. Frost occurred over the central parts of England early in the morning, and at Loughborough the exposed thermometer fell nine degrees below the freezing point. The winds were north-easterly over the southern portion of the kingdom; but they had become south-westerly in the north, under the influence of a cyclonic disturbance which had arrived from the Atlantic, and was passing eastwards at some distance to the north of Scotland. The weather was fine in London, and the highest temperature was fifty degrees.

Tuesday (October 23rd).—Cloudy weather prevailed over most parts of the British Islands, and slight rain fell in places. The whole type of weather underwent a material change, and the anticyclone, which had occupied a fairly central position over the country, was moving slowly to the south-westward. A cyclonic disturbance appeared over the south of Sweden, and the winds were nearly everywhere from between north and west. Temperature rose briskly, and the increase was very considerable over central England. Slight rain fell in London during the early morning, but the day was fair, and the thermometer rose to fifty-eight degrees.

Wednesday (October 24th).—Dull and unsettled weather prevailed over our islands, and the temperature was generally several degrees higher than the average for the season. Rain was measured in the morning as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours over the northern and western portions of the kingdom, and rain again fell during the day at several places in the North. The midday temperature rose to 60deg. in the east of England, and in London it rose to 59deg.

Thursday (October 25th).—Rainy and unsettled weather prevailed over our islands, and temperatures were again high. A cyclonic disturbance was passing eastwards to the north of Scotland, and the winds were generally south-westerly over England, but had shifted to the north-west over Ireland in the rear of the disturbance. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, in nearly all parts of the country, but the amounts were small except in the extreme north of Scotland. Wednesday night was very warm in England, the thermometer not generally falling as low as fifty degrees. It rained in London during a great part of the day, and the air was very mild, the thermometer registering fifty-nine degrees.

Friday (October 26th).—The weather was again generally unsettled, and sharp showers of rain or hail occurred in many parts of the country. Some improvement had, however, set in at the Irish stations, where the barometer was rising throughout the day. A cyclonic disturbance was still situated to the north of Scotland, and a well-formed secondary disturbance was passing across the north of England. The winds were mostly westerly, and a moderate gale was blowing in the English and St. George's Channels, with rather a rough sea. The early morning temperatures were low in Scotland, where frost occurred in places, but the themometer was still high in the south of England, the lowest night reading being about 50deg. The day was cold in most parts of the country. Showers occurred in London during the morning, and the temperature rose to 51deg.; the afternoon was fine and cold.

Saturday and Sunday (October 27th and 28th).—The weather continued rainy and unsettled over our islands during the two days, and on Saturday a strong and squally north-west wind was blowing. The day temperatures were in fair agreement with the normal, but the nights were somewhat cold, and frost occurred in the open in several parts of the kingdom. The cyclonic disturbance which had occasioned the rough weather at the close of last week has arrived over Denmark, and is passing away to the eastward. Other disturbances had reached us from the Atlantic on Sunday, and the barometer was falling over the entire country. The exposed thermometer indicated a frost in the suburbs of London early on Saturday morning, as well as on Sunday, but the thermometer touched 50deg. on each of the two days.

Cruelty to a Cow.—A butcher of Hornsey Road, named Jack Humphreys, was charged at Highgate Police Court on Wednesday on a summons taken out at the instance of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals with cruelty to a cow. The evidence showed that the defendant was the owner of a cow which was turned out to graze in the Shepherd's Cottage Playing Fields, Highgate. On the evening of October 1st a gentleman who was walking across the fields found the cow lying in a ditch, moaning in a piteous manner, and unable to move. Next day the cow was still in the same position, and the defendant's attention was called to it, but he did not send anyone to see it until the evening of October 3rd. In the meantime, at eleven o'clock on the morning of that day, some humane people pulled the cow out of the ditch. The animal died shortly afterwards. The defendant was fined 20s. and 9s. 6d. costs.

MILLING.

Hints for the Warehouseman and the Miller.

Business in both wheat and flour is very dull, and there is every probability of it remaining so for some little time to come. Flour is selling very slowly, although prices are lower, with a still downward tendency. English wheat has only been in moderate supply, values not being quite so firm, while in some cases a little less money has had to be taken to effect sales. On the other hand, offals are still very brisk.

A great deal of home-grown wheat is coming to hand in very poor condition for milling, and inland millers, especially those who have no conditioning plants, are sighing for the samples of 1906. Without proper appliances it is almost impossible to handle some lots, and many millers are not anxious to buy. English wheat always has an excess of moisture, and in seasons like the past one this natural characteristic is accentuated, and there is a loss of colour as well as strength. The latter can be remedied, however, by mixing with it a sufficient quantity of strong American flour.

Weevils and their Extermination.

One of the most troublesome pests in the silo and the grain warehouse, if not properly kept down, is the weevil, although its depredations are to be found in the newest installations of brick and concrete and steel. The insect is very cosmopolitan, and is found in nearly all grain centres. The best way to exterminate it when it infests grain in bulk is to use bi-sulphide of carbon, although the pest can be removed in large numbers by aspiration and sieving. In this case they should be burnt, and the cleaning process should be repeated at frequent intervals, as those which escape the application of air currents multiply to an amazing extent. The bi-sulphide of carbon is very explosive and volatile, is heavier than air, and should be used with great caution. About one and a half pounds of the chemical is sufficient for each ton of grain, and if the silos or bins are very badly infected it is well to use more than one application.

If it is required to free empty bins of the pest, one pound of the bi-sulphide will be

Sufficient for Every 1,000 Cubic Feet

of space in the silos. After the package has been opened the contents should be scattered over the grain or placed about in pans as quickly as possible, and all doors and openings should be tightly closed and kept so for at least ten hours. As it is a very explosive liquid, special care must be taken not to allow the fumes to come into contact with a naked light. Millers need not be afraid to pour it on the stored grain, as no harm can be done by its application in that way. Very soon it evaporates and penetrates the whole bulk, killing all insect life with which it comes into contact. When the bins are opened the chemical gradually loses its pungency until in a short time no trace of it is left on the wheat. But, as has been already said, some millers may not care to use it for the destruction of mill pests, including moths, and then the only remedy is cleanliness. There must be constant sweeping and cleaning all over the mill and warehouses or silos, with frequent aspiration of the grain itself. If this is well done there will be no need to resort to the bisulphide remedy. But the latter is the more expeditious and certain as to results.

Treatment of the Last Break Stock

It is well known that the stock from the last break should be kept by itself, and it is the best plan to scalp it on a three-sheet centrifugal, in the case of a moderately large plant, clothed with 30, 30, and 26 wire. The tail-over might go to a conical bran duster, covered with 24 wire, the tail over of which would be bran and the throughs would go with the throughs of 26 on the centrifugal, and might be classed as pollards, or they might be further divided. The throughs of the two sheets of 30 meshes would go to another three-sheet centrifugal, having two sheets with flour numbers and a sheet of No. 7. The tail-over could be purified and the throughs might go to the last reduction. In the case of a very small plant, it might not be convenient to purify the tail-over of the second centrifugal; it would then be sent to a tailings roll. This way of treating the last break stock would be especially suitable for mills using mild and soft wheats like English, but for a large plant, where all hard foreign and well-conditioned wheat was being ground, a plansifter might take the place of a centrifugal, but the writer would not specially advise it. In this case, however, the following arrangement of sieves would suffice to do the work: The top sieve would be 26 wire, the tail over going to a bran duster, as above, and the throughs on to No. 9 flour silk. The tail-over of the latter might go on to 30 wire, the tail over of which would be offal, and two flour silks, both No. 10, would get out the remainder of the bran flour. What stock was left would tail over the last silk on to No. 7 silk, the tail of which would be purified, and the throughs would go to the last reduction.

Miller-Farmer

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: Very little doing in old; samples of new are on the increase. Barley: Grinding, 3d per qr dearer; malting unchanged. Wheat: Slow at late rates. Oats: In some cases made 3d per qr more money. Maize: Advanced 6d per qr. Flour: Steady.—NIXON, GOWER AND Co.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The supply of English wheat is at present sufficient to meet all requirements, and even at a further decline of 3d to 6d business was difficult to complete. White of fine quality, 32s 6d, 65lb; and red of similar sample, 30s 6d, 63lb delivered. American descriptions were generally 3d lower, but with an absence of buyers there was nothing to actually test the market, which was somewhat irregular. Flour is frequently 3d to 6d per sack lower since last Monday, but consumers still buy only for pressing needs. American first patents quoted at 25s 6d to 26s; second ditto, 24s to 25s; first bakers, 19s 6d to 20s 6d; and second, 16s to 17s 6d. Hungarian up to 29s 6d. The London Millers' Association made no alteration in their prices to-day, town household remaining at 25s 6d, and whites 28s 6d per sack. Grinding barley generally unaltered, with Persian and Black Sea in fair supply. Maize continues very scarce, flat being now held for 23s landed, but operators were not anxious to follow the advance.

Mark Lane, Friday.—On the week, breadstuffs are lower, while feeding stuffs show firmness. The attendance of buyers was only on a limited scale. English wheat, although easier since last Monday, was steady to-day at the decline. Nearly everything, however, resulting is still confined to the country exchanges. Fine white, 32s, and red of similar sample 30s 6d, 63lb delivered. American 3d easier since last Monday, while also irregular. Flour was again idle to-day, but sellers showed no inclination to accept concessions, and the general range of prices is 3d to 6d lower per sack since Monday last. The London Millers' Association made no alteration in quotations at this afternoon's meeting. Maize was again the most selected among feeding stuffs, and flat is almost unobtainable landed, 21s 6d being demanded, but 21s is named ex ship; round corn firm; Odessa, 26s 6d ex quay; sound new Plate, 23s ex quay. Barley steady for feeding kinds; supplies of Black Sea and Persian on hand are kept down, but wants are not too readily met at present. The market for beans and peas continued featureless, but steady. Egyptian splits, 20s 3d ex mill. Mazagans, 20s landed. New Zealand, new, 32s to 32s,6d; and old, 33s to 34s, 504lb. Canadian white peas, new, 29s 6d to arrive, and old 30s 6d ex granary. Maize germ meal easier for American, owing to heavy arrivals. Arrivals of grain this week:—English and Scotch wheat 450, barley 1,150 qr. Foreign wheat 17,560, barley 22,600, oats, 23,810, maize 8,160, beans 2,110, peas 940 qr. Flour 24,040 sacks.

COUNTRY.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—The wheat trade again dull, with a further decline of 6d on the week. Other grain maintained their prices. An average attendance and good quantity on offer. Wheat, 26s to 29s; barley, 25s to 32s; beans, 29s to 35s; oats, 18s to 24s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (white) (old), 29s to 31s per qr; wheat (red) (new), 26s to 28s per qr; beans (new), 28s to 30s per qr; beans (old), 33s to 34s per qr; oats (new) 16s to 18s per qr; oats (old) (black), 21s to 22s per qr. Wheat a slow trade at about last week's rates.

Bristol, Thursday.—We have had a quiet trade for wheat since our last. There was a fair supply of English wheat at to-day's market, and to effect sales from 3d to 6d less had to be taken. Foreign also the turn easier. Grinding barley 3d higher. Maize and oats without change. Flour trade little doing.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been dull with a drooping tendency. Supplies are not large. Farmers are now getting on with their wheat sowing after a nice rain. At this market to-day there was a small supply of wheat, which met with a dull trade at prices, perhaps, slightly under last week. Wheat—red, 29s to 31s; and white up to 31s per 504lb. Barley was in smaller supply and unaltered in price. Beans, turn easier. Oats were firmer.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat was rather cheaper, and trade generally was dull. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 30s to 32s 6d; red ditto, 29s to 31s 6d; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; ditto black, 15s to 20s; peas, 29s to 31s; tick beans, 30s to 32s; mazagans, 27s to 29s; flat maize, 22s to 24s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per qr; winter tares, 6s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply of oats to-day in our market, good demand at 6d per qr advance. New, 17s to 19s per 336 lb; old, 23s to 24s per 336 lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—English wheat was of poorer quality, and not so well sold, oats being used up principally by farmers, few samples were changing hands. Indian corn had fair consumptive trade, with slight fall in value. Quotations: Wheat, white and red, 4s to 4s 2d per 75lb.; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb. Beans, new, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; old, 5s 6d per 80lb. Oats new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; old, 3s 2d to 3s 7d per 46lb. Indian corn, 11s 6d to 11s 9d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—The attendance was about up to the average for a bye-market, but the tone of business was quiet. Not much wheat offering, and the transactions which took place were at a decline of 6d to 1s on the week. Feeding stuffs were steady at late rates, without much activity being shown, while flour was unaltered.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat small supply, slow trade at barely last week's prices. Barley, very much less offering, the medium and better sorts making rather more money. Beans, peas and oats scarce, and selling at fully late rates.—FRANCIS AND Co.

Cork, Wednesday.—Barley, 272 cwt., 6s 6d to 7s 6d; oats, 626 cwt., black 4s 9d to 4s 11d 20 cwt, white 6s.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Quiet trade for both English and foreign wheat, prices dropping 6d quarter. Fair quantity of malting barley offering, but again only the best qualities were saleable Grinding barley 3d per quarter dearer. Feeding stuffs firm.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat dull, at 3d per boll decline on the week. Flour depressed, and 6d to 1s per sack lower. Indian corn quiet, at a decline of 1½d to 3d per boll. Grinding beans steady and unchanged. Canadian peas quiet and unaltered. Canadian oats firm, and the turn dearer. Home quiet but steady. Barley steady. Oatmeal quiet, and the turn in buyers' favour. Bran and thirds dull, but unaltered. —GIBSON AND CLARK.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance, with dull trade in English wheats, particularly for medium grades. English barleys were freely offered without any improvement in value. Oats quietly steady. Maize unchanged. Beans firm. Vetches and peas, nothing doing. Wholesale prices:—Wheat, white, 3s 6d to 3s 8d, red, 3s 5d to 3s 7d; barley, 3s to 3s 9d; oats, 2s 3d to 3s; beans, 3s 8d to 4s; maize, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; vetches, winter, 4s to 6s, and spring 3s 6d to 5s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Small supply of wheat, and trade quiet at barely last week's rates. New reds, 29s to 30s; old, 30s to 31s 6d; white, 33s. Good supply of barley. Best samples were in request at from 32s to 36s; medium runs from 26s to 30s. Oats the turn dearer. Maize steady. Beans and peas firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Continued heavy shipments and weakness in America keep the wheat market in a stagnant state, and in the practical absence of business, it is impossible to quote values. All but finest barleys are rather lower, and difficult to sell, best qualities in fair demand. Maize, beans, and oats very slow.—DUNNS AND Co.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats in variable condition. Trade sluggish for all except choice samples at 29s to 32s per 36 stones. Fine oats firm.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair supply of new wheats. Trade very slow, with no change in value. Reds, 27s to 28s; whites, 28s to 29s. Foreign wheats less money. Good supply of barley; trade very flat, with maltsters buying sparingly. Good oats firm, inferior cheaper. No change in beans, peas, and maize.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat firm but quiet, with a small business at 1d decline on whites and ½d on reds. Flour is quiet without change from last market day's quotations. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in prices. Maize is in slow request for mixed American at 1½d under Tuesday owing to larger arrivals. European scarce and dearer. Plate has a fair trade at unchanged prices. Barley slow for feeding; malting idle at unchanged prices. Beans quiet trade, with a fair inquiry from Scotland for flat sorts, Pandermo's making 3d advance. Peas in fair request at ½d under Tuesday. Oats are very quiet for English; foreign sorts have a moderate business, but without change. Oatmeal steady with only a small inquiry. Oilcake firm with a moderate business at late rates.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The attendance to-day was quite as numerous as usual, and about the average display of wheat samples. The tendency is to a slight decline in value, but as the farmers are discontented with present prices and do not press, not enough drop to alter quotations from last week. Barley is bought pretty freely if really good, but middling and inferior sorts neglected. Oats, beans, and peas, no change. Maize is rather high just now, so its sale is of retail description. Not any alteration in tares, rye, hemp, sergo, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—There is a lower range of prices prevailing to-day as compared with a week ago. English wheat is 6d per qr easier, whilst foreign sorts are about 2d per cental down. Flour, though quotably unaltered, is slow of sale with prices tending against the seller. No particular alteration is noticeable in beans, peas, or barley. Indian corn is ½d per cental easier as compared with last week.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a small show, which sold steadily at previous prices. Barley: Some inquiry for the better qualities, inferior samples very unsaleable. Oats and beans firm at last week's prices.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A dragging sale at our to-day's market for wheat, which was disposed of at 6d per 504lb under last week's prices. Maize steady at last week's prices; demand, however, was not active. Fine Scotch oats were sold at last week's quotations, common sorts to make sales 3d to 6d below last week's prices had to be taken. Barley steady for fine malting qualities, common sorts neglected. Beans and peas unchanged. Flour 6d. per sack lower on the week.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND Co.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat and flour disappointing for sellers, malting barley also. Oats slow and on the wane. Beans and peas steady. Maize lower to sell.

Northampton, Saturday. — The supply and demand of farm produce, limited. A quiet market on the lines of last Saturday. Not much doing, and business generally inactive. White wheat, 30s to 32s; red, old, 30s to 31s; red, new, 27s to 30s; malting barley, 25s to 32s; grinding ditto, 21s to 23s; oats, 17s to 21s; old, fine, 24s; beans, 28s to 31s; old fine, 36s; peas, 28s to 36s; flour, 23s to 26s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was only a small supply of wheat at our market to-day, and where business was effected was in favour of buyers. Not so much barley on offer at late rates. Stormy and unsettled weather has prevailed during the past week. Wheat, red, 29s to 30s per qr, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending 22nd October, 1900:—Wheat, 3,783-6, 28s 6¾d; barley, 13,810-7, 26s 1½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat a good supply, fair trade at previous values. Barley, fine samples sought after, and full rates maintained, while inferior lots were difficult to move. Oats and beans both moderately represented, and full rates supported.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Quiet market. Wheat changed hands at barely last week's prices. Barley, smaller supply offering. Firm trade for good quality, inferior very slow.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The wheat trade has been slow to-day, but supply was so small that local millers had to pay last week's prices for their requirments. Middling barley was lower, but samples firm. Oats in fair demand at full prices.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a good attendance at our corn market to-day. Trade was quiet, wheat 6d lower. Barley has increased 3d. Maize and oats steady at last week's prices.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND Co.

Reading, Saturday.—The wheat supply to-day was somewhat limited, but business proved quiet. Last week's figures were generally obtained, and these varied from 27s to 30s per qr for new wheat, and 30s to 32s for old parcels. The barley trade also ruled very slow, and where sales took places they were at late quotations. Other descriptions of corn sold at unaltered figures.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Moderate attendance at the Corn Market. Foreign and English wheat a little lower on the week. English and foreign beans firm at late rates. Flat corn 3d per qr dearer. Oats and barley unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s to 33s; red, 31s to 32s; new, 30s to 31s per 504lb; oats, old white, 26s; ditto, new white, 17s 6d to 19s; ditto old black, 22s; ditto new black, 16s to 17s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small old, 29s to 30s; ditto American mixed, 23s 6d to 24s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Wheat was a slow trade, and prices had a downward tendency at 27s per qr. Oats, slow, at previous prices. Barley unchanged. No quotable alteration in other articles.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Moderate show of English wheat, which made 29s and 30s per qr. Since last week the foreign wheat market has continued to be in a depressed state owing to large shipments and weakness in America, and to do business a reduction of fully 6d below last week's prices had to be submitted to. Maize and oats unchanged. There was a fair show of malting barley, which made 25s to 27s 6d per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little wheat offering, and prices rather easier. Barley in good supply, but condition moderate, and difficult to sell. Arrivals coastwise: wheat 2,523 qrs; oats, 385 qrs. Foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Large attendance. English wheat a quiet trade at slightly easier prices. Malting barley large supply; best samples firm; secondary slightly easier. All feeding stuffs steady.

Wakefield, Friday.—During the past week the trade has been very slow for wheat, but to-day there is a slightly improved demand at last Friday's prices. There is a large supply of barley offering, but the finest only sells at about former rates. We quote no alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—The wheat trade has ruled exceedingly stagnant this week, and on the limited business doing sellers have been compelled to accept less money. Yesterday's advance in America causes a steadier feeling to-day, with an improved inquiry. Fine malting barleys continue to be sought after, lower qualities rather favour buyers. Maize, beans, and oats in poor demand at unchanged rates.—DUNNS AND Co.

Winchester, Saturday.—Wheat in moderate supply, which met a slow trade at 6d to 1s reduction on the week. Best barley sold readily; medium qualities difficult to quit. Oats firm trade, at fully late rates. Maize unaltered. Flour cheaper to sell.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND Co., LD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A short supply of grain. Wheat a dull trade at 6d to 1s decline. Red, 27s to 28s. Oats, 17s to 19s. Barley, 25s to 28s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A good attendance, but trade quiet, wheat market being very flat. Quotations:—English wheat, new, 12s to 12s 6d; English wheat, old, 13s per 216lb; oats, old 15s to 16s, new 10s 6d to 11s 6d; beans, old 14s 6d to 15s 6d, new 12s 3d to 13s 3d per 196lb; maize, 24s 6d to 25s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Market moderately attended, and trade slow. Wheat is very quiet, and English samples were only saleable at a reduction. Foreign made about previous rates. Barley, oats, and beans unchanged. Maize the turn easier. Wheat, white, 29s to 30s; red, 27s to 28s per qr.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance. Smaller show of grain, especially barley, which sold much better. Oats scarce and dear. Wheat, old white, 31s to 32s; old red, 30s to 31s; new white, 28s to 29s; new red, 27s to 28s per qr; best malting barley, 30s to 32s; secondary, 28s to 29s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; old white oats, 25s to 27s; old black, 24s to 25s; new white oats, 18s to 20s; new black, 17s to 18s; flat maize, 24s to 25s; round, 28s to 29s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Farmers do not offer very much wheat, and prices remained unchanged. The following are the average prices of corn, according to the official weekly return, computed by standard imperial measure:—Wheat, 26s 4d; barley, 24s 1d; oats, 17s 2d per qr.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has ruled quiet, business having been to a great extent confined to the immediate requirements of consumption. Wheat quotations have shown no improvement upon the French country markets, which have been depressed, in sympathy with the downward tendency of prices in Paris. Business in wheat at Marseilles has been limited and inactive. The Parisian wheat market has shown a dull tone. Flour for consumption has exhibited little change in the French capital. It is believed that there are considerable stocks of wheat in Russia—at any rate the exportation of wheat from Russia has been increasing since the commencement of the new wheat year, having amounted to 5,593,549 hectolitres, as compared with 4,539,718 hectolitres in the corresponding period of 1899. Roumania and the Balkan provinces have also wheat supplies available for exportation this year. Wheat has shown little change at Konigsburg and Dantzic. The tendency of the Odessa wheat market has continued dull and weak. The quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is returned at 1,130 000 qrs, as compared with 1,410,000 qrs at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,130,000 qrs representing the quantity of wheat now en route for the Continent, is made up as follows:—France, 100,000 qrs; Belgium, 310,000 qrs; Holland, 320,000 qrs; Germany and the North, 1,700,000 qrs; and Italy, Spain, etc., 320,000 qrs.

Hamburgh, Saturday.—Barley rules exceedingly dull here, and prices are tending lower. Stocks on the spot are certainly small, but the demand is equally poor, and transactions are few and far between. Our local maltsters and brewers are well stocked, and from England there seem to be no orders in the market and no reasonable bids can be drawn from there.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather wet, with a changeable temperature. Influenced by dull reports from foreign markets, trade here is quiet, and prices of most articles tend in buyers' favour. The imports during the week amounted to 1,586 tons wheat, 3,320 tons rye, 6,048 tons barley, 17,530 tons maize. Soft wheats are cheaper, while fine dry Holstein, Mecklenburg, and Saale are not materially lower, such being still held at 27s 6d to 28s 3d per 504lb., f.o.b. Common Holstein and Hanoverian is offering at 25s to 26s 6d, f.o.b. Hard Winter 2 and fine River Plate is selling at 28s 9d to 29s 9d per 480lb. Rye quiet, 9 10-15. South Russian is offering at 22s to 22s 3d per 480lb, c.i.f. Good Saal barley is selling at 30s 9d to 32s, fine at 33s 6d to 35s 6d, and finest at 36s to 38s 6d per 448lb, f.o.b. Bohemian and Moravian is held at 34s to 41s per 448lb, f.o.b., but does not meet much attention. Russian feeding barley 18s 3d to 18s 6d per 400lb. Mixed maize near at hand maintains its value, 21s to 21s 3d being paid, while forward deliveries are rather easier; November 19s 9d, December-March 18s 9d per 480lb, c.i.f., Hamburgh.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

October 19th to 26th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	2,296	..	..	41,298	43,594
Barley	4,619	..	..	8,663	13,282
Malt	18,679	922	..	103	19,707
Oats	4,035	..	..	63,502	70,537
Rye	100	..	..	4,000	4,100
Beans	494	..	..	1,104	1,598
Peas	486	..	..	7,916	8,397
Maize	..	..	..	17,314	17,314
Tares	16	..	..	..	16
Lentils	..	..	..	80	80
Linseed	150	..	..	12,000	12,150
Rapeseed	..	..	..	450	450
Cottonseed	..	..	..	..	..
Farm Seeds	467	..	..	3,778	4,245
Flour { Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	25,787	..	..	47,012	72,799

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Oct. 19 to 26, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	43,594 qrs.
Flour	54,708 ,,
Total	98,302 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Deficiency	7,698 ,,

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.

Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	June 10	126,781 qrs.
,, 14	108,380 ,,	,, 17	160,574 ,,
,, 21	128,902 ,,	,, 24	101,205 ,,
,, 28	51,234 ,,	July 1	152,500 ,,
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	,, 8	112,761 ,,
,, 11	82,912 ,,	,, 15	116,850 ,,
,, 18	204,974 ,,	,, 22	89,245 ,,
,, 25	108,273 ,,	,, 29	118,314 ,,
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,	Aug. 5	104,234 ,,
,, 11	63,103 ,,	,, 12	102,160 ,,
,, 18	122,541 ,,	,, 19	103,353 ,,
,, 25	86,309 ,,	,, 26	82,367 ,,
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	Sept. 2	73,600 ,,
,, 8	133,261 ,,	,, 9	83,791 ,,
,, 15	101,518 ,,	,, 16	107,684 ,,
,, 22	70,984 ,,	,, 23	131,880 ,,
,, 29	68,573 ,,	,, 30	61,997 ,,
May 6	96,343 ,,	Oct. 7	121,032 ,,
,, 13	72,852 ,,	,, 14	97,050 ,,
,, 20	101,429 ,,	,, 21	95,446 ,,
May 27	108,772 ,,	,, 28	154,895 ,,
June 3	73,846 ,,		

1900.			1900.		
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.		June 8	93,147 qrs.	
,, 13	95,064 ,,		,, 15	86,125 ,,	
,, 20	114,928 ,,		,, 22	196,116 ,,	
,, 27	124,652 ,,		,, 29	142,185 ,,	
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,		July 6	132,050 ,,	
,, 10	75,000 ,,		,, 13	101,253 ,,	
,, 17	66,804 ,,		,, 20	82,294 ,,	
,, 24	62,191 ,,		,, 27	55,998 ,,	
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,		Aug. 2	86,167 ,,	
,, 10	63,702 ,,		,, 11	192,077 ,,	
,, 17	162,985 ,,		,, 18	138,510 ,,	
,, 24	111,409 ,,		,, 25	182,517 ,,	
,, 31	69,356 ,,		,, 31	80,149 ,,	
April 7	48,302 ,,		Sept. 7	58,394 ,,	
,, 13	131,085 ,,		,, 14	117,066 ,,	
,, 20	82,357 ,,		,, 21	105,961 ,,	
,, 27	43,783 ,,		,, 28	158,771 ,,	
May 4	104,535 ,,		Oct. 5	183,383 ,,	
,, 11	52,859 ,,		,, 12	156,815 ,,	
,, 18	97,412 ,,		,, 19	73,725 ,,	
,, 25	71,399 ,,		,, 26	98,302 ,,	
,, 31	177 744 ,,				

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1899.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Oct 7	71,152⅝	26	0	169,315½	28	0	21,440⅝	16	5
,, 14	63,040⅞	27	3	191,901⅛	27	9	18,024⅛	16	5
,, 21	64,242	28	2	192,268½	27	6	18,983⅛	16	10
,, 28	85,178¼	28	1	219,751⅛	27	4	20,064½	16	3
Nov. 4	82,769⅜	27	2	203,071⅛	27	2	17,895¼	16	7
,, 11	66,741⅜	26	7	166,786⅞	26	9	15,216⅝	16	5
,, 18	65,470½	26	1	163,915⅜	26	4	16,313⅛	16	7
,, 25	67,308¼	25	8	164,362¼	26	2	17,047⅜	16	7
Dec. 2	72,974⅞	25	7	163,441⅜	25	10	22,575½	16	6
,, 9	10,982⅛	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421¾	16	6
,, 16	787,721⅜	25	4	135,344⅜	25	7	22,889½	16	1
,, 23	67,102⅜	25	6	116,757⅜	25	10	16,447⅜	16	0
,, 30	47,685¼	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,463¼	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6	40,086	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅝	16	4
,, 13	57,021⅝	25	11	83,421⅜	25	5	19,706	16	6
,, 20	68,463¼	26	0	100,925⅜	25	8	23,122⅜	16	5
,, 27	65,381¼	25	10	108,357⅜	25	9	17,814⅜	16	8
Feb. 3	73,796⅜	25	8	90,769¼	25	4	22,061¼	16	3
April 7	67,743⅜	25	10	20,402⅝	24	10	13,757⅜	17	2
,, 10	71,482¼	25	10	80,543⅜	25	3	20,822⅜	16	2
,, 17	76,611⅜	26	1	80,414⅞	24	11	20,986⅜	16	1
,, 24	69,534⅛	26	3	63,931⅜	25	1	21,132⅛	16	10
Mar. 3	68,153⅛	26	4	51,727¼	24	6	18,499¼	16	11
,, 10	58,703⅛	25	11	44,921¼	24	8	16,224	16	11
,, 17	76,435⅜	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,104⅜	16	10
,, 24	69,944½	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042⅜	17	1
,, 31	72,762	25	10	34,387⅜	24	11	15,200⅜	17	2
,, 14	66,412½	25	11	19,519½	24	5	9,672⅜	17	8
,, 21	54,977¼	26	0	11,673⅜	24	9	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28	70,006⅜	26	0	7 785⅜	25	2	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5	75,410⅛	25	11	8,159⅛	25	3	8,658⅛	18	0
,, 12	82,190⅞	25	11	10,417⅜	24	10	12,245⅜	17	11
,, 19	83,941⅜	25	7	5,638⅜	24	5	9,942	18	5
,, 26	95,574⅜	25	5	3,521⅛	23	11	7,350⅜	18	2
June 2	68,906⅜	25	5	1,752⅞	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9	64,747½	25	3	990⅜	23	8	6,055⅜	18	8
,, 16	55,340⅜	25	6	1,486⅝	23	8	7,228⅛	18	11
,, 23	54,324⅛	25	9	1,312⅛	23	5	5,344⅛	18	11
,, 30	44,920⅝	26	11	495⅞	23	4	4,706⅛	19	3
July 7	34,344⅞	27	10	486⅜	22	10	4,391⅛	19	5
,, 14	22,009⅛	28	7	949⅛	23	2	2,911⅜	19	1
,, 21	26,716⅜	29	0	767⅜	23	8	3,771⅛	19	3
,, 28	33,088	29	3	194⅛	24	4	3,335⅜	19	9
Aug. 4	45,748⅜	28	10	409⅛	23	10	3,453⅜	19	4
,, 11	37,644⅝	28	7	311⅛	23	7	3,391	19	8
,, 18	32,812⅛	28	10	608⅛	23	3	3,593⅜	19	11
,, 25	26,427⅛	28	10	787⅛	24	10	5,349⅛	18	8
Sept. 1	30,393⅞	28	8	1,978⅛	25	2	9,606⅜	18	1
,, 8	34,755⅛	28	7	6,140⅜	25	8	11,042⅛	17	16
,, 15	53,334⅛	28	4	20,879⅜	25	4	18,684½	17	1
,, 22	61,468¼	28	4	41,284⅛	26	0	21,729⅜	17	1
,, 29	72,601	28	9	68,844¼	26	1	25,620½	17	2
Oct. 6	66,690	28	9	94,283	26	2	23,865	16	10
,, 13	70,314⅜	28	9	134,277½	26	2	18,350⅜	17	1
,, 20	58,790½	28	4	159,007⅜	26	5	14,681¼	16	11
Oct. 27	56,254	27	11	190,079⅜	26	3	16,996½	16	11

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900 Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	19 5
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	28 6	25 7	17 6
October	25 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Oct. 27th, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	56,254 qrs.	27s. 11d.
Barley	190,079⅜ qrs.	26s. 3d.
Oats	16,996½ qrs.	16s. 11d.

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 23rd, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	1,723	2	2,486	9	4	1	8	10
Barley	2,403	2	3,417	1	11	1	8	5
Oats	2,800	4	2,483	10	9	0	17	9

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Oct. 27th, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896	57,192	20	9	183,419½	28	3	16,132⅜	17	3
1897	60,573⅔	32	10	208,062½	27	5	10,847⅛	16	0
1898	75,710⅔	27	4	246,164½	28	8	16,473⅛	16	8
1899	85,178¼	28	1	219,751⅛	27	4	20,064½	16	3

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Sept. 22.	Sept. 29.	Oct. 6.	Oct. 13.	Oct. 20.	Oct. 27.
29s. 3d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
29s. 0d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 10d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 9d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 8d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 7d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 4d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
27s. 11d.	..	..	..	..	..	..

IMPORTS OF POTATOES (OFFICIAL).

CEREAL YEARS.

	1900.	1899.	1898.
September Cwts.	213,000	117,000	78,000

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	23	9	29	0	26	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb.	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept.	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct.	..	..	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov.	..	..	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec.	..	..	21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb.	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept.	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct.	..		24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	0	25	2	27	6
Nov.	..		24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec.	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1 (per sack)	28	6	(per sack)	25	6
October 1 ,,	29	0	,,	26	0
October 26 ,,	28	6	,,	25	6

(No official change since last date given).

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—The demand this morning ruled rather firmer, but large quantities, however, were unsold. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Essex, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Surrey, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Sussex, 2s 6d to 3s; Irish, 1s 3d to 1s 8d; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d; country ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; turkeys (cocks), 6s 6d to 9s; hen, 4s to 5s; Bordeaux pigeons, 8d to 10d; feathered ditto, 7d to 9d; wild rabbits, 9d to 10d; tame, 1s to 1s 2d each; Australian, 7s 6d to 10s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 4s 6d to 5s; young partridges, 3s to 3s 9d; old, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; young grouse, 4s to 4s 6d; old, 3s per brace; hares, 3s to 3s 3d; leverets, 1s 6d to 2s; wild duck, 1s 4d; pintail, 1s 4d; teal, 6d to 9d; woodcock, 2s to 2s 6d; widgeon, 1s; snipe, 6d to 8d; golden plover, 7d to 10d; black, 5d to 6d each.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals were large, the unsold parcels at Kilmarnock fair being sent to Glasgow. As the trade supplied themselves freely at Kilmarnock, the sales in Glasgow were almost nil. There is a splendid variety of cheese on offer. Cheddars and Dunlops are quoted from 45s to 66s per cwt. September-made Canadians are expected to arrive to-day.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: Under the influence of weaker American advices and limited consumptive demand the market is easier, and closes dull with further declining tendency. We quote, to-day, choice Cumberland cut, 20lb to 22lb, 46s 6d to 50s; 26lb to 30lb, 45s to 46s; 32lb to 38lb, 43s to 48s; long middles, rib-in, 18lb to 22lb, 50s to 55s; clear bellies, 14lb to 16lb, 48s to 52s; 18lb to 20lb, 48s to 51s; Staffordshire cut (lean on), 35lb to 40lb, and Birmingham cut, 33lb to 38lb, 45s to 48s; clear Staffords (lean off), 40lb to 44lb, and Yorkshire cut, 40lb to 45lb, 43s to 45s; singed Wiltshire, Canadian, 45lb to 55lb, 54s to 60s; American, 40lb to 50lb, 44s to 49s; short clear backs, 12lb to 16lb, 43s to 45s; 16lb to 20lb, 42s to 43s; fat backs (export), 38s to 39s; long clear middles, 35lb to 40lb, 43s 6d to 45s; 40lb to 45lb, 43s to 44s; short clear middles, 45lb to 50lb, 40s 6d to 41s 6d; short middles, (rib in), 18lb to 23lb, 47s to 49s; shoulders, square cut, 12lb to 14lb, 36s 6d to 40s; 14lb to 16lb, 36s to 40s; New York cut, 11lb to 13lb, 32s to 34s per cwt. Hams dull and reduced in value. We quote choice long cut, 8lb to 12lb, 46s 6d to 51s; 14lb to 16lb, 45s to 50s; short cut and A.C., 10lb to 12lb, 45s 6d to 49s; 12lb to 14lb, 44s to 48s; 14lb to 16lb, 41s 6d to 45s per cwt. Lard is in moderate request, and with lower cables is easier to buy. We quote pails and kegs, 37s 9d to 39s; prime Western (in tierces), 37s 6d to 37s 9d per cwt. Beef rules steady at recent values. We quote extra India mess, 70s to 75s; Plate and Packet, 65s to 67s 6d per 200lb. Pork quiet, but with light supplies prices are well maintained. We quote finest prime mess, 69s to 74s per 200lb. Cheese.—The demand has been moderate, and with somewhat easier cable quotations importers have shown more willingness to meet buyers, and prices must be reported a shade easier. We quote finest Canadian, coloured, late makes, 54s to 55s; white, 54s to 54s 6d; finest States coloured, 53s 6d to 54s 6d; white, 53s to 54s; summer cheese, ripe in flavour, are somewhat plentiful, and are offering freely from 51s to 53s; lower grades in light supply, nominally 28s to 44s per cwt. Butter.—Notwithstanding the advance in Continental and Irish produce the inquiry for Canadian and American is very disappointing. We quote, fancy Canadian creamery, in boxes, 102s to 107s; second quality, 98s to 100s; finest States, 95s to 100s; finest ladles and imitation creamery, 78s to 84s; finest Danish, 112s to 122s; Australian, 103s to 110s; Irish creamery, 106s to 112s; Cork firsts, 94s; seconds, 87s; thirds, 79s per cwt.—HOBSON'S BROTHERS.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good supply and an average attendance. The quotations were: Cheesepickles, 56s to 58s per cwt; fancy dairies, 58s to 62s; doubles, 55s to 60s; truc ales, 56s to 60s; and Cheddars, 56s to 58s, per cwt.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Settle: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Stone: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Wednesday. — Barnsley: 1s 3d per lb. Boston: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Colne: 1s 2½d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d per lb. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 11d to 1s per lb. Knaresborough: (wholesale), 1s 6d; (retail), 1s 7d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Louth: (wholesale), 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Market Drayton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s 1d per lb. Masham: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Whitby: 11d to 1s per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Bristol: Canadian creamery, 106s to 108s; Canadian dairy, 92s to 94s. Waterford: 96s to 98s. Driffield: 1s per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 4d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 2d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Friday.—Chester,: 1s 3d per lb. Crewe: 1s 3d per lb. Derby: 1s 2d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 118s to 120s; Dutch, 110s to 113s; Canadian, 108s to 110s; Finland, 110s to 112s per 112lb. Helmsley: 1s 1d to 11d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 118s to 124s 6d per 112lb; Irish creameries, 104s to 110s; York lump, 15s to 16s per stone; ditto long rolls, 1s 1d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 5d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Stratford-on-Avon: 10d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitchurch: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 8 for 1s. Gainsborough: 8 or 9 for 1s. Settle: 8 or 9 for 1s. Sheffield: 8 or 9 for 1s. Stone: 8 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 7 for 1s. Boston: 7 or 8 for 1s. Colne: 2s 6d per score. Goole: 9 for 1s. Hereford: 8 to 10 for 1s. Keighley: 7 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 10 or 11 for 1s. Knaresborough: 9 or 10 for 1s. Louth (wholesale): 12 for 1s. Market Drayton: 8 or 9 for 1s. Market Weighton: 9 or 10 for 1s. Masham: 9 or 10 for 1s. Northallerton: 7 or 8 for 1s. Stockton: 6 or 7 for 1s. Whitby: 8 or 9 for 1s. Worksop: 3s per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 8 or 9 for 1s. Driffield: 12 or 13 for 1s. Penistone: 8 for 1s. Ripon: 7 or 8 for 1s. Scarborough: 9 for 1s. Wetherby: 8 or 9 for 1s.

Friday.—Derby: 7 and 8 for 1s. Easingwold: 10 or 11 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 6s 2d to 7s 4d; Russian, 5s 7d to 7s 6d; Canadian, 6s 5d to 8s per 120. Helmsley: 8 or 9 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 12s to 13s per 120; Irish, 10s to 11s; Danish, 8s 6d to 10s 3d; Austrian blues, 6s 6d to 7s 3d; ditto reds, 5s 9d to 6s. Leyburn: 8 or 9 for 1s. Lincoln: 8 or 9 for 1s. Otley: 7 or 8 for 1s. Sandbach: 6 and 7 for 1s. Stockport: 5 and 6 for 1s. Stratford-on-Avon: 2s 6d to 3s 1d per score. Whitchurch: 2s 6d to 3s 1d per score.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The demand for Australian and New Zealand butter this week has shown no marked improvement, nor is there any advance in prices. Some of the brands of butter from New South Wales are already showing signs of fishiness, while is very disappointing. Other brands, however, are excellent quality. Choice Australian realises 110s to 112s, and occasionally 114s for a fancy lot. Finest makes 100s to 103s, and fine, 94s to 95s. Choicest Danish is now making 121s to 123s, finest 117s to 119s. Cheese.—The market for Canadian cheese has this week been slow, and the c.i.f. quotations from Canada have been slightly easier. Prices on the spot remain unchanged.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A good supply of vegetables evidenced a better inquiry. Good supplies of fruit were available, but met a good demand. Greenstuffs:—Cabbages, 3s 6d; beetroots, 3s per tally; cauliflowers 1s 3d to 1s 6d per dozen; Brussels sprouts, 1s 6d to 1s 8d per half sieve; parsnips, 3s 3d per bag; spinach, 2s 6d per bushel; carrots, 2s to 2s 6d; turnips, 2s to 3s; parsley, 1s to 1s 6d; leeks, 2s 6d to 3s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s to 1s 6d per bundle; celery, 10s to 14s per dozen rolls. English onions, 5s per cwt; Valencia, 6s to 6s 6d per case; potatoes—Maincrops, 100s; Snowdrops, 100s; Up-to-Dates, 80s to 90s; Reading Giants, 80s; Imperators, 70s per ton. Fruit:—English grapes, 6d to 9d per lb; Almeria, 3s to 14s; lemons, 3s 6d to 5s per barrel; English apples, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; Nova Scotian, 10s to 14s per barrel; Egyptian pears, 2s 6d to 3s per bushel; Californian, 7s to 10s per case; peaches, 2s to 8s per dozen; Valencia nectarines, 6s to 7s per case; pineapples, 2s to 4s each; bananas, 5s to 8s per bunch; pomegranates, 6s to 8s per case; Grenoble walnuts, 10s to 12s per bag.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—Potatoes. The arrivals were rather equal to demand, but prices were steady. English: Hebory 2 Hebrons, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Early Puritans, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Snowdrops, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Reading Giants, 3s 3d to 4s; Prolesses, Maincrops, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; Up-to-Dates, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per cwt.

Goole, Wednesday.—Good attendance and brisk trade to-day; prices were practically the same as last week, viz., 7s to 8s per ton. Best, in some cases, made a shade more.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There has been an active business in the hop market, a large amount of contracts changing hands. £7 per cwt. is ruled as being the top price, but has been reached before the season's end. Many bids are being refused as growers prefer not showing so poor a return on the outlay.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was very few growers on the market to-day, the only ones and those evidently heard the advice of their friends to keep their samples very much to any time, as nothing less than [illegible]. There has been a decided dearth of any offers during the week, and [illegible] good weight at the present time. [illegible] packets have passed the pending series to-day and [illegible] the week making a total of [illegible] packets up to date.—[illegible] AND CO.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The somewhat broken weather of the past few days has not been agriculturally unwelcome, for up to the 24th, October had a very low rainfall and the land needed a series of showers. The completion of wheat sowings in England can never in the best of autumns be regarded as completed until the autumn itself is over, but it is something to be well advanced with ploughing as in the present year. In France the wheat sowings are already for the most part over, and the same is the case in the other Latin countries, where to get the wheat promptly sown has been a tradition from classical times. The Russian winter wheat is probably nearly all sown by now, for the snow may begin to fall before October is over, as Napoleon found to his cost in a certain historic campaign. America has had very curious weather experiences of late, but the rapid alternations of temperature have not interfered with autumn sowings of wheat. From all that we hear, over an average area has been sown.

The British markets of the last week have been decidedly reactionary in tone, and the price of wheat is rather lower for all sorts, from the highly-priced No. 1 Northern American to the poorer or chicken wheat samples out of the home crop. The decline may be averaged at "a full sixpence." The causes of this weakness are not far to seek. There has been a praiseworthy restraint exercised by English farmers in their new crop deliveries, as the following sales since harvest will show:—

1900	941,000 qrs.
1899	1,113,000 ,,
1898	1,009,300 ,,

But imported wheat and flour have been sold to the following extent:—

1900	3,709,000 qrs.
1899	3,152,000 ,,
1898	2,714,000 ,,

The trade cannot "eat its cake and have it." If half a million qrs. of extra trade was done from 1st September to 15th October, consumption will not rise to meet the sales, and consequently there is a strong presumption that trade from 15th October to 30th November will be half a million qrs. under the average. The reports which are sent out by firms, whether on London or country markets, often mislead by reason of a certain vagueness in the ordinary language in which markets have to be described. It seems inconsistent, yet "a good business" may frequently be done on "a bad market," and over average sales may easily accompany under average prices. If a market has an average turnover of 10,000 qrs. and 15,000 qrs. are pressed on sale, it may often arise that a decline of 1s. has to be allowed to effect sales, yet at that decline 14,000 qrs. may be cleared and the business done, therefore, amount to 40 per cent. over the mean. Such a market will almost certainly be reported as "weak and declining," a right description of *prices* but a misleading description of *trade*.

Another cause of present weakness is the large visible supply of wheat in America. The figures cabled on Friday were as follows:—

	Bushels.
1900	58,313,000
1899	48,555,000
1898	14,848,000
1897	24,929,000

The accumulation of grain waiting shipment from America is undoubtedly a menace to prices on this side of the Atlantic.

There are now on passage to the United Kingdom the following quantities of wheat:—

	Qrs.
From Russia	125,000
America	355,000
California	840,000
Argentina	240,000
Australasia	220,000
All other Countries	10,000
Total Oct. 26, 1900	1,790,000
,, ,, 1899	1,605,000
,, ,, 1898	1,150,000
,, ,, 1897	1,810,000

The supply immediately in prospect, therefore, does *not* add to the depression of the markets, and is in itself quite moderate. We may expect, too, that any increase in the second item will in November be balanced by a decrease in the fourth and fifth. The Russian shipments during November are likely to be heavy, but that is owing to the rush to clear before the ports are impeded by ice.

The quantities of spring corn on passage are as follows:—

Qrs.	Barley.	Maize.	Beans.
1900	625,000	476,000	5,000
1899	568,000	988,000	8,000
1898	480,000	650,000	7,000

The maltster and the grower of malting barley have been the chief men at Mark Lane since the 20th, and we are glad to say that an excellent business has, on the whole, been done, though the prices have not been all that we could have hoped. Maltsters, as usual, have been free in paying for anything really bright in colour, satisfactory in skin, and good in weight; 37s. to 39s. has been obtained without difficulty. But it is stated by old buyers, who have known Mark Lane for thirty and forty years, that farmers now grow barley more for quantity and less for quality than they used, and that there is a plethora of 25s. to 30s. sorts at the expense of 35s. to 40s. descriptions. This raises an interesting question, "Is prolific barley of second-rate malting quality only?" This is an agricultural question rather than a market one, but it is certain that this October at all events the abundance of "good brewing barley" and the real scarcity of good bright malting has been a feature of every successive market.

In the country we hear of a better demand for English oats, and of 18s. 6d. being paid at such markets as St. Ives and Ely. At this rate London, which makes a mean bid of 17s. 9d., will not get much English produce. Winter oats are selling so well that farmers may be tempted to increase the area sown. About 19s. 6d. is made for new black winter, and up to 22s. for fine grey. Although no returns of Irish oats imported seem to be available, samples may be met with not only at Mark Lane and Bristol, but at Plymouth, Southampton, Rochester, and many other markets. About 18s. is asked for old and 16s. 9d. to 17s. for new. Foreign oats were in sellers' favour on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, but since Thursday have not been so good a trade. Some 320lb. Dutch samples have made 19s. 6d. to 20s. per qr. New dun peas are now to be met with at most markets. 30s. is asked at East Anglian, 32s. at Kentish and Sussex markets.

Shipments of wheat from all countries show a decrease on the week, and the total shipments of maize and barley are also reduced. Of oats there is a slight increase.

The price of London flour, credit terms, according to the London Flour Millers' Association, has been lowered 6d. per sack for "whites" and the same amount for "households."

THE BALTIC.

On the big wooden door of South Sea House may be seen a small half-sheet of note-paper on which is written "Removed to 190, Bishopsgate-street." Surely so big a business was never "removed" with so little fuss! The new temporary quarters give much satisfaction in themselves, but are too far east for any but residents on the lines which run into Liverpool-street and Broad-street. Messrs. Trollope and Co., the contractors for the new Baltic in St. Mary Axe, are working day and night. Members will be glad to note that there is an excellent dry foundation. Business during the last few days has been inactive, and on Saturday scarcely any of the chief members turned up. It had been expected that the C.I.V. demonstration would render business difficult, and employers did not grudge the half-day to pleasure. When it was learnt that Monday was to be the day of the demonstration the feelings of operators might "be better imagined than described."

Sales of the week include:—Wheat: No. 1 Californian 30s., Walla Walla 28s. 9d., South Australian 30s. 6d., Argentine 30s., Taganrog 29s., Odessa Ghirka 30s., fine Azima 31s., and Roumanian 29s. per qr. Maize: American 20s. 9d., Galatz 22s. 3d., Roumanian 19s., Odessa 26s., and fine Cinquantina 27s. 6d. per qr. Barley: Azoff 18s. 9d., Californian brewing 26s. 3d., Odessa 18s. 10½d., and Persian 17s. 3d. Oats: Petersburg 13s. 9d., black Libau 14s. 9d., white American 14s. 9d., white Canadian 14s. 6d., and Dutch 18s. per qr. Linseed: Calcutta 63s., La Plata 54s. 6d., and Azoff, 59s. Rapeseed: Yellow Cawnpore 45s. 6d., Guzerat 53s., and Ravison 34s. Cottonseed: Egyptian, £7 2s. 6d. per ton.

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	232,000	139,000	324,000	10,000	100,000
Russia	258,000	—	11,000	126,000	181,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	123,000	—	10,000	16,000	—
Argentina	29,000	—	43,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	60,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	702,000	154,000	408,000	172,000	291,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900. s. d

Sept. 1, 1900 .....(per sack) 30 0

(No official change since last date given).

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was dull for all sorts of wheat, but holders were not as a rule disposed to make last week's 6d. reduction into the 1s., which would have led to a good trade. The price of maize was again advanced for all grain in granary, while uncertainty of delivery caused corn on shipboard to be neglected, even when offered at very moderate terms. Holders of newly arriving cargoes are naturally very discontented. Barley was a steady trade, both for malting and feeding, and oats were a better business for the lighter sorts. There is 6d. decline in buckwheat, 26s. 6d. being accepted for Russian. Canary seed makes 32s. for Turkish, 36s. for Saffi, and 64s. for the very finest Spanish. Dari is held for 6d. advance. Locust beans are firm, with £5 2s. 6d. paid for Portuguese per ton. In ordinary beans and peas values are steady.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

OCT. 29th, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 33
(old)	,,	32	— 33
Red (new)	,,	28	— 31
(old)	,,	29	— 32
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	28	— 30
Brewing	,,	23	— 28
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	21	— 23
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Brown	,,	29	— 32
OATS, English (new)	,,	17	— 20
(old)	,,	19	— 22
Scotch	,,	21	— 23
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 19
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	25	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	43	— 45
,, Winter	,,	30	— 34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	— 76
,, Dun	,,	32	— 34
,, Maple (new)	,,	38	— 39
,, (old)	,,	39	— 41

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	33	— 34
American Spring	32	— 33
Hard Manitoba	32	— 33
Red Winter	31	— 32
Kansas	31	— 32
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30	— 31
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 31
Argentine	28	— 31
Danzig	33	— 34
Saxonka	32	— 33
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Persian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480lb.:		
Cinquantina	27	— 29
Roumanian	25	— 26
Russian	24	— 25
Caucasian	23	— 24
Argentine	22	— 23
American	21	— 22
OATS:		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	16	— 17
American (320lb.)		
,, White	16	— 17
,, Mixed	15	— 16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (320lb.)	16	— 17
,, (304lb.)	14	—14/3
Libau, white (304lb.)	13	—13/6
,, black ,,	14/6	—15
White Sea (304 lb.)	13/9	—14
BEANS, per 480lb.:		
Egyptian	32	— 33
Smyrna	29	— 30
BEANS (*continued*).		
Konigsberg	28	— 29
Barbary	27	— 28
Mexican	28	— 30
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Cyprian	106	— 112
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Canadian, White	30	—30/6
Indian, White	28	— 30
,, Green	25	— 27
Barbary	26	— 28
Australian, White	40	— 41
,, Dun	26	— 27
LENTILS, per 504 lb.		
Egyptian	31	— 33
Indian	36	— 38
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	26	— 27
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb.:		
French	29	— 30
Russian	27	— 28
BARLEY:		
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 28
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Syrian (400 lb.)	25	— 22
Persian (400 lb.)	18	—18/3
American (400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	34	— 37
Smyrna	33	— 36

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	59	to 61
Dutch	62	to 64
Argentine	55	to 57
Canadian	60	to 62
Russian	55	to 57
Calcutta	62	to 63
SESAME. per 424lb.		
Bombay	50	to 52
Kurrachee	53	to 54
COTTON SEED. per ton.		
Egyptian	142	to 146
RAPESEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	56	to 60
Dutch	54	to 56
French	47	to 48
Roumanian	44	to 46
Cawnpore	46	to 47
Calcutta	43	to 44
Guzerat	50	to 51
Ferozepore	44	to 45
Ravison	30	to 32
POPPYSEED. per 371lb.		
Indian	47	to 49

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE C.I.V. RECEPTION AFFECTED THE LATER ATTENDANCE, AND AFTER 1.30 VERY LITTLE WAS DONE. THERE WERE NO FURTHER PRICE CHANGES IN THE LEADING STAPLES.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Oct. 29th.

There were few price changes to-day, but 6d. decline, which was allowed on Friday, formed the basis of the business passing, whether in London or in country makes. The American patents are rather weak, but no further decline from the prices quoted on Friday was, as a rule, allowed. Hungarian and Australian sell steadily, but French and Californian are neglected. London bran, mixed straight, is offered at 90s. to 92s. per ton, while fine country flake makes 110s., and ordinary 100s. per ton. Little American or Argentine bran is now offering. Canadian oatmeal finds a fair sale at £10 per ton for "Maple Leaf," £9-10s. for "Coarse," and £8 10s. for "Fine." There is a sale for brose meal at 27s. 6d. to 28s. per sack. Brewers' grains make 87s. 6d. for Burton on rail.

LONDON FLOUR.		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)		— 30
Town Whites	,,	27	—27/6
,, Households	,,	24	—24/6
No. 2	,,	22	—22/6
COUNTRY FLOUR.			
Best Patents	(per sack)	24	— 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23	— 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	21	— 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	20	— 21
FOREIGN FLOUR.			
Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25/6	—26
,, Second Patents	,,	23/6	—24
,, First Bakers'	,,	20/6	—21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	25	— 26
,, Bakers'	,,	21	— 23
Kansas Patents	,,	23	—24/6
Cascadia	,,	24	—24/6
Canadian	,,	24	—24/6
Australian	,,	23	—23/6
Hungarian	,,	29	— 32
French	,,	21	— 24
MEAL, &c.			
Whole Meal	(per ton)	192	—194
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	109	—111
Bran, London Broad	,,	99	—104
,, Fine	,,	78	— 84
,, Country Flake	,,	108	—110
,, ,, Broad	,,	96	— 98
Pollard	,,	92	— 94
Fine Middlings	,,	118	—122
Coarse Middlings	,,	102	—108
Oat Meal	,,	220	—280
Oat Flour	,,	340	—360
Maize Flour	,,	132	—134
Maize Meal	,,	114	—124
Maize Cones	,,	144	—150
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	106	—110
Pea Meal	,,	128	—158
Bean Meal	,,	152	—172
Rice Meal	,,	91	— 95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—	Oct.	Dec.	March
	s d.	s. d.	s. d.
Oct. 22 noon	6 7 .. 6	9 .. 6	11
4 p.m.	6 7 .. 6	8 .. 6	11
Oct. 23 noon	6 7 .. 6	8 .. 6	10
4 p.m.	6 7 .. 6	8 .. 6	10
Oct. 24 noon	6 7 .. 6	8 .. 6	10
4 p.m.	6 6 .. 6	7 .. 6	10
Oct. 25 noon	6 6 .. 6	7 .. 6	9
4 p.m.	6 6 .. 6	7 .. 6	9
Oct. 26 noon	6 6 .. 6	7 .. 6	9
4 p.m.	6 6 .. 6	7 .. 6	9
Oct. 27 noon	6 6 .. 6	7 .. 6	9
To-day noon	6 6 .. 6	7 .. 6	9

Maize made 4s. 6d. for Oct. delivery, 4s. 1d. for Dec., and 3s. 10d. for March.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50. "Call" hours will in future be 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate-street, ground floor.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that in the absence alike of any speculative or consumptive demand, quietude now reigns on the seed market. Meantime, prices of red clover, and alsyke seeds have, to some small extent, gone against holders, but other varieties show no quotable variation. Winter tares move off slowly at the low ates now accepted. The trade in these, this season, has been the worst ever known. For rye, the inquiry continues meagre. Mustard and rapeseed are both still getting dearer; whilst all kinds oi bird seeds are dull and featureless. Blue peas and haricot beans command former terms.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

There is no change to record in the trade for milling offals, which remain firm at last week's prices.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Flour.—A steady trade at 3d. decline since this day week.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

We have small arrivals of both wheat and flour. Demand is small and prices are unchanged. Maize 3d. per qr. dearer; barley and oats unchanged. COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

We have very little of interest to report respecting our market, which seems likely to remain quiescent for a time. As regards Red Clover, buyers are disposed to await the definite result of the new crop before stocking themselves to any extent. The samples showing of new English are not encouraging, some of them being of very poor quality. In other Clovers and Trefoil there is little passing. Birdseeds are dull. Blue Peas somewhat easier.—JOHN PICARD and CO., Mark Lane.

Offals.—Small brans on spot rather easier, but late prices maintained for forward delivery. No change in pollards. Weather continues mild.—GREENHILL BROTHERS, Belfast, October 27.

Flour.—With American markets declining daily business this week has been dull. Sellers to-day would accept 6d. per sack less than last Saturday. Grain.—Indian corn is now more plentiful, and shows a fall of 3d. per boll on the week. Supplies of peas are fairly large on spot, and buyers scarce. Barley unchanged. Beans in fair demand at steady prices. Mill stuffs.—There is a large make of bran here at present, which accounts for buyers getting their requirements filled cheaply. Thirds, on the other hand, are firm.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, October 27.

Wheat firm but quiet at 1d. per cental decline on white and ½d. on red. Flour is quiet without change. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in prices. Maize is in slow request for mixed, owing to larger arrivals. European scarce and dearer. Plate has a fair trade at unchanged prices. Barley slow for feeding; malting idle at unchanged prices. Beans quiet trade, with a fair inquiry from Scotland for flat sorts, Pandermo's making 3d. advance. Peas in fair request at ½d. per cental under Tuesday. Oats are very quiet for English; foreign sorts have a moderate business, but without change. Oatmeal steady with only a small inquiry. Oilcake firm with a moderate business at late rates.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, October 27.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

All the trains are late, and frequenters of the Baltic were frequently so much behind time that they missed the noon call on the Term market. The Exchange is very patriotic, but the Lord Mayor is censured for not making the day of reception for the C.I.V. Tuesday. The extreme inconvenience of an interrupted Monday extends to the meat, coal, hop, hay, straw, fruit, and vegetable trades as well as to grain and cargoes. Wheat cargoes are said to be firmer, maize to be easier, barley and oats firm at currencies, but the fact is that business is quite insufficient as yet to test values, and it is, therefore, unsafe to say definitely how the market is going. The following few transactions may be given:—

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Hard winter, 28s, arrived; Texas winter, 27s 3d, Nov. shipment; Turkish new crop, 26s 3d, Nov. shipment; Bulgarian new crop, 27s Nov. shipment.

MAIZE.—American new crop, 18s 6d, Jan. shipment; Roumanian, 19s 3d, first spring shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 19s, prompt shipment; Californian, 26s 6d, prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Bombay, 53s 6d, April shipment; Argentine, 53s 6d, January shipment.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: There has been a great clearance of the large growths of Mid-Kent hops during the past week. The market continues to harden, and the smallness of the crop is now evident by the sparseness of the hops left unsold.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Market unchanged, very firm, but not much demand. Cotton cake about as before. Linseed keeps as firm as ever.

English linseed cake	£8	10	0	to 8	15	0 ex mill
American Western linseed cake	8	0	0	to —		ex quay
Russian oil cake	8	0	0	to 8	5	0 ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. oil)	6	15	0	—		ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake			None.			ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal			None.			ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	5	5	0	to 5	7	6 ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	5	0	0	to 5	2	6 ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4	10	0			on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4	15	0	—		ex warehouse
Russian linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2	16	0	to 2	18	0 ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	3	3	0	to —		ex warehouse

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Oct. 29th, 1900.

	British.	Total.	Oct. 30th, 1899.
Beasts	1,630	1,630	1,750
Sheep and lambs	7,280	7,280	7,910
Calves	10	10	5
Pigs	130	130	—
Milch cows	60	60	65

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	3 0 —	4 4 —	4 11
Sheep	3 2 —	5 2 —	6 0
Lambs	5 4 ..	5 8 ..	6 0
Pigs	2 10 ..	4 0 ..	4 8

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 18; Eastern Counties, 22; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,435; Devon, 49; Ireland, 115.

We note to-day, as compared with Monday last, a decrease of 130 in the supply of beasts, the larger proportion of which consisted of second and middling quality, for which trade was steadier, though no material alteration in value can be noted; best quality Scotch, Herefords, and Devons were firm in value and sold readily. Less demand for fat cows and rough cattle, which consequently were bought on easier terms.

The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Oct. 29th, 1899.
Scotch	4s 10d to 4s 11d	4s 8d to 4s 10d
Devons	4s 8d to 4s 9d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Herefords	4s 9d to 4s 10d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Runts	4s 8d to 4s 9d	4s 6d to 4s 7d
Lincolns	4s 2d to 4s 6d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat cows	3s 6d to 3s 8d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

There was a decrease of 150 in the number of sheep and lambs on offer, for the former trade was slow, especially at the opening, best quality wethers were in steady request at a slight but not quotable decline on Monday's rates, the latter being in excess of the demand ruled 2d. per 8lb. lower in value, and met with forced sales. Lamb trade almost nominal; the supply included about 680 from the Eastern Counties, 280 Scotch, and 2,200 Irish.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:

	To-day.	Oct. 29th, 1899.
7½ to 8-stone Downs	5s 11d to 6s 0d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
9-stone ditto	5s 9d to 5s 10d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10-stone half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-stone half-breds	5s 0d to 5s 2d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	4s 8d to 4s 10d
10-stone Down ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
11-stone half-bred ditto	3s 4d to 3s 6d	— to —
5-stone Down lambs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	— to —
6-stone half-bred ditto	5s 4d to 5s 6d	— to —

No demand for the few calves on sale.

The pig trade ruled slower at less money for all grades. Best quality 8 to 9 stone pigs were quoted at 4s 8d per 8lb, sinking the offal.

London Central, Monday.—Moderate supplies, trade very slow. Beef: Carcases, 3s 9d to 3s 10d; hindquarters, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; roastings, 5s to 5s 4d. Sheep: Ewes, 3s to 3s 4d wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s to 4s 4d; wether, 5s 2d to 5s 6d. Pigs, large, 3s 8d to 4s; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1146. The almost nominal supply to-day here consisted of a consignment from the United States, for which, though there was but little competition owing to the small numbers on offer, trade ruled firm and steady at from 4s 6d to occasionally 4s 7d per 8lb, offal given in, for beasts to dress from 680 to 720 lbs. No sheep on the market. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 1,562, 4s to 4s 1d per 8lbs to dress about 720lbs; sheep, 429.

Liverpool, Monday.—The supply of cattle in market to-day was practically the same as last week. Trade good, and last week's prices fully maintained. Sheep in slightly larger numbers, trade slow, and prices rather lower all round. Beef, 6¾d to 4¾d per lb; mutton, 8d to 5¼d per lb. At market: 1,811 cattle and 7,310 sheep.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 3,255 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 9,175 bales bacon. Owing to the slow demand for bacon last week prices were further reduced, goods offering at 6s to 8s less than previously. On Friday official rates were 4s to 6s lower, and the market closed slow. Irish, 54s, 60s to 63s; Danish, 56s, 60s to 63s; Canadian, 53s, 56s to 59s. The butter market was generally firm and prices advanced Danish 122s to 124s; Colonial, 100s to 114s; Canadian 106s to 106s. Lard, good demand; Irish, 50s to 58s; American pails, 40s to 41s.

CORK BUTTER.

—	Ordinary. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	Mild Cured Firkins. Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	Firkins in Market.
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	91	87	82	—	96	90	98	172
Tuesday ..	91	87	80	—	96	91	99	308
Wednesday ..	91	87	79	73	95	91		357
Thursday ..	91	87	79	73	96	92	—	291
Friday ..	91	87	78	72	96	92	—	352
Saturday ..	90	86	79	71	95	92	—	450

The directors of the Imperial Accident Live Stock and General Insurance Company have declared an interim dividend for the half-year ending June 30th at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum.

From Messrs. E. R. and F. Turner, Limited, of St. Peter's and Grey Friars Works, Ipswich, and 82, Mark Lane, London, E.C., we have received a copy of a new illustrated catalogue and price list of food preparing machinery. It includes corn and seed crushers, separate or combined with bean and maize kibblers, "Lukoos" grinding mills, oil cake breakers, and chaff and grain weighing and mixing machines, for the manufacture of which implements the firm is most extensively known.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

With a larger number of beasts on offer, trade at Islington was of a very variable nature, being firm and steady at last week's quotations owing to a rather short number, the pick of the market consisting of Scotch, Herefords, and Devons, with a few runts. The majority of the supply consisted of middling descriptions, which, being in excess of the demand, met a slow, dragging trade, rates favouring the buyers to the extent of fully 2d. per 8lbs. Even at this reduction and more a clearance was on Monday found to be impossible. Of fat butchering cows and rough cattle the number on offer was also too large. Prices in consequence were easier and sales more or less forced; fat bulls, however, were firm in tone and value. At the foreign cattle market, Deptford, business was confined to Wednesday and Saturday, no beasts being shown on Monday, which has not been the case for a long time. Trade here was firmer at an advance of from 1d. to 2d. per 8lbs. Now that the Canadian season is practically over, the only cattle arriving here will be from the United States, and these, it is reported, will be below the late average in point of number. The total offered for sale at both markets was 4,841 (previous week 4097), consisting of 2,160 British (increase 520) and 2,681 foreign (increase 224). These latter comprised 1,978 from the United States and 703 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—80 to 85 stone Polled Scotch, 5s.; 90-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d.; 80-stone Devons, 4s. 9d.; 90-stone runts, 4s. 9d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 90-stone Dublins, 4s. 5d.; 95-stone Waterfords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 3d.; 110-stone Lincolns, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 88 to 90 stone States, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.; 85-stone Canadians, 4s.; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. The sheep trade, which was confined to the Islington Market with a larger supply, was firm and steady so far as wethers were concerned, rates on Monday opening firmer at a slight advance in value, which, however, were not maintained during the day. Very few transactions were recorded on Thursday. For ewes there was rather less demand, rates ruling 2d. per 8lb. in favour of the buyer. There is still a small inquiry for lambs, but only for the very best. The total number penned was 7,960, as against 7,460 during the previous week. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Devons, 6s.; 9-stone ditto, 5s. 10d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. 4d.; 12-stone halfbreds, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 3s. 6d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s. Calves numbered only thirty head, and were difficult to cash, the choicest being quoted at 5s. 8d. per 8lb. (sinking the offal). There was a large supply of pigs, trade for which was slow, no alteration in value being noticeable. Best small breeds made from 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

The continuance of beautiful growing weather is having a very beneficial influence on the stock markets; and, although good deliveries are coming to hand, prices for most things are steadily hardening. Milch beasts have seldom, if ever, been dearer than they are at present, the best young heifers commanding a very free sale at all the leading markets at prices ranging from £17 10s. to £22 each, and barreners are proportionately as dear, those in fresh condition now marketing readily at £22 to £28 per pair, and exceptional lots at more money. The sheep sales for the present season close much dearer and with a much firmer feeling than had ever been expected, rates at the close of the week being from 4s. to 5s. dearer than they were at Winchester Fair on Monday. Fat cattle trade is tending upwards, well-finished bullocks being now worth 11s. to 12s. per score, and contract bullocks 10s. to 10s. 6d. Mutton has quite recovered its former firmness, and nothing worthy of the name of mutton can be bought under 7½d. to 8½d. per lb., and ewes at 7½d. Lamb is worth 9d. to 9½d. Pigs also are very dear; and veal makes extreme rates, 7½d. to 8d.

Trade in Ireland.

An increase on previous week of 327 cattle and 1,242 sheep made last Thursday's Dublin market a very flat one, even though there was a strong contingent of cross-Channel buyers present for cattle. Heifers formed the great bulk of the beef department, but did not go so well as at late markets owing to absence of an important Newcastle dealer who buys very largely. Inquiry for prime bullocks was pretty good, and last week's price was nearly maintained, but for the ordinary run values were down from 10s. to 15s. per head, as might be expected with 5,124 beasts on market the largest number, it is said, for the past eight or nine years. Prime ox and heifer beef made from 52s. 6d. to 56s., a few extra lots touching 57s. 6d.; second quality, 47s. 6d. to 50s.; and inferior, 42s. 6d. to 45s. Dealings in sheep were very slow, only a few lots being taken for shipment, though prime wethers for home consumption sold fairly well. On the whole, however, sheep were fully 2s. per head down on the week. Best wethers were worth from 6½d. to 6¾d. per lb.; ewes, 5¼d. to 6d., rough and inferior sorts selling slowly at from 4½d. to 6d. The number of sheep on the market was 7,560. Veal of prime quality made from 7d. to 8d. per lb., but inferior sorts slow at from 4½d. to 6d. Very few really good milch cows were shown, and best springers were firm at late figures. A large supply of swine penned. Trade fairly active all round at about previous rates, a complete clearance being early effected. Choice light-weight pigs made from 44s. to 46s. per cwt.; heavy, 38s. to 44s.; and coarse inferior sorts from 28s. 6d. to 34s.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The supplies of fat cattle on offer have been considerably larger, and the quality quite up to the average. There has been a very good demand, and all classes have met a good trade, any change amongst the better classes being in sellers' favour. Fat cows have also sold well. Fat sheep and lambs have been forward in much similar numbers to last week. The trade for the best shop sheep is good, and, taken all over, prices have been fair at about last week's quotations. Fat calves have been a much larger show, and fat pigs about the same as last week. Both have met a dearer trade at fully late rates. In the store market the numbers of sheep and lambs offered have been smaller. A good selling trade has been experienced, and prices are without change. Store cattle have again been an exceedingly large supply. With the too high prices at the other side, and the determination of farmers to buy more cheaply, trade has been somewhat stiffer, and though the best descriptions of stirks and bullocks in fair condition have made fair prices, anything of a secondary class has been very difficult to sell, and prices unremunerative to sellers. Milch cows have been forward in similar numbers to last week, and the trade has been fair, the best cows making good prices. Quotations:—Top price best beef, 8s. 3d. to fully 8s. 6d. per stone; current, 8s. to 8s. 3d. per stone; mutton from 7½d. to over 8d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies, but trade slow. Arrivals of beef included 40 tons Scotch, 620 Liverpool sides, 1,500 hindquarters, and 750 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 10d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 7d to 2s 9d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 11d to 4s per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Good supplies, but trade slow. Arrivals of beef included 80 tons Scotch, 440 Liverpool sides, 3,000 hindquarters, and 1,650 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 3s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 10d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 2d; ewes, 2s 10d to 3s 2d; Canterbury, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; Wellington, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 5d; Dutch wethers, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; ewes, 2s 10d to 3s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; Dutch, 3s 4d to 4s; and Irish, 2s 8d to 3s per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Fair supply of beasts, and, as customary on a Thursday, chiefly consisted of fat bulls and rough cattle. Trade ruled slow at about late rates. Only a limited supply of sheep penned, but the demand for wethers and ewes was of an extremely slow character. Prices for the former were in buyers' favour, the latter ruling occasionally weaker; 7½-stone to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9-stone, ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10-stone Down ewes, 3s 10s to 4s; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Calf trade nominal, pigs ruling easier. Total supplies, 100 beasts, 530 sheep, 20 calves, 320 pigs, and 10 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a large attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 29 fat beasts, 54 calves, 572 sheep and lambs, 356 pigs, and 124 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £12 to £17 5s; fat calves, 80s to £5 15s; small, 20s to 55s; fat wethers, 40s to 58s; ewes, 27s to 43s 6d; fat lambs, 25s to 43s 6d; fat hogs, 37s to £5 9s; porkers, 42s to 58s; small, 26s to 38s; store pigs, 10s 6d to 23s; dairy cows, £9 to £20 15s. A short supply of fat beasts met with a fair inquiry, the choice lots rather exceeding previous rates, but half fat and inferior lots a dull business, a clearance very nearly made. The fancy lots of fat sheep and lambs made more money to-day, and other sorts maintained late rates; a clearance made. Hants Down wethers and young ewes sold for 41s, 47s, 42s 6d, 45s, 44s, 47s 6d, 42s, 52s, 49s, 52s 6d; ten-months-old ditto, 44s 6d, 32s, 52s, 38s 6d, 51s, 48s 6d, 40s, 36s, 56s 6d, 52s 6d, 58s, 45s, 35s; old ewes, 27s, 36s, 38s 6d, 37s, 34s 6d; rams, 44s, 54s, 50s, 42s; three-months-old, sucking lambs, 25s, 34s 6d, 27s, 31s 6d. Kent ewes, 43s 6d: Cheviot ewes, 37s. With a small supply of dairy cows on offer, there was a good inquiry for the best class milkers, high prices being realised. Store cattle continues a dull trade. Fat calves were cleared at late rates. Fat hoggs are scarce, those on offer meeting a brisk demand. Porkers also realised high prices, the trade throughout being very firm. Store pigs met a slow inquiry. The trade for fat sows showed an improvement, selling readily at an advance on late quotations. Ruling values:—Prime Devon and Scotch beasts, 7d to 7¼d; Shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6¼d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 5¾d per lb; best quality fat sheep, 8¾d to 9d; second ditto, 7d to 8d; rams, old ewes, and inferior, ; 5¾d to 6¼d; choice fat sucking lambs, 8¾d to 9d per lb; fat calves, 6d to 8¾d per lb; fat hogs up to 9s 6d; porkers, 11s, and sows, 7s 3d per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—Best beef, 7s 6d; cow beef, 7s per stone; strong stores, £16 to £17 10s; growing stores, £9 10s to £11 10s; milch cows, £17 to £22; heifers, £12 to £16; in-calvets, £16 to £17 10s; calves, 40s to 60s; wether mutton, 8d; ewe mutton, 6d per lb.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under..	8s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	8s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	7s 3d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND Co., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 900; sheep, 590; pigs, 289; horses, 25. Beef, 6s 9d to 7s 9d per stone; mutton, 4s 6d to 6s; pork, 5s 9d to 7s. A good show store beasts, nearly all cleared. Fat beasts, a large supply, prices not so good. Fat sheep, a good brisk trade. Stores, not many to hand. Fat pigs, short supply, brisk trade at fully last week's prices. Stores, a fair trade. Hay, straw, and roots short supply.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a smaller supply of sheep, but the demand has slackened and trade was not quite so good. Lambs ranged from 18s to 20s, and old sheep from 25s to 33s per head. Wethers were quoted at from 32s to 39s. Horned stock were in poor request, yearlings making from £5 to £7, and two-year-olds up to £10.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Again a large show of Irish store cattle, consisting of between 500 and 600 heifers and bullocks. Many of the horned bullocks were of an excellent type, but there were few of the best class of heifers, these being kept back by the dealers for Newcastle Fair on Wednesday. The attendance of buyers was large, and trade fairly brisk. Small heifers realised £6 10s to £8 10s; and the best sorts to £14 10s; polled bullocks, £8 10s to £10 10s; horned bullocks, £9 10s to £15 10s. Pigs a small show; slow sale, at 20s to 24s

Dorchester, Saturday.—Large quantities of milch beasts and fat stock were offering. Beef and mutton met a better trade than for some weeks past.

Dublin, Thursday.—Best finished cattle with difficulty maintained last week's quotations. All other descriptions harder to sell even at a further concession to buyers. Sheep slow dragging trade, prices for all classes favouring buyers. Cattle (best), 29s to 33s per cwt. Other descriptions, from 25s to 28s per cwt. Mutton, 5d to 6¾d per lb; extreme 7d per lb. —GANLY, SONS, AND Co.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Beef in good demand at late rates. Horned bullocks, to £19; ditto heifers, to £15; polled bullocks, to £19 12s; polled heifers, to £14; Highland bullocks, to £19; Galloway bullocks, to £17; ditto heifers, to £14; calving cows, to £12 10s. Sheep met a good demand at last week's prices.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Light supplies. Cattle trade slow. Half-bred lambs, 22s to 28s; grey-faced, 26s 6d; Cheviot ewes, 26s; Cheviot Dinmonts, 26s to 35s; polled bullocks, 11gs. to 14gs.; horned bullocks, £12 10s to £14 10s; stirks, £9 to £11 10s; best shorthorned cows, £27; secondary, £14 to £17; Ayrshires, £12 to £18.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies less than last week. Trade quiet, owing to the wet weather. Top Scotch cattle, 66s per cwt; secondary, 60s to 62s; top Irish, 58s to 60s; top mutton, 8d; secondary, 6¾d to 7¼d per lb. Lambs over for the season. Dead meat slow. Best Scotch beef, 6¼d; States, 5¾d; Canadians, 5¼d to 5½d; cows, 4¾d.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 778, calves 81, sheep and lambs 1,339, pigs (fat and sows) 27, sucking pigs 46, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 204, pigs (stores, more than ten) 112, horses 7, colts 15. Prices of stock: Best beef 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 8½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a rather larger supply of fat cattle, and a good attendance of buyers. Well finished animals were dearer, up to £25 5s. A fair number of fat sheep were penned; prices were slow, in favour of the buyers. Weaning calves were not so numerous, but those by Shorthorn bulls were in strong demand, up to 66s. Fat swine were short, and prices ruled higher. A good entry of grazing cattle; buyers were short, consequently trade was lower. This being the second annual sale of dairy cattle, about 50 heifers and cows were forwarded, including about 40 of the finest Shorthorn heifers that have been seen in the district. Most of them were bred in Cumberland or Westmoreland, and had calves by side, making up to £24 5s. The second Michaelmas sale of horses was held at the Drill Hall, for which nearly a hundred horses were entered. Cart horses and colts sold well, but hackneys were dull. Numbers at sale and market:—Beasts 821, calves 59, sheep 2,095, pigs 1,204, horses 162.

Leicester, Saturday.—Large supplies of stock in good condition; fair attendance, but trade very sluggish, and prices easier. Milch cows, £14 to £24 per head. Bullocks, £9 to £15. Sheep in fair demand at steady prices.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair show of cattle, but little demand Best bullocks, £14 to £16; two-year-olds, £10 to £14; young stock up to £10. Milch beasts, £14 to £20. In sheep and pig departments exceptionally bad trade. Sheep, lambs, and drape ewes, 20s to 36s. Pigs: Suckers, 13s to 20s; inferior stores, 25s to 40s; strong stores, 40s to 50s.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Large supplies. Prices steady. Demand good. Numbers:—Cattle, 2,011; sheep and lambs, 7,522; pigs, 1,277; calves, 69. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s to 8s; pork, 5s to 9s 6d per stone; mutton, 5d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8d; veal, 5d to 9d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store cattle here to-day was large; sales proceeded slowly, and prices were slightly in favour of buyers. Fat beasts, which were in average supply, showed little change, prices ranging from 7s 6d to 8s and 8s 3d per 14lb. Store sheep were in moderate supply; but trade was dull, at late rates; hoggets were quoted at 28s to 40s; and keeping shearlings at 42s to 48s per head. Fat sheep made 9s to 9s 6d per 14lb. The weather to-day was wet and winterly.

Romford, Wednesday.— A good supply all round. The beef and pork trade showed a slight advance.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was again an increase in the number of cattle on offer, with a fair demand at last week's full prices. The supply of sheep was smaller. Choice light weights were scarce, and met with a good demand at an advance in price; medium and rough kinds were better to sell and prices, though not quotably higher, tended in favour of the seller. There was a larger supply of calves and a dull trade, prices tending in buyers' favour. Quotations:—Cattle, 5d to 6¼d; sheep, 6d to 8¾d; calves, 5d to 7¼d per lb. At market—Cattle, 2,886; sheep, 7,943; calves, 154; pigs, 125.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A fair show of milch beasts, and a fairly good business was done, best qualities making £17 to £23 10s; secondary, £13 to £15 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Larger supplies of cattle, with a fair demand. Fat sheep brisk, with smaller supplies. Pigs, a fairly good trade. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 7¼d; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d; and veal, 7½d to 8½d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s to 10s 6d; and bacons, 8s to 10s per score. Cows, with calves, up to £22 10s. Number offered:—1,108 cattle, 44 cows with calves, 1,570 sheep and lambs, 84 calves, 24 fat, 115 porket, and 548 store pigs.

Spalding Tuesday.—A fair show of fat beasts, which sold slowly at about 7s 6d per stone. The store trade was poor, and there was very little demand In the sheep market trade was dull. Best half-breds, 8d; other sorts, 7½d per lb.

Stockton Wednesday.—There were on offer 217 cattle, 3 calves, 501 sheep, and 371 pigs. Best cattle were only a small show, and the quality not so good as last week. Trade was

very slow at 7s 6d to 8s per stone for the best, and 6s 6d to 7s for rougher kinds; calves, 6d to 8d; young sheep, 8d; ewes, 6d; tups, 4d to 5d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Very small supply; medium attendance; somewhat quiet trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a good supply of stock at market and a capital attendance of buyers. The beef trade was cheerful at better prices. Bacon and pork met with a ready sale. Veal made more money, but mutton was in buyers' favour. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 112 fat beasts, and a few down calving heifers; 190 fat sheep, 123 fat and weaning calves, 160 fat and store pigs, and 4 horses. Fat bullocks made £15 to £21; fat heifers, £14 to £21; down calving heifers, £13 to £14 7s 6d; fat wethers, 44s to 52s; fat ewes, 38s to 47s; fat tegs, 32s to 43s; fat calves, £3 to £5 15s; cow calves, 23s to 68s; bull calves, 14s to 76s; fat pigs, 10s per score; and porkets, 10s 6d; stores were a better trade.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a moderate supply, quiet trade. Sheep, moderate supply; trade fair. Calves, small supply; fair demand for best. Beef, 5d to 7d; mutton 6d to 8½d; veal, 6d to 8d.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—With larger supply, beef trade ruled slow, but last week's quotations were maintained. Choice beef made 6½d per lb., and other kinds 5d to 6d; late prices also ruled in the mutton trade. Small sheep 8½d; average sorts, 7d to 7½d. Ewes and tups, 5d to 6d. Numbers penned: —Fat Beasts, 1,804; sheep, 3,018.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—There was a large supply in all departments, but the business was not so brisk as the dealers had expected. Still a fairly good trade was done, especially for beef, some fine animals being offered. There were 1,604 beasts on sale, against 1,554 at the last market. Best beef made 6½d per lb, and other sorts realised 5d to 6d. There was a large supply of sheep—3,018, against 2,976. Despite the increased number, sellers insisted on having last week's prices.

Worcester, Saturday.—A moderate supply of fat cattle, and a good demand for best qualities at late rates. Sheep, good supply and trade. Pigs sold more briskly, and good calves were wanted. Beef, 6d to 7d; mutton, 8d; ewes, 6d; and veal, 7½d per lb. Pork pigs, 10s; and bacons, 9s per score.

York, Friday.—Calves, 8d per lb; small sheep, 8d ditto; large sheep, 7½d ditto; ewes, 6d ditto; small pork pigs, 7s a stone; large pork pigs, 6s 6d to 6s 9d ditto.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—At the sale of United States cattle there were penned in the sheds 287 cattle, landed by the Hestia (s), from Newport News. Bullocks, as is usually the case, formed the greater proportion of the total number, while there were also a number of bulls included in the shipment. The cattle, as regards quality, were fully up to the average, many of the bullocks being prime beasts in a well-finished condition. Bulls were up to the average and showed well. The attendance of buyers was scarcely so large as usual, but was fairly good. The dead-weight quotations were as follows:—Best bullocks, 60s per cwt, and for really choice up to 62s; heavy prime, 58s; secondary and heavier, 56s; bulls, 46s to 50s, according to quality and finish.

WOOL.

London, Thursday.—At public sale this evening, Messrs Buxton, Ronald, and Co. brought forward the total of 11,130 bales, comprising 4,792 New South Wales and Queensland, 1,286 Victorian, 21 South Australian, 348 Tasmanian, 4,116 New Zealand, and 573 Cape. A good attendance of buyers was assembled, and competition was carried on briskly, late rates being fully maintained, being the turn firmer in the case of merinos. New South Wales, greasy combing, marked J M V over Mooloomoon, sold 8d to 9d; lambs, 7½d to 8½d; pieces, 5½d to 8d.; scoured combing, T. E. and Co., B in circle, Springvale, 1s 1½d to 1s 3½d; clothing, 10½d to 1s 1d; pieces, 8d to 8½d; clothing ditto, over Floodvale, 7¾d to 11½d. Victorian greasy combing, Trida, 6d to 6½d; pieces, 6d; bellies, 5d. Queensland scoured combing, Thurulgoona. 1s 3d to 1s 4½d; clothing, 1s 4d to 1s 5½d; broken, 1s 2d to 1s 2½d; greasy combing Portland, 8d to 8½d; pieces, 8d to 7½d; scoured combing Tookok, 1s 1½d to 1s 2d; clothing, 1s 3d; necks, 1s 1d to 1s 2¼d.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per packet of 240 lb—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb: Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; scoured good, 1s 5d to 1s 5½d; scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average to fair, 9d to 10d; New South Wales, scoured average, 1s ½d to 1s 1½d; greasy average, 6¾d to 7¾d; South Australian, greasy average, 5½d to 6½d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 7d to 8d; Cape, scoured superior, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; fleece average, 6½d to 7½d; greasy average, 5d to 5½d; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy average, 6d to 6½d. Crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 9d to 10d; New Zealand, fine, 8½d to 9½d; ditto medium, 6½d to 7½d; ditto coarse, 5¾d to 6½d.

Bradford, Thursday.—Market is bare of business and there is no animation or confidence, offers now being made are lower than ever, and though holders are fairly strong the tendency is in favour of buyers. Mohair is quiet, the yarn trade showing no improvement in any direction, and business is impeded in the piece trade by the uncertainty about cotton.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There continues to be a fair demand for fine wools such as Downs and the best halfbreds, but for Kent fleeces trade is dull. For Kent fleeces only 6d per lb is offered. Lamb wool, 4d to 5d; halfbreds, 7d; and Downs, 8d to 10d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—The turnover in the local wool market still continues quiet. The inquiry for merinos and fine cross-breds is still nominal. In good sound, strong cross-breds trade is steady at late rates. Shropshire fleeces change hands slowly at 18s 6d to 19s 6d per tod. The tendency of values is in favour of purchasers. In the yarn trade there is some activity in the production to order.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—The market has continued to advance, but the present high values are rather checking business. Calcutta London spot and near, 63s; October-November, and November-December, 62s 9d. April-June, 50s 6d. La Plata, December-January, 54s; January-February, 53s. Hull rather easier. Calcutta, April-June, 51s. Azov, Black Sea, October-November, 58s 6d. La Plata December-January, 54s. January-February, 53s. To the Continent Bombay is quoted March-May, 53s 6d. Calcutta, March-April, new crop, 53s; April-June, 51s 9d. La Plata, December-January, 53s 3d; January-February, 52s 9d. Linseed cakes firm. London made, £8 10s to £8 12s 6d. Russian, £8 2s 6d to £8. 7s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £8. Cotton cakes firm. London made, £5 2s 6d to £5 5s; Egyptian, £5. Rapeseed is quiet, and rather easier to buy. Brown Calcutta to London, November-December, sold at 46s; April-June quoted 41s. To the Continent we quote: Yellow Guzerat, March-May, 48s 3d; October-November, 52s 9d. Yellow Cawnpore, March-May, 46s. Brown Cawnpore, November-December, 49s 6d; March-May, 42s 9d; brown Calcutta, October-November, 46s 6d; April-June, 41s 6d. Ravison to Hull, prompt 33s. —THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: The trade continues extremely inactive, buyers only filling their immediate requirements, while shippers ask prohibitive prices. Russians come along slowly, and are without change. Americans remain scarce, and prime brands are firmly held at last week's prices. The demand for English is not large, and, with a considerable quantity offering in second-hands, values are not quotably dearer. Cotton cakes: A fair quantity of foreign is still available, both on spot and for shipment, and with little prospect of any scarcity, which often occurs at this time of year, the tone of the market is not quite so good. Decorticated are not obtainable on spot, but offer unchanged for October-November shipment, with meal selling quietly in same position. Maize germ meal: American is in good supply, and with only a moderate inquiry values are weak. Rice meal: Rangoon moves off quietly at unaltered prices both on spot and for November-December shipment.

		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.				
London made	per ton ex mill	8 12 6	to	8 15 0
American in bags	ex dock	7 18 9	„	8 0 0
American Oct.-Nov.	„	7 15 0	„	7 17 6
Russian in mats	„	7 18 9	„	8 0 0
Russian in bags	„	8 1 3	„	8 2 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.				
London made	ex mill	5 2 6	„	5 5 0
Egyptian, in bags	ex dock	5 0 0	„	5 1 3
„ „	Nov.-April shipment	4 16 0	„	4 17 6
Decorticated	Oct.-Nov. „	6 15 0	„	6 17 6
Meal, on spot	„ „ „	6 12 6	„	6 15 0
RAPE CAKES.				
East Indian Seed	ex mill	4 15 0	„	—
Ravison	„	4 10 0	„	—
Nutted, in bags	„	4 15 0	„	—
MAIZE.				
Germ meal (American)	ex dock	5 2 6	„	5 3 9
„ „ „	Sept.-Oct. c.i.f.	4 18 9	„	5 0 0
„ „ (English)	ex mill	5 7 6	„	5 10 0
RICE MEAL.				
Rangoon	ex warehouse	4 12 6	„	4 15 0
„	Nov-Dec. ex ship	4 10 0	„	—
„	Jan.-March ex ship	4 8 9	„	—

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane.

Hull, Tuesday.—At to-day's market the supply of home-grown wheat is moderate, and the demand for it very poor, at 6d per quarter reduction from the prices of last Tuesday. Foreign also meets a slow sale at 6d decline on the week. Barley of all descriptions steady at late rates. English oats offer sparingly, and are quite as dear. Foreign beans easier to buy. Flat maize maintains fully last week's prices. Round Odessa scarce on spot, and held for extreme rates. Large round corn offers on moderate terms. Linseed.—The arrivals are 15 qrs from Harlingen, 2,690 qrs Konigsberg, 1,960 qrs Libau, 2,218 qrs New York, 11,185 qrs Odessa, 7,728 qrs Petersburg, 10 qrs Rotterdam, 1,738 qrs Riga; total, 27,544 qrs. Throughout the week there has been again a strong feeling, with prices almost daily hardening. Calcutta: There is nothing now offering to Hull, 62s 9d to 63s seems about the value, Sept.-Oct., and Oct.-Nov. to London. Black Sea: Very little offering, 59s the value Oct.-Nov. Petersburg, a little Oct.-Nov. sold at 57s, but sellers are extremely scarce. Riga and Libau are nominally worth 56s, as there are no fresh offers. American Duluth made 59s Sept.-Nov. River Plate, 54s 9d Dec.-Jan., first half February 54s 3d, all the month 53s 9d. The market closes quieter. Cottonseed.—There has not been much passing in the near positions, but prices remained fairly steady until to-day. Spot sold at £7 10s, passage at £7 8s 9d and £7 2s 6d according to position. To-day there are sellers at £7 5s nearly due, and, £6 18s 9d and £6 15s accepted later passage. October made £6 17s 6d, but now offers at £6 15s. Nov.-Jan., also Feb.-Mar., after changing hands at £6 13s 9d to £6 16s 3d, have since declined to £6 10s, which was accepted to-day, but with buyers over thereat. Linseed cakes are dearer, with strong tone. Cotton cakes unchanged. Hemp.—No change.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 15s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 7s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 5s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 17s 6d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE, packed in bags, of 1½cwt. each. Price per cwt. 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—A fair demand for the supplies on offer. Best clover, 85s to 100s; inferior ditto, 80s to 85s; specially picked hay, 92s 6d; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 90s; and straw, 25s to 36s per load.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There is a continued good demand in the warehouses for hay and straw, especially the latter, which is scarce. Prices are very firm and unchanged. Quotations:—Meadow hay, 6½d to 7d; clover, 7d to 7½d; wheat straw, 5½d; oat straw, 6d; rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—Owing to the lightermen's strike there has been very little stuff coming along this week, and, in consequence, prices are firmer, although with no change. We quote: Canadian Timothy and clover mixture, 85s; Dutch 1st cut clover, 90s; French and Dutch 2nd cut clover, 92s 6d; good Dutch hay, 72s 6d to 75s; common ditto, 65s; large bale French wheat straw, 46s 6d; small ditto ditto, 43s; small bale French oat straw, 43s. All these prices are per ton, delivered by barge alongside.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10, Great Tower Street, E.C.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Basic slag is in fair seasonable request at the quotations, and there is a slight inquiry for kainit, but other fertilisers are quiet. The firmness in the market for feeding stuffs continues, though the demand lacks activity. Prices as below: Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed, 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £8 5s to £8 7s 6d per ton; East India bone meal, in bags, £4 7s 6d to £4 10s per ton; kainit, prime 23 per cent, in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 17s 6d to £8 per ton; ditto, English, prime, in bulk, £8 15s to £9 2s 6d per ton; ditto, foreign, round, prime, soft, and oily, in bags, £8 7s 6d to £8 12s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 per ton; ditto, English ditto, prime, very soft, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 12s 6d per ton; ditto, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s per ton; cottonseed (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d per ton; maize germ meal, English, prime, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 15s per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 11s 3d to 12s 3d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £8 3s to £3 5s per qr. 41blb; N.A. cloversced, new red, fair to good, in bags, per cwt; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, per cwt; ditto, ditto, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, per ton; ditto, ditto, 35 to 36 sol., per ton, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d per ton; ditto, ditto, ditto 35 to 40 phos., in bags, £1 15s 6d to £1 11s 6d per ton; ditto, fine quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 phos., in bags, £1 18s 6d to £1 19s 6d per ton, at the purchaser's depôts.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Winsford (Cheshire), Saturday.—Current prices for salt at the works: Common white salt, 11s per ton; fine screened rock salt, 3s 6d per ton. Ex truck loads in bulk.—THE SALT UNION, LIMITED.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

New and Old Breeds of Wheat.

Sir,—Mr. Cave, in calling attention to the fact that I was in error on one point in connection with his trial crops, need not have gone out of his way to question my experience, or to assume that I had any unfriendly intentions.

I admire the manner in which he evidently seeks to place useful object lessons in the way of the tenants, who, as a rule, have neither the time nor the opportunity to test new varieties.

As to my experience, I am probably old enough to be Mr. Cave's father. I obtained my first "Square Head" seed from the original introducer, the well known Mr. Hope, of Fenton Barns, in 1871, and I have grown the variety every year since on all sorts of soil in different counties; often, as I said, from seed direct from Scholey's warp land, with the best results. I have grown practically every variety of wheat, and never miss a chance of testing new sorts. My first introduction to Garton's wonderful results was at a reception given by the late Lord Winchilsea some seven years ago, and I have since grown most of their cross-bred cereals. Like Mr. Cave, I have at least six of their stocks sown, or to be sown, for the ensuing season, including four acres of "White Monarch" just coming up.

The *raison d'être* of my letter was to emphasise the absolute necessity of exercising the utmost care that the *conditions of growth* in connection with published results should be the same all round. In Mr. Cave's case they were not, one crop coming in his "shift" after clover, the other after beans.

Some years ago I heard an old farming friend say that there was only one better preparation for a wheat crop than red clover mown twice, and that was red clover mown three times. Since then our scientists have more or less justified the old man's conclusions, and the assertion I made will be endorsed by practical men as holding good, on an average, on nine-tenths of the wheat-growing lands of England. Mr. Cave is of opinion that on some strong lands a greater return is obtained after beans. If that is the case on his own land it may account for the surprising yield of the "Square Head" as compared (I repeat unfairly) with the "White Monarch" after clover.

Results are, however, influenced by many different causes, and vary much in different seasons even under similar conditions. It is only by continuously and carefully experimenting at home and so finding out what is suitable not only for his locality and farm, but also for each field he occupies, that a farmer can hope to arrive at satisfactory results in connection with either new crops or different manures.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN FRANCIS BEDDALL.

Kempston Manor, Bedford.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Oct. 20th, 1900:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	231	350	15,689	26,787	
					308		26,036	
					307		35,884	
	Outbreaks.		No.	23	28	1,640	2,050	
					31		2,085	
					23		1,947	
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Other Animals	No.	:	:	1	:	14
					:		:	
					:		:	
		Dogs.	No.	1	:	5	8	136
					:		16	
					:		136	
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughtered.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	:	:	220	
					9		741	
		Diseased.	No.	1	:	:	1	46
					:		7	
					:		46	
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	:	:	1	7
					:		7	
					:		7	
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	33	19	1,516	1,193	
					29		1,150	
					32		1,302	
	Outbreaks.		No.	20	15	929	669	
					10		615	
					10		727	
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	:	:	227	:	:
					:		:	
					:		:	
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	:	17	:	:
					:		:	
					:		:	
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	11	26	745	840	
					16		666	
					14		776	
	Outbreaks.		No.	6	8	158	190	
					10		307	
					7		353	
Period.				Week ended Oct. 20, 1900	Corresponding week in 1899	Total for 42 weeks 1900	Corresponding period in 1899	
					1898		1898	
					1897		1897	

Note.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

† 1 Head of cattle slaughtered as suspected, but on post-mortem examination found to be free from the disease.

FIRST-CLASS representatives and agents required throughout the United Kingdom for the sale of "MOLASSINE"—Write for particulars to the "MOLASSINE" CO., LTD., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Jersey heifer Carol, winner of first prize at the recent Dairy Show in the class for Jersey heifers in milk bred in Great Britain or Ireland, is the property of and was bred by Lady de Rothschild, Aston Clinton, Tring. Carol is a little over two years and four months old, and is by Chieftain 5829, out of Harmony, by Spots Lad 4389.

Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Elsenham Hall, Essex, is the owner and also breeder of the Hackney stallion Bonny Danegelt 6990, a chestnut by Royal Danegelt 5785, dam Lady Dorothy 185, by Denmark 177. Our photograph was taken at the Royal Show at York, where Bonny Danegelt won first prize in the class for Hackney stallions foaled in 1898, and also the Hackney Horse Society's champion gold medal for the best Hackney stallion in the show.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

The Governor of New South Wales, in a recent speech at the annual meeting of the New South Wales Sheepbreeders' Association, said the backbone of their industry was to be found in the woolly Merinos. At home and in the colonies the sheet anchor of agriculture is the sheep. In England this is an undeniable fact, and whenever a door is shut, as it is now in Argentine, against the importation of live stock, the effects are quickly realised. There is now, for instance, a tremendous reaction in the pedigree sheep circles of Lincoln and Yorkshire, and also in respect of the Down flocks, and the retrogression in the price of pure-bred rams has been most pronounced the last week or two at Yorkshire ram fairs and the later sales.

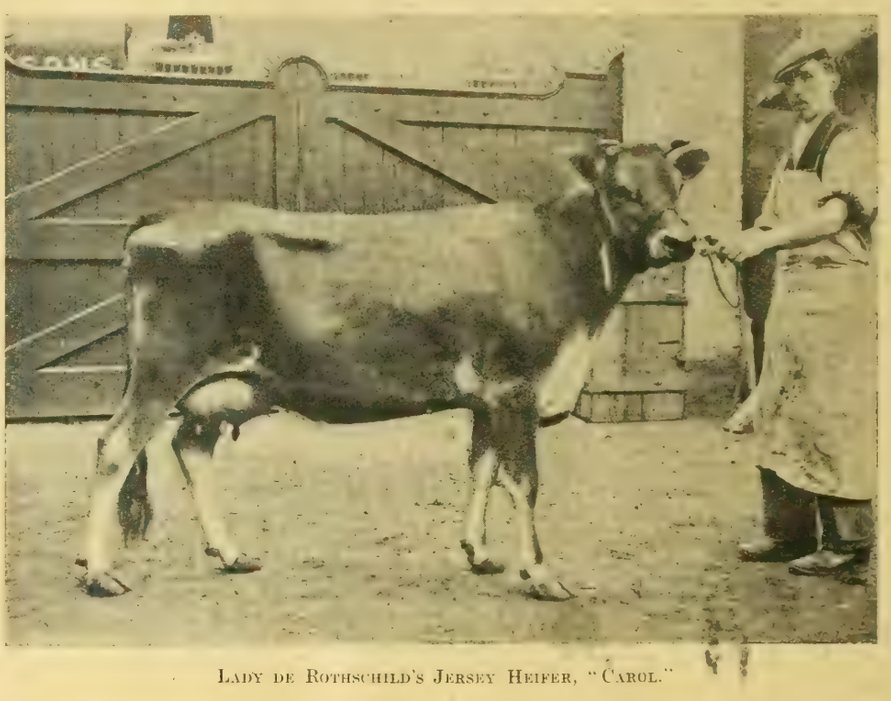
The dispersals of shearling sheep before harvest were the most remunerative, and it appears to be the better plan to sell out surplus sheep early in the season, one advantage—and it is followed by the leading breeders—being that the sheep are off the owners' hands, a great saving of food and of wages resulting. The number of rams lately placed on the market has been unprecedented. At Malton Fair recently over six hundred were penned, and ram sheep in some instances at Malton and elsewhere fetched prices that were really not much beyond mutton value. The outcome of this downfall in prices will be a reduction in the number of sheep reared as rams, as flockowners are not likely to continue a trade that gives no profit.

With reference to the account of the Guernsey bull, Frolic 6th, which was illustrated in our issue of the 8th inst., Mr. W. A. Glynn, Seagrove, Sea View, Isle of Wight, writes:—"The Guernsey bull, Frolic 6th, though bred and shown by me, was sold directly after this year's season at a record price to America. You also mention 'his varied career this year'; it may be misleading. It is not surprising that 'he was not noticed' at Bath and West, bearing in mind that he did not go to Bath; having won all he could at the Society's show in 1899 he was not qualified to go this year. At Royal Counties Messrs. Barnes and Middleton were appointed judges of Guernseys; otherwise this year where sent he was first. Last year he was sent to six leading shows, and won a second and five firsts and champion. He had previously done very well indeed when entered."

Mr. Louis Robinson, M.D., who is a most careful observer of animal life, contributes an interesting paper to the current number of *Pearson's Magazine* describing the various ways in which animals sleep. Most ruminating animals, he says, habitually doze while they are chewing their cud, and this interesting process of preparing their hastily gathered food goes on automatically while they are in a state of comparative oblivion. It is very seldom that you can catch a cow with her eyes tightly closed, or with her head resting on the ground. Young calves, however, may frequently be seen sound asleep with their heads laid upon their flanks. Being curious to know what the giraffe did with his immense neck while sleeping, I made inquiries at the Zoological Gardens, and learned that these creatures invariably adopt this attitude.

It is obviously difficult for long-horned cattle, deer, or wild sheep to pillow their head upon the ground, after the manner of a young colt, nor do they seem very desirous of doing so. The heads and horns of many of these creatures are of immense weight, and at first sight it seems strange that they should be able to take their rest while still supporting their heads by muscular action. As a matter of fact, however, very little muscular power is required. If you dissect the neck of an ox, or, indeed, of any large quadruped, you find that the neck bones are strapped together all along the upper side by a band of enormously strong elastic tissue, the ends of which are attached to the skull and the thick vertebræ above the shoulder. This is technically known as the *ligamentum nuchæ*, and it undoubtedly serves to support the head with very little strain on the muscles.

Even the horse in his adult state, although he appears to be a sounder sleeper than the ox, seldom rests his head upon the ground. It is well known that horses can sleep while standing up, and any groom will inform you that some can never be tempted to lie down while in the stable. Such horses, however, are found to be less efficient for work than those that take their rest in the usual way. When turned out at pasture all horses, except those which are crippled by disease or injury, lie down at night with their legs folded beneath their bodies.



Lady de Rothschild's Jersey Heifer, "Carol."

The entire herd of pure-bred Jersey cattle belonging to Mr. J. H. Shore, of Whatley House, Frome, Somersetshire, is to be sold by auction on Thursday, November 8th, in consequence of the Bangle Farm being given up. Whatley has long been famous for its herd of Jersey cattle. It was founded about 1878, and is one of the oldest herds in the West of England. Frequent visits from Weymouth to Jersey led to an extensive knowledge of the best island breeders and their strains of blood; several importations were made. The herd now consists chiefly of the blood of Mr. William Labey's herd at Grouville. It was this stock which as far back as 1854 won first and reserve prizes (only two prizes being given) at the R.A.S.E. Show at Newcastle, and from which Mr. Dumbrell, of Brighton, so successfully bred. The two best Labey strains, viz., the Fontaine and Mabel, abound in the herd. The Mabel tribe is also represented in the female line through Mabel 33rd, lot 8, who was by Mr. Marett's famous sire Orme 4296 (used by Lord Rothschild), from Mabel 13th, a well-known island prize-winner, and the dam of Mrs. Greenall's Mabel 23rd, winner of eleven first prizes, including first prize at the Royal Show, Manchester, 1897.

In addition to these excellent Island strains the herd contains some of the old English blood from Captain Spicer, Mr. W. E. Budgett, and the late Mr. Maitland Spencer's herds in the West of England. Among the sires now in use are Mr. W. J. Labey's Fontaine's King 5547, lot 66, now in his sixth year, a son of Boyle; and Mona's Chief 6337, lot 70, of the Mabel strain, both well adapted from their high breeding and character to go into first-class herds. Also Lord Charles Bereford 5961, lot 67, bred by Mr. R. J. Pope, from that celebrated champion prize cow Lady Dawish, and Leylands Oak 6615, lot 71, bred by Mr. McKenzie Bradley, by that equally famous prize bull Leylands Champion 6303, a son of the beautiful Butter Test prize cow Lady Lavinia 5th. Reference to the pedigrees shows that many of the animals for years past have carried off most of the prizes at the Frome Show, and occasionally at the Bath and West of England meetings. The herd has, however, not been widely exhibited, but kept specially for practical dairy purposes, the object being to obtain a large supply of the richest milk and butter from cows of the finest quality and of the best strains of Jersey blood.

The fifty-second annual exhibition of cattle and poultry will take place at Birmingham from December 1st to 6th. Entries close on Thursday, November 1st, and on applying for entry forms to Mr. W. H. Lythall, secretary, at Bingley Hall, it is necessary to state for which section they are required. A sum of £3,200 is offered in prizes, including the President's, Lord Mayor's, and High Sheriff's prizes. The challenge cups, value £105 each, are, as usual, offered by Messrs. Elkington and Co., Mr. Joseph Thorley, and Messrs. Webb and Sons, and one value £50, the gift of the proprietor of the *Birmingham Daily Post*. The usual extra prizes of £50 each for the best Hereford, Shorthorn, and Scot; £30 for best crossbred, and £20 for best Devon are offered. The Cooper Challenge Cup, value £25, for sheep, is offered; and in the pig section the hotel and innkeepers are providing a new challenge cup, value £21. The classes for corn, roots, and potatoes are about the same as last year, with the addition of a 10gs. cup, the gift of Mr. Mitchell. In the poultry and pigeon section there are 350 classes, with liberal prizes and numerous specials and cups.

On Saturday, the 20th inst., Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, despatched by the ss. Covic, of the White Star line, from Liverpool, on account of Mr. G. H. Hunn, of Michigan, twenty-three high-class Shropshires, comprising four ram lambs and ten ewe lambs, bred by the Exors. of the late Mr. W. Nevett, sired by Rare Brand 9199 (a son of the noted ram Rare Stamp 4761, the progenitor of upwards of sixty showyard winners), Montford Jumbo 10013 (winner S. and W. M., by Downton King 7875), Buttar's Jubilee 9378 (winner Manchester R.A.S.E., by Bonaparte 7330), Newport's first winner S. and W. M., bred by Mr. A. E. Mansell; by the 120-guinea Royal winner Phenomenon 9680; Corrie Varkie 9418, bred by Mr. Buttar, by the late Mr. T. Mansell's Lord Patriot 4627. Messrs. Evans supplied a valuable shearling ram in a son of Star of Morning 10145, bred by Mr. A. E. Mansell, by Dream Star 8977, dam by Corston Artist 5948, g.d. by

the 150-guinea Plymouth Champion 5432. The remainder consisted of eight choice shearling ewes from Mr. A. E. Mansell, sired by Fortification 9498 (sire of this year's Royal winner sold at 240gs. for Australia), Dream Star 8977, Rose Bush 10014 (sire of the second prize Royal winner at York, sold at 150gs., also first and champion at the S. and W. M. Show), Bonny Dreamful 9382, and Ulster Rose 9734, Miss Rose's Dublin winner. These ewes were all in lamb to high-class sires, viz., True Treasure, winner fourth prize S. and W. M. Show, 1900; Strong Bone 10548, bought at 100gs.; and Montford Kaiser, by Montford A. 10006, dam by Phenomenon. These animals were all carefully selected by Mr. Hunn, and should they do well in their new home he proposes to embark largely in the breeding of high-class Shropshires.

Alluding to the shipment made by Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, to Russia some few weeks since, which, by the way, we hear has arrived at its destination safely and given unqualified satisfaction, it comprised, amongst others, a valuable selection of Shorthorn bulls, viz., Montford Knight, bred by Mr. Minton, by the celebrated bull Best of Archers 69981, from Montford Honeycomb 22nd, by Gladys Hero 4th 59013; Lord Diamond 2nd, a Kirklevington bull, bred by Mr. Tetley Nickells, by Village Knight 2nd 75830, from Lady Diamond Kirklevington; Adonis, a well-grown red bull, from Mr. R. P. Cooper's herd, by Matchmaker 69105, from Adela 2nd, by Ruling Star 58098; Thorndale Archer, a very smart red bull, bred by Mr. P. L. Mills, by Best of Archers 69981, from Thorndale Premium Rose 7th, by Grand Duke of Connaught 57412. Mr. Mills also supplied another good bull in Chamberlaine Surprise, a fine roan by Surprise 73747, from Bestwood Blanche, by Master of the Ceremonies. Lord Powis' herd supplied a very nice and remarkably good white bull in Matchem 77234, bred by the late Mr. Bruce, of Inverquhomery, by Waverley 68072, from Rosebud 3rd, by Cap-a-pie 58591.

The twenty Shorthorn heifers were a very choice lot, consisting of Rachel 23rd, a roan, bred by Mr. Tremaine, by Count Clarence 3rd 76427; Oakum, a two-year-old roan heifer, bred by Captain Mytton, by Baron Hobbs 66672; Love Bird 2nd, a red heifer, from Mr. J. Noylor's herd, by Easter Gift 72459, from Love Bird, by Captain of the Guard 58596; Lady Ophelia Fawsley, a good roan, bred by Mrs. L. Holland, by Fawsley Magic 74539; Lady Lucy Worcester 5th, bred by Mr. John Naylor, by Easter Gift 72459; Gwendoline 6th, from the same herd, and also sired by Easter Gift; Frosty Morn, another heifer from the same herd, by Privateer 71276; Flora 5th, from Mr. R. P. Cooper's herd; Duchess 6th, from the same herd, by the prize-winning bull Fellow Citizen 72522; Maid of the Mist, by Fawsley Magic 74539; an excellent well-grown heifer with nice character, viz., Lady Jevellar, bred by Mr. John Garne, of Filkins, by First Favourite 68643; Duchess of Sherborne 15th, a nice roan, bred by Mr. Tremaine, by Earl of Clarence 13th 72443; Countess of Gloster 2nd, also bred by Mr. Tremaine, by Baron Sherborne 9th 74020; Colina, bred by Mr. T. Mace, by Adonis Foggathorpe 69849; Butterfly Queen, by Recorder 75372; Rosamond 5th, a roan, bred by Mr. T. Handy, by Pigglesworth Duke 75207; Silver Butterfly, by Fawsley Magic 74539; Primrose 7th, bred by Mr. James Scott, by Royal Centurion 69448; Marigold 12th, bred by Mr. Wentworth Taylor, by Royal Hall 69463, and Primrose 7th, a red heifer, by Royal Centurion 69448. Most of these heifers were in calf to high-class sires, and in addition to these the cattle included four two-year-old Jersey heifers in calf, specially selected on the island.

The shipment also included eleven Clydesdale stallions and entire colts, and three mares, sired by such well-known stallions as Macgregor, King of the Roses, Petruchio, Macmeekan, and Prince Attractive, and were all nice, straight, well-built horses, with extra good legs and feet. The sheep comprised twenty-five Shropshire rams, ten Shropshire yearling ewes, and one Oxford ram, all of which were selected from the best flocks. The pigs were about twenty Large White and Berkshire boars from the prize-winning herds of Mr. P. L. Mills, Mr. R. P. Cooper, Mr. J. Jefferson, and Mr. Denston Gibson.

The Horse Breeding Committee of the Department of Agriculture recently met in Dublin to hear what Irish breeders have to suggest. There seems to be a good deal of eagerness among them to secure a full share of the grants, in the expectation that the creation of new regiments of mounted infantry will almost immediately set up a demand for army mounts. It is thought that the old Irish horse, which has almost disappeared in the course of crossing with Hackneys, might, if the strain could be rescued, furnish just the stamina required for rough campaigning. It was represented to the Committee that £10,000 or £15,000 would not be too much to spend in Ireland on a purchase of sires and the creation of Government stud farms.

Mr. Sanders Spencer, of Holywell Manor, near St. Ives, Hunts, has again been shipping some of his noted pigs. This time a pair of choice pigs were shipped on Monday last by the ss. Laras, from Millwall Docks, London, to an old customer in Russia.

The entries of stock for the Smithfield Club's Show close on Thursday next, November 1st. Post entries will, however, be received up to 4 p.m. on Monday, November 5th.

CATTLE.

The Age of a Prize Bull.

Prosecution at Birmingham—Fine, £120.

Joseph Gowling, farmer, of Radford, Leamington, who, as reported in our last issue, was charged at the Birmingham Police Court on the 19th inst. with having falsely and fraudulently pretended to William Lythall, secretary to the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society, that a bull known as Cock o' the North II. had been born on September 13, 1898, by means of which false pretence he did unlawfully obtain on March 15th the sum of £20 and also a cheque for £280, the moneys and properties of the Agricultural Exhibition Society, and was then remanded on bail, was brought up again on Tuesday. Mr. McCardie and Mr. E. W. Cave (instructed by Messrs. Milward and Co.) appeared for the prosecution; while defendant, who pleaded guilty, was represented by Mr. Parfitt and Mr. Norris Foster (instructed by Messrs. Buller and Cross).

Mr. McCardie said that defendant was a breeder and exhibitor of Shorthorn cattle. In October, 1898, he bought the Shorthorn named Cock o' the North II. at a sale conducted by Messrs. Thornton. In the catalogue this calf was described as having been born on July 23. In February, 1899, defendant wished to enter the animal in the herd-book, and sent to Mr. Powell, secretary of the Shorthorn Society, particulars in which the date of birth was given as August 23, 1898. The Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society held shows several times a year, and at one of these shows, held in March last, one of the classes was for beasts from fifteen to eighteen months old, while another was for beasts eighteen to twenty-one months. At this show prisoner exhibited Cock o' the North II., and, apparently with the view of getting it into the class in which he was not entitled to exhibit it, decided again to change the date of birth, stating it to be September 13, 1898. Mr. Lythall, on his attention being called to the discrepancy, wrote to the prisoner, telling him that the animal should have gone into Class 8, that for beasts from eighteen to twenty-one months. Prisoner wrote back to say that the date he had given was correct, and that the animal should go into Class 9, for beasts of fifteen to eighteen months. In consequence of this statement, defendant was awarded the first prize of £20. At the sale held in conjunction with the show, Cock o' the North was sold for £260, and a cheque for £280 was sent to prisoner. The winner of the second prize communicated with Mr. Lythall, and inquiries were made, which led to the present prosecution. So far as the society knew, defendant was a hard-working, respectable man, and though they had suspected from time to time that similar false pretences had been practised they were not attempting to show that on any prior occasion the defendant did anything of the same kind. In fact, they had no desire to unduly press the charge.

In reply to the Recorder, Mr. McCardie said that the purchaser of the animal was a Mr. Millar, but as the animal died some time after the purchase Mr. Miller had obtained from insurance the exact sum he gave for it.

Mr. Parfitt, on behalf of the defendant, pleaded that for thirty years the defendant had enjoyed the very highest character, and suggested that under the circumstances a fine might be considered sufficient punishment. The reason why the second alteration was made was that the defendant was told by his son that there was a doubt about the age. Never before had there been any suggestion of wrong against him. The defendant has suffered very considerable loss already not only in connection with this particular animal, but because at shows all over the country he would not be allowed to enter his name as an exhibitor.

Evidence as to character was given by Mr. J. C. Coburn, Mr. Hatherall, Mr. J. W. Glover (Mayor of Warwick), and Mr. J. N. Peyton. All these gentlemen stated that they had known defendant for many years as a steady, hard working, and straightforward man.

Mr. W. H. Lythall, secretary to the Agricultural Exhibition Society, in reply to the Recorder, said that if the animal had not been awarded the prize its value at the sale would have depreciated to the extent of 50gs. It was a difficult matter to say, but something like that amount would represent the difference.

The Recorder said that the prisoner had pleaded guilty to a kind of practice which he was afraid was more common than some people had any idea of. It was a very difficult thing to find out, and in a case like this, in which a difference of a few weeks in age made the difference between entry in one class and entry in another, such a fraud would have very far-reaching consequences with regard to the taking of prizes and the value of the animal. It seemed quite clear that if this beast had not been placed in a particular class to which it did not belong it very likely would not have taken a prize in the class to which it did belong. In awarding the punishment he must take care that the prisoner should reap no profit from the transaction, and he thought it wise to deduct the sum prisoner paid for the calf originally from the £260 for which he sold it. This would bring the amount down to £240, and he thought he should be behaving very leniently to the prisoner if he divided that sum by two. He, therefore, fined the prisoner £120, and ordered him to be imprisoned until the money was paid.

Sale of Pedigree Live Stock at Harleston.

The second unreserved Michaelmas sale of live stock bred by Mr. J. B. Dimmock, Shotford Hall, Harleston, took place on Monday, and was attended by a very large company of breeders, etc. The dispersal was again entrusted to Messrs. George Durrant and Sons, and was favoured by lovely autumn weather. Mr. Dimmock had catalogued a good representation of the various breeds for which he has earned so good a reputation, both in the local show-yards and at the exhibitions of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and from start to finish a sharp demand was experienced, so that the 160 lots were quickly brought to the hammer and knocked down by Mr. George Durrant, after luncheon had been partaken of by about 200 guests. The proceedings commenced with the Large Black pigs, for which Mr. Dimmock holds the first silver medal given in Suffolk or Norfolk. The bidding in this department ruled very fast, five of the fat hogs realising £6 5s., £5 5s., £5 2s. 6d., and two £4 17s. 6d., others of the twenty-two offered ranging from £4 15s. downwards. The best pair of a score of young sows made as high as £4 12s. 6d., and of eight boar pigs one yielded £3 15s. One lot of eight store pigs went at 30s. 6d. apiece, and forty young stores were readily sold at from 23s. 6d. downwards. Ten young White in-pig sows made from 75s. to 50s., seventy-five crossbred stores from 20s. 6d. downwards, and half a dozen Londoners 47s.

Eight horses were then sold as under:—Bay horse foal, winner of second prize at Harleston Show, 21½gs.; roan two-year-old filly, first prize at Halesworth Show as a foal, 38½gs.; brown two-year-old filly, 38gs.; bay two-year-old filly, 33½gs.; bay two-year-old colt, 35gs.; chestnut two-year-old filly 25gs.; bay mare, seven years, Bowthorpe 19481, S.H.S.B., 32gs.; chestnut horse, six years, 27gs.

Stall-fed cattle, to the number of twenty-six, were next submitted, fat heifers realising from £26 5s. to £14 5s., and fat steers from £24 10s. to £14 15s. Amongst the neat stock seven Shorthorn heifers with calves by side fetched £20 5s., £19 15s., £19 10s., £18 10s., £17 10s., £17 5s., and £17, others near calving going at from £16 15s., sixteen grazing steers at from £13, a red-polled bull, eighteen months old, at 30gs., to Lord Hastings, and a Shorthorn bull of like age at 23gs., to Mr. Gray.

The sheep brought the sale to a close, Mr. Dimmock offering his entire lot of Suffolk lambs. Half-a-score ewe lambs, which were awarded first prizes at Eye and Harleston, went at 60s., to Mr. Charles Devereux; 100 more, ear-marked, averaged 47s. 3d., and ten, not ear-marked, made 35s. 6d. Six wether lambs, first prize at Harleston, fetched 60s.; 106 more from 43s. 6d. to 32s.; forty ear-marked Suffolk ewe lambs, bred by Capt. Cobbold, 39s. 6d.; forty-eight, bred by Mr. Leonard Smith, from 39s. 6d. to 36s.; ten of Mr. Dimmock's draft ewes, 35s.; thirteen Suffolk ewes, from Mr. Nicholson's flock, 35s. 6d.; four Suffolk ram lambs averaged 50s. 3d., and fifty-five fat sheep, 45s. 6d.

The buyers included Lord Hastings, Sir Hugh Edward Adair, Messrs. Gray, Goldspink, C. Hayward, Todd, G. Warnes, John Breese, R. Baldwin, Jas. Barber, F. G. Miles, Thurlow, J. Elsey, Scotchmer, Harris, E. J. Cheney, John Wittrick, G. Symonds, John Mendham, R. Read, E. J. Cook, W. R. Riches, Toynbee, Sanderson, Jas. Broom, Charles Devereux, John Lawn, C. Tooley, W. Wright, jun., G. Holland, jun., Adcock, J. Roe, O. Brock, G. Self, W. Tibbenham, Tubby, J. C. Pike, W. H. Poll, C. P. Poll, Massingham, Clay, Witton, C. Charlish, E. J. Alexander, H. Davy, Hodson, Minter, Keeble, A. Wharton, W. Wharton, Westgate, P. Miles, D. J.

Danby, Tweedale, J. W. Smith, W. Chaplin, E. Reeve, Weston, Dawson, S. Warnes, W. G. Munnings, etc.

Shorthorn Bull Sale at Beverley.

At Beverley, on Wednesday, Mr. T. H. Speck, in conjunction with Mr. J. Crust, disposed of nine Shorthorn bulls, the property of various gentlemen, and four Lincoln Red Shorthorn bulls from Mr. R. Botterill's herd at Tathwell Hall. There was a good attendance of buyers, and the prices realised were fairly satisfactory. Full particulars will be found below:—

SHORTHORNS.	Gs.
Cherry Prince 11th (Mr. R. Botterill's), c 1898, s Agrippa 69853 ..... Mr. Robinson	17½
Lord Wilsthorpe 3rd (Mr. R. B. Appleby's), c 1899, s Maxim 73035 ..... Mr. Tewton	15
Cambridge Duke (Mr. T. Barber's), c 1899, s Cambridge Rose Duke 13th 68320 ..... Mr. Blenkin	17½
Deacon (Mr. G. Langdale's), c 1899, s Interpreter 68801 ..... Mr. Hutchinson	20
Lord Roberts (Mr. R. B. Appleby's), c 1899, s Maxim 73036 ..... Mr. Leonard	29
Sabian (Mr. J. Boyes's), c 1899, s Weston Beau 75833 ..... Mr. North	19
Lowthorpe Lookahead 4th (Mr. I. Burdass's), c 1899, s Lowthorpe Lookahead 72946 ..... Mr. Newton	15½
Barometer (Mr. T. D. Robinson's), c 1899, s Wild Duke of Geneva 148th 68102 ..... Mr. Foster	23
Lord Stanley (Mr. W. H. Hutchinson's), c 1900, s Commanding Officer 74259 ..... Mr. Binnington	17½
LINCOLN RED SHORTHORNS.	
Yearling bull, s Hangham Wonder 780 ..... Mr. Newton	14½
Bull, eleven months old ..... Mr. Jefferson	18½
Bull, ten months old ..... Mr. Ransom	19
Bull, nine months old ..... Mr. Foster	17

Sale of Lincoln Red Shorthorns at Fledborough.

A sale of Lincoln Red Shorthorns, belonging to Mr. C. H. Stafford, was held at Fledborough, near Newark, on Thursday, and it was well attended by buyers from all parts, the herd being a well-known one. Messrs. Dickinson and Rigall, Louth, were the auctioneers, and they had the satisfaction of conducting a good sale, the prices realised being, as the following list will show, satisfactory:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.—Croft Ruby, calved 1895, £32; her bull calf, calved March 6th, 1900, £33; Fledborough Calceby 1st, calved 1895, £30; her cow calf, calved September 14th, 1900, £10; Withern Violet, calved 1896, £41; her cow calf, calved September 5th, 1900, £5 10s.; Marston Crescent, calved 1897, £17 10s.; her bull calf, calved October 2nd, 1900, £5 10s.; Marston Bellows, calved 1893, £21, to Mr. Spencer; her bull calf, calved June 6th, 1900, £10, Mr. Tindall; Withern Primrose, £28, Mr. Whitworth; her bull calf, calved February 19th, 1900, £13 10s., to Mr. Spencer, Retford; Withern Buttercup's cow calf, calved February 28th, 1900, £14 10s., to Mr. Whitworth; Willoughby Venus, £20, Mr. Esam; her bull calf, calved April 13th, 1900, £15 10s., Mr. Esam; Willoughby Winsome, £14 10s., Mr. Brocklebank; her cow calf, calved April 13th, 1900, Mr. Dakin; Willoughby Mabel, £17 10s., Mr. Marriott; her cow calf, calved April 10th, 1900, £20, Mr. Marriott; Withern Honeysuckle, calved 1896, £30, Colonel Thorpe; her cow calf, Miss Kitchener, £18, Mr. Cartwright, Wagnall; Willoughby Daisy, £24, Mr. Brown; her bull calf, calved April 1st, 1900, £40, Mr. Barnes; Willoughby Peoni, £15, Mr. Whitworth; Fledborough Tulip, £20; her bull calf, calved November 28th, 1899, £15, Mr. Simpson; Willoughby Norah, calved 1896, £15 10s., Mr. Marriott; her cow calf, calved July 6th, 1899, £7 10s., Mr. Whitworth; Fledborough Charity, calved 1897, £23; her cow calf, Lady Wood, £25 10s., Colonel Thorpe; Fledborough Molly, calved May, 1896, £20 10s., Mr. Marrison; red cow, £30 10s., Mr. Bullen, Newark; her bull calf, calved March 3rd, 1900, £26, Mr. Morley; Croft Garnet, £10 10s.; her cow calf, calved April 21st, 1900, £18, Mr. Freshney; red cow, £16, her steer calf, £7, Mr. Cartwright; Fledborough Calceby, £35, Mr. Marriott; Fledborough Kate, £18 10s., Mr. Rowbottom; Marston Whisper, calved 1898, £30 10s., Mr. Todd; her bull calf, calved October 5th, £7; Fledborough Wymant, calved August, 1898, £35, Mr. Rowbottom; Lady Gatacre, calved December, 1898, £11 10s., Mr. Turner; Lady Clery, calved April, 1899, £10 10s., Mr. Freshney; Lady Symons, calved April, 1899, £14, Mr. Bullen, Newark; Lady White, calved March, 1899, £25, Mr. Tinley; Lady Sarah, calved March, 1899, £57, Colonel Thorpe; Ladysmith, calved May, 1899, £27, Mr. Tinley; Lady Roberts, calved April, 1899, £24, Mr. Tinley; Lady French, calved April, 1899, £9, Mr. Pennington, Sutton; Fledborough Lady Methuen, calved December 2nd, £11 10s., Mr. Whitworth.

BULLS.—Benniworth, calved March, 1896, £50, to Mr. Cartwright; Fledborough Colesburg, calved March 28th, 1899, £22 10s., Mr. Crawboro; a bull, £12 10s., Mr. Turner. Bullocks, steers, heifers, and calves were sold at from £18 5s. per pair to £32 10s. per pair, to Messrs. Dakin, Saunders, and Marshall.

Sale of Shorthorn Heifers at Ipswich.

Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons' second special sale of dairy stock at Ipswich took place on Tuesday, and the chief features were the consignments of about forty Shorthorn heifers with calves by sides, or near calving, from Mr. E. F. Quilter, Bentley, Mr. Herbert Smith, Walton Grange, and Mr. R. B. Bond, Sproughton. These heifers were mostly selected last autumn in Cumberland and Westmorland, and run with polled Angus, pure Shorthorn, and red poll bulls. They were big-framed animals, which promised to develop into heavy milking cows. There was a large company of buyers present, and some good prices were realised. Details are given below:—

The property of Mr. R. B. Bond, Sproughton.

Red and white Shorthorn heifer and calf by Polled Angus bull ..... Mr. E. W. Salmon	£15	5	0
Roan Shorthorn heifer and calf .... Mr. W. J. Robb	24	5	0
White Shorthorn heifer and calf ..... Messrs. G. and A. Rope	19	5	0
Roan Shorthorn heifer, due in November ..... Mr. P. Rose	15	0	0
Roan Shorthorn heifer and calf ..... Mr. W. B. Colman	14	10	0

The property of Mr. E. F. Quilter, Bentley.

Red and white Shorthorn heifer and red calf ..... Mr. J. O. Francis	19	5	0
White Shorthorn heifer and roan calf .. Mr. J. Pratt	15	10	0
Roan Shorthorn heifer and red calf ..... Mr. E. F. Gooding	20	0	0
Roan Shorthorn heifer and red calf ..... Messrs. G. and A. Rope	22	0	0
Red Shorthorn heifer and red calf .. Mr. A. Catchpole	18	0	0
Red Shorthorn heifer and red calf ..... Mr. T. M. Rudland	21	5	0
Roan Shorthorn heifer and red calf ..... Mr. T. M. Rudland	22	15	0
Roan Shorthorn heifer and roan calf ..... Mr. S. E. Bean	19	10	0
Roan Shorthorn heifer and red calf ..... Mr. E. A. Haddenham	21	0	0
Roan Shorthorn heifer and red calf ..... Mr. T. M. Rudland	20	0	0
Roan Shorthorn heifer and roan calf ..... Mr. G. Harper	14	5	0
Roan Shorthorn heifer and red calf ..... Mr. T. M. Rudland	18	15	0
Roan Shorthorn heifer and red and white calf ..... Mr. G. Harper	14	12	6
Roan Shorthorn heifer ..... Mr. E. A. Haddenham	15	10	0

The property of Mr. H. E. Smith, Walton Grange.

Red and white Shorthorn heifer and calf ..... Mr. W. S. Colman	21	10	0
Roan Shorthorn heifer and calf ..... Mr. E. A. Haddenham	18	0	0
Red Polled heifer and calf ..... Mr. S. E. Bean	19	0	0
Roan Shorthorn heifer and calf .. Mr. E. F. Godding	19	0	0
Red and white Shorthorn heifer ..... Mr. H. Fiske	16	5	0
Red and white Shorthorn heifer .. Mr. J. Somerville	14	15	0
Red and white Shorthorn heifer .. Mr. J. Somerville	15	0	0
Red and white Shorthorn heifer .. Mr. H. O. Ranson	15	5	0
Red and white Shorthorn heifer ..... Mr. E. A. Haddenham	18	5	0

Sale of Devon Cattle at Exeter.

Messrs. Risdon, of the Risdons and Andrews, on Wednesday held a sale of pure-bred Devon cattle in connection with the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society at the Exeter Cattle Market. There was a fair attendance, and fairly good prices were realised, as will be seen from the following list:—Bickham Boy, calved June, 1899, the property of Mr. C. C. Merson, Bickham, Dunster, Somerset, sold for 43gs.; a bull, calved June, 1899, the property of Mr. R. W. C. Evered, Spaxton, Bridgwater, 41gs.; Gay Laddie, July 3rd, 1899, Mr. William Kidner's, Kingston, Taunton, 32gs.; Maxim, March, 1899, and Landmark, March, 1899, the property of the Hon. C. B. Portman, Childe-Okeford, Blandford, 30gs. each; a bull, April, 1899, Mr. John Tapp's, Durston, Taunton, 26gs.; Horner Green, November, 1896, Mr. E. Adams's, Allenford, Taunton, 22gs.; Farmer's Boy, December, 1897, Mr. William Kidner's, Kingston, Taunton, 20gs.; Wood Squire, March, 1899, Mr. William Lethbridge's, Southtawton, 21gs.; bull, calved May, 1899, owned by Mr. John Tapp, 20gs.; Jupiter, July, 1899, Mrs. Harriet Davis, Milverton, Somerset, 20gs.; Stipendiary, July, 1899, Mr. William Tuckett, Stockleigh, Pomeroy, Crediton, 27gs.; bull, December, 1899, Mr. William Kidner, 27gs.; bull, January, 1900, Mr. William Tuckett, 21gs. There were several other animals sold at prices ranging from three guineas to 18 guineas.

Among the purchasers were the Hon. C. B. Portman, Messrs. Lee, Broadclyst; Hoult, Exeter; W. and J. Baker, Taunton; Loughmann, Alton, Hants; W. Hicks, St. Austell; Cowle, Winkleigh; J. L. and H. Steer, Clyst St. George; H. W. Corner, Bath; Harris, Ottery St. Mary; Alford, Netherexe; Pile, Ottery St. Mary; Jennings, Chanin, Tiverton; Earle, Kea, Truro; J. Merry, Wellington; Richards, Ide; E. P. Northey, Okehampton; Bishop, Sidmouth; and S. A. Passmore, Northamptonshire.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*]

The fair at Moneymore, co. Londonderry, on Monday was a small one, and a good demand prevailed. Prices:—Calves, second class, £3 10s. to £4 10s. Yearlings, first class, £8 to £9 5s.; second class, £5 10s. to £7 10s.; third class, £3 11s. 3d. to £4 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 6s. 8d. to £12; second class, £8 5s. to £9 10s.; third class, £5 10s. to £7. Springers, first class, £15 15s. to £17 5s.; second class, £10 10s. to £15; third class, £8 17s. 6d. to £10 10s. Lambs, first class, £1 12s. 6d.; second class, £1 1s. to £1 5s. Over 12 months and under 24, first class, £2 to £2 10s.; second class, £1 10s. to £1 15s.

At Templemore, co. Tipperary, on Monday, there was a large fair of nice cattle, which met a very good demand, and nearly all sold at good prices. There was but a small supply of sheep, and the demand was only middling. Prices:—Calves, second class, £4 to £4 15s. Yearlings, first class, £9 to £9 15s.; second class, £7 2s. 6d. to £8 15s. Two-year-olds, first class, £14 5s.; second class, £9 12s. 6d. to £11 15s.; third class, £6 to £6 15s. Springers, first class, £16 15s.; second class, £12 10s. to £14 10s. Lambs, first class, £1 7s. 6d. to £1 10s.; second class, £1 3s. to £1 7s. Over 12 months and under 24, first class, £1 19s. to £2 2s.; second class, £1 17s. 6d. to £1 18s. Two years old and over, second class, £1 15s.

Longford Fair, held on Monday, was smaller than usual, and the demand was slow, a number of cattle not changing hands, as sellers considered prices unsatisfactory. Prices:—Calves, first class, £3 to £6 15s.; second class, £2 to £4 10s. Yearlings, first class, £9 10s. to £10 5s.; second class, £6 10s. to £9. Two-year-olds, first class, £13 15s. to £15; second class, £10 to £13. Three-year-olds, first class, £16 to £16 15s.; second class, £12 to £14 10s. Springers, first class, £17 13s. 4d. to £20.

The fair at Antrim on Thursday was an average-sized one. There was a brisk demand, and a good clearance was effected. Prices:—Calves, first class, £5 to £5 10s.; second class, £2 15s. to £4. Yearlings, first class, £8 12s. 6d. to £9 10s.; second class, £5 10s. to £7 5s.; third class, £4 3s. 9d. to £4 1s. 6d. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 15s. to £13 10s.; second class, £8 to £9; third class, £6 15s. to £6 17s. 6d. Three-year-olds, second class, £13 to £14 8s. Springers, first class, £15 15s. to £20; second class, £11 to £14 10s.

At Great Munster Fair, Limerick, held on the 26th, there was a large supply of cattle of good quality, demand brisk, and a good clearance effected. Prices:—Calves, first class, £5 6s. 6d. to £6; second class, £4 to £5 5s. Yearlings, first class, £8 12s. 6d. to £9 10s.; second class, £6 15s. to £8 10s.; third class, £5 10s. to £6 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £12 to £14; second class, £9 10s. to £11 15s.; third class, £6 5s. to £8. Three-year-olds, third class, £10 10s. to £11. Springers, first class, £15 to £20; second class, £11 10s. to £14 10s.; third class, £9 to £10 10s.

HORSES.

Polo Pony Breeding.

Mr. John Hill, writing to *Land and Water*, in reply to a letter from Sir R. D. Green-Price, on the subject of a polo pony farm, says:—

He intimates that a suitable farm of about 600 acres at a rent of 14s. an acre can be obtained, and proposes the formation of a syndicate to take the farm and stock it, and that a sum of £2,000 would be required for a start. Now, anxious as I am to see a breeding farm of this sort in working order, yet if it is to be done at all it is worth doing well, and I can hardly see the way clear to make a beginning even, with only a capital of £2,000.

The old farm-taking axiom for a high-class farm was, that the tenant should have a capital of £10 an acre, but that must have been in the very good old times, which can barely be remembered by the oldest inhabitant. But, after all, £10 an acre capital is nearer the mark than £3 6s. 8d., as suggested. When, considering the amount of capital required, of course the whole plant of the farm must be taken into account, implements, household effects, on-coming payments, wages, etc., as also farm horses, sheep, and some few cattle which would be necessary. After this would come the expense of laying in the pony stock. Without knowing the lines on which Sir Richard proposes to work it is difficult to give an opinion, but taking it for granted that a breeding stud is intended, not a "dealing" undertaking and turning out the finished article after buying them in the rough, the following perhaps would be an approximate statement of the stock required:—Thirty brood mares at £30, twenty foals at £10, twenty yearlings at £20, twenty two-year-olds at £30, twenty three-year-olds at £30, twenty four-year-olds at £30.

This would give us 130 ponies of all ages at an average price of £25. This calculation is based on the supposition that a full stock of all ages be put on at the commencement of the business, so that there would be no waiting for future developments, and we should begin as it was intended to go on, breeding and disposing of the stock at four years old, unless, of course, from time to time ponies were sold at an earlier age for breeding purposes, or to special customers who might be met with. The prices mentioned should purchase the best class of mares. I should buy none under 13.2 hands high; and every mare should, if possible, be sound. I mean not only free from hereditary unsoundness, but such as would go to work if required. A great saving would be made in the depreciation in value of holding stock, if barren mares or unsuitable breeders could be disposed of when necessary as workable animals, and not have to be sold at nominal sums. It would be of the first importance that the selections were judiciously made, and no faulty made one should on any account be purchased: their breeding, too, should be ascertained as far as possible, so that the choice of stallions might be made with some degree of certainty. Two stallions would be necessary, and I would suggest one thoroughbred and one polo pony sire, eligible for the Stud Book. It might also be useful to have a suitable

Arab stallion. For a start perhaps two would be sufficient, and £150 at least would be required for their purchase. We should thus have 130 ponies at £25 each, costing £3,250, and two stallions £150, making the capital invested £3,400. This runs out curiously near Sir Richard Green-Price's estimate, and I do not think it could be done for less, probably rather a larger outlay might be found necessary. It would then be required to have other stock on the farm, say 100 breeding ewes at 40s., and 40 cattle at £10. Implements, tools, and fittings would take at least £250, and four cart horses £150. Quite £500 would also be wanted as working capital. From the above figures it will be seen that a total capital to start the business of £5,000 would be approximately the sum required. I do not think it would be possible to farm such an extent of land as Sir Richard names in that district entirely with ponies. My experience is that a few cattle are always wanted to clear up the rough places on the pastures which horses will not eat, and also to make some manure in the winter. Sheep, of course, should help to pay the rent.

I will not go so far as to say that a farm conducted in this way would at first be remunerative, but it ought to be so worked as to keep the money together, and the value as an experimental lesson would be of great public interest. Nothing can be done unless a few public-spirited authorities will come forward and put the money down and wait patiently for results. When the ponies bred from the foundation mares begin to come in, it might pay to hold some of the best on and train them properly for polo, thus making their full value. But all this sort of thing could hardly be counted when calculating the probable incoming from the farm stock. Still, it would be legitimate business to sell the best colts as stallions, and breed with that object in view. When once started the whole success or failure would depend on the management, and this should be entrusted to a thoroughly practical committee of the syndicate, with a capable farm manager to carry out details. The latter should not only have a thorough knowledge of farming from a practical standpoint, but he should be a good judge of ponies and of what a polo pony should be. Perhaps the most important thing of all would be the selection of the foundation brood mares and stallions. Whatever is done about buying in the stock, a firm foot would have to be put down against any description of "coping." The buyer or buyers should be paid so much for their trouble and expense, and this would be a considerable outlay, as many studs must be visited and miles of country travelled in finding suitable animals. I would suggest that one man (if he did not buy the lot) should purchase one class of pony. That is, let all the brood mares be selected by the same buyer or buyers, and the ponies of each age in the same way, so that the same idea may be carried out all through. It would prevent all kinds of different types being bought, as would be the case if ponies were selected by different men. At all events, all the eggs would not be in the same basket, and if one buyer selected a wrong type of a particular age it would be known how and where the fault lay, and it would be more easily rectified. It would be a most difficult job for anyone, and it is only practical men that should be allowed to tackle it. The whole scheme is bristling with difficulties, but it is well worth considering. I look upon the whole thing more as an experimental breeding farm than a commercial venture.

Testing for Lameness.

Professor Zurn, director of the Veterinary Clinical School of Leipzig, strongly recommends that in testing a horse for lameness he should not be walked along a straight line, but chiefly in a circle; then the higher and lower parts of the limbs outside and inside the circle are unequally weighted. For example, if during this ri- exercise the halting of the lower leg increases on account of the greater weight, the ailment resides in the lower part (hoof, coronet, or pastern); on the contrary, if the halting of the outside leg increases, the seat of the ailment is in the higher region (shoulder, haunch); a greater amount of strength is requisite to move this limb, and one can understand that the extension and supporting of the foot is more difficult.

Professor Zurn also states that after having examined the horse in motion you must explore the limb with the hand, in order to assure yourself, if you do not perceive any sign of heat, whether or not there are traces of wounds or contusion, invisible swelling whether or not pressure of the fingers causes abnormal pain. Inflammation of the lymphatic vessels in the vicinity of the extremities under the hocks, ring bones, etc., may also cause halting. Under the influence of persistent halting it may happen that certain muscles, particularly those behind the hock, will decrease in volume, become atrophied.

This atrophy of the muscles is caused not merely—as many believe—by complete paralysis of the shoulder and hock, but particularly, and in most cases, it is due to ankylosis of these joints. In this exploration of the halting limb with the hand an excellent sign is given by the pulsation of the artery situated on the interior of the canon in the hind limb. If the pulse is feeble and little perceptible, the cause of lameness is in the top part of the limb; if strong and slightly perceptible, the seat of the ailment is in the lower part, and generally in the hoof. Horses with a halting foot place it down reluctantly; the pain they manifest is sometimes greater while resting on the toe, and sometimes while on the heel, according as the suffering part is in front or back of the hoof. Horses limping from the hock bend the pastern joint completely.

Shire Horse Show and Sale at Lichfield.

Messrs. Winterton and Sons held their annual Shire Horse Show and Sale at the Repository, Lichfield, on the 19th inst., when 220 foals, colts, and town horses were offered. The sum of £37 was given in prizes, and the judges were Messrs. C. R. Chamberlain, Alfreton, and W. Barrs, Odstone. The awards and prices realised were as follow: Colt foal, bred by exhibitor, first and second, W. Neale, sold for 38gs. and 23½gs.; third, A. Stretton, sold for 24gs.; reserve, W. Neale, sold for 23gs. Filly foal, bred by exhibitor, first, E. Riley (Barton), sold for 40gs. to Mr. Done; second, W. Neale, sold for 31gs.; third, J. H. Lewis, sold for 25gs. Colt foal, the property of a tenant farmer, first, A. Stretton; second, H. Summerfield. Filly foal, first, E. Riley; second, J. H. Lewis. Yearling colt or filly, first, Mr. Phizacklea, sold for 40gs.; second, C. Coxon. Two-year-old colt or filly, first, R. Parton, sold for 60gs. to Mr. Gibbs; second, S. Bamford, sold for 40gs.; reserve, W. Shaw. Mare or gelding, not exceeding sixteen hands, suitable for town work, first, W. Shaw; second W. Neale, sold for 77gs. Mr. Neale, of the Bacons End Stud Farm, Coleshill, included in the sale fifteen brood mares and foals. Five colt foals averaged 25gs. each, and two filly foals 28gs. each. The brood mares made 28½gs., 77gs., 33gs., 66gs., 45gs., 57gs., 37gs., and 24½gs. The following are some additional prices realised:—Mr. Summerfield's gelding, 51gs.; Mr. Ashmall's, 45gs.; Mr. Parton's mare, 50gs.; Mr. Watt's mare, 50gs.; Mr. W. Roobottom's gelding, 46gs.; Mr. T. W. Greaves's gelding, 48gs.; Mr. J. Lees's gelding, 38gs.; Mr. W. Cripwell's gelding, 50gs.; the Hon. Mrs. Colville's gelding, 50gs.; Mrs. Richard's mare, 36½gs.; Mr. J. Riley's geldings, 40gs., 37gs.; Mr. Hackett's gelding, 47gs.; Mr. Weston's, 34½gs.; Mr. E. Riley's mare, 40gs.

Shire Show and Sale at York.

Messrs. Walker and Sons' autumn show and sale of Shire and cart horses took place on Tuesday in the paddock adjoining their horse repository at York. The catalogue contained about 100 animals, the chief of which were the twenty-six forming the Thicket Priory Stud, the property of Mr. J. J. Dunnington-Jefferson. The highest price realised in this lot was for 22601 Thicket Wealthy, a bay mare foaled in 1895, which was purchased at 96gs. by Mr. H. D. Brocklehurst. Her colt foal made 42gs. Thicket Jewel, bay mare, foaled in 1896, realised 90gs. to Mr. F. H. Fawkes; Thicket Duchess, bay yearling, sold for 74gs. to Mr. Wood, Brompton; and Thicket Welcome, a grey yearling filly, 62gs. to Lord Middleton. The twenty-six animals realised an average of a little over £50 each. The sale was very largely attended by breeders and buyers from all parts of the country, and trade was very brisk for useful horses. A list of the principal prices is given below.

Previous to the sale the auctioneers offered £21 in prizes, including £10 for the best heavy town horse. Mr. G. E. Clarke, Chesterfield, and Mr. J. Forshaw, jun., Carlton-on-Trent, were the judges. Their awards were as follows:—Town mare or gelding, four years old and upwards: 1, Maple Duchess mare, five years, G. Carver, Otley, sold for 110gs. to T. H. Sowden; 2, Robin, chestnut gelding, rising five years, A. Sheard, sold for 92gs. to Captain Barlow; 3, Punch, bay gelding, rising five years, N. Melbourne, sold for 70gs. to go to Liverpool. Light lurry or van horse, four years old and upwards: 1, Judy, chestnut mare, four years, A. Oglesby, Hemswell, Lincoln, sold for 40gs. to go to Liverpool; 2, Prince, brown gelding, six years, A. Sheard, sold for 50gs. to the Cleckheaton District Council. Shire mares, three years old and upwards: 1, 21768 Everton Kathleen, bay mare, foaled in 1893, J. Harrison, Everton, Bawtry, sold for 140gs. to J. H. Preston; 2, 21769 Everton Mistress, grey mare, foaled in 1895, same owner, sold for 46gs.

STALLION.	Gs.
The property of Mr G. Holdridge	
Duffield Duke, f 1897 ..... Col. Godman	80
SHIRE MARES, FILLIES, AND FOALS	
The property of Messrs. E. Brough and Challinor, Scalby Lodge.	
Mermaid, six years ..... Mr. G. P. Davies	47
The property of Mr J. Hollis, n. Northfield Stud, Everton.	
Everton Rowena, f 1894 ..... Mr Price	40
Everton Mistress, f 1895 ..... Mr F. W. Battle	46
Everton Kathleen, f 1893 ..... Mr. J. H. Preston	140
THICKET PRIORY STUD.	
Thicket Brown Beauty, brown brood mare ..... Mr G. B. Copley	60
Thicket Heiress, bay brood mare ..... Mr Hall	52
Thicket Jessie, brown brood mare ..... Mr G. Scalby	52
Thicket Chance, bay brood mare ..... Lord Feversham	52
Thicket Wealthy, bay brood mare ..... Mr H. D. Brocklehurst	96
Thicket Coeur-de-Lion, brown colt foal ..... Mr Beeton	42
Thicket Primrose, bay brood mare ..... Mr J. Forshaw	44
Thicket Jewel, bay brood mare ..... Mr. F. H. Fawkes	90
Thicket Terse, bay brood mare ..... Lord Bolton	62
Thicket Victrix, bay brood mare ..... Mr. J. Forshaw	61
Thicket Test, bay filly ..... Mr S. H. Lowe	64
Thicket Brownie, brown filly ..... Mr Maughan	40
Black Melbourne, black filly ..... Mr. J. Foster	50
Thicket Duchess, bay yearling filly ..... Mr Wood	74
Thicket Welcome, grey yearling filly ..... Lord Middleton	62
GELDINGS.	
Bay gelding ..... Mr Mo...	...
Over four and five years, and geldings.	
The property of Mr Arthur Sheard	
Robin, chestnut gelding, rising five years	92
Prince, brown gelding, six years	50
The property of A. Oglesby, Esq., Hemswell, Lincoln.	
Smart, bay mare, five years	...
Judy, chestnut mare, four years	...
The property of Mr. George Carver, Chalon, Otley.	
Maple Duchess, chestnut mare, five years	11
The property of Messrs. J. and A. Whitelock.	
Bay cart horse, four years	...
The property of N. Melbourne, Esq.	
Punch, bay gelding, rising five years	...
The property of Mr. Sylvester Lead, Eversholt.	
Bay gelding, four years old	70
Chestnut gelding, four years old	52
The property of the Rt. Hon. Lord Wharncliffe.	
Chestnut gelding, five years old	54
The property of F. P. Baker, Esq.	
Black Shire gelding, rising five years	44
The property of Mr. J. W. Reiveley.	
Bay mare, five years	46
The property of Mr. W. Bramley.	
Bay gelding, rising five years	42
The property of Mrs. Tindale, Elvington	
Brown cart mare, six years	46
The property of Bentham Kings, Esq.	
Bay gelding, four years	...

Sale of the Desford Shire Horses.

The annual sale of the Shire horses, the property of Messrs. W. and J. Thompson, the well-known breeders of Desford, took place at Desford Hall on Thursday, the auctioneers being Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck, Peterborough. Unfortunately heavy rain fell during the whole of the morning, but despite this the attendance was a very good one, all the well-known breeders being present or represented. Before the sale over 450 guests were entertained to luncheon in a large marquee. Sir Oswald Mosley presided, and proposed the loyal toasts, and also submitted that of "Messrs. Thompson and Success to their Sale," briefly alluding, in connection with the last-mentioned toast, to the fame horses from Desford had earned. Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., proposed "The Chairman," and in a happy speech upon the breeding of Shire animals he spoke of the great necessity there was that the quality of the horses should be kept up to high pitch. Mr. Beck had charge of the hammer in the saleyard. Of the 44 animals offered for sale 36 were three years old and under, these young fillies and colt foals being principally by the good horses that have found a home at Desford, namely, Hitchin Conqueror, Sopwell Duke, Stonewall, Eastoft Lad, Desford Vulcan Chief, and Cotheridge Swell. As was only to be expected from these well-known sires, the quality of the selection sold was very high. The competition for the animals was very keen throughout, the breeders, no doubt, having in their memories how well many purchases from the same foundation at the last Desford sale repaid buyers, both as regards re-sale and showyard career. The mares and foals realised very good prices at the outset, but for some reason or other, at the conclusion of this section business flagged considerably, and the three, two, and yearling fillies sold at disappointing prices. The top figure of the sale was 280gs., and this was paid for Desford Vesta, a brown mare by Duncan III., the purchaser being Mr. Eadie. The average price for the 44 animals was £104, the total amount realised being £4,575 18s. Particulars of the animals sold, prices realised, etc., are given below:—

BROOD MARES.	Gs.
Desford Forest Meg 10035, brown, f 1889, s Fear Not 4394 ..... Mr. Haynes	65
Crofton Sweetbriar 19711, bay, f 1894, s Apostle 14455 ..... H R H The Prince of Wales	180
Desford Vesta 25820, brown, f 1896, s Duncan III. 13006 ..... Mr. Eadie	280
BROOD MARES AND FOALS.	
Hindlip Bonny Girl 18331, bay, f 1892, s Hitchin Conqueror 4488 ..... Mr Parnell	130
Desford Variety (Vol. xxii.), brown filly, f 1900, s Desford Vulcan Chief 14110 ..... Mr Bond	105
Rokeby Heather 26761, brown, f 1896, s Dunsmore Masterman 12874 ..... Sir Blundell Maple, M.P.	170
Bay colt foal (Vol. xxii.), f 1900, s Sopwell Duke 14302 ..... Mr Haywood Lonsdale	90
Girton Lady William 26046, bay, f 1895, s Royal William H. 12267 ..... Lord Ellesmere	90
Desford Dowager (Vol. xxii.), bay filly, f 1900, s Sopwell Duke 14302 ..... Mr. Alfred Clarke	60
Buckingham Sally 25205, bay, f 1896, s Hunter's Pride 11564 ..... Sir Oswald Mosley	100
Bay colt foal (Vol. xxii.), f 1900, s Worcester Abbey 13015 ..... Sir Oswald Mosley	85
Desford Pride 25147, brown, f 1895, s Scrooby Duke 14302 ..... Mr Tomlinson	85
Desford Vis-a-Vis (Vol. xxii.), bay filly, f 1900, s Desford Vulcan Chief 14110 ..... Lord Llangattock	105
FOALS.	
Black colt foal (Vol. xxii.), f 1900, s Hendre Marksman 16715 ..... Mr. P. A. Muntz	41
Desford Dowager (Vol. xxii.), bay filly, f 1900, s Sopwell Duke 14302 ..... Mr [illegible]	50
Desford Damsel (Vol. xxii.), bay filly, f 1900, s Sopwell Duke 14302 ..... Mr [illegible]	45
Desford Variety (Vol. xxii.), bay brown filly, f 1900, s Desford Vulcan Chief 14110 ..... Mr. Evans	55
Desford Variety (Vol. xxii.), brown filly, f 1900, s Desford Vulcan Chief 14110 ..... Mr. Evans	70
Desford Dowager (Vol. xxii.), brown filly, f 1900, s Sopwell Duke 14302 ..... Lord Vernlam	100
[illegible]	
Tythem Blaze 25154, chestnut, f 1895, s Scrooby Duke 14302 ..... Mr. Bostock	90
Desford Lovely [illegible] 14545 ..... Mr. Crisp	110
Desford Variety [illegible] ..... Mr [illegible]	210
Desford Chance (Vol. xxii.), bay, f 1900, s Hendre Marksman 4458 ..... Mr. Smith-Carrington	170

Desford Stylish 25819, bay, f 1897, s Sopwell Duke 14302 — Mr. Topham — Gs. 100
Desford Maiden 25817, bay, f 1897, s Eastoft Lad 14019 — Mr. Reynolds — 75
Saxon Mettle 26828, brown, f 1897, s Calwich Heirloom 14547 — Mr Freeman — 90

TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Desford Magpie 28288, black, f 1898, s Lullington Harold 15705 — Mr. M'Neal — 55
Girton Poppet 28716, bay, f 1898, s Moulton Skipper 11902 — Mr. Holmes — 70
Bay Leaf 27448, bay, f 1898, s British Standard 8896 — Mr. Orme — 75
Rocks Amazon 29850, bay, f 1898, s Ercall Wynn 14620 — Mr. Griffin — 110
Waresley Leafbud 30360, bay, f 1898, s Duke of Worsley 13002 — Mr. M'Neal — 52
Buscot Enchantress 27963, bay, f 1898, s Markeaton Royal Harold 15225 — Mr. Humphreys — 90
Desford Starlight 28292, brown, f 1898, s Sopwell Duke 14302 — Mr. Crawford — 85
Desford Bonny 28282, bay, f 1898, s Nailstone Rising Star 14754 — Sir J. Blythe — 75
Desford Betty 28281, brown, f 1898, s Stonewall 15375 — Sir Oswald Mosley — 100
Desford Wildflower 28293, bay, f 1898, s Mormaer of Batsford 15242 — Mr. Horrell — 76
Desford Gipsy 28285, bay, f 1898, s Moulton Skipper 11902 — Mr. Smith-Carrington — 105

YEARLING FILLIES.

Desford Bohemia (Vol. xxii.), chestnut, f 1899, s Pratt's Lake Commoner 11744 — Mr. Clarke — 84
Desford Shepherdess (Vol. xxii.), bay, f 1899, s Cotheridge Swell 16080 — Mr. Smith-Carrington — 230
Desford Stamp (Vol. xxii.), brown, f 1899, s Stonewall 15375 — Sir Oswald Mosley — 125
Desford Monarchess (Vol. xxii.), chestnut, f 1899, s Mohammed 6173 — Mr. Cross — 75
Desford Lassie (Vol. xxii.), brown, f 1899, s Eastoft Lad 14019 — Mr. Carr — 115
Desford Vesper (Vol. xxii.), roan, f 1899, s Sopwell Duke 14302 — Sir Oswald Mosley — 40
Desford Venture (Vol. xxii.), bay, f 1899, s Desford Vulcan Chief 16110 — Mr. Whitehurst — 52

Sale of Shire Horses at Crewe.

The annual sale of pedigree Shire horses held in the Cheshire Repository, Crewe, by Messrs. Frank Lloyd, Nuttall, and Co., took place on the 19th inst. The auctioneers gave £40 in prizes, and the competition in the various classes was very keen. Among the prize-winners were:—Class 1, silver cup value 5gs. for the best Shire mare foaled in or previous to 1896, Mr. E. Green, The Moors, Welshpool, with brown mare Desford Kathleen, foaled in 1894, by Lincolnshire Boy, and the winner of many prizes. After spirited bidding she was secured on behalf of Mr. R. W. Hudson, Great Barlow, at 280gs. Second in the class was a weighty brown mare the property of Mr. W. Dyke Pulford, foaled in 1890, by Mona's Prince. She was sold to Mr. Whitehurst, of Markeaton, near Derby, at 80gs. The silver cup, value 5gs., for the best Shire filly foaled in 1897, was awarded to Mr. George Mullock's (Poulton) weighty brown filly Poulton Heiress, by Calwich Heirloom. At 200gs. she fell to the bid of Mr. Tom Edwards, team owner, Liverpool, who is establishing a Shire stud. The reserve in this class was a bay filly belonging to Mr. Edward Green, The Moors, Moor's Czarina, by Regent 2nd. She was secured on behalf of Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., at 125gs. The silver cup, value 5gs., for the best Shire filly foaled in 1898 or 1899 was won by Mr. T. Gittins, Pool Quay, Welshpool, with a brown filly foaled in 1899, by Moors Phenomenon, dam a mare by Potentate. She sold at 200gs. to Mr. Colin Campbell. In Class 5 the silver cup, value 20gs., for the best Shire in the sale, was won by Mr. Edward Green, The Moors, with Desford Kathleen, who, with her filly foal, realised the handsome figure of 480gs. Mr. Green also won a silver cup, value 5gs., for a black filly foal, dam Desford Kathleen, and realised 200gs. to Mr. J. Hill, Smethwick Hall, Congleton. In the class for the best mare or gelding, not pedigree, the silver cup offered was won by Mr. Powell, Leigh, with a black gelding sold at 78gs. to Mr. W. Owen, Bala. The other sales included Mr. Deane Worston grey mare 49gs. to Birmingham; Mr. J. Myatt, grey gelding, 40gs. to Nuneaton; Mr. W. C. Such, bay mare, 40gs. to Hampshire; Mr. H. R. Hart, bay colt, 36gs. to Wick, grey colt, 28gs. to Nantwich, chestnut colt, 26gs. to Kent; Mr. C. B. Beech, bay colt, 35gs. to Nantwich; Messrs. Davies, bay filly, 34gs. to Kidsgrove; Mr. A. Major, bay gelding, 30gs. to Nantwich.

Sale of Mr. Lawson's Hackneys.

Hackney breeders turned up in strong force on Wednesday at the sale of the well-known pedigree Hackneys of Mr. W. Lawson, of the Marton Stud, Blackpool. The sale was conducted by Mr. Bainbridge, of Lancaster. Chief interest naturally centred round Zaverda, the famous three-year-old filly which won firsts at all the great shows last summer. The bidding was very spirited, and she was finally knocked down to Mr. Alexander Gemmel, of Glasgow, for 400gs., amid loud applause from the assembly. Another interesting lot was Blackpool Countess, a two-year-old chestnut filly, which won several firsts last season. Mr. R. M. Bailey, of Hoghton, made the final bid, and the splendid animal was knocked down to him for 80gs. The well-known black two-year-old filly, Blackpool Gentility, which was first at the last Royal Lancashire Show, was purchased by Mr. Gemmel for 60gs. The brown brood mare, Maggie Murphy, was sold to Mr. R. M. Birley for 90gs.

The other animals belonging to Mr. Lawson were disposed of as follows: Bay colt by Unique, 20gs., Mr. Baird; bay filly by Chocolate Junior, 22gs., Mr. Birley; chestnut filly by Langton, 20gs., Mr. Magee; Blackpool Fireaway, yearling colt, 27gs., Mr. Jones; Blackpool Louise, two-year-old filly, 40gs., Mr. Gemmel; Blackpool Firefly, two-year-old filly, 41gs., Mr. Stock; White Thorn, harness mare, 64gs., Mr. Gemmel; Bonta, harness mare, 32gs., Mr. Eaton; Valerie, brood mare, 30gs., Dr. Stevenson; Copley Lady Dunlop, brood mare, 50gs., Mr. Dunderdale; Flora III., brood mare, 40gs., Mr. Gemmel; Newbald Regina, brood mare, 52gs., Rev. L. C. Wood; Miss Fireaway, brood mare, 35gs., Mr. Tweedale.

The catalogue also included a number of animals belonging to Mr. C. V. Haworth, which sold as follows:—Davenwort, chestnut colt, 8gs., Mr. Magee; Lord Ramsdale, chestnut colt, 6gs., Mr. Hopkinson; Thornton Squire, yearling colt, 16gs., Mr. Crabtree; Thornton Flower, two-year-old filly, 30gs., Mr. Crabtree; Sontro, three-year-old gelding, 26gs., Mr. Haworth; Day Spring, brood mare, 30gs., Mr. Milne.

Mr. David Mitchell's Hackneys and Ponies.

On Tuesday Mr. David Stevenson, of Troon, brought under the hammer at Millfield, Polmont, a number of Mr. David Mitchell's Hackneys and ponies. Mr. Mitchell's stud is known far and wide, and the attendance was, as was to be expected, a large one, many English buyers being present. Among them was Mr. Thomas Mitchell, of Bradford, who was one of the principal purchasers of the day. While all the animals presented for sale were of the best class, very special attention was directed to the famous Filberta, a two-year-old filly which was awarded the Hackney Horse Society's gold medal at the Highland Show at Stirling, undoubtedly a fine filly, but did not show itself up to form. Bidding started low for such a horse—50gs.—and the animal was eventually knocked down at 62gs. to Mr. Neil, Kilmarnock, who offered a very different figure for the filly some time ago. The plum of the sale, however, was the well-known pony gelding Marson, a noted prize winner, a model as a pony either in all-round or action. He is a son of Mars. Mr. Mitchell set the ball a-rolling at 100gs., and it gradually mounted to 160gs. in spirited bidding; but Mr. Mitchell was not to be shaken off, and he became the purchaser of what should be an acquisition to the South. Elam, a two-year-old gelding, created the liveliest bit of bidding of the day, starting at 30gs., and reaching 59gs. He is a big gelding, and is likely to turn out well. All over prices were decidedly disappointing, considering the blood and the condition in which the various lots were shown. A glance at the prices clearly indicates this. The total sum realised was £981 15s., and the following were the various prices:—

Fantail 3936, brood mare, chestnut, 15.1½ hands, f 1889, s Danegalt — Mr. Goodall — Gs. 27
Miss Ronald, chestnut foal — Mr. Scott — 13
Brown Berry 1463, brood mare, brown, 14 hands, f 1886 — Mr. Mitchell — 20
Golden Rose 6733, brood mare, chestnut, 15 hands, f 1890 — Mr. Matthew Bo'ness — 25
Chestnut colt foal — Mr. Mitchell — 14
Snowstorm 3527, brood mare, chestnut, f 1893 — Mr. Johnston — 27
Lochbunnie, chestnut filly foal — Mr. M. Scott — 16
Belle of the Ball 6387, brood mare, bay, 15.2 hands, f 1891 — Mr Malteague — 36
Chestnut filly foal — Mr. Beattie — 20
Empress 17737, brood mare, chestnut, 15 hands, f 1896 — Mr. Taylor — 35
Flora 2756, harness mare, chestnut, 15.1½ hands, f 1888 — Mr. Goodall — 39
Dazzler, saddle hack, bay, 15.1 hands, f 1896 — Mr. Bailie M'Farlane — 20
Marson, pony gelding, bay, 13.2 hands, f 1896, s Mars — Mr. Thomas Mitchell — 160
Diana, three-year-old filly, bay, f 1897 — Mr. Goodall — 16
Major, three-year-old gelding — Mr. Orr — 29
Filberta 16627, two-year-old filly, chestnut, s Polonius — Mr. Neil — 62
Blackberry, two-year-old filly, bay, f 1898 — Mr. Dickson — 19
Danseuse, two-year-old filly — Mr. Rycroft — 30
Adorus 6961, two-year-old colt — Mr. Orr — 19
Storm King, two-year-old gelding — Mr. Baird — 28
Elam, two-year-old gelding — Mr. Mitchell — 59
Marzapan, two-year-old gelding — Mr. Rankine — 24
Ganygold, yearling colt — Mr. Mitchell — 61
Millfield, yearling colt — Mr. Legge — 21
Sir Charles, yearling colt — Mr. Taylor — 18
Dainty Davie, yearling colt — Mr. Aitkenhead — 34
Rizzio, yearling pony colt — Mr. Taylor — 25
Gilberta, yearling filly — Mr. Taylor — 22
Ballet Girl, yearling filly — Mr. Charles E. Green — 16

Horse Sales at Ipswich.

At the Drill Hall, Ipswich, on Tuesday, took place Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons' second Michaelmas sale of carthorses, colts, and Hackneys. There was an improved trade for carthorses and colts, but for Hackneys a dull trade was experienced. Mr. Hy. Hart, of Gosbeck, awarded the prizes for the best carthorses, which were won by Mr. H. A. Reynolds, of Bucklesham, and Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P. The following were the principal lots sold:—

CART HORSES AND COLTS. — Gs.

The property of the Rt. Hon. Lord Rendlesham.
Chestnut gelding — 19
The property of the Exors. of Mr J. G. Everett, Falkenham
Chestnut gelding, eight years — 26
The property of Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P.
Prince, chestnut gelding, four years — 32½
Rodney, brown gelding, four years — 35
Smart, chestnut mare, four years — 21
The property of Mr. H. Fairweather, Hitcham
Scott, bay mare — 20
The property of Mr. H. A. Reynolds, Bucklesham.
Chestnut gelding, three years — 40
The property of Mr. W. M. Cockrill, Akenham.
Suffolk mare, eight years — 30
The property of Mr. I. Lott, Langham.
Bay hackney, four years — 20
Tinker, black gelding, six years — 30½
Boxer, grey gelding — 18
The property of Mr. W Cross, Ixworth.
Chestnut gelding, seven years — 30½
The property of Mr. G. Bishop, Little Wenham.
Prince, chestnut gelding, seven years — 25
The property of Mr. E. Sporle, Ipswich.
Ramper, bay gelding, eight years — 19
The property of the Exors. of Mr. H. Cooper, Holton Hall.
Grey Shire mare, six years — 21
Bay foal — 15½
The property of Sir J. Gorell Barnes, Stratford.
Stratford Smart, Suffolk mare, f 1894, s Everett's Baron — 27½
The property of the Exors. of Mr. J. G. Everett.
Chestnut filly, s Cordy's Langley Hero, two years — 30½

HACKNEYS.

The property of Lord Rendlesham, Home Farm.
Bay mare, five years, 16.3 hands — 40
The property of Mr. C. H. Whittall, Stowmarket.
Black gelding, seven years, 16 hands — 17
The property of Mr. W. Dunnett, Woodbridge.
Bay gelding, five years, 15.2 hands — 26½
The property of Exors. of Mr. J. Lambert, Mendlesham.
Bay cob, six years, 15 hands — 21
The property of Mr. F. J. Geater, Middleton.
Dark chestnut pony, rising five years, 13.2 hands — 16

On the same day, at the Ipswich Sale Yard, Messrs. Spurling and Sons offered just over sixty carthorses and colts, for which there was a very good demand throughout, the top price being 32½gs. for a six-year-old bay gelding. The following were the chief prices realised:—

Gs.

The property of Mr. S. Dawson, Stratton Hall.
Boxer, chestnut gelding, six years — 18
The property of Mr. W. Jolly, Bramford.
Bay mare, three years — 22½
The property of one consignor.
Bowler, bay gelding, six years — 32½
Sharper, black gelding, six years — 20
Boxer, black gelding, seven years — 20½
Prince, bay gelding, six years — 24½
Charlie, roan gelding, five years — 23½
Matchett, roan mare, six years — 12
Dopper, bay mare, six years — 16
The property of Mr. A. Reeve, Foxhall.
Diamond, chestnut mare — 17
The property of the administrators of the late Mr. John Cooper, Polstead, and another.
Dopper, bay Shirebred mare, five years — 28
Chestnut gelding, seven years — 13
The property of Mr. J. A. Hempson, Erwarton Hall.
Club, chestnut gelding — 20
Delight, Suffolk mare, f 1891 — 17
The property of Mr. Lawson, Rattlesden.
Chestnut mare, seven years — 24
The property of Mr. J. Pratt's Exors., Melton
Two-year-old colt — 15
Ditto — 14½
Ditto — 18
Ditto — 16½
Ditto — 14½
Ditto — 14½

Horse Sale at Glasgow.

On Wednesday Messrs. Dixon and Wallace offered for sale at their horse bazaar, Cattle Market, Glasgow, 165 carriage, harness, van and cart horses, and cobs and ponies. All the animals showed remarkably well, although the majority of them were pretty well worked out, the season for good horses being about over. Cobs and ponies were of good substance, fair style, and suitable ages. There was a crowded ring of buyers forward from all parts of the country, dealers and farmers being well represented, but trade was not at all satisfactory. Good horses met a sharp demand, and they sold well, but inferior lots met a slow trade and were difficult to cash. Cobs and ponies had a fair selling trade, and sold relatively dear. The ages of the animals ranged from five to twelve years, a number of them being aged, and they were from 14.2 to 17 hands high; ponies from 11 to 13.2 hands high. Harness horses realised up to £25; secondary and inferior, 5 to 8 guineas; best vanners, to £28; secondary, £10 to £16; inferior, 4 to 8 guineas; best cobs, to 36 guineas; secondary, 10 to 18 guineas; inferior, £5 to £9; ponies, to 18 guineas, and down to 5 guineas; long animals, 8 to 23 guineas; and cart horses, 5 to 27½ guineas, all according to style, substance, and action.

SHEEP.

Mr. E. G. Legg's Dorset Horns.

Mr. T. Ensor, of Dorchester and Wimborne, assisted by Mr. T. H. Ensor, secretary of the Dorset Horn Sheepbreeders' Association, sold by auction at Melplash Court, near Bridport, on the 18th inst., the Coombe Down portion of Mr. E. G. Legg's Dorset Horn breeding flock, together with a few well-bred yearling Hereford heifers of a good stamp. The high reputation which Mr. Legg has for so long enjoyed as a breeder and judge of this useful and popular breed of sheep affords ample proof of the high appreciation in which the flock is held, the flock being undoubtedly one of the oldest in existence, having been established as far back as 1790 by Mr. David Legg, passing to his son, Mr. Edward Legg, in 1825, and into the hands of the present owner in its entirety in 1858. The sheep which were offered were greatly admired for their wonderful size and matching character, and we doubt if a better and more typical flock could be found. They presented a splendid appearance, with fine bone and wool, and they supplied undoubted proof of the skill and judg-

ment displayed in their breeding. The flock comprised 116 two-teeth ewes, 87 four-teeth ewes, and 70 six-teeth ewes. Conveyances met the morning trains at the Bridport and Crewkerne stations, and the sale was well attended by most of the representative flockmasters. The sale commenced punctually at two o'clock with the six-teeth ewes, of which the following were among the chief prices realised:—65s., Mr. Studley, Toller; 59s., Mr. J. Chick, Compton Valence; 56s., Mr. J. C. Davy, Yondover; 54s., Mr. Tolman, Mapperton Marsh; 53s., Mr. J. Chick; 52s., Mr. J. Woolmington; and 48s. (twice), Mr. Tolman and Mr. J. Pile, Langdon, 61s., respectively. Four-teeth ewes ranged from 52s. to 85s., Mr. Crawford buying an exceptionally fine pen at the latter figure, which was the top price of the day; Mr. B. Wyatt securing the next best lot in this age at 73s.; 63s. was paid by Mr. J. Pile for the third best lot in this age; Mr. C. Scutt, Preston, 58s.; Mr. C. Scutt; 57s., Mr. Job Hansford; 55s., Mr. J. K. Rolls, Burton Bradstock; 54s., Mr. J. K. Rolls; 53s., Mr. Zealley; 52s., Mr. Tolman. Two-teeth ewes ranged from 55s. to 80s., Mr. B. Cox buying a very good pen of ewes at the last-named price; 76s. was the next highest price, which was given by Mr. B. Wyatt; 65s. (twice), Messrs. C. Scutt and R. Bugler respectively; 60s. (twice), Messrs. H. Hansford and J. Lenthall respectively; 57s., Mr. J. K. Rolls; 5s., Mr. Slade. Some well-bred Hereford heifers realised £20 10s. to £24 10s. per pair.

Sheep Sale at Salisbury.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence's tenth annual autumn sale of sheep at The Butts, Salisbury, was held on the 19th inst., the entry comprising just over 4,000 head, and with a large attendance of buyers a capital trade ensued, prices being quite on a range with the excellent Wilton Fair figures. Wether lambs made from 47s. downwards; ewe lambs, from 41s.; mixed lambs, from 44s.; culls, from 30s.; registered ewes in ages, 50s. to 45s.; fat ewes, 47s. to 40s.; grazing ewes, 37s. to 34s.; rams, 35s. to 63s. After the sale of sheep 62 choice heifers, the property of Mr. G. H. Morey, of Britford, were sold well, as follows, in lots of five:—Two-year-old in-calf heifers, £12 10s., £12 5s. (twice), £10 5s., £10, and £9 per head; weanling heifers, £9 15s., £9 7s. 6d., £8 10s. (twice), £8 5s., and £7 5s. per head.

Sheep Sale at Hawick.

Messrs. Andrew Oliver and Son held their closing sheep sale for the season at Hawick on Thursday, when they presented upwards of 200 lots, comprising 2,500 Cheviot ewes, 240 Black-faced ewes, 210 gimmers, 630 Cheviot wedders, 940 lambs, and 10 Cheviot rams, in all, 4,530 head. All the lots were of a secondary description. There was a good attendance of buyers. Cheviot draft ewes were the principal portion of the sale, and they sold fully as dear as the tops at former sales.

We have received a price list from Messrs. Rylands Brothers, Limited, Warrington, giving quotations for galvanised hop strand. This firm are the oldest makers of wire in the country, and they are at present making a speciality of wire for the use of hop growers. The sole agent for Kent and Sussex is Mr. Edward Ball, 3, Newstead Road, Lee, Kent.

THE HACKNEY STALLION "DANEGELT," 6990.
(The property of Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart.)

SHOWS.

Ayrshire Agricultural Association Cheese and Butter Show.

The annual show of dairy and farm produce in connection with the Ayrshire Agricultural Association was held at Kilmarnock. The weather was fair, and not at all unpleasant, and there was consequently a large attendance of exhibitors and others who had an interest in the result of the judges' work. The show is the largest of the kind in Scotland, and it always attracts particular attention, especially on the part of dairy farmers in Ayrshire and the South-Western counties generally. On this occasion there were scarcely so many visitors as usual, the takings showing a falling off of £14 as compared with last year. The entries were 1,259, as compared with 1,203 last year, an increase of 56. This increase is very satisfactory in view of the fact that the butter-making competitions, which secured an entry of thirty-one a year ago, were discontinued. The exhibits in the cheese section numbered 595, an increase of 35, but in the butter section there was a decrease to the extent of 28, the figures for this and last year being 182 and 210 respectively. The association held out considerable inducements in the way of prize-money. The sum offered was £481, compared with £493 in 1899, and £203 15s. was distributed over the cheese classes. The quality of the exhibits showed that progress has been made in the art of cheese-making. Only very few samples bore traces of discolouration, but in a number of cases there was a want of brightness. In the class for coloured cheese 105 lots were pitched, against 93 last year, and the quality was decidedly better than in previous years.

A notable feature was the almost entire absence of discolouration, and the flavour, in a very large proportion of the lots, was good. A number of the exhibits, however, were more or less open in texture. The first prize was awarded to Mr. Andrew Barrowman, Caigton, Castle-Douglas, for a specially nice exhibit. It received the maximum number of points for flavour and colour, but dropped four on account of body and texture and one in respect of finish. The general character of the class for white deep cheese was very good. Many of the samples were rather new and green, and consequently tough in texture. The first three lots were of outstanding merit. Some of the judges were of opinion that the exhibit of James Wallace, Lochlea, Tarbolton, should be placed first, as it was much more mellow and close-cutting than the lot shown by Mr. M'Harg, Stranraer, but the premier ticket was eventually given to the latter. The class for loaf cheese was very much the same in character as the one just described, with this addition, that the style and get-up were specially fine. Flat cheeses were of good average quality. There was, however, a want of what might be termed really high-class lots. As a rule, the finish was exceedingly good, but in a number of cases the exhibits were open, and in others where the body was very good hardness and greenness was discovered. The exhibits in the ton competition were well staged, and had a tidy appearance, but the colour was inclined to the dull side. All the winners were well-known makers, and the judges found difficulty in allotting the first prize. In the end they decided to give the premier award to J. C. Cunninghame, Dunragit, and the second to William Hunter, Garthland Mains, Stranraer, whose exhibit, however, excelled in external appearance.

In the different butter sections the exhibits were of a high order of merit. Some of the samples had an extremely high colour, caused in many cases by the use of the milk of cows which had newly calved, and the judges advised the exhibitors to discontinue the practice. Several samples were very streaky, owing to the use of coarse salt which had been applied at too low a pressure and had not dissolved quickly. With regard to mush butter, the texture and grain was often perfect, but a prevailing fault was a want of fulness of flavour, a condition which is possibly accounted for by the coldness and wetness of the season. Samples which were in other respects perfect were rejected owing to the fact that the cream had been ripened before the process of churning was commenced. The judges strongly recommended the Association to discontinue the class for fancy butter unless prizes were given for the most artistic exhibits irrespective of quality or other considerations, the reason being that in the course of preparation the samples were ruined in the handling. A marked advance was shown in the quality of the honey, and there were many more exhibits than usual.

The principal prize-winners were:—

CHEESE

Champion competition: 1, and champion, Mr. Andrew Barrowman, Caigton, Castle Douglas; 2, Mr. William Barrow, Overlaw, Kirkcudbright; 3, Mr. William M'Cosker, Ingleston, Borgue, Kirkcudbright.

White deep cheese, made according to any method: 1, Mr. John M'Harg, Carnaell, Sandhead, Stranraer; 2, Mr. James Wallace, Lochlea, Tarbolton; 3, Mr. James Bryden, Mauchline, Dailly.

Two flat cheese, each not under 40 lb. weight, made according to the Dunlop or any other method: 1, Messrs. W. and H. Hodge, Almont, Daljarroch, Ayrshire; 2, Mr. James M'Cartney, Kirkoch, Kirkcudbright; 3, Mr. Archibald M'Kie, South End, Campbeltown.

Loaf cheese, coloured or uncoloured, Cheddar or other imitation English, each lot not under one-half cwt., and each cheese not exceeding 12lb.: 1, Mr. William Hunter, Garthland Mains, Stranraer; 2, Mr. John M'Harg, Cairnwell, Stranraer; 3, Mr. James Kerr, Banks Dairy, Kirkcudbright.

Sweepstake competition sweet milk cheese made according to any method, each lot not under 1 cwt.: 1, Mr. John Smith, Hall, Auchencairn, Castle Douglas; 2, Mr. Robert Dunlop, Drybrough, Castle-Douglas; 3, Mr. James Wallace, Lochlea, Tarbolton.

Sweet milk cheese made according to any method, each lot not under 1cwt., competition limited to Ayrshire: 1, Mr. David Plunkett, Threave, Kirkmichael, Maybole; 2, Mr. Alex. Barclay, Rigghead, Galston; 3, Mr. William Drummond, Fairwells, Craigie.

Cheese of any kind or make, each lot not under 1 cwt., from a dairy not exceeding twenty-five cows, competition limited to Ayrshire: 1, Mr. William Lindsay, Killoch, Galston; 2, Mr. William Wallace, Hill, Ochiltree; 3, Mr. John Marr, Brigland, Mauchline.

Cheese made according to any method, each lot not under 1cwt.; competition restricted to persons who have used Messrs. R. J. Fullwood and Bland's annatto and rennet preparations exclusively throughout the season: 1, Mr. John M'Harg; 2, Mr. Stephen Hunter, Whiteleys, Stranraer; 3, Mr. James Cruickshanks, Cumston Mains, Tayinloan.

Cheese made according to any method, each lot not under 1cwt.; competition limited to Ayrshire, and limited to persons who used Hansen's dairy preparations exclusively throughout the season: 1, Mr. Alex. Wyllie, Mossgiel, Mauchline; 2, Mr. James Borland, Caldon Hill, Craigie; 3, Mr. John Millar, Low Dollars, Hurlford.

One ton of cheese, of any kind or shape; competition open to members wherever resident: 1, Mr. J. C. Cunninghame, Dunragit; 2, Mr. William Hunter, Garthland Mains, Stranraer; 3, Mr. John Stevenson, Boghead, Galston.

One half-ton of cheese of any kind or shape; competition limited to Ayrshire: 1, Mr. Allan Stevenson, Parkhill, Mauchline; 2, Mr. James Bryden, Moorston, Dailly; 3, Mr. Robert Paton, Knockendale, Symington.

BUTTER

Powdered butter; open competition: 1, Mr. Wm. Kidd, South Dean, Kilmarnock; 2, Mr. Hugh Thomson, Newhouse, Kilmarnock; 3, Mr. James Smith, West Gateshead, Kilmarnock.

Fresh butter; open competition: 1, Mr. Hugh Thomson; 2, Mr. William Kidd; 3, Mr. Thomas Gilliland, Grassmillees, Mauchline.

Powdered butter; limited to Ayrshire: 1, Mr. William Kidd; 2, Mr. James Smith; 3, Mr. James N. Drummond, Bargower, Hurlford.

Fresh butter; limited to Ayrshire: 1, Mr. Robert Kid, West Raws, Kilmarnock; 2, Mr. William Kidd; 3, Mr. Hugh Thomson.

Open sweepstake competition: 1, Mr. M. Wallace, Mossside, Kilmarnock; 2, Mr. A. Beneban, Thornhill; 3, Mr. William Kidd.

Open sweepstake competition: 1, Mr. William Kidd; 2, Mr. James Smith; 3, Mr. Hugh Thomson.

Open sweepstake competition; fresh butter: 1, Mr. Robert Kidd; 2, Mr. Hugh Thomson; 3, Mr. William Kidd.

Fresh butter, open competition, to test the style of the butter the class prize: 1, Mr. [illegible]; 2, Mrs. Fenwick, Bradleys, Dunnings, Perthshire; 3, Mr. Philip A. Stillman, Rochford, Essex.

HONEY

Six 1lb. glass jars of run or extracted honey: 1, Mr. R. Brown, Foxy Apiary, Somerton, Mrs. Symes, Mount Sharon Street, Dalry; 3, Mr. F. Chapman, The Dairy, Wells, Somersetshire.

Six 1lb. sections of honey, [illegible]: 1, Mr. Henry Wood, Ridge, Kirkby Hall, York; 2, Mrs. J. [illegible], Rose Cottage, Dunmow.

Six 1lb. sections of honey, [illegible]: 1, Mr. William Hall, Dunmow; 2, Mr. [illegible], Rose Cottage, Dunmow; 3, Mr. A. [illegible], Maldon, Essex.

Six 1lb. sections of honey, [illegible]: 1, Mr. W. [illegible]; 2, Mr. [illegible]; 3, Mr. [illegible].

Six 1lb. sections of honey, [illegible]: 1, Mr. Henry Wood, Paradise, Lichfield, Staffordshire; 2, Mr. John Rees and Mrs. [illegible], Bryn-y-Neuadd, Llanfyllin, North Wales; 3, Mr. R. Brown, Flora Apiary, Somerton.

[illegible]: 1, Mr. [illegible]; 2, Mr. [illegible]; 3, Mr. [illegible].

Six 1lb. sections of honey, [illegible]: 1, Mr. [illegible]; 2, Mrs. [illegible]; 3, Mr. [illegible].

1, Mr. William Hogg, Dalbeattie Road, Castle-Douglas; 2, Mrs. John Ross; 3, Mr. John Ross.

The Cheese Fair.

The quantity of cheese staked in the fair was quite as great as in former years, but was held by a very limited number of dealers. Trade was not particularly brisk. Buyers would not respond to the dealers' prices, which were regarded as being too high. The dealers, however, could not see their way to lower the quotations. Dunlops sold at from 50s. to 53s., and Cheddars at from 60s. to 70s.

Framlingham Farmers' Club.

The sixty-first exhibition in connection with the Framlingham Farmers' Club was held in the Old Castle Hall on the 19th inst. The cottagers' productions, which formerly occupied tables in the hall, were this time accommodated in a small marquee, the central tables of the hall being devoted to table decorations, there being this year three entries as against none last year, and a nice show they made. The proceedings commenced with the ploughing competitions, and at an early hour there was an assembly of ploughs on the Market Hill, amongst the horses being some grand animals, a credit to the agriculturists of the district. The prizes were awarded as follows:—1, S. Chambers; 2, J. List; 3, W. Pearl; 4, W. Brooks; 5, G. King. Boys: 1, W. Hart; 2, G. Driver; 3, G. Warne. The three prizes offered by Messrs. Ransomes were taken by Chambers, List, and King. Mr. Sam Wightman, Saxted, offered a special of 10s. for the best stetch in the field, and this was taken by S. Chambers. The competitions took place at Mr. Morton Capon's, Ivy House Farm, on a wheat stubble. The land was a bit hard, but the work was on the whole well done. Messrs. Ransomes, Sims, and Jefferies, of the Orwell Works, Ipswich, offered three prizes in money for the best work done by their ploughs, instead of, as in previous years, presenting one of their ploughs. There was a good display of poultry, which department has now become one of the chief classes of the show. The exhibition of cottagers' productions was a highly creditable one. The entries were not, perhaps, quite so large as in previous years, but the vegetables were for the most part of fine quality. Prizes were awarded, not only to a number of cottagers resident in Framlingham, but in other parishes included in the club's sphere of operations. The roots were shown, as usual, in the Castle grounds. There was not quite so large an entry as in former years, but they were for the most part sound and good. The prizes were awarded as follows:—

ROOTS

Best nine specimens of any one of Sutton's improved varieties of mangel (given by Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading): 1, Mr. Chas. Ling, Bedfield; 2, Wm. Turner, Dennington.

Best nine specimens of Sutton's swede (given by Messrs. Sutton and Sons): 1, Mr. Chas. Ling; 2, Lord Rendlesham, Rendlesham.

Best nine specimens of Sutton's turnips (given by Messrs. Sutton and Sons): Mr. Chas. Ling; 2, Lord Rendlesham.

Best nine roots of mangel of Carter's variety: 1, Mr. Chas. Ling; 2, Mr. Edgar Scrutton, Brandeston.

Best twelve roots of Carter's swedes: 1, Mr. Chas. Ling; 2, Mr. Edgar Scrutton.

Twelve specimens of Webb's mangold, drawn from a crop of two acres (given by Messrs. Webb and Sons, seedsmen), Wordsley, Stourbridge): 1, Mr. Chas. Ling; 2, Mr. W. B. Barham, Bruisyard.

Twelve specimens of Webb's swede, from a crop of two acres (given by Messrs. Webb and Sons): 1, Mr. Chas. Ling; 2, Mr. R. Chambers, Worlingworth.

One bushel of Webb's barley (given by Messrs. Webb and Sons): 1, Mr. W. B. Barham.

One bushel of barley (given by Messrs. Creasy and Co., Framlingham): 1, Mr. W. B. Barham.

Best six specimens of any one variety of mangold (given by Messrs. Fred. Smith and Co., Suffolk Seed Establishment, Woodbridge): 1 and 2, Mr. E. H. Preston.

Best six specimens of any variety of swede (given by Messrs. F. Smith and Co.): 1, Mr. Alfred Pulham; 2, Mr. E. B. Winter.

Best four mangolds (long red): 1, Mr. Chas. Ling; 2, Lord Rendlesham; 3, Mr. Wm. Kindred.

Best four mangolds (long yellow): 1, Mr. Alfred Pulham; 2, Mr. Chas. Ling.

Best four mangolds (Red Globe): 1, Mr. Chas. Ling.

Best four mangolds (Yellow Globe): 1, Lord Rendlesham; 2, Mr. Jno. Abbott; 3, Mr. Alfred Pulham.

Four mangolds (Golden Tankard (given by Mr. C. Austin, Brandeston Hall): 1, Mr. Morton Capon, Framlingham; 2, Mr. Jas. Harmer, Framlingham; 3, Mr. W. Searby, Letheringham.

Four swedes (not grown with beet): 1, Mr. Chas. Ling; 2, Mr. W. Saunders; 3, Mr. W. Searby.

Four turnips (yellow fleshed): 1, Mr. Chas. Ling; 2, Mr. Jno. Abbott; 3, Mr. G. H. Waine.

Four turnips (white fleshed): 1, Lord Rendlesham; 2, Mr. Chas. Ling; 3, Mr. Alfred Pulham.

Wenlock Farmers' Club.

The Wenlock Farmers' Club's annual show was held on Monday, and the chief feature was the exhibition of horses, which was far in advance of any previous year, both in quality and number. Mr. T. H. Whiteman (Ashton Court, Leominster), with a chestnut gelding, Country Lad, secured the first prize in the class, which included many valuable animals. Mr. C. Wadlow, of Easthope, was first in the class for colt or filly suitable for hunting purposes, and Mr. F. Craig, of Westwood, was the second. There were eleven entries in the class for colts or fillies by a thoroughbred horse. Premier honours went to Mr. C. Allen, of Cound, near Shrewsbury, and Mr. E. Sankey, of Leighton, was awarded a second prize for a chestnut colt. Mr. J. F. Williams, at Bridgnorth, exhibited a nice chestnut colt in the colt or filly class, and the judges selected this exhibit for the first prize. There was good competition in the class for cart mare and foal, the property of a farmer residing within the limits of the Wheatland Hunt. Mr. E. Sankey's (Leighton) foal by Moor's Thumper was first, and a mare and foal shown by Mr. T. Jones, of Tarley, Bridgnorth, was second. Another good class was for cart gelding or filly foaled in 1898. Mr. W. H. Davies's chestnut filly secured first prize, and Mr. R. H. Gwynne's (Wellington) bay filly was second, and Mr. G. W. Marsh, of Craven Arms, was third. Mr. Gwynne in the cart colt or filly class was first with a nice bay colt, by Moor's Thumper, Mr. A. B. Dyas being second with a black filly by the same sire. Mr. Morgan Jones, of Delbury, Craven Arms, with a grey filly in the class for colts or fillies foaled in 1900 was first, and Mr. E. Sankey second and third. In the class for dairy cows there were eighteen entries. Mr. W. Bebbington, of Harton, was first, Mr. H. C. Yate, of Bridgnorth, second, and Mr. W. Bishop, of Barrow, Broseley, third.

North Somerset Ploughing and Root Competitions.

The annual ploughing match in connection with the North Somerset Agricultural Society was held last week at Mont Farm, Wraxall, in the occupation of Mr. J. R. Parker, and on the estate of Mr. Antony Gibbs. The number of ploughmen present was quite up to the average of late years; but the weather was too fine to enable the men to put in their best showing work. The ground was a fine stretch of two-year-old ley, which was very dry, owing to the absence of rain. Taking into consideration this drawback some very excellent work was put in, and the judges expressed themselves as being more than satisfied under the circumstances. The same day as the ploughing takes place the society's secretary (Mr. J. Watts) makes known the results in connection with the premiums offered for root growing. The club prizes are for an acre of wurtzel—First prize, £3 3s.; second prize, £2 2s.; an acre of swedes a prize worth 2½gs. In addition to these there are champion prizes for the best acre of wurtzel, the leading award being worth £3 3s., and the second £2 2s., and for the best acre of swedes 2½gs. In addition to these several seedsmen and manure manufacturers offered prizes for roots grown and stimulated with their articles. There were some twenty of these classes, and in the majority some excellent results were obtained. One feature about the North Somerset Society is that whilst it encourages farmers to improve their stock and the general cultivation of their holdings it is not unmindful of the claims of those who work on farms, and it devotes four classes (two premiums to each respectively of £2 and £1) for labourers and indoor servants, and two classes for servants other than agricultural.

Prize List.

PLOUGHING.

Champion class.—Ploughmen of any preceding year winning the first premium in the first class or farmers sons' class: 1, Mr. Arthur E. Alvis, Nailsea; 2, Mr. Frederick J. Lawrence, Nailsea; 3, Mr. Charles Brice, Wraxall.

First class.—Farm labourer: 1, Mr. Reuben Skinner, Portbury; 2, Mr. J. Attwood, ploughman to Mr. J. Watts, Flax Bourton; 3, Mr. G. Brown, ploughman to Mr. A. Gibbs, Tyntesfield.

Second class.—Not being a farmer's son, and under twenty-one years of age: 1, Mr. George Ogborne, ploughman to Mr J. Winstone; 2, Mr. W. Sealy, ploughman to Mrs. Thatcher, Portbury.

Farmers' sons' class.—Under twenty-one years of age: 1, Mr. Henry Merrick, Backwell; 2, Mr. F. E. Ball, Downside; 3, Mr. Alfred Parker; 4, Mr. E. Ball, Downside.

SERVANTS.

Labourers in agriculture.—Labourer who has worked for the same employer (or on the same farm) the greatest number of successive years: 1, Mrs. Cox, 37 years 9 months with Mr. Antony Gibbs.

Labourer who has worked for the same employer, being a tenant farmer:—1, Mr. G. Rogers, with Mr. G. Hardwicke 28 years; 2, Mr. T. Price, with Mr. H. Weeks, Wraxall, 21½ years.

Farmhouse indoor male servant: 1, Mr. J. A. Atherton, 14 years 7 months with Mr. A. Williams, Yatton; 2, Mr. H. Hyman, 8 years 9 months with Mrs. Davis, Walton.

Farmhouse female servant: 1, Daisy Vander, 6½ years with Mr. J. Vowles, Westown; 2, Annie S. Hunt, 6 years with Mr. J. L. Wyatt, Clevedon.

Male servant, not in agriculture: 1, Mr. E. Hatch, 30 years with Colonel Long; 2, Mr. H. Walters, Mrs. Were, Barrow Gurney.

ROOTS.

Acre of mangold wurtzel: 1, Mr. B. Morgan, Tickenham, 34 tons 14cwt. 1qr. 4lb.; 2, Mr. E. Chambers, Portbury, 25 tons 15cwt. 2qrs. 24lb.

Acre of swedes: 1, Mr. S. Burdge, Yatton, 22 tons 11cwt. 1qr. 20lb.; c, Mr. E. Chambers, Portbury.

Champion classes.—Acre of mangold wurtzel: 1, Mrs. Attwell, Congresbury, 52 tons 2cwt. 3qrs. 12lb.; 2, Mr. J. Hinditch, Portbury, 37 tons 1cwt. 1qr. 30lb.

Acre of swedes: 1, Mr. W. Winstone, Tickenham, 20 tons 1cwt. 16lb.; c, Mr. W. J. Williams and Mr. J. Alvis.

Agricultural and Horticultural Exhibition at Worcester.

Under the auspices of the Agricultural Sub-Committee of the Worcestershire County Council Technical Instruction Committee a successful exhibition of agricultural and horticultural produce was opened on the 20th inst. at the Shire Hall, Worcester, by the Lord Lieutenant of the county, the Earl of Coventry. No prizes were offered, though awards were made. The Tenbury, Madresfield, and Knightwick Agricultural Clubs were represented by excellent collections of produce. The strongest exhibit was the dessert and culinary fruit. Plums and damsons were worthy of special mention, and some excellent samples of hops were shown. A special feature was the preserved fruit class. There was a good collection of horticultural exhibits, tickets showing the locality, kind of soil, and mode of cultivation. Dairy produce, beekeeping, and fruit drying were also well represented.

Mr. E. E. Wheeler presided at the opening, which was very numerously attended, and explained that the object of the exhibition was to show what could be produced in the county, and the methods of their production, together with the class of the soil. The exhibition was purely educational, and would, he hoped, benefit those for whom it was intended. Farmers were too apt to keep themselves to themselves, and not let other people know what they were doing. This he believed to be a mistake, and the agricultural community would benefit by an alteration. The Agricultural Sub-Committee of the Technical Instruction Committee of the County Council were endeavouring by the provision of proper instruction to produce a better agricultural labourer, and he appealed for the assistance of farmers in this.

Lord Coventry then declared the show open, and hoped it was the first of a series of such shows. The soil of Worcestershire was particularly well adapted for growing fruit of the best kind and quality, and he was particularly pleased to see such an excellent show of fruit from all parts of the county. Nowhere in his travels did he see such good fruit as Worcestershire produced, and he was glad to find market gardening and fruit-growing very much on the increase, especially in the neighbourhood of Evesham, which must prove of great value if they could only secure better channels for marketing the fruit. They had still a great deal to learn in the planting and management of orchards, and he impressed upon growers the value of careful selection and packing, so that the fruit might be placed on the market in good condition. The heavy railway rates and the salesmen's commission at present left very little profit for the grower, but motor-cars and light railways ought to help to lower the railway rates. He believed they would all learn many useful lessons from the show.

Cider Making as an Industry.

On Monday afternoon a successful conference on "Cider, Fruit, and Orchards" was held at the exhibition. Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler (chairman of the Agricultural Sub-Committee of the County Council Technical Instruction Committee) presided over a large and influential gathering of fruit growers and cider manufacturers. The chairman pointed out that the bulk of the fruit grown in Worcestershire was really cider fruit, but most of the orchards were to be seen in a most careless and neglected condition. The object of the County Council had been to improve this state of things, and he claimed they had been to some extent successful. He was afraid that many people, farmers in particular, still looked upon cider as an article made to save money by giving it to their men in addition to wages, and most of the stuff made was not fit even to be given away. He hoped before long to see such views swept away by the wave of public opinion, for although farmers thought they saved money, he was sure in reality they did not.

Mr. J. Wootton advocated the supply of a good light cider having not more than 3 per cent. of alcohol, for which a ready sale might be obtained. It was essential that the growth of the vintage fruit should be encouraged, for it was from those only that the best cider could be made. Mr. Harper (Stroud) complained of the lack of these vintage fruits, the supply of which was inadequate to the demand for the cider.

Mr. Radcliffe Cook urged Worcestershire, Herefordshire, and Gloucestershire to combine in the provision of a central institution where scientific experiments might be carried on to aid in the cider industry. He pointed to France and Germany as countries which were rapidly advancing in the supply of cider, and which were assisted by their respective Governments to deal with the matter in a systematic manner.

Farmer Fined for Selling Beer to his Labourers.

The Isle of Ely (Cambridgeshire) magistrates last week fined Frederick William Tombleson, farmer, of Wisbech, £2 and costs for selling beer by retail without having in force an Excise licence. The evidence showed that the defendant bought beer at one shilling a gallon, and sold it to his labourers for convenience, there being no public-house within a long distance of their work. The money for the beer was deducted from the men's wages. The defendant pleaded ignorance, and said he did not supply the beer for profit. The magistrates, in imposing the fine, pointed out that the defendant had rendered himself liable to a penalty of £20.

All farm live stock should be fed on "Molassine." It is an excellent food and condenser combined. See advertisement on back page of this issue.—[ADVT.]

SOCIETIES.

Devon Cattle Breeders' Society.

A meeting of the Council of the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society was held at Exeter on Wednesday, Mr. J. G. Davis presiding.

It was resolved to hold a show and sale of Devon cattle in the spring of next year, the secretary to fix the date as near that of preceding years as possible.

In considering the revision of the regulations, Mr. Kidner objected to young bulls being required to have a ring through the nose. The County Council required the observance of this regulation, but the Council was not composed entirely of practical men, so this Society was entitled to lead them a little. It was unreasonable to compel a man to put a ring through the nose of a bull of about twelve months old. If a man carried a vicious young bull about the country he would be liable for any damage it might do. He did not think the County Council should be allowed to ride rough shod over them in this way. A bull could be controlled equally well by a clamp.

Other members thought otherwise, and it was decided to reduce the age from fifteen months to twelve months in Rule 10, which stipulated that either a ring or clamp should be used.

The scrutineers presented their report on the result of the election of judges, and the following were elected:—Messrs. J. Kidner, J. Chick, S. Farthing, A. Bowerman, A. Tribble, and S. Kidner.

An application was received from the local committee of Cardiff, asking the Society to offer prizes at the meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society there in 1901. It was resolved to contribute £21, on the condition that the money was appropriated as champion prizes for the best male and female Devon cattle.

On the motion of Mr. S. Kidner, the secretary was instructed to apply to the railway companies to grant prefential rates to councillors attending Council meetings and agriculturists attending the shows.

Cleveland Bay Horse.

A meeting of the Council of the Cleveland Bay Horse Society was held at Stockton on Wednesday. Mr. G. C. Whitwell presided, and alluded to the action the Society took in connection with the Paris Exhibition, and said the whole affair had ended much as they anticipated. They could not see their way to enter Cleveland Bays in classes to which other breeds were admitted, and the result had been that the classes were a complete fiasco. Only one Cleveland Bay stallion was entered, and that by the executors of a deceased member. He had received a letter from Mr. H. Stephens, suggesting that something should, if possible, be done to extend the breed of Cleveland Bays. Whilst visiting the local shows during the summer, he (the chairman) had been somewhat disappointed at the small entries of young stock. With regard to the older stock, he thought matters were satisfactory, and both at the Royal and Yorkshire Shows he considered they were extremely good. He had made inquiries amongst various breeders and found that South Africa had been a blank; but he thought they might look forward to a cheerful future.

The secretary read a letter from Lord Hopetoun, the new Governor-General of Australia, in which his lordship desired to enter a bay filly in the Society's stud-book. He also expressed a wish to become a life member of the Society, and enclosed the necessary £10 subscription. The chairman expressed his regret that the Society could not enter the filly, as it was not eligible.

Beds Chamber of Agriculture.

The new session will be opened by Mr. James Crouch reading a paper on "Poor Rates, Past and Present," on Saturday, November 3rd, at Bedford. An interesting programme has been arranged, including Mr. Godfrey (secretary to the Central Chamber) on "Agricultural Legislation"; a paper on "Bacon Factories," by Mr. Loudon Douglas (who wrote such an interesting article in the R.A.S.E. Journal a little while ago on the same subject); Mr. Stopes, the barley judge, will dilate on "Pure Beer and Materials," and no doubt attract a large audience; the President of the English Jersey Cattle Society (Mr. E. Matthews) will lecture on "The Quality of Milk from Various Breeds of Cattle"; "Farm Machinery" (an important subject just now) will be dealt with by Mr. F. S. Courtney, M.I.C.E., steward of the implements at the Royal Shows; and Mr. Robert Long, of Stondon, will read a discourse on "Waste in Agriculture."

Suffolk.

The annual general meeting of the Suffolk Agricultural Society was held in the Town Hall, Ipswich, on the 19th inst., the chair being occupied by Mr. J. A. Hempson.

The annual balance-sheet, audited by Messrs. James E. Ransome and Edward Packard, showed total receipts for the 1900 show amounting to £3,048 2s. 6d., this sum including a credit balance from 1899 of £734 5s. 5d., with £229 7s. received from the Woodbridge Local Committee; £815 8s. 8d., gate money at Woodbridge; grants from County Council and from the town of Woodbridge to working dairy, £30; prizes presented to the society, £248 5s.; special premiums for labourers, £10; annual subscriptions (less £28 arrears), £593 3s.; life membership subscriptions, £20; arrears collected since 1899 audit, £15; entrance fees (less £3 1s. arrears), £235 3s. 2d.; sale of catalogues and receipts from advertisements in ditto, £54 10s. 8d.; royalties on grand stand and refreshment-booths, £42 1s. The total expenditure was £2,111 16s. 11d., the following being amongst the items:—For hay, straw, and fares, £47 5s. 9d.; printing (including the catalogues), £85 6s. 3d.; rosettes for prize winners, £7 15s. 1d.; advertising, £46 4s. 6d.; erection of shedding, £398 10s. 3d.; and for canvas, etc., £51 2s. 5d.; other items bringing the ground account to £498 3s. 3d. Bill-posting cost £32 2s. 6d.; the working dairy, £30; secretary's salary, £100. The stock prizes there had been paid, £949 12s., and the balance in hand was £911 5s. 7d., which subsequent receipts had increased to £936 5s. 7d.

The balance sheet having been adopted, a hearty vote of thanks to the Director of the Show Yard (Mr. A. J. Smith), and to the Local Committee, was carried, on the motion of Mr. P. M. Browne. Mr. Smith, in reply, expressed pleasure at the appreciation of his efforts, remarking that Woodbridge was always loyal to the Society.

The chairman said the Society felt very much indebted to the Local Committee for having brought about such a handsome result. He thought that all the arrangements had been most successfully carried through by the staff of the Society, at the head of which was their worthy secretary. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. John Brooks, Mistley, and Mr. Thos. Mortimer, Ipswich, were elected members of the Society. The meeting was adjourned until the 23rd prox.

At a Committee meeting which preceded the annual meeting, Mr. Wm. Biddell presiding, a telegram was read from the Mayor of Sudbury regretting inability to invite the Association, as "the sewage scheme would be in full work in the Borough."

Mr. P. M. Browne mentioned that the Society was likely to receive an invitation from Beccles, where, he remarked, they had always had a successful show. The present Mayor, however, could not answer for his successor, and it might be as well to wait until after November 9th.

Mr. Herman Biddell thereupon proposed that the committee adjourn the consideration of this question and that of the prize list until November 23rd. This was agreed to.

It was intimated that the annual show would be held in the week commencing June 3rd, 1901, and that this—according to the Society's usual arrangements—would fix the show days for Thursday and Friday, the 6th and 7th June.

Suffolk Sheep.

A Council meeting of the Suffolk Sheep Society was held at Ipswich on Friday, the Marquis of Bristol in the chair, when the secretary, Mr. Ernest Prentice, made known the awards of the judges in the flock competitions. They were as follows:—

District A Challenge Cup, Mr. Herbert E. Smith; r. and v.h.c., Mr. S. R. Sherwood (previous holder of the cup); h.c., Sir Hugh Edward Adair, Bart., and Mr. R. Holmes White.

District B Challenge Cup, Mr. Henry Lingwood (previous holder of the cup); r. and v.h.c., Mr. Benjamin Hitchcock; h.c., Mr. Joseph Watkins.

District C Challenge Cup, Major E. W. Baird; r. and v.h.c., Mr. Robert Barclay; h.c., the Marquis of Bristol (previous holder of the cup); c., Mrs. Clotilde Davies and Mr. E. R. Pratt.

District D Challenge Cup, Mr. Thomas Keeble; r. and v.h.c., Messrs. Stanford Bros.; h.c.; Sir T. Barrett-Lennard, Bart.; c., Mr. A. W. Ruggles-Brise (previous holder of the cup) and Mr. D. Abbott Green.

Best ewe lambs (for Pretyman Challenge Cup), Major E. W. Baird, the Marquis of Bristol, Mr. Herbert E. Smith, Messrs. Stanford Bros., and Mr. R. Holmes White.

Mr. Henry Lingwood proposed a vote of thanks to the gentlemen who had acted as judges. It was an undertaking that occupied a considerable amount of time and attention, and he could testify to the careful and painstaking manner these gentlemen entered upon their duties.

Mr. Joseph Smith seconded the motion, remarking that they were greatly indebted to the gentlemen who had devoted so much time and attention to the work of judging the various flocks. (Hear, hear.)

The President, who said he heartily endorsed the observations that had been made, put the motion, which was carried amidst applause.

Mr. J. W. Eagle, in acknowledgment, remarked that the judges had discharged the duty devolving upon them to the best of their ability. They had been through the various flocks, and seen some fine specimens of the breed, both ewes and lambs. They had drafted some animals which they did not wish to see in cup-winning flocks. There was no doubt that these competitions were doing a large amount of good. He thanked the owners of the flocks for their great hospitality, and for the assistance all they had afforded the judges in various ways.

Mr. D. Abbott Green also acknowledged the compliment, observing that it gave him great pleasure to accept the invitation of the society to act as one of the judges. He felt that in visiting the various flocks he had gained some experience, which he hoped would be valuable to him in the future. It was very gratifying to him to meet a lot of old friends, and he hoped he had made several new ones. With respect to the flocks generally, he quite endorsed the remarks of Mr. Eagle, that they had seen some very fine specimens. As far as he could see, there were two directions in which improvements were desirable, one being to secure greater uniformity so as to get the flocks more matchy, and the other was an improvement in the wool.

The other judges, Mr. John C. Dawson and Mr. J. R. Grimsey, also thanked the meeting.

Mr. Henry Lingwood and Mr. George Pettit were appointed judges in the Bristol Champion Challenge Cup and the Pretyman Challenge Cup competitions. The following seven names were chosen for recommendation to the Royal, County, and local shows, as judges of Suffolk sheep at shows in 1901:—Mr. J. R. Grimsey, Mr. J. C. Dawson, Mr. S. W. Slater, Mr. F. S. Lewin, Mr. C. T. A. Robertson, Mr. G. P. Watkins, Mr. J. Flintham, Mr. J. W. Eagle, Mr. F. Smith, Mr. W. Whitlock, Mr. S. Traylen, and Mr. George Pettit.

It was resolved that the premiums to the Royal Agricultural Society (Cardiff) and the Highland and Agricultural Society (Inverness) should be offered as last year, viz., gold medal to the Royal for the best shearling or two-shear ram, and £20 to the Highland Society, being £10 for the Suffolk classes and two prizes of £5 each for cross-breds.

Lincolnshire.

The annual meeting of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society was held at Lincoln on Friday, Sir John Thorold, Bart., presiding.

Alderman Frankish moved the appointment of the Earl of Yarborough as chairman for the year, observing that the next exhibition was to be held at Brigg, in which town his lordship took great interest. Mr. C. W. Tindall seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

The secretary (Mr. S. Upton) read the report of the Council, which commented on the success of the Spalding exhibition. The result had been a very acceptable addition to the Society's funds, meriting the warmest acknowledgment of the members. The Society now had seventy life, and 932 annual members—a decrease of twelve. After an absence of ten years, the Council had accepted a hearty invitation to revisit Brigg, the town at which the first exhibition of the North Lincolnshire Agricultural Society was held, in 1837. The town itself was not large, but it was the centre of an important district of the county, and large populations were within easy reach of it. A contribution had been offered equal to that of 1891, with the use of the same ground as a site, and a cordial welcome was promised, so that there was a fair prospect of a meeting equal to the best results of towns with similar populations hereafter visited by the Society.

Mr. Upton also read the financial statement, which showed that the year began with a balance in hand of £323 19s. 10d. The receipts had been £5,766 8s. 1d., and the expenditure totalled £4,906 9s. 2d., of which £4,483 7s. 11d. was in connection with the exhibition. The financial year thus closed with a balance in hand of £859 18s. 11d. The assets of the Society were certified to be £2,447 8s. 5d.

Mr. J. Evens moved the adoption of the report and accounts, and the confirmation of the proceedings of the Council. Mr. J. Adams seconded the proposition, which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. A. L. Jessop proposed a vote of thanks to Lord Carrington for the assistance he rendered to the Society as chairman during the past year. This was seconded and adopted unanimously. Mr. W. K. Broughton was re-elected auditor. Mr. Tindall moved a resolution thanking Sir John Thorold for having occupied the chair at the meetings during the whole year, and taken Lord Carrington's place at the show. Alderman Frankish seconded the resolution, which was carried with acclamation. Sir John Thorold, in responding, said that ever since the Society was formed he had taken great interest in it, and had always tried to do whatever lay in his power to help it on. (Applause.)

Mr. Casswell asked if it would not be well for the Council to consider whether they could not do something to strengthen the hands of the President of the Board of Agriculture in his efforts to stamp out diseases of stock.

Mr. R. Davy supported the suggestion, and said he had been assured by the inspector for his district, where there had recently been several outbreaks of sheep scab, that nineteen cases out of twenty could be traced to Scotland. It was a shame for sheep to be allowed to come across the country and bring disease. He thought the sheep should be inspected and registered on entering the country, and it would be a great satisfaction to the breeders if the Council of that Society could take the matter up. (Hear, hear.)

Alderman Frankish said the Executive Committee of the Lindsey County Council were now considering whether they would be able to adopt some such regulations. They would be glad to

have compulsory slaughter, but the Board of Agriculture would not allow it. At present they had no authority to prevent these sheep coming into the country, and he was glad the matter had been mentioned, and hoped something might be done.

Sir John Thorold said he thought there was power to insist upon animals coming from Scotland or from other places outside the county being inspected.

Mr. Dean said he did not agree with Alderman Frankish that Executive Committees had no power. In the Kesteven Division Sir John Thorold was chairman of the committee, and he (Mr. Dean) was a member. They passed a resolution to the effect that animals coming into the division from Scotland and other places named should be notified to their cattle inspector, who should be at liberty to go and examine them, and if he thought it necessary he could order that the sheep be dipped. That worked most satisfactorily last year, and whereas in the previous year they had thirteen or fourteen cases of scab reported, he did not think there had been a single case since the resolution was passed. Their inspector only recently told him how satisfactorily it worked and how easy it was to carry it out; and he said he was only disappointed that Lindsey and Holland had not adopted similar resolutions.

The matter then dropped.

At a Council meeting held prior to the annual meeting, it was decided, in order to avoid as much as possible clashing with the Peterborough Agricultural Society, to hold the Brigg exhibition of the Lincolnshire Society on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, July 11th, 12th, and 13th.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Agricultural Tenants and Dilapidations.*

An outgoing tenant is liable to his landlord at common law (a) to use the property in a proper manner, (b) to take reasonable care of it, and for any violation of these liabilities, whether "permissive" or "voluntary" in character, he is liable, and such damage as the valuers consider equitable will be deducted from the sum due to him for Tenant-right.

A tenant from year to year, under no express agreement thereon, is only bound to keep the premises wind and water tight when that can be done without "substantial repairs," but beyond this most agreements of tenancy lay a more or less clearly-defined burden upon the occupier under the head of repairs, and, according to the terms so laid down, the valuers must determine the measure of damage, such items as neglect to thatch, or replace tiles, to paint, paper, tar, whitewash, keep drains clear, scour out water carriages in irrigation meadows, to keep fences and gates in order, etc., etc., will be those most frequently met with. The presumption exists that these were all found in good tenantable condition upon entry, and so must be left upon quitting.

As regards dilapidation for neglect of, or for improper cultivation, the law treats it as "waste" if lands let for cultivation be not cultivated "according to the custom of the country"; most leases, however, are explicit on the question of cultivation, and usually stipulate as to the state in which the outgoer must leave the farm, especially the arable land; thus it is a very common provision to bind a tenant to a particular course of cropping during the last year of his tenancy, or to stipulate that (in a Michaelmas tenancy) a fair proportion (usually one fourth or one-fifth) of the arable land shall be left in seeds or other approved preparation for wheat, and that a certain proportion shall be seeded down with rotation clovers with the last year's corn crop.

The landlord is entitled to a set-off against the valuation in such cases, where it is shown that he sustains damage by the outgoer's non-compliance with these stipulations; but it occasionally happens that he is benefited thereby, and, notwithstanding that the lease has been violated, in such case the valuers may with justice overlook such violation.

Besides this question of sufficiency of acreage on quitting for corn, or roots, etc., the question of "cross-cropping" often gives rise to much trouble. A great many leases lay down the precise course of cropping that must be pursued, during the entire tenancy (in most cases the old four course, or modifications of it), and though such very stringent stipulations as this in an agricultural agreement are much to be deprecated, some clear lines as to the over-cropping and cross-cropping of a farm should appear in every farm agreement. Thus, provisions may appear with regard to hay sold off, to ensure the feeding on the land of root crops, to prohibit the mowing of meadow land twice in any one season, and to prevent the too frequent recurrence of white-straw crops, or the excessive growth of potatoes, the grazing of new clover leys during the winter months, etc.

As regards hay and straw sold off the farm, the lease sometimes stipulates that this may be done upon certain returns being made in the shape of cake or manure to the holding, and that this has been done the out-goer is liable to give proof if called upon.

The selling off of roots and green crops is usually absolutely prohibited, as it is well known that such a course is more exhausting to any land than had a crop of hay or straw been similarly sold off the land.

Old leases usually provide that no two white straw crops shall follow in rotation, but the more modern practice is to stipulate that not more than two white straw crops shall be grown on the same land in four years, thus allowing for the growth of barley after wheat, and giving the occupier a little more freedom of cultivation.

In fixing the amount of dilapidation for excessive or cross-cropping, the valuer will naturally consider the general state of the whole farm, as it occasionally happens that certain fields, by reason of their position or otherwise, suffer in this way; while, on the other hand, the farm generally has been cultivated above the average, and, on the whole, has not suffered in fertility.

Produce Sold off the Farm.

In dealing with a dilapidation claim under this head, the points to be considered are: (*a*) Had the tenant the right to sell off? (*b*) If so, has he fulfilled the conditions (if any) of his lease as to return in the purchase of cake or manure to restore the fertility of the land from which the produce has been taken? (*c*) If he had no right to sell off the farm, then to what extent has the holding suffered by exhaustion, by reason of the loss of the manurial constituents of the fodder, and the absence of the live stock, which would otherwise have consumed it on the holding?

In cases where the outgoer is bound to leave his hay or straw, or both, at consuming prices, and yet has sold any off the farm, he will be liable for the difference between market and consuming price to the landlord or his incoming tenant (besides the cartage and expense necessary to replace it), because not only has he violated his agreement, but has necessitated the purchase of fodder for live stock which ought to have been in existence on the holding, as presumably it was when the new outgoer went into the farm.

The north-country custom of "yardage" (usually about 1s. per cubic yard), payable by an outgoer in respect of the manurial value of hay sold off the holding, is worthy of passing notice here, though the custom appears to be falling into disuse, and in many cases it has now become more usual to consider the manurial value of any produce, whether hay, straw, or roots, sold off to be one-third of its selling price.

In this connection it should be remembered that not only is a farm directly impoverished by the sale of hay, straw, and other produce, but that as live stock cannot well be kept without the use of corn, cake, or other foods, the manure arising from their consumption is also lost to the land when their head of stock is not maintained as it should be.

In the case of sales of hay and straw in years previous to the last, the old rule that a ton of fodder properly fed would produce three tons of dung may be of some service.

Foul Land.

A claim may also arise for foul land, and this can only be dealt with by the valuer's inspection not only of the stubble, but also of the young seeds, where the presence of noxious weeds and couch is even a more serious consideration than upon the stubbles.

The damage in the case of foul land should be the cost of cleaning it, but the presence of a few foul spots will not be sufficient to secure a "set-off" under this head. The land must be really foul and full of couch.

The presence of docks and their seed, occasioned by neglect to pull at the proper time, is, to my mind, even more disastrous than mere couch, as the eradication of docks, when once established, is a matter of years, and, perhaps, a lifetime, whereas the cleansing of couch is not nearly so serious a matter.

* "Agricultural Valuations and Agricultural Leases Explained." By G. S. Mitchell, F.S.I.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.

Italy in Australia.

Some twenty years ago Charles du Breil, Marquis de Ray, then Bolivian Consul at Marseilles, formed a scheme for the colonisation of New Ireland, an island containing over a million acres, and situated about 350 miles from New Guinea. The embryo colony was to be designated "New France," and alluring terms were offered intending settlers; but nearly all the immigrants, about 500 in number, were recruited from the ranks of impoverished vignerons and labourers in Northern Italy. The scheme ended in complete disaster, the settlement proving a failure, and after much privation and suffering, the unfortunate immigrants, declining to settle under French rule in New Caledonia, found their way to Sydney, where they were kindly treated by the New South Wales authorities, the majority readily finding employment in various parts of the colony. This was in 1881.

In the course of the following year one of the immigrants, Rocca Comminitti, who had been sent into one of the northern coastal districts of the colony, having put by the greater part of his earnings during the preceding few months, took up a selection of forty acres. He was speedily followed by several of his compatriots, and, on the strength of what they had saved from their earnings, they resolutely set to work, and by utilising the strength of each family, and obtaining occasional employment from other sources, were speedily enabled to declare that they had formed out of apparently unpromising materials a "new Italy" of their own, in place of the "New France" originally contemplated in Polynesia. The story of the successful fight made by these brave Italians under most discouraging circumstances shows what can be effected by perseverance, unflagging industry, and systematic thrift. Their earlier source of income was obtained by cutting and selling timber, but, as time rolled on, a barren forest gave way to a comfortable-looking settlement, with clean and tidy dwellings, good and substantial fences and out-buildings, some of them of an especially good and durable character, while splendidly-tilled and cared-for gardens, orchards, and vineyards met the eye on every side.

In little more than three years from the first 40-acre selection being made, a substantial school-house was erected, a priest paid periodical visits to his flock, and although, being a little off the mail road, seldom visited by strangers, and almost unknown to the outer world, the little settlement has gradually grown and flourished, until the colony of "New Italy" has become an accomplished fact, worthy of the emulation of many of those who are now only drones in the great hive of human progress, and the consideration of those who honour themselves by devoting their time and talents to the proper government of their country. The holdings are mainly small ones, and, although each is securely fenced, the land is not all utilised for tillage, attention being principally devoted to the thorough cultivation of small areas for horticulture and wine-growing, the Italian colonists evidently believing in the superior tillage of small areas as against the indifferent cultivation of larger ones, and inspection of their labour, their trees and crops, proves very conclusively that the policy is a sound and payable one. The area of grapes under cultivation is from half an acre to about three acres to nearly every homestead, the black Hambro' being principally grown, the Reisling, and probably some others, finding a place also in some of the vineyards, which are everywhere marvels of cleanliness and attention, and in every instance is the area being gradually increased at such a ratio as the circumstances of the owners will permit. Within a few years from the date of settlement one Vincenzo Nardi realised from half an acre a sufficient crop to enable him to sell fully 1,000lbs. of grapes at 6d. per lb., in addition to making over 60 gallons of wine for home consumption. The following year he had double that quantity of matured vines, and the year succeeding upwards of two acres of productive vines, representing over £100 in cash, and more than 240 gallons of wine, which, at 5s. a gallon, means £60, as well as citrons, lemons, sweet potatoes, mulberries, apples, peaches, cabbage, lettuce, peas, oats, and barley.

And Nardi's was not an isolated case by any means. Some others had larger areas and greater variety of fruits, vegetables, and cereals growing. The success of mulberry cultivation has led to the introduction of the silk-growing industry, which, in time, may assume considerable proportions. It may be mentioned that until Rocca Comminitti, the real founder of "New Italy," appeared upon the scene in April, 1882, the locality was comparatively a howling wilderness, sacred to the timber-getter and the dingo, and the land thereabouts generally described as being "not fit to keep a bandicoot." Nevertheless it grew magnificent timber, and thousands upon thousands of the tall and stately giants of the forest, reduced to the severely practical form of hardwood piles and railway sleepers, have found their way from the forest to the river, and thence to Victoria, New Zealand, and other distant ports. The apparently barren and undulating ridges on which "New Italy" is located, and which extend for many miles in the direction of the Clarence River, are thickly timbered with ironbark, mahogany, spotted gum, and a species of oak, while in the flats at the foot of the adjacent range, where the richer soil has been washed down, are large quantities of grey and black ironbark, box, orange gum, grey gum, tallow-wood, pine, beech, teak, and stringy-bark. The trees are tall, straight, and stately, some of them growing a clean bole 100 feet high without a limb, and, as showing their values as timber, it may be mentioned that at one place may be seen the remains of an ironbark tree from which two "stringers" for girders, each 86ft. long, 18in. in width, and 6in. thick, had been obtained. The butt of the tree at the sevenfeet from the trunk was only 2ft. 6in. in diameter, and at 96ft. measured 19in.

The district is eminently suited for settlement by those versed in the agricultural industries of Southern Europe, and the story of "New Italy" shows what can be effected by colonists, however straitened their means, who are determined to make the most of their opportunities, no matter how slender they may be.

Profitable Crop Plants.

Professor A. N. M'Alpine delivered the inaugural lecture of the new session of the West of Scotland Agricultural College, and he took for his subject "Profitable Crop Plants," dividing his discourse into three parts, namely,: (1) Plants in general; (2) crop plants—the points connected; (3) the profit—where precisely does it come into the question?

In his introductory remarks Professor M'Alpine said:—I shall do my best to divest the subject of technicalities. I do not intend to consider crop plants individually, but rather to point out to you the various ways in which other plants come in and interfere with the profit, and shall not forget that I am addressing a general audience, farmers as well as students. We shall begin, then, in the right and proper way—the way which experience has proved—by taking our bearings and laying down our plan. The plant is, as all of you are aware, a sort of half-way house between the soil on the one hand and the farm stock on the other. So to speak, the plant stands about midway between the beginning and the end of agriculture, the soil being first, the plant second, and the stock third, then back again to the soil. Every farmer has to pass and repass these three landmarks in the course of his work, he must go round and round this perpetual circle—soil, plant, stock. Since he does so for business reasons he must keep within a larger circle with but one landmark—profit, profit, profit.

Plants in General.

To the husbandman a plant is merely the machine that he uses for the purpose of producing food both for man and beast. That this is the common idea associated with the thing called plant is shown by the prevalent use of the word plant for machines of every kind—electrical plant, engineering plant, and so forth. It is not to be forgotten that the plant of the farmer is a much more wonderful plant than any of these. The plant of a nail maker, for example, simply takes iron and changes its shape—turning out nails. The plant of the farmer, on the other hand, goes much further than this; it not only alters the shape of the matter that goes into it (which is all the nail-making machine can do), but even transforms the substance itself, turning out food from stuff that was not food. This special gift of the farmer's machine has evidently important bearings on the question of profit.

Weeds.

Though this notion of agricultural plant as a food creator is real and sound, good, and profitable, it is not big enough for our purpose here; it does not grip all the sources of profit and loss, for weeds also are plants, and weeds are not regarded as food producers—rather the reverse—since they sadly interfere with the crop plants. They are the Boers of agriculture, to be denounced, and upon them war to the death has to be waged; but, as you all know, it is one thing to wage war, and quite another to come off with the laurel wreath victorious. And so it is with weeds. Unless one is very knowing and specially cunning there is often indeed little hope of victory for the farmer, since many weeds are so insinuating and so insidious in their way, so intermingled with the food-producing crop that there is little chance of getting at them by ordinary means. Here science comes in to help, and the scientist studies the life history of the weed, and finds out the sources of its weakness and the sources of its strength. In this way the scientific man makes out a plan of campaign for the farmer in his war against the weeds, and may even go the length of providing them with forms of lyddite suitable for weed destruction. The form of lyddite I refer to is fired off not from a gun, but from a spraying machine, and is composed of blue stone, or it may be of copper as specially aimed at and very potent against such weeds as charlock.

Parasitic Fungi.

There is another distinct set of plants which the farmer classes I know not how. If he is of a superstitous turn he associates them with witchcraft and the power of the evil eye, for it seems to him that in a single night they lay his whole crop low, *e.g.*, potato disease. Here again, science can step in and find out whether the witches are responsible or not for the disaster. The finding of science is that the cause of such disaster is very frequently an attack, not by a witch, but by a peculiar kind of plant called technically parasitic fungus. As before, science delivers into the hand of the farmer means more or less efficacious for preventing attack. Such a means is in the famous Bordeaux mixture, composed of compounds of copper and of lime.

Soil Germs.

I come now to another, and the last class of plants that claims our attention—a class that has most important bearings on the question of profit. These plants of which I am now going to speak the farmer knows not in themselves, and, so far as he is a farmer and a business man, he cannot be expected to know them, that he wisely hands over to the scientist. As regards their effect, however, that is quite another matter. The effects I refer to are not at all strange or rare, rather, I might say, they are as familiar as the daily bread which he eats, and they are, indeed, on the tip of his tongue as often as bread itself. They are on his tongue tip every time he speaks the words fertile soil or fertility, for fertile is the farmer's name for the slump effect on his soil of the plant class I am now dealing with. In exactly the same way that bubonic plague represents in the slump the effect of the germ of bubonic plague, or as the potato disease represents the slump effect of the potato disease fungus, so the fertility of the soil represents the slump effect of the fertility germ. Because I am here on ground still under debate, it is advisable to clearly note the four following points. One is that fertility is a germ-caused effect, so is bubonic plague. A second is that fertility is a desirable and profitable effect, whereas bubonic plague is undesirable and ruinous. A third is that the fertility germ affects the dead only, and gives a semblance of life, or rather a real life to the soil, making it active, quick, and hungry as the farmer puts it. The action of the soil is real action, the quickness real quickness, the hunger real hunger—there is no figure of speech about it whereas the bubonic germ affects the living, making the living inactive and dead. The fourth and the most important point is that the bubonic germ, every life-destroying germ; in fact, all causes of death may be made to play into the clutches of the fertility germ, and through the germ into the hands of the farmer himself, ultimately lining his purse with the yellow gold. For this—that is for the gold—all we have to do is to see to it that the lifeless matter comes into a soil wherein the conditions favour the fertility germ. It is the prerogative and the special duty entrusted to the fertility germ to devour the lifeless, and in so doing to pave the way to a new life—a new life, which if the farmer so wills it and so plans it, is his crop. The fertility germ is thus seen to be the connecting link of a chain extending from the lifeless matter at the one end to the living crop and stock at the other. It follows from what I have been saying that

The Business of the Farmer

so far as fertility of soil is concerned, is to provide and purvey a sufficiency of lifeless matter to keep the fertility germs going at full swing, and further it is his business to see to it so far as in him lies that the conditions which favour the fertility germ are there in his soil. Then the soil yields that full and large crop which fertile land alone can yield. I care not how favourable the season, full crop the farmer cannot have, and cannot expect to have, unless the fertility germ is satisfied, and unless the conditions favourable to the display of the mighty powers of the fertility germs are fulfilled. Two important questions have to be answered here:—(1) Is it the case that the farmer provides and purveys the dead matter of which I have been speaking? The question almost answers itself. Does the farmer apply dung? *i.e.*, dead matter. Does the farmer allow and want to allow dead roots and pits of plant to be in his land? Does the farmer want humus, in short? He does, for there is profit in it. (2) Is it the case that the farmer caters for the fertility germ? That amounts to asking whether the farmer tills his land and limes it. If he does, he caters for the fertility germ. Tillage, I grant, has further objects, and so also has liming, but the great object of tillage operations and lime applications is to make soil a favourable and sanitary habitation for the fertility germs. Some of you may suppose that I am using many words to tell the farmer of to-day what experience had taught his grandfather and his great-grandfather, viz., that lime and dung applications, with proper tillage and good seasons, make land fertile. Well, I grant that is nearly all, but not *quite* all, for have I not said in addition that the fertility germ is the cause of it all, is the reason of all these effects? No one can maintain that his grandfather knew that fertility germs existed, much less that germ life in the soil was the cause and source of fertility. Here I would point out the

Exact Difference between Science and Practice,

and the exact value of the application of science to practice. It is this:—Practice and business deal with effects; science goes behind business and finds out the causes of the given effects, and when it finds them, hands them over to the practical man, who tries them, and knows them to be true or false by the one infallible test of profit and of loss. If the science put into practice yields profit it is true science, if it brings forth loss it is not science at all, but a mere shadow without substance; and if science is anything, it is substantial and profitable in its application. Knowledge of the cause of anything is a distinct and decided gain, for when we know the cause of a thing we can reason more correctly, plan more correctly, and practise more correctly. And what is to reason more correctly in your business, to plan more correctly in your business, to practice more correctly in your business—what is it, I ask, but to be more successful and to make more profit? A ship, a good ship, the best ship, without a compass to guide by, a rudder to steer by, is certainly inferior, is a much less workable and much less profitable concern than the same ship with rudder and compass. The rudder and compass for large crops is the fertility germ. For the germ we dung and for the germ we lime, and by casting our dung and lime to the germ we reap a larger and more profitable crop. Shakespeare clearly perceived and as clearly expressed the effects of these soil germs in his well-known lines:—

> Imperial Cæsar, dead and turned to clay,
> Might stop a hole to keep the wind away

If Shakespeare had been a mere scientific bore to the rich business man he might have done this version:—

> Imperial Cæsar, dead and turned to clay
> Might stop a hole to keep the wind away,
> Or feed a turnip.

With a view to profit, then, the kinds of plants to be kept in view are four:—(1) food producers, (2) weeds, (3) parasitic fungi, (4) germs.

The Crop Plants.

I come now to the middle part of the thread laid down—viz., to the crop plants themselves. I would here point out that a crop plant is a special machine for a special purpose. This statement involves two important questions bearing on profit:—(1) What is the purpose in view? (2) What is the best machine for that purpose? (3) How is the best machine to be secured? The purpose of crops in agriculture is threefold: (1) Food production; (2) tobacco and drug production; (3) clothing and bedding. What plants are grown for these purposes is determined above everything by the nature of the country, its climate, and its circumstances, especially by its means of intercourse and cost of labour. We in our sea-girt island, with its moist and temperate climate, are restricted chiefly and in a general way to the production of food and bedding for stock—our circumstances do not as a rule suit for fine and dainty crops requiring shelter, warmth, dryness, and expensive labour, but rather our climate is suitable for coarse and hardy plants—grasses, clovers, roots, and hardy cereals. The agricultural returns show that these are the staple crops of British agriculture. The next question about crops—viz., What is the best machine for the purpose in view? means to us what are the best grasses, clovers, roots, and corns?

The Best Grasses for the Farmer

are assuredly those that give largest yield of nutritive and palatable herbage and hay; in short, those that yield most profitably. It is often assumed that Nature looks after this largeness of yield in the case of grasses, but not in the case of cereals or of roots, nor of corn. This statement is indisputable—a statement of fact. Grass land is often left to Nature, as if Nature had a special eye to filling a farmer's purse. Here science and the colleges of science have something to do, something to prove by experiment, something to teach and to say to the farmer who wishes more profit—and who does not? Seeing it can show him that natural grass can be made more profitable by suitable manuring, it can teach some agriculturists, but not all (for some already know it), that they are not sufficiently lavish in their use of the best large grasses, and that oftttimes they are too lavish by far in their use of perennial ryegrass. With regard to corn, it has been claimed that within the last few years improved and more profitable varieties have come into our hands. Whether these varieties are or are not more profitable than those hitherto with us is again a matter to be tested by experiment. Who is to make these experiments in the farmers' interests? The sellers? Oh, no! The farmer? Well, if he does he must neglect his business more or less, and neglect of business usually means loss of money. It is for science and the colleges to test and try such matters, and that is one part of the work which our college is at present doing. The third question is,

"How are the Best Crops to be Secured?"

and this is largely a seed question. The value of a crop depends much on the quality of the seed used. The great quality of the seed is its power of growth. Now, power of growth—or germination of seed—is a thing that can be measured approximately, not by the practical farmer, for his business is to grow crops, not to test seed. Who, then, is to measure the germ-power of seed offered for sale? As well as who is to weigh a lump of butter offered for sale. The seller, of course. The buyer of seed ought to see to it that the seller has, in fact, measured the germ-power of the seed offered for sale; the buyer ought to have a guarantee of the germ-power from the seller, and ought to be provided with ways and means for testing the accuracy of the guarantee. This testing of seed is assuredly a matter to be taken up by colleges, and the services of the staff of an agricultural college ought to be placed at the disposal of agriculturists for the purposes of seed-testing and for advising regarding seeds. I am quite decidedly of opinion that in the case of grass and clover seeds, at any rate, a guarantee of germ and purity should be compulsory by law, as is the case with manures. Then here is the further question of change of seed; but what I cannot enter into, for time passes. I hasten now to the third and last topic, to the end of the thread which I had down at the beginning, namely,

The Profit.

I must say this, that profit from crop-growing must be an increasing and increasable quantity if agricultural pursuits are to remain a business. To stand still is to go back, for experience shows us that as civilisation advances, as the relations of life become more complex, competition increases, and increased competition necessitates more skill, compelling us to incorporate in our practice the results got by specialists—necessitates more skill, forcing us to introduce and to apply more science to our practice—to this end,

that practice may keep pace with competition. All such improvement is merely standing still. To get increased profit practice must do more than keep pace; it must be in advance—far in advance; it must use science to the utmost—science not scattered hither and thither, houseless and homeless, and frittered away, but science consolidated and organised to the utmost, science comfortably housed, and that is the aim of an agricultural college. I shall now gather together in a bunch the points already mentioned, in which science specially touches the pocket, and I would warn you that I am chiefly engaged in bringing into prominence the botanical points. (1) Weed destroyers and weed destruction; (2) preventive measures against attack, and spread of parasitic fungi; (3) means of increasing fertility of land; (4) means of increasing the value of grass land; (5) finding the most profitable mixture of grass and clover; (6) finding the most profitable varieties of roots and corns; (7) testing the germination of seeds, and so forth. These and many other things of prime importance for most profitable agriculture constitute one side of the business of an agricultural college and of its staff.

FARM.

Acreage of Potatoes.

Preliminary Statement of the Acreage under Potatoes in the several Counties of Great Britain, compiled from the Returns collected on the 4th June, 1900, with a Comparative Statement for 1899.

Counties.	1900. Acres.	1899. Acres.
Great Britain	561,331	547,632
England	393,936	387,715
Wales	33,225	32,982
Scotland	131,300	126,985
ENGLAND.		
Bedford	8,907	8,526
Berks	1,909	2 013
Buckingham	1,583	1,626
Cambridge	22,790	21,598
Chester	25,514	26,125
Cornwall	5,601	5,649
Cumberland	8,863	9,232
Derby	2,589	2,589
Devon	12,468	12,536
Dorset	1,951	2 026
Durham	9,309	8,883
Essex	9,629	10,272
Gloucester	4 018	4,313
Hants	5,980	6,415
Hereford	1,970	2,087
Hertford	4,257	4,159
Huntingdon	8,687	8,471
Kent	13,302	13,772
Lancaster	41,932	40,768
Leicester	2,222	2.180
Lincoln	64,146	58,282
London	413	445
Middlesex	2,517	2,636
Monmouth	1,470	1,574
Norfolk	11,179	9 668
Northampton	3,216	3,172
Northumberland	5,041	4,646
Notts	8,007	7,966
Oxford	2,483	2,587
Rutland	158	170
Salop	6,694	6,605
Somerset	4,997	5,415
Stafford	11,465	11,385
Suffolk	2,577	2,734
Surrey	5,609	6,053
Sussex	3,470	3,566
Warwick	6,744	6,365
Westmorland	1,440	1,501
Wilts	2,960	2,976
Worcester	7,458	7,575
York, E. Riding	12,851	12,435
„ N. Riding	12,954	12,139
„ W. Riding	25,491	24,580
Anglesey	2,795	2,726
Breton	1,133	1,134
Cardigan	6,140	6,104
Carmerthen	3,856	3,797
Carmarthen	4,339	4,287
Denbigh	3,346	3,303
Flint	2,263	2,325
Glamorgan	1,998	1,983
Merioneth	1,849	1,827
Montgomery	2,060	2,059
Pembroke	2,563	2,532
Radnor	883	905
SCOTLAND.		
Aberdeen	7,373	7,446
Argyll	4 558	4,576
Ayr	8,240	7,818
Banff	2,007	1,999
Berwick	2,379	2,413
Bute	974	959
Caithness	1,658	1,724
Clackmannan	407	317
Dumbarton	2,444	2,329
Dumfries	3 617	3,444
Edinburgh	5,458	5,213
Elgin, or Moray	1,678	1,677
Fife	15,042	14,502
Forfar	12,606	12,159
Haddington	7,750	7,465
Inverness	6 071	5,946
Kincardine	2,554	2,427
Kinross	618	570
Kirkcudbright	1,575	1,452
Lanark	4,446	4,117
Linlithgow	1,841	1,726
Nairn	323	317
Orkney	2,723	2,722
Peebles	392	371
Perth	12,884	12,128
Renfrew	2,994	2,904
Ross and Cromarty	7,495	7,559
Roxburgh	1,375	1,264
Selkirk	197	225
Shetland	2,046	3,111
Stirling	3,252	2,949
Sutherland	1,656	1,471
Westown	1,490	1,425

Utilisation of Sewage.

The losses in fertilising material which are sustained, as has been mentioned, on account of the neglect or unscientific treatment of barn-yard manure, are very trifling when compared with those which the community suffers in the almost total loss of the nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash contained in human excreta. The utilisation of such always becomes a subject for discussion when the question is raised as to how a cheaper class of manures than the artificial fertilisers can be obtained for use in agriculture.

Where the water carriage system of removing sewage and excrement has been introduced, nothing is to be hoped for in the recovery of their fertilising constituents. Even in cases where, at large expense, establishments have been erected for the treatment of sewage by precipitation or similar methods, the products have been found to be entirely destitute of agricultural value. The greater part of the fertilising constituents of sewage are in such a soluble condition, and have been diluted with water to such an extent, as to render their recovery economically impossible. It has been attempted in the neighbourhood of many cities in England and on the Continent of Europe to use the sewage for irrigation and as liquid manure, but this method of utilisation has been found to be in the highest degree imperfect. At Berlin it has been proved that of the nitrogen contained in its sewage, at the very most only 13.8 per cent. is found in the agricultural products of all the magnificent farms irrigated by it in the neighbourhood of the city. When the use of water for removing house refuse is excluded, and ordure and urine are removed as manure in their natural state, their utilisation is possible, and is made a source of revenue in such towns as Stuttgart, Groningen, Greifswald, etc. But the systems of this class which are in use have all their disadvantages, as is proved by the tendency which municipal authorities constantly show to adopt the water carriage system. The greatest disadvantage under which these systems labour is the difficulty caused by the offensiveness to sight and smell of the material with which they have to deal. This has been entirely met by the use of moss litter as an absorbent, deodoriser, and disinfectant.

The first public mention of the usefulness of moss litter as a deodoriser and absorbent seems to have been made by Dr. Ludwig Happe, in Braunschweig, in December, 1880, since which time its application for the purpose has gradually increased until now, when the system has been introduced into several towns in Germany, and is also practised in Congleton, Cheshire, England. In Canada this method of deodorising human refuse has been in use for years at Caledonia Springs. It, of course, at once recalls the dry earth system, regarding which great expectations were at one time entertained. The advantages of moss litter over dry earth for the purposes in question are, however, very decided. They consist in the perfect inoffensiveness of the moss litter product, in the fact that one part of moss litter will deodorise and dry at least six parts of mixed excreta, and in the greater agricultural value of the resulting manure. Dry earth (which is required in quantity at least equal to that of the excreta) is valueless from an agricultural point of view, but this is not the case with moss litter, which, as the above analysis shows, often contains as much nitrogen as ordinary barnyard manure. Numerous analyses have been made of moss litter manure as produced in Germany, and its average contents from seven different towns may here be stated.

	Per cent.	Lbs. per ton.		Value per ton. Dols.
Nitrogen	0·664	13·28 at	13c.	1 72
Phosphoric acid	0·350	7·00	5	0 35
Potash	0·285	5·70	5¼	0 30
Water	83·00			2 37

Numerous trials have been made on various crops with this manure, and very satisfactory results are always reported. In all cases it is stated to excel barnyard manure even when the latter is used in much greater quantity.

The manufacture of moss litter has been attempted at Musquash, in New Brunswick, and also in Welland County, Ontario. From the latter locality I was supplied with several bales of the moss litter for experimental purposes, and Dr. Laberge, of Montreal, undertook to superintend the carrying out of an experiment to determine its deodorising and absorbent qualities. He reported that 100 pounds of moss litter were sufficient for drying 800 pounds of ordinary excreta from privy pits in Montreal, and rendering it entirely inoffensive. A sample of the product remained for days in my office without attracting notice, and, indeed, it was quite devoid of odour. Its analysis gave the following results:—

	Per cent.	Lbs. per ton.		Value per ton. Dols.
Nitrogen	1·31	26·2 at	13c.	3 41
Phosphoric acid	0·90	18·0 at	5	6 90
Potash	0·14	2·8 at	5½	0 15
Water	65·47			4 46

The valuation of ordinary fresh barn-yard manure with 75 per cent. of water is about 2dols. per ton; with 67 per cent. water, as in the case of the average given above by Dr. Goessmann, the value is nearly 2.25dols. Therefore, much better results might be expected agriculturally from a "moss manure" of the composition just described.

Moss litter might also be applied with great advantage in public urinals. When a sample of it was supersaturated with urine and dried, and this process repeated several times, no offensive odours were developed, and the product was found on analysis to contain 12.41 per cent of nitrogen, which is equal to a valuation of 29.78dols. per ton.

These facts are reported in order to show that Canada possesses in her waste lands abundance of material which might be used in our towns and villages for the production of very valuable manure, with the simultaneous introduction of very many sanitary advantages. It is not to be expected that cities or towns which are advantageously situated for the water carriage system, or which have already adopted it, will make any changes, but there are many towns and villages in the Dominion where the application of the moss litter system would be very suitable, and the authorities of which, by selling the product or giving it gratis to the farmers of the neighbourhood, might confer a great advantage on agriculture.

Acquisition of Nitrogen.

Not only can the farmer save almost the whole of the nitrogen contained in the fodder fed to his cattle, but he can actually increase the stock of it stored away in his fields, agricultural products and manure heaps, by a judicious course of crop rotation. For more than a century agricultural chemists have discussed the question as to whether free atmospheric nitrogen can be assimilated by plants, but it may now be regarded as perfectly settled in the affirmative, if regard is had only to the plants of the order leguminosæ, such as beans, peas, lentils, vetches, clovers, alfalfa, serradella, etc. Even the great English agriculturists, Sir J. B. Lawes and Sir Henry Gilbert, who had previously been of an opposite opinion, have now admitted that this appropriation of nitrogen has been completely proved. This acknowledgment was made by Sir Henry Gilbert at a great meeting of agricultural chemists held at Halle, in Germany, in September, 1891. Thus, modern research has confirmed not only modern agricultural practice, but also the experience of antiquity, for Prof. W. Strecker has pointed out a passage in Pliny which says: "Lupines require so little manure that they, in fact, replace it; vetches make the land more fertile. Corn should be sown where previously lupines or vetches have stood, because they enrich the land."

It is not, however, to be supposed that this utilisation of atmospheric nitrogen by leguminous plants can take place upon very poor soils or upon those destitute of the inorganic constituents which they require. The latter must in such cases be supplied in the shape of potash with some phosphoric acid, as was done with great success by Schultz, of Lupitz, a practical agriculturist in North Germany. In fact, had it not been for his investigations, the controversy above referred to might have continued without results up to the present hour.

Professor König, of Münster, gives the following summary of Schultz's experience:—

"Schultz acquired the farm Lupitz in the year 1855; its soil consisted of a poor, cold, diluvial sand; the profit in working it was very small. Lupines yielded, indeed, as fodder tolerable results, but when used as green manuring for rye and oats, no return was obtained from them. The application of artificial manures produced good crops, but they did not pay; burnt lime showed itself to be too heating. The use of manure was more favourable, especially when fertilisers containing phosphoric acid were used at the same time. But at the best the total results were not satisfactory.

"Shortly after Schultz acquired Lupitz, the great discovery of potash salts was made, and about 1860 they began to be produced from the mines of Stassfurth. Schultz made up his mind to try them as manure, and he obtained the most surprising results. After lupines had shown themselves to be useless as forerunners of grain, they were excluded from the rotation, and grown on a separate field without any manuring, and alternating with sheep pasture. But the harvest on these became worse and worse, until the field in question became quite lupine 'sick.' Schultz made his first trial on this field, manuring it with 300lb. kainit per morgen (1 Prussian morgen = 0.631 acre); the sickness was at once cured, and for twenty-five years afterwards Schultz has grown lupines on this ground without interruption, always with the application of 300 pounds kainit. Schultz obtained similar good results on the ground which had received the marl, by the application of potash salts. This ground had indeed yielded well with lupines for two years after the application of the marl, but in the third year they sickened here too. When, however, 300 pounds kainit were applied here and ploughed in the fall, the ground was cured, although an application of phosphates had not produced the desired results.

"The favourable influence which the manuring with kainit or potash salts had exerted on lupines induced Schultz to try them on grain, in conjunction with phosphates. But in this case he obtained con-

tradictory results according to the nature of the crops which preceded the grain. For instance, while grain sowed after lupines and manured with potash and phosphates yielded very good and remunerative harvests, these were not to be obtained if grain was grown after grain or after potatoes. This behaviour of these crops was explained by Schultz in this way: that lupines as deep-rooted plants leave in the soil after harvest a residue of root, in which a considerable amount of nitrogen has accumulated, an amount sufficient to supply the wants of the following grain crops; that, on the other hand, the application of potash and phosphates to grain, after a preceding grain crop, is without effect, for the reason that the latter had consumed the stock of nitrogen. Grain crops always reduce this stock, never increase it. Schultz has given the name 'nitrogen collectors' to the lupines and similar plants, while grains are called 'nitrogen consumers.' His system of rotation is, therefore, the following:—Sow first nitrogen collectors (lupine pease, beans, vetches, clover, lucerne, serradalla, etc.) or, as they have been called, renovating crops, and give them 300lbs. kainite per morgen, with perhaps an addition of 20lbs. phosphoric acid. After harvesting the nitrogen collectors, so a nitrogen consumer, raising a grain or exhausting crop, giving it also 300lbs. kainite and 20lbs. phosphoric acid, the grain crop is perfectly successful, because the first crop left behind it nitrogen enough to supply the wants of the grain. In this way the keeping of stock, which is expensive on a poor sandy soil, can be reduced and the purchase of nitrogenous fertilisers dispensed with, because the nitrogen collectors are able to stock the soil with that valuable element."

The foregoing description is taken from Professor Konig's "Stickstoff Vorrath," published in 1887 (Paul Parey, Berlin). It was in 1884, nearly thirty years after the purchase of his sandy farm, that Schultz, of Lupitz, published the results of his experience, although they did not contain anything very new, and although they only confirmed experiences still older than his own. But his case was surprising, and his explanation of the cause of his successful farming challenged the attention of scientific agriculturists. The consequence has been the issue of many pamphlets on the subject, and an activity in the region of agricultural experimenting which is not yet ended. Atwater, Wagner, Heiden, Hellriegel, and many others, have participated in these investigations, and Professor Wood, of the Storrs Agricultural School in Connecticut, has given the following general conclusions as the result of the work:—

1. "Pease, alfalfa, serradella, lupine, clover in all probability, and apparently leguminous plants in general, are able to acquire large quantities of nitrogen from the air during their period of growth.

2. "There is scarcely room to doubt that the free nitrogen of the air is thus acquired by plants.

3. "That there is a connection between root tubercles and this acquisition of nitrogen is clearly demonstrated. What this connection is, what are the relations of micro-organisms to the root tubercles and the acquisition of nitrogen, and in general how the nitrogen is obtained are questions still to be solved.

4. "The cereals with which the experiments have been completed have not manifested this power of acquiring nitrogen, nor do they have such tubercles as are found on the roots of legumes.

5. "In the experiments here reported, the addition of soil infusions did not seem necessary for the production of root tubercles. A plausible supposition is that the micro-organisms or their spores were floating in the air and were deposited in the pots in which the plants grew.

6. "As a rule the greater the abundance of root tubercles in these experiments, the larger and more vigorous were the plants and the greater was the gain of nitrogen from the air.

7. "In a number of these experiments, as in similar ones previously reported, there was a loss of nitrogen instead of gain. The loss occurred where there were no root tubercles; it was especially large with oat plants, and largest where they had the most nitrogen at their disposal in the form of nitrates. As the gain of nitrogen by the legumes helps to explain why they act as renovating crops, the loss in the case of the oats suggests a possible reason why they should appear to be an exhausting crop.

"Practical inferences:—The ability of legumes to gather nitrogen from the air helps to explain the usefulness of clover, alfalfa, pease, beans, vetches, and cow pease as renovating crops, and enforces the importance of these crops to restore fertility to exhausted soils. The judicious use of mineral fertilisers (containing phosphoric acid, potash, and lime) will enable the farmer to grow crops of legumes which, after being fed to his stock, will, with proper care to collect and preserve all manure, both liquid and solid, enable him to return a complete fertiliser in the shape of a barn-yard manure to his land. A further advantage of growing these crops is that the nitrogenous material, protein, which they contain in such great abundance, is especially valuable for fodder."

From the foregoing, it seems that, in the present condition of our knowledge, the conclusion may be drawn that the atmosphere stands ready to furnish the farmer, gratis, with all the organic constituents which his crops require, provided always that he, on his part, will exercise a sufficient amount of skill and intelligence in appropriating and retaining on his farm the fertilising materials, and especially the nitrogen. If he does this, all that is necessary for him to provide, in order to replace the losses which his farm sustains from the sale of stock or produce, are the inorganic or mineral constituents of these, and especially the phosphoric acid and potash. There is much in all this to remind one of Sprengel and Liebig's teaching of fifty years ago, according to which a plant cannot thrive if its soil does not contain all the substances which are to be found in its ash.

(To be continued.)

LITERARY NOTICES.

From the *Estates Gazette* Office, 6, St. Bride Street, E.C., has been issued a handbook on "The Valuation of Agricultural Tenant-Right," by G. S. Mitchell, F.S.I. In this work Mr. Mitchell, who is well qualified to speak on the subject, has brought together a large number of valuable notes intended for the use of students, and to them the work should prove an invaluable one. An idea of the style and usefulness of the work may be gathered from an extract given in another column, and entitled "Agricultural Tenants and Dilapidations."

The Cheshire County Council has now issued a report on the grain experiments carried out at its Agricultural and Horticultural School, Holmes Chapel, during the present year. The experiments were four in number, and the objects in view were: (1) To test a number of varieties for yield, character, and quality of grain; (2) to see which varieties produced the strongest and best standing straw, and the greatest yield; (3) to see which varieties were most liable to bunt and smut; and (4) to try the effects of pickling or steeping with sulphate of copper to prevent bunt and smut.

There has come to hand an advance copy of "A Practical Guide to Dairying," by William Smith, Edinburgh. It gives some sound advice on the principal things a dairyman ought to know, such as the breeding of cows for commercial purposes, and feeding for general dairy purposes; the buying and selling of milk; how to pasteurise and sterilise, how to make butter and cheese in both large and small quantities, and how to organise, build, and work a creamery; whilst there is some useful information for dairy pupils. The advice given may be fully relied upon, for Mr. Smith has gained a comprehensive knowledge of all branches of the dairy through a long connection with the dairy trade, and what he has written has been proved in his own experience. The book is nicely illustrated, there being about fifty photographs of dairy cattle, and of modern dairy machines. Messrs. Boakes and Co., Grange Printing Works, Edinburgh, are the publishers.

There has just been published in pamphlet form the lecture on the "Famine in India," delivered in the Natural History Lecture Theatre, Old University Buildings, Edinburgh, on the 18th inst., by Professor Robert Wallace. It is published at 1s. net by Messrs. Oliver and Boyd, Edinburgh, and Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., Ltd., London.

We have also received another pamphlet by Professor Wallace. This is entitled "The Garton Lectures on Colonial and Indian Agriculture in Edinburgh University," and has been reprinted from the "Imperial and Asiatic Quarterly Review and Oriental and Colonial Record" for October, 1900. This pamphlet is published by the Oriental Institute, Woking.

Messrs. Vinton and Co., Limited, 9, New Bridge Street, London, E.C., have lately published "Ponies Past and Present," by Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. This is just such another work as Sir Walter's book on horses, being very readable, and full of useful information. In it is given a number of facts concerning various breeds of ponies, such as the New Forest, Welsh, Exmoor, Cumberland, Shetland, and polo ponies. Sir Walter first gives a chapter on the origin of ponies, and then proceeds to deal in detail with each breed. The Welsh pony is the most numerous, and concerning him Sir Walter says: "Accustomed from earliest foalhood to the roughest ground, he is sure-footed as the goat, and neither punishment nor persuasion will induce him to venture upon unsafe bog. He has good shoulders, strong back, neat head, and most enduring legs and feet; he is, in short, a strong, sound, and useful animal."

England has the Exmoor and Dartmoor ponies, which belong to an old breed; the New Forest breed, of which over three thousand may be found in Hampshire; and the Cumberland and Westmoreland ponies. In Ireland there is the Connemara pony, which stands from 12 to 14 hands, and which run practically wild in mountainous country, but under the auspices of the Congested Districts Board, they are being improved by the introduction of Hackneys; whilst Scotland has her Shetland ponies. "Each," says Sir Walter, "stand upon a different footing to the other breeds. In him we have a pony whose characteristics are equally valuable to [illegible] animal, and as one in a state of domestication. It is the only one of our half-wild breeds which gains nothing from an infusion of alien blood; its [illegible] depends upon the careful preservation of distinctive peculiarities of size and make, which unfit them for all others for special purposes."

The concluding chapter is devoted to some advice on breeding polo ponies, and what is said on it, briefly summarised, is as follows: "Pony, with blood, speed, courage, and the many qualities essential to make a first-class polo pony are rare. They command fancy prices when trained, but it is only when trained and proved that they command high prices. The difficulty of producing a breed of polo ponies is due to the long-continued and persistent endeavour to increase the size of the thoroughbred, and to the fact that racehorses are bred for speed only, whereas speed is but one of the many qualities essential to the polo pony. To avoid this difficulty the sire chosen for the foundation stock should be a small and compact thoroughbred or an Arab, the dam used for foundation stock should be chosen from the best of our forest or moorland ponies. The tendency to undue increase in height should be counteracted in the individual by a free and natural life as far as climate permits, and in the breed by occasional further infusion of forest or moorland blood when necessary." The volume is octavo size, and consists of a little over one hundred pages, is nicely bound, and on the cover is a drawing in gilt of a shooting pony. It has a few illustrations that add to its attractiveness, and is altogether a work which will be read with interest and advantage by breeders and sportsmen.

We are in receipt of a copy of "The Wealth and Progress of New South Wales, 1898-9," forwarded to us by the Agent-General of the Colony, whose address is 9, Victoria Street, S.W. The volume, which was written by Mr. T. A. Coghlan, Statistician of New South Wales, is a bulky one, consisting of over a thousand pages, and it deals with every industry, also social questions, public and private finance, law and crime, education, constitution and government, etc., whilst at the beginning of the work there is an interesting historical sketch. It may be of some interest to our readers to know that in no branch of industry has the progress of the colony been more conspicuous than in agriculture. The breadth of land devoted to the plough was, in 1860, not much more than 246,000 acres, whereas at the present time Mr. Coghlan states it can hardly be less than 2,439,000 acres; or, including lands sown with European and American grasses, 261,000 acres in 1850, and 2,814,000 acres in 1900. The progress for each decennial period was: 1860, 260,798 acres; 1870, 426,976; 1880, 710,337; 1890, 1,241,419; and in 1900, 2,813,961 acres, the figures in each case including sown grasses. Wheat, of course, is the main crop of the colony. In 1860 there were 129,000 acres devoted to this seed, and as late as 1880 the area under cultivation was only 253,000 acres, which in 1900 had expanded to 1,425,000 acres.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

Nov.
2 and 3. Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association's Nantwich Cheese Show.
5. Meeting of the Farmers' Club. Paper for discussion, "Weeds and their Eradication."
6. Meeting of the Council of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture.
7 and 8. Sale of Horses, at Cheshire Repository, Crewe.
8. Sale of Mr. J. H. Shore's entire herd of Jerseys, at Whatley House, Frome, Somerset.
22, 23, and 24. Norfolk and Norwich Christmas Show Association, at Agricultural Hall, Norwich.
26 and 27. Tonbridge Fat Stock and Poultry Show.
27 and 28. Lord Tredegar's Agricultural and Poultry Show, at Newport, Mon.
27 and 28. Whitchurch Dairy Farmers' Association's Show, at Whitchurch, Salop.
29 and 30. Chippenham Agricultural Association's Show, at Chippenham, Wilts.

Gainsborough Autumn Fair.—The usual autumn cattle and sheep fair was held at Gainsborough on Wednesday. There was a large number of good quality beasts shown, while the sheep in numbers also showed an improvement. Trade, however, ruled slow, prices being rather high. Cross-bred hoggs made up to 39s., but some small long wools made as little as 26s. per head. The average price of lambs on the day was 34s. Fresh forward beasts were good to sell; two to three-year-olds made from £13 to £16 each; older beasts up to £18 10s.; young steers sold from £10 to £11. The horse fair, as usual, took place near the Pye Bridge, and attracted a large attendance of farmers and others interested in the trade. On the whole, the animals were of a rough class, but were more numerous than for many years. Trade was fairly good for Welsh ponies, £10 to £14 being obtained; [illegible] were priced from £13 to £22; yearlings were scarce; two-year-olds from £20 to £35; trappers about £15 to £20. The best horses found a ready sale.

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After a few weeks' feeding are in the **best condition,** and show **strength, highest working power,** and a **smooth** and **glossy coat.**

CATTLE. 8 lbs. per day.
SHEEP. 1½ lbs. per day.

Thrive quickly, and especially in the last period of fattening, take willingly to their food, and thus **become weeks sooner ready for the market.** The **meat is of best quality.**

PIGS. Per 100 lbs. of their own weight, from 1 lb. to 1½ lbs.

Eat Molassine greedily. The disagreeable smell of the Pig-Stye disappears, the **animals are in the best health.**

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After 8 to 10 days' feeding give more milk, richer in cream.

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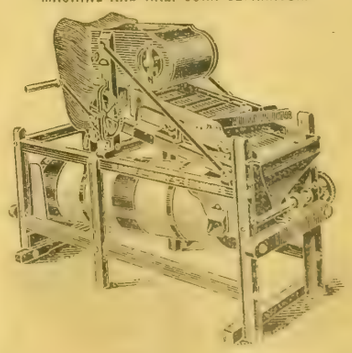

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WATERLOO MILLS CO., LIMITED, HULL.

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The

Mark Lane Express

and

Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXIII. No. 3606. LONDON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1900. THIRTY-TWO PAGES PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June, 1894.)

PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.

HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, ESQ., Beltring, Kent.

SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.

CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the COUNCIL of the CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE will be held (by permission of the Society of Arts) at the House of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, on Tuesday, November 6, 1900, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

Members of Council representing either the Central Chamber or Associated Chambers are requested to attend.

Subscribing Members of the Central Chamber are invited to be present, and may speak by permission of the Chairman, but are not entitled to move resolutions or to vote.

AGENDA.

To transact General Business.
To receive Communications.
To consider Alterations in the Laws and Bye-Laws proposed by the Business Committee.
To receive Reports of Committees (if any).
To receive "Statement of Legislation required in the Agricultural Interest," prepared by the Business and Parliamentary Committees in pursuance of Council's resolution of May 29th last.
To consider the following subjects:—
(1) The Report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation (if issued).
(2) Agricultural Insurance.

Associated Chambers and Clubs are requested to consider the above subjects, and to send up any resolutions which they may pass thereupon to the Secretary of the Central Chamber before the Meeting of the Business Committee, at 8 p.m. on Monday, November 5th, 1900. Suggestions of subjects for discussion at future Meetings of the Council should be forwarded at the same time.

ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary.

LINCOLNSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ALTERATION OF DAYS FOR BRING EXHIBITION.

The Exhibition of the Lincolnshire Society will be held at Brigg, on THURSDAY, FRIDAY, and SATURDAY, the 11TH, 12TH, and 13TH of JULY, 1901.

STEPHEN UPTON, Secretary.
St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln,
30th Oct., 1900.

SOCIETIES.

1900.
Life Member:
HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN
Patron:—
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
President for the Year 1900:
A. W. SOAMES, ESQ., M.P.

NORFOLK and NORWICH
TWENTY-FOURTH
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SHOW
OF
FAT CATTLE, SHEEP AND PIGS, FARM AND GARDEN PRODUCE, TABLE DECORATIONS, ETC.,
WILL BE HELD IN
THE AGRICULTURAL HALL, NORWICH,
ON THURSDAY, FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd, 23rd, AND 24th NEXT.
When Prizes to the value of about £700 will be offered.

The attention of Tenant Farmers farming under 100 acres, and not being members of the Association, is called to the Special Butter Prizes offered.

Attention is called to the Special Prizes offered by the Technical Education Committee of the Norfolk County Council, for Dairy Produce exhibited by Students who have attended a course of Dairy Lectures under the auspices of the County Council.

Prizes are offered to Cottagers and Holders of Allotments not exceeding 30 rods, for Garden Produce.

Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and all information can be obtained of the Secretary, CALEB BARKER, East Harling, Thetford; and on Saturdays at Bank Chambers, Norwich.

LORD TREDEGAR'S AGRICULTURAL AND POULTRY SHOWS.
(Open to all England without Subscription.)

Lord Tredegar has fixed the approaching Meeting for TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27 and 28.

The PRIZE LIST contains 59 regulated classes for CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, and HORSES, the prizes in which vary in value from £20 to £5.

POULTRY PRIZES to the value of £300 are also offered.

The Prize Lists, with Certificates for Entry and all particulars, may be had on application to

COLONEL JUSTICE,
Tredegar Estate Office, Newport, Mon.

N.B.—Entries close 14th November for Cattle, Sheep, Horses, and Pigs; for Poultry and Pigeons, 7th November.

SUFFOLK FAT CATTLE CLUB.

PRESIDENT:
JAMES EDWARD RANSOME, ESQ.

IPSWICH SHOW,
DECEMBER 17TH AND 18TH.
Entries close November 14th.
Post entries, double fees, November 26th.

Prize lists and forms for stand-holders to be had on application to
ROBERT BOND, Secretary.
Offices, Old Bank House, Ipswich.

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Electric Lighting Rules supplied.
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GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

The Directors of this Company are prepared to receive TENDERS for the supply of:—
2,500 Quarters of OATS.
1,300 " " BEANS.
2,000 " " MAIZE.
450 Tons of HAY—Upland Meadow.
450 " " HAY—Broad leaf Clover and Rye Grass.
100 " " Wheat Straw.
100 " " Straw for Packing.
140 " " Bran.

Forms of Tender (upon which alone Tenders will be received) may be obtained on application to the undersigned, by whom Tenders, marked outside "Tender for Provender," will be received on or before Tuesday, the 13th instant.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

G. K. MILLS, Sec.
Paddington Station, London,
1st November, 1900.

AUCTION SALES.

IPSWICH.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SALE OF SHORTHORN BULLS.

TUESDAY NEXT, NOVEMBER 6TH, AT 12.30 P.M.

ROBERT BOND and SONS will SELL by AUCTION, at their SALE YARD,
30 GRAND YOUNG SHORTHORN BULLS, from 10 to 18 months old, mostly roans, with plenty of hair and bone, bred in the best Shorthorn Districts of Cumberland and Westmoreland, noted for their milking strain.

Catalogues on application.
Auctioneers' Offices: Old Bank House, Ipswich.

AUCTION SALES.

ROTHERHITHE, within about three-quarters of a mile of the Tower Bridge, near the entrance to the proposed new Rotherhithe and Ratcliff Tunnel and the Surrey Commercial Docks.—Very extensive Freehold Riverside Premises and Steam Flour Mills, fitted with valuable modern plant and machinery on the roller system, with granaries, warehouses, engine and boiler houses, dwelling-houses, yards, stabling, etc., now and for many years past in the occupation of Messrs. J. B. and T. H. Perks, and for sale, in its entirety, with possession on completion of the purchase. The property possesses the important frontage to the Thames of about 96ft. 6in., with wharfage and lay-by for barges, frontages of about 98ft. 9in. on the north side, and 109ft. on the south side of Rotherhithe-street, also a long side frontage to Gilham's-court, the total ground area being about 18,000 square feet, exclusive of the site of the old mill stream, which extends to Paradise Street in the rear, and has an area of about 7,400ft. super. The property, from its considerable river frontage, situation, and extent, would also be suitable for wharfingers, timber merchants, large manufacturing premises, electric engineering works or other purposes.—Messrs.

DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER, and BRIDGEWATER will SELL, at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, London, on Tuesday, November 27, at 2, in one lot, with possession, the exceedingly important FREEHOLD PROPERTY known as Rotherhithe Mill, and 9, 11, and 13, Rotherhithe-street, together with the whole of the valuable fixed plant and machinery. The premises comprise on the north side of Rotherhithe-street and abutting upon the River Thames a range of three two-storey granaries, all communicating, and dwelling-house adjoining; on the south side of Rotherhithe-street an open courtyard, with double entrance gates, extensive mill-house of five floors, with all necessary rolling and other machinery, gearing and accessories, engine and boiler houses, with 25-horse power beam engine and two horizontal boilers, tall chimney shaft, mill stores, yards, stabling for thirteen horses, coach-houses, large van shed, harness room, man's rooms, and loft, a dwelling-house, No. 26, Gilham's-court, piece of vacant ground adjoining, also the old mill stream and water course from the River Thames. The mill premises communicate with the waterside granaries by an iron bridge over Rotherhithe-street.

Particulars of Messrs. HARRIES, WILKINSON, and RAIKES, Solicitors, 38, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, London; and of the Auctioneers, No. 80, Cheapside, London.

AT SHREWSBURY.

ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH.

LARGEST CATTLE AUCTIONS IN ENGLAND.
(On Live Weight System.)

1,050 Cattle,
300 Sheep.

This great Sale will include many grand lots of forward-conditioned Cattle suitable for feeding, and Store Stock for wintering, consigned for absolute sale.

Choice lots of Cumberland Shorthorns, Blue-Greys, and large consignments of well-bred Scotch and Irish Angus, Polls and Shorthorns as also some grand Hereford Bullocks and Heifers will be included.

Every assistance to buyers. Commissions to buy faithfully executed.

Sheep at 11; Cattle, 11.30.
Numbers at last Sale 1,031.

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AUCTIONEERS, SHREWSBURY.

REGISTER OF BRITISH LIVE STOCK BREEDERS.

HORSES.

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MOORE, HENRY, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. — Pedigree Stud of HACKNEYS, including many prize-winners; yearlings, two years, and others.—Can be seen on application to Henry Moore.

HACKNEYS.—JOHN N. ANTHONY, Sedgeford, near Lynn, Norfolk, breeder of Pedigree Hackneys. On hand, Colts and Fillies by most of the leading sires.

LLOYD, WALTER, Heaselands, Hayward's Heath, Sussex.—Small but select Stud of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS, Mares, Fillies, and Colts of best blood, including stock by Champion Ganymede, Agility, Winnal Fireaway, Model II., and other noted Stallions, at moderate prices. Appointments to view the stud (which is 1½ miles from Hayward's Heath Station, L.B. and S.C. Railway), on application to the owner, as above.

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MUNTZ, P. ALBERT, M.P., Dunsmore, Rugby. — SHIRE-BRED STALLIONS, COLTS, MARES, and FILLIES. About a hundred of all ages. Prize-winners London and other leading shows. Also high-class Shropshire SHEEP, winners first prize at Royal Agricultural, 1886, second in 1887, and first in 1888.—Apply, THOMAS EWART, Dunsmore Farm, Rugby.

CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some gold Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

TAUNTON, H. PERCY, Redlynch, near Salisbury, Wiltshire. Shire-bred STALLIONS MARES, FILLIES, and GELDINGS of the most fashionable breeding always for sale at moderate prices. The animals are kept entirely out of doors and in natural condition.

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THE LARGEST STUD of SELECTED WELSH PONIES IN WALES.—Dinarth Hall Pony Stud Farm, Colwyn Bay, North Wales. Over 120 Ponies now on hand, including forty Brood Mares of the pure Welsh type, and several high-class Ponies, great goers, with style and action. 150 prizes won in 1898 and 1899. Ponies purchased from this Stud have won first prizes at Manchester, Birmingham, and Maidstone Royal Shows; also first and medal Crystal Palace, 1899. Sale in 1899 included two Entire Ponies purchased by the Government for Cyprus, several to America and France. Stud Horse JULIUS CÆSAR II. 5666, sire of first prize two-year-old pony filly, the first of his produce exhibited, London Hackney Show, 1900.

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MONTEFIORE, Rev. D. B., Mursley, Winslow, Bucks.—Prize PONIES always FOR SALE. Arab Polo Pony Stallion "Mootrub" (32), winner of a championship, silver medals, and many prizes. Particulars on application.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

DALMENY PARK SHORTHORN HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

LANGFORD HOUSE ESTATE HERD of pure and highly-bred SHORTHORN CATTLE, the property of Mr. Sidney Hill, J.P. All bred from the best and leading herds in the Kingdom. Sires now in service: Wiltshire Victor, 71,883 (roan), by Count Victor, 66,877. Puck, 73,333 (roan), by Alto, 68,147. Count Valiant, 74,307 (roan), by Count Arthur, 70,194. Langford Lavender, 74,819 (roan), by Wiltshire Victor, 71,883. Bulls and heifers always on sale, also registered flock of Southdown sheep. Inspection invited. Telegrams, Langford Station, Congresbury, G.W.R. Particulars from J. D LOVELESS, Estate Office, Langford, Bristol.

GARNE, R. & W. T., Aldsworth, Northleach, Glos., breed SHORTHORN CATTLE of great size, thick flesh, good milkers. Young Bulls and Heifers on sale. Stock Bulls: Wrestler, 66,582, Lord Harry, 65,180, and Now or Never, 67,544. Inspection invited.

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SALTMARSHE CASTLE ESTATES, HEREFORDSHIRE, Prize winning pure bred HEREFORD CATTLE. Champion Happy Hampton in service. Inspection invited. Good selection for sale.— Apply, J. W. MILLYARD, Estate Office, Littlebridge, Bromyard.

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BOWERMAN, ALFRED, Capton, Williton, Taunton, breeder of pure breed Devon cattle. Breeding animals always on sale; some are prize-taker others deep flesh, good form animals of the best milking strains and beef producers.

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PURE-BRED Pedigree West Highland CATTLE.—A few Bulls, Cows, and Heifers from the Dullerton Herd for Sale. —Apply to Major-General BOND, Dullerton, Londonderry

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

DALMENY PARK ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD, the property of the Earl of Rosebery, K.G. Bulls and Heifers of the choicest breeding always for sale at moderate prices.—Apply, MANAGER, Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

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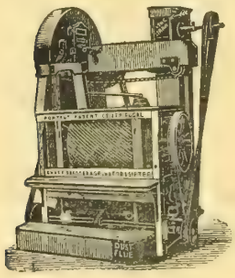

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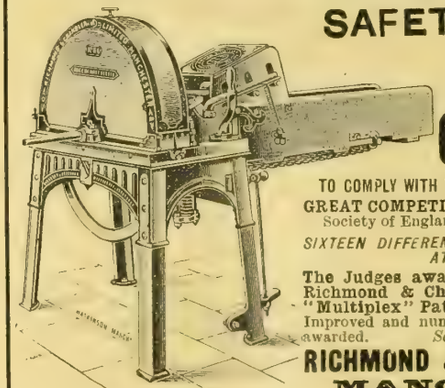

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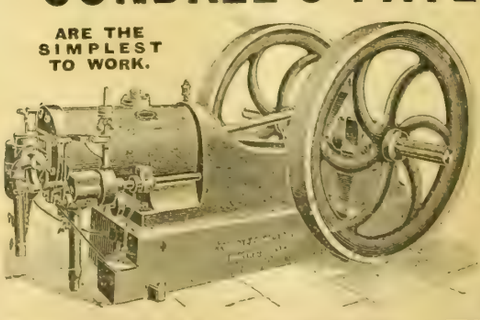

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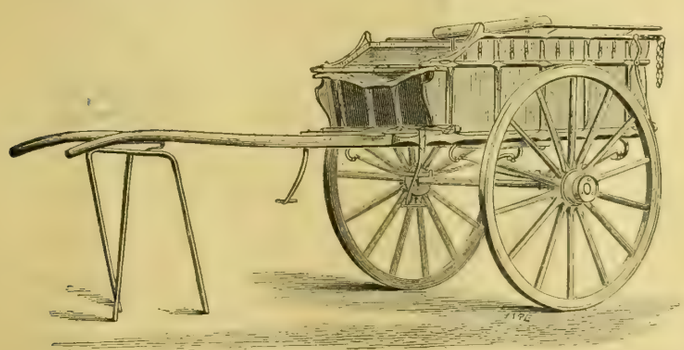

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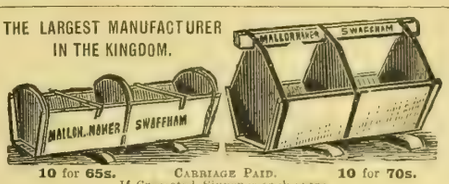

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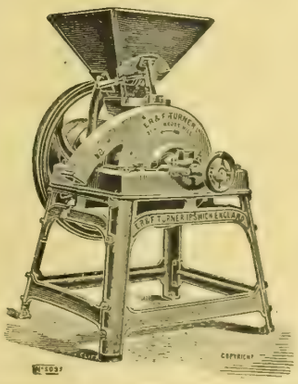

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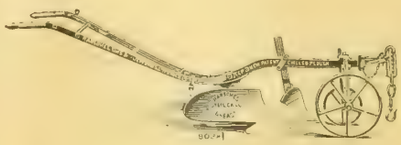

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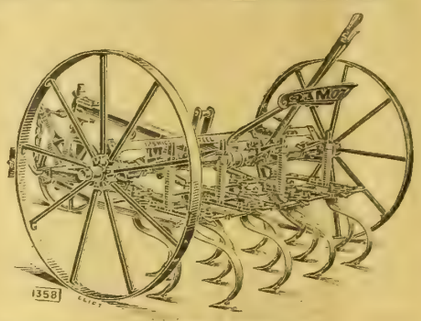

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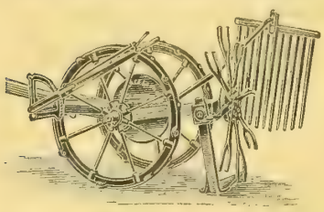

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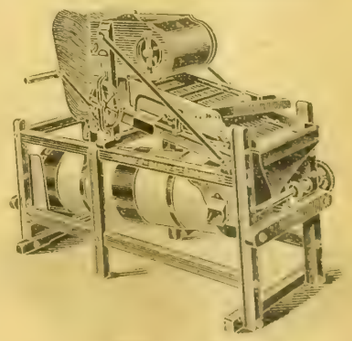

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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

OUGHT COAL EXPORTATION TO BE PROHIBITED?

The Manchester Chamber of Commerce is about to take into consideration this important question. Last Wednesday at the usual quarterly meeting the President, Mr. Thompson, reported that a proposal made by Mr. Harwood, the member for Bolton, dealing with it, was not put on the agenda for discussion because the directors were of opinion that they ought to have much more information than they at present possessed as to the magnitude or diminished supply of coal according to the estimates of the best authorities before taking action. The motion was to the effect that an export duty ought to be imposed on coal, on the ground that it is a product urgently required by the nation to be utilised at home. The consideration of the question was therefore adjourned, but will be fully discussed at the next meeting, if meantime the board can obtain satisfactory facts on the all-important point stated.

This is a matter vitally affecting the interests of agriculturists, as well as those of the manufacturers of Lancashire. In fact, it is one which more or less concerns everybody, although, of course, those who use steam engines suffer most in a pecuniary point of view, when coal is so abnormally dear as it has been since last winter. During the whole of the past half century the great part of the farmer's corn has been thrashed by steam-driven machines. The flail was thrown aside in numerous cases for the horse and hand-worked machines in the forties, but the greater economy of thrashing by steam thoroughly asserted itself in the fifties, since when the marvellously artistic combined machines have come extensively into use on all the larger farms, which not only thrash but winnow and grade the grain, consign it to sacks which ring a bell for removal when filled to a given weight, and, if requisite, deal with the straw likewise, by chaffing it.

This is only one example of the omnipotence of the steam engine on the farm. The cultivation of the soil itself is not, it is true, carried on so extensively by the agency of steam as the advanced agriculturists of the sixties and seventies desired, but there are still large acreages in many parts of the kingdom where it prevails, and the dearness of coal is felt to be a harassing, fresh impost bearing on the farmer's already too heavily weighted circumstances. Indeed, we have heard of cases where farmers having steam tackle of their own, ready for action, have this year allowed it to remain idle, through dread of the magnitude of the coal bill. At numerous farm homesteads the preparation of food for stock, and the performance of well-nigh all other important work, has long been rendered easy by putting the steam engine in action. But if the high rates now demanded for coal are at all likely to remain permanent, vapour power engines will have to be substituted for steam engines, or horse gear wheels will once more come into fashion; the misfortune being that all such important changes involve heavy expenditure, which few farmers in the present depressed times can afford to make.

The information which the directors of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce are desirous of acquiring is therefore precisely what farmers would like to know: Is the scarcity and dearness of coal due to the natural falling off of supply, or to the artificial rings and combinations of pit-owners and merchants? We trust that it will be found to be largely due to the scheming machinations of the latter, in which case the chief difficulty to be grappled with seems to be whether some means cannot be devised to prevent these severe privations and sufferings of the public at large being permitted for their special aggrandisement.

Should the result of inquiry prove that the coal supply is in reality failing the Legislature ought at once to be appealed to, that action may be promptly taken either to impose an export duty on coal, or to prohibit altogether parting with to foreigners a commodity we want so badly. Probably it will be fresh in remembrance that Mr. T. Duckham, the veteran ex-M.P. for Herefordshire, some months ago proposed the latter alternative, and his letter, which had extensive circulation, contained figures showing how enormous the exports of coal have become both direct and indirect, large quantities going into foreign ships at the coaling stations. Seemingly the adoption even of the latter stringent measure should not be

refrained from if there is the slightest danger of present coal-bearing veins being worked out in the century. If there is no danger of that kind the plea may still be raised and be held to be a perfectly legitimate one, that we cannot afford to allow the vast volume of export to swell still bigger unchecked, and that while an impost on foreign purchases will be the best check, it would at the same time add to the National coffers and prevent home taxation.

"Oh," but it is said, "this would be against the principles of free trade." Most assuredly it would if by free trade is meant universal licence to traffic in anything and everything, which we are very far from permitting at present. The true way to look at the matter is, Would a starving man, having as yet a loaf of bread in his cupboard, part with half of it to another who would buy it, or even if he were not starving, but knew that his supply of bread was becoming limited or uncertain, would he not scrupulously keep for himself the little remaining regardless of sentiment or the violation of a political Shibboleth? Coal is almost as necessary a commodity as bread itself, and a coal famine would prove a disaster for the British nation such as we dread to contemplate.

May we not depend, then, on our Central Chamber of Agriculture co-operating with the Manchester Chamber of Commerce in dealing with this matter? No more important one, even in the interests of the farming community, could possibly be considered. There was very intimate co-operation between Chambers of Commerce and those of Agriculture a few years since in opposing the unnatural rates sought to be imposed by the railway companies. Let there be now similar united action in defeating the monopolists and rings if it be their nefarious handiwork that we suffer from. But if there should be real danger of a falling off in a commodity so much wanted, let town and country join hands in ceaseless agitation until the Government adopt Mr. Harwood's proposition.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

The Money Lenders Act, passed by the late Government, came into force on Thursday. This Act restores the practice of the Courts of Equity to give relief against money-lending bargains that are shown to be unconscionable. Its working will be watched with incessant interest, because every bargain must be judged by its own circumstances. That power to reopen transactions and determine what is fairly due in respect of principal, interest, and charges is combined with penal provisions of which the necessity might not have been seen but for the fertile ingenuity of the late Isaac Gordon. Every money-lender is to register his trade name and all his addresses, is not to carry on business otherwise than as he is registered, and if he offends is liable to a fine of £100 for the first offence, and another fine with three months' imprisonment for the second.

A borrower, too, is given the right to obtain a copy of any document relating to his transactions on payment of reasonable expenses. Fraudulent misrepresentation—dishonest concealment of material facts, or the holding out of false inducements by any money-lender or his agent—is now a misdemeanour, and renders the offender liable to imprisonment for two years, with or without hard labour, or a fine not exceeding £500, or to both.

A deputation representative of local authorities in Kent and Sussex waited upon the directors of the South-Eastern and Chatham Railway on Wednesday, and called their attention to what they described as the unsatisfactory character of the company's passenger and goods services. Mr. Cosmo Bonsor, Chairman of the Joint Managing Committee, agreed that the deputation had stated a strong case, but pointed out that the company had been making efforts to remedy the grievances of which they complained. They had ordered large quantities of rolling stock and a number of locomotives at a cost of more than a million sterling. The war, however, had delayed the output, the contractors having first to do the work of the Government. The directors were doing their best, and he firmly believed that in a reasonable time they would bring about an improved condition of things. Mr. J. S. Forbes also replied, explaining the difficulties with which the directors have to contend.

The *Statist*, in discussing Argentina affairs, says that the floods in that republic chiefly affect the southern part of the province of Buenos Ayres—that is, the region served by the Buenos Ayres Great Southern Railway Company—and the falling off in the traffic of that company shows how serious has been the damage done. Of course, a good deal of the loss of traffic really is not loss in the strict sense of the word, but is merely a postponement of traffic that will have to be marketed by and by. The country being inundated it is impossible to carry the goods; and where those goods have not been spoiled they will be sent to market when the occasion serves. The district is practically pastoral. Therefore the crops are nearly a negligible quantity; and although, doubtless, there has been a good deal of loss both in the case of sheep and of cattle, still sheep and cattle can be driven away, and therefore the losses now occurring will be made good by and by.

Our contemporary adds that "it is curious to find that while the falling off in earnings is so great in the case of the two Buenos Ayres railways, there is an actual increase in the case of the Rosario Company. The wheat and the maize crops are promising well. There is no talk, as yet at all events, of locusts, and the pastoral industry is likewise beginning to improve. It has suffered undoubtedly from disease and from the prohibition of importing live cattle into this country. But the dead meat industry is growing rapidly."

On the other hand, the *Economist* takes a somewhat modified view of the position in the Argentine. It remarks first that the gold market is slowly but steadily yielding to the unusually promising aspect of the immediate agricultural future, as the wheat and flax crops promise the largest yield on record in this country. There are many experts, however, who consider that both the crops in question are much too far grown for the season, and unlikely—at least, the wheat—to prove of as good quality as last year's crop. It is feared that the wool clip—the backbone of the country—will be very short, and of inferior quality this year, and if it should prove so, the increased production of cereals will go but a short way towards filling the void created by a short and inferior wool clip."

According to the monthly Indian tea crop report the out-turn last month was good in Assam normal in Cachar, the Duars, and Terai, and poor in Sylhet. In Assam and Sylhet immediate prospects are fair, while in Cachar, the Duars, and Terai they are bad. In Darjeeling the season is practically closed. In all the districts cold weather has generally set in.

News from Queensland is unfavourable, according to the *Statist*. No rain has fallen for many months, and grievous accounts are being received of the damage done. "At the same time the injury is not universal, for we hear of some extraordinary cases, even in the districts which are reported to have suffered most, where there has been no extraordinary mortality amongst sheep, and where, indeed, in many cases sheep have been fattened and sold at good prices. In the north of New South Wales there are also complaints that more rain is wanted. But in the southern half the season is excellent, and people are looking forward much more hopefully. The important thing is that the drought has now come to an end everywhere except in Queensland and northern New South Wales, and that even in the latter district there have been good rains." Now that there is a revival of confidence, that trade is very much better, that the seasons are fairly good, and that confederation is effected, we may hope for a strengthening of credit and a gradual increase of prosperity.

Movements in the prices of the articles produced in our principal centres of industry are of considerable interest just now, since they afford a fairly accurate indication of the course of trade. There has been a very appreciable setback in the average level of prices during the past month, and from the directions in which the decline has manifested itself there can no longer be any doubt as to the slackening of activity in some important branches of our national industries.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to October 27th, 1900, were £58 610,199 against £57,492,946 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £103,932,700 against £64,333.854 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on October 27th, 1900, amounted to £2,406,345, and at the same date in 1899 to £3,048,985.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

It is certainly not difficult to comprehend the thought which induced the newspaper quidnuncs, speaking with no authority whatever, to declare that Mr. Walter Long would be sent to the Irish Office as Chief Secretary. The most important work connected in the near future with the Irish Office will be the development of the agricultural department, and the initiation of a career of usefulness on sane and diplomatic lines. Mr. H. Plunkett being removed from the House of Commons by electoral defeat, what better man—so argued these quidnuncs—could undertake the work than Mr. Long, a politician who had revealed a practical comprehension of agricultural necessities?

Besides, Lady Doreen Long comes of a family which has given to Ireland some of its best landlords; and, moreover, she possesses that delightful insouciance and bright vivacity which never fail to charm and even fascinate the Celt. On the whole, indeed, it was not a bad guess. Had the story only been true, the first two appointments which Lord Salisbury made would have been of Wiltshire men.

It is a singular fact that the denudation of our village life should have, while seemingly a matter of unimportance to the villages themselves, suddenly thrust itself as a matter of strident importance into urban municipal politics. It was the famous Dr. Guthrie who spoke of our great towns as beacons of liberty in the path of national progress. Shall we yet have to acclaim the towns as the saviours of the villages, and the saviours in spite of the villages themselves?

Now, during the municipal contest in London one of the questions discussed with keenest anxiety was how to prevent the continual flow of the tide of human life into the metropolis—a tide which has no ebb, and which in its unceasing regularity is embittering the conditions of life, is emphasising the poverty of the poorer districts, and is accentuating with a tragic significance the grave question of how to house the poor.

To Lord Rosebery rather than Mr. Chaplin—the honesty of whose intention I, however, frankly confess—must we attribute the practical significance which has been given to this question. The Lord of Dalmeny may not altogether echo the opinion of that sage philosopher Mr. Frederic Harrison, that the population of the economically-perfect city should never exceed two millions; but at least he does perceive that unless some steps be taken to relieve the terrible congestion of life in the British metropolis we shall have created for the future a grave social and domestic danger.

So serious is this matter, indeed, that it is the duty of our statesmen to suggest not mere palliatives, mere anodynes, after the manner of Mr. Chaplin, but panaceas. The worst of Lord Rosebery's methods is that he only points to the danger without suggesting the remedy. He is, in fact, a pessimist rather than a statesman.

Of course, the question, so far as the London municipal elections are concerned, has been

not as to how the denudation of the villages can be arrested, but as to how, while damning the tide of oncoming people, a continual outflow from the metropolis can be created. The London politician has, for instance, placed a fascinated vision upon the wide reaches of Essex, which he regards as calculated to yield a health-giving home to migrating Cockneys.

However, the principle, once adopted, cannot be limited in its application. If once you, for the sake of the social sanity of town life, proceed to devise means for a systematic migration to the villages, you will soon proceed to devise means for the retention of villagers in the villages. The one is the inevitable corollary of the other. Hence the importance which the question has suddenly attained in municipal politics is an incident which is full of hope. It is, in a word, a portent. Mr. Rider Haggard would, I am thus persuaded, do well to encourage this departure on the part of the town politician.

If Lord Rosebery ever again secure the reins of power he will—and I am speaking with some authority on this matter—direct a clear attention to the housing of the poor, not merely in the towns, but in the villages. In this connection he, I know, regards Mr. Chaplin's proposals as hopelessly inefficient. The conditions under which housing accommodation could only be provided under the scheme of the late Government would, in his view, prevent any serious good resulting from it. In Lord Rosebery's opinion the villager who is driven from his situation, perhaps from the place of his birth—and there is not a county in England in which incidents of this kind are not being continually reproduced—because of his inability to secure a home at a fair and honest rent, is the victim of a circumstance which is a disgrace to the State and to its civilisation.

The careful politician may already perceive in any attempt to remedy this evil a serious growth of the rates. This is a suspicion which may prove unfounded. The provision of houses under the communal system may prove a good investment. At all events, the tide of migration—a migration due originally to the alluring attractions of the great towns—ought not to be malevolently increased by a refusal to provide proper sanitary cottages. This, I repeat, is Lord Rosebery's view. But is his lordship also disposed to continue posing as a political Laodician, as a man never anxious for the responsibility which comes with authority?

By whom will the taxes rendered inevitable by the war be borne? This is a question which will soon become of serious political moment, and, particularly, to the farmers. Already the brewers have placed themselves into a defensive attitude. Why should not the farmers? I can tell the agricultural leaders that suggestions are being made of an alteration in the application of the income tax which would mean a serious financial infliction upon rural cultivators. There are limits, for instance, at what is described as the "unwisdom" of permitting certain abatements. It may be that the authors of these suggestions are not men of position in the world of statecraft. It would, however, be a mistake to altogether neglect them. A whisper sometimes compels attention by its pertinacity.

THE DAIRY.

Preston Cheese Fair.

This monthly cheese fair was held on Tuesday. There was a good attendance, and an unusually large supply of cheese, the market being flooded with produce that had been held in the anticipation of realising higher rates. The pitch consisted of 125 lots, comprising 2,024 cheeses, an increase of 53 lots and 811 cheeses, compared with the corresponding fair last year. The demand was slow at prices showing a decline of 2s. 6d. on those obtained last month. Quotations:—Common, 50s. to 55s.: medium, 57s. 6d. to 60s.; best, 65s. to 72s.

Suicide of Two Hampshire Farmers.—Two well-known Hampshire farmers have hanged themselves within the past few days—Mr. John Freeman Sheppard, of Swaythling, and Mr. William Bowden, of West Tytherley. A verdict of "Suicide during temporary insanity" was returned in each case.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

The National Diploma of Agriculture.

The National Agricultural Examination Board, which is appointed by the Royal and Highland Societies, has issued the regulations and syllabus of the 1901 examination for the National Diploma in the science and practice of agriculture. The examination will take place in the Great Hall of the Yorkshire College, Leeds, on Monday, May 6th, 1901, and five following days. It has to be taken in two parts, the first comprising mensuration and land surveying, agricultural botany, general chemistry, geology, and agricultural entomology; and the second practical agriculture, agricultural book keeping, agricultural chemistry, agricultural engineering, and veterinary science.

A candidate will not be entitled to take both parts of the examination at one time. A year at least must elapse between the passing of the first part and sitting for the second part; and the second part must, except with the special permission of the Board, be taken within two years of the passing of the first part. A deposit of £1 will be required from each candidate for each part of the examination. This deposit will be returned only to those who at the first attempt obtain pass marks in all the subjects included in that part. The Board may at their discretion allow an unsuccessful candidate to sit for one subsequent examination in the same part without payment of a further deposit.

Forms of application for permission to sit at the examination and also copies of the syllabus may be obtained from either Sir Ernest Clarke, Secretary, Royal Agricultural Society of England, 13, Hanover Square, London, W., or Mr. James Macdonald, Secretary Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, 5, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh.

Experiments on Spraying Charlock in North Wales.

The Agricultural Department of the University College of North Wales has now issued a report (written by Professor Winter) on the experiments on spraying charlock in corn carried out this year. The experiments were conducted at the following three centres in Carnarvonshire: Penrhyn Home Farm, Bangor, Right Hon. Lord Penrhyn; Lonisa, Llandegai, Bangor, Messrs. O. and J. Williams; and Henfaes, Aber, Mr. John Griffith; and the plan of the experiment was as follows: Plot I., 50 gallons of a 2 per cent. solution of sulphate of copper per acre; Plot II., 50 gallons of a 3 per cent. solution of sulphate of copper per acre; Plot III., 25 gallons of a 4 per cent. solution of sulphate of copper per acre. The plots were each one-eighth of an acre in size, and the dressings were applied by means of Strawson's Twinspray machine. Sulphate of iron was not used in 1900, as it utterly failed to produce any result in 1899. The spraying was carried out by two members of the College staff, and each centre was visited at intervals on three different occasions.

Professor Winter's remarks on the various plots are given below:—

Penrhyn Home Farm.

When the plots were sprayed on May 23rd the charlock plants were vigorous and thick upon the ground, but none of them were in bloom. On May 29th the corn (oats) was considerably tinged on all the plots, but the charlock was only partially affected. On June 6th the corn had recovered and looked even better than on the surrounding parts of the field. There was a fall of rain on the evening of May 23rd which, it was thought, might have affected the action of the copper sulphate, so one-half of each plot was redressed on May 31st with a 1 per cent. solution of sulphate of copper at the rate of 50 gallons per acre. On the subsequent visits it was noticed that this second dressing had succeeded in checking the growth of charlock to a considerable extent, although the plants were far from being entirely destroyed. The other portions of the plots were not much affected, Plot III. being the least satisfactory.

Lonisa.

At this centre the plots were sprayed on June 1st. The weather was fine, and remained so for a considerable time. The charlock was very thick on all the plots, but the plants, a few of which were in bloom, were not very strong. The dressings had a considerable effect on all the plots, Plots I. and II., which received 50 gallons per acre, showing the best results. On these about 60 per cent. of the charlock was destroyed, and a large number of the plants which remained were stunted and less vigorous than those which had not been sprayed. The leaves of the corn (barley) were considerably damaged at the time of spraying, particularly on Plots I. and II., and did not recover for about four weeks.

Henfaes.

The solutions were applied on May 25rd. The charlock plants were not so thick on the ground as at the other centres, but there were a large number of plants of the smooth-leaved wild turnip (*Brassica campestris*). Some of them were in bloom. When visited on May 29th, the true charlock was considerably damaged, particularly on Plot II., least of all on Plot III. The leaves of the wild turnip were only slightly tinged, and the spraying did not appear to have checked its growth. On June 20th, when the plots were again visited, very few true charlock plants could be found on Plots I. and II., and several of these appeared to have come up after the spraying was done. The old plants, which had not been destroyed, appeared weak and stunted and not likely to produce much seed. On Plot III. the charlock appeared to have quite recovered from the effects of the dressings, which apparently had been of little use. The barley was much damaged at the time of spraying, but it recovered, and in a little while looked as well as the crop on the adjoining land.

Conclusions.

It cannot be claimed that any one of the dressings was entirely successful, for all failed to destroy the charlock. On Plots I. and II., which received 50 gallons per acre of a 2 per cent. and of a 3 per cent. solution respectively of sulphate of copper, the dressings destroyed a large proportion of the weed, possibly about 60 per cent. of it, at two of the centres, and checked the growth of the remainder. The 3 per cent. solution being most effective. The poor results obtained on Plot III. show that even when a strong solution is used, it must be applied in greater quantity than 25 gallons per acre, if it is to be successful. The results were on the whole rather disappointing. Although the conditions were very favourable at two of the centres, the dressings were only partially effective. In 1899, 50 gallons of a 2 per cent. solution of sulphate of copper gave the best results, but only succeeded in destroying part of the charlock. In 1900, the results were very similar. Where the wild turnip occurred, the results were also the same as in 1899, further tending to prove that the charlock plants are attacked because the dressings adhere to their rough leaves, while the smooth-leaved plants are but little affected. The corn at the different centres was discoloured more than was the case last year, but at no centre did the crop appear to ultimately suffer. The grass and clover seeds growing in the corn at two of the centres were also unaffected by the dressings, indeed at one place they appeared to have been improved. Although the results have not been so favourable as some obtained elsewhere, they yet show that the operation is one which will do much more than repay the outlay, and justify the belief that if the spraying be carried out for a number of years the charlock will ultimately be got rid of.

A "Cattle King" Sent to Prison.—Arthur Horsley, a fireman, was sentenced to eighteen calendar months' hard labour at the Suffolk Quarter Sessions, Bury St. Edmunds, on the 23rd ult., for obtaining money, etc., by false pretences at Moulton, near Newmarket. The prisoner passed himself off as a "cattle king," and was driven round to see sheep flocks. He promised marriage to a young lady, whose father gave up his situation on the promise of one pound per week from the prospective son-in-law, and also promised to make an employé at the Jockey Club steward on his estate.

Adulterated Milk and Butter Cases.—At the Thames Police Court, on the 26th ult., John Wildin, 67, Woodgrange Road, Forest Gate, was charged with selling milk adulterated with 21 per cent. of added water. Mr. Milner Jutsam prosecuted on behalf of Mile End Vestry. On Sept. 24th Mr. Cox, sanitary inspector, purchased a sample of milk at defendant's shop, 222, Bow Common Lane, and on being analysed it was found to be adulterated as stated above. Defendant said he sold the milk as he purchased it, and he had a warranty. Mr. Jutsam pointed out that the warranty was dated 29th September, whereas the sample was purchased on the 24th. Mr. Dickenson, having heard defendant had already been convicted under the Adulteration Act, imposed a penalty of £10 and 25s. cost. On the same day, at the North London Police Court, Mr. Bramall, solicitor to the Islington Vestry, prosecuted in several cases under the Foods and Drugs Acts. The following were the principal convictions:—David Jones, of Benwell Road, Highbury, for exposing margarine for sale without the printed label, fined £10, with 12s. 6d. costs.—Sidney Charles Hopkins, of Fonthill Road, Holloway, for selling as butter a substance containing less than 80 per cent. of butter fat, was fined £5, with 12s. 6d. costs.—Frederick Johns, of Shepperton Road, who was charged with a like offence, said that the business was not his, but his sister-in-law's. Mr. Fordham said the defence failed, and he imposed a fine of £10, with 12s. 6d. costs. Mr. Fordham said that it was a very bad offence to cheat poor people in articles of food, but it seemed very difficult to stop the practice.

First-class representatives [illegible] at the United Kingdom [illegible] Messrs. [illegible] Wine [illegible] to the "Messenger" Office, Ltd., 3, Mark Lane, London, E.C.—ADVT.

By Lupulin.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

Not much change is observable in the position of affairs in this market. A steady demand continues for exportation, principally for Continental consumption, and at the same time local consumers are operating rather more freely, so that values are well maintained and the general tone of the trade is healthy and strong. The tendency is, therefore, rather in favour of sellers, and as supplies are falling off to some extent, it appears more than probable that quotations will be raised as the season advances.

Munich.

Although the arrivals of the past week have exceeded the sales, and the stocks in hand are therefore increased, holders show no disposition to force business, but are firm at recently current quotations. The prices now being asked are approximately as follows:—Holledaus of good quality, 145s. to 148s.; Franconians, medium, 150s.; Spalt and Kinding, 165s. to 170s.; Badens and Wurtembergs, 135s. to 140s.; Saaz, 185s.; Auschas, 175s.; Styrians, 165s.

France.

In the Department du Nord, the chief hop growing district, business continues to be lively, the demand being in excess of the supply. Prices have, therefore, moved upward, present quotations being firm at 120 francs (nearly 100s.) per cwt. In Burgundy activity prevails, but business is limited by the small parcels on offer, which sell freely at 110 to 120 francs.

The second hop fair of the season was held at Dijon, October 20th, when there were a large number of transactions at advanced rates. Planters were generally indisposed to sell, and those who are holding their growths are now demanding 125 francs.

French imports of hops for the first nine months of this year show a substantial increase upon the corresponding periods of 1899 and 1898, the exports of native growth also somewhat exceeding those of last year. The consumption of hops in France increases annually in proportion to the growing taste of the town populations for beer, and there is a prospect that eventually the hop trade in that country will become important.

Belgium.

A large amount of business has recently been done in the country districts of Alost and Poperinghe at improved prices. Buyers are offering, but can hardly induce growers to accept, 100 francs. Comparatively small quantities now remain in first hands, it being estimated that four-fifths of the crop has been disposed of. The speculation market at Brussels is equally animated and firm, with a distinct tendency towards higher values, both for present and future deliveries. It is a singular fact that only in Belgium are hops dealt with in this speculative manner, a large business being done in "futures," after the fashion usually adopted on the various Stock Exchanges. I do not refer to it as an example worthy of imitation, as such a system seriously disturbs and deranges the legitimate trading to which this produce should be confined.

America.

The amount of actual business passing in New York market is comparatively small, both dealers and brewers evidently endeavouring by their abstention from buying to check the upward movement of values which is possessing the minds of growers. But apart from the surface indication there is an undercurrent of strength which must soon make itself felt, and will result in a general advancement of quotations. Both on the Pacific Coast and in New York State holders are extremely firm in their demands, and resolutely decline to entertain any offers below 17cwt. to 19cwt. A curious hindrance to business has arisen in the scarcity of baling cloth, which can hardly be obtained at any price. The lack of it is creating great inconvenience both to planters and dealers.

More extended knowledge of the situation, both with regard to the new crop and the stocks left over from last year, confirms previous conclusions that statistically there should be no surplus available for export from the U.S.A. But figures do not always rule, except those that have a money value attached to them, and if the higher quotations created by the small English crop offer any advantage to American merchants, it is certain that hops will be shipped. We may, however, be quite certain that shipments to this country will be very limited, for the American brewers cannot afford to allow themselves to be denuded of their necessary supplies, and any indication of an important movement of hops to our market will be promptly closed by advanced local offers. The crop is too small to be neglected or trifled with, and there is no doubt that the trade in this produce between America and England will this season be reduced to a lower point than has been known for many years.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 591, 593.)

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* Mark Lane Express, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society.*

Pontefract statute hirings were held on Thursday, when quite as much business was done as in previous years. Farm hands all secured engagements at £1 to £4 advance, and domestic servants were eagerly engaged up to £15 10s.

Sir John Bennet Lawes, of Rothamstead, Herts, and of John Bennet Lawes and Company (Limited), of 21, Mincing Lane, chemical manufacturers, who died on August 31st last, aged eighty-five years, has left personal estate of the net value of £565,242 0s. 1d. His will bears date June 5th, 1899, with codicils of July 9th and August 30th last, and the executors and executrix are his son, Sir Charles Bennet Lawes, his granddaughter, Miss Everilda Creyke, of 3, Seamore Place, and Mr. Thomas Bennett, of 21, Mincing Lane. The testator left to his son the studio in Chelsea Gardens, and his personal and household effects, and 400 fully-paid shares in J. B. Lawes and Co. (Limited), and he bequeathed the remainder of his shares in that company to his grand-nephew, Eustace Henry Tylston Hodgson, and his grandchildren, Lilian Hodgson, Everilda and Diana, and Sylvia Creyke, and Walter Launcelot Creyke. The testator appointed as trustee of his colonial property in Australia Mr. Frederick Bolton, and he left the proceeds of sale of his colonial property, and the residue of his estate in trust as to one half for his son and as to the other half for his said five grandchildren. Mr. Bennett and Mr. Bolton may receive such remuneration as the executors think proper, and the depositors in the Harpenden Savings Bank are to have the option of leaving their deposits, carrying interest at the rate of 4 per cent. for not exceeding two years. The gross value of the whole of the late Sir John Bennet Lawes's estate has been entered at £583,115 2s. 10d.

To Hop Growers.—Users of Wire Work should buy the Best English Galvanised Steel Hop Strand, made by Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington, Lancs. For prices, &c., apply to their London office: 86, Leadenhall-street, E.C.; or their Sole Agent for Kent and Sussex, Mr. Edward Ball, 3, Newstead-road, Lee, S.E.—[Advt.]

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

The Barley Shows.

In Table II. last week the lowest weight of British grain should have been 52·1 lbs. per bushel, not 58·1. Had there been room for Table III. the error would have been set right at once, although it was quite sufficiently obvious.

The following table furnishes the weights of the samples shown for four years, and gives in a very simple and useful way the comparative and relative weights of the British and foreign exhibits for each year.

Table III.

Weights per Imperial Bushel, 1897-1900.

		1897. Number weighed.		1898. Number weighed.		1899. Number weighed.		1900. Number weighed.	
Under lb.	Over lb.	Brit.	For.	Brit.	For.	Brit.	For.	Brit.	For.
..	60	2	—	1	..	—	—	—	—
60	59	4	—	3	2	1	—	7	—
59	58	19	1	34	1	18	1	17	3
58	57	35	2	48	1	77	2	46	—
57	56	16	3	33	2	40	8	40	1
56	55	8	4	14	2	29	4	24	—
55	54	3	4	6	2	8	2	13	..
54	53	—	1	—	1	1	3	3	2
53	52	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	..
52	51	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	2
51	50	—	2	—	1	—	..	..	—
50	49	—	2	—	3	—	—	..	—
49	48	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	—
48	47	—	1	—	—	..	—	—	—
45	44	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
43	42	—	—	—	1	..	—	—	—
Total		87	23	139	28	174	21	151	8

Notwithstanding the much greater care given this year to dressing, it is obvious the general weight of barley is lower than for several years past; still it is satisfactory to note that 110 samples weigh 56lb. and upward, with only forty-one lower than that weight. Of these no less than sixteen were within half-a-pound of 56lb.

The actual weights of highest and lowest, the mean (or true) average for all the entries of each and every county, and the distribution of the weights amongst the varieties of seed grown, separating the prize-winning samples, and in accordance with the dates of sowing, furnish several tables of unusual interest. Space precludes setting them out in the simplest form to follow with ease, but anyone interested in the matter can readily compare the separate tables when published.

The following table (IV.) shows the highest, lowest, and average weight for every county represented, with the number of samples actually weighed:—

Table IV.

Weights.

County.	Number of Samples weighed.	Number of prizes won.	Highest weight per bushel.	Lowest weight per bushel.	Average weight per bushel.
	No.	No.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Bedford	14	4	58·0	56·1	56·8
Berkshire	8	2	58·0	56·0	57·0
Buckingham	4	2	59·1	57·9	58·4
Cambridge	1	—	54·5	—	54·5
Cornwall	1	—	53·9	—	53·9
Devon	12	2	59·8	57·7	58·3
Dorset	5	2	57·6	55·9	57·0
Elgin	1	1	57·0	—	57·0
Essex	14	2	58·3	52·1	56·1
Gloucester	5	2	57·1	55·7	56·4
Hampshire	4	2	58·3	56·2	57·4
Herts	5	2	58·5	55·0	56·3
Huntingdon	2	1	57·3	55·5	56·4
Kent	4	2	58·3	55·8	57·2
Leicester	1	—	56·0	—	56·0
Lincoln	3	2	56·0	54·8	55·3
Middlesex	2	2	57·5	57·0	57·2
Montgomery	1	—	55·6	—	55·6
Norfolk	5	4	56·1	55·0	55·5
Northampton	4	2	56·8	54·4	55·9
Oxon	3	2	56·7	55·6	56·3
Rutland	5	2	57·0	53·8	54·4
Salop	3	2	58·7	57·1	57·8
Somerset	7	2	59·0	54·7	57·3
Suffolk	19	7	58·0	55·0	56·0
Surrey	2	1	56·6	54·8	55·7
Sussex	2	1	56·8	55·6	56·2
Warwick	6	3	57·5	55·8	56·9
Wiltshire	3	2	57·5	54·8	56·5
Worcester	3	3	58·0	55·1	56·6
Yorkshire	2	1	56·3	56·0	56·1
	151	60			56·6

The strange position in the list of a number of the counties was scarcely expected beforehand. That the heaviest samples from Cornwall and Cambridge should not go above 54·5lb. and the lightest from Devon should be 57·7lb. is most remarkable; and also it seems strange that Norfolk sent in no sample weighing less than 55lb. Eight counties

sent no sample of less than 56lb., whilst as many as twenty-three reach or exceed an average of 56lb.

It is sometimes urged that the weight of the samples sent to this exhibition are not a real guide to the weights of ordinary samples as marketed, but only within very narrow limits is this the case.

Happily, the encouragement to study weight in preference to quality is no longer given. Still, the fact remains that every improvement in quality, and especially in superior deliveries, must tend to foster weight. The average of good malting barley should be fully 56lb., and the true mean average of the whole of the samples works out at 56·6lb.

The champion sample weighed 57·7lb. The average weight of the sixty prize winners was 56·9, only eleven falling under 56lb.

NEWS NOTES.

At a meeting of agriculturists and townspeople at Mansfield on Monday it was unanimously decided to form an agricultural society for Mansfield and district. The meeting was convened by the Mayor (Councillor W. J. Chadburn).

The London offices of the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Sydney Mail* have been removed from 76, Queen Victoria Street, to 40, King Street, Cheapside, E.C., where files of these newspapers can be seen, and to which address visitors from Australia are at liberty to have their letters sent, care of Messrs. B. S. Lloyd and Co., the London representatives of the proprietors of these journals.

It is with regret that we have to record the death of Mr. William Smith, formerly of Woolston, which took place lately at Egginton, Leighton Buzzard. Mr. Smith had a long and trying illness, but he retained his mental powers as long as he lived. As to his special subject of steam cultivation we cannot but remember that he claimed to be "the father of steam culture." It may be worthy of note that Mr. Smith for many years subsequently used the same tackle exhibited by him at the Chelmsford Royal Show, and of which an anecdote is told in another column by Mr. Clare Sewell Read.

The Merchandise Marks Act and Foreign Meat.—Justices Lawrance and Kennedy on Saturday gave judgment in a case under the Merchandise Marks Act, in relation to the sale of foreign meat. A butcher of Blackpool had been summoned for selling as a leg of New Zealand mutton that which did not come from the Colony. The local magistrates, however, dismissed the information, being of opinion that the letters "N.M." on the invoice did not constitute a trade description within the statute, and that the facts did not disclose the application of a false trade description. The judges held that the magistrates were wrong, and sent the case back to them to be reheard.

A Destructive Farm Fire.—A destructive fire broke out on Sunday morning last at Strudes Farm, Wivelsfield, Sussex, which is in the occupation of Mr. W. Avery, a farmer widely known in the district, having represented the parish as Rural District Councillor, etc. The fire was discovered by a farm employé named Seymour, who lives in a cottage on the farm. He was awakened about four o'clock in the morning by a glow of light in his bedroom window, and, looking out, saw that a large barn was well alight. He raised the alarm, and assistance was speedily obtained. It was impossible to save the property alight, but the fire brigade effectually checked the fire spreading to other buildings, thereby rendering valuable assistance. The large barn, valued at £100, the property of the executors of the late Mr. Cecil Long, was destroyed, together with its contents of unthreshed oats and peas. A stack of meadow hay, containing about twelve tons, and a straw stack of about 200 trusses, were involved in the conflagration and destroyed. The produce was valued at about £160, and both owners and tenant are, luckily, insured. The fire, without doubt, originated in the barn, but the cause of the outbreak could not be ascertained.

Serious Farm Fire.—The second of what has been designated the "three in one series" of farm fires in the Cholmondeley district, broke out on Saturday morning on the premises of Mr. G. M. Shone, of Broomhall Bank Farm, Hampton. It was discovered by the tenant's brother, who, in the course of his early morning rounds saw flames issuing from the top of a bay in which had been placed the whole of the corn from about twelve acres. At the one end of the building some cattle were tied up, and so rapidly did the fire spread that before they could be released one of the cows was injured in such a manner that she had to be slaughtered. Others were more or less damaged. There was an unfortunate scarcity of water, the main supply having to be got from a neighbouring farm, but the fire was eventually got under hand. The building was destroyed, and the whole of the corn, the estimated damage being £600. The building, which is used for storage, is cut off from intercourse with the other portion, its two inlets only being closed. Only the usual ventilating interstices in brickwork were open, and this suggests at once the theory of incendiarism. The aggravating frequency of these farm fires is causing a considerable amount of uneasiness among farmers, who in many cases are known to get up in the middle of the night in order to assure themselves of safety.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

New and Old Breeds of Wheat.

Sir,—I ask your permission for a short reply to the letter of Mr. Beddall in the MARK LANE EXPRESS of October 29th.

In my report on the Square Head and White Monarch wheats, I was careful to give full particulars of the cultivations and of the previous cropping of the land, and all I intended was to let agriculturists and others to draw their own conclusions from my statement of facts.

I am afraid age does not always bring wisdom, or I might be free from mistakes. Mr. Beddall mentions having grown Square Head wheat in 1871, and I will give him a date for reflection. I sold in 1855 forty-nine quarters of thoroughly winnowed Browick red wheat from seven acres of land, and I can go farther back than this, but if he is old enough to be my father, he must have been born so very early in this century that he may have forgotten all he learnt in his youthful days.—Yours faithfully,

HENRY H. CAVE.

Estate Office, Rugby, November 2nd, 1900.

Dead Leaves.

Sir,—It was only last week that a well-known scientific authority recommended farmers to burn all their couch grass and other root weeds, assuring them that all the mineral manure would be left in the ashes, and the small quantity of nitrogen that escaped into the air would probably descend again in a fertilising shower upon some neighbouring farm. And now we have Mr. Spencer Pickering blaming us for burning the leaves of the trees in our squares! In London, leaves begin to fall early in September, and a few remain on the trees until Christmas, so for nearly three months these leaves have to be swept up twice a week. What should we do with them, where could we stow them? In the parks there may be some out-of-the-way corner, but in a square no one would like to see a heap of rotting leaves from Michaelmas to Christmas opposite his front door. In this square we burn them early in the morning upon the broad gravel paths, and sow the ashes under the shrubs, and as there are a hundred kitchen fires all sending forth their black smoke, the burning leaves with their country smell and their curl of white smoke need hardly call forth the powers of the County Council to extinguish so small a nuisance. I would rather suggest that the newspaper boys, especially on Sunday mornings, should be suppressed.

Your faithful servant, CLARE SEWELL READ.

91, Kensington Gardens Square, W., Nov. 2nd.

Dead Friends.

Sir,—Death has indeed made a fearful raid among our practical agriculturists during the past month. In East Anglia we shall miss the stalwart form, the genial greeting, and sound practical genius of my good friend, Mr. Biddell. The farmers of the North have to lament the loss of that worthy business, liberal-minded man, Samuel Rowlandson, whose sun went down while it was yet day; and in the Midlands the original and vigorous champion of steam cultivators has been gathered to his fathers in a ripe old age. Well do I remember Smith, of Woolston, at the R.A.S.'s Chelmsford Show (I think some forty-five years ago) his rating us judges of steam ploughs, when he saw that his single roundabout cultivator must take a back seat when competing with John Fowler's grand set of double engine ploughs. Waving his hands above his head, he concluded his lecture with words to this effect:—"I don't ask you to give me a prize, I don't even look for a commendation, but I desire that you should let it go forth to all the world that Smith, of Woolston, was the first man who applied steam to the cultivation of the soil."—Your faithful servant,

CLARE SEWELL READ.

91, Kensington Gardens Square, W., Nov. 2nd.

A Polo Pony Stud Farm.

Sir,—I am glad to see that in your issue of this week you refer to the proposal of Sir Richard Green-Price in *Land and Water* to start a polo pony stud farm, and that you give Mr. John Hill's able letter on the subject. I can only say that I consider that the breeders of riding ponies, if no one else, should welcome Sir Richard's proposal with sympathy and enthusiasm. He has given us the broad outlines of a great scheme. The undertaking, if carried out—and I see no reason why it should not be worked out to a practical commencement—should in the future be of great use to all breeders of riding ponies. No doubt it would be carried out not only practically, but scientifically; and, being conducted on a fairly large scale, smaller breeders would benefit by the experience of the company. It is a good idea of Sir Richard Green-Price's that the company should be composed only of those directly interested in the breeding of riding and polo ponies. The shareholders would in this case meet with patience the declaration of a possibly small divident at the commencement. The proposer of this idea invited suggestions and remarks. As a breeder of ponies for the last ten years, and as a dabbler in the art, having thirty-seven ponies of all sorts, sizes, and ages on my farm at the present time, I take the liberty to make a few remarks, which I do with much diffidence, and with your kind permission.

It is not wise of us, and I doubt if we have the right, to damp, or try to damp, the ardour of enthusiasts. We should all work together for the common end—the breeding of high-class riding ponies. I am glad Sir Richard has admitted that a larger capital will be needed than he at first mentioned. I would suggest that such a large amount should be guaranteed at the start. Better have good backing at first, even though it is a smaller one. Mr. John Hill puts the price of the mares at £50 apiece. Can you get the right sort for that? I doubt it, especially as he recommends that each mare be quiet to ride and drive and, of course, sound. The stallions, too, whether thoroughbred pony or Arab, should be the very best procurable. Can they be bought for £100 each? But these are only details; yet I think for the scheme to succeed it is of vital importance that there can be to breed the highest class of pony possible at present; not improved mountain ponies, not nondescript stock suitable, it may be, in the future for the Government to buy for the much-talked-of Mounted Infantry.

But all these details will be mere child's play if only the main principles of this great scheme be well discussed and sympathetically met. I have been suggested to me that the idea is premature—and that it would be better if the breeding of the particular class of pony were left a little while longer in the hands of private breeders till the type be more fixed. Private enterprise is good, but an amalgamation of separate interests into a society is, I submit, far better. I therefore hope that this proposal of the president of the Polo and Riding Pony Society will meet with sympathy and success.—I am, Sir, yours truly,

D. B. MONTGOMERY.

Mursley, October 30th.

Progressive Education.

A correspondent sends us the following:—

"Baxter's Library of Agricultural Knowledge (then and still a standard work on agriculture), published at Lewes, in Sussex, in 1832, on the question of the education of the agricultural labourer, says:

1832.

"We do not esteem reading and writing essentially necessary for agricultural labourers.

"The important question is what is to be done with a child till he is wanted by the farmer at the age of nine, ten, and eleven.

"Indeed the very circumstance of there being too many labourers for the farmers to employ profitably, gives us the moral means of effecting a moral improvement among them.

"Those paupers who are maintained by the parish in idleness, might be employed in superintending and educating the children. Suppose there are five men in a parish constantly out of work. Give them a certain quantity of ground for a village school; let one teach them to read, another to write, another to dig, another to plough, another to carpenter, etc.

"What objection there is to this we never yet could learn."

They then go on to say:—"Our supernumerary men are good for nothing, not qualified for any useful purpose. But without some education the child is learning harm, educating himself for a pauper, a poacher, and for the Assizes.

They then continue: "The labourer is born like other men, and with the same faculties and powers, and if he had been born, and educated, a gentleman, he would have sat on the Bench. But as he is born and educated a pauper he stands at the Bar, a criminal.

"Again, why are the chief criminals of society (sic) found amongst the labourers?—because they are ignorant and poor: they have no property to protect of their own, and no principle to induce them to protect that of others—the majority of such burners cannot read."

Note. Burning of stacks and farm homesteads was very prevalent about this period, because the farmers were beginning to use machinery; I, myself, having been sworn in special constable, and at fourteen had to do night duty.

1894.

In this year I read in a shop window, not a hundred yards from the High Street, in Oxford, in the centre of the University:—

Bussness Garred on as Wswal
during alteration
also
Old Portrates.

1900

The following is an exact copy of an entry in a Sussex farmer's book, not twenty miles from Lewes, taken this year:—

"20 Oligus [illegible] of Jon P . . k for grafel anaten BobS's Coe."

Translation—

1900 7 August Deered 25 of Jon P . . k for Gravel and attending Bob S's Cow.

FARM PROSPECTS.

North Lancashire.

Weather is much too wet for farm work, and there is difficulty in making progress in lifting the good crops of turnips and mangolds. Ploughing is getting very much in arrears, and land too wet to allow of manure being carted freely. We have had very much rain the past six weeks, and really need a change to allow work to be concluded before frost sets in. Pastures are full of meat, but owing to the wet and cold nights most of the feeding cattle had to be housed earlier that otherwise would have been necessary.

Poor Cereal Crops.

Our surmises as to the results of the late harvest are fully borne out by the test of the threshing machine, and wheat will be quite 10 per cent. under an average yield. Oats show an even larger deterioration from an average crop, and barley is no better than we estimated it in August. Potatoes also, as lifting proceeds, show a larger percentage of disease than we anticipated in August. Fruit came off a very heavy crop, but price was extremely low, and in many cases would hardly repay the cost of gathering and marketing. Prices of both beef and mutton keep appreciably better than in former years at the same period, and graziers should be able to show a fair profit on the summer's feeding in spite of the rather high prices they had to pay for lean stock. – Exors. of the late Jos. Smith.

North Somerset.

At last we have had a good soaking of rain, which was very much needed by all classes of farmers. Most of the autumn wheat is planted, but the birds levied heavy toll. Vetches that are up look well. Most of the mangolds are lifted and stored, the bulbs being large, sound, and extremely good, and thus a good bulk of feed is stored. Grass lands are bare, and, as a rule, farmers are giving hay. Stock of all kinds are looking well, but trade is a trifle duller for all kinds, with the exception of milch cows with calves suitable for weaning. These command good prices. Porkers are rather scarcer, 10s. 6d. per score being paid in Bristol for them. Taken all round the farmer would have had a much better year had it not been for the extra demands of labour. The apple crop has been a good one, the general price for cider fruit being 2s. per sack of 200lb.; in some districts even lower prices have been taken. Despite the cheapness of fruit it is not a good cider year, either in quality or quantity of yield. Table fruits are getting worth more money, there being an absence of really fine specimen fruits. Now that the potatoes are out, it is seen that they will prove a very short crop. Swedes have been greatly injured by mildew. On the trees the leaves are very loath to don the usual gorgeous tints of autumn, preparatory to their downfall.—North Somerset.

Somerset.

The threshing machine is proving that the crop of corn in this neighbourhood is considerably under average, especially oats, which are little more than half a crop. Mangolds are a good crop, and those secured before the rain were in splendid condition. Swedes and turnips are a light crop, and finger-and-toe and grub have damaged many pieces. Potatoes are far from good crop; tubers small with a large amount of diseased ones. Apples are a good crop, and cider will be plentiful this winter. Pastures are looking well, and have more keep on them than usual at this time of the year, and the hayricks are large and generally well made, so that there is a good prospect that farmers will have sufficient keep to see the winter through. Cattle and sheep are looking well and selling at fair prices.—E. D. (Nov. 4th).

Salop.

A drying day, inclined to a little frost –31.3, 52 shade. Farmers very busy storing mangolds, which have now become the most important crop. They stand more drought but less frost. Both have grown well lately. Swedes have attained a very large size over 20lb. weight; mangolds making a fair crop. At first we did not know the value and proper use of mangolds. Too many were given to fat stocks, souring them instead of feeding; now a mixture of cotton cake and other astringents corrects that tendency.—J. G.

North Wilts.

In this part of Wilts we have had very little rain till just lately; the land was too dry for sowing wheat, but now there is a prospect of getting it in well. Pastures have grown very little since hay harvest, and very bare, but the mild autumn has been greatly in favour of stock. Roots plentiful, and sheep are doing well. Beef is cheap, but mutton prices satisfactory. Calving heifers, if showing a good prospect of milk, make fair prices.—J. S. (November 3rd).

Foreign Prospects.

France.—Recent weather has been favourable for agriculture, and farmers appear to be well pleased with present conditions. The rain having replenished many of the streams, the water-mills will be able to start work, but with the poor demand for flour, there is scant encouragement to add to stocks already too large for healthy trading.

Belgium.—Finer weather has enabled farmers to prosecute field work in good condition.

Holland.—Weather having improved after too much rain, farmers are pleased at the change.

Sweden.—A report from Stockholm states that the cereal crops were carried in splendid condition, and have yielded abundantly in all directions, so that the import requirements in the present cereal campaign would be much reduced.

Spain.—The sowings are being prosecuted in the Peninsula under most favourable conditions. The development of the seedlings is healthy and regular, and the early-sown fields have a splendid appearance.

Germany.—Mild and rainy weather has led to larger supplies from the interior so that the better tendency in wheat prices mentioned last week was of short duration, and, considering the abstention of buyers and the general weakness of the international market, such a result was inevitable.

Hungary.—The drought has been broken and rain has removed anxiety about the autumn sowings.

Russia.—With a mild season and timely rains in the principal grain-growing regions, trade is dull all round, and although the rotten state of the roads interferes with vehicular transport, supplies are sufficient for local and export requirements.

United States.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says that there are further complaints of fly among the early-sown wheat. There is an enlarged proportion of late-sown and the crop is doing well. The quantity marketing is being reduced. Maize is being cribbed more than usual, but the general conditions are unchanged.—*Dornbusch.*

Germany.

The following report concerning the autumn-sown crops was issued by the Imperial Bureau of Statistics in the middle of October. No. 1 represents very good; 2, good; 3, an average; 4, below an average; 5, bad.

	Wheat.	Rye.	Young Clover.
Prussia	2·6	2·7	3·1
Oldenburg	2·3	2·2	2·2
Schaumburg-Lippe	—	2·2	2·3
Lippe	2·4	2·2	2·2
Waldeck	—	2·4	2·3
Brunswick	2·4	2·3	2·3
Anhalt	2·3	2·3	2·7
Saxony	2·1	2·1	2·6
Saxe-Weimar	2·6	2·4	2 5
Saxe-Meiningen	2·4	2·5	2·6
Saxe-Altenburg	2·0	1·9	2·2
Saxe-Coburg-Gotha	2·5	2 3	2·4
Schwarzburg-Sonderhau en	2·3	1·9	2·0
Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt	2·0	2·0	2·2
Reuss, elder line	2·2	2·2	2·2
Reuss, younger line	—	—	—
Hesse (Duchy)	—	1·9	1.9
Bavaria	2·2	1·9	2·2
Wirtemberg	2·5	2·3	2·1
Baden	2·1	1·9	2·1
Alsace-Lorraine	2·1	2·1	2·8
German Empire	2·5	2·6	2·7
Against October, 1899	2·3	2·4	2·7

After a long period of drought, rain fell in the beginning of October, which was most beneficial for the sowing and growth of seedlings. Field operations were hindered owing to the hardness of the ground. This was especially the case in East Prussia, Brunswick, Mecklenburg, Oldenbury, Anhalt, Saxony, Saxe-Meningen, Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, and Schwarzburg Rudolstadt. Seeds were put in quickly after the rain, came up well, and development is good. We hear from Bavaria, Wirtemberg, and Hesse that meadows are yielding a third and even a fourth crop of hay.

The late harvest, continued drought, scarcity of labour, and in South Germany the vintage and fruit harvest have made the winter sowing late, especially in the case of wheat. Seedlings are not up in some places. The note for wheat and rye is a little less favourable than in October, 1899, but is still satisfactory.

Reports concerning young clover are very varied: most of them are satisfactory. It suffered from the drought, but recovered after the rain and yielded an autumn crop. We hear of ravages of field mice from Silesia, Saxony, and Saxe-Meiningen. A great deal had to be ploughed over in East Prussia, and the condition of young clover was very unsatisfactory in Marienwerder, Posen, and Bromberg, where the average note is 4.5 and 4.8; 5 representing very bad.

Settle Stot Fair.—This fair for store stock was held on Tuesday, when there was a large show of cattle, but a slow trade. Geld heifers made £11 to £13; smaller ditto, £8 to £10; geld cows, £10 to £14; calving cows, £17 to £22; lying-off calving cows, £14 to £18; two-year-old bullocks, £11 to £13; yearlings, £5 to £7; Highland heifers, £10 to £13 per head. Large number of Scotch sheep, which met a slow trade. Ewes, 17s. to 20s.; half-bred lambs, 18s. to 23s.; white-faced lambs, 22s. to 27s.; smaller, 18s. to 20s.; Scotch lambs, 9s. to 11s.; half-bred sheep, 35s. to 40s.; rams, £4 to £7 each. Lambs and sheep realised 1s. to 2s. per head more than last year.

THE WEATHER.

Monday (October 29th).—Rainy and unsettled weather prevailed over the greater portion of our islands, and a mild, south-westerly wind was blowing. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over nearly the entire country, and in places the fall was heavy. Sunday night was very warm in the south of England, and the mid-day temperatures were generally high.

Tuesday (October 30th).—Rain fell over a large part of our islands, and the weather was generally overcast. Large amounts of rain were measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, in the southern and midland districts of England, as well as at several places in the western portion of the kingdom. A warm and moist south-west wind was blowing, but it was for the most part light. Heavy rain fell in London throughout Monday night, and it continued during the greater part of the day.

Wednesday (October 31st).—The weather was very fine in most parts of England, but rain again fell at several places in Scotland and Ireland. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since Tuesday, over the entire kingdom, and the fall was exceptionally heavy in the south-west of Ireland. The wind was southerly, and under its influence the air was very warm, the thermometer in the central parts of England and in the central and northern parts of Ireland being ten degrees above the average during a great part of the day. Exceptionally fine weather occurred in London, and the thermometer, sheltered from the sun's rays, registered sixty-five degrees, which is eleven degrees above the average.

Thursday (November 1st).—The weather was again unsettled over our islands, and the temperature was high. Rain had fallen since Wednesday over the entire kingdom, and the amounts were large in the northern and western districts. There was a further fall of rain during the day in most parts of Great Britain. A cyclonic disturbance was situated on our North-West coasts, and the whole of the British Islands was under its influence, the winds being southerly in England and Scotland, but in Ireland they had shifted to the North-West, with a slight fall of temperature, and with some improvement in the weather. The day was chiefly dull and wet in London, and the temperature rose to sixty-two degrees, which is about eight degrees above the average.

Friday (November 2nd).—Rain was measured again in the morning over nearly the whole of our islands as the result of the fall since Thursday, but the amounts were mostly small. Very little rain fell in any part of the kingdom during the day, but the weather was generally dull and gloomy, and fog or mist occurred in many places. A very light westerly breeze was blowing over England, but the wind had again become southerly in Ireland, and it was increasing somewhat in strength. Thursday night was very warm in the western and southern portions of the kingdom, the thermometer not falling below 50deg. The midday temperatures were generally lower than on the preceding day. The day was dull and gloomy in London, and the thermometer was steady at about 56deg.

Saturday and Sunday (November 3rd and 4th). Mild and rainy weather prevailed over our islands during the two days, and fog or mist occurred in many places. There was very little rain reported on Saturday morning for the preceding twenty-four hours, but on Sunday morning rain was measured over nearly the entire Kingdom, and at places in the West the fall was heavy. The nights were again very warm for the time of year, and in many parts of England the thermometer did not fall below fifty degrees, although in Scotland the weather was somewhat colder. The winds continued mostly Southerly, and were still light in force. In London the weather was gloomy and wet, but the air was rather cooler on Sunday than of late, the thermometer only touching fifty-two degrees.

Thirsk October Beast Fair.—On Monday both the larger and the smaller greens were literally packed with cattle, sheep, and horses. Owing to the floods in the district large numbers of sheep were unable to reach Thirsk on Saturday, and were shown on Monday instead. Almost every class of cattle met with a demand at prices well in advance of last year, and sheep made 4s. to 5s. per head more. Good three-year-old agricultural horses found purchasers at remunerative prices. Good English calving cows made £18 10s. to £22; half-bred calvers and calving heifers, £13 10s. to £16; drape cows, £10 10s. to £12 10s.; two-year-old English bullocks and heifers, £12 to £15; year-old stirks, fresh in condition, £6 10s. to £7 10s.; two-year-old Irish bullocks and heifers, £8 to £8 10s. each. Good bred hoggets, 36s. to 38s.; good bred ewes, 46s. to 50s.; half-bred ewes, 37s. to 40s.; half-bred hoggets, 22s. to 28s.; good bred shearlings, 50s. to 52s.; half-bred shearlings, 42s. to 48s.; twice crossed lambs, 31s. to 33s.; Scotch and Masham-shire lambs, 18s. to 22s.; shearling Wensleydale tups, £4 to £5; Wensleydale tup lambs, £2 to £2 10s. each. Three-year-old agricultural horses, £32 to £36.; and ponies, £8 to £12 each. There was a fair attendance of buyers, and a great bulk of the stock was sold.

FARM.

Report on Clover and Grass Seeds.

Messrs. John Donaldson and Co., wholesale seed merchants, of Edinburgh, last week issued their annual autumn report on the crop of clover and grass seeds, and below we give some extracts from it:—

Clovers.

Looking over all the usual sources of supply, we are of opinion that this season's crop of red will be considerably short of an average. The United States of America and Canada (from whence come our principal supplies) are reported to yield less than half an average crop, and the quality, so far as we have yet seen samples, shows a very inferior seed. France will this year again be a buyer instead of a seller. Germany also requires to import part of her wants. There seems to have been a fairly good crop in Bohemia and Hungary. Russia is reported to have some surplus stock, but it will not amount to much.

The yield of English red and cow grass will be considerably under an average. Any new samples that have been showing are pale in colour and small in size. Considerable stocks of yearling English cow grass were carried over from last season, but the bulk of these have already been shipped to Germany, Denmark, and Sweden, so that this year's small supply, coming on a bare market, leads us to believe that prices will be considerably higher than they have been for some years past.

White is said to have yielded a fair average crop both here and on the Continent, yet prices are getting higher every day, and it is very difficult to get good clean, level seeds, free from weeds.

Alsike clover is again reported to be a small yield in Canada and America, and higher prices will rule this season. Very little is saved now in Germany.

Trefoil has been almost a failure, anu prices are about double those prevailing last year.

Timothy is also very much dearer, ordinary American bringing 7s. to 10s. more than last year at this time. Canada has also a small yield, and prices are correspondingly high. Germany is reported to have a fair crop, but this seed does not compare favourably with the fine Canadian.

Ryegrasses.

The perennial crop when growing appeared to be a very large one, but after being harvested and threshed the yield was found to be disappointing. The seed weighs 3lbs. to 4lbs. per bushel lighter than last year, and the tonnage, so far as has been ascertained, is under last year's quantity (and last year's yield was considerably below an average). Owing to the unfavourable weather during harvesting the condition of the seed is not as fine as last year.

The French Italian crop almost totally destroyed by drought. It is now ascertained beyond a doubt that under a third of an average crop has been harvested. The prices are fully 50 per cent. higher than those ruling this time last year, and the quality is as a rule very poor.

In Ireland a fair average crop of Home Italian has been harvested, and prices would have been moderate had the Continental demand been of the usual volume, but large quantities have already been sold for shipment to the Continent, and this has had the effect of raising prices 50 per cent. over last year's. The crop in England this year was also much below an average.

Natural Grasses.

The crop of cocksfoot in New Zealand has turned out a very abundant one, and prices are moderate. In fact, they are safe for holding over for another year. In America the crop has been much under an average, and we need expect no supplies from this quarter this season. Continental supplies are smaller than usual.

With regard to meadow fescue, we have again to report a large decrease in the yield of this important grass. When this became fully known a brisk demand set up, and prices have advanced considerably since the opening of the market.

There is a smaller crop of crested dogstail, and much higher prices than last year.

The other natural grasses are all reported to be under an average, and higher prices are being made this year.

A Blackburn Corn Miller's Estate.—The will of the late Edgar Appleby, head of the firm of Appleby and Sons, corn millers, Blackburn, Bootle, Burnley, and Liverpool has been sworn at £146,000. The testator leaves £500 and an annuity of £800 to his wife. £10,000 is left to his daughter Alexandra May, who was born during his Mayoralty of Blackburn in the Jubilee year, and the residue of the estate is equally divided among his sons. There is no public bequest.

Unlabelled Skim Milk.—Before the Bolton county magistrates on Thursday, Messrs. Langton and Johnson, Blackrod, and Aspull, farmers, were charged with not affixing labels to milk kits showing they contained skim milk. The cases were the first in the Bolton division, and the defendants pleaded that they were not aware of the law, which came into operation this year. The Bench dismissed the cases, and suggested that the county authorities should issue notices to farmers.

Farmers and the Manufacture of Alcohol for Lighting Purposes.

The illumination of the "Orangerie" in the Tuileries Gardens at the close of the International Press Congress in Paris with the alcohol-burning lamps invented by M. Louis Denayrouse, together with the results now obtained at the Pont d'Jena and elsewhere by the same system of lighting, seem to indicate that alcohol will be one of the chief illuminating agencies of the near future. *Prima facie* this appears incredible, for the flame of alcohol, with which everybody is familiar, is singularly deficient in luminous power.

Without entering into details that would be too technical here, it may be stated that the admixture of hydrocarbon with alcohol is one of the means by which M. Denayrouse has been able to render the latter a light-giving agency of extraordinary brilliancy. The system has the advantage of great simplicity, and its application to domestic as well as public purposes appears to be free from danger. If this method of lighting should be largely adopted, its influence upon agricultural industry will be very considerable, all alcohol being of vegetable origin.

In France, where agriculture is languishing, for reasons of an economic and fiscal order, a largely-increased demand for crops, such as beetroot, potatoes, and Jerusalem artichokes, suited to the distillation of cheap alcohol, would bring an important amelioration to the condition of the peasantry in many districts, and go far to solve the perplexing question of protecting the French wheat-grower from foreign competition.

One of the great changes of the new century may be that the vegetable kingdom will take the place now occupied by the mineral kingdom in the production of artificial light, in other words, that coal gas and petroleum will be both succeeded by alcohol. Even the fairy that science has discovered and named electricity may be put out of fashion as an illuminating power, on account of its costliness, in which case one of the probable consequences would be less work for metallurgists and mechanicians.—*Leisure Hour.*

Horncastle October Sheep Fair.—At this fair, on Monday, there were only 1,500 sheep penned, this being half as many as last year. But few lots changed hands, prices being well maintained. Wethers made up to 50s., blackfaced ewes 30s., and useful lambs 30s. A large number of horses were shown, mainly of the carting class, and those of a better quality found ready purchasers.

To obtain a crop of wheat, oats, or barley entirely free from smut is the earnest desire of all farmers, but in not many cases is the desire realised. One of the best and cheapest dressings for seeds that has been brought under our notice is D. Clarke's Carbolised "Wheat Protector," manufactured by G. B. Clarke, Woburn, Bedfordshire. This dressing, which has been in use over fifty years, takes the place of bluestone, and by its use the seed is strongly carbolised, and is protected both by the smell and taste from being eaten by birds and other pests, whilst it is claimed for it, and numerous testimonials bear out the claim, that it prevents smut, the seed germinates a fortnight earlier, and it saves a quarter bushel of seed per acre. It is not expensive, for a ninepenny packet will dress no fewer than eight bushels of seed. A striking illustration of the value of this preparation is given in a testimonial from a Herefordshire farmer, who says: "I have used your protector for 40 years, and have never grown a smutty ear of corn."

Bankruptcy of a Westmoreland Cattle Breeder.—Mr. William Graham, late of Edengrove, and High Sheriff of Westmorland, attended at the Kendal Bankruptcy Court on the 27th ult., for his public examination. The statement of affairs showed gross liabilities amounting to £26,730 3s. 10d., of which £26,163 5s. 8d. was expected to rank for dividend. The gross assets were £6,355, preferential claims amounted to £266 18s. 2d., and the deficiency was £20,075 3s. 10d. In answer to the Official Receiver, Mr. Graham said he went in for breeding cattle of the very highest class, and it had paid for a time; but there had been considerable losses, especially about ten years ago, when there was a great outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in the neighbourhood, which really stopped sales. It was about three years ago when he really found himself in difficulties, and he then sold his real estate to his cousin for £19,000. Since then he had rented the farm for £900 a year. He had continued to breed and buy high-class cattle, but he had had further losses, and to recover himself he tried speculation in American railway shares. For a time he made a profit, but with the commencement of the Chinese trouble he began to lose money, and it was really when he had to close his account with Messrs. Gibbs, of London, stockbrokers, whom he owed £2,848, that he found he could not go on any longer. The Registrar thought the bankrupt had been a very lucky man in not being opposed. If he had been, it was very likely some very unpleasant disclosures might have come out, and things might have looked even worse than they did. It seemed to him that the debtor had gone on recklessly for three years. When he knew, three years ago, that he was so near the line, it did not become him to go on as he had done. As his examination was not opposed, he would, however, be allowed to pass.

LITERARY NOTICES.

Continuing his series of translations of foreign maritime codes, Mr. Effingham Wilson, Royal Exchange, E.C., has just published the "Maritime Code of Italy," translated and annotated by His Honour Judge Raikes. This volume is on the same lines as the others of the series, but is somewhat larger, and is published at 12s. 6d. net.

There has come to hand a copy of the Report of the Technical Education Committee of the Parts County Council, dated October 27th last. The committee give grants to various institutions in the county for subjects covering a wide area, but agriculture does not receive much attention. With the exception of a short note on agricultural scholarships and the agricultural exhibitions at the Downton Agricultural School, Wilts, the only mention of agriculture is made on the last page, where it is stated that "the attention of the committee having been drawn by a member of the County Council to the question of instruction in various processes of agriculture, and the possibility of a demand for such instruction in this county, the committee resolved to make some inquiries in the matter. There could be little doubt as to the desirability, in agricultural counties, of technical skill in carrying out these processes. The Cambridgeshire County Council had already inquired into and issued a report upon the matter, which it courteously placed at teh disposal of your committee. This Council, from the replies received from the various counties, came to a conclusion distinctly unfavourable to the carrying on of such instruction by Technical Education Committees. But Cambridgeshire had sent its inquiries to *all* counties, some of which could hardly be called agricultural. From its report, the work appeared to have been successful in a minority of counties, typically agricultural ones.

"Your committee therefore addressed some inquiries to these counties, twelve in number, viz.:—Westmorland, in the North; Lincolnshire (Kesteven and Lindsey), Norfolk, Essex, and Herts, in the East; Devon, Dorset, and Somerset, in the South, and Hereford in the West of England; Stafford and Worcester among the Midland counties. All these counties kindly replied fully. The replies of Herts, Somerset, and Westmorland were, on the whole, unfavourable to the instruction, those of the remaining nine counties were, with some reservations, favourable. The chief subjects of instruction appeared to be ploughing, draining, hedging, ditching, stacking, thatching, rick-making, sheepshearing.

"The instructors were generally local farmers, and, especially, labourers who had gained first and champion prizes at competitions, and were recommended by local committees. Young farm labourers and farmers' sons had attended, but there was some difficulty in getting the two sets of young men in the same class. Some instructors appeared to give their services; in other instances 10s. per lecture seemed to be a fair payment. The average length of a course was six lessons of two hours each, except in ploughing, where the hours were rather longer. The average number of pupils in a class appeared to be six, and the attendance to be regular, generally. Nine of the counties addressed spoke favourably as to the results of the instruction.

"The general conclusion to which the committee has come is that while the results of its inquiries are not sufficiently encouraging to induce it to undertake a general system of instruction in such subjects for the whole county, in any district where a definite desire for such instruction is expressed, it will, upon a responsible application, give the matter careful consideration."

Messrs. William Barron and Son, of the Elvaston Nurseries, Borrowash, near Derby, have just issued a new catalogue of fruit-trees, roses, herbaceous and alpine plants, greenhouse and bedding plants, etc. This firm is noted for its landscape gardening, and in this catalogue there are several illustrations of private grounds and parks they have laid out.

Messrs. Little and Ballantyne, of Carlisle, have now published their general tree and plant catalogue for 1901, and in it they state that in no previous year have they been in a position to offer forest trees, game covert slants, coniferous and ornamental park trees, evergreen and deciduous shrubs, fruit trees, rhododendrons, roses, Alpine and herbaceous plants, etc., of finer quality or in such quantities as they do this.

Messrs. Dey, Son, and Hewitt, of 22, Doerr Street, Baker Street, London, W., have recently issued a new edition of "Veterinary Practice at Home: or, Key to Farriery." This little book has now run through seventeen editions, representing nearly three-quarters of a million copies, which speaks as to its appreciation amongst all classes of the farming community. The present edition has undergone a complete revision, many additional diseases being treated upon, and all brought up to date in a concise, intelligible form. It is published at one shilling, so that it is within the reach of even the poorest stockbreeder.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—There is a little more home-grown wheat being now submitted here, but farmers still find better encouragement on the country exchange, where there is sufficient offering. The condition is good. Fine white, 31s 6d, and red of similar sample, 30s 6d 63lb, delivered. American descriptions unaltered, whites being quite neglected. The market for flour was again deserted, and, with granaries still well stocked, consumers show no signs of moving with any degree of freedom for the present. Of feeding stuffs grinding barley continues in sufficient supply to meet requirements. Arrivals of oats continue on a moderate scale, and holders remain reserved in a measure. American mixed clipped, 14s 3d ex ship to come up, and 14s 6d to 14s 9d ex quay. Maize unchanged.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Breadstuffs again inclined against sellers, but feeding stuffs, on landed terms, were supported without effort. Home-grown wheat continues to be submitted chiefly on the country exchange, but there is quite sufficient now on the London market, and the tendency is easier. Fine white, 32s, and red of similar sample, 31s 63lb, delivered. American descriptions unchanged and nominal. The market for flour was unaltered to day, while generally lower on the week, and granaries continue well supplied. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Grinding barley steady, and a sufficient supply on hand to meet requirements. Oats, except ex ship, steady. Maize again dearer for flat landed, and round corn well maintained. The demand for beans and peas was again very slight, holders, however, remaining indifferent, pending sharper weather.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat was slow of sale at last week's rates, nothing being quoted above 32s per quarter. Maize was rather dearer, running from 24s for flat to 28s for round varieties. Malting barley met with a limited demand.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Wheat trade very quiet, last week's prices being barely maintained. Other grain unaltered.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (white) (old), 29s to 31s per qr; wheat (red) (new), 26s to 28s 6d per qr; beans (new), 28s to 30s per qr; beans (old), 33s to 34s per qr; oats (new), 16s to 18s per qr; oats (old) (black), 21s to 22s per qr. Market firm at last week's prices; small show.

Barnsley, Wednesday.—A fair attendance and business steady. Wheat, though not so firm as last week, generally sold at late rates. Barley for malting purposes still dull, whilst other grain was unaltered.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Small supply of wheat, prices ranging from 28s 6d to 29s 6d per qr for reds. Barley trade firm, and a good supply.

Brighton, Thursday.—Small attendance. Quotations:—New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red ditto, 28s to 29s; barley 29s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; English oats, 18s to 21s.

Bristol, Thursday.—Only a moderate trade since our last. English wheat was not in such large supply at to-day's market, barely making last week's prices. Foreign without change. Grinding barley the turn easier. Flat maize and Irish oats 3d lower. Flour very little enquiry.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been lifeless. Supplies are still limited, and condition is not quite so good. We have had nice rains, and farmers are busy wheat sowing. At this market to-day a small supply met a dull trade, without any change in value for dry lots; but some concession had to be made on damp parcels. Wheat, red, 28s to 31s; and white up to 31s per 504lb. Beans 6d dearer. Barley was in better demand and firm in price.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat and oats a quiet trade; barley slow. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 30s to 32s 6d; red ditto, 29s to 32s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; ditto black, 15s to 20s; peas, 29s to 31s; tick beans, 30s to 32s; mazagans, 27s to 29s; flat maize, 22s to 24s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per qr; winter tares, 6s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply of oats in our market to-day, quick sale, at last week's prices. New, 17s to 18s per 336 lb; old, 23s to 24s per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—English wheat was more freely offered, but the general run of samples was below the average, and former prices were barely maintained. Oats steady, at last week's prices; beans and barley quiet. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s to 4s 2d 75lb.; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d 64lb; beans, new, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; old, 5s 6d 80lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 5d; old, 3s 2d to 3s 7d 46lb; Indian corn, 11s to 11s 6d 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was not a large attendance, and with the supply of wheat on a limited scale business was quiet without alteration in prices. In other departments also there was little or no change.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat small supply, condition affected by damp weather, prices unaltered. Barley, very small show for this period of the year, all descriptions selling readily at fully late rates. Brans, peas, and oats scarce, and prices fully maintained.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—English wheat met a quiet trade at last week's prices. Foreign steady. Best qualities only of malting barley maintained the price, medium and secondary qualities 1s per quarter cheaper. Grinding barley unchanged. Feeding stuffs very quiet owing to the mild weather.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour steady, but quiet. Indian corn is in moderate request at 1½d per boll under last week's price. Grinding beans and Canadian peas quiet, but unchanged. Foreign oats the turn dearer on spot; home quiet but steady. Barley steady. Oatmeal dull. Bran and thirds quiet.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat steady but quiet. Indian corn is in moderate request at 1½d per boll under last week's prices. Grinding beans and Canadian peas quiet, but unchanged. Foreign oats the turn dearer on spot; home quiet, but steady. Barley steady. Oatmeal dull.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat. Trade slow, at a reduction of 6d per quarter. New reds, 29s to 29s 6d; old, 30s 6d. Good supply of barley. Trade firm at rather more money. Oats slow. Maize unaltered. Beans and peas quiet.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Stronger American advices exert little influence in face of heavy shipments and liberal imports. The trade for wheat continues slow, with only a limited consumptive demand, but there is less pressure to sell on the part of holders, prices being about 6d lower on the week. Barley unchanged, fine qualities meeting a steady sale. Maize 6d lower. Beans and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—The wheat trade remains very quiet, and for both English and foreign descriptions prices are a turn easier than on Tuesday, the top price for new English being 29s, and for old 33s. Malting barley and maize rather lower. Oats, beans, peas, grinding barley, and flour unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—Moderate supplies of home-grown wheat in variable condition. Trade steady, at 28s to 31s per 36 stones. Barley in fair request. Fine oats in good demand.

Lincoln, Friday.—There was a fair supply of English wheat; trade ruled slow, at last week's rates. Reds, 27s to 28s; whites 28s to 29s. Foreign quiet. Large show of barley, only good sorts being saleable; prices, 25s to 34s. Oats made late rates. No change in beans, peas, and maize.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat in moderate demand, Kansas 1d, Spring 1d dearer; white unchanged. Flour steady with small consumptive trade for foreign at about Tuesday's prices. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum prices of bakers. Maize is in good demand, and is more firmly held at about unchanged prices for mixed; European steady and occasionally easier. Plate moves steadily into consumption, with small kinds scarce and dearer. Barley for malting and feeding is quiet, with a slow trade at quotations. Beans are firm, especially for English and flat kinds, which make 3d advance on the week. Peas steady but quiet at late rates. Oats firm, with a fair business at full prices for English. Oatmeal steady but quiet, values being generally 3d under last market day. Oilcake firm with a fairly good demand at about late rates.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Plenty of wheat at the market to-day for the demand, trade very slow and 6d to 1s per qr cheaper. The weather affects the condition of the samples, which does not please the millers. In other grain but a slight business done all round.

Manchester, Thursday.—American wheat commands 1d to 1½d per cental more money than last week; whilst English is held at the full rates of Thursday last. Flour is quiet at unaltered rates. Oats, peas, and beans are without change. Indian corn is rather easier on the past few days, in some cases by 3½d per cental. Trade generally at the moment is quiet.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a quiet trade at rather less money than last week. Barley dull at previous prices. Oats and beans at last week's full quotations.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At our to-day's market wheat favoured buyers. Msize slow demand, and 6d per 480lb. under last week's prices. Barley neglected. Fine oats ruled steady at late rates. Common sorts 3d to 6d lower to sell. Beans and peas steady; demand, however, limited. Flour quiet, no change in value.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—This day's market was moderately attended, and the demand for wheat was nominal, prices being to the side of buyers. Flour was dull and disappointing for the time of year. Barley for malting is 6d per qr lower to sell. Oats being more freely offered, lost 6d per qr for new samples. Beans, peas, and maize keep fairly steady.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There is no alteration in the wheat trade since last Saturday, supply to-day has been very small, but demand was slack. Fair demand for good barley, others still neglected. Oats firm, not many offering.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—No change in price of wheats; oats dearer; good trade in maize, but 6d cheaper; barley and oats unchanged; beans and offals firm. Vines 24s.

Northampton, Saturday.—About the usual attendance. As regards wheat and barley, supply for the former was limited the latter was abundant. The trade was dull and inactive—quotations scarcely up to last market day. White wheat, 30s to 32s; red, old wheat, 29s to 31s; red, new wheat, 27s to 29s; malting barley, 25s to 30s; grinding barley, 21s to 24s; oats, 17s to 22s; old, fine, 24s to 25s; beans, 28s to 32s; fine old, 35s; peas, 26s to 36s; flour, 23s to 27s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat still in small supply with a firm trade, and prices about the same as last week. Barley a slow trade with values unaltered. Wheat, red, 29s to 30s per qr, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Barley, 26s to 28s for medium runs, very fine rather more. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending 29th October, 1900:—Wheat, 2,912-4, 27s 9½d, barley, 15,149, 26s 5d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat, good supply, with a quiet trade at last week's prices. Barley, smaller supply of better sorts at previous rates. Oats firmer, with smaller show. Beans, no change.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Wheat dull and rather easier. Barley good demand for best and low qualities, medium quiet but steady. Oats firm.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was an average attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. The market was very quiet, prices of all stuffs remain unchanged. Flour is much firmer, although there is no advance in the price.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—Wheat was in fair supply at the Corn Exchange to-day, but the demand was not very brisk, and prices must be quoted as being the same as last week. Barley was plentiful, and rates were slightly in favour of buyers; while other descriptions of corn changed hands at recent rates. The attendance was unusually numerous.

Ripon, Thursday.—There is a light show of wheat, the bad weather interfering with thrashing. An average attendance. Wheat, English, new, 27s to 28s; ditto old, 31s; ditto foreign, 30s 6d to 34s 6d; barley, malting, 24s to 29s; ditto, grinding, 21s to 23s; oats, old, 25s to 26s; ditto new, 17s to 19s; maize, round, 26s to 27s 6d; ditto flat, 23s 6d per qr; beans, old, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade very slow at last week's prices. Red wheat made 28s to 29s, and white wheat, 29s to 31s 6d; winter beans, 30s per qr.

Salisbury, Tuesday.—There was again a good supply of all kinds of grain. Wheat sold at a further decline of 6d per quarter on the week. Best malting barley had an upward tendency. Oats were quite 6d dearer, and beans firm at late rates. Quotations:—Wheat, 26s to 32s; barley (best malting), 32s to 37s; ditto (secondary), 26s to 30s; oats (black), 16s to 20s; oats (white), 18s to 23s; beans, 30s to 36s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Small attendance. Trade slow, former prices asked for all kinds of grain, but to make a sale a reduction of 6d per qr had to be submitted to. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s to 33s; red, 31s to 32s; new, 30s to 31s per 504lb; oats, old white, 26s; ditto, new white, 17s 6d to 19s; ditto old black, 22s; ditto new black, 16s to 17s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small old, 29s to 30s; ditto American mixed, 23s 6d to 24s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—The wheat trade was 6d per qr lower, making 26s 6d; oats, 17s to 17s 6d per qr. Barley unchanged, being a dull trade. Beans, peas, and other articles remained as last week, trade being slow.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was a fair quantity of farmers' wheat showing in very moderate condition, which made about 29s per qr. Foreign wheat trade keeps very quiet and millers are buying very sparingly. Prices show a reduction of about 6d per qr, particularly on white qualities. Maize 6d down, and oats about unchanged. A moderate show of malting barley, which made 23s to 27s per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Wheat, slow trade at about late rates. Barley neglected. Oats unchanged. Arrivals coastwise:—Barley, 482 qrs; foreign wheat, 20,813; barley, 1,030.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Wheat a quiet trade at last week's prices, but only a small quantity offering. Best qualities of malting barley firm, secondary unchanged. Maize and grinding barley 3d per quarter lower. Oats unchanged.

Wakefield, Friday.—Wheat is a slow trade at our market, and last week's prices. In the small business doing are accepted. Common qualities of new Yorkshire barley are totally neglected, the only demand being for best sorts, and the general supply is good. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield Friday.—The spasmodic ups and downs in America do not benefit the trade, which just now suffers simply from oversupply, otherwise it is sound enough. Wheat is steadily held at last week's rates, the demand being still limited. The best Yorkshire barleys find a steady sale, secondary sorts hang on hand. Maize, beans, and oats very slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of grain. Wheat changed hands at late rates. Red 28s, white 29s, old 30s. Oats steady, 17s to 19s. Barley irregular, 25s to 28s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A large number of farmers and dealers present, but the transactions were of a limited nature. English wheat, new, 12s to 12s 6d; wheat old, 13s per 216lb; oats, old 15s to 16s; ditto new 11s to 11s 6d; beans, old 14s 6d to 15s 6d, ditto new 12s 6d to 13s 6d per 196lb; maize, 24s to 24s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Fair supply of English wheat; trade ruled slow at barely last week's prices. Whites, 28s to 29s; reds, 27s to 28s per qr. Foreign wheats quiet, but steady. Grinding barley and oats sold at late rates, but maize was scarcely so firm.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, but smaller show of grain. Barley sold at late rates, wheat was 6d per qr lower, and oats scarce. Wheat, old white, 31s to 32s; old red, 30s to 31s; new white, 28s to 29s; new red, 27s to 28s; best malting barley, 30s to 32s; secondary, 28s to 29s; grinding, 23s to 25s; old white oats, 25s to 27s; old black, 24s to 25s; new white, 18s to 20s; new black, 17s to 18s; flat maize, 24s to 25s; round, 28s to 29s per qr.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has remained without material change. The young wheats are beginning to come up well in the French country districts. French farmers are, however, still a good deal occupied with field work; and the French provincial markets have been thinly attended in consequence. The milling trade, finding its supplies running short, has shown more readiness to do business, and prices have been hardening rather than otherwise. The business passing in wheat at Marseilles has been restricted to the requirements of local consumption; transactions have at the same time taken place to a moderate extent in hard Tunisian wheat. Only a restricted business has been passing in French wheat at Paris, holders standing out for somewhat higher terms. Flour for consumption has shown little change in the French capital. Scarcely any variation has been noted in wheat at Konigsberg and Dantzic. The demand for wheat has exhibited no great activity at Odessa, and prices have been supported with some difficulty. Quotations have presented little change at Ibrail; maize has, however, been somewhat firmer. Rain has fallen in the districts about Ibrail, and farmers will now be able to proceed actively with field work, which has been delayed by drought. The quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is returned at 1,170,000qr., as compared with 1,370,000qr. at the corresponding date of 1898. The total of 1,170,000qr., representing the quantity of wheat now en route for the Continent, is made up as follows:—France, 120,000qr.; Belgium, 370,000qr.; Holland, 265,000qr.; Germany and the North, 135,000qr.; and Italy, Spain, etc., 260,000qr.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather rainy. There is no animation in the trade, and last week's prices are barely supported. The imports during the week amounted to 3,088 tons wheat, 9,492 tons rye, 12,733 tons barley, 16,021 tons maize. Fine dry German wheat, being taken by inland millers, maintains its value, white inferior sorts are next to unsaleable. Best dry Saale, Holstein, and Mecklenburg is firmly held at 27s 6d to 28s 3d, common Holstein is offering at 25s 9d to 26s 6d per 504 lb f.o.b. River Plate and Hard Winter is selling at 27s 9d to 29s per 480lb. Rye quiet. 9 10-15 South Russian on the spot and floating is offering at 22s 3d to 22s 6d per 480lb, c.i.f. There is not much business doing in malting barley. Maltsters and brewers having acquired a sufficient quantity to last them for some time, they see no inducement for entering upon forward deliveries. Good Saale is offering at 31s to 33s, fine quality at 34s 6d to 37s, while choice lots are scarce. Bohemian, Moravian, and Hungarian is held at 34s to 38s., good Holstein at 26s to 26s 6d per 448lb, f.o.b. Russian and Danubian feeding barley is selling at 18s 3d to 19s per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Prices of mixed maize for prompt delivery, owing to scanty supplies, are maintained, while later deliveries meet less attention. We quote spot value, 21s 3d, November shipment 19s 6d to 19s 9d, December-March 18s 9d to 19s per 480lb, c.i.f., Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

October 26th to November 2nd, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	1,294	..	..	31,585	32,879
Barley	4,220	..	..	23,889	28,118
Malt	16,934	536	..	..	17,470
Oats	2,520	100	..	23,931	26,551
Rye	..	..	..	6,542	6,542
Beans	498	..	..	1,227	1,725
Peas	336	..	..	8,600	8,936
Maize	..	..	..	4,035	4,035
Tares	5	..	..	..	5
Lentils	..	..	..	40	40
Linseed	..	..	..	2,850	2,850
Rapeseed	..	..	..	2,475	2,475
Canaryseed	..	..	..	954	954
Farm Seeds	640	..	..	2,000	2,640
Flour { Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	22,942	..	..	34,332	56,374

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Oct. 26 to Nov. 2, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	33,870 qrs.
Flour	43,309 ,,
Total	77,179 ,,
Requirements	106,020 ,,
Deficiency	28,841 ,,

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.

Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	June 10	126,781 qrs
,, 14	108,380 ,,	,, 17	103,574 ,,
,, 21	128,902 ,,	,, 24	101,205 ,,
,, 28	51,284 ,,	July 1	152,500 ,,
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	,, 8	112,761 ,,
,, 11	82,912 ,,	,, 15	116,854 ,,
,, 18	204,974 ,,	,, 22	89,245 ,,
,, 25	108,273 ,,	,, 29	118,314 ,,
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,	Aug. 5	104,334 ,,
,, 11	63,103 ,,	,, 12	102,109 ,,
,, 18	122,541 ,,	,, 19	103,353 ,,
,, 25	86,309 ,,	,, 26	82,367 ,,
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	Sept 2	73,090 ,,
,, 8	133,261 ,,	,, 9	85,791 ,,
,, 15	101,518 ,,	,, 16	117,084 ,,
,, 22	70,984 ,,	,, 23	133,884 ,,
,, 29	68,573 ,,	,, 30	61,997 ,,
May 6	96,343 ,,	Oct. 7	121,042 ,,
,, 13	72,852 ,,	,, 14	97,050 ,,
,, 20	101,429 ,,	,, 21	95,446 ,,
May 27	108,772 ,,	,, 28	154,805 ,,
June 3	73,846 ,,	Nov. 4	114,634 ,,

1900.			1900.	
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	June 8	93,147 qrs.	
,, 13	95,084 ,,	,, 15	86,125 ,,	
,, 20	114,928 ,,	,, 22	193,116 ,,	
,, 27	124,652 ,,	,, 29	142,185 ,,	
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,	July 6	132,950 ,,	
,, 10	75,000 ,,	,, 13	101,253 ,,	
,, 17	66,804 ,,	,, 20	82,294 ,,	
,, 24	62,191 ,,	,, 27	55,998 ,,	
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,	Aug. 2	86,167 ,,	
,, 10	63,702 ,,	,, 11	192,077 ,,	
,, 17	162,985 ,,	,, 18	138,510 ,,	
,, 24	111,409 ,,	,, 25	182,517 ,,	
,, 31	69,356 ,,	,, 31	80,149 ,,	
April 7	48,302 ,,	Sept. 7	58,394 ,,	
,, 13	131,085 ,,	,, 14	117,066 ,,	
,, 20	82,357 ,,	,, 21	105,961 ,,	
,, 27	43,783 ,,	,, 28	158,771 ,,	
May 4	104,535 ,,	Oct. 5	183,383 ,,	
,, 11	52,859 ,,	,, 12	156,815 ,,	
,, 18	97,412 ,,	,, 19	73,725 ,,	
,, 25	71,390 ,,	,, 26	98,302 ,,	
June 1	177 744 ,,	Nov. 2	77,179 ,,	

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1899.									
Oct. 14	63,040⅔	27	3	191,901⅛	27	9	18,024½	16	5
,, 21	64,242	28	2	192,268⅛	27	6	18,933⅔	16	10
,, 28	85,178⅛	28	1	219,751⅔	27	4	20,064⅔	16	3
Nov. 4	82,769⅜	27	2	203,071⅜	27	2	17,895½	16	7
,, 11	66,741⅜	26	7	166,786⅔	26	9	15,216⅝	16	5
,, 18	65,470⅛	26	1	163,915⅓	26	4	16,313½	16	7
,, 25	67,308⅛	25	8	164,362⅜	26	2	17,047⅜	16	7
Dec. 2	72,974⅜	25	7	163,441⅜	25	10	22,575½	16	6
,, 9	10,982⅝	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421⅜	16	5
,, 16	787,72⅜	25	4	135,344⅜	25	7	22,889⅛	16	1
,, 23	67,103⅜	25	6	116,757⅜	25	10	16,447⅝	16	0
,, 30	47,685⅞	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,403⅜	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6	40,086	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅝	16	4
,, 13	57,021⅜	25	11	83,421⅝	25	5	19,703	16	6
,, 20	68,463¼	26	0	100,925⅜	25	8	23,122⅜	16	5
,, 27	65,381½	25	10	108,357⅜	25	9	17,814⅜	16	8
Feb. 3	73,796⅜	25	8	90,769¼	25	4	22,061⅛	16	3
April 7	67,743⅜	25	10	20,402⅜	24	10	13,757⅜	17	2
,, 10	71,482⅜	25	10	80,543⅜	25	3	20,822⅜	16	2
,, 17	76,611⅜	26	1	80,414⅜	24	11	20,986⅜	16	1
,, 24	69,534⅛	26	3	63,931⅜	25	1	21,132⅜	16	10
Mar. 3	68,153⅜	26	4	51,727⅛	24	6	18,499⅛	16	11
,, 10	58,703⅛	25	11	44,921⅛	24	8	16,224	16	11
,, 17	76,435⅜	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,104⅜	16	10
,, 24	69,944⅛	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,012⅜	17	1
,, 31	72,762	25	10	34,387⅜	24	11	15,200⅜	17	2
,, 14	66,412⅛	25	11	19,519⅛	24	5	9,672⅜	17	8
,, 21	54,977⅜	26	0	11,673⅜	24	9	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28	70,006⅜	26	0	7 785⅜	25	2	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5	75,410⅛	25	11	8,159⅛	25	3	8,658⅛	18	0
,, 12	82,190⅛	25	11	10,417⅛	24	10	12,245⅜	17	11
,, 19	85,941⅜	25	7	5,638⅜	24	5	9,942	18	5
,, 26	95,574⅜	25	5	3,521¼	23	11	7,350⅜	18	2
June 2	68,906⅜	25	5	1,752⅜	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9	64,747¼	25	3	990⅜	23	8	6,053⅜	18	8
,, 16	55,340⅜	25	6	1,486⅜	23	8	7,228⅛	18	11
,, 23	54,324⅛	25	9	1,312⅛	23	5	5,344⅛	18	11
,, 30	44,920⅜	26	11	495⅞	23	4	4,706⅜	19	3
July 7	34,344⅜	27	10	486⅜	22	10	4,391⅛	19	5
,, 14	22,009⅜	28	7	949⅛	23	2	2,911⅜	19	1
,, 21	26,716⅜	29	0	767⅜	23	8	3,771⅛	19	3
,, 28	33,088	29	3	194⅛	24	4	3,335⅜	19	9
Aug. 4	45,748⅜	28	10	409⅛	23	10	3,453⅜	19	4
,, 11	37,644⅜	28	7	311⅛	23	7	3,391	19	8
,, 18	32,812⅜	28	10	608⅛	23	3	3,593⅜	19	11
,, 25	26,427⅜	28	10	787⅜	24	10	5,319⅛	18	8
Sept. 1	30,393⅜	28	8	1,978⅛	25	2	9,606⅜	18	1
,, 8	34,755⅛	28	7	6,140⅜	25	8	11,042⅛	17	10
,, 15	53,331⅛	28	4	20,879⅞	25	4	18,681⅛	17	1
,, 22	61,468⅛	28	4	41,284⅛	26	0	21,729⅜	17	1
,, 29	72,604	28	9	68,844⅜	26	1	25,620⅛	17	2
Oct. 6	66,690	28	9	94,282	26	2	23,865	16	10
,, 13	70,314⅜	28	9	134,277⅛	26	2	18,350⅜	17	1
,, 20	58,790⅛	28	4	159,007⅜	26	5	14,681⅛	16	11
Oct. 27	56,254	27	11	190,079⅜	26	3	16,996⅛	16	11
Nov. 3	54,514⅜	27	5	204,836⅛	26	3	16,602¼	16	11

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31 9 per qr.		28 8 per qr.		18 7 per qr.	
1891	37 1 ,,		28 2 ,,		20 0 ,,	
1892	30 4 ,,		26 2 ,,		19 11 ,,	
1893	26 4 ,,		25 6 ,,		18 9 ,,	
1894	22 10 ,,		24 6 ,,		17 1 ,,	
1895	23 1 ,,		21 11 ,,		14 6 ,,	
1896	26 2 ,,		22 11 ,,		14 9	
1897	30 2 ,,		23 6 ,,		16 11	
1898	34 0 ,,		27 2 ,,		18 5 ,,	
1899	25 8 ,,		25 7 ,,		17 0 ,,	

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(193 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900 Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	19 5
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	28 6	25 7	17 6
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	..	..	..
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Nov. 3rd, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	54,514⅜ qrs.	27s. 5d.
Barley	204,836 qrs.	26s. 3d.
Oats	16,602¼ qrs.	16s. 11d.

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 30th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	2,006	3	2,840	16	1	1	8	4
Barley	1,418	0	1,898	9	5	1	6	9
Oats	2,287	3	2,076	2	6	0	18	2

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Nov. 3rd, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896	54,370	31	6	194,688⅛	27	5	15,643	17	6
1897	70,488⅞	33	5	198,288⅛	26	10	15,892⅛	16	5
1898	66,727½	28	4	235,162⅜	28	6	17,618⅜	17	2
1899	84,760½	27	2	203,071⅔	27	2	17,895⅛	16	7

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Sept. 29.	Oct. 6.	Oct. 13.	Oct. 20.	Oct. 27.	Nov. 3.
29s. 0d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 9d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 8d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 7d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 6d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
27s. 11d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
27s. 5d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
27s. 0d.	..	..	..	..	..	..

IMPORTS OF POTATOES (OFFICIAL).

CEREAL YEARS.

	1900.	1899.	1898.
September Cwts.	213,000	117,000	78,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900. s. d.

Sept. 1, 1900 .....(per sack) 30 0

(No official change since last date given).

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb.	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March	21	6	22	8	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7¾	20	6	23	3½
May	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept.	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct.	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov.	..		22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec.	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb.	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept.	26	3	25	8	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct.	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov.	..		24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec.	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A slight improvement prevailed all round this morning, market being much clearer. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Welsh, 1s 8d to 2s; Surrey, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Sussex, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; turkeys (cocks), 6s to 8s 6d; hen, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; Bordeaux pigeons, 8d to 10d; feathered ditto, 7d to 9d; wild rabbits, 8d to 10d; tame, 1s to 1s 3d each; Australian, 7s 6d to 8s 9d per dozen; pheasants, 3s 6d to 4s; young grouse, 4s to 5s; old, 3s; young partridges, 3s to 3s 6d; old, 1s 6d to 1s 8d per brace; hares, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; leverets, 1s 6d to 2s; pintail, 1s 6d; teal, 8d to 10d; wild duck, 1s 6d; widgeon, 1s; snipe, 4d to 8d; woodcock, 2s to 2s 6d; golden plover, 6d to 9d; black, 4d to 6d each.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Few or no arrivals this week, owing to the trade having been well stocked at Kilmarnock Show. In the absence of business, last week's prices continue to rule, but to promote business buyers would concede a reduction.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: The consumptive demand is of moderate dimensions, but under the influence of the reduced stocks there is a firmer feeling on the part of importers, with some hardening of values, especially of bellies, which are extremely scarce. We quote, to-day, choice Cumberland cut, 20lb to 22lb, 48s to 51s; 26lb to 30lb, 46s to 49s; 32lb to 38lb, 43s to 48s; long middles, rib-in, 18lb to 22lb, 51s to 56s; clear bellies, 14lb to 16lb, 51s to 53s; 18lb to 20lb, 51s to 52s 6d; Staffordshire cut (lean on), 35lb to 40lb, and Birmingham cut, 33lb to 38lb, 45s to 48s; clear Staffords (lean off), 40lb to 44lb, and Yorkshire cut, 40lb to 45lb, 43s 6d to 45s; singed Wiltshire, Canadian, 45lb to 55lb, 53s to 58s; American, 40lb to 50lb, 44s to 49s; short clear backs, 12lb to 16lb, 43s to 44s 6d; 16lb to 20lb, 42s to 43s; fat backs (export), 37s 6d to 38s 6d; long clear middles, 35lb to 40lb, 44s to 45s; 40lb to 45lb, 43s 6d to 44s 6d; short clear middles, 45lb to 50lb, 40s to 41s; short middles, (rib in), 18lb to 23lb, 46s to 48s; shoulders, square cut, 12lb to 14lb, 35s to 39s 6d; 14lb to 16lb, 34s to 38s; New York cut, 11lb to 13lb, 31s to 34s per cwt. Hams rule fairly steady, with fresh light weights in good request. We quote choice long cut, 8lb to 12lb, 46s 6d to 51s; 14lb to 16lb, 45s to 50s; short cut and A.C., 10lb to 12lb, 44s 6d to 49s; 12lb to 14lb, 43s to 48s; 14lb to 16lb, 41s to 45s per cwt. Lard is in better demand, with some improvement in value. We quote pails and kegs, 38s 3d to 39s 6d; prime Western (in tierces), 37s 6d to 38s per cwt. Beef a shade easier, with small inquiry. We quote extra India mess, 70s to 73s 9d; Plate and Packet, 65s to 67s 6d per 304lb. Pork is reduced in value, with limited business passing. We quote finest prime mess, 65s to 68s per 200lb. Cheese.—The demand rules moderate, the easier cable quotations causing buyers to hold off. Prices on the spot, however, show little alteration. We quote finest Canadian, coloured, late makes, 54s to 56s; white, 48s to 48s 6d finest States coloured, 53s to 54s 6d; white, 53s to 54s; summer cheese, ripe and ready, are freely offered from 50s to 52s 6d; but lower grades are a slow sale, nominally 28s to 42s per cwt. Butter rules quiet; the inquiry for Canadian and American is still restricted. We quote Finest Irish in factory lb boxes, 102s to 107s; second quality, 98s to 100s; finest States (nominal), 92s to 96s; finest Irish in 56lb to 112lb casks, 78s to 84s; finest Danish, 110s to 112s; Australian and New Zealand, 102s to 104s; Irish creamery, 105s to 110s; Cork factory, 98s; seconds, 94s; thirds, 88s per cwt.—Hodgson Brothers.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good attendance, an average supply and a good demand. The following were the prices: Cheese, 48s to 52s per cwt; fancy dairy, 56s to 58s; Irish, 52s to 56s; singles, 50s to 52s; twins, 48s to 50s; and Canadians, 50s to 52s per cwt.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Cambourne: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 120s to 127s per 112lb. Irish creameries, 106s to 112s; York lump, 15s to 16s per stone; ditto long rolls, 14lb, 1s 6d to 1s 7d per lb; ditto in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per lb. Settle: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Spalding: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Stone: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Colne: 1s 2½d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d per lb. Hereford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 11d to 1s per lb. Knaresborough: (wholesale), 1s 6d to 1s 8d; (retail), 1s 7d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Louth: (wholesale), 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Market Drayton: best, 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb; seconds, 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s 1d per lb. Northallerton: 1s 5d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Worksop: 1s 4d per lb. Dorchester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Devizes: (wholesale), 1s 1d to 1s 2d; (retail), 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Driffield: 1s per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 3d per lb.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Crewe: 1s 3d per lb. Derby: 1s 2d per lb. Easingwold: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 120s to 126s per 120; Finnish, 110s to 118s; Dutch, 112s to 118s; Canadian, 100s to 112s per cwt. Helmsley: 10d to 11d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 120s to 127s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 106s to 112s; York lump, 15s to 16s per stone; ditto long rolls, 14lb to 15lb, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Stratford-on-Avon: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Whitchurch: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 7 or 8 for 1s. Gainsborough: 8 or 9 for 1s. Leeds (Yorkshire): 14s 6d to 15s 6d per 120. Irish: 11s to 12s. Danish: 8s 6d to 10s 3d. Austrian blues: 7s to 8s; ditto reds, 6s 3d to 6s 9d. Settle: 8 or 9 for 1s. Sheffield: 8 or 9 for 1s. Spalding: 8 for 1s. Stone: 8 or 9 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 6 or 7 for 1s. Colne: 2s 8d per score. Dorchester: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per score. Goole: 9 for 1s. Hereford: 8 or 10 for 1s. Keighley: 6 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 8 or 9 for 1s. Knaresborough: 7 or 8 for 1s. Louth (wholesale): 10 for 1s. Market Drayton: 7 or 9 for 1s. Market Weighton: 9 or 10 for 1s. Northallerton: 7 for for 1s. Stockton: 6 for 1s. Whitby: 8 or 9 for 1s. Worksop: 3s per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 8 or 9 for 1s. Devizes: 10 to 12 for 1s. Driffield: 11 for 1s. Penistone: 8 for 1s. Ripon: 6 or 7 for 1s. Scarborough: 7 for 1s.

Friday.—Altrincham: 5 and 6 for 1s. Crewe: 7 for 1s. Easingwold: 7 to 9 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 6s 3d to 7s 7d per 120; Russian, 5s 7d to 7s 10d; Canadian, 6s 5d to 8s. Helmsley: 8 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 16s to 16s 6d per 120; Irish, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; Danish, 9s to 11s; Austrian blues, 7s to 8s; ditto reds, 6s 3d to 6s 9d. Leyburn: 7 for 1s. Lincoln: 8 or 9 for 1s. Stratford-on-Avon: 2s to 2s 11d per score. Whitchurch: 7 and 8 for 1s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The demand for choicest quality of Australian butter remains good, although there is not so much business doing in the finest grade. Prices remain unchanged on the week. New Zealand stored butter, ex "Gothic," is bringing 102s to 108s per cwt according to quality. A certain class of buyers, who have to cater for the shilling retail trade, cannot well pay more than 102s for this butter, but those who make a thirteen-penny retail trade pay the higher price. The Copenhagen official quotation is this week unaltered at 105 kroner, against 103 kroner twelve months since. Cheese.—The market for Canadian, both spot and c.i.f., continues dull, notwithstanding the fact that arrivals appear to go into consumption, and stocks do not accumulate as they would do if there was a diminished demand. Strictly cool cheese are making 55s to 56s, against summery goods at 52s to 53s, so that relatively September quality is at present the better value.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Apples: Very little doing; moderate, for which a fair demand prevailed. Pears: Trade quiet. Good supplies of fruit came to hand, and cleared at a good sale. Greensmith: Cabbages, 2s 6d to 3s; beans, 2s 6d per tally; cauliflowers, 1s to 1s 3d per dozen; Brussels sprouts, 1s 6d per half-sieve; seconds, 2s 6d per sieve; carrots, 2s; turnips, 2s; parsnips, 1s 6d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s to 1s 6d per bundle; celery, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bulbs; English apples, 4s to 6s per bushel; Normandy, 6s 9d per case; Pears, Marie Louise, 1s 6d; Seckle, 2s; Uvedales, 4s; Beurre Diel, 2s; Beurre Clairgeau, 2s per dozen; Fine English grapes, 1s to 1s 6d per lb; Valencia oranges, 9s to 12s per case; Nova Scotian, 10s to 14s per barrel; English pears, 3s to 6s per bushel; Californian, 7s to 8s per case; Canadian, 2s per dozen; Valencia nuts, 3s to 3s 6d per bag; Brazils, 4s to 4s 6d per cwt; Barcelonas, 4s to 4s 6d per cwt; Cobs, 4s to 4s each; bananas, 5s to 6s per bunch; Jamaican oranges, 6s to 8s per case; Grenoble walnuts, 1s to 1s 2d per bag.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—Up to noon moderate demand; heavy trade. Supplies of Scotch have been heavy, and prices have had a downward tendency. Quotations: Scotch Regents, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Early Puritans, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Snowdrops, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Reading Giants, 3s 6d to 4s; Dunnes, 3s 6d to 4s; Markhams, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; Up-to-Dates, 3s 6d to 4s per cwt.

Goole, Wednesday.—Potatoes: The demand for Scotch was 6d per ton lower than last week, and 1,000 tons were done at 80s per ton. Best samples up to 85s.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Attendance and business [illegible] high a figure.

Worcester, Saturday.—[illegible] pockets have passed the public scales to-day, and 819 during the week making a total of 17,139 pockets.—PERRY AND CO.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The mild weather enables farmers to keep their cattle out and reduces the cost of feed. It is stimulating to the wheat sown in late September or early October and to the rye and winter oats of a like sowing. Catch crops put in immediately after the harvest are also benefiting. The rainfall of October in the home counties was fairly satisfactory, but in the north there was a flooding downpour during the last seven days of the month, and round Newcastle two inches fell in four days. In the west, the fall was almost three inches. Our own returns thus compare with recent years and with the 25 years' average :—

October average	2·81 inches
October, 1900	2·07 inches
,, 1899	2·22 ,,
,, 1898	3·01 ,,
,, 1897	0·57 ,,
,, 1896	3·75 ,,

At most stations in the South, East, and West of England the rainfall for the ten completed months of 1900 corresponds very closely to the mean, but in the North, including Scotland and also in Ireland, the year has been wetter than the average. The figures for Wales vary, but for the most part are moderate. The air of late has been very "muggy," and decidedly adverse to grain threshing. Farmers will do well not to thresh until we get cool winds and a crisp air.

The foreign advices may be summarised as follows :—

America	Increased wheat sowings.
Argentina	Poorer prospect than last year.
Australia	Medium promise.
New Zealand	Good promise.
India	Good promise.

These reports relate to future yields. From Russia we have a preliminary official report, which thus compares with recent yields :—

1900	45,150,000 qrs.	estimate.
1899	56,555,000 ,,	yield.
1898	57,180,000 ,,	,,
1897	42,390,000 ,,	,,

The Russian wheat exports compare very curiously with the crop returns, as the following figures will show :—

WHEAT EXPORTS TO ALL COUNTRIES.

1899	7,437,000 qrs.
1898	13,131,000 ,,
1897	15,076,000 ,,
1896	16,133,000 ,,

If out of the 1897 crop of under forty-three millions thirteen millions were exported in 1898, how is it that out of 57,180,000 qrs. in 1898 only 7,437,000 qrs. were exported in 1899 ? The Board of Agriculture would do a great service in appointing a special commissioner to visit Russia, for Consular reports are really useless in so vast a country. The Consul is not peripatetic, and only a travelling commissioner can get at the truth of the fifty-two vast provinces each of them the area of an ordinary Western nation.

The home markets of the past week have been rather dull for breadstuffs, but the temperature has been against retail wants, and the time of year is opposed to wholesale or speculative business. A good show of North German, Polish, and Baltic wheat at Mark Lane has been a feature of the last two markets, and sales of these samples have been brisk enough. The newly-threshed home samples are often lacking in condition, and the market is decidedly overdone for the time being with American wheat, both Pacific and Atlantic. The American flour shippers have reduced their terms since the end of October, and have thereby made trade at Mark Lane worse for all American sorts, from the fine strong flour of Pittsburg or Washburn down to the commoner baking kinds.

The following return of a dozen county union contracts recently put through has points of interest to the whole country trade. Oddly enough, flour is dear in Cornwall where wheat is cheap, and if flour is obtainable at Mountmellick for 21s 8d, the price of bread should scarcely be 5½d.

WHOLESALE CONTRACTS

	Bread per lb.	Flour per sack.	Wheat per qr.
Ballymahon	4d	—	—
Killarney	4½d	—	—
Mountmellick	5½d	21s 8d	—
Quinn	5½d	—	—
Redruth	—	24s 6d	—
Ross	—	22s 9d	—
Rugby	4½d	—	—
Sevenoaks	—	23s 6d	—
Tiverton	—	23s 6d	—
Uxbridge	4½d	22s	—
Westmid	—	20s	—
Wolverhampton	—	17s 8d	—

These figures pay incidentally a very high tribute to the milling trade, for whereas a majority of unions find it an advantage to buy flour and do their own baking, not one of the twelve finds any saving in trying to do without the miller, or in buying their own wheat, either for their own manufacture into flour and for delivery at local mills to be ground and returned as flour to the union. The great difference in the prices paid requires explanation both with respect to bread and to flour.

There are now on passage to the United Kingdom the following quantities of wheat :—

	Qrs.
From America	370,000
California	105,000
Argentina	235,000
Australia	200,000
Russia	105,000
All other Countries	15,000
Total Nov. 1, 1900	1,730,000
,, ,, 1899	1,600,000
,, ,, 1898	1,200,000
,, ,, 1897	1,878,000
,, ,, 1896	1,905,000

Of flour there are now 432,000 sacks on passage against 366,000 qrs. on November 1st, 1899, while quantities of spring corn thus compare :—

	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Beans. Qrs.
Nov. 1, 1900	560,000	560,000	12,000
1899	1,085,000	520,000	8,000
1898	564,000	497,000	15,000
1897	255,000	665,000	14,000
1896	1,022,000	830,000	19,000

The American visible supply is thus cabled :—

	Bushels. Wheat.	Maize.
Nov. 1, 1900	59,773,000	8,144,000
1899	48,940,000	13,716,000

The supplies of grain into the United Kingdom for the past week have been as follows :—

Wheat, 333,000 qrs.; a large supply.
Flour, 196,000 sacks ; a fair supply.
Maize, 272,000 qrs.; a heavy supply.
Barley, 137,000 qrs.; a bare average.
Oats, 116,000 qrs.; under average.

The markets for barley have shown that degree of firmness which the arrivals would suggest, but oats have not benefited as they should have done by the respite in new arrivals. Holders have too often shown an eagerness to clear old stocks which has injuriously affected values. English oats are now selling noticeably better than foreign.

The sales of British wheat being added to those of imported wheat and flour, we have had the following changes in breadstuffs statistics :—

	Qrs.
Total Supplies	626,000
Wants	567,000
Surplus	59,000
Stocks October 27	2,818,000
Stocks November 3	2,877,000

The stocks in granary a year ago were reckoned at 2,350,000 qrs., so that the nett increase on the twelvemonth has been about half a million qrs.

The following particulars of the oilseed trade from Jan. 1 to Oct. 31 will be found of interest :—

1900.	Linseed Oil. Per ton. £ s. d.	Calcutta Linseed. Per qr. £ s. d.	Linseed Cake. Per ton. £ s. d.
January	23 12 0	2 8 2	8 10 0
February	24 6 2	2 8 9	8 13 9
March	25 0 4	2 7 9	8 3 2
April	27 18 0	2 10 0	7 19 4
May	33 17 9	2 14 4	7 18 0
June	34 6 8	2 12 10½	7 13 9
July	34 7 9	2 15 1	7 17 6
August	33 8 1	2 13 1	7 19 2
September	33 14 9	2 17 0	8 7 4
October	32 17 6	3 1 0	8 15 0

1900.	Cotton Oil. Per ton. £ s. d.	Cotton Seed. Per ton. £ s. d.	Cotton Cake. Per ton. £ s. d.
January	20 16 0	7 6 0	4 19 8
February	22 2 4	7 7 8	5 3 6
March	20 15 2	6 11 9	5 0 8
April	21 10 0	6 14 2	4 16 7
May	22 12 4	6 16 3	4 13 6
June	21 16 6	6 2 6	4 7 1
July	22 12 3	6 5 8	4 7 8
August	22 3 9	6 11 0	4 6 3
September	22 3 4	7 8 9	4 17 11
October	19 10 0	8 0 0	5 6 3

The above prices represent average values on the monthly sales in London.

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	360,000	190,000	400,000	50,000	105,000
Russia	266,000	—	5,000	144,000	100,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	5,000	—	—	—
Roumania	105,000	—	5,000	10,000	—
Argentina	53,000	—	52,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	—	—	—	—	5,000
Miscellaneous	30,000	6,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	814,000	206,000	482,000	224,000	220,000

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites. s. d.	Town Households. s. d.
September 1 (per sack)	28 6	(per sack) 25 6
October 1 ,,	29 0	,, 26 0
October 26 ,,	28 6	,, 25 6

(No official change since last date given).

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

Some 64lb. samples of new English wheat to-day witnessed to the fact that heavy weight is not at all unknown among this season's samples. At 31s. for red and 32s. for white they were probably a good bargain. Somewhat an excess of new wheat not fully conditioned was on offer, and 28s. to 30s. being accepted for these lots average values were rather prejudicially affected. Foreign wheat was in fair retail request. Baltic samples were more looked after than others. The large American visible supply of wheat is against buyers in this country readily paying spot prices asked. Some good Australian wheat sells well. Malting barley has been a livelier trade ever since the Brewing Exhibition started the October business in earnest. To-day anything worth 35s. or over was in request. It is the lots offered at 28s. to 30s. which wait for a sale. The demand for feeding barley is very fair. The market for English oats was steady but far from active. There were some buyers of foreign at currencies. Beans, peas, and rye are 6d. lower on the week, but lentils are dearer. New Russian buckwheat made 27s. per qr.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Nov. 5th. 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN

	s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new) (per 504 lb.)	29	33
(old) ,,	32	33
Red (new) ,,	28	31
(old) ,,	29	32
Chicken or Feed (per 480 lb.)	26	27
BARLEY, Malting (per 448 lb.)	30	38
Brewing ,,	25	30
Feeding (per 400 lb.)	21	25
MALT, English (per 336 lb.)	34	40
Scotch ,,	36	38
Brown ,,	29	32
OATS, English (new) ,,	17	20
(old) ,,	19	22
Scotch ,,	21	23
Irish (per 304 lb.)	16/6	18
RYE, British (per 480 lb.)	25	25/6
BEANS, Pigeon ,,	43	45
,, Winter ,,	30	34
PEAS, Best Marrowfat (per 504 lb.)	72	84
,, Blue (boiling) ,,	68	76
,, Dun ,,	32	34
,, Maple (new) ,,	39	41
,, (old) ,,	41	43

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb. :		
Finest Duluth	33	34
American Spring	32	33
Hard Manitoba	32	33
Red Winter	31/6	32
Kansas	31	32
Californian	31	32
Walla Walla	30	31
Australian	30	31
New Zealand	29	31
Argentine	28	31
Danzig	33	34
Saxonka	32	33
Azima	31	32
Ghirka	30	31
Persian	29	30
MAIZE, per 480lb. :		
Cinquantina	27	29
Roumanian	25	26
Russian	25	26
Caucasian	24	25
Argentine	22	23
American	21	22
OATS :		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	26
Canadian (320lb.)	15/6	16
American (320lb.)		
,, White	15	16
,, Mixed	14	15
Revel (320lb.)	16	17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	17
,, (304lb.)	14	14/3
Libau white (304lb.)	13	13/6
,, black ,,	14/6	15
White Sea (304 lb.)	13/6	14
BEANS, per 480lb. :		
Egyptian	32	33
Smyrna	29	30
BEANS (*continued*).		
Konigsberg	28	29
Barbary	27	28
Mexican	28	30
LOCUST BEANS, per ton :		
Cyprian	106	112
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Canadian, White	30	30/6
Indian, White	28	30
,, Green	25	27
Barbary	26	28
Australian, White	40	41
,, Dun	26	27
LENTILS, per 504 lb. :		
Egyptian	32	36
Indian	37	39
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Syrian	26	27
Smyrna	27	28
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	24	25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb. :		
French	29	30
Russian	27	28
BARLEY :		
Californian (448 lb.)	26	29
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	28
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	24
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	22
Syrian (400 lb.)	23	22
Persian (400 lb.)	18	18/3
American (400 lb.)	20	21
MALT, per 336 lb. :		
Californian	34	37
Smyrna	33	36

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED.	per 416lb. s.	s.	RAPESEED.	per 416lb. s.	s.
English	59	to 61	English	56	to 60
Dutch	62	to 64	Dutch	54	to 56
Argentine	55	to 57	French	47	to 48
Canadian	60	to 62	Roumanian	44	to 46
Russian	55	to 57	Cawnpore	46	to 47
Calcutta	61	to 62	Calcutta	43	to 44
SESAME.	per 424lb.		Guzerat	50	to 51
Bombay	50	to 52	Ferozepore	44	to 45
Kurrachee	53	to 54	Ravison	32	to 34
COTTON SEED.	per ton.		POPPYSEED.	per 376lb.	
Egyptian	140	to 142	Indian	47	to 4

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE MARKET CLOSED STEADY. MAIZE MADE FULL TERMS FOR ANYTHING OF WHICH REASONABLY PROMPT DELIVERY COULD BE PROMISED.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Nov. 5th.

The trade, although dull, was not so weak as it often is on a mild, close day in November. Top price is maintained at 30s., and Households are not offered, as a rule, under 24s. 9d. per sack. Country flour is rather pressed on sale, and 6d. decline is usually conceded. Hungarian is steady at a 30s. level for the better makes and 31s. 6d. for extra fine. French is neglected, and is barely saleable at last week's terms. Australian is in fair request, but 6d. decline is sometimes allowed to effect a clearance. The finest grades of American start with Star at 27s., after which come Washburn's, Pilsbury's, and Morrison's best at 26s. We then have Guinea Gold at 23s. 6d., Golden Lily at 24s. 6d., and Gold Medal at 25s. 6d. per sack. The second grades are headed by Iron Duke at 19s. 6d., Improved Nicollet at 19s., and Manhattan at 18s. 9d. Red Dog, Violet, and Phœnix are three sorts of feeding flour which range from 13s. to 16s. per sack.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	30
Town Whites	,,	27	—27/6
,, Households	,,	24	—24/6
No. 2	,,	22	—22/6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24	— 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23	— 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	21	— 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	20	— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25	— 26
,, Second Patents	,,	23	— 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	25	— 26
,, Bakers'	,,	21	— 23
Kansas Patents	,,	23	— 24
Cascadia	,,	23/9	—24
Canadian	,,	24	—24/3
Australian	,,	23	—23/3
Hungarian	,,	28	— 31
French	,,	21	— 24

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	192	—194
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	109	—111
Bran, London Broad	,,	99	—104
,, Fine	,,	78	— 84
,, Country Flake	,,	108	—110
,, ,, Broad	,,	96	— 98
Pollard	,,	92	— 94
Fine Middlings	,,	118	—122
Coarse Middlings	,,	102	—108
Oat Meal	,,	220	—280
Oat Flour	,,	340	—360
Maize Flour	,,	132	—134
Maize Meal	,,	114	—124
Maize Cones	,,	144	—150
Maize Germ Meal,	,,	106	—110
Pea Meal	,,	128	—158
Bean Meal	,,	152	—172
Rice Meal	,,	91	— 95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—		Nov.	Dec.	March
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Oct. 29	11 a.m.	6 7	6 7	6 9
	4 p.m.	no calls.		
Oct. 30	11 a.m.	6 6	6 7	6 9
	4 p.m.	6 6	6 7	6 9
Oct. 31	11 a.m.	6 6	6 7	6 9
	4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
Nov. 1	11 a.m.	6 6	6 8	6 9
	4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
Nov. 2	11 a.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
	4 p.m.	6 7	6 7	6 10
Nov. 3	11 a.m.	6 6	6 7	6 10
To-day	11 a.m.	6 7	6 7	6 10

There were no offerings of maize this morning for November delivery, but for Dec., transactions were put through at 4s. 1d. per cental.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50. "Call" hours from Nov. 1 have been fixed at 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 3,050 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 9,263 bales bacon. The continued slowness of demand again brought prices of bacon down, and on Friday official rates were 5s lower all round on Irish and Danish. Canadian quotations were 2s lower, but this altogether inadequate, and selling rates shillings under paper prices. Irish, 50s, 54s up to 58s; Danish, 50s, 56s up to 58s; Canadian, 48s, 54s. The butter market was a slow one, and prices again giving way, the demand being very restricted; Danish, 120s, 124s; Canadian, 100s, 104s; Colonial, 100s, 114s. Lard.—A strong demand for Irish at an advance of 6s to 8s. Prices 54s, 65s. American pails fair demand, 40s, 41s

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Our trade continues in a very quiet state, but the general tone is firm. A few lots of New English red clover seed are offering, mostly of poor quality, which do not attract buyers. Germany offers some very fine parcels American seed this season is very inferior and dear. In other clovers and trefoil there is little passing. Perennial and Italian ryegrasses are firmer. Spring tares of good quality are offering, but at high prices, and no sales are reported. Canary seed neglected. Blue peas quiet.—JOHN PICARD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Supplies of wheat are heavy, while, in consequence of the continued difficulty in working, demand has been of the most nominal character. Values have been in the main unaltered. Maize and barley without alteration in price. Oats are quiet but steady.—W. P. WOOD AND CO., Mark Lane.

The trade for bran is firm, at full prices, and London mills are clear of stock. Pollard is in smaller demand, and is 2s. 6d. cheaper on the week. Fine middlings are steadily held, but coarse sorts are sold at 2s. 6d. reduction. The trade is affected by the difficulties attending lighterage.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Flour steady, unchanged, with a moderate trade doing.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

The arrivals of wheat and flour are liberal. The trade is quiet, and prices of both articles are unchanged. There is no change in value of maize, barley, and oats.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Offals.—For prompt delivery small brans are again rather easier. Recent prices fully maintained for forward delivery. Farmers are using up farm produce, and weather is mild, bran, consequently, not yet gone much into consumption.—GREENHILL BROTHERS, Belfast, November 3.

Flour.—Reduced estimates of the prospective Argentine crop have steadied markets this week, and there is considerable firmness, without, however, much flour changing hands. Grain.—The decline on Indian corn is checked, and values 1½d. to 3d. per boll higher, supplies being readily absorbed. Canadian peas dull. There is a good demand for Canadian oats at unchanged prices. Barley more plentiful and in buyers' favour. Oilcake very firm. Oatmeal steady. Mill stuffs.—Bran quiet and unchanged. Thirds firm.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, November 3.

Wheat in moderate demand, Kansas 1d. per cental, spring ½d. dearer; white unchanged. Flour steady with a small consumptive trade for foreign at about Tuesday's prices. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in this minimum prices of bakers. Maize in good demand, and is more firmly held at about unchanged prices for mixed; European steady and occasionally easier. Plate moves steadily into consumption, with small kinds scarce and dearer. Barley for malting and feeding is quiet, with a slow trade at quotations. Beans are firm, especially for English and flat kinds, which make 3d. advance on the week. Peas steady but quiet at late rates. Oats firm with a fair business at full prices for English. Oatmeal steady but quiet, values being generally 3d. under last market day. Oilcake firm with a fairly good demand at about late rates.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, November 3.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

There is rather more trade passing than there was last week.

The holders of wheat cargoes are rather more confident than on Saturday and there are not very many offers for future shipment at currencies. Barley is steady, with a fair business doing. Oats, beans, and maize are all quiet. Maize cargoes are strong for near dates, but weak for 1901 delivery. Oilseed cargoes are weaker from Saturday.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 30s 3d, arrived; Californian, 30s 6d, nearly due; Walla Walla, 29s, arrived; Argentine, 29s 9d, Feb. shipment; Australian, 30s 6d, on passage; Baltic (Konigsberg), 31s 9d. prompt shipment; No. 2 Red winter, 29s 6d, Nov. shipment; No. 2 Hard winter, 28s 6d, Nov. shipment; No. 1 Hard Duluth, 32s 3d, Nov. shipment; No. 1 Northern Spring, 31s, Nov. shipment.

MAIZE.—Galatz, 19s 6d, May shipment; Roumanian, 21s 3d, November shipment; American, 19s, December shipment; ditto, 17s 6d, February shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 18s 9d, November shipment; Persian, 17s, November shipment; Kustendje, 18s 6d. on passage; Californian, 27s, on passage.

OATS.—Canadian, 14s 6d, arrived; ditto, 14s 3d, on passage; Petersburg, 13s 9d, arrived; New Zealand, 22s 6d, on passage.

BEANS.—Saida, 29s, November shipment.

LINSEED.—Bombay, 53s 3d, April shipment; Argentine 53s, February shipment.

RAPESEED.—Guzerat, 17s, April shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 18s 9d, on passage: Egyptian, £ 12s. 6d. December shipment.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington

Monday, Nov. 5th, 1900.

	British	Total.	Nov. 6th 1899.
Beasts	1,469	1,469	3,611
Sheep and lambs	5,130	5,130	6,050
Calves	10	10	5
Pigs	60	60	—
Milch cows	60	60	76

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	3 0 — 4 2	—	4 10
Sheep	3 2 — 5 2	—	5 6
Pigs	2 10 .. 4 0	..	4 8

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, —; Eastern Counties, 42; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,214; Devon, 40; Ireland, 164.

There was a decrease of 170 head in the supply of beasts compared with Monday last, the majority of these being of an inferior quality, trade ruled dull with a slight drop in value; the few best on offer made late rates. Among the Irish arrivals were 41 stores, for which there were no inquiries when our report left. Fat butchering cows and bulls were slow of sale, but a clearance of these is expected.

The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Nov. 6th, 1899.
Scotch	— to —	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Devons	4s 8d to 4s 9d	— to —
Herefords	4s 8d to 4s 10d	4s 6d to 4s 7d
Runts	4s 8d to 4s 9d	4s 6d to 4s 7d
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	3s 9d to 4s 0d
Fat cows	3s 6d to 3s 8d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

The supply of sheep and lambs compared with Monday last showed a slight decrease, and consisted of 190 Scotch, 1,400 Irish, and 760 from the Eastern Counties, and a few lambs from Hertfordshire. These latter were in slack demand. Weather sheep were steady of sale at late rates, whilst heavy descriptions were rather higher in prices. Ewes were in fair demand at late rates. There was little inquiry for lambs.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Nov. 6th, 1899.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-stone ditto	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10-stone half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
Lincolns	— to —	4s 10d to 5s 0d
12-stone half-breds	5s 0d to 5s 2d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10 stone Down ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
11-stone half-bred ditto	3s 6d to 3s 8d	— to —
4½ to 5-stone Down lambs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	— to —

There was a rather large supply of pigs; rates ruled steady with a slow trade. Best small breeds made 4s 8d to 4s 10d per 8lb.

London Central, Monday.—Large supplies, trade very bad. Beef: Carcases, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; hindquarters, 4s 4d; roastings, 5s to 5s 4d. Sheep: Ewes, 3s to 3s 2d; wethers, 4s to 4s 4d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s to 4s 4d; wether, 5s 2d to 5s 6d. Pigs, large, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; small, 3s 6d to 4s.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 203; sheep, 584; pigs, 350. Beef, 7s 6d to 8s 3d; mutton, 8s to 9s; pork, 6s to 7s; sows, 5s 3d to 6s. Fat beast sharp trade. Store sheep fair. Fat pigs good. Stores fair. Milch cows fair, £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 309. To-day's supply compared with last market day showed an increase of 2,254 and consisted entirely of consignments from Canada, for which there was a fairly steady trade, though competition was wanting owing to the small number on sale failing to draw many buyers; the best beasts on offer to dress from 720lb to 760lb made 4s 2d per 8lb, offal given in; plain ditto to dress from 560lb to 640lb were quoted at 3s 9d. No sheep on market. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 1,820, 4s 2d per 8lbs to dress about 720lbs; sheep, 751, 4s 2d per 8lb to dress about 68lb to 70lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday. — Linseed Cake; Market quiet, prices about unchanged. Cotton cake nominally unaltered; not much doing. Linseed: Calcutta lower; Russian steady.

English linseed cake	£8 12 6 to 8 15 0	ex mill
American Western linseed cake	8 0 0 to 8 2 6	ex quay
Russian oil cake	7 18 9 to 8 5 0	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. oil)	6 17 6 —	ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	6 17 6 —	ex quay Oct.-Nov. shipt.
Decorticated cotton meal	6 15 0 —	ex quay On passage.
London made cotton cake (best)	5 5 0 —	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	5 0 0 to 5 1 3	ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4 10 0	on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4 12 6 to 4 15 0	ex warehouse
Russian linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2 16 0 to 2 18 0	ex warehouse
American linseed in bulk, per 416 lbs	2 16 0 to 2 17 0	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	3 1 0 to 3 2 0	ex warehouse.

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that extreme quietude now characterises the trade for seed seeds, all speculation being for the moment dead, whilst there are no present consumptive sowing wants to be satisfied. Meantime values of clover and grasses all round show no important variation. Winter tares move off slowly at the unsatisfactory rates now accepted. Rye is likewise neglected. In rapeseed an advance is noted of 1s. per qr., whilst full prices are asked for mustard seed. New Zealand [illegible] feet being now cheap meets with a fair export inquiry. Canaryseed shows some improvement, and a parcel of fine Spanish seed is now offering at attractive rates. [illegible] change in hempseed. Longpod and Windsor beans are wanted. In blue peas and haricot beans the trade moves in moderate limits.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High street, London, S.E., report There has been a further clearance of the large growths during the past week. [illegible] of the entire Kent crop [illegible] now been sold. Prices are hardening.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Although the supply of fat beasts at Islington on the chief market day of the week (Monday) was much lighter, business was of a decidedly slower nature, but, nevertheless, primest quality maintained about last week's quotations, all beasts answering this description selling early in the day. Middling quality of all breeds, of which the majority were composed, met a dull and dragging trade, with a marked downward tendency in value. Though towards the close 2d. per 8lb. less money was willingly accepted, a clearance could not be made. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in steady demand by both town and country buyers, but, nevertheless, were easier in price, more especially so on Thursday. At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, the supply at the beginning of the week being light, rates ruled somewhat firmer, with freer sales; but on Saturday, owing to the large number of arrivals (2,873, only 2,663 of which were shown), trade was of a slow and heavy nature, at a decline of from 2d. to 3d. per 8lb., at which reduction sales were forced. The total number on offer at both markets was 5,512 (previous week 4,841), consisting of 1,780 British (decrease 380) and 3,732 foreign (increase 1,051). These latter comprised 3,432 from the United States and 300 from Canada. The following were the top rates per8lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90-stone Polled Aberdeens, 4s. 11d.; 80-stone Devons, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.; 90-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d.; 90-stone runts, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d; 95-stone Dublins, 4s. 4d.; 100-stone Waterfords, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 85-stone States, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d. on Monday, and 4s 2d. on Saturday; 90-stone Canadians, 3s. 6d.; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 6d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. The sheep trade was confined to Islington. The number penned was 7,920, as against 7,960 during the previous week. Amongst the supply on Monday were a few lambs, the best of which found buyers at 6s. per 8lb. Small prime quality wether sheep met a steady demand, and were unaltered in value, but other descriptions were slower of sale at 2d. per 8lb. less money, whilst ewes met with forced sales at a still further decline. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s.; 9-stone ditto, 5s. 10d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 12-stone halfbreds, 5s.; 10-stone Down ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 3s. 6d. Calves numbered fifty, and sold readily on Thursday, the best making 5s. 6d. per 8lb. For pigs (310 on offer) trade ruled firm, there being more demand; best small breeds were quoted at 4s. 8d. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

Store stock are in increased demand at very firm and in some instances slightly increased rates, barreners being sought after at prices ranging up to £33 per pair, down to £18 or £20 for rough-condition bullocks. Milch beasts have suffered a trifling check in price, but this will, we think, only prove of a temporary character, but even become dearer. In-calvers are making good prices, and there is a very healthy tone pervading the trade. Store sheep are dear, and buyers' wants are by no means easily met. Fat stock is marketing exceedingly well, bullocks making a firm sale at 11s. to 11s. 6d. per score for steers and heifers, and 10s. to 10s. 6d. for cows. Fat sheep are quite in sympathy with beef, milkers making 8d. to 8½d. and ewes 7½d. Lamb meets a steady sale, and veal and pork maintain recent high figures.

Trade in Ireland.

At Thursday's Dublin market there was a good attendance of buyers, but a big decrease in both cattle and sheep. Cross-Channel buyers were obliged to pay the full rates of last week, but ordinary beasts sold with the turn against sellers, while rough sorts were decidedly cheaper. Best ox and heifer beef may be quoted at from 52s. 6d. to 56s., and in a few exceptional cases 57s. 6d. per cwt.; second quality, 47s. 6d. to 50s.; and inferior, 42s. 6d. to 45s. Business in the mutton department was very discouraging to sellers, being slow and dragging all round, and even with a shrinkage of over 1,100 sheep it was impossible to effect a clearance. For shipment to London and Lancashire markets hoggets met with a fair inquiry, but to do business smart concessions had to be made. Choice heavy-weight wethers and ewes, which generally go so well, in the absence of shippers to compete with home victuallers, moved off very sluggishly at reduced values. Rough sheep were neglected, and the market must be written down from 1s. to 2s. per head. Prime wether mutton was worth from 6½d. to 6¾d. per lb.; ditto ewe, 5d. to 6d.; and inferior, 4½d. to 5d. Heavy hoggets sold at from 41s. to 50s. each, and lighter sorts from 21s. to 42s. In the dairy department there was a brisk demand for choice springers and new milkers for English and home use, selling freely at extreme rates of last week. Secondary and inferior cows met with only a slack inquiry. The pig market was fully supplied, but though shippers were well represented, buying was very lifeless, and a drop of fully 2s. per cwt. on late rates was experienced. Ham and middle pigs made from 42s. to 46s. per cwt; heavy, from 42s. to 44s.; and coarse, 34s. to 40s. per cwt.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The numbers of fat cattle on offer this week have again been large, and the quality generally good. The trade has been steady throughout, and prices quite equal to those of last week, bullocks of prime quality making, if anything, more money; fat sheep and lambs a good show. Trade has been fairly good, and prices for all classes have been easily maintained. Fat calves were a considerably smaller show, and also fat pigs; both met a very dear trade at prices over those of last week. In the store market there was a good supply of sheep for the time of year. A fair good selling trade was got, and prices have been unchanged. Store cattle have again been a very large show. Owing to the very bad weather there were few buyers forward, and trade was very stiff, prices being very unremunerative to sellers, even for the best class, while secondary sorts were almost impossible to cash. The smallest show of milch cows for some time met a dear trade at higher prices. Quotations:—Top price best beef, 8s. 6d. per stone; current, 7s. 9d. to 8s. 3d. per stone; mutton from 7½d. to 8¼d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Supplies fair, but trade very slow, and prices in some cases lower. Arrivals of beef included 35 tons Scotch, 880 Liverpool sides, 1,350 hindquarters, and 700 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations:—Scotch, 4s 2d to 4s 3d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s to 4s 4d; English wethers, 3s 8d to 4s; ewes, 2s 9d to 3s. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch. 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Supplies this morning were on a good scale, but trade remained slow. Arrivals of beef included 80 tons Scotch, 650 Liverpool sides, 3,800 hindquarters, and 2,400 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s to 4s 2d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; forequarters, 2s 5d to 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s to 4s 4d; English wethers, 3s 8d to 4s; ewes, 2s 8d to 3s; Canterbury, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; Wellington, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 5d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s; and Irish, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—A good supply of beasts; moderae demand at about late rates. Sheep entries small; very slow demand; late values without appreciable change. 7½-stone to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9-stone, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10-stone Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s; 11-stone half-bred, 3s 4d to 3s 6d. Calves evidenced generally quiet support, the best on offer making 5s 6d. Pig trade moved quietly. Neat small, 4s 6d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Total supplies, 150 beasts, 640 sheep, 40 calves, 180 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Best beef was in fair demand at about recent rates, making 11s to 11s 6d per score; but there was a rather large proportion of cow beef, which was difficult to dispose of, even at 6d per lb. Mutton sold rather better on the whole. Small neat Kent and halfbred wethers and maids making 6s to 5s 4d per stone. Large wethers fetched 4s 4d to 5s, and barrens, which were not much wanted, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 8lb, Veal and pork were without change, the former making about 5s 4d per 8lb, and the latter up to 12s per score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 35 fat beasts, 60 calves, 756 fat sheep and lambs, 354 pigs, and 139 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £13 to £22 5s; fat calves, 75s to 92s 6d; small, 20s to 45s; fat wethers, 36s to 55s; fat ewes, 30s to 42s; fat lambs, 27s to 36s; fat hogs, 65s to 109s; fat porkers, 40s to 58s; small, 25s to 38s; store pigs, 10s 6d to 21s 6d; dairy cows, £8 5s to £20. The show of fat beasts included some prime quality Devon steers, which met a good inquiry, and were cleared at full prices. Half fat and inferior beasts continue a slow trade. Prime Devon steers made up to £22 5s; two-year-old heifers, £17; Shorthorn steers, £18 15s; heifers, £15 5s; and cows, £14. A good amount of business was done in fat sheep and lambs, but at a reduction from the late high rates, the depression being most in second rate and infirm lots. Hants Down wethers and young ewes made 40s 6d, 42s, 44s 6d, 48s, 55s, 41s 6d, 48s 6d, 48s, 47s, 46s, 41s; Southdowns, 47s 6d; Exmoors, 38s 6d; ten-months-old ewes and wethers, 43s 6d, 40s, 46s, 47s, 46s 6d, 35s, 45s, 43s 6d, 44s, 47s, 49s, 39s, 31s, 37s; old ewes, 36s, 34s, 30s, 38s 6d, 35s, 32s; Dorset ewes, 30s; rams, 43s, 45s, 37s 6d; Southdown ewes, 35s 6d; three-months-old sucking lambs, 25s 6d, 24s, 22s 6d. Dairy cows and heifers of a good description realised high prices; secondary sorts are difficult to sell. The store cattle trade all round is very dull, and it is most difficult to effect sales. Fat calves met a fair trade, at a trifle less money than quoted last week. Fat hogs met a brisk trade, and were easily cleared at an advance. Fat porkers continue to sell readily at satisfactory prices. Store pigs were cleared, with a fair sale. Fat sows are in demand, with a ready trade. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 7d to 7½d; ditto Shorthorn, 6d to 6¾d; cows, bulls, and inferior beasts, 5d to 5¾d per lb; best quality sheep, 8¼d to 8¾d; second ditto, 7d to 7¾d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 5½d to 6d; choice fat lambs, 8d to 9d per lb; fat calves, 6d to 8¾d per lb; fat hogs, 4s to 10s per score; porkers, 9s 6d to 11s.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under.. ..	8s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in.	8s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	7s 3d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge Monday. The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 1,192; sheep, 714; pigs, 365; horses, 12. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 4s 6d to 5s; pork, 6s to 7s. A larger show store beasts, fair trade, not all cleared. Fat beasts a good supply, prices unchanged. Fat sheep a fair number to hand, very little alteration in the trade. Stores only a few lots shown, and all sold. Fat pigs a good brisk trade all round. Stores a better trade. Hay, straw, and roots short supply.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a large supply of store beasts, including many polled animals, but trade was slow. Large steers ranged from £13 15s to £15, useful two-year-olds from £11 to £12, and young cattle from £5 to £7 7s 6d. Good useful lambs were making from 20s to 24s, and by auction up to 27s. Ewes were quoted at from 18s to 28s, and wether tegs from 28s to 36s. Ewe tegs, 30s to 36s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—About 400 Irish store cattle, the bulk of which were animals in fine condition, were offered on the Sands. There was a good attendance of buyers, and trade was fairly brisk at prices similar to those of recent weeks, viz.: from £7 10s to £15 10s, according to quality. Young pigs a small show, and dull trade at about 27s each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Supplies were on a moderate scale, and business ruled quiet. Beef sold slowly, and the mutton trade was inactive, store sheep meeting with a dull sale.

Dorchester, Saturday.—A very fair entry and a good trade except for fat beasts, of which only the best lots met a demand. Only small supplies of sheep came to hand. Down ewes sold from 44s 6d to 48s; down wethers, 17s 6d to 50s; horn ewes, 38s 6d to 43s 6d.

Dublin, Thursday.—No alteration in price of prime finished beef, demand for which is still brisk. Rough and unfinished sorts much in excess of requirements, and continue unsettled in values, no improvement in quotations being apparent. Slow, unsatisfactory, dragging trade for sheep, choicest qualities barely realising late rates, other sorts lower, and a poor finish. Cattle (best), 30s to 33s per cwt. Other sorts, 26s to 29s per cwt. Mutton, 5d to 6¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Large supplies met a good demand, realising up to 32s per live cwt. Galloway bullocks, to £20; polled ditto, to £21; Hereford stirks, to £16; horned bullocks, to £17; calving cows and heifers, to £13; Highland bullocks to £16.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Bad weather was against the attendance, and consequently trade generally was slow, with prices suffering. Top Scotch cattle ruled at 66s per cwt, with rather more for choice lots; secondary, 62s to 64s; best Canadian and States, 58s to 60s; top Irish, 58s to 60s. Sheep steady, with lambs over for the season; best sheep, 8d per lb; secondary, 7¾d. Dead meat market fully stocked.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 1,060, calves 77 sheep and lambs 1,225, pigs (fat and sows) 42, sucking pigs 73, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 225, pigs (stores, more than ten) 143, horses 9, colts 15. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6¾d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5¾d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 8¾d per lb; pork, 4¾d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a short supply of fat cattle and a good trade for stall-fed beasts, which made up to £24. Fat sheep were fairly represented, and rather better prices were realised. Calves were short, and with plenty of buyers excellent prices were realised up to 71s. Fat pigs were well represented. This being the fourth annual sale of grazing cattle, 231 steers and heifers were penned. There being plenty of buyers trade was slightly better than last week. 20 Shorthorn steers averaged £9 7s 6d. Cows were not numerous, and the best were in good demand up to £17. The annual sale of pedigree cattle was held at the Drill Hall; about 70 cows and heifers were catalogued, making up to 32½ guineas. Numbers at sales and market:—Beasts 865, calves 40, sheep 990, pigs 1,818, horses 13.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There was an excellent display of fat stock in the market to-day, numbering 631, against 595 at the previous market. The entries were chiefly from the North of England. A large consignment of Irish cattle was also on sale. The primest home-fed heifers and bullocks about maintained last week's values, but secondary and inferior cattle met a dull and slow market, and prices had an easier tendency. Dealers were fully represented, but there was a scarcity of buyers, and investments were very cautiously made. Nice stall-fed heifers and bullocks realised 6¼d to 6¼d per lb; Irish cattle, 6d; cow and inferior beef, from 5d. Sheep numbered 100 below last Tuesday, business generally ruling very slow and disappointing to sellers. The best small shearlings received a moderate inquiry, heavy and rough sheep being almost unsaleable. Choicest shearlings realised 8¼ to 8½d, the higher figure being the exception; large and heavy sheep, 7d to 7½d; ewes, etc., 5d to 5½d per lb. Calves were in rather smaller supply, a moderate trade being done at 7d to 7½d per lb for the best veal descriptions. A good assortment of dairy cattle were on sale. Business was rather slow, the best milkers making from £15 to £21. Numbers at market—Cattle 631, sheep 2,020, calves 15.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with fair supplies of home-bred bullocks in good condition. Trade steady. Milch cows, £17 to £27 per head. Bullocks, £10 to £14 per head. Calves and sheep a slow trade.

Lincoln, Tuesday.—The show of beasts was larger, numbering 96, and trade was good. Prime beef, 7s 3d to 7s 9d; secondary, 6s 6d to 7s 3d per stone. Moderate number of sheep—449—and a fair trade; ewes, 5½d to 6d; wethers, 7½d to 8d per lb.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair show of store cattle and milch beasts; slow trade. Milch beasts, £14 to £20; store bullocks, £14 to £16; two-year-olds, £10 to £13; and young stock, £7 to £9. Several pens of lambs, which made from 25s to 35s each.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Good average supplies, quality superior. Prices steady. Numbers:—Cattle, 1,932; sheep and lambs, 6,256; calves, 74; pigs, 1,017. Prices (sinking the offal): Cattle, 5s to 8s; pigs, 5s to 9s 6d per stone: sheep, 5d to 8d: lamb, 6d to 8d; veal, 5d to 8½d per lb.

Newport (Mon.), Wednesday.—Good supply, brisk trade. Quotations: Best beef, 6½d to 6¾d; seconds, 5¾d to 6d; wether mutton, 7¾d to 8d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; lamb, 8d; veal, 7d to 7½d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 6d; bacon pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 9d.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts here to-day was large. Trade was not very active, but the business done was effected at former terms. Fat beasts, which were in moderate supply, made 7s 6d to 8s and 8s 3d per 14lb. Sheep were not freely offered; sales, however, proceeded slowly, hoggets making 26s to 40s, and keeping shearlings 16s to 18s per head. Fat sheep were quoted at 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—An average supply of fat beef, trade about the same. Best 6s 4d to 6s 6d, and middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Veal about an average supply, trade slow at 5s to 5s 4d per stone. Mutton, average supply, trade slow. Best 5s 4d to 5s 6d, middling 4s to 5s 2d per stone. No stores on offer. Owing to change in weather pig trade not so brisk. Good supply small animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d, large 3s 8d to 3s 10d.

Saffron Walden, Tuesday.—Sheep were an average supply, prices ruling slightly lower, demand was also slack. Fat ewes made up to 53s, wether, 63s; hoggets, 48s; store lambs, 34s 6d. Beasts were an average supply and met with fair trade. Shorthorns realised up to £22 10s; small bullocks £15 15s. Fat calves made £2 17s 6d and weanels, 44s. A useful lot of yearlings made £8 each. Pigs were in short supply. Hogs made 80s; porkers, 42s 6d; and small stores 17s.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was smaller. Trade was better, and prices, though not quotably higher, had an upward tendency. There was an increase of about 500 in the number of sheep on offer. Choice light weights were scarce and in good demand at late full prices, but other kinds changed hands slowly. About the same number of calves in market and trade ruled slow at about last week's prices. Quotations—Cattle, 5d to 6¾d; sheep, 6d to 8¼d; calves, 5d to 7½d per

lb. At market—Cattle, 2,719 ; sheep, 7,436 ; calves, 126 ; pigs, 112.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The show of milch beasts was about equal to last week, and not much variation in prices, best lots making £17 to £23 10s ; secondary, £14 to £16 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Pigs of all kinds a brisk and better trade. Cows with calves a good trade. All other stock fair, with good demand. Quotations :—Beef, 6d to 7½d ; mutton, 6½d to 8½d ; and veal, 7d to 8½d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s to 10s 6d ; and bacons, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per score. Cows, with calves, up to £21 15s. Number offered :—669 cattle, 46 cows with calves, 1,153 sheep and lambs, 84 calves, 69 fat, 94 porket, and 349 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A fair trade for beef, which realised 7s 6d per stone ; cows, 7s. Stores sold slowly ; in-calvers and cows dear. In the sheep market there was a fair show, and trade about the same as last week. Lincoln sheep, 7d to 7½d per lb ; half-breds, 8d per lb. Ewes sold slowly.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 260 cattle, 2 calves, 627 sheep, and 275 pigs. Best cattle was only on small show, and trade was somewhat slow, at 7s 6d to 8s ; rougher kinds, 6s to 7s per stone ; young sheep, 8d ; ewes, 6d ; tups, 4½d to 5d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Fairly good attendance, medium supply, and a moderate trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a large supply of stock at market with the exception of mutton, which was a short lot. The weather was very unfavourable, and trade was slow. Several of the beasts which were sent back required more feeding, but the best quality beef, which was scarce, sold readily. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 113 beasts, 100 sheep, 107 fat and weaning calves, and 221 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £14 to £18 12s 6d ; fat heifers, £13 to £19 2s 6d ; wether sheep, 44s to 64s 6d ; ewes, 36s to 47s ; tegs, 30s to 44s 6d ; fat calves, £3 to £4 14s ; cow calves, 23s to 61s ; bull calves, 18s to 45s ; fat pigs, 10s per score.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Rather better supply of beef, but business was of a slow character, at prices ranging from 5d per pound for rough sorts to fully 6½d for choice animals. The trade in sheep was of a dragging nature, dealers holding out for last week's rates. Small sheep 8½d per pound ; ewes, 5d to 6d ; strong, 7d to 8d. Numbers—Beasts, 1,646 ; sheep, 3,648.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts a good supply, trade slow ; sheep, fair supply, moderate trade ; calves, a small supply, good demand ; no supply of milking cows. Beef, 5d to 7d per lb ; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb ; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb ; bacon pigs, 9s 2d to 9s 3d per score ; porkets, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per score ; sows, 7s per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Moderate supply of fat cattle and sheep, but trade ruled quiet at about previous prices. Calves scarce and dearer. Large supply of pigs, and good demand at fully late rates. Beef, best, 6d to 7d ; inferior, 5d to 6d ; wether mutton, 8d ; ewes, 6d to 7d ; and veal, 7d to 8½d per lb. Pigs, 9s to 10s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Average market, and good prices maintained. Best beef, 8s to 8s 3d per stone ; secondary, 6s 6d to 7s 6d ; best wether mutton, 8d to 9d per lb ; ewe and other sorts, 4d to 6d.

York, Thursday.—Fat beef, 7s 6d to 7s 9d per st. ; mutton, 7d to 8½d per lb. There was an average show of all classes of sheep for the time of the year. Trade was very bad all round, especially for South-country lambs. North-country ewes, 36s to 44s ; North-country shearlings, 38s to 44s ; North-country lambs, 26s to 33s ; South-country lambs, 27s to 32s ; Cheviot ewes, to 22s ; twice-crossed lambs, 26s to 32s ; twice-crossed shearlings, 42s to 48s ; Masham shearlings, 36s to 44s each. The show of both English and Irish store cattle was one of the largest there has been for some years. There were a good many buyers present, but owing to the quantity of stock on offer and the high prices asked, trade ruled very slow indeed. The demand was chiefly for two-year-old beasts, which made £10 to £12 10s ; best three-year-old bullocks, to £16 each. There were several South-country buyers present, who were mainly in search of Shorthorn stirks, which made £6 to £9. Smaller show of both calving and milch cows, for the best of which there was a good demand, to £23 10s ; ordinary run, £15 to £18.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast entries totalled 923, none being shown on Wednesday last, and comprised shipments from the United States. Trade very slow character, and prices irregular and easier at 4s 1d to 4s 5d per 8lb to sink the offal.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—A sale of Canadian and United States cattle was held in the afternoon, when there were 390 cattle landed by the Carthaginian (s), from Philadelphia, and 117 by the Pomeranian (s), from Montreal. There was a fair attendance of buyers, both city and distant. The cattle consisted principally of bullocks, but there were also a number of bulls and stags included in the different shipments. Bullocks, as regards quality, were scarcely up to the usual standard. Stags and bulls were about the average, and were presented in good condition. The dead-weight quotations were as follow :—Best bullocks, medium weights, 58s per cwt ; secondary and heavier, 56s ; rough cattle, 54s ; stags, 52s to 54s ; bulls, 46s to 50s, according to quality and finish.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: The trade continues inactive and with a very limited demand, values are weak. Russians offer rather more freely and at a slight reduction since last Monday. Americans are in better supply, and there are sellers of good brands at 2s 6d per ton under last week's price. English remain unchanged. Cotton Cakes : Shipments have been on a more liberal scale than is usual at this time, and with a fair quantity in second-hands, quotations are with difficulty maintained. Decorticated are not obtainable on spot, but offer for arrival at slightly easier terms, with meal at same price. Maize germ meal : Arrived parcels of American are in more request, and prices have firmed up again fully 2s 6d per ton, while English is without change. Rice meal : Rangoon in warehouse is still firmly held, while shippers' price for November-December despatch is unchanged.

LINSEED CAKES.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
London made .....per ton ex mill	8	12	6	to	8	17	6
American in bags .....ex dock	7	16	3	„	7	17	6
American Oct.-Nov. ..... „	7	15	0	„	7	17	6
Russian in mats ..... „	7	17	6	„	7	18	9
Russian in bags..... „	8	2	6	„	8	5	0
COTTONSEED CAKES.							
London made..... ex mill	5	2	6	„	5	5	0
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4	17	6	„	4	18	9
„ „ Nov.-April shipment	4	15	0	„	4	17	6
Decorticated .....Oct.-Nov. „	6	12	6	„	6	15	0
Meal, on spot ..... „ „ „	6	12	6	„	6	15	0
RAPE CAKES.							
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4	15	0	„		—	
Ravison ..... „	4	10	0	„		—	
Nutted, in bags ..... „	4	15	0	„		—	
MAIZE.							
Germ meal (American)..... ex dock	5	5	0	„	5	6	3
„ „ „ Sept.-Oct. c.i.f.	5	0	0	„	5	2	6
„ „ (English)..... ex mill	5	7	6	„	5	10	0
RICE MEAL.							
Rangoon .....ex warehouse	4	12	6	„	4	15	0
„ Nov.-Dec. ..... ex ship	4	10	0	„		—	
„ Jan.-March..... ex ship	4	8	9	„		—	

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—Demand having materially declined, and shipments having rather increased, the market has turned flat and prices are lower. Calcutta London spot and near, 61s ; October-November, and November-December, 61s sellers. April-June, 49s 6d sellers. Hull nothing doing. Calcutta, April-June, 50s 6d. Azov, Black Sea, October-November, 58s 3d sellers. La Plata December-January, 53s. January-February, 52s. To the Continent Bombay is quoted March-May, 52s 3d. Calcutta, March-April, 51s 6d. ; April-June, new crop, 50s. La Plata, December-January, 53s ; January-February, 52s. Linseed cakes firm. London made, £8 10s to £8 12s 6d. Russian, £8 2s 6d to £8 7s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £8. Cotton cakes steady. London made, £5 2s 6d to £5 5s ; Egyptian, £4 18s 9d to £5. Rapeseed is quiet, with a downward tendency. Cottonseed very quiet at easier quotations. Near at hand London £6 17s 6d sellers, first half November, £6 15s ; November-January, £6 13s 9d. Hull spot, £6 18s 9d ; October, £6 13s 9d ; November-January, £6 12s 6d. Cargoes, November, £6 15s ; December, £6 15s.——THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hull, Tuesday.—The weather has been unsettled all the week. Wheat.—The arrivals are 25,162 qrs from Bahia Blanca, 1,175 qrs Buenos Ayres, 2,000 qrs Boston, 600 qrs Danzig, 15,000 qrs Eupatoria, 1,923 qrs Gastrouilli, 525 qrs Konigsberg, 1,741 qrs Kyrenia, 5,147 qrs Larnaca, 9,577 qrs New York, 1,076 qrs Odessa, 2,600 qrs Petersburg, 1,003 qrs Paphos, 19,151 qrs Rosario, 3,628 qrs Sulina, 8,743 qrs Villa Constitution ; total, 98,891 qrs. The trade shows no signs of improvement, and in some cases prices are 3d to 6d per qr lower. Spring corn —Barley : For foreign malting the general demand is still without animation, and prices for some sorts, especially for Smyrna and Danubians, are lower than they were. For feeding, the demand has lately gone from foreign to English, the last crop having produced a plentiful supply of common quality. Oats have met a poor demand, but prices are no lower. The local crop is offering freely. Beans are a trifle lower with a moderate demand. Flat maize is in better supply and lower to sell. Small round corn maintains full value. Large round hangs fire. The market to-day is fairly supplied with home-grown wheat, which can only be sold at 6d to 1s per qr decline on the prices of last Tuesday. Foreign 6d per qr lower, but rather steadier during the week. Common barleys are difficult to sell at 6d to 1s per qr reduction in price ; best samples met a fair sale at late rates. Oats without change in value. Beans dull, with slightly downward tendency. Maize in fair supply, and with a limited demand prices are 3d per qr lower on the week. Linseed.—The arrivals are 45 qrs from Catania, 25 qrs Harlingen, 249 qrs Konigsberg, 65 qrs Libau, 3,046 qrs New York, 1,910 qrs Petersburg, 1,250 qrs Riga ; total, 6 590 qrs. Throughout the week the market has been steady, but at the same time somewhat inactive ; values are practically unaltered and are about as follows. Calcutta to London, Sept.-Oct., and Oct.-Nov., 62s 9d ; nothing offering for present loading to Hull, but April-June is obtainable at 51s 6d. Black Sea, parcels afloat offer at 58s 9d, whilst for shipment there is but little on the market. Petersburg, old October offers at 57s, sellers scarce. Riga and Libau do not offer, shippers being engaged with the fulfilment of their contracts ; the value is nominally 56s. American Duluth 58s 9d, Sept.-Nov. nearest. River Plate, 54s ; Dec.-Jan., 53s 6d first half February, 53s all the month. Cottonseed.—The demand has been very slow on spot, and value receded to £7, whereat a little business reported to-day. Passage, £6 17s 9d to £6 15s, which latter accepted per steamer a few days afloat, also for sales made thereat October bill of lading. Nov.-Jan. and Feb.-March changed hands at £6 11s 3d to £6 12s 6d, but sellers not asking £6 13s 9d. Oils.—Export for the week ending Oct. 23rd, 1900.—Linseed oil : 2 Belgium, 12 Germany, 13 Norway ; total, 27 tons. Cotton oil : 30 Belgium, 95 France, 66 Germany, 11 Holland, 2 Norway, 10 Sweden ; total, 214. The market is quiet all round. Linseed oil : 32s 6d spot, 32s Nov.-Dec., 31s Jan.-April. Cotton oil : 19s 10½d spot, 19s 9d Nov.-April. Crude, 18s 6d spot, 18s 6d Nov.-April. Rape oil : Black Sea naked, 28s 6d spot, 1st quality naked, 29s 6d spot.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON ; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 10s 0d PER TON ; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 7s. 6d. PER TON ; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 17s 6d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE, packed in bags, of 1½cwt. each. Price per cwt. 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per pocket of 240lb :—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s ; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s ; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8 ; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7 ; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s ; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb :—Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 4d to 1s 5d ; scoured, good, 1s 5d to 1s 5½d ; scoured, average, 1s 3d to 1s 4d ; greasy average to fair, 9½d to 10½d ; New South Wales, scoured, average, 1s 0½d to 1s 1½d ; greasy average, 7d to 8d ; South Australian, greasy, average, 5½d to 6½d ; New Zealand, scoured, average, 1s 2d to 1s 3d ; greasy, average, 7½d to 8d ; Cape, scoured, superior, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d ; fleece, average, 6½d to 7½d ; greasy, average, 5d to 5½d ; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d ; greasy, average, 5½d to 6d ; crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 9d to 10d ; New Zealand, fine, 8½d to 9½d ; ditto, medium, 6¾d to 7½d ; ditto, coarse, 5½d to 6½d.

London, Saturday.—The fifth series of London sales of colonial wool, which commenced on the 9th ult., closed to-day. The net total available amounted to 368,000 bales, of which 235,000 bales have been sold, 159,000 bales for home consumption, 71,000 bales to the Continent, and 5,000 bales to America, leaving 133,000 bales to be carried forward to next series. The series opened with a decline of about 15 per cent. on Australian merino wools, and on the level thus established good parcels, especially good greasy wools, sold very steadily, but inferior and faulty descriptions lost further ground, ruling towards the middle of the series 15 to 20 per cent. below July. This was particularly the case with medium and inferior scoured, which were heavy of sale at the full decline. The withdrawal of a large quantity of the available supply strengthened the market during the last week. Prices improved about 5 per cent., not perhaps invariably but in a great many instances, for both grease and scoured, especially the better classes. Among crossbred the finer sorts fell, like merino wools, about 10 to 15 per cent., but the lower sorts were in good demand at barely 5 per cent. decline. In the early part of the series especially not a few parcels commanded July prices, but lately the inquiry has slackened, and they must now be quoted 5 per cent. below July. Cape wools of all classes participated in the decline to the full extent. The sales were very well attended, but the Continental competition was weak, and two-thirds of the quantity sold was taken by the home trade. There was nevertheless general good bidding. The tone during the concluding days was distinctly strong, and the sales close very firmly, with prices for most descriptions at their best point. The first series of next year is to commence on Tuesday, January 15. What quantity will be available it is at present impossible to say with any degree of accuracy. It can, however, scarcely be less than 300,000 bales, including the held-over wool, and may be more.—HELMUTH SCHWARTZE AND CO.

Bradford, Thursday.—There is a better feeling in the wool market to-day, though it is based upon little beyond a firmer determination of holders to stand out against further reduction of values of fine sorts. The coarser sorts still tend downwards. Quotations both for wool and mohair are unchanged. The yarn trade is without improvement, and matters are very quiet indeed in the piece trade.

Canterbury Saturday Prices remain [illegible], and there is not a great deal of business doing. [illegible] are quoted at 6d, and lambs' wool from 4d to 5½. Drapers are in rather better demand at from 8d to 9d per [illegible].

Leicester, Saturday. In the local wool market during the past week the turnover has been [illegible] especially so for merinos and cross breds. Values remain [illegible] prices the production is fairly maintained. In the [illegible] it is difficult to obtain contracts. The demand for yarns would be now good, but there is less doing in knittings and worsteds.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel. Saturday. Good [illegible] 70s to [illegible], inferior [illegible] 75s to 80s ; [illegible] 70s to 75s ; good [illegible] 70s to 75s ; inferior [illegible] 60s to 65s ; and [illegible] 70s to 75s per load.

Cumberland Saturday. Best [illegible] 70s to 75s ; good [illegible] 65s to 70s ; inferior [illegible] 60s to 65s ; best mixture, 80s to 90s ; straw, 24s to 34s per load.

Bristol. Tuesday. Choice hay [illegible] 70s to 75s ; straw, 24s to 28s.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London. Saturday. The [illegible] continue [illegible] little or nothing can be shipped from the [illegible] Shippers continue to ask recent prices, while [illegible] to buy. We quote : Choice [illegible] 85s ; Dutch 1st cut clover, 80s ; French and Dutch 2nd cut clover 72s 6d, good Dutch hay, 72s 6d [illegible] hay, 65s ; large bale French wheat straw, 46s 6d ; small bale French wheat straw, 43s ; small bale French oat straw, 43s. All these prices are per ton delivered [illegible]—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10, Great East Street, E.C.

MANURES.

Liverpool. Friday.—There is a quiet market [illegible] at sale of the recently imported [illegible] £8 10s per ton, according to quality, and other [illegible] likewise able, excepting basic slag, which is in [illegible] request at the quotations, and will be more so [illegible] the season advances. Feeding stuffs are slow of sale, and this to a large extent can be ascribed to the mild, open weather, yet notwithstanding the quiet trade much firmness is evinced in the market, and linseed cakes have slightly further improved. To-day's values are as follows :—Nitrate of soda, best qualities, [illegible] per cwt. ; common, in bags, £8 7s 6d to £8 10s per ton. Egyptian beans, in bags, £4 7s 6d to £4 10s per ton ; kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton ; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 18s 9d to £8 2s 6d per ton ; linseed cake, English prime, in bags, £8 15s to £9 2s 6d per ton ; linseed cake, foreign, round, soft, and oily, in bags, £8 15s per ton ; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, fairly soft, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 2s 6d per ton ; cottonseed cake, English, decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 12s 6d per ton ; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £5 5s to £5 10s per ton ; cottonseed cake, crushed, 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d per ton ; maize germ meal, English, prime, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s per ton ; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 17s 6d to £4 17s 6d per ton ; Indian meal, coarse to fine grading, prime, in bulk, 11s 9d per 240lb ; linseed, fine feed grades, in bags, £9 5s per quarter, 416lb ; N.V. compressed, [illegible] feed, in bags, per cwt ; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, per ton ; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, per ton ; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, per ton, nominal ; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d per ton ; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 13s 6d to £1 14s 6d per ton ; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 16s to £1 17s 6d per ton, at the producing depots.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

THE BALTIC.

The old Baltic has now been wound up, and each holder of a £100 share has received a cheque for £720. The confidence of the late Baron Schröder in the enterprise has therefore been extremely well justified. The buildings in St. Mary Axe are the enterprise of a new company.

There was nothing doing on Monday after 1 p.m. owing to the C.I.V. demonstration. Trade on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday was fairly firm, but the week closed without much strength. The following sales of cargoes may be recorded :—Wheat : New Zealand, 28s. 3d., arrived ; No. 1 Californian, due, 30s. 9d. ; on passage, 30s. 6d. ; Walla Walla, nearly due, 29s. 6d. ; and a cargo for prompt shipment has been placed at the same price. As the latter will be nearly four months before it is delivered a remarkable steadiness is indicated in opinion as to value. Other sales for future shipment are :—Bulgarian 28s. prompt, Azoff 29s. 6d. prompt, Hard Duluth 32s. 9d., December Manitoba 31s. 9d., November 32s., December No. 1 Northern 31s. 6d., November and December. Maize : American 20s., arrived, 19s. 6d. November shipment, 18s. 9d. December, and February 17s. 6d., Argentine 21s. ; just shipped, Morocco 23s., November shipment, and Galatz 19s. 9d., May shipment. Oats : New black Irish, Cork to London direct, 16s., Canadian 14s. 6d., November shipment, and black Libau same price also for November shipment. Other sales include Taganrog barley at 18s. 9d., Salda beans at 20s. 6d., Canadian peas at 28s., Smyrna dari at 27s., Turkish canaryseed at 32s., and Russian Bucharest at 26s. 6d. ; all at per qr.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 5 wheat (1 Lyttleton, 2 Portland Or., 1 San Francisco, 1 Waratoo, 1 Beans Mazagan ; total 6.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were :—14 wheat (1 Barrow in Furness, 1 Birkenhead, 1 Bristol, 2 Cardiff, 1 Cork, 1 Dublin, 1 Hull, 1 North Shields, 2 Tyne Dock), 1 barley (Hull) ; total 15.

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Longhorn bull Wootton Wonder is the property of and was bred by Mr. H. Jasper Selwyn, Kenilworth. It was born on January 30th, 1897, its sire being Pretender 2nd, and its dam Pink, by Baddesley, and at the Royal Show at York this year it won the first prize for Longhorn bulls calved in 1896 or 1897.

The Hackney stallion McKinley 6475, sire Garton Duke of Connaught 3009, dam Lady Willerby 2239, by Rondo 1340, was bred by Mr. A. Craggy, North Newbald, Brough, York, and is the property of Mr. Harry Livesey, Rotherfield, Sussex. The latter gentleman exhibited McKinley at the last London show of the Hackney Horse Society, and won the first prize in the class for stallions four years old and upwards, the special prize of £25 and silver medal for the best stallion in the older classes, and also the champion cup, value £30, for the best stallion in the show.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

The Council of the National Sheep Breeders' Association will meet on Tuesday, November 6th, at the Salisbury Hotel, Fleet Street, at 3 p.m. Annexed is the agenda:—(1) Read minutes. (2) To consider replies *re* resolutions referred to affiliated societies *re* colouring show sheep, and to decide upon reply to the Councils of the Royal Agricultural Society and the Smithfield Club with regard to the resolutions on colouring show sheep, which were referred to the affiliated societies for consideration at the meeting of February 27th last. (3) To consider reply of Board of Agriculture *re* sheep scab resolution passed at last council meeting. (4) To consider report of Executive Committee, if any. (5) To instruct secretary *re* carrying out of resolution passed at York Conference: "That a conference of home, colonial, and foreign sheep breeders be called annually, to meet during the annual show week of the Royal Agricultural Society." (6) To receive communications. (7) To fix time, date, and place of next council meeting. (8) Any other urgent or important business.

In the first week of October two very successful Shorthorn sales took place in the United States, particulars of which have now come to hand. The first was on October 4th at Des Moines, Ia., the animals belonging to Mr. Martin Flynn, and the second on the following day at Newton, Ia., the animals then offered being the property of Mr. E. S. Donabey. A female made the top price at each sale, the highest figure being £208, which was paid for Mr. Donabey's two-year-old imported heifer roan Bess, by Star of Morning. £120 was the highest price Mr. Flynn got, and this sum he obtained twice, viz., for a five-year-old cow named Duchess of Walnut Hill, by Rowley's Kirklevington, and for another five-year-old named Aberdeen Butterfly 10th by Highland Chief. A three-year-old heifer by Highland Chief fetched £100. Mr. Donnabey secured £149 for Crest of Bluffview, a two-year-old heifer by Prince Ramsden, and £122 for a three-year-old, Miss Ramsden 16th, by Prince President 2nd, and this was given for Mr. Flynn's Cumberland Chief, by Highland Chief. Mr. Flynn's average was forty-four females, £49; twelve bulls, £46; Mr. Donabey's fifty-two females making £49 each, and seven bulls £20.

At a recent meeting of the Council of the Polled Cattle Society it was agreed to offer for competition in 1901 six gold medals, being one each to the Highland and Agricultural Society, Royal Northern Agricultural Society, Royal Agricultural Society of England, Yorkshire Agricultural Society, Royal Dublin Society, and North-East Agricultural Association, Belfast, to be awarded to the best breeding animal of the Aberdeen-Angus breed in the showyard.

Messrs. John Thornton and Co. have, during the past week, issued No. 129 of "Thornton's Circular," which contains particulars of Shorthorn transactions from April 1st to June 30th, 1900. This is naturally the most important number of the year, containing as it does the Shorthorn awards at the three big shows, viz., the Royal, Bath and West, and Royal Counties; whilst among the sales dealt with are those of the Prince of Wales, Earl of Feversham, Mr. J. T. Hobbs, Mr. C. A. Scott-Murray, Mr. J. E. Jones-Charnock, and the late Mr. W. T. Talbot-Crosbie

Breeders of Shropshire sheep will be interested to know that at the recent public sales, held in various parts of Great Britain and Ireland, no fewer than nine rams have, says Messrs. Mansell and Co., realised 100gs. and upwards, and have made the splendid average of £130 10s.; whilst several others have made between 40gs. and 90gs., and that several ewes have realised between 20gs. and 30gs. each.

North America, as usual, has largely helped the general run of prices, but Australasian breeders have done the most to enhance values, and have been spirited bidders at several of the sales, givin in one case 240gs. for a ram, and in others 140gs., 120gs., and 90gs. The Australian demand has been greatly fostered by the wonderful results obtained by the Shropshire ram on cross-bred Merino ewes to produce fat lambs for export. Mr. G. S. Kempe, a well-known Australian authority, says Shropshire cross lambs are now to be seen in every farmer's paddock, and that the breed has secured a very strong foothold in Australia. These facts should encourage home breeders in their efforts to maintain and improve the valuable qualities of the breed.

Mr. H. J. Selwyn's Longhorn Bull "Wootton Wonder." First Prize at the Royal Show at York, 1900.

On Saturday, November 3rd, the s.s. Umgeni, of the Natal Line, sailed from London with a number of South Devon pedigree bulls, cows, and calves for South Africa. The cattle are going to Major Duncan McKenzie, of Natal, and were selected by Messrs. W. Weddel and Co., of London, from the herds of the following breeders, viz., J. Sparrow Wroth, of Coombe, one bull, Ripley; two cows, Snowball and Myrtle III.; and four newly-born calves; J. W. Meathrel, of Coulston, two bulls, Carlo and Richmond; John Wakeham, of Lambside Farm, Newton Ferrers, one bull, Morning Star; and Joshua Wakeham, of Ley, Diptford, one bull, Joubert. This is the second lot of South Devon cattle that has been sent to Major Duncan McKenzie in the last twelve months.

In order to avoid as much as possible clashing with the Peterborough Agricultural Society the Lincolnshire Society have altered the date of their next year's show at Brigg to Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, July 11th, 12th, and 13th.

The Suffolk Fat Cattle Club will hold their annual Ipswich Christmas show of fat stock and farm produce on Monday and Tuesday, December 17th and 18th. The executive, endeavouring to bring this show more to the front, have issued a good prize list, and are now soliciting subscriptions to offer valuable challenge cups for beasts, sheep, and barley, which they expect will bring the value of prizes to upwards of £500. The ladies' department will this year be removed to the adjoining rink, and the large drill hall will be occupied by the cattle and stand holders, in addition to the buildings usually devoted to live stock, and it is thereby hoped to increase the importance of the fat stock department. The entries close on the 14th inst., and post entries at double fees on the 26th inst. Prize lists and forms for stand holders can be had on application to the secretary, Mr. Robert Bond, Old Bank House, Ipswich.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*]

There was a large fair at Drogheda, co. Louth, on Monday, composed chiefly of good polled bullocks and young cattle, for which the demand was fair, and nearly all were sold. A good demand was also experienced for springers. Prices:—Calves, first class, £5 10s. to £6 10s.; second class, £4 17s. 6d. to £5 5s. Yearlings, first class, £8 10s. to £10; second class, £7 5s. to £7 15s. Two-year-olds, first class, £12 to £13 10s.; second class, £10 5s. to £11 10s. Three-year-olds, first class, £14 to £16 10s.; second class, £12 15s. to £13 15s. Springers, first class, £16 5s. to £18 10s.; second class, £12 15s. to £15.

There was a large fair at Collooney, co. Sligo, on Wednesday, at which demand was slow and prices in favour of sellers. Quotations:—Calves, first class, £5 10s. to £6; second class, £4 to £5. Yearlings, first class, £8 10s. to £10; second class, £6 5s. to £7 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 to £13 8s. 3d.; second class, £9 to £10 15s. Three-year-olds, second class, £12 15s. to £13 15s. Springers, first class, to £18; second class, £13 10s. to £15 5s.

The fair at Westport, co. Mayo, held on Thursday was a large one, consisting of middle-class cattle, and a large number of which remained unsold. Prices:—Calves, second class, £4 10s. Yearlings, second class, £6 to £7; third class, £3 2s. 6d. to £4. Two-year-olds, second class, £8 to £9 15s.; third class, £5 10s. to £7. Three-year-olds, second class, £10 12s. 6d. to £12 3s.; third class, £7 to £9. Springers, second class, £13 to £14 5s.; third class, £8 10s. to £10 5s. There was a very small supply of sheep. Two-years old and over, third class, made from 15s. to £1.

At the fair held at Nenagh, co. Tipperary, on Thursday a very good demand at high prices prevailed for the cattle, which sold as follows:—Calves, second class, £4 10s. to £5; third class, £4 5s. Yearlings, first class, £9 8s. 9d. to £10 10s.; second class, £7 to £9 7s. 6d.; third class, £6 15s. Two-year-olds, second class, £10 to £11 15s. Three-year-olds, first class, £15 15s.; second class, £15 5s. Springers, second class, £12 to £14. There was only a small supply of sheep, and the demand fair. Lambs, first class, realised from £1 8s. to £1 11s.; second class, £1 2s. to £1 8s.; and over twelve months and under twenty-four, first class, £2 2s. 6d.

Failing to Report Sheep Scab.—At the Thornaby Police Court on Monday, Thomas Atkinson, farmer and sheep dealer, of Kirklevington, was charged with having failed to report an outbreak of sheep scab, and also with exposing an animal so affected for sale at Yarm Fair. Mr. C. J. Archer, who defended, said his client acted without knowledge of the existence of the disease, but the Bench thought he had not exercised sufficient diligence, and ordered him to pay the costs, £2 10s.

Scotch Pedigree Cattle Sales During the Year.

The Scotch season for sales of Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus cattle is now over, and, as usual, the *Banffshire Journal* has prepared some interesting figures dealing with the trade throughout the year. Of the two breeds there have been sold in Scotland this year 2,083 head, as against 2,189 last year, a decrease on the year of 106 head. There were fewer Shorthorns sold by 191 head, and more Aberdeen-Angus by 95, and the fact that the decrease in numbers takes place in the case of the breed that has the highest financial average explains the circumstance that all over the average of pure-bred cattle in Scotland has not maintained its figure of last year. Taking both breeds together, the average of the 2,083 head sold is £27 0s 9d., which is less than the general average of last year by a sum no less than £3, plus 4d., the difference representing to breeders a total depreciation of £6,250. Both breeds share in the decrease, and in view of circumstances affecting demand some may be surprised to learn, as the writer in a measure was, that the Shorthorns contributed to it, the average in their case being less than that of last year by £1 12s. 10d. The Aberdeen-Angus breed is subject to fluctuations in value. There are of it not a few herds which are kept as the "useful stock" of the farm—that is, to provide good beef stots for the London markets, a few of the best of the males and younger females being put to sales—a circumstance that might be expected of a native breed of the country, and when the average is not assisted by sales of stock of important herds, the gross on the year is apt to exhibit a balance on the debtor side when compared with that of the previous twelve months. Thus we find this year that the average of Aberdeen-Angus cattle in Scotland, amounting for 1,168 head to £23 5s. 11d., is less than that of last year by £3 8s. 10d. In 1899 the average of Aberdeen-Angus was unusually high—£27 4s. 9d., which was greater than the average of the previous year by £4 13s. 11d. The average of Polled cattle last year was the largest of any year since 1884, so that the decrease this year cannot, under any circumstances, be called violent.

Shorthorn Sales.

Last year Scottish Shorthorn breeders enjoyed the most prosperous season in their experience, and although, as has been seen, the average as compared with last year is somewhat less, it should be recalled that last year's average was greater than that of the previous year by a sum of no less than £6 18s., so that although the average has decreased by £1 12s. 10d., it is still 5gs. better than it was two years ago. On the other hand, seldom has a year been experienced in which very high prices have been so common. The experience culminated at the recent Collynie and Uppermill sale, when for calves Mr. Duthie got such prices as 200gs., 270gs., 300gs., 350gs., and 355gs., and Mr. Marr 190gs. and 230gs., while the average of the former, all for calves, was £150 and of the latter £126. These figures touch the high water mark of values. Mr. Duthie's figure of £372 15s. is the highest of the year. This is no new position for Mr. Duthie to occupy. Last year he had the highest figure in another calf which brought £320 5s.; two years ago his neighbour, Mr. Marr, got £306 10s. for a calf; and in each of the five previous years the honour lay with Mr. Duthie, whose highest figures, going back were for each year:—£210, £315, £246 15s., £115 10s., and £16 5s. The second highest figure of the year was £252, got by Mr. Graham, Redgorton, at a Perth sale, and twice the sum of £241 10s. was paid for animals belonging respectively to Mr. Marr and Lord Lovat. The success of the Beaufort herd has been, as usual, great, Lord Lovat selling three bulls at Inverness at an average of £126, and a like number at Perth at an average of £159 5s.

Aberdeen-Angus.

The drop in values is somewhat greater in the case of the Aberdeen-Angus breed, easily accounted for by local circumstances. As in the case of its rival, however, it has shown a buoyancy that confirms all experience that at the top of the tree excellent profits may be made. As it is, the average this year of £23 15s. 11d. is, with the exception of last year and 1897, the best since 1891. The highest price of the year is £376, which was given at the Perth sale by Mr. Ferguson, Kinochtry, for one of the young bulls from Ballindalloch. This we believe is the highest price paid for a bull at any joint sale. Last year the highest price paid for a member of the breed was £199 10s., given also for a Ballindalloch calf. Angus, both two and three years ago, furnished the highest-priced animals of their respective years, and both belonged to the old Spott family of Jipseys, Lord Strathmore two years ago getting £215 5s. for Jimie, and three years ago Mr. Whyte, Spott, £252 for Jipsey Baron. Four years ago Bion brought £315. At the Aberdeen joint sale this spring the Countess of Seafield gave £141 15s. for an Aberlour bull. The Ballindalloch herd also furnishes the leading averages—£91 9s. for each of eleven at Perth, and £49 14s. for each of six at Inverness. At Perth, the Earl of Strathmore sold ten at an average of £64 3s., and Mr. M'Laren, Auchnaguie, five at an average of £57 15s. Mr. Findlay, of Aberlour, made the leading average at Aberdeen £41 for each of nine.

There were ninety-three Aberdeen-Angus cows sold as against 112, and the highest price was £100 16s., got by Mr. Cran, Morlich, against £112 7s., realised at last year's sale at Castlecraig. Mr. Littlejohn, Wellhouse, got the second highest price—£78 15s., and Mr. Walker, Portlethen, the third—£63.

The Year's Business.

BOTH BREEDS.

Year.	No. sold.	Average.
1835 ..	2192 ..	£21 0 0
1836 ..	2195 ..	24 17 9
1837 ..	2021 ..	25 12 7
1838 ..	2332 ..	24 12 8
1839 ..	2189 ..	30 1 1
1900 ..	2083 ..	27 0 9

SHORTHORNS.

1900.

		Average.		Total.
675	Bulls	£30 0 9	..	£20,276 13 6
63	Cows	35 0 6	..	2,205 11 6
39	Two-year-old Heifers	44 11 2	..	1,737 16 0
92	One-year-old Heifers	33 3 1	..	3,050 0 0
46	Heifer Calves	27 5 1	..	1,233 14 0
915		£31 3 5	..	£28,525 1 0

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

738	Bulls	£24 3 0	..	£17,725 1 6
93	Cows	27 18 2	..	2,595 11 0
125	Two-year-old Heifers	27 14 3	..	3,464 10 0
160	One-year-old Heifers	19 10 2	..	3,121 13 0
52	Heifer Calves	15 3 5	..	789 1 0
1168		£23 15 11	..	£27,794 4 6

Sale of Shorthorns and Aberdeen-Angus at Aberdeen.

The annual autumn sale of Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus cattle, held at the Agricultural Hall, Aberdeen, took place on the 25th ult. There was an entry of 117 animals, but there being a few absentees, the total number forward was about 100. The attendance of buyers was large, and throughout the sale there were spirited competitions for animals up to a certain size, and showing some quality. Several very good drafts of Shorthorn bulls were put into the ring, and in this section the principal averages were: Mr. Durno, Westerton (2), £24 13s. 6d.; Mr. G. Shepherd, Shethen (8) £23 7s. 3d.; Mr. Manson, Kilblean (2), £21; Mr. Reid, Fechil, Ellon (3), £21; Mr. Morrison, Phingask (5), £20 17s. 10d.; Mr. Black, Barthol Chapel (5), £40 5s.; Mr. Green, Collywell (3), £17 3s.; Mr. Crombie, Woodend (4), £22 8s. 10d. There was a keen demand for females, and the highest price—27gs.—was obtained by Mr. Durno for a two-year-old heifer, Rosie 16th. The averages in the Shorthorn sections were as follows: Thirty-six bulls, £22 14s. 8d.; three cows, £30 19s. 6d.; three two-year-old heifers, £25 4s. [illegible] £23 10s. for forty-two head, or a total of £967.

Exposers of Aberdeen-Angus cattle experienced equally good trade. The first of the bulls to enter the ring made the record price of the breed at the sale, namely, 172s. This was paid for Lord Roberts, by Harold of Cuden, the property of Mr. Fettes, Corskie, the purchase being Mr. Leith Hay. The chief averages for bull calves were as follows: Mr. Mackessack, Balnagie (4), £15 17s. 7d.; Mr. Anderson, Nether Aquharnie (2), £24 5s.; Mr. Wattie, Milton Cromlet (3), £21 10s. 6d.; Mr. Fraser, Hill of Skilmafilly (2), £18 12s. 9d.; Mr. Robertson, Aquorsk (2), £19 8s 6d.; Mr. Brebner, Corncalterach (2), £15 9s. 9d. The average for twenty-three Polled bulls was £21 9s. 7d.; for eight cows, £21 5s. 3d.; for one two-year-old heifer, £42 1s.; for seven yearling heifers, £15; for nine kept calves, £12 19s.; making a gross average of £19 3s. for forty-six head, or a total of £919 15s. 6d.

Sale of Red Polls at Ipswich.

Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons' fourteenth annual sale of pedigree red poll cattle at the Drill Hall at Ipswich took place on Tuesday, when twenty cow heifers, and bulls were catalogued. Buyers attended from Staffordshire, Kent, Wiltshire, Hertfordshire, Essex, and Norfolk, and a good sale resulted. Mr. Fred Smith, of Woodbridge, awarded the prizes. The first and second prizes for heifers were won by Mrs. Morrison, Fonthill; the first prize for bulls by the Executors of Mr. P. K. Blofield, and the second prize by Mr. H. W. Packard. The following were the prices realised:—

COWS.

The property of Mr. Alfred Mansell, Preston Wynne:		
Stockton Rose 2nd, c Sept., 1894	Mr. Read	7
Miss Harriet, 2nd bull calf, c July, 1893	Lord Radnor	5
Newbourn Nelly V., 2nd bull calf, c Nov., 1898	Lord Radnor	5
Fonthill Nelly, 2nd bull calf, c Feb., 1896	Mr. J. L. Quested	4
Sheen, 2nd bull calf	Mr. G. Hewson	4
Cissie Wainght, c May, 1894	Mr. S. H. Allen	37
Dancing Jenny, c Oct., 1896	Mr. H. Lee	23
Busy Bee, 2nd bull calf, c Dec., 1899	Mr. S. H. Allen	7
Perdition, c Aug., 1895	Mr. J. L. Quested	25
Miss Marlton, c Dec., 1892	Mr. J. L. Quested	15
Perversity, c April, 1897	Mr. Dawson	15
Sunny VII., c March, 1894	Mr. Nunn	34
Cherry, c Feb., 1891	Mr. E. J. Quested	26
Mabel, c Jan., 1894	Lord Radnor	17
Glossie, c Jan., 1896	Lord Radnor	27

HEIFERS.

The property of Mrs. Alfred Mansell:		
Ruthless II., c Sept., 1898	Mr. R. P. Cooper	27
Butter Dish II., c Feb., 1899	Mr. S. H. Allen	20
Countess, c Oct., 1898	Lord Radnor	26
Silver May, c Feb., 1898	Mr. Sturley Nunn	13½
Butterbowl II., c May, 1898	Lord Radnor	21
Miss Dorothy, c Aug., 1897	Mr. W. Lee	14
Duchess, c March, 1898	Mr. S. H. Allen	14
Wasfield, c March, 1898	Mr. S. Nunn	36
Ashlyns Rose II., c May, 1898	Lord Radnor	16
Sweet Nellie, c May, 1898	Mr. Goods (Beccles)	12½
Sunflower, c Oct., 1899	Lord Radnor	7
Cherry Pie, c Dec., 1900	Mr. H. W. Packard	13½
Favorite, c Feb., 1900	Mr. H. W. Packard	14

COWS AND HEIFERS.

The property of Mr. A. G. Soame, Flempton House, Bury:		
Rosy Dawn II., c May, 1895	Mr Carter	16
The property of Mr. Percy J. Read, Hoxne, Eye		
Warth, and bull calf, c August, 1896	Mr. A. G. Smith	16

BULLS.

The property of Mr. J. B. Chevallier, Aspall Hall:		
New Fusilier, c Nov., 1899	Mr. M. Hewson	17
The property of Mr. J. Youngman, Charsfield.		
Pennis, c August, 1899	Mr. S. T. Hewson	13
The property of Mr. P. K. Blofield, Executors of the late:		
Hamlet, c March, 1899	Sir J. T. Rowley, Bart.	20
Abacus, c March, 1899	Mr. W. Makens	14
The property of Mr. A. H. Cobbald, Bury St. Edmunds		
Honest Roger, c May, 1898	Mr. Greenwood	18
The property of Mr. S. Wallace, of Wenham:		
Brief, c Dec., 1899	Mr. Cornwell	12½

Bull Show and Sale at Carlisle.

Messrs. Harrison held a special sale of pure Shorthorn and Galloway bulls at their Carlisle Mart on Thursday. There were 250 forward, many being good pedigreed animals, and they went to purchasers from all parts. A number of prizes were offered, and they were awarded as follows:—Pedigree bulls—1, Sir W. Thorburn, M.P., Innerleithen, sold for 46gs.; 2, Messrs. Workman, Pettend Green; 3, Mr. Barnes, Aikbank, 26gs. Non-pedigree bulls—1, Mr. Blake, Lamonby Hall, 40gs.; 2, Mr. Teasdale, Milestone Moor, 35gs.; 3, Messrs. Wood, Thursby, 27gs. White bulls, calved in 1899, made to £19 5s. Galloway bulls, calved in 1899—1, Messrs. Mitchinson, Cumrook, 184gs.; 2, Mr. Henderson, The Green, 14gs.; 3, Mr. Dobson, Geltsdale, 13gs. A special sale of store cattle was also held, and 800 head were sold at good prices.

Mansell's Store Stock Sale at Shrewsbury.

On the 25th ult. Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. held their October sale. In consequence of the restrictions owing to the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the County of Stafford and other districts, which prevented the removal of animals into the large feeding areas, the company was not so large as usual, and therefore prices were easier. Nearly 1,[illegible] cattle passed through the sale ring, and about 400 sheep changed hands.

ALL farm live stock should be given "MOLASSINE." It is an excellent food and condiment combined. See advertisement on back page of this issue.—[ADVT.]

The prices were as follows:—Shorthorn bullocks, £14 10s., £13 12s. 6d., £13 10s., £13, £12, 15s., £12, £11 12s. 6d.; Shorthorn heifers, £13 5s., £13, £12 17s. 6d., £12 10s., £11 10s.; Hereford bullocks, £15 7s. 6d., £14 15s., £13 10s., £13, £11 10s.; Hereford heifers £11 15s., £10 17s. 6d., £10 12s. 6d.; Hereford cows, £15 5s., £14 15s., £13 12s. 6d., £12 10s.; Hereford yearlings, £11 5s., £11 12s. 6d., £11 5s., £10 12s. 6d., £10 5s., £10, £9 17s. 6d., £9 12s. 6d.; Hereford and Shorthorn crossbred bullocks, £15 5s., £14 17s. 6d., £14 5s., £14; Black Polled bullocks, £15 5s., £14 15s., £14 5s. £14, £13 10s., £13 5s., £12 15s., £12 12s. 6d.; Black Polled heifers £13 5s., £12 17s. 6d., £12, £11 15s., £11 5s.; Welsh Blue Greys, £10 5s., £10 10s., £9 10s., £8 10s.; Kerry heifers, £9 2s. 6d., £8 17s. 6d., £8 10s.; crossbred bullocks, £13, £12 17s. 6d., £12 10s., £11 15s.

The rougher lots of cattle sold as low as 25s. to 27s. per cwt., but good sorts in all cases sold well. Polled bullocks making from 32s. to 33s. 6d. per cwt., Hereford barrens up to 32s. 6d. per cwt., and a lot of crossbred (Hereford and Shorthorn) bullocks weighing 8cwt. realised £14 17s. 6d., or 37s. 2d. per cwt.

The next sale to be held by this firm will take place on Friday, November 16th, for which a large entry has been received, and by which time all regulations and restrictions appertaining to the outbreak of foot and mouth disease will, it is hoped, be removed.

HORSES.

Sale of Harness Horses and Hunters at Newcastle.

Messrs. R. Donkin and Son's usual autumn sale of harness horses and hunters previous to the October Horse Fair took place at Newcastle on the 26th ult., when the catalogue comprised an entry of forty animals belonging to north-country gentlemen, a number rather less than usual. There was a good company present, and keen competition took place for the best class of horses. Although no very high prices were realised, yet the general average was a good one. The following were some of the principal prices obtained:—Brown cob gelding, six and a-half years, 15.1 h.h., 21gs.; black gelding, seven years, 16.1 h.h., 60gs.; bay mare, three and a-half years, 15.3 h.h., 26gs.; bay gelding seven years, 16 h.h., 34gs.; brown gelding, six years, 15 h.h., 27gs.; dark brown gelding, rising four years, 16.1 h.h., 50gs.; chestnut gelding, four years, 15.2 h.h., 50gs.; bay mare, six years, 15.1 h.h., 25gs.; brown gelding, six years 15.3 h.h., 22gs.; black mare, six years, 15.2 h.h., 30gs.; grey gelding, five years, 15 h.h., 25gs. Other cobs and ponies realised from 12gs. to 20gs.

Horse Sale at Glasgow.

On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Joseph Vine conducted a sale of horses within his horse bazaar, opposite Buchanan Street Station, Port Dundas Road, Glasgow. There were 120 animals catalogued, consisting principally of carriage and harness horses. There were also a number suitable for van and cart purposes, and also a few cobs and ponies. Carriage horses experienced the best demand and sold well. Cobs and ponies had a fair selling trade. Carriage horses of the best class realised up to 50gs.; secondary, 20gs. to 30gs.; inferior, 6gs. to 14gs.; best cart or draught horses, to 46gs.; secondary and inferior, 6gs. to 20gs.; cobs, 5gs. to 24gs.; vanners, to 30gs. and down to 5gs.; ponies, 4gs. to 18gs.

Show and Sale at Carlisle.

Hetherington's Auction Company held their monthly horse sale at Carlisle on Thursday, when about 136 animals were catalogued, including a consignment of Shetland ponies. The prize winners and the prices realised were:—Two-year-old cart geldings—1, Mr. J. R. Beattie, Baurch, 42gs.; 2, Mr. W. Wannop, Carlatton, 35gs. Two-year-old cart fillies—1, Mr. J. Lowther, Laithes, Kirkbride, 38gs.; 2, Mr. Lloyd, Boustead Hill, 36gs.; 3, Mr. J. Robinson, Newlands, 30½gs. Foals, to 18gs. Cart horse or mare—1, Mr. Robinson, Newlands; 2, 3, and commended, Mr. W. Rush, Carlisle. The second prize horse sold for 50gs. Saddle or harness—1, Mr. Lightfoot, Great Orton; 2 and 3, Mr. W. Rush. Cobs—1, Mr. T. Thistlethwaite, Penrith; 2, Mr. Parkin-Moore, Whitehall; 3, Lord Lonsdale, Lowther Castle; 4, Mr. R. Doods, Desoglin. Shetland ponies made up to 17gs.

Mr. Samuel Rowlands, a leading agriculturist, of the north of England, and a member of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society, died at his residence, Newton Morrell, near Darlington, on the 24th ult., aged sixty-three.

Ely Fair.—There was a fair supply of stock at this fair on the 25th ult., which met with a moderate sale; buds and steers realised from £6 to £9; stores, £10 to £16. Milch cows sold well at from £15 to £20. The horses were a very mixed lot, reaching up to £25 for useful animals.

SHEEP.

Warminster Fair.

There was a good supply of sheep at Warminster Sheep Fair, held on the 26th ult., the number penned being about 9,000, which is about 1,000 more than last year. Quality was a marked feature in most of the lots, and in this respect there was an improvement in the class of stock shown at some late sales. Business grew brisk as the sales proceeded, and the prices secured for most of the lots were well up to the average. Mr. J. T. Woolley, of Salisbury, sold wether lambs at 46s. 6d., 41s. 6d., 40s. 6d., 39s. 6d. (twice), 34s., 33s. 6d., 32s. 6d., 31s., 28s. 6d., 28s., 26s., and 22s. 6d.; mixed lambs at 35s. 6d. (twice), 34s. (twice), 33s., 31s. 6d., 29s., 28s. 6d. (twice), 28s., 22s., and 21s.; chilver lambs at 36s. 6d., 31s. 6d., 29s. (twice) and 27s. 6d. Mr. F. R. Ravenhill, of Warminster, sold wether lambs at 46s., 33s., and other prices, and mixed lambs at 33s., 27s., etc.

Glasgow and Leith Wool Sales.

There is nothing noteworthy to report in the Scotch wool market for the past month. The Leith sales on the 4th and 5th attracted a moderate number of buyers, but there was not much spirit in the competition, except for half-breds, which were scarce and wanted. Very little was done in Cheviots, and Blackfaced was neglected. A similar report holds good of the Glasgow sales on the 17th, where there was a limited attendance. In Whitefaced wools the buying was almost entirely confined to cross and half-breds of second-rate description, and at low prices. In Blackfaced there was scarcely anything done publicly, but there was some private buying afterwards, understood to be partly for export. As the month closes there is more buying in this class, both for home and foreign consumption, and prices are firm.

	Washed.		Unwashed.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Half-bred hoggs	0 8½ to 0 9	....	0 5½ to 0 6½	
Ditto wedders	0 7¼ to 0 7½	....	0 5½ to 0 5½	
Cheviot hoggs	0 8 to 0 9½	....	0 6½ to 0 7½	
Ditto wedders	0 7 to 0 8	....	0 6½ to 0 6½	
Cross-bred hoggs	0 6½ to 0 6½	....	0 5½ to 0 5½	
Laid Cheviot	0 5 to 0 5½	....	0 3¾ to 0 4	
Black faced white	—	....	0 4½ to 0 4½	
Ditto laid	—	....	0 2¾ to 0 3½	

For Sutherland wool 2d to 2½d more can be realised.

J. AND W. GREIG.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Oct. 27th, 1900:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	92	432	15,681	17,219	
					699		16,735	
					203		35,892	
	Outbreaks.		No.	10	14	1,659	2,004	
					38		2,123	
					14		1,961	
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Other Animals	No.	1	:	2	:	
					:		:	
					:		14	
		Dogs.	No.	:	:	5	8	
					1		16	
					:		157	
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughtered.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	:	:	996	
					:		741	
		Diseased.	No.	:	:	:	1	
					:		46	
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	:	:	1	
					:		7	
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked		No.	43	20	559	1,313	
					29		1,179	
					42		1,194	
	Outbreaks.		No.	24	13	944	882	
					15		690	
					25		752	
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	:	:	227	:	
					:		:	
					:		:	
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	:	17	:	
					:		:	
					:		:	
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	15	15	760	865	
					14		760	
					22		785	
	Outbreaks.		No.	8	12	446	442	
					12		404	
					10		363	
Period.								
Week ended Oct. 27, 1900								
Corresponding week in					1899			
					1898			
					1897			
Total for 43 weeks. 1900								
Corresponding period in					1899			
					1898			
					1897			

The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

Policeman Killed by Bad Meat.—George Gibbons, of the Cheshire Constabulary, stationed at Liscard, has died through eating diseased meat supplied to him when long special duty at Altrincham Election. At the inquest the butcher who supplied the meat admitted that a portion returned to him by the caterer was tainted and green, but stated that when slaughtered the beast was in splendid condition. The jury found a verdict of "Death from peritonitis through eating putrid meat improperly cooked and cooled."

SHOWS.

Bromyard Horse Show.

The twelfth annual show of the Bromyard Horse Show Society took place in the Meeting House Meadow, Bromyard, Herefordshire, last week. The entries were in excess of those in the previous year by seven, and the competition was very keen in several classes. The quality of the exhibits was particularly good, especially in the Shire colts, yearlings, and two-year-old classes, a sucking filly being sold for £36 at the termination of the show.

In the class for the best cart sucker colt there were twelve entries, the first prize being awarded to a grand colt sired by Dunsmore Achilles 9222; the second prize was taken by a stylish colt by Dore Baronet; third prize by another colt by Dunsmore Achilles; and the fourth by a very taking colt by Northern Cream. In the filly suckers the first prize was given to a compact filly by Bledlow Hero; the second prize fell to a filly which should have taken precedence to the before mentioned, having all the attributes required in a Shire-bred animal, her bone being good and hair silky and abundant; she was afterwards sold for £36; the third and fourth prize fillies were also of great promise. The entries in the nag classes were, as usual, poor, and several persons thought it would be advisable to amalgamate some of these classes and devote the prize money to other classes of heavy horses. The prize list was as follows:—

Cart colt: 1, Mr. S. N. Weaver, Sandlin Leigh, Malvern; 2, Messrs. Dutton and Sons, Burton Court, Cattonon-Teme; 3, Mr. R. Betteridge, The Hill, Cradley; 4, Mr. S. Jones; r, Mr. J. Colley, Little Cwarne; hc, Mr. W. T. Ockey, The Town, Castle Froome; c, Mr. W. Orgee, Hopton, Bromyard.

Cart filly: 1, Captain E. Heygate, Buckland, Leominster; 2, Mr. C. Bannister; 3, Mr. Samuel Drew, Wallcroft House, Bromyard; 4, Mr. S. Drew; r, Mr. Buckle.

Nag colt: 1, Mr. W. Pudge, Frogend, Bishop's Frome; 2, Mr. John Beamand, New House, Pemcombe; 3, Mr. F. W. G. Greswolde-Williams, Bredenbury Court.

Nag filly: 1, Mr. T. W. Heywood, Broad Heath, Tenbury; 2, Mr. James F. Parker, Little Froome, Bromyard; 3, Mr. Morris, Netherwood; r, Mr. T. W. Depper, Sinton End, Acton Beauchamp.

Yearling cart colt gelding, or filly: 1, Mr. T. L. Walker; 2, Mr. J. Dorrell, The Venn, Bromyard; 3, Mr. W. T. Barneby, Saltmarshe Castle; r, Mr. W. T. Barneby; hc, Mr. Samuel Drew; c, Captain E. Heygate.

Yearling nag colt gelding or filly: 1, Mr. F. W. G. Greswolde Williams; 2, Mr. F. W. Greswolde Williams; 3, Mr. E. Pannters, Bridgend, Much Cwarne; r, Mr. William Aitkins, The Farm, Bromyard.

Two-year-old cart gelding or filly: 1, Mr. W. T. Barneby; 2, Mr. W. P. Pope, Brockamin; 3, Messrs. Dalton Bros.; r, Mr. E. Caddick.

Three-year-old cart gelding or filly: 1, Mr. W. P. Pope; 2, Mr. T. Lawson Walker; 3, Messrs. Dalton and Sons; r, Mr. John Pitt.

Cart mare (with foal or served during the season 1900, certificate of such service; to be produced at the time of entry): 1, Mr. W. P. Pope; 2, Mr. Baldwin, Underley; 3, Mr. R. Betteridge; r, Mr. W. T. Ockey; hc, Mr. J. Bedford, Woodcrofts.

Special prizes of £1 for the first, and 10s. for the second, for foals by Mr. C. Aylett's horse Neptune: 1, Mr. John Colley; 2, Mr. Pantall; r, Mr. Buckle.

Nantwich Cheese and Butter Show

The Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association's annual two-day show at Nantwich took place on Wednesday and Thursday, and was, on the whole, quite up to and in some cases above the average. The pitch of cheese was a record one, namely, 50 tons, whilst at the cheese fair held on the second day there was a total pitch of 115 tons. Another very satisfactory feature was the increase in the entries, which numbered 179, against 157 last year. The increase was chiefly in the open class, in which makers of coloured and uncoloured cheese competed. In the butter classes there was also a satisfactory improvement, last year's entry being increased from 34 to 44. Although some little criticism was offered by the judges on the condition of one or two dairies, which were slightly lacking in flavour and colour, the examinations passed on the exhibits generally were flattering to the exhibitors and to Nantwich, which, from its close association with the centre of the cheese making industry of Cheshire, has a considerable reputation to sustain.

In the first class, which was for twelve coloured cheese, the judges noted a lack of colouring in some of the cheese, but in other respects the cheese were a good one. The premier prize was awarded to Mr. N. Dale, or Tarporley, for a capital dairy. Mr. P. Dutton, of Hoofield, was placed second, and Mr. T. Shaw, of Hatton Heath, who won the gold medal at the Chester Show, third. In class 2, in which there were twenty-eight entries, there was some deficiency of flavour in one or two cheese, a defect which was fatal to the chance of the dairy. Mr. W. Lee, of Tattenhall, carried off the principal prize, the second and third places being filled by Mr. R. Beech, of Crewe, and Mr. H. Rutter, of Handley. In the class for six cheese there was a lack of flavour and colour in several cheese, but the judges were very enthusiastic in their praises of the quality which marked the winning dairies. Mr. T. Greenway, of Tarporley, was first with a splendid lot of cheese, which were readily selected by the judges for the premier prize. Mr. J. Williams, of Sound, Nantwich, secured second position, and the third prize went to Mr. J. Perry, of Norbury. There was a very fine display in Class 4. In an entry of twenty-six tubs were declared by eighteen exhibitors, and the judges had a hard task

in placing the winners, the reserve dairy being only slightly inferior to the premier dairy in point of merit. Mrs. Peacock, of Hargrave, a prominent and successful exhibitor, filled the place of honour with a magnificent dairy of cheese, and was awarded a special prize of £3 3s., given by Messrs. Stretch and Harlock for the best uncoloured lot of cheese in the show, the minor prizes being won by Mr. J. Jones, of Dodleston, Mr. W. H. Hobson, Malpas, and Mr. James Hulme, Ellesmere, all of whom were represented by excellent dairies. In the open class there were no fewer than seventy-two entries, representing nearly all well-known makers of Cheshire cheese, and the quality was typical of the high standard usually achieved. This class provided the winner of the Champion Cup, Mr. J. Dutton, of Swanley Hall, Nantwich, whose name is generally associated with high honours, being the fortunate exhibitor. Mr. Dutton's cheese were perfect in flavour and texture, and he well deserved the position conferred upon him. There was a very good display of butter, the cottagers as usual taking a prominent position. The principal winners were Mr. P. Reade, of Swanley, who has quite a record of successes; Mrs. France, another successful exhibitor; and in the cottagers' class Mr. R. Reade, of Faddiley, and Mr. T. Henshall, of Swanley.

Prize List.

CHEESE.

Twelve coloured Cheshire cheese, irrespective of weight, made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer whose occupation exceeds 150 acres, resident within twelve miles of Nantwich, or any member of the Association: 1, Mr. N. Dale, Brassey Green, Tarporley; 2, Mr. P. Dutton, Hoofield Hall, Huxley; 3, Mr. T. Shaw, Hatton Heath; 4, Mr. W. Moore, Checkley; 5, Mr. C. E. Parton, Haughton Hall Farm, Tarporley; r, Mr. W. Dutton, Brindley Hall, Nantwich; vhc, Mr. E. Charlesworth, Stoke Hall, Nantwich; Mr. T Brassington, Dairy Farm, Austerson; Mr. J. Jackson, Chorley Oak Farm, Handley; Mr. W. G. Moss, Randilow Farm, Betley; Mr. S. Dutton, Burleydam; Mr. J. Houlbrooke, Peckforton Hall, Tarporley; Mr. T. Dutton, Ash House, Brindley; hc, Mr. R. Cooper, Ridley Hill, Tarporley; Mr. G. Lea, Oscroft, Tarvin; c, Mr. G. Perry, Parkside Farm, Cholmondeley; Mr. H. R. Dutton, Spurstow Lower Farm, Tarporley.

Twelve Cheshire cheese, irrespective of weight, made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer whose occupation is over 80 and does not exceed 150 acres, resident within twelve miles of Nantwich, or any member of the Association: 1, Mr. W. Lee, Woodlake, Tattenhall; 2, Mr. R. Booth, Fields Farm, Crewe; 3, Mr. H. Rutter, Aldersey; 4, Mr. J. Hough, Shocklach; 5, Mr. E. Fitton, Eaton; r, Mr. H. Hobson, Hatherton; vhc, Mr. T. Vaughan, Ravensmoor; Mrs W. Dutton, Brereton Park, Hargrave; Mr. R. Davies, Round House, Edge; Mr. C. J. Gouldbourne, Brick Wall, Audlem; hc, Mr W. H. Hobson, Wood Farm, Malpas; Mr T Tew, Coole Pilate, Nantwich; Mr. R. Ankers, Ridley; c, Mr. H. E. Cooper, Bickley; Mrs. Johnson, Wood Farm, Wirswall; Mr. A. Lea, Hankelow Farm, Nantwich; Mr. J. Sandbach, Woore.

Six cheese, any weight, made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer, whose occupation does not exceed 80 acres, resident within twelve miles of Nantwich, or open to any member of the Association: 1, Mr. T. Greenway, Burton; 2, Mr. J. Williams, Hollin Green; 3, Mr. J. Perry, Holtridge; 4, Mr. J. Parry, Oscroft; r, Mr. J. Taylor, Lees Farm, Malpas; vhc, Mr. P. Bostock, Green Farm, Chorley; Mr. S. A. Bonell, Coos Farm, Audlem; hc, Mr. A. Charlesworth, Church Minshull; Mr. F. Arden, Daisy Bank, Tattenhall; Mr. R. Johnson, Tarvin Sands; c, Mr. J. Boughey, Hurleston; Mr. J. Jackson, Bank Farm, Isycoed; Mr. H. Reade, Gradeley Green; Mr. G. Dickenson, Hurleston.

Ten uncoloured Cheshire cheese, not less than 25lb. each, made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer resident within twelve miles of Nantwich, or any member of the Association: 1, Mrs. Peacock, Huxley Hall, Hargrave; 2, Mr. J. Jones, New Farm, Dodleston, Chester; 3, Mr. W. H. Hobson, Wood Farm, Broughton; 4, Mr. J. Holme, Kenwick Lodge, Ellesmere; r, Mr. W. G. Moss, Randilow Farm, Betley; vhc, Mr. W. Evans, Gatesheath Farm, Tattenhall; Mr. T. Charlesworth, Baddington; Mr. E. Langley, Ridley, Tarporley; Mr. H. Hobson, Hatherton, Nantwich; Mr. W. R. Huntbach, Dodd's Green, Aston; hc, Mr. J. Rigby, Ebnal Farm, Malpas; Mr. J. Jackson, Chowley, Handley; Mr. C. F. Holson, Weston Hall, Eccleshall; Mr. M. Ninis, The Grange, Leighton, Crewe; Mr. W. Trelfa, Weaver Wood, Winsford; c, Mr. James Blake, Calveley Hall, Handley; Mr. W. Bate, Ashhouse Farm, Darnhall; Mr. J. Dutton, Bridgmere, Nantwich; Mr. T. Bourne, Goldsmith House, Whitchurch.

Four coloured or uncoloured cheese, of any make, not less than 25lb. each, made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer resident within the United Kingdom: 1 and champion cup, Mr. J. Dutton, Swanley Hall; 2, Mr. L. Jackson, Broughton Lodge, Malpas; 3, Mr. J. Trickett, Calveley Green Farm; 4, Mr. T. H. Simcock, Moat Farm, Alpraham; r, Mr. J. Jones, New Farm, Dodleston; vhc, Mr. N. Turner, Blakenhall, Nantwich; Mr. R. Bourne, Bickerton, Malpas; Mr. B. Dutton, Baddiley Farm, Nantwich; Mr. C. E. Parton, Haughton Hall Farm; Mr. S Holland, Woodhey Hall, Nantwich; Mr. J. Hulme, Kenwick Lodge, Ellesmere; Mr. Huntbach, Moor Hall, Aston; hc, Mr. J Smith, Radnor Green Farm, Spurstow; Mr. W. Moore, Checkley, Nantwich; Mr. E. S. Lea, Bridgemere, Nantwich; Mr. J. A. Jackson, Bolesworth; Mr. O. Hesketh, Cholmondeston; Mr. J. Noden, Woodside, Wettenhall; Mr. T. Brassington, Austerton, Nantwich; Mr. R. Cooper, Ridley Hill, Tarporley; Mr. J. Lloyd, Dodleston, Chester; Mr. W. H. Astles, Swanlow Farm, Darnhall; Mr. J. Royle, The Leasons, Westfelton; c, Mr. F. Benson, Aldersey, Handley; Mrs. E. Fitton, Eaton, Tarporley; Mr. J. A. Johnson, Calveley Farm, Tarporley; Mr. C. Birchall, Cross Bank, Barbridge; Mr. J. Houlbrooke, Peckforton; Mr. G. Dutton, Peckforton; Mr. W. Carter, Bowsey Wood Madeley; Mr. A. S. Lea, Hankelow Farm, Nantwich, Mr. W. Allwood, Bank House, Hurleston; Mr. M Ninis, The Grange, Leighton, Crewe; Mr. S. Lea, Kinsal, Oswestry; Mr. J. Sandbach, Woore, Newcastle, Staffs.

BUTTER.

Six half pounds of butter, slightly salted, exhibitors to be makers of their exhibits, and resident within the county, or any member of the Association: 1, Mr. P. Reade, Swanley; 2, Mrs. France, Bunbury; 3, Mr. R. Johnson, Tarvin Sands; 4, Mrs. J Okell, Great Barrow; r, Miss F. Stokes, Tilston Heath; vhc, Miss Jackson, Tarporley; Mrs. Burrows, Ravensmoor; Mr. J. Hough, Calveley; hc, Mr. J. Boughey, Hurleston; c, Mr. E. S. Lea, Bridgmere.

Cottagers' Class.—For the best four half pounds of butter, made and exhibited by any agricultural labourer, resident within the county, or any member of the Association, and not having more than two cows in milk: 1, Mr. R. Reade, Faddiley; 2, Mr. T. Henshall, Swanley; 3, Mrs. Pugh, Norbury Common, Whitchurch; 4, Mrs. M. Boughey, Worleston; r, Mrs. T. Woodhall, Burland; vhc, Mrs. J. Ravenscroft, Tilston Heath; Mrs. H. Cooper, Acton; hc, Mrs. Barnes, Alpraham; c, Mrs. J. Weaver, Broomhall.

The Cheese Fair.

The report issued by Mr. R. Challinor, secretary of the Association, with respect to the cheese fair, which took place on Thursday, shows that there was a pitch of 115 tons, of which 50 tons represented the weight of cheese in the show. The demand for the show cheese was not so keen as at previous shows. Buyers were present from all well-known centres of the trade, and the dairies were picked up in due time. The champion and first prize dairies made from 80s. to 100s.; second and third prize-winning dairies from 70s. to 80s.; and dairies which were honourably mentioned prices down to 65s. The large pitch in the fair affected the demand somewhat, but as the fair progressed a better tone prevailed, the best lots making 60s. to 67s., and medium down to 50s. Of the cheese pitched a good proportion was apparently in an over-ripe condition. The quotations in the fair were similar to those at the corresponding fair last year.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

Nov.
6 Meeting of the Council of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture.
7 and 8 Sale of Horses, at Cheshire Repository, Crewe.
8. Sale of Mr. J. H. Shore's entire herd of Jerseys, at Whatley House, Frome, Somerset.
15 and 16 Sale of Horses, at Crewe House Repository.
16. Sale of Store Stock, at Shrewsbury Smithfield.
22, 23, and 24. Norfolk and Norwich Christmas Show Association, at Agricultural Hall, Norwich.
26 and 27. Tonbridge Fat Stock and Poultry Show.
27 and 28. Lord Tredegar's Agricultural and Poultry Show, at Newport, Mon.
27 and 28 Whitchurch Dairy Farmers' Association's Show, at Whitchurch, Salop.
28. Sale of the entire stud of Hackneys and young Harness Horses belonging to Sir Oswald Mosley, at Rolleston Hall, Burton-on-Trent.
29 and 30. Chippenham Agricultural Association's Show, at Chippenham, Wilts.
30. Sale of Shire Mares, Fillies, and Geldings, at Peterborough Repository.

Death of a Noted Scotch Agriculturist.—There has recently passed away Mr. Robert Anderson, of Lochdhu, a well-known agriculturist, of Nairnshire. His career as a successful agriculturist is interesting. Brought up upon his father's farm of Cooperhill, Darnaway, Robert Anderson became a corn merchant and agricultural judge in the earlier part of the century. His first considerable venture in farming was his becoming tenant of Meikle Kildrummie, in Nairnshire, on an improving lease. He brought under cultivation about 380 acres of waste land, and his improvements on the farm were the astonishment of the country. His enterprise paid him, however, and through his indomitable energy in business he was able to purchase the property of Lochdhu, near Nairn, and to add to it various adjacent lands, such as Grieshop, Broadley, and Nairn Moss, making a nice, compact estate. For considerably over half a century he had been the leading agricultural authority in Nairnshire, and, indeed, throughout the North of Scotland, where he was regarded very much as the father of modern improvements in farming. He gave considerable attention to the breeding of stock at one time, and, along with his brother-in-law, the late Mr. John Stewart, of Ensay, was a frequent exhibitor at the Highland Society and other shows of Highland cattle. His many services to his agricultural friends were recognised by them presenting him on one occasion with a handsome piece of silver plate and 600 sovereigns, and on another occasion with a life-sized portait of himself. During the past few years he had withdrawn from all active business through the infirmities of old age.

Bampton Pony Fair.—This historic fair was held on the 24th ult., and was one of the most successful of recent years. The number of ponies driven in exceeded those of last year, the attendance of buyers was larger, prices were better; in fact, all round the fair showed a great improvement. Unfortunately—and as usual—the weather was unfavourable, but the streets were thronged the whole of the day. There was a brisk demand for all classes of animals, especially mare suckers; but there were few on offer. Biddings generally were very spirited. About 600 or 700 animals were on offer. It was evident that people are beginning to find out the true type of Exmoor pony, for there was a better sale for these than for the larger cross-bred animals. The auctioneers reported their prices as under:—Messrs. Blackford and Son: Suckers, from £3 12s. 6d. to £5 10s.; breeding mares, £12 10s. to £18; cart colts, £11 to £12 10s.; cart horses, £7 2s. 6d to £25. Mr. Daniel Evans: Suckers, from £3 to £7; yearlings, £8 to £9; breeding mares, £8 to £12. Messrs. T. E. Ayre and Co.: Suckers, from £2 10s. to £6 10s.; yearlings, £9 9s. to £16 16s.; breeding mares, 10gs. to 27½gs; cart colts, 21gs. to 29½gs.; cart horses, 25gs. to 59gs. Messrs. Sanders and Sons: Suckers, from £2 2s. 6d. to £6 5s.; yearlings, £5 7s. 6d. to £10 5s.; breeding mares, £5 5s. to £9 7s. 6d. Messrs. Phillips and Sons: Suckers up to £4 10s.; cart colts, from 7gs. to 10gs.; cart horses, from 16gs. to 25gs. Mr. R. Staddon held a successful sale of horses, cobs, and ponies outside the old turnpike house. Good prices were realised, suckers fetching from 30s. to £5; ponies, £5 to £10.

SOCIETIES.

Bath and West and Southern Counties Society.

A Council meeting of the above named Society was held at Bristol on Tuesday, when, on the motion of Captain Best, the Marquis of Bath was voted to the chair.

Elections.

The following new members were elected:—
Ackland, W. Corbet, Dene, Portishead.
Ettle, J., F.R.H.S., , Malvern View, Stanley Grove Road, West Kensington, W.
Jakeman, Edward, Bridgwater, Somersetshire.
Lewis, D., Stoke-under-Ham, Somerset.
Norton, R., Priory Villa, Wells, Somerset.
Sayce, T. Bate, Dene, Bradford, Yorks.
Stride, C. S. S., Newton Park, Bath.

Special Communications.

Communications sent by direction of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., and His Royal Highness the Duke of York, K.G., in acknowledgment of resolutions of regret and condolence with respect to the death of H.R.H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha were read.

The Chairman referred to the sad news which had just reached the country of the death of Princess Christian Victor, and which had added an additional bereavement upon the Queen and Royal Family. It was a further instance of how all classes, from the very highest to the lowest, had been affected by the sorrows resulting from the war. He begged to move that a resolution be drawn up and forwarded to Her Majesty expressive of the Council's deep regret, and respectfully tendering its condolence. This was seconded by Lord Heytesbury, and carried.

Council Vacancies.

The Secretary having reported the deaths of Colonel C. W. H. Helyar and Sir A. W. Neeld, Bart., members of Council for the Central Division, Sir C. T. D. Acland moved, Mr. Foxcroft seconded, and it was unanimously resolved, that the sympathy of the Council in their bereavement be conveyed by resolution to the families of the deceased gentlemen.

Finance.

Mr. Collins, as chairman of the Finance Committee, brought up the audited quarterly statement of accounts, and also report, the concluding portion of which was as follows:—"The committee suggest that the Society should mark its sense of the honour conferred upon it by H.R.H. the Duke of York in accepting the presidency by making a determined effort to materially increase the roll of membership during His Royal Highness's term of office. To this end the committee recommend that a special appeal be made to every member of the Society to endeavour to secure at least one additional candidate for election at the January Council. New members are urgently needed to fill the gaps created by death and other causes, and a substantial accession of support would very fittingly commemorate the honour in question, and at the same time testify to the Society's appreciation of it."

The adoption of the report and accounts was moved by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Martin, and carried.

Stock Prizes.

Colonel Best, as chairman of the Stock Prize Sheet Committee, brought up the prize sheet proposed for the Croydon meeting in 1901, and the report thereon. The report alluded to the loss which the committee had sustained by the death of two of its members in the following terms: "The committee regret that since they last presented a report to the Council a vacancy has been created in the chairmanship of the committee by the death of Sir J. F. Lennard, whose long and valuable services will be held in grateful remembrance by this committee especially, with whose proceedings he so particularly identified himself. In his place the committee have elected Colonel Best as chairman. The committee have also sustained a further loss by the untimely death of another of their number, viz., Colonel Helyar, a gallant soldier, who died in the service of his Queen and country in South Africa. He interested himself in the work of the committee, not only by placing his practical knowledge and experience at their disposal, but also by a liberal contribution to the prize list at the Society's last exhibition."

The report recommended, among other matters that the Society should give additional prizes for Army remounts, Red Polled and Aberdeen Angus cattle, Kent or Romney Marsh sheep, Large Black pigs, and farmyard poultry.

Jumping Prizes to Attract Visitors.

The report stated that the following communication had been received from the hon. sec. of the Croydon Local Committee:—

"At a meeting of my committee a resolution was unanimously passed expressing [illegible] highly desirable in the interests of the show next year at Croydon that classes should be provided for jumping, and I was instructed to notify this to your Society. It was felt by the committee that Croydon is unlike many places where the show is held, and [illegible] an additional attraction would [illegible]

attraction to draw the local population into the show. I was further instructed to notify you that my committee are prepared to grant the sum of 100gs. towards your prize list, to be allocated as follows:—50gs. for prizes for the jumping classes, and 50gs. for (1) classes for pairs of carriage horses belonging to private owners, (2) the best tradesmen's turnouts, and (3) trotters."

The report recommended that the wishes of the local committee be acted upon, and that the amount in question be accepted and allocated accordingly.

Colonel Best stated that he would move the reception but not the adoption of the report, as he entirely disagreed with the recommendation to accept jumping prizes. Mr. Sillifant seconded the reception of the report.

Mr. Alexander moved: "That it is necessary, on financial grounds, to take steps to render the Society's shows more attractive to the general public, and to this end that a pecuniary grant—the amount to be fixed by the Council—be made for prizes for jumping and trotting to be competed for at the 1901 meeting at Croydon, and that the report of the Stock Prize Sheet Committee be adopted with this addition." This was seconded by Mr. C. Phillips, and after considerable discussion was carried by a large majority.

A sum of 100gs. was then voted for the purpose named in the resolution, the exact allocation of the amount being left with the Stock Prize Sheet Committee, with power to act.

Dairy.

Sir C. T. D. Acland, as chairman of the Dairy Committee, presented a report from the committee recommending certain changes in butter-making competitions with a view to the special encouragement of competitors who had not previously won prizes at the Society's meetings. The report also recommended that experiments be made in the working dairy at the Croydon meeting with a view to ascertaining the difference as to churnability in cream derived from milk taken from animals of the Shorthorn, Sussex, Jersey, and Guernsey breeds; such cream to be tested in both a sweet and a ripe state.

Mr. Mathews suggested that to these breeds the Red Polled should be added, and this was agreed to.

Mr. Lloyd Baker expressed his willingness to offer prizes for Gloucester cheese, and the offer was accepted with thanks.

The adoption of the report with these additions was then moved by Sir C. T. D. Acland, seconded by Mr. Strachey, M.P., and agreed to.

Implement Regulations.

Captain Best, as chairman of the Implement Regulations Committee, presented the report of the committee, which recommended certain minor alterations in the regulations affecting implements and machinery and that a certain firm of exhibitors, who had furnished no explanation for a gross breach of the regulations, be debarred from exhibiting at any of the Society's future shows.

On the motion of Captain Best, seconded by Colonel Naper, the report was adopted.

Contracts.

Captain Best, on behalf of the Contracts Committee, reported that the committee recommended that the supply of show yard refreshments to the general public be thrown open to public tender, and that purveyors should have the option of tendering for the supply of either the whole of the refreshments or for those only in any one or more of the different pavilions. On the motion of Captain Best, seconded by the Rev. F. F. Buckingham, the report was adopted.

Arts.

Sir C. T. D. Acland, on behalf of the Arts Committee, reported that the committee had appointed Colonel Wyatt Edgell as their chairman, in place of the late Right Hon. Sir. T. D. Acland, and this was approved.

Agricultural Education.

In the absence of the chairman of the Agricultural Education Committee (Sir R. H. Paget), the secretary submitted the committee's report, which stated that the committee had been in communication with the Board of Agriculture with reference to a renewal of the research work in dairying hitherto carried on by the Society and the Board conjointly. A scheme having for its object the investigation of the origin and cause of flavour in dairy products had been drawn up, but the Board had at present been unable to see its way to make a sufficient grant for the purpose. The committee further reported that the Cheese School carried on at Batcombe, under an arrangement with the Somerset County Council, had been working satisfactorily. It had been well attended by students, thirty-six having received courses of instruction since the opening on April 1st last. The cheese had realised satisfactory prices, the April make having been sold at 63s., the May make at 64s., and the June make at 68s. per cwt. of 112lb. The Farriery School was continuing its travels and the classes had been well attended.

On the motion of Lord Heytesbury, seconded by Mr. G. Gibbons, the report was adopted.

Experiments.

Sir C. T. D. Acland, as chairman of the Experiments Committee, reported that the experiments upon pastures were still proceeding, and that a detailed report thereon would be drawn up for publication at the end of the present season. The Committee regretted that the experiments upon "teart" land had, up to the present, yielded no result, the beasts placed upon the land having failed to scour. They further reported that experiments relating to the influence of manures upon the production of mutton were being carried on in conjunction with the Board of Agriculture.

On the motion of Sir C. T. D. Acland, seconded by Mr. W. Ashcroft, the report was adopted.

1902 Exhibition.

Captain Best, as chairman of the Special Committee, reported that an invitation had been received from Plymouth to hold the Society's 1902 meeting in that town. The Committee had visited Plymouth for the inspection of sites, and had been most cordially and hospitably received by the Mayor. The Committee, on behalf of the Council, had accepted the invitation, subject to the provision of a suitable site. There had been some difficulty with respect to a site, but it was now in a fair way of being overcome. The Society had not held its show at Plymouth since 1873, when a very successful meeting took place there. He moved the adoption of the report, which was seconded by Mr. Napier, and unanimously agreed to.

Captain Best stated that the Committee had been given to understand that there was every prospect of the Devon County Agricultural Association co-operating with the Society, and he begged further to move that communications be opened up with the Association to this end. This was seconded by Mr. Napier, and agreed to.

Royal Cornwall.

The Council of the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association met at Truro on Wednesday, under the presidency of Sir Lewis Molesworth, M.P. The following were appointed a committee to prepare the prize list for the Bodmin exhibition next year: Messrs. J. C. Williams, W. James (Shorthorns); F. W. Rowe (South Devons and Herefords); R. Paynter (Jerseys and Guernseys); T. Rich (sheep); Colonel Byng (horses); and Mr. J. Bastard (pigs).

Mr. J. C. Daubuz opened a discussion with reference to the use of a fund originally intended for a memorial to the late Rev. Dr. F. Rodd. He explained that the fund, instead of being expended on the erection of a useless monument or an obelisk, was intended to be devoted to the interests of agriculture, and especially for the encouragement of improvements in implements, or some other branch, which would be of benefit to the county. For many years, he believed, the money was applied to the improvement of implements, until, apparently, it was thought that that improvement had pretty well come to an end. (Laughter.) Of late the income derived from the fund had been devoted to the pig section, which did not seem altogether satisfactory. It was now thought that a new constitution should be drawn up, and the proceeds of the fund applied to possibly a county agricultural scholarship, or anything else that would meet with the approval of the agriculturists of Cornwall generally.

The secretary (Mr. H. Tresawna) said there once existed a feeling that the money was, in a great measure, thrown away on implements, and the Council (who had always had the management of the fund) transferred it to the pigs—a course which he considered to be wrong. The late Dr. Rodd having been a noted Devon breeder, his (the secretary's) opinion was that the fund should be allotted to Devons instead of to pigs. The value of the fund per year was £25 10s.

Mr. Brenton asked, apart from the Rodd fund, whether the Royal Cornwall Association had done a great deal for farmers in the matter of implements. In his experience no county had made such rapid strides in the implement world as Cornwall; therefore, he thought, even if there were no £25—which he contended to be the implement department's own—that for the benefit of the rising generation and the county they ought still to award prizes in some form for implements. Outside the Association the feeling in regard to this matter was very strong. It was a pity that the Association should have dropped the award of prizes for implements.

Mr. J. C. Williams inquired what Mr. Brenton's experience was elsewhere. Mr. Brenton replied that twelve or fourteen other societies offered prizes for implements. Cornwall possessed a good name for inventions, which should be encouraged by this Association.

Colonel Tremayne: I agree with Mr. Brenton that the money ought to go back to the implements; if not, it should be given to something agreed on by the general meeting. The Chairman: I am in favour of that myself. I think if notice were given it might be discussed again. It was mentioned that Mr. Daubuz would give the requisite notice for the next meeting.

Colonel Byng referred to the letter read recently at the Technical Instruction Committee of the county to the effect that the expenditure of the Technical Education Fund as prizes for manual dexterity at agricultural demonstrations apart from [illegible] class instruction, or when such instruction is given only on the day of the competition, would not be a legitimate application of the funds under the Technical Instruction Acts, and pointed out that last year a certain grant was promised towards the Association's horse-shoeing demonstration. The secretary should put himself in communication with the Technical Instruction Committee with a view to seeing they got that sum. He would also give notice that at the next meting of the Council for the revision of the prize list he would move for the revison of the prizes for the shoeing competition so as to give more encouragement to the young smiths throughout the county. (Applause.)

The Annual Meeting.

Sir Lewis Molesworth, M.P., again presided at the annual meeting, at which Mr. Tresawna read the report. It set forth that the Council was glad to be able to state that the subscriptions and general popularity of the Association had been well maintained during the year. The show at Truro was an extremely good one, both as regards number and quality of the live stock, and also of the implements and machinery. The attendance on the first day exceeded that of any previous year, the number paying for admission being 6,433; but the weather on the second day was exceedingly wet, and materially affected the attendance of the public. Notwithstanding, the total attendance of the two days was 14,550—only a little below the average. For the first time the Association undertook the responsibility of the dairy exhibition. A committee was appointed by the Council in December, it being generally felt that so important an industry should receive every encouragement and support from the county association. The president, Mr. Tremayne, took occasion at the annual meeting to allude to this matter, and express a hope that the County Council, recognising its importance, would establish a Dairy School, as had been done in other counties. The Society's accounts for the past year had been examined, and showed the following result:—Receipts, £2,118 14s. 5d.; expenditure, £2,300 11s.; leaving a balance against the Society of £181 16s. 7d. The balance against the Society in 1899 was £222 12s. 5d., showing a gain on the year of £40 15s. 10d.

Mr. Lord remarked that one item in the report should be in reality charged to last year's accounts—£37 contributed to Launceston Show. That would leave a profit on the Truro Show of about £90. (Applause.)

The Chairman said he considered the report, as far as he understood the working of the Association, as very satisfactory—(Hear, hear)—because, according to the explanation of his friend, Mr. Lord, the Truro Show gave a profit of between £80 and £90. It was the more satisfactory considering the awful weather which prevailed on the second day of the show. Remembering the record made on the first day, it would probably have been a record show altogether but for the wet weather on the second day. He could only hope that as the show next year was to be at Bodmin, whose people had been particularly kind to him lately—(laughter)—good luck would attend it, and that Bodmin would have the honour of breaking the record.

The report was adopted.

The Hon. John Boscawen said the dairy exhibition this year had been taken in hand by the Association, and the whole thing was managed with admirable consideration by Mr. J. F. Crewes. As chairman of the committee, he considered it a charming tent throughout. (Applause.) He was sure it gave every satisfaction to the committee, and he hoped it did the same to the general public. Mr. Tremayne was very keen about the dairy department. The committee had considerable trouble in getting the things together, but they got them in working order eventually, and to Mr. Crewes was largely due the excellent management which resulted in success. He hoped the Council would be good enough to continue that department henceforth. (Applause.)

Colonel Tremayne asked if the committee was appointed by the Council or not. It was stated that the Council appointed a portion—those who were its members—but that the outsiders were appointed by the representative members of the Council. Colonel Tremayne was glad to hear it, for they selected right good men. (Applause.) Mr. T. Rich asked after what Colonel Byng had said in Council, was it likely to have a greater loss on the dairy department in the future than in the past? Were the Technical Instruction Committee likely to cut off the grant hitherto given? That seemed to be the tendency of the letter referred to. If it was to cost the extra money of the grant hitherto given, he thought the Council could hardly go in for it.

Mr. Crewes asked if it was a fact that the expenses this year were excessive? Did they exceed those of the previous year? Had the Society suffered by taking the matter into its own hands, giving a grant, paying the costs, and receiving a grant from the Technical Instruction Committee?

Mr. Tresawna said the loss to the society was about £37, the same as the previous year under the old arrangement. The receipts were £17 15s. 7d. from the dairy, and £65 from the County Council. The expenses £121 2s. 6d. This included cost of tents, and no allowance was made for the sale of wood used in the building.

Colonel Tremayne thought they were entitled to some allowance for that.

Mr. W. C. Wickett said, taking all things into consideration, the dairy exhibition showed very little

loss, and considering its importance, he proposed it be carried on as before.

Mr. Gwennap Moore seconded. He could hardly fancy an association of that kind not associating itself with the dairy interest of the county. (Applause.)

In reply to questions, the Hon. John Boscawen said he had the report of the judge (Mr. McCreath), which the secretary should read if they chose. It was decided that it be printed and circulated with the annual report.

It was decided that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded Mr. and the Hon. Mrs. Tremayne for the special prizes and the interest they had taken in the society.

Sir Colman Rashleigh, Mr. Geo. Pomery, veterinary surgeon, Newlyn East, and Mr. A. Lanyon, Redruth, were proposed as new members, and the proceedings closed with a hearty vote of thanks to Sir Lewis Molesworth for presiding.

Devon.

The Council of the Devon County Agricultural Association met at Exeter on the 26th ult., the chair being taken by Mr. D. R. Scratton. A letter was received from Mr. J. W. Hussey, secretary of the Exeter Fat Stock Show, asking whether it was the intention of the Society to offer prizes for barley at the Show on December 14th. It was pointed out that last year the Society gave a prize of £5 to supple-

Mr. H. Livesey's Hackney Stallion "McKinley," Champion at the Hackney Horse Society's Show, 1900.

ment one given by Messrs. Vosper, of Plymouth, and that this year no such offer had been forthcoming, and it was decided to reply that the Society could not afford to contribute anything in the direction suggested. Mr. G. Were, of Yealmpton, Plymouth, and Messrs. Blackford and Sons, auctioneers, of Southmolton, were admitted new members of the Society.

Mr. Ford produced the estimated financial result of the annual exhibition held at Barnstaple. The income showed £500 by annual subscriptions, £200 contribution from Barnstaple, £909 7s. admission to the show-yard and grand stand, £53 10s. copyright of the stock and implement catalogue, £15 17s. 10d. privilege of supplying refreshments, £287 14s. 9d. fees from implement exhibitors, etc., £216 17s. 6d. entrance fee stock, £20 interest on £750 deposited in the Exeter Bank, £5 5s. from Mr. J. Smyth-Osbourne (Sheriff of the county), £10 10s. Mr. J. G. Hamling (Mayor of Barnstaple), £10 10s. Barnstaple Local Committee, £31 11s. 3d. sale of hurdles, etc.—£2,402 15s. 6d. On the expenditure side the biggest items were £50 for attendance of band, £842 18s. 9d. for enclosing and fitting the show-yard, £75 advertising accounts, £100 stewards' and judges' expenses, £150, including working expenses of the show, the total being £1,704 13s. 4d. The cost of the technical instruction competitions was £256 2s. 6d., less £150 grant from the County Council. The prizes amounted to £923 1s., the grand total being £2,733 16s. 10d. The financial statement was received on the motion of Mr. Ford, seconded by Mr. Ingston. It was mentioned that the adverse balance at the previous show at Barnstaple was £196.

Mr. Michelmore said they could not continue to go on like that. They had £750 deposit at the bank, and were bringing forward an adverse balance of £208 from last year, when they did not hold a show, and now they were adding £331 to that adverse balance. That left them £210 out of the £750 to trade upon. The cost of technical instruction was a large item. It had cost them £106 this year over what they had received, and he thought they should receive a larger amount from the County Council. They ought to keep their expenditure nearer the amount allowed them by the County Council. Their subscriptions were also gradually dwindling. He moved the appointment of a committee to investigate the different items of expenditure.

Mr. H. Drew seconded, and said when they went into any district they ought for that year to absorb the local society, which should join them. They could give prizes to be confined to the district. The resolution was carried, and Messrs. Michelmore, Drew, Leveys, Kingwell, and Hallett were appointed the committee.

It was resolved that £500 be withdrawn from the bank and put to the current account.

Shropshire Chamber.

The ordinary monthy meeting of the Council of the Shropshire Chamber of Agriculture, with the representatives from the affiliated societies, was held at the offices, College-hill, Shrewsbury, on the 27th ult. Mr. G. J. Dumville Lees presided. A letter was read from the Central Chamber of Agriculture, acknowledging the resolutions passed last May, and forwarded with reference to the Shropshire Chamber's request that in view of the approach of the general election a programme of necessary agricultural legislation should be drawn up, and enclosing a copy of a statement, which was afterwards issued.

A letter was also read from the Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture, urging that railway and canal companies should be compelled to strengthen their bridges passing under the public highways, so as to make them safe for agricultural locomotive traffic.

The central circular was read, which stated that at the next Council meeting in London the subjects for discussion would be the report of the Royal Commission on local taxation and agricultural insurance.

In reply to the Chairman, Mr. Mansell stated that he had received a letter from Mr. Godfrey (the secretary) to say that the final report of the Commission had not yet been issued.

The statement of legislation required in the agricultural interest, as prepared by the Central Chamber, was discussed, after which it was resolved that the Central Chamber be requested to consider the following proposals at the earliest opportunity:—(1) That in the interests of both producers and consumers all retail vendors of imported fed meat should be registered, and prominent notice of the fact displayed in every shop held by each person registered: (2) That the use of substitutes by brewers be limited to 20 per cent. · (3) To advocate the system of uniform weights and measures.

On the motion of Mr. R. Wall, it was unanimously carried that Mr. F. Horne be deputed to attend the Council meeting of the Central Chamber on the 6th of November.

Mr. Jasper More suggested that the various agricultural societies in the county affiliated with the Shropshire Chamber be asked to send in a list of meetings proposed to be held in the coming year, so that everyone would be cognisant of the various meetings.

Mr. Langford spoke at some length on the compulsory dipping of sheep, and said that he did not think that it should be indiscriminately enforced. Dipping should be enforced by the authorities only on suspected farms. Inspectors ought to have full power to make surprise visits, and should they discover any owner having sheep scab in his flock, he should be fined so much on every head, and if he did not effect a cure in a reasonable time the fine should be doubled. By these means he thought they would very soon eradicate sheep scab.

Mr. Jasper More called attention to the fact that there were only three or four farmers from Shropshire who exhibited barley at the recent Brewers' Exhibition in London, and said he thought that Chamber, with the help of its affiliated societies, might, to advantage, offer prizes at the next exhibition for Shropshire barley.

After a discussion the question was raised as to whether the prizes could not be given by private donations Mr. More promised to do what he could in the matter, and to mention it to the other Shropshire M.P.'s.

Stockton Chamber.

At a meeting of the Stockton Chamber of Agriculture held on Thursday, the chairman (Mr. T. B. Bainbridge) reported that the Council of the Chamber had discussed the advisability of approaching the Durham County Council with a view to having established in the county an experimental farm. The South Durham and North Yorkshire Farmers' Protection Society had promised to give them assistance in inducing the County Council to adopt the scheme, and the Council of the Chamber recommended that the Darlington Chamber of Agriculture, the Durham County Agricultural Society, and the Northumberland Farmers' Club be asked to help them in their object. On the motion of the chairman, seconded by Councillor T. S. Walker (Thornaby), and supported by Mr. J. Spence (West Hartlepool), the recommendation was adopted.

The following awards were reported in connection with the recent competitions promoted by the Chamber:—Oats growing: 1, J. Struthers, Stainsby; 2, G. Garbutt, Ingleby Barwick; 3, T. Atkinson, Yarm. Barley growing: 1, J. Bradley, Hart; 2, T. Atkinson, Yarm; 3, J. R. Robinson, Acklam. Mangolds: 1, T. Buckle, Yarm; 2, J. Furness, West Hartlepool; 3, J. Spence, Hartlepool. Root crops: 1, W. Robinson, Marton; 2, T. Buckle, Yarm; 3, J. Furness, West Hartlepool; 4, C. Craven, West Hartlepool; 5, W. J. Humphrey, Acklam.

North Cotswold.

A meeting of the North Cotswold Farmers' Association was held at the Town Hall, Chipping Campden, on Wednesday evening, Mr. Ulric Stanley presiding. There was some discussion as to the suggested alteration of the boundaries of the counties of Gloucestershire and Worcestershire for cattle disease regulation purposes. The committee had drafted a petition on the matter, which had been presented to the Gloucestershire County Council by Mr. Freeman Mitford, and approved. The proposal was to transfer portions of Worcestershire to Gloucestershire for these purposes, and it was hoped that the Worcestershire Council would approve of the suggestion.

Several farmers spoke of the great inconvenience caused by the mixed condition of the counties in some places. Mr. S. Stanley said Mr. J. Timms, of Dorn, spent a whole day in taking his sheep from one part of his farm to the other simply because part of his farm was in Worcestershire and part in Gloucestershire.

The Association supported a resolution in favour of compensation for loss by fires caused by railway engines. Mr. J. H. Rimell said he very nearly lost twenty-six acres of corn owing to a passing engine.

Mr. W. G. Berry, appointed by the Agent-General for Western Australia, gave an illustrated lecture on the agricultural outlook in that country. He spoke very highly of the country and of the good prospects for farmers there.

Southdown Sheep.

A meeting of the Council of the Southdown Sheep Society was held at the Society's offices, 12, Hanover-square, W., on the 25th ult. Lord Northbourne (President) in the chair.

A letter was received from Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, accepting the position of President-elect. He is the President for the year 1901-2.

The following new members were elected: The Earl of Ashburnham, Ashburnham Place, Battle; Mr. Thomas Brandreth, Park Gate, Bexley; Mr. Maurice Buckle, Acton Hill, Sudbury; Mr. A. Miller Hallett, Goddington, Chesterfield; Colonel

Tyssen Holroyd, Donyland Lodge, Colchester; Mr. James Joicey, Poulton Priory, Fairford; Mr. Spencer Austen Leigh, Frog Firle, Berwick; and Sir James Sawyer, Haseley Hall, Warwick.

The following resolution was, on the motion of Mr. Newton Clayton, unanimously adopted: "That the fee for the registration of a ram bred in an unrecorded or unregistered flock shall be £1, and the fee for the entry of such a ram in the list of sires shall be 2s. 6d."

It was unanimously resolved, on the motion of Mr. Clayton, that the following instructions be issued in respect of trade-marking:—(a) Sheep bought from unrecorded or unregistered flocks must not be trade-marked, and must be entered in the non-trade-marked section of the book; (b) sheep bought from non-trade marked flocks may be trade-marked and entered in the trade-marked section, but care must be taken to have them tattooed with the flock number of the actual breeder. If such sheep are not trade-marked by the official tattooer, they must be entered in the non-trade-marked section.

It was further resolved, on the motion of Mr. Clayton, "That if the animal return in connection with a flock be not sent in for two years running, the flock shall cease to be a recorded or registered flock."

The Council decided to offer prizes for Southdowns at country shows in 1901 as follows:— Champion prize of £10 10s. for the best Southdown ram at the Royal Agricultural Show at Cardiff; champion prize of £10 10s. for the best Southdown ram or ram lamb at the Sussex County Show; champion gold medal, value £10 10s., for the best Southdown ram or ram lamb, and a silver medal for the best pen of Southdown ewes or ewe lambs at the Bath and West Show at Croydon; silver medal for the best male Southdown and silver medal for the best pen of female Southdowns, at the East Kent, Essex, Gloucestershire, Norfolk, Oxfordshire, Royal Counties, Suffolk, Sussex, and Tunbridge Wells Shows.

On the nomination of Lord Northbourne, seconded by Mr. Allan Cooper, the name of Mr. D. D. Crawford, of Nonnington, Dover, was added to the official list of Southdown judges.

The report of the proceedings of the International Conference of Sheep Breeders at York was submitted to the meeting, but after discussion it was decided to remit the matter to a small Committee for consideration and report to the Council in due course.

The question having been raised as to the propriety of cancelling the flock number in the event of a flock being dispersed, the Council felt that their resolution on the subject passed 28th July, 1898, should be adhered to, viz.:—"That the flock numbers be understood to belong to the flock and not to the owner; if a flock is dispersed, notice of its dispersal shall be given in the next volume of the flock book, a dispersal to mean an unreserved sale of the entire flock."

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Lord Northbourne for presiding over the meeting, and the Council then adjourned until February.

Cleveland Chamber.

The Cleveland Chamber of Agriculture's annual meeting was held on Tuesday. Mr. J. W. Clarke, who presided, in proposing the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, which were taken as read, said the question of agricultural labour was a serious matter. The increase of wages that had to be paid to agricultural labourers must tend to lessen the profits of the poor farmer. No doubt as the iron and coal trades began to go back, as they assuredly would, labour would be more plentiful, and many of those agricultural labourers who went to the mines and ironworks would return to the land, glad to take reasonable wages.

Mr. Turton (Kildale Hall), in seconding the proposition, said he hoped the time would come again when boys would go as agricultural labourers to learn the business, and eventually become farmers. He had known several such men become good farmers in Yorkshire and the Midlands. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. J. W. Clarke was re-elected president of the Chamber, and Mr. C. Middleton deputy to the Central Chamber, and the other officers were reappointed.

A resolution was passed in favour of the continuance of the Agricultural Rating Act, pending the report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation.

Chippenham.

A meeting of the members of the Chippenham Agricultural Association was held at the Town Hall, Chippenham, on the 26th ult., Mr. G. W. Kington being voted to the chair. The secretary (Mr. E. Burbidge) read letters from Sir Audley Neeld thanking the committee of the association for their letter of condolence, and stating that it was a pride and pleasure to his brother, Sir A. W. Neeld, to have been the president of the association. His untimely death had elicited many marks of respect, and even of affection; but they valued none more than the resolution from a body of people engaged in the same interests as himself, and of whom he had often heard him speak in words of great esteem.

Mr. F. M. Awdry, in proposing the election of Sir Audley Neeld as president of the association, said that they owed a very great debt of gratitude to the family of Neeld, for the uncle of the late Sir Algernon established the association, and he was followed in the presidential chair by Sir John Neeld and his son, whose death they all mourned.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Ferris, supported by the chairman, and carried unanimously.

Evercreech and Mid-Somerset.

The annual meeting and dinner of the Evercreech and Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society took place at Shepton Mallet on the 25th ult. Colonel Clerk (the chairman of the committee) presided at the annual meeting, when the statement of acounts was presented and passed, the chairman remarking that the show just over had proved a record one, there being a balance of over £100 in hand. The receipts for the year amounted to £888, and after all expenses had been met there was a balance in the treasurer's hands of £151. The accounts were adopted, and a vote of thanks was passed to the auditors, Messrs. T. C. Manning and W. Ozzard.

The annual dinner was afterwards held in the George Hotel Assembly Rooms, Mr. R. Norton (Mayor of Wells) presiding. After the loyal toasts had been proposed, that of "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces" was given by Mr. Hooper, and responded to by Colonel Clerk and Captain Campbell. The latter, who has just been invalided home from South Africa, paid a warm tribute to the services rendered by the Imperial Yeomanry.

Mr. H. Hobhouse, M.P., in responding to the toast of "The House of Commons," dealt at length with agricultural matters, and the service rendered to agriculture by such societies as theirs. Lord Hylton acknowledged the toast of "The House of Lords." His lordship subsequently gave the toast of "The Evercreech and Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society," and alluded to the depreciation that had taken place in land within the last twenty years. "The memory of the President" was next drunk in solemn silence, Mr. R. Norton, of Shepton Mallet, having just died during his year of office. Other toasts followed.

Gloucestershire Chamber.

A meeting of the Gloucestershire Chamber of Agricultshire (the first of the winter sesion) was held at the Wellington Hotel, Gloucester, on the 27th ult. Mr. J. H. Jones (president) occupied the chair.

Several subjects were proposed for future discussion, including Section 1 of the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, with reference to the certificate to be delivered on the sale of artificial manures; the law of trespass; injuries to farm stock by uncontrolled dogs; the Agricultural Holdings Act, and the Workmen's Compensation Act.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Baker, it was resolved that the thanks of the Chamber should be tendered to the Corporation for commencing with such energy a fruit market for Gloucester, and they begged to suggest that official returns of the business transacted should be published, as was the case in fruit and other markets elsewhere.

A resolution was also passed that in the opinion of the Chamber the statement of legislation required in the agricultural interest,, prepared by the Business and Parliamentary Committees of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, fairly embodied those subjects attention to which should be pressed upon Parliament.

On the subject of agricultural insurance, sent down for consideration by the Central Chamber of Agriculture, the Chairman said that the insurance offices had arranged between themselves to put up the insurance on ricks, and other dead farming stock, in consequence of the great number of fires that had taken place, from 5s. to 7s. 6d., but they had reduced the rate on live stock from 5s. to 3s. On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Lane, it was resolved that the Central Chamber of Agriculture be requested to consider the subject of agricultural insurance, and to bring pressure to bear on the fire insurance offices to reduce the present rate on dead farming stock to the old level, or as near thereto as possible.

Lancashire.

A Council meeting of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society was held at Preston on Monday, and was presided over by the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby.

The Secretary reported that the whole of the retiring members of the Council had been re-elected. There had been no new members proposed, and therefore there would be no contests at the forthcoming annual meeting. It was announced that Mr. Millar had given up the local prizes for Shorthorns at the Rochdale show, and it was decided that they be given to the exhibitor next in order of merit. The next business was the consideration of the resignation of the secretary, Mr. James Birch.

The Earl of Derby expressed regret at the decision of Mr. Birch to sever himself from the secretariat of the Society. He had been very closely associated with Mr. Birch in the work of that Society, and he could say that his (Mr. Birch's) knowledge and advice had always been at the service of the Society, and it was in a great measure due to his untiring exertions that it had become the great local Society it now was. He expressed their cordial thanks to him on his retirement, and their good wishes to him in his future career, and also the hope that Mr. Birch would not abandon them, but give them the advantage of that knowledge and business ability which he had displayed during his tenure of office. (Applause.)

Mr. J. W. Fair, with infinite regret, moved the formal motion that Mr. Birch's resignation be accepted, and this was seconded by Mr. Mercer (Widnes), and carried.

On the motion of Mr. J. T. Wood, it was decided to form a sub-committee of twelve members of the Council to consider the appointment of Mr. Birch's successor.

The report of the Council, to be presented to the annual meeting on November 26th, was submitted and approved. It again congratulated the members upon the Society's financial prosperity, as well as upon the success of its general operations. There was a balance on the year's working from £700 to £800, the general balance in favour of the Society now standing at £5,600. The Council had had under consideration the question of the diminished competition for the prizes for best cultivated farms, and approved certain recommendations of the special committee appointed to inquire into the matter. These were to the effect that the prizes for best cultivated farms be withheld until 1902, and be then offered triennially, with a view to the Society being enabled to substantially increase the value of the prizes. The Council regretted the death of Sir William Cunliffe Brooks, Bart., M.P., vice-president, and Mr. James Tunstall, who for upwards of twenty years was a member of the Council. During the past year forty-three members had been elected, and fifty-six removed through death and other causes. The total number of members at present was 975. The Council had decided to ask Mr. G. C. Hall, who for forty-five years had been a member of the Council, to accept an honorary vice-president life membership of the Society, together with an illuminated address, as a slight token of acknowledgment.

The report of the Parliamentary Committee for the year ending October, 1900, was adopted. The committee had considered the important question of tuberculosis in cattle, and probable legislation. All private Bills before the Houses of Parliament were being watched with a view to action if thought necessary.

A vote of thanks to Lord Derby for presiding concluded the proceedings.

Bedfordshire Chamber.

The secretary of the Bedfordshire Chamber of Agriculture and Farmers' Club has forwarded us a list of the subjects the Society will discuss during the session of 1900-1901, which commenced on Saturday, when Mr. James Crough, chairman of the Bedfordshire County Rate Basis Committee, introduced the subject of "Poor Rates: Past and Present." The future arrangements are as follows:—

Saturday, December 8th, at 4 p.m., at Bedford, "Bacon Curing," with lantern illustrations; introducer, Mr. Loudon M. Douglas, A.I.M.E., author of "Receipt Book for Bacon Curers" and "The Manual of the Pork Trade."

Saturday, February 2nd, 1901, at 4 p.m., at Bedford, "Pure Beer and Brewing Materials"; introducer, Mr. H. Stopes, chairman of the barley judges at the Brewers' Exhibition, etc.

Saturday, March 2nd, 1901, at 4 p.m., at Bedford, "Agricultural Legislation"; introducer, Mr. E. H. Godfrey, secretary of the Central Chamber of Agriculture.

Saturday, March 30th, 1901, at 4 p.m., at Bedford, "The Quality of Milk from Various Breeds of Cattle"; introducer, Mr. Ernest Mathews, president of the English Jersey Cattle Society, etc.

Saturday, April 27th, 1901, at 4 p.m., at Bedford, "Farm Machinery"; introducer, Mr. F. S. Courtney, M.Inst.C.E., M.Inst.M.E., consulting engineer to the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

Monday, May 27th, 1901, at 2.30 p.m., at Luton, "Waste in Agriculture"; introducer, Mr. Robert Long, Upper Stondon, Bedfordshire.

Darlington Chamber.

On Monday the members of the Darlington Chamber of Agriculture met at Darlington, the chair being taken by Mr. C. E. Hunter.

The Secretary (Mr. R. C. Pearce) read a resolution from the Stockton Chamber suggesting that the Durham County Council should be urged to establish an experimental farm in Durham. Mr. Pearce said that the Clerk of the County Council (Mr. Robson) had written to the effect that it was deemed preferable if an experimental farm were established to have it in connection with dairying rather than on the general system carried out at Cockle Park.

Mr. Parlour said the starting of such a farm was largely a matter of finance. It entailed the expenditure of a lot of money. Cockle Park Farm would be better if there were more funds available. He rather favoured the suggestion that if money were forthcoming it might be spent at the experimental farm now in existence rather than by inaugurating another which would be cramped for funds. If an experimental dairy farm were established for Durham and were run in connection with Cockle Park it might be beneficial.

Mr. Gibson, of Croft, said he did not think that

the large amount of money already spent in improving the dairies of the county had been very successful. He favoured the idea of a general experimental farm.

Mr. Wilkin said that much of the dairy teaching had made them too clever, for they now made soft cheese from old milk which they formerly could not do, and it was palmed on to customers for the new milk kind.

The chairman said that unless funds were forthcoming to carry out experimental farming it might be better to expend more money on the Northumberland farm. With regard to dairy farming, experiments properly conducted might be very valuable in a county like theirs, where there was so much dairy land. He moved that the matter be referred to the Business Committee. Mr. Forster seconded, and the resolution was carried.

Mr. J. W. Humphrey, of Acklam, read a paper on the visit to Cockle Park Farm, which he said he was sorry to find drew so few farmers. There would have been many more at a fox-hunting meet. (Laughter.) He thought the farm was in a very suitable district for an experimental farm, but his opinion was that most experimental farms were not carried on as they should be, by having analyses of the soils made beforehand, and he was not aware that this was done at Cockle Farm. Next the land should be more properly drained, or it could not respond to the manures. He did not see anything striking about the use of manures at Cockle Park. A farmer who had tried experiments on his own farm with artificial manures would not learn much more in the matter at Cockle Farm. There were results from basic slag used on land laid down from twenty to thirty years which they might expect to find, but on land laid down for a lessened period it was not so favourable. It proved that the best quality was the best to use. Then he did not believe in the experiments with farmyard manure and artificial manures at the same time in growing turnips. He further did not believe in all the testimonials published as coming from practical men regarding the value of artificial manures. Too much nitrogen had been used for the swede crops, as shown by the grossness of the tops. The experiments made with finger and toe in turnips, in his opinion, were not a success. He held that the more effectual way to get rid of finger and toe was to sow mangolds every other year. He thought, too, there was too much nitrogen in the growing of the turnips.

Teviotdale Farmers' Club.

The first meeting for the season of the Teviotdale Farmers' Club was held at Hawick on Thursday afternoon. The president, Mr. John C. Scott, of Synton, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members. After dinner the average price of stock in the district was struck as follows, the prices of last year, and those of Hawick Auction Mart (Messrs. Andrew Oliver and Son), being given for comparison:—

	CLUB.				MART.			
	1900.		1899.		1900.		1899.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Top Cheviot hill wedder lambs	0 15	3	0 11	0	0 15	6	0 11	3
Second hill wedder lambs.....	0 12	0	0 8	6	0 12	6	0 9	3
Mid Cheviot hill ewe lambs	0 16	0	0 12	9	0 15	6	0 13	3
Shot Cheviot ewe and wedder lambs.....	0 9	3	0 7	0	0 9	6	0 7	0
Draft Cheviot ewes, top.....	1 4	0	1 1	0	1 4	0	1 1	6
Draft Cheviot ewes, shot	0 18	0	0 15	0	—		—	
Draft Cheviot ewes, brought..								
half-bred lambs	1 3	6	0 19	9	1 4	3	1 1	0
Top half-bred hill ewe lambs	1 7	0	1 0	0	1 7	9	1 0	6
Top half-bred hill wedder lambs..	1 5	3	1 0	0	1 5	9	1 0	0
Top three-parts-bred park lambs	1 6	9	1 2	0	1 7	6	1 2	3
Shorthorn cattle, two-year-olds ..	13 5	0	11 15	0	12 12	6	11 5	0
Shorthorn cattle, one-year-old ..	9 0	0	8 0	0	8 10	0	7 10	0

WOOL (CLUB).	1900.	1899.
	s. d.	s. d.
White Cheviot wool, per stone of 24lb	14 0	13 6
Half-bred ewe wool, ,, ,, ...	14 0	12 9
Half-bred hogg wool, ,, ,, ...	15 9	14 6

The following Whitsunday valuations were also intimated:—Tinnis, Cheviot ewes and lambs, 45s.; Cheviot ewe hoggs, 30s.; Cappleglll, 54s. and 35s. respectively; Townfoot, Closeburn, 50s. and 34s.; Hartsgarth, 52s. 6d. and 32s. 6d.; Mossebble, 51s. 6d. and 32s.; Middleholms, 46s. and 28s.—average, 49s. 10d. and 31s. 11d.

The President, in the course of some remarks, referred to the various subjects which engaged the attention of the club at last season's meetings, and having referred to the destruction of the rooks, said it must be a matter for future consideration whether their destruction should be gone on with on the same scale. Continuing, he said that with regard to the weather, though they had about three and a half months of frost and snow and a late spring, stock came out well both on arable and pastoral farms, lambs being a full average crop. The summer and autumn were a succession of heavy rains, which interfered seriously with farming operations, and caused considerable damage to both the hay and corn crops; and, he was told, the yield of grain would be fully one-third below the average. The wet season was in a measure favourable to the green crops, and their promising appearance caused a good demand for live stock, at prices very considerably above those of last year. Wool was still at a very low figure, 14s. 6d. In 1859, the year the club was formed, it was 35s. 3d., and in 1864 it was 55s.; and he feared they could not look for much improvement in the near future, as foreign wools were most in demand.

With regard to legislation affecting agriculture, he could only endorse the remark made by their late president on the same occasion last year, viz., that it did not get the attention from Government that it was entitled to. The Food and Drugs Act of last year no doubt provided certain precautionary measures against the importation of insufficiently marked foreign produce, but in his opinion very much more stringent measures should be taken to guard against the sale of foreign produce as our own. It was satisfactory to note that the outbreaks of swine fever had steadily diminished from 6,305 in 1895, necessitating the slaughter of nearly 70,000 swine, to 2,322 in 1899, and the Board of Agriculture were to be congratulated on the result; but in dealing with all contagious diseases he thought there was still room for improvement in the administration of the Act.

Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders.

The Council of the Hampshire Down Sheep-Breeders' Association met at the Westminster Palace Hotel, London, on Monday, the President (Mr. H. N. Carlisle), chairman, and thirteen members, with the secretary (Mr. J. E. Rawlence), being present.

After the reading of the minutes and letters of apology for absence from five members of the Council, the following twenty-seven new members were elected:—Messrs. A. Apperley, Rodborough Court, Stroud, Glos.; J. Brown, Clapton, Hungerford, Berks; F. Carey, Stratford-sub-Castle, Salisbury; H. W. Cobb, Berwick St. James, Salisbury; S. Crees, All Cannings, Devizes, Wilts; S. E. Flower, Upper Woodford, Salisbury; L. Folliott, Standlynch, Salisbury; the Right Hon. Lord Hylton, Ammerdown Park, Radstock, Soms.; Messrs. C. F. P. McNeill, Carlton Curlieu, Leicester; G. W. Palmer, Marlston House, Newbury, Berks; O. E. Philippi, Crawley Court, Winchester; E. Pickford, Upper Woodford, Salisbury; W. Pullin, Parsonage Farm, Warminster, Wilts; W. F. Thorn, Great Durnford, Salisbury; J. J. K. Waters, Gomeldon, Salisbury; J. D. Willis, Bapton Manor, Codford, Wilts; F. E. Arnold, Fyfield, Salisbury; W. Lawrence, Normanton, Salisbury; G. Long, Ogbourne, Marlborough; the Earl of Radnor, Longford Castle; Messrs. J. Rowden, Hannington, Hants; M. C. Dodds, Thrapston, Northampton; F. Rigden, Salisbury; Lady Arundel of Wardour, Wardour Castle; Messrs. J. W. Garton, Clarendon Park, Salisbury; J. Maidment and Son, Twyford, Hants; and I. Welch, Ickleton Abbey, Great Chesterfield, Cambs.

Mr. J. H. Dibben was selected for the post of President-elect for 1901.

The annual meeting was fixed for Wednesday, December 12th, at the Agricultural Hall, Islington.

Messrs. H. Lambert, W. Newton, and J. Flower were reappointed delegates to the National Sheep-Breeders' Association, the former to act as Vice-President.

The reports of the Editing and Finance Committees were presented and adopted, and also that of export certificates issued during the year.

It was decided to continue the shepherds' prize competition exactly under the same conditions as last year, and with the same schedule of prizes.

The list of judges was duly revised, ordered to be printed, and sent to the secretaries of the various agricultural societies.

The resolutions regarding the export of pedigree sheep passed at the York conference of foreign and home breeders were fully considered, and the secretary directed to write the National Sheep-Breeders' Association assenting to the general principle of the said resolutions, so far as the present system of registration of Hampshire Downs will permit.

This terminated the business of the meeting.

Scottish Chamber.

A meeting of directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture will be held within No. 5, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on Wednesday next, November 7th, at 10.30 a.m.

The items on the agenda are as follows:—

I.—Letter from Secretary, Board of Agriculture, *re* directors' resolutions.

II.—Arrangements for annual meeting, election of office-bearers, etc.

III.—Arrears of subscriptions.

Scottish Fat Stock Club.

A meeting of the Council of the Scottish National Fat Stock Club was held at 5, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on the afternoon of the 24th ult., Mr. A. L. Drysdale, Dalmeny, in the chair, when the final arrangements were made for the forthcoming annual show in the Waverley Market on 29th and 30th November. Stewards and attendant members were appointed. One life member and four ordinary members were admitted, and it was mentioned by the secretary, Mr. James Wylie, that the membership of the club was now upwards of 700. It was agreed that on the first day of the show the admission should be 2s. 6d. from eight o'clock to two o'clock, and 1s. from that hour till the close of the show for the day; and that on the second day the admission should be 1s. from nine o'clock to five o'clock, and 6d. thereafter. The council resolved to fix the salary of the secretary at 100 guineas per annum, an increase of 30 guineas as compared with last year.

Bristol Property Protection Society.

At a Council meeting of the above Society, held at Bristol, on Thursday, under the presidency of Mr. A. Deedes, C.C., the agenda of the business to come before the Council meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture and its seventy federated societies on the 6th inst. (one item being the insurance of farm produce, etc.) was considered, and a resolution was passed that in the opinion of the Council measures should be taken by the central Council to formulate a practical scheme for the insurance of farm stock, produce, etc., belonging to all members of the federated societies. The sub-committee's report on the advisability of more systematic action with the central organisation was considered, and it was decided to authorise the secretary to call Council meetings more frequently when considered necessary to effect this purpose. It was also decided to invite the agricultural societies of the western district that are not federated with the Central Chamber to co-operate with the Society in the consideration of the various important agricultural questions that come before the central Council.

Nine new members were elected, amongst whom was the Duke of Beaufort. The financial year having ended on the 13th ultimo, the draft annual report of the Council was considered and settled, and it was arranged to hold the eighth annual general meeting on the 6th December. The secretary reported that twenty-four special letters, warning offenders, or requesting apology, etc., had been sent out since the Council meeting held in September to October 13th, making 305 for the year, and a total of 1,552 since the formation of the Society in 1892; and that two prosecutions had taken place during the same period, making a total of 48 (against 89 defendants) for the year, and a total of 308 (against 639 defendants) since 1892.

An Agricultural Society for Mansfield.

The marked success of the visit of the Notts Agricultural Society to Mansfield last year has inspired some of the townspeople with the idea of forming an agricultural society and show in the district on the lines of the Newark, Chesterfield, Ilkeston, and other societies in the neighbourhood. The Mayor (Mr. W. J. Chadburn) was approached on the matter, and the outcome was a meeting held in the Mayor's Parlour on Monday afternoon, and attended by a large number of farmers and tradesmen of the district.

The Mayor, who presided, said it had been suggested to him by a number of farmers and townspeople that Mansfield seemed to be the only large town in the district which had not an agricultural society of its own, and considering the very great success they made of the Notts Agricultural Society's show there the year previous, they thought they might be able to support an agricultural society in Mansfield. (Hear, hear.) He believed it had been practically decided that the Notts shows were to be held in the county town, but if at any future time the senior society liked to again visit Mansfield he had no doubt they would be able to amalgamate, for one year, in one big show. (Hear, hear.)

Following some discussion, the Mayor formally proposed that an agricultural society for Mansfield should be formed, and a small committee elected to carry out the preliminary arrangements.

The resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Stubbins, was carried unanimously.

Mr. W. F. Sanders proposed that a small committee should be formed, and that a council should be elected at a general meeting of members to be held at a later date. Mr. W. F. Jolly seconded, and the motion was passed.

Mr. G. Cox was appointed secretary *pro tem.*, and the following gentlemen were elected as the preliminary committee:—The Mayor (Mr. W. J. Chadburn), Messrs. Rowe, Lamb, Bonnet, Towrsey, Roberts, T. Newton, R. L. Jones, T. Taylor, G. Blythe, W. F. Sanders, and W. F. Jolly.

Other resolutions confirming the scope of the Society to a radius of twelve miles, and fixing the minimum subscription at 10s., were also approved.

A cordial vote of thanks to the chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

Suffolk Sheep Flock Competitions.

The final stage in these competitons has now been reached, the awards of the judges (Mr. Henry Lingwood and Mr. George Pettit) being as follows:—

The Bristol Champion Challenge Cup and the Society's Gold Medal.—Mr. Herbert E. Smith, Walton Grange; reserve and silver medal, Mr. Thomas Keeble, Bentley Hall.

The Pretymen Challenge Cup best ewe lambs and the Society's Silver Medal.—Mr. Herbert E. Smith, Walton Grange; reserve and v.h.c., Major E. W. Baird, Exning; v.h.c., Messrs. Stanford

Bros., Beaumont Hall; h.c., Mr. R. Holmes White, Boulge Hall.

The handsome gold cup, value 50gs., offered for the best flock of the breed, and the challenge cup offered for the best ewe lambs, will, therefore, be held by Mr. Herbert Smith for the ensuing twelve months. This is a double honour, which reflects the greatest credit upon the owner and the shepherd of the Walton Grange flock, the competition this year being a very strong one, both in respect to the number and the quality of the flocks entered.

West Riding Chamber of Agriculture.

At a meeting of the West Riding Chamber of Agriculture, held at Wakefield on Friday, Mr. George Rhodes, of Nostell, presiding, a discussion took place on the Compensation Act, and farmers were urged to insure their labourers. The members of the chamber were also strongly advised to send their sons as students to the East and West Riding County Council's experimental farm at Garforth.

Several complaints were made as to the great difficulty of obtaining agricultural labourers. The chairman said it had been suggested that they should endeavour to get farm labourers from Ireland, but whilst Irish farm labourers were willing to come over to England in summer, the declined to do so in winter, and English farmers wanted labourers for all the year round. Mr. Spurr said respectable cottagers would not provide lodgings in winter for Irishmen, who could lodge anywhere in summer time, but not in winter. The chairman said that not one quarter of the number of Irish labourers came over to England now who used to come. It was decided to ask the Central Chamber of Agriculture to discuss the question at their next meeting.

Some Remarks on Manures.

The annual report of Mr. A. Sibson, F.C.S., consulting and analytical chemist, of 23, St. Mary Axe, was published last week, and below we give some extracts from it: —

Since I last reported, says Mr. Sibson, it cannot be said that there is much general improvement in the condition of British agriculture, as prices are still on the whole unremunerative, while the increasing imports of foreign and colonial produce, especially in the case of meat lately, must tend to increase the difficulties of making a living from the land, except under especially favourable circumstances. Bearing these facts in mind, together with the relatively high price of manures and feeding stuffs, even greater care than formerly is necessary in their selection and use; indeed, no economy in connection with them that is consistent with efficiency should be neglected.

In the preparation of fertilisers by the chemical manure manufacturer raw phosphates, of course, constitute one of the chief materials required, on the supplies and cost of which the price of all dissolved manures to the farmer mainly depends, while the production of effective fertilisers for the object in view is largely due to a judicious choice and blending of these and other substances on the part of manufacturers. With reference to feeding stuffs, although the various oil cakes which still predominate are secondary products obtained in the crushing of seed for oil, there is at present a large business in the direct preparation of compound cakes and meals, some of which offer distinct advantages to farmers.

Of the more recent raw phosphates, concerning which a few words may be said, the Land Pebble Phosphate is worthy of notice, as, although at present chiefly used on the Continent, it well deserves careful trial in this country. The percentage of phosphate of lime varies from 68 to 75, and the combined oxide of iron and alumina amount to 3 to 3½, which is not excessive, and the material possesses no other qualities to which any exception could be taken. Tennessee Phosphate has recently been largely employed, and yields a high percentage of phosphate of lime, but has rather much oxide of iron and alumina. Another material termed Gafsa Phosphate has been met with, and if forthcoming in quantity promises well.

Oxide of iron and alumina, as is well known, occur more or less in nearly all raw phosphates, and have the effect of causing the soluble phosphate to "go back"—that is to say, yield a lower percentage after a time than when freshly made, and so give rise to questions of quality. This action proceeds mainly during the heating of the mass when freshly prepared, and disputes regarding composition may be materially lessened by allowing the superphosphate to remain as long as possible in bulk before taking final samples upon which to base contracts. It should be mentioned that phosphate which has thus gone back and known as reduced, precipitated, soluble in citrate, or reverted phosphate, while quite distinct from soluble phosphate, and, of course, excluded in any contract when the latter is specified, is yet possessed of considerable agricultural value, differing materially in this respect from the undissolved mineral phosphate referred to below. The percentage of reverted phosphate in a manure can be estimated if desired. The numerous larger known raw phosphates do not require any special comment on this occasion, as their several merits and demerits are now well understood by most manufacturers of chemical manures.

It need hardly be repeated that in all cases where raw mineral phosphates are treated with acid to make superphosphates and similar dissolved manures, the object should be to render as large a percentage as possible soluble, yet although this might seem to be the alphabet of the business, I am often surprised to meet with so many samples in which this rudimentary principle appears to be quite overlooked—as much as half or more of the phosphate of lime sometimes being left in its original state, probably with the mistaken idea of economising acid, but the phosphate so left is for all practical purposes wasted. On the other hand, the majority of makers have well mastered the art of rendering the phosphoric acid present available to the utmost practicable limits.

Should a superphosphate so prepared prove of higher quality than is required for direct sale, it can be reduced to any desired standard by the addition of other materials, but in doing so special care should be taken to ensure even and uniform admixture, or the resulting product will test unequally; chemists are frequently blamed for giving incorrect results in such cases, when in reality the fault is due to this cause. Such difficulties are especially likely to occur with reference to mixed special manures in which several ingredients are intermingled in the dry state, because it is assumed as certain proportions of these are added together in the aggregate therefore every part of the bulk will answer by analysis to the calculated quality; but this by no means follows, particularly when a small quantity of some concentrated material is mixed with much larger proportions of inferior substances. There can be no question that this point is one requiring more attention than is commonly deemed necessary—and the same is true of sampling; elaborate precautions being found requisite, and therefore adopted, in drawing samples from valuable cargoes. In explanation of the foregoing facts, it may be remembered that a large bulk of several components is never all mixed together, but only the successive small portions of it operated upon at one time.

With regard to the use of such special compound manures, many farmers now prepare the mixtures themselves, buying the components separately, but it may be questioned whether they get any advantage by so doing, as, apart from having to purchase the constituents in small quantities, and therefore on less favourable terms, they lose what should be one of the chief benefits of buying of manufacturers, viz., a more perfect intermixture of ingredients than is attainable by amateur methods, which must be as thorough as possible, so that when applied to a crop every plant shall receive its fair share of every kind of nutriment.

The basis of fertilisers of this class is usually superphosphate of various grades or bone manure, together with sulphate of ammonia and sometimes potash, but the latter is seldom necessary when heavy dressings of farmyard manure are used; when, however, specially required, as for potatoes, it is most economically bought separately as kainit, which also furnishes salts of magnesia and soda. Nitrate of soda is sometimes used in such mixtures, but apart from its undesirable property of becoming damp I should prefer sulphate of ammonia, particularly for potato manures.

A large number of samples of basic slag have been analysed, the quality yielding about 32 to 35 per cent. phosphate of lime being most popular. Many of higher grade and some lower are in the market, and it is the buyer's place to judge which affords him best value, assuming, of course, the requirement of fine grinding is equally well fulfilled in all, this being a highly essential point in connection with the manure, and the 80 per cent. minimum generally accepted is liberal to the seller, as figures considerably over this are frequently forthcoming, and practically such samples are worth more per unit of phosphate. The coarser portion of basic slag includes in greater or less proportion particles of iron and steel, which not only are at best useless in the soil, but also constitute a source of difficulty in obtaining accordant results in analysis, for it is impossible to properly reduce them by grinding, while their exclusion would obviously give a fictitious improvement in quality.

Bone meal is still largely used, and answers well in certain districts, some admirable samples containing an unusual proportion of animal matter, and showing from 5½ to 6 per cent. of ammonia and about 40 per cent. of phosphate of lime, have been met with. The material was very finely ground, and would have an excellent effect either alone or in conjunction with mineral superphosphate. I have also had various meat guanos brought under my notice having about 6 to 8 per cent. of ammonia and 20 to 30 phosphate of lime; they are well suited to numerous agricultural and horticultural purposes, and merit a more extended use, either alone or in combination with other appropriate sources of plant food. Fish guano is still employed with highly favourable results. Peruvian guano is, of course, unsurpassed as a general manure, but the lower grades have now only about 3 per cent. ammonia and some 60 of phosphate.

The numerous compound feeding cakes and meals now on the market, and in whose production a large business is done, offer many advantages to the farmer of which he is wise to avail himself, but when purchasing them even greater discrimination is called for than in the case of linseed, cotton, or similar cakes.

It is difficult to judge of the soundness of these mixed or compound foods, and more often than is desirable materials enter into their composition which could not be sold separately, but whose deficiencies are disguised by grinding and the use of strong flavouring principles, hence very cheap or doubtful preparations of the kind should be regarded with suspicion, as serious injury to stock sometimes results from their use. When this happens redress is by no means easily obtained, as the mischief may arise from acute indigestion or other derangement promoted by a fermentative condition or incipient decomposition in some ingredient without any definite evidence of the presence of deleterious matter.

There is no reason why the farmer should not himself prepare his mixed foods if so disposed, but as in the case of manures obvious advantages are secured in procuring the several components in large quantities, and the use of special plant for mixing, particularly for pressing cakes, which for some purposes are distinctly preferable to meals, consequently in most cases it is wiser to buy of firms of repute, many of whom now supply foods of the kind affording good value for money.

The chief difficulty encountered in preparing compound feeding materials is obtaining a sufficient percentage of albuminoids and oil, 18 to 20 of the former and 8 to 10 of the latter being about the usual standard. In order to raise these items decorticated cotton cake and linseed meal are frequently resorted to, but all farinaceous foods are low in these primary constituents. Carob or locust beans form a valuable ingredient on account of their attractive flavour, but they also are very poor in oil and nitrogen; a judicious use of flavouring materials undoubtedly conduces to favourable results; many foods are, however, certainly overloaded with condiments.

Very many linseed cakes have been analysed of all grades of quality. Some of the foreign cakes are much better cleaned than formerly, and come within the limits of pure cakes. A certain number of makers now supply cakes containing a definite percentage of oil, a point I have always advocated, and in all transactions a guarantee of oil should be obtained as well as of purity, since it is by no means uncommon to find pure cakes that yield not more than 7 or 8 per cent. of oil. It should not be forgotten that linseed cake is a very concentrated food, and is used to best advantage in conjunction with farinaceous meal. Decorticated cotton cake is a still more concentrated food, and the complaints sometimes made against it often arise from this fact. Ordinary cotton cake varies more in physical character than in composition, especially with reference to the coarse or fine grinding of the cotton seeds, the husks of which have a very woody character. Latterly some excellent substitutes for this material for sheep feeding are obtainable.

The Agricultural Holdings Amendment Act, 1900.*

Acts of Parliaments directing compensation to be paid by one party to another are necessary to provide for contingencies which were unexpected when the contract was entered into—to help the weak against the strong, or to enable a quitting tenant to receive cash as an equivalent for that which it is impossible to actually carry away.

In the earlier days of agriculture, before cake was used, and before roots were grown, a tenant left very little which could not actually be removed. The great advance in agriculture, some fifty years ago, led to "high farming," and gradually tenants began to find that they were leaving for their successors an asset, in the shape of unexhausted interest, which should be realisable.

Many years of agitation went by before the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1875, was passed—a permissive Act only—and one very little used. Many landlords had for years given what were really small Agricultural Holdings Acts in their leases and agreements, and there is no doubt that the 1875 Act was the indirect cause of extending this practice in the same way as the Allotments Act, 1887, caused much land to be voluntarily let in allotments without the aid of its compulsory clauses.

It is curious to note that as the good times previous to 1875 were the cause of the introduction of the 1875 Act, so the bad times just previous to 1883 were the cause of the 1883 Act, and perhaps the similar times since that period are responsible for the more exact Act of 1900. When times were good, farmers were only too anxious to get land on any terms, but now that receipts are smaller and payments larger, every penny must be considered, and tenants are in a position to demand that not a shilling of realisable assets shall be left behind without payment.

Of the four classes of agriculturists—landlords, outgoing tenants, ingoing tenants, and labourers—the first and last may be dismissed as not wishing for an Agricultural Holdings Act. The former can make himself secure by agreement or lease (the terms of which must vary in direct proportion to the demand for land), while the agricultural labourer is not affected one way or other. Of the two remaining classes, outgoing tenants exist in thousands, but incoming tenants only for a few hours or days in the lives of individuals. Whilst a man is seeking to hire a farm he is an ingoing tenant, but directly

* Paper read at a meeting of the Farmers' Club, to-day, Monday, November 5th, by Mr. Trustram Eve, F.S.I.

he has once signed the agreement the terms of his entry and also of his leaving are settled, and he becomes for all intents and purposes an outgoing tenant.

It would appear, therefore, that with proper organisation and combination the numerous class of outgoing tenants could obtain all just demands with ease. The landlord opposes the piling up of the tenant's valuation on quitting, as it reduces the number of possible applicants for the farm, but in practice, when times are good, it is found that the ingoing tenant pays the exact amount of the valuation which the outgoing tenant is entitled to receive from the landlord, and while this is so any increase in the statutory compensation falls on the shoulders of the ingoing tenant who possesses no possible organisation for resistance and only indirectly on the landlord.

The incoming tenant is a neglected indivdual, and is often swamped by men who only wish to obtain a big valuation on retiring from their farms to farm no more.

Scope of the Acts 1883 and 1900.

It will, unfortunately, be necessary for those whose practice includes the management of land or the valuation of tenant right to study carefully the 1900 Act, and the unrepealed portions of the 1883 Act.

Ever since 1883 it has been the boast of many valuers that they do not know anything about the Agricultural Holdings Act, followed by the remark that they are very glad to say they have seldom used it and hope that they may never do so again. To those gentlemen it is feared that the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900, will be very irksome, as by its terms hardly a single tenant right valuation will take place outside its provisions and those of the 1883 Act which are incorporated with it.

The 1883 Act could only be brought into operation by the tenant serving an actual document with all solemnity on the landlord two months before the end of the tenancy, which document has come to be thought a kind of wrongful declaration of war. This is abolished by the new Act, which operates at once on the tenant informing the landlord some time *before the end of the tenancy* that he intends to claim its provisions.

When one comes to consider that consumption of home-grown corn, sainfoin, and lucerne roots, temporary pastures, etc., are in the future to be improvements, it will be seen that there will be few farms where one or other of them will not be found, and consequently the aid of the new Act invoked. In addition to this, the fact that when once this claim is made it enables either party to demand that arbitration shall, under the terms of the new Act, be extended to any further claim made by either side in connection with the holding, will make it much more necessary that this new Act should be studied and learnt by all concerned.

The Act applies to the same holdings which were affected by the 1883 Act. An interesting point arises out of Section 54 of the old Act, which says that "nothing in this Act shall apply. . . . to any holding let to the tenant during his continuance in *any office, appointment, or employment* held under the landlord." This would appear to affect those agents or bailiffs who sometimes occupy a farm on the estate they manage, and these must protect themselves in any agreement which may be drawn up.

The Two Acts Compared.

To thoroughly grasp the meaning of the two Acts, it is necessary in the first place to turn to the third schedule of the new Act (on page 11), so as to note how much of the 1883 Act is repealed Everyone must agree that it is sufficiently hard to understand *one* Act of Parliament, but when one has not only to learn the new Act, but also to remember parts of an old one, and, further, which parts remain and which are repealed, the required effort becomes greater. We are told that to have included the sixty-four clauses of the old Act with the new Bill would have taken up too much time in Parliament, but, however that may be, the result is unsatisfactory, and must be so until the Government choose to give us a Consolidation Act. I am sure we must all express our gratitude to our secrtary, Mr. Druce, for being the first to draft a Consolidation Act. This will be found in connection with the lucid exposition of the Act Mr. Druce has written in the June number of the Royal Agricultural Society's Journal (1900).

Shortly, the following is the result of the Third Schedule of the new Act (Repealing Schedule):

(1) The whole of the procedure clauses are struck out of the 1883 Act, and those in the new Act have to be learnt in their place.

(2) The 57th Section of the old Act, which has been before the Courts on more than one occasion, is repealed, and perhaps Section 1, Sub-section 5 of the new Act, may be said to take its place.

(3) The whole of the First Schedule is cut out and reprinted in the new Act, with certain additions, such as "Home-grown corn," "Temporary pasture," and the inclusion of "Corn, etc., eaten by horses other than those regularly employed on the holding."

There are 54 sections in the old Act—19 are repealed, and four are partly repealed—leaving 45 sections which still require to be consulted in addition to the 14 sections of the new Act and 30 new rules.

Procedure.

As in the 1883 Act, nothing outside the 26 numbered improvements in the First Schedule can be claimed for under the provisions of the Act, and only then at the determination of the tenancy. One often hears partly informed persons say, "I can get such and such a thing under the Agricultural Holdings Act"; "I am content to farm under the Act"; "Should not the tenant have left more fallow under the Act"; and so on. It cannot be too often stated that it is the *tenant only* who can bring both the old and new Acts into operation. The landlord is perfectly powerless to do so. And when the Act is at work its scope is strictly limited to the matter contained in the Schedule, and does not extend to extraneous improvements not specifically mentioned.

First Schedule.

Part I.—Nos. 1 to 16 are improvements for which *written* consent is necessary, *previous* to the execution. If the consent is not forthcoming at the end of the tenancy, no claim under these heads can be substantiated.

Perhaps the two more important of these improvements for which tenants should be careful to obtain previous consent, are:—

(3) Laying down of permanent pasture.

(11) Planting of orchards or fruit bushes.

Nos. (1) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) and (12) are also important.

Part II.—This consists of a single item—drainage—compensation for which cannot be obtained unless *notice* under Section 4 of the 1883 Act has been given at least two months *before the work is begun.*

Part III.—This is the most important of the three parts, containing as it does nine improvements which any tenant can claim for without either consent or notice. Nos. (18) to (22) are practically the same in both Acts being "Chalking," "Clay burning," "Claying," "Liming," and "Marling."

The remaining four improvements are:—

(23) Application to land of purchased artificial or other purchased manure.

(24) Consumption on the holding by cattle, sheep, pigs, or by horses other than those regularly employed on the holding, of corn, cake, or other feeding stuff not produced on the holding.

(25) Consumption on the holding by cattle, sheep, or pigs, or by horses other than those regularly employed on the holding, of corn proved by satisfactory evidence to have been produced and consumed on the holding.

(26) Laying down temporary pasture with clover, grass, lucerne, sainfoin, or other seeds, sown more than two years prior to the determination of the tenancy.

The new Act comes into force on January 1st, 1901, and will apply to any tenancies ending after that date.

The whole gist of the Act lies in Sections 1 and 2, containing thirteen sub-sections.

The following would appear to be the procedure if a tenant wishes to claim for any improvement mentioned in the First Schedule:—

First.—Carefully examine the tenancy agreement (if any) to ascertain if there is therein a covenant on the part of the landlord to pay on quitting for all or any of the improvements mentioned in the First Schedule of the Act.

Second.—Ascertain if there is an arbitration clause in the agreement, and if so, is it limited to certain things or does it refer generally to all questions which may arise under the agreement.

If the agreement is found to fully cover all possible claims under the First Schedule and an arbitration clause is also found, the proceedings will be wholly under the agreement and not under the 1883 and 1900 Acts (see Section 1, Sub-section 5).

We may assume that such an agreement could hardly be found which gave compensation for each of "home-grown corn," "temporary pasture," "sainfoin or lucerne roots" "chalking" etc., and if *one* of these improvements has been made and the agreement is silent as to compensation for it, recourse *must* be made to the Act. It will thus be seen that unless an agreement is a sort of complete 1900 Agricultural Holdings Act in itself the tenant *must* rely on the Act to get the balance. A high authority remarked during the progress of the Bill: "We want tenants to get as much as they can under their agreements and then go on to the Act where the agreement fails."

Assuming a case where the agreement is silent as to compensation and there *is* an arbitration clause, the proceedings under the Act would be in accordance with the terms of the arbitration clause in the agreement (see Section 2, Sub-section 1).

If there is *no* arbitration clause the proceedings would come under the terms of the Act of 1900, or rather the rules at the end of the Act.

Should no agreement exist the proceedings must, of course, be wholly under the Act.

In the old Act it was necessary under Section 7 to give two months' previous *written* notice "stating as reasonably as may be the particulars and amount of the intended claim." If this date was once passed, and notice was not served, the tenant lost his right to compensation. All this is swept away, and in its place the framers of the Bill said that the claim should be made within three months after the determination of the tenancy. This raised a storm of objections from every side, and the Bill was amended to read as follows:—(Section 2, Sub-section 2) "Any claim by a tenant for compensation under this Act . . . *shall not be made after the determination of the tenancy.*"

It is important to notice that if notice is sent by the tenant to the landlord as to the claim under the Act *before the last day of the tenancy* his right to compensation under the Act is gone.

There will be much discussion as to what constitutes the making of this all-important claim. Some will go on the old lines of sending a complete claim to the landlord. Some will simply write and say they intend to claim—some will do so correctly, and it is difficult to imagine that any of these will be wrong.

I have carefully searched the new Act (and what is left of the old one), and can nowhere find any words which compel the claim to be in writing or even that the total amount of a claim should be stated. The words of Section 2, Sub-section 1, are: "If a tenant *claims to be entitled* to compensation . . . the difference shall be settled by arbitration," and Sub-section 2 states: "*Any claim by a tenant* . . . shall not be made, etc.," while Rule 4, of the Second Schedule, says: "Every appointment, notice, revocation, and consent under this part of these rules must be in writing"; but nothing is said as to the *claim* being in writing. It would appear to be sufficient for the tenant before the end of the tenancy to write to his landlord: "I intend to claim under the Agricultural Holdings Acts, 1883 and 1900, on quitting my farm."

This can be done at any time—when a tenant has just entered a holding, for instance, to take an absurd case, so long as it is served before the end of the tenancy.

Whether one valuer can inform another valuer with safety, that his client will claim under the Act is doubtful, and it seems more advisable that the tenant should do as stated above. We shall all be obliged to our secretary if he would give us his opinion on this important point.

This simple letter has the effect of setting in motion a somewhat large machine which can have the following effects:—

(1) Create an arbitration under agreement or custom for every question arising out of the quitting of the holding (see Section 2, Sub-section 3), when no arbitration clause previously existed.

(2) Bring into force the rules of arbitration (Second Schedule) of the 1900 Act (with the compulsory single arbitrator, and no right of appeal after the award is made), operating on not only items in First Schedule, but also the whole tenant right valuation, breaches of covenant, etc.

It must be some time before those connected with valuations will realise the great changes this Act will make in tenant right valuations. Landlords and tenants are, however, still left free to say whether the actual arbitration rules in the 1900 Act shall apply *even to claims under the Act,* and I strongly advise, in the interest of landlords and tenants alike, that where an agreement exists, the arbitration clause, if present, should be strengthened, and where absent, a new clause should be agreed upon, something like the following:—

"We hereby agree that all disputes and claims arising out of this agreement or otherwise shall be settled by a reference under the terms of the Arbitration Act, 1889."

This would appear to be sufficiently strong, for Section 2, Sub-section 8, says: *Subject to any provision contained in any agreement between landlord and tenant,* the Arbitration Act, 1889, shall *not* apply to any arbitration to which this Act applies.

The claim having once been made, it is possible to bring claims under the Act, agreement, or custom, under one reference, with one award (instead of two as under the 1883 Act), on either party giving "written notice to the other party . . . requiring that arbitration shall extend to . . . the further claim." (See Section 2, Sub-section 3.) This is an improvement on the old Act, but it must be remembered that the mere fact of a tenant claiming, for, say, "sainfoin roots" under the Act, automatically creates an arbitration clause for all matters arising out of the quitting of the holding, which in some cases may or may not be desirable.

Single Arbitrators.

The first step is the appointment of arbitrators, and if the arbitration is under the rules of the 1900 Act something like the following may happen. The tenant writes to the landlord and says Mr. Jones will act for him. Landlord may say Mr. Smith will act for him, and in due course they meet and either make their award or refer their differences to an umpire. This is in accordance with the present practice and not objected to by anyone.

But suppose the landlord chooses to say that he will not have the arbitration conducted by two arbitrators, he has power under Rule 1 to insist upon the machinery of a single arbitrator, and in default of agreement between him and the tenant can write to the Board of Agriculture and request that a single arbitrator shall be appointed to hear the case.

The position may be reversed, as either landlord or tenant have the right to insist on a single arbitrator.

This is startlingly new in the law of arbitration, and meets with no favour in England, whatever Scotland may wish. Of course, the result will be in nine cases out of ten exactly opposite to the intention of the Legislature which was to cheapen procedure. How can a tenant farmer prepare and sustain his own claim under the Act and also the arbitration in connection with his hay, straw, manures, tillages,

breaches of covenant, etc., etc., and present it in the best way before this strange single arbitrator selected by the Board of Agriculture? He will naturally still ask his own valuer to prepare and conduct his case in the usual way. The landlord will act similarly on his side, and two arbitrators and a single arbitrator (really an umpire) will at once enter on the arbitration when in the great majority of cases the two arbitrators would have agreed on an award without the aid or expense of the "third man."

As has been previously stated, this compulsory single arbitrator can be avoided, if it is agreed that the Arbitration Act, 1889, shall apply in preference to the machinery of the Agricultural Holdings Acts.

Points in Connection with Claim and Procedure.

Running through the 1900 Act the following might be considered as worthy of discussion:—

Section 1, Sub-section 4 (selling off hay, straw, etc.). This section is very important to those who under agreement or custom have a right of *free* sale for all or part of crops such as hay, straw, roots, green crops, etc. In the 1883 Act the meaning of Section 6 (b) was not explicit, but the new section makes it quite clear that where a tenant has a right of free sale, that right cannot be watered down by a reduction of his claim under the Act as an equivalent for selling the hay, etc. I quote the new sub-section as being important, but the words in italics seem somewhat difficult of comprehension. The House of Lords is, I believe, responsible for them.

Section 1, Sub-section 4. In the ascertainment of the amount of the compensation payable to a tenant in respect of manures as defined by this Act, there shall be taken into account the value of the manure required by the contract of tenancy, or by custom to be returned to the holding in respect of any crops sold off, or removed from the holding within the last two years of the tenancy, or other less time for which the tenancy has endured, *not exceeding the value of the manure which would have been produced by the consumption on the holding of the crops so sold off or removed.*

Section 1, Sub-section 5. (Agreement, Custom, and the Act.) This is an important clause, and will form the subject of much argument. It runs:—

"Nothing in this section shall prejudice the right of a tenant to claim any compensation to which he may be entitled under custom, agreement, or otherwise, *in lieu of* any compensation provided by this section."

What do the words "in lieu of" mean? It would have been clearer if it said "in lieu of and *in addition to* any compensation."

An important point arises on this sub-section (Section 1, Sub-section 5) if read in connection with Section 5 of the 1883 Act (2nd para.), which is the well-known clause permitting "fair and reasonable substituted compensation." To take an instance which occurs frequently. An agreement provides that on quitting the tenant shall be paid half the amount of the last year's cake bill. Can he get this amount under his agreement, and make a further claim under the Act for corn consumed, or is the cake considered to be "fair and substituted compensation" for both the cake and corn mentioned in No. 23 of the First Schedule of the 1883 Act? In other words, is No. 23 divisible or indivisible? Does it form one improvement or two or more? The point was tried in the County Court, and the judge decided that it was indivisible. (See *Land Agents' Record*, October 14th, 28th, and November 4th, 1899.) It is doubtful if this decision is right, for suppose the agreement secured compensation for corn or, to take an extreme case, say mangolds, is the tenant to be precluded from claiming for cake because he is paid under his agreement for corn or mangolds? This point is more important under the 1900 Act than it was under the old one, for the consumption of home-grown corn is now to be considered an improvement, and there will be few changes of tenancies where some of it will not be claimed for. Can the tenant who receives half the cake bill under the agreement, claim for home-grown corn under the Act, in face of the decision of the County Court judge and this sub-section? (Section 1, Sub-section 5, 1900 Act.)

Section 2, Sub-section 2 (last half of). It will be noticed that the tenant who retains part of the holding after he has given up the greater portion can defer making his claim until just before he quits the last portion, and under Sub-section 4 of the same section the arbitrators may make a separate award if they think fit.

Section 2, Sub-section 3. This requires careful reading, and must be read in connection with Section 6 (c) and Section 7 of the 1883 Act, as the necessity for formal counter claims by landlords, and the time limit of 14 days after the determination of the tenancy are both now abolished. I presume that nothing but the Statute of Limitations bars the length of time in which a landlord can under the new Act make a counter claim, unless the tenant under this sub-section "requires that arbitration shall extend to the determination of the further claim. . ."

It must not be forgotten that if either side wish to use this sub-section, notice in writing must be given not later than seven days *after* the appointment of the arbitrator or arbitrators (presumably meaning the last appointed of them). It will be noticed the words are not after "notice of appointment," but after "the appointment" itself. If one party appoints an arbitrator and he does not give *notice* of the appointment to the other side until after seven days have expired, he can make this sub-section quite inoperative. This is peculiar!

Section 2, Sub-section 6. *Appeal.* It will not be possible to appeal against an award when once delivered if the reference has been under the terms of the Agricultural Holdings Acts 1883-1900. This is somewhat startling, and may have grave results when it is borne in mind that the whole of the tenant right valuation, including the construction of clauses in the agreement, can be brought into this arbitration. True, there is an attempt at a right of appeal, but as it can only be used *before* the award is closed, it will not be the slightest use, especially if a tenant is supposed to be conducting his own case before a single arbitrator. The sub-section enacts that the arbitrator *may* state a case on any question of law. If on the application of either side he refuses to state a case, either party may (under Rule 9 of the Second Schedule) ask the County Court Judge to compel him to do so. If the judge agrees, the matter must come before him again in the form of a case, which seems cumbersome. This absence of right of appeal in this Act is another reason for preference being given to the Arbitration Act, 1889, in arbitrations under the 1900 Act. Under the new Act an award may be known to be wrong on a point of law, and yet if either party was not aware the arbitrator was relying on the particular point and neglected to ask him to state a case upon it, the injustice must remain through a want of power to appeal. It is assumed that an arbitrator cannot state a case *after* the award is published.

Section 7 says: "The compensation in respect of an improvement made before this Act comes into operation shall be such (if any) as could have been claimed if this Act had not been passed, but shall be ascertained in the manner provided by this Act."

The result of this is that the procedure clauses of the 1883 Act cease to operate on January 1st, 1901, and the new schedules in the 1900 Act come into force on the same day.

Home-grown corn used after January 1st, 1901, can be claimed for, and it must be borne in mind that under No. 26 of the First Schedule the improvement by the consumption of it cannot be substantiated unless it is "proved by satisfactory evidence to have been produced and consumed on the holding."

This Section (7) affects No. 27 of the First Schedule, which runs:—"Laying down temporary pasture with clover, grass, lucerne, sainfoin, or other seeds sown more than two years prior to the determination of the tenancy." From reading this with Section 7 it will be seen that any seeds sown either in the spring or autumn of 1900 or before that year can *never be* claimed for, while those sown in 1901 will only be the subject of compensation after two years, which would be 1903. I think tenants will grumble that this improvement was not made retrospective. The remedy would appear to be in the tenant's own hands, for the winter before he leaves he can ask his landlord if he will compensate him for any temporary pasture, etc., he has laid down, and if it is refused he can plough it up and have a crop on the land. It will also be noticed that any seeds sown *less* than two years before the end of the tenancy cannot be claimed for at any time. One would have thought that if the Legislature in its wisdom wished to form a sort of national agreement on the question of temporay pastures and lucerne and sainfoin roots, that those which have only been mown for *one* season should be compensated for as well as those which have been mown *twice or more.* Tenants must be prophetic enough not to sow sainfoin or lucerne seed some months before they eventually decide to give notice to quit—a difficult position to occupy!

While on the subject of temporary pasture, there is rather a pitfall in connection with it that it would be well to consider. Tenants in due time will naturally think that they will be paid for *any* piece of temporary pasture they may leave. This is true, but on the other hand the covenants in the lease as to cropping or the custom of the country will not be over-ruled by this No. 26 improvement, and consequently the temporary pasture claimed for must not form part of the fallow shift or of that in course for wheat, or the tenants will have to pay for the breach of covenant even if they are paid under the Act for temporary pasture. In practice it may be said that as far as money value is concerned the one will balance the other.

Rules as to Arbitration.

There are one or two points in these rules to which allusion has not been made in the former part of this paper.

Part I., No. 2.—"If a person appointed arbitrator dies, or is incapable of acting or for seven days after notice from either party requiring him to act, fails to act, a new arbitrator *may* be appointed, as if no arbitrator had been appointed."

"The arbitrator *may*" (not must or shall), seems to be somewhat weak, and will lead to difficulties.

No. 5.—The Board of Agriculture will now have power to extend the time for making awards whether the time has expired or not. This is a great improvement, as under the old Act, if a mistake of this kind was made, the proceedings had to begin *de novo.*

No. 7.—*Evidence.*—It will be seen on reading this rule that only the "parties to the arbitration and claimants" can be *compulsorily* examined in an arbitration under the 1900 Act. Under the Arbitration Act, 1889, a subpœna can be served on any one necessary as a witness, as, for instance, the man who has bought hay and straw wrongly sold off a holding; and this is yet one more reason for adopting the procedure of the Arbitration Act in preference to the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900.

No. 10.—"The arbitrator shall, on the application of either party, specify the amount awarded in respect of any particular improvement. . . ."

This is the result of a compromise in the House of Commons. It is curious to note that this was almost the only question which really disturbed members during the passage of the Bill through the House, and the Government, fearing defeat, agreed to this compromise.

On general grounds it would appear that if it is possible to appeal against an award, it is useful to have particulars, but if no appeal is possible, it only further angers the aggrieved party to know how the amount (to which he objects) is made up.

Nos. 14 and 15.—*Costs.*—The costs of, and incidental to, an arbitration are at the discretion of the arbitrator or umpire as in the old Act, but it is well known that through weakness on the part of many umpires, or from fear of offending one of the arbitrators, costs are not always fairly awarded. No. 15 now gives precise directions. "The arbitrator shall, in awarding costs, take into consideration the reasonableness or unreasonableness of the claim of either party, either in respect of amount or otherwise, and any unreasonable demand for particulars or refusal to supply particulars, and generally all the circumstances of the case, and may disallow the costs of any witness whom he considers to have been called unnecessarily, and any other costs which he considers to have been incurred unnecessarily."

The usual course which arbitrators take is to award "that each party shall *pay his own costs and half* the arbitrator's or umpire's fees," notwithstanding that perhaps one side has been practically successful in not only sustaining a just claim but in refuting an unjust one. This is the chief cause with lawyers of the unpopularity of arbitration.

The last half of No. 14 is similar to Section 20 of the 1883 Act . . . "and the costs shall be subject to taxation by the Registrar of the County Court on the application of either party, but that taxation shall be subject to review by the Judge of the County Court."

Valuers will not like this, as the costs of the ordinary tenant right valuation can now be reviewed, and from *their* point of view this is another reason for preferring the Arbitration Act, 1889, which does not contain a taxation clause. If an umpire writes: "My award can be taken up on payment of ten guineas," and that sum is thought too much by the Registrar or Judge, the unfortunate umpire will probably have to disgorge the excess.

Our secretary has told us in the Royal Journal that the Board of Agriculture will issue a form of award very shortly, and we hope they will see their way to consult the Surveyors' Institution before doing so, that we may have a short and commonsense document to work on.

I must apologise for the length of my paper, although several matters which crosed my mind have not been touched upon. I feel that to many of my audience it has been a very dry dissertation, and I know it would have pleased some if attention had been drawn in forcible language to the sins of omission on the part of the framers of the original Bill, but I thought *that* was quite outside the province of a paper on an Act of Parliament, although necessary in the case of a Bill. I feel that it has been presumption on the part of so young a member of the club to attempt to expound theories to my elders, and I shall listen to the discussion with interest, and learn much from it.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

18,359.—J. Boardman, of Bank Street, Manchester, for an invention for "Improvements in apparatus for raising potatoes."

18,404.—J. R. Cocks, of Bayston Hill, Shropshire, for an invention for "An improved machine for dropping and covering potatoes by horse-power."

18,473.—A. E. Whiting, of Buckingham Street, Strand, London, for an invention for "Improvements in leg rope attachments for securing cows for milking or the like."

18,588.—W. D. Brown, of Glasgow, for an invention for "Improvements in self-binding reaping machines."

18,672. W. Glover, of Liverpool Road, Skelmersdale, Lancashire, for an invention for "Glover's improved one-horse potato digger."

Patents Sealed.

13,693.—M. A. R. Neaverson and R. Neaverson, both of Peakirk, near Peterborough, for an invention for "Improvements relating to hay racks, etc."

13,751.—E. D. Smith, of Ashburton, Devonshire, for an invention for "Seed and plant protectors."

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and

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TO BE HELD AT
BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM,
DECEMBER 1ST, 3RD, 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH, 1900.

NATIONAL DOG SHOW,
TO BE HELD AT THE
CURZON EXHIBITION HALL, BIRMINGHAM.
DECEMBER 3RD, 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH, 1900.

For the convenience of Exhibitors at the above Shows, the London and North Western Railway Company have made arrangements for Through Vans for the conveyance of Poultry and Pigeons, to be run to Birmingham (New Street Station), on Friday, November 30th, and for the conveyance of Dogs on Saturday, December 1st, by the trains leaving—

Carlisle	at	8.30 a.m.
Liverpool (Lime Street)	,,	12. 0 noon.
Manchester (London Road)	,,	12. 0 ,,
Holyhead	,,	8. 0 a.m.
Shrewsbury	,,	2.40 p.m.
Northampton	,,	10.29 a.m.
London (Euston Station)	,,	8.45 ,, and 2.45 p.m.

These will be in addition to the Vans running regularly on the Through Trains to Birmingham.

Through Vans for the conveyance of Dogs to Birmingham on Sunday, December 2nd, will also be attached to the Trains leaving—

Liverpool (Lime Street)	at	4.30 p.m.
Manchester (London Road)	,,	4.25 ,,
London (Euston)	,,	4.45 ,,

Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, etc., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the Shows.

Arrangements will also be made for the return of the Traffic in Through Vans direct from Birmingham at the close of the Shows, and Exhibitors wishing to avail themselves of these facilities are requested to order their consignments "Per London and North-Western Railway."

The Company's representatives will be at the Shows to answer enquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey. All information can be obtained from MR. ROBERT TURNBULL, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; or from the Company's District Superintendent, MR. A. ENTWISTLE, New Street Station, Birmingham.

FRED. HARRISON, General Manager.
Euston Station, London, N.W.
October, 1900.

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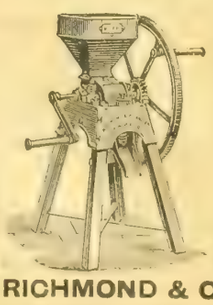

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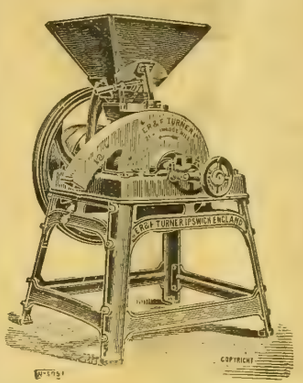

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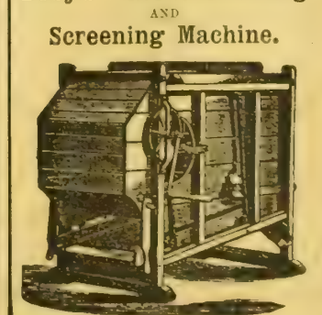

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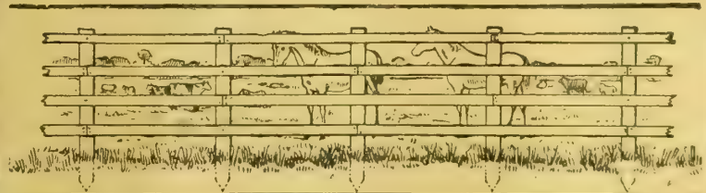

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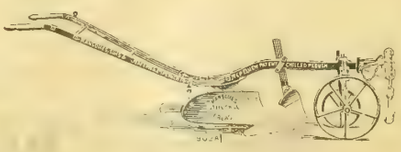

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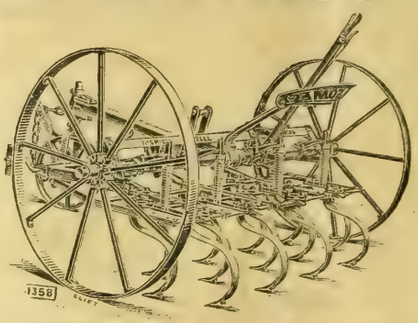

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In our Spring number of "Bibby's Quarterly" we reproduced the photographs of two groups of Calves which are now being reared at the Hornby House Farm, Bedale, Yorks, by his Grace the Duke of Leeds.

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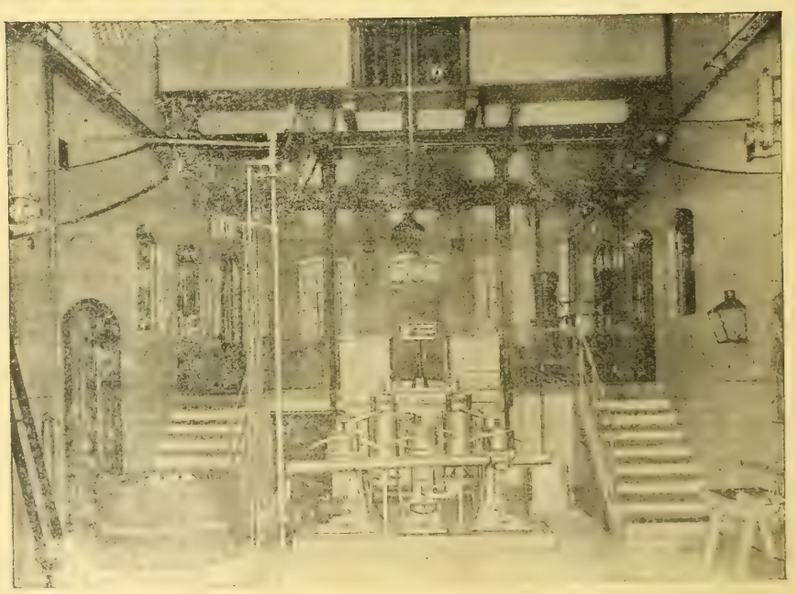

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Mark Lane Express Agricultural Journal.

The Only English Journal devoted exclusively to Agriculture.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

The receipts on account of revenue from the 1st of April, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to the 3rd of November were £60,783,201, as against £59,533,025 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which commenced with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £107,142,700, as against £66,298,654 to the corresponding date of the previous year. The Treasury balances on November 3rd, 1900, amounted to £1,519,347, and at the corresponding date of 1899 to £2,824,264.

A PRACTICAL PAPER.

On the evening of Monday last, Mr. Eve, F.S.I., read a paper before a meeting of the Farmers' Club upon the Agricultural Holdings Act of this year, which comes into force on the first day of next year. The paper (which was printed nearly in entirety in our last issue) must be described as eminently practical throughout, for, while it avoided technical points and legal hair-splitting, it called attention to the more important changes which the new measure will effect, and also added a considerable amount of practical and valuable advice. The first point of importance to which the papers alluded was naturally the great difference between the new Act and the old one as to the notice of claim for compensation. Under the statute of 1883 the tenant could have no claim for his improvements unless he served upon his landlord a notice which must contain particulars at least two months before the expiration of the tenancy. This has often been a hardship as well as a difficulty, and has probably caused as much friction between landlord and tenant as any other provision of the Act. The new measure, however, requires a far more simple procedure, for it allows the tenant to make good his claim if he informs his landlord at any time before the determination of the tenancy that he intends to make a claim under the provisions of the Act. Under the first schedule of the new measure it is necessary that the tenant should obtain written consent from the landlord to the execution of certain improvements before their commencement. In the opinion of Mr. Eve the most important of these are the laying down of permanent pasture and the planting of orchards or fruit bushes. Among other comparatively minor matters to which attention was called we find the consumption of home-grown corn, the making of temporary pastures with clover, grass, lucerne, sainfoin, or other such seeds which have been sown for more than two years. The question of drainage was also referred to, and it was pointed out that notice must be given to the landlord at least two months before such improvements were commenced. After mentioning these matters, which Mr. Eve considered the most important, we must turn to the advice which that gentleman gave.

It is suggested that the first care of a tenant who wishes to make a claim should be to consider his agreement if there should be one. It is important to ascertain if such contains a covenant on the part of the landlord to pay for any of the improvements contained in the first schedule, as

that may have a very considerable effect upon the procedure which may become most suitable under the circumstances of the case, for now there are more methods than formerly. The next point is to see if the agreement contains an arbitration clause, and if so, whether it is general to all matters which may arise under the agreement, or whether it is of only limited application. If both these points can be answered fully in the affirmative, the arbitration will be under the agreement, and the Acts of 1883 and 1900 will have nothing to do with the matter. Mr. Eve seems to be strongly of the opinion that it will be to the advantage of both landlord and tenant that matters should be settled under the Arbitration Act of 1889 rather than under either of the special Acts referring to the matter. He goes so far as to contend that all agricultural agreements should contain a clause binding both parties to settle their differences by a reference under the Arbitration Act. The chief ground upon which this is based is that either the landlord or tenant has a right to insist upon the matter being referred to the decision of a single arbitrator, which Mr. Eve considers will bring disappointing results. In this we do not quite follow the arguments stated. It is suggested that, although the Legislature designed this with a view to saving expense, still it will cause the tenant farmer to have much more trouble in formulating the various heads of his claim and in conducting his own case. Consequently he will naturally still ask his own valuer to prepare the particulars, and also conduct his case as before, and that the landlord will act in a similar way. We fail to see the logic of this, for the new procedure seems likely to be simple and effective in smaller cases, and does not appear to be likely to be more expensive in more complicated cases. Our experience has invariably been that arbitrators become advocates, and that they are so regarded by the umpire who has to decide between them. If that is so, had they not better be such in name as well as in fact? Mr. Eve had some important and well-merited criticisms upon the appeal clauses, but we have not space to deal with them at present. If Mr. Eve could see his way to turn his paper into a pamphlet, a very few additions ought to make it valuable to all parties.

THE PRESIDENCY OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

Up to the time of going to press no announcement has been officially made of the appointment of a successor to the Right Hon. Walter Long as President of the Board of Agriculture. The *Standard* says it "understands" that it has been offered to Mr. R. W. Hanbury, lately Financial Secretary to the Treasury. More generally. it is thought that Lord Londonderry will go from the Post Office to the Board of Agriculture.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

Mr. Loudon M. Douglas, A.I.M.E., author of the "Recipe Book for Bacon-Curers" and the "Manual of the Pork Trade," etc., etc., has agreed to give a lecture on bacon-curing before the Bedfordshire Chamber of Agriculture and Farmers' Club, on Saturday, December 8th, at 4 p.m. A number of lantern illustrations, which have been collected by the lecturer from various places in Europe, will be for the first time exhibited on this occasion. It is also expected that a number of bacon curing friends will contribute specimens of their finest produce. As a number of the lecturer's friends have inquired as to how they can obtain admission to the lecture, they might kindly note that all applications for admission should be addressed to Mr. H. Tristram Eve, 2, St. Paul's Square, Bedford.

It has been intimated to me that the quarterly meeting of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs and Chambers of Agriculture will be held at the Agricultural Club House, Pavement, York, on Thursday next, the 15th inst., at 2.30 p.m. An address on "Agricultural Co-operation" will be given by Mr. W. Domville Rowland, of the British Agricultural Organisation Society, to be followed by a discussion thereon.

In the current number of the *Windsor Magazine* there is an interesting article on "The World's Wheat Supply," written by Mr. R. S. Baker, who remarks that "Great Britain eats her entire wheat crop in about thirteen weeks, and then she must be supplied immediately with the products of Minnesota, or Central Russia, or India, or else she must suffer. If the United Kingdom could be completely blockaded, say, by the ships of allied Europe, her population would probably be totally extinguished by starvation within three months." The machinery of production and distribution is instructively explained.

Should the season's promise be fulfilled, the coming Australian wheat harvest will (says the *Melbourne Argus*) be the largest ever recorded. The aggregate production of the extended wheat areas of South Australia, New South Wales, and Victoria of the fast approaching harvest is bound to furnish a large surplus and to supply a great deal of employment to ships to carry it to over-sea destinations.

Confirmatory news has been received this week that the Argentine wheat crop has been seriously damaged, and estimates place the crop as not likely to be more than two-thirds that of last year, viz., about 8,000,000 quarters, against 12,000,000 quarters last season. Whether or not the damage is so extensive as calculated has yet to be seen, but it is evident that Argentina in the coming season will secure a much smaller crop than last season. The damage to wheat is specially to be regretted, as the country during the past few months has suffered severely from the extensive floods which have greatly injured property, the flocks, and last season's maize crop. On the other hand, it is said that the linseed crop will be exceptionally large, and if so it will to some extent make up for the damage done to wheat. Of the growing maize it is too early yet to form an opinion, as it is not sufficiently forward to suffer irretrievably, and therefore damage might be done, and yet the crop eventually turn out large.

I have had within the last few days some talk with a man of distinction in Canadian life. Our conversation referred finally to the influence of the British agriculturist in the redempton of the Yukon and Klondyke district. Heaven forfend that I should be any influence in inducing young and stalwart farmers to leave their home-land. However, the fact must be stated that British rural strength and self-reliance is achieving much out there. To their growing invasion of the district he attributes in part its growing popularity. Here is an evidence of its development, which this Canadian, however, rather immediately attributed to the result of the United States and Canadian elections. On Friday a well-known firm of London solicitors made an offer to purchase a hundred thousand pounds' worth of stock in the White Pass and Yukon Railway—the great means of communication with the Klondyke—at par. The offer was peremptorily refused through Messrs. Dollman and Pritchard, the agents. I am not, I repeat, advancing an argument to induce young British farmers to renounce the family homestead. I simply state the fact.

I have received from the Statistical Department of the Government of India two leaflets, being the first general memorandums on the rice crop of the season 1900 in Bengal, Madras, and Lower Burma, and of the indigo crop for the present season. The area sown with rice was smaller than the average in Bengal, but somewhat larger in Madras, and in Burma it was about 16 per cent. in excess of the average. In Bengal, on the whole, the rainfall of the season was not quite adequate, nor was it well distributed. But the autumn crop was not materially affected. The area sown, 7,646,500 acres, is but slightly smaller than the average, the reduction being ascribed to the sowing of some rice land with jute under the encouragement of higher prices for jute. The area sown with winter rice is estimated at 28,883,300 acres, against 31,344,700 acres in 1899, the decrease being due to the scanty and badly distributed rainfall in the early part of the season, and also to the break in the rains at the time of transplantation in August. The floods following the abnormally heavy rain in the region round Calcutta in September has also injured the prospects of the winter rice crop there. On the whole, the season has not been altogether favourable for this crop.

According to the estimates made by the district officers, the yield of winter rice for the province, as a whole, will amount to 87 per cent. of a normal crop, compared with 90 per cent. finally estimated last year. The director estimates the yield at 88 per cent. of the normal, because, though the recent heavy rains have been beneficial to this crop in most parts of the province, the abnormal fall in the Burdwan and Presidency divisions will no doubt cause partial injury to it there, and the weather in August was unseasonable. An estimate of 88 per cent. corresponds to what was formerly known as a fourteen-anna crop.

In Burma the estimated area in the fourteen principal rice-growing districts is 6,221,184 acres, a small increase on the 6,050,648 acres cultivated last year. Floods were caused by heavy rain in some parts, but the small rise of the Irrawaddy allowed of the cultivation of lands flooded last year. Prospects are promising, and an average crop is expected. In Madras the season was generally favourable, and the area sown is well in excess of the average. The crop is reported to be everywhere in good condition, and from that portion which has been, or is being, harvested a normal yield has been obtained. Altogether the prospects are very promising.

The yield of the indigo crop in all the provinces is reported to be or to have been much better than last year, which was a bad one for those engaged in the production of the dye. The discouragement of the low prices for Bengal indigo which were current last year, even though the marketable quantity was comparatively small, seems to have affected the area sown in Lower Bengal and even in Bihar; but in the other indigo-producing provinces the area sown is larger than last year, though materially smaller than the average.

In Bengal the season was, on the whole, unfavourable, the rain in April and May being scanty and insufficient for the sowing, germination, and early growth of the crop, while the heavy rain that followed seriously affected prospects. The light fall in August was, however, favourable to the *khunti* crop in North Bihar. The area sown last year was estimated at 441,600 acres; this year it is estimated at 355,800 acres only. It is probable that this estimate is excessive, the provincial authorities being of opinion that some officers in Eastern Bengal have not fully appreciated how greatly the area has been reduced in their districts. Prices have fallen heavily, as a result of the competition of artificial indigo, and it is stated that the fall has so severely affected the industry in Eastern Bengal that many factories there have recently been closed, while even in North Bihar the operations on many estates have been materially contracted.

When the first forecast was issued on the 12th July last the prospects of the crop were good. The character of the monsoon, however, had not then declared itself. During July and the first half of August the rainfall was generally deficient, and to some extent growth was retarded. Later falls were beneficial, and a good yield was expected, but heavy rain in the Doab towards the end of the season is reported to have reduced the produce. The condition of the crop is now estimated at from 62 to 87 per cent. of a normal crop. The estimated yield, which amounts to 47,293 factory maunds, is 75 per cent. better than that of last year, but it is 12 per cent. smaller than the quinquennial and 7 per cent. smaller than the decennial average. The yield in the Doab is 39,142 maunds, and in Benares 8,151 maunds.

In the Panjab the area sown in the reporting districts is estimated at 103,000 acres, being about 6 per cent. in excess of the area finally estimated last year. The increase is ascribed to the fact that the canals worked well in Multan and Muzaffargarh. The crop in the ground promises well, and an average yield on the whole is expected. In Madras the area reported to have been sown, 157,000 acres, is slightly greater than last year, but it is only about two-thirds of the average of previous years. In some places the rainfall of July stimulated, while in other places it was unfavourable for sowing; but the principal causes restricting the area are stated to be the high prices of food-grains and the fall in the

price of the dye. With useful rain the prospects of the crop were favourable at the date of report.

Three leaflets have also come to hand from the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Department of Land Records and Agriculture, and they are the second forecasts of the cotton, til, and sugar cane crops of 1900. As regards the cotton crop it is stated that during the first three weeks of August rainfall was generally scanty, but in the last week of the month excellent rain was received all over the provinces, and the prospects of the crop were considerably improved. At the beginning of September rainfall in the most western districts was heavy, and interfered considerably with weeding operations, which are elsewhere reported to have been properly carried out. Some damage has also occurred in the Gorakhpur and Benares divisions from the excessive rain and high east winds which marked the close of the monsoon. Otherwise the cotton crop is flourishing; pods have begun to appear in the case of early-sown cotton, and they are reported in good condition. Clear weather is now wanted to secure a normal crop. The condition at the end of September was as follows (100 representing a normal crop):—Meerut, Benares, and Gorakhpur, 75; Agra and Fyzabad, 80; Rohilkhand, Allahabad, and Lucknow, 90.

During September, as in the month of August, rainfall was slightly above the normal, and well distributed in Bundelkhand districts, where ordinarily four-fifths of the total area under til is grown. In most of the remaining districts the distribution of rain was uneven, the falls being generally scanty in August, whereby the growth of the crop was in places retarded, and heavy in September. High east winds, which accompanied the rain in the last week of September, are reported to have injured the flowers in parts of Bundelkhand and elsewhere. The crop is, nevertheless, generally reported to be promising, and if nothing unforeseen occurs a full normal yield may be expected. Owing to good rain in Bundelkhand at sowing time, and the excellent produce of the previous year's crop, the total area under til is estimated at 6 per cent. more than the normal area. Taking 100 to denote a normal crop, the average condition of the crop in the first week of October was as under:—Meerut, Agra, Rohilkhand, and Gorakhpur, 80; Allahabad, Benares, and Lucknow, 95; Fyzabad, 75.

In the first forecast on the sugar-cane crop, issued about the middle of August, it was remarked that the monsoon rains had till then been unusually capricious. During the last week of that month, as also in September, excellent rain was, however, received throughout the provinces, the rainfall of the latter month having exceeded the normal in all plains districts except Bijnor and Rai Bareli, where the defect from the normal was not great. The downpours, which visited the eastern portion of the provinces in the fourth week of September, were unusually heavy, and were accompanied by high east winds, which in a few places are reported to have laid the sugar-cane crop; in low-lands floods also caused some damage. Speaking generally, the rain greatly benefited the crop, which is reported to be healthy, and promises a full normal outturn. In only two districts—Bijnor and Shahjehanpur—is the crop estimated at 75 per cent. of the normal. In those districts the estimate is almost certainly too low. In Fatehpur, Jaunpur, and Rai Bareli the outturn is given at 81 per cent. Eight districts report a normal yield, while in the remaining districts of the province the crop is estimated at 87 or 94 per cent. of the normal.

Mr. Leonard Allen has started in business as a corn factor at 36, Mark Lane, E.C.

Mr. Macmaster, of the old Corn Exchange, has taken Mr. A. T. Frankish into partnership. The address of the firm, "Macmaster and Frankish," will be 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

The Cereals Club held on the 6th inst. a very successful gathering at the Trocadero, Mr. A. W. Brandon in the chair.

I am glad to note the revival of the London Corn Market Chrysanthemum Show, which used to be, and is now once again, a pleasant feature of November in Mark Lane.

Mr. Titley, C.I.V., has returned to business at Mark Lane. Mr. R. S. Craig, another Mark Lane man, recently "at the front," is on his way home. A third representative of the corn trade has obtained a commission, and leaves the City for permanent Army service. Mr. Bernard Moeller will be missed at Mark Lane, but his patriotism will be honoured.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

I am compelled by the exigencies of the printing-office to pen my reflections before the formal announcement has been given to the world as to who will succeed to the Board of Agriculture—a post, by the way, to which Mr. Long could have returned had he desired. My nominee is Lord Londonderry. The quidnuncs have been casting affectionate eyes on Mr. Hanbury for the position; but the genesis of this lies in the fact that Mr. Hanbury is known to be in the running for Cabinet rank. That Mr. Hanbury is an able man is undeniable—he was, indeed, one of the ablest men in the last Ministry, a politician who in mental grasp, stability of thought, and Parliamentary appreciation had few rivals.

But he is essentially an urban politician; he is the great commercial man brought to politics; he is of the town towny; he has no more sympathy with the necessities of agriculture than would have any one of the great merchant princes selected in an *ad captandum* fashion from the millionaire-dom of Manchester. That he might accommodate himself to the new position is, no doubt, true; that he would soon possess the necessary knowledge is certain; that he would also lend the position Parliamentary distinction is also assured. But we do not want as Minister of Agriculture a man to whom we have to teach the ethics and necessities of agriculture.

Lord Londonderry, on the other hand, is an agriculturist, and, what is more, an agriculturist who knows by personal experience the economic difficulties which have beset the farmers with such growing significance in recent years. True, he is an agriculturist of the greater-landlord rather than of the tenant-farming class; but the day has not come yet for inviting a tenant-farmer to conduct the agricultural department of the State.

Moreover, he is possessed by few prejudices, and has a decidedly independent mind. He would not be led by the nose along the path of convention just because it would be safe to travel it. Then, he has the reforming instinct—not the instinct that impels to eternal destruction, but the instinct which only destroys when it has something better to rear in its place and prefers to improve rather than destroy. The wisdom of his reforming zeal has already been revealed, notwithstanding his brief tenure of the position, at the Post Office. Lord Londonderry would be an exceedingly good appointment. We should have at least a practical man, with exceptional personal qualifications, and with sufficient strength of mind not to allow of the interest being made the victim of Cabinet neglect.

The appointment of Mr. Walter Long to the Local Government Board has given satisfaction to all the sane men in politics. Of course, the hate-possessed Radical, who will see no good in any act of Lord Salisbury's appointments, denounces it as he has denounced every other promotion; but with the fulminations of these storm-tossed politicians we may contrast the chivalrous confession of the *Daily News* that Mr. Long has revealed excellent qualities as an administrator, and that he has placed the country under a debt of undeniable gratitude in stamping out hydrophobia. He has a cool method, a lucidity of expression, a clear unaffectedness of expression which will stand him in excellent stead when he comes to deal with the great problem still confronting the Local Government Board, the housing of the working classes.

This is a problem which, when it receives definite legislative attention, will be largely a matter for the Grand Committee. Mr. Long has shown his capacity of steering a Bill through the narrow passage guarded with such pertinacity by the Charybdis of party vexation and the Scylla of garrulous self-conceit. When the Agricultural Holdings Act Amendment Bill passed through that Committee the members unanimously thanked him—even that turgid Boanerges, Mr. Henry Broadhurst, joining in the hymn of praise—for the courteous ability he had revealed as governor and chairman. Mr. Long is admirably equipped for his present post, both by nature and experience.

Mr. Long was trained in an excellent local government school. In the old quarter sessions days Wiltshire had magistrates who brought to the question of local government wide knowledge, a keen acumen, and admirable debating capacity. I doubt whether in the later seventies any county governing body revealed the same administrative ability of the Wiltshire quarter sessions. The names of men, not merely of local but of national moment, will be recalled among those who took part in the county business. There was the late Marquis of Bath; there was that remarkably gifted man, Sir Charles Hobhouse; there was Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, who has the science of county government at his fingers' end; there was the present Lord Lansdowne; there was Mr. Sotheron Escourt; there was Mr. H. J. Swayne, a man who might have attained almost to any position on the bench had he stuck to law; and there was Lord Charles Bruce.

Mr. Walter Long was then a young man, but he exhibited so excellent an intuition and so natural an aptitude for the work that it was not long ere he took his place among these men possessed of almost an equal authority. This means much—it means, above all, that he must have given an arduous study to a question dull rather than fascinating, forbidding rather than attractive. Mr. Long can look back to his work in those quarter-sessional days with satisfaction. That work is the justification for his appointment now. There have been square men placed in round holes in the fashioning of this Ministry. Mr. Long has been placed in his right place.

Apparently Mr. Chaplin is to throw off the dignity of Cabinet rank. There seems, indeed, to be little doubt of it. Well, if this renunciation of Front Bench distinction be not at the right honourable gentleman's own request, the incident provides us with an evidence of party ungenerosity which leaves a taste as of the bitterness of Dead Sea fruit in the mouth. The puny whipsters of Radicalism have thought it generous and seeming to fly their barbed shafts of bitter wit at Mr. Chaplin's oratorical method. One of these men described it in the last Parliament as "full of sound and fury and signifying nothing." This only means that Mr. Chaplin belongs to the old rhetorical school of which Sir William Harcourt is the most distinguished member—the stately galleon school, rather than the spitting and snarling torpedo-boat school.

Let official Conservatism say what it will, Mr. Chaplin has placed the party under a debt of gratitude which cannot be renounced. He is one of the personal forces who have made the British farmers a sure and certain electoral appanage of the Tory party. As an administrator he has had few opportunities. The more lurid issues which have flashed across the political horizon have distracted popular attention from the legislative ambitions which may have possessed him. At all events, he has always been safe and reliant, and has never sought, at the dictates of a sordid ambition, to attract attention to himself—indulged in mere fantastic efforts of Quixotry. His withdrawal from Front Bench distinction will mean the ascendency of the new school. "The old world changeth, giving place to new." And the new is not generous. Only bustling, meddling, ambitious.

The Local Government Board is more or less a rural department—of course, not absolutely so. The displacement of Mr. T. W. Russell from the position of Secretary will, however, be no great loss to the English rural districts. Mr. Russell is an able man, but he never secured a really practical grasp of the problem of English local administration. His thoughts were of Ireland, and his ambitions centred in Ulster. His succession by a man like Mr. Grant Lawson, the Member for the Thirsk division, would be a gain.

Mr. Lawson has been known as one of the most intelligent of the agricultural members of the House of Commons. When he has risen the House has had the premonition that it was going to hear his case clearly and eagerly put, and the House has seldom been disappointed. He

is, in a word, one of the most practical-minded men on the Conservative benches, and his sympathy with agriculture is unquestioned. Turn to the debates on the Agricultural Holdings Act, and you will find a score of evidences of this. Should he succeed to the position Mr. T. W. Russell vacates, the agricultural element in the Ministry will be seriously strengthened.

The Right Hon. Walter Long.

Annexed are a few passing comments on the appointment of the Right Hon. Walter Long to the Presidency of the Local Government Board:—

These appointments [including Mr. Long's] will be received, on the whole, with approval. Mr. Long has shown not only business capacity, but the not too common strength of will to do what he conscientiously believed to be right during his tenure of office as Minister of Agriculture. It required some courage to disregard the unpopularity incurred by the muzzling order, but Mr. Long, when convinced that he was acting in the public interest, did not allow himself to be influenced by outside opinion. As President of the Local Government Board he will have a wide opening for the display of his proved good sense and powers of management.—*Standard.*

It is not difficult to be, as Mr. Long has hitherto been, a President of the Board of Agriculture. But this, at least, may be said of Mr. Long, that in the face of much unmerited abuse he expelled the terrible disease of hydrophobia from the country.—*Daily News.*

Mr. Walter Long, the new President of the Local Government Board, is one of the young men in Lord Salisbury's third administration, since his age is only forty-six. He is a progressive Conservative, who has done good service as President of the Board of Agriculture. In this office his name was closely associated with the well-known muzzling measures, which did not bring him popularity, but which did public good by stamping out hydrophobia. Another of his measures was the Act prohibiting the landing of store cattle in England. He is a man of fine figure and pleasing presence, an ardent sportsman, and greatly liked in the West Country from which he comes.—*Daily News.*

Mr. Henry Chaplin has resigned the control of the Local Government Board, and will be succeeded by Mr. Walter Long, who, during the late Parliament, was a most efficient Minister for Agriculture. Next to Mr. H. Chaplin, Mr. Walter Long is more entitled than any other member to pose as the "farmers' friend." His father sat for North Wilts for three years, and his grandfather for thirty. Describing, in the "Life of Lord George Bentinck," the memorable division which overthrew Sir Robert Peel, Mr. Disraeli speaks of "the pleasing presence of Walter Long," and it can be asserted, without risk of denial, that the "pleasing presence" of the grandfather has descended to the grandson. Though his father hailed from Wales, Mr. Long himself was born at Bath early in the fifties. Both at Harrow and Oxford he was fortunate enough to be included in the cricket elevens, and distinguished himself as a hard hitter. He is a good sportsman, riding straight to hounds, and invariably going well to the front in the House of Commons Point-to-Point Steeplechases. It was only in 1880 that he entered Parliament, as member for North Wilts. At the General Election of 1885 he was returned for the Devizes Division of the county, and became Secretary to the Local Government Board under Mr. Ritchie. In 1892 he was rejected by Wiltshire, but obtained refuge in the West Derby Division of Liverpool, and on the accession of the Unionists in 1895 he was chosen Minister for Agriculture, with a seat in the Cabinet. In that capacity he incurred the displeasure of dog-owners by the muzzling order. As one of the elect for Liverpool he aroused the wrath of Evangelist Churchmen by his attitude towards Ritualism, and on that account retreated to South Bristol. He commands the Wilts Yeomanry, which, as the premier regiment in that branch of the military service, has been selected to form part of the guard for the Duke of York, on the occasion of his visit to Australia. Mr. Long is married to one of the daughters of the Earl of Cork, and his eldest son was recently wounded whilst serving in South Africa with the Scots Greys.—*Daily Telegraph.*

Mr. Chaplin retires from the Presidency of the Local Government Board with an excellent record of useful work accomplished, and is succeeded in that post by Mr. Walter Long. The duties attached to it were shown by the long struggle with the anti-vaccinationists to be very arduous, but the Minister who, as head of the Board of Agriculture, showed so much strength of purpose in connection with the question of dog-muzzling may be trusted to prove himself fully equal to his new responsibilities.—*Manchester Courier.*

Mr. Walter Long does not get an increase of salary by his change of office, but it is virtual promotion, for his responsibilities will be greater, and if there should be any legislation affecting Old Age Pensions or Poor Law Reform his office will be one of the most important. We believe he will bring to his position firmness of mind and freshness of ideas, and that he will be a successful administrator.—*Western Daily Press.*

THE DAIRY.

The Carriage of Milk by Rail.

At Wednesday's meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, it was stated that the Veterinary Committee had had under their consideration a suggestion made by Mr. L. H. Becher Shand at the last Anniversary General Meeting, which he had subsequently expanded in a letter, with reference to the possibility of milk becoming infected with the germs of tuberculosis during its transit by railway. Mr. Shand had asked whether "germs might not be carried into the milk churns through their ventilators, and that in many cases the germs found on arrival were not in the milk when it left the farm," and had suggested that the Society should undertake an investigation as to whether "milk which was pure when it left the farm did not get contaminated while in transit by rail." The reply which had been agreed to by the Committee, after consultation with the Society's veterinary advisers, was as follows:—

It is obvious that milk (even absolutely pure milk, and milk which has been effectually sterilised) is quite capable of being contaminated with tubercle bacilli or other infective organisms, unless means are adopted to keep it from contact with infective matter which may be conveyed to it at any time by the atmosphere and in other ways. The Society is fully alive to the dangers to the public health which may arise from the prevalent habit of expectoration by possibly consumptive persons on railway platforms, highways, and other public places, and has co-operated with other public bodies in endeavouring to arouse public attention to this matter. The possibility must not, however, be excluded, that sufficient care is not always taken on the farms where milk is produced to secure the most scrupulous cleanliness in the vessels containing the milk and in the returned empty milk churns, as well as in all the surroundings of the milk on the farm, and of the cows themselves.

The Committee are advised that the holes in the cone in the centre of the lid of a milk churn are essential to allow the escape of steam, vapour, or gases of any kind which may be disengaged from the milk during transit; but in the opinion of the Society's scientific advisers, these holes are scarcely worth consideration as a means of the possible contamination of the milk through the agency of the air.

A more likely source of contamination is to be found in the too common practice of sending milk by railway in churns with loose lids. Milk which may be splashed out round the lids during a journey, or whilst the churns are being moved about railway platforms, may wash away the dust and other impurities which accumulate on the surface of the lid, and may carry them back into the bulk of the milk in the churn; and, in this way, it is quite possible that tubercle bacilli might gain access to the milk in the churn through the medium of the dried expectorations of consumptive persons in railway stations, streets, or other public places.

This danger, however, may be guarded against by sending milk by railway in locked or sealed churns, the lids of which are tight. There appears to be still considerable misapprehension amongst farmers as to the willingness of railway companies to accept for transit over their lines milk churns thus locked or sealed, although it is a regular practice by farmers serving some of the leading milk-distributing companies in the Metropolis. The railway companies have undoubtedly favoured the system of sending churns with loose lids, on the ground that examination of the contents by the railway officials was thus facilitated; but the Dairy Committee of this Society, having had their attention drawn to the matter, passed on January 31st, 1899, a Resolution "That the present custom of sending milk in unsealed churns is unsatisfactory, inasmuch as it exposes the farmer to the risk of having his milk tampered with during transit."

Communications were opened with the railway companies, and an assurance was received that at a meeting held at the Railway Clearing House on May 10th, 1899, all the companies had agreed that they would not refuse to accept milk churns "sealed," provided the conditions under which the companies accept such cans were adhered to. These conditions are thus defined in a letter addressed on October 12th, 1899, by the Railway Companies' Association to the Assistant Secretary of the Railway Department of the Board of Trade:—

"Senders have for a long time been allowed to send milk in sealed cans; the companies accept the declaration of the senders as to the quantity conveyed, no extra charge being made; the only condition the companies require to be fulfilled is that the tare weight of the cans shall be stamped upon the outside of the can, so that in case of doubt the quantity of milk within the churn can be approximately ascertained by allowing 10½lb. for each gallon of milk declared. It does not appear to the companies that there is any difficulty in the senders protecting themselves against alleged loss of milk in transit by sealing, padlocking, or otherwise fastening their cans."

With regard to the investigation suggested by Mr. Shand as to whether "milk which was pure when it left the farm did not get contaminated while in transit by rail" (i.e., presumably that milk which has been ascertained before it leaves the farm to be perfectly free from the bacilli of tuberculosis, should be tested for bacilli on its arrival at a railway station in a milk churn, and again on its arrival at its place of destination) the Committee invite attention to the following paragraph in the leaflet on "Tuberculosis in Dairy Stock," issued by the Society in March, 1899:—

"In a small proportion of cases tubercle bacilli may be detected in milk by microscopic examination, and such milk is always highly dangerous. It ought to be clearly understood, however, that failure to detect the bacilli by microscopic examination of milk is not reliable evidence that such milk is free from the germs of tuberculosis."

There are no means, short of inoculation or feeding animals, of deciding that milk is absolutely free from tubercle bacilli, and, as above stated, the failure to detect the organisms by the aid of a microscope does not prove that they are not present.

Whilst, therefore, fully alive to the importance of tuberculosis in its relations to dairy stock (a matter on which their veterinary advisers have for some time been engaged in experiments and inquiries), the Committee cannot, for the reasons above stated, see their way to undertake the particular investigation suggested to them.

Eastern Counties Dairy Institute.

Annual Examination.

At a meeting of the committee of the Institute on Wednesday, at which the Marquis of Bristol presided, reports were received from the examiners. Mr. John Benson, of Buxton, the well-known dairy expert, who examined the students on the 17th and 18th of October in both the theory and practice of butter and cheese making, reported that, on the whole, he considered this examination to have been very satisfactory; the practical work was well performed all round. In practical butter-making, the work of all the candidates, except one, was particularly well done, and he had seldom had the pleasure of examining a smarter class of butter-makers. He recommended that an additional prize should be awarded in this section. In cheese-making also the candidates did very well. Respecting the written answers to the papers given, the candidates entering for both butter and cheese making certificates, on the whole, answered well and intelligently, though the same cannot be said of those entering for butter-making certificates only. A valuable and pleasing feature of this examination was the competition for the best kept notebook. These books were beautifully kept and accurate, and will be of great value as works of reference to the students in after life. He recommended the award of a fourth prize in this class. In conclusion, he expresed himself as being very well satisfied with the work of the various candidates. They had evidently been very well and carefully taught, and reflected credit on those concerned in the management of the school. He recommended that certificates for proficiency in the theory and practice of butter and cheese making should be awarded to the following in order of merit:

Miss Mabel E. Smith, Gippeswyk Hall, Ipswich.
Miss Emma Moore, Pearsenhall
Mr. J. E. Wilkinson, Harpisburgh.
Miss Margaret Cobbald, Eldo House, Rougham.
Miss Amy Moss, March.
Miss Mary C. Foreman, Thorney.
Mr. Joseph E. Smith, Gippeswyk Hall, Ipswich.

And for the practice of butter and cheese-making only—

Mrs. Matilda Stiff, Wetherden

For the theory and practice of butter-making—

Miss Hildred Hepher, Haddenham.

The following only passed in the practice of butter-making:—

Miss Mary Moss, March.
Mr. C. S. Eaton Evans, Ipswich.
Miss Mildred Lee, Wilpde.
Miss Ellen Ambrose, Cavendish.

The committee adopted Mr. Benson's report, considering it very satisfactory. Prizes were kindly offered by Sir Charles Dalrymple, M.P., Captain E. G. Pretyman, M.P., Mr. C. H. Berners, and several residents in Ipswich, and a free studentship was offered by the committee. The latter was awarded to Miss Mabel E. Smith, of Gippeswyk Hall, who obtained in the whole examination 310 marks out of a possible 380. The second prize was awarded to Miss Emma Moore, third to Mr. J. E. Wilkinson, and fourth to Miss Margaret Cobbald. Four prizes for students obtaining highest marks in butter-making were awarded to Miss Cobbald, Miss Smith, Miss Moss, and Miss Moore. Four prizes for best kept notebooks were awarded to Miss Foreman, Miss Emma Moore, Mr. J. E. Smith, and Miss Hepher, the Misses Mann, of Pearsenhall being commended. In the milking competition, Mr. J. E. Smith obtained first prize and Mrs. Stiff second.

Mr. Edward Brown, F.L.S., reported very favourably on the examination of the poultry students, and in accordance with his recommendation it was decided to award certificates to—

Miss Violet Browse, Stokeby-Clare
Miss Margaret Cobbald, Eldo House, Rougham
Miss Emma Clarke, Kenninghall
Miss Amy Moss, March.
Miss Hilda Pilgrim, Kenninghall.
Miss Edith Goldsbrid, Bressenham

who passed in both theory and practice.

Miss Mary Smith, Miss Alice Pepsby, Miss Ada Finch, and Miss Lily French passed in practical work only, and Miss Ada Segars in theory only.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Seed Corn.

The relation of seed used to its progeny is getting better understood because of the facts. Perhaps also a big factor is the increasing knowledge of the facts. Our young men are learning how to rightly understand cause and effect.

If one thing has been established more solidly than another in any careful study of how to grow the best of anything it ought to be that the first and most necessary step is to sow (or use) the best available stock.

Varieties of barley are confused, far too little understood, and frightfully intermixed, so far as men's ability to mix and confuse them is concerned. But Nature, after all, pays slight regard to men's doings. The progeny of mules rarely pay to cultivate. True stocks are needed to beget proper offspring, and the one thing above every other of the many useful lessons taught by the Brewers' Exhibition is the need to use good seed.

Good Seed

must be used to secure a good sample, yet strangely enough at first sight it is curious that the best possible seed does not always secure progeny equal to itself.

A splendid illustration was given this year in the many samples shown grown from last year's champion stock. Other samples, too, were there, the direct progeny of other champions and large prize-winners of former years. Unfortunately, the number was too small to attach much importance to the result. Still, it is significant that out of four samples there were two prize-takers, and the other two stood out prominently as exceedingly fine samples.

In looking through the list only fine stocks came anywhere near to this performance, although serious attention must be given to any variety of which a large number is represented, and the return is a high one. When 9 out of 17 or 7 from 13 stand against 3 in 5 or 2 in 4 there is not much to be said one way or the other, except that

Further Evidence is Necessary.

Thus far the lion's share of the credit for our advance in barley-growing is due to our seedsmen. But for them and their enlightened action the position of barley in Britain to-day would be very different from what we conceive it to be, and what it really is. Unhappily very few people realise what our barley industry truly means. We have not reached the stage when we can be indifferent to the amount of food we grow within our own borders. Beyond this there are benefits derivable from arable tillage over pasture or afforesting which seem sufficiently obvious to be understood by the meanest intelligence without further definition. "God speed the plough!" carries with it not merely the aspiration but the facts:—A well-manned Navy and an invincible Army. Our best soldiers and sailors are bred and raised on our farms. Citizen soldiers are good, but when it comes to real work the big supply of the best men comes from the land. The influence of barley on this supply is not so far-fetched as might appear to be the case to the unthinking. Had barley grown to be

Utterly Unprofitable

a much greater shrinkage of land under arable cultivation would have undoubtedly taken place. What this means is sufficiently shown by the condition of some parts of Essex.

Improvement in barley means (or should do) some benefit to the farmer, and in the near future we may hope to see more steady and rapid improvement than we yet know. The experiments carried out next year with the best seed corn sent this session to the Brewers' Show, through the kind and enlightened action of the Board of Agriculture, should be productive of much good.

As it stands, the following list of the varieties of seed entered, and the results secured, is a permanent testimony to the good done to this national industry prior to more directly official sanction being given.

Table V.

SEED SOWN.

Name.	No. of samples shown.	No. of prize winners.*	Percentage of prize winners.
Webb's Kinver Chevalier	50	21	42.0
Carter's Prolific & Goldthorpe	17	9	53.0
Chevalier	13	7	54.0
Webb's New Burton	10	2	20.0
Halletts	8	3	37.5
Jarman's Golden Chevalier	7	2	28.5
Garton's Standwell	7	2	28.5
Webb's Golden Grain	5	3	60.0
King's Improved	5	1	20.0
Unknown	5	2	40.0
Wrinch's Premier	5	2	40.0
Saale	4	1	25.0
Former prize winners	4	2	50.0
Archer's	4	1	25.0
Garton's Invincible	3	2	66.5
Bradfield's Chevalier	1	—	—
Gent's Premier	1	—	—
Vosper's Perfection	1	—	—
Scotch	1	—	—
	151	60	39·7

* The number of prize winners to prizes gained is as 60 to 125.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

A mishap prevented the publication of my notes last week, therefore my present report covers a fortnight, during which period a steady trade has been passing, although the extreme activity immediately preceding has hardly been maintained. Some important lots have been sold, but the general business is quieter, and any pressure on the part of sellers would probably be met by lower offers from the merchants. Fortunately, there does not appear any disposition to force sales, therefore the market still manifests a condition of healthy strength that should encourage growers to be solid in their protective position, which has generally marked their action during the present season. The bulk of the crop has by this time doubtless been transferred into the hands of merchants or consumers, though hitherto the operations of the latter have been somewhat limited, as they appear to be unwilling to yield to the force of the special circumstances created by the general shortage of this year's growth. There are, however, signs that they are beginning to appreciate the folly of further resistance, and movements are evident, and may soon be developed, which will produce important changes in current values, and will enable holders to secure much better prices than are now current.

The Course of Trade

during this season seems to suggest considerations which may affect the future of our industry in some degree. I think I can discern more clearly than before a tendency to buy hops rather for their intrinsic or brewing value as ascertained by analysis, or other exact examination, than for the past reputation of their place of origin. This means that brewers are being educated, and are thereby gaining a clearer insight into their requirements, and are seeking to ascertain for themselves, and without prejudice, whether they are buying such hops as are best likely to suit them. Should this tendency enlarge, as I think it will, it must work a practical revolution in the trade, the effects being first felt by growers, whose names might not in all cases then possess *per se* the recommendatory value which is now frequently attached to them.

The more or less elaborate printing which now adorns the surface of the pockets is a relic of the days when duty was levied upon English-grown as well as foreign hops, but with the abolition of the duty it is obvious that the retention of the obligation to mark the pockets with the name and parish of the grower has not so much *raison d'être*. Hops should be sold and bought solely on their merits, and each grower would then know that the price he obtained depended upon the actual quality of his sample, and that an imaginary line existing between two counties, or, as is sometimes the case, between two portions of the same farm, would no longer determine the comparative value of the produce. Home competition for the highest standard would necessarily result in an all-round advance of quality, and while on the one hand the brewing value of our hops would be improved, it would cause on the other the searching out of more effective and less costly methods of cultivation and curing, whereby the question of the lower price of the produce of other countries could be faced and dealt with. Such freedom of culture would assist the English hop farmers in their present struggle, and eventually promote the prosperity of one special branch of agriculture.

But perhaps this particular season is hardly one in which I should suggest reforms or even changes in the system on which our cultivation and our trade have hitherto been conducted. Most of us are optimists now the commercial horizon is fairly bright, and if we are not entirely satisfied with the present, we can at least look forward to the future with confidence. But, after all, we are not quite happy, and growers who are discontented with the prices now obtainable are a little disturbed in their minds when

Trade is Reported Quieter.

It is perfectly true that the point to which values have attained is short of the expectation which the shortage of the crop justified. For choice East Kents we cannot call the market value higher than £7, although I am aware that a few shillings more have been made for exceptional lots. Proportionately the currency for so-called lower grades is more satisfactory, as the demand with which the season opened was concentrated on low-priced parcels, and the continuance of inquiry in the same direction has pushed forward the value of such hops somewhat inordinately. It is only lately that attention has been given to the higher graded growths, and it is now their turn to advance, and assume the position to which their reputation seems to entitle them.

I note that one of our leading merchant firms, commenting upon the official returns of the 1900 crop, quotes

An Array of Figures

which show that the barrelage of English beer on which duty has been paid has increased in the past ten years by 5,167,413 barrels, and that the annual consumption of hops at 2lbs. per barrel cannot now be less than 700,000 cwt. The present crop being the shortest for ten years, and bearing in mind that foreign crops are smaller than last year, when imports were not up to the average, our receipts from other countries are not likely to be very large this season. It therefore "seems probable that the 1900 English crop and all available supplies from abroad will be about three-quarters of a year's consumption." It is consequently estimated that there is a deficiency on the year of over 150,000 cwt., which can only be met by stocks in the hands of brewers.

Imports and Exports.

Our imports for October were as follows:

	1900. Cwts.		1899. Cwts.
U.S. America	4,713	.....	5,408
Other countries	10,796	.....	18,348
Total	15,509	.....	23,756

By including the September imports with these figures I find that the total imports since the commencement of the hop year are 20,698 cwt., being 8,465 cwt. less than those in the first two hop year months of 1899.

Our exports of hops in October were 2,451 cwt. as against 2,747 cwt. in 1899. As usual, English hops largely predominate, being quite five-sixths of the whole. The total exports for two months were 3,787 cwt. this year, and 3,865 cwt. in 1899.

In this connection, it is interesting to glance at the exports of beer, which materially affect the consumption of our produce. A substantial increase appears in the shipments for September and October, 1900 (85,541 barrels), over those of the corresponding months of last year (76,734 barrels). The consumption of British beer in our colonies is increasing, and in other foreign countries it is either stationary or falling off.

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society.*

To Hop Growers.—Users of WIRE WORK should buy the Best English Galvanised Steel Hop Strand, made by Richards Bros., Ltd., Warrington, Lancs. For prices, &c., apply to their London office, 86, Leadenhall-street, E.C.; or their Sole Agent for Kent and Sussex, Mr. Edward Ede, 3, Newstead-road, Lee, S.E.—[ADVT.]

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

Although the trade is reported as being generally quieter, a steady business is passing, and about 4,000 bales have been disposed of in the week. Quotations have not undergone any change, as holders are not pressing sales, and the natural current of affairs is quite strong enough to maintain the recent position. There are those who predict that this condition will shortly cause a relapse in values, but I cannot trace any good reason why this should result. The export demand for the Continent and England is fairly active, and is not likely to diminish, and there is no doubt that local brewers must come forward as buyers, if not immediately, in the early part of next year, by which time their present stocks will be seriously reduced. In my opinion the tendency is rather in favour of further advances, and though we may possibly see a continuance of moderate business up to Christmas, there will be quite sufficient to uphold the market, and it is on the cards that an improved demand with higher rates may be experienced earlier than appears probable at the moment. In a few weeks the lowness of available stocks must become evident, while every week it is more difficult to find choice parcels. The outlook is, therefore, distinctly favourable to increased strength, and holders have no occasion to be nervous about it.

Present Quotations

may be taken approximately as follows: Marktwaare, 85s. to 90s.; Hollerdaus, sealed, 110s. to 120s., not sealed, 100s. to 110s.; Wurtembergs, 105s. to 115s.; Badens, 105s. to 115s.; sealed Spalts, 110s. to 125s.; Alsatians, 95s. to 105s., the figures given being the first cost values of the best qualities, lower grades in proportion thereto.

Burgundy.

The trade remains steady at recent quotations, and though the volume of business is small by reason of the diminution of supplies, the hops on hand are firmly held at 105 to 120 francs according to quality.

Munich.

The great breweries are not at present active buyers, and stocks of hops are rather on the increase in this market, but holders are full of confidence that their opportunity will not be long delayed; therefore they are very firm in maintaining their quotations.

Belgium.

The excitement of the past three weeks has somewhat subsided, but prices still remain at the same advanced level as when previously reported. Business continues to be done steadily in Alost eight marks at 100 francs, first cost in the country markets. Under similar conditions, Poperinghes are also selling at the same rates, and in some cases at a little more. There are not many hops now left in the hands of planters, it being estimated that not more than 15 per cent. are under their control.

America.

The news from the other side of the Atlantic is very encouraging to the trade. Business is getting to be fairly active at New York, dealers are very solid in their ideas of value, and brewers are beginning to yield to the force of circumstances which they can no longer control or resist. The strength of the market is well supported by the attitude of planters both in New York State and on the Pacific Coast. These are very firm in their demands, and will not give way to lower bids than 17 to 19 cents. The expectation of 20 cents has not yet been realised, but the present aspect of affairs warrants the prediction that it will shortly be heard of. In the meantime, the holdings in first hands are being largely diminished. It is stated that not more than about 15,000 bales are unsold on the Pacific side, and very few remain in New York State, quite 75 per cent. having been transferred to dealers. The control of the market, therefore, rests with them, and as they are working for exceptional profit in an exceptional season, they are not at all likely to allow the opportunity to slip. We may therefore expect to hear that quotations have advanced very soon.

Altogether there is no sign in the general position of any of the foreign hop markets of any weakness, strength being the prevailing feature, with a tendency to a continuance of firmness, and considerable probabilty of increased value as the season progresses.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 623, 625.)

Chester Cattle Fair.—At this fair on Thursday there was a plentiful supply of store and dairy cattle and a fair attendance of buyers. Milking stock sold fairly well, but for feeding cattle trade dragged considerably, owing principally to the high prices asked for suitable lots. Before the close of the market, however, a fair proportion changed hands, and the previous week's quotations seemed to be fairly well maintained. The prices were: Milch cows, £15 to £21; calvers, £13 to £19; barrens, £9 to £12; heifers, £8 to £15; bullocks, £10 to £12; and stirks, £5 to £8. There was a much smaller show of sheep, and trade was only nominal.

THE GARDEN.

Still it rains, and rains, and rains. Day after day the downpour continues, and though it clears up for a few hours occasionally, and the sun shines bright and warm, it soon clouds over, and down comes the rain again. The land is in such a sodden condition as to render it almost impossible to get on it at all; consequently outdoor work is practically at a standstill, both on the garden and farm, for the present.

Owing to the continued mildness of the weather cauliflowers still keep on growing and turning in, though unless protected in some way the constant rains injure the hearts almost as badly as sharp frost would do. Breaking down a few leaves over each head throws off a lot of the wet, certainly, but a better plan is to gather several of the larger leaves together and tie them towards the points, over the heart. This keeps it comparatively dry, and ensures its whiteness also, though where this is done it is rather difficult to tell exactly when each heart becomes fit for cutting. On the whole the best plan to secure a supply of this delicious vegetable for the next few weeks is to plant a number of the best examples, just beginning to "turn in," in a deep pit or roomy frame, where they can be covered with glazed sashes or the like, and yet receive plenty of air in mild weather. Failing glass, the new transparent waterproof paper forms a capital substitute, and is very useful for this and similar purposes. In this way cauliflowers may often be had right up to Christmas.

But already the earlier kinds of broccoli are becoming ready for use, so that any failure in the supply of cauliflowers is not a matter of so much consequence. For use during the autumn and up to Christmas, or thereabouts, the best broccoli are Veitch's Self Protecting and the Autumn Protecting (Sutton's). These will be followed by Snow's Winter White and the Penzance. Dancer's Pink Cape is another excellent autumn broccoli, but its colour renders it unpopular. If not already done, lose no time in putting all broccoli plants over with their heads to the north, in the manner described in a previous article.

A batch of French beans sown now in a warm house will begin bearing early in the New Year. At this season these beans succeed best in 6in. or 7in. pots, three or four plants in each; suitable varieties are Ne Plus Ultra and Osborn's Forcing.

Proceed with the planting of hardy fruit trees and bushes of all kinds as fast as possible before the cold weather sets in.

The Myrobalan, Myrobella, or cherry plum, is now well known as a hedge, or fence, plant, for which purpose it is admirably adapted. It is only occasionally that the fruit is seen on the plants in this country, but this is chiefly owing to the growth being restricted by clipping, etc. Where a plant here and there is allowed to make a vigorous and unrestricted growth for a few years fruit will usually be freely produced, especially in a fairly warm and sheltered situation.

This (the fruit) bears a great resemblance to that of a large heart cherry, and is produced on long stalks, usually in small clusters. It possesses a pleasant flavour, and is very useful for tarts, preserving, etc.

In addition to the French kinds of the Mirabelle plum, which include a yellow as well as the red variety, and one with purple foliage, several new varieties have been recently introduced from Japan. Among these may be mentioned the Satsuma (type); Masu, a fine, round fruit, of rich flavour; Botan, dark red, free and good; Pres. de Croncelles, large; and Burbank, with large fruit. These are all worth a trial, being very ornamental while in flower as well as in fruit.

On very heavy or damp soils such things as raspberries and black currants are much more likely to thrive than either gooseberries or the red or white currants, which prefer a lighter and drier staple. On land of this description such apples as the good old Blenheim Orange (though this is a somewhat "slow" variety, usually taking several years before bearing at all freely), the Forge (a well-known and excellent Sussex apple), Peasgood's Nonsuch, Lord Grosvenor, Stirling Castle, Echlinville, Northern Greening, and the fine old Winter Queening (or Duck's Bill), with Wellington, will also succeed better than most others. Plums of many kinds may also be grown well on heavy and cold soils, and some of the hardier pears also—on the quince stock, of course.

Cuttings of the shrubby calceolarias (yellow brown, etc.) may still be inserted in a cold frame or pit; it is a great mistake to get these to work too early, as they get too large by bedding out time. Cuttings of pentstemons got in now will also root freely, either in a cool frame or pit, in a greenhouse (cool), or even under a hand-light. This is a charming class of plants, and deserves more attention than it usually receives.

Finish planting hardy bulbs of all descriptions as soon as possible. It is by no means necessary to put nothing but such bulbs in a bed, which implies a bare appearance throughout the winter. A judicious use of small evergreen shrubs, with or without berries, wallflowers, and some of the hardy, spring-flowering subjects affords a charming effect, and obviates the barren appearance. In a warm greenhouse bouvardias are now in full bloom, and afford plenty of flowers for cutting.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Devon.

The land has been well soaked since October 25th, and breaks up well for wheat tilling, which is rather backward. Owing to the drought, the land could not be ploughed, and farmers went on with taking up their mangold earlier than usual. It is a very good crop generally, the next best crop being swedes, and the poorest common turnips, which were a comparative failure. Potatoes were a very good crop, and were taken up in dry condition. The grass lands were entirely burnt up during the latter part of the summer, and water supplies got very low; fortunately there has been a good rainfall lately, which has altered the appearance of the country. Apples are plentiful, and a large quantity of cider will be made in some districts. Stock is fairly healthy, and is doing well; sheep have been short of food, and lambs have had a bad season with the "husk"; there have been some heavy losses on some farms. Prices of corn are low, except for malting barley; yield of wheat not quite as good as was anticipated.—L. B. G. (November 8th).

Devonshire.

Have had a good deal of rain the last few weeks. Wheat sowing is getting backward, not much having been done. A good crop of mangolds has been got off in many places, and some are not yet finished, having been stopped by wet this week. There is grass left yet in many places, and stock all out of doors yet. Sheep folded on arable land have been forced to be taken off this week.—D. R. S. (November 9th).

Dorset.

We are experiencing unusually mild weather. Rain has certainly come upon us, and as far as cultivating goes may be sufficient, but unless we get five times as much there is no likelihood of any spring breaking, and the water question in this respect is a serious one for all. We have had considerable growth in pastures, as well as roots, and the look of the country generally is, from a glance, all one could wish; but the growth at this time of year is not of much value of itself. Cattle of best sorts, and milch cattle particularly, are keeping up in value (the outcome of a dry summer, when the dairy cows dry off). The beef trade I have noticed, as stated, to be improved, and also the mutton, but I fear sellers have not found this the case or literally true. Pigs and calves have sold fairly well, but not excessively high. Prices of corn, both barley and wheat, are much against the growing of it, and the yield is spoken of generally as being a bad one.—G. S. (November 7th).

East Ulster.

The weather has been remarkably wet, so that hope is almost drowned out of the farm prospects. I have seen considerable quantities of hay, within this month, still in small cocks in the meadows, surrounded by floods of water.

Cereals

When the oats were growing they looked well, and farmers generally were full of hope in reference to the corn harvest, but the reaping time passed, and still there appeared a satisfactory crop—plenty of straw, but in the barn a small bulk of seed, and the weight per bushel disappointing.

Potatoes.

The general report of the potato crop is a cry of failure, yet a few farmers have excellent crops. One told me he had sold ten tons per acre off a considerable number of acres, leaving small potatoes and refuse, showing the very large yield of about thirteen tons per acre. This is the result of good farming in suitable soil. The potatoes were planted early with good seed, well manured, properly cultivated, and sprayed well in good time. Besides, the land is thoroughly drained. On the other hand, large tracts of potatoes are yet in the fields undug, and the weather makes it impossible to gather in the crop.

Roots.

Swedes and other turnips are a good crop, but they are still in the fields and scarcely any of them yet carted home. Generally turnips in the North of Ireland may remain in the fields, and be brought in as required for use. It would be much wiser, however, to store them, as a severe, long-standing frost would cause heavy loss. Farmers complain of the want of labourers, and have therefore to risk the frost.

Fruit.

All kinds of fruit have been abundant this year, but the prices very low. Apples have been sold for one shilling per hundredweight, consequently many have been allowed to rot.

Flax, etc.

Farmers who have grown flax give a satisfactory report of it: the yield is good and prices so far good. Grass seeds have paid well. There was difficulty in saving the seed, but when got to the market in good condition, the prices were satisfactory. Very little winter ploughing yet attempted; ground soaked with wet.—E. U. (November 9th).

Glamorganshire.

The heavy rains of the last few days have been beneficial, and have enabled the ploughing of the leys to be continued under better conditions, and combined with the mild weather of the last two or three weeks has stimulated the growth of grass and roots much to the satisfaction of stockowners. A considerable quantity of wheat was drilled during the month of October, and much remains to be sown this month, but the sale price of wheat is so discouraging that growers feel indifferent whether it is sown or not. Mangolds have been cut and tumped nearly everywhere, and although swedes are likewise a satisfactory crop, it is a temptation to leave them growing during this mild weather. The lifting of potatoes has nearly concluded, and the suspected

Disease becomes more Apparent,

and the weight per acre is much below average in places. The threshings of grain so far have been disappointing in the yield, and more especially in the case of wheat. The young grass and clover seeds are looking well and promising.—C. S. (Nov. 9th).

Gloucestershire.

We are just having a most seasonable and much-needed downpour, as water is everywhere very scarce. The wheat about here is looking much better than the last season or two. Thrashing is very disappointing, particularly in barley. Oats are not a good quality, and the yield of wheat, I fear, will be bad. The root crop is good, however, and will be something better than last year. Stock have done fairly well, but taking farming all round, I am sorry to say I do not see any chance of profit again this year.—J. D. (November 9th).

Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

The season now drawing to a close has been pretty satisfactory on the whole. The last crop of season fruit now being gathered is plentiful, but small, therefore not worth much to market. The mangolds are now being stored, and are above the average; swedes and common turnips are generally a fine crop, and the sheep are now in the hurdles consuming them where the land will do for this, and the cattle that are to come out at Christmas or for winter feeding are being put in te stalls. They have not been doing much good the last month. Beef and mutton are not selling so well; probably the markets will harden now, generally is little flat for a month or six weeks after Michaelmas, though fresh bullocks have been selling satisfactorily to the breeders. Some Hereford yearlings have made up to £15 each, therefore beef must keep its price if these are to pay the feeder, though the best are often the cheapest, perhaps. Draft ewes made from 45s. to 50s., and lambs 35s. each, therefore the breeder will finish up, I think, better than the feeder, probably. There are

Very few Hops Left

in the hands of the growers in this part. What few did keep them are making a pound per cwt. more money than a month ago; some sold then at £3, now worth £5. Very little wheat grown; in fact, I have seen very few fields planted. This seems to have gone quite out of date in this part. The clover roots are left down two or three years, and then used for oats instead of wheat.—W. H. (Nov. 10th).

North-East Durham.

In the latter end of October this district was visited with one of the worst rain storms ever experienced in this part of the country. Close on 3½ inches of rain fell in 15 hours, and as it has rained more or less every day since, farming operations have been almost brought to a standstill. October throughout was a wet month; 6 feet less than the usual breadth of wheat has been put in. The taking up of the potato crop has been greatly interfered with. Sheep have, as usual in wet weather, done badly, and they are not now yielding such a good price as they were a short time ago. Fat cattle are scarce, and are likely to maintain their price. Grain of all kinds is low in price. Altogether the present prospects of the agriculturist in this district are not very bright.—R. B. (November 8th.)

Pembroke.

Violent storms of wind and rain. Store stock of all kinds are in good demand at fair prices. Potatoes are proving disappointing crop, the tubers being generally small. W. G. (November 8th).

Worcestershire.

After a fine and prosperous season we in the Pershore district have had one of the finest autumns ever known. Keep has been plentiful, and the grass is growing even to date. To show the mildness of the season I may say that I this morning cut a basket of mushrooms of fine and excellent quality, growing in the open on the slope of Bredon Hill. Mangolds have done well, and many growers have kept them in the ground longer than usual on account of the mild time. Swedes are also a good crop, the late-sown being quite equal to those planted earlier.

Feeding Prospects

for the coming winter are satisfactory. Store cattle and sheep are selling well, and are looking healthy and in good condition. The sowing of wheat and beans has been retarded for the past two or three weeks on account of rain, but a week's fine weather would put all things right again. The yield of last summer's crops are good, but the price of both wheat and barley is very low, and all feeding stuffs that the farmer has to buy are very dear. What is wanted is better prices, and less foreign competition. F. W. K. (Nov. 9th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—Agricultural work being well advanced, farmers' attendance at market has increased, without, however, leading to much improvement in business, as millers are not prepared to pay the full terms asked for wheat, as the sale of flour is exasperatingly slow.

HOLLAND.—The weather lately has been fine, with night frosts in some places.

GERMANY.—Fine weather has permitted the steady movement of native grain, not too abundant, but still sufficient to meet requirements in Berlin, Hamburg, and other centres. A fair quantity of German wheat has been shipped to East Coast English ports. Our millers are pleased with the quality and moderate price.

HUNGARY.—Present meteorological conditions are propitious for the recently-sown fields and the prosecution of agricultural work.

ROUMANIA.—The early-sown wheat looks well, but it is not in a very forward condition. Farmers are still sowing the remainder of their wheatfields and busy ingathering maize, which is an abundant crop.

RUSSIA.—Weather recently has favoured the early-sown crops and encouraged the prosecution of the remainder of the seeding. Trade both in the interior and at the seaboard continues quiet. The preliminary returns issued by the Ministry of Agriculture indicate the total wheat yield as 40,479,000 quarters, and rye 96,892,000 quarters, in comparison with 49,063,000 quarters and 102,398,000 quarters respectively in previous year. This season's figures are open to correction and cannot be accepted as definite.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says the week has been favourable for the wheat crop and for the handling of products generally. There is no new element of an unfavourable character, and the marketings of grain are moderate.—*Dornbusch.*

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (November 5th).—The weather continued thoroughly unsettled, and rain fell again over a large part of the country. A mild south-westerly wind was blowing, and the sky was for the most part densely overcast. The night temperatures were again high, and the thermometer at our western and southern stations in the morning was several degrees higher than on the preceding day. The weather was dull and gloomy in London, and rain fell at frequent intervals. The lowest temperature in the metropolis during Sunday night was forty-nine degrees, which is nine degrees above the average, and during the day the reading was fifty-seven degrees, which is four degrees warmer than usual.

TUESDAY (November 6th).—Unsettled weather continued to prevail over our islands, and rain again fell in many places. Rain was measured everywhere in the morning, as the result of the fall since the previous day, and the amounts were large at the western stations. Monday night was generally warm, and at most places in the south and west the temperature did not fall below 50deg. The barometer continued to fall in the eastern districts, but a rise had set in at our western stations, where the wind had become northerly, and the air was somewhat cooler. The day was dull in London, and the temperature rose to 57deg.

WEDNESDAY (November 7th).—Varying amounts of rain were measured in the morning in different parts of the kingdom. The weather was still generally rainy and unsettled, and even where the barometer was rising, and the wind had become north-westerly, the sky for the most part remained densely overcast. Strong westerly winds and gales were blowing on our west and south coasts, and the sea was generally rough. Rain fell heavily in London during Tuesday night, and the weather during the day was again very dull and cloudy, while the temperature, which was lower than of late, was in fair agreement with the average, the thermometer registering 52deg.

THURSDAY (November 8th).—There was a considerable improvement in the weather over England, and the sun shone brightly in many places for several hours. Rain, however, fell again in the northern and western portions of the kingdom, and a gale, accompanied by a rough sea, was reported on our north-west coasts. Wednesday night was cold in many parts of the country, but there was a fairly brisk rise of temperature during the day. Rain fell in London during the greater part of Wednesday night, but the day was very fine, and the thermometer in the shade rose to fifty-five degrees.

FRIDAY (November 9th).—The weather was fine in many parts of England, but the conditions were far from settled, and rain fell in Scotland and Ireland. Rain was measured in the morning [illegible] of the fall since the previous day, over [illegible] kingdom, and the amounts were large in the North. The temperature changes were very [illegible] the thermometer in the morning being lower than [illegible] day in the Northern and Western [illegible] but the readings were several degrees higher in the South and East. Westerly winds were blowing over the whole country, and there were gales on [illegible] exposed places on our North West coasts. The day was mostly fine in London, and the thermometer registered fifty-seven degrees.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (November 10th and 11th).—Fine weather prevailed in most parts of England on both days, but the conditions remained unsettled and rainy in Scotland and Ireland. Very heavy rain fell at Jersey during Saturday night, the amount measured in a few hours exceeding an inch. Thunder and lightning occurred at Stornoway. The weather had become very much colder than of late in nearly all parts of the kingdom, and, with the north-west winds and rising barometer, the sky had cleared over England. There was rather a sharp frost in the south-eastern districts and in the Midland counties during Saturday night, the thermometer in the screen falling several degrees below the freezing point. In London the ground was thickly coated with hoar frost on Sunday morning, and the thermometer on the grass registered 10deg. below the freezing point, while in the screen the first frost of this winter occurred.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

Successful Claim Against a Railway Company.

The Pontefract West Riding magistrates (Mr. W. F. Tempest presiding), on the 3rd inst., heard a claim brought by Mr. Abraham McCloy, farmer, South Elmsall, against the Hull and Barnsley Railway Company for compensation for land taken from him in the course of their recent extension, and loss of tenant right, crops, etc. Mr. Shepherd appeared for the claimant, and Mr. Blundell for the company.

Mr. Shepherd explained that the company had cut through the best portion of the client's farm. One field was separated with practically no access, while to reach two others he had to make a long detour, materially increasing the expenses of his farming operations. Mr. J. W. Bentley, auctioneer and valuer, estimated the damage done, extra cost of farming, etc., at £67 17s. 9d. Mr. Dawson, valuer, Doncaster, assessed the compensation due at £73 18s. 9d. Both these witnesses declared that loss of crops could not be included in tenant right.

Mr. Blundell, for the company, said the real point in issue was whether loss of crops was or was not included in the term tenant right, and he put in a letter from the claimant agreeing to accept £17 10s. for tenant right, etc. He contended that loss of crops was included in that amount. Mr. R. H. Thorpe, land agent, Hull, said he had made a survey of the land, and he fixed the amount of compensation due at £33 19s. 3d.

The Chairman said the Bench was bound by the custom in the West Riding district, and there it was not to include loss of crops in tenant right. The Bench awarded claimant £59, including £6 15s. costs, and £2 damage to the shooting.

Leaving Hedge Trimmings on the Highway.

At the Grantham County Court on Tuesday, Judge W. W. Wood delivered judgment in a case of importance to farmers. Sophia Henson, farmer, of Gelston, claimed £7 from Jos. Toulson, a farmer, for the loss of a heifer, which died from the effects of eating yew leaves which the defendant, after cutting a yew hedge, allowed to remain on the road side.

His Honour held that the case did not depend upon negligence, believing that neither plaintiff's daughter, who was in charge of the beast, nor the defendant were aware of the danger of yew to cattle, but that it depended upon the fact of the deposit of yew trimmings being a nuisance. There was no doubt that to put anything on the highway that was a danger to persons, cattle, or other animals lawfully using the highway was a public nuisance, and it was quite immaterial whether the person who put it there knew or did not know that it was dangerous. The defendant had no right to use the highway at all for his private purposes, he had no right to put trimmings on the highway. He had no doubt it was a nuisance, and as plaintiff had suffered from that nuisance her action was maintainable, and he gave judgment for £7.

Messrs. Donaldson and Co. report that the supply of red clover and of cowgrass this year has [illegible] decidedly below the average. Alsyke and [illegible] also are expected to rise in value. We believe that there will be like [illegible] with respect to [illegible] minor crops as meadow fescue and [illegible] grasses.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: We continue to make a few sales of new; old neglected. Barley: Grinding unchanged; malting firm. Wheat dull. Oats rather dearer on the week. Maize steady. Flour about 3d per sack cheaper.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance of buyers was very limited throughout the day. Although the demand for home-grown wheat is still scanty both here and on the country exchanges, farmers are resolute, and quotations are much the same; but what little takes place goes mainly as before to the latter, in view of more lucrative offers. Samples of heavy weight engross most attention. Fine white 32s, and red 31s 64lb. delivered up. Foreign unaltered. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting, quotations remaining at the recent decline established. Grinding barley steady. Maize maintained. American mixed, 23s ex quay, and ex ship just due, held for 21s. Round corn, Odessa, 26s 3d ex quay. The market for beans and peas was again featureless.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Home-grown wheat is in anything but large supply, and farmers are satisfied at the present ruling rates; more, however, at the country markets than London. Fine white 32s, and red of similar sample 31s per qr 64lb, delivered. Foreign descriptions nominal. Consumers of flour still buy only in retail quantities, and granaries are well supplied. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Grinding barley remains very steady, and anything but plentiful. Oats unaltered. Maize maintained, being scarce. American mixed, 23s ex quay, and ex ship, just due, held for 21s. Odessa 26s 3d ex quay. The market for beans and peas was again devoid of incident.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat quiet and cheaper on the week, nothing being sold at more than 30s a quarter. Whites and reds were practically at the same figure. Maize was firm, and flat varieties now cost country buyers over 24s per quarter, while round sorts ran from 27s to 28s. Malting barley met with little demand, and 33s was quite the top price. Other corn unchanged.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Excellent attendance and good quantity of grain on offer. Trade dull, at last week's prices.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (white) (old), 29s to 31s per qr; wheat (red) (new), 26s to 28s 6d per qr; beans (new), 28s to 30s per qr; beans (old), 33s to 34s per qr; oats (new), 16s to 18s per qr; oats (old) (black), 21s to 22s per qr. Wheat and other grain at about last week's quotations, but demand rather better.

Boston, Wednesday.—There was a small supply of wheat, which made 26s to 26s 6d per qr. Barley was sparingly shown, and sellers held firmly for late rates. Oats 17s to 17s 6d. Beans, peas, and other articles remained as last week, trade being slow.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Best red wheat made from 28s to 29s 6d per qr. Barley was offered in large quantities; the better qualities maintained previous prices, but the lower qualities slightly declined.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week, although trade has not been brisk, farmers have succeeded in making last week's prices, the supplies being small. At this market to-day there was a limited supply of wheat, which met with a dull trade, but dry parcels realised quite as much money. Wheat, red, 28s to 31s; and white up to 31s per 504lb. Barley quite as dear. Beans 6d dearer.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat a trifle firmer. Best barleys steady. Oats maintain values. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 30s to 32s 6d; red ditto, 29s to 32s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding, ditto, 21s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; ditto black, 15s to 20s; peas, 29s to 31s; tick beans, 30s to 32s; mazagans, 27s to 29s; flat maize, 22s to 24s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per qr; winter tares, 6s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats to-day, brisk demand at fully 6d qr advance. New, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; old, 23s 6d to 26s. No wheats or barley sold.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday. — There was a small attendance. English wheat showed no alteration in value, and good samples were rare. There was a fair demand for English oats, old samples being scarcer. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s to 4s 2d per 75lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s6d per 64lb; beans, new, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; old, 5s 6d per 80lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 5d; old, 3s 2d to 3s 7d per 46lb; Indian corn, 11s to 11s 6d per 240lb

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat, very small supply, prices about 6d per qr better than last week. Fair supply of barley, prices fully as good as last week.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Good attendance at the Corn Exchange, but owing to the damp weather samples did not come to hand in such good condition, and buyers were holding back. Prices all round were in buyers' favour.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour firm, but quiet. Indian corn scarce on spot, and held for 4½d per boll advance on the week. Grinding beans steady. Canadian pease quiet at the turn easier. Foreign oats quiet; home quiet, but steady. Oatmeal dull. Barley quiet. Bran and thirds quiet, and unchanged—GIBSON AND CLARK,

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour firm, but quiet. Indian corn scarce on the spot and held for 4½d per boll advance on the week. Grinding beans steady. Canadian peas quiet, and the turn easier. Foreign oats quiet; home quiet, but steady. Barley quiet. Oatmeal dull.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance. English wheats slow, trade at drooping prices. English barleys quite a drug; business being passable only at very low prices. Oats quietly steady. Beans in rather better demand. No change in maize or vetches. Wholesale prices: Wheat, white, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; red, 3s 3d to 3s 5d; barley, 2s 9d to 3s 9d; oats, 2s to 3s; maize, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; vetches, winter, 4s to 6s, and spring, 3s 6d to 5s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat in fair supply; trade steady at last week's rates. Red, 28s to 29s 6d; white, 30s 6d. Good supply of barley. Fine samples in request at fully late rates. Oats quiet. Maize firm and the shade dearer. Beans and peas steady.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Lighter shipments. The decreased quantity on passage and steadier American advices all tend to impart greater firmness to the wheat trade. Millers show rather more disposition to operate, all the more because imports to meet spot values are impossible, and on the business doing to-day last week's rates are generally exceeded by 3d to 6d per qr. Barley favours buyers, except for finest qualities. Feeding stuffs unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—With a lowering tendency in American wheats, the advanced prices of Tuesday are barely maintained, with a slow demand. Maize is the turn easier. Barley, beans, peas, oats, and flour met with little inquiry, an l prices remain unchanged.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good average attendance of buyers and dealers, fair supplies of home-grown wheats in variable condition. Fine samples steady. Inferior dull trade. Prices, 27s to 31s per 36 st nes. Barley quiet trade. Oats firm.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair supply of English wheat, with a steady trade at about last week's prices. Reds, 27s to 28s; whites, 28s to 29s. Foreign wheats dull. Good show of barley, and trade slow; prices, 26s to 32s. Oats, beans, peas, and maize all as last week.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat firm with a fair business at Tuesday's full prices. Flour steady with a small consumptive demand at late rates for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum prices of bakers'. Maize has a fair trade, and is steadily held at ¼d below last Tuesday. European almost exhausted and firmly held at quotations, Plate also getting into smaller compass with a fair trade at quotations. Barley dull and neglected for malting, at 3d to 5s lower. Feeding also has a slow trade at unchanged prices. Beans are dull and lower with little or nothing doing, foreign sorts showing a decline of 3d to 9d from Tuesday. Peas quiet at ¼d per cental decline. Oats firm but quiet at quotations for English. Foreign sorts have a moderate trade with less offering at unchanged prices. Oatmeal only a moderate inquiry, prices being unchanged from last market day. Oilcake firm with a fairly good demand at about late rates.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday. — We had a very uninteresting market to-day, the weather so remarkably mild and damp producing anything but cheerfulness; the wheat trade, however, about "held its own," and prices of last week must be recorded as our report. Barley of best quality moves off fairly well at previous value. Oats display no change. Maize for best known and flat slightly dearer. Beans and peas are scarce, and bring rather higher figure than of late. Winter tares have receded to 5s per bushel, much to the disgust of holders of them. There is no alteration to quote in rye, brank, hemp, sergo, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat is steady, with a quiet trade passing, prices occasionally raised 3d per quarter; foreign say 1d per cental dearer, but the tendency to-day is rather easier. Flour remains slow of sale at unaltered rates. Indian corn moves quietly at previous rates. No change of moment is noticeable in oats, peas, beans, or barley, as compared with last Thursday.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a firm trade, at full prices. Barley: Some enquiry for best qualities; inferior samples very unsaleable. Oats and beans a firm trade at previous prices.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat firmly held; American maize 6d per quarter lower to sell on the week. Barley neglected, 1s per quarter lower. Oats quiet at late rates. Beans and peas favouring buyers. Flour no change.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Market moderately attended, and trade limited. Wheat closed unsteady, sellers and buyers being apart. Flour very slow, and inclined to consumers. Malting barley disappointing generally. Oats and other feeding stuffs in favour of purchasers. Weather more clear.—GEO. W. WATSON AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat firm and dearer on the week. Maize dearer. Barley firm. Oats and beans unchanged; fines 24s., offals dearer.

Northampton, Saturday.—Thinly attended market, supply and demand limited and inactive. Wheat and barley very dull; the latter in good supply and very irregular in price. White wheat, 30s to 31s; red, old wheat, 29s to 30s; red, new wheat, 27s to 29s; barley, malting, 24s to 30s; barley, grinding, 20s to 23s; oats, 17s to 22s; oats, old, 23s to 24s; beans, 30s to 35s; peas, 26s to 36s; flour, 22s to 26s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Only a small supply of wheat on offer to-day, with a poor demand at last week's prices. Much less barley showing than last week, at former rates. The weather is now fine and bright with night frosts. Wheat, red, 29s to 29s 6d per qr, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending 5th November, 1900:—Wheat, 1,875-4, 27s 4d; barley, 14,421-4, 26s 4d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat, fair supply, good demand at last week's prices. Barley, better sorts in good demand at slightly increased prices, common sorts neglected. Oats and beans, no change.—R. HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Wheat dull trade at about last week's prices. Barley fair supply of medium quality; good demand for best samples, others quiet at last week's value.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The supply of wheat keeps small on our local markets, and trade to-day was steady at last week's prices. No change in barley, a fair demand for good qualities. Oats the turn in sellers' favour.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was an average attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day, an average business being done; prices for wheat are 6d dearer, and barley, maize, and oats are at full prices of last week.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—At to-day's market we had a full attendance, and business was decidedly better. There was a good supply of wheat, for which trade ruled firm at last week's rates. The inquiry for wheat was brighter, and with a plentiful supply prices were fully maintained. Other sorts of corn sold well at recent currencies.

Ripon, Thursday.—A small show of farmers' wheat. Barley in good supply at a trifle less money. A small attendance. Wheat, English, new, 27s to 29s; ditto old, 31s; ditto foreign, 30s 6d to 34s 6d; barley, malting, 24s to 28s; ditto, grinding, 21s to 23s; oats, old, 25s to 26s; ditto new, 17s to 19s; maize, round, 24s to 27s; ditto flat, 23s 6d per qr; beans, old, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat 6d a quarter dearer for best qualities. Only a small supply. Red wheat made 28s to 29s 6d, and white wheat, 29s to 31s 6d; winter beans made 30s per 19 stone.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was a fairly good attendance, and a better demand for both English and foreign wheat. A slow trade was done in Indian corn at former prices. Malting barley is per qr dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s to 33s; red, 31s to 32s; new, 30s to 31s per 504lb; oats, old white, 26s; ditto, new white, 17s 6d to 19s; ditto old black, 22s; ditto new black, 16s to 17s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small old, 29s to 30s; ditto American mixed, 23s 6d to 24s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—At the Corn Exchange to-day there was a fair supply of wheat, and late rates were generally maintained. Good samples of barley were in demand, but other sorts neglected. Oats were slow at previous prices. Beans made rather more money. Pease were about the same. Maize easier.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was only a small show of local wheats, which sold at 28s per qr. In foreign wheat trade keeps very quiet, with only a moderate demand from millers, and prices show no change from last week. Maize and oats are firmer at last week's prices. Malting barley a small show, and of moderate quality, making about 25s per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little grain on offer. Wheat quiet, without much change in value. Spring corn unaltered. Arrivals coastwise:—Wheat, 125 qrs; barley, 748; foreign wheat, 813.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Small supply of wheat, with a firm trade at last week's prices. Grinding barley and maize very slow. Malting barley in smaller supply, with a better tone in the trade.

Wakefield, Friday.—Wheat has followed a hardening tendency this week, spot values recovering 3d to 6d per qr. from late rates, and the demand shows signs of revival. High foreign limits for shipment, however, prevent a more active business. Malting barley very slow. Maize, beans, and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—The business doing in wheats on to-day's market is not large, and both English and foreign are quoted at 3d to 6d per qr advance on last week's prices. We have a large supply of Yorkshire barley, and buying is altogether confined to the finer qualities. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Winchester, Saturday.—A very short supply of wheat on our market to-day, which commanded a firm trade at fully last week's prices. Good inquiry for best barleys, medium qualities difficult to quit. Oats and maize steady at late rates. More doing in flour at 24s to 25s.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Less wheat offering. Trade favours sellers. Red, 28s 6d; white, 29s; old up to 30s. Oats, 6d dearer to buy, 17s to 19s. Barley dull at late rates. — JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance, but the trade was dull in all departments. The following were the quotations:—English wheat, new, 12s to 12s 6d; ditto old, 13s per 216lb; oats, old, 15s to 16s; ditto new, 11s to 11s 6d; beans, old, 14s 6d to 15s 6d; ditto new, 12s 6d to 13s 6d per 196lb; maize, 24s to 24s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Business quiet. English wheat sold slowly at about last week's prices, but foreign showed a hardening tendency. Maize rather easier. Other feeding stuffs unaltered. Wheat, white, 28s to 29s; red, 26s to 27s.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very good attendance. There was a large show of grain, best samples of barley being scarce and dear, and inferior qualities almost unsaleable. The slight reduction in the price of wheat last week has not improved. Wheat, old white, 31s to 32s; old red, 30s to 31s; new white, 28s to 29s; new red, 27s to 28s; best malting barley, 30s 6d to 32s 6d; secondary, 28s to 29s; grinding, 23s to 25s; old white oats, 25s to 27s; old black, 24s to 25s; new white, 18s to 20s; new black ditto, 17s to 18s; flat maize, 24s to 25s; round ditto, 28s to 29s per qr.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has been supported by a regular consumptive demand, and prices have been maintained at their former level. The French country markets have been rather thinly attended, but farmers consider themselves masters of the situation, and they express their confident belief that when the milling trade has exhausted its present stocks it will be compelled to concede some advance. The early-sown wheats present a promising appearance, thanks to seasonable rains. The area of country devoted to wheat in France this year is considered to be at least equal to that similarly sown in 1899. A moderate business has been passing in hard Algerian and Tunisian wheat at Marseilles. Flour for consumption has shown little change in the French capital. Disposable wheat has remained without any variation at Konigsberg and Dantzig. The Odessa wheat market has been inactive, and business has ruled generally quiet. The exports of wheat from Russia to Great Britain in the first ten months of this year were 3,391,809cwt, as compared with 2,278,200cwt in the corresponding period of 1899, and 5,762,200cwt in the corresponding period of 1898. Flour was exported from France to Great Britain in October to the extent of 80,100cwt, as compared with 64,790cwt in October, 1899, and 44,160cwt in October, 1898. The aggregate exports of flour from France to Great Britain in the first ten months of this year were 626,840cwt, as compared with 528,320cwt in the corresponding period of 1899. and 339,110cwt in the corresponding period of 1898. The quantity of wheat now *en route* for the Continent is returned at 1,065,000qr, as compared with 1,140,000qr at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,140,000qr is made up as follows:—France, 20,000qr; Belgium, 280,000qr; Holland, 275,000qr; Germany and the North, 135,000qr; and Italy, Spain, etc., 255,000qr.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

November 2nd to 9th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	3,393	..	..	70,539	73,932
Barley	1,584	..	..	30,689	32,273
Malt	13,413	402	..	500	14,315
Oats	2,348	100	500	80,569	83,517
Rye	..	..	..	1,075	1,075
Beans	1,394	..	..	2,024	3,418
Peas	430	..	..	4,486	4,916
Maize	..	..	..	44,637	44,637
Tares	10	..	..	10	20
Lentils	..	..	..	29	29
Linseed	..	..	..	4,567	4,567
Rapeseed	..	..	..	243	243
Canaryseed	..	..	..	697	697
Farm Seeds	800	..	..	3,500	4,300
Flour { Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	18,173	..	..	81,873	100,046

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.

Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.		June 17	160,574 qrs.	
,, 14	108,380 ,,		,, 24	101,205 ,,	
,, 21	128,902 ,,		July 1	152,500 ,,	
,, 28	51,234 ,,		,, 8	112,761 ,,	
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,		,, 15	116,850 ,,	
,, 11	82,912 ,,		,, 22	89,245 ,,	
,, 18	204,974 ,,		,, 29	118,314 ,,	
,, 25	108,273 ,,		Aug. 5	104,234 ,,	
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,		,, 12	102,160 ,,	
,, 11	63,103 ,,		,, 19	103,353 ,,	
,, 18	122,541 ,,		,, 26	82,367 ,,	
,, 25	86,309 ,,		Sept. 2	73,600 ,,	
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,		,, 9	83,791 ,,	
,, 8	133,261 ,,		,, 16	107,684 ,,	
,, 15	101,518 ,,		,, 23	131,880 ,,	
,, 22	70,984 ,,		,, 30	61,997 ,,	
,, 29	68,573 ,,		Oct. 7	121,032 ,,	
May 6	96,343 ,,		,, 14	97,050 ,,	
,, 13	72,852 ,,		,, 21	95,446 ,,	
,, 20	101,429 ,,		,, 28	154,895 ,,	
May 27	108,772 ,,		Nov. 4	114,634 ,,	
June 3	73,846 ,,		,, 11	110,161 ,,	
,, 10	126,781 ,,				

1900.

Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.		June 15	86,125 qrs.	
,, 13	95,064 ,,		,, 22	196,116 ,,	
,, 20	114,928 ,,		,, 29	142,185 ,,	
,, 27	124,652 ,,		July 6	132,950 ,,	
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,		,, 13	101,253 ,,	
,, 10	75,000 ,,		,, 20	82,294 ,,	
,, 17	66,804 ,,		,, 27	55,998 ,,	
,, 24	62,191 ,,		Aug. 3	86,167 ,,	
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,		,, 11	102,077 ,,	
,, 10	63,702 ,,		,, 18	138,510 ,,	
,, 17	102,985 ,,		,, 25	182,517 ,,	
,, 24	111,409 ,,		,, 31	80,149 ,,	
,, 31	69,356 ,,		Sept. 7	58,394 ,,	
April 7	48,302 ,,		,, 14	117,066 ,,	
,, 13	131,085 ,,		,, 21	105,961 ,,	
,, 20	82,357 ,,		,, 28	158,771 ,,	
,, 27	43,783 ,,		Oct. 5	183,383 ,,	
May 4	104,535 ,,		,, 12	156,815 ,,	
,, 11	52,859 ,,		,, 19	73,725 ,,	
,, 18	97,412 ,,		,, 26	98,302 ,,	
,, 25	71,390 ,,		Nov. 2	77,179 ,,	
,, 31	177,744 ,,		,, 9	148,972 ,,	
June 8	93,147 ,,				

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Nov. 2 to 9, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	73,932 qrs.
Flour	75,040 ,,
Total	148,972 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Surplus	42,972 ,,

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1899.									
Oct. 21	64,242	28	2	192,268½	27	6	18,983½	16	10
,, 28	85,178¼	28	1	219,751½	27	4	20,064½	16	3
Nov. 4	82,709⅜	27	2	203,071½	27	2	17,890½	16	7
,, 11	66,741¼	26	7	166,786½	26	9	15,216⅝	16	5
,, 18	65,470½	26	1	163,915½	26	4	16,313½	16	7
,, 25	67,308⅝	25	8	164,362½	26	2	17,047¼	16	7
Dec. 2	72,974½	25	7	163,441½	25	10	22,575½	16	6
,, 9	10,982¼	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421¼	16	5
,, 16	787,72⅝	25	4	135,344⅜	25	7	22,889½	16	1
,, 23	67,102⅜	25	6	116,757⅜	25	10	16,447⅝	16	0
,, 30	47,685¼	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,463⅜	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6	40,083	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅜	16	4
,, 13	57,021⅜	25	11	83,421⅜	25	5	19,705	16	6
,, 20	68,463¼	26	0	100,925½	25	8	23,122⅜	16	5
,, 27	65,381½	25	10	108,357½	25	9	17,814½	16	8
Feb. 3	73,796⅜	25	8	90,769¼	25	4	22,061¼	16	3
April 7	67,743⅜	25	10	20,402⅜	24	10	13,757⅜	17	2
,, 10	71,482⅜	25	10	80,543⅜	25	3	20,822⅜	16	2
,, 17	76,611⅜	26	1	80,414⅜	24	11	20,986⅜	16	1
,, 24	69,534½	26	3	63,931⅜	25	1	21,132⅜	16	10
Mar. 3	68,153½	26	4	51,727½	24	6	18,499½	16	11
,, 10	58,703⅜	25	11	44,921½	24	8	16,224	16	11
,, 17	76,435⅜	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,104⅜	16	10
,, 24	69,944½	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042⅜	17	1
,, 31	72,762	25	10	34,287⅜	24	11	15,200⅜	17	2
,, 14	66,412½	25	11	19,519½	24	5	9,672⅜	17	8
,, 21	54,977⅜	26	0	11,673⅜	24	9	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28	70,006⅜	26	0	7,785⅜	25	2	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5	75,410⅜	25	11	8,159½	25	3	8,658½	18	0
,, 12	82,190⅜	25	11	10,417⅜	24	10	12,245½	17	11
,, 19	83,941⅜	25	7	5,638⅜	24	5	9,942	18	5
,, 26	95,574⅜	25	5	3,521⅜	23	11	7,350⅜	18	2
June 2	68,906⅜	25	5	1,752⅜	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9	64,747½	25	3	990⅜	23	8	6,053⅜	18	8
,, 16	55,340⅜	25	6	1,486⅜	23	8	7,228⅜	18	11
,, 23	54,324⅜	25	9	1,312⅜	23	5	5,344⅜	18	11
,, 30	44,923⅜	26	11	495⅜	23	4	4,706⅜	19	3
July 7	34,344⅜	27	10	486⅜	22	10	4,391½	19	5
,, 14	22,009⅜	28	7	949½	23	2	2,911⅜	19	1
,, 21	26,716⅜	29	0	767⅜	23	8	3,771½	19	3
,, 28	33,088	29	3	194½	24	4	3,335⅜	19	9
Aug. 4	45,748⅜	28	10	409½	23	10	3,453⅜	19	4
,, 11	37,644⅜	28	7	311½	23	7	3,391	19	8
,, 18	32,812½	28	10	608½	23	3	3,593⅜	19	11
,, 25	26,427⅜	28	10	787⅜	24	10	5,349½	18	8
Sept. 1	30,393⅜	28	8	1,978½	25	2	9,606⅜	18	1
,, 8	34,755½	28	7	6,140⅜	25	8	11,042½	17	10
,, 15	53,331⅜	28	4	20,879½	25	4	18,681½	17	1
,, 22	61,468½	28	4	41,284½	26	0	21,729⅜	17	1
,, 29	72,601	28	9	68,844½	26	1	25,620½	17	2
Oct. 6	66,690	28	9	94,282	26	2	23,805	16	10
,, 13	70,314⅜	28	9	134,277½	26	2	18,350⅜	17	1
,, 20	58,790½	28	4	159,007⅜	26	5	14,681½	16	11
Oct. 27	56,254	27	11	190,079⅜	26	3	16,996½	16	11
Nov. 3	54,514⅜	27	5	204,836	26	3	16,602½	16	11
,, 10	41,497¾	27	3	170,558	25	11	15,566⅜	16	10

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9
1897	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(193 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900 Wheat.	Barley	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	16 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	16 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	16 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	16 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	16 5
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	28 6	25 7	17 6
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	28 5	26 3	17 0
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Nov. 10 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria cap. 37.

Wheat	41,497¾ qrs.	27s. 3d.
Barley	170,558 qrs.	25s. 11d.
Oats	15,566½ qrs.	16s. 10d.

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 6th, 1900.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	406	7	573	7	6	1	8	2
Barley	2,475	5	3,617	19	0	1	9	3
Oats	1,338	1	1,213	19	6	0	17	4

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Nov. 10, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896	70,104½	21	9	204,859½	27	3	18,603	17	7
1897	79,074½	34	0	196,140½	26	3	16,338½	16	3
1898	77,717	28	4	209,941	28	7	16,091½	17	5
1899	66,741⅜	26	7	166,786½	26	9	15,216⅜	16	5

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Oct. 6.	Oct. 13.	Oct. 20.	Oct. 27.	Nov. 3.	Nov. 10.
29s. 0d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 9d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 8d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 7d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
28s. 6d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
27s. 11d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
27s. 5d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
27s. 3d.	..	..	..	..	..	..

IMPORTS OF POTATOES (OFFICIAL).

CEREAL YEARS

	September 1900.	1899.	1898.
Cwts.	213,000	117,000	75,000

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows: –

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	188,000	214,000	421,000	15,000	107,000
Russia	281,000	—	16,000	107,000	174,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria Hungary	—	20,000	—	—	—
Roumania	70,000	—	3,000	80,000	—
Argentina	50,000	—	80,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	25,000	—	—	—	5,000
Miscellaneous	30,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	644,000	244,000	540,000	222,000	296,000

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb.	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept.	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct.	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov.	..		22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec.	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb.	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept.	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct.	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov.	..		24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec.	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Av'rage	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday. — A very good demand was experienced this morning for the fair supplies offered. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s; Welsh, 1s 8d to 2s; Surrey, 3s to 3s 6d; Sussex, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Irish, 1s 6d to 1s 10d; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d; turkeys (cocks), 6s to 10s; hen, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s; feathered, 7d to 9d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; tame, 1s to 1s 3d each; Australian, 7s 6d to 9s per dozen; pheasants, 3s 6d to 4s; young partridges, 3s to 3s 6d; old, 2s.; young grouse, 4s 3d to 5s; old, 3s per brace; hares, 3s to 3s 3d; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; wild duck, 1s 6d; pintail, 1s 3d; widgeon, 1s; teal, 81 to 10d; woodcock, 2s 6d to 3s; snipe, 6d to 10d; golden plover, 7d to 10d; and black, 5d each.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The market is well stocked with cheese, but there is little or no inquiry. However, to parties showing anything like a desire to purchase sellers are willing to make concessions. This is usually a quiet time. The trade hope that business will improve by the end of the month. Cheddars and Dunlops, 54s to 66s per cwt. September-made Canadians are of good quality, but they meet a slow sale.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: The market has ruled fairly steady, with moderate consumptive demand, and although some increase in shipments is expected, the stock on hand is only light. We quote, to-day, choice Cumberland cut, 20lb to 22lb average, 48s to 51s; 26lb to 30lb, 46s to 48s 6d; 32lb to 38lb, 42s to 47s; long middles, rib-in, 18lb to 22lb, 5os to 54s; clear bellies, 14lb to 16lb, 54s to 56s; 18lb to 20lb, 53s to 54s 6d; Staffordshire cut (lean on), 35lb to 40lb; and Birmingham cut, 33lb to 38lb, 45s to 48s; clear Staffords (lean off), 40lb to 44lb, and Yorkshire cut, 40lb to 45lb, 43s 6d to 45s; singed Wiltshire, Canadian, 45lb to 55lb, 50s to 54s; American, 40lb to 50lb, 42s to 47s; short clear backs, 12lb to 16lb, 42s 6d to 44s; 16lb to 20lb, 41s 6d to 42s 6d; fat backs (export), 37s to 38s 6d; long clear middles, 35lb to 40lb, 41s to 45s; 40lb to 45lb, 43s 6d to 44s 6d; short clear middles, 45lb to 50lb, 40s to 40s 6d; short middles, (rib in), 18lb to 23lb, 46s to 48s; shoulders, square cut, 12lb to 14lb, 35s to 39s; 14lb to 16lb, 34s to 38s; New York cut, 11lb to 13lb, 30s 6d to 34s per cwt. Hams move steadily into consumption, especially light weights, which are somewhat scarce. We quote choice long cut, 8lb to 12lb, 46s to 51s; 14lb to 16lb, 44s 6d to 49s; short cut and A.C., 10lb to 12lb, 45s to 51s; 12lb to 14lb 44s to 50s; 14lb to 16lb, 43s to 47s per cwt. Lard is only a slow sale at slightly lower prices. We quote pails and kegs, 37s 9d to 39s; prime Western (in tierces), 37s 6d to 37s 9d per cwt. Beef quiet and easier. We quote extra India mess 68s 9d to 72s 6d; Plate and Packet, 63s to 66s 3d per 304lb. Pork dull, at about unaltered rates. We quote finest prime mess, 65s to 72s 6d per 240lb. Cheese.—There is no improvement in the demand, and market must be reported dull and easier. We quote finest Canadian, coloured, late makes, 54s to 54s 6d; white, 53s 6d to 54s; finest States coloured, 53s to 54s; white, 52s 6d to 53s 6d; summer cheese ripe flavour, are freely offered from 48s to 52s; but lower grades, leaf mould and skins are dull nominally quoted 30s to 35s per cwt. Butter is a slow sale, and prices are easier all round. Mild, open weather, with plentiful rains has an adverse effect on the market. We quote, fancy Canadian creamery, in boxes, 100s to 104s; second quality, difficult to sell, 90s to 95s; finest States (nominal) 90s to 95s, finest ladles and imitation creamery 75s to 80s, finest Danish 108s to 114s; Australian, 102s to 105s; Irish creamery, 104s to 105s, Cork firsts, 88s; seconds, 84s; 1 to 1½ cwt. – HODGSON BROTHERS.

Newport, Wednesday. Average supply, good demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 56s to 60s; fancy dairies, 62s to 64s; truckles, 56s to 60s; doubles, 48s to 52s; Cheddars, 56s.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per lb. Settle: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Spalding: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Stone: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Boston: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Colne: 1s 2d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d per lb. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymooraside: 11d to 1s per lb. Knaresborough: (wholesale), 1s 6d to 1s 8d; ditto (retail), 1s 7d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Louth: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s 1d per lb. Masham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s per lb. Worksop: 1s 4d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Bristol (Canadian creamery): 106s to 107s per 112lb. Dairy butter, 92s to 94s. Driffield: 1s per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 2d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb.

Friday.—Chester: 1s 2d per lb. Crewe: 1s 2d per lb. Derby: 1s 2d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Grimsby: Choicest Danish, 120s to 124s per 112lb, Dutch, 110s to 115s; Canadian, 100s to 110s. Helmsley: 11d to 1s per lb. Leeds: Danish, 116s to 124s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 102s to 106s; York lump, 15s to 16s per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 0d to 1s 1d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Sandbach: Best makes, 1s 3d per lb. Stockport: 1s 3d per lb. Whitchurch: Best, 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 7 for 1s. Gainsborough: 8 for 1s. Settle: 8 or 9 for 1s. Sheffield: 8 or 9 for 1s. Spalding: 8 for 1s. Stone: 7 or 8 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 6 or 7 for 1s. Boston: 6 or 7 for 1s. Colne: 2s 8d per lb. Goole: 8 for 1s. Keighley: 6 for 1s. Kirbymooraside: 8 or 9 for 1s. Knaresborough: 7 or 8 for 1s. Louth (wholesale): 11 for 1s. Market Drayton: 7 or 9 for 1s. Market Weighton: 9 or 10 for 1s. Masham: 8 or 9 for 1s. Northallerton: 6 or 7 for 1s. Stockton: 6 for 1s. Whitby: 7 or 8 for 1s. Worksop: 3s per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 8 or 9 for 1s. Driffield: 11 for 1s. Kidderminster: 7 for 1s. Penistone: 8 for 1s. Ripon: 7 for 1s. Scarborough: 8 for 1s. Wetherby: 6 or 7 for 1s.

Friday.—Crewe: 6 and 7 for 1s. Derby: 6 for 1s. Easingwold: 7 or 8 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 6s 6d to 7s 8d per 120; Russian, 6s 3d to 8s; Canadian, 6s 5d to 8s; Swedish, 11s 6d to 12s per 120. Helmsley: 8 or 9 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 16s 6d to 17s per 120; Irish, 13s to 14s; Danish, 9s to 11s; Austrian blues, 7s 6d to 8s 6d; ditto reds, 6s 3d to 6s 9d. Leyburn: 8 for 1s. Lincoln: 8 or 9 for 1s. Nantwich: 6 or 7 for 1s. Otley: 6 or 7 for 1s. Runcorn: 5 or 6 for 1s. Stockport: 5 or 6 for 1s. Whitchurch: 7 and 8 for 1s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday. — Butter. — The effect of depressing climatic conditions and the action of buyers supplying their wants from butter in cold store rather than from the open market, has resulted in a fall in prices of Australian and New Zealand butter of about 2s per cwt, and 108s to 110s are now the prices for "choicest" new season's butter of both classes, while "finest" makes 98s to 102s. The values of last season's cold stored butter are about 6s to 8s per cwt below above quotations. There is a considerable quantity of cold stored Canadian, Russian, and other kinds on the market, and until these goods pass into consumption we shall not have brisk markets. The home make still continues large for the time of year, and small country towns are taking little imported butter. The Copenhagen official quotation has this week been lowered by three kroner, and now stands at 102 kroner against 100 kroner last year. There is a very great shortage just now of really "choicest" Danish, owing to the change of fodder of the cows. In the northern markets prices fell 3s to 4s per cwt this week, but "choicest" Danish still brings 118s to 120s. Cheese.—There has been a very slow demand for Canadian, and prices are a bit easier, especially for "summery" goods, which may be had for 48s to 50s. The first half of August make brings 52s to 53s, while late August's fetch 54s to 55s. There is not many September's offering, but the values of these are 56s to 58s.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair amount of business has been done during the week, but the demand is not quite so keen, and for copper hops a shilling or two less money has occasionally been accepted. East Kents continue to be quoted up to seven guineas, and Mid Weralds and Sussex to six guineas per cwt.

Worcester, Saturday.—Growers have practically cleared out their new hops, and those at market to-day were mostly offering yearlings. A good demand prevails for all classes, and both new and yearling descriptions sell readily when offered at recent rates. During the week 120 pockets of new and 93 pockets of yearlings have been weighed at the public scales.

Worcester, Saturday.—A fair trade continues to be done in hops on this market, where growers are inclined to accept reasonable prices for the unsold portions of their growths, but in some instances they decline to sell, believing they will see higher prices. The demand for yearlings still continues, and several lots have changed hands at an advance on late rates. 118 pockets have passed the public scales to-day, and 311 during the week, making a total of 15,588 pockets weighed up to the present.—PIERCY AND CO.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields [illegible]

Goole [illegible]

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The rainfall of the past week has been fair without being excessive, and farmers have prosecuted their labours of ploughing and drilling with due diligence. The lifting and storing of roots is put off, for the very high temperature for the time of year has led to hopes that they would go on growing and increasing in bulk for another fortnight. Situated as we all are on a small island, where weather changes of the most radical description may reach us at six hours' notice, we cannot regard this policy as very wise. At this late date in the year severe frost may be upon us at any moment, and then the losses on roots still in the soil would indeed be heavy. Wheat threshings have fallen off, the close air and prevailing dampness having been opposed to all labours of the flail. Some old wheat is still reaching the country markets, but very little of it gets to London, which has recently been showing meanness in its price bids, with the result that county centres, such as Maidstone, Guildford, Chelmsford, Ipswich, and Norwich, have been attracting the choicer samples. The price of good old wheat is about 31s. per 504lb. red, and 32s. for white, and there are a few 512lb. samples offering, for which an extra 1s. per qr. is cheerfully paid in the country.

Seed wheat has been in fair request at most of the big country exchanges, a sign that wheat sowings are still in active progress. The dearer pedigree sorts do not get the sales we should like to see, but three to four guineas per qr., the price asked, is prohibitive to most farmers. The agricultural societies which provide their subscribers with the services of pedigree bulls and stallions for their cows and mares might well consider their cereal-growing subscribers also and provide the latter with pedigree seed corn at the price of the ordinary good market sample. Three sorts of good wheat being a good deal bought just now for seed are "White Fluff," "Golden Drop," and "White Herefordshire." The famous "Squarehead" and "Red Chaff" types fully hold their own.

Reports to hand from Argentina are fairly unanimous in stating that the wheat crop to be reaped next month will not equal that of last season, despite the increased area under cultivation. On the other hand, the linseed crop will probably be very fair, and 2,000,000qrs. of that oilseed may be available for exportation. The growing crops in Australia promise no bumper yields, but a fair average should be obtained in all states save Queensland.

The prices now making on our markets for twelve leading staples per ton show that Persian barley and Russian oats are the best bargain for feeding, so far as quantity for a given sum goes :—

	Per ton. s.	d.
Good red English wheat	140	0
Persian barley	102	0
English rye	120	0
Russian rye	114	3
Light Russian oats	103	0
Heavy Scotch oats	145	0
Best maple peas	188	0
Ordinary dun peas	140	0
Egyptian beans	135	0
Egyptian cottonseed	140	0
American feeding flour	115	0
Good household flour	200	0

The finer types of feeding stuffs seem to centre in a price of about £7 per ton, which commands not only heavy oats, dun peas, Saida beans, Egyptian cottonseed, and, we may add, decorticated American cottonseed, good home-grown wheat, but also nominally as "chicken wheat," a good deal of sound and good stuff is being fed to live-stock and birds.

The quantity of wheat now on passage to the United Kingdom is made up as follows :—

	Qrs.
From Russia	105,000
„ America	315,000
„ California	855,000
„ Australasia	230,000
„ Argentina	250,000
„ Other Countries	15,000
Total Nov. 10, 1900	1,770,000
„ „ 1899	1,515,000
„ „ 1898	1,167,000
„ „ 1897	1,945,000

Of flour 412,000 sacks are on passage against 360,000 sacks a year ago, and 450,000 sacks two years since. Supplies of spring corn on passage are as follows :—

	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Beans. Qrs.
1900	670,000	535,000	14,000
1899	1,100,000	590,000	16,000
1898	665,000	620,000	17,000
1897	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1896	1,120,000	910,000	17,000

The American visible supply of wheat at depots both Pacific and Atlantic is thus cabled :—

	Qrs.
Nov. 10, 1900	10,600,000
„ 1899	11,035,000
„ 1898	1,695,000

The stocks of wheat in Russian ports on Nov. 1 were 1,700,000 qrs. against 1,500,000 qrs. a year previously.

The supplies of wheat at the markets continue to exceed current requirements, so that stocks are increasing in the warehouses. Last week's figures are as follows :—

	Qrs.
Foreign wheat	407,000
„ flour	169,000
Total	576,000
English wheat	122,000
Supplies : Total	698,000
Wants : „	567,000
Surplus	131,000
Stocks, November 1	2,877,000
„ „ 8	3,008,000

The sales of English wheat for October are thus estimated :—

	Qrs.
October, 1900	707,000
„ 1899	797,000

Estimates under this heading always vary, as every authority differs from every other in the precise allowance to be made for the 304 markets (out of the 500) which send no returns. But there is no doubt that the sales have been 10 to 15 per cent. smaller this season than they were last year.

Nett imports of breadstuffs for October are officially returned as follows :—

	Qrs.
October, 1900	2,310,770
„ 1899	1,987,800

This excess has told against trade, and stocks are substantially increased on the month at all the leading ports.

In the flour trade activity of late has been mainly directed to by-products such as fine middlings, good bran, and wheat germ meal. Of fifteen leading patents and types offered at Mark Lane the following grading is practicable, the divisions being into high-class, good medium, and feeding :—

AMERICAN FLOUR.

First Grade. 24s. to 26s.	Second Grade. 20s. to 22s.	Third Grade. 14s. to 16s.
Golden Lily.	Iron Duke.	Phœnix.
Washburn's.	White Blossom.	Violet.
Star.	Nicollet.	Polo.
Gold Medal.	Manhattan.	—
Briggs's.	Good Hue.	—
Pillsbury's.	—	—
Morrison's.	—	—

There is a satisfactory choice among the really fine types, but buyers have not been at all eager to improve the occasion. November is dull enough as a market period without a strike of lightermen to choke off purchasers through the inability of importers to promise a reasonably prompt delivery. A meeting was held at Mark Lane on Thursday to consider the situation, and it was resolved by an overwhelming majority to promote a Bill in Parliament. The present arrangements include a host of needless technicalities and restrictions, and unless a change is made the trade of London as a port is bound to suffer very seriously.

The demand for maize, feeding barley, and for light oats has been fair, but not brisk.

The maize trade is in a peculiar position. Everybody knows that by March next this cereal will be obtainable at a florin or so under present prices, but in the meanwhile there is a falling off of 430,000 qrs. in the supply on passage as compared with November 10, last year, and it is an exceedingly moot point whether between the end of November and the end of January, a period of two winter months, the holders of 1899 maize will not be able to obtain a rise in prices. They could probably clear their winter stocks before November was out if they would "split the difference" between old and new crop prices, and accept 1s. off the terms now quoted. But as they mostly hope to get more money instead of less and to have time to clear before new crop arrivals tumble in, the situation becomes interesting.

The imports of spring corn included 167,000 qrs. of barley, 70,000 qrs. of oats, 53,000 qrs. of linseed, and 218,000 qrs. of maize. The very small supply of oats has to a certain extent helped that trade, but its effect has been a good deal reduced by the large stores of Russian and American existing in the leading granaries.

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 28	6	(per sack) 25	6
October 1	„ 29	0	„ 26	0
October 26	„ 28	6	„ 25	6

(No official change since last date given)

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

		s.	d.
Sept. 1, 1900	(per sack)	80	0

(No official change since last date given).

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The milder and wet weather was against business to-day in all staples. Foreign wheat was a fairly active trade, with 30s. to 31s. made for Petersburg, 29s. to 30s. hard Taganrog, and 31s. to 32s. for American Red Winter, but English sorts were in less satisfactory condition, and moved off slowly in consequence. Holders would not accept less money than formerly. Malt was a fair trade at 40s. for best English and Californian, 30s. to 32s. for black English, and 34s. to 34s. 6d. for crystallised. New English oats fetched 20s. for fine winter and 19s. for Tartary, but the demand was strongest for old oats, which made 21s. to 23s. per 336lb. for winter and 20s. to 21s. for Tartary. Maize was a good retail trade at fully previous quotations, and sometimes 3d. more money was paid. The trade in malting barley was dull, but feeding sorts rather favoured sellers. Beans declined 1s. both for winter and pigeon types of English, but Königsberg were 1s. dearer, and New Zealand sold well at 31s. to 35s. per quarter. Syrian dari at 25s. to 26s., and Canadian buckwheat at 28s. to 29s. had attention.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Nov. 12th, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 33
(old)	„	32	— 33
Red (new)	„	28	— 31
(old)	„	29	— 32
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	31	— 35
Brewing	„	26	— 31
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	„	36	— 38
Black	„	30	— 32
Brown	„	29	— 32
Crystallized	„	33	— 35
OATS, English, New Winter	„	19	— 20
„ „ Tartary	„	18/6	—19
„ „ White	„	18	—18/6
„ Old Winter	„	21	— 23
„ „ Tartary	„	20	— 21
Scotch	„	21	— 23
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	„	40	— 44
„ Winter	„	29	— 33
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
„ Blue (boiling)	„	68	— 76
„ Dun	„	31	— 33
„ Maple	„	38	— 42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	33	— 34
American Spring	32	— 33
Hard Manitoba	32	— 33
Red Winter	31	— 32
Kansas	31	— 32
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30	— 31
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 31
Argentine	28	— 31
Danzig	33	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Petersburg	30	— 31
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Hard Taganrog	29	— 30
Persian	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480lb. :		
Cinquantina	27	— 29
Roumanian	25	— 26
Russian	25	— 26
Caucasian	24	— 25
Argentine	22	— 23
American	21	— 22
OATS :		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	15	— 16
American (320lb.)		
„ White	15	— 16
„ Mixed	14	— 15
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (320lb)	16	— 17
„ (304lb.)	14	— 15
Liban, white (304lb.)	13	— 14
„ black „	14	— 15
BEANS, per 480lb. :		
Egyptian	32	— 33
Smyrna	29	— 30
Konigsberg	29	— 31
BEANS (*continued*).		
Barbary	27	— 28
Mexican	28	— 30
New Zealand	31	— 35
LOCUST BEANS, per ton :		
Cyprian	106	— 112
„ Ground	138	— 144
Portuguese	100	—102
„ Ground	118	— 120
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Canadian, White	30	—30.6
Indian, White	28	— 30
„ Green	25	— 27
Barbary	26	— 28
Australian, White	40	— 41
„ Dun	26	— 27
LENTILS, per 504 lb		
Egyptian	32	— 36
Indian	37	— 39
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	27	— 28
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb. :		
French	29	— 30
Russian	27	— 28
Canadian	28	— 29
BARLEY :		
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 29
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 28
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Syrian (400 lb.)	25	— 22
Persian (400 lb.)	18	—18.3
American (400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb.		
Californian	35	— 40
Smyrna	34	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.	RAPESEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	59 to 61		English	56 to 60	
Dutch	62 to 64		Dutch	54 to 56	
Argentine	55 to 57		French	47 to 48	
Canadian	61 to 63		Roumanian	44 to 46	
Russian	55 to 57		Cawnpore	46 to 47	
Calcutta	60 to 62		Calcutta	43 to 44	
SESAME. per 424lb.			Guzerat	50 to 51	
Bombay	5 to 52		Ferozepore	44 to 45	
Kurrachee	53 to 54		Ravison	33 to 35	
COTTON SEED. per ton.			POPPYSEED. per 377lb.		
Egyptian	140 to 142		Indian	48 to 49	

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE MARKET CLOSED DULL UNDER WEATHER INFLUENCES.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Nov. 12th.

The flour sales were not bad considering the open weather. Households and No. 1 were in fair request at 24s. to 24s. 6d., and the price of Whites was firm. No. 2 Households declined 6d. per sack, being rather pressed on sale at 22s. Country flour was also the turn in buyers' favour, but holders did not press sales. Kansas Bakers' flour was freely offered at 18s. to 20s. per sack, but without reducing the selling value of good patent flour from the same district. Very fine Canadian flour made as much as 25s. 6d. per sack, but Australian was lower on the week with 22s. to 23s. accepted for Patent, and 19s. to 20s. for Ordinary. American ranged from 24s. to 26s. for the finer patents. Wheat whole meal declined about 2s. 6d. per ton, but germ meal was dearer to buy. Fine middlings were often held for 5s. advance. Maize meal declined 2s. 6d. to 3s. 9d. per ton, but cones and flour from Indian corn were steady. Bean and pea meal fell 10s. per ton in some instances. Rice meal at 90s. to 95s. was not much altered.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)		— 30
Town Whites	,,	27	—27/6
,, Households	,,	24	—24/6
No. 2	,,	21/6	—22

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24	— 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23	— 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	21	— 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	20	— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25	— 26
,, Second Patents	,,	23	— 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	25	— 26
,, Bakers'	,,	21	— 23
Kansas Patent	,,	23	— 24
,, Bakers'	,,	18	— 20
Cascadia	,,	23/9	—24
Canadian	,,	25	—25/6
Australian Patent	,,	22	— 23
,, Ordinary	,,	19	— 20
Hungarian	,,	28	— 31
French	,,	21	— 24

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	188	—192
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	112	—114
Bran, London Broad	,,	104	—106
,, ,, Fine	,,	93	— 95
,, Country Flake	,,	105	—108
,, ,, Broad	,,	103	—104
Pollard	,,	92	— 94
Fine Middlings	,,	126	—130
Coarse Middlings	,,	105	—107
Oat Meal	,,	220	—280
Oat Flour	,,	340	—360
Maize Flour	,,	132	—134
Maize Meal	,,	110	—120
Maize Cones	,,	144	—150
Maize Germ Meal	,,	106	—110
Pea Meal	,,	130	—150
Bean Meal	,,	140	—160
Rice Meal	,,	90	— 95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—		Nov.		Dec.	March
		s.	d.	s. d.	s. d.
Nov. 5	11 a.m.	6	7 ..	6 7 ..	6 10
	4 p.m.	6	6 ..	6 7 ..	6 10
Nov. 6	11 a.m.	6	7 ..	6 8 ..	6 10
	4 p.m.	6	7 ..	6 8 ..	6 11
Nov. 7	11 a.m.	6	7 ..	6 8 ..	6 11
	4 p.m.	6	7 ..	6 8 ..	6 11
Nov. 8	11 a.m.	6	7 ..	6 8 ..	6 11
	4 p.m.	6	7 ..	6 8 ..	7 0
Nov. 9	11 a.m.	6	7 ..	6 8 ..	7 0
	4 p.m.	6	7 ..	6 8 ..	7 0
Nov. 10	11 a.m.	6	8 ..	6 9 ..	6 11
To-day	11 a.m.	6	8 ..	6 9 ..	6 11

Maize, new crop for February delivery, was offered at 3s. 11d. per cental.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 *minimum* and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: The market during the past week has been steady, several important growths have changed hands, but the general trade must be quoted quiet. Prices remain firm.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour: There has been a firm tone in the trade to day, and a fair business has been done at the full prices of this day week.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

The trade for milling offals remains unchanged from last Monday. There is some difficulty in getting stuff worked, in consequence of the strike of the lightermen.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

There is still an absence of business in our markets. Nothing is wanted for present sowing, while prices of seeds for spring use are too high a level to tempt much buying at present. We have no change to quote in any article. Canaryseed is talked higher, but speculators are shy of this article. Blue peas and haricots are very quiet.—JOHN PICARD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Wheat moderate arrivals, trade firmer, and prices fully supported. Flour unchanged. Maize 3d. per qr. dearer. Barley and oats fully as dear.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Wheat finds an improved demand to-day, and prices can be written 3d to 6d higher on the week. Flour unchanged, fair trade. Oats slow and unaltered. Maize 3d up. Barley unchanged, quiet.—W. P. WOOD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Offals: Bran further declined about 2s. 6d. per ton with the continued mild weather, temperature reaching 60 deg. in shade. With colder weather now supervening better demand anticipated. Pollard in small demand, and unchanged.—GREENHILL BROTHERS, Belfast, November 10.

Flour.—The market is fairly firm, but buyers do not purchase at all freely, evidently believing an advance is impossible. Grain.—Indian corn being scarce on spot is selling well at 3d. per boll advance. Peas are plentiful and 3d. cheaper. Beans quiet. Oats steady and unchanged. Barley dull and in buyers' favour. Mill stuffs.—Bran and thirds rather quiet.—MCKINNON and MCDONALD, Glasgow, November 10.

Wheat firm with a fair business at full prices. Flour steady with a small consumptive demand at late rates for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers. Maize has a fair trade, and is steadily held at ½d. per cental below last Tuesday. European almost exhausted and firmly held at quotations. Plate also getting into smaller compass with a fair trade at quotations. Barley dull and neglected for malting, at 3d. to 1s. per qr lower. Feeding also has a slow trade at unchanged prices. Beans are dull and lower, with little or nothing doing, foreign sorts showing a decline of 3d. to 9d. per qr from Tuesday. Peas quiet at ½d. per cental decline. Oats firm, but quiet at quotations for English. Foreign sorts have a moderate trade with less offering at unchanged prices. Oatmeal only a moderate inquiry, prices being unchanged from last market day. Oilcake firm with a fairly good demand at about late rates.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, November 10.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

There is no disposition to accept less money for wheat cargoes, either for near or future delivery. Maize is firm for round, dull for flat. Oats are tending higher for anything to arrive in December. Beans are quiet. Oilseeds favour buyers.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Walla Walla, 29s 6d, arrived; Californian, 30s 0d, due; Oregon, 30s 0d, due; Australian, 31s 3d, Feb. shipment new crop; Azoff, 31s on passage; No. 2 Hard winter, 29s 6d, just sailed; Manitoba 1899 crop, 32s 3d, prompt shipment; No. 1 Northern, 31s 9d, prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—American, 20s, prompt shipment; Bessarabian 22s 3d prompt shipment.

BARLEY.—Californian, 26s 9d, on passage; Azoff, 19s, on passage.

OATS.—Canadian, 14s 0d, on passage; White Lebau 13s 3d, prompt shipment.

BEANS.—Saida, 29s 6d, prompt shipment.

PEAS.—Morocco, 28s 6d, prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 48s, April shipment, new crop; Azoff, 57s, on passage; Argentine, 50s, January shipment; Petersburg, 55s, arrived.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 17s 6d, arrived; Egyptian, £6 16s 3d, prompt shipment.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 3,371 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 5,187 bales bacon. There was a marked improvement in the demand for bacon last week, and the market recovered some 2s. 3s. from the lowest current rates. Arrivals were well sold, and the market closed firm. Quotations on the open market were:—Irish, 54s. 56s. up to 58s.; Danish 52s. 54s. up to 58s.; Canadian, 48s to 54s. The butter market generally was very quiet, and all holders were anxious sellers. Danish, particularly slow, 116s, 118s; Canadian, 100s, 104s; Colonial, 100s, 108s. Lard, a firm market, Irish, 58s, 65s. American pails, 40s, 41s.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Nov. [illegible]

	British	Total	[illegible]
Beasts	1,749	[illegible]	1,490
Sheep and lambs	5,899	5,899	[illegible]
Calves	10	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pigs	80	[illegible]	[illegible]
Milch cows	30	30	[illegible]

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	2 10 —	4 2 —	4 10
Sheep	3 2 —	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lambs	5 2 ..	5 6 ..	6 0
Pigs	2 6 ..	4 0 ..	4 10

Milch cows, per head, £[illegible] to £[illegible]

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland 6; Eastern Counties, 44; Midland, Home and Western Counties 1,484; Devon, 45; Ireland, 132.

We note to-day a short supply of beasts [illegible] quality, for which there was a ready sale, [illegible] from being well maintained; other qualities [illegible] to easier rates being former. On the other hand [illegible] ing cow fat bulls and rough cattle met a [illegible] sharp decline in value. Notes from the provinces [illegible]

The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Nov. 13th, 1899.
Scotch	4s. 11d to 5s 0d ..	[illegible]
Devons	4s 8d to 4s 10d ..	[illegible]
Herefords	4s 8d to 4s 10d ..	4s 0d to 4s 8d
Norfolks	4s 8d to 4s 10d ..	[illegible]
Runts	4s 8d to 4s 9d ..	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Lincolns	4s 9d to 4s 6d ..	[illegible]
Irish	4s 2d to 4s 4d ..	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat cows	3s 6d to 3s 8d ..	[illegible]

To-day's supply, compared with Monday last [illegible] more, and consisted chiefly of Downs and halfbreds. Wethers sold steadily at last week's quotations. Ewes, being in good request and short in number, made 2d per 8lb. more money, and met with a freer sale. A few lambs were penned, and found buyers, but there was a lack of competition. The arrivals included 1,050 from the Eastern Counties, 230 Scotch, and 950 Irish.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Nov. 13th, 1899.
7½ to 8-stone Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d ..	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-stone ditto	5s 8d to 5s 10d ..	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10-stone half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d ..	5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-stone Lincolns	5s 0d to 5s 2d ..	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d ..	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10 stone Down ewes	4s 2d to 4s 4d ..	4s 2d to 4s 4d
11-stone half-bred ditto	3s 8d to 3s 10d ..	— to —
5-stone Down lambs	5s 10d to 6s 0d ..	— to —

Calf trade nominal.

There was a full supply in the pig market, where trade was firm both in regard to tone and value. The best small pigs were quoted at 4s 10d per 8lb, sinking the offal.

London Central, Monday.—Heavy supplies, trade slow. Beef: Carcases, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; hindquarters, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; roastings, 5s to 5s 4d. Sheep: Ewes, 3s to 3s 2d; wethers, 4s to 4s 2d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wether, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Pigs, large, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; small, 4s to 4s 4d.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 862; sheep, 360; pigs, 366. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s 6d; mutton, 7s to 9s 11d; pork, 6s to 7s 3d; sows 5s to 6s. Fat and store cattle good trade. Fat sheep good. Stores fair. Fat and store pigs good trade. Milch cows fair, £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,383. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 1,074, and consisted of 1,082 from the United States and [illegible] Canada, for which was of a fairly firm and steady nature both in tone and value, a practical clearance being made, though [illegible] up rather slowly. The best States beasts on offer to dress from 720lb to 760lb made 4s 3d for 8lb, offal given in. Second quality 3s 10d at which rates the best Canadians were quoted; middling descriptions of the latter 3s 6d to 3s 7d. No sheep on the market. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 1,345, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8lbs, to dress from 656lb to 720lbs; no sheep on the market.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that clover-seed continues inactive, all considerable [illegible] ments and speculative inquiries being also wanting. Meanwhile, quotations all round in the absence of business are consequently unchanged. Seed rye and winter tares are also neglected, but full prices, owing to a good demand and diminishing supplies, are asked for rapeseed, whilst as regards both brown and white mustard seed the manufacturers have already bought up the greater part of this year's crop. Canaryseed is gradually improving in both value and demand. The small quantity of Spanish seed that was recently available has now been taken off the market. There is no change in hempseed. Blue peas and haricot beans command former prices. A few choice handpicked longpod beans are now obtainable at moderate rates.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Demand very limited, but short supplies keep the market [illegible] Weak ward position. Decorticated [illegible] Cotton cake unchanged. Linseed [illegible] at hand. La Plata, which will probably not arrive until early March, has fallen 3s per qr.

English linseed cake	£8 12 6	to	£8 15 0	ex mill
American Western linseed cake	7 17 6	to	8 0 0	ex quay
Russian oil cake	7 17 6	to	8 5 0	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F.	[illegible]			
Feeding cake, Francis [illegible] to 12 per cent. oil	[illegible]			ex [illegible]
Decorticated cotton cake	[illegible]			ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	[illegible]			ex quay
London made cotton cake (West)	[illegible]			ex [illegible]
Egyptian cotton cake in bags	[illegible]			[illegible]
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	[illegible]			on rail, Burton
Rangoon R. Meal	[illegible]		—	ex [illegible]
Russian linseed in bulk, per [illegible]	[illegible]			house
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 41 lbs	[illegible]		—	house

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON, [illegible]

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in the West.

Business is marked by unwonted activity both in regard to fat and store stock, but more especially the latter. Barreners make considerably enhanced rates, some very forward bullocks as much as £33 per pair, ranging down to £22 or £24 for good serviceable beasts. Dairy beasts have hardly kept pace with other things, though they, too, continue to market very satisfactorily at from £17 to £20 or £21 apiece. In-calvers are likewise making good prices. Store sheep, despite the fact of those now selling being the "refuse" of most farms, bring capital prices, either for wintering or for promptly converting into mutton. Ewes range from 31s. to 46s. each. Fat stock keeps very buovant, good beef even more so than mutton. The former commands 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. for decent quality bullocks, and the latter 7¼d. to 8½d., the trade towards the close of the week exhibiting a slightly weaker feeling, except for fat lambs, which made up to 44s. 6d. at Blandford Fair on Thursday. But both veal and pork more than compensate for this decline by their exceptional firmness.

Trade in Ireland.

At Thursday's Dublin market trade was very dull. For prime bullocks there was a brisk demand, and sales were more easily effected than last week, but heifers did not go so well, while for rough cattle there was a slight fall even on last week's prices. The grass season being over, and prospects of feeding stuffs high, makes many sell off their cattle rather than keep them on to feed. The Duke of Leinster had a fine lot of bullocks on the market, which brought top price, viz., £24 a head. Best beef was worth from 52s. 6d. to 56s., second class from 46s. to 50s., other descriptions from 40s. to 44s. per cwt. Prime veal scarce, and worth 7½d. per lb. At a meeting of the Irish Cattle Traders and Stockowners' Association a statement was made that the Dublin victuallers complained bitterly that they had the greatest

Difficulty in Getting Good Veal,

and they ascribe the dearth to the great mortality of recent years amongst Irish calves, owing, it was stated, to the system of feeding on separated milk. Top rates of last week had to be given for really tip-top mutton, and the best class of shipping hoggets moved freely enough, but for other descriptions of sheep business was very dull. Prime wether mutton worth from 6½d. to 6¾d. per lb.; ewe, 5d. to 6d.; and inferior sheep, 4½d. to 5d. The market of dairy cattle was a very small one, and really good cows were conspicuous by their absence. Prices were stiff, as there were plenty of buyers for anything of good quality. Prime springers were worth as much as from £22 to £24, and new milch cows from £18 to £21. In the pig department there was a large supply, which dealers took advantage of, and a reduction of from 2s. to 3s. per cwt. on last week's rates had to be made to effect sales. Best pigs, 40s. to 42s. per cwt.; inferior from 30s. to 36s. per cwt.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies, but trade slow. Pork, however, ruled firm and dearer. Arrivals of beef included 50 tons Scotch, 650 Liverpool sides, 1,500 hindquarters, and 750 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations:—Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 9d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s 8d to 5s; Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d; and Irish, 4s per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Good supplies, but trade remained slow; best meat, however, ruled firm. Arrivals of beef included 85 tons Scotch, 380 Liverpool sides, 3,500 hindquarters, and 2,000 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; American refrigerated hindquarters (best), 3s 6d to 3s 10d; seconds, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; forequarters, 2s 7d to 2s 9d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Canterbury, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; Wellington, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 5d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s; and Irish, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Good supply of beasts, chiefly consisting of fat bulls and rough cattle. Trade quiet at about late rates. Small number of sheep met rather quiet sale at late rates as far as wethers were concerned, but ewes cleared early to a good demand at 2d per 8lb advance. 7½-stone to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; and 11-stone half-bred, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. Calf trade ruled quiet, and quotations nominal. Pigs in good supply favoured buyers. Neat small, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 8lb, to sink. Total supplies, 180 beasts, 460 sheep, 20 calves, 230 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade slow at last week's prices, best animals making 11s to 12s per score; and secondary beasts, 10s to 11s. Mutton, after a week's rise, receded to its old level, and small wethers did not go above 5s 2d per stone. Larger wethers made 4s to 4s 8d; and barrens, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Veal fetched 5s 4d per stone. Pork was 6d per score cheaper on the week, roasters selling at 11s to 11s 6d per score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons sale-yard there was a large attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 33 fat beasts, 77 calves, 567 fat sheep and lambs, 351 pigs, and 59 head of store cattle, which realised the following prices:—Fat beasts, £14 5s to £24; fat calves, 80s to £5 2s 6d; small, 20s to 55s; fat wethers, 43s 6d to 55s 6d; fat ewes, 29s 6d to 36s 6d; fat lambs up to 27s; fat hogs, 68s to £5 5s; fat porkers, 42s to 60s; small, 30s to 41s; store pigs, 10s 6d to 20s; dairy cows, £9 to £21 5s. A moderate supply of fat beasts as regards numbers included some prime quality Devon steers, and useful Shorthorns and Galloways. The business done was chiefly at late rates. Prime Devon steers made up to £24; Shorthorn ditto, £19; heifers, £16 10s; cows, £14 10s; Galloway steers, £18 15s; ditto heifers, £14 10s; etc. A fair show of fat sheep and fat lambs were mostly cleared, best qualities maintaining late rates, but inferior lots and anything below the best were worse to sell and made less money. The damp, warm weather is adverse to the trade. Prime quality Hants Down wethers and young ewes made 43s 6d, 44s, 45s, 55s 6d, 46s 6d, 48s, 43s, 51s; ten-months-old ditto, 40s, 36s, 47s, 46s, 43s 6d, 50s, 47s 6d, 35s, 49s, 52s 33s 6d, 34s, 39s, 45s, 39s, 44s 6d; old ewes, 31s, 36s, 28s, 38s, 35s, 36s 6d, 29s 6d, 33s, 32s 6d. Exmoor ewes, 27s; rams, 47s, 36s, 41s; three-months-old sucking lambs, 25s, 26s, 22s. Exmoor lambs, 27s. Dairy cows and heifers of all descriptions met a most ready sale, the supply being inadequate to the demand. Store cattle were cleared with a trifle better enquiry. Fat calves with a small entry met a fair trade. The trade for fat hogs is not quite so good. Fat porkers are wanted, meeting a brisk trade throughout. Store pigs sold briskly at an advance on last week's quotations. Fat sows are meeting a better trade and selling readily. Ruling values:—Pure Devon and Scotch beasts, 7d to 7¼d; ditto Shorthorns, 6d to 6¾d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 5½d per lb; best quality fat sheep, 8¼d to 8¾d; second ditto, 7d to 7¾d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 5½d to 6d; choice fat sucking lambs, 8d to 9d per lb; fat calves, 6¾d to 8¼d per lb; fat hogs up to 9s; porkers up to 11s per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—The market was quiet. There was a nice show of young stores, but in-calvers were not very numerous, and there was an upward tendency in price. Best beef, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; and cow beef, 6s 6d to 6s 9d per stone; strong stores, £13 to £15; second quality, £7 to £10; in-calvers £18 to £22; heifers, £16 to £18 10s; calves, 60s to 65s; wether mutton, 7½d to 8d; ewe mutton, 5d to 6d per lb. A good show of store lambs at 34s to 38s; strong shearling sheep, 48s to 50s.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under	8s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in.	8s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	7s 3d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 1,212; sheep, 728; pigs, 409; horses, 12. Beef, 7s to 7s 9d per stone; mutton, 4s to 5s 8d; pork, 6s to 6s 6d. A large show store beasts, and nearly all cleared. Fat beasts a large supply, prices not quite so good. Fat sheep a fair show, trade not so good. Stores, only a few lots to hand, all cleared. Fat pigs a larger show and prices not so good. Stores a fair trade. Hay, straw, and roots short supplies.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was rather more stock offering, the supply consisting principally of bullocks. Ewes made from 31s to 33s per head, ewe tegs from 37s to 42s 6d, and rough working tegs from 30s to 33s. Bullocks sold slowly, owing to the high prices asked. Trade in them was done at £11 10s to £14 15s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—About 300 head of Irish store cattle were exhibited, the greater part being good heifers for wintering purposes, and the remainder excellent polled bullocks. The attendance was small, and trade quiet. Heifer stirks realised about £7 10s; small two-year-olds, £6 10s to £8 10s; best specimens, to £16 10s; polled bullocks, to £15 10s; young pigs a small show, prices to 24s.

Derby, Tuesday.—There was an average attendance. Beasts fairly plentiful, and demand moderately brisk. Mutton unaltered. Beef, 5½d to 6¼d; mutton, 7d to 8¼d per lb.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Milch beasts made a much faster trade than for some time back. Mutton and beef were in better request at dearer rates. Prices ruled as follows:—Best heifers and calves, £16 10s to £21; cows and calves, £14 10s to £17 5s; best fat heifers, £18 10s to £23; fat steers, £17 15s to £22 5s; fat cows, £19 to £21; fat bulls, £17 5s. Heifers and calves sold fully 30s dearer than a fortnight ago. Sheep.—Best down wethers sold from 43s to 46s; horn ewes, 38s; horn wethers, 3s.

Dublin, Thursday.—No alteration in the values of prime finished bullocks. Heifers rather neglected. Rough and inferior descriptions again met with a slow and irregular trade, and prices seem to show a weaker tendency. Sheep, owing to the large reduction in numbers, easier sold at last week's prices. Cattle (best), 30s to 32s 6d per cwt; other descriptions, 25s to 29s per cwt. Mutton, 5½d to 6¾d per lb; extreme, 7d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Good supplies, with a numerous attendance of buyers. Strong demand, at late currencies. Crossbred bullocks, to £22; shorthorn bulls, to £22; crossbred cows, to £17; Highland bullocks, to £22; Galloway cows, to £13; Galloway heifers, to £13 15s; Cheviot ewes, to 30s; black-faced ewes, to 25s; lambs, to 30s each.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—There were lighter supplies of store stock. Buyers were few. Polled bullocks sold to £14; shorthorn cows, to £26 10s; Ayrshires, to £17 15s; half-bred sheep, to 38s; Cheviots, to 34s; grey-faced, to 36s; half-bred lambs, to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Cattle in larger supply, but sheep smaller. Trade quiet, as the weather is unfavourable; values nominally steady. Top Scotch cattle, 66s to 68s; secondary, 60s to 62s; top Irish, 58s to 60s per cwt. Top mutton, 8d to 8¾d; secondary, 7d to 7¾d per lb. Dead meat quiet; mutton easy; good meat steady; best States beef, 5¾d; home, 6d; Canadian, 5¾d to 5½d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 796, calves 57, sheep and lambs 917, pigs (fat and sows) 29, sucking pigs 45, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 269, pigs (stores, more than ten) 73, horses 8, colts 3.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report an average supply of fat cattle, which consisted mostly of yard-fed animals, for which there was a sharp trade, up to £25 5s. Calves were not numerous; the best for weaning made up to 57s. Fat sheep were in demand, without alteration in value. The trade for fat swine was excellent, heavy-weights being in request at more money. This being the annual autumn sale of Shorthorn bulls, about 40 animals were catalogued, including 30 from Cumberland, ranging from 10 to 17 months old, making from 20 to 25 guineas. Cows and heifers were in request, up to £30. A few lots of store cattle were offered; trade was slow and prices much the same. Numbers at sales and market:—Beasts 705, sheep 1,381, calves 31, swine 1,529, horses 41.

Leicester, Saturday.—Larger supplies of stock in good condition. Fair attendance, and trade steady at firm prices. Milch cows made £16 to £24 per head. Bullocks, £10 to £16 per head. Calves flat.

Lincoln, Friday.—Trade slow at about rates of last week. Milch beasts, £11 to £20; store bullocks, £11 to £16; two-year-olds, £10 to £13; and young stock, £7 to £9.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Large supply of cattle, and slow heavy trade all round. Numbers:—Cattle, 2,122; sheep, 5,804; calves, 59; pigs, 1,167. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s to 8s; pork, 5s to 9s 6d per stone; mutton, 5d to 8d; veal, 5d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Brisk trade. Quotations:—Best beef, 6¾d per lb; seconds, 6¼d to 6¾d; wether sheep, 7¾d to 8d; cows, 5¾d to 6d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; lamb, 8d; veal, 7¼d; porker pigs, 10s 6d to 10s 9d per score.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts here to-day was large; the demand was somewhat inactive, but previous rates were about maintained. Fat beasts, which were in moderate supply, made 7s 6d to 8s and 8s 3d per 14lb. Store sheep were not very freely offered; a good business was passing at fully former terms, hoggetts making 30s to 42s; and keeping shearlings, 40s to 46s per head. Fat sheep were quoted at 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance, and full supplies of both cattle and sheep, the latter being in excess of the demand. Calves went off slowly. Prices were practically unchanged all round. Beef, heifers, and bullocks, 5¾d to 6¼d; cows and bulls, 5d to 5½d; mutton hoggs, 7½d; tups and ewes, 5½d to 6¾d; lambs, 7d to 7¾d; calves, 5½d to 6¼d.

Romford, Wednesday.—An average supply of fat beasts, and trade a little better. Best animals made 4s 4d to 4s 6d, and middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply, and trade a little better, at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in average supply, and trade about the same. Best sheep made 5s 6d to 5s 8d, and second quality 5s to 5s 2d per stone. A few store beasts on offer, and demand slow. Pig trade about the same. Small porkers made 4s to 4s 2d, and large hogs 3s 8d to 4s per stone.

Saffron Walden, Tuesday.—Sheep were an average supply, and met with a slow demand, prices having a drooping tendency. Fat ewes made up to 41s 6d; shearling wethers, 57s; hoggets, 48s 6d. Beasts were in short supply, and sold well. Shorthorns made up to £21 15s; and small Devons, £18 15s. Fat calves made less money, ranging from £2 3s to £3 15s. Weanels made up to 45s. Pigs were in short supply, and prices were advanced. Hogs made up to 81s; porkers, 37s 6d; stores, 27s 6d; and fat sows, £6 5s.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a larger supply of cattle in market. Prime quality met with a fair demand at late full prices, but all others were irregular in price and bad to sell. The supply of sheep was smaller. There was a moderate demand for choice light weights, but medium and inferior met with a slow sale, and prices tended downwards. About the same number of calves on offer, for which there was a slow demand, and prices were lower. Quotations—Cattle, 5d to 6¼d; sheep, 6d to 8¼d; calves, 5d to 7¼d per lb. At market—Cattle, 2,874; sheep, 6,238; calves, 112; pigs, 96.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—About an average show of milch beasts, but only a very slow trade. Best lots, £20 to £22; secondary, £18 to £20.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Sheep and calves firm at late rates, with a brisk trade for cows with calves, fat cattle, and pigs of all sorts. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 7¼d; mutton, 6¾d to 8d; and veal, 6d to 8d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s 6d; and bacons, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per score. Cows, with calves, up to £20 15s. Number offered:—775 cattle, 42 cows, with calves, 1,052 sheep and lambs, 76 calves, 55 fat, 163 porket, and 339 store pigs. Small supplies of cows, with calves.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A small show of beef, and slow sale. Top price was 7s 6d per stone; cows, 7s. There was a large show of store beasts. Useful stores, £13 to £15; young stock, £7 to £10. Cows and in-calvers dear. In the sheep market the mutton trade was not so good. Ewe mutton sold badly. Best Lincolns and half-breds made satisfactory prices.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 239 cattle, 326 sheep, and 322 pigs. A smaller supply of best cattle than last week, and customers were few and trade slow at 7s 6d to 8s per stone, rougher kinds 6s 6d to 7s; young sheep, 8d; ewes, 6d; tups, 5d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Small supply, very good attendance, and medium trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—The short supply of stock had a better effect upon trade, which showed an improvement. Beef made higher prices, and fat pigs met with a good inquiry. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 70 fat beasts, 100 fat sheep, 97 fat and weaning calves, and 128 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £18 to £21 15s; fat heifers, £14 to £21 10s; fat wethers, 44s to 52s; ewes, 30s to 42s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £4 16s; cow calves, 28s to 63s; bull calves, 17s to 49s; fat pigs, 10s per score. Stores dearer.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—With larger supply of beef trade was slower. Best qualities 6¼d per lb, and other sorts, 5d to 6d. There were less sheep penned, and the rates as last. Small sheep 8d to 8¼d; strong, 7d to 7¼d; ewes and tups, 5d to 6¼d. Numbers penned:—Fat beasts, 1,718; sheep, 3,136.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts and sheep a fair supply; slow trade. Calves a small show; fair demand. Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton 6d to 8¼d per lb; veal, 6¾d to 8d per lb. Bacon pigs, 8s 9d to 9s per score; porkets, 9s 6d to 10s per score; sows, 7s per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Moderate supplies of fat cattle, and quiet trade at late rates. Good entry of sheep with fair trade. Calves short supply and good demand. Brisk trade for pigs. Beef, 6d to 7d; mutton, 7d to 8d; ewes, 6d; veal, 7d to 8d per lb; pigs, 9s to 10s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good show of stock, and fair attendance of buyers, with trade fairly brisk, and no appreciable alteration in the quotations from last week. Best beef, which sold readily, made 7s 9d to 8s 3d per stone; secondary, 7s to 7s 6d. Sheep were also in good demand. Best wether mutton, 7d to 8½d; ewes, 5d to 7d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—900 beasts, consisting of shipments from the States. Trade very slow, at 3s 10d to 4s 1d, exceptionally, 4s 2d per 8lb to sink the offal.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per pocket of 240lb.—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 10s; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8. Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 10s; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb:—Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; scoured, good, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; scoured, average, 1s 1d to 1s 4½; greasy average to fair, 10d to 1s 0½d; New South Wales, scoured, average, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; greasy average, 7½d to 8¼d; South Australian, greasy, average, 6d to 6¾d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy, average, 7½d to 8d; Cape, scoured, superior, 1s 3½d to 1s 4d, fleece, average, 6¾d to 7½; greasy, average, 5d to 5½d; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy, average, 5½d to 6¼d; crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 9d to 10d. New Zealand, fine, 8½d to 10d; ditto, medium, 6¾d to 7¾d; ditto, coarse, 5½d to 6¼d.

Bradford, Thursday.—The market has derived a stronger feeling by reason of the political settlement in America, but quotations are without change. Merinos are, perhaps, better held, and all other sorts meet ready at Monday's prices. Mohair quiet, but firm. The yarn trade continues quiet in both departments, and there is no change in the piece trade.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade is very dull, and prices nominally remain at 6d per lb for Kent fleeces. Lamb wool, 4d; half-breds, 5d; Downs, 5½d to 6¼d; and locks, 2½d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—There is a slight improvement in the local wool market, a great disposition to buy, but no improvement in prices. Spinners keep well employed, except for fine yarns.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—Owing to the report in the *Times* that the amount available for export from La Plata this season is likely to amount to 400,000 tons, buyers have become frightened, and have retired for the present, consequently limits are reduced. Calcutta to London finds sellers in all positions up to December at 60s 6d, April-June, 48s. La Plata December-January, 51s 6d; January-February, 50s 6d. Hull nothing doing. Calcutta, April-June, 49s 6d. Azov, Black Sea, October-November, 57s 9d. La Plata, December-January, 51s 6d, January-February, 50s 6d. To the Continent Bombay is quoted February-March, 52s; March-May, 50s 6d. Calcutta, March-April, 50s 6d.; April-June, new crop, 49s. La Plata December-January, 51s 6d; January-February, 50s 6d. Linseed cakes firm. London made, £8 10s to £8 12s 6d. Russian, £8 2s 6d to £8 7s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £8. Cotton cakes steady. London made £5 2s 6d to £5 5s; Egyptian, £4 18s 9d. Rapeseed is inactive and very dull. Brown Calcutta to London November-December, 45s nominally; April-June, 40s 6d. To the Continent we quote, yellow Guzerat March-May, 47s 3d; yellow Cawnpore March-May, 44s 9d. Brown Cawnpore November-December, 48s 6d; March-May, 41s; brown Calcutta, October-November, 46s; April-June, 42s. Ravison to Hull, prompt 33s. Cottonseed is firmer owing to Alexandrian prices advancing: at the close, however, prices are not quite at their best. Near at hand London £7, first half November, £7; November-January, £6 16s 3d. February-March, £6 17s 6d. Hull spot, £7; November-January, £6 16s 3d. Cargoes, November, £7; December, £7.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: The trade during the past week has been slow, buyers being unwilling to operate at present prices, and with better supplies from both America and Russia values are weak. Russians and Americans offer on spot and for arrival at a slight reduction. English are unchanged, but do not find a ready sale. Cotton Cakes: There has been a liberal quantity of Egyptian on the market, and with only a retail enquiry quotations are not quite so firm, best brands being now offered at 1s 3d per ton under last week's price. English remain in small production and maintain their value. Decorticated do not offer on spot, but for November shipment there are sellers, with meal a trifle easier. Maize germ meal: Landed parcels are in good request, but 5s per ton less money has been accepted in forward position. English sell quietly and unchanged. Rice meal: Rangoon in warehouse is quite as dear, but some business is reported for November-December shipment at considerably under last week's prices.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... per ton ex mill	8 12 6	to	8 17 6
American in bags ..... ex dock	7 16 3	„	7 17 6
American Oct.-Nov. ..... „	7 15 0	„	7 17 6
Russian in mats ..... „	7 17 6	„	7 18 9
Russian in bags ..... „	8 2 6	„	8 5 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	5 2 6	„	5 5 0
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 17 6	„	4 18 9
„ „ Nov.-April shipment	4 15 0	„	4 17 6
Decorticated ..... Oct.-Nov. „	6 12 6	„	6 15 0
Meal, on spot ..... „ „ „	6 12 6	„	6 15 0
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 15 0	„	—
Ravison ..... „	4 10 0	„	—
Nutted, in bags ..... „	4 15 0	„	—
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American) ..... ex dock	5 5 0	„	5 6 3
„ „ „ Sept.-Oct. c.i.f.	5 0 0	„	5 2 6
„ „ (English) ..... ex mill	5 7 6	„	5 10 0
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	4 12 6	„	4 15 0
„ Nov-Dec. ..... ex ship	4 10 0	„	—
„ Jan.-March ..... „	4 8 9	„	—

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane

Hull, Tuesday.—The wheat trade is steady to-day, and last week's prices are fully maintained for both home-grown and foreign. Malting barley meets a dull sale, and buyers have rather the advantage in price, particularly for common quality. Grinding in limited demand at late rates. Oats in fair request at fully last Tuesday's prices. Beans dull, and the turn cheaper. Flat maize rather in buyers' favour, and Odessa offers at less money to arrive. Linseed.—The arrivals are 495 qrs from Konigsberg, 26,449 qrs Novorossisk, 2,218 qrs New York, 5,716 qrs Petersburg, 2,505 qrs Riga, 7 qrs Rosario, 1,092 qrs Trieste; total, 38,482 qrs. A quiet tone prevailed throughout the week until quite towards the close, when there was a little rally. Plate prices ran up 6d per qr, with a fair trade put through at the advance. To-day's values are, first half January, 53s 6d; December-January, 52s 9d to 53s; January-February, 51s 6d to 51s 9d; February-March, 51s. Bombay, nothing doing for present loading, but some new crop, March-May, has been sold to the Continent at 51s 3d. Calcutta, nothing offering to Hull; old crop to London, October-November, is quoted 60s 6d to 60s 9d; new crop to London, 48s 9d; 50s paid to the Continent. Black Sea and Azov, 57s 6d to 57s 9d. Petersburg is named on the market at 55s 6d, but very little remains now for sale. Riga, 54s 6d to 55s. Cottonseed.—The market ruled quiet all last week, though without much change in forward values, but spot declined to £6 16s 3d, there being a little more steadiness, however, since yesterday, and to-day business done at £6 17s 6d. October B/L sold at £6 15s to £6 13s 9d, without sellers to-day under £6 16s 3d and after £6 12s 6d taken again, November-January and February-March, £6 13s 9d paid, £6 15s being wanted to-day. Linseed cakes: A quiet trade but prices are upheld by the light seed supplies. Cotton cakes were 5s cheaper. Fresh orders scarce, but deliveries on contracts good. Hemp.—Market very quiet, nothing doing.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 10s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 7s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 17s 6d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE, packed in bags, of 1½cwt. each. Price per cwt. 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Good supplies. Best clover, 85s to 100s; inferior ditto, 70s to 90s; specially picked hay, 92s 6d; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 90s; and straw, 25s to 36s per load.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Business steady, with an improving tendency. Prices firm. Quotations: Meadow hay, 6½d to 7d; clover, 7d to 7½d; wheat straw, 5½d; oat straw, 5d; rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday. Trading this week, owing to the lightermen's strike ang general disorganisation in getting stuff shipped, has been very small, only a few parcels are to hand, and for these a very quiet demand has been found at easier price. We quote: Canadian timothy and clover mixture, 82s 6d to 85s; Dutch, 1st cut clover, 87s 6d; French and Dutch 2nd cut clover, 90s; good Dutch hay, 72s 6d to 75s; common Dutch hay, 65s; large bale French wheat straw, 40s 6d; small ditto ditto, 43s; small ditto oat straw, 43s. All thes prices are per ton delivered by barge alongside.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10, Great Tower Street, E.C.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday. Vegetables were in good supply, but trade ruled dull. Good supplies of fruit met a fair demand. Greenstuffs: Cabbages, 2s 6d to 3s 6d, sax 3s 6d to 5s; beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d per tally; cauliflowers, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen; spinach, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; carrots, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; turnips, 2s to 3s; parsley, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; celery, 8d to 1s per dozen; lettuces, Valencia onions, 6s to 6s 6d per case. Potatoes, 70s to 100s per ton. Fruit: English grapes, 6d to 1s 6d per lb. Almeria, 10s to 16s per barrel; English apples, 4s to 7s per bushel. Nova Scotian 12s to 14s per barrel; English pears, 3s to 7s per bushel; peaches, 2s to 10s per dozen; Valencia melons, 6s to 7s per case; pine apples, 1s 6d to 4s each; bananas, 4s 6d to 5s per bunch; lemons, 3s to 14s per case; English tomatoes, 3s 6d to 4s per 12lb.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Saturday. Fertilisers as usual at this date are quiet, and this applies to all descriptions excepting basic slag, which, however, is in somewhat active request at the quotations; the earlier it is applied in the autumn, the more beneficial will be the results, as it is a slow acting phosphatic fertiliser. It is computed that the visible supply of nitrate of soda (stocks and afloat, for Europe on the 1st inst. was about 940,000 tons, and although the spot demand is practically nil the recent improved prices are maintained. The mild, open weather militates against the consumption of artificial feeding stuffs, and the trade as yet is very quiet, but will develop when colder weather sets in. Values remain firm, and in comparison with the prices of various descriptions, crushed cotton seed, palm nut cake would seem to be exceptionally good value for the money. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £8 7s 6d to £8 10s per ton; East India bone meal, in bags, £4 10s per ton; kainit, prime 25 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 10s 3d to £8 per ton; ditto, English, prime, in bulk, £8 17s 6d to £9 2s 6d per ton; ditto, foreign, round, prime, sell, and oily, in bags, £8 15s per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 per ton; ditto, English, ditto, prime, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d per ton; ditto, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £5 2s 6d to £5 5s per ton; cottonseed (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent., oil, £7 7s 6d per ton; maize germ meal, English, prime, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 15s 3d to £6 1s 3d per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime in bulk, 11s 3d to 11s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 5s per qr, 416lb; N.A. cloverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, per cwt; D N S, brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, per ton; ditto, ditto, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, per ton; ditto, ditto, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, per ton, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d per ton; ditto, ditto, 35 to 40 phos., in bags, £1 13s 6d to £1 14s 6d per ton; ditto, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 phos., in bags, £1 16s to £1 17s 6d per ton, at the producing depots.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Winsford (Cheshire), Saturday. Our current prices for salt at the works: Common white salt, 11s per ton; fine screened rock salt, 8s 6d per ton, for truck loads in bulk.—THE SALT UNION, LIMITED.

THE BALTIC.

An extremely quiet week has to be recorded, and the interruption to business on Friday by reason of the Lord Mayor's Show was not felt as it would have been in a period of speculative briskness. Wheat sales have included Walla Walla at 29s. 6d., Californian at 30s. 9d., Roumanian at 29s.; hard Taganrog at 28s. 6d., Argentine at 30s. 3d., No. 1 Northern at 31s. 3d., No. 2 red Winter at 30s. 3d., hard Winter at 29s. 3d., and North Russia at 29s. per qr. Maize cargoes are steady. A cargo of African sold at 22s. is an unusual feature. Roumanian, for spring shipment, is offered at 19s. 3d., and fine Galatz at 20s., but for prompt shipment 2s. over these prices is paid. American makes 20s. 9d. on passage, and 19s. 3d. for December shipment. Other cargo sales include Saida beans as 29s. 6d., Azoff barley at 19s., Russian rye at 23s. 9d., Petersburg oats at 13s. 6d., Canadian peas at 27s. 6d., and Argentine linseed at 51s. per qr.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 3 wheat (1 Melbourne, 1 Port Augusta, 1 Portland (O.), 1 barley (San Francisco); total 4.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were:—5 wheat (1 Birkenhead, 2 Fleetwood, 1 Hamburg, 1 Manchester); total 5.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been:—301 wheat, 14 wheat and barley, 1 wheat and pease, 7 flour, 12 maize, 1 maize and oats, 26 barley, 19 beans, 9 locust beans, 1 pease, 1 linseed, 5 canaryseed, 2 fenugreek seed, 5 valonea; total, 404.

Last year, during the same time the arrivals were:—254 wheat, 10 flour, 4 maize, 7 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 10 beans, 2 locust beans, 6 linseed, 6 canaryseed, and 7 valonea; total, 308.

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Belfast, Nov. 3, 1900.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb	£ s. d.
2	Bullocks (prime) ..	17 5 0	10 1 0	1 13 8
2	„ (very good) ..	14 0 0	8 2 14	1 12 6
1	„ (good) ..	11 10 0	8 0 7	1 8 6
1	Heifer (prime) ..	18 10 0	10 1 14	1 15 8
1	„ ..	16 10 0	9 1 0	1 15 8
2	„ ..	16 15 0	9 2 0	1 15 3
1	„ ..	17 5 0	10 0 7	1 14 3
1	„ ..	16 5 0	9 2 0	1 13 3
1	„ ..	18 0 0	10 3 21	1 12 11
1	„ ..	15 10 0	9 2 0	1 12 8
1	„ (very good) ..	13 5 0	8 2 14	1 10 9
1	„ (good) ..	15 0 0	10 1 0	1 9 5
1	„ ..	12 10 1	8 2 14	1 9 0

Shorthorn Society.

Meetings of the committees and Council were held at the Society's Rooms, 12, Hanover Square, W., on Tuesday. Present: Mr Herbert Leeds in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Editing Committee.

Lord Moreton reported that Volume XLVI., containing the pedigrees of 2,221 bulls and 4,359 cows with produce, which is the largest number of entries in any volume since Volume XXI., had been issued to the members.

The committee had examined and passed the list of pedigree exportation certificates issued by the secretary since the last meeting of the committee, viz., for South Africa, 3; South America, 159; Australia, 2; Canada, 172; Germany, 14; Japan, 1; United States of America, 31; Russia, 26; total, 408.

Several new pedigrees were examined by the committee, with certificates and other evidence in support of their correctness, and accepted for entry in the Herd Book.

The committee fixed Friday, February 1st, 1901, as the date by which entries for the next volume of the Herd Book should be sent in and passed the entry forms with the regulations of entry, the latter to include a regulation that all calves, other than dead or steered calves, must be named at the time of entry.

Lord Moreton also reported that in the recent case Regina *v.* Joseph Gowing the latter pleaded guilty and was fined £120. He thought it only right to mention that the investigation by this society, which led to this result, was commenced before any communication was received from either Mr. Allen or the Birmingham Exhibition Society.

This report was adopted.

General Purposes Committee.

Sir Nigel Kingscote reported that the accounts for the past three months had been examined by Messrs. Welton, Jones, and Co., and the committee, and were found to be correct. The receipts for the same period had been £235 5s. 1d., the balance of the society's current account at the bankers being £183 19s., and the committee recommended that cheques be drawn for various accounts amounting to £58 14s. 6d.

The committee had provisionally considered the prize scheme for 1901, and would submit the scheme for adoption at the next meeting.

This report was adopted.

A communication from Mr. John Downing with reference to the representation of Irish breeders on the Council was, on the motion of Mr. R. Stratton, seconded by Lord Brougham and Vaux, ordered to be laid on the table.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for Tuesday, December 11th, at 4.30 p.m.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended November 3, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	10,759	10,664	Wheat ..	1,318,700	1,745,100
Sheep ..	4,057	4,980	Flour ..	400,700	505,800
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	345,000	598,600
			Oats ..	321,600	188,100
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	99,600	86,600
Beef ..	72,714	57,927	Beans ..	21,700	25,500
Mutton ..	36,645	40,259	Maize ..	1,302,500	935,800
Pork ..	15,618	19,423		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	107,390	87,043	†Bananas	—	6,855
Beef, salt	3,986	3,141		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	33,284	26,035	Apples ..	193,691‡	148,915
Pork, salt	2,940	4,522	†Apricots & Peaches	—	465
Meat, salt & fresh	7,499	10,063	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	16,369	20,759	†Currants	—	—
Butter ..	50,557	63,077	†Gooseb'r's	—	—
M'rg'rine	21,326	16,400	Grapes ..	66,600‡	33,122
Cheese ..	105,476	105,530	Lemons ..	11,100‡	9,473
Con. Milk	15,381	22,825	Oranges ..	60,994‡	24,346
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	43	382	Pears ..	13,571‡	8,431
			Plums ..	1,089‡	351
			†Stra'b'r's	—	—
			Oth'r Fr't	25,420‡	4,069
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	2,926	805
Eggs ..	377,075*	377,335*		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	170,641	152,775
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt	Cwt.
	£10,202	£7,400	Hops ..	3,756	11,615
			Potatoes	103,673	304,969
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Tom to's	—	7,433
Rabbits	20,012	25,800	Other	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	59,708	53,339	Veg'bles	£25,712	£ 3,221

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

A fair number of male servants assembled at the Rotherham Hiring Fair on Monday, but hands willing to milk were scarce, and wages ruled higher. First hands and lads much obtained up to £25 a year, second men £17 to £21, and boys and youths £10 to £15. Grass asked high rates, and received £10 to £14.

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The thoroughbred stallion Astrologer is a fifteen-year-old chestnut by Hermit—Stella, and is the property of Mr. William Pallin, of Athgarvan Stud, Curragh. Our photograph was taken at the Royal Dublin Society's Horse and Sheep Show, held in August, where Astrologer won a premium of £20 in the class for thoroughbred stallions, ten years and over, to get weight-carrying hunters, or high-class harness horses.

The Red Poll cow Bud II. 12089, sire Rosy Boy 4627, dam Bud 9170, by Albion 2982, is the property of Mr. J. E. Platt, Howbury Hall, near Bedford, her breeder being Mr. Garrett Taylor. At the last Dairy Show at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, Bud II. won the first inspection prize in the Red Poll cow class.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

An agitation is at present going on in Leeds for the building of an agricultural hall, to be called the Smithfield Hall, its advocates contending that there is a pressing need for something of the kind. It is not only the Smithfield Club who are interested in having such a structure for their annual show, though for them it is of great importance that the growth of their society should not be handicapped as it is under the existing arrangement. They are the proprietors of a vast quantity of timber, girders, and screws, which they erect and demolish from year to year on the Engineers' ground in Camp Road, paying a ground rental of £250 per annum. Their structure stands on its feet for eight months, and is then cleared away for the drill season. As a set-off against an annual outlay of between £500 and £600, the club are able to let it to various circuses and exhibitions, which provide a good source of revenue, there being no other structure so suitable for the purpose in the whole of Leeds.

It is not unfairly argued that the Corporation, by providing such a hall, would meet a public requirement. If fashioned after the style of the Islington prototype, it would be suitable for many kinds of exhibitions and public entertainments on a large scale, to say nothing of the political mass meetings and other occasions when the public assemble in their thousands. Present receipts from the letting of the hall are not inconsiderable, and it is pointed out that the Corporation would have increased opportunities, and reap more than enough to recoup themselves on the outlay.

Another suggestion is that the licence of the existing Corporation Hotel—now held by the Leeds Corporation—should be transferred to the new structure, and converted into an inside licence, refreshments being sold only when the hall is in use for exhibition purposes. It is believed that a horse, Hackney, and foal show would be started in Leeds if a central building could be found, and, among other suggestions, some attention may be paid to the idea of using it as a playground for children when otherwise not required. The City Corporation already possess full powers to undertake the work, but no plan has yet been accepted.

The question having arisen whether, in view of the Royal Counties' Show being held next summer at Weymouth, it was desirable to hold the customary annual exhibition of the Dorchester Agricultural Society as usual, the executive of the latter society, after giving the matter consideration, have resolved to abandon their 1901 show in favour of the Royal Counties' Society, and at the same time to contribute £70 to the Society's funds. £70 to the County Committee entrusted with carrying out the arrangement for the Society's reception, and £50 to be applied in local prizes for stock in various branches of the show. £300 is the sum the county has to guarantee, and the town of Weymouth has provided a most exceedingly suitable site, which they have equipped up to a cost of £200.

On Tuesday, the 30th October, Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., live stock exporters, of Shrewsbury, shipped per the s.s. Montford, from Liverpool to Quebec, twelve specially selected shearling ewes bred by Mr. W. Thomas and Messrs. Edwards Bros., and sired by such well-known rams as Shropshire President 7726, purchased at 200gs.; Adam Odstone 8247, bred by Mrs. Barrs, by Odstone Commander; Parish Accountant 9627, by the 70-guinea Parish Councillor; Manchester Royal 9571, winner Manchester R.A.S.E., bred by Mr. Bowen-Jones, purchased at 87gs.; Downton Emblem 7433, winner first R.A.S.E., bred by Mr. T. Fenn, sire Attractor 2nd 4338; Beam House Enterprise 8376, bred by Mr. T. S. Minton, by Montford Dado 7613; Lord Middleton 9560, bred by Mr. J. E. Farmer, by Montford Dreamer 7615. These ewes were all in-lamb to a ram bred by Mr. A. E. Mansell, by Fortification 9498, sire of Mr. Mansell's Royal Blood, first York R.A.S.E., and sold to go to Australia at 240gs. Accompanying these ewes was a well-grown shearling ram by Ulster Rose 9374, dam by Ercall Flagstaff 7474, and going back to the Crane-bred ram Calcot 317. This select shipment was consigned to the order of Mr. Greenshields.

Cattle and Acorns.

Mr. R. Lovelock, of Newbury, writing to the *Standard*, says:—If not too late, a warning as to the danger of letting stock, especially young cattle, roam about freely at this season on pastures where oak trees prevail, may not be out of place. The acorn crop is an abundant one, the fruit being rather blighty and undersized, yet it is capable of much mischief to stock, whilst giving an infinity of trouble and alarm to the unfortunate stock-owners occupying such acorn-infested fields.

Already I hear that Mr. Thomas Kimber, a well-known farmer and dealer at Newbury, has suffered from this cause, two valuable heifers being killed by the acorns, and several others remaining so unwell as to cause the gravest anxiety as to their pulling through. Mr. Kimber's disaster has occurred on his Shaw Dean holding—a farm most romantically situate, two miles north of Newbury, and with only a narrow valley intervening and separating it from Arlington Manor, the beautiful country seat of Sir Francis Jeune. Unfortunately for the occupier this season, the Shaw Dean pastures are studded with numerous picturesque old oaks, the fruit of which has now fallen abundantly, hence this loss.

It is evident cattle need very close watching where the above conditions prevail, or even removal for a while, until the acorns are in some way picked up.

Farm Fire near Lancaster. On Wednesday morning a fire occurred at a Dutch barn and shippon owned by Mr. Timothy Jackson, at Brook House, Skerton, near Lancaster. The Lancaster Fire Brigade, with steamer, was soon in attendance, but the buildings and their contents were destroyed before their arrival. The cattle in the building were got out safely. About 40 loads of hay were consumed. The damage is estimated at about £200, and is covered by insurance.

Tuberculin Experiments.

At the meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society held on Wednesday, it was announced that a report had been received from the Tuberculin Sub-Committee which was appointed on May 31st, 1899, to supervise the experiments then ordered to be carried out at the Royal Veterinary College in the direction of infecting healthy cattle of various ages with tuberculosis and then testing them, and an equal number of control animals, with tuberculin at various dates after infection, all the animals being subsequently killed and post-mortemed. Below we give a summary of the sub-Committee's Report which was signed by Lord Brougham and Vaux, Sir Nigel Kingscote, Sir George Brown, and Professor MacFadyean.

Touching the question of the reliability of tuberculin as a test for tuberculosis in cattle, the Sub-Committee believe that the results of their own and other experiments justify the following statements: (1) With few exceptions manifest tuberculous disease is discoverable at the post-mortem examination of animals in which there is a decided rise of temperature after the injection of tuberculin. (2) As a rule, no such lesions are to be found in those animals in which there is no decided rise of temperature after the injection of tuberculin; but the exceptions to this rule are more numerous than in the preceding case.

Practically speaking, the exceptions under each of these heads may be regarded as failures or errors in the test, but close examination of the circumstances suggests that some of the exceptions may be explained otherwise than by assuming an inconstancy of action on the part of tuberculin.

Mr. W. Pallin's Thoroughbred Stallion, "Astrologer." First Prize at the Royal Dublin Summer Show, 1900.

Tuberculin falls short of infallibility, inasmuch as there is in every case a period after infection during which it provokes no reaction, and some of the experiments described in the report indicate that this period may be longer than has hitherto been supposed.

Even when full account is taken of these possibilities of error, the Committee are of opinion that tuberculin is an agent of great value, far surpassing all other methods of diagnosis, and that, if properly employed, it is calculated to render immense service in dealing with tuberculosis.

Thirsk Hirings.—At the first of the Martinmas statutes, held on Monday, there was a better attendance than usual, and wages all round had an upward tendency. Head girls, independent of milking, obtained £18 to £20 for the twelve months, and second up to £16 10s. Managing foremen received up to £25, head plough boys up to £18, second hands up to £15 10s., and farm boys £12 to £14.

Middleham Moor Fair. The annual fair took place on Monday and Tuesday, and was well attended each day. On the first day a very large quantity of sheep were on show, but trade was slow, and prices may be considered a trifle down. Wensleydale tups made £4 to £10 each: Wensleydale tup lambs, 50s. to £5; Wensleydale ewes, 35s. to 50s.; half-bred ewes, 38s. and upwards; half-bred gimmers, 35s. to £2; twice-crossed lambs, up to 30s.; and Scotch ewes, 15s. and upwards. On the second day there was a good supply of cattle, and they sold as follows:—Bullock stirks, £8 to £9 10s.; gold heifers, £10 to £12; bulls, aged, £12 to £14; stirk bulls, £9 to £12; spring calvers, £12 to £15; Scotch heifers, £5 to £11.

Shorthorn Bull Sale at Ipswich.

Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons' fourteenth annual autumn sale of pure-bred Shorthorn bulls was held at Ipswich on Tuesday. The catalogue included thirty choice animals, from ten to seventeen months old, bred in Cumberland, the quality of which was remarkably good. The attendance of buyers was large, and satisfactory prices were obtained, ranging up to 25gs. for a compact roan, twelve months old, which was paid by Mr. W. F. Paul. The principal prices were as follows:—

		Gs.
Roan Shorthorn bull, 13 months	Mr. E. Deck	15½
Roan Shorthorn bull, 12 months	Mr. S. Flanders	16½
Roan Shorthorn bull, 12 months	Mr. W. F. Paul	25
Roan Shorthorn bull, 12 months	Mr. M. G. Blackburn	20
Roan Shorthorn bull, 12 months	Mr. Ager	15½
Roan Shorthorn bull, 12½ months	Mr. G. P. Watkins	22
Roan Shorthorn bull, 14 months	Mr. T. Lincoln	19½
Roan Shorthorn bull, 14 months	Mr. C. F. Mariner	24
Roan Shorthorn bull, 15 months	Mr. W. Keable	20
Roan Shorthorn bull, 15½ months	Mr. R. F. Woodcock	20
Roan Shorthorn bull, 15½ months	Mr. Edward Brooke	21
Roan Shorthorn bull, 15½ months	Mr. G. W. Fiske	20
Roan Shorthorn bull, 16 months	Mr. C. Lee	22
Roan Shorthorn bull, 1 months	Mr. G. F. Sherlock	21
Roan Shorthorn bull, 16 months	Mr. W. A. Irlam	23
Light roan Shorthorn bull, 17 months	Mr. H. W. Read	20½
Dark roan Shorthorn bull, 13 months	Mr. H. W. Taylor	17½
Dark roan Shorthorn bull, 15 months	Mr. H. J. Riches	21
Dark roan Shorthorn bull, 12 months	Mr. J. Wyles	16
Dark roan Shorthorn bull, 12 months	Mr. J. Willis	15
Dark roan Shorthorn bull, 11 months	Mr. R. F.	15
Dark roan Shorthorn bull, 11 months	Miss Fayers	15
Dark roan Shorthorn bull, 10 months	Mr W. Forrest	15

Sale of Mr. J. H. Shore's Jerseys

The entire herd of Jerseys belonging to Mr. J. H. Shore, of Whatley, Frome, was disposed of by auction by Messrs. John Thornton and Co. on Thursday. Mr. Shore is known far and wide for his Jerseys, and his decision to retire from breeding has been received with much regret. Reference to the pedigrees shows that many of the animals for years past have carried off most of the prizes at the Frome Show, and occasionally at the Bath and West of England meetings. The herd has, however, not been widely exhibited, but kept specially for practical dairy purposes, the object being to obtain a large supply of the richest milk and butter from cows of the finest quality and of the best strains of Jersey blood. The catalogue showed in all seventy-five entries as representing the Whatley herd, and Mrs. W. Shaw Herbert also included some half-dozen head from her collection. It will be thus seen that the sale was one of the largest of its kind ever held in the West of England, and its importance was shown by the attendance of all leading breeders of Jerseys or their agents.

At the luncheon preceding the sale the chair was taken by the president of the Jersey Society, Mr. Ernest Matthews, who, in the course of a few practical remarks in response to his health, said that, besides making a test of the dairy capabilities of Jerseys, he had also submitted to like test other dairy breeds even in greater numbers, the results of which would be ere long published. Without anticipating what was to appear in print, he might say that from these tests the Jerseys not only emerged head of the list, but left the other breeds far and away behind. The breed was in every way deserving the attention of farmers who relied upon their dairies, and the way in which Mr. Shore had brought up his herd, developing to the full their milk and hardening their constitution, should make purchases a good financial investment.

The sale was conducted by Mr. Jonas M. Webb, one of the members of the firm, Mr. John Thornton being just now out of England. The earlier lots were disposed of briskly, some of the old cows, of course, not reaching very high prices. Surville Bess fetched 20gs., and from this point for a considerable time values were well maintained. Earl Temple bought Lady Bertha and her calf at 31½gs., and two lots later his lordship secured Magic 2nd for 32gs. Golden Orange, a very pretty specimen, and the next offered, fell to Mr. W. Cooper for a like sum. The biddings were keen, and some applause was given the purchasers. Sunbeam was much fancied, and after something like a struggle she became the property of Colonel Shaw Hellier at 52gs., which was the highest price of the sale. Distinction, a heifer by Golden King, was also regarded with favour, and a contest ensued between Colonel Shaw Hellier and Mr. Miller Hallett, and the latter secured possession at 40gs. During the afternoon there was a tremendous fall of rain, but, thanks to the sale being conducted under a spacious tent, there was not much inconvenience experienced. The total amount realised for Mr. Shore's animals was 1,168gs., the sixty-three females fetching 1,065½gs., and the bulls 102½gs.

The following were the prices and purchasers:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

		Gs.
Buttercup, Vol. vi., p. 83, whole colour, c Feb., 1888, s Primate 2737	Mrs. Williams	17
Frisk 2nd, Vol vi., p. 214, whole colour, c April, 1889, s Lord Clive 3477	Mrs. Williams	11
Clementina 2nd, broken colour, c July, 1890, s Valerius 4432	Mr. Meade	15½
Belle, Vol. viii., p. 183, broken colour, c Jan., 1891, s Leonora's Laddie 2601	Mrs. Williams	10½
Surville Bess, Vol. viii., p. 246, whole colour, c Nov., 1892, s Lord Primrose 4245	Mr. W. Cooper	20
Gigantic, Vol. viii., p. 208, whole colour, c Dec., 1832, s Coomassie's Orphan 5118	Rev. Le Gendre Hutton	13
Carita Daisy, whole colour, c Feb., 1893	Mr B. S Square	19
Mabel 33rd, Vol. viii., p. 222, whole colour, c March, 1833, s Orme 4296	Mr. Ernest Matthews	17
Siam, Vol. viii., p. 242, broken colour, c August, 1893, s Galifete 5553	Mr. Hugh Drummond	17
Lucy, Vol. viii., p. 222, white colour, c March, 1894, s Apollo 4467	Hon. Mrs. Howard	16
Rustic 2nd, whole colour, c Jan., 1895	Col Shaw Hellier	23
Lady Bertha, nearly white colour, c June, 1895, s Golden Pride 4860	Earl Temple	30
Sweetheart, Vol. ix., p. 302, broken colour, c June, 1895, s Boyle 3993	Mr. Park	9½
Magic 2nd, whole colour, c Feb., 1895, s Ruler 5718	Earl Temple	32
Golden Orange, Vol. x., p. 255, whole colour, c April, 1896, s La Chasse Prince 5243	Mr W. Cooper	32
Lavender, Vol. x., p. 277, whole colour, c May, 1896, s Valiant 5044	Mr. T. Horton	19
Lily's Primrose, Vol. xi., p. 278, whole colour, c May, 1896, s La Chasse Prince 5243	Mr B. Read	19½
Sunbeam, Vol. x., p. 342, broken colour, c July, 1896, s Mabel's Spot 5262	Col. Shaw Hellier	52
Stella, Vol. x., p. 340, whole colour, c July, 1896, s Mabel's Hero 5635	Mr. Burton	33
Ringlet, whole colour, c Sept., 1896	Mr. G Meade	28
Varna, Vol. ix., p. 306, whole colour, c Dec., 1896, s Mabel's Hero 5635	Mr. W. Cooper	22
Brilliant, Vol. xi., p. 209, whole colour, c Jan., 1897, s Blackie 5478	Mr. W. Cooper	21
Sweet Eyes 4th, Vol. xi., p. 332, whole colour, c Feb., 1897, s Golden Trooper 6577	Mrs. Burton	21
Snowflake, Vol. xi., p. 324, broken colour, c Feb., 1897, s Aristocrat 5783	Mr. T. Horton	12½
Geboo's Daisy, Vol. xi., p. 247, whole colour, c April, 1897 s Gebon 5887	Lady de Rothschild	31
Lady Elizabeth, Vol. xi., p. 268, whole colour, c Sept., 1897, s Master Phillidor 5984	Mr. Morgan	9
Lady Rosa, Vol. xi., p. 271, broken colour, c Nov., 1897, s Fontaine's King 6547	Mr. W. Cooper	19
Cherry Belle, Vol. x., p. 219, whole colour, c Jan., 1898, s Golden Bute 5174	Mr. N. Bird	25
Beautiful, broken colour, c Feb., 1898, s Boyle 3993	Mr H. Drummond	31
Carissima, Vol. x., p. 217, whole colour, c March, 1898, s Boyle 3993	Mr. Square	23
Golden Queen, Vol. x., p. 255, whole colour, c March, 1898, s Golden King 6240	Mr. Cooper	22
Tula, broken colour, c April, 1898, s Boyle 3993	Mr. Morgan	17
Lilac, whole colour, c June, 1898, s Baron 5797	Mr. Apperley	9½
Sunlight, broken colour, c July, 1898, s Golden King 6240	Mr. G. E. Smart	9
Sylvia, Vol. x., p. 345, broken colour, c July, 1898, s Fontaine's Roy 4845	Mr. Apperley	12½
Golden Orange 3rd, Vol. x., p. 255, whole colour, c August, 1898, s Grafton 6251	Mr. W. Cooper	21
Lady Mary, Vol. xi., p. 270, broken colour, c Dec., 1898, s Master Phillidor 5984	Mr. W. Cooper	26
Mynha, whole colour, c Feb., 1899, s Fontaine's Roy 4845	Mr. Dodd	10
Cygnet, broken colour, c Jan., 1899, s Baron 5797	Mr Square	13½
Coomassie, broken colour, c Feb., 1899, s Golden King 6240	Mr. E. Matthews	14
Margaret, Vol. xi., p. 285, nearly whole colour, c Feb., 1899, s Master Phillidor 5984	Mr Apperley	12
Daphne, whole colour, c April, 1899, s Fontaine's King 5547	Mr. Apperley	11
Snowflake's Noble Lady, Vol. xi., p. 324, whole colour, c April, 1899, s Noblemin 6650	Hon. Mrs. Howard	6
Locket, broken colour, c May, 1899, s Raglan 6084	Mr. Everley	5½
Lilian, broken colour, c May, 1899, s Mabel's Spot 5262	Mrs. Williams	9
Victoria, white colour, c May, 1900, s [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rosa Welcome, broken colour, c June, 1900, s [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lady North, white colour, c July, 1900, s [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hilda, broken colour, c August, 1899, s Raglan 6084	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Victoria, white colour, c August, 1900, s [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Empress Queen, Vol. x., p. [illegible], s [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lady Mildred, Vol. x., p. [illegible], s [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lady Rose, white colour, c Dec., 1900, s [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lady Ray, white colour, c Jan., 1900, s [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rosamond, white colour, c Feb., 1900, s [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fontaine's King 5547, broken colour, c August, 1894, s Boyle 3993	Mr. Rocking	
Lord Charles Beresford 5961, whole colour, c May, 1895, s Lord Mainard 5295	Mr. [illegible]	
Golden King 6240, broken colour, c June, 1897, s Boyle 3993	Mr. [illegible]	
Welcome 6752, white colour, c Oct., 1897, s Mona's Chief 5202	Mr. [illegible]	
Mona's Chief 6337, nearly white colour, c [illegible]	[illegible]	
Mona's Lord 6334	[illegible]	
Leylands Oak 6615, broken colour, c Dec., [illegible]	[illegible]	
Lords Champion 6703	Mr. W. Cooper	
Bessie's Boy, white colour, c May, 1900, s [illegible]	[illegible]	
Fontaine's King 5547	Earl of Carnarvon	
Bertram, broken colour, c June, 1900, s Mona's Chief 6337	Mr. [illegible]	
Buttercup's King, white colour, c Nov., 1900, s [illegible]	[illegible]	
King 6240	Mr. Cooper	
Royal Sovereign, white colour, c Apr., 1900, s [illegible]	[illegible]	
Charles Beresford 5961	Mr. [illegible]	

JERSEY CATTLE.

HEIFERS.

Starstone, Vol. xi., p. 327, whole colour, c Jan., 1898, s Count Lilac 5242	Mr. [illegible]	
Morestone, white colour, c [illegible]	Mr. G Smart	
Golden Countess, white colour, c [illegible]	Mr. [illegible]	

Cattle and Sheep Sale at Langholm

Messrs. Harrison and Son held their closing sale for the season at Langholm Mart on Tuesday. There was a fair supply of both cattle and sheep. Quotations: Shorthorn heifers, £9 to £14; good cows, £9 to £13 17s. 6d.; polled bullock stirks, £9 12s. 6d. to £9 15s.; blue-grey stirks, £7 10s.; Cheviot ewes, 21s. 9d. to 36s.; Cheviot lambs, 13s. 3d. to 20s. 6d.; Cheviot sheep, 32s. to 39s.; cross sheep, 37s. to 37s. 9d.; cross ewes, 30s. 6d. to 37s.; black faced ewes, 22s. to 24s. 6d.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*]

The fair at Gort, co. Galway, on Wednesday, was a medium-sized one, composed chiefly of second class two-year-old cattle, for which there was a good demand, nearly all being sold. The supply of sheep was smaller than usual, and trade was good, and only a small portion left unsold. Prices: Calves, first class, £5 5s. to £5 10s.; second class, £3 10s. to £5; yearlings, first class, £8 7s. 6d. to £9 5s.; second class, £6 10s. to £6 5s.; third class, £5 to £6 second; two-year-olds, first class, £11 10s. to £13 5s.; second class, £8 10s. to £11 5s.; third class, £7 10s. to £7 17s. 6d.; springers, second class, £12 to £14; lambs, second class, 17s. to £1 5s.; third class, 13s. 6d. to 15s. 6d.; over twelve and under twenty-four months old, first class, £1 16s. to £2 2s.; second class, £1 8s. to £1 15s.; third class, £1 1s. to £1 5s.; two years old and upwards, first class, £1 18s. to £2 4s.; second class, £1 15s. to £1 17s. Young pigs eight to ten weeks old sold at from 15s. to 20s. each.

There was a large fair at Castlerea, co. Roscommon, on Wednesday. The demand was bad, and a large number of animals remained unsold. Good springers very dear. Prices:—Calves, first class, £5 to £6; second class, £4 to £4 17s. 6d.; yearlings, first class, £8 10s. to £10; second class, £6 5s. to £7 15s.; two-year-olds, first class, £11 15s. to £13 5s.; second class, £9 14s. to £11; springers, first class, £17 to £19, second class, £14 15s. to £16 10s.; lambs, second class, £1 5s. to £1 6s. 6d.; over twelve and under twenty-four months old, first class, £2 4s. 8d. to £2 13s.; second class, £1 12s. to £1 18s.

Belfast Fair took place on Wednesday, when there was an average supply of stock. The demand for young cattle was only moderate, but springers sold well, the supply not being up to the demand. Prices:—Calves, first class, £5 to £6 5s.; second class, £3 to £4 10s.; yearlings, first class, £8 10s. to £10; second class, £6 2s. 6d. to £7 15s.; third class, £4 10s. to £5 6s. 8d.; two-year-olds, first class, £11 10s. to £13; second class, £9 to £10; third class, £6 10s. to £7 10s.; springers, first class, £17 to £19 10s.; second class, £12 10s. to £14 12s. 6d.; third class, £9 5s. to £11; young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 15s. to 21s. each.

FIRST-CLASS representatives and agents required throughout the United Kingdom for the sale of "MOLASSINE"—Write for particulars to the "MOLASSINE" CO., LTD., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

HORSES.

Sale of Cart and Carriage Horses at Preston.

The quarterly sale of horses at the Preston Auction Mart, Cattle Market, took place on Tuesday, Mr. E. G. Hothersall being the auctioneer. It was the largest sale there has been since the mart was opened. The growth of demand for good, sound horses, whether for cart and wagon, or trap, carriage, or saddle, is continued, and the prices are about the same as they were three months ago. So great was the entry in both sections that Mr. Hothersall had to have erected over a length of the sheep pens a long marquee. This was filled with the overflow from the large depot, the extensive stables, and the boxes. Buyers and dealers were present from all parts of the country, the gathering including a few exporters to the United States and other countries. For anything really good the bidding was sharp, and there was no mistaking the buyers. There were many well bred horses in the yard, and some of the square, massive type, with action. The average for light horses was from £20 to £35, and some good ones went for £50, £60, and £70 apiece. Some West and East Lancashire breeders in the mart stated that buyers of horses were touring the farms and picking up the best, paying prices that were very satisfactory. Only on Monday a foal sold for £40, and mature horses are going well.

Horse Sale at Carlisle.

At Harrison's Auction Mart, on Thursday last, the special sale of the season of horses of all classes was held. There was a good display, and the attendance of buyers was large. The better class of two-year-old cart colts and fillies were in fair demand at good prices, but inferior sorts were hard to cash. Cart yearlings met a good demand, but foals were slow to sell. Details:—Seasoned cart horses: 1, Mr. Thwaytes, Woodhouse, Penrith, 62½gs. for a bay horse, five years old, sold to Mr. W. C. Miller, Carlisle; 2, The Penrith Urban District Council, 57gs., for a bay mare, rising five years old, to Mr. Angus, Newcastle-on-Tyne; 3, Mr. Halliday, Langwathby, withdrawn at 55gs.; others, from Mr. Parker, Hallrigg, Plumpton, 35gs., for a brown horse, eight years old, to Mr. H. Miller, Carlisle; from Messrs. Carr and Co., Carlisle, 34½gs., for a brown horse, to Mr. H. Miller; Mr. Beatti-Baurch, 33gs., for a brown mare, seven years old, to Mr. Rush, Carlisle; Mr. Hutchinson, Cranberry, 24½gs., for a brown mare, seven years old, to Mr. Carruthers, Rowanburn; Mr. Irving, Broomwell, 25gs., for a bay mare, four years old, to Mr. Armstrong, Cotehill. Two-year-old cart geldings or fillies: 1, Mr. Davidson, Blencogo, 38gs., for a bay colt, to Mr. Wilson, Crownstone; 2, Mr. Riddick, Crookdale Hall, Wigtown, 40gs.; for a bay colt, to Mr. Graham, Airdrie; others, from Mr. Kerr, Midtown, Caerlaverock, 33½gs., for a brown colt, to Mr. Rush, Carlisle; Mr. Davidson, Blencogo, 26gs., for a bay colt, to Mr. Rush; Mr. Callender, Clunnie, Dumfries, 3 gs., for a grey filly, to Mr. Rush; Mr. Wannop, Linstock Castle, 29½gs., for a bay colt, to Mr. Pearson, Close; Mr. Wilson, Kirkhampton, 25gs., to Mr. Tinning, Ellerbeck; Mr. Little, Bowness Hall, 28gs., for a brown filly, to Mr. Ridley, Hill Top; Mrs. Willis, Brocklebank, 27gs., to Mr. Simons, Hull.

Sale of Cart Horses at Glasgow.

On Thursday, Mr. Vine disposed of sixty-five powerful horses belonging to Messrs. Robert M'Alpine and Sons, railway contractors, Glasgow, at the Horse Bazaar, Port Dundas Road, Glasgow. There was a good attendance of buyers, and the sale was of a very satisfactory character, the demand for the horses being very brisk throughout. The ages of the animals ranged from six to ten years. Draught horses of the best class realised up to 65gs.; secondary and inferior, 20 to 35gs.; ponies, 8 to 18gs.

Sale of Cub Hunters at Leicester.

The annual cub-hunters' sale always attracts a goodly crowd at Messrs. Warner, Sheppard, and Wade's Repository, and amongst those present on Saturday were Lord Churchill, just appointed Deputy Master of the Royal Buckhounds, the Marquis of Cholmondeley, the Duchess of Newcastle, the Hon. Mrs. Cundy, Baron Max de Tuyll, Mr. and Mrs. Hedgworth Barclay, Lady Angela Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bentley, Lady Hartopp, Mr. Leonard, and Lady Violet Brassey, and many others. Although prices did not rule high, yet a large number of horses changed hands, Baron Max de Tuyll selling every horse catalogued. Huffy made 130gs., and Schoolboy 115gs. Lady Margaret Loder's Porcelain made 180gs. Mr. Hedworth Barclay's Squeaker and Swiss Boy 150gs., Mr. Cecil Grenfell's Asfordby 200gs.; Valentia and Harborough made 105gs. and 100gs., and Mr. A. Jolland's Granuale 200gs.

ALL farm live stock should be given "MOLASSINE." It is an excellent food and condiment combined. See advertisement on back page of this issue.—[ADVT.]

SOCIETIES.

Royal Agricultural Society of England.

Big Loss on the York Show.

A monthly Council was held on Wednesday, November 7th, Earl Cawdor (President) in the chair.

The minutes of the last monthly meeting of the Council, held on August 1st, 1900, having been taken as read and approved,

The President said that he might report that he had forwarded through the proper channel the Society's address of condolence with Her Majesty the Queen in the bereavement sustained by the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. Unhappily, the Royal Family had very recently sustained another severe loss by the death of Prince Christian Victor. He had another melancholy duty to perform before entering upon the regular business of the day, viz., to report formally from the chair the deaths during the recess of two of the most distinguished members of the Council. Sir John Lawes was a loss not only to the Society, but to the whole agricultural world. His great work at Rothamsted would live after him, and his name would go down to posterity as one of the most commanding agricultural figures of the nineteenth century. Mr. Samuel Rowlandson was known to many of those present before he joined the Council in 1889, as a man of sterling merit and high reputation as a practical farmer, and it would be difficult to find a man more energetic or more deplorable.

Finance.

Sir Nigel Kingscote (chairman) reported that the accounts for the three months ended October 31st, as certified by the Society's accountants, showed total receipts amounting to £13,915 0s. 7d., and expenditure to £15,470 15s. 2d. Accounts amounting in all to £1,900 19s. 1d. had been passed, and were recommended for payment. The quarterly statement of subscriptions, arrears, and property to September 30th, 1900, had been laid upon the table. The draft balance-sheet for the York Meeting, showing a loss of £3,467 10s. 11d., had been submitted by the secretary, and ordered to be laid before the auditors for their approval.

Financial Result of the York Meeting.

Sir Nigel Kingscote, in presenting this report, said that the Council would be as sorry to hear as he was to report that the Society's country meeting at York last June, on which so many hopes had been built, resulted in the very considerable loss of £3,468, which would have to be met out of the Society's general funds, already most seriously depleted by the heavy deficits on the two previous shows. As the total entries of live stock were over 100 more than in 1899 (horses numbering 696 as against 424), and 2,500 more feet of space were taken in the implement department, it might have been expected that the gross expenses of the erection and administration of a larger showyard would have involved a proportionately greater expense than in 1899, especially as timber was dearer this year. The total expenditure of the Society in connection with the York Show from first to last was only £400 more than at Maidstone in 1899; but the total figure was sufficiently serious, £21,550. As the exhibitors of live stock implements, etc., who, of course, derived the greatest immediate benefit from the shows, only contributed in entry fees £7,828, and the Local Committee £2,000, it followed that the Society was dependent for making both ends meet upon taking in the showyard from admission, tickets for stands, and the like, the sum of £11,722. So far from doing this, it only took £8,254, and therefore, had to suffer a loss of £3,468 out of its annual income from the £1 subscriptions of members which were the Society's only fixed source of revenue, and which had to bear all the expenditure of the many other departments of the Society's work. It would be apparent to the Council that the enormous risk on the shows which the Society now ran was not one which the Finance Committee could look upon with complacency. More and more demands were annually made upon the Society in connection with its shows, and more of the burden of these demands ought certainly to rest upon those who were chiefly benefited by them, viz., the exhibitors. As the Cardiff Meeting next year would be almost the last to be held under the present system, the Finance Committee did not desire, by any sudden action of their own, to imperil the success of that show; but they had never concealed their opinion that the risk for which the Society now made itself responsible in connection with the shows was too great. It would be unprofitable to discuss the probable causes of the disappointingly small attendance of the public at York, notwithstanding that there was a magnificent show of animals and implements, and that everything seemed to be in the Society's favour. It might be that agricultural shows were now overdone; that there were too many of them, and that they had ceased to attract the ordinary sight-seeing public as they once did. At all events, the Council would be wise not to base their calculations in the future upon receipts at the gates reaching the totals that they were once accustomed to, and on which he was afraid they had in the past too much relied.

Future of the Royal Journal.

The committee had had under their consideration the question of the future conduct of the Journal, and were of opinion that the time had now arrived when the question of abandoning the quarterly Journal and of substituting a yearly volume suitably bound should be seriously considered.

Sir John Thorold observed, with reference to the recommendation as to the issue of the Society's Journal in future in one bound annual volume, instead of in four quarterly numbers, that, in his opinion, the editor had laboured under very considerable difficulties in obtaining suitable articles for the Journal in view of the competition of the weekly agricultural Press, and more recently the competition of the Board of Agriculture, who published every quarter a Journal of their own similar to that of the Society. Matters of passing interest were dealt with in the weekly Press; and he thought that the present time would be a good opportunity to adopt the change of publishing one volume of the Journal annually, instead of issuing it in four quarterly parts.

Mr. Pell said that, as an old member of the Journal Committee, he wished to support the views advanced by Sir John Thorold, as he had for a long time been very strongly adverse to the publication of the Society's Journal in quarterly parts. With regard to the financial side of the question, there would be a very considerable saving if the Council adopted the Committee's recommendation of publishing the Journal in one annual volume.

Mr. Sutton observed that, as the member of the Journal Committee who had proposed in committee the resolution that the Society should discontinue its system of publishing its Journal in four quarterly parts, and in future issue it in the form of one volume annually, he should like to say that the only objection to the course recommended that presented itself to his mind was that the Society would not, perhaps, be quite so much in touch with its members in giving them a Journal only once in the year. Possibly, however, this point might to some extent be met if their secretary could so arrange with the agricultural Press that their proceedings should appear in a more extensive form than at present was the case. With regard to the financial side of the question of publishing the Journal in the form of one volume annually, there would be a very considerable saving if this plan were adopted.

Sir Nigel Kingscote said that extended reports of their proceedings were systematically issued immediately after each Council to the daily and agricultural papers, and he thought, on the whole, they had no reason to complain of the amount of publicity given in the Press to their reports and discussions.

Chemical and Woburn.

Mr. Stanyforth (chairman) reported that a letter had been received from the Duke of Bedford's agent stating that some land, at present let out in allotments, and adjoining the Experimental Farm at Woburn, would shortly be available for the purposes of the Society. Dr. Voelcker had been instructed to convey the thanks of the Society to Mr. Prothero for his letter, and to accept the offer of additional land so generously made by the Duke of Bedford.

Tracing Foot-and-Mouth Disease Outbreaks.

Earl Spencer said no one who knew anything about the diseases of animals, or was interested in the subject, but would have viewed with great satisfaction the enormous progress which had in the past been made in stamping out foot-and-mouth disease. But in this life we were subject to disappointments, and he confessed that it had been a great and bitter disappointment to him to learn of the recurrence in many parts of the country of this disease, which was a source of loss and injury to farmers and stock-owners. They had present amongst them that day Sir George Brown, who had had unrivalled experience in that matter, and he (Lord Spencer) would like to ask whether it had been possible to trace the origin of the outbreak. So far he had been unable to gather any information as to the origin of this disease in various parts of the country. The first outbreak was perhaps more easily accounted for, as it occurred near the sea coast; but as to the outbreaks in Yorkshire, Wales, and other parts of the country, he was at a loss to know what was the cause of them.

Sir Nigel Kingscote said he was so impressed with the singular fact that these outbreaks should have occurred in different parts of the country, far removed from one another, that he ventured, as Chairman of the Governors of the Royal Veterinary College, to seek an interview with Mr. Long, the President of the Board of Agriculture, on the subject. His object in doing this was not in the least to try and weaken the system adopted by the Board of Agriculture in stamping out this disease; but owing to the difficulty of tracing its origin, or of not tracing it at all, he had heard doubts expressed in several quarters as to whether it was really foot-and-mouth disease. In the case of an outbreak on a farm where the owner had pedigree stock, he suggested for consideration whether it would not be possible for strict isolation to be adopted, until it was proved by inoculation and diagnosis that the animals were actually suffering from foot-and-mouth disease.

Sir George Brown said it would be absurd for him to attempt to deny that the whole course of the outbreak had been erratic in the extreme. The sudden appearance of the malady at places remote from any known centre was entirely contrary to anything which they had hitherto known of the history of the disease. It was true that in former times, in certain cases, great difficulty had been experienced in tracing

the origin of an outbreak, and often no connection with a known centre of infection could be discovered; but in the present instance nearly all of the seventeen outbreaks had been surrounded in mystery. Notwithstanding this fact, however, the whole of the evidence critically examined left no escape from the conclusion that this was the genuine disease, seeing that clinically it had presented itself exactly as it had always done since it first appeared in this country in 1839. It was a curious fact that those who had had most experience in this malady, viz., some of the inspectors at the ports for foreign animals (men who had had extensive opportunities of seeing the disease in all its forms during half a century of its prevalence) had expressed themselves quite as much surprised as the owners of the animals at discovering that the disease was foot-and-mouth, and, indeed, were sure that it could not possibly be anything else. Although he was no longer actively engaged in these investigations, he still took the greatest possible interest in them, and he had been told that the most careful and strict inquiry had been made in every instance. He could not, however, help expressing regret that more publicity had not been given to the facts which had been ascertained, because they tended to prove that the common impression among owners of stock that the affection was unlike foot-and-mouth disease, as it did not spread even in the herds in which it had broken out, was erroneous. In several cases which had come under his notice the infection had extended rapidly. He was not certain of the absolute correctness of the figures, but to the best of his recollection in one herd of fifty animals, two or three of which were discovered to be affected, it was found that before slaughter could be completed twenty-seven of the cattle were suffering, and other similar cases had also been recorded. In reference to Sir Nigel Kingscote's suggestion that inoculation or isolation should be employed to test the infectivity of the disease, he could understand that it would not be favourably received by the Board. It would naturally be urged that the work of a sanitary department was to stop the disease, and not to find out whether it would spread if they gave it the opportunity. There could not be any doubt that the measures which had been adopted had been very complete, for it was not unreasonable to state that in no case had the infection spread beyond the centres of origin, owing to the circumstance that the animals were at once shut up, and killed as quickly as possible. With reference to the apprehension which was felt as to the serious losses which would arise if the disease broke out in a pedigree herd, he could not speak with any authority, but he might venture to say from his experience in the past that in such cases some plan would be devised to prevent the slaughter of a number of valuable cattle. It had been proved that the disease in this country, though it had caused an enormous amount of injury, was not fatal like cattle plague or pleuro-pneumonia. Taking all the facts as they stood, he should have felt quite unable, even if he had been asked, to advise the Board of Agriculture to do otherwise than they had done. He admitted that the whole thing was a puzzle, but although the disease had taken an unusual course, he had no doubt himself that it was foot-and-mouth disease, and that the Board of Agriculture, by acting as they had done at every centre of infection, were taking the best means to get the disease out of the country as quickly as possible.

Mr. Pell mentioned that a number of years ago, when the disease was prevalent in England, a case of foot-and-mouth was discovered in Warwickshire. Not very long after this case had been found, another case broke out thirty-five miles away, on some land of his own in Northamptonshire. He felt quite certain that the contagion must have come amongst his cattle at one time or another. He discovered that some Ordnance Survey officers were then engaged in a survey of England in his district, and that when their survey was very nearly completed, some slight error in their work was discovered, and he gathered that, to complete their work, the officials used upon his farm the same surface chain that had been employed by them in their duties on the farm in Warwickshire; and the fact remained that following upon the presence of the surveyors with that same chain again in Northamptonshire, after their visit to Warwickshire, foot-and-mouth disease was found.

Stock Prizes.

Mr. Sanday (chairman) reported that the committee had considered the draft prize-sheet for the Cardiff Meeting, together with a schedule of prizes prepared by the Local Committee, and had suggested certain modifications in the latter for the Local Committee's consideration.

The committee recommended the acceptance, with thanks, of the offer of the following champion prizes for competition at the Cardiff Meeting from breed societies:

(a) Hunters' Improvement Society: Gold medal, value £10 10s., for the best Hunter filly not exceeding three years old.

(b) Hackney Horse Society: Two gold medals for the best stallion and best mare or filly exhibited in the Hackney breeding classes.

(c) Shire Horse Society: Two gold medals for the best Shire stallion and for the best Shire mare or filly.

(d) Devon Cattle Breeders' Society: Two champion prizes of £10 10s. each, for the best male and the best female animal exhibited in the Devon classes.

(e) Polled Cattle Society: Gold medal for the best breeding Aberdeen-Angus animal exhibited.

(f) North Wales Black Cattle Society offers, through Local Committee, two five-guinea cups and two silver medals, for the best male and the best female exhibited in the Welsh cattle classes.

(g) Suffolk Sheep Society: Gold medal for the best two-shear or shearling Suffolk ram exhibited.

Mr. J. E. Platt's Red Poll Cow, "Bud II." First Prize at the Dairy Show, 1900.

(h) Southdown Sheep Society: Champion prize of £10 10s. for the best two-shear or shearling Southdown ram.

Mr. Sanday added that a letter had been received by him on Monday from the Hon. Cecil Parker (whose other engagements prevented his personal attendance at the Stock Prizes Committee or the Council) suggesting for consideration that there should be jumping competitions at the Cardiff Meeting in connection with the classes for hunters and ponies. This letter had been laid before the Stock Prizes Committee (at a period of their proceedings at which it was true there was not a very full attendance), and the committee were ready to give consideration to the details of the matter if the Council should approve the principle.

After some remarks by Mr. Crutchley, in opposition to the proposal,

Mr. Ryland said that as it would appear that formal notice was necessary before this question could be brought before the Council for discussion, he wished to give notice that at the December meeting he would move that the Society offer prizes, under proper restrictions, for jumping competitions at the Cardiff Meeting next year.

General, Cardiff.

Sir Walter Gilbey reported that the committee had discussed with the representatives of the Cardiff Local Committee the schedule of prizes for live stock, produce, etc., proposed to be offered by the Cardiff Local Committee, and had suggested various amendments thereto. The Local Committee had nominated Mr. Lewis, of Duke Street, Cardiff, as agent for the sale of season tickets; Mr. John Isaac, of Custom House Street, Cardiff, as agent for the sale of produce; and Messrs. Stephenson and Alexander, of Cardiff, as agents for the letting of lodgings.

Selection.

Sir John Thorold moved: "That the Duke of Bedford, now a Vice-President, be elected a Trustee of the Society." Mr. Stanyforth said it was his privilege, as chairman of the Chemical and Woburn Committee, to second this resolution.

The resolution having been unanimously adopted, it was moved by Sir John Thorold, seconded by Mr. Ashworth, and unanimously resolved, "That the Earl of Derby, K.G., be elected a Vice-President of the Society."

The vacancies on the Council, created by the appointment of the Earl of Derby as Vice-President and the death of Mr. Samuel Rowlandson, will be considered by the Committee of Selection at a future meeting.

Sir John Thorold, in formally moving, previous to notice,

That Bye-law 3, as to the number of honorary members of the Society, be amended by the omission from line 1 of the words "twenty-five," and the substitution therefor of the words "fifty, of whom not more than twenty-five may be British subjects,"

said that occasions sometimes offered themselves in which the Committee of Selection desired to confer the honorary membership of the Society upon distinguished persons, and they had been prevented from doing this at the right time, by the limitation enjoined by the present bye-laws. It would be a great convenience if the maximum were increased to fifty, and he therefore moved the resolution standing in his name.

This was seconded by Sir Nigel Kingscote and carried unanimously.

Education.

Lord Moreton (chairman) reported that, following the precedent of previous years, examinations for the National Diploma in Dairying had been held this year for English students at Reading College, and the British Dairy Institute, Reading, and for Scottish students at the Dairy School, Kilmarnock.

Notices as to Annual Grants.

Notice was given on behalf of the several committees of their intention to move at the next meeting of the Council for the following grants for 1901:—Chemical Committee, £200 for pot culture experiments; Veterinary Committee, £600, of which £500 to be allocated to the Royal Veterinary College; Education Committee, £400 for the examinations for the National Diploma in Agriculture and Dairying and for other purposes.

Miscellaneous.

Sir Nigel Kingscote mentioned that, though the Special Show Committee had no report to submit on that occasion, they made a certain amount of progress during the recess in examining and considering sites in the neighbourhood of London suitable and available for a permanent showyard for the Society, and hoped to be able to present a report next month.

The secretary announced that the Society had been awarded a Grand Prix at the Paris Exposition for its exhibit of specimens of cereals grown in England.

Various other matters having been dealt with, the Council adjourned until the Wednesday of the Smithfield Show week (December 12th).

Cheshire Chamber.

A meeting of the Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture was held at Crewe, on Monday afternoon, under the presidency of Colonel Cotton Jodrell.

The Secretary (Mr. C. B. Davies, C.C.) read some correspondence which had passed between the Chamber and the Cheshire County Council with respect to the erection of bridges for carrying vehicular traffic over the railways in several parts of the district where level crossings exist. The Clerk of the County Council wrote stating that that Council had passed a resolution which had been forwarded to the general manager of the London and North-Western Railway stating that while the County Council were of opinion that the railway company ought to erect bridges to carry vehicular traffic over the level crossings at Willaston Station, Newcastle-road crossing, Nantwich Railway Station, and the Nantwich crossing on the Whitchurch main road, they should, at any rate, provide foot bridge. Mr. T. R. Boote said the company had already erected a footbridge at Willaston Station, so that some good had been done.

A brief discussion took place upon the insurance of farm labourers. The secretary reported that the Council of the Chamber had appointed a subcommittee to draw up a statement on the subject for subsequent consideration by the Chamber.

Mr. C. B. Davies called attention to the restrictions upon the removal of pigs enforced by the Board of Agriculture. These restrictions, he said, had been a source of considerable financial loss and untold inconvenience to Cheshire farmers during the last few months. The feeding of pigs was a source of considerable profit to farmers, and anything that interfered with their free sale or free movement in a county like Cheshire was disastrous. Local auctions were now held near railway centres and these were of great convenience to butchers and farmers alike. But the closing of these auctions to pigs was a calamity. He thought that something might be done to prevent the spread of swine fever if the Board of Agriculture, who at present insisted upon the cleansing and disinfecting of owners' yards and railway attendants, were to apply the same conditions to the premises of pig dealers, who went up and down the country collecting pigs.

Mr. Holland expressed the opinion that the losses must be caused largely by the cheap feeding stuffs

that were bought and given to the pigs. He believed tuberculosis in cattle was caused in the same way. With regard to asking the Board of Agriculture for more restrictions, he thought there were too many already, and too much officialism. Experience had shown that restrictions were no good. He thought there should be freedom of sale for pigs.

Mr. W. J. Dutton (Nantwich) thought they ought to have freedom of sale for bacon pigs, for it was not in fat pigs that swine fever broke out. He thought some good might be done if the Board of Agriculture appointed a detective-inspector to attend markets to try and detect cases of illness in pigs offered for sale. He complained of the trouble farmers had in getting movement licences. Some had to go five or six miles for them. He suggested that such licence should be granted by the nearest police officer to one's farm.

Mr. T. Baxter (Warrington) said it was almost impossible for farmers to go on breeding pigs unless some of the restrictions were relaxed.

On the motion of Mr. C. B. Davies, seconded by Mr. W. McCracken (Lord Crewe's agent), the following resolutions were adopted: "That, in the opinion of this Chamber, the continued closing of auction yards to the sale of pigs is a source of serious loss to Cheshire farmers. That the existing powers of the Board of Agriculture have hitherto proved inadequate to stamp out swine fever, and in the opinion of this Chamber one important cause of this failure lies in the lack of power to enforce the inspection, the cleaning, and the disinfection of pig dealers' premises, such as at present exists in the case of sale yards, and railway wagons, and cattle docks. That the Board of Agriculture be memorialised to consider this suggestion with a view to seeking Parliamentary powers to enforce inspection and disinfection of such premises, and to still further facilitate such inspection and disinfection of premises, all pig dealers should be registered. The fat pigs for immediate slaughter be permitted to be moved to auction under licence, and that the breeding of pigs be made more effectual."

It was decided to invite associated chambers to support these resolutions.

Hackney Horse Society.

Meetings of the Council and committee were held at 12, Hanover Square on Tuesday and Wednesday last, Mr. Frederick Wrench in the chair.

The chairman said that he regretted to inform the Council of the death of their esteemed colleague, Mr. Edmondson, of Spring Field Hall, Knowle, who had for some years cordially given his best services to the Society. It was resolved to forward an expression of the Council's sympathy with Mrs. Edmondson, and at the same time not to fill the vacancy on the Council caused by Mr. Edmondson's death.

Classification at the London Show.

The chairman, on behalf of Sir Walter Gilbey, presented the Horse Show Committee report, which dealt fully with the proposed alterations in the classification of the next London show. The prize schedule in its main points is not altered, the most noteworthy change being the establishment of a cob section, in which will compete stallions and mares over 14 and not exceeding 15 hands. The pony section will accordingly comprise animals not over 14 hands, the cob section animals between 14 and 15, and the Hackney section animals over 15 hands. The attractive harness classes will be again renewed, there being one class for ponies, one for cobs, and two for Hackneys—viz., one for over 15 hands and not exceeding 15h. 2in., and the remaining class for horses over 15h. 2in. The special prizes and breeders' prizes will be offered as heretofore, and there will be the usual sale by auction. It was agreed that a preliminary issue of the prize list should be sent to members as speedily as possible.

Medals.

It was resolved to offer two champion gold medals at the Cardiff Royal Show and two at the Royal Horse Show at Brussels, viz., one for the best Hackney in hand, and one for the best Hackney in harness; also two gold medals at the Royal Dublin Society's Show on the same terms and conditions as last year. Other details concerning the arrangement of the show and improvements which have been suggested to the Council were discussed in the report, which was, on the motion of Baron Schroder, unanimously adopted.

Judges Selection Committee.

The Council appointed Mr. Buttle, Mr. Livesey, Mr. Fewson, and Mr. Alfred Rowell to supply the vacancies on the Judges Selection Committee.

Council Selection Committee.

Mr. Hickling, Mr. Anderton, Mr. Evans, and Capt. Yates were unanimously appointed to fill the vacancies on the Council Selection Committee.

Editing Committee.

Mr. Rowell (chairman) presented this report, which showed that the committee had carefully considered the entries for the new volume of the Stud Book, which would be published in the first week of February next. Of the new entries, forty-eight were accepted, six rejected, and three deferred for further information. Arrangements were made for printing, illustrations, publication of prefixes, etc. The following prefixes and affixes were granted to the various applicants:—

Prefixes.—B. H. Oxshott, Finstall, Inver.

Affixes.—Brunston, Barry, Berry Hill, Breeze Hill, Cadley, Conisbro', Darley, Druidstone, Edwalton, Ely, Findon, Fylde, Hedon, Londesborough, Nelson, Nork, Preston, Warfield, Watton, Wharfedale.

This report was unanimously adopted.

Finance.

Mr. Carnley proposed the adoption of this report relating to the Society's finances for the year. It showed a balance standing to the credit of the current account of £282 15s. 1d. Accounts were passed for payment amounting to £158 17s. 6d., and the action of the chairman in signing cheques for accounts becoming due since the last meeting, amounting to £458 18s. 5d., was endorsed. The report also mentioned that the Finance Committee had placed at the disposal of the Show Committee a sum of £1,045, to be allotted as prizes at the next London Show.

Next Meeting.

The next meeting was fixed for December 12th.

Worcester Chamber.

Mr. A. Dudley Clarke presided at the meeting of the Worcestershire Chamber of Agriculture held at Worcester on the 3rd inst. The price of agricultural implements was discussed, and it was stated that makers and vendors had agreed to discontinue the present discounts, thereby considerably increasing the prices. The combination affects Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, and Monmouthshire, and the feeling of the meeting was that a co-operative movement should be started amongst farmers, and that if the combination of vendors and makers extended to a wider area the Royal Agricultural Society and the Central Chamber be requested to take the matter up. A general meeting of the members and others interested is to be called to discuss the matter.

Mr. B. G. Hall resigned his membership on the Council as he is going abroad, and a resolution recording appreciation of his valuable services to the Chamber was unanimously passed. The vacancy was filled by the election of Mr. E. B. Cotton, secretary of the Bromsgrove and Droitwich Farmers' Club.

A resolution was passed in favour of the extension of the Workmen's Compensation Act to all employments.

The Central Chamber urged experiments in feeding animals on sugar beet, but it was stated that no sugar beet was now grown in the county.

Shire Horse Society.

In the unavoidable absence of the President (Lord Middleton), Sir Walter Gilbey (past President) occupied the chair at the Council meeting, held in the Society's house, at 12, Hanover Square, W., on Tuesday.

Finance Committee.

Mr. P. Albert Muntz presented the report of the Finance Committee, showing a balance on the current account at the bank of £304 6s. 8d., with £750 on deposit. Accounts for payment £89 18s. 11d. had been passed. This report was adopted.

Editing Committee.

Mr. A. C. Duncombe (chairman) reported that applications had been received and approved for 135 prefixes and nine affixes.

They had dealt with several incomplete entries for Vol. 22, and the committee had arranged to meet on Wednesday, December 5th, to revise the Stud Book proofs. The reproductions of the portraits of the champion stallion and mare had been approved.

The committee recommended that the conditions of entry for Vol. 24 should remain the same as those for Vol. 23.

The chairman, in presenting this report, informed the Council that the forthcoming Stud Book would contain the record entry of any single volume of the Stud Book, as forms for the entry of 900 stallions and about 5,000 mares had been received.

Horse Show Committee.

Sir Walter Gilbey (chairman) presented a comparative statement of the gold and silver medals awarded during 1900, indicating that twenty-eight gold medals had been awarded at twenty-four shows, and 145 silver medals at 134 shows. He reminded the Council that their grants to the London and provincial cart horse parades had been increased during the past year, and the Horse Show Committee had offered twenty-seven medals and fourteen premiums of £1 at the last London Cart Horse Parade, and fifty-one silver medals and twenty premiums of £1 at nineteen provincial horse parades. The committee had dealt with various incomplete awards of the past season, and they recommended that the gold and silver medals at affiliated and other shows in 1901 should be offered under the same conditions as those of the present year. The schedule of prizes for the London show had been carefully considered, and the committee made several suggestions embodying an increase of £215, which, if adopted by the Council, would bring the total amount offered in cups and prizes up to £1,557. This increase comprised additional prizes in classes well supported by entries in previous shows, while in the majority of classes the committee recommended the addition of a prize of £5 to the breeder of the fourth-prize animal.

A new class for mares was also recommended, making this section of the schedule read:—

Mares, Five Years Old and Upwards.

(*a*) Under 16 hands.

(*b*) 16 hands, and under 16h. 2in.

(*c*) 16h. 2in. and upwards.

Further, the two gelding classes were increased by a third, so that they would read:—

Geldings, three years old.

Geldings, four years old.

Geldings, five years old and upwards.

Each class to have four prizes, with prizes for the breeders of the first and second prize geldings.

After some discussion the Council adopted the schedule of prizes as submitted by the Horse Show Committee.

Royal Show at Cardiff.

It was resolved, on the motion of the chairman, to offer two gold medals at the Cardiff meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, for the best Shire stallion and the best Shire mare or filly exhibited.

The Council then adjourned till Tuesday in the Smithfield Show week, viz., December 11th.

The Farmers' Club.

The Farmers' Club's first meeting of the winter session took place at the Salisbury Hotel, Fleet-street, on Monday, and was numerously attended. Mr. J. R. Eve was in the chair. Mr. Trustram Eve, F.S.I., read a most practical and interesting paper on "The Agricultural Holdings Amendment Act 1900," a full report of which we gave in our last issue.

In the course of the discussion which followed Mr. B. St. John Ackers said it would be a rash thing for anyone to say what the Act really meant before the different points were submitted to a court of law. He hoped it would be given a fair trial.

Mr. Thomas Latham, who said the Act was one of the most miserable measures the late Government adopted, declared that no two farmers thought alike about the unfortunate Act, and they certainly could not find two farmers who were ready to praise it. A good many farmers kept nothing more than a labourers' book and a bank-book, but if they wished to work under the new Act they would have to begin book-keeping.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Eve for his paper.

East Sussex Farmers' Club.

The annual meeting of the East Sussex Farmers' Club was held at Lewes on Tuesday, the chair being occupied by Mr. F. W. Ingram.

The statement of accounts showed that the subscriptions amounted to £25 5s., and the expenditure £28 13s. 5d., leaving a deficit of £3 8s. 5d. The Chairman, referring to the accounts, commented on the fact that through some gentlemen leaving the neighbourhood the membership had dropped from 120 to 105, but he thought if they could add 15 more new members, the adverse balance would be wiped off. On the proposition of Mr. M. Sandford, seconded by Mr. Wallis, the accounts were adopted.

On Mr. W. Lintott being re-elected Secretary and Treasurer, the Chairman thought the club's thanks were due to Mr. Lintott for the work he had done in connection with the club. As they probably knew, what took place in that room did not represent Mr. Lintott's work; they were much dependent upon him for the lectures, and it was an open secret that if it was not for Mr. Lintott they would not have the pleasant evenings unless they could find an equally zealous Secretary to act on their behalf. Therefore the thanks of all were due to Mr. Lintott. (Applause.)

The election, by ballot, of officers was then proceeded with, Mr. F. W. Ingram being unanimously re-elected Chairman. In returning thanks, Mr. Ingram hoped the Club would have a successful season. The difficulty they had was that there were many members of the Club who knew a great deal about various subjects of interest to agriculturists, but who were prevented by modesty from coming forward to detail what they knew.

Mr. H. J. Powell was elected Vice-Chairman, and Messrs. M. Sandford, W. Killick, A. Wadman, J. Kenward, R. R. Verrall, J. M. Mowbray, F. G. Gorringe, and R. H. Powell the Committee. Mr. F. B. Dyer was re-elected Auditor.

The Chairman reported that at the next meeting an address would be delivered by Mr. Bacon on the Employers' Liability Act, particularly in its relation to farmers.

Kirby Stephen November Hirings. — At the hirings on Monday men-servants held out for the same wages that were paid for the summer term, and something approaching a deadlock occurred. Where engagements were entered into head men received £15 to £19 for the half-year; second-rate men, £12 to £14; and youths, £7 to £10. Experienced milkers obtained £10 to £15, and young girls £5 10s. to £7. At the Newcastle hirings on Monday there was a large attendance, and labour being in good demand high wages were given. Young women, experienced milkers, obtained £12 to £14; milk boys, £10; and young men, 16 and upwards, £13 to £19.

Proceedings of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture.

Council Meeting.

A meeting of the Council of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture was held on Tuesday, November 6th, 1900, at the rooms of the Society of Arts.

There were present: Mr. Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P. (Chairman for 1900), in the Chair, Mr. J. Grant Lawson, M.P. (Vice-Chairman for 1900), and the following members:—

Representing the Central Chamber: Mr. B. St. John Ackers, Mr. J. F. Beddall, Mr. A. F. Jeffreys, M.P., Mr. F. J. Lloyd, Mr. H. Stopes, Mr. E. Strachey, M.P., and Mr. Ernest H. Godfrey (Secretary).

Representing Associated Chambers: Professor James Long (British Dairy Farmers' Association), Mr W. Weston (Bucks), Mr. C. P. Tebbutt (Cambridgeshire), Mr. W. W. Berry (Canterbury Farmers' Club), Mr. Joseph Beecroft (Chester Farmers' Club), Mr. J. T. Hobbs (Cirencester), Mr. C. Middleton (Cleveland), Colonel W. H. Wilson-Todd, M.P. (Darlington), Mr. T. Latham (Farmers' Club), Mr. E. Norton Mullins (Gillingham Farmers' Club), Mr. J. Stratton (Hampshire), Mr. Alexander Snodgrass (Hurstmonceux Farmers' Club), Mr. O. D. Johnson (Ixworth Farmers' Club), Mr. W. Frankish (Lincolnshire), Mr. H. Standfield (Milborne Farmers' Club), Mr. Henry Williams (Monmouthshire), Mr. E. T. Learner (Norfolk), Mr. T. A. Dickson (Northamptonshire), Mr. Ulric C. Stanley (North Cotswold Farmers' Association), Mr. W. Fitzherbert-Brockholes (North Lancashire Farmers' Association), Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, and Mr. Fred Horne (Shropshire), Mr. Herman Biddell (East Suffolk), Mr. S. Kidner (Taunton Farmers' Club), Mr. Charles Pratt (Warwickshire), and Mr. C. Harris Stratton (South Wilts).

Members of the Central Chamber: Mr. H. B. M. Buchanan, Mr. G. E. Francis, Dr. H. Gerlich, Mr. Laurence Hardy, M.P., Mr. H. Nowell Harvey, Colonel Victor Milward, M.P., and Mr. R. Henry Rew.

The minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Council, held on May 29th, 1900, and of the Special Council Meeting, held on July 10th, 1900, were read and confirmed.

The late Mr. Samuel Rowlandson.

The CHAIRMAN said that before the meeting proceeded with the business on the agenda paper he had a very painful duty to perform. He was sure that in referring to the death, on the 24th of last month, of their valued and esteemed colleague, Mr. Rowlandson, he should be only falling in with the wishes of the Council, who knew the very great work which Mr. Rowlandson had done. He was not only a very active member of that Chamber, but, as a member of the Business Committee, he was intimately connected with the organisation and the administration of the Chamber. He was elected a member of the Central Chamber and of the Council in 1884, and in 1888 he was appointed on the Business Committee. He (the Chairman) was sure that all those members who, like himself, came from the north of England—and he believed that he might go further and say that nearly all agriculturists—were well acquainted with the very large and successful farming operations which Mr. Rowlandson had carried on, as well as with his valuable work in many public capacities. He took a most active part in the proceedings of the Chambers, and in the work of the various Committees. In particular he rendered services of great value to agriculture in connection with the Railway Rates Inquiry. The Council were represented at the funeral by Mr. R. C. Pearce, of the Darlington Chamber, and by Mr. Christopher Middleton, one of Mr. Rowlandson's colleagues on the Business Committee. He (the Chairman) was sure that it would not have been right of him to let the meeting proceed without an expression on behalf of the Council and of agriculturists generally of their very deep sympathy with Mr. Rowlandson's family and their sense of the very great loss which had been sustained. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. REW said that perhaps he might be allowed by the indulgence of the Council to add his small tribute of respect to the memory of Mr. Rowlandson. It was his privilege to be intimately associated with that gentleman during the whole of his (Mr. Rew's) Secretaryship of the Central Chamber, and he should like to take this opportunity of expressing the sense of the loss which he felt personally at Mr. Rowlandson's death. It would be unbecoming on his part to attempt any eulogy of Mr. Rowlandson's services to agriculture generally, or to the Chamber in particular, beyond those considerations which were already present to the minds of the members in attendance at that meeting; but he was sure that every one would agree that, although that Chamber had had the good fortune to enlist the services of many public-spirited men of great energy and ability, it had never had a man who had exhibited a sounder judgment, a more shrewd knowledge of affairs, or a greater interest in the success of agriculture than Mr. Rowlandson.

Admission of New Chamber.

The Market Gardeners, Nurserymen, and Farmers' Association, 32, King Street, Covent Garden, W.C., was admitted into association with the Central Chamber.

Election of New Members.

The following were elected Members of the Central Chamber:—

FITZHERBERT-BROCKHOLES, W., Claughton-on-Brock, Garstang, Lancashire.

GYÖRGY, Endre, 22, Laurence Pountney Lane, E.C.

LUMLEY, Theodore, 37, Conduit Street, W.

Finance.

On the motion of Mr. BOWEN-JONES (Treasurer), cheques were drawn to the amount of £118 11s. 10d. Mr. Bowen-Jones added that the balance at the Bankers' amounted to £256 16s. 2d., and that a sum of £2 13s. 11d. was in hand, making a total of £259 10s. 1d.

Communications.

The receipt of the following communications was reported:—

(1) Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury, and President of the Board of Agriculture, acknowledging receipt of (a) Report of Cattle Diseases Committee; (b) Resolution on the Registration and Inspection of Agricultural Boilers.

(2) Home Office and the Board of Trade, acknowledging receipt of Resolution on the Registration and Inspection of Agricultural Boilers.

(3) Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury, and the Board of Agriculture, acknowledging receipt of the Resolutions on the Agricultural Holdings Bill, as adopted by the Council at the Special Meeting of July 10th, 1900.

(4) Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society, transmitting (1) an advance proof of Professor Hele-Shaw's Report on the emission of Sparks by Railway Locomotives and on the use of Spark Arresters, and (2) a resolution on Standards for Butter and Milk.

(5) Berks and Oxon, Gloucestershire, Lincolnshire, Monmouthshire, Somersetshire, Warwickshire Chambers, and Howdenshire Agricultural Club: Resolutions on the Legislation required in the Agricultural Interest.

(6) Bucks, Berks and Oxon, Gloucestershire, Monmouthshire, Snaith and District, and Warwickshire Chambers: Resolutions on Agricultural Insurance.

(7) Resolutions from the Cleveland Chamber (Agricultural Rates Act); East Kent Chamber (Seed Testing Station); North Lancashire Farmers' Association (Damage by Sparks from Railway Engines, and Fixing of Milk Standards under Sale of Food and Drugs Act); Shropshire Chamber (Fraudulent Sale of Meat, Pure Beer Bill and Uniform Weights and Measures); Somersetshire Chamber (Definition of "Determination of Tenancy"); Worcestershire Chamber (Workmen's Compensation Act of 1900).

(8) Société Nationale d'Agriculture de France: Compte Rendu de la Séance de Réception, 4 Juillet, 1900.

(9) Bulletins de la Société des Agriculteurs de France.

(10) Norfolk Chamber: Annual Report, 1900, and Second Annual Report of Field Experiments of Cambridge University Agricultural Department.

Standards of Milk, Butter, etc.

The SECRETARY, at the request of Mr. FITZHERBERT-BROCKHOLES, read the following resolution sent up by the North Lancashire Farmers' Association:—

That the fixing of Standards of Milk, Butter, etc., by the Board of Agriculture under Section 4 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act is a matter of great urgency, and that the Central Chamber of Agriculture be requested to do their utmost to press the Board to fix these Standards as speedily as possible.

Paris International Agricultural Congress.

The SECRETARY reported that Mr. Rouse Orlebar and himself were nominated by the Business Committee to attend the Paris International Agricultural Congress as official delegates from the Central Chamber of Agriculture. Major Le Roy Lewis was originally nominated as a delegate, but subsequently proceeded to South Africa on active service. Mr. Orlebar and himself had duly attended the Congress, which was held in the Palais des Congrès of the Exhibition from July 1-8, under the presidency of M. Jules Méline. They also had the pleasure of meeting at the Congress the delegates from other agricultural bodies in this country, including Sir Ernest Clarke, Secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society; Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., President of the National Agricultural Union; and Mr. F. J. Lloyd and Professor James Long, representing the British Dairy Farmers' Association. Being in Paris a day or two before the Congress opened, he (the Secretary) attended a meeting of the Société des Agriculteurs de France, to which were invited the foreign agricultural delegates then in Paris. That Society, founded upon the model of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, also fulfilled functions somewhat similar to those of the Central and Associated Chambers. On that occasion he had the honour as their delegate to present a short communication on the agricultural legislation of the late Parliament, which was cordially received. The French agrarian system differed from that of Great Britain, but considerable interest was manifested by some of the French agriculturists in our agricultural holdings legislation, although, as was stated by the President, the Marquis de Vogüé, the Société des Agriculteurs was opposed to measures of the kind. Some interesting papers and reports were communicated to the Congress, and were followed by discussions. These would appear in the Procès Verbaux to be duly published. One of the great advantages of these international congresses was the opportunity they afforded for agriculturists of all nationalities to enter into friendly and mutually useful relations with each other. Thus Mr. Orlebar and himself took part in an excursion to Verrières, by invitation of M. Philippe de Vilmorin, head of the well-known firm of Messrs. Vilmorin, Andrieux et Cie., and inspected their interesting seed and crop experiments. During the Congress they also had the privilege of attending a meeting of the Société Nationale d'Agriculture de France—one of the oldest European scientific societies—where they listened to a paper by M. Louis Passy, the Permanent Secretary, on the "Work of the Agricultural Societies of the World," and to an exposition of the work of the Pasteur Institute by Pasteur's successor, M. Duclaux. They desired to acknowledge the great kindness and hospitality which, as delegates of the Central Chamber, they received from the representatives of French agriculture. They both retained very agreeable recollections of their visit, which was of the most pleasant and, they hoped, profitable character. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN then moved:—

That letters be addressed to the President and Secretary of the Paris International Agricultural Congress, the Société Nationale d'Agriculture, the Société des Agriculteurs and other representatives of French Agriculture, thanking them in the name of the Council for the cordial reception of the delegates of the Central Chamber of Agriculture on the occasion of their visit to Paris last July.

He was sure that after what they had heard from their Secretary, they would pass the resolution with great satisfaction. He believed that the Congress, as the Secretary had said, had brought together numerous representatives of all classes and all shades of opinion and thought in connection with agriculture, and that it would be attended with very satisfactory results. He was sure that the Chamber would feel grateful to those persons who received their representatives in the courteous manner which had been described, and that the meeting would express sincere thanks to them for their kindness. At the same time he should like to say how much the Chamber was indebted to their delegates at the Congress. He believed they had admirably fulfilled the duties entrusted to them, and that the Chamber could not have had two better representatives.

Mr. FRANCIS seconded the motion for the particular reason that he was chosen to represent the Worcestershire Chamber of Commerce at the Paris Congress of the Chambers of Commerce. The reception which he had met with in Paris was very cordial, and could not have been better. He wished to express his appreciation.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Future Business.

The report of the Business Committee, settling the Order of Business at the next meeting under Bye-law 11, was as follows:—

That at the next meeting, to be held on Wednesday, December 12th, 1900, subject to the discussion of any matters of urgency, the questions for consideration shall be—

1. THE WORKING OF THE AGRICULTURAL RATES ACT OF 1896 AND THE QUESTION OF ITS RENEWAL.
2. TUBERCULOSIS AND THE WORKING OF THE "MODEL MILK CLAUSES" IN THE PRIVATE BILLS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES.
3. QUESTION OF THE REGISTRATION OF PIG DEALERS AND THE INSPECTION AND DISINFECTION OF THEIR PREMISES.

Mr. FRANCIS desired to raise the question of limited protective duties on imported wheat; but the CHAIRMAN ruled that it would be out of order to discuss the subject on that occasion.

Alterations in the Laws and Bye-laws.

On the recommendation of the Business Committee, it was resolved: (1) "That the Laws, as amended by them on May 28th, 1900, and circulated to the members of the Council, be now adopted for submission to the General Meeting on December 12th, 1900; (2) That the word 'speaker' be substituted for the word 'member,' and the words 'address the Chair' be substituted for the word 'speak' in line 1 of Bye-law 2 (b)."

The Annual Agricultural Dinner.

On the motion of Mr. GRANT LAWSON, M.P., it was resolved:—

That the Central Chamber of Agriculture do again co-operate with the Farmers' Club in holding a Joint Dinner on the Tuesday in Smithfield Week (December 11th, 1900), and that the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, and the Secretary be appointed a Committee with full powers to make all necessary arrangements.

Report of the Cattle Diseases Committee.

The following report of the Cattle Diseases Committee was presented:—

FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE.

1. Your Committee greatly regret to have to report that renewed outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease have occurred in various parts of the country since the last meeting of the Council on May 28th. In the first week of August the disease appeared in the East Riding of York. Later in the same month three outbreaks occurred in Flintshire. During September three outbreaks were reported in Wiltshire. On October 5th the disease was detected in Staffordshire, and the report of the outbreak was immediately followed by the scheduling of a district situated in the counties of Stafford, Derby, Leicester, and Warwick. There have thus been eight additional outbreaks if the disease since the Committee last met on May 28th.

2. According to the Official Returns of the Board of Agriculture, there have been altogether seventeen outbreaks in eight different counties since the re-introduction of the disease into this country last January, the total number of animals attacked being 227. The returns issued do not give the number slaughtered of animals which have been in contact with the diseased animals. The counties in which the outbreaks occurred are Norfolk, Suffolk, Bedford, Hertford, York (E.R.), Flint, Wilts, and Stafford.

3. With the exception of the original outbreak in Norfolk, where the animals affected were isolated, each outbreak immediately after being confirmed by the veterinary officers of

the Board of Agriculture, was dealt with by the prompt slaughter, not only of the diseased animals, but also of those which had been exposed to infection. The Orders of the Board of Agriculture scheduling districts around the areas of the outbreaks in the counties of York (E.R.), Flint, and Wilts, have now all been revoked, and the only district still remaining scheduled is that in Staffordshire and the adjoining counties.

4. In September the disease was reported to have broken out in Perthshire, and an extensive district was accordingly scheduled. Subsequent inquiries, however, proved that the outbreak reported upon was not due to foot-and-mouth, and Scotland fortunately continues to be free from the disease.

5. The Committee regret that the efforts of the Board of Agriculture to trace the origin of the outbreaks have not been successful in any case.

6. Your Committee are glad to note that the Board of Agriculture are steadily pursuing the system of stamping out the disease by immediate slaughter of the animals affected and those in contact with them. At the present time there are good grounds for hoping that the country may soon be again regarded as entirely free from the disease.

SWINE FEVER.

7. Your Committee are glad to find that the outbreaks of swine fever during the present year up to the end of last week show a decided decrease compared with the corresponding period of 1899. The following Table gives the number of outbreaks and number of swine slaughtered as diseased or as exposed to infection since the year 1893. The Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act of 1893, by which Swine Fever was brought under the Diseases of Animals Acts, came into operation on November 1st, 1893.

Year.	Number of Outbreaks.	Number of Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or as Exposed to Infection.
1,893	2,913	15,402
1,894	5,682	56,296
1,895	6,305	69,931
1,896	5,166	79,586
1,897	2,155	40,432
1,898	2,514	43,756
1,899	2,3 2	30,797
43 Weeks ended Oct. 28, 1899	2,064	27,219
43 Weeks ended Oct. 27, 1900	1,659	15,681

8. The attention of the Committee has been drawn to a Report of the Diseases of Animals Executive Committee of the Somerset County Council, dated October 3rd, 1900, which contains the following paragraph:—

> The Committee having been informed by the Chief Inspector that the Board of Agriculture had altered their practice of dealing with cases of swine fever, by abstaining from slaughtering swine in a herd among which an outbreak of swine fever had occurred, have urged upon the Board the advisability of reverting to the practice of slaughtering and paying compensation, for the following reasons:—
>
> 1. That even in infected places well adapted for isolation the presence of diseased swine is a source of possible, if not probable, danger.
> 2. That the new practice bears hardly upon an owner, who, failing slaughter by, and compensation from, the Board, is compelled, at considerable loss, to slaughter on his own premises.
> 3. That there is danger that the practice of the Board, by inflicting loss upon individuals, may lead to the concealment of disease, and so tend to render more difficult the attainment of the end which the Board have in view.

9. Your Committee concur in the views expressed by the Executive Committee of the Somerset County Council, and consider that all pigs found to be affected with Swine Fever, and those in contact with them, should be immediately slaughtered, and compensation paid under the powers conferred by the Diseases of Animals Act of 1894.

SHEEP SCAB.

10. The number of fresh outbreaks of sheep scab reported to the end of September last was 1,308, compared with 1,378 to the end of September, 1899. Your Committee strongly recommend that the Board of Agriculture should obtain the necessary legislative powers to order the compulsory dipping of sheep in order to prevent and eradicate this disease.

OTHER DISEASES OF ANIMALS.

11. ANTHRAX.—The outbreaks of anthrax for the forty-three weeks ended October 27th number 446, as compared with 442 in the corresponding period of 1899, 464 in 1898, and 363 in 1897.

12. GLANDERS.—There appears to have been a notable increase in the outbreaks of glanders for the same period, the number being 944, as compared with 682 in 1899, 630 in 1898, and 752 in 1897.

13. RABIES.—Unhappily, rabies, which it was hoped had been entirely eradicated, has reappeared in the districts from which the restrictions were last removed. Seven cases have occurred in Wales during the last two months, one of them in the county of Brecon, and six in the county of Carmarthen. Five of the cases related to dogs, and two to other animals. Fresh Muzzling Orders have therefore been imposed in the counties named, and in the county of Glamorgan.

B. ST. JOHN ACKERS, Secretary.

November 5, 1900.

Mr. ACKERS, in moving that the report be received and adopted, said the first thing which struck one as very unsatisfactory was that, as he had been informed, the efforts of the Board of Agriculture to trace the origin of the outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in the different counties had not been successful. Whatever their views might be as to the introduction of the disease, there did not appear to have been, after the outbreaks in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Bedfordshire, any possible means of tracing how the disease got into the other counties. On the other hand, he thought that they would all be very glad to know that England was now declared almost absolutely free from the disease, and that the last outbreak in Staffordshire had not only subsided, but had not spread, and the Order had been revoked. It would be seen from paragraph 4 that there was a supposed outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Scotland. It was so many years since foot-and-mouth disease was at all prevalent throughout the United Kingdom that it was not to be wondered at that certain veterinary surgeons were not certain, when animals were attacked with disease, whether the outbreak was foot-and-mouth or not. It was satisfactory, he thought, to find that the Board of Agriculture in every case, or, at any rate, in almost every case, sent down their Chief Adviser, Mr. Cope, to see whether the disease was foot-and-mouth or not. They would, he thought, also see with satisfaction that in every case after the first the views of the Chamber, and the views, he might say, of agriculturists pretty well unanimously throughout the kingdom, had been carried out by the Board, and that slaughter had been resorted to, and not isolation.

Turning to the next subject, that of swine fever, they all rejoiced to find a diminution in the number of cases of that disease. But they would find that in one particular case, at any rate in the county of Somerset, the Board had gone back from the practice of slaughter to that of isolation. He did not mean to say that they had always absolutely slaughtered all swine in contact with diseased animals, but at all events slaughter had been the rule, and, apparently, from the answer received from the Board by the Somerset County Council Committee on the Diseases of Animals, the Board were rather inclined to advocate isolation. He thought that this was a very important matter, and one which should be unanimously pressed upon the Board. As they had pressed upon the Board with regard to foot-and-mouth disease, so they should press with regard to swine fever, that isolation was not in their opinion a satisfactory method of dealing with the disease, and that there should be immediate slaughter and compensation. It would be seen in paragraph 9 that the Cattle Diseases Committee strongly supported that view.

With regard to sheep scab, the Committee again pressed that the Board of Agriculture should apply to Parliament for powers which they did not now possess to order the compulsory dipping of sheep. As to other diseases of animals, the only point that he had to remark upon was that, unhappily, rabies had again broken out, cases having occurred in South Wales. That fact was particularly to be regretted, inasmuch as they had all been congratulating Mr. Long upon the successful termination of the very unpleasant duty which fell upon him, but which was attended with great national advantage—the duty of stamping out that most horrible disease. The opinion of the Board was that the six months which had been found sufficient in all other cases was not quite sufficient in the particular case of South Wales. There had been special circumstances which rendered it very difficult to detect whether the disease had been stamped out or not, but, at all events, he thought that they would strengthen the hands of the Board if, instead of that hysterical outcry which they used to hear from certain persons in times past, so far from reproaching the Board for not having dealt severely enough with rabies, they would, if they felt that six months might not be in all cases sufficient, heartily back up the Board in fixing a longer term, so that they might render the country once more free from the disease.

Mr. MIDDLETON (Cleveland) seconded the motion. They might congratulate themselves on the fact that the country was again free from foot-and-mouth disease. That disease was shown to be of a very insidious character by the way in which it had broken out. He thought that the action of the Board of Agriculture must commend itself to every agriculturist on account of the very prompt way in which they had dealt with the recent outbreaks. There had been slaughter not only of the diseased animals, but of those animals which had been in contact with them. He thought that it must be admitted that that was the only safe way of getting rid of the disease.

Mr. BOWEN-JONES (Shropshire) suggested the addition to paragraph 10 of the following words: "And also to enable the local authority to provide public dipping tanks." It seemed to him that if they concurred in the view that public dipping was necessary for sheep scab—a view which he entirely endorsed from his own knowledge of that troublesome malady—it was a necessary corollary that public dipping tanks should be erected in order that the dipping might be carried out. This matter had not been discussed at the Central Chamber; but he thought that when powers were being obtained for the purpose of compulsory dipping, further powers ought also to be obtained for the purpose to which he referred. The local authorities should have power to erect dipping tanks, and pay for them, because he believed that the work of dipping could be best superintended by the local authorities. He also thought that, if tanks were erected, their erection would involve the necessity of appointing inspectors to see that the dipping was properly carried out, and that the ingredients used were such as would kill the parasites. Altogether he was strongly of opinion that the erection of public tanks would bring about a stricter administration of the law by the local authorities themselves, and that was what was wanted. From the part which he had taken in forming a large combination of counties on the borders of Wales where the disease was rife, he was convinced that, through the repressive action which had been taken in preventing the bringing in of sheep from outside the area of the combined counties, except under regulations of a very drastic character, they were gradually educating the farmers in the mountainous parts of the kingdom to understand that sheep scab was a disease that they must get rid of. He therefore wanted to strengthen the hands of all concerned in the administration of the law in coping with and eradicating the disease; and he believed that the means which he had suggested would be of very essential importance in doing so.

Mr. PRATT (Warwickshire) seconded the amendment because of the trouble which the disease gave in his district.

Mr. SNODGRASS (Hurstmonceux Farmers' Club) said his Club had a distinct objection to compulsory dipping. His district was almost entirely a breeding one, and the sheep were kept under conditions which were very unlikely to create or induce an outbreak of scab. In fact, it was a long time since an outbreak had been known among the sheep bred in the county, and very few sheep were introduced from other parts. He believed that what he said with regard to his own district applied to the whole county. He did not think that any person would, of his own accord, dip his sheep for scab when he knew very well that there was no scab in the district. Perhaps it might be right to compel the people in some districts to dip, but he believed that in his county the breeders of sheep would consider compulsory dipping a very great hardship.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the question of dipping for sheep scab had been settled by the Chamber. The question raised by the amendment was simply whether local authorities should provide public dipping tanks. He did not wish the discussion to get too far away from that point.

Mr. JOHNSON (Ixworth Farmers' Club) said that public dipping tanks might be necessary for the country as a whole, but he was not then prepared to vote for them. He did not wish to oppose any pressure which the Chamber might think it necessary to put upon the Board of Agriculture to do what was necessary in order to protect the flocks of this country. But he had kept sheep for thirty years in Suffolk, and he had never had a case of sheep scab, and he did not know that he had seen one. That fact led him to think that it was unnecessary, at any rate for the whole country, to take such measures as the amendment proposed. It might be necessary that the law which now existed should be enforced most strongly in those districts in which the disease was prevalent, but drastic measures were not necessary for his county.

Mr. MIDDLETON (Cleveland) said that there had been some little misapprehension as to what was before the meeting. The proposal of the report was that the Board of Agriculture should have power to order compulsory dipping where it was necessary; not that universal dipping should be carried out.

Mr. WILLIAMS (Monmouthshire) inquired whether it would be in order for him to ask the last speaker but one whether he did or did not dip his sheep at present. If he did, where was the objection to its being compulsory?

Mr. JEFFREYS, M.P., said that Mr. Bowen-Jones spoke with great authority upon a subject of this sort. He should like to ask him whether he meant that the public dipping tanks should be fixed at certain dipping places, or that there should be moveable dipping boxes which could be carried from place to place. The appointment of fixed dipping places would often cause great difficulty in the sending of sheep to be dipped. In the high lands of Hampshire there was great difficulty in sending sheep to the water to be washed, and nearly all the fleeces were sold unwashed. Every farmer dipped his sheep, but it was generally by means of boxes which were carried on wheels and brought to the flocks. He should himself be very much inclined to agree with the original paragraph as it stood. If the Board of Agriculture determined to carry out the compulsory dipping of sheep in a particular district, let them also find out the way of carrying their order into execution. If what Mr. Bowen-Jones suggested in his amendment was carried out, every local authority might find it necessary to put up public dipping places, and such a step would be a great expense to the locality. It seemed to him that it would be a great hardship to many farmers to have to send their flocks of sheep four or five miles to be dipped. Although he agreed that, at all hazards, sheep scab should be stamped out, yet he did not think that they ought to make the method too onerous a burden upon farmers.

Mr. JOHNSON (Ixworth Farmers' Club) explained that in Suffolk they dipped sheep when they thought it necessary to dip them, but they did not dip them for scab.

Mr. HERMAN BIDDELL (East Suffolk) said that the malady of scab was of rare occurrence on his side of the kingdom, and he should be opposed to a measure which might be needed for Wales being pressed upon parts of the kingdom in which it was not required. He did not think that the Chamber would be justified in suggesting such a course. If the proposal was to be of the sweeping character which had been described, he hoped that it would be negatived.

Mr. KIDNER (Taunton Farmers' Club) said it was quite evident that there were differences of opinion as to the mode in which sheep scab should be stamped out; but they were all at one in thinking that the Board of Agriculture should take up the subject, and that the disease should be eradicated. He thought that the report as it was worded left it open to local authorities to decide whether they would enforce the regulations after they had the power to do so. But he thought that there were objections to Mr. Bowen-Jones' proposal. As Mr. Jeffreys had said, local authorities might have to go to great expense, and

that expense might be quite unnecessary. In his own district a great many of the farmers had their own dipping tanks.

Mr. LLOYD doubted whether the wording of the report accurately expressed the intention of the Committee. He thought that after the words "the compulsory dipping of sheep" in the tenth paragraph of the report there ought to be inserted "suffering from the disease." He could hardly agree that dipping was a preventive of the disease, and he doubted whether such a view could be maintained. The report spoke of preventing disease, but he thought that it really meant preventing the spread of the disease.

Mr. BOWEN-JONES: No.

Mr. LLOYD, concluding, thought that the obtaining of compulsory powers to order dipping would go a long way towards preventing the spread of the disease, and also towards eradicating it.

Mr. WESTON (Bucks) agreed with what Mr. Jeffreys had said. In his part of the country, namely, the borders of Buckinghamshire and Hampshire, many farmers had already put up what they called swimming baths, and they allowed their neighbours to bring their sheep to them for dipping. Two men would dip a thousand sheep a day in them, and the process was very simple. He had put up one himself and notified to the farmers of the village that they could dip their sheep on simply paying the expenses. He thought that an arrangement of that sort would meet the case. It was absolutely necessary, in his opinion, that dipping should be compulsory, and that all sheep should be dipped once a year. It had been conclusively proved that the disease had been stamped out in New Zealand and Australia by compulsory dipping, and surely the same result could be obtained in this country. He was certain that the farmer received benefit from dipping by getting a better quality of wool. Nobody could object to dip once or twice a year. If sheep were to be taken from one county to another, a certificate that they had been dipped within a certain time ought to be required before they were allowed to travel. That could only be carried out by the Board of Agriculture having full powers to enforce dipping.

Mr. MULLINS (Gillingham Farmers' Club) agreed with Mr. Lloyd that the words "suffering from the disease" should be inserted in the report. He had kept sheep for thirty years, and, like Mr. Johnson, had never seen a case of sheep scab in his life. He would venture to say that not 2 per cent. of the sheep in the kingdom were afflicted with scab; and to dip the other 98 for the purpose of securing the cure of the two that were infected would be a somewhat too drastic measure to go down with English farmers. If they passed that recommendation of the report, they would, he thought, find a great deal of opposition. If he was in order he would move the insertion of the words "that are infected."

The CHAIRMAN ruled that the amendment already before the meeting must be disposed of before a further amendment could be moved.

Professor LONG (British Dairy Farmers' Association) said that both those who had had scab in their sheep and those who had not were very strong in their opinions. Some of the speakers had said that they had never seen the disease. He (Professor Long) had had to deal with cases of scab, and for that reason he supported Mr. Bowen-Jones. If in his (Professor Long's) village there had been a public dipping tank put up by the local authority, he should never have had scab in his sheep, and he should never have had any loss or anxiety from that cause. Of all diseases sheep scab was the most filthy and the most abominable. He had had the misfortune to be induced to buy sheep in his neighbourhood, and some of those sheep had scab without his being aware of it. Upon their coming to his place, they infected his flock, and caused great annoyance and vexation and considerable loss. It was all very well to suggest that farmers should dip their sheep when they had got scab, but let them be dipped before they contracted the disease. Let that precaution be taken, and they would never have scab. He thought that Mr. Bowen-Jones's advice should be listened to, for he was Chairman of the Shropshire County Council, which had done the best work in England with regard to sheep, and what was done in Shropshire ought to be done throughout England. He was quite sure that if they had all known the work of Shropshire, those speakers who had expressed themselves so strongly against Mr. Bowen-Jones's proposal would have supported it.

Mr. BOWEN-JONES pointed out that the question of dipping had been settled by the Chamber, and they could not go back without rescinding their previous resolution. His suggestion was simply that they should ask the Government to afford them an enabling means of carrying out the regulations for compulsory dipping in a way that would make it effective, and nothing further. Mr. Jeffreys had raised the question of whether there should be fixed dipping stations or movable tubs. He (Mr. Bowen-Jones) did not want to go into any of those details. He only wanted powers to be given to the local authority to spend money for the purpose if they thought it necessary. They need not provide dipping tanks if they did not think them necessary. If the local authority thought that the money of the ratepayers should be expended in the provision of such tanks, they would naturally charge some fee for the use of the tanks, and the thing would pay for itself. But, if it did not pay for itself, still, if the disease was extirpated, the farmers and the other ratepayers of the county would be thoroughly repaid for the expenditure. The point raised by Mr. Lloyd was not strictly within the limits of his proposal, but he could not pass it by without referring to it. He was sure that Mr. Lloyd could not have read the present Sheep Scab Orders. He said that there ought to be compulsory dipping for animals suffering from the disease. But every local authority had power already to enforce dipping in cases in which the disease existed. A great many of the local authorities, however, failed to exercise the power, or else the disease would have been stamped out before now. Most large farmers had been in the habit of having a swimming dipping bath. He had had one himself, and he had used it three or four times a year. As to the scab, he did not know what it was, although he lived on the border of Wales; but he should have had losses of the greatest magnitude if he had not taken means to keep the scab out of the flock. The disease would have been extirpated if it was not for the supineness of the local authorities. Therefore, he wanted the law to be altered so that there might be still stricter regulations than the regulations which existed at the present time. For that reason he had proposed what he might call the harmless and innocent enabling proposal contained in the amendment, and he hoped that Mr. Ackers would accept it.

Mr. ACKERS said that, whether dipping was proper or not, the Chamber had decided in favour of it, and that settled the question. A resolution on the subject was passed without a division quite recently, and sent up to the usual Ministers. As to its being intended that there should be an absolute Order for the dipping of every sheep in England, nothing of the kind was said either in the resolution which had been passed by the Chamber, or in the present report of the Cattle Diseases Committee. The proposal was simply that the Board of Agriculture should have power to order dipping as they might deem necessary, either universally or in a particular county or district. The power might be exercised either generally or locally, but the object was to give the Board power to enforce dipping, and to leave it to the Board to say how far it should be done. He was very sorry that he could not accept Mr. Bowen-Jones's amendment. Mr. Bowen-Jones was a very influential member of the Cattle Disease Committee, and one to whom the Chamber always listened with very great interest and attention. He was present at the meeting of the Cattle Diseases Committee when the report was drafted, and this question was brought up, though not threshed out. They wanted to give to the Board of Agriculture power to get rid of the disease. That was a plain, straight issue, which he was sure that they must all agree upon; but the moment that they began to load it with proposals that the local authority should be bound to do something else——

Mr. BOWEN-JONES explained that he used the word "enabled," not "bound."

Mr. ACKERS accepted the correction. But it was proposed that they should ask for an Act of Parliament to deal both with the powers of the Board of Agriculture and also with the powers of the local authorities. He felt—and he believed that the Chamber would feel—that it would be a much safer plan to ask the Board of Agriculture to bring in a Bill to give them compulsory powers and get it passed. No doubt in such a Bill would be given all other powers which were necessary for the effective carrying out of compulsory dipping. If the Board of Agriculture considered that powers for compulsory dipping could best be carried out or could only properly be carried out by increasing the powers of the local authorities, doubtless the increase of those powers would be one of the main features of the Bill when it came forward. But, if that was not so, they would surely then be able to press the matter, and he was quite sure that no Bill would be brought forward or any attempt would be made to carry any Bill into an Act without Mr. Bowen-Jones and those persons on the borders of Wales who not only had shown themselves deeply interested, but had taken a most intelligent and active part in preventing the spread of the disease, being consulted. The Committee had abstained from asking for the power in question because they did not want to overload their recommendation by intermingling the local authority with the Board of Agriculture. They had addressed themselves to a plain, straightforward issue. He was very sorry that he could not accept the amendment, and he would ask the Council to accept unanimously the Report as it stood.

Mr. BOWEN-JONES said that he was in the hands of the Chamber. He was himself perfectly convinced that it would be necessary to carry out what he proposed, and, if the Chamber were going to oppose it, he would rather that they should not express an opinion until they had thought over the matter further. Unless they gave a great deal of thought to the matter they could not make up their minds very easily about it. He did not want to make another speech, but he would say that what he had proposed was only an enabling suggestion. It was quite open to the Board when it made an alteration in the sense of the recommendation of the Cattle Diseases Committee to provide that the local authorities should order the compulsory dipping. He did not take it that the Board of Agriculture was going to order it. If Mr. Ackers could accept the amendment he should be very glad. He did not want a strong difference of opinion exp[illegible] on this question, and therefore he thought that perhaps the best course that he could pursue in the interests of the subject would be to withdraw [illegible].

The amendment was then by leave withdrawn.

Mr. STRACHEY, M.P., referring to paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Report, said that apparently the Cattle Diseases Committee were not aware that the Somerset County Council unanimously concurred with the recommendation of the Committee, and that their resolution was sent to the President of the Board of Agriculture. He thought that the Committee ought to go a little further than they had done in paragraph 9. As far as he could see that paragraph merely expressed a pious opinion concurring with the views expressed by the Executive Committee of the Somerset County Council. As recently as last June the President of the Board of Agriculture, referring to the question of swine fever, pointed out that in 1897-98 £125,000 was spent for compulsory slaughter. The amount decreased in 1899-00, to £78,000. The outbreaks during the period of 1898-99 were 2,400, and they decreased in the following year to 2,100. The President went on to say that in the first twenty-four weeks of this year there had been only 1,000 outbreaks in comparison with 1,370 the year before. He then proceeded:—"Generally speaking, over the whole country, there is a decided improvement in regard to this most insidious disease, and we have every reason to believe that if our efforts are supported by the local authorities it will be as satisfactorily dealt with as other diseases have been." After that statement made in the House of Commons it seemed to him surprising that the President of the Board of Agriculture should turn right-about-face and alter his regulations. He pointed out in the House of Commons that the outbreaks had decreased, and that the amount of compensation had decreased by a very large amount, and yet he had now issued regulations doing away with compensation for slaughter. As far as he (Mr. Strachey) could see there was nothing to justify that change, and he hoped that the Chamber would pass some strong resolution backing up the Somerset County Council in their disapproval of the action of the President of the Board of Agriculture in this matter. He (Mr. Strachey) knew that he was speaking the opinion of the agriculturists of Somerset as shown by the fact that the Somerset County Council unanimously passed a resolution concurring with their Committee to the effect that it was a wrong thing for the President of the Board of Agriculture to reverse the whole of his action without any reason at all. Agriculturists in Somerset had experience of the same state of things when compulsory slaughter was not prevalent and no compensation was paid. They found in that time that infected areas were maintained throughout the length and breadth of the country in consequence of the fact that people very naturally objected to slaughter when no compensation was paid to them. There might, for instance, be a small occupier who kept only two or three pigs adjoining a large occupier who kept many, and yet upon an outbreak the small occupier would refuse to slaughter his pigs unless he was to receive compensation. He ventured to suggest that the Chamber should add to the report of the Committee the following words at the end of paragraph 9:—"Also that the President of the Board of Agriculture be asked to revert to immediate slaughter and compensation in all cases."

Mr. BEECROFT (Cheshire) seconded the amendment.

Mr. ACKERS said that he cordially agreed, but the Committee thought that the paragraph in the report was strong enough. He doubted whether the words which Mr. Strachey proposed to add were stronger. If they were, by all means let them be put in. The only reason why they would not quite like the absolute wording of the Executive Committee of the Somerset County Council was that the Board had said that they had not gone back from their plan, and that they had always exercised the right of isolating in certain cases and of slaughtering in others. To use the word "revert" would be to say to the Board of Agriculture that the Chamber did not quite believe the statement that the Board had made. Could not they put in some other word instead of "revert," as, for instance, "insist upon immediate slaughter in all cases"? He should be most happy to agree to that if Mr. Strachey would accept that wording.

Mr. Strachey having accepted the alteration suggested by Mr. Akers, the words "also that the President of the Board of Agriculture be asked to insist upon immediate slaughter and compensation in all cases" were added to paragraph 9 of the Report.

Mr. MULLINS (Gillingham Farmers' Club) proposed the insertion of the words "that are infected" after the words "dipping of sheep" in paragraph 10 of the report. Those that were whole had not need the physician. The great majority of the sheep of this country were not brought into contact with sheep which had the scab. A compulsory measure for the dipping of all sheep would be found to be too drastic and too unpalatable. It was also unnecessary, because there were already ample powers to deal with sheep scab.

Mr. J. STRATTON (Hampshire) seconded the amendment, as he considered that only infected sheep should be dipped.

Mr. WILLIAMS (Monmouthshire) said that the remarks of some of the speakers were [illegible] going

back upon what had been decided by the Chamber. He thought it was not in order to be continually discussing whether sheep dipping should be or should not be compulsory. Mr. Stratton had contended that only sheep that were infected should be dipped. A neighbour of his (Mr. Williams) had kept sheep for forty years without having seen a sign of scab in them, but upon one occasion he took some of them to market and brought them home again, and shortly afterwards sheep scab broke out among them in consequence of their having been in an infected pen. Compulsory dipping would have prevented an occurrence of that kind.

Mr. KIDNER (Taunton Farmers' Club) was entirely in accord with Mr. Mullins and Mr. Stratton, but he would ask them to withdraw their amendment. As representing the National Sheep Breeders' Association he was sure that it would be the wish of that body that they should do so. There were two opinions as to the mode of stamping out sheep scab, but it was all-important that they should go with a united voice on this question to the Board of Agriculture.

Mr. MIDDLETON asked whether any amendment to a Report of a Committee was in order.

The CHAIRMAN said he believed there was no precise rule. Amendments were sometimes moved, but the general practice of the Council was they were not pressed without the concurrence of the Chairman of the Committee who moved the adoption of the Report.

Mr. STANDFIELD (Milborne Farmers' Club) said that as a farmer of many years' standing he was very much surprised to hear farmers and others speaking against the dipping of sheep. He thought that the reason why they dipped sheep had been overlooked. It was not only on account of the scab, but that if sheep were not dipped they were very likely to be afflicted with a parasite called sheep tick; and not only so, but they had flies and maggots on them which very soon ate into the flesh and caused the death of the sheep if they were not prevented. There was nothing in the world except dipping which would prevent flies from striking into the sheep, or which would kill sheep tick, which was such a scourge. He had been told on good authority that the same ingredients which would eradicate or prevent tick would cure sheep scab if it existed. Like some of the other speakers he had never seen a case of sheep scab in his life; but he had been told by a neighbour of his that once he brought some sheep from Scotland, and that on coming into the district they were found to be infected with scab. All the farmers in his neighbourhood used the ordinary sheep dip, and without exception they thought that it would be great folly not to dip their sheep. The dip that was used was a composition of arsenic, soft soap, and sulphur. In the case of the sheep of which he had spoken, and which had been brought from Scotland, the dip was made rather stronger than usual, and, although the sheep were badly infected, one dip cured them. He thought that no flock keeper who had any experience or any knowledge of sheep or of the nature of the disease which afflicted them could consistently oppose the dipping of the sheep. He should think that every farmer in his own interest would dip the sheep without a compulsory order. But perhaps the dipping might be omitted by the mountain farmers of Wales and Scotland who did not see their sheep for a month at a time, and who sold them carelessly, and such cases must be guarded against.

Mr. ACKERS said that he was sorry that he could not accept the amendment. It was not a necessary one, for all the powers which it suggested were in existence at the present time. Besides that, there would be little or no good in dipping the sheep that were diseased if those which were in contact with them were not dipped also.

The amendment for inserting the words "that are infected" was then put and negatived.

On the motion of Mr. ACKERS, seconded by Mr. MIDDLETON (Cleveland), it was resolved to send a copy of the report, as amended, to the usual Ministers.

Agricultural Legislation.

The following "Statement of Legislation Required in the Agricultural Interest," issued before the recent General Election by the Business and Parliamentary Committees in pursuance of the Council's resolution of May 29th, 1900, was presented:—

I. LOCAL TAXATION.
(a) That a permanent and comprehensive measure be passed, giving adequate relief from the excessive and unfair burdens at present imposed upon Agriculture.
(b) That steps be taken to remedy the anomalies disclosed by the First Report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation of December 16th, 1898, and especially to provide one uniform assessment for all purposes, both Imperial and local.

II. RAILWAY RATES.
(a) That the granting by railway companies of preferential rates and facilities for foreign produce be absolutely prohibited, and that the Board of Trade be empowered and instructed to enforce the law.
(b) That more ready means be provided for obtaining the reduction of unreasonable rates on English produce.

III. TUBERCULOSIS.
That in any legislation dealing with the important national question of Tuberculosis due provision be made for compensation in respect of tuberculous animals or carcasses slaughtered or seized in the public interest.

IV. COMPULSORY DIPPING OF SHEEP.
That power be conferred upon the Board of Agriculture to order the compulsory dipping of sheep for the purpose of preventing and eradicating sheep scab.

V. BEER DUTIES AND BREWING MATERIALS.
(a) That the Beer Duty be re-adjusted by a reduction in the duty charged on beer brewed only from barley-malt and hops; and that a like amount be added on beer containing any substitute for barley-malt and hops.
(b) That brewers and publicans be compelled to declare the ingredients of their beer.
(c) That effect be given to the suggestions contained in the Majority and Minority Reports of the Departmental Committee on Beer Materials, as to the insertion in the brewing-books and in the information furnished in the Parliamentary Returns of separate columns for hops and hop-substitutes, and as to the publication of returns by brewers for sale and of the use of hop substitutes.

VI. SALE OF CORN.
(a) That there be one uniform weight for the sale of corn.
(b) That the highest and lowest prices of each kind of grain, in addition to the summary of the total quantities sold and the average prices of such grain, be published in the weekly returns now made by the Government officials in the statute markets of this country.

VII. FRAUDULENT SALE OF FOREIGN MEAT.
That in the interests of both producers and consumers all retail vendors of imported dead meat be registered, and prominent notice of the fact displayed in every shop held by each person registered.

VIII. DAMAGE TO CROPS BY SPARKS FROM RAILWAY ENGINES.
That railway companies be rendered liable to pay compensation for damage done to growing crops, plantations, fences, etc., by fires caused by sparks from their engines, and thus in this respect be placed upon an equal footing with the owners of road locomotives.

IX. LAW OF TRESPASS.
That the existing law of trespass, which is obsolete and ineffective, be amended, particularly in the direction of providing for the protection of products, which, though of natural growth, are of a marketable character.

X. INJURIES TO FARM STOCK BY UNCONTROLLED DOGS.
That steps be taken to prevent, or secure compensation for, sheep-worrying or other injuries inflicted upon farm stock by dogs, either by the enactment of the provisions of the Dogs Regulation Bill of last Session, or by other legislative means.

N.B.—The order in which the above subjects are printed does not necessarily involve an expression of opinion as to their relative importance.

ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary.
September 26th, 1900.

Mr. BOWEN-JONES (Shropshire) moved:—
That the Statement of Legislation required in the Agricultural Interest, issued by the Business and Parliamentary Committees in pursuance of the Council's resolution of May 29th, 1900, be now communicated to the Prime Minister, the First Lord of the Treasury, the President of the Board of Agriculture, and other Ministers.

He presumed that the meeting would deprecate discussion upon the suggestions which had been sent out by the two Committees to candidates for Parliamentary honours during the past Election; because those suggestions were founded on resolutions of the Chamber which had been passed in the usual way by the proper majority, and it would have been *ultra vires* on the part of the Parliamentary Committee or the Business Committee to go beyond those suggestions or to alter them in any material degree. But perhaps he might anticipate some objections on another matter to the Statement that had been prepared. One objection might be that the Statement was not issued soon enough to Parliamentary candidates. But the Business and Parliamentary Committees were bound by the terms of the resolution of the Council, which were that such a statement should be issued in the event of a General Election before the next meeting of the Council. The Dissolution, as they were aware, took place on the 25th September, and one day after the Dissolution this Statement was issued. One objection that he could see as being capable of being offered to this Statement was that it did not embrace all the resolutions which had been passed by the Chamber, and which had not received legislative attention. Perhaps it might be said that they made no allusion to the Agricultural Rates Act being continued. But there was no resolution that such a thing should be carried out, although they knew perfectly well that the sense of agriculturists generally was that that concession to agricultural interests should not be withdrawn, at any rate without something more permanent and equally equitable or more equitable being established in its place. In section (a), under the head of "Local Taxation" they asked for all that anyone could require with regard to the Agricultural Rates Act. Another objection to the Statement might be made that it contained no reference to Acts which had been recently passed, and which had not met the full views of the Chambers of Agriculture; but he might point out that it seemed to him personally—and he had given his strong opinion in that sense—that although they felt the shortcomings that there were in Acts recently passed, such as the Sale of Food and Drugs Act and the Agricultural Holdings Act, yet it would have been absurd to send down questions to Parliamentary candidates asking whether they would at once move for the amendment of Acts that had only been passed within one or two years. It would be quite sufficient when those measures had been in operation a little longer to press for the necessary amendments in the interest of the agricultural community. With these explanations he moved the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. LATHAM (Farmers' Club) seconded the resolution, and thought that the Chamber might be congratulated on the programme. Mr. Bowen-Jones had just alluded to a little disappointment which members of the Chamber had felt in not receiving in Parliament all that they expected, and he had said that it would be wrong, perhaps, to mention the Acts in that list; but he (Mr. Latham) wished that the Parliamentary Committee had included such Acts in the list as it would have prevented Members of Parliament from going before their constituencies and saying what wonderful Acts of Parliament had been passed for the benefit of agriculturists.

Mr. WILLIAMS (Monmouthshire) supported the motion, but expressed his regret that the subject of boundary fences was not included in the programme. Mr. Bowen-Jones had explained that it was not possible to include everything; but it would be in the recollection of the Chamber that the subject of boundary fences had been many times before them, and it had proceeded to such a length that one or two deputations had gone to Ministers on the subject. One or two Members of Parliament had drafted a Bill on the subject, though he would not say that the Bill was introduced. They knew, of course, that private Members' Bills as a rule did not pass, but nevertheless the introduction of them was the only means which they had of enforcing their wishes on those who were responsible for the Acts of the Government. He had been requested by Mr. Jasper More, M.P., whose attendance that day was prevented by indisposition, to suggest that members of the Chamber should ask their representatives in Parliament to ballot for a Bill in the next Session on an uniform weight for the sale of grain.

Mr. STRACHEY, M.P., said that in paragraph 1, sub-section (a) it said "That a permanent and comprehensive measure be passed, giving adequate relief from the excessive and unfair burdens at present imposed upon agriculture." He ventured to suggest, as he had done before, that instead of saying "imposed upon agriculture" they should say "imposed upon land and houses." He thought that it was a great mistake for them as agriculturists to separate themselves in this matter from other owners of real property. He thought it was a fact that the Government acknowledged that that was an unfortunate thing to do, when they limited their Bill to five years for the express purpose of appointing a Royal Commission to enquire into the whole subject, in order that they might introduce legislation based on the report of that Commission for the purpose of giving adequate and fair relief to all forms of real property, whether in houses or land. He knew that a great many agriculturists objected very much to the fact that they now had to pay a heavy rate, and that they got no relief at all upon their houses and upon their buildings. In some counties buildings and houses were rated at a very high rate, if they were good houses, and consequently they had to pay the full amount of the rates on those particular houses. He thought that the mere fact that the Government appointed a Commission to enquire into the incidence of local taxation showed that they did intend to deal with all forms of real property and to give it adequate and fair relief. He considered that it would be better if the Business Committee did not try to separate the interests of one form of real property from those of another, and that instead of saying "upon agriculture" they should say "upon land and houses."

The CHAIRMAN wished to make one observation on the question of order. The "Statement" represented facts and resolutions of the Chamber, which could not be altered now. The resolutions were sent out to candidates before the Election, and the only question now before the Chamber was whether a copy of the document containing them should be sent to the Ministers in the various offices. If they considered the paper sufficiently weighty and important to be sent to the Ministers affected, it would be sent; but if they thought that it was worthless they could vote against it, and the document would not be sent at all. He could not accept any amendments to add to or subtract from the resolutions recorded, and it was therefore not desirable to raise a lengthy debate on any of the subjects with which they dealt.

Colonel MILWARD, M.P., said that the different questions alluded to in the resolutions varied very much in weight and also in practicability. Although it was stated at the bottom of the document that the order in which the subjects were printed did not necessarily involve an expression of opinion as to their relative importance, yet, as a matter of fact, people, in taking up a paper, imagined that the first thing in it was the one to which the Chamber attached greatest weight. He should like to see the eighth subject, "Damage to crops by sparks from railway engines" placed after "Local Taxation," that was to say as No. 2. That was a subject which he thought they could pursue with some hope of carrying it to a definite and satisfactory result. Everyone who travelled by train could see to what an enormous extent the crops of the country were damaged by sparks from engines, and everyone knew that in other countries the damage was prevented by certain safeguards on the engines. Therefore he should be very glad if it were possible to transpose No. 8 to an earlier part of the paper.

Mr. LLOYD suggested that as the "Statement" had simply come from Committees of the Council that the Council ought to pass a resolution as to whether it met with their approval or not. At present it had gone out as simply representing the opinion of the Committees of the Council. He believed that his suggestion was exactly on the lines of what the Chairman had said, and he was surprised

that Mr. Bowen-Jones did not move the resolution in that way, namely, "That this Statement meets with the approval of the Council."

Mr. BOWEN-JONES: I quite agree, but I was bound by the resolution as drawn up by the Business Committee.

Mr. GRANT LAWSON, M.P., pointed out that the whole of the ten subjects had been dealt with by the Council in various resolutions. He should very much deprecate an attempt now to raise ten discussions on ten subjects many of which had occupied nearly a whole sitting each. It was unnecessary to say, as Mr. Lloyd suggested, that the Council adopted these resolutions, because they had adopted them already and they were on record.

Mr. LLOYD said his point was that they ought to confirm as a Council the work done by the Committees of the Council, and pass a resolution now to the effect that the "Statement" as sent down by the Committees met with the approval of the Council. He begged to propose that such words be put in after the words "May 29th, 1900."

Mr. FRANCIS suggested that the attention of the Prime Minister should be called to the various evils affecting agriculture, which arose from the action of the free and open ports that existed alone in this kingdom, with a view to the consideration of what steps could be taken to remove or mitigate those evils. He believed he was right in stating that the price of wheat was now 30s., and the farmer said that he could not grow it profitably under 40s. The baker was now charging for his bread at the rate of 40s. Why should not the farmer have the benefit? What was the utility of passing a law for the farmer, if they allowed the baker to take all the benefit of it, as was the fact.

Mr. FITZHERBERT-BROCKHOLES (North Lancashire Farmers' Association) supported Colonel Milward's proposal that the paragraph relating to damage to crops by sparks from railway engines should be placed higher in the list.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the document had already been issued, and they had only now to decide whether it should be sent to the Ministers. He could not accept an amendment to alter it any shape or form. (Cries of "Vote.")

Mr. MULLINS (Gillingham Farmers' Club) regretted that the Business Committee had not defined what they meant by a permanent and comprehensive measure for giving adequate relief. If they had confined themselves to asking for a renewal of the Agricultural Rates Act upon a permanent basis, it would have been more effective than a vague resolution of the character which appeared in the "Statement." The Agricultural Rates Act was of a tentative character, and therefore it was likely to be made the shuttlecock of political parties.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the working of the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896 and the question of its renewal had been put down for discussion at the next meeting.

The CHAIRMAN then put the resolution, and it was carried without a division.

Agricultural Insurance.

Mr. WILLIAMS (Monmouthshire) moved:—

That this Council is of opinion that the Fire Insurance Offices should be approached with a view to induce them to re-consider their increased premiums on Agricultural Produce, etc., and, in case the Offices decline, that the question of a special Agricultural Insurance Office should be considered.

He said that it was within the knowledge of everyone present that the insurance offices had recently raised the premium on agricultural dead stock from 5s. to 7s. 6d., and that they had slightly reduced the premium on live stock. If agriculturists went to an insurance agent he would tell them that the change made very little difference. If that was the case why was it made at all? Why should an increased premium be placed upon agricultural stock? He observed that resolutions had come from many of the Chambers of the kingdom objecting to the change and suggesting as an alternative the establishment of an agricultural insurance office. He should have liked to say two or three words on the new insurance that was now looming upon them. He was under the impression when he came to the meeting that that subject would be considered. He was under the ruling of the Chairman on the point.

The CHAIRMAN thought they must adhere to the words of the resolution.

Mr. WILLIAMS: Then I beg to move the resolution.

Mr. BEECROFT (Chester Farmers' Club) seconded the motion.

The CHAIRMAN rather deprecated the passing of a resolution of this character. It was impossible for that Chamber to go to the insurance offices as a whole and attempt to argue with them. The only way in which they could bring an insurance office to reduce its premium was by competition. He was connected with an insurance office himself, and they had to get the best business they could, and they charged as much as they could till they found that they had to reduce, and they were only obliged to reduce when competition came. He did not think that they could induce the offices to reduce the premiums in the slightest degree. As to the other question, whether an agricultural insurance company could be established, that was a more practical question, involving very big issues; but he thought it was scarcely one which an institution of that sort should make itself responsible for. Why should they form themselves into an insurance office? He did not think it wise to pass resolutions that were not of a practical character, and that would not receive the attention which resolutions passed by the Chamber ought to receive.

The Council then divided, when there appeared 7 votes for the motion and 15 against it. The motion was therefore lost.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, December 12th, 1900, at 11 a.m.

Royal Commission on Horse Breeding.

A meeting of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding was held on Monday, at 13, Hanover Square, W. There were present the Duke of Portland, K.G. (in the chair), the Earl of Coventry, Lord Ribblesdale, Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Mr. J. Bowen Jones, and Mr. J. Herbert Taylor (secretary). Letters of regret at being unable to attend the meeting were read from Sir Jacob Wilson and Mr. Alfred E. Pease, M.P.

The percentage of foals left by the Queen's premium stallions for 1899 season of service was read, and the average was considered, on the whole, satisfactory.

The number of mares served during the past season was also reported, and in cases where the stallions had not served the required number of mares, the premiums were reduced in accordance with the rules and regulations.

The list of premiums with conditions for the Stallion Show of 1901 was arranged and ordered to be printed, and to be presented to Her Majesty and the Treasury for approval. Other business engaged the attention of the Commissioners, who afterwards adjourned.

Somerset and Dorset Horn Sheep Breeders.

A meeting of the above association was held last week under the presidency of Mr. F. E. Pope, when the election of officers took place with the following result:—President, Mr. F. E. Pope; vice-president, Mr. S. Kidner (Milverton); councillor, in the place of the late Mr. J. Blake, Mr. R. Urry (Isle of Wight).

It was decided not to give prizes for lamb rearing at present. The following were elected judges of Dorset Horn sheep:—Messrs. Attrill (Carisbrooke), J. Chick (Compton), J. T. Ensor (Wimborne), W. Flower (Stafford), H. Farthing (Taunton), C. Hawkins (Waddon), J. Kidner (Nynehead), S. Kidner (Milverton), E. J. Legg (Melplash), G. R. Pitfield (Eype), C. B. Stiby (Bradford), and W. Roper (Littlebredy).

It was decided to give prizes value £20 for horn sheep at the Royal Counties Show.

Warwickshire Chamber.

A meeting of the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture was held at Warwick on the 3rd inst., Mr. W. A. Stiles presiding. Mr. J. Denny presented a report of the last meeting of the Central Chamber, at which he was a special deputy from this county. He referred to the danger of getting rid of foreign cattle suspected of having foot and mouth disease by taking them out to sea and throwing them overboard three miles from land. The carcases were ultimately washed ashore, and might possibly spread the disease inland. It had been found very difficult to account for the origin of recent cases of the disease in this country. With regard to the new Agricultural Holdings Act, regret had been expressed that the Central Chamber had not been able to make a greater impression upon the Government in framing that measure. Giving his own personal view, he said it would have been much better to have had no Agricultural Holdings Act at all than to have so unsatisfactory a measure. If there had been no legislation on the subject last session they might still have agitated until they could have secured a redress of their grievances.

A discussion arose on the compulsory dipping of sheep for the prevention of sheep scab. Mr. Pratt moved, and Mr. Denny seconded, that the Central Chamber should be urged to press the Board of Agriculture to secure legislation on the subject. Mr. Potter thought it would be going too far to ask the Government for a general regulation as to sheep dipping. It would be quite enough to confine it to imported sheep.

Sir James Sawyer moved as an amendment that it should only apply to imported sheep in the first instance. Rev. D. W. Sitwell seconded the amendment, which was lost, the original motion being carried.

Sir James Sawyer moved that in any legislation for the prevention of tuberculosis compensation should be secured to the owners of stock destroyed in the interest of public health. Mr. Pratt seconded this, and it was adopted.

A discussion followed on the insurance of farm stock and produce, and there was a general complaint as to the increase of premiums for fire insurance. It was decided that, in the opinion of the Chamber, the premiums on fire insurance were excessive, and that it was desirable that, through the agency of the Central Chamber, some combination should be organised to secure a reduction of rates.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

Agricultural Education in Shropshire.

In presenting the report of the Technical Instruction Committee, which was adopted at the quarterly meeting of the Shropshire County Council, the chairman of the committee, the Rev. L. J. Lee, said it was a matter of serious regret that there did not appear to be that interest taken in agricultural education which in a county like Shropshire they might naturally expect. Only one candidate entered for the £50 two years' agricultural scholarship. One very gratifying thing, however, was the number of scholars in the elementary schools of the county who had won £10 scholarships. This was as gratifying to the Council as it was creditable to the teachers. Mr. J. Parry Jones said he should like to hear from the farmers themselves what was the cause of the enormous failure which had been experienced in regard to the agricultural scholarships. Sir T. F. Boughey said something besides technical education was required to make farming successful.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Nov. 3rd, 1900:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	182	298 606 301		15,863	37,787 37,301 36,238
	Outbreaks.		No.	26	27 35 13		1,886	2,901 2,158 1,974
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Other Animals	No.	:	: : 21		2	: : 16
		Dogs.	No.	:	: : 1		5	8 16 138
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughtered.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	: : :		:	999 741 :
		Diseased.	No.	:	: : :		:	: 1 : 16 : 1
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	: : :		:	: 1 : 1 : 1
Glanders (includ. farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	27	34 24 48		1,686	1,247 1,307 1,331
	Outbreaks.		No.	23	22 13 15		966	704 643 707
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	:	: : :		227	: : :
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	: : :		17	: : :
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	23	17 9 4		783	872 709 742
	Outbreaks.		No.	18	13 9 4		464	455 473 397
Period.				Week ended Nov. 3, 1900	Corresponding week in	1899 1898 1897	Total for 44 weeks 1900	Corresponding period in .. ..

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

The Kirbymoorside statute hirings were held on Wednesday. Girls, first time out, were asking £6 to £8 per year; older girls, £10 to £16; girls able to manage a dairy, £16 to £18; housekeepers, £22 to £24; cooks, £20 to £22; boys, first time out, £6 to £8; plough-boys, £10 to £12; wagoners, £18 to £20; foremen, £25 to £30 per year.

At Worksop Martinmas statutes which were held on Wednesday, there was a very poor attendance of servants, and much higher wages were asked all round, considerably in excess of any recent year. Horsemen asked from £30 to £40 per year; wagoners, £25 to £30; ordinary hands, £16 to £20, youths, £10 to £12; girls willing to milk were very scarce and demanded high wages, and in consequence very little actual hiring was done.

Ashbourne Fair.—The annual old chartered October Fair at Ashbourne was held on the 20th ult. In the Smithfield there was a large show of horned stock, and the attendance of dealers and farmers was good. Trade ruled rather slow, but on the whole a good number changed hands. Calving cows of the best made from £18 to £21, secondaries £16 to £17, barren stirks £7 to £9. There was a big show of bullocks, yearlings making from £7 to £9, two-year-olds up to £11. Some good fat beasts were sold, best young cows or heifers making 6½d. pound, cow beef 5d. to 5½d. pound. In the auction ring some good useful fat cows made up to £19 5s. In the sheep fair a very large number were penned, amongst them being some very good rams and ram lambs. The business done was, however, rather small. Rams (shearlings) quoted from £5 to £7; ram lambs, 40s. to 60s. apiece; good wethers, 40s. to 45s.; ewes, 36s. to 44s.; store lambs, 24s. to 30s. In the horse fair the demand was good for sound, useful horses of the heavy type. Some good animals changed hands at satisfactory figures.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Swine Fever.

Sir,—Would you kindly allow me to bring before your readers some startling facts respecting an outbreak of swine fever in the county of Hants, and the steps taken to stamp out same.

On the 15th October last an outbreak occurred amongst 80 pigs; this was duly reported the same day to the inspector appointed by the local authority. The local inspector wired the Board of Agriculture, giving information, and the local veterinary received instructions to examine and report on the condition of the pigs. His report was, they were badly infected with swine fever.

On the 19th October an inspector from the Board of Agriculture examined the pigs and confirmed the veterinary's report by killing six of them, and ordered these to be buried at once, requesting me to report any further deaths to the local authorities.

On the 28th, another inspector from the Board saw six other pigs which had since died, and admitted others were infected; he, however, refused to have any more killed, and stated the Board of Agriculture would take no further action in the matter. I conclude from this statement that swine fever in England is not to be stamped out by the Board of Agriculture.

On November 1st I again wrote to the Board stating another pig had died, and that no steps had been taken to bury those the inspector saw lying dead on October 28th.

The local authorities buried the pigs after some of them had been dead nearly a week.

On November 5th there are now four more pigs dead, and many of the remaining 63 badly infected.

It seems incredible that such a hot-bed of swine fever should be allowed to exist for such a long time, especially as the piggeries are situated on some small holdings of 60 acres, and abutting on a public road with every probability of this pest spreading—and yet no definite action is taken by the Board of Agriculture.

If this case is a specimen of the method usually adopted by the Board of Agriculture for stamping out swine fever, then it is high time county authorities should again have the power granted them of dealing with it as soon as an epidemic is discovered. The Board of Agriculture seems helpless in the matter; the only information from them is the usual statement that "Your letter will receive attention." Meantime, the contagion is spreading, and a great risk of half the county becoming affected.—I enclose my card, and remain, yours faithfully,

BEWILDERED.

The Spraying of Charlock: Nonsense!

Sir,—Why have any charlock to spray upon? It produces seed abundantly; this seed falls upon the surface of the ground, usually lies there all the winter, to be ploughed in in the spring with all the care a farmer gives the seeds of crops of value. The remedy is simply this: Soon as the crops are ended, *well harrow the stubbles*, to make every weed seed germinate, which the charlock especially will do as readily as common mustard; then when the land is ploughed some time in the winter or early spring, your dreaded enemy becomes in this turn not a nuisance, but a fertiliser. F. K.

Waldstone.

Shropshire Barley.

Sir,—In your issue of last week I note that prizes for next year's show at the Brewers' Exhibition were under discussion at the last meeting of the Shropshire Chamber of Agriculture.

I am glad to be able to say that Lord Wenlock has been good enough to tell me that he will contribute £10, and others will doubtless add to the amount.

Mr. Jasper More deserves deep thanks for the services he is continually rendering, not only to the County he has so long represented in Parliament, but to the agriculture of the whole kingdom; and with his ripe experience it may be safely left that if Shropshire does not reap to the full the benefits this exhibition confers, the only persons to blame will be Salopian farmers.

Perhaps, sir, I may add, as I never overlook or forget any generous action that falls under my notice, both Shropshire and the Exhibition owe much to the prizes for counties, first initiated many years ago by Messrs. Browne and Jones, of Shrewsbury.

This show grows in influence and importance year by year. To me it is a matter for much satisfaction that, through the kind offices of the Board of Agriculture, we shall have hereafter much greater scientific value attached to the labour of the judges, as we may expect to see proper combination of practice with science in the experiments which will be conducted at various centres through the kind instrumentality of the Board.—Faithfully yours,

H. STOPES.

11, Queen Victoria Street, London,
November 9th, 1900.

The estate of the late Mr. John Robert Jefferies, J.P., of the firm of Ransomes, Sims, and Jefferies, Ltd., has been valued at £113,610 gross and at £109,995 net.

MILLING.

The Amount of Albuminoids and Fibre in Different Flours.

Trade is anything but brisk, although flour has been reduced 6d. per 280lbs. in some parts. On the other hand, offals go off well everywhere, and with the approach of winter higher prices may soon be expected. Most of the English wheat which has been delivered at the mills is in very indifferent condition, and often causes much trouble in milling, owing to the superfluous moisture which it contains. A thorough drying before going to the break rolls greatly improves it; but then how many inland millers are there who have no facilities for treating it in the way? If it be broken down without some preparation, badly shaped and irregular looking middlings are the result, and the evil is accentuated in their purification and reduction, to say nothing of the lower yield.

Both the Australian and Plate wheats this year are very fine, and so are the hard Kansas sorts. Therefore millers who are not situated too far from the ports are managing to get along very well. Australian wheat is about the finest white wheat imported. It cannot be beaten for the purpose of

Giving Colour to Flour,

and for this reason is so much appreciated where very high-class patents are required. Its flour yield, too, is high, and even when baked alone it will make a sweet loaf of fair strength. Unfortunately it comes too dear for country millers, especially when the question of carriage is considered. Some members of the trade are milling Kansas wheats for the first time this year, and are not slow to recognise their excellent qualities when they are good, as is the case at the present time. Unless they are washed and conditioned, however, to toughen the bran there is likely to be a good deal of dark bran powder, a material which gives great trouble to remove by purification. One particular feature of these Plate wheats is worth the attention of millers—their flours are very white compared with other red sorts. Their quality seems to be improving almost yearly, and when there are better means of transport in the Argentine and sufficient warehouse accommodation British millers will find them a real boon.

Some parcels, however, give a high percentage of loss in cleaning, as they contain black oats, barley, seeds, and other refuse. The large mills can buy such lots cheap and can utilise them to advantage, but small millers, who are able to get them, should buy the cleanest samples which can be obtained. Some Plates which now reach this country are

Not at all Unlike our Red Lammas,

only they are much harder and stronger, sometimes showing as much as 33 per cent. of wet gluten. From what has been said it will be gathered that Argentine wheats vary as much in quality as in condition. The country where they are grown is so extensive, and consists of such widely varying kinds of soil, while seed from many countries has been introduced, that it is only natural to expect widely different samples. The writer has seen Plate wheat very nearly as hard as Persian, while white Plate (Saldome) occasionally arrives. These, however, have little in common with the fine and carefully graded wheats which come from the provinces of Santa Fé and Entre Rios. These are sound, dry, clean, and of uniform quality, and are much appreciated by millers.

The Treatment of Middlings.

The more millers recognise the necessity of handling middlings in the best possible way, the better will be the flour made from them. In order to secure the best results middlings should be graded as evenly as possible in sizes and qualities. Coarse and fine middlings should never be ground upon the same pair of rolls, or there will be uneven granulation. It is impossible to set rolls to work on stock uneven in size, because the larger middlings prevent the finer from being properly reduced. The result of such grinding is richer offals, with a consequent lower flour yield. The middlings from the last break should be kept separate from the rest of the stock in the mill, as the flour from them is of inferior quality to those flours made from the earlier reductions. But it is not the lack of gluten which causes the low grade, as the flour from the last break really contains the largest proportion of albuminoids; but the impurities which are present and cannot be removed destroy their values. In estimating the value of flour the small proportion of fibre must be taken into consideration as well as the large proportion of albuminoids. The closer to the bran the reductions come, or rather as the finishing process is reached, the proportion of albuminoids actually increases, but the flour is more fibrous and impure. Thus the value of flour is estimated, first by its purity and secondly by the amount of albuminoids it contains. It has been well said: "If the proportion of albuminoids be not present to the desired extent,

The Flour will not be Rated High;

if the albuminoids are present, but with bran and impurities, the flour will not be rated high." Thus flour contains a certain proportion of good qualities and a certain amount of deleterious qualities, and for this reason belongs to a certain grade.

Again in reference to the handling of the stock, there should be no returns; after once removing impurities, the stock should go to the feed to which it belongs. Therefore, as far as possible, different qualities of middlings, as well as different sizes, should be reduced on different pairs of rolls; but this is only practicable to a desirable extent in large mills. In grading middlings for purifiers as many sizes should be made as convenient, for although small millers generally have to be content with three sizes—semolina, middlings, and dunst—large concerns may have six or eight. It should never be forgotten that the better the grading and sizing, the better will the purification be. If the wheat be perfectly cleaned, well conditioned, and well broken down on corrugated rolls, the subsequent handling of the middlings on smooth rolls and purifiers will account for the flour in the direction of superiority or the reverse. In other words, grind right and make careful separations at the beginning, and the battle is half over.

MILLER-FARMER.

LITERARY NOTICES.

Messrs. Thomas Kennedy and Co., of High Street, Dumfries, have now issued their catalogue of forest, fruit, and ornamental trees, etc., for autumn, 1900, and spring, 1901.

A copy of a new catalogue of food-preparing machinery has reached us from Messrs. G. H. Bentall and Co., Heybridge, Maldon, Essex. This firm have been awarded a gold medal and two bronze medals for their chaff cutters, corn-grinding mills, etc., at the present Paris Exhibition.

NEWS NOTES.

Richmond Moor November Fair was held on Richmond Hill (Yorks.) on the 2nd inst. Good sheep and fat beasts were the chief features. Calving and milking cows made £18 to £21; calving heifers, £13 to £15; two-year-old bullocks and heifers, £8 to £10; yearlings, £6 to £8; ewes, 17s. to 20s.; half-bred lambs, from 18s.; Scotch lambs, from 9s.; half-bred sheep, from 35s.; tups, from £4 each.

Royal Botanic Society of London.—A course of four lectures on "First Principles of Colonisation and Plantation" have been arranged to take place in the Gardens of this Society in Regent's Park, on Friday afternoons, November 16th, 23rd, 30th, and December 7th, at three o'clock. The lecturer is Mr. R. Hedger-Wallace, late of the Department of Agriculture, Victoria. The chair will be taken on November 16th by Lieut.-General Sir Andrew Clarke, G.C.M.G., Agent General for Victoria. Tickets to admit to the course can be obtained of the secretary at the Gardens.

The death of Mr. Thomas Chick, of Stratton, near Dorchester, the eminent breeder of prize stock, which occurred at Stratton on Wednesday, at the age of sixty-three, will come as a blow to many agriculturists. There were few more practical business men to be met with than Mr. Chick, and his success in the showyards with his Devons and Shire horses and Dorset Horn sheep, which he had brought to a wonderful state of perfection, all testify to the position his stock held in the eyes of the keenest connoisseurs. Owing to the painful nature of his illness, Mr. Chick had for some time withdrawn from active participation in the business.

Stack Fire near Halesworth.—A fire occurred on Monday night at Mellis, near Halesworth, when several stacks, the property of Mr. J. Barker, were destroyed. The origin of the fire is at present unknown, but there is little doubt that it was the work of an incendiary. It seems to have been first observed by Inspector Berry at Halesworth, who saw flames in the direction of Wenhaston soon after midnight. On his arrival he found five small stacks on fire, with other stacks in close proximity. The stacks contained wheat, barley, beans, peas, and oats. There being no water near, the Halesworth fire brigade was not summoned, and the fire was allowed to burn itself out. The loss is believed to be covered by insurance.

Small Landed Proprietors.—At Scarning, near East Dereham, Mr. F. W. Wilson, M.P., in pursuance of his project to start a movement in Norfolk in favour of small landed proprietorships, offered to the villagers, in small lots, five acres of good fertile land. He purchased it at an inclusive cost of £150, the sum of £35 being paid for the redemption of the copyhold. He offered it at the rate of £30 an acre, money down. In the case of purchasers who desired to pay by instalments, he asked £4 money down, and £4 every Michaelmas for seven years. There was a considerable gathering of labourers and small tradesmen at the village inn, where the Rev. Dr. Jessopp presided, and the terms of the agreement were expounded by Judge Willis, of the Norfolk County Court. Amongst the purchasers were a wheelwright, a bricklayer, a farm labourer, and a ten-acre farmer. An acre or more remains to be taken up by private treaty. Dr. Jessopp and Judge Willis each bought a small lot, "for the sake of example."

FARM.

Root Show at Coggeshall.

Despite the miserable weather which prevailed, there was a large attendance of agriculturists at Mr. John K. King's annual root show, reckoned among the largest and most important of its kind held in the country, which took place on Tuesday, at Coggeshall. The exhibits, all of which were grown from Mr. J. K. King's seeds, were staged in one of the spacious warehouses belonging to the firm. The display of roots, vegetables, etc., sent for competition by Mr. King's customers from all parts of England was a truly remarkable one, and far exceeded any previous exhibition. Not only were the roots of wonderful size, but were noteworthy for rich feeding quality and a high standard of excellence, furnishing abundant evidence of the value of pedigree selections as carried out annually on Mr. J. K. King's eight large seed farms. The vegetables made an exceptionally fine show. Mr. Herbert King and Mr. Leonard King, the sole proprietors of the firm of John K. King, offered over £100 in prizes, and this sum drew about 430 entries.

The judges were:—Roots: Mr. C. W. Gray, Mr. Joseph Smith, jun., and Mr. A. Church. Corn: Mr. W. Mortimer and Mr. A. Goddard. Vegetables: Mr. A. Evason and Mr. A. Float. Below we give a list of their awards:—

ROOTS AND CEREALS.

Mr. John H. King's Champion Orange Globe mangel: 1, Mr. G. Raby; 2, Mr. W. Cunningham; 3, Sir W. N. Abdy; hc, Mr. C. Mead.

Essex Prize Winner Yellow Globe mangel: 2, Mr. R. Hodge; 3, Salvation Army.

Yellow Intermediate or Gatepost mangel: 1, Mr. W. A. Fairhead; 2, Messrs. Spear and Vellacott; 3, Mr. R. Hodge; hc, Mr. T. A. Beckett and Mr. W. Buckenell.

Orange (or Golden) Tankard mangel: 1, Mr. W. Nicholls; 2, Mr. A. Blomfield; 3, Mr. H. J. Debenham; hc, C. Tough.

Improved Mammoth Long Red mangel: 1, Mr. C. Tough; 2, Mr. C. Mead; hc, Mr. F. C. Fenner.

Special prize for weight, for the twelve heaviest mangels, any one variety, not exhibited in any of the previous classes: Mr. T. A. Beckett, 213lb.

Purple-top swede: 1, Mr. J. W. Edwards; 2, Mr. T. Doult; 3, Mr. B. Le Neve-Foster; 4, Mr. T. Scrivener's Executors; hc, Mr. F. J. Crow.

New swede, John Bull: 1, Mr. A. Bell; 2, Mr. T. Doult; 3, Mr. J. C. Taylor.

Royal Sandringham Purple-topped swede: 1, Mr. W. Elsmore; 2, Major Thoyts.

Special prize for weight, for the twelve heaviest swedes, any one variety, not exhibited in either of the above classes: Mr. T. Doult.

Imperial Green Globe turnip: 1, Mr. R. Gillham; 2, Mr. A. E. Scrivener.

Defiance Short-top Green Kohl Rabi: 1, Mr. C. A. Green; 2, Mr. Thomas Moy.

VEGETABLES.

Collection of six distinct kinds, to include not less than three of Mr. John K. King's specialities: 1, Mr. J. Round, M.P. (Mr. H. Bishop, gardener); 2, Mr. A. Basill; 3, Mr. T. A. Beckett.

Elephant Prizetaker or White Elephant Runner beans: 1, Mr. A. Basill; 2, Mr. J. Boggis; 3, Rev. W. H. Bond.

Three specimens Excelsior Brussels sprouts: 1, Mr. T. A Beckett; 2, Mr. J. Durrant; 3, Mr. J. A. Smith.

Six specimens Reading Defiance-cabbage: 1, Mr. T. A. Beckett; 2, Mr. J. A. Smith; 3, Mr. T. P. Price.

Reading Prize-winner International carrot: 1, Mr. T Leith; 2, Mr. G. H. Copp; 3, Mr. H. Folkes; 4, Mr. T. A. Beckett.

Reading Exhibition cauliflower: 1, Mr. T. A. Beckett; 2, J. Round, Esq., M.P.; 3, Mr. T. P. Price.

Matchless White Defiance Red or White Gem celery: 1, Mr. H. Folkes; 2, Mr. T. A. Beckett; 3, Mr. A. Basill.

Prize-taker Giant leek: 1, Mr. T. A. Beckett; 2, Mr. G. H Copp; 3, Mr. H. Folkes; 4, Mr. T Leith

Reading Matchless onion: 1, Mr. H. Folkes; 2, Mr. T. A Beckett; 3, Mr. G. H. Copp.

New Exhibition Globe onion: 1, Mr. G. H. Copp; 2, Mr. H Folkes; 3, Mr. T. A. Beckett.

Perfection marrow parsnip: 1, J. Round, Esq., M.P.; 2, Mr. G. H Copp; 3, Mr. H Folkes.

Peas: 1, J. Round, Esq., M.P.; 2, Mr. H. Folkes

Reading Plentiful tomato: 1, J. Round, Esq., M.P.; 2, Mr G. H. Copp; 3, Mr. H. Folkes.

Kidney potatoes: 1, Mr. A. Basill; 2, J. Round, Esq., M.P.; 3, Mr. T. A. Beckett.

Round potatoes: 1, Mr. A. Basill; 2, Mr. G. H. Copp; 3, Major Adams.

At the conclusion of the judging luncheon was provided in one of the firm's large warehouses, nearly 350 gentlemen being present. The Hon. C. H. Strutt, M.P., presied, and was supported by Colonel H. Aylmer, the Rev. C. C. Mills, Rev. T. Lloyd, Mr. C. Wing Gray, Mr. Reuben Hunt, Mr. E. E. Surridge, Mr. R. Gillham, Mr. T. M. Hudson, Mr. H. King, Mr. L. King, etc.

The Rev. T. Lloyd, in giving "Success to Agriculture," said he was sure that in their chairman farmers had a true and tried friend, and a member of the House of Commons who was not ignorant of the subject with which they were dealing. They wanted also men like Mr. C. W. Gray in the House of Commons, and he thought that in the Saffron Walden Division they had made a terrible mistake in not sending him to Parliament. He urged that there should be better combination among the units of agriculture; that they should have less cant and gossip about it, and study it better. Mr. C. W. Gray, who had a cordial reception, responded, and made a complimentary allusion to Mr. J. K. King's seeds. He said it was of the greatest importance to one and all that this little island of ours should grow as much as possible of that food which was absolutely necessary to the very existence of the people, and, in order that that should be done, there must be a reasonable amount of profit attached to the agricultural industry. He hoped the time would soon come when agriculture would be more profitable.

The chairman, in proposing "Success to John K. King's Royal Root Show," remarked that they had seen a show that morning, he thought they must all acknowledge, which could scarcely be rivalled throughout the whole of the country. The swedes shown were worthy of the highest admiration, and a revelation to him, because he had not grown a swede this year bigger than a wineglass. Last year, when this show was revived, he thought they saw in it a small sign that possibly agriculture was coming a little more to the front, but, unfortunately, this year the promise of the two previous years had not been fulfilled. He hoped and trusted, however, that it was only a temporary set-back. He was sure they all heartily wished success to Messrs. H. T. and L. G. King. Mr. H. T. King, in response, remarked that he and his brother hoped to do everything they could to maintain what he might justly claim the high reputation the firm had held for many years. Mr. L. G. King also responded, and other speeches followed.

The Eradication of Weeds.

Dr. Voelcker, the Royal Agricultural Society's consulting chemist, has, it was stated at the meeting held on Wednesday, been engaged in experiments at the Pot Culture Station on the possible eradication of certain weeds of the farm, and has obtained some interesting results. In the case of wild onions on arable land, an application of carbolic acid in January direct to the soil where a patch of wild onion was growing prevented the latter from coming up, and by the time that barley was sown the carbolic acid had been thoroughly removed from the top soil, so that no injury was done to the barley seed, and the crop throve perfectly well, and no wild onion appeared among it. In regard to wild poppy, while spraying with sulphate of copper on the top side of the leaf did not check the growth of the weed, it was found that spraying on the under side of the leaf with the same solution very largely checked the development of the wild poppy. These investigations are being continued.

Advice to Purchasers of Basic Slag.

At the monthly meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society held on Wednesday it was stated that the correspondence of the consulting chemist had brought to light several instances of deficiency of quality in the case of basic slag and the Committee had therefore thought it desirable to issue the following notice:—

"At this time of the year, when purchases of basic slag are commonly made, it is well to advise members to be careful to stipulate for a definite guarantee as to percentage of phosphoric acid and degree of fineness of grinding in the case of basic slag. The recommendation of the Council on this point is as follows:—

"Basic slag to be guaranteed to be sufficiently finely ground that 80 to 90 per cent. passes through a sieve having 10,000 meshes to the square inch, and to contain a certain percentage of phosphoric acid, or its equivalent in phosphate of lime. (The highest grades range from 17 to 20 per cent. of phosphoric acid; medium grades, 14 to 16 per cent.; and low grades from 10 to 12 per cent. of phosphoric acid.)

"As showing the advantage of submitting samples for anaylsis an instance was brought to the notice of the Chemical Committee in which a member of the Society recently received compensation to the extent of £7 10s. on a purchase of 20 tons of basic slag, which was found on analysis to be deficient in quality and fineness of grinding."

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

18,866.—I. Coalbank, of Chancery Lane, London, for an invention for "Improvements in apparatus for gathering fruit."

18,869.—H. Unmack, of Ludgate Hill, London, for an invention for "Improvements in automatic milk measures."

18,992.—T. C. Sargeant, of Albion Place, Northampton, for an invention for "Distributor for agricultural purposes."

19,207.—J. Lowson, J. Money, and W. Grice, all of Finsbury, London, for an invention for "Improvements in or relating to ploughs."

Patents Sealed.

13,963.—A. C. Bamlett, of Thirsk, Yorkshire, for an invention for "Improvements relating to reaping and mowing machines."

14,019.—J. Gillespie, of South Queensferry, N.B., for an invention for "Improvements relating to sheds for crops."

14,088.—A. Dorman, of Terry Street, Kates Hill, Dudley, Worcestershire, for an invention for "Improvements relating to harrows."

Mr. Dent, of Hartley Castle, Kirkby Stephen, who was one of the largest sheep-breeders in Yorkshire and Westmorland, was found drowned in the River Eden, near Kirkby Stephen, last Sunday morning. Apparently he had fallen into the water while on his way from a great sheep fair on Saturday night.

Handsome Prizes for Swede and Mangold Roots.

Some few years ago Mr. W. R. Smith, Tarporley Road Bone Works, Chester, offered the sum of £5 for the five heaviest swedes grown with the aid of his special manure, which has always proved a keen competition amongst his numerous customers. This year, however, he made a new departure by dividing the prize into two, namely, £25 for the five heaviest swedes and the same amount for the five heaviest mangolds, adding consolation prizes of £2 10s. each to the two competitors who came nearest the chief prize in the two classes.

This competition came off on Tuesday, when a numerous company assembled to witness the public of the weighing of the roots sent in for competition. This was conducted by Messrs. H. A. Longley and G. P. Miln, the latter being present on behalf of the competitors, whilst Mr. Longrigg looked after the interests of Mr. Smith. The result proved to be that the first prize for swedes fell to the well-known agriculturist, Mr. John Roberts, Well House Farm, Saltney, who was closely followed by Mr. Edwin Bellis, of Holt, and Mr. Robert Shepherd, of Parkside, to whom the consolation prizes were awarded. The £25 prize for mangolds was awarded to Mr. Thomas Shepherd, Burton, Denbighshire; Mr. Isaac Allen Brown, Ridley Hall; and Mr. Robert Shepherd respectively taking second and third honours. Previous to the competition the company were entertained to luncheon by Mr. Smith, after which the works were thrown open for inspection. During the past year additional works covering nearly two acres have been erected by Mr. Smith to meet the demand for his specialities, which are now of worldwide repute. The whole of the prize roots will be exhibited on the stands of Messrs. Gartons, of Warrington, at the forthcoming winter shows to be held at London, Edinburgh, Birmingham, York, and Norwich, nearly all these roots having been grown from Messrs. Gartons' improved breeds of seeds.

Agriculture at the Glasgow Exhibition.

It wil be of interest to agriculturists to know that among the multitudinous industries which will be represented at the Exhibition of 1901, the claims of agriculture are not being neglected, and that the demand for space by other more powerful, because better organised, industries has not succeeded in crowding agriculture out.

The interests of agriculture have been cared for by a representative committee of gentlemen, prominent among whom are Mr. Alexander Cross, M.P., Mr. Whitton (Superintendent of Parks), Mr. W. J. Gilmour, Woodbank, and Principal R. P. Wright, of the West of Scotland Agricultural College. With the work in their capable hands, we may rest assured that it will be performed with satisfaction to all concerned.

The chief part of the agricultural exhibit will be the Model Farm Steading, built of corrugated iron by Messrs. Spiers and Co., Glasgow. Within this steading, which is planned to economise space as much as possible, there will be byres, stable, barn, implement shed, dairy, etc., all fitted up in the most approved style with a complete collection of the best field and barn implements and machinery. Instead of having exhibits of implements from different makers, as is customary at agricultural shows, the committee in charge of the agricultural section considered it better to exhibit only one complete set of implements and machinery, which will comprise all the tillage implements and food-preparing machinery required for the full equipment of a modern farm. Arrangements have already been made for this collection, which will be the only exhibit of agricultural implements of British manufacture allowed.

A model dwelling-house has been erected in front of the farm steading. It is proposed also to erect a large hall adjacent to the farm steading, which will be devoted to exhibits of plants, seeds, manures, feeding stuffs, and other materials relating to agriculture. As the space in this hall will shortly be allotted, and as this is the only space available for agricultural exhibits, intending exhibitors should make application at once to the Secretary, Glasgow International Exhibition, St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

Nov.

15 and 16. Sale of Horses, at Carr House, Doncaster.

16. Sale of Stock, at Shrewsbury.

20. Sale of Polled Cattle, at Messrs. Mansell's Repository, Hereford.

20 to 23. Sale of Horses, at Messrs. Rymer's Repository, Worcester.

25, 26, and 27. Newcastle Chrysanthemum Show, at Newcastle.

26 and 27. Farmers' Stock and Produce Show, at Newport, Mon.

27 and 28. Whitchurch Dairy Farmers' Association's Show, at Whitchurch, Salop.

28. Sale of Shorthorn Cattle, Horses, and Sheep, at Hereford.

29 and 30. Sale of Shire Mares, Fillies, and Geldings, at Chippenham, Wilts.

30. Sale of Shire Mares, Fillies, and Geldings, at Peterborough.

MOLASSINE

FOOD FOR HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, etc.

Replacing an equal quantity of Fodder.

A STAPLE FOOD AND CONDIMENT COMBINED. **Patented in all the principal Countries in the World.**

ANNUAL CONSUMPTION, 1,200,000 CWT.

Manufactured by Messrs. Henry Tate & Sons, Sugar Refineries, London and Liverpool, exclusively for the Molassine Company, Ltd.

Introduced into the Imperial and Royal Stables of **GERMANY** and **RUSSIA.** It is adopted throughout **THE GERMAN ARMY,** and during the few months it has been on the Market in the United Kingdom it has met with a **most favourable reception,** which is evidenced by the **many Repeat Orders** we are daily receiving, and assurances of its **permanent adoption.**

MOLASSINE contains **36** to **40** per cent. of **Sugar,** and is a combination of **Sugar, Treacle,** or **Syrup with Vegetable substances.** It is guaranteed to consist exclusively of natural organic materials.

RESULTS OF FEEDING WITH MOLASSINE.

IT STIMULATES APPETITE, IMPROVES DIGESTION. GRIPE AND DIARRHŒA COMPLETELY DISAPPEAR.

HORSES. From 2 to 4 lbs. per day.

CATTLE. 8 lbs. per day.
SHEEP. 1½ lbs. per day.

PIGS. Per 100 lbs. of their own weight, from 1 lb. to 1½ lbs.

MILCH COWS. 5 lbs. per day.

After a few weeks' feeding are in the **best condition,** and show **strength, highest working power,** and a **smooth** and **glossy coat.**

Thrive quickly, and especially in the last period of fattening, take willingly to their food, and thus **become weeks sooner ready for the market. The meat is of best quality.**

Eat Molassine greedily. The disagreeable smell of the Pig-Stye disappears, the **animals are in the best health.**

After 8 to 10 days' feeding give more milk, richer in cream.

MOLASSINE replaces an Equal Quantity of FODDER.

MOLASSINE packed in bags of 1½ cwt. each.

On rails, Sugar Works of Messrs. HENRY TATE and SONS, SILVERTOWN, ESSEX.

Price per ton, £6 15s. Price per cwt. £0 7s. 6d.

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PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE AGRICULTURAL ANNUAL AND MARK LANE EXPRESS ALMANAC.

1901.

THIS popular Annual, now in preparation, will be published as usual during the Smithfield Show week. Advertisers wishing to secure space in this number are requested to make early application.

THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS" ANNUAL.

PRICE - **SIXPENCE** - PRICE

Commands a far greater circulation than any other Year-book issued in the interests of Agriculture.

NOTE.—The Cover will be printed in Colours.

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The

Mark Lane Express

and

Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXIII. No. 3608. LONDON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1900. THIRTY-TWO PAGES PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June, 1894.)
PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.
HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, ESQ., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.
GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

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Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors. £1 1s.

1900.
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HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY THE QUEEN
Patron:—
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.
President for the Year 1900:
A. W. SOAMES, ESQ., M.P.

NORFOLK and NORWICH
TWENTY-FOURTH
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SHOW
OF
FAT CATTLE, SHEEP AND PIGS, FARM AND GARDEN PRODUCE, TABLE DECORATIONS, ETC.,
WILL BE HELD IN
THE AGRICULTURAL HALL, NORWICH,
ON THURSDAY, FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd, 23rd, AND 24th NEXT.
When Prizes to the value of about £700 will be offered.

The attention of Tenant Farmers farming under 100 acres, and not being members of the Association, is called to the Special Butter Prizes offered.

Attention is called to the Special Prizes offered by the Technical Education Committee of the Norfolk County Council, for Dairy Produce exhibited by Students who have attended a course of Dairy Lectures under the auspices of the County Council.

Prizes are offered to Cottagers and Holders of Allotments not exceeding 30 rods, for Garden Produce.

Prize Lists, Entry Forms, and all information can be obtained of the Secretary, CALEB BARKER, East Harling, Thetford; and on Saturdays at Bank Chambers, Norwich.

LEEDS SHOW, SMITHFIELD BUILDINGS, Camp Road, DECEMBER 4th, 5th, and 6th, 1900.—The 41st ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, Roots, Butter, and Dressed Poultry. Rabbit Prizes (omitted in schedule) 15s., 10s., and 5s. Class 185A, Turbiteen, Any Colour, bred 1900. Prize List and Entry Forms from J. H. CLARK, Sec. Entries close November 24th.

DAIRY SHOW, WHITCHURCH SALOP,
Will be held on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27 and 28.
£250
Will be offered in PRIZES for the BEST EXHIBITS in CHEESE, BUTTER, BACON, HAMS, and FARM PRODUCE
This is a CHESHIRE CHEESE EXHIBITION, and the MONTHLY CHEESE FAIR will be HELD in conjunction on the WEDNESDAY, when, in all, about 120 TONS of CHEESE will be pitched.
Show Opens on Tuesday at 2 o'clock.
Fair Opens on Wednesday at 10 a.m.
Particulars from the Secretary,
THOS. NUNNERLEY, Whitchurch.

AUCTION SALES.

ROTHERHITHE, within about three-quarters of a mile of the Tower Bridge, near the entrance to the proposed new Rotherhithe and Ratcliff Tunnel and the Surrey Commercial Docks.—Very extensive Freehold Riverside Premises and Steam Flour Mills, fitted with valuable modern plant and machinery on the roller system, with granaries, warehouses, engine and boiler houses, dwelling-houses, yards, stabling, etc., now and for many years past in the occupation of Messrs. J. B. and T. H. Perks, and for sale, in its entirety, with possession on completion of the purchase. The property possesses the important frontage to the Thames of about 96ft. 6in., with wharfage and lay-by for barges, frontages of about 98ft. 9in. on the north side, and 101ft. on the south side of Rotherhithe-street, also a long side frontage to Gilham's court, the total ground area being about 18,000 square feet, exclusive of the site of the old mill stream, which extends to Paradise Street in the rear, and has an area of about 7,400ft. super. The property, from its considerable river frontage, situation, and extent, would be equally suitable for wharfingers, timber merchants, large manufacturing premises, electric engineering works, or other purposes.

MESSRS. DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER, and BRIDGEWATER will SELL, at the Mart, on Tuesday, November 27, at 2, in one lot, with possession, the exceedingly important FREEHOLD PROPERTY known as Rotherhithe Mill, and 9, 11, and 13, Rotherhithe-street, together with the whole of the valuable fixed plant and machinery. The premises comprise on the north side of Rotherhithe-street and abutting upon the River Thames a range of three two-storey granaries, all communicating, and dwelling-house adjoining; on the south side of Rotherhithe-street an open courtyard, with double entrance gates, extensive mill-house of five floors, with all necessary rolling and other machinery, gearing and accessories, engine and boiler houses, with 25-horse power beam engine and two horizontal boilers, tall chimney shaft, mill stores, yards, stabling for thirteen horses, coach-houses, large van shed, harness room, man's rooms, and loft, a dwelling-house, No. 26, Gilham's-court, piece of vacant ground adjoining, also the old mill stream and water course from the River Thames. The mill premises communicate with the waterside granaries by an iron bridge over Rotherhithe-street.

Particulars of Messrs. HARRIES, WILKINSON, and RAIKES, Solicitors, 38, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street; and of the Auctioneers, 80, Cheapside.

ALDERMASTON MILL, BERKS.—Valuable Freehold Property, situate about a mile from Aldermaston Station on the Great Western Railway, half a mile from the village of Aldermaston, and about 9½ miles from Reading and Newbury.

MESSRS. DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER, and BRIDGEWATER will SELL, at the Mart, on Tuesday, December 4, at 2 o'clock, a capital FREEHOLD WATER CORN MILL, with about 12 acres of land, situate on the River Kennett, comprising a brick and slated mill-house of five storeys, fitted with modern roller plant machinery, fittings, and tackle, and two pairs of stones, with the necessary water power for driving the same, mill dam, and two sets of sluices, wheat and flour stores, spacious miller's house, pair of capital cottages with gardens, and one other former used as a cottage; nag stable for four, coachhouse, cart-horse stable for six and cart shed, cattle sheds, cowhouse piggeries, rick and chaff houses, workshop, etc. There are also flower and vegetable gardens, productive orchard and several enclosures of rich meadow and pasture land skirted by the River Kennett, which affords excellent fishing. The whole embraces an area of about 17a. 2r. 11p., and is for sale with possession.—Particulars of Messrs. SURR, GRIBBLE, and OLIVER, 12, Abchurch-lane, E.C.; and of the Auctioneers, 80, Cheapside, E.C.

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BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1835.)
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Paid up Capital, £1,600,000.
Reserve Fund, £875,000.
Reserve Liability of Proprietors under the Charter, £1,600,000. Letters of Credit and Drafts issued on any of the numerous Branches of the Bank throughout Australia and New Zealand.

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TO FORAGE CONTRACTORS.

The Council of the Borough of Paddington are prepared to receive TENDERS for the supply of HORSE FORAGE FOR ABOUT NINETY HORSES, for a period of Three, Six, or Twelve months, on market terms. Further particulars and printed forms of tenders may be obtained at the Town Hall, Harrow Road, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. No tender will be considered unless in accordance with the printed instructions, and the same must be sent in not later than 12 o'clock noon on Monday, December 3, 1900. At the same time a £10 Bank of England note (not to be enclosed with the tender) must be lodged with the Acting Town Clerk, as evidence that the tender is made bona fide, such deposit to be returned immediately to parties whose tenders are rejected; but in the case of the party whose tender is accepted, to be retained until the contract be signed. If the tender be withdrawn after its acceptance by the Council, the deposit will become forfeited.

By Order
FRANK DETHRIDGE
Acting Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Paddington, W.
November 17, 1900.

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TO BE HELD AT

MANCHESTER

DECEMBER 14TH, 15TH, AND 17TH, 1900.

For the convenience of Exhibitors at the above Show, the London and North Western Railway Company will arrange the running of Special Through Vans for the conveyance of Poultry, Pigeons, etc., to Manchester, on Thursday, December 13th, by the Trains leaving—

London (Euston), at 8.45 a.m., 12.25 p.m., 2.45 p.m.; Northampton, at 10.29 a.m., 2.29 p.m.; Carlisle, at 8.30 a.m., 1.40 p.m.; Leeds, at 11.30 a.m., 1.45 p.m., 4.0 p.m.; Birmingham (New St.), at 7.20 a.m., 2.0 p.m.; Shrewsbury, at 11.25 a.m., 4.40 p.m.

These will be in addition to the Vans running regularly on the through trains to Manchester.

Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, etc., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the exhibition.

Rates for the conveyance of the traffic, which in no case exceed those charged by any other route, can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line.

Arrangements will also be made for the return of the Traffic in Through Vans direct from Manchester at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors wishing to avail themselves of these facilities are requested to order their Consignments "Per London and North-Western Railway."

Exhibitors are requested to be careful to write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.

The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer enquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey. All information can be obtained of Mr. Robert Turnbull, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; or from the Company's District Superintendent, Mr. H. Linaker, Exchange Station, Manchester.

FRED HARRISON, General Manager.

General Manager's Office, Euston Station, London, N.W., November, 1900.

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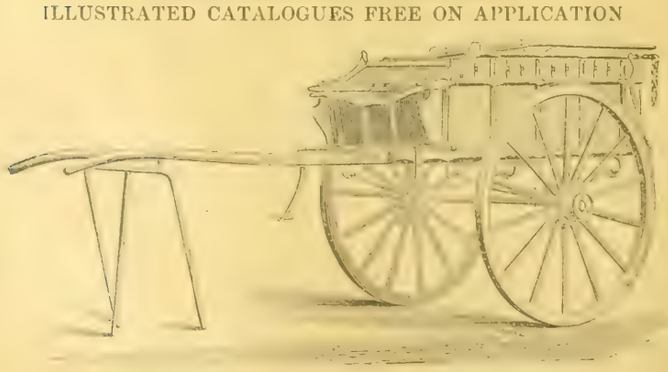

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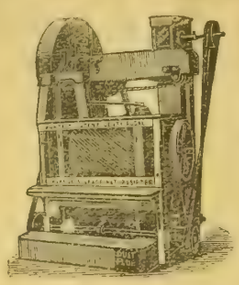

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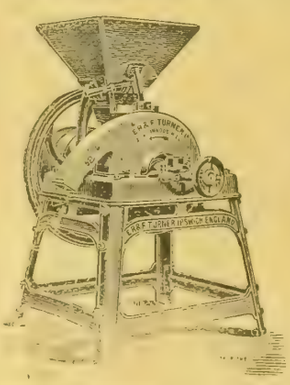

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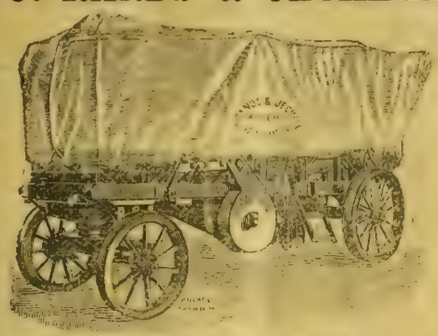

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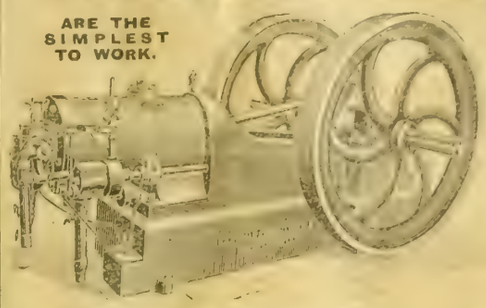

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The Journal of the Board of Agriculture

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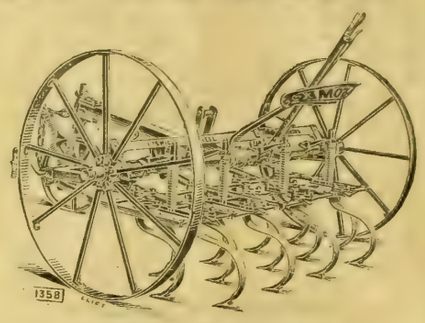

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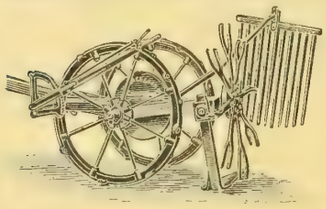

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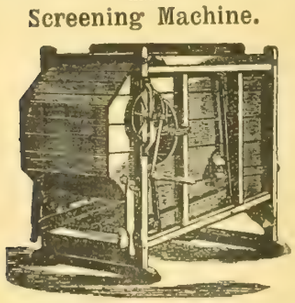

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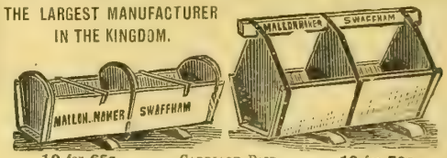

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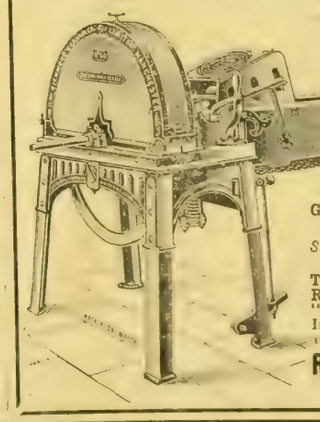

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1900.

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POULTRY FARMING.

The National Poultry Organisation Society last Wednesday had a most successful meeting at Frome, and formed a branch there under most favourable auspices. Her Grace the Duchess of Somerset presided at the meeting, supported by the Marchioness of Bath and several of the Somerset gentry. As both the Duchess and Lord Ludlow expressed their intention to give £25 each for the establishment of a depôt, and the carrying on of the administrative work of egg collection, the success of this branch society is already secured, and we trust that it has a highly prosperous career before it. The National Poultry Organisation Society has been steadily working for a considerable time past in establishing other branches in different parts of the kingdom, so we may fairly hope that in regard to the success of English poultry farming the Rubicon is already passed, and that farmers throughout the kingdom will gain great and lasting benefit through the instrumentality of this highly serviceable Organisation Society. We may indeed join in the hope expressed by the Duchess of Somerset on the occasion referred to that "we see the inaugurating of a grand movement which will extend to table poultry as well as to eggs, and that as the result of combined efforts farmers will get better profits."

At the Coggeshall Root Show the other day Mr. Strutt, M.P., in presiding at the luncheon, defended farmers from the charge of being indifferent to the sterling advantages extended poultry farming is calculated to give them. He is reported as declaring that during his lengthy experience and agricultural observations, covering a period of forty-five years, nothing had struck him more forcibly than the great extension of the poultry departments on farms. As a proof of what had been accomplished he stated that one of the largest farmers in Essex had recently told him that this year he had realised more money from poultry than sheep. Still, without the slightest disparagement to what has been accomplished already, we may be very certain that it has been very little in comparison with what farmers will be able to effect in future, in the event of this great Organisation Society being able to spread its net-work for the collection of eggs and table poultry throughout the length and breadth of the land.

What has militated most against the home industry in the past has been by no means indisposition on the part of farmers to adopt it more heartily, but difficulties in the way of egg collection and marketing. But with the powerful aid of the organisation and the establishment of depôts in rural localities this bids fair to be removed, and we may hope very soon to find some highly important results accruing. Mr. Edward Brown, in his lecture at Frome, may have been a little sanguine when he stated that farmers who now marketed eggs by half-scores would have to think of furnishing them by the million, but at any rate cheap and ready collection and economic transfer to the best possible market will afford them every inducement to develop their capabilities of producing both eggs and table poultry to the fullest extent found remunerative.

A great deal was advanced at Frome on the advantage both of keeping fowls that lay abundantly in winter, and in bringing poultry early to market. According to an article that appeared in the "Royal Journal," cottagers in the Aylesbury and Leighton Buzzard districts a few years since gave a shilling each for ducks' eggs at the present period of the year, that they might place them underneath broody hens so as to get hatching soon after Christmas and a rearage of ducklings to go to the London market in February, when they yield highest prices. As the early bird picks up the worm, so does the early duckling grasp the epicure's fancy price. The article just mentioned states that as much as 15s. per couple has often been given in February. Even in March as much as 10s. to 12s. may be considered the general retail rates; but afterwards, when supplies get more abundant, there are declines amounting to quite 2s. a month. The chicken market commences with extraordinarily high prices likewise, which slowly dwindle but remain comparatively high until the asparagus season has passed; consequently, both in the supply of ducklings and chickens, it is of paramount importance to have early hatches, and to give attention, care

and management to the early broods calculated to ensure rapid growth and flesh formation.

Farmers ought to be able to cater for this remunerative market much better than cottagers. The rules for success are few and simple. In the first place ducks and fowls must be kept for laying that will produce eggs at the proper time required. Winter layers are usually pullets or young ducks from the spring broods of the previous season, and it is quite as easy to train poultry to lay in autumn as to make cows to calve at that period. Any farmer intending to work the enterprise largely should have an incubator, and also a warm rearage room free from draughts, which might be heated by an oil stove. Care, good feeding, and attention with these provisions and appliances ought to ensure genuine, remunerative success, and combined with egg production on a large scale form an enterprise which farmers in present hard times can scarcely afford to overlook.

Portable houses on wheels are very necessary provisions for the hens kept for laying, because all birds like change of pasture, and by moving the fowls frequently from one field to another they not only get every chance to pick up all the worms and grubs they require, but vegetable food of a more healthful character than is obtainable at farm homesteads or in close runs. There is another want better supplied also, for they can help themselves to the grit they so badly require to assist digestion, by being moved about from place to place. Young birds should invariably be kept in preference to old hens, fowls after arriving at a certain age should be systematically got rid of, young pullets being taken in to supply their place. The sorts best for laying are not those which should be raised for table poultry; but we need not refer to that matter, as any farmer about to enter into the enterprise largely would naturally perceive it to be absolutely necessary at the onset to acquire sufficient knowledge of the characteristics and capabilities of the various breeds, so as to satisfy himself what would be the best for selection.

THE NEW MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE.

Mr. R. W. Hanbury, M.P. for Preston (Lancashire), late Financial Secretary to the Treasury, has been appointed President of the Board of Agriculture, in succession to the Right Hon. Walter Long, now President of the Local Government Board. The Marquis of Londonderry, who was thought to be the coming man, remains as Postmaster-General.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

The Board of Trade tells us that agricultural labourers were generally well employed during the month of October, the weather outside the northern and north Midland counties being dry and mild and favourable for outdoor work. In the north of England there was a good deal of wet weather, and a few extra hands lost a little time.

I learn that Mr. E. J. Russell, B.Sc., Assistant Lecturer and Demonstrator at the Owens College, has been appointed Lecturer in Chemistry at the South-Eastern Agricultural College in place of Mr. H. H. Cousins, M.A., who has been appointed Agricultural Chemist to the Government of Jamaica.

According to ancient custom the ceremony of nominating the Sheriffs for the counties of England and Wales, with the exception of the Royal Duchies of Lancaster and Cornwall, took place at the Royal Courts, on Monday, in the Court of the Lord Chief Justice of England on "the morrow of St. Martin." The Chancellor of the Exchequer, representing the Privy Council and the Exchequer, who wore his black and gold robes of State, presided. As usual, many were the reasons set forth by the nominees as to why they were not liable for the shrievalty, but for once in a while not one made the excuse of agricultural depression. It would therefore seem that this excuse is out of date.

The New South Wales Government Statistician in his report on the wheat crop of the colony, states that there are this season 1,563,060 acres under wheat for grain, as compared with 1,426,165 last season. "It would be premature," he says, "to venture to give a definite forecast, but the average yield of ten bushels per acre is well within prospect, if the weather is favourable, giving a total yield of 16,000,000 bushels."

The annual report of the New Zealand Agricultural Department states that the harvest is satisfactory as far as the yield of grain is concerned, but that the price of wheat leaves a very small margin of profit. Oats, however, have maintained a fair price. There is an apparent surplus of 7,160,350 bushels of wheat.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to November 10th, 1900, were £63,265,201 against £61,743,025 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £110,075,420 against £68,533,390 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on November 10th, 1900, amounted to £3,118,627, and at the same date in 1899 to £1,699,528.

The second general memorandum issued by the Government of India on the sesamum (til or jinjili) crop of the season 1900-1901, states that in Bombay and the Panjab the area sown is below the average; but everywhere else it is either equal to the average or in excess of it. The crop was not sown in ideal conditions, but the abundant rain of August and September fell when it was most beneficial, and though it was perhaps somewhat too heavy in places in September, the clear weather which followed favoured the further development of the crop and it has thriven well generally, with the prospect of at least a full average yield. Bombay, however, forms an exception to the general prosperity of the crop. There the cultivators in the region ravaged by famine turned their attention to the production of food-grains to replenish exhausted stores, and the area placed under sesamum was materially restricted, not more than from half to two-thirds of the average being sown in most places. Nor is the condition of the crop all that might be desired in some places, as in parts of the Karnátak, where the recent absence of rain has done serious injury.

The Bengal Department of Land Records and Agriculture has now issued its preliminary forecast of the winter rice crop of Bengal for the year 1900, which reports on the state of the crop about the middle of September. In estimating the provincial outturn, however, consideration has been taken of the rainfall during the latter part of September. Since the publication of the final forecast of the winter rice crop of 1899, the District Officers of Midnapore, Rajshahi, Dacca, and Champaran have revised their figures for the normal area under this crop, with the result that the provincial total of the normal area under winter rice now stands at 31,023,000 acres against 31,076,400 acres shown in the final forecast of the preceding year.

The area sown with winter rice this year is estimated at 28,883,300 acres against 31,344,700 acres in 1899. The decrease in the area sown is due to the scanty and badly distributed rainfall in the early part of the season, and also to the drought at the time of transplantation. On the whole, the season has not been altogether favourable for the winter rice crop. Out of the forty-five districts in the province, only eleven (the twenty-four Parganas, Khulna, Backergunj, Bhagalpur, the Southal Parganas, Angul, Puri, Ranchi, Palamau Manbhum, and Singhbhum) have returned an outturn of 100 per cent. or over. In nine, the outturn is estimated at between 90 and 100 per cent., in ten others between 80 and 90 per cent., while in all the rest, except Gaya, the estimate varies between 50 and 80 per cent. Gaya with 49 per cent. shows the poorest outturn of all.

According to the estimates made by the district officers, the outturn this year for the province, as a whole, will amount to 87 per cent. of a normal crop, as compared with 90 per cent. as finally estimated last year. While the recent heavy rains have been beneficial to this crop in most parts of the province, although the record fall in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions will no doubt cause partial damage to the *aman* paddy there, the weather in the month of August was distinctly unseasonable, and I do not feel justified (says Mr. G. C. Dutt, the Assistant Director of the Department) in raising this estimate beyond 88 per cent., although I am aware that the general tendency of the returns is towards an underestimate. An estimate of 88 per cent. corresponds to what was formerly known as a fourteen-anna crop.

From the same Department I have received a copy of the first note on the indigo crop of Bengal for season 1900. This forecast furnishes the first estimates of the area and outturn of indigo in the twenty indigo-growing districts of this province. Owing to the heavy fall in the price of indigo, due to the introduction of synthetic indigo into the markets of Europe, there has been a great diminution in the area sown with this crop. The fall has so severely affected the industry in East Bengal that many factories have recently been closed, while even in North Bihar there has been a considerable contraction in the operations of many concerns.

The total area sown with indigo this year in this province is estimated at 355,800 acres as compared with 441,600 acres reported in the final forecast of last year. The falling off is remarkable, and is chiefly due to the present unfavourable prospects of the industry. It is probable that the estimate of area sown is rather above the mark, and that some officers have not fully appreciated how greatly the area under this crop has fallen off in their districts. Only one district (Gaya, which has only 100 acres under this crop) of the twenty districts reports a normal outturn. Only two (Darbhanga and Monghyr) forecast an outturn of between 90 and 100 per cent., while two more (Jessore and Saran) anticipate an outturn of 80 per cent. only. In six districts, the outturn is estimated at between 70 and 80 per cent. Muzaffarpur returns a 65 per cent. outturn, Bankura and Rangpur estimate 50 per cent. crop each, while the estimate in other districts varies between 35 and 45 per cent. The outturn for the five indigo-growing districts of North Bihar, taken together, is given as 77 per cent. of a normal crop, but there is reason to believe that the excellence of the outturn of the *khunti* crop has been somewhat under-estimated. According to the district reports, the outturn for the province, as a whole, comes to 71 per cent. of a normal crop against 62 per cent. as finally estimated last year. I am inclined to think, however, says Mr. P. C. Lyon, Director of the Department, that this estimate is a very low one, and that the crop actually harvested is not likely to fall beow 80 per cent. of the normal.

According to the estimates of the district officers, the outturn for North Bihar will probably amount to about 52,500 factory maunds, and that for Lower Bengal to about 11,000 factory maunds. A factory maund is equal to about 75lbs. These figures differ very considerably from those which have been estimated by Messrs. Moran and Company, which are 61,250 factory maunds for North Bihar and 5,750 factory maunds for Lower Bengal. Allowing for an over-estimate of the area under indigo in Lower Bengal, and for there being, on the other hand, a good deal of indigo grown by native cultivators for local consumption, which would not be included in the returns of Messrs. Moran and Company, Mr. Lyon is inclined to estimate a total outturn of about 8,000 maunds in the districts outside North Bihar.

Brutal Horse Copers.—The Canterbury Coroner and a jury on Monday resumed their inquiry into the death of a market gardener named George J. Wright, aged sixty. Deceased attended a [illegible] sale, and was induced to buy a horse for £16 on the promise that a person desiring it would give him £20. The man had also secured by the time Wright made the purchase. Confederates are alleged to have helped deceased to obtain his pursuit, and then to have thrashed the horse in such a manner that Wright received fatal injuries. A verdict of manslaughter was returned against some [illegible] The Procession Constabulary have [illegible] in hand.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

Of course, my readers will comprehend that I am not inappreciative of the great abilities and Parliamentary significance of Mr. Hanbury, the new Minister of Agriculture. He is one of the ablest men in the Ministry; and in the House of Commons he has a Parliamentary distinction which belongs to few men. What I do say is that he has not hitherto devoted any Parliament attention to the agricultural question, and that his interests are absolutely non-agricultural. However, there is the gratifying fact that Mr. Hanbury's own Parliamentary moment is of so grave a character that it will tend—I pray that every agriculturist will forgive the phrase—to dignify the office.

There is no doubt but that Mr. Hanbury is a great Parliamentary force—so great, indeed, that the men who are skilled in judging the capacity of other men had, in view of the anticipated retirement of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, marked him out for the Chancellorship of the Exchequer. He has dignity of presence, a fine commanding diction, a cleverness of dialectic method, concisement in argument—all, in fact, that goes to impress the House of Commons. He is esteemed by the House—by every section of it—as a man of fine wit and generous capacity, and, moreover, as a statesman of admirable temper.

Beyond this, he is regarded as a man who has not been quite fairly treated—as a statesman who has not had the position to which his abilities entitled him. All this will combine to give the position a distinctiveness it might not otherwise have had. All the same, let it not be forgotten that Mr. Hanbury is not an agriculturist.

It would be idle to say that the cynicism of the appointment—to me, at all events, it seems that the appointment is cynical—is not comprehended in political circles. The Radicals marvel much at it. Mr. Hanbury is a man whose mental trend would make him an ideal Chancellor of the Exchequer, and whose industrial training would make him a most valuable President of the Board of Trade. Yet he, an industrialist, a man whose whole past has been given to the great mining businesses of the north of England, has been appointed to the Board of Agriculture. There is, however, the satisfaction that he is a supremely practical man. Hitherto his great subjects have been Tommy Atkins, financial purity, and the Post Office. Fortunately he is an acquisitive politician; and it will not be long ere he knows something of agriculture.

An appointment which must inevitably give a good deal of satisfaction to agriculturists is that of Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes to one of the junior positions. Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes is a young man who, in politics, might have achieved more than he has. I am not going to say that he has the brilliant parts of Mr. Hanbury, but he has admirable qualities, a genial manner, a ready sympathy with agriculture, and a personal popularity that is not entirely due to the excellent name he inherits. Of course, it was not possible to give him a position in which he would be able to render direct service to agriculture; but we must at least expect him to give indirect service.

I thought of him once as a sedulous whip of an agricultural party. The agricultural party is non-existent; and there is, I fear, little likelihood that we shall see it rise above the political horizon. Had it been called into existence Mr. Fellowes would probably not have cared for the whipdom—he has been a little afflicted with a Parliamentary lassitude out of harmony with his abilities. However, he has now the opportunity of rendering service of definite character. I believe him to be the man who will not neglect the opportunity, notwithstanding his lassitude.

On the whole, I do not think that we have serious reason to be dissatisfied as agriculturists with the general character of the Ministry. True, Mr. Chaplin has been excluded; but Mr. Long has been given a more distinctive position, and, while this is so, we have a Minister for Agriculture who is practical, far-seeing, able, and of a naturally sympathetic disposition. The Ministry, too, is in a fair measure recruited from the squirearchal class. True, the squires have been placed in positions to which their training would suggest that they are not altogether attuned; and the squirearchal positions have—at least there is one flagrant instance of this—been given to men hitherto associated with our great industries. On the whole, however, I do not, I repeat, think that we have reason to be dissatisfied. The next question is—will the new Minister for Agriculture consent only to be an administrator? Will he be anxious to be a legislator? Let us hope so.

There is one of the later appointments which—a little effort of cynicism it will again appear to be—will commend itself to farmers. Captain Pretyman, a man entirely of military association, goes to the Admiralty as Civil Lord. Captain Pretyman possesses fortunately a more adequate equipment than military associations. He is one of the great squires of Suffolk. He inherited the famous Tomline estates, and has shown himself to be a wise landlord and a sportsmanlike squire. In the House of Commons he has revealed an excellent Parliamentary capacity, and in the debate on parish councils and agricultural holdings law showed himself to be a wise-minded legislator. He has the military instinct; he is an admirable squire. So he goes to the Navy. There is thus a Gilbertian humour about the appointment. Still his influence will tell in the right direction in the consideration of agricultural questions. Yes; on the whole agriculture is fairly represented in the new Ministry.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

The Yorkshire College.

The annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the Yorkshire College was held on Friday afternoon at Leeds. It was presided over by Mr. A. G. Lupton.

The chairman, alluding to the work of the college, pointed out that during the year the textile and leather departments had been completed, and that practically every part of the college was full of students. The legal department had been working successfully, and the farm buildings on the experimental farm at Garforth were about complete. The question now was whether the college was to stand still, or to continue to progress in the future as in the past. For their guidance they had the example of the Mason College at Birmingham, which was founded about the same time as the Yorkshire College, and which had shown its determination to keep pace with the demands made upon it. Yorkshire, he hoped, would not be behind Birmingham in doing the work required.

Sir John Barran, Bart., moved the re-election of the Marquis of Ripon as president of the college. Lord Ripon had, he said, always shown a deep interest in the welfare of the college, and made an admirable president. Mr. John Arthur Brooke (Huddersfield) seconded the resolution, which was adopted.

Mr. F. J. Munby (York) proposed the election of Professor Thomas Clifford Allbutt and of Sir Francis Sharp Powell, Bart., M.P., as representatives of the college on the Court of the Victoria University. Speaking of the law department of the college, he said the idea was gaining favour with most thoughtful solicitors that university training and legal education were associable if not always associated. In Manchester Mr. Chancellor Christie, and now Principal Hopkinson had set an example at Owens College, and in Liverpool the solicitors had allied themselves with the University through the Liverpool Board of Legal Studies. In Yorkshire that good example had been followed, and the Law Department of the college in Leeds gave great promise. For its complete success, however, the co-operation of two parties was essential the solicitors to whom the students were articled, and the parents of those students. It was for both of those parties to use their influence to secure for those entering the legal profession the benefits of university training. He trusted that the representatives of the college would have an opportunity of urging this matter forward, and upholding the value and merit of Victoria law degrees.

The reception of associates and distribution of prizes won by students at the Yorkshire College took place in the large hall of that institution in the evening. Mr. A. G. Lupton, chairman of the Council, presided, supported by Principal Bodington, Sir John Barran, Professor De Burgh Birch, Dean of the Medical School, and other members of the college staff. There was a large attendance of students of both sexes.

The Chairman of the Council eulogised the work of the college, which, he said, was making an impression not only in the industrial life of Yorkshire but throughout the country.

Report on Destroying Charlock in Corn Crops, 1900.

In submitting the second annual report on destroying charlock, which is based on over 700 inquiries in Great Britain and Ireland, I am unable to include a large number of practical observations made to my correspondents, and have only given the most important points, which have been analysed and condensed as accurately as possible.

It is most satisfactory to observe the increased proportion of successful work in destroying the charlock, and the consequent improvement in the corn crops.

It will be remembered that the season was abnormal and late. The cold weather to the end of June had a most marked effect in checking the growth of the charlock, which in some cases was destroyed by frost, and in others by the flea beetle.

The figures below are calculated from all the operations, and given at the rate per cent.:—

Date of spraying. The spraying was in progress from the last week in April to the last week in July: 2 per cent. of the operations having taken place in April, 62 per cent. in May, 30 per cent. in June, and 6 per cent. in July. The average was eight or ten days earlier than last year.

The crops amongst which the charlock was growing were 58 per cent. oats, 30 per cent. barley, 6 per cent. tares, and 4 per cent. mangolds.

The average height of the charlock at the time of spraying was 30 per cent. 4in., 25 per cent. 4in. to 8in., 18 per cent. 8in. to 12in., and 18 per cent. about 12in., or in flower.

Material and quantity of solution used. Copper sulphate, having been found better and far more convenient last season, was used in every operation this year. In two instances iron sulphate was tried for comparison, but was less successful.

In nearly all cases 50 gallons of solution was applied per acre, and this quantity seems to be generally sufficient to distribute the copper. In a few instances, where only 40 or 45 gallons were used, the results were not so good; and in two instances, where 60 gallons per acre were applied, there was no advantage over the 50 gallons.

The strength of the solutions varied as follows: 47 per cent. were 2 per cent. solutions, 39 of 3 per cent., 10 of 4 per cent., and 4 of over 5 per cent.

It will be noticed that the strength of the solutions were higher than last year. The 3 per cent. was very successful in destroying charlock, and showed the best results in improving the crops. In no case was there any permanent injury to the different crops by the different solutions.

Fourteen days after spraying. The appearance of the corn crop and the charlock were described as follows:—

The corn is 89 per cent. as improved or normal, and in 11 per cent. discoloured.

The charlock in 88 per cent. as killed, burnt, or withered, and in 12 per cent. as withered or scorched, but not dead.

The approximate proportion of charlock destroyed.—In 47 per cent. of the operations, 90 to 100 per cent of the charlock was destroyed: in 15, 70 to 90 per cent.; in 22, 60 to 70 per cent.; and in 22, 50 per cent. or under.

The spraying machines used were in the proportion of 71 per cent. large machines, drawn by a horse, and 29 per cent. knapsacks.

The large machines gave the best results, probably owing to greater uniformity of distribution of the liquid.

The conclusions arrived at, from careful compilation of the original reports, are:—

1. That charlock can be destroyed in growing corn crops, without injury to the latter, by spraying with 50 gallons of 2 or 3 per cent. solution of pure sulphate of copper per acre; and that this year a 3 per cent. solution shows better than a 2 per cent. solution.

2. That generally the corn crops are much improved and give a better yield where the charlock is destroyed.

3. That spraying early, when the weed is young and in soft fibre, is most successful.

4. That the large sprayers are more successful than the smaller.

I should like to point out to those who intend to spray charlock next year, that to obtain the best results they should be prepared well beforehand to spray at the time when the plant is most susceptible.

I feel gratefully indebted to those who have taken the trouble to send me the information upon which this report is based, and trust it may be found to advance a new and valuable farm operation.

G. F. STRAWSON.

71A, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.,
November 6th, 1900.

ALL farm live stock should be given "Mistassini." It is an excellent tonic and ensures a good appetite. See advertisement on back page of this issue.—[ADVT.]

FARM.

Root, Fruit and Grain Show at Gloucester.

The annual exhibition of the Gloucestershire Root, Fruit and Grain Society was held at the Corn Exchange, Gloucester, on the 9th inst. Last year the entries numbered 620, which was a record for the society, this being due to the exceptionally large number of classes which were set apart for fruit. This year, however, the committee judiciously cut down the classes, and as a result the number of entries fell to the extent of 100, but the quality of the exhibits was fully up to the average, as many of the entries contained some good specimens. In regard to the quality of the fruit, it was considerably better than that of last year, especially in the culinary sections. Mr. Conway Jones took a first prize for a dish of Cox's orange pippin apples. There were some excellent specimens of potatoes, although not very large. The root crops were much better than was anticipated owing to the dryness of the season, the turnips being an exceedingly fine lot. Mrs. J. Smith, of the Scarr, Newent, practically swept the board in the classes for specimen roots, as she secured some six premier awards and four seconds. In regard to the grain, white wheat showed signs of the weather, except that of the prize-takers. The grapes were good and fully up to the average. The preserves formed a fair class, some of them being boiled too much, and did not give that bright appearance which is often to be met with at these shows. Cider and perry was again a strong class, the former being better than in previous years, this no doubt being due to the dry season. The only remark that is necessary to make as to the butter classes is that the exhibits of prize-winners were very good, especially in the keeping classes. The Channel Island butter was also very good, but there was some butter of very doubtful quality.

Proctor and Ryland's Root Prizes.

The importance of a good supply of sound roots for wintering the stock is not likely to be underestimated nowadays, and the best means of producing abundant crops cannot fail to be of interest to farmers generally.

It has long been the custom of Messrs. Proctor and Ryland, the old-established agricultural chemists of Birmingham and Chester, to offer prizes for the best crops of swedes and mangolds grown with the aid of their manures, and the judge's report of their forty-seventh annual competition deserves attention, proving, as it does, what excellent results can be produced by these well-known fertilisers.

Mr. Ed. Parsons, Wollaston Farm, Stourbridge, acted as judge, and the following is a copy of the awards:—

District No. 1.—Class A.—Five acres of swedes, grown with Messrs. Proctor and Ryland's special prepared manure, upon any farm within the counties of Hereford, Salop, Stafford, Warwick, Worcester, Gloucester, Berkshire, Hants, Surrey, Oxford, Buckingham, Hertford, Bedford, Northampton, and Huntingdon: First prize, 15gs., Mr. J. S. Billington, Balterley Hall, Crewe, 46 tons 18 cwt. 2qrs. 8lbs. per acre; second, 10gs., Mr. William Humphreys, Evenall, Oswestry, 41 tons 5 cwt. 2 qrs. 24 lbs.; third, 5gs., Mr. J. B. Ball, Eccleshall, and Mr. Levi Lawrence, 40 tons 1 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs. each per acre.

District No. 2.—Class B.—Five acres of swedes grown upon any farm within the counties of Cumberland, Westmoreland, York, Lancaster, Lincoln, Nottingham, Leicester, Rutland, Derby, and Chester: First prize, 15gs., Mr. T. E. Griffith, Rhyhyclafdy, Pwllheli, 55 tons 15cwt. 2qrs. 24lbs. per acre; second, 10gs., Mr. R. Roberts, Portmadoc, 52 tons 18cwt. 2qrs. 18lbs. per acre; third, 5gs., Mr. Hugh Williams, Llanddaniel Fab, Anglesey 47 tons per acre.

Class C.—Five acres of swedes, grown with Messrs. Proctor and Ryland's special prepared manure, upon any farm in England or Wales: First, 10gs., Mr. Owen Lewis, Llangefni, Anglesey, 61 tons 18cwt. 2qrs. 8lbs.; second, 5gs., Mr. W. E. Hughes, Llangain, Pwllheli, 53 tons per acre.

Class D.—Two acres of mangold wurtzel, grown with Messrs. Proctor and Ryland's special prepared manure, upon any farm in England or Wales: First, 15gs., Mr. R. Hull, Edleston, Nantwich, 77 tons 1cwt. 1qr. 20lbs. per acre; second, 10gs., Mr. T. E. Griffith, Rhydyclafdy, Pwllheli, 71 tons 18cwt. 2qrs. 8lbs. per acre; third, Mr. W. E. Hughes, Llangain, Anglesey, 70 tons 4cwt. 1qr. 4lbs. per acre.

The Yeoman Peasantry of England.

A lecture on "How to Restore the Yeoman Peasantry of England to English Land" was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Paton, of Nottingham, at the People's Hall, Albion Street, Leeds, on the 10th inst., the meeting being held under the auspices of the Education Department of the Leeds Co-operative Society.

Dr. Paton said the statistics showing the rapidity with which the strictly agricultural population was declining were alarming. At the census of 1851 the agricultural labourers of England and Wales numbered 1,253,800. At the census of 1891 their numbers had fallen to 780,700. Since 1891 the decrease had probably been at a quicker rate. The causes of the depopulation of agricultural districts were briefly—the poverty of the farmer, the increased use of machinery, the laying down of corn fields into pasturage, and the growing discontent of country folk caused by the democratic spirit of the age that could not brook the dull monotony and servile customs of the labourer's life. The yeomen of England, who had been her strength, and the noblest types of Englishmen, were almost extinct. England, which once, of all countries of Europe, was the richest in men who occupied and tilled their own land, was now, of all countries in Europe, the poorest in this class of men.

In England half the whole land was in possession of 2,250 landlords, and two-thirds of Scotland was owned by 250 landlords. He pointed to the danger of the bulk of the population having nothing behind their weekly wages, to the competition of agricultural labourers with town-bred men in our great cities, and to the enormous imports of food stuffs, especially wheat and dairy produce, remarking that the food imports in this country averaged £4 per head of the whole population, whilst in Germany the food imports averaged only a little over 7s. per head.

The problem of problems, he remarked, was could England supply itself with the provisions needed by its larger population. He believed that England could to a considerable extent do this by a combination of two large productive forces; first by the thorough cultivation of the land by spade industry; and, secondly, by what had been termed "the magic of property."

Sketching a plan by which the restoration of a large order of peasant or yeomen farmers to the English land could be effected, he stated that the time was opportune, for land was cheap, and large farms were crumbling into small farms; the settlement of men on the land must be carefully organised under conditions which must ensure success, and men should be settled in groups or colonies; the farms should be cultivated by spade industry, and there should be about eight acres for each occupier; there must be co-operation in marketing operations and dairying; and indoor industries should be taught for the long winter evenings. He strongly urged, in conclusion, that the Leeds Co-operative Society should take up this question, and that a committee for the North of England, with Leeds as its centre, should be formed for carrying out the scheme.

The Regulation of Agricultural Expenditure.

Speaking at the last meeting of the Cambridge and Isle of Ely Chamber of Agriculture, Professor Somerville dealt with the regulation of agricultural expenditure. He was convinced, he said, that a wider application of the law or principle of diminishing returns would result in largely increasing the aggregate profits of agriculture. Although in agriculture it was the rule that increased expenditure in the same area of land failed to yield a return proportionate to the return from previous expenditure, there were some exceptions, and then they had fresh doses of capital yielding a larger return than earlier applications. This would occur where fresh capital was brought to bear on a farm which had hitherto been much too large for the capital available.

It was quite certain that if the law did not operate farmers would concentrate their energies on much smaller areas. The practical application of the law to the conditions of English farming was of the highest importance, and the great secret of success in farming lies in taking full advantage of it. This was what, to a large extent, enabled one man to hold his own, and even to make money, when other farmers were losing money. Land, without the expenditure of labour and capital, would yield practically nothing, and the farmer who could employ most capital judiciously—that was profitably—was the one who was most successful.

It seemed to him that a farm should be less regarded as a natural agent that produced commercial commodities, such as grain and meat, than as an opportunity for a man to use his energies, judgment, and capital to the best advantage. Some land was more responsive to treatment and expenditure than other land was, but in every case it was the first duty of a farmer to ascertain the capabilities of his land in this respect and regulate his expenditure accordingly.

Put in general terms, the guiding rule should be this—a farmer ought to increase his expenditure up to the point when his return from the last application of capital was sufficient to restore to him his expended capital, together with a satisfactory profit. He ought to ascertain very carefully whether an increased supply of labour for tillage would result in such an increase of crop as to leave a margin of profit, whether in extra 10s. spent on manure would produce an extra yield that would be worth 10s. plus interest and profit, plus the increased expenditure necessary to produce the extra yield, and so on.

Poor Rates Past and Present.*

I suppose that from the earliest times the moral responsibility of the laity to support the priests of the (by law or custom) established religion of the country, and of the entire community to provide funds for the expenses of the civil government, have been universally recognised; and in the moral obligation to provide by the payment of tithes for the support of the clergy being not only ministers of religion, but also the distributors of the alms of the richer members of society among the indigent poor, we find the germ of the Poor Rate of modern times. The first authentic civil recognition of compulsory tithes appears to be a Synodal decree ratified by two kingdoms of the Heptarchy about A.D. 786. In the year 900, by a treaty between Guthrun the Dane and Alfred and his son Edward the Elder, we find the payment of tithes not only enjoined, but also a penalty mentioned for neglecting to pay tithes; this I take to be the first British compulsory Local Taxation. At that time the tithe payable was the gross tenth of all corn, grass, hops, and wood, considered in those days as the natural products of the earth; the gross tenth of wool, milk, pigs, etc., as partly natural and partly artificial; and a tenth of the clear profits of all trades, manual occupations, fisheries, and the like. Upon the first introduction of compulsory tithes, though every man was obliged to pay tithes in general, yet he might pay them to whatever priests he pleased, which was called arbitrary consecration of tithes; or he might pay them into the hands of the Bishop, who distributed among his diocesan clergy the revenues of the Church which were then in common. But when dioceses were divided into parishes, the tithes of each parish were allotted to its own particular minister, first by common consent or the appointment of Lords of Manors, and afterwards by the written law of the land. At this first establishment of parochial Clergy the tithes of the parish were distributed in a four-fold division: one for the use of the Bishop, one for maintaining the fabric of the Church, a third for the poor, and the fourth to provide for the incumbent. Notwithstanding this law

Arbitrary Consecration of Tithes

was common till the reign of King John. This naturally accounts for the number and riches of the Monastic houses, for a layman who was bound to pay tithes to somebody often thought it good policy to build an Abbey, and pay his tithes to his own Monks or to grant them to some Abbey already erected, since by this arbitrary consecration, which cost him nothing, he might have Masses for ever sung for his soul.

However historians differ as to the morality and usefulness or otherwise of the Monks, it is certain that although they appropriated to themselves a vast quantity of tithe and land, they did not forget the poor, to whom a part of the tithe belonged, but up to the dissolution of the Monasteries provided adequately for the necessities of the poor. In 1536 the lesser Monasteries were dissolved, and in about two years more the whole revenues of all English Monasteries were confiscated, and whereas up to this time, from the year 1388, we find various statutes had been passed having for their object the suppression of vagrancy and the punishment of vagabonds and sturdy beggars, it now became necessary to pass several Acts of Parliament having for their object compulsory charity. All historians call attention to the very large number of poor persons rendered destitute at this time, presumably by the dissolution of the Monastic institutions. It is not surprising that different historians give various reasons for this widespread destitution; on one hand it is said that the Monks let out the Abbey lands in small holdings to the peasants on very favourable terms, and that on the dissolution the new owners increased both the extent of the holdings and the rents, and that the new occupiers found pasturage more profitable than tillage; thus the peasantry were ousted not only from the occupation, but also from the cultivation of the soil. Of course, in an agricultural country, as England at that time was, almost entirely, this would be

A Calamity to the Rural Population.

Another historian may say that the Monks had fostered a crew of indolent parasites who had lived on the charity and industry of the Monks. Whichever view is correct, and probably both are partially so, it is certain that during the rest of the reign of Henry VIII., that of Edward VI., and the first forty-three years of that of Elizabeth, at least eight or nine Acts of Parliament were passed having for their object reform of the Poor Law and relief of destitution. In 1601 the famous statute which is the basis of our present Poor Law was passed. This statute enacts that the overseers of the poor, now first appointed, shall raise with the consent and allowance of the justices in every parish "By taxation of every inhabitant, parson, vicar, and other, and of every occupier of lands, houses, tithe impropriate, propriation of tithe, coal mines, or saleable underwood in the said parish, in such competent sum and sums of money as they shall think fit, a convenient stock of flax, hemp, wool, thread, iron and other ware and stuff to set the poor on work, and also competent sums of money for and towards the necessary relief of the lame, impotent, old, blind, and such other among them

* A Lecture delivered by Mr. James Crouch before the Reds Chamber of Agriculture.

being poor and not able to work." We know that with small amendments this Act of Queen Elizabeth's Parliament continued in force till it was further greatly amended by the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834. I find no legal exemption of "every inhabitant" of a parish from taxation to the Poor Rate till 3 and 4 Vic. cap. 89, which enacts: "That it shall not be lawful for the overseers of any parish, township, or village to tax any inhabitant thereof, as such inhabitant, in respect of his ability, derived from the profits of stock in trade or any other property, for or towards the relief of the poor." And then, in 1840, for the first time, the whole relief of the poor throughout the country became a tax exclusively on the occupation of real property. At that time the village community was almost entirely shut out from the rest of the world, its members were very much dependent one on the other, they rarely left their parish (I am speaking now particularly of the industrial classes) except as soldiers and sailors;

Few Persons Migrated to the Towns,

and what money was earned in the parish was mostly spent in it, and almost the only property owned in rural districts was land and farming stock; any savings were almost invariably hoarded up in specie or invested in real property or on mortgage. It is not surprising that the relief of the poor was then considered, even by the largest ratepayers, as a legitimate and equitable tax on real property in, at all events, rural districts; for under these circumstances, so different to those of the present day, each resident in a rural parish had spent his working days in some shape or other, for the benefit of some person or class in the parish, whose wealth was derived from the occupation or ownership of realty. In these days of cheap, and what is more important, easy and speedy means of communication between village and town, between county and county, and between continent and continent; of universal advertising of and for situations through the agency of the penny or half-penny paper; also, perhaps in consequence partly of the recent alterations in the law of settlement; we find each year a greater inclination among the younger and stronger members of each rural community to try to better their condition by moving from the parish in which they were born. We know that the population of many of our villages is decreasing in a manner that cannot be contemplated without regret by philosophical statisticians; we also know that the proportion of paupers is often eminently unsatisfactory.

It is obvious that whereas in the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries it was quite easy to rate real property—and perhaps in those days the occupation of more or less real property was the best test of a man's ability to pay more or less rates—it was extremely difficult to get at the nett profits of trades and professions when the books of the professional man or tradesman were of the most elementary kind, even if they were not altogether wanting; consequently it generally happened that even before the passing of the Act in 1840 the only property assessed to the relief of the poor was real property, viz., houses and land. About 1850, in the altered circumstances of the country, it began to be generally admitted that the

Poor Rate Pressed most Unequally

on parishes as such, and in 1866 the parish ceased to maintain its own poor; since that time out and indoor relief has been a common charge throughout the Poor Law Union.

I have now very briefly sketched the past history of the Poor Rate in relation to Poor Relief.

Though the parochial rate now collected is called a Poor Rate, it is much more than that, for by it, and on its assessment, it now collected a sum which fifty years ago would have been considered vast, which supplies, with a small sum from Imperial taxation, money to maintain all roads, for sanitation, for police purposes, for the registration of voters, for vaccination, for the various charges on the County Rate, for all sums spent by Parish Councils, and lastly in parishes having a school board, the whole amount required for elementary education outside the annual earned Government grant.

Can these amounts be considered in these times equitable charges on real property? First as to the roads. Surveyors of highways were first appointed in parishes in the reign of Henry VIII., when vehicular traffic was almost unknown on the majority of rural roads, but gradually, as luxury and commerce increased, better roads than the mere tracks of the earlier times became a necessity, for the transport of merchandise from place to place, for the purposes of social intercourse, and the quicker conveyance of the mails. It now became generally admitted that the occupiers of realty could not equitably be called on to bear the burden of the greatly increased expenses of the improved roads; and various turnpike Acts were passed till in the first half of the nineteenth century nearly all roads carrying any considerable amount of traffic were turnpike roads, maintained by those who used them. Of course, under this system the burden of maintaining the bye roads was small; now the whole cost of the repair and improvement of all roads is a charge on the Poor Rate.

The most casual observer must see how greatly the cost of the roads has increased, and how greatly the proportion of foreign traffic to local has also grown during the last fifty years.

By the various Public Health Acts many duties are thrown on District Councils and County Councils in regard to the health of the people.

Forty years ago, when the only expense to Boards of Guardians, who were then the only sanitary authorities, was a small annual payment to an Inspector of Nuisances in each Union, who was often a superintendent of police,

The Expense was Trifling,

but now with a County Medical Officer of Health, District Medical Officer of Health, and competent and energetic sanitary inspectors, the cost is greater and is, and will be, an increasing charge on the rates.

The police are a protection to all persons and property, and are quite as indispensable to persons possessed of personal property as to the occupiers of land, and I fail to see why all police pay and pensions should not be paid out of taxation.

If there is any charge on the rates to which all persons entitled to vote should equally contribute, it is the preparation of the voters' lists. This some years ago was a very small charge in many parishes, but of late years it has grown from so many shillings to pounds. In the year I was born the Revising Barrister allowed the Ridgmount overseers for preparing the list six shillings, in 1899 he allowed £7 7s., in 1900 £7.

Surely compulsory vaccination is for the benefit of the whole community, and the cost of this is increasing rapidly by reason of the new scale of fees, introduced by the last Vaccination Order.

Elementary education costs in school board parishes from 5d. to half-a-crown in the pound, on the poor rate assessment. No one can think it equitable to rate rural real property exclusively to educate boys and girls to take all sorts of situations in towns, on railways, all over the world, wherever trade happens at the time to be most brisk, instead of staying and working in the parishes in which they were born, helping their old parents, and by their labour helping to produce the money to pay the rates as their forefathers did. The charges on the county rate, whose name will soon be legion if they go on increasing, are incurred for the benefit of the whole community.

I think this very brief sketch of the rise and progress of the so-called Poor Rate proves that although the parochial rate for the relief of destitution may have been, and was, an equitable charge on real property during the fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries, the present Poor Rate cannot be considered as such. I feel that it would be unwise to remove Guardians of the Poor from their present position, for only persons living near can possibly know the circumstances and necessities of applicants for relief, and I am of opinion that unless a great part of the money for the relief of the poor is raised locally, carelessness or extravagance might be charged against the Poor Law administrators. Perhaps

Sanitation is Fairly a Ratepayers' Question

but as to the highways, police, registration of voters, vaccination, education, and county rate charges, I do think they should be paid out of the general taxation of the country, to which all persons should contribute according to their ability, whether they own or occupy real property, own shares, stock-in-trade, or other personalty, or earn large or small business or professional incomes.

I think it is scarcely widely enough realised that the question of parochial rates is nearly as interesting to many dwellers in cities and towns as it is to us in the rural districts. Take the Metropolitan area. Under the Valuation (Metropolis) Act a new assessment is made every five years, and in many cases, perhaps in most, the rack rent is very nearly approached by the gross assessment; only one-sixth is allowed off this gross assessment to get the rateable value on all fair and good houses. In the parish of Marylebone this year the rates are over six shillings in the pound. The occupier of a house I know in that parish, who occupies it for purely professional purposes, pays as rates this year £78.

The large amount of Metropolitan rates presses hardly on the less successful professional and trading classes, as a man with a large family must have a good-sized house, and, to get on in many trades, an expensive shop, and often must live in a highly-rented street to be near his patients, clients, or customers, as the case may be, and it may, and I believe frequently does happen, that a man earning £5,000 a year pays quite as small a sum as rates as a man in the same trade or profession whose income does not exceed as many hundreds, and in some cases whose profit is non-existent.

Suppose a man with an income of £500 a year as interest on brewery debentures, or any similar practically safe investment, should be called on by the rate collector to pay, in addition to all other taxes,

£160 a Year as Rates,

would he not think it a monstrous tax? Yet this is about the proportion in which realty in London pays to the rates. Suppose, again, that owing to unfortunate and unavoidable circumstances his debentures ceased to pay any dividend, and he was still called on to pay the £160 a year, would not his case be called a very hard one? But have not the cases of many farmers been very nearly analogous to this hypothesis?

A hundred years ago the wealth of the country consisted very largely of real property, but during the last century, owing to the great expansion of our commerce and the general industrial prosperity of Englishmen, an enormous amount of personalty has accumulated, the owners of which certainly do not contribute according to their ability to what is called local taxation. There is no doubt that the Agricultural Rates Act, 1896, is a step in the right direction. Everyone having the most elementary knowledge of local taxation must admit that in 1895 occupiers of farms paid far more poor rates than was equitable, but I think that the remission should have been given on the farm, not on the land alone. It seems to me to be impossible to assess, even approximately, the value of the farm house and buildings, apart from the land; house, buildings, and land together make a farm, and (although there are exemptions), generally speaking, farm buildings are absolutely valueless except as farm buildings, and if the land that is about, it follows the buildings are of no value; so with the land, in most cases. I therefore think whatever percentage it is equitable to allow, it should be allowed on the whole farm. Another objection to this Act is that without professing to do so, remitting half the rate on agricultural land necessarily increases the rate on all other rateable property. This I have seen denied, but it is so, because the amount lost in the collection of the rate is not made up to the collector of the rate, but it is said that the spending authorities receive from the exchequer the amount they severally lose. The Parish Council and overseers, however, are not recognised as spending authorities; consequently, if the Parish Council spent much money the rate on property other than agricultural land must be appreciably increased. In parishes in which the assistant overseer's salary and the preparation of voters' lists are about the only sums paid directly by the Parish Council and overseers, these amounts together are equivalent to about a twopenny rate or more.

Do ratepayers as a body appreciate the continual growth of the sum collected as poor rate? In 1680 this sum was only £665,380, just over half a million of money; in 1773 £3,000,000 was the estimated sum; in 1850 £7,270,493 was the amount collected; in the year ending Lady Day, 1895, the amount was £19,063,893; in the year ending Lady Day, 1898, the last year of which the whole figures are yet published, £21,410,311. It is sometimes asked, "How can this be? I pay no more rates than I did years ago." Of course, a very large increase in real property value has taken place in populous places; and in rural districts the Assessment Committees have carefully watched the development of railway and industrial property; and while

Agricultural Assessments have Gone Down

with the long-continued decline in the value of agricultural land, caused by the disappearance of profit from its occupation, at the same time a great increase has taken place, during the last fifty years, in the assessments of railways and rateable property other than agricultural land. The time will arrive, if it has not already come, when it will be no longer possible to increase the assessments of these properties, and then any increase in the total amount of rates collected will of necessity fall on land and rural buildings as well as on other property.

In addition to the 21½ millions we have been considering, the so-called Exchequer contributions and grants in aid of rates are really, to a large extent, drawn out of the pockets of owners and occupiers of realty. The tax and licence collectors take out of the one pocket what the State puts into the other pocket of the ratepayer.

About eight millions a year, including the grants under the Agricultural Rates Act, are altogether paid from taxation, as it is said, in relief of rates; but a very large proportion of this amount comes out of the very pockets it is supposed to relieve. The names of certain taxes suggest, or I may say prove, this: Local taxation, licences 5¼ millions, estate duty 2½ millions.

It is sometimes said that the amount of rates is only of consequence to the owner of the land, but the fact remains that in those cases where agricultural land is let to a tenant, the amount of rates remitted by the Act of 1896 does go into the pocket of the farmer. Even granting that a large permanent reduction of rates will in future tend to raise the rent of land, may we not expect that if the burdens on land are lightened, and should its occupation once again become profitable, a race of yeoman farmers would spring up in many districts? There are now many owners of small and medium sized landed estates, who would gladly sell and invest the money in the fashionable industrial and commercial limited companies, in foreign and colonial bonds, and railways all over the world, which are now financed to such a large extent by British capital. Land now supports the clergy of the Established Church; no doubt this has been an obligation for more than 1,000 years; its owners and occupiers pay just the same taxes as other people, and in addition local taxation raises a sum approaching 30 millions a year. This is a serious question, and I am sure the more it is considered, the more certainly the inquirer will see that land and houses pay far more as rates and taxes than is equitable.

The directors of the firm of Richard Hornsby & Sons Limited recommend a dividend of 5s per share, place £10,000 to reserve fund, and carry forward £5,899.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

A Wool Dispute at Winchester.

An important case concerning purchasers and sellers of wool was heard by his Honour Judge Gye at Winchester County Court on the 7th inst. The plaintiff was Mr. W. D. Forder, wool stapler, of Winchester, and he sued Mr. W. Nicholson, of Basing Park, for £7 17s. 7d., by reason of damage suffered in consequence of 245 fleeces of wool he bought from the defendant containing "cleg" or dirt to the extent of 207lbs.

Mr. Mears, who appeared for the plaintiff, said the wool was bought at the Winchester wool sale on July 4th, which was conducted by Messrs. Harris and Sons, auctioneers, of Winchester, and there were in all about 250 lots offered. One of those was lot 100, which was the subject of the claim. Mr. Forder bought some £2,600 worth of wool and paid for it, and £187 15s. 6d. was the amount of the lot in question. The case was taken under the Sale of Goods Act, and the first sections he relied on were Sections 13 and 15. Section 13 said that where "there is a contract for the sale of goods by description there is the implied condition that the goods should correspond with the description; and if the sale be by sample as well as by description it is not sufficient that the bulk of the goods corresponds with the sample if the goods do not correspond with the description." In the catalogue the wool was described as "clean" wool, and the contract at those sales was that the sale was by sample. There were taken one or two sheets which contained a certain number of fleeces, and these were exhibited between hurdles so that buyers could walk along and view them. In that instance the samples were on view from six o'clock in the morning until one o'clock, when the sale began, at Lower Brook Street, Middle Brook Street, and the Corn Exchange. Mr. Forder was one of the bidders for lot 100, and secured it at a price of 9¾d. per lb. It was described as the property of Mr. Nicholson, of Bordean. Amongst other fleeces it contained 245 fleeces of Down tegs. When these came to be unwound they were discovered to be what was called "cleggy." The sample was "cleggy," but was slightly better than the bulk, though that was "cleggy" also.

Mr. Mears went on to remark that, while he could not say the goods did not correspond with the sample, he said they did not correspond with the description. In the catalogue it said that Lots 1 to 158 were clean wool, whereas Lot 100 contained 207lbs. of "cleg." The other section of the Act he relied on was Section 15, in which there was the implied condition that the goods should be free from any defect rendering them unmerchantable, which would not be apparent on reasonable examination of the sample. The issue would be first, whether it was entitled to succeed on Section 13, when he said that it was not sufficient that the bulk of the goods corresponded with the sample, but they must also correspond with the description. He should call expert witnesses to show that there were "clegs" in the wool.

Mr. Simonds (who appeared for the defendant): I say there were "clegs," but I also say the fleeces were clean within the language of the wool market, which we are dealing with.

Mr. Mears said that as regarded the reasonable opportunity of examination he should call witnesses who were present and who did not discover the "clegs." It would be physically impossible to unwind and examine each particular fleece in 250 lots, which were at three different places, and it was not the custom of the trade to do so.

His Honour: But he could do so if he liked. It may be the custom not to do so, but he is not bound to follow it; he must take the risk.

Mr. Mears: I hope to convince your Honour that what my client did was a reasonable examination of the samples. I say the wool contained a defect which would not be apparent in a reasonable examination of the sample. I also say it was not clean wool, and that Mr. Forder exercised reasonable opportunity of examination under the circumstances without detecting the defects.

After having heard extensive evidence His Honour summed up at some length. He said all the witnesses agreed that the sale was conducted in the ordinary and usual way of wool sales, and that being so the plaintiff, who had had some forty years' experience, must be taken to know what that was in the same way that the auctioneers and the vendor did. He was entitled to take whatever benefits he might get by the sale, and he was also bound to accept the ordinary and usual burdens, whatever they might be. He saw the samples, according to his own admissions, in the usual way, and he bought upon the faith of his inspection. It was admitted by his witnesses that there was nothing whatever to have prevented his ripping open every single bundle of fleece he pleased. Time might have been against him, but he could at least have ripped open one or two; but he did not do it. He, however, chose to deal in the customary way of the trade and buy according to the custom of the trade, and he must take the consequences. It did not lie in his mouth to say, "Although you gave me every opportunity for inspection and did everything in the same way as has been done in my own experience of the last forty years, yet on this particular occasion I have been deceived and you must pay damages." That would not do. Unless he could say there was something unusual in that sale, and something unusual in the way in which the samples were shown and the opportunities for inspection given, he could not recover, because he must be taken to have—being in the business—assented to the sale being conducted in that way, which was the ordinary and usual way. Therefore he (the Judge) held upon that that there had been reasonable and proper opportunity for examination of the sample that the plaintiff picked out, that he acted upon his own knowledge after examination, and that as a result he was not entitled to recover the damages he sought to recover. He should, therefore, give judgment for the defendant with costs.

On the application of Mr. Simonds his Honour gave costs on the higher scale, with counsel's fees.

Farmer v. Patriotic Waggoner.

At the Retford County Court on Wednesday, Private John Durham, of the 2nd Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment, sued Mr. George Bingley, farmer, of Wheatley, for £11 10s wages said to be due.

It appeared that the plaintiff was hired by the defendant as a waggoner at £21 per year, and in January last he enlisted into the Lincolnshire Regiment. He asked defendant to pay him his wages from the previous May hiring, less a month's wages in lieu of notice, and £1 previously paid. The defendant refused to pay him anything, and now set up a counter-claim for loss said to be caused by the plaintiff leaving his service, as he was unable for fifteen days to get anyone to replace him.

Judge Masterman said that in ordinary times agricultural labourers were not entitled to their wages until the year was up, because the value of their services was much greater in summer than in winter. This, however, was not an ordinary case. The plaintiff was inspired with the patriotism which prevailed so generally throughout the country, and desired to serve the Queen. He thought he had acted particularly well in giving up a month's wages instead of notice. Under these circumstances the counter claim had failed, and the defendant would have to pay the amount claimed with costs.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended November 10, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	7,922	8,622	Wheat ..	1,586,500	1,784,400
Sheep ..	5,628	5,590	Flour ..	323,000	521,700
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	389,300	743,300
			Oats ..	269 300	364,900
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	101,800	118,200
Beef ..	65,532	97,371	Beans ..	34,600	113,500
Mutton	99,577	54,882	Maize ..	1,230,100	681,400
Pork ..	16,757	20,997		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	85,651	112,646	†Bananas	—	19,425
Beef, salt	3,037	3,624		Cwt.	Cwt
Hams ..	25,680	27,268	Apples ..	207,645‡	122,918
Pork, salt	3,892	4,438	†Apricots & Peaches	—	
Meat, salt & fresh	7,969	10,625	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	11,473	20,613	†Currants	—	—
Butter ..	61,585	62,715	†Goosebr's	—	—
M'rg'rine	19,925	19,270	Grapes ..	35,180‡	40,998
Cheese ..	35,809	53,685	Lemons	14,031‡	20,409
Con. Milk	17,559	15,908	Oranges	67,276‡	37,179
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	144	523	Pears ..	8,343‡	9,605
			Plums ..	2.8‡	—
			†Stra'b'r's	—	—
			Oth'r Fr't	30,101‡	2 345
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	2,200	1,771
Eggs ..	363,531*	428,046*		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	142,059	136,044
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£6,840	£4,305	Hops ..	4,903	10,899
			Potatoes	99,116	432,288
	Cwt.	Cwt.	§Tom'to's	—	10,243
Rabbits	8,206	3,770	Other	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	52,831	53,835	Veg'bles	£28,241	£ 9,948

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

Carlisle Hirings —The half-yearly hirings at Carlisle were held on the 10th inst. There was almost as large an attendance of masters as of men. The former complain of the difficulty of getting suitable servants, even at high wages. Boys demand the wages of men, and then sometimes refuse to do a certain class of work, such as milking. Women were very scarce. Best men obtained £16 to £17 for the half-year; youths, £8 upwards. Many servants hold back for the second hirings, knowing they can command situations.

A singular spectac'e was witnessed in Warwickshire on Monday morning. Before sunrise a group of persons from all quarters gathered round the ancient mound on Knightlow Hill, near Dunchurch, and deposited what is known as "wroth silver" in the hollow of the cross. The money is payable to the Duke of Buccleuch for the privilege of using certain roads. The sums contributed by the parishes vary from 1d. to over 2s. The penalty of non-payment is 20s., or forfeiture of a white bull with red nose and ears.

THE GARDEN.

In a few districts potatoes are still in the ground growers having been unable to lift them owing to the weather. Already the price is beginning to rise, though many farmers are selling off what stock they have at a comparatively low rate before they go wrong. In London sound potatoes are now realising from 75s. to 95s. per ton, and already the Belgian and other foreign growers have commenced to send over supplies, this being considerably earlier than usual.

The moral of all this is that the indispensable tuber is bound to be both scarce and dear during the coming winter and spring. After Christmas, or thereabouts, we shall probably see a considerable advance in the price, and those who have any stock of sound "ware" will then be able to dispose of them in a very satisfactory manner.

Moreover, when the time comes the "new" potatoes will be wanted badly, and the earlier supplies will probably command good prices. My advice to all who have warm and sheltered land, suitable for the growth of early crops of this important subject, is to plant every bit of it in the best possible manner, with the earliest and best kinds, and on the earliest possible date. In naturally warm and early districts it will soon be time to commence operations now; the land must be cleaned and prepared in good time, and the seed—or as much of it as possible—should be laid out in some light and moderately warm place to sprout soon after Christmas, preferably in shallow boxes or trays, so as to avoid any breakage of the young shoots in removing them to the field or ground.

As regards varieties for early cropping there are none better, among the older kinds, than Sharpe's Victor (though this has the disadvantage (?) of yellow flesh), with the old Ashleaf Kidney and Early Regent and Beauty of Hebron for succession. I do not care for the quality of Early Regent, but it is a very heavy cropper, when well done, and on certain soils undoubtedly gives excellent results. Among the newer varieties Ninety-fold is one of the very best; it is of the kidney class, exceedingly early, and of superior quality, while it crops as heavily as many main crop potatoes. When the seed becomes a little cheaper this will probably be grown very largely. Another fine early potato is Harbinger, a white, round variety, something in the way of Early Regent, but a week or two earlier, and a capital cropper. Windsor Castle becomes fit to dig about the same time as Beauty of Hebron, and on some soils is nearly or quite as good as this well-known favourite.

A sowing of peas, for an early crop, may be made now, or as soon as the soil becomes in a proper condition to enable the seed to be got in well. This autumn sowing, however, is only advisable on comparatively light and warm soils, and a somewhat sheltered position is also advisable. In my experience English Wonder is the best variety for present sowing—that is if a dwarf kind is wanted—or Day's Sunrise and Gradus of the taller kinds. At the same time a few rows of a good broad bean may be got in.

The propagation of any of the "bush" fruits by means of cuttings should receive attention now. Almost any healthy pieces of the current season's growth if firmly inserted in a bed of light loamy soil at this season will strike root, and in due course form a plant, but the best cuttings are those with a slight "heel" of the older wood, and from a foot to 18in. or so in length. Pare the base of each quite smooth, remove any unripe or unsound tops, and also all eyes or buds, but the three topmost ones. Now cut one or more "nicks," 8in. to 10in. deep, in a bed of suitable soil, and place the cuttings therein, 4in. to 6in. apart, and burying them to about two-thirds of their length. Fill in with soil, and make this quite firm again. A sheltered and half-shaded position is best, and if the soil is at all heavy or damp place an inch of sand in the bottom of each "nick" for the bases of the cuttings to rest on. Both the red and white, as well as the black currants, and gooseberries, are easily propagated thus.

Bulbs of all kinds should have been planted by this time, also any of the hardy, spring-flowering subjects, such as Alyssum, Arabis, Silene, Daisies, and so forth. As soon as all the leaves are off the trees a general clear-up should take place, but do not burn the leaves, but place them in a heap in some odd corner to form that invaluable material, leaf-mould. Do not bury the leaves, as this hinders decay.

"A Reader of the MARK LANE EXPRESS writes:—"I think it only correct that you should give some short notices of the present Mayor for the agricultural town of Cowbridge, namely, Mr. Alderman Edward Johns, who I believe is a contributor to your paper. I may say very few men have identified themselves so much in defence of the farming interest as Mr. Johns has done for over thirty years. He is a successful corn and seed merchant, and he gave very important evidence before the Welsh Land Commission. Very few men in this county have done so much in taking part and reading papers at the farmers' clubs and county associations. He is a man fearless in defence of his opinions, and is respected generally by all classes. He was also Mayor of Cowbridge for 1890-91."

FARM PROSPECTS.

North Lincolnshire.

The rain is the one topic amongst the market folk, and the hindrance it has caused. I am glad to say that although the glass has fallen, yet to-day is very fine, and the threshing machines hum around me, which they have not done lately. The whole of the wheats are decidedly damp in the stack, and if not sprouted yet the bud in many cases has started under the skin, and thus the resulting flour is weak. Consequently old wheats have been called for, which are so dry that they in part counteract the moisture in the new. I sold three stacks of old for 30s., and could have made 31s.; but the machine had split it so, and I would not screen the half corns out. The new was a dragging trade at 27s. Barleys are poor, and if anyone makes 29s. or 30s. they are talked about; 25s. to 26s. is more general. Most of the

Wheat Sowing

on the lighter lands is finished, but I hear week after week that the strong land men cannot get theirs in. Poor beggars! I pity any farmers always, but clay farmers, oh! A very good turnip crop is getting the lambs on well, and mine and my neighbours' are healthy; the store cattle, too, enjoy cabbage *ad libitum*, a bumper crop, which I shall not be able to use. I got some horses into my neighbour's field by accident, so I told him to fetch ten loads of cabbages, and we are good friends again. Potatoes are being withheld for better prices; the crop is so small, and much disease. Alas, fifteen thousand tons of foreign came last week. I trust it will soon freeze, and stop them; then we will make the towns pay smartly! We will, if we can!—NORTH LINDSEY (November 16th).

Shropshire.

The mildness of the weather favours turnip carting and storing, but makes it unpleasant for the waggoners. Stocks go pretty comfortably on the pastures, thus saving a lot of keep. Where wheat has not been put in before farmers have to wait for fine weather, although the time of its coming seems uncertain. Feeding stuffs, although rather dear, are more in demand than formerly, both for dairy and feeding cattle, as they contributed both to the milking and feeding properties of cows, and, we may add, helps the selling as prime beef. It is well for farmers even in a busy time to record the working of the bulls and rams to get an approximate idea of the time of calving and lambing, which may be of advantage in the arrangement of keep and condition of sale.—J. G. (November 16th).

Somerset.

A deal of rain has fallen of late, and not before it was wanted, as the ponds had been dry for a considerable time, and water having had to be carried to the cattle, and the pastures had become very dry, causing a considerable shrinkage in the flow of milk at the dairies, but since the rain, with the present mild weather, considerable growth has taken place in the pastures, but the season is now too far advanced for such grass to be of much value. A good crop of mangolds have generally been stored, and the land which is usually ploughed for wheat is now too wet for the teams to proceed with at present. The procuring of the potato crop, which is generally good, is still being attended to, but many tubers now being taken up are diseased, consequently those who lift their crops early generally get the best result, in sound tubers. Apples are not a good crop, and the fruit is smaller than usual, consequently less cider will be made.—A. L. O. (November 16th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—In the aggregate crop accounts are satisfactory, weather during the last few days having brought agricultural matters well forward.

BELGIUM.—Wet weather and mild temperature favours the crops, but does not stimulate the wheat market, which in Antwerp was not so favourable to sellers as in previous week.

HOLLAND.—With mild temperature and damp atmosphere farmers are satisfied with the present agricultural position.

SPAIN.—In many parts of the Peninsula the sowings are being effected with the utmost dispatch, and in Murcia at night by moonlight. The area under wheat this season in that province is very large.

GERMANY.—Weather mild and wet is not inimical to the autumn-sown crops.

HUNGARY.—Temperature continues mild for time of year. Wheat has dragged along at weakening prices, the result of good supplies and poor demand.

ITALY.—During the past ten days the weather has been favourable to agriculture. The rainfall was everywhere beneficial, particularly in Sicily, where for some time it had been so much desired, but in the upper provinces and in Calabria more is required. The sowing of wheat has terminated in te best conditions in the north of the Peninsula and in Emilia, and in many localities germination has already commenced. In the central and southern provinces sowing operations are still in progress under desirable atmospheric conditions.

RUSSIA.—The season seems to be mainly favourable to the autumn-sown crops. The rainfall in most parts of the country did not reach the normal quantity, being heaviest in some of the southern governments and Poland, while in other regions, and chiefly in the eastern governments, rain was completely wanting. The land is still free from snow.

ASIA MINOR.—Advices from Smyrna say the weather has been fine, dry, and fresher. Drought still prevails both here and in the interior, and farmers' complaints are becoming general as the autumn sowings are suspended.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says the wheat crop is mostly doing well, and marketing is very moderate in all districts. The situation generally favours the development of confidence in the trade. Maize is moving considerably east of the Mississippi and moderately to the west of that river, the cool weather helping the situation.—*Dornbusch.*

The Agricultural Labourer of To-day.*

Few things are more distressing to us country folk than the astonishing change which has come over the agricultural labouring classes in the last twenty or thirty years; their dislike to their hereditary vocation, and disinclination to live on the land. Nowadays they must all needs earn their livelihood in a town, or (young Hodge's highest aspiration) wear a seedy black coat and a made-up tie, and toil in some stifling office or shop for probably no better wage than he would have earned as a waggoner or shepherd. No one admits more readily than myself the evils which formerly were, and in some districts still are, mainly responsible for this state of affairs; evils for which, alas! the upper classes were far too accountable. Insanitary dwellings, insufficient wages and consequent insufficient food, a monotonous and dreary existence, to which intoxication on the vilest of liquors offered but too often the only palliative, were a combination not calculated to raise the agricultural population either morally or physically. But in all the above unhappy shortcomings, the lot of the agricultural labourer has been enormously improved of late years, and it was confidently asserted that the introduction of Schools Boards and consequent superior education would prove the panacea for all his further ills.

Well, Hodge has been educated for a quarter of a century, and what has been the result of his superior education? It can be summed up in one word—discontent. By this I do not mean the discontent of Socialism and Anarchism of continental countries, nor, thank God, do I think that will ever come in England, but general dissatisfaction with his lot and things in general. As Mr. Rudyard Kipling said of another member of society, he "knows too much and does too little." No doubt the English peasant *was* badly treated two generations ago, but so was Chummy the sweep, and Chips the carpenter, and Geordie the pitman, and I am afraid a great many other deserving people as well, including those who wield that weapon poetically reputed mightier than the sword. But all these gentlemen have participated in the blessings of superior education, and yet none of them have responded to the spur of learning in the way that Hodge has done; firstly, perhaps, because they live a little more in touch with the outer world; and, secondly, because the latter's education is totally beyond and outside either his requirements or his vocation.

Only last week out shooting, Joe, the son of the ploughman at the Moor Farm, was carrying my cartridge bag for me. I asked him what special work he was engaged in at school. "Oi be dra-a-in' a map o' H'orsetrier," he replied with diffidence. A map of Austria! for a country lad of fourteen, who has not yet learnt to guide a plough, nor even fork muck out of a cart. I should dearly like to see some proportion of the School Board rate in agricultural districts applied to instilling the rudiments of their hereditary handicrafts into such labourers' sons as have mastered the three R's. By this, I do not mean the endowment of institutions where young gentlemen in breeches and gaiters dabble in agricultural chemistry, but sound technical instruction in the elements of ploughing, draining, hedging, and ditching, and so forth; arts which their forefathers were content to practise, but which the present generation of countrymen have not only forgotten, but evince the greatest disinclination to learn.

It will probably be urged that it is undesirable, if not impossible, to make distinctions between classes in the matter of State-aided education, and that it is unfair to deny to any man the possible benefits derived from scholarship; but to this I would reply that, in the present overcrowded state of every profession, not one man in a thousand, be he shepherd or solicitor, can ever hope to attain to more than mediocrity. If it be in him to rise in the world, rise he will, education or no education, ample proof of which statement may be found among our modern aristocracy; but here, perhaps, I am trenching on delicate ground. Of one fact, however, I am convinced by experience, and that is that, out of the many agricultural labourers I have known in my life, the worst educated have usually been, not only the best craftsmen in their particular vocation, but also the steadiest and most respectable men.

* From "Pages from a Country Diary," in the November "Badminton Magazine."

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (November 12th).—A complete change of weather was experienced, rain falling over nearly the whole country. A shallow [illegible] had appeared over Ireland, and was associated with a southerly wind, with a rapid rise of temperature. The early part of Sunday night was again cold in parts of England, and in Scotland the morning temperatures showed that the milder southerly current of air had not then spread over the entire kingdom. Rain fell during Sunday night at all the western stations, but the amounts were not generally large. The minimum temperatures were still rather low in the north, but in the southern and western districts the reading touched 50deg. The day was wet and unpleasant in London.

TUESDAY (November 13th).—Rainy and unsettled weather prevailed over the whole of our islands. A large cyclonic disturbance had its centre to the north of Scotland, and this was occasioning a moist and warm south-westerly current of air from the Atlantic. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, all over the country, and at places in the north and east the fall was heavy. Temperatures were high for the time of year, and at several places in the south of England the thermometer remained above 50deg. [illegible] Monday night. In London the lowest temperature during Monday night was 52deg., which is 15deg. above the average, and is 4deg. higher than the average highest day reading in November.

WEDNESDAY (November 14th).—The weather was fine in most parts of England, but rain fell again at several places in Scotland and Ireland. Temperature fell briskly over England during Tuesday night, and the exposed thermometer indicated a frost in the Midland Counties. Rain was measured in the morning over the entire kingdom, as a result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, but the amounts were not generally large. The cyclonic disturbance which had occasioned the unpleasant weather on Tuesday was moving away across the North Sea, and the barometer was recovering in England, where a light north-west wind was blowing. The day was mostly dull in London, and the highest temperature was 52deg.

THURSDAY (November 15th).—The weather was again very unsettled in all parts of our islands, and strong southerly winds, with rain, were experienced generally. A cyclonic disturbance had arrived from the Atlantic during Wednesday night, and its influence spread rapidly over the whole country. A gale was experienced at many places on our west coasts, and the rainfall was very heavy at the western stations, exceeding an inch in the twenty-four hours in the Hebrides. The temperature continued high, and the midday readings exceeded 50deg. in the south of England. In London it was raining almost throughout the day, and the air was very mild, the thermometer rising to 54deg.

FRIDAY (November 16th).—Rainy and very unsettled weather prevailed over our islands, and the temperature was generally rather lower than of late. Rain had fallen heavily in most parts of the country, and the amounts measured in the morning were further augmented during the day. North-easterly winds or gales were blowing in Scotland, and the winds were equally strong from the north-west in places on our south-west coasts and over the western portion of the Channel. In the afternoon the wind became easterly over the south of England, and the centre of the disturbance had moved to the north of France. The day was very wet in London, and the highest temperature was 49deg.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, November 17th and 18th.—During the two days was witnessed one of the few attempts at a winterly type of weather the country has experienced this season. The cyclonic area which crossed the south-western counties on Friday passed down into France next day, and the barometer rose more or less steadily all over Western Europe, anti-cyclones being on Sunday shown off our western coasts and over Scandinavia. Winds from a northerly quarter consequently became general, blowing rather briskly in most places, and on the east coast of England strong breezes to moderate gales were felt each day. With the change of wind the weather became much drier, only a few local showers being reported, while temperature declined everywhere, night frosts being registered in Scotland and Ireland, and only here and there did the afternoon maxima reached as high as fifty degrees.

Doncaster Hiring Statutes.—The annual statutes for the hiring of farm servants took place at Doncaster on Wednesday. Farm foremen received £22 to £24; seconders, £16 to £22; young men, £10 to £16. Female servants were scarce, and wages were high. Girls obtained £10 to £13; women, £14 to £20.

Malton Hiring Statutes.—The first of the three annual statute hirings at Malton was held on the 10th inst. There was a large attendance of male servants, but females were fewer than usual. Little hiring was done, and both men and women were firm in their demands. It is not anticipated that in this district there will be any great deficiency in the labour supply during the current Martinmas. The Corn Exchange was open but the attendance of female servants

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: We have had a fair enquiry for new during the past week. Barley: Grinding steady. Malting fully as dear. Wheat: Firm. Oats: Slow. Maize: About 6d per qr. cheaper on the week. Flour: Unchanged.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane Wednesday.—English wheat remains in limited supply, but there is quite sufficient on hand to meet the views of buyers, prices being rather easier since last Monday. Flour occasionally rather lower, and granaries continue well stocked. The London Millers' Association made no change at this afternoon's meeting. Useful qualities of malting remain in support. Oats distinctly in holders' favour, and supplies moderate, with Government buying of late assisting the market at intervals. Flat maize in rather better supply, and barely so firm, at 21s ex ship; 22s to 22s 2d landed. Round corn firm.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Home-grown wheat slow and unaltered while in buyers' favour, and the country Exchanges still take what little supply offers. Fine white held for about 31s, and good red 30s, 63lb, delivered. Stocks of American descriptions remain heavy, but holders decline concessions in face of matters being generally unsettled at present, while quotations remain nominal. Flour was steady, but there was insufficient to test prices, while granaries continue well supplied. Top price, town made, 30s net. The London Millers' Association kept to last rates. Feeding barley steady. Persian, 17s 3d ex ship, 18s 9d ex quay; Azov, 18s 6d ex ship, 19s 3d ex granary. Supplies are restricted. Oats were well maintained. Maize is in better supply, but unchanged.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Not much trade doing, but prices generally pretty firm. Wheat was quite as dear as last week, but nothing was quoted above 31s. Barleys of malting quality were heavy and difficult to move, nothing making above 33s. Maize was firm, and quite as dear.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Moderate attendance, and trade on the whole dull. Wheat 6d lower on the week. Best samples barley sold fairly well at fully 1s advance. Other grain unaltered.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (white) (old), 29s to 31s per qr; wheat (red) (new), 26s to 28s 6d per qr; beans (new), 28s to 30s per qr; beans (old), 33s to 34s per qr; oats (new), 16s to 18s per qr; oats (old) (black), 21s to 22s per qr. Prices the same as last week; small supply of wheat.

Barnsley, Wednesday.—The market was quiet, and most kinds of grain sold at late rates. Best wheat, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per load of three bushels; black oats, 16s to 17s; white, 18s to 19s; barley, 23s to 28s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The market was generally quiet, English wheat being offered in limited quantities. Quotations ranged from 10s 6d to 11s per bag. In foreign wheats from 3d to 9d lower was accepted for common, and 3d more money was taken for best wheats. Kansas on spot quoted at 6s 0½d, Manitobas 6s 2d, and No. 1 Northern Duluths 6s 6d per cental (Liverpool). Flat maize was about 6d cheaper per qr, the price per cental at Liverpool being 4s 0½d, and at Bristol 20s 9d. Round maize unchanged at 23s 6d (on spot) (at Sharpness) and 23s to arrive, and Plate maize 4s 3d per cental (at Liverpool). Grinding barley 18s to 19s 6d (Sharpness); new English white oats scarce and making better prices, viz., 19s to 20s; old, 23s to 25s; and black oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d. English beans 12s 3d for new and 14s 6d for old (at Birmingham).

Boston, Wednesday.—A small show of wheat, at last week's prices. Malting barley, 24s to 31; grinding barley, 22s 6d to 23s; oats, 16s to 19s; peas, 45s to 55s; beans, 25s to 29s; maize, 23s.

Brighton, Thursday.—New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 27s to 28s; barley, 29s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; oats, English, 17s to 21s; small maize, 27s to 28s; flat ditto, 20s to 21s. Barley and oats firm at last week's prices. Fair attendance.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been dull, but with the farmers very busy on the land we have had such small supplies that prices are the turn against the buyer. At the market to-day there was a small attendance, and very little grain on offer for this time of year. Wheat made the extreme prices of last week and barley was rather dearer. Red, 28s to 31s; and white, up to 31s per 504lb.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat a trifle easier; barley slightly better; oats firm. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 30s to 32s 6d; red ditto, 29s to 32s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; ditto black, 15s to 20s; peas, 30s to 33s; tick beans, 32s to 33s; mazagans, 27s to 29s; flat maize, 23s to 24s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per qr; winter tares, 6s to 7s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Larger show of oats to-day, brisk trade at fully last week's prices. New oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d, 336lbs; old, 23s 6d to 26s, 336lbs.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a small trade passing in English grain, and wheat was quiet and unchanged. Oats were steady, and best samples 1d per bushel dearer. Indian corn 6d per sack lower. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s to 4s 2d per 75lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb; beans, 4s 8d to 5s 6d per 80lb; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; old, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 46lb; Indian corn, 10s 6d to 10s 9d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was only a small quantity of wheat on offer and with business quiet, prices were unchanged. A similar remark applies to feeding stuffs and flour.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat, very small supply, the full prices of last week were readily obtainable for all dry samples. Barley, very little offering for time of year, all qualities sold at fully late rates. Beans, peas, and oats few offering, prices favouring sellers.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Quiet trade for English wheat, prices rather easier. Foreign 6d. per quarter cheaper. Malting barley met a very dragging trade except for the finest lots, which were scarce. Grinding barley unchanged. Feeding stuffs firm.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat held for rather more money on the week, but met with very small demand. Flour dull and pressed for sale. Indian corn scarce, and held for 1½d per boll advance. Grinding beans steady. Canadian peas dull at a decline of 3d per boll. Foreign oats firm but unchanged; home steady. Barley and oatmeal firm. Bran and thirds quiet and unchanged.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat held for rather more money on the week, but meets with very small demand. Flour dull, and pressed for sale. Indian corn scarce, and held for 1½d per boll advance. Grinding beans steady. Canadian pease dull, at a decline of 3d per boll. Foreign oats firm, but unchanged; home steady. Oatmeal firm. Barley firm. Bran and thirds quiet, and unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Small attendance; somewhat firmer feeling in English wheat trade. English barleys difficult to sell, except finest qualities. Oats, beans, and peas steady. Prices: Wheat, white, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per bushel; wheat, red, 3s 3d to 3s 5d; barley, 2s 9d to 3s 9d; oats, 2s to 3s; beans, 3s 8d to 4s; maize, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; vetches, winter, 4s to 6s; vetches, spring, 3s 6d to 5s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Small supply of wheat. Trade firm at fully last week's rates. Red, 28s to 30s; white, 31s. Moderate supply of barley; fine samples sold freely at from 33s to 36s. Other descriptions slow. Oats unaltered. Maize rather lower. Beans and peas steady.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The market proves rather disappointing to-day. Factors are asking higher prices, but meet with little response from buyers. Red wheats must be quoted 6d per qr. dearer; whites are about unchanged. Barley slow, only fine qualities being wanted. Maize the turn dearer. Beans and oats unaltered.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—There is a firm tendency for both English and foreign wheats, and Tuesday's advanced prices are fully maintained, the top quotations of the former being 31s and the latter 32s. Malting and grinding barleys, beans, peas, oats, maize, and flour quiet at late values.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with fair supplies of home-grown wheats, but many of the samples were out of condition. Trade quiet, at 27s to 31s per 36 stones. Barley quiet; oats firm.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair supply of English wheat, with a slow trade at last week's rates. Reds, 27s to 29s; whites, 28s to 29s. Foreign wheats quiet. A large show of barley, at prices from 27s to 32s. Oats dull, but firm. Maize, peas, and beans, no change.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat quiet with a moderate business at ½d to 1d under Tuesday's prices. Flour steady, but with only a quiet trade at last market day's prices for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association have reduced the minimum prices of bakers' 6d per sack. Maize—Mixed American is in brisk demand at 1d under last market day. European continues scarce, and has a retail trade at unchanged prices. Plate has a fair inquiry and firmly held without quotable change. Barley—A little more doing in malting, but unchanged. Feeding slow with prices favouring buyers. Beans are in better demand and occasionally dearer, owing to less pressure on quay. Peas are steady with only a moderate retail trade. Oats meet with only a moderate business at late rates for English. Foreign sorts meet an improved inquiry, and a moderate trade is passing, prices favouring sellers. Oatmeal steady, but slow at last Tuesday's prices. Oilcake firm with a fairly good demand, quotations being unaltered from last market day.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday.—The tendency of prices this week has favoured the buyer. English wheat is practically unchanged, but American sorts are 1½d to 2d per cental lower. Flour can be bought at 6d per sack below last Thursday's rates. Indian corn is easier by 2d per cental on the past seven days. Beans, oats, and barley, however, are rather firmer, with a moderate demand.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a firm trade, at previous prices. Barley, some enquiry for best qualities; inferior samples a dull sale. Oats and beans at the same prices as last week.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—This day's market was moderately attended. The trade in wheat closed quiet, and there were more sellers than buyers. Prices nominally unchanged. Flour slow, and only a consumptive demand. Malting barley flat, best samples simply being in request. Oats shaky and may tumble any day. Beans and peas not a fast sale.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat easier to make sales. Maize a better demand, and prices favoured sellers. Oats steady at late rates. Barley almost unsaleable, owing to condition. Beans and peas unaltered. Flour no change.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday.—Wheat a dull sale; quiet and no change. Maize a poor trade, and 3d cheaper. Barley steady, quiet and unchanged. Oats quiet, and at late rates; fines 21s. Bran, £4 15s to £5; sharps scarce and dearer.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small market; supply and demand limited; condition not so good; prices lower than last week. White wheat, 29s to 30s; red, old, 28s to 30s; red, new, 26s to 28s; malting barley, 24s to 30s; grinding barley, 20s to 23s; oats, 17s to 24s; beans, 30s to 35s; peas, 26s to 36s; flour, 22s to 25s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was only a very small supply of wheat on offer at our market to-day, with values unaltered. Not much business transacted with barley, for which prices remained nominally the same as last week. The weather of the past week has been quite of a November character, being constantly wet and damp hindering farmers in threshing. Wheat, red, 29s to 29s 6d per qr, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending 12th November, 1900:—Wheat, 1,441, 27s 2½d; barley, 12,385, 25s 9½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in less supply, and a fair trade at previous values. Fine barleys inquired for, and full values maintained. Inferior lots slow of sale. Oats but few offering, and prices in sellers' favour. Poor show of beans and values supported.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Wheat small supply, slow trade at 6d less than last week. Barley, not many farmers offering. Slow trade for all but best qualities.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There is no change to note in the wheat trade, demand to-day was not active, but last week's prices were made. Barley firm for June parcels, others less pressed for sale. Oats the turn in sellers' favour.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was an average attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Business was very moderate, and prices of wheat have declined 6d. Maize holds firm. Barley and oats firm at last week's prices.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—We had a large attendance to-day, but trade was unusually dull. The wheat supply was below the average, but there was little inquiry, and where sales took place recent quotations were realised. Barley was in average supply and sold at last week's figures. Oats and other cereals changed hands at unaltered currencies.

Ripon, Thursday.—Owing to the wet weather little thrashing has been done, consequently there is a light show of local grain, and business is dull. Wheat, English, new, 27s to 29s; ditto old, 31s; ditto foreign, 30s 6d to 31s 6d; barley, malting, 24s to 28s; ditto, grinding, 21s to 23s; oats, old, 25s to 26s; ditto new, 17s to 19s; maize, round, 24s to 27s; ditto flat, 23s 6d per qr; beans, old, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday. Wheat trade slow at last week's prices. Only a small supply. Red wheat made 28s to 29s 6d, and white wheat 29s to 31s 6d per quarter.

St. Neots, Thursday.—A small attendance and a poor show of all kinds of grain. Rather a slow demand both for wheat and malting barley, without any malterial alteration in prices. Oats and beans firm in value.—ELLIOTT AND SON.

Salisbury, Tuesday.—There was a large attendance of buyers at the Corn Exchange to-day, and, with a good supply of grain, trade was fairly brisk throughout. Little change, if any, in prices obtained last week. Black oats were the turn dearer. Quotations: Wheat, 26s to 32s; barley, 26s to 37s; oats, black, 16s to 29s; ditto white 18s to 23s; beans, 32s to 36s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A little better attendance. Good English and foreign in better demand at 6d per qr advance. A slow trade in feeding stuffs at unaltered prices. Malt and barley slow trade at rather less money. Wheat, white, 32s to 33s; red, 31s to 32s; new, 30s to 31s per 504lb; oats, old white, 26s; ditto, new white, 17s 6d to 19s; ditto old black, 22s; ditto new black, 16s to 17s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto, English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 432lb; barley, grinding 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small old, 29s to 30s; ditto American mixed, 23s 6d to 24s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Wheat to-day was 3d to 6d dearer, making 27s to 27s 6d per qr. with a good trade. Oats were a firm trade at 17s to 18s per qr. Barley firm and unchanged. Beans, peas, and other articles firm at late rates.

Stockton, Wednesday.—A fair quantity of farmer's wheat showing, which made last week's prices. The foreign wheat trade during the week has kept fairly steady, with a better demand for miller's, but prices show no change excepting strong red wheats, which were 6d dearer. Oats and maize unchanged. Only a moderate show of malting barley, prices exhibiting a downward tendency.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Few samples of grain on offer. Wheat steady at late rates. Barley dull. Oats unchanged in value. Arrivals coastwise, barley, 885 qrs; oats, 459 qrs; peas, 600 qrs; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Wheat slow supply at 6d per qr reduction on the week. Malting barley quiet, and little business doing except for best qualities. Feeding stuffs dull.

Wakefield, Friday. — The decline in America has depressed the option market, but actual wheat has continued to rule firm. Foreign limits are practically unaltered, and generally above the parity of values on this side, rendering fresh business exceedingly difficult; spot prices are unchanged on the week. The trade in malting barley shows no improvement. Maize, beans, and oats slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—We have a slightly improved demand for wheat to-day, at last week's prices. Barley is in large supply, and meets with but little demand, except for best quality, which sells slowly at about former quotations. No alteration in oats or beans.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Winchester, Saturday.—Wheat in short supply, which met a firm trade at fully last week's prices. Good demand for best quality barleys, inferior difficult to quit. Oats in fair request at late rates. Maize unaltered. Flour, 24s to 25s, with more inquiry.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Small supply of grain. Wheat a slow trade at barely late rates; red, 28s; white, 28s 6d; old, 29s. Oats 6d dearer, 17s 6d to 19s. Barley, little offering.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a fairly good attendance, but trade was quiet at last week's rates. Wheat kept quiet. English wheat, new, 12s to 12s 6d; old wheat, 13s per 216lb; oats, old, 15s to 16s; ditto new, 11s to 11s 6d; beans, old, 14s 6d to 15s 6d; ditto, new, 12s 3d to 13s per 196lb; maize, 23s 6d to 24s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Quiet market all round. A slow demand for wheat, which sold mainly at previous rates. Maize was 6d cheaper, and barley favoured buyers. Oats dull, but firm.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, but small show of grain. Wheat was about 6d per qr dearer. Barley was a slow trade and dear, only very best samples being saleable. Oats scarce and dear. White wheat, old, 31s to 32s 6d; red ditto, old, 30s to 31s 6d; white ditto, new, 28s to 29s; red ditto, new, 27s to 28s 6d; best malting barley, 31s to 33s; secondary, 28s to 29s; grinding, 23s to 25s; old white oats, 25s to 27s 6d; old black ditto, 24s to 25s; new white, 18s to 20s; new black, 17s to 18s; flat maize, 24s to 25s; round ditto, 28s to 29s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Large attendance, but small offer of grain. White wheat, 28s to 29s; and red and mixed, 27s to 28s per quarter of 36 stone. Barley in moderate offer, and prices firm except for inferior sorts, which were a shade lower. Oats very small display, but maintain late rates. Beans and rye also realised late rates. The average prices of grain for the week, according to the official corn return, have been: Wheat, 27s; barley, 23s 7d; and oats, 17s 1d per quarter.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has been pretty well maintained, with a steady current of business. Wheat sowing has been completed under favourable conditions in France, and the young wheats are coming up well in some districts. Wheat quotations have shown little improvement upon the French country markets, although farmers have continued to restrict their deliveries. Millers contend that the low price of flour and the difficulty which they experience in disposing of their production absolutely prohibit any advance in wheat prices, but farmers reply that the situation will be generally unchanged until the large millers have succeeded in accumulating sufficient stocks of wheat to carry them through the winter and spring. The Lille wheat market has been pretty well maintained, but business has at the same time shown no great activity. At Paris holders of wheat have stood out for an advance of 2½d per quintal, and, upon the whole, a better tendency has prevailed. Flour for consumption has made fully former rates in the French capital. Disposable wheat has remained without change at Konigsberg and Dantzic. Advices from Odessa state that a good deal of rain has fallen in Southern Russia, and that the newly sown wheats which have suffered from drought have now come up well. The quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is returned at 1,120,000 qrs as compared with 1,310,000 qrs at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,120,000 qrs. representing the quantity of wheat en route for the Continent, is made up as follows:—France, 170,000 qrs; Belgium, 310,000 qrs; Holland, 220,000 qrs; Germany and the North, 140,000 qrs; and Italy, Spain, etc., 280,000 qrs.

Hamburgh, Saturday.—Market quiet, the demand for foreign bread and feeding stuff being curtailed by mild weather and plenty of fruit and potatoes. The imports during the past two weeks amounted to:—8,683 tons wheat, 3,172 tons rye, 7,970 tons barley, 20,681 tons maize. There is but little demand for wheat, on the other hand, farmers offer sparingly, and our millers have to pay full prices. Fine dry Holstein, Mecklenburg, and Saale is held at 27s 6d to 28s; common Holstein, at 25s 6d to 26s 3d per 504lb f.o.b.; hard winter No. 2 and River Plate is offering at 28s 9d to 29s 6d per 480lb. Rye firm. 9 15-20 South Russian, prompt, 22s 3d; 9 20-25 April-May, 22s 6d per 480 lb, c.i.f. Hamburg. There is a demand for good malting barley for prompt and spring delivery, brewers wanting to buy good Bohemian and Saale at 30s to 33s, but offers at these prices are scarce. We quote good Saale, 31s to 32s 6d; fine quality, 34s to 37s 6d; good Bohemian, 34s to 35s; Mecklenburg, 27s to 30s; Holstein, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per 448 lb f.o.b. 60-61 Ko Russian feeding barley is offering at 17s 9d to 18s per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed maize meets a slow sale, but arrivals being moderate prices are not materially lower. Prompt shipments are held at 20s 3d; February-March at 19s per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TAYLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

November 9th to 16th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	891	..	..	34,264	35,155
Barley	2,418	..	..	31,304	33,722
Malt	18,707	524	..	..	19,231
Oats	2,377	500	150	85,179	88,206
Rye	..	..	..	6,000	6,000
Beans	854	..	..	4,367	5,221
Peas	5 6	..	..	3,213	3,729
Maize	..	..	..	42,839	42,839
Tares	21	..	..	..	21
Lentils	..	..	..	50	50
Linseed	..	..	..	6,815	6,815
Rapeseed	..	..	..	5,000	5,000
Cottonseed	..	..	..	10,672	10,672
Farm Seeds	587	..	..	6,260	6,847
Flour { Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	25,927	..	..	67,361	93,288

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.					
Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	June 17	160,574 qrs.		
„ 14	108,380 „	„ 24	101,205 „		
„ 21	128,902 „	July 1	152,500 „		
„ 28	51,234 „	„ 8	112,761 „		
Feb. 4	126,333 „	„ 15	116,850 „		
„ 11	82,912 „	„ 22	89,245 „		
„ 18	204,974 „	„ 29	118,314 „		
„ 25	108,273 „	Aug. 5	104,234 „		
Mar. 4	79,462 „	„ 12	102,160 „		
„ 11	63,103 „	„ 19	103,353 „		
„ 18	122,541 „	„ 26	82,367 „		
„ 25	86,309 „	Sept. 2	73,600 „		
Apr. 1	174,612 „	„ 9	83,791 „		
„ 8	133,261 „	„ 16	107,084 „		
„ 15	101,618 „	„ 23	131,880 „		
„ 22	70,984 „	„ 30	61,997 „		
„ 29	68,573 „	Oct. 7	121,032 „		
May 6	96,343 „	„ 14	97,050 „		
„ 13	72,852 „	„ 21	95,446 „		
„ 20	101,429 „	„ 28	154,895 „		
May 27	108,772 „	Nov. 4	114,634 „		
June 3	73,846 „	„ 11	110,161 „		
„ 10	126,781 „	„ 18	79,200 „		
1900.					
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	June 15	86,125 qrs.		
„ 13	95,064 „	„ 22	196,116 „		
„ 20	114,928 „	„ 29	142,185 „		
„ 27	124,652 „	July 6	132,050 „		
Feb. 3	70,835 „	„ 13	101,253 „		
„ 10	75,000 „	„ 20	82,294 „		
„ 17	66,804 „	„ 27	55,998 „		
„ 24	62,191 „	Aug. 2	86,167 „		
Mar. 3	79,976 „	„ 11	102,077 „		
„ 10	63,702 „	„ 18	138,510 „		
„ 17	162,985 „	„ 25	182,517 „		
„ 24	111,409 „	„ 31	80,149 „		
„ 31	69,356 „	Sept. 7	58,394 „		
April 7	48,302 „	„ 14	117,066 „		
„ 13	131,085 „	„ 21	105,961 „		
„ 20	82,357 „	„ 28	158,771 „		
„ 27	43,783 „	Oct. 5	183,383 „		
May 4	104,535 „	„ 12	156,815 „		
„ 11	52,859 „	„ 19	73,725 „		
„ 18	97,412 „	„ 26	98,302 „		
„ 25	71,390 „	Nov. 2	77,179 „		
„ 31	177 744 „	„ 9	148,972 „		
June 8	93,147 „	„ 16	105,130 „		

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Nov. 9 to 16, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	35,155 qrs.
Flour	69,975 „
Total	105,130 „
Requirements	106,000 „
Deficiency	870 „

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1899.									
Oct. 28	85,178¼	28	1	219,751⅝	27	4	20,064¼	16	3
Nov. 4	82,769⅝	27	2	203,071¾	27	2	17,891½	16	7
„ 11	66,741⅝	26	7	166,786¾	26	9	15,216⅝	16	5
„ 18	65,470¼	26	1	163,915⅜	26	4	16,313¼	16	7
„ 25	67,308¼	25	8	164,362¾	26	2	17,047⅜	16	7
Dec. 2	72,974⅜	25	7	163,441⅜	25	10	22,575¼	16	6
„ 9	10,982¼	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421⅜	16	5
„ 16	787,72½	25	4	135,344⅜	25	7	22,889¼	16	1
„ 23	67,102⅜	25	6	116,757⅝	25	10	16,447⅝	16	0
„ 30	47,685¼	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,463⅜	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6	40,086	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅜	16	4
„ 13	57,021⅜	25	11	83,421½	25	5	19,706	16	6
„ 20	68,463¼	26	0	100,925⅜	25	8	23,122⅜	16	5
„ 27	65,381½	25	10	108,357⅜	25	9	17,814⅜	16	8
Feb. 3	73,796⅜	25	8	90,769¼	25	4	22,061½	16	3
„ 10	71,482¼	25	10	80,543⅝	25	3	20,822¼	16	2
„ 17	76,611⅜	26	1	80,414⅞	24	11	20,986⅝	16	1
„ 24	69,534½	26	3	63,931⅜	25	1	21,132¼	16	10
Mar. 3	68,153½	26	4	51,727¼	24	6	18,499½	16	11
„ 10	58,703½	25	11	44,921½	24	8	16,224	16	11
„ 17	76,435⅝	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,104⅞	16	10
„ 24	69,944½	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042⅝	17	1
„ 31	72,762	25	10	34,387½	24	11	15,200⅝	17	2
April 7	67,743⅜	25	10	20,402⅝	24	10	13,757⅜	17	2
„ 14	66,412⅜	25	11	19,519½	24	5	9,672⅝	17	8
„ 21	54,977½	26	0	11,673⅜	24	9	7,400¼	17	3
„ 28	70,006⅜	26	0	7 785⅜	25	2	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5	75,410¼	25	11	8,159½	25	3	8,658¼	18	0
„ 12	82,190⅜	25	11	10,417⅞	24	10	12,245½	17	11
„ 19	83,941½	25	7	5,638⅜	24	5	9,942	18	5
„ 26	95,574⅝	25	5	3,521¼	23	11	7,350⅜	18	2
June 2	68,906⅜	25	5	1,752⅞	24	4	6,702	18	6
„ 9	64,747½	25	3	990⅜	23	8	6,053⅜	18	8
„ 16	55,340⅜	25	6	1,486⅜	23	8	7,228¼	18	11
„ 23	54,324⅛	25	9	1,312¼	23	5	5,344⅛	18	11
„ 30	44,920⅜	26	11	495⅜	23	4	4,706⅛	19	3
July 7	34,344⅜	27	10	486⅜	22	10	4,391¼	19	5
„ 14	22,009⅜	28	7	949½	23	2	2,911⅜	19	1
„ 21	26,716⅜	29	0	767⅛	23	8	3,771½	19	3
„ 28	33,388	29	3	194½	24	4	3,335⅜	19	9
Aug. 4	45,748⅜	28	10	409½	23	10	3,453¼	19	4
„ 11	37,644⅜	28	7	311½	23	7	3,391	19	8
„ 18	32,812¼	28	10	608½	23	3	3,593⅜	19	11
„ 25	26,427⅛	28	10	787¾	24	10	5,319½	18	8
Sept. 1	30,393⅜	28	8	1,978½	25	2	9,606⅜	18	1
„ 8	34,755½	28	7	6,140⅜	25	8	11,042½	17	10
„ 15	53,334½	28	4	20,879⅜	25	4	18,681¼	17	1
„ 22	61,468⅜	28	4	41,284½	26	0	21,729⅜	17	1
„ 29	72,604	28	9	68,844⅛	26	1	25,620½	17	2
Oct. 6	66,690	28	9	94,282	26	2	23,865	16	10
„ 13	70,314⅜	28	9	134,277½	26	2	18,350⅜	17	1
„ 20	58,790⅜	28	4	159,007⅜	26	5	14,681¼	16	11
Oct. 27	53,254	27	11	190,079⅜	26	3	16,996¼	16	11
Nov. 3	54,514⅜	27	5	204,836	26	3	16,602½	16	11
„ 10	41,497½	27	3	170,558	25	11	15,566⅜	16	10
„ 17	44,072⅜	27	1	185,342⅜	25	8	14,400⅜	17	1

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats	1900 Wheat.	Barley	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17	25 10	25 7	6 3
February	26 2	26 11	17	26 0	25 2	6 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 [illegible]	25 11	24 10	7 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 [illegible]	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 [illegible]	25 9	24 10	8 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 [illegible]	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	24 10	19 5
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	28 6	25 7	17 6
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	28 5	26 3	17 0
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31 9 per qr.		28 8 per qr.		18 7 per qr.	
1891	37 1 „		28 2 „		20 0 „	
1892	30 4 „		26 2 „		19 11 „	
1893	26 4 „		25 6 „		18 9 „	
1894	22 10 „		24 6 „		17 1 „	
1895	23 1 „		21 11 „		14 6 „	
1896	26 2 „		22 11 „		14 9	
1897	30 2 „		23 6 „		16 11 „	
1898	34 0 „		27 2 „		18 5 „	
1899	25 8 „		25 7 „		17 0 „	

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Nov. 17, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	44,072⅜ qrs.	27s.	1d.
Barley	185,342⅜ qrs.	25s.	8d.
Oats	14,400⅜ qrs.	17s.	1d.

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 13th, 1900.

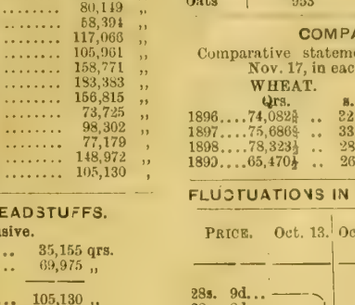
	Total Quantities Imperial Measure Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s	d.
Wheat	188	7	687	12	9	1	6	2
Barley	781	2	1,047	16	10	1	6	10
Oats	953	0	858	17	6	0	18	0

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Nov. 17, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896	74,082⅔	22	11	191,673½	26	8	19,237⅔	17	7
1897	75,686⅔	33	11	182,167½	26	2	15,255⅔	16	5
1898	73,323½	28	1	210,090⅔	28	5	19,491⅔	17	2
1899	65,470½	26	1	163,915⅔	26	4	16,313½	16	7

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



IMPORTS OF POTATOES (OFFICIAL).

CEREAL YEARS.

	1900. Cwts.	1899. Cwts.	1898. Cwts.
September	213,000	117,000	78,000

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	244,000	140,000	219,000	13,000	115,000
Russia	319,000	—	4,000	125,000	118,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	20,000	—	—	—
Roumania	217,000	—	4,000	62,000	—
Argentina	96,000	—	51,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	10,000	—	—	—	5,000
Miscellaneous	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	906,000	170,000	298,000	220,000	248,000

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb.	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	1½
March	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept.	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct.	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov.	..		22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec.	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb.	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept.	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct.	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov.	..		24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec.	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

		s.	d.
Sept. 1, 1900	(per sack)	30	0

(No official change since last date given).

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	Londo n Whites s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 28	0	(per sack) 25	6
October 1	„ 29	0	„ 26	0
October 26	„ 28	6	„ 25	6

(No official change since last date given.)

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Heavy supplies this morning and bad weather helped to make trade very quiet. Calves are Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s; Welsh, 1s 9d to 2s; Surrey, 3s to 3s 6d; Boston 2s to 2s 6d; Irish, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; Sussex 2s 6d to 3s; turkeys (cocks) 6d to 7d; hen ditto, 6d to 8d; capons ditto, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Bordeaux pigeons, 8d to 10d; feathered, 7d to 9d; wild rabbits, 10d to 1s; tame, 6d to 8d each; Australian 7s 6d to 8s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 2s 6d to 4s; young partridges, 3s to 3s 6d; old, 2s; young grouse, 3s 9d to 4s 9d; old, 3s 6d per brace; hares, 3s to 3s 3d; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; wild ducks, 2s; widgeon 1s 6d; teal, 10d to 1s; pintail, 1s 6d; snipe, 6d to 10d; woodcock, 2s 6d to 3s; golden plover, 8d to 10d; black, 6d each.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: The market has ruled firm all week and with more general demand prices are well maintained, and on some cuts an advance is obtained. We quote, to-day, choice Cumberland cut, 20lb to 22lb, 48s to 51s; 26lb to 30lb, 46s to 48s 6d; 31lb to 38lb, 42s to 45s; long middles, rib in, 18lb to 22lb, 50s to 54s; clear bellies, 14lb to 16lb, 55s to 56s; 18lb to 20lb 54s to 55s; Staffordshire (lean on), 35lb to 40lb, and Birmingham cut, 33lb to 38lb, 42s to 48s; clear Staffords (lean off), 40lb to 44lb, and Yorkshire cut, 40lb to 45lb, 44s to 46s; singed Wiltshire, Canadian, 45lb to 55lb, 50s to 55s; American, 40lb to 50lb, 43s to 48s; short clear backs, 12lb to 16lb, 44s to 46s; 16lb to 20lb, 42s 6d to 44s 6d; fat backs (export), 35s to 39s; long clear middles, 35lb to 40lb, 45s 6d to 46s; 40lb to 45lb, 44s 6d to 45s 6d; short clear middles, 45lb to 50lb, 40s to 40s 6d; short middles (rib in), 18lb to 23lb, 47s to 49s; shoulders, square cut, 12lb to 14lb, 34s 6d to 39s; 14lb to 16lb, 33s 6d to 38s 6d; New York cut, 11lb to 13lb, 36s to 38s per cwt. Hams are in good request at somewhat higher values. We quote choice long cut, 8lb to 12lb, 46s to 52s; 14lb to 16lb, 44s 6d to 50s; short cut and A.C., 10lb to 12lb, 46s to 51s; 12lb to 14lb, 45s 6d to 50s; 14lb to 16lb, 43s 6d to 49s per cwt. Lard is dearer in sympathy with higher cables; demand is fair. We quote pails and kegs, 39s to 40s; prime Western (in tierces), 38s to 39s per cwt. Beef exhibits no new feature. We quote extra India mess 68s 9d to 72s 6d; Plate and Packet, 63s to 68s 3d per 304lb. Pork dull and unaltered on the We quote finest prime mess, 68s to 72s 6d per 200lb. Cheese.—The trade is still disappointing, but with holders pressing sales at reduced prices there has been rather more business passing, chiefly confined, however, to early make ready summers, which are very plentiful and freely offered. We quote finest Canadian, coloured, September, 53s to 54s; white, 52s 6d to 53s; finest States, coloured, 52s 6d to 53s 6d; white, 51s to 52s; summer cheese, ripe and ready, 46s 6d to 50s; lower grades, skims, and half-meats nominally quoted 18s to 32s per cwt. Butter rules quiet and easier; the inquiry is restricted. We quote, fancy Canadian creamery, in boxes, 100s to 103s; second quality (no inquiry), 90s to 93s; finest States (nominal), 88s to 94s; finest ladles and imitation creamery, 75s to 82s; finest Danish, 108s to 111s; Australian, 100s to 108s; Irish creamery, 106s to 109s; Cork firsts, 98s; seconds, 84s; thirds, 78s per cwt.—HODGSON BROTHERS.

Newport, Wednesday.—Good attendance, average supply, everything cleared. Quotations:—Cheese: Somersets, farmers' dairies, 62s to 64s; doubles, 58s to 60s; Cheddars, 56s to 60s; truckles, 56s to 63s.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There have been some big transactions during the past week, and the market is very firm. Brewers' purchases have thus far been below average, but the small remaining stocks are held with great confidence.

Worcester, Saturday.—A very small attendance, and it is evident that only few new hops remain unsold. A good inquiry prevails for both new and yearling Worcesters, and holders are very firm in their demands. During the week 441 pockets of new hops passed the scales, but none were weighed to day.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade on our market has been quieter this week, and only one or two lots of hops were offered at our market to-day. Prices remain very firm, growers not being disposed to give way for the hops they have left; 441 pockets have passed the public scales during the week, making a total of 16,029 weighed up to date. PIERCE AND CO.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—The continuous wet weather somewhat retards the application of basic slag to the land, and the demand in consequence is not so active as is usual at this period; a few fine days would day the sudden condition of the land, and doubtless cause a pressure of orders and delays in deliveries, which could be obviated by buyers now entering their supplies. Prices are unchanged, and quotations for the respective tests are annexed. Feeding stuffs continue firm, and holders are rather less firm in their demands, although prices in America are without change. Values in this port are as per annexed, and, comparatively speaking, palm nut cake appears to be exceptionally good value. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £8 7s 6d to £8 10s per ton; East India bone meal, in bags, £4 10s per ton; kainit, prime 25 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; prime mixed cake, prime, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton; linseed cake, Anglo on the spot, prime, in bags, £7 17s 6d to £8 per ton; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 17s 6d to £9 2s 6d per ton; linseed cake, foreign, round, prime, spot and early, in bags, £8 12s 6d to £8 15s per ton; cottonseed cake, decorticated, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 per ton; cottonseed cake, English, decorticated, prime, very scarce, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 18s 6d to £5 3s per ton; cottonseed cake crushed, 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 5s per ton; maize germ meal, English, prime, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton; maize germ meal, Hungarian, prime, in bags, £4 12s 6d to £4 15s per ton. In bone meal, grocery, fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 11s to 11s 9d per 240lb; linseed, fine meal or dust, in bags, £5 5s per ton; 41 per cent. N linseed, new crop, for spring sowing, in bags, per cent. DNS superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 30 to 32 per cent. nominal; DNS Basic superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 30 to 34 per cent. in bags, nominal; DNS Basic superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 35 to 36 per cent. in bags, basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d per ton; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 13s 6d to £1 14s per ton; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 16s to £1 17s 6d per ton, at the purchasing depots. H. DAVIES LANGTON AND CO.

Winsford Cheshire, Saturday.—Common grass salt 4s 6d per ton; common white salt 11s per ton; packed 8s 6d per ton; fine white salt 14s per ton. DICKINSON LIMITED.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather has been too wet for field wor , and threshings have equally been prohibited. A high temperature (six degrees above the mean for mid-November) has reduced food wants, whether of men or of cattle, and the course of the markets has been what we have to expect when supplies are heavy and demand small. Farmers have not themselves to blame this season for the dull trade and lower prices, as they have been singularly moderate in their market deliveries.

It is reckoned that from September 1 to November 17 they put only 1,284,000 qrs. of English wheat on sale against 1,636,000 qrs. brought to market in the same period of 1899. The corrected returns of October imports, with flour reduced to its equivalent in wheat, are now officially issued, and show that the foreigner and the importer must share between them all the responsibility of an overstocked market. The following is a comparison between October, 1900, and October, 1899, in all the chief items of the trade, and the situation is much elucidated thereby : —

	Oct., 1900.		Oct., 1899.
Atlantic ports	1,362,773	.....	1,276,180
Pacific ,,	206,760	.....	196,990
Russian ,,	153,907	.....	44,217
Indian ,,	70	.....	146,907
German ,,	131,280	.....	53,626
Danubian ,,	93,010	.....	1,167
Australian,,	95,875	.....	67,457
Argentine ,,	265,650	.....	227,127
All other ,,	49,270	.....	34,813
	2,358,633	.....	2,048,464

The items which show increase are receipts from Atlantic, Pacific, Russian, German, Danubian, Australian, and Argentine ports, and seven increased items completely swamp the influence of Indian abstention from shipping. The German wheat has been the chief surprise of the recent markets. It is offered at 29s. to 30s., and finds a brisk sale. The Germans import 5,000,000 qrs. of wheat every year, and it is therefore a curious transaction this incurring two freights, one of the German wheat to London and Hull, the other of the American and Argentine wheat to Hamburg to replace the grain sent out of the country.

The imports of breadstuffs continue to exceed such spot requirements as the sales of farmers' wheat leave to be satisfied. The figures of the past seven days indicate an appreciable increase of granary stocks :—

	Qrs.
English wheat sales	94,000
Foreign ,, ,,	416,000
,, flour ,,	174,000
Total ,,	684,000
,, wants	567,000
Surplus	117,000
Stocks, November 10	3,008,000
,, 17	3,125,000

Wheat on passage on the last-named date was not a large total, or the effect on the markets for the last ten days of November might be expected to be very depressing. The following quantities are at present afloat.

	Qrs.
Californian	895,000
North American	210,000
South American	200,000
Russian	90,000
All Other Countries	250,000
Nov. 17, 1900	1,645,000
,, ,, 1899	1,570,000
,, ,, 1898	1,170,000
,, ,, 1897	2,030,000

Of these there are now 436,000 sacks on passage as compared with 390,000 sacks a year ago, and 380,000 sacks two years since.

The imports of spring corn have been :—

	Barley. Qrs.		Oats. Qrs.		Maize. Qrs.
Sept. 1—Nov. 10	1,910,000	..	1,532,000	..	2,180,000
Nov. 10—Nov. 17	209,000	..	134,000	..	159,000
Total	2,119,000	..	1,666,000	..	2,339,000

The receipts of maize have been rather smaller than usual, while those of barley, though smaller than in 1898, have considerably surpassed the total received in 1899. Imports of oats have been decidedly heavy. This is due, a good deal, to the fierce competition of America and Russia for the English market. Horse owners profit, but farmers who grow oats for sale off the farm are not at all favoured by this keen contest, as it results in keeping even 320 lb. sorts below 16s. per qr. The "moral" of the oat trade certainly is to grow heavy oats and to spend freely on pedigree and special seed. Anything weighing 336 lb. is saleable at 18s. to 20s., and special weight above 336lb. commands specially enhanced value. There is no reason that New Zealand should be able to put samples weighing 384 lb. on our market without finding an English sample to match them.

Quantities of spring corn on passage are as follows :—

	Maize. Qrs.		Barley. Qrs.		Beans. Qrs.
1900	680,000	....	520,000	....	22,000
1899	1,160,000	....	680,000	....	7,000
1898	645,000	....	540,000	....	14,000
1897	370,000	....	690,000	....	15,000

The American Government announce that the yield of maize for the year is 25·3 bushels per acre against 25·3 bushels last year, 24·7 in 1898, and a ten years' average of 24 bushels. America, therefore, has had three good maize crops in succession

The States most favoured this year have been Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Nebraska ; while Kansas, Texas, and the Old Confederacy have not done nearly so well. Maize seems to yield best as near the frost line as one dares sow it. Canada produces some very excellent corn of a fine small type and a pale colour. The plant known is by its nature sub-tropical. We never get any returns from Mexico, but there is a large production of maize in that country, and, if the present half-civilised state of that region is ever replaced by American rule, we may soon see a big export surplus produced.

Rye at our markets is now offered at a slight decline. The shipments last week included 185,000qrs from Russia, 22,000qrs. from Roumania, and 1,000qrs. from the United States. Malt is a steady trade at 36s. to 40s. for most samples of English, and at 36s. for good Californian. The Smyrna malt is of very fair quality indeed, and sells well. The curious "locust beans," which belong botanically to a very different order from the true bean, are now an article of regular use and sale at all our biggest markets. About 115s. per ton is paid for the meal made from them. Dari is growing in favour ; it is a small grain, which is suited to pigeons and young poultry, at the same time that bigger animals do not disdain it, and the feeding value is comparatively high. Its weight is that of the Government quarter, 480lb., and the three chief sorts come from India, Smyrna, and Syria There are occasional consignments from America and from North Africa. About 25s. per qr. is the mean price. London imports of linseed, rapeseed, and cotton-seed have been liberal, and though the difficulty of landing the cargoes keeps up value for any supplies which can be delivered within forty-eight hours of signing the contract, prices for a fairly near future, say the end of the present month, are decidedly lower all along the line. The week's receipts include the following special consignments :—50 qrs. of poppyseed, 350 qrs. of millet, 40 qrs. of mawseed, 200 qrs. of sunflower seed, and 280 qrs. of canaryseed.

THE BALTIC.

The sales of wheat cargoes have been very difficult to effect, even at a slight decline. Nevertheless the following transactions have taken place :—Californian, 30s. 6d., nearly due, and 31s. for December shipment ; No. 2 Red Winter, 29s., on passage ; No. 2 Hard Winter, 28s., on passage ; No 1 Northern, 31s. 3d., on passage ; and Argentine, 29s., February shipment.

Maize has been a poor trade, for cargoes for 1901 shipment are depressed owing to the good new crop in America, and those near at hand are not bought because delivery can only be promised at ports other than London. Sales have been : Mixed American, 19s. for December shipment ; Argentine, 21s , due ; and Roumanian, 19s. 3d. for April shipment.

Barley is 6d. cheaper for brewing cargoes, but firm for feeding kinds. Sales include Californian at 26s., Odessa at 18s. 3d., Persian at 17s., Novovossisk at 18s. 6d., and good new South Russian, 408lb., at 20s. per qr. Other sales of cargoes embrace Canadian white oats at 14s. 9d., Azoff rye at 23s. 9d., Canadian peas at 27s. 6d., Argentine linseed at 45s., Guzerat rapeseed at 51s. 6d., and Bombay poppyseed at 47s. 6d., all per qr.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 3 wheat (2 Portland (O.), 1 San Francisco) ; 1 locust beans (Tavira) ; total, 4.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were :—4 wheat (1 Birkenhead, 1 Cardiff, 1 Hull, 1 Waterford) ; total, 4.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been :—304 wheat, 14 wheat and barley, 1 wheat and pease, 7 flour, 12 maize, 1 maize and oats, 26 barley, 19 beans, 10 locust beans, 1 pease, 1 linseed, 5 canaryseed, 2 fenugreek seed, 5 valonea ; total, 408.

Last year, during the same time, the arrivals were :—257 wheat, 10 flour, 4 maize, 7 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 10 beans, 2 locust beans, 6 linseed, 6 canaryseed, and 7 valonea ; total, 311.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The touch of cold weather helped the market a little, but prices were not in sellers' favour. Some fine English, weighing 64lb., was on offer at 31s., while chicken wheat, 58lb. to the bushel, was sold for 27s. per quarter. Foreign wheat was the turn in buyers' favour. North German fetched 29s. to 30s. Some really good wheat from La Plata was on offer at 31s. 6d., with buyers at 3d. less. The demand for American sorts at 31s. to 34s. left a good deal to desire. Maize was not much altered. Some white corn from America was offered at 21s. 6d. ex granary, and found buyers. Too much damaged maize, mainly from La Plata, was on offer. It affects the whole market in an adverse manner. Round corn and good flat maize were quite as dear as formerly. Barley was steady in price and demand. Vologda oats at 14s. to 14s. 9d. soild fairly well, as did White Sea oats at 14s. 3d. to 14s. 6d. per quarter. Fine, heavy New Zealand were in request at currencies. Some English buckwheat made 27s. 6d. per quarter. Pure crushed linseed was offered at £16 per ton.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Nov. 19th, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 33
(old)	,,	32	— 33
Red (new)	,,	28	— 31
(old)	,,	29	— 32
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	31	— 38
Brewing	,,	26	— 31
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, New Winter	,,	19	— 20
,, ,, Tartary	,,	18/6	—19
,, ,, Whit	,,	18	—18/6
,, Old Winter	,,	21	— 23/
,, ,, Tartary	,,	20	— 21
Scotch	,,	21	— 23
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	40	— 44
,, Winter	,,	29	— 33
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	— 76
,, Dun	,,	31	— 33
,, Maple	,,	38	— 42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	33	— 34
American Spring	32	— 33
Hard Manitoba	32	— 33
Red Winter	31	— 32
Kansas	31	— 32
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30	— 31
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 31
Argentine	29	— 32
Danzig	33	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Petersburg	30	— 31
German	29	— 30
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Hard Taganrog	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480lb. :		
Cinquantina	27	— 29
Roumanian	25	— 26
Russian	25	— 26
Argentine	22	— 23
American	22	— 23
OATS :		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	15	— 16
American (320lb.)	14	— 16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (304lb)	14	—15
Libau, white (304lb.)	13	— 14
,, black ,,	14	— 15
BEANS, per 480lb. :		
Egyptian	32	— 33
Smyrna	29	— 30
Konigsberg	29	— 31
Barbary	27	— 28
Mexican	28	— 30
New Zealand	31	— 35
LOCUST BEANS, per ton :		
Cyprian	106	— 112
,, Ground	138	— 144
Portuguese	100	—102
,, Ground	118	— 120
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Canadian, White	29	— 30
Indian, White	28	— 30
,, Green	25	— 27
Barbary	26	— 28
Australian, White	40	— 41
,, Dun	26	— 27
LENTILS, per 504 lb		
Spanish, Split	65	— 75
Egyptian	32	— 36
Indian	37	— 39
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	27	— 28
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb. :		
French	27	— 28
Russian	27	— 28
Canadian	28	— 29
BARLEY :		
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 27
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 28
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Turkish (400lb.)	20	— 21
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Syrian (400 lb.)	24	— 27
Persian (400 lb.)	18	—18/3
American (400 lb.)	20	— 21
Torrified (336lb.)	23	— 24
MALT, per 336 lb.		
Californian	35	— 40
Smyrna	34	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.	RAPESEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	58	to 60	English	55	to 59
Dutch	61	to 63	Dutch	53	to 55
Argentine	54	to 56	French	46	to 47
Canadian	60	to 62	Roumanian	43	to 45
Russian	54	to 56	Cawnpore	45	to 46
Calcutta	59	to 61	Calcutta	42	to 43
SESAME. per 424lb.			Guzerat	49	to 50
Bombay	49	to 51	Ferozepore	43	to 44
Kurrachee	52	to 53	Ravison	32	to 34
COTTON SEED. per ton.			POPPYSEED. per 377lb.		
Egyptian	135	to 140	Indian	48	to 49

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

AS THE DAY WORE ON IT WAS SELLERS MORE THAN BUYERS WHO EXHIBITED AN ANXIETY TO DO BUSINESS, SO THAT THE MARKET CLOSED WITH A WEAKER FEELING THAN MARKED ITS EARLIER COURSE.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Nov. 19th.

The demand for town whites and households was disappointing, buyers want to see if the frostier air continues to prevail. Country flour was in fairly good supply, and was offered at 6d. decline. American sorts were often quoted 6d. lower, but so many kinds are quoted that a perfectly uniform quotation is impossible. American "patents" to-day are making 25s. to 25s. 3d. for Morrison's Superlative, 25s. 3d. to 25s. 6d. for Washburn's Superlative, 25s. 6d. to 25s. 9d. for Gold Medal, and 25s. 9d. to 26s. for Star. The good serviceable second grades are realising 18s. to 18s. 3d. for Manhattan, 18s. 3d. to 18s. 6d. for Gilt Edge, 18s. 6d. to 18s. 9o. for Improved Straight, 18s. 9d. to 19s. for Princess Royal, 19s. to 19s. 8d. for Iron Duke, and 19s. 3d. to 19s. 6d. for Palisade. The fine Kansas flour sold as "Crosby's" makes 23s. when marked with three A's, 22s. with two A's, and 21s. with one A. The fine French known as Renaux' AA makes 24s., but common French flour is a drug on the market.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)		— 30
Town Whites	,,		— 27
,, Households	,,		— 24
No. 2	,,		—21/6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22 — 23
Best Stone made	,,	21 — 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	20 — 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25 —25/6
,, Second Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	25—25/6
,, Bakers'	,,	21 — 23
Kansas Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	18 — 20
Cascadia	,,	23/9—24
Canadian	,,	25 —25/6
Australian Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Ordinary	,,	19 — 20
Hungarian	,,	28 — 31
French	,,	21 — 24

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	188 –192
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	112 –114
Bran, London Broad	,,	104 –106
,, Fine	,,	93 — 95
,, Country Flake	,,	105 –108
,, ,, Broad	,,	100 –104
Pollard	,,	92 — 94
Fine Middlings	,,	120 –130
Coarse Middlings	,,	105 –107
Oat Meal	,,	220—230
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	132—134
Maize Meal	,,	110—120
Maize Cones	,,	144—150
Maize Germ Meal	,,	105—107
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	140—160
Rice Meal	,,	90 — 95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—		Nov.	Dec.	March.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Nov. 12	11 a.m.	6 8	6 9	6 11
	4 p.m.	6 8	6 9	6 11
Nov. 13	11 a.m.	6 7	6 8	6 11
	4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 10
Nov. 14	11 a.m.	6 7	6 8	6 10
	4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 10
Nov. 15	11 a.m.	6 7	6 8	6 10
	4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
Nov. 16	11 a.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
	4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
Nov. 17	11 a.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
To-day	11 a.m.	6 6	6 6	6 8

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 *minimum* and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

A few sales for June delivery were effected at 6s. 8d. per cental.

Maize made 4s. 2d. for December and 3s. 11d. for March delivery.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report : There is more inquiry for most descriptions of hops, and several of the few remaining large lots have changed hands. Stocks are now getting into a very small compass.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

The trade remains in a very lethargic condition, and buyers are cautious. Sellers of milling offals have to give way from the recent top prices, and bran is 2s. 6d. lower ; also fine middlings are offering at less money. With the lighterage question still unsettled business is impossible for steamer lots.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Wheat.—More inquiry at a decline of 3d. and 6d. per qr. Flour a slow trade at rather less money. Maize 6d. per qr. lower. Barley and oats unchanged in value.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Flour.—A slow trade at 3d. decline on the week. —T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

Our market continues in a quiescent state, and presents no feature of interest. New England red clover is very sparingly offered and scarcely any fine samples appear. The finest seed this year seems likely to come from South Germany. American red is firm on the other side, but the quality does not tempt our buyers. White clover, alsike, and trefoil are without quotable change. Ryegrasses are quiet. Spring tares are held above buyers' views. Birdseeds unchanged. J. PICARD AND CO., Mark Lane.

The arrivals of wheat into London have again been in excess of requirements, and prices have declined 3d. to 6d. on the week. At the close of the market, however, rather better demand was found. Maize and barley quiet, unchanged, but steady trade. American 3d. dearer, but the strike interferes with the working.—W. P. WOOD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Offals : Though the weather has become colder, there is no perceptible improvement in the demand. Broad brans are firm, while for smaller brans some quotations are even below the point previously reached.—GREENHILL BROS., Belfast, November 17.

Flour.—The market continues dull and depressed by heavy arrivals and easier American market reports. Grain.—Indian corn more plentiful on spot, and 1½d. per boll cheaper. Beans, with large arrivals, are dull. Oats in good demand, at unchanged prices. Barley 1½d. to 3d. per boll lower. Other feeding stuffs unaltered. Mills stuffs.—Bran and thirds in fairly good demand at steady prices.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, November 17.

Wheat quiet, with a moderate extent of business at ½d to 1d per cental under Tuesday's prices. Flour steady, but with only a quiet trade at last market day's prices for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association have reduced the minimum prices of bakers 6d per sack. Maize : Mixed American is in brisk demand at 1d per cental under last market day. European continues scarce, and has a retail trade at unchanged prices. Plate has a fair inquiry and firmly held without quotable change. Barley : A little more doing in malting, but unchanged. Feeding slow with prices favouring buyers. Beans are in better demand and occasionally dearer, owing to less pressure on quay. Peas are steady with only a moderate retail trade. Oats meet with only a moderate business at late rates for English. Foreign sorts meet an improved inquiry and a moderate trade is passing, prices favouring sellers. Oatmeal steady but slow at last Tuesday's prices. Oilcake firm with fairly good demand, quotations being unaltered from last market day.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, November 17.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 3,083 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 8,059 bales bacon. The endeavour to get the prices of hogs down to meet selling rates here so restricted the killings in all places, Ireland, Denmark, and Canada, that the consequent shortening of arrivals has forced prices up some 4s, 6s. The market last week was strong ; Irish, 56s to 62s ; Danish, 56s to 62s ; Canadian, 54s to 58s. There was a somewhat improved demand for some sorts of butter, especially Danish, which was in good demand at 120s to 122s ; Colonial, 102s, 108s, up to 110s ; Canadian, 98s to 102s. Lard, unchanged, firm.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake : Market quiet, and about unchanged on spot and near shipments. Distant positions are easier. Cotton cake as before. Decorticated cake, stocks exhausted on spot. Meal very scarce. Linseed very irregular. New crop Calcutta and La Plata have fallen heavily.

English linseed cake	—		£8 12 6	ex mill
American Calcutta linseed cake	—	to	—	ex quay
American Western linseed cake	7 16 3	to	7 18 9	ex quay
Russian oil cake	—	to	7 17 6	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. oil)	6 17 6		—	ex warehouse
Feeding cake, Primox (10 to 12 per cent. oil)	6 15 0		—	ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	none		—	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6 15 0		—	ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	5 5 0		—	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4 16 3	to	4 17 6	ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains	4 5 0		on rail, Burton	
Rangoon Rice Meal	4 12 6		—	ex warehouse
Russian linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2 15 0	to	2 17 6	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2 18 0		—	ex warehouse.

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington

Monday, Nov. 19th, 1900.

	British	Total. Nov. 20th, 1899.
Beasts	1,639	[illegible]
Sheep and lambs	6,580	[illegible]
Calves	10	[illegible]
Pigs	130	[illegible]
Milch cows	35	[illegible]

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	2 10 —	3 2 —	3 [illegible]
Sheep	3 2 —	3 8 —	4 [illegible]
Pigs	2 10 ..	3 10 ..	4 6

Milch cows, per head, £[illegible] to £[illegible].

British arrivals include as follows :—Scotland, [illegible] ; Eastern Counties, 137 ; Midland, Home and Western Counties, [illegible] ; Devon, 40 ; Ireland, 124.

The supply in the Foreign market to-day's show [illegible] consisted of eighty head. Arrivals from the Midland Counties were shorter, but stronger from Scotland and Lincoln and Yorkshire. For both prime and second qualities trade ruled fairly satisfactorily, standing the weather was more favourable, and prices were lower. For fat bullocking cows and heifers there was a good demand, and prices firmer. Amongst the [illegible] were a few stores.

The following are top quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal) :—

	To-day	Nov. [illegible], 1899.
Scotch	4s 9d to 4s 10d	4s [illegible] to 4s [illegible]
Devons	4s 8d to 4s 9d ..	to
Herefords	4s 8d to 4s 10d ..	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Norfolks	4s 8d to 4s 10d ..	4s [illegible] to 4s [illegible]
Runts	4s 8d to 4s 9d ..	4s 6d to 4s [illegible]
Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d —	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 1d to 4s 3d ..	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Fat cows	3s 8d to 3s 10d ..	3s 8d to 3s 10d

There was a larger supply in the sheep market ; both wethers and ewes met with more inquiry, and trade ruled firm, a clearance being effected. The supply included 800 Scotch, 1,000 Irish, and 1,200 from the Eastern Counties. A few lambs were on offer, but were difficult to vend.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned :

	To-day.	Nov. 20th, 1899.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-stone ditto	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10-stone half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-stone half-breds	5s 0d to 5s 2d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Down ewes	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11-stone half-bred ditto	3s 8d to 3s 10d ..	— to

Calf trade not worth noting.

There was less demand for pigs, rates consequently were easier. Best small breeds were quoted at 4s 6d per 8lb.

London Central, Monday.—Good supplies, trade slow. Beef : Carcases, 3s 9d to 3s 10d ; hindquarters, 4s 4d to 4s 6d ; rostings, 5s to 5s 4d. Sheep : Ewes, 3s to 3s 2d ; wethers, 4s to 4s 2d ; hindquarters, ewe, 4s to 4s 4d ; wether 4s 2d to 5s 6d. Pigs, large, 3s to 3s 4d ; small, 3s 8d to 4s.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 810 ; sheep, [illegible] ; pigs, 466 ; horses, 4. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s 3d ; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d ; pork, 6s to 7s ; sows, 5s to 6s. Fat cattle fair, stores slow, fat and stores sheep fair. Fat pigs good demand. Store pigs fair. Milch cows fair, prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,546. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 163, and consisted of 791 from the United States and 355 from Canada ; for the former there was a steady demand at an advance of from 1d to 2d per 8lb, but for the latter trade ruled dull and heavy at last week's quotations, a clearance being forced. The best States beasts on offer made 4s 4d per 8lb, offal given in, to dress about 720lb ; second quality, 4s to 3s 11d to 4s. The best Canadians, 2s 8d, and occasionally 3s 10d ; plain, ditto, 3s 4d to 3s. 5d. No sheep on the market. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates :—Beasts, 1,880, 4s 6d per 8lbs, to dress about 720.lbs. Sheep, 952, 3s 10d per 8lbs. to dress from 68 lbs to 72lbs.

Liverpool, Monday.—Demand slow for cattle. Prices, however, were in favour of sellers. Trade very slow for sheep, and prices rather lower. Beef, 6¾d to 4¾d per lb ; mutton, 8½d to 5½d per lb. At market : 1,921 cattle and 7,565 sheep. Christmas market on December 17.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., report cloverseeds inactive, sowing wants naturally do not now exist, whilst no speculative inquiry for the moment shows itself. Quotations all round, in the absence of business, are consequently without change. There has been rather more doing in winter tares, but rye is neglected. Meantime full prices are asked for mustard and rapeseed. Canaryseed, with an improving sale, has advanced 1s to 2s per qr. but in other birdseeds there is no alteration in value. As regards linseed, trade moves in narrow limits. Haricot beans and blue peas command former terms. Windsor and long-pod beans continue in good request, whilst good scarlet runners are now obtainable at tempting rates. The Board of Trade returns give the imports of clover and grass seeds into the United Kingdom for October this year as cwts. 24,817, value £47,876, as against cwts. 24,708, value £45,593, for same period of 1899.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

The American maize crop is a good one, and thu the trade in that staple for future delivery, January to March, shows 3d. to 6d. decline. For December delivery old prices are asked. Wheat cargos are 3d. lower from Saturday, but this concession seems to be answering its purpose, a better inquiry being already apparent. Barley and oats are no lower, but oilseeds are forced on sale.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Oregon, 30s 6d, arrived ; Californian, 30s 3d, arrived ; Walla Walla, 29s, due ; Argentine, 28s 9d, nearly due ; Argentine, 29s 3d, Feb. shipment ; Australian, 30s 3d, on passage ; Manitoba, 32s, on passage ; Duluth, 33s, on passage ; Hard winter 27s 9d, December shipment ; German (Barley), 28s 3d, arrived.

MAIZE.—Roumanian, 21s, December shipment ; American, 19s 6d, December shipment ; American, 18s 6d, January shipment ; American, 18s, March shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 18s 6d, May shipment ; Persian, 17s, arrived.

OATS.—White Ladani, 14s 3d, arrived ; Petersburg, 14s 6d, prompt shipment ; Canadian, 14s 6d, prompt shipment ; American, 14s, on passage.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 36s, arrived.

RAPESEED.—Egyptian, 30s 6d, May shipment.

PEASEED.—Bombay, 47s 3d, prompt shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 15s. 0d. per sack.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Owing to the short supply of prime beasts at Islington, rates ruled firm and steady, an early clearance being made, but for other qualities sales ruled slow at a slight decline in value, notwithstanding there was more inquiry by carcase butchers and contractors. For fat butchering cows and bulls there was more demand; rates in consequence were firmer during the beginning of the week, but rather slack owing to the unfavourable weather on Thursday. At the foreign cattle market, there being a much larger supply, trade ruled slower, but no practical decline in value can be noted; on neither market days were the total arrivals shown, 156 on Wednesday and 675 being withheld. The total number of beasts offered for sale at both markets was 6,421 (previous week 4,887), consisting of 1,810 British (increase 170) and 4,611 foreign (increase 1,364), these latter comprising 2,871 from the United States and 1,740 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—90-stone polled Aberdeens, 5s.; 90-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d.; 90-stone Runts, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.; 80-stone Devons, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 100-stone Dublins, 4s. 4d.; 95-stone Waterfords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 3d.; 110-stone Lincolns, 4s. 2d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 3d.; 90-stone Canadians, 3s. 9d. to 3s. 10d.; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d. to 3s 6d. There was a larger supply of sheep in both the Islington and foreign market, in the latter there being an increase of 1,263, all of which arrived from Canada, those in the Islington Market consisting chiefly of Downs and halfbreds, with about 1,000 from Ireland. For wether sheep there was a fair demand at last week's quotations, with a more ready sale, there being more demand for ewes; 2d. per 8lb. more money was both asked and obtained. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows (offal given in):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 12-stone halfbreds, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 11-stone halfbreds, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 8 to 8½ stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 6-stone halfbred ditto, 5s. 8d. Calves were only in short supply, numbering thirty-five, for which trade was slower, the best being quoted at 5s. 4d. per 8lb. Pigs numbered 460, as against 290 during the previous week. For these trade was firm and steady at fully last week's quotations, best small breeds making from 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. per 8lb.

Trade in the West.

There has been a slight reaction in one or two departments since our last report, but this has been more in respect to demand than in any lessening of values, though indications are not wanting that bullocks are by no means the fast trade they were a few weeks since, and sooner or later this is bound to affect prices. Mutton, on the other hand, maintains its value, wethers and young mutton commanding a ready sale at 8d. to 8½d., and ewes at 7d. to 7½d. Veal continues to sell very freely at full values—8d. for best calves and 7d. for seconds; rearers are very dear. The trade displays a trifling less buoyancy than has been the case now for so long past. We may quote best porkers 9s. to 9s. 6d., but baconers rather favour buyers at 8s. to 8s. 6d. Store stock, despite a very wet time, still command considerable attention, the demand for milch beasts at all the leading centres being very brisk, as great difficulty is experienced in keeping pace with the demand on town dairies; and it looks as if both dairy cows and their produce are going against consumers. Barreners, with plenty of keep, are coming to hand in rather above the average condition, and the trend of prices is against the buyers. In-calvers and young stock likewise promise to bring higher rates.

Trade in Ireland.

Business has been of a decidedly stronger tone for well-finished beasts, but prices of rough cattle were very irregular. The shippers took a large number of cattle, presumably in anticipation of the Christmas trade on the other side of the Channel, as the beasts bought were chiefly in forward condition, and will be house-fed for a couple of weeks. Prime ox and heifer beef made from 52s. 6d. to 56s., and a few extra lots 57s. 6d. per cwt.; second quality, from 47s. 6d. to 50s., and inferior 42s. 6d. to 45s. There was a big falling off in the number of calves. The few well-fed ones made up to 8d. per lb., others selling at from 4½d. to 6d. There was a very spirited trade for sheep, and prices were decidedly firmer. Shippers were busy picking up nice medium hoggets at from 42s. to 48s. a head, while for the best heavy London hoggets from 55s. to 56s. was about the average. Prime wether mutton made from 6½d. to 6¾d. per lb.; ewe, 5d. 6d.; and inferior, 4¾d. to 5d. Coarse sheep were in excess of requirements. A small show of really first-class cows, which were in strong demand at from £17 to £22 each, and for some extra springers as much as £24 was paid. The pig market was the only one which did not show signs of an improvement. Even the best light weight hogs were worse than last week, and the fall all round may be noted at from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. Heavy coarse pigs met with a most unsatisfactory, dragging sale. Choice light weight made from 38s. to 40s. per cwt.; inferior, from 28s. to 34s.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The numbers of fat cattle on offer this week were large, but not quite so large as last week. The trade throughout was steady, though except for the very primest quality last week's extreme prices would not quite be maintained. Rather a larger show of fat sheep met the best trade for several weeks, the better reports from the South and a strong local demand causing prices to advance about 2s. a head. Rather more fat calves made exceedingly high prices. A small show of fat pigs sold at about late rates. In the store market the supplies of sheep were very light, h s trade being about over for the season. There was a fair inquiry, and prices are without alteration. This being Hallow Fair week, there have been the usual very large sales of store cattle. There have been plenty of buyers from the surrounding counties, but feeders from the North have not attended in such force as usual. With the excessively bad weather and a determination on the part of farmers to buy cheaper, the trade must be reported very dull and prices fully £1 a head back from those of two or three weeks ago. The best class of cattle, however, have been sold, but a large number of those of inferior quality have not been able to be cashed. A fair number of milch cows met a very slow trade at reduced prices. Quotations:—Top price, best beef, 8s. to 8s. 6d. per stone; current, 7s. 9d. to 8s. Mutton from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central. Wednesday.—Fair supplies, but trade quiet. Arrivals of beef included 40 tons Scotch, 650 Liverpool sides, 1,600 hindquarters, and 650 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations:—Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 3s 8d to 4s; Dutch, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; and Irish, 3s to 3s 2d per 8lb.

London Central. Friday.—Good supplies, but trade very slow. Arrivals of beef included 100 tons Scotch, 460 Liverpool sides, 3,000 hindquarters, and 1,800 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; long, 4s to 4s 2d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; forequarters, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; Canterbury, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; Wellington, 2s 5d to 2s 6d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; and Dutch, 3s 10d to 4s 4d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Quiet. A moderate supply of sheep and lambs penned, but inquiry for both wethers and ewes ruled dull, at about late quotations. 7½-stone to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 10d to 6s; 9-stone ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10-stone half-bred, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 2d; and 11-stone half-bred ditto, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. Calves in moderate supply rule steady, the best on offer making 5s 6d to 6s 6d. Pig trade quieter, with heavy supplies available. Neat small, 4s 6d to 4s 8d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Total supplies, 100 beasts, 660 sheep, 25 calves, 380 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—There was a fair trade for beef, but prices were not very satisfactory, best animals not exceeding 11s 6d per score, and secondary ones ranging between 10s and 11s. Mutton was dearer, small Kents and half-breds making 4s 10d to 5s 4d per 8lb; larger wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; and barrens, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per stone. Veal calves made 5s to 5s 6d per 8lb Pork was very dear, the best roasters making up to 12s per score.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 27 fat beasts, 70 calves, 500 fat sheep and lambs, 266 pigs, and 74 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £11 10s to £19; fat calves, 80s to £6 5s; small, 15s to 45s; fat wethers, 41s to 55s; fat ewes, 32s to 38s; fat lambs up to 28s; fat hogs, 65s to 90s; fat porkers, 45s to 56s 6d; small, 32s to 44s; store pigs, 10s to 22s 6d. With a short supply of fat beasts there was a fair enquiry, prime lots selling readily, and other grades maintaining late rates. Young Devon steers made up to £18 15s; Shorthorns, £19; runts, £15 10s; etc. A clearance nearly made of the shorter supply of sheep and lambs, and prices well maintained, some of the fancy lots making more money. Hampshire Down wethers and ewes made 45s, 47s, 41s, 44s 6d, 44s, 51s, 45s 6d, 41s, 46s, 43s 6d; ten-months-old ditto, 47s, 49s, 55s, 44s, 54s, 57s, 48s 6d, 56s, 54s 6d, 49s 6d, 40s, 30s 6d, 40s 6d, 43s; Exmoors, 29s; old ewes, 38s, 38s 6d, 34s, 35s, 33s 6d, 32s; rams, 38s 6d, 39s, 46s; Exmoor ewes, 28s; Black face Scotch ewes, 24s 6d; three-months old sucking lambs, 25s, 26s 6d, 28s, 22s. A clearance was made of all dairy cows and heifers with a ready sale throughout. Store cattle met a slightly better trade. Fat calves of all descriptions met a firm trade with prices in favour of the tendors. Fat hogs showed an improvement on the trade of last week, and prices were higher. Parkers are a good trade and last week's satisfactory prices are fully maintained. Store pigs met a better enquiry at an advance. Ruling values:—Pure Devon beasts, 7d to 7½d per lb; ditto Shorthorns, 6d to 6½d; cows, bulls, and inferior beasts, 5d to 5½d per lb; best quality sheep, 8½d to 8¾d; second ditto, 7d to 7½d; old ewes, rams, and inferior ditto, 5½d to 6d; choice fat sucking lambs, 8d to 9d per lb; fat calves, 6d to 8½d per lb; porkers up to 11s; hogs to 9s 6d per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—There was a useful show of store cattle, with a fair trade at satisfactory prices. Best beef, 7s 9d to 8s; and cow beef, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per stone; strong stores, £14 to £15 10s; useful young steers, £11 to £12 10s; good heifers, £10 10s to £11 10s; milch cows, £18 to £23; in-calvers, £16 to £18; calves, 60s to 63s; fat sheep, 8d; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; store lambs, 34s to 38s.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under.. ..	9s 0d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in.	8s 6d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	7s 9d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 1,083; sheep, 507; pigs, 356; horses, 6. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 4s to 5s 4d; pork, 6s to 7s 3d. A good show store beasts, not all sold. Fat beasts, a fair number to hand, prices unchanged. Fat sheep, a good show, prices not so good; stores, very few to hand. Fat pigs, a good brisk trade all round; stores, a fair trade. Hay, straw, and roots short supplies.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A short supply and a fair trade. Lambs ranged from 18s to 25s 6d, and one or two exceptional pens made up to 28s; ewes, 25s to 33s 6d; ewe tegs, 28s to 34s 6d; wethers, 26s to 33s. A number of Irish cows were selling at from £5 15s to £6 10s; yearlings, £7 to £8; rough cows and calves, £10 to £14 per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish store cattle was a good one for the season, though smaller than last week's. The bulk of the animals were good heifers, and there were also a number of polled bullocks. A fair number of buyers attended, and a quiet trade was done at £13 10s for polled bullocks, and £6 10s ranging up to £14 10s for heifers. Young pigs a small show at 20s each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—In the fat stock department there was a fair supply of beef with a steady trade at unaltered values. Small supply of mutton, for which a poor demand was experienced. The trade for store sheep was also inactive and prices eased off in many cases to the extent of 2s per head. With the removal of swine fever regulations, pigs were again on offer, and business in this department was on the whole brisk, though prices were a little irregular. In many instances, however, good values were obtained, small porkers selling especially well.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Rather extensive supplies of beef came to hand, but trade on the whole was quiet. Best fat heifers sold from £16 to £21 5s; heifers and calves, £16 to £19 15s; seconds, £9 to £13; bulls, £9 to £16; best young barreners, £11 to £14; plainer descriptions, £16 to £22 pair; Devon steers, £20 10s to £21. Sheep were in moderate supply, Horn ewes, 38s to 47s; fat wethers, 48s to 51s 6d; Down ewes, 42s to 46s.

Dublin, Thursday.—Slightly improved tone in demand for cattle, but quotations show no alteration. Rough and unfinished sorts still in the majority, but a clearance easier to effect. Better demand for all classes of sheep at last week's prices. Cattle (best), 30s to 32s 6d per cwt; other descriptions, 25s to 29s per cwt. Mutton, 5½d to 6½d per lb; extreme, 7d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Large supply. Beef in good demand, realising up to 37s 9d per live cwt; horned bullocks, to £16; ditto heifers, to £17; polled bullocks, to £16; ditto heifers, to £17; Highland bullocks, to £19; Galloway bullocks, to £18; Ayrshire bullocks, to £16; sheep, Cheviot ewes, to 28s; black-faced ewes, to 29s.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Sheep fewer, and cattle larger show. Sheep good trade; Cheviot Dinmonts, 23s; crossbreds 30s; half-bred lambs, 25s. Horned bullocks, to £15; polled, to £13; stirks, £7 to £10; shorthorn cows, to £24 10s; secondary, to £21; Irish, £19; Ayrshires, £17 to £19.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—At market, 884 cattle and 5,108 sheep. Trade better; prices a shade higher. Top Scotch cattle, 68s; secondary, 60s to 62s; top Irish, 58s to 60s per cwt. Top hoggs, 8¼d to 8½d; top wedders, 7¾d to 8d per lb. Demand moderate for dead meat; quotations steady; best Scotch beef, 5¾d; best States, 5½d; secondary, 5¼d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 794, calves 62, sheep and lambs 1,006, pigs (fat and sows) 23, sucking pigs 21, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 252, pigs (stores, more than ten) 194.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair supplies of stock in good condition; trade quiet, at easier prices. Milch cows made £16 to £24 per head. Bullocks, £10 to £16 per head. Calves dull trade.

Lincoln, Friday.—This being the November fair there was a fair supply of milch beasts, and a good supply of store stock. Trade, however, was slow throughout. Milch beasts made £15 to £20 each; three-year-old stores, £15 to £17; two-year-olds, £10 to £13; and young stock, £7 to £9. There was a large number of sheep and lambs penned. Lambs made from 25s to 35s each.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Large supplies, fair business. Pork down 6d per stone. Numbers:—Cattle, 2,096; sheep, 5,666; calves, 56; pigs, 1,327. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s to 8s; pork, 4s 6d to 9s per stone; mutton, 5d to 8d; veal, 5d to 8d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Best beef, 6¼d; seconds, 6d wether mutton, 7¼d to 7¾d; lamb, 7¾d to 8d; ewes, 6d to 6¼d; calves, 7d to 7¾d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts on offer here to-day was considerable, consisting largely of Scotch and Irish lots; business was dull, at barely former terms. Fat beasts, which were in moderate supply, made 7s 6d to 7s 9d and 8s per 14lb. Store sheep were in about average supply; the demand was more active, and hoggets advanced 1s per head, being quoted at 36s to 42s each; keeping shearlings made 40s to 46s each. The supply of fat sheep was not very large, but trade ruled dull at 8s to 8s 6d and 9s per 14lb.

Preston, Wednesday.—Fair attendance and supplies in all departments fully up to the average. Choice cattle were in fair demand at last week's prices, and rates for sheep were also unaltered. Beef, heifers, and bullocks, 5¾d to 6¼d; cows and bulls, 5d to 5¼d; mutton, hoggs, and lambs, 7d to 7¼d; tups and ewes, 5d to 6d; calves, 5¼d to 6¾d per lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—A short supply of fat beasts, and trade about the same. Best animals made 4s 6d to 4s 8d, and middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply, and trade dearer, at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in short supply, and trade a little better. Best sheep made 5s 4d to 5s 6d, and middlings 5s to 5s 2d per stone. A few store beasts on offer, and demand fair. Pigs in large supply, and prices about the same.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was a smaller supply of both cattle and sheep. A better trade was experienced for cattle, and the tendency was towards higher prices. The demand for sheep was also better, and prices, though not quotably higher, were in favour of the seller. Fewer calves on offer, and a fair trade, with prices against the buyer. Quotations—Cattle, 5d to 6¼d; sheep, 6d to 8¼d; calves, 5¼d to 7¼d per lb. At market—Cattle, 2,824; sheep, 5,793; calves, 114.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The show of milch beasts was better than usual, and a good trade was done, with the best qualities making £18 to £25; secondary, £12 to £16 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Fat stock and cows with calves brisk generally. Store stock fair at late rates. Small supply of sheep offered. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 7d; mutton, 6½d to 8d; and veal, 6½d to 7¾d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s 6d; and bacons, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per score. Cows with calves, up to £21 17s 6d. Number offered:—702 cattle, 55 cows with calves, 712 sheep, 86 calves, 65 fat, 140 porket, and 519 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—In the cattle market there was a fair show of beef; best, 7s 9d per stone; cow beef, 7s. Good number of stores on offer, and average trade, strong stores

being in demand. Cows and in-calvers were also inquired after, and made satisfactory prices. In the sheep market trade was rather better than last week, but was still dull, wether mutton selling well.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 244 cattle, 384 sheep, and 416 pigs. Best cattle were shown in smaller numbers than last week, and trade was firm, with prices ranging from 7s 6d to 8s per stone, rougher kinds making 6s 6d and 7s. Young sheep sold 8d and 8½d; ewes, about 6d; and tups, 5d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Rather short supply, moderate attendance, and quiet trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a capital attendance of buyers, and a brisk trade ruled throughout for all classes of stock, a clearance being effected. Beef was in demand and made more money than it has done for the past few weeks. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 66 fat beasts, 151 fat sheep, 102 fat and weaning calves, and 177 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £16 to £18; fat heifers, £14 to £20 5s; fat wether sheep, 44s to 57s 6d; fat ewes, 35s to 47s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £4 17s; cow calves, 19s to 63s; bull calves, 14s to 48s; fat pigs, 10s per score. Stores a good trade.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—The beef on show is of rather rough description, and finest qualities make 6½d per lb, as the top price, with one or two exceptions of 6½d. Rather better trade in sheep, but quotations unchanged. Choice little animals make 8d; good strong sheep, 7d to 7½d; and ewes from 6d per lb. Beasts penned 1,598, sheep 2,675.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—A lighter supply of both beef and mutton, but the demand was slow and late rates prevailed. Best beef, 6½d per lb, and other qualities 5d to 6¾d. Small sheep, 8½d; average sorts, 7d to 7½d; ewes and tups, 5½d to 6d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Beasts: A fair supply; slow trade. Sheep: Moderate supply; fair trade. Calves: Ordinary number offered; good demand. Milch cows: Large supply; trade fairly good. Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; veal, 6d to 8d per lb. Bacon pigs, 9s per score; porkets, 9s to 9s 6d per score; sows, 8s 6d to 7s per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—The market was well supplied in all departments, but trade showed no improvement. Beef sold slowly at last week's prices. Mutton also quiet. Calves were a little firmer, and there was a fair trade for pigs at late rates. Best beef, 6d to 7d; inferior, 5d to 6d; wether mutton, 7d to 7½d; ewes, 5d to 6d. Veal, 7d to 8d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A moderate show. Good attendance of buyers. Sheep made 5s a head more than last week. Better inquiry for beef, which had an upward tendency, with a fair show. Several strong store beasts met with a ready sale. Best beef, 7s 9d to 8s; secondary, 7s to 7s 3d; rough, 6s to 6s 6d per stone; best wether mutton, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7d per lb.

York, Thursday.—A large offer of sheep for the time of year, but the wet weather led to a very dull trade. North country lambs made up to 36s each, Good display of West country lambs up to 28s each. Large display of West country grey-faced sheep, which made up to 42s each. This was the last of the big markets for store cattle of the season, and the display of both English and Irish was a large one. Buyers were scarce and trade slow, and for heifers and bullocks a reduction of 10s per head had to be submitted to. Three-year-old bullocks, £16 to £18; two-year-olds, £9 to £11; stirks, £6 to £9 each. Small offer of calving and milch cows, and active demand. Trade improved, the best making up to £22; secondary sorts, £13 to £19 each. In the fat market beef was 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 7½d to 8½d per lb.; and pork, 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies totalled 1,450 head, being an increase of 451, as compared with last Wednesday's figures, and comprised 499 United States, and 951 Canadian. Trade was of a very slow character at 3s 9d to 4s 2d and 3s 5d to 3s 9d respectively. 1,161 Canadian sheep ruled very slow, at 4s per 8lb, to sink the offal.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 3d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Settle: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Spalding: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Stone: 1s 3d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Boston: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Colne: 1s 2d per lb. Goole: 1s 2d per lb. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Knaresborough: (wholesale), 1s 7d to 1s 8d; (retail), 1s 8d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Louth: (wholesale), 1s 2d per lb. Market Drayton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s 1d per lb. Northallerton: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s per lb. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Devizes: (wholesale), 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb; (retail), 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Driffield: 1s per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 3d per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 4d per lb. Crewe: 1s 3d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 120s to 122s; Dutch, 110s to 115s; Canadian, 100s to 110s per 112lb. Helmsley: 11d to 1s per lb. Leeds: Danish, 116s to 124s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 102s to 106s; York lump, 15s to 16s per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 9d to 1s 11d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 8d per roll of 26oz. Lincoln: 1s 1d 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 6d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Sandbach: 1s 3d per lb. Whitchurch: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 7 for 1s. Gainsborough: 7 or 8 for 1s. Settle: 7 or 8 for 1s. Sheffield: 8 or 9 for 1s. Spalding: 8 for 1s. Stone: 6 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 6 for 1s. Boston: 6 to 8 for 1s. Colne: 2s 8d per score. Goole: 8 for 1s. Hereford: 8 to 10 for 1s. Keighley: 6 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 8 or 9 for 1s. Knaresborough: 6 or 7 for 1s. Louth (wholesale): 10 for 1s. Market Drayton: 7 or 8 for 1s. Market Weighton: 8 or 9 for 1s. Northallerton: 7 for 1s. Stockton: 6 or 7 for 1s. Whitby: 7 for 1s. Worksop: 3s per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 8 or 9 for 1s. Devizes: 10 to 12 for 1s. Driffield: 11 for 1s. Kidderminster: 7 for 1s. Penistone: 8 for 1s. Ripon: 6 or 7 for 1s. Scarborough: 6 for 1s. Wetherby: 6 or 7 for 1s.

Friday.—Altrincham: 5 and 6 for 1s. Crewe: 6 and 7 for 1s. Easingwold: 7 or 8 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 6s 6d to 7s 10d per 120; Russian, 6s 5d to 8s 2d; Swedish, 11s 6d; Canadian, 6s 6d to 8s 6d. Helmsley: 8 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 16s 6d to 17s per 120; Irish, 13s to 16s; Danish, 10s to 11s 6d; Austrian blues, 7s to 8s 6d. Leyburn: 8 for 1s. Lincoln: 7 or 8 for 1s. Nantwich: 6 or 7 for 1s. Otley: 6 or 7 for 1s. Whitchurch: 6 and 7 for 1s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The demand for Australian and New Zealand butters is far from brisk, and prices are showing a downward tendency. Prices quoted in salemen's circulars are freely departed from, and, though there may be no nominal reduction in quotations, actual sales are made at the lower values of 1s and 2s on last week's prices. Choicest may be quoted at 106s to 108s with a few sales at more money. Finest makes 96s to 98s. The Copenhagen official quotation has this week been raised two kroner, and thus the mistake of lowering it three kroner last week is admitted by the committee. Cheese.—The market has been dull during the early part of the week, but is improving at the close. Advices from Canada report firmer markets, and prices showing improvement. Some authorities on that side believe values have touched bottom for some time.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed has continued to decline, buyers being alarmed at the prospects of the large crop in La Plata. Calcutta to London finds sellers near at hand 58s, November-December 57s 6d, April-June, 45s 6d. La Plata December-January, 48s, sellers, January-February, 47s, Hull has also suffered a serious decline. Calcutta, April-June, 46s 6d. Azov, Black Sea, October-November, 56s. La Plata, December-January, 48s, January-February, 47s. To the Continent Bombay, is quoted February-March, 50s 3d; March-May, 49s. Calcutta, April-May, 47s 6d. ; April-June, 46s 6d. La Plata December-January, 48s 6d; January-February, 47s 3d. Linseed cakes quiet. London made, £8 10s to £8 12s 6d. Russian, £8 2s 6d to £8 7s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £8. Cotton cakes quiet. London made £5 to £5 2s 6d; Egyptian, £4 17s 6d. Rapeseed continues dull. Brown Calcutta to London November-December, 44s; March-May, 40s 6d. To the Continent we quote, Yellow Guzerat March-May, 46s; November-December, 52s. Yellow Cawnpore March-May, 44s 3d. Brown Cawnpore November-December, 47s 3d; March-May, 39s 9d. Brown Calcutta, October-November, 45s; April-June, 41s. Ravison to Hull, prompt 33s. Cottonseed.—The market has been quiet, and prices have declined. Spot London, £6 17s 6d; November-January, £6 15s; February-March, £6 15s. Hull spot, £6 13s 9d; November-January, £6 12s 6d. Cargoes, December, £6 13s 9d; January, £6 13s 9d. The import into London for the week has been 2,617 tons, and since January 1st 39,518 tons against 35,038 tons corresponding time last year.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: There is no improvement to note in the demand, which continues extremely small, while supplies come to hand rather more freely, with the result that values are weak. Russians are 2s 6d per ton cheaper on the week, Americans unchanged, while English sell quietly at a slight reduction. Cotton Cakes: A better enquiry has been experienced during the past week, and quotations are well maintained. Decorticated: There is a parcel of new seed cake now on the way offering at £6 15s, and meal at £6 10s and £6 12s 6d. Rape cakes scarce and unchanged. Maize Germ Meal: Arrived or near at hand, American sells freely at a slightly easier rate, and English remains unaltered. Rice Meal: A large business has been done in Rangoon meal, and the market leaves off rather dearer, with shippers holding for £4 7s 6d ex ship for November-December parcels.

		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.				
London made	per ton ex mill	8 10 0	to	8 12 6
American in bags	ex dock	7 15 0	„	7 16 3
American Nov.-Dec.	„	7 13 9	„	7 15 0
Russian in mats	„	7 15 0	„	7 16 3
Russian in bags	„	7 17 6	„	8 0 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.				
London made	ex mill	5 0 0	„	5 2 6
Egyptian, in bags	ex dock	4 16 3	„	4 17 6
„ „	Nov.-April shipment	4 15 0	„	4 17 6
Decorticated	Oct.-Nov. „	6 12 6	„	6 15 0
Meal, on spot	„ „ „	6 10 0	„	6 12 6
RAPE CAKES.				
East Indian Seed	ex mill	4 15 0	„	—
Ravison	„	4 10 0	„	—
Nutted, in bags	„	4 15 0	„	—
MAIZE.				
Germ meal (American)	ex dock	5 3 9	„	5 5 0
„ „ „	Dec. c.i.f.	4 18 9	„	—
„ „ (English)	ex mill	5 7 6	„	5 10 0
RICE MEAL.				
Rangoon	ex warehouse	4 12 6	„	4 15 0
„ Nov.-Dec.	ex ship	4 7 6	„	—
„ Jan.-March	„	4 6 3	„	—

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane

Hull, Tuesday.—English wheat is in small supply to-day, and meets a steady sale at fully last Tuesday's prices. Foreign in fair demand at last week's prices for white sorts, red being 3d per qr dearer. Malting barley unaltered in value, only best samples meeting a ready sale. Grinding rather easier to buy. Oats steady at last week's rates. Beans unaltered. Maize not plentiful on the spot and flat corn held 3d per qr higher. Linseed.—The arrivals are 750 qrs from Konigsberg, 1,400 qrs Libau, 4,467 qrs New York, 4,912 Novorossisk, 2,000 qrs Riga, 6,290 qrs Petersburg; total, 19,899 qrs. Since this day week the market has had a drooping tendency. Baltics have not experienced much change, but new crop Plate and Calcutta are decidedly lower. Calcutta, April-June, can be bought at 48s 6d. Black Sea, on passage, 57s the value. Petersburg, afloat and immediate loading, 51s 9d to 55s. Riga and Libau, a little business done at 51s 6d. American Duluth scarcely offers. River Plate, December-January, 50s; January-February, sellers at 49s. Cottonseed.—There was a steady business doing during last week at £6 18s 9d to £6 17s 6d spot and passage, but the market has ruled much quieter the past day or two, and yesterday £6 16s 3d to £6 15s accepted, which latter taken to-day with further sellers. November-January and February-March £6 16s 3d, but sellers now at £6 13s 9d, and buyers scarce at over £6 12s 6d. Linseed cakes: A steady market at previous rates. Hemp firm, but no change in prices.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 5s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 2s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 10s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE, packed in bags, of 1¼cwt. each. Price per cwt. 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per pocket of 240lb:—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb:—Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; scoured, good, 1s 5½d to 1s 6d; scoured, average, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d; greasy average to fair, 10d to 10½d; New South Wales, scoured, average, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; greasy average, 7½d to 8½d; South Australian, greasy, average, 6d to 6½d; New Zealand, scoured, average, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy, average, 7½d to 8d; Cape, scoured, superior, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; fleece, average, 6½d to 7½d; greasy, average, 5d to 5½d; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy, average, 5½d to 6½d; crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 9d to 11d; New Zealand, fine, 8½d to 10d; ditto, medium, 6½d to 7½d; ditto, coarse, 5½d to 6½d.

Bradford, Thursday.—The market is very flat, and without signs of improvement. Some inquiries are made for sixties tops, but little is wanted. Fine cross-breds are quite neglected, and for the stronger sorts users are demanding concessions. Mohair quiet and neglected. In yarns there is no improvement of importance in any branch, and there is no change in the piece trade.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fairly good demand for Down fleeces, at from 7½d to 9½d per lb, as also for halfbreds at 7d. Kent fleeces are very dull at 6d, and lambs' wool at 4d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—No material alteration in the local wool market. In yarns the old orders on hand keep up the production, but there is less doing in knitting and worsted yarns, side by side with a steady turnover in lambs' wools.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A good supply of [illegible] was offered, but trade ruled slow. Potatoes very slow, and only samples more than adequate enough for sample being in a generally poor condition, prices [illegible] week. Good arrivals of fruit, and in good condition. Green stuffs: Cabbages, 3s; savoys, 4s to 6s; brussels sprouts, 2d to 3d per basket; cauliflowers, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen. Brussels sprouts, 1s to 1s 6d per half-sieve; spinach, 2s per bushel; carrots, 1s to 2s; turnips, 2s to 3s; parsley, 1s 6d; red cabbage, 3d per dozen bunches; celery, 12s to 14s per dozen rolls; horseradish, 1s per bundle; English onions, 8s per cwt.; Valencias, 9s to 9s 6d per case. Potatoes: Maincrops, 100s; Snowdrops, 80s to 90s; Up-to-Dates, 70s to 80s; Imperators, 70s to 75s; Reading Giants, 70s; German Sixties, 70s; Belgian Market, 55s to 60s per ton. Fruit: English grapes, 6d to 1s 6d per lb; Almeria, 10s to 16s; Denia, 3s 6d to 8s per barrel; English apples, 3s to 9s per bushel; Nova Scotian, 8s to 14s per barrel; kieffer pears, 3s to 6s per bushel; Californian, 4s to 7s per box; cases, peaches, 2s to 12s per dozen; pineapples, 1s 6d to 4s each; bananas, 5s to 10s per bunch; English tomatoes, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per 12lb; French, 2s 6d to 3s per crate; chestnuts, 6s to 10s; Grenoble walnuts, 10s to 12s 6d per sack.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals this morning have been heavy, and with the trade very dull, prices have had a downward tendency. English Reading Giants, 3s to 3s 9d; Professor Maerkers, 3s 3d to 3s 6d. Up-to-Dates, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; French and Belgium Magnums, 3s to 3s 6d. Imperators, 2s 9d to 3s 3d per cwt.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Short supplies, trade very quiet. Best clover, 85s to 100s; inferior ditto, 70s to 80s; specially picked hay, 90s 6d; good ditto, 80s to 85s; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s; mixture and seeds, 70s to 80s, and straw, 24s to 36s per load.

Bristol, Saturday.—Clover hay, 75s to 80s; meadow hay, 70s to 75s; straw, 45s to 50s.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There is a good demand in all warehouses for hay and straw, prices remaining firm. Quotations: Meadow hay, 64d to 74d; clover, 74d to 84d; wheat straw, 50d; oat straw, 51; rye straw (retail) 7d per stone.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—The continuance of the lighterman's strike this week has again curtailed business, and until we see a settlement arrived at there can be no hope for any improvement in trade. In the meantime we can only quote prices as nominal Canadian timothy and clover mixture, 82s 6d to 83s; Dutch 1st cut clover, 87s 6d; French and Dutch 2nd cut clover, 90s; good Dutch hay, 72s 6d to 75s; common Dutch hay, 63s; large bale French wheat straw, 46s 6d; small bale French wheat straw, 43s; small bale French oat straw, 43s, all per ton delivered by barge alongside.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10, Great Tower Street, E.C.

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Belfast, Nov. 17, 1900.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.
1	Bullock (prime) ..	12 15 0	8 0 14	1 11 5
„	„ ..	14 15 0	9 2 0	1 11 1
„	„ ..	14 0 0	9 0 10	1 10 9
„	„ (very good) ..	13 15 0	9 0 24	1 9 10
„	„ ..	14 2 6	9 2 19	1 9 5
„	Heifer (prime) ..	13 15 0	8 2 7	1 12 1
„	„ ..	13 2 6	8 1 7	1 11 7
„	„ ..	13 10 0	8 2 14	1 11 4
„	„ ..	13 10 0	8 3 0	1 10 10
„	„ (very good) ..	13 2 6	8 3 17	1 9 9

Farmer Found Shot.—Mr. William Savage, a farmer, of Yarnton, a village about four miles from Oxford, was discovered on Friday evening lying in the kitchen of his house with a portion of his head blown away. A young man named Richard Hopcroft, aged 29, an adopted son of the deceased, is in custody charged with the murder of Savage. It appears that the two men had been in Oxford together during the day, when they quarrelled, the quarrel, according to the deceased's housekeeper, being renewed when they returned to the farm. She left the premises about four o'clock, the two men being the only occupants, and when she returned about two hours later she found the door fastened, and had some difficulty in getting it open. As soon as she got inside she discovered the body of Savage lying against the door with one side of the face blown away. It is stated that about five o'clock the same evening Hopcroft went to a public-house in the village, when he was carrying a gun. Later on the same night he went to the County Police Station at Oxford, and stated that he wished to give himself up, as he believed he had caused the death of Mr. Savage, of Yarnton, and that he had thrown the gun away. The gun, which has since been found at a public-house in Summertown, where it had been left by Hopcroft, was, according to the housekeeper, safe in a drawer in two pieces when she left the house. In reply to the questions of the Inspector when he gave himself up, Hopcroft said that the affair was an accident; he was, however, subsequently taken to Woodstock and remanded.

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Shorthorn cow Olivette Ingram, sire Ingram's Hope 61109, dam Olive Hanson, by General Ingram 51312, was bred by Mr. Anthony Dobson, and is now the property of Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Tring. At this year's Dairy Show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, Olivette Ingram won first inspection prize in the class for Shorthorn cows entered in Coates's Herd Book, or certified by the secretary of the Shorthorn Society, to be eligible for entry; was reserved for the Shorthorn Society's prize in the milking trials, but in the butter test did not get an award.

The two-shear Kerry Hill ram—Bahaillon Samson—Number 27 in the Kerry Hill Flock Book—was bred by Mr. R. Morgan, Bahaillon, Newton, North Wales, who exhibited it at the Shropshire and West Midland Show last year, where it won second prize. In the same year it won a similar award at the Kerry Great Sheep Fair and Sale, but this year came out on top. It was sold for twenty-one guineas.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, have just received notices of the safe arrival at Buenos Ayres of the two Clydesdale mares they shipped to an estanciero in the Argentine last September.

I hear that Mr. W. R. Trotter, of South Acomb, has sold, to go to South Africa, his promising young horse, Stylish Prince, by First Lifeguard out of the noted old mare Topsman's Princess, by Prince of Wales.

A meeting was held at St. Helens Town Hall on Wednesday, under the presidency of the Mayor (Alderman J. Forster) to consider the desirability of inviting the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society to hold their show in St. Helens in 1901. After discussion it was resolved that, subject to the sum of £500 being raised by subscriptions before the 24th inst., the society be invited to hold their next show in St. Helens. A local committee was formed, with Mr. David Gamble, jun., as secretary, and Mr. Wm. Gamble, C.C., as hon. treasurer, while the hon. secretary and treasurer were deputed to attend the meeting of the executive at Preston on the 26th inst. and convey the invitation to the society.

During the past week the Shorthorn Society of Great Britain and Ireland has issued volume forty-six of Coates's Herd Book, which gives particulars of cows and their produce up to December 31st, 1899, and of bulls number 75978 to 78198. The cows in this volume total 4,359, which is a record number of entries, the previous best being 3,963 in volume forty-five. The number of bulls entered is also much above the average of recent years, so that the volume is a striking testimony of the increasing popularity of the Shorthorn.

Messrs. Laird Brothers, of Birkenhead, have just turned out from their shipbuilding yards a fine steamer, specially built to fill the requirements of the live stock trade between Dublin and Holyhead. This splendid steamer, "South Stack," is the property of the London and North-Western Railway Company, and will be a most important addition to the fine fleet of this company. Her capacity for carrying live stock is equal to 579 head of cattle and 34 horses (which have padded boxes allotted to them). The electric fittings, ventilating fans, etc., are all up-to-date, and the accommodation for drovers and third-class passengers is excellent. The most modern arrangements are adopted to secure steadiness at sea and the safe and humane transit of stock. Altogether the "South Stack" is a magnificent addition to the steamers now employed in the Irish cattle trade.

The entire breeding studs of pedigree Hackneys and hunters belonging to Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., and Mr. J. S. E. Eadie, are to be sold by auction at the Hall Farm, Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent, on Wednesday, the 28th inst., Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck being the auctioneers. With the exception of a very valuable four-year-old hunter all will be sold without reserve. The dispersal of the two studs is owing to Sir Oswald Mosley's intention to devote more interest to the breeding of Shire horses, and Mr. Eadie is selling to make room for his growing stud of the same breed. Both are selling mares of the very best strains with some very promising young stock of both Hackney and hunter blood. There will be a luncheon at noon, and at one o'clock the sale will commence.

A preliminary schedule of prizes for the hunter, charger, and polo pony sections of the next spring show of the Hunters' Improvement Society has been issued so as to afford members and exhibitors early intimation of the additions and alterations to the classes of the previous show. On the fourth page is a form of application, which, upon being filled up and returned to the secretary, will ensure prompt despatch of the prize lists and entry forms required. They will be ready on January 1st, 1901, the cash offered in classes of the Hunters' Improvement Society amounting to £1,160, and in classes of Polo Pony Society to £426.

I would remind intending exhibitors at the West of England Fat Stock and Poultry Society's Show that the entries close on Saturday next, the 24th inst. The show, which will be the society's thirtieth annual fixture, will be held in Devonport Market on December 12th and 13th. The prizes offered include several specials, and amount in value to about £450.

Lord Rothschild's Shorthorn Cow, "Olivette Ingram," First Prize at the Dairy Show.

Norwich Cattle Show.

The first of the principal Christmas fat cattle shows of the season will commence on Thursday next, when the twenty-fourth annual exhibition of the above association opens at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, under the presidency of Mr. A. W. Soames, M.P. The show opens at 10 a.m. on Thursday (at which hour catalogues may be obtained), and the admission each day will be as follows:—Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., 2s. 6d., from 3 p.m. to 9.30 p.m., 1s. All day Friday, from 10 a.m. to 9.30 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., 1s. All classes are well filled, and are quite up to the average, and in some cases above, as will be seen by the following comparative statement:—

Date.	Winner of £100 Champion Prize.	Beasts.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Roots, Grain, etc.
1890	John Cridlan	91	105	60	75
1891	H.M. The Queen	101	96	48	25
1892	J. J. Colman	98	117	36	33
1893	C. Stephenson	123	111	30	42
1894	H.M. The Queen	85	75	36	12
1895	J. J. Colman	77	57	18	30
1896	J. Wortley	120	93	24	26
1897	J. Wortley	111	114	24	33
1898	J. J. Colman's Exrs.	119	81	51	38
1899	H.M. The Queen	123	93	24	35
1900		90	105	48	31

Entries have been received from most of the noted breeders and graziers in the Kingdom, including Royalty, and keen competition in all classes is anticipated, and the judging, which will commence on the Thursday, at 10 o'clock, will be watched with much interest by exhibitors who will be anxious to see what is coming out.

The prize list, amounting to nearly £700, comprises eighteen classes for cattle, with prizes amounting to nearly £460, which includes a number of specials. The best beast in the show will win the champion prize, amounting to £100. Seven classes for sheep, with prizes amounting to nearly £90, including specials. The best pen of sheep in the show will win prizes amounting to £15. Three classes for pigs, with prizes amounting to over £26, which includes a special prize of £5 5s. for the best pen of pigs in the show. Seven classes for roots and grain, with prizes amounting to £11 10s. Ten classes for dressed and undressed poultry, with prizes amounting to £15. Twelve classes for butter, cheese, eggs, etc., with prizes amounting to £28 15s. This includes £10 offered by the Technical Education Committee of the Norfolk County Council for three classes for butter and cheese exhibited by students who have regularly attended classes in the county. Sixteen classes for garden produce, etc., with prizes amounting to £5 5s., for cottagers and holders of allotments under thirty rod.

Judges from different parts of England have been selected to adjudicate the awards in the various departments.

The Assembly Room, as usual, will be an effective feature of the show. Here will be exhibited the dead poultry, butter, cheese, eggs, etc., including the ornamental butter which is so greatly admired and looked upon as quite a work of art; also including the students of the Technical Education Committee of the Norfolk County Council, exhibits of butter and cheese. This proved a very interesting feature last year, and a numerous entry has been received this, so that keen competition may be anticipated.

The Great Eastern and Midland and Great Northern joint Railway Companies have made arrangements to convey the public at reduced fares, and have also provided special trains, particulars of which are advertised by the companies, for which see bills.

The necessary arrangements for fitting up the Hall for the accommodation of the stock and stand holders (which each year grows in demand) are well in hand under the direction of the secretary, and with such a capital entry all round, leaves nothing to be desired to ensure success but fine weather and a good attendance.

Next year's show of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Agricultural Society will be held at Evesham on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, June 11th, 12th, and 13th.

Surveyors' Institution.—Next ordinary general meeting will be held on Monday, November 26th, when a paper will be read by Mr. A. T. Walmisley (Fellow), entitled "The Roofing of Farm Buildings." The chair will be taken at eight o'clock.

Milk Prosecutions.—At Stratford Police Court on Saturday, William Mitson, a milk dealer, of 100, Harrow Road, Leytonstone, was summoned for selling milk adulterated with 25 per cent. of added water. Mr. M'Kirdy, the Essex County Council inspector, proved the case, and the defendant pleaded that he had sold the milk as he had bought it. The Bench reminded him that he had been fined twice before, and inflicted a penalty of £10 and costs. John Dyer, a milkman of Cowslip Road, George Lane, South Woodford, was summoned for refusing to serve a reasonable quantity of milk to Mr. M'Kirdy, an inspector under the Food and Drugs Act. Defendant said he only had a little milk in the can the inspector wanted it from, but he offered to let him have some from a churn. He was fined 40s. and costs.

The Nantwich Rural Council and Tuberculous Cattle.

At the meeting of the Nantwich Rural District Council, held on the 10th inst., Dr. Turner, medical officer of health, asked for powers to enable him to take action against persons suspected of improperly disposing of the carcases of cattle affected with tubercle. He explained that the Manchester Corporation were displaying considerable activity in the matter, and were taking action against a farmer in the Council's district for not having reported to them the sale of tuberculous meat, which was sent by a middleman to Manchester.

The Vice-Chairman (Mr. C. B. Davies) said it seemed to hm that the intermediate buyer was going to get off scot-free, whilst the farmer, for having neglected to notify the Corporation, was going to be made to suffer.

Dr. Turner said the corporation had decided to prosecute unless the farmer could show that he sold the carcase for knackering purposes.

The Vice-Chairman said he did not think it would be right for the Corporation to be down on the farmer because they missed the intermediate dealer.

Mr. Wood said the matter was a very important one. The public required to be protected. The Council empowered the medical officer and the clerk to take the necessary steps for a prosecution in cases which might come under their notice.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.]

The fair at Enniskillen, co. Fermanagh, on the 10th inst. was a large one, composed chiefly of two and three-year-old cattle, for which demand was rather dull. Prices:—Calves, first class, £5 3s. 4d. to £5 10s.; second class, £4 3s. 4d. to £4 10s.; third class, £2 10s. to £2 15s. Yearlings, first class, £8 to £9; second class, £6 10s. to £7 7s. 6d.; third class, £5 1s. 8d. to £5 12s. 6d. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 5s. to £13 10s.; second class, £8 to £10 10s.; third class, £6 16s. to £7 5s. Three-year-olds, second class, £13 5s. to £14 10s.; third class, £8 10s. to £10 17s. 6d. Springers, first class, £16 6s. 8d. to £21 5s.; second class, £12 10s. to £14 10s.; third class, £9 5s. to £10 10s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 16s. to 22s. each.

There was an average-sized fair at Killarney, co. Kerry, on Monday, and a good demand prevailed at the following prices:—Calves, second class, £3 12s. 6d. to £4 7s. 6d.; third class, £2 5s. to £3 7s. 6d. Yearlings, second class, £5 10s. to £6 17s. 6d.; third class, £4 to £5 5s. Two-year-olds, second class, £7 5s. to £10 2s. 6d.; third class, £5 5s. to £6 10s. Three-year-olds, third class, £6 to £6 17s. 6d. Springers, first class, £12 5s. to £15; third class, £8 to £11 12s. 6d.

At Mullingar, co. Westmeath, on Monday, there was a very large fair, composed to a considerable extent of first and second class three-year-old cattle Some choice lots were fairly well placed, but on the whole the fair was a dragging one, and prices showed a downward tendency. There was a small supply of sheep. Shipping lambs and hoggets met a fair trade, but middling sorts were slow to sell. Prices:—Calves, first class, £4 15s. to £6 5s.; second class, £3 15s. to £4 10s. Yearlings, first class, £8 5s. to £9 10s.; second class, £5 17s. 6d. to £7. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 5s. to £12; second class, £8 10s to £10 10s.; third class, £6 10s. to £7. Three-year olds, first class, £13 17s. 6d. to £16 15s.; second class, £11 5s. to £13 10s.; third class, £8 10s. Springers, first class, £16 10s. to £17 15s.; second class, £13 to £14 10s.; third class, £10. Lambs, first class, £1 9s. to £1 13s.; second class, £1 5s. to £1 7s. 6d. Over twelve and under twenty-four months old, first class, £2 2s. to £2 10s.; second class, £1 12s. 6d. to £1 15s.

The fair held at Newport, co. Mayo, on Monday, was a small one, composed chiefly of third class mountain cattle, for which there was a fair local demand. Prices:—Calves, third class, £2 5s. to £5. Yearlings, second class, £6 5s. to £7 15s.; third class, £4 10s. to £5 5s. Two-year-olds, second class, £8 10s. to £10; third class, £6 to £7. Three-year-olds, third class, £7 to £9 5s. Springers, third class, £8 to £9 15s.

HORSES.

Prevention of Horse Poisoning in Lincolnshire.

The twenty-first annual meeting of the Lincolnshire Horse Poisoning Prevention Association was held at Lincoln on the 9th inst., Mr. J. Pears presiding. The Right Honourable Henry Chaplin, M.P., was re-elected chairman, and Mr. J. Pears was again appointed vice-chairman. The committees were re-appointed, Mr. S. Smeeton being added to the General Committee.

The report of the committee stated that several items of expenditure had been incurred by the association during the year on behalf of members for suspected horse poisoning, but in one case only had the preliminary investigation led to a prosecution. The case was that of a waggoner in the employ of Mr. J. H. Copping, Timberland, where several horses under his care were seized with illness, and two died. The result of a *post mortem* was that there were strong appearances of arsenic poisoning. Some of the powders from the waggoner's bin were sent for analysis, together with the stomach of one horse, and it was found that both the powders and the stomach contained arsenic. The waggoner was prosecuted, and sentenced to three weeks' hard labour without the option of a fine. The expenses of the prosecution amounted to £15 8s. 9d.

One result was the addition of members to the association and insurance fund. Several names had been taken off and additions made, leaving 157 members, an increase of one, and the insurance fund had been increased by £32. The members' attention was drawn to Rule 8, which requires a veterinary certificate to be produced before cases of supposed poisoning can be taken. The financial statement showed a balance of £185 10s. 8d. to the credit of the association. The accounts of the insurance fund showed that the balance to credit was now £591 0s. 7d. The accounts were adopted.

Sale of New Forest Ponies at Chichester.

At Chichester Cattle Market on Wednesday Mr. C. Stride, of the Chichester Auction Company, brought under the hammer a little over fifty pure-bred unbroken New Forest ponies, consigned to him by Mr. W. G. Bennett, of Brockenhurst, Hants. The sale attracted a large gathering round the ring, and most of the ponies found purchasers at prices ranging from £7 or £8 to £3 10s., although in the case of a few of the smallest animals less money was paid.

Sale of Coach Horses, etc., at Tattersall's.

At Tattersall's on Monday coach horses and hunters divided attention. In a long catalogue the stud of the "Comet," from the London and Brighton road, was a strong feature; but they did not realise high prices, and 96gs. for a chestnut wheeler that had been hunted was the highest accepted bid. A little later one of the same consignment, a useful-looking grey, made 72gs.; but this was one of the picks of the basket. Count Scilern found purchasers for a matched pair of chestnuts at 100gs., and for a hack that had won prizes in the show ring at 120gs., whilst Mr. F. Pritchard obtained 105gs. for a brown harness horse and 90gs. for a bay. From the Blackmore Vale country Mr. T. H. Miller disposed of Muriel, a brown weight-carrying huntress by Lifeboat, for 100gs., and Mr. J. Farrant, with Quorn, a black horse capable of carrying 15st. to hounds for 115gs.

Sale at Bury St. Edmunds.

There was a large attendance of buyers at Messrs. Sampson and Son's Auction Mart, Bury St. Edmunds, on Wednesday, when just over a hundred horses were brought under the hammer. Amongst the consignments were two young bay hackney mares, the property of Mr. G. C. Capon, and they realised 26½gs. and 25gs. The cart horses included five belonging to Mr. J. G. Weller Poley, which were sold in consequence of one of the Low Hall farms being let. Three chestnut geldings, named Short, Prince, and Boxer, went at 36gs., 31gs., and 16½gs. respectively; whilst Jockey, a bay gelding, realised 21gs., and Snip, a chestnut mare, 10½gs. The other principal lots were: Bay mare, 5 yrs., 18½gs.; Suffolk filly, 3yrs., 16½gs.; Tinker, black gelding, 11½gs.; brown gelding, 14½gs.; [illegible] 2yrs., 23½gs.; cart colt, 2yrs., 21½gs.; brown gelding, 21½gs.; brown cob, 7yrs., 15.1 h.h., 20gs.; brown mare, rising 5yrs., 15.2 h.h., the property of Mr. H. Johnson, of Ravensfield Farm, 17gs.; black [illegible] 7yrs., 14.3 h.h., 12gs.; White Socks, chestnut gelding, 9yrs., 16 h.h., the property of Mr. C. T. Pyke, who has left the neighbourhood, 21½gs.; bay cob, 6yrs., 14.2 h.h., 19½gs.; bay cob, 8yrs., 11gs.; bay mare, 6yrs., 15gs.; bay cob, 4yrs., 14.2 h.h., 12½gs.; bay cob, 5yrs., 14.2 h.h., 14gs.; chestnut mare, 6yrs. 15.2 h.h., 17gs.

Horse Sale at Glasgow.

A special sale of horses, carriages, and harness was held on Tuesday, by Mr. Joseph Vine, within the Horse Bazaar, Port Dundas Road, Glasgow. The catalogue included 110 horses, consisting principally of carriage and harness horses, while there were also a number suitable for van and cart purposes. Carriage and draught horses secured the best demand, and realised high prices. Vanners met a rather dull trade. Cobs and ponies had a fair selling trade. Carriages and sets of harness met a dull demand, and realised very poor prices. Carriage horses of the best class realised up to 60 guineas; secondary, 20 to 28 guineas; and inferior, down to £6 10s.; best draught horses, to 40 guineas; secondary and inferior, 5 to 20 guineas; vanners, £4 10s. to 26 guineas; according to style and action; best cobs, to £30; secondary, 8 to 14 guineas; ponies, 5 to 18 guineas; and lorry animals, 10 to 36 guineas.

Sale of Mr. J. Andrews's Stud of Trotters.

An important sale of trotting horses took place at Ashton-under-Lyne on Wednesday, when the entire stud, comprising the fastest trotting horses in the kingdom, owned by Mr. J. Andrews, were put up for auction. This was brought about owing to the expiration of the lease of the trotting grounds. There was a large attendance of buyers. All the lots put up were sold, the highest price being fetched by Rustic Beauty, who was knocked down at 120gs. Details of the other animals, together with purchasers, prices paid, etc., are given below:—

		£
Little Neil, [illegible] 13.1 hands, five years	Mr [illegible]	[illegible]
Gamecock, d. p., 12.1, seven years	Mr. Andrews	13
Robin Hood, ch. g., 14 hands, six years	Mr [illegible]	[illegible]
Major, br. g., 15.2 hands, five years	Mr. Hanson	29
Lascelles, ch. m., 13 hands	Mr. Walker	[illegible]
Cob Boy, br. g., 15.2 hands, seven years	Mr. G. Ross	[illegible]
Madame Patti, b. m., 14 hands, five years	Mr. W. [illegible]	[illegible]
Sandolie, b. m., 14.3 hands, seven years	Mr. P. Edge	22
Nellie Bleasdale, b. m., 15.2 hands, five years	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Gold Lace, b. m., 15.1 hands, seven years, record 2m. 40s.	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Shooter, br. g., 15 hands	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Tommy, b. g., 14 hands, six years	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Fancy Pranks, b. g., 14.2 hands, record 2m. 33s.	Mr. Morley	40
Prince Charley, ch. g., 15 hands, six years	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Welsh Flyer, b. g., 14.2 hands, four years, record 2m. [illegible]	Mr. P. [illegible]	[illegible]
Bessie and Jessie, [illegible] six and seven years	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Lady Beth, 14.1 hands	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Black Bess, b. m., 15 hands	Mr. W. [illegible]	[illegible]
Young Express II., b. h., 14.3	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Little Gem, b. p., 12 hands, five years	Mr. Dunkerley	36½
Fashion, [illegible] 14 hands, six years	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Rose Holligan, b. m., 14.3 hands, seven years, record 2m. 41s.	Mr. Kennedy	90
Gaiety Girl, br. m., 15.3 hands, six years, record 2m. [illegible]	Mr. Heap	54
The Earl, b. g., 15.2 hands, record 2m. 30s.	Mr. H. [illegible]	[illegible]
Miss Dora, ch. f., three years	Mr. B. Haycock	20½
Gipsy Wilks, bl. m., 15.2 hands, record 2m. 33s.	Mr. R. Wiltshire	51
Gipsy Maid II., b. m., 14 hands, record 2m. 37s	Mr. R. [illegible]	[illegible]
Rose [illegible] 14.3 hands, five years	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] 5s.	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible] 15 hands, six years	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]
Nonsuch, b. g., 15 hands, record 2m. 32s.	Mr. J. R[illegible]well	39
Sea King, ch. s.	Mr. Haycock	24
[illegible]	Mr. [illegible]	[illegible]

The first hirings of the season at Howden were held on Tuesday, when there was a large number of [illegible] farmers and labourers. [illegible] up to £27; second [illegible] £20 to £[illegible]; [illegible] £15 to £20; youths £[illegible] to £[illegible]; boys who could plough, £10 to £12. Girls were [illegible] and young girls [illegible] to £10; experienced girls, £13 to £20; and cooks, £22 to £27 per annum.

SHEEP.

Inspection of the Champion Suffolk Flock.

In accordance with the conditions of the flock competitions organised by the Suffolk Sheep Society, the champion flock were on Monday open to the inspection of members of the society, at Walton. The honour of winning the Bristol Champion Challenge Cup for the best flock of ewes and the Pretyman Challenge Cup for the best ewe lambs was this year accorded to Mr. Herbert E. Smith, of Walton Grange. It is no small distinction to have attained, seeing that the champion flock had come into competition with the winning and reserve flocks in District A (East Suffolk), B (Mid-Suffolk), C (West Suffolk and Cambridgeshire), and D (Essex). A considerable number of gentlemen, whose names have been for some time more or less prominently connected with the best examples of the breed, were in attendance on Monday. There would doubtless have been a much larger attendance upon an occasion so attractive to breeders of Suffolk sheep had the weather been less unpropitious. There was still another and much more sad drawback to the pleasure of the visit—the serious illness of Mr. Joseph Smith, a gentleman who has devoted a lifetime to the improvement of the Suffolks as a distinctive breed of sheep, and who would without doubt have felt pride and pleasure in meeting his many friends under circumstances so specially gratifying. In consequence of Mr. Smith's indisposition, the flock was retained on the marshes near the Felixstowe Beach Railway Station, but the inspection was of rather short duration, owing to the persistent downpour of rain. There were nine score ewes on view, and they formed a grand collection, possessing as they did beautiful features, and being wide and short on the leg. There were, in addition, about thirty choice ewe lambs, reserved for addition to the flock next year, while the rams used in the flock came in for a great deal of favourable comment, two of them being prize-winners at the summer shows this year.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Nov. 10th, 1900:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	180	641 735 319	16 043	26 028 18 036 36,512	
	Outbreaks	No.	22	23 31 18	1 707	2 114 2 189 1,992	
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Other Animals	No.	:	: : :	2	: : 16	
	Dogs.	No.	:	1 : 4	5	9 16 142	
Glanders and Farcy.	Animals Attacked	No.	25	36 22 31	1 611	1 293 1 229 1,373	
	Outbreaks.	No.	17	25 10 12	983	729 653 779	
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	:	: : :	227	: : :	
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	: : :	17	: : :	
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	18	22 13 8	801	894 722 750	
	Outbreaks.	No.	16	13 12 6	480	468 485 373	
Pleuro Pneumonia.	Cattle slightly affected. Exposed to Infection	No.	:	: : :	:	290 741	
	Diseased.	No.	:	: : :	:	1 46	
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	: : :	:	1 17	
Period.							
Week ended Nov. 10, 1900							
Corresponding week in ..	1899 1898 1897						
Total for 45 weeks 1900							
Corresponding period in ..	1899 1898 1897						

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

The first of the November hirings at Durham took place on the 10th inst. There was a large attendance of masters and servants, and many engagements were effected. The free registry was again in operation, and most of the domestic servants obtained their situations through this agency. Boys, £3 to £5; girls and women, £9 to £11; men, £12 to £14.

Kendal Hiring Fair.—There was a large attendance of farm servants at the hiring fair at Kendal on the 10th inst., but there seemed little disposition to come to terms, the wages asked being considerably higher than at corresponding half years previously. First-class men asked as high as £20, but a few were hired at £18; second-class men, £15 to £16; boys and youths, £6 to £10. There was a strong demand for female servants, and first-class women obtained £16 to £18; second-class women, £14 to £16; and girls, £10.

SOCIETIES.

Clydesdale Horse.

A meeting of the council of the Clydesdale Horse Society was held on Wednesday in the society's office, 93, Hope Street, Glasgow, when seventeen candidates were elected members of the society. The General Purposes Committee reported that the income for the ten months ending October 31st was about the same as the figures for last year. Accounts amounting to £30 were passed for payment.

A recommendation of the committee that a new Cawdor Challenge Cup for mares be raised by voluntary contributions, and that condition No. 3 be amended to read, "either of these cups must be won three times by an exhibitor with different animals (but not necessarily in consecutive years) before it becomes his absolute property," was adopted by the council. This condition applies only to the third Cawdor Cup for either sex.

Intimation of the award of the society's medals at the various district shows was received. It was resolved to insert the portrait of Prince Thomas (10,262) in the twenty-third volume of the Stud-book, and arrangements for the printing of the volume were gone into. A new form of export certificate to comply with the United States Customs regulations was drawn up and approved. The next meeting was fixed for Wednesday, December 19th.

Polo Pony.

Sir Richard D. Green-Price, Bart. (President), occupied the chair at a meeting of the Council of this Society, held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on the 8th inst.

A letter was read from the Inspector-General of Remounts acknowledging the resolution passed by the Council at their meeting in June, urging the Government to encourage breeders to supply the demand for horses of 14h. 2in. in view of their acknowledged utility in South Africa.

Upon the presentation of this letter Captain Daly urged that the War Office should be asked to purchase their horses direct from the breeders.

Mr. John Jones thought that the society should endeavour to learn from the Government the class of pony they required, and also the maximum price that they were prepared to give. Further, he thought that a committee should be appointed to interview the Inspector-General of Remounts, so that a regiment mounted upon ponies of 14h. 2in. should be formed, if only for an experiment.

Mr. Tresham Gilbey considered that it was premature just now to ask the Government these questions. The society should encourage the breeding of the best pony for riding purposes.

Mr. Marshall Dugdale thought that when a remount officer visited a certain district due notice should be given to the neighbouring farmers, naming the day, age, and price he was prepared to give. At present the dealers were those who obtained this information, and were the only ones to profit by it.

Mr. Barker said that even when Government inspections were advertised it did not beneficially affect the breeders. The Army authorities seemed to prefer to puchase horses from the dealers, and until we got reform in the Army it mattered little what the society suggested. There ought to be a buyer in each district.

Mr. Jones, in answer to Mr. Gilbey, thought that the members were breeding entirely in the dark. The Government should state definitely whether they intended patronising the 14h. 2in. horse, and on their giving a promise to this effect, the members would have something to go on in breeding. As regards what Mr. Dugdale had said, he knew of two cases where musters of 200 and 120 horses respectively were got together ready for the expected Government buyer, and in both cases only some thirty horses were finally purchased by him, the majority of the cast horses being bought at the end of the sale by various dealers, who eventually disposed of them to the Government buyer at a later date.

Sir Richard Green-Price informed the meeting that General Truman, the Inspector-General of Remounts, had given him every encouragement that the Government would consider the society's views when the question of reform in the mounted troops was being discussed by them. This society should, however, be foremost in giving advice on the subject, and he thought that Mr. Jones's motion as to the formation of a small committee was worth consideration.

Rev. F. Furse Vidal urged that if the society could induce the Government to deal direct with the breeder something would be gained.

On the motion being put to the meeting, it was unanimously resolved that a committee be appointed to confer with the Inspector-General of Remounts on the matter, and the following gentlemen were appointed to act on same:—Rev. T. F. Dale, Captain Daly, Mr. A. L. Goodson, Mr. John Jones, Mr. G. Norris Midwood, Rev. D. B. Montefiore, Mr. E. Mucklow, jun., and Sir Richard Green-Price, Bart.

Finance Committee.

Mr. Tresham Gilbey (Chairman) stated that the balance at the bank on the current account was £57 3s. 11d., with £210 on deposit; receipts since the last meeting, £153 15s.; while the members in arrear with their subscriptions amounted to twelve, as compared with fourteen last year. Accounts for payment, £101 1s. 3d., were recommended for payment. This report was adopted.

Editing Committee.

Sir Richard Green-Price reported that an entry of 333 ponies had been received for Vol. VI., as compared with 330 in Vol. V. Of this number 33 polo pony stallions were registered, as against 31 in Vol. V.; and 175 mares, as against 121. The Committee had dealt with several animals entered for inspection, while they approved the arrangements by which Lord Arthur Cecil and Professor Cossar Ewart had appointed a local committee to register entries from the Connemara district, resulting in an entry of four stallions and twenty-three mares for the new section. The reproductions of the champion stallion Rosewater and the champion mare Lightning at the last show, and groups of Welsh ponies belonging to Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale, were approved, and the Committee also agreed to insert portraits of the North Wales mare Welsh Diamond and the South Wales stallion Starlight. They fixed December 7th for considering the Stud Book proofs, while they referred to the next meeting of the Committee the conditions of entry for Volume VII., and several suggestions received from members of the society.

Horse Show Committee, &c.

Mr. G. Norris Midwood (Chairman) submitted the schedule of prizes which had been drawn up for the 1901 London Show. The Committee had increased the riding classes by dividing the older class into two, for light and heavy weights; they had allotted three prizes for the bending race and three for the jumping competition, to take place on the afternoon of Friday, March 15th. In all, including challenge cups and gold medals, the schedule of prizes would total £426, or an increase of £76. The Committee proposed no alteration in the measurement of ponies, as Mr. G. L. St. Quintin had kindly consented to place the services of the Official Measurer of Hurlingham, when appointed, at the disposal of the society. All stallions and brood mares would have to undergo a veterinary examination before entering the judging ring.

It was resolved to invite Mr. A. L. Goodson and Mr. Stuart Forster to be the stewards at the next show, while invitations had also been issued to the judges of the riding and breeding classes. The special prize of £5 which Mr. Stonebridge had placed at the disposal of the Council had been allotted for the best four or five-year-old pony in the riding classes that had never played polo.

In presenting this report, Mr. Midwood called attention to the increase which the Committee had deemed it desirable to make to the schedule of prizes at the London Show, but they thought that in view of the increasing public interest in the small horse of 14h. 2in., and his adaptability to the mounted infantry branch of the service, that the society should do all in its power to encourage breeders to produce good riding ponies. They would also learn that the Committee proposed to make a large grant to the polo pony classes at the Royal Show to be held next year at Cardiff; and, with their schemes of silver medals at various affiliated shows, they must, with their present membership, again open a special prize fund. Their membership was increasing, and no doubt they would soon be able to dispense with it, but, at any rate, they could not do so in 1901. From the figures prepared by the secretary, a sum of £400 was necessary. As a result of the chairman's appeal, £180 was subscribed in the Council-room, and it was resolved to make a special appeal to all the members.

Royal Show at Cardiff.

A letter was submitted from the Cardiff Local Committee intimating that they were prepared to offer £25 in prizes for the polo pony classes, and the Council supplemented this amount by a grant of £94, amounting in all to £119, to be allotted in seven classes for polo ponies—two for stallions, two for mares, and three for young stock—while the Polo Pony Society would also give a gold medal for the best stallion or entire colt, and a gold medal for the best mare or filly in these classes. It was also resolved to suggest to the Cardiff Local Committee the desirability of offering classes for Welsh breeding ponies, as follows:—

Stallions, not exceeding 12 hands, foaled in or previously to 1898.

Mares, not exceeding 12 hands, foaled in or previously to 1898.

Stallions, not exceeding 13 hands, foaled in or previously to 1898.

Mares, not exceeding 13 hands, foaled in or previously to 1898.

The Council urged the acceptance of these suggestions as the height of Welsh ponies varied in the different parts of the Principality, and, in view of the Royal Show being held in Cardiff next year, every encouragement should be given to Welsh pony breeders.

Country Shows in 1901.

A statement was submitted showing the award of the gold and silver medals in 1900, indicating that sixteen gold and sixteen silver medals had been allotted. The Council dealt with several protests

arising out of the awards, and drew up their scheme for 1901, viz. :—

(a) The Society's gold medals shall only be awarded at the London, Dublin, and Royal Shows under the existing conditions.

(b) The Society's silver medals shall be offered at the affiliated country shows.

(c) That such silver medals shall be only offered for breeding animals; stallions, brood mares (foal at foot by or in foal to, a registered Polo pony (stallion), and fillies one, two, and three years old. Geldings to be excluded.

(d) The amount to be offered by the affiliated societies shall be £10 for one medal, and £20 for two medals.

(e) The Polo ponies to be judged by the hunter judges.

(f) No pony to take more than one medal in the same year.

Election of Councilman.

Mr. Clervaux Morley Saunders, of Bovacott, Brandis Corner, Devon, was unanimously elected a member of the Council to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Lord Kensington.

Dublin Meeting.

The suggestions of the Irish members made at the meeting at the Royal Dublin Show :—

(a) That no pony from Ireland be admitted to the Stud Book except after inspection, and none under four years old;

(b) The desirability of systematic measurement of young stock, and the registration of heights in the Stud Book

were referred to the Editing Committee for consideration when they go into the question of conditions of entry for Vol. VII.

Next Meeting of the Council.

It was arranged that the next meeting of the Council should be held on Friday, December 14th, in the Smithfield Club week.

No. 2, Heroine 3rd, exhibited by Lady Henry Bentinck, having been inadvertently entered as August 10th (the date of calving of her sister, Heroine 5th) instead of September 2nd—a mistake pointed out by the exhibitor this cow was not entitled to the points allowed for lactation. The first milking trial prize, therefore, reverted to No. 4, Musical 86th, exhibited by Mr. J. T. Hobbs, Heroine 3rd taking the second milking prize as well as the Shorthorn Society's prize for cow in Class 1 gaining most points on inspection and in milking trials.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. George Alexander in acknowledgment of her kindness and hospitality in entertaining the judge, stewards, and competitors in one of the milkers' contests which took place on the premises of Messrs. A. L. Alexander and Sons.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed to be held on Tuesday, December 11th.

Smithfield Club.

A meeting of the Council was held at the Royal Agricultural Hall on Wednesday, Mr. Leopold de Rothschild (President) in the chair. Before commencing the business of the meeting the President said he felt that the Council would like to express to Her Majesty the Queen and the Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein their deep regret at the sad loss which they had sustained by the death of H.R.H. Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig-Holstein. The members present knew the interest H.R.H. Prince Christian took in the Smithfield Club, and he was sure they would all desire to express their sympathy, and he begged to move that—

The Council of the Smithfield Club humbly desire to convey to Her Majesty the Queen and their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess Christian of Schlewig-Holstein the expression of their deep sympathy in the sad loss which they have sustained by the death of H.R.H. Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig-Holstein.

Mr. Clare Sewell Read seconded the motion, and it was unanimously adopted.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.

A communication was read from the Home Secretary, acknowledging the resolution to Her Majesty the Queen, passed at the last meeting.

The President regretted to have to announce the death of Mr. Robert Garne, a valued colleague on the Council, and who had been a member of the Club for upwards of twenty years, and

On the motion of Mr. T. Latham, seconded by Mr. J. J. Cridlan, it was unanimously resolved that a letter of condolence and sympathy be sent to the relatives of the late Mr. Robert Garne.

A communication from the London Butchers' Trade Society, asking if the Council could include pigs in the block test, and suggesting that in the pig-classes the animals should be weighed, was, on the motion of Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, seconded by Mr. J. P. Terry, referred to the Carcase and Stock Prize Committees for consideration and report.

Mr. Clare Sewell Read, as chairman, reported that the Finance Committee had examined the banker's pass book and arranged for the audit of the Club's accounts; that the Committee had also considered the design for the Club's seal, and instructed the secretary thereon.

Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., presented the report of the Selection Committee, recommending that the following twenty-two names (out of the twenty-five names nominated) be submitted to the members for the election therefrom of eleven members to serve on the Council in place of the eleven who retire by rotation at the ensuing annual general meeting, and who are not eligible for re-election until after the expiration of one year, viz. :—Messrs. George Adams, Richardson Carr, A. F. Milton Druce, Arthur Eggington, J. B. Ellis, G. S. Grant, George James Henry Lambert, John Lindsay, H. D. Marshall, Henry Overman, Hon. Alexander Parker, W. Parkin-Moore, William Reid, Henry Smith, Sanders Spencer, Joseph Stratton, C. W. Tindall, Henry Webb, John Wortley, William Wright, J. H. Yeomans.

This report was adopted.

Mr. Alfred Cresskill, chairman of the Improvement Committee, reported that the committee had considered the applications for space at the forthcoming show, and had allotted the same. The report was adopted.

Mr. William Coggan, as chairman, reported that the Carcase Committee had considered estimates and arranged for the carrying out of the carcase competition at the ensuing show. The report was adopted.

The report of the Council of the Club's proceedings for the present year was considered, amended, and adopted.

Applications by various societies for the use of the club room for meetings during the show were considered, and the secretary instructed thereon.

The following resolution was received from the National Sheep Breeders' Association in reply to the resolution passed by the Club in February last :—

That this Association deprecates the excessive use of dyeing or colouring of show sheep, but at the same time thinks as little interference as possible should be exercised in preventing exhibitors to show their sheep in the best possible form

Mr. J. Bowen-Jones called attention to certain local authorities adopting the method of isolation in place of slaughter in cases of swine fever, and hoped the Club would press for immediate slaughter as the best means of eradicating the disease, and he therefore moved the following resolution :—

The Council of the Smithfield Club trust that the immediate slaughter of pigs in outbreaks of swine fever will still be adhered to by the Board of Agriculture.

This was seconded by Mr. Clare Sewell Read, and adopted, and ordered to be forwarded to the President of the Board of Agriculture.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for Tuesday, December 11th, at 11 a.m.

KERRY HILL RAM, "BAHAILLON SAMSON," BRED BY MR. R. MORGAN, BAHAILLON NEWTON, NORTH WALES, AND SOLD FOR 21GS.

British Dairy Farmers.

A meeting of the Council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association was held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on the 7th inst., Mr. Geo. Barham in the chair. Mr. L. C. Verrey and Mr. T. Stone were introduced and welcomed by the chairman on the occasion of their attendance at the first monthly meeting of the Council since election.

Two new members were elected, viz., the Reading Dairy Company, Limited (represented by Mr. Lee), Reading, and Edward Upton, Crabb Place, Warbleton, Sussex, whilst Major Alvord, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (Dairy Division), was elected an honorary member of the Association.

The Finance Committee brought up a report principally connected with the recent Dairy Show, and upon their recommendation cheques amounting to £4,488 were passed for payment of prizes and other items of expenditure.

The Education and Journal Committee reported the publication of the third part of the Association's Journal for the current year, and their prospective arrangements for future issues. The report was adopted, and cheques to meet current liabilities were passed.

Upon a report with reference to the class for new inventions at the Dairy Show, it was agreed to award a silver medal to Messrs. Allen and Barker, Limited, for their "A.B." oil engine.

A certificate of the analysis of eight samples of cream taken by the steward in Classes 62 and 63 was laid before the Council. Six of these were certified to be free from preservative, and Nos. 1,173 and 1,193 respectively to contain formalin and boric acid. The conditions applicable to these classes required the exhibits to be without any admixture either for colour, taste, thickening, or preserving, and it was resolved to disqualify exhibits Nos. 1,173 and 1,193. The second prize for "cream other than clotted" will, therefore, be awarded to the Mid-Sussex Dairy Company, Limited.

It was also reported to the Council that in consequence of the date of last calving of Shorthorn cow

FIRST-CLASS representatives and agents required throughout the United Kingdom for the sale of "MOLASSINE"—Write for particulars to the "MOLASSINE" CO., LTD., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

Highland and Agricultural Society.

A meeting of the directors of the Highland and Agricultural Society was held in the Society's offices, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh, on the 7th inst. On the motion of Sir James Gibson Craig, Mr. A. M. Gordon of Newton, was unanimously re-elected chairman of the Board, and took the chair and returned thanks for the renewal of their confidence.

The Chairman said the Queen's exhibits at the Stirling Show had achieved such marked success that the secretary and himself had thought they should have a specially bound copy of the catalogue prepared for presentation to Her Majesty. That had been done, and Her Majesty's Commissioner, Mr. Forbes, had written stating that the Queen had instructed him to convey Her Majesty's thanks for the gift. (Applause.)

The Chairman said they had had the misfortune since their last meeting to lose by death three of their members—Mr. Maxwell of Munches, Mr. Peter M'Lagan, Pumpherston; and Mr. Anderson, Lochdhu. They were all old and respected members of the Society, and had taken an active interest in promoting the agricultural interests of Scotland. It was agreed to minute an expression of their sense of the loss which the Society had sustained by the deaths of these gentlemen, and to send copies of the resolution to their families.

The secretary intimated that the accounts of the recent Stirling Show showed that there would probably be a balance to the good of about £1,000.

A letter was read from Mr. Thomas Smith, Powrie, Dundee, claiming that the Ballindalloch Challenge Cup for the best Aberdeen-Angus cow at Stirling should be awarded to him for his second prize cow, on the ground that the first prize cow, belonging to Her Majesty the Queen, had failed to comply with the Society's calving regulations. The secretary said the Ballindalloch Cup had in the past been awarded without any regard to the calving regulations. After the decision of the judges in the showyard, the cup was handed over to the party winning it. On the recommendation of the Shows Committee, it was agreed to adhere to the custom that had prevailed in the past.

A donation of £20 was intimated from the Duke of Richmond and Gordon towards the funds of the Inverness Show of 1901 next year. Arrangements were made in connection with the show, and it was agreed that the headquarters of the Society should be at the Star on Board. The draft premium list for the show was submitted, and ordered to be circulated among members, the secretary stating that the amount was £2,359, which was £116 less than at Stirling this year, but £892 more than at Inverness in 1892.

Sir James Gibson Craig explained that the committee had in the meantime omitted poultry from the premium list. He could assure the Board and the public that that had not been done from any want

of sympathy with the poultry interest. They knew what a very important factor it was in the economy of the farm, and they were also painfully aware of the ignorance and neglect of this question which existed in many quarters, especially among the smaller farmers. They also knew the large amount of money that went abroad for poultry, and which might be kept in this country; but they felt that the money they were spending on the poultry department of the show did not receive an adequate return, and they thought a great deal more good might be done by assisting local exhibitions of poultry. They spent some £280 a year on that department of the show, and he thought the poultry interest would be better served by a regular system of aiding local shows by means of prizes. The committee did not, however, feel justified in making such a radical change as they proposed without the public being made aware of it, so that it might be discussed at their next meeting.

Some discussion took place on the regulations for the clipping of blackfaced sheep to be exhibited at the Inverness Show, Sir Robert Menzies having written suggesting that a committee of extensive sheep farmers, who were not regular tup-breeders, should be appointed to report as to what the date for clipping should be. On the recommendation of the Shows Committee it was agreed that the date for clipping should be changed from 1st January to 1st February for the Inverness Show, and that before the regulations for 1902 were prepared the question should be more fully considered by the general members of the Society.

On a letter from Mr. Charles Duncan, Little Kilmorey, it was agreed that the milking regulations with regard to the exhibition of Ayrshire cows should be done away with. A number of special prizes for the Inverness Show were intimated in addition to champion medals in each of the sections of live stock, by Mr. Cameron of Lochiel, the new president of the Society.

The Secretary intimated that the County Council of Aberdeenshire had resolved to raise £500 by voluntary assessment in aid of the funds of the Aberdeen Show of 1902, and that the Banffshire County Council had agreed to raise £150 by a similar method.

A committee which was appointed to consider the influence of different forms of ploughing recommended the Society to carry out a series of experiments on lea land, that three types of ploughs should be tried—the high-cutting plough, the broad-shared plough, and the American plough—and that the trials should take place in each of the eight show districts. The report was approved. Professor Hamilton, Aberdeen, having asked the co-operation and assistance of the Society in continuing his investigations in regard to braxy among sheep, Mr. Sinclair Scott moved a grant of £50 in aid of the investigation. On the suggestion of Mr. Shirra Gibb, Boon, it was agreed to remit the matter to the Science Committee of the Society.

Scottish Chamber.

The annual general meeting of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture was held at Edinburgh on Tuesday, Mr. George W. Constable, of Traquair, president, in the chair. The secretary (Mr. Isaac Connell) presented the directors' annual report. They stated that the past year had been one of considerable activity. It had seen the passing into law of two important measures affecting agriculturists, these being the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900, and the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1900. By the amendments contained in the former of these Acts the directors were of opinion that the agriculturists of Scotland had had considerable benefits conferred on them. They considered that the provision for giving compensation for corn grown and consumed on the holding, for laying down temporary pasture, for dispensing with the necessity of notice of intention to claim, for appointing official arbiters by the Board of Agriculture, and generally extending the powers of that Board in connection with the Act, were all in the right direction. Another change of benefit to agriculturists has been effected by the order of the Privy Council to the effect of excluding from the operation of the Pharmacy Acts sheep dips or other articles containing carbolic acid and used for the washing of sheep or for other agricultural purposes.

The directors desired to remind the members that the Agricultural Rates Relief Act would lapse unless renewed next year, and they thought it of the utmost importance that every agricultural society in the country should raise its voice and support the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Rating in order to ensure the renewal of the Act.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said he thought they would agree with him when he said the interests of agriculture in Scotland had been carefully watched and safeguarded by the directors during the past year. (Applause.) Touching on the Agricultural Holdings Act, he expressed the hope that it would prove a boon to the agriculturists of Scotland. He expressed the hope that the directors would press upon the Government during the coming year the necessity for inquiry into the cause of "louping ill," with the view of finding out if there was any cure for the disease. It had been a matter of considerable disappointment to the directors that Mr Long was unable to meet with the Scottish agriculturists in Glasgow, and now there was no chance of Mr. Long appearing again as President of the Board of Agriculture. They trusted that Mr. Long's successor might see his way in a very short period to visit Scotland. Whoever that gentleman might be, he would have some difficulty in filling Mr. Long's shoes.

Mr. Constable concluded by expressing the very deep debt of gratitude the agriculturists of Scotland owed to Mr. Long for the interest he had taken in them. (Applause.)

Mr. Alex. Cross, M.P., was elected honorary president of the Chamber, and Mr. Cunningham of Dallachy, Burntisland, president. The latter having taken the chair, thanked the Chamber for the honour done him.

A short discussion on the Agricultural Holdings Act having taken place, Mr. J. Wilson, Chapelhill, moved a resolution approving of the Agricultural Rates Relief Act as an act of justice to tenant farmers, and expressing the hope that it be continued. He said that although the Government had not dealt them justice to the utmost, seeing they were still charged upon three-eighths of their rental, still this Act had brought them somewhat into line with other ratepayers—(hear, hear)—and they were now in a much better position than ever they were before. The Chamber did not express any opinion as to the source of the money. That was a matter for the Legislature, and it was sufficient to know that they got the relief which justice demanded. He thought no Government, no Legislature, would have the conscience to propose to revert to the former state of things.

Mr. G. W. Ralston, advocate, seconded. The Secretary said all that was done by this measure was to carry out logically and uniformly a principle which was admitted in 1845, when local authorities were expressly given power to rate agricultural subjects on a different basis, and many of them did assess them at one-third or one-fourth of their rental. The resolution was adopted.

Council Meeting.

A meeting of the directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture was held in No. 5, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on the 7th inst., Mr. G. W. Constable, Traquair, presiding.

A letter was read on behalf of the secretary of the Board of Agriculture acknowledging receipt of the directors' resolutions passed at a recent meeting, and assuring them that Mr. Long very much appreciated the expression of approval of the Chamber of his work in connection with the passing of the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900; and also stating that the views of the Chamber with regard to the consolidation of the Agricultural Holdings Acts would receive Mr. Long's careful consideration. The directors agreed to recommend to the annual meeting the election of the following office-bearers:—Honorary president, the Hon. James Hozier, M.P.; honorary vice-presidents, the county members of Parliament; president, Mr. Cunningham of Dallachy; vice-president, Mr. Shields of Dolphinston, Tranent.

A draft of the annual report was read and approved of. Some discussion arose as to the terms of the motion to be proposed at the annual meeting with regard to the Agricultural Rates Relief Act. Ultimately it was agreed, Mr. Rutherford, Crailing Tofts, Kelso, dissenting, that the terms should be as follows:—"Approve of the Agricultural Rates Relief Act as an act of justice to tenant farmers, and express the hope that it be continued."

Lincoln Longwool Sheep-Breeders.

The Council of the Lincoln Longwool Sheep-Breeders' Association met at the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society's rooms, Lincoln, on the 9th inst., Sir John H. Thorold, Bart., in the chair. Mr. T. T. Campion (of East Heslerton, York), Mr. J. B. Mellor (Over Haddon with Bakewell), and Mr. C. Pate (of Canwick Heath) were elected members subject to the inspection of their flocks. Inspectors were appointed to see and report upon each flock. It was decided to hold sales of rams at Lincoln on the 2nd of August and 6th of September next, and sale regulations were provisionally agreed to. It was also decided that special prizes should be given as usual next year through the Royal, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, and Leicestershire Societies. The Council adjourned to the 30th November. The Editing Committee meet on the same day.

Lincolnshire.

The first meeting of the Council of the above society for the present season was held at Lincoln on the 9th inst. The Earl of Yarborough presided. The Finance Committee were re-appointed. The Secretary reported an investment of £400 in Consols. Numerous suggestions of members were considered, and instructions given in reference thereto.

Several special prizes, offered through the Brigg Local Committee, were accepted with thanks, and a committee was appointed to prepare a prize list for the Brigg meeting, and to select judges. Mr. D. Grant, Brigg, undertook to procure supplies of hay, green fodder, and straw, and the Finance Committee were requested to obtain tenders for wood.

Upon the suggestion of the Brigg Local Committee the Secretary was requested to communicate with the executive of the Brigg and Scunthorpe District Agricultural Associations with a view to ascertain whether any arrangement could be made to suspend their annual exhibitions for one year, so as to render this Society's exhibition for the district the more successful for the ensuing year.

The Secretary was instructed to send a copy of the pamphlet for the year to several landowners in the county, and invite them to become vice-presidents.

The Secretary reported that Mr. John St. Vigor Fox, of Grisby Manor, had contributed a vice-president's life subscription of £50.

National Sheepbreeders' Association.

At the last meeting of the Council of the National Sheepbreeders' Association the report of the executive committee was submitted and in part adopted as follows:—

1. That, under the existent state of affairs, with no agreement between the home and the colonial and foreign sheep societies as to the admission of sheep into their records, not only it is possible, but it actually occurs, that these societies can and have admitted into their records sheep which previously to being shipped from England were unrecorded, and presumably ineligible for record.

2. That, provided the recommendation of the York Conference be adopted by all breed societies at home and their corresponding societies in other countries, the state of affairs as stated in No. 1 would be impossible, and the whole of the export trade in registered pure-bred sheep would be confined to the members of the different sheep societies adopting the same, and—

(*a*) Those breeders who keep registered pure-bred flocks will secure their just share of the demand, a portion of which either does or may under the present system go to others than themselves.

(*b*) The different registered pure breeds will no longer be liable to suffer damage by reason of other than registered pure-bred animals being exported as such.

3. That, although the Committee consider it would be desirable that the regulations of the home societies should be more uniform, they do not at the present juncture make any definite proposals other than those necessary for the carrying out of the recommendations of the Conference in connection with the transference of registered sheep from their record in one country to that of another.

4. That, provided the resolutions of the Conference be adopted by the societies represented at the Conference, it is recommended that the societies interested shall adopt the following regulations, to be applicable to all sheep which are transferred from their record in one country to that of another, or, in other words, sheep which are exported from the country of their birth:—

(*a*) That every sheep transferred or exported be individually entered in the Flock Book and numbered.

(*d*) That the secretary of the society to which the sheep being transferred or exported belongs shall send with the said sheep a certificate of transfer or export, upon which shall be given its full pedigree and Flock Book number (or in the case where this is not allotted at once, its provisional number, the former being sent to the secretary of the society to which it is transferred so soon as given), the name of its breeder, vendor, consignor, and consignee, the certificate being signed by the secretary of the society issuing the same, and stamped with its corporate seal.

N.B.—This, provided that Sub-sec. A be adopted, would mean its sire and dam, their Flock Book numbers and breeders.

(*e*) That the breeder of the sheep to be transferred apply for the transfer or export certificate, and pay the cost of the same.

(*f*) That the secretary issuing the certificate of transfer or export shall furnish a press copy of the same to the secretary of the society to which it is being transferred.

(*g*) Every export certificate shall be accompanied by a sanitary certificate signed by a duly qualified veterinary surgeon, testifying that the animal or animals in question are not suffering from any disease, and by a sworn affidavit from the vendor to testify that no contagious disease has existed on the farm for three months previous to the date of their shipment, and that they have not been in contact with any diseased animals during that time; and any other certificates which the import regulations of any importing country may from time to time require.

The following sections formed part of the original report, but were not adopted by the Council:—

(*b*) That the sire and dam of every sheep transferred or exported be individually entered in the Flock Book and numbered, their breeder and full pedigree being given.

(*c*) That every sheep transferred or exported be legibly, individually numbered in its right ear or horns with its breeder's private number referring to his private flock record, and in its left ear or horn the breeder's registered flock number and the society's registered trade mark.

N.B.—This, provided that Sub-Sec. B be adopted, would mean its sire and dam, their Flock Book numbers and breeders.

National Sheep Breeders' Association.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE IS AN EPITOME OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE VARIOUS FLOCK BOOK SOCIETIES. (Drawn up and issued by the National Sheep Breeders' Association.)

	COTSWOLD.	DEVON LONG WOOL.	DORSET HORN.	HAMPSHIRE DOWN.	KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH.	LEICESTER.	LINCOLN LONG WOOL.	OXFORD DOWN.	SHROPSHIRES.	SOUTHDOWN.	SUFFOLK.	WENSLEYDALE.
PRINCIPAL CONDITIONS OF FLOCK ENTRY :—												
1. Membership necessary	Yes	Yes.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2. Submission of history previous to acceptance	Not definitely stated	Not definitely stated	Not definitely stated	Not definitely stated	Compulsory	Not definitely stated	Compulsory	Not definitely stated	Not definitely stated	Not definitely stated	Not definitely stated	Not definitely stated
3. Inspection necessary	Yes, if thought desirable	Yes	Yes	Yes	Compulsory	—	Yes	Yes	—	Yes	Yes; and every four years	—
4. Qualifications of Sheep eligible for Entry	Any accepted by Editing Committee	Any passed by Inspectors	No Ewe that has been served by other than a pure-bred Ram bred by members only	Registered Sheep or by inspection if for five years previously Registered Sires have been used	Rams produced of a Registered Sire Ewes from flocks wherein none but Registered Rams have been used for previous two years	No conditions made	Registered Sires for four previous years	To be pure bred	No sheep other than the produce of a Registered Flock or directly descended from one	To be pure bred	Pure-bred, which since 1890 are only such that have the Trade Mark in their left ear	None named
5. Flock Numbers allotted	No; letters given	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
6. Trade Marked with Registered Trade Mark and Owner's Flock Number	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Voluntary	Yes	No
7. How done, Tattooed in left Ear	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
8. Individual Registration of Sires used in Flock compulsory or not	Voluntary	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Voluntary	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Voluntary	Compulsory	Compulsory
9. To make an Annual Flock Return	Annual Flock Returns Made	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory
PRINCIPAL CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO SUBSEQUENT PURCHASES OF EWES OR LAMBS :—												
10. Source from whence they may be obtained, etc.	No provision made	Pure flocks, inspected and Trade Marked	Must be bred by members	From Registered Flocks;	Produce of Registered Sires, two crosses, inspected and Trade Marked	No specific provision made	Registered Flocks only	No specific provision made	Registered Flocks only	Any pure Flock by inspection	Registered Flocks only	Particulars of breeding to be supplied
11. Identification: Registered Sheep from Non-registered	No provision made	Trade Mark, etc., left ear	Registration of owner's private mark	None	Trade Mark, etc., left ear	None	Trade Mark, etc., left ear	None	None	Trade Mark, etc., left ear	Trade Mark, etc., left ear	None
12. Identification of individually Registered Rams or Ewes	No provision made	Trade Mark, etc., left ear, owner's private No. in right ear	No provision made	No provision made	Trade Mark, etc., left ear. Owner's private number right ear	No provision made	Trade Mark, etc., left ear. Other voluntary Ewes not individually entered	No provision made	No provision made	Trade Mark, etc., left ear, and owner's private No. right ear	Trade Mark, etc., left ear. Flock Book Number right ear. Ewes not individually entered	No provision made
CONDITIONS OF INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION, RAMS AND EWES :												
13. To be Trade Marked in left Ear with owner's Flock Number and the Registered Trade Mark and individually numbered in right Ear [Other than as stated above, it is generally required with some slight variations that all Sheep offered for individual Registration must be named, and the Name and Address of Breeder, Sire and Flock Book Number, Dam, her Breeder and Date of Birth]	Not required	Compulsory	Not required	Not required	Compulsory	Not required	Compulsory except individual number	Not required	Not required	Compulsory for Registered sheep	Compulsory	Not required
CONDITIONS OF THE ISSUE OF ENTRY CERTIFICATES.												
14. Must be individually Registered in Flock Book	Not compulsory	Yes	Not compulsory	Not compulsory	Yes	—	Not compulsory	Yes	—	Yes	—	—
15. Require Registered Name, Number, and Purchaser's and Vendor's Name and Address	—	Yes	—	—	Yes	—	—	—	—	Yes		
16. Signatures required	Breeder, Vendor, and Secretary	Secretary	Breeder, Vendor, Secretary	—	Secretary	Breeder, Vendor, Secretary	Breeder, Vendor, Secretary	Breeder, Vendor, Secretary	Breeder, Vendor, Secretary	Secretary	—	Breeder, Vendor, Secretary
17. Identification	Ear or distinctive mark	Nos. 11 and 12	Mark of identification	—	Nos. 11 and 12.	—	No. 11	Ear mark.	Ear or distinctive mark	Nos. 11 and 12 for registered sheep		Ear or distinctive mark
18. Qualification	Sire Dam, G. Dam, G. G. Dam, and G. G. G. Dam	Individually registered	Sire and Sire of Dam, G. D., and G. G. D.		Individually registered	Sire to three generations	Sire, G. and G. G. Sire and Flock No.	Sire and Sire of Dam. G. and G. G. Dam	Sire and Sire of Dam both to be registered	Individually registered		Sire, Sire of Dam and G. G. Dam

N.B.—The Southdown Society has two divisions in its Flock Book—Registered Sheep which are Trade Marked, and Entered Sheep which are not Trade Marked. The Suffolk has two divisions of Ram Entries—Pedigree Rams, i.e., Rams entered with Sire and Dam's pedigree; Registered Rams, i.e., Rams entered with Sire's pedigree only

Agricultural Values and Changes.*

When sixty years ago I commenced my business life in the office of a country land agent, there were very few facilities for acquiring professional knowledge, and scarcely any of the opportunities which now exist for intercourse and communication between surveyors in London and in the Provinces.

A young beginner in the country had then the greatest difficulty in obtaining instruction and information outside the practical work of the office in which he was engaged, but this want has, I am happy to say, now been supplied by the establishment of this institution. I think I may therefore venture to impress upon all and particularly upon our younger members, the importance of making good use of these advantages, so that the fact of being a member of the Institution may be, as it is intended to be, a guarantee of knowledge and efficiency in the profession.

Many changes have taken place in the work and practice of surveyors during the past 60 years. In the year 1836 two important Acts of Parliament were passed, one for the Commutation of Tithes in England and Wales, and the other for regulating Parochial Assessments, both of which soon came into operation. The Tithe Commutation Act was the means of bringing into the profession a large influx of young surveyors, of whom I happened to be one, my own experience commencing shortly before the year 1840. The Parochial Assessment Act also gave rise to a great deal of valuable work of a special kind, which, as we all know, has since assumed large proportions, the rating of railways, mines, and public works now requiring special knowledge and skill in this branch of the profession.

The introduction of railways, just at the close of the tithe surveys, and the passing of the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act of 1845 for regulating arbitration proceedings, also brought much employment to surveyors. The Public Health Act of 1848 and the subsequent Acts (particularly that of 1875 in connection with drainage and water supply) created another special branch of practice, in which many of our members are now distinguished experts.

Thus I have seen great changes in the practice of surveyors, and I am happy to say in the scale of remuneration for professional services, now more generally based upon the value of the work done and upon the skill and experience displayed than, as formerly, on the time employed. I have always held that in this as in other respects the profession owes a great debt of obligation to our former president, the late Mr. Edward Ryde.

It is, however, rather with my own branch of the profession that I propose to deal. I have thought that, as a land agent, it might not be unacceptable to the Institution if, in my opening address, I referred to some of

My Own Experiences.

In 1840, in my early days, tenant farmers in the Midland Counties were, after many years of difficulty, doing fairly well, as corn and other produce realised good prices and labour was cheap. At that time almost all kinds of farm work had to be carried on by manual and horse labour. The corn averages for the five years to 1840 were as follows:—

Wheat	55s. 9d.	per imperial quarter.
Barley	32s. 4d.	,, ,, ,,
Oats	23s. 4d.	,, ,, ,,

I find from actual returns in my possession that the prices of other farm produce were—

Beef	6d. per lb.
Milk	7d. to 8d. per imperial gallon.
Pork	7d. per lb.
Cheese	66s. per cwt. of 120 lbs.
Butter	9d. to 1s. per lb.
Wool	30s. per tod of 28 lbs.

The payments for labour of course varied very much between northern and southern counties, but in my own neighbourhood the following wages were paid:—

Wagoner and Cowman, each	2s. 2d.	per day.
Shepherds	2s.	,,
Ordinary Labourers	1s. 8d. to 2s.	,,
Farm Boys	9d. to 10d.	,,
Farm Women	9d.	,,
Piece Work.		
Mowing hay grass	3s. an acre.	
Mowing corn	2s. 6d. an acre.	
Reaping corn	5d. per thrave of 24 sheaves, or 10s. to 12s. an acre.	
Threshing by flail	4s. per quarter.	

The Farm Labourer,

while receiving these low wages, had to pay dearly for bread, and cottages, except on some large estates, were very small and poor. Those whose experience is of a comparatively recent date can have no idea of the discomforts which some labourers endured both as to cottage accommodation and the great distances which they had to travel to and from their work. There were, however, many exceptions in this respect, and, as a rule, a more kindly feeling existed between master and servant than, unfortunately, is now the case.

The change from the old poor law system was gradually making itself felt, and it is probable that the abandonment of outdoor relief and of the many allowances formerly made to labourers and their families accounts for the rise in wages which began about this period

I believe that farm rents in 1840 were based to a great extent upon the price of cattle, corn, and cheese, for at that time there was not much income from other sources, or many outgoings beyond rent and labour, as rates were low and on a reduced rateable value, in some cases about one-third less than the rental value of the farm.

The establishment of the Royal Agricultural Society and the first meetings at Oxford and Cambridge gave a

Great Impetus to Agriculture.

At the Derby meeting in 1842 there was a wonderful exhibition of live stock and improved implements. Both landowners and tenant farmers took the greatest interest in the show, and its effect on both stock and implements, and the improvement from that time of farm management was very marked indeed.

With a powerful Government supposed to be friendly to the landed interest, there seemed a promise of a great revival in all agricultural matters throughout the country. Many poor cottages were either removed or improved, and new and commodious cottages were built in large numbers; this was also the case as regards farm houses and buildings. Experiments and improvements in cropping and in the use of bones and guano and other fertilisers also became general, and the teaching of M. Liebig and others in agricultural chemistry attracted much attention among many of the leading agriculturists.

The gradual introduction of railways naturally caused further marked changes, and proved advantageous to many districts by affording increased market facilities.

But the

Repeal of the Corn Laws

in 1846 and the occurrence of the Irish Famine in 1847 gave rise to a great feeling of uncertainty, though allayed to some extent by the discovery of gold in Australia, which certainly had a great effect both upon trade and agriculture.

A good deal of strong arable land was laid down to permanent pasture, and in my own locality and other districts a large expenditure was made by landowners in deep draining and other permanent improvements. A better and more liberal system of tenant right was introduced, and much attention was paid by landowners to provide for the difficulties which then appeared to threaten agriculture. There came, however, a favourable change, and (except for the cattle plague, which was severe and disastrous in 1866 and subsequently) a general revival took place, rents increased, and landed property was much sought after and commanded high prices. It should be mentioned that the passing of the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act conferred great benefit upon the country generally.

During the prosperous years which ensued farmers and others made a good deal of money, but when the next depression came there was unfortunately very little available farming capital to meet the emergency. Charges of extravagance in the more prosperous times were made against tenant farmers, and no doubt much money was spent that should have been laid by; but the same charge might, I fear, be brought against others, and perhaps it might be better if all classes of the community would revert to greater simplicity of habits and requirements.

The Depression

which began in 1875 and 1876, and was rendered acute by the extremely wet season of 1879, was severely felt both by landlords and tenants, and had a remarkable effect upon all dealings with agricultural land. Rents went down rapidly, and it became difficult to let ordinary agricultural land except under great concessions. Many farms fell out of occupation, and many old landowners, dependent upon comparatively limited estates, were practically reduced to poverty owing to mortgages and other charges which had been piled upon the land under prosperous circumstances, and which could not be met, in some cases, even by selling the whole property, while in the case of a sale the number of years' purchase was much reduced upon a reduced rental.

In former times the income derived from the

Public Funds

regulated to a great extent the value of agricultural land, whereas for some years during the depression the price acted in an inverse ratio, for as the funds increased in value agricultural land seemed to go down. Thus the depression was felt not only in the letting but also in the sale of agricultural land, and there was no competition in land investments except in the case of land near a town possessing a building element, in which a good deal of speculation took place.

At the beginning of the depression large percentage remissions were made by landlords upon the rentals in the hope that as seasons improved the times would improve also.

The Royal Commission which was appointed in 1880 to inquire into the cause of

Agricultural Depression

and its remedies concluded that with a return of better seasons the evil would pass away. Many eminent men of great experience were of the same opinion, as were some of the members of the Council of this Institution, as appears from a statement prepared by them which attracted a good deal of attention in Parliament at the time. But when it was found that low prices continued from year to year, with no prospect of any change for the better, rents had to be greatly and permanently reduced. Unfortunately, however, many tenants as well as landowners had to succumb altogether.

In some districts, however, a

New Trade in Milk

was gradually established which proved very beneficial. Large quantities of milk were daily sent to London and Manchester and other large towns, and thus many tenants were kept from going to the wall. The wholesale price of milk at that time averaged in the summer season about 8d. per imperial gallon after paying railway carriage, which was a very remunerative price. Cheese factories and butter factories were also established. The cheese factories, although useful in some outlying districts, did not succeed generally as the trade extended, and the wholesale price of milk became much reduced, in some cases to not more than 5d. per imperial gallon in summer. But milk and butter factories (where favourably situated) were more successful, and there is no doubt that butter of a uniformly good quality made at these factories, or even in a small way at home on the improved method, has fetched greatly improved prices, not only when sold wholesale, but also in the local markets.

While the difficulties in connection with the ownership and occupancy of land became more and more serious, the position of the labourer greatly improved, although the amount of manual labour upon a farm has been much reduced by the introduction of improved machinery and implements for almost all kinds of farm work.

Much has been done during the time of depression towards

Improving the Breed of Cattle and Horses

(particularly Shire horses), and in the rearing of poultry and production of eggs and the cultivation of garden produce in favourable localities, with great advantage to tenant farmers.

Although it has been considered that large farms may be more economically managed proportionately than smaller farms, it is now, as a matter of fact, very difficult in the Midlands to let farms of more than 200 acres, while those of 100 to 200 acres and less are much sought after, the reason being that the smaller holdings may to a great extent be managed by the tenants themselves without depending so much on hired labour. Certainly those who can give close personal attention and some personal labour have been lately the most successful farmers. Of course this does not apply to the large farms in Wiltshire and other counties, which cannot practicably be divided, and must perhaps be carried on as heretofore.

In my own experience the

Rent of Agricultural Land

has been reduced from 10 to 40 per cent. according to position as regards markets and other circumstances, and taking into consideration the ordinary charges upon the land. Of these, tithe rent-charge and land tax are in nearly all cases now paid by the landlord, but there are a number of rates and charges now piled upon the land which did not formerly exist, and which on a revision of taxation ought not to be charged upon it. This is a matter deserving close attention in the future. Many owners of settled estates have made such concessions to their tenants that they would be in a better position if they sold their property, even at the late low prices, so little income being left after making the allowances and paying off the annual charges. If landlords dealt on strict commercial principles with their estates, many of the tenants, and particularly the small occupiers, could not live.

Many of us could give instances in our own experience in which as much as 25 to 35, and even 50 per cent. in some cases, of the annual rentals have been spent annually by owners of agricultural estates on better buildings and homesteads, to enable tenants to improve their stock management. Great sympathy has also been shown and substantial assistance rendered by landlords in cases of special difficulties and loss, and it is to be hoped that the good feeling which has so long existed between landlord and tenant may continue in the future.

I have alluded to the

Great Fall in the Prices of Farm Produce

and the increased payments for labour since 1840.

I find that the average prices for five years to the end of 1899 are as follows:—

Wheat	27s. 10d.	per quarter.
Barley	24s. 3d.	,,
Oats	16s. 4d.	,,
Other farm produce:—		
Beef	6d. to 7d.	per lb.
Mutton	8d. and 9d.	,,
Cheese	55s.	per cwt.
Butter	10d. to 1s. 3d.	per lb
Wool	7d. to 8d.	,,

The payments for labour at the present time average about as follows:—

Wagoner 18s. a week and cottage 2s. = 20s.
Ordinary labourer 16s. to 18s. a week and sometimes a cottage free.

Piece Work.

Reaping corn which cannot be mown by a machine 14s. to 15s. an acre.
In some cases 18s. to 20s. an acre.

But it is not only with the increased cost of agri-

* The paper of which this is Mr. John Shaw, President of the [illegible] Session of the Surveyors' Institution, November 19th, 1900.

cultural labour, but also with its scarcity and inferior quality, that the farmer has now to contend In former times a great deal of what may be termed foreign labour could be obtained from Irishmen and others who were available periodically in time of harvest, but no supply of this kind can now be relied on.

Referring to the

Average Prices

during the last century from 1800 to 1899 inclusive, we find that—

Wheat has averaged	57s. 0d.	per imperial quarter.
Barley „	34s. 11d.	„
Oats „	23s. 8d.	„

And although the tithe rent charge has for some years been so low, the tables show that £100 fixed by the Commutation Act has during the 64 years from 1835 to 1900 averaged £96 11s. 2d., but for the present year it is only £66 15s. 9¾d.

	Wheat. Price per Quarter.	Barley. Price per Quarter.	Oats. Price per Quarter.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
The average prices of corn for the five years previous to 1840, as before given were	55 9	32 4	23 4
And the average prices for five years to the present time	27 10	24 3	16 4
The reduction between 1840 and 1900 =	27 11	8 1	7 0

Taking the corn averages for the five years previous to 1870 the average prices will be:—

	Wheat. Price per Quarter.	Barley. Price per Quarter.	Oats. Price per Quarter.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
	53 7	37 11	25 3
And five years to the present time as above	27 10	24 3	16 4
Reduction between 1870 and 1900 =	25 9	23 8	8 11

This shows a difference of 27s. 11d. per quarter in the price of wheat between the five years to 1840 and the five years to the present time, and 25s. 9d. per quarter between the five years to 1870 and the five years to the present time, so that we may safely take it that there has been a reduction of at least one-half in the value of the wheat crop. This is a most serious depreciation, and one of the chief causes of agricultural depression.

Notwithstanding the considerable depreciation in barley and oats, there would probably not on the whole, taking all other farm produce together, be much practical reduction in the farmer's gross income from all sources (except wheat). The labour bill and other expenses have greatly increased, but, on the other hand, railways and other improved means of transit, by giving greater facilities of marketing, have enabled tenants to overcome many of the difficulties with which they have been beset.

I think it is now generally felt that there is but

Little Prospect in the Near Future

of any increase in the price of cereals, and that we must accommodate ourselves as far as we can to the existing conditions. Most agriculturists have as far as possible accepted the fact, and with the experience of recent better seasons and an improved yield they have to some extent overcome the worst of their troubles, and those who have, by patience and courage and attention to business, done what they could, are in a much better position than they were a few years ago, though there are unfortunately still some tenants in great difficulties.

Years ago small occupiers or cow-keepers had a good trade in milk in the neighbourhood of large towns, and accommodation land commanded high rents, but in consequence of farm tenants a few miles away taking up the milk trade, there has been severe competition with the small milk sellers, who have in many cases given up their land and purchased milk from the larger farmers to retail amongst their customers, so that the rents of accommodation lands in urban districts have been very much reduced, and the rates and payments on such lands have much increased.

(To be concluded in our next.)

Notes on Argentine Agriculture.

Very few people in England know anything about the Argentine, except that it produces large quantities of corn and meat, which tends to keep the price of agricultural produce low in our own markets. The Argentine is a country of vast dimensions, reaching from the Tropics to Cape Horn. It is divided into twenty-four provinces, many of which exceed the size of England. The population of the whole of the Republic is less than that of London, and of this number one-fifth live in the capital, Buenos Ayres. This town, the finest, handsomest, and most luxurious in South America, is surrounded by the province of the same name, which, like its capital town, is the largest and richest in the country. Imagine, then, a vast tract of land, much larger than England, perfectly flat, composed of rich alluvial soil, covered with a herbage as rich as that of the best grass lands of England, and you have some idea of the

Rich Natural Resources

of this one province of the Republic. Over the whole vast expanse neither trees nor hedges are to be seen, except when in small clusters they have been planted round the farmhouses, or estancias, as they are called. You may wander, too, for many miles and dig for many yards without being able to find a stone of any description. At the present time the whole of this rich province is divided up amongst a number of large proprietors, each of whose portions is divided up into several large fields, and also separated from its neighbours by strong barbed wire fences. In the fields are to be seen thousands of cattle and sheep. The climate is so equable that the animals never need shelter. They are born in the open fields, grow there, and fatten there, and when ready are sent direct from the grass to market. On a great many of the farms the cattle are Shorthorn or polled, and it would be easy to pick many hundreds worth out here less than ten pounds each that would do well at our Christmas fat stock shows.

The Expense of Raising Cattle

by the thousand is comparatively small. There are no buildings to pay for, very little for fences, nothing for corn and cake, and the labour entailed in looking after the herds is not great. To own a few square miles of this land is to be fairly sure of a comfortable income. The principal drawbacks to be considered are droughts, floods, and disease. Every now and again a drought comes, and the whole country is burnt up, and as there is no store of artificial food the animals have to die. At the present time floods are playing havoc with the land. Over many hundreds of square miles for the last few months, where the fattest of cattle used to graze, nothing but water can be seen, and

Large Flocks of Wild Duck

have replaced the cattle. The land is so flat and the rain has been so continuous that as far as the eye can reach the water lies some four, five, or six feet deep. The oldest inhabitant had been quoted months ago as never having seen such floods as these, and since that time people have begun to wonder if this low-lying tract of country may not be returning to its previous state of sea or river estuary. At the best this year will be a heavy loss to all these low-lying farms. But the profits of the good years more than compensate for these small drawbacks. The diseases which are most prevalent are those which are either parasitic or contagious in their origin. The former are likely to prove a source of much trouble in the future, as the estanciers, like many modern English farmers, forget the elementary axiom that no one species of life can live long on one spot without drainage or renewal of surface soil, whether the life be plant or animal, and the system of the country is not to alternate horses, sheep, or cattle in the fields, but to always have one class of animal there. Of

Contagious Disease

in this province the one most prevalent is foot-and-mouth disease. During the summer and autumn months it has run through the flocks and herds, and though, being fortunately of a mild type, it has not caused a large percentage of deaths, its effect on the general condition of the animals is very marked, and the province will take some time to recover from its effects. Added to that, the disease is still rife in other provinces of the Republic, and with the approach and mild, warm weather there is a danger of a second outbreak of a more virulent type. One effect of the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease here was the stopping of a very profitable trade which was assuming large proportions, namely, the sending of fat bullocks and sheep alive in England. The danger of introducing disease to our flocks and herds caused all British ports to be closed to stock from the Argentine. In a conversation I had recently with the Minister of Agriculture in Buenos Ayres, he expressed the hope that a *modus vivendi* would soon be found, so that animals could be again exported alive to England. Perhaps in a short time the English agriculturist may arrive at a similar desire, though by a different process of reasoning.

The Danger of Competition

to be feared arises from the fact that whereas now to put a fat bullock into the slaughter-houses at Deptford or Liverpool the importer pays at least half the prime cost of the animal in freightage, some means will be devised to convey the carcase in a fresh condition for perhaps a tenth of the cost. The amount of frozen beef and mutton is increasing yearly, and there are experiments being carried out now by sterilising the meat which promise to place the animals' carcases killed here in England as fresh and sweet as they are when shipped. If this can be done and a bullock's carcase can be delivered in England for five shillings instead of the live bullock at five pounds the farmer here can sell his meat in England for less than he gets now, and still have as big a profit. There is no doubt that the fat animal here, either bullock or sheep, is as fat and of as good quality as the animal bred at home, and has had the advantage of always living out of doors. With careful arrangements for a proper inspection of live stock leaving this country, and with careful quarantine in England until the animals are slaughtered, there would be very little danger of the conveyance of contagious disease. The other contagious disease, and which chiefly affects English agriculture, is tuberculosis. Every animal landed in this country is subjected to

The Tuberculin Test.

and those which react are slaughtered. Up to the present some fifty odd animals have been killed, and only in one case has a post-mortem examination shown the test to be incorrect. Many of these animals had been tested in England and France, and before embarkation certified free from disease. As most of the animals imported cost [illegible] of pounds, this apparent [illegible] to say the least, aggravating to [illegible] are inclined to lay the fault to the [illegible] The Ministers and Director of Agriculture [illegible] given me permission to see any animals [illegible] tested while I am here, and although I have not been able to avail myself of the permission I hope to do so shortly. As far as I can gather the test here is very carefully carried out, and I am inclined to think, from a very considerable experience in [illegible] land, that it may

Not be the Test that is Wrong,

but the method of applying it in England or France. Few people realise that tuberculin [illegible] delicate physiological reaction, requiring great care in detail in its execution, and owners of animals [illegible] for export are inclined to look upon it as a tax to be paid before the animals are shipped. Much [illegible] could be prevented if the English and Argentine Governments. France has at present all its animals interdicted could arrange to have all animals officially tested in England before they are embarked instead of after the expense and inconvenience of conveying them here. Somewhat as a set-off against the losses of foot-and-mouth disease and the flood during the last six months has been the

Enhanced Prices of Horses.

When the war in South Africa began the English Government began to buy horses here, as well as in other parts of the world. The country teems with horses, but there was no market for them. Many good useful riding horses were sold for some two and three pounds each, and thousands were sent to the slaughter houses for the price of their skin and fat. Since the English Government commenced buying some twenty-five thousand of these horses have been sent to South Africa for the mounted infantry. Although there are such large numbers of horses in the country it has not been easy to pick the number wanted by the Government. In the first place, the native idea of a good horse is one that he has ridden himself for some time, which suffers from chronic infirmities, is very poor in condition, and in make and shape may be described as having a head, four legs, and a body. When the English buyers have travelled some distance to see some hundreds of horses collected at a centre for them, of which they are assured there will be two or three hundred suited to their requirements, they may be able to get only ten or twenty. This, when perhaps a thousand horses are required at a week or fortnight's notice, often very largely handicapped the buyers. Again, the horses required had all to be ridden before purchase, and the number of good tamed or broken horses is small compared with the number of suitable animals running wild on the camp, waiting to be broken or killed for grease. So, too, the animals ordered to be purchased by the Government were the comparatively big and fat animals from the rich grass lands of Buenos Ayres. The small, ugly, weedy, wiry ponies of the warmer provinces were not considered suitable. Unfortunately this very exceptional winter of perpetual rain and floods has reduced horses as well as other stock to a thin condition, and those horses which do carry any flesh or fat are often useless animals that have done nothing for months but graze on flood grass, not a very fitting conditioning for a campaign. In spite of many adverse conditions horses have been bought and those owners in the country are being educated in a practical manner to the fact that defective eyes, bad joints, ugly colours in horses may make a pecuniary difference to them. At the same time the uncertainty of

War Office Requirements,

the thought that each cargo was the last, has prevented owners breaking in, training and conditioning suitable horses, as they would otherwise do. If the Remount authorities chose to take the time and pains they could buy a great number of quite good, whole-colour, mounted infantry cobs at a moderate price. These cobs, when taught to eat dry food—hay and corn—and given time to condition and get used to the English way of bridling, of trotting, and of galloping, which are different to the Argentine way, would prove a very superior article to the soft, grass-fed, hurriedly-purchased animals sent [illegible] campaign. But the two hundred thousand pounds of gold that they have brought into the country has helped to lessen the dreariness of the winter's agriculture, and has made a market value for horses where previously none existed. Already other European countries have commissioners out [illegible] to purchase.

HAROLD SESSIONS

Mr. Gilbert Bedford Holltum, a well-known agriculturist and chairman of the Thame Guardians, died on Saturday. He attended the Mayor's dinner at Ramsgate on Friday night, and shortly after returning home was seized with a fit, from which he never recovered. The deceased was fifty-eight years of age.

There were few farm servants seeking places than usual at Penrith Statute Hiring, held on Tuesday. Female servants were very scarce. Men received £14 to £15 10s., and lads from £8 to £17; good men, £10 10s. to £14; youths, £7 to £10; first-class women, £10 10s. to £12; women, £8 to £10; and girls, £5 10s. to £7 10s. The St Andrew's Rooms were opened as a free register

By LUPULIN.

Colonel Brookfield, M.P., and the Hop Growers' Association.

A luncheon was given at the Holborn Restaurant on Monday, under the auspices of the National Association of English Hop Growers, to Colonel Brookfield, M.P., on his return from the South African campaign. Mr. W. W. Berry, Selling, Faversham, occupied the chair, and the company also included Lieut.-Colonel Cheesman, Ashford; Major Honeyball, Teynham; Mr. E. Albert White, Beltring; Mr. A. S. White, Bowhill, Maidstone; Mr. James Chalcroft, Aldersnapp, Petersfield; Mr. A. D. Hall, M.A., Principal of Wye College; Mr. C. W. Seward; Mr. G. Barham, J.P., Snape, Wadhurst; and Mr. Arthur Lord.

The toast of "The Queen" having been drunk with musical honours,

The Chairman proposed the health of Colonel Brookfield. He said he had hesitated, or rather wished to hesitate, very much when it was suggested that he should preside here. He felt absolutely unequal to the task set him in referring in suitable terms to the matter upon which they had met. But no sooner had he taken his seat beside Colonel Brookfield than feelings of that kind vanished. He remembered that they had received immense kindness and help from their guest in the past, and that they were there simply for the purpose of giving him the heartiest possible reception on his return amongst them again. He had a little memorandum to help him to remember one or two things which he should mention, and he would just read it before he said anything more. When Colonel Brookfield left them rather suddenly to take up his duties in South Africa he went out in command of the 14th Battalion of the Imperial Yeomanry. The battalion was composed as follows:—One company East Kent, one company Sussex, one Northumberland, and one Middlesex. Soon after reaching Kroonstadt he was given command of a brigade of cavalry, and his first engagement was on the 22nd June, when he was sent to relieve the garrison at Kaatbosch. He was being hard pressed by a commando of the enemy about 1,000 strong. Colonel Brookfield succeeded in taking the enemy by surprise, and was favourably mentioned by General Knox in his despatch. Two days later Colonel Brookfield was ordered to proceed in charge of a convoy to Lindley, where General Paget was anxiously waiting for the means to advance to Bethlehem. The convoy under Colonel Brookfield's command consisted of seventy-three ox wagons and three traction engines, and the force he had to protect it with comprised 1,000 mounted men, six field guns, including the C.I.V. battery, one battalion of militia, and half a battalion of regular infantry being the Yorkshire Light Infantry. Four engagements were fought before Lindley was reached, Colonel Brookfield's opponent being the redoubtable Christian de Wet. For the convoy actions Colonel Brookfield received favourable mention from General Kelly-Kenny, and later on thanks from the Commander-in-Chief. (Hear, hear.) Soon after reaching Lindley Colonel Brookfield moved out with General Paget's forces, forming for his brigade an advance cavalry screen in the advance against Bethlehem. Some hard fighting took place, especially on 2nd July. When the troops had entered Bethlehem a junction had been effected with General Hunter and General Clements, and Colonel Brookfield's force was redistributed, he himself being made Governor of Bethlehem. He was present at the capture of Vryburg and the battle of Retjief Nek, where the Royal Sussex battalion lost so heavily. At Vryburg Colonel Brookfield was given charge of Mrs. Steyn and her children. Including small affairs Colonel Brookfield took part in fourteen engagements and was never hit. He knew that it would be distasteful to Colonel Brookfield if he enlarged on any of these matters. He had given them the principal features of the Colonel's experience in South Africa, and they would hear from him, no doubt, some very interesting details. For a good many years Colonel Brookfield had taken every possible opportunity of doing a good turn to his friends the hop growers, both in and out of Parliament. Some eight or nine years ago, when it was decided to form the Hop-growers' Association, they had the assistance of numerous members of Parliament, foremost amongst whom was Colonel Brookfield. It was the attention and energy which he had put into their affairs which had enabled them to hold together, and to do that amount of good which they had been able to do. (Hear, hear.) That gathering was only small in number, but it represented the whole of the hop-growers of the country. They one and all wished to join them in saying how heartily glad they were that he had been brought safe home again, and looked forward to his presidency, when they would be able still to hold successful meetings, and do something further than had yet been done towards assisting the industry in hop growing. (Hear, hear.)

Colonel Brookfield, who was enthusiastically received, said he appreciated more than he could describe in words the great kindness they had shown and the honour they had done him on this occasion. He was getting almost accustomed to be fêted on account of a few weeks spend in South Africa, which was a proceeding entirely of his own free will, and of which he did not feel he deserved any credit whatever. Two of the public bodies with whom he was most closely associated not only paid him the compliment of giving him a reception on his return, but also were kind enough to give him a send-off as well. They speeded the parting guest as well as welcoming the coming. And besides the Corporation of Rye, who were so extremely kind to him, he had always remembered the great kindness he had received from that Association. He believed they had invited him to an entertainment similar to this. He was unable to be present, so they gave him some very material evidences of their goodwill in some handsome presents, which were of the greatest use to him afterwards. The chairman, in the far too kind words which he had delivered, spoke of his (Colonel Brookfield's) giving them some details of his military experiences. He was afraid they would sound extremely tame and commonplace if they did not take the opposite nature of braggadocio, which he thought was the one thing a person should avoid who had been on active service. But he could tell them the adventures of the telescope and the burning glass and sketching block, and the illuminated address which they so kindly presented him with, and, shortly speaking, the illuminated address, which he thought he valued most of all for the very kind and gracefully-worded expressions it contained, he left behind him. The telescope was his faithful companion on all those hazardous occasions to which the chairman had referred, and without boasting of his own achievements he could only say that the telescope two or three times had a very narrow escape. (Laughter.) They would see in some remarks made last night by that great soldier, Sir Redvers Buller, who had just returned—(hear, hear)—that he referred to the superiority the enemy enjoyed in having better eyesight than ours, or, as he should put it, being better accustomed to the very clear peculiar atmosphere, which often led our soldiers astray when they first got out there. To give them a concrete example, when they first arrived in the country they would send and tell somebody to go to a certain hill, thinking it was about four miles off and find it was eleven. Everyone made the same mistake. It was universal. They would see the application of this digression when he said how greatly he valued the handsome telescope that they presented him with. For ordinary purposes he thought they would all be prepared to give a little gratuitous advertisement to the firm of Zeiss, who supplied the field glasses that everybody used, but it was only limited in its range, and for officers with command of any considerable force a telescope was absolutely necessary, and the instrument they had given him was of the greatest possible use. It was rather a descent to come to the burning glass, which was chiefly used for the humble but necessary purpose of lighting his pipe. But as matches were at a premium on several occasions, and as the only tobacco they could find was the very coarest damp Boer-rolled tobacco, it was an important matter keeping it alight. As they had a bright hot sun during the great part of the day the glass was usually in full working order, and he many and many a time appreciated and thought over the kindness and foresight which led them to make him that present. The sketching block was used, though not so much by himself. He very much appreciated their kindness to him in seeing him off. He should like to take that opportunity of referring to a resolution which the Association kindly passed and forwarded to him, full of kind expressions and congratulations on what they were pleased to call his successes in the field, and he only had to say that that letter dated 11th September must have crossed him on his passage home. He only received it the other day. He was extremely obliged to them for having thought of him. Now he found himself again thanking them for the generous hospitality they had accorded to him on the present occasion. It was only a case of repeating the word "Thanks" several times over, but he assured them he did it with the greatest possible sincerity and cordiality, and whatever befell him in his public career he always had a feeling of affection and esteem for the gentlemen whom he had met in connection with their common labours for the hop industry. With regard to the present position of the industry, he should think there was hardly any person present who knew less about it than himself or was less competent to say anything on the subject as regarded prices in the past year, because he had really been out of the way of hearing such things. But of course they had the usual grounds of anxiety and hopefulness and regret. What was one man's meat was another man's poison as usual, but he believed there was good ground for supposing that there would be eventually a substantial advance in prices. That was very little consolation to the general bulk of hop growers when four-fifths of the growth was already taken over by the merchants. But there were several signs of next year being a very good one, and very reasonable grounds for thinking it ought to be a particularly good one. Whatever discomfitures or misfortunes had been involved there was the fact of the steady diminution in cultivation. While that was really a disastrous thing to the labouring population, of course, it meant that the few who were left in would have less competition to face, and the competition from abroad and from the States had recently been less formidable. And there was the fact also that with the short crop this year they had an immense increase in the barrelage, which must be very disconcerting to those who were opposed to the consumption of the national beverage. He was afraid their old friend Sir Wilfrid Lawson, whom they had so often admired, would no longer be able to express his views in the House of Commons. He condoled with his friend, Mr. Berry, on the absence of Sir Wilfrid Lawson, but he dared say that the true cause of temperance would be just as much advanced by their doing what they could to promote healthy interest in the national beverage, and especially in seeing that it was made good, from the best quality of hops. Therefore he did not think it was a very disastrous piece of news that the number of barrels sold according to duty in the last ten years had increased from thirty-two millions to considerably over thirty-seven millions, and showed signs of still greater progress. He thought they should always keep in mind the main principles of their Association. Matters that to-day they might think hopeless might become perfectly feasible to-morrow. They should never forget or lose sight of the ends that they ought to have in view which would really benefit them. The present Government was in the same position as himself in one way. It had obtained a most unwieldy majority in the late elections. He did not know that that was an unmixed benefit. A Government with such a huge majority was apt to become rather careless of its friends, rather careless of pleasing people, and rather apt to perpetrate jobs occasionally. But there was no reason why they should not turn that to their account. If a huge majority made a Government more careless as to offending public opinion, why should not they offend public opinion for once by doing something for the agricultural interest? (Laughter.) And he was sure if they should think of perpetrating a good job purely in the interest of their faithful friends the hop-growers, who had been extremely loyal to the party now in power, they would be the last to complain seriously. He hoped that individually as well as collectively they would favour him with their advice and confidence in any

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society.*

matters that they thought they might advance in Parliament during the coming session. It was very difficult to know what ought to be done at the present moment. If they took a more aggressive and vigorous policy he was sure he should be quite at their disposal to do anything he could. But they would do well to attempt only what they were likely to accomplish. His opponent in the recent election advocated a difference in the revenue regulations between what was called pure beer and what was not pure. That subject was a very old friend of theirs, and he dared say his being in Parliament instead of Dr. Hutchinson would be quite as good for their interests in that respect, because it did not do only to be enthusiastic in favour of some theory that would advance their interests. It was as well also to know the practical difficulties, the numerous pitfalls and devices that the constitution and Parliament had invented, not for the purpose of forwarding but for the purpose of impeding all legislation. He had known a measure that was absolutely imperatively necessary pass through all its stages in a few hours. But when any measure that would benefit a particular industry was brought forward there were so many opposition industries put on their mettle that it was a most ticklish matter to get it through all the stages of the House of Commons. He should very much like their advice and confidence if they could think of any active policy that they could pursue, at the present time more particularly, and there were some points of course that they had not lost sight of that their good friend Mr. Ironmonger would always keep before them as to which they must make a little actual progress now. He took that gathering and that honour and kind compliment they had paid him as an evidence that their confidence and friendship was not at an end. (Hear, hear.) He very deeply appreciated the kindness they had always shown him, and thanked them very much for their congratulations, for their kindness to him on leaving the country, in sending him resolutions of encouragement while he was out there, and above all for the great kindness of their reception that day on his return. He thanked them very much, and also for drinking his health. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Ironmonger said his object in rising was to draw attention to the fact that they had another gentleman present besides Colonel Brookfield who had fought for the Queen in that cause, and who had not only fought for her, but had had either the luck or the ill luck of shedding his blood on account of the cause that they had so much at heart. Mr. Arthur Lord was with them (applause) the son of an old member of their Association and a very esteemed gentleman in his own neighbourhood, who voluntarily associated himself with the struggle in which the nation was engaged in the early stages, and served with Colonel Plumer's column in the advance from Rhodesia which was instituted to assist Lord Roberts in the relief of Mafeking. He would not say very much about Mr. Lord's achievements, but he would tell them this, that he was one of those who felt what the power of the Mauser rifle and the Mauser bullet was, for he believed he was struck by a Mauser bullet across the chest; it entered his right arm and incapacitated him from further action. It did not absolutely daunt him, for he continued to the best of his ability to fire at the enemy till he could fire no longer. What struck him in the recitals that they had read of was that soldiers of the Queen when they went out were called upon to fulfil many obligations. They were not only to direct the operations of others and to take part in those operations themselves, they had not only to enter into very great dangers, but they had sometimes to perform family duties. Turning for a moment from Mr. Arthur Lord, Colonel Brookfield had to perform several family duties, for he had an illustration of that in his pocket. It was a print from the *Daily Graphic* some time ago, and it gave a photograph of Colonel Brookfield on the veldt. He was surrounded by a little party of children, and one wondered what on earth he should want children out in Africa for, because he had plenty of children at home to look after. Nevertheless the title of the picture was "Where is father?" These were the children of ex-President Steyn. Colonel Brookfield had the honour and privilege of being put in charge of Mrs. Steyn. He did not mean to say that there was any association, but at any rate he occupied the position of a local parent. (Laughter.) "Where is father?" must be fairly answered by "Here is father," for he was the father for the time being. He only showed this as an illustration of the various duties that had to fall upon our soldiers when they went into active service, and they might quote the words of Lord Roberts in saying our soldiers had always proved themselves under all possible circumstances to be gentlemen. (Hear, hear.) Whatever duties had devolved upon them they had fulfilled to the utmost of their ability. He asked them to drink with all cordiality to the health of the brave young fellow who had done his duty to his country and who had honoured them with his presence in company with his father, Mr. Arthur Lord. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Lord, in response, said he was very much obliged for the kind words Mr. Ironmonger had said about him. He thought he had said too much about him. He had been for nearly ten years in South Africa and over seven in the Transvaal. He found himself up in Rhodesia, and things were looking very bad, as they had for five years. Colonel Plumer's force would be raised, and he thought it was the duty of everyone to join it. (Hear, hear.)

In proposing "The Chairman," Major Honeyball said they were under obligations to a gentleman for having taken the chair on that auspicious occasion, and he was sure they would not wish to depart without thanking Mr. Berry for the manner in which he had performed the duties which they had laid upon him. If they wanted a man to do anything they must go to a busy man, and Mr. Berry was a busy man. He was one of the mainstays of their Association. It was not because he had plenty of time on his hands, but because his time was always thoroughly well occupied. A man who farmed 300 acres of hops could not very well be an idle man. Besides which he had given a very large amount of time to their interests in the matter of railway rates, and had fought their battles in more ways than most of them knew. Mr. Berry was a man whom agriculturists in the south east of England could not dispense with. He believed he was asked to stand for Parliament at the last election, but his views were supposed to be Liberal, and he would not, although he was a Liberal, at this juncture oppose the present Government. That showed how very independent and really Liberal his views were. If ever he got into the House of Commons, as he was sure he would be able to if he wished, he believed they would find in Mr. Berry a most useful member to whichever side he might belong. He had very great doubts about his Liberalism. It was very desirable that they should have a really representative hop-grower in the chair. They could not have found a more representative man than Mr. Berry, and he begged to propose his very good health, and to thank him for his services in the chair. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Berry said, with regard to the present state of affairs, Major Honeyball very much doubted his Liberalism. It was a great question what was Liberalism. He felt when Colonel Brooksfield was leaving for the front, when various members of Parliament and others who were supposed to be leaders among sections of the Liberal party were making various speeches about the country, he did feel that it was his duty at that time to say that it would be impossible for him to remain Liberal unless something were done to stop these men's mouths. He was not one of those who, because they might disagree in some particulars with the action taken by the Government, took every opportunity of maligning the Government, and running down their own nation and their own friends on such occasions. He was very glad to find that among the Liberal party there was, he believed, to-day a very much larger section who were as thoroughly Unionist in the sense of a determination to maintain every inch of empire that we had—(hear, hear)—and on that ground many Liberals who would have liked to have a fight at this last election determined that they would not fight, and many hundreds of others positively declined going to the polls in support of anything which might have the appearance of wishing to prevent the Government of this country saying that what we had we would hold and take care of, and we would undertake that where an Englishman was he should be properly respected if he conducted himself properly. That he believed was the first duty of every man, or one of the first duties of every man. Whether it was among the hop-growers or wherever it was they might meet, he hoped he should be always one to try to do what could be done for the benefit of their industries, and for the benefit of anything which they felt it was their duty to help. (Hear, hear.)

Hereford Hops at the Brewers' Exhibition.

The following letters on this subject have appeared in the *Hereford Times*:—

Sir,—At the recent hop competitions, held at the Brewers' Exhibition in London, I heard of general dissatisfaction on the part of competitors and others at the result of the championship, which consisted of hops from all the counties for which a class was set apart, and which eventually went to a Kent growth.

The general feeling seemed to be that the Herefordshire hops were finer, thicker in the sample, a finer colour, and equally good in flavour. Now if this was so, I cannot see how the Kent hops could get the advantage of the others, for the management appeared to be equally good in both cases.

I think, however, if the judges were going more for one thing than another, they should announce for what particular virtue in the hop they were seeking.

Growers would also do well to see that their county is fairly represented by the judges, and not only by their names, as is sometimes the case, I believe, but by the individuals themselves. And then I feel certain that given an even chance with our southern county we should sometimes be fairly allowed premier honours, without their envying our superior position.

HEREFORDIAN.

Herefordshire, October 29th, 1900

Sir,—It is with pleasure that I read in the current issue of MARK LANE EXPRESS the criticism by "Lupulin" of the award for the champion prize. He is to be congratulated on the courage he shows in expressing publicly an opinion in which he places the best sample of Hereford hops as superior to the best sample of East Kents. That such is and has been frequently the case I have long upheld—that is, taking our Mathons against East Kent Goldings, and the fact is demonstrated [illegible] years when unbiassed judgment has been [illegible] as hops that the article [illegible] of the day when it will be [illegible] that our local hops are the [illegible] country.

It is also to be hoped that [illegible] connected with the [illegible] hop [illegible] hop [illegible] from keeping [illegible] as yearlings." Like many [illegible] but a sore death [illegible] ested traders. The fact that Kent [illegible] by year at least 20s. per cwt. more than ours would lead anyone to think that they are [illegible] Do we find this to be the case [illegible] decidedly no. For the last four years samples of our hops have been examined [illegible] brewers' analysts, and also at Wye College in Kent itself, the result being our hops [illegible] having a larger amount of resins, that being the essence representing the actual bitter [illegible] hop.

If thus our hops are better from the standpoint of quality, the case is proved, for as regards appearance it is not suggested that we are [illegible] casual observer can note that.

Reverting to the particular case the prompted me to write this letter—the claim Mr. Pudge's sample has for champion honours. I took the [illegible] critically examine and compare it with the one which took the champion, and I had the satisfaction of convincing to my view three of the largest growers in Kent who were present. We commenced by comparing for appearance, this being speedily decided in favour of Mr. Pudge's sample; then came question of amount of lupulin, and here again the palm went to the "Worcester": my friends the Kent growers like drowning men catching at straws, said it must be flavour that decided the award. To [illegible] this a disinterested person rubbed [illegible] from the Kent and some from the "Worcester," [illegible] to us to smell without our knowing [illegible] and once more Mr. Pudge's sample was [illegible] in each of these tests the verdict was unanimous.

What I feel sure would be of great value to the hop growers of Herefordshire and Worcestershire would be the formation of a combination of representative growers whose aim would be to prove and convince brewers of the superiority of our hops, to break down improper prejudices, and to generally raise the tone and status of our local hops. There are many ways in which this can be done. For instance, circulating and publishing the results of analyses; promoting competitions; experimenting with a view to exploding the fallacy that our hops do not keep so well as others; establishing a board of arbitration and inspection in cases of dispute between grower and buyer; obtaining concessions in railway rates, and a general inclination to combine for mutual benefit.

The scheme need not be at all a costly one, and I for one should be pleased to subscribe to its funds, and would, moreover, undertake any work free of expense that would further any plan having for its aim the raising of Herefordshire and Worcestershire hops to their legitimate market value, which if estimated truly should be at least equal to [illegible] East Kents are appraised.

I hope to have the opinions on the subject of the letter from hop growers themselves, and that some tangible result and benefit will arise.

Many growers have themselves owned that they suffer from lack of combination, without which no scheme has any chance of success. It is certainly strange that an industry that so eminently requires organisation has so long been satisfied to exist without some effort to form one.

SYDNEY MAYO.

Hereford, November 1st, 1900.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

Our people have but little reason to complain of the course of business during the past week, for although the general trade is rather quiet, some good sales have been made, several fairly long lots having changed hands. The most satisfactory feature is found in the fact that despite the efforts of buyers to depreciate values, holders have been sufficiently firm to secure the prices demanded. The results have therefore revealed the continued strength of the market, and enable me to contradict the rumours that prices have fallen off, even by one so much [illegible] Such a movement could only follow from the weakness of sellers, which would be not only foolish, but reprehensible. I am glad to say that I have no knowledge of any such inclination to yield the advantage that the present position and future [illegible] holders, as all the planters with whom I am acquainted whose hops are still unsold are firm in [illegible] consider are warranted by the circumstances.

Foreign Growths

are not offered freely on our market, though a fair

HOP AND WIRE.—Users of WIRE WORK should [illegible] Best English galvanised Steel Hop Strand, [illegible] Bros. Ltd., Warrington, Lancs. For prices, [illegible] their London office, 86, Leadenhall-street, E.C.; or their Sole Agent for Kent and Sussex, Mr. Edward [illegible] road, Lee, S.E.—[ADVT.]

quantity of Continentals has recently arrived. States and Californians have also been landed since this month opened to a rather greater extent than previously. But all descriptions are realising full prices, and they cannot be looked upon as being in any dangerous degree competitors with ourselves. They have their due place in the estimation of some consumers, who take a certain proportion of them for special purposes, and therefore always buy them according to custom. This season the arrivals will be so limited that they cannot produce any perceptible effect on the market for English produce, and there is abundant proof that as the season progresses, or when our hops increase in value, imported hops will also advance, as it is impossible that we should at any time this season find our market overweighted with them.

Colonel Brookfield's Return

from the South African campaign was very heartily celebrated by the planters present at the welcome luncheon on Monday last. The gallant Colonel shows some signs of his hardships and anxieties, being rather thinner than when he left us in March. But it is satisfactory to know that he has gone through all the chances of the campaign without being sick or sorry for a single day, and, though in immediate proximity to dangers to life and limb from shells or bullets, which on several occasions struck down his comrades at his side, he escaped them all, frequently to his own astonishment. He gave us, in his usual genial manner, a little insight into the experience of a soldier, preferring, however, to speak of the risks run by the telescope presented to him by the Association rather than of himself. But privately some forcible incidents were elicited from him, which illustrated the close acquaintance he had had with sad mutilation and sudden death. The Colonel was evidently well satisfied with the warmth of his reception, and has now willingly settled down again to the routine of his life as the member for the hop-growers in Parliament, the responsibilities of which position he has hitherto discharged so efficiently.

Apologies for absence from the luncheon were received from the Earl of Ashburnham, the Earl of Cranbrook, Lord Harris, Sir Anchitel Ashburnham-Clement, Bart., Laurence Hardy, Esq., M.P., Captain Boscawen, M.P., Lieut.-Col. Warde, M.P., and so many others that it is impossible to find space for their names. But one and all emphatically expressed their admiration for the public services and patriotism of our guest, and regretted the various circumstances which hindered their presence at our gathering.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

Some relaxation of the export demand, and comparatively few inquiries by brewers, have resulted in a quieter trade during the past week. The total sales have not much exceeded 2,500 bales, which compares unfavourably with the business of the preceding period. Buyers are endeavouring to take advantage of the situation, and are making reduced offers, but holders have not generally given way, although isolated transactions are heard of at slightly lower figures. Only the medium and common qualities have, however, as yet been in any degree affected, the choice grades still maintaining their full recent values. From interested motives reports are in circulation that the tendency of the general market is towards weakness, but I do not attach any importance thereto, as I believe the present quietude will be but temporary, and will soon be followed by increased activity, when it is found that the tactics of buyers have been defeated by the firmness of holders. A little revival of the export trade, which is inevitable, would speedily restore strength to the trade, and remembering the limitation of the unsold portion of the crop we shall certainly experience a movement in an upward direction in the near future. There is no other probability worthy of consideration, therefore I am still confident that we shall see the market value of all hops greatly enhanced, and that the course of business throughout the remainder of the season will be noted by figures much in advance of any we have heard of for some years.

Aischgrund.

Though the trade here has been influenced by the calmer tone at Nuremberg, several important lots have changed hands at prices quite on a par with recent currency.

Hallertau.

Prices have not shown any alteration. A large quantity of sealed hops has been sold.

Wurtemberg.

After a short spell of comparative calmness, business has been briskly resumed at recent rates, and the tone of the market is getting stronger.

Neutomischel (Prussia).

The value of hops is fully maintained, although business has been rather less active of late. The greater part of this year's crop has passed into the hands of dealers, whose demand is in the direction of medium grades, rather than for choice qualities.

Munich.

The sales of the past week have about doubled the arrivals; the stocks in hand are therefore substantially reduced. Holders are firm in their quotations, which remain at about the same level as previously reported.

Burgundy.

Exports to England having fallen off a little there is at present a rather easier tone on the market, and the extreme prices recently quoted can hardly be realised by sellers who wish to operate. But there is no important reduction, and 105 to 115 francs are still the average current figures.

Belgium.

Important business has been done during the past few days in 1900 crop hops at 100 francs (80s.) per cwt., first cost, but following this activity the market is at the moment rather inclined to rest, buyers having become somewhat reserved. But as at least seven-eighths of this year's growth have been sold by planters, and as it is known that some heavy sales for future delivery have yet to be provided for, it must follow that any weakness in the market which may now be apparent can only be momentary, especially as it is not supposed that brewers are sufficiently stocked for the coming season. There are practically no old hops to be purchased, and the trade can therefore only be supplied by this year's crop, so that the future course of the market may be easily and safely foreseen, it being more than probable that higher rates than have yet been quoted will rule for the remainder of the season. The most recent news from Poperinghe declares that quotations are very firm at 100 francs for best selections.

America.

Business in hops is advancing very satisfactorily to sellers, both on the New York market, in New York State, and on the Pacific Coast. Brewers are still somewhat shy, hoping against hope that by their apparent indifference they will be able to defeat the firmness which marks the attitude of both dealers and growers. But their efforts are vain, inasmuch as quotations are strongly upheld, and there is a daily development of a tendency towards advancement. It is the settled opinion of experts that we shall hear of such prices for hops before the season closes as have not been thought of for a very long period. The actual shortage of the American crop, coupled with the very small stocks of old hops, is forcing this conviction upon the minds of those who are very unwilling to accept it. But the issue will certainly come, and present predictions must be fulfilled, as no other outlook is before the trade.

On the whole, I consider the condition of the foreign hop trade to be sufficiently healthy to warrant the expectation of increasing strength. The prospect for holders is everywhere favourable.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 655, 657.)

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

19,304.—D. M. Nelson and C. Ritchie Nelson, both of Glasgow, for an invention for "A fertiliser.

19,573.—J. N. Reeson, of Weybridge House, Beckton, Essex, for an invention for "A butter press."

19,628.—S. J. Symes, of Dublin, for an invention for "An improvement in corn and grass-cutting machines."

Patents Sealed.

14,463.—J. K. Stewart, of Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A., for an invention for "Improvements relating to sheep, etc., clippers."

14,522.—J. Green, of Leeds Road, Bradford, for an invention for "Improvements relating to seeds, sowing."

14,611.—E. Hixson, of Ashland, Ohio, U.S.A., for an invention for "Improvements in threshing machines."

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

Nov.

20. Sale of Red Polled Cattle, belonging to Mr A. J. Smith, of Beadle Farm, at the Drill Hall, Ipswich
20 to 23. Sale of Horses at the North Wales Repository, Wrexham.
22, 23, and 24. Norfolk and Norwich Christmas Show Association, at Agricultural Hall, Norwich.
26 and 27. Tenbridge Fat Stock and Poultry Show
27 and 28. Lord Tredegar's Agricultural and Poultry Show, at Newport, Mon.
27 and 28. Whitchurch Dairy Farmers' Association's Show, at Whitchurch, Salop.
28. Sale of the entire stud of Hackneys and young Harness Horses belonging to Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., at Rolleston Hall, Burton-on-Trent
29 and 30. Chippenham Agricultural Association's Show, at Chippenham, Wilts.
30. Sale of Shire Mares, Fillies, and Geldings, at Peterborough Repository

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Watery Milk—At Worship Street Police Court on Wednesday, Mrs. May Ann Boughtwood, trading as Boughtwood and Sons, of Islington-green, was fined £5 and two guineas costs, at the instance of the St. Luke's Vestry, for selling milk adulterated with 25 per cent. of added water; and Frank Pettitt, of 3A, Perceval-street, Goswell-road, was fined £3 and two guineas costs for a like offence, the "added water," however, being less than 10 per cent.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Date of Sowing.

One of the most useful lessons of the many which intelligent growers can learn at the Brewers' Exhibition is how to determine the proper time to sow barley.

Necessarily the weather is the chief factor, and can always wield absolute sway, but putting aside the conditions which some seasons make it out of the question to attempt to sow at the right time, there must of necessity be some given date which is to be preferred whenever practicable.

This year the spring was a very backward one, and the state of the weather towards the end of winter made it almost impossible to get any seed in before Valentine's Day, or even right up to the first week in March. The table shows that only six samples out of 160 were planted in February, with not one in January. One had been planted in the preceding autumn (October 18th), and this obtained a prize. Of the six sown in February one-half (three) obtained awards.

Those who hurried to get the drills working early in March did not this year meet with the success that commonly rewards such efforts.

A Good Seed Bed

was only rarely obtained in nearly all good barley districts until towards the third week of March; consequently, although twenty-seven samples were sown by the first week, they fared badly, only one-third securing awards. The second week was even worse, as only six prizes fell to twenty-nine samples sown that week.

The best time was throughout the third week, when thirty-five lots were got in, and no less than twenty-one of them obtained prizes, being equal to 60 per cent. During the last week still more were sown, viz., thirty-eight, but the awards fell away very significantly down to fourteen, or only 37 per cent.

This difference of a week only on so large a number of samples had a very marked effect, and it once more emphatically confirms the lesson that, as soon as the land is in good tilth, it is time to sow.

Not a Day Should Be Lost

after the land is ready to receive the seed. In April the results are not good. Of twelve sown in the first week only two won anything, and of the twenty-four lots sown in the month, only six, or twenty-five per cent. did any good.

The following table deserves careful consideration, for the one point where intelligence can have free play, and prove remunerative, is deciding to lose no time directly the conditions make sowing possible and desirable:—

Dates of Planting.

Date of sowing.		No. of samples sown.	No. of prizes awarded.	Percentage of prize winners.
1899.				
October	18	1	1	100.
1900.				
Feb.	7	1	1	100.
	14	2	1	50.
	21	1	—	—
	28	2	1	50
March	7	27	9	33
	14	29	6	20
	21	35	21	60
	31	38	14	37
April	7	12	2	17
	14	7	3	43
	21	3	—	—
	26	2	1	50
Unknown		2	—	—
		162	60	—

Sale of Corn by Weight.

It is curious to note how obstinately East Anglian farmers resist the sale of corn by weight. Practically there is every reason why such mode of dealing should be encouraged, and yet we see every effort put forth to make the practice uniformly adopted resisted with dogged determination.

A number of the principal buyers in Ipswich Market have decided to insist upon all sales of a coomb (4 bushels) being regarded as 16 stones. This is promptly met by a protest from sundry farmers in the *East Anglian Daily Times*, who object. They urge "brother farmers" to resist this, but give no reasons why it should be opposed.

Now, in reality, no buyer ever fixes in his own mind the price he may feel disposed to give for barley without considering weight. There are few competent judges of barley who do not know the weight of a sample, and without intending a pun, it has great weight in determining the amount they feel disposed to give.

It is exceedingly common now for bargains to be struck on the basis of

16 Stones a Coomb,

or 56lbs. per bushel, and a very much larger number of samples run to this weight or exceed it than fall under it.

With the clear understanding between both parties

that 56lbs. is bought and not a bushel, the real advantages rest with the seller. Few growers sell without ascertaining the weight, and they know, what the buyer only guesses. Weight is a pure matter of fact capable of proof. Measure is a variable quantity. A thousand men can weigh a thousand tons of grain and no difference in weight should be recorded. No two men can ever be found who would measure such a heap and record the same number of bushels.

Bad delivery by the grower merely means trickery, but no farmer ever gained anything in the end by attempting to delude a buyer. The sooner every one concerned realises that a bushel of barley is 56lbs. the better for everyone interested.

POULTRY.

The Trade in New-Laid Eggs.

During the autumn and early winter in each year there is a great falling off in the home supplies of eggs, with a consequent increase of the prices This season the decline has been greater than usual, due, in large measure, to the late hatching season of 1900, and the fact that pullets and hens alike have been much later than usual coming into profit. At the present time fresh eggs are in great demand, and sell at high rates. The increased production of eggs in winter is one of the problems before the practical poultry-keeper, if he intends to secure full reward for his labour, for without regularity of supply he cannot expect adequate returns. That this can be accomplished is unquestionable, as has been proved by experience in this country and also in America, where the climatic conditions are less favourable than in Britain. It is not my present purpose, however, to discuss that question. To such as are interested I shall be pleased to forward a copy of our No. IV. leaflet on "Winter Egg Production." In spite of the deficiency referred to, it is unquestionable that a fair proportion of eggs are produced during the autumn and winter months. But as nearly every trader and many consumers know, very little reliance can be placed upon eggs at this season. I do not say that if a consumer can buy from the actual producer fresh eggs are unobtainable. When, however, they become an article of commerce, producers, higglers, and traders alike are equally responsible for the lack of confidence prevailing.

A very general custom among both producers and higglers at this season is the

Holding of Eggs in Order to Obtain Better Prices,

From the beginning of September this is done to a larger extent than is commonly supposed. The temptation is great. Eggs will realise in November and December fifty per cent. more than in September, so long as the buyer can be deceived into accepting them as new-laid. I was once in a shop in a provincial town when a man came in, and after asking and learning what price the shopkeeper was prepared to give for a lot of eggs, he replied, "I'll keep them another week." To the knowledge of the shopkeeper those eggs had been in his possession a month, probably longer, and would almost certainly be two or three weeks old when he received them. Nor is this custom peculiar to Britain. The other day a French egg merchant in London stated that he could not now guarantee the freshness of Normandy eggs, for the reason that producers in France keep back their supplies to secure better prices in November and December, and especially in December. If these eggs were sold for what they really are no one could complain, for the business would be straightforward on both sides, but to sell them as "new-laid" is

An Unquestionable Deception,

which re-acts seriously upon producers, destroying confidence and reducing prices. Preserved eggs do not enter into consideration. They bear their sign manual. No respectable shopkeeper dare sell such for anything else than they really are, though often they are better than the non-preserved or "kept" eggs.

Much more serious is

The Custom of "Mixing,"

which is growing almost as rapidly as the demand for eggs. Recently I have been making inquiries into this system, and find that it is widely prevalent. It would occupy too much of your space to enumerate the many cases which have come under my notice. That it has been long in vogue is well known, but it is decidedly on the increase, and one is surprised to find firms of good standing lending themselves to such a method of deception. Some time ago I saw foreign eggs being transferred into Irish cases in one establishment, and more recently I saw French eggs mixed with English and packed in hampers in another. We know what that means. The buyer of one of our largest London stores informed me that last year, by accident, he learnt that one of his country collectors was found to be buying foreign eggs in large quantities, and yet was being paid high prices for English new-laids. We have evidence that lately several cases per week of foreign eggs are going to a village station in one of the home counties. There lives a higgler. And in a district where we have a collecting depôt, the higglers are at the present time paying a higher price for eggs than they are afterwards receiving. They are known to mix. It does not appear to be thought dishonest to mix eggs in this way. The excuse made is,

"We all do it."

Probably the retailer knows what is taking place, but the consumer is defenceless under present methods. As a partial protection, many of the best retailing firms never sell an egg that has not been carefully tested by "candling." That, however, does not guarantee it to be English, or more than a measure of freshness.

Lest it should be thought that I am suggesting that English higglers and dealers alone are dishonest, it may be mentioned that I have evidence that Irish eggs are mixed with Canadian, and Danish with Russian. Hence, when our own people mix Danish with English, it may be that not a few sold as English really originated in Russia. "How is this system of fraudulent trading to be stopped?" Such a question has pressed itself for consideration for several years. After careful survey of the position, the National Poultry Organisation Society has determined to attempt it by the

Establishment of Collecting Depots,

in which, by the mutual efforts of the producers themselves, by a rapid system of collection, by careful testing and speedy marketing, eggs can be placed in the hands of retailers within two or three days, and whilst they are absolutely fresh. The Society has registered a trade mark, which is only stamped upon eggs that can be guaranteed as British and new-laid. The work is necessarily slow and difficult. We have to meet the opposition of "rings," who resent interference with their machinations. The methods of generations cannot be altered in a day; but we hope that as the number of depôts increases, we shall be able to afford consumers who know the value of a fresh egg the opportunity of securing reliable eggs of home production absolutely fresh, without fear of deception, and that the "Rose-brand" will become recognised as proof positive of both origin and quality. One of the largest merchants in the Metropolis last week stated that the only way to restore confidence and prevent deception was by the general adoption of our trade mark.—EDWARD BROWN, Secretary, The National Poultry Organisation Society, 12, Hanover Square, London, W., Nov. 12th.

Rural Depopulation.

At a recent meeting of the Derwent District Agricultural Society, a most interesting discussion took place on the subject of rural depopulation. Dr. A. D. H. Leadman read a paper in which he set himself to answer the question, "Why do the rural districts become so thinly populated?" It was certain, he said, that labourers had for many years been caught by the higher wages of towns and the more continual high pressure of excitement to be found in them. Farm work had become derogatory, objectionable, and out of fashion. The labourers would rather wheel a barrow in a foundry than attend to stock. Short hours were longed for; numerous "nights off" were wanted—and pray what for? Simply to loaf about in idleness. If the country places remained better peopled wages would always be more equable; as it was, the difficulty of getting labour had become so serious to the farmers, nurserymen, and others that wages had been forced up to an abnormal pitch which could not possibly be maintained. Hence masters had to toil and sweat, denying themselves of many a pleasure they had justly earned.

After comparing the life of the agricultural labourer with that of a doctor, Dr. Leadman attributed the principal cause of the present leakage to the system of education taught in the rural districts. It was wrong, he said, to cram boys and girls in the way they were crammed. The subjects, too, were absurd. The labourer's son learnt Latin, Greek, French, mathematics; his daughter an equally useless set of subjects. The former would no longer follow the plough; for the latter domestic service had no attraction. Not more than two or three per cent. be fited by this kind of teaching.

Why, then, were the ratepayers to smart under what could easily be proved to be a useless and unjust burden on the rural taxes? He was not opposed to education, but the fault of the present system was to make boys and girls dissatisfied with their position and unfit them for the condition in which they were born. A time would come, in his opinion, when this false system would find its own level. The law of supply and demand would again find this out, for every one could not be a master. Dr. Leadman largely attributed the depopulation of the village to the red tape of the Education Department, which, he said, neither knew nor cared anything about rural requirements.

The exchange from the country to the large town was, in his view, a poor one, and in the long run not always to the benefit of the young man who migrated. He maintained that a skilled farm labourer any day was the equal of the artisan, were he mechanic or engineer. In towns a man might, he granted, obtain larger wages, but he would also have larger expenses, and the money he received could [illegible] And what would he have? Health and happiness. To make village life attractive he would brighten the church services, and teach every boy and girl either vocal or instrumental music, or both. All those musical instruments and voices he would have in the church choir.

The village dance upon the village green should be restored every summer under proper management, the crowning of the May Queen revived, and cricket and football clubs well encouraged, along with a variety of other things which could only be properly followed up in the open country. Some of the old customs, too, which were [illegible] depending revived with both success and pleasure. It may seem a dream of Utopia, but he saw no other pleading for no one either impossible or impracticable.

In the course of a discussion which followed, the president Dr. Wright said that many [illegible] lads found country life very dull, and he thought Dr. Leadman hit the nail on the head when he said that the present system of education was not what it should be. If the boys were taught more about the technical side of farming he thought that would do a great deal; but one of the great difficulties was the unsuitability of farm cottages. Frequently it was absolutely impossible for a man and his family to live in the cottage provided for him in decency and health. If landlords improved their cottages he thought that both they and the farmers would benfit.

He agreed that it would be a good thing to teach a lad music if he had got any music in him. Dancing, too, was a splendid thing for both boys and girls, if properly conducted, and providing mammas took care of their daughters when they were coming home. Unfortunately they could not make either farmers or their men great readers, because after tearing about a farm all day they soon dropped off to sleep when they commenced to read a book. He thought it would be a good thing if they could get village schoolmasters to give their boys a superficial technical education in agriculture.

NEWS NOTES.

Hirings at Lancaster.—The first Martinmas hiring fair at Lancaster was held on the 10th inst. Very few servants presented themselves, and business was rather slack. Those who were present asked prices considerably in advance of those obtained at Whitsuntide, but farmers preferred to wait until next week. Boys were in several cases taken on, and obtained between £8 and £10.

The Martinmas Hiring Fair.—This Ulverston fair embracing the whole of North Lonsdale, South Cumberland, and parts of Westmorland and Lancashire was held on Thursday. Headmen received £20; first class men, £16 to £18; second class men, £13 to £15; boys and youths, £5 to £12; dairymaids, £14; best women servants, £11 to £13; second class, £9 to £11; girls £5 to £7.

Uttoxeter Cattle Fair.—The first of the November cattle fairs was held on Monday, when the show of horned stock was unusually large, many farmers who have been compelled to keep their stock up by the order of the Board of Agriculture now rushing it into the fair. In the early part of the day a large quantity of stock changed hands, though the bad weather that prevailed later in had a depressing effect. Calving cows made from £14 to £18 10s., calving stirks, £7 10s. to £8 10s.; barren stirks, £7 to £8; lying-off cows, £14 to £15; yearling bulls, £6 to £7; two-year-old bulls, £9 to £10; yearling calves, £3 10s. to £4.

Thirsk Hiring. The principal statutes were held on Monday, when there was a large attendance of both male and female servants. There was a better supply of ploughboys and farm men generally than last year, but for farmhouse girls there was a general dearth. Good managing farm foremen and hinds obtained £23 to £24, secondary hands £20 to £21, first ploughboys up to £20, second ploughboys up to £17, farm lads £11 to £13, head farmhouse girls £18 to £20, second girls £14 10s. to £15, general servants for town places £12 to £14, cooks up to £20, housemaids and bedroom maids £11 to £12, kitchen-maids £10 10s. to £12, experienced nurse girls up to £10, and nurse girls first time out £6 10s. to £8 for the twelve months.

Darlington November Fair was held on the 10th inst. There was a good show of English cattle, and very large of Irish, the number exceeding what has been usual of late years. Prices were higher, with a fairly good sale. English bullocks made from £12 to £15; [illegible] £11 to £13; [illegible] £9 to £11; and yearlings, £6 to £8. There were some very good cattle in the Irish section, being above the average; best [illegible] from £13 to £14; [illegible] young bullocks, £8 to £10 10s.; yearlings, £5 to £6. The show of sheep was limited. Lambs made 3s. or 4s. per head more than of recent years. There was a fair supply of horses, but the quality was not high. Superior [illegible] horses sold at good prices, one Clydesdale [illegible] £70. The only pair of this class was £35 to £45 each. Cobs were a small show, but anything good made a fair price. Good hacks were not very plentiful. Ponies were a fair small show, and commanded about £9 to £12.

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1901.

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The

Mark Lane Express

and

Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

VOL. LXXXIII. No. 3609. LONDON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1900. THIRTY-TWO PAGES PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES.

CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS.

The following MEETINGS of the CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE will be held (by permission of the Society of Arts) at the House of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, on Wednesday, December 12th, 1900, viz.:—

1.—10.30 a.m., the Business Committee.

2.—11 a.m., the Council Meeting, at which Members of the Council representing either the Central Chamber or Associated Chambers are requested to be present.

AGENDA.

To transact General Business.

To receive Communications.

To receive Reports of Committees (if any).

To draw up the Annual Report of the Council.

3.—11.30 a.m. (or at such hour as the business of the above Council Meeting is concluded), the ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL CHAMBER, at which all Deputies and Subscribing Members are requested to be present.

AGENDA.

To receive the Auditor's Report.

To appoint an Auditor for the ensuing year.

To receive the Annual Report of the Council for 1900.

To consider Alterations in the Laws, as recommended by the Business Committee and adopted by the Council on November 6th, 1900. The Business Committee also recommend that Law No. 37 shall in future read as follows, the Alteration consisting of the additional sentence printed in italics:—

37.—The Officers of the "Central Chamber" shall be a "Chairman" and "Vice-Chairman," a "Treasurer," "Auditor," and "Secretary," the retiring "Chairman" not being eligible to the "Vice-Chair" for the space of one year. *The "Council" shall have power to fill up any vacancy caused by the death, resignation, or incapacity to act of any such officer.*

N.B.—A copy of the Laws, including the Alterations proposed, will be sent to any Subscribing Member of the Central Chamber upon application to the Secretary.

To consider the following subjects:—

1. The working of the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896 and the question of its renewal.
2. Tuberculosis and the working of the "Model Milk Clauses" in the Private Bills of Local Authorities.
3. Question of the registration of pig dealers and the inspection and disinfection of their premises.

Associated Chambers and Clubs are requested to consider the above subjects, and to send up any resolutions which they may pass thereupon to the Secretary of the Central Chamber before the Meeting of the Business Committee, at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, December 11th, 1900. Suggestions of subjects for discussion at future Meetings of the Council should be forwarded at the same time.

ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary.

ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL DINNER.

SMITHFIELD WEEK, 1900.

Notice is given that the ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL DINNER (under the auspices of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture and the Farmers' Club) will be held during the Smithfield Club Show-Week, in the THRONE ROOM of the HOLBORN RESTAURANT, LONDON, on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 1900, at 7 p.m.

The Chairman of the Farmers' Club (Mr. J. R. EVE) will preside, and it is hoped that the President of the Board of Agriculture will be present, as well as his immediate predecessor.

All farmers and others interested in agriculture are invited to attend.

The price of tickets (exclusive of wine) will be as follows:—

If purchased before December 8th, 1900, 5s. 6d. each.

If purchased after December 8th, 1900, 6s. each.

Members and others who propose to attend are requested to apply as soon as possible for tickets, with a postal order for the amount. (Evening dress optional.)

ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary.
November 14th, 1900.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.

(Founded June, 1894.)

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THE FIFTY-SECOND GREAT ANNUAL EXHIBITION will be held in Bingley Hall, Birmingham, on SATURDAY, December 1st. Admission 10s.; MONDAY, December 3rd, 5s. till 5 o'clock after that hour 1s.; TUESDAY, December 4th, 1s.; WEDNESDAY, December 5th, and THURSDAY, December 6th, 1s. till 5 o'clock, after that hour 6d.

For Excursion Trains see the announcements of the various Railway Companies.

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J. E. LLOYD, M.A.,
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MESSRS. DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER, and BRIDGEWATER will SELL, at the Mart, on Tuesday, November 27, at 2, in one lot, with possession, the exceedingly important FREEHOLD PROPERTY known as Rotherhithe Mill, and 9, 11, and 13, Rotherhithe-street, together with the whole of the valuable fixed plant and machinery. The premises comprise on the north side of Rotherhithe-street and abutting upon the River Thames a range of three two-storey granaries, all communicating, and dwelling-house adjoining; on the south side of Rotherhithe-street an open courtyard, with double entrance gates, extensive mill-house of five floors, with all necessary rolling and other machinery, gearing and accessories, engine and boiler houses, with 25-horse power beam engine and two horizontal boilers, tall chimney shaft, mill stones, yards, stabling for thirteen horses, coach-houses, large van shed, harness room, man's rooms, and loft, a dwelling-house, No. 26, Gilham's-court, piece of vacant ground adjoining, also the old mill stream and water course from the River Thames. The mill premises communicate with the waterside granaries by an iron bridge over Rotherhithe-street.

Particulars of Messrs. HARRIES, WILKINSON, and RAIKES, Solicitors, 38, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street; and of the Auctioneers, 80, Cheapside.

ALDERMASTON MILL, BERKS.—Valuable Freehold Property, situate about a mile from Aldermaston Station on the Great Western Railway, half a mile from the village of Aldermaston and about 9½ miles from Reading and Newbury.

MESSRS. DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER, and BRIDGEWATER will SELL, at the Mart, on Tuesday, December 4, at 2 o'clock, a capital FREEHOLD WATER CORN MILL, with about 12 acres of land, situate on the River Kennett, comprising a brick and slated mill-house of five storeys, fitted with modern roller plant, machinery, fittings, and tackle, and two pairs of stones, with the necessary water power for driving the same, mill dam and two sets of sluices, wheat and flour stores, sparrow-hawk's house, pair of capital cottages with gardens, and one other formerly used as a cow-house; nag stable for four, coachhouse, cart-horse stable for six and cart shed, cattle sheds, cowhouse, piggeries, rick and chaff houses, workshop, etc. There are also flower and vegetable gardens, productive orchard, and several enclosures of rich meadow and pasture land skirted by the River Kennett, which affords excellent fishing. The whole embraces an area of about 17a. 2r. 11p., and is for sale with possession.—Particulars of Messrs. SURR, GRIBBLE, and OLIVER, 12, Abchurch-lane, E.C.; and of the Auctioneers, 80, Cheapside, E.C.

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CONCHAR, JOHN, Wylde Green, Birmingham.—Breeder of SHIRES and HACKNEYS. Some gold Colts and Fillies for Sale. Five minutes from Station.

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AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATION.—REPORT of the CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE of the CENTRAL CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS.—I. Introduction. II. Agricultural Co-operation in Great Britain. III. Agricultural Co-operation in Ireland. IV. Agricultural Co-operation on the Continent. V. Agricultural Co-operation in America and Australasia. VI. Conclusion. Appendices, including instructions for forming a creamery, Model Rules for Local Co-operative Associations, etc., etc. 112 pp., price One Shilling. By post 1s. 1½d.—To be obtained from CENTRAL CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE Broad Sanctuary Chambers, Westminster, S.W.

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—N. STRANGE, Accountant, Tunbridge Wells, Dec. 1st, 1897.

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RATIONAL PIG KEEPING, to ensure Profit. By W. J. MALDEN. Crown 8vo, cloth. Price 2s.; post free, 2s. 3d. Illustrated. London: [illegible] Fleet-side Offices, 1, Essex Street, Strand, W.C.

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LEEDS SMITHFIELD CLUB'S SHOW, DECEMBER 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH.
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MANCHESTER RABBIT, CAT, AND CAVY SHOW, DECEMBER 14TH, 15TH, AND 17TH.

In connection with these important shows, the Great Northern Railway Company are making arrangements for the conveyance of exhibits from stations on, and in connection with their system.

THROUGH RATES.

Rates for the conveyance of the traffic may be obtained on application to anyGreat Northern Station Master or Agent, and the rates will in no case exceed those in force by any other route.

To ensure prompt attention, exhibitors should be careful to address their exhibits "Per Great Northern Railway."

Through vans for the conveyance of exhibits will be run wherever necessary.

RETURN TRAFFIC.

Special arrangements will be made for the return of exhibits, etc., at the close of the respective shows, and exhibitors are requested to mark the return labels "Per Great Northern Railway."

A Great Northern Company's representative will be in attendance at all shows prepared to give exhibitors and others all information with respect to train service, etc.

CHARLES STEEL, General Manager.

LONDON & NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.
POULTRY AND PIGEON SHOW,
TO BE HELD AT
MANCHESTER
DECEMBER 14TH, 15TH, AND 17TH, 1900.

For the convenience of Exhibitors at the above Show, the London and North Western Railway Company will arrange the running of Special Through Vans for the conveyance of Poultry, Pigeons, etc., to Manchester, on Thursday, December 13th, by the Trains leaving—

London (Euston), at 8.45 a.m., 12.25 p.m., 2.45 p.m.; Northampton, at 10.29 a.m., 2.29 p.m.; Carlisle, at 8.30 a.m., 1.40 p.m.; Leeds, at 11.30 a.m., 1.45 p.m., 4.0 p.m.; Birmingham (New St.), at 7.20 a.m., 2.0 p.m.; Shrewsbury, at 11.25 a.m., 4.40 p.m.

These will be in addition to the Vans running regularly on the through trains to Manchester.

Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, etc., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the exhibition.

Rates for the conveyance of the traffic, which in no case exceed those charged by any other route, can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line.

Arrangements will also be made for the return of the Traffic in Through Vans direct from Manchester at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors wishing to avail themselves of these facilities are requested to order their Consignments "Per London and North-Western Railway."

Exhibitors are requested to be careful to write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.

The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer enquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey. All information can be obtained of Mr. Robert Turnbull, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; or from the Company's District Superintendent, Mr. H. Linaker, Exchange Station, Manchester.

FRED. HARRISON, General Manager.
General Manager's Office, Euston Station
London, N.W., November, 1900.

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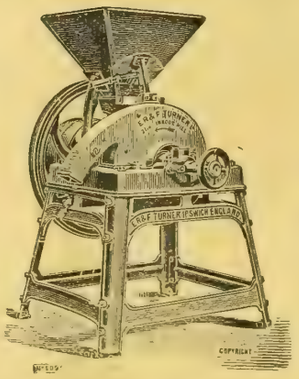

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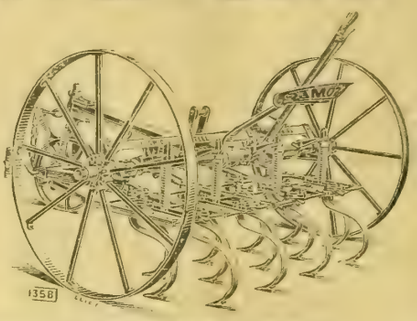

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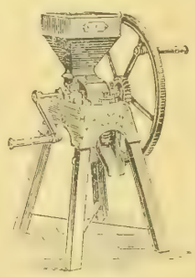

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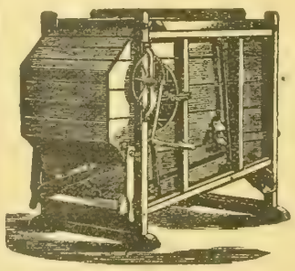

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1900.

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POISONOUS TREES.

A correspondent writes in reference to our report of a case in the Grantham County Court which appeared in our issue of the 12th inst., under the heading of "Leaving Hedge Trimmings on the Highway." It may be remembered that the case was one in which one farmer claimed from another for the loss of a heifer which died in consequence of eating yew leaves which the defendant had allowed to remain on the roadside after trimming his fence. The learned judge held that negligence had nothing whatever to do with the matter, and came to the conclusion that neither the person in charge of the animal nor the defendant were aware of the danger of cattle eating yew leaves, but that the case depended upon the fact of the deposit of such trimmings being a nuisance. His honour continued that there was no doubt that to put anything on the highway that was a danger to either persons or cattle lawfully using such highway was a public nuisance, and that it was quite immaterial whether the person who put it there knew or did not know that it was dangerous. The learned judge also added that the defendant had no right to put his hedge trimmings on the highway; whether they were dangerous or not, for such a course practically amounted to using the public highway for a private purpose which could not be justified. This amounted to holding that there was a nuisance, and the result was a verdict for the plaintiff for the value of the heifer. What our correspondent has to say upon the point had perhaps be better set out in his own words:

"Under the heading 'Agricultural Law' of November 12th inst. I note there is a case of a farmer recovering damage through loss of heifer, not because the heifer was poisoned through eating the yew, but because the farmer had placed on the public highway such material that caused the claimed damage. Now, may I ask you to answer me through your valuable paper the question that if a farmer or any other person knowing or unknowing places or has placed upon any public highway [illegible] that in any way injured man, beast, or other property, would the person be liable to such damage? For instance, thorns may [illegible] a horse's or man's foot or puncture a cycle tyre."

We can quite understand the view which our correspondent takes, but from the strictly legal position there is not the least difference between placing a thorn into the foot of a man or an animal or into the tyre of a bicycle. Anything on a highway must be regarded as a nuisance if it interferes with the lawful use of such by any of His Majesty's subjects. Apart from the question of highways, the matter of noxious trees is one of considerable importance, particularly since it has become fashionable to plant trees without either rhyme or reason. There is no implied warranty on the part of a landlord [illegible] trees grow upon the land he lets. The tenant is only in the position of any ordinary purchaser. He must look and judge for himself, and take the consequences. If the vendor is not prepared to comply with the [illegible] contained in the words of the [illegible] to translate it roughly, that the buyer must look after himself when he buys upon a warranty. The case to which our correspondent refers has resulted in a decision which we believe to be good law, although it is not quite in accordance with some of the decisions of a hundred years

ago. The word "nuisance" is an extremely vague term to use, but, apart from technicalities, there can be no question whatever that it is a nuisance to have one's cattle killed through another person's negligence or ignorance—it matters not which. We quite fail to see what ground of complaint our correspondent has. He would be just as reasonable if he contended that it would be right for a man to lay poisoned loaves of bread on the side of the highway. On the other hand, it would be equally absurd to say that a man might leave yew clippings where they might injure or kill other people's cattle, and yet expect that he should not be responsible for such a course. We see no reason to disagree with the decision of the learned judge of the Grantham County Court.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

The annual dinner held jointly by the Central Chamber of Agriculture and the Farmers' Club has been fixed for Tuesday, December 11th, when Mr. J. R. Eve, chairman of the Farmers' Club, will preside. Mr. R. W. Hanbury, President of the Board of Agriculture, and Mr. H. Chaplin, M.P., who was President of the Board from 1889-1892, have accepted invitations to be present.

The Right Hon. Robert W. Hanbury, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, has appointed Mr. Francis A. Fulford to be his private secretary.

A correspondent wrote to Mr. Balfour in regard to the Agricultural Rating Act, as to the intentions of the Government on the subject in the ensuing Parliamentary Session, pointing out that the Act pressed very heavily on property owners, and that, in his opinion, agriculture was now in a very flourishing condition, thoroughly able to bear its equal share of taxation. The following reply has been received: "November 21st, 1900. —Dear Sir,—Mr. Balfour desires me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst., and, in reply, to say that he is not at present in a position to make any statement with regard to the Agricultural Rating Act. The intention of the Government on the subject will be announced in due course. They have never seen any reason to regret their policy in regard to it.—Yours faithfully, WILFORD M. SHORT."

The Decimal Association of the United Kingdom, of which Sir Samuel Montagu is president, has issued a circular to members of Parliament, inquiring if they would be prepared to support a Bill for the compulsory adoption of the metric system of weights and measures in this country, after a lapse of two years to be allowed for preparing for the change.

A telegram from Sydney on Monday states that splendid rains have fallen over a large portion of New South Wales. The Minister of Agriculture says the downpour has saved the crops in several districts, and largely improved the prospects of the wheat yield and the harvest generally.

In the second general memorandum on the cotton crop of the season 1900-1901, issued by the Government of India Statistical Department, it is stated that with one exception the reports from the cotton-growing provinces are uniformly favourable. The abundant rain of August and September was on the whole most useful to the crop, though it was excessive in a few tracts in the Punjab and the eastern districts of the North-Western Provinces, where some injury was done. In both provinces, however, the existing conditions are entirely satisfactory, and a yield in excess of the average is expected. In the Central Provinces, Berar, and Madras cotton was sown over an unusually large area under the stimulus of high prices for the fibre which have prevailed for a considerable time, and in all these regions the promise of the crop is excellent.

The one exception to the general prosperity of this crop is in Bombay, where, so far as may be judged from the extremely defective and belated reports which have been received, the crop has been sown on a very reduced area, and in some tracts does not promise as well as it might owing to the absence of rain. The area sown in Gujarat appears to be only about half an average, the people in that famine-stricken area having sown with food grains much of the land which would in an ordinary season have been sown with cotton.

The Department mentioned above has also issued its second general memorandum on the sugar-cane crop of the season 1900. It is reported that in the three great cane-growing provinces of Northern India—Bengal, the North-Western Provinces, and the Punjab—the area planted is quite equal to the average, and the plant is coming on in very favourable conditions. The heavy rains which fell towards the end of August and in September did a little local injury, but its general effect was extremely good throughout the cane-growing region. The yield expected will be at least equal to a full average. In Madras a reduced area was sown, but here also a good yield is expected. The crop in this province is comparatively not important.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to November 17, 1900, were £64,959,201 against £63,745,233 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £112,780,891 against £70,655,104 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on November 17th, 1900, amounted to £4,372,156, and at the same date in 1899 to £3,580,022.

It is understood that the well-known Harvey Clarke Roller Mills at Yarmouth have been acquired by a limited liability company.

The grain steamers now arriving in the Thames are often of so deep a draught that they cannot discharge at the London Docks. As the tendency to large cargoes is not likely to be stopped to meet the exigencies of any one port, London interests are coming to be deeply involved in the provision of means whereby steamers of the deepest draught can discharge cargoes comparatively near the metropolis.

The famous Pillsbury-Washburn Mills show a net profit of £134,000 on the trading of the cereal year ended August 31st last. This must be deemed a satisfactory result on the capital invested.

I regret to note the deaths of Mr. Fordham, of Cambridge and Mark Lane, and of Mr. Edwards, of Ruabon and Liverpool, both respected corn merchants and farmers.

At a conference held at the Ministry of Finance at Vienna, November 23rd, for the purpose of considering the question of the abolition of the sugar bounties, the agreement arrived at in Paris last month regarding the conditions of the abolition of the bounties by France, Germany, and Austria-Hungary was under discussion. The agreement in question provides that as an equivalent for the complete abolition of the bounties by Germany and Austria-Hungary, France, besides abolishing the direct export bounty, shall reduce the indirect bounty, and shall render the production of sugar over and above 10½ per cent. subject to the full tax. A preliminary condition to the conclusion of a binding agreement is that the States which were represented at the Brussels Sugar Conference in 1898 shall make sacrifices of the same kind. After an exhaustive discussion, the experts present expressed themselves in favour of an International settlement on the basis above indicated, but they declared that their final attitude in the matter must depend on the course which the forthcoming Conference in Brussels might take.

At Greenwich Police Court on Monday, Harry Taylor, 26, was fined 40s., and 8d., for damaging 54 quarts of milk, the property of Messrs. Martin, dairymen, of Brockley, by whom he was employed. He was seen by a constable to empty two quart cans of water into the milk he had for sale on Sunday.

A Village Pension Scheme.—The Parish Council of Byfleet, Surrey, have under consideration an interesting scheme with regard to charity money (soon to be submitted to the Charity Commissioners), which proposes that the annual income, amounting to about £100, instead of being distributed, as hitherto, in the form of doles of coals, groceries, bread, etc., should be used for the benefit of the poor and deserving by means of small loans in cases of need, by providing medical aid and comforts in time of sickness, and by the establishment of pensions of 5s. weekly to poor persons of good character who have resided in the parish for five years and who are unable to maintain themselves by their own exertions.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

A Dumfriesshire Arbitration Award.

An award has just been issued by Mr. James Biggar, Grange Farm, Rev. Dr. Gillespie, and Mr. Sproat, Borgue House, as arbiters under the Agricultural Holdings Act in a reference between the Closeburn trustees and Mr. N. M'Millan, now of Knowe, Kirkconnel, lately tenant of the farm of Townfoot, on the Closeburn estate, Dumfriesshire. The tenant preferred a claim of £527, the largest individual items being £205 for "betterment," in respect of increased fertility of the land owing to good management and application of manures, and £164 for formation of meadows. The balance was made up of £37 for lime and slag applied, and £100 for manurial value of feeding stuffs consumed. The landlords counter-claimed to the extent of £26, but offered a payment of £120 in full settlement. The proprietors have awarded the tenant £124 in all, disallowing the betterment claim, and have allowed the counter-claim to the extent of £3. The tenant is found liable in three-fifths of the costs of the reference, the proprietors in two-fifths, and each party is to pay his own agent.

The Wheat Tides.

Generally speaking, the vast tides of wheat set to the east and north—from the emigrant farmers on the edge of civilisation to the cities of the old countries; from America, Chili, and Argentine to Europe. There are lesser tides to the west and south, as from California to China, from Russia and India to England, from the United States to Brazil; but they are insignificant compared with the vast main tide from west to east. A few years may make great changes in these tides. The rice-eating Chinaman has tasted the food of the white man, and he finds it good. He could consume the present world's crop and still go hungry. Siberia, opened by the Russian railroad, may yet be one of the greatest wheat-producing countries. Australia has been farmed only around its fringes. When a European thinks of food he thinks in terms of wheat. He is the greatest of bread-eaters; where an American eats meat and potatoes he eats meat and bread. Yet in the best of years Europe never produces enough, even including the crops from the vast fields of Russia, to supply her own needs. She is therefore absolutely dependent on the United States, India, Australia, and Argentina.

If an open conflict between the United States and Europe should ever come, the American might go far toward winning his victory by a mere stoppage of the tide of food; he could almost starve his enemy into submission. Five countries of Europe produce more wheat than they can use—Russia, Hungary, Servia, Bulgaria, and Roumania, but their surplus would be sufficient to supply only the needs of Holland, Belgium, Scandinavia, and little Switzerland, leaving unsatisfied the vast populations of Great Britain, Germany, Austria, Italy, and France. It is therefore no wonder that the question of food supply is constantly before the Parliaments of Europe. It is no wonder that the British Government is discussing the feasibility of building national granaries and storing vast quantities of wheat against the emergencies of war or famine. North America is not yet the largest producer of wheat, although the day may not be far distant when it will take first rank. In 1898 American farmers grew over 758,000,000 bushels, or more than one-quarter of the world's production; but Europe produced 1,548,881,000 bushels, or more than one-half the world's production. Asia (mostly India and Turkey) came next, with 421,000,000 bushels. These three continents are the great wheat producers. South America grows only 72,000,000 bushels, less by some 6,000,000 bushels than the production of the single State of Minnesota; Africa grows only 44,000,000 bushels; while Australia, which has been so much heralded as a source of wheat, comes last of all, with only about 35,000,000 bushels, or about the production of the State of Wisconsin, which is far from being first in the list of American States. —*Windsor Magazine*

Kendal Hiring Fair.—There was a large attendance of servants at this fair, held on the 17th inst. Wages asked were lower than the previous week, and consequently more contracts were made. Best men obtained from £16 to £18; second class men, £14 to £16; boys, £8 to £12. There was a scarcity of female servants, and good wages were obtained. First class women obtained £15 to £17; second class, £13 to £15; girls, £9 to £10 for the half year.

Messrs Powell Brothers and Whittaker, Cambrian Iron Works, Wrexham, have recently been awarded the King of Norway and Sweden's silver medal for their potato-raising machine, at the Bratsberg County Exhibition held at Krugero, and also at the Nevenoes County Exhibition at Arendal. This was the only award given for potato-raisers at these shows. As may be imagined, Messrs. Powell Brothers and Whittaker are now experiencing a large demand for their machine in Norway and Sweden, and also in the other potato-growing districts of Europe.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

I hope my readers will not place too much reliance upon the cleverly-designed journalistic report which declares that Mr. Hanbury, the new Minister of the Board of Agriculture, is simply a warming-pan, and that the post to which he has been appointed will soon be filled by another. The report has this much to commend it, and nothing else—the probabilities of the political situation. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach is, it is generally known, tired of the duties of Chancellor of the Exchequer. He is even averred to be wearied of the political activities of the Lower House, and to sigh for the repose of the Upper Chamber.

Mr. Hanbury, it is also perceived, is not quite in harmony with the duties of the Ministry for agriculture. He is a born statistician, and he has more than once shown that he has that splendid quality in a Chancellor of the Exchequer—the capacity of making his financial statements interesting. Why, then, should not Mr. Hanbury succeed Sir Michael Hicks-Beach? To give artistic verisimilitude to the suggestion contained in this question, it is only necessary to say that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach will consider his active career finished when he has provided for the payment of the war expenditure. This the authors of the original statement readily aver.

It must be confessed that Mr. Hanbury is the roundest of men for the squarest of holes so long as he retains the position of Minister of Agriculture. There is no pretence that he has has any past or has any present associations with the interest. There is no pretension that he has ever made any study of its necessities. I believe frankly that, given time, he would make a good Minister of Agriculture, but that only because of the remarkable capacity of the man. However, this would be an intellectual rather than a sympathetic virtue. It would be a quality of the head rather than of the heart. Perhaps, in the long run, the intellectual value is the superior.

At the same time, I like not to think of a Minister of Agriculture whose equipment at the moment of appointment is want of vivid knowledge and want of sympathy, and who, moreover, is possessed by the belief that he has been thrust into the position simply because of the indisposition to concede him a more important post. This, I fear me, is the present temper of Mr. Hanbury.

I again make no attempt to conceal the fact that he is one of the very ablest men in the Ministry. But we want something more than knowledge, and it is not pleasant to reflect that the man who may have the legislation and economic destinies of agriculture in his control during the next five or six years has hitherto grazed only on the fat uplands of commerce and industry. Able and assimilative as Mr. Hanbury assuredly is, I believe that agriculturists generally would rejoice could they but feel that the story of his being only intended as a Ministerial stop-gap is justified.

I am glad to discover that Mr. Horace Plunkett comprehends that it is not desirable that he should continue to remain at the head of the new Irish Agricultural Department if it be impossible to find him a seat at St. Stephen's. The disassociation of Parliamentary responsibility from the position would mean the robbing it of half its intended significance. It would mean the placing of the Department on an equality with the Irish Office of Works. So many hopes are associated with the Department—hopes which, I am bound to confess, are in a measure due to the personality of Mr. Plunkett—that to reduce it to this weakness and insignificance would be a tragedy.

I should judge from Mr. Plunkett's speech that he himself expects that a seat will soon be placed at his disposal. I fain hope that this may be so. To disconnect Mr. Plunkett at the very outset of its career with an office of which he may be said to be the parent would be a calamity. Apart, however, from this, I am desirous of seeing Mr. Plunkett back in the House, because of my anxiety to discover whether the marked Parliamentary aptitude which he has already revealed will develop, notwithstanding the trammels of officialism. Still, he comprehends that if he cannot return to St. Stephen's he can no longer remain Irish Minister for Agriculture. The Dublin electors would then, in that case, have not only closed the door of official distinction, but, in Mr. Justin McCarthy's historic phrase, would have closed it with a clang.

The Irish land question we have ever with us, but, frankly, I do not believe that Mr. T. W. Russell's new agitation for a compulsory and aggravated scheme of land purchase is likely to

THE RIGHT HON. R. W. HANBURY, M.P.,
PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

catch on. There are two or three reasons which justify this view. In the first place, the Irish and English Tories are determinedly opposed to the reopening of the matter. In the next place, the Irish Nationalists as a body and the English Radicals as a body believe that in the past Irish schemes of land purchase have only enabled Irish landlords, and particularly the worst of them, to get rid of their land at fictitious prices.

In the third place, Mr. T. W. Russell is not the man he once was in British politics. There was a picturesqueness and a fascination about him so long as he hovered on the rear of Nationalism as a kind of irrepressible *franc tireur*. Even Irish Nationalists came to regard him very much as we Englishmen regard De Wet—as a man to be admired because of his intrepidity and dash. However, when he accepted a uniform at a big salary all the glamour departed from him. Even his oratory, which once fizzled and bubbled like champagne, seemed to take unto itself the vivacity of stale beer.

Mr. T. W. Russell, I believe, fancies that he still retains his old place in political esteem. I seriously question this; but, apart from this, I am persuaded that the English electors are tired of making the Irish land question a kind of sore from which the millions of the Treasury are eternally bled into the purses of needy and not too generous landlords. For the moment, I do not discuss his scheme. I only discuss side matters which will have a dominating influence on the movement. It is foredoomed.

I believe that Mr. Soares, who represents one of the Devonshire constituencies—I am not sure if the Barnstaple division is of Portuguese descent. Hence it is, I assume, that he believes that he is capable of giving advice to the English landlord, the English farmer, and the English agricultural labourer. Let me classify the advice of the gentleman:—

1. The interest on every class of investment has been considerably depreciated. The rate of interest at this moment is 3 and 3½ per cent., as compared with the 4, and 5 per cent. of a few years ago. Hence it is that the landlord should be prepared to take a considerably reduced rent.

2. The tenant must, while enjoying such just and equitable terms from his landlord as would enable him to secure a proper return for the money he invests in the soil, remember that he lives in the days of scientific farming, and he must thus abandon the methods of a played-out generation. Moreover, he must see to it that the labourer is well paid and well housed, and is enabled to live a self-respecting life.

3. The labourer should then "put as much heart into the work, and give the farmer the best service he can render."

What is the halcyon picture which the legislator limes with these pigments? A kind of universal happiness depicted as the fate of the gentleman who spent but 19s. 11d. out of his weekly salary of £1. The landlord is to receive less in rent—probably 30 per cent. less. The tenant, paying less in rent, is to spend more in implements and more in wages. The labourer, receiving more in wages, is to give the best work he can. Doesn't he give that now? Somehow or other, I don't see how this is going to redeem agriculture. Will it prevent the tenant farmer, who has to pay more in wages, with only a possible reduction in rent, relapsing into occasional bankruptcy? Will it prevent the never-ceasing immigration into the towns? If Mr. Soares thinks thus, the fact must be due to his having inherited the sensitive imagination which his ancestors cultivated in a warmer clime.

I have heard a whisper that Mr. Henry Chaplin is to receive a peerage. I pray that this may be so. Mr. Mr. Chaplin is one of those men who has won nobility by, in Spenser's beauteous phrase, "brave pursuit of honourable deed." He has been, in the House of Commons, the embodiment of squirearchal manliness and resolution, and, squire though he be, has fought the tenant farmers' battle generously. He would be, perhaps, in an element more attuned to his character than in the House of Common he would be relieved of the attentions of those rude Parliamentary gamins who mistake pert impudence for cleverness and irritating rudeness for wit. Besides, his elevation would show that Conservatism is not entirely bereft of the saving grace of gratitude, and that it possesses still a pregnant memory of vigorous service rendered at the party call, and of faithful devotion to exacting leadership. I should like much to be able to hail Mr. Chaplin "Viscount Blankney."

The [illegible] of the November hirings at Durham took place on the 17th inst. The attendance, both of masters and servants, showed a great falling off from the previous week. The free registry in the Town Hall was again open, and the majority of the engagements were made through this agency. Wages ruled at about the same rate as in the previous week. Boys, £5 to £8; girls and women, £9 to £11; men, £12 to £14.

THE DAIRY.

Where "Prime Dorset" Butter Comes From.

In reference to the recent report of the conversion into "prime Dorset butter" of butter imported from Australia, a correspondent writes: "The growth in the production of 'prime Dorset butter' has been marvellous these last ten years. So vast, in fact, has the industry now become that it may well be regarded as one of the wonders of the closing decade of the nineteenth century. The striking feature of this growth is that it has advanced year by year, notwithstanding that the number of dairy cattle in Dorset has been practically unchanged, that the manufacture of cheese has been greatly on the increase, and that the milk trade with London has yearly assumed larger proportions. There is the mystery. There is little doubt that Australian dairymen are not alone in finding their butter palmed off on an unsuspecting public as the produce of Dorsetshire. Irish, Danish, and Normandy undergo a like metamorphosis."

Relative Values of Mangels and Swedes as Food for Dairy Cattle.*

Of late years when the great depression in agriculture has affected all classes of farmers to a large extent, it has become the duty of those engaged in agricultural pursuits to do all in their power to help one another to tide over the evil time. A great deal of good may be done by the recording of individual opinions as to the selection of crops, stock, manures, etc., by those who have had extended experience, and who have arrived at definite conclusions after long trial. By such means as these farmers may obtain valuable information by which they can extract the uttermost farthing possible out of their holdings, and at the same time improve both their holdings and their own positions, for it should be remembered that the best profit can only be obtained from stock and land by good and abundant feeding, and that starving does not pay with either. The more we judiciously supply to stock or land in the way of food, within limits, the more in proportion we expect to derive, and the greater our percentage profit. If any farmer has thrashed out a valuable truth by long experience, it is his duty to state it for the advantage of his fellows. He can do nothing but gain by such a course.

It is with feelings of this sort that I have decided to write this short paper, hoping by the setting down of my own opinions, based on many years' experience with dairy stock, together with a collection of figures of analyses, etc., gathered from several eminent authorities, to be able to help some over a little difficulty which may have beset them, viz., the decision as to whether mangels or swedes are the more profitable crop to grow for dairy purposes, and

To what Extent the Advantage Exists.

I have found some difficulty, of course, as the figures of analyses vary considerably with different authorities, but by taking averages in some cases, and adopting the exact figures of some scientists in others, I think I am able to verify my statements satisfactorily. Nothing herein set down is guess-work. I have myself had analysed many samples of milk, etc., and where I do not quote my own figures I am always backed up by a recognised authority.

In the records of all the experiments which have been carried out in Europe and America on the relative values of different feeding stuffs for the production of meat, milk, or manure, I am unable to discover any which have for their object the setting-up of the mangel against the swede. This would appear to be due to the fact that they are looked upon as the essential bulky foods of two different seasons; the swede, on account of its comparative early maturity, and poor keeping qualities, being the first to be consumed, at a time when the mangel is not in a fit state for food. The mangel is a very long-keeping root, and on this account may be used months after the swede would have rotted. Where both mangels and swedes can be grown to advantage it is

Most Advisable to Grow Both,

the one for early consumption, and the other for late use. But, unfortunately, this plan is not feasible in many parts of the country. The mangel does not grow well in a light soil, nor in a cool, moist climate, while the swede flourishes best under these conditions. Hence it has become the custom in Scotland and the North of England generally, to use the swede almost entirely to the exclusion of the mangel, while the opposite is the case in many parts of the Midlands and South. Still, even this is only generalising, for many individual farmers the country over are growing both crops. Professor James Long has said:—"There is no food, in my opinion, so cheap or more suitable than the mangel." Long experience with dairy cattle has caused this to become my opinion too, and I will here try to uphold it with evidence.

In estimating the relative values of these two crops as food for cows, it is necessary to closely examine the matter under three headings:—(1) The relative cost of production of a ton of each; (2) the relative feeding value of the same; and (3) the relative value of the residue of the same.

Firstly, as to

The Relative Cost of Production.

As we are only taking relative values throughout, it is not necessary to obtain the actual cost in each case. For both crops the land needs the same cultivation, but for the mangel, in order to obtain a full crop, much heavier dressings of manure are necessary. To replace a 22-ton crop of mangels, twenty tons of farmyard manure are required, while a 14-ton crop of swedes depletes the ground to the equivalent of ten tons of manure only. Again, while one cwt. nitrate of soda and five cwt. slag or superphosphates may be taken as a fair top dressing for swedes, a full crop of mangels will require 2 cwt. nitrate of soda, 3½ cwt. slag or superphosphate, and 5 cwt. kainit. Thus we get these amounts for manure:—

MANGELS.	£.	s.	d.
20 tons manure at 3/6	3	10	0
2 cwt. Nitrate at £8 10s.	0	17	0
3½ cwt. superphosphate at £3 10s.	0	12	3
5 cwt. kainit at £2 10s.	0	12	6
Total	£5	11	9

SWEDES.	£	s.	d.
10 tons manure	1	15	0
1 cwt. nitrate	0	8	6
5 cwt. Superphosphate	0	17	6
Total	£3	1	0

Thus in manure a full crop of mangels costs £2 10s. 9d. per acre more than a full crop of swedes. These 22-ton and 14-ton crops, which I am taking as "full" crops, will seem ridiculously low to some, but are, nevertheless, the average crops. To the above amount we have to add about 2s. per acre for the greater cost of harvesting, and we arrive at the result that it costs £2 12s. 9d. more to produce twenty-two tons of mangels than to produce fourteen tons of swedes. Therefore, the extra eight tons of bulky food costs 6s. 7d. per ton, and if with the above manures we produce twenty tons of swedes and forty of mangels, the disparity becomes even more striking.

Secondly, as to

The Relative Feeding Valu s

of a ton of each. This is the most important point. As we are here concerned with dairy cattle, we will confine ourselves to the question of feeding for milk. Let us look closely at the two anaylses:—

	Mangel.	Swede.
Water	88·00	89·10
Albuminoids	1·10	1·40
Sugar	6·41	5·54
Starch and Fibre	3·59	2·86
Fat	·10	·20
Ash	·80	·60
	100·00	100·00

The first thing we notice is that the mangel contains about 1½ per cent. more dry matter—a considerable quantity out of only 12 per cent. or so contained in each. That is, the mangel has about 1.4 per cent. more dry matter than the swede, or, in other words, eighty-seven tons of mangels will produce as much concentrated dry food as 100 tons of swedes (roughly). This is a point of great importance, and gives rise to another equally striking, namely, the economy in land gained by raising a given quantity of this concentrated food in the form of mangels instead of swedes. For example—to raise eighty-eight tons of mangels on the basis we have adopted only four acres of land are required, whereas to grow the equivalent in swedes—100 tons—we should want seven acres.

Of the constituents given in the last table, only the following amounts are digestible, and, therefore, needing our attention for feeding purposes:—

	Mangel.	Swede.
Albuminoids	1·10	1·30
Fat	·10	·10
Carbohydrates	9·10	6·30

The rule for calculating food values from the analysis is to allow 4s. per unit for albuminoids, 3s. 6d. for fats, and 9d. for carbohydrates (McConnell). In this way the value of the mangel comes out at 11s. 7d., and the swede at 10s. 5d. Taking milk as containing albuminoids 4.2, fats 3.8, carbohydrates 4.5, it is evident that the food which contains the greatest quantities of these constituents is

The most Valuable as a Milk Producer.

We see that the swede has a small advantage as regards albuminoids, and the mangel a large advantage as regards carbohydrates. The swede has an advantage as regards albuminoid ratio, being 1 : 8, as against 1 : 9 for the mangel, the ideal for milkers being 1 : 6.

Taking all things together, we may fairly conclude that for feeding purposes mangels are worth 1s. 2d. per ton more than swedes, being the amount arrived at above. But there are disadvantages to be considered on both sides. The swede gives such a disagreeable flavour to milk as to preclude its use entirely in some districts, and by many individual farmers, while in all places where it is used the utmost precautions are necessary. Swedes must be fed immediately after milking only, or else cooked, or intimately mixed with other foods after having been pulped small.

A great disadvantage of the mangel is that it produces very pale milk, containing fat globules of such minute size that they only rise to the surface of the milk very slowly and incompletely, giving the impression that the milk is poor. That this is not the case may be easily proved by analysis, and I feel safe in asserting from my own experience that the mangel produces milk as rich in butter-fat as the swede does. Still, this disadvantage is a very serious one in a retail milk business, and also renders quite indispensable the use of a cream separator in the butter-making business if anything like the full amount of cream is to be extracted. For cows fed on mangels the old shallow-pan setting system of cream raising involves heavy losses. Of course, the loss of cream in skim milk is great any way without a separator. This is now a generally accepted fact, but it is far greater when extensive mangel feeding is practised.

Thirdly, as to

The Relative Values of the Residues

left by a crop of each root. The manurial residue of a crop is divided into two classes:—(1) That left in the land at the removal of the crop; (2) that returned to the land as manure made by the consumption of the crop. The following analysis, quoted from Mr. McConnell's invaluable "Note Book," will show that, bulk for bulk, the leaves of the swede as a manure are considerably more valuable than those of the mangel:—

	Water.	Albuminoid.	Fat.	Carbohydrate.	Fibre.	Ash.	Organic Matter.
Mangel leaves	90·5	1·9	·5	4·0	1·3	1·8	8·7
Swede	88·3	2·1	·5	5·2	1·6	2·3	9·3

But when we take into consideration the far greater bulk per acre of the mangel crop, and remember that in proportion to the root the mangel grows more leaf than the swede, it is easy to see that the mangel leaves a residue far more valuable than the swede.

As the manurial residue after consumption of a ton of each, Sir J. B. Lawes and Sir H. J. Gilbert, in an article on the value of manures obtained by the consumption of foods for the production of milk, give 2s. 9d. as the value of manure obtained by feeding one ton of mangels to a cow giving ten quarts of milk a day, and 2s. 7d. as the corresponding value for swedes. This means a difference per acre of £1 4s. 4d. in manurial residue after consumption only in favour of the mangel.

As regards the feeding of the leaves to milking stock, my own experience has shown that it is not safe to feed mangel leaves at all, as they have a curious effect on the milk, often making it go bad (not sour) very quickly, and causing endless trouble in the way of complaints from customers. Doubtless this is due to the same property as exists in the roots before fermentation in the "pit" or "bury." It is only safe to feed swede leaves when they are quite fresh, and then with the same precautions as are necessary when the roots are consumed.

From the foregoing collection of figures and evidence it is possible to summarise by drawing the following comparison:—

Advantages of the Mangel over the Swede.

- With the same amount of manure it is possible to produce a bigger crop per acre of mangels than of swedes, and with comparatively small additional outlay, a far bigger crop of succulent, bulky food, such as is required for milking cows.
- The mangel can be stored and kept sound and nutritious long after a swede would have become rotten and worthless under similar conditions.
- The mangel is better able to withstand drought, having a more extended root area.
- The mangel is not affected by turnip fly, nor by finger-and-toe disease, both very destructive to the swede, although it is periodically affected by the less-known mangel fly (*Anthomyia betae*).
- When fed to milkers the mangel does not impart any strong or disagreeable flavour to the milk or butter, as is the case with the swede.
- As a milk producer—bulk for bulk—the mangel is a slightly more economical food.
- The residue left in the land after a mangel crop is far more valuable than that left by the swede crop—area for area.
- The manurial residue of a ton of mangels after consumption is appreciably greater than that of a ton of swedes.
- The smaller fat globules in the milk, the result of mangel-feeding, are of advantage to the cheese-maker.

Advantages of the Swede over the Mangel.

- The swede can be used early in the season, and often comes in useful at a time when the indispensable succulent food is scarce, and at a time when the mangel cannot be used.
- The swede will grow and thrive on a thin soil and in a damp cool climate, where mangel crops are a practical failure.
- The swede need not be sown until danger of mildew and frost has passed, while to ensure a full crop of mangels early sowing is essential.
- As a milk producer, swedes have some advantages:—(a) They produce a milk richer in colour and appearance, and throwing up more cream than mangel-produced milk. These are weighty advantages in the milk trade. (b) The butter from swede-produced milk has naturally a good

* By W. P. J. Allsebrook, in the October "Journal" of the British Dairy Farmers' Association.

colour, while that produced from mangels is always pale in colour.

The leaf of the swede is a good, nutritious, and safe food for milkers, while that of the mangel is unsuitable, and even dangerous.

General Summary.

The respective advantages of these two valuable crops, the one over the other, render it impossible to lay down any hard and fast rules as to the adoption of one to the exclusion of the other, but several valuable conclusions may be drawn.

Doubtless, as before mentioned, where both crops can be grown to advantage, it is advisable to grow enough swedes to tide over the period before the mangels are fit for consumption, and enough mangels to last until the grass is ready for turning out on. There can be no doubt that, from most points of view, the mangel is the more valuable crop to the dairy farmer, and its extensive use is therefore desirable. Where the mangel does not thrive, of course it is useless to grow it, but there are few lands where it will not grow to advantage, if plenty of good heavy farmyard manure is employed. In feeding for production of milk for sale, the swede has high recommendations, but the mangel undoubtedly stimulates a greater flow, and for milk intended for butter-production both have good points —one in point of colour, the other in point of quantity.

Chester Cheese Fair.

The Cheese Fair at Chester took place on Wednesday, when there was a large pitch of about 55 tons of cheese, this quantity being about 20 tons in excess of the corresponding fair last year. The market opened with a good average attendance of buyers, but the quick, sharp business spirit sometimes manifested at this time of the year was not much in evidence. Finest fresh lots were readily sold at from 60s. to 67s.; medium, 54s. to 58s.; and common lots down to 46s. per cwt. A good clearance was made by eleven o'clock.

A County Court Judge on Farm Service.

At the Malton County Court on Wednesday, before his Honour Judge Raikes, Mr. H. W. Pearson made an application in a wages case heard at the last court, and in replying his Honour said Mr. Pearson would be doing a national service by drawing out a form of agreement which would be satisfactory to both sides. The present state of things he thought was enough to drive every labourer off the country side, and he suggested as a reasonable thing that in a case where, say, the wages were £20 a year, instead of dividing it into £5 a quarter they should reckon it at £8 for the quarter containing the harvest and £12 for the other three quarters, also that a month's notice on either side should terminate the agreement. These yearly engagements at present were no doubt satisfactory in the old days when there was no competition, and when men had no idea of going elsewhere; but now at the end of the nineteenth or beginning of the twentieth century this sort of thing did not take at all. They tied a man down with such an agreement, and of course when harvest time came he knew he could get double or treble the wage, and the result was there was discontent on both sides. If they could get some arrangement by which the agreement could be terminated without injury to either side it would be a national benefit. In Yorkshire they were so conservative in past customs, going back some centuries, but he thought the thing should be altered now that everybody could write.

Mr. Pearson said that after the passing of the last Master and Servants' Act he published a small handbook of it, with a form of agreement in the shape of a cheque book, the counterfoil to be signed by the servant, but it was universally conceded by farmers that it was utterly impossible to get the men and lads to put their hands to anything. On the wold farms the men lived in the masters' houses, and seldom came from the neighbouring villages, and accommodation had to be made for them. A large number of lads, in fact, were imported from Norfolk and other parts by people who made a business of it. The matter was full of difficulty—it was not desirable that they should remain as they are, but any alteration would have to be done gradually.

CORK BUTTER.

—	Ordinary. Firsts.	Ordinary. Seconds.	Ordinary. Thirds.	Ordinary. Fourths.	Mild Cured Firkins. Superfine.	Mild Cured Firkins. Fine.	Mild Cured Firkins. Mild.	Firkins in Market.
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	90	84	82	—	100	87	102	90
Tuesday ..	88	84	80	74	98	89	104	178
Wednesday ..	89	84	80	74	98	89	106	150
Thursday ..	89	85	79	—	99	90	104	123
Friday ..	88	85	79	75	100	91	104	155
Saturday ..	89	85	82	75	100	93	100	136

FIRST-CLASS representatives and agents required throughout the United Kingdom for the sale of "MOLASSINE."—Write for particulars to the "MOLASSINE" CO., LTD., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

Yearly Hirings of Farm Servants.

A very important decision to the whole agricultural community was given by his Honour Judge Raikes at the Scarbro' County Court on Tuesday. For some little time there appears to have been doubt in the minds of both farmers and farm servants as to whether their contracts for a year could be avoided either by the farmer or by the servant on giving a month's notice, or some reasonable notice, and his Honour Judge Raikes has had several cases of late to deal with, in none of which, however, did this clear and definite point arise. It did, however, arise in a case at the Scarbro' Court. It was an action brought by Coultas Vasey, of Sawdon, farm servant, against John George Monkman, of Brompton, farmer, to recover a sum of £13 6s. 8d., wages from 9th January to 18th August last as wagoner. Mr. Tasker Hart appeared for the plaintiff. On the 5th January plaintiff was hired by defendant as a wagoner at the wage of £20 from that time up to Martinmas. Some little differences arose, and about June plaintiff desired to leave and asked for his wages. The master declined to pay, and informed him that he must complete his contract up to Martinmas. Ultimately the master did offer, if plaintiff would sacrifice £2 as compensation for harvest, he would let him go and pay his wage. This plaintiff declined, and finally on the 18th July gave a written notice, that he would leave at the expiration of one month. On the 18th August he did leave, and claimed £13 6s. 8d. It was sought to show that Vasey's excuse for leaving was that he was not properly fed. This, however, was not supported, and was entirely denied by the two Messrs. Monkman, and was not in the result believed by the judge.

Mr. Hugh W. Pearson, for defendant, submitted that the contract having been entered into after Martinmas to be fully completed within one year, it was a binding contract, that to entitle the servant to be paid any wage at all he must complete his contract, and that if before that time he was either dismissed for any valid or proper reason, such as misconduct, or if he broke his contract by leaving, he forfeited any wage which might have accrued up to the time of such breach of contract. He quoted cases in support of this, and contended that the rule was founded both in reason and in custom, and was incidental to the special nature of agriculture, which varied at every season of the year, so that in winter a servant might be earning little or nothing and have to be kept, whilst at seed time and harvest his services were not only of great value, but that if he was not then ready to carry out his contract incalculable injury might be done to the farmer.

His Honour, in giving judgment, pointed out that in the case now before him the Statute of Frauds did not apply, and that the contract was to be completed within a year, and that as the servant had not established any justification for his breach of contract, it was one and indivisible; that no wage was earned until the contract was completed at Martinmas, and that therefore he must give a verdict for the defendant, which he did. At the same time, his Honour thought the result was unsatisfactory, and that these contracts binding a servant to the soil for twelve months were antiquated, but so long as masters and servants chose to enter into them they must be bound by them, and that therefore the defendant was under no legal liability to pay plaintiff anything, and he was bound to decide accordingly.

Farmers and the Employers' Liability Act.

At a meeting of the East Sussex Farmers' Club last week an address on "Employers' Liability," particularly as affecting farmers, was delivered by Mr. R. H. Bacon, resident secretary in Brighton of the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation, Ltd. In the course of a lucid exposition of the main points of the Act passed last session to extend the benefits of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, to workmen in agriculture, Mr. Bacon said the Act applied to farmers who had one or more workmen in their employ. The compensation to be paid to workmen in respect of injury received while following their employment was 50 per cent. of the amount of wages paid not exceeding £1 per week for an unlimited time in the case of partial or total disablement, and in case of death three years' wages, varying from a minimum sum of £150 to a maximum of £300 where the workmen had dependants. If a man had no dependants the employer was liable for funeral expenses.

An important provision of the Act related to the employment of any workman mainly in agriculture, but partly or occasionally in other work. A farmer might have a small dairy and engage a dairymaid partly in the house and partly in the dairy, and the question was whether the private or domestic employment came under the Act, which appeared to be intended to apply also to the employment of the workman "in other work." The term employé covered everything. A farmer was liable to pay compensation to any employé of a sub-contractor, except those employed in threshing and ploughing, the clause reading: "Where any such employer agrees with a contractor for the execution by or under that contractor of any work in agriculture, section 4 of the Workmen's Compensation Act 1897 shall apply in respect of any workman employed in such work as if that employer were an undertaker within the meaning of that Act. Provided that, where the contractor provides and uses machinery power for the purpose of threshing, ploughing or other agricultural work, he and he alone, shall be liable under this Act to pay compensation to any workman employed by him on such work."

Farmers were not liable for compensation for the first two weeks a man was incapacitated, but some employers liked to pay the injured man from the date of the accident, as, under the Act, a man who was only laid up for a week or ten days could not make a claim. The company which the lecturer represented charged three shillings per cent. on the amount of wages paid for settlement of claims according to the Act, and an additional eighteenpence for payment of compensation from the date of the accident. Having urged the advisability of farmers insuring while rates were low, Mr. Bacon said the Act would come into force on July 1st. Like the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, there might be loopholes in it, and litigation might result. The idea, however, was to pay compensation for accidents which might happen to workmen when employed on the farm or off it.

In answer to the chairman, Mr. Bacon said the compensation payable to a man earning £1 per week would be 10s. per week. If the man, after recovering from his injuries, was employed again by the same farmer at 15s. a week, and had previously earned £1 a week, the farmer would be liable to pay the extra five shillings, provided the man could prove that he was unable to earn what he did prior to the accident.

A member remarked that, according to the scale of compensation, a workman was worth exactly the same amount at eighty years of age as at forty. Replying to questions, Mr. Bacon said there were no restrictions as to guarding machinery. Compensation must be paid for accidents, unless contributory negligence or misconduct could be proved. Except in cases where drunkenness was proved, the judge invariably gave the decision in favour of the workman. A man must have been in employment at least a fortnight before he could make a claim under the Act, the idea being that farmers should not be liable for accidents to occasional hands. If a man worked on the farm for three weeks the farmer became liable. Mr. Bacon said he could not say whether a farmer would be liable for accidents which might happen in connection with private employment. Grooms, coachmen, gamekeepers, or other employés, in respect of whom a licence was paid, were not included in the Act.

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Dublin. Nov. 24, 1900.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head. £ s. d.	Average Live weight. c. qr. lb.	Average price per cwt. £ s. d.
*2	Bullocks (prime) ..	25 3 3	15 1 0	1 13 0
10	,, ,, ..	22 15 0	13 3 25	1 12 6
5	,, (very good) ..	22 0 0	14 0 11	1 11 2
*7	,, ,, ..	19 19 8	12 3 16	1 11 0
*7	,, ,, ..	19 17 5	12 3 8	1 11 0
*5	,, ,, ..	16 16 0	11 0 22	1 10 9
6	,, (good) ..	22 5 0	14 3 14	1 9 11
4	,, ,, ..	16 10 0	11 2 0	1 8 8
8	,, (fair) ..	15 10 0	10 2 21	1 9 0
3	,, ,, ..	17 1 0	12 1 19	1 7 6
8	,, (inferior) ..	14 10 0	11 0 17	1 6 0
5	,, ,, ..	11 15 0	9 0 22	1 5 6
*3	Heifers (prime) ..	15 9 10	9 1 0	1 13 6
*6	,, ,, ..	16 7 3	9 3 19	1 13 0
*6	,, ,, ..	16 11 4	10 0 5	1 13 0
5	,, (very good) ..	13 15 0	11 0 5	1 10 4
5	,, ,, ..	15 0 0	10 0 0	1 10 6
10	,, (good) ..	16 17 6	11 1 0	1 10 0
5	,, ,, ..	13 10 0	9 2 0	1 8 5
3	,, (fair) ..	14 0 0	9 3 18	1 8 2
5	,, ,, ..	12 10 0	9 0 0	1 7 0
*6	Cows (good) ..	16 9 7	12 0 23	1 7 0
2	,, (fair) ..	15 0 0	11 3 0	1 5 6
*1	,, ,, ..	15 0 0	12 0 0	1 5 0
23	Wethers (good) ..	2 13 6	1 2 10	1 13 9
13	,, (fair) ..	2 10 0	1 2 6	1 12 3
45	,, (inferior) ..	1 3 0	0 2 27	1 11 1
9	Ewes (good) ..	2 5 0	1 2 0	1 10 0
18	,, (fair) ..	1 10 0	1 0 5	1 8 10
28	Hoggets (good) ..	2 6 0	1 1 5	1 15 6
48	,, ,, ..	2 13 0	1 2 2	1 14 10
30	,, (fair) ..	1 19 0	1 0 17	1 13 11

* Sold by live weight.

Belfast. Nov. 24, 1900.

		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb	£ s. d.
2	Bullocks (prime) ..	17 17 6	11 1 14	1 11 5
2	,, ,, ..	12 2 6	8 0 0	1 10 4
2	,, ,, ..	16 17 6	11 0 17	1 10 3
1	,, ,, ..	14 0 0	9 1 0	1 10 3
2	,, (very good) ..	16 15 0	11 1 14	1 9 5
1	,, ,, ..	13 15 0	9 1 21	1 9 2
1	,, ,, ..	16 0 0	11 0 0	1 9 1
1	,, (good) ..	11 10 0	8 1 7	1 7 8
1	Heifer (prime) ..	13 15 0	8 2 7	1 12 1
2	,, ,, ..	14 0 0	9 0 0	1 11 1
1	,, ,, ..	16 5 0	10 2 0	1 10 11
2	,, ,, ..	16 17 6	11 0 17	1 10 3
2	,, ,, ..	11 17 6	7 3 14	1 10 2
2	,, ,, ..	12 0 0	7 3 24	1 10 1
2	,, ,, ..	12 10 0	7 7 7	1 10 1
2	,, ,, ..	15 15 0	10 2 0	1 10 0
2	,, (very good) ..	12 10 0	8 2 0	1 9 [illegible]
3	,, ,, ..	11 0 0	7 2 0	1 [illegible]
1	Cow (prime) ..	16 10 0	11 0 0	1 10 0

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (November 19th).—Scarcely any rain was reported in the morning, the weather having continued dry during the preceding twenty-four hours in nearly every part of the kingdom. The conditions were, however, assuming rather a threatening aspect, and the barometer was already falling in the Northern and Western districts, with a southerly wind and rise of temperature. In London the weather continued dry, and the air was cold, the highest temperature being forty-four degrees. Rather a sharp touch of cold had occurred in the Northern and Western districts during Sunday night, the sheltered thermometer registering several degrees of frost.

TUESDAY (November 20th).—Dull and gloomy weather prevailed over nearly the whole of our islands, and the air was very damp in the south-east of England. The winds were chiefly north-easterly in England and Ireland, and the temperature was somewhat low for the time of year, while slight frost occurred at some of the inland stations during Monday night. In Scotland the wind was chiefly light from the south-west, and in the extreme north the morning was as warm as in any part of the kingdom. The midday temperatures scarcely touched forty-five degrees anywhere in the country. A damp mist fell in London during the greater part of the day, and the highest temperature was forty-six degrees.

WEDNESDAY (November 21st).—The weather was fair in many parts of England, but there was still a good amount of mist and gloom. Rain was measured in the morning in different parts of the kingdom, as the result of the fall since Tuesday, but the amounts were mostly small. Rain fell again at several of the northern and western stations. Northerly and north-easterly winds were blowing over England, and they were very light in force. In Scotland and Ireland the wind was moderate to fresh from the southward. Frost occurred during Tuesday night in parts of our islands, and the midday temperatures were again rather low. The air was drier in London than on several previous days, and the temperature rose to forty-seven degrees.

THURSDAY (November 22nd).—Dull and cloudy weather prevailed generally, but the air was, for the most part, fairly dry. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over the eastern portion of England, as well as at several places in the west of our islands. The winds were mainly northerly, and they were mostly light except on our east coasts. Slight frost had occurred in parts of Scotland and Ireland during Wednesday night, but in most parts of England the thermometer did not fall below forty degrees. The midday temperatures were generally in fair agreement with the average.

FRIDAY (November 23rd).—Fine weather was experienced over England, but rain again fell at many places in Scotland and Ireland. Rain was measured in the morning over the northern and western portions of the kingdom, as the result of the fall since Thursday. Slight frost was again experienced in places during Thursday night, but the midday temperatures were generally rather higher than of late. The type of weather was still very complex, and we were under the influence of two cyclonic disturbances, one having its centre over Northumberland, while the other was approaching our south-west coasts from the Atlantic, and was occasioning a renewal of rough weather. The ground was thickly coated with hoar frost in the early morning in London, and the weather was very fine throughout the day, the sheltered thermometer touching fifty degrees.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (November 24 and 25).—The whole type of weather continued thoroughly unsettled over our Islands, and rain fell in nearly every part of the country during the two days. A cyclonic disturbance was approaching our Western coasts on Saturday, but its centre was well out in the Atlantic, although the southerly wind was freshening considerably in the South of Ireland, and the sea was rough in St. George's Channel. On Sunday the disturbance had spread over the western and central parts of our Islands, and the winds were south-easterly in the northern districts; while in the South of England they were westerly. A moderate westerly gale was blowing over the Western portion of the English Channel. Saturday was fine in London, but rain fell heavily during the succeeding night, although Sunday the weather was again fine. The temperature rose to fifty-three degrees in the Metropolis on Sunday, which was seven degrees warmer than on Saturday.

A Farmer's Death from Worry.—An inquest was held on Tuesday on Alexander Rae, aged sixty years, farmer, of Flaxton, near York, who died on Sunday. It appeared that on Saturday the deceased's home was distrained upon, and he was much troubled about the matter, sitting up all night. He died next day after a convulsive seizure. The post mortem examination showed that the cause of death was acute inflammation of the membrane of the brain, probably due to trouble—mental worry. The jury returned a verdict of "Death from acute mening tis."

THE GARDEN.

During the last few days drier but colder weather has prevailed, and the change from the ceaseless rain is decidedly pleasant. Once more work on the land is progressing a little, and potatoes that have been long waiting to be lifted are at last being got out of the ground.

RHUBARB AND SEA KALE.—Strong roots of both these popular subjects may be forced in any warm greenhouse, pit, or shed at any time now. Where there is a mushroom house or shed such work is very commonly done in this, but though right enough for sea kale, which cannot be too white, it is not a good place for rhubarb, which without a certain amount of light is apt to become too pale in colour, sticks of a rich pink or red hue being most in demand. A place beneath the raised staging of an ordinary greenhouse is as good as any for forcing rhubarb, or it may be grown in full light by simply scattering some dry straw or litter lightly over the crowns. Beyond this no covering is necessary, and in a temperature of 55degs. to 65degs., plenty of stout and well-coloured sticks will soon be produced.

The roots of rhubarb for forcing should have been planted at least two years, whether grown from divisions or seed, and the fewer stalks have been pulled from them previously the better. Lay them in closely together on the floor of the house or pit, working some fine, light soil in among them, and finally give a good watering in and cover with litter, as above.

Sea kale roots are usually planted, roughly and rather thickly, in any good-sized pots or boxes, using some good light soil, watering well, and then, unless in a mushroom house or other dark place, cover with other empty pots or boxes inverted over the full ones. The same temperature will answer for this subject as for rhubarb, and in both cases a moist and sweet atmosphere must be maintained around the plants constantly. Sea kale roots must, however, be trimmed before planting, cutting off all the smaller feeders, of the thickness of a cedar pencil or less—these are to be stored in damp sand for the winter, to furnish the root cuttings for next season's crop. Good forcing roots can be grown in one year from these root cuttings, but if seedlings are employed two years' growth is usually necessary.

Fresh mushroom beds may be made up at any time, as required, but those formed in September or October, if well done, will frequently afford regular supplies until long after Christmas. When a bed appears to be getting exhausted, and is found to be dry, it should be uncovered and be given a thorough soaking, using a fine-rosed can and going over the beds time after time, so as to get the water well into it. The water should be tepid, with a good handful of salt, or, better still, of saltpetre, dissolved in each large can or pail; or weak liquid manure may be used very beneficially, also with a little salt in it. Then let the surface of the bed dry for a day or two before replacing the covering. This treatment will often resuscitate a bed wonderfully, and afford several more gatherings.

Lift and store the roots of both beet and celeriac before there has been more than a very few degrees of frost, as both are easily injured in this way. Beet should be lifted very carefully, breaking as few of even the finer fibrous roots as possible, and twisting—not cutting—off the leaves. The foliage and smaller fibres of celeriac should also be trimmed off, and either may then be stored in a clamp (preferably) or in a not too dry shed or cellar. Late-planted celeriac may be covered with a foot of dry litter or fern, and will then be safe until severe frost sets in.

As soon as the planting of fresh fruit trees and bushes has been completed, the pruning of the established plants should receive attention—it is always better to get this done before hard weather sets in.

Taking the smaller or bush fruits first, both gooseberries and currants are frequently pruned in a quite erroneous manner, even by those who ought to know better. As regards the gooseberry and black currant (both of which fruit principally on the young wood formed last season), the best method may be briefly expressed in the words, "thin out rather than shorten." That is to say, leave all the best and strongest of the young growths untouched, or nearly so (except for any unripe tips), but wherever at all crowded thin out the weaker shoots so as to afford the rest free light and air. The young growth of the red and white currants, on the other hand, should be cut back to two or three eyes of their base, so as to form spurs on the main or fruiting branches. Cut away the old canes of raspberries that have fruited, and thin out the young ones to five, or not more than six to each root.

As the chrysanthemums (in pots) go out of flower cut them down to a few inches of stem, and remove, if possible, to a low pit or cool, light house, where they will throw up strong cuttings. Commence to take and insert these already as they become fit.

Dahlias in the open should be cut down as soon as the tops have been blackened by frost, then lift the roots, dry them a little, and store in a shed or cellar where frost cannot reach them.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Cambridgeshire.

The weather during the past week has been anything but favourable from an agricultural point of view. Some very heavy rains and frequent showers have made the land very wet, and greatly retarded wheat-sowing operations. Happily, potatoes and most of the mangolds are made safe. The markets are very much after the stamp of weather, very dull and flat, all kinds of grain (of home production) having a downward tendency, while maize and cakes are the reverse. The potato trade has also slackened during the past fortnight, no doubt on account of the foreign supply. Several farmers are riddling their potatoes over, to lay by till spring, hoping for better prices, while very few are being sent away from this district. Beef and mutton trade are about the same, while pork has an upward tendency, being rather scarce. In-calf cows are good to sell. Butter, 1s. 2d. per lb., and eggs eight for 1s.—W. (November 17th).

Central Bucks.

Prospects Look Worse.

We have now had enough rain to enable us to get on with wheat seeding; in fact, it has been a little too wet last week, but now the wheat goes in heavy and well. It is just our time for planting, as we do not care to put in wheat until November comes in on our hills. Swedes, turnips, and other green crops have immensely improved of late. We had a very fine time for getting the mangolds up, but they did not turn out so heavy a crop as was anticipated. Barley does not turn out very well, as regards sample or yield, and the price gets lower every year. Wheat is a very bad trade—27s. or 28s. does not pay to grow it at. Beef and mutton make a little more money this year, but the cost of cake and other feeding-stuffs counteracts the better prices, so that the position of the feeder is not at all improved. I cannot see that the prospects of the farmer look a bit better; in fact, I think they look worse.—J. T. (November 21st).

East Suffolk

The late wheat sowing is just now the feature of the season. After wet enough to let the ploughs into the dry land, then came heavy rains, so as to keep drilling and other work off for a time. Now a good start has been made, with a prospect of finishing wheat sowing by the end of November. The root crop, mangold, and some swedes, has been carted off crop—mangold, and some swedes—has been carted off for the night, and look cosy and comfortable. A young farmer who keeps careful accounts tells me that on winding up his 1899 crops the least return per acre was for wheat, then barley, beans, oats, and potatoes, in the order named, and, as a whole, no net profit; but that the live stock on the farm

Saved the Situation.

Horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, and poultry all gave a profit. Though we seem to have had a wet time lately, the drains have not all been working, and ponds are not filled yet, so we may have to wait for the new year for a full supply.—J. Y. (November 23rd).

Mid-Sussex.

We have had a very wet time lately, but as yet I have not noticed a drain running anywhere, and after a day's cessation of rain the land walks clean. A very good season was made, and wheat went in very well, and has come up well too. All roots are safely housed. The young clover, trefoil, and trifolium plant is very promising. The meadows are looking green at last after being of a brown colour for months, the weather being open. Stock are looking well.—F. C. C. (November 21st).

Nottinghamshire.

The weather of late has been mild generally, accompanied with miserable rainy weather, which has been very much in evidence; but it is, however, satisfactory to find that in this district (North Notts) wheat sowing has been practically finished under favourable conditions. Most of the seed was sown before the excessively heavy rains set in, or the outlook on the strong clay land would now have been very discouraging. Of course, there are a few laggard farmers here and there who have hardly got any seed wheat sown at all; but that generally is the case, however fine the weather. All such have a season to themselves. The weather favours carting and storing mangolds, turnips, and swedes, of which there are some excellent crops.

The Potato Crop

proved to be a miserable failure on the strong soils. Many tubers were diseased, with a poor turn-out; indeed, a very small crop generally. Some of the early-sown wheat is now showing above the surface, having come up very nicely, and is now making good progress during the mild weather. The stock still run on the pastures during the daytime, thus saving

a lot of winter keep, and it is satisfactory to learn that

Cattle and Sheep

are in a healthy condition. The yield and price of corn are far from being remunerative to the farmer, and this is the chief topic amongst the market folk just now, when rent days and Christmas bills are falling due. It is now Martinmas, and here many contracts are entered into at hirings which are held. Wages have an upward tendency yet, which has prevailed during the recent years, owing to the continued migration of the agricultural labourers into the towns. Thus, in view of a decreased supply, the farmer has been compelled more or less to accede to the extra demands of the farm lads and girls. There yet seems to be an increased growing dislike amongst this class, especially farm lads, to a yearly engagement. The impression is gaining ground with them that release can be obtained on giving a "month's" notice, or forfeiting a month's wage. Of course, most of the hirings are verbally entered into, and in many cases the lads are but young—just out of school. However, there is a

Great Shortage of Hands

for farm work, and the depopulation of the villages will go on for many reasons, viz., chiefly, firstly, there is a dearth of houses; secondly, the lads get more wages in towns; thirdly, they obtain more recreation, and have less time to work, etc. The allotments have thus far failed to entice or keep men on the land. The panacea does not lie there—increased wages is at the bottom, which the farmer cannot afford to pay, with corn at zero prices. With regard to the custom of publicly

Hiring Labour,

this, as every schoolboy knows, dates back to Biblical times; but nowadays pleasure seems to predominate over business, for there are shows, shooting galleries, etc., all in honour of the Feast of St. Martin, which has become a time-honoured institution in North Notts. The outlook here is not of the best on the approach of Christmas.—AGRESTIC (November 22nd).

Norfolk.

The extremely fine autumn of 1900 removed a load of anxiety from the mind, and reduced the labour bill of many agriculturists in this (the Marshland) district. For two months, with scarcely a break, potato lifting was advantageously carried on. The weight per acre will

Not Compare Favourably

with the last three years, but equal to the last ten years' average, and, with present prices, equally remunerative. The roots (mangolds principally) have been secured under most favourable conditions, and wheat sowing almost completed. The restrictions on the Argentine live cattle trade enabled the graziers to dispose of beef and mutton at remunerative prices, and not before urgently needed, for, while the arable lands have responded magnificently to the past brilliant seasons, our pastures have suffered considerably. This, coupled with a long run of low prices for meat and wool, reduced the margin of profit to a minimum. —W. A. N. (November 23rd).

Shropshire.

Weather cold and frosty, barometer between fair and set fair. Beautiful sunshine, drawing out the Lees, and turnip storing busily going on. Mr. Frost, after tripping lightly about on fields, and looking in at our meadows to ask if we were ready for him, comes on harder, ready or not. The turnip crop exceeds expectations, but they may be put in three classes—the large, the middle size, and the small ones. The largest—about 20lb.—fell into good soil, well manured, followed by a saturating rain; the second sort—forming the bulk of the crop—failed to make headway till late, but favourable weather helped them up to 12lb. and 14lb. They look a fair size on the cart. The last lot, after missing the first and second chances, took the third, and try to make up in number what is wanting in bulk; indeed, a second sowing would have been of great advantage this year, though other years it would have been a loss.—J. G. (November 23rd).

Stafford.

On the whole the autumn has been favourable, both to farm work and to farm stock. It is true that for some time past the carting of roots has made rather bad work with the surface soil, but the roots themselves have escaped all damage from frost. Up to the present the consumption of dry fodder has been less than usual, because of the good grazing still remaining in the pastures. The supply in our markets of all meat products from beef to poultry has of late been so full that prices have gone down considerably. At the same time the demand for

Dairy Cows in Milk

or near calving has quite overtaken the supply, and it seems likely that the continually increasing consumption of new milk in our towns will, during the next few months, tax the producing powers of our dairy farmers to the fullest extent. Wheat sown in October has come up well, the condition of the seed having been, as in several preceding years, sound and dry.

South Worcestershire.

After a long spell of wet, miserable weather we are now having a very acceptable change, which was much needed, as work on the land is much behind, and still a good deal of wheat to plant, whilst mangolds, owing to the scarcity of labour, are not all secured. Sheep have had a very uncomfortable time on the roots; the latter are turning out well, much better than they at one time promised, so that there will be no lack of sheep keep, whilst cattle are doing well on the pastures. Corn trade dull and disappointing, and as the yield is bad it will do but little to meet the farmers' ever-increasing expenses, both in labour and tradesmen's bills. Fat cattle, if ripe, are meeting a better trade. Store stock of good quality sell well.—J. W. D. (November 21st).

Westmorland.

The question which most deeply engrosses the attention of the farming community at the present moment is undoubtedly labour, and this has been chiefly caused by recent circumstances—first, by the discharge of the wages account of the several hands, male and female, engaged during last half year, which has largely increased the inroad upon our receipts for agricultural products, the cost of which is so much affected by labour; and, secondly, by the re-engagement of a new staff for the current half year at an equally high rate, if not higher, if the winter is considered, when the quantity of work is considered which short days enforce. This question has been undoubtedly the chief one discussed at the various rendezvous of farmers on market days, apart from their regular business, and the general opinion is that

Education has been the Chief Cause,

Until recently for a farmer to express such an opinion publicly was to lay himself open to a large amount of criti ism and ridicule by the great bulk of speakers and writers who so generously offer us such floods of advice on questions with which they have little or no interest and less experience. Since the Education Department has acknowledged the fact by its recent action I suppose we may be excused for endeavouring to trace cause and effect. There can be no doubt, then, that shortly after compulsory education was enforced the quantity of labour began to decrease, and continued so to do till the school age was raised, since which the reduction in quantity and the increase in price has gone forward with leaps and bounds, and the ridiculous efforts of the department to

Teach Farming in Schools

will be equally unsuccessful so far as restoring labour to the land is concerned, and is more likely to increase than cure the evil. Agriculture cannot be taught with any degree of success, except on the farm, and the longer the youth is kept away from it the less inclination he will have to engage in it, and the slower he will learn the art. There are other questions that affect the question, but education is one. The next question we have to complain of is the almost continuous wet, damp weather we have had for close upon two months, which has seriously retarded the storage of one of the

Largest Crop of Roots

we have had for years, which is, I firmly believe, close upon double the weight of last year's crop. There has been also a serious and altogether unexpected fall in the price of store stock all round.—T. B. (November 23rd).

West Derbyshire.

The weather is exceedingly mild and favourable for all kinds of live stock. Roots have been a much better crop than we have had for some years, mangolds especially have been a record crop. Wheat sowing is nearly all completed; that which was sown early is looking very well. Ploughing is commenced again, after being stopped some time owing to the excessive rains we have had during this last month. Beef and mutton are a drug on the market. Pork is well sold, also store pigs. If the present weather continues it will be very acceptable. Pastures are beginning to look rather brown.—C. C. M. (November 22).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—General satisfaction is expressed by farmers in respect of the agricultural position. No decision as to "Importation Bonds" has been arrived at by the Senate, and this protracted delay is said to interfere with the sale of wheat, neither sellers nor buyers caring to enter upon engagements while the question remains open.

BELGIUM.—Weather continues mild and open. Antwerp did a steady consumptive trade this week, but forward demand was disappointing.

HOLLAND.—Damp and dull weather interferes with threshings, and supplies of wheat and other grain were moderate at Groningen and other markets, and farmers secured an advance of 3d. per quarter for wheat, rye, and barley.

GERMANY.—Rain has not only proved beneficial to the crops, but has increased the water in the rivers, and thereby facilitated the movement of grain at lower freight rates.

HUNGARY.—Recent weather has been favourable to agricultural interests.

ALGERIA.—Rain has fallen copiously and generally in the province, and farmers now can begin ploughing.

SWITZERLAND.—The sowings have been effected in good conditions and the seedlings are developing well.

ROUMANIA.—Most of the autumn cereals may have withstood the drought look well, but others have so suffered from the want of rain that they will have to be resown. The ploughings for the spring crops are being prosecuted since the rain, and wheat to follow the fields will certainly make very good seed beds, as drought in the autumn is much more detrimental than in the spring, particularly if the winter be snowless.

RUSSIA.—Low temperature prevails over most of the empire, and several rivers are frozen. The closing of the Azov and some Black Sea ports cannot be delayed much longer, and the stream of supplies from the interior must be diverted to those ports that either never suffer from ice closure or are kept open by powerful icebreakers.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says that rains have favoured the winter wheat crop, which is fully equal to its previous promise. There are only small interior marketings, but there are good offerings of maize in the central regions.—*Bradstreet's*.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

19796.—R. H. N. Sellar and J. Cook, of Glasgow, for an invention for "Improvements in ploughs."

19972.—A. Quarrie and A. J. Leitch, of London, for an invention for "An improved animal clipper."

19950.—W. J. Shaw, of Liverpool, for an invention for "Improvements in carriers or cases for carrying, transporting, or storing eggs and like fragile articles."

20096.—A. Helliwell, of Keighley, for an invention for "Improved apparatus for rearing chickens and other young birds."

20141.—W. Y. Lister, of London, for an invention for "An improvement in mowing, reaping, and harvesting machines."

20194.—G. H. Richards, of London, for an invention for "Improvements in compositions or compounds for use in agriculture or horticulture."

20196.—W. Jager, of London, for an invention for "Improvements in apparatus for drying seed grain and the like."

Patents Sealed.

14921.—J. Bennet, of Cork, Ireland, for an invention for "Improvements relating to sorting eggs."

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are not in much request, but there has been no day during the week when a certain amount of trade has not been put through. The tone of the market is steadier since Thursday. American maize cargoes close rather dearer than they opened, and both Argentine and Russian sorts are well held. The demand for oats has temporarily fallen off, but barley cargoes are being dealt in for spring shipment as well as on passage, and there is a very fair amount of business doing in oilseed cargoes. Recorded sales include:—Wheat: New Zealand, 28s. 6d.; Walla Walla, 29s.; Oregon, 30s. 6d.; Azoff, 29s. 6d.; Roumanian, 28s. 6d.; No. 1 Northern, 30s. 9d.; hard Duluth, 33s.; No. 2 red winter, 29s. 6d.; No. 2 hard winter, 28s. 6d.; and new crop La Plata (for February shipment), 28s. 3d. per qr. Maize: American, 19s. 9d.; Argentine, 20s. 9d.; and Galatz, 22s. Barley: Novorossisk, 18s. 6d.; Roumanian, 18s. 6d.; Californian, 26s. 3d.; Persian, 17s.; and Azoff (May shipment), 18s. 6d. Oats: White Libau, 13s. 6d. Linseed: Argentine, 48s.; and Rapeseed, Jamba (May shipment), 29s. 3d. per qr.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 5 wheat (4 California and 1 New Zealand); total, 5.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were: — 1 wheat (Limerick); 1 beans (Irving); 1 locust beans (Liverpool); total, 3.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been:—309 wheat, 14 wheat and barley, 1 wheat and pease, 7 flour, 12 maize, 1 maize and oats, 26 barley, 19 beans, 10 locust beans, 1 pease, 1 linseed, 5 canaryseed, 2 fenugreek seed, 5 valonea; total, 413.

Last year, during the same time, the arrivals were:—263 wheat, 10 flour, 4 maize, 7 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 10 beans, 2 locust beans, 6 linseed, 6 canaryseed, and 7 valonea; total, 320.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: We continue to have a fair demand for new. Barley, both grinding and malting, unchanged. Wheat rather easier on the week. Oats firm. Maize 3d per qr cheaper. Flour declined about 3d per sack.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Home-grown wheat continues in restricted supply, and farmers still incline to local markets, where better prices are obtainable. Fine white, 30s; and good red, 30s 6d, 63lb delivered. American descriptions remained anything but encouraging to holders, while stocks on hand continue large, and incoming supplies of foreign weigh heavily. The market for flour again failed to move, while consumptive buying was of the same poor order. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Feeding barley continues in small supply and steady. Oats firm, the market being assisted by limited arrivals, while anything but overweighed respecting both American and Russian. The tendency was inclined to further improve. Flat maize fairly steady, with small supplies of American and Odessa on hand, and very little coming along. The market for beans and peas remains featureless, while generally firm for the latter.

Mark Lane, Friday.—English wheat unaltered, while the condition improves, and nearly everything is still sent up to the country exchanges. Foreign unchanged. Flour was likewise unaltered, with insufficient stirring to test the market. The London Millers' Association made no change at their meeting this afternoon. Grinding barley firm, with a hardening tendency, and in short supply. Oats 3d to 6d better for American since last Friday. Government purchases being the main cause for stimulating the trade. Arrivals show an increase, but these go quickly into consumption. Flat maize displays an advance of 3d to 6d on the week, being still scarce. American mixed quoted at 21s ex ship, and 21s 9d to 22s landed. Round corn upheld. Odessa 26s 3d ex quay. The market for beans remains idle.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade slow for wheat and feeding corn, but rather brisker for barleys, which have been fairly cleared within the last few weeks. White wheat, 29s to 31s; red ditto, 27s to 30s; malting barley, first quality, 30s to 33s; second quality, 27s to 30s; English grinding ditto, 22s to 25s; black oats, 13s to 18s; white ditto, 18s to 22s; tick beans, 32s to 34s; flat maize, 24s; round ditto, 26s to 27s per quarter.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Good attendance. Wheat firm, at slightly increased rates. Best samples of barley made 1s per quarter above last week's quotations, but inferior grades made quite 1s less. Beans and oats unchanged.

Barnsley, Wednesday.—A fair attendance, but business rather quiet. Values were little altered on the week. Barley met with a very slow sale.

Boston, Wednesday.—A small attendance and a slow trade. Wheat, 26s to 27s; malting barley, 24s to 30s; grinding barley, 22s to 23s; oats, 16s to 18s; peas, 45s to 60s; beans, 28s to 30s; maize, 22s 6d to 23s per qr.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Short supply of wheats, reds making from 28s to 30s per qr. Fair show of barley, prices maintained.

Bristol, Thursday.—Trade very quiet since our last. At to-day's market English wheat was in short supply at last week's prices. Foreign a little inquiry, and prices unaltered. Barley unchanged. American mixed maize obtained rather better prices; other sorts unaltered. Flour slow sale.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has remained in the same lethargic condition which has characterised it for some time past, and, with rather better supplies, prices are hard to maintain. At this market to-day there was a little better supply of wheat and barley. Wheat sold slowly at about last week's price. Wheat, red, 28s to 31s., and white up to 31s per 504lb. Barley was in better request, and made the full prices of last Saturday. Oats and beans scarce and firm.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat quiet, and inclined to be easier. Choice barleys steady; oats firm. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 30s to 32s; red ditto, 29s to 31s; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; ditto black, 15s to 20s; peas, 30s to 33s; tick beans, 32s to 33s; mazagans, 27s to 29s; flat maize, 23s to 24s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per qr; winter tares, 6s to 7s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Average supply of oats in our market to-day, good sale at full prices. New, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; old, 23s 6d to 26s per 336lbs.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a little trade passing in English grain, and wheat was unchanged. Oats were steady and rather more sought after, and Indian corn, moving freely into consumption, was 3d to 6d per sack dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s to 4s 2d per 75lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; old, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 46lb; Indian corn, 10s 6d to 11s 3d per 240lb

Chichester, Wednesday.—Not much wheat on offer, and, with trade quiet, there was no change to record in prices. In other departments business was also slow without alteration. Small attendance.

Colchester, Saturday.—Very moderate supply both of wheat and barley, which sold steadily at last week's prices. Beans, peas, and oats scarce, and fully as dear.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—English wheat met a dull trade, last week's prices being barely maintained. Foreign 6d per quarter less money. Dragging trade for malting barley at 1s per quarter cheaper. No demand for feeding stuffs owing to the milder weather.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat steady at last week's prices. Flour pressed for sale at irregular prices. Indian corn firm, but unchanged. Grinding beans and Canadian pease steady, but quiet. Home and foreign oats steady, and held for full prices. Barley steady. Oatmeal firm. Bran and thirds firm, and the turn dearer.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat steady at last prices. Flour pressed for sale at irregular prices. Indian corn firm, but unchanged. Grinding beans and Canadian plate steady but quiet. Home and foreign oats steady, and held for full prices. Barley steady. Oatmeal firm. Bran and thirds firm, and the turn dearer.

Hereford, Wednesday.—English wheats difficult to sell, buyers generally demanding concessions of 1d to 2d per bushel on the week. English barley moved more freely, but on the whole values were slightly under last week; fine samples were enquired after. English oats quiet, with a downward tendency except for the very finest and whitest samples. Maize steady for spot parcels. Beans and peas firm without change. Quotations: Wheat, white, 3s 3d to 3s 5d; red, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; barley, 2s 9d to 3s 9d; oats, 2s to 3s; beans, 3s 3d to 4s; maize, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; vetches, winter, 4s to 6s; and spring, 3s 6d to 5s per bushel.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat. Many samples out of condition. Trade slow at 29s to 30s for reds; white, 32s. Good supply of barley. Trade slow; price unaltered. Oats firm. Maize rather easier. Beans and peas steady.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The rather unexpected decline in the American markets has again checked the firmer tendency in the wheat trade on this side; buyers consequently act with caution to-day, but on the business doing last week's rates are generally maintained. Fine barley is creeping up in value, and inferior sorts are less pressed. Maize 6d lower. Beans and oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—With American wheat again the turn dearer Tuesday's prices are fully maintained, English making from 27s to 32s, and foreign from 28s to 32s, with limited demand. Maize firmly held. Malting and grinding barley, oats, beans, peas, and flour without change.

Leicester, Saturday. — Fair attendance of buyers and dealers, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, in very variable condition. Trade quiet, at 27s to 31s per 36 stones. Barley slow trade. Fine oats in better demand.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small supply of English wheats. Trade steady at late rates. Reds, 27s to 28s; whites, 28s to 29s. Foreign whites dull at last week's prices. Fair show of barley, with a firmer trade at prices from 28s to 35s. Oats dull at late rates. Beans, maize, and peas, unaltered.

Lincoln, Friday.—There was a fair attendance at the Corn Exchange, and about an average supply of grain. Wheat sold fairly well at about last week's prices. Oats made a little more money. Barley found a fair sale at late rates. Maize was about 3d dearer, while beans and peas, which were scarce, remained almost unaltered.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat firm with a fair consumptive business at full prices to ½d advance. Flour steady with only a very small business passing at last Tuesday's prices for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association also make no change in the minimum price of bakers'. Maize has experienced a good consumptive demand, with mixed American making 2d, white and yellow 1d to 1½d per cental over Tuesday's prices. European is scarce and has a fair retail trade at ½d to 1d advance. A better demand exists for Plate, and is making ½d to 1d advance. Barley is unaltered for malting, but a slight improvement is noted in the demand for better brewing sorts; feeding is firmer with a fair enquiry at ½d improvement on Tuesday's currencies. Beans are slow and easier for Saidi, whilst a rather better demand is experienced for flat sorts at 3d per qr. advance. Peas steady but quiet at unchanged prices. Oats steady but quiet at about late rates for English. Foreign sorts quiet at unchanged values. Oatmeal steady but not active at quotations. Oilcake firm with only a moderate demand; prices about the same as last market day.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Louth, Wednesday.—There was a very small show of all sorts of grain. Wheat met with a quiet trade at 27s to 27s 6d per qr. Barley was a very poor trade. Oats in rather good demand at 17s to 18s per qr. Beans were firm, but most of the samples on offer were in very condition.

Malton, Tuesday.—Average deliveries of barley and wheat whilst oats are nil. Official details:—Wheat (60lb per bushel), 356 qrs 3 bushels, at £1 5s 9d; barley (50lb per bushel), 1,844 qrs, at £1 2s 3d per imperial qr average.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Very little animation in the wheat trade to-day; the tone firm at just about last week's rates. Barley is a dull business, except for prime parcels, which will bring a shade higher than recently. Oats are 3d per qr up from last report. Maize is not purchasable except buyers respond to the slight rise demanded. Beans and peas command full prices, but the demand is by no means active. Winter tares will only move at a reduction. We do not note any alteration in the value of rye, brank, hemp, sergo, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—A quiet tone has pervaded all sections of our market again and throughout the week only very moderate transactions are reported to have been arranged. Prices of English wheat show little change. Flour is also little altered, with a retail trade only. Oats, peas, and beans are without new feature. Indian corn is lower by about ½d per cental on the week.

Market Drayton, Wednesday.—Wheat, white, new, 12s to 12s 6d per 225lb; red, new, 12s to 12s 6d per 225lb. Oats, old white, 18s to 20s per 200lb; new, white, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per 200lb. Barley, malting, 13s to 14s per 210lb. Indian corn, 11s to 11s 6d per 240lb. Beans, new, 13s to 14s; old, 17s to 18s per 240lb. Peas, white, 17s to 18s per 240lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—The wheat trade is a shade firmer, and all descriptions are firmly held for the full prices current on Saturday, but the business passing is limited. Maize continues in good request at the full prices of last week. Oats, beans, and peas steady. Flour dull.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—The wretched weather has made trade dull for wheat and flour, but feeding stuffs have picked up, although oats, generally, are disappointing to sellers. Malting barley points upward in price, and why not?

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at our to-day's market ruled quiet and favoured buyers. Oats steady at late rates. Maize firm, and 6d per 480lb. dearer on the spot. Barley quiet, in buyers' favour. Beans and peas unaltered. No change in flour.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northallerton, Wednesday.—A good attendance. The price of wheat was down by about 6d per qr at 27s to 28s; oats, 19s to 20s; long oats, 17s; barley, 22s to 26s per qr.

Northampton, Saturday.—Supply and demand small, and the corn trade very inactive at about the prices of last week. Quotations:—White wheat, 29s to 30s; old red, 29s to 30s; new red, 26s to 28s; barley, 24s to 32s; grinding barley, 20s to 23s; oats, 18s to 23s; old fine, 25s; beans, 28s; old, 35s to 36s; flour, 22s to 26s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat was still in small supply at our market to-day, with a dragging trade and values unaltered. There was a larger supply of barley offering, with a dull trade, prices being nominally the same as last week. Dreary and wet weather has prevailed during the week, but a change has now set in, with bright atmosphere and frosty nights. Wheat, red, 29s to 29s 6d per qr, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending November 19th, 1900:—Wheat, 1,873·4, 27s 10d; barley, 13,795·3, 27s 2¼d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat only moderate supply, prices fully supported. Barley, fine samples only inquired for, and for such values maintained. Inferior sorts neglected. Oats and beans sparingly represented, and made full rates.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Quiet market. Prices for wheat and barley quotably unchanged; better inquiry for good samples of barley.

Penrith, Tuesday.—Supplies were again below the average, but there was a brisker trade. New white oats, 18s 6d to 20s 6d; black, 27s per qr; barley, 10s to 10s 6d; wheat, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; rye, 10s per bushel.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was an average attendance at our corn market to-day, trade being very inactive. Wheat is steadier. Barley and maize unaltered and oats firmly held.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—Business proved rather quiet here to-day, although there was a good attendance. Wheat was not in so good supply as usual, and, the demand only being small, prices were slightly inclined to fall. Barley was an average supply, and prices ruled firm, this latter also applying to other descriptions of corn, of which there was the usual quantity.

Ripon, Thursday.—There is no quotable change in prices from last week. Barley has a dull sale. A moderate attendance. Wheat, English, new, 27s to 29s; ditto, old, 31s; ditto, foreign, 30s 6d to 34s 6d; barley, malting, 24s to 28s; ditto, grinding, 21s to 23s; oats, old, 25s to 26s; ditto new, 17s to 19s; maize, round, 24s to 27s; ditto, flat, 23s 6d per qr; beans, old, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade unchanged. Only a small supply. Red wheat made 28s to 29s 6d, and white wheat 29s to 32s per quarter.

Salisbury, Tuesday.—There was a small attendance of buyers and dealers at the Corn Exchange to-day, and a very limited supply of grain. Trade was dull throughout, and there was little alteration in prices of a week ago. Quotations: Wheat, 26s to 36s; barley, 20s to 36s; oats, white, 18s to 23s; ditto black, 16s to 18s; beans, 31s to 34s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Better qualities. English wheat firm at full prices; damp parcels unsaleable. Foreign wheat slow trade, and shade lower prices taken to force sales. Feeding stuffs unaltered. Prices:—Wheat, white, 32s to 33s; red, 31s to 32s; new, 30s to 31s per 504lb; oats, old white, 26s; ditto, new white, 17s 6d to 19s; ditto old black, 22s; ditto new black, 16s to 17s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small old, 29s to 30s; ditto American mixed, 23s 6d to 24s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—In the corn market wheat was a slow trade at 27s to 27s 6d per qr. Oats were firm, 17s to 18s per qr. Best quality barley sold well. Not much doing in other articles.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were very few samples of farmers' wheat showing, which made 27s to 30s per qr. The trade in foreign wheat keeps fairly firm, owing to a better inquiry from millers, but prices show no change. Maize, 6d per qr dearer, and oats without alteration on the week. A moderate show of malting barley, which made last Wednesday's prices.

Stratford-on-Avon.—Market well attended, and English wheat in fair supply. Prices showed no quotable change, and a moderate business was done. A good show of malting barley of improved quality. Best samples in demand, and prices firm; commoner sorts neglected. Prices ranged from 26s to 33s per quarter. Foreign wheat a quiet trade, and 3d to 6d lower. Grinding barley 3d dearer. Flat maize, oats, and beans firm, and unaltered.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Slow trade in wheat, which barely maintained last week's prices. Barley and oats unaltered. Arrivals coastwise, oats, 1,120 qrs; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Small attendance. Wheat a quiet trade at last week's prices. Malting barley more offers and trade steady. All feeding stuffs quiet and steady.

Wakefield, Friday.—At our market to-day, English and foreign wheats steady at late rates, in the small business doing. Common qualities of barley pressed for sale, the demand altogether being for finer sorts. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—Wheat has ruled steady in the interval since Tuesday. Foreign limits have been raised rather than reduced, which checks purchases; and the consumptive demand can best supply its requirements in buying near at hand or spot wheats, prices for which show no alteration. Fine malting barley fully as dear; inferior sorts must again be quoted lower. Maize, beans, and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Winchester, Saturday.—A very short supply of wheat on the market to-day, which met a firm trade, dry samples making more money. Barley in fair request, best lots selling readily at fully late rates. Oats shade dearer. Maize steady, unaltered. Flour, 24s to 25s.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Short supply of grain. Wheat sold at late rates; red, 28s; white, 28s 6d; old, 30s. Oats 6d dearer, to buy, 18s to 20s. Barley, 24s to 28.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance, but trade showed no improvement. Wheat was flat, with beans a shade firmer. English wheat, new, 12s to 12s 6d; English wheat, old, 13s per 216lb; oats, old, 15s to 16s; oats, new, 11s to 11s 6d; beans, old, 14s 6d to 15s 6d; beans, new, 12s 3d to 13s per 196lb; maize, 23s 6d to 24s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was rather more inquiry for wheats, and a fair business was transacted at last week's rates. Dull trade for malting barleys. Grinding barley and maize were 3d per quarter dearer, and oats sold at full prices. Wheat: White, 28s to 29s; red, 27s to 28s per quarter.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance and moderate supply of grain. Wheat: July maintained the slight increase of last week, whilst best varieties were very dear and oats scarce and dear. White wheat, old, 31s to 32s; red ditto, old, 30s to 31s 6d; white, new, 28s to 29s; red, new, 27s to 28s; best malting barley, 31s to 33s 6d; secondary, 28s to 29s; grinding, 23s to 25s; old white oats, 25s to 27s 6d; old black, 24s to 25s; new white oats, 18s to 20s; new black ditto, 17s to 18s; flat maize, 24s to 25s; round ditto, 28s to 29s per qr.

York, Saturday.—The hirings interfered with the thrashing, and very little wheat was on offer, prices remaining unchanged. The official average prices of grain for the week have been: Wheat, 27s 4d; barley, 23s 7d; and oats, 17s 1d per quarter.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has shown a good tone, the demand having become more active. Field work has been interrupted in France by wet weather, but before the rains commenced wheat sowing had been virtually completed. The young wheats have come up well, and upon the whole the outlook is satisfactory. Transactions in wheat have not increased upon the French markets as millers had hoped. French farmers still showing a disposition to hold on for higher prices. Business in wheat has shown little change at Paris. Flour for consumption has also remained without variation in the French capital. The Marseilles wheat market has presented a quiet tone. At Konigsberg also wheat has been quiet at former terms. Deliveries of wheat have slightly increased upon the Russian provincial markets, but the demand has been inactive. In the Baltic ports business has shown a firm tone; in the Black Sea ports, however, wheat has established a tendency to heaviness, and prices have been rather weaker. The Odessa wheat market has continued quiet, the demand having been inactive for all descriptions; holders have, however, maintained an attitude of reserve, as they are relying on the early exhaustion of disposable stocks and on the approaching closing of some of the Russian ports by ice. There have been some frosts in Southern Russia and snow would be welcome, as it would shelter the young wheats from the rigours of the approaching winter. The quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is returned at 1,225,000qr as compared with 1,340,000qr at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,225,000qr representing the quantity of wheat now en route for the Continent is made up as follows:—France, 145,000 qr; Belgium, 370,000qr; Holland, 220,000qr; Germany and the North, 140,000qr; and Italy, Spain, &c., 350,000qr.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley rules dull and our export to England has almost ceased, as even the big brewers leave us without any orders and consider the prices of Saale and Bohemian much too dear. Our home brewers and maltsters are also importing a good deal of Danish and Holstein Island barleys, which class is obtainable remarkably cheap and seems to pay them better than the much dearer home-grown.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE

Hamburgh, Saturday.—With a continuance of mild weather we have a quiet market for all articles. The imports during the week amounted to:—3,160 tons wheat, 1,500 tons rye, 8,543 tons barley, 21,500 tons maize. German wheat is firmly held, and offers from the interior are very scarce. Fine red Holstein, Mecklenburg, and Saale costs 27s 3d to 28s; common Holstein, 25s 6d to 26s 3d per 504lb f.o.b. Foreign wheat in scanty supply; fine River Plate is held at 29s 9d; hard winter No 2 to arrive, at 28s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. Rye quiet. 9 10-15 South Russian is offering at 22s to 22s 6d per 480 lb. c.i.f. Good Bohemian barley has been sold, and is

offering at 33s 9d to 35s 6d ; Saale is selling at 30s 6d to 34s ; Danish and Holstein at 25s to 26s per 448 lb f.o.b. Fine Saale is held at 34s 6d to 38s per 448 lb f.o.b. Russian feeding barley is selling at 17s 9d to 18s per 400 lb c.i.f. There is but a limited demand for mixed maize, but prices remain firm. November delivery is selling at 20s 3d ; December shipment, 19s 3d ; January-March, 19s per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. — JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

November 16th to 23rd, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	646	..	..	77,713	77,989
Barley	1,552	..	..	1,119	2,671
Malt	16,973	690	..	..	17,663
Oats	2,586	100	..	72,602	75,288
Rye	..	..	..	6,390	6,390
Beans	357	..	..	1,521	1,878
Peas	669	..	..	4,535	5,204
Maize	..	..	..	51,015	51,015
Buckwheat.....	..	..	..	750	750
Lentils.....	..	..	..	6,088	6,088
Linseed	..	..	..	18,000	18,000
Rapeseed	..	..	..	200	200
Cottonseed	..	..	..	8,000	8,000
Farm Seeds.....	700	..	..	2,316	3,016
Flour { Barrels....	..	..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	23,251	..	..	50,031	73,282

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.			
Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	June 24	101,205 qrs.
,, 14	108,380 ,,	July 1	152,500 ,,
,, 21	128,902 ,,	,, 8	112,761 ,,
,, 28	51,234 ,,	,, 15	116,850 ,,
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	,, 22	89,245 ,,
,, 11	82,912 ,,	,, 29	118,314 ,,
,, 18	204,974 ,,	Aug. 5	104,234 ,,
,, 25	108,273 ,,	,, 12	102,160 ,,
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,	,, 19	103,353 ,,
,, 11	63,103 ,,	,, 26	82,367 ,,
,, 18	122,541 ,,	Sept. 2	73,600 ,,
,, 25	86,309 ,,	,, 9	83,791 ,,
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	,, 16	107,684 ,,
,, 8	133,261 ,,	,, 23	131,880 ,,
,, 15	101,518 ,,	,, 30	61,997 ,,
,, 22	70,984 ,,	Oct. 7	121,032 ,,
,, 29	68,573 ,,	,, 14	97,050 ,,
May 6	96,343 ,,	,, 21	95,446 ,,
,, 13	72,852 ,,	,, 28	154,895 ,,
,, 20	101,429 ,,	Nov. 4	114,634 ,,
May 27	108,772 ,,	,, 11	110,161 ,,
June 3	73,846 ,,	,, 18	79,200 ,,
,, 10	126,781 ,,	,, 25	130,815 ,,
,, 17	160,574 ,,		
1900.			
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	June 22	198,116 qrs.
,, 13	95,034 ,,	,, 29	142,185 ,,
,, 20	114,928 ,,	July 6	132,350 ,,
,, 27	124,652 ,,	,, 13	101,253 ,,
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,	,, 20	82,294 ,,
,, 10	75,000 ,,	,, 27	55,908 ,,
,, 17	66,804 ,,	Aug. 2	86,167 ,,
,, 24	62,191 ,,	,, 11	192,077 ,,
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,	,, 18	138,510 ,,
,, 10	63,702 ,,	,, 25	182,517 ,,
,, 17	162,985 ,,	,, 31	80,149 ,,
,, 24	111,409 ,,	Sept. 7	58,394 ,,
,, 31	69,356 ,,	,, 14	117,066 ,,
April 7	48,302 ,,	,, 21	105,961 ,,
,, 13	131,085 ,,	,, 28	158,771 ,,
,, 20	82,357 ,,	Oct. 5	183,383 ,,
,, 27	43,783 ,,	,, 12	156,815 ,,
May 4	104,535 ,,	,, 19	73,725 ,,
,, 11	52,859 ,,	,, 26	98,302 ,,
,, 18	97,412 ,,	Nov. 2	77,179 ,,
,, 25	71,390 ,,	,, 9	148,972 ,,
,, 31	177 744 ,,	,, 16	105,130 ,,
June 8	93,147 ,,	,, 23	132,964 ,,
,, 15	86,125 ,,		

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Nov. 16 to 23, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	77,989 qrs.
Flour	54,975 ,,
Total	132,964 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Surplus	26,964 ,,

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1899.									
Nov. 4 ..	82,769⅜	27	2	203,071½	27	2	17,895½	16	7
,, 11 ..	66,741⅜	26	7	166,786½	26	9	15,216⅝	16	5
,, 18 ..	65,470¼	26	1	163,915½	26	4	16,313¼	16	7
,, 25 ..	67,308⅛	25	8	164,362½	26	2	17,047⅜	16	7
Dec. 2 ..	72,974⅞	25	7	163,441⅜	25	10	22,575½	16	6
,, 9 ..	10,982¼	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421¼	16	5
,, 16 ..	787,72½	25	4	135,344⅜	25	7	22,889¼	16	1
,, 23 ..	67,102⅜	25	6	116,757⅝	25	10	16,447⅝	16	0
,, 30 ..	47,685½	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,463½	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6 ..	40,083	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅝	16	4
,, 13 ..	57,021⅜	25	11	83,421⅜	25	5	19,703	16	6
,, 20 ..	68,463¼	26	0	100,925½	25	8	23,122⅜	16	5
,, 27 ..	65,331¼	25	10	108,357⅜	25	9	17,814⅜	16	8
Feb. 3 ..	73,796⅜	25	8	90,769½	25	4	22,061¼	16	3
,, 10 ..	71,482⅜	25	10	80,543⅝	25	3	20,822½	16	2
,, 17 ..	76,611½	26	1	80,414⅜	24	11	20,986⅝	16	1
,, 24 ..	69,534⅛	26	3	63,931⅜	25	1	21,132½	16	10
Mar. 3 ..	63,153⅛	26	4	51,727½	24	6	18,499½	16	11
,, 10 ..	58,703½	25	11	44,921½	24	8	16,224	16	11
,, 17 ..	76,435⅝	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,104⅜	16	10
,, 24 ..	69,944½	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042⅝	17	1
,, 31 ..	72,762	25	10	34,387½	24	11	15,200⅝	17	2
April 7 ..	67,743⅜	25	10	20,402⅝	24	10	13,757⅜	17	2
,, 14 ..	66,412⅜	25	11	19,519½	24	5	9,672⅜	17	8
,, 21 ..	54,977⅜	26	0	11,673⅜	24	9	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28 ..	70,006⅜	26	0	7 785⅜	25	2	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5 ..	75,410⅜	25	11	8,150½	25	3	8,658½	18	0
,, 12 ..	82,190⅜	25	11	10,417½	24	10	12,245¼	17	11
,, 19 ..	83,941½	25	7	5,638½	24	5	9,942	18	5
,, 26 ..	95,574⅜	25	5	3,521¼	23	11	7,350⅜	18	2
June 2 ..	68,906⅜	25	5	1,752⅜	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9 ..	64 747½	25	3	990⅝	23	8	6,053⅜	18	8
,, 16 ..	55,340⅜	25	6	1,486⅜	23	8	7,228½	18	11
,, 23 ..	54,324¼	25	9	1,312½	23	5	5,344½	18	11
,, 30 ..	44,920⅜	26	11	495¼	23	4	4,706¼	19	3
July 7 ..	34,344½	27	10	486⅜	22	10	4,391½	19	5
,, 14 ..	22,009¼	28	7	949⅛	23	2	2,911⅜	19	1
,, 21 ..	26,716⅜	29	0	767⅜	23	8	3,771⅜	19	3
,, 28 ..	33,088	29	3	194½	24	4	3,335⅜	19	9

WHEAT, BARLEY, OATS.

1900.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Aug. 4 ..	45,748⅜	28	10	409½	23	10	3,453⅜	19	4
,, 11 ..	37,644⅜	28	7	311½	23	7	3,391	19	8
,, 18 ..	32,812½	28	10	608¼	23	8	3,593⅜	19	11
,, 25 ..	26,427⅛	28	10	787⅜	24	10	5,319½	18	8
Sept. 1 ..	30,393⅜	28	8	1,978½	25	2	9,606⅜	18	1
,, 8 ..	34,755½	28	7	6,140⅜	25	8	11,042⅜	17	10
,, 15 ..	53,331½	28	4	20,879⅜	25	4	18,681½	17	1
,, 22 ..	61,468½	28	4	41,284½	26	0	21,729½	17	1
,, 29 ..	72,691	28	9	68,844½	25	1	25,620½	17	2
Oct. 6 ..	68,690	28	9	94,282	26	2	23,835	16	10
,, 13 ..	70,314⅜	28	9	134,277½	26	2	18,350⅞	17	1
,, 20 ..	58,790⅛	28	4	159,007⅜	26	5	14,631½	17	11
Oct. 27 ..	51,254	27	11	190,079⅜	26	3	16,993½	16	11
Nov. 3 ..	54,514⅜	27	5	204,836	26	3	16,692½	16	11
,, 10 ..	41,497⅜	27	3	170,558	25	11	15,566⅜	16	10
,, 17 ..	44,072⅜	27	1	185,342⅜	25	8	14,400½	17	1
,, 24 ..	48,045½	27	2	182,212⅜	25	10	17,125½	17	0

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(191 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900 Wheat.	Barley	Oats.
January.....	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 6	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 5	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	19 5
September ..	25 4	26 10	16 5	28 6	25 7	17 6
October.....	27 5	27 8	16 7	28 5	26 3	17 0
November....	26 5	26 7	16 6	..	..	..
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890 ..	31 9 per qr.	..	28 8 per qr.	..	18 7 per qr.	
1891 ..	37 1 ,,	..	28 2 ,,	..	19 0 ,,	
1892 ..	30 4 ,,	..	24 2 ,,	..	19 11 ,,	
1893 ..	26 4 ,,	..	25 6 ,,	..	18 9 ,,	
1894 ..	22 10 ,,	..	24 6 ,,	..	17 1 ,,	
1895 ..	23 1 ,,	..	21 11 ,,	..	14 6 ,,	
1896 ..	26 2 ,,	..	22 11 ,,	..	14 9	
1897 ..	30 2 ,,	..	33 6 ,,	..	16 11 ,,	
1898 ..	34 0 ,,	..	27 2 ,,	..	18 5 ,,	
1899 ..	25 8 ,,	..	25 7 ,,	..	17 0 ,,	

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Nov. 24, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	48,045½ qrs.	27s. 2d.
Barley	182,212⅜ qrs.	25s. 10d.
Oats	17,125½ qrs.	17s. 0d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Nov. 24, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

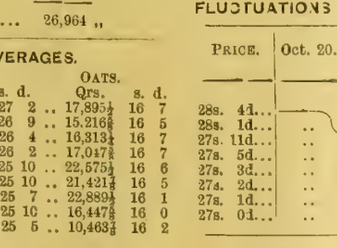
	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	61,585⅜	23	4	183,20⅞	26	9	16,489⅜	17	7
1897....	83,79⅛	33	8	173 771⅜	25	9	18,160	16	8
1898....	87,303	27	9	227,331⅛	28	4	23,855½	17	1
1899....	67,308⅛	25	8	164,362⅜	26	2	17,04⅞	16	7

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 20th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	1,120	1	1,558	14	8	1	7	10
Barley	4,632	6	6,362	12	9	1	7	6
Oats	1,926	7	1,722	3	3	0	17	10

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



IMPORTS OF POTATOES (OFFICIAL).

CEREAL YEARS.

	1900.	1899.	1898.
September	Cwts. 213,000	117,000	78,000

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov. ..	..		22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	25	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	5½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	4½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	11½	25	0	25	6½	29	11
June ..	25	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	30	4½
July ..	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	9½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	..		24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	5	26	4	26	11½
Dec. ..	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	5	29	6½

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fair supplies were offered this morning, but the trade ruled slow. Quotations :—Fowls : Yorkshire, 2s 8d to 2s 9d ; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s ; Welsh, 1s 9d to 2s ; Surrey, 3s to 3s 6d ; Sussex, 2s 6d to 3s 3d ; Irish, 1s 6d to 1s 9d ; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d ; turkeys (cocks), 6s to 8s 6d ; hen ditto, 4s 6d to 5s 6d ; geese, 4s to 6s ; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s ; Bordeaux pigeons, 8d to 10d ; feathered, 7d to 9d ; wild rabbits, 7d to 9d ; tame, 1s to 1s 3d each ; Australian, 7s 6d to 9s 6d per dozen ; pheasants, 3s 6d to 4s ; young partridges, 3s 6d to 4s ; old, 2s to 2s 6d ; young grouse, 3s 9d to 4s 9d ; old, 3s per brace ; hares, 3s to 3s 3d ; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s ; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 1s 9d ; pintail, 1s 4d ; teal, 8d to 10d ; snipe, 8d to 10d ; woodcock, 2s to 2s 6d ; widgeon, 1s ; golden plover, 8d to 10d ; black, 6d to 6d each.

Chester, Wednesday.—The supplies amounted to 55 tons, being about 20 tons in excess of last year. There was an average attendance of buyers, but trade was not very brisk, and prices tended downwards. Fine Cheshire made 60s to 67s ; medium, 54s to 58s ; and common, 46s and upwards per cwt.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of cheese were light in Glasgow, but with the overlying stock there was abundance on offer. There was rather more doing in flats at reduced prices. Dunlops and Cheddars were quoted from 52s to 64s per cwt. September-made Canadians are rather easier.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon : The market has ruled firm all week, supplies on the spot being insufficient for the demand, and arrivals are rapidly cleared at quotations which mark a farther advance on the week. We quote, to-day, choice Cumberland cut, 20lb to 22lb, 48s 6d to 52s ; 26lb to 30lb, 47s to 49s ; 32lb to 38lb, 44s to 48s 6d ; long middles, rib-in, 18lb to 22lb, 52s to 56s ; clear bellies, 14lb to 16lb, 56s to 57s ; 18lb to 20lb, 55s 6d to 56s 6d ; Staffordshire cut (lean on), 35lb to 40lb, and Birmingham cut, 33lb to 38lb, 47s to 49s ; clear Staffords (lean off), 40lb to 44lb, and Yorkshire cut, 40lb to 45lb, 44s 6d to 46s 6d ; singed Wiltshire, Canadian, 45lb to 55lb, 53s to 58s ; American, 40lb to 50lb, 44s to 52s ; short clear backs, 12lb to 16lb, 44s 6d to 46s 6d ; 16lb to 20lb, 43s to 44s 6d ; fat backs (export), 30s to 41s ; long clear middles, 35lb to 40lb, 47s to 48s ; 40lb to 45lb, 45s 6d to 46s 6d ; short clear middles, 45lb to 50lb, 39s 6d to 40s 6d ; short middles (rib in), 18lb to 23lb, 47s 6d to 49s ; shoulders, square cut, 12lb to 14lb, 35s to 40s ; 14lb to 16lb, 34s to 37s 6d ; New York cut, 11lb to 13lb 32s 6d to 35s per cwt. Hams meet with a good inquiry, and are dearer, with further higher tendency. We quote choice long cut, 8lb to 12lb, 46s 6d to 52s 6d ; 14lb to 16lb, 45s to 50s ; short cut and A.C., 10lb to 12lb, 47s to 52s ; 12lb to 14lb, 46s 6d to 51s 6d ; 14lb to 16lb, 44s to 49s 6d per cwt. Lard rules in steady request, and prices show no alteration on the week. We quote pails and kegs, 39s to 40s ; prime Western (in tierces), 38s 6d to 39s per cwt. Beef dull and somewhat easier. We quote extra India mess 67s 9d to 71s 6d ; Plate and Packet, 62s 6d to 63s per 304lb. Pork is in limited supply, and rules firm. We quote finest prime mess, 68s to 72s 6d. per 200lb. Cheese.—There is some improvement in the general demand, but dealers are operating mostly in summer goods ripe and steady for use, which have been in free supply at easier prices. Finest fall goods are steady at quotations. We quote finest coloured Canadian, September, 53s to 54s ; white, 52s to 53s ; finest States, coloured, 52s to 53s 6d ; white, 51s to 52s ; summer cheese, ripe and ready, 45s to 50s ; lower grades, in moderate supply, sell from 22s to 38s per cwt. Butter.—The weather has turned somewhat colder ; there is more inquiry for finest butter, in which, however, dealers find best value in Continental produce, and Canadian is selling very slowly. The supply of over-kept and secondary goods is very large, and there is at the moment no inquiry. We quote, fancy fresh made Canadian creamery, in boxes, 102s to 105s ; second quality, 85s to 92s ; finest States (none) ; finest ladles and imitation creamery are in small demand, offered from 74s to 80s ; finest Danish, 110s to 120s ; Australian and New Zealand, 104s to 110s ; Irish creamery, 104s to 110s ; Cork, firsts, 80s ; seconds, 85s ; thirds, 79s per cwt.—HODGSON BROTHERS.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Brewers have been buying largely during the week, and the market is in a very firm condition. Only a limited number of growers now hold any stocks, and these are very steady and confident in their demands. Prices do not exceed previous quotations.

Worcester, Saturday.—A fair trade in new Worcesters, which change hands readily when growers are willing to accept recent values, but the volume of business is to some extent checked by the shortness of supplies and high rates asked by most holders. Yearlings are in request at recent prices, and the supply of these is now very much reduced.

Worcester, Saturday.—Our market is quiet with very little demand for hops, but prices keep firm ; six pockets have passed the public scales to-day, and two during the week, making a total of 16,037 pockets weighed up to date.—PIERCE AND CO.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Vegetables were in fair supply and slow request. Good supplies of fruit met a ready inquiry. Greenstuffs.—Cabbages, 2s 6d to 3s ; savoys, 2s 6d to 3s 6d ; beetroots, 2s to 3s per dozen ; cauliflowers, 2s per dozen ; Brussels sprouts, 1s to 1s 3d per half-sieve ; spinach, 2s per bushel ; carrots, 2s ; turnips, 3s 3d ; parsley, 1s 6d per dozen bunches ; celery, 12s to 15s per dozen ; horseradish, 1s per bundle. Potatoes.—Market-pegs, 11os ; Dates, 80s to 90s ; Imperators, 70s to 80s ; Reading Giants, 80s per ton ; German Saxons, 3s 6d to 3s 6d ; Belgian Markers, 2s 6d to 3s 3d per bag. Fruit.—English apples, 4s to 8s per bushel ; Belgian, 6d to 1s per lb. ; Americans, 13s to 16s per case ; English apples, 3s to 6s per bushel ; Nova Scotias, 15s to 18s per barrel ; English pears, 3s to 8s per bushel ; Californians, 4s to 8s per half-case ; pomegranates, 2s to 2s per dozen ; melons, 1s to 2s each ; tomatoes, 12s to 18s per case ; pine-apples, 2s to 12s per dozen ; pine-apples, 1s 6d to 4s each ; bananas, 5s to 10s per bunch ; chestnuts, 8s to 10s ; Greenoble walnuts, 10s to 14s per sack.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The aspect of the early-sown wheat and rye is thoroughly satisfactory, but the wet state of the surface soil prohibits further ploughing, sowing, and drilling in the majority of instances. The threshings have mostly been of barley; there is too much stained grain offered just now, and there is a general over-supply of medium qualities. Foreign crop news includes favourable reports on the appearance of September-October sown grain in France and Germany, but from South-Eastern Europe the information received indicates that a serious area of autumn corn land will need re-sowing in the spring. The United States have seldom had so favourable an autumn for the winter wheat, which was sown in good time, germinated well, and is now of first-rate aspect. Argentina will soon be reaping the wheat crop of the year, but it is not likely that the fine yield of last season will be equalled. The different cabled messages really resolve themselves for the most part into the question, Will the increased area sown, with its good proportion of virgin soil, balance the decrease in the yield per acre on the older lands? There are no means of getting at the areas sown, and the average yield per acre is an almost equally moot point.

The markets of the past week have been dull for English wheat, which has been firm at twenty leading exchanges out of thirty, but 6d. cheaper at the other ten. The samples are not numerous for the time of year, and there is no undue pressure on sale; but the damp lots predominate and impart a poor tone to the whole trade. There is a good deal of new wheat being fed to poultry and also mixed with rations for the animals of the farm. This will reduce the total to be sent to the mill. The Argentine wheat on offer is not as clean as it might be, and prices are irregular in consequence. American wheat is depressed owing mainly to the cheapness of American flour. Millers who buy the wheat and mix it with English find that they cannot easily sell the resultant flour for the prices accepted for corresponding grades of American. New Zealand wheat finds favour for the long berry variety, and Australian wheat has this autumn asserted a clear price supremacy over Californian. North German wheat is on fuller offer than has been the case for years, and the samples are good value at the moderate price (it averages about 29s.) which is asked. Not only is London well supplied, but Ipswich, Yarmouth, Lynn, and Hull are feeding Suffolk, Norfolk, the Eastern Midlands, and the N.E. of England with a useful type in competition with local produce.

The imports of the week have been as follows:—

	12 Chief Ports.	All Ports.
Wheat, qrs.	259,000	341,000
Barley ,,	126,000	142,000
Oats ,,	127,000	137,000
Beans ,,	9,000	9,250
Peas ,,	13,000	14,000
Linseed ,,	22,000	?
Maize ,,	216,000	278,000
Flour, sacks	181,000	203,000

These figures show that while foreign flour, barley, oats, and pulse are still for the most part only bought by the great cities, the sales of foreign wheat and maize are penetrating by fifty minor ports (or more) into the local and rural districts hitherto sacred to home-grown corn. The absence of linseed returns from the whole list of ports will be noted, but the Government, in issuing monthly and not weekly figures, are, we think, justified. The imports of oilseeds into minor ports are quite trivial, and, in fact, the five ports of London, Hull, Liverpool, Glasgow, and Bristol practically monopolise this branch of the import trade.

The sales of all sorts of breadstuffs last week, including English, exceeded estimated wants, so that stocks in granary, which on 17th inst. were put at 3,125,000 qrs., are put for the 24th at 3,164,000 qrs.

There are now on passage to the U.K.:—

	Qrs.
Californian Wheat	925,000
American ,,	240,000
Argentine ,,	180,000
Russian ,,	90,000
Other Countries	225,000
Nov. 24, 1900	1,660,000
A Year Ago	1,555,000

The quantity of barley on passage is now 565,000 qrs, against 700,000 qrs. a year ago. Present expectations are thus made up:—

	Qrs.
Californian brewing	306,000
Smyrna ,,	50,000
Russian feeding	77,000
American ,,	20,000
Unclassified	112,000
Total	565,000

About half of the unclassified is Persian cheap light feeding barley. None of the fine brewing barley of Chili is on passage.

Of maize the following quantities are afloat:—

	Qrs.
Nov. 24, 1900	650,000
1899	1,195,000
1898	750,000

The present expectations are moderate, and this has enabled holders to put a firm front on what has been until quite recently a sluggish November trade.

The imports of this staple for the forty-six completed weeks of the civil or ordinary year thus compare:—

	Qrs.
1900	10,675,000
1899	12,644,000
1898	11,293,000

Stocks of maize in granary are believed to be small. The current rate of consumption was put at 750,000 qrs. a month in 1895, but many good judges think that fully a million qrs. a month are now used, and the figures above given support this view.

The fact that the estate of the late Mr. Polson has been sworn at £350,000 personalty will surprise no one who has watched the colossal progress made by the trade in maize meal, maize germ meal, hominy feed, corn flour, and the other products of the ground maize grain. Mr. Polson was a pioneer of this trade a quarter of a century ago, but the greatest progress has been made since 1895. Last week in London alone there were received 27,000 cwt. of maize germ meal, 40 cwt. of hominy, 321 cwt. of "American meal," and 51,015 qrs. of maize itself, and it is only the actual maize which is officially reported in the market returns. The demand is constant, the prices are by no means very low, and the new meal has evidently come to stay.

Passing to the seed trade, we may note that the best canaryseed is 2s. dearer on the fortnight, but other sorts of bird seeds are scarcely changed. The best new red English cloverseed realises 75s. per cwt., the best white 78s., and the best Alsyke 80s. How much the seed trade depends upon the sample may be seen from the fact that by no means inferior firms are supplying these seeds at 45s., 50s., and 55s. respectively. But the quantity required to sow an acre is so moderate that "the best and the best only" is the one true policy.

There have recently been good supplies of peas, and with an excellent choice from best to cheapest a very fair business has been put through. Fine large handpicked marrowfat peas top the market at £4 per qr.; unpicked, at a sovereign less, have not been neglected. Dutch peas fetch up to 77s. for the very finest, which are little below the best English in merit. A very good type of pea known as the "Dutch Crown" has been the subject of a steady sale at £3 per qr. New Zealand has recently sent us peas worth 3 guineas per qr., but the supply from this fine colony is never large. Haricot beans are selling pretty well. The finest Italian and Dutch sorts are known as "Cocos," and fetch 60s. and upwards, but excellent hand-picked meeting all usual wants are to be had at 50s., and the good small Hungarian at 43s. are not to be neglected. From Chilé, which sends nowadays so much less to Mark Lane than of yore, come some excellent haricots, for which 47s. to 48s. is demanded. An increased supply of lentils has rendered holders more willing than formerly to meet buyers' ideas, and an augmented business is now resulting. We may quote split Egyptian at 13s. per cwt., and Spanish at 15s., while Indian split are hardly offered. The chief arrivals have been Egyptian. Locust beans are in good supply from the Mediterranean.

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	260,000	147,000	483,000	12,000	35,000
Russia	274,000	—	6,000	170,000	150,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria Hungary ..	—	20,000	—	—	—
Roumania	180,000	—	60,000	10,000	—
Argentina	91,000	—	50,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia ..	—	—	—	—	5,000
Miscellaneous ..	30,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	835,000	177,000	619,000	212,000	203,000

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.
September 1	(per sack) 28 6	(per sack)	25 6
October 1	,, 29 0	,,	26 0
October 29	,, 28 6	,,	25 6

(No official change since last date given).

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900. s. d.

Sept. 1, 1900 .....(per sack) 30 0

(No official change since last date given).

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was firm, but until November is out no real business is to be anticipated. Finest new white English made 32s., and a very excellent sample went for 31s. The ordinary new red wheat was offered at 29s. or thereabouts. Weight is very fair, but condition is still mostly damp. The foreign wheat most in request was North German and North Russian, while Kansas is offered cheaper than other American kinds while showing uncommonly good value for the money. Finest Australian at 32s. was not without purchasers, in small quantity, of course. Maize was rather dearer on the week for all sorts. Fine and undamaged Argentine, being scarce, made 23s. without difficulty. The market for Indian corn is strongest on the retail side, but a good business on the whole is passing. Feeding barley was 3d. dearer, but no advance could be quoted on malting. Oats were in improved request, and 3d. more money was frequently obtained. Other sales included Saffi canaryseed at 37s., Canadian buckwheat at 28s., torrified barley at 23s. 9d., and Canadian linseed at 63s.; all per quarter.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Nov. 26th, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 33
(old)	,,	32	— 33
Red (new)	,,	28	— 31
(old)	,,	29	— 32
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	31	— 38
Brewing	,,	26	— 31
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, New Winter	,,	19	— 20
,, ,, Tartary	,,	18/6	—19
,, ,, White	,,	18	—18/6
,, Old Winter	,,	21	— 23
,, ,, Tartary	,,	20	— 21
Scotch	,,	21	— 23
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	40	— 44
,, Winter	,,	29	— 33
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	— 76
,, Dun	,,	31	— 33
,, Maple	,,	38	— 42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	33	— 34
American Spring	32	— 33
Hard Manitoba	32	— 33
Red Winter	31	— 32
Kansas	31	— 32
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30	— 31
Australian	30	— 31
New Zealand	29	— 31
Argentine	29	— 32
Danzig	33	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Petersburg	30	— 31
German	29	— 30
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Hard Taganrog	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480lb.:		
Cinquantina	27	— 29
Roumanian	25	— 26
Russian	25	— 26
Argentine	22	— 23
American	22	— 23
OATS:		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	15	— 16
American (320lb.)	14	— 16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
St. Petersburg (304lb)	14	—15
Libau white (304lb.)	13	— 14
,, black ,,	14	— 15
BEANS, per 480lb.:		
Egyptian	32	— 33
Smyrna	29	— 30
Konigsberg	29	— 31
Barbary	27	— 28
Mexican	28	— 30
New Zealand	31	— 35
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	100	— 102
Cyprian	106	— 112
,, Ground	138	— 144
Portuguese	101	— 103
,, Ground	118	— 120
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Dutch	57	— 77
Canadian, White	29	— 30
Indian, White	28	— 30
Barbary	26	— 28
Australian, White	40	— 41
,, Dun	26	— 27
New Zealand	44	— 64
LENTILS, per cwt:		
Spanish, Split	15	— 16
Egyptian, Split	12	— 14
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	27	— 28
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb.:		
French	27	— 28
Russian	27	— 28
Canadian	28	— 29
BARLEY:		
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 27
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 23
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Turkish (400lb.)	20	— 21
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Syrian (400 lb.)	24	— 27
Persian (400 lb.)	18	—18/3
American (400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb.		
Californian	35	— 40
Smyrna	34	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED.	per 416lb. s.	s.
English	58	to 60
Dutch	61	to 63
Argentine	54	to 56
Canadian	60	to 62
Russian	54	to 56
Calcutta	60	to 62
SESAME.	per 424lb.	
Bombay	49	to 51
Kurrachee	52	to 53
COTTON SEED.	per ton.	
Egyptian	140	to 142

RAPESEED.	per 416lb. s.	s.
English	55	to 59
Dutch	53	to 56
French	46	to 47
Roumanian	43	to 45
Cawnpore	45	to 46
Calcutta	42	to 43
Guzerat	49	to 50
Ferozepore	43	to 44
Ravison	32	to 34
POPPYSEED.	per 377lb.	
Indian	48	to 49

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE MARKET DID NOT IMPROVE AFTER 1.30, BUT THERE WAS NO LOSS OF THE SMALL PRICE ADVANCES MADE DURING THE FIRST TWO HOURS OF BUSINESS.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Nov. 26th.

The demand from bakers shows an improvement on last week. There is little change in the price of London makes, but sales are less difficult from the 19th. Cascadia, at 23s. 9d. to 24s., tied in value with good country patents, though some special fancy makes from East Anglia were quoted 26s. per sack. American patents, like the best from the Washburn, Pillsbury, and Morrison mills, were at 25s. or thereabouts. The advices from America come fairly strong to-day, and many operators look for 1s. recovery on this side of Christmas. Choice country bran made 117s., and good broad 106s. per ton on rail. Maize flour, at 16s. 9d. per sack, was in improved request. Other sales included special maize cones at 19s. and ordinary at 18s. per sack.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)		— 30
Town Whites	„		— 27
„ Households	„		— 24
No. 2	„		— 22

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24	— 26
Fine Roller made	„	23	— 24
Ordinary Roller made	„	22	— 23
Best Stone made	„	21	— 22
Ordinary Stone made	„	20	— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25	—25/6
„ Second Patents	„	23	— 24
„ First Bakers'	„	20	— 21
„ Second Bakers'	„	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	„	25	—25/6
„ Bakers'	„	21	— 23
Kansas Patent	„	23	— 24
„ Bakers'	„	18	— 20
Cascadia	„	23/9	—24
Canadian	„	25	—25/6
Australian Patents	„	22	— 23
„ Ordinary	„	19	— 20
Hungarian	„	28	— 31
French	„	21	— 24

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	188	—192
Wheat Germ Meal	„	112	—114
Bran, London Broad	„	104	—106
„ „ Fine	„	93	—95
„ Country Flake	„	105	—108
„ „ Broad	„	103	—104
Pollard	„	92	— 94
Fine Middlings	„	126	—130
Coarse Middlings	„	105	—107
Oat Meal	„	220	—230
Oat Flour	„	340	—360
Maize Flour	„	132	—134
Maize Meal	„	110	—120
Maize Cones	„	144	—150
Maize Germ Meal	„	105	—107
Pea Meal	„	130	—150
Bean Meal	„	140	—160
Rice Meal	„	90	— 95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—	Nov.	Dec.	March.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Nov. 19 11 a.m.	6 6	6 .. 6	.. 6 8
4 p.m.	6 6	6 .. 6	.. 6 8
Nov. 20 11 a.m.	6 6	6 .. 6	.. 6 8
4 p.m.	6 6	6 .. 6	.. 6 8
Nov. 21 11 a.m.	6 6	6 .. 6	.. 6 8
4 p.m.	6 6	6 .. 6	.. 6 8
Nov. 22 11 a.m.	6 6	6 .. 6	.. 6 8
4 p.m.	6 6	6 .. 6	.. 6 9
Nov. 23 11 a.m.	6 6	6 .. 6	.. 6 9
4 p.m.	6 6	6 .. 6	.. 6 8
Nov. 24 11 a.m.	6 6	6 .. 6	.. 6 9
To-day 11 a.m.	6 6	6 .. 6	7 .. 6 8

A few transactions were put through at 6s. 9d. per cental for June delivery. Maize made 4s. 3d. per cental for December, 3s. 10d. for Spring delivery.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 *minimum* and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 3,080 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 7,903 bales bacon. The market has been a very firm one for all bacon, and particularly so for Irish and Danish, both of which were in very short supply. Canadian was in much larger supply, but sold well at about previous rates. Irish, 56s to 62s. ; Danish, 56s to 62s ; Canadian, 52s, 56s, up to 58s. There was a firmer tone about the butter market, and all fine butter was in good demand. Danish, 122s to 124s ; Colonial, 104s to 108s, up to 110s ; Canadian, 98s to 102s. Lard unchanged.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

Flour.—A quiet trade at last week's prices.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

Arrivals moderate. Wheat prices fully maintained. Flour held at late prices. Maize 3d. per qr. dearer. Barley and oats unchanged.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

A very small trade is being done to-day in milling offals at current rates.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Offals : For prompt delivery even lower prices than those of last week have been accepted for small brans. Weather now colder, consequently tone firmer ; sellers in some instances advancing 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton. No change in broad brans, for which a moderately steady demand continues. —GREENHILL BROS., Belfast, November 24.

Flour.—The sale of flour is extremely slow, and prices decidedly in buyers' favour. Grain.—Indian corn firm at 1½d. per boll decline on the week. Beans dull. Oats in good demand at firmer prices. Barley quiet. Oatmeal in improved demand. Peas are now in smaller supply, and 1½d. to 3d. per boll higher. Mill stuffs.—Bran rather easier. Thirds unchanged. —MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, November 24.

Wheat firm with a fair consumptive business at full prices to ½d. per cental advance. Flour steady with only a very small business passing at last Tuesday's prices for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association also make no change in the minimum price of bakers. Maize has experienced a good consumptive demand with mixed American, making 2d. per cental. White and yellow 1d. to 1½d. per cental over Tuesday's prices. European is scarce, and has a fair trade at ½d. to 1d. advance. A better demand exists for Plate, and is making ½d. to 1d. advance. Barley is unaltered for malting, but a slight improvement is noted in the demand for better brewing sorts ; feeding is firmer with a fair inquiry, at ½d. per cental improvement on Tuesday's currencies. Beans are slow and easier for Saidi, whilst a rather better demand is experienced for flat sorts, at 3d. per qr advance. Peas steady, but quiet at unchanged prices. Oats steady, but quiet at about late rates for English. Foreign sorts are quiet at unchanged values. Oatmeal steady, but not active at quotations. Oilcake firm with only a moderate demand ; prices about the same as last market day.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, November 24.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes, though somewhat better on the week, are not improved from Saturday. The forward market is less strong. The maize market is stiff for all cargoes likely to arrive before the end of January. Both oats and barley show a harden ing tendency.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.— Oregon, 30s 9d, arrived ; Californian, 30s arrived ; Walla Walla, 29s 3d, arrived ; South Australian, 30s 3d, on passage ; Odessa Ghirka, 29s 6d, on passage ; North German, 29s, on passage ; No. 2 Red Winter, 30s, on passage ; No. 2 Hard winter, 29s, on passage ; No. 2 Hard Winter, 28s 9d, December shipment ; best Manitoba, 33s, December shipment; No. 1 Northern, 31s 3d, December shipment ; No. 2 Calcutta, 30s, May shipment.

MAIZE.—American, 18s 6d, January shipment ; Galatz, 19s 6d, May shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 18s 6d, May shipment ; Persian, 17s, on passage.

OATS.—Petersburg, 13s 9d, December shipment ; Canadian, 14s 3d, December shipment.

BEANS.—Saida, 29s, December shipment.

LINSEED.—Libau, 54s 6d, December shipment.

COTTONSEED —Egyptian, £7 1s 3d, arrived.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report : There has been a considerable business done during the past week, as from merchants to brewers, with the natural result that there is a much better inquiry on the open market.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake : Market dull, nominall unaltered. Cotton cake 2s 6d lower. Decorticated as last Linseed has fluctuated a good deal, but leaves off steady.

English linseed cake	£8 10 0	to £8 15 0	ex mill
American Calcutta linseed cake..	None		ex quay
American Western linseed cake..	7 15 0	to 7 17 6	ex quay
Russian oil cake	7 15 0	to 8 0 0	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. oil)	6 15 0	—	ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	none	—	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	none	—	ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	5 0 0	to 5 2 6	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4 15 0	to 4 17 6	ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4 12 6		on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4 10 0	—	ex warehouse
Russian linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2 15 0	to 2 17 0	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	3 1 0	—	ex warehouse
American linseed in bulk, per 416lb	2 15 0	—	ex warehouse.

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington

Monday Nov 26th, Total, Nov. 27th, 1899.

	British			
Beasts	1,760	.....	1,760	—
Sheep and lambs	7,260	.....	7,260	—
Calves	10	.....	10	—
Pigs	30	.....	30	—
Milch cows	20	.....	20	—

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

	ENGLISH. Inferior	Second	Best
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	3 10	4 2	4 6
Sheep	4 0	—	—
Pigs	2 10 ..	3 10 ..	4 6

Milch cows, per head £17 to £

British arrivals include as follows :—Scotland, — ; East Counties, 207 ; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,313 ; Devon, 50 ; Ireland, 162.

In the beast market there was an increase of 1,760 head compared with Monday last. The arrivals from Scotland were stronger. For both prime and second qualities rates were 2d. to 4d. per 8lbs. lower, though trade was slow ; other descriptions were about 2d. per 8lbs. lower. In the fat cattle entering cows there was more inquiry, and sales were easily effected. Amongst the Irish arrivals were included fourteen stores (yearlings), which were quoted at from £6 to £7 10s per head.

The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal) :—

	To-day.	Nov. 27th, 1899.
Scotch	4s 8d to 4s 10d	.. 4s 8d to 4s 10d
Devons	4s 7d to 4s 9d	.. — to —
Herefords	4s 8d to 4s 10d	.. 4s 5d to 4s 7d
Norfolks	4s 6d to 4s 8d	.. 4s 6d to 4s 8d
Runts	4s 6d to 4s 8d	.. 4s 5d to 4s 7d
Lincolns	4s 2d to 4s 6d	.. 4s 0d to 4s 4d
Irish	4s 2d to 4s 4d	.. 4s 2d to 4s 4d
Highland Scots	4s 4d to 4s 6d	.. — to —
Fat cows	3s 8d to 3s 10d	.. 3s 8d to 3s 10d

In the sheep market there was an increase of 650 compared with Monday last ; trade for both wethers and ewes was very dull at a decline of 2d per 8lb, a clearance of the latter not expected. A few lambs were on offer, but met with little inquiry. The supply included about 200 Scotch, 770 Irish, and 1,470 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned :—

	To-day.	Nov. 27th, 1899.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	.. 5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-stone ditto	5s 4d to 5s 6d	.. 5s 6d to 5s 8d
10-stone half-breds	5s 0d to 5s 2d	.. 5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-stone Lincolns	— to —	.. 4s 8d to 4s 10d
10-stone Irish	4s 10d to 5s 0d	.. 4s 8d to 4s 10d
10-stone Down ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	.. 3s 10d to 4s 0d
12-stone half-bred	4s 10d to 5s 0d	.. — to —

Trade for pigs, with a small supply, was slow, but rates ruled firm. Best small breeds made 4s 6d per 8lb.

London Central, Monday.—Good supplies, trade slow. Beef : Carcases, 3s 9d to 3s 10d ; hindquarters, 4s 2d to 4s 6d ; roastings, 5s to 5s 4d. Sheep : Ewes, 3s to 3s 2d ; wethers, 4s to 4s 2d ; hindquarters, ewe, 4s to 4s 4d ; wether, 5s 2d to 5s 6d. Pigs, large, 3s 2d to 3s 6d ; small, 3s 8d to 4s.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 800 ; sheep, 1,100 ; pigs, 509 ; horses, 42. Beef, 7s to 8s ; mutton, 7s to 9s 11d ; pork, 6s to 7s. Fat and store cattle, sheep and pigs fair trade. Milch cows fair show and made prices £13 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 261. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 1,285, and consisted entirely of shipments from Canada the majority of which were of poor quality. Owing to the small number on offer not being sufficient to cause much competition trade was of a very dragging nature at about last week's rates. The following were the quotations per 8lb, best on offer 3s 9d, and occasionally 3s 10d ; plain ditto, 3s 5d Sheep 172, consisting of Canadians ; quotations and trade not worth noting. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates :— Beasts, 1,066, 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 8lbs, to dress about 720 lbs. Sheep, 986, 4s per 8lbs to dress from 68 lbs to 72lbs.

Liverpool, Monday.—Demand for beef slow but firm, prime quality scarce, and making full rates, other classes also easier to sell. Sheep trade slow, and prices unchanged from last week. Beef, 6¾d to 7¾d per lb ; mutton, 8½d to 9½d per lb. At market: 1,536 cattle and 6,236 sheep.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that a very quiet tone now characterises the seed trade. Sowing requirements are now, naturally, few and small, whilst no speculative movement of any importance has yet developed itself. Quotations all round, as regards clovers and grass seeds, are, in the absence of business, without material alteration. There is at present but little inquiry for rye and tares. Full prices, meantime, are asked for rape-seed. In canaryseed the tendency continues upwards ; stocks everywhere proceedingly light ; hempseed, on the other hand, favours buyers. Blue peas and hrr'cots move off slowly on former terms. The few choice long-pod beans now obtainable meet with a ready sale. New scarlet runners of good quality are now offering at moderate rates.

Peterborough Corn Market —Wheat in moderate supply. Trade was just steady at last week's prices. Barley firm, June samples rather dearer. Oats made fully late rates.

Darlington Statute Hirings. On Tuesday the town was very full. There was a great dearth of female servants, and wages ruled high. Dairy women commanded £18 to £20, good domestic servants £13 to £15, young girls £8 to £10 each. Men were also difficult to get, and first-class managing men obtained £28 to £30, ordinary men of experience £25 to £24, young men £18 to £20, strong youths and ploughboys £13 to £16 each, and young boys £8 to £10.

Farmer Starves two Horses to Death.—At Liverpool on Wednesday a farmer named Henry Barton was sent to gaol for three months, and ordered to pay £5 10s. costs, or to suffer further months imprisonment, for starving two horses to death. A veterinary surgeon, who examined the carcases, gave a shocking description of the treatment to which the poor beasts had been subjected. They had eaten the manger in order to satisfy hunger. The prisoner, when arrested, had £60 in his pocket. He had been previously convicted.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Though the supply of fat beasts at Islington was smaller, trade for both prime and second quality ruled slower. Rates for the former showed practically no alteration in regard to value, though for the latter as well as for middling descriptions rates were decidedly lower, notwithstanding which on Monday a clearance could not be made, a good many being turned out unsold, and for which on Thursday there was no demand. Fat butchering cows met with more inquiry, and therefore made more money, as also did fat bulls, the reason being a short supply. Middling sorts, however, showed no improvement. It should here be noted that the season for consignments from the Midland counties is now drawing to a close, thus marking the opening for Norfolks, which will now take precedence, combined with Scotch arrivals —that is, if higher rates are obtainable; otherwise the latter will come short. At the Foreign Cattle Market there was a decrease of 1,920 in the number sold, compared with last week. Here rates ruled rather firmer, especially for the best States cattle, those from Canada being chiefly of ordinary descriptions. The total number offered for sale on both markets was 4,551—previous week, 6,421—consisting of 1,860 British—increase, 50—and 2,691 foreign —decrease, 1,920. These latter comprised 2,077 from the United States and 614 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—86 to 90-stone polled Aberdeens, 4s. 11d.; 90-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d.; 80-stone Devons, 4s. 9d.; 90-stone Runts, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.; 100-stone Norfolks, 4s. 10d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 95-stone Irish, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 3d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 5d.; 85 to 90-stone Canadians, 3s. 9d. to 3s. 11d.; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 10d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 6d. The supply of sheep was confined to the Islington market, and for which trade was decidedly slower at fully 2d. per 8lb. less money on Monday, with a still further decline on Thursday, on which day but few transactions were recorded. Ewes about held their own, whilst for the few lambs on sale there was but little inquiry. The total number penned was 7,270 (previous week, 8,137). Best pens made per 8lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 10d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d.; 12-stone ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 10-stone Irish, 5s.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. Only thirty calves on sale, and these were difficult to cash, the best making 5s. 4d. per 8lb. A full supply of pigs (440), with less demand at lower rates. Best Small breeds were quoted at from 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.

Trade in the West.

Trade has again become more active, especially for stores, and dealers are buying freely of the better-class bullocks at a rise of quite 10s. to 15s. a head, the best of which are now making £24 to £30 per pair for finishing off and from £18 to £23 for animals that will require a little longer doing. The milch beast trade is also decidedly better, heavy-milking heifers making £18 to £21 each and the older grades of milchers £14 to £17. In-calvers are also commanding a very active sale, as also are all kinds of young stock. Fat bullocks, despite the approach of Christmas, are scarcely so firm a trade as they were, but mutton, on the other hand, is rather against buyers, as is the case also with veal. Pigs are scarce, bringing as much as they were, except the very neatest weights.

Trade in Ireland.

The number of indifferent, half-finished beasts was very large at Thursday's Dublin market, and quite in excess of demand, so that salesmen found it very hard to effect a clearance. Heavy arrivals of American and Canadian cattle at Birkenhead during the week had a bad effect on Irish trade. Best ox and heifer beef made from 52s. 6d. to 56s. per cwt., and in a few cases 57s. 6d. was touched for extra good lots; second-class beef, 46s. to 50s.; other sorts from 40s. to 44s. per cwt. In the mutton department there was a fair demand for good class hoggets for the English markets at late rates. Best wether mutton was worth from 6d. to 6½d., and in a few cases another ¼d. per lb. was given; ewe, 4½d. to 5¾d. There were a good many more calves on the market, but not of the right sort. The few choice veal calves sold made up to 8½d. per lb., but the rough sorts fetched very little over half that. Prime milchers scarce, and extra springers were picked up actively at from £20 to £24. The commoner descriptions of milch cows also went off freely. There was a limited supply of pork and the market was a brisk one, and prices jumped up fully 3s. per cwt., and an early clearance was made. Ham and middle pigs, 42s. to 44s. per cwt.; heavy bacon and shipping, 41s. to 44s; coarse, 30s. to 38s.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The supplies of fat cattle on offer this week have been large and the quality generally good. The best class of bullocks have met rather a better demand, all classes being easily cashed at good prices. Fat cows, of which there has been an exceedingly good show, have met a dear trade. The supply of fat sheep was about equal to that of last week. There have been considerably more buyers forward, and the trade was sharp at an advance in price of fully 2s. a head over the previous weeks; this would be both for shop sheep and ewes. A larger show of fat calves met a dead trade, and the largest number of fat pigs that has been offered for some weeks made late rates. In the store market there has been exceedingly little doing. Very few sheep were on offer, and there has been a better inquiry for the best class of ewes and wethers. There was also a very small number of store cattle on offer, but as is usual the week between "Hallow Fair" and "Big Wednesday" there has been very little demand, and the majority of cattle were unsold. A small show of milch cows met a slow trade except for the best class, which were very dear. Quotations:—Top price best beef, 8s. 3d. to over 8s. 6d. per stone; current, 8s. to 8s. 3d. Mutton from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies, but trade slow. Arrivals of beef included 45 tons Scotch, 510 Liverpool sides, 1,400 hindquarters, and 640 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations:—Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 4s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 9d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 2d; and Dutch, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Good supplies, but trade without improvement. Arrivals of beef included 100 tons Scotch, 370 Liverpool sides, 3,500 hindquarters, and 2,400 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; long, 4s to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 8d to 2s 9d; New Zealand hindquarters, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 4d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; Canterbury, 2s 9d to 3s; Wellington, 2s 7d to 2s 9d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 5d to 2s 6d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; Dutch, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; and Irish, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Larger supply of beasts than for some time past, and better descriptions met steady demand, fat bulls and rough cattle, however, ruling slow. A small supply of sheep was penned, but trade for both wethers and ewes made slow progress, at about late prices. Quotations:—7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 10d to 6s; 9-stone ditto, 5s 8d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. Calf trade rules steady, the best on offer making 5s 6d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Pig trade quiet, and prices in buyers' favour. Total supplies:—230 beasts, 690 sheep, 20 calves, 310 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef a fair trade, best making 11s to 11s 6d per score, secondary animals, 10s to 11s. Mutton not quite so good, some selling to go home for a week, small Kents and half-breds, 4s 10d to 5s 4d per stone; larger wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; barrens, 3s 6d to 4s. Veal not so dear, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Pork about same; roasters, 11s to 11s 6d; big hogs about 6d score dearer; small pigs, 10s to 11s 6d.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' saleyard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 42 fat beasts, 50 calves, 392 fat sheep, 344 pigs, and 64 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £13 10s to £22; fat calves, 70s to 95s; small, 20s to 50s; fat wethers, 32s to 58s; fat ewes, 29s to 39s 6d; fat hogs, 65s to 87s; porkers, 46s to 62s 6d; smaller, 29s 6d to 44s; store pigs, 11s to 21s 6d; dairy cows, £8 to £17 10s. For fat beasts of prime quality there was a brisk trade, and a clearance effected and more money made; other grades maintained late rates. Prime quality Devon steers made up to £22; and heifers, £19 5s; Shorthorn steers, £18 15s; heifers, £16 5s; cows, up to £20 5s. A clearance made of the supply of fat sheep, with an advance on the choice lots of the size and quality to suit the buyer. Heavy sheep made late rates. Prime Hampshire Down wethers and young ewes made 43s 6d, 44s, 40s, 42s, 58s, 55s, 46s, 50s; ten-months-old ditto, 47s, 53s 6d, 55s 6d, 52s, 40s, 35s, 46s 6d, 47s, 45s 6d, 42s, 48s 6d, 46s; Exmoors, 32s; old ewes, 29s, 30s, 31s, 39s 6d, 35s; rams, 48s, 36s, 34s, 45s, 30s. Good milk cows and heifers are in demand, and those on offer to-day realised good prices. Store cattle met a fair inquiry. Fat calves were cleared at a trifle under last week's prices. Fat hogs met a brisk trade. Fat porkers sold readily at an advance all round in prices. Store pigs showed a better trade. Ruling values:—Prime quality Devon beasts, 7d to 7¼d per lb; ditto Shorthorns, 6d to 6¾d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5½d to 6d; best quality sheep, 8½d to 9d; second ditto, 7¾d to 8¼d; old ewes, rams, and inferior ditto, 5½d to 6½d; fat calves, 6d to 8½d; fat hogs, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; porkers, 10s 6d to 11s 6d; and sows, up to 7s 6d per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—A short supply of useful beasts, and a quiet trade, except for best, which made 7s 6d to 8s; and cow beef, 6s to 6s 6d per stone. Stores, £9 to £15; in-calvers, £20 to £22; heifers, £15 to £17 10s; calves, 60s to 65s each. Wether mutton, 7½d to 8d, and ewe mutton, 5½d to 6½d per lb. Store lambs, 34s to 38s each.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2¼ in. and under..	9s 0d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¼ in.	8s 6d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in.	7s 9d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND Co., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 912; sheep, 467; pigs, 482; horses, 24. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 4s to 5s 6d; pork, 6s 9d to 7s 6d. A large show store beast, better trade, all sold. Fat beast, a good number to hand, prices quite up to last week. Fat sheep, a little better trade. Stores, very few to hand. Fat pigs, a good brisk trade all round. Stores, fair trade for all classes. Hay, straw, and roots short supplies, and good trade.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A very small supply of sheep, and but little trade. Several lots of Irish calves were sold at from £6 to £6 7s 6d, while yearling bullocks made from £7 10s to £8 10s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—About 300 Irish store cattle were exhibited, there being a good show for the season. The bulk of the cattle were wintering and stall-feeding heifers, and there were also a number of good polled bullocks. The attendance was small, and trade slow. Heifer stirks realised £6 10s to £8 10s; wintering heifers, £11 10s to £12 10s; stall feeding, £13 10s to £15 10s; polled bullocks, to £15 10s. Young pigs a small show and a clearance at 24s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—There was a heavy offer of stock, especially of barreners, for the most of which there was a very brisk sale at prices showing some advance over recent sales. More ordinary runs also sold well, prices being maintained for anything of a useful stamp. The milch beast trade was also marked by considerable activity, best young milchers making up to £20. Fat beef met a steady sale at about late rates. Sheep through scarcity ruled firm.

Dublin, Thursday.—Well-sustained demand for all prime finished cattle at somewhat better prices. Rough and unfinished sorts more inquired for, and a better clearance effected; but quotations show no alteration. Shipping qualities of sheep in fair demand at last week's prices. Heavy aged wethers more difficult to place at prices favouring buyers. Cattle (best), 30s to 33s per cwt; other descriptions, 26s to 29s per cwt. Mutton, 5½d to 6¾d per lb; extreme, 7d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND Co.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Good supplies met an active trade, prices for best descriptions having an upward tendency. Horned bullocks made up to £19; ditto heifers, to £17; polled bullocks, to £15 15s; ditto heifers to £14; Highland bullocks, to £18; cows, to £13 10s; Cheviot ewes, to 19s; and black-faced ewes, to 15s each.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Prices showed a downward tendency all round. For a large supply of beef there was rather a fluctuating trade; best quality realised not more than 6½d per lb, and secondary sorts 5d and upwards. Small supply of sheep, which met with little demand, best wethers not realising higher than 7¼d, and ewes from 5d to 6d. Calves also a small supply, selling readily at prices up to 8d. Large supply of pigs, which changed hands at late rates; porkers 5d to 6d, and baconers 4½d to 5d. Store cattle a weak trade, but fair demand for store lambs.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 822, calves 57, sheep and lambs 1,008, pigs (fat and sows) 30, sucking pigs 15, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 179, pigs (stores, more than ten) 127, horses 3. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 8½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robt. Bond and Sons report a short supply of fat cattle and plenty of buyers. Trade was again very brisk for stall-fed animals up to £23 15s. Fat sheep were not numerous; demand and values were about the same as last week. A large supply of calves, all the best for weaning purposes being in strong demand at high prices. Fat swine were well represented, but stores were short; all were in strong request at very satisfactory prices. A large entry of grazing cattle, the quality of which was remarkably good and including some choice lots of Cumberland and Westmoreland steers, also some good polled cattle. There were several buyers in attendance, and although the trade was not so good as last week, most of the lots changed hands. Several cows and heifers were offered and sold without alteration in value; shorthorn cows made up to £21. Mr. Alfred Smith's red polls were sold at the Drill Hall, an excellent trade resulting, heifers making up to 43 guineas; cows, 41 guineas; and bulls, 40 guineas. Numbers at sales and market:—Beasts 945, calves 53, sheep 2,359, pigs 1,250, horses 16.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Very heavy consignments of home-fed bullocks were available, but trade was rather slow for all except choice lots, and prices were 10s to 15s per head lower. Choice bullocks made 6¼d per lb; secondary, 5¾d to 6d; cows, 4¾d to 5¼d; heifers, 6d to 6¼d per lb. Sheep were a large supply, and choice wethers sold freely at 7¾d to 8d per lb; large sheep, 7d to 7¼d per lb; ewes, 5¼d to 6d per lb. Calves flat, at 7d to 7½d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—Full supplies of stock in excellent condition, moderate attendance, and trade sluggish at easier prices. Milch cows made £17 to £26 per head. Bullocks, £10 to £15 per head. Young stock neglected.

Lincoln, Tuesday.—There was an average supply of beasts, and a fair trade. Prime beef 7s to 7s 6d, lower qualities 6s 6d to 7s per stone. The number of sheep was small, and trade good. Ewe mutton 6d to 6¼d, wether ditto, 7¼d to 8¼d per lb.

Lincoln, Friday.—Average supply of milch beasts and store cattle, with very little trade doing. Milch beasts, £15 to £20; three-year-old stores, £14 to £15 10s; two-year-olds, £10 to £12; and young stock, £6 to £9. Very few sheep and lambs penned. Lambs, 28s to 34s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—There was a good show of beasts, and a fair trade. Young bullocks £10 to £13, cows £14 to £20. The supply of sheep was small, and trade only fair. Lambs 20s to 34s each.

Malton, Tuesday.—Cattle a good show, both numbers and quality. Best heifers and young bullocks about the same as last week; cows and coarse beef less money. For latter, 6s 6d to 7s, and for the former 7s 6d to 8s per stone was realised. Calves scarce, and sold well. In sheep, nice light-weights were very dear all round, making fully 8d; others, 6d to 7d per lb.

Market Drayton, Wednesday.—Quotations: Beef, prime small 6d to 7d per lb; large 6d to 6½d per lb. Mutton, wether 7¼d to 8¼d per lb; ewe 6¾d to 7¼d per lb. Veal 7d to 8d per lb. Porkets 8s 5d to 9s 6d per score. Bacon pigs 7s 6d to 8s 6d per score, heavy weights 6s 6d to 7s 6d per score.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Good market. Prices steady except for porkers; over plentiful, and 6d lower. Numbers:—Cattle, 2,163; sheep, 6,036; calves, 65; pigs, 1,331. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s to 8s; pork, 5s to 9s per stone: mutton, 5d to 8d: veal, 5d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—Large supply and brisk trade. Quotations:—Best beef, 6¾d to 6¾d per lb; seconds, 5½d to 6d: best wether mutton, 7½d to 7¾d; ewes, 6d to 6¼d; lamb, 8d; veal, 7d to 7¼d; porker pigs, 10s 3d to 10s 6d per score; bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 3d.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts here today was considerable; business was rather dull, but previous rates were about maintained. The supply of fat beasts was considerable; prices showed little change, ranging at from 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. Business in store sheep, which were in fair supply, was somewhat inactive; hoggets made 35s to 42s; and keeping shearlings, 40s to 45s per head. Fat sheep, which were offered to a fair extent, were quoted at 8s to 8s 6d and 9s per 14lb.

Preston, Wednesday.—Good attendance and very full supplies of all classes of stock. Business was much brisker than for some weeks past, and better prices were realised. There was a good demand for fat calves. Beef, heifers, and bullocks, 6d to 6¾d; cows and bulls, 5d to 5¾d; mutton, hoggs, and lambs, 7d to 7¾d; tups and ewes, 5¾d to 6¼d; calves, 6d to 8d. At the market—280 cattle, 2,000 sheep, and 80 calves.

Romford, Wednesday.—An average supply of fat beasts, and trade slow. Best animals made 4s 4d to 4s 6d, and

middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply, and trade dearer, at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in average supply, and trade about the same. Best sheep made 5s 4d to 5s 6d, and middlings 5s to 5s 2d per stone. A few store beasts on offer, but demand slow. A large supply of pigs, and trade more brisk, in consequence of the colder weather. Small porkers made 4s 4d to 4s 6d, and large hogs 3s 10s to 4s per stone.

Saffron Walden, Tuesday.—Sheep in short supply; good trade. Fat ewes made 50s 6d, wethers 67s 6d, hoggets 57s. Beasts in fair supply; good demand. Ripe Shorthorn heifers made £22, small Shorthorns and Devons £19 15s; milch cows sold up to £14, fat calves £3 17s 6d, and weaneis 44s. Pigs were in short supply, and quite as dear. Large hogs made up to £5, porkers 43s 6d, and stores 32s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—The show of milch beasts was only small. The best qualities had a quick sale, making £18 to £24; inferior lots, £10 to £15.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Fair trade all round at late prices. Small supplies of calves and sheep. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 7d; mutton, 6d to 8d; and veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s 6d; and bacons, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per score. Cows with calves, up to £23. Number offered:—939 cattle, 47 cows with calves, 907 sheep, 80 calves, 35 fat, 127 porket, and 563 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A good show of fat beasts and a very brisk trade. Best bullocks, 7s 6d to 8s per stone. Stores sold well, and cows and in-calvers were dear. There was a large show of sheep, and trade was slightly easier. The average price of mutton was 7½d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 241 cattle, 309 sheep, and 294 pigs. Best cattle, 7s 6d to 8s; rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s. Sheep, 8d; ewes, 6d; tups, 4d to 5d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Small supply, moderate attendance, and slow trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a fair supply of stock at market, and all the best quality met with a sharp trade. There was a good attendance of buyers, and, with few exceptions, all the consignments changed hands. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 101 fat beasts, and a few stores, 152 sheep, 73 fat and weaning calves, and 175 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £16 to £21 15s; fat heifers, £13 to £21; two-year-old barren heifers, £8 to £9 15s; fat wether sheep, 42s to 55s; fat ewes, 35s to 44s 6d; tegs, 30s to 43s; fat calves, £3 to £5 4s; cow calves, 23s to 65s; bull calves, 19s to 47s; fat pigs, 10s per score. Stores made late prices.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—A very slow trade for both beef and mutton, there being a small attendance, with buyers slow to operate. Beef from 5d to 6¼d per lb; small sheep made only 8d, with other qualities 5d to 7½d. Numbers penned—Fat beasts, 1,763; sheep, 2,804.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—There was a good supply of beef, 1,763 beasts being on offer, against 1,598 last week. With the exception of a few lots of Scotch cows and a pen of Lincolnshire bullocks the stock was from the best grazing districts in Ireland, and, generally speaking, the animals were in good condition. The beef trade ruled heavy, and notwithstanding the larger supply, last week's rates were well maintained. Choice heifers, 6¼d per lb; good useful beef, 6¼d; inferior lots, 5d to 6d. The supply of mutton was also larger than last week, 2,864 sheep being penned, against 2,675. The supply included about 30 pens of Irish sheep, and the remainder were from the North and East Ridings and the North of England. Choice young and small sheep changed hands at 8¼d to 8½d per lb; good strong sheep, 7½d to 8d; and ewes and tups, 5½d to 7d. Fat calves made from 6d to 8d per lb. There was a large show of milch cows, many of which were in good condition; a good trade was done, and prices were higher. Best milkers, £22 10s; inferior, £15 to £20. Lean beasts were freely offered, and they met with a steady demand at £11 to £13 10s each.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—There was a larger supply of beef, and prices were a little under last week's quotations, best qualities realising 6¼d per lb. There was a small show of sheep, and the trade in mutton was therefore brisker and better prices were realised; choice little sheep made 8½d; good strong sheep, 7½d; and ewes from 6d per lb; beasts penned 1,763; sheep 2,864.

Worcester, Saturday.—A fair supply of cattle and sheep, and a good entry of pigs. Calves scarce. Slow trade for beef and mutton without change in values. Calves wanted. Pigs, fair trade at late rates. Beef, 6d to 7d; inferior, 5½d to 6d; wether mutton, 8d; ewes, 6d; and veal, 8d per lb. Pork pigs, 10s; and bacons, 9s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—There was a better all round show of cattle than for some weeks, and prices ruled higher than usual, whilst the attendance of buyers was also good. Sheep were very dear, making to 66s per head. Beef, best, 7s 9d to 8s 6d; secondary, 7s to 7s 9d per stone. Best wether mutton, 9d; secondary, 6d to 7½d; ewes, 6d to 7d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—A sale of Canadian cattle was held in the forenoon, when there were penned in the sheds 243 cattle, landed by the Buenos Ayrean (s), from Montreal. Bullocks, as is generally the case, formed the greater proportion of the total number, while there were also a few bulls included in the shipment. The cattle, as regards quality, were up to the average, many of the beasts being very prime, and showed well. There was a good attendance of buyers, and business was of a better character than that ruling last week—a fact due to the short supply, and the more favourable weather. The deadweight quotations may be given as follows: Best bullocks, medium weight, 58s per cwt, and for really choice up to 60s; heavy prime, 56s; secondary and heavier, 54s; best bulls, to 50s; and secondary and heavier, 46s to 48s.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 7 for 1s. Gainsborough: 7 or 8 for 1s. Settle: 7 or 8 for 1s. Sheffield: 8 or 9 for 1s. Spalding: 7 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 6 or 7 for 1s. Boston: 6 or 7 for 1s. Colne: 2s 8d per score. Dorchester: 1s 2d to 1s 8d per dozen. Goole: 8 for 1s. Hereford: (retail), 8 to 10 for 1s. Keighley: (retail), 6 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 8 or 9 for 1s. Knaresborough: 6 or 7 for 1s. Louth (wholesale): 10 for 1s. Market Drayton: 6 or 7 for 1s. Market Weighton: 8 for 1s. Masham: 8 for 1s. Northallerton: 6 or 7 for 1s. Stockton: 6 or 7 for 1s. Whitby: 7 for 1s. Worksop: 3s to 3s 2d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 8 or 9 for 1s. Driffield: 10 for 1s. Kidderminster: 7 for 1s. Penistone: 8 for 1s. Ripon: 6 or 7 for 1s. Scarborough: 7 for 1s. Wetherby: 6 or 7 for 1s.

Friday.—Chester: 6 or 7 for 1s. Easingwold: 9 or 10 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 6s 6d to 7s 8d; Russian, 6s 3d to 8s. Helmsley: 7 or 8 for 1s. Derby: 6 and 7 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 18s to 20s per 120; Irish, 13s to 14s; Danish, 10s to 11s 6d; Austrian blues, 8s to 9s; ditto reds, 6s 3d to 6s 9d. Lincoln: 7 for 1s. Nantwich: 6 or 7 for 1s. Otley: 6 or 7 for 1s. Stockport: 5 or 6 for 1s.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 11d to 2s per roll of 24os. Gainsborough: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Settle: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Spalding: 1s to 1s 1d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Boston: 1s to 1s 2d per lb. Colne: 1s 2d per lb. Dorchester: 1s 1d to 1s 4d per lb. Goole: 1s 3d per lb. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s 2d per lb. Knaresborough: (wholesale), 1s 8d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz; (retail), 1s 11d to 2s. Louth: (wholesale), 1s 2½ per lb. Market Drayton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Masham: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 2s per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s to 1s 3d per lb. Whitby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Bristol: finest Canadian, 108s; dairies, 96s to 98s. Driffield: 1s per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d per lb. Penistone: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per single roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb.

Friday.—Altrincham: Best makes, 1s 6d per lb. Chester: 1s 3d per lb. Crewe: 1s 3d per lb. Easingwold: 1s to 1s 1d per lb. Grimsby: Choicest Swedish, 122s to 125s per 112lb; Dutch, 112s to 115s; Canadian, 100s to 112s per 112lb. Helmsley: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 120s to 126s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 102s to 106s; York lump, 15s to 16s per stone; ditto long rolls, 1¼lb, 1s 9d to 1s 11d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per lb. Lincoln: 1s 2d 1s 3d per lb. Otley: 1s 7d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—There is an improved demand for really "choicest" brands of Australian butter, but "finest" grades show no improvement. Values have advanced about 2s per cwt on the week, and "choicest" is now selling at 108s to 110s per cwt., the bulk at the firmer quotation. Although sales at 112s are reported, they are for very limited quantities, and in reality are more retail than wholesale transactions. The Copenhagen official quotation has this week been raised from 104 to 106 kroner, and the market is reported firm. Dutch and French butters are also advancing in price. Irish creameries are diminishing very rapidly, and thus the demand for Australian and New Zealand is likely to improve. Cheese.—There is a firmer tone to the market in Canadian cheese this week, although there is no quotable advance in values. As intimated last week there has been an advance in values in Canada, caused by a scramble of the "bears" to cover their "shorts." The feeling amongst some of the largest receivers from the factories is that prices for finest cool goods will continue firm with an upward tendency. Already values are fully 2s per cwt above their lowest point.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per pocket of 240lb:—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb:—Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; scoured, good, 1s 5½d to 1s 6d; scoured, average, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d; greasy, average to fair, 10d to 10½d; New South Wales, scoured, average, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; greasy average, 7½d to 8½d; South Australian, greasy, average, 6d to 6½d; New Zealand, scoured, average, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy, average, 7½d to 8d; Cape, scoured, superior, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; fleece, average, 5½d to 7½d; greasy, average, 5d to 5½d; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy, average, 5½d to 6½d; crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 9d to 11d; New Zealand, fine, 8½d to 10d; ditto, medium, 6¾d to 7½d; ditto, coarse, 5½d to 6d.

Bradford, Thursday.—In the wool trade prices are upheld with difficulty, despite the adverse influence of very slight business. Fine Botanys continue firm, and quotations generally are unchanged. There is no change in mohair. In the yarn trade orders for export are very scarce, and at low prices, and the home trade remains quiet. The piece trade is finding a fair inquiry for spring delivery.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade without alteration. Kent fleeces make only 6d per lb, and lambs' wool rarely exceeds 4d. Down fleeces, 7½d to 9¼d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: Supplies of foreign come to hand rather more freely, while the demand is extremely limited, buyers generally anticipating lower values. Russians meet a slow sale, and there is no disposition to buy ahead at present prices. Americans offer at slightly reduced rates for shipment, but spot parcels are firmly held. English are not being pressed on the market and maintain their last week's price. Cotton Cakes: Landed parcels of Egyptian have been in improved request at late rates, while English still offer unchanged. Decorticated: Some new seed cake now on passage to London offers at £6 17s 6d, and meal at £6 12s 6d to £6 15s. Rape cakes scarce and unchanged. Maize Germ Meal: A steamer parcel of American just arrived sells freely at a considerable rise in price from last week; English is also in good demand. Rice Meal: There are sellers of Rangood for November-December shipment at £4 8s 9d, and landed parcels remain unchanged.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... per ton ex mill	8 10 0	to	8 12 6
American in bags ..... ex dock	7 16 3	„	7 17 6
American Nov.-Dec. ..... „	7 13 9	„	7 15 0
Russian in mats ..... „	7 15 0	„	7 16 3
Russian in bags ..... „	7 17 6	„	8 0 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	5 0 0	„	5 2 6
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 15 0	„	4 17 6
„ „ Nov.-April shipment	4 15 0	„	4 17 6
Decorticated ..... Oct.-Nov. „	6 17 6	„	7 0 0
Meal, on spot ..... „ „ „	6 12 6	„	6 15 0
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 15 0	„	—
Ravison ..... „	4 10 0	„	—
Nutted, in bags ..... „	4 15 0	„	—
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American) ..... ex dock	5 7 6	„	—
„ „ „ Dec. c.i.f.	5 0 0	„	—
„ „ (English) ..... ex mill	5 8 9	„	5 10 0
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	4 12 6	„	4 15 0
„ Nov-Dec. ..... ex ship	4 8 9	„	—
„ Jan.-March ..... „	4 6 3	„	—

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—Shortly after the issue of our last report the "Times" published a telegram from La Plata, increasing the quantity of linseed available for export to 500,000 tons. This had the effect of demoralising the market for the time being, and prices seriously declined. Since then, however, it becoming generally believed that the above estimate was considerably exaggerated, the market became steadier, and rates have advanced about 2s 6d per ton from the lowest point. Calcutta to London spot and near at hand 59s, November-December 59s, April-June, 46s 3d. La Plata December-January, 48s, January-February, 46s 6d. Hull closes quieter. Calcutta, April-June, 47s. La Plata, December 51s, December-January, 48s, January-February, 47s. To the Continent Bombay, is quoted February-March, 51s; March-May, 49s 3d. Calcutta, April-June, 48s; La Plata, December 51s; December-January, 48s 6d; January-February, 47s. Linseed cakes quiet. London made, £8 10s to £8 12s 6d. Russian, £7 17s 6d to £8 7s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes steady. London made £4 17s 6d to £5; Egyptian, £4 15s to £4 16s 3d. Rapeseed is firm. Brown Calcutta to London November-December, 44s; March-May, 40s 6d. To the Continent we quote, Yellow Guzerat, November-December, 52s; March-Mays 46s 6d; Yellow Cawnpore March-May, 44s. Brown Cawnpore November-December, 47s; March-May 40s. Brown Calcutta, October-November, 45s; April-June, 41s. Rapeseed to Hull, prompt 33s. Cottonseed has also increased in value, owing to the Alexandrian market advancing. Spot London, £7, near £7. November £6 17s 6d; December to March £6 16s 3d. Hull spot, £6 16s 3d; November-January, £6 15s. Cargoes, December, £6 17s 9d; January, £6 16s 3d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED

Hull, Tuesday.—To day there is only a small supply of homegrown wheat, which meets a slow sale at last week's prices. Foreign has a drooping tendency, and must be quoted 3d per qr cheaper on the week. Malting barley does not meet a free sale except for finest samples; prices unaltered. Grinding in limited demand at late rates. Oats steady at quite last week's prices. Beans unaltered. Maize dull and rather in favour of buyers. Linseed.—During the whole of the past week there has been a decided slump in the market as regards new crop River Plate. At the close, however, there is a smart re-bound, and values are to-day fully 3s. above the lowest point touched; this description. December shipment is worth 51s, Dec.-Jan. 48s 6d, and Jan.-Feb. 47s 6d. Bombay and Calcutta do not offer at the moment, to this market. Black Sea is nominal. Petersburg 55s, and Riga 54s 6d, but much offering of either description. Cottonseed.—The market showed further weakness during last week, and down to £6 12s 6d accepted spot and passage, but with more inquiry values quickly recovered, and a good business since done in these positions at £6 13s 9d to £6 16s 3d, Nov.-Jan. and Feb.-March, after declining to £6 11s 3d, is, buyers, at £6 13s 9d. Linseed cakes: Spot trade about nil. The only business doing at present is in contract cakes. Hemp.—Firm, unchanged.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 5s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 2s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 19s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE, packed in bags, of 1¼cwt. each. Price per cwt. 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—The supplies were shorter, and met with a fair demand. Best clover, 85s to 100s; inferior ditto, 80s to 85s; specially picked hay, 92s 6d; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 90s; and straw, 25s to 36s per load.

Cumberland, Saturday.—Best selected hay, 80s to 90s; good ditto, 75s to 80s; inferior ditto, 50s to 70s; prime clover, 85s to 97s 6d; good ditto, 70s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 65s; best mixture, 80s to 90s; and straw, 24s to 34s per load.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Business in the warehouses during the past week has shown a slight falling off, but prices remain steady and firm. Quotations:—Meadow hay, 6½d to 7d; clover, 7d to 7½d; wheat straw, 5½d; oat straw, 5d; rye straw (retail), 7d per stone.

Bristol, Wednesday.—Clover hay, 75s to 80s; meadow hay, 70s to 75s 6d; straw, 45s to 50s.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—With continued short supplies, owing to Lighterman's strike, there is very little doing; prices, however, are firmer, and there is more inquiry. We quote Canadian timothy and clover mixture, 83s; Dutch 1st cut clover, 87s 6d; Dutch and French 2nd cut clover, 90s; good Dutch hay, 72s 6d to 75s; inferior Dutch hay, 63s; large bale French wheat straw, 46s 6d; small bale French wheat straw, 43s; small bale French oat straw, 43s, all per ton, delivered by barge alongside wharf.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10 Great Tower Street, E.C.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals this morning have been moderate, but the trade has been slow, and only superior samples have maintained last week's prices. English: Reading Giants, 3s to 3s 9d; Professor Maerkers, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; Up-to-Dates, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; French and Belgian Magnums, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Imperators, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; German Magnums, 3s 3d to 3s 9d per cwt.

Goole, Wednesday.—Potatoes: Trade was scarcely so good here to-day; prices about the same, from 80s to 85s per ton; foreign, 3s 6d per bag.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—The only fertiliser in request at the present time is basic slag, and the transactions on agricultural account are very moderate, owing to the sodden condition of the land. Feeding stuffs are very strong, and in some instances slightly advanced prices paid, but the consumption is only trivial as yet, although with the colder weather of the last few days inquiries have been more active. To-day's values are annexed. At auction yesterday 100 bags Peruvian cotton cake, all faults, realised £6 5s ex-quay, whilst sales are reported of 500 tons Rangoon rice meal on the spot at £4 11s 3d to £4 12s 6d per ton ex store, with some 6,000 tons to arrive, December to April shipment, at £4 2s 6d to £4 6s 3d per ton, according to position, ex ship terms. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £8 7s 6d to £8 10s per ton; East India bone meal, in bags, £4 7s 6d to £4 10s per ton; kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton; linseed cake, American, thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 16s 3d to £8 per ton; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 15s to £9 per ton; linseed cake, foreign, round, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 15s per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prompt, scarce, in bags, £7 to £7 2s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, decorticated, prime, very soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 10s per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 17s 6d to £5 2s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 5s per ton; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 7s 6d per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 15s to £4 17s 6d per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 11s to 11s 6d per 240lb; Indian meal held tenderly, in bags, £3 5s per qr. 416lb., N.A. rapeseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, nominal; D N S Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, nominal; D N S Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, nominal; D N S Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d per ton; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 13s 6d to £1 14s 6d per ton; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 15s to £1 17s 6d per ton, at the public auction depôts.—H. D. N. LANGAR AND CO.

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

We are able this week to add to the interest of our report of the Norwich Christmas Fat Stock Show by reproducing three photographs—one a nice view of the Central Avenue, and the others of champion animals.

The cross-bred heifer Ladysmith won first prize in the class for cows or heifers of any breed other than Shorthorn and Red Polled, not exceeding four years old; the Mayor of Norwich's special prize for the best cow or heifer in the show; the prize of £10 for the best fat animal grazed by a *bonâ fide* tenant farmer resident in the county of Norfolk; and the patrons' prize for the best beast in the show. The winner of the last-mentioned special receives a sum in addition to the class and special prizes, so that its total winnings amount to £100 sterling, with £1 to the herdsman. Ladysmith is the property of Mr. W. E. Learner, Dilham, Norfolk, and was bred by Mr. J. Ross, Meikle Terrel, Fearn, N.B., her sire being Ringleader and her dam Dora. She is two years and eight months old, and her weight is given as 14cwt. 3qrs. 10lb.

The Southdown sheep is one of the pen of three which won the champion prize for the best pen in the show, and a special prize of £5 for the best pen of shearling wethers or ewes in the show. The exhibitor, who was also the breeder, was Colonel Harry McCalmont, M.P., Cheveley Park, Newmarket. The age and weight of the sheep were respectively given as one year ten months and 6cwt. 1qr. 5lb.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

The annual exhibition of fat cattle, sheep, and pigs by the Smithfield Club will be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on December 10th to 14th, under the presidency of Mr. Leopold de Rothschild, when animals from all parts of the United Kingdom will meet to compete for the valuable prizes offered, amounting to £3,900. The entries for the forthcoming show number 574, and comprise 259 head of cattle, 153 pens of sheep, and 114 pens of pigs, and for the carcase competition fifteen head of cattle and thirty-three sheep.

The chief interest at the coming Smithfield Show will be centred in the competition for the challenge cup for cattle, value £150, presented by Her Majesty the Queen; the challenge cup for sheep, value £100, presented by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales; the £50 challenge cup for pigs, presented by H.R.H. the Duke of York; and the 100-guinea champion plate for the best beast in the show. The amount of prize money which may be won in the various sections is as follows: Champion beast, £235 and the Queen's challenge cup; the champion pen of sheep, £110 and the Prince of Wales's challenge cup; and the champion pen of pigs, £55 and the Duke of York's challenge cup. Naturally these valuable prizes will draw together the finest animals of their respective breeds in the kingdom, the champion cattle, sheep, and pigs from the Birmingham, Edinburgh, and Norwich Shows meeting here in competition.

The animals entered for the carcase competition will be exhibited alive on the Monday of the show up to five p.m., and the carcases on Wednesday and Thursday (seven p.m.) The carcases will be sold by auction on the Thursday of the show at twelve o'clock noon.

In addition to the live stock at the Smithfield Show, a large portion of the Agricultural Hall downstairs, as well as the extensive galleries, is set apart for the exhibition of agricultural engines, machinery, and implements, seeds, roots, etc., all the leading agricultural implement manufacturers being represented with machinery and implements of the most approved type.

In an annexe to the Agricultural Hall, Islington, an exhibition of dead poultry is to be held under the auspices of a committee, of which Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., is the chairman. The admittance to this exhibition will be free to the public from the Smithfield Club's Show.

The entries for the Royal Dublin Society's Winter Show, to be held on December 11th, 12th, and 13th, have now closed, and the figures give promise of the exhibition being the largest yet held by the society since they commenced the winter shows. Entries of cattle, in the classes of infed, outfed, and artificially sheltered, give an increase of 109 over those of last year, the figures being 562 for the coming show against 453 for last December. All the provinces contribute to this increase, Leinster and Ulster especially, and from the celebrity of their owners as breeders, the stock may be expected to be of the best possible description. Sheep have an increase of two over last year, the numbers being 33 entries against 31 in 1899. These include Long-woolled of the Leicester, Border Leicester, Lincoln, and Roscommon breeds; short-woolled sheep other than Cheviot or Mountain, Black-faced Mountain and Cheviots. Pigs had only one entry last year, while this year they have eight in pens of three.

The dairy section, most of the entries coming from Munster and Leinster counties, and including butter made up in various forms, salted and unsalted, a parcel post class, and cream and honey, gives an increase for this year's show of twenty-eight entries, the numbers for 1899 being 347, and for 1900, 375. Entries of honey have considerably decreased. Farm produce exhibits this year give a big increase over those of 1899, amounting to 154 entries. Last year's were 489, while this year's amount to 643. Malting barley grown in Ireland has 229 entries, the first prize in this section being £15, the total sum presented by the Barley Committee being £230. There will be a show of implements, machinery, etc., in the grounds, and stock will be received at the society's premises, Ball's Bridge, on Monday, the day before the opening of the show, but none will be admitted after that day.

Mr. W. E. Learner's Cross-Bred Heifer, "Ladysmith," Champion Beast at the Norwich Fat Stock Show, 1900.

On Monday Mr. W. Cope, the President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, presided over a meeting convened by the Animals' Aid Society and Institute at St. James's Hall, Regent Street, to consider the practice of "doping" racehorses. Professor Atkinson addressed the meeting, and then a request was made by the chairman that any gentleman familiar with "doping" should enlighten the audience upon the subject. None of those present, however, had the requisite knowledge, and the proceedings terminated without any resolution being passed.

The Oxfordshire Agricultural Society will hold their next year's show at Thame on Wednesday and Thursday, May 15th and 16th. The entries for implements will close on April 1st, and for stock on April 8th; but entries at double fees may be made for the latter up to April 13th. The secretary is Mr. A. F. Milton Druce, Estate Offices, 16, Queen Street, Oxford.

Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck's next special sale of Shire mares, fillies, foals, and geldings will take place on Friday, the 30th inst., at Peterborough Repository. The catalogue comprises close on a hundred animals, selected from the studs of many well-known breeders. Twelve o'clock is the time at which the sale will commence.

Next year's show of the Cambs and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society will take place on Thursday, July 25th, at Cambridge.

The Lincoln Longwool sheep are in demand for Chili. Mr. Anderson, of Chapel Farm, Barton-on-Humber, shipped on Wednesday last a grand Lincoln Longwool ram lamb eight months old—a fine specimen of his breed.

Owing to the restrictions of the Board of Agriculture with regard to the movements of swine in Leeds, the Leeds Smithfield Club will not be able to have a display of pigs at their forthcoming fat stock show unless some special arrangement can be made. Accordingly, they sent a deputation to the Corporation Markets Committee to ask that authority to petition the Board for such a temporary variation of the regulations as will permit of pigs being exhibited at the show, and slaughtered within four days afterwards. It seems that under similar circumstances five years ago the same kind of arrangement was made. The committee—over whose meeting Alderman Knowles presided—will address the Board of Agriculture on the subject.

Of late some very good sales of imported pedigree cattle have been held at Buenos Ayres, the animals offered realising capital prices. The Irish-bred Shorthorn bull, Sign of Wealth, by Sign of Riches, and out of Diadem's Pride, was knocked down at the high price of £504 5s. This bull was bred by Messrs. Orr, of Loughgall, co. Armagh, and when the property of Lord Longford, Pakenham Hall, Castlepollard, was successfully shown at the Dublin and Belfast Shows. At another sale the handsome figure of £708 was obtained for the Shorthorn bull Sultan 73740, formerly the property of Major Alexander, Milford, co. Carlow, and bred by Lord Lovat, Beaufort Castle, Inverness. He was got by the famous sire Merry Archer 67477, out of Maid of Underley 2nd, and proved a valuable stock-getter when in the Milford herd.

The Council of the Hackney Horse Society have recently issued the list of prizes to be awarded at the seventeenth London show, which will be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall on March 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th next. The classi-

fication has been drawn up on the same lines as last year, with a few alterations which may be noted. It has been decided to still further encourage the breeding of big Hackneys, which are now so much in demand, by dividing the schedule into three sections, viz.: (1) Ponies not exceeding 14 hands. (2) Cobs over 14 and not exceeding 15 hands. (3) Hackneys over 15 hands. There are classes for stallions and mares of all ages and heights, and the two interesting classes for half-bred geldings to be shown in hand have been retained. The cob section comprises two classes, viz., one for stallions foaled in or before 1897, and another for mares of the same age. The pony section contains two classes for stallions and two for mares, applicable to animals two, three, and four years old and over. The three-year-olds must not exceed 13.3 hands, and the two-year-olds 13.2 hands. The attractive single harness classes for mares and geldings not over six years old have again been included. One is applicable to ponies, one to cobs, and two to Hackneys, the latter being divided as follows: Exceeding 15 and not exceeding 15.2 hands, and over 15.2. The show will conclude with the instructive competition for the best sires in produce groups, and the breeders' prizes, sale by auction, and other features have been retained. Entries close on January 21st, and the secretary of the society, at 12, Hanover Square, will forward, on application, copies of the complete prize schedule.

From December 1st to the 8th will be held, at Chicago, an International Live Stock Exposition, and I have received some particulars concerning it. The management of the Union Stock Yards have erected a building 600ft. long and 100ft. wide to be used as additional space for the Exposition. This building has been placed alongside of Dexter Park Amphitheatre, which is 600ft. long and 200ft. wide, constructed of brick and steel, and containing stall room for about 3,000 animals. The new building is being built for Exposition purposes only, and its erection is a strong evidence of what the Exposition will be.

Some idea of the magnitude of the Exposition can be found in the fact that there are 2,230 premiums to be awarded, and that it will take about 750 yards of ribbon for the premiums. There will be, from present indications, more than 10,000 animals, counting all classes, in the competition. Seven foreign countries will have official representation at the Exposition. The Hon. Chauncey Depew, the New York Senator, and a leading member of the Farmers' Club of that city, will attend the opening of the Exposition, and will deliver an address. Altogether the event promises to be the live stock feature of the century in America.

The South Tyne Agricultural Society have hired from Messrs. A. and W. Montgomery the well-known horse Prince of Roxburgh as their premium horse for next season. Prince of Roxburgh is a very highly bred horse, his sire being the old-time champion Macgregor, and his dam Gartland Queen, which was dam of the Glasgow premium horse Casabianca. Prince of Roxburgh is a big, sound, clean-limbed horse of the best quality. He had the Newton Stewart premium last season, Kinross premium in 1899, and the West Teviotdale premium in 1898, and he gave the greatest satisfaction in each of these districts.

The fair at Kenmore, co. Kerry, on Tuesday was a small one, composed of third class cattle, which met a fair demand. Prices: Yearlings, third class, £3 12s. 6d. to £5 10s.; two-year-olds, third class, £4 5s. to £7; three-year-olds, third class, £5 5s. to £7 10s.; springers, third class, £6 to £8 10s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 20s. to 25s. each.

Cockermouth Hiring Fair. — This fair was held on Tuesday, when male servants were numerous, and wages showed a substantial drop. Head men secured £14 to £16 for the half year; ploughmen, £11 to £14; strong lads, £7 to £11; boys, £4 to £7. There was no fall in the wages paid to female servants, women getting £9 to £11; girls, £7 to £9; young girls, £4 10s. to £7, with board and lodgings in all cases.

There was but a small supply of stock at Carndonagh Fair, co. Donegal, held on Wednesday, and the animals were chiefly of third-class condition, for which there was a slow demand. Prices:—Calves, third class, £1 17s. 6d. to £2 15s. Yearlings, second class, £6; third class, £3 15s. to £4 10s. Two-year-olds, second class, £8 10s.; third class, £5 10s. to £7. Three-year-olds, third class, £7 7s. 6d. to £7 15s. Springers, second class, £13; third class, £7 5s. to £10 12s. 6d. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 11s. to 17s. each

CATTLE.

Farmer Stalks his Highland Cattle.

A well-known Lothians farmer, who is far too busy to be much of a sportsman, has, says a correspondent of the *Glasgow Herald*, had a lot of "big game" thrown upon his hands just now, very much to his disgust. This farmer, who is one of the most extensive land owners and stock owners in the country, had bought some considerable time ago a lot of big Highland bullocks, which he sent to graze on an outlying hill farm in his possession. As the farm in question was well fenced and the pasturage was good, the bullocks had required, and got, very little attention from anyone during the summer months, and had, in fact, been roaming about wild on the rough pasture. Possibly, also, there had originally been among them one or two animals in which the feral nature had been developed in an unusual degree, and these animals by their wildness, had brought out the latent wildness in the other members of the lot. In any case the animals had become very wild, so that when the owner recently went to the farm to have a "round-up" of his stocks in view of Hallow Fair he found the Highlanders more dangerous to come to close quarters with than were the so-called wild white cattle in Cadzow Forest. All efforts to "round-up" the cattle were found to be unavailing. There was nothing for it, therefore, but to shoot the animals, and, accordingly, one day last week the owner invaded the farm at the head of a band of sharpshooters, followed by a complete transport service of waggons, hoisting apparatus, etc. It was no easy matter, however, for the sharpshooters to get within range of the wild cattle, but by adopting the tactics of the deer-stalker and the Boer sniper they managed to "bring down" seven of the Highlanders. The carcases of these seven Highlanders were taken away on the waggons, and the stalking of the other Highlanders on the "kopjes" will afford plenty excitement to the owner and his friends during the next few weeks.

Sale of Herefords near Ross.

Mr. W. H. Addis, of Whitfield Court, Marston, near Ross, Herefordshire, having decided to keep a herd for dairy purposes only, his breeding herd of Herefords was dispersed by auction the week before last by Mr. Walter Pye. The catalogue included forty pedigree Herefords, directly descended from the herds of Messrs. Drinkwater (Bernithon), T. W. Brown (Weir End), W. Stallard, J. Rea, and J. Walters. Cows and heifers were in calf to Dr. Nansen, a sire bred by Colonel Bridgford, C.B., and the yearling heifers were by President 17433. The company was not a large one, but intent on business, and fair prices were realised, the following being the principal ones: —

		Gs.
COWS AND CALVES.		
Lovely 4th and her bull calf	Mr. J. Bennett	16½
Her heifer calf	Mr. Rigg	6½
Brown Eyes	Mr. F. Barling (for Lord Llangattock)	18
Her bull calf	Mr. J. Bennett	15½
Blanche	Mr. T. James	15
Her heifer calf	Mr. J. S. Corbett (for Mr. T. N. Jackson)	8
Lemon Girl and her heifer calf	Mr. John Pearce	24½
Prettymaid 3rd	Mr. J. S. Corbett	15
Her bull calf	Mr. A. Webb	5
Modesty 3rd	Mr. F. Barling (for Lord Llangattock)	19
Her bull calf	Mr. H. H. Parry	8
Blanche 2nd	Mr. J. S. Corbett	14
Her bull calf	Mr. F. Barling (for Lord Llangattock)	16
Prettymaid 4th	Mr. J. S. Corbett	14
Her bull calf	Mr. C. Barnes	8½
Damsel 4th	Mr. A. Webb	15½
Her heifer calf	Mr. Williams	7½
Prettymaid 5th	Mr. A. Webb	13½
Her heifer calf	Mr Williams	5½
Modesty 4th and her bull calf	Mr. F. Barling (for Lord Llangattock)	16
Beauty 7th	Mr. J. S. Corbett	14
Her bull calf	Mr. Williams	14
Lily 5th and calf	Mr. Beavan	18
Rose	Mr. T. James	14
Her bull calf	Mr. Addis	9
YEARLING HEIFERS.		
Damsel 6th	Mr. J. Pearce	11
Moggy 4th	Mr. J. Gunter	9
Gladys 2nd	Mr. H. H. Parry	12½
Blue Eyes	Mr. Hyslop (for Mr. P. Coates)	15
Blanche 4th	Mr. J. S. Corbett	11½
Primrose	Mr. J. Gunter	9
Louie 3rd	Mr C Barnes	10½
Guinea 3rd	Mr. C. Barnes	10
BULLS.		
Dr. Nansen (18793)	Mr. E. Lewis	23
Gatacre	Mr. J. Bennett	14½

Sale of Red Polls at Ipswich.

By no means the least important of the series of red-polled cattle sales held during the autumn by Messrs. Robt. Bond and Sons was conducted at the Drill Hall on Tuesday afternoon, when the firm, acting under instructions from Mr. Alfred J. Smith, of Rendlesham, brought under the hammer sixty animals from the Rendlesham and Eyke herds of pedigree red polls. This number comprised nineteen heifers and their first calves, six cows and their five calves, three young heifers, and six young bulls. Mr. R. B. Bond, who disposed of the sixty lots, observed that all the animals were bred by Mr. Smith, and included eight prize-winners at the London Dairy, Royal, Norfolk, Essex, Suffolk, and other shows, while since June, 1896, animals in Mr. Smith's herds had won as many as sixty-one honours at those shows. He added that the average yield of the Rendlesham herd for milk during the present year had been 7,276lbs. per cow, and as Mr. Smith had kept his herds solely for milking purposes during many years, he had returned none but the deepest milkers to breed from. Around the ring there was a good company of buyers, and the bidding was brisk for all the best animals, some of the heifers and bulls fetching high prices. The general results of the sale were entirely satisfactory, as will be seen from the following list of the principal lots sold. The calves it may be noticed, realised from 2 to 6 guineas.

		Gs.
HEIFERS.		
Rendlesham Rosa, c Dec 23rd, 1897	Mr. J. Hu...	
Rendlesham Record, c Jan 21st, 1898	Mr. Pear...	
Eyke Molly, c Sept. 18th, 1897	...r. Mitchell Innes	32
Miss Mary, c Aug 24th, 1897	Mr. Pear...	
Pansy, c Sept 16th, 1897	Mr. C...	
Wondrous Pearl, c March 26th	Mr. P...	
Eyke Countess, c Oct 25th, 1897	Mr. Pear...	22
Rendlesham Russett, c Dec. 23rd, 1897	Mr. J. B. Dimmock	22
Rendlesham Fuss, c Mar 23rd, 1898	Mr. Mitchell Innes	30
Eyke Leah, c July 24th, 1897	Mr. C. D. Turner	3
Eyke Breeder, c August 14th, 1897	Sir Cuthbert Quilter, M.P.	6
Young Rebekah, c August 14th, 1897	Mr. Mitchell Innes	27
Rendlesham Baroness, c May 28th, 1898	Mr. R. B. Bond	5
Trot, c Oct. 12th, 1897, breeder, Jas. Youngman	Mr. Cranmer	16
Rendlesham Sprite, c December 5th, 1897, breeder Lord Henniker	Mr. Mitchell Innes	34
Eyke Roseleaf, c March 11th, 1898, breeder Lord Henniker	Sir Cuthbert Quilter	35
Rendlesham Cowslip, c March 25th, 1898, breeder Lord Henniker	Mr. Penn	25
Eyke Rosebud, c August 17th, 1898, breeder Lord Henniker	Mr. Hankey	19
Rendlesham Pearly, c October 13th, 1897, breeder Lord Henniker	Mr. C. D. Turner	25
Eyke Necklace, c April 30th, 1898	Mr. C. D. Turner	21
Comely Vesper, c May 14th, 1899	Mr. T. Brown	20
Comely B., c April 7th, 1899	Mr. T. Brown	9
COWS		
Rosamond 2nd, c Sept. 17th, 1888	Mr. Making	12½
Fanny 2nd, c Jan 28th, 1899, breeder Joseph Smith	Mr. Mitchell Innes	41
Peach Leaf 6th, c Aug. 5th, 1892	Mr. T. C. Blofield	21
BULLS.		
New Sirdar, c Feb. 26th, 1899, breeder J. B. Chevallier	Mr. F. Smith	17
Eyke Don, c March 7th, 1899	Mr. F. Buxendale	40
Young bull, c July 28th, 1899	Mr. Cole	12½
Young bull, c Sept. 24th, 1899	Mr. T. C. Blofield	17
Young bull, c Nov. 13th, 1899	Mr. Mitchell Innes	18½
Young bull (eligible for entry in Herd Book), c Dec 5th, 1899	Captain E. C. Moor	12½

Messrs. Mansell's Store Stock Sale.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co.'s November sale of store stock took place in Shrewsbury Smithfield on the 14th inst. Some 753 cattle passed over the weighbridge and through the sale ring in less than three and a half hours. The restrictions of the Board of Agriculture having been removed, buyers came from long distances to purchase cattle, which until recently could not be allowed to pass into or even through infected areas to get to home feeding districts. The result was a large gathering of buyers, several of whom had come to this mart for the first time, and some record prices were made for both Irish and English cattle. Trade was not only brisk, but good from start to finish, and throughout the entire sale well-bred cattle suitable to take their places in stalls and strawyards were keenly competed for. The following are some of the prices realised: Polled Angus crosses (bullocks)—£13 17s. 6d., £13 10s., £13 5s., £12 5s., £11 15s., and £11 2s. 6d. Polled Angus crosses (heifers)—£12 10s., £11 10s., £10 10s., and £9 17s. 6d. Shorthorn bullocks—£16, £15 10s., £15 5s., £14 15s., and £14. Shorthorn heifers, one and two year-old—£13 15s., £13 5s., £12 12s. 6d., £11 15s., £10 12s. 6d., £10 10s., and £10. Hereford steers—£12 7s. 6d., £12 5s., £12, £10 17s. 6d., £10 2s. 6d., £10, £9 15s., and £9 12s. Hereford bullocks—£16 10s., £16 5s., £15 7s. 6d., £15 2s. 6d., £14 10s., £14 5s., £13 15s., and £13 5s. Hereford heifers—£9 10s., £9 5s., £9, and £8 12s. 6d. Hereford Barrens—£11 5s., £10 15s., £10 12s. 6d., and £9 15s. Cross-bred yearlings—£8 5s., £7 15s., £7 5s., £7, and £6 15s. Cross-bred barrens—£15 2s. 6d., £14 5s., £13 7s. 6d., and £12 15s. Black Welsh runts—£11 10s., £9 17s. 6d., £8 17s. 6d., £8 5s., £8 2s. 6d., £7 15s., and £7 2s 6d. The sale began with a choice herd of Alderney and Jersey cattle, which made satisfactory prices. These were followed by some very useful cross-bred sheep, which readily sold at prices for wethers 40s. 6d. to 37s. 6d., and for ewes 49s. to 38s. 6d. The prices for cattle ranged from 28s. to 38s. 9d. per cwt., many lots making over 35s. per cwt. Messrs. Mansell will hold their next sale at Shrewsbury on December 7th, when a good lot of cattle will be pitched.

Failing to Report Tuberculosis.

A case of considerable importance to dairy farmers was heard at the Manchester City Police Court on the 16th inst., before Mr. Headlam, stipendiary magistrate, under the new Act of the Manchester Corporation, called the General Powers Act. The corporation summoned George Sutton, farmer, of Brigg House, Haslington, who supplies milk to Manchester, for failing to report to the Medical Officer of Health that he had a cow suffering from tuberculous mili-

This was the first prosecution that had taken place under the Act.

Mr. Bell, solicitor for the prosecution, read Section 19, sub-section 4, of the Act, which provides that every dairyman who supplies milk within the city, and has in his dairy any cow affected with or suspected of, or exhibiting signs of tuberculosis of the udder, shall forthwith give written notice of the fact to the medical officer, stating his name and address, and situation of the dairy or premises where the cow is, and any dairyman failing to give notice shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 40s. Among the samples of milk analysed in July last was one from the defendant's farm, which was found to be affected with tuberculosis. Mr. Lloyd, veterinary inspector, visited the farm and discovered a cow with a tuberculous udder, which was considerably swollen. Prior to this a circular was sent by the medical officer to all farmers supplying milk to Manchester indicating the symptoms by which tuberculosis might be identified. The object of the Act was to remove the onus of discovering the disease from the inspectors to the farmers, and this was why they were supplied with information.

The defendant, who was represented by Mr. Hocking, pleaded ignorance of the existence of the disease, and the stipendiary imposed a penalty of 10s. and costs.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.]

Fethard Fair (co. Tipperary), held on Wednesday, was a large one, consisting of first and second class cattle, and a small supply of lambs. A good demand prevailed for cattle in forward condition, but small and thin stock were hard to dispose of, and a considerable number were left unsold. The lambs met a fair demand. Quotations:—Calves, first class, £4 17s. 6d. to £5 10s.; second class, £4 to £4 15s. Yearlings, first class, £8 10s. to £9 15s.; second class, £6 10s. to £3 5s.; third class, £5 10s. to £6. Two-year-olds, first class, £12 5s. to £14 5s.; second class, £9 7s. 6d. to £11 15s.; third class, £7 5s. to £8. Three-year-olds, first class, £14 to £15 10s.; second class, £13 2s. 6d. to £14. Springers, first class, £15 to £16 10s.; second class, £11 10s. to £14. Lambs, first class, £1 5s. to £1 7s.; second class, £1 1s. to £1 4s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at 16s. to 18s. each.

There was a small fair at Pettigo, co. Donegal, on Tuesday, composed chiefly of calves and springers, for which there was good demand. Other stores were rather hard to sell. Prices: Calves, first class, £4 15s. to £6 6s. 8d.; second class, £3 10s. to £4 5s.; third class, £2 6s. 8d. to £3 3s. 9d. Yearlings, second class, £5 15s. to £6 13s. 4d.; third class, £4 15s. to £5. Two-year-olds, second class, £7 12s. 6d. to £8 6s. 8d.; third class, £6 15s. to £7 5s. Springers, first class, £15 5s. to £16 15s.; second class, £11 15s. to £14 10s.; third class, £9 10s. to £10 5s. oung pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 14s. 6d. to 18s. 9d. each.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Nov. 17th, 1900:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.		No.	270	416 727 523	16,313	38,444 35,763 37,035		
	Outbreaks.		No.	37	31 47 20	1,744	2,145 2,236 2,012		
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Other Animals	No.	2	: : :	4	: : 16		
		Dogs.	No.	:	: : :	5	9 16 142		
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slightered.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	: : :	:	: : 220 741		
		Diseased.	No.	:	: : :	:	: 1 46		
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	: : :	:	: 1 7		
Glanders (incld. farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	48	29 20 35	1,659	1,312 1,249 1,411		
	Outbreaks.		No.	24	19 14 20	1,007	748 667 799		
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	:	: : :	227	: : :		
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	: : :	17	: : :		
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	14	9 9 47	815	903 731 797		
	Outbreaks.		No.	9	8 7 9	489	476 402 382		
Period.				Week ended Nov. 17, 1900	Corresponding week in 1899 1898 1897	Total for 46 weeks 1900	Corresponding period in 1899 1898 1897		

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

NORWICH FAT STOCK SHOW.

Mr. Learner wins the Championship.

The Agricultural Hall at Norwich has once more been well filled with fat stock upon the occasion of the twenty-fourth annual meeting of this Association. The total number of entries of stock equalled most previous shows, though there is somewhat of a shortage of cattle, and in this section, too, the display suffered very considerably in quality by the absence of any entries from the Royal farms at Windsor, the stock from that source probably being held back for the larger meetings of Birmingham and London, so that altogether as regards cattle it cannot be said that the show was at all over the average. In one or two of the classes there was also rather a number of indifferent animals. Notwithstanding all this, there were a great many excellent beasts, evenly fleshed, and thoroughly ripe. The weather on the opening day was quite of a seasonable character, very cold and slight rain, so that the cattle did not suffer from a close atmosphere, which is often the case at Norwich, owing to the unavoidably congested state of the hall.

The Red Polled Classes

take precedence in the catalogue, and these were, upon the whole, about an average lot. The younger class of steers was most numerous, but some of these were not any too forward; nevertheless, good, edible beef. Of the nine entries in this class, Mr. J. E. Platt's steer very readily carried off the coveted red card. He was bred by exhibitor, sired by Caistor Minotaur, in symmetry he is not at all to be complained of, and his touch is right and quality good. His live weight is 12cwt. 2qr. 9lb., at a year and ten months old. Competition was very close, and the referee required to settle matters between the second and third steers exhibited by the Exors. of the late Mr. P. K. Blofield and Mr. A. G. Scorer, both bred by their exhibitors and level steers. The second, however, was decidedly the better beef, though not as taking in breed character, and neither was it quite as heavy as it should be. Steers of this breed over two and not exceeding three years, though only four in number, were better up to the mark, rather suggesting that early maturity is not a prominent property in their breed. Again the red card went to Mr. J. E. Platt for a son of Minotaur, bred by the Exors. of the late Duke of Hamilton, and a well-built, evenly fleshed, and thoroughly ripe steer, weighing 15cwt. 1qr. 4lb., at two years and seven months. The second steer was one of the heaviest beasts in the hall, turning the scales at 19cwt. 1qr. 24lb. He was not, however, as shapely or as good and evenly-fleshed as the winner. This bullock was shown by the Honble. Ailwyn Fellowes, who was also his breeder. The reserve card was allotted to an exhibit of Mr. Harvey Mason's, and a fairly good steer of Mr. R. P. Cooper's was c. The cow or heifer class only contained three entries, nevertheless it was here that the champion of the breed was found in the shape of Mr. B. J. Colman's Barbara 3rd, bred by the late Mr. F. E. Colman, and sired by Lord Nork. Barbara is a sweet heifer of two years and nine months; her moulding and style are beautiful, and her quality excellent, well deserving her high reward. A very good heifer of the Hon. A. E. Fellowes' was placed second, and the reserve accorded to another good-fleshed one from the Sandringham herd of H.R.H. the Duke of York.

Shorthorns

came next, and as might fairly be anticipated in a breed that has for such a long time been hard run for export purposes, the classes were very modest indeed. The three steers constituting the class over two and under three years old were very good and fairly even in point of merit, indeed any one of the three might have been first without any great injustice being done to his neighbours. As it was first honours fell to a steer of Mr. W. C. Turner's, thoroughly well fed, and a good weight for age, being 17cwt. 0qr. 24lb., at two years and seven months. in the matter of symmetry he was, however, not quite as neat as the other two entries, both shown by Miss Alice de Rothschild, and each over 16cwt., square, good-fleshed, and nice quality beasts, showing good breeding; both were bred by Baron F. de Rothschild. Cows or heifers of the breed had but a solitary representative in the shape of a very useful, well-fed heifer of Mr. Robert Mattock's, weighing just upon 14½cwt., her age two years and four months. She was awarded the first prize.

Norwich Fat Stock Show. The Central Avenue.

Other Pure Breeds.

The next class was open to steers of any other breed than Shorthorn and Red Polled not less than two or more than three years old. This brought out a capital collection of beasts of various breeds, five in number. Mr. John Wortley was very powerfully represented in this class with a Hereford and a North Devon, either of which was fit for first honours; indeed, many good judges in the early morning thought the Devon the better beast of the two, and others considered the Hereford a safe first, and a very probable champion of the show. When the class was brought before the judges, however, the Hereford walked and showed himself in such good form, as well as possessing great weight and good flesh, that he made an easy winner, the Devon being placed second. The Hereford was bred by Mr. H. F. Russell and was wonderfully well covered all over his roasting parts, failing only slightly in underline and hiad parts; his weight, 17cwt. 1qr. 19lb., at two years and a half, is exceedingly good too. The Devon is a particularly good bullock in his loin and flesh, and also very satisfactory in his summetry and breed character, but nearly three years old and wanting a little of 14½cwt. is not any too big. He was bred by Mr. A. C. Skinner. The third prize

offered in this class fell to the lot of Mr. Henry Casswell for a rattling good Angus, bred by the Messrs. T. R. and H. Casswell, weighing 16cwt. 3qr. 20lb., at two years and nine months, and shapely, with a fine top of well-finished beef. Another very good bullock of the same breed, shown by Mr. R. W. Hudson, was reserved.

Cross-bred Classes.

The next class was open to steers of both pure and cross-breeds, excluding Red-polls, and not exceeding two years old. There were only three entries in this class as compared with a dozen last year. Miss Alice de Rothschild carried off the leading honour with a very neat, good-backed steer by Cabin Boy, pulling up the beam at just upon 14cwt.; Mr. Fred Casswell came second with a well-shaped and good quality Angus cross; and Mr. G. W. Weston obtained reserve with a good looking and well fed steer of Red-poll and Shorthorn cross. There were seven entries of steers a year older under similar conditions as to breeding as the foregoing class, and some very big, good beasts were included in the number. Miss Alice de Rothschild was awarded the coveted position with an Angus and Shorthorn cross, bred by Baron F. de Rothschild, and a winner in the younger class last year; he has given a pretty good account of his time, is over 18cwt., shapely, very ripe, and good in his quality.

Galloway and Shorthorn crossed were accountable for the breeding of the second-prize beast, an exceedingly good quality one, bred in Scotland, and exhibited by Sir Hugh E. Adair; in weight, however, he is considerably lighter than the winner. A blue grey of similar breeding, shown by Mr. W. Le Neve, and a remarkably good steer in all points, was placed third, with an Augus and Shorthorn cross of Mr. Casswell's reserved. There were three or four very big, good bullocks in the mixed class between three and four years old, Mr. J. W. Rowland taking first honour with a very symmetrical, ripe, and heavy Shorthorn and Polled cross, Mr. W. Le Neve was second with a heavy and very ripe Devon, and Sir Hugh E. Adair reserved with a neatish, pure Galloway.

Cows or heifers in this section were not numerous, only four being entered, but they were certainly amongst the plums of the show, and included Mr. W. C. Learner's very sweet and perfect heifer, Ladysmith, bred by Mr. John Ross, and by the favourite old sire, Ringleader. This heifer looked very small last year in the younger class, if memory serves us rightly, and to-day her weight is the greatest fault to be found, as she cannot quite pull up the beam at 15cwt., and is just upon three years old. In shape she is very symmetrical, her flesh is first rate in quality and very evenly laid on, and she is ripe, and were it not for a little weakness at the setting on of the neck she would be very difficult to pick a hole in, so that she well deserved the first place accorded her. Another heifer, half-sister to the last mentioned, shown by Mr. W. Le Neve, and nearly a couple of hundredweight heavier, was placed second, very ripe and thick fleshed, but scarcely as good in her quality as the winner. The other two entries, reserve and h.c., shown by Mr. A. de Rothschild and Mr. R. M. Mills, were also very good and shapely.

Bred and Fed in Norfolk.

The next three classes were for animals bred and fed in Norfolk, and brought out some exceedingly useful beasts, well fed and also good bred ones. Of the younger steers the best were shown by Mr. Frank Neave, Mr. C. H. Learner, and Mr. W. Le Neve. The older class of steers brought out the heaviest beast in the yard, a Shorthorn bred and fed by Mr. W. Le Neve, very ripe and turning the scales at 19cwt. 2qr. 17lb. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales obtained second honours with a well-shaped steer by Crystal Prince, good in quality and well bred; and Mr. C. C. Chapman was reserve. The three winners in the female class of this section were all Shorthorns and level good specimens, shown by Mr. Gowing, Mr. Dimmock, and Mr. Roe.

Small Cattle.

made a very nice little show, nearly all of them being Dexters. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales took the first honours in the steer class with Patriot, who was also first a year ago; he is now certainly thoroughly ripe, but in other respects he has not much to show for his year's keep. It is, however, satisfactory that he takes the champion prize of the small breeds in addition to his first prize. His weight is 9cwt. 1qr. 11lb. Mr. R. W. Hudson and Mr. Blofield were the other winners in this class, and in the females two beautiful heifers very even in merit were shown by Mr. Hudson and Mr. Thorley and placed as named, the former also taking reserve for the champion of the breed. Mr. R. Tait Robertson and Sir Walter Gilbey were also well represented.

Butchers' Classes.

Irish and butchers' classes were filled with some very weighty and good beasts; the chief winners were Messrs. W. and C. Le Neve and Mr. Cubitt.

The contest for

The Championship of the Show

lay between Mr. Learner's heifer and Mr. Wortly's Hereford steer, which were eventually placed in the order named for the championship and reserve, each of them also taking the champion prize as best of their respective sex.

Below will be found our usual table, showing the average daily gain of the prize animals:—

Breed and Owner.	Age.	Weight.	Average Daily Gain.
	Days.	lbs.	lbs.
RED-POLLED. (Steers under 2 years old.)			
1. Mr. J. E. Platt	668	1409	2·10
2. Exors. of Mr. P. K. Blofield	698	1245	1·79
3. Mr. A. G. Scorer	663	1129	1·70
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. J. E. Platt	949	1712	1·80
2. Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes, M.P. (Rover)	1033	2190	2·12
(Cow or heifer under 4 years.)			
1. Mr. R. J. Colman (Barbara III.)	1017	1472	1·54
2. Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes, M.P. (Aden)	682	1319	1·93
3. H.R.H. the Duke of York	1067	1423	1.33
SHORTHORNS. (Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. W. E. Learner	942	1928	2·04
2. Miss Alice de Rothschild (Juryman)	888	1837	2·06
(Cow or heifer under 4 years.)			
1. Mr. R. Mattocks (Heather Belle)	872	1617	1·85
STEERS OF ANY PURE BREED OTHER THAN SHORTHORN AND RED POLLED. (Over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. J. Wortley (Hereford, Lord Roberts)	920	1951	2·10
2. Mr. J. Wortley (Devon, Baden-Powell)	1063	1619	1·52
3. Mr. H. Casswell (Aberdeen-Angus, Quadring Pride)	1024	1896	1·85
STEERS OF ANY BREED, EXCLUDING RED POLLED. (Under 2 years old.)			
1. Miss Alice de Rothschild (Shorthorn, Flower Boy)	698	1560	2·23
2. Mr. F. Casswell (Crossbred Poll Angus, Dunsby Fashion)	658	1482	2·25
CROSS OR MIXED BRED STEER. (Over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. Miss Alice de Rothschild (St. Brieux)	1070	2040	1·90
2. Sir H. E. Adair, Bart.	972	1823	1·87
3. Mr. W. Le Neve (Blue Boy)	1054	1949	1·84
OX OF ANY BREED. (Over 3 and under 4 years.)			
1. Mr. J. W. Rowland (Crossbred, The Boss)	1328	2021	1·52
2. Mr. W. Le Neve (Devon, Handy Man)	1125	1904	1·69
COW OR HEIFER OF ANY BREED OTHER THAN SHORTHORN AND RED POLLED. (Under 4 years.)			
1. Mr. W. E. Learner (Crossbred, Ladysmith)	972	1662	1·70
2. Mr. W. Le Neve (Crossbred, Mayflower)	1039	1876	1·80
STEER OF ANY BREED, EXCLUDING RED POLLED. (Under 2 years.)			
1. Mr. F. Neave (Shorthorn, Shortlegs)	546	1323	2·43
2. Mr. C. H. Learner (Crossbred, Billy)	637	1432	2·24
3. Mr. W. Le Neve (Crossbred, Coleby)	516	1423	2·75
STEER OF ANY BREED, BRED AND FED IN NORFOLK. (Under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. W. Le Neve (Shorthorn, Masterpiece XI.)	1063	2211	2.07
2. H.R.H. Prince of Wales (Shorthorn)	926	1792	1·93
COW OR HEIFER OF ANY BREED, BRED AND FED IN NORFOLK. (Under 4 years.)			
1. Mr. E. S. Gowing (Shorthorn, Star)	851	1459	1·71
2. Mr. J. B. Dimmock (Shorthorn)	1003	1565	1·56
3. Mr. G. W. Roe (Shorthorn, Lady Lovely)	668	1543	2·30
SMALL CATTLE. (Steers over 18 months and under 3 years.)			
1. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales (Patriot)	1047	1040	0·99
2. Mr. R. W. Hudson (Duke of York)	551	882	1·60
(Heifer over 18 months and under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. R. W. Hudson (Duchess of York)	551	885	1·60
2. Mr. J. Thorley (Ringdale Success)	872	904	1·03
3. Mr. Tait Robertson (La Mancha Norma)	926	893	0·96
IRISH CATTLE. (Ox or Steer under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. W. Le Neve (Shamrock)	1033	1985	1·92
2. Mr. C. Le Neve	—	1851	—
(Ox or Steer over 3 years.)			
1. Mr. W. Le Neve (Gamecock)	1155	1842	1·54
2. Mr. C. Le Neve	—	2054	—
3. Mr. G. W. Weston	—	1816	—

Sheep.

The entries of this section were very good, and the quality must be highly spoken of in practically every instance. Southdowns were the strongest classes by far, and succeeded in taking both the champion prizes for sheep and lambs, these honours falling to Colonel H. McCalmont; H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Mrs. Montefiore, the Earl of Ellesmere, and Mr. Courtauld were also successful exhibitors. The lamb class was especially good, the best pen scaling 4cwt. 0qrs. 22lbs. Suffolks were all in the hands of Colonel McCalmont, the Earl of Ellesmere, and Major Baird, who divided the honours. The best pen of lambs was Colonel McCalmont's, weighing 5cwt. 1qr. 4lbs. Mr. Rush and Mr. Matthews exhibited some famous crosses (Hampshire and Oxford), the former winning for wethers and the latter for lambs, weight 5cwt. 3qrs. 24lbs.

Below we give our usual table showing the average daily gain of the prize animals:—

Breed and Owner.	Age.	Weight.	Average Daily Gain.
	Days.	lbs.	lbs.
SOUTHDOWNS. (Wethers under 23 months old.)			
1. Col. H. McCalmont, M.P.	668	705	1·05
2. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales	637	588	0·92
LAMBS.			
1. Col. H. McCalmont, M.P.	289	461	1·64
2. Mrs. Montefiore	294	424	1·44
SUFFOLKS. (Wethers under 23 months.)			
1. Earl of Ellesmere	—	892	—
2. Major E. W. Baird	668	854	1·27
LONG WOOLLED OR CROSSBREDS. (Wethers under 23 months.)			
1. Mr. T. Rush (crossbred)	637	896	1·40
2. Mr. F. J. Matthews (crossbred)	637	876	1·37
3. F. J. Matthews (crossbred)	637	859	1·34
CROSSBRED LAMBS.			
1. Mr. F. J. Matthews	294	695	2·36
2. Mr. T. Rush	280	648	2·31
SHORT-WOOLLED OTHER THAN SOUTHDOWNS. (Ewes over 3 years.)			
1. Major E. W. Baird (Suffolks.)	1,368	873	0·63
LAMBS.			
1. Col. H. McCalmont, M.P. (Suffolks.)	287	592	2·06
2. Earl of Ellesmere (Suffolks.)	—	543	—

Pigs.

These classes were very good in quality and generally well filled. The Berkshire class contained three entries, Mr. Mitchell and H.R.H. the Duke of York taking the money as named. Tamworths also mustered three entries from Lord Hastings, and Mr. Garrett Taylor; again the honours went in the order named. These pens were exceptionally good. The remaining class was for pigs of other breeds, in which the prizes went to two exceedingly nice pens of Large Whites shown by Mr. W. Mitchell. The champion prize for best pen of pigs was accorded to Lord Hastings' Tamworths, and the reserve to Mr. Garrett Taylor's, of the same breed.

Below we give a table showing the average daily gain of the prize animals:—

Breed and Owner.	Age.	Weight.	Average Daily Gain.
BERKSHIRES. (Over 6 and under 12 months.)			
1. Mr. W. Mitchell	353	1102	3·12
2. H.R.H. the Duke of York	351	1140	3·21
TAMWORTHS. (Over 6 and under 12 months.)			
1. Rt. Hon. Lord Hastings	324	1242	3·83
2. Mr. Garret Taylor	303	1109	3·66
OTHER THAN BERKSHIRE OR TAMWORTH. (Over 6 and under 12 months.)			
1. Mr. W. Mitchell (Large White)	352	1317	3·74
2. Mr. W. Mitchell (Large White)	352	1227	3·48

Roots and Grain.

There were a good lot of roots, and though often somewhat ugly in shape they cut up well. The mangolds were a good collection, though there was only one entry in the class for six long mangolds drawn from a field of not less than five acres, that of Mr. W. Mitchell, of Kirby Bedon, who took first prize. In the next class, for six Globe Tankard or Intermediate mangolds, drawn from a field of not less than five acres, there was a much fuller entry and a very good show, Mr. A. J. Cubitt taking first prize. There were seven entries in the class for swede turnips, some of them being very good indeed, Mr. W. Case, of Tuttington, Aylsham, being first prize-winner.

The wheat was a nice sample for the season, though not so good as in some years, the season not having been too favourable for Norfolk wheat. Barley was of fair quality, Mr. W. Mitchell, who took first and second prizes, being a long way ahead of the other exhibitors. Generally speaking, the Suffolk barleys were superior. Oats were very poor, as the weather was most unpropitious for their harvest. Black oats, on the other hand, were very good, since they stand the weather much better than the white. Mr. F. S. Youngman took the first prize with a very fine sample.

Poultry, Butter, etc.

The poultry classes were better than usual. Three of the four prizes for turkeys fell to Mr. H. Fulcher, of Finningham, who had the satisfaction of beating such prominent exhibitors and rearers of poultry as Messrs. Abbot Bros. In the three classes set apart for ducks, fowls, and game fowls, the well-known firm of Messrs. Abbot Bros. figured prominently, taking all the first prizes, in addition to a second for game fowls. The dressed poultry classes enabled Messrs. Abbot Bros. to add largely to their list of honours. Although unable to secure any award with their three exhibits in the class for geese, the first in which was taken by Mr. Garret Taylor, Messrs. Abbot Bros. received second and third prizes for ducks.

The best sample of butter, the produce of Channel Island cows, was shown by Mr. J. Colman, Mr. Garrett Taylor receiving both the first and second

ALL farm live stock should be given "MOLASSINE" It is an excellent food and condiment combined. See advertisement on back page of this issue.—[ADVT.]

wards from that produced from cows not of the Channel Islands breed. Against him were eleven other competitors, but Mr. J. L. King, of Swardeston, who was showing the best pound of fresh butter entirely the produce of cows not of the Channel Islands breed, had opposition from only three opponents. There were only three entries for ornamental butter, for which Mr. Garrett Taylor was able to claim the first award.

The entries for preserved butter and cheese were not numerous, but the samples were exceedingly creditable, the first prize specimens being in the names of Mr. Garrett Taylor and Sir E. Birkbeck, Bart., Horstead Hall, respectively.

Messrs. Abbot Bros. took both first and second prize awards for hens' eggs. Mr. Garrett Taylor and Mr. J. L. King, of Swardeston, respectively, secured those for preserved eggs.

The competition between the pupils of the Technical Instruction Committee of the Norfolk County Council, conducted under the auspices of the Eastern Counties' Dairy Institute, was particularly keen, there being an entry of twenty-two in the fresh butter classes. The exhibits were above the average, and, with one or two exceptions, the butter appeared to be all that could be desired. It was quite clear, as the result of Thursday's exhibition, that the old objections to Norfolk butter must now disappear, and if only sufficient butter of the quality produced at the show can be obtained in the future there would be no necessity for going further afield. There was only one exhibitor of cheese, Miss Edith Goodchild taking first prize.

Judges.

CATTLE: Messrs. F. W. Shuker, Scorrier, Cornwall, and Mr. T. B. Freshney, South Somercotes, Louth, Lincs; Umpire, Mr. W. Newton.

BUTCHERS' PRIZES (cattle and pigs): Messrs. W. Beer, Capel St. Mary, Ipswich; and W. W. Woolsey, St. Faith's; Umpire, Mr. J. W. Dawson, Aylsham Road.

SHEEP: Messrs. T. B. Stimpson, Bixley; and Mr. Robert Anderson, Cirencester; Umpire, Mr. T. B. Freshney.

ROOTS, GRAIN, AND COTTAGERS' EXHIBITS: Messrs. Clare Sewell Read, Kensington Gardens Square, London; and Mr. W. Case, Tuttington.

DEAD POULTRY: Messrs. B. Stimpson, Bixley; and Mr. F. T. Miller, Norwich.

BUTTER, CHEESE, AND EGGS: Mr. Thomas Latham, Dorchester, Oxon.

Champion and Special Prizes.

CATTLE.

Patron's prize for the best beast in the show, the winner of which will receive such a sum in addition to the class prize and champion prizes, so that the total winnings of the same shall equal £100 sterling, with £1 to the herdsman: Mr. Westmore Edwin Learner, Dilham, Norfolk (cross-bred, Ladysmith); r, Mr. John Wortley, Frettenham, Norwich (Hereford steer, Lord Roberts).

The President's prize of the value of £20, for the best ox or steer in the show: Mr. John Wortley, Frettenham, Norwich (Hereford steer, Lord Roberts); r, Mr. W. E. Learner.

A prize for the best cow or heifer in the show: Mr. W. E. Learner (cross-bred, Ladysmith); r, Mr. William Le Neve, Tunstead (cross-bred, Mayflower).

The members' prize for the best Red Polled beast in the show: Mr. R. J. Colman, Bracondale Woods, Norwich (Barbara III.); r, Mr. J. E. Platt, Howbury Hall, Bedford.

A prize for the best beast in the show, bred and fed in Norfolk: Mr. R. Mattocks, The Green, Burlingham (Heather Bell, Shorthorn); r, Mr. E. S. Gowing, Church Farm, Great Malton (Shorthorn, Star).

A special prize for the best animal in the small cattle classes 14 and 15: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., Sandringham, Norfolk (small cattle, Patriot); r, Mr. J. B. Dimmock, Shotford Hall (Shorthorn).

A special prize for the best fat animal, grazed by a bona-fide tenant farmer, resident in the county of Norfolk, exhibited in any of the Society's cattle classes: Mr. W. E. Learner (cross-bred, Ladysmith); r, Mr. W. E. Learner.

A special prize for the second best fat animal, grazed by a bona-fide tenant farmer, resident in the county of Norfolk, exhibited in any of the Society's cattle classes: Mr. W. Le Neve (cross-bred, Mayflower); r, Mr. W. Le Neve (Irish, Game Cock).

SHEEP.

The champion prize for the best pen of sheep in the show, the winner of which shall receive such a sum in addition to the class prize and other champion prizes, so that the total winnings of the same shall equal £15: Colonel Henry McCalmont, M.P., Cheveley Park, Newmarket; r, Colonel Henry McCalmont, M.P.

A special prize for the best pen of lambs in the show: Colonel Henry McCalmont, M.P.; Mr. F. J. Matthews, Bircham Newton, Lynn.

A special prize for the best pen of shearling wethers or ewes in the show: Colonel Henry McCalmont, M.P.; Earl of Ellesmere, Stetchworth Park, Newmarket.

A special prize for the best pen of sheep in the show, exhibited by a Norfolk tenant farmer (whose income is mainly derived from the cultivation of the land), exhibited in any of the Society's sheep classes: Mr. F. J. Matthews, Lynn; r, Mr. F. J. Matthews.

PIGS.

A champion prize for the best pen of pigs in the show: The Right Hon. Lord Hastings, Melton Constable; r, Mr. Garrett Taylor, Trowse House, Norwich.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

Class 1.—Steer of the Red Polled breed, not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr. James E. Platt, Howbury Hall, Bedford; 2, Mr. P. K. Blofield (Exors. of), "Quidenham, Attleborough; 3, Mr. Alfred George Scorer, Flaxmoor, Caston, Attleboro'; r, H.R.H. The Duke of York, K.G., Sandringham; hc, Mr Alfred George Scorer; Mr. James E. Platt.

Class 2.—Steer of the Red Polled breed, not less than two years and not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr. James E. Platt; 2, Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes, M.P., Honingham Hall, Norfolk (Rover); r, Mr. R. Harvey Mason, Necton Hall, Swaffham; c, Mr. Richard P. Cooper, Ashlyns Hall, Berkhamsted, Herts.

Class 3.—Cow of the Red Polled breed, that has produced at least one live calf, or heifer of the Red Polled breed, not exceeding four years old: 1, Mr. Russell J. Colman, Bracondale Woods, Norwich (Barbara III.); 2, Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes, M.P. (Adena); 3, H.R.H. The Duke of York, K.G.

Class 4.—Steer of the Shorthorn breed, not less than two years and not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr. W. E. Learner, Dilham, Norfolk; 2 and r, Miss Alice de Rothschild, Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury (Sultan).

Class 5.—Cow of the Shorthorn breed, that has produced at least one live calf, or heifer of the Shorthorn breed not exceeding four years old: 1, Mr. Robert Mattocks, The Green, Burlingham (Heather Bell).

Class 6.—Steer of any pure breed, other than Shorthorn and Red Polled, not less than two years and not exceeding three years old: 1 and 2, Mr. John Wortley, Frettenham, Norwich (Hereford steer, Lord Roberts, and Devon steer, Baden Powell); 3, Mr. Henry Casswell, Quadring, Spalding (Aberdeen-Angus, Quadring Pride); r, Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Great Marlow, Bucks (Danesfield Lad II.).

Class 7.—Steer of any breed (including cross or mixed breed, but excluding Red Polled), not exceeding two years old: 1, Miss Alice de Rothschild (Shorthorn, Flower Boy); 2, Mr. Fred Casswell, Dunsby, Spalding (cross-bred Poll Angus, Dunsby Fashion); r, Mr. G. W. Weston, Hemblington (cross-bred Red Polled).

Class 8.—Cross or mixed bred steer, not less than two years and not exceeding three years old: 1, Miss Alice de Rothschild (cross-bred, St. Brieux); 2, Sir Hugh E. Adair, Bart., Flixton Hall, Bungay (cros between Galloway and Shorthorn); 3, Mr. William Le Neve, Tunstead (cross-bred, Blue Boy); r, Mr. Henry Casswell (cross-bred Poll Angus and Shorthorn, Quadring Prime).

Class 9.—Ox of any breed (including cross and mixed), not less than three years and not exceeding four years old, and excluding those eligible for Classes 14 and 15: 1, Mr. John W. Rowland, Fishtoft, Boston, Lincs (cross-bred, The Boss); 2, Mr. William Le Neve (Devon, Handy Man); r, Sir Hugh E. Adair, Bart., Flixton Hall, Bungay (Galloway).

Class 10.—Cow of any breed other than Shorthorn and Red Polled (including cross and mixed), that has produced at least one live calf, or heifer of any breed not exceeding four years old: 1, Mr. W. E. Learner (cross-bred, Ladysmith); 2, Mr. William Le Neve (cross-bred, Mayflower); r, Miss Alice de Rothschild (cross-bred heifer, St. Bryde); hc, Mr. R. M. Mills, Bourne (cross-bred).

Class 11.—Steer of any breed (excluding Red Polled), bred and fed in Norfolk, not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr. Frank Neave, Lingwood (Shorthorn, Shortlegs); 2, Mr. Charles H. Learner (cross-bred, Billy); 3, Mr. William Le Neve (cross-bred, Coleby); r, Mr. Frank Neave (Shorthorn, Johnny).

Class 12.—Steer of any breed, bred and fed in Norfolk, not less than two years and not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr. William Neve (Shorthorn, Masterpiece XI.); 2, H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., Sandringham (Shorthorn); r, Mr. E. C. Chapman, Stud Farm, Alethorpe, Fakenham, Norfolk (Shorthorn, Alethorpe Model).

Class 13.—Cow of any breed, bred and fed in Norfolk, that has produced at least one live calf, or heifer of any breed, bred and fed in Norfolk, not exceeding four years old: 1, Mr. Edward S. Gowing, Church Farm, Great Melton (Shorthorn, Star); 2, Mr. J. B. Dimmock, Shotford Hall (Shorthorn); 3, Mr. George W. Roe, Uphall, Garboldisham (Shorthorn, Lady Lovely); r, Mr. William Le Neve (cross-bred, Princess).

SMALL CATTLE.

Class 14.—Steer, not less than eighteen months and not exceeding three years old, nor exceeding 10cwt. live weight: 1, H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G. (small cattle, Patriot); 2, Mr. R. W. Hudson (small cattle, Duke of York); r, Mr. P. K. Blofield (Dexter, Snowball).

Class 15.—Heifer, not less than eighteen months and not exceeding three years old, nor exceeding 9cwt. live weight: 1, Mr. R. W. Hudson (small cattle, Duchess of York); 2, Mr. J. Thorley, Faringdon, Berks (cross-bred, Ringdale Success); 3, Mr. R. Tait Robertson, Babraham, Cambridge (cross-bred, La Mancha Norma); r, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Elsenham Hall, Essex (Dexter, Dexter Miss).

IRISH CATTLE.

Class 16.—Irish bred ox or steer not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr. William Le Neve (Irish, Shamrock); 2, Mr. Charles Le Neave, East Ruston, Stalham (Irish); r, Mr. William Le Neve (Irish).

Class 17.—Irish bred ox or steer over three years old: 1, Mr. William Le Neve (Irish, Game Cock); 2, Mr. Charles Le Neave (Irish); 3, Mr. G. W. Weston, Hemblington (Irish Shorthorn); r, Mr. Herbert Barcham, Knapton, North Walsham.

BUTCHERS' PRIZES.

(The gift of the Norwich and District Butchers' Association.)

Class 18.—For the best butcher's beast of any breed or age, grazed in Norfolk, which has been the property of the exhibitor for not less than six months: 1, Mr. Algernon J. Cubitt, Sisley Old Hall, Norwich (Irish); 2, Mr. William Le Neve (cross-bred, Faultless); r, Mr. William Le Neve (cross-bred, Paston); hc, Mr. William Charlish, Tharston, Long Stratton (home-bred steer); c, Mr. William Wright, Carleton St. Peter, Norwich (breed unknown).

SHEEP.

Class 19.—Pen of three Southdown wethers, under twenty-three months old: 1, Col. Harry McCalmont, M.P., Cheveley Park, Newmarket; 2, H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G.; r, Mr. George Courtauld, Cut Hedge, Halstead, Essex; c, Mr. Jeremiah Colman, Gatton Park, Surrey.

Class 20.—Pen of three Suffolk Black-faced wethers, under twenty-three months old: 1, Earl of Ellesmere, Stetchworth Park Newmarket; r, Col. Harry McCalmont, M.P., and Major E. W. Baird, Exning House, Newmarket.

Class 21.—Pen of three Long-woolled or cross-bred wethers, under twenty-three months old: 1, Mr. Thomas Rush, Mitchells, Saffron Walden (cross-bred); 2, Mr. F. J. Matthews, Bircham Newton, Lynn (cross-bred); 3, Mr. F. J. Matthews (cross-bred).

Class 22.—Pen of three Short-woolled ewes, not under three years old: 1, Major E. W. Baird (Suffolk).

Class 23.—Pen of three Southdown lambs, lambed in the year 1900: 1, Col. Harry McCalmont, M.P.; 2, Mrs. Montefiore, Worth Park, Crawley, Sussex; r, Mrs. Montefiore; hc, Earl of Ellesmere; c, Mr. George Courtauld; Mr Jeremiah Colman, Gatton Park, Surrey.

Class 24.—Pen of three Short-woolled lambs, other than Southdown, lambed in the year 1900: 1, Col. Harry McCalmont, M.P. (Suffolk); 2, Earl of Ellesmere (Suffolk); r, Mr. Thomas Rush, Mitchells, Saffron Walden (Hampshire Down); c, Major E. W. Baird (Suffolk).

Class 25.—Pen of three cross-bred lambs, lambed in the year 1900: 1, Mr. Fred. J. Matthews (Oxford Down ram, Hampshire Down ewe); 2, Mr. Thomas Rush (Oxford ram; Hampshire ewe); r, Mr. Thomas Rush (Oxford ram; Hampshire ewe); hc, Mr. W. H. Hall (Southdown and Suffolk, first-cross); c, Mr Fred J. Matthews (Oxford Down ram; Hampshire Down ewe); Mr. W. H. Hall, Six Mile Bottom, Cambs (Oxford and Suffolk, first-cross).

SWINE.

Class 26.—Pen of three Berkshire pigs, not less than six months and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. W. Mitchell, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, near Norwich; 2, H.R.H. The Duke of York, K.G.; r, Mr. William Le Neve.

Class 27.—Pen of three Tamworth pigs, not less than six months and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, The Right Hon. Lord Hastings, Melton Constable; 2, Mr. Garrett Taylor, Trowse House, Norwich.

Class 28.—Pen of three pigs other than Berkshire or Tamworth, not less than six months and not exceeding twelve months old: 1 and 2, Mr. W. Mitchell (Large White); r, and hc, Mr. Solomon Marshall, Flordon, Norwich (cross-bred); c, Mr. Garrett Taylor (cross-bred).

ROOTS, GRAIN, ETC.

Class 29.—Six long mangels, drawn from a field of not less than five acres: 1, Mr. W. Mitchell.

Class 30.—Six Globe Tankard, or Intermediate mangels, drawn from a field of not less than five acres: 1, Mr. Algernon J. Cubitt, Sisley Old Hall, Norwich; 2, Mr. S. Smith, Thorne; 3, Mr. Garrett Taylor.

Class 31.—Six swede turnips, drawn from a field of not less than five acres: 1, Mr. William Case, Tuttington, Aylsham; 2, Mr. Algernon J. Cubitt; r, Mr. William Le Neve; c, Major White, Saxlingham, Holt.

Class 32.—One bushel of red wheat, a sample from not less than 15qrs.: 1, Mr. W. Mitchell; 2, Mr. Garrett Taylor.

Class 33.—One bushel of barley, a sample from not less than 15qrs.: 1, and 2, Mr. W. Mitchell; r, Mr. J. B. Dimmock.

Class 34.—One bushel of white oats, a sample from not less than 15qrs.: 1, The Right Hon. Lord Hastings.

Class 35.—One bushel of black oats, a sample from not less than 15qrs.: 1, Mr. F. S. Youngman, Wilby, Attleboro'; 2, Mr. G. W. Weston, Hemblington.

POULTRY.

UNDRESSED POULTRY.

Class 36.—Cock turkey: 1 and 2, Mr. H. Fulcher, Finningham, Suffolk; r, Mr. Garrett Taylor; hc, Mr. B. B. Sapwell, Aylsham, Norfolk; c, Messrs. Abbot Bros., Thuxton, Norfolk.

Class 37.—Hen turkey: 1, Mr. J. Pyke, 60, Prince of Wales' Road, Norwich; 2, Mr. H. Fulcher; r, Messrs. Abbot Bros.; hc, Messrs. Abbot Bros.; c, Mr. H. Fulcher.

Class 38.—Goose: 1, Mr. Garrett Taylor; 2, Mr. J. Pyke; r, Mr. William Wright, Hall Farm, Carleton St. Peter, Norwich; c Messrs. Abbot Bros. (twice).

Class 39.—Two ducks: 1 and c, Messrs. Abbot Bros.; 2, Mr. J. Pyke; r, Mr. H. Fulcher.

Class 40.—Two fowls: 1 and r, Messrs. Abbot Bros.; 2, Mr Charles Edward Brooke, The Manor, Baynards, near Horsham; c, Mr. Garrett Taylor (twice).

Class 41.—Two Game fowls: 1 and 2, Messrs. Abbot Bros.; r, Mr. Charles Edward Brooke.

DRESSED POULTRY.

Class 42.—Goose: 1, Mr. Garrett Taylor; 2, Mr. J. Pyke; 3, Mr. William Wright; r, Messrs. Abbot Bros.

Class 43.—Two ducks: 1, Mr. J. Pyke; 2 and 3, Messrs. Abbot Bros.; r, Mr. Garrett Taylor; c, Mr. R. J. Colman, Bracondale Woods, Norwich.

Class 44.—Two fowls: 1, Mr. Garrett Taylor; 2, Messrs. Abbot Bros.; 3, Mr. R. J. Colman; r, Mr. Garret Taylor; c, Messrs. Abbot Bros.; Mr. Charles Edward Brooke.

Class 45.—Two Game fowls: 1 and 2, Messrs. Abbot Bros.; 3, Mr Garrett Taylor; r, Mr. Charles Edward Brooke.

BUTTER, CHEESE, EGGS, ETC.

Class 46.—One pound of fresh butter, entirely the produce of Channel Island cows, absolutely free from salt: 1, Mr. R. J. Colman; 2, Messrs. Abbot Bros.; r, Sir Edward Birkbeck, Bart., Horstead Hall, Norwich.

Class 47.—One pound of fresh butter, entirely the produce of cows not of the Channel Island breed, absolutely free from salt: 1 and 2, Mr. Garrett Taylor; r, Mr. E. De Pix, Broome Place, Bungay, Norfolk.

Class 48.—One pound of fresh butter, slightly salted, entirely the produce of cows not of the Channel Island breed, the property of bona-fide tenant farmers, farming under 100 acres: 1, Mr. J. L. King, Swardeston, Norwich; 2, Mrs. E. E. Munnings, Mendham.

Class 49.—Butter ornamentally prepared for the table: 1, Mr. Garrett Taylor; 2, Messrs. Abbot Bros.

Class 50.—Pot of not less than 10lbs. of preserved butter: 1, Mr. Garrett Taylor; 2, Messrs. Abbot Bros.; r, Mr. J. L. King, Swardeston, Norwich.

Class 51.—Norfolk and Suffolk made cream cheese: 1, Sir Edward Birkbeck; 2, Mr. Alfred George Scorer, Flaxmoor, Caston, Attleboro'; r, Mr. Garrett Taylor; c, The Right Hon. Lord Hastings; Mr. R. J. Colman.

Class 52.—Dozen hen's eggs for table use (double-yolked eggs will disqualify the exhibit): 1 and 2, Messrs. Abbot Bros.; r, Mr. H. Fulcher; hc and c, Mr. J. L. King.

Class 53.—Twelve preserved eggs: 1, Mr. Garrett Taylor, Whitlingham Farm Dairy, Norwich; 2, Messrs. Abbot Bros.; r, Mr. J. L. King.

Class 54.—Home-made bread (a loaf of about 2lbs.): 1, Mrs. J. L. King; 2, Mrs. Mitchell; r, Mr. H. Fulcher.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION PRIZES.

PRIZES, offered by the Technical Education Committee of the Norfolk County Council, for students who have regularly attended a Dairy class held in the county:—

Class 55.—Two pounds of fresh butter: 1, Miss Ethel Smith, Pulham Market; 2, Mrs. Emma Williams, Shelfanger, Diss, Norfolk; 3, Miss Ethel May Bird, East Tuddenham.

Class 56.—Pot of not less than 10lbs. of preserved butter: 1, Mrs. A. Bothway, Canal House, Ashwellthorpe; 2, Mrs. Emma Williams; 3, Mrs. J. Gooderham, The Heywood, Diss; r, Mrs. W. Everington, Newton by Castleacre, Swaffham.

Class 57.—Best Cheddar cheese: 1, Miss Edith Goodchild, Byland Hall, Bressingham, Diss.

SEEDSMEN'S PRIZES.

PRIZES offered by various firms for competition at the Association Show:—

Class 74.—Six roots, Norfolk Giant Purple-top swede: 1, Mr. T. S. Stroyan, Rockland St. Mary, Norwich; 2, Mr. W. Case, The Hall, Tuttingham, Aylsham; 3, Mr. J. W. Colchester, Gissing, Diss; hc, Mr. J. Palmer, Stokesby, Great Yarmouth; c, Mr. James Bell, Hickling, Norfolk; Mr. B. E. Fletcher, Marlingford Hall, Norwich; Mr. W. P. Smith, Wicklewood, Wymondham.

Class 75.—Six roots, Improved Purple-top swede: 1, Mr. F. T. Learner; 2, Mr. R. F. Yallop, Brooke, Norwich; 3, Mr. F. G. Sculfer; hc, Mr. J. R. Davey, Barnham Broom, Wymondham; c, Mr. W. P. Smith, Wicklewood, Wyondham.

Class 76.—Six roots, Daniels' Norfolk Gate-post mangel: 1, Mr. R. Pilgrim, Kirby Cane, Bungay; 2, Mr. A. Stimpson, Arminghall, Norwich; 3, Mr. B. Stimpson, Park Farm, Bixley, Norwich; r, Mr. J. Palmer, Stokesby, Great Yarmouth; hc, Mr. G. R. Bagshaw, Blofield, Norwich; c, Mr. J. W. Colchester.

Class 77.—Six roots, Orange Globe mangel: 1, Mr. T. S. Stroyan; 2, Mr. W. S. Horn, East Ruston Grange, Stalham; 3, Mr. J. Watts, Spooner Row, Wymondham; hc, Mr. W. Rushbrook, High Street, Sutton, Ely; c, Mr. G. H. Dyball; J. Palmer.

Class 78.—Six roots, Daniels' Golden Tankard mangel: 1, Mr. C. Hart, Aslacton Grange, Long Stratton; 2, Mr. W. S. Horn; 3, Mr. W. Aldous, Wortwell Hall, Harleston; hc, Mr M. Birkbeck; c, Mr W. Barber.

Class 79.—Six roots, Green Round or White turnip: 1, Mr. B. E. Fletcher, Marlingford Hall, Norwich; 2, Mr. W. F. Learner; 3, Mr. J. R. Davey, Barnham Broom, Wymondham; hc, Mr. C. Hart, Aslacton Grange, Long Stratton.

Class 80.—Six roots, field carrot, Daniels' Yellow Intermediate: 1, Mr. W. Barber; 2, Mr. B. Stimpson, Park Farm, Bixley, Norwich; 3, Mr. A. Stimpson; hc, Mr. M. Birkbeck, Postwick, Norwich; c, Mr. J. Woods, White House, Belton.

Class 81.—Three of Daniels' Field cabbages: 1, Mr. J. Palmer; 2, Mr. M. Birkbeck; 3, Mr. W. Rushbrook.

Class 82.—Six bulbs of Mr. G. Townsend's Golden Tankard mangel: 1, Mr. Garrett Taylor; 2, Messrs. Sewell and Barnes, Wingfield; r, Mr. S. Nightingale, Thurne.

Class 83.—Six bulbs of Mr. G. Townsend's Globe mangel: 1, Mr. S. Nightingale; 2, Mr. W. Mickleburgh; r, Mr. W. Hamond, Pensthorpe; hc, Mr. T. Rising.

Class 84.—Six bulbs of Mr. G. Townsend's Orange-post Yellow Intermediate mangel: 1, Mr. S. Nightingale; 2, Mr. S. Wright, Acle; r, Mr. G. Weston, Hemblington.

Class 85.—Six bulbs of Mr. G. Townsend's Defiance or Monarch swede: 1, Mr. R. Harris, Sculthorpe; 2, Mr. T. Rising; r, Mr. F. Neave; hc, Mr. W. Hamond.

Class 86.—Six bulbs of G. Townsend's Green Globe, White Globe, or Purple-top Mammoth: 1, Mr. T. Rising; r, Mr. F. Neave.

Class 87.—Six bulbs of Mr. G. Townsend's Gold Ball: 1,

Mr. John Dawson, Reedham; 2, Mr. R. King, Stoke Holy Cross; r, Mr. W. Hamond.

Class 88.—Nine specimens of Webbs' swede (any one variety), drawn from a crop of not less than three acres: 1, Mr. William Le Neve; r, Mr. S. Smith; r, Sir Harry Bullard, M.P.

Class 89.—Nine specimens of Webbs' mangel (any one variety), drawn from a crop of not less than three acres: 1, Mr. Garrett Taylor; 2, Mr. William Le Neve; r, Mr. S. Smith.

Class 90.—Six roots of mangel, any of Carters' prize varieties: 1, Mr. Garrett Taylor; 2, Mr. S. Smith.

Class 91.—Nine roots of swede, any of Carters' prize varieties: 1, The Right Hon. Lord Hastings; 2, Mr. Frederick T. Womack, Ovington; r, Mr. S. Smith.

Class 92.—Nine specimens of any one variety of Suttons' Improved varieties of mangel: 1, Mr. William Le Neve; 2, Major White; r, Major White.

Class 93.—Nine specimens of Suttons' Magnum Bonum, Crimson King, Suttons' Champion, or any of Suttons' Improved varieties of swede: 1, Mr. William Le Neve; 2 and r, Major White.

Birmingham Cattle Show.

The fifty-second annual Birmingham Cattle and Poultry Show will be held in Bingley Hall, Birmingham, from December 1st to 6th. The entries are as follows:—Cattle, 176; sheep, 56; pigs, 54; corn, 62; roots, 141; potatoes, 80; poultry, 2,535; eggs, 36; pigeons, 1,017; total, 4,157.

This total compares with 4,159 last year and 4,055 in 1898. Her Majesty the Queen is the largest exhibitor of cattle, showing as usual Herefords, Shorthorns, and Devons, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is exhibiting two West Highland cattle, Southdown sheep, and a pen of pigs.

The usual challenge cups value £105 each, given by Messrs. Elkington and Co., Mr. J. Thorley, and Messrs. Webb and Sons, will be offered; also the £50 challenge cup, the gift of the proprietor of the *Birmingham Daily Post*, and the Cooper challenge cup for sheep. A special Order has been passed by the Board of Agriculture, so that there will again be an exhibition of pigs, and the hotel and inn keepers of Birmingham are providing a 20-guinea challenge cup in this section. The entries of corn, roots, and potatoes are above the average, and there will be the usual number of attractive stands and implements, etc.

A large number of excursions, at low fares, are announced by the various railway companies.

Colonel McCalmont's Southdown Sheep, one of the Champion Pen at the Norwich Show, 1900.

The Removal of Pigs.—At the South-Western Police Court on Wednesday, Joseph Corke, of High Street, Merton, and Frederick Smith, of White House Farm, Merton Road, were summoned, at the instance of the London County Council, for being concerned in the unlawful removal of fifty pigs. Mr. Collman, who appeared for the Council, stated that the pigs were sold by Smith to Corke, and the latter drove them from White House Farm, which was in the county of London, to his own place, which was in the county of Surrey. No notice of his intention to carry out such a removal was given by the defendants to Mr. Humphreys, the Inspector under the Act, though the latter had warned both defendants against any such proceeding. Mr. Humphreys mentioned that it was contrary to the Order to remove the pigs to adjoining premises, unless a licence was granted. Mr. Collman said that opinion was not strictly accurate. The magistrate: I thought not. In dealing with the case, the magistrate dismissed the summons against Smith, and fined Corke £10, with 31s. costs, reminding him that the maximum penalty was £100.

SOCIETIES.

Suffolk Fat Cattle Club.

A committee meeting of the Suffolk Fat Cattle Club was held at the offices of the secretary (Mr. Robert Bond), Ipswich, on Tuesday afternoon, Mr. J. E. Ransome presiding.

The Secretary announced the receipt of a reply to a letter which he had forwarded to Mr. J. E. Ransome, informing that gentleman that he had been unanimously elected at the general meeting as president of the club for the coming year. Mr. Ransome, in reply, said: "I can only say I shall feel it a great honour to occupy the position, and with the help of the committee shall be glad to do my best to make the next show as successful as its predecessors." (Applause.)

The Chairman stated that the first business was the election of the judges. It was resolved that the following gentlemen should be asked to act as judges:—Cattle, Mr. T. W. Gaze and Mr. B. Stimpson; sheep, Mr. W. Richardson, Lawford, and Mr. J. W. Eagle; swine, Mr. R. Graham and Mr. T. M. Rudland; swine carcase competition, Mr. D. Gobey; roots, Mr. R. Corder and Mr. George Fenn; vegetables, Mr. Gerald Smith and Mr. Sowman; corn, Mr. Alfred Sizer, Mr. Schethes, and Mr. Thomas Mortimer; dairy produce, Miss Martin (Hemingstone), and Miss Simpson, Stonham.

Mr. W. Elphick wrote stating that at a meeting of the Committee of the Ipswich and District Branch of the Meat Traders' Association, held at the County Hotel, Mr. H. Pallant and Mr. G. Dunnett were elected judges for the butchers' prizes, Mr. A. Mudd to act as referee.

The next business was to arrange the conditions of the cattle, sheep, and barley challenge cups. It was decided that challenge cups of the value of 25gs. each should be offered, to be won three years before becoming the absolute property of any exhibitor; one for the best beast in the show grazed in the county, and the property of the exhibitor for not less than six months previous to the date of the show; the second, open, for the best pen of sheep or lambs in the show; and the third for the best bushel of barley grown in Suffolk from a bulk of not less than twenty coombs. Messrs. Fred. Smith and Co., of the Suffolk Seed Establishment, Woodbridge, offered a root challenge cup for open competition, to be won three years, and it was decided that it should be given for the best three distinct varieties, comprising mangold, swedes, turnips, kohl rabi, or carrots, most suitable for feeding purposes, six specimens of each, the roots already entered to be eligible.

Berwickshire.

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Berwickshire Agricultural Association was held on Tuesday in the Town Hall, Duns, Mr. Campbell Swinton, of Kimmerghame, president, in the chair. The annual report was submitted and considered. It showed that the income at the last show at Duns amounted to £347 6s. 4d., and the expenditure £388 13s. 5½d., and that the balance at present in favour of the association was £111 18s. 11½d.

Mr. Weatherhead, Preston, chairman of directors, said the directors had this year used their utmost endeavours to reduce the expenditure on the annual show, and had reduced the outlay in all by £8. Still, the directors regretted that the show was a financial success, the receipts not being equal to the expenditure. He was sorry to say they were in a sinking ship. In the year 1895 they had £304 in the bank, and to-day they had only £111. To what this was due he could not say, but he thought they had done their best to cut down the expenditure.

Several members urged that the prize-list should be altered, and the report was adopted. Messrs. Hall, Greenwaybank; Somerville, Broomlees; and Thompson, Manderston, were elected to the committee.

The meeting received with regret the resignation of Mr. John Gibson, secretary, who was awarded a vote of thanks for his services. It was resolved to meet again on December 3rd to appoint a new secretary.

Royal Lancashire.

The annual report of the council of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society states that there is a balance of £501 on the year's working. The general balance in the society's favour now stands at £5,299. After referring to the success which attended the annual show, the report states that the council have had under consideration this year the question of the diminished competition for the prizes offered for best cultivated farms, and they unanimously approve the following recommendations of the special committee appointed to inquire into the matter:—

(a) That the prizes for best cultivated farms be withheld until 1902, and be then offered triennially, with a view to the society being enabled to substantially increase the value of the prizes. The committee also recommend that a second prize should be offered in each class, and by these means they hope that better results will be obtained.

(b) That the classification and value of prizes be as follows: For the best arable farm of 150 acres and upwards, first prize £50, second prize £25; for the best arable farm of under 150 acres, first prize £40, second prize £20; for the best stock or dairy farm of 150 acres and upwards, first prize £50, second prize £25; for the best stock or dairy farm of under 150 acres, first prize £40, second prize £20.

(c) That the judges visit the competing farms twice before awarding the prizes, one visit to take place in June and the second in August.

(d) In consequence of the proposed second inspection in August taking place after the show, the committee recommend that the following clause in Rule 15, "The awards for the best cultivated farms shall be declared by the judges at the special general meeting of members held during the annual show in the show yard," shall be transferred to Rule 11 (business of annual meeting).

(e) That the first competitions under these conditions in 1902 be open to all members of the society, including previous winners of any prizes offered by the society for cultivated farms; but that after 1902 all winners of first prizes under the new conditions shall be debarred from competing for six years.

During the past year 43 members have been elected and 56 have been removed through death and other causes. The total number of members at present on the society's books is:—Presidents, 5; vice-presidents, 59; vice-presidents (life members), 2; hon. vice-presidents (life members), 2; life members, 57; hon. life members, 10; annual members, 840; total, 975.

Peterborough.

The annual meeting of the Peterborough Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday, Mr. G. Moore, who presided over a large attendance, read the annual report, which stated that the South African war had been responsible for a smaller attendance at the last summer show. The auditor's statement showed as a result of the year's working a profit of 8s. 4d., the receipts being £3,409 1s. 4d., and the payments £3,408 13s. This was increased to a net profit of £4 18s. 4d. after bringing into the account the assets of the society and making allowance for depreciation of timber and plant and writing off some irrecoverable arrears. The net profit on the year was small, but taking into consideration the heavy expense incurred in providing additional accommodation on the show ground for the great increase of entries, the council of the Society felt confident that the members would regard the financial position of the Society as a very strong and healthy one. The reports were adopted.

Mr. W. G. Moore was re-elected chairman of the council. Capt. W. H. O. Duncumbe, of Waresley, was elected next year's president.

The Entire Horse Committee was elected, to consist of Messrs. W. G. Moore, J. Topham, W. Horrell, and F. W. Griffin. Mr. Rouse was re-elected consulting engineer, Mr. J. W. Gresswell and Mr. Mackinder veterinary surgeons, Mr. W. H. Swallow auditor, and Mr. H. Little secretary.

A discussion was raised on the question of appointing a third veterinary surgeon to assist the two veterinary surgeons, and it was ultimately agreed that the matter be referred to a select committee consisting of the Entire Horse Committee and Messrs. W. G. Maxwell and F. Percival, to consider the

the veterinary surgeons. An advance of £15 a year was made in the secretary's salary.

Show fixtures were made as under:—Summer meeting, July 9th, 10th, and 11th; entire show, March 23rd.

In the evening the annual dinner was held at the Fitzwilliam Assembly Rooms. A short toast list was gone through, and Mr. H. L. Blunt, in submitting the toast of the evening, "Success to the Society," expressed regret at the decision of the Government in appointing as Minister of Agriculture a gentleman whose knowledge of the matters he would have to deal with was not extensive.

Cheshire.

The report of the committee of the Cheshire Agricultural Society, accompanied by the statement of accounts, states that through the lamented death of the Duke of Westminster, K.G., they had lost a patron, and one of the most generous supporters of the organisation, and it was proposed to request the present Duke to fill the vacancy. The show at Congleton proved in every way a success. A debit balance of £1 16s. 8d. had been changed to a credit balance of £98 14s. 7d. The gate receipts were the highest ever taken at a one-day show. During the year thirty-one new members had been elected. The total income had been £1,465, including £375 in subscriptions. The expenditure included £405 showyard expenses, and £602 prizes, cups, and medals.

Norfolk Chamber.

A meeting of the Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture was held at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, on the 17th inst., Mr. W. T. Learner presiding.

Mr. W. H. Thorold read a paper on the agricultural situation, dealing with the problem from three points: firstly, as regarded the labourer; secondly, that of the farmer; and, thirdly, that of the landed proprietor. The agricultural situation, he said, had so profoundly changed as a result of the legislation of 1842 and 1846, that he feared it was of little use to approach the subject with the ideas of old-time agricultural authorities. They should endeavour to preserve the three agricultural classes, and unless that could be done, everything in British agriculture would be reduced to a state of absolute chaos. The landlord should accord very great latitude to the tenant, so as to secure him a place of some kind in agricultural economics, as it was to be feared that the trend of circumstances in some parts of the country was rather in the direction of the extinction of the tenant altogether, and the reduction of the agricultural classes to two, viz., landlords and labourers.

Such a reduction would be a great public misfortune, as not only would a valuable class be deprived of the means of livelihood, except in some new field of effort, but the stability and safety of the body politic would also be impaired by a further weakening of that sturdy and substantial middle-class which had been a source of national strength and security for many centuries. Years ago foreign competition was practically non-existent, but now the British farmer had to contend with the competition of American, Canadian, Australasian, Indian, and Russian wheat, not forgetting that new and formidable competitor, the Argentine Republic.

The condition of the world's trade had radically altered during the last thirty years, and since the commencement of that period foreign and colonial wheat was delivered with a regularity and swiftness altogether unprecedented. Foreign wheat supplies were subject to many vicissitudes, and the fluctuations in the growth of wheat in the United States during the last three years had not been far less than two hundred million bushels. Two years since the wheat crop of the United States attained the record of 715 million bushels, while this year the corresponding crop was not estimated at more than 515 million bushels.

He proceeded to show that, while there appeared great fluctuations, experience showed that a partial crop failure in one quarter was not unlikely to be more or less compensated for by an abundant yield in another. That had been the case this year, the American crop being appreciably lower and the Argentine crop expanded. Mr. Thorold went on to explain that recent experience of Argentina afforded an illustration of the immense effect of railway extension upon agricultural productions, and Argentina was a new competitor with the British farmer in the matter of wheat production, simply because the dormant agricultural resources of the Argentine Republic had been called into life by the opening out of the interior of the country. While Argentina would have 50 million bushels of wheat available for exportation this year to Europe, that total afforded no indication of the aggregate to which Argentine wheat deliveries were likely to grow in the future. While there was little hope, therefore, of any improvement in wheat prices, there was also equally little chance of any diminution of external competition in the matter of meat prices.

Mr. Thorold then showed by statistics the development that had been made in the frozen meat trade, stating that New Zealand frozen meat of various kinds was received to the extent of 215 million pounds in 1899-1900, as compared with 116 million pounds in 1897, showing an increase of 99 million pounds. It could not be said that these circumstances had been attended with much injury to British graziers, although it had probably the effect of preventing the meat prices from going somewhat higher on British markets. However much the farmer and the landowner might have been affected by the legislation of 1842 and 1846, the agricultural labourer had been scarcely affected at all. While the wages of the agricultural labourer varied in different parts of the country, speaking generally, they had been substantially increased, and the only way in which the agricultural labourer appeared to have suffered from agricultural depression was that some farmers had probably found themselves obliged to employ a smaller number of men upon their occupations.

In referring to the depopulation of the country, Mr. Thorold said there was a tendency all over the world to increase in town population at the expense of rural districts, and in that case they could hardly expect to escape a similar tendency. To some extent there was a reflex movement, the successful tradesman and professional man going into the country. There had been a certain amount of talk of late of making inducements for the labourer to remain on the land by affording him increased facilities for cultivating on his own account, but there were, he contended, great and serious difficulties in the way of that. The position of the tenant farmer appeared to still leave a good deal to be desired: although they had, no doubt, obtained some relief through more or less substantial reductions of rent, and although they were paying little more than five-eighths the normal amount of tithe, they had to face some increase of local taxation.

On the one hand, they had to pay higher wages, and on the other to contend with severe foreign and colonial competition. Farmers had given increased attention to stock and horse breeding, and had reduced in many cases their cereal productions. Farmers should exert all their influence in favour of a steady extension of light railways, as they would greatly facilitate the movement of their stock and produce. Speaking of the landed proprietors as a whole, he said their relations with their tenants were fairly satisfactory, and they had done their best to cope with the extraordinarily difficult circumstances with which they had had to deal during the last 25 years.

A discussion followed, after Lord Cranworth had proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Thorold. Mr. B. B. Sapwell deprecated the fact that farmers were trying to do with as little labour as possible. That would greatly tend to the depopulation of the rural districts and a serious scarcity of labour. Mr. Sapwell severely criticised the action of the Government in purchasing, during the war, Argentine and Hungarian horses, when a superior class of animal was obtainable in this country for less money.

Mr. Sapwell said that he learned that at a steeplechase held recently in Pretoria, an English horse, standing only 15 hands, easily beat all comers. The horse, which was a thoroughbred, carried its owner, an officer, through the war, and then after his death came into the hands of his groom. He thought these facts showed that the English horse could carry weight and wear, and was much more useful than the inferior stock purchased at high prices in Argentina and Hungary. Norfolk farmers were ready to sell horses between £40 and £50, but the Government instead were buying horses in the countries named at much higher prices, although the class of animal was inferior to the English horse.

Mr. B. Wilson disagreed with Mr. Thorold that it was impossible for the labourer to rise in the world, and he gave instances of farmers now living around him who only a comparatively few years ago were agricultural labourers, yardmen, or teammen. He was also in disagreement as to there being no demand for small holdings, and he pointed out that besides the agricultural labourer there were the small tradesmen, who would cultivate those small holdings. Speaking of the depopulation of the country, Mr. Wilson said it was not only among the agricultural classes; they were also losing the small tradesmen on account of the large towns absorbing all the trade. He urged the need, as a remedy for the depopulation of the country, of the building of better dwellings for the agricultural classes.

Worcestershire Chamber

A special general meeting of the members of the Worcestershire Chamber of Agriculture was held on the 17th, at Worcester, to consider the steps to be taken in view of the combination of agricultural implement makers and agents to abolish the discounts formerly allowed on implements and machinery.

Mr. A. Dudley Clarke presided over a large and representative attendance. A number of implement dealers, he said, and a certain number of implement makers, in the counties of Worcester, Hereford, Gloucester, and Monmouth, had formed themselves into an association on the initiative of the agents with the object of preventing the allowance of more than the stipulated cash discounts off the revised prices. Such a system of trading, the chairman thought, stood self-condemned, as destroying the power of the individual agent to make his own bargain. He moved a resolution deprecating the action of agents and manufacturers in limiting the discount to be allowed, and urging its opposition by all legitimate means. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. T. Parke condemned the action of the implement makers. Mr. J. E. Ward urged the farmers to form such an association as the Western Counties Agricultural Association, and defeat the combination of implement dealers and manufacturers. Mr. W. Stallard and Mr. Pheysey (Stourport) also supported the resolution; and Mr. H. C. Gardner seconded it.

It was decided that the resolution should be forwarded to all agricultural societies and farmers' clubs in the four counties, and also placed on the agenda of the Central Chamber.

Suffolk.

The committee of the Suffolk Agricultural Association met at the Town Hall, Ipswich, on Friday, for the purpose of receiving a deputation from the town of Beccles, desirous of entertaining the Society at the annual show in 1901. Mr. J. A. Hempson presided.

The deputation consisted of the Mayor of Beccles (Col. Thompson Wilson), the Town Clerk (Mr. T. P. Angell), and Mr. F. W. D. Robinson. Colonel Wilson extended a cordial invitation to the Association to visit Beccles, gave the option of having two or three eligible sites free of charge, with a free supply of water, and the hearty support of the Beccles people. The deputation withdrew, and the committee without hesitation accepted the invitation, appointing a committee to view the sites offered. It was agreed to advise the general meeting to ask the Earl of Stradbroke to act as president.

The adjourned annual general meeting of the Association followed, Mr. Hempson again occupying the chair.

Before transacting the business of the meeting, the chairman alluded in sympathetic terms to the loss the Association had sustained in the death of Mr. William Biddell. Besides being one of the oldest and most esteemed members of the Association, Mr. Biddell was one of the most valuable. Only a month ago he undertook the chairmanship of the committee, presumably in his usual health, and now he had passed from them. Mr. Biddell was a member of an old family, who had for generations been men of thorough business ability, leading farmers, and largely engaged in public duties. By his own merit the late Mr. Biddell acquired a higher position than many of them hoped to aspire to, and was returned as a farming member to the House of Commons by the constituents amongst whom he lived. He moved that the members present offer their sincere sympathy to the widow and her family.

Mr. A. J. Smith, in seconding, said they mourned a dear loved friend, and felt that Mr. Biddell's loss to the county was very great indeed.

Mr. J. E. Ransome supported the resolution, and remarked that it was with great regret that he was unable to be present to pay his last respects at the funeral, as he was away from home.

The motion was carried and Mr. A. B. Biddell said he should like to acknowledge on behalf of his relatives the kindly words of sympathy expressed.

The Chairman explained the resolution which the Committee arrived at on receiving the deputation from Beccles, and it was resolved to confirm the Committee's decision to hold the show at that town.

Mr. J. E. Ransome then moved that the Earl of Stradbroke be asked to become president. They all knew the zeal which Lord Stradbroke showed towards agriculture in every way, and there could possibly be no better gentleman to occupy the position as their president. (Applause.)

Mr. P. M. Browne seconded, and remarked that Lord Stradbroke would be the most acceptable president to Beccles people.

The motion was carried.

The date of holding the show was not definitely fixed, it being thought better to consult the Beccles people on the matter. If satisfactory the show will be held on Thursday and Friday, June 6th and 7th.

About half an hour was taken up in discussing a proposition of Mr. Cordy S. Wolton as to the manner the Stock Prize Committee should be elected. Mr. Walton's idea was to get new blood on the committee, and he proposed that the committee should consist of nine members, three of whom retire annually, and should not be eligible for re-election for one year. There appeared to be no unanimity on the matter, and this was withdrawn. Mr. Fred Smith moved a resolution to the effect that a committee of eight be elected annually by the General Committee, to which Mr. Ransome moved an amendment, that the committee consist of nine members, to be elected by the General Committee, and at least three must be fresh men at each election. The amendment was lost by 9 to 7, and the chairman was in rather a dilemma when voting on the resolution was 7 to 7. Eventually the chairman voted against the resolution, making things as they were.

Mr. Philip M. Browne moved, and Mr. J. Toller seconded, "That in Class III., Labourers' Premiums, 'Female dairy servant' shall apply only to those female servants who are employed on premises where the produce of the cows is churned and made into butter, etc." Mr. Cordy S. Wolton said there was practically no competition amongst dairy-maids;

they would soon become as extinct as the dodo. (Laughter.) The resolution, however, was carried.

Other resolutions carried on the motion of Mr. Browne were: "That on the entry forms for Shepherds' Competitions, the date of lambing and the number of shearlings (or ages of sheep) be stated," and "that the annual meeting in the future be held in the third week of November."

The Mayor of Beccles (Colonel Wilson) and Mr. F. W. D. Robinson, Roos Hall, Beccles, were elected members.

The Prize Committee were elected as follows:—Messrs. A. J. Smith, Cordy S. Wolton, S. R. Sherwood, P. M. Browne, F. Paine, Wm. Toller, F. H. Jennings, H. Cross, H. Biddell, L. Digby, J. Flintham. The sub-committee to view the sites offered for the show were appointed as follows:—Messrs. Browne, Sherwood, and W. Toller.

Oxford.

The annual meeting of the Oxfordshire Agricultural Society was held at the County Hall, Oxford, on the 17th inst., Mr. W. H. Ashhurst, president-elect, occupying the chair. The annual report was presented, in the course of which it was stated that "the Committee announce with great satisfaction that the most successful show, with a financial result of £500, will be recorded for the 1900 meeting held in South Parks, Headington, Oxford. Its success was greatly increased by the free hand given by Mr. and Mrs. George Herbert Morrell to the Committee in arranging the buildings and the excellent ground for the horse-ring. The weather, too, was all that could be desired. The thanks of the Society are emphatically due to the Earl of Jersey for the strong and continuous support he gave during his year of office, and also to Mr. and Mrs. George Herbert Morrell for their great generosity in giving the ground and using their utmost influence, as heretofore, to ensure the ends the Society has at heart; to the Mayor of Oxford, for giving every possible facility in his power to make the show a popular and financial success, and to the Local Committee, for its liberal donations towards the special prizes. The Committee are also grateful for the increased help of the County Council, and they feel that the demonstrations and lectures on poultry-dressing, etc., were of the utmost value to many now interested in that branch of industry, which is, and will continue to be, such an important source of income with many farmers and cottagers. Mr. J. F. Mason has consented to accept the office of president-elect, that is president for 1902, when the Society hope to visit the town of Witney. The committee have received an invitation from the town of Thame, through the chairman of the Urban District Council, which they have great pleasure in accepting."

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, on behalf of the residents of Thame and the district, gave the Society a hearty welcome to that town.

Mr. Zacharias seconded the proposition, and congratulated the Society on the success attending the visit to Oxford.

The proposition was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. P. Southby, seconded by Mr. J. Bryan, the audited accounts were passed.

The thanks of the Society were presented to the Mayor and Corporation, the University, the inhabitants of the city and neighbourhood of Oxford, the members of their local committee, treasurers, and hon. secretary, for their zeal in promoting the success of the show, and for their liberal contributions to the prize list; to those who contributed special prizes at the Oxford meeting; to the general managers and officials of the Great Western, London and North-Western, and other railways, for the arrangements made by them in connection with the Oxford Show, and to the Earl of Jersey for the valuable services which he has rendered the Society as president for the 1900 meeting.

Dorset County Barrener Sale.—The annual great county sale of barreners, for so many years associated with the name of Mr. T. Ensor, of Dorchester, came off on Saturday at Dorchester Agricultural Repository, and proved a record in regard to the supply. A good proportion were in high condition. For these the competition was exceedingly brisk, prices all through showing a considerable advance on last year's rates, the best lots making £26 to £36 per pair, and those not in quite so high condition £16 to £24. Devon steers ranged from £20 to £28 per pair, while crossbreds made £25 to £32. Almost every lot was cleared.

Thirsk Hirings.—These hirings were continued on Tuesday, when there was a good attendance of male farm servants, who asked higher wages, but in few instances was any substantial advance obtained on last Martinmas. There was again a dearth of female servants. Managing foremen and hinds received £23 to £24, first ploughmen £18 to £20, second hands £16 to £17 10s., farm boys about £1 for every year of their age; farmhouse female servants £18 to £20, second girls £15 to £16 10s., cooks for town places £18 to £20, general servants £12 10s. to £15, housemaids and chambermaids £11 to £13, nurse girls £9 to £11, and nurses first time out from £6 10s. to £7 10s. for the year.

LITERARY NOTICES.

The fourth annual issue of Baily's Hunting Directory, published at the office of *Baily's Magazine of Sports and Pastimes*, makes its appearance with the opening of the season. Among the more important additions to the yearly increasing contents must be noted the appendix "Sport and War." This opportune feature consists of a long series of lists of hunting men who have gone to South Africa in the Regular Army, in the Imperial Yeomanry, and Volunteers, their rank and mention of promotions and distinctions, and also of misfortunes of war that have befallen them. These lists show convincingly how many good men the Yeomanry and Volunteers owed to the hunting field. An alphabetical list of Hunt servants is a useful new feature. The article "On Summering a Country," and "Drafting Hounds," are excellent, and a distinctly happy idea is that of giving a series of accounts of famous foxhunting runs, with maps. The first, "The Greatwood Run," of the Duke of Beaufort's, is worthy of the priority given it. The accounts of Hunt establishments and the maps have been brought carefully up to date.

There has come to hand a copy of a pamphlet, entitled "Hackney Breeding and Hackney Breeders in Lincolnshire," by "Asmodeus." It is a reprint of a number of articles which appeared in the *Lincoln Gazette and Times*, and which were written in response to a request to prepare a report upon the above subject, and to ascertain as far as possible upon what lines and amongst what classes this industry is carried on in this county, and also what, if any, is the prospect of it being more generally taken up amongst the Lincolnshire farmers. A perusal of the list of members of the Hackney Horse Society discloses the somewhat startling fact that in this, the second largest county of England, with all its wealth of acreage, there are only about a score of members of that society, and of this number not more than about fourteen or fifteen would come under the signification of breeders of Hackneys. It is evident, therefore, that at the present time this county has not very largely taken up this branch of stock raising, and to the cause of this, therefore, the author's inquiries were directed. In order to gauge the opinions of those who have adopted Hackney breeding, he divided the county into districts, went into those districts, and by means of personal and written inquiries, gathered many opinions, and in the pamphlet under notice he reports upon the existing state of affairs, as presented to him in the various replies he obtained, and the personal observations he was enabled to take. The pamphlet will afford interesting reading to all horse breeders, and it may be obtained from the offices of the paper above mentioned, price threepence.

The November number of *Knowledge* has several articles of general interest, the most important perhaps, being the contribution of M. Antoniadi, who gives a graphic description of the great telescope at the Paris Exhibition. This is accompanied by several illustrations, amongst them being a full page one of the great seiderostat of the telescope. Another paper that will be of special interest just now is that dealing with the meteors of November. This forms No. 10 of Mr. E. Walter Maunder's, F.R.A.S., series of "Astronomy without a Telescope." Of the other contents mention may be made of: "Stone Implements on the Gold Coast," "The Pygmies of the Great Forest," "Notes on Comets and Meteors," and "The Face of a Sky for November."

The "Badminton Magazine" for November contains a good variety of sporting articles and fiction. Premier position is given to a story entitled "A Close Finish," by Versturme-Bunbury, dealing with a regimental cricket match. This is followed by "Some Scenes in the Highlands," pleasantly recalled by Alex. Innes Shand. Hunting, as is natural at this period, receives a good share of attention, W. Browne giving an account of a day with "The King's Otter Hounds," and J. Lowndes Randall a description of "Hunting in Brittany: The Last of the Wild Boars," whilst in "Pages from a Country Diary" an amusing hunting story is given. Among the other items of this good number are "Sportsmen in Purple," by Harold Macfarlane; "Some 'Varsity Reminiscences," by T. E. Wells, and "Cold Glories," by Lady Westmacott.

We have been favoured with a copy of a souvenir of the farewell banquet given to the Right Hon. the Earl of Hopetoun, P.C., K.T.G., C.M.G., etc. (Governor-General of Australia), at the Hotel Cecil, on October 3rd. It is issued by the Commonwealth Publishing and Advertising Co., Limited, 28, Martin's Lane, Cannon Street, E.C., the publishers of the *Commonwealth Pictorial*, a monthly social and commercial review of Australian matters. The souvenir is a most exquisite production, and a splendid example of present-day fine art printing. It opens with a description of the Hopetoun estates, followed by details of the farewell dinner, and some particulars of Australasian life and industries. There are numerous extremely interesting illustrations, some of them which are full-page [illegible] being beautifully reproduced. There is a full-page portrait of the guests at the banquet, and of the table, and a key supplied [illegible] two tinted of the principal guests. The [illegible] is worthy to rank as a historical record, and the editor, Mr. C. S. Rutledge, F.R.G.S., F.R.C.I., is to be congratulated on getting together such an excellent publication.

With the close of the Paris Exhibition appears a handsome souvenir of it, issued by the Walter A. Wood Mowing and Reaping Machine Company, of Hoosick Falls, New York, U.S.A., and 36, Worship Street, London, E.C. The souvenir, which is a splendid example of artistic printing, gives an interesting short history of the company and a list of some of the numerous prizes, awards, and diplomas won by Wood machines, as well as special decorations conferred upon the founder of the company, Mr. Walter A. Wood, who died in 1892. The growth of the company has been phenomenal, as the souvenir testifies, as it also does to the wonderful progress made during recent years in harvesting machinery.

POULTRY.

The Trade in New-laid Eggs.

The letter of Mr. E. Brown (secretary of the National Poultry Organisation Society) on this subject, which appeared in our last issue, has called forth the following correspondence:—

Mr. K. B. Baghot-De la Bere, Burbage Hall, Hinckley, writes:—"Mr. Brown's letter on the above subject is full of interest; but I think he fails to realise the difficulty, I may say the impossibility, of obtaining other than a very insignificant supply of new-laid eggs during the late autumn and winter months. At least five-sixths of our British eggs are, of necessity, laid between February and September inclusive, leaving only one-sixth to meet the remaining four months' demand. This, we all know, is wholly insufficient, and this deficiency neither Mr. Brown nor the National Poultry Organisation Society will be able to rectify. Early hatched pullets are at best but shy and intermittent layers through the winter months, and but few hens are sufficiently recovered from their moult to lay before February; hence the scarcity.

"Mr. Brown is, I think, unduly severe on preserved eggs. Eggs pickled in lime-water (the common method of preserving) are good for all purposes except for the egg cup. The buttered or greased egg is, however, after five or six weeks' keeping, as nearly equal to a new-laid egg as a preserved egg can possibly be, and quite fit for the breakfast table—indeed, such eggs are better and fresher than a three days old not greased and left resting on its side.

"If our farmers and other poultry-keepers would preserve the bulk of their eggs during August and September by simply rubbing them with a buttered cloth, and stand them on end, instead of resting them on their sides, they would have no difficulty in getting the new-laid egg price for all the eggs they market in November and December. The public do not care whether an egg is three days old or six weeks, provided it is fresh in taste and appearance. The proof of the pudding (or egg) is in the eating. A score or two of small rings, like napkin rings, can be made of thin cardboard by any child in half an hour, and they answer admirably for storing eggs on end.

"To produce new-laid eggs in winter to sell at three halfpence each is an unprofitable business. The profits are realised in summer, when eggs are cheap, and selling at twelve to sixteen a shilling. And why? Because four times the quantity are produced, and at a less cost for food per head. Winter eggs can only be produced with exceptional care both as to housing and feeding, and this appears to be beyond the [illegible] power of the average farmer, although they of all others are best circumstanced to excel in this particular, owing to the shelter of their ricks and buildings and extensive scratching range.

"The poultry industry of this country is being ruined by that fatally cheap and injurious grain, maize, or Indian corn. If the National Poultry Organisation Society will issue a leaflet drawing attention to the evils of the excessive use of this grain, it will prove of far greater value than 'No. 4 Leaflet—Winter Egg Production,' recommended by Mr. Brown."

"J. M. M.," Perou-sur-Mer, France, points out that "this section of Normandy—opposite Jersey—enjoys the mildest and most even temperature during winter of all Europe. We have eggs in abundance all the year round. To-day, at the little shops in Pirou village, they ask eightpence a dozen; and if some enterprising dealer would get off the beaten tracks, and work this district up, he could make contracts for the year at one sou or less, and secure large new-laid eggs up to many thousands a week.

"A year or two ago a London shopkeeper took from this section many hundreds a week, and, to my knowledge, resold at twopence and [illegible] penny as 'Wiltshire' eggs all through the winter. The [illegible] from Carteret to Granville [illegible] immense quantities of 'hen fruit,' and, being off the line of rail, is rarely visited by the egg collector, as it [illegible] ports."

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

Several visits during the week to the offices of hop factors have shown me that there is an absence of inquiry by merchants, who appear to be waiting for the realisation of their earlier purchases before they go in for further business. But some very important transactions have been concluded by a brewery firm, who are the largest individual consumers of hops in the United Kingdom, and, perhaps, in the world. Their annual contracts were placed last week, and although these have been probably limited to stocks already held in anticipation by certain merchants, and therefore do not immediately affect the general market, the transfer of such quantities will doubtless result in their early replacement and consequent renewal of activity in the general Borough business. The tone of the trade is therefore fully as healthy and strong as it has been recently, although I have knowledge of some small lots having been released at rather lower prices than the holders have hitherto demanded. These isolated cases are, however, not to be taken or quoted as indices of the general trend of the trade, as they prove nothing beyond the fact that the holders had made up their minds to sell without further delay, and had selected an unfavourable moment for putting their determination into effect. The best informed experts are satisfied that the future of the hop market may be waited for without any doubt or uneasiness, as higher values are inevitable. The only question to be decided is whether, by holding in first hands, growers are to reap the benefit, or, by selling before the advance is established, they will hand the additional profit over to merchants.

I understand that brewers are buying pretty freely of

American Hops,

the value of which is strongly upheld by sellers. During the quiet trade of the preceding fortnight slight concessions were offered by some holders, which were at once taken advantage of by other merchants, who by their purchases are now enabled to assume practical control of the trade. Having entire confidence in the future of the market, these firms are supporting prices, and their expectations seem to have affected the minds of consumers, who are now operating without hesitation. The growing strength of this section will certainly assist the upward movement in the value of English growths.

My remarks on the

Compulsory Branding

of our hops have elicited some criticism from one of our best-known and most advanced planters. He argues that the printing of the name and parish of the grower on the pockets provides a guarantee of quality and management which is appreciated by brewers and induces them to pay higher prices than would be the case if the pockets were not so branded. I concede the force of the argument when, as in this particular instance, the command of capital and its intelligent and skilful use have enabled a planter to attain to a recognised position. It would not be wise for such a position to be lost or endangered by the absence of a name which is accepted as a standard of excellence. But I nevertheless believe that compulsory branding is frequently prejudicial to those whose efforts to attain excellence and its full reward are handicapped in the market by the traditional value given to hops grown in certain districts, whereas if the product of another distrit were tested by its actual brewing value and irrespective of the brand, it would be not infrequently found that full prices would be secured for it. It cannot be denied that there are advantages in the present system to many growers, but I think the balance of disadvantage is against the English industry as a whole, and I should welcome the establishment of the practice of selling and buying hops on their merits as determined by analysis, believing that in the end the emulation aroused thereby would tend to raise the general average of quality and assist English growers in their struggle with competitive foreign growths.

As an illustration which appears to me to assist my argument. I would refer to a shipment of

Hops from British Columbia,

that were recntly brought under my notice. These were grown from Kentish sets, and the samples presented such attractiveness in colour and management, with such perfect ripeness and richness in lupulin, that they were valued at a price quite equal to those of corresponding English growth. They are, therefore, competitors in quality only, but not in market value. Prejudice as to their place of origin would formerly have classed them as of lower grade than our own produce, but as my correspondent admits it is desirable that "hops should be bought for their lupulin," and as modern tendency is in that direction, the value of the British Columbian produce is established on this basis, which, as I consider, is the soundest for all concerned. Such competition as this is an enlarging factor in the hop trade. It cannot be overlooked and must be recognised, and however risky it may be for English growers to "get before the times," it is most desirable that they should at least live up to the advancing tide of circumstances, that they may be able to "meet their enemies in the gate," and confront them before the citadel is captured. I am convinced that we can hold our own, if we put on our armour and prepare ourselves for the battle. "To be forewarned is to be forearmed." Rising facts are warning us, let us accept them at their proper value and act accordingly.

I regret to hear that the

Hop Growers' Conference at Wye

will not be held this year. It appears that some building operations are going on at the South-Eastern Agricultural College, for which reason the annual meeting of planters is abandoned. The interesting and valuable features of preceding conferences cause one to wish that the College Council could have arranged for a meeting at Ashford or some other convenient centre. My regret at the postponement of the meeting will, I am sure, be shared by all those who have derived much pleasure as well as profit from previous discussions at Wye.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

The quieter tone prevalent on this market, indicated last week, has since become more manifest. Demand having somewhat decreased, and sales being limited to an average of about 300 bales per day, prices have given way to a slight extent. But as supplies are proportionately diminished there is no augmentation of stock, and holders, confidently anticipating an improved demand in the near future, are therefore not pressing for business. It cannot be denied that in the present position of affairs there is an absence of strength, and the immediate tendency perhaps suggests further decline in values. Nevertheless, there is no anticipation that this condition will be other than temporary. A slight revival of the export demand would quickly bring about a reaction, and the market would then speedily regain vigour, and values attain their former level.

Munich.

Sales of hops to brewers have considerably exceeded the new arrivals, so that a reduction of stocks has been affected. Consequentlr, spot quotations have remained steady at recent figures, and there is no indication of any desire on the part of dealers to force business by offering concessions to buyers.

Aischgrund.

Very few hops are available, the greater proportion having been disposed of. Some depression of prices has taken place, consequent upon the smaller demand.

Wurtemberg.

At the most recent market enquiries were few, and the business done was at slightly reduced lrices. Only a small quantity of hops remains unsold.

Rothenburg.

During the past fortnight business has been quiet. Stocks are very limited, and medium qualities are wanted. Prices realised lately have been about equal to previous currency.

Warsaw (Russia),

The yield of Polish hops this year is fully 25 per cent. less than in 1899, only amounting to 30,000 pouds, or about 11,000cwt., but they realised from 40s. to 50s., against 30s. to 40s. last year.

Burgundy.

Although the trade is rather quieter, values have not receded. Current quotations still remain at 105 to 115 francs. The hops remaining in the hands of growers are now reduced to a minimum.

Belgium.

There has been no appreciable change in the character of the hop markets within the past week, although quotations are somewhat variable, and do not manifest quite the same firmness that has recently been evident. Buyers have been more cautious, as they find they cannot so readily dispose of their purchases, brewers being just now rather slow in operating. With some tendency towards lower figures, prices have not actually receded to any extent, although probably any holder desiring to realise would be compelled to give way in order to do business. But it is almost impossible to arrive at exact conclusions concerning a market that is so much influenced by speculation as is the Belgian hop trade, and it is equally difficult to forecast the future course of affairs. From a statistical point of view, weakness should be superseded by strength, and despite the symptoms now in front of us I am inclined to look for an early resumption of firmness, and the possibility of still further advancement in values.

Belgian imports of hops during the first ten months of the present year totalled 1,407,647 kilos, being somewhat larger than in the same period of 1899. English hops figure in the returns at 221,748 kilos, as against 90,657 kilos last year, but the imports from America have fallen off from 87,524 kilos to only 11,575 kilos. Exports from Belgium have diminished during the period named by nearly 250,000 kilos, or to the extent of about 35 per cent.

America.

A strong and active hop market continues in New York, and a much larger business has been done to date than to the same date last year. Exporters are anxious to operate even at the advanced figures which have now been established, and alongside them are the local brewers, who desire to secure their supplies. These influences are felt in the country centres, where buyers are taking up every lot they can get hold of. Growers are naturally taking advantage of the position, and having knowledge of the scarcity are advancing their demands. A fraction over 20 cents has been paid for choice grades, and 16 to 20 cents may now be accepted at present values. Not only in New York State, but on the Pacific coast the trade is getting stronger. Oregons remaining in first hands are now estimated not to exceed 12,000 to 15,000 bales. The outlook is therefore distinctly in favour of still higher prices, which from all appearances must shortly be quoted.

Alleged Extensive Robbery of Hops.

At Southwark Police-court, on Thursday, before Mr. Slade the investigation was resumed of a series of charges of stealing and receiving hops. The cases before the Court were the following: Samuel Wild, 28, foreman to Messrs. Parkes, Son, and Ayling, hop factors, Great Guildford Street, Borough, charged with stealing three pockets of hops, value £25, belonging to his employers; John Langridge, 45, carman, and Alfred George Studd, 39, hop porter, charged with stealing two bags of loose hops, value 30s., belonging to Studd's employers, Messrs. Trier, Mayer, and Co., hop merchants, of Maze Pond, Borough; James Stocker, 53, hop merchant, and his son and assistant, Charles Stocker, 17, charged with feloniously receiving the said three pockets and two bags of hops, and also with stealing and receiving

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society.*

To Hop Growers.—Users of Wire Work should buy the Best English Galvanised Steel Hop Strand, made by Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington, Lancs. For prices, &c., apply to their London office, 86, Leadenhall-street, E.C.; or their Sole Agent for Kent and Sussex, Mr. Edward Ball, 3, Newstead-road, Lee, S.E.—[ADVT.]

two pockets of hops, value £16, from Bricklayers' Arms Station, and one pocket, value £8, from Blackfriars Station of the South-Eastern and Chatham Railway Company.

Mr. Bodkin prosecuted on behalf of the Hop Trade Association; Mr. C. Gill defended the Stockers, and Mr. J. D. A. Johnson appeared for Wild. Further evidence was now given, and all the prisoners pleaded not guilty, and reserved their defence, except Studd, who pleaded guilty. They were committed for trial at the sessions. Bail for James Stocker was fixed at £1,000 and for Wild at £100. Charles Stocker was released on £40 bail.

A summons under the Merchandise Marks Acts, for falsely marking three pockets of Sussex hops as Kentish hops, was served upon James Stocker, and heard forthwith. He was committed upon that charge also.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 687, 689.)

MILLING.

How to Make the Most of Wheat and its Impurities.

Trade in flour has been very dull during the past fortnight, although in some places prices have been reduced 6d. per sack. On the other hand, offals are still in brisk demand, especially bran, which is perhaps more appreciated as a feeding stuff at the present time than ever before. But all sorts of offals sell well, and as the winter approaches there will be a large demand, and prices may go higher than ever. Should this prove to be the case, millers may find it expedient not to pursue the process of flour-making too far in the system, always remembering that the place to stop making flour is where the price of offal approximates with the price of the lowest grade flour made. This, of course, will be determined by local circumstances.

English wheat has not been in good supply of late, the wet weather, no doubt, militating against the operation of threshing, and what we have received has generally been in bad condition, difficult to mill, and giving a low yield. As the season advances we may get better samples. One thing is certain—that the only place of safe storage for this year's wheat is in the stackyard. It should be threshed and milled at once, after having been passed through the dryers. Even in the best of seasons these soft wheats will not lie for long together without damage. No wheats should be stored if they are at all damp—not even the hardest kinds—or if they contain much dirt and other foreign substances. Heated wheat is generally caused by an excess of moisture or an excess of impurities, and it generally happens that when the cause of heat is removed or prevented the heat itself disappears or is avoided. In nearly all cargoes of heated wheat it will be found that there are

Several Grades or Qualities,

so far as the damage done is concerned. A part may have received little or no injury, while some may be so badly heated as to be no good whatever for milling or any other purpose. Slight damage may be remedied by aspirating the wheat, sending it over a warehouse separator, or passing it through a cleaning plant. In the latter case the unpleasant smell will be given off with the steam in the dryers. If one application is not sufficient the process may be repeated. When wheat arrives in good condition it should always be subjected to a preliminary cleaning before storage.

An excess of impurities, especially if weevils be present, will nearly always result in the development of heat, and therefore, in order to guard against the latter, the grain should be passed over a warehouse separator. This machine generally consists of two sieves, the top one being covered with 14 or 15 zinc and the bottom one with about 8 or 9 zinc, according to the class of wheat to be treated. The wheat, on entering the machine, is, of course, fed along the whole width of the top sieve, through which it sinks with all impurities smaller than itself, while everything larger than wheat—sticks, large stones, string, beans, straw, etc.—tails over. The second sieve in turn tails over the wheat, and broken wheat, seeds, and all impurities smaller than itself passes through. Two aspirations are usually employed in this preliminary cleaning, one on the wheat as it enters the machine, and the other as it leaves it. By this means a great deal—in fact, the bulk of the light impurities, straws, chaff, small seeds, weevils, etc., are lifted out, and the wheat can be delivered to the storage bins in a fairly clean condition. A little consideration will show that this machine makes its separations by a difference in size (the sieving parts) and in weight (the aspirating parts). In fact it is

A Separator and an Aspirator

combined, the impurities lifted out by the exhausts falling into the aspirating chambers. Small country millers who only mill very clean wheats may almost finish them off with this machine, and if any other follows it should be a wheat brush. Large millers, however, who have to make very white flours, and who use wheats which contain a fair, and sometimes a large amount of impurities, never trust to the warehouse separator for making separations by size. It suffices to give wheats a preliminary cleaning for purposes of safe storage, and that is all. When such wheat is wanted for milling it is passed over a milling separator, which makes a second and more careful distinction between the pure and the impure. In all well-arranged mills the dust is blown into a dust-room, which should be frequently cleaned out, so as not to allow of any great accumulation. Much of the dust lifted out in this way, too, is very light, and care should be taken not to allow it to escape and disfigure the outside of the mill.

The machine which is called the milling separator, as opposed to the warehouse separator, which is specially adapted for use in silos and granaries for rough cleaning before storage, is usually provided with additional sieves for separating small and broken wheat, cockle, and other seeds. For this reason, even in small mills where only one separator is employed, it is to be preferred to the warehouse separator. In the case of both machines, however, there should be an efficient system of sieving, with carefully arranged exhausts, while the holes in the zinc should not be liable to clog up, and there should be no vibration. There is an especial reason, too, both in the case of large and small mills, for making

As Many Separations as Possible

upon the milling separator or separator and grader. Not only should the large, clean wheat be put to the best account in the manufacture of pure flour, but the small wheat, the barley and oats, where they are found, the cockle, broken wheat, and seeds, can all be put to a useful account, especially where the business of flour manufacture is carried on in conjunction with the manufacture of provender and feeding stuffs generally. In many large mills the grader exists as a separate machine; in others it is combined with the milling separator. It is necessary to grade the wheat for the elimination of barley, oats, cockle, and rye—the latter being the special impurity in Russian and Danubian wheats—and some such an arrangement of sieves as the following will suffice on a combined machine of the kind under present consideration. In addition to the top sieve which tails over the large impurities it will be found that if the second sieve be covered, in the case of wheats which contain these impurities, with 12 zinc, or its equivalent wire number, it will tail over a great deal of long barley corns and oats, which can be ground on stones as a separate product, and sold for a good price as

A Valuable Feeding Stuff,

A sieve covered with 10 or 10½ zinc, as the case may be, would tail over the large wheat to barley cylinders, a fourth covered with 8 or 9 zinc (about 10 wire) would tail over the small wheat to cockle cylinders, and a fifth sieve covered with 6 zinc (18 wire) would deliver broken wheat and seeds, and the dust would pass through. No attempt, whatever, should be made on such a machine to make a separation of rye, for which a separate grading will be necessary. But it will be seen that a machine arranged in this way, with the further aid of barley and cockle cylinders, will make the following separations—large wheat, small wheat, oats, and long barleycorns, smaller oats, and barley, cockle, and broken wheat and seeds. All these products should receive different treatment, and each should be worked up to the best advantage. It will often pay too to convert the smallest of the wheat into offals, instead of reducing it into flour. This question of feed is an all-important one with small millers, and should receive a great deal more attention than it often does. Such machines as have been under review will assist greatly in this object, and it must never be forgotten that in every operation of wheat cleaning and milling the better the separations the better will be the flour, and the more valuable the offals from a money point of view.

MILLER-FARMER.

Penrith Hirings.—The second hiring fair at Penrith took place on Tuesday, and was much better attended than usual. The hirings were very slow, except for strong boys, who got fully last week's wages. Other classes generally had to take from 10s. to £1 less than last week, though females, who were very scarce, practically commanded their own prices.

Gored to Death by a Bull.—At Milverton on Monday an inquest was held on a labourer named William Sloman, of Piel's Cottages, in the employ of Mr. S. Kidner, farmer. It appears that on the previous Friday afternoon a shepherd named Cornish heard the deceased calling the cows from a field for milking. He walked towards the field, in which there was a bull as well, and saw all the cows but one going towards the farm. The remaining cow was near the bull. He could not see the deceased, and stood looking at the bull, when he saw the animal toss the deceased into the air. He fell into a wheel-rut, where the animal pushed him about. Witness, who had two dogs with him, rushed to the deceased's assistance. He shouted to the bull, and the dogs went towards it. The bull then chased them into an adjoining field, and witness shut it in there. He then found that the man was dead. Both witness and Mr. Kidner stated that the bull was generally very quiet, the latter adding, however, that as soon as the animal was fit it would be sent to the butcher. The jury returned a verdict of "Death by misadventure."

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Date of Harvesting.

The proper time to cut barley is one always in question, but it can be cut, and it remains one of the few points which can be controlled by experienced skill. The state of the weather [illegible] and is likely to remain so. Yet the exercise of judicious care can influence the final results, even as affected by weather, to a surprising extent.

Two farms can lie adjacent to each other, and be as much alike as any two farms can be. The owner of one will show at the end of harvest good stacks well made, with sweet, bright corn and [illegible] properly sweating grain. The other [illegible] heated, and almost useless for the purpose of the maltster or even to feed to

The whole secret is, one man judged properly when to cut, and having begun, worked with prompt [illegible] the other let things drift, and [illegible] to make haste unduly.

Heated Ricks

and immature grain are both proof positive of absence of sound judgment. No conditions of weather excuse either.

It may seem a harsh verdict, reflecting upon a large number of good and true men supposed to be capable farmers. Yet the fact remains no man of sound judgment will ever build a stack that heats, or can he consent to cut immature grain, unless, of course, it happens to be a season when there seems a reasonable prospect of fit ripeness being reached.

Few growers quite realise the true value to a brewer and maltster of perfect ripeness; for, unfortunately, some of those who have given very careful attention to the matter think that over or dead ripeness is what is needed.

Perfect finish to ripening can only be effected in stack by gentle sweating, and this is best induced by cutting at the right stage of ripeness and [illegible] when fit. It necessarily involves

Right Modes of Cutting,

and it is very problematical if any type of self-binding can be so described. Mowing and lying in swarthe possess advantages nine seasons out of ten that have not yet been successfully disputed by any new system tried under right conditions.

Unlimited experience will never be able to fix a date for cutting. The most we can do in the matter at present is to record the facts of each year's experience. Taking the 160 samples sent up to the Brewers' Exhibition, they show amongst other things the following:—Of the total seven only were cut in July, but of that number four gained some kind of award apart from whatever share they may have had in determining the awards for threshing.

One only was cut in September. This [illegible] notice, but purely on the grounds that it was Scotch and a useful type of seed barley. Had it stood on its merits as a malting sample it would have been disregarded. One sample also had no date for cutting assigned, and it may not be unworthy of note that farmers who have sufficient knowledge to enter at this show sometimes do not know or take the trouble to remember when the grain was cut.

In the first week of August harvest had become fairly general, and of twenty-four samples no less than eight, or one-third 33 per cent.), gained awards. In the next succeeding week sixty samples were cut, and of these twenty-four (40 per cent.) won prizes.

The third week ran very close with fifty-four samples and nineteen awards (35 per cent.), whilst the last ten days of the month yielded only fifteen samples with four awards (or under 27 per cent.). This year, therefore, the best harvest week for barley was the second week in August, followed very closely by the third week.

The earliest cut in the year recorded was July 18th, in Middlesex, and it is significant that no Cornish sample was cut prior to August 7th, nor in Somerset until August 14, excepting one on the first week of August.

It is obvious the men who cut late do not think they have much chance at the Exhibition, and probably few late samples would be approved. Yet it is quite certain that a larger breadth of corn stood uncut in the second week of September than ought to have been the case, notwithstanding the state of the weather and of the labour market.

Still, with regard to harvesting generally our farmers can confidently feel clear in the last [illegible] the century they have little really to be ashamed of. As a body, they show intelligent appreciation of action which deserves warm commendation.

Date of Cutting.

Date		No. of samples	No. of prizes	Percentage of prize winners
July	18	1	1	100
,,	31	6	3	50
August	7	24	8	33
,,	14	60	24	40
,,	21	54	19	35
,,	31	15	4	27
Sept.	2	1	1	100
		161	60	37

William Colchester Gold Cup Competition.

The third annual gold cup barley competition took place on Friday morning at Griffin Mills, the headquarters of William Colchester's chemical manure business. The gold cup barley prize consists of a massive cup entirely of gold, and is valued at 20gs. It will be specially engraved with particulars of the competition and the occasion, or the winner may elect to receive the prize in 20gs. cash. Silver and bronze medals were also awarded as second and third prizes. The judges on this occasion were Mr. Thos. Franklin, of Hitchin, whose colleague was Mr. T. S. Damant, of the Ipswich Malting Company; Mr. William Breese, Occold Hall, acting as steward.

This competition was only open to the users of the gold cup barley fertiliser (Griffin brand), prepared and manufactured only at William Colchester's chemical manure and bone-crushing mills, Ipswich, and every ton of gold cup barley fertiliser entitled the purchaser to enter one sample of barley grown with the aid of this manure, and thus two or more tons entitled the purchaser to stage two or more samples at his discretion. The gold cup barley fertiliser may be used with or without farmyard manure, as circumstances may require, but an essential condition is that no form of chemical manure other than this may be utilised in the growth of the sample.

The entries far exceeded in number those in previous competitions, being, in point of fact, more than double those entered last year. There is no doubt that competitions such as these are inculcating a healthy feeling of rivalry among the farmers, not only in Suffolk, but in counties as far south as Hampshire and north to Lincoln and Yorks. Samples in this present competition come from eight counties.

At these works were to be seen new disintegrators for the reduction of bones from the whole sizes in which they are collected into fine powder, and the adoption of the Westinghouse air compressors for the conveyance of acids from different low levels to high ones, by which it is now possible to handle these liquids without coming into contact with the old-fashioned valve and pump business. We saw in course of erection an illustration of the paternal way in which her Majesty's Local Government Board looks after the welfare of those in the cottage as well as those in the mansion. We saw new brick towers being erected by which the few dangerous fumes are dealt with by saturation with water, and the residual conveyed to a seventy-foot shaft. We saw all the different sections of what would otherwise be waste productions, which are prepared and carted to the door of the consumers all the world over. Mr. James Howison, F.R.H.S., is the chemist in charge of the laboratory, and he courteously explained everything within his ken. We saw guano from Damaraland and phosphates from Central Africa, the districts which were originally explored by a private expedition sent out a few years back, in which the firm took a leading part. To-day their travellers go practically to every civilised country, including France.

The entries in the competition included samples from eight counties, the following among others:—Messrs. John Parratt, Wrecclesham, Farnham, Surrey; E. S. Coppen, Station Farm, Copdock, Suffolk; Alfred Dawson, Rushmere, Suffolk; William D. Pratt, Witnesham, Suffolk; Thos. V. Preston, Lamas, Norfolk; R. J. Thurman, Bridge Farm, Semer, Suffolk; D. Watson, Bois Hall, Brentwood, Essex; Edward Auston, Waterhouse Farm, Ardleigh, Essex; Hy. Fulcher, Finningham, Suffolk; H. G. Walne, Kettleburgh Hall, Suffolk; D. S. Carrod, Hill Farm, Felsham, Suffolk; W. A. Fairhead, The Lodge, Thorpe le Soken, Essex; J. B. Bolton, Park Farm, Doddinghurst, Essex; Alfred D. Newson, Old Newton, Suffolk.

The results were as follow:—

Gold Cup.—R. J. Thurman, Bridge Farm, Semer, Suffolk.

Silver Medal and Diploma.—E. S. Coppen, Station Farm, Copdock, Suffolk.

Bronze Medal and Diploma.—Edward Auston, Waterhouse Farm, Ardleigh, Essex.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

Nov.
26 and 27. Tunbridge Fat Stock and Poultry Show.
27 and 28. Whitchurch (Salop) Dairy Farmers' Association's Show, at Whitchurch.
27 and 28. Lord Tredegar's Agricultural and Poultry Show, at Cattle Market, Newport, Mon.
29. Sale of Hackneys and Harness Horses belonging to Sir Oswald Mosley and Mr. J. T. C. Eadie, at Rolleston Hall, Burton-on-Trent.
29 and 30. Chippenham Agricultural Association's Show, at Chippenham, Wilts.
30. Sale of Shire Mares, Fillies, and Geldings, at Peterborough Repository.

Dec.
1 to 6. Birmingham Cattle and Poultry Show, at Bingley Hall.
4, 5, and 6. Leeds Smithfield Club's Show, at Camp Road, Leeds.
4. Cowbridge and County Farmers' Club Society's Show, at Cowbridge.
5. Forres and Northern Fat Cattle Club's Show, at Forres.
5 and 6. Redhill Agricultural Show.
5 and 6. Scottish National Fat Stock Club Show, at Waverley Market, Edinburgh.
5, 6, and 7. Royal Dublin Society's Winter Show.
6. Cheese Liverpool and District Cowkeepers' Association's Show, at Liverpool Corporation Haymarket.
7. Weeke Christmas Fat Stock Auction Show.
8. Meeting of the Bath Chamber of Agriculture; Lecture on "Bacon Curing," by Mr. Loudon M. Douglas, A.I.M.E.

Webb and Sons' Root Competition.

The awards in the above competition for the valuable prizes offered by Webb and Sons, the Queen's seedsmen, Wordsley, Stourbridge, for root crops grown from their seed, and with the aid of their special manure, have just been decided. The judges were: Mr. E. Bennett, Patshull Farm, Wolverhampton; Mr. W. Hier Evans, Radyr Court, Llandaff, Cardiff; Mr. Lewis Roach, Quatt, Bridgnorth; and the following is a copy of their awards, from which it will be seen that some heavy crops have been grown this year:—

District 1.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the Counties of Salop, Stafford, Montgomery, Warwick, and Leicester. First prize, £15 15s.: Mr. F. H. Sharrod, Charrington Manor, Newport, Salop, 35 tons 5 cwt. 2 qrs. 24 lbs. per acre; second prize, £10 10s.: Mr. W. Nunnerley, Kenwick, Ellesmere, Salop, 34 tons 7 cwt. 0 qrs. 16 lbs. per acre; third prize, £5 5s.: Mr. Edward James, Donnington Farm, Newport, Salop, 27 tons 14 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs. per acre. Three acres of Webbs' mangold. Prize, £5 5s.: Mr. J. E. Weaver, Stone Mill, Stone, Staffs., 58 tons 12 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs. per acre.

District 2.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the Counties of Hereford, Monmouth, Brecon, Glamorgan, Carmarthen, and Pembroke. First prize, £15 15s.: Mr. John Davies, Hoddens Down, Reynoldstone, R.S.O. Glam., 35 tons 12 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs. per acre; second prize, £5 5s.: Mr. A. F. Partridge, Wharton Court, Leominster, 33 tons 5 cwt. 2 qrs. 24 lbs. per acre. Three acres of Webbs' mangold. Prize, £5 5s.: Mr. Philip Price, Howick Farm, Chepstow, 63 tons 10 cwt. per acre.

District 3.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the Counties of Oxon, Berks, Bucks, Wilts, Hants, Surrey, Worcester, and Gloucester. First prize, £5 15s.: Mr. H. W. Stilgoe, The Grounds, Adderbury, Banbury, 30 tons 8 cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs. per acre; second prize, £5 5s.: Mr. J. R. Butler, Churchill, Kidderminster, 30 tons 5 cwt. 2 qrs. 24 lbs. per acre. Three acres of Webbs' mangold, open to the Counties of Oxon, Berks, Bucks, Wilts, Hants, Surrey, and Worcester. Prize, £5 5s.: T. Simpson Jay, Esq., Warren Farm, Wimbledon, 54 tons 1 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs. per acre.

District 4.—Three acres of Webbs' mangold, open to the County of Gloucester. Prize, £5 5s.: Mr. F. Rymer, High Woolaston, Lydney, 42 tons 14 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs. per acre.

District 5.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the County of York. First prize, £10 10s.: Mr. W. Scorer, Skelton, Ripon, 34 tons 8 cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs. per acre; second prize, £5 5s.: Mr. J. Barker, Ellerton Hill, Scorton, 33 tons 2 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs. per acre. Three acres of Webbs' mangold. Prize, £5 5s.: Mr. W. Moore, Holtby Manor, Dunnington, York, 49 tons 10 cwt. per acre.

District 6.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the Counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. Prize, £10 10s.: Mr. T. Kidner, Halvergate Hall, Norwich, 39 tons 4 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs. per acre. Five acres of Webbs' mangold. Prize, £5 5s.: Mr. S. Nightingale, Scratby Hall, Great Yarmouth, 39 tons 14 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs. per acre.

District 7.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the Counties of Bedford, Cambridge, Cornwall, Cumberland, Cheshire, Derby, Devon, Dorset, Durham, Essex, Herts, Huntingdon, Kent, Lancaster, Lincoln, Middlesex, Northumberland, Notts, Northampton, Rutland, Somerset, Sussex, Westmoreland, Cardigan, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, and Radnor. First prize, £15 15s.: Mr. S. S. Raingill, The Grange, Ringway, Altrincham, 48 tons 8 cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs. per acre; second prize, £5 5s.: Mr. W. Little, Oulton Hall, Wigton, Cumberland, 40 tons 11 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs. per acre.

District 8.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the Counties of Roxburgh, Haddington, Berwick, Edinburgh, and Linlithgow. Prize, £10 10s.: Mr. John Meikle, Grougfoot, Linlithgow, 31 tons 17 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lbs. per acre.

District 9.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the County of Perth. First prize, £10 10s.: Mr. John McLaren, Powside, Errol, 33 tons 10 cwt. 2 qrs. 24 lbs. per acre; second prize, £5 5s.: C. A. Murray, Esq., Taymount, Stanley, 32 tons 8 cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs. per acre.

District 10.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the Counties of Forfar, Fife, and Kinross. Prize, £10 10s.: Mr. James Auchterlonie, Leckerstone, Dunfermline, 34 tons 0 cwt. 2 qrs. 24 lbs. per acre.

District 11.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the Counties of Aberdeen, Banff, Kincardine, Inverness, and Elgin. Prize, £10 10s.: Mr. George A. MacLean, Westfield, Elgin, 33 tons 4 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs. per acre.

District 12.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the Counties of Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, and Wigtown. Prize, £10 10s.: Mrs. A. Craig, Cumstown Mains, Kirkcudbright, 42 tons per acre.

District 13.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the Counties of Stirling, Dumbarton, and Clackmannan. Prize, £5 5s.: Mr. Alex. Lucas, Craigton Farm, Causewayhead, Stirling, 34 tons 14 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs. per acre.

District 14.—Five acres of Webbs' swede, open to the County of Ayr. Prize, £10 10s.: Messrs. J. and W. McKerrow, Dalmilling, St. Quivox, Ayr, 35 tons 12 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs. per acre.

District 15.—Five acres of swedes or turnips, open to the County of Peebles. Prize, £5 5s.: Mr. Charles A. Gracie, Easter Happrew, Stobo, 28 tons 11 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs. per acre.

District 1.—Five acres of yellow turnips, open to the County of Lanark. Prize, £5 5s.: Mr. George Findlater, Jerviswood Mains, Lanark, 44 tons per acre.

The second Martinmas hiring fair at Lancaster was held on the 17th inst. There was a large attendance of farmers and servants and a strong demand for all classes of farm labour. Male servants demanded wages slightly in advance of those obtained at Whitsuntide, but failed in most cases in obtaining them. Boys were very plentiful, and a large number were engaged at fairly good wages. The best female servants asked higher rates. First-class men obtained £16 to £20; second class, £12 to £15; youths and boys, £7 to £12; best women, £12 to £14; second class, £8 to £9; girls, £6 to £8.

Farm Fire. £500 Damage.—On Monday night a fire was discovered on the farm of Mr. Reuben Stubbs, an extensive agriculturist, of Little Leigh, between Warrington and Northwich. A workman at Brunner and Monds' Chemical Works, returning from duty about 10.50, noticing a blaze in the stockyard, went to the farmhouse, roused the inhabitants, and, running to the stable, obtained a horse, on which he proceeded to Northwich, where he summoned the fire brigade, which made a smart turn out, and by its means the fire was confined to two large corn stacks, efforts to save which were hopeless. The damage is estimated at £500. The fire is supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

Agricultural Values and Changes.*

(Continued from page 667.)

Difficulties are Frequently Cropping up

in rural districts now under bye-laws really applicable to urban districts only.

The effect of these bye-laws is to make it necessary in all alterations of premises, or any new buildings erected in future, to supply plans and specifications to the sanitary inspector, whether such work relates to a populous district or to a country village, and also to detached farm premises. I think that some exception should be made with reference to an isolated farm house and buildings and also to detached premises in a country village.

The Acts regulating the ventilation, drainage, and area of cow-houses are most important, and have a far-reaching tendency all good in their way, and might be carried out in all new buildings, but it would be a serious and expensive undertaking to remodel altogether the present cow-sheds and premises.

A good deal of dissatisfaction has been felt in the country with reference to the requirements of the model regulations issued by the Local Government Board for the guidance of local authorities in framing regulations under Section 13 of the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885.

It was felt that the 800 cubic feet of air space required per cow was excessive, and the Council, at the suggestion of the Counties Palatine Provincial Committee, approached the Board on the subject with a view to some modification of this requirement, with the result of eliciting an explanation from the Board to the effect that they did not propose to lay down any requirement as to cubic space in the case of cowsheds, the cows from which were habitually grazed, but no modification of the requirement could be made in cases where the cows were not habitually grazed out of doors.

It is probable that this will to some extent meet the dissatisfaction which prevails on the subject, and will tend to lessen the very considerable additional difficulties with which the milk trade was threatened.

It has been comparatively easy to give my experiences during the past 60 years, and to comment on the difficulties which tenant farmers have had to endure, and also on the sacrifices made by landlords to assist them. But it is not so easy to say what are

The Probabilties of the Future,

and I approach this part of my subject with great diffidence.

There have been from time to time prognostications of a very pessimistic character. It has been said on the one hand that corn growing and meat production are practically things of the past in this country, and that the home market for milk, cheese, and butter is also seriously threatened, while on the other hand more favourable prophecies have not been wanting, nor has there been any lack of practical suggestions for improvement, but in this connection we have, I think, something to learn from the past. Agriculture has seen so many alternations of prosperity and depression in the past, that these facts alone should teach us to look with hope to the future, should encourage us to be patient under difficulties, and make us careful in good times to provide as far as possible for times of depression, as it is in the nature of things that agriculture must always be greatly affected by the seasons, whether they be good or bad. There never was a time when it was more desirable to cultivate the good relations between landlord and tenant which have existed in the past, while, at the same time, it was never more necessary to insist on a strict adherence to the contract of tenancy, especially as regards the maintenance of a good condition of the holding, if these friendly relations are to be preserved. It seems unnecessary to say that the rent which a tenant is called upon to pay should be fairly fixed with due regard to the condition of the land and proximity to railways, roads, and markets, as well as to the convenience of the house and premises (which are so important), and also with reference to rates and charges, whether paid by landlord or tenant, a fair allowance being made for interest on tenant's capital. It is my experience that many of these questions have not been so carefully considered as they should have been, and that no sufficient distinction has lately been made between holdings of different characters and possessed of different advantages.

A great deal has been said about

The Agricultural Holdings Acts

of 1875 and 1883 as well as the new Act of 1900. I do not at this point propose to discuss the latter measure, but I believe that under the two former Acts a great deal was done to improve the agreements with agricultural tenants and the allowances to be made for compensation on quitting. At the same time some diversity of opinion has arisen as to the principle in making these valuations, and in many cases it is difficult, even with every disposition to do so, to arrive at what is fair and just. I will only say here that an outgoing tenant is entitled to a fair remuneration for all unexhausted improvements made by him before entering, taking into consideration the mode of management, but that the incomer should not be called upon to pay for anything for which he

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* The opening address by Mr. J. Ian Shaw, President, at the ordinary general meeting of the Surveyors' Institution, November 12th 1900.

cannot be recouped in the ordinary way of farming. The question of tenant right is a most important one.

I think there is no doubt that ultimately there must be

A Great Change in Many of the Present Holdings;

the very large farms will probably remain unaltered and be let to the present or other similar tenants at a low rental, in order to avoid the outlay for additional homesteads and buildings. Many of these farms are the result of a strong feeling among many landowners in the Midland Counties 60 years ago and subsequently that small holdings should be thrown together, as it was considered that a farm of from 400 to 600 acres could be better and more economically managed in proportion than the smaller farms, and large homesteads were erected accordingly. This has proved a great mistake, and it is now very difficult to let large farms. The rents of these large farms have gone down very much, in some cases 40 to 50 per cent., and in consequence of the labour difficulty very few tenants can be found to undertake such occupations. I am therefore of opinion that generally large farms in the Midlands should be reduced in size as much as practicable, to farms of, say, 150 to 200 acres or thereabouts, so that the tenant will be to some extent more independent of the labour question, which is now becoming so acute. Certainly the tenants of this class of farms have lately proved the most successful farmers. I have had the satisfactory experience of dealing with men who have been farm labourers, and who by great industry and frugality have succeeded in becoming tenants of small farms of 50 to 100 acres under liberal landlords, and they have generally proved very satisfactory tenants.

What may be described as small holdings proper have on some estates and under some circumstances been, and may, I think, continue to be, very successful, but generally it will be difficult for the tenants of such

Small Holdings

to secure a livelihood without some other means of subsistence. I have for many years had to do with a large number of small tenants, and such of them as carry on some other trade or employment have done fairly well, some of them, for instance, making an income from poultry-farming in favourable localities. It has been proposed that such small occupiers should be provided with means to purchase their holdings, but some of us will remember the abortive scheme of Feargus O'Connor and its unfortunate termination, as well as the failure of other similar societies in the disastrous times of twenty to thirty years ago. My opinion is that this or any other similar plan cannot be compared with the system which at present generally prevails on large estates. Small tenants occupying under a large landowner at the usual moderate rent are better off than they would be if they purchased the freehold of the land and paid or allowed themselves a very moderate rate of interest on the purchase money, and in time of distress (the possibilities of which must be considered in the future as in the past) such cases would prove very unfortunate. What I have said about small tenants also holds good of the large occupiers, whose capital is equally needed for working the land to advantage. The

Low Price of Cereals,

and particularly of wheat, is a serious matter for the farmer. I have already given some averages which show an enormous reduction in prices during lengthened periods. Even taking the last thirty years, it will be observed that wheat has decreased from 53s. 7d. to 27s. 10d. per quarter, barley from 37s. 11d. to 24s. 3d. per quarter, and oats from 25s. 3d. to 16s. 4d. per quarter. As regards wheat, it has been assumed by some persons that cheap bread in this country has been assured for all time to come, and although I cannot see any reason to doubt the continued large production of wheat in America and other parts of the world, it was somewhat surprising to hear from Sir W. Crookes, at the meeting of the British Association at Bristol in 1898, that a scarcity of wheat-growing area was within appreciable distance, and that wheat-growing land "all over the world" was becoming exhausted. He, however, added that England in the matter of wheat-growing is as great as ever it was, seeing that a considerable area might readily be added to our wheat acreage were prices to warrant such a step. This is no doubt correct, and notwithstanding the immense importation of wheat, and the consequent low prices, this view of the question is something to rely upon in the future. According to the late Sir J. B. Lawes and Sir J. Gilbert, Great Britain has produced more per acre of any staple food suited to our soil and climate than any country in the world. Although from a national point of view we should be glad to see more profitable wheat-growing in England, the time may come when it may be of the utmost importance to us to have something to fall back upon. Considering the immense quantity of wheat which we import annually, and the low price paid for it, I do not think the British farmer could be advised to take the risk of waiting for any change; we can only deal with the circumstances of the near future as they arise.

Therefore there seems at present little prospect of wheat proving a paying crop. Barley does not seem to have been affected by the repeal of the malt tax, and the price is low; oats are also at a low price, and all that can be done is to give attention to the production of the best quality of anything most adapted to the farm, including the breeding of horses, cattle, sheep, and poultry. If this is done, the low price of wheat will not so seriously affect the future of farming.

In my opinion

Strong Arable Land should be Reduced to Permanent Grass

wherever possible, and that which is allowed to remain under the plough should have a long rotation of crops, from seven to eight years, three or more years in seeds if practicable, so that the corn crops in the course, although few, may be likely to be productive. While the seeds remain the labour will be small and the expenses kept down to the lowest limit. The land will also be kept in good heart and condition. The system, with the application of lime in each rotation, familiar to me many years ago, has been attended with great success. The management of the grazing lands which suffered from the disastrous floods of twenty years ago might also be much improved.

I have before referred to the milk trade and to milk and butter factories, and also to the better class of butter now made at home on the improved method, which I am glad to find is now much appreciated. I think it most desirable that in the future more attention should be paid to these matters, and that if this were done we might reasonably hope that a good deal of trade in butter at present in foreign hands would be diverted to our own country. I am glad to find that arrangements are being made to secure fair prices for milk by the aid of farmers' associations in various counties.

For the grazing of cattle and the production of milk, nothing is of more importance than an ample supply of good water. In consequence of the great extension of the system of subsoil drainage, the rains now pass away so quickly into the rivers and streams that springs have for some years been very low, and during dry times there has lately been a great scarcity of water both for cattle and for household purposes.

It appears from the experiments of practical engineers that a large quantity of

Water Might with Proper Management be Impounded

without interfering with the necessary river supply. More than thirty years ago I was engaged with the late Professor Anstead and the late Dr. Letheby in testing the flow of water in a great part of the River Derwent in Derbyshire, and we found an immense amount of underground water in the valley of the Derwent which could not be accounted for except by underground springs, which I have since proved and utilised. I should also like to refer to Mr. Mansergh's wonderful work in Wales for the supply of water to Birmingham, where, after providing twenty-seven millions of gallons daily for the necessary compensation water for the rivers flowing from the valley, he estimates an excess of seventy-two millions of gallons daily available for Birmingham and other places, and this water if not so impounded would flow rapidly away and be of no practical use. This illustrates what might be done on a small scale in many parts of England, and I should be very glad if the subject could be taken up by some of our engineering members. But

The Labour Question

is after all the most serious of the difficulties which affect agriculture at the present time, and which will, I fear, continue to do so in the future. All sorts of plans and suggestions have been put forward by way of remedy. Of course, everyone is glad to know of the improved position of the farm labourer as regards cottage accommodation, weekly earnings, and other advantages which he now enjoys, but which fail for some reason to keep him on the land. I fear it is the wife and the growing up children who are in many cases responsible for a good deal of this; but except for the shortened hours of labour in towns and the half-holiday on a Saturday, I do not think that many of the men themselves would care to migrate to the town, particularly as in some cases they are not so well off in weekly earnings in the town as in the country. I could mention many actual instances in support of this view. The old-fashioned plan of having more young men as farm servants to live in their master's house kept the men, as they grew up, more in touch with farming. This system no longer exists, and, as a result, young lads get away from home early without any fixed employment, and drift to the towns, where they can have greater freedom as to working hours and find amusement after the day's work is done. I am afraid also that School Board education, although good in principle, does not increase the feeling of attachment to the land, but rather encourages a distaste for country life. The recent report of Mr. Wilson Fox to the Board of Trade is valuable and interesting as showing the improved position of the agricultural labourer, but it does not give any practical suggestion for bringing back the labourers to the land.

Let us hope that by practical consideration of the labourer and by [illegible] we may lead him gradually to the [illegible] country life will bring more real comfort and satisfaction than life in the town.

Referring to the

Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900,

which comes into operation on [illegible], it will be remembered that a large representative meeting was held in the [illegible] when the whole subject was fully discussed and it was thought by most [illegible] sections made at that meeting were embodied in the Act. There are some points in the Act which may not be satisfactory to those [illegible] but I think views one way or the other [illegible] I think, have been better if we could have had a consolidating Act embodying the provisions of the sections of the Act of 1883 which are retained and the other Acts which are also in force. Without entering upon any further detail I am of opinion that the Act of 1900 may be considered a fair settlement of the question, and I trust that it will be accepted as such both by landlord and tenant.

I have given my own personal experience of agricultural matters in the past, and may perhaps make some suggestions for the future. Although there are still many difficulties to contend with, I think we may reasonably hope that with sufficient capital, and with judgment and care farming in England under ordinary circumstances may yet prove fairly satisfactory.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended November 17, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	6,457	8,404	Wheat ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sheep ..	5,426	1,582	Flour ..	[illegible]	199,740
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
			Oats ..	[illegible]	375,400
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Peas ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beef ..	52,577	37,137	Beans ..	[illegible]	32,600
Mutton	16,628	8,254	Maize ..	1,413,100	[illegible]
Pork ..	16,815	17,2[illegible]		Bunches	Bunches
Bacon ..	105,302	85,135	Bananas	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beef, salt	[illegible],556	4,080		Cwt.	Cwt.
Hams ..	3,046	[illegible],006	Apples ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pork, salt	1,623	4,414	Apricots & Peaches		
Meat, salt & fresh	8,681	8,261	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	29,023	15,500	Currants		
Butter ..	12,467	37,451	Gooseberries	—	
Margarine	18,028	17,628	Grapes ..	22,298‡	32,089
Cheese ..	37,091	34,718	Lemons	[illegible]	[illegible]
Con. Milk	17,983	14,863	Oranges	[illegible]	[illegible]
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	299	806	Pears ..	[illegible]	7,160
			Plums ..	[illegible]	[illegible]
			†Straw'b'r's	—	[illegible]
			Other Fruit	[illegible]	[illegible]
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	1,827	1,708
Eggs ..	351,215*	388,186*		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	163,876	185,035
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£5,669	£5,674	Hops ..	5,276	6,129
			Potatoes	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Tomatoes	—	[illegible]
Rabbits	2,337	7,443	Other Veg'bles	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	40,822	35,862		£30,74[illegible]	£[illegible]

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

The Harvest in Orkney.—A Kirkwall correspondent, writing at the beginning of last week gives a melancholy account of the Orkney harvest home. Harvesting there was still unfinished, and part of the crop that was cut eight weeks ago is still lying on the fields. So excessively wet has the weather been that two consecutive dry days was a thing unknown. Such a protracted harvest is never remembered in Orkney before. The crop is a heavy one. In some places it was all gathered long ago; in others none is secured.

Monmouthshire Winter Fair.—This fair was held on Thursday, and the supply of cattle was the largest for many years. Sheep, as usual at this fair, were not numerous. The supply of horses was scarcely up to the average. Pigs were not well represented. Trade in store cattle was dragging, the supply being more than equal to the demand. Best fat beasts sold quickly, as did useful milch cows and cows and calves. The horse trade was scarcely as brisk as formerly, but good heavy carts and smart roadsters changed hands freely; a few two-year-olds on offer were all sold. Cart horses made from £48 to £60; pit horses, £30 to £40; 'bus horses, £28 to £30; two-year-old colts, £25 to £30. Quotations :—Best beef, 6d. to 6½d.; [illegible] qualities, 5½d. to 6d.; [illegible] 7d. to 7½d.; wether mutton, 7d. to 7½d.; ditto, 5¾d. to 6d. per lb.; pork, 10s. to 11s.; bacon, 9s. 6d. to 10s. per score. The following prices were realised under the hammer of Messrs. Nicholas, Davies and Atkins, Monmouth and Newnham :—Heifers, £12 to £16 10s.; bullocks, £15 to £19 10s.; calves, 24s. to 51s.; bullocks, £15 to £19 10s.; calves, 24s. to 51s.; wethers, 45s. to 51s.; ewes, 40s. to 41s. 6d.; lambs, 16s. to 31s. 6d.; bacon pigs, £4 2s. 6d. to £6 12s. 6d.

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Binders, Mowers, Reapers, Rakes, Twine.

"IDEAL" HIGH-WHEEL CULTIVATORS.

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KEYSTONE ADJUSTABLE WEEDERS *(a free trial allowed.)*

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"A perfect success." The greatest labour-saving agricultural machine of recent years.

PARIS EXHIBITION AWARDS.—DEERING obtained a GRAND PRIX, 4 Gold Medals, 1 Silver, and 1 Bronze Medal; a higher result than that obtained by any other exhibitor of Harvesting Machinery. Cockshutt obtained the Gold Medal for Plows, and Coulthard Scott the Silver Medal for Cultivators.

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FOOD FOR HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, etc.

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ANNUAL CONSUMPTION, 1,200,000 CWT.

Manufactured by Messrs. Henry Tate & Sons, Sugar Refineries, London and Liverpool, exclusively for the Molassine Company, Ltd. Introduced into the Imperial and Royal Stables of **GERMANY** and **RUSSIA.** It is adopted throughout **THE GERMAN ARMY,** and during the few months it has been on the Market in the United Kingdom it has met with a **most favourable reception,** which is evidenced by the **many Repeat Orders** we are daily receiving, and assurances of its **permanent adoption.**

MOLASSINE contains 36 to 40 per cent. of **Sugar,** and is a combination of **Sugar, Treacle,** or **Syrup with Vegetable substances.** It is guaranteed to consist exclusively of natural organic materials.

RESULTS OF FEEDING WITH MOLASSINE.

IT STIMULATES APPETITE, IMPROVES DIGESTION. GRIPE AND DIARRHŒA COMPLETELY DISAPPEAR.

HORSES. From 2 to 4 lbs. per day.

After a few weeks' feeding are in the **best condition,** and show **strength, highest working power,** and a **smooth** and **glossy coat.**

CATTLE. 8 lbs. per day.
SHEEP. 1½ lbs. per day.

Thrive quickly, and especially in the last period of fattening, take willingly to their food, and thus **become weeks sooner ready for the market.** The **meat is of best quality.**

PIGS. Per 100 lbs. of their own weight, from 1 lb. to 1½ lbs.

Eat Molassine greedily. The disagreeable smell of the Pig-Stye disappears, the **animals are in the best health.**

MILCH COWS. 5 lbs. per day.

After 8 to 10 days' feeding give more milk, richer in cream.

MOLASSINE replaces an Equal Quantity of **FODDER.**

MOLASSINE packed in bags of 1½ cwt. each.

On rails, Sugar Works of Messrs. **HENRY TATE and SONS, SILVERTOWN, ESSEX.**

Price per ton, £6 15s. **Price per cwt. £0 7s. 6d**

For buyers of regular weekly or monthly supplies we shall be pleased to quote special prices.

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The

Mark Lane Express
and
Agricultural Journal.

(Established 1832.)

THE LEADING BRITISH AUTHORITY ON THE PRACTICE AND SCIENCE OF THE

Farm, Live Stock, Dairy, Milling, Malting, Hops, &c.

(REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.)

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SOCIETIES.

CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS.

The following MEETINGS of the CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE will be held (by permission of the Society of Arts) at the House of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, on Wednesday, December 12th, 1900, viz.:—

1.—10.30 a.m., the Business Committee.

2.—11 a.m., the Council Meeting, at which Members of the Council representing either the Central Chamber or Associated Chambers are requested to be present.

AGENDA.

To transact General Business.

To receive Communications.

To receive Reports of Committees (if any).

To draw up the Annual Report of the Council.

3.—11.30 a.m. (or at such hour as the business of the above Council Meeting is concluded), the ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL CHAMBER, at which all Deputies and Subscribing Members are requested to be present.

AGENDA.

To receive the Auditor's Report.

To appoint an Auditor for the ensuing year.

To receive the Annual Report of the Council for 1900.

To consider Alterations in the Laws, as recommended by the Business Committee and adopted by the Council on November 6th, 1900. The Business Committee also recommend that Law No. 37 shall in future read as follows, the Alteration consisting of the additional sentence printed in italics :—

37.—The Officers of the "Central Chamber" shall be a "Chairman" and "Vice-Chairman," a "Treasurer," "Auditor," and "Secretary," the retiring "Chairman" not being eligible to the "Vice-Chair" for the space of one year. *The "Council" shall have power to fill up any vacancy caused by the death, resignation, or incapacity to act of any such officer.*

N.B.—A copy of the Laws, including the Alterations proposed, will be sent to any Subscribing Member of the Central Chamber upon application to the Secretary.

To consider the following subjects :—

1. The working of the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896 and the question of its renewal.
2. Tuberculosis and the working of the "Model Milk Clauses" in the Private Bills of Local Authorities.
3. Question of the registration of pig dealers and the inspection and disinfection of their premises.

Associated Chambers and Clubs are requested to consider the above subjects, and to send up any resolutions which they may pass thereupon to the Secretary of the Central Chamber before the Meeting of the Business Committee, at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, December 11th, 1900. Suggestions of subjects for discussion at future Meetings of the Council should be forwarded at the same time.

ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary.

ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL DINNER.

SMITHFIELD WEEK, 1900.

Notice is given that the ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL DINNER (under the auspices of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture and the Farmers' Club) will be held during the Smithfield Club Show-Week, in the THRONE ROOM of the HOLBORN RESTAURANT, LONDON, on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 1900, at 7 p.m.

The Chairman of the Farmers' Club (Mr. J. R. EVE) will preside, and it is hoped that the President of the Board of Agriculture will be present, as well as his immediate predecessor.

All farmers and others interested in agriculture are invited to attend.

The price of tickets (exclusive of wine) will be as follows :—

If purchased before December 8th, 1900, 5s. 6d. each.

If purchased after December 8th, 1900, 6s. each.

Members and others who propose to attend are requested to apply as soon as possible for tickets, with a postal order for the amount. (Evening dress optional.)

ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary.

November 14th, 1900.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.

(Founded June, 1894.)

PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.
HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, ESQ., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

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To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

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Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

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President :
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Secretary :
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AT THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.
THE ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND SHOW of Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Implements, Roots, etc., MONDAY, December 10th, at 2 p.m. Close at 8 p.m.

Admission : FIVE SHILLINGS.

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, December 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th. Open at 9 a.m. Close at 9 p.m.

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Also CARCASE SHOW on Wednesday, and to 7 p.m. on Thursday.

C. DORMAN, Managing Director
R. VENNER, Secretary.
Royal Agricultural Hall Co., Ltd.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the next GENERAL MEETING of Governors and Members will be held at the Society's House, 13, Hanover Square, London, W., on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13TH, 1900, at 12 o'clock noon, when the Half-Yearly Report of the Council will be read, and three Auditors appointed for the ensuing year.

ERNEST CLARKE,
Secretary.

13, HANOVER SQUARE, W.
December, 1900.

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WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of ICHABOE GUANO, the highest Ammoniacal Guano, also for high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS and CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

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THE SOMERSET COUNTY EDUCATION COMMITTEE DESIRES TO APPOINT a COUNTY INSTRUCTOR in AGRICULTURE, who must have a competent knowledge, both practical and scientific, of Agriculture in general, and Dairy Farming in particular. Salary, £250 per annum, with reasonable travelling and out-of-pocket expenses when engaged on his duties. Applications must be sent to the Director of Technical Instruction, Weston-super-Mare, not later than Monday, December 10.

The Instructor would be required to take up his duties on or before the end of January.

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(A Constituent College of the University of Wales).

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J. E. LLOYD, M.A.,
Secretary and Registrar.
Bangor, November 19th, 1900.

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SHEEP (*contd.*).

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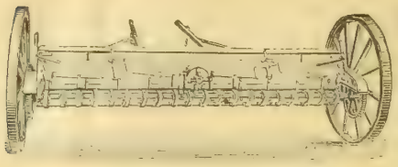

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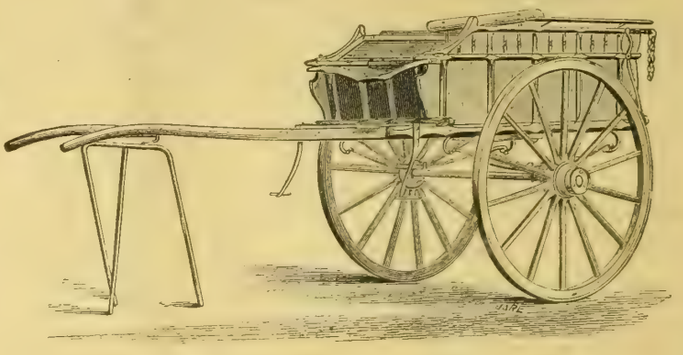

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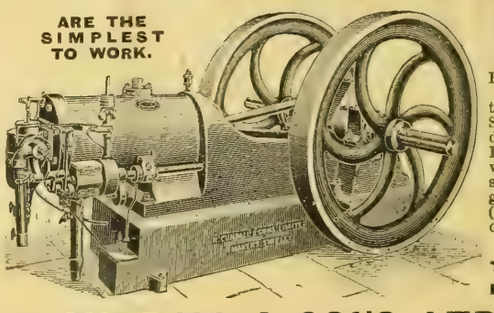

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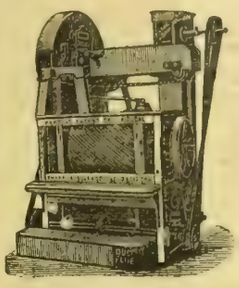

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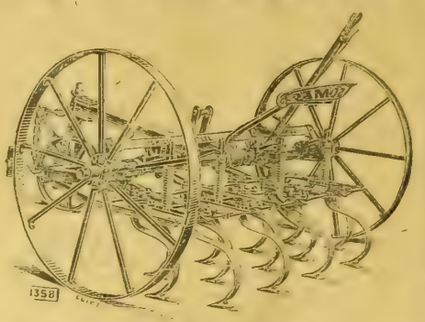

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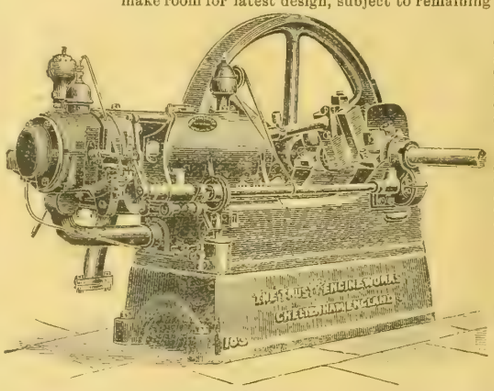

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

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According to the United States Department of Agriculture's estimate of average farm yields during 1900, the average number of bushels of corn is 25·3 per acre, or a fraction less than a year ago, though much better than in 1898. The yield of buckwheat is estimated at fifteen bushels per acre, which is nearly two bushels below the average for the decade. The potato crop is put at 80·8 bushels, being much above the past ten-year average. The hay estimate is 1·28 tons an acre, which exactly coincides with the average since 1890.

THE SMALL FARM QUESTION.

No fewer than three important papers or lectures recently have had their bearings directly or indirectly on the utility of the small farm system. Mr. John Shaw, in his inauguration address as president for the year of the Surveyors' Institute, treated on small versus large farms, giving distinctly his decided preference for the latter on the ground that his experience as a land agent proved that any farm over 200 acres was unlettable, whereas those from 50 to 150 acres—the chief part of the labour of which the farmer, with the help of his family, could perform himself—were always in demand. Mr. Shaw drew the rather questionable conclusion from this that the opinion so generally current a quarter of a century go, that large farms are more economicly worked than small ones, was a fallacy. Scarcely does it follow that because big holdings are not in demand that they cannot be worked more economically than small ones if they can be occupied by men of ample capital. They can be rented often 50 per cent. less than smaller holdings cost, an important factor in the account bearing on economic working, and labour-saving machines and implements dispense with manual hands very largely. Then, again, although Midland farmers may be found in Mr. Shaw's own district capable of dealing with the labour of a farm between a hundred and a hundred and fifty acres without hiring, many of that class in other districts have to hire a great deal. Indeed, as a rule, it will be found, taking the kingdom generally, that the occupiers of from one hundred to two hundred acres are the farmers just now feeling the pinch of labour scarcity most severely.

At a meeting of the Royal Statistical Society about ten days since a very startling picture was held up to view by Mr. T. A. Weldon, on the revolutionary change in the population of town and country from the commencement of the century until 1891, when the last census was taken. While the density of the rural population, which was 100 persons to the square mile, had only increased to 130 in 1891, the total of the country people being 4,721,252 at the former period and only 5,534,000 at the latter, the inhabitants of towns had increased from being only 36 per cent. of the entire population to be 64 per cent., after the lapse of ninety years. We may be well assured that the disproportion has marvellously increased in the nine years since 1891. Mr. Weldon could only [illegible] by taking the last census tables; but when the next numbering of the people takes place, which will be very soon, it will be found that the country has not increased to many inhabitants as the towns.

A great many the lately engaged [illegible]

in the vain endeavour to solve the problem how to bring back population to the land again. We make use of the word "vain" because projects hitherto tried have lamentably failed, and it does not appear that many of those at present put forward as remedies meet entirely the exigencies of the case. Hodge has fallen out with the avocation of his fathers. His intense dislike to farm servitude is deep-rooted. Apparently he will accept any other toil as preferable to that, and even inviting him to come back to the land as his own master has not suceeeded perfectly well, as both legislative and patriotic schemes for increase of small holdings have not proved effective enough to remedy the evil.

At the Women's Institute on November 23rd, a very remarkable lecture on the decrease of rural population, and how to keep the land from going out of cultivation as the result, was delivered by Mrs. Chamberlain, of the Women's Agricultural and Horticultural International Union. After stating, truly enough, that the absorption of popular attention by the war in South Africa had prevented this subject from receiving the consideration which seemingly it demands, she propounded the question, "Is the land to go out of cultivation?" To this she gave an emphatic negative. Women would have to take the matter up, she said, after which she unfolded a pleasing Utopian scheme, showing the way in which it would have to be done.

In the first place, estates are to be cut up into small holdings for the occupation of Mrs. Chamberlain's army of women farmers. Three or four of the latter are to pool their small savings for capital, that they may occupy one of the little farms, but working separately, one at gardening, another taking charge of pigs and poultry, and a third, presumably, going in for dairy work. Who is to perform the rough work, such as filling dung carts, harnessing horses, and ploughing was not stated. Perhaps the ladies would prefer for some male creature to do that sort of thing, if one can be hired; but apart from this there would seem to be some few difficulties in the way of working successfully so charming a project. "First catch your hare," Mrs. Glasse would say, and although the ladies of present times accomplish many difficult things, and are rapidly elbowing what has been in the past deemed the stronger sex out of counting-houses, correspondence bureaux, and even printing offices, we are not quite sure that the owners of large estates would be able or willing to provide all the small holdings required. Women have often proved the best of farmers, but they were individual agriculturists, and there is no knowing how the ladies would agree after pooling and electing to live together.

Then, again, where is the necessary capital to come from for working Mrs. Chamberlain's scheme? Those who happen to have those small savings she would have pooled are, we fear, of the upper class of governesses, schoolmistresses, and music teachers—poor distressed ladies who have seen better days, but still manage by hard work and frugality to put away a little for a rainy day. These do not all belong to the big army of teachers, sempstresses, and clerks, who get such a wretched pittance for what they do. Desirable as it may be to ease the towns of thousands of such, they have no money to pool, so that it appears that in most cases the capital would have to be provided as well as the small holdings.

Moreover, the greatest difficulty of all, perhaps, would be to conquer the aversion young ladies of the labour class have at present to menial duties. Mrs. Chamberlain, it is true, argued that social movements usually worked downwards, and that when working women saw their cultured sisters taking delight in gardening, poultry-keeping, etc., they might be induced to follow their example. Perhaps so, but we apprehend we shall have to wait a great many years before this scheme, as well as many another pretending to deal with what is getting to be a matter of urgency, will serve the object.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

Mr. Hanbury is, in one respect, frank. He has had no previous experience either of farming or of agricultural politics; but he will, he says, do his best. This is an excellent admission, so far as it goes. Let me, however, put this question to Mr Hanbury, who certainly is one of the ablest men in the Ministry. He is a great figure in the industrial world of the north. How would he care to have as the director of his industrial destiny a man who had to confess immediately after employment that he knows nothing about the business?

How would he care to have as his representative a man whose first confession is that of ignorance? Of course he would reject such a person at once, and decide that he should not be an officer of his. I am bound to say that Mr. Hanbury has not the one fatal defect of unrelieved ignorance. He knows his limitations. It is impossible, said Jeremy Taylor, "to make people understand their ignorance, for it requires knowledge to perceive it." Mr. Hanbury has this knowledge.

I see that the right honourable gentleman is to attend an agricultural dinner. Well, let me put another question to Mr. Hanbury, which I know he will, with his characteristic honesty, readily answer: Supposing he rose as Minister of Agriculture to reply to the toast of "Agriculture," and made the following confession: "Gentlemen, I rise to reply to the toast of 'Agriculture,' and I have to confess that I know nothing about the subject on which I have to speak. I have control of the legislative destiny of the interest; I know nothing of it. I have the power of directing it either along the path of ill-fortune or success; I am absolutely ignorant of the path which should be pursued. I have to array myself in the agricultural garb; and I tell you frankly I do not know how to get my hands into the traditional smock-frock."

What would be the comment of Mr. Hanbury himself to this indication of Mr. Hanbury's qualifications? Mr. Hanbury is enthusiastic in his expressions of sympathy with agriculture. "There never was," says Pope, "any party, faction, sect, or cabal whatsoever, in which the most ignorant were not the most violent; for a bee is not a busier animal than a blockhead." We want neither bees nor blockheads at the head of our great administrations. The fault of Mr. Hanbury's appointment does not, of course, lie with Mr. Hanbury. It lies with our political system.

Now, I have again and again confessed to the great ability of Mr. Hanbury. No man can, indeed, be possessed of a keener sense of it than I am. To what, then, must we attribute the fact that the first speech delivered after his appointment to the position of Minister for Agriculture contained not the slightest indication of policy or purpose? Mr. Hanbury is not a statesman of the Melbourne type—he is not the type of politician who, being appalled by the difficulties of a political position, would ask, "Can't we leave it alone, then?" He is the last man in the world to imagine that the economic problems which concern agriculture have been solved by the passing of the Agricultural Holdings Act Amendment Act. He is, in fact, a statesman who would prefer to shape a career for himself.

How comes it, then—this I again ask—that his first speech betrayed not the faintest indication of a policy? It will be urged, perhaps, that it was early to expect such an indication. To that I make the obvious reply that the agricultural world had the right to know something of the designs of a statesman who to it is really an unknown quantity. The failure to convey this knowledge would, in the case of a man of lesser calibre, be interpreted to mean indifference. The fact is—and it would be foolish to disregard it—that Mr. Hanbury has been given a position for which he had no desire, and with which he, I fear, has little sympathy. He had to be subjected to the necessities which confronted Lord Salisbury.

Of course, it would be a stupid mistake to imagine that the House of Commons will in the December sitting devote even a passing attention to agriculture. When the Parliamentarians assemble to-day they will do so for one specific purpose; and excepting a few splenetic anti-Ministerialists, and excepting the young politicians upon whom the fascination of a Parliamentary life has not palled, they will be glad when that purpose has been accomplished.

Besides, it would be a mistake in the first session of the new Parliament to obtrude the agricultural question on the attention of the legislators. The House of Commons can never give a prolonged and a sustained attention to one subject, always excepting Ireland. It would be recalled, the moment any attempt was made to attract its sympathy for the benefit of the farmer, that the last session of the previous Parliament was largely given up to that interest, and that the most significant measure which it produced was designed to give the farmer a more defined legal interest in the value which his skill and money have given to the soil. This memory would be sufficient to chill all sympathy and warmth.

If I may venture to give advice to those politicians who prefer to be known as Agricultural M.P.s, I would suggest that they should play a waiting game. The lurid issues of the war will excite so intense an interest that it will be impossible to concentrate attention on any important legislative ambition. Then, too, it must not be forgotten that the political atmosphere will be rendered still more exciting, still more electric, by the meditated arraignment of Mr. Chamberlain.

This waiting time should be occupied by a careful digestion of the report of the Commission on Local Taxation. I myself do not believe that this report will effect a revolution. Still there is no reason why the more valuable of its suggestions should not be carried into legislative effect. The waiting time should thus really be a time of preparation. The report could be discussed with local Chambers of Agriculture; Parliamentary opinion might be formulated by means of practically-worded, concise resolutions; and local politicians might thus become familiarised with the idea that taxation reform is inevitable. This would be a much more beneficial work than the intrusion of petty ideas into a chamber charged with a great Imperial duty. The report of the commission must not be permitted to become the grave of the taxation grievance.

Of course, vigilance will be required in another direction. The war will have to be paid for. Whatever money may be exacted from the Transvaal, it is certain that a portion of the cost of the campaign will fall upon the British taxpayer. I do not pretend that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach is possessed by any savage desire to unduly mulct the land and the interests associated with it; but I do know that there will be a resolute attempt made to save the towns. It must not be forgotten that there is a considerable body of politicians who regard Sir William Harcourt's death duties, not as the completion of a great financial resolution, but rather as the inception. I do not want to adopt the Cassandra rôle and to be eternally prophesying dismally. I repeat, however, that these men must be watched. Hence, I contend that the two first duties of the agricultural members should be to seek to give effect to the proposals of the report of the Commission on Local Taxation, and to safeguard the agricultural interest in any new scheme of taxation.

The New President of the Board of Agriculture.

The Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, addressing a meeting at Preston on Monday last, made some reference to his appointment to office, and to the work of his Department. He said that in regard to the high office to which he had been appointed he had only two regrets. The first was that there did not seem likely to be so much work in it as he had grown accustomed to while practically representing in the House of Commons two important Departments. (Laughter.) It would certainly not be his fault if the Board of Agriculture did not to the fullest extent of its powers try to serve the agricultural interest of this country. (Cheers.) He would put his shoulders to the wheel, that nothing might be left undone to promote the interests of the oldest and perhaps the least prosperous of our industries. (Renewed cheers.) His second regret was that he was not connected with an office more directly bearing upon the interests of his constituents, but he showed how important a bearing the relative decline in the rural population had upon the rate of wages, and the condition

of manufacturers in the towns, and how serious a circumstance it was from a patriotic point of view that the country population, upon whom we must always draw for the defence of the Empire, should have proportionately so greatly declined from what it was at the beginning of the century. (Cheers.) It was not for him now to give an opinion on what the causes of the depopulation of the country districts were, but he ventured to think that the education given in our country villages had not been the kind of education which would best fit children for a rural life. He was glad to think that something had been done by a Preston man, Sir John Gorst, to remedy this state of things, more, indeed, than by any other man living—(cheers)—and he also pointed to the high excellence and great usefulness of the agricultural school at Preston. (Renewed cheers.) He did not admit with regard to any department of the Government that it was absolutely necessary to have an expert at the head of it. We did not set a soldier over the War Office, or an admiral over the Admiralty, or a banker over the Exchequer, or a colonist over the Colonial Office; it was not necessary to get an expert farmer to be President of the Board of Agriculture. (Laughter.) The Board, he was glad to say, abounded in experts, and what was needed at their head was power of administration and power of organisation. (Cheers.) Whether he possessed those virtues he was not going to say; in the two offices he had already filled he had had plenty of opportunities of showing. (Hear, hear.) Every penny he possessed came not from foreign investments, but from his own properties, either its surface or its minerals, which he had been happy enough to discover. His interest in the land of the country was very close, and he would yield to none in his concern for the development of special branches of rural industry, such as dairy farming. (Cheers.)

The *Morning Advertiser*, in discussing Mr. Hanbury's speech, considered that the feeling uppermost in that gentleman's mind was "one of personal disappointment. He would not pretend, he said, to regard his promotion to the office he now holds (with a seat in the Cabinet) with exuberant satisfaction; he expressed regret that he did not seem likely to have so much work as when he practically represented two great departments—the Treasury and the Post Office—in the House of Commons, and seemed to assert with unnecessary emphasis the undeniable truth that appointments to the high offices of State ought to be influenced by nothing but public interest and personal fitness. But it may console Mr. Hanbury to know that if the office of President of the Board of Agriculture (with a seat in the Cabinet) is not so high a one as his merits would entitle him to fill, there is no one who doubts his entire competence to fill it. The office is a new one, and its importance will be very much what he makes it. He sees well enough what it would be desirable to accomplish. If he can do anything to bring back prosperity to the oldest and most important industry in the country, and staunch the flow of the rural population into the towns which is steadily draining the life-blood out of agriculture, he will have deserved more highly of his country than if he had reformed the War Office and reorganised the Postal Service; and if he fails, everyone will know that it was not from want of energy, ability, clearsightedness, or power of organisation, but because a national tendency is too strong a thing for any man to battle against."

"Mr. Hanbury (says the *Morning Post*) is modestly determined to do his best at the Board of Agriculture, and, though it may be regretted that some wider field was not found for his abilities, we have no doubt that his best will be a good one. His plea for Ministers of general administrative capacity, as opposed either to mere experts and animated Blue-books, or to persons with no political qualifications, is decidedly courageous. It is also seasonable; and we trust that it will be inwardly digested at the War Office, the Admiralty, the Irish Office, and in other places where Blue-books and official minutes have for years maintained an unfortunate supremacy. Despite the performance of the town-recruited regiments in the Army, Mr. Hanbury's warning that we must look to the rural population as the first line in our national defensive force is most timely. Nothing but good can come from an intelligent application of the evils of the rural exodus and a willingness to apply such remedies as may be found to be practicable."

"As regards the functions which have devolved on Mr. Hanbury himself (remarks the *Standard*), with the graceful accompaniment, as he mentioned, of Cabinet rank, he did not pretend to be exuberantly satisfied. Few statesmen, we imagine, in this imperfect world, are absolutely content with their lot. The drop of bitterness in the cup of politcal delight which has been presented to the Member for Preston is, we gather, that he cannot find in his new office any adequate scope for his energies. He has been, so to speak, demoralised into a morbid craving for responsibility by having, in the last Parliament, to answer for two great Departments of State. He has borne the load of the Treasury and of the Post Office, and now he is expected to keep in condition with nothing but agriculture to employ his muscle. We believe that, as Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Hanbury will find abundance of work to do quite worthy of his proved ability, and we have every confidence that he will do it, to the advantage of the country and to his own credit. Preston, like other great manufacturing centres, cannot be indifferent to the fortunes of that great industry on which in the last resort the well-being of England depends. If the rural districts are becoming depleted, it is because the bone and sinew of the rural population flock to the towns. Cut off the source of recruitment in the villages, and the physique of the class which labours in the great towns will before long show a grave deterioration. If only to maintain a nursery for the industrial community, it is a national interest to keep a healthy and prosperous body of farmers and labourers on the soil. How to improve existing conditions is a large and involved question. But Mr. Hanbury laid stress on one highly pertinent feature when he spoke of the unsuitability of the present type of elementary teaching for the rising generation of agricultural labourers."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Chamber of Agriculture and its Legislative Programme.

Sir,—There were so many unsatisfactory features about the discussion on this subject at the last meeting of the Central Chamber, that I think a more profitable examination might well take place in the columns of your paper.

In the first place the discussion was limited by the chairman to the resolution proposed by Mr. Bowen Jones—that copies of the statement prepared by the Business and Parliamentary Committees should be sent to the various Ministers in the Government. No amendment could be moved to the statement itself, and no resolution as to the priority in importance of the various proposals in the statement. We were not even asked to approve the statement before sending it up to the Government; a most extraordinary course, seeing that it had not been before the Council previously.

The whole history of the statement is unsatisfactory. In the first place, it was supposed to be the programme to which every candidate for Parliamentary honours in an agricultural constituency would be asked to pledge himself. The resolution responsible for this statement was passed on the 29th May last, and was, I believe, the sequel to a resolution proposed by me, and unanimously agreed to by the Shropshire Chamber, that it was desirable that we should have an agricultural programme issued by the Chambers of Agriculture before the General Election. It was surely possible to prepare such a statement, and issue it before the General Election; but, as a matter of fact, the statement was not before us until the election was practically over, and, as far as I know, no candidate in an agricultural constituency was ever asked to support it.

Then, too, such a serious step as the issuing of an agricultural programme ought never to have been taken without the endorsement, and amendment if necessary, of the Central and Associated Chambers. To say that because, at some time or another, the Central Chamber has expressed certain pious opinions in the form of resolutions, that those resolutions are to stand as the first legislative requirements of the agricultural interest, is, it seems to me, absurd, and that opinion is fully borne out when one examines this particular statement.

The first serious omission I have to mention is that there is absolutely no mention made of the necessity for legislation relating to agricultural tenancies. This omission would almost imply that the Chambers of Agriculture are content with the useless and abortive Agricultural Holdings Act passed last session. I think I may safely say that almost unanimously the members of the various Chambers condemn that Act as utterly inadequate, and a grave breach of faith on the part of the late Government with the agricultural community. A deplorable incident of the General Election has furnished an unanswerable argument to those of us who assert that the English tenant who farms well has no real security in his holding. The conduct of Lord Hastings and his agent towards Mr. Burrell Hammond and Mr. Cooper, tenants against whom no fault could be brought except that they refused to prostitute their political and religious faith at the bidding of their landlord, must emphasise the fact that no programme of agricultural legislation will be worth anything at all, which does not demand that the same security of tenure and the same equity and justice be given to the English tenantry as is enjoyed by their Irish neighbours.

And the statement is weak throughout. As the last will and testament of a moribund body it might pass, but as the programme of a chamber claiming to be the most representative voice of the greatest industry in the country, sent out, too, at a time when that industry is in a most depressed condition, it is beneath contempt. To issue a weak programme, intended as the agricultural demand at a General Election, and to send it out after the election is over, argues a lamentable want of vitality, that the Chambers, I believe, the existence of the Chambers of Agriculture themselves, at any rate, as bodies representing the tenant farmers. The slap in the face administered by the late Government over the Agricultural Holdings Act, accompanied as it was with the undisguised contempt Mr. Walter Long never hesitated to show towards the Central Chamber, and followed by the publication of the weak and inadequate statement, too late to be of any service, may well make tenants ask whether it would not be better that they should have an organisation of their own for the protection and furtherance of their own particular interests.

Space will not allow me to take the items of the statement seriatim, but I will just refer to those relating to "Beer Duties and Brewing Materials, and the "Fraudulent Sale of Foreign Meat, two questions that are of the gravest moment to arable farmers. The resolutions relating to brewing materials are those on which the agitation in favour of a Pure Beer Bill was based. That Bill I have no hesitation in saying we are tired of hearing about. To the House of Commons the Pure Beer Bill was a godsend in that it gave them a humorous and laughable entertainment, and they enjoyed themselves as much as they could have hoped to do had they been present at a farce. But, as an agriculturist, I submit that we have too long furnished the House with its amusement, and I think the time has come when some other industry might serve the very useful purpose of sharpening the wits of the legislators.

In place of the defunct resolutions which appear in the statement, it is suggested that "No brewer be allowed to make beer containing more than 20 per cent. of malt substitutes, and that those substitutes be defined," shall take their place. The returns of substitutes used, published in your paper, where it was shown that in some districts the use of substitutes had reached 60 per cent., backed up as it is at the present time by the alarming disclosures of arsenical poisoning from the use of substitutes in beer-making, give us a strong case.

Then as to the fraudulent sale of foreign meat. The resolution in the statement is, "That in the interests of both producers and consumers all retail vendors of imported dead meat be registered, etc." Why the wise men of the Central Chamber included the words "imported dead meat" they only know. We suggest that the resolution read "foreign fed meat," which will include the imported meat killed in this country as well as the frozen meat. It is perfectly reasonable and just to ask this. No one denies that much of the Birkenhead and Deptford killed meat is sold as English. It may be quite as good as our meat, but to sell it as such is a fraud, not only on us but on the purchaser.

My principal reason in writing to you is, however, to urge that either the Chamber of Agriculture shall put its house in order, and enter on a fresh and more vigorous campaign for the furtherance of tenant farmers' interests, or that failing this we tenant farmers withdraw from the Chambers, and form an association of our own, and thereby show the country that the agricultural industry has an organised opinion which must be listened to.

Hinnington, Shifnal. FRED HORNE.

Promoting Wheat Cultivation.

Sir,—Mr. G. E. Francis has just issued a circular in favour of sliding scale import duties on wheat to the members of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, in which various far-fetched statements appear, amongst these the reckless one that "Bonuses are an evil and impracticable, but even if practicable, could only be of benefit to the farmer, except at a cost to the nation of many millions a year, which would never be sanctioned."

If he knows what evil a bounty on home-grown wheat would be, surely he should have mentioned it. If he does not, as I believe is the fact, he should not have made such a statement if he wishes to be taken seriously.

About the practicability he does not appear very certain, first writing that they are impracticable, then expressing a doubt of that by "and even if practicable." A bounty on home-grown wheat need not cost the nation a farthing, as it would cause a decrease in the price of wheat, as bounties on other articles always have; therefore, the revenue to pay it might be obtained in such a manner by import duties on wheat, as to cause the price to be the same as were there neither a bounty nor an import duty on wheat. Thus the exporters of wheat would furnish the revenue to pay a bounty. The object of the bounty being to give a fixed return from wheat-growing would be accomplished if it varied according to the price.

The effect of the sliding scale import duties on wheat of 1828 and of 1842 was to cause the returns from wheat-growing to be most uncertain. In 1829 an Act was passed that when the price of wheat was below 64s. per quarter an import duty of 27s. 8d. per quarter should be levied; when between 64s. and 69s. this was reduced to 16s. 8d.; and when the price exceeded 73s. the import duty was 1s. per quarter.

It did not favour the avowed desire of keeping wheat at 64s. per quarter. In 1834 the price was 46s. 2d., and in 1835 39s. 4d. In 1839 it rose to 70s. 8d. per

quarter, and this, it is stated, resulted in farmers, whom the continued distress of twenty-five years had taught to refuse leases at the rents asked, to be called upon to pay an additional 10 to 30 per cent. for their holdings. No sooner were the rents readjusted to the landlords' supposed advantage than prices began to decline.

In 1842 an Act was passed by which the import duties on wheat of 1829 were slightly reduced. The scale was intended to keep wheat steady at about 56s. but in 1843, owing to an abundant harvest, wheat declined to 50s. 1d. per quarter.

It matters not whether the scale be fixed for 64s., 56s., or 40s. per quarter, what happened from 1829 to 1846 would take place now were sliding scale import duties on wheat.—Faithfully yours,

31, Cavendish Square, W., THOMAS G. READ.
November 29th, 1900.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

Sewage Farms.

There are, says *Engineering*, three purposes which sewage farms are made to serve: (1) To purify sewage; (2) to grow crops; and (3) To provide comfortable berths for those employed on them. Now, it is only when the second is given a very subsidiary place, and the third no place at all, that success is attained. The great point is to get a pure effluent—that is the product of the farm; the crops are by-products. Yet greed and incompetence have been the two evils that have ruined sewage farming, and it is only when the reins are in the hands of strong and capable men who can defy economical temptations, either from within or from boards and committees, that it has a fair chance. The Aldershot Camp Farm, a successful instance of sewage farming, has two important points in its favour, but these are partly balanced by several inconveniences. Its one grand feature is its soil. Although by no means uniform, this may be described as pure sand for a depth of several feet. It preserves its open texture, and a newly-prepared seed bed is almost as heavy walking as the seashore above high-water mark. It makes, in fact, an ideal *nidus* for bacterial action; indeed, it is too ideal from the agricultural point of view, for the nitrates are rapidly washed through it, and there is little or no accumulation of fertilisers in the soil, such as would occur if it contained some alumina. Unfortunately, the land is very nearly level, and it is only by great care in alignment that sufficient fall can be obtained in the drains. The other important feature is that no storm water comes to the farm. A few weeks ago we (*Engineering*) visited it, going over every part, and can testify from personal experience that it is quite free from nuisance, and that it fulfils its purpose most satisfactorily. It deals with the sewage of about 20,000 persons, the amount received being about a million gallons a day, as the water supply is very liberal. The farm, as described in *Engineering*, has been converted by intelligent treatment from a nuisance and a continual menace to health, into a model establishment in which all the operations go on in a regular and ordinary manner, and in which waste animal products are broken up by the kindly operations of Nature into their original innocuous elements, and many of them are utilised as plant food, to re-enter the cycle of supporting, first, the lower creation and then man, and finally returning to the farm for a second conversion. All this is effected without annoyance to the neighbourhood.

THE DAIRY.

Preston Christmas Cheese Show.

The Christmas cheese show and fair at Preston was held on Tuesday, and was well attended by buyers, dealers, and farmers. The pitch, which was a record one, consisted of 152 lots and 2,660 cheeses, an increase compared with last year's corresponding fair of 34 lots and 590 cheeses. The demand was somewhat slow, but ultimately a clearance was effected at similar prices to those realised last fair. Quotations:—Common, 50s. to 55s.; medium, 57s. 6d. to 62s. 6d.; best, 65s. to 72s. 6d. per cwt. The prize lots were sold by auction, and caused some spirited bidding, one lot reaching 102s., 3s. below the record price.

The prize winners were as follows (the prices realised by their respective lots being given in parentheses):—Class 1—1, G. Whittaker, Kirkland (86s.); 2, W. Proctor, Goosnargh (68s.); 3, H. Bamber, Sowerby (68s.); 4, W. Stuart, Sowerby (70s.); 5, T. Shorrock, Balham (74s.); 6, J. Bee, Bullsnape (70s.). Class 2—1, T. Sanderson, Treales (96s.); 2, T. Braithwaite, Balham (76s.); 3, J. Rayton, Treales (70s.); 4, W. Pearson, Elswick (70s.); 5, T. Rich, Whittingham (68s.); 6, C. Gates (sen.), Goosnargh (68s.). Class 3—1, T. Braithwaite, Balham (102s.); 2, E. Barton, Barton (81s.); 3, G. Whittaker, Kirkland (78s.).

FIRST CLASS representatives and agents required throughout the United Kingdom for the sale of "MOLASSINE"—Write for particulars to the "MOLASSINE" CO., LTD., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

The monthly cheese fair at Whitchurch was held on Wednesday, when the pitch was a very big one—fully 140 tons, of which about half was show cheese, the annual dairy show taking place on Tuesday and Wednesday. Much difficulty was experienced in locating such a large quantity, and often traffic was congested. Dealers were exceptionally numerous, and all were anxious to do business. There was an excellent demand for the show cheese, which was sold at from 70s. to 85s. per cwt., Mr. Dutton's (Burleydam) champion cheese being purchased by a Manchester firm at £100 per ton. "Card" cheese, especially first, second, and third prizes, was quickly bought up, the quality showing an improvement on previous years. Indeed, there was an all-round excellence. There was also more life in the fair cheese than last month, and nearly the whole of it was sold at prices that must have been satisfactory to the vendors. Although not quite equal to last year, the best dairies realised from 60s. to 68s., and medium and lower grades from 51s.

FARM.

Heavy Crops of Turnips.

Considering that the ten years' average yield of turnips, including swedes, in England is only 12.69 tons per acre, and that of Scotland 15.25 tons, while the highest average for any county in Great Britain is 19.53 tons, it is astonishing to read of crops exceeding 40 tons in Ayrshire. In a competition decided in that county a few days ago, out of fifteen crops of which the weights were given by the judges, eleven were declared to exceed 40 tons, and the other four 39 tons per acre. The judges "selected for weighing a drill which was about as good as they could find, and took that as the average yield of the crop." But, although by this improper method the weight per acre was exaggerated, the crops must have been tremendous, and it is no slight feat to produce even a row of swedes weighing at the rate of 40 tons per acre. It appears that the competitors prepare an acre specially for the annual competition, the farmers or their sons doing all the work. They plough the land in the autumn, manure, and sow it carefully in narrow drills, select the best plants in thinning, and leave them at just the right distance from each other. Thus the test is quite an uncommon one; but it is none the less a valuable object-lesson. If, by such careful management, anything like 40 tons per acre can be produced, to say nothing of 44 tons 12cwt. 2qrs. per acre, the recorded weight of the first-prize crop, without an extremely costly outlay on manure, such management must be highly remunerative. Unfortunately, the quantities of manure used by the competitors respectively are not given in the report. Great crops, however, have been grown this season in other parts of Scotland than the Land of Burns. In the Angus competition for the best ten acres of swedes, the first prize was awarded to the grower of a crop reported by the judges as nearly 31½ tons per acre. In this case twenty loads of farm manure were ploughed in, and 4½cwt. of a special manure sown in the drills. Another crop was a little over 31 tons, a third being less than 2cwt. short of that quantity, and seven between 25¾ and 30½ tons. In a competition of four acres, moreover, the crops were reported to weigh from 25½ to over 31½ tons per acre. A much greater weight was credited to the winner of the first prize for four acres of yellow turnips, namely, nearly 37½ tons. The crop was sown on the 29th of May, twenty-five loads of farm manure having been spread on the stubble before it was ploughed. In the drills 3cwt. per acre of superphosphate and 1cwt. of sulphate of potash were sown. Four other competitors are credited with 31 to nearly 36 tons. Such crops of swedes and yellow turnips could not be grown in the east or south of England, or, indeed, in any other division of Great Britain than the north, by means of any possible treatment of the land.

Carlisle Hirings.—There was a large attendance of masters at the second hirings, held at Carlisle on the 17th inst. Men and boys in search of places were also numerous. Women were scarce. The wages asked were quite as high as those obtained the previous week, and few engagements would be made at lower figures.

Malton Martinmas Hiring Fair—At this fair, held on the 24th ult., farmers hired readily. There was a very large attendance of farm men and youths, but again a dearth of females, both for farm and domestic service, and these commanded good wages all round. Foremen, £24 to £28; first ploughmen, £18 to £20; second hands, £17 to £18; strong lads, £14 upwards; boys just going out, £6 to £7 per annum, with board and lodging; farm girls, to manage the dairy, £19 to £21; generals, £15 to £16; cooks, £17 to £20; housemaids, £13 to £16; young girls, £7 to £10 per annum.

International Live Stock Exposition.

A correspondent sends us the following particulars of the International Live Stock Exposition which was announced to open on Saturday last at Chicago, U.S.A., and continue all this week:—

"Now that the entries in the competitive classes at the International Live Stock Exposition are about all made, the immensity of the show is made apparent. The only thing that now remains is for the people to come to Chicago and see the greatest collection of pure blooded, royally pedigreed, silkiest coated, beef-producing cattle ever put into one aggregation; the best and highest-priced lot of sheep seen at one time; the smoothest lot of porkers in America; and the staunchest finest 500 draught horses the eye of man ever gazed on.

"In the breeding cattle department there are about 1,200 entries. In the breeding sheep department the entries will number 700, with the hogs a close second.

"In the fat car lot classes of cattle (sheep and hogs) no entry is required; but from advices received at the office of the Exposition, about 200 cars will be sent in.

"The sales of cattle, sheep, and hogs will be confined to selections from the very best herds in America. The four cattle associations—Herefords, Shorthorns, Aberdeen-Angus, and Galloways—each of which will be represented by 100 head of animals in the sales, have sent men out to pass on the quality of the offerings, with instructions to turn down anything not up to requirements.

"The display of the numerous by-products by the packing houses will be interesting to everybody, whether interested in the live stock industry or not.

"The slaughter tests will demonstrate the uselessness of over-feeding, and 'tallow' will be a passport to favour at the 'International.'

"The exhibitors number about 400, of whom 25 are from Canada, with Scotland and England represented.

"The list of judges as selected represents the greatest collection of live stock experts that ever passed on the merits of animals at a live stock show.

"Most of the railroads have announced a rate of one fare plus 2dols. for the round trip, and the attendance will doubtless be large. Advices indicate the presence of a large number from that section."

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.

Belfast, Nov. 27, 1900.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head.	Average Live weight.	Average price per cwt.
		£ s. d.	c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.
1	Bullocks (prime) ..	17 10 0	11 0 21	1 11 3
1	,, ,, ..	17 5 0	11 0 14	1 11 0
1	,, ,, ..	14 0 0	9 0 7	1 10 11
1	,, ,, ..	17 10 0	11 1 4	1 10 9
1	,, ,, ..	18 15 0	12 1 0	1 10 7
1	,, ,, ..	21 10 0	14 0 21	1 10 4
1	,, ,, ..	17 0 0	11 1 0	1 10 3
1	,, ,, ..	16 15 0	11 0 14	1 10 1
12	,, (very good) ..	12 10 0	8 2 14	1 9 0
1	,, (good) ..	16 5 0	11 1 14	1 8 7
12	,, ,, ..	11 0 0	7 3 7	1 8 2

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Nov. 24th, 1900:—

Swine Fever:	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	290	518 930 745	16,603	98,902 39,698 37,780
	Outbreaks.	No.	30	36 46 35	1,774	2,181 2,982 2,047
Rabies: Cases Reported.	Other Animals	No.	:	: : :	4	: : 16
	Dogs.	No.	:	: : 1	6	9 16 143
Pleuro-Pneumonia. Cattle Slightered.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	: : :	:	999 711
	Diseased.	No.	:	: : :	:	1 16
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	: : :	:	1 7 16
Glanders (Ireland, Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	42	34 21 23	1,701	1,346 1,570 1,495
	Outbreaks.	No.	21	21 10 16	1,025	789 677 815
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	:	: : :	297	: : :
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	: : :	17	: : :
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	15	11 30 34	833	914 761 891
	Outbreaks.	No.	11	10 10 11	602	486 502 398
Period.	Week ended Nov. 24, 1900			Corresponding week in { 1899 1898 1897	Total for 47 weeks 1900	Corresponding period to .. { 1899 1898 1897

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

POISONED BEER.

THE USE OF MALT SUBSTITUTES.

Seventy Deaths.

Over Twelve Hundred Persons Poisoned.

In Manchester and several other towns in the North and Midlands of England a large number of consumers of beer have been suffering from peripheral neuritis, or arsenical poisoning, and a number of deaths have occurred. How this came about was regarded as a mystery, but the labours of public and other analysts have traced it to beer, and through the beer to the use of invert sugar instead of malt. This invert sugar is prepared with sulphuric acid, and in the sulphuric acid so used have been found certain percentages of arsenic. An inquest has been opened on one of the victims, but the whole facts of the case are not likely to become known for a month, to allow analysts to make exhaustive inquiries. The case has special concern for farmers, as they have always, like ourselves, advocated the manufacture of beer from barley malt and hops only, all substitutes being made illegal, or made the subject of explicit declaration. The question is commented on by "Hordeum" in another column, but the following extracts from correspondence which has appeared on the matter will be interesting.

Mesrs. Bostock and Co., of Liverpool, have admitted that they have discovered arsenic in the sulphuric acid used by them in producing sugar supplied to brewers, and they state that they have advised all their customers to stop using their products. A representative of the firm suggests that his is not the only company supplying sugar tainted with arsenic.

A meeting of Lincolnshire agriculturists was held at Boston on Thursday to consider the alleged extensive adulteration of beer, as shown by the wholesale poisoning of beer consumers at Manchester and elsewhere, and it was resolved to convene a public meeting at an early date to agitate for legislative measures to ensure the brewing of pure beer from malt and hops. Mr. Chaplin and Sir Cuthbert Quilter, M.P., are to be asked to co-operate in the movement.

At a conference of Kent and Sussex hopgrowers held at Tunbridge Wells on Friday it was stated that beer poisoning had extended to London, an instance being given in which a barrister was suffering. The use of cheap commodities in brewing, it was urged, was the cause of beer impurities, and it was a matter of national importance that the practice should be at once stopped. It was suggested that where beer was adulterated the casks should be labelled in the same manner as food stuffs. A resolution was unanimously adopted urging the Government to compel brewers to use malt and hops in beer manufacture.

A correspondent suggests that "if the House of Commons will be honest and do its duty, it will pass a Bill for beer to be made from malt and hops only, two wholesome ingredients. In doing this it will confer a boon on English agriculture by making barley-growing a source of profit, instead of, as at present, a loss, and will give the nation a wholesome drink. Barleys this year are almost unsaleable, not so much because their quality is unsatisfactory, but because maltsters are displacing malt with glucose. The very cattle of this country have their food protected from adulteration, whilst the working man has his every-day drink made from anything the brewer thinks well to use."

Another correspondent asks whether "it is not time that the Inland Revenue officials insisted that beer should be made from malt and hops only? At present, beer is defined as 'a fermented saccharine infusion, bittered with a wholesome bitter.' This allows chemical swills of all sorts to be sold to the public."

Having in mind the numerous cases of poisoning (the result of drinking adulterated beer) in Manchester, Salford, Liverpool, and other places (adds another writer), one naturally thinks of the rejected Pure Beer Bills of the past, and wonders whether anything will be done in the future to ensure that the moderate consumer of beer shall be strengthened rather than weakened by its consumption, or are the brewers' interests too strong? Here should be a fine field for the new President of the Board of Agriculture, whose views on the subject should at this present juncture specially interest the electors of Preston. That the use of chemical preparations in the manufacture of beer is largely on the increase is evident to anyone who has studied the advertisements in the trade journals during the past ten years. The agitation in favour of pure beer has been largely credited to the farmer's hope for a better market for his barley, which naturally carried small weight with the British public, who long since classed the British farmer as of no account and not wanted. We shall see whether they are content to continue poisoning themselves. Failing legislation, it appears to me that the brewers, having practically done away with free houses, where a glass of beer brewed from malt and hops only could once be obtained, must now, for their own sakes, put a wholesome article before their customers, or the deaths from, and numerous cases of, peripheral neuritis will cause a panic among beer-drinkers. The brewers in either case must do a good turn to the temperance cause.

Again:—"The trouble which has come upon us in the unfortunate disclosures of the last few days, showing that a very large number of beer drinkers are being stealthily poisoned, is the natural and necessary outcome of a piece of mischief which was originated many years ago. Amongst the many disastrous blunders which characterised the official life of Mr. Gladstone, few were more pregnant of evil than his substitution of a beer duty for a malt duty; as he thereby left it open to the brewers to use any sort of substitute they might fancy in place of malt, which opportunity was promptly made use of by a large number of them. In fact, Mr. Gladstone's most pernicious action was simply a premium on bad beer. In the spring of this year the Chancellor of the Exchequer imposed a war tax of one shilling per barrel on beer. The Burton brewers, and others whose position was strong enough to bear the impost, decided not to ask their customers to pay this addition, and it is easily conceivable that the smaller fry, anxious to stand well with their customers, were driven to other expedients for further reducing the cost of production, and this most serious outbreak, of which at present we do not know the extent, is the result. If, as I have endeavoured to point out, the trouble is thus traceable to a bad enactment, the remedy lies with the Government. Let the tax revert to malt as before, and let the use of either malt or hop substitutes (*e.g.*, sugar or strychnine) be made penal, and then—even if he has to pay a trifle more for it—the English beer-drinker will at least feel that the national beverage is not a subtle means of closing his earthly career."

Another indivdual remarks that "some of the patients suffering from peripheral neuritis, due to arsenical poisoning, are not beer-drinkers at all, but it is not stated whether they are whisky-drinkers. I once heard of the practice of 'rectifying' whisky by means of water and dilute sulphuric acid. If that practice anywhere prevails, and the sulphuric acid is not pure, then the arsenical poisoning would occur in persons drinking the whisky. Also, whisky, as it comes from the still's eye, is as colourless as distilled water, and I think it is safe to infer that other agents besides sherry-casks are used to produce the deep brown colour often imparted to whisky, especially some Irish whisky. I have often heard of the use of distilled water, Valencia raisins, and green tea as producing in the beverage the mildness of age."

The foregoing is carried a little further:—"Is beer the only beverage that is likely to be contaminated by the impurities of commercial sulphuric acid? Effervescing mineral waters are carbonated from a mixture of chalk and sulphuric acid. The sulphuric acid is admitted to be the source of the evil in beer, then why may not mineral waters be included in the same category? This question may be more strongly emphasised with the knowledge that where pounds of sulphuric acid are used by brewing sugar manufacturers, tons are required for the production of mineral waters."

Then a correspondent tries to assure the public on this point by saying:—"The scare occasioned by the discovery of arsenic in cheap beer has extended to mineral waters, and this arises from the similarity of 'saccharum' used by brewers and 'saccharin' used by mineral water manufacturers. Please allow me to point out that saccharine or saccharum, the article used by brewers, is an invert sugar, made by the action of a mineral acid—chiefly sulphuric acid—upon low class sugar or glucose. This product is fermentable. 'Saccharin,' which is used by mineral water manufacturers, is an entirely different article, being one of the derivatives of coal tar, all of which prducts are antiseptic in their influence. 'Saccharin' is forbidden by law in the manufacture of ale and stout, on account of difficulties in connection with the Excise, though it is absolutely harmless in every respect, and is used largely for pharmaceutical purposes as well as in the manufacture of mineral waters. The public may be assured there is no danger of any kind in mineral waters, as there is none in beer brewed without chemical substitutes."

"The revelations at Manchester, Liverpool, and other places of the deaths due to poison which has been traced to the chemicals used in the manufacture of beer will" (says a "Temperance" writer) "afford Mr. Hanbury an opening for his energies, and enable him to serve the agricultural interests of this country by at once adopting measures to introduce a Bill into Parliament legalising the manufacture of beer from pure malt and hops only. Why this great trade is allowed to drug the people with chemicals and adulterations of so noxious a kind as to produce insanity and death whilst other manufacturers and dealers are subject to heavy penalties for adulteration in comparatively trivial matters such as, for instance, chicory in coffee, margarine in butter, or water in milk—is only one more proof that this vast trade is omnipotent. The Temperance party have been powerless in their endeavours to bring reforms, essential to the well being of the people, in the licensing laws, and these revelations in the manufacture of beer show the free hand that is allowed to the trade to loot upon the people poisonous drugs as a substitute for malt and hops—the one a profitable poison, the other a sound if not more costly, less profitable, and certainly in its effects less morbid, less demoralising, and more wholesome."

Dr. T. N. Kelynack, of Manchester Royal Infirmary, and Lecturer on Pharmacognosy at Owens College, has given his experience over a period of six months, during which time out patients' departments of the hospitals and the union infirmaries have been flooded with patients revealing the symptoms that are now the subject of notice in many parts of the Midlands, leads him to some important conclusions. He states that the patients are "invariably beer drinkers." In most instances they have sought assistance on account of the weakness and pains in the limbs, variously described as "pins and needles," "numbness," "pricking," "like walking on hot bricks," and scalding. Some complain chiefly of their difficulty in walking, while other persons declare themselves "paralysed," and unable to get about. In a few instances the pains are more general, sufferers seeking advice for "rashes," and itching of the body, but generally, remarks Dr. Kelynack, the poorer patients affected have not been particularly observant of their pigmentation. In some of the patients, however, the increasing darkening of the skin has been the chief feature to attract notice. This writer states that "frequently, but by no means always, the appearance is 'alcoholic.' The face is usually dusky, the eyes watery, and often with tears visibly overflowing. Sometimes there is distinct puffiness, especially about the eyelids. Walking is usually difficult, and the patients progress in a gingerly or ataxic manner. In bad cases there is much general wasting. The temperature in severe cases may be raised." So great in some instances is the influence on the nervous system that "patients often dread to be touched, and sometimes cannot bear even a sheet to rest on the feet. Cramps may be much complained of, and the respiratory system is affected, being much congested, while even the appetite is lost."

Up to Saturday there were some 1,200 known cases and nearly seventy deaths from the beer poisoning epidemic.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks, may be obtained free of charge.

20370.—G. J. Kingsbury, of Finsbury, London, for an invention for "An appliance for dividing bulk butter into pats of any predetermined weight or size."

20685.—F. J. Lloyd, W. Thorp, and W. Weddel, of London, for an invention for "Improvements relating to the treatment of milk, cream and butter."

20790.—W. Schafer, of Liverpool, for an invention for "Improvements in and appertaining to feed apparatus for threshing machines and the like."

20700.—J. Campbell, of Glasgow, for an invention for "Cheese press."

Patents Sealed.

15270.—E. Mandel and Co., of Nyirbator, Hungary, for an invention for "Improvements relating to ploughs, agricultural."

15289.—C. E. Anderson, of South Bend, Indiana, U.S.A., for an invention for "Improvements relating to ploughs, agricultural."

15794.—M. Liesengang, of Hammersdorf, Nr. Braunsberg, East Prussia, Germany, for an invention for "Manuring and fertilising."

At the Martinmas Hirings at Kirkby Moorside on Wednesday, there was a large attendance of both masters and servants. Girls, first time out, asked £7 to £9; older girls, £11 to £17; girls able to manage a dairy, £17 to £19; cooks and housekeepers, £24 to £26; boys, first time out, £5 to £10; ploughboys, £11 to £13; waggoners, £19 to £21; foremen, £26 to £30 per year.

Goole Martinmas Hiring Fair.—This fair took place on Wednesday, and was well attended by farm servants. Some little hiring was done, wages ranging as high as £30 per year was given for really first-class hands; ordinary first hands, £24 to £26; second hands, £16 to £18; lads, £5 to £10. Female servants were in good demand and commanded good wages.

THE GARDEN.

The days are very short, and dark too, as a rule, now; in fact, it is the dullest time of the year, but "turn of the days" will be here again very soon, and then we shall be once more looking forward to the spring. With the exception of certain subjects under glass, vegetation is now at a standstill. With a very few exceptions all our crops have been gathered in, and we can now enjoy a brief breathing space.

Looking back, the season, as a whole, has been a far from satisfactory one. Last winter was mild, but the spring proved late, cold, and wet, and consequently outdoor crops of all kinds were unusually backward, and in many cases poor also. When the warm weather did at last set in, growth was very rapid, owing to the frequent showers, but the dreaded potato disease, from which we have been practically free for a few years, put in an early appearance, and an early and stormy autumn rendered the summer an unusually brief and by no means satisfactory or profitable one. Green vegetables of most descriptions were remarkably plentiful towards the close of the summer, but the potato crop generally is by no means up to the average, and not as sound as it ought to be.

The great feature of the year, from a horticultural point of view, is the extraordinary crops of hardy fruits generally, and of plums and apples in particular, that of the former having been one of the heaviest on record.

Having cleared away all exhausted crops and rubbish, etc., and put everything ship-shape for the winter, the preparation of the various plots and beds for next season's crops should receive attention. For nearly all vegetables the ground can scarcely be dug, or rather trenched, too deeply, or manured too freely, and as all such work takes time, it should be commenced as early as possible. Of course, it is unnecessary to trench the entire garden every year—even if possible, such a course would be undesirable. Once thoroughly well trenched and manured, a plot ought to afford good crops for three or four years, with an occasional forking over and light surface dressing, so that the whole area should be operated on in rotation, going, if possible, a little deeper every time. If the subsoil is good, a moderate quantity may be brought up to the surface occasionally with benefit.

The crops which chiefly require deeply-worked and newly-manured ground are peas, cauliflowers, dwarf and runner beans, Brussels sprouts, onions, leeks, and celeriac. In the case of celery, the manure is, of course, applied immediately before planting, and the next year such a plot will usually grow excellent crops of peas, beans, or anything requiring a deep and rich root run. For most of the usual run of root crops such as carrots, parsnips, beet, etc., the ground, though deep and mellow, is better not to have been recently manured, as this tends to produce forked and misshapen roots, so that it is a good plan to grow these, as far as possible, on plots or beds that have been deeply worked and freely manured for a previous crop.

Some very light, porous, and sharply-drained soils should not be manured, as a rule, until shortly before planting or sowing the crops, as the manure is quickly washed out of such a formation. Such ought not to be worked too frequently, either, though they should be rendered deeper, if possible, and an occasional dressing of lime is also desirable in such cases.

When pruning old or large apple or other fruit trees (standards) the point to be aimed at is to thin out the growth wherever this is crowded in the least, especially in the centre of the head, which ought always to be kept well open. Remove any branches that touch or cross each other, and any diseased, exhausted, or "snaggy" wood also, of course. Cutting back the young wood in such cases to any extent should be avoided—if fruitful it is wrong, and if the growth is too gross and barren branch-pruning will only make matters worse; there is no remedy but root-pruning for this.

Of course, in pruning dwarf, bush, or pyramid trees most of the young growth must be cut back, more or less, but remember that here also pruning will only render strong growth stronger, and unless the roots are in proper condition it is useless. There are also some kinds of apples which fruit chiefly on the points of the young shoots, and these must, of course, not be cut back to any extent. Such are Lady Sudeley, Irish Peach, Golden Noble, Gascoine's Seedling, Prince Arthur (Smart's), Yorkshire Beauty, and a few others.

It is by no means necessary to fill all the summer flower-beds with "Dutch" bulbs alone (hyacinths, tulips, etc.). Such, though very gay in the spring, have a very bare and cheerless aspect through the winter, and the garden generally will look much better if some of the beds are filled with neat evergreen shrubs. Aucubas, Pernettyas, and other berry-bearing plants, and others with hardy spring-flowering plants of various kinds. Wallflowers, both single and double, are always fragrant and welcome, and then there are the pansies, violas, violets, primroses, cowslips, and many more. Many exquisite combinations may be formed by the judicious use of such materials.

Plant Ixias and Sparaxis bulbs on a warm and sheltered border of light soil, and cover with a few inches of cocoanut fibre refuse.

THE WEATHER.

Monday (November 26th).—The weather was generally fine over England, and in many places the sun shone brightly for several hours. The sky was for the most part overcast in Scotland, and rain fell at some of the Irish stations. The cyclonic disturbance which had its centre over our islands on Sunday had moved away to the eastward, but the wind remained southerly under the influence of a fresh disturbance which had arrived from the Atlantic. The midday temperatures were high for the time of year, and in many places the thermometer exceeded 50deg. In London the day was fine, and the temperature rose to 52deg., which is 5deg. above the average.

Tuesday (November 27th).—A mild, south-westerly wind was blowing over our islands from the Atlantic, and the air was thoroughly charged with moisture. Rain had fallen generally since Monday, and in the northern and western districts the measurements were large. A shallow cyclonic disturbance was situated to the north of Scotland, and a fresh disturbance was approaching our west coasts. The storm signals were hoisted in the west and south, and in the course of the day the outlook became threatening. The rain area was extending eastwards, and a moderate gale was blowing at the entrance of the English Channel. The mid-day temperatures were again high, especially in the south. In London the morning was fine, and the temperature rose to fifty-two degrees, but rain set in during the afternoon.

Wednesday (November 28th).—Dull and gloomy weather prevailed in most parts of England and Ireland, and rain again fell in many places. The principal rain measured in the morning, as the result of the fall since Tuesday, occurred over the southern portion of our islands, and in the north-eastern and central parts of England no rain had fallen. The cyclonic disturbance which was approaching the Irish coasts on Tuesday had arrived over the western portion of the English Channel, and under its influence the winds were easterly over a large part of the kingdom. Frost occurred in Scotland early in the morning, and the temperature was changing irregularly during the day, but readings were generally lower than on Tuesday. The weather was wet and dull in London, and the highest temperature was forty-nine degrees.

Thursday (November 29th).—Cloudy and damp weather was experienced in most parts of our islands, and rain again fell in places. The fall of rain, measured in the morning for the preceding twenty-four hours, was not generally large, except on the coasts of the English and St. George's Channels. The cyclonic disturbance, which had its centre over our south-west districts on Wednesday, had, apparently, dispersed, but a small disturbance had appeared near the Isle of Wight, and, under its influence, the winds were easterly over nearly the whole country. The temperature was, for the most part, slightly below the average, and the mid-day readings scarcely touched fifty degrees anywhere in our islands. The day was dull in London, but there was scarcely any rain, and the highest temperature was forty-nine degrees.

Friday (November 30th).—The weather was fine in nearly all parts of the British Islands, and the air was generally rather colder. An area of high barometer readings was situated over Scandinavia, and there were regions of low readings over south-west Europe, while, between these different systems, in the United Kingdom, the winds were easterly. Very little rain had fallen since Thursday in any part of the country. The highest temperatures were between forty-five and fifty degrees, and a further fall of temperature was not likely. The day was fine in London, and the highest temperture was forty-six degrees.

Saturday and Sunday (December 1st and 2nd.)—During the past two days very unpleasant weather maintained its hold over the whole of the United Kingdom, nearly every neighbourhood experiencing densely overcast skies, a very dull and gloomy appearance of the atmosphere, and a general prevalence of great dampness each day. There was, however, little actual rain, except in the south-west of Ireland, where more than an inch and a-half is reported to have fallen. The sun was visible in only a few places for a short time. Southerly to easterly winds prevailed on all coasts, but with one or two exceptions they were weak all through. Temperature was fairly uniform, most of the day and night readings being between forty degrees and fifty degrees.

Selby Hiring Fair.—There was a very large attendance of farm servants at the Martinmas Fair at Selby on Monday. A good amount of hiring was done, and wages again ruled high. Foremen obtained £26 to £30, waggoners and second hands £20 to £25, boys who can plough £12 to £18, and young boys £8 to £12. Female servants were somewhat difficult to obtain. Girls who can cook received up to £25, housemaids £14 to £19, general servants £12 to £16, young girls £10 to £12, and nurse girls £8 to £10.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

Dec.
4, 5, and 6. Concluding days of the Birmingham Cattle and Poultry Show, at Bingley Hall.
4, 5, and 6. Leeds Smithfield Club's Show, at Camp Road, Leeds.
4. Cowbridge and County Farmers' Club Society's Show, at Cowbridge.
5. Forres and Northern Fat Cattle Club's Show, at Forres.
5 and 6. Redhill Agricultural Show.
5 and 6. Scottish National Fat Stock Club Show, at Waverley Market, Edinburgh.
6. City of Liverpool and District Cowkeepers' Association's Show, at Liverpool Corporation Haymarket.
7. Wadhurst Christmas Fat Stock Auction Show.
7. Sale of Fat Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs, the property of the Earl of Crewe, at Crewe Hall Home Farm.
8. Meeting of the Beds Chamber of Agriculture; Lecture on "Bacon Curing," by Mr. Loudon M. Douglas, A.I.M.E.
10. Meeting of the Farmers' Club; Paper on "Swine Fever and the Methods Adopted by the Board of Agriculture for its Suppression," by Professor Axe.
10. Lynn Christmas Fat Stock Show.
10 to 14. Smithfield Club Show, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington.
11, 12, and 13. Yorkshire Fat Stock Society's Show, at York.
11, 12, and 13. Royal Dublin Society's Winter Show.
11. Meetings of the Councils of the Shire Horse Society, National Sheep Breeders' Association, Shorthorn Society, Smithfield Club, and British Dairy Farmers' Association.
11. Annual Agricultural Dinner, held under the auspices of the Central Associated Chambers of Agriculture and the Farmers' Club, at Holborn Restaurant.
12. Meeting of the Council of the Hackney Horse Society.
12. Meeting of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society.
12. Council and Annual General Meeting of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture.
12. Vale of Aylesbury Fat Stock Show, at Aylesbury.
12. Guildford Agricultural Association's Show, at Guildford Cattle Market.
12 and 13. West of England Fat Stock and Poultry Society's Show.
12 and 13. Chichester Fat Stock Show.
13. Meeting of the Council of the Hunters' Improvement Society.
13. Sale of Young Shorthorn Bulls, at York Cattle Market.
14. Croydon and District Cowkeepers' and Dairymen's Association's Show, at Croydon Cattle Market.
14. Romsey Agricultural Society's Show, at The Abbey, Romsey.
14. Meeting of the Council of the Polo Pony Society.
17 and 18. Suffolk Fat Cattle Club's Show, at Ipswich.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended November 24, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	7,082	9,250	Wheat ..	1,223,600	1,006,860
Sheep ..	4,076	3,525	Flour ..	508,500	413,800
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	446,800	575,700
			Oats ..	169,000	507,900
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	81,400	23,900
Beef ..	51,637	76,128	Beans ..	45,500	13,700
Mutton	61,463	55,885	Maize ..	1,451,900	1,241,000
Pork ..	15,691	19,280		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	88,236	113,077	†Bananas	—	18,174
Beef, salt	3,099	6,133		Cwt.	Cwt
Hams ..	23,232	27,939	Apples ..	127,324‡	125,089
Pork, salt	2,429	3,109	†Apricots		
Meat, salt & fresh	11,593	13,277	& Peaches	—	
			Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	20,596	39,580	†Currants	—	—
Butter ..	70,387	47,957	†Goosebr's	—	—
M'g'rine	21,044	16,970	Grapes ..	14,880‡	12,914
Cheese ..	37,238	33,132	Lemons	17,193‡	21,511
Con. Milk	20,698	16,046	Oranges	292,431‡	102,954
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	253	623	Pears ..	4,460‡	10,484
			Plums ..	275‡	—
			†Stra'b'r's	—	—
			Oth'r Fr't	20,988‡	1,554
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	3,101	1 083
Eggs ..	406,447*	292,900*		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	154,910	188,391
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt	Cwt
	£9,779	£8,426	Hops ..	4,674	10,510
			Potatoes	85,665	371,919
	Cwt.	Cwt.	§Tom'to's	—	7,121
Rabbits	14,857	16,938	Other	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	34,446	37,740	Veg'bles	£31,762	£20,560

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

An important general meeting of the Monmouthshire Chamber of Agriculture will be held on Tuesday, December 4th, at 2.15 p.m., at the Beaufort Arms Hotel, Chepstow. The business is as follows:—1. Elect new members, etc. 2. Minutes of meeting at Maesyewmmer on October 25th, and any matters arising therefrom. 3. Report of Cattle Diseases Committee of Central Chamber (November). 4. The working of the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896, and the question of its renewal. 5. Tuberculosis and the working of the "Model Milk Clauses" in the Private Bills of local authorities. 6. Question of the registration of pig dealers and the inspection and disinfection of their premises. 7. Consider circular letter from Cheshire Chamber containing 5 resolutions *re* swine fever. 8. Consider circular from Worcestershire Chamber respecting recently formed association of agricultural implement makers and agents in counties of Worcester, Hereford, Gloucester, and Monmouth.

All farm live stock should be given "Molassine." It is an excellent food and condiment combined. See advertisement on back page of this issue.—[Advt.]

FARM PROSPECTS.

Aberdeenshire.

The Martinmas term has again come round, and farmers have got their purses once more emptied. Wages having been so very high during the past half year, a big dip had to be made. At the earlier hiring fairs for the winter half year wages ruled high, but at the markets immediately preceding the term the general tendency has been easier. At all the fairs servants have been plentiful, and a good many men of the most expensive class have not found places. There can be little doubt that a little after the term wages must fall, for, as far as can be seen, there is to be

Remarkably Little Work

during the winter months for builders and the allied trades, hence labourers are not required. Farm work is generally well advanced for the season of the year. As threshing proceeds it becomes the more manifest that the crop is not to be a good yielding one, either as regards barley or oats. The former is to be at least eight bushels short per acre of an average crop, and the weight per bushel from 3lb. to 4lb. below the current weight of last year. Oats will not be so deficient in returns, but still the crop will be under an average, and the weight of grain will be at least 2lb. per bushel under the ordinary weight. Such are the results of a wet, cold, and sunless summer. A memorable season it will be to north-eastern county farmers, as their incomes will be low, and wages, manure, and feeding stuffs are all higher than they have been in recent years. There is still no appearance of the silver lining to the dark cloud that for so long now has overhung British agriculture.—J. B. (November 27th).

Berkshire.

There has been a full quantity of rain during the month of November, but no more than was needed, for the land was dry and water was scarce in many places. The wheat is nearly all planted, excepting a few pieces which could not be finished till the roots were cleared. The forward sown has come up and looks well, and the rye, winter oats, and tares never looked more promising than they do at the present time. The young clovers are a good plant, but the trifolium is very doubtful, as from the dry weather it is very backward. Mangolds were an extra good crop, and have been secured in good condition without any damage from frost. The swedes and turnips are generally good, so that there will be

Plenty of Sheep Keep

Hay does not improve much in price, and straw is very cheap. There has been a good quantity of feed in the meadows, but there is not much goodness in autumn grass, for, although it will keep store cattle, we hear great complaints in the falling-off of the supply of milk, and artificial feeding has to be resorted to to keep up the quantity and quality. Sheep have done well, for the weather has been very open, and there has been plenty of keep without breaking into the hayricks much. Prices keep about the same, although the trade is very dull. It is useless to say much about labour, for it is more scarce than ever, and how the work will be done is a mystery, and much more so how the money will be found to pay the higher wages which are demanded, with the bad yield of corn and low prices.—J. L. (November 29th).

Mid-Essex.

Wheat sowing is finished, and ploughing is doing well. Wheat and barley are a very disappointing trade for prices, and my former estimate of two quarters per acre less is by recent thrashings fully confirmed, and with greater expenses and less assets this will prove

A Worse Year than for Several Years.

About the only improvement in prices is pork, which just at present is dear, but store pigs are not so dear. Good barleys are wanted, but on account of the drought just before harvest they are very scarce. Store cattle are dear, and also feeding stuffs. Lambs have not done at all well as to places, several dying, and taking everything into consideration this year will be a very bad look-out for the farming interest. Whether the present Government will attempt to remove some of the burdens from a very much overburdened branch of industry is being anxiously watched in rural districts.—Mid-Essex (November 29th).

North Wilts.

It is probable that in the century which is now fast drawing to a close there have been few years in which the weather on the whole has been more favourable to agriculturists, although there have been many, especially for cereals, when the crops have been much more abundant. As for those on the pastures in this district there has been little in this way to be desired. As for the late autumn, it has deserved to rank among the very finest known. Among the drawbacks are the dearness and scarcity of labour. Stock of all kinds have done well, but the prices in beef and mutton have not undergone much improvement. The epizootic disease which has appeared in such a mysterious way in this county appears to have again been stamped out by the precautions taken.—(November 30th.)

Shropshire.

The land, after being soaked with rain, is benefited by a few dry days, suitable for threshing. We hear the hum of the machines sounding very steady, telling us work is going on at the farms. Dryer weather is desirable for all farm work, and the rising barometer says it is coming. Although the wet prevents working the land, especially clay land, turnip carting continues on the roads. All turnips not topped are still growing in size. Turnip hods grow bigger, while turnips are sounder and bigger than expected. With the open weather, winter keep is saved. Early lambs will soon be here, but their little bleats are not heard yet.—J. G. (Nov. 30th).

West Cornwall.

October was a very fine month, and roots made good growth. Mangolds are a good crop, and got in in fair condition. Turnips in most places are good. With a good crop of hay and straw farmers have plenty of winter feed, but beef will have to fetch a fair price to pay, as cattle are dear to buy. There is still good grass keep, and cattle out are doing very well. November has been a very wet month, rain day after day, which has hindered the work on the land. Wheat is about all sown, and the early-sown is looking nice and strong.

The Cauliflower Trade

here has been awfully bad. The mild weather has brought them all in together, and markets glutted. Hundreds of crates have blown, and hundreds sent away for nothing, so the prospects in this line are not very bright. Apples, as all know, have been a glut, and no good to growers. Worthless sorts are no use at all in a season like this, and the sooner the trees are rooted up and replaced by good quality the better for all concerned. When will our English growers learn the lesson that the Americans have learned, viz., to grow only the best, and when grown to market them in a proper manner, and so save in this county the enormous amount of money we send abroad.—F. C. (November 28th).

Wilts and Berks.

Work on farms in this neighbourhood is forward. Season very mild. Wheat sowing mostly finished, and plants forward. Roots, average crop, and growing still. Hay, an average crop and, generally speaking, well secured, and the prospect of winter keep good. Cattle and sheep doing very well. Corn prices low. Wheat turns out better in sample than first expected and a fair yield. Barley, with the exception of a few prime lots, sample and yield disappointing. Oats below average, both in sample and yield.—(November 29th.)

York.

We, in the Darlington district, are practically flooded out. For weeks, nay, for months, it has rained almost every day, and work on the land has continued under very adverse conditions. There are potatoes still in land—a good many it is to be feared—and a large area of turnips still to deal with. Very litle wheat has been sown. Farmers intended putting a good acreage, but the weather has stopped it. Even on the dryest soils no attempt can be made. There is no prospect of any better weather, and at the time of writing it is threatening to rain heavily. It has been

One of the Worst Years

the farmers of this district have experienced. Corn is yielding badly, and selling at a wretched price. The high price of cakes and feeding-stuffs—a curious anomaly—has made fat stock almost unprofitable. There are more

Farms Advertised to Let

than has been the case for at least ten years, and it is probable rents will once more decline. W. P. (November 28th).

Foreign Prospects.

France.—An open season like the present may be suitable for autumn-sown crops, but it markedly interferes with the demand for flour and relatively for wheat. Trade in Paris, as well as in the provinces, is singularly quiet, another obstacle being the delay of the Government in dealing with the contemplated modification in the customs tariff. Foreign wheat participates in the dulness overshadowing home trade.

Belgium.—With continued mild weather and a shrinkage in demand, business in Antwerp has run in narrower channels, with an inclination towards buyers to the extent of 3d. to 6d. per quarter on the week.

Holland.—Weather dull and damp, checks threshing, and thereby limits supplies, but these latter seem equal to demand, and at inland markets wheat, rye, and oats are nominally unchanged, while barley went back 6d. per quarter. Rotterdam and Amsterdam have had quiet trading.

Germany.—Official reports of autumn-sown crops show conditions fully up to the average. Mild weather modifies consumptive demand, and Berlin was dull and easier, and Hamburg quiet.

Hungary.—The autumn-sown cereals are developing everywhere in satisfactory conditions. Budapest reports a dragging wheat trade, and quotations mark a drop of 6d. per quarter on the week.

Russia.—The average temperature in most of the Empire, the west excepted, has been below the normal. The rainfall was not abundant, and in most of the southern governments ran was absent. Central and eastern provinces are snow-covered. The Moskwa, the Northern Dwina, and Baltic are closed by ice. Interior markets continue quiet with dull inquiry and small arrivals, but no change in values. In the south-west region the feeling was weaker. In the lower Volga grain supplies were slack. Oats were weaker in the earlier part, but barley maintained a firm position, other cereals remaining inactive.

India.—The latest telegram from the Viceroy reports that rain is still wanted in Bombay, the Karnatak, Deccan, and Gujarat. Otherwise prospects are satisfactory.

United States.—Rain has been beneficial to northern and central parts of California, putting the early sown grain in excellent condition. In the San Joaquin Valley farmers were holding off for heavy rain, the soil being too dry for farm work.

Argentina.—Our Buenos Ayres cable states that advices from the agricultural districts speak of unfavourable weather conditions. *Daily News.*

Rangoon Ricemeal.

This article continues to hold a chief place as a feeding article. A very large business has been done in it during the past few weeks at 105s. per ton, or in four tons lots or over at 102s. 6d. per ton, bags included, delivered buyers' own station. An analysis of a parcel recently arrived, as analysed by Dr. Bernard Dyer, has been sent to us by Messrs Elliott, Lang and Co., Limited, of Catherine Court, Seething Lane, E.C. For the purpose of comparison is also given a copy of analysis of other feeding articles:—

[COPY.]

Analysis of a recent arrival of Rangoon ricemeal by Dr. Bernard Dyer, Dorking, Agricultural Laboratory, Reigate Road, Dorking, Surrey, and Member of the Institute of Chemistry of Great Britain and Ireland, Cornwall, Essex, Hants, Herts, Leicester, Norfolk, West Suffolk, and East Sussex; and Author of Reports to the Royal Agricultural Society of England, &c.

	Rangoon Ricemeal.	ANALYSIS. American Maize Germ Meal.	English Maize Germ Meal.	Undecorticated Cotton Cake (English Make).
Moisture.....	8·17	8·27	10·80	13·75
Oil.....	14·80	10·95	9·70	6·00
Albuminoids	12·06	11·94	10·44	24·62
Starch, Mucilage, Sugar, Digestible Fibre	51·54	60·93	62·69	45·25
Indigestible Woody Fibre	4·97	1·83	2·57	3·10
Mineral Matter (Ash).....	8·37	3·10	3·80	4·60
	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00
*Containing Nitrogen.....	1·93	1·91	1·67	
†Including Silicious Matter..	1·43		1·30	·15
Food Units....	119	128	113	107

Owing to the large percentage of oil in Rangoon ricemeal it is very valuable as a winter feeding article. It is one of the best foods the farmer can use, as nearly all kinds of stock eat it readily on account of its pleasant smell and taste. The following are the various modes in which the stock should be fed:—For horses, about a quart a day should be given, sprinkled over their chaff. It gives them a beautiful sleek appearance, and is used by many horse dealers for putting their horses into prime condition before selling them. If given to horses, however, too freely, it causes them to grow too fat and lazy. For dairy cows, about one gallon to five quarts a day should be given, mixed with their other food or roots. This will keep them in good condition, improving their supply of milk and imparting no disagreeable taste to the butter. For rearing beasts rice meal should be used in the following proportion, viz., one-fourth meal to three-fourths of other food. For young calves 1 to 2 handfuls should be given with the other food, and very often it will induce calves off their feed to eat properly, and in exceptional instances they will eat it when all other foods fail to attract. Here the fine rice meal may have a slight advantage over the ordinary rice meal. For pigs it is very useful as a fattening food, as it may be given to them in large quantities from 10 to the time of killing. Pigs that are intended for pork can be fed wholly on rice meal, but it will be found that when fed on rice meal only half the feed is pork what is got when fed on maize meal, as it does not lay on fat. Pigs fed on rice meal only are liable to scour, and the quantity of their food must be regulated accordingly. The meal for sows and young pigs should be soaked and left to stand awhile before being used, but old pigs should have their rice meal fairly dry. The best results are obtained when pigs are fed on rice meal when they are fed on maize meal. Poultry keepers will find it a good wholesome food when mixed with barley meal.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt,] the trade remains much the same as noticed last week. Barley, both grinding and malting, steady. Wheat quiet at about late rates. Oats, 3d to 6d per qr dearer. Maize firm. Flour unaltered.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—There was again next to nothing done in English wheat, local markets taking what little is sent up and prices have not varied since last Monday. Very fine white, 31s ; good red, 30s, 63lb delivered. The flour market was neither better nor worse, but while granaries continue so well stocked, consumers still hold aloof, taking into consideration as well the present position of wheat. The London Millers' Association kept their quotations at last Monday's decline. Grinding barley remains scarce and firm. Persian, 17s 3d to 17s 6d ex ship, and 17s 9d to 18s ex quay ; Azov, 19s ex ship to come up, 18s 6d to 19s ex quay. Oats well maintained, and supplies soon go into consumption. American mixed clipped quoted at 14s 9d ex ship, 15s 3d ex quay. Maize upheld, and in small supply. Sound River Plate remains very scarce. English beans firm. Foreign featureless.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Both wheat and flour were again disappointing to sellers. Very fine white, 31s ; and good red, 30s 63lb delivered. American descriptions continue in ample supply on spot, and the quantity of foreign coming forward shows no abatement. The flour market shows no improvement, while granaries remain heavily supplied, and the tendency is to weakness. Of feeding stuffs, grinding barley is again steady, being unaltered. Persian, 17s 3d to 17s 6d ex ship, 17s 9d to 18s ex quay ; Azov, 18s ex ship to come up, and 18s 6d to 19s ex quay. Malting neglected excepting useful qualities. Oats firm, and Russian rather dearer on the week. Flat maize tended a shade easier, round corn being firm. The supply on hand is still kept down.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade for wheat very dull and lifeless, prices being 1s lower on the week. Barley sold very well at late rates, and most descriptions of feeding corn were without material change. Rough maize was very firm. Prices :—White wheat, 29s to 30s ; red ditto, 27s to 29s ; white oats, 16s to 22s ; black ditto, 13s to 19s ; English feeding barley, 22s to 25s ; foreign, 20s 6d to 23s ; malting barley, 25s to 33s ; tick beans, 32s to 34s ; mazagans, 28s to 31s ; flat maize, 23s to 24s ; round ditto, 27s to 28s per quarter.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Thin attendance. Wheat quiet at last week's prices. Other grain unaltered.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (old), 27s to 29s per qr ; wheat, red (new), 27s to 28s 6d per qr ; oats (new), 15s to 20s per qr ; oats (old), 16s to 18s per qr. Wheat, both English and foreign, a quiet trade at about the rates of last week.

Boston, Wednesday.—A small attendance, and trade slow. Wheat, 26s to 27s ; malting barley, 24s to 31s ; grinding barley, 22s to 23s ; oats, 16s 6d to 18s ; beans, 28s 6d to 29s ; maize, 22s 9d.

Bristol, Thursday.—Trade continues dull. At to-day's market English wheat was in good supply, and made late rates. Foreign would barely make last week's prices. Grinding barley, maize, and oats unaltered. Flour not much inquired for.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been quiet, and prices show no appreciable change. Supplies are scanty and condition is mostly very poor. At this market to-day there was a small supply mostly in poor condition ; any dry late made quite as much as last week, but damp was neglected and rather cheaper. Wheat, red, 27s to 30s ; and white, up to 30s per 504lb Barley was steady in price, with a better demand. Oats and beans quite as dear.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Wheat dull and cheaper. Barley slow. Oats maintain values. Ruling prices : White wheat, 30s to 31s 6d ; red ditto, 29s to 30s 6d ; malting barley, 28s to 35s ; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s ; white oats, 18s to 21s ; ditto black, 15s to 20s ; peas, 30s to 33s ; tick beans, 32s to 33s ; mazagans, 27s to 29s ; flat maize, 23s to 24s ; round ditto, 27s to 28s per qr ; winter tares, 6s to 7s per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Good supply of oats in our market to-day, quick sale at late rates. New, 17s 6d to 18s 6d ; old, 23s 6d to 26s per 336lbs. —THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—Wheat having been freely delivered to local mills during the week, prices were inclined to be lower. Oats steady, but slow trade in beans and barley. Indian corn, in better supply, was 3d per sack lower. Quotations :—Wheat, white and red, 4s to 4s 2d per 75lb ; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d per 64lb ; beans, 4s 8d to 5s 6d per 80lb ; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 6d ; old, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 46lb ; Indian corn, 10s 9d to 11s per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Fair attendance. Wheat was in moderate supply, but business ruled quiet, and prices were 6d per qr lower. Trade in feeding stuffs was also slow, and there were no particular changes in prices. Flour about the same as last week.

Colchester, Saturday.—Supply of wheat moderate. Slow trade at last week's prices. Barley not freely offered, quality mostly poor. Slow trade at unaltered prices. Beans, peas, and oats few offering, prices favouring sellers.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Owing to the damp weather English wheat is not coming to hand in such good condition, and prices have dropped 6d qr. Foreign met a dull trade, at about 6d qr cheaper. Dragging trade for malting barley. Feeding stuffs quiet.

Gainsborough, Tuesday.—Small show of wheat. Trade dull at late rates. New white wheat, 27s to 28s ; red ditto, 26s to 28s ; white oats, 20s to 22s ; black ditto, 18s to 20s ; grinding barley, 23s ; English beans, 30s ; peas, 27s ; small maize, 27s 6d ; flat ditto, 23s per qr ; bran, £5 ; sharps, £6 ; barley meal, £6 10s per ton.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat very quiet at a decline of 1½d to 3d per boll on the week. Flour is quite a drug on the market, and values very irregular. Indian corn steady at a reduction of 3d per boll on last week's prices. Canadian peas firmer at 1½d to 3d per boll advance. Foreign oats firm, and the turn against buyers ; home oats quiet and unchanged. Grinding beans dull, at unchanged prices. Barley steady. Oatmeal quiet. Bran and thirds steady at late rates.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Moderate supply of English wheats, with a tendency in buyers' favour. Practically no demand for English barleys, except for very finest qualities, which are scarce ; common grades must be written a turn lower. Oats quietly steady. Beans firm. Maize easy. Quotations : Wheat, white, 3s 3d to 3s 5d per bushel ; red, 3s 2d to 3s 4d ; barley, 2s 9d to 3s 9d ; oats, 2s to 3s ; beans, 3s 8d to 4s ; maize, 2s 8d to 3s ; vetches, winter, 4s to 6s ; and spring, 3s 6d to 5s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Fair supply of wheat. Trade quiet at about last week's rates. Reds, 29s to 30s ; white, 32s. Moderate supply of barley. Fine samples in request, at fully late rates. Other descriptions slow of sale. Oats firm. Maize the turn dearer. Beans and peas without alteration.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The trade has just about held its ground during the past week, as, notwithstanding a limited demand, holders of wheat insist upon full prices, spot values ruling more or less below the cost of import. Supplies of English barley are beginning to decrease, and prices, especially for fine qualities, are well maintained. American maize 9d dearer. Beans and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Slow demand for both English and foreign wheats at a slight reduction upon Tuesday's prices. New English making from 27s to 29s ; old, 30s to 32s ; and foreign from 28s to 32s. Maize fully maintains Tuesday's advance. No material change in barley, beans, peas, oats, or flour.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, but only fine samples in request, which realised 27s to 31s per 36 stones. Barley a dragging trade. Fine oats in good demand.

Lincoln, Friday.—Moderate supply of English wheat. Trade steady at easier rates. Reds, 27s to 28s ; whites, 28s to 29s. Only good barleys looked at, prices 28s to 35s. Oats, peas, beans, and maize all dull at late rates.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat quiet, with a retail trade generally at ½d under Tuesday's prices. Flour steady, but only a very quiet business passing at last market day's prices for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association made no change in the minimum price of bakers. Maize has experienced a fair trade for mixed American, but prices are 1½d lower owing to free arrivals. European has a fair inquiry at unchanged prices. Plate quiet at a general decline of 1d. Barley for malting is very dull, with little doing, prices favouring buyers. Feeding has a moderate trade at an occasional ½d improvement. Beans are slow, prices the turn easier. Peas steady, but quiet, at last Tuesday's quotations. Oats firm, with a better demand at late rates for English. Foreign kinds receive more attention, and firmly held at an advance of ½d for American clips. Oatmeal firm, with a fair trade doing ; prices in sellers' favour. Oilcake steady, but only a moderate business passing at last Tuesday's prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The weather has not been recently the description to stimulate business, as the damp affects the condition of grain. Our wheat trade to-day was firmer, and select parcels an exceptional slight advance, but inferior qualities neglected, though holders will not recede. Barley of best sorts in demand at full rates, but common lots are a drug, and only to be got rid of by making allowances. Oats continue to hold a firmer position. No alteration to note in beans, peas, or maize, nor is there any change in the quotations for rye, tares, hemp, brank, sergo, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat has lost 3d per qr. on the week, and foreign ½d to 1d per cental. Trade quiet throughout the week. Flour continues slow of sale, but no change in prices can be named. Oats are steady at late rates in English descriptions ; foreign rather dearer. Barley ½d per bushel higher. Indian corn is ¾d per cental dearer. Peas and beans unchanged.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat repeated prices. Barley a dull trade, especially for the lower grades. Oats and beans unaltered.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—A thin attendance. All descriptions of wheat were held for Saturday's full quotations, but the demand was far from active. Maize in good request, and prices favour sellers. Beans and peas firm. Other articles without material change.

Newcastle City-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat inactive for all descriptions, buyers acting independently, no change to quote. Malting barley disappointing, so far, but expected to improve later. Oats irregular, and leaning more to buyers. Beans and peas at nominally late rates. Maize, as a consumptive trade, is good, although it looks shaky ahead. Flour steady, usual at this time. Rains every day.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat at our to-day's market ruled quiet and prices favoured buyers. Maize firm, and dearer on the spot, easier to arrive. Beans and peas steady and last week's prices maintained. Barley steady for fine qualities, common sorts neglected. Oats were held for last week's prices ; demand, however, was not active. Flour no change.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—Unfavourable weather limits the attendance of farmers and the general conditions and supply of farm produce. Business was very dull and inactive at about last week's prices. Quotations :—White wheat, 29s to 30s ; red, old, 29s to 30s ; red, new, 26s to 28s ; barley, malting, 24s to 31s ; barley, grinding, 20s to 23s ; oats, 18s to 22s ; old 23s to 25s ; beans, 28s to 36s ; flour, 22s to 25s.

Norwich, Saturday.—No new feature in the wheat trade since last week, the supply being small, with an inanimate trade. Barley in large supply, with values unaltered. Wheat, red, 29s to 29s 6d per qr, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Barley, 27s to 29s for average runs, fine lots rather more. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending November 26th, 1900 :—Wheat, 2,518, 27s 5½d ; barley, 12,402-7, 26s 1½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat only in moderate supply, and made full rates. Fine barleys scarce, and values well supported ; inferior lots, which formed the bulk of the supply, neglected. Oats and beans sparingly represented, and made full rates.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Small attendance, very quiet for wheat at about last week's prices. Little barley offering, best qualities make full prices, and fair inquiry for medium.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been a slow trade for wheat to-day, with prices about the same as last week. Less barley offering, and it made quite as much money. Oats firm at full prices.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Business at our corn exchange today was still as much inactive as last week. Barley and maize are unchanged from last week's prices. Wheat is quiet, and oats dearer.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO

Ripon, Thursday.—Only a small attendance. A few samples of barley, which are of inferior quality, are on offer, but bad to sell. Wheat, English, new, 27s to 29s, according to condition ; ditto, old, 31s ; ditto, foreign, 30s 6d to 34s 6d ; barley, malting, 24s to 28s ; ditto, grinding, 21s to 23s ; oats, old, 25s to 26s ; ditto new, 17s to 19s ; maize, round, 24s to 27s ; ditto, flat, 23s 6d per qr ; beans, old, 1s per stone ; bran, £5 per ton.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade slow at last week's prices. A very small supply, and several samples out of condition. Red wheat made 28s to 29s 6d, and white wheat 29s to 31s 6d per quarter.

Reading, Saturday.—Business here to-day proved very slow, despite a much larger attendance than usual. The wheat trade was rather easier than of late, and where sales took place rates ranged from 27s to 30s. The quantity of barley on offer was above the average, and business ruled fairly good, last week's prices generally prevailing. Oats, beans, and peas sold at recent quotations.

St. Neots, Thursday.—Small supply of wheat, and slow trade for it at previous prices. Useful qualities of malting barley met a fair inquiry, and realised fully as much money ; but there was not a great quantity offering.—ELWOOD AND SON.

Salisbury, Tuesday.—There was a large attendance of buyers at the Corn Exchange to-day, and with a very limited supply of grain, trade was dull. Wheat met a firm trade, at last week's prices. There was little change in barley and oats. Beans the turn dearer. The following were the quotations :—Wheat, 28s to 33s per qr ; barley, best, 32s to 36s ; ditto secondary, 26s to 30s ; oats, black, 16s to 20s ; ditto white, 18s to 22s ; beans, 32s to 35s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Moderate attendance. Wheat : English and foreign held firm at last week's prices. Flat maize a shade dearer on the week. Beans and oats are firm at late rates. Quotations :—Wheat, white, 32s to 33s ; red, 31s to 32s ; new, 30s to 31s per 504lb ; oats, old white, 26s ; ditto, new white, 17s 6d to 19s ; ditto old black, 22s ; ditto new black, 16s to 17s per 336lb ; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s ; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb ; beans, Egyptian, 33s ; ditto English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb ; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s ; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb ; Indian corn, small old, 29s to 30s ; ditto American mixed, 23s to 24s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—At the Corn Exchange to-day wheat was a slow trade, at last week's price of 27s per qr. Oats were firm, selling at 17s to 18s. Barley a slow trade at late rates. Not much doing in other articles.

Stockton, Wednesday.—Very few samples of English wheat, which made 28s per qr. During the week the trade in foreign wheat has kept steady, with a moderate inquiry from millers, and a decline in price of 3d to 6d per qr is quoted. Maize 6d easier. Oats unchanged. Small show of malting barley, but no change in price.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little grain on offer. Wheat quiet at late rates. Barley slow. Oats steady. Arrivals, coastwise, nil. Foreign wheat 1,000 qrs.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Wakefield, Friday.—We have a dull market for wheat today, and in the small business done a reduction of 3d per quarter under last week's prices is accepted. We have a good supply of barley, the greater portion being poor quality, which meets with scarcely any enquiry. Finest qualities sell at late rates. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—The wheat trade has been extremely slow during the past week, and on the business doing buyers have had a slight advantage, otherwise the position remains unchanged, foreign limits being too high to admit of fresh transactions with any margin of profit. Barley in moderate request at late rates. Maize 3d dearer. Oats very firm. Beans steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Winchester, Saturday.—Wheat in very short supply on our market to-day, which met a slow trade at fully late rates. Best barleys in fair demand, inferior descriptions difficult to quit. Oats and maize unaltered. Flour 6d cheaper.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A moderate supply of grain. Wheat 6d lower, red 27s, white 28s, old 30s. Oats firm at late rates, 17s 6d to 20s. Barley : Little offering.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance of farmers and dealers, but very little business was transacted. Wheat was somewhat flat, at easier rates. Oats, old, 15s to 16s ; ditto new, 11s to 11s 6d ; beans, old, 14s 6d to 15s 6d ; ditto, new, 12s 3d to 13s per 196lb ; maize, 23s 6d to 24s 6d per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Business was again slow for both English and foreign wheat, and prices with difficulty maintained. Barley, oats, and round maize unaltered. Flat maize rather firmer. English wheat, white, 27s to 28s ; red, 26s to 27s per quarter.

York, Saturday.—Wheat continues scarce, and owing to the indifferent quality prices are difficult to maintain. Fine white wheat, 28s to 29s ; and red and mixed, 27s to 28s. per quarter of 36 stones. Good samples of malting barley realise quite as much money. Inferior slow of sale. Oats scarce and firm. The averages of the week from the official corn return have been : Wheat, 26s 8d : barley, 23s 8d ; and oats, 16s 3d per quarter.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has been supported by a regular demand to meet the requirements of consumption. The weather has been mild and somewhat rainy in France, and the young wheats have in many localities made sufficient progress to enable them to resist frost ; a little cold weather would be welcome, as it would have the effect of checking injurious vegetation and noxious insects. The area of country devoted to wheat this year in France is considered to be equal to that of 1899. Although we have now reached the close of November, the French provincial wheat markets have shown surprisingly little change ; it is stated, however, that millers, having in some cases run short of supplies, have been obliged to accept the rather higher terms insisted on by holders ; and French farmers still appear to have an impression that a period of higher prices is close at hand. Last week's sales of wheat at Marseilles amounted to 15,500 quintals. The Paris wheat market has shown little change, flour for consumption has also remained at about former rates in the French capital. Disposal wheat has been quiet at Konigsberg ; the Dantzic wheat market has shown little change. The deliveries of wheat upon the Russian provincial markets have been restricted, but the demand has been somewhat inactive, and scarcely any alteration has been noted in prices. In the south-west of Russia the tendency of business has been rather weak ; in the districts watered by the Lower Volga, business has also presented little activity. The Odessa wheat market has shown a weak tone in sympathy with the dulness of business in the great American centres. The weather has been mild and rainy in Southern Russia ; wheat sowing has been completed under satisfactory conditions. The quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is returned at 1,205,000qr., as compared with 1,265,000qr., at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,205,000qr. is made up as follows:—France, 110,000qr. ; Belgium, 340,000qr. ; Holland, 230,000qr. ; Germany and the North, 180,000qr. ; and Italy, Spain, etc., 345,000qr.

Hamburg, Saturday. — Mild weather continues, and our market is in a quiet state, but prices are not lower, there being no pressure to sell. The imports during the week amounted to : — 7,225 tons wheat, 4,655 tons rye, 17,658 tons barley, 16,390 tons maize. German wheat is offered sparingly, the difference in price against foreign (in the interior about 5s per qr.) being considered too wide, and holders are awaiting a more reasonable proportion of prices. Fine red Holstein, Mecklenburg, and Saale is held at 27s 3d to 28s ; common sorts at 26s to 26s 9d per 504lb f.o.b. Fine River Plate is selling at 29s 9d, hard winter No. 2 to arrive is offering at 28s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. There is not much doing in rye. 9 10-15 South Russian is held at 22s to 22s 6d per 504 lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Offers of finest malting barley are scarce, and Saale is held at 36s to 39s ; fine Bohemian at 37s to 38s f.o.b. Good Saale is selling at 31s 6d to 34s ; good Bohemian at 34s to 35s ; Pomeranian at 28s 9d, Holstein and Danish at 25s to 26s 6d per 448 lb f.o.b. Russian feeding barley quiet at 17s 9d to 18s per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed maize meets a slow sale. Prompt deliveries are offering at 20s to 20s 3d ; December, January, February shipments 18s 9d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

November 23rd to 30th, 1900, inclusive.

		English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	qrs.	407	..	..	31,930	32,337
Barley		2,316	..	..	29,208	31,524
Malt		18,463	552	..	..	19,015
Oats		997	..	..	137,205	138,112
Rye		..	..	..	4,400	4,400
Beans		446	..	..	4,027	4,473
Peas		720	..	..	293	1,013
Maize		..	..	..	21,376	21,376
Millet		..	..	..	474	474
Poppyseed		..	..	..	24	24
Linseed		..	..	..	15,000	15,000
Rapeseed		..	..	..	7,000	7,000
Cottonseed		..	..	..	2,000	2,000
Farm Seeds		681	..	..	1,952	2,633
Flour	Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
	Sacks	21,370	..	..	55,041	76,411

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899.					
Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	June 24	101,205 qrs		
,, 14	108,380 ,,	July 1	152,500 ,,		
,, 21	128,902 ,,	,, 8	112,761 ,,		
,, 28	51,234 ,,	,, 15	116,850 ,,		
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	,, 22	89,245 ,,		
,, 11	82,912 ,,	,, 29	118,314 ,,		
,, 18	204,974 ,,	Aug. 5	104,234 ,,		
,, 25	108,273 ,,	,, 12	102,160 ,,		
Mar. 4	79,482 ,,	,, 19	103,353 ,,		
,, 11	63,103 ,,	,, 26	82,367 ,,		
,, 18	122,541 ,,	Sept. 2	73,600 ,,		
,, 25	86,309 ,,	,, 9	83,791 ,,		
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	,, 16	107,684 ,,		
,, 8	133,261 ,,	,, 23	131,889 ,,		
,, 15	101,518 ,,	,, 30	61,997 ,,		
,, 22	70,984 ,,	Oct. 7	121,032 ,,		
,, 29	68,573 ,,	,, 14	97,050 ,,		
May 6	96,343 ,,	,, 21	95,446 ,,		
,, 13	72,852 ,,	,, 28	154,895 ,,		
,, 20	101,429 ,,	Nov. 4	114,634 ,,		
May 27	108,772 ,,	,, 11	110,161 ,,		
June 3	73,846 ,,	,, 18	79,200 ,,		
,, 10	126,781 ,,	,, 25	130,815 ,,		
,, 17	160,574 ,,	Dec. 2	74,311 ,,		
1900.					
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	June 22	196,116 qrs.		
,, 13	95,064 ,,	,, 29	142,185 ,,		
,, 20	114,928 ,,	July 6	132,950 ,,		
,, 27	124,652 ,,	,, 13	101,253 ,,		
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,	,, 20	82,294 ,,		
,, 10	75,000 ,,	,, 27	55,998 ,,		
,, 17	66,804 ,,	Aug. 2	86,167 ,,		
,, 24	62,191 ,,	,, 11	102,077 ,,		
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,	,, 18	138,510 ,,		
,, 10	63,702 ,,	,, 25	182,517 ,,		
,, 17	162,985 ,,	,, 31	80,149 ,,		
,, 24	111,409 ,,	Sept. 7	58,394 ,,		
,, 31	69,356 ,,	,, 14	117,066 ,,		
April 7	48,302 ,,	,, 21	105,961 ,,		
,, 13	131,085 ,,	,, 28	158,771 ,,		
,, 20	82,357 ,,	Oct. 5	183,383 ,,		
,, 27	43,783 ,,	,, 12	156,815 ,,		
May 4	104,535 ,,	,, 19	73,725 ,,		
,, 11	52,859 ,,	,, 26	98,302 ,,		
,, 18	97,412 ,,	Nov. 2	77,179 ,,		
,, 25	71,390 ,,	,, 9	148,972 ,,		
,, 31	177,744 ,,	,, 16	105,130 ,,		
June 8	93,147 ,,	,, 23	132,964 ,,		
,, 15	88,125 ,,	,, 30	89,337 ,,		

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Nov. 23 to 30, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	32,337 qrs.
Flour	57,000 ,,
Total	89,337 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Deficiency	16,663 ,,

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1899.									
Nov. 11 ..	66,741⅜	26	7 ..	166,786⅞	26	9 ..	15,216⅜	16	5
,, 18 ..	65,470½	26	1 ..	163,915½	26	4 ..	16,313½	16	7
,, 25 ..	67,308½	25	8 ..	164,362½	26	2 ..	17,047⅜	16	7
Dec. 2 ..	72,974⅞	25	7 ..	163,441⅜	25	10 ..	22,575½	16	6
,, 9 ..	10,982½	25	7 ..	174,207	25	10 ..	21,421⅞	16	5
,, 16 ..	78,772½	25	4 ..	135,344⅜	25	7 ..	22,889½	16	1
,, 23 ..	67,102⅞	25	6 ..	116,757⅜	25	10 ..	16,447⅜	16	0
,, 30 ..	47,685½	25	9 ..	74,637⅜	25	5 ..	10,463⅜	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6 ..	40,086	25	9 ..	65,347½	25	7 ..	13,380⅝	16	4
,, 13 ..	57,021⅜	25	11 ..	83,421⅜	25	5 ..	19,706	16	6
,, 20 ..	68,463¼	26	0 ..	100,925⅜	25	8 ..	23,122⅜	16	5
,, 27 ..	65,331½	25	10 ..	108,357⅜	25	9 ..	17,814⅜	16	8
Feb. 3 ..	73,796⅜	25	8 ..	90,769⅞	25	4 ..	22,061⅛	16	3
,, 10 ..	71,482⅞	25	10 ..	80,543⅜	25	3 ..	20,822⅞	16	2
,, 17 ..	76,611⅜	26	1 ..	80,414⅞	24	11 ..	20,986⅝	16	1
,, 24 ..	69,534½	26	3 ..	63,931⅜	25	1 ..	21,132⅜	16	10
Mar. 3 ..	68,153½	26	4 ..	51,727½	24	6 ..	18,490½	16	11
,, 10 ..	58,703⅛	25	11 ..	44,921⅜	24	8 ..	16,224	16	11
,, 17 ..	76,435⅜	25	10 ..	46,053	24	6 ..	20,104⅜	16	10
,, 24 ..	69,944½	25	11 ..	38,147	25	0 ..	17,042⅝	17	1
,, 31 ..	72,762	25	10 ..	34,387⅜	24	11 ..	15,200⅝	17	2
April 7 ..	67,743⅜	25	10 ..	20,402⅝	24	10 ..	13,757⅜	17	2
,, 14 ..	66,412½	25	11 ..	19,519½	24	5 ..	9,672⅜	17	8
,, 21 ..	54,977⅜	26	0 ..	11,673⅜	24	9 ..	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28 ..	70,006⅜	26	0 ..	7 785⅜	25	2 ..	11,101⅜	17	11
May 5 ..	75,410½	25	11 ..	8,159½	25	3 ..	8,658½	18	0
,, 12 ..	82,190⅜	25	11 ..	10,417⅜	24	10 ..	12,245½	17	11
,, 19 ..	83,941⅜	25	7 ..	5,638⅜	24	5 ..	9,942	18	5
,, 26 ..	95,574⅝	25	5 ..	3,521½	23	11 ..	7,350⅞	18	2
June 2 ..	68,906⅜	25	5 ..	1,752⅞	24	4 ..	6,702	18	6
,, 9 ..	64,747½	25	3 ..	990⅜	23	8 ..	6,053⅜	18	8
,, 16 ..	55,340⅜	25	6 ..	1,486⅞	23	8 ..	7,228⅜	18	11
,, 23 ..	54,324½	25	9 ..	1,312½	23	5 ..	5,344½	18	11
,, 30 ..	44,920⅝	26	11 ..	495⅜	23	4 ..	4,706½	19	3
July 7 ..	34,344⅞	27	10 ..	486⅜	22	10 ..	4,391½	19	5
,, 14 ..	22,009¼	28	7 ..	949½	23	2 ..	2,911⅛	19	1
,, 21 ..	26,716⅜	29	0 ..	767⅜	23	8 ..	3,771⅛	19	3
,, 28 ..	33,088	29	3 ..	194½	24	4 ..	3,335⅜	19	9
Aug. 4 ..	45,748⅜	28	10 ..	409½	23	10 ..	3,453⅜	19	4
,, 11 ..	37,644⅜	28	7 ..	311½	23	7 ..	3,391	19	8
,, 18 ..	32,812½	28	10 ..	608½	23	3 ..	3,593⅜	19	11
,, 25 ..	26,427½	28	10 ..	787⅜	24	10 ..	5,349½	18	8
Sept. 1 ..	30,393⅜	28	8 ..	1,978½	25	2 ..	9,603⅜	18	1
,, 8 ..	34,755½	28	7 ..	6,140⅜	25	8 ..	11,042½	17	10
,, 15 ..	53,334½	28	4 ..	20,879⅜	25	4 ..	18,684½	17	1
,, 22 ..	61,468½	28	4 ..	41,284½	26	0 ..	21,729⅝	17	1
,, 29 ..	72,604	28	9 ..	68,844½	26	1 ..	25,620½	17	2
Oct. 6 ..	66,690	28	9 ..	94,282	26	2 ..	23,365	16	10
,, 13 ..	70,314⅜	28	9 ..	134,277½	26	2 ..	18,350⅞	17	1
,, 20 ..	58,790½	28	4 ..	159,007⅜	26	5 ..	14,681¼	16	11
Oct. 27 ..	55,254	27	11 ..	190,079⅜	26	3 ..	16,990⅝	16	11
Nov. 3 ..	54,514⅜	27	5 ..	204,836	26	3 ..	16,602½	16	11
,, 10 ..	41,497⅜	27	3 ..	170,558	25	11 ..	15,566⅜	16	10
,, 17 ..	44,072⅝	27	1 ..	185,342⅝	25	8 ..	14,400⅜	17	1
,, 24 ..	48,045½	27	2 ..	182,212⅜	25	10 ..	17,125½	17	0
Dec. 1 ..	43,700⅜	27	0 ..	164,624	25	9 ..	18,157½	17	2

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(193 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900 Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	16 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	16 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	17 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	17 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	18 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	19 5
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	28 6	25 7	17 6
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	28 5	26 3	17 0
November	28 5	26 7	16 6	27 3	25 10	17 0
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890 ..	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891 ..	37	1 ,,	23	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892 ..	30	4 ,,	23	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893 ..	23	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894 ..	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895 ..	23	1 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896 ..	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897 ..	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898 ..	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899 ..	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average prices of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Nov 30, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 45th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	48,700⅝ qrs.	27s.	0d.
Barley	164,624 qrs.	25s.	9d.
Oats	18,157½ qrs.	17s.	2d.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Nov. 30, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

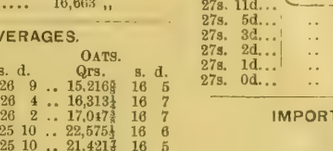
	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896	60,800⅜	22	8	165 024	26	2	17.2 1⅜	17	0
1897	73,75⅛	33	9	182 106	25	10	16.997⅜	16	9
1898	79,838½	27	7	196,712⅜	28	6	18,693⅜	17	1
1899	72,974⅞	25	7	16,344½	26	10	22,575½	16	6

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 27th, 1900.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	1,416	2	1,992	2	0	1	8	2
Barley	1,180	0	1,490	0	6	1	5	3
Oats	1,772	4	1,636	14	8	0	18	6

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



IMPORTS OF POTATOES (OFFICIAL).

CEREAL YEARS.

	1900.	1899.	1898.
September	Cwts. 213,000	117,000	78,000

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	227,000	137,000	514,000	1,700	108,000
Russia	246,000	—	23,000	93,000	143,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary ..	—	20,000	—	—	—
Roumania	100,000	—	50,000	20,000	—
Argentina ..	80,000	—	51,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia ..	—	—	—	—	5,000
Miscellaneous ..	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total ..	673,000	167,000	658,000	150,000	263,000

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov. ..	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June ..	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July ..	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec. ..	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites s.	d.	Town Households s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 25	6	(per sack) 23	6
October 1	,, 29	0	,, 26	0
October 25	,, 25	6	,, 23	6
November 26	,, 28	0	,, 25	0

(No official change since last date given)

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	s.	d.
Sept. 1, 1900	(per sack) 30	0

(No official change since last date given)

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 2s to 2s 1d per roll of 24oz. Gainsborough: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Leeds (Dornish) [illegible] per 112lb. Irish creameries: 102s to 104s. Waterford [illegible] 1s per stone. Ditto (long rolls) 110s. Is 0d to 1s 1d for butter (in 1lb prints). 1s 2d to 1s 6d per lb. Settle: 1s 0d to 1s 1½d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Spalding: 1s 1d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Boston: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Colne: 1s 2½ per lb. Goole: 1s 3d per lb. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: 1s 4d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s 3d per lb. Knaresborough: (wholesale), 1s 10d to 2s; (retail), 2s to 2s 2d per roll of 24oz. Louth (wholesale), 1s 2d per lb. Market Drayton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s 2d per lb. Masham: 1s 10d to 1s 11d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 2s per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Whitby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Devizes: (wholesale), 1s 1d to 1s 2d; (retail), 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Driffield: 1s 1d per lb. Penistone: 1s 4d per lb. Ripon: 2s to 2s 4d per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per lb.

Friday.—Chester: 1s 3d per lb. Crewe: 1s 3d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Grimsby: Choicest Danish, 123s to 127s per 112lb; Dutch, 112s to 118s; Canadian, 100s to 114s per 112lb. Helmsley: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 122s to 128s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 102s to 106s; York lump, 15s to 16s per stone; ditto long rolls, 1s 1lb, 1s 0d to 1s 1d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz; Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Otley: 1s 7d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz. Sandbach: 1s 3d per lb. Stockport: 1s 4d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 6 or 7 for 1s. Gainsborough: 7 or 8 for 1s. Settle: 7 or 8 for 1s. Sheffield: 8 or 9 for 1s. Spalding: 7 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 6 or 7 for 1s. Boston: 6 or 7 for 1s. Colne: 2s 8d per score. Goole: 8 for 1s. Hereford: (retail), 7 to 8 for 1s. Keighley: 6 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 8 for 1s. Knaresborough: 6 or 7 for 1s. Louth (wholesale): 10 for 1s. Market Drayton: 6 to 8 for 1s. Market Weighton: 8 for 1s. Masham: 7 or 8 for 1s. Northallerton: 6 or 7 for 1s. Stockton: 6 or 7 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 3s 2d to 3s 4d per score. Whitby: 6 or 7 for 1s. Worksop: 3s to 3s 2d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 7 or 9 for 1s. Devizes: 8 to 9 for 1s. Driffield: 10 for 1s. Penistone: 8 for 1s. Ripon: 6 for 1s. Scarborough: 6 for 1s. Wetherby: 6 or 7 for 1s.

Friday.—Altrincham: 5 for 1s. Easingwold: 7 or 8 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 6s 5d to 8s 1d per 120; large Russian, 8s to 8s 6d; Canadian, 6d 6 1 to 8d. Helmsley: 7 or 8 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 18s to 20s per 120; Irish, 13s 6d to 16s; Danish, 10s 6 1 to 12s 6d; Austrian blues, 8s to 9s; ditto reds, 6s 3d to 6s 9d. Leyburn: 7 for 1s. Lincoln: 7 for 1s. Otley: 6 or 7 for 1s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The demand for "choicest" and "finest" brands of Australian butter cannot be met at the moment owing to the very late arrival of the s.s. Cuzco which has thrown the market all out of gear. It is reported that after another voyage the Cuzco will be withdrawn from the Australian service. The Whakatane from New Zealand is also a few days late, and the consequence is that next week large supplies of butter will be on hand. It is fortunate that the Oruba, due on December 8th, has only 8,800 boxes of Australian butter aboard or these late arrivals of steamers would have brought about a glut of butter. Prices have advanced 2s per cwt. on the week in sympathy with the general rise in price of butter. "Choicest" may now be quoted at 110s to 112s per cwt., but the greater part is sold at 110s. "Finest" brings 102s to 106s. Canadian butter may be quoted in Manchester at 110s to 112s for "Choicest," but in London 102s to 104s is the top value. The supplies from Canada are falling rapidly away and the total import of Canadian butter since 1st of May this year is 5,000 tons below the corresponding period of 1899. The Copenhagen committee has acted prudently in not again raising the official quotation, as it is pretty evident the trade in this country would not follow the rise. The price of Danish is already 14s per cwt above Australasian, and it is not probable that any higher value will be reached this side of Christmas. In the secondary quality of butter there is a very big demand for Russian or Siberian, which has been such good value for some time that other secondary varieties have been passed aside in favour of the new comer. The price of Russian, however, is advancing and the quantity diminishing rapidly so that American, which is also very good value, will have a chance of meeting a better demand. Supplies of Argentine butter are very late this year, only about 325 cwt having arrived since 1st September, while last year 1,325 cwt arrived, or just 1,000 cwts more. Cheese.—There is more demand this week for Canadian cheese on the "spot," and a firmer tone, but no real change in values, which augurs well for the trade as soon as the Christmas demand sets in.—W. WEDDELL AND CO.

HOPS.

Canterbury. [illegible] A fair amount of trade is reported [illegible] but prices [illegible] long the demand experienced [illegible] Prices, however, remain unchanged [illegible] sales of [illegible] Saxon [illegible] last week [illegible] and the aggregate [illegible]

Worcester. [illegible] A fair amount of trade is reported [illegible] but prices [illegible] long the demand experienced [illegible] Prices, however, remain unchanged [illegible] sales of [illegible] Saxon [illegible] last week [illegible] and the aggregate [illegible]

Worcester. [illegible] Trade [illegible] the past week has been [illegible] and there [illegible] new [illegible] Nothing has passed [illegible] this week.

Worcester. [illegible] Trade [illegible] the past week has been [illegible] and there [illegible] new [illegible] Nothing has passed [illegible] this week.

PERRY AND CO.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

There has not often been a month so good for the farm and so bad for mere humanity as that which we have just left behind us. In the months from April to September the interests of men and crops "jump" together, but the cold wet period which is of service in certain agricultural junctures is always hated by the human beings exposed to it. Moreover, the dull leaden skies and the dense atmosphere which depress humanity are no injury, but rather the reverse, to the fields, from which they check evaporation. After summer heat and drought the soil requires a certain saturation with moisture before the autumn-sown crops—from tares and rye to the leading cereal itself—can make an effective start on their plant life and growth. The country during December will benefit from a colder and dryer air. A correspondent whose knowledge of French agriculture is specially good assures us that he has seldom, if ever, seen the French fields looking so well as at the present moment. The official reports from Germany are also thoroughly satisfactory. Statistics, so called, are to hand from Argentina, but the area returned as under wheat is known to be by no means up to the truth, and so long as wheat land is specially taxed we must look upon the returns as always much within the mark as to the yield per acre; an exact estimate is of extreme difficulty, for while virgin soil yields three qrs. per acre, the yield from land repeatedly cultivated without manure quickly sinks to one qr., and the total area under cultivation represents every stage, from that of absolutely fresh soil to the fields that are practically "played out."

Recent markets have been very dull, but there is a better feeling making itself manifest, and when the Smithfield week brings farmers to town in goodly numbers we may expect to see a decided revival in business The miller buying at Mark Lane from December 10 to 17 will not have to pay cash before the same dates in January, and his accounts for 1900 will show a better balance than if he had bought in November.

The demand for English, good American, and good German and South Russian wheat is better than that for Californian Walla or La Plata kinds. The Argentine includes some excellent wheat, but shippers are unwise in sending so much of the grain in a dirty condition.

The supplies of breadstuffs last week were smaller than the wants of the same seven days. This had not recently been the case, and so the relief felt was appreciable.

	Qrs.
English wheat	108,000
Foreign wheat	235,000
Foreign flour	138,000
Total	481,000

The stocks in granary on the 1st inst. were estimated at 3,078,000 quarters, a quantity which shows a ten per cent. increase on the total held at the commencement of the cereal year.

Breadstuffs supplies for the past three months of the cereal year (Sept. 1 to Nov. 30) are thus estimated:—

	Qrs.
English wheat	1,491,000
Foreign wheat	4,354,000
Foreign flour	1,898,000
	7,743,000

The requirements for a quarter of the year at thirty millions a year would be 7,500,000 qrs., and the stocks in granary indicate that these wants have been actually those of the period. The total breadstuffs supplies for the first three months of last cereal year were 7,240,000 qrs.

Breadstuffs shipments for the first three months of the shipping year, August 1—November 30, are estimated at the following total, flour being reckoned as wheat on the British Government basis:—

	Qrs.
The United States	6,200,000
Russia	3,690,000
Roumania	2,130,000
Argentine	1,350,000
Canada	650,000
Australasia	215,900
All other countries	750,000
Total	14,985,000

In the same period of last shipping year a total of about fourteen millions was exported.

There were on the 1st inst. 1,678,000 qrs. of wheat on passage, against 1,500,000 qrs. a year ago and 1,395,000 qrs two years ago. Details of the present quantity are as follows:—

	Qrs.
Californian	960,000
American	260,000
Australasian	200,000
Argentine	200,000
Russian	50,000
Turkish	5,000
Total	1,675,000

There are 360,000 sacks of flour on passage, against 390,000 sacks a year ago and 480,000 sacks in 1898.

The following quantities of spring corn are ascertained to be now on passage to the United Kingdom:—

	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Beans. Qrs.
December 1, 1900	580,000	610,000	9,000
,, 1899	1,020,000	590,000	7,500
,, 1893	780,000	595,000	17,000
,, 1897	490,000	735,000	12,000

The maize at present on passage includes 480,000 qrs. of flat or American; the barley includes 300,000 qrs. of Californian; and the beans are all African, though the ports whence they were despatched range from Tangiers in Morocco to Alexandria in Egypt. There are 50,000 qrs. of linseed coming from Russia, 25,000 from the U.S.A., and 2,000 qrs. from India, but all the linseed on passage from Argentina is consigned to Continental ports.

American stocks in merchants' hands on 1st instant thus cabled:—

	Dec. 1, 1900. Bushels.	Dec. 1, 1899. Bushels.
Wheat	84,524,000	83,397,000
Oats	18,751,000	11,689,000
Maize	10,920,000	17,494,000

These figures do not include the three States west of the Rocky Mountains.

The week's imports of spring corn include 162,000 qrs. of barley, 187,000 qrs. of oats, 290,000 qrs. of maize, 9,000 qrs. of beans, 14,000 qrs. of peas, 39,000 qrs. of linseed, 5,000 qrs. of rapeseed, and 4,000 tons of cottonseed. Prices for none of these staples show any material retail change on the seven days.

The following changes on the month are to be noted in flour:—

Town whites, 6d. down.
Town households, 6d. down.
Paris average, 4d. up.
London top price shows no alteration.

The market in the U.S. is weaker than it was in the middle of November, but it is thought that stronger advices are likely to come to hand with December. Thursday was a species of Bank holiday in America, and there has been no real resumption of business since. With a new week, however, we may expect to get full and useful quotations of the chief American kinds of flour. There is an excellent sale of maize flour, and we also hear of a steady demand for flaked maize.

THE BALTIC.

The San Francisco Corn Trade Association has made up standard samples of No. 1 Californian wheat, No. 1 milling Californian wheat*, choice milling wheat*, Chevalier barley, No. 1 bright feeding barley*, and dark feeding barley*. Those samples marked by an asterisk are new standards. The London Corn Trade Association show the samples at their offices.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 6 wheat (1 Melbourne, 1 Port Augusta, 1 Rosario, 2 San Francisco, 1 Tacoma); 1 Pease (mazagan); total, 7.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were: — 8 wheat (1 Antwerp, 2 Cardiff, 1 Dublin, 2 Hull, 1 Maryport, 1 Plymouth); total, 8.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have, been:—315 wheat, 14 wheat and barley, 1 wheat and pease, 7 flour, 12 maize, 1 maize and oats, 26 barley, 19 beans, 10 locust beans, 2 pease, 1 linseed, 5 canaryseed, 2 fenugreek seed, 5 valonea; total, 420.

Last year, during the same time, the arrivals were:—270 wheat, 10 flour, 5 maize, 9 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 10 beans, 2 locust beans, 6 linseed, 6 canaryseed, and 7 valonea; total, 327.

A fair amount of business has been done in cargoes, but nearly all of it has been for future shipment. Cargoes near at hand are neglected. In wheat we have to record four cargoes of Argentine new crop sold for February shipment at 27s. 9d. This is an ugly feature of the trade for spot holders, but the flood of new La Plata wheat will hardly strike our shores much before Easter. Other wheat sales are Duluth, 32s. 6d.; Hard Winter, 28s.; Australian, 30s.; and Bulgarian, 28s. 3d., all for January shipment. A cargo of Indian new crop for April shipment was sold on Saturday for 30s. 6d., and one for May at 30s. Maize sales have included American at 20s. 3d., and Odessa at 22s. 6d. Barley sales have comprised Novorossisk at 18s. 6d. and Persian at 17s. Other sales are Canadian peas at 27s. 9d., fine black Swedish oats at 18s. 3d., and Smyrna beans at 27s. 6d. per qr.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The wheat market to-day was disappointing, as many persons had looked for recovery as soon as November was past, and the tone to-day was barely steady. English, however, was in pretty good request at 28s. to 32s. per qr., while Duluth wheat at 34s., Manitoba at 33s., Californian at 30s. 9d. to 31s. 3d., Walla at 30s. 6d., Australian at 30s. to 32s., and Taranrog at 29s. to 30s., all had a fair to good sale. British barley sells pretty well for English 448lb. kinds, which range from 27s. to 39s. per qr. The price of Russian is about 3d. dearer on the week, but for Californian brewing barley there was not much sale, and prices were rather in buyers' favour. New Tartary oats at 18s. 9d. are looked after, as are new white at 18s. 6d. per qr. Foreign oats are an improved trade, and 3d. advance may be quoted in 304lb. as well as in 320lb. descriptions. Maize was firm for spot trade, but weaker for futures. Peas were steady for English, but weaker for Canadians. Egyptian beans at 31s. to 32s. are 1s. cheaper from November terms, and there is a fall of half-a-crown per ton in cottonseed. But linseed poppy seed and rapeseed are, despite increased supplies, maintained at a high level of value. Sesame also is dear, and no concessions are made in oilcakes as a rule.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Dec. 3rd, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 33
(old)	,,	32	— 33
Red (new)	,,	28	— 31
(old)	,,	29	— 32
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	— 39
Brewing	,,	27	— 32
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, New Winter	,,	19	— 20
,, ,, Tartary	,,	18/9	—19
,, White	,,	18	—18/9
,, Old Winter	,,	21	— 23
,, ,, Tartary	,,	20	— 21
Scotch	,,	21	— 23
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	40	— 44
,, Winter	,,	29	— 33
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	— 76
,, Dun	,,	31	— 33
,, Maple	,,	38	— 42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

WHEAT, per 496lb.	s.	s.	LOCUST BEANS, per ton:
Finest Duluth	33/9	—34	Italian — 100 — 102
American Spring	32	— 33	Cyprian — 106 — 112
Hard Manitoba	32/3	—33	,, Ground — 138 — 144
Red Winter	31	—31 3	Portuguese — 101 — 103
Kansas	30/9	—31	,, Ground — 118 — 120
Californian	31	—31 3	PEAS, per 504 lb.:
Walla Walla	30	—30/6	Dutch — 57 — 77
Australian	30	— 32	Canadian, White — 29 — 30
New Zealand	29	— 31	Indian, White — 28 — 30
Argentine	29	— 32	Barbary — 26 — 28
Danzig	33	— 34	Australian, White — 40 — 41
Saxonka	31	— 32	,, Dun — 26 — 27
Petersburg	30	— 31	New Zealand — 44 — 64
German	29	— 30	LENTILS, per cwt:
Azima	31	— 32	Spanish, Split — 15 — 16
Ghirka	30	— 31	Egyptian, Split — 13 — 14
Hard Taganrog	29	— 30	DARI, per 480 lb.:
MAIZE, per 480lb.:			Syrian — 25 — 26
Cinquantina	27	— 29	Smyrna — 27 — 28
Roumanian	25	— 26	RYE, per 480 lb.:
Russian	25	— 25	Russian — 24 — 25
Argentine	22	— 23	BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb.:
American	21	— 22	French — 27 — 28
OATS:			Russian — 27 — 28
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26	Canadian — 28 — 29
Canadian (320lb.)	15	— 16	BARLEY:
American (320lb.)	14	— 16	Californian (448 lb.) 23 — 27
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17	Danubian (400 lb.) — 22 — 28
Petersburg (304lb)	14	— 15	Black Sea (400 lb.) — 21 — 24
Libau, white (304lb.)	13	— 14	Turkish (400lb.) — 20 — 21
,, black ,,	14	— 15	Azoff (400 lb.) — 21 — 22
BEANS, per 480lb.:			Syrian (400 lb.) — 24 — 27
Egyptian	31	— 32	Persian (400 lb.) — 18 —18/3
Smyrna	29	— 30	American (400 lb.) — 20 — 21
Konigsberg	29	— 31	MALT, per 336 lb.
Barbary	27	— 28	Californian — 35 — 40
Mexican	28	— 30	Smyrna — 34 — 37
New Zealand	31	— 35	

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.	RAPESEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	58	to 60	English	55	to 59
Dutch	61	to 63	Dutch	53	to 55
Argentine	54	to 55	French	46	to 47
Canadian	61	to 63	Roumanian	43	to 45
Russian	54	to 56	Cawnpore	45	to 46
Calcutta	61	to 62	Calcutta	42	to 43
SESAME. per 424lb.			Guzerat	49	to 50
Bombay	49	to 51	Ferozepore	43	to 44
Kurrachee	52	to 53	Ravison	33	to 35
COTTON SEED. per ton.			POPPYSEED. per 377lb.		
Egyptian	138	to 140	Indian	48	to 49

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 *p.m.*

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH WHEAT AND MAIZE DIFFICULT TO PLACE, BUT OATS AND FEEDING BARLEY WERE A FAIR SALE.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Dec. 3rd.

There was a fair retail demand for London sorts to-day, but prices were rather lower for both whites and households. Country flour was a somewhat poor sale, and prices must be quoted a trifle lower for most makes. American flour is rather lower on the week for all the chief patents, and also for the serviceable baking grades. Hungarian flour is steady, but with only a slow sale. French continues out of favour. Australian, a small supply, is held for full rates. Wholemeal is about 2s. 6d. per ton lower, but there is an equal rise in wheat germ meal. Bran is dearer for all the chief kinds, but we note no change in pollard, and middlings start December with lower prices than prevailed in November. The same remark will apply to maize germ meal, which is 2s. 6d. lower, though maize cones, flour, and starch all maintain fully previous values.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s. s.
Top Price	(per sack)	— 30
Town Whites	,,	26/0 —27
,, Households	,,	23/9 —24
No. 2	,,	21/0 —22

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24 — 26
Fine Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22 — 23
Best Stone made	,,	21 — 22
Ordinary Stone made	,,	20 — 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25 —25/3
,, Second Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	25 —25/3
,, Bakers'	,,	21 — 23
Kansas Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	18 — 20
Cascadia	,,	23/6 —24
Canadian	,,	25 —25/3
Australian Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Ordinary	,,	19 — 20
Hungarian	,,	28 — 31
French	,,	21 — 24

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	186—190
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	115—117
Bran, London Broad	,,	105—108
,, Fine	,,	95 — 97
,, Country Flake	,,	110—114
,, ,, Broad	,,	105—107
Pollard	,,	92 — 94
Fine Middlings	,,	120—126
Coarse Middlings	,,	103—105
Oat Meal	,,	220—280
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	130—136
Maize Meal	,,	110—120
Maize Cones	,,	144—150
Maize Germ Meal	,,	100—105
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	140—160
Rice Meal	,,	90 — 95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—	Dec.	March.	June.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Nov. 26 11 a.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
4 p.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
Nov. 27 11 a.m.	6 7	6 8	6 9
4 p.m.	6 6	6 8	6 9
Nov. 28 11 a.m.	6 6	6 8	6 9
4 p.m.	6 6	6 8	6 9
Nov. 29 11 a.m.	6 6	6 8	6 9
4 p.m.	6 5	6 8	6 8
Nov. 30 11 a.m.	6 5	6 8	6 8
4 p.m.	6 5	6 8	6 8
Dec. 1 11 a.m.	6 5	6 8	6 8
To-day 11 a.m.	6 4	6 7	6 7

The maize sales for future delivery include 4s. 3d. per cental for December, and 3s. 11d. for February.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 *minimum* and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 3,293 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 7,000 bales bacon. The continued scarcity of bacon has caused a further advance in prices, and during last week Irish and Danish were 6s and Canadian 3s 4s dearer, Irish and Danish 64s to 68s; Canadian, 56s to 61s. The butter market was steady, with rather improved prices for finest Colonial. Quotations were :—Danish, 120s to 124s; Colonial, 106s, 110s, to 112s; Canadian, 100s to 104s. Lard :—Irish, good demand, 54s to 64s; American, slightly easier, 38s 6d to 40s 6d.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

The trade for milling offals is unaltered from last Monday. Buyers are holding off for lower prices, which come slowly.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Only a moderate inquiry has been experienced for wheat to-day; and occasionally, to effect sales, a slight reduction from last week's values has had to be conceded. Maize is 3d. lower on the week. Barley is unaltered. Oats unchanged.—W. P. WOOD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Flour, a quiet trade at last week's prices.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

Wheat trade quiet, white qualities about 6d. per qr. lower. Flour unchanged. No change in the value of maize, barley, and oats.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

The seed market continues inactive and uninteresting, but the general tone is firm, with an expectation of improving prices when general buying commences. The supply of new English red continues very light. There are ready buyers for the few good samples offered, but inferior lots are not easy to place. Clovers generally and trefoil are unaltered in value. Grasses are steady. Spring tares are held above buyers' views. Canary-seed firm. Blue peas and haricot beans quiet.—JOHN PICARD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Offals.—The demand for bran is only moderate, the consumption so far being smaller than usual at this season. No change to report in prices. Pollard is also not much in demand.—GREENHILL BROS., Belfast, December 1.

Flour.—There is no improvement to note in the demand for flour, and prices are again 3d. to 6d. lower. Grain.—Indian corn is in better supply, and 3d. per boll lower. Foreign oats and peas are in good demand at 3d. advance. Barley in buyers' favour. Canadian oatmeal 6d. per sack dearer. Mill stuffs.—Bran and thirds unchanged.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, December 1.

Wheat quiet with a retail trade generally at ½d. per cental under Tuesday's prices. Flour steady, but only a very quiet business passing at last market day's prices for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers'. Maize has experienced a fair trade for Mixed American, but prices are 1½d. per cental lower owing to free arrivals. European has a fair inquiry at unchanged prices. Plate quiet at a general decline of 1d. per cental. Barley for malting is very dull with little doing, prices favouring buyers. Feeding has a moderate trade at an occasional ½d per cental improvement. Beans are slow, prices the turn easier. Peas steady but quiet at last Tuesday's quotations. Oats firm with a better demand at late rates for English. Foreign kinds receive more attention and are firmly held at an advance of ½d. per cental for American clipped oats. Oatmeal firm with a fair trade doing, prices in sellers' favour. Oilcake steady, but only a moderate business passing at last Tuesday's prices.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, December 1.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes for future shipment are 3d. lower, but there is an improved inquiry at the concession. Cargoes on passage are very slow of sale. Maize is firmer for American. Barley cargoes are weaker for brewing, but stronger for feeding types. Peas are in better request, but only at a slight decline. Oilseeds are lower for spring shipment.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.— Oregon, 30s 6d, arrived; Walla Walla, 29s 6d, January shipment; Argentine, 29s 9d, December shipment, old crop; ditto, 29s 3d, February shipment, new crop; Australian, 30s 3d, February shipment, new crop; Calcutta Club, 30s, May shipment, new crop; No. 2 Hard Winter, 28s 6d, January shipment; Kansas, 28s 9d, January shipment.

MAIZE.—Galatz, 22s, prompt shipment; Argentine, 20s 9d, on passage; American, 17s 9d, January shipment, new crop; American, 17s 6d, February shipment, new crop.

BARLEY.—Crimean*, 18s 9d, prompt shipment; Persian, 17s 3d, arrived.

OATS.—Petersburg, 13s 9d, prompt shipment; American Mixed, 14s 3d, prompt shipment; Canadian, No. 2, 14s, prompt shipment.

PEAS.—Canadian No. 2, 27s 1½d, prompt shipment.

DARI.—Smyrna, 25s 6d, prompt shipment.

BUCKWHEAT.—Canadian, 27s 3d, prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 45s 6d, February shipment.

CANARYSEED.—Saffi, 36s, prompt shipment.

RAPESEED.—Fine French, 60s, prompt shipment.

* Crimean ports are free from ice.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: There has been rather more inquiry during the past week, the principal demand being for the lower-priced hops. Holders are very firm, and many bids of a shilling or two less than nominal values have been refused.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington

Monday, Dec. 4th, 1900.

	British	Total	Dec. 4th, 1899
Beasts	1,650	1,650	—
Sheep and lambs	5,820	5,820	—
Calves	10	10	—
Pigs	170	170	—
Milch cows	45	45	—

Quotations per stone (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior	Second	Prime.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	7 10 to 8 2	8 4 to 8 8	8 10
Sheep	8 2 to 8 8	8 10 to 9 0	9 4
Lambs	9 0 to 9 4	9 6 to 9 8	10 0
Pigs	7 10 to 8 0	8 2 to 8 4	8 6

Milch cows, per head £18 to £—

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, 1,650; Eastern Counties, 290; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,000; Devon, 30; Ireland, 94.

Though the supply in the beast market was large, the trade had a slow nature, prices were 1d. per stone lower. Arrivals from Norfolk were a trifle heavier, and included a number of forward butchering cows and bulls, these meeting with a fair inquiry, as also did the few lots of Irish.

The following are the top quotations per stone (sinking the offal) :—

	To-day	Dec. 4th, 1899
Scotch	8s 8d to 8s 10d	8s 8d to 8s 10d
Devons	4s 7d to 4s 9d	— to —
Herefords	4s 9d to 4s 10d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Norfolks	4s 3d to 4s 5d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Runts	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 5d to 4s 7d
Lincolns	4s 8d to 4s 9d	4s 8d to 4s 9d
Irish	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Fat cows	3s 8d to 3s 10d	3s 8d to 3s 10d

In the sheep market there was a decrease of 1,000 head in the supply, including 500 Irish, 150 Scotch, and 1,000 from the Eastern Counties. Trade for both wethers and ewes was firmer, both in regard to tone and value, a clearance however not being expected. Lambs were more difficult to dispose of.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned :

	To-day.	Dec. 4th, 1899.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-stone ditto	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10-stone half-breds	5s 0d to 5s 2d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-stone Lincolns	— to —	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	4s 10d to 5s 0d	4s 8d to 4s 10d
10-stone Down ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
5-stone fat lambs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	— to —

For pig trade was dull, the demand being less though rates were not lowered; best small breeds making 4s 6d per 8lb.

London Central, Monday.—Fair supplies, trade slow. Beef: Carcases, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; hindquarters, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; roastings, 5s 2d to 5s 6d. Sheep: Ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; wethers, 4s to 4s 4d; hindquarters, ewes, 4s to 4s 4d; wether, 5s to 5s 4d. Pigs: Large, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; small, 3s 8d to 4s.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 568; sheep, 800; pigs, 515; horses, 8. Beef 7s to 8s; mutton 7s to 8s; veal, pork, 6s to 6s 6d. Fat and store cattle, sheep and pigs for trade. Milch cows, fair show and trade, prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 970. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 500, and consisted of 364 from the United States and 606 from Canada. With regard to quality, it was rather below the average, taking the supply as a whole, consequently the best on offer sold more readily at an advance of 2d per 8lb. Canadians met a slow sale so far as ranchers were concerned. The following were the quotations per 8lb offals given in:—90 to 95 stone States, 4s 5d to 4s 6d; second quality ditto, 4s 2d. Best Canadians, about 95 stone, 4s to 4s 2d; ranchers, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. No sheep on the market. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates :—Beasts, 1,602, 4s 5d to 4s 6d per 8lbs, to dress about 800lbs. Sheep, 2,307, 3s 10d per 8lbs, to dress from 88 lbs.

Liverpool, Monday.—Demand slow for all classes of cattle, particularly middling quality, of which the supply largely consisted, at considerably lower prices. Trade very slow for sheep, and prices lower all round. Beef, 6½d to 7½d per lb; mutton, 8d to 5½d per lb. At market: 1,812 cattle and 5,356 sheep.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Trade quiet; there is not much pressure to sell and values show but little alteration. Cotton cake is a good trade and prices steady. Decorticated cake still unobtainable on spot; meal very scarce on spot. Linseed has fallen 1s to 1s 6d, but now tends dearer.

English linseed cake	£8 10 0 to £8 15 0	ex mill
American Calcutta linseed cake	None	ex quay
American Western linseed cake	7 15 0 to 7 17 6	ex quay
Russian oil cake	7 15 0 to 8 0 0	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. oil)	6 15 0 —	ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	7 0 0	ex quay 2s all'we
Decorticated cotton meal	6 17 6 —	ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	5 0 0 to 5 2 6	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4 16 3 to 4 17 6	ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4 12 6	on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4 12 6 —	ex warehouse
Russian linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2 15 0 to 2 17 6	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2 18 0 3 0 0	ex warehouse

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that the past week's previously limited business in the trade for field seeds. As regards cloverseeds, with the exception of a few orders coming from the North of England, very little business is now passing. Meantime prices are said to keep steady, and supplies everywhere are in moderate compass. For fine samples of mustard and rapeseed full rates are asked. The demand for tares and rye continues meagre. Canaryseed presents a strong appearance; stocks in London, Liverpool, and indeed everywhere else, prove extremely light. Millet, maw, and hempseed move off slowly on former terms. There is no quotable alteration on the week in other descriptions of bird seeds. Some fine Canadian Winter Vetches and longpod beans are now obtainable at reasonable figures.

Worksop Hiring Fair, held on Wednesday, was not largely attended. Boys and young men asked advanced wages, and the ruling quotations were from the former £8 to £14, and for the latter £16 to £20 per year. There was practically no public hiring of horses, and in the private contracts [illegible] vances of wages were asked.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The market at Islington on Monday was extremely quiet, there being rather less demand for all grades, nevertheless no alteration in regard to the value of either prime or second quality could be noted. On the other hand, middling descriptions, of which the supply was chiefly composed, met with a very dragging trade, with a marked downward tendency in value. On Thursday no transactions with regard to fat beasts were recorded. Fat butchering cows were in steady request, and though shorter in number were no dearer, buyers declining to advance, though much pressed. Fat bulls and rough cattle throughout the week met with rather forced sales and were easier in price. At the foreign cattle market, with a light supply, trade was firm both in regard to tone and value, last week's rates governing all transactions. The total number of beasts offered for sale was 4,389, consisting of 1,980 British and 2,409 foreign, these latter comprising 2,108 from the United States and 301 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90-stone polled Aberdeens, 4s. 10d.; 80-stone Devons, 4s. 9d.; 90-stone Herefords, 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.; 80-stone Highland Scots, 4s. 6d.; 90-stone polled Norfolks, 4s. 8d.; 90-stone Runts, 4s. 8d.; 95-stone Dublins, 4s. 4d.; 95-stone Waterfords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 3d.; 90-stone States, 4s. 5d.; 85-stone Canadians, 3s. 10d.; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d. The sheep trade was practically confined to the Islington market, and was one of the slowest noted this year; though lower rates by from 2d. to 4d. per 8lbs. were accepted, a clearance could not be made either of wethers or ewes. A few lambs were shown on Monday, but were difficult to dispose of. On Thursday the transactions recorded were few and far between. The total number penned was 8,782, previous week 7,270, consisting of 8,610 British, increase 1,340, and 172 Canadian. Best pens made per 8lbs. as follows, sinking the offal, 7½ to 8-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 8d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 4d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Irish, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 12-stone halfbreds, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 10-stone Down ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 11-stone halfbreds ditto, 3s. 6d.; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 5s. 10d. to 6s. Only 30 calves were on the market, and these difficult to sell. Best were quoted at 5s. 4d. per 8lbs. Pigs were shorter, numbering 370, trade for which was slow at less money. Best small breeds made 4s. 6d. per 8lbs., sinking the offal.

Trade in the West.

The feature of the past week has been the buoyancy of store stock, especially barreners, which are dearer by fully 20s. to 30s. a head than was the case last year, some of the best lots in very forward condition making up to £34 per pair, ranging downwards to £18 or £19. Good milchers also meet a very free trade from £16 to £21 each. In-calvers are equally wanted at extreme rates. Store sheep keep well up in value. Present rates for beef have but little bearing on the Christmas trade, which many are anticipating, as most of the bullocks now offering are of a very ordinary stamp, selling at 10s. to 11s. per score, with a few touching 11s. 6d. Mutton promises to be dear, some of the best even now making 8½d., whilst both veal and pork, judging from indications, will be decidedly dearer for anything suitable for the coming festive season.

Trade in Ireland.

The flooded state of the country was probably the cause of a large falling off in the supply of cattle at last Thursday's Dublin market. The inquiry for really good beef was active at late rates, and second-rate cattle commanded somewhat firmer prices. Prime heifer and ox beef made from 52s. 6d. to 56s., and some extra choice lots from 57s. 6d. to 60s.; second quality, 47s. 6d. to 50s.; and inferior, 42s. 6d. to 45s. The storm, bad trade, and increased supplies had a depressing effect on the mutton department. Prime wether mutton made from 6½d. to 6¾d. per lb.; ewe, 5d. to 6d.; and inferior, 4¾d. to 5d. Good hoggets for the English markets sold at from 44s. to 54s. each. A large number of all classes were unsold at the close of the day. Veal calves of well-fed quality were readily placed at last week's price, viz., 7d. to 8d. per lb., but inferior calves were not worth more than from 4½d. to 6d. per lb. A great scarcity of prime milch cows has been noticeable for several weeks past. The few choice ones left sold readily at from £19 to £21, but the supply was chiefly confined to cows of a very inferior quality. The pig market was much firmer in tone, although supplies were larger; medium weights being particularly in demand at slightly advanced rates. Nice medium pigs sold at from 44s. to 46s., and coarse from 32s. to 38s. per cwt.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report for the current week:—The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been fairly large. For the best qualities of home-fed, there has been an active demand, and prices quite as high as the previous week, but secondary descriptions have been slow to sell without change in value. Sheep have been much under an average supply, a good demand, and prices the turn higher than the previous week, more especially for those adapted for shop purposes. Fat calves and pigs very dear. This being Big Wednesday market, there was a large supply of store cattle on offer. The great proportion were of a very secondary description. For cattle in forward condition and the best class of stirks, there was plenty demand, and those got sold out at fairly satisfactory prices, but a large proportion of the rougher descriptions were left unsold. A small supply of store sheep—these met a good inquiry and a clearance effected at fully previous prices. Quotations:—Top best beef, 8s. to 8s. 6d. per stone. Mutton from 7½d. to 8¼d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Fair supplies offered, but trade slow. Arrivals of beef included 45 tons Scotch, 707 Liverpool sides, 1,500 hindquarters, and 800 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations:—Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; long, 4s to 4s 6d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s to 3s 8d; forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s to 3s 2d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 8d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Good supplies, but trade generally slow. Arrivals of beef included 85 tons Scotch, 430 Liverpool sides, 2,600 hindquarters, and 1,800 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 10d to 4s; forequarters 2s 9d to 2s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; English wethers, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; ewes, 2s 10d to 3s 2d; Canterbury, 2s 9d to 3s; Wellington, 2s 7d to 2s 9d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 5d to 2s 6d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s; and Irish, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Good number of beasts for Thursday's market, but demand quiet, and rates barely steady. Small supply of sheep, little demand for both wethers and ewes, late quotations, however, being without change. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 10d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s to 5s 2d; 10-stone Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 8d. Calves in small supply; steady, best on offer making 5s 6d. Pigs in good supply, easier, Neat small 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Total supplies:—220 beasts, 350 sheep, 20 calves, 280 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The supply was rather small in anticipation of next week show market. Best beef went up to 11s 6d, and cows with suet with them were a bit dearer than last week, making up to 10s per score. Mutton and veal remained unchanged, the former going a little over 5s, and the latter to 5s 6d per stone. Pork dear, roasters fetching 10s to 11s per score. Store trade quiet.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 41 fat beasts, 36 calves, 473 fat sheep, 278 pigs, and 52 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £12 to £19; fat calves, 70s to £5; small, 20s to 50s; fat wethers, 40s to 56s; fat ewes, 26s to 38s; fat hogs, 65s to 95s; porkers, 45s to 59s; small, 34s to 42s; store pigs, 12s to 26s 6d; dairy cows, £8 to £19 5s, etc., etc. Prime quality fat beasts are wanted, and make full prices. Second-class beasts are still a slow trade, and difficult to clear. Fat cows, if really good, meet a better trade. All classes of fat sheep and lambs met a brisk inquiry, the late sellers having the best of the business, choice sheep of moderate weights selling at extreme prices. Hampshire Down wethers and young ewes made 48s 6d, 49s, 41s, 45s 6d, 51s 6d, 52s, 56s, 50s, 46s, 49s 6d, 48s, 44s, 41s; 11 months old ditto, 54s 6d, 46s, 52s 6d, 38s 6d, 41s 6d, 56s, 45s 6d, 39s, 36s, 48s, 51s 6d, 48s, 46s 6d, 42s 6d, 32s 6d, 29s; crossbreds, 42s; ewes and lambs, 80s; old ewes, 35s, 25s, 27s, 38s, 28s 6d, 26s; Dorset ewes, 36s; rams, 29s, 48s, 51s, 34s, 46s, 47s, 45s 6d, 43s, etc., etc. With a short entry of milch cows prices ruled high for all descriptions. Store cattle met a dull trade. Fat calves are dearer, and met a clearance at an advance on late rates. Fat hogs sold readily at a slight advance on last week's prices. Fat porkers continue a brisk trade at prices in favour of the vendor. Store pigs met a better inquiry. Ruling values:—Prime quality Devon and polled beasts, 7d to 7½d per lb; ditto Shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6¾d per lb; bulls, cows, and inferior ditto, 5½d to 6d per lb; best quality sheep, 8½d to 9d per lb; second ditto, 7¾d to 8d per lb; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 5½d to 6¾d per lb; fat calves, 6¾d to 9d per lb; fat hogs, 9s to 10s; porkers, 11s to 12s 6d per score.

Birmingham, Tuesday.—A fair supply all round, and trade reported fair. Best Hereford heifers, 7d; shorthorns, 6d to 6½d; bulls and cows, 4½d to 6d; calves, 6d to 7½d; wether sheep, 7½d to 8¼d; ewes and rams, 5d to 6½d; lambs, 7½d to 8¼d per lb.

Boston, Wednesday.—An extremely quiet trade. Best beef, 7s 6d to 8s; cow beef, 5s 9d to 6s 3d per stone; young steers, £12 10s to £15; heifers, £10 10s to £17 10s; in-calvers, £19 to £22; calves, 55s to 65s; wethers, 7½d to 8d; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; lambs, 35s to 45s; strong wether sheep, 47s to 50s.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs —	2½ in. and under.. ..	9s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in. —	9s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs — —	Not exceeding 2¾ in. —	8s 8d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 994; sheep, 517; pigs, 410; horses, 13. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 4s to 5s 4d; pork, 6s 9d to 7s 6d. A large show store beasts, only a few small lots left over. Fat beasts, a good show, trade brisk. Fat sheep, not so good as last week. Stores, very few shown. Fat pigs, a good brisk trade at fully late rates. Stores, trade not quite so good. Hay, straw, and roots, short supplies.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A large supply of useful bullocks, but very little doing. Yearlings ranged from £6 to £8, and cows and calves sold at about £16. A small supply of sheep, rough ewes realising 22s 6d. and good half-breds from 35s to 41s per head.

Carlisle Saturday.—The show of Irish store cattle for the market following the last of the fairs in this part of the country, viz., the Stones Fair at Newcastle, was above the average, consisting of about 200 polled bullocks and wintering and stall-feeding heifers. The attendance of buyers was small, and trade quiet at £8 10s to £10 10s for wintering heifers, to £14 10s for stall-feeding specimens and £10 to £13 10s for polled bullocks. Pigs a small show and slow sale at 23s to 24s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Wet weather had an effect on the attendance, and business generally was quiet. Fat mutton and beef were without change. Not so many store sheep penned as on the last occasion, and business was still inclined to drag, though marking an improvement on the previous market. The best of the sheep went off well. There was an unusually large supply of pigs, and in this department trade exhibited a good deal of activity. Small porkers were again in demand, but larger sorts did not sell quite so rapidly.

Doncaster, Tuesday.—Rather poor supplies of cattle and sheep, and moderate attendance; trade active, and late prices firm. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 5½d to 7½d; small cross-breds, 7½d to 8d; veal, 7d to 8½d per lb.

Dorchester, Saturday.—There was a large offer of cattle, but only a dull trade was experienced. Sheep were only in moderate supply.

Driffield, Wednesday.—The show of beef was light, and the quality inferior. Prices were rather lower, making 7s to 7s 6d per stone. A moderate supply of mutton, with an easier trade; shearlings, to 7½d; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb. A fair show of grazing lambs, which made more money, at 30s to 36s per head. Store beasts moved off slowly.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 4,3 6 (decrease 463); sheep, 6,189 (increase 122); calves, 89 (decrease 3). Prime finished cattle scarce, and made fully late rates; rough and thinly-meated sorts, unchanged in price from last week, but the clearance, notwithstanding the large decrease of numbers, was not so good. A small supply of stall-feds met with fair inquiry. Worse trade for sheep, and a clearance difficult to effect. Cattle (best), 30s to 32s 6d per cwt; rough and thin sorts, 25s to 29s per cwt; stall-feds, 31s to 33s per cwt. Mutton, 5½d to 6¾d per lb. Extreme, 7d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Average supplies met a good demand at late rates, horned bullocks fetching up to £19; horned heifers, to £15; polled bullocks, to £18; polled heifers, to £14 10s; West Highland bullocks, to £17; calving cows and heifers, to £13; black-faced ewes, to 26s; and half-bred shearlings, to 45s.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Larger supply of sheep, and a fair trade was done. Cheviot Dinmonts, 29s to 32s; black-faced wethers, 22s to 28s; grey-faced lambs, 22s. For best cattle there was a good demand. Horned bullocks, £11 to £14; polled, £10 to £14; shorthorn cows, £26 to £27; Irish, to £20; Ayrshires, to £19.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The supplies of cattle and sheep are less than last week. Sheep a sharper trade. Cattle in fair demand. Top Scotch cattle, 68s per cwt; top Irish, 60s to 62s; top mutton, 8¼d per lb; secondary, 7¾d. Dead meat slow; values of mutton, however, better. Best States beef, 5¾d per lb; best Canadians, 5¼d to 5½d; cows, 4¼d to 4¾d.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 742, calves 39, sheep and lambs 678, pigs (fat and sows) 29, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 199, pigs (stores, more than ten) 149, horses 1, colts 1.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robt. Bond and Sons report a short supply of fat beasts, and a good attendance of buyers, trade was brisk at the high prices recently current. Well-finished animals reached £25 15s. The fat sheep pens were fairly full; the demand was somewhat slow. Shearlings made up to 62s. Calves for weaning were numerous, and in strong demand; those by pure-bred bulls made up to 71s. Fat calves up to 85s. Fat swine were again sharply competed for at fully late rates, but stores were somewhat cheaper. This being the last special sale of grazing cattle for the year 267 steers and heifers were forwarded. A choice lot of polled Scots sold well. The attendance of buyers was large. Several cows and heifers were forwarded, those fresh-calved showing a good supply of milk were in considerable request up to £20 5s. Heifers up to £13 5s. Numbers at sales and market:—969 beasts, 44 calves, 923 sheep, 1,536 swine, 38 horses.

Leicester, Saturday.—Full supplies of stock in excellent condition. Trade flat, at lower rates. Milch cows in good demand, at £16 to £26 per head. Bullocks, £10 to £15 each. Young stock flat.

Lincoln Tuesday.—About an average supply of beasts, and a fair trade. First quality beef made 7s 6d to 8s, and secondary 6s 6d to 7s 6d per stone. The show of sheep was good, and trade was slow. Ewe mutton made 5½d to 6d, and wether ditto, 7d to 8d per lb.

Lincoln, Friday.—Supply small, and trade generally slow. Milch beasts, £14 to £20; three-year-old stores, £14 to £15; two year old, £10 to £12; and young stock, £6 to £8. A few pens of lambs offered; they may be quoted from 25s to 40s each.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Good supplies; stock of superior quality. Prices steady. Numbers:—Cattle, 2,151; sheep, 5,812; pigs, 1,055; calves, 49. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s to 8s; pork, 5s to 9s per stone; mutton, 5d to 8d; veal, 5d to 8¾d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—The quotations were: Best beef, 6d to 6¼d per lb; secondary, 5d to 6¼d. A few pens of sheep and lambs, but trade was dull.

Norwich, Saturday.—The show of store beasts here to-day was smaller than of late, but was still of about average importance; business ruled quiet at former terms. Fat beasts were offered to a fair extent; trade was quiet at former rates. The supply of store sheep was larger than of late; hoggets were quoted at 32s to 42s, and keeping shearlings at 42s to 46s per head. The supply of fat sheep showed some falling off. The business passing was effected at 8s to 8s 6d and 9s per 14lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—An average supply of fat beasts, and trade about the same. Best animals made 4s to 4s 6d, and middlings 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in short supply, and trade fair, at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in good supply. Best sheep made 5s 4d to 5s 6d, and middlings 5s to 5s 2d per stone. The pig trade showed an improvement. Small porkers made 4s 4d to 4s 7d, and large hogs 3s 10d to 4s per stone.

Salford, Tuesday.—There was again an increase in the number of cattle on offer. Trade ruled slow, and buyers obtained a reduction on last week's prices, 6½d per lb being the extreme top. The supply of sheep was also larger. Choice quality was scarce, and met with a fair demand at last week's top figure, but all others sold slowly at prices in buyers' favour. A smaller supply of calves, and a better trade at higher prices. Quotations:—Cattle, 5d to 6½d; sheep, 6½ to 8¼; calves, 5½d to 7¾d per lb. At market:—Cattle, 3,026; sheep, 7,284; calves, 116; pigs, 67.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Show of milch beasts was only small. The best qualities met with a ready sale. Best lots made £18 to £25; secondary, £13 to £17.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—With a fair demand and prices firm trade was generally good. Cows with calves and store cattle brisk with smaller supplies. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 7¼d; mutton, 6d to 8d; and veal, 6½d to 8½d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s 6d, and bacons, 8s 6d to 10s per score. Cows with calves, up to £23. Hay up to £4. Number

offered :—837 cattle, 37 cows with calves, 795 sheep, 68 calves, 54 fat. 144 porket, and 505 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A good show of fat beasts, and a brisk trade at 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone. A large show of stores, and not much demand ; young stores were very low. The best descriptions found purchasers. In the sheep market there was a large number penned, and trade was rather slower. Best mutton made up to 7½d per lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were 124 cattle, 400 sheep, and 409 pigs on offer. Best cattle were a better show, and trade firmer, prices ranging from 7s 6d to 8s ; rougher kinds, 6s 6d and 7s per stone ; sheep, 8d ; ewes, 6d to 7d ; and tups, about 5d per lb.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a smaller supply of stock which was not of the usual good quality ; no doubt the best are being kept back for the Christmas sale. Trade was in buyers' favour, but mutton and calves met with a good trade. Mr. Bond's sale comprised 67 fat beasts, 118 fat sheep, 61 fat and weaning calves, and 277 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £17 to £20 ; fat heifers, £13 to £19 15s; fat wethers, 43s to 52s ; fat ewes, 34s to 48s 6d ; fat calves, £3 to £4 11s ; cow calves, 25s to 56s ; bull calves, 17s to 49s ; fat pigs, 10s per score. Stores were easier in price.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Fair average market, both for supply of stock and prices prevailing. Best beef made 6½d per lb ; other qualities 5d to 6d. Small sheep, 8d per lb ; average sorts, 7½d ; and ewes and tups, 5½d to 6d. Numbers penned :—Fat beasts, 1,794 ; sheep, 3,112.

Worcester, Saturday.—Fair supplies of cattle, sheep and pigs, and rather more calves on offer. Trade quiet, with very little change in values, except for pork, which was dearer. Beef, 6d to 7d ; inferior, 5d to 6d ; wether mutton, 7½d to 8d ; ewes, 5d to 6½d ; and veal, 7d to 7½d per lb. Pork pigs, 10s to 10s 6d ; bacon, 9s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A larger show of stock than for several weeks, and best qualities of beef met with a ready sale at 7s 6d to 8s per stone. Better show of sheep ; best wethers, to 8d ; ewes and other sorts, 6d to 7d per lb.

York, Friday.—Calves, 8d ; small sheep, 8d ; large ditto, 7d ; and ewes, 6d per lb. Small pork pigs, 6s 9d ; large ditto, 6s 3d to 6s 6d ; and bacon pigs, 5s 6d to 6s per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies totalled 632 head against nil on Wednesday last, and comprised 592 United States and 40 Canadian. Trade ruled firm at 4s 2d to 4s 5d for the former, and 3s 8d to 3s 10d the latter per 8lb, to sink the offal.

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fair supplies were offered this morning, but the trade ruled dull ; the tendency however, was to improvement. Quotations :— Fowls : Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d ; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s ; Welsh, 1s 8d to 1s 10d ; Surrey, 3s to 3s 6d ; Irish, 1s 6d to 1s 9d ; Sussex, 2s 9d to 3s 3d ; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d ; geese, 4s to 5s : turkeys, cocks, 6s to 8s 6d ; hens, 4s 6d to 6s ; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s ; Bordeaux pigeons, 8d to 10d ; feathered, 7d to 9d ; wild rabbits, 8d to 10d ; tame, 10d to 1s 2d each ; Australian, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per dozen ; pheasants, 3s 6d to 4s ; young partridges, 3s 6d to 4s ; old, 2s 3d young grouse, 3s 9d to 4s 6d old, 3s 6d per brace ; hares, 3s to 3s 3d ; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s 6d ; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 1s 10d ; pintail, 1s 6d ; teal, 8d to 10d ; widgeon, 1s ; snipe, 8d to 10d ; woodcock, 2s to 2s 6d ; golden plover, 9d to 11d ; black, 6d each.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There were a few fresh arrivals of cheese. The market is well stocked with all classes. The chief inquiry was for Dunlops, Cheddars being rather neglected. Holders of Cheddars are willing to make concessions. Cheddars and Dunlops 50s to 64s per cwt. There was a limited inquiry for separate made Canadian cheese.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon : With continued scarcity of supply and fair consumptive demand the market has ruled firm, and for some cuts higher prices are quoted. We quote to-day choice Cumberland cut, 20lb to 22lb, 48s 6d to 52s ; 26lb to 30lb, 46s 6d to 49s ; 32lb to 38lb, 44s to 48s 6d ; long middles, rib-in, 18lb to 22lb, 51s to 55s ; clear bellies, 14lb to 16lb, 55s 6d to 57s 6d ; 18lb to 20lb, 55s 6d to 56s 6d ; Staffordshire cut (lean on), 35lb to 40lb, and Birmingham cut, 33lb to 38lb, 47s 6d to 49s ; clear Staffords (lean off), 40lb to 44lb, and Yorkshire cut, 40lb to 45lb, 44s 6d to 46s 6d ; singed Wiltshire, Canadian, 45lb to 55lb, 53s to 59s ; American, 40lb to 50lb, 44s to 52s ; short clear backs, 12lb to 16lb, 44s 6d to 46s 6d ; 16lb to 20lb, 43s 6d to 44s 6d ; fat backs (export), 40s to 41s ; long clear middles, 35lb to 40lb, 47s to 48s ; 40lb to 45lb, 45s to 46s 6d ; short clear middles, 5lb to 50lb, 40s to 40s 6d ; short middles (rib in), 18lb to 23lb, 48s to 49s ; shoulders, square cut, 12lb to 14lb, 35s to 40s ; 14lb to 16lb, 34s to 37s 6d ; New York cut, 11lb to 13lb 2s 6d to 35s per cwt. Hams are firmly held, but the inquiry is only moderate. We quote choice long cut, 8lb to 12lb, 46s 6d to 52s ; 14lb to 16lb, 44s to 49s ; short cut and A.C., 10lb to 12lb, 46s to 52s ; 12lb to 14lb, 46s 6d to 52s ; 14lb to 16lb, 44s to 49s 6d per cwt. Lard is in quiet request, and the turn in buyers' favour. We quote pails and kegs, 38s to 39s 3d ; prime Western (in tierces), 38s to 38s 9d per cwt. Beef a slow sale at recent values. We quote extra India mess, 67s 6d to 71s 6d ; Plate and Packet, 62s 6d to 65s per 304lb. Pork is in limited inquiry. We quote finest prime mess 67s to 71s 6d. per 200 lb. Cheese.—The demand has further improved, and is now more general for all grades, but there is no material alteration to report in value. We quote finest coloured Canadian, September, 53s 6d to 54s ; white, 52s 6d to 53s ; finest States, coloured, 52s to 53s 6d ; white, 51s to 52s ; summer cheese, ripe, ready goods, sell from 46s to 50s, and lower grades, in light supply, are offered from 22s to 40s per cwt. Butter.—There is a firmer tone to the market, and for strictly choicest fresh goods higher prices are readily obtainable, but secondary qualities, which are plentiful, are freely offered at irregular prices. We quote fancy fresh made Canadian creamery, in boxes, 105s to 110s ; second quality, 82s to 95s ; finest States (none) ; finest ladles and imitation creamery, 74s to 80s ; finest Danish, 114s to 124s ; Australian and New Zealand, 104s to 110s ; Irish creamery, 106s to 112s ; Cork, firsts, 93s ; seconds, 87s ; thirds, 81s per cwt.—HODGSON BROTHERS.

Newport, Wednesday.—The quotations were :—Carrphillies, 60s to 65s per cwt ; fancy dairies, 66s to 68s ; doubles, 60s to 63s ; truckles, 56s to 65s ; and Cheddars, 56s to 60s per cwt. A short supply, and a brisk demand.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Good supplies of greenstuffs evidenced a very quiet sale. Potato trade slow. Fruit was in good supply, and met with good support. Greenstuffs :—Cabbages, 1s 6d to 2s 6d ; savoys, 2s 6d ; beetroots, 2s 6d per tally ; cauliflowers, 2s per dozen ; Brussels sprouts, 1s to 1s 3d per half sieve ; spinach, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel ; carrots, 2s to 2s 6d ; turnips, 2s to 3s ; parsley, 1s 6d ; radishes, 6d per dozen bunches ; celery, 12s to 14s per dozen rolls ; horseradish, 10d to 1s per bundle ; English onions, 5s per cwt ; Valencia, 6s to 6s 6d per case. Potatoes :—Main-crops, 100s ; Snowdrops, 90s to 100s ; Up-to-Dates, 80s to 90s ; Reading Giants, 70s to 80s ; Imperators, 70s per ton ; German Markers, 3s 6d to 3s 9d ; Belgian, 2s 6d to 3s per bag. Fruit :—English grapes, 9d to 2s ; Belgian, 2s 6d to 3s per bag. Fruit :—English grapes, 9d to 2s ; Belgian, 6d to 1s per lb. Almeria, 10s to 16s per barrel ; English apples, 2s 6d to 6s per bushel ; Nova Scotian, 10s to 16s per barrel ; English pears, 3s to 6s 6d per bushel ; peaches, 3s to 12s per dozen ; Australian oranges, 10s to 12s 6d per case ; pineapples, 1s to 4s each ; bananas, 5s to 9s per bunch ; chestnuts, 6s to 10s ; Grenoble walnuts, 10s to 12s 6d per sack.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—The arrivals this morning have been moderate, but with the trade dull prices have had a downward tendency. English : Reading Giants, 3s to 3s 9d ; Professor Maerkers, 3s 3d to 3s 6d. Up-to-Dates, 3s 6d to 4s 6d ; French and Belgian Magnums, 2s 9d to 3s 3d ; Imperators, 2s 6d to 3s ; German Magnums, 2s 9d to 3s 3d per cwt.

Goole, Wednesday.—Potatoes : Good attendance and a fair trade was done at 80s per ton. Best samples of Up-to-Dates made 85s.

FOREIGN POTATOES.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Potatoes report : Market rules very firm here ; there are still a good many orders in the market from Great Britain, but supplies are falling off considerably, as most farmers have closed their pits for want of frost. Also for spring shipment there is a fair demand, but offers not obtainable yet. I quote 1¾ inch riddled flight soil magnum bonums, 2s 6d to 2s 9d ; Professor Maeker, 2s 3d to 2s 4½d ; blue giants, 2s to 2s 1½d, all per bag of 50 kilos. or 110lb. English, f.o.b. steamers here, nett cash.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per pocket of 240lb :—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11 ; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s ; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8 ; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7 ; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11 ; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb :—Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 4d to 1s 5d ; scoured, good, 1s 5½d to 1s 6d ; scoured, average, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d ; greasy, average to fair, 10d to 10½d ; New South Wales, scoured, average, 1s 1d to 1s 2d ; greasy average, 7½d to 8½d ; South Australian, greasy, average, 6d to 6½d ; New Zealand, scoured, average, 1s 2d to 1s 3d ; greasy, average, 7½d to 8d ; Cape, scoured, superior, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d ; fleece, average, 5½d to 7½d ; greasy, average, 5d to 5½d ; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d ; greasy, average, 5½d to 6½d ; grossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 9d to 11d ; New Zealand, fine, 8½d to 10d ; ditto, medium, 6¾d to 7¾d ; ditto, coarse, 5½d to 6d.

Bradford, Thursday.—The recent buying in merino tops is not maintained, and business is small. Prices remain unchanged for all sorts, and though wool is now strongly held a slight reaction is probable. Mohair is not wanted, except some fine sorts. In the yarn trade only single tube yarns are in any appreciable demand. The general tendency of the market is to favour buyers.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There is a slight improvement in the demand, and best lots occasionally make ½d per lb more money. Supplies are now very limited. Kent fleeces are quoted from 6d to 6½d, and lambs' wool from 4d to 4½d ; half-breds, 6½d to 7d ; and Downs, 8d to 10d per lb.

Liverpool, Wednesday.—The sixth and last series of periodical wool auctions for this year began on the 20th instant, East India being catalogued on that and two following days, and sundry descriptions yesterday and to-day. The new arrivals of East India wool reached 12,760 bales, but importers held over 4,540 bales out of the 5,645 bales they withdrew in September, and of 17,371 bales catalogued about 11,500 bales were sold ; the home trade taking fully 8,000 bales, America 1,950 bales, and France 1,450 bales. The selection on the whole was on a mediocre character, a large proportion of the shipments being in a very dirty condition ; most descriptions, however, were represented, though medium and fair yellows were exceptionally scarce. The supply of native skin and goat hair was large, comprising nearly one-eighth part of the offerings. A good attendance of home buyers was attracted, but only two Frenchmen put in an appearance, while America sent moderate orders, and with fair competition a decided gain on September currency was obtained. Vicanere and Joria whites were steady ; Kandahars a shade dearer ; medium to good yellows, as well as piecy whites and yellows, rose ½d to ¾d per lb. ; hard whites, greys, native skin, goat hair, Persians, etc., sold without material alteration. Arrivals for the January auctions are 5 850 bales, so that with what is held over and afloat we look for a total of about 20,000 bales.—RONALD AND RODGER.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—Demand has been moderate, and with sufficient supplies being shipped, prices have given way a little. Calcutta to London spot, near at hand and November-December, are quoted 57s 6d, April-June, 46s. La Plata December-January, 46s 9d, January-February, 45s 6d. Hull very quiet. Calcutta, April-June, 46s. La Plata, December, 50s, December-January, 46s 9d, January-February, 45s 6d, Azoff, afloat, 55s 6d. To the Continent Bombay is quoted, February-March, 51s 6d ; March-May, 48s 6d. Calcutta, April-June, 46s. La Plata, December, 50s 9d ; December-January, 47s 3d ; January-February, 45s 9d. Linseed cakes quiet. London made, £8 10s to £8 12s 6d. Russian, £7 17s 6d to £8 7s 6d ex dock. American Westerns at £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes steady. London made £4 17s 6d to £5 ; Egyptian, £4 15s to £4 16s 3d. Rapeseed quiet, prices tending downards. Brown Calcutta to London November-December, 44s ; March-May, 40s. To the Continent we quote, Yellow Guzerat, November-December, 52s ; March-May, 46s 3d ; Yellow Cawnpore March-May, 43s. Brown Cawnpore November-December, 47s 6d ; March-May, 39s 9d. Brown Calcutta, October-November, 45s ; April-June, 40s 6d. Cottonseed.—Owing to weakness in Alexandria, prices have declined on this side. Passage London, £6 16s 3d, December to March £6 11s 3d. Hull spot, £5 13s 9d, December to March, £6 10s. Cargoes, December, £6 12s 6d ; January, £6 12s 6d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

London, Saturday.—Middlings after being easy are again inactive demand. Bran and pollard, with continued mild weather, is quiet for both town and country makes at 2s 6d decline from recent figures Feeding flour scarce and dear. Maize germ meal firm, both spot and forward. Rangoon rice-meal, owing to plentiful supply, is comparatively very cheap, being 12s 6d per ton lower than maize germ meal, whilst last winter both articles were at about the same figure. Quotations :—Middlings, fine, £6 5s to £6 7s 6d per ton ; coarse, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d ; bran, broad, £5 7s 6d to £5 12s 6d ; medium, £4 17s 6d to £5 ; fine, £4 12s 6d to £4 15s ; pollard, fine, £4 15s to £4 17s 6d ; coarse, £4 13s 9d to £4 15s ; white maize germ meal, American, £5 7s 6d ; yellow maize germ meal, English, £5 12s 6d ; ricemeal, Rangoon, £4 13s 9d to £4 15s, free on rails for London.—BLOTT, LANG AND CO., LTD., 9, Catherine-court, E.C.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes : The amount of business passing is small, the trade being quite of a retail description, and with some fairly heavy arrivals of foreign, values are weak and irregular. Russians meet a slow sale and are unchanged, while Americans offer at 2s 6d per ton less money ; English also are obtainable on slightly better terms. Cotton cakes : There has been rather more activity in the trade during the past week, especially in Egyptians, which have found a ready sale at last week's prices, with English offering a trifle under. Decorticated : Some prime quality cake afloat sells quietly at £6 17s 6d to £7, and meal unchanged. Rape cakes remain scarce and unchanged. Maize germ meal : Stocks of American are small and command a full price, while English is only sparingly offered. Rice meal : Rangoon in warehouse is firmly held but [illegible] nearly due is procurable at £4 5s 0d to £4 10s ex ship.

		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.				
London made	per ton ex mill	[illegible]		
American in bags	ex dock	7 15 0	„	7 17 6
American Nov.-Dec.	„	7 12 6	„	7 — 0
Russian in mats	„	7 13 9	„	7 15 0
Russian in bags	„	7 15 0	„	[illegible]
COTTON-SEED CAKES				
London made	ex mill	5 0 0	„	5 5 0
Egyptian, in bags	ex dock	4 15 0	„	4 17 6
„	Nov.-April shipment	4 15 0	„	4 17 6
Decorticated	Oct.-Nov. „	6 12 6	„	6 15 0
Meal, on spot	„	4 12 6	„	4 15 0
RAPE CAKES.				
East Indian Seed	ex mill	4 15 0	„	—
Ravison	„	4 5 0	„	—
Nutted, in bags	„	4 15 0	„	—
MAIZE				
Germ meal (American)	ex dock	5 5 0	„	—
„ „	Dec. c.i.f.	5 0 0	„	—
„ „ (English)	ex mill	5 8 9	„	5 10 0
RICE MEAL.				
Rangoon	ex warehouse	4 12 6	„	4 15 0
„ Nov.-Dec.	ex ship	4 10 0	„	—
„ Jan.-March	„	4 7 6	„	—

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane

Hull, Tuesday.—The wheat trade has ruled fairly steady since last Tuesday, and prices remain much the same. Malting barley continues as of late, fine quality sought after and inferior neglected at unaltered prices. Oats meet a fair demand at last week's rates. No change in beans. Flat maize has fluctuated somewhat during the week but closes at 25s 6d the same price as last Tuesday. Round corn has found a lower level than of late. Linseed.—The market has been disappointing throughout the week, that is to say, values have been fairly steady, but very little business passing. Calcutta, old crop, makes about 38s 9d to London, to Hull nothing offers ; new crop April June 47s. Black Sea, on passage, is nominal at 55s 6d. Petersburg, a little business done at 47s 6d, and small lots of Riga and Libau have been sold at 54s. December loading. River Plate, Dec.-Jan. 47s 9d, Jan.-Feb. 46s 6d. Cottonseed.—The market has been steady, though slightly lower prices accepted at close of last week, when spot and near sold at £6 13s 9d, but more inquiry again yesterday with a fair business done at £6 15s in these positions. November loading done at £6 13s 9d to £6 12s 6d ; also December to March at same prices to-day, there being a quieter tone to-day without quotable change in values. Linseed cakes.—A steady market at a decline of 2s 6d per ton on the week all round. Hemp.—Unchanged, dull.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON ; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 5s 0d PER TON ; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 2s. 6d. PER TON ; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 10s 0d PER TON ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per cwt. 7s. 6d. Price per ton £6 15s. on rail at works Silvertown, Essex.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Trade ruled quiet. Best clover, 85s to 100s ; inferior ditto, 80s to 85s ; specially picked hay, 92s 6d ; good ditto, 85s to 87s 6d ; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s ; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 80s ; and straw, 25s to 30s per load.

Bristol, Tuesday.—The prices quoted in to-day's market were :—Old clover hay, 75s to 80s per ton ; old meadow hay, 70s to 75s ; straw, 45s to 50s.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—There is very little variation to report this week, the lightermen's strike still being unsettled, but there are signs of a better inquiry all round and it the question of the lightermen could be settled no doubt it would give a fillip to the trade. We quote Canada timothy and clover mixture, 85s. Dutch 1st cut clover, 88s 6d ; Dutch and French 2nd cut clover, 90s to 92s 6d ; good Dutch hay, 75s ; inferior Dutch hay, 55s to 60s. Old bale wheat straw, 46s 6d ; small bale French wheat straw, 45s ; and small bale oat straw, 43s, all per ton, delivered by barge alongside wharf.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10, Great Tower Street, E.C.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Basic slag is in fair request, other fertilisers idle. The demand for feeding stuffs is very slow, and an easier feeling is prevalent in the market. Values of linseed and decorticated cotton cakes, and also in the quotations of new season's make of the latter have been reduced in quality ; particulars of the various qualities on request. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £8 7s 6d to £8 10s per ton. Bean meal ; in bags, £4 7s 6d to £4 10s per ton ; kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton ; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton ; linseed cake, American, thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 11s 3d to £7 15s per ton ; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 17s 6d to £9 per ton ; linseed cake, foreign round, prime, in bags, £8 15s per ton ; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, but fairly hard, in bags, £6 15s to £7 per ton ; cottonseed cake, English, decorticated, prime, very soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 10s per ton ; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 17s 6d to £5 2s 6d per ton ; cottonseed cake, crushed, £5 7s 6d per ton ; maize germ meal, in bags, £5 per ton ; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s per ton ; rice germ meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 15s to £4 17s per ton ; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bags, 12s to 13s per 240lb ; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 5s per qr. 416lb ; N.A. decorticated, new crop, [illegible] nominal ; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., nominal ; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., nominal ; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal ; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d per ton ; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 13s 6d to £1 14s 6d per ton ; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 16s to £1 17s 6d. per ton, at the producing depots.—H. JONES (LANCS) AND CO.

Winsford Cheshire, Saturday.—Quotations for salt at the works for quotation amongst other fertilisers :—Common [illegible] 1s per ton ; [illegible] 3s 6d per ton ; packets and bags extra.—THE SALT UNION LIMITED.

Farmer's Son Accidentally Shot.—A farmer's son, named Marsh, who resided near Maryport, Dorset, met with a shocking death while rabbit shooting on Thursday. He was getting over a stile when his gun exploded, and he received the charge in his face, his head being blown to pieces.

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Shorthorn heifer, Cicely, with which Her Majesty the Queen secured the principal champion prizes at Birmingham Fat Stock Show on Saturday, was bred at The Prince Consort's Shaw farm, Windsor, her sire being Prince Victor 73320, and her dam Cristobell, by Crœsus 58706. Cicely on Saturday carried everything before her, winwinning, in addition to the first prize in her class, the Elkington, Thorley, and Messrs. Webb and Sons' challenge cups, all valued at 100 guineas, the President's silver cup, value £25, and the special prize of £50 for the best Shorthorn. The three challenge cups mentioned before becoming the absolute property of the winner have to be won three times, and this the Queen has now done, having won them in 1895 and 1899. Our photograph was taken at the last show of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society, where Cicely won first in her class. Last year this heifer was very successful at the Summer Shows. At the Maidstone Royal she won first in her class, and the champion prize-for the best Shorthorn cow or heifer. On Saturday she was 2 years 9 months and 1 week old, and weighed 16cwt. 1qr.

The Dexter steer Patriot is the property of and was bred by H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, Sandringham, its sire being Pat 212, dam Tranquil 524. Patriot is not being exhibited at Birmingham, but at Norwich he came out top of the class for steers, not less than eighteen months, and not exceeding three years old, nor exceeding 10cwt. live weight in the Small Cattle section, and won the special prize of £10 for the best animal in these classes. At the time of exhibition Patriot weighed 9cwt. 1qr. 4lbs., and was 2 years 10 months and 2 weeks old. At Smithfield Show last year Patriot was successful in winning the first prize in his class.

Mr. R. Mattocks, The Green, Burlingham, is the owner and also breeder of the Shorthorn heifer Heather Belle, sire Bannockburn, by Prince Geneva 59659; dam Shorthorn cow. At the Norwich Fat Stock Show Heather Belle was awarded first prize in the class for Shorthorn cows that have produced at least one live calf, or heifers under four years old, and also the special prize of £15 for the best beast in the show bred and fed in Norfolk. She is not being exhibited at Birmingham. At Norwich her age was given as 2 years 4 months 3 weeks, and her weight 14cwt. 1 qr. 21lbs.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

The annual show of stock and implements of the Suffolk Agricultural Association will be held at Beccles on Wednesday and Thursday, June 5th and 6th, 1901. All entries close May 8th to Mr. Robert Bond, Secretary, Old Bank House, 6, Butter Market, Ipswich.

Owing to the yards and buildings at Windsor being too full of cattle the annual sale of fat stock fed by Her Majesty the Queen will take place at the Slough Christmas Cattle Show on December 11th.

The members of the National Sheep Breeders' Association have recently passed a somewhat curious resolution. "We (says the *Yorkshire Post*) are not prepared to find fault with it, because it is more or less in the right direction, although it does not exhibit that firmness with which this question ought to be handled. The association deprecates the excessive colouring of sheep, although it is of opinion that as little interference as possible should be exercised in allowing exhibitors to show their sheep in the best possible form. In the first place, it will be observed that the association does not oppose colouring, only excessive colouring; and in the next place, it is apparent that the members are of opinion that colouring helps the exhibitor to show his sheep in good form. It may perhaps be a foolish belief, but our townspeople are naturally more or less ignorant with regard to the stock of the farm, yet there are many who firmly believe that the different colours which will be seen as usual at the Agricultural Hall in December are the actual colours of the wool of the different breeds."

"It has of late become difficult," continues the journal above mentioned, "to dissociate specific colours from specific breeds, but it would be interesting if the association were able to inform the country in what way colouring assists the exhibitor, and what they regard as excessive colouring. There are plenty of men who are too conscientious to colour their sheep, just as in the past there were men who declined to blacken their pigs, where, as in the case of the Berkshire, there were occasional white patches to cover, or, as in the case of the black-faced Suffolk, white wool was removed, as, indeed, we have seen it, by shepherds in the showyard. If colouring enhances the value of the sheep in the eyes of the judge the exhibitor who declines to perform the trick—for in this case it is a trick—is handicapped, and handicapped unfairly too, for while he shows his sheep honestly the exhibitor who colours does not, if the association's suggestion is correct. We do not say so, but we can draw no other inference from the resolution."

But three or four weeks ago I mentioned in this column that Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. had just isued "Thornton's Circular" for April 1st to June 30th. This number was rather late in appearing, so that although the publication is a quarterly one the next number—130—has been sent out during the past week. This gives particulars of Shorthorn transactions from July 1st to September 30th, and among the shows dealt with are the Yorkshire, Royal Lancashire, Highland Society's, Norfolk, Lincolnshire, etc.

The 1901 show of the Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society has been fixed for Tuesday and Wednesday, May 28th and 29th.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., live stock exporters, of Shrewsbury, shipped per ss. "Gothic," from the Port of London, on November 20th, a high-class Shropshire shearling ram, specially selected by Mr. Tom Mason on account of Mr. S. Wellard from the prize-winning flock of Mr. Andrew Mansell, and owning as his sire that successful getter, Rose Bush 10104 (sire of Mr. Mansell's 2nd prize ram at York, sold at 150 guineas) from the same ewe as Fortification, the sire of Mr. Mansell's 1st prize ram at York, recently sold to go to Australia at 240 guineas. In selecting this ram special attention was paid to securing a heavy dense fleece and clear cherry skin, two attributes in high favour with Australian breeders.

On Thursday last Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., the well-known live stock exporters, of Shrewsbury, shipped from Liverpool, per the ss. "Persic," of the White Star Line, twenty-four of the choicest Shropshire shearling ewes, including several prize-winners, to Mr. James Gibb, of Melbourne. These ewes had all been selected with great care from several leading breeders, and were in lamb to the best sires obtainable. Full particulars will appear in our next issue.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, have received a letter from Mr. Geo. Saeurbier, announcing the safe arrival of seventeen Shropshires and four Southdowns, shipped to Adelaide in July last. Mr. Sauerbier adds that the sheep gained flesh on the journey, and were greatly admired by all the leading breeders in the district.

One of the most interesting matters to come before the members of the Royal Northern Agricultural Society at their next meeting is the report of the committee appointed to look out for a fresh site for the Society's show, the present one at Kittybrewster being now too small. It is reported that the committee have been offered a piece of ground, 13 acres in extent, lying on the north side of the Great North of Scotland Railway line, between Kittybrewster and Woodside, the purchase price of which is about £5,200. The gentlemen who have visited the ground on behalf of the Society have expressed an opinion that with an adequate outlay in preparing the site for the purposes of the exhibition, the place will make a convenient and ample showground.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES'S DEXTER STEER "PATRIOT," CHAMPION OF THE SMALL CATTLE SECTION AT NORWICH FAT STOCK SHOW.

CATTLE.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*]

Newtownstewart Fair (co. Tyrone), was held on Monday. It was a small one composed chiefly of calves and a few lots of second and third-class cattle, for which demand was fair. Springers were scarce and met a good demand. Prices:- Calves, second class, £3 16s. 8d. to £4 10s.; third class, £2 11s. 3d to £3 2s. 6d.; yearlings, first class, £8; second class, £6 5s. to £7; third class, £5 to £5 2s. 6d.; two-year-olds, second class, £7 15s. to £8; third class, £6 18s. to £7 2s. 6d.; springers, first class £16 5s.; second class, £13 to £15, third class, £9 to £10 12s. 6d.; young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 15s. 6d. to 18s. each.

The fair at Bruff, co. Limerick, on Wednesday, was an average sized one, composed of first and second class cattle. There was a good demand for young stock with those suitable for shipping, but the

animals were hard to sell, and a number failed to find purchasers. The small supply of springers met a very good demand. Prices:—Calves, first class, £5 5s. to £6; second class, £4 to £5 2s. 6d.; third class, £2 15s. to £3 10s.; yearlings, first class, £9 to £10 10s.; second class, £6 15s. to £8 10s.; third class, £5 10s. to £6 5s.; two-year-olds, first class, £12 2s. 6d. to £13 10s.; second class, £10 6s. 10d. to £11 10s.; springers, first class, £15 10s. to £20; second class, £11 15s. to £15.

SHEEP.

Marlborough Fair.

This fair was held on Marlborough Common on the 23rd ult. Mr. T. Lavington had a full catalogue of some 6,000 Hampshire Down ewes and lambs and forty head of cattle. In comparing the entry of sheep with the last few years, the numbers show a considerable increase, attributable, no doubt, to the favourable season and the abundance of keep enabling flockmasters to hold back many which in former dry seasons would have been sold at the earlier fairs. The attendance of buyers was above the average. Trade, although lacking the briskness which has characterised the autumn fairs, was fair, and figures were a slight advance on Andover Fair. Prices fluctuated somewhat between the start and the finish, and buyers were apt to show at times a certain amount of inconsistency.

There was a good demand for fresh wether lambs and working lambs, and only one vendor in the whole sale was unwilling to accept the prices offered. Mr. C. J. Hibbard's registered chilver lambs, purchased by Mr. J. B. Stevens, made as high as 67s.; Mr. Sam Darling's wether lambs, 53s.; while for ewes Mr. G. Knowles secured 50s. 6d.; chilver lambs may be quoted from 67s. to 33s. 6d.; fat or fresh wether lams from 53s. 6d. to 44s.; working lambs, 40s. to 27s., a few culls being sold for less money; two-teeth ewes, 50s. to 43s.; four and six-teeth ewes, 50s. 6d. to 43s.; full-mouth ewes, 44s. to 40s. The auctioneer who generally secures top prices for wether lambs at this fair made only 52s. 6d., being displaced by Mr. Sam Darling, whose flock, however, he manages.

Glasgow and Leith Wool Sales.

Business in Scotch wools has been, as is frequently the case at this season, rather quiet. There have been no public auctions during the past month, and quotations of all classes have not suffered any material alteration. The improvement that was generally looked for after the Presidential election in the U.S. has been as yet more evident by enquiries than by actual transactions.

Whitefaced wools have been in small demand, and, on the other hand, stocks are not large and there is no pressure to sell.

In blackfaced there has been rather more activity. A number of enquiries have been made on American account, but so far the volume of actual transactions has not been extensive, and prices are very low. In the home trade there has also been a moderate turnover, mostly for the supply of immediate wants. Stocks are of fair dimensions, and are firmly held. On the whole, the feeling in the market is hopeful.

	Washed.		Unwashed.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Half-bred hoggs	0 8½	to 0 8¾	0 5¾	to 0 6¼
Ditto wedders	0 7	to 0 7½	0 5½	to 0 5⅝
*Cheviot hoggs	0 8	to 0 9¼	0 6¼	to 0 7½
Ditto wedders	0 7	to 0 7¾	0 6½	to 0 6⅝
Cross-bred hoggs	0 6¼	to 0 6⅝	0 5½	to 0 5⅝
Laid Cheviot	0 5	to 0 5½	0 3¾	to 0 4
Blackfaced white	—		0 4½	to 0 4⅝
Ditto laid	—		0 2⅝	to 0 3¼

* For Sutherland wool 2d to 2½d more can be realised.

J. AND W. GREIG.

Darlington Hirings.—The last, or runaway, hirings at Darlington took place on Monday, but there were not many servants, most having been engaged the previous week. Those who wanted situations were mostly youths, and they were engaged at about the rates ruling at the main hirings.

At the annual hiring fair held at Market Weighton on Monday, female servants were scarce. There was a fair gathering of men servants, but, on the whole, little hiring was done. Foremen obtained £24 to £30, shepherds £20 to £27, beastmen £20, waggoners £19 to £24, third lads £16 to £19, plough lads £12 to £15, and lads first time out £6 to £9.

Presentation to Mr. Charles Whitehead.—At Maidstone last week Lord Harris, on behalf of the Governors of the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, handed to Mr. Charles Whitehead his portrait for presentation to the hospital, and a replica for his family, on account of his services as member of the Board of Management and its chairman for forty years. Lord Harris alluded to Mr. Whitehead's devotion to the duties connected with the hospital as well as to the county business generally. Lord Harris also spoke of Mr. Whitehead's useful work as a member of the Royal Commission on Agriculture and as technical adviser to the Board of Agriculture.

BIRMINGHAM FAT STOCK SHOW.

The Championship again Goes to Windsor.

On Saturday the Fat Stock Show annually held at the Bingley Hall, Birmingham, opened its doors to the public, when the whole of the judging was satisfactorily got through. The show will remain open until Thursday next, and a good attendance of visitors is expected. The value of the prizes merited keen competition, and the expectation was not disappointed. The £3,200 offered was apportioned as follows:—Cattle, £1,715; sheep, £275; pigs, £170; roots, £50; corn, £30; potatoes, £36; poultry and preserved eggs, £1,080; and pigeons, £380.

The total number of entries was 4,157, a decrease of two upon last year, but an increase of 152 upon 1898. Cattle numbered 176, a decrease of ten; sheep 56, an increase of one; and pigs 54, an increase of 17. Her Majesty is the largest exhibitor in cattle, being represented in the classes for Herefords, Shorthorns, and Devons; while the Prince of Wales is also represented. Amongst other prominent exhibitors in addition to the President are Lord Rosebery, the Duchess of Newcastle, the Earls of Coventry, Durham, and Carnarvon, Lords Tredegar and Llangattock, Lady de Rothschild, Viscount Portman, Sir W. H. Walrond, M.P., Sir J. Blundell Maple, M.P., Sir R. Cathcart, of Aberdeen, Colonel H. Platt, of Llanfairfechan, and Mr. Clement Stephenson, of Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Her Majesty the Queen was adjudged to have the best animal in the show, the award being given to her roan Shorthorn cow Cicely. With this animal she secured the President's Prize, the Elkington Challenge Cup, the Thorley Challenge Cup, and Webb and Son's Challenge Cup. The Birmingham *Daily Post* Challenge Cup also goes to Her Majesty for a very solid Devonshire steer, which took premier award in its class. The Queen, by her success with Cicely, secures outright the Elkington, Thorley, and Webb and Son's Challenge Cups, having won each of them for a third time. Each of the trophies is valued at 100gs.

The champion of the show has had a successful career. The age of the animal is 2yrs. 9m, and it was bred by Her Majesty on the Prince Consort's Shaw Farm, Windsor. As a yearling at the Royal Agricultural Show the animal took first prize, and was adjudged champion of the show. She was also champion at the Highland Society's Show at Edinburgh last year, and took first prize and the championship at the Royal County Show at Winchester last summer. Cicely will be exhibited at the Smithfield Show, which commences on December 10th. She at present turns the scales at 16cwt. 1qr.

Championships.

The contest for the champion prizes was very close, and watched with considerable interest, as there were three competitors, each of which had their supporters perhaps in about equal force; these were the Windsor Shorthorn heifer Cicely, Mr. Learner's Norwich champion heifer, and Mr. Wortley's Hereford steer, reserve champion at Norwich. After considerable discussion and examination Her Majesty the Queen was awarded the coveted honour, the reserve falling to Mr. Wortley's Hereford steer. The award was not received with any great outburst of applause, a great number of north country visitors leaning strongly to the Norwich heifer.

Cattle.

HEREFORDS.

The juicy-fleshed white faces of the Midlands take precedence in the Birmingham catalogue, and it is to be desired that such a profitable beef breed may always continue to do so. The three classes open to this breed brought out a good display, though generally speaking not quite up to some previous years; this is especially noticeable in the steers under two years, in which really good animals were scarce, doubtless owing to the very high prices now being paid for bulls of this breed having caused the most promising of the calves to be retained for that purpose. The older steer class contained eleven entries, of which the first, entered by Her Majesty the Queen, was absent. This steer, of which we hear a most pleasing account, will, it is to be hoped, be seen at Smithfield next week. Mr. John Wortley's steer, first in class and reserve for the championship at Norwich last week, again repeated both these victories; he was fully described in last week's issue, and came out at Birmingham in beautiful bloom and scaling some 30lbs. more than at Norwich the previous week. A very worthy second was Mr. W. H. Cooke's very shapely, good-looking, high quality, and ripe steer by Ruler; and the third proved to be Mr. J. J. Cridlan's entry, a beast with capital pole end and top and excellent beef. One or two other entries were h.c. There were twelve entries of steers under two years, Mr. John Price taking priority with a very big one for age sired by Tremont; he was also very good in flesh and good quality. Her Majesty the Queen came second, a good quality steer, but poor behind the shoulder, and Mr. A. P. Turner's third was extremely good meat and about as symmetrical as any of them. A reserve to Mr. Barneby completed the class. With the exception of Mr. A. C. Hughes's beautiful heifer Ladylike 2nd, first in the class, the females were rather moderate. Mr. W. H. B. Cane and Mr. William Taylor took the other money. The best of the breed was very easily Mr. Wortley's steer.

SHORTHORNS.

There was rather a short entry of the good old breed, though the steer classes filled up quite as well as usual. Females had but a single representative. Steers over two and not exceeding three years were eight in number, and several of them were very creditable, to say the least of them, though nothing was of outstanding excellence. Both first and second prizes were accorded to Miss A. de Rothschild for the two very level, good quality, and well fed steers Juryman and Sabinus, bred by the late Baron F. de Rothschild. There is not one pound of difference in the weight of the two animals, the heavier being 15cwt. 3qrs. 22lbs. Sir J. B. Maple carried off the third prize with a capital bullock nearly three cwt heavier than the others and capital beef, though not quite as neat in shape or breed character. The Earl of Durham occupied the reserve position with a biggish, useful bullock of his own breeding, just a little uneven in his flesh. There were seven steers of this breed not exceeding two years old, several very level and good-looking ones. Her Majesty the Queen came to the front with a very level, topped, good handling one of 13cwt. 2qr., sired by Prince Victor, and the second honour went to Miss A. de Rothschild's steer by Cabin Boy, a squarely-built, good steer, well brought out, a little heavier then the winner, and a close second. Lord Tredegar provided a very nicely shaped and capital beef steer, though much smaller, for the third prize; and a level useful steer of Sir John Swinburne's was reserved. The only female of this breed was Her Majesty the Queen's heifer Cicely, who also carried off the extra prize as best Shorthorn and the championship of the show. Cicely, it will be remembered, is a daughter of Prince Victor, and out of Christobel, and was the leading light at several of the summer shows. She has fed very evenly, is covered with a good coat of hair, and her symmetry, style, and finish are very pleasing, the fore-end, top, and bottom line being especially good, her greatest detraction being a rather lumpy setting on of tail. Her weight is 16cwt. 1qr.

DEVONS.

Are the palmy days of the exponents of the red rubies of the West gone, never more to return, and is there any probability of specimens of this breed again winning the championships of either Bingley Hall or Smithfield? Many would say such a probability was far distant, judging by the small amount of support afforded to this breed by residents of the counties where the Devon breed is indigenous. Thus at Bingley Hall there were only five exhibitors in the class for Devon steers exceeding two and not exceeding three years old. One of these was shown by Her Majesty the Queen, one by Mr. John Wortley (Norwich), two by Lord Rosebery, and one by Viscount Portman (Dorset). Thus it will be seen that not a single exhibitor in this class hailed from Devon or Somerset. First prize went to Mr. John Wortley with Baden Powell, a steer bred by Mr. A. C. Skinner, Bishop's Lydeard. This steer has a wonderful sirloin and good, deep rounds, but might have been better at the fore part of the shoulder. Though only having a couple of weeks to spare to reach the third year, it turned the weighbridge at 14cwt. 1qr. 23lbs. This animal also won the £20 prize for the best animal in the Devon classes. The second prize was won by an exhibit from Her Majesty's herd at Windsor. He was exceptionally good forward. The loin was rather small, a rather bad tail, and narrow behind. Viscount Portman's Willie has evidently had enough forcing diet, and he has scarcely fulfilled the promise made last year; he secured the reserve ticket. There were nine entries in the young steer class, and the judges mentioned the lot. Here Her Majesty the Queen led the way with a much better one. He had a most beautiful fore-end, had a rare loin, but a trifle rough around tail; he was placed reserve for the championship. Mr. Alfred Bowerman was placed second with Domino, a very useful sort to keep on for next year. He has a good rump, true butts, and well hooped ribs, but had been scarcely done well enough for this year. Mr. Bowerman was also reserved with Tit Bits, a rather even quality bull, but a trifle light in the shoulder. A highly commended mention went to Her Majesty the Queen for a rather uneven-backed one.

A weak entry comprised the class for Devon cows and heifers. First prize went to Her Majesty the Queen with a two-year-old heifer, with a back none

of the best, plain rump, and most decidedly thin on the ribs. Sir William H. Walrond took second with Bradfield Pearl 1st, a very uneven, plain Devon.

POLLED ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

The entry of this breed is again rather short at Birmingham, probably owing to a good number of the northern feeders holding their stock for Edinburgh this week. The quality in nearly every instance is very good, especially of the prize winners. Steers exceeding two and not exceeding three years of age were represented by three entries only, the best of which was Sir W. Gordon Gordon-Cumming's entry, sired by First Quality. He is only just under the age limit of three years, and is a very ripe, neat beast, level in his flesh, capital in his wasting parts, and both symmetrical and full of quality; his weight is scarcely as good as it should be at that age, being but 15cwt. 2qrs. This steer was reserved as best Scot. The second prize went to a steer of Mr. Henry Casswell's, of Lincolnshire, sired by Somerby Blossom. This is a beautiful steer, well fed and good in quality, full of excellent wasting beef, and he scales more than a cwt. heavier than the winner, whilst two months younger. Mr. R. W. Hudson was reserved for a steer of very even outline, and weighing well, pulling up the beam at 16cwt. 0qrs. 15lbs., but he looked a little off bloom; he was bred at Danesfield, and sired by Eric Macdonald. Steers of this breed under two years old were practically a failure, as only two were entered, and one of them absent; the one on view was shown by Mr. James McWilliam, and bred by Mr. Donald Cameron; he was awarded first prize, but is altogether of very moderate pretensions, weighing but 10cwt. 3qrs. 8lbs., and not of any especial merit otherwise.

The female class in a measure atoned for the shortcomings of the males, though there were but four entries of these, which, however, included the best Scot in the hall; this was the Earl of Strathmore's Aquilegia, a daughter of the famous bull Boaz of Ballindalloch; she is 2 years and 10 months old, and is a particularly attractive heifer, though not up quite to Luxury, Benton Bride, and one or two other stars of this breed in the past. In weight she is rather light, having but 13cwt. 2qrs. 3lbs. to her credit; her quality, however, is of the best, and her symmetry and style very satisfactory. Sir J. B. Maple came second with a very good heifer (a close runner up), bred by Mr. Greenfield at Haynes Park; this is Benefit 10th of Haynes, sired by Black Prince of Ardingly; she is very symmetrical and famous beef, with a weight record of 15cwt. 1qr. 1lb. The reserve card went to Mr. R. W. Hudson's Tippet of Danesfield, a good, deep, massive heifer with capital top of roasting beef and generally well shaped. She was sired by Albion, her weight 14cwt. 3qrs. 23lbs. Captain H. L. Townshend was h.c. for a red heifer, well fed, but a little uneven, bred by the late Mr. W. H. Lumsden.

GALLOWAYS.

This breed were conspicuously short, steers having but two entries, and the female class being entirely blank. Of the two steers, both of which were very good representatives, the winner proved to be Sir John Swinburne's, bred by Mr. C. Graham, sired by Pathfinder 3rd; he is a very good level-backed bullock, and handles like a remarkably good cutter, and scales 15 cwt. at three years and six months old. The second steer, shown by Captain H. L. Townshend, was shown in the younger class in London last year; he has done well, and is very even and good beef. He scales 14cwt. 3qrs. 2lbs. at under three years, and was bred by Mr. Murray-Stewart.

WEST HIGHLAND.

This breed made an extraordinary good display. The steers, it is true, only numbered five, but the females were seven in number. Sir Reginald A. E. Cathcart won first prize in the steer class with his fine red Tearlach Ruadh, of considerable substance, his scale being 17cwt., and his Eauchunn Ruadh was placed second, this steer being handsome and of nice style and quality, but having nothing like the substance of the other. Sir Reginald exhibited a trio, the one most appreciated by the judges being 3qrs. 23lbs. heavier than the first prize one. The third prize steer was Lady Hardy's Brindle, smaller but very symmetrical. The Earl of Durham furnishing the reserve with Fitzclare, a much younger one, not yet at his best. This nobleman was first in the female class, with a handsome heifer of nice quality, of a cream colour, and was second with a compact sister of the other, both being of the same sire. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales exhibited two in the class, one of which, of nice flesh and level form, was selected for reserve, the other receiving a c. ticket. Mr. Yerburgh, M.P., had also two, and one of them, which was h.c., seemed also very symmetrical and of nice character.

WELSH.

There were two well-filled classes of Welsh steers, one for two-year-olds the other for yearlings. In the former the Hon. F. G. Wynn had two, one of which was selected for first prize, the other winning h.c. The former scaled 17cwt. 2qrs. 28lbs., and stood very well proportioned except being a little narrow behind, the other had a grand middle, but was a little light in the fore and hind-quarters, but both were of excellent quality. Mr. R. M. Greaves and Mr. W. E. Oakley had also two each. Those of the former received second prize and h.c. ticket, the prize winner being tall and of good form, the other also shapely. Mr. Oakley's reserve steer possessed a handsome front, and his other, which was h.c., was very even proportioned. The steers under two years, like the others, formed an even lot of high merit, in grand form and high quality. Mr. Robert Hughes was first and reserve with a good pair, the winner lengthy and of fine form, the other wealthy and carrying good flesh. Mr. Greaves also exhibited two, to one of which second prize was awarded, the others receiving a h.c. ticket. The prize winner carried a handsome head, and was of nice style, the other being of excellent quality; Colonel Platt was also h.c. for a fine, upstanding one, with a very level top, the heaviest in the class.

CROSS-BRED CATTLE.

There was again a very large and good entry in this section, and some of the best beef and best animals in the Hall were included in their classes. Steers between two and three years old, with seven entries, made up a very good class, the winner turning up in a red Angus and Shorthorn, shown by Captain Townshend, bred by the late Mr. Lumsden, and sired by Cock o' the North. This bullock stood fourth in the younger class at Smithfield last year, and has laid on a good deal of weight since, is very ripe and even in shape, with capital quality of beef; he was also reserved for the extra prize open to the best beast of this section. Miss A. de Rothschild came second with the Norwich winner in this class last week, the other steers weighing 17cwt. 3qrs. 13lbs. and 17cwt. 3qrs. 22lbs. respectively, both just under three years. Mr. H. Casswell was reserved with a ripe blue-grey. There were nine entries of steers not exceeding two years old, the best in the class being a quite white one shown by Mr. J. A. Horn, with two crosses of Shorthorn and one Aberdeen-Angus; he is a very neat and level good-quality steer, and very close to the age limit of his class. Sir J. B. Maple had a very nice steer of similar breeding to the winner that was placed second, and Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher came third with a very neat one, also of Angus and Shorthorn cross. Several others were h.c. Heifers between two and three years were a very large class, and rather variable in point of quality, as the class included the Norwich champion described last week, and a new comer of similar breeding (Angus and Shorthorn), shown by Mr. Clement Stephenson, who never shows a bad one; this was placed second, and is a heifer of remarkably fine quality and symmetry, with even flesh. The reserved, a very neat and pretty heifer, also of good quality, was shown by Mr. C. Emmerson. There were not many minor honours bestowed in this class.

Heifers not exceeding two years old were a small class, only seven animals being entered. Mr. Leopold de Rothschild exhibited the first prize winner in these, a wonderfully level, square, blue-grey, sired by Ringleader, and of first-rate quality, a very promising heifer for further feeding. Another plum of the Aberdeen Angus and Hereford crossbred, and shown by Mr. Douglas Fletcher, very ripe and good beef, was placed second. The latter heifer weighs considerably heavier than the first, being 11cwt. 3qrs. Mr. Emmerson's reserve heifer did not show the same quality and symmetry, but in weight eclipsed the others a great deal, pulling up 15cwt. 2qrs. 9lbs. at one year ten months. Two or three other heifers were h.c. and c. The special prize for best beast in this section was awarded to Mr. Learner's heifer.

THE BUTCHERS' PRIZES.

There were twenty animals entered for the butchers' prizes, as usual a very miscellaneous collection, big and small, weighty and light, polled and horned, symmetrical and gaunty. There were some good black Polls among them, and some of the Hereford and Welsh breeds that were likely to be favourites with the knights of the cleaver, but the bulk were cross-breds. The butchers chose for their first prize winner an Aberdeen-Angus exhibited by Mr. Hickman, of wide span over the middle, of good quality, and compact. The second prize one (Mr. Pooley) was of the same breed, and a good handler. The reserve, Mr. Winn's cross-bred Hereford, was also of excellent quality. Three others were h.c., a wealthy cross-bred belonging to Lord Llangattock, Sir J. Swinburne's Maggie, cross-bred, deep, broad, and massive, which scaled 19cwt. 2qrs. 14lbs., and Col. Platt's Madryr Queen, full-shaped and very well covered with thick flesh, her scale being nearly 18½ cwt. The prize for the heaviest beast was won by a gigantic blue-grey, three years nine months old, which weighed 22cwt. 2qrs. 13lbs. Two others in the class were commended.

There was a class for cows and heifers not previously exhibited in Bingley Hall, and six animals had been entered, only two of which put in appearance. These were two prime Welsh heifers belonging to Mr. R. M. Greaves and Co. Platt. Bryngwern, belonging to the former, received the first prize, she being of very full shape and considerable weight, yet possessed of quality. The Colonel's heifer, Madwyn Belle, was of less substance, but very shapely and nice. Bryngwern at under two years eleven months scaled 16cwt. 1qr. 11lb.

EXTRA STOCK

Only four animals were entered for the extra stock class, by far the weightiest of which was a very fine well-covered Aberdeen-Angus, three years four months old, and belonging to Mr. Pooler, Newport, Salop. A smaller, but nice, well-shaped Black Poll—entered as a cross-bred—belonged to Mr. Albert Green. The latter was, however, a yearling, which might have been exhibited in another class. Mr. Pooler's steer received first prize, and he was one of the heaviest in the show, his weight being 20cwt. 1qr. 14lbs. Second prize was awarded to Mr. Weatherspoon's steer of Hereford character, which wanted more space of rib, but was of a useful ordinary characted.

The following table shows the age, weight, and average daily gain of the prize-winning animals in the cattle classes:—

Breed and Owner.	Age.	Weight.	Average Daily Gain.
HEREFORD.	Days.	lbs.	lbs.
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years old.)			
1. Mr. J. Wortley (Lord Roberts)	936	1985	2·00
2. Mr. W. H. Cooke	1018	1911	1 87
3. Mr. J. J. Cridlan (Red Indian)	985	1991	2·00
(Steers under 2 years old.)			
1. Mr. J. Price	685	1680	2·45
2. H.M. the Queen	675	1398	2·07
3. Mr. A. P. Turner	698	1448	2 07
(Cows and heifers.)			
1. Mr. A. E. Hughes (Ladylike 2nd)	1026	1714	1·47
2. Mr. W. H. B. Cave	975	1623	1·66
3. Mr. H. W. Taylor (Violet Agnes)	626	1116	1.78
SHORTHORN.			
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years old.)			
1. Miss A. de Rothschild (Juryman)	900	1786	1·98
2. Miss A. de Rothschild (Sabinus)	1052	1785	1·69
3. Sir J. B. Maple (Red Ribbon)	1088	2072	1·90
(Steers under 2 years old).			
1. H.M. the Queen (Robin Hood)	705	1512	2·14
2. Miss A. de Rothschild (Flower Boy)	711	1537	2·16
3. Lord Tredegar (Romp)	708	1369	1·93
(Cows and heifers.)			
1. H.M. the Queen (Cicely)	1010	1820	1·80
DEVON.			
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years old.)			
1. Mr. J. Wortley (Baden-Powell)	1075	1619	1·50
2. H.M. the Queen	1010	1683	1·66
(Steers under 2 years old.)			
1. H.M. the Queen	671	1292	1·92
2. Mr. H. Bowerman (Tibbits)	722	1324	1·83
(Cows and Heifers.)			
1. H.M. The Queen	712	1042	1·46
2. Sir H. Walrond (Bradford Pearl)	722	1198	1·65
ABERDEEN ANGUS.			
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years old.)			
1. Sir W. G. Gordon-Cumming	1063	1736	1·63
2. Mr. H. Casswell	1028	1876	1 82
(Steers under 2 years old.)			
1. Mr. J. M'William (Macdonald)	646	1212	1·87
(Cows and Heifers.)			
1. Earl of Strathmore (Aquilegia)	1058	1515	1·43
2. Sir J. B. Maple	1037	1709	1·64
GALLOWAY.			
(Steers under 4 years old.)			
1. Sir J. Swinburne	931	1680	1·80
2. Captain Townshend (Sambo)	1046	1654	1·58
(Cows and Heifers.)			
(No entry.)			
WEST HIGHLAND.			
(Oxen or Steers of any age.)			
1. Sir R. A. E. Cathcart (Tearlach Ruadh)	1318	1904	1·44
2. Sir R. A. E. Cathcart (Euuchunn Ruadh)	1705	1659	·97
(Cows or Heifers.)			
1. Lord Durham (Bhuida Crombh)	1009	1362	1·35
2. Lord Durham (Suina 3rd)	1388	1600	1·15
WELSH.			
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years old.)			
1. Hon. F. E. Wynn (about)	1095	1980	1·80
2. Mr. R. M. Greaves (Cymro)	1077	1853	1·74
(Steers under 2 years old.)			
1. Mr. R. Hughes	719	1470	2·04
2. Mr. R. M. Greaves (Black Back)	719	1512	2·10
CROSSBRED.			
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years old.)			
1. Capt. Townshend (Cock o' th' North)	1037	2001	1·92
2. Miss A. de Rothschild (St. Brieux)	1078	2000	1.85
3. Mr. J. D. Fletcher (Rover)	956	1954	2·04
(Steers under 2 years old.)			
1. Mr. J. A. Horn	723	1693	2·34
2. Sir J. B. Maple (Black Prince)	625	1167	1·86
3. Mr. J. D. Fletcher (Black Duke)	678	1613	2·37
(Heifers over 2 and under 3 years old.)			
1. Mr. W. E. Learner (Ladysmith)	1032	1657	1·60
2. Mr. C. Stephenson	979	1668	1·70
(Under 2 years old.)			
1. Mr. L. de Rothschild	655	1258	1·91
2. Mr. J. D. Fletcher (Lady Fox)	697	1316	2·15
KERRY OR DEXTER KERRY.			
(Steers under 3 years old.)			
1. Mr. R. G. Nash (Dexter Lucan Tom Tit)	1013	1239	1·16
2. Mr. M. Rogers (Dexter)	851	847	·99
COWS AND HEIFERS.			
1. Mr. R. T. Robertson (Dexter)	1030	850	·82
2. Duchess of Newcastle (Kerry)	993	1083	1·07

Sheep.

The sheep section of the show compares very favourably with previous exhibitions of the Society, except, perhaps, in some one or two breeds which are rather sparsely represented, such as the Oxfords and cross-breeds; both these, however, are deficient in numbers only, in merit they are quite up to date.

SOUTHDOWNS.

The catalogue of this division commenced with the Southdowns, of which there is an excellent show, both of sheep and lambs, the latter being especially good. The wether class has half a dozen entries of very choice sheep. Colonel McCalmont, as at Norwich, takes the lead with a very high quality and well matched pen, ripe in flesh too; their weight is 5cwt. 1qr. 27lbs., as against 5cwt. 1qr. 9lbs. in Mr. Adeane's second pen and 5cwt. 1qr. 1lb. in H.R.H.

the Prince of Wales's third prize lot. The second pen are very fine in quality, pretty level sheep, and the third handle as uncommonly well finished. Mrs. Montefiore was reserved with a well-bred pen. There were seven entries of Southdown lambs, one of the finest classes that could possibly be imagined. Colonel McCalmont again came to the front and also carried off the third prize with a second pen. The first pen are extremely good meat and well display the character of the true Southdown in their countenances; their weight, too, is very good, being 4cwt. 0qrs. 4lbs. The third pen are rather lighter, 3cwt. 2qrs. 16lbs., otherwise of the same high caste. These two pens were divided by a very beautiful pen of Mr. Whitaker Wright's, of extra neat and taking breed, appearance, and very ripe; these weighed 3cwt. 2qrs. 7lbs. Mr. C. R. W. Adeane's reserve were also very good in their quality, and especially well filled in their legs of mutton.

Shropshires.

The great down breed of the Midlands were well at home, and gave an excellent account of themselves, both in numbers and quality, and amongst other of their good stamp succeeded in carrying off the Cooper Challenge Cup for the best pen of sheep of any breed. There were nine entries of wethers, all of which were noticed by the judges. Both first and second honours were awarded to Mr. P. L. Mills, for two pens of capital mutton sheep, the first prize pen weighing 6cwt. 3qrs. 24lbs., a square good pen of sheep, short-legged, and full of ripe mutton; the second pen were three-quarters of a cwt. lighter, and very good in quality. The third prize went to a pen of Captain H. L. Townshend's, scaling 6cwt. 3qrs. 4lbs., a second pen from the same flock being also reserved. These are very good heavy-fleshed sheep, and display fine breeding as well. A very good pen of Mr. R. P. Cooper's were h.c., and all the others shown by Mr. A. S. Berry, Mr. Mitchell, and Mr. Cooper were c. Mr. Mitchell's pen were very solid weighers, pulling up the beam at 7cwt. 3qrs. 2lbs. Shropshire lambs were represented by eight entries, some remarkable pens amongst them. The Ruddington flock followed up its victories commenced in the wether class by again taking first and third, the first prize pen scaling 4cwt. 3qrs. 11lbs., and lambs of good-bred points, well matured and well matched. The third pen were also of very good quality, and about half a cwt. lighter than the winners. These two pens were divided for the second honour by a beautiful pen of Dr. Wall's, displaying excellent breed and character, well matched, and full of quality; in weight, however, they suffered rather considerably. Lord de Rothschild was reserved, and Mr. R. P. Cooper and Captain Townshend c.

Oxfordshires.

This breed do not make a very large entry at Birmingham. Wethers were represented by two pens only, both the property of Miss Alice de Rothschild, capital sheep and well brought out, and very nearly of equal weight, the heaviest pen being 7cwt. 1qr. 4lbs., and the other 4lbs. lighter. The first prize was awarded to the lighter pen and second to the heavy ones. In the lamb class the breed was still weaker, as only one entry made its appearance, bred and shown by Mr. H. W. Stilgoe, a good ripe pen and well shown; the scales gave them in to be 5cwt.

Hampshire and other Downs.

Wethers of this section consisted of five pens, all of which were Hampshires. The first honour went to a pen of Mr. T. F. Baxter's well matched square sheep, ripe and good in their quality, with also a good weight record; scaling 6cwt. 2qrs. 12lbs. The reserve pen was also furnished by the same flock. A grand pen from Lord Rothschild's flock secured the second place, sheep of considerable weight, being 7cwt., and with style, good breeding, and a capital finish. A second entry from his flock was also c., as was also a pen shown by the Earl of Carnarvon. There were seven entries of lambs in this category, and again all were Hampshires. This time the Tring Park flock took precedence with a very beautifully matched and well ripened pen at 4cwt. 3qrs. 18lbs.; a second entry also was given the reserve card, the second and third prizes going to Mr. T. F. Baxter for very good pens, rather heavier than the first prize ones, being 5cwt. 2qrs. 18lbs. and 5cwt. 1qr. 4lbs. respectively. Mr. L. H. Baxendale was also c. for a pen.

Crossbreds.

A single entry of Mr. Rush's Hampshire and Oxford crosses constituted the wether class, and were awarded first prize, big ripe sheep weighing 8cwt. 0qr. 17lbs. Lambs were represented by three entries, all of the same cross. Mr. Rush was first and Mr. Matthews second and reserve. The first prize pen, which was the heaviest, scaled 5cwt. 2qrs. 21lbs. and were very ripe.

Butchers' Class.

There was a large entry of these, the first prize being awarded to Mr. Rush's pen of Oxford and Hereford cross (lambs of the present year), scaling 5cwt. 1qr. 24lbs., and the second prize to a pen of Shropshire wethers of Mr. P. L. Mills that weighed 6cwt. 1qr. 22lbs. Two other pens of Shropshires were h.c. and reserve.

Below we give our usual table, showing the age, weight, and average daily gain of the prize pens in the sheep classes:—

Breed and Owner.	Age.	Weight	Average Daily Gain.
	Days.	lbs.	lbs.
Southdowns.			
(Wethers under 23 months old.)			
1. Mr. H. L. B. McCalmont	668	615	·92
2. Mr. C. R. W. Adeane	651	597	·90
3. H.R.H. Prince of Wales	637	589	·92
Lambed in 1900.			
1. Mr. H. L. B. McCalmont	288	452	1·56
2. Mr. W. W. Wright	303	399	1·32
3. Mr. H. L. B. McCalmont	288	408	1·41
Shropshire.			
(Wethers under 23 months old.)			
1. Mr. P. L. Mills	637	780	1·22
2. Mr. P. L. Mills	637	639	1·00
3. Captain Townshend	637	760	1·19
Lambed in 1900.			
1. Mr. P. L. Mills	273	543	1·98
2. Dr. B. Wall	273	483	1·75
3. Mr. P. L. Mills	273	486	1·77
Oxford.			
(Wethers under 23 months old.)			
1. Miss A de Rothschild	668	812	1·21
2. Miss A de Rothschild	668	816	1·22
(Lambed in 1900.)			
1. Mr. H. W. Stilgoe	303	560	1·84
Hampshire and other Downs.			
(Wethers under 23 months old.)			
1. Mr. T. F. Buxton (Hampshire)	675	740	1·09
2. Lord Rothschild (Hampshire)	637	784	1·23
Lambed in 1900.			
1. Lord Rothschild (Hampshire)	303	550	1·80
2. Mr. T. F. Buxton (Hampshire)	303	592	1·92
3. Mr. T. F. Buxton (Hampshire)	303	634	2·09
Crossbreds.			
(Wethers under 23 months old.)			
1. Mr. T. Rush	637	913	1·43
Lambed in 1900.			
1. Mr. T. Rush	288	637	2·21
2. Mr. J. Matthews	303	589	1·94

Pigs.

It seemed good again to see pigs in their accustomed pens, but it was very evident that harassing swine fever regulations have deterred breeders from paying such attention to pigs as in the days of yore. In the classes for twos, the Berkshires were decidedly good. Mr. Arthur Hiscock had rather an easy win with his capital pair, with even, level backs and nice hams. Mr. Julius A. Fricker's scarcely came out so well. Only two entries in the Tamworths. Here the judge went for some meaty ones, exhibited by Mrs. Esther Ibbotson, though Mr. D. W. Philip had some with rare coats that were placed second. Mr. Arthur Hiscock's entry was the only one, but he would have won had there been a dozen. In the class for Middle or Small Whites he was again to the fore, Mr. E. Henry Lloyd being second and reserve, Mr. Sanders Spencer receiving a commendation. The class for two Berkshires exceeding nine and not exceeding twelve months old was an excellent win, and this made Mr. Arthur Hiscock's success all the more deserving, as he had rather a close competitor in Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield. In the class for Tamworths of the same age, Mr. D. W. Philip secured first for two of rare quality, with straight, well-picked loins. Mr. Henry Mitchell coming in next with a pair that scarcely carried such good coats. With Large Whites Mr. Hiscock came again to the fore. He has evidently now settled down on a choice line of blood; Mr. Benjafield, who was second, also showing improvement. However, the latter turned the tables on Mr. Hiscock in the class for Middle or Small Whites, Mr. Alfred C. Twentyman taking the reserve. In the cross-bred class Mr. Julius Fricker secured first with a Large White and Berkshire cross. The classes for single pigs exceeding twelve months old filled [illegible] Earl Egerton of Tatton having [illegible] in the Berkshire class with a pig having a capital [illegible] and very deep, second prize going to a rather [illegible] pig of Mr. Alexander Henderson, M.P. In the Tamworth class the judge went for Mrs. Ibbotson's big weight sow against the more even quality of Mr. D. W. Philip's exhibit. Mr. Sanders Spencer had no competition in the Large White class and took first and reserve in the Middle White. Mr. E. Henry Lloyd was placed [illegible] backed pig that lacked at tail, Mr. Alfred C. Twentyman being reserved and Mr. Sanders Spencer commended. This was a rather weak class. In the cross-bred class Mr. Sanders Spencer took first in a class of three, Mr. Julius A. Fricker being reserved. The total entries of pigs were fifty-four. It is to be hoped that next year they will increase in numbers as well as in quality.

Corn, Roots, Potatoes, &c.

There was a larger exhibit both of corn and roots than usual. The latter, besides having [illegible] classes, presented to view both mangolds and swedes of marvellously heavy weights, many of which were also well shaped. Popular opinion as to [illegible] directed to them than to the sole of the [illegible] taining the potatoes and corn. Mr. John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, Yorks, was again successful, carrying off the cups for the Procter and Ryland prize for best collection, and that given by Messrs. Webb and Sons for the best exhibit of three varieties of their famous varieties of mangolds. Messrs. Webb also offered a cup for the best exhibit of their Mammoth Long Red mangel, but this was won by Mr. T. Penn, Worminghall, Oxon.

In the open class for long mangels, white and fourteen entries, Mr. Penn was also victorious with Webb's Highly Selected variety, the second prize and reserve going to Mr. P. E. Le Feuvre. Mr. Perry competed with Webb's sort, and was h.c. for fine specimens. In the other open class for Globe and Intermediate mangels Mr. Perry again came to the front.

The kohl rabi open class had eight entries, and Mr. Perry won again with very fine but good quality specimens grown from Webb's seed. The exhibit of the Birmingham Sewage Farm came second, and their specimens were weighty, but not so nice as the first prize ones, or, indeed, of those of the two other lots which had h.c., grown by Mr. Perry and the executors of Joseph Smith.

The cup given by Messrs. Webb for the best exhibit of their Imperial swede drew [illegible] entries, and Mr. Perry won again with some broad-shouldered fine specimens, Mr. W. L. Anson, Iverley, Stourbridge, being reserve with very fine roots. The open class for swedes had eighteen entries, and there was general elimination from [illegible] marvellous size [illegible] many of the roots. The judge seemed to give [illegible] to the most weighty ones, and it is generally thought they might have had more regard to quality. The first prize was won by Mr. W. L. Anson with exceedingly [illegible] Webb's seeds, the second prize going to Mr. F. W. Price, Cranbrook. Mr. John Perry [illegible] and [illegible] Mr. Penn [illegible] Mr. [illegible] Hayter and Son [illegible] both having barren honours.

The white Portugal onion class [illegible] great attention owing to the beautiful [illegible]

H.M. the Queen's Shorthorn Heifer "Cicely," the Champion Beast at the Birmingham Fat Stock Show.

the Duke of Portland of Sutton's Green Globe sort. These were placed for first prize, reserve, and h.c., the second prize going to Mr. W. H. Davies for fine turnips. In the class for yellow-fleshed Mr. J. Hayton, Wigton, was first with very fine roots from Webb's seeds, the executors of J. Smith being second with weighty ones of Sutton's variety.

For white Belgian carrots the Duke of Portland was again first, also taking reserve with Sutton's variety, Mr. T. Penn winning second prize with Webb's and the executors of J. Smith being h.c. also with Webb's. Carrots of any other variety brought a class of a dozen entries, in which there was keen competition, the Duke of Portland being first and reserve with Webb's Intermediate, Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Great Marlow, being second with Sutton's Intermediate.

The ox cabbage excited as much wonderment as anything, owing to their enormous size combined with high quality. Mr. John Perry won another first with broad, sound-hearted ones from Webb's seeds, Mr. Hollinworth being second with his own selected variety.

Potatoes were considered to be well up to the ordinary standard, and among the exhibits were several of the old familiar names, who shared very evenly the prizes. The classes were ten in number. The first for twelve varieties, the second for six, the third for four, two being white and two coloured; the fifth for the two varieties most suitable for farm culture, after which there were distinctive classes for kidney-shaped and round, a class for the most handsome dish, and one for the best new variety.

In the corn section there was a very interesting departure in an additional barley class for the silver cup of the value of 10gs., given by Mr. H. Mitchell for the best sample of a bulk of not less than 10qrs. Mr. R. Preece won this trophy with a very prime malting sample of Webb's Chevalier variety. In the ordinary barley class Mr. Preece again won second prize with the same kind, the first prize going to Mr. T. Coleman, Mobberley, Cheshire, for Garton's Invincible. The two prizes for white wheats brought nine samples into competition, some of which were nice specimens.

There were seven exhibits of white oats and ten for black. In the former Mr. Horwood was first, and Mr. Coleman second. In the competition with black oats both prizes fell to Webb's varieties. Mr. H. S. Dane, Huyton, Liverpool, winning the first, and Mr. Charles Showell, Snitterfield, Stratford-on-Avon, second.

Beans and peas were remarkable for their symmetrical, even samples. Mr. Horwood was first for beans. Mr. T. W. Purser won both prizes for peas.

Judges.

CATTLE (Shorthorns, Scots, and Crosses).—Mr. P. A. Evans, Sherlowe, Wellington, Shropshire; Mr. Alexander Strachan, Wester Fowlis, Alford, N.B. (Herefords, Devons, Welsh, Kerries, and extra Stock.—Mr. Edwin F. Maunder, Crichel, Wimborne; Mr. W. Thomas, The Hayes, Sully, Barry.

BUTCHERS' PRIZES.—Mr. T. H. Crutchley, Stratford-road, Birmingham; Mr. Stephen Slattery, Smithfield Market, Birmingham; Mr. W. J. Walter, Dale End, Birmingham.

SHEEP.—Mr. Allan Cooper, Norton, Bishopstone, Lewes, Sussex; Mr. Andrew E. Mansell, Harrington Hall, Shifnal.

PIGS.—Mr. Arthur S. Gibson, The Elms, Ruddington, Nottingham.

CORN.—Mr. Henry Mitchell, The Cedars, Augustus-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; Mr. R. F. Todd, Blythewood, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

ROOTS.—Mr. John Myatt, Lynn House, near Walsall; Mr. Francis H. Yates, Blackbrook, Weeford, Lichfield

POTATOES.—Mr. W. Halliday, Patshull Gardens, Wolverhampton; Mr. J. M. Johnston, The Gardens, Hints Hall, Tamworth.

Champion and Special Prizes.

CATTLE.

President's prize, a silver cup, value £25, for the best animal in classes 1 to 24, bred by the exhibitor: H.M. the Queen. The Prince Consort's Shaw Farm, Windsor (Cicely); r, the Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorn, Glamis Castle, Forfarshire (Aquilegia).

Elkington Challenge Cup, value 100 guineas, to the exhibitor of the best animal in classes 1 to 24: H.M. the Queen (Cicely); r, Mr. J. Wortley, Frettenham, Norwich (Lord Roberts).

Thorley Challenge Cup, value 100 guineas, to the breeder of the best animal in classes 1 to 24: H.M. the Queen (Cicely); r, Mr. J. Wortley (Lord Roberts).

Messrs. Webb and Sons' Challenge Cup, value 100 guineas, for the best animal in Classes 1 to 24, bred by the exhibitor: H.M. the Queen (Cicely); r, the Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorn (Aquilegia).

Birmingham Daily Post Challenge Cup, value £50, for the exhibitor of the best animal, not exceeding two years old, in the Hereford, Shorthorn, Devon, Scotch, Welsh, Crossbred, and Kerry classes: H.M. the Queen (Devon Steer); Mr. Leopold de Rothschild, Ascott House Farm, Leighton Buzzard (Cross-bred Heifer).

Silver cup, value 10 guineas, offered by the Hotel and Innkeepers of Birmingham, for the heaviest beast in the show: Mr. R. Ratcliff, Newton Park, Burton-on-Trent; r., Mr. A. H. Pooler, Caynton Manor, Newport, Salop.

£50 for the best Hereford in classes 1 to 3: Mr. J. Wortley (Lord Roberts); r, Mr. W. Hyde Cooke, The Green, Shelsey Kings, Worcester.

£50 for the best Shorthorn in classes 4 to 6: H.M. the Queen (Cicely); r., Miss Alice de Rothschild, Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury (Juryman).

£20 for the best Devon in classes 7 to 9: Mr. J. Wortley (Baden Powell); r, H.M. the Queen.

£50 for the best Scot in classes 10 to 12: The Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorn (Aquilegia); r, Sir W. Gordon Gordon-Cumming, Bart., Altyre, Forres.

£30 for the best animal in classes 13 to 24: Mr. W. E. Learner, Dilham Hall, Norfolk (Ladysmith); r, Capt. H. L. Townshend, Caldecote Hall, Nuneaton (Cock-o'-the-North).

Messrs. A. Shorthouse and Sons' 5 extra prizes for the heaviest beasts in the butchers' class: 1, Mr. R. Ratcliff; 2, Sir J. Swinburne; 3, Mr. T. Lowe, The Oaklands, near Burton-on-Trent.

SHEEP.

Cooper Challenge Cup, value 25 guineas, for the best pen of sheep in classes 28 to 37: Mr. Philo L. Mills, Ruddington Hall, Nottingham (Shropshires); r, Mr. Harry L. B. McCalmont, Chieveley Park, Newmarket (South Downs).

Shropshire Sheepbreeders' Association's prize of £10 for the best pen of Shropshires in classes 29 or 34: 1 and r, Mr. Philo L. Mills.

Silver cup, value 5 guineas, given by the Hotel and Innkeepers of Birmingham for the best pen of Southdowns in classes 28 or 33: 1 and r, Mr. Harry McCalmont.

Extra prize of 2 guineas, given by Messrs. Shorthouse and Sons, for the heaviest pen of lambs in classes 33 to 37: 1, Mr. H. B. Mitchell, Longnor Hall Farm, near Penkridge, Staffs.; r, Captain H. L. Townshend.

PIGS.

Silver challenge cup, value 20 guineas, given by the Hotel and Innkeepers of Birmingham, for the best pen of pigs in classes 39 to 47: Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield, Shorts Green Farm, Motcombe, Shaftesbury; r., Mr. A. Hiscock, jun., Manor Farm, Motcombe, Shaftesbury.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

HEREFORDS.

Class 1.—Hereford steers, exceeding 2 and not exceeding 3 years old: 1, Mr. J. Wortley, Frettenham, Norwich (Lord Roberts); 2, Mr. W. H. Cooke, The Green, Shelsley Kings, Worcester; 3, Mr. J. J. Cridlan, Home Farm, Maisemore Park, Gloucester (Red Indian); r, Mr. W. H. Cooke; hc, Mr. A. E. Hughes, Wintercott, Leominster, Herefordshire (Nordan); Mr. J. Price, The Court House, Pembridge, Herefordshire.

Class 2.—Hereford steers, not exceeding 2 years old: Mr. J. Price; 2, H.M. the Queen, Flemish Farm, Windsor; 3, Mr. A. P. Turner, The Leen, Pembridge; r, Mr. W. T. Barneby, Saltmarshe Castle, Bromyard; hc and c, Captain E. J. A. Heygate, Buckland, Leominster (Fine Boy and Emperor); c, Admiral R. F. Britten, Kenswick, Worcester.

Class 3.—Hereford cows or heifers: 1, Mr. A. E. Hughes (Ladylike 2nd); 2, Mr. W. H. Brown Cave, Wall End, Monkland, Leominster (Verbina); 3 and r, Mr. H. W. Taylor, Showle Court, Ledbury (Violet Agnes and Innocence); c, Admiral R. F. Britten (Kenswick Alice 2nd).

SHORTHORNS.

Class 4.—Shorthorn steers, exceeding 2 and not exceeding 3 years old: 1 and 2, Miss Alice de Rothschild, Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury (Juryman and Sabinus); 3, Sir J. B. Maple, Bart., Childwick, St. Albans, Herts (Red Ribbon); r, the Right Hon. the Earl of Durham, Bower House Farm, Fence Houses (The Captain); hc, the Right Hon. Lord Tredegar, Tredegar Park, near Newport, Mon.

Class 5.—Shorthorn steers, not exceeding 2 years old: 1, H.M. the Queen (Robin Hood); 2, Miss A. de Rothschild (Flower Boy); 3, the Right Hon. Lord Tredegar (Romp); r, Sir J. Swinburne, Bart., Capheaton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Class 6.—Shorthorn cows or heifers: 1, H.M. the Queen (Cicely).

DEVONS.

Class 7.—Devon steers, exceeding 2 and not exceeding 3 years old: 1, Mr. J. Wortley (Baden-Powell); 2, H.M. the Queen; r, the Right Hon. Viscount Portman, Branyston, Blandford, Dorset (Willie); hc, The Right Hon. Earl of Rosebery, K.G., Mentmore, Leighton Buzzard.

Class 8.—Devon steers, not exceeding 2 years old: 1, H.M. the Queen; 2 and 3, Mr. A. Bowerman, Capton Williton, Taunton (Tit-Bits and Domin); hc [2], the Right Hon. Viscount Portman (Gerorge Brother and Winner); H.M. the Queen; c [2], the Right Hon. Sir W. H. Walrond, Bart., M.P.; Colonel A. F. Walter, Bearwood, Wokingham, Berks (Forester).

Class 9.—Devon cows or heifers: 1, H.M. the Queen; 2, the Right Hon. Sir W. H. Walrond (Bradfield Pearl 1st).

PURE SCOTCH BREEDS.

Class 10.—Pure bred polled Aberdeen-Angus steers, exceeding 2 and not exceeding 3 years old: 1, Sir W. G. Gordon-Cumming, Bart., Altyre, Forres, N.B.; 2, Mr. H. Casswell, Quadring, Spalding (Quadring Pride); r, Mr. R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Great Marlow, Bucks (Danesfield Lad 2nd).

Class 11.—Pure-bred polled Aberdeen-Angus steers, not exceeding 2 years old: 1, Mr. J. McWilliam, Stoneytown, Keith (Macdonald).

Class 12.—Pure-bred polled Aberdeen-Angus cows or heifers: 1, The Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorn, Glamis Castle, Forfarshire, N.B. (Aquilegia); 2, Sir J. B. Maple, Bart., M.P. (Benefit 10th of Haynes); r, R. W. Hudson, Esq. (Tippet of Danesfield); hc, Captain H. L. Townshend, Caldecote Hall, Nuneaton, Warwickshire (Daisy Bell).

Class 13.—Galloway steers, not exceeding 4 years old: 1, Sir John Swinburne, Bart.; 2, Captain H. L. Townshend (Sambo).

Class 14.—Galloway cows or heifers: No entry.

Class 15.—Pure-bred West Highland oxen or steers, of any age: 1 and 2, Sir Reginald A. E. Cathcart, Bart., Cluny Castle, Aberdeen (Tearlach Ruadh and Eanchunn Ruadh); 3, Lady Hardy, Dunstall Hall, near Burton-on-Trent (Edinample); r, the Right Hon. the Earl of Durham (Fitzclare).

Class 16.—Pure bred West Highland cows or heifers: 1 and 2, the Right Hon. the Earl of Durham (Bhuide-Cronbh and Suina 3rd); r and c, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales (Greta and Nicoletti); hc, R. A. Yerburgh, Esq., M.P., Woodfold Park, Blackburn, Lancs.

WELSH.

Class 17.—Welsh steers, exceeding 2 and not exceeding 3 years old: 1, hc, the Hon. F. G. Wynn, Glynllifon, Carnarvonshire; 2 and c [2], R. M. Greaves, Esq., Wern, Portmadoc, Carnarvonshire (Cymro and Rho-goch); r and hc, W. E. Okeley, Esq., The Plas, Tan-y-Bwlch, Merioneth, North Wales (Manad and Gorchafaeth); c, R. Hughes, Esq.

Class 18.—Welsh steers, not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr. Robert Hughes; 2, R. M. Greaves, Esq. (Black Back); r, Mr. Robert Hughes; hc, R. M. Greaves, Esq. (Count), Colonel Henry Platt, C.B., Gorddinog, Llanfairfechan, Carnarvonshire (Plas Prince).

CROSSBRED ANIMALS.

Class 19.—Crossbred Steers, exceeding 2 and not exceeding 3 years: 1, Captain H. L. Townshend (Cock-o'-the-North); 2, Miss Alice de Rothschild (St. Brieux); 3, J. Douglas Fletcher, Esq., Rosehangh, Ayoch, Ross-shire (Rover); r, Mr. H. Casswell (Quadring Prime).

Class 20.—Crossbred Steers, not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr. J. A. Horn, Brangan, Portsoy, N.B.; 2, Sir J. B. Maple, Bart., M.P. (Black Prince); 3, J. Douglas Fletcher, Esq. (Black Duke); r, Mr. C. Emmerson, East Layton, Darlington; hc, Sir John Swinburne Bart., W. B. Greenfield, Esq., Haynes Park, Bedford (Master Man of Haynes).

Class 21.—Crossbred heifers, exceeding two and not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr. W. E. Learner, Dilham Hall, Norfolk (Ladysmith); 2, Mr. C. Stephenson, Sandyford Villa, Newcastle-on-Tyne; 3, Mr. C. Emmerson (Prima Donna); r, Miss Alice de Rothschild (St. Brieux); c, The Exors. of the late J. Smith, Esq., Catterall Hall, Garstang, near Lancaster (Lady Roberts).

Class 22.—Crossbred heifers, not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr. Leopold de Rothschild, Ascott House Farm, Leighton Buzzard; 2, Mr. J. D. Fletcher (Lady Fox); 3, Mr. C. Emmerson; r, Miss Alice de Rothschild (Synthesis); c, Mr. P. A. Pike, Mitton, Tewkesbury; Mr. Leopold de Rothschild.

KERRIES OR DEXTER KERRIES.

Class 23.—Kerry or Dexter Kerry steers, not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr. R. G. Nash, Finnstown, Lucan, co. Dublin (Lucan Tomtit); 2, Mr. M. Rogers, Watergate Street, Navan, co. Meath, Ireland; r and c, Mr. T. A. Pedlingham, Stone Farm, Colwall, Malvern (Beauty and Darkie).

Class 24.—Kerry or Dexter Kerry cows or heifers: 1, Mr. R. T. Robertson, Church Farm, Babraham, Cambridge (La Mancha Poppy); 2, Her Grace the Duchess of Newcastle, Clumber, Worksop, Notts (Daisy Black); r, Mr. R. Chute, Lee Brook House, Tralee (Stella).

THE BUTCHERS' PRIZES.

(The gift of the butchers of Birmingham and District.)

Class 25.—For the best butchers' beast, of any breed or age: 1, Mr. R. Ratcliff, Newton Park, Burton-on-Trent; 2, Mr. A. H. Pooler, Caynton Manor, Newport, Salop; 3, Mr. W. H. Hickman, Red Hall, Broome, near Stourbridge; r, Mr. E. B. Wynn, Welcombe Bank, Stratford-on-Avon; hc, Sir John Swinburne, Bart.; Colonel Platt, C.B.; c, Mr. A. Wotherspoon, Monks Kirby, Lutterworth; the Exors. of the late Mr. J. Smith.

EXTRA STOCK, NOT QUALIFIED TO COMPETE IN CLASSES 1 to 24.

Class 26.—Oxen or steers, not exceeding four years old: 1, Mr. A. H. Pooler; 2, Mr. A. Wotherspoon; r, Mr. A. Green, Howers Farm, Ombersley, near Droitwich.

Class 27.—Cows or Heifers not previously exhibited at Bingley Hall: 1, Mr. R. M. Greaves; 2, Colonel Platt, C.B. [Madryn Belle).

SHEEP.

WETHER CLASSES.

SOUTHDOWNS.

Class 28.—Three fat wethers, not exceeding twenty-three months old: 1, Mr. H. L. B. McCalmont, Cheveley Park, Newmarket; 2, Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambridge; 3, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales; r and hc, Mrs. Montifiore, Worth Park, Crawley, Sussex.

SHROPSHIRES.

Class 29.—Three fat wethers, not exceeding twenty-three months old: 1 and 2, Mr. Philo L. Mills, Ruddington Hall, Nottingham; 3 and r, Capt. H. L. Townshend; hc, c, Mr. R. P. Cooper; c, Mr. A. S. Berry [2], Pheasey Farm, Great Barr, Birmingham, Mr. Herbert Mitchell, Longnor Hall Farm, near Penkridge, Staffs.

OXFORDSHIRES.

Class 30.—Three fat wethers, not exceeding twenty-three months old: 1, 2, Miss Alice de Rothschild.

HAMPSHIRE AND OTHER DOWNS.

Class 31.—Three fat wethers, not exceeding twenty-three months old: 1, r, Mr. T. F. Buxton, Waters-place, Ware, Herts; 2, c, The Right Hon. Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Tring, Herts; c, The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Highclere Castle, Newbury.

CROSSBREDS.

Class 32.—Three fat wethers, not exceeding twenty-three months old: 1, Mr. T. Rush, Mitchells, Saffron Walden, Essex.

LAMB CLASSES.

SOUTHDOWNS.

Class 33.—Three fat wether lambs, lambed in 1900: 1, 3, Mr. H. L. B. McCalmont; 2, Mr. W. Wright, Lea Park, Godalming; r, c, Mr. C. R. W. Adeane; c, Mrs. Montifiore.

SHROPSHIRES.

Class 34.—Three fat wether lambs, lambed in 1900; 1, and 3, Mr. P. L. Mills; 2, Dr. B. Wall, Hazelwood, Coleshill; r, The Lady de Rothschild, Aston Clinton, Tring; hc, Captain H. L. Townshend, Caldecot Hall, Nuneaton; c, Mr. R. P. Cooper, Shenstone Court, Lichfield.

OXFORDSHIRES.

Class 35.—Three fat wether lambs, lambed in 1900: 1, Mr. H. W. Stilgoe, The Grounds, Adderbury, near Banbury, Oxon.

HAMPSHIRE AND OTHER DOWNS.

Class 36.—Three fat wether lambs, lambed in 1900: 1, r, The Right Hon. Lord Rothschild (Hampshire); 2, 3, Mr. T. F. Buxton (Hampshire); c, Mr. L. H. Baxendale, Greenham Lodge, Newbury, Berks (Hampshire).

CROSSBREDS.

Class 37.—Three fat wether lambs, lambed in 1900: 1, Mr. T. Rush (Oxford and Hampshire); 2, r, Mr. J. Matthews (Oxford and Hampshire).

THE BUTCHERS' PRIZES.

(The gift of the Butchers of Birmingham and District.)

Class 38.—Three Butchers' wethers, pure or crossbred, of any age: 1, Mr. T. Rush (Oxford and Hampshire cross); 2, Mr. P. L. Mills (Shropshire); r, Captain H. L. Townshend (Shropshire); hc, Mr. H. Mitchell (Shropshire); c, Mr. J. Matthews (Hampshire).

PIGS.

BERKSHIRES.

Class 39.—Two fat pigs, not exceeding nine months old: 1, Mr. A. Hiscock, jun., Manor Farm, Motcombe, Shaftesbury, Dorset; 2, Mr. J. A. Fricker, Burton Mere, Wiltshire; r, A. Henderson, M.P., Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berks.

TAMWORTHS.

Class 40.—Two fat pigs, not exceeding nine months old: 1, Mrs. E. Ibbotson, Gun Hill, Arley, Coventry; 2, Mr. D. W. Philip, The Ashes, Whitacre, Birmingham.

LARGE WHITE BREED.

Class 41.—Two fat pigs, not exceeding nine months old: 1, Mr. A. Hiscock, jun.

MIDDLE WHITE OR SMALL WHITE BREEDS.

Class 42.—Two fat pigs, not exceeding nine months old: 1, Mr. A. Hiscock, jun.; 2, r, Mr. E. H. Loyd, Langleybury, Kings Langley; c, Mr. S. Spencer, Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts.

BERKSHIRES.

Class 43.—Two fat pigs; exceeding nine and not exceeding 12 months old: 1, Mr. A. Hiscock, jun.; 2, hc, Mr. N. Benjafield, Shorts Green Farm, Motcombe, Shaftesbury, Dorset; r, Mr. R. W. Hudson; hc, Mr. J. A. Fricker.

TAMWORTHS.

Class 44.—Two fat pigs, exceeding nine and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. D. W. Philip; 2, Mr. W. H. Mitchell; r, Mrs. E. Ibbotson.

LARGE WHITE BREED.

Class 45.—Two fat pigs, exceeding nine and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. A. Hiscock, jun.; 2, Mr. N. Benjafield.

MIDDLE WHITE OR SMALL WHITE BREEDS.

Class 46.—Two fat pigs, exceeding nine and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. N. Benjafield; 2, Mr. A. Hiscock, jun.; r, Mr. A. C. Twentyman, Castlecroft, Wolverhampton.

ANY OTHER PURE BREEDS OR CROSSBREED.

Class 47.—Two fat pigs, not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. J. A. Fricker; 2, Mr. A. Hiscock, jun.; r, Mr. H. Wynne, Hadley, near Droitwich; hc, Mr. S. Green, Hadley Farm, Ombersley, near Droitwich; Mr. A. Green.

SINGLE PIGS.

Class 48.—Fat Berkshire pig, exceeding twelve months old: 1, r, the Right Hon. Earl Egerton of Tatton, Tatton Park, Knutsford; 2, Mr. A. Henderson; c, Mr. J. A. Fricker.

Class 49.—Fat Tamworth pig, exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mrs. E. Ibbotson; r, Mr. D. W. Philip.

Class 50.—Fat pig of the large white breed, exceeding twelve months old: 1 and r, Mr. S. Spencer.

Class 51.—Fat pig of the middle white or small white breed, exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. E. H. Loyd; r, Mr. A. C. Twentyman; c, Mr. S. Spencer.

Class 52.—Fat pig of any other pure breed or crossbred, exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. S. Spencer; r, Mr. J. A. Fricker.

CORN.

BARLEY.

Class 1.—1, Mr. R. Preece, Cressage House, Shrewsbury (Webb's).

Class 2.—1, Mr. T. Coleman, Mobberley, near Knutsford, Cheshire (Garton's Invincible); 2, Mr. R. Preece (Webb's); hc, Mr. J. Shakeshaft, Lymm, Cheshire (Garton's Invincible);

c, Mr. A. C. Major, Park Bank, Ditton, Langley, Bucks (Carter's Chevalier); Mr. J. Carpenter, Pengellys, Alphington, Exeter (Webb's).

WHEAT.

Class 3.—White: 1, Mr. F. A. Smith, The Home Farm, East Hendred, Steventon, Berks (Essex Rough Chaff); 2, Mr. T. W. Purser, Tan House, Colnbrook (Carter's Fillmeasure); hc, Mr. T. Coleman (Garton's Pearl); Mr. Chas. Showell, Snitterfield, Stratford-on-Avon (Webb's).

Class 4.—Red: 1, Mr. F. A. Smith (Square Head's Master); 2, Mr. J. H. R. Horwood, Manor Farm, Drayton, Tring (Carter's Hundred-fold).

OATS.

Class 5.—White: 1, Mr. J. H. R. Horwood (Carter's Cluster); 2, Mr. T. Coleman (Garton's Waverley).

Class 6.—Black: 1, Mr. H. S. Daine, Woolfall Hall, Huyton, Liverpool (Webb's); 2, Mr. Chas. Showell (Webb's); c, Mr. T. Coleman (Garton's Pioneer).

BEANS.

Class 7.—1, Mr. J. H. R. Horwood (Carter's Heligoland); Mr. D. H. Wells, Tysoe, Kineton (Webb's Tick).

PEAS.

Class 8.—1, Mr. T. W. Purser (Carter's); 2, Mr. T. W. Purser (Carter's White).

ROOTS.

Class 1.—1, Mr. J. Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, Yorks (Webb's); r, Mr. T. Penn, Worminghall, Thame, Oxon. (Webb's).

Class 2.—1, Mr. T. Penn (Webb's); r, Mr. J. Perry (Webb's).

Class 3.—1, Mr. J. Perry (Webb's Yellow Globe); r, Mr. T. Penn (Webb's).

Class 4.—Long Mangold; Wurzel: 1 and hc, Mr. T. Penn (Webb's); 2 and r, Mr. P. Le Feuvre, Morville House, St. Owens, Jersey (Webb's and Carter's); c, the Right Hon. Lord Wantage, V.C., Lockinge House, Wantage (Sutton's).

Class 5.—Globe and Intermediate Varieties of Mangold Wurzel: 1 and hc, Mr. J. Perry (Webb's Yellow and Webb's Yellow Globe); 2, r, and hc, Mr. P. E. Le Feuvre (Carter's Globe, Carter's Yellow Intermediate, and Carter's Globe Windsor Prize-taker).

Class 6.—Kohl Rabi: 1 and r, Mr. J. Perry (Webb's); 2, Birmingham Tame and Rea District Drainage Board, Home Farm, Tyburn, Birmingham; hc, the Exors. of late J. Smith, Esq. Webb's).

Class 7.—Swedes: 1, Mr. J. Perry (Webb's); r, Mr. W. L. Anson, Iverely, Stourbridge (Webb's).

Class 8.—Swedes of any variety: 1 and hc, Mr. W. L. Anson (Webb's); 2, Mr. T. W. Purser (Carter's Elephant); r and c, Mr. John Perry (Webb's and Webb's Imperial); hc, Mr. Joseph Hayton, Beck Farm, Wigton, Cumberland (Webb's); c, The Right Hon. the Earl of Wemyss, Craigielaw, Longniddry, N.B. (Webb's).

Class 9.—Common Turnips, white flesh: 1, r, and hc, his Grace thd Duke of Portland, K.G. (Sutton's Green Globe); 2, Mr. W. H. Davies (Webb's); c, Mr. John Perry (Webb's Green Globe); Mr. W. Cross, Astley House, Alveley, Bridgnorth (Webb's).

Class 10.—Common Turnips, yellow flesh: 1, Mr. J. Hayton (Webb's); 2, the exors. of late J. Smith, Esq. (Sutton's); r, J. D. Fletcher, Esq. (Green Top); hc, Mr. W. Sim, Gourdas, Fyvie, Aberdeenshire (Webb's); c, Mr. W. Maxwell, Sparnel Bank, Galston, N.B. (Sutton's).

Class 11.—Carrots, white Belgian: 1 and r, his Grace the Duke of Portland, K.G. (Sutton's); 2, Mr. T. Penn (Webb's); hc, the Exors. of late J. Smith, Esq. (Webb's).

Class 12.—Carrots, any other variety: 1 and r, his Grace the Duke of Portland, K.G. (Webb's Intermediate); 2, R. W. Hudson, Esq. (Sutton's Red Intermediate); hc, the Right Hon. the Dowager Lady Hindlip, Hadsor House, Droitwich; Mr. T. Penn (Webb's).

POTATOES.

Class 14.—Twelve varieties, distinct, of each twelve tubers: 1 and 2, Mr. D. H. Wells, Tysoe, Kineton; 3, Mr. E. S. Wiles, The Rookery Gardens, Down, Kent.

Class 15.—Six varieties, distinct, of each twelve tubers: 1 and 2, Mr. D. H. Wells; 3, Mr. E. S. Wiles.

Class 16.—Four varieties, distinct, two white and two coloured, of each twelve tubers: 1, Mr. D. H. Wells; 2, Mr. F. Williams, High Street, Thornbury; 3, Mr. S. T. Parker, Scotforth, Lancaster (The Dean, Pink Perfection, General Roberts, Satisfaction).

Class 17.—Four varieties, distinct, most suitable for field or farm culture, of each twelve tubers: 1, Mr. F. Williams; 2, Mr. B. Parker; 3, Mr. T. Penn (Motor, Goldfinder, Renown, Pink Perfection).

Class 18.—Two Varieties, distinct, long or kidney shaped: 1, Mr. F. Williams; 2, Mr. S. T. Parker (Reading Giant, General Roberts); 3, Mr. T. Chettle, Manor Farm, Reading (Sutton's Reliance, Up-to-Date).

Class 19.—Two varieties, distinct, round, of each twelve tubers: 1, Mr. T. Penn (Webb's Goldfinder, Satisfaction); 2, Mr. F. Williams; 3, Mr. S. T. Parker (Cigarette, Scottish Triumph).

Class 20.—One variety, long or kidney shaped, twelve tubers: 1, Mr. F. Williams; 2, Mr. D. H. Wells.

Class 21.—One variety, round, twelve tubers: 1, Mr. T. Penn (Satisfaction); 2, Mr. F. Williams.

Class 22.—The most handsome dish, any variety, twelve tubers: 1, Mr. F. Williams; 2, Mr. D. H. Wells.

Class 23.—The best new variety, not yet offered in commerce: 1, Mr. E. S. Wiles; 2, Mr. F. Williams.

*** Owing to the great pressure on our space we are compelled to hold over until next week several reports of shows and societies.

Lord Tredegar's.

The fame of the annual west country exhibition of fat and other cattle, horses, sheep, pigs and poultry established by Lord Tredegar is only equalled by the popularity it enjoys, and consequently it is hardly necessary to mention that the show which took place on Tuesday and Wednesday was visited by the usual large number of farmers and others. As regards the entries they were not quite so numerous as in previous years, but the quality was above the average, and the competition in many classes was keen. Shorthorns and Herefords, as usual, practically monopolised the cattle show. There were 66 of the former compared with 63 last year, but numerical improvement cannot be reported with regard to the Herefords, which numbered 64 against 77 last year. There were 38 entries of cattle without regard to breed compared with 33 last year. In sheep and pigs there was a falling off, the former numbering 16 entries against 19, and the latter 21 against 34. Cheese is an insignificant section, the entries being 11 against 18. In cart horses, hacks, etc., there was an improvement, 109 being entered, against 97 at the previous show. Hunters, for some reason, showed a great falling off, numbering but 25, against 42.

The great feature of the show is undoubtedly the trials of hunters, which take place on the second day some four miles out of Newport at Lord Tredegar's stud farm at Coedkernew, and it is rendered a most sporting event by reason of the fact that all the competitors are required to jump a stiff mile of natural hunting country and acquit themselves to the satisfaction of the judges before they become qualified to be judged for their good looks. No doubt the test is too severe for many show hunters to succeed in, and this year the going was not at all easy, owing to the heavy rains of Monday night, but for all that the refusals were very few, and the majority of horses showed excellent form. The heavy-weight class numbered twelve entries, a third of which failed to put in an appearance, and here premier honours were bestowed upon a short-legged, extra good-looking, nameless grey gelding exhibited by F. Phillips, which negotiated the stiff course without making the slightest mistake. The second award was not so popular, as it was bestowed upon the bald-faced bay, President, exhibited by Mr. Cubitt, which was very deficient in manners, in which respect Mr. Nixon Grey's commended pair, Donnerhuil and Marquis, both excelled, whilst the former was the most bloodlike competitor in this class. Lightweights numbered 16, but of those a trio were absentees, the first prize falling to Mr. Nixon Grey's brown Merthyr Girl, which jumped faultlessly, and is good looking enough to win at most shows. Next to her came Mr. Brain's Gipsy, another very smart performer, as also are Mr. Benyon's King of Meath and Dr. Rutherfoord Harris, M.P.'s., Burnett. Next to the hunter trials in popular interest comes the contest for honours which annually takes place between the two great breeds—Herefords and Shorthorns. Here, certainly, the spectator was treated to one of the finest displays of Herefords to be seen anywhere in the kingdom; and of late years Shorthorn breeders have turned their keen attention to Tredegar, with a full appreciation of the estimation in which prizes awarded there are held in the cattle world. At one period, Herefords had matters pretty well their own way, and then the Shorthorns for some time pushed aside their white-faced relations. Latterly, Herefords have been coming slowly and surely to the front, and the sunshine of public favour has added unquestionably to the old time claims possessed by this fine breed. As above mentioned, Shorthorns were more numerous than the Herefords, but the fanciers of the latter breed had the satisfaction of knowing that in the opinion of the judges Herefords made up in quality what they lacked in numbers. This is especially emphasised by the fact that both the champion prizes went to specimens of that breed. It is a rare thing for one breed to take both prizes, honours being generally even, but this year the Hereford breed had the great distinction of securing both honours. To do battle for the Shorthorn bulls Mr. Stratton's well-known Alto was selected. He was the winner on his side in the old bull class, and his ring performances in many parts of the country have proved his claims. This fine specimen is by Excelsior, and is five years six months and sixteen days old. His rival was Sir J. Pulley's Protector, aged three years ten months and five days, one of Albion's offspring. After mature consideration, the champion piece of plate, value 20 guineas, was awarded to the Hereford, which has a distinguished record. Last year the male champion prize at Tredegar also fell to the Hereford breed, the winner on that occasion being M. Farr's Britisher, which this year had to be content with second honours in the old bull class. The decision of the judges was next taken on the claim of the contestants for female championship honours, and here Mr. D. Evans, of Ffrwdgrech, Brecon, won with his Hereford Friend II., aged two years ten months and three days, by Tut's dam Friend.

As to the class prizes it may be mentioned that there was a large entry of Shorthorn bulls above two years old, the first prize going to Mr. Stratton's Alto. Mr. G. F. King was held in reserve with Chewton Oxford Cupellus, a bull which has made for itself a very first-rate reputation. In the under two-year-olds the contest lay between Rothwell Augustus, shown by Colonel Makins, of Henley-on-Thames, and Lord Fitzhardinge's Lord Love-me. The latter was the junior, and had to be content with second place. The bull calves were really a grand lot, and here, as in several others, the judges did not hand out their favours freely. Mr. Deane Willis won with Treasure Trove, and Mr. W. Heaton (Lancashire) was second, the reserve being Mr. G. F. King's Lord Bruce, a youngster of the very brightest performance possible for the best stock breeder has ever reared. The cow class was headed by Colonel Makins, who thus scored on both sides of his herd, he having won the class for two-year-old bulls. The two-year-old heifers was a win for Mr. Deane Willis, with White Heather. The yearling heifers quite deserved the attention which they attracted, and the calves were even a lot better. So good indeed were they that the judges had to call in a third. This gentleman practically reversed the standing of the first four, and discarded the second animal altogether. The latter was Mr. R. Stratton's Calico Belle. Looking over her from behind she left nothing to be desired, but, glancing at her all round, she appeared to be too tucked up altogether. In the end the called-in judge awarded the first prize to Mr. J. Thorley's There's Hair, and second to Mr. J. Deane Willis's Vain Duchess. These decisions did not meet with general approval. The best in the class to outsiders seemed unquestionably to be Mr. J. Dean Willis's Bapton Jewel, which was only awarded a v.h.c. In the senior bull class for Herefords just half a dozen were stalled. The first prize, after a close inspection, fell to Sir J. Pulley, Bart., with Protector. The young bulls made up an especially strong class, and was well headed by Captain Heygate's Iron Duke. The two-year-old heifers were a small but grand lot, and Mr. D. Evans's Friend II. is sure to be heard of again. The other Hereford classes were, from the point of quality, well filled.

There was a very good show of fat stock, and also of poultry and pigs, but sheep were rather scantily represented. In the long wool section Mr. W. Thomas, The Hayes, Sally, Barry, carried off the whole of the prizes, whilst in short wools, Mr. Tanner, Shrewsbury, and Mr. J. Matthews, Winterbourne, were the chief winners. The pigs were a complete success, and aroused a good deal of interest. In this section Lord Southampton, the Rev. Booth Corfield, and Mr. J. A. Fricker were to the front, so far as the white breeds are concerned, while Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., swept the board at most prizes in Blacks, of which Mr. Fricker and D. Radcliffe and Harris, M.P., were also successful exhibitors.

The judges were as follows:—Shorthorns, Mr.

Mr. R. Mattock's Shorthorn Heifer "Heather Belle," Winner of Special Prize at Norwich Fat Stock Show for the Best Beast Bred and Fed in Norfolk.

W. Tindall, Wainfleet, Lincolnshire, and Mr. H. Butler, Badminton Farm, Chippenham. Hereford: Mr. F. Evans, The Weston, Bredwardine, Hereford, and Mr. Rees W. Bridgwater, Llangorse, Talgarth. Sheep and pigs: Mr. A. C. Skinner, Pound, Bishop's Lydteard, and Mr. P. A. Evans, Sherlaw, Wellington, Salop.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Bull above two years old: 1, Mr. R. Stratton, The Duffryn (Alto); 2, Mr. C. W. Brierley, Brimfield, Herefordshire (Ben Lee); r, Mr. G. F. King, Chewton Keynsham (Chewton Oxford Comelius); hc, Rev. W. Booth Corfield, M.A., Llangatto, Mon. (Usk Rport).

Bull above one year and under two years old: 1, Colonel Mirams, Henley-on-Thames (Rotherfield Augustus); 2, Lord Fitzhardinge, Berkeley Castle (Lord Inverness); r, Lord Morton, Chipping Norton (Sir Barrington); c, Mr. J. Deane Willis, Bapton Manor (Bapton Diamond); Mr. J. T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton (New Year's Gift).

Bull calf: 1, Mr. J. Deane Willis (Treasure Trove); 2, Mr. W. Heaton, Thorneyholme, near Bolton (Tommy Atkins); r, Mr. G. F. King (Lord Bruce); vhc, Colonel Sir N. Kingscote, K.C.B., Kingscote, Gloucestershire (Lord of the Winches).

Cow, in calf or in milk: 1, Colonel Makins (Welsh Gem); 2, Mr. C. W. Brierley (Ingram's Queen); r, Lord Tredegar (Snowdrop 8th); hc, Mr. C. W. Brierley (Autumn Queen).

Two-year-old heifer: 1, Mr. J. Deane Willis (White Heather); r, Mr. G. D. Lloyd, Wrexham (Ringdale Nonpareil 2nd).

Yearling heifer: 1, Lord Tredegar (Lassie 3rd); r, Mr. S. Hill, Langford, near Bristol (Azalea); c, Mr. J. Richards, Llanelly (Lady May).

Heifer calf: 1, Mr. J. Thorley, Faringdon (There's Hair); 2, Mr. J. Deane Willis (Vain Duchess); vhc, Mr. J. Deane Willis (Bapton Jewel); c, Lord Tredegar (Marigold 23rd); Mr. R. Stratton (Calico Belle); Mr. S. Hill (Trilby 4th).

HEREFORDS.

Bull above two years old: 1 and c, Sir J. Pulley, Bart., Lower Eaton, Hereford (Protector); 2, Mr. E. Farr, Court of Noke, Pembridge, Herefordshire (Britisher); r, Mr. A. R. Firkins, Bishops-Frome (Lurdan); hc, Earl of Coventry, Worcester (Mercury).

Bull above one year and under two years old: 1, Captain E. S. A. Heygate, Leominster (Iron Duke); 2, Mr. J. Tudge, Craven Arms, Salop (Albany); r, Sir J. Pulley, Bart. (Eaton Defender 12th); hc, Lord Llangattock, The Hendre (Rougemont); Mr. H. Haywood, Hereford (Wintercott); c, Mr. W. Tudge (General Buller).

Bull calf: 1, Mr. A. K. Firkins (Lucifer); r, Mr. W. Tudge (Happy Christmas); hc, Captain P. A. Clive, M.P., Treville (Whitfield Roberts); Mr. H. W. Taylor, Ledbury (Abergavenny); c, Mr. W. H. Davies, Hereford (De Weston); c, Captain P. A. Clive, M.P. (Whitfield Buller).

Cow in calf or in milk: 1, Mr. E. Caddick, Froomes Hill, Ledbury (Antippa 2nd); 2, Mr. J. Tudge (Rustic Maid); r, Mr. J. Tudge (Rubella).

Two-year-old heifer: 1 and c, Mr. D. Evans, Ffrwdgrech, Brecon (Friend 2nd); 2, Mr. A. E. Hughes, Wintercott (Ladylike 2nd); r, Mr. R. Green, Kington (Waterwed).

Yearling heifer: 1, Mr. R. Green (Ladysmith); 2, Mr. R. Green (Imperatrix); r, Mr. W. Tudge (Peggy Primrose); hc, Mr. S. H. Armitage, Kinnersley (Delta); c, Mr. H. W. Taylor (Violet Agnes).

Heifer calf: 1, Mr. R. Green (Prudentia); 2, Mr. R. Green (Maysie); r, J. Tudge (Royal Gem); hc, Mr. W. H. Davies, Defaney; c, Mr. Ross Keene, Llanfihangel Court, Chepstow (Miss Rokeby); Mr. D. Evans (Ruby); Mr. H. Haywood (Gipsycraft).

WITHOUT REGARD TO BREED.

Fat ox or steer: 1, Mr. J. Thorley (Bobs); 2, Mr. P. Coats, Clifford; r, Lord Tredegar.

Fat cow or heifer: 2, Mr. J. Joicey, Poulton Priory, Fairfield, Gloucestershire (Sanitas); r, Mr. H. Chambers, Path Farm, Othery, Bridgwater (Ruby).

Fat ox, steer, cow, or heifer (the property of a tenant farmer farming not more than 150 acres): 1, Mr. J. H. Hale, Cold Harbour, Nash, Newport.

Dairy cow in calf or in milk (to be milked overnight): 1, Mr. G. Gerrard, Offerton Farm, Hindlip, Worcester (Blanche); 2, Mr. A. Hiscock, jun., Manor Farm, Motcombe; r, Mr. G. F. Cullimore, Berkeley, Gloucestershire (Princess).

Pair of two-year-old steers: 1, Mr. P. Coats, Clifford; 2, Captain Heygate, Buckland, Leominster.

Pair of two-year-old steers (the property of a tenant farmer farming not more than 150 acres): 1, Mr. T. J. Cox, Newport; 2, Mr. W. Lewis, Llangibby; r, Mr. F. Carter, Newport.

Best pair yearling steers: 1, Lord Tredegar; 2, Captain E. S. A. Heygate; r, Mr. D. Evans.

Two-year-old breeding heifer (the property of a tenant farmer farming not more than 150 acres): 1, Mr. J. Tudge; r, Mr. J. H. Hale, Newport.

SHEEP.

LONGWOOL.

Three shearling ewes: 1, Mr. W. Thomas, The Hayes, Sully, Barry.

Ram lamb: 1, Mr. W. Thomas.

Three ewe lambs: 1, Mr. W. Thomas.

Three fat wether lambs: 1, Mr. W. Thomas.

SHORTWOOL.

Three shearling ewes: 1, Mr. A. Tanner, Shrewsbury; vhc, Mr. J. Matthews, Winterbourne.

Ram lamb: 1, Mr. T. Fenn, Ludlow; r, Mr. A. Tanner; vhc, Mr. A. Tanner.

Three ewe lambs: 1, Mr. J. Matthews; vhc, Mr. A. Tanner; hc, Mr. T. Fenn.

Three fat wether lambs: 1, Mr. J. Matthews; r, Mr. H. Bridgman, Cove Hill Farm, Downend.

PIGS.

Boar: 1, Lord Sherborne, Northleach, Gloucestershire; r, Rev. W. Booth Corfield, M.A.

Sow and litter of pigs: 1, Rev. W. Booth Corfield, M.A.; vhc, Mr. F. Haggett, Newport.

Horsham

The annual show of fat cattle, sheep and pigs, etc., at Horsham, took place on Wednesday in a meadow in the Worthing road. The number of entries largely exceeded those of previous years, and in all hands there were signs of increased interest in this annual event.

The show was considered to be the best held for some years. There was an excellent show of fat beasts, and the champion, an Aberdeen Angus-Sussex, which secured the champion prize, sent by Mr. G. F. Stanford, was considered to be an extraordinary beast out of the end to any show. The horses were a very useful lot, while the sheep were also of a nice quality. The display of roots was very good indeed. The judges for the fat stock were: Beasts, Messrs. W. Greig and A. Williamson; horses, Mr. Clement Keevil; sheep and pigs, Mr. Newton Clayton.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

Steer, under three years of age: 1, Mr. Alfred Scrase (Sussex); 2, Mr. G. F. Stanford (Aberdeen-Angus).

Steer, under two years and six months of age: 1, Mr. C. A. Bryant (cross-bred, Hereford and Shorthorn); 2, Mr. E. E. Braby (Sussex).

Steer, under two years of age: 1, Mr. W. G. Fladgate (Sussex); 2, Mr. E. E. Braby (Sussex); 3, Mrs. Montefiore (Sussex); hc, Mrs. Montefiore (Sussex); c, Mr. G. F. Stanford (Aberdeen-Angus).

Heifer, under three years of age: 1, Mr. G. F. Stanford (cross-bred Aberdeen-Angus-Sussex); 2, Sir M. R. Burrell, Bart. (Sussex); vhc, Mr. W. G. Fladgate (Sussex); Mr. J. E. Barnett (Shorthorn); hc, (2) Mr. W. P. M. Dennett (Devon).

Two beasts, under two years of age: Mr. G. F. Stanford (Aberdeen-Angus-Sussex, and Aberdeen Angus-Shorthorn).

Steer or heifer of any age, the property of a tenant farmer: 1, Mr. W. G. Fladgate (Sussex); 2, Mr. W. G. Fladgate (Sussex); vhc, Mr. T. Luckin (Sussex); c, (2) Mr. W. P. M. Dennett (Devon).

Bull of any pure breed under two years of age, which shall be for service in the Horsham market district at a sum not exceeding one guinea: 1, Mr. E. E. Braby (Sussex); 2, Mr. C. W. Schroeter (Aberdeen-Angus).

Two beasts of any age or breed, that have not been housed or yarded between June 1st and September 1st, 1900: 1, Sir M. R. Burrell, Bart. (Sussex); 2, Mr. W. G. Fadgate (Sussex); 3, Mr. G. F. Stanford (Shorthorn); c, Mr. H. C. Lee Steere (Devon); Mr. W. Stanford (Devon).

Bull of any pure breed, which shall be for service in the Horsham market district, at a sum not exceeding seven shillings and sixpence: 1, Mrs. Montefiore (Sussex); r, Mr. E. E. Braby (Sussex); hc, Mr. J. E. Barnett (Shorthorn).

SPECIAL PRIZES.

Champion prize, £10 10s., for the best beast shown: Mr. G. F. Stanford.

£5 5s. for the best beast shown (except Sussex), and to which the Town prize shall not have been awarded: Mr. C. A. Bryant.

£5 5s. for the best beast shown of pure Sussex breed, and to which the Town prize shall not have been awarded: Sir M. R. Burrell, Bart.

A piece of plate for the best beast shown, bred and fed by the exhibitor: Mr. E. E. Braby.

£5 for the best beast shown by a tenant farmer, not being an owner of more than 200 acres of land, and living in the Crawley and Horsham fox hunting country, and over whose land the hounds have been in the habit of hunting or drawing: Mr. Alfred Scrase.

A perpetual challenge cup, of the value of £50, for the best Sussex beast in the yard: Sir M. R. Burrell, Bart.

SHEEP.

Five sheep, under twelve months of age, not having been trimmed or sheared after September 29th: 1, Mrs. Montefiore (Southdown); 2, Mr. H. F. Locke-King (Southdown); hc, Mr. C. A. Bryant (Southdown); Mr. H. F. Locke-King (Southdown).

PIGS.

Fat hog, under one year and three months of age: 1, Mr. G. F. Stanford (Berkshire-Sussex); 2, Mr. J. Innes (Berkshire); r, Mr. W. G. Fladgate (Berkshire); c, Mr. James Innes (Berkshire); Mr. W. G. Fladgate (Berkshire).

HORSES.

Cart mare in foal, or having had a foal within the last twelve months, in the former case the prize to be withheld until such time as the mare has foaled: 1, Mr. R. Barrow; 2, Mr. E. M. Bethune.

Cart gelding or filly under two years of age, exhibited by a bona-fide tenant farmer: 1, Mr. Thomas Luckin; 2, Mr. Thomas Watson.

Cart colt or filly under twelve months of age: 1, Mr. R. Barrow; 2, Mr. T. Luckin; r, Mr. T. Luckin; hc, Mr. R. Barrow.

Cart colt or filly under three years of age: 1, Mr. R. Barrow; 2, Mr. George Duck; r, Mr. T. Luckin; hc, Mr. T. Luckin.

Special prize (silver medal), given by the Shire Horse Society to the owner of the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal that is registered, or eligible for registration in the Stud Book: Mr. R. Barrow.

Tonbridge.

The fourteenth annual show of fat stock, roots, etc., at Tonbridge, took place on Monday in the Agricultural Hall. In comparison with last year the entries, as a whole, were about the same, the number of beasts being a few less, and the sheep a few more. Indeed, with the exception of the beasts the entries were all well up to the average, the poultry being just about the same, and the same remark applying to roots, hops, butter, and corn. Potatoes, which were an extra class, contained seven entries, and, in common with other exhibitions which have been held in the county, they were of very good quality and size. The cattle attracted, perhaps, most attention, and the beasts shown were a very good lot. The judges were:—Cattle, Mr. H. Woods, Welbeck, Notts, and Mr. A. Parks, Bexhill; sheep, Mr. Julian Finn-Kelcey, Old Romney, and Mr. Allan Cooper, Lewis; pigs, Mr. John Noakes, sen., Lamberhurst; hops, Messrs. Matthews and Son, Borough, London, and Messrs. Latter and Sons, Borough, London.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

SUSSEX.

Fat steer, over two and under three years; first prize given by Mr. J. F. W. Deacon, J.P.: 1, The Earl of Derby, Bertley, Witley; 2, Mrs. E. Hills, Redleaf, Penshurst.

Fat steer, over one and under two years: 1, Mr. W. W. Hubble, the Elms, Hunton; 2, Mr. G. Warde, Tutsham Hall, West Farleigh.

Fat heifer, over two and under three years: 1, The Earl of Derby; 2, Mr. W. F. Winch, Tylsden, Cranbrook.

Fat heifer, over one and under two years: 1, Mrs. E. Hills; 2, Mr. W. W. Hubble.

ANY OTHER BREED.

Fat steer, over two and under three years: 1, Mrs. E. Hills; 2, Mr. H. M. Simmons, Alexandra Hotel, Eastbourne.

Fat steer, over one and under two years: 1, Mr. A. Ross, West Heathley, Sussex; 2, Major M. G. Best, Park House, Maidstone; 3, Mrs. E. Hole.

Heifer, over two and under three years: 1, Mr. G. J. Drummond.

Fat heifer, over one and under two years: 1, Miss Catley, Claydene, Edenbridge; 2, Mr. G. Osenton, Mariners, Westerham; 3, Mr. W. L. Campbell, Brantridge Park, Balcombe; hc, Mrs. E. Hills; r, Lords A. and L. Cecil, Orchardmains, Tonbridge.

ANY BREED.

Steer or heifer, under one year, not fatted expressly for slaughter: 1 and 3, Mr. D'Arcy Reeve, The Friars, Matfield; 2, Mrs. E. Hills.

Cow or heifer, over three years: 1, The Hon. R. Nevill, Birling Manor, Maidstone.

Steer or heifer, over two years, fed and shown by tenant farmer within a radius of ten miles: 1, Mr. R. Children, Howden, Tonbridge; 2, Mr. A. Langridge, Edenbridge.

SHEEP.

KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH.

Three wethers or three maids, over one and under two years: 1, 2, and hc, Mr. C. G. Neame, Faversham; vhc, Mr. H. Rigden, Lyminge, Hythe.

Three lambs (not rams), lambed in 1900: 1 and c, Mr. C. G. Neame; 2, Mr. H. Rigden.

SOUTHDOWNS.

Three wethers or three maids, over one and under two years; first prize given by Mr. O. E. D'Avigdor Goldsmid, J.P.: 1, Mrs. Montefiore, Worth Park, Crawley; 2, Mr. T. Miles, Buckwell, Wye; vhc and hc, The Earl of Derby; c, Tunbridge Wells Corporation, Great Lodge, Tonbridge, and Mrs. E. Hills.

Three fat ewes that have brought up a lamb this year: 1, Mr. T. Miles; 2, The Earl of Derby; vhc, The Earl of Ashburnham, Battle, Sussex.

Three lambs (not rams), lambed in 1900: 1, Mr. Whitaker Wright, Lea Park, Godalming; 2 and hc, Mrs. Montefiore; c, Mr. T. Miles.

ANY OTHER BREED.

Three wethers or maids over one and under two years old; prize given by the Tonbridge tradesmen: 1, Mr. G. J. Drummond; hc and c, Lord Hillingdon.

Three lambs (not rams), lambed in 1900: 1, Mr. C. W. Sofer-Whitburn, West Malling; hc, Mr. T. Joyce, Leybourne; c, Mr. G. J. Drummond.

ANY BREED.

Three sheep, any age, exhibited by a tenant farmer within fifteen miles of the show: 1 and 2, Mr. A. F. Finn-Kelcey; hc and c, Mr. R. Children, Hawden, Tonbridge.

PIGS.

ANY BREED.

Fat pig, over thirty weeks and under one year; first prize given by the Tunbridge Wells tradesmen: 1, Earl of Ashburnham; 2, Messrs. H. White and Son, Wateringbury.

Fat pig, under thirty weeks: 1, Mr. G. T. Tomkin, the Moat, Marden.

Three pigs, under twenty weeks: 1, Mr. G. T. Tomkin.

HOPS.

Best grown and managed sample, grown by exhibitor in Mid Kent, 1900; second prize given by the Anglo-Continental Guano Company: 1, Mr. W. Rogers, Farningham; 2, Mr. J. Taylor, Barnes Place, Hadlow.

Ditto in the Weald of Kent, or Sussex, 1900; first prize given by Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May: 1, Mr. A. Fairbrother, Wadhurst; 2, Mr. J. Waters, 1, Colman's Hatch, Tunbridge Wells.

Best grown and managed sample of Foggle hops, grown by exhibitor in 1900 within a radius of six miles from Capel church (Kent): 1, Mr. G. J. Drummond.

Best sample of hops, grown by the aid of Kentish manure: 1, Mr. T. Taylor, Paddock Wood; r, Mr. J. Taylor.

SOCIETIES.

Scottish Chamber.

A meeting of directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture will be held within No. 5, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, on Wednesday next, the 5th inst., at 10.30 a.m. A note of the business is appended:—

I. Association with London Central Chamber of Agriculture.

II. Communication from Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture on swine fever.

III. Sheep-worrying case in Ross-shire. Communication from Easter Ross Farmers' Club.

IV. Proposal that the stated meetings of directors should be held quarterly instead of monthly as at present.

Bedfordshire Chamber of Agriculture and Farmers' Club.

A general meeting of members will be held in the large room under the Corn Exchange (not the Town Hall), Bedford, on Saturday, December 8th, at 4 p.m. The agenda is as follows:—

1. Consider the following subjects which are down for discussion at the Central Chamber of Agriculture in London, on Wednesday, December 12th, 1900—(*a*) the working of the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896 and the question of its renewal; (*b*) tuberculosis, and the working of the "Model Milk Clauses" in the private Bills of local authorities; (*c*) question of registration of pig-dealers and the inspection and disinfection of their premises. In relation to the above the following resolutions have been prepared by the Business Committee:—Mover, Mr. James Crouch; seconder, Mr. G. E. Brown: "Pending the report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation, and action thereon, this Chamber asks the Government to continue the Agricultural Rates Act, 1896." Mover, Mr. J. R. Eve; seconder, Mr. H. Campion: "That this Chamber considers that the Board of Agriculture should have power to enforce the inspection, cleansing, and disinfection of pig dealers' premises in the same way as railway cattle tracks, cattle docks, and sale yards."

2. In view of the Right Hon. Walter Long having ceased to be Minister of Agriculture, the Business Committee have prepared the following resolution:—Mover, Mr. G. E. Brown; seconder, Mr. W. Ell: "That this Chamber gratefully acknowledges the

good work done by Mr. Long, the late Minister of Agriculture during his term of office."

3. Mr. Loudon M. Douglas, A.I.M.E., will read a paper entitled "Bacon Curing." The lecture will be illustrated by limelight with slides which have been collected from all parts of Europe. Samples of bacon produced by different processes will be shown in the room.

4. Vote of thanks to Mr. Douglas, and discussion.

National Sheep Breeders' Association.

The annual general meeting and Council meeting of the above Association will be held in the club-room, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Tuesday, December 11th, at 3.15 p.m. The agenda includes:—To receive hon. treasurer's report and statement of accounts for the past year; to consider and adopt annual report; to elect officials for ensuing year, and representatives on Mansion House Association on Rail and Canal Traffic; to receive report of special committee on affiliation of foreign and colonial sheep societies, etc. (if ready), and to consider and approve of programme for the International Conference of Sheep Breeders at Cardiff in June next.

Scottish National Fat Stock Club.

The Council of the Scottish National Fat Stock Club, in their report to the annual meeting of members, state that the accounts are in a satisfactory state, the balance at credit being £131 5s. 4d., against £72 19s. 9d. at the close of the books in 1899. The number of members on the roll at 30th September last was 622, an increase of 67 over the previous year. The Council desire to express the hope that the roll of members will be largely augmented by the end of another financial year.

The Council embrace this opportunity to tender their best thanks to all the subscribers to the prize fund, which amounted to £232 5s., and to the donors of additional challenge cups, special prizes, medals, etc. They desire also to place on record the invaluable services of Sir John Gilmour, Bart., during his three years' term of office as president, and also a cordial acknowledgment of his unbounded generosity towards the funds of the Club.

Somerset County.

The Prizes Committee met at the Municipal Offices, Bridgwater, on Wednesday last, Mr. Herbert Farthing in the chair.

The committee went through the prize list for the Taunton meeting to be held next year (as a preliminary), and adjourned further deliberations thereon before bringing up their final report for approval of a subsequent council.

The Poultry Committee met at the Municipal Offices, Bridgwater, on Wednesday, 28th November, at 12 o'clock, Mr. A. G. Pitts in the chair.

The committee went through the prize list of the poultry and pigeon departments for the Taunton meeting, to be held next year, and adjourned further consideration thereof before presenting their final report for the council's sanction.

Meeting of the Council.

The council assembled at the Municipal Offices, Bridgwater, on Wednesday, 28th November, at 2.30, under the presidency of Mr. James Cook, J.P.

The following resolutions of condolence were unanimously carried:—

Proposed by Mr. T. Penny, seconded by Mr. Cook, as follows:—"The council of the Somerset County Agricultural Association hears with sincere regret the loss which its president, Mr. C. E. J. Esdaile, J.P., of Cothelstone House, has sustained by the recent death of his son in China, and begs to offer Mr. Esdaile and its family its earnest sympathy and condolence."

Proposed by Mr. W. Thompson (Mayor of Bridgwater), seconded by Mr. W. S. Bevis, as follows:—"The council of the Somerset County Agricultural Association desires with very great respect to offer its most sincere sympathy and condolence to Mr. E. J. Stanley, M.P., of Quantock Lodge (a former president of this association), and members of his family in their very sad bereavement by the recent death of Lieut. H. T. Stanley (a life member of this association) while fighting for his Queen and country in South Africa."

Proposed by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Stuckey, as follows:—"The council of the Somerset County Agricultural Association, at its first meeting since the lamented death of Colonel Helyar in South Africa, desires to place on record its deep sorrow at the loss sustained by this association and the county generally in being deprived of his generous, liberal, and zealous services through his falling a victim to Boer treachery when so ably serving his country, and at the same time to express to the bereaved members of Colonel Helyar's family sincere sympathy and condolence in their sad trouble."

The minutes of the last meeting were now read and confirmed.

Site for the Taunton Show.—The secretary read the minutes of the Sites Committee held at Taunton on the 28th August last, wherein the site adjoining Vivary Park was approved and selected.—After some observations by Mr. T. Penny, the chairman of this committee, upon the approaches and other matters, such minutes were approved and adopted. The secretary reported that he had prepared the necessary agreement with the Taunton authority, and that same had been duly signed by the various parties thereto.

Prizes Committee.—The minutes of this committee held to-day were now read, approved, and adopted.

Poultry Committee.—The minutes of this committee held to-day were also read, approved, and adopted.

New Member of Association.—On the proposition of the secretary, Mr. Chas. Napier Skinner, of Hawkhurst Farm, Bridgwater, was duly elected a member of this association.

A vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding closed the business.

Stockton Chamber

At a meeting of the Stockton Chamber of Agriculture, held on Wednesday (Mr. T. B. Bainbridge presiding), Mr. J. Nattrass made a complaint against the North-Eastern Railway Company with respect to short weight in agricultural produce on delivery. The railway company not guaranteeing weight he had no means of recovering that loss.

Mr. F. Raines said that the present system of the North-Eastern Railway Company with regard to the carriage of agricultural produce was an invitation to fraud on the part of railway servants and dealers, because there was no means of showing whether there had been pilfering practised, or whether the produce was short in weight on delivery by the consignor.

It was agreed to urge upon the railway company the necessity of ascertaining the correct weight of produce received by them and delivered by them to the consignee. It was also resolved to ask the Central Chamber of Agriculture to take the matter into consideration.

Mr. J. T. Wilson moved that a communication be sent to the railway company and the Board of Trade relative to through rates upon agricultural produce, and ask them to adhere to a five ton rate which was granted about five years ago, but which had passed the experimental stage.

A discussion took place upon the working of the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896, and it was agreed to express to the Central Chamber the opinion that the Act should be renewed and that the rates paid by the farmers should be reduced from one-half to one-quarter.

Staffordshire Dairy Farmers.

The annual meeting of the Uttoxeter and district branch of the Staffordshire Dairy Farmers' Association was held at the Town Hall, Uttoxeter, on Wednesday, Mr. J. W. Philips, C.C., in the chair. Mr. E. Smithells (county secretary) stated that arrangements had been completed whereby an agent had been appointed in London to watch the interests of the members. It was a joint agency between the Derbyshire Association and the Staffordshire Association, and bore every promise of proving of incalculable benefit to all who were unable and desirous of getting the highest possible price for their milk and produce.

Mr. F. E. Richardson (Bromshall) moved a resolution in favour of the agency, which was carried. Mr. S. Barlow (Birchwood Park) moved: "That the executive be urged to continue its efforts to procure legislation in the direction of an amendment to the law of trespass, so as to secure the protection of all products of the soil having a marketable value; and also to provide for compensation to all sufferers from loss by fire occasioned by sparks from locomotive engines." Mr. E. Averill (King's Bromley) seconded, and it was carried.

Cheshire.

The annual meeting of the Cheshire Agricultural Society was held at Crewe on Wednesday, Mr. J. Macfie (Rowton) presiding. A letter was read from Mr. T. C. Toler, of the Jodrell Estate, suggesting that a committee of hunting men be asked to associate themselves with the society and endeavour to get from the hunting men in the county a sufficient amount of money for prizes to be given to hunter classes. It was resolved to try and carry out the suggestion.

The annual report was submitted. It dealt with the Congleton Show held by the society this year, when the receipts were the highest ever taken at a one-day show. The society started the year with a balance against it of £1 16s. 8d. The year's operations had changed this into a credit balance of £98 14s. 7d. The report was adopted.

It was resolved to hold next year's exhibition at Chester, the mayor having promised the society a hearty invitation. The date was fixed for the last Wednesday in August.

A letter was read from Col. W. Lloyd stating that the Duke of Westminster had consented to become patron of the society. It was resolved to ask his grace to be the president for the year for the Chester Show. Mr. S. R. Wood was re-appointed treasurer, and Mr. T. A. Beckett was re-elected secretary.

LITERARY NOTICES.

We are in receipt of a copy [illegible] in New South Wales during [illegible] extensively [illegible] all [illegible] and [illegible] Government [illegible] the [illegible] Secretary for Mines and [illegible] Secretary of the Department [illegible] sections which [illegible] were most interesting, the [illegible] all [illegible] all cases of crops have been [illegible] As an instance of this steady [illegible] mention that at the date of [illegible] under wheat alone was 1,605,000 acres, being an increase of 307,750 acres for the year [illegible] the last season the area under wheat comprised 1,839,626 acres, of which 414,661 acres were cut for hay, leaving 1,424,965 acres to be harvested for grain, which resulted in an average of 9.5 bushels for the colony. Although, as in the past season, the [illegible] from rust were minute, it is to be regretted that a very wide extent of hops have suffered heavily from the fungus pest known as blight or sinking sickness.

During the past week there has come to hand the eighth annual report of the New Zealand Department of Agriculture, for the year ending March 31st last. It is an octavo volume of between four and five hundred pages, and gives full and exciting facts concerning the various branches of the dairy industry. It is most freely and beautifully illustrated, and the information given should prove of great service to the agriculturists in the colony. The writer of the report, the Secretary for Agriculture and Chief Inspector of Stock, who states that the harvest of 1899-1900 was satisfactory, in so far as the yield of grain was concerned, but it is to be regretted that the price of wheat especially leaves a very small margin of profit. Oats, however, have maintained a fair price. The dairying industry has made very rapid strides during the season, the total of butter being 161,792 cwts. valued at £693,701, as against 102,479 cwts. valued at £433,481 in 1898-1899, whilst the respective figures for cheese are 98,001 cwt., value £208,258, and 50,490 cwts. £100,992.

From the Durham College of Science, Newcastle-on-Tyne, we have received a copy of the calendar for the session 1900-1901. As in former years it is a substantial volume of over four hundred pages, and contains a mass of information concerning the College and what is taught there. The subjects treated at this College are very numerous, and include agriculture, dairying, estate management, etc. Special certificates are granted to students who follow the prescribed courses in agriculture, engineering, and mining. Classes are held in the evenings as well as the day, and are open to both sexes, the women also being able to take the rules and degrees in science and letters of the University of Durham.

The present number of the British Dairy Farmers' Association's Journal, Part III. of Volume XV., opens with a paper entitled "Breeding Versus Purchasing Dairy Cattle," written by Alex. Holm, Jun., F.H.A.S., Gold Medal R.A.S.E. This is followed by an article from the pen of Robert Laird, who discusses "Is Soft Feeling Economical on the Farm?" In the same number there is an interesting and practical paper on the "Relative Value of Mangolds and Swedes for Cows," by W. P. J. Allsebrook; and the following articles: "Soiling Hay v. Feeding Hay on a Dairy Farm," by Christopher Middleton; "Early Ducklings," by Henry Digby; "Turkey Breeding for Market," by Henry Abbot; and some notes on the progress of dairy farming and dairying.

Although the December number of the *[illegible] Magazine* is the last of Volume XL., in it there is the first instalment of a contribution by Lord Willoughby de Broke, entitled "Advice on Fox-hunting," the advice in this number being for Masters of Foxhounds. This article is given premier position, and it is followed by a capital shooting story, entitled "Teddy," and written by W. M. Wilcox. Besides this story, shooting men are provided with two other items, namely, "Stag Sport on Active Service in South Africa," by Captain J. P. Law, and "Capercailzie Shooting in the Australian Alps," by Count Douglas Thurn, both interesting illustrated papers. Of the rest of the contents, mention may be made of an account of the "Duke of Buckingham's Hunt and Its Successors," by Katherine Duncombe, "Egyptian Memories," recalled by C. Hill Wilson, and a paper "More About the Cricket Problem," by the Hon. and Rev. E. L. Dutton. The Editor makes a welcome announcement in this issue, namely, that, commencing with the new year, some of the illustrations will be coloured, so that the future volumes of the magazine may, to use the Editor's own words, "become books of reference to which he [illegible] can turn with the confident assurance that the illustrations in them [illegible] as they can be made." Four coloured plates will given in the January number, and it may be [illegible] to add that the readers of this popular magazine will look forward to the new [illegible]

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Bad Beer.

The improper and excessive use of bad materials in brewing has at last reached the inevitable result of visibly affecting the health of a large number of consumers. Unhappily, it seems to have led to the death of many of the sufferers, and public attention as a consequence is very forcibly and painfully drawn to the whole matter, and its seriousness cannot be lightly set aside. The centre of the evil seems to be located in Manchester, Stourbridge, and other towns where the proportion of sugar used is excessively high, and so far as the evidence yet to hand goes, the price is more carefully considered than the quality.

The chief interest of the outbreak rests in the fact that at length we have clear evidence not only that improper material is deleterious when used, but that the harm it can do involves many innocent people in

The Death Penalty.

The confiding British public is once more cruelly deceived, and those who have so confidently asserted their ability to protect it have displayed their ignorance or incapacity.

By one of those strange strokes of justice, we have been allowed to witness the curious spectacle of the chairman of Her Majesty's Inland Revenue proposing the health and prosperity of the Country Brewers' Society at the very time when deaths were occurring, and hundreds of helpless and innocent sufferers were having their health shattered and nerves unstrung by the use by brewers of materials approved by the Excise authorities. At the time everyone fully acquainted with the facts was pained and shocked at the gross impropriety of a prominent Government official going so far out of his way to say things that were alike unwarranted and undesirable.

The agricultural witnesses of the Beer Materials Committee deserved the thanks of a public servant and responsible official fully as much as the chemists employed by brewers, whilst surely one of the Committee cannot plead ignorance, and ought not to urge forgetfulness of the existence of

The Minority Report,

signed by Mr. Clare Sewell Read. This report is still fresh in the minds of all interested in the subject, and had its recommendations been carried out, it is now certain much needless pain and evil could have been avoided, and much loss averted.

The time has come when consumers can now see for themselves that their interests largely coincide with those of the growers of hops and barley. Witness after witness testified to many of the more serious aspects of this many-sided question, yet apparently the only conclusion formed in the minds of the Excise officials was an utterly erroneous and mistaken conception of the position of the brewer as the person paying the duty.

The view was also fully promulgated that the careful watch kept by the Department on the character and quality of all materials used was sufficient safeguard of the public health, and that

No Deleterious Materials

either were or could be used. Witnesses urged then the fallacy of this conception, and, in the face of the facts now published, it seems monstrous that no attention was paid to the warnings so emphatically given.

The awakening is a rude one, and it leaves no alternative as to the necessity of doing something promptly. The beer duty is now 7s. 6d. per barrel, and although this high amount was intended to last for only a limited time, there can be little hope entertained that we shall see it reduced next August. But there ought to be a lower duty charged on all pure beer which is the product solely of genuine malt and hops.

The statements made that the collection of such differentiated duty is impracticable or impossible deserve exactly the same credence as should have been given to the assertions that Somerset House officials protected the public sufficiently. It has been often pointed out in these columns that they did nothing of the sort.

The Public Knows Now

which guides they can most safely follow.

Another step which must be promptly taken is the publication of fuller details concerning the use of substitutes. We at last know the quantity of beer actually brewed in the bulk. We must know the quantities of materials used and beer produced by each and every brewer. The notion that it is publication of confidential information is a Departmental fiction which should not be allowed to prevail for another month. It is now proved beyond doubt that we cannot longer blindly trust such advisers, and the information is useful and necessary in the public interest.

We must also have separate entry of hops and hop substitutes used by all brewers, and it is a very good occasion to make such items of real utility by putting a duty of a pound a cwt. on all substitutes used.

The time also is opportune to re-assess the duty charged upon all malt substitutes. Priming is a direct loss to the Revenue, and rice and maize are too lightly charged, and deadly sugars ought not to be permitted at any price.

Future Tactics of Barley Growers.

Introduced by Mr. A. E. Mansell, Harrington Hall, at the Shifnal Agricultural Society.)

At the commencement of my paper I wish to say that I have endeavoured to frame my resolution so that, if carried into effect, it would entail the least possible change in the law relating to brewing. My suggestion is that no brewers be allowed to use more than 20 per cent. of malt substitutes, and those substitutes to be defined. There are enormous quantities of substitutes used in some of the large breweries, including rice, maize, raw grain, and other substances. To show the extent of this, we find that twelve large breweries use two million bushels of substitutes to only five million bushels of malt. The Midland towns are the worst in this respect, for some of them have been using about 40 to 50 per cent., and in Stourbridge 66 per cent. of substitutes have been used. These facts fully account for the

Depressing State of the Barley Trade

we are experiencing, because the bulk of our barley is used in the Midlands. Besides preventing the demand for barley, the use of maize in breweries takes an immense amount of food that we should otherwise buy to fatten our stock. There are, however, some brewers who leave all substitutes alone, and conspicuous among these are the firms of world-wide fame—for instance, Guinness and Co., of Dublin, use the large quantity of 470,000 quarters of malt and no substitutes at all; also some of the famous Burton brewers for the most part use only malt and hops. These figures are from official returns, but I have taken them from the MARK LANE EXPRESS. Perhaps some may think that in suggesting the amount of substitutes to be allowed I have put it too high, and no doubt it would be better if a less quantity were allowed, but I think the important point to secure is the principle that the

Amount of Substitutes Used

should be restricted and defined. It must make a vast difference to barley growers if the outside quantity of substitutes allowed is reduced to 20 per cent. The practice of using other materials in lieu of malt is continually increasing, and the state of things will become worse and worse if this is not checked, as these materials will find more favour year by year, for with more experience brewers will learn how to increase the quantity of these inferior ingredients with profit to themselves. The alteration I suggest is of the simplest character, and is put forward to open discussion, but especially to try to direct the principle and the policy upon which it would seem desirable that we should proceed. Barley, although by far the most important crop that is grown by arable farmers in this district, and of a great many of the best parts of the kingdom, becomes a greater drug on the market every year. In a bad season deterioration of the grain is supposed to account for low prices, and in good seasons we are told that so much good malting barley is offered from so many quarters, and rushed into the market so early, that the result is prices are brought down. Of course, seasons will always affect prices, but the long and short of it is, the supply exceeds the demand, and this fact always places

The Producer at a Disadvantage.

It is our object here to-night, however, and it should be the object of all barley-growers throughout the kingdom, to find out if there is any way to increase the demand for barley, for it must be against all national interests to allow the supply to fall off. On the face of it, we have the best of reasons for thinking that there should be good use for all the malting barley that can be produced in this country. This is the finest country in the world for producing barley, and brewing has increased by leaps and bounds, then why is it that there is such a poor demand for the raw material that alone is required to make wholesome and good beer? The answer is, "Bad laws." Laws have been framed without any care as to how they would affect the great agricultural interest, and it seems most difficult to get our Minister of Agriculture or anyone who is in power to make a study of this and other questions, and

Help us in a Practical Way.

We are more apt to be told that we cannot agree among ourselves, and therefore cannot expect anyone to champion our cause, but there always will be divisions among agriculturists. This is easily accounted for, "Many men, many minds," and the British farmers bear out the truth of this saying, for there is no class where you find more difference of opinion, or more variation in circumstances and mode of life. Coming back to the barley question, there seems no reason why we cannot devise some means of improving our position. I feel convinced that if we are to expect to have practical and speedy legislation, we must urge what is most practical and moderate. For this reason I think we must give up advocating the Pure Beer Bill in the form it has been presented in the past. This bill has been before the country a great many years, and still remains in the same place, and is an obstacle to any alternative legislation. It has also been introduced into Parliament, but all that resulted from that opportunity was the appointment of an expensive inquiry on a foregone conclusion, for no one expected any good to accrue from this inquiry, constituted as it was. The reimposition of the Malt Tax was urged by this society, and unanimously supported by the Shropshire Chamber of Agriculture, but it was not supported to the same extent elsewhere, and the appointment of the Pure Beer Bill committee compelled us, if we wished to appear in good taste, to stop all agitation in this direction. The object of the Pure Beer Bill and the reimposition of the Malt Tax is the same, viz., to prevent the use of substitutes, and we must continue on the same lines, only we must

Change our Tactics,

and be diplomatic in our proceedings. We must bury the old methods in which we have failed, and try to attain the same object under a different name. The old pitfalls can be avoided by the experience we have had, and we must urge only what is most reasonable and practical, and so not only avoid any dissensions among the agriculturists but also disarm the opposition of all reasonable and fair-minded men. It is only by avoiding extremes that we can secure the co-operation that is necessary to present a united and determined front. If we can so put the case before Parliament and the country they must and will attend to it. As the law now stands brewers can use any quantity of substitutes they please; in fact, they need not use any malt at all if they find they can make larger profits by using other materials; and I wish to ask, in the name of fairness, if there is any moderation or wisdom in allowing this? The effect is most injurious to agriculture and to the community at large. The brewers have been given the "free mash tun," but there appears to be no doubt that this privilege is carried a great deal too far by a large proportion of brewers. I think, however, that it is well for us to admit that there is some reason in what brewers say against the Pure Beer Bill. There may be some justice when they urge that it is not fair and reasonable to deprive them of the right of calling their beer pure, if they use any substitutes at all, after being allowed them for so long a period. Some of them say, further, that they consider a certain proportion of substitutes necessary to enable them to use the nitrogenous malt that a good deal of the British barley produces. It would seem to be the best diplomacy to show the brewers that we don't wish to ask for any change that is unreasonable or detrimental to their interests. On the other hand, we must ask the brewers to admit that the agriculturists and the public have a right to see that their interests are safeguarded. The brewers have had the power because they are so well organised, and if barley growers mean to have their interests consistently protected, they should

Form an Organisation

for the purpose. Such an organisation would be able to find out where the interests of barley growers lie, and watch over them, and it would be received as having authority and power. Each section of agriculture should thrash out its own affairs. Great numbers only constitute a weakness unless well organised, and this is the case with the agricultural party. The British Dairy Farmers' Association is the only section that is well organised. Since I have prepared this paper a great sensation has occurred in the brewing trade. In Manchester hundreds of persons have been most seriously injured, and some deaths have taken place, through drinking beer which contained arsenic, and, from the reports, this poison seems to have been produced from the use of sulphuric acid in the manufacture of a malt substitute. After this, I think we may expect all respectable brewers to join us in this agitation. Farmers have for years been suffering a gross injustice with regard to their barley, but when people are poisoned through drinking the national beverage it is high time everyone joined hands to protect at the same time the health of the community and the welfare of the British farmer.

After the paper the following resolution was passed unanimously:—"That no brewers be allowed to use more than 20 per cent. of malt substitutes, and those substitutes to be defined."

Newark Martinmas Hiring Fair was held on Wednesday, when there was a great scarcity of servants. Waggoners obtained £26 to £28: second hands, £16 to £18; young boys, £8 to £12. Female servants were difficult to engage. General servants asked £12 to £16; young girls, £8 to £10. No cooks offered themselves for hire.

Thirsk Hirings. The last of the Martinmas statutes at Thirsk was held on Monday, when there was a large attendance, and farm hands obtained £2 to £5 more money for the twelve months than they got three weeks ago. Farm house servants were scarce. Good managing farm men and hinds got £25 to £28, first plough boys £18 to £22, second hands £15 10s. to £17 10s., farm boys £10 to £12, head farmhouse girls up to £21, second girls £14 10s. to £16, cooks for town places up to £20, general servants £12 to £15, housemaids and chambermaids £10 10s. to £14 10s., head nurses up to £11, and nurses first time out £8 to £10 for the twelve months.

HOPS.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

The course of business during last week provides me with but little material for comment, for the general trade has not yet been materially affected by the extensive purchases by customers to which I referred in my last report. A few enquiries have been circulating, and some transactions have resulted, the prices arranged in such cases being about on a par with the previous currency. Merchants, being of course guided by the wishes of their clients, fight rather shy of high-priced parcels, the principal demand by brewers being for medium and low graded hops, for which they are willing to pay proportionately full figures. These, therefore, continue to be firmly quoted, but we cannot as yet discern the tendency to an upward movement in general values, which has been so long expected, and which, in my opinion, cannot fail of development eventually. Considering the crop, and the trade which is probable between this date and next autumn, the reserve stocks held by growers are extremely limited. Therefore, after taking note of all the possible holdings of yearlings, and estimating the utmost amount of imports available this season, I cannot find cause for any anticipation other than a strong market throughout the coming year, with gradually increasing values, proportionate to the consumption and the consequent diminution of stocks in every position.

It is suggested that this outlook may be interfered with by the decreased consumption of beer, brought about by the recent revelations of the

Arsenical Poisoning

of drinkers of our national beverage. The reports we have all been reading with so much concern are of sufficient weight to claim our serious attention, especially when we gather that the sale of beer has been already reduced by so many hundreds of barrels in this or that city, and that in Liverpool 1,100 barrels have been thus far emptied down the sewers on account of the suspected danger of their contents. But it is quite certain that the public will speedily be reassured as to the wholesomeness of their beer by the searching investigations that are even now being conducted, and although there may be some temporary check to its consumption it cannot continue for any length of time, and I expect we shall find that the normal conditions of the brewery trade will be soon restored. Therefore I dismiss the argument that for this reason we are likely to experience any practical diminution of the demand for hops as hardly worth our consideration.

There is, indeed, another aspect of the matter which may affect us favourably, for it is not improbable that the present well-founded alarm, created possibly by the grasping by some brewers after greater profits, in the pursuit of which they are using cheaper and therefore inferior materials, will bring about stricter supervision by the officers of the Excise. Should this result in the brewing of sounder beers, of more old-fashioned quality, an increased consumption of hops will necessarily follow. I trust we shall be able to congratulate ourselves on such an outcome of the present scare, and that "pure beer," according to the well-known, simple, and approved formula, "barley-malt and hops," may once again become the common drink of our people.

Poison in Beer.

The direct interest of hop-growers in the serious statements that have recently appeared in the columns of all our newspapers is but limited, inasmuch as the presence of the deadly arsenic cannot with any degree of justice be traced to our product. Nevertheless, certain accusations have been made. One theory was attributed to an agricultural lecturer to a County Council, who was reported to have said that the beer poisoning epidemic was due to the spraying of hops with Bordeaux mixture, which is composed of sulphate of copper and lime. The said lecturer has since denied that he said anything so "absurd" or "untrue." Nevertheless, I may remark that, whatever might be the result of the use of such a wash in hop gardens, I can confidently assert that it is never put to this purpose. The majority of growers apply a solution composed of soft soap and the bitter extract of quassia wood, and although other similar and inocuous compounds are sometimes used, they are all sprayed upon the plants previous to the development of the flowers, and in no case are the cones that are picked for brewing, touched by any spraying compound, Bordeaux mixture being, moreover, absolutely unknown as a hop wash.

Dr. Leith, of Birmingham, with more show of reason, refers to the distribution of sulphur upon the hop plants to check fungoid disease, suggests that the poison may be thus communicated. It is true that arsenic is sometimes found in infinitesimal quantity in impure sulphur, but inasmuch as only the flowers of sulphur, which is the purest form, produced in the process of evaporation, is used for this purpose, it is impossible to imagine that any arsenical influence can be thus exercised upon the hop flowers. It is, indeed, practically useless to sulphurate hops after the cones have been formed, the applications being made in the previous stage of the growth, viz., when the dangerous fungus first appears upon the surface of the foliage.

Mr. Schidowitz, a well-known chemist, who gave evidence before the Beer Materials Committee, remarks upon this branch of the subject that "even if the sulphur contained a very large amount of arsenic, it would be very remarkable indeed if any appreciable quantity of the poison were introduced into beer from this source."

The sulphuring of hops in the kiln during the curing process has also been referred to, and the possibility of the presence of arsenic in the sulphurous acid, which, being a compound of sulphur and oxygen, is created by burning this element in dry air, and the consequent deposit of poison upon the hops, is suggested. There is not a shadow of basis for such a supposition. The quantity of sulphur used is relatively small, only the purest samples are acceptable, and the effect of the product of combustion is chiefly some alteration of colour of the bracts, with the addition of the destruction of any insect life or fungoid growth that may be hidden within the cones. Hops that have been subjected to this influence are cleaner and purer, and are thus more wholesome and better fitted for use as a constituent of beer.

The whole of the assumed connection between hops and the detection of arsenic in beer falls to the ground, when examined in the presence of the facts and the light of common sense and experience, and it is hardly needful to refer to the statements made, except to dispel any illusions that may be formed in the minds of those who are not familiar with the conditions of the hop-growing industry.

The general aspect of the question of pure v. impure beer, however, comes prominently to the front of the discussion raised by these startling events. For

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many years the gallant president of our Association has been the champion of pure beer, *i.e.*, beer brewed only from barley-malt and hops. He and those who have supported him, have predicted that the day would arrive when the licence given to brewers to concoct beer out of any conceivable or inconceivable substances would culminate in disastrous results. The time he has so long foreseen has come upon us, and despite the comforting conclusions of the Raw Materials Committee, the nation will now be roused from its self-satisfaction, and will demand a thorough inquiry into the whole matter, and a definition, which must be simple and exact, of what is meant by the purity of the beverage which has so much influence upon the health and vigour of the people. Not arsenic alone has to be eliminated from our beer, but the thousand and one chemical components which the wide scope of the law now permits. At present not one brewer in our breweries use only the materials which tradition and custom have marked as being alone legitimate; the list of substances used by the remainder is appalling. Substitutes for malt are numerous; there are several substitutes for hops, including some compounds whose nature is known only to the manufacturers of them, and amongst the legalised chemicals are vitriol, bisulphide of lime, salicylic acid, chalk, carbolic and citric acids, sulphide of ammonia, chloride of calcium, and others for the enumeration of which I have not space.

Surely, this state of things must be put an end to. All our previous arguments for reform in the manufacture of beer and the prevention of adulteration having hitherto failed, the *argumentum ad hominem* by which we are now faced ought certainly to succeed in convincing our Government of the urgent necessity of practical legislation on this vital subject.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 719, 721.)

Emigration to Canada.—During the past few years there has been an increased movement of settlers from the United Kingdom, and from Europe, to Canada. This is not to be wondered at when we think of the great advantages the country offers to new arrivals. Free grants of land may be obtained in several of the provinces (Manitoba, the North-West Territories, and parts of Ontario). Crown grants may be acquired on nominal terms in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia, while in all parts of the country improved farms can be purchased at reasonable prices. The position of the farmer in Canada is somewhat exceptional from the fact that the Government has made great endeavours to encourage the industry. Experimental farms are provided at the public expense, and the experiments are all made with the object of furnishing useful object-lessons to agriculturists. The farm and dairy produce has in consequence improved in quality and increased in quantity, and the result is seen in expanding exports of meats, grain, flour, butter, cheese, eggs, and fruits, all of which are now becoming well known on the British markets. There are millions of acres of land still waiting occupation and cultivation, destined to provide homes for a large number of people in future. Full particulars may be obtained on application to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W. It is not only agriculture that has developed in a gratifying manner in Canada. The same remark applies to its great wealth in timber, its fisheries, its manufactures, and especially to its mineral resources. All are showing great signs of progress, and afford excellent opportunities for the investment of capital and the employment of labour.

Cows Burnt to Death at a Farm Fire.—During the early hours of Monday morning a fire broke out on the farm of Mr. T. Scatchard, of Scorah Farm, Ripley, near Harrogate, and resulted in the total destruction of the farm buildings (apart from the farm-house), and their contents, including five valuable cows, and a couple of sheep dogs. The farm-house is fortunately separated from the fold yard and buildings by the Pateley Bridge high-road, or the probability is that the whole of the farmstead would have been destroyed. The fire was not discovered until the flames were through the roofs, but messengers were despatched to Ripley Castle, for the estate manual engine. The Harrogate Corporation Fire Brigade were also telephoned for, and speedily arrived. In the meantime 15 valuable beasts and horses had been rescued, but five cows in one mistal, where the fire raged most furiously, it was impossible to save, and they were burned to death. Some implements, feeding stuff, and a large stack of hay were destroyed, in addition to the buildings. The damage amounts to several hundred pounds. The buildings, which are the property of Sir Henry D. Ingilby, Bart., of Ripley Castle, had only lately been renovated. The damage to these is covered by insurance, but the tenant, Mr. Scatchard, who values the beasts burned at £100, is not fully insured. The origin of the fire is not known.

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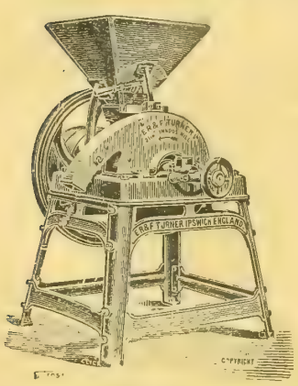

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SOCIETIES.

CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS.

The following MEETINGS of the CENTRAL AND ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE will be held (by permission of the Society of Arts) at the House of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, on Wednesday, December 12th, 1900, viz.:—

1.—10.30 a.m., the Business Committee.

2.—11 a.m., the Council Meeting, at which Members of the Council representing either the Central Chamber or Associated Chambers are requested to be present.

AGENDA.

To transact General Business.

To receive Communications.

To receive Reports of Committees (if any).

To draw up the Annual Report of the Council.

3.—11.30 a.m. (or at such hour as the business of the above Council Meeting is concluded), the ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL CHAMBER, at which all Deputies and Subscribing Members are requested to be present.

AGENDA.

To receive the Auditor's Report.

To appoint an Auditor for the ensuing year.

To receive the Annual Report of the Council for 1900.

To consider Alterations in the Laws, as recommended by the Business Committee and adopted by the Council on November 6th, 1900. The Business Committee also recommend that Law No. 37 shall in future read as follows, the Alteration consisting of the additional sentence printed in italics :—

37.—The Officers of the "Central Chamber" shall be a "Chairman" and "Vice-Chairman," a "Treasurer," "Auditor," and "Secretary," the retiring "Chairman" not being eligible to the "Vice-Chair" for the space of one year. *The "Council" shall have power to fill up any vacancy caused by the death, resignation, or incapacity to act of any such officer.*

N.B.—A copy of the Laws, including the Alterations proposed, will be sent to any Subscribing Member of the Central Chamber upon application to the Secretary.

To consider the following subjects :—

1. The working of the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896 and the question of its renewal.
2. Tuberculosis and the working of the "Model Milk Clauses" in the Private Bills of Local Authorities.
3. Question of the registration of pig dealers and the inspection and disinfection of their premises.

Associated Chambers and Clubs are requested to consider the above subjects, and to send up any resolutions which they may pass thereupon to the Secretary of the Central Chamber before the Meeting of the Business Committee, at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, December 11th, 1900. Suggestions of subjects for discussion at future Meetings of the Council should be forwarded at the same time.

ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary.

ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL DINNER.

SMITHFIELD WEEK, 1900.

Notice is given that the ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL DINNER (under the auspices of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture and the Farmers' Club) will be held during the Smithfield Club Show-Week, in the THRONE ROOM of the HOLBORN RESTAURANT, LONDON, on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 1900, at 7 p.m.

The Chairman of the Farmers' Club (Mr. J. R. EVE) will preside, and it is hoped that the President of the Board of Agriculture will be present, as well as his immediate predecessor.

All farmers and others interested in agriculture are invited to attend.

The price of tickets (exclusive of wine) will be as follows :—

If purchased before December 8th, 1900, 5s. 6d. each.

If purchased after December 8th, 1900, 6s. each.

Members and others who propose to attend are requested to apply as soon as possible for tickets, with a postal order for the amount. (Evening dress optional.)

ERNEST H. GODFREY, Secretary.

November 14th, 1900.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.

(Founded June, 1894.)

PRESIDENT.—COLONEL BROOKFIELD, M.P.
HON. TREASURER.—E. ALBERT WHITE, ESQ., Beltring, Kent.
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—61, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.

President :
LEOPOLD DE ROTHSCHILD, Esq.
Secretary :
E. J. POWELL, 12, Hanover-square, W.

AT THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.

THE ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND SHOW of Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Implements, Roots, etc., THIS DAY (MONDAY), December 10th, at 2 p.m. Close at 8 p.m.

Admission : FIVE SHILLINGS.

TO-MORROW, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, December 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th. Open at 9 a.m. Close at 9 p.m.

Admission : ONE SHILLING.

Also CARCASE SHOW on Wednesday, and to 7 p.m. on Thursday.

C. DORMAN, Managing Director.
R. VENNER, Secretary.
Royal Agricultural Hall Co., Ltd.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the next GENERAL MEETING of Governors and Members will be held at the Society's House, 13, Hanover Square, London, W., on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13TH, 1900, at 12 o'clock noon, when the Half-Yearly Report of the Council will be read, and three Auditors appointed for the ensuing year.

ERNEST CLARKE, Secretary.

13, HANOVER SQUARE, W.
December, 1900.

BANKS, INSURANCES.

BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1835.)
4, Threadneedle Street, London.
Paid up Capital, £1,600,000.
Reserve Fund, £875,000.

Reserve Liability of Proprietors under the Charter, £1,600,000. Letters of Credit and Drafts issued on any of the numerous Branches of the Bank throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Bills negotiated or sent for collection.
Telegraphic Transfers made.
Deposits received in London at interest for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

R. W. JEANS, Manager.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS,

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
Insured against.
THEFT INSURANCE
and
FIDELITY BONDS
granted by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Established 1849. Claims paid over £4,200,000.

A. VIAN, *Secretary.*

64, CORNHILL, LONDON.

SPECIAL ADVANTAGES TO PRIVATE INSURERS.

THE IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED. FIRE. Established 1803. 1, Old Broad Street, E.C., 22, Pall Mall, S.W., and 47, Chancery Lane, W.C. Subscribed Capital, £1,200,000. Paid up £300,000. Total Funds over £1,500,000.—E. COZENS SMITH, General Manager.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,

UCKFIELD, SUSSEX,

With Farm and Complete Equipment for Home and Colonial Farming. Successful preparation for outside examinations.

PRINCIPAL . . . W. J. MALDEN.

SITUATIONS, AGENCIES.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of ICHABOE GUANO, the highest Ammoniacal Guano, also for high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS and CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

FRENCH AND GERMAN CORRESPONDENT.
Frenchman, 21, seeks situation as above. Knowledge of corn trade. Fair English. Good references. Willing to start as volunteer.—Address, R. D., 54, Burnt Ash Hill, Lee.

AGENTS WANTED for the sale of NATIVE GUANO. The best and cheapest Manure for all Farm and Garden Crops.—THE NATIVE GUANO COMPANY Limited, 29, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, London, E.C.

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FARM AND TIMBER VALUERS, SURVEYORS, HOUSE AGENTS, AND AUCTIONEERS.

Undertake valuations of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE, either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.

A MONTHLY Register published of Country Houses and Estates to be Let or Sold (Furnished or Unfurnished) in the Home Counties and elsewhere, free on application; also a

SEPARATE LIST OF FARMS.

Auction dates are fixed as may be required.
London office : 69, King William Street, E.C.
Country offices : Bromley, Kent ; and at Beckenham.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their offices, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp. Properties inserted free.—12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., & Sevenoaks, Kent.

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POTATOES.—W. DENNIS has a specially-selected stock of seed potatoes, including Myatt's, Duke of York's, Sharpe's Victors, Early Puritans, Duke of Albany, Challenge, British Queen, Snowdrop, Up-to-Date, Selected Reading Giants and Maincrops, at market prices.—Apply to Kirton, near Boston, Lincolnshire.

SEED POTATOES.—Early, mid-season, and main crop varieties : Challenge, Conquest, British Queen, and Up-to-Date. All of excellent quality and shape, and exceptionally heavy croppers, grown specially for seed from select stocks. Special quotation for autumn delivery. Illustrated descriptive catalogue and prices on application to "Manager," Earl of Rosebery's Home Farm, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

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ROSE TREES, PLANT NOW.—From the Garden of England, 150,000 Show Varieties (named), six, 3s.; twelve, 5s. 6d., carriage paid. Fruit Tree catalogues free. State wants.—Nursery, M.L., Fruit Co., Ltd., Sittingbourne, Kent.

TENDERS.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SHOREDITCH.

HORSE PROVENDER.

Tenders are invited for the supply of Hay, Mixture and Straw for the Horses of the Council for three, six, or nine months, from December 25th, 1900.

Special tenders on forms to be supplied, accompanied by [illegible] are required for Provender, to be sent to the undersigned not later than Wednesday, December 19th, 1900, at noon.

(Signed) H. MANSFIELD ROBINSON, Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Old Street, E.C.

REGISTER OF AUCTIONEERS AND ESTATE AGENTS

Having the disposal of Farm Live Stock, and the Sale or Letting of Estates, Farms, etc.

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PROVINCIAL.

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BEDFORD.

Ball, Harry, Auctioneer, Valuer, and Estate Agent, Duke Street (Monthly Register). Telephone No. 080.

Stafford & Rogers, F.S.I., Auctioneers, Valuers, and Surveyors.

Stafford, W., House, Estate Agent, and Valuer, 135, Midland Road. (Lists on application.)

Walker, G. C. (late H. Pulley), Auctioneer, Valuer, and Estate Agent, 1, St. Paul's Square. Telephone No. 25.

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Elliott Ellis & Co., F.A.I., Auctioneers, Valuers, Land and Estate Agents (Extensive Monthly Register).

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GLOUCESTER.

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Eley, James, F.A.I., Auctioneer, Surveyor, Valuer, and Land Agent, 1, Main Ridge.

MIDDLESEX.

HARROW.

Rhoades, Smith & Co., Auctioneers, House and Estate Agents, etc., Greenhill.

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(And North Monmouth).

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NORWICH.

Forster, W. Hill, P.A.S.I., Auctioneer, Valuer Estate Agent, and Surveyor, Orford Hill.

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NORTHAMPTON.

Campion, J. S., Auctioneer, Appraiser, and Estate Agent, Derngate.

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CHEMICALLY DRESSED "PECK" CLOTH SHEETS.—Waterproof and Rotproof, the foundation of which is Pure Flax Canvas, lettered and roped complete, 9ft. by 6ft., 11s. 6d.; 9ft. by 7ft., 13s. 6d.; 10½ft. by 8ft., 18s.; 12ft. by 9ft., 23s.; 15ft. by 9ft., 28s. 9d.; 15ft. by 10ft., 31s. 9d.; 15ft. by 12ft., 38s. 4d.; 18ft. by 12ft., 46s.; 21ft. by 12ft., 53s. 8d.; 21ft. by 15ft., 66s. 10d.; 21ft. by 18ft., 80s. 6d.; 24ft. by 18ft., 92s. Sample and price list on application. Immediate delivery of any other size at proportionate price, viz., 1s. 11d. per square yard.—J. H. PECK AND CO., Ld., Waterproofers, Wigan. Estd. 1808.

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WATERPROOF OIL SHEETS.—Improved flexible, made from pure flax canvas, hand dressed, lettered, with tie-ropes complete. 8ft. by 6ft., 9s.; 9ft. by 7ft., 11s.; 10½ft. by 8ft., 14s.; 12ft. by 9ft., 18s.; 12ft. by 10ft., 20s.; 15ft. by 8ft., 20s.; 15ft. by 9ft., 22s, 6d.; 15ft. by 10ft., 25s.; 15ft. by 12ft., 30s.; 16½ft. by 10ft., 28s.; 16½ft. by 12ft., 33s.; 18ft. by 12ft., 36s.; 21ft. by 12ft., 42s.; 21ft. by 15ft., 53s.; 24ft. by 18ft., 72s. These and all other sizes in stock at proportionate prices, carriage paid; thoroughly seasoned. Every cover guaranteed flexible.—J. H. PECK AND CO., Ld., Waterproofers, Wigan.

HORSE CLOTHS.—Made from flexible Oilcloth, Black or Yellow, chemically dressed "Peck" Cloth, or best White Mackintosh. Any size to order. Illustrated price list post free.—J. H. PECK AND CO., Ld., Waterproofers, Wigan. Estd. 1808.

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OILS.—Guaranteed of highest quality. In drums fitted with brass tap and vent plug. Neatsfoot: 5 gallons, 22s. 6d.; 10 gallons, 40s. Linseed: 5 gallons, 21s.; 10 gallons, 38s. 6d. Machinery: 5 gallons, 12s. 6d.; 10 gallons, 20s. Drums allowed for when returned in good condition, carriage paid: 5 gallons, 4s.; 10 gallons, 5s.—J. H. PECK AND CO., Ld., Wigan. Estd. 1808.

COW MILKER! COW MILKER!! The celebrated self-acting Cow Milker supersedes hand labour. Milk each cow in four minutes effectually. Price 6s. each, delivered.—Circular, with testimonials, on application, N. BUCHANAN, 9, Sandon Place, Sheffield.

DISTRIBUTOR for Basic Slag sows 7ft. wide; price £9.—Patentee, T. A. MEGGESON, Stockton-on-Tees.

SWINE FEVER.—Not a cure, but a certain preventative. I have used a preparation of my own make for thirty years, and have never had swine fever; also, given to sows, prevents them losing or having heated milk, which is the cause of so much loss with young pigs. It keeps feeding pigs healthy, so that they are fit for the butcher in a much shorter time. I will send enough for twenty pigs for six months for 10s.—JOHN WARTH, Farmer and Dealer, Chatteris, Cambs.

CHEAP PORK.—After years of study I can at last bring before pig keepers a Medicated Meal that will produce pork at much less per stone than any other on the market. Try it and publish results is all I ask. Price 9s. per cwt., 140s. per ton, in bags, on rail Chatteris; cash with order.—JOHN WARTH, Farmer and Dealer, Chatteris, Cambs.

BASIC SLAG, 38/45 per cent. Phosphates guaranteed. We sell thousands of tons, and can quote lowest prices. Order now to secure delivery when required. Try our celebrated CORN SACKS. Special prices. Catalogue of Manures, &c., free. Cannock Agricultural Company, Limited, HENRY R. HART, Managing Director, Cannock, Staffs.

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BASIC SLAG (Thomas' Phosphate Powder).—State quantity required and station, when prices, with guaranteed analyses and full particulars, will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

HORSE CLOTHS! HORSE CLOTHS!! 30in. by 36in., 4s. 3d.; 36 in. by 48in. 5s. 6d., both lined and strapped. Heavy quality lined best pure woollen check, strapped, 36in. by 54in., 6s. 9d.; 54in. by 54in., 9s. 6d.; 60in. by 60in., 10s. 6d. All marked free. Samples and lists free.—E. B. HAWTHORN AND CO. Limited, Reading.

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895,800 YARDS WIRE NETTING.—Galvanised, new. Cash prices per roll of 50 yds.: 3-in. mesh, 2 ft., 3s. 9d.; 3 ft., 5s. 6d.; 4 ft., 7s. 6d; 2-in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 6d.; 3 ft., 6s. 9d.; 4 ft., 9s.; 1⅜-in. mesh, 2 ft., 5s. 6d.; 3 ft., 8s. 6d.; 4 ft., 11s.; 1-in. mesh, 2 ft. wide, 8s. 3d.; 3 ft., 12s. 5d. 4 ft., 16s. 6d. Any other size or width equally cheap. Warranted very best quality. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING, 50-yd. rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4-in. mesh with centre strand, 8s. 3d., 9s. 3d., and 11s. 6d. per roll. Carriage paid on lots of 50s. and upwards. Wrought Iron Stakes for fixing netting, 9s. 6d. per dozen, carriage paid. Iron Hurdles, 6 ft. long, 4 bars, 36s. 0d. per dozen; 5 bars, 39s. Extra strong, 51s. per dozen. Challenge Field Gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 24s. each.—JOHN FRIEST and SON, Limited, Tower Hill, Bristol.

SPECIAL SEPARATE FREE CATALOGUES of Galvanised Roofing and Fittings, Tanks, Troughs, Cisterns, Watercart Bodies; Paints, Varnishes, Glass, Putty; Wrought-iron Tubes; Cast-iron Gutters; Iron Hurdles and Gates; Galvanised Netting and Stakes; Fence Wires, Pillars, Standards, Staples; Nails and Screws; Greenhouses and Frames; Garden Rollers, Mowers and Appliances; Timber, Matching, Flooring; and many others. Please state actual wants.—JOHN ATTWOOD REEVE, Stony Stratford, Bucks.

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SACKS! SACKS!! 3lbs., 4 bus. for lots of 25, 11d.; 50, 10½d.; 100, 10d.; 200, 9½d.; 4lbs. 4 bus., 3d. per sack extra. Sewed with tarred twine, and marked free. All kinds supplied. Samples and prices free.—E. B. HAWTHORN AND CO., Limited, Reading.

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200 GALLON Galvanised Tanks, 46s. 6d., delivered; Roofing Felt, 3s., 4s. 2d., 5s. 8d. per roll; Galvanised Corrugated Sheets, 5 ft. 1s. 4½d., 6 ft. 1s. 9d., 7 ft. 2s., 8 ft. 2s. 4d., 9 ft. 2s. 9d., 10 ft. 3s. 2d.; Sheep Netting, centre strand, 7s. 10d., 8s. 10d., 10s. 9d. per 50 yards; Galvanised Barb Wire, 15s. 9d. 590 yards; Plain Fencing Wire, 10s. 6d. per cwt.

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RATIONAL PIG KEEPING, to ensure Profit. By W. J. MALDEN. Crown 8vo, cloth. Price 2s.; post free, 2s. 3d. Illustrated. London: "Farm Field and Fireside" Offices, 1, Essex Street, Strand, W.C.

☞ There is no Newspaper published in the County Town of Kent which has ONE-SEVENTH of the Circulation of the "KENT MESSENGER."

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—No. STRANGE, Accountant, Tunbridge Wells, Dec. 1st, 1897.

The Kent Messenger is rapidly printed on A Hoe Rotary Machine

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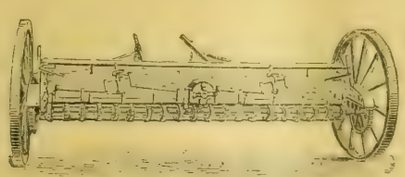

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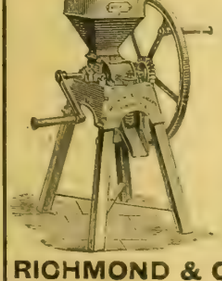

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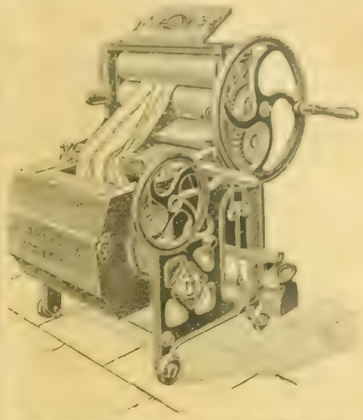

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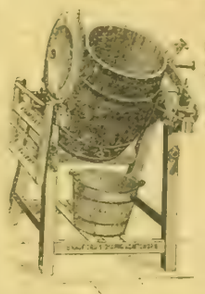

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7 3rd "

A NOTABLE FACT.

In the Champion Class not only the First prize (Lord Mayor's Cup), but also the Second Prize fell to the users of **Bradford's Patent "Diaphragm" Churn.**

Users of this churn also won the Champion Prize and 18 other prizes at the London Dairy Show, 1899.

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FOR

THE FINEST ROOTS,

some drawn from a Field Crop of 70 tons per acre, and

THE FINEST CEREALS,

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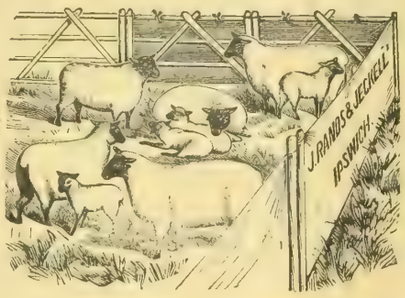

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Dear Sirs,—Please send me four more of the 20-yard Sheep Cloths, the same as you sent me in January; they are very convenient things.

Yours truly,
W. A. ELLIS.

20 yds. long, 3 ft. deep, with Brass Eyelets and Cords for fixing to hurdles.

6d., 9d., and 1/- per yd.
Rot-proof, 1/6 per yd.

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Sirs,—I can with every confidence recommend your Sheep and Lamb Sheltering Cloths, especially the "Dupla," when they form a most efficient, easily moved, and durable shelter.

Yours truly,
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20 yds. long, 6 ft. deep, with Brass Eyelets and Cords for fixing to hurdles.

1/-, 1/6, and 2/- per yd.
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Renardine will ensure every Rabbit being above ground: the result of its use will well repay the small amount it costs.

Send for One Tin as a trial.

Carriage Paid. Please mention nearest passenger station & this paper

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For Farmers, Gamekeepers, and others.

A good, strong, light overcoat, will stand plenty of hard wear, and is thoroughly waterproof.

Price ony s., postage paid.

Height and chest measurement are all that are required.

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LONDON CATTLE SHOW, STAND 176.

GOLD MEDAL, PARIS EXHIBITION, 1900.

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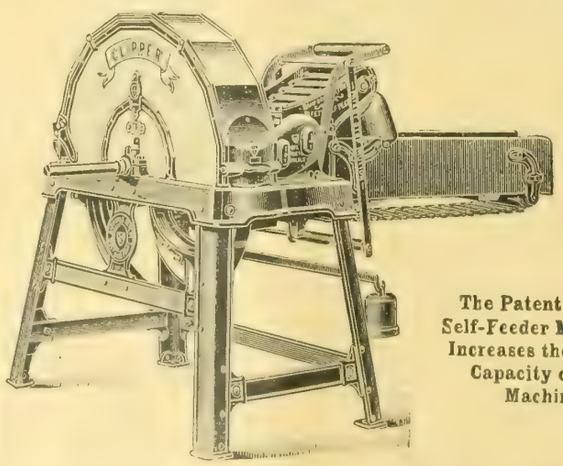
SAFETY

Self-Feeding "CLIPPER"

CHAFF CUTTER

With New Patent Self-Acting Stop Motion.



The Patent Safety Self-Feeder Materially Increases the Cutting Capacity of the Machine.

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"ALBION"

HARVESTING MACHINERY

Will be Exhibited, including

"ALBION" MOWER No. 9,

WHICH IS AN

ENTIRELY NEW MACHINE

POSSESSING

Points of Superior Excellence.

ALBION IRON WORKS,

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THE

LIVERPOOL VESTA CAKE CO.

In submitting their List of Cakes and Meals wish to bring to the notice of their customers that the same are manufactured for the several purposes for which they are respectively recommended. The Company will consequently feel obliged if when ordering customers will take note of the following descriptions, which may be some guide in their selection.

VESTA FATTENING CAKE OR MEAL

ANALYSIS.—Oil, 11·13; Albuminoids, 21·25; Carbo-Hydrates, 36·40.

For Stall Feeding and finishing purposes the Vesta Fattening Cake is the very highest class of food by reason of its maximum total of feeding constituents, combined with its quick assimilation, which makes it the most rapid fattening cake of the day.

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For Milking and Feeding at same time, and also for young stock and sheep, the Vesta Feeding Cake is the standard quality, its total constituents being equal to that contained in the best cake of other makers, and the very best value for the money.

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For Calf Rearing.

The Cream Meal is as near perfection as possible; new milk can be dispensed with when the calf is a few days old. The Cream Meal used in conjunction with separated milk is an excellent food.

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N.B.—In reference to the above Meals it would be a great advantage to give the Calf a little Fattening or Feeding Cake when it is two months old; same must be given in a dry state, say a small handful to start, increasing gradually, reaching about 2 lbs by the time the Calf has arrived at six months old. But in no case whatever must the cake be given in the form of gruel.

Established over 100 Years.

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For Profit, Ornament, and Game Cover.

THOMAS KENNEDY and Co., High St., Dumfries, N.B.

HARDY SCOTCH CROWN.

Before contracting for this season, ask us for Samples and Quotations.

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NEW & IMPROVED BREEDS

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will be on Exhibition at the following Winter Shows (inspection respectfully invited):

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December 10th to 14th.

Seed Growers and Experts to

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Pedigree Barley and Oats

For 40 years re-started each year from the proved best single grain of the year.

MAJOR HALLETT, Brighton.

BIBBY'S "CREAM EQUIVALENT" for CALVES.

An Ounce of Fact is worth a Ton of Theory.

A STRIKING FACT.

In our Spring number of "Bibby's Quarterly" we reproduced the photographs of two groups of Calves which are now being reared at the Hornby House Farm, Bedale, Yorks, by his Grace the Duke of Leeds.

One of the groups is being fed on New Milk and the other on Separated Milk and "Cream Equivalent."

We asked our readers to tell us which of these groups were fed on New Milk, and 707 Farmers, Farmers' wives, their sons and daughters competed for a small prize which we offered to those who guessed correctly.

445 selected the "Cream Equivalent" fed Calves as having been fed on New Milk.

We think the above striking FACT speaks volumes for "Cream Equivalent."

The "Cream Equivalent" can be had at 15s. per cwt., carriage paid to nearest station.

SOLE MANUFACTURERS:—

J. BIBBY & SONS,

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RANGOON RICEMEAL.

The cheapest feeding article for all kinds of stock.

Analysis of a recent parcel, by Dr. BERNARD DYER.

RANGOON RICEMEAL.	
Moisture	8.17
Oil	14.89
Albuminoids	12.06
Starch, Mucilage, Sugar, Digestible Fibre	51.54
Indigestible Woody Fibre	4.97
Mineral Matter (ash)	8.37
	100.00
	FOOD UNITS.
Equivalent to	119
Compared with	
American Maize Germ Meal	118
English Maize Germ Meal	113
Undecorticated English Cotton Cake	107
Maize, new crop	99
Maize, old crop (average)	108

Price £4 15s. 0d. per ton, free on rails London, bags included.

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And all other Leading Varieties.

Send for Catalogue & Prices, stating quantities.

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Potato Growers, Haddington, N.B.

THE VICTORIES OF THE YEAR.

WEBB & SONS

Have pleasure in announcing that the produce of their Seeds has scored 28 FIRST AND OTHER PRIZES in the Open Classes at the

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(including the whole of the First Prizes for Mangolds & Swedes),

MAKING A TOTAL OF

546 PRIZES DURING THE LAST 22 YEARS.

Cardiff Agricultural Society, 1900.

28 FIRST and other PRIZES, including Champion Prize for Roots.

Liverpool Root and Grain Show, 1900.

24 FIRST and other PRIZES.

London Dairy Show, 1900.

4 FIRST and other PRIZES, including First Prize for Webbs' Smithfield Yellow Globe Mangold.

Norwich Fat Stock Show, 1900.

11 FIRST and other PRIZES.

Brewers' Exhibition, London, 1900.

19 FIRST and other PRIZES, value **£149**; Prize Medals; **4** Silver Cups; and **21** Diplomas for Barley.

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21 FIRST and other PRIZES, including the County Cup.

Proctor and Ryland's Prizes, 1900.

The whole of the Prizes (value £100) were, with one exception, awarded to the produce of Webbs' Seeds.

Stand No. 65, Smithfield Club Cattle Show

E. & A. Webb & Sons. Wordsley, Stourbridge.

By Royal Warrants Seedsmen to H.M. The QUEEN, & H.R.H. The Prince of Wales.

RANSOMES, SIMS & JEFFERIES, LTD.,

GRAND PRIZE AND GOLD MEDAL, PARIS EXHIBITION, 1900.

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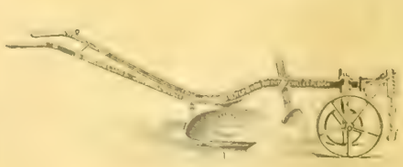
TO SUIT EVERY REQUIREMENT.



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William Colchester's
GOLD MEDAL
FERTILIZERS AND MANURES
For all Crops,

Prepared and Blended at Griffin Mills, Ipswich.

Samples of Produce, including:—

The Gold Cup Barley winning sample, exhibited by R. J. Thurman, Semer, Suffolk, winner of Sir W. Cuthbert Quilter, M.P.'s Silver Cup, Brewers' Exhibition, 1900. Hadleigh Farmers' Club special, first prize and Messrs. Webb and Sons' special award for cultivation.

The two samples of Barley winning the Silver and Bronze Medals and Diplomas in the Third Annual Gold Cup competition, Ipswich, November, 1900.

Specimens of Wheat, Oats, and other grain crops in sheaf and berry.

Specimens of Mangolds, Kohl Rabi, Turnips, Swedes, Potatoes, and other root crops, and farm and market garden produce.

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WILLIAM COLCHESTER'S
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DRAWN FROM ENGLISH & SCOTCH FIELD CROPS,

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SUTTON'S SEEDS

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DEALERS in Phosphates, Bones, Nitrate of Soda, Potash, and all Agricultural Goods.

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OF LEICESTER,
Will be pleased to receive visits at their STAND No. 94, at the
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For Quality and Yield.
EARLY PURITAN, BRITISH QUEEN, CHALLENGE, UP-TO-DATE, SCOTTISH TRIUMPH, WHITE HEBRON, KLONDYKE NINETYFOLD.
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THE CHEAPEST AVAILABLE SOURCE OF PHOSPHORIC ACID.
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THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

The Championship of the World, first, second, and fourth prizes in Open Classes, Barley Competition Brewers' Exhibition, October, 1900 were grown with JOSEPH FISON & CO.'S Extra Quality Barley Fertilizer.

JOSEPH FISON & CO., Limited, IPSWICH.

Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal.

The Only English Journal devoted exclusively to Agriculture.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER, "MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

DIRTY WOOL.

Since we referred to the question of the use of tar and pitch by sheep farmers a short time back there has been a most important meeting in Bradford, when the subject and other kindred matters were dealt with. The meeting took place on Thursday last, and was attended by a good number of representative growers, merchants, and auctioneers, who make a speciality of such business. The meeting was called by the committee of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, which has special charge of matters affecting the wool trade. The excuse was the decision given by a county court judge in favour of the defendant in a case where the plaintiff had purchased 245 fleeces of wool and found 207lbs. of what he described as dirt therein. The meeting very wisely decided to deal with the whole question. In the first place it expressed the opinion that the practice of tying fleeces with vegetable band or string is dangerous, on account of the risk of damage being done by such fibre getting into the manufactured article. The Winchester case was then referred to by the chairman, who pointed out that he was not so much prepared to discuss the legal points raised, as he was anxious to call attention to the possible effects of such a precedent. There had been a certain amount of tarkings wrapped up in the fleeces, and the learned judge accepted the contention that, as the buyer had the opportunity of making an examination before the purchase, he must rely upon his own judgment. In other words, it was simply an application of the legal maxim *caveat emptor*, which, being freely translated, means that the buyer must look after himself. This may be, and probably is, good law, but it will be very difficult indeed to get away from the remark of

the speaker, that whatever the legal position may be, there was something morally wrong in such a course. We can hardly think that the wool grower will object to such a view; and it certainly seems only natural to expect that such a practice can only tend to make buyers not only more suspicious but more particular in their bargains. We must also agree with the expression of opinion to the effect that such a case would have been much better settled by private arbitration rather than by a visit to the county court. There was some suggestion as to an appeal, but it was so vague that we need not notice it, at any rate for the present.

Another resolution which was adopted declared that the meeting was of opinion that the members of the wool trade ought to most strongly condemn the practice of farmers leaving "clags, dockings, locks, and tailings in fleeces, whether washed or unwashed"; the reason given for this was that practically it is not possible for a purchaser to examine the whole of the fleeces. This must be admitted; and, therefore, we are compelled once more to admit that the dealer has some ground of complaint. Probably, if he is not treated more considerately in the matter, he (and we include the trade in the singular pronoun) will make it an excuse for a still further reduction in price, on the ground of the additional waste of time, which a business man may reasonably contend is also a waste of money. The real difficulty in the matter is that the man who, as a rule, has to suffer the loss is the auctioneer, who acts as middleman in the matter, for he has to make allowances, too often, to a purchaser which he cannot expect to recover from a vendor. We certainly cannot agree with the remark of one of the speakers that the farmer has the least desire or intention to be dishonest in the matter; but all the same it is fully time that attention was paid to the matter. There seems to be some amount of evidence which cannot be ignored, and which tends to show that the dealers have ground for complaint. If that is so, it ought to be removed as soon as possible. There is no smoke without a fire; and in this case there is a good deal more smoke than has yet been generally made public. We do not know what the fire is; it may be a few isolated cases, or it may be fairly general. We cannot say; but we are convinced that no harm could be done if the matter was fully considered. We do not suppose that there could be any harm done if the Central Chamber of Agriculture could see its way clear to fully discuss the matter; and perhaps it might be worth while to suggest a conference to "the other side," and see if it is not possible to come to some understanding, and so save any more "Winchester cases." The wool buyer is just as much necessary to the farmer as the corn dealer. He will also find the wool-grower equally necessary to him. When two classes of persons are necessary to each other they will find it well to try and be reasonable with each other. We trust that such spirit will actuate both sides in this matter. If it does, there ought not to be the least difficulty in arriving at a satisfactory solution.

American Anarchist Sets Fire to a Haystack.—At the Munster Assizes on Friday, Roy Kreuglar, an American Anarchist, was convicted of having set on fire and destroyed hay valued at £600, the property of Captain Woodley. The prisoner, who was arrested in the act, resisted violently, and said he would stagger humanity. To a remark by Chief Justice O'Brien prisoner said defiantly, "I should have burned the house around him. He refused to give me some socks, and threatened to break every bone in my body. I will make Europe tremble." The judge: "Like others of your class, you are full of vanity." Prisoner was sentenced to ten years' penal servitude.

FIRST CLASS representatives and agents required throughout the United Kingdom for the sale of "MOLASSINE"—Write for particulars to the "MOLASSINE" Co., LTD., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

The Royal Agricultural Society has just published through Mr. John Murray a useful sixpenny pamphlet on the new Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900, which comes into force on the 1st January next. In addition to the text of the new Act (which is only an amending and not a consolidation Act), the pamphlet contains a summary by Mr. S. B. L. Druce, barrister-at-law, on the whole of the existing statute law on the subject. This should prove very convenient to landlords, farmers, valuers, and others who are affected by the present Acts, by saving them the trouble of referring to different volumes of the statistics.

In opening the Assizes for the Province of Munster, at Cork, on Tuesday, Lord O'Brien, Lord Chief Justice of Ireland, commented on the state of the country. He said he found in County Clare eleven persons were receiving constant police protection, which meant the presence of police in the house of the man who is protected, or in adjacent huts built for the purpose. Twenty-six persons were also receiving protection by police patrol. There were 120 evicted farms, forty-seven of which were derelict, which meant abandoned by landlord and tenant, the former being unable to stock them. That was a serious and suggestive matter.

In County Limerick twenty-eight persons were receiving police protection by patrol; there were ninety evicted farms, fourteen being derelict. The state of North Tipperary was fairly satisfactory, though one gentleman had been under police protection for eighteen years. In South Tipperary twenty-five people were under police protection by patrol. In County Kerry thirty-two men were under constant police protection, and sixty-four were receiving protection. Evicted farms in the county numbered 241, of which twenty-five were derelict.

The Quebec correspondent of the *Standard* states that the Great Northern Railway has contracted for five Leyland liners for five years to carry grain hence to England by a weekly service next season. The largest steamers now running to Boston, United States, will then run to Quebec.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to December 1st, 1900, were £69,370,991 against £67,438,499 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £117,897,187 against £74,036,049 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on December 1st, 1900, amounted to £3,197,330, and at the same date in 1899 to £3,692,343.

The Smithfield week is noted for the maximum attendances at Mark Lane, and while trade is busy by day there is also on more than one occasion "a sound of revelry by night." On Tuesday, while the elect of agriculture are gathered round the Minister of that Department, there will be a humbler but probably no less festive gathering in the Pillar Hall of the Corn Exchange Restaurant, Mark Lane, where the "Hurst and Son Musical Society" have their annual Smithfield Week smoking concert.

Some surprise has been excited by the decision of the Mark Lane Markets Company to close the two exchanges not only on December 26th—that was taken for granted—but also on December 24th. There will be no markets markets between December 21st and December 28th. The suppression of the Monday market when it falls neither on a religious festival nor on a Bank Holiday is said to be absolutely illegal, and to entitle any farmers to petition the Crown for the grant of a fresh market. The law relating to *market overt* is both ancient and obscure, but it seems difficult to believe that a Royal grant con be suspended at the will of a limited liability company, and without authority from any statute.

Visitors to Mark Lane who have heard (how can they help hearing?) of the lightermen's "strike," the bargeowners' "agitation," and the "discontent" of the wharfingers, were alarmed this morning to find the street barricaded with overturned trucks, deep entrenchments, and cross trenches. Red flags waved on the top of newly-erected earthworks, and long tubes projected in a threatening and "four point seven" manner over convenient embrasures. Evidently the contending parties had come to the dread arbitrament of arms! But no; the local policeman was strangely unmoved, and on inquiry I learnt that while the Postmaster-General was studying the public convenience on one side of the street, the electric light people were equally obliging on the other. Mark Lane is "up"!

The Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury was on Saturday re-elected at Preston without opposition on his appointment as President of the Board of Agriculture. At the General Election Mr. Hanbury's majority over Mr. Keir-Hardie, the Labour candidate, now one of the members for Merthyr, was upwards of 4,000.

The Right Hon. Henry Chaplin, M.P., late President of the Local Government Board, in replying to a letter from the Chairman of the Sleaford Conservative Association, stated that when asked to resign his office he was offered a peerage, but that he would not accept it.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

There is one remarkable fact about the new House of Commons, and that is its concentration, its business-like intention, and its eagerness of resolve. Is this to be utilised for the advantage of the agricultural interest? Aye, there's the rub. It is not. Not even the personality of Mr. Hanbury—and let me say that after my comments of last week I feel that a renewed tribute is due to it—has induced a closer sympathy with the interest. If you were to ask a man in the lobby whether he did not think there was a prospect of a renewed interest being given to agriculture he would probably reply, with an air of petulance, "Are you not satisfied? You have had two of your agricultural M.P.'s, Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes and Mr. Grant Lawson, given posts of some distinction; surely this should be enough." If you were to speak about the possibility of an agrarian policy you would be laughed at. Agrarian policy, forsooth? Didn't we have the Agricultural Holdings Act Amendment Act last session; and haven't we the Bœotian Boer to settle this session. Isn't that sufficient.

Mr. Chaplin may console himself with the reflection—if consolation he need—that he has the sympathy of a united House over the unfortunate incident which resulted in his resigning his Ministerial appointment. The petty whipsters who, in their infantile conceit, have girded at him and at his Parliamentary method now comprehend the dignity of his life and the honesty of his purpose. I heard in the lobby more regrets at the ill-fate which has befallen Mr. Chaplin than I have ever heard during my fifteen years' association with the House of Commons. There was only gratifying alloy in these regrets, and that was bred of the reflection that the right hon. gentleman will for awhile at least remain a member of the Lower House.

All at once it was borne in upon the youngsters who have in the past expressed their poor irony in taunting jeers that the removal of Mr. Chaplin would mean the removal of one of the last relics of the stately time of the great Parliamentarians. He and Sir William Harcourt are the two last remnants of the Gladstonian period, the period which has a direct connection with the period of Peel, with the period of Charles Buller, with the period of Pitt, of Fox, and of Sheridan. Their style may not be crisp and incisive, as is the present business-like manner. It is, however, stately and imposing. It is the Gothic manner of oratorical architecture. The present fashion is the commercial-traveller manner.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's tribute to Mr. Chaplin was echoed by all the more distinguished members of the House. Mr. Balfour, Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Chamberlain, and Mr. John Morley all uttered an acclamatory

cheer in appreciation of the Liberal leader's tribute to his genial manners and his sonorous rhetoric. I see that in some of the papers the word "laughter" is interposed after the report of Sir Henry's remarks. The "laughter" was the ebullition of a few jaunty youths who have naught to commend themselves to political reputation but their conceit, and was instantly rebuked by the general reproval of the House. I was keenly watching Sir Henry at the moment, and I noted that he was moved as he gave utterance to the compliment, and that he had no sympathy with the burlesqueing-stupidity of his petty-minded followers.

Mr. Chaplin is really a great figure in the House. I agree that he is somewhat out of harmony with the modern Parliamentary manner, the manner, that is, which has been introduced by Mr. Chamberlain—a manner that is, say, clear-cut, and is coldly cynical; but he has what is better—he has the grand style, the Grandisonian style if you like. And, frankly, I think that Sir Charles Grandison was a better type Englishman than Mr. Chamberlain.

I was talking with certain members of the Conservative party, and I found that they were chiefly irritated over the fact that Mr. Chaplin's supersession had meant a supersession in favour of the Salisbury family. It is no use disguising this. It is the absolute and indisputable fact. And yet let us ask ourselves these two or three questions: Has Lord Selborne, son-in-law though he be of Lord Salisbury, shown such a monumental capacity that he should usurp the place of one of the most esteemed men in the last Ministry? Let us go farther, and ask: Was Mr. Gerald Balfour, Lord Salisbury's nephew, so great a success as Chief Secretary that he deserved to take the place which Mr. Chaplin filled with distinction? A step even further—had Lord Cranborne imposed his personality so much on the House that he deserved to be included in the Ministry?

These thoughts and suggestions are not mine alone. They are the reflection simply of the view of the lobby or, rather of the best men in the lobby. It would be idle to deny the fact that there is a wide feeling that Mr. Chaplin has been badly and ungenerously treated. Lord Rosebery, it is true, got some humour out of the situation in the brilliant speech which he delivered on Thursday night in the Lord's. This, however, I can say—that Lord Rosebery's speech did not indicate his real view. That view is—and, as a fact, he really indicated this in his speech—that in the desire for what I may call a "family-inflation" the Premier has sacrificed a man of fine political lineage, and of great political capacity. The salient fact of the situation is that the agricultural interest has lost from the Cabinet a generous and unswervingly faithful exponent and friend. The promotion of Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes and the elevation of Mr. Grant Lawson—both excellent and able and promising men—are no compensation for this. If I use an old phrase of mine, I will say that the manner of the supersession of Mr. Chaplin leaves a very bad taste in the mouth. This is the view of the lobby. Nobody likes it but the ribalds.

The Right Honourable Robert Spencer—I like me much that "Right Honourable"—was this week the object of a good deal of attention in the lobby. "Ah," would say one old legislator after another, as they greeted him, "can it be still the fact that you are not an agricultural labourer?" Of course, the subtle allusion was to the day when Mr. Spencer rose, and with haw-haw manner, hair-parted-in-the-centre dignity, and arrayed in all the Solomon-like panoply of glossy boots, perfect-fitting clothes, and scintillating eye-glass, declared, "I am not an agricultural labourer." The Right Honourable Bob seemed, I must say, to tremendously enjoy the rather poor joke.

A rumour is in circulation in political circles—an excellent rumour if it be true. It is that the new Minister for Agriculture is devoting himself to the question of foreign competition and its effect upon British agriculture. Is Mr. Hanbury, after all, to prove himself a blessing in disguise?

Will the arsenical beer scare have any effect on the pure beer agitation? Of course it will. The men associated with that movement—men like Sir Cuthbert Quilter, M.P., and Mr. F. Wilson, M.P.—are not the kind of politicians to neglect such an opportunity of pursuing a laudable purpose. Indeed, they have to my personal knowledge already proceeded to take advantage of it. The Government will not prevent a revival of the movement by the complacent assertion that there is a law already applying to the adulteration of beer. Of course there is; but there is not a law preventing beer being a product of the chemist's laboratory rather than of the hop-field. To define "beer" and its ingredients is an excellent suggestion; but even that would not go far enough. Sir Cuthbert Quilter should re-introduce his Bill with, perhaps, an additional clause in harmony with the suggestions of recent experience. I say that Sir Cuthbert should do this. As a fact, he will do this.

Agricultural Returns of Great Britain, 1900.

Produce of Wheat, Barley, and Oats.

Preliminary statement showing the estimated total produce and yield per acre of wheat, barley, and oats in Great Britain in the year 1900, with comparative statements for the year 1899, and for the average of the ten years 1890-99.

		England.	Wales.	Scotland	Great Britain.
WHEAT.					
Estimated total produce in bushels	1900	49,528,385	1,332,299	1,779,125	52,639,809
	1899	62,380,067	1,380,938	1,759,320	65,520,325
Acreage	1900	1,744,556	51,654	48,832	1,845,042
	1899	1,899,827	53,898	47,256	2,000,981
Estimated yield per acre in bushels	1900	28·39	25·79	36·43	28·53
	1899	32·83	25·62	37·42	32·75
Average of the 10 yrs., 1890-99 in bushels		30·15	24·15	36·98	30·15
BARLEY.					
Estimated total produced in b'sh'ls	1900	50,977,265	3,341,872	7,995,373	62,314,510
	1899	56,164,313	3,328,491	8,222,891	67,715,698
Acreage	1900	1,545,027	105,048	240,195	1,990,265
	1899	1,635,763	105,978	240,469	1,982,108
Estimated yield per acre in bushels	1900	33·00	31·81	33·29	31·31
	1899	34·34	31·41	34·19	34·16
Average of the 10 yrs., 1890-99, in bushels		40·80	33·20	36·55	38·81
OATS.					
Estimated total produce in bushels	1900	73,601,178	7,238,305	34,005,054	114,847,537
	1899	73,990,288	7,527,952	33,313,304	114,746,544
Acreage	1900	1,830,513	216,447	949,128	3,026,088
	1899	1,781,649	220,233	957,873	2,959,755
Estimated yield per acre in bushels	1900	39·56	33·44	35·83	37·95
	1899	41·48	34·18	34·78	38.77
Average of the 10 yrs., 1890-99, in bushels		40·80	33·20	36·55	38.81

Sir J. H. Gilbert on the Wheat Crop of 1900.

An estimate of the average yield of wheat per acre in the United Kingdom has been made at Rothamsted for each year (with one exception) from 1852 up to the present time, founded on the produce on selected plots in the experimental wheat field which has now grown the crop for fifty-seven years in succession, from 1843-4 to 1899-1900 inclusive. Further, commencing with 1863, such an estimate has been issued annually. With the death of Sir John Lawes it would seem not inappropriate that the annual publication should be discontinued. It happens, however, that Sir John watched very carefully the progress of growth of the crop this year up to harvest, and frequently commented on its indications; and as the meteorological and statistical data have been got together, I have decided to draw up the results for publication in the usual form. It is, it is true, later than desirable, but absence from home, and full engagements when at home, have rendered it impossible for me to take up the subject sooner. Obviously, too, it is quite impossible to make any promises for the future.

Referring to the wheat crop of 1900, the first point to consider is what were the characters of the season which grew it? The greater part of September, 1899, was warmer than average, with a considerable deficiency of rain. Then followed several weeks of lower than average temperature, with at the end of September and the beginning of October a considerable excess of rain, leading to drainage from the pipes in the experimental wheat field. With the exception of a cold period about the middle of December, the temperature ranged unusually high from the last week in October to nearly the end of January; and after the excessive rain early in October there was a period of dry weather favourable for working the land and getting in the seed. But again at the end of October and in the beginning of November there was a great excess of rain, with considerable drainage from the experimental plots. Then followed a period from the middle of November to nearly the end of December of considerable deficiency of rain, succeeded then and early in January by excess of rain, and drainages from the pipes. Locally, on the ground there were, with little exception, lower than average temperatures to the end of March, and there was a great excess of rain and much drainage from about the middle of February to early in March. The explanation of so much autumn and winter drainage will be seen as we proceed.

With the exception of some warm days in April and the beginning of May, there was cool weather in March to the end of May, on the whole lower than average temperature, with at the same time great deficiency in rain. From that time to August the temperature was, with the exception of short periods, considerably over average, three months being with great deficiency of rain up to nearly the end of July, though there was a fair amount towards the end of June. There was, in fact, considerable deficiency in March and April, much greater deficiency in May and July, but a slight excess in June. In August, with again prevailing high temperature, there was considerable excess of rain.

Such were the conditions of the weather at Rothamsted, which gave the crop of 1900. We have next to consider what was the amount and character of the produce on the experimental plots. The following table gives, in the usual form, the produce of the selected plots in the past season, which was the fifty-seventh year of the successive growth of the crop on the same land. It also gives, for comparison, the average produce of the same plots over the preceding ten, thirty-eight, and forty-eight years, 1852-99 inclusive:—

	Unmanured Plot 3.	Farmyard Manure Plot 2.	Artificial Manures. P.Q. Plot 7.	Artificial Manures. P. Q. Plot 8.	Artificial Manures. Plot 9 or 16.	Mean of Plots 3, 7, 8, and 9 or 16.
BUSHELS OF DRESSED GRAIN PER ACRE.						
Present year 1900	12¼	32¼	29¾	44	34¾	29¾ (a)
Averages:—						
10 years 1890-99	12¾	41	33¾	27¾	32¾	31¼ (b)
38 years 1852-89	14	34	32¾	30¾	36	31¼ (c)
48 years 1852-99	13¾	35¼	33	30¾	35¼	31¾ (d)
WEIGHT PER BUSHEL OF DRESSED GRAIN LB.						
Present year 1900	60¼	61¼	60¾	60	60½	60¾
Averages:—						
10 years 1890-99	61¼	61¼	61¼	60½	61	61
38 years 1852-89	58¼	60¼	59¾	59	59¾	59
48 years 1852-99	58¾	60¾	59¾	59¼	59¾	59
TOTAL STRAW, CHAFF, ETC., PER ACRE, OATS.						
Present year 1900	9	32	30¾	39¾	31¾	33¼
Averages:—						
10 years, 1890-99	9¼	41¼	41	43¾	40	38
38 years, 1852-89	10¾	41¾	42¾	40	41	38
48 years, 1852-99	10¾	43¾	43	42	42	38

(a) Equal to 27¾ bushels at 60lb. per bushel. (b) Equal to 30½ bushels at 60lb. per bushel. (c) Equal to 27 bushels at 60lb. per bushel. (d) Equal to 27½ bushels at 60lb. per bushel.

The table shows that without manure there was rather less grain, and also less straw, than over the preceding ten years, and in a greater degree less than over the earlier periods. The farmyard manure, with its great accumulations, gives nearly eight bushels less grain than the average of the preceding ten years, and more than two bushels less than the average of the forty-eight years. There was also nearly 8cwt. less straw than the average over the preceding ten years, and slightly less than over the forty-eight years. Turning to the results on the three artificially manured plots, Plot 7, with full mineral manure and 86lbs. of nitrogen as ammonium salts, gives between three and four bushels less grain, and from 7cwt. to 8cwt. less straw, than over either of the preceding periods. Plot 9 (or 16), again, with the same mineral manures, and the same amount of nitrogen as Plot 7, but as nitrate of soda instead of ammonium salts, and all sown in the spring, gives about five bushels more grain, and over 8cwt. more straw, than Plot 7; though less straw than over either of the preceding periods. Lastly, Plot 8, with the same mineral manures as Plots 7 and 9, but with an excessive amount of nitrogen, as ammonium salts, gives the large produce of forty-four bushels of grain, which is more than six bushels over the average of the preceding ten years, and more than seven bushels over the average of the forty-eight years. Further, it gives not much less straw than the average of the preceding periods. The general result is, then, that without manure, with farmyard manure, and with two of the artificial manures, there was more or less deficiency of both grain and straw compared with the average produce of the plots, whilst on Plots 8 alone, with an excessive amount of nitrogen as ammonium salts, was there more than average produce of grain, and nearly average produce of straw. How is this to be explained?

Attention has been called to the frequent and considerable autumn and winter drainage from the plots, and analysis of the drainage waters has shown that they contained considerably higher than average amounts of nitrogen as nitrates. Even the farmyard manure plot, which, owing to its greater porosity and absorptive capacity, gives pipe drainage very seldom compared with the artificially manured plots, in this season gave drainage far in excess of that in the average of seasons. As in previous years, the composition of the drainage of Plot 7 with that of Plot 15, the two plots receiving the same amount of ammonium salts, only one quarter of which, how-

ever, is applied to Plot 7 in the autumn, and the remainder in the spring, whilst on Plot 15 the whole is applied in the autumn, the result was that the total autumn and winter drainage showed a loss of nearly twice as much nitrogen as nitrates from Plot 15 as from Plot 7. Accordingly, the produce of Plot 15 (which is not given in the table) showed 9½ bushels less grain, and more than 8cwt. less straw, than Plot 7, with the less loss by drainage. It has been shown, too, that there was considerable reduction of produce both with farmyard manure, and on Plots 7 and 9 (or 16), due to loss of nitrates in the autumn and winter drainage. The effect of this was evident in the restricted winter and early spring growth.

Then followed, as has been stated, first a period of low temperatures and great deficiency of rain, and afterwards considerably over average temperatures with great deficiency of rain up to the end of July, continuing the condition of restricted growth almost up to the ripening period. The crops were indeed prematurely ripened, though aided somewhat by the rains of the last week of July and the beginning of August. Nevertheless, the grain was small, and showed the character of "strength" rather than of adequate starch accumulation. The weight per bushel was in every case lower than the average of the preceding ten years, but higher than that of the forty-eight years. The general result was very short straw crops and deficient yield of grain, excepting in the case of Plot 8, with the excessive amount of ammonium salts. This latter result is quite consistent with the supposition that in the other cases there had been loss by drainage in the autumn and winter, and defective action of the nitrogenous manures in the spring and early summer when only applied in moderate amount, whilst with the excessive quantity enough became available under the conditions of drought and heat of the spring and early summer; and under the same conditions the crop, which usually is laid, stood up well, and so yielded a high amount of grain.

The next question to consider is how far the climatic conditions and the character of the crop were similar in the chief wheat-growing districts of the country. The Meteorological Office records show that in the eastern, midland, and southern districts there was, as at Rothamsted, an excess of rain at the end of September and the beginning of October, a considerable excess towards the end of October and the beginning of November, at the end of December and the beginning of January, and a great excess in the latter half of February. In the north-east of England there was also considerable excess about the first, third, and fourth of the above periods; and in the east of Scotland at the end of September, early in November, at the end of December, and the beginning of January, and towards the end of February. There was in all probability, therefore, loss of nitrates by drainage in the autumn and winter in the chief wheat-growing districts of the country, as well as at Rothamsted; whilst later in the season there was generally, as at Rothamsted, over average temperatures, with great deficiency of rain up to the middle or end of July; leading to premature ripening in some southern districts, whilst in the north the later crops suffered more from rain at the ripening period.

Quite consistently with the above, the published records of the wheat crop, especially in the eastern, midland, and southern districts of the country, show it to have been short in straw, and very generally only average or under average, and but seldom over average, in yield of grain. Further north the records are rather more favourable.

Whether the crop of the country as a whole suffered less or more in its early stages from loss by drainage, and later from drought and heat, than the Rothamsted figures indicate may be a question. Further, as the Rothamsted average is influenced by the unusually high produce of Plot 8 (forty-four bushels), which would be only reached in the country at large in the case of some soils in high condition, the figure arrived at would, so far, be probably too high rather than too low. But as the area under the crop is unusually low, and the yield per acre is also low, it would make little difference in the estimate of the requirements from stocks and imports whether the actual figure obtained or a somewhat lower or higher one were adopted. Taking, however, the figures as they stand, the result would be as follows:—The average of Plot 3, Plot 2, and the mean of the three artificially manured plots indicates a produce of 27¼ bushels at 60¾lbs. per bushel, which, reckoned at the official weight of 60lbs., gives an average of 27⅝ bushels. The area under wheat in the United Kingdom was only 1,898,839 acres, or lower than has been reached in any years excepting 1895 and 1896. Assuming this area to have yielded an average of 27⅝ bushels per acre at 60lbs. per bushel, the gross produce of the country would be rather more than 6½ million quarters (6,556,928). Deducting from this two bushels per acre for seed, the estimated available home produce would be rather over 6,000,000 bushels (6,082,218). The average population for the current harvest year is estimated at 41,168,808; and, taking the consumption per head at six bushels of 60lbs. per bushel, the total requirement for the harvest year would be nearly 31,000,000 quarters (30,876,606). Deducting from this the available home produce (6,082,218 quarters), the requirement from stocks and imports would be about 24¾ million quarters (24,794,388).

POISONED BEER.

MORE CASES AND DEATHS.

Beer Turned into the Sewers.

Letters from Sir C. Quilter and Mr. C. Sewell Read.

During the past week cases continued to be reported of persons affected with peripheral neuritis, due to drinking arsenically-contaminated beer, but they have somewhat diminished in number. The epidemic has caused great excitement, not only in the districts specially involved, but all over the country. Annexed will be found various items of interest relating to it.

No Bill to be Introduced into Parliament.

Mr. F. Wilson, on Friday, asked the President of the Local Government Board if he would take steps to define the word beer like bread, butter, etc., or whether beer was still to be made of any imaginable article grown, manufactured, or imported into this country.

Mr. Grant Lawson, who was received with cheers from all parts of the House, asked to be allowed to answer the question, in the absence of the President of the Local Government Board. He said: Legislation is necessary to give effect to the wishes of the hon. member. My right hon. friend, the President, cannot undertake to introduce a Bill for the purpose the hon. member desires, but I may point out to him that the adulteration of beer can be dealt with under the existing law.

What Does the Government Intend to Do?

Sir Cuthbert Quilter intends to ask the First Lord of the Treasury on Tuesday what action the Government intend to take in view of the epidemic in Manchester and other places attributed to the presence of poison in beer.

Local Government Board Inquiry.

The Local Government Board (says the *British Medical Journal*) has instructed one of its medical inspectors (Dr. G. S. Buchanan) to watch the epidemic on its behalf, and that he is already engaged in visiting the various places that have been principally affected.

Sir Cuthbert Quilter on Pure Beer.

Sir Cuthbert Quilter, M.P., writes:—Will you permit me to reply through your columns to the numerous requests which have reached me from all quarters for some indication of the views of myself and friends interested in the pure beer movement on the lamentable epidemic of poisoning in Manchester and other towns? Without anticipating the result of the scientific investigations now in progress, there would appear to be little doubt that the epidemic is a striking illustration of the public danger to which we have for many years directed attention, arising out of the liberty permitted to brewers to use any materials they choose in the brewing of beer. This liberty is enjoyed under what is popularly known as the "free mash tun," a concession granted by Mr. Gladstone when he repealed the malt tax in 1880. So largely did the brewers avail themselves of this freedom in the choice of ingredients, that within a few years a movement was inaugurated with the object of securing a definition of "beer," and for many years subsequent to 1885 a Bill was annually introduced in Parliament for the purpose of obtaining such definition. In 1896 the Bill, which, with the assistance of members on both sides of the House, had been amended and amplified, reached the second reading stage, but on the Chancellor of the Exchequer offering a Departmental Committee to inquire into the matter the Bill was withdrawn. The sittings of this Committee extended over two years, the outcome being a majority report against any alteration of the existing law, and a minority report strongly insisting on the necessity of safeguarding the interests of the public. We are of opinion that recent events are a complete justification of the minority report, and that had the Government acted on its recommendation the present epidemic might never have occurred. It was pointed out that the fact of brewers being free to make beer of any materials they pleased, so long as the revenue did not suffer, rendered necessary much more scrupulous regulations for the protection of the public against the use of deleterious ingredients than at present exist. Though there is no article of food consumed on anything like the scale of beer, in the manufacture of which the indiscriminate use of any chemical or other material is permitted by law, the system of examination followed by the excise officers in the breweries, and by the Inland Revenue officials at Somerset House, is designed for the protection of the revenue and not the detection of deleterious ingredients, so that the presence of any dangerous impurity is never likely in existing circumstances to be discovered until after the mischief has been done. Notwithstanding that the Treasury may be "empowered" to prohibit the use of anything noxious or detrimental, the evidence taken by the Committee went to show that this power has never been exercised save in the case of saccharin, a preparation believed to be harmless, but which was regarded as "detrimental" to the revenue. Further, the fact remains that the present epidemic has occurred in spite of official precautions, whatever they may be. And so long as the present system is allowed to continue, so long will the door remain open to the use of poisonous or deleterious ingredients. It was also demonstrated to the Committee by public analysts of high standing that they were powerless in the matter, as the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act were inoperative as regards beer. Surely, the time has now come when a period should be put to this subordination of public health to the interests of the revenue. Sir Henry Primrose, the chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue, was congratulating the Country Brewers' Society the other day on the excellent relations which subsisted between his Department and the great brewing interest, and he thought the attacks on the "free mash tun" might be regarded as at an end. As he is further reported to have said that he entered on the "beer materials" inquiry with the "blank impartiality which is born of blank ignorance," one is tempted to imagine, having regard to the strange way in which the conclusions of himself and the majority of the Committee have been falsified by recent events, that he must have emerged from the investigation in much the same state of "ignorance," minus the "impartiality." I only refer to these utterances of Sir Henry Primrose because they are typical of the attitude which has been habitually adopted by the Department over which he presides on this important question. Every brewer knows perfectly well that the employment of invert sugar, glucose, etc., in the preparation of which dangerous chemicals are used, is not necessary to the successful manufacture of beer. They enable beer to be matured more quickly and therefore larger quantities can be turned out with the same capital, plant, and storage room, and there is this further advantage, that by keeping down the demand for barley its price is correspondingly depressed, and brewers are able to purchase such quantities as they are obliged to use at a cheaper rate. It is in the light of these facts that Mr. Read, in his report, asks that the complaints about British barley and the statement as to the necessity of getting "sun into the mash tun" should be regarded. Abroad the use of substitutes has, in some States, been for centuries absolutely forbidden. In Bavaria it is a criminal offence, and not only the public, but the brewers themselves, are most active in seeing that the law is strictly enforced. It is difficult to see why that which is found not only desirable but practicable there should be regarded as impossible here. At any rate, the wholesale poisoning which has, unfortunately, occurred only goes to prove the necessity for still greater exertions in prosecuting the movement for better securing the purity of beer, and certainly justifies the opinion of Mr. Read, based on a careful consideration of all the evidence placed before the Beer Materials Committee, that legislation or other provision is necessary to prevent the use of deleterious substances in brewing. We propose to bring the matter again before Parliament at the first opportunity, feeling as we do that the time has surely come when the same protection as is afforded to the purchaser of other articles of diet, such as butter, milk, coffee, etc., should be extended to the immense number of our fellow-countrymen whose regular and favourite beverage is beer.

Letter from Mr. Clare Sewell Read

Mr. Clare Sewell Read writes:—

I trust that in justice to Sir Cuthbert Quilter and the other witnesses who gave evidence before the Beer Materials Committee, you will insert the following extracts form my minority report dated January, 1899, which have a significant bearing upon the beer poisoning in the North:—

"It has been shown that in the past certain ingredients (such as cocculus indicus, quillaia bark, grains of paradise, capsicum, tobacco, copperas, etc.), which are commonly known to be of a poisonous nature, *have* been used; and there is strong ground for stating that, at the present time, materials which are possibly of an injurious nature are still employed. For instance, *sulphuric acid is largely employed for inverting sugar*, and the use of salicylic acid as a preservative is open to grave objections. It is significant that it is forbidden in Germany, *except in beers destined for exportation*.

"It is certain that *hardly any of the glucoses used are pure*, particularly those made from potatoes, which Dr. Schidrowitz told us he knew to be still imported from Germany and sold in this country for brewing purposes. And he stated, further, that the results of experiments upon cats made by Dr. Tunnicliffe had been sufficiently striking to suggest that *certain glucoses* may have *deleterious effects*, and that further investigation is certainly desirable in the public interest. Although a glass or bottle of beer may contain but a small quantity of an injurious substance, if these small quantities are constantly taken very harmful results are likely to follow.

"The fact that a brewer is free to make 'beer' from *any materials he pleases*, so long as the Revenue does not suffer, renders necessary much more scrupulous regulations for the protection of the public than at present exist."

It is quite possible that if these precautions had been heeded this most lamentable sacrifice of life and health might have been averted.

At the recent Country Brewers' festival, the chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue made great fun over the experiments upon cats. As it turns out an accidental experiment was at that very time being made with ghastly effect upon human beings.

In summing up my conclusions I stated in my report:—

"That at present the public have no adequate protection against the use of deleterious substances in the manufacture of beer.

"That it would be neither difficult nor vexatious to enforce such legislation as would ensure to the purchaser his right when he asks for beer—the national beverage—to obtain a beer brewed entirely from malt and hops."

A Revenue Official's Opinion.

The following letter is from "A Revenue Official": It is an ill wind that blows nobody any good. If the recent disclosures in the Midlands and North-West help to give a fillip to an important but declining industry, by creating an increased demand for English barleys in lieu of other substitutes used in brewing, the public agitation and unrest of the past few weeks will not have been in vain. Having had a practical experience of twenty years' supervision and inspection of breweries, I am strongly of opinion that a return to the old system of malt and hops would be beneficial all round. In the first place, it would benefit the farmer by increasing to some extent the present ruinous price of barley, and, secondly, the beer consumer would gain by having a purer and more wholesome drink at a very little, if any, enhanced cost.

The benefits accruing to the farmer will be better understood by a glance at the following figures:—In 1871 there were 271,483cwt. of sugar used in brewing in the United Kingdom. In 1881 the numbers rose to 1,125,342cwt., and in 1891 to 2,045,524cwt. These figures are steadily going up year by year. When we reflect that, for brewing purposes, 2cwt. of sugar are equivalent to a quarter of malt, it will readily be seen that the enormous quantity of malt displaced by the use of so much sugar is a distinct loss to the farming interests. But this is not all. Maize, rice, and foreign grain are also largely used by brewers, and the demand thus created helps considerably to keep down the price of home-grown barley. From the brewers' standpoint, some eminent authorities consider that a reversion to the old duty on malt and hops would be a step in the wrong direction, and would inflict hardships of a restrictive character on a great industry, without any compensating advantages. They argue, and with some show of reason, that, in the present state of our fiscal system, other trades, no more legitimate or useful, are free from irritating restrictions. The corn merchant, for example, is free to buy when, where, and what he pleases. The foreigner can dump down on our shores any quantity of foreign wheat or barley, raw or prepared, without the least Governmental interference. In fact, we encourage it.. The brewers, therefore, object to experiments of a hampering character which would practically confine them to certain markets for their requirements, and absolutely put a veto on the use of other articles which they consider essential to their business.

There is certainly some plausibility in this argument. When we consider, however, that a large number of brewers, some very eminent in the trade, have long since discarded the use of any substitutes for malt and hops with good results, that there is a strong public opinion in favour of malt and hops only, and that the change from the present system would benefit our oldest and most important industry, the argument loses much of its weight. Moreover, the "trade" has had a pretty good innings, the average price of barley for the twenty years the Act has been in operation having been somewhat less than thirty shillings per quarter. The price of beer during the same period has practically remained stationary.

It is somewhat curious to note that, in the allied industry of distilling, the use of sugar has not by any means kept pace with the ever-increasing quantities of that article used in brewing. The whole subject is a very important one, and well within the realms of practical legislation.

A Burton Analyst on the Use of Glucose.

Mr. H. A. Hobson, who has had twenty years' experience as an analytical and technical chemist to a very large firm of Burton brewers, states that it pays the beer manufacturer to use glucose, because it saves him malt, which is much more expensive, giving a gain of 4s. to 6s. per barrel. If the brewer employs glucose, it should be good, because it can be obtained quite easily without arsenic, for there is plenty of it supplied to confectioners perfectly free from poison. In the process of boiling maize, starch, or very common cane sugar with sulphuric acid, the acid is neutralised with chalk, which forms a white precipitate of sulphate of lime, and that is strained off, but some of the arsenic remains in the glucose solution. The arsenic comes originally from iron pyrites, which are burned. It is quite possible to get pure sulphuric acid without arsenic. He, upon analysis, has found arsenic in glucose in quantities that would have led him to refrain from using it for brewing. The operations of the Foods and Drugs Act should extend to the analysis of glucose and brewing sugars. He maintains that it is not necessary to use glucose or sugar, except for cheapness, and if pure beer is required, brewers must go back to malt and hops, to which, indeed, some brewers confine themselves.

A Medical Expert on the Arsenic.

The *British Medical Journal* says:—"Pure beer brewed from malt and hops is, it appears, not within the reach of the classes who mostly drink that beverage, because the malt sugar is costly. To make the drink cheaper, two other kinds of brewing sugar are used; one obtained by the action of sulphuric acid on inferior grades of cane sugar, called in the trade glucose; and the other by the action of the same acid on starch, usually obtained from maize, sago, or tapioca, and called in the trade invert sugar. The brewing sugar so produced is in itself wholesome. But, no doubt from similar considerations of cheapness, 'commercial,' sulphuric acid is used in the process, and certain specimens of this have recently been shown by Dr. Harold Dixon, F.R.S., Professor of Chemistry in the Owens College, to be highly contaminated with arsenic. In his report quoted in the paper by Professor Delépine and Dr. Tattersall, M.O.H. for Salford, printed in another column, he writes:—'I can say that it contains more than 1.4 per cent. by weight of arsenic acid'; also that 'there is strong evidence that this glucose contains fully 0.05 per cent. by weight of arsenious acid.' The means by which the arsenic gets into the sulphuric acid is comparatively obvious. The chief source of sulphuric acid in commerce is the roasting of iron pyrites, which, besides containing the essential sulphur, contains also arsenic, and both are passed over in the form of vapour into the condensing chambers, to appear later as 'commercial' acid. Therefore, because sulphur and arsenic occur together in nature in a substance suitable for the purposes of manufacturers of sulphuric acid, beer drinkers have, it is believed, contracted arsenical neuritis. The amount of arsenic which actually gets over into the beer varies from 0.01 grain to 0.28 grain per gallon, and it has been estimated that one grain in three gallons of beer would be a very dangerous amount.

Substitutes and Deceit.

The *Lancet* indicates that it is not satisfied that all trouble is passed, and hints that mischief may yet arise in fresh places. "We venture to suggest that a special Government order should be issued instructing all county authorities to institute an analytical inquiry in their districts. The investigation could be conducted legally under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, but it is a mistake to suppose that proceedings can be taken on finding arsenic in beer, at any rate in the first instance, for there is a clause in the Act which provides that guilty knowledge of the presence of an injurious ingredient in food or drugs is essential to the proof of offence. Once warned, however, the beer-seller may be severely punished if he attempts to sell beer which he is informed is contaminated. This serious occurrence affords a fresh and startling argument for the interdiction of substitutes unless very definite steps are taken to secure the absolute purity of such substitutes. . . . The introduction of food substitutes on all sides requires a very complete and searching inquiry, and, in our opinion, the substitute is so often a means to fraud that some very special legislation should be directed to this question. However expedient a substitute may be, the public have a right to be protected from the deceit of being tendered a substitute in the place of the genuine article."

The Brewers' View.

A special meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of the Country Brewers Society was held in order to consider the question of arsenic in beer. Following a previous meeting, a notice was sent to all members of the Society, strongly advising them to use no brewing sugar which had not been previously examined for arsenic, and to withdraw all beer which had been brewed with sugar found to be impure. The secretary now reported that the brewing sugar of many of the principal manufacturers had been already analysed by an experienced chemist, who reported that "in no instance was the slightest trace of arsenic present." The committee entered upon a lengthy inquiry, with expert advice, into the source of the contamination, and came to the conclusion that, though undoubtedly there has been arsenic found in the sugar of a single firm in the North of England, there is no reason whatever to suppose that arsenic exists in any beers except those brewed with the particular sugar in question.

Wholesale Employment of Sulphuric Acid.

Mr. Fairley, the city analyst of Leeds, in reply to a query as to the extent to which sulphuric acid came into connection with food products, replied that as it was made use of in most chemical operations and as one or other of the ingredients of almost every manufactured article of food was at some stage subjected to chemical treatment, it might be said that sulphuric acid played as important a part in the trade as did iron and steel in other industries. Few people realise to what an extent chemistry is practically concerned with the daily life of everyone.

Increased Use of Spanish Sulphur.

The *Daily Mail*, in its money article, states that at only the old-fashioned sulphuric acid, made from brimstone, were used there would be little risk to beer or wine drinkers. But the modern demand for it is so large that fresh sources of supply have had to be resorted to, and much of it now comes from the Spanish copper mines. The pyrites mined at the Rio Tinto and Tharsis Mines contain a large percentage of sulphur, which formerly was a mere bye-product; but now it can be treated profitably, even if there be no copper in it. Among other things, it yields the impure sulphurous acid with which cheap glucose is treated and dessert wines are sprayed. How rapidly the trade in Spanish sulphur is growing may be gathered from a circular recently issued by the directors of the Rio Tinto Company to their shareholders. Referring to the operations of the past half-year, it said:—"The consumption of pyrites continues to increase, and there has sprung up a large demand for ore containing practically no copper, and which is sold for its sulphur only." The new uses for this sulphur must be numerous to produce so large and growing a demand. It enters directly or indirectly into other drinks than beer; but, so far, not the slightest legal supervision has been exercised over it."

Yorkshire Farmers to the Front.

The Selby Farmers' Club, on Monday, resolved: "That the Yorkshire Agricultural Union and the Central Chamber of Agriculture be requested to take immediate steps to remedy the great injury done to the British public and the farmers by beer being brewed from other materials than malt and hops as the principal ingredients."

At a meeting of the West Riding Chamber of Agriculture, held at Wakefield on Friday, it was resolved to recommend (1) that a Bill be introduced to make it compulsory upon all brewers who use other materials than malt and hops to declare the same, and be registered accordingly, and that guarantees be supplied by all brewers of the purity of their productions; (2) that the Excise duty be largely increased on those using other ingredients than malt and hops; (3) and that analyses of beer sold be more frequently taken by inspectors under the Food and Drugs Act.

Shropshire Views.

At the annual meeting of the members of the Ludlow Agricultural Society it was resolved: "That this meeting of the Ludlow Agricultural Society views with alarm the injurious effects caused by the beer brewed from other ingredients than malt and hops, and trusts Her Majesty's Government will at once cause inquiries to be made with the view of promoting legislation which will provide that beer should be brewed only from malt and hops and water."

"A Shropshire Farmer" writes:—I think the time has come when the English farmers and landlords should ask the Government to pass a Pure Beer Bill, which has been denied them so long, when the scandal is revealed of the poisonous rubbish that some large brewing companies are now flooding the country with. But what else can one expect as long as the abominable "tied houses" are allowed to stand? It is impossible to get thoroughly pure beer while the brewery companies pay 15 to 20 per cent. at the cost of agriculture, it being a very significant fact that every year the price of barley gets lower, although this year the yield is less. I know it is very hard in these days to get legislation to help agriculture, but surely it is not asking too much for a law to be passed to compel brewers to do the same as other tradesmen. What about the various fines imposed every day on retailers of other manufactured articles which are adulterated? In some papers people are writing to say that farming is better, and wants no Government assistance, but I should think they are totally ignorant of what they are talking about, or they would see by the cattle market the dulness of the "stores," the reason being not that farmers are short of keep, but short of money to purchase. I wish that every county member would take a Pure Beer Bill up, and not let it fail for want of co-operation, as is usual with everything agricultural. Now that there is such a cry out for keeping the working men in the country, surely the Government can help us a little without feeling afraid of losing office. If agriculture is finally ruined, where are our yeomen to come from with sufficient stamina and love of home to fight for our country? We know farms are readily filled, but with a poorer class of men employing no labour, and letting their land get into an uncultivated state, producing barely sufficient to exist on. It should set us all thinking when we hear of a man like A. E. Mansell, whom we have all looked upon as a type of the best Shropshire farmer, contemplating leaving the Mother County for Tasmania.

Lincolnshire Farmers Meet.

A crowded meeting of Lincolnshire farmers was held in Boston Town Hall on Wednesday to consider the

question of the adulteration of beer. The Mayor of Boston presided. Sir W. C. Quilter, M.P., sent a telegram sympathising with the object of the meeting, and the following resolution was carried:—"That this meeting records its regret at the knowledge acquired through the Press of the poisonous character of beers largely supplied to the trade at the present time, and pledges itself to use its utmost endeavours to influence through Parliament the production of beer brewed solely from malt and hops, and to be sold as such, beers brewed from any other substance to be declared and sold under another name." A representative committee was appointed to continue the agitation on the lines of the resolution.

Hop Growers on the Move.

The hop-growers in Kent and Sussex have secured the services of Mr. Griffith Boscawen, M.P., and Colonel Brookfield, M.P., with a view to the introduction of a Pure Beer Bill into Parliament. As beer is the national beverage, the hop-growers point out that the present question is one of national import. They express the hope, now that the feeling in the country has been aroused, that strenuous efforts will be made to compel brewers to discontinue the use of substitutes for malt and hops. The present use of chemicals, they say, not only endangers life, but is a source of deception to the consumer. They further state that until the recent revelations were made 99 per cent. of beer-drinkers were unaware of the fact that they had been partaking of a liquid which was not produced by malt and hops. The real cause of the impurities in beer is, the hop-growers contend, the result of the brewers' endeavour to put on the market a cheaper article. In Germany the question of impure beer is watched by the Government, and why, they ask, should not the same practice be adopted in England?

Beer Poured into the Sewers.

The Liverpool medical officer, in a report submitted to the City Council on the question of beer poisoning, says there is evidence that certain brews of ale have been contaminated, this being due, so far as ascertainable, to impure sulphuric acid being mixed with glucose. In three cases the deleterious beer had been run into sewers, and in other cases the barrels had been sealed under the Food and Drugs Act. It was also stated that between 200 and 300 samples of beer had been analysed, and thousands of barrels of beer had been emptied into the sewers, and that the brewers and publicans were co-operating with the authorities to check the evil.

Nearly the whole of the employés of a big Manchester brewing firm have been seriously affected with the symptoms of arsenical poisoning. As is usual in the trade, a certain quantity of beer is served out to each man daily, the ale being forwarded direct from the company's brewery. For some time the men have been affected by losing alternately the use of their legs and arms, and have shown dropsical tendencies. In one case the sufferer turned the colour of a mulatto, whilst his skin is scaling off. The only man who has escaped is a total abstainer. With the exception of three, all the men are now off work and under medical treatment. On Friday the beer in stock for the use of the men, comprising four 56-gallon casks, was run off into the public sewers.

On Saturday one of the brewery companies in Market Drayton stopped the sale of beer at twenty-five of their houses, and decided to destroy the whole of their present stock, amounting to over 25,000 gallons.

At Bilston (Staffordshire) a brewer stated on Friday that on finding traces of arsenic in the glucose supplied to him he immediately withdrew his ales on tap at his different houses, and poured over 12,000 gallons of ale down the sewers.

Growth of the Burton Trade.

A correspondent at Burton has had personal interviews with many of the principal directors, managers, or brewers of the leading firms in the brewery metropolis on the all-absorbing topic of poison in beer. In reply to the question, Has it affected you adversely or otherwise? perfect unanimity existed. There had been an enormous increase in their output. Not only were numerous orders arriving from entirely new customers, but several firms were executing orders for thousands of barrels to local brewers in various parts of the country, but more particularly up north. The output capacity in some cases is being strained to its utmost limits. In the case of Messrs. Bass and Co., the great abnormal run has been upon pale and bottled beers. The leading firms of the town have not deemed it necessary to take any action beyond replying to individual inquiries, but most of the others are extensively circularising their customers, and forwarding analytical certificates, demonstrating that their products are absolutely free from arsenic or any deleterious ingredient, and in the case of the Burton Brewery Company a guarantee certificate is attached to every invoice. Of the millions of barrels annually sent out no case of adulteration has ever occurred in Burton beer.

Speaking generally, the Burton ales are brewed entirely from malt and hops of the very finest quality. Pure Burton malt and hop beer requires from four to six months to properly mature, whereas in many of the small breweries in various parts of the country, where 25 per cent. of saccharine matter is used, beer is consumed the day after "racking"; hence it is possible, and often the case, that within nine days of the first process of mashing, beer has been sent out and the casks returned empty to the brewery. The difference in the cost of producing the Burton ales and the cheaper quick consumption beers of other towns depends upon the qualities of the ingredients, but the principal saving is in avoiding the enormous outlays of the Burton brewers in casks and storing room and the lying idle of fabulous capital.

Hints and Suggestions.

We are requested to state that Sir Cuthbert Quilter, M.P., whilst very grateful for the interesting suggestions and information which have reached him, finds it impossible to reply individually to the immense number of correspondents in all parts of the kingdom who have written, encouraging him to persevere with the pure beer movement.

LITERARY NOTICES.

The Agricultural Annual and "Mark Lane Express" Almanack.

This highly useful volume for the year 1901 is published to-day. It is printed in first-class style, on best quality paper, and is beautifully illustrated on the same lines that gave so much satisfaction last year. As a frontispiece, a very lifelike portrait is given of the Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, M.P., the new President of the Board of Agriculture. The general contents of the book include important articles by numerous writers on topical and practical subjects. Few agriculturists will disagree with the views of Mr. T. G. Read, who treats upon "Agriculture and National Defence," showing what our great industry has to perform if the country is to continue to flourish, enunciating a policy of the "Three B's," namely, bread, beef, and beer, and suggesting the terms of a Bill that might be brought into Parliament with a view to placing British agriculture in the prosperous position it should fill. In "Profitable Barley Growing," Mr. H. Stopes draws attention to the breeds of barley now used for malting, and directs attention to the fact that six-rowed barley, though longest in cultivation, has for a long period not had a fair chance to compete with rival sorts. Whether the six-rowed or two-rowed sample should be grown is a question which absolutely rests upon the type which pays the farmer best. With the present low prices ruling for malting grain approaching so closely to the food value of barley for stock, it is most desirable to inquire and experiment as to what kind should receive the attention of the farmer. "Garden Crops on the Farm," by Mr. G. H. Hollingworth, is full of suggestions of a practical character, and may be thoughtfully read and adopted in a very large number of cases. Miss E. A. Roberts, probably the cleverest of our dairy experts, contributes a clear explanatory article entitled, "How to Make Good Butter," from which anyone at all acquainted with dairy work can gain such knowledge as will enable a maker to improve the quality of the butter he or she is at present producing. A very timely paper is that by Mr. Eldred G. F. Walker on "Horse-breeding as Affected by Motor Traction," a feature which is now and will be for some time of absorbing attention. The writer still believes in a future for the horse; for he considers that "whereas many can purchase and own a horse, it is confined to the few to be owners of mechanical motor power, and usually in the long run the majority wins, especially as the horse can do most of the things the motor can, and several things that the motor cannot do." Mr. A. Dewhirst contributes a short article on "The Profitable Breeding of Pigs." He is a successful breeder and exhibitor, and his paper is constructed on the lines intended to be useful to the ordinary raiser of swine rather than for the benefit of those who breed principally for exhibition purposes. "The Decadence of Agricultural Shows," by Mr. A. W. Stanton, is sure to attract attention by reason of the falling-off of interest which has taken place in these gatherings on the part of the public, and especially as the Royal Agricultural Society (which, amongst others, is referred to) seems to be in a state of indecision, if not transition. Another article deals with "Agriculture in Parliament" during the last Session, by "J. C.," and Mr. W. W. Chapman gives a record of "Agriculture During the Year 1900," the two forming a brief retrospect of the twelve months through which we have just passed. "Manures and Their Use" is contributed by a well-known agricultural chemist, Mr. A. E. Sibson, and a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons provides a very timely and exceedingly useful article on "Difficult Parturition," which is one of the troubles experienced at lambing time. Mr. R. E. Turnbull deals with the question of the wages of agricultural labourers, concerning whom he says, "Their present condition is more satisfactory than in any other former period during the century; every labourer can find employment, and all who are efficient can obtain good wages." The close of the century, he considers, is full of promise for farm labourers throughout the whole of the kingdom. Farmers will be interested and also benefited by Mr. A. E. Bromehead Soulby's article on "Firewood," who puts the legal position of the farmer on this question in a very understandable light. Mr. J. Darby treats on "Minor Breeds of Cattle," and a well-known contributor ("B.") gives a good description of "Sheep Dogs: Working and Otherwise." Other articles are "Potatoe Cultivation," by "J. R. S.," and "The Poultry Yard." Mr. A. J. Stanton, the editor, introduces the contributors in a brief preface expressing the opinion that the twentieth century will see wonderful developments and changes, many of which may directly affect agriculture on one or more of its various sides, and that "we are entering upon it with grand hopes and a bright outlook for the enlargement and consolidation of the Empire—a prospect so favourable to future permanent strength as the nation has never previously experienced." The volume is completed with a very valuable selection of tables for agriculturists, and there are more than fifty illustrations, making up a book which will be acceptable to, and warmly welcomed by all agriculturists. This volume of 240 pages, in coloured printed wrapper, is published at the low price of sixpence, and can be had through any bookseller or newsagent, or direct from the MARK LANE EXPRESS office, 1, Essex Street, Strand London, W.C. (in the latter case postage extra).

The Christmas number of "Bibby's Quarterly" has just made its appearance. It is eight pages larger than the autumn issue, there being altogether sixty pages, of which nineteen are devoted to the literary supplement, and this part of the Quarterly will help to while away some dull half-hours. The level of merit in the articles is maintained, whilst the illustrations, which number over a hundred, are up to their usual standard of excellence. Of the numerous items in this number, perhaps the most interesting are "Some Champion Winners of the Year" (this is accompanied by capital photographs); "Pure Water for Stock"; and "Water." At the conclusion of the latter article the editor makes the following announcement:—"In thinking over the above matter, and remembering the difficulties under which our country readers labour with regard to obtaining reliable information as to the purity of their water supply, we have come to the determination to fix up and equip a separate laboratory at our works, where we will analyse water for our customers both chemically and bacteriologically, free of cost during the year 1901." Full particulars can be had from the Manager, Bibby's Laboratory, Formby Street, Liverpool.

"The *Melbourne Argus* Tables of the Australian Mails for 1901" is a small book, suitable for the pocket, consisting of twenty-eight pages, containing complete official British and foreign mail services to and from Australia and New Zealand, rates of passage, postage, and cable charges, with an excellent Orient Line coloured track chart of the world, showing distances from port to port and differences in time. It is illustrated with pictures by W. L. Wyllie, A.R.A., of the fine mail steamers Ophir (chartered to convey their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York to Australia) and Ormuz, calendar, etc., etc. Copies may be obtained gratis at the London offices of the *Argus*, 80, Fleet Street, or by enclosing a penny stamp to cover postage.

Messrs. E. Marlborough and Co., 51, Old Bailey, E.C., have just issued the first volume of the Marlborough Series of Foreign Technical Manuals. It is an English-French and French-English dictionary of technical and business terms and phrases used in commerce, arts, sciences, professions, etc., the aim in its compilation being to collect terms and phrases not to be found in the ordinary dictionary. As an appendix are given tables, moneys, weights and measures, so arranged as to show at a glance the various units and standards, and the correct methods of finding equivalents in both countries. To travellers in France and those who have dealings with people in that country this work, which was compiled by J. A. Standring and C. A. Thimm, F.R.G.S., should be invaluable; and as it is printed on light paper and is of pocket size it can be carried about and be always handy for reference.

The December issue of *Blackwood's Magazine* might very well be termed a war number, for the greater part of its contents touch upon the South African conflict. First of all there is the continuation of "Army Reorganisation—The Home Army," the subjects dealt with in this instalment being training and redistribution in relation to training and to mobilisation for war. Then there is an interesting narrative headed "With Plumer to the Relief of Mafeking," written by one of his troopers; a description of "A Reconnaissance," by Ernest Dawson; a paper entitled "Christmas Under Arms," by Capt. Neill Malcolm, D.S.O., Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders; and "The Passing of a Nation" The Boers, by "Linesman"; whilst three parts of "Musings without Method" are taken up with war topics. The other items in the number include "The Watcher by the Threshold," by John Bucan, and "The Casket Letters," by Andrew Lang.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Bedfordshire.

We are having beautiful spring weather, the roses are still blooming, we can sleep with the windows open, the grass on the good land is growing like mad, we shall probably enjoy Christmas Day picnicing in the woods, and as we polish off the turkey and sausages for dinner, we shall almost fancy we are eating young duck and green peas! We have not dreamed of getting the cattle into the yards yet; they are doing too well on the grass for that. This is advantageous, as we are short of straw, and the new year will soon be here. Those of us who have weak lungs need not trouble about going abroad for the winter. Yet the yield and price of corn is enough to freeze the very marrow in our bones. I hate to write about it; in fact, I hardly dare, for, according to some people, "T. S." is always grumbling. The wheat has come up quickly and well. Buyers are easily found for store cattle.

The Right Hon. Henry Chaplin.

The agricultural world was staggered as it read Mr. Henry Chaplin's letter to his constituents, dated November 30th. Having lived in Lincolnshire for nearly nine years, next to the Sleaford Division, I well know how the Lincolnshire agriculturists have always looked up to Mr. Chaplin as their best friend. We, in other counties, independently of politics, also know that he is altogether with us, and I firmly believe, Sir, that many farmers during the recent election would never have voted Tory had they been aware that their noble industry would be so

Slighted by Lord Salisbury.

It is for us now to let the Prime Minister plainly understand what we think of his action. He has left out of the Cabinet a splendid man, whose heart and soul was in agriculture, and given us a Minister who professes to know nothing about it. Why is this punishment inflicted upon agriculture? Is it because Mr. Chaplin, a short time ago, bravely spoke somewhat in favour of a reimposition of the shilling duty upon foreign corn? If so, it is

A Burning Shame.

I am a well-known Radical, but also a Protectionist, and not ashamed to own it, although I am a hopeless heretic, as our chief county paper calls me. In losing the services of Mr. Chaplin, I am confident we have lost one of the best men who ever took up the cudgels to fight for agriculture.—T. S. (December 7th).

Carmarthen.

Beautiful open weather for December, with plenty of pickings for the cattle and good keep for sheep, which will save much of the hay and straw for winter fodder. The ground is often covered with snow this month, and great consumption of winter keep. The weather during November has been very wet—rain day after day—and has kept farm work backward, but has been very mild on the whole. Turnips in most places are a good crop and are growing now. Farm servants are very scarce, and ask higher wages, and are getting the advance they are asking, too.

No Farmer Grows any Corn for Sale.

They use all for feeding, and buy much Indian and barley meal, as the Americans can grow it cheaper than we can. Cattle are in demand at our fairs and markets, and are selling at good prices; from £10 to £13 each are given for two-year-old steers and heifers, and from £12 to £16 are given for cows with calves. Sheep are not so brisk; breeding ewes sell at about £2 each.—D. P. (December 7th).

Essex.

The prospect for farmers in the Chelmsford district is anything but encouraging, wheat, barley, oats, and beans not coming up to the promising anticipations of harvest time as to yield. Roots are a fair crop, but owing to the prolonged drought of the summer and autumn the pastures have been very bare of feed. This district has experienced less rainfall than almost any in the kingdom. The high price of all feeding stuffs and the low price of anything the farmer has to sell makes the outlook for the present year very discouraging.—J. C. (December 5th).

Leicester.

Farming prospects improve none; outlook worse. Beef down 6d. per stone, mutton about the same, pork lower, good samples of barley selling in our market at 25s. It is time the brewers were compelled to brew from pure malt and hops. We should not have this adulterated stuff that is causing such a commotion throughout the country. We have just had our Martinmas hiring of servants, waggoners getting from £24 up to £30, cowmen about the same lads from sixteen to eighteen, if willing to milk, £1 a year according to age. I know a youth last year had £6 hired this at £15. I ask it is possible for the farmer to pay these high wages out of the low price of corn he has to sell? I know several farmers working harder and considerably more hours than their labourers, and cannot make the two ends meet.—W. C. (December 7th).

North Devon.

Wheat a good average, 100. (Taking 100 to represent healthy state, freedom from injury, and average growth and development.) Barley, 95 per cent.; oats, 100 per cent.; potatoes, 60 per cent.; roots, 100 per cent.; grass, 100 per cent. Wheat sowing forward, gone in well. Late potatoes one half poor. Apples small and keeping badly. All stock healthy and selling at fairly good prices. Agricultural prospects fairly good.—J. H. (December 6th.)

Shropshire.

Weather open—a little damp, but mild; bar., 30.17; ther., 50. The storing of turnips and mangolds has been almost completed under very favourable circumstances. The threshing machines have been at work, and with good engineers there were no stoppages. Plenty of hands came to do all the work, but the barley yield was defective, after all. It faltered before it reached the banking account. Oats yielded better. Wheat not very prolific. Foreign countries compete well for pedigree stock, one New Zealand customer giving Messrs. Mansell and Co. £240. It seems that a lot more money can be made from high-pedigreed stock, but it costs a lot to get into pure breeding. Still, it pays.—J. G. (Dec. 7th).

West Somerset.

The weather continues mild, with slight occasional frost and frequent rain; the previous drought, however, has been such that there are still many complaints of springs not having yet broken. The work on the farm is well forward, and I think

More Wheat

than for some years has been planted, the season being propitious and this year's barley proving very unsatisfactory. The sales of Christmas beef have been somewhat variable, but on the whole where quality has been good there is an improvement on past years. Mutton, on the other hand, keeps low, and sales drag. Keep for all kinds of stock with an ordinary season should prove sufficient, the roots having improved considerably in the late season. The

Dorset Horns are now Lambing.

The crop, so far as can be seen, does not promise to be a heavy one, and the continual wet is trying to both ewes and lambs. The year 1900 now drawing the century to a close cannot on the whole be recorded in red letters, a general opinion being that it is the worst for many years.—S. K. (December 5th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—There is nothing in the appearance of the wheat crop to strengthen the market, for the fields present a fine appearance.

HOLLAND.—Weather has been too wet for farm work. Supplies of home grain were not large in interior markets.

GERMANY.—With a continuance of mild, damp weather, there is no interruption of supplies, which overlapping demand, the markets generally have been steady to firm.

ITALY.—The weather has been rainy throughout the Peninsula, but the condition of the young crops is generally satisfactory.

TUNIS.—The recent rains have enabled farmers to begin sowing.

SPAIN.—From most parts of the Peninsula satisfactory accounts are received of the young crops.

NORTH AFRICA.—Algeria: The ploughings are being prosecuted in good conditions.

RUSSIA.—Temperature has risen over the greater portion of the Empire, and then became general: rainfall is under the average. Snow still covers the fields in Central, Eastern, and Northern governments. Both inland and at the seaboard markets are quiet, and in some instances the turn easier.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says that the wheat crop situation continues favourable, and that marketings are being readily absorbed by the prevailing milling demand. The corn situation shows no change, and offerings are moderate.

The American Apple Crop.

After deducting losses through September gales, the United States crop of apples, according to the final report of the *American Agriculturist*, approximates 48,000,000 barrels, as against 37,500,000 barrels in 1899, and 69,000,000 barrels in the bumper year of 1896. Not in many years has it been so extremely difficult to form a close approximation of the crop. After the middle of July, climatic conditions became very trying in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and the South-West, and crop returns from there were not brilliant. New York, as a whole, has a good crop; Michigan better than further West. Ohio uneven. New England is securing a good many winter apples, and the crop is considerably larger than a year ago, except in Connecticut. Nova Scotia apple growers lost heavily by high winds, and estimates are for not over half a full crop. Ontario yield is considerably larger than last year. The authority named says the season opened with medium to low prices; duration somewhat mixed, growers generally showing a disposition to sell direct from the orchards. While the trade has fallen into [illegible] and markets are over supplied, it is not improbable that good fruit, well packed, will command fair prices later in the season.

British Corn Averages.

Alterations of Returning Towns.

In the *London Gazette* of Tuesday the following notice appears with regard to the collection of the British Corn Returns:—"Whereas it has been represented to Her Majesty in Council that certain towns should be omitted from such list of returning towns and certain other towns added in substitution and in addition thereto, and that the weekly returns of purchases of British corn should be made from the towns 190 in number, enumerated in the Schedule to this Order, it is hereby ordered that weekly returns of the purchases of British corn shall on and after the 1st day of January, 1901, be made from the towns enumerated in the Schedule to this Order."

SCHEDULE

London:—London.
Middlesex:—Uxbridge.
Essex:—Romford, Chelmsford, Colchester, Braintree, Saffron Walden.
Hertfordshire:—Bishop's Stortford, Hertford, Ware, Hitchin.
Bedfordshire:—Luton, Bedford.
Huntingdonshire:—St. Neots, St. Ives.
Cambridgeshire:—Wisbech, Ely, Cambridge.
Suffolk:—Haverhill, Sudbury, Hadleigh, Ipswich, Woodbridge, Stowmarket, Bury St. Edmunds, Saxmundham, Framlingham, Eye, Halesworth, Bungay, Beccles.
Norfolk:—Diss, Harleston, Yarmouth, Norwich, North Walsham, Holt, Fakenham, East Dereham, Watton, Lynn.
Lincolnshire:—Spalding, Stamford, Grantham, Sleaford, Boston, Louth, Lincoln, Gainsborough, Brigg.
Yorkshire, E.R.:—Hull, Howden, Beverley, Bridlington.
Nottinghamshire:—Retford, Worksop, Mansfield, Newark, Nottingham.
Leicestershire:—Loughborough, Leicester, Melton Mowbray.
Rutland:—Oakham.
Northamptonshire:—Peterborough, Kettering, Northampton.
Warwickshire:—Coventry, Birmingham, Warwick, Stratford-on-Avon.
Oxfordshire:—Banbury, Oxford, Bicester.
Buckinghamshire:—Newport Pagnell, Aylesbury.
Berkshire:—Abingdon, Wallingford, Hungerford, Newbury, Reading.
Surrey:—Farnham, Guildford, Redhill, Kingston, Chertsey.
Kent:—Rochester, Sandwich, Canterbury, Ashford, Maidstone, Tunbridge.
Sussex:—Lewes, Brighton, Haywards Heath, Horsham, Petworth, Chichester.
Hampshire:—Newport, Fareham, Southampton, Winchester, Basingstoke, Andover, Ringwood.
Dorsetshire:—Wimborne, Wareham, Dorchester, Blandford, Bridport.
Devonshire:—Tiverton, Barnstaple, Exeter, Newton Abbot, Totnes, Kingsbridge, Plymouth, Okehampton.
Cornwall:—Liskeard, Wadebridge, Truro.
Somersetshire:—Bridgwater, Taunton, Yeovil, Frome, Bath, Bristol.
Wiltshire:—Warminster, Salisbury, Devizes, Swindon.
Gloucestershire:—Cirencester, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Tewkesbury.
Monmouthshire:—Chepstow, Newport, Abergavenny.
Herefordshire:—Ross, Hereford.
Worcestershire:—Evesham, Worcester.
Shropshire:—Ludlow, Bridgnorth, Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Market Drayton.
Staffordshire:—Wolverhampton, Stafford, Burton-on-Trent.
Derbyshire:—Derby.
Yorkshire, W.R.:—Sheffield, Doncaster, Goole, Pontefract, Wakefield, Leeds, Knaresborough, Ripon, York.
Yorkshire, N.R.:—Easingwold, Malton, Scarborough, Thirsk, Bedale, Northallerton.
Durham:—Darlington, Stockton-on-Tees, Bishop Auckland, Sunderland.
Northumberland:—Newcastle-on-Tyne, Alnwick, Berwick.
Cumberland:—Carlisle, Cockermouth, Penrith.
Westmorland:—Kendal.
Lancashire:—Garstang, Preston, Manchester, Warrington.
Cheshire:—Chester.
Anglesey:—Llangefni.
Carnarvonshire:—Carnarvon.
Denbighshire:—Denbigh, Wrexham.
Montgomeryshire:—Welshpool.
Cardiganshire:—Cardigan.
Pembrokeshire:—Haverfordwest.
Glamorganshire:—Cardiff.
Brecknockshire:—Brecon.

The Towns omitted are Huntingdon, Daventry (Northamptonshire), Dulcot (Berks), Reigate, Surrey, Dorchester (Kent), Honiton (Devon), Monmouth, Egremont (Cumberland), and Carmarthen.

The additions are:—Redhill (Surrey), Abergavenny (Monmouthshire), and Cockermouth (Cumberland).

Sutton's Amateur's Guide in Horticulture is one of the very few annuals that have been issued continuously since the dawn of the nineteenth century, and from the first number to the present time this periodical has steadily increased in interest and in usefulness. Almost every page of the edition for 1901 is illustrated with one or more admirable reproductions from photographs, showing the highest types of vegetables and the most beautiful examples of flowers. Many of these are modern types of old favourites; others are comparatively recent introductions which have secured a firm position in popular favour. The work is not merely a record of progress, but it contains a gallery of horticultural fine art, and some of the illustrations will be specially valued for their suggestions of decorative effect. The publishers, Messrs. Sutton and Sons, are evidently enthusiasts in their work, and they have succeeded in inspiring enthusiasm in the public mind. As a result, the period of almost all [illegible] vegetables has been considerably extended, and there is now greater variety than ever, combined with a marked advance in those qualities which ensure success on the exhibition stage.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt, a moderate inquiry at about late rates. Barley, grinding quiet; rather more doing in malting without alteration in price. Wheat was 3d to 6d per qr cheaper. Oats and maize firm. Flour rather easier on the week.—NIXON, GOWER, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance at to-day's market was small, but demands, although not frequent, were not readily met. English wheat continues in short supply, and the little submitted goes to the local markets; while with north German still remaining a competitor, the condition is fairly good as a rule. Fine white, 31s; and good red, 30s 63lb delivered up. American kinds on hand remain abundant, and supplies coming up from most foreign sources afford no prospect of any immediate advance, although prices tended in sellers' favour. The flour market, although well supplied tended in sellers' favour, American brands being frequently held for 3d advance since last Monday. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Grinding barley in moderate supply. Persian, 17s 3d to 17s 6d ex ship, 17s 9d to 18s ex quay; Azoff, 18s 6d to 19s in these positions. Oats continue in short supply, and holders of both American and Russian continue to regard the present situation favourably, well-conditioned sorts being in most support, while quotations are frequently better since last Monday.

Mark Lane, Friday.—English wheat continues in small supply and unaltered, both here and on the country exchanges, with an extremely small business passing, and showed no material alteration. Fine white, 31s; and well-conditioned red, 30s 63lb delivered. Foreign descriptions unchanged. American flour occasionally easier since last Monday, English being steady. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Grinding barley fairly maintained. Persian, 17s 3d to 17s 6d ex ship, 17s 9d to 18s ex quay; Azoff, in these positions, 18s 6d to 19s respectively. English malting remains neglected as a rule. Fine samples up to 39s per 448lb, and medium up to 29s. Oats well maintained, especially Russian, good qualities still commanding attention. Flat maize generally unchanged and in moderate supply. Mixed American held for 21s ex ship arrived, and 21s 9d on landed terms. The market for beans and peas remains unaltered.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade very quiet, but no further reduction. White wheat fetched 29s to 30s; red ditto, 27s to 31s; malting barley of first quality 30s to 33s; ditto second quality, 26s to 30s; grinding barley, 22s to 25s; black oats, 13s to 20s; white ditto, 18s to 21s; mazagan, 29s 6d to 31s; tick beans, 32s to 34s; flat maize, 24s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per quarter. Flour, scaling, 25s; seconds, 26s; households, 28s; whites, 29s per sack.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Good attendance and fair quantity of grain on offer. Wheat firm at full prices of last week. Barley, beans, and oats unchanged.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (old), 27s to 29s per qr; wheat, red (new), 27s to 28s 6d per qr; oats (new), 15s to 20s per qr; oats (old), 16s to 18s per qr. Wheat a quiet trade at the figures of last week.

Boston, Wednesday.—A small attendance, and a slow trade. Wheat, 26s 6d to 27s; malting barley, 24s to 30s; grinding barley, 22s to 23s; oats, 17s 6d to 19s; peas, 45s to 60s; beans, 28s; maize, 23s per qr.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Small supply of wheats; prices were maintained. Barley an average supply, prices up 6d to 1s per qr.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been a moderate trade since our last market. At to-day's English wheat was in rather less supply, and farmers asked full prices; foreign firm at late rates. Grinding barley and maize 3d to 6d. decline. Oats unaltered. Flour only a bare consumptive demand.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been without any material alterations. Supplies are larger, but condition remains very poor. At this market to-day there was a better show of wheat on offer in poor condition, and trade was very dull at unchanged prices. Barley was in better demand, and last week's rates, in some cases, were rather exceeded. Wheat, red, 27s to 29s; and white, up to 29s per 504lb. Beans soft and neglected. Oats in good demand, and prices quite firm.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A slow trade for wheat at the recent reduction. Barley dull. Oats firm. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 30s to 32s 6d; red ditto, 29s to 30s 6d; malting barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; ditto black, 15s to 20s; peas, 30s to 33s; tick beans, 32s to 33s; mazagans, 27s to 29s; flat maize, 23s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per qr; winter tares, 6s to 6s 6d per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Smaller show of oats in market to-day, poor quality, 16s 9d to 18s 9d per 336lbs. No old oats or wheats shown.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—At this market, where there was a fair trade in English grain, wheat of an inferior quality changed hands at 1d per bushel lower. Oats steady; and Indian corn, in good demand, was 3d per sack dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s to 4s 1d 75lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 6d 64lb; beans, new, 4s 10d; old, 5s 6d 80lb; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; old, 3s 6d to 3s 9d 46lb; Indian corn, 11s to 11s 3d 240lb

Chichester, Wednesday.—Wheat was in small supply, and trade was quiet at unaltered prices. The same remark applies to other departments. Weather very wet and attendance thin.

Colchester, Saturday.—Fair supply both of wheat and barley, slow trade for both at about last week's prices. Beans and oats, not many offering, steady trade at full prices. —FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Owing to the continued wet weather farmers have been unable to thresh, and consequently little corn of any description was offered, and that was affected by the damp. Trade was very dragging in all departments. Prices for English wheat were in buyers' favour. Only the best lots of malting barley were saleable. Other feeding stuffs dull.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat firm and held for 1½d to 3d per boll advance on the week. Flour quiet and unchanged. Indian corn steady at a decline of 1½d to 3d per boll. Grinding beans and Canadian peas firm at last Wednesday's prices. Foreign and home oats steady, and the turn against buyers. Barley quiet. Oatmeal steady. Bran and thirds in small request at late rates. —GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat firm, and held for 1½d to 3d per boll advance on the week. Flour quiet and unchanged. Indian corn steady at a decline of 1½d to 3d per boll. Grinding beans and Canadian peas firm at last Wednesday's prices. Foreign and home oats steady, and the turn against buyers. Barley quiet.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Few samples shown, and those that changed hands were at previous or lower prices for all classes of grain. Wholesale prices: Wheat, white, 3s 3d to 3s 5d per bushel; red, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; barley, 2s 9d to 3s 9d; oats, 2s to 3s; beans, 3s 8d to 4s; maize, 2s 8d to 3s; vetches, winter, 4s to 6s; and spring, 3s 6d to 5s.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Port stocks proving lighter than expected, and the world's shipments more moderate, the wheat trade exhibits rather more firmness, and after the dullness of the past few weeks, a more active consumptive demand would seem only natural. On the business doing to-day sellers have the advantage in price. All good qualities of malting barley are in steady request; common sorts move off slowly. Maize rather firmer. Beans and oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Very slow demand for both English and foreign wheat, and with lower quotations for American Tuesday's prices are barely maintained. Malting barley scarce and the turn dearer. Beans, peas, maize, grinding barley, oats, and flour all firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with fair supplies of wheat in variable condition. Trade sluggish at 27s to 31s per 36 stones. Barley steady. Fine oats firmer.

Lincoln, Friday.—Moderate supply of English wheat, with a steady trade at about last week's rates. Reds, 27s to 28s; whites, 28s to 29s; foreign quiet. Large show of barleys; malting parcels from 28s to 35s. Oats, maize, peas, and beans firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat steady with a fair business at full prices for all wheats, excepting springs, which are ½d lower. Flour is steady with a very small trade for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers. Maize is firmly held for mixed American, and, owing to small offerings, buyers have unwillingly been obliged to pay ½d over yesterday; prices show a gain of ½d to 1d over last market day. European steady, quiet. Plate corn quiet at unchanged prices. Barley for malting is unchanged, the demand still keeping poor. A very moderate trade has been done in feeding, prices favouring buyers. Beans are the turn easier, with a slow consumptive trade. Peas steady at ½d decline for Canadians, but quiet. Oats firm but quiet for English; foreign kinds are also firmly held, but only a quiet trade is passing at about unchanged prices. Oatmeal steady at quotations. Oilcake steady with a fairly good demand at late rates.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—We have a remarkable continuance of wet weather, constant rain falling, so that the attendance was not large at the market to-day. Wheat remains at just about previous value; owners will not part at less money, while millers are not inclined to pay more than last week. Barley, except for very best sorts, is decidedly slow, and to press business a step down has to be taken. Oats are firm, and 3d rise has been made. Maize is not a fast trade, as the price is above the views of feeders. Beans and peas are each as dear as of late, with a small demand for them. There is no change in the cost of tares, rye, hemp, brank, sergo, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—A quiet tone has prevailed today, though odd cases of slightly more doing are mentioned. English wheat is unchanged as compared with a week ago; but foreign sorts are ½d to ¾d per cental dearer. Flour keeps slow at late rates. English oats are firm, though quiet. Foreign ¼d per bushel dearer. Peas and beans unchanged. Indian corn is ¼d per cental dearer on the week.

Newark, Wednesday.—There was only a small show of grain at this market. Wheat was in slow demand at about last week's rates, the condition being unsatisfactory. Oats and beans repeated previous rates. Barley, excepting for good sorts, was a very poor trade.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Wheat ruled quiet at our to-day's market, prices unchanged. Maize firm, and a good demand at last week's quotations. Barley, peas, and beans a steady trade, and prices maintained. Oats slow sale, and in buyers' favour for all classes. No change in the price of flour.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newport, Wednesday. — Wheat rather dearer on the week. Maize firm and dear. Barley quiet; no change in price. Oats and beans, no change. Fines, 23s 6d.

Northampton, Saturday. — Attendance moderate, the supply of farm produce under the average. Wheat and barley were in price similar to last week; business generally was dull and inactive. White wheat, 29s to 30s; red, old, 29s to 30s; red, new, 26s to 28s; barley, 24s to 32s; grinding barley, 20s to 23s; oats, 18s to 23s; old, fine, 25s; beans, 28s to 36s; flour, 22s to 26s

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of wheat was not heavy at our market to-day, but sufficient for the languid demand; prices are nominally 6d per qr lower on the week. Barley in fair supply, trade being about the same as last week. Dull and damp weather prevails, with mild atmosphere for the season. Wheat, red, 28s to 29s per qr, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending December 3, 1900:—Wheat, 1,573, 27s 4d; barley, 14,947-5, 26s 7¾d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat, small supply; fair trade, at previous value. Fine barleys, well supported prices, but inferior sorts slow of sale. Oats, but few offering, and full prices made. Beans steady.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Small market. Wheat and barley quiet trade at last week's prices.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The continued damp weather tells upon condition of wheat, and to effect sales to-day a slight concession in price had to be made. Barley steady, fine samples the turn dearer. Oats firm at late rates.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—Our Corn Exchange was thinly attended this afternoon, so business was very quiet. Wheat is steadier; but barley, maize, and oats are all at last week's prices.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO

Reading, Saturday.—Business to-day ruled very dull, despite a full attendance. Wheat was only in small supply, and, with a dragging trade, last week's figures were barely supported. Other kinds of corn were in about the usual supply, but met with little inquiry, and in these cases recent rates were generally upheld.

Ripon, Thursday.—Malting barley shows a better tone, and more business is being done. The show of wheat is light. A small attendance. Wheat, English, new, 27s to 29s; ditto, old, 31s; ditto, foreign, 30s 6d to 34s 6d; barley, malting, 24s to 29s ditto, grinding, 21s to 23s; oats, old, 25s to 26s; ditto, new, 17s to 19s; maize, round, 24s to 27s; ditto, flat, 23s 6d per qr; beans, old 1s per stone; bran, £5 per ton.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade slow, and damp samples cheaper. Several samples out of condition. Red wheat, 27s to 29s 6d, and white wheat 27s 6d to 31s 6d per quarter.

St. Neots, Thursday.—Wheat in rather better supply, but the condition of samples left much to be desired, and trade ruled slow on former terms. Malting barley was in moderate request, and most useful qualities found buyers at fully previous rates. Oats and beans firm.—ELGOOD AND SON.

Salisbury, Tuesday.—Notwithstanding there was a good attendance of buyers and a fair supply of grain at the Corn Exchange to-day, trade generally was quiet. Wheat sold slowly at last week's prices. Malting barley a shade cheaper. Oats unchanged. Beans and peas were again the turn dearer. The following were the quotations: Wheat, new 25s to 28s per qr; ditto old, 30s to 33s; best malting barley, 32s to 36s; ditto secondary, 26s to 29s; oats, black, 16s to 20s; ditto white, 18s to 22s; beans, 32s to 36s.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Moderate attendance. Last week's prices for English and foreign wheat firmly adhered to. Flat maize was a shade dearer on the week. Beans and oats very firm at last week's rates. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s to 33s; red, 31s to 32s; new, 30s to 31s per 504lb; oats, old white, 26s; ditto, new white, 17s 6d to 19s; ditto old black, 22s; ditto new black, 16s to 17s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto blue, 55s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small old, 29s to 30s; ditto American mixed, 23s to 24s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—At the Corn Exchange there were good supplies of corn and a steady demand. Wheat was unchanged in value. Barley firm at late rates. Best oats sold well. Fair trade in beans and peas.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There was a very poor supply of farmers' wheat, which made prices a little over those of last week. The foreign wheat trade keeps steady, with a fair inquiry from millers. Prices show no alteration since last week's market. Oats and maize unchanged. There were very few samples of malting barley.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Supplies of grain are short owing to continuous wet weather, and prices remain unaltered from last week. Arrivals coastwise, barley, 822 qrs; foreign wheat, 2,743 qrs.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Small attendance. Wheat a firm trade at last week's prices. Small supply of malting barley, which sold readily at rather better prices. Maize and barley steady. Oats and beans firm.

Wakefield, Friday.—There is no appreciable change in the trade since Tuesday, the consumptive demand being far from active, but all descriptions of hard wheat met a steady sale, full prices being insisted upon, and obtained by sellers. Californian is 3d to 6d dearer on the week. Barley in smaller supply, and meets an improved inquiry at late rates. Flat maize and oats 3d dearer. Beans steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—During the week there has been a slightly improved demand for wheat at 3d per quarter on last week's prices. Barley is again in large supply and only the, finest qualities meet attention. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A fair supply of grain; several samples out of condition. Dry wheat sold at late rates; red 27s to 27s 6d, old up to 30s. Oats made full prices, 17s 6d to 20s. Barley, 24s to 28s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—The wet weather caused the attendance to be thin, but a fair business was transacted. English wheat, 11s 6d to 12s per 216lb.; oats (old) 15s to 16s; ditto (new), 11s to 11s 6d; beans (old), 14s 6d to 15s 6d; ditto (new), 12s 6d to 13s 6d per 196lb.; maize, 23s to 24s per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Small attendance and trade in wheat slow at last week's rates. Very little demand for barleys. Oats and beans steady.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance and small show of grain. Trade extremely slow. Old oats were scarce and met with a ready sale. Old white wheat, 30s to 31s; new ditto, 27s to 28s; old red wheat, 29s to 30s: new, 26s to 27s; best malting barley, 28s to 32s; secondary, 26s to 28s; grinding, 23s to 24s; old white oats, 26s to 27s; new ditto, 19s to 21s; old black oats, 24s to 25s; new ditto, 17s to 19s; flat maize, 24s to 26s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per qr.

York, Saturday.—The supply of wheat continues small and good samples sell readily at last week's prices. Fine samples of malting barley are quite as dear, but inferior neglected. Fine barley, 27s 6d to 29s; good, 26s to 27s 6d; and common sorts, 22s to 25s per quarter of 32 stones. Oats firm and without change. Rye, 7½d to 8d; and old beans, 11d per stone. The official average prices of grain for the week have been:—Wheat, 28s 1d; and barley 27s 3d per quarter.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has presented a fairly good tone. The weather has been dull and rainy in the French country districts, and field work has been almost suspended in consequence in some localities. The young wheats, however, have come up well, and will now be able to withstand effectually the rigours of the winter. The French wheat markets have shown generally little change. At Lyons a slightly upward tendency has been noted, but business has shown no increase of activity at Paris, and prices have not exhibited any improvement. Last week's sales of wheat at Marseilles amounted to 5,800 quintals. Flour for consumption has shown little change in the French capital. The Konigsberg and Dantzic wheat markets have remained at about their former level. The Tunisian wheat trade has shown little speculative activity; purchases are, however, being made from day to day on Marseilles account. Business in wheat has been somewhat restricted in wheat at Odessa, and prices have been barely maintained. Transactions have been proceeding upon a comparatively limited scale at Ibrail and Galatz; wheat has, however, been bought to a certain extent to meet the requirements of consumption. Advices from Buda-Pesth state that autumn sown wheats have made good progress in that quarter. The quantity of wheat now *en route* for Europe is returned at 1,125,000 qrs, as compared with 1,100,000 qrs at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 1,125,000 qr is made up as follows:—France, 120,000 qr; Belgium, 235,000 qr; Holland, 195,000 qr; Germany and the North, 200,000 qr; and Italy, Spain, etc., 380,000 qr.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley rules quiet here, and there is little doing. Importations from the Holstein and Danish Islands are made in fair quantities, and attracting the attention of buyers in consequence of their cheapness, but in the better sorts, such as Saale and Bohemian, few transactions are taking place, and England leaves us without orders. Wheat, quiet but firm, some exportation is still going on to Great Britain of our finest yellow German wheat, 61lb to 62lb per bushel, which must be quoted 27s 6d to 28s per 504lb f.o.b. over here.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

November 30th to December 7, 1900, inclusive.

		English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	qrs.	621	..	..	53,751	54,332
Barley		2,407	..	..	29,715	32,122
Malt		17,234	400	..	125	17,759
Oats		2,312	100	..	57,814	60,226
Rye		..	..	..	..	..
Beans		1,241	..	..	1,605	2,846
Peas		772	..	..	8,000	8,772
Maize		..	..	..	21,944	21,944
Tares		15	..	..	..	15
Lentils		..	..	..	6	6
Linseed		..	..	..	7,000	7,000
Rapeseed		..	..	..	1,700	1,700
Cottonseed		..	..	..	12,000	12,000
Farm Seeds		603	..	..	6,309	6,912
Flour	Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
	Sacks	20,518	..	..	50,489	71,007

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Nov. 30 to Dec. 7, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	54,332 qrs.
Flour	53,250 ,,
Total	107,582 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Surplus	1,582 ,,

IMPORTS OF POTATOES (OFFICIAL).

CEREAL YEARS.

	1900.	1899.	1898.
September			
Cwts.	213,000	117,000	78,000

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899					
Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	July 1	152,500 qrs.		
,, 14	108,380 ,,	,, 8	112,761 ,,		
,, 21	128,902 ,,	,, 15	116,850 ,,		
,, 28	51,234 ,,	,, 22	89,245 ,,		
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	,, 29	118,314 ,,		
,, 11	82,912 ,,	Aug. 5	104,234 ,,		
,, 18	204,974 ,,	,, 12	102,160 ,,		
,, 25	108,273 ,,	,, 19	103,353 ,,		
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,	,, 26	82,367 ,,		
,, 11	63,103 ,,	Sept. 2	73,600 ,,		
,, 18	122,541 ,,	,, 9	83,791 ,,		
,, 25	86,309 ,,	,, 16	107,684 ,,		
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	,, 23	131,880 ,,		
,, 8	133,261 ,,	,, 30	61,997 ,,		
,, 15	101,518 ,,	Oct. 7	121,032 ,,		
,, 22	70,984 ,,	,, 14	97,050 ,,		
,, 29	68,573 ,,	,, 21	95,446 ,,		
May 6	96,343 ,,	,, 28	154,895 ,,		
,, 13	72,852 ,,	Nov. 4	114,634 ,,		
,, 20	101,429 ,,	,, 11	110,161 ,,		
May 27	108,772 ,,	,, 18	79,200 ,,		
June 3	73,846 ,,	,, 25	130,815 ,,		
,, 10	126,781 ,,	Dec. 2	74,311 ,,		
,, 17	160,574 ,,	,, 9	74,704 ,,		
,, 24	101,205 ,,				
1900.					
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	June 29	142,185 qrs.		
,, 13	95,094 ,,	July 6	132,950 ,,		
,, 20	114,928 ,,	,, 13	101,253 ,,		
,, 27	124,652 ,,	,, 20	82,294 ,,		
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,	,, 27	55,998 ,,		
,, 10	75,000 ,,	Aug. 2	86,167 ,,		
,, 17	66,804 ,,	,, 11	192,077 ,,		
,, 24	62,191 ,,	,, 18	138,510 ,,		
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,	,, 25	182,517 ,,		
,, 10	63,702 ,,	,, 31	80,149 ,,		
,, 17	162,985 ,,	Sept. 7	58,394 ,,		
,, 24	111,409 ,,	,, 14	117,066 ,,		
,, 31	69,356 ,,	,, 21	105,961 ,,		
April 7	48,302 ,,	,, 28	158,771 ,,		
,, 13	131,085 ,,	Oct. 5	183,383 ,,		
,, 20	82,357 ,,	,, 12	156,815 ,,		
,, 27	43,783 ,,	,, 19	73,725 ,,		
May 4	104,535 ,,	,, 26	98,302 ,,		
,, 11	52,859 ,,	Nov. 2	77,179 ,,		
,, 18	97,412 ,,	,, 9	148,972 ,,		
,, 25	71,390 ,,	,, 16	105,130 ,,		
,, 31	177 744 ,,	,, 23	132,964 ,,		
June 8	93,147 ,,	,, 30	89,337 ,,		
,, 15	86,125 ,,	Dec. 7	107,582 ,,		
,, 22	196,116 ,,				

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1899.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Nov. 18	65,470½	26	1	163,915¾	26	4	16,313¼	16	7
,, 25	67,308¼	25	8	164,362¾	26	2	17,047½	16	7
Dec. 2	72,974¾	25	7	163,441¾	25	10	22,575½	16	6
,, 9	10,982½	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421¾	16	5
,, 16	78,772½	25	4	135,344¾	25	7	22,889¼	16	4
,, 23	67,102¾	25	6	116,757¾	25	10	16,447¾	16	0
,, 30	47,685½	25	9	74,637¾	25	5	10,463¾	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6	40,083	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380¾	16	4
,, 13	57,021¾	25	11	83,421¾	25	5	19,703	16	6
,, 20	68,463¼	26	0	100,925¾	25	8	23,122¾	16	5
,, 27	65,381¼	25	10	108,357¾	25	9	17,814¾	16	8
Feb. 3	73,796¾	25	8	90,769¾	25	4	22,061¼	16	3
,, 10	71,482¾	25	10	80,543¾	25	3	20,822¾	16	2
,, 17	76,611¾	26	1	80,414¾	24	11	20,986¾	16	1
,, 24	69,534¼	26	3	63,931¾	25	1	21,132¾	16	10
Mar. 3	68,153¼	26	4	51,727¼	24	6	18,499½	16	11
,, 10	58,703½	25	11	44,921¼	24	8	16,224	16	11
,, 17	76,435¾	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,104¾	16	10
,, 24	69,944¼	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042¾	17	1
,, 31	72,762	25	10	34,387¾	24	11	15,200¾	17	2
April 7	67,743¾	25	10	20,402¾	24	10	13,757¾	17	2
,, 14	66,412¾	25	11	19,519¾	24	5	9,672¾	17	8
,, 21	54,977¾	26	0	11,673¾	24	9	7,400¾	17	3
,, 28	70,006¾	26	0	7 785¾	25	2	11,101¾	17	11
May 5	75,410¾	25	11	8,159¾	25	3	8,658¼	18	0
,, 12	82,190¾	25	11	10,417¾	24	10	12,245¼	17	11
,, 19	83,941¾	25	7	5,638¾	24	5	9,942	18	5
,, 26	95,574¾	25	5	3,521¼	23	11	7,350¾	18	2
June 2	68,906¾	25	5	1,752¾	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9	64,747¼	25	3	990¾	23	8	6,053¾	18	8
,, 16	55,340¾	25	6	1,486¾	23	8	7,228¾	18	11
,, 23	54,324¼	25	9	1,319¾	23	5	5,344¼	18	11
,, 30	44,920¾	26	11	495¾	23	4	4,706¼	19	3
July 7	34,344¼	27	10	486¾	22	10	4,391¾	19	5
,, 14	22,009¼	28	7	949¼	23	2	2,911¾	19	1
,, 21	26,716¾	29	0	767¾	23	8	3,771¼	19	3
,, 28	33,088	29	3	194¼	24	4	3,335¾	19	9
Aug. 4	45,748¾	28	10	409¼	23	10	3,453¾	19	4
,, 11	37,644¾	28	7	311¼	23	7	3,391	19	8
,, 18	32,812¾	28	10	605¾	23	3	3,593¾	19	11
,, 25	26,427¼	28	10	787¾	24	10	5,349¼	18	8
Sept. 1	30,393¾	28	8	1,978¼	25	2	9,606¾	18	1
,, 8	34,755¼	28	7	6,140¾	25	8	11,042¼	17	10
,, 15	53,334¼	28	4	20,879¾	25	4	18,684¼	17	1
,, 22	61,468¼	28	4	41,284¼	26	0	21,729¾	17	1
,, 29	72,604	28	9	68,844¼	26	1	25,620¼	17	2
Oct. 6	66,690	28	9	94,282	26	2	23,865	16	10
,, 13	70,314¾	28	9	134,277¼	26	2	18,350¼	17	1
,, 20	58,790¼	28	4	159,007¾	26	5	14,681¼	16	11
Oct. 27	53,254	27	11	190,079¾	26	3	16,996¼	16	11
Nov. 3	54,514¾	27	5	204,836	26	3	16,602¼	16	11
,, 10	41,497¾	27	3	170,558	25	11	15,566¾	16	10
,, 17	44,072¾	27	1	185,342¾	25	8	14,400¾	17	1
,, 24	48,014¼	27	2	182,212¾	25	10	17,125¼	17	0
Dec. 1	43,700¾	27	0	164,624	25	9	18,157¾	17	2
,, 8	53,450¾	26	10	169.149¾	25	11	20,618¾	17	4

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	1900. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	6 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	6 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	7 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	7 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	8 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	19 5
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	28 6	25 7	17 6
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	28 5	26 3	17 0
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	27 3	25 10	17 0
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..		

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Dec. 8, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	53,450¾ qrs.	26s. 10d.
Barley	169,149¾ qrs.	25s. 11d.
Oats	20,618¾ qrs.	17s. 4d.

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890 ..	31 9 per qr.	..	28 8 per qr.	..	18 7 per qr.	
1891 ..	37 1 ,,	..	28 2 ,,	..	20 0 ,,	
1892 ..	30 4 ,,	..	26 2 ,,	..	19 11 ,,	
1893 ..	26 4 ,,	..	25 6 ,,	..	18 9 ,,	
1894 ..	22 10 ,,	..	24 6 ,,	..	17 1 ,,	
1895 ..	23 1 ,,	..	21 11 ,,	..	14 6 ,,	
1896 ..	26 2 ,,	..	22 11 ,,	..	14 9 ,,	
1897 ..	30 2 ,,	..	23 6 ,,	..	16 11 ,,	
1898 ..	34 0 ,,	..	27 2 ,,	..	18 5 ,,	
1899 ..	25 8 ,,	..	25 7 ,,	..	17 0 ,,	

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Dec 8, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

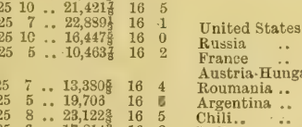
	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	66,639¾	22	2	141,385¼	25	4	15,944¼	16	8
1897....	65,817½	33	9	148,981	26	9	17,181¼	16	6
1898....	70,306¾	27	6	152,456¾	28	6	20,354¼	17	3
1899....	80,982½	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421¾	16	5

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 4th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	973	5	1,390	11	9	1	8	7
Barley	1,117	7	1,522	3	7	1	7	3
Oats	2,047	0	1,881	11	7	0	18	5

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	229,000	116,000	747,000	22,000	73,000
Russia	218,000	—	16,000	63,000	107,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary..	—	20,000	—	—	—
Roumania	114,000	—	70,000	36,000	—
Argentina	79,000	—	60,000	—	—
Chili..	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia ..	—	—	—	—	5,000
Miscellaneous ..	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	660,000	146,000	913,000	141,000	195,000

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov. ..	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June ..	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July ..	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec. ..	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900. s. d.

Sept. 1, 1900 .....(per sack) 30 0

(No official change since last date given).

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, saturday.—Moderate supplies met a fair demand. Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d; Surrey, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Sussex, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Irish, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; Welsh, 1s 9d to 2s; turkeys, cocks, 6s to 8s 6d; hens, 4s 6d to 6s; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 11d; feathered, 7d to 9d; wild rabbits, 7d to 9d; tame, 10d to 1s 2d each; Australian, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 4s to 4s 6d; young partridges, 3s to 3s 9d; old, 2s; young grouse, 4s to 5s; old, 3s per brace; hares, 3s to 3s 6d; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; pintail, 1s 6d; teal, 8d to 10d; widgeon, 1s to 1s 2d; snipe, 8d to 1s; woodcock, 2s to 2s 6d; golden plover, 8d to 10d; black, 5d each.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The Glasgow cheese trade is very quiet. Holders are willing to make concession. Cheddars and Dunlops are priced from 48s to 54s per cwt. The trade is well stocked, and do not feel disposed to operate. In the meantime, cheese must make a little headway or else open up. The dearness in splendid cheese are responsible for the present quietness.

Liverpool, saturday.—Grain.—The demand is good, but with extremely light stocks it should be so. Goods now ready command higher prices. Flour.—Little doing for forward delivery. We quote Canadian, spring wheat, London cut, 25s to 25s 6d, 1s 6d to 2s 6d less for Manitoba cut, 24s to 24s 6d; Minnesota patents, 25s to 25s 6d; Oregon, 24s to 24s 6d; Australian, 24s to 24s 6d; Hungarian, 24s to 24s 6d; Rye flour, 18s to 18s 6d; Buckwheat, 16s to 16s 6d; Indian meal, 13s to 13s 6d; Oatmeal, 18s to 18s 6d; Cornflour, 18s to 18s 6d. Provisions.—Bacon.—Trade is quiet. We quote Irish, Waterford cut, 50s to 52s; Limerick cut, 50s to 52s; Cork cut, 50s to 52s; Dublin cut, 50s to 52s; Wexford cut, 50s to 52s; Belfast cut, 50s to 52s; Sligo cut, 50s to 52s; Derry cut, 50s to 52s; Galway cut, 50s to 52s; Tralee cut, 50s to 52s; Kilkenny cut, 50s to 52s; Clonmel cut, 50s to 52s; Cavan cut, 50s to 52s; Roscommon cut, 50s to 52s; Mayo cut, 50s to 52s; Kerry cut, 50s to 52s; Fermanagh cut, 50s to 52s; Tipperary cut, 50s to 52s; Carlow cut, 50s to 52s; Meath cut, 50s to 52s; Kildare cut, 50s to 52s; Wicklow cut, 50s to 52s; Queen's County cut, 50s to 52s; Westmeath cut, 50s to 52s; Longford cut, 50s to 52s; Leitrim cut, 50s to 52s; Monaghan cut, 50s to 52s; Donegal

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Sir J. H. Gilbert takes up the place so long occupied by his old friend Sir J. B. Lawes, and in a letter dated from Harpenden, but referring to Rothamsted, gives us his estimate of the year's wheat yield. It comes out at 27⅝ bushels only, or nearly a bushel per acre less than the estimate published by the Minister of Agriculture on the 5th inst. The Government's figures come to 28·53 bushels for Great Britain, 28·39 for England alone. Ireland is not made the subject of any estimate, but if we assign 1,600,000 bushels to the total area whence we have no return (Ireland, the Isle of Man, and the Channel Islands) we shall have a total wheat yield of 53,239,809 bushels. Sir J. H. Gilbert throws light on the source of the deficiency. Unmanured land did worse than at any period for nearly fifty years, and farmyard manure proved unusually ineffective as a stimulus. On the other hand, artificial fertilisers brought on the wheat with unwonted strength and vigour. The moral seems to be that when we have a trying spring money spent on fertilisers to tide over the trial is well invested. Sir J. H. Gilbert puts the wheat crop for the U.K. at 52,449,000 bushels, which is 1,790,809 bushels less than the Government return. He expects an importation of 24,794,388 qrs., which seems to us a very high total. It may be remembered that our own estimate early in September pointed to a yield of 29 bushels per acre and to 23,000,000 qrs. imports. To these figures we adhere.

The rainfall of November having been over the average at 95 per cent. of stations, it follows that the wet weather from the 1st to 8th December has caused some apprehension. The mildness of the season has not yet brought on the autumn sown wheat to any extent deserving the title of "winter pride," and the strong start made in a warm seed bed has been favourable to strong growth, so that the colour is good and the habit of the plant by no means spindly. We may, indeed, affirm that thus far nothing but good has occurred to the growing wheat. While this is so it must be noted that the extreme limit has been reached whereon present conditions can be favourable. The wheat plant wants no more rain for a couple of months, but needs first a fortnight of drying wind, and then a natural winter up to the end of January. Slight frost without snow, or sharp frost after a good snowfall, would be about equally useful.

The markets naturally need winterly conditions in winter, for the usual course of prices and trade is based upon the prevalence of average conditions. The increase of stocks since September is put by "Dornbusch's List" at 888,460 qrs. Our own estimate from week to week shows a net increase on the period of 6,656,000 qrs. Whichever estimate find trade acceptance, there is clear excess of supply over demand for the fourteen weeks, and the result has naturally been to weaken the position of holders.

The last week's supplies of breadstuffs, however, have been rather under the estimated requirements :—

	Qrs.
English wheat	110,000
Foreign wheat	267,000
Foreign flour	115,000
Total	492,000

Stocks which on December 1 were estimated at 3,078,000 qrs. are now put at 3,003,000 qrs.

The quantities of wheat now on passage are as follows :—

	Qrs.
From California	1,025,000
,, America	240,000
,, Australasia	210,000
,, Argentina	210,000
,, Russia	70,000

	Qrs.
Dec. 8, 1900	1,755,000
,, 1899	1,400,000
,, 1898	1,650,000
,, 1897	2,245,000

Average expectations being about two millions, the present total has nothing in it to depress the market.

The supplies of flour on passage are :—

	Sks.
Dec. 8, 1900	350,000
,, 1899	420,000
,, 1898	500,000
,, 1897	510,000

These figures should give courage to a somewhat despondent flour market.

The exportations of foreign barley amount in all to 560,000 qrs. on passage ; the total is thus made up :—

	qrs.
1. Russian	70,000
2. Roumanian	105,000
3. Californian	305,000
4. Turkish	40,000
5. Persian	40,000
Total	560,000

Items 1, 2, and 5 are feeding, 3 and 4 malting, or at least brewery quality.

Of maize only 740,000 qrs. are now on passage as compared with 1,068,000 qrs a year ago. Present anticipations are of 550,000 qrs flat, 85,000 qrs. round, and 105,000 qrs yellow corn. Imports of maize last week were 257,000 qrs. against 533,000 qrs. in the corresponding week of last year. The total arrivals of maize since harvest amount to 3,013,000 qrs., against 4,044,000 qrs. last season. The price at New York is 2s. 3d. per qr. up on the year.

Of barley the imports last week were only 87,000 qrs., or considerably less than an average supply. In the same week of 1899 134,000 qrs. were imported. Yet prices are rather lower than higher on the twelvemonth. This is anomalous, and needs Government inquiry. Of oats the imports were 112,000 qrs., or about 70 per cent. of a full supply. The shipments from America from January 1 to December 8 were 3,333,000 qrs., and from Russia were 8,740,000 qrs. The shipments from Sweden and Finland are very small, but New Zealand has done a steady trade.

Rye shipments last week were 93,000 qrs. of Russian, 1,000 qrs. of Roumanian, and 3,500 qrs. of American. The total shipments since August 1 have been 2,867,000 qrs. of Russian, 163,500 qrs. of Roumanian, and 103,500 qrs. of American.

Linseed shipments were 10,000 qrs. from India, 1,000 qrs. from La Plate, 49,000 qrs. from Russia, and 11,000 qrs. from the U.S.A. There are 80,000 qrs. on passage to the United Kingdom, against 147,000 qrs. a year ago. This great difference has, of course, no little to do with the very high price now asked for linseed on the principal English exchanges.

Of rapeseed 14,000 qrs. are on passage, against 16,000 qrs. a year ago, and market quotations are firmly maintained. Cottonseed is in a rather different position. Spot holders are firm, but with 41,000 tons on passage, against 20,000 tons on December 8, 1899, the situation favours all buyers who can afford to wait till over Christmas.

The Government returns of oilseed imports for November are to hand, and give the following particulars :—

From	Linseed. Qrs.	Rapeseed. Qrs.	Cottonseed. Qrs.
Russia	103,000	10,000	—
America	32,000	—	1,000
India	43,000	4,500	—
Egypt	—	—	42,000
Other countries	32,000	5,500	4,000
Total	210,000	20,000	47,000

Imports of beans and peas for the first quarter of the cereal year—Sept. 1-Nov. 30—are the subject of a special semi-official return, which thus compares with the same period in the two preceding cereal years :—

	Beans. Qrs.	Peas. Qrs.
1900 .. Sept. 1-Nov. 30	146,785	170,784
1899 .. Sept. 1-Nov. 30	110,089	218,600
1898 .. Sept. 1-Nov. 30	163,611	127,575

The trade is both staples may be regarded as steady, both as regards the prices made and the sotal volume of business transacted. Lentils make tittle headway, though the belief of vegetarians in lthem is maintained, and is, we understand, thoroughly well founded. Dari is a staple which steadily gains ground, and it is desirable that we should have from 1901 a monthly Government return of the imports of this article. The sales are now really considerable.

The Government estimate of the home crop of barley has not surprised readers of this journal, which has all along stated its opinion that the crop was small. The official figures for Great Britain now show that the yield was as a matter of fact the smallest since 1893, and we may add that 1892 and 1891 having each bigger crops, 1900 ranks as the second exceptionally bad year of the decade. The yield of oats without the Irish figures is scarcely worth discussing, for the area devoted to oats in the green isle is very considerable, and the crop large enough to modify all calculations. In the absence of Government information we may be grateful to "Beerbohm's List" for a special estimate, which puts this year's yield in Ireland at fifty million bushels. On this basis the total yield of oats for the United Kingdom would be 164,847,537 bushels, against 166,139,840 bushels in 1899, and 172,578,273 bushels in 1898. Of rye the Government give no estimate, but the crop we believe was a good one on the small area devoted to it.

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites.		Town Households.	
	s.	d.		s. d.
September 1	(per sack) 28	6	(per sack)	25 6
October 1	,, 29	0	,,	26 0
October 26	,, 28	6	,,	25 6
November 26	,, 28	0	,,	25 0

(No official change since last date given).

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day, under the influence of mild and sunny weather, was against holders, but the fine day was welcome with a view to the greater event of Smithfield. English wheat was dull at 6d. decline. Some inferior Turkish wheat for feeding purposes was offered at a guinea per 448lbs. Some foreign wheat was in fair request, but prices were barely so good as on Friday. Oregon (good brewing) barley made 26s. 6d., and fine Californian 27s. per quarter. Some serviceable barley from North Africa made 22s. to 22s. 6d. per quarter. Novorossisk (Caucasian) samples fetched 18s. 6d. to 19s. 6d., according to quality. The market for English barley was firm but dull. Maize was 3d. lower. Oats were unchanged. Some beans from Smyrna sold to-day for 29s., and from North Africa for 29s. 6d. For lentils 13s. to 13s. 3d. was made for Egyptian split per cental. Dari was in good retail request.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Dec. 10th, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	29	— 33
(old)	,,	32	— 33
Red (new)	,,	28	— 31
(old)	,,	29	— 32
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	— 39
Brewing	,,	27	— 32
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	,,	36	— 38
Black	,,	30	— 32
Brown	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	33	— 35
OATS, English, New Winter	,,	19	— 20
,, ,, Tartary	,,	18/9	—19
,, ,, White	,,	18	—18/9
,, ,, Old Winter	,,	21	— 23
,, ,, Tartary	,,	20	— 21
Scotch	,,	21	— 23
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	16/6	—18
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	40	— 44
,, Winter	,,	29	— 33
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	— 76
,, Dun	,,	31	— 33
,, Maple	,,	38	— 42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Finest Duluth	33/9	—34
American Spring	32	— 33
Hard Manitoba	32/6	—33
Red Winter	31	—31 3
Kansas	30/9	—31
Californian	31	—31/3
Walla Walla	30	—30/6
Australian	30	— 32
New Zealand	29	— 31
Argentine	29	— 32
Danzig	33	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Petersburg	30	— 31
German	29	— 30
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Hard Taganrog	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480lb. :		
Cinquantina	27	— 29
Roumanian	25	— 26
Russian	25	— 26
Argentine	22	— 23
American	21	— 22
OATS :		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	15	— 16
American (320lb.)	14	— 16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
Petersburg (304lb)	14	— 15
Libau, white (304lb.)	13	— 14
,, black ,,	14	— 15
BEANS, per 480lb. :		
Egyptian	31	— 32
Smyrna	29	— 30
Konigsberg	29	— 31
Barbary	27	— 28
Mexican	28	— 30
New Zealand	31	— 35
LOCUST BEANS, per ton :		
Italian	100	— 102
Cyprian	106	— 112
,, Ground	138	— 144
Portuguese	101	— 103
,, Ground	118	— 120
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Dutch	57	— 77
Canadian, White	29	— 30
Indian, White	28	— 30
Barbary	26	— 28
Australian, White	40	— 41
,, Dun	26	— 27
New Zealand	44	— 64
LENTILS, per cwt :		
Spanish, Split	15	— 16
Egyptian, Split	13	— 14
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	27	— 28
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb. :		
French	27	— 28
Russian	27	— 28
Canadian	28	— 29
BARLEY :		
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 27
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 28
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Turkish (400lb.)	20	— 21
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Syrian (400 lb.)	24	— 27
Persian (400 lb.)	18	—18/3
American (400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb.		
Californian	35	— 40
Smyrna	34	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.	RAPESEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	58	to 60	English	55	to 59
Dutch	61	to 63	Dutch	53	to 55
Argentine	50	to 52	French	46	to 47
Canadian	61	to 63	Roumanian	43	to 45
Russian	54	to 56	Cawnpore	45	to 46
Calcutta	58	to 60	Calcutta	42	to 43
SESAME. per 424lb.			Guzerat	48	to 52
Bombay	49	to 51	Ferozepore	43	to 44
Kurrachee	52	to 53	Ravison	34	to 36
COTTON SEED. per ton.			POPPYSEED. per 377lb.		
Egyptian	138	to 140	Indian	48	to 49

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

The market closed 6d. lower for flat maize and the turn lower for wheat and pulse. For barley and oats firmer prices were made as well as asked, but trade was not brisk.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Dec. 10th.

The flour trade was the turn in buyers' favour for London and country makes. There were buyers of town households at 23s. 9d., but where 24s. was demanded bakers, as a rule, declined transactions. Pillsbury's best at 25s. is decidedly cheap, and the same price commands gold medal, Washburn's superlative, and also the very best produce of the best Kansas mills. Second grades of a thoroughly serviceable nature are pressed on sale at 19s. for Iron Duke, 21s. 6d. for Good Hue, 18s. 3d. for Gilt Edge, 20s. 6d. for Palisade, 19s. 3d. for Princess Royal, and 18s. 3d. for Gibraltar. The price of Australian flour was about maintained, but Hungarian was definitely reduced 6d. per sack. French was offered freely at a like decline. Common American feeding flour, such as "Phœnix," is offered at 14s. to 14s. 6d. per sack. In connection with feed we may note that barley meal, country ground, was offered to-day at 6gs. per ton free on rail.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	30
Town Whites	,,	23/9	27
,, Households	,,	23/9	24
No. 2	,,	21/9	22

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24—25/6
Fine Roller made	,,	23—23/6
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22—22/6
Best Stone made	,,	21—21/6
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19 — 20

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	25—25/3
,, Second Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	25—25/3
,, Bakers'	,,	21 — 23
Kansas Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Cascadia	,,	23/6—24
Canadian	,,	24/6—25
Australian Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Ordinary	,,	19 — 20
Hungarian	,,	28 — 31
French	,,	21 — 24

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	186—190
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	115—117
Bran, London Broad	,,	105—108
,, ,, Fine	,,	95 — 97
,, Country Flake	,,	110—114
,, ,, Broad	,,	105—107
Pollard	,,	92 — 94
Fine Middlings	,,	120—126
Coarse Middlings	,,	103—105
Oat Meal	,,	220—280
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	130—136
Maize Meal	,,	110—120
Maize Cones	,,	144—150
Maize Germ Meal	,,	100—105
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	140—160
Rice Meal	,,	90 — 95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—		Dec.	March.	June.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Dec. 3	11 a.m.	6 4	6 7	6 7
	4 p.m.	6 4	6 7	6 7
Dec. 4	11 a.m.	6 6	6 7	6 7
	4 p.m.	6 5	6 7	6 8
Dec. 5	11 a.m.	6 5	6 7	6 8
	4 p.m.	6 5	6 8	6 8
Dec. 6	11 a.m.	6 5	6 8	6 8
	4 p.m.	6 5	6 8	6 8
Dec. 7	11 a.m.	6 5	6 8	6 8
	4 p.m.	6 5	6 8	6 8
Dec. 8	11 a.m.	6 5	6 8	6 8
To-day	11 a.m.	6 5	6 7	6 7

There is a small demand for maize at 4s. 4d. per cental for December delivery, and 3s. 10d. for February delivery of new crop.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 *minimum* and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: The market is in a quiet state, but prices remain exceedingly firm. Offers below current rates are refused.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORTS.

Trade is slack, and the value of milling offals remains unchanged, and on the whole very little business is done.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Wheat supplies moderate, a quiet trade at late prices. Flour unchanged. Maize 3d. per qr. cheaper. Barley and oats unchanged.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

Flour.—A dull trade at last week's prices.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

There is no change to note in the position of the wheat market since last Monday, but values are steady, although, as usual at this period of the year, the demand is not active. Maize is 3d. easier. Barley unaltered. Oats.—Steady trade at late values.—W. P. WOOD AND CO., Mark Lane.

The approach of the holiday season increases the indisposition for business which has recently prevailed, and there seems now no change of activity till the new century commences. Meantime, there is no quotable change in the value of any article.—JOHN PICARD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Offals.—Consumption of bran small; only a moderate demand. No further change to report in prices. Pollard also in moderate demand.—GREENHILL BROTHERS, Bedford, December 8.

Flour is not quite so depressed this week. Stocks, however, are heavy and prevent any improvement, in spite of the better tone of American markets. Grain.—Indian corn is in better supply on spot, but firm in all positions. Foreign oats and pease are in good demand at full prices. Barley quiet. Canadian oatmeal firm at former rates. Mill stuffs.—Bran and thirds unchanged.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, December 8.

Wheat steady with a fair business at full prices for all sorts excepting spring, which is ½d. per cental lower. Flour is steady with a very small trade for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers'. Maize is firmly held for mixed American, and, owing to small offerings, buyers have unwillingly been obliged to pay ½d. over yesterday; prices show a gain of ½d. to 1d. per cental over last market day. European steady, quiet. Plate corn quiet at unchanged prices. Barley for malting is unchanged, the demand still keeping poor. A very moderate trade has been done in feeding, prices favouring buyers. Beans are the turn easier, with a slow consumptive trade. Peas steady at ½d. per cental decline for Canadians, but quiet. Oats firm but quiet for English; foreign kinds are also firmly held, but only a quiet trade is passing at unchanged prices. Oatmeal steady at quotations. Oilcake steady with a fairly good demand at late rates.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, December 8.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are fairly steady. Demand is mostly for January and February shipment, and chiefly for the different American descriptions. Maize is a brisk trade for New Year shipment from Atlantic ports, but is slow for cargoes on passage. Barley, oats, and beans are not in much request. Oilseeds come lower.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—No. 1 Northern, 31s., January shipment; No. 1 Northern, 30s 9d, February shipment; No. 2 Hard Winter, 20s 9d, January shipment; No. 2 Hard Winter, 28s 9d, February shipment; Californian, 30s, on passage; Walla Walla, 28s 9d, on passage; No. 2 Club Calcutta, 30s 3d, April shipment; Australian, 30s 3d, on passage; Argentine, 28s 3d, February shipment.

MAIZE.—American, 18s 9d, December shipment; Galatz, 21s 9d, December shipment; Argentine, 20s 9d, December shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 18s 6d, May shipment; Persian, 17s, on passage.

OATS.—American Mixed, 14s 3d, on passage; Petersburg, 13s 9d, on passage.

BEANS.—Saida, 29s. December shipment.

RYE.—Roumania, 22s 6d, January shipment.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 47s, January shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £6 10s., January shipment.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Market very quiet, prices unchadged. Cotton cake steady; demand continues good. Linseed firm, and likely to be scarce until the new La Plata arrives about beginning of February.

English linseed cake	£8 10 0	to £8 12 6		ex mill
American Calcutta linseed cake		None		ex quay
American Western linseed cake	7 15 0	to —		ex quay
Russian oil cake	7 12 6	to 8 0 0		ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. oil)	6 15 0	—		ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	7 0 0	—		ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6 17 6	—		ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	4 17 6	to 5 0 0		ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4 15 0	to 4 17 6		ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4 12 6			on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4 12 6	—		ex warehouse
Russian linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2 14 0	to 2 18 0		ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2 19 0			ex warehouse

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington

Monday, Dec. 11th, 1899.

	British	Total	Dec. 11th, 1899.
Beasts	2,141	2,141	2,000
Sheep and lambs	6,140	6,140	5,000
Pigs	130	130	—
Milch cows	50	50	60

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	2 10 —	4 2 —	4 10
Sheep	3 2 —	5 0 —	5 8
Pigs	3 8 —	3 10 —	4 4

Milch cows, per head, £1 to £[illegible]

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 217; Eastern Counties, 360; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,454; Devon, 120; Ireland, 90.

The supply of beasts compared with Monday last showed an increase, arrivals from Scotland and Norfolk being greater; trade for both prime and second quality was slow, but late rates were fully maintained and in a few instances exceeded for prime Scotch beasts; fat cows and bulls met with limited sales at a decline, the supply being in excess of the demand.

The following are the top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Dec. 11th, 1899.
Scotch	4s 8d to 4s 10d	.. 4s 8d to 5s 2d
Devons	4s 8d to 4s 9d	.. 4s 10d to 5s 0d
Herefords	4s 9d to 4s 10d	.. —
Norfolks	4s 8d to 4s 9d	.. 4s 8d to 4s 10d
Runts	—	.. 4s 0d to 4s 2d
Lincolns	4s 2d to 4s 6d	— 4s 4d to 4s 6d
Irish	—	4s 8d to 4s 10d
Waterfords	4s 2d to 4s 3d	.. —
Fat cows	3s 6d to 3s 10d	.. 3s 10d to 4s 0d

In the number of sheep penned there was an increase of 580; trade for wethers was slightly firmer, whilst ewes owing to a greater number being on offer met with a slower trade even at a decline in value. The supply included 330 Irish, 230 Scotch, and 1,570 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Dec. 11th, 1899.
7½ to 8-stone Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	.. 5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-stone ditto	5s 4d to 5s 6d	.. 5s 6d to 5s 8d
10-stone half-breds	5s 0d to 5s 2d	.. 5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-stone Lincolns	— to —	.. 4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	4s 10d to 5s 0d	.. 4s 8d to 4s 10d
10-stone Down ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	.. 4s 0d to 4s 2d
11-stone halfbred ditto	3s 6d to 3s 8d	.. 3s 8d to 3s 10d

There was a moderate supply of pigs, best small breeds were quoted at 4s 4d per 8lb. Larger sorts were difficult to vend.

London Central, Monday.—Good supplies, trade slow. Beef: Carcases, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; hindquarters, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; roastings, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Sheep: Ewes, 2s 10d to 3s 2d; wethers, 4s to 4s 2d; hindquarters, ewes, 4s to 4s 4d; wether, 5s 2d to 5s 6d. Pigs: Large, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; small, 3s 8d to 4s.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 400; sheep, 500; pigs, 410; horses, 6. Beef, 7s 6d to 8s; mutton, 7s to 9s 11d; pork, 6s to 7s 3d. Fat and store cattle, and sheep fair trade; fat pigs good demand; stores fair; milch cows, fair show and trade, prices £13 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 445, and consisted of 20 from the United States and 505 from Canada, the former are not worth quoting, for the latter consisting of Ranch cattle, trade was extremely slow, no really good beasts being on sale, the best made 3s 9d, and occasionally 3s 10d per 8lb, offal given in. Plain ditto were quoted at from 3s 4d to 3s 6d. Sheep, 445, consisting of consignments from Canada, for which there are but little demand. Trade, therefore, was extremely dull at from 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb, offal given in. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 2,791, 4s 3d per 8lbs, to dress about 800lbs. Sheep, 2,634, 3s 8d per 8lbs, to dress from 72lbs.

Liverpool, Monday.—Demand better for all classes of cattle, prices, however, were not quotably higher, except for prime quality. Sheep trade very slow at last week's rates. Beef, 6½d to 4½d per lb; mutton, 8d to 5½d per lb. At market: 1,575 cattle and 5,476 sheep. The Christmas market will be held on Monday next.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 3,623 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 6,878 bales bacon. The demand for bacon was [illegible] last week by the very high prices asked, so much so that the market was decidely easier, and concessions of 2s to 3s were made to effect sales. Irish, 62s, 66s, 68s; Danish, 62s, 66s, 68s; Canadian 62s 66s, 68s. Butter was in better demand, and the market ruled steady for all finest grades with just a tendency to go a little dearer. Danish, 124s 126s; Colonial, 106s, 112s. Lard unchanged steady.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., [illegible] that but little business is just now passing in cloverseed. Meantime, stocks all round are moderate, and quotations generally unchanged. Italian ryegrasses [illegible] attention, but perennials are neglected. The supply of tares and rye is small, but so likewise is the demand. Holders of mustard and rapeseed, in view of the meagre supplies [illegible] prices. Canaryseed, with for the moment a limited sale, is firmly held, whilst the downward course in hempseed has been arrested. Blue peas and haricot beans move off slowly at last week's figures.

CORK BUTTER.

—	ORDINARY. First.	Second.	Third.	Fourth.	Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	Firkins of the Month.
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	98	88	82	77	104	98	100	[illegible]
Tuesday ..	94	88	83	75	[illegible]	96	102	[illegible]
Wednesday ..	[illegible]	88	84	75	102	92	—	101
Thursday ..	90	88	84	75	100	92	102	[illegible]
Friday ..	96	88	84	74	100	94	—	[illegible]
Saturday ..	90	88	84	74	104	92	87	[illegible]

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington market, on Monday, there was a slight decrease in the supply. Trade for best quality opened and continued somewhat firmer, though no alteration in regard to quotations can be noted. Second quality as well as plain beasts met a slower sale, the latter being lower in value, a clearance of these not being made. On Thursday no sales of fat beasts were recorded. On both market days there was a fair, steady sale for butchering cows and bulls, but rough cattle were on the downward track, though they were rather shorter in number. At the foreign animals' wharf (Deptford) markets were held on three days, viz., Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. The supply on the two former days was very small, that on Wednesday consisting of only 146 head. Trade, though of a slow nature, was firmer in regard to value, a rise of 2d. per 8lbs. being recorded on Monday, this advance being maintained throughout the week. The total number of beasts offered for sale at both markets was 3,497, consisting of 1,830 British and 1,667 foreign, these latter comprising 1,061 from the United States and 606 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal): 80 stone polled Aberdeens, 4s. 10d.; 90-stone Herefords, 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.; 80-stone Devons, 4s. 9d.; 90-stone Runts, 4s. 8d.; 90-stone Polled Norfolks, 4s. 8d.; 95-stone Shorthorns, 4s. 6d.; 95-stone Waterfords, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 3d.; 90-stone Dublins, 4s. 4d.; 88 to 90-stone States, 4s. 5d. to 4s. 6d.; 85-stone Canadians, 4s. 2d.; ranche ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. The trade for sheep was practically confined to the Islington market, where trade, taking the week as a whole, was of a decidedly slower nature, though on Monday the best wethers and ewes were firm in value, with a steady demand. The total number penned was 6,320, all being British, and showing a decrease of 2,462 as compared with last week. Best pens made per 8lbs. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8-stone halfbreds, 5s. 2d.; 12-stone ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 10-stone Irish, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 3s. 8d. Calves numbered only thirty-five, but were difficult to sell; the best were quoted at 5s. 4d. Pigs numbered 440, and met with a slower trade at a decline of fully 2d. per 8lbs. Top value, 8-stone choice quality pigs 4s. 4d. per 8lbs.

Trade in the West.

The Christmas beef trade has opened fairly brisk, and at all the leading country markets good quality steers and heifers are selling at prices a trifle better than they did last year, namely 12s. to 13s. for specially finished animals of the best breeds (or from £26 to £37 apiece), cows of a good stamp making £20 to £30 apiece (or 11s. to 11s. 6d.), whilst the rougher grades of beef can still be had at 10s. to 10s. 6d. Mutton displays considerable buoyancy, some of the best class of wethers making 65s. to 86s. each, and in some few special cases more (or quite 8½d. to 9d. per lb.). Specially prepared lamb for show purposes is making 11d. to 1s. per lb., but there is not an over-abundance on offer. Veal is a very firm trade, best grades making 8½d., and pigs also sell very well indeed, the smaller weights of porkers bringing 10s. per score and over; but the more ordinary run of prices for the bulk is 9s. to 9s. 6d.

Trade in Ireland.

Last Thursday's Dublin market was one of the largest of the year, and one of the most disastrous to sellers. For really good cattle the fall was at least 20s. per head, and for rough sorts quite double that amount, and even at these reduced figures nothing like a clearance could be effected; in fact, not half the rough cattle could be turned into money. Prime ox and heifer beef made from 52s. to 55s. per cwt., [illegible] ditto making a couple of shillings per cwt. more; second class beef, 46s. to 50s.; and inferior 42s. 6d. to 45s. The number of beasts in market was [illegible] on last week. With a large number of sheep the mutton department was worse than ever, and may be written down 2s. per head [illegible]. Very little business was done by shippers, and the few lots that were taken looked very cheap at from 25s. to 30s. each. City butchers took some very choice mountain wethers at 7d. per lb., but fine heavy wethers sold at from 6d. to 6¼d., and good ewes from 5d. to 5¾d. Rough sheep very irregular, and needy sellers had to let them go at ruinously low figures. Very little veal on market, the few really good calves making late rates; rough sorts uncertain in value. The choice milch cow continues to command high prices, but springers making from £19 to £23. The pig market was very dull, and prices down 2s. per cwt. at the opening and fully 3s. per cwt. at the close.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Supplies were again of fair extent, but trade continues without any appreciable improvement. Arrivals of beef included 50 tons Scotch, 570 Liverpool sides, 1,100 hindquarters, and 600 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations:—Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; long, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d; forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s to 3s 2d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Supplies good, but trade without improvement. Arrivals of beef included 130 tons Scotch, 550 Liverpool sides, 3,500 hindquarters, and 2,000 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; long, 4s to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; forequarters 2s 8d to 2s 10d; frozen hindquarters, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; forequareters, 2s 4d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; English wethers, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; ewes, 2s 10d to 3s 2d; Canterbury, 3s to 3s 4d; Wellington, 2s 10d to 3s; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; Dutch, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; and Irish, 3s to 3s 4d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast entries good; trade without essential change. Sheep supplies moderate, but slow demand for both wethers and ewes, prices, however, remaining at about late level. 7½st to 8st Down wethers, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9st, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st half-bred, 5s to 5s 2d; 10st Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s; 11st half-bred ditto, 3s 8d. Calves, in moderate supply, ruled steady, the best on offer making 5s 6d. A good supply of pigs were rather easier in value. Neat small, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Total supplies; 180 beasts, 500 sheep, 25 calves, 270 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The sale of stock at the annual fat stock show was quite as good as had been expected, the best beasts making 12s 6d to 13s per score. Show mutton, however, was not in demand, the animals being too heavy for butchers. In the open market best beef made, 11s to 11s 6d; and secondary ones, 10s to 11s. Small Kent and half-bred mutton fetched 4s 10d to 5s 4d per 8lb; large wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; and barrens, 3s 6d to 4s per 8lb. Roaster pigs made 11s to 11s 6d per score, and larger hogs 9s 6d to 10s 6d. Store trade was slow.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' saleyard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 46 fat beasts, 55 calves, 664 fat sheep, 287 pigs, and 57 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £12 10s to £19; fat calves, 80s to £6; small, 20s to 50s; fat wethers, 36s 6d to 54s; fat ewes, 29s to 51s; fat hogs, 75s to 94s; fat porkers, 40s to 58s; small, 28s to 36s; store pigs, 8s 6d to 21s; dairy cows, £8 5s to £18 15s. A continued downpour of rain throughout the day made the transaction of business difficult and somewhat depressed the trade for fat cattle and sheep, but there was a fair amount of business done without material change in prices. Prime quality Devon steers made up to £19; heifers, £18 15s; Shorthorn steers reached £18 10s; heifers, £19 5s; cows, £17 15s; bulls, £17 to £18 15s. A good supply of fat sheep commanded the attention of a number of buyers from local and distant markets, and a clearance mostly made at late rates. Pure Hampshire Down wethers and ewes made 41s, 42s, 52s, 53s, 45s 6d, 47s, 46s, 43s, 43s 6d, 46s, 40s 6d, 40s¾43s; 11 months old ditto, 37s, 38s, 39s, 43s 6d, 50s 6d, 51s 6d, 53s, 46s 6d, 47s 6d, 40s 6d, 54s, 44s 6d, 46s, 47s, 45s, 38s; old ewes, 30s, 32s 6d, 37s 6d, 38s 6d. 36s 6d, 38s, 31s, 37s; rams, 46s, 39s, 55s, 46s 6d, 43s 6d, 36s, 44s. There was a brisk trade throughout for good milch cows and heifers, an easy clearance being effected. Store cattle are difficult to sell at prices remunerative to the vendors. Fat cattle are scarce and dear. Fat hogs met a ready sale at late rates. Porkers were in demand at late high prices. Store pigs continue a firm trade. Ruling values:—Best quality Devon beasts, 7d to 7½d; ditto Shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5½d to 6d per lb; best quality sheep, 8½d to 9d; second ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 5½d to 6½d per lb; fat calves, 6½d to 9d per lb; fat hogs, up to 10s; and porkers, up to 12s 6d per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—A short show of store beasts, and a quiet trade prevailed. In-calvers were a good show, and in demand. Best beef made 7s 6d to 7s 9d, and cow beef, 5s 9d to 6s 3d per stone. Grazing steers, £12 10s to £15; useful heifers, £9 to £11 10s; calves, 60s to 65s; in-calvers, £18 to £22; and heifers, £15 10s to £17 10s each. Wether mutton, 7d and 7½d; and ewe mutton, 5½d and 5½d per lb. Strong wether sheep, 47s to 50s; and store lambs, 31s to 42s each.

Brigg, Thursday.—With only a moderate supply of horned stock and limited attendance of buyers, business was of sluggish description. Milch beasts and in-calvers, £12 to £19; two-year-old steers and heifers, £9 to £12; drapes, £8 to £12; calves, 28s to 36s per head. Nothing doing in sheep.

Bristol, Thursday.—Full supply of beef, chiefly middling description. Best qualities made 60s to 62s per cwt; others, 64s. Large number of sheep, which, like the cattle, met a slow sale. Choice light wethers, 7¾d to 8d; ewes, 6d per lb. About 1,000 pigs. Bacon pigs, 9s 6d; porkers 11s per score. Three hundred store cattle from Ireland sold slowly at about late rates.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under..	9s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in.	9s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs ..	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	8s 3d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND Co., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 1,295; sheep, 565; pigs, 417; horses, 10. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 4s to 5s 4d; pork, 6s to 9d. A large show store beasts and a slow market. Fat beasts a full show, prices quite up to last week. Fat sheep, a good number to hand and prices not so good. Stores only a few lots to hand. Fat pigs a large show, trade not so brisk. Stores, a little better trade. Hay, straw, and roots, a fair trade.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a good offering of useful beasts, but trade was slow. Irish calves ranged from £5 to £6 5s, and second rate cows and calves from £11 to £16. But few sheep were sold.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish store cattle was similar to last week's, consisting of about 250 heifers and polled bullocks. The attendance was small and trade quiet. Wintering heifers realised £6 10s to £8 10s; stall feeding, £10 10s to £14 10s; polled bullocks, £8 10s to £13 10s. Young pigs a small show, and quoted at 17s 6d each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The feature was the great sale of Christmas fat stock, which included rare lots of bullocks and some very nice quality mutton. Trade for beef ruled steady the best steers and heifers realising about 12s for picked lots. Mutton trade fairly active at 8d to 8½d for choicest wethers.

Dublin, Thursday.—A congested market and worse trade. Finished sorts scarcely realised last week's prices. Rough and thin classes, which were far in excess of requirements, were considerably lower in values, and a clearance could not be effected, stall-feds coming in more numerously and meeting with fair inquiry. Worse trade for all classes of sheep at lower prices, especially for rough and inferior qualities. Cattle (best), 30s to 32s per cwt; inferior descriptions, 25s to 29s per cwt; stall-feds, 30s to 33s per cwt. Mutton, 5½d to 6¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Good supplies sold readily, with little alteration in prices. Horned bullocks to £18; horned heifers, to £16; polled bullocks, to £19 10s; polled heifers, to £14; Galloway cows, to £13 15s; Ayrshire cows, to £15; calving cows, to £14; Galloway bullocks, to £15 15s; Galloway heifers, to £15.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Moderate supplies; demand slow; values favour buyers. Top Scotch cattle, 68s: top Irish, 60s per cwt. Top mutton, 8d to 8½d; secondary, 7¾d per lb. Supplies of dead meat shorter, business slow, prices steady, best States beef, 5¾d to 6d; Canadians, 5¾d to 5½d; cows, 4¾d to 5d; weddars, 7d to 7¼d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There was a relapse in the beef trade to-day, best qualities in a big supply going back ½d per lb., and the primest not making more than 6¼d, some cows being under 5d. Not much difference in regard to mutton, wethers realising about 7d to 7¼d per lb., and ewes 5½d to 6¼d. Few calves, which sold readily. Pig trade brisk, there not being quite so many as last week; porks sold well at 5d to 6d, bacons 4½d to 5¾d. Trade for store stock quiet.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robt. Bond and Sons report a larger supply of fat beasts; all well-finished animals were in good demand up to £26. The fat sheep pens were well filled, trade was firm, without alterations in value. Suffolk shearlings made up to 64s. Grazing hoggets were in request at good prices. A moderate supply of calves for weaning, for which trade was not quite so sharp. Fat calves sold well up to 85s. Fat swine were short, and in strong request at high prices. This being a special sale of dairy stock, 48 cows, heifers, and bulls were forwarded; those fresh-calved were in good demand, but others changed hands slowly. The highest price realised was £19. A good entry of Shorthorn steers and heifers, which sold well. A choice lot of Cumberland heifers, suitable for breeding, were well competed for up to £10 5s. At the Drill Hall the last sale of horses for the year was held. All the best animals were in request at satisfactory prices. Cart horses up to 35½ guineas. Colts, 30½ guineas. Hackneys, 27½ guineas. Numbers at sales and market:—Beasts 896, calves 29, sheep 805, pigs 1,168, horses 90.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The Christmas market will be held on Tuesday next. There was a large show of cattle to-day, but the quality all round was not first-class. The demand fell off considerably, and the supply was greatly in excess of the demand. The entries were chiefly home district and Irish stock. A small number of Highland cattle were also offered. The best heifers and bullocks generally realised 6¼d per lb, but a few exceptionally choice stall-fed animals made 6¾d per lb. Irish cattle were not in active demand, the best quality making 6d per lb. Secondary and inferior cattle met a slow inquiry, and were a little easier in price, the former making 5¾d to 5¾d, and the latter from 5d per lb. Sheep show a decrease on the previous week. The demand was principally for the choicest small sheep, which about maintained recent quotations. Secondary and inferior sheep were more difficult to dispose of, and dealers to effect sales had to make slight concessions. Nice small shearlings made 8d to 8¼d per lb; heavy sheep, 7d to 7¼d; ewes, etc., 5d to 5¼d. Calves were a very small consignment, and for the best 7¾d to 8d per lb was realised. Dairy cattle were more than an average supply. Business ruled slow, and prices were a little below last week, the best milkers making from £14 10s to £22. Numbers at market—Cattle 685, sheep 2,050, calves 5.

Leicester, Saturday.—Full supplies of stock were in excellent condition, but trade ruled very slow, and prices were easier. Milch cows in good demand, and made £17 to £25 per head. Bullocks, £10 to £15.

Lincoln, Friday.—Trade not very brisk. Best milch beasts, £18 to £21; inferior, £14 to £17; three-year-old stores, £14 to £15; two year old, £10 to £12; young stock, £5 to £8. Drape ewes, 28s to 32s; lamb hogs, 38s to 38s.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Good trade, quality very fair. Prices steady all round. Numbers:—Cattle, 2,153; sheep, 5,450; calves, 54; pigs, 1,107. Prices (sinking the offal):—Beef, 5s to 8s; pork, 5s to 9s per stone; mutton, 5d to 8d; veal, 5d to 8½d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—Store beasts were in pretty good supply here to-day; trade was quiet at about former terms. Fat beasts were freely offered; trade was not very active, and prices were the turn lower, ranging from 7s 3d to 7s 9d per 14lb. Store sheep were in moderate supply; previous prices were maintained in the business done, keeping hoggets making 30s to 42s per head. Fat sheep were not in large supply, but trade was dull at 8s to 8s 6d and 9s per 14lb. Fat pork realised 6s 9d to 7s per 14lb.

Preston, Wednesday.—Fair supplies in all departments, but trade all round was slow. Beef is slightly cheaper, but rates for sheep were unchanged. While calves were dearer. Beef, heifers, and bullocks, 6d to 6¾d; cows and bulls, 5d to 5¾d per lb. Mutton, hoggs and lambs, 7¾d to 8d; tups and ewes 5½d to 6¼d; calves, 7d to 8¼d per lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—Trade slow, owing to wet weather. A fair supply of beasts. Best fat animals made 4s 8d to 4s 10d, and middlings 4s to 4s 4d per stone. Rather short supply of sheep, and trade slow, although old prices held fairly well. Best Down sheep made 5s 4d to 5s 8d, middlings 4s 10s to 5s, and ewes about 4s per stone. Calves in short supply, and trade firm, at 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. No store beasts on offer. The pig trade about the same, supply small.

Salford, Tuesday.—The supply of cattle was smaller. There was a good demand for well finished animals, and prices for this grade, though not quotably higher, were in favour of the seller; other kinds were slow of sale at late low rates. There was a large decrease in the number of sheep on offer. Choice light weights were scarce and in good demand, and the tendency of prices was upwards, but trade for others was dull and slow. A smaller supply of calves, and a better trade at higher prices. Quotations:—Cattle, 5d to 6¼d; sheep, 6d to 8¼d; calves, 6d to 8d per lb. At market:—Cattle, 2,665; sheep, 6,750; calves, 130. The Christmas market will be held on Tuesday, December 18.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—Only a small show of milch beasts, and best qualities met with a ready sale. Best lots, £18 to £23; secondary, £13 to £17.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Fairly good trade all round, at slightly lower prices. Small supplies of sheep and calves. Quotations:—Beef, 5¾d to 6¾d; mutton, 6d to 7¾d; and veal, 6d to 8d per lb. Porket pigs, 8s 6d to 9s, and bacon 8s 6d to 8s per 8st. Cows with calves up to £21 10s. Hay up to £3 15s. Number offered:—652 cattle, 49 cows with calves, 577 sheep, 67 calves, 67 fat, 170 porket, and 399 store pigs.

Spalding, Tuesday.—A fair show of fat beasts, and brisk trade at 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone. Slow trade for store beasts. Good in-calvers sold well, making £20; and calving heifers, £17 to £19. A slow trade for sheep, which were worth 6d and 7d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—Small number of sheep on offer. Good supply of cattle. Large attendance. Fairly good trade.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a fair supply of stock at market, but trade was not very fast, except for the best quality. There was a small attendance of buyers, many holding back, no doubt, for the great Christmas sale, which takes place on Tuesday next, when a large entry is expected, the show classes being well represented and in excess of last year. Mr. Edward Bond's sale comprised 70 fat beasts, 100 fat sheep, 58 fat and weaning calves, and 228 fat and store pigs. Fat bullocks made £14 to £21; fat heifers, £13 to £23; fat tegs, 42s to 50s; fat ewes, 34s to 45s; fat calves, £3 to £3 17s; cow calves, 22s to 65s; bull calves, 15s to 48s; fat pigs, 9s 6d per score; stores made late prices.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—There were rather smaller supplies of stock in every department. The attendance of buyers was not quite so large as last Wednesday, and trade ruled heavy. The show of beef consisted of 1,765 heifers, bullocks, and cows, as against 1,794 at last week's market. The stock was mainly composed of Irish animals, but there were a few good lots of Lincolnshire, north country, and local beasts. Anything prime made 6½d per lb.; good useful beef, 6¼d; inferior, 5d to 6d. There were 3,011 sheep, against 3,112. Choice small and young sheep met with a steady demand at 8¼d to 8½d per lb., and a fair business was done in strong sheep at 7d to 7½d., but heavy and fat ewes and tups were again very difficult to sell, and dealers had again to accept a reduction in order to effect sales at 5½d to 6d per lb. Fat calves were scarce, and changed hands at 6d to 8d per lb.; breeding calves, 20s to 22s each. A large show of good milch cows, but the high prices asked for the best milkers, £22 to £25 each—rather checked sales. Other qualitie of milch cows made £15 to £21 each. A good supply of lean beasts, which moved off slowly at late rates—£11 to £13 each.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Quiet trade in beef at late rates. Best quality, 6½d per lb; useful lots, 6¼d; and other kinds, 5d to 6d. Steady business in mutton; choice small sheep, 8¼d to 8½d per lb; strong sheep, 7d to 7¼d; and ewes and tups, 5½d to 6d. Numbers penned:—Fat beasts, 1,755; sheep, 3,011.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance, but business was quiet. Herefords, 6¾1 to 7d per lb.; shorthorns, 6d to 6¾d per lb.; calves, 7¼d per lb.; wether mutton, 7¾d to 8¼d per lb.; ewes, 6d to 6¼d per lb.; bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 3d per score; porkets, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per score; sows, 7s per score.

Worcester, Saturday.—Good supplies of fat cattle and sheep, for which trade was slow at about late rates. Fair demand for pigs. Best beef, 6d to 6½d; inferior, 5d to 5½d; wether mutton, 7d to 8d; ewes, 5d to 6d; and veal, 7d to 8d per lb. Pork pigs, 10s to 10s 6d; bacon, 9s per score. Slow trade for store cattle and sheep.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Market well supplied with stock all round, and very good attendance of buyers. Sheep trade slow at late rates. Beef for best quality trade was good, and for indifferent qualities easier. Beef, best, 7s to 8s; secondary, 6s 6d to 7s per stone. Best wether mutton, 8d to 8¼d; secondary, 5d to 6d per lb.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Only a few beasts were on offer, consisting of shipments from the United States, and met a very dull sale at 4s 2d to 4s 5d per 8lb, to sink the offal. No sheep were to hand.

WOOL.

Bradford, Thursday.—A better and steadier market for wool, although business in total is still very small. Merino top makers are now asking for a further advance, which buyers resolutely refuse. Generally speaking, prices are firmer. The yarn trade is no better as to export, and still very sluggish in the home trade. Piece trade dull.

Canterbury, Saturday.—More business for wool at the recent improvement, and Kent fleeces are quoted from 6d to 6¼d per lb. Lamb wool remains at from 4d to 4½d, while Down fleeces are making 8d to 10d per lb.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: Arrivals of foreign, although not large, are in excess of requirements, and, with scarcely any demand, values have a downward tendency. Russians are still quoted at last week's prices. Americans are lower and English remain unchanged, with very little inquiry. Cotton cakes: There is a fair business passing in arrived or near at hand parcels of Egyptian at about late rates, while English are unaltered. Decorticated: A steamer parcel of prime cake just arrived sells quietly at £6 17s. 6d. to £7, and meal at £6 15s to £6 17s. 6d. Rape cakes: East India offer unchanged, but Ravison are not obtainable. Maize germ meal: Landed parcels of American continue to find buyers at last week's price, while for January-March delivery there are sellers at £5 3s 9d ex ship. English move off steadily and unchanged. Rice meal: A large steamer parcel of Rangoon just arrived has tended to weaken the market, and there are re-sellers at a drop of 2s. 6d. per ton ex quay.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... per ton ex mill	8 7 6	to	8 12 6
American in bags ..... ex dock	7 10 0	„	7 15 0
American Nov.-Dec. ..... „	7 12 6	„	7 15 0
Russian in mats ..... „	7 12 6	„	7 15 0
Russian in bags ..... „	7 17 6	„	8 0 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	4 17 6	„	5 0 0
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 15 0	„	4 17 6
„ „ Nov.-April shipment	4 15 0	„	4 17 6
Decorticated	6 17 6	„	7 0 0
Meal, on spot .... Oct.-Nov. shipment	6 15 0	„	6 17 6
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 15 0	„	—
Ravison ..... „	—	„	—
Nutted, in bags ..... „	4 15 0	„	—
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American) ..... ex dock	5 8 9	„	5 10 0
„ „ „ Dec. c.i.f.	5 0 0	„	—
„ „ (English) ..... ex mill	5 8 9	„	5 10 0
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon ..... ex warehouse	4 10 0	„	4 12 6
„ Jan.-March ..... „	4 7 6	„	—

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane

London, Thursday.—Linseed.—With a moderate demand prices show little alteration upon those ruling last week for Calcutta, but Plate after an advance has again receded. Calcutta to London and near, 57s 6d to 57s 9d; October sold at 58s; November-December, 57s 9d, April-June, 45s. La Plata, December, 50s 6d, December-January, 47s; January-February, 45s 3d. Hull very quiet. Calcutta, April-June, 46s. La Plata, December, 50s 9d; December-January, 47s; January-February, 45s 3d. Azoff, October-November, 54s. To the Continent Bombay December, 59s 6d; December-January, 58s 6d; March-May 49s 3d. Calcutta, April-June, 45s 9d. La Plata, December-January, 47s 9d; January-February, 45s 6d. Linseed cakes, steady. London made, £8 10s to £8 12s 6d. Russian, £7 15s to £8 ex dock. American Westerns at £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes steady. London made £4 17s 6d to £5; Egyptian, £4 15s to £4 16s 3d. Rapeseed little doing. Brown Calcutta to London November-December, 44s; March-May, 39s 6d To the Continent we quote Yellow Guzerat, November-December, 52s; March-May 46s. Yellow Cawnpore March-May, 43s 3d. Brown Cawnpore November-December, 47s 3d; March-May, 39s 9d. Brown Calcutta, November-December, 44s 6d.; April-June, 40s Cottonseed.—Rather lower in price with a poor demand. Near London, £6 13s 9d; December, £6 10s; December-January, £6 11s 3d; February-March, £6 12s 6d; Hull spot, £6 12s 6d; December-March, £6 10s. Cargoes. December, £6 13s 9d; January, £6 13s 9d; February, £6 13s 9d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS' COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 25 qrs from Harlingen, 1,009 qrs Novorossisk, 1,889 qrs Odessa, 13,151 qrs Petersburg, 6,002 qrs Riga; total, 22,307 qrs. During the early part of the week the market was flat and uninteresting, but towards the close there is a decidedly firmer feeling. This is even more pronounced on the Continent and on the London market. Calcutta, new crop, is worth fully 40s 9d, and new crop to London, December shipment, is making 57s 6d. Black Sea, a little business done on the spot, at 55s, and same would buy parcels afloat. Petersburg, 54s 9d, whereas for Riga 54s 3d has been paid. River Plate, Dec.-Jan. 47s 9d, Jan.-Feb. 46s to 46s 3d. Cottonseed: The market has continued steady on spot, and business doing at £6 13s 9d, but forward turned very flat during last week, November selling at £6 10s, and as low as £6 8s 9d accepted December, also Dec.-Jan., values, however, subsequently recovering in these positions, to £6 11s 3d. £6 12s 6d paid Feb.-March, but to day there is again a quietness with sellers at 1s 3d under these quotations. Oils: Export for the week ending Nov. 27th, 1900. 2 France, 1 Germany, 85 Holland, 6 Norway, 1 Sweden, 2 Turkey; total, 97 tons. Cotton oil: 24 Belgium, 5 Denmark, 52 France, 163 Germany, 98 Holland, 1 Norway, 13 Sweden; total, 346 tons. The market closes quiet.—Linseed oil: 29s 6d spot, 29s 4½d December, 28s 3d sellers Jan.-Apl. Cotton oil: 19s 6d spot, 19s 6d asked Nov.-Apl. Crude, 18s 4½d sellers, spot, 18s 3d sellers, Nov.-Apl. Rape oil: Black Sea naked, 27s spot. 1st quality, naked, 28s 3d.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 5s 0d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 2s. 6d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 10s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE, packed in bags, of 1½cwt. each. Price per cwt. 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Fair supplies, and trade ruled steady. Best clover, 85s to 100s; inferior ditto, 80s to 85s; specially picked hay, 92s 6d; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 90s; and straw, 25s to 36s per load.

Bristol, Tuesday.—The prices quoted at to-day's market were:—Old clover hay, 75s to 80s per ton; old meadow hay, 70s to 75s; and straw, 45s to 50s.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—Trade is very quiet, but prices remain steady at last week's quotations. We quote Canadian timothy and clover mixture, 85s; Dutch 1st cut clover, 88s 6d; Dutch and French 2nd cut clover, 90s to 92s 6d; good Dutch hay, 75s; inferior Dutch hay, 65s, all per ton, delivered by barge alongside.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10, Great Tower Street, E.C.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Arrivals of greenstuffs were good, but the demand ruled slow. Potato trade quiet. Supplies of fruit continue of good extent, and the demand was again of a good character. Greenstuffs:—Cabbages, 2s 6d; savoys, 2s to 2s 6d; beetroots, 2s 6d per tally; cauliflowers, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen; Brussels sprouts, 9d to 1s per half sieve; spinach, 1s 6d per bushel; carrots, 2s; parsley, 1s 3d; radishes, 4d to 6d per dozen bunches; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s per bag; horseradish, 1s per bundle; celery, 12s to 15s per dozen rolls; English onions, 5s per cwt; Valencia, 6s 3d to 6s 6d per case. Potatoes:—Maincrops, 100s; Snowdrops, 95s; Up-to-Dates, 80s to 90s; Reading Giants, 70s per ton. German and Belgian Magnums, 3s to 3s 6d per cwt. Fruit:—English grapes, 9d to 2s; Belgian, 6d to 1s per lb; Almeria, 10s to 16s per barrel; English apples, 3s to 7s per bushel; Nova Scotian, 10s to 16s per barrel; Californian pears, 10s to 15s per case; peaches, 3s to 12s per dozen; Denia oranges, 12s to 20s; Murcia, 6s to 8s per case; melons, 1s to 2s; pineapples, 1s to 4s each; lemons, 8s to 18s per case; bananas, 5s to 9s per bunch; chestnuts, 6s to 10s; Grenoble walnuts, 10s to 12s per sack.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Improved demand, and some growths have changed hands during the past few days. Holders are very confident, and for one choice growth £6 10s per cwt has been declined. The best of the yearling and older hops are being rapidly cleared.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade continues quiet on our market, with scarcely any hops offering by growers; prices are very firm on account of the scarcity. Yearlings still command attention, and when offered at reasonable prices are readily sold. Forty-eight pockets have passed the public scales during the week, making a total of 16,085 weighed up todate.—PIERCY AND CO.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Owing to the sodden condition of the land the demand for basic slag is retarded, and as there is likely to be pressure of orders as soon as the land is in a fit condition to apply it no time should be lost in obtaining supplies so as to be in readiness. Prices are unchanged, and a fair amount of sales are transpiring. There is less firmness in the linseed market, and holders of this class of cake are disposed to accept easier prices, as also for American decorticated cottoncake, several parcels of new season's make having arrived in port, the quality, however, is chiefly hand and irregular, and not up to the standard of previous seasons. Present prices are as below, and there is a very slow demand. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £8 7s 6d to £8 10s per ton; East India bone meal, in bags, £4 7s 6d to £4 10s per ton; kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton; linseed cake, American, thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 12s 6d to £7 16s 3d per ton; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 15s to £9 per ton; linseed cake, foreign, round, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 12s 6d to £8 15s per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, fair to prime, in bags, £6 15s to £7 2s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, decorticated prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 15s to £5 per ton; cottonseed cake crushed, 20 to 25 per cent oil, prime, in bags, £7 5s per ton; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 11s to 11s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine boiled feeding, in bags, £3 2s 6d to £3 5s per qr, 416lb; N.A. cloverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, nominal; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, nominal; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, nominal. D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime guaranteed, 35 to 37 sol., in bags, nominal. [illegible] quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d per ton, basic slag [illegible] guaranteed 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 15s 6d to £1 14s 6d per ton, basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed 42 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 16s 6d to £1 18s 6d per ton [illegible] depôts.—H. JONES LANCAR AND CO.

Winsford Cheshire, Saturday. [illegible] sold at the [illegible] Company's [illegible] second week of the [illegible] 3s 6d per ton. [illegible] THE SALT UNION, LIMITED.

THE BALTIC.

The standards of cottonseed accepted by the London Committee may be seen at the offices of the Cottonseed Association, Camomile-street Chambers, St. Mary Axe. They are two—the first of Fayoumi and the second of fair average quality new Egyptian.

The wheat cargo sales of the week show some signs of weakness; thus, 29s. is a low price to accept for an arrived cargo of Walla, 28s. 3d. for Argentine, and 27s. 9d. for hard winter American On the other hand, 30s. 9d., which has been paid for Black Sea Ghirka, is a decidedly good price, and distinct firmness is disclosed in 32s. 6d. paid for Duluth, and 32s. for Manitoba. There has been a large forward business done in new No. 1 Northern American for February shipment, and 30s. 6d. has been readily paid. There is expected to be an improved demand in April after winter has worked off the present surplus (656,000 to 888,460 qrs.) of stocks in granary. The maize cargo trade quotes 18s. 9d. for American on passage, but 18s. is accepted for prompt shipment, 17s. 9d. for January shipment. It is likely, therefore, that maize will decline 1s. per qr. as soon as American new crop comes well into evidence on our exchanges.

Barley cargo sales include 17s. for Persian, 18s. 6d. for Odessa, and 24s. 6d. for Californian. These prices do not show any change from previous wholesale values. Other cargo sales of the week comprise white Libau oats at 13s. 9d., white clipped American oats at 15s., South Russian at 14s. per qr., Sesame at 46s. 9d. per qr., and cottonseed at £6 12s. 6d. per ton on passage, £6 10s. for Jan. shipment.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 5 wheat (1 Lyttelton, 2 Portland (O.), 1 San Francisco, 1 Seattle); 1 canaryseed (Larache); total, 6.

The sailings of grain and seed laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were: — 3 wheat (1 Galway, 1 North Shields, 1 Penzance); 1 peas (Leith); 1 canaryseed (London); total, 5.

Since January 1, 1900, the total arrivals have been:—320 wheat, 14 wheat and barley, 1 wheat and peas, 7 flour, 12 maize, 1 maize and oats, 26 barley, 19 beans, 10 locust beans, 2 peas, 1 linseed, 6 canaryseed, 2 fenugreek seed, 5 valonea; total, 426.

Last year, during the same time, the arrivals were:—272 wheat, 10 flour, 6 maize, 9 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 12 beans, 3 locust beans, 6 linseed, 6 canaryseed, and 7 valonea; total, 333.

"Mark Lane Express" Diary.

Dec.
10 to 14. Smithfield Club Show, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington.
11, 12, and 13. Yorkshire Fat Stock Society's Show, at York.
11, 12, and 13. Royal Dublin Society's Winter Show
11. Meetings of the Councils of the Shire Horse Society, National Sheep Breeders' Association, Shorthorn Society, Smithfield Club, and British Dairy Farmers' Association.
11. Annual Agricultural Dinner, held under the auspices of the Central Associated Chambers of Agriculture and the Farmers' Club, at Holborn Restaurant
12. Meeting of the Council of the Hackney Horse Society.
12. Meeting of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society.
12. Council and Annual General Meeting of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture.
12. Vale of Aylesbury Fat Stock Show, at Aylesbury.
12. Guildford Agricultural Association's Show, at Guildford Cattle Market.
12 and 13. West of England Fat Stock and Poultry Society's Show.
12 and 13. Chichester Fat Stock Show.
13. Meeting of the Council of the Hunters' Improvement Society.
13. General Meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society.
13. Sale of Young Shorthorn Bulls, at York Cattle Market.
13 and 14. Sale of Hunters and Harness Horses, at Cesar's Horse Repository.
14. Croydon and District Cowkeepers' and Dairymen's Association's Show, at Croydon Cattle Market.
14. Romsey Agricultural Society's Show, at The Abbey, Romsey
14. Meeting of the Council of the Polo Pony Society.
17 and 18. Suffolk Fat Cattle Club's Show, at Ipswich.
18, 19, and 20. Sale of Hunters, Harness Horses, etc., at York Horse Repository.

Farm Labourer's Shocking Accident.—On Friday afternoon William Burgess, a farm labourer, was feeding a thrashing machine at Boxted, Essex, when he accidentally stepped backwards into the drum, and his left leg was completely torn off. He was removed in a cart to Colchester, a distance of nine miles, and while passing through the town he bled freely, and the injured man was [illegible]. The animal was removed from the shafts and a number of men drew the vehicle with the sufferer to the hospital. His condition is critical.

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Hereford Steer Lord Roberts is the animal which ran Cicely so close at Birmingham, and which was reserve for the Elkington and Thorley Challenge Cups. It was exhibited by Mr. John Wortley, Frettenham, Norwich, and was bred by Mr. Henry Freeman Russell, Westonbury, Pembroke, R.S.O., his sire being Bountiful 17704, and dam Winsome. It being a little under two years and seven months old, it was shown in the class for Hereford steers over two and under three years old, and it came out on top, also securing the extra prize of £50 offered for the best Hereford shown. Unlike Cicely, Lord Roberts was exhibited at the Norwich Show, where he also just failed to secure the championship, the judges making him reserve to Mr. W. E. Learner's cross-bred heifer Ladysmith. In the opinion of a good many competent judges round the ring the awards should have been reversed. Lord Roberts, however, captured the President's prize of £20 for the best ox or steer in the show, besides first in the class for steers of any pure breed, other than Shorthorn or Red-polled, over two and under three years old. At Norwich his weight was given as 17cwt. 1qr. 19lbs., and at Birmingham 17cwt. 2qrs. 25lbs.

For one of our illustrations in our last issue we gave a portrait of Her Majesty the Queen's Shorthorn heifer Cicely, which was so successful at the Birmingham Show, our photograph, as we then mentioned, being taken at one of the summer shows. During the week we have been able to obtain a photograph of Cicely as she appeared at Birmingham, and we reproduce it in our present number, so that our readers who did not visit the Birmingham exhibition may see the great alteration which has taken place in the animal. It will be remembered that she won in addition to the first prize in her class the Elkington, Thorley, and Messrs. Webb and Sons' challenge cups, all valued at 100gs., the President silver cup, value £25, and the special prize of £50 for the best Shorthorn. She will be shown at the Smithfield club's exhibition at Islington this week, and we should not be surprised if she repeated her Birmingham successes.

The pen of Middle White pigs is that exhibited at the Birmingham Show by Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield, Shorts Green Farm, Motcombe, Shaftesbury, Dorset, and which won first prize in the class for a pen of two Middle White or Small White pigs over nine and under twelve months old, and also the Silver Challenge cup, value twenty guineas, for the best pen of pigs in the show. They were bred by Mr. Benjafield, and were eleven months and four weeks old when shown.

H.M. the Queen's Devon steer by Dauntless, dam Humility, in addition to winning first prize in his class at the Birmingham Fat Stock Show, also won the challenge cup for the best animal not exceeding two years old, and also the reserve number for the £20 special for the best Devon. This steer was 1yr. 11mos. 2wks. old, and scaled 11cwt. 2qrs. 4lbs.

The Aberdeen-Angus heifer "Aquilegia" was bred and exhibited at Birmingham by the Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorn, for whom she won first prize in her class, and the special prize of £50 for the best Scot in the show. Aquilegia is 2yrs. 10mos. 3wks. 4dys. old, and scaled 13cwt. 2qrs. 3lbs. Aquilegia is sired by Boaz of Ballindalloch, dam Apricot Blossom.

The West Highland heifer Bhuide-Crombh is the property of the Earl of Durham, and won a first prize at the Birmingham Show last week. She is 3yrs. 9mos. old, and weighed 12cwt. 0qr. 18lbs. on that occasion.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

The results of some important experiments in the feeding of horses, designed to find out the exact amount of food a horse requires in doing various kinds of work, are summarised in the "Land Magazine." The experiments were carried out by M. E. Lavalard, managing director of the Paris Omnibus Company, and they extended over a considerable period. A heavy dray horse, he says, weighing 1,540lbs., should eat 19lbs. 13½ozs. of oats and 11lbs. ¼oz. of hay daily. The figures are the result of the calculation that 2lbs. 14oz. of oats and 1lb. 10oz. of hay should be given, roughly, for every 220lbs. of live weight. That is the standard allowance M. Lavalard gives the Paris 'bus horses and military horses under his care.

The Market Harborough Horse Show for 1901 has been fixed for September 19th.

On the concluding day (December 13th) of the show of the Yorkshire Society for the Christmas Exhibition of Fat Stock, at York, Messrs. John Thornton and Co. will, as usual, hold a sale of pure-bred Shorthorn bulls, in the covered Cattle Market, York. The catalogue contains eighteen animals, fourteen of which will be exhibited at the show mentioned. The sale will commence at one o'clock, and catalogues can be had of the auctioneers, or of Mr. F. Arey, secretary, 3, New Street, York.

The Hereford bull calf Lucifer, the property of Mr. A. R. Firkins, Paunton Court, which recently took first prize at Lord Tredegar's Show at Newport, has been sold at a long figure to Mr. T. Evans, Burdens Hill, Wenvoe, Cardiff, for use in his herd, which of late has been undergoing great improvement. Lucifer was sired by the prize taking bull Lurdan 20175, by Albion 15027, who as a sire is proving himself a good show stock getter. Lucifer's dam Lucy, Vol. 23, p. 541, is by County Councillor, 13724, by Maidstone 8875, both bred by Mr. H. W. Taylor, Showle Court, whilst the granddam Lily, Vol. 18, p. 558, is by Great Duke 8691, bred by Mr. Ben Rogers. Lucifer's dam is a noted good breeder, being the dam of the two bulls, Lucifer 18463, by Sir Horace 12676, and Lucky 19562, by Solomon 18113, sold to the Earl of Lisburne.

Professor W. O. Williams has been unanimously appointed Principal of the New Veterinary College, Edinburgh, the position having become vacant through the death of his father a short time since.

I have been informed that Mr. George Long has just lost the Shorthorn-Guernsey cross-bred cow Nancy, one of the most remarkable cows that ever figured in a public milking test. Nancy twice won the highest honours of the London Dairy Show, and was again entered for competition at this year's show, but, unfortunately for the owner, she contracted a severe attack of milk fever, and fell a victim to that dread disease. Nancy was in her ninth year, and for several seasons she carried all before her at the various milking trials at which she competed. She was got by a Guernsey bull out of a Shorthorn cow, and some idea of her great ability as a milker may be gathered from the fact, that during the 10½ months prior to her death she had produced at the rate of over 1,500 gallons of milk per annum. On the day before her death she gave 66lbs. of milk, or about 25 quarts.

On Thursday, the 29th ult., Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., live stock exporters, Shrewsbury, shipped from Liverpool per the White Star Line on account of Mr. H. R. Gardner, of Tasmania, a high-class Shropshire shearling ram purchased at Mr. Andrew Mansell's annual sale at 80gs., sired by Fortification 9498, dam by the renowned Montford Dreamer, and then tracing to those successful sires Bonny Beau 3886. The Patrician 1768, and The Gentleman 1765. This ram was accompanied by two ewes specially selected as being superior specimens in every particular of the best type of Shropshire, one being sired by Ulster Rose 9734, and the other by Dream Star 8977, both of which were served by Montford Kaiser, bred by Mr. T. S. Minton, of Montford.

Mr. J. Wortley's Hereford Steer, Reserve for Champion and Best Hereford at Birmingham, also Reserve for Champion at Norwich.

To-morrow (Tuesday) will witness the opening of the Royal Dublin Society's winter show at Ball's Bridge. From a programme sent to me I see that the showyard will be open at nine o'clock on each day of the three days, closing on the first two at six o'clock and on the last day at four o'clock. The whole of the judging will take place on Tuesday, on which day the charge for admission will be two shillings, the fee on other days being one shilling. The entries have come in well, and there is every promise of a successful show.

I hear that H.M. the Queen will send twenty-five fat bullocks and 130 fat sheep from the Royal farms at Windsor to the Slough Christmas cattle sale.

A meeting was held last week to consider the advisability of establishing a Shire Horse Society for Ludlow and district. After some discussion it was decided to form a committee to consider and report.

Gartons Limited, in order to cope with the increasing demands of business, have taken larger and more central offices and warehouses in Thynne Street, near to the L. and N. W. Rly., Bank Quay Station, Warrington. Their premises at Friars Green will still be retained as an auxiliary, but all business will be transacted at Thynne Street.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.]

The fair at Ballina, co. Mayo, on Monday was a small one. The demand experienced was bad, and not much business was done except in springers, which were very dear. Prices: Calves, 2nd class, £4 10s. to £5 10s.; 3rd class, £3 10s. to £4; yearlings, 2nd class, £6 10s. to £7 15s.; 3rd class, £4 to £5 10s.; two-year-olds, 2nd class, £8 10s. to £9 12s. 6d.; 3rd class, £6 10s. to £8 10s.; springers, 2nd class, £13 to £15 10s.; 3rd class, £8 10s. to £11.

At Thurles, co. Tipperary, on Tuesday, there was a rather small fair, composed of first and second class cattle, for which there was only moderate demand. The supply of springers was small, and they met a good demand. For lambs the demand was fair, but some lots remained unsold. Prices:—Calves, first class, £5 5s. to £5 10s.; second class, £4 to £5. Yearlings, first class, £9 to £9 15s.; second class, £6 10s. to £8 7s. 6d. Two-year-olds, first class, £11 10s. to £13; second class, £9 to £11. Springers, first class, £15 to £17; second class, £11 10s. to £14 10s. Lambs, first class, £1 6s. 6d. to £1 12s.; second class, £1 2s. 6d. to £1 5s. Young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 18s. to 20s. each.

Mallow Fair (co. Cork), held on Tuesday, was a small one, composed chiefly of second and third class cattle, which sold as follows:—Calves, first class, £4 12s. 6d. to £5 5s.; second class, £3 17s. 6d. to £4 5s.; third class, £3 2s. 6d. to £3 10s. Yearlings, first class, £7 15s. to £8 5s.; second class, £6 5s. to £7 5s.; third class, £4 15s. to £5 12s. 6d. Two-year-olds, second class, £8 to £9 15s.; third class, £6 10s. to £7 15s. Springers, second class, £11 10s. to £14 10s.; third class, £10 to £10 10s. There was an average supply of sheep. A fair demand prevailed for lambs, but hoggets did not sell so well. Prices:—Lambs, first class, £1 6s. to £1 8s. 6d.; second class, £1 2s. 6d. to £1 5s.; over twelve and under twenty-four months old, first class, £1 1s. 8d. to £2 3s.; second class, £1 12s. 6d. to £1 16s.

There was a small fair at Roscommon on Wednesday, at which a very bad demand prevailed. Store sheep and lambs were almost unsaleable. Prices:—Calves, first class, £2 10s. to £5 5s.; second class, £1 16s. 8d. to £4 15s.; yearlings, first class, £9 to £10; second class, £6 to £8; two-year-olds, first class, £13 5s. to £13 10s.; second class, £8 10s. to £11 12s. 6d.; three-year-olds, second class, £11 to £13 10s.; springers, first class, £18 10s. to £20 10s.; second class, £13 6s. 8d. to £17; lambs, first class, £1 8s. to £1 12s.; second class, £1 to £1 6s.; over twelve and under twenty-four months old, first class, £2 to £2 4s.; second class, £1 12s. to £1 15s.

The fair at Bandon, co. Cork, on Wednesday was a small one, composed of second and third class cattle, for which there was good demand. Prices:—Calves, second class, £3 17s. 6d. to £4 10s.; third class, £3 to £3 10s.; yearlings, second class, £6 to £7 10s.; third class, £4 11s. 3d. to £5 12s. 6d.; two-year-olds, second class, £8 10s. to £10 10s.; third class, £6 5s. to £7 12s. 6d.; springers, second class, £12 to £14; third class, £9 to £10 15s.

Failing to Report Sheep Scab. Heavy Fine.—John Cottam, an old farmer, of Wellhouse, Scotforth, was fined £16 and costs at Lancaster Castle on the 1st inst. for allowing sheep scab to exist without reporting it to the authorities. The Bench characterised the case as one of the worst they ever had before them.

ALL farm live stock should be given "MOLASSINE." It is an excellent food and condiment combined. See advertisement on back page of this issue.—[ADVT.]

HORSES.

Horse Sale at Glasgow.

On Tuesday Mr. J. Vine conducted a sale of horses within the Horse Bazaar, opposite Buchanan Street Station, Port Dundas Road, Glasgow. There were 100 animals catalogued, consisting principally of carriage and harness horses. Carriage horses secured the best demand, and realised good prices. Cobs and ponies were in request, and sold relatively dear. Odd lots met a poor selling trade. The ages of the animals ranged from five to nine years, some being aged. Best carriage horses realised up to 45gs.; secondary, 10gs. to 26gs.; and inferior, down to 6gs.; best draught horses, 40gs.; secondary, 12gs. to 18gs.; inferior, 6gs. to 10gs.; vanners, to 30gs. and down to £5; best cobs, 23gs.; secondary and inferior, £4 to 12gs.; ponies, £4 to 18gs.; lorry animals, 10gs. to 36gs.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Dec. 1st, 1900:—

Swine Fever: Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	201	522	458	843	16,804	29,484	40,151	38,623
Swine Fever: Outbreaks.	No.	27	25	38	31	1,801	2,206	2,320	2,078
Rabies. Cases Reported. Other Animals	No.	:	:	:	:	4	:	:	16
Rabies. Cases Reported. Dogs.	No.	:	:	:	1	5	9	16	144
Pleuro-Pneumonia. Cattle Slaughtered. Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	:	:	:	:	220	741	
Pleuro-Pneumonia. Cattle Slaughtered. Diseased.	No.	:	:	:	:	:	1	46	
Pleuro-Pneumonia. Outbreaks.	No.	:	:	:	:	:	1	7	
Glanders (including farcy). Animals Attacked.	No.	35	34	21	34	1,731	1,360	1,291	1,469
Glanders (including farcy). Outbreaks.	No.	18	20	11	20	1,046	789	688	836
Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	No.	:	:	:	:	227	:	:	:
Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	No.	:	:	:	:	17	:	:	:
Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	No.	14	17	17	7	847	931	778	829
Anthrax. Outbreaks.	No.	12	14	10	4	615	500	612	397
Period.		Week ended Dec. 1, 1900	Corresponding week in	1899	1898	1897	Total for 48 weeks. 1900	Corresponding period in	1899	1898	1897

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

Fined £50 for Selling Adulterated Butter.—Howarth Kay Anderton, trading as Anderton and Greenwood, grocer, of Ramsbottom, was fined £50 and costs, at Bury the other day, for selling adulterated butter, and delivering margarine in paper not properly labelled. The defendant contended that the article sold was pure butter, and produced a warranty, but the Bench were not satisfied as to the identification of the butter. The defendant was fined £20 a few weeks previously for selling adulterated butter.

Watery Milk: Weak Cows no Excuse.—Two dairymen, named Henry Brooker, of 2, Manchester Road, Cubitt Town, and Albert Jarrold, of Burman Street, Canning Town, were fined at the Thames Police Court on the 1st inst. for selling milk adulterated with water. Brooker, who had been twice previously convicted, pleaded "guilty under great provocation, due to the weakness of the cows." He was fined £18 and £2 2s. costs. Jarrold was fined £10 and £2 2s. costs.

SHOWS.

Leeds.

The Leeds Smithfield Club held its forty-first annual exhibition on Tuesday and two following days, and perhaps on no former occasion has such a magnificent display of fat cattle and sheep been brought together under the auspices of the Society. Unfortunately, the Board of Agriculture would not allow any pigs to be shown on account of swine fever, so that the entries were not so large as last year, when a record was reached; still the number was most satisfactory. Of cattle there were seventy, a decrease of one as compared with 1899, and of sheep thirty-one pens, or the large increase of seventeen pens; whilst the minor departments were of average size. The show took place, as in previous years, in a temporary wooden structure erected in the drill ground of the Engineer Volunteers in Camp Road. The necessity for a permanent building, in which not only cattle, but horticultural and other exhibitions might take place, as well as entertainments and public meetings, has long been urged upon the Corporation by the members of the club and its sympathisers, and in their Bill which was passed through Parliament more than a year ago powers were obtained to erect a building, to be called the Smithfield Hall, on a portion of the North Street Recreation Ground. But nothing has yet been done to carry out the project, though, from the remarks made at the opening ceremony at the show on Tuesday, steps may be expected to be taken in that direction during the year.

The show of cattle was undoubtedly one of the best which the club has ever held. This may be attributed to the fact that the exhibition takes place earlier than the London and York shows, so that animals which might otherwise have been shown at these exhibitions could be entered at Leeds. Shorthorns were not conspicuous for numbers, but in quality they were extremely creditable. In the ox class, Mr. A. B. Cross, of Willoughton, Lincoln, won easily with an animal which will look well in the shop, the second prize falling to a younger bullock shown by Messrs. R. and J. Davison, of Welham, Malton. A Newark exhibitor, Mr. C. H. Stafford, sent a heifer of good substance and quality, which beat the exhibit of Mr. W. B. Sleightholme, of Kirton Lindsey. Mr. Cross won the piece of plate, value 10gs., presented by the Leeds Licensed Victuallers for the best animal in the two Shorthorn classes. The crossbreds were well represented, and in a very meritorious class of bullocks Lord Durham had an invincible claimant for the highest honours. The animal goes to York, and its age gives it an advantage in Leeds over the second prize-taker, belonging to Mr. W. Le Neve, of Norwich. The heifer class was distinguished by the presence of the reserve number for the championship at Norwich, and half-sister of the champion at that show. Owned by Mr. Le Neve, she made a beautiful picture in her stall. She defeated her one class opponent, hailing from Castle Howard, and carried off the Leeds Tradesmen's Plate. A fault in her shoulders, however, barred her way to the championship.

The Scotch breeds formed four splendid classes, and even at Leeds there has never been anything to compare to them, and it was remarked that there had very seldom been such a show of Scots in any part of the country. Some of them, no doubt, will find their way to London or York this week. In the class for polled Scotch oxen under four years the exhibitors were Her Majesty the Queen, who showed an ox from Abergeldie Mains, Ballater, N.B.; Mr Peter Dunn, and Mr. Robert Stubbs. Mr. Dunn's ox is what is known as a "grand handler," and was preferred to the others, Mr. Stubbs's exhibit standing second, and the Queen's animal receiving high commendation. The polled Scotch cows or heifers only numbered two. A fine-backed one, belonging to Mr. E. Bruce, Tochineal, Cullen, N.B., was the winner, and the Queen's exhibit was second. Three good highland oxen were shown. Two, the property of Mr. W. Nimmo, Castle Eden, were placed first and second; and the Earl of Harewood's beast was highly commended. The Highland cows and heifers formed an excellent class. The Earl of Harewood's exhibit received the chief honour, and Mr. W. Nimmo's beast was second. One belonging to the Harrogate Corporation was very highly commended, and heifers owned by the Earl of Harewood and Mr. H. W. Worsley Taylor received high commendation. The Royal Agricultural Society offered a prize of silver plate for the best beast among the Scots, and it was awarded to Mr. Peter Dunn's polled ox.

A number of useful beasts were exhibited in the tenant farmers' classes, but neither in number nor in quality did they reach the high standard which has been observed at previous shows. Only two oxen were exhibited in the class under four years old, and in the next two classes, for oxen under three and under two years old respectively, there were but three entries in each. The champion was found in the class for cows or heifers under four years old, and of any breed. The entries, which only numbered two, included a beautiful type of a crossbred between an Aberdeen-Angus and a Shorthorn. It is owned by Mr. Peter Dunn, and to it was awarded the special prize, of the value of £10, given by the ex-Lord Mayor, Alderman Gordon, for the best animal in the

showground. It also received the William Fawcett Challenge Cup, valued at £25, as the best beast in the tenant farmers' classes. This prize, which was gained by Mr. Dunn last year, has to be won three times by the same exhibitor before it becomes his absolute property. The second award in the class went to Messrs. Davison's beast, and to it was also given a special prize offered by Mr. J. R. Bower for the second best beast in the tenant farmers' classes. The crossbred bullocks or heifers most suitable for butchers are described as of the right sort. The Countess of Carlisle's pen of two crossbreds received the first honour and the Leeds Tradesmen's Plate, valued at 5gs., offered for the best pair in the Scotch or Welsh class. The Leeds City Corporation Prize, given for the best pair of Irish crossbred bullocks or heifers, was secured by Mr. Matthew Thomlinson. The milch cows were good classes. The Wheat Sheaf Cup, valued at 5gs., for the best fat cow for slaughtering (Scotch excluded), was gained by Mr. Hackney.

Mr. N. Benjafield's Middle White Pigs.
(Challenge Cup Winners at the Birmingham Show.)

Seven classes were provided for sheep, which, as already stated, were far more numerous than in past years. The quality, too, was, generally speaking, very good, particularly in regard to the young sheep, and the judges had no little difficulty in placing their awards. In the class for three crossbred wethers or gimmers of any age there were eleven entries so uniformly excellent that the whole of them were highly commended. The first and second prizes and two special awards were given to Mr. Peter Dunn, of Sigglethorne, Hull, and a special also went to Mr. G. H. Plummer, of Thirsk. Mr. Dunn was again successful in the class for three South or other Down wethers or gimmers, his two entries securing the first and second cards. Among the hogs of any breed, another capital class, the exhibits of Messrs. R. and J. Davison, of Malton, which were of remarkably good quality, secured a first, a second, and a special prize.

The awards in the cattle and sheep classes were as follows:—

Prize List.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Ox, under four years old: 1, and Licensed Victuallers' Plate, A. B. Cross, Willoughton, Lincoln; 2, R. and J. Davison, Welham, Malton.

Cow, any age, or heifer, under four years old: 1, C. H. Stafford, Fledborough House, near Newark; 2, W. B. Stightholme, Kirton Lindsey.

CROSS-BRED OR IRISH.

Ox, under four years old: 1, Earl of Durham, Fence Houses; 2, W. Le Neve, Tunstead Hall, Norwich.

Cow, any age, or heifer, under four years old: 1, Tradesmen's Plate, Reserve for Championship, W. Le Neve, Norwich; 2, Countess of Carlisle.

SCOTS.

Polled Scotch ox, under four years old: 1 and special, P. Dunn, Pasture House, Sigglesthorne, Hull; 2 and special, R. Stubbs, Baldersby, S.O.

Polled Scotch cow, any age, or heifer, under four years old: 1, E. Bruce, Tochineal, Cullen, N.B.; 2, Her Majesty Queen Victoria, Abergeldie Mains, Ballater, N.B.

Highland ox: 1 and 2, W. Nimmo, Castle Eden.

Highland cow or heifer: 1, Earl of Durham; 2 and special, Harrogate Corporation Farm, Harrogate.

TENANT FARMERS' CLASSES.

Ox, any breed, under four years old: 1, C. E. Duckering, The Cliff, Kirton Lindsey; 2, W. Wood and Son, Foxholes, Methley.

Ox, any breed, under three years old: 1, E. Bruce, Tochineal, Cullen, N.B.; 2, J. Chapman, Leyburn.

Ox, any breed, under two years old: 1, F. Caswell, Dunsby, Spalding; 2, M. Lancaster and Co., Tadcaster; 3, C. J. Bruce, Bogmuchals Lodge, Portsoy, N.B.

Cow, any age, or heifer, under four years old, any breed: 1, championship, and challenge cup, P. Dunn, Pasture House, Sigglesthorne, Hull; 2 and special, R. and J. Davison, Welham.

Heifer, any breed, under two years old: 1, M. Lancaster and Co., Tadcaster; 2, R. Briggs, Osgodby Hall, Selby.

Pair of two Scotch or Welsh crossbred bullocks or heifers, most suitable for butchers: 1 and Tradesmen's Plate, Countess of Carlisle, Castle Howard, York; 2, Harrogate Corporation Farm; 3, A. J. Dorman, Grey Towers, Nunthorpe, R.S.O.

Pair of two Irish crossbred bullocks or heifers, most suitable for butchers: 1, M. Thomlinson, Easedyke, Tadcaster.

MILCH COWS.

Fat cow for slaughtering, Scotch excluded: 1 and special, S. W. Hackney, Leeds; 2, G. Escreet, Cookridge, Leeds.

Cow for dairy purposes: 1, 2, and five specials, S. W. Hackney, Leeds; special, G. Escreet.

SHEEP.

LEICESTER OR LONG WOOL.

Pen of three wethers or gimmers, under two years old: 1, F. Coats and Son, Malton; 2, Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P., Kirkby Lonsdale.

Pen of home mountain sheep, any age: 1 and 2, Leeds Industrial Co-operative Society, Farnley.

Pen of lonks: 2, R. Machin, York.

Pen of Cheviots: 1 and 2, R. Preston, Lazenby, Cumberland.

OTHER BREEDS.

Pen of three South or other Down wethers or gimmers, any age: 1 and 2, P. Dunn.

Pen of three cross-bred wethers or gimmers, any age, most suitable for butchers: 1, 2, and special, P. Dunn.

Pen of hoggs, any breed: 1, 2, and tradesmen's plate, R. and J. Davison.

Edinburgh.

The Scottish National Fat Stock Club's fourth annual show was held in the Waverley Market, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, and the club may now be said to have successfully passed the trials and difficulties of youth, and to have entered on a career of assured prosperity. Not only have the numbers of stock maintained the high level of previous years, but there has been a gradual weeding out of the inferior, which has resulted in an improved standard in quality. From an English point of view, it may be regrettable that the resuscitation of the Scottish Fat Stock Club has had the effect of interfering with the success of the Birmingham Christmas Show, where Scottish breeders were wont to figure with so much prominence. But north-country stock-breeders are the best judges of their own interests, and the experience of the last four years has led them to think that they can have a better intermediate exhibition in Edinburgh on their way south to the great Smithfield Show at Bingley Hall. This is borne out by the conspicuous success that attended the present show of the club, which embraced such a complete representation of the chief stock-breeders of the country. The Queen was among the exhibitors, but Her Majesty was not able in this instance with her Aberdeen-Angus bullock to achieve the success which attended her at Birmingham. Including cups and champion prizes, the value of the premiums offered was about £1,345, which is the largest sum the club has yet given, and there was a good response by exhibitors. The entries of cattle numbered 157, or 14 more than last year; there were 96 pens of sheep, being a decrease of 20; pigs had 11 entries, the same as last year; but roots increased from 177 entries to 330. Grain and potatoes were added to the farm produce section this year, and 37 exhibits were entered in this section. The working dairy is always a popular feature of agricultural exhibitions, and the butter-making competitions having been restored to the programme this year, there was the large and very satisfactory entry of 47 competitors.

Shorthorns made a much better appearance than they did last year, the three classes being very well filled. In the two-year-old steer class, which numbered half a dozen, Lord Rosebery came to the front with Royal Standard, a roan, bred by Mr. Finlay Munro, Fearn, and which has never been shown before. Mr. Ross was a good second with a steer bred by himself. Mr. Ross also secured the third ticket. The old steer class had only three entries, and Mr. Fletcher, of Letham Grange, Arbroath, was awarded the first ticket for a very fine three-year-old roan, sired by Lord Donovan. He could stand a little improvement behind the shoulder, but his enormous weight (18cwt. 50lbs.) and great wealth of flesh carried him fairly over the heifer for the Breed Cup. Lord Rosebery's second prize steer was the red-and-white three-year-old Talisman, bred by Mr. Gordon of Newton, and which has not been shown before. The heifer class contained only six entries, and Messrs. Grant, Auchnacree, were first with a three-year-old roan, which was reserve for the Breed Cup.

The Aberdeen-Angus section, although not strong in numbers, was of outstanding merit, and it achieved the distinction of carrying off all the open championships. A class of three young steers were presented to the judges, and they had little difficulty in selecting Mr. George Bruce's Cock of the North, a black two-year-old, which was afterwards awarded the Breed Cup, the special prize as the best steer in the show, and finally the championship of the cattle section, the reserve being Lord Rosebery's Aberdeen-Angus heifer. Mr. Robertson was the second prize taker in this class, he showing a two-year-old bullock bred by Mr. Grant, Finlarig. In the old steer class Lord Rosebery came to the front with the stylish three-year-old Black Diamond, bred in Banffshire, and first at this show and at the London Smithfield last year. Mr. George Bruce was second with a straight and well-topped steer, and Her Majesty the Queen only got the third ticket for an exhibit bred at Abergeldie Mains. The heifer class was small, numbering only four. Lord Rosebery had a clear first with Abbess III. of Kippendavie, a three-year-old bred by the late Colonel Stirling, and which has won several prizes at summer shows this year. Mr. William Charles was second with an animal of nice quality, bred in Banffshire.

The Galloways made an exceptionally good display. The class for young steers had eight entries, and the judges were so satisfied with the quality of the exhibits that a ticket was given to almost every animal in the class. The first prize went to Sir John Swinburne for a bullock sired by Druid, the bull which was champion at the Highland Society's Show at Edinburgh last year. He is a steer of excellent Galloway character, and of great scale, weighing 12cwt. 59lbs. Sir Robert Jardine was second, fourth, and fifth with three very meritorious animals, all bred at Castlemilk, whilst the Duke of Buccleuch was third with a symmetrical animal of his own breeding. There was only one entry in the old steer class, and that was made by the Earl of Antrim, Glenarm Castle. This is an animal that could hold his own in good competition, and he was awarded the reserve ticket for the Breed Cup. Although bred in Ireland, he was fed on his lordship's farm in Galloway, and took first honours at Castle Douglas and Dumfries shows this year. The heifer class numbered four, and it was headed by Sir John Swinburne's Scottish Queen III., a three-year-old. She is perhaps one of the best fat heifers that has ever represented the breed at a show, and there was no gainsaying her claim to the Breed Cup. The Crichton Royal Institution, Dumfries, were second.

The display of Highland cattle was one of the distinguishing features of the show. In the younger steer class there were six entries, and the first prize was awarded to the Earl of Moray for a dun bullock of nice shapes and character, and he afterwards carried off the Breed Cup. Sir William Ogilvy-Dalgleish was second with another dun bullock, bred at Bochastle, and the same herd provided the third prize animal in a stylish yellow bullock of similar breeding. The aged steers brought out a splendid display, upwards of a dozen magnificent animals entering the ring. The judges spent a long time before they could select a short leet of five, and even after that they experienced considerable difficulty in placing them in the order of merit. The first ticket was ultimately given to Lieut.-Col. Home-Drummond for a very fine three-and-a-half-year-old dun bullock, which had the top weight of the breed and was awarded the reserve ticket for the Breed Cup. The Earl of Moray was second in the class with a four-year-old red steer bred by Lord Malcolm of Poltalloch. Lieut.-Col. Home-Drummond received tickets for other three bullocks in the class, all showing good feeding properties. The heifer class was small, there being only four entries, and the first prize was taken by the Countess Dowager of Seafield with a fairly good heifer of her own breeding.

Cross-bred cattle were, in point of numbers, the strongest in the show, and all the classes were well filled. In the young steer class, which had fifteen entries, Mr. Ross, Meikle Tarrel, was first with a Shorthorn-Angus cross of his own breeding, and weighing 14cwt. 88lbs., the heaviest weight in the class. Mr. Turner, Cairnton of Boyndie, was second and third with a pair of very good crosses between the black Poll and the Shorthorn. A strong class of old steers was headed by Lord Rosebery with a red and white Shorthorn cross, bred in Aberdeenshire, and weighing 17cwt. 21lbs. Mr. Fletcher, of Rosehaugh, was second with a blue-grey of his own breeding, but not so massive as the first prize taker; and Captain Stirling, of Keir, was third with the heaviest animal of the three, weighing 17cwt. 81lbs.

The Dalmeny herd again came to the front in the young heifer class, Lord Rosebery being first with a well-finished heifer, shown for the first time, and which was a good bit ahead of the second and third prize takers, which came from Meikle Tarrel, and were both bred by the exhibitor. In a small class of three three-year-old heifers Mr. Fletcher, of Rosehaugh was first with a cross of his own breeding, by an Angus sire out of a Hereford dam, which well deserved her place as the runner-up for the breed cup, which in this section was awarded to Mr. John Ross's black heifer of his own breeding, the champion at Inverness on the 1st inst.

The adjudication of the champion prizes attracted a large and interested crowd round the ring, and the work of the judges was followed with the closest attention. The decisions were for the most part anticipated, and the awards giving the male championship to Mr. George Bruce's Aberdeen-Angus steer, the female championship to Lord Rosebery's Aberdeen-Angus heifer, and the championship of the show to Mr. Bruce's splendid bullock, were received with general approval.

Sheep made a most attractive department of the show, the quality of the stock being highly meritorious. The strongest section was that for Cheviots, in which Mr. John M'Dowall, Girdstingwood, Kirkcudbright, was a most successful exhibitor. Mr. M'Dowall on this occasion fully maintains the record which he established in the previous exhibitions of the club, carrying off three breed cups, and securing the championship in the sheep section. He laid the foundation of his success in the Blackfaced classes, where the quality is excellent—the ewes, perhaps, being the weakest of the three groups. For wedder lambs of the Blackfaced breed, Mr. Howieson, Rannagulzion, carried off the three prizes with particularly nice pens, the first of which was well to the front when the judges came to consider the matter of the breed championship, and was then placed reserve. The lambs which obtained the premier award scaled 412lbs.; while the second prize pen, also bred by the exhibitor, weighed 398lb. In this class a commended ticket was given to Mr. M'Dowall for a very promising pen. In the wedder class the competition for the leading place was keen, owing to the high quality of the stock shown. The competition lay between Mr. M'Dowall and Mr. Miller, Nydie Mains, and the judges' decision went in favour of the Girdstingwood sheep—wedders of capital frame, well finished, and of much quality, though 10lbs. lighter than those put forward by Mr. Miller. Mr. M'Dowall's success in this class paved the way for a greater victory, because his pen of wedders were given the "blue ribbon," as the best Blackfaced sheep in the yard. In the ewe class, Mr. Howison secured the leading place with a pen of his own breeding, Mr. M'Dowall being second with three sheep bred at Inverquharity. Of the Cheviot breed there was an excellent representation, some of the animals penned being of outstanding merit. In these classes, again, Mr. M'Dowall was the prominent figure. He was first for wedder lambs, with a pen weighing 491lbs., Mr. Jamieson, Muttonhole, being second with a lot scaling a little more than two stones less. Wedders above twelve months were a strong class, and included three splendid specimens of Girdstingwood bred sheep, which were not only put at the head of their class, but were awarded the Breed Cup for the best pen of Cheviots shown. The ewe class was topped by a pen shown by Mr. Jamieson, Muttonhole, and bred there, which were placed reserve for the Breed Cup. Excellent quality, too, was found in the half-bred classes. For lambs, Mr. M'Dowall gained the leading prizes with two out of the four lots penned. Mr. M'Dowall was also an exhibitor of wedders above twelve months, in which class he carried off the red ticket. To this pen was given the Breed Cup. Sir Graham Montgomery was second in the class, with a pen of somewhat less substance than the first. Three pens of ewes were shown—the class being headed by three sheep exhibited and bred by Mr. Elliot, Raecleugh Head, Duns, which were reserve for the breed prize. Mr. Crosbie, Blegbie, was second in the class, with a nice lot of his own breeding. Of cross-breds there were four well-filled classes. Mr. W. Allen Woddropp, Garvald House, Dolphinton, secured the principal place in the class for lambs—Leicester tup and Blackfaced ewe cross; while in the hogg class Mr. Mitchell, Fliskmillan, achieved a like success. The Suffolk Sheep Society's special prize for the best pen of lambs got by a pure-bred Suffolk tup was gained by Mr. Everett, Edington Mains, while a special prize given for the best lambs got by an Oxford Down tup was carried off by Mr. Thom, Pitlochie, Fife. In the class for cross hoggs, Mr. William Ford, Fentonbarns, was very successful, securing first and second tickets. His first prize pen—crosses between a Suffolk ram and half-bred ewes—are of his own breeding, sheep of immense substance, scaling 862lbs. To this pen was given the cup for the best lot of crosses shown. When the championship of the sheep section came to be considered, Mr. Ford's cross-bred sheep and Mr. M'Dowall's first prize Cheviot wedders came into keen competition. The judges failed to agree, and the matter was left in the hands of Mr. James Swan, the referee for champion prizes, who gave his decision in favour of Mr. M'Dowall. Along with the championship went the Parliament House Challenge Cup for the best pen of sheep in the yard. Mr. M'Dowall was the winner of the cup last year, so that, according to the conditions, it now becomes his property.

As in former years, Lord Rosebery was a successful exhibitor of pigs, in which section the quality was high, though the entries were not numerous. His Lordship showed two grand specimens of the White breed, which, first in their class, were also given the champion cup for the breed. The pigs, which were bred at Dalmeny, are by Bottesford Rover II., out of Dalmeny Lady Orston III. A pen of the White breed, also from Dalmeny, were reserve for the championship.

At no previous show of the Club has there been such a magnificent display of roots. There was a large entry in the various sections, and the judges, in consequence of the great excellence of the specimens on exhibition, were engaged for some considerable time in the work of adjudication.

Judges.

SHORTHORN CATTLE, CROSS-BREEDS, AND THE PRESIDENT'S PRIZE: Messrs J. Crum Kirkton, Banchory, Inverness; Alex. Beddie, Adzel, Strichen, and Chas. Wilson, Castle Street, Edinburgh.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS, GALLOWAY, AND HIGHLAND: Messrs George Crum, Morlich, Glenkindie, Aberdeenshire; James Biggar, Nethertown of Grange, Dalbeattie; and John Stewart, 337, Dumbarton Road, Glasgow.

EXTRA CLASS AND DAIRY COWS: Messrs. David Wright, Springfield House, Halifax; Wm. Harrison, Skibeden, Skipton; and John M'Kay, Dundee.

BLACKFACED SHEEP, CHEVIOTS, AND HALF-BREDS: Messrs. James Moffat, Gateside, Sanquhar; J. R. C. Smith, Mowbrough, Yetholm, Kelso; and Robert Williamson, Tinwald Downs, Dumfries.

CROSSES AND EXTRA CLASS: Messrs. William Davidson, Cornhill; William S. Dods, High Street, Berwick-on-Tweed; and Thomas Wedderspoon, St. Leonard's Bank, Perth.

PIGS: Messrs. James Hallas, Higher Walton, Warrington; and W. Campbell, Perth Road, Dundee.

Champion Prizes and Breed Cups,

CATTLE.

Champion cup for the exhibitor of the best steer: Mr. G. Bruce, Tochineal, Cullen (Cock of the North); r, Lord Rosebery, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh.

Champion cup for the best cow or heifer: Lord Rosebery.

Northern challenge cup of 10) guineas for the best animal in the cattle department: Mr. G. Bruce (Cock of the North); r, Lord Rosebery.

Thorley challenge cup to the breeder of the best animal in the cattle classes: Mr. Hunter, Dipple, Fochabers.

Messrs. Webb and Sons' challenge cup for the best animal in the cattle classes, bred by exhibitor: Mr J. Ross, Meikle Tarrel.

Ardross challenge cup for the best ox or heifer under two years old: Mr. G. Bruce.

Cup for the best animal in the shorthorn classes: Mr. Fitzroy C. Fletcher, Letham Grange, Arbroath; r, Messrs. Grant, Auchnacree.

Cup for the best animal in the Aberdeen-Angus classes: Mr. G. Bruce (Cock of the North); r, Lord Rosebery.

Cup for the best animal in the Galloway classes: Sir John Swinburne, Capheaton, Northumberland (Scottish Queen III.); r, Earl of Antrim, Glenarm.

Cup for the best animal in the Highland classes: Earl of Moray, Doune; r, Lieut.-Colonel Home-Drummond, Blair Drummond.

Cup for the best animal in the cross-bred classes: Mr. John Ross, Meikel Tarrel, Fearn; r, Mr. Fletcher, Rosehaugh, Douglas.

SHEEP.

Champion cup for the best sheep in the show: Mr J. M'Dowall, Kirkcudbright (Cheviot wedders); r, Mr. W. Ford, Fentonbarns (cross-bred hoggs).

Parliament House challenge cup for the best pen of sheep in the show: Mr. J. M'Dowall; r, Mr. W. Ford.

Cup for the best blackfaced sheep: Mr. J. M'Dowall; r, Mr. Howieson, Rannagulzion.

Cup for the best Cheviots: Mr. J. M'Dowall; r, Mr. Jamieson, Muttenhole.

Cup for the best half-breds: Mr. J. M'Dowall; r, Mr. Elliot, Raecleugh Head, Duns.

Cup for the best cross-breds: Mr. W. Ford, Fentonbarns, Dern Park.

Suffolk sheep: Special prize for the best pen of lambs got by a pure-bred Suffolk tup: Mr. Everett, Edington Mains.

Special prize for the best lambs got by an Oxford Down tup: Mr. Thom, Pitlochie, Fife.

Silver cup for best pen of pigs: Lord Rosebery; r, ditto.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Shorthorn steers, not exceeding two years old: 1, Lord Rosebery; 2 and 3, John Ross; vhc, George Inglis, Newmore, Invergordon; hc, Robert Turner, Cairnton of Boyndie, Portsoy.

Shorthorn steers, above two years and not exceeding three years old: 1, Fitzroy C. Fletcher; 2, Earl of Rosebery; vhc, F. W. Christie, Dairsie Mains, Cupar.

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

Aberdeen Angus steers, not exceeding two years old: 1, George Bruce, Tochineal, Cullen; 2, James Robertson, Barmuckity, Elgin; hc, James Shields, Dolphingstone, Tranent.

Aberdeen Angus steers, above two years and not exceeding three years old: 1, Earl of Rosebery; 2, George Bruce; 3, Her Majesty the Queen, Aberg; hc, Major and Hon. A. Forbes Trefusis, Fetteresso House; hc, D. C. Bruce, Byres Farm, Parkhouse.

Aberdeen Angus heifers, not exceeding two years old: 1, Earl of Rosebery; 2, William Charles, Gammons, Rothienorman; vhc, George Waldie, Pitpointie, Arbroath.

GALLOWAYS.

Galloway steers, not exceeding two years old: 1, Sir John Swinburne, Capheaton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; 2, Sir Robert Jardine of Castlemilk, Lockerbie; 3, Duke of Buccleuch, Drumlanrig Castle, Thornhill; hc and c, James Shields, Dolphingstone, Tranent.

Galloway steers, above two years and not exceeding three years old: 1, Earl of Antrim, Glenarm Castle.

Galloway heifers, not exceeding three years old: 1, Sir John Swinburne; 2 and 3, Chrichton Royal Institution, Chrichton Farm, Dumfries; c, M'Cormack and Mathieson, Mindork, Kirkcowan.

HIGHLAND.

Highland steers, not exceeding three years old: 1, Earl of Moray, Doune Lodge; 2 and 3, Sir William Ogilvy Dalgleish, Errol Park; vhc, Donald Graham, C.I.E., Airthrey Castle, Bridge-of-Allan.

Highland steers, above three years old: 1, 3, and c, Lieut.-Colonel H. E. S. Home Drummond of Blair Drummond; 2, Earl of Moray; vhc, Sir William Ogilvy-Dalgleish; hc and c, Sir John Gilmour.

Highland heifers, not exceeding four years old: 1, Countess Dowager of Seafield, Castle Grant, Grantown-on-Spey; 2, Earl of Southesk, Kinnaird Castle, Brechin; 3, Donald Graham.

CROSS-BREDS.

Cross-bred steers, not exceeding two years old: 1, John Ross, Meikle Tarrel; 2 and 3, Robert Turner, Cairnton of Boyndie, Portsoy; vhc, J. Douglas Fletcher, of Rosehaugh; hc, Finlay Munro, Rockfield, Fearn; c, James Robertson, Barmuckity, Elgin.

THE EARL OF DURHAM'S HIGHLAND HEIFER "BRUIDA-CROMEH," FIRST PRIZE AT THE BIRMINGHAM FAT STOCK SHOW.

Cross-bred steers, above two years and not exceeding three years old: 1, Earl of Rosebery; 2, J. Douglas Fletcher; 3, Captain Archibald Stevenson, Keir; vhc, James Duncan, Cupar Grange, Cupar-Angus; hc, Fitzroy C. Fletcher, Letham Grange, Arbroath.

Cross-bred heifers, not exceeding two years old: 1 and c, Earl of Rosebery; 2 and 3, John Ross; vhc, Messrs Rigg, Bros, John Gilmour.

Cross-bred heifers, above two years and not exceeding three years old: 1, J. Douglas Fletcher; 2, James M'William, Stoneytown, Keith; vhc, Marquis of Londonderry.

THE PRESIDENT'S PRIZES.

Open only to cattle exhibited by tenants.

Steers, not bred by exhibitor, not exceeding three years old: 1, William Watt, Middlefield, Cupar; 2 and c, James Shields, Dolphingstone; 3, William Charles, Gammons, Rothienorman; vhc, F. W. Christie, Dairsie Mains; hc, James Paul, Walton, Linlithgow.

Heifers not bred by exhibitor, not exceeding two years old: 1 and vhc, John Ross; 2, William Charles.

EXTRA CLASS.

Two cattle, bred and reared by the exhibitor, not exceeding 24cwt. the pair: 1, James Shields, Dolphingstone; 2 and hc, John Ross.

DAIRY COWS.

Fat cow: 1, Alexander Whitelaw, Stockbridge, Edinburgh;

2, Sir George Macpherson Grant, Ballindalloch; 3, John R. Stenhouse, Southgyle, Corstorphine.

Shorthorn or cross cow: 1, Alexander Whitelaw; 2 and hc, John Mather, Quarryholes, Leith; 2, John Lockhart, Colinton Mains; vhc, John Ross, Abbeyhill, Edinburgh.

Ayrshire cow, or other small breed of cow: 1, Thomas M'Pherson, Gorgie Cottage; 2, Thomas M. Skirving, Niddrie Mains, Edinburgh; 3, J. and W. Meiklem, Begg, Kirkcaldy.

Ayrshire cow (brewers' and distillers' prizes): 1, Thomas M'Pherson; 2, John Lockhart; 3, Robert Hamilton, Addiston Mains, Ratho.

SHEEP.

BLACKFACED.

Three Blackfaced wedder lambs, under twelve months old: 1, 2, and 3, James Howlson, Rannagulzion, Blairgowrie; c, John M'Dowall, Girstingwood, Kirkcudbright.

Three Blackfaced wedders, above twelve months and under twenty-four months old: 1, John M'Dowall; 2 and 3, James Miller, Nydia Mains, St. Andrews; vhc, Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Montrave.

Three Blackfaced ewes, above three years old: 1, James Howison; 2, John M'Dowall; 3, Sir John Gilmour; vhc, Gavin Jack, Swanston, Colinton.

Heaviest lambs: 1 and 2, John Howison; 3, James Bone, Robstone, Girvan.

CHEVIOTS.

Three Cheviot wedder lambs, under twelve months old: 1 and vhc, John M'Dowall; 2 and 3, James M'D. Jamieson, Muttonhole, Ford, Dalkeith.

Three Cheviot wedders, above twelve months and under twenty-four months old: 1, 2, and special, John M'Dowall; 3, Alexander Guild, Aberlady Mains, Aberlady; vhc, H. W. Hone, Luffness Mains, Aberlady.

Three Cheviot ewes, above three years old: 1 and hc, James M'D. Jamieson; 2, John M'Dowall.

HALF-BREDS.

Three half-bred wedder lambs, under twelve months old: 1 and 2, John M'Dowall; vhc, David Allison, Duddingston, South Queensferry.

Three half-bred wedders, above twelve months and under twenty-four months old: 1 and vhc, John M'Dowall; 2, Sir G. Graham Montgomery, Bart., Stobo Castle.

Three half-bred ewes, above three years old: 1, William Elliot, Raeclengh Head, Duns; 2, Aleander Crosbie, Bleghie, Upper Keith; vhc, The Earl of Minto.

CROSS-BRED.

Three cross lambs (Leicester tup and Blackfaced ewe), under twelve months old: 1 and hc, William Allan Woddrop, Garvald House, Dolphinton; 2, 3, and vhc, Trustees of the late Colonel Cheape, Wellfield, Gateside.

Three cross hoggs (Leicester tup and Blackfaced ewe), under twenty-four months old: 1, 2, and 3, John Mitchell, Fliskmillan, Newburgh; vhc, F. W. Christie, Dairsie Mains, Cupar-Fife.

Three cross lambs, not eligible to compete in any other class, under twelve months old: 1, special, and hc, R. D. Thom, Pitlochie, Gateside, Fife; 3, Alexander Anderson, Berryhill, Dundee; vhc and special, F. H. Everett, Edington Mains, Chirnside.

Three cross hoggs, not eligible to compete in any other class, under twenty-four months old: 1 and 2, William Ford, Fentonbarns, Drem; 3 and vhc, The Earl of Minto; hc, F. W. Christie; c, Thomas M. Skirving, Niddrie Mains.

EXTRA CLASS.

Three wedders, under twenty-four months old, of any breed not eligible to compete in any other class: 1 and 2, William Ford.

PIGS.

WHITE.

Two pigs of the White breed, not exceeding nine months old: 1, The Earl of Rosebery; 2, A. Sinclair Lawrie, 23, Gordon Street, Leith.

Two pigs of the White breed, above nine months old and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, The Earl of Rosebery; 2, John Lockhart, Colinton Mains; vhc, A. Enever Todd, Stoneybank, Musselburgh.

BLACK OR BERKSHIRE.

Two pigs of the Black or Berkshire breed, not exceeding nine months old: 1 and vhc, James Shields, Dolphingstone, Tranent.

Two pigs of the Black or Berkshire breed, above nine months and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, The Earl of Stair, K.T., Oxenfoord Castle; 2, Thomas A. Torrance, Kippilaw, Dalkeith.

ANY DISTINCT OR CROSS-BREED.

Two pigs of any distinct or cross-breed, not qualified to compete in any other class, not exceeding twelve months old: Thomas A. Torrance.

Taunton.

The Christmas show of fat stock, malting barley, and wheat was held at Taunton on the 1st inst., but, unfortunately, the entries of stock were much fewer than in previous years, although the quality, according to the judges, reached a higher standard than ever before. This was the first time for some years that the show had been held on a Saturday, the market day of the town, it having previously taken place on a Friday, but it was decided to revert to the original practice this year. In the afternoon the annual dinner was held at the London Hotel, under the presidency of the Mayor (Councillor W. A. Wrenn), when the prizes were distributed according to the list given below. The judges were:—Cattle, Mr. E. Kidner (Cannington) and Mr. T. Ferris (Tiverton); sheep, Mr. R. Bucknell (Holcombe Rogus) and Mr T. S. Corpe (Yeovil); barley and wheat, Mr. E. Risdon, Minehead.

Prize List.

Silver cup for the best ox or steer in the show, any breed: Mr. W. Kidner, Kingston.

Silver cup for the best fat heifer of any breed: Mr. E. H. Buncombe, Wellington.

CATTLE.

Pair of fat oxen or steers: 1, Mr. John Kidner, Nynehead; 2, Mr. William Kidner, Kingston.

Pair of fat heifers, under four years old: 1, silver cup, Mr. E. H. Buncombe, Wellington; 2, Mr. E. Bryant, Bishop's Lydeard; r, Mr. T. C. Slade, Hatch.

Four fat oxen or steers, or four heifers, under four years old: 1, Mr. John Kidner.

SHEEP.

Pen of five fat Dorset horn wethers: 1, Jasper Culverwell, North Petherton; 2, John Hayman, Milverton Court.

Pen of five fat Down or cross-bred wethers: 1 and 2, John Hayman.

Pen of fine Devon longwool wethers: 1, C. Norman, Thurloxton; 2, A. C. Skinner, Bishop's Lydeard; r, A. C. Skinner.

Pen of five fat Exmoor wethers: 1 and 2, J. H. Frith and Son, Taunton.

Pair of fat lambs under three months old: 1, J. Kidner.

CHAMPION AND SPECIAL PRIZES.

(For Cattle and Sheep grazed within a radius of 20 miles of Taunton Market Cross.)

Fat ox or steer: 1, silver cup, William Kidner; 2, John Kidner; r, C. W. Tavender, Lyngford.

Fat heifer, under four years old: 1, silver cup, E. H. Buncombe; r, Edwin Bryant.

Pen of five fat wethers, of any breed other than Exmoors: 1, John Hayman.

MALTING BARLEY AND WHEAT.

(Grown within a radius of eight miles of the Taunton Market Cross.)

Four bushels of wheat, any variety, exhibited by the bona-fide grower: 1, T. Berry, Bradford; 2, W. Greenway, Halse; c, W. Miles, West Monkton.

Four bushels of wheat, any variety, exhibited by the bona-fide grower: 1, W. Greenway; 2, F. Yeandle, West Buckland; c, J. Teazewell, Haydon Taunton.

(Open to the County of Somerset)

Four bushels of Carter's Prize Prolific or Goldthorpe barley: 1, silver cup, T. Rawle, Porlock; c, W. Risdon, Stogumber.

Birmingham.

The splendid display of fat stock at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, attracted great numbers of spectators on each of the five days, and on some days the attendance was above the average, although the aggregate fell short of the last three or four years; but more visitors paid for admission, and fewer entered by subscribers' ticket than last year, so that the sum taken at the doors is above that of 1899. The aggregate attendance numbered 46,443, whereas last year it was 46,682, showing a decrease of 239, but as compared with 1898 an increase of 1,693. The total amount of the receipts for the week was £1,441 17s., or £58 11s. higher than last year, and £142 7s. in excess of the amount paid for admission in 1898. As usual, the popular day was the last one (Thursday), and the weather being favourable, there was a large influx of excursionists. During the day 11,965 passed the turnstiles, an increase of 213 as compared with the last day twelve months ago, when the total was 11,752 and 35 more than two years ago, the total on that occasion being 11,610. The number for the day was also much larger than in the years 1896 and 1897. Of the 11,965, the number admitted by subscribers' tickets was 2,327, 4,128 paid one shilling each, and 5,510 paid sixpence each. The day's receipts amounted to £344 3s., an increase of £15 13s. over last year, and £27 1s. more than in 1898.

The following are the returns:—

RECEIPTS.

	1897. £ s.	1898. £ s.	1899. £ s.	1900. £ s.
Second day.....	239 8 ..	209 13 ..	217 13 ..	255 16
Third day.....	351 16 ..	300 1 ..	325 7 ..	372 15
Fourth day	558 16 ..	472 14 ..	511 16 ..	469 3
Fifth day.....	378 13 ..	517 2 ..	326 10 ..	344 3
	1,488 12 ..	1,299 10 ..	1,365 6 ..	1,441 17

ADMISSIONS.

	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Subscribers' tickets ..	6,339 ..	6,351 ..	6'647 ..	6,601 ..	6,491
Five shilling each....	984 ..	605 ..	552 ..	523 ..	620
One shilling each	1,668 ..	1,763 ..	1,433 ..	1,758 ..	2,016
THIRD DAY.					
By ticket	1,877 ..	1,811 ..	1,040 ..	1,919 ..	1,820
By payment of 1s.....	6,875 ..	7,035 ..	6,001 ..	6,507 ..	7,455
FOURTH DAY.					
By ticket	3,011 ..	2,701 ..	3,139 ..	3,100 ..	3,160
By payment of 1s.	5,807 ..	6,602 ..	5,480 ..	5,930 ..	5,650
By payment of 6d.....	7,436 ..	9,148 ..	7,948 ..	8,612 ..	7,266
FIFTH DAY.					
Total admissions 11,144		..11,631	..11,610	..11,752	..11,955
	44,861	..47,647	..24,750	..46,642	..46,443

A gratifying announcement was made to the Council of the Society on Thursday, this being the offer of a £50 challenge cup by Mr. J. J. Cridlan, Maisemore Park, Gloucestershire, for the best Aberdeen-Angus in the show. The cup was accepted with thanks, and it will be entered for competition next year, but the conditions attaching to it are the same as those governing the other trophies, namely, that it must be won by the same exhibitor three years before it becomes his property. It may also be mentioned that several other cups, ranging in value up to 100gs., were offered for competition in the cattle department, but the donors wished to impose certain conditions which the Council could not accept, and the offers were consequently declined. Every prize offered, it should be remembered, is for open competition in all sections of the show, and the Council feel that they would be unable to depart from that important rule even to secure the advantage of a greater number of valuable trophies.

Lewes.

Lewes Christmas Fat Stock Show was held in the Market Ground on Monday, and both the Society and exhibitors may be congratulated on the useful collection of fat stock which was brought together. In the aggregate the entries were ten more than last year. Beasts numbered fifty-seven, as compared with fifty-eight in 1899; sheep, sixty-five, as against forty-five; and pigs, sixteen, as against eight. With the exception of one or two classes there was keen competition for the premiums and special prizes, the exhibits generally reaching a high standard of quality. There was a fine show of Sussex, Devon, Polled Angus, and Welsh runts, and the butchers were evidently satisfied with the animals, the excellent condition of the prize-winners being most marked. Count Munster, of Maresfield Park, exhibited specimens of the Sussex breed with much success. The silver cup for the best beast was secured by Mr. E. E. Masters, of Hassocks, who also had the good fortune to win the trophy presented by the Mayor of Lewes for the best three steers. The pens of Southdown sheep and lambs were, of course, worthy of commendation, the prizes in this division being shared by the Duke of Devonshire, Viscount Gage, and Count Münster. As will be seen from the figures given above, the number of pigs was double that of last year, and it may be said that the animals were nicely fatted, Mrs. Hepburn, of Chailey, being the principal winner in this department of the show. During the greater part of the day the weather was favourable, and the show was largely attended by agriculturists and the general public. Mr. R. J. Thornton, the well-known auctioneer, conducted a sale of prime fat stock, including the show exhibits, and comprising 146 beasts, 266 sheep, thirty-five lambs, twelve calves, and thirty hogs. There was a large company round the sale ring. The judges were Mr. Chas. Homewood (Brighton), Mr. Joseph Gorringe (Eastbourne), and Mr. Robert Kenward (Piltdown).

Prize List.

Ox or steer, any age: 1, Count Munster, Maresfield Park; 2, Mr. A. Scrase, Budgess Hill.

Heifer, under four years: 1, Mr. W. T. Wallis, Southerham.

Two steers, of any age, belonging to a tenant-farmer: 1, Mr. J. Stacey, Lewes; 2, Mr. W. Elphick, Langley Farm, Eastbourne.

Two heifers, any age, belonging to a tenant-farmer: 1, Mr. W. Elphick; 2, Mr. F. J. Gorringe, Laughton.

Silver cup, value £4, offered by the Mayor (Councillor G. Holman), to the owner of the best three steers, of any age or breed: Mr. E. E. Masters; Mr. J. Porter, Ringmer.

Silver cup, value £5, for the best fat beast of any breed, fatted in the County of Sussex: Mr. E. E. Masters, Hassocks.

Three cows or heifers, any age or breed: 1, Mr. E. E. Masters; 2, Mr. Louis Huth, Possingworth, Waldron.

Prize of £2 2s. for the best pair of Welsh runts in the show: Mr. J. Kenward, Hamsey.

Pen of five Southdown wethers, under two years: 1, Duke of Devonshire; 2, Mr. W. T. Wallis.

Pen of five Southdown ewes: Viscount Gage.

Pen of ten Southdown wether lambs, under one year: 1, Duke of Devonshire; 2, Count Munster.

Prize of £2, given by the proprietors of the "Sussex Agricultural Express," to the owner of the best pen of two fat pigs, under twelve months: Mrs. Hepburn, Chailey.

Two fat pigs, under sixx months: 1, Mr W. Hook, Lindfield.

Inverness.

The thirty-third annual exhibition of fat stock held under the auspices of the Northern Counties Fat Show Club was held at Inverness-shire on the 1st inst, and proved very successful. From the chief herds in the North representative animals were forward, and many of them were of great merit. Although in point of numbers the show was not up to that of previous years, the outstanding quality atoned for numerical disparity. Some of the finest bred animals in the North contested for the prizes. The principal winner was Mr. John Ross, Meikle Tarrel, who has made a name for himself in the agricultural world as a breeder of fat stock. To the Tarrel stock the chief prizes were awarded. With an excellent cross heifer Mr. Ross won the championship, the President's Challenge Cup. She was of a low-standing type, weighing 13cwt. 14lbs., and was remarkably well covered, with great depth of rib and level lines. Besides carrying away the championship she secured the Rosehaugh Cup for the best cross animal, the Dochfour Cup, Thorley's prize, and Novar's Cup. The heifer, although small, was well worthy her honours, and was without doubt the best in the show. The Rosehaugh stock were a good second. Equally well brought out was the ox from Rosehaugh which secured reserve for the championship. He was wanting in symmetry, although powerfully built, and weighed 17cwt.

For Shorthorn ox under two years the Tarrel representatives easily won first and second place, while for heifers the first prize went to a nicely-formed heifer belonging to Mr. Finlay Munro, of Rockfield. An excellent polled animal from Rockfield was awarded the Dalmore Cup for the best polled animal. For polled heifers the one from Rockfield, which was of Ballindalloch strain, got the leading place. The prize for the ox was awarded to one from the Rosehaugh herd. There were very few Highlanders, but those forward had all the outstanding characteristics of the shaggy breed—fine antlers and beautiful head, with excellent coats. A heifer from Castle Grant secured the Wyvis Cup for the best Highland ox or heifer. It was followed by a striking representative from the Cawdor Castle herd.

Crosses were the feature of the show, and in this section was found the champion animal. For oxen under two years a big animal from Rosehaugh was first. A Tarrel heifer led in its class. For pairs of oxen, any breed, two from Rockfield were fine animals, and led the way in their class; and for cows, any age, the same herd took the chief prize. For two heifers, Tarrel got premier honours with an excellent ox, of big proportions. Mr. Fletcher, of Rosehaugh, took premier honours in the three-year-old class. The ox was reserve for the championship. For heifers of the same age, the Rosehaugh herd claimed the leading honour. In the tenant farmers, the chief prizes were easily carried away by Tarrel.

The show of sheep was much below that of last year, but some excellent animals were shown by Mr. Moore, Ormlie, Thurso, and Mr. Macfarlane, Tomich, Invergordon. The challenge cup presented by Dr. Macgregor and the Ainlie Challenge Cup were carried away by the Thurso sheep. Those from Tomich had

many honours, carrying away the Inverness Town Council's cup, Thorley's prize, and Sir Robert B. Finlay's cup. The prizes for pigs went to animals shown by John Cran, Kirkton, and the Inverness District Asylum.

Chippenham.

The Chippenham Agricultural Association's annual show was held in the Market Yard, Chippenham, on the 29th and 30th ult., when the number of entries was the largest on record, whilst there was a marked improvement in quality, the show being altogether an excellent one. The bull, cow, and offspring class, in which there was practically no competition last year, was this year a feature of the show. Premier honours were taken by Lord Tredegar. The fat stock classes were well represented, and in the milch cow class a local exhibitor was placed first. The heifer classes, with the exception of that for animals under twelve months, were weak. In the latter class there was a complete surprise, Mr. Drake, a local exhibitor, defeating such well-known breeders as Mr. Deane Willis, Lord Tredegar, and Mr. S. Hill. The judges reversed the decision at Tredegar, and placed Mr. A. Hiscock first in the class for bull calves. Mr. G. F. King, who was awarded first in the class for bulls above one and under two years, took with the same bull the champion prize for the best male animal for breeding purposes, Mr. A. Hiscock being reserve. Formerly, the four classes for sheep were divided between Hampshire and cross-bred wethers and ewes, but this year these have been reduced to two classes and a class for five Hampshire ewes for breeding purposes. The alteration did not increase the competition in this department, there being only seven entries in the three classes. The horse classes were so numerically strong that there was no room for them in the showyard, and the judging was carried out in the Market Place. In the class for cart gelding or filly nearly all the exhibits were noticed by the judges. The pig classes were well filled, the exhibits being principally of the Berkshire breed. There were special prizes for the butter-making competition confined to the scholars at present attending the Itinerary County School. The butter and cheese exhibits were staged in the Town Hall, and great interest was taken in them by visitors. The judges were:—Stock, Mr. W. R. Peacey, Stroud, and Mr. W. D. Little, Middleton Stoney, Bicester; butter, Mr. F. Drake, Sutton Benger; cheese, Mr. G. Butcher, Bath.

The principal awards were as follows:—

Prize List.

CATTLE.

Bull, cow, and offspring: 1, Lord Tredegar, Tredegar Park, Newport, Mon.; bull, Request; cow, Snowdrop 8th; offspring, Snowstorm; 2, John Little, Paxcroft Farm, Trowbridge; bull, Vain Lord; cow, Moss Rose 2nd, offspring; r, H. J. Pocock, Heddington, Calne; hc, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., Blagdon; bull, Blagdon Medallion; cow, Charity 4th; offspring, Blagdon Medallion 2nd.

Fat steer, under three years old: 1, J. Thorley, Ringdale, Faringdon; 2, W. D. Sanders, Bridgwater; 3, E. P. Alexander; r and hc, R. and J. Hull, Sutton Benger; c, C. J. Hibbard, Stanton Manor; N. Benjafield, Motcombe.

Fat heifer, under three years old: 1, E. P. Alexander; 2, J. D. Allen; r, R. and J. Hull.

Milch cow: 1, Fred Cole (Dodford); 2, A. Hiscock, jun., Motcombe (Manor Beauty); 3, H. J. Pocock (Spot); r, G. F. King (Silverlocks); c, A. Hiscock; J. Deane Willis.

In-calf heifer: 1, A. Hiscock; 2, John Barnes, Langley Burrell; 3, G. F. King.

Heifer: 1 and c, Sidney Hill, Langford; 2, John Little.

Heifer calf, above six and under twelve months: 1, Francis Drake; 2, J. Deane Willis; 3, Sidney Hill; r, Sidney Hill; hc, Lord Tredegar; J. Thorley; c, J. D. Allen.

Bull calf: 1, A. Hiscock; 2, J. Deane Willis; 3, G. F. King; r, Earl of Suffolk.

Bull, above one and under two years old: 1 and c, G. F. King; 2, R. W. Lyne; 3, J. D. Willis; r, G. F. King; hc, Joseph Stratton; c, Lord Tredegar.

SHEEP.

Hampshire lambs: 1, H. Bridgman, Downend; 2, Jeffrey Matthews, Winterbourne; r, E. Parrott, Warminster.

Cross-bred lambs: 1, J. Matthews; 2, H. Bridgman.

Hampshire ewes: 1, J. Matthews; 2, E. Burbidge, South Wraxhall.

HORSES.

Cart gelding or filly: 1, E. B. Ewing, Calne; 2, S. Davis; 3, G. F. King; r, G. Cowing, Calne; hc, G. T. Anstee, Stanton.

Cart gelding or filly foaled in 1899: 1, Sir W. H. Wills, Bart.; 2, James Humphries, Wootton Bassett; 3, H. Gough, Grittleton.

Cart mare and foal: 1 and champion, G. T. Anstee; 2, G. T. Anstee; 3, G. Cowring; r, G. Cowring; hc, Charles Lodge.

PIGS.

Boar: 1, E. Burbidge; 2, J. A. Fricker; r, N. Benjafield.

Breeding sow: 1, E. Burbidge; 2, N. Benjafield; r, J. A. Fricker.

Bacon pigs: 1 and 2, Chippenham Dairy Company; r, G. W. Kingston; hc, E. Burbidge.

CHEESE AND BUTTER.

Wiltshire-made cheese: 1, C. F. Biggs, Marston; 2, John Drew, Seend; r, W. J. Hobbs, Keevil.

Two Cheddar cheese: 1, W. W. Keel, Stanton Drew; 2, H. Watts, Stourton; r, F. C. Candy, Cattistock; c, L. M. Green, Frome.

Three pounds of butter: 1, C. Hayes, Frome; 2, J. G. Williams, Winford; 3, Misses E. and K. Anstee, Malmesbury; r, George Appleby, Chew Magna; hc, G. W. Kington, Grittleton; c, Chippenham Dairy Company.

Three pounds of butter, in 1lb. rolls or pats: 1, Misses E. and K. Anstee; 2, George Appleby; 3, C. Hayes; r, J. G. Williams; c, Chippenham Dairy Company.

Cured butter: 1, C. Hayes; 2, H. White, Littleton Drew; r, Chippenham Dairy Company.

Fancy butter: 1, Chippenham Dairy Company; 2, M. Giddings, Erchfont; 3, Miss N. Bush, Lavert n; r, Miss Edith Fry, Chippenham.

Butter-making competition: 1, Miss Ada Miles, Stanley Dairy, Chippenham; 2, Miss Edith Long, Kellaway, Tytherton; 3, Miss Florence Ayres, Hullavington.

THE EARL OF STRATHMORE'S ABERDEEN ANGUS HEIFER "AQUILEGIA," WINNER OF THE £50 PRIZE FOR THE BEST SCOT AT THE BIRMINGHAM FAT STOCK SHOW. V368

Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Association was held on the second day of the show, Sir John Dickson-Poynder, M.P., presiding, in the absence of Sir Audley Neeld.

Sir John said they all deeply regretted the death of Sir A. W. Neeld, who had been president of that Association for many years. The Neeld family had been the mainspring of that Association ever since it started in 1836, and the head of the family had always occupied the position of president. In the ordinary course of events, Sir Audley Neeld, who had succeeded to the Grittleton estates, had been elected president of the Association, and no doubt he would be re-elected at that meeting. Sir Audley was absent from that meeting for two reasons. First, he had very recently to mourn the loss of another brother, Mr. Elliott Neeld, and, secondly, he had gone to meet the Composite Regiment of Household Cavalry, which had just returned from South Africa, and which he commanded in the campaign there until he was stricken down with enteric fever. The object of their meeting that afternoon was to distribute the premiums and certificates for long and faithful service, and he would not be able to remain to the conclusion of the meeting, as he had to occupy the chair at a meeting of the committee of the Great Northern Hospital, London, in which he took a great interest. He had heard on the best authorities that the show was superior both in point of numbers and quality to any of its predecessors, and he was glad to know that the good work done by the County Itinerary Butter School had borne good fruit, as was demonstrated by the high standard of excellence of the exhibits.

The premiums and certificates were then presented by Lady Poynder.

On the motion of the Mayor, seconded by Mr. F. Gobbey, Sir Audley Neeld was unanimously re-elected president.

The chairman intimated to the labourers that they were at liberty to visit the showyard, after which they would be provided with dinner at the Talbot Hotel by Mrs. Helme, and they would all hope that in a short time Colonel Helme would arrive safe and sound from South Africa.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to Sir John and Lady Poynder. It was intimated that Lady Poynder would provide the labourers' dinner next year.

The champion prize for butter-making was awarded to William Collingbourne, of Lyneham.

Whitchurch Dairy Show.

The twelfth annual exhibition of cheese, butter, etc., held by the Whitchurch (Salop) Dairy Farmers' Association, took place on November 26th and 27th in the Market Hall, and proved a great success. The number of entries of cheese alone exceeded 350, and the quality of all the exhibits was of a very high standard. A few changes were made in the prize schedule; the long-keeping cheese class was struck out and an extra local class substituted, making four local classes in all. The withdrawal of the long-keeping class was occasioned by the general belief that the encouragement of that make of cheese benefited neither the producer nor the consumer. The total pitch of cheese on Tuesday was smaller than last year, but the quality fully maintained the reputation of the show, the texture being perfect and the colour remarkably good. One of the judges remarked that the Whitchurch cheesemakers were improving every year, and the cheese pitched on Tuesday would bear favourable comparison with that pitched at any other of the great shows. The butter was very good, especially in Classes 10 and 11. There was room for improvement in Class 9, but the butter in the cottagers' class was of high merit. The judges were:—Cheese, Messrs. Weaver, Clemence, Oubridge, Shaw, Fish, and Wilson; butter, Mr. Lightfoot; ornamental butter and farm produce, Mrs. Topham (The Twemlows) and Mrs. Lee (The Crimps).

Prize List.

CHEESE.

Twelve cheese, irrespective of weight, make, or colour, made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer resident within the specified radius of the association's district, whose occupation exceeds 150 acres: 1 and champion, S. Dutton, Burleydam; 2, R. Bourne, Bickerton; 3, R. Owen, Hanmer; 4, W. Dutton, Nantwich; 5, J. Richards, Llynclys, Oswestry; 6, D. Ellis, Ellesmere; 7, I. A. Brown, Tarporley; r, T. Mottershead, Wem; vhc, J. Jackson, Handley; R. W. Cartwright, Whitchurch; T. Wilson, Alkington; hc, R. Cooper, Tarporley; J. Williamson, Chorley; J. R. Jones, Ellesmere; c, E. Garner, Ash; R. Dutton, Old Marton; T. Walker, Bickley.

Eight cheese, irrespective of weight, make, or colour, made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer resident within the radius of the association's district, whose occupation exceeds 80 but does not exceed 150 acres: 1, S. Johnson, Gadlas; 2, C. Price, Whitchurch; 3, H. Cooper, Bickley; 4, R. Davies, Edge; 5, F. Jeffries, Penley; 6, J. T. Jones, Worthenbury; r, J. A. Jackson, Tattenhall; vhc, Messrs. Hughes Bros., Willington Cross; J. Evans, Tybroughton; H. Rutter, Handley; hc, P. Mottershead, Cuddington; P. Cartwright, Coton; Mrs. M. J. Mullock, Cuddington; G. Goodwin, Audlem; J. Allwood, Terrick; W. H. Hobson, Malpas; c, Mrs. Walley, Frankton; R. Allen, Knolton.

Four cheese, irrespective of weight, make, or colour, owned and exhibited by any farmer resident within the association's district, whose occupation does not exceed 80 acres: 1, J. Perry, Norbury; 2, J. Rigby, Ebnal; 3, S. Bonell, Audlem; r, R. Evans, Edgeley; vhc, S. Faulkner, Wrenbury Frith; J. Boughey, Hurleston; hc, W. Broomhall, Penley; Mrs. Lovekin, Bunbury; J. Hulme, Whixall; c, S. Evans, Tattenhall.

Twelve white cheese of any make, not less than [illegible] each, made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer resident within the association's radius: 1, G. Walley, Cholmondeley; 2, W. H. Edwards, Ellesmere; 3, J. Simister, Corra; 4, T. Mottershead, Wem; 5, J. Bate, Worthenbury; 6, H. S. Walley, Malpas; 7, H. Rutter, Handley; r, E. Langley, Tarporley; vhc, Miss Nunneley, Bolesm; T. Wicker, Moss; T. Wilson, Alkington Hall, Whitchurch; hc, W. Lee, Tattenhall; J. Lee, Ellesmere; F. Jeffries, Penley; J. Rigby, Ebnal; c, J. Jackson; J. Hulme; Wm. Evans, Tattenhall.

Four white cheese of any make, not less than [illegible] each, made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer resident within the United Kingdom, first prize £2, second £1, third £1, fourth £3; fifth, £2; sixth, £1 [illegible]; r, [illegible]; hc, H. [illegible] Hall, Huxley; J. J. [illegible] Kennerley, Ellesmere; 3, Mrs. Peacock, Huxley Hall, Chester; 4, F. [illegible], Penley, Ellesmere; 5, Messrs. Hughes Bros., 6, J. Simister, Corra, Whitchurch; 7, W. H. Edwards, Trench Farm, Ellesmere; r, J. Mullock, Bradley Farm, Whitchurch; vhc, Mrs. Darlington, Poole Old Hall, Nantwich; J. Blake, Calveley Hall, Handley; W. Evans, Gateheath Farm, Tattenhall; J. Jones, New Farm, Dodleston; Miss Nunneley, Bolesm, Whitchurch; J. W. [illegible] J. Nunneley, Bolesm Hall, Nantwich; J. Bate, Sons, Whitchurch; H. Rutter, Aldersey Farm, Chester; E. Langley, Ridley Brook, Tarporley; G. C. [illegible], Kennerley, Whitchurch; W. H. Astles, Dorfold, Whitchurch; J. Jackson; J. A. Jackson; T. Mottershead, Wain House, Wem; W. Ikin, Moat House, Wem; T. Charlesworth, Baddington, Nantwich.

Four coloured cheese, of any make, not less than [illegible]

each, made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer resident within the United Kingdom: 1, R. Davies; 2, R. Dutton; 3, H. S. Walley; 4, P. Dutton; 5, W. Dutton; 6, Mrs. Mary Denson, Hargrave; 7, T. Clare, Old Marton, Ellesmere; r, R. Mullock, Guy Lane, Waverton; vhc, R. Cooper; R. Booth, Crewe; H. Tomlinson, Cholmondeley, Malpas; W. Hallbrooke, Winsford; T. R. Jones, Gwalia, Ellesmere; hc, J. Richards, Llynclys, Oswestry; J. Hussey, Willaston, Calverhall, Whitchurch; L. Jackson, Malpas; Mrs. Walley; T. Charlesworth, Baddington, Nantwich; J. Hough, Shocklach; J. Jones; B. Dutton, Baddiley, Nantwich; W. Moore, Checkley, Nantwich; N. Dale, Brassey Green, Tarporley; J. Hulme; c, D. Ellis, Ellesmere; T. Mottershead; E. Garner, Ash, Whitchurch; J. Mullock; H. Rutter; S. Johnson, Gadlas, Ellesmere; G. Walley; G. E. Drinkwater, Norbury, Whitchurch.

For farmers who have never won a first or second prize in any show: £25, given by Captain R. W. Ethelston, the Bollings, Malpas, for the best four cheese, irrespective of weight, make, or colour, made, owned, and exhibited by any farmer within the association radius, whose occupation exceeds 120 acres: 1, C. Price, Onslow; 2, W. H. Edwards, Ellesmere; 3, G. C. Hockenhull, Kiln Green, Whitchurch; 4, J. W. Steele, Handley, Chester; 5, J. Bate, Worthenbury, Wrexham; 6, Thomas Nunnerley, Bradley Green; r, Henry Cooper, Malpas; vhc, George Batho, Prees, Whitchurch; J. Mullock; Thomas Topham, Twemlows, Whitchurch; Henry Cornes, Malpas Hall; hc, J. Nunnerley; John Burrows, Wolverley, Wem; ; Jabez Evans, Tybroughton; R. Weaver, Farndon, Chester; Joseph Adams, Sandford, Prees; Thomas Walker, Bickley, Malpas; William Cottrell, Whitchurch; c, John Fitton, Whitchurch; J. R. Vernon, Whitchurch; Charles Fatherson, Malpas.

For farmers who have never won a first or second prize at any show. The best four cheese, irrespective of weight, make, or colour, owned and exhibited by any farmer within the association radius, whose occupation does not exceed 120 acres: 1, Mrs. M. J. Mullock, Cuddington, Malpas; 2, Messrs. Hughes Bros., Willington Cross; 3, Mrs. A. Beckett, Willington; 4, Mrs. Johnson, Wood Farm, Wirswall; 5, Robert D. Parry, Chorley; 6, George Goodwin, Audlem; r, John Taylor, Lees Farm, Malpas; vhc, J. Hulme; hc, William Griffiths, Horseman's Green; c, Henry Parry, Cuddington, Malpas.

A champion prize of a silver cup, value £5 5s., for the best lot of cheese in classes 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8: Mr. S. Dutton, Burleydam.

BUTTER.

Six half-pounds of fresh butter, salted for market, exhibited by makers resident within the association radius, whose occupation exceeds 50 acres: 1, J. Williams, Nantwich; 2, W. Jeffries, Newport; 3, Mrs. Allwood, Terrick, Whitchurch; 4, W. Fox, Wem; 5, Mrs. Edwards, Whitchurch; r, Mrs. Evan Langley, Tarporley; hc, Mrs. Heywood Lonsdale, Whitchurch.

Six half-pounds of fresh butter, salted for market, exhibited by makers within the association radius, whose occupation does not exceed 50 acres: 1, Mrs. T. Jackson, Worleston; 2, G. Robinson, Baddiley; 3, Mrs. George Harding, Spurstow; 4, Mrs. M. Ashley, Tiverton Heath, Tarporley; r, Mrs. Huntbach, Bronington; vhc, Mrs. Walters, Coton, Whitchurch; hc, Thomas Henshall, Swanley; Mrs. E. France, Bunbury; c, Mrs. M. Burrows, Ravensmoor, Nantwich; Mrs. J. Stokes, Tilston Heath.

Two pounds butter, made up and exhibited by an agricultural labourer not keeping more than two cows, and residing in the association radius: 1, Mrs. Sumner, Norbury; 2, Mrs. Barnes, Alpraham, Tarporley; 3, T. Henshall, Swanley; 4, Mrs. J. S. Stokes; r, Miss H. West, Spurstow; vhc, J. Welch, Poole, Worleston; Mrs. Williams, Whixall Moss; hc, Mrs. Huntbach, Bronington, Whitchurch; Mrs. M. E. Ikin, Stanley Green; Mrs. Griffies, Norbury, Whitchurch.

Best exhibit of butter, made up in the most ornamental style for the table, without limit as to the number of pieces: 1, Miss Kate Lakin, Marbury, Whitchurch; 2, Miss Wardle, Old Fens Hall; 3, Mrs. France, Bunbury.

Redhill.

A persistent and heavy downpour of rain on Wednesday considerably affected the attendance at the Christmas Exhibition held under the auspices of the Redhill Agricultural Society, and the circumstance is one the more to be regretted because the show was a record one in more than one respect. The entries, if not more numerous, were certainly as large as in previous years, while the quality of the exhibits has never been excelled, but in many instances has not been equalled at this show. Cattle were a grand lot, sheep and pigs were worthy of more than passing comment, and the display of dead poultry and butter was a credit distinct, while the live poultry was alike more numerous and of better quality than in any preceding year. The display of roots, corn, and hay was one of which the Society may well be proud, and, taken collectively, the exhibits left very little, if anything, to be desired. In the cattle classes the Earl of Derby with a magnificent heifer, which secured the premier award at the Tonbridge Show, carried everything before it, winning the President's prize of £10 10s., given to the owner of the best beast in the show, a cup value £5 5s., given by Mrs. Montefiore, to the owner of the best Sussex beast in the show, and a piece of plate, value £3 3s. presented by Messrs. Thorley and Co. to the owner of the best beast fed on Thorley's cake. The prize of £5 5s., given by the tradesmen of Redhill to the owner of the best beast in the classes for the best fat steer or heifer under two years, was carried off by Mrs. E. Hills, of Redleaf, Penshurst, with a splendid heifer, while Mr. A. Scrase, of Burgess Hill, secured the prize of £5 5s. given by the Surrey Stag Hunt, to the owner of the best beast exhibited by a tenant farmer, and a prize of £5 5s. given by the president to the owner of the best butcher's Sussex beast, to be judged by a butcher. In the sheep classes, the principal prize winners were Mrs. Montefiore, Mr. H. Partridge, and Mr. W. Clifton, while in the classes for pigs Mr. H. Cosmo Bonsor met with most success.

Australian Wines.—The imports of Australian wines into the United Kingdom for the eleven months ending November 30th were 774,793 gallons, as against 688,408 gallons in the corresponding period last year, an increase of 86,385 gallons.

Smithfield.

ISLINGTON, MONDAY MORNING.—The one hundred and second show of the Smithfield Club opened this morning at Islington, under the presidency of Mr. Leopold de Rothschild. The prizes offered for competition amount in value to £3,893 15s., or about the same as last year's total. They include the Queen's Challenge Cup, value £150, for the best beast in the cattle classes bred by the exhibitor; the Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup, value £100, for the best pen of three sheep or lambs; the Duke of York's Challenge Cup, value £50, for the best pen of two pigs; the Royal Agricultural Hall Company's Champion Plate, value 100gs., for the exhibitor of the best beast in the cattle classes; the Smithfield Club's silver cups, for the best steer or ox, the best heifer, and the best steer or heifer not over two years; the Club's Champion Plate for sheep and pigs; and the breed cups for cattle, sheep, and pigs. The prizes in value are divided as follows:—Cattle, £1,985 10s.; sheep £1,215 15s.; pigs, £459 10s.; carcases, £140; feeders of first prize animals, £93. Apart from the Challenge Cups, which may not be won outright in any single year, the exhibitor of the champion bullock may carry off £235; the winner of the sheep championship, £110; and the possessor of the best pen of pigs, £55.

The number of entries is smaller than it was last year, the total being 574, as against 664. Details are:—

	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896
Cattle	259	311	327	361	334
Pens of Sheep	153	173	198	199	220
Pens of Pigs	114	119	122	82	102
Carcase Competition (Cattle	15	15	37	24	28
Carcase Competition (Sheep	33	46	46	34	33
Totals	574	664	730	703	712

The judges are:—

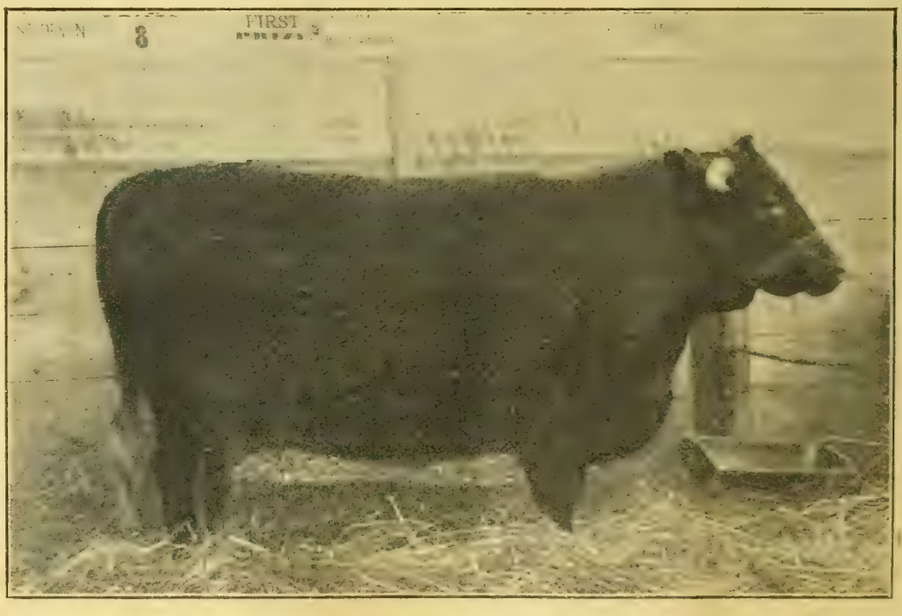
CATTLE.—Devons, Samuel Kidner, Bickley, Somerset; Herefords, J. H. Yeomans, Hereford; Shorthorns, W. Wright, Horncastle; Sussex, Alfred Heasman, Littlehampton; Red-Polled, Herbert Blofield, Quidderham, Attleborough; Aberdeen-Angus, Samuel Davidson, Inverness; Galloways, R. Shennan, Balig, Kirkcudbright; Welsh, John Jones, Dinarth Hall, Colwyn Bay; Highland, J. M'Gillivray, Ballachroan, Kingussie; crossbred, James M'William, Stoneytown, Keith; small cattle, H. D. Betteridge, Littlebury, Essex; champion prizes, Francis Evans, Bredwardine, Hereford.

SHEEP.—Leicesters and Border Leicesters, J. Twentyman, Wigton; Cotswolds, W. T. Garne, Aldsworth, Northleach; Lincolns, Joseph Brocklebank, Carlton, Newark; Kentish, F. de B. Collard, Minster Abbey, Ramsgate; Devons, etc., E. R. Berry-Torr, Bideford, Devon; Cheviots, George Douglas, Hindhope, Jedburgh; Mountain, Andrew Sprout, Baldoon, Bladnoch; Southdowns, W. Toop, Westergate, Chichester; Hampshires, James Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury; Suffolks, F. S. Lewin, Holbrook, Ipswich; Shropshires, J. Bowen-Jones, Beckbury, Shrewsbury; Oxford Downs, A. F. M. Druce, Oxford; Dorset, etc., W. Elworthy, Alton Pancras, Dorchester; crossbred, George Stimson, London; Longwool championship, R. Fisher, Leconfield; Shortwool championship, F. N. Bocock, Cropleygrove, Newmarket; Challenge Cup, Peter Dunn, Sigglesthorpe, Hull.

PIGS.—Whites, J. Barron, Borrowash, Derby; Blacks and Berkshires, J. W. Kimber, Fyfield, Abingdon; Tamworths, W. H. Mitchell, Elmdene, Kenilworth; crossbred, James Burbridge, Reading; champion prizes, Captain Herron, Worsley, Manchester.

CARCASE COMPETITION.—W. Reid, London; John Wortley, Frettenham, Norfolk; F. Redman, London.

The Royal Agricultural Hall Company give a prize of 100gs. for the best beast in the show, while Her Majesty the Queen offers a challenge cup for the best beast bred by the exhibitor, and then there are special prizes of £50 each for the best male and female in the cattle classes. The Prince of Wales offers a challenge cup of 100gs. for the best pen of sheep, bred by the exhibitor, and there are two champion plates for the best pen of Long-woolled and Short-woolled sheep. The Duke of York offers a challenge cup of £50 for the best pen of pigs bred by the exhibitor. The Queen, the Prince of Wales, and the Duke of York are themselves exhibitors in these different sections, and one of the most interesting features of the judging in the cattle classes to-day will be the reappearance of the Queen's Shorthorn heifer which carried all before her at Birmingham. Having won £405 at Bingley Hall, Cicely, as this heifer is called, can secure a further sum of £255 in specie to-day, in addition to the Queen's challenge cup of £150, and should she again be successful this cup will revert to the Queen, who now holds it with the Hereford steer which carried all before it a twelvemonth ago. The Queen, it may be added, has had a very large measure of success in these competitions for the championship, as she has already won it five times within the last seventeen years, and in addition to that she has five times taken the £50 special prize for the best steer or ox, four times that for the best heifer or cow, six times the breed cup for the best Shorthorn, five times that for the best Hereford, and four times that for the best Devon.



H.M. THE QUEEN'S DEVON STEER, WINNER OF THE CHALLENGE CUP FOR THE BEST ANIMAL UNDER TWO YEARS OLD AT THE BIRMINGHAM SHOW.

THE DAIRY.

The Use of Cream Separators in Dairies.

On Monday Sheriff Fyfe issued his decision in Glasgow Sheriff Court in a prosecution at the instance of the Corporation against a Glasgow dairyman, under the Food and Drugs Act. The defender was charged with selling as skim milk milk deficient in fat or cream to the extent of 72 per cent., a mechanical operator having been employed to remove the fat.

The case was regarded as a test one, and analytical authorities from Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, and Somerset House gave evidence as witnesses. His Lordship states, however, that a very large portion of what had been laid before him, although no doubt valuable in its proper place, which seemed to him to be a committee room at Westminster, was, as regards this particular prosecution, purely academic and mostly irrelevant, as it was not his province to amend the law, but to administer it as it stands. The milk in question was admittedly milk from which the fat had been removed by mechanical means till only 28 per cent. of fat remained in it.

The prosecution was directed against the use of machines, which, by centrifugal force applied to the whole milk, separated it into cream and skim milk; or rather its object was to compel the dairymen of Glasgow to adopt in their business a new commercial term, and to call milk from which the fat had been removed by hand "skimmed milk," whilst milk from which the fat had been removed by mechanical means should be called "separated milk."

If the charge had been that this skim milk, upon being analysed, was found to contain a percentage of added water, he should have had no difficulty in holding that in the sense of the Food and Drugs Act skim milk and water was not skim milk. There was no such allegation. The prosecution admitted that skim milk was milk from which to some extent the fat

had been removed, and the whole question was one of degree. The prosecutor drew the line arbitrarily at 1 per cent, and his case was that unless at least 1 per cent. of fat was left in the milk it was not of the nature, substance, and quality of the article demanded by a purchaser who asked for skim milk.

The respondent refused to accept either this 1 per cent. standard or any other standard, and he boldly claimed the right to remove, if he could, the entire fat from the milk, and still to sell it as skim milk. Very great stress was laid by the prosecutor upon the danger to infant life if less than his standard was left in the milk. He (the Sheriff) was in full sympathy with all efforts to protect the health of infants, but the skilled testimony made it very clear that the proportion of fat which could possibly be in all the 1 per cent. skim milk an infant could consume was very far short of the proportion of fat requisite for the child, and as regards any child fed on skim milk alone, it made no appreciable difference to that child whether the milk in the bottle contained 1 per cent. of fat or more.

The experts all agreed that a child brought up on the bottle must get milk containing at least the now generally recognised minimum of 3 per cent. He did not think the prosecutor could assume that any parent or guardian expected that an infant would thrive upon even hand-skimmed milk as a substitute for nature's provision. Even if it had been proved that the prosecutor's argument upon this sentimental aspect of the question was based upon the prevalence of such ignorance on the part of parents or guardians, he did not think that would have helped his present case, for the Food and Drugs Act did not profess to regulate diet or to prescribe the proper food for infants.

As the machine skimmer did not alter the nature, substance, or quality of the milk, it did not appear to him to be struck at by the Acts at all, and certainly not by the sections founded on in the prosecution. He thought it was proved that even hand-skimmed milk might contain less than 1 per cent. of fat, whilst machine-skimmed milk might contain more, and the difficulty of fixing a standard was so obvious that it was not surprising that the Legislature and the Somerset House authorities had so far refrained from drawing any hard and fast line.

Another consideration which could not be overlooked was that the evidence did not warrant the assumption upon which the prosecution was based, that machine-separated milk was inferior to hand-skimmed milk as an article of food. On the contrary, there was a large body of evidence to the effect that the increased degree in which the fat was removed by the machine was compensated by freshness and cleanliness of machine-skimmed milk. If it were necessary to decide the point, he confessed he leaned very strongly to the view that the use of the machine was likely to bring skim-milk to the consumer more quickly, and with less chance of bacteria or other deleterious elements in it; and it was at least an arguable view of the matter that it was in the interest of the public health that the use of mechanical means for separating milk from cream should be fostered rather than discouraged.

The only question he had to decide was whether the skim-milk was deficient in fat. A deficiency inferred a standard on which it was based, and the prosecutor in this instance had staked his case upon a 1 per cent. standard. But the evidence led discarded that, and made plain the fact that there was no recognised standard at all for the fat in skim-milk, and that the article of commerce known as skim-milk equally answered that description whether the fat in it was 2 per cent., or 1 per cent., or nothing. It was, of course, always desirable that a purchaser should be left in no uncertainty as to what he was getting, and if the legislature came to think that the public was prejudiced by the use of these machines, the legislature would no doubt interfere. That they had not so far done so, although these machines had been in use for many years, rather seemed to suggest that the Government advisers did not share the apprehensions of the Glasgow Local Authority. The section alleged to be contravened was section 6 of the Act of 1875, and he was not of opinion that the alleged contravention was proved. He therefore dismissed the complaint.

Bath and West and Southern Counties Society.

The fourth draft (72 large cheeses and 32 loaf cheeses, weighing over 59cwt.) of this year's cheese made during the month of July and the early part of August, at the cheese school carried on by the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society for the Somerset County Council, at Vale Farm, Batcombe, Evercreech, has just been sold to Messrs. Hill Bros., of Evercreech, at 66s. per cwt. of 112lbs. 7,227 gallons of milk made 7,177lbs. of green cheese, which when sold weighed 6,630lbs., showing a shrinkage of about 7½ per cent. The skrinkage on the loaf cheese was about double that of the Cheddars. Since the opening of the school on April 1st last 56 students attended it. The school closed for the season on October 31st.

THIS PHOTOGRAPH OF H.M. THE QUEEN'S CHAMPION SHORTHORN HEIFER "CICELY" WAS TAKEN AT BIRMINGHAM, AND MAY BE COMPARED WITH ADVANTAGE WITH THE PICTURE IN OUR LAST ISSUE TAKEN AT ONE OF THE SUMMER SHOWS.

Macclesfield Cheese Fair.

The monthly cheese fair at Macclesfield was held on Monday. There was a pitch of 104 cheese of average quality, coming from the farms of Messrs. P. Chappel, Buglawton; Joseph Nixon, Higher Greesley; Joseph Barisford, Dolland's Farm, near Macclesfield; Thomas Mitchell, Civit Hills, Wincle; and Thomas Steele, Higher Sutton. The total weight was 32cwt. There was a fair attendance of buyers, and all but two lots were sold. Prices ruled from 50s. to 60s.

Anthrax in Lancashire.—An outbreak of anthrax has occurred at Lytham Hall Farm, Lytham, on the estate of Mr. John Talbot Clifton. A supposed case reported to the Board of Agriculture has been certified upon investigation to be anthrax. Two of the affected animals have died. Close upon 100 cattle were housed in the farm buildings where the outbreak occurred, and these are now put under observation.

At Wellington (Salop) County Court on Friday, Mr. T. Skewes-Cox, M.P., Richmond, Surrey, was sued by Mr. R. J. Mann, a gentleman farmer, of Wellington, for the cost of sending a horse to Richmond. Defendant negotiated with the plaintiff for a grey carriage horse, which could not be despatched at once on account of lameness, but was sent later, being then considered sound. Mrs. Skewes-Cox attended the court, and said that the horse, on arrival at Richmond for trial, was lame, and could not be harnessed. On that account the responsibility for the carriage of the animal was disclaimed. A verdict was given for the defendant.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Board of Agriculture.

SIR,—The exclusion from the Cabinet of the only M.P. who represents a thoroughly rural constituency is a great blow to the agricultural interest. We farmers should have gladly welcomed Mr. Chaplin back to the Board of Agriculture, and we do hope for ever grateful that as President of the Local Government Board he passed the Agricultural Rating Act, which has been of greater pecuniary benefit to the tenant farmer than any other legislative enactment. But instead of having the Lincolnshire squire, we are favoured with a Protectionist of great ability and wide experience in various Government offices, but who honestly confesses that he knows nothing of agriculture and its belongings. Mr. Hanbury tells us that he will do his best to educate the rising generation so that they may better understand the rudiments of agriculture, but I do not believe that it is at all requisite for the President of the Board to have any sympathy with or practical knowledge of the industry over which he is called upon to preside.

I have great faith that Mr. Hanbury, as a sound, clever, business man, will readily acquire all the knowledge requisite for his new position. We had in Mr. Long one who was endowed with all the capability and experience for making a thoroughly satisfactory agricultural President, and yet no Minister has attended less to the suggestions of farmers' clubs and chambers of agriculture. Instead of preventing the colouring of margarine to represent butter, he has legalised that fraud; instead of giving us a complete and consolidated Agricultural Holdings Act, he has left us with a miserable skeleton which complicates and weakens previous legislation; he so muddled the outbreak of "foot-and-mouth" in East Anglia as to make sundry Tory farmers vote Radical; and although he harkened to the voice of the breeders of cattle and excluded Canadian store stock to the terrible loss of the graziers, he treated Canada as a foreign nation, and not as one of the brightest jewels of the British Crown. Well, Mr. Long is gone to the Local Government Board, and no man is better fitted for that post, and we may expect him—now that he has for his Parliamentary secretary our good and tried friend Mr. Grant Lawson—to deal judiciously with the assessment of land to local burdens, and pass a permanent, just, and satisfactory agricultural rating Act.

What the Government have lost the English farmers have gained, as Mr. Chaplin is now free to resume the leadership of the agricultural party in the House of Commons. It was self-evident that although we had a few able and devoted friends in the last Parliament there was a singular lack of unity among them, not much go, and very little dash, and that most of them considered their party first and agriculture afterwards. The farmers want a leader, and I trust they will find him in Mr. Chaplin.

The immediate question before the country is pure beer. It is satisfactory that Sir Cuthbert Quilter will introduce his Bill at the earliest opportunity, but we must not wait until that becomes law. There are sundry matters which the Excise can do, and which the public will demand to be done at once. They should carry out the only unanimous recommendation of the Beer Materials Committee and make all brewers return the quantity of hops and hop substitutes they use, as well as the malt, malt substitutes, and sugar. But the new year's returns should also specify the *percentage of substitutes each brewer* uses. We don't want to pry into his business and ask how many barrels of beer he brews, but it is of national importance that the public should know the proportion of substitutes each brewer's beer contains. The Excise know all this now, and a few extra clerks could give these particulars from the current year's returns. And it might be asked on behalf of the barley-growers that the present Excise regulations which gave the down scale to sugar and malt substitutes should rather turn the balance in favour of malt. It is wonderful what the Excise can do when they please. This year, for the first time, they have given us the *actual quantity* of beer brewed. Previously it was what the Excise estimated ought to be brewed from the materials used. We find that nearly 3,000,000 barrels of beer more are made than the Excise estimated. Or, in other words, the poor man's beer has been kindly diluted with 3,000,000 barrels of water.—Your faithful servant,

CLARE SEWELL READ

December 3rd.

Poisoned Beer and a Sick Agriculture

SIR,—The serious adulteration of beer by which so many persons in our northern towns have been poisoned must bring home to the nation the absolute necessity of a Pure Beer Bill.

A journey through our country districts does not show us a sick people, as our peasantry are imbibing the essential beer in our large towns, but it shows us a sick agriculture through its most thousands of acres of almost worthless pastures. The old furrows still show out; but, alas, no ploughman goes whistling there to plough. England can grow the best barley in the world. The finest and the most wholesome of beers are brewed from malt and hops only.

A Pure Beer Bill would not only bring health to

the toiling workers in our towns, but also impart renewed life to British agriculture. For then many a hill, many a valley, now lying desolate, would once more laugh and sing with its golden crop of grain. GEO. BAYLIS.

Wyfield Manor, Newbury, December 3rd, 1900.

Drain Pipes and Rats: An Inquiry.

Sir,—A few years ago, through an advertisement that appeared in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, I purchased from a manufacturer certain iron pipes with a valve in them. Each pipe was to place at the end of a field drain, and the valve was to prevent the ingress of rats, etc., into the drain. I shall be pleased if you can furnish me with addresses of manufacturers of such pipes.—Yours truly,

J. C.

[*.* Will manufacturers of these pipes send their addresses, so that we may forward them to our correspondent? Why are not such useful things still advertised?—ED. *M.L.E.*]

Central Chamber Legislation.

Sir,—It is necessary for all interested in agriculture to look closely at the questions raised last week by Mr. F. Horne. He has been present at the Central Chamber meetings sufficiently often to know the working of the Chamber, so I need say only to his charges it is a pity he brings them forward in such a manner. Every attendant at the meetings has a right to his opinions, but he ought not to place them permanently on record so that they merely indicate the peevish dissatisfaction which leads to undoing.

Everyone fully acquainted with the facts is well aware that the Parliamentary Committee had a difficult task, and all the men I know agree they did as well as the circumstances permitted.

An organisation of tenant farmers could find plenty to do, but it would be very undesirable for it to work independently of the Central Chamber. The greatest need of all just now is combination and concerted action. Further separation or splitting up is to be deplored.

Mr. Horne's proposal of a fixed limit to the use of substitutes for malt is so far impracticable that it is not likely to be secured. Various proposals have been before the Chamber for years, and after ample discussion they stand approved. It will be infinitely wiser to secure them at the earliest practicable date by right pressure in the proper quarters than to suddenly abandon the demands persisted in for years and flying off at a tangent, leave our legislators of the opinion that it is useless to try to please us. Much can be gained by right representation, at the Chamber, of common-sense and practicable schemes, long before any pure beer Bill can reach or pass the second reading. Why cannot Mr. Horne and all his powerful friends in his great county do all they can to aid and abet all the efforts put forth by those thoroughly acquainted with the case, rather than seem to strive to revert to practices proved to be baneful or to invent new ideas which could not stand the test of practical working?

The present moment is singularly opportune for lasting good to be readily gained, but the first essential is banding together, with clear views of what is needed. United demand will then lead to the end all have so long wished. My views and purposes are so well known that I need not take up space here to repeat them, and my sole purpose in writing is to urge the need just now for concerted and uniform action from every Chamber and Farmers' Club throughout the country. Yours faithfully,

11, Queen Victoria Street, E.C., H. STOPES.
December 7th, 1900.

Alleged Arson: Damage, £3,000.—At Dover on Friday two travelling farm labourers, named Colyer and Wood, were charged with setting fire to farm buildings at Guston Court. They had been employed in threshing, and slept in a loft on Wednesday night, the fire breaking out early on Thursday morning. Colyer threatened to set fire to the buildings, when paid off on Wednesday, because no more work could be found for him. The damage amounts to £3,000. The prisoners were remanded.

Worcestershire Farmers and the Truck Act.—At the meeting of the Worcestershire Standing Joint Committee held on the 1st inst. the Chief Constable reported that he had failed to find any case of an infringement in the county of the Truck Act which could be properly brought into court with any prospect of a conviction being obtained. Mr. James Best said there were scores and scores of infringements of the Act in the county. The Chief Constable said he did not know where they were, and asked Mr Best to point them out. Mr. Best thought it was not the duty of a member of the committee to dictate to the Chief Constable what his duty was. The Chief Constable said there were no such cases, and he defied anyone to bring one forward. Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler said there was hardly a farmer in his district who did not infringe the Act. The matter was then allowed to drop.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Poisoned Beer.

The inquiries into the cause of the deaths of those poor people who have recently been said to die through taking arsenic are being deferred. In this matter there ought not to be undue delay, and still more there should be no condoning or any attempt to hush up the matter.

Though it stands now, and is likely to for weeks, *sub-judice*, it does not follow that all fair criticism or observation upon the cases are barred. The chief regret must be that the Press did not earlier give such publicity to the facts, when the evil would have been traced to its source much more promptly. Lives could have been saved and much suffering averted.

We shall no doubt witness great efforts put forth to exonerate beer and brewers, and there will be much mud-flinging at other trades and traders. It may, after all, be found difficult to clearly prove that the beer drank really caused any of the deaths, however poor the quality may have been, and however much arsenic it may have contained. It is, however, not necessary to discuss any of these points.

The Broad Principles

have occupied attention for years, and the present curious circumstances render fuller discussion imperatively necessary.

Fortunately, no attempt has been made, and it cannot now avail anything if attempted, to disprove the fact that in much beer a very heavy proportion of chemically-treated sugar is used. It is also fully admitted that the acid employed by many did really contain arsenic.

There is no need to wait the result of the inquiry before considering the position thus established and determining on the best course to pursue to prevent any further recurrence of so undesirable a state of affairs that our beer or some large part of it is really and truly

Dosed with Deleterious Matter.

It has taken many years to establish the fact, notwithstanding that it has been perfectly well known to many people. It is a fact, and it is now recognised that such is the case.

All the time, skill, attention, and energy that have hitherto been devoted to bringing home the fact to the minds and consciences of the people can now be devoted to the still harder task of averting the evil in the future, and making it impossible.

Naturally most minds revert to the necessity of promptly passing the Pure Beer Bill, and such a measure will have to go through. It is now brought within the range of practical politics, but care must be taken to make it practical. All its suggestions must be practicable and able to safeguard the public health and purse.

As hitherto drafted the Pure Beer Bill was inefficient, and must inevitably prove ineffective. Already many brewers are issuing

Flaming Placards

declaring that the beer they brew is absolutely pure, or contains no arsenic or other deleterious matter.

Such assertions are made not only by men who use low-grade sugars and glucose, but even by those who invert cane sugar for themselves by the use of sulphuric acid.

The only certain way to ensure purity as understood by the sole use of malt and hops is to make it pay to use them, and this can be done with the maximum of ease and certainty by charging a lighter duty upon genuine beer, and a heavier one upon beerine. It is also most desirable and important to charge a duty on hop substitutes, and even if there be no duty on hops, nevertheless to insist upon a record of the quantity used being made in the entry papers used by all brewers.

Full Returns Must Show

all the ingredients used by each and every brewer together with the quantity of beer actually charged with duty with no reservation of name.

Until this is done there will be no true protection, and even then the public will only be able to protect itself to a limited degree in those localities where the tied trade system prevents proper and healthful competition amongst brewers.

Much objection to the best system will be made by all the brewers who now gain most by existing practices, and it will be pointed out as an injustice or as a practical difficulty that is insuperable to charge one brewing with one rate of duty and another with some other rate. In this objection we shall find the officers of Excise aiding and abetting the brewers.

But in reality the difficulty is insignificant compared to what is done every day to safeguard the revenue derived from spirits, and it is high time the officials at Somerset House realised that proper appreciation of the splendid services they already render makes the public look to them with the more confidence to secure the best results from their enlightened and able co-operation with the demand for protection from known evils.

Prentice Bros'. Barley Competition.

The annual competition for malting barley, started so many years ago by Messrs. Prentice Bros., Limited, was held at the offices of the Chemical Works, Stowmarket, on Thursday morning. A finer lot of samples it would be difficult to collect, and we doubt if any district within the United Kingdom could produce the like. East Anglian soils are proverbially the best for the growth of the premier malting barleys, and with selected seed and fertilisers equal to those manufactured by Messrs. Prentice, our agriculturists will be able, under any conditions, not only to hold their own with the large Burton buyers, but maintain the leading position they have held so long. This competition at Stowmarket is for the best samples of barley grown with the aid of Prentice's Special Barley Fertiliser, and is only open to growers in the Eastern Counties. Messrs. Prentice have annual competitions in other districts of the kingdom. The particulars of these we hope to give our readers early in the new year, after the judging has been held. These competitions are of exceptional interest, and undoubtedly assist in stimulating amongst farmers a strong endeavour to produce the very best corn their soils are capable of yielding.

The judging was in the hands of Mr. Herbert Manby, of Framlingham; Mr. H. E. Cross, of Aylsham; and Mr. W. W. Pallett, of North Walsham, three of the best-known barley buyers on Norfolk and Suffolk markets. A very large number of samples had to be examined, and after a keen contest, the results were declared as follows:—1st prize, £20, Mr. George K. Milbank, Writtle, Chelmsford; 2nd prize, £15, Mr. Mark Richards, Warboys; 3rd prize, £10, Mr. Walter Pepper, Covehithe Wrentham.

After the judging, Mr. Hy. Prentice, managing director, conducted a large party of farmers round the chemical works, where the various methods of manufacture were explained. Heaps of pyrites from Spain, thousands of tons of all kinds of phosphates from South America, North America, Belgium, France, and every phosphate-producing country under the sun; coprolites in immense quantities from the Cambridgeshire beds, boilers, grinding machinery, acid pumps, huge chambers and vats containing hundreds of tons of pure acid, distintegrators, long lines of burners, the fires of which are never put out, all combined with the whirl of machinery and the busy hum of over 120 men at their duties.

Mr. Prentice afterwards entertained his friends at luncheon, and did the honours of chairman. The toast of "Success to Agriculture," proposed by Mr. George F. Ormes, was responded to by Mr. Walter Noble, of Creeting. "The Judges," "Prosperity to Prentice Bros., Limited," "The Trade of Stowmarket," and "The Press" were toasts all warmly acknowledged.

We are informed that Messrs. Prentice are exhibiting the winning samples at their stand at the Smithfield Show this week, and at every market in East Anglia during January and February.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

20,965.—L. Humburger and H. Hallmann, both of London, for an invention for "An improved food for horses, cattle, and like animals."

21,128.—G. Daws, of Birmingham, for an invention for 'Improvements in feeding bags or feeding tins for horses and other draught animals."

21,169.—J. B. Paton, and J. R. Ralston, of Dunterlie, Barrhead, for an invention for "Improvements in and relating to flower pots and seed boxes, and appliances for use in separating seeds sown therein."

21,193.—O. Heinrichs, of Liverpool, for an invention for "New or improved churn."

21,246.—R. H. Fowler and T. Benstead, of London, for an invention for "Improvements in ploughs."

20,261.—J. Briggs and J. H. Dickinson, both of Halifax, for an invention for "Improvements in apparatus for cleaning horses and cattle."

21,277.—J. Larkin, of West Kirby, Cheshire, for an invention for "Improvements in potato diggers."

Patents Sealed.

15,869.—J. E. Edwards, of Windoor, Canada, for an invention for "Improvements relating to cream separating."

15,905.—F. M. Higgs, of Kyabram, Victoria, for an invention for "Improvements relating to cultivators."

16,058.—F. Keller and A. Kiel, both of Lampertheim, near Worms, Germany, for an invention for "Improvements relating to ploughs, agricultural."

Royal Colonial Institute.—A meeting will be held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, Whitehall Place, S.W., on Tuesday, December 11th, at 8 p.m., when a paper on "The Progress of the Colony of Victoria" will be read by the Right Hon. Lord Brassey, K.C.B. The Right Hon. Earl Carrington, G.C.M.G., will preside.

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By LUPULIN.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

It appears as if the trade has now settled down to the condition of dull monotony which usually prevails during December. All probable requirements for the holiday consumption having been provided for, brewers are avoiding further engagements at the close of the year, and we must wait for the opening of the new century for the revival of business which will almost certainly then be experienced. In the meantime, holders of hops are biding their time, and are wisely avoiding any appearance of pressure, so that, while we can hardly expect to see any advance in values till we have left Christmas behind, we need not fear any reduction of values, which are, up to the present, very steadily and firmly maintained at the figures recently current. It is not unusual for buyers to try to take advantage of these slack periods, and I have heard of bids being recently put forward at slight reductions, but in each case they have been refused, and it is gratifying to note how excellently, throughout this season, planters have protected themselves. I trust the lesson will be remembered for future guidance.

Imports and Exports

for November give the following results:—

Imports.	1900 cwts.		1899 cwts.
U.S. America	27,774	....	7,239
Other Countries	17,838	....	13,385
Total	45,612		23,624

The increase over last year thus evident so early in the season demonstrates the reality of the shortage in the English crop, and discounts to some extent the statements of consumers as to their independence of new supplies.

The total imports for the first three months of the hop year were from

Imports.	1900 cwts.		1900 cwts.
U.S. America	25 626	....	13,498
Other Countries	30,684	....	36,287
Total	66,310		49,785

With regard to exports, there is but slight variation, the total for November last being 2,746 cwt., as compared with 2,561 cwt. in the corresponding month of last year. For the first three months of one year ending November 30th we exported 6,533 cwt., and 6,426 cwt. in the same months of 1899.

The Demand for Pure Beer

is being rapidly accentuated by the alarming spread of the epidemic of peripheral neuritis, traceable to arsenical poisoning arising from the consumption of certain beers. Brewers are aroused to a sense of their responsibility, and it is admitted by one of the trade organs that there is "every indication of the scare giving a new impetus to the pure beer propaganda." This is as it should be, and I believe it only needs a slight stir of the public feeling to create a pronounced and universal expression of opinion on the subject. Already Mr. Wilson, M.P. for Mid-Norfolk, has introduced the subject to the House of Commons, Sir Cuthbert Quilter is moving in the matter, and he is being cordially supported by Colonel Brookfield, Mr. Laurence Hardy, Captain Boscawen, and many other agricultural representatives.

Meetings of rural councils and farmers' clubs, etc., have been held in various parts of the country, at which resolutions in favour of an exact definition of the purity of beer have been passed, and the hop-growers at Canterbury, Ashford, Rye, Tunbridge Wells, Wadhurst, Worcester, and Hereford have emphatically pressed their views upon their members and the Government.

Meeting of Hop Growers on Wednesday Next.

On Wednesday next, at 12.30, a meeting of planters will be held at the Hop Exchange, under the auspices of the N.A.E.H.G., when Colonel Brookfield will preside. It is expected that there will be a large attendance, as growers feel strongly that the present critical situation should be utilised for the purpose of emphasising the claims of our people to protection from such risks as have been so painfully prominent lately.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 755, 757.)

Darlington Chamber.

A meeting of the Darlington Chamber of Agriculture was held on Monday, Mr. C. E. Hunter in the chair, and there was a good attendance.—The secretary (Mr. R. C. Pearce) announced that the annual dinner of the Chamber would be held on the 4th of January, and he had received promises to attend from the Marquises of Londonderry and Zetland, and Lord Barnard, and others.

The Secretary said that the question of an experimental farm for Durham had come before the County Council, but nothing was done. He had received a letter from the Stockton Chamber containing a resolution favouring a joint conference to be held at Darlington before the forthcoming County Council election.

In answer to Lord Barnard, Mr. Shepherd said it was desirable to have more representation of the agricultural interest on the County Council.

Lord Barnard concurred, but said it was a difficult matter in a county where there was such a great mining interest.

On the question of swine fever restrictions, Mr. Trees urged that there were already sufficient steps taken to inspect pigs in Darlington, and piggeries were all duly disinfected and carefully looked after. Mr. Clayhills said that matters were different in the country from the town, and he favoured the restrictions. Mr. Shepherd said that since the restrictions had been in force there were no pigs at all exhibited in Darlington market. The Chairman said that Mr. Swenden had stated some years ago at this Chamber that restrictions would have very little result, and so it had proved. After some further discussion it was decided not to take any action in the matter.

The renewal of the Agricultural Rating Act was considered, and Lord Barnard and the Chairman thought it would be better to wait and not make any recommendation until the report of the Commission on Local Taxation had been issued. A resolution advocating the renewal of the relief pending the report of the Royal Commission was passed.

The subject of pure beer was adjourned till next meeting.

Pickering Hiring Fair.—There was a large attendance of servants at this fair, held on Monday, and a good number secured places. Farm foremen were hired at £22 to £26, ploughmen £16 to £20, strong lads up to £15, and boys just going out £5 to £7. Females secured up to £21 for farm house work, generals from £13 to £16, and young girls £6 to £10 per annum.

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (December 3rd).—There was an appreciable reduction in the dulness and gloom over the east and south of England, but the rest of the British Isles had been brought within the influence of an apparently extensive cyclonic system which had struck the western coasts in the early hours, and was travelling slowly northwards. The conditions, therefore, were still very unsettled, a misty gloom in places, and rain was prevalent throughout the western and northern districts. Winds from between south-west and south-east were experienced on all our coasts, increasing to a strong breeze or moderate or fresh gale at some of the more exposed situations in the west and south-west, remaining light in other localities. Mildness was general, few night temperatures being below forty degrees, and some of the afternoon maxima in the south were above fifty degrees.

TUESDAY (December 4th).—A storm system passed quickly across our islands during Monday night, occasioning heavy rain in many places, with a considerable increase of wind. During the day the disturbance had its centre over the North Sea, but the wind was still strong from the west and south-west on our coasts, and rain again fell in the west. A brisk fall of temperature had occurred in Scotland, where in the early morning the thermometer indicated several degrees of frost. In England and Ireland the weather was much warmer than on the preceding day, and in many places the thermometer exceeded fifty degrees. The day was fine and very mild in London, and the shade temperature rose to fifty-six degrees, which is ten degrees above the average.

WEDNESDAY (December 5th).—Rainy weather prevailed in most parts of our islands, and there was a thick mist or gloom in many places. The winds were chiefly south-westerly, and a moderate gale was blowing at the entrance to the English Channel. The weather was again cold in Scotland, and in places several degrees of frost occurred in the early morning; but in other parts of the kingdom the temperatures were high for the season, exceeding fifty degrees in the south of England. Rain fell in London throughout the day, and there was also a thick mist, although the thermometer rose to fifty-two degrees.

THURSDAY (December 6th).—The weather was again unsettled, and rain fell in many parts of the country. The cyclonic disturbances which passed across our islands during Wednesday night occasioned heavy rain in most districts, and strong westerly winds or gales were experienced on our west and south coasts. A brisk rise of temperature had occurred in Scotland, and the thermometer during the day was generally high for the season. A fresh gale was experienced in London during Wednesday night, and the thermometer in the screen registered fifty-seven degrees, which is ten degrees higher than the average day reading at the commencement of December, and twenty degrees higher than the average night reading.

FRIDAY (December 7th).—A mild westerly wind was blowing over our islands, and, although the temperature had fallen somewhat since the preceding day, it was still high for the time of year, except in Scotland, where the weather was cold. In the south and west of our islands the thermometer at midday registered fifty degrees and above. Heavy rain had fallen over the southern portion of the kingdom, and rain was again experienced at several places during the day. The morning was fine in London, but rain occurred during the afternoon, and the air throughout was decidedly mild, the thermometer registering fifty-two degrees.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (December 8th and 9th).—The weather continued very mild and damp over our islands during the two days, and rain fell over nearly the whole country, although the amounts measured were for the most part small. The nights were very warm, the lowest readings being in many places several degrees above the average day temperatures, and in the South of England the thermometer did not fall below fifty degrees, while in parts the day readings were as high as any previously recorded in December. Both on Saturday and Sunday strong westerly winds were experienced on our west coasts, and in parts of the English Channel. No appreciable amount of rain fell in London, although the air was thoroughly charged with moisture. During Saturday night the temperature in the metropolis rose to fifty-four degrees, which is about twenty degrees above the average.

The Cheshire Milk Trade.—At a meeting of Cheshire milk producers, held at Northwich on Friday night, under the presidency of Mr. M'Intyre, of Great Budworth, Mr. Sadler, of Nantwich, the secretary of the Association, delivered an address on some aspects of the milk trade, especially with reference to price, variations in quality, and adulteration. It was stated that Manchester and Liverpool milk dealers were by no means enamoured of the Association, contending that it made milk dearer in cities, to the advantage of producers, but the organisation was, nevertheless, making excellent progress.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of British Hop Growers will be printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society.*

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Chrysanthemum Show at the Royal Aquarium.

What was described as "the last chrysanthemum show of the century" took place at the Royal Aquarium this week under the auspices of the National Chrysanthemum Society. The last few weeks have not been favourable to chrysanthemum growing, but the cultivators rose superior to their surroundings, and the display was remarkable alike in colour and size of the blooms. When the December display was instituted a few years ago it was hoped that it might lead to the introduction of genuine late-flowering varieties, but in this respect the results have not been equal to anticipations. It has, however, served to show how varieties flowering at the ordinary period can be successfully retarded or preserved. Some of the finest examples of the uncurved type ever seen in a December show were exhibited. There was also shown, under the name of "G. J. Warren," one of the largest Japanese flowers probably seen anywhere, it measuring 10in. by 8½in. It is pale yellow, and a few years ago it "sported" from a flower known as "Madame Carnot." It is interesting, and at once an illustration of how high culture is developing size, symmetry, and fulness in this, one of the loveliest gifts of nature. The beauty of this flower, too, is the long period which, by gentle culture and coaxing, it may be induced to shed the charm of its perfections to gladden the heart. In June and July the earlier specimens are coaxed to put forth their blooms, and man has in a hundred years so far exercised his persuasive skill as to induce the gentle plants to continue to smile upon him through the winter well into February. In addition to the usual prize list four gold medals were awarded for groups to Mr. H. J. Jones, Lewisham; Mr. Norman Davis, Framfield; Lady Pigott, Slough; and Messrs. Cannell and Son, Swanley; and a small gold medal to Mr. R. C. Pulling, of Woodford.

The prize winners for bunches, large and small, included Miss Smith-Dorrien, Mr. A. F. Hills, Mr. R. C. Notcutt, Mrs. Barclay (two), Mrs. Nicols, Miss Cole, Mr. D. B. Crane, and Mr. J. Courtenay. The decorative section for vases, baskets, and tables was as attractive as usual. Messrs. Cibran's varied collection of single-flowered varieties was awarded a silver-gilt medal. There were several handsome groups of miscellaneous flowers and plants which added largely to the attractions of the show. Lady Pigott's group included orchids, lilies, crotons, palms, bamboos, and poinsettias, harmoniously arranged, and gained a gold medal. Sir Edwin Saunders, President of the Society, obtained the first prize for a similar collection, and Lady Tate was a good second.

Among the visitors to the show were two French enthusiasts—M. Philippe Rivoiré and M. Andre Charmet. The splendid display of blooms so impressed them—flowers of such high quality not being known in France, and the mode of staging quite different, that they awarded, in the name of the French society, a gold medal to Mr. Vallis for cut blooms, and a large silver-gilt medal to Mr. Norman Davis for an artistic group of potted plants.

For his services in horticulture he has been appointed Chevalier of the Order of the Mérite Agricole, and also Chevalier of the Order of the Crown of Italy. As he is only thirty-two years of age, he has undoubtedly a distinguished career before him.

M. Rivoiré is a member of several important horti-

cultural [illegible], and is one of the [illegible] at the English [illegible].

M. André Charmet, who accompanied M. Rivoiré as a member of the French [illegible] Department, also a Lyons nurseryman, the successor to a well-known member of the trade, M. Hoste. M. Charmet is a member of the leading English and French chrysanthemum societies, and always grows and exhibits of great repute.

Annual Banquet

The National Chrysanthemum Society's annual banquet took place in the Royal Vauxhall [illegible] of the Holborn Restaurant on the 29th ult. Mr. T. W. Sanders, F.R.H.S., presided; and he was supported by Mr. Bourne, F. Lascelles, [illegible] Army Medical Corps; Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, Mr. Richard Dean, General Secretary National Chrysanthemum Society; Mr. W. H. [illegible], of Watford; Mr. W. H. Cutbush, Barnet; Mr. H. J. Jones, Lewisham; Mr. T. Bevan, Finchley; Mr. Norman Davis, Framfield; Mr. J. C. Pipe, Ipswich; Mr. S. J. Davies, Mark Lane Express; Mr. A. [illegible], Isothermic Cleaner Company; Mr. Simpson, Mr. Taylor, Press Committee; Mr. J. H. Witty, Nunhead; Mr. Brian Wynne, Royal Gardeners' Orphan Fund; Mr. Kendall, Carshalton, and others. In all there was a representative gathering of those more particularly interested in the cultivation of the Queen of autumn, and additionally there were present several gentlemen engaged in the sister occupation of agriculture. A long toast list was gone through, as was also a capital musical programme. The challenge plate and medals were handed to the winners during the evening, and the meeting concluded with an expressive vote of thanks to the chairman and to the committee responsible for its inception.

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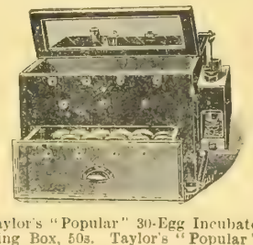

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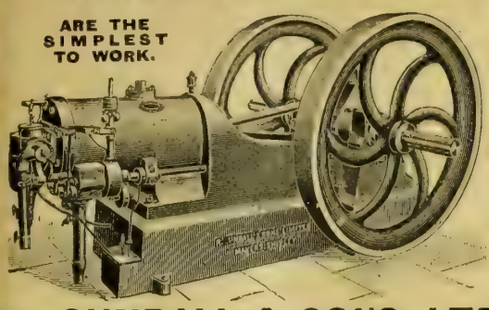

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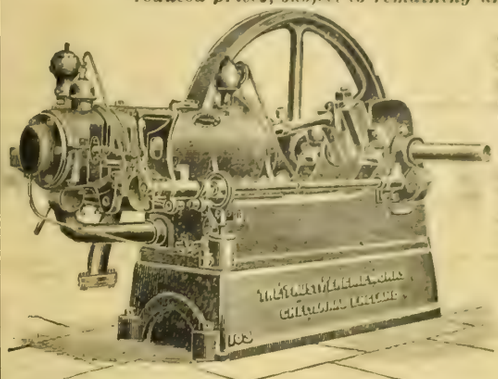

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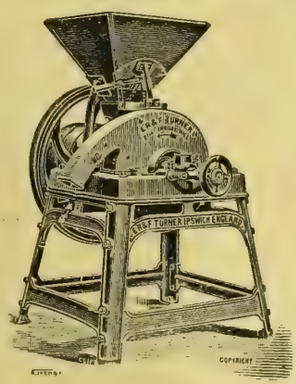

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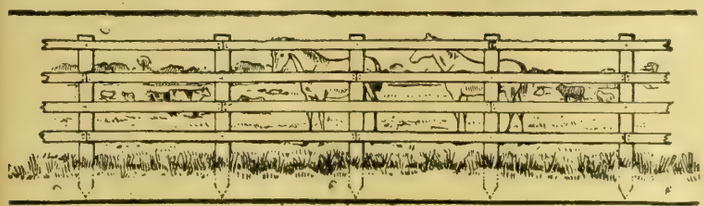

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AUCTION SALES.

NEXT WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19.

MERE HALL FARM, MERE, CHESHIRE.

EDWIN BRADSHAW & SON have been instructed by MR. THOMAS HARDY, who is leaving, to SELL by AUCTION the whole of the

SHIRE IN-FOAL MARES,

which include MERE DUCHESS, MERE ALICE, MERE CARBONIC, FERRIS BELLE, and LOFTY.

PEDIGREE COLTS and FILLIES.

THREE-YEAR-OLD STALLION MERE WILLIAM,

Powerful DRAUGHT GELDINGS, Dairy Stock, Lurries, Carts, Implements, and Produce.

Catalogues now ready. Sale to commence at 10 o'clock.

Auctioneers' Offices: 57, Princess-street, Manchester.

YORK HORSE REPOSITORY.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SALES.

(During the York Christmas Horse Fair.)

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND THURSDAY NEXT.

MESSRS. WALKER AND SONS beg to announce that they will hold their ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SALES of

HUNTERS, HARNESS HORSES, &c.,

on TUESDAY WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY NEXT, DECEMBER 18th, 19th, and 20th, 1900, (in the week of the York Christmas Horse Fair), commencing at 11 a.m. each day, when they will offer about

300 VALUABLE HORSES,

including many important Studs.

Catalogues forwarded on application.

NOTE.—A few more entries can be taken for the Sale on THURSDAY NEXT, DECEMBER 20th, if sent in at once.

AUCTION SALES.

BRIDGWATER, SOMERSET.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT SALE OF VALUABLE SHIRE HORSES.

MESSRS. GREENSLADE AND KIDNER are favoured with instructions from Mr. JAMES BUCKNELL of Cannington, Bridgwater, to SELL BY AUCTION, at the RAILWAY HOTEL STABLES, BRIDGWATER, on TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1901, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, about

40 SHIRE HORSES,

including those well-known Stallions, viz., DUKE OF CLARENCE III. 13997, CROSTON FASHION 16625, DUKE OF SOMERSET 14601, KING CHARMING IV. 156711; six superior registered BROOD MARES, an exceptionally valuable lot of Two-year-old FILLIES and COLTS, including several prize-winners at recent shows. The whole of these are registered or eligible for entry in the Shire Horse Book.

Also that very promising rising Three-year-old Hackney Stallion CANNINGTON DANEGELT.

Also, the property of Mr. T. CHAPMAN, Orchard Portman, that well-known Stallion ORCHARD HARRY 16881; BAY MARE, Vol. XXII., sire Orchard Willow 13415.

Also the property of Mr. B. BUCKNELL, Holcombe Rogus, Shire Filly, 28921 HOLCOMBE WELCOME, sire Calwich Prince 15531.

Catalogues in due course.

Dated Auction and Estate Agency Office, 3, Hammet Street, Taunton, December 12th, 1900

RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS, 1900.

ADDITIONAL ORDINARY TRAINS.

On Friday and Saturday, December 21st and 22nd, relief trains will be run from St. Pancras as circumstances may require.

DECEMBER 26th and JANUARY 1st.

On these dates certain booked trains will be WITHDRAWN, as announced on special bills at the stations.

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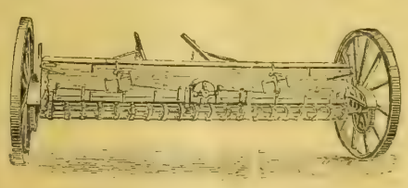

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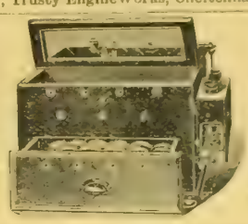

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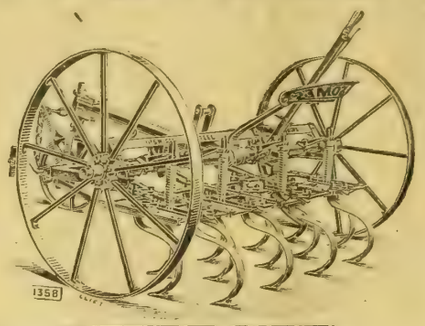

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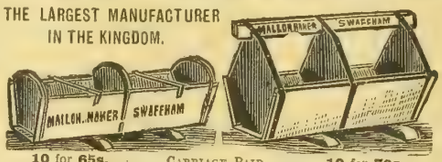

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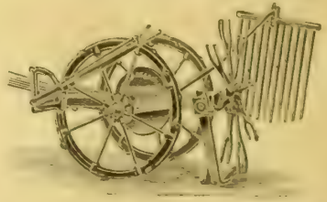

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

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The receipts on account of revenue from the 1st of April, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to the 8th of December, were £72,036,868, as against £69,774,819 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which commenced with a balance of £8,919,173. The net expenditure was £122,437,812, as against £77,075,255 to the corresponding date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on December 8th, 1900, amounted to £3,747,695, and at the corresponding date of 1899 to £2,939,457.

THE AGRICULTURAL WEEK.

As usual, the Smithfield week proved an important one in respect to agricultural incidents, the delivery of speeches, and at least one departure affecting the future of the shows of the Royal Agricultural Society. The Agricultural Hall carnival was favoured with fine weather for the first three days, during which all its most important business had been transacted except the disposal of the carcase competition beef, which, as in former years, took place on the fourth day. The champion Hereford beast of Mr. Wortley came in for his share of admiration, especially as Lord Roberts beat the Queen's heifer Cicely, which conquered him at Birmingham. The good fortune of this beast is worthy of brief reference. Last year, as a yearling, he was placed second at Birmingham to the Queen's steer, which had to come second to him in the Agricultural Hall last week. At Norwich this year he was placed reserve for the championship next to Mr. Learmer's symmetrical small crossbred heifer Ladysmith. The Queen's Cicely was not at Norwich, but the trio of redoubtable winners met in Bingley Hall with the result above stated, the Royal heifer being preferred, with Lord Roberts again reserve and Ladysmith conquered. Last week the three met again, with the result well known. Lord Roberts was exalted to the honour as best beast, but the Queen retained her 100 guinea cup for Cicely, as it was for the best beast in the show bred by the exhibitor, and Mr. H. E. Russell was the breeder of Lord Roberts, of which Mr. Wortley purchased him. Then, next the winning of the cup offered by the Prince of Wales for the best pen of sheep by Lord Ellesmere's wonderful pen of Suffolk wethers, were the leading incidents of the last Smithfield Show to be held in the century.

We can only deal in the briefest manner with what took place on Tuesday and Wednesday at the agricultural dinner of the Farmers' Club and Central Chamber, and at the Royal Agricultural Society's Council meeting on the following day. The fact that Mr. Chaplin and Mr. Hanbury, the new Minister of Agriculture, had both accepted invitations to be present led to great expectations of what these important personages would say, particularly as the former had in the previous week made it clearly evident that he had not retired from the Cabinet by his own free will. In the issue, the inference to be drawn from his speech is that the agricultural community are likely to gain considerably in Parliamentary debates affecting their interests by his being out of office. On "little diverse questions" in the old days when a free man, he formed a very good leader for the country party in Parliament, and he may do so again. The speech of the new Minister of Agriculture gave all the more interest as he made no pretensions to make out the state of agriculture better than it is. Mr. Long,

it will be remembered, two years since laid himself open to much criticism by endeavouring to do this. Mr. Hanbury admitted that there are several things in the present condition of agriculture, and especially affecting the well-being of farmers, to be deplored. The depletion of population from the rural districts was one of them, and Mr. Hanbury truly pointed out that the farmers had not only lost their men, but their sheep, there being a decrease of over two millions on what there were a short time since. Of course droughts and bad turnip crops always cause this, and we may possibly have our full flock numbers again after awhile; but not so the labourers, it is to be feared. The Minister also alluded to the adulteration of beer question, which may be termed the burning one of the period. He admitted that it was of national as well as agricultural importance, and that under the present law beer could be made of anything so that there was 2 per cent. of spirit in it.

An important decision arrived at at the Council meeting of the Royal was that there shall be jumping classes at the Cardiff Show next June. The question raised a lengthy strong debate, some of the members feeling the deepest repugnance against allowing such a thing as jumping at a Royal Show, but it was pointed out that the finances of the Society require to be recuperated, and that nothing is calculated to do this more than offering the attraction which invariably causes the populace to pay gate money. The motion was carried by twenty-two votes to thirteen. Another question which excited warm discussion was the admission of the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns into the show list, as a separate breed of cattle. Their admission had been decided on before, but Sir Jacob Wilson saw his way to raise the question anew. He objected strongly to having two breeds of Shorthorns in one showyard, but broader views prevailed, and the Lincolnshire Reds will have their footing as a distinct breed.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

On Monday Mr. Hanbury, introduced by Sir W. Walrond and Sir W. Coddington, took the oath and his seat for Preston, on his re-election after having been appointed President of the Board of Agriculture.

I see that Colonel Webb, of the great seed firm, who represents the Kingswinford Division of Staffordshire, made his first speech in the House of Commons on Thursday night. He spoke of the pain and regret with which he had heard the speech of the hon. member for Battersea (Mr. Burns), who had complained of distinction being made between Yeomanry and Volunteers on one side, and privates of the regular Army on the other. As a Volunteer officer, Colonel Webb felt he could not allow it to pass without a protest. He had had two sons out at the front—one had just returned home wounded—and from what they had told him he was in a position to contradict much of what the hon. member opposite had said. The same treatment was shown to the poor as to the rich.

The retirement of Mr. Charles Whitehead, F.L.S., F.Z.S., from the position of Technical Adviser to the Board of Agriculture, has (I am officially informed) led to a reconsideration of the means by which the Board obtain technical advice on questions relating to agricultural botany and economic zoology, and it has now been arranged that the scientific and expert assistance required by the Board in connection with these subjects will be furnished respectively by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and by the Natural History Departments, South Kensington.

The last Manitoba Government crop bulletin for the year shows that the total yield of cereals in the province during that time amounted to 25,000,000 bushels. The wheat yield is estimated at 13,000,000 bushels. The quality of all cereals is poor.

The Central Statistical Bureau at St. Petersburg estimates the winter and spring crops in sixty-four departments of European Russia for this year as follows: Wheat, 658,800,000 poods; rye, 1,401,700,000 poods; oats, 721,600,000 poods; barley, 309,500,000 poods; buckwheat, 54,500,000 poods; millet, 105,100,000 poods; maize, 53,300,000 poods; spelt, 15,300,000 poods; peas, 43,600,000 poods; potatoes, 1,565,000,000 poods.

The District Officers' reports on the rice crop prospects on the 31st October in the fourteen chief rice-producing districts of Lower Burma are to the following effect:—The estimated area under paddy in the fourteen principal districts is now reported to be 6,225,664 acres, or 4,480 acres more than the area given last month. The differences in the district figures are small. Owing to prolonged breaks in the rains the crop in Akyab has suffered, and is estimated at about 14 annas. Floods have destroyed a small area in Prome. Elsewhere the prospects are good.

The action of the marine insurance companies in altering their flour policies without consulting or advising Mark Lane on the subject is as foolish as it is discourteous. It is rather surprising that the great centralised trades do not effect their own insurance, thereby saving the expenses of the middleman, as well as securing equitable and understanding treatment.

A curious accident recently occurred at Mark Lane. A buyer said he would take up to a certain quantity of a staple at a certain price per ton. Seven tons, which was within the quantity specified, were sent him, but the railway who delivered gave the quantity as six, and six were paid for by the buyer. It has now been held by a minor Court that the buyer and not the railway must pay for the extra ton. But surely the railway should pay for the litigation?

The smoking concert at the Corn Exchange Tavern on Tuesday last was well attended, and the musical character of the entertainment reflected very considerable credit on Messrs. Hurst and Co. The Smithfield week is a great occasion for this type of gathering, but unfortunately it comes at a time of year when the weather is often at its worst. The past week has been an agreeable exception in this respect.

The barricades have vanished from Mark Lane, but both Mincing Lane and Tower Street are now in possession of the invading forces. Those approaching Mark Lane from the west will do well to insist on their cabman proceeding by way of Fenchurch Street, which for the present at all events is free from obstruction. The works on the new "Baltic" are proceeding apace. There is an excellent foundation.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

One excellent thing Mr. Hanbury has done this week—a thing that is applauded by men of every section. This excellent thing is the acknowledgment that there are duties appertaining to the Board of Agriculture which do not properly belong to it, and that there are duties appertaining to other Departments that do not properly belong to them, but which affect agriculture. It was time this was said; and if the character of Mr. Hanbury's future administration is indicated by this incident he will do well. The fact that the Local Government Board is looking after matters that belong to agriculture, and the fact that the Board of Agriculture undertakes duties that certainly do not belong to it, but belong to the Inland Revenue, has grown to the limits of a scandal. Will Mr. Hanbury reorganise the Board? Well, he is strong enough.

New, let us be fair to Mr. Walter Long. I know personally that he protested against this, and protested against it with virility. I know that some of the duties which he was called upon to perform he performed with absolute reluctance. I know further that in at least one instance he sought to secure the discharge of the duties by another Department. Unfortunately, Mr. Long did not carry his duty into the realm of action. He hesitated at that. Mr. Hanbury is the man who will not hesitate. Dissatisfied with his position, he will be only too glad to take advantage of an occasion to protest. I shall be glad if he does. He will have placed agriculture under the gravest of obligations if he makes the Board of Agriculture a real Board of Agriculture and not a Board of General Works.

Mr. Chaplin has at once shown who is the real leader of the agricultural party. He has in a few weeks revealed that he can attract attention as no man has hitherto attracted it in the agricultural world. I am bound to say that there are politicians—I have Mr. Grant Lawson in my mind at the moment—of possibly equal ability; but I must admit that there is no man who in the same degree dominates the agricultural mind. I notice this week in the House of Commons that the mere fact that Mr. Chaplin had advocated—can I say advocated?—pure beer gave it at once a significance of the first importance. It has become in a moment a matter of first Parliamentary note.

I pray that Sir Cuthbert Quilter will not think I am in any way reflecting upon his advocacy of this question. I am not. He has brought to it a vigour of mind and a wholeheartedness of purpose that have been the chief instruments in bringing this question within the pale of Parliamentary thought. The personal popularity of Sir Cuthbert is another factor in the matter. Sir Cuthbert is not only a man who gives good dinners—the feasts of Lucullus were pale to them—and who buys good pictures, but he has the grace of delightful courtesy and of old-world manners. He brings to you a Grandisonian chivalry that is without price, and he has a hospitality that is more than generous. Of course, these do not make for Parliamentary strength, but they are to be reckoned with.

Of course, it is the fact that the pure beer question is likely to be the first agricultural question of the next session. Therefore it is of moment to know the men who are likely to be prominent in the agitation. Mr. Fred Wilson has already shown that he intends to play a useful part in the agitation. As a fact, he has done so. I like Mr. Fred Wilson. He is one of the men who achieves a good purpose with a smile. He has a merry quip and crank, and he fashions his shafts with a joke. He will be a power in the matter, and his strength will be revealed in a series of apt-pointed jokes and epigrams. He is a man who is strong because of his manner, and his manner is excellent.

The point is this: Chambers of Agriculture—who believe in the genesis of beer being malt and hops—must at once strengthen the hands of these two men. It will be a first question in the next session. Shall breweries be apothecaries' shops, or shall they constitute an annexe to the English farm? This is the point. Mr. Chaplin perceives it. So does Mr. Hanbury, and Mr. Chaplin will force him to action. Gladstone once said, "Since nectar went out of fashion the gods had conferred no greater gift upon humanity than Burton beer." Burton beer is made of malt and hops. English farmers note.

New Agricultural Patents.

Specially compiled for the MARK LANE EXPRESS by Mr. G. D. Howard (Hughes, Son, and Co.), Patent Agent, 38, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., of whom all information relating to Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks may be obtained free of charge.

21369.—R. Bryers and J. A. G. Williams, of Lord Street, Liverpool, for an invention for "Improvements in potato diggers, raisers, and riddlers."

21751.—A. Shuttleworth and R. Gamble, of Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, for an invention for "Improvements in threshing machines."

21795.—N. Maver, of Colman Street, London, for an invention for "An improved poultry food."

Patents Sealed.

16101.—C. H. M. Bland, of Welford, near Rugby, Northamptonshire, for an invention for "Improvements relating to poultry houses."

16454.—E. Massey, of Holmes Chapel, Cheshire, for an invention for "Potatoes, digging and sorting."

16442.—T. Coldwell, of Newburgh, New York, U.S.A., for an invention for "Improvements relating to lawn mowers."

16570.—The Plano Manufacturing Company, of Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A., for an invention for "Shealing or binding apparatus."

16588.—E. O. Robinson, of Stockton Road, and J. R. Fothergill, of Bathgate Terrace, both of West Hartlepool, Durham, for an invention for "Grading or sorting eggs."

16678.—G. and J. S. Souter, both of Elgin, North Britain, for an invention for "New or improved food for animals."

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

The Central Chamber and Beer.

It is curious to note the remarkable faculty the Council and country delegates have of missing opportunities. At no other deliberative assembly has the many-sided beer question been considered so fairly and fully. For years the one great lack has been proof of positive harm to health to clinch all the other reasons so persistently brought forward year after year showing why, in the interests of agriculture, the consumers of beer, and for weighty National needs, the nefarious practices of some brewers should be stopped.

Recent occurrences have made it manifest that the time for prompt, decisive, and unanimous action has arrived, and any reasonable being might have expected the Council prepared to meet the occasion with definite and practical action which would command the approval of the vast majority of those concerned. What really happened was something the Business Committee will have occasion to feel heartily ashamed of unless the committee appointed does its duty promptly and efficiently.

The Time for Action

has come, and jocose buffoonery must be laid on the shelf. Men acquainted with the facts have contended that far too much beer has become so adulterated or sophisticated that its food value was seriously impaired, its cost was altogether out of proportion to its value, and its influences were positively baneful. The official returns tell their own story in confirmation of the first contention. These returns also strongly confirm the second, and the unhappy occurrences in Lancashire and the Midlands have given startling proof of the last.

Farmers have persistently advocated sundry small reforms which would do away with much of the disadvantage they have so long and so justly complained of. With admirable patience they have passed resolutions at the Chamber which have had the effect of quietly securing some of the points that, skilfully utilised, told heavily to their advantage.

What is even more useful is the capability of the steps taken

To Secure More

We have the actual quantities of other materials than barley-malt declared separately, and also divided from each other. We can consequently say exactly how much sophistication goes on so far as the use of materials is concerned. Still more useful is the knowledge we have of the actual use of the materials by the various classes of men licensed to brew.

Not so very long ago the virtuous great men puffed themselves up with pride, asserting it was wrong to accuse them of using anything but malt in their glorious brews, but the returns issued from Somerset House have a strange faculty of showing up shams. In no single instance can it be shown that the little brewers are the offenders in the sense of using excessive quantities of malt substitutes. Small men who brew their own beer and sell it over the counter, or, still more, those who brew, and their immediate neighbours fetch it for themselves in their own jugs, reflect popular taste much more sensitively than the ground-down tenants of tied houses or the managers of licences owned in great numbers by a big brewer. Look from this standpoint at the action of the three classes of

Manchester Brewers.

Forty-nine common brewers use 2,000,000 bushels of malt, 56,000 cwt. of rice, maize, grits, etc.; 113,000 cwt. of sugar. Four victuallers who sell on the premises use 6,000 bushels of malt, *no raw grain, rice, etc.*, and only 130 cwt. of sugar. The off licence beer sellers use 1,425 bushels of malt and nothing else, whilst even the private brewers, although they number forty, used last year 25lbs. of sugar to 2,515 bushels of malt.

This is a simple illustration of the value of these particulars. But for the fact that it is known they are available, we should be regaled with stories from Manchester transcending the last snake story. But the Central Chamber should promptly secure the demand, as with one voice, from every associated Chamber and club. We want further particulars, showing individually the quantities of materials used by

Each and Every Brewer,

and giving further the quantities of hops and hop substitutes used, together with the actual number of barrels of beer brewed.

All these particulars, with the exception of hop use, are duly scheduled at Somerset House, and there is no reasonable excuse capable of being brought forward against their proper publication. The time has come when in the public interest they must be given. The State has signally failed to safeguard the public health, and for that reason such facts may fittingly be made available.

Still more necessary in every way is it to have a strong representation of the absolute need to assess the duty differently. In the past there has been undue favour given to substitutes. It is the actual materials used which pay duty, and it is now time the scale be turned to favour the user of honest materials. Barley-malt brewers ought to be allowed to get such advantage as they may from paying 6s. per barrel, whilst users of glucose and other things should pay 8s., and so diminish to a more equitable point their undue gains. Every British farmer can see for himself if this is fair, and say so.

POISONED BEER.

Questions in Parliament.

No Examinations Made.

In the House of Commons, on Monday, Mr. F. Wilson asked the Secretary to the Treasury whether, seeing that it was stated in the report of the Committee on Beer Materials, 1899, that the Treasury was empowered to prohibit the use in the manufacture of beer of any substance or liquor of a noxious or detrimental nature, he would state upon how many occasions within the last five years had the Treasury exercised such power, and how many specimens of cheap sulphuric acid such as was apparently used in the manufacture of sugar for brewing purposes had been examined during the current year.

Mr. A. Chamberlain, in reply, said: The power referred to was conferred on the Treasury by Section 5 of the Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1888, but the duty of providing proper securities for the wholesomeness of beer, like other articles of food, is placed by law on the local authorities, subject, if necessary, to the Local Government Board or Board of Agriculture. The Treasury, therefore, has not exercised this power. Sulphuric acid would only come under the cognisance of the Government Laboratory in the event of samples being submitted for analysis under a magistrate's order, and no instances of such submission have occurred. It ought not to exist in any sugar found in a brewery.

Official Analysts and the Brewers.

Colonel Kenyon-Slaney asked the Secretary for the Home Department, in the House of Commons on Monday night, whether the Official Analysts to the Department, Drs. Stevenson and Luff, who were members of the Expert Committee appointed by the Manchester Brewers' Association, were acting on behalf of the Department, or were being remunerated by the Brewers' Association; and if the latter was the case, whether, in view of the great public interests involved, he would consider the advisability of causing a report to be made by some expert analysts entirely unconnected with the trades concerned.

The Home Secretary: Drs. Stevenson and Luff are not acting on behalf of the Home Department. I think that the suggestion in the last paragraph of the question is scarcely within my jurisdiction, but I have consulted my right hon. friend the President of the Local Government Board, and understand that that Department have the whole matter under their active consideration.

No Power to Stop Sale of Poisonous Beer.

Mr. Warner asked the President of the Board of Trade if he intended to take some further action to stop the sale of poisonous beer, as fresh cases of poisoning were still being reported.

Mr. W. Long, who repied, said: The Local Government Board have no power to stop the sale of any particular beer, but I may state that there is reason for believing that the cases of illness which are now coming under observation for the first time are in the main those of persons who received the poison some time since.

Mr. Weir: Is there any power to stop the sale of poisonous whisky?

An Hon. Member: Do not drink it. (Laughter.)

Official Action.

Mr. Chaplin, who was received with loud cheers, asked the President of the Local Government Board if he could state what steps had been taken to ascertain the facts with regard to the alleged poisoning by beer, into which an inquiry had been instituted by the Local Government Board; if he had yet received any information as to the number of persons who had been affected and the number of deaths which were alleged to have been caused by it; and, if not, whether he would make public the information as to the number of persons who had been affected and the number of deaths which were alleged to have been caused by it; and, if not, whether he would make public the information obtained by the Local Government Board as early as might be after he received it?

Mr. W. Long: As this matter has excited considerable public interest, perhaps I may be allowed to state somewhat fully the course which has been adopted with respect to it. As regards the steps which have been taken by the Local Government Board, I would repeat what was stated by my right hon. friend the First Lord of the Treasury on Tuesday last, viz., that, from the first outbreak of the epidemic, the Board have had the matter under consideration. Dr. Buchanan, one of the most experienced of their medical inspectors, is investigating the circumstances connected with the recent epidemic, and has been in communication with the Local Government Board on the subject, including the action taken by those interested in the manufacture and retailing of beer, and with the local authorities, for detecting the presence of other substances which could possibly cause the [illegible] sugar. Moreover, an expert committee, consisting of Sir Lauder Brunton and Dr. Stevenson and Luff (the analysts to the Home Office), Mr. Cosmo Johnson, Dr. Buchanan, and the gentleman the member for the Lonsdale Division (Mr. Moulton), have made a careful investigation, on behalf of the Manchester Brewers' General Association. The brewers and manufacturers have given them every possible access to their premises, and facilities in every way they desired in order to investigate. The Board's Inspector has been in communication with members of the Committee, and cordial co-operation and assistance have been rendered both to the Committee and the Inspector by the Medical Officer of Health for Manchester and Salford. The House may rest assured that everything practicable is being done to ascertain the facts. I am informed that the Association has pledged itself to recall or destroy all beer in the brewing of which the implicated substances have been used, and that instructions to this effect have been sent to all the brewers of the Association. The obtaining of information as to the number of persons who have been affected and the number of deaths alleged to have been caused forms part of Dr. Buchanan's inquiry, which is not yet complete. His report will be made public as early as practicable after its receipt. I may add that the Board have issued a circular to local authorities recommending them to cause samples to be analysed both of beer and of articles of food in which chemically manufactured sugars may enter.

Prosecutions Begun.

At Manchester on Thursday, on the application of the solicitor to the Manchester Corporation, the city stipendiary granted summonses, under the Food and Drugs Act, against twelve beer retailers for selling beer not of the nature, substance, and quality of the article demanded, and to the prejudice of the purchaser. An application against a number of brewers was deferred owing to some informality.

More Beer Destroyed.

Four hundred barrels of beer, representing a loss of £800, were destroyed at Ulverston on Monday night. The beer was the property of Hartley and Co., Ulverston Old Brewery, who stated that when they found that the materials were at fault they decided to destroy it. Luckily, only a small portion had left the brewery.

The Dead and Sick.

Two or three more deaths are reported this week as the result of drinking impure beer, and there have been many additional cases of illness, though to a lesser extent than previously.

Letter from Sir Cuthbert Quilter.

SIR,—As there will be no opportunity of raising this question in Parliament for some time, will you allow me, on behalf of my fellow members and others interested in the Pure Beer Movement, to offer a few observations upon the present aspect of affairs from our point of view?

We have now had an opportunity of questioning members of the Government, whose departments are in some way or other supposed to have jurisdiction, and from the answers received it would appear that the duty of conducting an enquiry into the circumstances connected with the recent epidemic has devolved upon the Local Government Board. Here I may say that we are so far fortunate in having at the head of that department a man of undoubted courage, and one who may be relied upon, once he is satisfied of his facts, to do his duty unflinchingly.

We cannot help thinking, however, that it would have been more reassuring to the public mind if a strong expert committee, such as the Manchester Brewers' Association organised, had been immediately appointed by Her Majesty's Government, in which case they would no doubt have retained the services of the Official Analysts to the Home Office, both of whom are new members of the Brewers' Committee. In France such an epidemic as this would be at once investigated by the Council of Hygiene, or in Germany by the Imperial Board of Health.

In this country, wherever the interest of the [illegible] drinker crops up, it is difficult to find under which thimble the pea really is; but to us it is very clear where the actual responsibility lies. When the advocates for a deduction of beer duties threw their Bill in 1896 the Chancellor of the Exchequer promised to appoint a Committee, which was subsequently [illegible] to report "what legislation is required to prevent the use of deleterious substances in the manufacture of beer." The majority

of this Committee (a Departmental, not a Parliamentary Committee) reported that "the Treasury are empowered to prohibit the use, in the manufactur eof beer, of any substance or liquor of a noxious or detrimental nature. It is the duty of the chemists employed in the Government Laboratory to keep a vigilant watch in this respect over all beer brewed and sold, and they have ample opportunities for so doing."

Yesterday we were told by the Secretary to the Treasurer that the power alluded to was conferred upon the Treasury by the Inland Revenue Act, but that "the duty of providing proper securities for the wholesomeness of beer, like other articles of food, is placed by law on the local authorities, subject, if necessary, to the Local Government Board or Board of Agriculture," an dthat therefore "the Treasury had not exercised this power."

A pretty puzzle this! Between the Treasury, the Inland Revenue chemists, the local authorities, the Local Government Board, and the Board of Agriculture, where is the beer drinker?

Although the Inland Revenue authorities know what firms use substitutes, they have resolutely declined to give that information to Parliament and the public. On this point the majority of the Committee expressed their opinion that it would be "an inquisitorial interference with business of a rather invidious kind"; but as their report was practically a justification of the use of these substitutes, it is difficult to see how it would be "invidious" to state who used them.

No, sir. The Inland Revenue officials consider it their duty to see that as much liquor as possible pays duty, and the brewers who do not confine themselves to malt and hops say that the public like the substitutes, although they have not sufficient confidence in their compounds to call them by any other name than "beer."

It is quite likely that the policy pursued by the Inland Revenue may yet have the opposite result to that anticipated. The present scare has already brought about a considerable diminution in the consumption of beer, to the consequent detriment of the Revenue. We believe that the more people are satisfied as to the purity of beer the more generally they will drink it, and the more will the Revenue be augmented.

Therefore, to our minds, everything points to the desirability of an early enactment defining "beer" and extending to it the same principle that Parliament has already sanctioned with respect to other important articles of diet.

If these objects are to be secured it will be necessary, unless the Government are wise enough to take the matter into their own hands, to have a powerful organisation in order to focus the great volume of public feeling which exists throughout the country, and of which ample evidence is afforded by th stream of resolutions of public bodies as well as private correspondents, which pours in upon me every day.

No one who has read the Minority Report of the Committee above referred to can say that this calamity has come upon the Government and the people without warning. We only hope that the sickness and death amongst our fellow-countrymen in the North, sad as it is, will have the result of bringing about a much-needed reform, but this can never be effected until the masses of the people realise and impress unmistakably upon the Government how vitally their interests are concerned with the purity of the national beverage.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, CUTHBERT QUILTER.

House of Commons, S.W., December 14th.

Glucose in Cider.—Letter from Mr. Thomas Duckham.

Sir,—I feel the best thanks of the country are due to you for the manner in which you have brought the beer poisoning question to the front, and hope you will add the few lines I enclose to this acknowledgment of your valued services. During the debate on the Food and Drugs Amendment Bill in 1899 there was a somewhat unusual display of united feeling in favour of agriculture on both sides of the House of Commons against the fraudulent clause for colouring margarine to imitate butter. To guard against a threatened defeat, the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Long) effected a compromise by promising the appointment of a Departmental Committee.

The promised committee was appointed, and met on the 14th of November, 1899, with Sir Herbert Maxwell chairman. A lengthened inquiry has taken place, and some startling evidence has been given before them.

Several of the most eminent scientists of the day, analytical chemists, medical officers of health, and others have given evidence. A general consensus of opinion appears to prevail against the use of boracic acid in milk and silvcilic acid in jam. So far as I have seen or heard, there has not been any inquiry on the beer question, excepting Lager. Cider has been mentioned more than once, but not fully gone into. The disclosures at Manchester will now render a more searching inquiry requisite; also respecting cider, the much-esteemed beverage of this country. Pure cider is ordered by the faculty, and it is very benefical with some patients, but not such as I have been told has not a particle of apple juice in it. Where such filthy stuff comes from I am at a loss to know, but that it does come the high position of my informant I feel to be a sufficient guarantee for its correctness.

The hint given in the *Lancet*, as contained in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, is very significant—"that mischief may yet arise in fresh places." I have reason to believe that glucose is used in the manufacture of cider.—Yours very truly,

T. DUCKHAM.

Holmer, Hereford, December 14th.

National Agricultural Union.

Dissolution and Reconstitution.

A proposal for the reconstruction of this organisation was discussed and adopted at the annual meeting of the members, held at Anderton's Hotel, in London, on Tuesday, under the chairmanship of Mr. Yerburgh, M.P., the President. Earl Temple, Sir J. Rankin, M.P., and Sir W. J. Stewart, M.P., were among those present.

The Chairman said, while the union had done excellent work in a time of agricultural depression, he thought it had lost influence owing to the idea that it was committed to the policy of Protection. It must be clear to every thinking person that Protection was absolutely dead so long as there was no demand for it from the working classes. He considered the union's policy of interference in Parliamentary elections might advantageously be abandoned, and that it should put forward a definite and practical programme in the form of co-operation, which had been adopted with very successful results by the farmers of France, Germany, and Denmark, and might, therefore, be assumed to be applicable to a variety of conditions. In these days combination might be said to be the secret of success, and not only would co-operation benefit farmers who had large holdings, but it was absolutely essential to the prosperity of small farmers. The principle should not be restricted to creameries, such as had been introduced with excellent results by Mr. Horace Plunkett in Ireland, but should be applied to the purchase of manures, feeding stuffs, seeds, and machinery, and to obtaining long credit at reasonable rates. Combination was necessary also if a reduction of the excessive railway charges for the transport of agricultural produce was to be secured. Foreign butter, margarine, cheese, bacon, and eggs, to the value of more than thirty million sterling had been imported into this country during the year, and it would be to the interest not only of agriculturists, but of the country generally, that this enormous demand should be met by home supplies. Negotiations were proceeding with a view to the amalgamation of the Union with the British Agricultural Organisation Society.

The annual report of the Central Council, which was adopted on the motion of Sir Mark Stewart, seconded by Sir J. Rankin, recorded the indefinite postponement of the proposed Imperial Agricultural Congress owing to the prolongation of the war in South Africa, and the refusal of some important agricultural bodies to assist in the suggested undertaking. The Council congratulated the members on the passage of the Agricultural Holdings Act of last session, by which several grievances complained of by tenants had been removed. With reference to the scheme of reconstruction, the Council reported as follows:—We would retain the principle of the "Three-fold Cord" and work for the real union of all who live by the land, but we are convinced that our efforts will be far more effective if they deal with the direct, practical, and immediate necessities of the members than if confined to endeavours having for their object alterations in the present laws. We propose, then, that the Union should become the centre of all agricultural co-operative effort, the educator and organiser of the movement though not in itself a trading body and by focussing, as it were, the various organisations already at work, and those to be formed in the future, to create a combination to whose hands the interests of agriculture may be safely entrusted. Besides devoting its energies to the formation of local societies for co-operation in cheap and improved production, sale of produce, purchase of requisites and mutual credit, the central body will be able to assist such societies or the members of affiliated societies and members generally or individually in all such questions as overcharges in taxation, railway rates and improved transit, market facilities, analyses of food and manures, insurance, labour supply, etc. This is necessarily only a brief outline of the new work contemplated, but, in the opinion of your Council, it places before the Union the means of securing a great future for itself and permanent benefit to British agriculture.

The Council proposed, therefore, that the N.A.U. should be dissolved, and reconstituted as the National Agricultural Organisation Society, and that a committee should be formed to consider upon what conditions amalgamation could be arranged with the British Agricultural Organisation Society.

Sir Mark J. Stewart, M.P., proposed the adoption of the report. He said in many ways co-operation had been a great success, and he heartily supported it.

Sir James Rankin, M.P., seconded the resolution, which was unanimously carried.

On the motion of the Chairman, it was decided that a special meeting should be held on the 15th of January to consider the question of amalgamation

Farmers' Club.

The annual meeting of the Farmers' Club was held on Monday evening, under the presidency of Mr. J. R. Eve. A paper was read by Professor Axe on "Swine Fever, and the Methods adopted by the Board of Agriculture for its Suppression," and at the conclusion of it the following resolution, moved by Mr. Clare Sewell Read, seconded by Mr. St. John Ackers, was adopted:—"The Farmers' Club hopes that the Board of Agriculture will persevere in the slaughter not only of all pigs suffering from swine fever, but also of all pigs that have been in contact with them; and they would respectfully urge the Board of Agriculture to employ more veterinary surgeons in the administration of the Order."

The Secretary (Mr. S. B. L. Druce) read the following letter from Mr. T. N. Elliott, the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, dated December 8th: "I am very much obliged to you for sending me a proof of Professor Axe's paper, and I wish I could have arranged to be present at the discussion upon it. I am under the impression that the paper must have been written some time ago, because the Professor quotes no figures more recent than those of 1899, although statistics of the course of all diseases are published weekly, and we have the experience of practically another twelve months to guide our conclusions. It happens that 1900 has been our best year on record so far as swine fever is concerned. Only 1,801 outbreaks of the disease had been confirmed up to the 1st inst., and if during the remaining four weeks of the year the figures are neither better nor worse than in 1899, we shall have a total of 1,917 outbreaks. This means, of course, that we shall have not only recovered from the slight retrogression of 1898 and 1899, but have reached a point 238 outbreaks better than in 1897, our previous best. Simultaneously with this reduction of the number of outbreaks there will also be a substantial reduction of cost; and as all the cost of our work as regards this disease, over and above that portion of the Parliamentary grant of £50,000 which is assigned to Great Britain is paid out of the Local Taxation Account, the matter is not without substantial interest for agriculturists. Thus in the year 1895-96, our most expensive year, our net payments in respect of swine fever amounted to £188,987, of which £165,000 was drawn from the Local Taxation Account; whilst in the year 1899-1900 those payments amounted to £71,539, of which £38,000 was drawn from the Local Taxation Account. Comparing 1895 with 1900, we shall probably be able to point to a reduction in the number of outbreaks from 6,305 to 1,917, whilst an additional amount of perhaps as much as £150,000 will be set free for the relief of local rates. There is no question here of the 'blighting shadow of the Chancellor of the Exchequer,' for our receipts from the Parliamentary grant were only £25,000 in 1895 and £36,000 in 1899-1900."

A discussion was carried on amongst members of the Club. Mr. Clement Stephenson, veterinary surgeon, expressed the opinion that reports of sickness were not made with sufficient promptness. All diseased centres should be closed up, the sick pigs killed and burned, and the healthy ones killed and sold.

A vote of thanks was passed to Professor Axe for his paper, and the meeting closed.

British Dairy Farmers'.

A meeting of the Council of this Association was held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on the 11th inst., Mr. Geo. Barham in the chair. The Finance and General Purposes Committee brought up a report upon the Society's accounts, and upon their recommendation cheques amounting to £346 1s. 2d. were passed for payment. They also recommended that for the ensuing year two delegates should be appointed to the meetings of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, and the Council selected Mr. George Barham and Professor Long as such delegates. A report was received from the Show Committee referring to a number of suggestions arising out of the recent Dairy Show, and the proposals of the Committee were agreed to.

The Editing Committee reported their arrangements for the next issue of the Society's Journal.

The Council then proceeded to appoint the following standing committees for 1901: Finance and General Purposes, Show, Conference, Cattle Diseases and Epidemic, Education and Journal, and Poultry and Pigeon.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed to be held on February 6th, 1901

The small supply of stock at Midleton Fair (Co. Cork, held on Monday, met a fair demand. Prices: Calves, second class, £4 to £5; third class, £3 to £3 12s. 6d. Yearlings, first class, £8 to £9; second class, £6 to £7; third class, £4 to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, first class, £10 10s. to £11 15s.; second class, £8 10s. to £9 10s.; third class, £5 to £7 16s. 8d. Springers, second class, £12 10s. to £14. Lambs, first class, £1 6s. to £1 7s. 6d.; second class, £1 2s. to £1 5s. Hoggets, first class, £1 19s. to £2 4s.; second class, £1 16s.

Proceedings of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture.

Council Meeting.

A meeting of the Council of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture was held on Wednesday, December 12th, 1900, at the rooms of the Society of Arts.

There were present: The Right Hon. James Lowther, M.P. in the Chair, and the following members:—

Representing the Central Chamber.—Mr. B. St. John Ackers, Mr. W. H. Barfoot-Saunt, Mr. J. F. Beddall, Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P., Mr. W. J. Clark, Mr. W. W. Glenny, Mr. A. F. Jeffreys, M.P., Mr. W. Lipscomb, Mr. Henry Marriage, Mr. R. Jasper More, M.P., Mr. Clare Sewell Read, Mr. James Round, M.P., Mr. H. Stopes, Mr. E. Strachey, M.P., and Mr. Ernest H. Godfrey (Secretary).

Representing Associated Chambers.—Mr. Henry Campion and Mr. H. Trustram Eve (Bedfordshire), Mr. Fred. Coate (Blandford Farmers' Club), Professor James Long (British Dairy Farmers' Association), Mr. J. Whitehouse Griffin and Mr. W. Weston (Bucks), Mr. C. P. Tebbutt (Cambridgeshire), Mr. W. W. Berry and Mr. J. F. Honeyball (Canterbury Farmers' Club), Mr. C. B. Davies (Cheshire), Mr. J. Beecroft (Chester Farmers' Club), Mr. C. Middleton (Cleveland), Colonel W. W. Maude (Craven Agricultural Society), Mr. James Watt (Cumberland and Westmorland), the Right Hon. Jomes Lowther, M.P., and Colonel W. H. Wilson-Todd, M.P. (Darlington), Mr. E. Norton Mullins (Gillingham Farmers' Club), Mr. W. Priday (Gloucestershire), Mr. A. Stanley Wilson, M.P. (Holderness Agricultural Club), Mr. John Biggs (Howdenshire Agricultural Club), Mr. Jacob Wakefield (Kendal Farmers' Club), Mr. W. Beeson (Leicestershire), Mr. W. G. Lobjoit and Mr. W. Poupart (Market Gardeners' Nurseryman, and Farmers' Association), Mr. H. Standfield (Milborne Farmers' Club), Mr. Charles D. Phillips and Mr. Henry Williams (Monmouthshire), Mr. T. A. Dickson (Northamptonshire), Mr. Ulric C. Stanley (North Cotswold Farmers' Association), Mr. T. S. Mason (Ripon Agricultural Association), Mr. J. Bowen-Jones (Shropshire), Mr. C. Weddall (Snaith and District), Mr. John Kendrick (Staffordshire), Mr. J. T. Wilson (Stockton-on-Tees), Mr. Herman Biddell (East Suffolk), Mr. S. Kidner (Taunton Farmers' Club), Mr. J. W. Ryland (Warwickshire), Mr. R. S. Balden (West Riding), Mr. G. Wardle (Whitchurch Dairy Farmers' Association), Mr. Cary Coles and Mr. C. Harris Stratton (South Wilts) Mr. J. Spicer (Winfrith Farmers' Club), Mr. T. Davies (Wirral Farmers' Club), and Mr. John Newton (Yorks Union of Agricultural Clubs).

Members of the Central Chamber: Sir Mark J. McT. Stewart, Bart., M.P., Mr. H. B. M. Buchanan, Mr. J. K. D. Wingfield-Digby, M.P., Mr. G. E. Francis, Mr. Endre György, Mr. G. Herbert Morrell, M.P., Mr. Rouse Orlebar, Mr. R. Henry Rew, and Mr. H. M. Upcher

There were also present: Mr. Herbert E. Boyce (of the Local Government Board), Mr. G. E. Brown, Mr. J. Cossins, Mr. E. W. Drew, Mr. G. M. Gale, Mr. H. R. Jesty, Mr. W. A. Johnson, Mr. J. N. Joyce, Mr. R. Garnett, Mr. J. Lee, Mr. A. E. Mansell, Mr. T. Nunnerley, Mr. C. E. Paddison, Mr. H. Spicer, and Mr. John White.

On the motion of Mr. Ackers, the Right Hon. James Lowther, M.P., was called to the Chair, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P. (Chairman for 1900).

The minutes of the last meeting, held on November 6th, 1900, were read and confirmed.

Election of New Members.

Mr. Jeffreys, M.P., said he had great pleasure in announcing that the Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, M.P., the new Minister for Agriculture, had consented to join the Central Chamber as a member, and he desired to formally propose his election.

Mr. Channing, M.P., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The following were also elected members of the Central Chamber:—

Coggan, William, Clarendon House, Norwood Road, S.E.
Cridlan, J. J., 14, Bishop's Road, Bayswater, W.
Denbigh, The Earl of, Newnham Paddox, Lutterworth.
Grant, Corrie, M.P., 11, King's Bench Walk, Temple, E.C.
Molesworth, Sir Lewis, Bart., M.P., Trewarthenick, Grampound, Cornwall.
Montagu, George, M.P., 69, Eaton Place, S.W.
Mount, W. A., M.P., Wasing Place, near Reading.

Finance.

On the motion of Mr. Bowen-Jones (Treasurer) cheques were drawn to the amount of £90 9s. 7d. Mr. Bowen-Jones added that the balance at the Bankers' amounted to £210 13s. 1d., and that a sum of £4 was in hand, making a total of £214 13s. 1d.

Communications.

The receipt of the following communications was reported:—

(1) Prime Minister, the First Lord of the Treasury, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the President of the Local Government Board, the President of the Board of Agriculture, and other Cabinet Ministers, acknowledging receipt of the "Statement of Legislation required in the Agricultural Interest."

(2) Prime Minister, the First Lord of the Treasury, and the President of the Board of Agriculture, acknowledging receipt of the Report of the Cattle Diseases Committee.

(3) The Marquis de Vogüé, President of the Société des Agriculteurs de France, the Organising Committee of the Paris International Agricultural Congress, and M. Philippe de Vilmorin, acknowledging the receipt of the resolution of thanks passed by the Council at their last meeting.

(4) Beds, Berks, and Oxon, Bucks, Cheshire, Cleveland, Darlington, Gloucestershire, East Kent, Lincolnshire, Monmouthshire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Snaith and District, Somersetshire, Staffordshire, Stockton-on-Tees, East Suffolk, Warwickshire, West Riding, Wharfedale, and Worcestershire Chambers; Chester, Gillingham, Hurstmonceux, and Milborne Farmers' Clubs; Craven Agricultural Society; and North Cotswold Farmers' Association: Resolutions in favour of the renewal of the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896.

(5) Cheshire, Cleveland, Lincolnshire, Monmouthshire, Somersetshire, and Wharfedale Chambers; Chester Farmers' Club; and Craven Agricultural Society: Resolutions on Tuberculosis and the working of the "Model Milk Clauses."

(6) Beds, Berks, and Oxon, Cheshire, Lincolnshire, Monmouthshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, and Worcestershire Chambers; Chester and Liverpool and District Farmers' Clubs; and Craven Agricultural Society: Resolutions on the Registration of Pig Dealers and the Inspection and Disinfection of their Premises.

(7) Resolutions from the Bucks, East Kent, Norfolk, Staffordshire, Shropshire, Warwickshire, and West Riding Chambers; Chester, Market Weighton and District, and Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Clubs; Holderness and Selby Agricultural Clubs (Pure Beer); Lincolnshire Chamber and Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club (Legislation required in the Agricultural Interest); Gloucestershire, Monmouthshire, and Worcestershire Chambers (Combination of Agricultural Implement Makers); Northamptonshire Chamber (Sparks from Railway Engines); Stockton-on-Tees Chamber (Shortage of Weights in Produce carried by Railway Companies); East Suffolk Chamber (Sale of Barley); West Riding Chamber (Uniform Weight for Sale of Cattle).

The resolution of the Stockton-on-Tees Chamber with reference to complaints of shortage of weights on delivery of goods carried by the railway companies was read by desire of Mr. Wilson, who requested that the subject might be taken into consideration by the Business Committee.

Resignation of Mr. T. Carrington Smith.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from Mr. T. Carrington Smith, announcing his resignation as a member of the Business and other Committees of the Central Chamber in consequence of ill-health, and read the following report from the Business Committee: "The Business Committee have accepted the resignation of Mr. Carrington Smith with great regret, and they recommend that he be asked to accept the Honorary Membership of the Central Chamber."

The Chairman said that the Business Committee, and no doubt all the members of the Council, deeply regretted the retirement of Mr. Carrington Smith. That gentleman had been one of their most valued members for a great many years. He felt sure that the slight compliment which the Council now had it in its power to confer on Mr. Carrington Smith by making him an Honorary Member would be cordially given. (Cheers.)

Mr. Clare Sewell Read seconded the proposal, and the report of the Business Committee was adopted unanimously.

Future Business.

The report of the Business Committee, settling the order of business at the next meeting under Bye-law 11, was as follows:—

That at the next meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 5th, 1901, subject to the discussion of any matters of urgency then before Parliament, the questions for consideration shall be:—

1. Legislation to Prevent the Adulteration of Beer
2. Damage to Crops by Sparks from Railway Engines.
3. The Report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation (if issued).

Report of the Parliamentary Committee.

The following report of the Parliamentary Committee was presented;—

Pure Beer

1.—The recent fatalities in the North of England attributed to the consumption of beer containing arsenic have sadly emphasised the necessity for the enactment of a measure to provide adequate protection against the use of deleterious substances by brewers.

2. Your Committee suggest that the Government should be asked to receive a deputation from the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture and other agricultural bodies in the week of the February Council meeting, for the purpose of urging the Government to introduce legislation during the next Session of Parliament dealing with the question upon the lines advocated by the Council, and indicated in the Minority Report of the Departmental Committee on Beer Materials.

Damage to Crops by Sparks from Railway Egines.

3.—Your Committee regret with regret that the Compensation for Damage to Crops Bill, introduced by their Chairman last Session, with the object of placing railway engines on an equal footing with road locomotives as regards their liability for damage from fires caused by sparks, failed to secure a second reading on account of the opposition of railway directors.

4.—On May 8th last the First Lord of the Treasury stated that the President of the Board of Agriculture had "no detailed information as to the damage done by sparks from railway engines." An invitation was therefore issued to those who had suffered damage from this cause to furnish details of their losses. Such details have now been received by the Secretary from a large number of owners and occupiers of land adjoining railways, and have been duly forwarded for the information of the President of the Board of Agriculture.

5. The serious and widespread character of the injuries inflicted upon agriculturists by these constantly occurring fires is shown by the fact that these cases of wholly distinct have reached the Secretary, relate to upwards of seventy-five separate fires caused by sparks from railway engines in eleven different counties, viz., Cheshire, Devonshire, Hampshire, Herefordshire, Kent, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, Surrey, and Yorkshire, nearly all the chief railways in the Kingdom being the defendants. In only a few cases was compensation paid, the railway companies usually refusing to pay compensation on the ground that they are not legally liable.

6.—Your Committee propose to arrange for the reintroduction of a Bill next Session, and to press their claims for the consideration of the Parliamentary authorities, when the interests of other demands.

A. F. Jeffreys, Chairman.

December 11th, 1900.

Mr. Jeffreys, M.P., in moving that the report be received and adopted, said that the last meeting of the Parliamentary Committee was a full one, and they had the advantage of the presence of Sir Cuthbert Quilter and Sir Blundell Maple when the questions of pure beer and of damage caused by sparks from railway engines were considered. With regard to the first part of the report—that relating to pure beer—he would venture to ask the Council seriously to take the subject into consideration, because there was not the slightest doubt that this was a very good opportunity of trying to get some reform in the way that beer was made, or at any rate in the direction of requiring a declaration of the ingredients which were put into it. If they struck whilst the iron was hot they might possibly pass some Bill next year which would ensure greater purity of beer, and at the same time provide that the ingredients of the national beverage were barley-malt and hops, as they ought to be.

With regard to the damage of crops by sparks from railway engines, he introduced a small Bill last session, but it was unfortunately blocked by the railway directors. Both sides of the House of Commons accepted it, but at the critical point—12 o'clock at night—there was always a railway director in attendance who invariably blocked the Bill because he thought it might do some damage to the railway companies. They proposed to introduce a Bill again, but they were not fixed in their determination as to its being exactly the same Bill. They would have consultations as to that, but they were determined to introduce a Bill if the Government refused to introduce one, which he hoped would not be the case. It would be seen from paragraph 4 of the report that it was hoped that the Government might be induced to deal with this question in a manner that would be satisfactory to all parties. He ought to state that Sir Blundell Maple had a case of his own. In a very public-spirited way he determined to try the question. The Parliamentary Committee had had the advantage of the attendance of Sir Blundell Maple's Solicitor to explain the case. The proceedings which Sir Blundell Maple took were against the Midland Railway Company, and ultimately the amount which he claimed against the company was paid into court. In that particular case there were two witnesses who fortunately saw the sparks coming from the railway engine, and they were able by the time-table to trace the train, and by means of interrogatories in the High Court of Justice they were able to investigate whether the engine of that train had a proper spark arrester or not. Of course, it was not likely that that could happen in many cases, for the crops were often burnt by sparks from engines at night-time when no one was watching, and it would be a very difficult thing to trace the engine of a fast train. Although Sir Blundell Maple was successful in his particular case, it would be seldom that a farmer would be able to bring forward the necessary evidence to identify the engine which damaged his crops; and the Parliamentary Committee were unanimous in thinking that a Bill on the subject ought to be introduced.

Mr. Bowen-Jones (Shropshire) seconded the motion for the adoption of the report. He said that he thought that the present time was an opportune one for forming a representative Committee of the Chamber to further investigate the questions relating to beer, including the method of its manufacture. They ought to go on the proposed deputation with some unanimous declaration of the policy which the Chamber advocated with regard to pure beer. There was a considerable difference of opinion amongst agriculturists in connection with the matter, and he wanted to thresh the question out, if possible, by means of a committee and get it into line, so to speak, so that the opinions of the members should be, as far as possible, unanimous in their declarations as to what they wanted. He would propose that a representative Committee be appointed by the Chamber to inquire into the beer question, and, to ascertain what legislative changes it is practicable to urge that will most benefit the agricultural interest. The Committee might ascertain if possible the causes of the poisoning which had taken place in consequence of the consumption of adulterated beer, and they might also go into the question of the percentages of malt-substitutes that might be used if they were allowed at all, and, if they were allowed, what they should be. They might also consider whether the ingredients should be declared by the brewers, whether they should be published, and whether the brewers should have to make known the names of the brewers whose beer they sold. These were all questions incidental to an enquiry.

Mr. Channing, M.P., supported the motion for the adoption of the report. He should like to say in doing so that he cordially agreed with what had fallen from Mr. Bowen-Jones. He thought that the proposal was eminently practical, and would help them far in the direction they wanted. They wanted to make the line of attack upon this question sufficiently precise. It seemed to him that they had got hold of a very big question, similar to the adulteration of butter with margarine, only that in the present case the adultera-

tion was made by means of ingredients which were injurious to health, and obviously introduced in order to artificially cheapen the production, and thereby to enhance the profits of those persons who made beer. He thought that they had an enormous case with regard to the question of securing the purity of beer on some reasonable lines. Those lines, as Mr. Bowen-Jones had said, certainly required to be carefully laid down in a businesslike spirit, and with a regard to all the interests and questions concerned. They had, however, a very good case, and he was delighted that the Parliamentary Committee had put the subject in the forefront for the next meeting, that to be held in February. He hoped that every member of the Council in the meantime would use his influence with regard to securing Parliamentary action.

Mr. CLARE SEWELL READ pointed out that the report mentioned a large number of fires caused by railway sparks, but there were a great many fires which had no record whatever in the report.

Mr. JASPER MORE, M.P. (Shropshire), said that he was sorry that he had inadvertently forgotten to attend the Parliamentary Committee. If he had been there he should have pressed upon their attention a question which he had brought before the Chamber on several occasions, that of a uniform weight for the sale of grain. He did not think that they ought to let the question drop when they had taken so much trouble with it. In his part of England great importance was attached to the question. He was happy to see that in this Parliament the agricultural interest was strengthened by the presence of Colonel Webb, who was well known to be one of the the leading agriculturists in the Mildands. He had kindly offered to co-operate with him (Mr. Jasper More) in pushing this question forward. There were a number of members at present in the House of Commons who were prepared to ballot for the introduction of the metric system. He did not know whether that question was thoroughly understood by agriculturists. He appealed to those agriculturists who wished that a uniform weight should be adopted, and that that should be the cwt., not to let the matter drop, but to join in supporting a Bill in the coming session.

The motion for the adoption of the report of the Parliamentary Committee was carried unanimously.

The Adulteration of Beer.

Mr. BOWEN-JONES (Shropshire) then moved: "That a representative Committee be appointed by this Chamber to enquire into the beer question, and to ascertain what legislative changes it is practicable to urge that will most benefit the agricultural interest."

Mr. STOPES seconded the motion. The subject was one upon which they were all feeling very strongly indeed, and one which they might look at from various standpoints.

Mr. PRIDAY (Gloucestershire), rising to order, asked whether by discussing the pure beer question now they would not be anticipating the discussion set down for the February meeting. The whole question was to be raised then.

The CHAIRMAN said that no doubt it was possible that the discussion might take a wide range, but it was the practice, he believed, to allow motions of this kind to be made with the general consent of the Council. He did not think that he could say that Mr. Stopes was out of order.

Mr. STOPES said that he would speak briefly. He ventured to urge that they should consider what steps could best be taken between the present time and February. It would be most undesirable to allow to subside without taking action the existing strong popular feeling which was the necessary outcome of the very large amount of suffering and death that had been inflicted throughout the north and other districts by the addition to beer of matters which ought not under any circumstances to have been put into it. He was absolutely sure that the machinery to which they had trusted with such confidence was not adequate to protect the public health, and although they were assembled there as what was supposed to be a selfish body of farmers looking after their own interests, he thought that they might claim that they did feel an interest in the victims who had suffered through the adulteration of beer, and an interest in the consumers of beer in all cases and under all circumstances. He had taken the opportunity of addressing a letter to the Business Committee urging the extreme desirability of framing some proposal which could be sent down to the various Chambers and Clubs to be discussed in order that there might be at least some unanimity of expression of opinion as to what it was desirable to do in the question of beer legislation. Personally he had very little faith in the influence of Acts of Parliament, especially when they were intended to interfere with the process of a manufacture which was in the hands of so skilful and powerful a corporation as the brewers of this country, and therefore he thought that there were other practicable schemes to which they as practical men could turn their attention which would be equally effective, if not more so. They might bring the pressure of this Chamber on the conscience of Her Majesty's Inland Revenue. If proper steps were taken by individual Members of the House of Commons apart from legislation they could secure a very great deal of what they desired. The public would like to have pure beer, and it was the fact that a large number of brewers agreed with the public and brewed pure beer. A very large number of brewers still used nothing whatever but malt and hops. Beer, as correctly defined, was the product of barley and hops solely, and he thought that they should insist in all discussions throughout the country that that definition should be closely observed. Agriculturists were solid and absolute in their view, and both as farmers and consumers they wished it to be understood that when they asked for a glass of beer they wanted the genuine outcome of brewing from barley-malt and hops. He had ventured to frame a resolution which he would like to submit, because it would be of inestimable value to those who were concerned in this matter if the various Chambers agreed upon it. His proposed resolution was as follows:—

That this Chamber urges upon the Government the necessity of passing a Bill for securing purity of beer at the earliest practicable date, and that the duty upon all beer brewed by any user of substitutes for malt and hops irrespectively of the amount of such substitutes be not less than one-third more than the duty charged upon pure beer, and further that the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Revenue direct forthwith that entries shall be made by all brewers of the quantity of hops and of hop substitutes now used by them, and that in the returns relating to Brewers' Licences the name of each and every brewer for sale be given together with the materials used of every class and the quantity of beer produced by him.

These points were exceedingly important, because if brewers had to make entries of the actual materials they used, and if they had to show the amount of beer they produced made from those materials, the public would then have practical facts to check them, and that would inevitably stop further dilution. If they had to make full entries of their names that would be a most complete, practical, and effective check upon the number and the increased use of, not improper materials, but of materials which might be deemed proper, but which nevertheless came into direct competition with the barley grown in this country. The one strong thing which would be urged by the brewers in this country in their defence would be that they were not the users of improper materials. They would make any amount of announcements that the beer brewed by them would be found to be absolutely free from deleterious matter. There would be a great deal of that kind of statement, and, in addition to that, the public would hear that the injurious ingredients were not in the beer, but in jam and other things to which glucose had been added. That was a thing which agriculturists would have to guard against. Another important and practical point was that they would be told that if brewers were restricted from the use of sugar they would be driven to use foreign barley. He had been elected for twenty years, year by year, as Chairman of the most skilled body of expert maltsters and brewers and barley-growers in the country, and that body had taken every means and opportunity in its power to get together the best barley from all countries in the world, as well as from Great Britain, and it had only been shown once that foreign barley was as good as British. They had proved conclusively that British barley was capable of making good malt, and that it was the best barley. He would say boldly that if brewers brought forward such a statement as he had referred to it should at once be dismissed.

Mr. JEFFREYS, M.P., asked whether Mr. Bowen-Jones would add to his motion the words "And to arrange for a deputation to the Government on the subject."

Mr. BOWEN-JONES accepted the addition.

Mr. MULLINS (Gillingham Farmers' Club) suggested that Mr. Bowen-Jones should introduce into his motion, after the words "In the interests of the agricultural community," a reference to the interests of the consumer. He thought that such addition would make the resolution carry more weight.

Mr. BOWEN-JONES said that he should be quite willing, but he wanted to get the agricultural point definitely stated.

The words "and the public at large" were then added after the words "agricultural community," and the resolution was adopted unanimously, as follows:—

That a representative Committee be appointed to inquire into the Beer Question, and to ascertain what legislative changes it is practicable to suggest for the greatest benefit of the Agricultural Community and the public at large, and to arrange for a deputation to the Government.

On the motion of Mr. JEFFREYS, M.P., seconded by Mr. STRACHEY, M.P., the Committee was constituted of Sir Cuthbert Quilter, M.P., Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. T. Latham, Mr. A. E. Mansell, Mr. Clare Sewell Read, and Mr. H. Stopes, with power to add to their number.

Considerable discussion ensued upon a proposal by Mr. Jasper More, M.P., that the proposed deputation should wait upon the Government during the present week. Eventually a further resolution was carried, and the motion of Mr. JASPER MORE, M.P., seconded by Mr. STANLEY (North Cotswold Farmers' Association), to the effect that all despatch should be used in arranging for the deputation.

Dairy Products Committee.

The following report of the Dairy Products Committee was presented:—

1.—Your Committee greatly regret to have to report the resignation through ill-health, of their Chairman, Mr. T. Carrington Smith, who as a Member of the Committee since its original appointment, and as Chairman since 1897, has rendered important services in connection with the efforts of the Chamber to procure legislation against the fraudulent adulteration of Dairy Products.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND TUBERCULOSIS.

2.—Your Committee are strongly of opinion that the question of Tuberculosis and the Milk Supply should not continue to be dealt with in the Private Bills of Municipal and other Urban Authorities, but should be the subject of general legislation introduced by the Government and made applicable to the whole country.

LEGAL STANDARDS FOR MILK AND BUTTER.

3.—Your Committee note that in certain cases the decisions of Magistrates in prosecutions for the adulteration of butter have been postponed, apparently under the impression that the Board of Agriculture are about to fix a Butter Standard under Section 4 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act of 1899. They would point out, however, that the reference to the Board of Agriculture Departmental Committee on Milk Standards (whose Report, it is expected, will be issued shortly) comprises only Milk (including Condensed Milk) and Cream, and that therefore the question of a Butter Standard will not be affected by the Report.

4.—Your Committee consider, however, that the fixing of a legal Standard for Butter is one of urgency, and they are of opinion that the Board of Agriculture should be asked to undertake any necessary inquiry preliminary to the fixing of a Butter Standard under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act of 1899 immediately after the present Departmental Committee on Milk Standards have completed their labours.

By Order of the Committee,
ERNEST H. GODFREY,
Secretary.

December 11th, 1900.

Sir MARK STEWART, M.P., moved that the report be received and adopted. He said that he was sure that the Chamber would regret exceedingly Mr. Carrington Smith's resignation. He had been a most attentive and devoted member, not only in that room, but also in committee work, and especially in connection with the Dairy Products Committee. Unhappily, through ill-health, Mr. Carrington Smith had had to resign. They trusted that repose and rest might restore him to health and strength. The first paragraph of the report to which he had to direct attention was that relating to local authorities and tuberculosis. Friction had been occasioned by different municipalities dealing in different ways with the question of tuberculosis and the milk supply. A very good precedent which he had submitted to the Board of Agriculture in reference to legislation in such matters was the General Public Health Act, which had been passed for Scotland. Under that Act Scotland had one uniform standard in dealing with the question, so that municipal authorities could not act separately on different systems. The Scotch Act had only been in operation for about three years, but so far as it had gone it was deemed to be a very satisfactory experiment. He thought that it was quite possible for something of the sort to be attempted in England, and he believed that a general Act would be found to be of very great advantage. With regard to local standards of milk and butter there seemed to be a common mistake in the minds of some persons that the reference to the Departmental Committee which was appointed last session, and which, as he understood, would shortly report, included butter. That was not the case. The reference to the Committee included only milk and cream. He thought that it was very important that butter should be included, and that if necessary a deputation should wait on the President of the Board of Agriculture to insist upon its being done. In the meantime he had put the question down for to-morrow, and he had no doubt that Mr. Hanbury would give an answer which might possibly be satisfactory to the Chamber without their going further. The purchaser of butter ought to be able to know at once what extraneous matters he was buying when he was supposed to be buying pure butter.

Mr. JEFFREYS, M.P., seconded the motion. He said that he did not want to add anything except a remark with regard to the model milk clauses, upon which there had been much difference of opinion. He quite agreed with the paragraph in the report, but at the same time he might say that all the municipal Bills which had been introduced to deal with the question had adopted the model clauses to which the Committee agreed last session. He saw in the room Mr. Boyce, an officer of the Local Government Board, and he had no doubt that if any member had any question to ask Mr. Boyce he would make any necessary explanation.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the subject was on the agenda for the Annual Meeting.

Professor LONG, British Dairy Farmers' Association, wished to add his testimony to what had been said with regard to the loss which had been sustained by the withdrawal of Mr. Carrington Smith. Mr. Smith had sat on the Committee for fifteen years. He was a man of the good old sort, and was loved by them all. He (Professor Long) desired to direct attention to a case which had recently occurred, and which would show the great importance of urging the question of a butter standard upon the Board of Agriculture. Some time ago a sample of butter was taken at Bolton, and upon analysis was found to contain 20 per cent. of water, 8 per cent. of salt, and from 1 to 2 per cent. of some other material which he believed was casein. The retailer was summoned and in court he produced the dealer's warranty. It would be seen presently that the warranty question enabled a fraudulent dealer to drive a coach and horses bang through the Act of Parliament. The Act of Parliament was known to be a very moderate Act, and in many parts it was prac-

tically impotent. In the case to which he had referred the dealer was let off and the prosecutors then went to the wholesale dealers who gave the warranty. This firm was prosecuted in Manchester, and were defended by their solicitor. They pleaded that they had a warranty; but they said, "Before we go into that question we want to tell you, as magistrates, that you cannot identify the warranty as applying to this particular butter. We have got the warranty for the butter, but we do not know where the butter came from. We produce the warranty from the Irish merchant from whom we got the butter." In this case the wholesale dealers were also let off. Thus two different dealers were allowed to sell butter adulterated with 30 per cent. of adulteration, and they escaped. Was it to be supposed that a Manchester firm or an astute retailer at Bolton would be able to sell a sample of butter containing 20 per cent. of water and 8 per cent. of salt without knowing of the adulteration? As experts they must have known that they were dealing with adulterated butter. The Chamber would see at once that there ought to be a standard fixed by some authority. He would ask the Chamber very sincerely to urge on the Department of Agriculture the great necessity of not only fixing a standard, but of going into the whole question so far as regarded the standard. They had been working under an abortive Act or an Act which in part was abortive and of no value whatever.

Mr. MIDDLETON (Cleveland) said that the model clauses were unsatisfactory. There was one objectionable feature, and that was that one local authority had the power of going into the area of another. He thought that that should not be. It was very undesirable that agriculturists should lead people to the belief that they were satisfied with the model clauses.

The motion was then carried unanimously, and it was arranged that a copy of the report should be sent to Ministers, as usual.

The Annual Report.

The annual report of the Council was prepared and was adopted for presentation to the general meeting.

The Council then adjourned until Tuesday, February 5th, 1901, at 11 a.m.

Annual General Meeting.

On the motion of Mr. LOWTHER, M.P. (Darlington), Mr. JEFFREYS, M.P., was called to the chair.

Mr JEFFREYS, in opening the proceedings, explained that both their Chairman for the year (Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P.) and their Vice-Chairman for the year (Mr. Grant Lawson, M.P.) had received the honour of appointment as Ministers of the Crown, and were consequently unable to preside over their deliberations.

The minutes of the last annual general meeting, held on December 6th, 1899, were read and confirmed.

Statement of Accounts.

Mr. BOWEN-JONES (Treasurer) presented the report of the auditor (Mr. S. B. L. Druce) on the accounts of the Central Chamber for the financial year ended November 30th, 1900. It would be seen from the auditor's report, which was printed at the end of the annual report of the Council, that the balance at the bankers' at the end of the year was £187 18s. 11d. The balance of assets over liabilities stood at £736 12s. 6d., as compared with £672 3s. 8d. at the end of 1899. He proposed that a vote of thanks be given to Mr. Druce for his services as auditor for the last year, and that he be reappointed for the ensuing year.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE GRIFFIN seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Election of Eight Members of Council.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. PHILLIPS (Monmouthshire), the following eight members of the Council, who retired by rotation under Law 15, were re-elected:—

ACKERS, B. St. John.
BEDDALL, J. F.
CHANNING, F. A., M.P.
MARRIAGE, Henry.
MORE, R. Jasper, M.P.
PEASE, A. E., M.P.
STOPES, H.
WHARTON, The Right Hon. J. L., M.P.

Alterations in the Laws of Association.

Mr. ACKERS moved:—

That the alterations in the Laws of Association as recommended by the Business Committee, and adopted by the Council on November 6th, 1900, be now formally approved; and that the following addition be made to Law No. 37: "The 'Council' shall have power to fill up any vacancy caused by the death, resignation, or incapacity to act of any such officer."

He said that no one had applied for a copy of the rules, as it was proposed to alter them, and therefore he took it that the members were all satisfied with the careful way in which the Business Committee had gone into the question of alteration. It would be seen from the rules that the object of the Association was in no way interfered with by the change. The vast majority of the alterations were simply verbal ones to make perfectly clear what each rule and each division of a rule meant. The alterations had taken a very considerable time. Two members of the Business Committee went into the question very fully. Both those gentlemen were now present. The alterations which they drafted were submitted to the general body of the Business Committee, and the Business Committee examined into the matter very carefully. The result was now before the Chamber. Some of the alterations had been noted by the Secretary in a Memorandum; but there were other alterations which were not noted in that Memorandum. He (Mr. Ackers) would answer any question which any member might wish to put or give any explanation which might be desired with reference to the alterations. The only point to which he should like to especially draw attention would be found on page 9 of the Laws of Association in Rule 34, which dealt with the question of the voting powers of Associated Chambers who sent more than one annual deputy. That was a very difficult matter to be dealt with, as would be seen when he mentioned that for something like twenty years proxy forms had been carried by secretary after secretary from the office of the Chamber to the meeting-room, and that in no case had any form been used. Therefore he did not think that the matter was worth much discussion. However, the Business Committee recommended that where two deputies were sent they could only give one vote each. Where one deputy was sent that deputy was to be allowed to vote according to the whole voting power of his Chamber. That, he believed, was the only contentious point which he had to mention.

Mr. MIDDLETON seconded, and the resolution was adopted.

Annual Report of the Council.

The CHAIRMAN having formally moved the adoption of the report,

Mr. CLARE SEWELL READ suggested that in future the names of honorary members should stand in a prominent place in the list of subscribers.

The CHAIRMAN stated that Mr. Read's suggestion would receive the consideration of the Business Committee.

Colonel MAUDE (Craven Agricultural Society) said that if he was in order he should like to draw the attention of the Council to two subjects which were dealt with in paragraph 40, namely, the Boundary Fences Bill and the Law of Trespass. These were two subjects which concerned agriculturists in the North very considerably in the neighbourhood of the large manufacturing centres of Yorkshire and Lancashire. The two subjects which he had mentioned were dealt with in the report in a small paragraph of five lines. They were dealt with year after year, but nothing further was done with regard to them. He wished to ask whether anything could be done to induce the Parliamentary Committee to get the subjects taken a step further. The Boundary Fences Committee had met from time to time, and a Bill had been drafted by Mr. Morrison, and there, he believed, the matter rested. He had understood from some members of the Parliamentary Committee that Mr. Morrison's Bill did not give satisfaction to all the agricultural members of Parliament. If that was so would it not be better for the Boundary Fences Committee to meet again and reconsider the Bill and then get the Parliamentary Committee to make some effort to pass a Bill through the House of Commons? With regard to the law of trespass it was a subject which concerned them very much indeed in the neighbourhood of the large manufacturing towns in the North. Farmers suffered a great deal, and they were not able, as a rule, to make their voices heard. The grievance was greater and more real than many agriculturists in the South of England might imagine. He should like, if possible, to have some assurance from the Parliamentary Committee that the question would be dealt with.

Mr. WILLIAMS (Monmouthshire) said that he was a member of the Boundary Fences Committee, and he did not know of any subject of more importance among the smaller questions which they had to deal with than legislation with regard to boundary fences.

The CHAIRMAN said that no doubt the Parliamentary Committee would be willing to consider again the question of boundary fences, but the question was only a burning question in the grass counties. The farmer who had arable land would not care to be forced to put up a fence round his arable land, and it might be a great hardship to him to have to fence his field against his neighbour's cattle, because it happened to be an outside field. Under the present law, neighbours had to restrict their own cattle to their own fields. Mr. Morrison did draft a Bill, as Colonel Maude had said; but it was no good for private members to draft Bills unless they were fortunate enough to get a place in the ballot.

Sir MARK STEWART, M.P., ( ), said that the cases of grievance were, he took it, few and far between. He had had a great deal of experience of the question of boundary fences in connection with his own property, and he could only say that if there was any legislative enactment on the subject, the burden would be enormous on the respective landlords. The farmers made no real complaint. As a rule, very few sheep strayed on to strange farms. If this matter were dealt with by Parliament, and an Act was passed on the subject, there would be a tremendous outcry against it. No doubt it would be primarily on the part of the landlords. Generally speaking, the matter was fairly adjusted between the landlords.

Mr. LIPSCOMB said that Mr. Morrison had kindly allowed the Committee which was formed by this Chamber to have an interview with him on the subject when he withdrew the Bill. He (Mr. Lipscomb) was surprised to hear that the matter should be considered as one of very little importance in any part of the country, even in the North. Unfortunately, however, they had lost Mr. Morrison, who was the promoter of the Boundary Fences Bill, as being no longer a member of the House of Commons; and therefore he thought it most opportune that a gentleman coming from the same district as Mr. Morrison should draw attention to the subject.

Mr. WESTON (Bucks) said that agriculturists were not all agreed on the boundary fences question, but they were nearly all agreed on the subject of the law of trespass. He thought that the latter was quite as important as, or even more important than, boundary fences. They were all agreed that agriculturists should have the practice of their land.

Mr. JASPER MORE, M.P., congratulated those present the Chairman upon the task which he had undertaken in putting upon him. The last thing which was told to him Mr. More) in his constituency was that a number of gentlemen had determined never to vote either for a Liberal or Conservative again until the question of boundary fences had been settled. If the strain was put upon the shoulders of Mr. Jeffreys, he hoped that he would prove equal to bearing it as he had been on former occasions.

The CHAIRMAN said that they all regretted very much to lose the services of Mr. Morrison, who carried the Boundary Fences Bill at his own expense. He could assure the Chamber that this subject would be taken up by the Parliamentary Committee if he remained a member of it. There were two Bills which they wished to bring forward soon, and a ballot would be taken upon this question also.

Mr. MARRIAGE (Essex) said that he thought the gentlemen from East Anglia would agree that a Bill defining boundary fences was very much required.

Mr. FRANCIS asked permission to call attention to a subject which he had often brought before the Chamber. He had given notice that he wished to bring it forward, and he thought that he was entitled to a few minutes. He had given notice that he should call the attention of the General Meeting to the evils resulting from open pools. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN said that until they had decided upon the motion before the meeting they could not deal with any other question unless it was included in the report.

The motion for the adoption of the report was then carried.

Agricultural Rates Act, 1896.

The CHAIRMAN said that the resolutions before the Business Committee on the previous evening were very numerous, and very unanimous with regard to the renewal of the Agricultural Rates Act.

The Agricultural Rates Act.

Mr. LIPSCOMB moved:—

That this Meeting is of opinion that, pending the much revision of the whole system of Local Taxation, which is urgently required in view of the altered position of land and personal property, it is most desirable that the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896 should be renewed as a minimum of what is justly due to the occupiers of land.

He said that they had discussed this question so often that they might take it for granted that it had the approval of everybody except those people who had made so much money by agriculture that they did not require relief. To the resolution as drawn by the Business Committee, and as it stood on the agenda, he had added the words "as a minimum" because, unless they raised their voices to show that they were unwilling to accept anything less than what was given in the Agricultural Rates Act, it might be that they would not get all that they had had hitherto. He thought that it was almost conceded that agriculturists had only received a minimum of what they were justly entitled to.

Mr. TURNER (Cambridgeshire), in seconding the resolution, thought that, on the whole, the Chamber had hardly given sufficient acknowledgment to Mr. Balfour and the Government for the important relief which was given to agriculturists in the Agricultural Rates Act. He remembered going with a deputation to Mr. Balfour, when Mr. Balfour had told them that agriculturists should certainly have some real relief given to them by the Government. The relief which was given did not go so far as they wished, for some of them thought that they ought to have a remission of three-fourths of the rates. He had always said that the land of the farmer was stock-in-trade, and was not a proper subject of taxation. But pending any [illegible] which might be made by the Royal Commission, they had the strongest right to ask that they should have a continuance of the relief which had been granted. He hoped and trusted that no Government would be mad enough to attempt to take away the relief which they now had.

Mr. KENRICK (Staffordshire) said that the Council met on Saturday last, and gave him very strong instructions as to what he could do to push this matter forward. All the members of the Council stated that the relief had been very acceptable to them personally. It had been said by a great many people that the landlords would receive the whole of the

benefit, but as far as the members of his Chamber were concerned there was no instance known in which the landlord had reaped any benefit from the Act. His Chamber agreed that the farm buildings ought to be included with the land, but as far as the houses were concerned the opinions of the members differed. The majority were of opinion that the houses ought to be rated as before, but they all held that it was a great injustice to include farm buildings with the houses. The farm buildings were of no use without the land, and the land was of no use without the buildings. In conclusion, Mr. Kendrick expressed his pleasure at the very many public and private manifestations of sympathy with the late Chairman of their Chamber, Mr. Carrington Smith.

Mr. CLARE SEWELL READ said that he quite agreed with Mr. Tebbutt in his statement that this Chamber, and agriculturists generally, had not been forward enough in expressing their thanks to the Government for the great measure of relief from local taxation which had been given to them. This was by far the greatest and the best boon that agriculture had received, and they ought to remember, too, that their good old friend, Mr. Chaplin, was at the Local Government Board when the Agricultural Rates Act was passed and was the Minister which passed that measure. He wished particularly to emphasise what had fallen from the last speaker. They would be told again and again that the Act was a dole to the landlords; but it had not been so hitherto, and he thought that tenant farmers were sufficiently strong and independent to see that they themselves reaped the benefit. If they had had the money hitherto in their pockets they would keep it there. He believed that there had been hardly a single instance in which the landlord had benefited by the remission of the rates unless he happened to be unfortunate enough to be farming his own land. He did not believe that the landlords of the country had taken any advantage whatever of the remission which the Government had intended for the benefit of the tenant farmer. (Cheers.)

Mr. WESTON (Bucks) agreed that the Act was a minimum of what they ought to accept. No doubt it had been a great boon to a large number of agriculturists, but agriculturists had never gone far enough. In the olden times the rates on land in most of the parishes were from 2s. to 2s. 6d. in the pound. That would represent the whole of the parish rates, including highway rate, poor rate, county rate and sewer or sanitary rate. Now there were such multitudes of local bodies and Councils the rates had risen to about 4s. in the pound, so that the Agricultural Rates Act only brought the rates which agriculturists had to pay to about the same as they were in former times. There was no doubt that there were certain burdens on the parishes which ought to be national, such, for instance, as education and the maintenance of the poor. There was a great deal to be said on those points, but he would not enter into them. Land was most unjustly taxed. There was no other industry which was taxed by local rates for an increased output; but if a man took a farm at 7s. 6d. an acre on lease and by his industry increased the output to 100 or 200 per cent. he was immediately assessed to local taxation upon his increased output. Agriculture was the only industry which was treated in that way, except railway undertakings. Railways were taxed not only upon the value of the rails which they laid down and the value of the land, but upon the increment which they earned. What they really wanted was a new valuation Bill and a re-adjustment of local taxation. He heartily supported the resolution.

Mr. NEWTON (Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs) said that it was stated the other day at an agricultural meeting that it was the tenant of the high-rated land that would get the benefit of the Agricultural Rates Act, and not the tenant of the poor, low-rated land. No doubt that was correct; but he very much doubted whether any other plan could have been adopted that would not be open to more objection than the one which had been embodied in the Act. He should not be surprised if the recommendations of the Royal Commission, when the Commission reported, were also open to objections.

Mr. MULLINS (Gillingham Farmers' Club) suggested that the words "on a permanent basis" should be inserted in the resolution after the word "renewed."

Mr. BARFOOT-SAUNT, referring to the words "as a minimum," in Mr. Lipscomb's resolution, said that he did not think that it was advisable on the part of the Chamber to make any proposal as to what should be done until the Report of the Royal Commission had been received. The Commission consisted of experts on the subject of taxation. It would be advisable to wait to see what the Government would do with the Report. The Government would not take any notice of what the Chamber said till they received the Report of the Commission.

Mr. POUPART (Market Gardeners, Nurserymen, and Farmers' Association) said that he appeared at the Chamber to-day for the first time, and he came as the representative of his Association, which had recently become associated with the Chamber. That body had sought to be associated with the Chamber partly on account of the working of the Agricultural Rates Act. It was intended by Mr. Chaplin that market gardeners who grew their produce under glass should have the benefit of the Agricultural Rates Act; but it had been decided by the High Court, the Court of Appeal, and the House of Lords that they were not entitled to their remission. The only member of the Court of Appeal who was in favour of the remission being granted to market gardeners who made use of glasshouses was Lord Justice Vaughan Williams, and he very strongly laid down his opinion that the buildings of a farmer ought not to be rated. He said: "What is the good of a farm without the buildings in which the farmer does his work?" He (Mr. Poupart) said that it was wrong that, according to the decision of the House of Lords, glass buildings should be excluded from the benefit of the Act. He objected to the Agricultural Rates Act being called a measure of relief. It was simply a measure of justice, and nothing else. Land had always been a commodity which the Government had turned to for the purpose of taxation. The poor rate was originally paid by the tithes, and the relief of the poor was laid upon the clergy.

The CHAIRMAN said that the question was whether the Agricultural Rates Act should be renewed, as it would come to an end next year. Agriculturists did not wish to be left in the lurch by the expiry of the Act.

Mr. KIDNER (Taunton) supported the resolution as it stood upon the agenda-paper. They were simply asking for a renewal of the Act. He thought that it was utterly useless for them to ask for any alteration in the way of reform pending the Local Rating Bill, which they expected to be brought in. He would ask Mr. Lipscomb to withdraw the additional words.

Mr. ACKERS hoped that Mr. Lipscomb would not do so. Mr. Clare Sewell Read had admirably pointed out that it had been asserted that the Rates Act was a sop to the landlords, whereas everybody who had had any experience in the matter knew that the tenant farmers had benefited by the Act, and that fact was all that Mr. Lipscomb's addition wished to emphasise. It nowhere suggested anything different; it only stated what they knew to be the fact, and it took away to a certain extent the argument against the renewal of the Act. The argument was brought forward on more than one platform during the General Election that the Act was a sop to the landlords.

Mr. WILLIAMS (Monmouthshire) came from a county where, in the exigencies of political controversies, the assertion was made that the Act was a sop for the benefit of the landowners, and perhaps more strongly than in most counties. A good deal of land had changed hands in his county in consequence of commercial prosperity, but he did not know a single instance where the landlord had absorbed the relief given by the Act. But, supposing it was otherwise, they in that Chamber represented all the interests of agriculture. He looked back to the day when Sir Massey Lopes carried a resolution in the House of Commons, in 1872, to the effect that the local taxation then existing required alteration. Sir Massey Lopes used strong words, and emphasised them strongly. It used to be said that as long as real property escaped legacy and succession duty, it was right that it should bear the local taxation of the country. But that retort to the arguments of agriculturists had been removed, and, therefore, even if it was true that the owners of the soil had absorbed the relief afforded by the Agricultural Rates Act, it would be only just, having regard to what had been put upon them. He heartily supported the resolution, and he rejoiced to see the words "pending a thorough revision of the whole system of local taxation."

The CHAIRMAN said that probably members of the Chamber had heard the other day that somebody wrote to Mr. Balfour, the leader of the House, saying that on account of the greater prosperity of agriculture—("Oh! Oh!" and laughter)—he thought that the time had come for the Act to be dropped. It was important that the resolution should be passed and sent to the First Lord of the Treasury and the other Ministers. He might tell Mr. Kendrick, with regard to buildings, that it was within the memory of the Chamber that he proposed in the House of Commons an amendment in the direction indicated, but the House of Commons would not adopt it.

The resolution was then carried unanimously.

On the further motion of Mr. LIPSCOMB, it was resolved that a copy of the resolution be sent to Ministers as usual.

Local Authorities and Tuberculosis.

The next question upon the agenda-paper was "Tuberculosis and the Working of the Model Milk Clauses in the Private Bills of Local Authorities."

Mr. KIDNER (Taunton) said that Mr. Middleton (Cleveland), being obliged to leave, had asked him to take charge of the resolution on this subject. He therefore moved:—

That this meeting, while approving the Appeal Clauses included in the Milk Clauses of the Municipal Acts of last Session, considers that pending the hearing of such appeal much loss and inconvenience may be unnecessarily caused to dairy farmers, and it considers that any precautions necessary in the interests of public health should be prescribed by the Central Authority and applicable to the whole country. It also deprecates any Corporation having power to act outside its own area in the district of any other local authority, except on the order of two Justices sitting in Petty Sessions and having jurisdiction in each district, and certifying that such local authority, although requested by the Corporation to deal with the matter has neglected or declined to do so.

One object of the proposal was that there should be one distinct and satisfactory set of rules throughout the country, and the next point—the most important one—was that local authorities should be allowed, so far as possible, and so far as they could do it satisfactorily, to carry out their work without being interfered with by other local authorities. It was an objectionable thing that urban authorities should have power to go into another district and interfere with work which was being well carried on. It would be quite enough that the urban authority should have power to interfere, when it had been distinctly seen, and had been proved before two justices, that the second authority were not doing their work properly. In such a case there might be some justice in the interference in the interest of public health, but in any other case the interference was unwarrantable and ought not to be allowed.

Mr. WILSON (Stockton-on-Tees) seconded the motion. He agreed with the action which was taken a year ago in dealing with this subject. It was a very small thing that permission should be obtained from two magistrates before outside authorities should have jurisdiction in a district in the manner proposed.

The CHAIRMAN said that before putting the resolution he would ask Mr. Boyce, of the Local Government Board, who was present, to shortly explain what had been done. As a matter of fact, he believed that the chief thing in the resolution was that the permission to inspect in another district should be granted by two magistrates. In the Model Clauses the Order had to be granted by one justice residing in the locality. The power was not often put into operation. It agreed with what was containd in the Public Health (London) Act, 1891.

The SECRETARY, at the request of Col. Maude, read the resolution passed on December 10th, 1900, by the Council of the Craven Agricultural Society, who strongly disapproved of the powers contained in the "Model Milk Clauses" of the Acts of 1900, promoted by the County Boroughs of Bradford, Halifax, Sheffield, and Manchester, in so far as such clauses provide for the inspection of milk cows, cowhouses and dairies, and for taking samples of milk, and for the suspension of the milk supply outside their own boundaries, and submitted that where these clauses are sought by other County Boroughs it should be a condition precedent to the granting of such powers (a) that the County Borough applying for the same has effectively dealt with all cowsheds and milkshops in its own area and enforced the Cowsheds Order, as amended in 1899 there. (b) That the outside authorities to be affected have neglected to perform their duties in the same matters, especially after notice from the County Borough affected, or County Council.

The CHAIRMAN thought that they ought to consider the importation of foreign milk. It was a curious thing that English producers should have their milk inspected, and that there should be no inspection of foreign milk. Milk came in from France without any inspection whatever. That was a point which he wanted to urge both upon the Local Government Board and upon the Board of Agriculture. He was led to believe that the importation of foreign milk was increasing, and that the milk was distributed as English milk. This was not only a fraud, but a dangerous fraud.

Mr. BOYCE said that, with reference to the inspection of foreign milk, all he could say was that he would report to his Chief at the Local Government Board. He might refer to one point in the report of the Dairy Products Committee. Of course, the question of whether there should be public legislation or not was not one for him, but he thought that they might claim that the effect of the Model Clauses, which had been adopted in various cases, could not possibly be so detrimental to any interests as the clauses which were proposed by the local authorities, originally, in Leeds, Manchester, and elsewhere. He should like that to be clearly understood, because he was quite certain that there was only one idea in the mind of the then President, Mr. Chaplin, and he believed also in the mind of Mr. Long. Nothing was further from their intention than to prejudice the milk dealers. The objections to the Model Clauses, he believed, were, first, that a local authority was empowered to go outside its own district, and, secondly, that it was only needful to apply to one magistrate instead of two. He did not know whether the gentlemen who were present had seen the Memorandum which bore his signature, and which was presented to the Police and Sanitary Committee when they had the case in favour of the Leeds Clause before them on the Bradford Bill last year. The matter was adjourned on the Bradford Bill, and he submitted a Memorandum, showing the effect of the Model Clauses as proposed and inserted in 1899, and of the Leeds Clause as altered in 1899. That Memorandum set

out the proposals and the effect of the Model Clauses. It also set out the objections to the Leeds Clause, and it also showed that the question could not be dealt with, as was supposed, by any local authority without special legislation. Mr. Kidner had mentioned the question of the power of an authority to go outside its own district only being exercised in default. His Memorandum dealt with the whole of that point. No authority had the power to take samples of milk in order to detect disease without special permission. The only power which was at all similar was the power which the local authority had of making regulations under the Dairies and Milkshops Order, which enabled them to inspect the cattle of the dealers who supplied milk to their district, and prescribe precautions for the purveyors of milk, and so on. Therefore, in the exercise of the exceptional powers of the Model Clauses, there was no interference with the outside authority. There existed a difficulty in saying that a local authority had not done its duty. He would take the form of the Leeds Clause. In the first place, the Leeds Clause required that two justices should make the Order. There might be many cases in which a man in charge of a dairy might be uncertain as to whether there was tuberculosis or not, and in a case of that sort he could protect himself by notifying to a local inspector and getting inspection made. Then either the suspicion of the person in charge would be confirmed or it would be declared that the cattle were all right. That had been considered an important point. The Leeds Bill, by requiring an Order from two justices in petty sessions gave publicity. Supposing that it turned out that the cattle were all right, it would be surely very unfortunate that the communications made before the magistrates and the Leeds Corporation officials should be made public. That might damage the dealer unnecessarily. It seemed to him that it was desirable that there should be an inspection first, so that the authorities might avoid taking proceedings which might turn out to be unjustifiable; but without inspection it could not be found out whether there was anything wrong or not. There was a power in the Dairy and Milkshops Order of 1899 for all local authorities to make regulations for the inspection of dairies, but there was no power to compel the local authorities to do so, and if they did not make regulations no officer was competent to inspect. That was a case in which a local authority had power, but not necessarily had a duty imposed upon it. Difficulties would arise if the inspector of one district had, in the first place, to go to a petty sessional court in another district. That might lead to delay, and it might be absolutely necessary in the case of a dairyman who wanted to protect himself by being assured that there was no disease in his cattle. With regard to the point which the Chairman mentioned, that, in requiring only one justice, they followed the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, he would like to remind the meeting that at the present moment the whole country was subject to the Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890, under which the medical officer of any corporation would have power to go all over the country and inspect and suspend a milk supply if he found it to be a source of infection. That Act did not include tuberculosis.

Mr. BEACROFT (Chester Farmers' Club) asked whether he rightly understood Mr. Boyce that if a farmer looked after his own interest, and watched his own stock, and feared that there was something wrong, he could apply to a local authority, and get them to send down to inspect the stock and give him a clean bill of health if there was no disease.

Mr. BOYCE replied that if a farmer thought any cow in the dairy was infected by anything which came within the definition of tuberculosis, he might, for his own protection, notify the fact, say to the medical officer of Bradford, for instance, if he sent his milk to that town; and then the Bradford authorities would, for their own protection, communicate with the farmer and inspect his cows.

Mr. BEACROFT asked whether the farmer would be all right if a man, in order to protect himself, applied to the authorities of Bradford, and they sent to inspect his place, and gave him a clean bill of health.

Mr. BOYCE said that the farmer would be all right as far as Bradford was concerned.

Mr. BEACROFT said that farmers wanted to be free from a disagreeable feeling that proceedings could be taken without their having a chance.

Mr. BOYCE said that that would be impossible. The authorities would have to prove the disease before any proceedings could arise. Could they prove it without inspection?

Mr. BEACROFT said that there might be a chance of the milk being contaminated after it left the farmer.

Mr. BOYCE: Assume that you sent your milk to Bradford, and a sample was taken of your milk at the railway station or elsewhere, and they found tuberculosis. They would communicate with you. You would then have to satisfy them that, as far as you are concerned, you are not in fault. They would come to you, but before they came you would have not only to take a sample, but to prove that there was tuberculous disease. Then, if they proved it, they could give you notice. They might find that the sample they took was tuberculous, and they might come to you two or three days afterwards and find your cows all right. They could not very well take proceedings against you, could they? They could not give you notice without saying that you were in fault.

Colonel MAUDE (Craven Agricultural Society) said that farmers yielded to no one in taking every step to insure the purity of milk, the pure delivery of it, and the pure production of it. The only thing which they objected to in the clauses was the method devised by the Local Government Board. He had had a conference with Mr. Boyce on the subject previously, and he felt that Mr. Boyce did not understand the difficulty which the farmers had. He (Colonel Maude) represented districts in Yorkshire which were surrounded by large county boroughs, and the result was that if the model milk clauses were carried out as they stood at present those districts would be subject to the invasion of an army of alien inspectors, who would come at any time they liked and impose their regulations on the farmers of the district, who were situated in rural district councils instead of in boroughs. The feeling on this subject was so strong in his district that the rural district councils throughout the West Riding had formed an association to fight the different corporations as they produced their Bills in Parliament. The first corporation they fought was Leeds. They fought it through the Commons, and in the Lords they got a satisfactory amendment introduced. It was that instead of the corporation getting an *ex parte* order from a magistrate, who might be a county magistrate living in a borough, and having no connection with farmers whatever, to go and make an inspection by a veterinary officer and condemn cattle and condemn milk, it was required that the order should be got in petty sessions from two magistrates of the district in which the sample had to be taken. That was an arrangement of which they could approve. The other amended clause provided that they could not go into the district without some cause being shown, such as that the District Council had neglected or refused to do their duty. They held that the Rural District Councils, as a rule, were well equipped with medical officers, sanitary officers, and surveyors, with as good qualifications, as the large boroughs were, and they did not see any reason why if they did their duty, they should be subject to the invasion of an army of officers from another district. In the district which he represented they would be subject to the inspectors of five different authorities, coming at different times, any day of the week, or any hour of the day, and making representations and condemning the cattle, and practically ruining the farmer in doing so. He might also say that in many cases town authorities had no conception of the requirements of country life. As to the air spaces that were required in the milk clauses, there was no fixed limit yet made. Nine hundred feet had been given in one case, and one authority had asked for eighteen hundred cubic feet of air space. Many of the dairies in his district were situated a thousand feet above the sea level. The requirement which he had mentioned illustrated how little country life was understood by the town authorities. The object which they sought was that outside authorities should not have power to interfere in any district unless it was shown that that district had neglected to perform their duty. If they had the Leeds clauses he thought they would be satisfactory. He believed that they were in every respect as good as the Bradford clauses.

Mr. KIDNER (Taunton Farmers' Club) said that the last speaker had stated very fully the objection to the outside urban authorities interfering in a district other than their own. It seemed to him that if they allowed one local authority to interfere unduly with another, the interference would be vexatious to the individual and demoralising to the whole system of local authority.

The CHAIRMAN wished to ask Mr. Boyce how often the clause in the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, had been put into force. London consumed a great quantity of milk from various parts of the country. How often had the powers of inspection been exercised under the order of a magistrate? He really thought that the whole thing was rather a bugbear. The farmers had been afraid of the inspection, but he would point out that the inspection could only be made after the order of a magistrate and on the application of the Corporation of the town where the milk was sold. A former Bill which he was instrumental in stopping in the House before the local authorities seemed to take any interest in the matter spoke of clinical tuberculosis. That might be anything. That was altered to tuberculosis of the udder. There was not the slightest doubt in his mind that the milk from a cow which showed tuberculosis of the udder ought not to be consumed.

Mr. BOYCE replied that he did not know how often the Act empowering London to send down an inspector had been put into operation, as the Local Government Board had nothing to do with the enforcement of the Act. The London Act had been in force since 1891, and the Disease Prevention Act since 1896. There had never been any complaint of the Acts as far as he knew. He wished to point out that the whole thing turned on the question of the duty of the outside authority. The outside authority had no duty in this particular matter at all; but they had powers. That was the whole point, and it was a misapprehension of the matter which had given rise to so much difficulty.

The CHAIRMAN said he supposed that he had better put the resolution, but he did not think that it would do much good. He was rather afraid that it contradicted something which they had passed already. What was suggested by the Business Committee as the motion was one of the paragraphs in the Report of the Dairy Products Committee, which was to the effect that general legislation should be introduced by the Government, and made applicable to the whole country. It seemed to him that it would be better to propose that paragraph than to pass the resolution which had been moved. The paragraph could do no harm, and it would strengthen the hands of the Committee, and be better than the long motion which was before the meeting, and which was rather contradictory of something already passed.

Colonel MAUDE asked what effect would be given to the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Report would be sent to the Local Government Board and to the Board of Agriculture, and therefore those bodies would have two propositions before them, the resolution contained in the Report of the Dairy Products Committee, and the resolution now before the meeting. He would suggest that the second resolution of the Dairy Products Committee's report should be passed. He thought that it would be much more sensible.

Mr. BEECROFT (Chester Farmers' Club) then moved and Colonel MAUDE (Craven Agricultural Society) seconded the Resolution contained in paragraph 2 of the Report of the Dairy Products Committee as an amendment to the motion before the Meeting.

Mr. ACKERS said that that was the opinion of the Business Committee last night, but they must not forget that they are now the General Meeting of the Chamber, and not the Council, and therefore that the Business Committee had no power to frame a resolution for the Meeting.

Mr. WILSON (Stockton-on-Tees) said that Mr. Middleton had left the matter entirely in his hands. They had had the matter thoroughly discussed and he would therefore ask leave to withdraw the original resolution in favour of the amendment, in deference to the advice of their Chairman.

The amendment was then put as the substantive motion, and carried unanimously, as follows:—

> That this Meeting is strongly of opinion that the question of Tuberculosis and the Milk Supply should not continue to be dealt with in the Private Bills of Municipal and other Urban Authorities, but should be the subject of general legislation introduced by the Government and made applicable to the whole country.

On the motion of Mr. BOWEN-JONES (Shropshire), it was resolved that a copy of the resolution should be communicated to Ministers as usual; and on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. WILSON (Stockton-on-Tees), a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Boyce for his attendance, and for the explanations he had given.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply to a question by a member as to foreign inspection, said that Mr. Hanbury assured him in the House of Commons on the previous day that the question of the inspection of foreign milk was engaging the attention of the Board of Agriculture. He (the Chairman) had also mentioned the matter to Mr. Boyce, and he hoped that something would be done before long.

Swine Fever.

Mr. C. B. DAVIES (Cheshire) introduced the Question of the Registration of Pig Dealers, and the Inspection and Disinfection of their Premises." He moved:—

> That this meeting is strongly in favour of the Registration of Pig Dealers and the Inspection and Disinfection of their Premises.

He thought that the Board of Agriculture had not quite succeeded in stamping out swine fever. Cases occurred time after time, and there appeared to be some source of contagion upon which they had not been able to place their hands at the present, or some risk of infection which they had not guarded. Their vigorous methods had been successful with regard to other diseases in the schedule, but they had failed up to now with swine fever. He believed that that was the opinion of the Board themselves. This matter had been very seriously brought under consideration in Cheshire. All the Cheshire markets had been closed against the sale of pigs during the last six months, and were only re-opened last week, Mr. Hanbury having withdrawn the restrictions. He believed that Cheshire would take a kindly view of Mr. Hanbury in the future. The breeding of pigs was a very important item in dairy farming, and a difficulty of disposing of the pigs caused a very serious loss to Cheshire farmers. He believed that one very important cause of the continual outbreaks lay in the present lack of power of the Board of Agriculture to inspect the premises of pig dealers and order cleansing and disinfection. Many pigs passed through the premises of a dealer every year, and some supervision ought to be exercised over the premises. One lot passing through might leave germs of disease behind them, and thus healthy pigs might become affected. The Cheshire County Council had ample evidence that many of the outbreaks occurred among pigs that had passed through the

hands of dealers, and therefore he thought that he was justified in supposing that the premises of pig dealers should be under the same regulations as other places.

Mr. KENDRICK (Staffordshire), in seconding the motion, thought that it was a step in the right direction, but his opinion was that it did not go far enough. He should certainly include farmers as well as pig dealers. He was one of those who believed any farmer could breed swine fever, particularly where there was a lot of young pigs. Pig dealers distributed pigs up and down the country, and in that way distributed disease.

Mr. CLARE SEWELL READ hoped that it would not go forth that the meeting endorsed what had just fallen from the last speaker; that is to say, that fever could be engendered and produced by filth, unless there was the virus present. He did not believe it at all.

Mr. BALDEN (West Riding) said that this matter was discussed at the West Riding Chamber on Friday, but the members had great difficulty in deciding who would be a pig dealer, and where the line ought to be drawn between a pig dealer and a farmer.

Mr. WARDLE (Whitchurch Dairy Farmers' Association) supported the motion. In his opinion all farmers ought to have their piggeries whitewashed at least twice a year, in the same way as cowsheds when the milk was sent to the towns. If this was carried out, no doubt there would be less swine fever. Some farmers were practically small pig dealers. Where the line was to be drawn he failed to see.

Mr. T. DAVIES (Wirral Farmers' Club) said that some time ago it was stated that swine fever could only be taken by contagion. Inspection and whitewashing seemed to him to be quite unnecessary.

Mr. BOWEN-JONES said that if germs of the fever were left in a pigsty, the contagion would be engendered. Therefore it was necessary to disinfect.

Mr. J. W. RYLAND (Warwickshire) asked whether the mover intended to include in the word "premises," the carts which were used for carrying pigs about.

Mr. C. B. DAVIES replied that there was at present a law enabling local authorities to order the cleansing of pig dealers' carts.

The CHAIRMAN: And of farmers' carts as well.

Mr. BEECROFT (Chester Farmers' Club) asked the mover to go a little further. In his experience farmers, as well as pig dealers, were likely to spread the disease. He did not think that pig dealers should be saddled with inspection more than the farmers. Some farmers dealt very largely in pigs. Something ought to be done also with regard to butchers. He would asked the mover whether he would alter his motion to the following: "That this meeting is strongly in favour of the registration of farmers, butchers, and others who deal in pigs, and the disinfection of their premises."

Mr. MULLINS (Gillingham Farmers' Club) did not believe that the adoption of the resolution would tend much to the eradication of swine fever. In Dorsetshire they had got rid of swine fever altogether by simply having orders obliging the owner of store pigs to have them in his possession for 28 days before he could sell them again. That had cut the ground from under the feet of pig dealers. The reason that swine fever had not been abolished like pleuro-pneumonia and foot and mouth disease was that the measures adopted for swine fever had not been uniform throughout the country, and that they had been applied too spasmodically. Dorset had been rendered clean for years from swine fever by the 28 days' Movement Order. His club had unanimously passed the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this club, the only method to eradicate swine fever is that every owner of pigs should be compelled to have them in his possession for not less than 28 days before disposing of them, and that in the event of an outbreak, all pigs on the premises should be compulsorily slaughtered and compensation paid." That Order acted as a registration of the movements of swine, so that if an outbreak occurred, it was easy to follow up the origin and ascertain where the outbreak occurred. He did not think that the resolution before the meeting would have much effect. They would be met with the objection, "Where are you going to draw the line?" Some men who sold pigs would not care to be called pig dealers because they simply bought a few pigs and sold them again. He hoped that the Board of Agriculture would take up the question, and adopt the Dorset method if they could see their way to do so.

Mr. LIPSCOMB said that the last speaker would kill off all the pig dealers themselves. He thought that there was a mode of defining a pig dealer. A man who did not keep his pigs for 28 days should require registration as a pig dealer. That would not hit the farmers. A great difficulty was caused in his district by the enormous number of cottages situated near the railways, and having old styes made of railway sleepers. He would defy any man to disinfect styes of that kind. There would be an enormous difficulty in making everybody who kept pigs disinfect, unless the poorer class of people were deprived of that kind of habitation for their pigs which at present they used.

Mr. WILLIAMS (Monmouthshire) said that, although under the Dorsetshire Order a man was prevented from moving pigs which he had purchased before the expiration of 28 days, yet he would be free to remove pigs which had been in contact with the pigs recently brought in.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the resolution was in very general terms. He thought that the Board of Agriculture could define what a pig dealer was. He saw no reason against passing the resolution, because it pointed to inspection and disinfection for the purpose of stamping out swine fever.

Mr. WILSON (Stockton-on-Tees) said that farmers sometimes went into a market and bought pigs and sold them the same day, but they were not pig dealers. They did not always keep the pigs for 28 days after purchasing them. The resolution would interfere with freedom of trade. The question was whether it was worth while to adopt this measure of inspection and disinfection when they found from the returns that the disease was diminishing. The reduction in the number of cases was going on satisfactorily. He thought that they had better let the matter go by the board until they got stronger representations from the different Chambers. It seemed to him at present that very few resolutions had been sent from the Chambers on this matter.

Mr. COATE (Blandford Farmers' Club) said that he quite agreed with every word that Mr. Mullins had said. The Council of Dorset had been very strict with regard to swine fever, and had stamped it out by the twenty-eight days' Movement Order. He believed that if other counties did the same as Dorset they would hear the last of swine fever.

Mr. MULLINS, in answer to the point mentioned by Mr. Williams, said that, of course, when a Dorset dealer brought fresh pigs into his premises, he had bought them from an owner who had already had to keep them for twenty-eight days.

A show of hands was then taken, and the resolution was carried by eleven votes against four, and was ordered to be communicated to the usual Ministers.

Votes of Thanks to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 1900.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Jeffreys, M.P.) said that, in the ordinary course of events, Mr. Grant-Lawson, the Vice-Chairman, would succeed to the Chairmanship for next year, but as he had taken office under the Crown, he had intimated his inability to do so. He (Mr. Jeffreys) wished to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Victor Cavendish, the Chairman for the year, and also to Mr. Grant-Lawson, the Vice-Chairman, for their services. Both Mr. Victor Cavendish and Mr. Grant-Lawson had been very regular in their attendance. He would couple with the vote of thanks the sincere congratulations of the Chamber upon their appointment to offices under the Crown.

Mr. LIPSCOMB seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

The proceedings then terminated.

THE DAIRY.

The Importation of French Milk.

In the House of Commons, on Tuesday, Mr. Hanbury, in reply to a question by Mr. Jeffreys, said it was the case that a certain quantity of French milk was being imported into this country. Whether any offence against either the Merchandise Marks Acts or the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts had been committed he was not as yet able to say, as the trade had recently assumed a new form. The Board of Agriculture was making inquiries into the representations they had received on the subject in co-operation with the Board of Customs. Though there was no power to prohibit importations, he could assure his hon friend that, as regarded imported milk found to be adulterated, or sold under a false description, he was doing everything in his power to secure a strict compliance with the requirements of the law.

Tuberculous Beef at the Central Market.—David Smith, a small farmer, of Swarkestone, near Derby, was at Guildhall, on Tuesday, fined £20, and ordered to pay four gineas costs, with the alternative of two months' imprisonment, for having sent four pieces of tuberculous beef, which was intended for sale as human food, to the Central Meat Market. Sir Horatio Davies said that the citizens of London must be protected from being poisoned by such stuff as the defendant had sent to market.

Selling Poisoned Grain. — At the Cambridge Borough Police Court on the 8th inst., John Alsop, of Lakenheath, pleaded guilty to selling poisoned grain in the Cambridge Corn Exchange. The defendant being suspected. Detective Marsh procured a man to make a purchase of 1s. worth of grain, which on being analysed was found to contain strychnine in the proportion of seven grains to the pound. Defendant pleaded that he was patronised by leading gentlemen and magistrates, who used the grain for destroying vermin. The magistrate's clerk stated that the defendant had been previously convicted of the same offence on eight occasions. He was now fined £5 5s. and £3 1s. costs, in default one month's imprisonment.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.]

The supply of cattle at Galway Fair, held on Monday, was small, but quite sufficient for the demand, which was dull throughout. Some conditioned pollies got well placed, also calves and springers, but all others were difficult to sell, and prices showed a drooping tendency compared with recent fairs. There was a fair supply of sheep, but the demand was exceptionally dull, and a great many lots remained unsold. Quotations:—Calves, second class, £4 to £5 5s.; third class, £2 17s. 6d. to £3 15s. Yearlings, second class, £6 10s. to £7; third class, £4 2s. 6d. to £5. Two-year-olds, second class, £7 10s. to £9 15s.; third class, £5 15s. to £7. Three-year-olds, second class, £10 5s. to £13; third class, £7 10s. to £9. Springers, second class, £12 10s. to £14; third class, £8 15s. to £13. Lambs, second class, £1 to £1 5s.; third class, 15s. 6d. to 18s. Over 12 and under 24 months old, second class, £1 10s. to £1 12s. 6d.; third class, £1 5s. to £1 7s. 6d. Two years old and over, first class, £2 5s. to £2 7s. 6d.; second class, £1 14s. 6d. to £1 16s.

Balla Fair (Co. Mayo) took place on Wednesday. There was a small supply of stock, which met a slow demand, and prices showed a downward tendency. Prices:—Calves, second class, £3 10s. to £4 10s. Yearlings, second class, £6 10s. to £7 15s.; third class, £4 10s. to £6. Two-year-olds, second class, £8 to £10 15s.; third class, £5 10s. to £7. Three-year-olds, third class, £8 to £9 6s 8d. Springers, second class, £13 to £15; third class, £8 10s. to £10 10s.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Dec. 8th, 1900:—

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FARM PROSPECTS.

Durham.

Excessive rain has much delayed all farm work, which is now a good deal in arrears. Some portion of the potato crop is still in the ground, and only a limited quantity of turnips have yet been stored. The unfavourable weather has also prevented wheat-sowing to some extent; the usual autumn acreage has not been planted. Where early sown the plant looks well, but in late districts it has suffered. The weather and disappointing prices have led farmers to delay threshing, and so far they have marketed but little grain.—R. (December 13th).

Gloucestershire.

I should think the land in this neighbourhood never was in better heart than it is at the present time. Wheat is looking well. Roots are good. Work is fairly well on. Pastures are looking healthy. Stock of all kinds have done well. The drawback is prices, and no wonder, seeing we have to meet in the market the untaxed surplus produce of the whole world. Why tax the home producer and let everybody else into the market free? Englishmen do not want favour, but they do want fair play, and certainly ought to have it.—J. D. (December 13th).

We have experienced a rather stormy period of late, but the land is still firm and healthy; the pools are mostly filled again. The wheat sown this autumn is looking grand, but it is a very unprofitable crop at the present price, and it points to a lot more land going down to grass. A lot of thrashing has been done in this district, and the yield varies very much from, say, six to twelve sacks per acre. The very rough weather early in August brith'd a lot of corn out. The pastures afforded a fair bite for the stock well up into November, and the older animals have done well, especially where allowed a good supply of the old hay, which is in most cases very plentiful. In some cases, however, there has been a

Great Loss with Calves.

of the present year dying off by the dozen, simply for the want of a fair start. Calves really want two pounds of cake a day till they are a year old. Husk has also been prevalent this year more than usual. Milk is scarce, and there is a lot of enquiry for milch cows at good prices. Butter is selling well, but the supply of cheese exceeds the demand. Fruit has been plentiful, and has yielded a lot of cider. The labour question, combined with ever increasing rates and taxes, seem to be the bugbear of the British agriculturists. I trust our legislators will be able to devise a plan to put the

Maintenance of the Highways.

more upon the users, and also allow the farmer to convert his barley to whatever use he likes, the same as his apples, without being on a footing with brewers for sale. With a great Conservative and Unionist Government surely these reforms could be easily carried *nem. con.*—J. W. (December 14th.)

Middlesex.

In the Harrow district we have had an unusually mild month, which seems that it will continue up to or beyond Christmas. The rains have filled the ponds, and I see nothing to prevent an excellent coming season, not only for the pastures, but the arable. It seems that we are to have mild winters for a series of years long yet to come, whilst the polar attraction is westward, which will continue yet for some years, so that it will be for our children, now being born, to experience the severe winters of which our grandfathers used to speak, and which will return when the polar attraction is in the extreme east. Taking a review of the meat trade for the closing nineteenth century, I am bound to confess that my ideas differ from many, inasmuch that I think meat was never so dear as of late, if quality and all things are considered. It was an old saying in years gone by that to make sheep pay the grower should have two fleeces and two years' manure in the fold; then we had the grand old Hampshire, Oxford Down, and other mutton. Now we have practically no mutton, for how can we expect mutton, or, rather, good meat, from the produce of ram lambs that have now finished with the ewes, and themselves not yet twelve months old? We get no scrags, no backs, no loins, and call this mutton; but can it compare with that from the sheep that had yielded two fleeces and been folded for two years. Look again at the lamentable falling off in our beef. Practically this Christmas we have no beef, and are depending on the United States and Australia for the very suet for our Christmas puddings, yet our markets are quoted at prices satisfactory to sellers and up-to-date averages. The butchers really buy and kill store beast and call it beef, and say their customers will it so; and if one watches the young men at the City luncheon bars there seems some truth in it.—F. K. (December 14th).

North Lancashire.

Since we last reported to you on the prospects in this district there has, we regret to say, been no change, for the rain which we had reason to complain of has remained constant in its attentions. Since the middle of September we have had but one week's continuous fine weather, and if the theory taught from the Rothamsted experiments has any foundation, we very much fear next year's crops will suffer from this continued wet. Fortunately, this district is not a great wheat-grower, or we should have much more reason to complain, as sowing would have been next to impossible.

The weather has been mild and favourable to the stock feeders, saving their stacks from possible severe weather later. The Christmas sales of fat cattle have been very slow, and prices considerably worse than last year. If there is not some very appreciable reduction in the price of lean stock as compared with fat, then there is going to be no margin for the feeder.—R. S. (December 14th).

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—With slight exception, farmers appear to be satisfied with wheat crop conditions.

GERMANY.—There have been a few frosty days and nights, otherwise weather was mild and favourable to autumn-sown cereals. The output of the Prussian wheat crop, officially announced this week, exceeded expectation, and had some effect upon trade opinion, the market keeping dull, synchronising, as it did, with weaker American advices. The open season checking consumption of bread-stuffs and supplies of potatoes being abundant, demand for wheat and rye is reduced to moderate dimensions.

HUNGARY.—Crop reports are said to be satisfactory—weather rainy and mild. Budapest market has not been particularly active; nevertheless, value has not lost appreciably during the week.

RUSSIA. Weather mainly normal, and in mid-winter it stands to reason that nothing can be said about the autumn crops, in most districts well covered with snow.

UNITED STATES. The *Cincinnati Price Current* says that there is little that is new concerning the wheat crop which generally compares favourably with or better than a year ago. The weather is favourable for the curing and marketing of maize. The grain movement is holding well the previous average.—*Dornbusch.*

Thame Christmas Show and Sale was held on Tuesday, and with fine weather attracted a very large company. The entries throughout, both for the show and sale, exceeded those of any previous year. The show animals numbered thirty-five, and were a grand, level lot. Mr. H. T. Castle, of Thame, was, as usual, well to the front, and was awarded the first and a champion prize for a beautiful cross-bred bullock, which realised £46 10s., the highest price in the fair. Mr. Castle also secured the second prize for a heavy Welsh bullock, the third prize going to Mr. Henry Fuller, of Shabbington. The cow class was very good indeed, Mr. R. Roadnight, (Chearsley) being awarded the blue ribbon, the second prize going to Mr. T. George (Pollicott), and the third to Mr. W. Way (Albury). The class for heifers was well represented, and included some really grand animals. Mr. James Kirby, of Oakley, was awarded first and third prizes, the second going to Mr. W. Ridgway, of Ashendon. There was a capital entry of sheep, comprising twenty-four pens of wethers, ewes, and tegs, Mr. H. Castle taking first and second prizes for wethers, the first prize for tegs being given to Messrs W. and T. Morris, of Great Marlow, and the second to Mr. Melton Harris, Haseley. Mr. H. Reynolds, of Notley, secured the prize for ewes, and Mr. T. Kench, of Cuddington, the second prize. The first for calves was awarded to Mr. Henry Freeman, of Brimpton, the second prize going to Mr. Joseph Franklin, of Scotsgrove. Mr. E. Treadwell, of Standhill, carried off first prize for pigs with a choice quality pen, Mr. T. R. Seaton, of Aylesbury, being awarded the second prize. Mr. Edward Bond had a very busy day, and in selling the beasts occupied the stool for just under five hours. There was a good selling trade throughout, the best quality beasts meeting with a good demand. Mr. H. T. Castle's first and second prize oxen made £16 10s. and £15 respectively, and Mr. H. Fuller secured £38 10s. for his third prize ox. Mr. J. Kirby obtained for his first prize heifer £30 10s., and for his third prize heifer £23, his commended ox realising £32 10s. Mr. H. Way's third prize heifer sold at £26 15s. £36 was given for Mr. R. Roadnight's first prize cow. Mr. H. Castle's first and second prize wethers made 57s. 6d. to 66s.; Mr. Morris's first prize tegs, 56s. to 60s.; Mr. Kench's second prize ewes, 52s. 6d. to 55s.; Mr. G. Treadwell's first prize pigs realised £5 12s. 6d. to £6 5s.; and Mr. Seaton's second awards £3 6s. to £3 12s.

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (December 10th).—[illegible] of temperature during Sunday night and [illegible] first in the open air [illegible] The barometer fell [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Malt: There has been a quiet trade during the past week. Barley: Grinding unchanged, a fair demand for malting at late rates. Wheat was 6d per qr cheaper. Oats firm. Maize in buyers favour. Flour about 3d per sack lower on the week.—NIXON, GOWER AND CO.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance of buyers was small from opening to close, and variations in prices devoid of significance. Fine white, 30s 6d; and fine red, 30s; good, 29s 6d. 63lb delivered up. Foreign descriptions unchanged. The flour market continues in the same uninteresting condition, but prices remain in sellers' favour. London Millers' Association have made no alteration. Town households, 25s; and white, 28s per sack. Top price, town made, 30s nett. Hungarian up to 29s. American first patents quoted at 25s to 26s; second ditto, 23s to 24s; first bakers, 20s to 21s; and second ditto, 18s to 19s per sack. Australian patent roller, 21s 6d to 22s ex store, 280lb. Grinding in fair supply, and maintained. Malting unaltered, although the demand has subsided. English choice up to 39s. Californian brewing of fine qualities, 27s; and good to fine Oregon, 26s 6d to 27s. Danubian, 20s to 22s. Oats again in sellers' favour, suitable qualities more especially. Maize upheld all round. Mixed American, old, 20s 9d; and new, 20s 6d ex ship, and 21s 6d landed.

Mark Lane, Saturday.—This week's market finished with a very subdued tone, being under influence of the near approach to Christmas, and the thin attendance led to only a small volume of business at a general steady range. English wheat unaltered. The flour market was also kept in harmony with wheat. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Milling unaltered, useful kinds being in most request during the week. Oats firm, white clipped being distinctly against buyers. Flat maize tended in buyers' favour, but old remained firm.

COUNTRY.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Exchange thinly attended, small quantities of grain on offer. The wheat trade was dull, at last Saturday's rates. All other articles unchanged in values.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (old), 27s to 29s 6d per qr; wheat, red new, 27s to 28s 6d per qr; beans (new), 28s to 30s per qr; oats (new), 16s to 18s per qr; oats (old), black 21s to 22s per qr. Prices for wheat exactly as last week. Other grains also about the same.

Barnsley, Wednesday.—A quiet market, demand only moderate, and values unaltered. Wheat sold at from 10s to 10s 6d per load; malting barley of various quality, 23s to 28s per qr. Oats no change.

Boston, Wednesday.—The smallest show of the season, and a small attendance, buyers being indifferent. Wheat, 26s to 27s; malting barley, 23s to 28s; grinding barley, 22s; oats, 17s to 19s; maize, 23s.

Braintree, Wednesday.—Wheats, the majority of which were in poor condition, made from 28s to 29s 6d per quarter. Barley firm, and a good supply, best qualities making 35s, and seconds from 24s to 28s.

Bristol, Thursday.—Trade continues quiet. Wheat: English was only in moderate supply at to-day's market, condition in some instances being unsatisfactory, and, in consequence, prices were unchanged; foreign very firm at fully late rates. Grinding barley 3d lower. Maize and oats without change. Flour very dull and difficult to move, prices nominally unaltered.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has remained very dull, and condition is still poor. Farmers bring small supplies to market. At this market to-day there was a small supply in poor condition. Trade was dull, without any alteration in prices. Wheat: Red, 27s to 29s; and white, up to 29s per 504lb. Oats were firm and beans steady. There was a quiet trade for barley at the full prices of last week.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat was out of condition, and cheaper. Barley, slow sale. Oats maintain values. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 29s to 31s 6d; red ditto, 27s to 30s; malting barley, 25s to 35s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; white oats, 18s to 21s; ditto black, 15s to 20s; peas, 30s to 33s; tick beans, 32s to 33s; mazagans, 27s to 29s; flat maize, 24s to 24s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per qr; winter tares, 6s to 6s 6d per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply of oats in market to-day, slow sale at late rates. New, 17s to 18s 6d; old, 23s 6d to 26s per 336lbs.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There was only a small trade passing in English grain. Millers were reluctant to try wheat, and former values were barely maintained. Indian corn advanced 3d per sack. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s to 4s 1d per 75lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 3d per 64lb; beans, 4s 1d to 5s 6d per 80lb; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; old, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 46lb; Indian corn, 11s to 11s 3d per 240lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat—Small supply, prices unchanged. Barley—Very little offering, for medium and better qualities rather better prices obtainable. Beans and oats favouring sellers.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Good attendance, but owing to the continued damp weather farmers are still unable to thresh, and very little corn of any description was forthcoming. English wheat met a quiet trade at last week's prices; foreign, 6d qr cheaper. Very little malting barley offering, and much of this was out of condition. Dull trade; easier prices for feeding stuffs.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—To-day there was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange. Wheat and flour remain extremely quiet at unchanged price. Indian corn steady at a decline of 1½d per boll on the week. Canadian peas 3d per boll dearer owing to scarcity on spot. Grinding beans dull and unchanged. Home oats steady; foreign the turn against buyers. Barley quiet. Oatmeal steady. Bran and thirds quiet, and unaltered.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Small attendance; average business transacted. English wheat 1d lower, barleys dull, oats steady, maize slightly in buyers favour. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 3s 3d to 3s 4d, red, 3s to 3s 3d; barley, 2s 9d to 3s 9d; oats, 2s 8d to 3s; beans, 3s 8d to 4s; maize, 2s 8d to 3s; vetches, winter, 4s to 6s; and spring, 3s 6d to 5s per bushel.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There is no increase of animation in the trade; still, values keep remarkably steady, and with moderate shipments and decreasing stocks a more confident feeling has sprung up. Last week's rates are well maintained for all kinds of wheat, hard descriptions meeting most demand. Best Yorkshire barley in fair request, common sorts a drug. Maize 6d, beans and oats 3d dearer.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Both English and foreign wheat in slow demand, and prices a shade lower than on Tuesday, following the fall in value of American wheat. Best barley firm, common kinds the turn easier. No change in beans, peas, oats, maize, or flour.

Leicester, Saturday.—Very fair attendance, with moderate supply of home-grown wheat. Trade more active for fine dry samples; inferior flat. Prices 27s to 31s per 36 stones. Barley in fair request. Fine oats firm.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair supply of English wheat, trade rather brisk for the best samples at full money. Reds, 27s to 28s; whites, 28s to 29s; foreign wheat firm. Large show of barleys; trade steady for malting parcels at firm rates. Oats slow, but firm. Other grain firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat steady with a moderate business at Tuesday's prices. Flour is steadily held with a better inquiry, holders asking extreme prices for foreign brands. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers. Maize continues in fair demand, at prices ½d over last Tuesday, European practically exhausted. Plate has a steady trade, but price slightly favour buyers, owing to recent few arrivals. Barley very quiet for malting, prices nominally unchanged. Friday firm with a fair trade passing, but without alteration in value. Beans are slow, and receive only a small attention from consumers. Peas quiet at late rates. Oats firm, with a fair business for English; foreign sorts are also in better request, and previous prices are well maintained. Oatmeal steady, but quiet. Oilcake steady, with a fairly good demand at late rates.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Louth, Wednesday.—Good attendance of farmers. Trade for wheat was dull, there being a very small show, and prices realised from 26s to 27s 6d per qr. Oats were firm. Beans, of which there was a small supply, were slow, and sold at barely late rates. Peas a quiet trade.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Considering the very wet weather, the attendance at the market was quite as numerous could be expected. The wheat trade was slow, and where sales pressed a slight decline, but generally speaking the farmers and other owners are disposed to hold on rather than to concede to the millers. Barley is a dull business, for except for finest qualities the demand is very slack. Oats are 3d per qr dearer, and beans and peas rather tend to higher prices than of late. Maize has not varied since our last report. There is not any alteration in the cost of rye, tares, hemp, brank, lergo, or millet.

Manchester, Thursday.—A quiet tone has prevailed in wheat, both English and foreign, during the past week; no change in prices in former, but latter ½d per cental lower. Flour remains as slow of sale at previous rates. Oats are quiet without new features. Peas, beans, and barley are unaltered. Indian corn has gained 1d per cental on the week, and is firm thereat.

Market Dayton, Wednesday.—Quotations:—Wheat—white new, 12s to 12s 6d per 225lb; red, new, 12s to 12s 6d per 225lb; oats—white, old, 18s to 20s per 200lb; white, new, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per 200lb; barley—malting, 13s to 14s per 210lb; Indian corn, 11s 6d to 11s 9d per 240lb; beans—new, 13s to 14s per 240lb; old, 20s to 21s per 240lb; peas—white, 17s to 18s per 240lb.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—The demand for wheat at to-day's market was certainly limited, and buyers had much their own way. Flour slow. Malting barley closed more steady, finest samples creating more attention. Oats leaning to buyers more than sellers. Beans and peas unchanged. Maize keeps firm.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A slow demand for wheat here to-day, prices favouring buyers. Maize firm at late rates. Barley, a good demand for fine qualities, poor sorts, however, were neglected. Beans and peas steady at late rates. Oats a fair demand at last week's prices. Flour unchanged.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—The exchange had about the usual attendance. Supply and demand and price of grain similar to last week. White wheat, 29s to 30s; red, old, 29s to 30s; red, new, 26s to 28s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; oats, 19s to 22s; old, fine, 25s; beans, 28s to 32s; old, 34s to 36s; flour, 20s to 25s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat in better supply to-day, but owing to poor condition very few samples made last week's prices, and may be reckoned about 6d to 1s per qr cheaper on the week. Barley in good supply, but mostly of inferior quality. The weather has been somewhat finer this week, there having been less rain and the days brighter. Wheat, red, 27s 6d to 28s 6d per qr, weight 63lbs per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending 10th December, 1900:—Wheat, 2,465, 27s 2¾d; barley, 14,978-3, 25s 11½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat moderate supply, and a fair trade passing at previous values. Barley: Best samples sought after, and such commanded full rates, while inferior sorts were neglected. Oats: But few offering, and prices well supported. The same may be said of beans.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Not much wheat offering; dull trade at about last week's prices. More inquiry for barley, both medium and best qualities.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has been a small supply of wheat to-day, and a slow trade with prices about the same as last week. Less barley offering, which made quite as much money. Oats firm and unchanged in value.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was an average attendance at our market to-day, but business was very quiet. All stuffs at last week's prices.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO

Reading, Saturday.—We had an excellent attendance to-day, but business ruled very slow, and where sales took place the previous week's rates generally held good, wheat selling at 26s to 30s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—There was no quotable change in prices. Barley shows a brighter tone, with a better inquiry. A small attendance. Wheat, English, new, 27s to 29s; ditto, old, 31s; ditto, foreign, 30s 6d to 34s 6d; barley, malting, 24s to 29s, ditto, grinding, 21s to 23s; oats, old, 25s to 26s; ditto, new, 17s to 19s; maize, round, 24s to 27s; ditto, flat, 23s 6d per qr; beans, old 1s per stone; bran, £5 per ton.

Romford, Wednesday.—There was only a small trade, at barely last week's prices. The attendance was small. Red wheat made 27s to 29s, and white wheat 28s to 31s per quarter.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—There was a small attendance and a very limited supply of wheat, for which former prices obtained. Beans and Indian corn 6d per qr dearer, and oats showed a similar advance on the week. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 32s to 33s; red, 31s to 32s; new, 30s to 31s per 504lb; oats, old white, 26s; ditto, new white, 17s 6d to 19s; ditto old black, 22s; ditto new black, 16s to 17s per 336lb; peas, grinding, 32s to 34s; ditto blue, 53s to 70s per 504lb; beans, Egyptian, 33s; ditto English (new), 31s 6d to 32s per 532lb; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s; ditto malting, 27s to 35s per 448lb; Indian corn, small old, 29s to 30s; ditto American mixed, 23s to 24s per 480lb.

Spalding, Tuesday.—Wheat met with a slow trade at about 26s 6d per qr. Oats, 17s to 18s per qr. Barley was a slow trade at former prices. Beans and peas unchanged. Small market all round.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were very few samples of English wheat showing, which made 28s to 29s per qr. In foreign wheats the trade keeps steady, and prices show no change, though there is a rather better inquiry from millers. Maize scarce, and 3d to 6d per qr dearer. Oats unchanged. Practically no malting barley shown.

Sunderland, Saturday. Rather more grain offering from farmers. Wheat quiet at late rates. Barley dull. Oats unchanged. Arrivals coastwise: Barley 8 qrs.; oats, 593 qrs. Foreign—Barley, 1,438 qrs.—E. AND T. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Small attendance and limited supply. Wheat at rather better prices. Malting barley scarce and rather dearer. Oats and beans firm, and other feeding stuffs steady.

Wakefield, Friday.—We quote English and foreign wheats steady at late rates, and but a small business passing on to-day's market. The enquiry for barley is confined to the better sorts. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—We have very little change to report in the wheat trade, which remains of a quiet but steady character; the business in cargoes is more animated, operators looking for some improvement after the holidays. Best qualities of barley in better request at late prices. Maize, beans and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat in exceedingly short supply on our market to-day, which met a steady trade at last week's prices. Barley in fair request, best descriptions worth more money. Oats firm at late rates. Maize shade easier. Flour, 24s to 25s.—FEAR, CLOEBROOK AND CO., LD.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A fair attendance and moderate trade, but the wheat department was quiet. English wheat, 11s 6d to 12s per 216lb; oats (old), 15s to 16s per 216lb; oats (new), 11s to 11s 6d; beans (old), 14s 6d to 15s 6d; beans (new), 12s 6d to 13s 6d per 196lb.; maize (old), 23s to 24s; maize (new), 22s to 23s per 480lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—English wheat in moderate supply, and trade ruled quiet at about last week's rates. Oats and beans steady, at previous prices. Barley dull and unaltered. Maize rather easier.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, with small show of grain, and a firmer tendency. Old white wheat, 30s to 31s; new ditto, 27s to 28s; old red wheat, 29s to 30s: new ditto, 26s to 27s; best malting barley, 28s to 32s; secondary, 26s to 28s; grinding, 23s to 24s; old white oats, 25s to 27s; new ditto, 19s to 21s; old black oats, 24s to 25s; new ditto, 17s to 19s; flat maize, 24s to 26s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per qr.

York, Saturday.—Wheat is in short supply; good samples sell at last week's prices. Malting barley inclined to be rather firmer, owing to the beer scare. Fine, 28s to 30s; good, 26s to 28s; common 24s to 26s per quarter of 32 stones. Oats firm; white Tartary, 16s to 17s; black, 17s to 18s; short, 18s to 19s per quarter of 24 stones. Rye, 7½d to 8d per stone; beans, 9d to 10d per stone. The average prices of corn, according to the official weekly return, are as follows:—Wheat, 26s 5d; barley 24s 2d; oats, 17s per quarter.

FOREIGN.

The general tone of the Antwerp wheat market has been satisfactory, there having been a good demand for disposable wheat, while prices have been pretty well maintained. The intelligence received from the French country districts as to the growing crops continue satisfactory. Business in wheat has been on a restricted scale in the French country districts, but prices have been well supported. Wheat has shown little variation upon the Paris market. Flour for consumption has also brought former rates in the French capital. The wheat trade has been rather dull at Marseilles. Wheat has been somewhat weaker at Konigsberg, but at Dantzic disposable parcels have remained without change. The Russian Provincial markets have been inactive; the demand has not improved, and the quantities of grain brought forward has been comparatively limited. Wheat has shown a somewhat firmer tone in the South-West of Russia, but transactions have at the same time presented little activity. In the Russian Baltic ports the tone of business has been rather weaker, but prices have remained without appreciable change. Odessa advices state that, after a period of warm rainy weather in South Russia, the thermometer has fallen below zero; a spell of frost is not likely, however, to prove unfavourable to the winter-sown wheats. There has been no great amount of business passing in Tunisian wheat. The aggregate quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is returned 945,000qr, as compared with 1,080,000qr at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 949,000qr is made up as follows:—France, 90,000qr; Belgium, 165 000qr; Holland, 175,000qr; Germany and the North, 190,000qr; and Italy, Spain, etc., 310,000qr.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather mild and rainy. Market quiet. The result of this year's harvest, according to official Prussian reports, exceeds anticipations and explains the extensive exportation of wheat and the decreasing demand for foreign feeding stuff. The imports during the week amounted to 11,611 tons wheat, 4,850 tons rye, 13,060 tons barley, 19,282 tons maize. Wheat little inquired after. Fine red Holstein, Mecklenburg, and Saale is held at 27s to 28s, common sorts at 25s 6d to 26s 3d per 504lb, f.o.b. Hard Winter 2 and River Plate is offering at 28s 6d to 29s 3d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye quiet, but not lower. 9 15-20 South Russian is held at 22s 3d to 22s 6d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Fine Saale barley is offering at 35s to 37s, medium quality at 31s to 33s 6d, Bohemian at 34s to 37s. Danish Holstein and Mecklenburg at 24s 6d to 27s per 448lb. Russian feeding barley is selling slowly at 17s 3d to 17s 6d per 400lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Prompt mixed maize and January-March shipments are offering at 18s 6d to 18s 9d; River Plate near at hand at 19s 3d to 19s 6d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

December 7th to December 14th, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	470	..	..	33,188	33,658
Barley	1,767	..	..	1,118	2,885
Malt	20,631	..	..	20	20,681
Oats	2,606	..	..	42,406	45,012
Rye	..	..	..	2,145	2,145
Beans	867	..	..	677	1,544
Peas	389	..	..	1,641	2,030
Maize	..	..	..	17,262	17,262
Tares	12	..	..	350	362
Lentils	..	..	..	300	300
Linseed	2	..	..	5,388	5,390
Rapeseed	35	..	..	3,563	3,598
Millet	..	..	..	272	272
Farm Seeds	740	..	..	1,729	2,469
Flour (Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour (Sacks	20,881	..	..	33,829	54,710

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899

Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	July 1	52,500 qrs.		
,, 14	108,380 ,,	,, 8	112,761 ,,		
,, 21	128,902 ,,	,, 15	116,880 ,,		
,, 28	51,234 ,,	,, 22	89,245 ,,		
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	,, 29	118,314 ,,		
,, 11	82,912 ,,	Aug. 5	104,234 ,,		
,, 18	204,974 ,,	,, 12	102,160 ,,		
,, 25	108,273 ,,	,, 19	103,353 ,,		
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,	,, 26	82,367 ,,		
,, 11	63,103 ,,	Sept. 2	73,600 ,,		
,, 18	122,541 ,,	,, 9	83,791 ,,		
,, 25	86,309 ,,	,, 16	107,684 ,,		
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	,, 23	131,880 ,,		
,, 8	133,261 ,,	,, 30	61,997 ,,		
,, 15	101,518 ,,	Oct. 7	121,032 ,,		
,, 22	70,984 ,,	,, 14	97,050 ,,		
,, 29	68,573 ,,	,, 21	95,446 ,,		
May 6	96,343 ,,	,, 28	154,895 ,,		
,, 13	72,852 ,,	Nov. 4	114,634 ,,		
,, 20	101,429 ,,	,, 11	110,161 ,,		
May 27	108,772 ,,	,, 18	79,200 ,,		
June 3	73,846 ,,	,, 25	130,815 ,,		
,, 10	126,781 ,,	Dec. 2	74,311 ,,		
,, 17	160,574 ,,	,, 9	74,704 ,,		
,, 24	101,205 ,,	,, 16	159,130 ,,		

1900.			1900.	
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	June 29	142,185 qrs.	
,, 13	95,064 ,,	July 6	132,950 ,,	
,, 20	114,928 ,,	,, 13	101,253 ,,	
,, 27	124,652 ,,	,, 20	82,294 ,,	
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,	,, 27	55,998 ,,	
,, 10	75,000 ,,	Aug. 2	86,167 ,,	
,, 17	66,804 ,,	,, 11	192,077 ,,	
,, 24	62,191 ,,	,, 18	138,510 ,,	
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,	,, 25	182,517 ,,	
,, 10	63,702 ,,	,, 31	80,149 ,,	
,, 17	162,985 ,,	Sept. 7	58,394 ,,	
,, 24	111,409 ,,	,, 14	117,066 ,,	
,, 31	69,356 ,,	,, 21	105,981 ,,	
April 7	48,302 ,,	,, 28	158,771 ,,	
,, 13	131,085 ,,	Oct. 5	183,383 ,,	
,, 20	82,357 ,,	,, 12	156,815 ,,	
,, 27	43,783 ,,	,, 19	73,725 ,,	
May 4	104,535 ,,	,, 26	98,302 ,,	
,, 11	52,859 ,,	Nov. 2	77,179 ,,	
,, 18	97,412 ,,	,, 9	148,972 ,,	
,, 25	71,390 ,,	,, 16	105,130 ,,	
,, 31	177 744 ,,	,, 23	132,964 ,,	
June 8	93,147 ,,	,, 30	89,337 ,,	
,, 15	86,195 ,,	Dec. 7	107,582 ,,	
,, 22	196,116 ,,	,, 14	75,283 ,,	

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Dec. 7 to Dec. 14, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	33,658 qrs.
Flour	41,625 ,,
Total	75,283 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Deficiency	30,717 ,,

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
1899.	Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.
Nov. 25	67,308⅛	25 8	164,362⅜	26 2	17,047⅜	16 7
Dec. 2	72,974⅜	25 7	163,441⅜	25 10	22,575½	16 6
,, 9	10,982⅛	25 7	174,207	25 10	21,421¼	16 5
,, 16	78,772⅛	25 4	135,344⅜	25 7	22,839¼	16 1
,, 23	67,102⅜	25 6	116,757⅜	25 10	16,447⅜	16 0
,, 30	47,685⅛	25 9	74,637⅜	25 5	10,463⅜	16 2
1900.						
Jan. 6	40,083	25 9	65,347½	25 7	13,380⅜	16 4
,, 13	57,021⅜	25 11	83,421⅜	25 5	19,705	16 6
,, 20	68,463⅜	26 0	100,925⅛	25 8	23,122⅜	16 5
,, 27	65,331⅛	25 10	108,357⅜	25 9	17,814⅜	16 8
Feb. 3	73,796⅜	25 8	90,769⅛	25 4	22,061½	16 3
,, 10	71,482⅜	25 10	80,543⅜	25 3	20,822⅜	16 2
,, 17	76,611⅜	26 1	80,414⅜	24 11	20,986⅜	16 1
,, 24	69,534½	26 3	63,931⅜	25 1	21,132⅜	16 10
Mar. 3	68,153¼	26 4	51,727½	24 6	18,409½	16 11
,, 10	58,703⅜	25 11	44,921⅛	24 8	16,234	16 11
,, 17	76,435⅜	25 10	46,053	24 6	20,104⅞	16 10
,, 24	69,944⅛	25 11	38,147	25 0	17,042⅜	17 1
,, 31	72,762	25 10	34,387⅜	24 11	15,203⅜	17 2
April 7	67,743⅜	25 10	20,402⅜	24 10	13,757⅜	17 2
,, 14	66,412½	25 11	19,519½	24 5	9,672⅜	17 8
,, 21	54,977⅜	26 0	11,673⅜	24 9	7,400⅜	17 3
,, 28	70,006⅜	26 0	7 785⅜	25 2	11,101⅜	17 11
May 5	75,410⅛	25 11	8,159⅛	25 3	8,658⅛	18 0
,, 12	82,190⅞	25 11	10,417⅜	24 10	12,245½	17 11
,, 19	83,941⅜	25 7	5,638⅜	24 5	9,942	18 5
,, 26	95,574⅜	25 5	3,521¼	23 11	7,350⅞	18 2
June 2	68,906⅜	25 5	1,752⅜	24 4	6,702	18 6
,, 9	64 747⅛	25 3	990⅜	23 8	6,053⅜	18 8
,, 16	55,340⅜	25 6	1,486⅜	23 8	7,228⅛	18 11
,, 22	54,324⅛	25 9	1,312⅛	23 5	5,344⅜	18 11
,, 30	44,920⅜	26 11	495⅜	23 4	4,706⅛	19 3
July 7	34,344⅛	27 10	480⅜	22 10	4,391⅛	19 5
,, 14	22,009⅛	28 7	949⅜	23 2	2,911⅛	19 1
,, 21	26,716⅜	29 0	767⅛	23 8	3,771¼	19 3
,, 28	33,088	29 3	194¼	24 4	3,335⅜	19 9
Aug. 4	45,748⅜	28 10	409¼	23 10	3,453⅜	19 4
,, 11	37,644⅜	28 7	311¼	23 7	3,391	19 8
,, 18	32,812⅛	28 10	608¼	23 3	3,593⅜	19 11
,, 25	26,427⅜	28 10	787⅜	24 10	5,349⅛	18 8
Sept. 1	30,393⅜	28 8	1,978⅛	25 2	9,603⅜	18 1
,, 8	34,755⅛	28 7	6,140⅜	25 8	11,042⅛	17 16
,, 15	53,334⅛	28 4	20,879⅜	25 4	18,684⅛	17 1
,, 22	61,468⅛	28 4	41,284⅛	26 0	21,729⅜	17 1
,, 29	72,604	28 9	68,844⅛	26 1	25,620⅛	17 2
Oct. 6	66,690	28 9	94,282	26 2	23,865	16 10
,, 13	70,314⅜	28 9	134,277⅛	26 2	18,350⅜	17 1
,, 20	58,790⅛	28 4	159,007⅜	26 5	14,681⅛	16 11
Oct. 27	56,254	27 11	190,079⅜	26 3	16,996⅛	16 11
Nov. 3	54,514⅜	27 5	204,836	26 3	16,602⅛	16 11
,, 10	41,497⅜	27 3	170,558	25 11	15,566⅜	16 10
,, 17	44,072⅜	27 1	185,342⅜	25 8	14,400⅜	17 1
,, 24	48,045⅛	27 2	182,212⅜	25 10	17,125⅛	17 0
Dec. 1	48,700⅜	27 0	164,624	25 9	18,157⅛	17 2
,, 8	53,450⅞	26 10	169,149⅜	25 11	20,618⅛	17 4
,, 14	52,876⅛	26 9	155,556⅛	25 7	24,508⅜	17 1

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1899.			1900		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	6 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	6 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	7 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	7 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	8 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	19 5
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	28 6	25 7	17 6
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	28 5	26 3	17 0
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	27 3	25 10	17 0
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Dec. 15, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	52,876¼ qrs.	26s. 9d.
Barley	155,556½ qrs.	25s. 7d.
Oats	24,508⅜ qrs.	17s. 1d.

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.	
1890	31 9	per qr.	28 8	per qr.	18 7	per qr.
1891	37 1	,,	28 2	,,	20 0	,,
1892	30 4	,,	26 2	,,	19 11	,,
1893	26 4	,,	25 6	,,	18 9	,,
1894	22 10	,,	24 6	,,	17 1	,,
1895	23 1	,,	21 11	,,	14 6	,,
1896	26 2	,,	22 11	,,	14 9	,,
1897	30 2	,,	23 6	,,	16 11	,,
1898	34 0	,,	27 2	,,	18 5	,,
1899	25 8	,,	25 7	,,	17 0	,,

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Dec 15, in each of the years from 1896 to 1900.

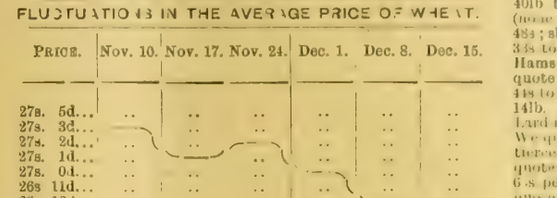
	WHEAT		BARLEY		OATS.	
	Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.
1896	47,907	21 3	116,427⅜	24 10	13,970⅛	16 7
1897	56,709⅛	34 1	148,957	26 4	16 183⅛	17 0
1898	67,647½	27 2	149,915⅜	28 5	22,679¼	17 0
1899	78,772½	25 4	135,344⅜	25 7	24,889¼	16 1

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 11th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure		
	Quarters.	Bus	£	s.	d	£	s	d
Wheat	1,939	1	2,737	12	2	1	8	3
Barley	3,710	5	4,981	6	3	1	6	10
Oats	1,381	2	1,238	7	2	0	17	11

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.



IMPORTS OF POTATOES (OFFICIAL).

CEREAL YEARS.

September	1900.	1899.	1898.
Cwts.	213,000	117,000	78,000

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States	212,000	122,000	604,000	20,000	54,000
Russia	158,000	—	10,000	46,000	189,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary	—	20,000	—	—	—
Roumania	105,000	—	80,000	59,000	—
Argentina	40,000	—	40,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	—	—	—	—	5,000
Miscellaneous	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	535,000	152,000	754,000	145,000	258,000

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900.		1899.		1898.		1897.		1896.		1895.		1894.		1893.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb.	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept.	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct.	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	8½	22	3½
Nov.	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec.	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900.		1899.		1898.		1897.		1896.		1895.		1894.		1893.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Jan.	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb.	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept.	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct.	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov.	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec.	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

		s.	d.
Sept. 1, 1900	(per sack)	30	0

(No official change since last date given).

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites.			Town Households.		
	s.	d.		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 28	6	(per sack)	25	6
October 1	,, 29	0	,,	26	0
October 26	,, 28	0	,,	25	6
November 26	,, 28	0	,,	25	0

(No official change since last date given).

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies larger, and the demand was of an improved character. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 3s; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s 5d; Welsh, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; Surrey, 2s 9d to 3s 9d; Sussex, 3s to 3s 6d; Boston, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Irish, 1s 8d to 2s; turkeys, cocks, 8s 6d to 15s; hens, 5s to 6s; country ducks, 3s 6d to 4s; geese, 5s to 7s 6d; Bordeau; pigeons, 10d to 1s; feathered, 9d to 11d; wild rabbits, 9d; tame, 1s 2d to 1s 4d each; Australian, 6s 6d to 7s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 4s 6d to 5s; young partridges, 3s 6d to 4s; old, 2s; young grouse, 4s to 4s 6d; old, 3s 6d per brace; hares, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; leverets, 2s to 2s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 6d; pintail, 1s 6d; widgeon, 1s; teal, 8d to 10d; woodcock, 2s 6d to 3s; golden plover, 8d to 1s; black, 5d to 6d each; Penn's buntings, 7½d to 9d; larks, 6d to 7d per do.

Glasgow, Wednesday. Arrivals of cattle in the Glasgow market were liberal for the season of the year. The market was well stocked. There was a fair demand for best quality, being rather neglected. Prices were practically unchanged. Oldbridges and Dunlops 50s to 60s per cwt. Cornfed were in moderate request at steady prices.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: The market has ruled steady with small stocks, but with larger arrivals than at hand and increasing shipments buyers are more cautious and the demand has been somewhat less active. We quote to-day, choice Cumberland cut 26lb to 28lb, 45s to 45s 6d; Scotch cut 26lb to 30lb, 45s 6d to 46s; 34lb to 38lb, 45 6d to 46s; long middles, light, 56lb to 64lb, 40s to 41s; clear bellies, 14lb to 16lb, 41s to 42s; Irish 20lb 38s to 38s 6d; staffordshire cut clean one 20lb to 24lb, and Birmingham cut, 33lb to 38lb, 42s to 42s 6d; Wiltshire cut, 56lb to 64lb, 40lb to 44lb, and Yorkshire cut, 14lb to 15lb, 42s to 43s; short backs, singed Wiltshire, Canadian 15lb to 20lb, 43s to 44s; American, 14lb to 20lb, 44s to 45s; short cut backs 15lb to 16lb, 42s 6d to 43s 6d; 16lb to 20lb, 44s 6d to 45s 6d; fat backs, 30lb to 40lb, 39s 6d to 41s 6d; long clear middles, 28lb to 34lb, 41s to 42s; 40lb to 45lb, 46s 6d to 47s; short clear middles, 45lb to 54lb (none here); short middles, 16lb to 18lb, 45s 6d to 46s; 18lb to 20lb, 44s to 45s; New York cut, 14lb to 16lb, 43s to 43s 6d; 16lb to 20lb, 43s to 43s 6d; shoulders, square cut, 12lb to 14lb, 34s to 35s; 14lb to 16lb, 33s to 33s 6d; New York cut, 14lb to 16lb, 33s to 33s 6d. Hams are in limited demand at somewhat easier prices. We quote choice long cut, 8lb to 12lb, 45s to 51s; 14lb to 16lb, 44s to 50s; short cut and A.C., 10lb to 12lb, 44s to 48s; 12lb to 14lb, 45s to 0s; 14lb to 16lb, 42s to 43s per cwt. Lard is firmly held, but business passing is of small dimensions. We quote pails and kegs, 32s to 0s; prime Western (in tierces), 33s 6d to 33s 9d per cwt. Best cumbland cure. We quote extra India mess 65s 6d to 70s; Plate and Parcel mess, 60s to 63s per 304lb. Pork is quiet and easier to buy. We quote finest prime mess, 66s to 70s per 200lb. Cheese: The market has been dull and inactive trading, and the prices show a declining tendency. We quote finest Canadian, September October, coloured, 53s to 53s 6d; white, 52s to 52s 6d; finest States, coloured, 52s to 53s; white, 51s to 52s; summer cheese, ripe flavoured, selling slowly from 48s to 49s, but lower qualities offering from 29s to 36s are neglected. Butter—The enquiry is chiefly for fresh fresh quality, which is in limited supply; lower grades are difficult to move. We quote Irish fresh made Canadian creamery, finest, 105s to 106s; second quality, 83s to 92s; finest States (none); finest ladles and imitation creamery, 72s to 80s; fine to Danish, 112s to 124s; Australian and New Zealand, 104s to 112s; Irish creamery (none); Cork firsts, 104s; seconds, 94s; thirds, 86s per cwt.—HODGSON BROTHERS.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

A quiet trade at last week's prices.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

We have moderate arrivals of wheat, but large of flour; market is firm, and there is no change in prices. Maize, barley, and oats are unchanged in value.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

As usual at this season, the business passing in farm seeds is on the smallest possible scale, and this state of things will continue till the close of the century at all events. Meantime the prices of all articles are firmly maintained. The weather is unfavourable for threshing clover seeds, the supplies of which continue very limited.—JOHN PICARD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Business continues to be done on a small scale, and the value of milling offals is somewhat uncertain. The quantities made are small on account of the depressed condition of the demand for flour, and everyone is hoping the New Year may bring a better and more profitable time.—RICHARD DOGGETT, Mark Lane.

There has only been a limited enquiry for wheat to-day, and very little business has been transacted. Values are unaltered since last Monday. Maize is 3d. lower on the week. Barley unchanged. Oats steady and without alteration.—W. P. WOOD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Flour: Prices are nominally unchanged, but there is not much business doing to test prices. Grain: Indian corn is now plentiful, and 3d. per 280lb. lower; foreign oats firm; Canadian purse, 3d. per boll dearer; barley quiet; Canadian oatmeal firm at former rates. Mill Stuffs: Bran and thirds unchanged.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD Glagow, December 15.

Offals.—No change to report in prices of bran or pollard. There is, however, a little more inquiry.—GREENHILL BROS., Belfast, December 15.

Wheat steady, with a moderate business at Tuesday's prices. Flour is steadily held with a better inquiry, holders asking extreme prices for foreign brands. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers. Maize continues in fair demand at prices 3d. per cental over last Tuesday, European parcels exhausted. Plate has a steady trade, but prices slightly favour buyers owing to recent few arrivals. Barley very quiet for malting, prices nominally unchanged. Friday firm, with a fair trade passing, but without alteration in value. Beans are slow, and receive only a small attention from consumers. Peas quiet at late rates. Oats firm, with a fair business for English. Foreign sorts are also in better request, and previous prices are well maintained. Oatmeal steady, but quiet. Oilcake steady, with a fairly good demand at late rates.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, December 15.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The temperature remains high for the time of year, and the air is laden with moisture, even in districts where the actual rainfall of the week has been slight. The land and growing crops would now be all the better for a rest from the stimulus which warmth and moisture combine to supply. In the United States and Canada winter has set in in earnest, and we may possibly find that the same influences are on their way here. The Argentine wheat crop is better in the temperate districts than in the hot north, and it is therefore considered likely that the best supplies will not be forthcoming before March, or even April. The very moist spring, followed by fierce heat, favoured not only weeds to a great extent, but also a rank growth in the wheat plant itself. The average sample of Argentine wheat for 1901 is not, therefore, expected to allow the same fair average quality as that of 1900. Chile is not likely to have any exportable samples.

The maize crop in the Republic of Uruguay is officially firm at 347,500 qrs. The absence of returns from this State makes this particle of news a matter of interest. Perhaps we may hope in 1901 for wheat returns also. With a magnificent seaboard the Uruguayans might do a very important direct trade with Europe and the United Kingdom.

Mark Lane has been well attended throughout the week, and on Friday the gathering struck us as being fully as large as on an ordinary Monday. There is no doubt that Friday is growing in importance as a market day, but the Smithfield visitors are more numerous on Friday than Monday owing to the first day at Islington being a five-shilling day. Prices have not been helped by the attendance, as there was generally more pressure to sell than to buy. Bakers report a very poor demand for bread, and the weather certainly affects sales. Maize is a comparatively small trade by reason of the expectation of town prices, with the new American crop shipments. Oats have sold rather well; the Government have been a large buyer of both American and Russian 320lbs. kinds. The American visible supply is cabled as follows:—

	Wheat. Bushels.		Maize. Bushels.
Dec. 15, 1900	61,494,000	....	8,792,000
„ 1899	56,292,000	....	11,244,000

While there is a greater store in merchants' hands of wheat, the speculative trade in maize has undergone a very noticeable diminution. Large prospective supplies of Indian corn have probably shut out from the minds of most merchants the idea of profit on holding.

The sales of breadstuffs since harvest are thus estimated:—

	Qrs.
English wheat	1,722,358
Foreign wheat	4,893,633
Foreign flour	2,130,634
Total	8,746,625

In the same period of last cereal year the total was 8,373,378 qrs.

Stocks of wheat in formers' hands on Dec. 15 are thus calculated:—

	Qrs.
1900	4,277,000
1899	4,755,000
1898	5,260,000
1897	3,760,000

The average price in Paris is now 35s. 4d., against 31s. a year ago; and in Antwerp is 29s. 6d., against 26s. 9d. a year ago. The rise on the year in New York is from 25s. 6d. to 27s., or 1s. 6d. per qr.

The imports of the week have not been excessive, the actual totals being 273,000 qrs. of wheat, 140,000 sacks of flour, 234,000 qrs. of maize, 110,000 qrs. of barley, and 95,000 qrs. of oats. The statistics of the trade in breadstuffs are as follows:

	Qrs.
Foreign wheat	273,000
Foreign flour	117,000
English wheat	123,000
Total	513,000

Stocks which stood at 3,003,000 qrs. on Dec. 8th were put on the 15th inst. at 2,949,000 qrs.

Wheat supplies on passage are thus returned:—

	Qrs.
Californian	1,005,000
American	255,000
Argentine	225,000
Russian	70,000
Other Countries	200,000
Total Dec. 15, 1900	1,755,000
1899	1,100,000
1888	1,810,000

The quantity of maize on passage thus compares with a year ago:

	1900. Qrs.		1899. Qrs.
Flat	610,000	....	520,000
Round	140,000	....	90,000
Yellow	100,000	....	410,000
Total	850,000	....	1,020,000

The expectations from Argentina will be seen to have suffered so great a reduction that the slight increase in both flat and round is a good deal more than merely counterbalanced.

The quality of barley on passage to-day thus compares with this date last year:—

	1900. Qrs.		1899. Qrs.
Malting	400,000	.....	517,000
Grinding	140,000	.....	60,000
Total	540,000	.....	577,000

The quantity of beans on passage is only 9,000 qrs. against 10,000 qrs. a year ago, 14,000 qrs. in 1898, 11,000 qrs. in 1897, and 31,000 qrs. in 1896.

A printer's error last week gave the increase on the granary stocks at 6,560,000 qrs. The correct figures should of course be 656,000 grs. Although this mistake of an extra cipher is the simplest possible, and where many figures are used almost unavoidable as a casual thing, it is, unfortunately, far more misleading than a grotesque error which may be trusted to correct itself.

Shipments of wheat of late have been quite moderate, those of the first fortnight of December being 1,185,000 qrs. for all countries. There is a good deal of difficulty in deciding what is an average expectation, but probably 800,000 qrs. a week is usual before the winter closing of ports by ice, and 600,000 qrs. during the period when certain ports are shut off.

Of maize the shipments have been large for the time of year, the figures 1-15 December being 1,667,000 qrs. The new crop of the United States is not yet fit for shipping, and these large exports are clearances of old grain to make room for the new supply. If the latter is firmly held, maize may keep up in price pretty well, but the present indications are all the other way. Recent shipments of barley and flour have been moderate, but of oats they have been fairly large.

An interesting return of the sales and crops, imports and exports of the last seven years tends to show that the total breadstuffs' wants of the United Kingdom for the period were 207,000,000 qrs. This indicates a want of about 574 bushels per every hundred inhabitants. Sir J. H. Gilbert's estimate of 600 bushels being required is, on this showing, 26 points in 600 too high. The difference is not great in itself, but with the very large figures which our population entails it soon becomes important.

The consumption of maize is a matter with which we have had to deal almost single-handed, neither the Government nor the agricultural societies taking any part in a discussion which is of the utmost consequence to the corn trade, and is debated in the course of a twelvemonth not once but many times on the markets. The imports this year up to date amount to 11,655,000 qrs., and if we assign 500,000 quarters to the remainder of December we shall have 12,155,000 qrs. as the deliveries. The stocks on Jan. 1, 1900, were 833,000 qrs., and we shall be able about three weeks hence to tell if they have increased on the year. Common anticipation is that they will not be so found, and that a consumption of 12,000,000 qrs. per annum will be clearly disclosed.

THE BALTIC.

It is a pity that the markets cannot agree as to their holidays. This exchage will be shut on 24th and 26th December, but open on New Year's Day, while the New York Produce Exchange will be shut on 24th December and 1st January, but open on 26th December.

Wheat has been quiet, both for future shipment and on passage. Sales include Californian, at 30s. 3d., on passage; Walla, 28s. 6d., arrived; Australian, 30s. 3d., January shipment, and 31s., arrived; New Zealand, 29s. 6d. just shipped; Argentine, 29s. 3d., on passage, and 30s., arrived; Azoff, 29s., on passage, and No. 1 Northern, 31s., February shipment

Maize has been quiet, but a rather large business for January and February shipment has been put through with a minimum of friction. The American new crop is offered at 18s. 9d. for January and 18s. 6d. for February shipment, and buyers accept these terms. Anything of which delivery can be promised before 15th January is quoted a full sovereign, and anything which can be delivered before Christmas is worth 20s. 9d. per qr.

Barley has been cheaper forward; sales include Novorossisk on passage at 18s. 6d. and Californian at 26s. 6d. per qr. Other sales of the week comprise black Libau oats at 14s. 6d.; Saida beans at 28s. 9d.; Canadian white peas at 28s. 3d., and Roumanian Rye at 22s. 9d., all per qr.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 5 wheat (1 Bahia Bianca, 1 Port Germein, 2 Portland (O.), 1 San Francisco)|; 1 barley (San Francisco); total, 6.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was well-attended, as there are always a number of retail transactions to be put through before Christmas. Prices were not higher for any staple, as a rule, but there was less depression from the 10th. English wheat made 29s. to 32s. for most samples. The higher price commanded 64lbs. white. Foreign sorts were a trifle lower on the average, but in improved request at the slight concession. We quote Duluth, 33s. to 34s.; New Zealand, 28s. to 30s. per qr. Maize was 22s. for American, which could be delivered in a couple of days, 21s. for the same quality with guaranteed delivery before Christmas, and 20s. 6d. where delivery could not be so guaranteed. To this extent have mere current facilities, or the absence of them, come to influence the price on spot. Barley was a less sluggish trade, both brewing and feeding kinds moving off with more ease from the 10th. Oats were steady at full rates for English and American. Beans were neglected. Peas were in fair request. The demand for millet, dari, and small pulse was very fair. Buckwheat was steady at currencies. Linseed sold fairly well at 52s. to 54s. for Russian. For free Guzerat yellow rapeseed up to 53s. was made. Cottonseed was held for £6 16s., with buyers at £6 13s. per ton.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Dec. 17th, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	30	— 32
(old)	„	32	— 33
Red (new)	„	29	— 30
(old)	„	30	— 31
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	27	— 28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	— 39
Brewing	„	27	— 32
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	— 24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 40
Scotch	„	36	— 38
Black	„	30	— 32
Brown	„	29	— 32
Crystaliized	„	33	— 35
OATS, English, New Winter	„	19	— 20
„ „ Tartary	„	18/9	—19
„ „ White	„	18	—18/9
„ Old Winter	„	21	— 23
„ „ Tartary	„	20	— 21
Scotch	„	21	— 23
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	16/3	—18
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 26
BEANS, Pigeon	„	40	— 44
„ Winter	„	29	— 33
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	— 84
„ Blue (boiling)	„	68	— 76
„ Dun	„	31	— 33
„ Maple	„	38	— 42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Duluth	33	— 34
American Spring	32	— 33
Manitoba	32	— 33
Red Winter	31	— 32
Kansas	30	— 31
Californian	31	— 32
Walla Walla	30	— 31
Australian	30	— 32
New Zealand	28	— 30
Argentine	29	— 32
Danzig	33	— 34
Saxonka	31	— 32
Petersburg	30	— 31
German	29	— 30
Azima	31	— 32
Ghirka	30	— 31
Hard Taganrog	29	— 30
MAIZE, per 480lb.:		
Cinquantina	27	— 29
Roumanian	25	— 26
Russian	25	— 26
Argentine	22	— 23
American	21	— 22
OATS:		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	— 26
Canadian (320lb.)	15	— 16
American (320lb.)	14	— 16
Revel (320lb.)	16	— 17
Petersburg (304lb)	14	— 15
Libau white (340lb.)	13	— 14
„ black „	14	— 15
BEANS, per 480lb.:		
Egyptian	31	— 32
Smyrna	29	— 30
Konigsberg	29	— 31
Barbary	27	— 28
Mexican	28	— 30
New Zealand	31	— 35
LOCUST BEANS, per ton:		
Italian	100	— 102
Cyprian	106	— 112
„ Ground	138	— 144
Portuguese	101	— 103
„ Ground	118	— 120
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Dutch	57	— 77
Canadian, White	29	— 30
Indian, White	28	— 30
Barbary	26	— 28
Australian, White	40	— 41
„ Dun	26	— 27
New Zealand	44	— 64
LENTILS, per cwt:		
Spanish, Split	15	— 16
Egyptian, Split	13	— 14
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Syrian	25	— 26
Smyrna	27	— 28
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 480 lb.:		
French	27	— 28
Russian	27	— 28
Canadian	28	— 29
BARLEY:		
Californian (448 lb.)	26	— 27
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	— 28
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	— 24
Turkish (400lb.)	20	— 21
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Syrian (400 lb.)	24	— 27
Persian (400 lb.)	18	—18/3
American (400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	35	— 40
Smyrna	34	— 37

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	58	to 60
Dutch	61	to 63
Argentine	50	to 52
Canadian	61	to 63
Russian	52	to 54
Calcutta	58	to 60
SESAME. per 424lb.		
Bombay	49	to 51
Kurrachee	52	to 53
COTTON SEED. per ton.		
Egyptian	134	to 135

RAPESEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	55	to 59
Dutch	53	to 55
French	46	to 47
Roumanian	44	to 46
Cawnpore	45	to 46
Calcutta	42	to 43
Guzerat	52	to 54
Ferozepore	43	to 44
Ravison	34	to 36
POPPYSEED. per 377lb.		
Indian	48	to 49

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH PRICES AS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN. FRIDAY, THE 21st, WILL BE A BUSY DAY, AS THE EXCHANGE WILL THEN CLOSE UNTIL THE 28th.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Dec. 17th.

The market to-day was very dull for all London makes, and town households were somewhat cheaper to buy. Country flour is in liberal offer, and as this arrives at the railway stations and escapes the riverside strike trouble it has a full retail inquiry. Thus with demand and supply equally free prices are maintained, but not advanced. Hungarian flour was 6d. lower with a slow sale. American on spot was 3d. lower for most sorts. The finest north-western flour is offered for prompt shipment at 26s. (Star), 24s. 9d. (Pillsbury), and 24s. 6d. (Morrisons). These prices do not help spot trade. Good second grades come at 19s. for Iron Duke, 21s. for good Hue, and 19s. 9d. for Palisade. The price of Crosby's fine Kansas is 23s. per sack. Of minor staples paste flour makes 20s. per sack, coarse middlings about 103s. per ton, Brose meal 28s. per sack, white maize germ meal 110s. per ton, and rye meal 17s. per sack.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	30
Town Whites	,,	24/0	—27
,, Households	,,	23/0	—24
No. 2	,,	21/0	—22

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24—25/6
Fine Roller made	,,	23—23/6
Ordinary Roller made	,,	22—2/6
Best Stone made	,,	21—21/6
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19—20/

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	24/0—25
,, Second Patents	,,	23 — 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	24/0—25
,, Bakers'	,,	21 — 23
Kansas Patent	,,	23 — 24
,, Bakers'	,,	18 — 19
Cascadia	,,	23/6—24
Canadian	,,	24/6 —25
Australian Patents	,,	22 — 23
,, Ordinary	,,	19 — 20
Hungarian	,,	27—30/6
French	,,	20/6—23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	186—190
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	115—117
Bran, London Broad	,,	105—108
,, ,, Fine	,,	95 — 97
,, Country Flake	,,	110—114
,, ,, Broad	,,	105—107
Pollard	,,	92 — 94
Fine Middlings	,,	124—126
Coarse Middlings	,,	103—105
Oat Meal	,,	220—230
Oat Flour	,,	340—360
Maize Flour	,,	130—136
Maize Meal	,,	110—120
Maize Cones	,,	144—150
Maize Germ Meal	,,	100—105
Pea Meal	,,	130—150
Bean Meal	,,	140—160
Rice Meal	,,	90 — 95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made :—

WHEAT.—		Dec.	March.	June.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Dec. 10	11 a.m.	6 5 .. 6	7 .. 6	7
	4 p.m.	6 5 .. 6	7 .. 6	7
Dec. 11	11 a.m.	6 5 .. 6	7 .. 6	7
	4 p.m.	6 5 .. 6	7 .. 6	7
Dec. 12	11 a.m.	6 5 .. 6	7 .. 6	7
	4 p.m.	6 5 .. 6	7 .. 6	7
Dec. 13	11 a.m.	6 4 .. 6	7 .. 6	7
	4 p.m.	6 4 .. 6	7 .. 6	7
Dec. 14	11 a.m.	6 4 .. 6	7 .. 6	7
	4 p.m.	6 4 .. 6	7 .. 6	7
Dec. 15	11 a.m.	6 4 .. 6	7 .. 6	7
To-day	11 a.m.	6 4 .. 6	7 .. 6	7

Maize for December delivery made 4s. 3d. per cental, 3s. 11d. for February delivery of American new crop.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 3,256 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 8,145 bales bacon. The bacon market continued to give way, and was officially reduced on Irish and Danish, some 2s. to 6s, Canadian, 2s to 3s. Selling rates were quite 6s to 8s lower than the previous week, and demand slow. Irish, 52s, 62s, to 66s; Danish, 52s, 60s, up to 65s; Canadian, 52s, 56s, 57s. Butter in poor demand, except for very finest goods, which were in fair demand. Danish, 122s, 124s, up to 125s; Colonial, 108s, 110s, up to 112s; French, 116s, 120s. Lard, unchanged, demand quiet, American, 39s, 40s; Irish, 56s, 64s.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Dec. 17th, 1900.

	British		Total.	Dec. 18th, 1899.
Beasts	3,020		3,020	3,560
Sheep and lambs	10,560		10,560	8,080
Calves	10		10	—
Pigs	140		140	
Milch cows	90		90	

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

	ENGLISH. Inferior. s. d.		Second s. d.		First. s. d.
Beasts	3 0	—	4 2	.	4 10
Sheep	3 4	—	5 0		6 0
Pigs	2 8	..	4 0	..	4 8

Milch cows, per head, £15 to £25

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 1,110; Eastern Counties, 335; Midland Home and Western Counties, 1,[illegible]; Devon, 180; Ireland, 137.

The all-important market of the year, so far as the cattle trade is concerned, was that held at the Islington Cattle Market to-day, and is commonly known as "The Great Market," being a day for which the best breeders and graziers reserve their choicest stock, these being chiefly represented by the Polled Aberdeen breed with a few Devons.

Though the weather was very favourable, trade was a very disappointing one for senders of stock, rates having to be reduced 4d. per 8lb. to effect sales. Even at this reduction a clearance cannot possibly be made unless a reaction sets in after our report left, which does not seem at all probable.

Taking the show as a whole in regard to quality it fell below the usual average of a Christmas market, there being too large a proportion of ordinary beasts.

The slowness of the trade is chiefly attributable to the market being held so close to Christmas Day, but in the nature of things this could not be helped, as it always falls on the Monday following the Agricultural Show, in consequence of which there was less demand, a good many butchers not caring to wait so long, therefore making their purchases at the various country auctions. We append a few remarks with respect to the different breeds.

POLLED SCOTCH.

These numbered 280 less penned last year, and were an exceptionally grand lot, in fact somewhat beating last year's display. They chiefly comprise consignments from the following well-known Scotch graziers: J. Beddie, J. Birnie, Peterhead, J. Fowlie, W. Harper, J. Lyon, G. Wood, A. Wyness, and A. Aitken, the last five being of Aberdeen, R. Guthrie, Turiff, A. Young, A. Bruce, Littlejohn, Alex. Strachan, C. Farquharson, Craddock and Son, W. Wallace, McCombie, C. W. Young, J. Cooker, and others, the following being the principal salesmen: Messrs. Hicks and Son (424) Eve and Son (180), W. Reed (160), Slater, Cook, and G. Hill (85), T. Dixon and Son (75), C. C. Wood (60) Bound and Sim (56), W. Wilson (50).

DEVONS.

These numbered 180, and, with but few exceptions, were not so good as those shown last year. It should be noted, however, that Mr. T. Law had a few extra choice ones.

IRISH.

These consisted of 27 from Waterford and 110 from Dublin, several of the latter being consigned by Mr. T. Oliver to Messrs. Hicks and Son, many of which had been exhibited in the Dublin Show, and were of exceptional good quality.

NORFOLKS.

Of these there was a fair average supply, and though not so good as last year some very good specimens were shown by Messrs. Stimson and Son, A. Allday, E. Neeve, E. Chapman, W. Law, F. Syder, and C. G. Wood.

HEREFORDS.

In short supply, and barely up to Christmas standard.

RUNTS.

These may be written as a fair lot, really best quality being very scarce.

Following are the top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):

	To-day.		Dec. 11th, 1899
Scotch	4s 9d to 4s 10d	..	5s 0d to 5s 2d
Devons	4s 8d to 4s 10d	..	—
Herefords	4s 6d to 4s 8d	..	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Norfolks	4s 8d to 4s 10d	..	4s 8d to 4s 10d
Runts	4s 6d to 4s 8d	..	4s 8d to 4s 10d
Lincolns	4s 2d to 4s 6d	..	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Irish	—	..	4s 8d to 4s 10d
Dublins	4s 8d to 4s 10d	..	—
Fat cows	3s 8d to 3s 10d		4s 0d to 4s 2d

The following table shows the number of beasts offered for sale on each Great Market Day since the year 1841, with the highest and lowest quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

Year.	Beasts.	s. d.	s. d.	Year.	Beasts.	s. d.	s. d.
1841 ..	4,510 ..	3 8 to 5 0		1871 ..	6 3 0 ..	3 10 to 6 2	
1842 ..	4,511 ..	3 4 to 4 8		1872 ..	7,560 ..	4 6 to 6 0	
1843 ..	4,510 ..	3 4 to 4 4		1873 ..	6 170 ..	4 8 to 6 8	
1844 ..	5,713 ..	4 0 to 4 6		1874 ..	6,570 ..	4 6 to 6 10	
1845 ..	5,326 ..	3 6 to 4 8		1875 ..	7,680 ..	4 6 to 6 3	
1846 ..	4,570 ..	4 0 to 5 8		1876 ..	7,020 ..	4 6 to 6 4	
1847 ..	4,288 ..	3 4 to 4 8		1877 ..	7,510 ..	4 6 to 6 2	
1848 ..	5,342 ..	3 4 to 4 8		1878 ..	6,830 ..	4 6 to 6 0	
1849 ..	5,765 ..	3 4 to 4 0		1879 ..	5 620 ..	4 4 to 6 4	
1850 ..	5,311 ..	3 0 to 3 10		1880 ..	7,660 ..	4 0 to 6 0	
1851 ..	6,103 ..	2 8 to 4 2		1881 ..	8 000 ..	4 0 to 6 2	
1852 ..	6,271 ..	2 8 to 4 0		1882 ..	7,370 ..	4 8 to 6 4	
1853 ..	7,037 ..	3 2 to 4 10		1883 ..	5 940 ..	4 0 to 6 4	
1854 ..	6,151 ..	3 6 to 5 4		1884 ..	4,990 ..	4 0 to 6 2	
1855 ..	7,060 ..	3 8 to 4 2		1885 ..	7 470 ..	3 6 to 5 8	
1856 ..	6,748 ..	3 4 to 5 0		1886 ..	6 920 ..	3 2 to 5 0	
1857 ..	6,858 ..	3 4 to 4 8		1887 ..	6 420 ..	3 4 to 5 4	
1858 ..	6 424 ..	3 4 to 5 0		1888 ..	7,400 ..	3 0 to 5 2	
1859 ..	7,560 ..	3 6 to 5 6		1889 ..	5,000 ..	3 4 to 5 2	
1860 ..	7,860 ..	3 4 to 5 6		1890 ..	5 330 ..	2 4 to 5 4	
1861 ..	8,840 ..	3 4 to 5 0		1891 ..	4,510 ..	2 8 to 5 4	
1862 ..	8,430 ..	3 4 to 5 2		1892 ..	4 520 ..	2 4 to 5 4	
1863 ..	10,372 ..	3 6 to 5 8		1893 ..	4,940 ..	2 8 to 5 2	
1864 ..	7,130 ..	3 8 to 5 4		1894 ..	4,810 ..	2 6 to 4 6	
1865 ..	7,830 ..	3 4 to 5 6		1895 ..	3 170 ..	2 6 to 5 4	
1866 ..	7,340 ..	3 8 to 5 8		1896 ..	4,060 ..	2 6 to 5 2	
1867 ..	8,110 ..	3 4 to 5 2		1897 ..	4,570 ..	2 4 to 4 8	
1868 ..	5,320 ..	3 4 to 5 8		1898 ..	3,910 ..	2 6 to 4 10	
1869 ..	6,728 ..	3 6 to 6 0		1899 ..	3 960 ..	3 0 to 5 2	
1870 ..	6,425 ..	3 6 to 6 2					

In the Sheep market there was an increase of [illegible] as against last year's display; the supply including 2,870 from the Eastern Counties, 380 Irish, and 120 Scotch. As usual it consisted principally of Downs and half-breds, some very choice sheep being shown in the pens of Stallybrass and Son, R. Eve and Son (from R. Mansting and H. Jackson), Lintott and Son, who also had some Cotswolds, lambs from the Duke of Richmond. H. Grove and J. Jarman, as well as Phillip Chapman and C. W. Tanner had some excellent Downs and Half-breds.

The cold weather during the week has caused a brisk and continued demand, and steady at a slight advance in value as compared with last week.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:

	To-day.		Dec. 11th, 1899.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	..	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-stone ditto	5s 6d to 5s 8d	..	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10-stone half-breds	5s 0d to 5s 2d	..	5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-stone Lincolns	4s 10d to 5s 0d	..	4s 10d to 5s 0d
9-stone Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	..	4s 8d to 4s 10d
10-stone Down ewes	4s 2d to 4s 4d	..	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11-stone halfbred ditto	3s 8d to 3s 10d	..	— to —
4½ to 5 stone fat lambs	7s 8d to 7s 10d	—	— to —

The following table shows number of sheep exhibited this year and last, together with the current top rate:—

	s. d.		s. d.
1900 .. 7,490	7 10	1900 .. 14,570	8 0
1899 .. 7,570	7 6	1899 .. 13,080	8 0
1898 .. 9,040	8 0	1898 .. 15,000	8 10
1897 .. 12,000	8 4	1897 .. 16,000	8 4
1896 .. 11,200	8 4	1896 .. 16,000	8 0
1895 .. 11,200	8 4	1895 .. 16,000	8 0
1894 .. 13,200	8 4	1894 .. 20,000	8 0
1893 .. 11,200	8 0	1893 .. 19,450	8 10
1892 .. 15,200	8 4	1892 .. 20,000	8 10

[illegible] being only a limited supply of cattle benefited this week, but prospects are worth recording.

The pig supply was small, but sufficient to meet all demands, the best sides ranging from [illegible] per 8lb.

London Central, Monday.—Moderate supplies, trade slow last. Cattle realised to [illegible] best quarters 4s 8d to 4s 6d; roastings, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Sheep: Ewe, 2s 10d to 3s 2d; wether, 4s to 4s 2d; hindquarters, ewe, 4s to 4s 4d; wether [illegible] to 5s 6d. Pigs: Large, [illegible] to 4s 6d; small [illegible] to 4s.

St. Pancras (Hunts.), Monday. [illegible] pens, 370; pens, 10; horses, 8. Beef, 7s 0d to 7s 6d; mutton, 7s 0d to 11s 1d; pork, 6s to 7s 3d; sows, 5s to 6s 3d. Fat and store cattle, sheep, and pigs fair demand. Milch cows, fair show and trade, prices £14 to £23.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 588. To-day's supply [illegible] compared with Monday last showed a [illegible] and [illegible] trade for [illegible] was [illegible] than caused by the [illegible] supply. The best [illegible] from 720 to 760lb, made 4s 6d per 8lb, offal given in. On Saturday last 2,000 beasts from the United States were offered for sale, meeting with a firm, steady trade especially for best quality; the best on offer [illegible] to 4s 6d per 8lb. Sheep, 1,352, numbering 827 more than on Monday last. The supply consisted entirely of shipments from the United States, trade for which was rather slow, at from 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb. A few lambs were on the market and were quoted at 5s. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 958, 4s 2d to 4s 3d per 8lbs, to dress from 720lb to 760lb. No sheep on the market.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Trade as dull as ever. The American market is better, owing to Continental demand, so we cannot look for supplies to any extent from that source. Cotton cake continues in demand at last prices. Linseed [illegible] dearer, especially for near positions.

English linseed cake	£5 16 0	to	£5 12 6	ex mill
Indian Calcutta linseed cake	[illegible]			ex quay
American Western linseed cake	7 12 6	to	7 17 6	ex quay
Russian oil cake	7 12 6	to	7 17 6	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. oil)	6 15 0	—		ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	£6 17 6	to	7 0 0	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6 17 6	—		ex quay
London made cotton cake	4 17 6	to	5 0 0	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4 15 0	to	4 16 3	ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4 12 6			on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4 12 6		—	ex warehouse
Russian linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2 14 6	to	2 18 0	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2 19 0			ex warehouse

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. De May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: There is no alteration to note. Market remains quiet, prices firm.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, seed merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that with the close approach of Christmas business in grass and clover seeds, as is always the case, is confined to very narrow limits; meantime quotations generally are unchanged, and holders, in view of the moderate stocks on hand, await with confidence the opening of the New Year's campaign. Full prices are asked for mustard and rape seed, both of these descriptions being in short supply. Canary and hemp seed, with a quiet demand, keep steady in value. Niger seed is scarce and wanted. There is no change to day in either blue peas, haricot beans, or speckled beans, but a spell of cold weather would greatly increase the sale of all kinds of pulse. The Board of Trade returns give the imports of clover and grass seeds into the United Kingdom for the eleven months of this year ended 30th November as 232,617 cwts, value £448,177, as against 259,472 cwts, value £480,162, for the same period of 1899.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes opened with a slightly improved demand for American, and 3d. advance for future shipment is asked. Other sorts are firm at currencies. There is a good enquiry for round maize cargoes, but flat sorts are out of favour. Persian barley continues in request, but brewing kinds are not much sought after, and business in Azoff feeding for May shipment is to note to be exciting. American oat cargoes have some steady buyers at full prices. Cargoes of cottonseed are the turn dearer for futures shipment.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Odessa, [illegible] shipment, Walla Walla, 2s 4½d; Argentine, [illegible] shipment, [illegible] 2s 4½d; Argentine, prompt shipment, [illegible] 2s 4½d; Argentine, [illegible] shipment, [illegible] 2s 4½d; Northern, prompt shipment, New Zealand, [illegible] passage.

MAIZE.—Steamer to sail May [illegible] on passage; Argentine, 20s 9d, on passage; American, 19s 9d, December shipment, old crop; American, 18s 6d, February shipment.

BARLEY.—Persian, 17s 3d, prompt; Azoff, [illegible] May shipment.

OATS.—White Libau, 13s 9d, prompt shipment; American white clipped, 15s., on passage.

BEANS.—Saida, 29s. on passage.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Egyptian, £6 12s 6d, February shipment.

[illegible] continued on page 791.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

In anticipation of a better demand for fat beasts at Islington owing to the great market day falling so late this year, a larger number of prime quality were sent up for sale, especially from Scotland and Norfolk; they, however, met with a slow and dragging trade. The previous week's rates were, however, well maintained, but for all other grades lower prices had to be accepted, notwithstanding which a clearance could not be made. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in full supply, and were difficult to cash, there being less demand both by town and country buyers, a good many of the former being left unsold. Very little inquiry for rough cattle. At the foreign cattle market, Deptford, there was an increase of over 1,800 on the supply; for the best on offer, consisting of States beasts, trade ruled firm and steady on all three market days, but Canadian ranchers were sold on easier terms. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets was 5,869, consisting of 2,370 British and 3,499 foreign, these latter comprising 2,938 from the United States and 561 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90-stone Scotch, 4s. 10d.; 90 to 95-stone Herefords, 4s. 10d.; 90-stone Dublins, 4s. 6d.; 90-stone Norfolks, 4s. 9d.; 100-stone Shorthorns, 4s. 6d.; 110-stone Shorthorns, 4s. 2d.; 90-stone fat cows, 3s. 10d.; 90-stone States beast, 4s. 5d. to 4s. 6d.; 90-stone Canadians, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 9d. The sheep trade at Islington both for wethers and ewes was of a slow nature, especially for the latter, which made rather less money, sales of the former being governed by the previous week's rates; the few foreign sheep at Deptford on Monday were difficult to sell. The total number penned at both markets was 7,615, consisting of 7,180 British and 435 Canadians. Best pens made, per 8lbs, as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8-stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 8d.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone Irish, 5s.; 10-stone Downs, 5s. 4d.; 10-stone half-breds, 5s. 2d.; 10-stone ewes, 4s.; 12-stone halfbreds, 5s.; 8 to 8½-stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s. Owing to the nominal supply of calves (20) trade is not worth noting or quoting. Pigs were in full supply, numbering 570, trade for which was a shade firmer on both days; the best small breeds on offer made 4s. 6d. per 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Trade in the West.

If we except the few sales passing in milch beasts, and also in barreners, both of which are still commanding good prices—the former up to £22 apiece for good milchers, and from £23 to £34 per pair for the latter—attention just now is almost exclusively centred on the Christmas trade, which, although fairly satisfactory in some respects, is yet rather disappointing in others, the buoyancy in the beef trade a short time ago having inspired the hope that better prices all round would have been realised than graziers have yet been able to obtain. Still, the consolation, such as it is, remains that things might have been much worse than they really are. Whilst good steers and heifers—which range in round numbers from £20 up to £40 apiece—can be quoted at 12s. to 13s. per score, this cannot be called a very bad price; but then it is only the very ripest qualities, and daintiest weights that bring this figure, plenty of the ordinary runs of Christmas bullocks selling from 11s. to 12s., and others of indifferent grades at 10s. to 10s. 6d. Prices are all the more disappointing, therefore, owing to the high expectations that had been entertained of an exceptionally good Christmas trade. Mutton is generally looked upon as selling relatively better than beef; but then butchers are very fastidious, and just now only care to look at the very best—choice wethers and ewes of light weights—which sell from 7½d. to 8¾d. per lb., the price depending entirely upon quality. Calves retain their recent firmness, and porkers—which constitute the chief article in demand in pigs—are selling exceedingly well up to 10s. and 10s. 6d. per score. Therefore, as far as the western markets are concerned, there is very little about which graziers or agriculturists can complain very much.

Trade in Ireland.

Thursday last was the "big" or Christmas market in Dublin; but, strange to say, there was a large falling off in the supplies of both cattle and sheep, there being 1,120 fewer beasts and 872 sheep. This large decrease, however, did not effect much improvement in prices, which were very little better than the previous market. Cross-Channel buyers were present in good force, and picked up any choice bullocks and heifers early in the day at fair prices, and with the ordinary run of cattle the fall of the previous week was probably recovered. Small choice heifers made from 10s. to 15s. per head more money. There was a very limited supply of really well-finished cattle, and English buyers were disappointed, but most of them supplied their wants from the winter show at Balls Bridge. Rough second-class cattle met with a very irregular and unsatisfactory sale, and a large number were held over unsold. Ox and heifer beef made from 52s. 6d. to 56s., and some extra good lots from 57s. 6d. to 59s.; second class, 46s. to 50s.; and other descriptions 38s. to 44s. per cwt. The trade in sheep was a little more active. Best wether mutton was worth from 6d. to 6¼d. per lb.; ewe, 4½d. to 5½d. Prime veal scarce and unaltered in price, but rough sorts moved slowly. Demand for good dairy cows active, and high prices given for best quality of springers and new milchers, which sold from £17 to £21. A good supply of pigs, and with a large attendance of English buyers trade was better at slightly higher prices, and a clearance was effected. Best lightweight pigs made from 45s. to 47s. per cwt., and coarse from 32s. to 40s.

Trade in Scotland

John Swan and Sons, Limited, give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The number of cattle on offer this week has been a fair average, but a considerable proportion only very secondary quality. Owing to the excessively unfavourable weather, trade throughout has been generally quieter, and prices about from 10s. to 15s. a head under the previous week. Sheep have been in rather shorter supply, demand moderate, and prices generally the turn lower. Pigs and calves in small numbers, and they have made full quotations. A fair supply of store sheep; anything of a good class met a fair inquiry, and a good clearance effected. A small supply of store cattle; best class in rather better demand, and a clearance of this description effected, but a few secondary cattle left over. Milch cows were shown in smaller numbers of the previous week, and prices were obtained on all classes; especially the better sold exceedingly dear. Quotations: Best beef from 7s. 6d. to nearly 8s. 5d. per stone; best mutton, 7½d. to 8¾d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—No appreciable improvement in demand, and business again slow. Arrivals of beef included 45 tons Scotch, 780 Liverpool sides, 2,100 hindquarters, and 700 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations:—Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s to 4s 4d; long, 3s 8d to 4s; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; forequarters, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 4d; and Dutch, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Supplies good, and slightly improved demand, while fair business was effected. Arrivals included 100 tons Scotch, 360 Liverpool sides, 2,200 hindquarters, and 1,700 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s to 4s 2d; long, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Liverpool, 3s 7d to 3s 9d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; forequarters 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; Canterbury, 3s 1d to 3s 4d; Wellington, 3s to 3s 2d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 6d; Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s; and Irish, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Fair supply of beasts on offer, a good many of which consisted of fat bulls and rough cattle. Dull den and. Moderate supply of sheep penned, for which slow inquiry, but prices of both wethers and ewes were without appreciable change. Quotations: 9-stone Down wethers, 5s 6d; 10-stone half-bred, 5s to 5s 2d; 10-stone Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s; exceptionally, 4s 2d; 10-stone half-breds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d. Calves were in moderate request, the best on offer making 5s 4d. Pigs in fair supply, ruled without essential alteration Neat small, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Total supplies: 220 beasts, 780 sheep, 20 calves, 380 pigs, and 10 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Boston, Wednesday.—A very small market, only a few stores, and for these there was little demand. Best bullock beef, 7s 6d to 8s; cow beef, 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone. Stores, £9 to £11. No demand for in-calvers. Calves, 60s to 65s. Wethers, 7½d to 8d; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb. Strong store lambs, 38s to 42s each.

Braintree, Wednesday.—A moderate trade, porkers being in demand. Stock penned: 18 beasts, 178 fat sheep, 68 hogs, 316 store pigs, 6 cows, 12 calves, store sheep scarce, and 3 horses. Cows were in demand.

Brigg, Thursday.—Only a moderate show of horned stock, and buyers were thinly represented. Business was by no means brisk, and only a limited number of lots changed hands. Milch beasts and in-calvers ranged from £12 to £18; drapes, £8 to £11; two-year-old steers and heifers, £9 to £12; and calves, 30s to 40s per head. Very few sheep penned, and scarcely any business was done.

Bristol, Thursday.—Very short supply of beef for Christmas market. Extra qualities scarce, 63s per cwt; good descriptions, 60s to 62s, others 54s to 58s. Sheep limited in number; choice wethers, 7½d to 8d per lb, ewes 6d; trade very slow. About 700 pigs; bacon pigs 9s 6d, porkers 10s 6d per score. Only 200 store cattle, slow sale, nearly all sold at late rates.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
8 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	2½ in. and under..	9s 0d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in.	8s 6d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	8s 0d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND Co., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows:—Beasts, 790; sheep, 630; pigs, 417; horses, 9. Beef, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per stone; mutton, 4s 4d to 5s 8d; pork, 6s to 7s. Christmas market, and not so many store beasts, but nearly all cleared Fat beasts, a good show, and fair prices were made all round. Fat sheep, a short supply, and prices better. Stores, a few lots to hand, and all sold. Fat pigs, a good supply, and trade brisk at late rates. Stores, not a very good trade. Hay, straw, and roots, short supply and a fair trade.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Fair offering of bullocks, but very few sheep. Trade was slow. Rough Irish calves ranged from £4 15s to £5 10s; useful Welsh bullocks, £7 15s to £11; shorthorn yearlings, £7 to £9. A few rough cows and calves were also disposed of.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The stormy weather of the past week prevented dealers bringing cattle over from Ireland, and the result was that the supply was smaller than usual. A number of excellent stall feeding heifers were shown, and there were also groups of wintering heifers and polled bullocks. The attendance of buyers was small, and trade was quiet. Wintering heifers were quoted at £6 10s to £8 15s and £10 10s; polled bullocks £12 10s; stall feeding heifers, £13 10s to £14 10s. No young pigs offered.

Colne, Wednesday.—The market was not very largely stocked, and sales fell off. Best English calvers, £16 to £22 10s; geld cows, £14 to £20; fat cattle, £13 to £15; crossbreds, £8 to £12; bullocks, £12 to £16; lambs, 19s to 24s; halfbred sheep, 33s to 35s; ditto wethers, 36s to 38s; Scotch sheep, 22s to 26s; wethers, 32s to 34s; Scotch lambs, 14s to 16s; beef, 5½d; mutton, 6d to 6½d; lamb, 6½d to 7d per lb.

Doncaster, Tuesday.—Fully an average supply of cattle, and sheep for the time of the year, and buyers well represented, but trade not very brisk, late prices being obtained. Beef, 7s to 7s 9d per stone; good sheep, 7d to 8d; secondary, 6d to 6½d per lb.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Large supplies of fat stock for the Christmas trade, including some prize-winners from the Smithfield show. Trade generally was slow, and only the finest brands commanded high prices. Beef sold up to 12s per score. Sheep were in moderate supply, but good prices were only obtained for the primest lots.

Driffield, Wednesday.—There was a good show of beef, and fair prices were made, the primest sorts making up to 8s 6d per stone. Shearlings, 8d per lb; ewes, 6d to 7d. A fair number of grazing sheep, which made up to 40s per head.

Dublin, Thursday.—Good class stall-feds met with fair trade at slightly improved prices. Rough sorts of grass cattle, although considerably diminished in numbers, were still in excess of requirements, local traders and exporters confining their attention more to beef suitable for Christmas. Fair demand for sheep, best qualities of heavy wethers and fancy light weights for home consumption making more money. Shipping qualities and ewes unaltered. Cattle (best), 30s to 31s per cwt. Other descriptions, 26s to 29s per cwt. Mutton, 5½ to 6¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Gainsborough, Tuesday.—Fair show of calves, which met with a ready sale at 34s to £2, being a slight reduction on last week's prices.

Gisburn, Wednesday.—The number of beasts was about an average, and trade not very brisk. English cattle unaltered. Sheep and lambs about unchanged.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies shorter. Trade fair. Sheep sharper. Top mutton, 8¾d; secondary, 7¾d per lb. Top Scotch cattle, 68s; top Irish, 58s to 60s; secondary, 54s to 56s per cwt. Dead meat slow owing to this being Advent. Values, however, steady. Best States beef, 5¾d; Canadians, 5¼d to 5½d; cows, 4½d to 4¾d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day:—Bullocks and cows 775, calves 56, sheep and lambs 1,101, pigs (fat and sows) 31, sucking pigs 6, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 246, pigs (stores, more than ten) 205, horses 50, colts 15. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb: veal 9d per lb; lamb, 8½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb: bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—This was our Christmas fair, but the supply was not much above the ordinary market. The mild weather made buyers very cautious, and prices consequently did not come up to expectations, only the best beasts selling fairly well, at about 6½d per lb. One of the largest buyers was Mr Hollis, Birmingham, who purchased nearly £500 worth under the hammer. The sheep trade was slow, the top price for wethers being 7½d to 8d per lb, and ewes were down as low as 5½d Calves sold well, up to 5 guineas. Pig trade not quite so good; porkers, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per score; bacons, 9s. Trade for store cattle dull.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Very heavy consignments of home fed bullocks came to hand to-day, and a steady trade was done in choice qualities, but inferior were slow. Prime bullocks made 6¼d per lb; secondary, 6d to 6½d per lb; cows, 5d to 5½d per lb; and heifers 6d to 6¾d per lb. Sheep sold freely at 7¾d to 8d per lb for choice light weights; large sheep, 7d to 7½d per lb; and ewes, 6d per lb. Calves sold slowly at 7d to 7½d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—Very fair supplies of home-bred stock in good condition. Trade sluggish at easier rates. Milch cows, £15 to £22 per head. Bullocks £8 to £14 each. Young stock, dull trade.

Lincoln, Friday.—Only a moderate supply of beasts, and a dull trade, Young bullocks made £10 to £12, and cows up to £18 per head. The number of sheep was small, and trade was slow. Lambs made 28s to 40s, and ewes up to 30s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Short supply. For beasts excellent demand and owners of milch cows were particularly firm. Price went up to £21, and a few beasts fetched even £22. Best bullocks, very few of which were offered, realised £14 to £16, and young stock £6 to £11. Supply in sheep department exclusively of lambs; best, 30s to 40s and remainder down to 20s. Pig trade slow; no alteration in prices.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Heavy cattle trade, buyers holding off for Christmas supplies next week. Pork in good demand. Numbers:—Cattle, 2,464; sheep, 5,555; calves, 48; pigs, 1,080. Prices (sinking offal):—Beef, 5s to 8s, and pork, 5s to 9s per stone. Mutton, 6d to 8d; and veal, 5d to 8½d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—The quotations were:—Best beef, 6¾d to 6¾d per lb; secondary, 6d to 6¼d; best wether mutton, 7¾d to 8d; cows, 5½d to 6d; lamb, 8d. A short supply.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a pretty good show of store beasts here to-day; trade was quiet on former terms. The show of fat cattle was large, in anticipation of the Christmas holidays, and there were some London dealers present. The business done was effected at 8s to 8s 6d per 14lb. Store sheep showed little change; hoggets were quoted at 35s to 41s per head. Fat sheep, which were in moderate supply, made 8s 6d to 9s and 9s 6d per 14lb.

Preston, Wednesday.—Good supplies, but little business for beef, for which recent rates were maintained Sheep sold fairly well, and calves were in poor demand. Beef, heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6¼d; cows and bulls, 5d to 5½d; hogs, 7¾d to 8¼d; tups and ewes, 5d to 6¼d; calves, 6d to 7½d per lb. At market:—Cattle, 2,753; sheep, 6,184; calves, 112; pigs, 73. The Christmas market will be held on Tuesday, December 18.

Sheffield, Tuesday.—A larger show of milch beasts than usual, and a very fair business done particularly in the best lots, which made £20 to £26; secondary sorts, £13 to £16 10s.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Cows with calves and fat stock better both in price and demand with a good trade all round. Small supplies of sheep and calves. Quotations:—Beef, 6d to 6¾d; mutton, 7¾d to 8¾d; and veal, 7¾d to 8¾d per lb. Porket pigs, 9s to 10s 6d, and bacons, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per score. Cows

with calves up to £23 5s. Hay up to £3 12s 6d per ton. Fat pigs made up to £10 15s and cattle up to £33 5s. Number offered:—575 cattle, 47 cows with calves, 500 sheep, 71 calves, 114 fat, 104 porket, and 362 store pigs.

Sp lding, Tuesday.—No fat beasts offering, owing to Christmas fat stock show being fixed for this week. Beef is worth about 7s 9d to 8s per stone. The mutton trade not so good; ewes, 6½; Lincolns and half-breds, 7d to 7½d per lb.

Stockton, We lnesday.—There were on offer 206 cattle, 344 sheep, and 464 pigs. Best cattle a small supply at prices ranging from 7s 6d to 8s per stone; rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s; sheep, 8d; ewes, 6d; tups, about 5d per lb.

Taunton, Saturday.—A small supply, moderate attendance, and somewhat dull trade.

Uttoxeter, Wednesday.—There was a large amount of horned stock in the Smithfield. The quality was unusually good, a good deal of fat stock being on offer. Brisk business was done in all classes. Calving cows sold from £14 to £17 10s, calving stirks £9 to £11, barren cows £9 to £12, barren stirks £6 10s to £8, yearlings £4 to £5, one-year-old bulls £6 to £7, two-year-old bulls £8 10s to £10 each; beef, 5d to 6½d per lb. A fair number of sheep penned; fat sheep 6d to 8d per lb. Pigs made from 8s to 9s 6d per score lb.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Only a moderate trade for both beef and mutton; prime beef made 6½d per lb; and other qualities, 5d to 6d. Small sheep, 8½d per lb; strong sheep, 6½d to 7½d; ewes and tups, 5d to 6½d. Numbers penned:—Fat beasts, 1,926; sheep, 3,217.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—There were some choice animals on offer, which have been sent a week in advance of the usual Christmas show. Trade was slow, but prices were fully those of last week, indeed for choice beef 7d per lb was top price. Mutton slow trade, shearlings making as high as 8½d, rougher sorts 7½d, ewes and tups from 6d. Beasts penned, 1,925; sheep, 3,201.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Large attendance, but business was not over brisk. The supply of beasts was large, but of sheep and calves there was not a great number shown. Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb; veal, 6d to 8d per lb; bacon pigs, 7s 3d per score; porkets, 18s 6d per score; and sows, 7s 6d per score

Worcester, Saturday.—Market well supplied in all departments, but the mild weather has a depressing effect upon trade. Best quality beef sold at late rates; mutton rather lower; and pigs were scarcely so firm. Beef, 6d to 6½d; inferior, 5d to 6d; wether mutton, 7d to 8d; ewes, 5d to 6d per lb; pork pigs, 10s to 10s 6d; bacon, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast entries, 974 head. Trade very slow at 4s 2d to 4s 5d; exceptionally, 4s 6d for United States and 3s 4d to 3s 6d Canadian per 8lb, to sink the offal.

BUTTER.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 1s 10d to 2s per roll of 24oz. Leeds: Danish, 122s to 127s 6d per 112lb; Irish creameries, 102s to 106s; York lump, 15s to 16s per stone; ditto, long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 9d to 1s 11d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Settle: 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d per lb. Sheffield: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Spalding: 1s 1d per lb. Stone: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Boston: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Colne: 1s 3d per lb. Goole: 1s 3d per lb. Hereford: 1s 4d per lb. Keighley: 1s 4d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s 3d per lb. Knaresborough: 2s 1d to 2s 2d per roll of 24oz. Louth: (wholesale), 1s 2d per lb. Market Drayton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s 2d per lb. Masham: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 9d to 1s 11d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Whitby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Worksop: 1s 5d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Driffield: 1s 1d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 3d per lb. Penistone: 1s 3d per lb. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per lb.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 4d per lb. Derby: 1s 3d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Grimsby: Choicest Danish, 125s to 128s per cwt; Dutch, 112s to 118s; Canadian, 100s to 112s. Helmsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Knutsford: 1s 4d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 122s to 127s 6d per 112lb; Irish, 102s to 106s; York lump, 15s to 16s per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 1s 9d to 1s 11d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 10d to 1s 11d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 11d to 2s 1d per roll of 24oz. Whitchurch: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

EGGS.

Tuesday.—Bedale: 7 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 18s to 20s per 120; Irish, 13s 6d to 16s; Danish, 10s 6d to 12s 6d; Austrian blues, 8s to 9s; ditto reds, 6s 6d to 7s. Settle: 6 to 7 for 1s. Sheffield: 8 or 9 for 1s. Spalding: 7 for 1s. Stone: 6 to 7 for 1s.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 6 and 7 for 1s. Boston: 6 or 7 for 1s. Colne: 2s 8d per score. Goole: 7 for 1s. Hereford: 8 to 10 for 1s. Keighley: 6 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 8 or 9 for 1s. Knaresborough: 6 for 1s. Louth (wholesale): 10 for 1s. Market Drayton: 6 to 8 for 1s. Market Weighton: 8 for 1s. Masham: 7 and 8 for 1s. Northallerton: 7 for 1s. Stockton: 6 for 1s. Whitby: 7 for 1s. Worksop: 3s per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 8 or 9 for 1s. Driffield: 10 for 1s. Kidderminster: 7 for 1s. Penistone: 8 for 1s. Ripon: 7 for 1s. Scarborough: 7 for 1s. Wetherby: 6 or 7 for 1s.

Friday.—Crewe: 6 or 7 for 1s. Derby: 6 or 7 for 1s. Easingwold: 7 or 8 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 7s 1d to 9s 2d per 120; Hungarian, 7s 2d to 9s 5d; Helmsley: 8 or 9 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 18s to 20s per 120; Irish, 12s 9d to 15s 6d; Danish, 10s 6d to 12s 6d; Austrian blues, 8s to 9s; ditto reds, 6s 6d to 7s. Leyburn: 8 for 1s. Lincoln: 7 or 8 for 1s. Otley: 6 or 7 for 1s. Whitchurch: 8 or 9 for 1s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—There is a very good demand for really choicest quality Australian and New Zealand butters, and for the latter the demand is accentuated. Prices remain at 110s to 112s per cwt for choicest, but 114s is occasionally made for fancy brands. Finest brings 102s to 106s, but for the lower qualities no improvement is visible. The Copenhagen committee has not altered the official quotation this week, and the market remains firm in the Danish capital. Cheese.—For Canadian there is no change in either demand or prices worthy of mention. The price of Canadian cheese to-day is 5s per cwt less than it was last year at this time, when it rose to 60s.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per pocket of 240lb:—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers, £8 to £11; Leicester ditto, £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb:—Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; scoured, good, 1s 5½d to 1s 6d; scoured, average, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d; greasy, average to fair, 10d to 10½d; New South Wales, scoured, average, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; greasy average, 7½d to 8¼d; South Australian, greasy, average, 6d to 6½d; New Zealand, scoured, average, 1s 2d to 1s 3½; greasy, average, 7½d to 8d; Cape, scoured, superior, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; fleece, average, 5½d to 7½d; greasy, average, 5d to 6½d; Natal, scoured, 1s to 1s 1d; greasy, average, 5¾d to 6¼d; crossbreds, greasy, Victorian, good to superior, 9d to 11d; New Zealand, fine, 9½d to 10d; ditto, medium, 6¾d to 7½d; ditto, coarse, 5½d to 6½d.

Bradford, Thursday.—The tone of the market is still fairly good, though there is not much business to support it. Merino top makers have put up their prices so much that business is practically suspended. There is a better inquiry for fine cross-breds. Medium and strong descriptions are very quiet, and English are steady but slow. Yarn and piece trades without change.

Canterbury, Saturday.—More business doing, although prices show no improvement. All Kent wools freely command 6½d per lb, with from 4½d to 5d for lamb wool; 6½d to 7½d for half-breds, and from 8d to 10d for downs. Locks are quoted at from 2d to 2½d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—Improved tone. In English wool the values are steady at late rates. In yarns there is fair activity in making up special orders. In cashmeres prices have gone up.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed has been a firm market with a moderate demand. La Plata is not offered at all freely and rates have improved for this description of seed. Calcutta to London and near 57s 9d buyers. November-December 57s 3d, April-June 46s 6d. La Plata December 50s 9d, December-January 48s, January-February 45s 9d. Hull steady. Calcutta April-June 46s 6d, La Plata December-January 47s 9d, January-February 45s 9d. Azoff October-November 54s 6d. To the Continent, Bombay, February-March 50s 9d, March-May 49s 3d. Calcutta, April-June 46s 3d. La Plata December-January 48s, January-February 46s. Azoff-Novorossisk afloat 50s 6d, December-January 50s 3d c.i.f. Linseed cakes steady. London made £8 10s to £8 12s 6d. Russian, £7 15s to £8 ex dock. American Westerns at £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet. London made £4 17s 6d to £5. Egyptian £4 15s to £4 16s 3d. Rapeseed continues quiet. Brown Calcutta to London November-December 43s 9d, March-May 39s 6d. To the Continent we quote, Yellow Guzerat November-December 52s, April-June 46s 6d, Yellow Cawnpore March-May 43s, Brown Cawnpore November-December 47s 3d, March-May 39s 9d, Brown Calcutta November-December 44s 6d, April-June 40s, Jamba to Hull April-June 29s 3d, Ravison January-February 33s 6d. Cottonseed.—Demand moderate, prices steady. Near London £6 13s 9d, December-January-March £6 13s 9d. Hull spot £6 11s 3d, December-March £6 10s. Cargoes January £6 13s 9d, February £6 13s 9d sellers. The import into London for the week has been 2,169 tons, and since 1st January 43,417 tons against 36,942 tons corresponding time last year.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS' COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: With the continued open weather, and relatively high values, there is a very limited demand, while supplies, although not large, are amply sufficient. Russians and Americans sell slowly and without change. There is little fresh business passing in English and quotations are unaltered. Cotton cakes: A fair quality of Egyptian are available on spot, which, with a good enquiry, are firmly held. English move off quietly and unchanged. Decorticated cake and meal in warehouse offer as before. Maize germ meal: Arrived parcels of American are obtainable on rather better terms, while for December to February seaboard shipment £5 3s. 9d. would be accepted. Rice meal: Rangoon ex dock is unchanged, and £4 7s. 6d. ex ship is asked for January arrival.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made.....per ton ex mill	8 7 6	to	8 12 6
American in bags.....ex dock	7 10 0	„	7 12 6
American c.i.f.-Dec. ..... „	7 8 8	„	—
Russian in mats ..... „	7 12 6	„	7 15 0
Russian in bags..... „	7 17 6	„	8 0 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made..... ex mill	4 17 6	„	5 0 0
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 15 0	„	4 17 6
Decorticated	6 17 6	„	7 0 0
Meal, on spot .... Oct.-Nov. shipment	6 15 0	„	6 17 6
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 15 0	„	—
Ravison ..... „	4 10 0	„	—
Nutted, in bags ..... „	4 15 0	„	—
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American)..... ex dock	5 5 0	„	5 7 6
„ „ „ Dec. c.i.f.	5 0 0	„	—
„ „ (English)..... ex mill	5 8 9	„	5 10 0
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon .....ex warehouse	4 10 0	„	4 12 6
„ Jan.-March..... „	4 7 6	„	—

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane

Hull, Tuesday.—The wheat trade is very quiet to day; home-grown meets a fair sale at about the same prices as last week. Foreign about the same as last week. Malting barley steady at quite late rates for good samples. Grinding unchanged. Oats and beans unaltered from last week. Maize dull, but without material change in values. Linseed: The arrivals are 1,418 qrs from Konigsberg, 10,363 qrs Odessa; total 11,781 qrs. The market is a shade firmer, and a little more disposition shown for business. Calcutta, 46s 9d the quotation. Black Sea, 54s the exact value spot. Petersburg, 54s 6d. Riga, 54s buyers. River Plate firmer; during the week as low as 46s 6d has been accepted, and for Dec.-Jan. 47s 6d to 47s 9d now the value; Jan.-Feb, 45s 9d asked. Cottonseed: there has not been much activity in the market since our last, and lower prices accepted, spot having been sold at £6 12s 6d to £6 11s 3d. Forward positions rather steadier at £6 11s 3d passage and to March, after £6 10s taken middle last week, though rather sellers thereat to-day. Linseed cakes: Steady, with rather better demand. The shortage of seed, spot and near, imparts a very firm feeling with first-hand sellers. Cotton cakes: In good demand at late rates. Hemp. Unchanged.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 2s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 0s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 5s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE, packed in bags, of 1½cwt. each. Price per cwt. 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Borough, Saturday.—Arrivals of best qualities of potatoes were on a limited scale, but very large supplies of inferior descriptions were available. Trade for the former was brisk, but business on the latter made extremely slow progress, and prices were difficult to maintain. A good supply of greenstuffs evidenced a moderate sale. Potatoes: English Reading Giants, 3s to 3s 9d; Professor Maerkers, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; British Queens, 3s 6d to 5s; Up-to-Dates, 3s 6d to 5s; Belgian and Dutch: Imperators, 2s 6d to 3s; Magnums, 2s 9d to 3s; French and German Magnums, 3s 3d to 4s per cwt. Cabbages, 2s to 2s 6d; savoys, 2s 6d to 3s per tally; Brussels sprouts, 1s to 1s 3d per half-sieve; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s per bag; turnips, 2s to 2s 6d; parsley, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; celery, 6s to 1s per dozen bundles; English onions, 4s to 4s 6d per cwt; Valencia, 6s to 6s 6d per case; English apples, 2s 6d to 6s per bushel; Nova Scotian, 9s to 12s per barrel; oranges, 8s to 14s per box; grapes, 8s to 10s per barrel; chestnuts, 7s to 9s per bag.

Covent Garden, Saturday. [illegible] supplies were limited [illegible] Potatoes: Best samples [illegible] 3s; seconds, 2s to 2s 6d per cwt. Cabbages, 2s per dozen; Brussels sprouts, 2s per ½ sieve; carrots, 2s per bag; turnips, 2s per bag; onions, 3s per cwt; parsley, 1s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 1s per bundle; celery, 9s to 1s per dozen bundles; English apples, 4s to 6s per bushel; Normandy, 9s per barrel; Canadian, 12s per barrel; pears, 2s per dozen; Belgian grapes, 2s to 2s 6d per lb; Almeria grapes, 9d to 2s; Belgian, 6d to 1s per lb; Almeria, 18s per barrel; English apples, 3s to 7s per bushel; Scotian, 10s to 18s per barrel; Californian pears, 1s to 2s per box; Egyptian oranges, 3s to 3s 6d per case; Messina, 3s to 4s per case; Valencia, 8s to 16s per case; Tangerine oranges, 2s to 3s per dozen; pineapples, 1s 6d to 4s each; bananas, 4s to 6s per bunch; lemons, 2s to 4s per case; tomatoes, 1s to 2s per lb; cucumbers, 1s to 2s each; mushrooms, 1s to 2s per lb; chestnuts, 7s per bag; walnuts, 7s per sack.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday. [illegible] past week the arrivals of best samples [illegible] light, but the stock in hand [illegible] Trade has been brisk for best samples, [illegible] been a dragging trade, with prices [illegible] English: Reading Giants, 3s to 3s 9d; Professor Maerkers, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; British Queens, 3s 6d to 5s; Up-to-Dates, 3s 6d to 5s; Belgian and Dutch Imperators, 2s 6d to 3s; Magnums, 2s 9d to 3s; French and German Magnums, 3s 3d to 4s per cwt.

Goole, Wednesday.—Potatoes: There were [illegible] on offer here today. Trade was rather quiet at last week's price, 80s per ton.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Quiet, but prices [illegible] quantity of hops unsold is such that holders decline offers below current rates. Medium lots of useful quality are fast being cleared.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade quiet [illegible] Worcester hops, and the small demand prevailing is [illegible] of merchants' stocks. There is not likely to be any considerable volume of business done before Christmas, and in the meantime all hops in growers' hands are very [illegible].

Worcester, Saturday.—There has been no trade doing in new hops on our market this week, and only a few bales of yearlings have been weighed at the public scales. Prices keep very firm, owing to the few hops left, and more money will have to be paid when the spring demand sets in.—PIERCY AND CO.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Short supplies and a [illegible] demand, business being of a good character. Best clover, 85s to 100s; inferior ditto, 80s to 85s; specially picked hay, 92s 6d; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 90s; and straw, 25s to 36s per load.

Cumberland, Saturday.—Best selected hay, 2[illegible] good ditto, 75s to 80s; inferior ditto, 50s to 70s; prime clover, 85s to 97s 6d; good ditto, 70s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 65s; best mixture, 80s to 90s; and straw, 24s to 36s per load.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—There has been rather more inquiry this week, but the volume of trade passing is extremely small. We quote Canadian timothy and clover mixture, 83s; Dutch 1st cut clover, 88s 6d to 90s; Dutch and French 2nd cut clover, 90s to 92s 6d; good Dutch hay, 75s; inferior Dutch hay, 65s, all per ton, delivered by barge alongside.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10 Great Tower Street, E.C.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday. Fertilisers are idle at the [illegible] rates, and likewise feeding stuffs; values of the latter tend in buyers' favour, and annexed are to-day's quotations:—Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £8 7s 6d to £8 10s per ton; East India bone meal, in bags, £4 7s 6d per ton; kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 12s 6d to £7 16s 3d per ton; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 15s to £9 per ton; linseed cake, foreign, round, prime, in bags, £8 12s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, [illegible] in bags, £6 15s to £7 2s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 15s to £5 per ton; cottonseed cake (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil, guaranteed, prime, in bags, £7 5s per ton; maize germ meal, English, prime, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 15s to £4 17s 6d per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 11s to 11s 6d per 240lb; [illegible] fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 3s to £3 5s per qr, 416lb; N.A. cloverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, nominal; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 30 to 31 sol, in bags, nominal; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol, in bags, nominal; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 15 to 20 per cent phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d per ton; [illegible] prime quality, guaranteed, 35 to 40 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 13s 6d to £1 14s 6d per ton; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 16s to £1 17s 6d per ton, at the producing depots.—H. JONES LANCASTER AND CO.

Winsford Cheshire, Saturday. [illegible] salt at the works: Common white [illegible] per ton; screened rock salt, 8s 6d per ton, for truck loads in bulk—THE SALT UNION, LIMITED.

CORK BUTTER.

—	ORDINARY.				MILD CURED FIRKINS			FIRKINS IN MARKET
	Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	Superfine.	Fine.	Mild	
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	92	86	—	—	105	96	98	—
Tuesday ..	101	91	85	78	110	97	—	—
Wednesday ..	100	91	85	79	—	98	—	—
Thursday ..	101	93	85	—	115	98	—	—
Friday ..	98	92	85	72	113	—	—	—
Saturday ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The three fat Suffolks were exhibited at the Smithfield Club's show last week by the Earl of Ellesmere, of Stetchworth Park, Newmarket (who was also the breeder), and carried everything before them. They were shown in the class for three fat wethers of the Suffolk breed above twelve and under twenty-four months old, and they came out at the top of the list, afterwards being awarded the £15 silver cup for the best pen of their breed, the £50 challenge cup for the best pen of three short-woolled sheep or lambs in the show, and finally the Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup, value £100, for the best pen of three sheep or lambs in the show bred by the exhibitor. The same animals were also exhibited at Norwich, but they were not so successful there, being first in their class and reserve for the special prize for the best pen of shearling wethers or ewes in the show. At Norwich their weight was given as 7cwt. 3qrs. 24lbs., and at Smithfield 8cwt. 2qrs. 2lbs.

The crossbred steer Cock o' the North was exhibited at the Smithfield and Birmingham Shows by Captain H. L. Townshend, Caldecote Hall, Nuneaton. It won first prize in the class for crossbred steers over two and under three years old at both shows, and was reserve for the £25 silver cup for the best crossbred, and the £50 silver cup for the best steer or ox at Smithfield, and reserve for the £30 prize for the best animal in Classes 17 to 24 (Welsh, crossbreds, Kerries, and Dexters) at Birmingham. Cock o' the North was bred by the late Mr. W. H. Lumsden, Balmedie, Aberdeenshire, his sire being Mantlet of Blairmore 13650 (Aberdeen-Angus), and his dam Twinkling Star 64931 (Shorthorn). When exhibited he was a little over two years and ten months old, and weighed 17cwt. 3qrs. 13lbs. at Birmingham, and at Smithfield 9lbs. less.

Mr. R. J. Colman, Bracondale Woods, Norwich, won a first prize and the breed cup at the Smithfield Show with the Red Poll heifer Barbara III., sire Lord Nock 4010, dam Barbara 6922, bred by the late Mr. F. E. Colman, Nork Park, Epsom. Barbara III. was also exhibited at the Norwich Fat Stock Show, where she was also first in her class, and was awarded the prize of £15, for the best Red Polled beast in the show. She is close on two years and ten months old, and weighed 14cwt. 0qr. 4lbs. at Norwich, and 6lbs. more at Smithfield.

The Devon steer Baden Powell, sire Harold 4th 3595, dam Duchess 38th of Pound 14174, by Masterpiece 2837, was bred by Mr. A. C. Skinner, Pound Farm, Bishop's Lydeard, and exhibited at the Norwich, Birmingham, and Smithfield Shows by Mr. John Wortley, Frettenham, Norwich. At the first named exhibition Baden Powell was entered in the class for steers of any pure breed other than Shorthorn or Red Polled, over two and under three years old, and here he had for a rival the magnificent Hereford steer Lord Roberts (also belonging to Mr. John Wortley), and as a result he was placed second. At Birmingham, however, the two were, of course, in different classes, and this time Baden Powell came out at the head of his class, and also won the cup for the best Devon, a performance he repeated at Smithfield. His weight at Norwich and Birmingham was exactly the same, namely, 14cwt. 1qr. 23lbs., but before reaching the Smithfield Show he lost 13lbs.

The Welsh steer, which is without a name, was the winner of a first prize at Birmingham and second at Smithfield. It was exhibited by the Hon. F. G. Wynn, Glynllifon, Carnarvonshire, and was bred by Mr. W. Roberts, Llwydfarn, Talycafn, R.S.O., its sire being Cynto, and its dam Blackan. It is just under three years old, and weighed at Birmingham 17cwt. 2qrs. 20lbs., and at Smithfield 1qr. 3lbs. less.

The Welsh heifer Bryny Wern, whose sire was Bryntwr, and dam Garreg Bach, was bred and exhibited by Mr. R. M. Greaves, Wern, Portmadoc. She was only shown at the Smithfield Club's exhibition, and she won the first prize in her class and also the breed cup. Her age and weight were respectively—two years ten months three weeks; 16cwt. 0qr. 6lbs.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, have just received a letter from Mr. George Simonds, of Tasmania, which reads as follows:—"My Shropshire shearling ram, bred by Messrs. Evans, to be known henceforth as 'Austral Star,' arrived by the ss. Paparoa on the evening of October 29th in good order, and it will interest you to know that I am perfectly satisfied with the selection. The other sheep sent with the same vessel turned up in a most healthy condition, reflecting creditably on the arrangements made for the journey."

The entire herd of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle, belonging to Mr. W. H. Hall, of Cross Canonby, Maryport, Cumberland, is to be sold by Messrs. John Thornton and Co., on Wednesday, January 9th, at Cross Canonby. The herd, which is sold in consequence of Mr. Hall's advanced years and retirement from active business, has been in existence over fifty years. It was first established at Gilcrux, and afterwards removed to Cross Canonby, the original cows having been obtained from Mr. Gilbanks, of Whitefield, and Mr. Sowber Watkin, of Plumpton. Good bulls were obtained from eminent breeders, Sir Humphrey 9640, one of the earliest, being purchased from Mr. Senhouse, of Nether Hall. Wedding Guest 73871, by Sea King—Lady Rosedale, by the well-known prize bull Ingram's Faith, was used three seasons, and is the sire of a large number of animals for sale; as also is Village Chief 78072, bred by Messrs. Mann from the old Brayton Benson tribe.

Village Chief is still in service, as well as Double Benedict 70726, from Madge Millicent, who was by Beau Benedict, a bull that may be said to have been the making of the late Mr. Robert Thompson's herd at Inglewood. In fact, this stock is very full of the blood of that famous herd, as well as of that at Brayton. It has been reared on a very healthy farm adjoining the Solway Firth. The cows are capital milkers and have been kept for butter making and calf rearing; casting is unknown. For many years no cows have been purchased, but fresh blood has been brought in through the sires, with good judgment, as the excellent young stock will testify.

Mr. Hall's farm stock, comprising a small choice pure-bred flock of Lincoln sheep, of Messrs. Dudding, Norman, and Mann's blood, about 300 cross-bred Border Leicester and Highland sheep, the cart horses, crop of 190 acres, and implements, will be sold on the same day by Mr. Williamson, of Wigton.

The Council of the Royal Dublin Society are acting munificently in promoting and fostering the success of their great spring show. This year, and at several previous shows, some dissatisfaction was expressed by exhibitors, particularly in the classes of Shorthorns, Herefords, and Aberdeen-Angus, which always held an important place among the leading breeds, and so far at least as these three classes are concerned, the Council of the Society have just determined to increase by £354 the money prizes allotted to their owners. At the last spring show Shorthorns had £198 distributed amongst them, Herefords £80, and Aberdeen-Angus £110, this amounting to £396, and now, with £354 added, the total prize awards in these classes at the spring show will reach the considerable figure of £750.

Red Polls will again have £32 in money prizes, Galloways £20, Ayrshires £24, Kerries £54, Dexters £54, Jerseys £54, Guernseys £5, and dairy cattle £20. Swine will have £66, agricultural horses £173, Hackneys £176, asses £5, harness horses £149, polo ponies £83, while in the jumping competitions £130 will be awarded. Draught horses and vehicles will have £43 15s. awarded in money prizes. The class prizes thus amount to £1,865, and with numerous valuable cups, medals, and special prizes, and of service premiums for bulls and boars added, the money value to be awarded the spring show exceeds altogether £5,000.

As the result of a conference held recently between the Royal Dublin Society and the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, the Society propose to introduce a change in their scheme for the improvement of the breed of horses in Ireland. They will, it is understood, hold a show of thoroughbred stallions in March, 1901, when £2,500, part of the fund payable annually to the Society under the Probate Duties Act, will be offered in premiums, subject to certain conditions of service.

In the House of Commons on Thursday Mr. Powell Williams stated that the number of horses landed in South Africa since the commencement of the war amounted, according to the last return, to 117,730. The number of mules was 64,730; 5,689 horses were lost on the voyage and 1,997 mules. No reports have been received showing the number of horses captured from the enemy or lost in the war.

Referring to the recent shipment per ss. Persic, of the White Star line, of twenty-four shearling ewes to Mr. James Gibb, of Melbourne, by Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, which without doubt is the largest and most valuable selection of Shropshire sheep ever taken to the Antipodes, the following particulars are given. Eight beautiful ewes bred by Mr. Philo Laos Mills, including the Bath and West of England and R.A.S.E. winners sired by Joe Chamberlain 9520, a son of Odstone Conservative 8153, Odstone Peacemaker 10048, winner Birmingham R.A.S.E.; Scotland's Hero 10116, winner R.A.S.E., bred by Mr. Buttar, by Crested Knight 8957 (sire of Royal Record, sold for 310gs.); and Royal Stuart 9665, by Lord Patriot 4627. Five ewes hailed from Mr. Buttar's noted flock, and were typical nice ewes sired by Crested Knight 3957, before alluded to; Corston Knight 9862, bred by Mr. Buttar, by Crested Knight; and Hallyburton 937, bred by Mr. Harding, by The Constable of Chester 7754. Mrs. Barrs supplied three choice ewes, including a first prize winner at Leicester Show and two others, all sired by Mr. Bowen-Jones's 185gs. Ensdon Four B's. Two extra good ewes had been purchased from Messrs. Evans's flock, one sired by Star of the Morning 10145, bred by Mr. A. E. Mansell, by Dream Star 8977, and the other by Mr. Minton's 60gs. Montford Monarch 10016, by the Royal winner Phenomenon 8680. Mr. A. E. Mansell supplied three nice typical ewes, sired by Fortification 9498, the sire of Mr. Mansell's Royal winner sold at 240gs., Dream Star 8977, and Bonny Dreamful 9362.

The remainder (three) came from Mr. Minton's celebrated flock, and were ewes of a beautiful stamp, two of which were sired by Phenomenon, winner R.A.S.E., and one by Odstone Pirate 10049, by Odstone Pilot 8662. The whole of these ewes had been served by the very best sires obtainable, amongst which may be mentioned Strong Bone 10548, Mr. Fenn's 100gs. ram in 1899; Substitute, an own brother to Mr. Tanner's 120gs. ram, sold to Mr. Burbury, of Tasmania; an 85gs. ram, bought by Messrs. Evans at Harrington, by Fortification 9498; Odstonian 10054; Black Watch, Mr. Mills' 80gs. purchase at Mr. Buttar's sale; Milas, Mr. Mills' 52gs. ram, purchased at Mr. Muntz's sale; Ontario 10468, Buttar's Reserve 9381, Corston Judge 10034, Montford Judge 10435, etc.

Special care had been taken in selecting these ewes to procure close dense fleeces and nice cherry skins, and Mr. Gibb is to be congratulated in obtaining such a well-bred collection from some of the leading breeders of this valuable breed of sheep. Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. personally attended to every detail of the shipment, and the sheep were sent out in charge of a junior member of the Mansell family.

Basingstoke Christmas Fat Stock Sale.—Messrs. Hugh E. Raynbird and Sons held their 28th annual auction sale of fat stock on Wednesday, which attracted a very numerous and influential company of agriculturists and buyers from all parts. The supply consisted of 170 fat beasts, 736 fat sheep and lambs, 48 calves, 395 fat pigs, and 148 head of poultry, consigned by about 160 feeders. The buildings were fairly brisk and well maintained for all the best cattle, but the late sellers had slightly the worst of the business. Buyers thought the trade was good; sellers said it might have been better; but with few exceptions they were well satisfied to clear out. The ruling prices were similar to last year, viz., prime Devon and polled beasts, 7d. to 8d. per lb., ditto Shorthorn, 6½d. to 7d.; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5½d. to 6d. per lb. With a supply in excess of last year's Christmas market the sheep as offered consisted of ripe Hampshire Down, Southdown, and Exmoor sheep and lambs. The trade, taken as a whole, was fairly brisk, a clearance being nearly made for the best weights good quality mutton late prices were well maintained.

CATTLE.

Importation of Animals (Ireland).

Foot-and-Mouth Disease.

The Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland desire to intimate that it has been decided to relax the prohibition which for some months past has been in existence against importation of animals (*i.e*, cattle, sheep, goats, and other ruminant animals, and swine) from Great Britain into Ireland; and the following is an outline of the regulations which will come into force in regard to such importations until further notice:—

(1) Except in the case specified in paragraph 5 below, a permit from this department will in each instance be necessary before importation can be effected.

(2) The grant of permits will be dependent on the result of inquiries which the Department will cause to be made in connection with each application.

(3) Permits, when issued, will state what further conditions (if any) have to be fulfilled to enable the importation to be completed.

(4) Shipping companies, before accepting animals for importation, should see that they are accompanied by a permit wherever a permit is necessary, and that the conditions therein laid down have up to that point been complied with.

(5) In the case of sheep imported from places in Scotland and shipped at Scotch ports, the requirement as to production of a permit will be dispensed with. In all cases of this kind the animals will be allowed to be imported without previous application to the Department, provided they are accompanied by a veterinary surgeon's certificate of health given at the time of movement and by a declaration that during the preceding three months they have not been in contact with any diseased or suspected animals, and subject also to the condition that they are found free from disease on examination by a veterinary inspector of the department on arrival at the port of entry in Ireland.

(6) Shipping companies trading to Scotch ports should be careful to see that in the case of any sheep sought to be imported from thence the certificate and declaration specified in paragraph 3 above are duly forthcoming prior to shipment, as the non-production of such documents on arrival in Ireland would render the landing of the animals liable to be disallowed.

Tuberculosis and the Foreign Cattle Trade.

At the annual dinner of the Aberdeen-Angus Club, held at the Tavistock Hotel, London, on the 8th inst., under the presidency of Mr. W. S. Ferguson, of Pictonhill, a discussion took place upon tuberculosis as it affected the foreign cattle trade. Mr. Ferguson, who initiated the discussion, said some of the restrictions placed upon the cattle trade, particularly upon the trade with the Argentine Republic, were, in his opinion, unfair to the stock-breeders in this country. He suggested that the tuberculine test, which was applied to the cattle on landing at ports in the Argentine, should be applied before the animals left the country. He understood that the particular objection to such a proposal was that animals could be "faked" and made to pass the test whilst they were really unsound. He believed it was the case that if the tuberculin were injected into an animal some weeks before the official test was to be applied, then the tuberculin would not react upon the second occasion. He did not believe that any responsible stock-breeder would do such a thing as to "fake" animals, and considered that it would afford a greater degree of protection to the buyers in the Argentine Republic if the tests were applied by inspectors officially appointed to conduct the work in this country.

Professor Macfadyen spoke next. He admitted that the Chairman had made out a strong case from a seller's point of view. It might be difficult to convince the buyers in the Argentine that nothing was done to interfere with the value of the test. He did not suggest that any member of the club would "fake" animals, but he had heard of a hypodermic syringe being seen in the possession of men who had charge of cattle crossing the Atlantic. Prof. Macfadyen also pointed out that it did not follow that an animal which had been found free from tuberculosis in this country would be found equally free when it arrived at the Argentine. It might develop the disease on the way.

After a long discussion, it was unanimously resolved to memorialise the Board of Agriculture with a view to having the restriction upon the cattle trade modified in the way in which the chairman had suggested.

LORD ELLESMERE'S PEN OF SUFFOLK SHEEP. CHALLENGE CUP, CHAMPION PLATE, AND BREED CUP WINNERS AT THE SMITHFIELD SHOW.

Shrewsbury Store Stock Sales.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., auctioneers, of Shrewsbury, held their last store cattle sale for the season on Friday last, when, as usual, a very useful lot of cattle was offered for competition. The auction was well attended, buyers hailing from many of the southern and eastern counties. Within the past year cattle have been sold at this Mart from no less than thirty counties in Ireland. The prices on Friday ruled as follows:—Hereford steers, £12 5s., £11 10s., £11 7s. 6d., £11 5s., £11, £10 10s.; Hereford bullocks, £13 17s. 6d., £13 15s., £13 10s., £13 5s.; polled bullocks, £12 17s. 6d., £12 15s., £12 10s., £12; polled heifers, £10 10s., £10 7s. 6d., £10, £9 15s.; Shorthorn steers, £12, £11 15s., £11 12s. 6d., £11 10s.; Shorthorn heifers, £13 10s., £13, £12 15s., £12 10s., £11 17s. 6d.; Welsh cattle, £10 12s. 6d., £10, £9 10s., £8 15s., £8, £7 15s. The first sale of the coming season will take place on Friday, January 11th, for which a large entry has been received.

The fair held at Tipperary on Monday was a large one. A good demand prevailed for calves and one and a-half year olds, but older cattle sold slowly, and a number failed to find purchasers. The small supply of springers met a good demand. Quotations: Calves, first class, £5 5s. to £5 15s.; second class, £4 to £4 17s. 6d. Yearlings, first class, £8 15s. to £9 10s.; second class, £6 5s. to £8 12s. 6d.; third class, £4 10s. to £6. Two-year-olds, first class, £12 5s. to £14 10s.; second class, £9 to £11 10s.; third class, £7 10s. Springers, first class, £15 10s. to £18; second class, £12 10s. to £15.

ALL farm live stock should be given "MOLASSINE." It is an excellent food and condiment combined. See advertisement on back page of this issue.—[ADVT.]

SMITHFIELD SHOW.

Mr. Wortley wins the Championship.

The hundred and second show of the Smithfield Club, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London, was brought to a conclusion on Friday, after having, as usual, extended over five days. It was a most interesting display, for there was a decrease in each division, comparing the entries with those of last year, and a still greater falling off from the number of the Centenary Show of 1898, while the quality of cattle and sheep were much superior to those of any of the five preceding shows.

The cattle entry was fifty-two fewer than last year, the sheep twenty, the pigs five, and the number of sheep thirteen, whilst the carcases of beasts balanced at the same total. Satisfaction must be found from the fact that the quality of the exhibits has never been higher than at the present show, and that the efforts wisely made by the Council of the Smithfield Club to encourage animals which mature early, and are consequently far cheaper to bring to market, are clearly bearing good fruit. On Monday His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales opened the show, with Sir Nigel Kingscote in attendance, the illustrious visitor being received by Mr. Leopold de Rothschild, the president for the year, Lord Feversham, Sir Walter Gilbey, Lord Moreton, and Mr. Hanbury, the Minister of Agriculture.

The championship awards were remarkable for having reversed some of the Birmingham judgments, and thus greatly diminishing the success which was anticipated for the Queen. For the silver cup offered to the exhibitor of the best beast in the show not over two years of age neither the Queen's Shorthorn heifer nor Mr. Learner's crossbred heifer was eligible, and it was awarded to Mr. John Ross's younger crossbred heifer, a fine beast for her age. The competition was not at its greatest when the judging for the silver cup offered for the best steer or ox in the hall was in progress. Still, there were several made breed cup winners in the running for these honours, and a good beast was needed to come out at the top. The feat was accomplished by Mr. John Wortley's fine Hereford. Then came the tussle for the female championship, and the Birmingham judgment was reversed by placing Mr. Learner's Norwich champion crossbred above the Queen's Shorthorn Cicely, the great winner in Bingley Hall. Mr. Learner's heifer is the more symmetrical and the better handler of the two. Mr. Wortley's Hereford steer was placed as the best beast of either sex in the show, thus putting him, not only above the Queen's heifer, which had beaten him at Birmingham, but also above Mr. Learner's heifer, which had beaten his Birmingham victor. The Hereford, however, was not in the running for the Queen's challenge cup, as he was not bred by his exhibitor, and the same remark applies to Mr. Learner's heifer. Therefore, Her Majesty had not her chief rivals to contend with in the last contest, and won her own trophy for the third time, thus becoming entitled to retain it.

Cattle.

HEREFORDS.

The Hereford classes were certainly very well filled as regards their quality. In numbers they were not exceptionally strong, though a good average. Many of the animals had been present at the Birmingham show the previous week, and for the most part retained their positions. In the older class of steers a little alteration was caused by the exhibition of Her Majesty the Queen's steer that had been entered for Birmingham and not sent. It was very generally thought from what had been heard of this steer that he would prove the champion of the year, but, however, as frequently is the case, an animal at home by himself and at a show in competition with others is a very different thing, and so the Birmingham reserve champion proved quite superior to his opponent. The younger class of steers, however, came first in the contest, and these were placed exactly as in the previous week, Mr. John Price's very big steer, who, by the by, looked none the worse for his outing, being placed first. This bullock has very great development for age, the best in the show, turning 15cwt. 0qr. 8lb. at a year and ten months, and he handles well, and also carries a good, deep, well-sprung [illegible]. He was got by Truant, his dam by Boniface. Her Majesty the Queen came second with a steer by Launcelot, weighing 12cwt. 1qr. 25lb., a beautiful steer in the hindquarters, but falling somewhat in the front, nevertheless, very good quality. Mr. A. P. Turner's third, as we said of him at Birmingham, is about as perfect a good as any in the class, though he has not sufficient speed about him to go on for further growing; he is capital beef, well filled on the top and firm. A second entry from Windsor was r. and h.c., and an entry of Mr. W. T. Barneby's c.

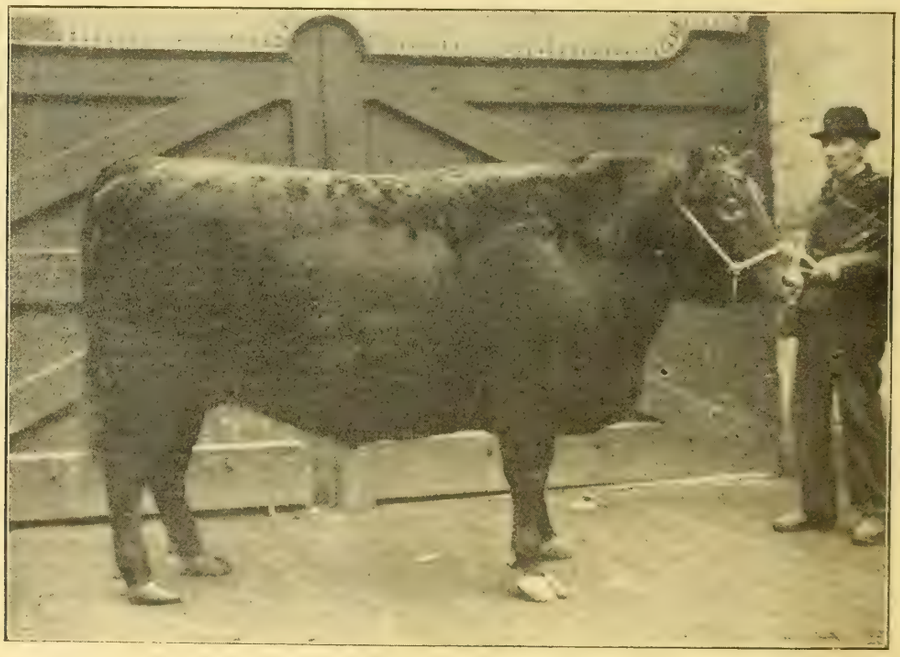
There were nine entries in the older class of steers, most of which, as already mentioned, were at Birmingham and suitably placed. Mr. Wortley's steer again came to the front, and here at the Agricultural all the leading honours open to him to Norwich, having

the Hereford-breed cup winner, the best ox in the show, and finally the best animal of any age, breed, or sex in the hall. He has retained his bloom wonderfully from Birmingham, and is so immensely deep in ribs and ripe, and filled up with beef of the right kind that these good properties outweighed his slight plainness of the hind quarters, which is, however, very apparent. He still stands at 17cwt. 1qr. 25lb. weight, sired by Bountiful, his dam by Sir Frank. Her Majesty's steer was placed second. He was got by Ladas, the sire of last year's champion, and is certainly a most remarkably good bullock. His loin and back are of the best so far as roasting beef is concerned, and he is neat at the setting on of tail, with good thighs. In scale he is considerably lighter than the winner, and in showing himself the weakness of the hocks gives a very apparent slope to the hindquarters, which detracts from his general contour. Mr. Hyde Cooke's third prize one (second in the Midlands) we liked very much, and he certainly ran the Windsor bullock closely for the second place. He is a capital-topped and well-finished bullock, and is little short of the weight of the first prize one. He was got by Ruler, out of a cow by the Crome Court bull Golden Miner. A second entry of Mr. Cooke's was reserved; h.c.'s were given to two very good bullocks of Mr. John Price's and Mr. A. E. Hughes's, and c.'s to Mr. Wm. Taylor's and Mr. J. J. Cridlan's entries. Heifers were a small class of three entries, Mr. A. E. Hughes's Ladylike II. having an easy victory, as she had previously. Mr. W. Taylor's two young heifers showed to better advantage in London, being neat and level, and were given second prize and the reserve card.

SHORTHORNS.

This breed came out in very good force indeed, especially when we take into consideration the fact of the great demand that has been experienced for such a long time past for the best class of them for breeding purposes. The quality, too, was of very high character. In the younger steers the Windsor entry, Robin Hood, who took the leading honour in the class at Birmingham, here repeated that performance. He was looking in capital bloom, and his level flesh, good shape, and handling brought him well to the front. He was sired by Prince Victor, out of Rosemead, by Nobleman, and weighs 13cwt. 2qrs. 14lb. The second steer had not previously made his appearance in the south, being a new comer from the North from the Earl of Rosebery's Dalmeny Park herd. He weighs somewhat heavier than the Windsor bullock, and he is well shaped and handles firmly. Perhaps it may be urged that he is a little flat in the ribs, which is not quite to our liking. He was bred by Mr. Finlay Munro, Ivy. sire Regulator, dam by Distiller. Miss Alice de Rothschild well deserved the third honour given her for Flower Boy, by Cabin Boy, from a Ringleader cow. He scales 13cwt. 3qr. 11lb., and is a particularly neat, nice steer, and well developed for age. A fourth prize was added in this class, and given to a very nice bullock, bred and shown by Mr. John Ross, from Meikle Tarrel, and a son of the fine old sire, Ringleader. He is a little lighter in weight than the two last-mentioned ones, but in shape and quality runs very close up to them. The reserve card and an h.c. was accorded to a white steer from the Sandringham herd, a level-backed one, and good in his hair and quality of flesh, rather a little plain in the horns from a breeder's point of view, otherwise a very nice steer.

Coming to the older bullocks of this breed, very great changes were experienced from the Birmingham decisions. There were several newcomers that had been to the Edinburgh Show also for an outing, and so there were many more to select from, and both the Northern and the Midland judges' decisions were in several cases altered. In London the coveted distinction fell to the Earl of Rosebery's steer, bred by Mr. Gordon, the get of Abbotsford II., out of Tit Bits, by Touchstone. He stood second at the Edinburgh meeting. His weight is good—15cwt. 3qr. 20lb.—and he is extra well finished, a good back, and correct bottom line, one of the deep, wide, short-legged class—altogether a square, good fat steer, and not too big; indeed a cwt. more would not have hurt him. Next in order came a very good steer of Lord Calthorpe's that we do not recollect having seen before—a very level-backed one, well covered with good roasting beef, and handling very well. He is just inclined to be a little uneven at the tail head, otherwise would be a hard nut to crack. His weight, too, is a great help, being 16cwt. 2qrs. 16lb. He was bred by Mr. John Ross, and sired by Maximilian. Miss Alice de Rothschild carried off the third prize with one of her steers that had been at Norwich and Birmingham—a wide, good lined and well-fleshed one, got by Cash. He scaled 16cwt. 0qr. 13lb., and his quality was good enough for anything. His companion that had beaten him upon previous occasions now had to fall back to an h.c. The reserve card went to Mr. F. C. Fletcher for a very big steer bred by Mr. A. Reid, sired by Lord Dunovan, and scaling 18cwt. 1qr. 6lb., the heaviest of his breed. He is good in quality, too, though not quite as firm as some of them, or perhaps scarcely as evenly filled up, nevertheless capital in the best parts, and seemed very hardly used. He was, we understand, first in his class and breed at the Northern show last week. The heifer class was much stronger than in the Midlands, the solitary entry at that exhibition being now swollen into four or five. The champion of the Birmingham Show was in her place, and looking very fit, neither having lost weight or bloom to any extent, and was given easily first in her class, and also winner of the breed cup of the Shorthorns. The London weight was 16cwt. 0qr. 14lb., her sire Prince Victor, and dam Christobel, by Crœsus. Messrs. Grant, of Auchnacree, carried off the second place with a thick-fleshed heifer by Idol, bred by Mr. C. M. Cameron, scaling 15cwt. 0qr. 21lb., and very ripe, though in share a little wanting. Captain Archibald Stirling came in third with a rather young and small, still neat and good quality heifer, bred by Sir W. G. Gordon-Cumming, and the reserve card was allotted to a heifer by Master Archer, shown by Mr. George Inglis. In Cicely the Shorthorns provided the best bullock in the show bred for exhibition.



CAPTAIN H. L. TOWNSHEND'S CROSSBRED COCK O' THE NORTH. RESERVE FOR THE BEST STEER OR OX, AND RESERVE FOR THE BEST CROSSBRED AT THE SMITHFIELD SHOW, AND RESERVE FOR BEST CROSSBRED AT BIRMINGHAM.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

As compared with the show of this breed in the Midlands, the London entry was very encouraging indeed. The classes were well filled, and the animals all round a most creditable lot. The best of this breed was the first prize junior steer—a circumstance that has not often happened, as it is seldom we see steers of this breed in the highest places, the heifers usually being such models of shape and beauty as to carry all before them. The younger steers, as in the other breeds, came first under notice, and the first steer in the class was the best and champion of the breed, and also winner as the best steer under two years old in the hall. He was shown by Mr. George Bruce, and at a year and ten months pulls up the beam at 13cwt. 3qr. 7lb. He is very level in his shape and feeding, with good muscular sort of flesh, and handles capitally. Mr. John Hunter, of Fochabers, bred him, and his sire was Password, dam by Zebra of Dalmore. Mr. John H. Bridges was breeder as well as exhibitor of both the second and third prize ones, the former weighing 13cwt. 1qr. 11lb., and the latter 12cwt. 3qr. 15lb. These were sired by Jackanapes of Ballindalloch, and are very good steers in every respect. Perhaps the third bullock has a tendency to become a little plain, but the handling and the hind quarters are very good. The reserve card went to Colonel Tufnell for a lengthy, well-grown, good steer, bred at the Langleys, got by Doodle, out of a cow by Goldseeker.

Steers over two and under three years brought out several that were very good. The first honour went to the Earl of Rosebery for Black Diamond, a rattling good beast, pulling up the beam at 17cwt. 0qrs. 10lb., bred by Mr. John Grant, and sired by Black Prince. He is deep in body, with good full loins and thighs, and handles capitally. His greatest need is a little more behind the shoulders. Mr. George Bruce came in second with a bullock bred by Mr. Robert Strathdee, sired by Dullanbrae. He scales 16cwt. 1qr. 6lb., and is very firm in his handling, as well as symmetrical and good in general appearance and quality. Mr. Henry Casswell's third was bred by Messrs. Casswell at Spalding, and sired by Somerby Blossom. He is very ripe and heavily and evenly fleshed, and pulls the beam at 16cwt. 3qrs. 6lb. Sir W. G. Gordon Cumming was second with a level backed, good-roasting beef bullock, bred by Mr. W. Wilson, of Coynachie, and got by First Quality. H.c. was given to Mr. D. C. Bruce for a very massive, thick beast, bred by Sir G. M. Grant and sired by Grandee of Ballindalloch.

Heifers came forward to the number of half-a-dozen entries, and certainly competition was very close between two or three of these. However, at the finish the Earl of Strathmore's Aquilegia repeated her Birmingham victory. As we said of her there, she is very perfect in shape and head character, and beautiful in her quality. In size, however, she is rather on the light side, having but 13cwt. 1qr. 6lb. to her credit, and close upon three years old. She was sired by Boaz of Ballindalloch. The Earl of Rosebery's Abbess III. of Kippendavie, bred by Colonel Patrick Stirling, and sired by Lethnot III., came second. She has 2cwt. more substance, and is a wonderfully well and level fleshed heifer, with good breeding and quality, altogether a capital specimen of the breed. Mr. Arthur Egginton was given the third prize for Black Empress III., bred by exhibitor, and sired by Mailbag. She is extremely well furnished, and a most symmetrical, neat heifer, with good loins and roasting beef. The reserve and h.c. were accorded to Captain Townshend's thick-fleshed red heifer, bred by the late Mr. Lumsden, of Balmedie, and thoroughly well ripe though a little uneven. Altogether this breed made a very satisfactory display.

SUSSEX.

The yearling steers of this breed were not so numerous as last year. Only four of the six entered put in an appearance. The first winner was found in Mr. H. T. West's rather handsome one, of fine stature, the heaviest in his class, his scaling being 13cwt. 2qrs. 14lb. The Earl of Derby came second with one carrying a level top, but a litle narrow behind. Mr. Saillard's third prize one seemed to require more grazing, and Mr. Godman's reserve was small and neat, the lightest of the four. The two-year-old steers were a much better lot. The Earl of Derby's first winner carried a grand, well-covered middle and good proportions generally, with a level, well-covered back. The second and third beasts of Mr. Saillard and Lord Winterton were also noticeable, and those of Mr. A. J. Thomas and Mrs. Hill's, which were reserve and h.c., carried good flesh. The heifers—six in number—were, if anything, still better, and the cup winner was among them, the Earl of Derby's Melody, handsome and shapely, also well covered with rich flesh. Mr. Winch was second with May Fly, also a wealthy, broad, compact heifer, and the third winner and reserve of Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Hills were very deserving.

RED POLLS.

The yearlings of this breed were also short in number, but there was a very nice quartette of them, Mr. J. E. Platt winning first prize and reserve with wealthy ones, not quite so perfect as they might be at the tail, while H.R.H. the Duke of York won with Red Cap, very wealthy, although not quite even. Mr. A. G. Scorer had a small shapely one, which was h.c. The class for two-year-olds brought seven to the competition. Mr. Platt was again first with one carrying a broad level top, with nice quality flesh. H.R.H. the Duke of York again came second with a handsome level-backed one, scaling about the same as the first; but the Hon. A. E. Fellowes brought a very massive one for third prize, giving a live weight of 19cwt. 2qrs. 3lb. This beast had a very broad span, thickly coated. Mr. Bocock and Mr. Harvey Mason worthily received barren honours. The heifers—four in number—had considerable merit, and Mr. Russell J. Colman's Barbara 3rd was not only first, but had the breed cup. She was evenly-proportioned, with a good outline, and scaled 10lb. over 14cwt. H.R.H. the Duke of York could only come reserve with Moonlight, Mr.

A. J. Smith winning second prize with Glossy 2nd, a tall heifer of straight character.

GALLOWAY.

This breed was one of those not in such force as last year. In the yearling class Sir John Swinburne came to the front with a wealthy one, carrying a good middle, and scaling 12cwt. 1qr. 2lb. This was the heaviest, the Duke of Buccleuch coming second with a symmetrical one called Canny Scot, his Great Scott, which was reserve, being somewhat heavier. Mr. A. J. Thomas's What Ho! made a very good third winner. The two-year-old steers were only four in number, but so good that the three prizes and reserve were awarded. The Earl of Antrim's Sam 3rd, of just 15cwt., was not only symmetrical in form, but well covered and a good handler. Mr. H. C. Allfrey's Rival had a little more substance and was deep in form, but lighter in front than the first winner. Captain Townsend's Sambo was third, and Mr. Thomas reserve with other two very deserving ones. There were also four heifers, and Sir John Swinburne's Scottish Queen 3rd, the first winner, had the breed cup, which her handsome, well-shaped form, standing low to ground, richly deserved. The Crichton Royal Institution owned two of the others, which were second and reserve, and Mr. Allfrey came in for third prize, all three being of good quality.

WELSH.

Ther was a good representation of this breed, the steers under two years numbering nine, six of which were noticed. Mr. R. Hughes won all three prizes, a very creditable exploit certainly, and, in fact, he exhibited four all over 12½cwt., and the three winners not wanting many pounds each of 13cwt. They were well shaped, and carried excellent flesh. Mr. Greaves exhibited two which were h.c., and one of them, Black Bach, which was reserve, stood high on legs, and scaled over 13½cwt.; but Colonel Platt's c. steer was 13¾cwt. The two-year-old steers were ten in number. Mr. W. E. Oakley was first with a very shapely one of excellent quality, the Hon. F. G. Wynn's second prize one being a very fine specimen, much weightier, as he scaled 17cwt. 1qr. 17lb., and Mr. Wynn had a second exhibit, which was c., of fine stature likewise, but not carrying quite so much substance. Mr. Greaves was third with a handsome one, not quite level, Mr. Oakley having a second good steer, for which he was h.c., and Mr. Hughes taking third with a broad-shaped, compact one. A trio of nice heifers won the two prizes and reserve, and Mr. Greaves's Bryn-y-Wern, which was first, had the cup. The other two, Madryn Belle and Madryn Queen, were very shapely, but were nothing like so heavy as the first winner, which scaled 6lb. over 16cwt. Colonel Platt owned the Madryn heifers.

HIGHLAND.

This breed also made an excellent representation. Seven steers under three years old put in an appearance, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales carried off both the first and third prizes with two very handsome animals in their heads and coats, the good flesh they carried, with beef to the heels, being also noticeable. Sir W. Ogilvy-Dalgleish divided the Royal steers for second prize with another handsome animal with branching antlers and nice hair, and his reserve steer of darker colour was worthy of high estimation. The oxen over three years were ten in number, and Lieut.-Colonel Home Drummond came to the front with his handsome yellow-brindled one, the heaviest in the class, as he was 4lb. over 17cwt. To him was awarded the breed cup. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had another noble specimen in the class, and the Earl of Moray's Angus of red colour was notably attractive, as well as Sir Reginald A. Cathcart's reserve ox of the same colour. Two or three of the others received barren honours. The heifers, six in number, formed a commended class, the first winner of which was the Earl of Durham's Suina 3rd, which scaled 14¼cwt. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was again second with Nicoletti, of a nice brindle red colour, which was 12lb. over 14cwt. None of the others were quite so weighty, a light brown, belonging to Mr. Yerburgh, M.P., being third, and the Earl of Durham's cream-coloured Bhuide Crombh being reserve.

DEVONS.

Preference, as usual, is given in the catalogue to the Devon breed. Owing to the alterations in the classes, Birmingham decisions can scarcely be used for comparison, except when the question of championship arises. Mr. Samuel Kidner adjudicated upon the Devon classes, and he did his work not only expeditiously, but also remarkably well. The first class was for Devon steers not exceeding two years old. There, undoubtedly, Mer Majesty the Queen stood far and away best with a rare good one, sired by Dauntless; he has a capital loin, deep sides, and is fairly well put together. He was also selected as reserve for the Devon breed cup. The second prize went to Mr. Alfred C. Skinner for a well-bred animal with capital fore-end and good loin, but a trifle weak behind. A very close third was Mr. Alfred Bowerman's Domino, which has a capital back and loin and stands well, but needs a little more forward; probably he will be seen again at Smithfield next year. Any way, he is well worthy of the trial. The same owner was placed reserve with Tit-Bits. The fourth prize was given to Viscount Portman's George's Brother, a big, lumpy bull that will stand another year's feeding very well. Viscount Portman also received a highly commendatory notice with Winnie, one of Mr. J. C. Williams's breeding, sired by Pretty Middling, also receiving a similar honour. In the class for Devon steers above two years old there were seven entries, and there was no doubt as to the selection of Mr. John Wortley's Baden-Powell for first position and winner of the breed cup as well. He is a fine big animal, and fed to perfection and handled well. The second prize was secured by Mr. J. C. Williams, Caerhays, St. Austell, with a smart one with capital loin, but which might have been better behind. The third prize was secured for the Queen with one sired by Pansy's Duke, a steer a trifle light in the thighs, a bit plain forward, but very nice middle. Reserve was given to Viscount Portman's Willie, who has now probably seen his last show; he is a nice lump of beef at present. Devon heifers made a weak class in the competition, including Captain Townshend's Birmingham winner, who repeated that performance, and was also second to Mr. Wortley's Hereford as best ox or steer. He was bred by the late Mr. Lumbton, has had many owners, and is of most beautiful quality, weighing, also very satisfactorily, 17cwt. 0qrs. 0lb. Mr. Arthur de Rothschild's followed, as it did last week, and both are now exactly the same weight. The third best beast in the class was shown by the Earl of Rosebery, a big, shapely, and good ripe bullock, his weight 17cwt., Angus and Shorthorn cross, like the first and second animals. The one shown by Mr. Douglas Fletcher was also a fine beast, and similarly bred. He was not exceeding two years old come next. The best of these was a very neat one of Mr. John Ross's, a perfect plum—out of a Ringleader cow, and weighing 12cwt. 2qrs. 20lb. A second entry from the yard was also reserved, the second and third prizes going

MR. R. J. COLMAN'S REDPOLL HEIFER, "BARBARA 3RD." BREED CUP WINNER AT THE SMITHFIELD SHOW, AND BEST REDPOLL AT THE NORWICH SHOW.

of two. The first went to the Queen with Dainty, 1 year 11 months 3 weeks old. She is rather deep, with a good underline. Many critics will think that the second prize heifer, Mr. J. C. Williams's Waterhen 6th, should have been placed first, but seeing she was so small, and being also 2 years 10 months 2 weeks 1 day old, the judge did perfectly right in passing her over.

KERRY, DEXTER, AND SHETLAND.

In the class under two years there were only two entries, but they were of exquisite quality and even proportions of the Dexter breed, bred by Messrs. Robertson and Sons, but owned and exhibited by Mr. Joseph Thorley. There was more competition in the class of older steers, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales won with a beauty—red and white in colour, with a grand pale face and handsome head, a span of rib and level back which could scarcely be surpassed, and a thick covering of rich flesh was over his well-kept form. The only defect was coarseness of tail, but he stood broad and low to ground, with a weight seldom given by a Dexter. Mr. H. G. Nash won the second prize with one of fairly good quality, but not so handsome or well-proportioned. In the Heifer class, Sir W. Gilbey won first with a small symmetrical one of rare quality, which but for a slight defect at the rump end, would have been very perfect. Mr. J. Thorley's second prize heifer was of exquisite character, but not quite so even as the first winner.

CROSS-BRED CATTLE.

As compared with many former years there was a great falling off in the entries in these classes, and there were also a good number of absentees, which, probably having found their level at one or other of the previous shows, had been withdrawn to try their luck at local or smaller competitions. The quality, however, was very good, and cannot be complained of. Steers not exceeding two years old were a good class, with some five or six of very even merit. Mr. Robert Turner had a couple of very straight-backed, symmetrical, and well-fleshed steers, Angus and Shorthorn crosses, that were placed second and third respectively, and weighing 13cwt. 1qr. 21lb. and 13cwt. 2qrs. 18lb. Mr. John Ross divided these with one of Ringleader's sons, scaling 14cwt. 2qrs. 8lb., and the fourth prize went to Mr. H. A. Horn, Mr. Douglas Fletcher being reserved and h.c. Several other very good steers ran close up.

The class for steers over two and not exceeding three years was not at all numerically strong. There are, however, three or four excellent bullocks to the Earl of Rosebery for a fine young, but promising, heifer, the third being a little small. Between two and three years the competition was exactly the same as at Birmingham, with similar results. Mr. Clement Stephenson's very symmetrical heifer playing second fiddle to Mr. Learner's Norwich champion, who to-day was given champion of the cross-bred section and also of the females, beating Cicely in the contest for that supremacy. Mr. Douglas Fletcher came third with a very symmetrical and ripe Angus and Hereford cross, and one or two others received cards.

SMALL CROSS-BREDS.

The small cross-breds mustered well. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales taking the lead in the steer class and Mr. Russell J. Colman in that for heifers. The Prince's Shorthorn-Dexter steer had an admirably well-covered outline. Mr. Norman C. Cookson's Frolicsome was the second winner in the steer class, and very symmetrical and of good quality, but not so weighty as the Prince's steer. The Prince had also a heifer in the other class, likewise of the Shorthorn Dexter class, handsome in appearance and outline, but not so ripe as those placed above her. Mr. R. W. Hudson had placed second to Mr. Colman with Duchess of York, broad in form and carrying nice flesh. Mr. J. Thorley and Mr. H. Tait Robertson were h.c. for good heifers, as also was Mr. R. G. Nash for his steer, Lucan Champion.

Below we give our usual table, showing the age, weight, and average daily gain of the prize-winning cattle:—

Breeder and Owner.	Age.	Weight.	Average Daily Gain.
DEVONS.	Days.	lbs.	lbs.
(Steers under 2 years old.)			
1. H.M. the Queen	671	1415	1·46
2. Mr. A. C. Skinner	685	1386	1·38
3. Mr. A. Bowerman (Domino)	716	1386	1·81
4. Viscount Portman (George's Brother)	664	1385	1·66
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. J. Wortley (Baden Powell)	1084	1666	1·48
2. Mr. J. C. Williams	1081	1448	1·63
3. H.M. the Queen	1084	1664	1·66
(Heifers under 3 years.)			
1. H.M. the Queen (Dainty)	703	1061	1·44
2. Mr. J. C. Williams (Waterhen 6th)	1048	1074	1·02
HEREFORDS.			
(Steers under 2 years.)			
1. Mr. J. Price	687	1055	2·46
2. H.M. the Queen	686	1377	1·99
3. Mr. A. P. Turner	716	1405	2·04
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. J. Wortley (Lord Roberts)	993	1587	1·6
2. H.M. the Queen	1081	1849	1·67
3. Mr. W. H. Cooke	997	1561	1·95
(Heifers under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. A. P. Turner (Lady Mayoress)	1000	1500	1·49
2. Mr. H. W. Tanner (Venus Again)	1021	1468	1·74

Breed and Owner.	Age.	Weight.	Average Daily Gain.
SHORTHORNS.	Days.	lbs.	lbs.
(Steers under 2 years.)			
1. H.M. the Queen (Robin Hood)	705	1526	2·16
2. Earl of Rosebery (Royal Standard)	704	1588	2·25
3. Miss Alice deRothschild (Flower Boy)	711	1541	2·16
4. Mr. J. Ross	705	1399	1·98
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. Earl of Rosebery (Talisman)	1040	1784	1·71
2. Lord Calthorpe (Thumper)	1072	1864	1·73
3. Miss Alice de Rothschild (Sabinus)	1052	1805	1·71
(Heifers under 3 years.)			
1. H.M. the Queen (Cicely)	1010	1806	1·78
2. Messrs. Grant (Primrose)	1020	1701	1·67
3. Capt. A. Stirling (Gem of Altyre)	638	1398	2·03
SUSSEX.			
(Steers under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. H. T. West	720	1526	2·11
2. Earl of Derby	639	1378	2·15
3. M. P. F. R. Saillard	694	1391	2·00
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. Earl of Derby	916	1840	2·00
2. Mr. P. F. R. Saillard	997	1624	1·62
3. Earl Winterton	1033	1810	1·75
(Heifers under 3 years.)			
1. Earl of Derby (Melody)	1038	1721	1·65
2. Mr. W. F Winch (Tilsden Mayfly)	1065	1702	1·59
3. Mr. A. Jesse Thomas (Little Till)	942	1819	1·93
RED POLLS.			
(Steers under 2 years.)			
1. Mr. J. E. Platt	675	1405	2·08
2. H.R.H. the Duke of York (Red Cap)	710	1200	1·69
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. J. E. Platt	957	1727	1·80
2. H.R.H. the Duke of York (Davyson)	974	1724	1·77
3. Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes, M.P. (Rover)	1050	2187	2·08
(Heifers under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. R. J. Colman (Barbara)	1029	1029	1·53
2. Mr. A. J. Smith (Glossy 2nd)	968	1472	1·52
ABERDEEN ANGUS.			
1. Mr. G. Bruce (Cock of the North)	695	1547	2·22
2. Mr. J. H. Bridges	685	1485	2·16
3. Mr. J. H. Bridges	675	1443	2·13
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. Earl of Rosebery (Black Diamond)	946	1914	2·02
2. Mr. G. Bruce (Cragganmore)	1008	1826	1·81
3. Mr. H. Casswell (Quadring Pride)	1032	1882	1·82
(Heifers under 3 years.)			
1. Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorn (Aquilegia)	1058	1490	1·40
2. Earl of Rosebery (Abbess 3rd of Kippendavie)	1033	1766	1·70
3. Mr. A. Egginton (Black Empress 3rd)	1073	1662	1·54
GALLOWAYS.			
(Steers under 2 years.)			
1. Sir J. Swinburne, Bart.	668	1374	2·05
2. Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry (Canny Scot)	663	1127	1·69
3. Mr. A. Jesse Thomas (What Ho)	635	1135	1·78
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. Earl of Antrim (Sam 3rd of Minnidow)	1033	1680	1·62
2. Mr. H. C. Allfrey (Rival)	1054	1747	1·65
3. Capt. H. L. Townshend (Sambo)	1046	1664	1·59
(Heifers under 3 years).			
1. Sir J. Swinburne, Bart. (Scottish Queen 3rd)	1054	1451	1·37
	Days.	lbs.	lbs.
2. Crichton Royal Institution (Countess Fanny)	1035	1265	1·22
3. Mr. H. C. Allfrey (Reliance)	1054	1264	1·19
WELSH.			
(Steers under 2 years.)			
1. Mr. R. Hughes	719	1450	2·01
2. Mr. W. Hughes	715	1447	2·02
3. Mr. R. Hughes	689	1453	2·10
(Steers 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. W. E. Oakley (Gorchafaeth)	1077	1618	1·50
2. Hon. F. G. Wynn	1090	1949	1·78
3. Mr. R. M. Greaves	1040	1711	1·64
(Heifers under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. R. M. Greaves (Bryn-y-Wern)	1054	1798	1·70
2. Col. H. Platt (Madryn Queen)	962	1434	1·49
HIGHLAND.			
(Steers under 3 years.)			
1. H.R.H. Prince of Wales	922	1251	1·35
2. Sir W. Ogilvy-Dalgleish, Bart. (Gen. Baden Powell)	968	1518	1·63
3. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales	936	1244	1·32
(Steers over 3 years.)			
1. Lt.-Col. H. E. S. Home Drummond	1353	1908	1·41
2. H.R.H. Prince of Wales	1307	1634	1·24
3. Earl of Moray (Angus)	1346	1792	1·33
(Heifers under 4 years.)			
1. Earl of Durham (Serina 3rd)	1388	1596	1·14
2. H.R.H. Prince of Wales (Nicoletti)	1382	1580	1·14
3. Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P.	—	1166	—
CROSSBREDS.			
(Steers under 2 years.)			
1. Mr. R. Turner (Black Knight)	712	1505	2·11
2. Mr. J. Ross	717	1632	2·27
3. Mr. R. Turner (Roan Prince)	700	1530	2·18
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. Capt. H. L. Townshend (Cock o' th' North)	1037	1992	1·92
2. Miss Alice de Rothschild (St. Brieux)	1078	1992	1·84
3. Earl of Rosebery (Brigadier)	1077	1934	1·76
(Heifers under 2 years.)			
1. Mr. J. Ross	709	1426	2·01
2. Earl of Rosebery (Marigold)	704	1500	2·12
3. Earl of Rosebery (Village Bell)	679	1321	1·94
(Heifers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. W. E. Learner (Ladysmith)	1032	1655	1·60
2. Mr. C. Stephenson	981	1663	1·69
3. Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher (Dewdrop)	969	1896	1·95
KERRY, DEXTER, AND SHETLAND.			
(Steers under 2 years.)			
1. Mr. J. Thorley (My Mistake)	589	716	1·21
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales (Patriot)	1058	1037	·98
2. Mr. R. G. Nash (Lucan Bobs)	763	912	1·19
(Heifers under 3 years.)			
1. Sir W. Gilbey, Bart. (Dexter Maiden)	956	769	·80
2. Mr. J. Thorley (La Mancha Dot)	605	748	1·23
SMALL CROSSBREDS.			
(Steers under 3 years.)			
1. H.R.H. Prince of Wales (Valiant)	945	1222	1·29
2. Mr. N. C. Cookson (Frolicsome)	843	1057	1·25
(Heifers under 3 years.)			
1. Mr. R. J. Colman (Flo)	985	1178	1·22
2. Mr. R. W. Hudson (Duchess of York)	564	878	1·55

Sheep.

This year's Smithfield Show will be one in future years remembered, not by the large entry in this section, but by its high average merit. The tail end one so often finds at shows was there, of course, but not nearly so moderate as is often the case; in fact, fewer entries had the effect of very considerably increasing the merit.

The Leicesters, following the classification of the catalogue, came first, two classes, as had all other breeds, one of lambs and the other of wethers, and there were four entries in each class, M. E. F Jordan being first in each class with some grand specimens of his breed. Taking his lambs first, his pen, which gave an average daily gain of 10.62oz., were notably a well-fed pen, and might have taken precedence of the same exhibitor's wethers in the Breed Cup contest, instead of following them, as they were better specimens of their breed. Mrs. Perry Herrick was second for lambs and for wethers, good and well-fed typical pens. As before intimated, Mr. E. F. Jordan was winner of the Breed Cup with the older pen, their average daily gain being 6.83oz., firm and good in their flesh, with well-sprung ribs and good loins. We thought them an excellent pen.

Border Leicesters had an entry of three pens, two in the lamb class from the Earl of Rosebery's flock, to the premier of whom went also the Breed Cup; a real good pen of lambs, which were noticeable for their sound flesh, good backs and legs, and on account of their average daily gain, 10.54oz. In the wether class Mr. J. D. Fletcher was without competition, and secured with a typical pen premier honours and r.n. for Breed Cup.

The Cotswold breed were poorly represented, Mr. F. Craddock being the only exhibitor, sending two pens, one of lambs, who took the Breed Cup, and one of wethers, which were first in their class. These pens were, of course, typical of their breed, but were not of quite so high merit as we have seen in former years; the Cup winners, however, have an excellent daily gain, 10.32oz.

Hard luck certainly follows the Lincoln breed in its attempt to secure the championship of the Show. Last year Mr. H. Dudding's grand pen of lambs went down before the black-faced mountain sheep, and this year's pen of first prize wethers, an almost ideal pen of wethers, the heaviest, by-the-by, of the whole of the sheep entries, and we believe of any pen of yearling wethers ever before shown at Smithfield, 10cwt. 11lb. After the Lincolns had won easily the Longwool championship, they succumbed to Lord Ellesmere's Suffolks in the final contest. Mr. Henry Dudding's flock provided the second prize, a pen of wethers which, whilst not having the great weight of the leading pen, were of a grand type, with very excellent fleeces and good flesh, two other entries, one of Mr. W. B. Swallow's, which were r.n., and another of Mr. Dudding's being unnoticed. In the lamb class Mr. Dudding's excellent, good fleshed, wide, deep limbs, were rightly preferred for the leading honour, and, indeed, so high were the merits of his pen that they also secured the r.n. for the Breed Cup over all the other winners in this section of the Show.

Mr. J. Pears, who was well to the front with a pen of lambs hardly so good on the backs as the leading pen, came in second in his class, and the r.n. went to Riby's second entry, noticeable more perhaps for the excellence of their fleece than the leading pen from the same flock. The Lincoln entries in both classes, all of which were present, were eight, the same number as were present last year.

The Kent and Romney Marsh were represented by twelve pens, two more than last year, but the breed was hardly so well represented as last year; in fact, the best exhibit at the local shows this year was unfortunately not entered. The flock of Mr. T. Wotton's was, however, pre-eminent, securing first for lambs and for wethers, these two pens taking also the Breed Cup and r.n. for the same; they were well fed, but were hardly so well covered as might have been the case, particularly the lambs. Mr. Henry Rigden, the veteran Kent breeder, was equally successful, booking the second award in both classes, though in that for lambs he was a bit lucky in securing the preference over the pen of Mr. Freeman, whilst the entries from Mr. J. E. Quested's flock would appear to indicate by their merit and quality that this flock in the future will be one that will secure a very prominent place in the breed contests, for their type and character as well as the quality of their flesh was good.

An entry of three only was found in the Devon Longwool class, all being in the lamb class, the premier pen of which, from Mr. J. H. Gibbings' was of exceptional merit and development, showing an average daily gain of 12½oz.; this pen secured the Breed Cup and were conspicuous in the Longwool Champion contest, though they were safely beaten by Mr. H. Dudding's more evenly matched pen of lambs. The same breeder's second pen took second honours and r.n. for Breed Cup, whilst Mr. A. C. Skinner secured third honours.

MR. J. WORTLEY'S DEVON STEER, "BADEN-POWELL." BREED CUP WINNER AT SMITHFIELD AND BIRMINGHAM SHOWS.

Cheviots had a notable entry in respect of quality, numbering seven entries, four of which came from Mr. J. McDowall's fold, the leading pen of which, the first prize wethers, were champion of the sheep section at Edinburgh, their daily gain being 7.20oz.; the same exhibitor was also second, and both of these pens were of high quality, their flesh being firm and good, and the same exhibitor was also clearly to the fore in the lamb class, being first and r.n., with two excellent pens, which, when handled, gave great satisfaction. Half a dozen pens comprised the Blackfaced Mountain class, Mr. J. McDowall, as in the Cheviots, securing the Breed Cup, its r.n., two firsts and a second prize; the cup winners were of real merit, though, when handled, we thought they were hardly so well covered or as firm as we have in former years found in this breed, but the pen of lambs, although alone in their class, were of a grand class, and if they are kept on will probably make excellent sheep next year, for the quality of their flesh, as disclosed when under hand, was excellent.

The Southdowns, the prince of mutton breeds, again made, as in the past four years, the largest entry in the section. The lamb class was notable for the success that two comparatively young breeders secured, for Mr. Whitaker Wright, who grand pen head the class, has only once before competed at this show. This pen of lambs were on excellent type and splendid flesh, and their high average daily gain 8.70oz., together with their excellent conformation and symmetry, ought to have secured for them the Breed Cup also. Next came an almost equally good pen from Col. McCalmont's flock, deep in flesh, wide in the loins, with full twist and excellent dock; they were a grand pen. Then came a useful pen from Mrs. Montefiore's flock, whose proper position in the class should have been fifth and not third, for the two pens from Mr. C. F. Field's flock which came in fourth and r.n. were superior

to them in flesh, type and conformation. The class as a whole, several other entries being noticed, was a good one. The wether class, ten of the thirteen entries being present, was another good one; that the awards were not in accord with the public opinion was clearly palpable, and it is to be regretted that such was the case from the fact that the pen many considered best in the show was by this oversight debarred from receiving probably the first honour of the show. The pen referred to was Col. McCalmont's wethers, whose excellent flesh, deep leg, full twists, and good backs, together with their high average of daily gain, 5·29oz., where only in the judge's opinion entitled to a bare h.c., a poor recompense for such a grand pen of sheep.

The premier award went to that justly popular nobleman the Duke of Richmond, whose luck in securing this and the Breed Cup also, with so soft a fleshed pen, was noticeable, for even after the passing over of Colonel McCalmont's pen there was a second pen, the one from Sandringham, that did not get all they should have done. Had Colonel McCalmont's pen been first they would have been right in their second place, but seeing this pen was so placed they should have without doubt taken precedence of the Goodwood pen, they being firm in the flesh, better covered on loin and back, and wider in front, though hardly so good in the leg as the winners, which were, we may say, more made up than their closest competitors. A second pen from Goodwood came in for third honours, and several others were mentioned (see prize list).

The Hampshire Downs were hardly so numerously represented as in the more recent years, and we do not think that the whole entry was hardly so good, but there is one thing certain, that rarely, if ever, has a better pen, weight, flesh, and quality considered, ever been made cup winners than that grand pen of Mr. T. F. Buxton's, which were without doubt rightly placed at the head of their class, the lambs, their daily gain being 12.23oz. per day; following these came a pen of Lord Rothschild's, in every way a typical pen of their breed, but who must be accounted lucky in securing preference over Mr. Buxton's second pen, which were placed third, for their backs lacked the grand touch of the latter, and they were no more than equal to them in other respects; a fourth prize was worthily won by a most typical pen of wide, deep lambs from Mr. E. Whalley Tooker's flock, who was very close up to the leading pens. The wether class, with the exception of Mr. Buxton's leading pen, was not of special merit; the class was very creditable, but we have seen better ones. Mr. Buxten's pen were r.n. for the breed cup.

The Suffolk breeders are deserving of congratulation upon the unique success their breed has secured by Lord Ellesmere's excellent pen securing for the second time the proud position of champion, short wool section, and winners of the Prince of Wales's challenge cup; there were but four pens of wethers present. The Stretchworth pen, clean outclassing all the other pens, went first, its daily gain being 7.70oz. Major Baird's level well-fed, and good-fleshed pen, with probably less waste than the former, came in for second honours. There were nine pens present in the lamb class, and the awards were very difficult to follow, viewed from the fat stock show point of view; had it been a breeding show one would have not in any degree questioned them, for Mr. H. E. Smith's two most typical pens were, from a breed point, clearly first, but when the question of flesh came under notice, we prefer that pen of Colonel McCalmont's which were third. However, all the pens were well fed, the latter, in our view, being the better butchers' pen of the three, and much our preference.

A better entry of their breed gladdened the Shropshire men, and with the increased entry we are inclined to think there was better quality, for we have seldom, if ever, seen a better fleshed pen of Shropshires than was that breed cup-winning pen of lambs from Mr. P. L. Mills' flock, whose wealth of flesh, and its merit, is amply proved by their high average of daily gain, namely, 10.18oz. Lady Rothschild's highly meritorious pen came in for second honours, being preferred for this place in preference to Mr. P. L. Mills' pen, which were hardly so wide and good in the leg. The wether class was equally noticeable by the high merit and quality of the two pens which secured first and second honours for Ruddington Hall, a pair of grand entries, they were good in flesh and highly creditable both in conformation and type.

The Oxford Downs, so far as the lamb class was concerned, were far stronger than for some years, the particularly fine well-fed pen from Mr. H. W. Stilgoe's flock, that were leading class winners and breed cup winners were of grand merit and quality, with real good firm flesh; a daily gain of 9.50oz. testifies how good was its quality. The entries of Mr. J. G. Williams, which were second and r.n., give clear indication that that breeder has a flock of high character, and that there is great merit in it, for these lambs, though out-classed by the leading pen, were very good ones. Mr. Howkins had a useful pen, which were rather fortunate in being placed above the r.n.

The Dorset Horns, etc., made a better and larger entry than has been the case for some time. Mr. James Toop was first in the lamb class with a well-fed good-fleshed pen that also took the breed cup; Mr. W. J. Horn, a well-known supporter of this breed, came in for second and third honours with pens of excellent quality. It should, however, be mentioned that the breeder of the winning sheep was Mr. C. B. Stiby, and of the second and r.n. pens Messrs. F. and S. Hicks, and Mr. W. T. Barneby sent up two good pens of Ryeland sheep in the wether class; these were awarded first and second prizes respectively.

The cross-bred classes were full of interest, and instruction, and it is to be regretted that the awards of the judge in the wether class were hardly in accord with the general opinion outside. However, mistakes will sometimes occur, and when they do, for they cannot always be avoided, they are, as they were in this instance, much to be regretted. There was no doubt as to the first award in the lamb class, Mr. F. I. Matthews's excellent pen being clearly entitled on all grounds to it, but that the second pen, whose backs were not at all well covered, and whose touch lacked that firmness one expects to find in well-fed sheep, were preferred over Mr. James Toop's capital pen is to be regretted; the latter, being both better covered and firm, and deeper in flesh, had to be content with third, whilst a pen of Mr. T. Rush's came in for r.n.

The wether class was headed by a pen from Mr. F. I. Matthews, which were open to grave objection; their backs were not well covered, and the deficiency in the leg and twists was so clearly apparent that one wonders the *raison d'être* of the award, for Mr. T. Rush, with a grand pen of wethers, level and well-covered in their back, with full twist, deep and wide legs, and grand loins, which were put second, clean outclassed the winners, which, unfortunately for their section, took the Breed Cup, and at once put them out of the running for the Champion Contest. A second pen from Mr. Rush came in for third honours, and one from Mr. W. Robison fourth.

Mr. J. McDowall had the Scotch cross classes all to himself, and was successful in taking two first and one second award with some highly meritorious specimens of this very useful breed of sheep.

The Champion Contests.

The Lincoln wethers of Mr. J. Pears, with their great weight and substance, coupled with high quality and good flesh, quickly asserted their preeminence in this section, and the r.n. was equally expeditiously settled in favour of the Lincoln lambs of Mr. H. Dudding's.

The Shortwool championship was a more tedious matter, and we are clearly of the opinion that the Hampshire Down pen of lambs from Mr. T. F. Buxton ought to have taken precedence here for their grand flesh, early maturity, and development, to say nothing of their commercial value, which ought easily to have given them precedence over either pens of wethers, the Earl of Ellesmere's and the Duke of Richmond's, which were champion and r.n.

The final contest for the blue ribbon, the Prince of Wales's Cup, was thus narrowed down to the wether pen of Suffolks from the Earl of Ellesmere (the cup holder) and the Lincoln pen of Mr. J. Pears, the average daily gains of these two pens being 7.70 and 9.12, both being of the same age. The award was to the Earl of Ellesmere's pen, who, being the holder of the Challenge Cup, wins the same outright. This award was open to considerable question, for there was, we think, a preponderance of opinion that the better pen were the losers. Be this as it may, every breeder of live stock will congratulate Lord Ellesmere upon this conspicuous success, and condole with the loser, Mr. J. Pears, upon the hard luck that robbed one of the most typical pens of Lincoln sheep ever shown of the honour of once again taking the championship of Smithfield to the home of one of the principal flocks of that breed which at the present time is most valuable in the sale rings both of this country and Argentina.

Below we give our usual table, showing the age, weight, and average daily gain of the prize-winners in the sheep classes:—

Breed and Owner.	Age.	Weight.	Average Daily Gain.
	Days.	lbs.	lbs.
SHROPSHIRES. (Wether lambs under 12 months old.)			
1. Mr. E. F. Jordan	242	482	1·99
2. Mrs. S. Perry Herrick	249	510	2·04
(Wether sheep over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1. Mr. E. F. Jordan	607	779	1·28
2. Mrs. S. Perry Herrick	611	868	1·41
BORDER LEICESTERS. (Wether lambs under 12 months.)			
1. Earl of Rosebery	256	510	1·99
(Wether sheep over 12 and under 24 months.)			
. Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher	618	615	·99
COTSWOLDS. (Wether lambs under 12 months.)			
1. Mr. F. Craddock	263	514	1·95
(Wether sheep over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1. Mr. F. Craddock	621	810	1·30
LINCOLNS. (Wether lambs under 12 months.)			
1. Mr. H. Dudding	294	572	1 94
2. Mr. J. Pears	294	594	2·02
(Wether sheep over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1. Mr. J. Pears	659	1031	1·56
2. Mr. H. Dudding	659	980	1·48

Breed and Owner.	Age.	Weight.	Average Daily Gain.
	Days.	lbs.	lbs.
KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH. (Wether lambs under 12 months)			
1. Mr. T. Wotton	255	522	2·04
2. Mr. H. Rigden	249	455	1·82
3. Mr. E. Neame	256	472	1·84
(Wether sheep over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1. Mr. T. Wotton	621	853	1·37
2. Mr. H. Rigden	614	788	1·28
DEVON OR OTHER PURE LONG-WOOLLED. (Wether lambs under 12 months)			
1. Mr. J. Henson Gibbings	273	644	2·32
2. Mr. J. Henson Gibbings	273	623	2·17
3. Mr. A. C. Skinner	287	471	1·69
CHEVIOTS. (Wethers lambs under 12 months).			
1. Mr. J. McDowall	226	440	2·16
2. Mr. J. Mc D. Jamieson	242	446	1·84
(Wether sheep over 12 months.)			
1. Mr. J. McDowall	591	861	1·45
2. Mr. J. McDowall	591	750	1·26
3. Mr. A. Gould	628	600	·94
MOUNTAIN. (Wether lambs under 12 months.)			
1. Mr. J. McDowall	226	366	1·61
(Wether sheep over 12 months.)			
1. Mr. J. McDowall	591	654	1·10
2. Mr. J. McDowall	591	582	·98
3. Sir J. Gilmour, Bart	591	586	·99
SOUTHDOWNS. (Wether lambs under 12 months.)			
1. Mr. Whitaker Wright	294	482	1·63
2. Col. H. L. B. McCalmont, M.P.	280	448	1·6
3. Mrs. Montefiore	294	435	1·47
4. Mr. C. F. Field	287	411	1·43
(Wether sheep over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1. Duke of Richmond and Gordon	638	561	·87
2. H.R.H. Prince of Wales	638	564	·88
3. Duke of Richmond and Gordon	638	574	·89
HAMPSHIRE DOWNS. (Wether lambs under 12 months.)			
1. Mr. T. Fowell Buxton	317	730	2·30
2. Lord Rothschild	303	521	1·71
3. Mr. T. Fowell Buxton	310	521	1·68
4. Mr. E. Whalley-Tooker	317	522	1·64
(Wether sheep over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1. Mr. T. Fowell Buxton	682	794	1·16
2. Lord Rothschild	645	775	1·20
3. Mr. T. Fowell Buxton	675	782	1·15
SUFFOLKS. (Wether lambs under 12 months)			
1. Mr. H. E. Smith	287	644	2·24
2. Mr. H. E. Smith	287	591	2·05
3. Col. H. L. B. McCalmont, M.P.	287	621	2·16
(Wether sheep over 12 and under 24 months)			
1. Earl of Ellesmere	652	954	1·46
2. Major E. W. Baird	682	891	1·30
SHROPSHIRES. (Wether lambs under 12 months.)			
1. Mr. Philo L. Mills	273	526	1·92
2. Lady de Rothschild	287	513	1·75
3. Mr. Philo L. Mills	273	479	1·75
(Wether sheep over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1. Mr. Philo L. Mills	638	775	1·21
2. Mr. Philo L. Mills	638	687	1·07
OXFORD DOWNS. (Wether lambs under 12 months)			
1. Mr. Hugh W. Stilgoe	329	569	1·77
2. Mr. J. G. Williams	296	583	1·96
3. Mr. B. Hawkins	310	554	1·78
(Wether sheep over 12 and under 24 months)			
1. Miss Alice de Rothschild	668	822	1·23
2. Miss Alice de Rothschild	668	804	1·20
DORSET OR ANY OTHER PURE SHORT-WOOLLED. (Not specified in foregoing classes.) (Wether lambs under 12 months.)			
1. Mr. J. Toop	340	598	1 75
2. Mr. W. J. Horn	363	647	1·94
(Wether sheep over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1. Mr. W. Theodore Barneby	614	650	·97
2. Mr. W. Theodore Barneby	614	572	·93
CROSSBREDS. (Wether lambs under 12 months).			
1. Mr. F. J. Matthews	303	691	2·28
2. Mr. W. H. Hall	317	684	2·16
3. Mr. J. Toop	294	580	1·97
(Wether sheep over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1. Mr. T. J. Matthews	645	891	1·38
2. Mr. T. Rush	645	912	1·41
3. Mr. T. Rush	645	899	1·39
(Wethers first-cross from Cheviot, Scotch and Mountain breed, under 12 months old.)			
1. Mr. J. McDowall	233	505	2·12
(Ditto over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1. Mr. J. McDowall	59	871	1·45

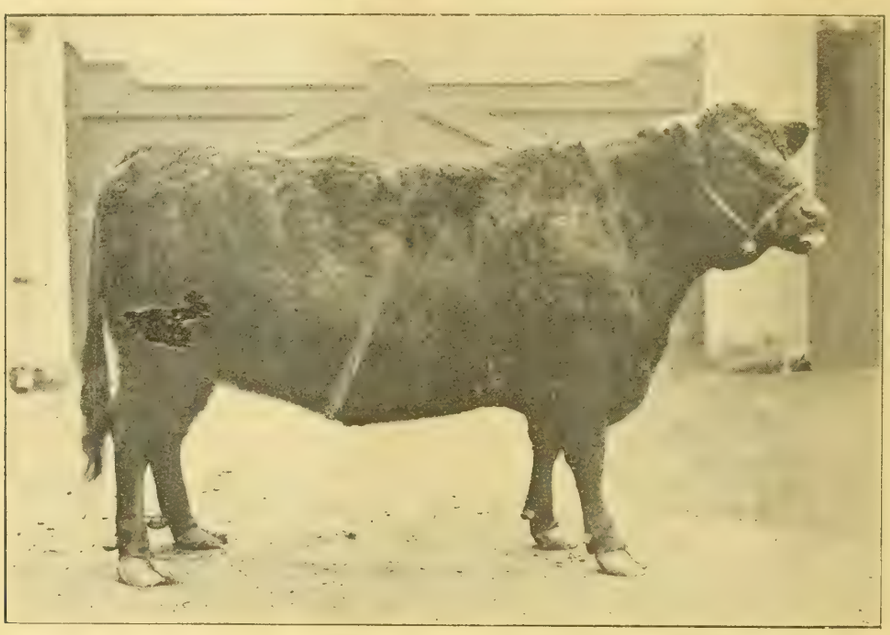
Pigs.

This year a steady improvement was shown throughout the pig section, the weakest in numbers of which was the Small Whites, which is surely on the decline in popularity in these quality days. In the classes for Small Whites there were only two entries in the class for not exceeding nine months old. Here the Hon. D. P. Bunbury, Cloghill House, Highwood, Wales, easily carried all first prizes and the breed cup with a pair with rare bone and size. Mr. Arthur Hiscock's reserve pen was much admired. In the next class for pigs exceeding nine but not twelve months, Mr. Arthur Hiscock was the only reserve for the breed cup with some beautiful pigs, the Earl of Carnarvon being represented only by entries in the class.

Middle Whites are again regaining lost ground and no one could complain as to any lack of quality, the uniform excellence of these classes. In the class for under nine months the Hon. D. P. Bunbury

took first prize and the breed cup for pigs of length, depth, and quality, Mr. George Attkins being second with a pair of capital-backed pigs. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was third, and a most deserving third. The whole class received mentions from the judge, as did also the class for over nine months. Here there were only nine entries, but what they lacked in numbers they most certainly made up in quality. Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield had a very close fit for first position and reserve for the breed cup, but his pigs were a trifle longer than Mr. Arthur Hiscock's second prize-takers, Mr. Sanders Spencer coming in third.

Large Whites, as a rule, were scarcely so long as usual, but they were much better put together in the young class. The Earl of Rosebery scored with a matching pair, Mr. Sanders Spencer being some distance behind for second position, whilst the third



Mr. R. M. Greave's Welsh Heifer, "Bryn-y-Wern," Breed Cup Winner at the Smithfield Show.

prize lot of Mr. George Attkins was still further back from the front. The older class of Large Whites were far and away the strongest. Here the Earl of Rosebery took first prize in the class, the breed cup was placed reserve for champion plate, and also reserve for the Duke of York's Challenge Cup for the best pen of two pigs in the show bred by the exhibitor. These pigs were of good length, lovely quality, deep-sided, and excellent hams. Mr. Arthur Hiscock was placed second and reserve for the breed cup with a well-bred pair.

The Black breed did not make a large entry either in numbers or quality, and this is the more regrettable seeing the efforts made to popularise this breed. In the younger class there were but two entries; here Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield secured an easy win and the breed cup, Mr. George Petit being second and reserve for the cup. In the older class Mr. Arthur G. Creech took first with very fat, heavy pigs. Berkshires, as usual, made exceptional classes, there being ten in the young and twelve in the older class. Mr. Arthur Hiscock had a very close contest to secure first and reserve for the breed cup, his were well brought out. Mr. Julius Fricker was second, his pigs not standing so well. The Earl of Carnarvon took third. The judge gave one h.c. and four commendations in this class, but the next class furnished the champion of the show in the splendid pair with grand loin, deep sides, nicely shaped hams. As a reward for bringing these out so well Mr. Richard Fowler took first prize of £10, the Berkshire cup plate for the best two pigs in the show, as well as H.R.H. the Duke of York's challenge cup. Mr. George T. Tomkins' second prize pair were scarcely so even as could be wished.

Tamworths made small classes of good quality, the pigs showing rather more condition than is usual with this breed. Mr. E. Ibbotson scored easily over Mr. D. W. Philip in the young class, who, however, won easily in the next with a pair of capital quality, good coats, clean and well grown. He took the breed cup as well. Mr. George Attkins was placed second, and also reserve for the breed cup.

The keenest competition in the pig classes was undoubtedly amongst the cross-breds, and Mr. James Burbidge had no enviable task in making his selections in the young class. Mr. Alfred Brown took first and reserve for the breed cup with a Large White and Berkshire cross; they have excellent backs, but drooped a little at the tail. Mr. Arthur Hiscock was second with a pair that lacked the length and depth, but were more handsome. In the older class he scored however, with a pair of good length, level backs, rare loins, and plenty of choice meat, nicely coated; these secured for him the first prize and breed cup. Mr. Julius A. Fricker was second with pigs that had full, heavy hams, Mr. J. P. Chiswell's third prize lot being a trifle coarse in the skin. Single pigs, as usual, made a truly grand show In the class for any white breed the Earl of Rosebery had a very good win with his Large White, possessing a rare back and loin, the championship of the single pigs going to him also. Mr. Mitchell took second also with a Large White, Mr. Arthur Hiscock coming in third with one of the same breed. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and Mr. Sanders Spencer both received h.c. cards for their Middle Whites. Blacks made an entry of three only, Mr. George Attkins taking premier position. Berkshires made a capital class, Mr. N. Benjafield being first and reserve for single champion, Mr. Julius Fricker being second. Four entries of Tamworths, and here Mr. George Attkins succeeded in defeating Mrs. E. Ibbotson and Messrs. D. W. Philip and Garrett Taylor. During the week there was a most active demand for pigs, most of them being sold at very satisfactory prices.

Carcase Classes.

The cattle and sheep slaughtered for the carcase competitions were on view for the first time on Wednesday. They were exhibited in the annexe to the great hall, on the Barford Street side, and attracted a good deal of attention. The display of beef was not large, but the quality was extremely satisfactory. The judges, in compliance with the wish of the council, judged the animals when alive, and it is deserving of notice that they were successful with each of the three classes in selecting the first prize animal, and were very nearly right with the recipients of the minor prizes.

The champion prize for the best beast in the classes was won by Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher. That shown was one year and eight months old, and was sired by an Aberdeen-Angus out of a Shorthorn dam. The Queen, with a pure Aberdeen-Angus under three years old won a first prize in a class for steers, and with a heifer of the same age, and also of the Aberdeen-Angus breed, won another first prize. Both these beasts were sent from Abergeldie Mains, and likewise both, in addition to being exhibited, were also bred by the Queen.

The choice body of Galloway Shorthorn beef which won second honours in the junior steer class for Sir J. Swinburne was placed reserve for the championship. These carcases and several others were all of superb quality, being beautifully marbled and mixed.

The show of mutton was not so uniform, but several choice lots were on view. The championship of this section went to the carcase of a cross lamb by a Devon longwool ram belonging to Mr. John Hayman, Milverton, Somerset; the carcase of the first prize short-woolled lamb, a Southdown-Suffolk cross shown by Mr. F. N. Bocock, Newmarket, receiving the reserve champion ticket. Sir J. Gilmour showed the first prize long-woolled wether carcase (Mountain variety), and first honours in the short-woolled wether class went to a Norfolk-horned carcase exhibited by Colonel McCalmont.

The carcases were submitted to sale by public auction on Friday. The market on the whole was regarded as being of a much more open character than in some previous years. The tone seemed better; competition among the buyers was a little more keen than usual, and the prices realised were considered to be satisfactory. This is attributed, especially in regard to mutton, to the conspicuous absence from the lists of inferior or low class fat sheep, which are a drug in the market There is one other circumstance which may have also tended as a factor to the better prices obtained, this being that the sale was held a little closer to the actual Christmas retail markets than usual, and the consequent reduction in the risks attendant upon keeping meat for any very prolonged period. The champion beast of the show, Mr. Douglas Fletcher's cross-bred (Aberdeen-Angus—Hereford), was sold at six shillings the stone. This animal was shown in the class for steers, under two year old, and the lowest price per stone realised for the carcase of an animal in the same class was four shillings and sixpence. A slightly higher figure, viz., six shillings and twopence, was obtained for the prize beast in the senior class for steers—the Queen's Aberdeen-Angus. The champion of the sheep classes, Mr. John Hayman's long-woolled lamb, was purchased for seven shillings and sixpence a stone, the next highest price for lambs being six shillings and fourpence. The selling price for Mr. F.N. Bocock's short-woolled wether lamb that was first in its class and champion of the sheep sections was ten shillings and sixpence per stone.

Table Poultry.

The exhibition of dead poultry, which for the first time was open to visitors without any extra charge for admission, was largely patronised, and its excellence amply repaid a visit, it being one of the best of its series and strikingly superior to that of last year. It was rendered all the more interesting by a large contribution of French poultry, which were lacking in 1899; while the Belgian section was as large as it was last season. Ducks were exhibited in three classes of couples and a group class, besides the foreign section. They made a large and fairly good show, though not, perhaps, equal to their display on one or two previous occasions. Geese were admirably represented, and there were some very heavy and perfectly fed birds among them. English turkeys, again, were excellent—perhaps better than they have been at most of the preceding exhibitions. Of the foreign exhibits, the French fowls were most interesting, many of them being extremely fat on their backs, which were turned upwards for exhibition; and some, especially those in the class for La Flèche, were remarkable for the whiteness of their skins and their delicacy of quality. French geese were also well shown, but the turkeys are greatly inferior to English. Belgian exhibits were various sorts and sizes.

Miscellaneous.

In no year in the history of the Smithfield Club has the exhibition of machinery, implements, farm produce, seeds, and fertilisers at the annual show been anything like so great as it is in the present. Several of the exhibits were made for and were shown at the Paris Exposition. To this end the metal parts of some agricultural implements were silver-plated, and the wooden sections fashioned of satinwood, which was afterwards polished. There was an almost bewildering display of portable and horizontal engines, implements, and machines. Several of the great seed-growers had displays of roots and other farm products raised by their respective customers.

List of Judges.

CATTLE.

DEVONS: Mr. Samuel Kidner, Bickley, Milverton, Somerset.
HEREFORDS: Mr. J. H. Yeomans, Stretton House, Hereford.
SHORTHORNS: Mr. William Wright, Scamblesby House, Hemingby, Lincolnshire.
SUSSEX: Mr. Alfred Heasman, Court Wick, Littlehampton.
RED POLLED: Mr. Herbert Blofield, Quidenham, Attleborough.
ABERDEEN-ANGUS: Mr. Samuel Davidson, Beech Hill, Inverness.
GALLOWAY: Mr. Robert Shennan, Balig, Kirkcudbright.
WELSH: Mr. John Jones, Dinarth Hall, Colwyn Bay.
HIGHLAND: Mr. John McGillivray, Ballachroan, Kingussie, N.B.
CROSS-BRED: Mr. James McWilliam, Stoneytown, Keith, N.B.
KERRY, DEXTER, SHETLAND, AND SMALL CROSS-BRED: Mr. H. D. Betteridge, Drayton House, Littlebury, Essex.
£50 Cup, Best Beast, not exceeding two years old; £50 Cup, Steer FOR £50 Cup, Heifer, The Queen's Challenge Cup value £150; 100-Guinea Champion Plate: Mr. Francis Evans, Bredwardine, Hereford.

SHEEP.

LEICESTERS AND BORDER LEICESTERS: Mr. John Twentyman, Hawkrigg House, Watton, Cumberland.
COTSWOLDS: Mr. W. T. Garne, Aldsworth, Northleach.
LINCOLNS: Mr. Joseph Brocklebank, Carlton-le-Moorland, Newark.
KENTISH OR ROMNEY MARSH: Mr. Francis de B. Collard, Minster Abbey, Ramsgate.
DEVON OR OTHER PURE LONG-WOOLLED BREEDS: Mr. E. R. Berry-Pell, Westleigh House, Bideford, N. Devon.
CHEVIOTS: Mr. George Douglas, Handlope, Jedburgh, N.B.
MOUNTAIN: Mr. Andrew G. Sprot, Beelaw, Berwick, N.B.
SOUTHDOWNS: Mr. William Toop, Westergate, Aldinghame, Chichester.
HAMPSHIRE-DOWNS: Mr. James Flower, Childrick, Salisbury.
SUFFOLKS: Mr. F. S. Lewis, Henhurst, Ipswich.
SHROPSHIRES: Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Beckbury, Shrewsbury.
OXFORD DOWNS: Mr. A. F. Milton Dence, 16 Queen Street, Oxford.
DORSET OR ANY OTHER PURE SHORT-WOOLLED BREEDS: Mr. W. Foverby, Vine Farm, Dorchester.
CROSS-BREDS: Mr. George Sturton, sen., 74, Central Meat Market, London, E.C.
The £50 Challenge Plate for the Best Pen of Long-woolled Sheep in Classes: Mr. Richard Fisher, Lincolnshire, Beverley.
The Cup Challenge Plate for the Best Pen of Short-woolled Sheep in Classes: Mr. F. N. Bocock, Chippenham Lodge, Newmarket.
The Duke of Wellington's Challenge Cup for the Best Pen of Sheep in Classes under 2 Years: Mr. Peter Dawn, Pasture House, Sedgefield, Durham.

PIGS.

WHITE BREEDS: Mr. John Burgess, Beer-wash, Derby.

BLACK AND BERKSHIRE: Mr. J. W. Kimber, Fyfield Wick, Abingdon.
TAMWORTH: Mr. W. H. Mitchell, Elmdene, Kenilworth.
CROSS-BRED: Mr. James Burbidge, Streatly Farm, Reading.
The £20 Champion Plate for the Best Pen of Pigs; the Duke of York's Challenge Cup, value £50; the £5 Champion Plate for the Best Single Pig: Captain H. Heaton, Worsley, Manchester.

CARCASE COMPETITION.

Mr. William Reid, sen., 160, Central Meat Market, London, E.C.; Mr. John Wortley, Frettenham, Norwich.
£5 Champion Prize for the Best Carcase of Beef, and £5 Champion Prize for the Best Carcase of Mutton: Mr. Frederick Redman, 146, Borough High Street, S.E.

Champion Prizes.

CATTLE.

A silver cup, value £25, for best beast not over two years: Mr. John Ross, Meikle Tarrell, Fearn, N.B. (cross-bred heifer); r, Mr. G. Bruce, Tochineal, Cullen, N.B.

A silver cup, value £50, for best steer or ox: Mr. John Wortley, Norwich (Lord Roberts); r, Captain H. L. Townshend.

A silver cup, value £50, for best heifer: Mr. W. E. Learner, Dilham, Norwich (Ladysmith); r, The Queen.

A champion plate, value 100gs., for best beast in the show, and gold medal to the breeder of the best beast in the show: Mr. J. Wortley, Frettenham, Norfolk (Lord Roberts); r, Mr. W. E. Learner. Gold medal to breeder: Mr. H. F. Russell, Pembridge, Herefordshire.

The Queen's challenge cup, value £150, for the best beast in the show, bred by the exhibitor: The Queen (Cicely); r, Earl of Strathmore, Glamis, Forfar.

SHEEP.

A champion plate, value £50, to the exhibitor of the best pen of three long-woolled sheep or lambs in the show: Mr. John Pears, Mere, Lincoln (Lincolns); r, Mr. H. Dudding, Stallingboro', Great Grimsby. Gold medal to the breeder: Mr. J. Pears.

A champion plate, value £50, to the exhibitor of the best pen of three short-woolled sheep or lambs in the show: Earl of Ellesmere (Suffolks); r, Duke of Richmond and Gordon. Gold medal to the breeder: Earl of Ellesmere.

The Prince of Wales's challenge cup, value £100, for the best pen of three sheep or lambs in the show, bred by the exhibitor, and gold medal to the holder, but not final winner of the cup: Earl of Ellesmere (Suffolks); r, Mr. John Pears.

PIGS.

A champion plate, value £20, to the exhibitor of the best pen of two pigs in the show: Mr. R. Fowler (Berkshires); r, Earl of Rosebery. Gold medal to the breeder: Mr. R. Fowler.

A champion plate, value £5, to the exhibitor of the best single pig: Earl of Rosebery (Large White); r, Mr. N. Benjafield.

The Duke of York's challenge cup, value £50, for the best pen of two pigs in the show, bred by the exhibitor, and gold medal to the holder, but not final winner, of the cup: Mr. R. Fowler (Berkshires); r, Earl of Rosebery.

BREED CUPS.

CATTLE.

A silver cup, value £25, for the best Devon: Mr. J. Wortley, Frettenham, Norwich (Baden-Powell); r, Her Majesty the Queen

A silver cup, value £25, for the best Hereford: Mr. J. Wortley (Lord Roberts); r, Her Majesty the Queen.

A silver cup, value £25, for the best Shorthorn: Her Majesty the Queen (Cicely); r, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G. (Talisman)

A silver cup, value £25, for the best Sussex: The Earl of Derby, Birtley, Witley, Godalming (Melody); r, Mr. H. T. West, Terry's Cross, Woodmancote, Henfield

A silver cup, value £15, for the best Red Polled: Mr. R. J. Colman, Bracondale Woods, Norwich (Barbara 3rd); r, Mr. J. E. Platt, Howbury Hall, Bedford.

A silver cup, value £25, for the best Aberdeen-Angus: Mr. G. Bruce, Techineach, Cullen (Cock o' the North); r, The Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorn, Glamis Castle, Glamis, Forfar (Aquilegia).

A silver cup for the best Galloway: Sir John Swinburne, Bart., Capheaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne (Scottish Queen 3rd); r, The Earl of Antrim, Glenarm, co. Antrim (Sam 3rd of Minnidow).

A silver cup for the best animal of the Welsh breed: Mr R. M. Greaves, Wern, Portmadoc (Bryn-y-Wern); r, Mr. W E. Oakeley, The Plas, Tan-y-bulch, Merionethshire (Gorchafaeth).

A silver cup, value £20, for the best animal of the Highland breed: Lieut.-Col. H. E. S. Horne Drummond, Blair Drummond, Perthshire; r, The Earl of Durham, Bowes House Farm, Fence Houses, co. Durham (Suina 3rd).

A silver cup, value £25, for the best cross-bred: Mr. W. E. Learner (Ladysmith); r, Capt. H. L. Townshend, Caldecote Hill, Nuneaton (Cock o' the North).

A silver cup, value £25, for the best animal in the Kerry, Dexter, Shetland, and small cross-bred classes: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G. (Patriot); r, Mr. R. G. Nash, Finnstown, Lucan, co. Dublin (Lucan Bobs).

SHEEP.

A silver cup, value £15, for the best pen of Leicesters: Mr. E. F. Jordan, Eastburn, Driffield; r, Mr. E. F. Jordan.

A silver cup, value £10, for the best pen of Border Leicesters: Earl of Rosebery, Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh; r, Mr. J. D. Fletcher, Rosehaugh, Avoch, N.B.

A silver cup, value £15, for the best pen of Cotswolds: Mr. F. Craddock, Eastington, Northleach; r, Mr. F. Craddock.

A silver cup, value £15, for the best pen of Lincolns: Mr. J. Pears, Mere, Lincoln; r, Mr. H. Dudding, Stallingboro', Great Grimsby.

A silver cup, value £15, for the best pen of Kentish: Mr Thomas Wotton, Sturry, Canterbury; r, Mr. Thomas Wotton.

A silver cup, value £15, for the best pen of Devons or other pure long-woolled breed: Mr. J. H. Gibbings, Week Barton, North Tawton, Devon; r, Mr. J. H. Gibbings.

A silver cup, value £15, for the best pen of Cheviots: Mr J. M'Dowall, Girstingwood, Kirkcudbright, N.B.; r, Mr. J. M'Dowall.

A silver cup, value £15, for the best pen of Mountain: Mr J. M'Dowall; r, Mr. J. M'Dowall.

A silver cup, value £15, for the best pen of Southdowns: Duke of Richmond, Goodwood; r, Mr. W. Wright, Lea Park Godalming.

A silver cup, value £15, for the best pen of Hampshire Downs: Mr. T. F. Buxton, Ware, Herts; r, Mr. T. F. Buxton.

A silver cup, value £15, for the best pen of Suffolks: Earl of Ellesmere, Stetchworth Park, Newmarket; r, Mr. H. E. Smith, Welton, Suffolk.

A silver cup, value £15, for the best pen of Shropshires: Mr. P. L. Mills, Ruddington Hall, Notts; r, Mr. P. H. Mills.

A silver cup, value £15, for the best pen of Oxford Downs: Mr. H. W. Stilwell, Adderbury, Banbury; r, Miss Alice de Rothschild

A silver cup, value £15, for the best pen of Dorset, or any other pure short-woolled breed: Mr J. Toop, Bosham, Chichester; r, Mr. W. J. Horn, Hindside, Hatfield.

Silver cup, value £15, for the best pen of cross-bred animals: Mr F. J. Matthews, Bircham, Newton, Lynn; r, Mr. F. J. Matthews

PIGS.

Silver cup, value £10, for the best pen of any Small White breed: Hon. D. P. Bouverie, Coleshill House, Highworth; r, Mr. A. Hiscock, jun., Manor Farm, Motcombe

Silver cup, value £10, for best pen of any Middle White breed: Hon. D. P. Bouverie; r, Mr. N. Benjafield.

Silver cup, value £10, for the best pen of any Large White breed: Earl of Rosebery; r, Mr. A. Hiscock, jun.

Silver cup, value £10, for the best pen of any Black breed: Mr. N. Benjafield; r, Mr. G. Pettit, The Firs, Friston, Saxmundham.

Silver cup, value £10, for the best pen of Berkshires: Mr R. Fowler, Broughton Farm, Aylesbury; r, Mr. A. Hiscock jun.

Silver cup, value £10, for the best pen of Tamworths: Mr. D. W. Philip, Whitacre, Birmingham; r, Mr. G. Atkins, High Street, Highgate.

Silver pen, value £10, for the best pen of any distinct or cross breed: Mr. A. Hiscock, jun.; r, Mr. A. Brown, Hill Farm, Southampton.

CARCASE COMPETITION

Champion prize of £5, to the exhibitor of the best carcase in Classes 87 to 89: Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher; r, Sir John Swinburne, Bart.

Champion prize of £5, to the exhibitor of the best carcase in Classes 90 to 93: Mr. J. Hayman, Milverton Court, Milverton, Somerset; r, Mr. F. N. Bocock, Cropley Grove, New-market.

Prize List.

DEVONS.

Class 1.—Devon steers not exceeding two years old: 1, H.M. the Queen, Flemish Farm, Windsor; 2, Mr. Alfred C. Skinner, of Pound Farm, Bishops Lydeard; 3, Mr. Alfred Bowerman, of Capton, Williton, Taunton (Domino); 4, Viscount Portman of Bryanston, Blandford (George's Brother); r and hc, Mr. Alfred Bowerman (Tit Bits); hc, Viscount Portman (Winner); Mr. J. C. Williams of Caerhays, St. Austell; Col. A. F. Walter of Bearwood, Wokingham (Forester).

Class 2.—Devon steers above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr. John Wortley (Baden-Powell); 2, Mr. J. C. Williams; 3, H.M. the Queen; r, Viscount Portman (Willie).

Class 3.—Devon heifers not exceeding three years old: 1, H.M. the Queen (Dainty); 2, J. C. Williams (Waterhen 6th)

HEREFORDS.

Class 4.—Hereford steers not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr. John Price of Court House, Pembridge, Herefordshire; 2, H.M. the Queen; 3, Mr. A. P. Turner of The Leen, Pembridge, Herefordshire; r and hc, H.M. the Queen; c, Mr William T. Barnehy of Saltmarshe Castle, Bromyard.

Class 5.—Hereford steers above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr. John Wortley (Lord Roberts); 2, H.M. the Queen; 3, Mr. William Hyde Cooke of The Green, Shelsley Kings, Worcester; r and hc, Mr. William Hyde Cooke; hc, Mr. John Price; Mr. Allen Edwards Hughes of Wintercott, Leominster (Nordan); c, Mr. John Joseph Cridlan of Home Farm, Maisemore Park, Gloucester (Red Indian); Mr. Henry William Taylor of Showle Court, Ledbury, Herefordshire

Class 6.—Hereford heifers not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr. Allen Edward Hughes of Wintercott, Leominster, Herefordshire (Ladylike 2nd); 2, Mr. Henry William Taylor of Showle Court, Ledbury, Herefordshire (Violet Agnes); r, Mr. Henry William Taylor (Innocence).

SHORTHORNS.

Class 7.—Shorthorn steers not exceeding two years old: 1, H.M. the Queen (Robin Hood); 2, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G., of Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh (Royal Standard); 3, Miss Alice de Rothschild of Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury (Flower Boy); 4, Mr. John Ross of Meikle Tarrel, Fearn, N.B.; r and hc, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G. (Constant).

Class 8.—Shorthorn steers above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G. (Talisman); 2, Lord Calthorpe of Elvetham Park, Winchfield, Hants (Thumper); 3, Miss Alice de Rothschild (Sabinus); r and hc, Mr. Fitzroy C. Fletcher of Letham Grange, Arbroath, N.B.; hc, Miss Alice de Rothschild (Juryman).

Class 9.—Shorthorn heifers not exceeding three years old: 1, H.M. the Queen (Cicely); 2, Messrs. Grant of Auchnacree, Brechin, N.B. (Primrose); 3, Captain Archibald Stirling of Keir, Dunblane, N.B. (Queen of Vittyre); r and hc, Mr George Inglis of Newmore, Invergordon, N.B. (Pearl).

SUSSEX.

Class 10.—Sussex steers not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr Henry Thomas West of Terry's Cross, Woodmancote, Henfield; 2, The Earl of Derby; 3, Mr P. F. R. Saillard of Buchan Hill, Crawley; r and hc, Mr. Joseph Godman of Park House, Godalming.

Class 11.—Sussex steers above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, The Earl of Derby; 2, Mr. P. F. R. Saillard; 3, Earl Winterton of Shillinglee Park, Petworth; r and hc, Mr Albert Jesse Thomas of Burgates Hill, Rudgwick, Sussex (Northern Prince); hc, Mrs Ernest Hollis of Red leaf, Penshurst, Kent.

Class 12.—Sussex heifers not exceeding three years old: 1, The Earl of Derby; 2, Mr W. F. Wood of Tilsden Court, Kent (Tilsden Myrtle); 3, Mr Albert Jesse Thomas (Miss Till 2nd); r, Mrs Ernest Hollis (Penshurst Nancy); hc, Mr Joseph Godman (Noble Lady 2nd).

RED POLLED.

Class 13.—Red Polled steers not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr. James E. Platt of Howbury Hall, Bedford; 2, His Royal Highness the Duke of York, K.G., Sandringham (Red Cap); r and hc, Mr James E. Platt; hc, Mr Alfred [illegible] Norwich (Thomas Cock); c, Mr [illegible]

Class 14.—Red Polled steers above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr James E. Platt; 2, His Royal Highness the Duke of York, K.G. (Duchess); 3, The Hon. Assheton E. Pelham, M.P., of Hemingbrough Hall, North Riding (Lord); hc, Mr E. N. Buxton of Copdock Hall, Ipswich; r and hc, Mr R. Hovell Mason of Newton Hall, Sawston.

Class 15.—Red Polled Heifers not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr. Russell J. Colman (Barbara 3rd); 2, Mr Alfred James Smith of Bucklesham Woodbridge (Lady 2nd); r and hc, His Royal Highness the Duke of York, K.G. (Maid [illegible])

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

Class 16.—Aberdeen Angus steers not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr George Bruce of Techineach, Cullen (Cock o' the North); r and 4, Mr John H. Bridges of Lydgate House, Stroud, Gloucestershire; r, Colonel William Neville Tufnell of Langleybury, Chipperfield (Manus).

Class 17.—Aberdeen Angus steers above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, The Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorn of Glamis Castle, Glamis, Forfar (Aquilegia); 2, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G. (Abbess 3rd of Kippendavie); 3, Mr. Arthur Eggintz of South Ella Hall (Black Empress 2nd); r and hc, Captain H. L. Townshend of Caldecote Hall, Nuneaton (Cock o' the North); hc, Mr R. W. Hudson of Dunesfield, Great Marton, Lytham (Dunesfield).

GALLOWAYS.

Class 19.—Galloway steers not exceeding two years old: 1, Sir John Swinburne, Bart., of Capheaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne; 2, The Duke of Buccleuch and Queensbury, K.G., K.T., of Drumlanrig Castle, Thornhill, N.B. (Crimea Scott); 3, Mr. Albert Jesse Thomas of Burgates Hill, Rudgwick, Sussex, hc, (What Ho); r, The Duke of Buccleuch (Good Scott).

Class 20.—Galloway steers above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, The Earl of Antrim of Glenarm Castle, Glenarm, co. Antrim (Sam 3rd of Minnidow); 2, Mr. Herbert C. Allfrey of Thorpe Perrow, Bedale, Yorkshire (Rival); 3, Captain H. L. Townshend (Sambo); r, Mr. Albert Jesse Thomas.

Class 21.—Galloway heifers not exceeding three years old: 1, Sir John Swinburne, Bart. (Scottish Queen 3rd); 2, Crichton Royal Institution of Crichton Farm, Dumfries (Princess Fanny); 3, Mr. Herbert C. Allfrey of Thorpe Perrow, Bedale, Yorkshire (Reliance); r, Crichton Royal Institution

WELSH

Class 22.—Welsh steers not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr Robert Hughes; 2, Mr. William Hughes; 3, Mr. Robert Hughes; r and hc, Mr. R. M. Greaves of Wern, Portmadoc (Black Bach); hc, Mr. R. M. Greaves (Count); c, Colonel Henry Platt, C.B., of Gorddinog, Llanfairfechan (Plas Prince).

Class 23.—Welsh steers above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr. William E. Oakeley of The Plas, Tan-y-bwlch, Merionethshire (Gorchataeth); 2, The Hon. F. G. Wynn of Glynllifon, Carnarvon; 3, Mr. R. M. Greaves; r and hc, Mr. Robert Hughes; hc, Mr. William E. Oakeley of The Plas, Tan-y-bwlch, Merionethshire (Manad); c, The Hon. F. G. Wynn

Class 24.—Welsh heifers not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr. R. M. Greaves (Bryn-y-Wern); 2, Colonel Henry Platt, C.B. (Madryn Queen); r and hc, Colonel Henry Platt, C.B. (Madryn Belle)

HIGHLAND.

Class 25.—Highland steers not exceeding three years old: 1, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G.; 2, Sir Walter [illegible] Bart.; 3, [illegible] Colonel Robert Pringle; r, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G.; hc, Sir Walter [illegible] Bart.; c, Mr James Young of Carbrook, Falkirk, N.B. (Jock).

Class 26.—Highland steers above three and not exceeding four years old: 1, Lieut.-Col. H. E. S. Horne Drummond; 2, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G.; 3, [illegible] Duke of Argyll; r, [illegible] Duke of Argyll; hc, [illegible] Sir Walter [illegible] Bart.; c, Lieut.-Col. H. E. S. Horne Drummond; hc, [illegible] Colonel Robert Pringle; r, [illegible] Mr Robert A. Yerburgh, M.P.

HON. F. G. WYNN'S WELSH STEER, FIRST PRIZE AT BIRMINGHAM AND SECOND PRIZE AT SMITHFIELD.

CROSS-BREDS.

Class 28.—Cross-bred steers not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr. Robert Turner of Cairnton of Boyndie, Portsoy, N.B. (Black Knight); 2, Mr. John Ross; 3, Mr. Robert Turner [illegible] and hc, Mr. J. D uglas Fletcher of Rosehaugh, Avoch, N.B. (Duncan); r, Mr. John A. Horn of Brangan, Portsoy, N.B. (Tom Thumb); hc, Mr. John Ross.

Class 29.—Cross-bred steers above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, Captain H. L. Townshend (Cock o' the North); 2, Miss Alice de Rothschild (St. Brieux); 3, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G. (Brigadier); r and hc, Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher (Blue Duke); c, Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher (Rover); Captain Archibald Stirling of Ken, Dunblane, N.B. (The Command).

Class 30.—Cross-bred heifers not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr. John Ross; 2 and 3, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G. (Marigold and Village Belle); r and hc, Mr. John Ross; c, Miss Alice de Rothschild (Synthesis).

Class 31.—Cross-bred heifers above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr. W. E. Learner of Dilham, Norwich (Ladysmith); 2, Mr. Clement tSephenson of Sandyford Villa, Newcastle-on-Tyne; 3, Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher; c, Miss Alice de Rothschild (St. Bryde).

KERRY, DEXTER, AND SHETLAND.

Class 32.—Kerry, Dexter, and Shetland steers not exceeding two years old and not exceeding 8cwt. live weight: 1 and r, Mr. J. Thorley of Ringdale House, Faringdon (My Mistake and Up Guards).

Class 33.—Kerry, Dexter, and Shetland steers above two and not exceeding three years old, and not exceeding 10cwt. live weight: 1, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G. (Patriot); 2, Mr. R. G. Nash (Lucan Bobs); r and hc, Mr. Norman C. Cookson of Oakwood, Wylam, R.S.O. Northumberland (Daniel Prince).

Class 34.—Kerry, Dexter, and Shetland heifers, not exceeding three years old, and not exceeding 9cwt. live weight: 1, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., of Elsenham Hall, Essex (Dexter Miss); 2, Mr. J. Thorley (La Mancha Dot); r and hc, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Dexter Maiden); hc, Mr. R. Tait Robertson of The Church Farm, Babraham, Cambridgeshire (La Mancha Poppy).

SMALL CROSS-BRED CATTLE.

Class 35.—Steers not exceeding three years old: 1, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G. (Valiant); 2, Mr. Norman C. Cookson of Oakwood, Wylam, R.S.O., Northumberland (Frolicsome); r and hc, Mr. R. W. Hudson (Duke of York); hc, Mr. R. G. Nash (Lucan Champion).

Class 36.—Heifers not exceeding three years old: 1, Mr. Russell J. Colman (Flo); 2, Mr. R. W. Hudson (Duchess of York); r and hc, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G.; hc, Mr. J. Thorley (Ringdale Success); Mr. R. Tait Robertson (La Mancha Norma).

SHEEP.

LEICESTERS.

Class 37.—Pen of three fat wether lambs of the Leicester breed under twelve months old: 1, Mr. Ernest Francis Jordan of Eastburn, Driffield; 2, Mrs. S. Perry Herrick of Beau Manor Park, Loughborough; r, Mr. Ernest Francis Jordan.

Class 38.—Pen of three fat wether sheep of the Leicester breed above twelve and under twenty-four months old: 1, Mr. Ernest Francis Jordan; 2, Mrs. S. Perry Herrick; r, Mr. Ernest Francis Jordan.

BORDER LEICESTERS.

Class 39.—Pen of three fat wether lambs of the Border Leicester breed, under twelve months old: 1, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G.; r, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G.

Class 40.—Pen of three fat wether sheep of the Border Leicester breed, above twelve and under twenty-four months old: 1, Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher of Rosehaugh, Avoch, N.B.

COTSWOLD.

Class 41.—Pen of three fat wether lambs of the Cotswold breed, under twelve months old: 1, Mr. Frederick Craddock of Eastington, Northleach.

Class 42.—Pen of three fat wether sheep of the Cotswold breed above twelve and under twenty-four months old: 1, Mr. Frederick Craddock.

LINCOLNS.

Class 43.—Pen of three fat wether lambs of the Lincoln breed under twelve months old: 1, Mr. Henry Dudding of Riby Grove, Stallingboro', Great Grimsby; 2, Mr. John Pears of Mere, Lincoln; r, Mr. Henry Dudding; hc, Mr. William B. Swallow of Horkstow Villa, Barton-on-Humber.

Class 44.—Pen of three fat wether sheep of the Lincoln breed above twelve and under twenty-four months old: 1, Mr. John Pears; 2, Mr. Henry Dudding; r, Mr. William B. Swallow.

KENTISH OR ROMNEY MARSH.

Class 45.—Pen of three fat wether lambs of the Kentish or Romney Marsh breed under twelve months old: 1, Mr. Thomas Wotton of Tile Lodge, Sturry, Canterbury; 2, Mr. Henry Rigden of Lyndinge, Hythe, Kent; 3, Mr. Frederick Neame of Macknade, Faversham, Kent; r and hc, Mr. John Egerton Quested of The Firs, Chariton, Kent.

Class 46.—Pen of three fat wether sheep of the Kentish or Romney Marsh breed above twelve and under twenty-four months old: 1, Mr. Thomas Wootton; 2, Mr. Henry Rigden; r, Mr. John Egerton Quested; hc and c, The South Eastern Agricultural College of Wye, Ashford.

DEVON OR OTHER PURE LONG-WOOLLED BREED.

Class 47.—Pen of three fat wether lambs of the Devon, etc., breed under twelve months old: 1 and 2, Mr. John Henson Gibbings of Week Barton, North Tawton, Devon; 3, Mr. Alfred C. Skinner of Pound Farm, Bishops Lydeard, Somerset.

CHEVIOTS.

Class 49.—Pen of three fat wether lambs of the Cheviot breed under twelve months old: 1, Mr. John McDowall, of Girdstingwood, Kirkcudbright; 2, Mr. James McD. Jamieson, of Muttonhole, Ford, N.B.

Class 50.—Pen of three fat wether sheep of the Cheviot breed above twelve months old: 1 and 2, Mr. John McDowall; 3, Mr. Alexander Guild of Aberlady Mains, Aberlady, N.B.; hc, Mr. H. W Hope of Luffness Mains, Aberlady, N.B.

MOUNTAIN BREED.

Class 51.—Pen of three fat wether lambs of the Mountain breed under twelve months old: 1, Mr. John McDowall.

Class 52.—Pen of three fat wether sheep of the Mountain breed above twelve months old: 1 and 2, Mr. John McDowall; 3 and r, Sir John Gilmour, Bart., of Lundin and Montrave, Leven, Fifeshire.

SOUTHDOWNS.

Class 53.—Pen of three fat wether lambs of the Southdown breed under twelve months old: 1, Mr. Whitaker Wright of [illegible]; 2, Colonel H. B. McCalmont, M.P.; [illegible]; Mr. Mortimer of Worth Park, Crawley; 4, r, and hc, Mr. Charles [illegible] of Fetcham, Leatherhead; hc, Mr. Jeremiah Colman of [illegible]; Mr. R. W. Ardeme; Mr. [illegible]; Mr. [illegible] Essex (twice).

Class 54.—Pen of three fat wether sheep of the Southdown breed [illegible] twelve and under twenty-four months old: 1, The Duke of [illegible] of Goodwood, Chichester; 2, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G.; 3, The Duke of [illegible] of Goodwood, K.G.; r and hc, Earl Cadogan, K.G.; hc, Earl Cadogan, K.G.; Colonel Harry L. B. McCalmont, M.P.

[illegible]

Class 56.—Pen of three fat wether sheep of the Hampshire Down breed above twelve and under twenty-four months old: 1, Mr. Thomas Fowell Buxton; 2, Lord Rothschild; 3, Mr. Thomas Fowell Buxton; r, Lord Rothschild.

SUFFOLKS.

Class 57.—Pen of three fat wether lambs of the Suffolk breed under twelve months old: 1 and 2, Mr. Herbert E. Smith of The Grange, Welton, Suffolk; 3, Colonel Harry L. B. McCalmont, M.P., of Cheveley Park, Newmarket; r and hc, Major E. W. Baird, Exning House, Newmarket; hc, Colonel Harry L. B. McCalmont, M.P.; The Earl of Ellesmere of Stetchworth Park, Newmarket.

Class 58.—Pen of three fat wether sheep of the Suffolk breed above twelve and under twenty-four months old: 1, The Earl of Ellesmere; 2, Major E. W. Baird; r and hc, Colonel Harry L. B. McCalmont, M.P.; hc, The Earl of Ellesmere.

SHROPSHIRES.

Class 59.—Pen of three fat wether lambs of the Shropshire breed under twelve months old: 1, Mr. Philo L. Mills of Ruddington Hall, Ruddington, Notts; 2, Lady de Rothschild of Aston Clinton, Tring, Herts; 3, Philo L. Mills; r, Captain Henry L. Townshend; c, Captain Harry L. Townshend.

Class 60.—Pen of three fat wether sheep of the Shropshire breed above twelve and under twenty-four months old: 1 and 2, Philo L. Mills; r, Mr. Herbert Mitchell of Longnor Hall Farm, Penkridge, Staffordshire; c, Captain Harry L. Townshend (twice).

OXFORD-DOWNS.

Class 61.—Pen of three fat wether lambs of the Oxford-Down breed under twelve months old: 1, Mr. Hugh W. Stilgoe of The Grounds, Adderbury, Banbury; 2, Mr. J. G. Williams of Pendley Manor, Tring, Herts; 3, Mr. Benjamin Howkins of Bromham, Bedford; r and hc, Mr. J. G. Williams.

Class 62.—Pen of three fat wether sheep of the Oxford-Down breed above twelve and under twenty-four months old: 1 and 2, Miss Alice de Rothschild of Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury.

DORSET OR ANY OTHER PURE SHORT-WOOLLED BREED not specified in any of the foregoing Classes.

Class 63.—Pen of three fat wether lambs of the Dorset or any pure short-woolled breed not specified in any of the foregoing classes under twelve months old: 1, Mr. James Toop of Bosham, Chichester (Dorset); 2, r, and hc, Mr. W. J. Horn, of Handside, Hatfield (Dorset); c, Mr. Jasper Culverwell of Clavelshay Farm, North Petherton, Bridgwater (Dorset).

Class 64.—Pen of three fat wether sheep of the Dorset or any other pure short-woolled breed not specified in any of the foregoing classes above twelve and under twenty-four months old: 1 and 2, Mr. William Theodore Barneby of Saltmarshe Castle, Bromyard.

CROSS-BREDS.

Class 65.—Pen of three cross-bred fat wether lambs under twelve months old: 1, Mr. Fred. I. Matthews of Bircham Newton, Lynn; 2, Mr. W. H. Hall of Six Mile Bottom, Newmarket; 3, Mr. James Toop; r and hc, Mr. Thomas Rush of Mitchells, Saffron Walden, Essex; hc, Mr. James Toop.

Class 66.—Pen of three cross-bred fat wether sheep above twelve and under twenty-four months old: 1, Mr. Fred. I. Matthews; 2 and 3, Mr. Thomas Rush; r and hc, Mr. William Robinson of Willington Manor, Bedford.

Class 67.—Pen of three fat wether lambs, first cross from Cheviot, Scotch, and Mountain breeds, under twelve months old: 1, Mr. John McDowall.

Class 68.—Pen of three fat wether sheep, first cross from Cheviot, Scotch, and Mountain breeds, above twelve and under twenty-four months old: 1, Mr. John McDowall.

PIGS.

SMALL WHITES.

Class 69.—Pen of two pigs of any Small White breed not exceeding nine months old: 1, The Hon. D. P. Bouverie; r and hc, Mr. Arthur Hiscock jun., of Manor Farm, Motcombe, Shaftesbury.

Class 70.—Pen of two pigs of any Small White breed above nine and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun.; r and c, The Earl of Carnarvon of Highclere Castle, Newbury.

MIDDLE WHITES.

Class 71.—Pen of two pigs of any Middle White breed not exceeding nine months old: 1, The Hon. D. P. Bouverie; 2, Mr. George Attkins, of High Street, Highgate; 3, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G.; r and hc, Mr. J. G. Williams; hc, Mr. E. Henry Loyd of Langleybury, King's Langley, Herts; Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun.; c, Mr. John Pearre Chissell of Cowgrove Farm, Wimborne, Dorset; Mr. Sanders Spencer of Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts.

Class 72.—Pen of two pigs of any Middle White breed above nine and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield; 2, Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun.; 3, Mr. Sanders Spencer; r and hc, Mr. George Attkins; c, Mr. E. Henry Lloyd of Langleybury, King's Langley, Herts.

LARGE WHITES.

Class 73.—Pen of two pigs of any Large White breed not exceeding nine months old: 1, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G.; 2, Mr. Sanders Spencer; 3, Mr. George Attkins; r and c, Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun.

Class 74.—Pen of two pigs of any Large White breed above nine and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G.; 2, Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun.; 3, Mr. William Mitchell of The Vale, Kirby Bedon, Norwich; r and hc, Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield.

BLACKS.

Class 75.—Pen of two pigs of any Black breed not exceeding nine months old: 1, Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield; r and hc, Mr. George Pettit of The Firs, Friston, Saxmundham.

Class 76.—Pen of two pigs of any Black breed above nine and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. Arthur Gerrard Creech of Newton House, Sturminster Newton, Dorset; 2, Mr. George Attkins; r and hc, Mr. George Pettit.

BERKSHIRES.

Class 77.—Pen of two pigs of the Berkshire breed not exceeding nine months old: 1, Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun.; 2, Mr. Julius Augustus Fricker of Burton, Mere, Wilts; 3, The Earl of Carnarvon; r and hc, Mr. Alexander Henderson, M.P., of Buscot Park, Faringdon; hc, Middlesex County Asylum, Tooting, Surrey; c, Mr. Richard Horwood of Upper Farm, Drayton Beauchamp, Tring; Mr. John Pearce Chissell of Cowgrove Farm, Wimborne; Sir H. F. De Trafford, Bart., of Hill Crest, Market Harborough; Mr. George T. Tomkin of The Moat, Marden, Kent.

Class 78.—Pen of two pigs of the Berkshire breed above nine and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. Richard Fowler; 2, Mr. George T. Tomkin of The Moat, Marden, Kent; 3, Mr. Richard Edward Horwood; 4, Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun.; r and hc, Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield; hc, Mr. John Pearce Chissell of Cowgrove Farm, Wimborne; Mr. R. W. Hudson; c, Mr. Richard Edward Horwood.

TAMWORTHS.

Class 79.—Pen of two pigs of the Tamworth breed not exceeding nine months old: 1, Mrs. E. Ibbotson of Gun Hill, Arley, Coventry; r and c, Mr. D. W. Philip of The Ashes, Whitacre, Birmingham.

ANY DISTINCT OR CROSS BREED.

Class 81.—Pen of two pigs of any distinct or cross breed, not qualified to compete in any of the foregoing classes, not exceeding nine months old: 1, Mr. Alfred Brown of Hill Farm, Southampton; 2, Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun; 3, Mr. John Pearce Chissell; r and hc, Mr. George Attkins; c, Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield.

Class 82.—Pen of two pigs of any distinct or cross breed, not qualified to compete in any of the foregoing classes, above nine and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun.; 2, Mr. Julius A. Fricker of Burton, Mere, Wilts; 3, Mr. John Pearce Chissell of Cowgrove Farm, Wimborne; r and hc, Mr. George Attkins; c, Mr. Alfred Brown of Hill Farm, Southampton.

SINGLE PIGS.

Class 83.—Single pig of any White breed not exceeding twelve months old: 1, The Earl of Rosebery, K.G.; 2, Mr. W. Mitchell; 3, Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun.; r and hc, Mr. Alfred Brown; hc, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G.; Mr. Charles Elmhurst Duckering of The Cliff, Kirton Lindsey, Lincolnshire; Mr. Sanders Spencer; The Hon. D. P. Bouverie.

Class 84.—Single pig of any black breed not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. George Attkins; 2, Mr. George Pettit; r, Mr. Arthur Gerrard Creech.

Class 85.—Single pig of the Berkshire breed not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield; 2, Mr. Julius A. Fricker; 3, Sir H. F. de Trafford, Bart., of Hill Crest, Market Harborough; r and hc, Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun.; hc, Mr. Richard Edward Horwood; Mr. Alfred Brown, of Hill Farm, Southampton; The Earl of Carparvon; Mr. Alexander Henderson, M.P., of Buscot Park, Faringdon.

Class 86.—Single pig of the Tamworth breed not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. George Attkins; 2, Mrs. E. Ibbotson; r and hc, Mr. Garrett Taylor, of Trowse House, Norwich.

CARCASE COMPETITION.

Class 87.—Steer not exceeding two years old: 1, Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher; 2, Sir John Swinburne, Bart.; 3, Mr. C. H. Berners of Wolverstone Park, Ipswich; r and hc, Mr. James Young of Cadboll, Fearn, N.B. (General).

Class 88.—Steer above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, H.M. the Queen; 2, Mr. James Young (Baden-Powell); 3, Mr. J. G. Young (De Wet); r and hc, Mr. R. G. Nash (Lucan Tomtit).

Class 89.—Heifer not exceeding three years old: 1, H.M. the Queen; 2, The Duchess of Newcastle of Clumber, Worksop, Notts (Daisy); 3, Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher; r and hc, The Executors of the late Mr. Joseph Smith of Catterall Hall, Garstang (Lady Roberts).

SHEEP.

Class 90.—One long-woolled wether lamb not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. John Hayman; 2, Mr. William Kennedy of Luce Farm, Ecclefechan, N.B.; 3, Mr. James McD. Jamieson of Muttonhole, Ford, N.B.; r and hc, Mr. John McDowall; c, Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher.

Class 91.—One long-woolled wether sheep above twelve and not exceeding twenty-four months old: 1, Sir John Gilmour, Bart.; 2, Mr. Charles T. A. Robertson of Little Horringer Hall, Bury St. Edmunds; 3, Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher; r and hc, Mr. H. W. Hope; c, Mr. Alexander Guild.

Class 92.—One short-woolled wether lamb not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Mr. F. N. Bocock of Cropley Grove, Newmarket; 2, Mr. Lloyd H. Baxendale of Greenham Lodge, Newbury; 3, Mr. Thomas Fowell Buxton; r and hc, Earl Cadogan, K.G., of Culford Hall, Bury St. Edmunds; hc, Colonel Harry L. B. McCalmont, M.P.; Mr. Herbert E. Smith of The Grange, Walton, Suffolk; c, Mr. John Hayman; Mr. S. R. Sherwood of Playford, Ipswich.

Class 93.—One short-woolled wether sheep above twelve and not exceeding twenty-four months old: 1, Colonel Harry L. B. McCalmont, M.P.; 2, Mr. T. T. Pitt of Piper's Farm, Good Easter, Essex; 3, Mr. P. F. R. Saillard of Buchan Hill, Crawley; r and hc, The Earl of Carnarvon; hc, Mr. Lloyd H. Baxendale of Greenham Lodge, Newbury; c, Mr. Thomas Fowell Buxton.

Chichester.

Judging by appearances, the annual show of fat stock at Chichester, which took place on Wednesday and Thursday, is on the down grade, and those interested in the welfare of the exhibition will have to bestir themselves if it is to regain a position of importance among the fat stock shows of the county. It would be idle to pretend that on this occasion it was at all worthy of the district which the Society seeks to represent. For such a large and important agricultural area, its proportions were, indeed, almost insignificant, and the poverty of the situation was strikingly revealed in the department for fat beasts, where in five classes there were only ten entries all told. In only one of these classes were there sufficient exhibits to necessitate the Committee parting with a second prize. The fact that the fixture clashed with the great exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, was, of course, not in its favour, but even allowing for any gaps in the ranks of competitors which Smithfield occasioned, it can hardly be gainsaid that a place like Chichester should be able to do far better than it did this year. Mr. G. F. Stanford, Mr. J. Bonham Carter, and Mr. E. E. Braby were the principal winners in the classes for fat beasts. An exceedingly well proportioned, fleshy crossbred heifer (Aberdeen-Angus and Sussex), belonging to Mr. Stanford, which had been successful at other local shows this year, was adjudged to be the best animal in the yard, Devon steer, the property of Mr. Bonham Carter, being reserve. The entries of sheep, like those of cattle, were very poor in number, though quality was fairly well represented. Mr. C. F. Field, of Felpham, gained two first prizes, and took the premium of £10 for the best pen in the show. Mrs. Montefiore and Mr. E. Whidley Tooker also won first prizes, the Pagham Harbour Company and Mr. James Toop failing to repeat their successes of last year. There was only one class for pigs, and in that Mr. Benjamin Aylwin, of Sidlesham, secured the first award, with Mr. H. M. Kimbell, of Chichester, second. In the minor departments of the show the classes for roots, corn, and dead poultry generally filled well, and in each section the display was of an interesting character.

FIRST-CLASS representatives and agents required throughout the United Kingdom for the sale of "MOLASSINE"—Write for particulars to the "MOLASSINE" Co., LTD., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

The Annnal Agricultural Dinner.

The annual agricultural dinner of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture and the Farmers' Club was held at the Holborn Restaurant on the evening of Tuesday, December 11th, 1900. Mr. J. R. Eve, chairman of the Farmers' Club, presided, and the Vice-Chairmen were Mr. B. St. John Ackers, Mr. J. F. Beddall, Mr. S. B. L. Druce, Mr. Ernest H. Godfrey, Mr. W. Lipscomb, Mr. Fred Street, and Mr. Henry Williams.

Amongst those present were the Right Hon. R. W. Hanbury, M.P. (President of the Board of Agriculture), the Right Hon. Henry Chaplin, M.P., Sir James Blyth, Bart., Sir Mark J. McTaggart Stewart, Bart., M.P., Sir Jacob Wilson, Mr. T. H. Elliott, C.B., Mr. R. S. Balden, Mr. J. Beecroft, Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P., Mr. Cary Coles, Mr. A. C. Cope, Major Craigie, Mr. C. B. Davies, Mr. T. Davies, Mr. F. A. Fulford, Mr. J. Whitehouse Griffin, Mr. Endre György (Hungarian Agricultural Attaché), Mr. A. F. Jeffreys, M.P., Mr. J. Heywood Johnston, M.P., Mr. John Kendrick, Mr. J. McIntosh McColl, Colonel Maude, Colonel Victor Milward, M.P., Mr. R. Jasper More, M.P., Mr. Rouse Orlebar, Professor John Penberthy, Mr. R. Henry Rew, Mr. H. Standfield, Mr. H. Stopes, Mr. R. Stratton, Mr. Garrett Taylor, Mr. C. P. Tebbutt, Mr. John White, Mr. J. T. Wilson, and over one hundred others.

Communications expressing regret at inability to be present were received from the Earl of Derby, K.G., Lord Burghclere, the Right Hon. Walter H. Long, M.P., the Right Hon. Horace Plunkett, Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P. (chairman of the Central Chamber for 1900), Mr. J. Grant Lawson, M.P., (vice-chairman of the Central Chamber for 1900), Mr. M. D'Arcy Wyvill, and Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P.

Loyal Toasts.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the toast of the Queen, remarked that the longer we lived the more we esteemed the many virtues of our beloved Queen. Englishmen also appreciated the example which Her Majesty set of sympathy with her people both in their joys and in their sorrows. The Queen herself had not been without grief this year, apart from the troubles and anxieties which had been entailed by the war in South Africa; but notwithstanding her own personal griefs she had not failed to remember her subjects. He was sure that agriculturists always rejoiced when they saw Her Majesty's name in the prize list. They could readily imagine that the Queen kept on her farm in honour of the Prince Consort, who established it. (Applause.) He might safely state that the Prince of Wales was the most popular man in England, and that the Princess of Wales was the most popular woman in England. He always felt that it was a happy day for England when the Princess stepped upon our shores to become the mother of our future kings. The other members of the Royal Family were following in the steps of their father and mother. This year the Duke of York was a competitor with his father and against his father and against Her Majesty for the prizes that were offered for the best stock at the various shows in which they could compete. (Applause.)

Both toasts having been duly honoured,

"Success to Agriculture"

The Right Hon. HENRY CHAPLIN, M.P., proposed the toast of "Success to Agriculture." He said: I rise with great pleasure at the word of command to propose the next toast upon the list. It is one which I can assure you in all respects is thoroughly congenial to me, because it is the toast of "Success to Agriculture," and it is alike my duty and my pleasure to couple with that toast the name of your distinguished guest, Mr. Hanbury, the new Minister of Agriculture. (Cheers.) I have known Mr. Hanbury now for many years in public life. I have watched his career with great interest, both as a member of the House of Commons before he was in office, and also as a capable and most hard-working colleague in Her Majesty's Government. I have seen him for five years fill a most difficult and arduous post with great ability and success, and I am sure that every gentleman in this room will join with me in heartily congratulating Mr. Hanbury upon the well-deserved promotion which he has earned. (Cheers.) Your welcome to Mr. Hanbury to-night I feel convinced will be all the warmer because I think that agriculturists everywhere thoroughly appreciate both the tone and the spirit of the speech which he made immediately after his appointment, in which he declared his determination to do all that in him lay for the promotion of the oldest, and what he described also as, perhaps, the least prosperous at the present time, of all the industries of the United Kingdom. Gentlemen, he might have termed it, too, I think, with perfect truth, the largest industry that we possess—(cheers)—because I believe it to be a fact that cannot be questioned that more capital and more labour are employed in the pursuit of agriculture than are employed in any other single industry in the kingdom at the present time. That it is Also the least prosperous is a matter upon which I am afraid that there can hardly be a difference of opinion among those who are thoroughly acquainted with the subject. The condition of the industry, of course, varies in different districts, and according to the nature of the farm. If I were to express my own opinion I should say that probably at the present time dairy farming is the branch of the industry which has suffered least, and which is, perhaps, doing best to-day, and which is the least in need of help and of assistance. But even in the case of dairy farming, in my humble opinion, there is great room for improvement and for development. I acknowledge with gratitude the good work which is being done at the present time by the different county councils, and by various other institutions in the country, for the improvement of dairy farming; but there is a great deal which is still left to be done. Otherwise why is it that, with all the natural advantages which we possess in the United Kingdom for the manufacture of dairy products equal to those of any country in the world, we continue to import such enormous quantities of dairy produce from abroad? With regard to dairy education I can only say that my opinion remains to-day what it always has been. In addition to all that is being done at present I should like to see the work undertaken by the Board of Agriculture upon a most comprehensive scale (applause) and with ample resources at its back. If that were done under the auspices of my right hon. friend, with all his experience and all his powers of organisation and of administration, I feel very sure that we should very quickly see a most remarkable change in the relative proportions of home and foreign dairy produce consumed within this country. (Applause.) But it is where the farm is arable that the condition at the present time, in a season like the present, is, in too many districts, something which I think I might describe without exaggeration as almost disastrous. I have had excellent opportunities myself of judging of this in what used to be known as the premier corn county in the country, namely, Lincolnshire, because I was in every part—I think I might say almost in every corner—of that county during the recent General Election, and everywhere, unfortunately, I was met with the same story, "The very worst year, squire, which we have had since 1879," is what they said to me. I do not know what it may be at the present moment in other parts of the country, but I do know that only two or three days ago I had a letter from one of the best known agriculturists in the kingdom, who wrote to me from a northern county in these words: "As far as arable farms are concerned this is the worst year on record." And I am afraid that probably that may apply to wider districts of the country. The reason of this is very simple. To grow wheat at the present prices, unless under wholly exceptional circumstances, is a certain loss, and consequently to a very great extent barley has been obliged to take the place of wheat. But, as everybody knows, barley is what is called an exceedingly gambling crop. It is so terribly dependent upon the nature of the season, and in a season like the present the meaning of this is that you are only able to grow about one half of the crop that you ought to grow, and what you do grow, in all probability, is most indifferent in quality. Consequently you are hit in both ways. You have only half the crop, and you get a greatly worse price for that small crop which you have. Under such circumstances it does not require a conjurer to be able to guess what the condition of farming under those circumstances is going to be at the end of the year. Well, what is to be done? That is always a question of difficulty in connection with agriculture; but I do believe that, in this particular case, Providence has directly intervened in the interests of farming. Day after day we read of people by thousands being poisoned by bad beer—that is to say, poisoned by beer which is made of substitutes for malt and hops, which have turned out to be so injurious that a great many people have really died in consequence. ("Shame!") Now, assuming that the allegations are true (I have no opportunity of judging of them myself, but, from all that is said and published upon the subject, it seems to me that there can be very little doubt about it), then two things in my judgment are absolutely certain. One is that no Government can continue to permit the manufacture of poisonous beer, and the other is that the conclusions of the Committee who sat and reported upon the use of beer materials, I think about two years ago, have been absolutely falsified by the results. The only member of that Committee who was right in his conclusions was our old friend, Mr. Clare Sewell Read—(loud cheers)—who had the courage and the ability to write a very different minority report upon the subject. I must confess that I have some responsibility myself, and I am quite ready to bear all the share of the blame which is my due. When that report was published, as the then President of the Local Government Board I was content to accept it and take it upon trust, without carefully examining the evidence. I ought to have examined the whole of the evidence, perhaps—it was extremely bulky—(laughter)—instead of taking it upon trust. I consider that the whole position from that time to this has been changed by the disclosure of these facts, and by the fact also that the conclusions of that committee are so directly at variance with those facts. And, in my opinion, the time must come for an entirely new departure in connection with this question. All that is needed, it seems to me, is this: namely, the intervention of two Government Departments—those of the Local Government Board. The Local Government Board is the guardian of our public health, and I am delighted—and I never met a man about whom this in my life—that my old friend Mr. Walter Long is my successor in that Department. He is the best of good fellows and the very best of friends, and one who, I think, if he can legitimately do so, will always have a warm corner in his heart for the interests which all of you represent here to-night. (Cheers.) The other Department is the Board of Agriculture, in the person of my right hon. friend who, in future, will be the guardian angel of that interest, and who, I hope, is destined to be the great champion of the barley growers of this country. If I may presume to say so, it does seem to me that those two Ministers have a golden opportunity at the present moment of "killing two birds with one stone." What we want them to do is this—to save us from being poisoned by bad beer, and to give us good beer and honest beer instead of bad, and, it seems to me, to set the barley-grower on his legs again, and by that means to confer an enormous boon upon all the agriculturists throughout the whole country. If they are able to put their heads together and to devise some legitimate means of doing this, I am sure that they will not only earn the gratitude of the whole agricultural world, but they will do something for that industry which that industry never will forget. Well, gentlemen, I must not keep you on an occasion like the present. ("Go on.") No, you are all, very naturally, waiting to hear what Mr. Hanbury has got to say to you. But there is just one other subject upon which I must say a single word to-night. It is always a matter of the greatest difficulty to do anything in these days in Parliament of material advantage to the agricultural interest, but we were able to do something of that nature during the last Parliament when we passed the Rating Bill. (Cheers.) It brought upon us unbounded abuse from certain quarters; but I never wavered in my opinion—and I do not think that I ever shall—that it was a notable instalment towards removing what was generally admitted to be an intolerable injustice which had weighed for so long and so heavily upon agricultural land in this country. Unfortunately, that Act expires next year, and what every agriculturist in the country at the present moment is most anxious about, I am certain, is this. They are all aware that a Royal Commission is sitting at the present moment, and that in their deliberations this question is included; but what the agricultural party in this country desire is that, whatever may be done in that respect, there shall be no lessening, no minimising whatever, of the advantages conferred by that Act, and that, unless something is provided giving greater advantages to the agricultural land of the country, the Act should either be made permanent or be renewed. Of course, gentlemen, I have never dreamed for a moment of expecting from Mr. Hanbury any reply to these suggestions that I have made to-night; nor am I seeking in any way to—as it is vulgarly called—try to "draw" him. Nothing would be more improper upon my part, and nobody knows better than myself that it would be impossible to ask him to make any pronouncement of the kind upon an occasion like the present, and that it would be impossible for him to do so. But I hope that it has not been out of place if I have endeavoured, with regard to the last two subjects which I have mentioned, to voice as clearly as I can what I believe to be the general—I will go further and say the unanimous opinion of the agricultural world with regard to those two particular questions at the present time. I have done so in order that they may be submitted to his consideration, and I know Mr. Hanbury well enough to know that, whatever may be his ultimate decisions, any opinions widely entertained and held and submitted to him by the agricultural community will at all times command from him a thoroughly full and most fair consideration. Now, gentlemen, with some apology for having delayed you, I am afraid, at almost too great length—("No, no")—I conclude by proposing to you "Success to Agriculture," coupled with our heartiest good wishes for the success of Mr. Hanbury's career in his new position as the Minister of Agriculture. (Cheers.)

The Right Hon. R. W. HANBURY, M.P., on rising to reply was received with loud cheers. He said: Of all the men fitted to propose this toast, perhaps the most fit of all is my right hon. friend himself. He is not only recognised, I think, generally, as almost the tutelary genius of agriculture, but he was the first President I might almost say [illegible] even—of the Board of Agriculture; and for the last five years he has been president of a department which, it seems to me, by its decisions can exercise a greater influence upon the fortunes of agriculture even than the Board of Agriculture itself. He is a veteran, and I am a novice, a man who has to change his mind off from the old set of rails on to a new set which may carry him into new regions with difficulty at any rate, he has not yet [illegible] explored. Well, gentlemen, it is said by some that in order to preside over agriculture you must have [illegible] your task in amount of special knowledge and experience which is not required in any other depart-

ment. On the other hand, it is said that, perhaps, to have an open mind, a mind that has not travelled too long in the same groove, is a better recommendation. Well, I am sorry to say that I have neither of those qualifications in their completeness. (Laughter.) It is perfectly true that some twenty years since I had the honour of being the chairman of the Staffordshire Chamber of Agriculture, and to that extent it may be said that the open mind does not altogether exist. It is also perfectly true that, so far as concerns dairy farming, which my right hon. friend has described as one of the most growing operations connected with the agricultural interest, my mind has never been a *tabula rasa*. I am not prepared to yield to my three predecessors in the office in interest in the department of agriculture, and I hope that I am not presumptuous in saying that I am not prepared to yield even in experience. But with regard to the idea of being an expert generally in farming, farming, it occurs to me, is so various—it is really so many occupations instead of being one occupation—that I should like to know whether an all-round practical expert is anywhere to be found. I confess I have never met him. I do not believe that this compendium of agricultural lore, this walking encyclopædia of agricultural knowledge, is anywhere to be found. The only possible place where I can suggest that he might be found would be hidden away in disguise in the shape of the youngest leader writer in the London office of the smallest agricultural journal. (Laughter.)

It is a somewhat significant fact that while all the other trades and occupations in this country are ranged under the Board of Trade, agriculture stands in proud isolation alone. It has a Department of its own. What is the reason of this? It is partly, no doubt, that it is our oldest industry. It is partly due also to the fact that it is still, I am glad to say, in spite of all that has happened, the greatest of our industries to-day. But I think that there is something more than that, because to recognise the claims of agriculture as of paramount importance is to recognise, not the claims of a class, but an interest of the nation.

The rural districts supply us with those healthy British men and women whom, as I have said, we cannot find elsewhere. We may depend upon it that, if that recruiting ground were to be lost, not only should we lose the vigour wanted in our towns for our manufacturing industries, but the strong arm of the soldier also would fail us in the great task of Imperialism. Looking back to the century that is just coming to an end, when I recollect that at the beginning of this century the rural population was more than half of the whole of England and Wales, whereas now it is, I think, a little under one-fifth, and when I recollect that, while the whole population of England has increased from nine millions to twenty-nine millions, over the whole of the century, the rural districts have only increased in population by two millions, and during the last fifty years have actually decreased in population, I say that is a black spot upon a century which, on the whole, has been for this country at any rate a hundred years of glorious history. The toast is the toast of "Success to Agriculture," and, of course, so far as the means of success are concerned, the means of success in agriculture, I take it, are the same as in every other occupation. I do not take it that agriculture is a secret caste or a mystery, success in which is to be gained by hidden forces or by merely cabalistic methods. I understand that to a great extent the same qualities which win success in other occupations win success in agriculture, though, of course, we always have the weather and foreign competition against us. In an old country like this, and especially in old occupations, we have to recollect that it is the distinctive character of most occupations in an old country like our own that we must avoid all kinds of waste in every form, and even, as it were, to convert into means of profit what seem to be our waste products, and to make a scientific accuracy take to a great extent the place of mere rule of thumb, and to produce the very best product that we can, whatever our occupation may be. This, I take it, is the secret of success in every occupation, and it applies to agriculture just as much as it does to any other trade. But it does strike me that, whatever the British farmer may do, he starts with two unique disadvantages. The first is that his success, when it comes, is never on the same scale as success in other trades and occupations. The same fortunes are never made, and I venture to say that they never were made. And the margin of profit is so small, even in a successful year, that it is not possible in the occupation of agriculture, as it is in that of other trades, to set one successful year against, it may be, a series of bad years. There is also, it occurs to me, the further disadvantage that, after all, even the largest farmer carries on what is, in comparison with some of our larger trades, a small occupation, and he is also living to a great extent isolated and apart, and so co-operation to him is a greater necessity that it is, perhaps, to men engaged in any other occupation whatever. That, of course, is especially the case in the particular branch of the agricultural industry in which I am myself concerned. I am glad to see that in the sale of milk, for instance, the principle of co-operation is spreading, and it is absolutely necessary that it should spread, even to protect the farmers against themselves, so that they should not undercut one another in their prices and sell their milk at ridiculous prices. Then there is the further necessity for co-operation in the production, we will say, of butter. Why is it, after all, that the foreigner sends something like fifteen million pounds worth (I think it is) of butter to this country in a year? It is because you not only want co-operation to increase the quality of the product, but you want it, even more, to sell at any rate on anything like a wholesale scale. You want it to produce uniformity, which is the real secret why the trader, as a rule, buys foreign butter. This leads me to the further question of how far the State ought to interfere with an industry like this. I should say that it ought to interfere on precisely the same principles that it interferes with other trades. It is not the duty, I take it, of the State to provide crutches for feeble and incompetent people, but it is the duty of the State to provide an open pathway for capable and self-reliant people. It is the duty of the State not to unduly favour the farmer, but it is the duty of the State to see that other classes are not unduly favoured as against him. (Cheers.) I think that, as regards remedies by the State, I am one of those who do not believe that anything very practical could be done for agriculture by heroic remedies or *coups d'état*. I notice, for instance, that the produce per acre of this country is very much in excess of those countries where the landlords are such as some, no doubt, would like to see them in this country. I notice, for instance, that even the price of corn was a great deal higher during the American and during the Franco-Prussian war than it ever was in the days of protection. And, even with regard to a remedy which is proposed by my right hon. friend, and therefore which I feel bound to treat with the greatest possible respect and regard, namely, bimetallism, I might be allowed to say, though perhaps I ought not to say it, that I have never been able to see why you should artificially decrease the value of the sovereign any more than you should artificially decrease the price of land. It fortunately happens that bimetallism has, I think, for the moment disappeared in the presence of the huge discoveries of gold in South Africa and in Western Australia. But it struck me that agriculture has now become so varied, and to a great extent, too, the interests of various branches are so conflicting that it is impossible to have one universal cure-all. And it is very consoling to me, coming to this Department as I do, to find that most of the ten suggestions which are placed before me are smaller suggestions for smaller remedies dealing with admitted evils. In fact, it seems to me that they are practical remedies for practical ends, suggested by thoroughly practical men. But then the suggestion that occurs to me is this: If you want these things done by the State, what do you understand by that term? When you ask the Board of Agriculture to do all this for you, how far are you aware of the powers of the Board of Agriculture? I am sorry to say that one of the first things that have struck me since I have entered into the office is the very limited powers of the Board of Agriculture. I am one of those who think that for agriculture, as for a good many things, a benevolent all-powerful despotism might work a great deal of good, and I am not so afraid of responsibility that I should be unwilling to undertake the task myself (laughter); but, unfortunately, that state of things does not exist. Let me take what I think is a fair example. Let me take the ten requirements which are sent in to us by the various Chambers of agriculture as to the legislation that ought to take place for the benefit of agriculture. I do not want to go through the whole list, but I will deal with the first of them, and with the most important of them; and I find that eight out of the ten are subjects connected with other Departments, and not, unfortunately, with the Board of Agriculture. I will say this, though, that I do conceive that it is the duty of the Board of Agriculture, even if these things are not actually within its own province, to act as the watchdog of agriculture, and to do its utmost, as undoubtedly I shall, to impress upon my colleagues in the Cabinet the necessity of undertaking some, at any rate, of these tasks. Let me take them in order. In the first place, there is the question of local taxation. That, of course, is entirely outside the actual scope of the Board of Agriculture. It is in the hands of the Local Government Board, and it could not be in more excellent hands than in those of my friend, Mr. Walter Long. It is not a matter with which the Board of Agriculture can deal. Then I come to the question of railway rates. One knows how hardly they do undoubtedly hit the agricultural interest. (Cheers.) I was a member of the Railway Rates Joint Committee which sat some years ago, but on looking back on what has happened since I think that we made a mistake in not requiring railway companies to show us exactly how the joint rates were made up. I think that we ought to know, when there is a case either of goods coming from abroad or of goods travelling over various railways, how the whole charges are apportioned amongst the different companies on the journey; but I am bound to say that our task on that committee was an exceedingly difficult one, because there was practically no competition with the railway companies. I do not know whether that defect can ever be made good; but in my opinion no more foolish act was ever perpetrated by any department or by any statesman than when the canals were allowed to fall into the hands of the railway companies. (Cheers.) I believe that the introduction of competition into what is now a practical monopoly both by land and water is the only way in which you can get fair rates. Then there is the question of paying compensation for animals slaughtered for tuberculosis. That was a question which I recollect was brought before me in my own constituency at the last election. There, again, animals are slaughtered, not in the interest of agriculture, but in the interest of the health of the people, and therefore that is a subject for the Board of Agriculture in the first place, though I am bound to say that I still adhere to my opinion that the Board of Agriculture ought to bring pressure to bear on other departments and do what they can reasonably do in these matters; but in the first place, at any rate, the matter is entirely for the Local Government Board. Then, again, we have the matter of the beer duties which have been referred to by my right hon. friend, and a most important question it is. There is no possibility of doubt as to its importance, not only from the agricultural point of view, but from a national point of view as well. Again, what is the position of the Board of Agriculture with regard to it? Beer, under the Act, is not necessarily an agricultural product. It may be made, I believe, of anything practically that you like, whatever the rubbish may be. So long as there is not more than 2 per cent. of proof spirit in it it is beer. (Laughter.) That is how the matter stands. I am only stating to you a fact, and you may draw your own conclusions from it. But I do believe that there is a spirit awaking amongst those who drink beer most—the working classes, and it is to them I think that we shall have to look, and I believe that they will soon find out that, as a rule, taking their beer all through, it is heavier and more intoxicating even in good times than the beer sold in any other country; and, of course, as we have now found out, there is the risk of their being poisoned into the bargain. I cannot, as my right hon. friend said, express any definite opinion, but I have, I confess, my own views on the matter, and I say that it is a matter to be considered, not only from the agricultural but from the national point of view. (Cheers.) Then I pass to another question, and that is with regard to another department. It is a matter which I think nearly touches the agricultural interest, and that is the question of education. I think that in our elementary schools in our country parishes at the present moment the education given is not the kind of education that ought to be given. (Loud cheers.) I think that it is the kind of education which is eminently fitted to make the children attending those schools dissatisfied with country life, and I say again not purely from the agricultural point of view, but from the national point of view, we ought in those villages to have education given which will tend to interest our children in country life, and do something to keep up that supply for national purposes of which I have spoken. (Cheers.) Again, with regard to the Science and Arts grant, I confess that I am not at all satisfied that too much of that money does not go to our towns, and I do not think that enough of it comes to our country villages. I am afraid that a great deal of the grant which is given even in our towns for agricultural purposes is gained by people who have no intention whatever to embark in agriculture, and who simply take it up as a way of interesting their minds in what is no doubt an interesting subject. Then as to the grant—I confess it is a small grant—of something like £8,000 a year. Although I come from the Treasury, which is certainly not given to extravagance, I do think that £8,000 a year is a somewhat limited grant to give to the schools of this country. I think that perhaps to start with it was well to have a limited grant. I am not quite certain that if we had given the money lavishly and wholesale to start with a great deal would not have been wasted. But these things have now been going on for some years. We make our ground good as we go along, and it does seem to me that agriculture has some claim upon an increased grant. But, on the other hand, as far as I have been able to gain information as yet, I think there is too great a tendency on the part of even some of those schools which have received the grant not to consider the case of the actual practical work of farmers. But the farmer is after all the man whom we must consider, and I am afraid that as regards some of these schools perhaps the money does not reach the place for which it was primarily intended. Then there is another department about which I should like to say a word, and which I think has done something, and done something for agriculture. I had the privilege in the last Parliament of being responsible for two departments, not only the Treasury but the Post Office. I am glad to say that during the five years I do think that the Post Office did something for agricultural interests. No doubt it was a great advantage that the farmer should be put into closer communication with the outside world by having his letters delivered to him a little more regularly than he had them before, and I think, too, that it was an advantage not to have to pay for telegrams when you are living anywhere within the three mile area, and

on the other hand I had something to do with the introduction of penny postage in this country, at any rate on the part of the Government, and I think that it would be a great advantage to the agricultural interest if the telephone could be worked more cheaply in the agricultural districts. But I am bound to say that there are two sides to this question. I used to be pressed with questions very often with regard to the introduction of an agricultural parcels post. I was told by several enthusiastic reformers, "If you will only introduce an agricultural parcels post you will be working wonders for agriculture." At the Post Office we carefully considered the question, and I believe the chief reason why we did not introduce that was in the interest of agriculture itself. I do not know how far we made a mistake; but at any rate the idea that we had was this. We had found from experience that the persons who take the greatest advantage of opportunities like that are the large firms in London, and we thought it would be more taken advantage of by them than it would by isolated farmers, and that the result might be that you might have village shops inundated with produce from London instead of the produce of the villages themselves. That really was, as I say, the reason which we had in our minds. Now, gentlemen, I am really afraid that I have detained you far too long. ("No." "Go on.") With regard to this toast, "The Success of Agriculture," I fancy that in the days when this toast was first originated agriculture meant a totally different thing from what it means at the present moment. It represented to a much greater extent the type of agricultural industry in which my right hon. friend the member for the Sleaford division is most interested. During the century, and even during the last half-century, a change has come over the conditions of agricultural life, and perhaps I may in a few words say what, so far as I understand, are the principal changes that have occurred. In the first place, the success of agriculture, I am afraid to a very large extent, must depend more and more on the mere fact of our proximity to our own markets at home. We depend more upon perishable articles which would not bear the cost of transport from abroad, and that is practically at the present moment the only protection that exists for the whole of our agricultural interest. But another change has arisen at the same time owing to the increased prosperity of our working classes. I am glad to say that there has grown up in this country amongst the bulk of the people—the working classes—during the last thirty years, taking this year 1900 as compared with 1870, a demand for agricultural produce, especially of meat, butter, and milk, such as were never dreamed of, at any rate, at the beginning of this century. The demand for meat alone has increased by no less than very nearly 40 per cent. Well, that is, of course, a considerable growth. Then take another change that has taken place. In 1870 sixty-eight acres out of every hundred were under plough. At the present moment forty acres only are under plough and fifty-two under grass. There is another curious change that has taken place in all the old countries of the world. I mean the diminution in the number of sheep. The number of cattle in Great Britain has gone up very largely during the thirty years, but the number of sheep has decreased by something like two millions. That is a change that is going on in every old country of the world, and nobody, as far as I know, has yet been able to offer any explanation of that remarkable fact. Fortunately, the decrease in England has been less than in any other country. In some portions of England the change is very small indeed. In portions of Scotland there has been an actual increase. But taking the whole country through, there has been a diminution of nearly two millions of sheep. Now, gentlemen, I really must draw this long speech to a conclusion. In the first place I must thank you very heartily indeed for the kind reception which you have given to me personally. I am bound to say that in this year agriculture is, as it is in most years, considerably strengthened and encouraged by the high example which is set by the Royal Family itself. The Chairman has alluded to the success won by the Queen, and no doubt at the Birmingham Show, at any rate, the successes on the part of Her Majesty were without any parallel whatever. She won, I think, absolutely three champion cups. Then there is another encouraging feature with regard to agriculture, and it is this: I am glad to have another Board of Agriculture side by side, as it were, with our own. I am glad that a Board of Agriculture has been formed in Ireland, and I think that great advantage may accrue to both countries if those two Boards of Agriculture work together in thorough harmony. I shall certainly endeavour at the Board of Agriculture in England to work in thorough harmony with the Board of Agriculture in Ireland. I am quite certain that having these two Boards side by side we ought between the two, at any rate, to knock up something which may be of real advantage. Then I, at any rate, have another advantage in my new office. I am told on good authority that my right hon. friend refuses to sit like a cherub up aloft in the House of Lords to watch over the fortunes of agriculture, and that we are still to have the benefit of his great services in the House of Commons. I can only say that his presence there will be to me of inestimable benefit, and whether he makes his presence felt in friendly advice, as I am sure he sometimes will and there will be no man more ready to consult him than I shall be, because I know to what a great authority I shall be appealing whether he makes his presence felt, I say, in friendly advice or in benevolent criticism, as I have no doubt he will do sometimes, I feel sure that both the advice and the criticism will do me good, and I shall be glad to listen to them both. I am glad to retain the presence of my right hon friend in the House of Commons, and I shall ask him for his cordial assistance, and I am sure that he will render it to me in the task which I am perfectly willing to undertake, which is to give my whole and undivided energies to the duties which have been set before me, and to do all that I can, even though my own powers in the direction of the Department may be, perhaps, more limited than I could wish, to promote the prosperity of agriculture, the oldest and the greatest of all the industries of this country. (Cheers.)

The Central Chamber and the Farmers' Club.

Mr. JOHN HEYWOOD-JOHNSTON, M.P., in proposing the toast of "The Farmers' Club and the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture," said he was very glad to undertake the duty, because it enabled him to congratulate agriculturists upon having Mr. Hanbury as President of the Board of Agriculture. He had watched Mr. Hanbury's career in the House of Commons for the last seven years, and he could tell them that he was a man of exceptional sagacity and untiring industry, and one who never rested until he satisfied his mind as to the merits of any subject which was brought before him. He must have commended himself to them that night by the speech of sound sense which he had just delivered. With regard to the toast, he might state that he had himself been a member of the Farmers' Club for a considerable number of years, and he had perused with great pleasure the admirable papers which were read there from time to time. The two societies concerned in the toast might be regarded as sisters in one family, having a common object and a common interest. The results of many of the discussions at the Farmers' Club during the fifty years of its existence were represented by legislation in the Statute Book of the country. The Chamber of Agriculture was an institution which focussed the common wants and needs of agriculturists from time to time. The Central and Associated Chambers gathered up the individual wants and interests and feelings and wishes of agriculturists generally, so that they could be presented in a useful, feasible, and practical form. Many of the most helpful suggestions for legislation which had been presented to the Board of Agriculture had come from the Central Chamber. He would couple with the Farmers' Club the name of their Chairman, Mr. Eve. He was the representative of a family which was well known in the county of Bedford, and which had been largely connected in a very useful way with agricultural interests, and his name was certainly a household word among them. With regard to the Central Chamber of Agriculture, the Chairman of that body, his friend, Mr. Victor Cavendish, was absent, as he was now being re-elected to Parliament upon his having taken office in the Ministry. He was quite sure that they might heartily congratulate him. In the absence of Mr. Cavendish he would couple with the toast a name which was very familiar to them—that of Mr. Arthur Jeffreys. He was a well-known and very useful exponent of the agricultural interest, and always on the spot, and always well primed, and he had done a great deal to keep the agricultural interest alive.

Mr. J. R. EVE (Chairman of the Farmers' Club) said he very much appreciated the compliment which had been paid to him by his being put in the chair that evening as representing the Farmers' Club. The depression in agriculture had been referred to by Mr. Chaplin, who as well as anybody, and perhaps better than anybody, knew where the shoe pinched. Mr. Hanbury had referred to the question of the diminution in the number of sheep. Those persons who were practically acquainted with agriculture knew that the diminution was due to the shortness of money. When stress came the sheep went first. This was a very deplorable incident, because the absence of sheep depreciated the value of the land. There was nothing that would tell on a farm like a flock of sheep. They were the best manures that could possibly be found. The diminution which had been referred to was one of the most deplorable results of the depression in agriculture. They had had the advantage of hearing from Mr. Hanbury a speech which would commend itself to all who had listened to it. Mr. Hanbury need not fear that he would have too little to do. There were many opportunities in agriculture for the energy and the administrative abilities which the right hon. gentleman was said to possess. One subject with which he might deal was the consolidation of the Agricultural Holdings Acts. (Cheers.) The subject of pure beer was another matter with which he might deal. They all liked to drink pure beer, and they wanted their beer made of barley malt and hops. Again, swine fever was not yet exterminated. There were many agricultural matters as to which research was needed, and if indirect help in these could be given by the Board of Agriculture it would be a great boon. Reference had been made to the fact that Mr. Chaplin had declined the very great honour of a peerage which had been offered to him in order that he might continue in the House of Commons to advocate the cause of agriculture. While they welcomed their new friend, Mr. Hanbury, and their old friend, Mr. Chaplin, they must not omit to pay a tribute of respect to the late Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Walter Long. Mr. Long had passed an Agricultural Holdings Act, which he (Mr. Eve) for one regarded as all that a reasonable person could expect, though he knew that he was at issue with many on that point. Mr. Long was also to be commended for his perseverance, in the face of abuse, with the Order for the muzzling of dogs. (Applause.) In conclusion, Mr. Eve thanked the company for the toast of "The Farmers' Club" and for their kindness in coupling his name with it. (Cheers.)

Mr. A. F. JEFFREYS, M.P., said he was sorry that Mr. Victor Cavendish, the Chairman for the year of the Central Chamber, was not present to respond. The appointment of Mr. Victor Cavendish and Mr. Grant Lawson as Ministers of the Crown reflected great honour on the Central Chamber. The Central Chamber had pressed forward equally with other agricultural bodies those objects which were dear to the hearts of farmers. They had, he thought, exercised a great deal of influence in getting the Agricultural Rates Act passed, and they meant to use their influence to prevent its being dropped. Farmers now knew the value of that Act, and they knew it was a very difficult thing to take a bone out of a dog's mouth. The Chamber took great credit for urging the Agricultural Holdings Amendment Act. Although all their views were not carried out, they had done their best. The Central Chamber had now two further objects in view, and these they would urge as strongly as they could. One was to obtain legislation for securing pure beer, and the other was to take means for preventing the great damage caused to farmers' crops by fires arising from the sparks of railway engines. These points would be pressed to the utmost of their power. Mr. Hanbury had alluded to co-operation for business purposes. There was another direction in which they ought to co-operate, and that was in pressing their claims on the Government for the remedying of the grievances under which they suffered. Mr. Hanbury had very justly alluded to agriculture as the greatest industry in the country. As to the diminution in the number of sheep, he thought that it was brought about by a cause which was different even from that which the Chairman had suggested. In his own county it had arisen from much arable land being turned into pasture, the pasture being often of the worst description. Where they had formerly a good breeding flock they now had no flock at all, or only a dry flock brought on to be fed for the butcher. It was a great misfortune that so much arable land was going out of cultivation and being turned into poor grass land. He thanked them heartily for the way in which they had honoured the toast.

The "Royal" and Other Societies.

Sir MARK STEWART, M.P., in proposing the toast, said that they knew the magnitude and wealth of the Royal Society, and the large ground it covered. It was the parent of all other agricultural societies. He might say as a Scotchman that even Scotch agriculturists looked to the Royal to set them an example to be followed. The Highland Society of Scotland joined with the Royal Agricultural Society in giving joint diplomas, not only in agriculture but also in dairying, and those diplomas had been found most admirable. Perhaps now Ireland might join in the same direction. The three countries could not be too much allied, and they could not overlap too much. It had been observed that the dairying interest was perhaps the most remunerative of any agricultural interest at the present time. The reason of its being the most remunerative was that in many large dairy centres the co-operative principle was fairly well established. It would be of great use to agriculturists to recognise the power of co-operation. As to the question of education, he was one of those persons who believed that if the children of farmers and agricultural labourers were educated more in accordance with their position and with their requirements in after life they would become better scholars and take a more lively interest in their work. He would urge upon the Royal Agricultural Society of England that, instead of giving so many prizes for the stock and pedigree stock, they should devote the money to the invention of labour-saving machinery, so that farm work might be done without so much drudgery by the workers, and that a better class of men and women might be obtained. He had upon his premises a milking machine and many other mechanical appliances. His farms extended over nearly 5,000 acres, and he was anxious to [illegible] machinery that [illegible]. He concluded by coupling with the toast the name of Mr. Bowen-Jones, who was so well known as a member of the Council of the Society.

Mr. BOWEN-JONES thanked them for the [illegible] which they had done to the Royal and the other agricultural societies. He was glad to be able to say that the Royal Agricultural Society, during the sixty years of its existence, had done much to promote the interests of agriculture in many ways. It was chiefly through the instrumentality of the society that live stock, including horses, cattle,

sheep, and pigs, had been raised to their present high level. This branch of agriculture was the sheet-anchor of the British farmer. The Royal Agricultural Society through its Chemical and Botanical Committees was employed in promoting the science of agriculture long before county councils came into existence, and had done incalculable good to the community in investigating and exposing frauds in manures and feeding stuffs, and in investigating questions connected with the relation of crops, and the extirpation of weeds at the farms which had been generously placed at the disposal of the Society by the present Duke of Bedford and his predecessors. It had also done much to improve agricultural education. The diplomas obtained by the advanced students were looked upon as being the most important of all testimonials of capacity. The national diploma of dairying was now awarded jointly by the Royal and the Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland, and the honour of the award was justly appreciated. As to the future, though many of the members regretted the change that was contemplated, and which would alter many of the social and other characteristics of their beloved old society, there was still plenty of room for its continued operations, and he hoped that they would give their earnest and best efforts to the improvement of agriculture in the future as they had done in the past. The Society would obtain for the agricultural interest many advantages if it still continued to carry out its motto, "Practice with Science." As to the smaller agricultural societies, he looked upon them as feeders to the great national society, and their existence was of great value in that respect. They enabled the smaller men who could not compete in the great show-yard of the country to serve, as it were, an apprenticeship, and gradually work their way up, so that they might become benefactors of their country.

The Visitors.

Colonel VICTOR MILWARD, M.P., proposed "The Visitors." In referring to the present wants and demands of agriculturists he said that it would be better to single out two or three and enforce them, rather than spread their efforts over a very large area at one time. He cordially agreed with the selection of subjects which Mr. Jeffreys had indicated, namely, the Agricultural Rates Act, compensation for damage to crops caused by railway engine sparks, and pure beer. He would couple with the toast the name of Mr. Garrett Taylor, a well-known Norfolk agriculturist, who had successfully followed the motto of the Royal Agricultural Society, "Practice with Science."

Mr. GARRETT TAYLOR, in acknowledgment of the toast, said that he had very kindly feelings towards the Farmers' Club, and had been a member for about 25 or 30 years. There was one great fad which ran through all the speeches which were made by members of both political parties in connection with agriculture. They always said to agriculturists, "My good friends, combine! For goodness sake, combine!" His own experience was that the man who produced an article would do far better to keep away from combination as much as possible. (Laughter.) Their political friends all said that farmers were so weak because they did not combine; but he could tell them that the men who combined ended, as a rule, in the Bankruptcy Court. At all events, they did not pay their rents. Those were facts. He was not talking nonsense. (Laughter.) They could not tell him of any combination of dairy farmers that had not lowered the price of milk till it was unremunerative to produce that article. His advice to agriculturists was to fight their own battles, to produce the best article, to keep it in their own hands, and to sell it at the best price. On behalf of the visitors he thanked them for the toast.

The company then separated.

NOTICE TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

Owing to pressure on our space (notwithstanding that this issue is enlarged to forty pages) by the length of our reports of the Smithfield Fat Stock Show, the Central Chamber of Agriculture meeting, and the Agricultural Dinner, we have been obliged to hold over many others of societies and shows, reviews, etc., which we hope to clear off next week.

Altrincham Agricultural Society. The balance-sheet presented at the annual meeting of this society, held on Tuesday, showed that the total income for the year was £2,670 18s. 7d. The expenditure, which included £1,517 19s. 6d. for prize-money, amounted to £2,799 5s. 2d., which meant a loss on the year's working of £128. The assets of the society amount to £1,491.

Lisburn Fair (Co. Antrim), held on Monday, was a very small one. A good demand prevailed for springers. Prices:—Calves, second class, £3 to £4 Yearlings, second class, £6 to £7 5s.; third class, £3 15s. to £5 10s. Two-year-olds, second class, £8 to £9 10s.; third class, £5 12s. 6d. to £7. Springers, second class, £12 7s. 6d. to £15; third class, £9 7s. 6d. to £11.

BY LUPULIN.

Home Notes.

In The Borough.

very little business is heard of between factors and merchants. The latter occasionally look round with inquiries as to the present feeling of growers who are holders of hops, and I have reason to believe that orders would soon be placed if concessions of price could be obtained. Bids are, in fact, made, and factors urged to submit them to their clients, but knowing the temper of their country friends, factors generally decline to trouble them with any offers that are known to be outside the possibility of acceptance. On the other hand several of the merchants have been fairly busy, and some important parcels are now transferred into consumers' hands, at prices that are undoubtedly satisfactory to sellers. We are all now waiting for Christmas, and no revival of trade is expected till the holidays have passed, nor indeed until we arrive at the second week in January. In the meantime any parcels of sound hops which can be disposed of at moderate prices, can be readily sold, as merchants would be glad to secure them before the advance, which will certainly be established when general business gets into form again.

N.A.E.H.G.

Poison in Beer.

The meeting held on Wednesday last at the Hop Exchange, under the presidency of Colonel Brookfield, M.P., was one of the largest and most enthusiastic in the records of the Association, the board-room being filled to overflowing. Many of our visitors were inconvenienced by standing during the proceedings, and as our gallant president entered the room he was greeted by loud applause, as it was the first opportunity for several of the party to welcome him since his return from his perilous experiences in South Africa.

Amongst those present were Lieut.-Colonel Warde, M.P., Lieut.-Colonel Cheesman, Mr. Herbert Leney, Mr. James Chalcraft, Mr. Santer, Mr. Knight,, Mr. Eames, Mr. H. Lillywhite, Mr. Bensted, Mr. Thirkell, Rev. J. J. Kendon, and a large number of others from the southern districts, the Midlands being represented by Mr. John Powell (Worcester), Mr. J. A. Partridge (Tenbury), and Mr. Charles Ockey (Ledbury).

Apologies for unavoidable absence were read by the Secretary from Mr. Laurence Hardy, M.P., Captain Boscawen, M.P., Sir R. Harrington, Bart., Mr. Albert White, Mr. W. W. Berry, Captain Heygate, Mr. H. Reader, Mr. George Neve, Major Neve, Hon. Ralph Neville, and many other gentlemen, all of whom expressed in their letters their warmest sympathy with the object of the meeting, and their urgent desire that legislation to secure the purity of the national drink should be pressed upon the Government.

Colonel Brookfield.

expressed his confidence that the Secretary had represented the feelings of all the members of the Association in summoning that meting. To the general public it might appear that their aims were selfish, but as the whole of the beer consumers were seriously affected by recent events, the insistence upon absolute freedom from adulteration had become a national question. (Applause.) They as hop-growers had a right to take advantage of the position they were now face to face with, and notwithstanding the difficulties with which they had to contend, they should persevere in the prosecution of their demands. Their greatest hindrance appeared to be the Chancellors of the Exchequer, as all that had held that office had hitherto gone out of their way to pooh pooh the pure beer question, and to ridicule the requests of the public with regard to the use of substitutes for barley, malt, and hops. Looking upon the brewing industry as a veritable milch cow in times when enlarged revenue was required, every facility was given to brewers for the manufacture of their product from any materials so long as none of them could be shown to be directly dangerous to health or life. Chancellors were consequently loth to offend brewers, and in that connection he (Colonel Brookfield) thought it was high time that public attention should be directed to the attitude assumed by the Chairman of the Inland Revenue Board, who openly congratulated himself upon the "excellent relations" subsisting between his department and the brewing trade. It was distinctly the duty of the board to protect the public from adulterations, in the sense expressed in the Food and Drugs Act and other legislation with the same object. (Hear, hear.) Former enquiries had always caused their association to be suspicious of what was going on in this business in Manchester and some other large towns. The results they had predicted had now appeared, and therefore in spite of the gibes of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, or the congratulations of the Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue, he believed that the public were now heartily with them in demanding that legislation in the direction so urgently required should be attended to without delay. (Applause.) When the use of adulterated beer had led to wholesale poisoning, and to a large number of deaths, the time had surely come for everyone to take action. (Hear, hear.) But there was encouragement for the future in the utterance of the newly-appointed President of the Board of Agriculture, who at the meeting of the Central Chamber is reported to have said in reference to this matter that under the present law "beer could be made of almost any rubbish so long as it did not contain more than two per cent. of proof spirit." He also intimated that the beer consumers were being awakened by recent disclosures, and that it seemed probable that an alteration in the law would have to be effected. Those were important words for a Minister to use. (Hear, hear.)

Two Courses were Open to Them.

One which he (the speaker) preferred was to throw in their lot with the barley growers in demanding pure beer legislation; the other was to ask the Government to carry out the single recommendation of the Select Committee, which sat in 1890, namely, that hop substitutes when used should be declared. (Hear, hear.) The principle of that recommendation could be extended to substitutes for malt. The Bill for "better securing the purity of beer," introduced into Parliament in 1896, would very likely be redrafted. That Bill attempted to define what was pure beer, and declared that where anything except barley-malt, hops, water, and yeast were used in the brewing of beer the public should be notified of the fact. At the same time, the Bill enabled other substances to be introduced, provided they were sanctioned by an authority

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society.*

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N.B.—In reference to the above Meals it would be a great advantage to give the Calf a little Fattening or Feeding Cake when it is two months old; same must be given in a dry state, say a small handful to start, increasing gradually, reaching about 2 lbs by the time the Calf has arrived at six months old. But in no case whatever must the cake be given in the form of gruel.

afterwards to be named. He insisted that when the public asked for beer they should be supplied with a pure article, just as they expect to be supplied with other articles of pure food. He would certainly deprecate any further inquiries by committees or experts, of which they had had more than sufficient, the only results of the last investigation being a pronouncement that there was no necessity for interference with the existing condition of things, a conclusion that recent events had emphatically contradicted and entirely set aside. (Hear, hear.) He concluded by moving the following

Resolutions:—

(1) "That this meeting of the National Association of English Hop growers, in view of the recent revelations with regard to the use of 'substitutes' in the manufacture of beer, is emphatically and unanimously of opinion that legislation for adequately securing greater purity of ale and beer ought no longer to be delayed."

(2) "That copies of the above resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister, the President of the Board of Agriculture, the President of the Board of Trade, and the President of the Local Government Board." (Applause.)

Lieut.-Col. Warde, M.P.,

said he had great pleasure in seconding the Chairman's proposals, expressing the hope that the serious events which had taken place in Manchester and many other places would induce members of Parliament, other than those who represented barley or hop-growing districts, to support the demand for a Pure Beer Bill." (Hear, hear.) He also took advantage of the opportunity of congratulating Col. Brookfield on his safe return from South Africa after the prominent and successful part he had taken in the war. (Applause.)

The proposition was supported by Mr. Wadman (Sussex), who, in a brief but forcible address, emphasised the remarks of the chairman, and urged all those present to endeavour to arouse public interest in that important question in their several localities.

Mr. John Powell recommended that in demanding legislation they should exactly define the standard of purity, and limit it to barley-malt, hops, water, and yeast. He also gave an example of the strictness of the German Government in these matters, by stating that a brewer had been heavily fined in Nuremberg, when a small quantity of carbonate of soda had been discovered in the brewery by the official inspector.

Mr. C. T. Ockey stated that he would ask his local Board to adopt their resolution, and would urge other Boards throughout his district also to accept it. (Applause.)

Mr. Partridge declared that no agitation was needed in his county, as every individual advocated and desired pure beer, brewed from pure ingredients.

Lieut.-Col. Cheesman (Ashford) was strongly of opinion that the town population would at once demand pure beer legislation, if an opportunity for expressing their views was afforded, and suggested that efforts would be made by the Association to promote a movement in that direction.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. Herbert Leney proposed a vote of thanks to Colonel Brookfield, whose patriotism and whose devotion to their interests he warmly admired. The President briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the meeting separated.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 793, 795.)

Hitchin Fat Stock Show and Sale.—The forty-sixth annual show and sale of Christmas fat stock at Hitchin, took place on Tuesday, in the Cattle Market. The supply of stock was an average one both in quality and number, and there was a good attendance of farmers, etc. The following were the prize-winners:—Fat calf, Mr. H. J. Marsh, Holwell; Mr. H. Miller, Offley. Fat bullock, Mr. Dumbelton, Elstree; Mr. G. Simkins, Shillington. Fat heifer, Mr. E. Snow Fordham, Ashwell; Mr. G. Simkins, Shillington. Ten fat wethers, Mr. G. F. Pigott, Cookers End; Mr. H. George, Kimpton Hall. Ten fat tegs, Mr. W. Jackson, Hill End, Hitchin; Mr. C. S. Marsh, Offley. Ten fat ewes, Mr. F. Coxall, Pirton. Four fat pigs, Mr. F. Gosling, Wellbury; Mr. H. J. Marsh, Holwell. Fat sow, Mr. F. Gray, Kimpton; Mr. H. J. Marsh, Holwell. Dealers' prize for the best fat bullock (£5), Mr. W. Nichols, Biggleswade; Mr. F. Allingham, Lilley. Mr. J. Thorley's prize for the best fat bullock (a piece of plate value £3 3s.), Mr. Dumbelton, Elstree; Mr. G. Simkins, Shillington. The sale was conducted by Messrs. J. R. Eve and Son, who brought under the hammer 162 oxen and heifers, 617 sheep, 35 lambs, 5 calves, and 21 pigs. The best prices obtained for bullocks were £36, £33, £31 10s., £30, and £28 5s., others selling at figures ranging down to £14 15s. For sheep the highest price was £3 11s., obtained for an old Down wether, the next highest being £3 10s. 6d., paid for clipped Down lambs. Others sold down to £1 6s. The top figure realised for pigs was £9 5s., and the lowest £2 14s. The total proceeds of the sale was £5,012 7s.

AGRICULTURAL LAW.

The Land Laws.

On Tuesday last week Mr. A. R. Ingpen, Q.C., delivered a lecture on "Reformation in the Law of Real Property" before the members of the Solicitors' Managing Clerks' Association at the Middle Temple Hall. Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy presided. Mr. Ingpen said the two leading principles which should guide legislation on the subject were that land should be made capable of the easiest transmission from one owner to another, and, secondly, that land should be made available of the fullest use by those to whom it belonged. During the present reign great strides had been made in the reformation of the law relating to property, including the passing of the Wills Acts, the Transfer of Real Estates Act, the Conveyancing Act, the Settled Estates Act, and the Agricultural Holdings Act. These laws had become necessary through the increase of population, trade, money, and personal property. So far as agricultural land was concerned, he said legislation should prevent the aggregation of land and secure the tenant farmers' compensation for capital expended on the improvement of the soil. He further suggested the necessity of the transfer laws being made less cumbersome; the duration of the settlements of land more restricted; that settled estates should be as easily disposed of as unsettled estates; that the Married Women's Property Act should be reformed; and that real property should be put on the same footing as personal property. The burning question of the day, however, was how to make the conveyance of land less cumbersome and expensive. It was absolutely essential in the interests of the public that there should be something like a codification of the conveyancing laws adopted. Legislation was making rapid strides in the direction of an assimilation of the devolution and transfer of estates to the existing system of title of Government Stocks. Any partial registration system, such as now existed in London, did not satisfy the public.

Votes of thanks were passed to the lecturer for his address, and to the chairman for presiding. Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy said he was convinced that the lawyers of the present day did not know so much about the land laws as the lawyers of the past. He was sanguine in expecting great things from the Land Transfer Act.

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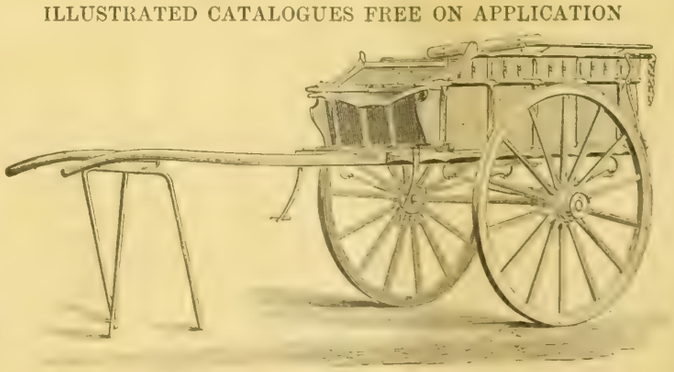

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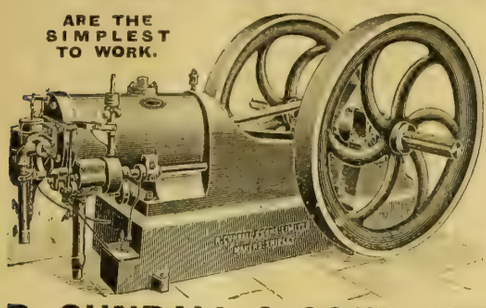

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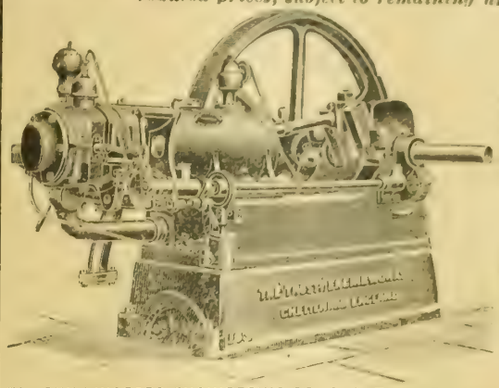

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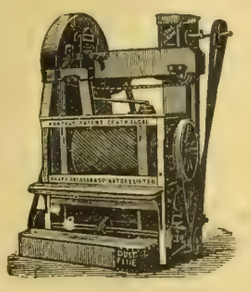

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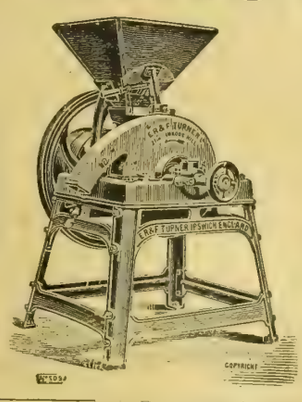

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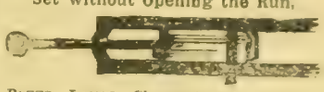

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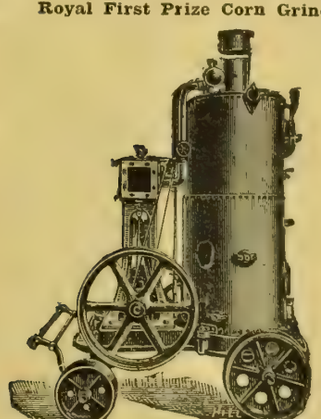

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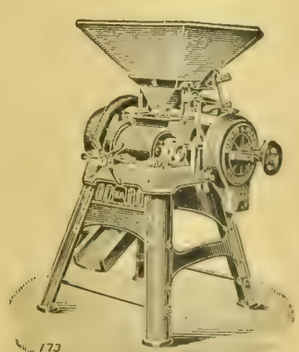

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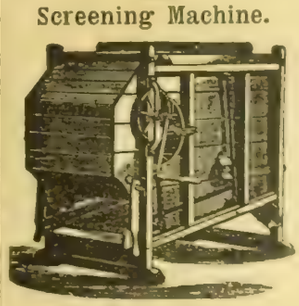

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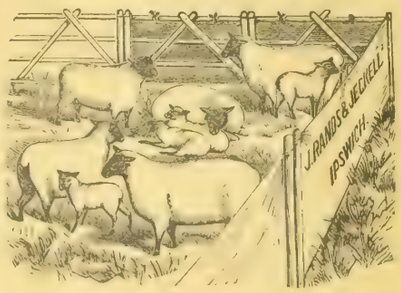

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VOL. LXXXIII. No. 3613. LONDON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1900. THIRTY-TWO PAGES. PRICE 3D.

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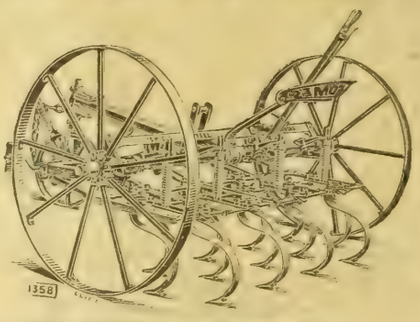

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1900.

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HEDGE TRIMMINGS.

Although the daily press has, with its usual perception and penetration, decided that the recent case in the Grantham County Court anent the placing of yew clippings upon the highway settles a new point of law there is nothing novel about it. It has long been well settled law that a person who places dangerous materials where another person's cattle can reach them must take the responsibility for such a breach of the law. The only novelty was as to the distinction between a highway and a neighbour's land, which in law amounts to nothing. Before discussing the meaning and effect of the case it may be well to mention the chief points which were proved in it. The owner of a heifer claimed seven pounds for its loss through its death being caused by its eating yew leaves which the defendant had cut from a hedge and left upon the roadside. The facts of the case do not seem to have been seriously disputed. The learned judge held that the case did not depend upon negligence, believing that neither the plaintiff's daughter (who was in charge of the animal) nor the defendant were aware of the danger of yew leaves to cattle, but that it depended upon the fact of the deposit of such trimmings being a nuisance. His Honour expressed the opinion that there could be no doubt that it was a nuisance from the legal point of view to put anything upon a highway that was a danger to "persons, cattle, or other animals lawfully using such highway." It was quite immaterial whether the person who put it there knew or did not know whether it was dangerous or not. The defendant had no right to the highway at all for his private purposes, and he had no right to put the trimmings from his hedge upon it, whether they were poisonous or not. To do so was to be guilty of a nuisance, and one which caused loss to the plaintiff. The result of the case was judgment for the amount claimed—seven pounds. This decision, although anything but novel, is important, for it shows two things: First, that no person has a right to use a highway for a private purpose as apart from a right of way; and that, secondly, a person who disposes of dangerous material in such a way as to cause injury to the cattle of another must be held liable for any loss. There were two distinct wrongs in the case: misuse of the road and negligence resulting in damage.

The law as to poisonous trees and noxious herbs is not by any means as simple as might be understood by any who merely examined it in a casual manner. There is a very great difference between the position of a landlord and a neighbour in such a matter. The law does not regard the landlord as warranting his land to be free from such dangers. That means that the mere letting does not amount to such a warranty: and there cannot be any liability unless there is a definite and distinct warranty, which, as it relates to land, must be in writing, or it cannot be binding. On the other hand, a neighbour may very easily render himself liable in damages.

Perhaps the best known case is one where a company owning a cemetery had planted yew trees for ornamental purposes, and had allowed them to grow over or through the boundary fences. They were eaten by the cattle of a neighbouring farmer, and it was held that he was entitled to recover damages on the ground that the tenant was not bound to examine the boundaries of his farm to see if his neighbours allowed any dangerous trees to grow over his land. It is more than probable that the judges regarded this overgrowth as a sort of trespass, which would, of course, carry damages for all consequences reasonably resulting therefrom. It is somewhat strange, but, all the same, it is a fact, that many people do not seem to be aware of the dangerous results of cattle eating yew tree clippings. Cases which show this are by no means few. Such a case as this shows how careful a man ought to be in this matter, not only for the safety of his own cattle, but also for the purpose of avoiding the consequences which may legally follow if some other person suffers damage through such negligence. Probably the only way to be safe is to at once burn such clippings: but why should such trees be grown at all upon agricultural land.

The receipts on account of Revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to December 15th, 1900, were £74,562,868 against £71,995,819 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £10,919,173. The total expenditure was £125,510,650 against £79,445,804 in the same time in the previous year. The Treasury liabilities on December 15th, 1900 amounted to £3,237,170 against the same date in 1899 to £2,586,818.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

The other day a titled enthusiast told the world that she knew of someone who made £800 a year out of poultry. Experienced persons doubted this, and wanted to know how it was done. A correspondent of the *Daily Mail*, signing himself "Ducker," writes from Buckinghamshire, asserting that a profit of £600 a year can be realised if a man "works on scientific principles." He says:—

"I know the truth about poultry-farming, for I know what it is to be there. If a man goes in for supplying the London market with Aylesbury ducklings, cockerels, and new laid eggs, he will have to rear 5,000 ducklings, 2,000 chickens, and keep 300 laying hens. To feed these he will have to employ three men six months of the year, and work like blazes himself from dawn till dark all through the spring and summer. To rear 5,000 ducklings he must set at least 7,000 eggs. These will average 2d. each, probably more, unless he keeps the ducks to lay them. If he has good luck, and works on scientific principles, he may clear £600 a year. If he is going in for exhibition, that is a different thing, for it is a subject I know little about. All my days have been engaged in the other branch."

Why do not these successful folks tell us how it is done? The mere statement that it is done is no help to anybody. If "Ducker" would explain how much land he has, the money he has expended in buildings and stock, the amount paid for food, attendance, etc., and details of all expenditure, as well as particulars of the sales, there might be ground to work upon. The above letter is no guide. There are thousands of farmers who "work like blazes" and have to be content with less than £600 a year; nay, even with half or a quarter of that sum.

On many farms there is a considerable number of machines which are worked by steam power. Where this is the case the information given by a daily contemporary, that there has been a slump in the price of coal in Durham during the past few weeks, will be read with satisfaction. It is reported that the best steam coal, which fetched 27s. in September, is now selling at 14s.; coke has fallen from 33s. a ton, free on board at the Tyne, to 21s.; and bunker coal is going for 12s., as against 17s. 6d. The fall is attributed to the slackness in the iron trade, and the putting out of blast of some of the Cleveland furnaces. German importers are also said to have rejected large quantities of coal, on the ground that the consignments were of inferior quality to sample. Shipbuilders are withholding orders for plates, in the hope of a fall in prices, and there is litle prospect of any recovery in the coal market. Perhaps the inland consumer's turn will come next.

Lady Warwick had a meeting at the hostel bearing her name at Reading a few days ago. This is the place where lady agriculturists are manufactured. It was stated in the report that the number of students had greatly increased, those in the horticultural section now numbering twenty-nine, in the dairying section ten, and in the poultry section two, while there were ten short-course students. In the horticultural section, in addition to the ordinary work of a garden, instruction was given in florist's work and table decoration, and also in the growing of large crops of tomatoes, chrysanthemums, and other flowers and vegetables. As it seemed quite illogical to train students in the growing of produce without showing them also how to sell it, a marketing department had been opened in connection with the farm. All surplus fruit, vegetables, poultry, and eggs had been sold either to private customers or to wholesale buyers, the sales for September and October amounting to £55. Picking, packing, and despatching were all taught to students who had finished their regular course. So far the demand for students in each branch had exceeded the supply, and the hostel had thus been able to find posts for all fully-trained students who required them. During the last two years the hostel had started ten women in careers both remunerative and useful.

Like many other institutions, the Lady Warwick Hostel does not appear to be over-burdened with funds. It only needed £50,000 to do its work. Her ladyship threw out the idea that some saintly millionaire should "consent to become the pious founder of a Women's Agricultural and Horticultural College. She hoped she would be able to get at such a millionaire somehow, because she believed the scheme opened up enormous possibilities for women who really meant business. £100,000 was subscribed in ten days for a college at Khartoum. Half that sum would found a college for Englishwomen, who were really as important, though they were, perhaps, less interesting, than the Soudanese." This week it is announced that the "saintly millionaire" (or, as Lord Warwick has described him, "a wealthy gentleman") made his appearance and contributed the £50,000 to the Women's Agricultural College at Reading. The name of the saint has not yet transpired, but we hope soon to assist, so far as we are able, in the process of canonisation. This particular endowment will give a great impetus to the work at the Reading Hostel, and an abundant supply of highly trained jardinières and dairymaids may be expected. I trust the demand will not fall short of that supply.

The *Economist* tells us, in its review of the stock markets in 1900, that throughout the year there has been comparatively little of lively interest and less of actual business in them, and, speaking quite generally, the level of quotations is lower at the end of the twelve months than it was at the beginning. Perhaps the most striking feature in connection with the leading departments has been the long-continued apathy of the public alike in regard to investment and to more or less speculative securities. The variations in "gilt-edged" securities have been of comparatively slight importance as a rule. Consols have fallen from 1½ to 1¾, owing to the issue of the War Loan and other Government borrowings; but India sterling loans and rupee paper have improved, while Colonial Government bonds and Home Corporation stocks have generally declined, in sympathy with the fall in Consols and the relative dearness of money. In both the latter groups there have been some conspicuous exceptions. The department which has experienced the most universal set-back in prices, however, has been that in which Home Railway stocks are dealt in. The movement has been mainly caused by the unsatisfactory range of dividends for the first half of the year, and the practical certainty that the addition, amounting roughly to 50 per cent., to the coal bills of the companies will necessitate a further reduction of distributions for the current six months, and probably for the first half next year. There have been very few features of interest in the market for Foreign Government bonds. A hint only is needed at the extravagant advance in armament shares, the rather less extravagant improvement in coal, iron, and steel companies' securities on the one hand, and the heavy fall in some brewery stocks, and some of the cotton and woollen issues, on the other hand.

The last Manitoba Government crop bulletin for the year shows that the total yield of cereals in the province during that time amounted to 25,000,000 bushels. The drought and unfavourable weather at one time threatened to ruin the grain crop. The wheat yield is estimated at 13,000,000 bushels, an average of 8.9 bushels per acre. The quality of all cereals is poor. The bulletin also shows that 16,500 cattle have been exported, and that great progress has been made with dairy produce.

A Jumping Prize Dispute.—At the Lambeth County Court on Tuesday, the Crystal Palace Company sued C. and J. Jeromes, horse dealers, living at Coldfield, near Birmingham, to recover £15. The plaintiffs' case was that defendants entered their grey gelding Comet for the 12-stone hunters' jumping competition at the National Horse Show at the Palace in May last. Comet won the first prize, £15. At the request of the defendants, who alleged they wanted the money, a cheque was sent them early in June. Subsequently it was learned that Comet had previously won a prize at a show where the total prizes exceeded £100, and as this was a direct violation of the rules with respect to the competition in question, defendants were asked to return the £15. This they refused to do, stating "they were perfectly satisfied, and were not like a lot of kiddies playing at marbles." (Laughter.) The defendants alleged that the time for making objections had expired, also that plaintiffs, by their own rules, could not have recourse to law. The defendants did not appear. Judge Emden said there had clearly been the suppression of a material fact, and this suppression caused a misapprehension. He gave judgment for the plaintiff company, with costs.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

There is a grave danger in connection with the demand for a Pure Beer Act, a very grave danger. This danger arises, if I may adopt a paradox, from the very popularity of the suggestion. Both parties in the State are anxious to make it an object of Parliamentary ambition, and both will scheme to secure the particular kudos. Of course, it may be urged that inasmuch as Sir Cuthbert Quilter was the first to give vitality to the effort, the Unionists should have the recognition which ought to be the reward of passing a most desirable law into operation.

On the other hand it must not be forgotten that, pre-eminent as he has undeniably been in the agitation, Sir Cuthbert has had Liberal associates. For instance, Mr. Frederick Wilson, M.P., has been almost as enthusiastic as he has been, and he has allied to a demand for beer brewed from malt and hops a cogent and forceful plea that the public-houses should be free—in a word, that the publican should no longer be the victim of the abominable tied-house system. This does not constitute a claim for Liberalism, but it provides a specious reason for fashioning one.

Mr. Chaplin has done well to throw himself into the agitation. He has at once given it a force and a political dignity that must make for Parliamentary redress. I am sure the right hon. gentleman will pardon me for saying that I think it an act of political unwisdom to lament that the Pure Beer Bill of 1896 was not passed. He himself was in the Cabinet. He himself could have insisted on Sir Cuthbert Quilter being given facilities that would have meant the passing of the Bill into law. He himself could have demanded that the inquiry which was made, and which I agree was a mere official-rigged device, should be forceful, dispassionate, and practical. To lament now that the inquiry had the nature it had is to suggest the idea—wrong, as every man must admit with a politician of the character of Mr. Chaplin—of insincerity. Mr. Chaplin's better position would be to assert that, freed of responsibility, he is determined that naught shall prevent his securing a reform so desirable in the general interests of the community.

But let me for the moment advert to an old point of mine, and a point whose significance my readers have more than once recognised. We have had an election this week in the North. The constituency is situated in the district most affected by this matter. Moreover, the district though pre-eminently industrial, has undeniable rural interests and sympathies. Now, what happened? Not a single question bearing the slightest indication that the rural electors were interested in this matter was put to the candidates. "Malt," "hops," "chemical ingredients"—none of these things intruded themselves for a moment into the candidates' addresses or into the interpolations of the electors. The business was as dead as a ducat for electoral purposes, and none in the whole constituency so poor as to do it reverence. The committee of the Chamber of Agriculture have been splendidly wise in endorsing the summoning of a number of public meetings, but I would rather infinitely that the committee had played an active part in this election.

I suppose, after all, that the real scene of agitation will be the House of Commons. Well, then, the first thing to do is to formulate a distinct and definite body of agitators. Of course, the leader must be Sir Cuthbert Quilter. Mr. Chaplin is a more dominating personality, but to Sir Cuthbert belongs the credit of having given the question a practical character. Mr. Chaplin will be to him as a god of Olympus, a kind of superior mentor to a very keen eyed Telemachus. It is easy to enumerate who should be associated with them. First of all, there is Mr. Frederick Wilson, as pretty a strategist as you would find in a day's Parliamentary search.

I regret in this connection that Mr. Grant Lawson, an excellent and capable politician, should have joined the Ministry. I also regret in a lesser degree that Mr. Arlwyn Fellowes should wear the panoply of office. Both would have been useful auxiliaries. Mr. Jeffreys will be a valuable aid. Mr. George Lambert—unless the teetotal element in his constituency should refuse to allow him to purify the beverage of the

labourers—should be an excellent help. Mr. Strachey should do good work; Mr. Robert Price should be useful. But why need I enumerate more? I have shown the men we have in the movement, and I have indicated that we have more behind them. A Pure Bill Act should be a surety in the next session.

I have spoken of the danger of temperance malevolence preventing good men associating themselves with the movement. This is a real possibility. The temperance reformers are such reformers that many of them will not permit the beverage of the workers to be made pure. Let me point out the foolishness of their action. They know as well as any man can do that their great enemy is the big brewer. It is the big brewer—not, of course, men of the type of Bass or Guinness—who are guilty of these chemical concoctions, which are neither malt, hop, fish, fowl, nor good red-herring. If they injure these men, if they prevent them turning their mash tun into a kind of chemical laboratory, they will render their calling more expensive and less profitable, and they will do a little to foster the great national industry. Will this argument influence them? I fear me not.

A hint to Mr. Walter Long: He is too excellent a man to be allowed to walk into a pitfall. He has offended the London County Council. The London County Councillors intended that he should. They are Radical, and don't want this Government to realise their ambitions. Does Mr. Long perceive?

A hint to Mr. Chaplin: Be a little less demonstrative. Else your enemies will wonder at your sloth while in office.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.

The winter session of this college closed on Wednesday, when the principal, the Rev. J. B. McClellan, M.A., conferred the diplomas, scholarships, and other honours on the successful students. Referring to the approach of a new century, he dwelt on the excellent work which that college had done during nearly 60 years of the century now closing for the industry of agriculture in this country and empire and in other parts of the world. An interesting feature of the present diploma list was that one of the successful candidates and the gold medallist was a county scholar, another was a university graduate, and the third an Indian student. Another Indian student divided the first and second scholarships. The external examiners for the diploma were: In practical agriculture, Mr. W. C. Brown, Lincolnshire; in agricultural chemistry, Dr. J. A. Voelcker, M.A., London; in veterinary science and practice, Professor Sir G. Brown, C.B., Harrow; and in practical engineering, Professor H. Robinson, M.Inst. C.E., London. Following are the chief awards of the class list:—

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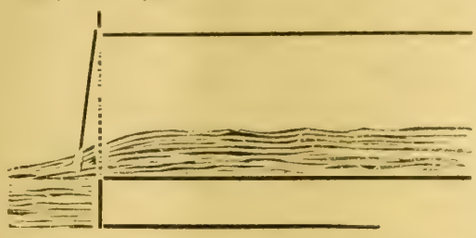
HONOURABLE MENTION FOR SCHOLARSHIPS:
Lindsell, 2775; Farwell, 2599.

Anthrax in Essex.—A suspicious case, believed, upon admission, to be one of anthrax, has been under treatment and observation at St. Bartholomew's Hospital for the past week, and the patient is now reported nearly well. Great interest was manifested in the case, owing to the outbreak of anthrax in the home counties. The patient, a stockman named Loftus Archer, 35 years of age, living at Needham, Hatfield, Broad Oak, near Harlow, Essex, had killed one of three beasts at Hatfield that were affected with anthrax, and was admitted to the hospital with apparently well-defined external symptoms of anthrax. There were, however, none of the usual signs of constitutional trouble, and the man was never put to bed during the whole period of his stay. So favourable has been the progress of the case, that it is now doubted by the hospital authorities whether the case has really been the dreaded anthrax.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Drain Pipes and Rats.

Sir,—I gladly reply to inquiry of "J. C." for rabbit and rat-proof ingress and egress to drains. A firm hailing from Thrapston I had some from; but I found from my experience as an old estate bailiff that, with the bars, leaves, etc., very often choked up the egress, and the last state was worse than the first. A good cure we found was to have a light iron shutter door, hung at a slight angle in the brickwork, or wood frame, so that when a flush of water came the door rose and let out small sticks, leaves ,etc.



The above is a rough sketch of it, and we found it a great saving of labour and trouble.—Believe me, yours very faithfully, S. W.

Block Test Competitions at Smithfield Show.

Sir,—In the *Daily News* of Thursday last, in an article upon the above show, the following passages occur:—

"The falling off in the numbers of the entries is accounted for in a somewhat peculiar fashion. It is said that what amounts to a feud exists between the butcher judges and the farmers. The latter say that some years ago they used to send 'Christmassy' kinds of beef for the carcase competitions, whereas, to suit their own ends, the judges gave the preference for the leaner kinds. It was the same with the mutton. The farmers consequently, much against their will, sent up their leaner kine, and then the butchers, not altogether the judges this time, having got the meat to their own standard, formed what in effect was a ring, and kept down the prices at the auction, so that it no longer paid the farmer either in prestige or in kind to have much to do with the carcase classes at the Smithfield Club's Show. Hence the falling away of the entries."

Believing, as I do, that these comments are incorrect, and calculated not only to injure the Block Test Competition at the show, but also to cause friction between feeders and butchers, and lead the former to believe he will not get a fair price for his wares in this competition, I hope you will see your way, in the interests of both classes, to afford me a little space to deal with the subject.

In the first place let me deny there is any feud between butchers and farmers. The loyal co-operation between the two sections at Tuesday's meeting dispels that fiction.

The statements about farmers sending "Christmassy" beef, and butcher-judges awarding the prizes to their leaner kinds, implies a want of acquaintance with the object of carcase competitions. These were only instituted some four years ago, and their very purpose is to encourage farmers to rear saleable animals, whose flesh is of a marketable character. If the judges in these "block test" competitions awarded prizes to the leaner kinds, they did that which was expected of them. There are plenty of other classes in which animals illustrative of the skill of the breeder and feeder can win renown, and become a source of profit to their owners.

I am somewhat at a loss to comprehend what the *Daily News* contributor means when he says, "The butchers, *not altogether the judges this time*, having got the meat to their own standard, formed what in effect was a ring, and kept down the prices at the auctions." With regard to the words in italics the judges in the carcase competitions consist to exactly the same extent of butchers as in former years. They have the same power as previously, and no more or less.

As for the forming of a ring to keep down prices at the auction, that is an effort of the imagination worthy of admiration. Mutton this year has, at this said auction, realised on the average 5s. 9d. per stone (of 8lb.), the prices ranging from 4s. to 8s., with a solitary exception that fetched 10s. 6d. Beef at the same sale averaged 4s. 10d. per stone, with a minimum of 3s. 4d. and a maximum of 6s. 2d., and I am inclined to think the publication of these figures more likely to encourage farmers to compete than to refrain from doing so.

I know perfectly well that during the past few years carcase competition meat has not realised a good price, but there were solid reasons for this circumstance. In the first carcase competitions the meat was too fat, and the joints unwieldly in point of size. Moreover, the meat was slaughtered and kept under adverse conditions, which do not obtain at the present time, therefore it would be useless and unwise to gird at lapses in management which have been remedied. Then, too, atmospheric conditions were bad, and under all the circumstances you will not be surprised to hear the meat had nearly always depreciated considerably before it was sold to the butcher.

I ask you to be good enough to publish these views, as your contemporary's remarks are calculated to deter farmers from sending to the Smithfield Show, and thus to injure what has proved a useful national institution. I am, yours etc.,

FREDK. RICHMAN,
Vice-Chairman, London Butchers Trade Society.
146, Borough, S.E., December 15th 1900

POISONED BEER.

Letter from Mr. Chaplin.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of merchants and farmers was held at Sleaford Town Hall on Monday, under the presidency of Alderman Jessopp, when a resolution in favour of securing the passing of a Pure Beer Bill was cordially adopted. Addresses were delivered by Captain Cole, Captain N. Reeve-King, Captain Cragg, Councillor Stow, Alderman Grummitt, and others, and it was resolved to organise a district petition to Parliament. With a view to obtain as many signatures as possible a large and representative committee, with members in every village, was appointed. In the course of the proceedings the following letter was read from Mr. Henry Chaplin, M.P.:—

Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent
Saturday, 15th December, 1900

Dear Mr. Jessopp,—I am very sorry that I cannot be at Sleaford to support you at the meeting which you are to hold on Monday, but I am heartily with you in the movement against the manufacture of poisonous beer, and unless I am much mistaken a good deal more will be heard upon the subject before Parliament meets again in February.

I asked a question of the Government yesterday, with the view of eliciting some further information as to the facts, and if we are to judge from the reception that it met with, in all parts of the House, and the full and comprehensive answer Mr. Long was good enough to give to it, it is evident that both Parliament and the Government recognise the importance of the subject.

When we receive the fuller information promised by the Local Government Board, and the report of their Inspector, we shall be better able to judge as to what alterations are required in the law.

But in the meantime the broad facts of the case appear to be as follows:—

A number of people, it is stated, have recently been poisoned by beer largely manufactured from substitutes for malt and hops, which have proved to be both dangerous and injurious, and some of them have died.

If these statements are correct, and so far as I know they are not denied, it follows that the conclusions of the majority of the Treasury Committee appointed to inquire into the use of beer materials have been absolutely falsified by the results, and the author of the minority report, who stood alone in his views, Mr. Cave Sewell Read, is proved to have been right.

The position of the question seems to me in consequence to be entirely changed. The British public are entitled to be safeguarded against beer manufactured from substitutes for malt and hops, which are now proved by this calamity to be injurious, and it is clear that the whole question must be reconsidered.

I am glad to know from the number of letters which reach me daily that a great number of meetings besides your own are being held on this important subject. The more it is ventilated the better, and the more quickly will the public understand of what vital interest it is to them.

I am sure that you will have a most successful meeting, and am, yours very truly,

(Signed) HENRY CHAPLIN.

A Question for the Public.

The calamitous results arising from the use of certain substitutes for malt in brewing beer, as recently published in the papers, lift the pure beer question from the region of the barley-growers alone into that of the consumers generally, and point to the desirability of united action on the part of the farmers and the public to press upon the Government the extreme necessity for prompt legislation to safeguard the health and lives of the people. This is no "Little Englander" question, but is as much Imperial as certain other matters recently so prominently before us. If the health of the people is allowed to be undermined, whence are we to draw our stalwarts to maintain our supremacy, and to protect our manifold interests in all quarters of the globe?

I am not at all sure that a Pure Beer Act will be such a boon to barley-growers in England as some seem disposed to believe, but I do not see how it can seriously injure them, particularly the growers of the finer qualities, an increased demand for which one would think must soon follow in Act of Parliament prohibiting "beerine" being sold as beer, and enacting severe penalties on those manufacturing and purveying concoctions of a deleterious nature. That being so, is it not imperative that meetings—not exclusively agricultural—should be held throughout the country, and that without delay?—I am, etc.,

H. G. FEW.

Cambridge, December 17th.

Meetings in Favour of Pure Beer.

At Tuesday's meeting of the Chester Board of Guardians a communication was received from the Risbridge Union, Suffolk, stating "that in view of the serious charges of arsenical poisoning in beer this Board requests Sir Cuthbert Quilter to bring the motion before the House of Commons, and earnestly

begs him to persevere with his Pure Beer Bill." Mr. Butler (Christleton) said he would like to know what their highly-paid inspectors had been doing. It was high time we had beer brewed from hops and malt. Mr. M. Kennedy (Chester) had no doubt the outcry against beer was justified. He considered that analyses were made according to the prices paid for them, and he thought they should be made by Government-appointed professors whom no local influence could touch. It was decided to support the resolution of the Risbridge Union.

The Selby and Stamford Boards of Guardians have passed resolutions urging Sir Cuthbert Quilter to push forward his Pure Beer Bill in the next session of Parliament.

A meeting of the South Durham and North Yorkshire Tenant Farmers' Protection Association was held last week at the Fleece-Hotel, Darlington. Mr. G. Smurthwaite (chairman) moved that a petition be sent to the Minister of Agriculture setting forth, first, that legal definitions should be made of the term of pure beer; secondly, that beer should be brewed from pure malt and hops; thirdly, that any beer made from maize, rice, etc., should have a distinctive name, and not be sold as beer. Mr. Dodds seconded, and said that measures should also be taken with the whisky distillers who made whisky from nasty German potatoes and other things. The resolution was carried.

At King's Lynn on Tuesday an influential meeting of farmers was held, and passed a resolution urging the Government to compel every brewer to declare all beer not made of malt and hops by the use of a distinctive mark. The 200 or 300 farmers present represented north, west, and south-west Norfolk, and the speakers included Sir W. H. B. Ffoulkes, Bart., Mr. George White, M.P., and Mr. T. L. Hare, M.P.

Mr. A. T. Jeffreys, M.P., presided over a meeting of the North-East Hants Agricultural Association at Alton, called to discuss the pure beer question. He strongly urged the introduction of a Pure Beer Bill in the next session. A resolution was carried unanimously that in the opinion of the meeting pure beer should be defined by Act of Parliament as a liquid composed of barley, malt, and hops and water, and that brewers should be compelled to disclose any other ingredients added thereto. Representatives of the Association were asked to join the deputation to the Government now being organised by the Central Chamber of Agriculture. Mr. Jeffreys stated that the deputation would probably be received by the Prime Minister or the First Lord of the Treasury about the end of January.

Pure Beer.

The movement in favour of a Pure Beer Bill is rapidly spreading. At the four corn markets of Newbury, Reading, Devizes, and Oxford, Mr. George Baylis has obtained the signatures of over 700 agriculturists, etc., hailing from Berks, Oxon, Hants, and Wilts. Petitions are now being signed in many of the villages, and leaflets distributed. Mr. Baylis, of Wyfield Manor, Newbury, would be pleased to forward forms of petition to any gentlemen desirous of helping. Arrangements are being made for holding a large meeting at the Town Hall, Reading, in January, when several M.P.'s will be present.

John Bull and the Berkshire Farmer.

John Bull: I am come to learn from you to what extent beer adulteration has injured agriculture.

Berkshire Farmer: In the year 1871 brewers used 271,435 cwt. of sugar; in 1881, 1,125,342 cwt., and in 1891, 2,045,524 cwt. That is, in 20 years, the sugar manipulated in breweries had increased from 13,000 tons to over 100,000 tons per annum.

John Bull: What quantity of barley malt did this sugar displace?

Berkshire Farmer: 2 cwt. of sugar takes the place of a quarter of malt. Therefore, in 1871, only 135,000 quarters of malt were displaced. This had increased to 562,000 quarters in 1881, and in 1891 the brewer dispensed with over a million quarters of barley.

John Bull: What barley was displaced last year by all malt substitutes, including maize and rice?

Berkshire Farmer: About 1,500,000 quarters, which should have been supplied by the British farmer.

John Bull: How many thousands of acres would be required to produce 1½ million quarters malting barley?

Berkshire Farmer: Reckoning 4 quarters to the acre, and allowing 8 bushels for seed and inferior grain, 500,000 acres would be required, grown on the four field system—barley once in four years. Two million acres of waste land could be brought into cultivation.

John Bull: I should like to bring the labourer back to the land. How many farm labourers would be required on 2,000,000 arable acres?

Berkshire Farmer: About 60,000, or, with women and children, an agricultural population of a quarter of a million.

John Bull: I will not forget the figures you have given me. I shall go now to Manchester and interview the glucose brewer.

GEO. BAYLIS.

Wyfield Manor, Newbury.

Alleged Arsenical Beer Brewed from Malt and Hops.

Mr. C. Estcourt, the Manchester City Analyst, in a letter to the Press says:—"I regret to have to state that glucose is not the only source whence arsenic has entered into the composition of beer. I have found arsenic in beers which I have known for a fact were brewed from malt and hops alone, and also where, in addition, only pure glucose had been used. I have examined a large number of samples of malt of different makers, and in a considerable number I have found arsenic. It was present in quite sufficient quantity to show (in beer brewed with the arsenical malt) as much arsenic as has been detected in beers brewed from arsenical glucose. I have not yet completed my investigations, but feel that brewers ought at once to be warned of the risk they run in using arsenical malt. Fortunately, as I have found on analysis, there are plenty of pure malts to be purchased, and brewers ought to see that their chemists (all brewers now have a chemist) examine every sample of malt."

Subsequently, Mr. Estcourt made a statement to an interviewer:—

"The explanation is simple," he said. "When the malt has completed growing it is damp and moist. If it were allowed to remain damp it would become mouldy and grow again. The desire of the maltster is to check that.

"The malt is therefore thrown on to a kiln and subjected to heat from coke or steam coal, and it comes into absolute contact with the fumes of the fuel. It follows therefore that if the coal or coke contains arsenic the malt becomes impregnated with the poison.

"Of course, the amount of arsenic in coal varies. If it were always to be found only in very small quantities there would be nothing to make a noise about, but I say the method of drying does not permit one to control the quantity. Again, the arsenic may increase according to the length of time the malt is heated.

"How did I make this discovery? I knew that infinitesimal quantities of arsenic were produced by this process of drying, but to my astonishment a brewer who had eliminated, as he supposed, all impure materials, and brewed his beer from malt and hops and pure glucose, sent me a sample, and I found it contained a good deal of arsenic."

What Kind of Malt?

Sir,—It is very necessary to know if the warning given by Mr. Estcourt applies to barley-malt, or is the term malt used by him merely the commercial name of the numerous preparations of rice, maize, etc., which are now used as substitutes for malt? Barley, when malted under right conditions, should contain no arsenic. Other so-called "malts," especially if chemically treated with sulphuric acid, may do so, but, however necessary it may be to suppress names, we ought at least to avoid confusion of terms.

—Yours faithfully, H. STOPES.

11, Queen Victoria Street, E.C., Dec. 19th.

The Brewers' Explanation.

A commission of experts, consisting of Sir Lauder Brunton, Dr. Thomas Stevenson, Dr. A. F. Luff, Mr. A. Gordon Salamon, Mr. Samuel Buckley, and Mr. J. Fletcher Moulton, Q.C., M.P., was appointed by the Manchester Brewers' Central Association to investigate into the circumstances of arsenical beer poisoning. This body has now presented the following report to the Association:—

The commission has now examined the sugars and all the other materials used in brewing in Manchester (with the exception of the malt), and they consider that it is clearly established that the arsenic found in deleterious quantities in the beer has been solely due to the contamination by arsenic of the sugars supplied by Messrs. Bostock and Company (Limited), of Liverpool. The arsenic in these sugars was undoubtedly derived from the impure sulphuric acid used in their manufacture.

The measures recommended by the commission a few days ago have, they learn, been effectively carried out. The whole of the beer in the manufacture of which any Bostock sugar was used has been destroyed, and there is no further danger from this source.

All the other brewing sugars on the English market have been analysed and have been found to be quite free from arsenic.

In view of the importance of the matter, the commission have instituted inquiries as to the manufacture of brewing sugars in the United Kingdom, and in this they have been assisted by the whole of the manufacturers of such sugars in a body, voluntarily offering them the opportunity of examining into the mode in which they conduct the manufacture. These manufacturers have stated collectively that it is, and always has been, their custom to use only such [illegible] and they have requested the commission to examine their invoices, works, etc., in order to verify these statements. [illegible] time has prevented the being done by personal examination up to the present, but the fact that all the specimens of brewing sugars as well as of glucose used for [illegible] purposes in the country have been found to be free from arsenic, and the necessity for the presence of arsenic has been [illegible] to the commission no doubt that this statement, when examined into, will be found to be correct.

The commission is quite unable to explain how Messrs. Bostock and Co. (Limited) came to employ an acid of the character actually used by them. The absolute necessity of using an acid free from arsenic in the manufacture of an article for human consumption must have been evident to everybody technically connected with the manufacture, and such acid is a common article of commerce. The price of the sugars in question was as high as any in the market, and apart from this, the quantity of acid used in the manufacture of the sugars is so small that the difference in cost of the best and the worst would only make a difference of a fraction of a penny per hundredweight of sugar. So that it is not a case of an attempt to cheapen production by the use of lower priced materials. The commission believe that it is this inexplicability which has rendered the matter so serious, and that the extent to which the mischief spread before it was detected was mainly due to the fact that the use of an acid containing arsenic in the manufacture of sugars was a contingency so improbable that it never occurred to those purchasing the sugars that it was possible that any danger could arise from that quarter.

The commission has been unable to detect the presence of arsenic in brewing materials other than sugar supplied by Messrs. Bostock and Co. (Limited), but they are aware that it has been asserted that traces of arsenic have been found in various samples of malt and hops. If such traces exist, they have probably been introduced in the operation of kilning, and the commission propose to examine more fully into the matter. None of the specimens of hops as yet yielded any traces. In any case the amount so introduced would appear to be exceedingly minute, and not sufficient to have any deleterious effect.

Beer from Oats.

A writer in the *Brewers' Gazette* says that there are several brewing firms in the United Kingdom who make a speciality of the production of beers from a proportion of oats. He has no hesitation in saying that malted oats form an excellent grain for improving the palate fulness of all beers which are likely to be given quick consumption. In making a comparison of the constituents of oats and barley, it may be pointed out that while the former contain about 14 per cent. of water, 56 per cent. starch, 4.6 per cent. fat, 1 per cent. cellulose, 5.7 per cent. sugar, 16 per cent. albuminoids, 2.5 per cent. ash, etc., barley contains about 12 per cent. water, 52 per cent. starch, 2.6 per cent. fat, 11.5 per cent. celluose, 4.2 per cent. sugar, 13.2 per cent. albuminoids, and 3.8 per cent. ash, etc. The chief difference between the two kinds of grain is in the cellulose and albuminoids. It will be noticed that oats contain more albuminous matter than barley, while the latter contains more cellulose than oats. It is the peculiarity and amount of the albuminoids of oats which cause this grain to impart such a rich palate fulness to beers, while the grain also produces a characteristic flavour of its own, which, unless too pronounced, meets with great favour. Now that material for the production of mild beers must of necessity contain a diminutive quantity of albuminous matter, the use of a certain percentage of oats will altogether improve the flavour of such beers, and, if mashed correctly, exert a stimulative action upon yeast reproduction during the fermentation process. The question of employing oats as a brewing material is by no means new, and where heavy percentages of raw grain, or even flaked maize or rice, are employed, a portion of the total grain should be of oats, as not only do they assist drainage, but prevent that extreme thin palate flavour so characteristic of beers that are produced to any extent by the aid of cereals deficient of albuminous matter. Practical brewers know only too well that to produce sound beers the amount of albumen in them must be extremely limited, and because this has been advocated so persistently, modern brewers have gone to the other extreme, with the consequence that the stability and vigour of the store yeast have suffered. This may be prevented by the judicious employment of oats, and if carefully handled they make excellent brewing material; while not yielding a high extract, they make up for this by imparting a greater palate fulness than even malt barley.

Substitutes Used by Brewers.

The following article, which appeared in the MARK LANE EXPRESS of January 29th, 1894, is reprinted by request, as bearing on the question of "pure beer" now at the front:—

Taking up one of the journals devoted to brewers' interests, and casually glancing at it, the number of strange substances found mentioned is very great. It is striking evidence of the use by brewers of other materials than malt and hops in beer. The following list of such things would probably startle even the most accustomed; but it has been prepared simply and solely by taking down, in the order in which they occur, the things advertised for sale, and which we know are used by brewers in the beer. Had we taken other substances the list, long as it is, would have been greatly augmented. The same substances occur more than once in some instances, because several makers of the same thing give it a distinctive name. Were the subject not too sad to laugh at, we might be tempted to make fun of the death and thunder threatened by rival makers who shall attempt to infringe each other's patent rights. We know from the files at Somerset House that the public have paid heavily in some cases for these valuable rights, but we find no trace in the law lists of actions brought against palpable infringements. We are also informed that the following list is by no means full, as certain traders do not advertise their goods, although they are admittedly freely used by brewers. Still,

FIRST-CLASS representatives and agents required throughout the United Kingdom for the sale of "MOLASSINE."—Write for particulars to the "MOLASSINE" CO., LTD., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

somewhere about one hundred and fifty is a long list, and if farmers knew its full meaning it would be as sad to them as it is long and uncanny.

Lævo saccharum.
Inverted sugar.
Carameline.
Sacchrosi e.
D.G.C. (dextrinous grain caramel).
Hop equivalent.
Caramelised dextro maltose.
Duttson's malt flour.
G. and S. patent dextro diastatic malts.
Gelatinised rice meal.
Gelatinised maize malt.
Flaked golden maize.
Flaked silver maize.
Granulated silver maize.
Granulated golden maize.
Caramel.
Lion brand brewing sugars.
Saccharines.
Dextrin maltose.
Torrefied maize malt.
Pure malt saccharine.
Cane sugar.
Invert sugar.
Saccharum.
Pale yellow malt sugar.
Premier liquid caramel.
Premier caramel chips.
Premier dextrinous caramel (solid or liquid).
Premier saline crystals (crushed).
Premier black beer priming.
Premier potassic-bisulphite transparent crystals.
Premier ale priming.
Tartaric acid.
A. and B. solutions.
Phosphate ammonia.
Phosphate lime.
Phosphate soda.
Carbonate of soda.
Caustic soda.
Caustic potass.
Grape or brewing sugar.
Patent acid neutraliser.
Burton salt liquor.
Dry sulphate calcium.
Inverted cane sugar.
Maltcone saccharine sugar.
R. and W. grape sugar.
Brewer's saccharum.
Lævulose saccharum.
Dextro-lævulose.
Lævo-maltose.
Sago and maize saccharines.
Purest sulphurous acid.
Antacidine
Ecumin or foaming powder.
Burton spring liquor.
Anti-acetous ferment liquor.
Torrefied flaked malts.
Gelatinised flaked rice malts.
Patent antacid.
Patent heading powder.
Burton ale salts.
Calcic sulphite.
K.M.S.
Lævuline priming.
Flaked malts.
Phylax.
Premier dry calcic sulphite (two qualities).
Premier Burton water crystals.
Premier Dublin water salts.
Premier hop extract.
Premier heading syrup and powder.
Acetic acid.
Bisulphites of lime, magnesia, potash, and soda.
Sulphites of lime, magnesia, potash, and soda.
Sulphates of lime, magnesia, potash, and soda.
Premier barley malt extract (three qualities)
Premier rice malt extract (three qualities).
Premier malto dextro glucose (three qualities).
Flaked maize malt.
Brewing chlorides.
Catechu.
Chloride of calcium.
Chloride of sodium.
Chloride of magnesium.
Gypsum.
Kainit.
Neutralisers (liquid and powder).
Pearl ashes.
Permanganate of potass.
Salicylic acid (powder and solution).
Sulphurous acid.
Tannic acid.
Jet caramel.
Dry calcic sulphite.
Calcic chloride solution.
"Cum Grano salis" for water hardening.
Malto peptone yeast food.
Pure malt saccharine.
Raw grain.
Corn flakes.
L.H. liquid hops.
Aroma of hops.
Compound yeast food
Hydro-sulphite of lime.
Hydro-sulphite of magnesia.
Sulphosite.
Patent neutraliser.
Pure sulphite of lime.
Artificial hops.
Aphrodite.
B.Y.F. Burtonising fluid.
Pure bicarbonate of soda.
African hops.
H.S. Hop supplement.
Patent dry frothing powder.
B.P. beer preservative.
P.H. permanent hardening.
Y.N. yeast nourishment.
M.M. mash material.
Heading solution.
Brewing material No. 1.
Patent grist made from rice only.
Dextrin-maltose.
Dextro-saccharum.
Glucose.

The contention that beer is now better and purer because of the use of these nostrums is absurd. The two largest brewers use very few of these things; yet their beer is better liked by consumers, and their balance-sheets show that they make handsome profits. It is more fair to argue that because of the use of other material than genuine malt and hops, recourse is had to many of these horrid concoctions and chemicals. Any brewer using any substitutes other than malt and hops should be made to declare it. This is as much the consumer's as the farmer's question.

Mr. Chaplin on Adulteration.

A meeting convened by the Lincolnshire Chamber of Agriculture and Commerce was held on Friday in the Corn Exchange, Lincoln, to urge legislation on the subject of adulterated beer. There was a large attendance, and the Mayor (Mr. Pennell) presided, supported by Mr. Chaplin, M.P., Mr. Eubbleton Fox (chairman of the Lindsey County Council), Mr. J. Laverack, and Mr. W. S. White. Mr. Laverack moved a resolution that it was urgently necessary that the Government should as early as possible take such measures as might be necessary to prevent by legislation the manufacture and sale of poisonous beer in future. Mr. W. S. White seconded.

Mr. Chaplin, who was enthusiastically received, supported the resolution, and observed that he thought it might be said in truth that the workers of the country, the artisans who toiled in the towns, and the agricultural labourers in the country, were accustomed habitually to drink beer as part of the necessary and daily sustenance of their lives. Within the past few weeks thousands of those people in the North of England, in Lancashire in particular, had been poisoned by beer which, it turned out, had been manufactured from deleterious substances. Some of the people had lost their lives, and all that had happened in spite of all legislation against the adulteration of food. Having dwelt at length on the past attempts to obtain legislation to prevent the adulteration of beer, he referred to the Report of the Committee of Inquiry dated 1899, and said it was absolutely contradicted by the facts which been recently disclosed. The only member of that Committee who appeared to have been right in the past was their old friend, Mr. Clare Sewell Read, who himself wrote a Minority Report, and who urged emphatically his opinion that legislation or other provision was absolutely necessary to prevent the use of deleterious substances in the brewing of beer. The Report of the majority of that Committee undoubtedly raised some very serious questions, and the first was that a Committee appointed by the Treasury, whose first object was always to guard the revenue of the country, was not a satisfactory tribunal, and was not to be depended upon when the question at issue was that of the health of the community (applause); secondly, the conclusions of the Committee were rendered absolutely worthless by what had occurred since then; and, thirdly, that the whole question must be considered *de novo*, in fact, that there must be an entirely new departure in connection with the question. Two things appeared to him in connection with this subject to be perfectly clear. One of them was that no Government could continue to permit the manufacture and sale of beer by which the public were liable at any moment to be poisoned; and, secondly, if the question was to be effectively dealt with at all, it must be dealt with by the Government themselves. (Applause.) All bodies in the country interested in the question should, in his opinion, take steps to induce the Government to take the question up, and to include it in the programme of their legislation for the coming Session (applause)—and having so included it, to press it at the earliest possible moment to a satisfactory and effective conclusion. (Applause.) What should be the precise form the legislation should take upon the question, whether it should be the prohibition which was recommended in certain quarters, or a severe restriction upon the use of the substitutes recommended in others; or whether it should take the form of differential duties to be imposed upon beer according to the materials of which the beer was composed, were matters which he was sure, in the interest of English barley growers themselves, must be carefully and thoroughly thrashed out and considered. But they would be better able to judge when fuller information upon the subject was before them, and they had the means of knowing exactly how these things had occurred. (Applause.) He was glad, indeed, that Lincolnshire and Lincoln were taking a leading part in connection with the question, under the auspices of the Mayor, because it was not only important to the agricultural population of the country, but it was of even deeper interest to the health and well-being of the general community—(applause)—that they should be effectively protected for the future from poison in the beer which they daily consumed. If anything he had been able to say contributed in the least degree to the action of the Government in the direction which had been indicated, and so bringing about an effectual and permanent solution of the question, he could only say that it would always be to him a matter of the deepest satisfaction that he had been permitted to take part in the proceedings. (Cheers.)

The resolution was carried unanimously, and it was also resolved that a petition be presented to the House of Commons expressing alarm at the abuses that had crept into the manufacture of beer, and urging that a Bill be passed to give effect to the resolution.

A large and representative meeting of farmers and townspeople was held at Stamford on Friday to consider the beer question. Speeches in support of a pure beer Bill were delivered by the Marquess of Exeter, Lord Kesteven, Mr. Finch, M.P., Colonel Sackville, M.P., and several influential South Lincolnshire agriculturists, and a resolution was passed unanimously urging the Government to introduce a measure providing that the word beer applied legally only to beverage made from barley malt and hops, without the addition of any other material.

The Central Chamber Urges the Holding of Meetings

The Committee appointed by the Council of the Central Chamber of Agriculture on the 12th inst. to inquire into the beer question have arrived unanimously at the conclusion that the Chambers of Agriculture and other bodies in association with the Central Chamber should be requested to take immediate steps for the holding in their respective localities of special public meetings, open to all classes of the community, for the purpose of urging upon her Majesty's Government the necessity of dealing with the beer question during the forthcoming Session of Parliament. In view of the importance of securing uniformity of action on the part of the entire community, the Committee have framed the following resolutions, which they suggest should be moved at each of the proposed public meetings throughout the country:—

(1) "That in view of the recent serious accidents attributed to poison in beer, this meeting desires to urge strongly upon her Majesty's Government the necessity for passing, at the earliest practicable date, a Bill to secure purity in beer, and the legal definition of beer as the product of barley malt, hops, water, and yeast. This meeting also desires to urge strongly upon her Majesty's Government that in the interests of the public health, brewers of fermented liquors intended to imitate beer, as above defined, should not be allowed to use more than a fixed percentage of malt substitutes, and that those substitutes should be defined by law."

(2) "And further, that the Chancellor of her Majesty's Inland Revenue should be requested to [illegible] that, in addition to malt and sugar, no malt substitutes, except by means of licences of the Commissioners, and [illegible] the name of each and every brewer [illegible] be given, together with the [illegible] and the quantity of beer produced by him, and that these particulars be published quarterly."

It is also suggested that the resolutions after passed should be communicated at once to the Prime Minister, the First Lord of the Treasury, the President of the Local Government Board, the President of the Board of Agriculture, and the Members of Parliament. Copies of the resolutions passed should also be sent so as to reach the Secretary of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, at Bloomsbury Chambers, Westminster, not later than the morning of Tuesday, January 23rd, 1901.

Central Chamber of Agriculture,
Bloomsbury Chambers,
Westminster, S.W.

Old Age Pensions: An Actuary's Views.

Mr. C. Daniel Higham, President of the Society of Actuaries, in the course of his opening address of the session, made some remarks on old age pensions. He said: One would have imagined that the cost of five shillings a week to all comers of sixty-five years of age and upwards would have been immediately prohibitive, especially when recollecting that the increased taxation to provide it must include further duties on articles of daily consumption, so that the purchasing power of even this small allowance would be diminished to the extent of the sum thus transferred from one pocket to another. And if the grant be not to all, how especially generous would be the position of those whose savings just keep them above the line of succour, and who did not give away to friends a sufficient sum to bring them down to the qualifying level—he said nothing as to an entitling minimum of good character, for the impossibility of any such circumspection would have been; he should have thought, sufficiently apparent, were it not that it was still advocated by some.

Besides, with the improvident always asking for more, with political parties bidding one against another in what would have something of the nature of a bribe, and with vote-seeking candidates making promises to be fulfilled as they might, how long would any fixed limit as to the pension be allowed to last while the many were being taught to be beggars, and the morals of electorates, and those who wooed them, corrupted? The operations of the friendly societies would be injured, and all for a mere name, for unearned gifts from public funds were not the less outdoor relief because they were called old age pensions; and any suspicion of discredit which might now attach to the one would soon be affixed to the other, as was evidenced by the word "pauper," which did not in former days convey the stigma of the present.

That everyone had a right to a pension could not be admitted. But, if they saw the impracticability of certain wild proposals, and the danger not only to all incentive to thrift, but to the proper pride of working men, they were not unmindful of the hard lot of many of the aged poor, who had done their best in their day, but to whom circumstances had been unkind. The high spirit of the race was of greater importance than the sorrows of the few.

Two things were urgently needed in furtherance of thrift among, and in aid of, the classes in question. The Legislature should protect all provident funds in the hands of Trade Unions from any association with strike funds. A working man ought to be protected from losing his savings either by their dissipation during an industrial war or by his expulsion for failing to go out on strike when called on. The question of deferred annuities was more [illegible] a system, he looked for a solution of the problem without any violent upheaval or sudden great economic change, so foreign to the English character. He suggested that in lieu of the small pensions now granted to sailors and soldiers, a plan of, or, at any rate an option of taking, deferred annuities of a more satisfactory amount might be [illegible].

There has come to hand a copy of a new illustrated catalogue just issued by Messrs. J. O. Hobson and Co., Belfast, who are the manufacturers of high-class poultry appliances. The catalogue contains [illegible] which the [illegible] Royal and the Provincial Shows, etc. A [illegible] to the widespread popularity of the firm's goods. There is [illegible] testimonials, received since 1897.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Beer Consumption.

We hear a good deal just now about beer, and especially that such proportion of it which may be suspected of doing harm to consumers. Everyone must needs pity the unfortunate victims. Perhaps the fullest sympathy should be extended to the very large class of drinkers who take day by day merely sufficient to enjoy to the full all the advantages moderate and rational drinking confers. These, doubtless, have nevertheless been suffering from lowered vitality. The trouble in their case has not been sufficiently acute to lead to hospital treatment or to death, yet the suffering and loss remain, grave factors that merit more attention than they have yet received.

The Commission of Experts.

appointed by the Manchester Brewers' Central Association has now given in its report.

Were it not the fact, it would seem inconceivable that any body of men claiming to be called scientific could produce a document so glaringly inconsistent. Before they reach the third line of their "report," they state they have examined "all the other materials used in brewing in Manchester (with the exception of the malt)." Are we to understand from this that malt is a negligible quantity when investigating the composition of beer in this vicinity? The Excise returns of last year are truly awful as to the position of affairs. Still they had scarcely led any serious person to such a conclusion. In a few months we shall be favoured with the particulars relating to the use of materials by brewers up to September 30th last. At present we can only go up to the same date in 1899. Still, it seems difficult to follow why this exception should have been made by these experts.

On the day of the publication of this report the borough analyst for the Corporation of Manchester spread broadcast a solemn warning that he has discovered

Arsenic in Malt.

This dreaded arsenic had already been traced back to the indiarubber tubing, and the beer pulls used by publicans, whilst thoughtful citizens have been heard in public places to express pious gratitude that at least the doormats had not yet been even suspected, much less proved, additional sources of the epidemic. Of course, it is well known that in many breweries there are doormats. It is true that in many cases from the stern necessity of living hand to mouth of these most oppressed and hardly used (yet most benevolent and pure-minded) traders, the brewers, these mats consist of hop-pocketing, and it is well known (or the suggestion has been thrown out that it ought to be) that as sulphur is used by growers of hops, and hop pocketing is used for door mats, why waste energy and brain tissue in seeking for arsenic elsewhere when, so to speak, it lies at your very feet!

But I may be accused of being frivolous. Yet it is

The Gravity of the Evil

that leads me to show up the paltry findings of this committee by even more ridiculous suggestions if it be possible.

The great beer consuming public look for other and sterner things. Enquiry may be burked, and a thousand false scents may be drawn across the path, but consumers have a right to know

Who are the Users of the Sugar

as well as the unfortunate makers of it? What brewers have applied for relief to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, claiming rebate on arsenical beer poured down the drains? Will this repayment of duty be granted?

If so, the man in the street has the right to know to whom the relief has been given, and its amount.

The excise authorities have proved

Singularly Incapable.

of protecting the public from evils which, if one's whole chemical knowledge were derived from the report of these Manchester experts, show how exceedingly simple it is to detect the presence of arsenic in beer, or in any of the numerous ingredients sanctioned by the honourable board.

But the public has a right to further knowledge. Why should any of these preparations be so assessed for duty that the brewer can deceive his customers; the duty paid falls far short of what it ought to be; the producers of honest materials be subject to unfair competition, and the consumer be defrauded?

All these questions have been raised before, and they have been met by the soft evasive answers with which the whole quadrangle in Somerset House continually echoes. Every enquiry has been met with the assurance that the department is an infallible safeguard of the public interests.

The public now knows the value of these assurances, and the time has arrived when we can appraise them at their true worth.

All this is dreary Christmas reading, and I am sorry. Oh, the pity of it all!

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

The chief features in the week's trade are found rather in the general market than in that particluar section of it in which I am specially interested. Waggon loads of holly and mistletoe, enormous arrivals of turkeys and fruit, and other Christmas commodities, have pushed hops into the background, while within the offices of the factors and merchants the only signs of activity discernible are in connection with the seasonable reminders now being dispatched to customers and friends. As regards the hop trade itself calmness prevails, but whether the minds of traders are possessed by "the holy calm that leads to heavenly musings" I am not in a position to decide. I am rather of opinion that most of them would prefer other occupation, and that their acceptance of the present condition of affairs, being involuntary, is not unaccompanied by a considerable degree of discontent. However this may be, it is quite clear that the valuation of hops is not suffering, for current quotations remain firm, and there is no indication of any disposition on the part of growers to retire from the attitude they have maintained for some time in refusing to listen to the offers of merchants, who would not be unwilling to operate, even at this festive season, if they could do so on their own terms. "Labour" has, however, ceased for the time being, and the brethren are now called to "refreshment," which I heartily trust they will all enjoy without restraint. That the "profit" of the past season's trade may be productive of real "pleasure" during the holidays is my earnest wish for all concerned.

In connection with the movement now afoot for the production of a

Pure Beer Bill,

one of my correspondents, who is a planter of long experience, and whose admitted success in his calling demonstrates his skill and prudence, favours me with his ideas. He is decidedly of opinion that any further argument or inquiry is unnecessary, that this being of national interest the barley and hop growers cannot be accused of selfish motives in being associated with it, and that what is wanted is a measure for the protection of the consumers on similar lines to those which have been adopted by the legislature with respect to other food products. Such a measure can only be opposed by brewers on the ground that they have something in concealment which they are not willing to reveal to their customers. But my friend thinks that any attempt at a definition of what constitutes "pure beer" will be open to the argument that other subsances than barley-malt and hops may be used without detriment to the public health, therefore it will be well to avoid these hindrances to legislation, and to permit a defined amount of liberty in brewing, with this proviso, that all beer (or what is sold as such) shall be plainly labelled on the casks or bottles with a statement of the ingredients from which it is made, and that similar notices shall be displayed in all places where the article is sold to the general public. These regulations should be strictly enforced under heavy penalties, and inspectors appointed to examine breweries and licensed houses, and to report to a central authority, who should be empowered to take evidence, and to act as may be necessary for the public safety.

These suggestions are most excellent, and when put into practical form would doubtless accomplish all that the advocates of greater purity of ale and beer desire. No further evidence than that provided by the occurrences of the past few weeks is required to prove the necessity of a reform in the law governing this most important matter, and the people now demand it with no uncertain voice. As soon as the holidays are over energetic action, now being arranged for, will be commenced, and I hope to find that the Government will accept and pass the necessary enactment early in the coming session.

The Hop Trade Prosecution.

At the County of London Sessions, held at Newington on the 14th inst. (Mr. M'Connell, Q.C., Chairman), Samuel Wild, twenty-eight, warehouseman; John Langridge, forty-five, carman; Alfred George Studd, thirty-nine, labourer; James Stocker, fifty-three, dealer; and Charles Stocker, seventeen, labourer, were indicted for stealing and receiving a quantity of hops at Southwark. James Stocker was further indicted for applying a false trade-mark to three pockets of hops. No evidence was offered against Charles Stocker, and he was discharged. Mr. Bodkin conducted the prosecution against the remaining four prisoners on behalf of the Hop Trade Association. The case was fully reported in the course of a prolonged magisterial investigation at Southwark Police Court, and it may be remembered as originating in a novel procedure under the special Acts of Parliament for preventing the fraudulent repacking and false marking of hops.

A warrant, believed to be the first of its kind, was granted by the magistrate to the police, empowering them to search a warehouse in Swan Street, Borough, occupied by James Stocker, to seize any hops which might appear to have been fraudulently marked, and to detain the goods for a period not exceeding a month, pending the institution of such proceedings as might be found necessary.

The warrant was executed by a strong body of detectives, comprising Detective-inspector Godley, Detective-sergeants Kemp, Smith, and Monahan, and Detective Girdler, M Division, assisted by Detective-inspector Divall, H Division. They seized about £1,000 worth of hops, cloths, and stencil-plates, and incidentally discovered, it is alleged, three pockets of Sussex hops which had been stolen from Messrs. Parkes, Son, and Ayling, and had been repacked and falsely marked as Kent hops.

While the officers were on the premises two bags of loose hops, alleged to have been stolen from Messrs. Frier, Mayer, and Co., were brought there and promptly taken charge of, along with the carman who brought them, and thereupon the two Stockers were also arrested. Counsel for the prosecution stated that there was reason to believe that the raided warehouse had long been a receptacle for stolen hops. Mr. A. Gill appeared for the defence.

After a long hearing, the prisoner Langridge was acquitted, and the three others were convicted. Detective-inspector Divall stated that he had information that Stocker had been for years a receiver

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest or benefit to the members of the society.*

To Hop Growers.—Users of Wire Work should buy the Best English Galvanised Steel Hop Strand, made by Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington, Lancs. For prices, &c apply to their London office 86, Leadenhall-street, E.C.; or their Sole Agent for Kent and Sussex, Mr. Edward Ball, 3 Newstead-road Lee, S.E.—[ADVT.]

of stolen property. Wild bore a good character, and Studd was well connected.

Mr. M'Connell said the case against Stocker was uncommonly bad. A nefarious business had been carried on at Stocker's warehouse, and he must go to prison for twelve months in the second division. In addition, he must pay the costs of the prosecution, together with £25 compensation to Messrs. Parkes, Son, and Ayling. Wild was sentenced to five months' imprisonment, and Studd to one month's imprisonment in the second division.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremburg.

Since the opening of this month there has been no practical change in the position of the hop market. A very quiet trade has been the rule, and prices have consequently receded to a small extent. As is usual at this season; the demand from brewers is limited, and the support given to the market by exports has been withdrawn, this class of business having considerably diminished. But recent sales, though so much reduced, are still in excess of the arrival, therefore a gradual absorption of stocks is taking place, and it is expected that at the opening of the new year inquiries for choice parcels, which have been lately rather neglected, will be heard of, and values will speedily be raised to their normal point.

Belgium.

There is very little interest to be found in the hop trade. With a slackening of demand, quotations have been gradually giving way for the past fortnight, and a few transactions are reported at 90 francs in the country markets. Bourse business, being entirely speculative, does not afford much guidance for actual value, but the figures recently quoted for Alost 8 mark are 85 francs by buyers, with sellers at 87½ francs.

France.

The business in first-hand parcels has practically ceased, most of the growers having sold out. The general commercial movements of the commodity continue, and it appears from the official returns that the imports for local consumption for the first 10 months of this year exceed those of 1899 by over 100,000 kilos, or about 2,000 cwt. The export of French hops this year during the period named are considerably less than in the corresponding month of 1899.

Arsenical Poisoning

by beer in England is creating some excitement in continental brewing centres, especially where glucose and invert sugars are used. The Bavarian brewers can safely smile where these disastrous results of adulteration are reported to them, as the strictly administered law prohibiting the use of any other constituents than barley-malt and hops completely protects the consumer from the remotest possibility of danger. But in Belgium, where "chemical" brewing is permitted and practised, the lesson deducted from our English experience is that chemists will become more necessary to brewers, in order to analytically examine the various products now introduced by scheming manufacturers into the brewing of beer. In olden imes, when the ingredients were limited to natural products only, scientific assistance was not needed. Would it not be better that we should revert to our former methods, with the satisfaction of security which would accompany such reversion, than continue to drink our beer in dread of consequences that may arise from scientific oversight or neglect?

America.

The New York market is very firm at recent rates. Although the buyers demand has fallen off, brewers are active buyers, and country buyers cannot find any growers willing to sell at less than 20 cents., the trade quotations now running up to 22 cents. The internal revenue from fermented liquors for October, 1900, shows an increase of more than half a million dollars over the same month of last year. The outlook is distinctly in favour of holders, who are confident of realising higher prices after the holidays.

(*For Hop Market Report, see page* 827.)

Illegal Removal of Pigs.—At the High Wycombe County Bench, on Saturday, Sir Robert Dashwood presiding, a singular plea was adduced by a farmer named Edward Brooks, of Penn, summoned for illegally removing thirty-nine pigs without a licence into a swine fever infected area in South Bucks. It appeared that the defendant had sixty pigs (one of which was lost), which he sold to Mr. Dulley, of Wooburn. Accused obtained a licence of removal for twenty pigs only, and thought that if he removed the swine in batches of twenty each the requirements of the Act would be met by the one licence for the twenty. It was pointed out, however, that that procedure was not allowed, and the Bench fined defendant £2 10s., with £1 9s. 6d. costs, the chairman commenting on the seriousness of the offence in an important agricultural district.

Border Union.

The annual meeting of the Border Union Agricultural Society was held in the Corn Exchange, Kelso, on the last day of November. There was a very representative attendance, and Mr. C. J. Cunningham of Muirhouselaw presided. The Duke of Buccleuch was reappointed president, and the following were elected vice-presidents: Duke of Roxburghe, Earl of Home, Marquis of Lothian, Lord Polwarth, Earl of Dalkeith, M.P., Lord Tweedmouth, Sir George B. Douglas, Bart., Sir Richard J. Waldie Griffith, Bart., Mr. C. B. Balfour, Mr. James Nisbet, and Mr. Alexander Lyal. Mr. Allan Stevenson, Commercial Bank, was reelected secretary, and a very representative committee was appointed.

In the annual report the committee expressed regret that there had been a deficiency in the accounts for the year of £146 5s. 11d., bringing the balance down to £52 10s. 2d. On almost all the branches of receipts there had been a falling-off, and in the expenditure most of the branches showed a decrease. The total receipts reached to £1,052 17s. 10d. for the year, and the expenditure to £1,199 3s. 6d.

Mr. Walter Rutherford, Crailing Tofts, moved the adoption of the report, and said it was increasingly urgent that the Society should retrench. The income for the past year had been rather more than the average for the past five years, and they had very little hope of an increase in that way. Regarding the annual show, he held that precisely as the prize list had been increased so had the deficit. The Society had this deficit to face, and the committee, with a view to effecting a saving, had adopted several recommendations.

Mr. Newton, Queenscairn, seconded the motion, and the report was adopted.

The meeting then proceeded to consider the four recommendations of the committee. The first was that, though there might be a bull sale, there be no show. Mr. Rutherford said that this would save the premiums, and that for a number of years now there had been a feeling that the gathering, owing to the loss sustained, be not held at all. During the past ten years it had lost the Society a sum of £400.

Mr. Johnston, Oxnam Neuk, asked who had to pay the expenses of the sale, if any. Mr. Rutherford said the idea of the committee was that both the bull sale and ram sale be self-supporting.

Mr. Johnston, Crailing Hall, disagreed with Mr. Rutherford. The Society existed primarily for the benefit of agriculture, and the holding of this show, even though there should be a slight loss yearly, was carrying out the primary object. He thought it would be a pity to allow the bull show to go down. The committee had been considering the cutting down of expenditure, but they had not apparently considered if the income coul dbe raised. For instonce, the subscription some years ago was reduced from £1 to 10s. He did not think that £1 was too much for membership of such a society.

Mr. Dunn, Redden, and several others supported Mr. Johnston, who put his suggestion in the form of a motion—viz., that the bull show and sale be held as usual, though with reduced expenditure.

Mr. Rutherford moved that the recommendation of the committee be approved, and remarked that when the subscription was reduced the membership rose from 140 to 330. The idea of the committee was to hold a bull sale at Penny and Kay's mart.

Mr. Stormonth Darling was not quite sure that it would be relevant for the society to adopt a resolution to hold a sale on other people's premises.

After some further discussion, Mr. Johnston's amendment was carried by a small majority.

The second recommendation was that the destruction of rooks be discontinued. Speaking in support of this recommendation, Mr. Rutherford said that upwards of £52 had been spent last year, and of the receipts the farmers had contributed the magnificent sum of £16. The recommendation was agreed to.

There was considerabl discussion over the third recommendation—viz., that the premium list at the annual show be reduced by £100. Mr. Rutherford, however, pointed out that the idea of the committee was to make the reduction where there was least competition, and the recommendation was adopted.

The fourth recommendation was that the entry money charge dfor rams at the ram sales be raised from 9d. to 1s., and this was agreed to, as was also a motion that the fixing of the dates for the gatherings be left to the committee. Mr. Rutherford rbought forward a motion to the effect that the admission money to the annual show be 1s. all day. The working classes were now receiving good wages, and the shilling was quite within their reach.

Mr. Hunter, Limpitlaw, seconded, and Mr. Roberton, Morebattle Tofts, expressed the belief that they would get a shilling as readily from the working classes now as sixpence.

Mr. Bruce, Jedburgh, thought that this move would be most unpopular ,and Mr. Johnston, Oxnam Neuk, urged that the admission be 1s. and 6d. as formerly. A vote was taken, and the Chairman declared Mr. Rutherford's motion carried by a large majority.

Newcastle Farmers' Club.

Mr. H. Crawford Smith, M.P., attended a meeting of the Newcastle Farmers' Club on the 1st inst.—Alderman Carrick in the chair—to advocate, on behalf of Lady Noble, Lady Trevelyan, and other ladies, who have been attending for two or three years past to look after the girls, a better system of conducting the local hirings. He read a letter from Mr. Johnson (secretary of the Durham and Northumberland Dairy Farmers' Association), who said that the present system of hiring in the district is antiquated and out of date, and in some cases unnecessary.

Mr. Smith suggested that the Farmers' Club should take control, and assist the Ladies' Committee in supplying agreement forms, etc. The Town Hall should also be taken to provide innocent enjoyment for the young people until they can be got out of the town, to prevent their being at the mercy of harpies in the streets.

Mr. John Knox Lyal favoured engagement through registry offices instead of the present system, and Mr. M'Laren said he was in favour of abolishing the hirings altogether and substituting advertising. He had tried that, and it answered admirably.

Ultimately a committee was formed to consider the whole question.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns Issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Dec. 15th, 1900:—

Swine Fever	Swine slaughtered as diseased or exposed to Infection.	No.	343	365	669	316	17,310	30,251
								41,418
								39,640
	Outbreaks.	No.	43	19	42	30	1,588	2,262
								2,302
								2,118
Rabies.	Cases Reported. Other Animals	No.	1	:	:	:	5	:
								16
	Dogs.	No.	:	:	:	17	6	9
								16
								152
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slaughtered. Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	:	:	:	:	590
								741
	Diseased.	No.	:	:	:	:	:	1
								46
	Outbreaks.	No.	:	:	:	:	:	1
								7
Diseases of Sheep.	Animals Attacked.	No.	27	33	33	34	1,396	1,432
								1,383
								1,529
	Outbreaks.	No.	14	16	14	17	1,081	830
								710
								872
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.	No.	17	:	:	:	244	:
	Outbreaks.	No.	1	:	:	:	18	:
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	21	8	24	10	894	966
								811
								860
	Outbreaks.	No.	18	7	11	9	548	510
								331
								414
Period.				Week ended Dec. 15, 1900			Corresponding week in { 1899 / 1898 / 1897 }	Total for 50 weeks 1900 .. ..
								Corresponding period in { 1899 / 1898 / 1897 }

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

A Market-Growers' Association for East Kent.

A meeting of market-growers was held recently at Ash, at which the Sandwich and District Market Growers' Association was formed, and the following committee elected:—Chairman, Mr. C. Herbert, Ash; treasurer, Mr. F. C. Heming, London and County Bank, Sandwich; hon. sec., Mr. Fred. F. Coleman, Sandwich; Mr. W. Fagg, to represent Ash; Mr. F. W. Quelch, Wingham; Mr. J. Caspell, Eastry; Mr. G. Caspell, Sandwich; Mr. T. Farrier, Worth; Mr. T. Cornes, Woodnesborough; Mr. H. Castle, Stourmouth; Mr. J. Grayson, Preston; Mr. W. D. Bayley, Staple. This committee have since met and formulated a workable scheme which will be a real benefit to the members of the Association. The committee will present a report to the next general meeting, which will be held at the Lion, Ash, early in January. The committee have decided to extend the district to include growers from Deal, Ramsgate, Margate, Minster, Ash, etc., and it is proposed that when these districts send members they shall be represented on the committee. A resolution to this effect will be presented at the next general meeting, the exact date of which will be duly advertised. Anyone interested in market growing, and willing to lecture or communicate papers on subjects of general interest, is requested to communicate with the secretary. Members of the Association can, through the secretary, obtain samples of fertilisers and artificial manures for expert examination, and obtain full reports on the same at very nominal charges. Further particulars as to this may be obtained on application to the hon. sec., Mr. F. F. Coleman, Sandwich.

LITERARY NOTICES.

The "Agricultural Handbook and Diary" for 1901 has now been issued. This is the second year of issue, and the present volume, like the last, contains many articles of interest and usefulness, all of which are dealt with in a clear and simple manner. The articles deal with such subjects as the "Treatment of Woods," by Colonel Bailey; "Butter-Making," by Ernest Mathews; "Short Wool Sheep," by H. Webb; "Calf Rearing," by F. Punchard; "Veterinary, with special reference to Cattle and Sheep," by Professor Wortley Axe; whilst there is an interesting article which is unsigned on "The Cost of Wheat Production." This article, together with the maps, which are also contained in the book, will enable the farmer to measure the forces against which he has to compete. There is also an agricultural summary of the year, by W. E. Bear, a full copy of the two Agricultural Acts passed last session—"The Agricultural Holdings Act" and the "Workmen's Compensation Act." The diary is in a most convenient form, and includes many of the most important racing and farming fixtures for the coming year. The book is published for the editors by Messrs. Vinton and Co., 9, New Bridge Street, London, E.C.

"Cash: How to Invest it," by "Experience," is the title of a book written with the object of giving the public valuable information concerning the buying and selling of stocks and shares. Among its contents are included chapters on brokers and jobbers, investment, speculation, bucket shops, dividends, and a mass of other useful knowledge. Simple language is used throughout, all technical terms being fully explained. The small capitalist can thus get from this work a clear idea of how to manage his money, and will be enabled to protect himself from ignorantly falling a victim to the seductive suggestions of touting circulars. The writer, who has employed a long and wide experience of Stock Exchange and money matters in this work, conceals his identity in order to distinguish the book from the advertising pamphlets which are so extensively circulated. "Cash: How to Invest it" can be obtained of all booksellers, price 1s. net, or post free 1s. 2d. from the publishers, Dawbarn and Ward, Ltd., 6, Farringdon Avenue, London, E.C.

The "Farmer and Stockbreeder Year Book and Country Gentlemen's Almanack" for 1901 consists of 292 pages, is printed on beautiful paper, and published in most attractive form. There are two distinct sections in the "Year Book," viz., the "Year Book" and the "Almanack." Within the former category are included an extensive and comprehensive series of articles dealing with domestic live stock, practical farming and dairy farming. The editor's intention has been to provide something of interest to everyone on the farm, and when it is remembered that there are over thirty signed articles, besides comprehensive reviews of the various breeds of live stock during the year, not to mention the very complete tabulation of pedigree sales during 1901, it can be claimed with some measure of confidence that the object has been fulfilled. The sale record is one of the greatest features of the "Year Book," some thousands of sales being recorded in fifty pages or so set aside for the purpose, involving monumental labour on the part of Mr. Chapman, its compiler. The illustrations number close on 200, so that the "Year Book" section of this "Annual" is quite in keeping with the times. The "Country Gentlemen's Almanack" is represented by a series of tales useful for farmer and breeder alike, and may be regarded as that portion of the "Year Book" which will be kept for reference. Among the contributors are Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Rev. D. B. Montefiore, Mr. John Hill, Mr. J. Owen, Mr. J. H. Bridges, Mr. A. F. Parbury, Mr. E. G. F. Walker, Mr. James McCreath, F.H.A.S., F.S.I., Mr. Henry Smith, Jun., Mr. F. N. Hobgen, Mr. R. S. Gardiner, F.S.L., Professor Malden, Mr. Gilbert Murray, and others. The "Year Book" is published at the offices of the *Farmer and Stockbreeder*, 6, Essex Street, Strand, price 1s., post free 1s. 4d.

The "Live Stock Journal Almanack" for 1901 contains fifty special articles and numerous illustrations of noted specimens of the leading varieties of domesticated animals. There are also carefully compiled breeders' tables, lists of societies, fairs, statistics, etc., so that the book appeals strongly to all who are engaged in country pursuits. The opening article, with accompanying engraving, relates to a famous Hackney mare which established great celebrity for trotting towards the close of the last century. Mr. W. T. Trench, in a readable paper, advocates the claims of "Hunter Sires for Breeding Light Horses." Under the title "Army Horses Abroad" Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., gives an interesting account of the types of military horses shown at the International Show at Paris, and proves how successfully foreign breeders have introduced English blood in order to secure the objects they have had in view. Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P., has a sensible and pithy article on "The Demand for Heavy Horses and how to meet it." "The Rate of Growth in the Horse" is a subject dealt with in a most informing manner by Professor Cossar Ewart, and his elaborate paper is sure to be read with interest. Mr. C. Stein offers many valuable hints as to "Military Stables and Stable Management." Sir Richard D. Green Price, Bart, also touches on a question of the day in his contribution on "The Pony: Its Breeding for Army Purposes." "The Value of Local and County Shows" is ably handled by Lord Middleton. A pleasantly written paper is that by Professor Sheldon on "Features of Summer Grazing." Mr. Robert Bruce traces the improvement in "Our Breeds of Beef Cattle," and Mr. Primrose McConnell describes the "Management of a Milking Herd." Other papers are by Mr. Sanders Spencer, on "Pig Fancies"; Mr. F. Gresham, on "Sporting Dogs and Their Peculiarities"; Mr. E. Brown, on "Modern Poultry Keeping"; Mr. Gage Harper, on "Turkeys as Farm Stock"; and there is a brief article on "Kestrels and Sparrow Hawks." The price remains at 1s., and the publishers are Messrs. Vinton and Co., Ltd., 9, New Bridge Street, London, E.C.

Mr. Effingham Wilson, Royal Exchange, E.C., has just issued in pamphlet form an example of an advertisement inviting subscriptions for shares under the Companies Act, 1900. There is a preface by Mr. Anthony Pulbrooke and several notes, the whole being a timely reminder of the requirements of the new Act.

The November issue of the *Agricultural Gazette of New South Wales* has now come to hand. This is, as most of our readers are aware, a Government publication, edited by Mr. W. H. Clarke, and previous issues have abounded with useful information for those for whose interest it is issued; and the November number is not behind its predecessors in this respect.

From the Sun Fire Insurance Office, Threadneedle-street, E.C., we have received a nicely got up desk calendar, and a wall calendar, also a blotter, the last-named containing in addition to the calendar some useful desk information. As is well known, the Sun Insurance Office is a very old-established one, being founded 1710. The sum insured in 1899 exceeded £435,000,000, the premium income of that year being £1,027,636, whilst the reserve funds amounted to £2,065,593.

THE GARDEN.

Mild but stormy weather still prevails, though during the past week we have had rather less rain than usual, and the barometer shows a somewhat upward tendency, on the whole. Though Christmas is now close at hand the average temperature remains remarkably high, and a thermometer here on a due north aspect has stood at about 50degs.—a degree or two higher or lower only—for several days past. In the open air chrysanthemums, veronicas, laurustinus, and even fuchsias and myrtles are in bloom without the least protection, and in sheltered spots some primroses may also be found. A change may be looked for, however, about the 21st or 22nd inst., when the winter solstice and the advent of a new moon occur within a few hours of each other.

Potatoes of the earlier varieties are already commencing to sprout, even where kept quite cool. Consequently the entire stock of such (for seed) had better looked over at once, and as far as possible the sets should be laid out thinly in some light and not too warm place so as to strengthen the young growths. When allowed to make long, weak "spears" in a dark position these have usually to be sacrificed (even if they are not broken off accidentally) before planting, and then a second growth, which is never so strong or vigorous as the first, is made, and the sets are undoubtedly weakened, so that the crop suffers in more ways than one. Too much care cannot be taken to preserve the first shoots formed intact, and not to let them grow too long before planting, as well as to render them as sturdy and robust as possible. Some growers, again, thin them out to one—the strongest or best—on each set before planting, and though this may not make much difference in point of time, I believe that it tends to afford a larger and more even sample of tubers than if all the growths were left.

Of course the date of commencing to plant depends entirely on the natural mildness or otherwise of the locality, and on the weather experienced, but should the present conditions remain in force for another month or so, I should repeat the advice given in a previous article—that all possessed of naturally warm and sheltered ground in any favourable locality should plant one or more good breadths of a dependable early variety as soon as it can be done with any degree of safety.

Proceed with the forcing of rhubarb and sea kale as required, bringing in fresh batches of roots as the first begin to show signs of exhaustion. If a frame or two over a brisk hotbed, with bottom heat of 75deg. to 80deg., can be spared, fill them with strong four or five-year-old asparagus roots, laying them out on a few inches of light rich soil and covering to a depth of 4in above the crowns with the same. Water in well, and keep the frame close (or nearly so) and dark till the young growth appears, when light and air must be gradually admitted. When the shoots have been all cut and the roots removed a crop of early potatoes or radishes may usually be taken without renewing the hotbed.

Late-planted strawberries will probably succeed better than usual this season, there having been little or no frost to disturb them yet, and by this time they will be getting a good hold of the soil, especially as the weather has been so mild. When frost sets in early, and alternate spells of cold and thaw prevail, the late-planted runners get disturbed, if not actually thrown out of the ground, time after time; and when this occurs they can, of course, make no progress nor do much good next summer. If not in the ground by the early part of August at the latest, the best way to winter young strawberry plants is placed closely in a nursery or store bed in some sheltered spot, protecting them from hard frost with a little litter, and planting them out permanently in April or May.

The pruning of bush fruits, as well as of dwarf apples, pears, etc., in any form, and trees of all kinds on walls ought to be pushed on rapidly while the mild weather lasts. It is far better to get all such work done before Christmas if possible.

The pruning of newly-planted fruit trees is a somewhat disputed point, some holding that they should as a rule be cut hard back when planted, or soon afterwards; while others maintain that it is better to let them make a year's growth unchecked and then cut back to the required extent. Plenty of top growth and foliage undoubtedly favours the production of fresh roots, and, on the other hand, plants that are cut hard back at planting time usually "break" more or less weakly afterwards. There is much to be said on both sides, no doubt; but a very good general rule is to prune trees or bushes planted in November, or even up to about the shortest day, lightly to moderately, while those not got in till after Christmas will be better left alone to make a season's growth as they list.

Roses of any of the hardier sections may still be planted, but the teas and Noisettes will be better now left till about the end of March. A batch of well-established plants of the tea-scented kinds in pots may be brought indoors and gently forced into bloom, having pruned them previously, of course.

Carnations, hollyhocks, auriculas, and others in frames and pits must have plenty of air in all mild weather.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended December 15, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year :—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	7,627	11,538	Wheat ..	1,318,300	1,137,300
Sheep ..	6,268	7,912	Flour ..	543,400	419,200
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	223,900	288,900
			Oats ..	280,800	215,600
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pease ..	71,900	68,000
Beef ..	81,885	81,925	Beans ..	37,000	30,000
Mutton	38,072	48,169	Maize ..	1,507,700	1,310,900
Pork ..	18,768	21,422		Bunches.	Bunches.
Bacon ..	115,531	137,678	†Bananas	—	19,784
Beef, salt	1,534	3,843		Cwt.	Cwt
Hams ..	37,799	44,267	Apples ..	153,261‡	106,810
Pork, salt	4,446	3,535	†Apricots	—	
Meat, salt & fresh	11,521	10,236	& Peaches	—	—
			Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	25,919	17,247	†Currants	—	—
Butter ..	69,756	57,099	†Gooseb'r's	—	—
M'rg'rine	23,467	24,372	Grapes ..	773‡	248
Cheese ..	44,910	47,202	Lemons	37,754‡	43,563
Con. Milk	11,645	21,580	Oranges	341,988‡	350,197
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	450	1,103	Pears ..	5,134‡	4,105
			Plums ..	—	3
			†Straw'b'r's	—	—
			Oth'r Fr't	16,253‡	2,470
				Tons.	Tons.
	No.	No.	Hay ..	3,148	1,795
Eggs ..	336,666*	408,923*		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	121,401	177,047
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£53,952	£99,051	Hops ..	6,083	13,780
			Potatoes	67,603	204,496
	Cwt.	Cwt.	§Tom'to's	—	9,348
Rabbits	4,441	3,252	Other	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	41,487	44,191	Vegbles	£20,398	£12,115

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

Failure of the British Horticultural Association.—Meetings were held last week at the Carey-street offices of the Board of Trade, Lincoln's-inn, under the liquidation of the British Horticultural Association (Limited). The company was formed in December, 1898, with a nominal capital of £15,000, to carry on the business of nurserymen, florists, and horticultural auctioneers. It was apparently formed to acquire the business of the Metropolitan Floral Guild Company (Limited), then in liquidation, and subsequently sold the major portion of its Surrey nurseries with a view to avoiding trade jealousy. The company, in June, 1899, started the *Chronicle of Horticulture*, which was distributed gratis, and derived its income from advertisements. The Official Receiver was deputed to remain in charge of the liquidation.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Gloucestershire.

The weather continues mild and open, with every prospect of a green Christmas, and yet although we have had so much rain since the 1st of November, but few of the dried springs are started. All the autumn-sown crops, the clovers, and grass are looking wonderfully well, but as there is much truth in the old adage that winter growth won't fill the rickyard, a dry, cold check would now be very serviceable. Store stocks are healthy and doing well, with a small output of dry fodder, but prices, except for cows and calves, keep low, and at most of our Christmas markets trade was very disappointing, for with the present price of cake to make beef at 6½d. or mutton at 7½d., even when stores are bought cheap, don't leave much profit. Now or never

We must get a Pure Beer Bill passed.

but everyone should help, for if the brewers can gloss over the present calamity by announcement of the unnoxious qualities of their substitutes (not a word about purity in all their flaming posters), and the strong public opinion now pervading all classes dies out, good-bye to our hopes for ever. At the end of this century to look back over the last year is not a pleasant reflection, and with all our expenses steadily advancing, and the difficult labour question looming large before us, the outlook for the future is not a bright one, but that the good time will come soon is the hope of—J. H. W. (December 21st.)

Lincoln (South).

The weather during the last three weeks has been of a mild and open nature (in fact, several primroses are in full bloom in my garden), and while beneficial to the former in one way, it is rather detrimental in the other. Not a large acreage of wheat has been sown, but where it is up a good plant, and is looking strong and well. Ploughing and all other land work has been pushed well forward ready for manure carting should frost set in. Threshing, too, has been well followed up, and several yards will not require above one more journey for the machine. The corn trade is still very depressing, scarcely anything being done at Spalding on Tuesday. Wheat at about 26s. to 27s.; barley, 24s. to 27s.; oats, 15s. to 17s.; beans, 28s.; and peas at various prices up to 56s. per quarter. The Christmas fat stock shows have produced some excellent specimens of beef, mutton, and pork; but with cakes and feeding stuffs at the price, I fear there is

Not Much Remuneration for the Feeder.

Beef at from 7s. to 7s. 6d. per stone does not leave much margin for profit; mutton, too, has been selling badly, while pork, which is rather scarce locally, has been making from 6s. to 6s. 6d. per stone.

The potato trade is very dull just now; farmers, hoping for better prices, are not putting many on rails. The prospects generally are not very cheery for the farmer just now, but let us hope that the New Year may open with more seasonable weather, better prices, and a more prosperous outlook.—R. M. W. (December 21st.)—P.S.—Weather at time of writing bright and clear.

Mid-Somerset.

We are now in a mild winter season, with rather more wet than is congenial for live stock not housed, which is the case with a large proportion of the dairy cattle in Mid-Somerset, the stalls and yards in connection with the majority of the homesteads being sufficient to house perhaps twenty animals where eighty are often kept. Those in milk are of necessity housed, warmth being one of the most important agents in milk-producing. Young cattle are generally looking well after a grassy autumn. Grazing sheep have done well this autumn, and been remunerative. Ewes will shortly be in the lambing pens. Young wheat looking well.

Mangolds, so useful as winter food, were a fair crop, and taken well. Milk for the most part is sent to London, otherwise made into Caerphilly cheese, a variety of cheese consumed mostly in South Wales, for which there is a growing demand; a very remunerative business, and where the homestead is any distance from the railway station Caerphilly cheesemaking is much preferable.

Cider-Making

carried on more or less at most farmsteads during this season, is now almost finished. The apple crop was very partial, the produce from them good, and of very fair quality; of course, depending on the soil the apples grew on, the sorts of fruit, and lastly and very important, the manipulation of the article throughout, the beer scare in the North having given good cider already an increasing sale in many large towns. Cheese trade quiet. Pigs scarce, but not dearer. Price of horses of all classes has a distinctly upward tendency. Labour question a distressing and yet unsolved problem.—W. T. S. T. (December 21st).

North Wilts

Nothing very original or interesting can be said on this subject, I fear. Mildness is the general character of this season, absence of frost, and a moderate quantity of rain—very desirable weather for those who have stock chiefly depending upon the food of the pastures, but not favourable to the meat trade. Fat beef seems rather too plentiful at our Christmas markets to make much above 6d. per lb., except for a very fancy article, if a prize fat beast can be so called. The prospects of farming in the future are about as in the past. We may live till we get a really bad season, when we shall be like some of our unfortunate soldiers having spent our ammunition, we shall have no alternative but to give up.—J. S. (December 20th).

Somerset.

The rains have delayed the late wheat sowing, but what was put in early is up and looking well. Threshing is proceeding slowly under difficulties, as it is seldom we get two fine days in succession. The yield of oats is very poor, both in quantity and quality. Roots have continued growing, and are better than at one time they were expected to be. The very mild weather has kept the pasture wonderfully green and growing for the time of year, and there has not been half the quantity of hay used as there was last year at this time, so unless we get a very severe time, I should think farmers will have sufficient hay to see the winter through, and many be able to save a mow or two.

Stock are Doing Well,

but the prices of beef and mutton have not improved of late, and many of the Christmas fat stock sales have not come up to expectations. Cows and calves have been very dear, others are making moderate prices. Milk trade has been good this season, but cheese (except Caerphilly) has been a dull trade of late; but I hope it will improve with the New Year.—E. D. (December 20th).

In this neighbourhood the season has been more favourable for owners of live stock than for some years past. Hay is plentiful and good, roots are mostly a good crop and excellent quality, while, owing to the mildness of the season, both cattle and sheep still continue to pick up a good bit of their living off the pastures. At the Christmas sales, beef and mutton have gone off well, beef in some cases selling dear. Milk is and has been for some time in good demand, though the price is little or nothing higher. Stock appears to be generally healthy and in good condition. There is a good deal of complaint as to the yield and quality of the corn crops; at the same time, some very good samples of all kinds are to be met with on our local markets. The weather has been favourable for getting in wheat and other autumn work, roots being secured in capital condition. All sorts of

Summer Flowers are Still Blooming

in the open, while grass fields are as fresh and green as one expects them in April. Imported feeding stuffs continue dear, and little profit can come from feeding cakes at the present price. The chief source of complaint among farmers at the present time is the increased cost and difficulty of getting work done. No women and hardly any boys are to be found working on farms about here, and, as a result, men have to be paid high wages for doing work which formerly was done by boys and women at a third of the present cost.—C. P. (December 20th).

Somerset (North).

Death all round. The fat steers and heifers gone to wear their last breastplate in a butcher's window; the old gander calls for his family; the mallard quacks for a lost partner; the old gobbler gobbles no more; and yet all this has been done to increase the weight of the farmer's pocket. With April weather of tears and smiles; boisterous March without Christmas frost; with the roses of June and of midwinter hobnobbing in the gardens; with mignonette, summer and autumn chrysanthemums flowering in the open borders; with hyacinths pushing through; with pastures greener than in August last; well may the farmer question the fact of its being a dying century or not. Be it as it may, the farmer's year has not been such an over disastrous one, after all, in this portion of the country. May next year be as good, with a preference for a better one still.—N. S.

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—Weather continues favourable to wheat and other crops. The settlement of the *bons d'importation* is still a long way off, and millers, apprehensive of results, confine their purchases to the supply of pressing wants. Plenty of water in the rivers and streams enables all the small mills to work, but there is no encouragement to make flour which if would be difficult to sell while the market is in its present unsatisfactory state.

BELGIUM.—The continued open season, although favourable for farmers, has produced a quiet market by checking demand for breadstuffs and keeping in check speculative inquiry.

HOLLAND.—Crop reports with little exception are satisfactory. Supplies in the interior are moderate only, but even these cause a drooping all round except oats being in good favour.

GERMANY.—Fine and cold weather [illegible] very mild and wet period, but an improvement [illegible] lowed in the market, which for several days [illegible] quiet, and in some cases weaker.

HUNGARY.—Weather was cold and unsettled, but not injurious to the crops. Wheat [illegible] had a quiet tone lately, but prices are [illegible] on the week.

ITALY continues to be the chief buyer of Russian wheat. Much rain has fallen in the Po [illegible] and inundations occurred not only in Rome but in the southern provinces as well. The position of the crop is most satisfactory.

RUSSIA.—Higher temperature is reported from most parts of the empire, and in some districts the snow covering has disappeared. In the eastern governments frost occurred lately, but it is hoped that the uncovered crops will not suffer much.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says there is less wheat and more maize being offered and marketed. The wheat crop situation is mostly unchanged, with the exception that a limited area of fly-infested wheat is showing unfavourable effects from freezing.—*Dornbusch.*

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (December 17th).—The weather was for the most part fine over the Southern portion of the Kingdom, but a change had again set in over the Northern and Western districts. A large cyclonic disturbance was approaching from the Atlantic, and rain fell in Scotland and Ireland. Sunday night was very warm in the West, but it was rather cold in the Midland and Eastern parts of England.

TUESDAY (December 18th).—Dull and cloudy weather prevailed in most parts of England and Ireland, and rain again fell at several of the Western stations. Rain was measured in the morning as the result of the fall in the preceding 24 hours, in Scotland and Ireland, as well as at a few places in the West of England, and some of the measurements were fairly large. The temperature was still high for the time of year over England, but a brisk fall had occurred in Scotland and Ireland. The day was fair in London.

WEDNESDAY (December 19th).—The weather was fine over the greater part of our islands, but the sky was cloudy in many places. The shallow cyclonic disturbance which lay over the Bristol Channel on Tuesday subsequently travelled eastwards, and occasioned heavy rain over the South of England during the succeeding night. The barometer was changing slightly in England, and the winds were generally very light from the westward. Temperature had changed irregularly, the thermometer in the morning being several degrees warmer than on the preceding day in the South of Ireland, while a brisk decrease had occurred in most parts of England. The midday temperatures again exceeded 50 degrees in the Southern districts. The day was fine in London, and the highest temperature was 48 degrees.

THURSDAY (December 20th).—A rapid rise of temperature had occurred over the entire kingdom, the morning readings being ten or fifteen degrees higher than on the preceding day in many places. The midday temperatures ranged between fifty and fifty-five degrees. A strong south-west gale was blowing in Ireland and over the northern portion of the kingdom, and the winds were boisterous over the whole country. The day was dull and gloomy in London, with rain and strong squalls at times; the temperature rose to 55 degrees.

FRIDAY (December 21st).—There was a considerable improvement in the weather over the British Islands, and in many places the sun was shining brightly for several hours. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over nearly the entire country, but the amounts were not generally large. The wind was boisterous in London in the early morning, but it soon subsided, and the day was fine and bright. The highest temperature rising to 59 degrees.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (December 22nd and 23rd).—The weather was very quiet over the Islands during the two days, and the temperature fell generally. On Saturday the sun was bright and warm at Belfast in the west of the storm area, but travelled away to the eastward. During Saturday night the thermometer fell to the freezing point and below in many parts of the country, and the highest temperatures on Sunday were in [illegible] than at Edinburgh in the [illegible] to fifty degrees. A thick fog prevailed [illegible] throughout Sunday, and the air was very damp. The highest temperature in the Metropolis was [illegible] degrees, which is [illegible] below the average. Fog was also prevalent in many parts of England, but it lifted for a time on our south coasts.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance of buyers was on a very small scale to-day, neither buyers nor sellers manifesting disposition for any business of any moment, while awaiting fresh developments on the turn of the year. Prices in general moved with precision. Good red, 29s 6d., and very fine, 30s 6d, while well-conditioned white is held for 30s, and fine fluffs 31s. 63lb delivered up. Foreign unchanged. Flour remains in sellers' favour in most cases The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Town households, 25s; and whites, 28s per sack. Top price, town made, 28s nett. English stone, 19s 3d to 19s 9d. Hungarian up to 29s. American first patents quoted at 25s to 26s; second ditto, 23s to 24s; first bakers, 20s to 21s; and second ditto, about 18s to 19s per sack. Grinding barley maintained for Persian, Azoff being against buyers. For the former, 17s 3d would be accepted ex ship, 17s 6d ex quay. Azoff 18s 6d ex ship, and 19s ex quay. Malting unchanged. Oats firm. American mixed clipped, 14s 9d ex ship, 15s ex quay. White clipped, 15s 7½d ex ship, and 16s 1½d ex quay, 40lb. Common Petersburg, 15s ex quay. Vologdas, 14s 6d to 14s 9d ex quay. 38lb. Maize about unaltered, flax being in sellers' favour. American mixed, old 20s 9d, new 20s 7½d ex ship, and 21s 6d landed. Sound La Plata, 24s ex quay. The market for beans and peas remains unchanged. Egyptian splits held for 31s 3d ex mill. Mazagans, 20s 3d landed.

Mark Lane, Friday.—The attendance of buyers was again very small at to-day's market, without, however, causing any disconcern amongst sellers. Prices compare favourably on the week. Good red, 29s 6d, and very fine, 30s 6d; well-conditioned white ruling at 30s to 30s 6d, and fine fluffs, 31s delivered up to 63lb. Foreign remains unchanged. American descriptions continue in ample supply on spot and unchanged. The market for flour remains in a slow state, and occasionally prices were in buyers' favour. The London Millers' Association made no alteration to-day. Grinding barley fairly steady, Persian ruling at 17s 3d ex ship, 17s 9d ex quay. Azoff in these positions, 18s 6d and 19s respectively. Malting ranges at 25s to 35s for English, according to quality. Oats firm, especially for all suitable qualities, which remain scarce, and tend upwards. American mixed slipped quoted 14s 9d ex ship, and 15s to 15s 3d ex quay. White clipped, 15s 9d and 16s 3d in these positions, 40lb Common Petersburg, 15s ex quay, 38lb and 40lb, 16s 3d upwards ex quay. Vologdas, 14s 6d to 14s 9d, 38lb ex quay. Maize maintained. American mixed, 20s 4½d ex ship, new, 20s 9d old. Bessarabian, 23s 6d ex ship. Sound La Plata, 24s ex quay. Beans and peas unaltered. Egyptian splits held for 21s 3d ex mill. Mazagans, 20s 3d landed. Canadian white peas, 29s 6d ex ship.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade was very quiet all round, and the wheats were in bad condition. White samples made 28s to 29s; and reds, 26s to 28s; malting barley of first quality, 30s to 33s; second quality, 26s to 30s; black oats, 13s to 20s; white ditto, 18s to 21s; tick beans, 31s to 34s; flat maize, 24s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per quarter. Flour unchanged.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (old), 27s to 28s 6d per qr; wheat, red (new), 27s to 28s 6d per qr; beans (new), 28s to 30s per qr; oats (new), 16s to 18s per qr; oats (old), black, 21s to 22s per qr. Very small attendance, prices about the same as last week.

Bosto, Wednesday.—Wheat, 26s to 27s; grinding barley, 22s to 23s; malting barley, 24s to 30s; oats, 17s to 19s; peas, 45s to 65s; beans, 23s to 30s; maize, 22s 6d to 23s.

Braintree, Wednesday.—A quiet trade prevailed, wheat out of condition. Prices from 26s to 30s per quarter. Barley strongly represented, best qualities making from 30s to 35s, and seconds 26s to 30s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour remain quiet and unchanged. Indian corn meets a small demand at a decline of 3d per boll on the week. Grinding beans and Canadian peas steady. Barley, oats, and oatmeal quiet. Bran and thirds in small request at last week's prices.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Small market, and but few samples changed hands. Wheats were fully 1s per quarter cheaper. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per bushel; red, 3s to 3s 3d per bushel; barley, 2s 9d to 3s 9d; oats, 2s to 3s; beans, 3s 8d to 4s; maize, 2s 8d to 3s; vetches, winter, 4s to 6s; spring, 3s 6d to 5s.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Moderate supply of wheat, trade slow at about last week's rates. Reds, 28s to 29s; white, 30s 6d. Fair supply of barley, fine samples in request at fully late rates. Other descriptions slow. Oats firm. Maize about the same as last week. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The wheat trade still rules quiet, but fairly steady, with a moderate consumptive demand, and prices are unchanged on the week, which is a healthy sign considering last week's heavy shipments. English barley in better request. Foreign neglected. Maize 3d dearer. Beans and oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Very little demand for any kind of wheat, without any perceptible change from Tuesday's prices. New English making 27s to 29s; old, 30s to 33s; and foreign, 28s to 32s. More doing in English malting barley, best descriptions ranging from 25s to 31s. Maize, beans, peas, oats, and flour all firmly held.

Lincoln, Friday. Small supply of English wheat. Trade steady at last week's rates. Reds, 27s to 28s; whites, 28s to 29s; foreign quiet. Show of barley small and good malting parcels firm. In oats very little doing at late rates. Beans and peas no change.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat firm with a fair business at Tuesday's full prices. Flour is steadily held at last Tuesday's prices, but with only a very small business passing for foreign. The Liverpool Millers Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers'. Maize quiet owing to the near approach of Christmas holidays, and the demand is rather disappointing for mixed American; European practically exhausted. Plate in small request, and generally ½d. to 1d. cheaper. Barley: A quiet business doing at unchanged prices. Feeding slow, without alteration. Beans very firmly held with more inquiry especially from Scotland, Saidis showing 9d. advance since Tuesday. Peas steady, with a fair demand; a shade easier for Canadian. Oats: English are steady but slow. Foreign kinds have a moderate business at last market day's currencies. Oatmeal quiet, with prices favouring buyers. Oilcake steady with a moderate demand at about late rates.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Louth, Wednesday.—This market was attended by an average number of farmers. For wheat trade was quiet at 26s to 27s 6d per qr. Barley was in small supply; best, 24s to 30s per qr. Oats of good quality were very scarce, and made full prices. Beans and peas were steady.

Maidstone, Thursday. Not much trade in wheat to-day as Christmas so near. Owners of the article did not press sales, so that the rates of last week were not lessened, and we note a firm tone at former cost. Barley a very quiet business, and only the best samples meet attention to any extent. Cold rough lots are very dragging and inclined to go lower. Oats fairly well "hold their own," though not a furious demand for them. Beans and peas are quiet, and, as they are rather scarce, some sold at full rates. Maize does not progress or retard much, and not many buyers for it. We do not note any alteration in other commodities.

Manchester, Thursday.—Little change is noticeable in values compared with a week ago. Trade has ruled quiet all along, only a comparatively small business has occurred again to-day. Sellers of most articles report only a retail inquiry and demand, prices having scarcely been tested during the last few days. It has been decided not to hold a market next Thursday owing to the Christmas holidays.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance, little, if any, business being transacted. There was no change in any of the grains. Flour, fines, were quoted at 23s 6d.

Northallerton, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance. Wheat, to 29s; white oats, 17s to 19s 6d; black Tartary, 17s to 18s per qr.

Plymouth, Thursday.—To-day's market has been quite a holiday one. Wheat maintains the same prices of last week, maize and barley tending in favour of buyers, and oats unaltered.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Ripon, Thursday.—A few samples of barley on offer at late prices. The show of local wheat is light. A small attendance. Wheat, English, new, 27s to 29s; ditto, old, 31s; ditto, foreign, 30s 6d to 34s 6d; barley, malting, 24s to 29s; ditto, grinding, 21s to 23s; oats, old, 25s to 26s; ditto, new, 17s to 19s; maize, round, 24s to 27s; ditto, flat, 23s 6d per qr; beans, old, 1s per stone.

Romford, Wednesday.—Wheat trade slow at last week's prices. Red wheat made 27s to 29s, and white wheat 28s to 31s per quarter. Several samples out of condition.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were only two or three samples showing of farmers' wheat, which made 28s per qr. During the week the trade in foreign wheat has remained steady on a fair consumptive demand, but prices show no change from last Wednesday. Maize and oats unaltered. Malting barley, very little showing at late rates.

Wakefield, Friday.—The trade has already assumed a holiday character, millers confining their purchases to pressing requirements and speculation remains dormant. The tone, however, is firm, all descriptions of wheat being fully as dear as this day week. Fine malting barley is relatively scarce and dear, inferior qualities are almost unsaleable. Beans 6d per qr dearer. Maize and oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Wakefield, Friday.—We have a very quiet market to-day, and in the nominal business doing in wheats, last week's prices are quoted. The supply of barley is fair, with but a moderate enquiry, strictly confined to the finer qualities. Beans 6d per quarter dearer, other feeding stuffs unchanged.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—The market was of a holiday character, and business was limited. English wheat, 11s 6d to 12s per 216lb; oats (old), 15s to 16s, ditto (new), 10s 9d to 11s 3d; beans (old), 14s to 15s; ditto (new), 12s 6d to 13s 6d per 196lb; maize (old), 23s to 24s; ditto (new), 22s to 23s per 480lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very small attendance, and small supply of grain. Few buyers. The market will not be open next week. White wheat (old), 30s to 31s; white wheat (new), 27s to 28s; red wheat (old), 27s to 30s; ditto (new), 27s to 28s; best barley, 28s to 32s; secondary, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; flat maize, 24s to 26s; round ditto, 27s to 28s; old white oats, 27s to 28s; new ditto, 18s to 20s; old black oats, 24s to 28s; new ditto, 17s to 19s per qr.

FOREIGN.

There has been a fair current of business in disposable wheat at Antwerp. A long spell of mild weather in the French country districts has been succeeded by frost; the change is not unwelcome, as it is calculated to check the growth of noxious vegetation and hurtful insects. Wheat has shown a firm tone at Bordeaux. At Paris, however, business has been inactive, last week's sales amounting to only 6,250 quintals. Transactions in wheat have also been proceeding upon a restricted scale at Paris; prices have shown no change. Flour for consumption has also remained without material variation in the French capital. The exports of flour from France to Great Britain in November were 76,300 cwt, as compared with 73,910 cwt in November, 1899, and 57,100 cwt in November, 1898. The aggregate exports in the first eleven months of this year were 703,140 cwt, as compared with 602,230 cwt in the corresponding period of 1899, and 393,210 cwt in the corresponding period of 1898. The Dantzic wheat market has remained without alteration, but a rather weaker tone has prevailed at Konigsberg. Prices have shown no increase of strength at Tunis, but rather more activity has, at the same time, been noted, from 10,000 to 20,000 quintals of hard wheat having been purchased on Marseilles account. The Odessa wheat market has been generally quiet. The quantity of wheat now en route for Europe is returned at 890,000 qr, as compared with 945,000 qrs at the corresponding date of 1899. The total of 890,000 qr, representing the quantity of wheat now en route for the Continent, is made up as follows:—France, 80,000 qr; Belgium, 220,000 qr; Holland, 165,000 qr; Germany and the North, 205,000 qr; and Italy, Spain, etc., 220,000 qr.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

December 14th to December 21st, 1900, inclusive.

	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	493	..	..	39,363	39,853
Barley	2,210	..	..	12,737	14,947
Malt	19,206	..	..	..	19,206
Oats	2,714	..	..	41,700	44,414
Rye	..	..	..	..	..
Beans	626	..	..	431	1,057
Peas	346	..	..	2,639	2,985
Maize	..	..	..	64,462	64,462
Tares	10	..	..	555	565
Lentils	..	..	..	..	..
Linseed	..	..	..	15,460	15,460
Rapeseed	..	..	..	48	48
Cottonseed	..	..	..	12,560	12,560
Farm Seeds	500	..	..	2,100	2,600
Flour { Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
Flour { Sacks	19,961	..	..	68,045	88,006

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

1899

Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	July 8	112,761 qrs.
,, 14	108,380 ,,	,, 15	116,350 ,,
,, 21	128,902 ,,	,, 22	89,245 ,,
,, 28	51,234 ,,	,, 29	118,314 ,,
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	Aug. 5	104,234 ,,
,, 11	82,912 ,,	,, 12	102,160 ,,
,, 18	204,974 ,,	,, 19	103,353 ,,
,, 25	108,273 ,,	,, 26	82,367 ,,
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,	Sept. 2	73,600 ,,
,, 11	63,103 ,,	,, 9	83,791 ,,
,, 18	122,541 ,,	,, 16	107,684 ,,
,, 25	86,309 ,,	,, 23	131,880 ,,
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	,, 30	61,997 ,,
,, 8	133,261 ,,	Oct. 7	121,032 ,,
,, 15	101,548 ,,	,, 14	57,050 ,,
,, 22	70,984 ,,	,, 21	95,446 ,,
,, 29	68,573 ,,	,, 28	154,895 ,,
May 6	96,343 ,,	Nov. 4	114,034 ,,
,, 13	72,852 ,,	,, 11	110,161 ,,
,, 20	101,429 ,,	,, 18	79,200 ,,
May 27	108,772 ,,	,, 25	130,815 ,,
June 3	78,346 ,,	Dec. 2	74,311 ,,
,, 10	126,781 ,,	,, 9	74,704 ,,
,, 17	160,574 ,,	,, 16	153,130 ,,
,, 24	101,295 ,,	,, 23	86,077 ,,
July 1	52,500 ,,		

1900.

Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	July 6	132,950 qrs.
,, 13	95,064 ,,	,, 13	101,253 ,,
,, 20	114,928 ,,	,, 20	82,294 ,,
,, 27	124,652 ,,	,, 27	55,998 ,,
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,	Aug. 2	86,167 ,,
,, 10	75,000 ,,	,, 11	192,077 ,,
,, 17	66,804 ,,	,, 18	138,510 ,,
,, 24	62,191 ,,	,, 25	182,517 ,,
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,	,, 31	80,149 ,,
,, 10	63,702 ,,	Sept. 7	58,394 ,,
,, 17	162,985 ,,	,, 14	117,066 ,,
,, 24	111,409 ,,	,, 21	105,981 ,,
,, 31	69,356 ,,	,, 28	158,771 ,,
April 7	48,302 ,,	Oct. 5	183,383 ,,
,, 13	131,085 ,,	,, 12	156,815 ,,
,, 20	82,357 ,,	,, 19	73,725 ,,
,, 27	43,783 ,,	,, 26	98,302 ,,
May 4	104,535 ,,	Nov. 2	77,179 ,,
,, 11	52,859 ,,	,, 9	148,972 ,,
,, 18	97,412 ,,	,, 16	105 130 ,,
,, 25	71,390 ,,	,, 23	132,964 ,,
,, 31	177 744 ,,	,, 30	89,337 ,,
June 8	93,147 ,,	Dec. 7	107,532 ,,
,, 15	86,125 ,,	,, 14	75,283 ,,
,, 22	196,116 ,,	,, 21	105,853 ,,
,, 29	142,185 ,,		

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Dec. 14 to Dec. 21, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	39,853 qrs.
Flour	65,000 ,,
Total	105,853 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Deficiency	147 ,,

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1899.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s. d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s. d.	OATS. Qrs.	s. d.
Dec. 2 ..	72,974⅜	25 7 ..	163,441⅜	25 10 ..	22,575½	16 6
,, 9 ..	10,982⅛	25 7 ..	174,207	25 10 ..	21,421⅞	16 5
,, 16 ..	78,772½	25 4 ..	135,344⅜	25 7 ..	22,889½	16 1
,, 23 ..	67,102⅞	25 6 ..	116,757⅜	25 10 ..	16,447⅜	16 0
,, 30 ..	47,685½	25 9 ..	74,637⅜	25 5 ..	10,463⅜	16 2
1900.						
Jan. 6 ..	49,083	25 9 ..	65,347½	25 7 ..	13,380⅝	16 4
,, 13 ..	57,021⅜	25 11 ..	83,421⅜	25 5 ..	19,705	16 6
,, 20 ..	68,463⅜	26 0 ..	100,925½	25 8 ..	23,122⅜	16 5
,, 27 ..	65,381½	25 10 ..	108,357⅜	25 9 ..	17,814½	16 8
Feb. 3 ..	73,796⅜	25 8 ..	90,769⅛	25 4 ..	22,061¼	16 3
,, 10 ..	71,482⅜	25 10 ..	80,543⅜	25 3 ..	20,822⅞	16 2
,, 17 ..	76,611⅜	26 1 ..	80,414⅜	24 11 ..	20,986⅜	16 1
,, 24 ..	69,534⅛	26 3 ..	63,931⅜	25 1 ..	21,132⅜	16 10
Mar. 3 ..	68.153⅛	26 4 ..	51,727½	24 6 ..	18,499½	16 11
,, 10 ..	58,703½	25 11 ..	44,921½	24 8 ..	16,224	16 11
,, 17 ..	76,435⅝	25 10 ..	46,053	24 6 ..	20,104⅞	16 10
,, 24 ..	69,944½	25 11 ..	38,147	25 0 ..	17,042⅝	17 1
,, 31 ..	72,762	25 10 ..	34,387⅜	24 11 ..	15,200⅝	17 2
April 7 ..	67,743⅜	25 10 ..	20,402⅜	24 10 ..	13,757⅜	17 2
,, 14 ..	66,412⅜	25 11 ..	19,519⅛	24 5 ..	9,672⅜	17 8
,, 21 ..	54,977⅜	26 0 ..	11,673⅜	24 9 ..	7,400⅜	17 3
,, 28 ..	70,006⅜	26 0 ..	7 785⅜	25 2 ..	11,101⅜	17 11
May 5 ..	75,410⅜	25 11 ..	8,159⅜	25 3 ..	8,658½	18 0
,, 12 ..	82,190⅜	25 11 ..	10,417⅜	24 10 ..	12,245½	17 11
,, 19 ..	83,941⅜	25 7 ..	5,638⅜	24 5 ..	9,942	18 5
,, 26 ..	95,574⅜	25 5 ..	3,521⅜	23 11 ..	7,350⅞	18 2
June 2 ..	68,906⅜	25 5 ..	1,752⅜	24 4 ..	6,702	18 6
,, 9 ..	64,747½	25 3 ..	990⅜	23 8 ..	6,053⅜	18 8
,, 16 ..	55,340⅜	25 6 ..	1,486⅜	23 8 ..	7,228¼	18 11
,, 23 ..	54,324⅛	25 9 ..	1,312⅛	23 5 ..	5,344⅛	18 11
,, 30 ..	44,920⅜	26 11 ..	495⅛	23 4 ..	4,706⅛	19 3
July 7 ..	34,344⅜	27 10 ..	486⅜	22 10 ..	4,391⅛	19 5
,, 14 ..	22,009⅛	28 7 ..	949⅛	23 2 ..	2,911⅛	19 1
,, 21 ..	26,716⅜	29 0 ..	767⅜	23 8 ..	3,771⅛	19 3
,, 28 ..	33,088	29 3 ..	194⅛	24 4 ..	3,335⅜	19 9
Aug. 4 ..	45,748⅜	28 10 ..	409⅛	23 10 ..	3,453⅜	19 1
,, 11 ..	37,644⅜	28 7 ..	311⅛	23 7 ..	3,391	19 8
,, 18 ..	32,812⅜	28 10 .	698⅜	23 3 ..	3,593⅜	19 11
,, 25 ..	26,427⅜	28 10 ..	787⅜	24 10 ..	5,349⅛	18 8
Sept. 1 ..	30,393⅜	28 8 ..	1,978⅛	25 2 ..	9,606⅜	18 1
,, 8 ..	34,755⅛	28 7 ..	6,140⅜	25 8 ..	11,042⅛	17 10
,, 15 ..	53,334⅛	28 4 ..	20,879⅜	25 4 ..	18,684⅛	17 1
,, 22 ..	61,468⅜	28 4 ..	41,284⅛	26 0 ..	21,729⅜	17 1
,, 29 ..	72,604	28 9 ..	68,844⅛	26 1 ..	25,620⅛	17 2
Oct. 6 ..	66,690	28 9 ..	94,282	26 2 ..	23,865	16 10
,, 13 ..	70,314⅜	28 9 ..	134,277⅛	26 2 ..	18,350⅜	17 1
,, 20 ..	58,790⅛	28 4 ..	159,007⅜	26 5 ..	14,681⅛	16 11
Oct. 27 ..	56,254	27 11 ..	190,079⅜	26 3 ..	16,996⅛	16 11
Nov. 3 ..	54,514⅞	27 5 ..	204,836	26 3 ..	16,602⅛	16 11
,, 10 ..	41,497⅜	27 3 ..	170,558	25 11 ..	15,566⅜	16 10
,, 17 ..	44,072⅜	27 1 ..	185,342⅜	25 8 ..	14,400⅜	17 1
,, 24 ..	48,045⅜	27 2 ..	182,212⅜	25 10 ..	17,125⅛	17 0
Dec. 1 ..	48,700⅜	27 0 ..	164,634	25 9 ..	18,157⅛	17 2
,, 8 ..	53,450⅜	26 10 ..	169 149⅜	25 11 ..	20,618⅛	17 4
,, 15 ..	52,876⅛	26 9 ..	155,536⅜	25 7 ..	24,508⅜	17 1
,, 22 ..	50,872⅛	26 7 ..	145,585⅛	25 7 ..	19,853⅛	17 2

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(196 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats	1900 Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	6 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	6 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	7 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	7 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	8 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	19 5
September ..	25 4	26 10	16 5	28 6	25 7	17 6
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	28 5	26 3	17 0
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	27 3	25 10	17 0
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Dec. 22, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	50,872½ qrs.	26s. 7d.
Barley	145,585¼ qrs.	25s. 7d.
Oats	19,853¼ qrs.	17s. 2d.

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890 ..	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891 ..	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892 ..	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893 ..	28 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894 ..	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895 ..	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896 ..	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897 ..	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898 ..	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899 ..	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Dec. 22, in each of the years from 1896 to 1899.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896....	41,672⅜ ..	20	9	84,230⅜ ..	24	1	11,945½ ..	16	1
1897....	54,230½ ..	34	4	127,203½ ..	26	11	15,477½ ..	17	0
1898....	61,583½ ..	26	9	132,590½ ..	28	6	22,148½ ..	17	0
1899....	67,102⅜ ..	25	6	116,757½ ..	25	10	16,447⅜ ..	16	0

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 18th, 1900.

	Total Quantities. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	563	4	814	4	1	1	8	9
Barley	1,679	2	2,464	5	6	1	9	4
Oats	932	4	867	7	6	0	18	7

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb. ..	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March ..	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April ..	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May ..	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June ..	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July ..	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August ..	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept. ..	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct. ..	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov. ..	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec. ..	..		21	9	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan. ..	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb. ..	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March ..	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April ..	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May ..	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June ..	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July ..	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August ..	26	4	27	0	31	6	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept. ..	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct. ..	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov. ..	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec. ..	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

PROVISIONS.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals of cheese in the Glasgow market this week were liberal, but owing to the recent wet weather the grocers had done a poor business, and did not feel disposed to renew their stock. The demand was therefore quiet. Cheddars and Dunlops 50s to 64s per cwt. American cheese dull.

Newport, Wednesday.—Good attendance, average supply, and good demand. Quotations: Caerphillies, 63s to 70s; fancy dairies, 72s to 74s; truckles, 56s to 64s; Cheddars, 54s to 58s; doubles, 56s to 60s.

BUTTER.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Boston: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb. Colne: 1s 3d per lb. Goole: 1s 3d per lb. Keighley (retail): 1s 4d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per lb. Knaresborough (wholesale), 1s 9d to 2s; (retail), 2s to 2s 1d per roll of 24oz. Louth: (wholesale), 1s 2d per lb. Market Weighton: 1s 3d per lb. Masham: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 1s 9d to 1s 11d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Whitby: 1s 4d per lb. Worksop: 1s 5d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Driffield: 1s 1d per lb. Evesham: 1s 2d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 2d per lb. Penistone: 1s 4d per lb. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Sleaford: 1s 1d per lb. Wetherby: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per lb.

Friday.—Chester: 1s 3d per lb. Crewe: 1s 3d per lb. Derby: 1s 4d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb. Grimsby: Choicest Danish, 125s to 128s per 112lb; Finnish, 115s to 120s; Dutch, 112s to 118s; Canadian, 100s to 112s. Helmsley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 122s to 128s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 104s to 110s; York lump, 15s to 16s per stone; ditto long rolls, 1½lb, 2s to 2s 3d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 10d to 1s 11d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Otley: 1s 11d to 2s 1d per roll of 24oz.

EGGS.

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 6 or 7 for 1s. Boston: 8 for 1s. Colne: 2s 8d per score. Goole: 9 for 1s. Keighley: 6 for 1s. Kirbymoorside: 9 or 10 for 1s. Knaresborough: 6 or 7 for 1s. Louth (wholesale): 10 for 1s. Market Weighton: 9 for 1s. Masham: 10 for 1s. Northallerton: 8 or 9 for 1s. Stockton: 6 for 1s. Whitby: 6 and 7 for 1s. Worksop: 3s per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 10 or 12 for 1s. Driffield: 10 for 1s. Evesham: 1s 6d per dozen. Penistone: 8 for 1s. Scarborough: 7 for 1s. Sleaford: 8 for 1s. Wetherby: 8 or 9 for 1s.

Friday.—Altrincham: 5 for 1s. Derby: 7 for 1s. Easingwold: 8 or 9 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 7s 1d to 9s 2d; Canadian, 8s 6d to 9s 8d. Helmsley: 11 or 12 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 17s to 18s 6d per 120; Irish, 12s 6d to 14s; Danish, 10s 6d to 12s 6d. Leyburn: 9 or 10 for 1s. Lincoln: 9 for 1s. Otley: 7 and 8 for 1s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—The demand for strictly choicest quality of Australian and New Zealand butter remains good, particularly in country districts, where large quantities have gone to provide for the Christmas market. Prices are easier to the extent of 2s per cwt., owing to rather large arrivals expected next week, combined with the desire of agents to clear their stocks before the holidays. The arrival of the "Kumara" butters at the agents' floors has been very disappointing, and butters which have not come to hand until the end of the week have been sold at 2s per cwt. less than those which reached the market at the beginning. The Copenhagen official quotation again remains unchanged, although there was an advance in price of 1s to 2s per cwt in Manchester on Tuesday. Dutch, French, and Italian butters are all dearer, and the only butter that is cheaper is the Australasian." Cheese.—There is no change in the Canadian market on this side, though there is a better feeling in Canada. The "Kumara's" New Zealand cheese is quoted at 54s.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals have been moderate, but the demand has been slow, with prices for samples except the best have been in buyers' favour. English; Reading giants, 3s to 3s 9d; Professor Maerkers, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; British Queens, 3s 6d to 5s; Up-to-dates, 3s 6d to 5s. Belgian and Dutch: 2s 6d to 3s; Magnums, 2s 0d to 3s; French and German, 3s 3d to 4s per cwt.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—Trade during the week has been confined to a few retail transactions out of merchants' stocks at about previous rates. There were no hops offered at market to-day. Stocks of all descriptions are unusually low, and the few hops in growers' hands are held for more money than is at present obtainable.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The market is quiet but firm. Medium lots are readily purchased, and an improvement is expected in the general trade with the arrival of the New Year.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed has continued a slow market, and prices have given way a little, especially for forward positions, but closes firmer. Calcutta to London and near 57s, December 57s, December-January 56s 6d, April-June 45s 6d. La Plata December 51s 6d, December-January 48s 3d, January-February 45s 9d. Hull very quiet. Calcutta April-June 46s. La Plata December 51s 6d, December-January 48s 3d, January-February 46s. Azoff December-January 53s. To the Continent, Bombay, December-January 57s 9d, March-May 48s 10½d. Calcutta, April-June 46s. La Plata December-January 48s 6d, January-February 46s 3d. Azoff-Novorossisk December-January 52s c.i.f. Linseed cakes steady. London made £8 10s to £8 12s 6d. Russian, £7 15s to £8 ex dock. American Westerns at £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet. London made £4 17s 6d to £5. Egyptian £4 15s to £4 16s 3d. Rapeseed continues very quiet. Brown Calcutta to London November-December 44s, March-May 39s. To the Continent we quote, Yellow Guzerat November-December 51s 6d, April-June 45s 9d. Yellow Cawnpore March-May 43s, Brown Cawnpore March-May 39s. Brown Calcutta November-December 44s 6d, April-June 39s. Ravison January-February 33s 6d. Cottonseed has been a slow market with little change in rates, except spot Hull, which has declined smartly. Near London £6 13s 9d, December £6 13s 9d, December-January £6 12s 6d, February-March £6 12s 6d. Hull spot £6 8s 9d, December-March £6 10s buyers. Cargoes January £6 15s, February £6 15s.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hull, Tuesday.—The wheat trade is fairly steady to day at about last Tuesday's prices for home-grown. Foreign in limited demand, without material alteration in value from last week. Malting barley meets a fair sale for good quality at late rates. Feeding sorts unaltered. English oats steady at full prices; foreign sells slowly. Beans maintain last week's prices. Flat maize dearer, owing to scarcity. Round dull, and rather easier to buy. Linseed: The arrivals are 100 qrs from Harlingen, 1,907 qrs Konigsberg, 3,728 qrs Libau, 3,498 qrs Novorossisk, 2,475 qrs Riga, 5,492 qrs Taganrog; total 17,200 qrs. The market is quiet, and very little business passing. Calcutta, nominal, 46s 9d. Black Sea, 53s 6d. Petersburg, 54s 9d. Riga and Libau, 54s 6d. River Plate, Dec., 50s 6d; Dec.-Jan, 47s 9d; Jan.-Feb., 54s 9d. Cottonseed: With large arrivals since our last, the spot market has shown weakness, and down to £6 7s 6d accepted, closing, however, with more inquiry thereat. A fair business done during last week at £6 11s 3d December, also same paid January, and was bidding Feb.-March, but £6 10s the quotation these positions to-day. Linseed cakes firm, but fresh orders are scarce. Cotton cakes: A good steady demand at previous rates. Hemp: Market very firm.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 2s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 0s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 5s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE, packed in bags, of 1½cwt. each. Price per cwt. 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—A fair demand prevailed for the shorter supplies on offer. Best clover, 85s to 100s; inferior ditto, 80s to 85s; specially picked hay, 92s 6d; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s; mixtures and sainfoin, 70s to 90s; and straw, 25s to 36s per load.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Hay, 4½d to 5d; clover, 5½d to 6¾d; ditto (Lincoln), 7d; straw (wheat), 3d to 3½d; ditto (oat), 3d to 3½d per stone of 14lb.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—With continued short supplies, trade has been slightly firmer and full prices are obtainable. We quote: Canadian Timothy and clover mixture, 83s to 85s; Dutch 1st cut clover, 88s 6d to 90s; Dutch and French 2nd cut clover, 90s to 92s 6d; Good Dutch hay, 75s; inferior Dutch hay, 68s. All per ton delivered by barge alongside.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10, Great Tower Street, E.C.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—Wool, English, per pocket of 240lb:—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £8 to £11; half-bred hoggs, £7 to £8 10s; ditto wethers, £6 10s to £8; Kent fleeces, £6 to £7; Southdown ewes and wethers £8 to £11; Leicester ditto £6 to £7. Colonial, per lb:—Victorian, fleece, superior, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; scoured, good, 1s 5½d to 1s 6d; scoured, average, 1s 1d to 1s 1½d; greasy average to fine, 1od to 1od. New South Wales, scoured, average, 1s 1d to 1s 2½; greasy average, 7½d to 8½d. South Australian, greasy average, 9d to 9½d. New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 9d to 8d; Cape, scoured, superior, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; fleece, average, 6½d to 7½d; greasy average, 5d to 5½d. Natal, scoured, 1s 0 to 1s 1d; greasy, average, 5½d to 6½d. Queensland, greasy. Victorian, good to superior, 9d to 11d. New Zealand, fine, 9d to 10d; ditto, medium, 6½d to 7½d; ditto, coarse, 5½d to 6d.

Bradford, Thursday.—The market is brighter, prices being well maintained all round, and fine wools being decidedly stronger for the results of the Liverpool sale. Mohair is quiet, but firm. The export yarn trade is being extended, business, and things are firm all through the trade. Fine mohair is wanted, and alpaca also. The piece trade also shows sign of improvement.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The improvement in trade continues, 6½d per lb being freely bid for Kent fleeces with a possibility of a fraction more being obtainable. Lamb wool 4d to 5d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—The improved tone of the [illegible] wool trade is well maintained. This is especially the case in merinoes, which are firmly held for the latest advance. In choice crossbreds there is more doing at firm rates. There is also a better tone in English wools, but only the choicest sorts are in demand. Skins change hands freely. In yarns the workpeople have been well employed. There is also a good turnover in fancy and lambswool yarns at hardened rates. Fine cashmeres dull.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Added to the continued mild open weather, the near approach of the Christmas holidays has caused the demand for all produce to be even more restricted. A few sales are transpiring in basic slag, but other fertilisers are idle. For feeding stuffs there is little or no consumptive inquiry, and holders in some instances have reduced quotations. To-day's values are subscribed. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £8 5s 0d to £8 10s per ton; East India bone meal in bags, £4 7s to £4 10s per ton; Kainit, prime 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; Palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton; Linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 10s to £7 15s per ton; Linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 15s to £9 per ton; Linseed cake, foreign, round, soft and oily, in bags, £8 11s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, fair to prime, in bags, £5 15s to £7 2s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 15s to £4 18s 9d per ton; cottonseed, crushed, 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 5s per ton; maize, germ meal, English, prime, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 15s to £4 17s per ton, Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 11s to 11s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 3s to £3 5s per qr 416lb; N.A. cloverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, nominal; D.N.S. brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 25 to 27 sol, in bags, nominal; D.N.S. brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 30 to 31 sol. in bags, nominal; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 35 to 36 per cent., in bags, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phosphate, in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d, at the producing depots; basic slag, prime quality, 35 to 40 per cent. phosphate, in bags, £1 13s 6d to £1 14s 6d, at the producing depots; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phosphate, in bags, £1 16s to £1 17s 6d, at the producing depots.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Winsford (Cheshire), Saturday. Current prices for salt at the works: Common white salt, 11s per ton; fine screened rock salt, 8s 6d per ton (for truck loads in bulk).—THE SALT UNION, LIMITED.

Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruc

Dublin. [illegible]

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average price per head. £	s.	d.	Average Live weight. c.	qr.	lb.	Average price per cwt. £	s.	d.
3	Bullocks (prime) ..	13	4	8	8	0	9	1	12	9
6	,, ,, ..	18	10	0	11	1	14	1	12	6
14	,, ,, ..	14	0	11	9	0	7	1	11	0
2	,, ..	17	1	0	11	0	0	1	11	6
7	,, (very good) ..	19	15	0	12	0	9	1	12	11
8	,, ,, ..	16	0	3	10	2	0	1	10	6
12	,, ,, ..	16	10	0	11	1	0	1	9	4
7	,, (good) ..	17	10	0	12	2	24	1	13	8
1	,, ,, ..	13	17	6	9	3	0	1	8	6
2	Heifers (prime) ..	13	17	6	8	2	14	1	12	2
25	,, ,, ..	16	4	9	10	0	17	1	12	0
3	,, ,, ..	18	3	4	11	2	10	1	12	9
2	,, ,, ..	17	12	8	11	1	14	1	11	0
4	,, (very good) ..	18	5	0	12	0	14	1	10	1
8	,, ,, ..	18	4	4	12	2	7	1	9	0
4	,, ,, ..	18	5	0	12	2	21	1	8	9
2	,, (good) ..	15	10	0	9	2	14	1	12	2
6	,, ,, ..	15	10	0	10	0	19	1	9	6
4	,, (fair) ..	12	10	0	8	1	0	1	10	4
1	Cow (prime) ..	20	9	6	14	2	0	1	8	6
1	,, ,, ..	21	0	0	15	3	0	1	7	1
3	,, (good) ..	11	10	0	8	0	0	1	8	9
4	,, ,, ..	12	0	6	8	3	21	1	6	11
4	,, (inferior) ..	11	10	0	8	1	21	1	4	11
5	Wethers (prime) ..	2	4	4	1	0	22	1	8	11
21	,, (fair) ..	1	15	0	1	0	3	1	14	7
10	,, ,, ..	1	14	6	1	0	6	1	16	6
55	,, (inferior) ..	1	5	0	0	3	3	1	12	1
9	Ewes (very good) ..	2	8	0	1	1	26	1	12	3
5	,, ,, ..	2	4	6	1	1	14	1	13	6
14	,, (good) ..	1	9	0	1	1	8	1	10	3
11	Hoggets (fair) ..	2	0	0	1	0	24	1	14	11

Sold by live weight.

CORK BUTTER.

	ORDINARY. Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	Fourths.	MILD CURED FIRKINS. Superfine.	Fine.	Mild.	FIRKINS NOT MARKET.
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.	
Monday ..	101	93	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuesday ..	—	—	—	—	112	—	—	—
Wednesday ..	—	—	—	—	113	—	—	—
Thursday ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Friday ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Saturday ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The aspect of the autumn-sown wheat this Christmastide is satisfactory from Aberdeen to Algiers. So good an autumn for the wheat plant has seldom been known throughout the whole area of the region lying to the west of the tenth degree of eastern longitude. The feature peculiar to this region, which includes Spain, France, the Low Countries, and Western Germany, as well as the British Isles, has been an over average rainfall, which, had it come after eight months of full rainfall, would have been injurious; but, coming as it did after a hot, dry season, did nothing but good, except in the four instances, as on the Tiber, the Ebro, and the Garonne, where it was attended by heavy floods. East of the tenth parallel we have the great German and Hungarian plains, and beyond these the still vaster areas of Russia. The rainfall has diminished as we proceeded east, so that while Hungary had barely enough rain, Roumania had noticeably under an average, and the drought in parts of Russia has been severe.

Passing westward to America we have fairly good reports of the winter wheat in the United States, but in Argentina, where harvest has begun, the rains have been heavy, to the grave interruption of work in the north, though not impossibly to the plumping out of grain in the south, where cutting does not begin before January. The South American export surplus for 1901 is not expected to come within 3,000,000 qrs. of that of the now closing year.

The world's wheat production for the last seven years is estimated as follows, these figures including the Russian returns published in Nov. and the British final figures issued this month:—

1900	308,000,000 qrs.
1899	331,000,000 ,,
1898	357,000,000 ,,
1897	283,000,000 ,,
1896	304,000,000 ,,
1895	313,000,000 ,,
1894	320,000,000 ,,

Before 1894 a total of three hundred millions constituted a bumper year, but with 1894 Argentina came into the field, and we may now reckon an average production at not less than 310,000,000 altogether.

The undoubtedly "lean year" 1897 had one great statistical advantage. It admittedly cleared the grain cupboard of old stocks, and we started on January 1, 1898, with a minimum of reserves. Thus the three years, 1898, 1899, and 1900 stand on their own basis. They have needed about 930,000,000 qrs. of wheat, and they have had a total supply of 996,000,000 qrs. This has grown us full granaries in the United States, Argentina, Russia, and Roumania, but England, France, and Germany are known to have no extraordinary accumulation, and in India there has been positive dearth. The reserves of wheat in Canada and Italy are said to be moderate, but in Spain good. However, no precise figures are available for these countries.

The sales of British wheat last week were 121,000 qrs., against about 140,000 qrs. as a Dec. average. Farmers don't like a price below thirty shillings, and have no reason to like it. Foreign wheat and flour were in fair supply, but not quite up to an average. Thus, with English wheat supplies 15 per cent. below the mean and imports about 5 per cent. short, the stocks in granary had to be drawn upon a little, and the return for 22nd inst. is 2,906,000 qrs., against 2,949,000 qrs. on the 15th inst. Actual imports of the week were:—

Wheat	266,000 qrs.
Flour	164,000 sacks.
Maize	306,000 qrs.
Barley	80,900 ,,
Oats	79,500 ,,

The imports of oilseeds are not published weekly, but those for the last seven days are known to have been heavy, probably not less than 30,000 qrs. of linseed, 25,000 qrs. of cottonseed, and 10,000 qrs of rapeseed, poppyseed, and minor seeds.

The quantity of wheat on passage to the United Kingdom on 22nd inst. thus compared with the same date in the three previous years:—

Californian	1,100,000 qrs.
American	260,000 ,,
Argentine	240,000 ,,
Australasian	210,000 ,,
Russian	10,000 ,,
Other Countries	10,000 ,,
Total, 1900	1,860,000 ,,
1899	1,365,000 ,,
1898	1,510,000 ,,
1897	2,255,000 ,,

The average quantity on passage is 2,000,000 qrs., but as both 1899 and 1898 saw small quantities afloat at Christmas, the reviews, which make a comparison with one year only, are apt to mislead.

Of maize the following are the quantities on passage:—

East coast	600,000 qrs.
Round	140,000 ,,
Yellow	110,000 ,,
Total	850,000 ,,

Of barley there are 495,000 qrs. on passage against 570,000 qrs. a year ago. Present expectations are thus divided:—

	Qrs.
Malting Quality	380,000
Grinding ,,	115,000
Total	495,000

These figures are worth noting, for they show why feeding barley should be very stiffly held. The malting barley is of four leading types (1) Chevalier from California, worth 29s. to 30s. per qr.; (2) Brewing from California, worth 26s. to 27s. per qr; (3) Smyrna and Asia Minor barley, worth 24s. to 28s. per qr.; and (4) a small quantity of Syrian bright, but very hard. Barley worth perhaps 27s. on our market. There are 8,000 qrs. of beans on passage against 8,750 qrs. a year ago, and 12,500 qrs. two years since. Mr. Beerbohm's list for the 21st the following particulars not otherwise obtainable are given of the oilseeds on passage to the United Kingdom and to the Continent respectively.

	To the U.K.	To the Cont.
	Qrs.	Qrs.
Linseed	38,000	120,000
Rapeseed	11,000	40,000
	Tons	Tons.
Cottonseed	16,000	nil.

At this season it is instructive to compare prices at an uniform ton weight of different foods, as among other things it reveals how certain articles, regarded as too good for feeding to stock, poultry, etc., are in reality no dearer than other staples which are commonly used for that purpose.

	£	s.	d.	
Wheat	6	5	8	per ton
Barley	7	3	2	,,
Oats	6	2	8	,,
Cotton Cake	5	0	0	,,
Linseed Cake	8	10	0	,,
Rough Rice	6	0	0	,,
Rice Meal	4	10	0	,,
Locust Beans	5	5	0	,,
Good Bran	5	5	0	,,
Wheat Germ	5	12	6	,,
Coarse Maize Meal	5	5	0	,,
Good Sound Maize	5	10	0	,,
Maize Cones	7	10	0	,,
Rye Flour	7	10	0	,,
American Feeding Flour	5	15	0	,,
Barley Meal	6	0	0	,,

Of these sixteen articles the two cheapest will be seen to be rice meal and cotton cake, while the three dearest are barley, maize cones, and rye flour. About five guineas is a good medium price, and this will command locust beans, good bran, coarse maize meal, and the cheapest maize. The use of cheap maize is not recommended, for maize and rye are the two cereals damaged or sprouted samples of which set up severe complaints very often in the consumer. So much so is this the case with rye that we never quote anything of that staple which is not completely sound.

With respect to recent markets for a variety of minor staples it may be mentioned that good bold dari from Asia Minor has been in request at 25s. per qr., Russian buckwheat has had a fair sale at 26s. to 27s. per 416 lb., good Turkish canaryseed has made 33s. per 464lb., maize germ meal has risen to 110s. per ton, white groats have had a market at £13 per ton for Berwick fine type and £12 for Aberdeen. These are Mark Lane sales. Liverpool has been a good market for Canadian peas at 5s. 7d. per cental, for good (washed) Saida beans at 30s. per qr., for good Panderma beans at 27s. 6d. per qr., for round cut Canadian oatmeal at 19s. per 240lb. sack and for Turkish maize at 4s. 6d. per cental. Bristol has found a sale for American winter fancy flour at 23s. per sack and for best bakers' American spring at 20s. 6d., while some good Essex barley has realised 35s. at Braintree. Oats worth 20s. have changed hands at Newbury, and 51s. per arrived La Plata linseed has been paid at Hull.

THE BALTIC.

The market for wheat cargoes was very steady up to the close on Saturday. A cargo of Californian was placed at 30s., and three of Walla wheat at 28s. 6d., all four on passage. For Blue Stem, a variety of Pacific wheat, on passage, 29s 6d was paid. Australian new crop was in speculative offer at 30s. 6d. for January, 30s. 3d. for February, and 30s. for March shipment. New Zealand old crop was offered at 29s. 3d. for December and 29s. for January shipment. New crop is not yet offered. Other sales were:—No. 2 Hard Winter at 28s. 3d., No. 1 Northern at 30s. 9d., and fine Manitoba at 31s. 9d. per qr.

Maize cargoes for February shipment were offered at 18s. 6d. American, and 20s. Argentine. In the former a fair business was done. Odessa on passage made 22s. 3d., but for April and May shipment from the Euxine and Lower Danube 19s. is accepted, and we may therefore look for sound maize to be cheap in June and the summer.

Other cargo sales have been:—White clipped oats at 15s. 3d., Novorossisk barley at 18s. 3d., Bessarabian rye at 23s., Tangier canary-seed at 45s., and Canadian peas at 28s. per qr.

Sales of oilseed cargoes from the 17th to the 22nd included Calcutta linseed at 58s. on spot, 57s. 9d. due, and 46s. for April shipment. The price of Bombay on spot is 60s., and 49s. 6d. is the price for April shipment. Other sales were:—Egyptian cotton-seed, £6 12s. 6d., due before the 31st, and £6 13s. 9d. for shipment within a fortnight.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 1 wheat (San Francisco).

The sailings of grain and seed laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 2 wheat (1 Barrow-in-Furness, 1 Cardiff).

Since January 1st, 1900, the total arrivals have been 326 wheat, 14 wheat and barley, 1 wheat and pease, 7 flour, 12 maize, 1 maize and oats, 27 barley, 19 beans, 10 locust beans, 2 pease, 1 linseed, 6 canaryseed, 2 fenugreek seed, 5 valonea; total, 433.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 280 wheat, 10 flour, 6 maize, 9 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 12 beans, 4 locust beans, 7 linseed, 6 canaryseed, and 7 valonea; total, 343.

THE HOLIDAYS.

Mark Lane closed from Dec. 21 to 28. The Baltic closed on Dec. 24, 25, and 26. Stock Exchange closed on Dec. 25 and 26, and on Jan. 1. New York Markets closed on Dec. 24 and 25, and on January 1. Paris Market closed on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. London Term Market.—No calls on Dec. 24, 25, and 26. Paris Term Market.—No calls on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. New York Term Market.—No calls on Dec. 24 and 25, and Jan. 1. Chicago Term Market.—No calls on Dec. 24 and 25, and Jan. 1.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Dec. 21st, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	30	32
(old)	,,	32	33
Red (new)	,,	29	30
(old)	,,	30	31
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	27	28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	39
Brewing	,,	27	32
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	40
Scotch	,,	36	38
Black	,,	30	32
Brown	,,	29	32
Crystallized	,,	33	35
OATS, English, New Winter	,,	19	20
,, ,, Tartary	,,	18/9	19
,, ,, White	,,	18	18/9
,, Old Winter	,,	21	23
,, ,, Tartary	,,	20	21
Scotch	,,	21	23
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	16	17
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	40	44
,, Winter	,,	29	33
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	76
,, Dun	,,	31	33
,, Maple	,,	38	42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Duluth	33	34
American Spring	32	33
Manitoba	32	33
Red Winter	31	32
Kansas	30	31
Californian	31	32
Walla Walla	30	31
Australian	30	32
New Zealand	28	30
Argentine	29	32
Danzig	33	34
Saxonka	31	32
Petersburg	30	31
German	29	30
Azima	31	32
Ghirka	30	31
Hard Taganrog	29	30
MAIZE, per 480lb. :		
Cinquantina	27	29
Roumanian	25	26
Russian	25	26
Argentine	22	23
American	21	22
OATS:		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	26
Canadian (320lb.)	15	16
American (320lb.)	14	16
Revel (320lb.)	16	17
Petersburg (304lb.)	14	15
Libau, white (304lb.)	13	14
,, black ,,	14	15
BEANS, per 480lb. :		
Egyptian	31	32
Smyrna	29	30
Konigsberg	29	31
Barbary	27	28
Mexican	28	30
New Zealand	31	35
LOCUST BEANS, per ton :		
Italian	100	102
Cyprian	106	112
,, Ground	140	146
Portuguese	104	106
,, Ground	118	120
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Dutch	57	77
Canadian, White	29	30
Indian, White	28	30
Barbary	26	28
Australian, White	40	41
,, Dun	26	27
New Zealand	44	64
LENTILS, per cental.		
Spanish, Split	16	17
Egyptian, Split	14	15
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Syrian	none.	
Smyrna	24	27
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	24	25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb. :		
French	26	28
Russian	26	27
Canadian	27	28
BARLEY:		
Californian (448 lb.)	26	30
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	28
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	24
Turkish (400lb.)	20	21
Azoff (400 lb.)	21	22
Syrian (400 lb.)	24	27
Persian (400 lb.)	18	18/3
American (400 lb.)	20	21
MALT, per 336 lb. :		
Californian	35	37
Smyrna	34	3

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED.	per 416lb.	RAPESEED.	per 416lb.
	s. s.		s. s.
English	58 to 60	English	55 to 59
Bombay	62 to 63	Dutch	53 to 55
Calcutta	58 to 59	French	46 to 47
Dutch	61 to 63	Roumanian	44 to 46
Argentine	50 to 52	Cawnpore	45 to 46
Russian	52 to 54	Calcutta	42 to 43
SESAME.	per 424lb.	Guzerat	50 to 54
Bombay	49 to 51	Ferozepore	43 to 44
Kurrachee	52 to 53	Ravison	34 to 36
COTTON SEED.	per ton.	POPPYSEED.	per 377lb.
Egyptian	134 to 138	Indian	48 to 49

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Dec. 21st.

LONDON FLOUR.		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	30
Town Whites	,,	26/9	–27
,, Households	,,	23/9	–24
No. 2	,,	21/9	–22
COUNTRY FLOUR.			
Best Patents	(per sack)	24	– 25
Fine Roller made	,,	23	– 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	21	– 23
Best Stone made	,,	20	– 21
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19	– 20
FOREIGN FLOUR.			
Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	24	– 26
,, Second Patents	,,	23	– 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	20	– 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18	– 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	24	– 25
,, Bakers'	,,	21	– 23
Kansas Patent	,,	23	– 24
,, Bakers'	,,	18	– 19
Cascadia	,,	23/6	–24
Canadian	,,	24	– 25
Australian Patents	,,	22	– 23
,, Ordinary	,,	19	– 20
Hungarian	,,	26	– 31
French	,,	20	– 23
MEAL, &c.			
Whole Meal	(per ton)	184	–186
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	112	–114
Bran, London Broad	,,	104	–106
,, ,, Fine	,,	95	– 97
,, Country Flake	,,	103	–110
,, ,, Broad	,,	100	–104
Pollard	,,	90	– 92
Fine Middlings	,,	115	–120
Coarse Middlings	,,	100	–102
Barley Meal	,,	120	–126
Oat Meal	,,	220	–280
Oat Flour	,,	340	–360
Maize Flour	,,	130	–136
Maize Meal	,,	110	–120
Maize Cones	,,	146	–152
Maize Germ Meal	,,	110	–112
Pea Meal	,,	130	–150
Bean Meal	,,	140	–160
Rice Meal	,,	90	– 95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per central recently made :—

WHEAT.—Calls.		Dec.	March.	June.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Dec. 17	11 a.m.	6 4 ..	6 7 ..	6 7
	4 p.m.	6 4 ..	6 7 ..	6 7
Dec. 18	11 a.m.	6 4 ..	6 7 ..	6 7
	4 p.m.	6 4 ..	6 7 ..	6 7
Dec. 19	11 a.m.	6 4 ..	6 7 ..	6 7
	4 p.m.	6 4 ..	6 7 ..	6 7
Dec. 20	11 a.m.	6 4 ..	6 7 ..	6 7
	4 p.m.	6 4 ..	6 7 ..	6 7
Dec. 21	11 a.m.	— ..	6 7 ..	6 7
	4 p.m.	— ..	6 7 ..	6 7
Dec. 22	11 a.m.	— ..	6 7 ..	6 7

A few sales of maize at 4s. per cental for Feb. delivery took place in the course of the week, and a solitary small transaction in Dec. wheat at 6s. 5d. on Saturday.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 *minimum* and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.		s.	d.
Sept. 1, 1900	(per sack)	30	0

(No official change since last date given).

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites.			Town Households.		
		s.	d.		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	28	6	(per sack)	25	6
October 1	,,	29	0	,,	26	0
October 26	,,	28	6	,,	25	6
November 26	,,	28	0	,,	25	0

(No official change since last date given).

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows :—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	261,000	161,000	512,000	17,000	90,000
Russia	164,000	—	28,000	47,000	93,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary ..	—	10,000	—	—	—
Roumania	50,000	—	73,000	41,000	—
Argentina	78,000	—	59,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia	—	—	—	—	5,000
Miscellaneous ..	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total	593,000	181,000	692,000	125,000	198,000

LATEST MARKETS.

CORN.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—Thin attendance, and very little grain on the stands. The wheat trade was quiet at last week's prices. Other sorts of grain unchanged.

Cambridge, Saturday.—The wheat trade during the week has been quiet, but values have been maintained. The supply is small, and condition, though slightly improved, is still unsatisfactory. At this market to-day there was a small attendance. It was a holiday market, and very little business was done. Wheat changed hands slowly at last week's prices. Red 27s to 29s, and white up to 29s per 504lb. There was more inquiry for barley at rather improving rates.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A slow demand owing to the near approach of the holidays. Ruling prices :—White wheat, 29s to 31s 6d ; red ditto, 27s to 30s ; malting barley, 25s to 35s ; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s ; white oats, 18s to 21s ; ditto black, 15s to 20s ; peas, 30s to 33s ; tick beans, 32s to 35s ; mazagans, 27s to 29s ; flat maize, 23s to 24s ; round ditto, 27s to 28s per qr ; winter tares, 6s to 6s 6d per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply of oats in our market to-day ; moderate demand at late rates. New, 17s 6d to 18s 6d ; old, 23s 6d to 26s per 336lbs.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—The market was of a holiday character, and prices showed no alteration. Wheat was slow trade, but there was good consumptive demand for Indian corn. Quotations :—Wheat, white and red, 4s to 4s 1d per 75lb ; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 3d per 64lb ; beans, red, 4s 8d to 4s 10d ; old, 5s 6d per 80lb ; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 6d ; old, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 46lb ; Indian corn, 11s to 11s 3d per 240lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Holiday market. Small supply both of wheat and barley ; prices unchanged.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Trade ruled quiet all round. The continued damp weather still affects the supply, and there was a small attendance.

Leicester, Saturday.—A fair attendance, with moderate supply of wheat in better condition. Trade slow, at 27s to 31s per 36 stones. Good barley in better demand. Fine oats firm.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—To-day wheat closed much as heretofore. Flour no change. Malting barley disappointing to growers. Oats slack and cheaper. Beans, peas, and maize not so strong.—GEO. W. WATSON AND CO.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Our to-day's market was quite of a holiday character, no change in any description of grain. Flour last week's quotations.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—Good attendance ; supply and demand ; prices for grain and other farm produce about the same as last market day. White wheat, 29s to 30s ; red wheat (old), 29s to 30s ; barley, 26s to 32s ; barley (grinding), 21s to 24s ; oats, 19s to 22s ; old (fine), 25s ; beans, 28s to 32s ; old, 36s ; peas, 26s to 36s ; flour, 20s to 25s.

Peterborough, Saturday.—A small attendance and very much of a holiday market. The little wheat offering made last week's prices. Not much doing in Spring corn, but the tone was firm for all descriptions.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Reading, Saturday.—The proximity of the Christmas vacation had its effect upon the market to-day, which was of a holiday character both as regards attendance and supply, each being limited. There was but little wheat on offer, and the few sales which took place were at last week's quotations, while barley and other descriptions of corn underwent little or no variation in price from recent rates.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Business at this day's market of a holiday character, and prices of all descriptions of grain remain nominally unaltered from last week. Arrivals coastwise—Barley, 1,000 qrs. Foreign—Barley, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Small supply of wheat, which sold at rather better prices than last week, the advance in some cases being as much as 6d per quarter. Malting barley was firm, with little offering. All feeding stuffs quiet.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was not much disposition to do business. English wheat scarce, and held for last week's full prices. Barley rather cheaper. Very quiet trade, and no alteration in value of feeding stuffs.

York, Saturday.—Quite a holiday market, little wheat offering ; sales at last week's prices. Fine wheat, 28s to 29s ; red and mixed, 27s to 28s per qr of 36 stones. Malting barley in good demand ; fine, 28s to 30s ; good, 26s to 28s ; ordinary, 24s to 26s per qr of 32 stones. Oats firm ; white Tartary, 16s to 17s ; black, 17s to 18s ; short, 18s to 19s per qr of 24 stones. Rye, 7d to 8d ; old beans, 10d to 11d per stone.

CATTLE.

Islington, Monday.—To-day's supply consists of about 200 beasts and 150 sheep ; a few of the former have been sold, but not in sufficient numbers to make quotations worth noting, and for sheep there is no inquiry.

London Central, Monday.—Moderate supplies, trade quiet. Beef : Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d ; long, 4s to 4s 2d ; English, 4s to 4s 2d. Mutton : Scotch, 4s 2d to 4s 6d ; English wethers, 4s to 4s 4d ; ewes, 3s to 3s 2d ; Canterbury, 3s 1d to 3s 4d. Pork : English, 4s to 4s 2d per 8lb.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The supply was very limited, and not a large demand was experienced. Prices so far as tested remained unchanged.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish store cattle was an excellent one for this season, consisting of about 150 polled bullocks and heifers for wintering and stall-feeding purposes. The attendance was small, and trade slow a £13 10s for polled bullocks ; £6 10s to £10 10s for wintering heifers ; and £14 10s for stall-feeding heifers. Pigs a small show and slow sale at 21s to 23s 6d.

Dorchester, Saturday.—A fair delivery of fat stock, considering the near approach of Christmas and the requirements of trade being mostly met, and a good supply of store lambs. Fat beef met a fair sale, at 10s 6d to 11s per score. Milch beasts marked an upward tendency, prices showing a considerable advance on late markets. Barreners, despite the abundance of keep everywhere, made only a quiet sale.

Leicester, Saturday.—A small supply of stock in rather a poor condition. Trade very sluggish and prices easier all round. Milch cows sold slowly at £14 to £18 per head. Bullocks, £9 to £12 per head. Young stock a poor trade.

Norwich, Saturday.—Store beasts were in large supply here to-day ; trade ruled quiet at last week's rates. There were scarcely any fat beasts on offer ; the few transactions concluded were effected at 7s 6d to 7s 9d and 8s per 14lb. Store sheep moved off slowly at late prices ; keeping hoggets were quoted at 35s to 44s per head ; fat sheep, which were not freely offered, made 8s to 8s 6d and 9s per 14lb.

Worcester, Saturday.—Market was well supplied, but trade was unsatisfactory. Fat cattle sold slowly at about previous rates ; but sheep were less steady. The pig trade was firm, with a fair demand. Beef, 6d to 7d ; inferior, 6d to 5½d ; mutton, 7d to 8d ; ewes, 5d to 6d per lb. Pork pig 10s to 10s 6d ; bacon, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—An improved demand prevailed for larger descriptions. Quotations :—Fowls : Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 3s ; Essex, 3s to 3s 9d ; Boston, 2s 6d to 2s 9d ; Surrey, 3s to 3s 6d ; Sussex, 2s 9d to 3s ; Welsh, 1s 9d to 2s ; Irish, 1s 6d to 1s 10d ; turkeys, cocks, 10s 6d to 27s 6d ; hens, 4s 6d to 6s 6d ; geese, 4s 9d to 5s 6d ; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 6d ; Rouen ducklings, 1s 6d to 1s ; feathered 3½d to 4d ; wild rabbits, 2d to 3d ; tame, 5s to 6s 6d each ; Australian, 7s 6d to 9s 6d per dozen ; pheasants, 3s to 4s 6d ; young partridges, 2s 6d to 3s ; old, 2s 6d ; young grouse, 4s to 5s 6d ; old, 3s 6d to 4s ; hares, 2s to 4s ; leverets, 2s to 2s 6d ; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 2s 6d ; widgeon, 1s to 1s 6d ; woodcock, 2s to 3s ; snipe, 1s to 1s ; golden plover, 8d to 1s ; black ditto, 6d each.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Beef : With the exception of the Christmas holiday demand, trade has been very dull and with larger offerings, the market is easier, and close quiet. We quote to-day : Canadian, corn-fed cut, 20lb to 22lb, 47s to 51s ; 26lb to 35lb, 45s to 47s ; 14lb to 18lb, 43s to 45s ; 36lb to 42lb, 43s to 45s ; 42lb to 48lb, 42s to 43s ; 48lb to 56lb, 41s to 42s ; 56lb to 64lb, 40s to 41s ; 64lb to 72lb, 39s to 40s ; 72lb to 80lb, 38s to 39s ; 80lb to 88lb, 37s to 38s ; 88lb to 96lb, 36s to 37s ; 96lb to 104lb, 35s to 36s ; 104lb to 112lb, 34s to 35s ; 112lb to 120lb, 33s to 34s ; 120lb to 128lb, 32s to 33s ; 128lb to 136lb, 31s to 32s ; 136lb to 144lb, 30s to 31s ; 144lb to 152lb, 29s to 30s ; 152lb to 160lb, 28s to 29s ; 160lb to 168lb, 27s to 28s ; 168lb to 176lb, 26s to 27s ; 176lb to 184lb, 25s to 26s ; 184lb to 192lb, 24s to 25s ; 192lb to 200lb, 23s to 24s ; 200lb to 208lb, 22s to 23s ; 208lb to 216lb, 21s to 22s ; 216lb to 224lb, 20s to 21s ; 224lb to 232lb, 19s to 20s ; 232lb to 240lb, 18s to 19s ; 240lb to 248lb, 17s to 18s ; 248lb to 256lb, 16s to 17s ; 256lb to 264lb, 15s to 16s ; 264lb to 272lb, 14s to 15s ; 272lb to 280lb, 13s to 14s ; 280lb to 288lb, 12s to 13s ; 288lb to 296lb, 11s to 12s ; long middles, 12lb to 14lb, 45s to 47s ; 14lb to 16lb, 44s to 46s ; 16lb to 18lb, 43s to 45s ; 18lb to 20lb, 42s to 43s ; 20lb to 22lb, 41s to 42s ; 22lb to 24lb, 40s to 41s ; 24lb to 26lb, 39s to 40s ; 26lb to 28lb, 38s to 39s ; 28lb to 30lb, 37s to 38s ; 30lb to 32lb, 36s to 37s ; 32lb to 34lb, 35s to 36s ; 34lb to 36lb, 34s to 35s ; 36lb to 38lb, 33s to 34s ; 38lb to 40lb, 32s to 33s ; 40lb to 42lb, 31s to 32s ; 42lb to 44lb, 30s to 31s ; 44lb to 46lb, 29s to 30s ; 46lb to 48lb, 28s to 29s ; 48lb to 50lb, 27s to 28s ; 50lb to 52lb, 26s to 27s ; 52lb to 54lb, 25s to 26s ; 54lb to 56lb, 24s to 25s ; 56lb to 58lb, 23s to 24s ; 58lb to 60lb, 22s to 23s ; 60lb to 62lb, 21s to 22s ; 62lb to 64lb, 20s to 21s ; 64lb to 66lb, 19s to 20s ; 66lb to 68lb, 18s to 19s ; 68lb to 70lb, 17s to 18s ; 70lb to 72lb, 16s to 17s ; 72lb to 74lb, 15s to 16s ; 74lb to 76lb, 14s to 15s ; 76lb to 78lb, 13s to 14s ; 78lb to 80lb, 12s to 13s ; 80lb to 82lb, 11s to 12s ; 82lb to 84lb, 10s to 11s ; 84lb to 86lb, 9s to 10s ; 86lb to 88lb, 8s to 9s ; 88lb to 90lb, 7s to 8s ; 90lb to 92lb, 6s to 7s ; 92lb to 94lb, 5s to 6s ; 94lb to 96lb, 4s to 5s ; short middles, 12lb to 14lb, 43s to 44s ; 16lb to 20lb, 42s to 43s ; fat backs (export), 38s to 41s ; long clear middles, 30lb to 40lb, 41s to 42s ; 40lb to 50lb, 40s to 41s ; 50lb to 60lb, 39s to 40s ; 60lb to 70lb, 38s to 39s ; 70lb to 80lb, 37s to 38s ; short clear middles, 16lb to 20lb, 42s to 43s ; 20lb to 24lb, 41s to 42s ; 24lb to 28lb, 40s to 41s ; 28lb to 32lb, 39s to 40s ; 32lb to 36lb, 38s to 39s ; 36lb to 40lb, 37s to 38s ; 40lb to 44lb, 36s to 37s ; 44lb to 48lb, 35s to 36s ; 48lb to 52lb, 34s to 35s ; 52lb to 56lb, 33s to 34s ; 56lb to 60lb, 32s to 33s ; 60lb to 64lb, 31s to 32s ; 64lb to 68lb, 30s to 31s ; 68lb to 72lb, 29s to 30s ; 72lb to 76lb, 28s to 29s ; 76lb to 80lb, 27s to 28s ; 80lb to 84lb, 26s to 27s ; 84lb to 88lb, 25s to 26s ; 88lb to 92lb, 24s to 25s ; 92lb to 96lb, 23s to 24s ; 96lb to 100lb, 22s to 23s ; 100lb to 104lb, 21s to 22s ; 104lb to 108lb, 20s to 21s ; 108lb to 112lb, 19s to 20s ; 112lb to 116lb, 18s to 19s ; 116lb to 120lb, 17s to 18s ; 120lb to 124lb, 16s to 17s ; 124lb to 128lb, 15s to 16s ; 128lb to 132lb, 14s to 15s ; 132lb to 136lb, 13s to 14s ; 136lb to 140lb, 12s to 13s ; 140lb to 144lb, 11s to 12s ; 144lb to 148lb, 10s to 11s ; 148lb to 152lb, 9s to 10s ; 152lb to 156lb, 8s to 9s ; 156lb to 160lb, 7s to 8s ; 160lb to 164lb, 6s to 7s ; 164lb to 168lb, 5s to 6s ; 168lb to 172lb, 4s to 5s ; short

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

This week witnessed the holding of the great market day on Monday, a full report of which appeared in our Monday's edition, the finish of that day's business, however, not being chronicled, owing to our report leaving early. With regard to value for the best Scotch and Devons quotations must be written fully 4d. per 8lb. lower than on the corresponding day last year, at which reduction a clearance could not be made, about 500 being left unsold. The trade was one of the slowest noted for many years, this being due to the market being held so late this year, the demand being much slacker owing to butchers supplying their requirements at the various country auctions. On Thursday but few transactions were recorded; fat butchering cows and bulls also met with a slow trade, prices ruling in favour of the buyer. At the foreign cattle market there was a light supply, with a firmly firm and steady trade, both in regard to tone and value, where it will be noted the total supply arrived from the United States. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both markets was 5.098, consisting of 3,310 British, and 1,788 from the United States, there being an increase of 940 in the former and a decrease of 1,711 in the latter. The following were the top rates paid per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—95 to 100-stone Polled Aberdeens, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 6d.; 90-stone Devons, 4s. 8d.; 100-stone Norfolks, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 9d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. 6d.; 95-stone Runts, 4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.; 95-stone Herefords, 4s. 6d.; 90-stone Dublins, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 95-stone Waterfords, 4s. 3d.; 100-stone Lincolns, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 110-stone ditto, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 100-stone fat cows, 3s. 8d.; 100-stone fat bulls, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; 90-stone States oxen, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. The trade for sheep at Islington was of a rather firmer nature, there being a better supply in regard to quality, this being especially noticeable with respect to ewes, of which the number on offer was rather small. At the foreign cattle market the supply was larger, and for which there was a steady trade. The total number penned at both markets was 12,462, consisting of 11,110 (increase 3,930) and 1,352 foreign (increase 917). Best pens made per 8lbs. as follows (sinking the offal), 7½ to 8-stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8-stone Scotch, 5s. 10d.; 9-stone Dows, 5s. 8d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 6d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 2d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s.; 9-stone Irish, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 11-stone halfbred ditto, 3s. 10d.; 4½ to 5-stone fat lambs, 7s. 10d.; 7½ to 8-stone States sheep, 4s.; lambs, 5s. The calf trade ruled slow, with only thirty on offer, the best of which made 5s. 4d. per 8lbs. The pig supply was small by 200 head, trade for which was rather firmer.

Trade in the West.

With Christmas once more with us, the trade of the past week has been almost entirely absorbed by purchases suitable to the special needs of the season, to the neglect of almost everything else except dairy beasts, which are still selling very well, and also the fresher condition of barreners, which the present veritably "green" season undoubtedly favours, there being at present in many districts just as much pasture keep as is often seen sometimes at spring-time. Good milchers are making up to £22 apiece, and the better class barreners £22 to £28, as most of the drafts of the latter of a special stamp have been caught up early in the season. The recent fat stock sales have scarcely been attended with the results some of the more sanguine anticipated, the prices of both beef and mutton having fallen below the prices many expected, seeing how well beef has been selling for the greater part of the season, and also mutton as well. But though graziers have failed to make all that they had expected of their bullocks, and flockmasters have had to accept a little less than they had hoped for their mutton, still on the whole there is very little seriously to grumble about or to complain of, for most of the beef has made from 11s. 6d. to 12s. per score for the best weights this Christmas, and some quite 13s., though it is equally true some very serviceable bullocks have barely reached 11s. where there was a plethora brought out almost too early for butchers to know what to do with, as many know to their cost how detrimental too early purchases are, and how much beasts will deteriorate between the time of purchase and slaughter. But in spite of the rates prevailing, the tone of the fair ruled fairly healthy in point of demand, and very few graziers have been compelled to hold their stocks over for want of buyers. The veal trade has kept uniformly buoyant all through, and prices have left little better to be desired; and the same may be written of pork, the heavier weights of porkers making quite 10s. to 10s. 6d., and baconers 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. Of course, the heavier grade of sows have been correspondingly cheaper. Good class mutton has been by no means a drug on the market like the poorer runs, the former selling freely at 8d. to 8½d. per lb., and seconds 7d. to 7¾d. Very choice lamb has fetched fancy prices for exhibition purposes—10d. to 1s. per lb. Best fat stock has been a little disappointing in price; this has been more than compensated for by the splendid trade there has been for turkeys and most kinds of poultry, the former as well as geese making more money than has been known for years—turkeys, 1s. to 1s. 3d. per lb., and geese 10d. to 1s. 2d.; but turkeys have undoubtedly been in greater demand this season than has ever been the case before. Therefore, taken as a whole, the Christmas trade to our mind compares very favourably with that of any previous season for years past.

Trade in Ireland.

Again there was a large decrease in both cattle and sheep in the Dublin market on Thursday, there being 1,830 less of the former and 1,454 of the latter. Business was the slowest and most sluggish experienced for years at what is considered the Christmas market for local traders. Rates were from 10s. to 20s. under last week, the rougher classes being very hard to sell. Prime stall-fed bullocks and heifers met with a ready enough sale, but they formed a very small part of the cattle offered for sale. Fairly good beasts also sold pretty well, but other sorts went very badly. Salesmen were very much disappointed at the slow buying, and one cause is said to be the very plentiful supply and low price of fowl this year. Best ox and heifer beef made from 52s. 6d. to 56s., and some extra choice up to 58s. and 59s.; good second, 46s. to 50s.; and rough, 38s. to 44s. per cwt. The trade for mutton was also very sluggish, and home buyers only seemed to want a limited number of aged wethers and medium-weight Mountain sheep. All other sorts were practically a drug, and a clearance could not be effected. The export trade in sheep was very limited. Prime wether mutton, 6d. to 6½d. per lb.; ewe, 4½d. to 5½d. Veal in small supply, and last week's rates well maintained for choice. A small market of good milch cows. First-class springers and newly-calved scarce and brought high prices. Best springers worth £20 and £21, and new milch cows £17 to £20. Pigs were in limited supply, and consisted principally of dealers' lots. Trade opened slowly, exporters trying hard to reduce rates, but taking advantage of the scarcity, salesmen were able to maintain prices. Nice choice porkers suitable for city trade brought rather fancy prices, selling from 48s. to 50s. per cwt. Store cattle at country fairs are not going as freely as some weeks ago.

LONDON.

London Central, Wednesday.—Good supplies, but quiet demand and only limited sales. Arrivals of beef included 150 tons Scotch, 1,800 Liverpool sides, 2,700 hindquarters, and 900 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations :—Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 6d, exceptionally 4s 8d, long 4s to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s. Pork: English, 3s 8d to 4s; Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s, and 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Supplies good, but trade slow. Arrivals of beef included 50 tons Scotch, 700 Liverpool sides, 3,400 hindquarters, and 2,000 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations: Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long, 4s to 4s 2d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; Canterbury, 3s 1d to 3s 4d; Wellington, 3s to 3s 2d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 6d to 2s 9d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 3s 10d to 4s; and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—A moderate supply of beasts was placed on the market, a good proportion of which consisted of those left unsold from Monday last, fresh arrivals mainly comprising fat bulls and rough cows from south-western districts. Very few buyers were present and trade ruled very slack, particularly for best cattle, while middling sorts moved off quietly. Scotch nominal at 4s 8d to 4s 10d per 8lb. Sheep pens were filled to a moderate extent, but the dulness prevailing in the cattle section was reflected on this market, and quotations in several instances were quite nominal; 9-stone half-bred wethers, 5s 6d; 10-stone ditto, 5s to 5s 2d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 4d; 11-stone half-bred ditto, 3s 8d to 3s 10d. Only a few calves were on the market, and met a quiet sale, the best making 5s. 6d. Pigs, in good supply, evidenced a moderate demand. Neat small sold 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 8lb, to sink the offal. Total supplies: 290 beasts, 550 sheep, 20 calves, 230 pigs, and 5 milch cows.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The best beef met with a good demand, prices being quoted up to 12s 6d per score. There was no demand for anything lower than choice. Small Kent mutton fetched 5s to 5s 6d per 8lb, and Downs 5s 8d to 6s. Large wethers and ewes were not wanted. Pork sold well, roasters making 10s 6d to 11s per score, and big hogs 9s 6d to 10s.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Son's sale-yard, the attendance was small to meet a supply of 17 fat beasts, 18 calves, 113 sheep and lambs, 104 pigs, and 21 head of dairy and store cattle. Fat beasts made up to £17 15s; fat calves, 70s to £6; smaller, 45s to 55s; fat wethers up to 45s; ewes, 30s; lambs, 33s; fat hogs up to £5 17s 6d; porkers, 32s to 50s; store pigs, 9s 6d to 25s 6d; dairy cows up to £21 10s. A short supply of fat beasts met with a very slow trade and limited enquiry, local butchers having mostly filled their Christmas requirements, and the great fall in the prices in the London and other cattle markets has a serious adverse effect on the trade. A short supply of fat sheep and lambs were mostly cleared. Hants Down wethers and ewes made 5s. 10s 6d. to 6s. Lambs, 5s. 2s 6d. Exmoor ewes, 27s 6d. 30s. Store black face Scotch wether lambs, 19s, etc., etc. With a short supply of dairy cows on offer trade ruled brisk, there being a good attendance of buyers present. Fat calves met a clearance at late prices. Fat porkers sold readily with a firm trade. Store pigs were slightly lower in price. Ruling values:—Best quality fat sheep, 8d to 8½d per lb.; second ditto, 7d to 7½d per lb.; old ewes and inferior ditto, 5½d to 6½d per lb.; fat calves, 6d to 9d per lb.; fat porkers up to 11s per score.

Beverley, Wednesday.—A small supply of stock. The few beasts shown met with a ready sale at good prices. Sheep fetched plenty of money. There was a fairly good show.

Boston, Wednesday.—A small show and a very quiet trade. Store beasts, £10 to £12; in-calvers, £22; heifers, £18 to £21; calves, 65s; store lambs, 24s to 30s.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne :—

Prime stores.		Thickness of fat in any part of the back.		Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs	—	2½ in. and under..	..	9s 0d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs ..	..	Not exceeding 2½ in.	—	8s 6d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	—	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	—	8s 0d
Under 12 sc ..	..	Not exceeding 3 in.	—	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Cambridge, Monday.—The stock exhibited for sale at this market and the prices obtained were as follows :—Beasts, 402; sheep, 301; pigs, 490; horses, 12. Beef, 7s to 8s per stone; mutton, 4s 2d to 5s 6d; pork, 6s 3d to 7s. A smaller show store beasts and all cleared. Fat beasts, a very good show, and a fair trade. Fat sheep, short supply, and trade good. Stores. Fat pigs, a larger show, and prices well maintained. Stores, a fair trade. Hay, straw, and roots, a good supply, and fair trade all round.

Dublin, Thursday.—A dull, lethargic market, and no improvement quotable in prices. For a Christmas market the show of prime cattle was distinctly poor, and the rough sorts, which were too plentiful, could not be cleared even at a reduction. Sheep in excess of requirements, and except for something choice for local wants, lower prices prevailed, and a clearance impossible. Cattle (best), 31s to 33s 6d per cwt. Rough descriptions, 26s to 30s per cwt. Mutton, 5d to 6¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Beef and mutton in good demand at late rates. Horned bullocks, to £18; Shorthorn cows, to £17; Galloway heifers, £14; Ayrshire bullocks, to £14; cross-bred heifers, to £14; Ayrshire bullocks, to £13; Cheviot ewes, to £3 each.

Gisburn, Wednesday.—Small show of beasts, and prices had a drooping tendency, extending to 20s per head. English calvers £15 to £21, geld cows £13 to £19, cross-breds £5 10s to £11 10s, fat beasts £11 to £15, bullocks £12 to £15, lambs 19s to 24s, half-bred sheep 33s to 34s, ditto wethers 36s to 38s, Scotch sheep 21s to 25s, ditto wethers 31s to 33s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Number of cattle, 949; sheep, 4,526. Trade better, and values a turn dearer. Top mutton, 8½d to 8¾d per lb; secondary, 7¾d to 8d. Top Scotch cattle, 68s per cwt; top Irish, 60s to 62s. Dead meat: Improved demand, and values firmer; best States beef, 5½d to 5¾d; best Scotch, 6d; cows, 4½d to 4¾d.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Small demand for fat beasts, and consequently many prime animals remained unsold. Last week's prices, however, were maintained. Best quality, 5½d to 6¼d per lb. But few sheep, and very little demand, only choice wethers finding a demand; prices ranged from 6½d to 8d per lb, and ewes about 5½d per lb. Calves, which sold pretty well, 8½d per lb, and lambs about 8d per lb. Pigs the same as last week.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Return of stock brought to the cattle market this day :—Bullocks and cows 383, calves 77, sheep and lambs 687, pigs (fat and sows) 24, sucking pigs 30, pigs (stores, not more than ten) 215, pigs (stores, more than ten) 81, horses 1, colts 1. Prices of stock: Best beef, 6d to 7d per lb; wether sheep, 6½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 5½d to 6d per lb; veal, 9d per lb; lamb, 8½d per lb; pork, 4½d to 5d per lb; bacon, 4d to 5d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report supplies were as usual, short at the market following the Christmas sale; prices both for fat cattle and sheep were satisfactory, there being plenty of purchasers for the numbers penned. Beasts made up to £36 10s. Fat swine sold freely, the recent high rates being fully maintained. Weaning calves were well represented, several of the best making from 70s to 80s. Fat calves were in fair request without alterations in value. Several cows and heifers were penned, heifers making up to £22 5s. Shorthorn cows and calves £14 10s. Some good lots of grazing cattle were penned with prices much the same, ranging from £9 10s to £4 12s 6d. Numbers at sale—Beasts 389, calves 45, sheep 661, swine 762, horses 6.

Knaresborough, Wednesday.—At the fortnightly market to-day there was only a small show and a slow trade for grazing stock. Yearling bullocks and heifers, £6 to £8; two-year-old bullocks, £9 10s to £11; ditto heifers, £8 10s to £10 10s; calving cows, £18 to £20; calving heifers, £14 to £16 10s; geld cows, £8 to £10.

Leicester, Wednesday.—Very good supply of home-fed bullocks. Buyers and dealers were well represented, and trade ruled rather sluggish at easier rates, the bulk of the stock declining 10s to 15s per head. Bullocks, 6d to 6¼d per lb; cows, 5d to 5½d per lb; heifers, 6¼d. Sheep were a full delivery, and sold slowly at 7¼d to 7¾d per lb for choice light wethers; large sheep, 6¾d to 7d per lb; ewes, 6d. Calves a dull trade at 7d to 7¼d per lb.

Newcastle, Tuesday.—Excellent Christmas market. Beef 9d up on last year, mutton ½d dearer. Numbers :—Cattle, 2,452; sheep, 5,178; pigs, 1,715; calves, 64. Prices (sinking offal) :—Beef, 5s to 8s 6d; pork, 5s to 9s 6d per stone; mutton, 5d to 8½d; veal, 5d to 8d per lb.

Newport, Wednesday.—There was a small supply on Wednesday, and very few buyers attended. Messrs. Newland Davis, and Hunt brought under the hammer about 20 head of fat cattle and 150 sheep. The beef realised 6¼d to 7d per lb, wethers fetching 8½d per lb, and ewes 7d per lb.

Penistone, Thursday.—The cattle exhibited has been much below the average, all good dairy stock being bought up at good prices; best milch beasts, £18 to £22; secondary, £14 to £17.

Preston, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, and moderate supplies in all departments. Trade for calves was a little better, but prices were hardly varied all round. Beef, heifer and bullock, 6d to 6¼d; cows and bulls, 5d to 5½d; mutton, hoggs, 8d; Cheviots, 8½d; tups and ewes, 5½d to 6¼d; calves, 6¼d to 8d. At market—185 cattle, 1,960 sheep, and 75 calves.

Romford, Wednesday.—A very small market, owing to the nearness of the holidays. Fat beasts made from 4s to 4s 4d per stone. Trade for calves poor, at 5s 6d per stone. Best sheep made 5s 4d to 5s 8d, and ewes 4s 4d per stone. Pig trade about the same.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were on offer 199 cattle, 1 calves, and 297 sheep. Very little Christmas beef was on show, and customers were few. Best cattle made 7s 6d to 8s per stone, and rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s. Calves sold at 7d per lb, sheep 8½d per lb, ewes 6½d, and tups 4½d to 5d.

Taunton, Saturday.—Very short supply. Small attendance, very little trade done.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—The Christmas show was a disappointing one, the day fixed being too near Christmas. Consequently many buyers had purchased. Beef: Slow trade, and only exceptional cases 7d per lb could be reached. Choice little sheep made 8¼d; good strong sheep, 7¾d; ewes and tups from 7½d. Trade was brisker in mutton, numbers penned being little less than half last year's. Beasts 1,865, sheep 8,[illegible].

Wakefield, Wednesday.—Although this was the annual Christmas show there was slow trade in both beef and mutton. Fine show of fat beasts, but quiet demand. Best beef, 6¼d per lb; other qualities, 5d to 5¾d; small sheep, 8¼d; strong sheep

7d to 7½d; ewes and tups, 5½d to 6½d. Numbers penned:—Fat beasts, 1,865; sheep, 2,612.

Wetherby, Thursday.—We had a fair show of cattle. Calving cows good to sell. Store stock a very slow sale at less money. No fat stock shown. Calving cows, £12 to £21 each; store beasts, £4 to £9 each; store pigs, 15s to 45s each; pork, 7s per stone.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A Christmas holiday market, which has sometimes been a good one for a few light weight animals, but to-day the contrary was the case. A few animals were shown, which met with anything but a ready sale, very few purchasers being present. The same applies to sheep and pigs.

York, Friday.—Calves, 8d per pound; small sheep, 8d per pound; large sheep, 7d to 7½d per pound; ewes, 6d per pound; small pork pigs, 7s per stone; large pork pigs, 6s 6d per stone; bacon pigs, 5s to 6s per stone.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Wednesday.—Beast supplies totalled 756 an increase of 171 as compared with last Monday's figures, and consisted of shipments from the United States. The quality throughout was much poorer than last Monday, which caused trade to be of a slower nature, at 3s 11d to 4s 4d per 8lb, to sink the offal.

SOCIETIES.

Shropshire Sheep.

The annual meeting of the Shropshire Sheep-Breeders' Association and Flock Book Society took place on the 10th inst., at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, Mr. J. Bowen Jones presiding. The secretary read the report, which stated that the present numerical strength of the Society was 252 life members and 211 annual members, making a total of 463. The statement of accounts showed the total worth of the Society up to September 29th to be £1,261 4s. 4d., made up as follows:—By investments, less amount due to bank, £1,120 16s. 8d.; and net cost of Flock Books on hand, £140 7s. 8d.; an increase of £9 15s. on last year's statement. The large and important shipments of Shropshire sheep had been a great feature of the year. The breed was now making considerable headway in different countries, both as a pure breed and for crossing purposes, and it thus behoved breeders to take the greatest care possible to maintain the supremacy of the breed at home and abroad as the sheep that will most readily adapt itself to any soil or clime.

During the year Shropshire sheep had been exported to the following countries:—South America, United States, Canada, South Africa, Russia, Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Germany, France, etc., viz., 361 rams and 503 ewes, or a total of 864, as against 1,086 in 1899, a record year, and 921 in 1898. The decrease was accounted for by the unfortunate outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in this country, which caused one of the principal foreign ports to be closed against the landing of English-bred stock, viz., Buenos Ayres, which this season has only taken 205 sheep, as against 298 in 1899 and 438 in 1898. The Council recommended that a sum not exceeding £85 be set apart in 1901 for the purpose of promoting the interests of Shropshire sheep-breeders, and making more widely known the special attributes of the breed.

In moving the adoption of the report, the chairman said the financial position of the Society was fairly satisfactory, the income amounting to £227, as compared with £221 last year and £299 in 1898. There had been a falling-off in the ordinary fees from £57 to £50, and an augmentation in the exportation fees from £28 last year to £50 this year. The expenditure remained about the same, £193, that being about the normal sum to pay out before distributing anything in the way of prizes. After deducting the £193 from the £227 there remained a balance of about £34, to which must be added £35 subscribed for a special purpose, or a total of £70 to be distributed in prizes. As they desired to spend in that way £85, they would exceed the amount at their disposal by £15, and it would be a question for the consideration of the Council whether they should not increase slightly the registration fees, so that the total income might be brought up to the full requirements of the Society.

The fact that fewer sheep were exported this year was due to the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in this country for a short period. He was convinced, however, that the country was now free from that pest, and in a short time, no doubt, Argentina would remove the restrictions which had been placed on the importation of pedigree stock to that country. When that was done the trade would soon become as important as it had been in the past. The money voted last year had been expended in prizes at the Royal Show at York, at the Shropshire and West Midland Show at Shrewsbury, at the Dublin Society's Show, and at the Birmingham Cattle Show, and the members might congratulate Mr. Philo Mills on having won the Society's prize. They had also given prizes to various shows abroad, and it would be a question for the Council to consider whether they should give so many prizes abroad or whether they should not curtail them and increase the number at home.

Mr. W. F. Inge seconded the resolution, which was carried. Messrs. R. Brown, C. Coxon, J. E. Farmer, T. Fenn, A. S. Gibson, W. F. Inge, P. A. Muntz, M.P., E. Nock, R. H. Stubber, W. Thomas, A. P. Turner, and H. Williams, were re-elected members of the Council.

On the motion of Mr. T. F. Cheatle, seconded by Mr. A. S. Berry, it was resolved to suggest to the Council of the Smithfield Club that the prizes for Shropshire sheep at the Smithfield Club Cattle Shows should be £10 and £5 for pens of three fat wether lambs under twelve months old, and £15, £10, and £5 for pens of three fat wether sheep above twelve and under twenty-four months old. Mr. Cheatle said that at present the order was reversed, but the view of Shropshire breeders was that the best prizes should be given to wether sheep.

National Pig Breeders.

An extraordinary general meeting of the members of this association was held, by permission of the Council of the Smithfield Club, in the club room of the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, N., on the 11th inst., Mr. P. L. Mills (President) in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The business before the meeting was to confirm the following resolution, passed at the annual general meeting, held at York, viz., "That Bye-law 2 be altered as follows:—'Life members shall pay on election a subscription of £15 15s.; but members of five years' standing may become life members by a payment of £10 10s., members of seven years by a payment of £8 8s., and members of ten years and upwards by a payment of £5 5s.'"

Mr. Hiscock then proposed, and Mr. J. Robertson seconded, that the resolution be confirmed, and that the secretary send a circular to members notifying the same, also giving the date of their election.—Carried unanimously.

A cordial vote of thanks was given to the Council of the Smithfield Club for the use of the room.

A Council meeting was held at the conclusion of the general meeting, when the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and several new members elected.

Messrs. Dodds' application for the prefix Mollington was granted.

The finance committee reported the balance at the bank to be £100 19s. 4d. Four members were still in arrear with their subscriptions for 1899, and 22 remain standing for the present year. The liabilities amounted to £37 5s. 6d. This report was adopted.

It was decided to offer to the Council of the R.A.S.E. four gold medals, value £5 5s. each, for champion prizes at the Cardiff Show, for the same breeds and under similar conditions as in previous years. It was also decided to offer silver medals at certain county shows, which shows will be decided upon at a future meeting.

The secretary was instructed to arrange for the next meeting to be held on Wednesday, February 27th, 1901, at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, N.

Shire Horse.

In the unavoidable absence of Lord Middleton (the President), Lord Hothfield (Past-President) occupied the chair at the meeting of the Council, held at the Society's House, 12, Hanover Square, on the 13th inst., when 24 new members were elected.

Finance Committee.

Mr. W. Cecil Salt submitted the report of this committees, indicating a balance of £379 8s. 7d. on the current account at the bankers, with £750 on deposit. The secretary's receipts since the last meeting had been checked and found correct, and accounts amounting to £762 9s. 3d. were ordered to be paid. This report was adopted.

Editing Committee.

Mr. J. W. Kenworthy (Vice-Chairman) presented the following list of prefixes for which application had been made, and which the Council had approved:—Belnie, W. M. Smith; Bledington, W. C. Jeffries; Chiltern, Joseph Brandon; Curf, R. R. Childs; Elmside, instead of Twyeross, Arthur Haywood; Garland, instead of Arley, James Whitlow; Purton, James Webber; Walpole, Richard Carter; West Riding, Arthur Lindley.

The committee recommended that in future the entries for the Stud Book should close on July 1st. The committee had carefully revised the proofs of the 1900 Show report, and presented it for press, while they reported that they had met the previous week, and had dealt with the entries received for Vol. XXII. of the Stud Book, to be issued early in the new year.

Mr. Kenworthy, in presenting this report, drew the attention of the Council to the proposal to close the entries on July 1st, instead of August 1st. This recommendation was due to the very large increase of entries in the Stud Book, and the necessary preparation for the press demanded a longer time than was at present available. To get the Stud Book out to the members before the Show, it was deemed desirable to close the entries a month earlier.

The report was then adopted.

Horse Show Committee.

Lord Hothfield reported that Mr. J. T. C. Eadie, Mr. T. B. Freshney, and Captain Heaton had accepted the invitation of the Council to act as judges at the next Show, while Professor Axe had accepted their invitation to act as veterinary inspector, and the three following gentlemen were selected to act with him, viz., Mr. J. C. Snowball, of Portsmouth; Mr. T. W. Lepper, of Aylesbury; and Mr. J. Malcolm, of Birmingham.

The grants to the London Cart Horse Parade and to the Provincial Cart Horse Parades were £50 and £75 respectively, renewed on the same conditions and lines as 1900, but parades held at any of the agricultural shows were debarred from participating in the latter scheme.

The tender from Messrs. Mappin and Webb for the new gold challenge cup for the best mare or filly in the show was accepted.

Notice of Motion.

Mr. A. H. Clark gave notice that at the next meeting of the Council he would move:—"That to the conditions of entry for Vols. XXIII. and XXIV. shall be added:—'That for the purposes of export, and to meet the requirements of the American Government, any mares having produce in Vol. I. to XXII. can, on application, be registered in Vol. XXIII. or Vol. XXIV.'"

Date of Council Meetings, 1901.

The Council then arranged the dates of their meetings for 1901, viz., February 5th (Hanover Square), February 28th (Agricultural Hall), April 2nd (Hanover Square), June 25th (Royal Show at Cardiff), November 5th and December 10th (Hanover Square).

Hackney Horse.

Meetings of the Council and committees were held at 12, Hanover Square, on the 11th and 12th inst., and 13 new members were elected.

The Council received from the judges selection committee the names of gentlemen suitable to officiate as judges at the next London show. The following were elected by ballot:—Yorkshire and district: Judge, Charles Goodlass, Skerne, Driffield; first reserve, G. M. Gale, Atwick Hall, Hull; second reserve, Alfred Craggy, North Newbald, Brough, Yorks. Eastern district: Judge, Joseph Morton, Stow, Downham; reserve, William Flanders, Witcham House, Ely, Cambs. Other districts: Judge, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington; first reserve, William Scott, Gilfoot, Carluke, N.B.; second reserve, Austin C. Carr, Broxton, Cheshire. Pony and Cob classes: Judges, Eustace Smith, Benton House, Newcastle-on-Tyne; John Major, Sledmere Grange, York; first reserve, Colonel Thwaites, Furze Hill, Pool, near Leeds; second reserve, H. W. Jermyn, Silfield, Wymondham, Norfolk.

Council Selection.

This committee reported that they had most carefully considered the numerous names submitted to them by members for the renewal of the Council by the appointment of ten new members in place of those retiring at the next show. From the names suggested, 30 were selected in the various divisions in such proportion that each district of the United Kingdom would be fairly represented on the Council. These 30 names would be submitted to the Council in February next, and 20 would be elected by ballot for insertion on the voting paper, a copy of which would be issued to every member.

Horse Show.

Sir Walter Gilbey, chairman of this committee, reported that the following four gentlemen had been appointed to assist Professor Axe in conducting the veterinary examination:—Mr. A. W. Briggs, M.R.C.V.S., 13, Harrison Road, Halifax; Mr. Fred. Low, M.R.C.V.S., Norwich; Mr. F. Roberts, F.R.C.V.S., Tunbridge Wells, and Mr. R. Rutherford, F.R.C.V.S., 8, Grove Street, Edinburgh. The committee recommended that the classification at the show should be resolved into three classes, viz., Hackneys, cobs, and ponies, each harness class being inserted under its proper section. Various points as to the purchase of champion cups, award of medals, etc., were decided, and it was agreed to renew for next year the offer of gold and silver medals to affiliated and other shows.

Editing.

The report of this committee, presented by Mr. John Rowell, dealt mainly with the question of illustrating the new volume of the Stud Book, which will be ready for issue at the commencement of February. The exclusive right to the following affixes was granted to the various applicants:—Ayton, Blackpool, Boulevard, Clonard, Crookes, Derwen, Drake, Hill, Heathfield, Hollin, J.P., Kingsbury, Longford, Maitland, Norbury, Normoss, Rollerton, Rossie, Salford, Sandringham, Whitegate, Wendle, Wolferton.

Finance.

Mr. Brunton moved the acceptance of the finance committee's report, showing a balance in the bank of £250 0s. 3d. Cheques were drawn in payment of accounts amounting to £217 13s. 3d.

Next Meeting.

The Council then adjourned until February 5th, 1901.

(Other Societies will be found on pages 825, 877.)

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

Three winners of special prizes at the Royal Dublin Society's Winter Show, held on the 11th, 12th, and 13th inst., form the subjects of our cattle illustrations this week. The heifer, which is the property of Mr. Joseph Lowry, Bachelor's Lodge, Navan, won first prize in the class for heifers other than Kerry or Dexter breed over two and under four years old, under 10 cwts. and under live weight, also winning the challenge cup, value twenty guineas, for the best animal in the class.

The pair of animals was exhibited by Mr. H. D'E. Strevens, Castle Cote, Roscommon, and they won the special prizes of £5 for the best ox and heifer, the property of the exhibitor, fed in the province of Connaught, from the 1st August last, to the date of the show. The ox, whose sire was an Aberdeen-Angus and dam Shorthorn, won the second prize in the class for in-fed natural polled ox, over two years eight months, and not exceeding three years; whilst the heifer was unnoticed in her class, that for in-fed horned or artificially-polled heifers over two years, and not exceeding two years and eight months.

In addition to the above we give a photograph of a section of the poultry show held in connection with the Smithfield Club's exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington.

Steer and Heifer, the Property of Mr. D'E. Strevens. Winners at the Dublin Fat Stock Show.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

On Tuesday the new railway service built to bring Deptford Cattle Market into direct communication, through the L.B. and S.C. Ry., with the outside systems of the metropolis, was opened. Property to the amount of about £12,000 has been acquired in order to carry the line to its destination. The estimated cost of the works outside the market is £13,000, and the amount expended in connection with the laying of lines and other works inside the Corporation's property is £5,000. At the same time extensive alterations have been made within the market, providing increased lairage accommodation, together with extra jetty space for the unloading of cattle ships at all states of the tide. The first truck-load of beef was loaded for Eastbourne. Carcases of meat will henceforth be sent to all parts of the kingdom without touching the Smithfield Market, and those connected with the trade are hopeful that the trade at Deptford will be developed very considerably thereby. Under the old system the meat was conveyed to Paddington and Nine Elms Stations, which meant much delay and inconvenience.

The total number of beasts received at the Foreign Market, Deptford, from January 1st to the 13th December, inclusive, amounted to 55 200 head, this being almost identical with last year's figures, but a comparative decrease of about 55,700 on the quantity available during 1898. Of the above total the United States contributed 106,150 as against 86,300 last year; Canada 24,990 against 15,000; and Argentina 24,070 against 54,600 during the corresponding period of 1899. Imports from both the United States and Canada show an appreciable increase, which was the reverse as regards the former at this period twelve months ago.

The excessive depreciation in Argentine shipments to this country—viz., 3,000 head—is attributable to the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in that country in April last, arrivals up to this time having been on a liberal scale. Under the circumstances the Board of Agriculture issued an order that all animals from the River Plate would have to be slaughtered within thirty-six hours of landing, and beasts from other countries within five days. In consequence of this restriction the order of the market days, viz., Monday and Thursday, was revoked, and offers have since been made on days, virtually, when salesmen have felt so disposed. The prohibitive law regarding Argentine animals still remains in force.

The head of a prize Hereford steer, purchased from Her Majesty's herd by Mr. F. M. Garlich, butcher, of Trowbridge has, it is said, been purchased by the British Museum, it being considered the most typical of its class ever seen.

Considerable interest was taken in the Swine Carcase Competition at the Suffolk Fat Cattle Show last week, but excitement ran high when it was rumoured that the Large Black, the Tamworth, and the cross-bred pigs were not this season to have quite a walk over, as entries had been made by Mr. Sanders Spencer, of Holywell Manor, near St. Ives, Hunts, who was to send two Large White pigs to compete for the coveted prizes. Of course, everyone who knows anything of pig breeding, and of bacon-curing has heard for the best part of half a century of Mr. Spencer's pigs, which have proved in all climes that utility and prize-winning points can be combined; it is therefore some consolation to the breeders of Large Black pigs to have to suffer so dire a defeat at the hands of such a master in the art of pig-breeding, but also, in one class, by a cross Holywell and Large Black pig. Both first prizes were easily won by Mr. Spencer's Large Whites, which have thus given the Large Black men a standard to breed up to in the future.

The Devon County Agricultural Association have accepted the invitation of Torquay to hold their show at that town next year, and the dates fixed are June 4th, 5th, and 6th.

The Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland desire to intimate that, until further notice, sheep from Great Britain, like other ruminant animals and swine, must be accompanied in each case by an official permit from this department before they can be imported into Ireland.

CATTLE.

Sale of Shorthorns at York.

At the Covered Cattle Market at York, on the 13th inst., Messrs. John Thornton and Co. offered a number of pure-bred Shorthorn bulls which, with two or three exceptions, had been exhibited at the fat stock show held the previous day. The highest price obtained was 71gs. for Sir John Swinburne's "Royal Earl Waterloo 5th," bred by the exhibitor. Lord Middleton's winner in the class not exceeding 21 months old, "Bellman," bred by the exhibitor, fetched 41gs. Altogether the 17 lots brought under the hammer realised £485, or an average of £28 8s. 3d. The chief prices were:—Bellman, Lord Middleton's, red, c. 1899, s. Wamba, sold to Mr. Jonas Webb, Melton Ross, for 41gs.; Alexander, exors. of late Thos. Stamper, Nunnington, York, red, c. 1899, s. Emperor of Waterloo 29th, Mr. A. A. Avis, Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham, 35gs.; Royal Earl Waterloo 5th, Sir John Swinburne's, Capheaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne, roan, c. Jan. 1900, s. Grand Earl of Waterloo 20th, Mr. C. H. Paine, Inglestone, Essex, 75gs.; Linguist, Lord Middleton's, roan, c. March 7th, 1900, s. Wamba, Mr. G. Scoby, Bradlam, Nawton, 50gs.; Sir George Millicent, Mr. J. M. Strickland's, red, c. 1899, s. Lord George, Mr. G. Scoby, 36gs.

Transactions in Store Stock.

[*From the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction.*]

At Gorey Fair (co. Wexford), held on the 15th inst. there was a very small supply. Cattle were a very poor lot, and there was slow demand. Prices: Yearlings, 2nd class £6 to £7; two-year-olds, 2nd class £8 12s. 6d. to £10 7s. 6d.; three-year-olds, 2nd class £12 5s., 3rd class £9.

At the fair held at Coleraine, co. Londonderry, on Tuesday, there was a very small supply of cattle, which realised the following prices: Calves, 2nd class £3 15s. to £4; yearlings, 2nd class £5 11s. 3d. to £7 5s.; two-year-olds, 2nd class £7 12s. 6d. to £9 5s.; springers, 2nd class £12 7s. 6d. to £14; 3rd class £8 12s. 6d. to £10 5s.

At Dundalk Fair, which took place on Wednesday, there was only a small supply of stock, and the demand was dull for all classes. Quotations: Calves,

3rd class £2 13s. 4d. to £3; yearlings, 1st class £8 10s., 2nd class £6 10s. to £6 15s., 3rd class £4 15s. to £5; two-year-olds, 1st class £11 5s. to £13, 2nd class £8 5s. to £10 10s.; springers, 1st class £16 10s. to £22, 2nd class £13 10s. to £14 15s.; young pigs, 8 to 10 weeks old, sold at from 16s. 6d. to 21s. each.

HORSES.

Somerset County Council and Farriery.

The Bath and West and Southern Counties Society has for some time past been conducting, on behalf of the Somerset County Council, a travelling school for the instruction in farriery of shoeing smiths. On Tuesday last, the 18th instant, prize competitions were held at Weston-super-Mare for those pupils who had attended a complete course of instruction at the school during its stay within the district, comprising Bath, Keynsham, Bedminster, Bristol, Nailsea, Yatton, and Weston-super-Mare. Among those present on behalf of the society were Mr. Thos. F. Plowman, secretary, Mr. G. H. Helder, M.R.C.V.S., the veterinary surgeon attached to the school; and Mr. W. B. Blackall, farriery instructor. Mr. A. Wheatley, F.R.C.V.S., of Reading, acted as judge and examiner.

Mr. R. Tremlett, R.S.S., kindly gave the use of his premises for the competition, and also lent the necessary additional forges.

Seventeen smiths competed, of whose work the judge reported very favourably, and the following were the awards:—

Class I.—Nag Horses.—1st, James Ruck, Norman House, Keynsham; 2nd, Carmi Kirby, Gable Cottage, Wraxhall, Bristol; 3rd, Fred J. Sampson, Claverham, Yatton. Commended.—Frank J. Edward, Orchard Street, Weston-super-Mare; Frank Hole, North Street, Weston-super-Mare; and William J. Summerell Nailsea, Bristol.

Class II.—Cart Horses.—1st, Edwin Adams, Union Street, Weston-super-Mare; 2nd, Alfred Tremlett, Union Street, Weston-super-Mare; 3rd, Walter Snell, Brislington, Bristol. Commended.—Charles S. Barrett, Colebridge, Worle; Albert E. Drewett, Batheaston, near Bath; and Frederick Gummer, Claverton, Yatton.

Certificates were also awarded to the prize winners and commended competitors.

The Registration Committee of the Farriers' Company admit the winners of first prizes in these competitions to the official register free of charge, on their satisfying the judge that they have a fair knowledge of the structure of the horse's foot, while other competitors who satisfy the judge of their competency are admitted on payment of the usual fees. Several of the competitors on the present occasion were examined and passed for registration.

Special prizes were also offered for the best shoeing of a hunter by a pupil who had previously won a prize in a school competition and had again attended the school since 4th, 1900, and these were awarded as follows:—1st, Henry Garland, Upper Weston, Bath; 2nd, William Yelland, Berrow, Burnham; 3rd, Herbert J. Welland, Catcott Burtle, Bridgwater. Commended.—Fredk. G. Drewett, Batheaston, near Bath, and Richard Thorne, Palmer Street, Weston-super-Mare.

The first and second prizes in this class were given by residents at Weston-super-Mare, who took an interest in the operations of the school, and the first prize was supplemented by a case of farrier's tools presented by the Capewell Horse Nail Company.

Since January last fifty-four pupils have received courses of instruction, which satisfactorily indicates that the school is fulfilling a want.

The school will open at Banwell early in the new year.

York Christmas Horse Fair.—The Christmas Horse Fair at York took place last week, commencing on Monday. On this day the city presented an animated appearance, and in Blossom Street, Pavement, Clarence Street, and a few others, the horse trade was very prominent. The first day of the fair is usually devoted to hunters, harness horses and hacks. There was not so large a supply as usual from the Irish dealers, although there were a few useful animals. A few nice studs of horses from English dealers were also present. There was a good attendance of buyers present, including Mr. Oppenheimer (Hanover), who bought a few nice horses, Mr. Levison (Hamburg), Mr. Sergert (Homburg), Mr. Hess (Frankfort-on-the-Maine), Mr. Koch (Holland), and Mr. Brunnard (Brussels). The demand for hunters was fairly good, and although it cannot be said that any very high prices were realised, yet some made up to £180, and the general prices ranged from £50 to £100. Harness horses, £40 to £60; ride and drive horses averaged about £40. On the second day there were comparatively few animals of character on offer. The chief feature of the day was agricultural horses—these made from £20 to 50 guineas each. Trade was slow, and very little doing.

All farm live stock should be given "Molassine" It is an excellent food and condiment combined. See advertisement on back page of this issue.—[Advt.]

SHOWS.

Suffolk Fat Cattle Club.

Fine weather favoured the Christmas Show of the Suffolk Fat Cattle Club, held at the Drill Hall, Ipswich, on Monday and Tuesday, and altogether it was a most successful exhibition. The attendance of visitors was good each day, the total number admitted through the turnstiles being 8,143, and the amounts taken, first day, £170; second day, £185 5s. 6d.; total, £355 5s. 6d. In 1899 the total amount taken was £298, while in 1898 the total receipts were £398. The total number of entries was 810, as against 936 last year, 1,004 in 1898, and 1,014 in 1897. It will thus be seen that there was a considerable decrease, but the number compared favourably with those of years previous to the above mentioned. As to the chief sections—cattle, sheep, and pigs—the first-named were four fewer than last year, sheep nine more, and pigs fifty-two less. The quality of the exhibits was quite up to the average, the cattle classes including several animals in tip-top condition. The entries included Mr. John Wortley's Smithfield champion, Lord Roberts, and Mr. W. E. Learner's cross-bred heifer, Ladysmith, champion at Norwich and reserve at Smithfield. Unfortunately, Lord Roberts did not put in an appearance, having been sold at the Smithfield Show, so that what would have proved an interesting contest for the championships did not come off. Competition in all classes was fairly keen, but the awards seem to give general satisfaction.

Cattle.

The first of the cattle classes was for steers of any pure or cross-breed under three years old, and it was in this class that Lord Roberts was entered. In his absence the first prize went to Sir Hugh E. Adair, Bart., Flixton Hall, Bungay, for a cross-bred (Galloway and Shorthorn), weighing just over 16cwt., at two years nine months. The second prize and reserve ticket are awarded to Mr. C. H. Berners, Woolverstone Park, and Mr. R. J. Thurman, Semer, for older and younger cross-breds respectively. Five heifers entered the ring, amongst them being Mr. Learner's Ladysmith, which looks almost diminutive as compared with others, but the judges could not get away from her as first-prize winner. Mr. Russell Colman sent an exceedingly nice Red Poll (second prize), and was rather unfortunate in having such an exceptionally formidable competitor to meet. The steers not exceeding three years, bred and fed in Suffolk, were four in number only. Mr. Alfred Preston, Worlingworth, had a very nice Red Poll, which the judges placed over heavier cross-breds belonging to Mr. J. C. Dawson and Mr. J. C. Pike, who took second prize and reserve. Mr. Dawson's bullock, cross Shorthorn and Angus, was considered to be the best handler in the show, and it won the prize presented by the Ipswich and District Branch of the Meat Traders' Association and another special besides. In a corresponding class for heifers it was a very near thing between a cross-bred belonging to Mr. Spencer Dawson and another sent by Mr. D. W. Taylor, The Grange, Bury St. Edmunds, which were eventually placed in the order named. A Red P shown by Mr. Alfred J. Smith, and bred by Mr. Robert Edgar, of Cockfield, was reserve and highly commended.

The Red Polled breed was excellently represented. Mr. James E. Platt, of Howbury Park, near Bedford, secured first prize with a grand steer, which has won in London and elsewhere, but the Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes, M.P., Honingham, Norwich, was close up with a beautiful heifer. The executors of the late Mr. G. Gooderham had the reserve ticket. The pairs not exceeding three years old were not remarkable in any way, but in the younger class Mr. T. M. Rudland won first prize with a couple of smart and well-matched Devons, which would be noticeable in any company. The Shorthorns sent by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, though heavier, were not so forward in condition. There were five entries of steers not exceeding two years old, bred in Suffolk, and grazed in the county by a tenant farmer, or owner farming all his own land. Mr. T. M. Rudland here won another first prize, with a well-topped cross-bred, having a good touch, and Mr. D. Black, of Flixton Abbey, was second with a nice Black Poll. The last-named exhibitor won outright in a class for heifers where similar conditions were imposed, and in which there was an excellent lot of entries. Mr. Pike's second, a Shorthorn, was rather over-ripe and patchy; the executors of Mr. George Gooderham again got the reserve ticket with a Red Poll from the once-famous herd at Monewden. Butchers' beasts were the largest collection of all, and the prizes were awarded to Mr. J. C. Pike and Mr. T. M. Rudland.

The championship awards in the cattle classes were not made until late in the afternoon of the first day. As a matter of course almost, the President's prize of 10gs. for the best beast in the yard went to Mr. Learner's heifer, the grand cross-bred shown by Sir Hugh Adair being placed reserve. Mr. F. S. Stevenson, M.P., again presented 5gs. for the best steer under two years old, bred and grazed in Suffolk, and the judges awarded this prize to Mr. T. M. Rudland's cross-bred steer. The best of the country-bred heifers was adjudged to be the cross-bred shown by Mr. D. Black, first in class 9, for which that gentleman obtained the special prize given by Sir Charles Dalrymple, M.P., and the champion Red Poll, for Mr. R. H. Tidswell's special, was the steer shown by Mr. James Platt. The final competition was for the new Challenge Cup of 25gs., for the best beast in the show, reared in the county, that has been the property of the exhibitor for not less than six months previous, and this was awarded to S. Hugh Adair's cross-bred, one of Mr. Rudland's Devons being reserved.

Sheep.

The sheep showed up uncommonly well, the Suffolks, as usual, being the chief breed represented. The lambs formed the great feature of the show, but Col. Harry L. B. McCalmont had a very good lot of pens of Suffolks in the class for pens of three wethers of any breed over twelve months and under twenty-three months old. Major E. W. Baird was second with an exceedingly nice pen. The class for three Suffolk wether lambs, lambed in the present year, was a remarkably good one, every pen sent, with one exception, being awarded honours. The successes gained at Smithfield by Mr. Herbert E. Smith, Walton Grange, were continued on this occasion. He literally swept the decks, taking first, second, and third, the nine choice exhibits including six which were at Smithfield, and the first prize in this class was awarded the 25gs. Challenge Cup for the best pen of sheep or lambs in the show, also the champion prize of 5gs. presented by Messrs. Geo. Mason and Co., Ltd., for the best pen of fat sheep in the yard, and the Mayor of Ipswich's 5gs. special for the best three lambs in the yard. The fourth prize in the class went to Mr. Thos. Goodchild for a capital pen of big, fleshy sheep. The cross-bred lambs also made a good appearance. Major E. W. Baird was first with a Suffolk and Southdown cross, with decidedly the best trio in the show, Mr. W. H. Hall being second for one pen and reserved for another, and Mr. Spencer Dawson, Stratton Hall, highly commended.

Pigs.

The pigs were of a character quite in keeping with the rest of the stock exhibits. Following the catalogue, the first in order was the class for fat pig of any breed, one year old and under. The first prize went to the Tamworth breed, shown by Lord Hastings, Melton Constable, the second prize going to a pen of Large Black pigs shown by Mr. John Matthew, Earl Stonham. The next class was for pen of three, under nine months old. There were but three entries, two of them belonging to Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons. Mr. A. H. Cobbald, Eldo House, Bury, carried off the chief honour with a specially fine pen of Large Blacks. If the special prize for the best fat pig had been for a pig taken from the best pen, the animals in this class might have stood a good chance; but the animal for this competition was taken out of an otherwise moderate class. Mr. A. H. Cobbald scored again also in the class for five fat pigs, suitable for the London market, under 112lbs. live weight, the entries from the Eastern Counties Dairy Institute being second. There were some particularly good animals in the collection for three pigs not under 112lbs., and not exceeding 190lbs. live weight. Here the entries from the famed home—so far, at any rate, as this club is concerned—of pigs of this class, were again to the fore, the executors of the late Mr. George Gooderham scoring with an uncommonly good pen, the second prize going to Mr. C. H. Berners, Woolverstone Park, for Berkshires. The last class was for three pigs for bacon, exceeding 190lbs. live weight, and this prize fell to a choice pen of Tamworths, eleven months old, sent by Mr. A. Gerald Smith, by whom they were bred, Lord Hastings taking second.

Miscellaneous.

The seed corn exhibition attracted an unusual amount of interest, especially in the barley section, a valuable Challenge Cup having on this occasion been offered, in addition to special prizes by Mr. Thomas Mortimer, Mr. John Cooper, and Messrs. R. and W. Paul, Limited. There were as many as twenty-five entries for the Challenge Cup, amongst them being the champion exhibits at the recent Brewers' Exhibition, namely, Mr. J. Pratt's Melton sample of Wrinch's Premier, and it again came out on top. Roots and vegetables made a good show, as did also the poultry and the fancy pen.

Royal Dublin.

The Royal Dublin Society's winter show, held at Ball's Bridge on the 11th, 12th, and 13th inst., was a most successful one from every point of view. The weather was most favourable, and there was a good attendance of visitors each day. Those on the first notable day, Exhibitors' Day, included Lord and Lady Cromer, Lord and Lady Londonderry, Lord and Lady Longford, Lady F. Doyne, Miss Ewart, Miss Ewart, and Lord Ardilaun. A.D.C. to his Excellency. With but few exceptions the entries compared favourably with those of last year, the principles on the chief sections being:—Horses, 232, as against 210 in 1899; out-fed cattle, 274—179; groups of cattle, 56—64; sheep, 55—51; pigs, 8—1. In the roots and butter departments

the entries showed a considerable increase, but grain was slightly less.

Amongst cattle, the great feature was the immense improvement amongst the in-fed. There was altogether a much better tone about the general look of the exhibits, and not only were first-class animals to be found as the winners, but there were less appearance of weeds, and every symptom of feeding being more systematically carried out all through the year. Amongst the out-fed and artificially sheltered the improvement was less marked, and there were many more of the hard, weedy-looking animals that were to be seen in former years; but it must also be said that the type is coming more into that blocky, low-set, all-meat stamp.

This is due in some measure to the influence of Aberdeen-Angus blood, which is becoming stronger every year, and is certainly making the Irish stock of a more typical beef stamp. Not only were the "black" crosses more plumper and more compact, but they looked fresher, and more thriving from the open-air treatment. Their influence is equally good, however, on the in-feds, as may be seen from the great bulk of prizes won by Aberdeen-Angus or animals of that cross.

For the Lord-Lieutenant's challenge cups for the best ox and the best heifer in the show there was a fine list of competitors and the keenest competition that has yet taken place at Ball's Bridge. After a lengthened period, the list was at length fined down to Viscount De Vesci's in-fed ox competing with an out-fed belonging to Colonel Pepper, and the Abbeyleix in-fed heifer against another out-fed belonging to Mr. Ternan, Drogheda. These were all cross-bred Aberdeen-Angus and Shorthorns of similar strains, but the out-feds were both over three years of age, while the others competing against them were only about one year eight months for the bullock and one year eight months for the heifer respectively. The contest was a keen one, and was all the more interesting as the contestants in each case represented different principles of feeding, both as to outdoor and stall feeding, as well as slow growth and forcing for early maturity. In the end the out-feds won both the Lord-Lieutenant's cups and the *Farmers' Gazette* challenge cup as the best animals in the show, and it is worthy of note that the premier honours were awarded for slow growth against the earlier maturity of the younger animals. This seems hardly the orthodox course of procedure, and rather upsets the principle of "baby" beef and quick returns.

The sheep made up but a very medium show, both numerically and in point of quality. If anything, they had, perhaps, a more level tone than last year, and there were practically no weeds. A very fine pen of cross-bred Border Leicester and Roscommon hoggets were shown by Mr. M. H. Franks, for which he was awarded the challenge cup, while the special prize went to Mr. Flanagan for a pen of three very nicely-finished wethers.

Pigs made a very poor show, especially considering the great part these animals play in the agricultural economy of the country, and Mr. Wilmington's first prize winners were well worthy of gaining the honours in a much keener competition.

If there were some features of the live stock section that left room for improvement, there is little complaint to be made about the crop exhibits. There was a fine display of malting barleys, and the barley committee have reason to be gratified at the ready response made by all the counties to their liberal prize list. Comparing with last year, the colour did seem quite so good this year, but, as a rule, the grain was plumper and better filled, and there was no scarcity of samples of good maturation. The wet season has been particularly favourable to the growth of roots, and never has there been a better display of these crops staged at Ball's Bridge.

Judges.

CATTLE (In-fed): Mr William Field, M.P., Blackrock, co. Dublin; Mr. John Handley, Green Head, Milnthorpe; Mr. Arthur W. Law, Sanquhar, Forres, N.B.

CATTLE (Out-fed): Mr Christopher Barry, Larch Hill, Kilcock; Mr. Denis Fay, Edenderry; Mr. F. Greaves, 104, Upper Leeson Street, Dublin

KERRY AND DEXTER CATTLE: Mr. William Field, M.P.; Mr. John Handley, Mr. W. Law.

GROUPS OF CATTLE AND SHEEP: Mr John Ennis, West Curragh, Ballbriggan; Mr W. P. Delany, 94, Upper Dorset Street, Dublin; Mr Charles J. Rush, Hinxton, Saffron Walden.

PIGS: Mr. P. Clune, Albert Model Farm, Glasnevin, co. Dublin

Special Prizes.

Championship cup for the best ox in the show: Colonel Pepper, Ballygarth, Julianstown, co. Meath; r, The Right Hon. Viscount De Vesci, Abbeyleix.

Championship cup for the best heifer in the show: Mr. Patrick W. Ternan, Sheephouse, Drogheda; r, The Right Hon Viscount De Vesci.

"Farmers' Gazette" challeng cup, for the best animal in cattle classes bred by the exhibitor: Mr. Patrick W. Ternan; r, Colonel Pepper.

Challenge cup, value 20gs., for the best animal in Class 18: Mr. Matthew Flanagan.

Challenge cup, value 20gs., for the best animal in Class 19: Mr. Joseph Lowry, Bachelor's Lodge, Navan

£5 for best in-fed ox entered in Classes 1 to 13, the property of the exhibitor, fed in the province of Connaught from August 1st, 1900, to date of show: Mr. H. D'E. Strevens, Castle Coote, Roscommon

£5 for the best in-fed heifer entered in Classes 1 to 13, the property of the exhibitor, fed in the province of Connaught from August 1st, 1900, to date of show: Mr H D'E Strevens

£2 for the best pen of three wethers, over one and under two years old, the property of the exhibitor, fed in the province of Connaught from August 1st, 1900, to date of show: Mr. Matthew Flanagan, Tomona, Tulsk; r, Mr. Matthew Flanagan

Cup for the best out-fed heifer in Classes 32 and 33: Mr. H. Tunstall-Moore, Stedalt, Balbriggan; r, Mr. Laurence F. Ball, Dowdstown, Maynooth.

£5 for the best in-fed ox in Classes 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, and 9: The Right Hon. Viscount De Vesci; r, Lord Rathdonnell, Drumcar, Dunleer.

£5 for the best animal in Classes 3, 6, 9, and 12: The Right Hon Viscount De Vesci; r The Right Hon. Viscount De Vesci.

£5 for the best animal in Classes 22, 23, 26, 27, 30, and 31: Mr J. Bradley, Dreminstown, Rathkenny, Slane; r, Colonel Pepper.

£5 for the best group in Classes 20 and 21: Colonel Pepper; r, Mr. Richard Williams, Rathdowney.

Prize List.

CATTLE.

IN-FED.

Class 1.—Horned or artificially polled ox, over two years eight months, and not exceeding three years: 1 and 2, Duke of Leinster; 3, Major R. Claude Cane; r, Duke of Leinster; hc, Sir Josslyn Gore-Booth, Bart., Lissadell, Sligo; c, Major R. Claude Cane, St. Wolstan's, Celbridge.

Class 2.—Horned or artificially polled ox, over two years and not exceeding two years eight months: 1, Lord Rathdonnell, Drumcar, Dunleer; 2, Mr. James N. Hone, Ballymacad, Oldcastle; 3, Mr. William N. Waller, Allenstown, Kells, co. Meath; r, Mr. H. L. Clifford, Ennistown, Kilmessan, co. Meath.

Class 3.—Horned or artificially polled ox, two years and under: 1, Miss Staples, Dunmore, Durrow; 2, Major J. Alexander, Milford, co. Carlow; 3, Marquis of Waterford; r, Miss Staples.

Class 4.—Horned or artificially polled heifer, over two years eight months, and not exceeding three years: 1, 2, 3, r, hc, and c, Mr. H. D'E. Strevens, Castle Coote, Roscommon.

Class 5.Horned or artificially polled heifer, over two years, and not exceeding two years eight months: 1, Mr. R. G. Nash, Finnstown, Lucan; 2, Mr. H. D'E. Strevens; 3, Mr. William N. Waller; r, Mr. Wm. P. Radcliff, Hurdlestown.

Class 6.—Horned or artificially polled heifer, two years and under: 1 and 2, Mr. William N. Waller; 3, Marquis of Waterford; r, Miss Staples; hc, Mr. H. L. Clifford; c, Mr. William N. Waller.

Class 7.—Natural polled ox, over two years eight months, and not exceeding three years: 1, Mr. R. G. Nash, Finnstown, Lucan; 2, Mr. H. D'E. Strevens; 3, Mr. Ernest E. Law, Great Freffans, Trim; r, Right Hon. Viscount Duncannon, C.B.; hc, Mr. Joseph Lowry, Bachelor's Lodge, Navan; c, Major R. Claude Cane.

Class 8.—Natural polled ox, over two wears, and not exceeding two years eight months: 1 and 2, Miss Staples; 3, Mr. Herbert Satchwell, Creggs, Roscommon; r, Mr. R. G. Nash; hc, Mr. James N. Hone, Ballymacad, Oldcastle, co. Meath; c, Major J. Alexander, Milford.

Class 9.—Natural polled ox, two years and under: 1 and 2, The Right Hon. Viscount De Vesci, Abbeyleix; 3, Mr. R. G. Nash; r, Right Hon. Viscount Duncannon; hc and c, Mr. William N. Waller.

Class 10.—Natural polled heifer, over two years eight months, and not exceeding three years: 1, Mr. Joseph Lowry, Navan; 2 and 3, Major R. Claude Cane; r, Mr. Richard Garnett, Summerseat, Clonee; hc, Mr. George F. Murphy, The Grange, Dunsany; c, Major R. Claude Cane.

Class 11.—Natural polled heifer, over two years, and not exceeding two years eight months: 1, Miss Staples; 2, Mr. J. Perry Goodbody, Clara; 3, Mr. Joseph Lowry; r, Mr Hubert Satchwell; hc, Mr. Ernest E. Law.

Class 12.—Natural polled heifer, two years and under: 1, Right Hon. Viscount De Vesci; 2, Viscount Duncannon, C.B.; 3, Mr. William N. Waller; r, Miss Staples; hc, Mr. Joseph Lowry; c, Mr. H. J. Cullen, Liscarton, Navan.

Class 13.—Cow of any age, which must have produced at least one live calf: 1, Mr. R. G. Nash, Finnstown, Lucan; 2, Mr. J. N. G. Pollock, Mountainstown, Navan; 3, Mr. Ernest E. Law; r, Mr. Richard Wilkinson; hc, Mr. Arthur J. Owen, Shanvaghey, Ballacolla, Queen's County; c, Mr. George F. Murphy.

IN-FED, ARTIFICIALLY SHELTERED, OR OUT-FED.

Class 14.—Ox, of the Kerry breed or type, under four years: 1, Mr. R. G. Nash; 2, Mr. H. D'E. Strevens; 3, Mr. Michael Dodd, Tommintown, Donabate.

Class 15.—Heifer of the Kerry breed or type, under four years: 1, and 2, The Right Hon. Lord Crofton; 3, Mr. Mathew Flanagan, Tomona, Tulsk; r, Mr. W. P. Radcliff, Hurdlestown, Navan.

Class 16.—Ox of the Dexter breed or type, under four years: 1, Mr. R. G. Nash; 2, Colonel Pepper, Ballygarth Castle, Julianstown, co. Meath; 3 and hc, Mr. H. L. Clifford; r, Mr. Thomas Leonard, Warrenstown, Dunsany; c, Mr. John Curtis, Oakley, Clontarf.

Class 17.—Heifer of the Dexter breed or type, under four years: 1, Mr. Laurence F. Ball, Dowdstown, Maynooth; 2, Duke of Leinster; 3, Colonel Pepper; r, Mr. H. L. Clifford.

Class 18.—Ox, other than Kerry or Dexter breed, over two and under four years, 11cwt. and under, live weight: 1, Mr. Mathew Flanagan; 2, Mr. Patrick O'Connor, Mylerstown, Naas; 3, Mr. H. D'E. Strevens; r, Mr. J. Perry Goodybody, Clare; vhc, Mr. Edward Kelly, Creakenstown, Ratoath, and H. D'E. Strevens; hc, Mr. Joseph P. Cuffe and Right Hon. Viscount Duncannon.

Class 19.—Heifer, other than Kerry or Dexter breed, over two and under four years, 10cwt. and under, live weight: 1, Mr. Joseph Lowry; 2, Mr. R. Ganly, 18, Usher's Quay, Dublin; 3, Mr. Richard Wallace, Belfield, Shinrone Roscrea; r, Mr. Richard Wallace; hc, Mr. Laurence F. Ball; c, Mr. Wm. P. Radcliff, Hurdlestown, and Mr. R. G. Nash.

Class 20.—Group of four horned or artificially polled cattle, artificially sheltered or out-fed, not exceeding four years: 1, Mr. Richard Wilkinson; 2, Mr Patrick Leonard, 17, Lower Dominick Street, Dublin; 3, Mr. Richard Walsh, Kingswood, Clondalkin; r, Mr. T. Leonard.

Class 21.—Group of four natural polled cattle, artificially sheltered or out-fed, not exceeding four years: 1, Colonel Pepper; 2, Mr. Richard Williams, Rathdowney; 3, Mr. Patrick Leonard.

OUT-FED, ARTIFICIALLY SHELTERED

Class 22.—Horned or artificially polled ox, over two years eight months, and not exceeding four years: 1, Mr. C. M. Doyne; 2, Mr Christopher M'Cormick, Ellextown, Dunboyne; 3, Mr. C. M. Doyne, Wells, Gorey; r, Mr. J. Perry Goodbody.

Class 23.—Horned or artificially polled ox, two years eight months and under: 1, Mr. Joseph Lowry; 2, Mr. J. Perry Goodbody; 3, Mr. Patrick Leonard; r, Mr. Thomas Butler, Jordanstown, Oldtown; hc, Mr. Richard Wilkinson.

Class 24.—Horned or artificially polled heifer, over two years eight months and not exceeding four years: 1, Mr. Richard Williams; 2, Mr. J. Perry Goodbody; 3, Mr. C. M'Cormick; r, Mr. Richard Wilkinson.

Class 25.—Horned or artificially polled heifer, two years eight months and under: 1, Mr. James N. Hone; 2, Miss C. J. Reynell, Killynon, Killucan; 3, Mr. William Dove, Kilcairne House, Navan; r, Mr. William Dove.

Class 26.—Natural polled ox, over two years eight months, and not exceeding four years: 1, Mr. Joseph Lowry; 2, Mr. Richard Williams; 3, Mr. Joseph Lowry; r, Mr. H. J. Cullen, Liscarton, Navan; hc, Mr. H. Tunstall-Moore, Stedalt, Balbriggan; c, Mr. Patrick W. Ternan, Sheephouse, Drogheda.

Class 27.—Natural polled ox, two years eight months and under: 1, Viscount Duncannon, C.B.; 2 and 3, Mr. J. Perry Goodbody; r, Mr. H. Tunstall-Moore; hc, Mr. H. J. Cullen; c, Mr. William W. Kilroy and Mr. H. J. Cullen.

Class 28.—Natural polled heifer, over two years and eight months and not exceeding four years: 1, Mr. Patrick W. Ternan; 2, Mr. Joseph Lowry; 3, Mr. Patrick W. Ternan; r, Mr. John M. Ennis, Naul Park, Balbriggan; c, Mr. Richard Wilkinson.

Class 29.—Natural polled heifer, two years eight months and under: 1, Mr. Joseph Lowry; 2, Mr. H. Tunstall-Moore; 3, Mr. Perry Goodbody; r, Mr. William N. Waller; c, Mr. Wm. N. Waller; and Mr. Edward H. Woods, Milverton Hall, Skerries.

OUT-FED.

Class 30.—Ox, horned or artificially polled, not exceeding four years: 1, Mr. John Bradley, Dreminstown, Rathkenny, Slane; 2, Mr. John Francis Ternan; 3, Mr. Nathaniel Hone; St. Dolough's Park, Raheny; r, Mr. John Francis Ternan; hc, Mr. Nathaniel Hone; c, Mr. N. J. Kelly, Greenogue, Killsallaghan, co. Dublin; Mr. James M'Cann, and Messrs. Murphy, Breemount, Laracor.

Class 31.—Ox, naturally polled, not exceeding four years: 1 and 2, Colonel Pepper; 3 and r, Mr. James Wilkinson; hc, Duke of Leinster; c, Miss Stewart, Mendon, Swords, co. Dublin; and Mr. Joseph Lowry.

Class 32.—Heifer, horned or artificially polled, not exceeding four years: 1, Mr. Laurence F. Ball; 2, Mr. Thomas Leonard; 3, Mr. Nathaniel Hone; r, Mr. John Francis Ternan; hc, Mr. James N. Hone; c, Mr. Nathaniel Hone, Mr. John M. Tiernan, Rathkenny House, Slane; Mr. Thomas Leonard, and Miss A. E. Magan, Killyon Manor, Hill of Down.

Class 33.—Heifer, naturally polled, not exceeding four years: 1, and 2, Mr. H. Tunstall-Moore; 3, Mr. Joseph Lowry; r, Mr. Thomas Leonard; c, Mr Michael Dodd.

Class 34.—Cow, of any age, which must have produced at least one live calf: 1, Mr. Laurance F. Ball; 2, Mr. Richard Wallace; 3, Mr. James Wilkinson; r, Mr. Joseph P. Cuffe; hc, Mr. Richard Wilkinson and Mr. James M'Cann, M.P.; c, Mr. Patrick Leonard, Mr. James Austin, Ballymaglasson, Batterstown, co. Meath, and Mr. Christopher Rooney.

SHEEP.

Class 35.—Pen of three long-woolled sheep of the Leicester, Border Leicester, or Lincoln breed, over one and under two years: 1, Mr. Mat H. Franks, Westfield, Mountrath.

Class 36.—Pen of three long-woolled sheep, of the Roscommon breed, over one and under two years: 1, Mr. Edward Kelly; 2 and 3, Mr. Mathew Flanagan; r, Mr. John Smyth, Oak Park, Castleknock; hc, Mr. Hubert Satchwell and Mr. Edward Kelly.

Class 37.—Pen of three crossbred sheep, over one and under two years: 1, Mr. Mat H. Franks; 2, Mr. Michael Dodd; 3, Mr. Thomas Leonard; r, Mr. Herbert Satchwell.

Class 38.—Pen of three short-woolled sheep other than Cheviot or Mountain, over one and under two years: 1, Mr. Michael Dodd.

Class 39.—Pen of black-faced Mountain sheep: 1, 2, and 3, Mr. Arthur Alexander, Glenmor, Drogheda.

Class 40.—Pen of three Cheviot sheep: 2 and 3, Mr. Laurence S. Cuffe.

Class 41.—Pen of three sheep, under one year: 1, Mr. Mat H. Franks; 2, Mr. Mathew Flanagan; 3, Mr. H. J. Cullen, Liscarton, Navan; r, Mr. Laurence C. Cuffe.

PIGS

Class 42.—Pen of three fat pigs, white, under ten months: 1, Mr. J. Willington, St. Kieran's, Rathcabbin; 2, Mrs. H. D'Esterre Strevens, Castle Coote, Roscommon

Class 45.—Pig, any breed, under ten months: 1, Mr. J. Willington, St. Kieran's, Rathcabbin; 2, Mr. George J. Smith, Curraghtown, Navan

Faversham.

The first of what it is hoped in the future will become one of the institutions of the town took place at the Faversham Cattle Market on Wednesday, viz., an exhibition of Christmas Fat Stock in connection with the Society, which was formed in the summer months. For some years past the need of such an institution has been keenly felt in the locality, especially when it was taken into consideration that towns of far less importance than Faversham boasted of their fat stock shows. After Wednesday's exhibition it was the unanimous opinion that the show was one of the best ever held in that part of the country. It was a source of the greatest regret that the hon. secretary, Mr. Gardiner, was not able to be present owing to indisposition. It must indeed have been a keen disappointment to him, after having worked as he did most indefatigably to make the venture supply a long-felt want, not to be able to see the efforts of himself and colleagues brought to a satisfactory issue.

It can safely be said that the Faversham Cattle Market never presented such an array of stock as it did on Wednesday. The entries were as follows: Sheep 348, bullocks 78, calves 2, pigs 102—a very good number for the first show. All stock had to be in the market by 9 o'clock, and very shortly after this hour everything was ready for the judges, who were Mr. G. F. Brown, J.P., of Margate, Mr. W. Long, of Folkestone, and Mr. M. H. Munyard, of Greenwich and Blackheath, three gentlemen who are well known throughout the county of Kent. Their decisions gave universal satisfaction, although in some cases the competition was exceedingly keen. Their work was rendered somewhat difficult from the fact that they had to award the prizes purely from a butcher's point of view, and that the entries were not divided into breed classes. In the class for steers of any age there were no less than twenty-eight entries. The first prize fell to Mr. J. G. Millen, who exhibited a magnificent animal with a splendid loin, and the acme of perfection from a butcher's point of view. In breed it was a blue grey poll steer with plenty of flesh, and in addition to capturing the first prize it proved to be the champion beast in the show, thus taking the ladies' prize of five guineas. The second prize was gained by Messrs. Millen and Phillips with a Sussex steer of good symmetry, and well fed, while third hon-

ours fell to Mr. H. A. Neame, with an excellent Shorthorn of good breed. The executors of the late Mr. G. W. Finn and Messrs. Millen and Phillips showed two good bullocks which were awarded cards by the judges of highly commended and commended respectively. In class 2 there were twenty entries, and the judges had an equally difficult task to separate the winners. The premier honours fell to Mr. J. P. Barnes with a Shorthorn heifer which he had bred himself. Mr. George Gardiner was second with a blue grey Scot, which was not far behind the winner, while Mr. Maylam Long was third with a fine grown white heifer. Mr. C. G. Neame in this class was awarded a highly commended distinction. In Class 3 for cows there were six entries, the competition being good. Mr. Gordon Neame was more successful here with a fine specimen of the Sussex breed, Mr. Robert Murton running him close with a good Shorthorn. In this class Mr. Frederick Neame was highly commended.

The sheep, taken as a whole, were excellent. In Class 1, for Kent wethers under two years old, there were three pens exhibited. Mr. F. Neame's lot proved to be the best, being well fatted. In the next class, for five half-breeds or Downs under two years old, the pens numbered seven. Mr. J. G. Millen was awarded both prizes at first, but under the conditions of the show he could only take one. This let Mr. L. H. Finn in with five handsome sheep as good as anyone wished to see. In Class 3, for five sheep of any breed under twelve months old, there were sixteen entries, the competition being very keen. Mr. W. Clark here took first honours with a pen of half-bred Hampshires, while Mr. R. Murton was second with five Southdowns of good breed and quality. In Class 4, for five barrens, there were three entries. Mr. C. G. Neame was first and Messrs. Millen and Phillips second, there being very little to choose between the two. The prize for the best pen of sheep, given by the ladies of the neighbourhood, fell to the lot of Mr. J. G. Millen, who thus had the unique distinction of winning both championships.

For pigs there was a capital entry, the three classes producing fifteen pens. All the animals under the conditions of the show had to be bred by the exhibitors, and the quality was good.

The Sale.

The whole of the exhibits were during the day sold by auction and made very good prices indeed, which fully confirmed the opinions passed previously of the excellence of the show. Mr. J. G. Millen sold the steers. For his champion animal in Class 1 he made the high price of £40, Mr. F. W. Boulding being the buyer. The following is the list of the prices made of the other prize winners in the class for beasts:—Class 1—2nd, £29 10s., Mr. J. H. Curling; 3rd, £30 10s., Mr. F. W. Boulding. Class 2—1st, £34, Mr. H. Burton (Lenham); 2nd, £31 10s., Mr. F. C. Wyborn; 3rd, £32, Mr. W. Vallance. Class 3—1st, £30, Mr. Wingrove (Milton); 2nd, £28, Mr. H. C. Wilkes (Whitstable).

The sheep and pigs were sold by Mr. Lewis Finn with the following results: Sheep, Class 1—1st, 57s., Mr. C. E. Harris (Westgate); 2nd, 57s., Mr. Britton (Ramsgate). Class 2—1st, champions, 65s., Mr. W. Vallance; 2nd, 65s., Mr. W. Vallance. Class 3—1st, 47s., Mr. F. C. Wyborn; 2nd, 53s., Mr. G. A. Filmer (Green-street). Class 4—1st, 52s., Mr. G. A. Filmer; 2nd, 53s., Mr. Elliott. Pigs—Class 1—1st, 32s., Mr. H. C. Wilkes; 2nd, 43s., Mr. G. Colyer. Class 2—1st, £5 7s. 6d., Mr. Hogben (Ramsgate); 2nd, £4 5s., Mr. F. C. Wyborn. Class 3—£12, Mr. Harlow (Dargate).

Dressed Poultry at the Smithfield Show.

The Stands at Smithfield.

Messrs. J. Rands and Jeckell, of Ipswich, occupied their usual position at Stand No. 222, Arcade Gallery, where they exhibited their celebrated sheep and lamb sheltering cloths, now universally used by the most successful sheep-breeders throughout the kingdom. The firm has just published the fourth and enlarged edition of their popular pamphlet on "Shelter for Sheep and Lambs," which every flockmaster should possess, and which can be obtained gratis on application. Their rot-proof and water-proof covers for waggons and engines and all classes of agricultural machines maintain the high reputation they have obtained, as do also their horse cloths, loin covers, nose bags, rick cloths, and stack sheets, binder and trussing twines, and hay and pressing cord.

That careful breeding will assert itself in the vegetable as in the animal world is an established fact, and a valuable object-lesson in this respect was to be seen in the magnificent specimens of mangolds, swedes, turnips, and other agricultural roots, exhibited at the stand of Messrs. Webb and Sons, the Royal Seed Growers, Wordsley, Stourbridge. This firm has always recognised the importance of raising the quality of farm crops to the highest possible standard of excellence, and a further proof of their successful work is shown by their varieties again winning principal honours in open competitions. We may mention that nearly the whole of the exhibits on this stand were grown by the aid of Webbs' special fertilisers, which are manufactured on a very extensive scale at their chemical manure works, Saltney, Chester.

At Stand No. 95, Mr. G. F. Strawson, of 71A, Queen Victoria Street, exhibited the now well-known charlock destroyers, with all the latest improvements and a very simple automatic gear for working these machines from the cart wheel. Mr. Strawson also showed a variety of potato spraying machines for both large and small growers, and some other new inventions in connection with spraying farm crops.

Messrs. Joseph Fison and Co., Ltd., of Ipswich, occupied Stand No. 214, which was in the Arcade Gallery. Here they exhibited samples of the champion prize barley of the world and the second prize barley (Brewers' Exhibition awards), also other barleys from practically every county in England, all of which were grown with their extra quality barley fertiliser. Samples of special fertilisers were shown for every crop of the farm or garden, whilst the collection of photographs of produce grown with these fertilisers attracted considerable attention.

One of the oldest exhibitors at the show was the well-known firm of Mr. John K. King, whose business was founded as far back as 1793, and who is seed grower to Her Majesty the Queen, and by special sealed warrant to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. His displays have always been interesting, but this year he eclipsed all his previous efforts, and nowhere was there to be found better roots either in size or quality, while the arrangement of the stand was conspicuous for its good taste. From an educational point of view, Mr. John K. King's display was interesting, for here was a specimen of the wild beet Beta maritima—the parent of the cultivated mangold, and on comparing this with the magnificent specimens of perfectly formed roots close by, the process of development by pedigree selection was shown to be something marvellous. Mr. John K. King claims that his roots have not been grown simply for show purposes, but are drawn from field crops grown by his customers.

Messrs. Bamford and Sons, Uttoxeter, occupied their usual large space, filled with an excellent collection of the well-known "Bamford" machines, arranged with great care and taste. At the Paris Exhibition this year Messrs. Bamford obtained the gold medal award for their "Royal" mowers and reapers, "Progress" haymakers, "Rapid" grinding mills, and the new "Self-feeding" chaff cutter, with patent self-acting stop motion. These and other machines were well represented at the show, and formed altogether a very attractive display of the high-class manufactures produced by this firm.

The handsome and well arranged stand of the Queen's seedsmen, Messrs. Sutton and Sons, of Reading, with its marvellous display of mangolds, swedes, turnips, etc., was, as usual, one of the main features of the show, and probably this remarkable exposition of agricultural roots has never been equalled. To farmers the exhibition was an invaluable object lesson, demonstrating as it did by ocular evidence the profitable results that must accrue from growing only carefully selected pedigree stocks, a lesson not to be neglected in these days, when, to make a farm pay every acre should yield the best results obtainable. The roots in the enormous heaps, which reached from the floor almost to the ceiling, were collectively and individually as near perfection as it is possible for roots to be. They were the more remarkable considering that they had not been specially grown or "nursed" for exhibition, but were the product of ordinary field cultivation sent to Messrs. Sutton by customers in various parts of the United Kingdom.

Messrs. John Fowler and Co. (Leeds), Limited, occupied Stand No. 27, where they showed steam ploughing engines, road locomotives and agricultural traction engines. The exhibit comprised representative engines of some of the varieties they are constantly manufacturing. We are informed that pressure of business during the past year did not admit of the manufacture of any special engines for the show, and the engines shown were all sold beforehand, the owners having arranged to take delivery at the close of the show.

Messrs. Ruston, Proctor, and Co., Limited, of Lincoln, had a fine display of prize engines and machinery at Stand No. 11. The exhibits included an eight-horse power portable steam engine, six-horse power agricultural traction engine, a finishing thrashing machine, and a five-brake horse power "Ruston" patent oil engine. These were replete with all the latest improvements. We may mention that at the Paris Exhibition, recently closed, Messrs. Ruston, Proctor, and Co. received the largest number of high awards for the excellence of their exhibits.

Messrs. Gilbertson and Page's (Ltd., Hertford) stand was in the arcade entrance, and caught the eye of every person who entered the hall from the main road. Game, poultry, and dog foods, for which this firm is noted, naturally formed the major portion of the exhibits, but there were on view several appliances required by game and poultry keepers, etc., and a few miscellaneous exhibits, including "Renardine," which for hunting out rabbits has no equal.

A fine selection of corn and cake mills, hay presses, hay binders, etc., were on view at Stand No. 129, in the main gallery, which was in the occupation of Messrs. Barford and Perkins, of Queen Street Ironworks, Peterborough. The chief exhibit was a vertical engine for driving farm machinery. It is of a very convenient and economical type, as has been proved, for a large number of these engines are now in use in all parts of the country. This company manufacture a great deal of food-preparing machinery, and of their Royal first prize corn grinding mills no fewer than thirteen thousand are in use.

Messrs. Day and Sons, of Crewe, were to be found in their old position, and with a display of the veterinary medicines for which they are so well known, and which need no description here. Of course, "The Original" medicine chests, either for horses, cattle, or sheep, occupied a prominent position on the stand, and came in for their usual amount of attention from visitors. At this time of the year their "Huskolein" is in great demand, for it is a certain cure for husk or hoose in cattle and sheep.

Messrs. Ayre Brothers' stand was, as usual, taken up with a fine display of the well-known Waterloo cakes and other foods, meals, etc., for cattle, horses, and sheep. Their stand was No. 238, and was situated in the Berners Gallery, which had its share of the large number of visitors to the show, and, as may be imagined,

Messrs. Ayre Brothers' display came in for a good deal of attention.

A good display of farm implements was given by Mr. Thomas G. Slipper, Brundall, Norwich. Drills, mowers, potato sorters and planters, ploughs, harrows, cultivators, etc., were to be seen at this stand in great variety, all being up to date in style and made of the best materials.

Messrs. Samuel Corbett and Son, Park Street Works, Wellington, Salop, occupied Stand No. 108 with a nice selection of serviceable grinding mills and root pulpers.

Mr. James Coultas, of the Perseverance Iron Works, Grantham, exhibited a portable engine, a threshing and finishing machine, an elevator and stacker, and several manure distributors, drills, and horse hoes. All the machines were of the best workmanship and materials, and were of the latest pattern.

Oil engines of various shapes, sizes, and capacity were on view at Stand No. 19, which was situated on the ground floor of the large hall, and occupied by Messrs. Allen and Barker, Ltd., of the A.B. Gas and Oil Engine Works, Taunton.

Messrs. Richard Garrett and Sons, Ltd., Leiston Works, Leiston, R.S.O., Suffolk, exhibited at Stand No. 22 some of their well-known traction, portable, and semi-portable engines, and also a threshing machine and clover huller. This firm was founded over a hundred years ago, and it has a deservedly good and widespread reputation.

King Edward's Hall was the site of the stand of Mr. E. H. Taylor, successor to T. B. Blow, Welwyn, Herts, who, as the majority of our poultry readers well know, is the manufacturer of the celebrated "Popular" incubators. Those shown had a capacity of 50, 60, and 100 eggs, fitted with a drying box and self-filling lamp. Mr. Taylor also exhibited some specimens of his "Popular" foster-mothers and rearers, and some bee appliances.

The Campbell Gas Engine Company, Ltd., Halifax, were situated at Stand 8, which was on the ground floor of the large hall. They had their customary collection of portable and stationary oil-engines, suitable for various purposes, including farmwork.

Messrs. Dicksons, Ltd., Chester, who are seedsmen by special appointment to both H.M. the Queen and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, had, as is their custom, a grand selection of grass and clover seeds suitable for laying down to permanent or temporary pasture, rotation crops, etc. Their other exhibits included some splendid apples, specimens of shrubs and trees of various kinds, and coloured illustrations of two new plants, namely, the Duchess Consuelo Carnation and the new Golden Hop, both of which were of exceptional merit.

Stand No. 265, which was in the Berners Gallery, had a special interest for breeders of cattle, as it was occupied by Messrs. R. Silcock and Sons, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs., the manufacturers of the well-known Silcock's Soluble Half Meal, on which thousands of calves are reared annually. It is a true milk substitute, is very easily digested, for it dissolves at once in water, and gives least trouble in preparing. It does not scour, is very economical in use, as one pint makes one gallon of thick gruel, and it fits early for cake feeding. It contains about 80 per cent. of soluble feeding digestible ingredients, while in milk, butter milk, and whey the figures stand at 12½, 9, and 6 per cent. respectively.

At Stand No. 119, which was on the ground floor of the large hall, were several cultivators, horse-hoes, etc., forwarded by the Harrison Patents Co., Ltd., of the Lincolnshire Iron Worws, Stamford, a firm well known for the general excellence of the various machines and implements it turns out.

G. F. Dawes, of Bury St. Edmunds, is still to the front with his Foot Rot Cure, which leaves the hoof and foot soft and healthy, as it is a vegetable preparation, there being nothing burning in it. It is also a certain cure for grease, cracked heels and thrush in horses' feet. Mr. Dawes has thousands of testimonials with large orders for the Colonies, as well as home ones. It is used on the Royal Farms at Windsor and Sandringham.

The stand of Messrs. Robert Boby, Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds, was a particularly interesting one for growers of corn, as here were shewn corn dressing and screening machines, and patent machines for dressing and screening all kinds of seeds. That the machines do all that is claimed for them goes without saying, for over thirty-five thousand have been made and sold, whilst at the late Paris Exposition the company was awarded a gold medal.

As usual Messrs. Harrison and Sons, seedsmen, of 33, Market Place, Leicester, occupied a stand, No. 94, in the large hall, and they had their customary fine collection of seeds, roots, etc. The vegetables shown were excellent, and included Early Market carrots, Up-to-date onions, Magnum Bonum parsnips, Cheltenham beet, etc., whilst amongst the numerous farm roots were a splendid new green top swede named Nailstone, their purple-top Defiance swede—an old favourite—and several varieties of mangels.

The stand of Mr. E. Mackinder, of the Lamb Food Mills, Lincoln, was situated in the Berners Gallery, and was No. 253. Of course, his chief exhibit was his famous lamb food, which is used on the Royal farms and by most of the leading flock-masters, with unqualified success, as is evidenced by the hundreds of testimonials received. Mr. Mackinder's porridge meal for weaning calves has become almost as famous as his lamb food, he having received testimony of its efficiency from every county in England. Both can be obtained through merchants, chemists, etc., or direct from the mills.

Messrs. Day, Son and Hewitt, 22, Dorset Street, London, W., had their usual fine assortment of veterinary medicines. Their "Broncholine" for husk or hoose in heifers, calves, or sheep, has a widespread reputation, for it allays bronchial irritation, destroys the parasites, soothes the lungs, and gives the animals strength to overcome the malady. It also acts as a preventative, and is equally invaluable for getting rid of tapeworms. Of the other medicines shown, mention may be made of the Gaseous Fluid, an excellent remedy for fret, colic, or gripes, etc., in horses, whilst it instantly relieves hoven or blown cattle and sheep.

The Shellingford Engineering Co., Ltd., of the Trusty Engine Works, Cheltenham, had forward at Stand 16 a few specimens of their celebrated "Trusty" oil and gas engines, which combine with their efficiency simplicity and economy. The horse-power of the oil engines shown ranged from 1½ up to 12, whilst the gas engines varied from 5 to 18 horse-power.

A very interesting farm implement was shown at Stand No. 117, namely, an artificial manure distributor manufactured by Messrs. Ben Reid and Co., Ltd., Bon Accord Works, Aberdeen. This machine will distribute crushed or dissolved bones, nitrate of soda, superphosphate, or any artificial manure in good condition. It has gained numerous first prizes at public trials; in fact, it has never been beaten in a competition.

One of the best displays of fertilizers and manures for all kinds of crops was that at Stand No. 245, which was in the occupation of Mr. William Colchester, Ipswich, who has gained over a hundred highest awards at the leading shows. The samples of produce shown, all of which were grown with Mr. Colchester's fertilizers and manures, included: The Gold Cup barley winning sample, exhibited by R. J. Thurman, Semer, Suffolk, winner of Sir W. Cuthbert Quilter, M.P.'s silver cup at the Brewers' Exhibition this year, and also the Hadleigh Farmers' Club special, first prize and Messrs. Webb and Sons' special award for cultivation; the two samples of barley winning the silver and bronze medals and diplomas in the third annual gold cup competition, Ipswich, November, 1900; specimens of wheat, oats, and other grain crops in sheaf and berry; mangolds, Kohl Rabi, turnips, swedes, potatoes, and other root crops.

An attractive little stand for growers of fruit trees was No. 78, where Messrs. W. Horne and Sons, Perry Hill, Cliffe, near Rochester, showed specimens of fruit as well as the trees.

Mr. A. J. Learner, of Redhill, Surrey, had a small stand in the Berners Gallery, and here exhibited samples of his patent foot rot cure, which has been proved by flockmasters and shepherds to be a certain remedy for foot rot in sheep. Its great advantage over some other foot rot cures is that it leaves the hoof in a soft, pliable state, a value which anybody who has anything to do with sheep will understand. It is not expensive, for a 3s. tin will dress about three hundred feet.

Of the numerous implements shown by Messrs. Follows and Bate, Ltd., engineers, Gorton, Manchester, perhaps the most striking was the patent "Handy" grindstone, which has been awarded four silver medals by leading agricultural societies. It is an exceedingly useful and effective little grindstone, suitable for farmers, gardeners, etc. It is the only grindstone fitted with a seat and double treadles, by which arrangement the weight of the operator when seated keeps the machine as steady as a rock, and the double treadles balance the body and prevent the hands from wobbling during the process of grinding. Another special feature is its portability.

Amongst the older exhibitors at the show are Messrs. Cupiss, the The Wilderness, Diss, Norfolk, whose constitution balls for horses, cattle and sheep have been extensively used with such marked success for the past half century. Many customers have written in praise of these constitution balls, but a very striking testimony as to their efficiency is given by a well-known horse-breaker, who states that he has used the balls for over twenty years, and has always found them exceedingly useful for purifying the blood and keeping the animal in excellent condition.

Ploughs and cultivators to suit almost every farmer's requirements could be seen at the stand of Messrs. Ransomes, Sons, and Jefferies, of the Orwell Works, Ipswich. This firm occupies such a prominent position in the agricultural machinery world that their manufactures need no recommendation from us. It will therefore suffice if we say that the machines they exhibited were up to date and the best of their kind. At the late Paris Exhibition these ploughs and cultivators won a grand prize and gold medal.

The Parish Patent Steam Jacketted Cooker Co., Ld., 79, Queen Victoria Street, E.C., had a stand in the main entrance, where their cookers were shown in operation. The main feature of these cookers is, as most of our readers are aware, that being steam jacketted, it does not burn the food; whilst there is always a good supply of hot water, which is just now so much required in the dairy, farm, stable and kennel. A sixteen gallon apparatus will give you thirty gallons of hot water in the same number of minutes. These cookers have grown rapidly in favour with stockbreeders, etc., whilst they are used extensively by Her Majesty's Government, and the Midland and Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Companies.

Messrs. Fidler and Sons, of Reading, had their usual grand display of potatoes and seeds for field and garden. Messrs. Fidler are well known for their numerous disease resisting potatoes, and this year they have added another variety to their already long list. To perpetuate the name of the founder of the firm it has been named the Charles Fidler; it is a most prolific cropper and is of splendid quality. Any potato growers who visited the show and failed to inspect the stand missed one of the most interesting sights in the hall.

Messrs. Richmond and Chandler, Ld., Manchester, had on view a number of safety feeder chaff cutters, for which at the late Paris Exhibition they were awarded a gold medal; whilst we may recall to mind that at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Birmingham in 1898, this firm's "Multiplex" safety feeder won the £10 prize, beating fifteen other makes. It has of course since been improved, and various other prizes have been awarded it.

Stand No. 274, which was in the Berners Gallery, was in the occupation of Messrs. Stephen Pettifer and Sons, of Malmesbury, Wilts, manufacturers of "Santovin," the famous sheep medicine, numerous samples of which were shown; also other animal medicines. Another article they showed of especial interest at the present time, namely, a patent lambing and farrowing forceps, a simple yet efficient instrument for the use of shepherds or pigmen. That the lives of many young animals that are often sacrificed may be saved when these forceps are at hand is an undoubted fact, and as the price is a moderate one, no lambing pen or breeding stye should be without them. At the Warwick Agricultural Society's Show at Coventry last August, these forceps gained a silver medal.

Amongst the exhibits of Messrs. Harrison, McGregor and Co., Ld., of the Albion Iron Works, Leigh, Lancashire, was an "Albion" Mower No. 9, an entirely new machine, which possesses several points of superior excellence, and is altogether one of the best mowers in the market. A number of specimens of the Albion harvesting machinery help to complete a most interesting stand.

The Molassine Co., Ld., of 36, Mark Lane, E.C., exhibited samples of Molassine food for horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, etc. It is a staple food and condiment combined, and replaces an equal quantity of fodder. It has not been on the English market very long, but it has met with a most favourable reception from stock breeders throughout the country. It is claimed that it is cheaper than any other provender of equal feeding qualities that has been put on the market, and that when it is used regularly cows give richer milk and the supply is increased—two important items for farmers. We may mention that it has been introduced into the Imperial and Royal stables of the Emperors of Germany, Russia and Austria, and is adopted throughout the German army.

To enumerate all the dairy appliances shown at the stand of Messrs. Thomas Bradford and Co., of High Holborn, W.C., etc., would take up a great deal of space, so that we can only make mention of two or three of the chief exhibits. The Diaphragm

churn, which was awarded two first prizes at the Royal Agricultural Society last churn trials, is still the principal churn, but there is another one which is a great favourite now, namely, Bradford's Anglo-Hibernia, which was awarded a silver medal at the last London Dairy Show. In addition to their stock of dairy implements Messrs. Bradford had on view a good selection of domestic laundry machinery, including, of course, their well-known wringing, washing and mangling machines.

Messrs. Garton, Ld., had, as usual, a most extensive display of their new and improved breeds of wheat, oats, etc., neatly mounted in cases, whilst the method of plant breeding was interestingly described by a series of enlarged micro-photographs. Their famous breeds of barley and oats were largely inspected, as were also the various roots, among the latter being five swedes and the same number of mangels, which gained two £25 prizes at county shows. Altogether the stand was an object lesson for farmers, showing the advantage of growing pedigree seeds.

The well-known firm of E. W. King and Co., of Coggeshall, exhibited a capital collection of mangels, swedes, turnips, vegetables, etc. Perhaps the most striking feature of this stand was a collection of their new prize-winner mangel, grown without any manure by one of their customers, who with twelve specimens, which weighed 314lbs., won five first prizes at a country root show. To demonstrate the keeping qualities of this mangel some specimens of last year's crop were shown, and they were in capital condition.

Messrs. F. C. Southwell and Co., of 75, Southwark Street, London, S.E., who are the general agents in England for the Deering Harvester Company, of Chicago, the Cockshutt Plough Company, of Canada, the Syracuse Chilled Plough Company, New York, the Ohio Hay Loader and Tedder Company, the Coulthard Scott Cultivator Company, of Canada, and the Keystone Weeder Company, had two important stands, the one in the east gallery, No. 163, for the Deering Harvester Company's machines, and that downstairs in the King Edward's Hall, Nos. 46 and 47, for the Ohio Hay Loader, the Ideal Cultivator, the Cockshutt Plough, and the Keystone Weeder, etc. On their stand in the gallery they showed their up-to-date Ideal harvester and binder, which now occupies the second place in this country in the point of numbers sold, so great and so rapid has been its growing popularity. On their stand downstairs we noticed for the first time Messrs. Southwell and Co.'s Ohio hay loader, a certain number of which they introduced into this country last hay harvest, and so superior in its action and construction did it appear to practical men that hundreds more could have been sold if they could have been obtained in time, as it saves from three to four men, and labour was, as is well known, so very scarce. It is claimed for this implement to be the most wonderful labour-saving harvesting machine introduced in recent years.

On Stand No. 184 the Walter A. Wood M. and R.M. Company, as usual, had a very creditable and highly interesting exhibit of their world-renowned haymaking and harvesting machines, and not the least attractive item on this stand was a large oil painting of the founder of the firm, Walter A. Wood, surrounded by a very valuable collection of hundreds of medals and trophies awarded to the "Wood" machines. The machines shown were:—One-horse steel mower, two-horse open gear iron frame mower, two-horse steel mower, tubular tilt bar mower, hay tedder, all-steel hay rake, harvester and binder, and knife grinder. The Paris Souvenir Exhibition Catalogue issued by this firm is a work of art. It contains illustrations of the early types of Walter A. Wood machines, and a list of prizes awarded to the "Wood" machines since 1853. Altogether it is an interesting and instructive publication, and farmers should secure a copy, which can be had post free on application.

At Stand No. 7, Messrs. E. R. and F. Turner, Limited, of Ipswich, and Mark-lane, London, occupied the same amount of space as usual. The general appearance of this stand is always most attractive, and certainly this year was no exception to that rule; on the contrary, the machines, if anything, looked brighter and more business-like than ever.

It would be difficult to find machines which enjoy a greater popularity with the machine-using public than do Messrs. Turner's crushing, kibbling, and grinding mills. These oat-crushers, or something very like them, were, unless we are mistaken, well to the fore in 1853, when they were awarded first prize in the R.A.S.E. trials. They have certainly undergone some few alterations which have kept them up to date, but the principle is the same, and it will take a lot of beating now.

Mr. Joseph Lowry's First Prize Heifer at the Royal Dublin Show.

SOCIETIES.

The Royal Agricultural Society.

The usual monthly meeting of the Council was held at 13, Hanover Square, on the 12th inst., Earl Cawdor (President) in the chair. Seventeen candidates were elected members of the Society, and Mr. W. A. Prout, of Sawbridgeworth, was, on the motion of Sir John Thorold, seconded by Mr. Martin, elected a member of the Council in the room of the Earl of Derby, appointed a vice-president.

Prizes for the Cardiff Meeting.

The chief business before the meeting was the settlement of the prize-sheet for the Country Meeting to be held at Cardiff from June 26th to July 1st, 1901, under the presidency of Earl Cawdor. The recommendations of the various committees as to prizes to be offered on this occasion were submitted, and an animated discussion arose as to the proposal made by the Stock Prizes Committee to make a separate section for Lincolnshire red Shorthorn cattle, for which a number of prizes had been offered by the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association. Sir Jacob Wilson raised objections to the inclusion of these classes, and Sir Nigel Kingscote, seconded by Mr. Ashworth, moved that the prizes be expunged from the prize-sheet. Mr. Sanday, Mr. Frankish, and Mr. Hornsby defended the decision of the Stock Prizes Committee, and Mr. Dugdale, Sir Walter Gilbey, Mr. Stratton, Mr. Martin, Lord Moreton, Mr. Sutton, the Hon. Cecil Parker, and others, continued the discussion. Eventually, on a show of hands, the prize-sheet as presented by the Stock Prizes Committee, including the classes for Lincolnshire red Shorthorns, was approved by twenty-four votes to twelve.

Another debate arose on a motion by Mr. Howard P. Ryland, "that the Society offer prizes, under proper restrictions, for jumping competitions at the Cardiff Meeting of 1901." This was seconded by the Hon. C. T. Parker, who urged its acceptance by the Council on the grounds of financial expediency, and agreed with the opinion expressed by Mr. Ryland that these competitions would attract a large number of visitors to the show. Mr. Penn Gaskell opposed the motion on the ground that he failed to see how these competitions could be carried out under restrictions which would make them compatible with the objects that animated the Society in holding its annual shows, viz., to encourage in all branches of the community an interest in agriculture. Mr. C. W. Wilson, Mr. Neville Grenville, Sir Walter G[illegible], Col. Curtis-Hayward, Mr. Ransome, Mr. Stratton, Mr. Foster, Sir Nigel Kingscote, and others continued the discussion. The motion was carried on a show of hands by twenty-two votes to eleven, and the further consideration of the matter was remitted to a sub-committee to draw up the regulations for submission to a future meeting.

The total amount of prizes to be offered in connection with the Cardiff meeting will be £5,[illegible], of which the Cardiff Local Committee contribute £[illegible], and various breed societies £353. The prize sheet will include classes for the established breeds of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs, as well as for poultry, butter, cheese, cider and perry, and hives and honey. The champion prizes for most of the breeds will be offered by the Stud, Herd, and Flock Book Societies identified with the breeds. There will be competitions open to the United Kingdom for shoeing smiths in two classes, for light and heavy horses; and the Worshipful Company of Farriers will present the freedom of their Guild to the winner of the first prize in each class. Prizes will be offered in the implement department for oil engines and ice-making plant, and judges for these were nominated, as well as for miscellaneous implements entered for the Society's silver medal. Mr. R. M. Greaves was appointed a steward of implements, Mr. E. W. Stanyforth a steward of stock, and Mr. W. Frankish and Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis stewards of finance for the Cardiff meeting.

Future of the Journal.

Sir John Thorold reported from the *Journal* Committee that they had further considered the question of the further issue of the *Journal*, and were unanimously agreed in recommending to the Council that after the conclusion of the current volume the *Journal* of the Society should be issued once a year in a volume suitably bound, with the full reports as before of the Council, and of the scientific advisers, together with articles by expert writers on matters which appeared to be of permanent interest and of value for reference. Any reports or memoranda of immediate importance would, however, be communicated as soon as available to the agricultural and general Press, and circulated amongst members who might from time to time express a wish to have them. The Committee took the opportunity of the present occasion on which Dr. Fream would attend as editor of the Society's *Journal* of expressing their high sense of the editorial work done by him for the Society, not only in connection with its *Journal*, but also in the compilation of its text-book on "The Elements of Agriculture."

The Permanent Site.

Sir Nigel Kingscote reported from the Special Show Committee that since the decision of the Council on August 1st, "That it is desirable to obtain a site in the neighbourhood of London for the purposes of the Society's permanent showyard," the Special Committee had been actively engaged in considering various sites offered to them in the London district, and have made a certain amount of progress in their inquiry, though they were not yet in a position to present any definite recommendation. It appeared probable that it would be necessary for the Society to rent, and it might be hoped eventually to acquire, a site of its own, capable of adaptation to the Society's special needs and of being utilised—during the time it was not required for the preparations for the show and the show itself—for any other kindred or subsidiary purposes that might present themselves. The matter was so important for the future well-being of the Society that any proposals for the actual selection and equipment of a permanent showyard must be thoroughly well considered in all their bearings before a definite decision could be arrived at; and it was not, therefore, possible for the Special Committee on that occasion to do more than to report progress towards a solution of the difficult problem remitted to them.

The Council adjourned over the recess until Wednesday, February 6th, 1901.

Annual Meeting.

The half-yearly general meeting of Governors and members of the Royal Agricultural Society of England was held on the 15th inst. at the Society's house, Hanover Square, Earl Cawdor, President, occupying the chair. The report of the Council was taken as read.

Sir W. Vincent, in moving the adoption of the report, said there was no department of agriculture which had not received the close attention of the Society. Mr. W. F. Holt Beever seconded the motion.

Surgeon Lieut.-Colonel J. Ince asked whether the attention of the Council had been drawn to letters

in the Press dealing with the financial management of the Society. As to a permanent location for their annual shows, he hoped more discussion would take place before the whole matter was finally settled. He also suggested that they should not think of purchasing a site for the present.

The Chairman, in reply, said when the accounts were fully drawn up and audited they would show exactly the financial position of the Society, and he could not anticipate the auditors' statement. With regard to the selection of a site for the permanent location of the shows, it would be seen by the report that they were proceeding on the lines suggested by the last speaker.

The report was then adopted.

On the motion of Mr. J. More, M.P., the auditors were thanked for their services and re-elected.

Mr. Hanbury, who was received with hearty applause, proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman. Lord Cawdor, he said, presided over a Society which practically dealt with every branch of agriculture, and watched over agriculture as a whole. He was bound to say, with regard to his experience at the Board of Agriculture, he almost wished the same thing could be said of that Department. (Laughter.) Perhaps it was a Board that might develop as time went on, but it occurred to him at once that one of the difficulties placed in the way of the President of the Board was that so many other departments dealt with agriculture, and that the Board of Agriculture had to deal with many things which did not belong to agriculture. He should do his best to work there with his colleagues, and do anything he could, at any rate, to assist that admirable Society to promote the interests of agriculture generally. (Loud applause.) Lord Cawdor was also chairman of a very large railway company. It must give the Society additional pleasure to have as its president a nobleman connected with railways, and he was sure that whenever the occasion arose the chairman would be only too anxious to let his duties coincide, and do his best for the interests of agriculture. (Applause.)

Mr. Henry Dudding seconded the proposition, which was carried with acclamation.

The Chairman, in acknowledging the compliment, expressed the hope that anything he did might not tend to diminish the usefulness of the Society. There were undoubtedly many difficult questions which they were endeavouring to solve at the present moment, and it was a very great satisfaction to the Council to feel that the members had confidence in them. (Applause.) So far as his relations with railway companies were concerned, there was nothing he and his co-directors would not do, so long as it was in accordance with their duty to their shareholders, to endeavour to promote the agricultural industry. In tendering the thanks of the Society to Mr. Hanbury for attending the meeting, they all recognised that the Board of Agriculture had at its head a very strong business man—(applause)—and it was a satisfaction to hear from the right hon. gentleman that during his term of office he would be glad to do everything he could to keep well in touch with agricultural societies and others, and do all he could for the benefit of agriculture. He was sure the interests of agriculture could not be in safer or stronger hands than those of the President of the Board of Agriculture. (Loud applause.)

The proceedings then ended.

Royal Counties.

The Royal Counties Agricultural Society's annual general meeting took place at the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Basingstoke, on the 28th ult. The attendance of members was not so large as usual. Mr. A. F. Jeffreys, M.P., was unanimously voted to the chair, and in proposing resolutions of condolence with Her Majesty the Queen and their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein on the lamented death of his Highness Prince Christian Victor, said they all knew Prince Christian well, and were acquainted with the keen interest he took in that Society; and they also knew how great an interest Her Majesty the Queen had taken in their operations. (Hear, hear.) For himself he (Mr. Jeffreys) might say he personally knew Prince Christian Victor, and he could honestly say that he had never met a more engaging young man in his life, or one more beloved by those who were brought into contact with him. (Applause.) Prince Christian Victor was one of the most popular young officers in the Army, and men of every rank regretted his untimely death extremely. (Hear, hear.) He proposed that a vote of condolence be sent to the Queen and to Prince and Princess Christian. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Harris, in seconding, said he was sure they all felt very deeply with their gracious patron the Queen and their good old friend Prince Christian and his consort in their great bereavement. (Hear, hear.)

The resolution was unanimously passed.

A Loss of £250 on the Year.

The next business was to receive and adopt the report of the Council and the audited statement of accounts for the past year. The report was as follows:—

In presenting their annual report the Council have once more to record a very hearty welcome from the ancient city of Winchester, which has on several occasions given a cordial reception to the Royal Counties Society. For the second time His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, K.G., honoured the Society by accepting the office of President, and in company with His Royal Highness Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, visited the show on two days, being accorded a very warm reception. Following on the record show at Windsor it was only to be expected that the entries and receipts would show a falling off, and there is no doubt that the attendance was adversely affected by the war, the result being that the accounts show a loss of about £250 on the year, and the deficit would have been greater but for the generosity of the Winchester Local Committee in placing a surplus of about £168 at the disposal of the Society. The entries numbered 1,702, as against 2,088 at Windsor in 1899 and 1,461 at the last meeting at Winchester in 1890; and an excellent site for the show yard was placed at the disposal of the Society, through the courtesy of Mr. James Stratton, to whom the Council are much indebted. During the past year four life members and sixty-six annual members have been elected, and the amount received in subscriptions is very satisfactory. The Council have to report, with deep regret, the death of Sir Henry Simpson, who had for many years been a member of the Council, and took a very prominent part in the arrangements for the Windsor meeting. The audited statement of accounts shows a balance in favour of the Society of £1,873 19s. 5d. as against £2,130 18s. 1d. at the end of 1899. The Council have, in conclusion, to report a cordial invitation from the borough of Weymouth to hold the 1901 meeting in that town, and they look forward to a substantial increase in the membership during the coming year.

Not a Matter of Surprise.

Mr. W. M. Harris, in proposing the adoption of the report and financial statement, which he said he did with great pleasure, drew attention to a few of the items. Those who had gone through the figures would all recognise the fact that the work of the Society for the year just closed had ended in a loss of something like £250. He did not think that came as a matter of surprise to any of them, because although they had a successful show at Winchester, they were aware that the city was not a populous place, and also that Winchester, like other places, had been pretty well drained in connection with the war. All their purses, rich and poor alike, had as a fact been drained in that way; and they were thankful to know that nine out of every ten Englishmen had given something at any rate to help our soldiers and sailors in one way or another. (Hear, hear.) Still, that fact necessarily affected their income. On the other side the Council of the Society had been doing their best, as the balance-sheets would show. Their gate-money at Winchester was £900 less than at Windsor, and they also received £100 less on tenders, etc. That had had a bad effect on the results financially, but the Council and the secretary had tried to economise in the work of the Society. Agricultural societies had got more numerous throughout the country, and the public, also, having visited many shows took less interest in them than they did years ago, so that they could not expect the same great receipts at the gates. Therefore they had to practise economy, and a glance at the figures would show that the Council and the secretary had altogether saved about £500 on the expenses this year, as a set-off against the £900 less receipts. They hoped the visit to Weymouth next year would be rather more successful than the last show, as regarded finances, but whether that would be so or not he of course could not say at present. His business that day was to ask their acceptance of the report and financial statement as placed before them. (Applause.)

Mr. John Hutton seconded the resolution.

The Secretary called the attention of the members to one agreeable feature in the accounts which had been overlooked by Mr. Harris, viz., that the amount received in annual subscriptions this year was £655 14s., as against £626 15s. 6d., last year, which was the previous best year they had had for subscriptions in the history of the Society. (Hear, hear.)

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Election of President.

The Chairman, in proposing the election of the Right Hon. Viscount Portman as president for the ensuing year, said he had known his lordship for a great number of years, and could safely say that he was one of the most popular noblemen in the country—a good sportsman, a Master of Hounds, and one who, altogether, took a very great interest in every way in agricultural and rural pursuits generally. (Hear, hear.) He did not think, whether they held their next meeting in Dorsetshire or anywhere else, that they could get a better president than Lord Portman; and he was glad to hear that he was willing to accept the office if they elected him to it. (Applause.)

Mr. E. Hayter, in seconding, said he had known Lord Portman for the last forty years, and could endorse every word the Chairman had said.

Messrs. W. H. Forder and Joseph Marks, of Winchester, were added to the list of vice-presidents on the proposition of Mr. James Harris, seconded by Mr. J. Stratton.

Mr. W. M. Harris moved, and Mr. J. P. King seconded, the re-election of the retiring members of the Council, as below, with the substitution of the name of Colonel Willan for that of Mr. James Harris, of Winchester, who has become a vice-president:—Messrs. S. H. Allen, Eastover, Andover; C. Barfoot, Lake, Bishopstoke; Viscount Baring, Stratton, Micheldever; Newton Clayton, Selsey, Chichester; T. A. E. Hayter, The Mount, Whitchurch, Hants; W. J. Henman, Moulsford, Berks; F. M. E. Jervoise, Herriard Park, Basingstoke; Sir William D. King, Stratford Lodge, Southsea; G. F. North, Strathfieldsaye, Mortimer, R.S.O.; Walter Perkins, Portswood House, Southampton; G. Slater, Canterbury; J. E. Willis Fleming, Chilworth Manor, Romsey; Colonel Willan, Thornhill Park, Bitterne.

Mr. W. Newton moved, and Mr. E. Whitfield seconded, "That the members of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society beg leave to tender to his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, K.G., their warm and respectful thanks for the honour H.R.H. conferred on the Society by acting as president during the past year, and for his kind presence at the Winchester Show."

Several other votes of thanks were passed.

Royal Lancashire.

The annual general meeting of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society was held at the Town Hall, Preston, on November 26th, Colonel Royds, M.P., president, in the chair.

The Chairman said that since the report was issued certain matters had arisen which it was thought advisable to include in that document. The Council regretted to announce the resignation of Mr. Birch from the secretaryship, and to state that at a recent meeting a special committee was appointed to consider the means of filling the vacancy, together with the duties, remuneration, etc., also the situation of the society's offices. This committee's report had been under consideration, and the Council had decided to intimate by advertisement that they were prepared to receive applications for the position. They also considered that the present was a favourable opportunity to have the society's headquarters more centrally situated, and recommended that the central offices should in future be at Preston. The Council had unanimously decided to ask the retiring secretary's acceptance of an honorary life vice-presidentship of the society, together with 100 guineas, in recognition of his valuable services. The addition to the report submitted by Colonel Royds was approved.

Mr. Hamilton drew attention to a paragraph in the report making certain recommendations in regard to farm prizes. He suggested that in future prizes might be offered for various classes of crops. Many farmers might enter this competition who would not enter that for "the best managed farm." He contrasted the position of the owner of a Hackney who made a tour of the various shows and won probably valuable prizes on each occasion, with that of the tenant of a 200 acres farm competing for the farm prizes. This man was a credit to his neighbour, his landlord, and a benefactor to his country, but he was not able to drive his farm past the grand stand. Yet every three years they offered him as a prize a sum that would scarcely pay for the trimming up before the judges paid him a visit. He thought this society would be well advised if those prizes were considerably increased.

Mr. R. Webster pointed out that no prizes would be given for farms until 1902. The prizes Mr. Hamilton referred to were not fixed upon, but were only recommendations. He (Mr. Webster) hoped to see included classes for small as well as large farms.

The President rose to ask Mr. G. C. Hale's acceptance of an illuminated address conveying the honorary vice-president life membership of the Society. Col. Royds observed that there appeared in the annual report an exceedingly happily worded paragraph bearing on this presentation, and however he might try it would be scarcely possible for him to convey more cordially and more feelingly the sentiments of respect and regard expressed by the Council to Mr. Hale. They wished to do honour where honour was indeed due. They recognised the long period of valuable services rendered with unfailing tact and ability. Perhaps the greatest satisfaction Mr. Hale could have was the evidence in the report showing that the Society was in a flourishing condition. The address, of which he asked Mr. Hale's acceptance, was a token of the value they attached to his services, not only to the Society, but to agriculture generally.

Mr. G. C. Hale, cordially received, expressed the hope that his long services had in some respects been advantageous. Although this might be the termination of his active service in connection with the Society, his interest would still be maintained, and his endeavour would be to promote its welfare. It was fifty years since he joined the Society, being first introduced by the then president, Lord Stanley, at the union of the Manchester and Liverpool Societies in 1848. Mr. Hale referred to various phases in the Society's constitution, and contended that the position it held at the present time was second only to one in the country. With unanimity among its members it had every prospect of becoming the chief county society in the United Kingdom.

The Secretary announced that in consequence of 1902 being Guild year, Preston had invited the

Society to visit the town. It was now within the power of the Council to fix the date and place of that show.

Councillor J. Y. Foster, as a member of the Society and as the occupant of the Mayoral chair when the Preston Town Council accorded a unanimous invitation to the Society, moved the acceptance of that offer. The Corporation had been fortunate to secure Lord Derby for their Guild Mayor, for, as they knew, anything his lordship took in hand he made a thorough success. He ventured the hope that his lordship might be president of the Society for that year. As for the inhabitants and the raising of the local prize fund, the Society need not have the slightest apprehension. Mr. T. Nevett seconded. The Chairman observed that this was a happy suggestion, and augured well for the Society. The motion was unanimously carried.

A deputation, consisting of Alderman John Foster (Mayor of St. Helens), Mr. William Gamble (local treasurer), and Mr. David Gamble (local secretary), appeared to invite the Society to hold its 1901 show at St. Helens. Alderman J. Foster said the preliminary arrangements were practically completed. The municipality had unanimously agreed upon this invitation, and the water supply for the show and any roadmaking required would be undertaken free of cost. A committee had already been formed. During the fortnight the proposal had been before the town over £700 had been promised towards the local fund. This, however, only partly represented the sum that would be raised as soon as the public had definite information that the Society was to visit St. Helens. The proposed site was Grange Park, which had a considerably larger acreage than that required by the Society. It was conveniently situated, being about one and three-quarter miles from St. Helens, two miles from Rainhill, and electric cars traversed three sides of the park.

Mr. W. W. B. Hulton moved the acceptance of the invitation, feeling certain there existed all the elements conducive to success. Mr. J. T. Wood seconded, observing that no town would accord the Society a more enthusiastic reception than St. Helens. The resolution was unanimously carried.

Lord Derby moved the appointment as president for the ensuing year of Sir David Gamble, whose family was inseparably connected with St. Helens, and no less than three generations had enlisted themselves in the service of the Society. They had abundant evidence of the good work Sir David Gamble had done in St. Helens and neighbourhood, and by his intelligence, enterprise, and liberality had done honour to himself and conferred immense benefit on the town. Sir David had already earned the deep gratitude of the Society in consenting to undertake the duties of president for the ensuing year. He would have preferred the honour to have been in other hands but he (Lord Derby) made it his duty to ask his acceptance on the ground that it was a public service to his county and his society. He, therefore, put aside any personal inconvenience and consented. He asked the members to support him and help the St. Helens show to attain the success it deserved. Though this was a new field, it was a field of promise. Sir David Gamble would during his year of office add lustre to his own name, and confer advantage to the Society.

Captain Withington seconded. Carried. Sir David Gamble, on taking the chair, had a cordial reception. He entertained no doubts as to the success of the St. Helens Show, and felt sure the arrangements would be carried out to the satisfaction of the Society. The dates fixed for next year's show were July 25th, 26th, and 27th.

Lord Derby moved a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring President. In Colonel Royds they had had a president of the right sort. He gave up the privacy of his own grounds for the purposes of the show and worked up his fellow townsmen to the proper pitch of enthusiasm. Dr. Wingate-Saul seconded. Colonel Royds gratefully acknowledged the resolution. He had felt it to be a great honour to have occupied the position, and whatever shortcomings there might have been on his part, they did not arise through any lack of interest. It afforded him the greatest possible satisfaction to think he had done something to contribute to the Society's success, and to have brought it before a town which otherwise would not have been in touch with it.

The Council recommended that in view of the proposed second inspection of farms in August taking place after the show, the following clause in Rule 15, "The awards for best cultivated farms shall be declared by the judges at the special general meeting of members held during the annual show in the showyard," be transferred to Rule 11 (business of annual meeting). This motion was moved by Mr. W. Fitzherbert-Brockholes, in the absence of Mr. Philip Park, and carried.

It was resolved, on the motion of Mr. T. Nevett, that the approximate sum to be offered in prizes at next year's show should be £1,500. The revision of the prize list was deputed to a committee.

Council Meeting.

At the council meeting held just previous to the above, Mr. Birch, the secretary, showed that satisfactory decisions had been arrived at with regard to two disputes in the prizes at the Rochdale Show. For the first time in the history of the society they had restored to law under the following circumstances:- Mr. Tom Lund, chartered accountant, Keighley, a visitor at the Rochdale Show, purchased, through the secretary's office, an exhibit at the catalogue price (£4), which he paid for by cheque. The exhibit was forwarded him in the usual course on the Monday after the show. He refused to accept delivery, and stopped payment of the cheque on the ground that the bird was too late for his purpose, and that it had deteriorated in value. The railway company, after keeping the bird at Keighley for five weeks, sold it for 15s., deducted 7s. 6d. for carriage, and tendered the balance 7s. 6d. to the society. This he (the secretary) refused, and as the society was in the position of agent for the seller, after giving Mr. Lund notice he took proceedings against him in the Rochdale County Court. The evening before the case was to be heard Mr. Lund paid the amount and fees (£5 17s.) into court. As the society had been put to some considerable trouble and expense, he instructed the society's solicitors to appear on the following day and ask for costs, which they succeeded in obtaining.

A special committee appointed to consider the means to be adopted to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Birch as secretary, together with the duties, remuneration, etc., recommended for the new secretary a salary of £350, to include all clerical assistance. They also suggsted that in view of the removal of the society's offices to Preston, "that not fewer than one meeting of the council should be held in Manchester, one in Liverpool, and two in Preston annually."

On the proposition of Mr. G. C. Hale, seconded by Mr. J. W. Fair, it was recommended that, in recognition of his valuable services, Mr. J. Birch be elected an honorary life vice-president.—The council approved the recommendations.

Mr. Birch, in responding, said he had always had the greatest pleasure in serving the council of the Society. He had had the privilege of serving under a group of presidents as would probably hardly ever fall to the lot of another secretary. These comprised Lord Derby, Lord Lathom, Lord Cross, Mr. Victor Cavendish, Colonel Starkie, and Colonel Royds. If at any time his experience could be of any use to the society, it would always be available, and if any misfortune should happen to the society, he would be glad to temporarily fill the vacancy.

Mr. R. Webster, while admitting the honour conferred upon Mr. Birch in making him a life vice-president, thought a great society like theirs ought to do something in the way of an honorarium.—Mr. T. Backhouse also urged there should be some tangible form of recognition of the services of Mr. Birch, whose name was a household word in Liverpool. Mr. Webster moved that a grant be made from the fund of £200. A second proposition was for 100 guineas. Mr. J. T. Wood, in supporting the larger amount, said that in Mr. Birch's first year he paid for assistance £200 more than the society allowed him in salary. Lord Derby urged that Mr. Birch had kept open his office in Liverpool principally for the advantage of the society, and that he had been most liberal to them. Mr. Hulton remarked that if Mr. Birch were paid £200 it would only be his due. On a vote there was a majority in favour of the smaller sum.

Yorkshire.

Loss of nearly £3,000 on the Doncaster Show.

The annual meeting of the members of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday afternoon at the De Grey Rooms, York. The Earl of Feversham was voted to the chair in the absence of Mr. G. Bacon Frank, the president for the year. The Council met just prior to the general meeting, and approved of the report, which was afterwards submitted in form.

In the Secretary's report on the year's work it was stated that the financial result of the show at Doncaster was a loss of nearly £3,000. The site was everything that could be desired, the local committee spared no effort, and the weather was most favourable; yet the attendance was the lowest for over thirty years. The entries for cattle were 245, as against an average of 233 for the five years ending 1899, and sheep 161 as against 162, the falling off being in the horse section, where 539 were shown as against an average of 567. The entry for sheep might therefore be regarded as good, and that for cattle satisfactory. The entry for horses depends to a great extent on the locality in which the show is held, but, says the report, there has been a falling off in this section during the last five years. This would seem to indicate that the farmers are now devoting less attention to the breeding of horses than formerly, and more to cattle and sheep. With respect to the implements, there were 177 exhibitors, as against an average of 213, a difference of 36, but as compared with Hull the number of compartments taken was in the aggregate 204 less, with a diminution in the open space of 250 square yards. This great difference in the implement department was no doubt attributable to the Royal being held at York and the Highland at Stirling, the latter probably having the greater effect.

The attendance of the pubic as compared with the average was as follows:—First day, 2,255, average 7,265; second day, 14,615, average 39,771; third day, 3,343, average 12,350; respectave totals, 20,193, average 59,386. The total turnstile, season ticket, and grand stand receipts were:- Doncaster, £1,366 6s., against an average of £4,082 7s. 10d., or a decrease of £2,616 1s. 10d.

An Appeal for £10,000.

To meet this deficiency the Society have invested securities valued at £1,660, leaving, exclusive of the value of the rolling stock, a sum of £1,750 to be provided for, to meet which debt the Council have effected an arrangement with the Society's bankers. At the present day, owing to the increased cost of labour and materials and other outgoings, the total cost of placing the show before the public is nearly £10,000. The average profits for the five years ending 1899 have been £185 per annum, which is equal to £1 17s. per cent. on the outlay. This is a risk which no voluntary body should be asked to undertake, and the Council therefore recommend that they do not feel justified in holding another show until the funds of the Society are placed on a sounder basis, and to effect this they recommend that an appeal be made to the county for £10,000 to be raised by voluntary subscriptions of not less than £10 each. They also recommend that the reports of the Selection and Stock Prizes Committees stand over until the adjourned Council meeting on the 31st January, 1901, and that Mr. Stephenson's motion as to altering the date for holding the show be also allowed to stand over until such meeting. The Council regret to report the loss by death of two of its ablest members, the late Mr. Robert Eddison and Mr. Samuel Rowlandson. The Council particularly wish to direct attention to the meagre roll of membership, which now comprises 396 life members, 864 annual, and two honorary, a total of 1,262, and they trust that members will individually do their utmost to materially increase the income from this source. An invitation from the mayor and burgesses of Bradford to hold the show of 1901 in that borough has been accepted, and as there was a record attendance of the public when last the Society visited Bradford, the Council feel justified in looking forward with every confidence to a successful meeting in the ensuing year.

Colonel Gunter, M.P., in moving the adoption of the report, said the future of the Society was one entirely for the county. The finances were in a very bad condition, and it would depend altogether on the amount of subscriptions and donations sent in as to whether or not the Society should continue its career.

The motion was seconded by Sir Reginald Graham, and carried.

Election of Officials.

The Council recommended that Lord Masham be asked to accept the presidency of the Society for the ensuing year, and the proposal was very heartily endorsed by the meeting. One-third of the Council retire each year, and the members were re-elected, Mr. Reginald Wigram, of Leeds, and Mr. Hugh Rowlandson being elected to fill the vacancies caused by the death of Mr. R. W. Eddison and Mr. Samuel Rowlandson. The hon. director (Mr. Marshall Stephenson), the veterinary inspectors, the analytical chemist, and the auditor were all reappointed.

Lord Herries, in moving a vote of thanks to the retiring president, said that during his year of office Mr. Bacon Frank had done everything that lay in his power to promote the interests of the Society. Owing to unforeseen events, the show at Doncaster was not the success they had hoped for, but that was in no measure the fault of the president, who worked extremely hard in securing new subscribers, and in many other ways. (Hear, hear.) He sincerely hoped that the efforts now being put forth would enable them to place the Society on the stable footing it had occupied in former years, and that they would be able to cope with all the difficulties which confronted them. (Hear, hear.) It was not now merely a question of improving their position; the question was whether they were to exist at all, and their common desire must be to hand on the Society in the same state of efficiency in which they received it. The duty was incumbent on all Yorkshiremen, and he hoped they would readily respond.

The Hon. Henry Fitzwilliam seconded, and said he could not too strongly emphasise the words used by Lord Herries. They were on the verge of holding no show at all, and if Yorkshiremen did not respond to the appeal that was going out to them, he did not see that the show could be continued, even for the ensuing year.

In putting the motion, which was carried, the Chairman also emphasised the imperative need of putting the finances of the Society on a new foundation.

Presentation to the late Secretary.

On behalf of the Council and members of the Society generally, the Chairman then presented to Mr. Marshall Stephenson a beautiful and massive service of silver plate, consisting of a large silver Monarch bowl, candelabra, inkstand, two silver vases, and two cake dishes. The presentation was made "In general recognition of the valuable services he rendered to the Society during the years he occupied the position of secretary." Lord Feversham said the duty which had fallen to him was a matter of great personal pleasure and satisfaction, and he was sure Mr. Stephenson would accept the gift as a mark of

their regard and esteem, and as a recognition of the work he had done for the Society. During Mr. Marshall Stephenson's administration the Society's affairs rose to a high level of success. The arrangements for the annual show were always most satisfactory; the showground was a model of order and convenience, and the organisation seemed to be complete. These things could not have been achieved without hard work, great sacrifices of time, and steady perseverance in facing difficulties as they arose. Mr. Stephenson brought to bear all these qualities, and in all his dealings with members of the Society he showed a great desire to meet their convenience. In making the presentation, he expressed the hope that Mr. Stephenson's future career would be marked by every happiness and prosperity.

Mr. Marshall Stephenson, in acknowledging the tribute, said he was greatly embarrassed in attempting to express in words the depth of his gratitude, and he did not know what he had done to excite or deserve such a splendid testimonial. What he had been able to accomplish during a lengthened period of service to the Society was mainly, if not entirely owing to the kindly support and approval he received from those with whom he had the honour to be associated. That testimonial was, he believed, more owing to their liberality than to any merits he possessed. ("No.") Glancing back at the twenty five years during which he had been associated with the Society he was ready to acknowledge that the world had been very good to him, and that grateful recollection he could also extend to the friends of his youth in Northumberland, who accorded their warmest wishes on his leaving the county of his birth for the county of his adoption. His warmest thanks were due to all who had contributed in any way to that testimonial, and his obligations were particularly due to the gentlemen who acted as secretary and treasurer to the special committee. In conclusion, he wished every success to the Society, and all happiness to the members.

A vote of thanks was then passed to Lord Feversham for presiding.

Cheshire Chamber.

A meeting of the members of the Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture was held on the afternoon of the 10th inst. at Crewe, Colonel Cotton-Jodrell presiding. The secretary read a letter from Mr. C. E. Linaker, of Frodsham, referring to the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896, and combating the assertion that its effect was to benefit the landlords. He contended that the Act did not go far enough, and that one half of the rates was not a sufficient concession to the agricultural community. If they went back to the old system of maintaining the poor it would be found that agricultural districts had very light expenditure with regard to the relief of the poor, and it was a fact that the majority of the pauperism was furnished in large towns and urban districts. The land did not make paupers as a rule, and country districts, where they were purely agricultural, had only a small percentage of poor chargeable to the rates. If it was equitable that land should only pay one quarter of sanitary rates it was, in his opinion, fair that it should only pay one quarter of the poor rates.

Mr. W. J. Dutton said he was not quite satisfied that the time was opportune for a general discussion on the present fiscal system, because they knew there was pending a full and, it might be, a final report by the Royal Commission on Local Taxation, but it might be that that report would not be forthcoming in time, and that the Government would be required either to renew the Agricultural Rates Act or to allow it to lapse. They all hoped that the Government would renew the Act. He proposed "That this Chamber, recognising the justice of the Agricultural Rates Act, is of opinion that it shall be renewed and made permanent." He believed the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896 was the first attempt ever made by any Government to rectify what had been one of the gravest abuses known to the agricultural interest. When the Government of the day abolished the Corn Laws they took away from agriculture its protection, but they did not take away any share of their responsibility to pay rates. When agriculture was a protected interest this fiscal responsibility fell upon their shoulders as a natural consequence, and there was no argument in favour of agricultural burdens being reduced as long as they enjoyed agricultural protection. But when the Government, in their wisdom, abolished the Corn Laws, they took away that protection, but left them with financial burdens which had gone on increasing. There was an old Act of Elizabeth which contained the principle (which was always held to be a sound one) that responsibility to pay should bear some proportion to the ability to pay. The income tax recognised the principle of ability to pay, but the assessment of local rates did not make any distinction of this sort, and the consequence was that the agriculturist was called upon to pay an altogether undue proportion of them. From a statement made recently he found that 90 or 100 years ago the population of the country was 5½ millions, and of this number 4½ millions were agriculturists depending upon agricultural pursuits. The population of the country had increased to something like 35 millions, but the 4½ millions, as the number of the agricultural population remained stationary. Why should these 4½ millions have to pay an undue proportion of the local rates, while so many millions engaged in other pursuits did not bear their fair proportion?

Mr. W. Emberton seconded the motion, and said that agriculturists would be disappointed if the Act were not made permanent. He did not believe that the Act was a landlords' relief Act. It was undoubtedly a measure for the relief of the occupier or tenant. Even if the landlords had the benefit of it, he would defend it then, for it would be perfectly just, and the land would get the relief due to it.

Mr. J. Millington supported the motion, and said the word "relief" ought not to be used. It was a simple measure of justice. The land was overrated at the expense of other trades, and he thought, instead of being charged half the rates, it ought to be charged only a quarter.

Mr. Lomas supported the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The next subject for consideration was that of tuberculosis, and the working of the model milk clauses in the private Bills of local authorties. Mr. J. Sadler (secretary to the Cheshire Milksellers' Association) said he was of opinion that it would not be to the advantage of milksellers to ask for any modification of the model clauses. As they stood, if applied in a reasonable way, he did not see that much damage could be done to tenant farmers or milksellers. In the next place, he feared that if they raised the question with the hope of amending the model clauses, there would be a door opened for the municipal authorities to ask possibly for more stringent measures than they had at present. Moreover, they had had so little experience of the working of the clauses that he thought it would be premature on their part to take any action at the present moment. He moved a resolution, "That the Chamber considers it inadvisable to take any action at the present time."

Mr. Lomas seconded. He thought the farmers ought to do their best to help to promote the health of the great communities of the towns which took their milk, and that they had no reason to fear those authorities inspecting their shippons or carrying out the principle of the law which had been passed. There had been several scares lately—first there was the meat question, then the milk, and now the trouble was in the beer. The farmers were not afraid of the model clauses.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The chairman brought forward the proposals of the Council for dealing with the Cheshire Agricultural Memorial Benevolent Fund, the object of which is to make temporary grants to farmers who have been occupiers of land for a considerable length of time continuously in the county of Cheshire, and who, by adverse circumstances, have become destitute; or to the members of the families of such Cheshire farmers, living or deceased, who, in the opinion of the Council, are fit recipients for temporary assistance from the fund.

The scheme was approved.

Smithfield Club.

The annual general meeting of the Smithfield Club was held on the 11th inst., Mr. Leopold de Rothschild presiding. In the report of the proceedings of the Club during the past year sympathetic reference was made to the deaths of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha and Prince Christian Victor. The report went on to state that, in accordance with a decision arrived at last December, the Association was on March 5th duly registered as the Smithfield Club, Limited. The invested funds were £4,616, with a balance on the right side of £1,576.

In moving the adopiton of the report, Mr. Leopold de Rothschild referred to the Queen's successes at this year's exhibition, and remarked that although Her Majesty did not own the champion beast, she had won her own cup, and had fully maintained the reputation of the Royal farm. The Club's success as an incorporated society seemed assured, and he warmly congratulated the members upon the fact that the Duke of Richmond and Gordon was to be their next president, and that in the following year this high office would fall to Earl Spencer. Under such auspices the best traditions of the Club would be upheld; and he thought it must be a source of gratification to those two noblemen that the Council's new medal, commemorative of the Society's second century of existence, bore on the obverse, with his Royal Highness's gracious permission, the portrait of the Prince of Wales, and on the reverse those of their illustrious ancestors, Lord Spencer and the Duke of Richmond, past presidents of the Club.

The Duke of Richmond was unanimously elected president for 1901, at the instance of Lord Tredegar, who declared that no name was more highly esteemed throughout English agricultural circles than that of his Grace, who, both in 1866 and 1873, had been the club's president. With no less alacrity the meeting subscribed to the proposition that Earl Spencer should serve in 1902, and his lordship, briefly acknowledging the honour thus conferred upon him, remarked that one of his family's proudest traditions was the connection of his uncle, Lord Althorpe as he then was, with agriculture, and for his part he promised to further, in every way possible, the interests of the Association of which his uncle had been one of the earliest presidents.

The vice-presidents were re-elected, with the addition to their ranks of Mr. Alfred Crosskill, while Mr. Leopold de Rothschild was warmly thanked for his admirable services to the Club in the office he was about to vacate.

Somerset.

The Prizes Committee of the Somerset County Agricultural Association met at the Municipal Offices, Bridgwater, on the 28th ult. Mr. H. Farthing was unanimously elected chairman of this Committee. The Committee went through the prize list for the Taunton meeting to be held next year (as a preliminary), and adjourned further deliberations thereon before bringing up their final report for approval of a subsequent Council.

The Poultry Committee met on the same day and unanimously elected Mr. Pitts chairman of this Committee. The Committee went through the prize list of the poultry and pigeon departments for the Taunton meeting, to be held next year, and adjourned further consideration thereof before presenting their final report for the Council's sanction.

The Council assembled at the Municipal Offices, Bridgwater, on the same day, under the presidency of Mr. James Cook, J.P.

The following resolutions of condolence were unanimously carried:—Proposed by Mr. T. Penny, seconded by Mr. Cook, as follows:—"The Council of the Somerset County Agricultural Association hears with sincere regret the loss which its president, Mr. C. E. J. Esdaile, J.P., of Cothelstone House, has sustained by the recent death of his son in China, and begs to offer Mr. Esdaile and his family its earnest sympathy and condolence." Proposed by Mr. W. Thompson (Mayor of Bridgwater), seconded by Mr. W. S. Bevis, as follows:—"The Council of the Somerset County Agricultural Association desires with very great respect to offer its most sincere sympathy and condolence to Mr. E. J. Stanley, M.P., of Quantock Lodge (a former president of this Association), and members of his family in their very sad bereavement by the recent death of Lieutenant H. T. Stanley (a life member of this Association) while fighting for his Queen and country in South Africa." Proposed by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Stuckey, as follows:—"The Council of the Somerset County Agricultural Association, at its first meeting since the lamented death of Colonel Helyar in South Africa, desires to place on record its deep sorrow at the loss sustained by this Association and the country generally in being deprived of his generous, liberal, and zealous services through his falling a victim to Boer treachery when so ably serving his country, and at the same time to express to the bereaved members of Colonel Helyar's family sincere sympathy and condolence in their sad trouble."

The minutes of the last meeting were now read and confirmed.

The Secretary read the minutes of the Sites Committee, held at Taunton on the 28th August last, wherein the site adjoining Vivary Park was approved and selected. After some observations by Mr. T. Penny, the chairman of the Committee, upon the approaches and other matters, such minutes were approved and adopted. The Secretary reported that he had prepared the necessary agreement with the Taunton authority, and that same had been duly signed by the various parties thereto.

The minutes of the Prizes and Poultry Committees were read, approved, and adopted.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding closed the business.

Dairymen's Benevolent Institution.

The 26th anniversary dinner in aid of the Metropolitan Dairymen's Benevolent Institution was held in the King's Hall of the Holborn Restaurant on the 13th inst., Mr. E. G. Easton in the chair. The institution, which was founded in 1874, provides relief for the poor, aged, and afflicted but deserving members of the dairy trade, as well as the orphans and widows of deceased dairymen. No lavish expenditure in almshouses or other costly accessories is incurred, the funds being applied directly in aid of the most necessitous cases.

The Chairman proposed the toast of the evening, "Success to the Metropolitan Dairymen's Benevolent Institution," saying that they should never lose sight of the fact that no dairyman in London, whether he was an aristocrat in the West End or a small man in Plaistow or Stratford, providing he had become a member of the association, need ever sink into the depths of poverty and destitution. He did not think there was any charity in London which did so much good with so small a sum as was entrusted to the committee. Every shilling was properly placed, and nothing at all was wasted in extravagant expenses. As a trade they were waiting for the issue of a decree as to whether milk was to be sold at a standard or not. But one thing must not be forgotten, and that was that not all the departmental resolutions passed would ever make a cow give the same milk after two meals in succession.

Thirsk Christmas Fair was held on Tuesday. English two-year-old bullocks and heifers made £10 10s.; Irish two-year-old bullocks and heifers, £9 to £10 10s.; English year-old stirks, £6 to £7; Irish stirks, £4 10s. to £5; English calvers, to £18; calving heifers, to £15; drape cows, to £12; good bred lambs, 30s to 32s.; three-parts bred, 26s to 28s.; half-bred lambs, 21s. to 25s. each.

IMPROVED IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINERY.

Hay Loaders.

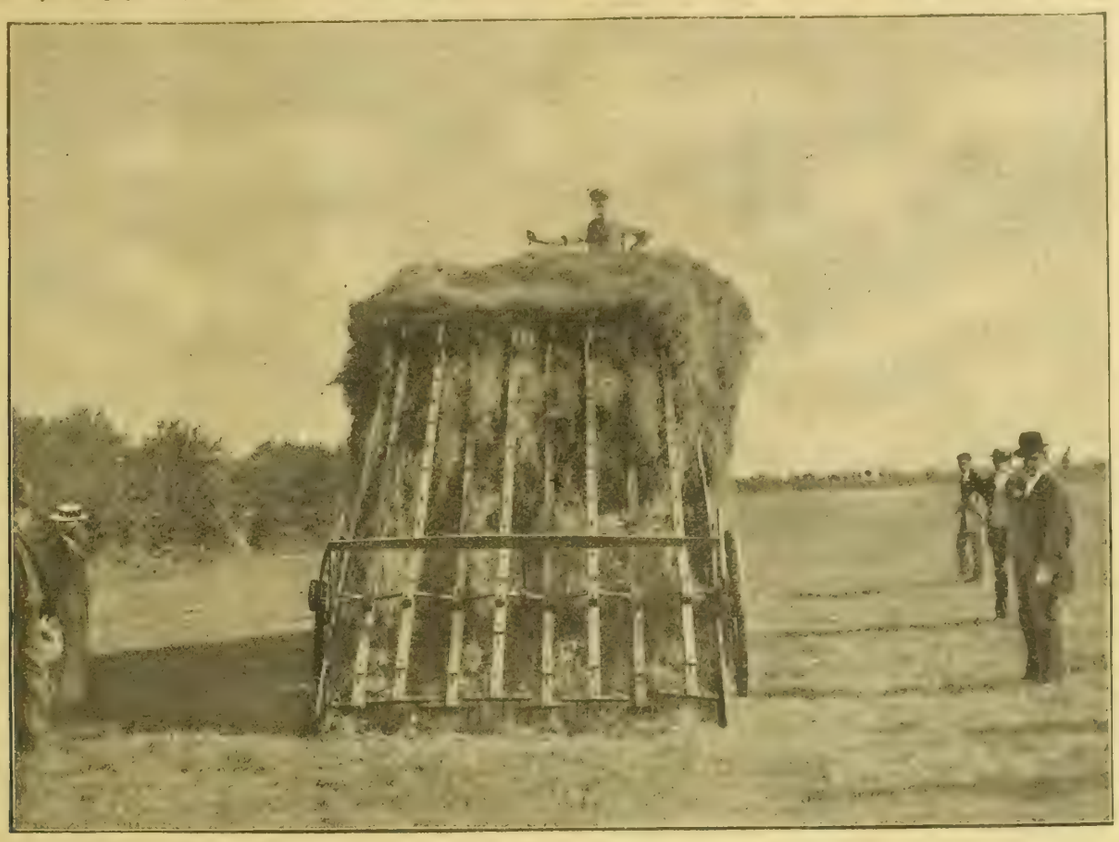
This week we give two photographs of the Ohio hay loader, a machine manufactured by the Ohio Rake Company, Dayton, U.S.A., and introduced into Great Britain by Messrs. F. C. Southwell and Co., of 75, Southwark Street, London, S.E. This machine has gained very wide popularity as a labour-saver, not only abroad, but in this country, as will be seen from the following, several of many testimonials given of its success:—

Messrs. Wm. Haine and Sons, Poulenot Manor Farm, Devizes, Wilts, writes:—"We have given the 'Ohio' hay loader a good trial on uneven as well as level ground, having made about 150 acres of hay this season, and loaded the greater part of it with that implement. The crop was very heavy, and we are really thankful for the wonderful invention. It is no doubt far superior to other makes we have seen at work, and will pick up a heavy crop clean from swath equally as well as a light crop when raked into windrow. A much lighter load can be put up than with other makes, and one man can load on the waggon. Wherever the waggon can turn, the 'Ohio' can follow without being put out of gear to prevent breakage, thereby cleaning and clearing the ground wherever it goes. There is very little raking indeed left. Loads do not really require tying on going a considerable distance to the home yards, and we unload very easily into the elevator. These are a few of the many good points in favour of the 'Ohio.' Some of our friends say they would rather buy this machine than have any other they have seen given them. We consider it saved the cost the first season, as we hired no extra labour, milkers doing all the hay-making, etc."

Mr. John Fry, Sutton Benger, Chippenham, Wilts, says: "I have this day tried the Ohio hay loader, purchased of your local agents, R. S. Hudnutt and Sons, Yatton Keynell, and I must say I am perfectly astonished and pleased with the work it does in picking up the hay out of swathe. I consider this to be one of the best labour-saving machines yet introduced into the hay field. I am quite satisfied with my purchase, and have pleasure in giving you this testimonial, and wish you every success with your good implement."

Mr. Wm. Fenemore, Moat Farm, Wroxton, Ayles-bury, writes: "I have used the Ohio hay loader, and think that it will be a great saver of labour, and that it picks the hay up clean, pushing it up on to the load so that one man can load it."

The above testimonials speak eloquently in favour of the "Ohio" hay loader, but it may be added that the machine is so well balanced that one man without assistance can instantaneously couple it up to



The Ohio Hay Loader: Attached to Wagon.

The Ohio Hay Loader: Side View.

the axle of a wagon or cart, and as quickly uncouple it. There are other machines which require two or more men to do this with safety to themselves and the machine. In an average crop, a boy to lead the horses, one man on the load, and one man on the horse rake to clean up the field where necessary, are sufficient to carry the entire hay crop of a farm, the horses in the cart travelling at a suitable pace, and where two men are on the load, the horses can travel at a quicker rate, when a ton of hay can then be handled in less than ten minutes. The width of the machine has been reduced to use seven forks instead of eight as formerly, so that it will now rake seven feet wide at the bottom (the top being contracted to six feet), and the overall width of the axle is not too large for ordinary gateways. No better labour-saving appliance for the hayfield has ever been invented, and there will doubtless be hundreds of them sold in the coming season. This machine was thoroughly tested last harvest in this country, and everyone says it is infinitely superior to anything of the kind they have ever seen before; it is therefore in no sense an experiment.

Water Finding by the Divining Rod.

There is no matter of such vital importance as that of a supply of pure water. Towns have their water supplies, but in many villages there is often a great lack of water, with the result that disease is generated, particularly enteric fever and diphtheria, yet authorities and private owners go on year by year contenting themselves with supplies of water, viz., land water, often of shallow depth, which are invariably contaminated with sewage. These supplies in dry seasons give out, and villagers have to go long distances to get water. There are many instances in the district of Chippenham where this has occurred, but when disease breaks out, the responsible authorities are at their wits' ends to get a supply of water. Wells are sunk often at low levels; in many cases water is not found. If it is, it is invariably let stand contaminated, and all the labour and expense is wasted. Happily there is now no excuse that owners of property can give, for we have in our midst in the person of Mr. B. Tompkins, of Pipsmore, Chippenham, a man who possesses remarkable ability in finding springs of water by means of the white thorn or hazel twig, or what is generally known as the divining rod. He has found water in places, not only in England, but abroad, where repeated trials have been made to find water, but without success, till he was called in. But what we want is purely local cases, such as all of our readers can, if they wish, investigate. Our local representative last week visited New Lease Farm, on the Monkton estate, Chippenham, where, after five previous attempts to find pure water proved abortive, the water found in a well at the bottom of the hill being contaminated and unfit for domestic purposes—and on a large dairy farm such as this is it was a most serious matter—Mr. Tompkins was called in, and he located a spring at the top of the hill, and estimated at the time of finding to be about 40 feet deep and yield 2,000 gallons per day. So confident was he that a good spring existed that he undertook the work on the principle of "No water, no pay." After sinking to a depth of 33 feet through what was mostly blue marl, the head of the spring was tapped. The water flows to this "head" from three different directions, and from analysis it was pronounced pure. The yield corresponded exactly with the amount estimated by the water-finder—2,000 gallons a day. The farmhouse being a quarter of a mile away, Mr. Tompkins erected a wind engine which pumps the water to a tank of 1,000 gallons capacity, from which water is conveyed all over the premises, the supply being regulated by means of ball taps. Owing to an ingenious automatic arrangement, the wind engine ceases to work as soon as the tank is full, but directly a couple of buckets of water are drawn off the engine starts again, as our representative saw. At the time of his visit the tank was filled, and there were 8 feet of water in the well, and that at a dry season when most springs are low. This is a recent local case that speaks for itself. There are other cases, however, of Mr. Tompkins's success to be remembered. He discovered a spring and carried out a water supply for Norton House, the property of Lord Lilford, and here, again, he erected a wind engine to pump the water from a well 78ft. deep, forcing it over hill and dale to the top of the house, a distance of a quarter of a mile, and this has proved a complete success. A few years ago the enterprising firm of Evans O'Donnell started their works here, and quickly found that there was no house accommodation for their hundreds of employés, and a building company was started in connection with their works. The company secured a site on the Marshfield Road, just outside the borough boundary, on which they have now erected over 100 houses; but here, again, the question of a water supply cropped up, and the services of Mr. Tompkins being secured, he discovered a spring in the highest part of the grounds, and a well having been sunk 85ft. deep, a spring yielding over 80,000 gallons a day was tapped. This supply has been in use for over three years, and is in every way successful. At Stanton St. Quinton Manor Farm the water supply is bad, and illness ensued; the tenant has left the house, and Lord Radnor's agents have employed Mr. Tompkins, who has localised a spring in the highest part of the grounds, and a well is now being sunk. He has also discovered a spring on Capt. Lovell's estate at Cole Park, near Malmesbury. A well was sunk to 50ft. deep, and then an artesian boring put down at the bottom of the well, and the water rises into the well and is pumped by a wind engine (12ft. diameter wheel on a 20ft. angle steel tower) into an underground reservoir, from which the house and stables are supplied by gravitation. Recently Mr. Tompkins erected a wind engine on His Grace the Duke of Beaufort's estate, to raise water from a well 89ft. deep, pumping it into a cast iron tank of 5,400 gallons capacity, built upon a brick tower, to supply Wick and Luckley farms with water for domestic uses, for refrigerating milk, for the cattle, and for the general uses of the farm, by gravitation. In these days of depression and competition everyone is anxious to get the best and cheapest article as a labour-saving appliance. Given a good position and ample storage room, the cost of a wind engine is soon recouped, and the cost of maintenance is practically nil. Many people are sceptical of the powers of a water-finder, and rather than employ one will spend time and money foolishly in sinking wells on chance. There are few men who have had a wider experience or achieved greater success in finding springs of water and utilising wind power for pumping water for villages, estates, country residences, etc., than Mr. Tompkins, who is not only an expert water-finder, but is experienced in artesian well-boring, well-sinking, supplying and erecting pumping machinery, keeping practical staffs of men for doing all the necessary works to make a water supply complete and satisfactory in any part of the country.—*North Wilts Herald.*

Sale of the Queen's Fat Cattle.—Her Majesty the Queen sent twenty-eight fat bullocks and one hundred and twenty-four sheep to the Slough Christmas Cattle Sale, which was held on the 11th inst., and there were competitors for them from all parts of the country. The bullocks composed sixteen blue-greys, ten Devons, and two Shorthorns, and the highest price given for a single animal was £38 for a fine beast estimated to weigh 130st. The blue-greys fetched an average of £31 16s. 3d., and the Devons £28 6s. Her Majesty's Highland sheep realised an average of £2 3s. 6d. and the Hampshires £3 11s.

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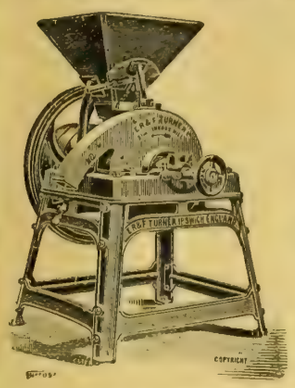

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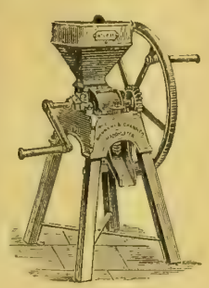

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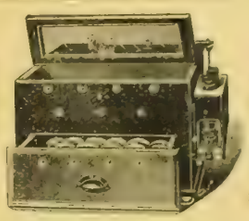

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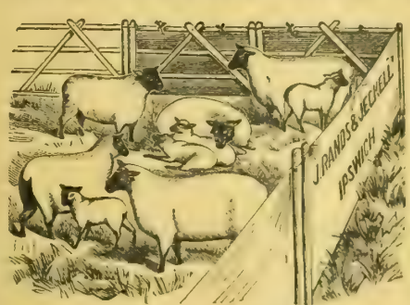

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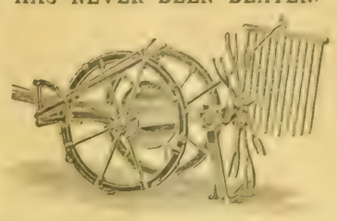

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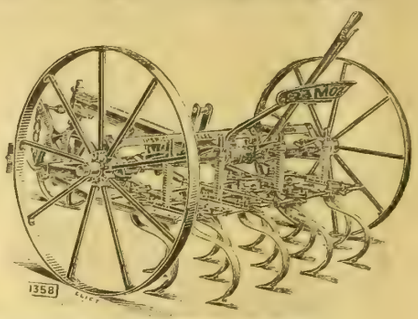

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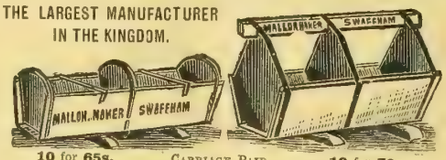

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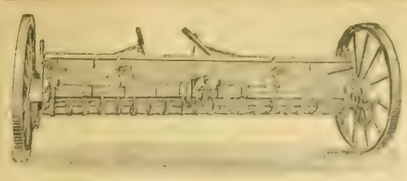

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1900.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

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GAINS AND LOSSES.

The twentieth century will commence to-morrow under somewhat different circumstances affecting British agriculture than those which existed at the advent of the nineteenth century. One of the revolutionary changes brought about since then was prominently referred to by Mr. Hanbury, the Minister of Agriculture, in the speech he delivered at the agricultural dinner in Smithfield week. "At the beginning of the century," he said, "the rural population was more than one-half of the whole in England and Wales, whereas it is now, I think, a little under one-fifth; the whole population of England has increased from nine millions to twenty-nine millions during the century, but the rural districts have only increased two millions in population, and during the last 50 years they have actually decreased, which seems a black spot upon a century which on the whole has been for this country, at any rate, a hundred years of glorious history."

This is the revolution that brought other great momentous changes of vital importance to the farming community in its train. The interests of the rapidly-increasing towns, even before the century had run half its length, abolished the Corn Laws and opened our ports free for meat and all other food products necessary for human consumption, no less than for bread-corn. The natural effect of this was not felt to injure our home agriculture much for nearly thirty years, causing declarations to be set forth meantime that open ports and free trade were as beneficial for farmers as for the community generally. But a time arrived when it became perfectly evident that the high prices for agricultural products experienced in the fifties and sixties were attributable to three or four great wars that occupied successively the whole of that period, together with kindred collateral influences, such as the prosperity of manufacturing industries and of trade, the building of a network of railways all over the country, and the discovery of gold in California and Australia.

When our American cousins set about converting their swords into plough-shares and their spears into pruning-hooks, and it was discovered how vast were their resources for flooding the European markets with wheat at a much lower price than it was profitable to be raised in old heavily-taxed countries, the true, natural result of free trade were first experienced in Great Britain. The arable land, where at all practicable, and especially in the clay districts was laid down to grass; those who had the means adopted the breeding of live stock instead of corn-growing as their principal industry, but large numbers were devoid of the power to adapt themselves to circumstances, and fell out of the ranks, utterly ruined, to seek in old age the doles dealt out by the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Society. If, as stated by Mr. Hanbury, the exodus of rural population to the towns is a black spot on nineteenth century progress, how much more must this dismal agricultural depression, so disastrous in ruinous influences, be regarded as a black spot! Probably there are many heartless cynics ready to remark that the sacrifice of the lesser number for the well-being of the greater has always taken place, and will probably continue to do so to the end of time, but even if this be admitted, it is no less a direful calamity.

Let us turn, however, to a more pleasing theme—the advantages and increased facilities for agricultural prosperity the new century has in store for us. We are afraid these are limited very much to pedigree live stock interests, and possibly we shall meet with more cynics to hint that the remarkable high prices in recent years realised for these have enriched members of the upper classes and millionaires rather than tenant farmers. But if this has been the case to a considerable extent in the breeding of shire horses, a large proportion of our leading cattle breeders are farm-renters. Mr. H. Dudding, a Lincolnshire tenant farmer, has twice obtained a thousand guineas for a ram at his auctions, and the very fact that every cattle and sheep breed has been invested with a pedigree register proves how generally industrial farming communities are rapidly extending pure breeds to the exclusion of ordinary market stock. Very much is it to be hoped that the new century will be destined to develop this enterprise very forcibly and generally, so that Great Britain may not only in reality become the nursery of the world for pedigree stock, but that the humbler sections of farmers may be able very generally to have access to pure-bred stallions and bulls placed at their service either by patriotic landlords such as the Duke of Portland, the Earl of Crewe, Mr. Victor Cavendish, etc., or by such institutional agencies as the Northumberland Agricultural Society, or by co-operation amongst farmers themselves. All these agencies have been found in active operation recently, and it is of little matter which has adopted so that the object be attained, that of producing better young cattle to enable our graziers to compete with foreign imported beef, and to promote horse-breeding of all descriptions among the

rank and file of the farming community—now become one of the greatest wants of the age.

Mr. Chaplin would place the educational advantages of the period and the development of colleges and agricultural training schools among the most valuable boons the new century is bringing us. Mr. Chaplin appears to entertain a settled conviction that by means of educational agencies the heavy increasing imports of foreign dairy goods are to be overcome by superior products raised at home. At the recent agricultural dinner he propounded this question: "Why is it that with all the natural advantages which we possess for the manufacture of dairy products equal to any country in the world we continue to import such enormous quantities of dairy produce from abroad?" He furnished his own answer, that there must be more technical training, stimulated by a big outflow of Government grants. But the imports can never be stayed by such means, and Mr. Hanbury regards the matter in the right light. On the same occasion he said: "Why is it that the foreigner sends something like fifteen million pounds' worth of butter to this country in a year? It is because you want co-operation, not only to increase the quality of the product, but still more to sell it to the wholesale trader. You want it to produce uniformity, which is the real secret why the trader, as a rule, buys foreign butter."

Co-operation will, indeed, be found to be a question of urgency for the prosperity of agriculture in the coming century. Farmers require it badly, not only to serve this object, but for the general establishment of depôts of labour-saving implements.

SAMPLES.

By a Man of Mark Lane.

The *North-Western Miller* states that after January 1st next three of the big milling companies at Minneapolis will refuse to accept through bills of lading on London unless they bear an indorsement specifying that the dock charges there will not exceed one shilling and sixpence.

In several quarters (says the *Statist*) there is an inclination just now to think that the cycle of good trade years has come to an end, and that we are entering upon a period of depression. We ourselves take a different view. That there has been a breakdown upon the Continent is certain; that it will be followed by a period of depression is also true. But it is likewise beyond question that during the depression new savings will accumulate and gradually will prepare the way for a further period of activity. Here at home, however, we see no signs of a real set-back. And the goodness of the home trade has continually increased. It may almost be said that our business classes have been so actively employed in catering for the home public that they have given scarcely any attention to the outside world, and so have allowed an opportunity to our competitors, especially the Americans and the Germans, to take away a portion of our foreign trade. And, naturally, so active a trade continued so long has created a strong and persistent demand for capital. Yet, good as the home trade has been, there has been surprisingly little speculation. So far as we can see, then, we discover no evidence of unsound trade at home, such as wild speculation, or an accumulation of bad business that has to be liquidated. On the contrary, we think we perceive preparations for a stretching out of new enterprise in new directions, which is likely to prove exceedingly profitable and to be continued for many a day.

The *Law Journal* draws attention to the fact that four important Acts of Parliament, passed last Session, will come into operation on January 1st. The Companies Act has been passed with the object of checking the frauds which are perpetrated in the promotion and management of joint-stock companies; the Agricultural Holdings Act simplifies the procedure for the assessment of compensation by providing for a reference to a single arbitrator; the Colonial Solicitors Act enables a solicitor in any British Colony, to which the Act may be applied by an Order in Council, to be admitted to practise in England, provided the regulations as to the qualifications of solicitors in the Colony are calculated to secure professional competency, and English solicitors are admitted to practise in the Colony; the Burial Act effects a number of charges in regard to the consecration of burial grounds, the erection of chapels on burial grounds, and the fees of incumbents, and transfers various powers under seven preceding Burial Acts from the Secretary of State to the Local Government Board.

The Act extending the benefits of the Workmen's Compensation Act to agricultural labourers, and the Act amending the law relating to charges on land, both of which were passed last July, will not come into operation until next July.

In "Blackwood's Magazine" for January there is an interesting passage on the coming decay of the locomotive. It is observed that in the United Kingdom there are roughly 20,000 locomotives, each provided with an isolated and comparatively puny source of heat. Each little separate flame has constantly to be extinguished and rekindled, so that much of its transient life is spent in heating a cold engine or lying out on the ground so that a warm engine may cool. Even when steam is up, it is wastefully harnessed, for every second that an engine stands idle, whether at a platform, signal, or siding, its pent-up power is being dissipated. It is only by the most skilful manipulation that the bet can be got out of the coal. The engine is burdened with the weight of its own fuel, which falls, not on the driving-wheels, where it might prevent skidding, but upon the wheels of the tender. It is exactly as if the engine had to drag an extra carriage or two.

On the other hand, an electric locomotive carries no coal and no water, nor has it to maintain a furnace. There is no "getting up steam" to add to the cost of fuel as well as to wages. There is no ruthless scattering of white-hot embers at the close of the day. When energy is required the locomotive gathers it in its iron hand from a third rail at its side. When the machine is stationary, or running at half-speed or down-hill, there is no waste of power, for the current, for which there is no use at the moment, flows on and helps a locomotive somewhere else.

The electric locomotive, "Blackwood" continues, is simply a receiver and transformer of energy. It does not pretend to generate power. In the main its mechanism consists of smoothly rotating wheels, so that the desperate pulsations of a labouring piston will no longer afflict the nerves of passengers, nor will alternate motions of "reciprocating parts" create oscillations sufficient to disturb the soundest permanent way. A proportion of the cost of cleaning locomotives ought surely to be saved, for this process now involves an outlay of £40 per engine, or thereabouts, every year, the dusty and overheated mechanism having to be overhauled some three or four times a week, and always before it cools.

Other economies should be effected. Watering stations and troughs, coaling platforms, and firemen will possess only an antiquarian value, though no doubt two drivers will be required on all footplates. Sparks will no longer set fire to hayricks, nor will a plague of smuts continue to torment passengers who like a little fresh air. Against all this "Blackwood" sets the fact that, by the double transformation of mechanical energy into electrical and back again, there is lost a certain fixed percentage. A further loss is occasioned by the passage of the current through lengths of cable.

The receipts on account of revenue from April 1st, 1900, when there was a balance of £3,517,047, to December 22nd, 1900, were £77,191,557 against £74,390,158 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £8 919,173. The net expenditure was £128,757,261 against £81 542,644 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on December 22nd, 1900, amounted to £2,942,717, and at the same date in 1899 to £3,908,662.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By a Lobbyist.

I find that one of the questions which will have a considerable significance in the ensuing Parliament will be the great civil service grievance affecting the collection of the agricultural returns. The excise officials have always protested against being compelled to collect these returns without any remuneration. They have always, too, protested against the duty being placed upon them under circumstances which render it more irksome. In other words, they have declared that to make the presentation of the returns a voluntary obligation has rendered it difficult of performance, and has not unseldom subjected them to indignity. I am not going to say that this last assertion is the truth. I cannot think for a moment that it is; but at least I can agree that the manner of collection renders the returns unreliable and of no great value. However, the purpose of the officials is primarily to secure remuneration, and few will blame them for entertaining the ambition.

The labourer is worthy of his hire—even though the labourer be, as in this instance, an excise officer. Apart from this point, there is this fact of importance to all agricultural economists to be noted—that payment for the collection of the returns would tend to give them a greater authority. Of course, the supreme influence in this direction would be to render their compilation a compulsory obligation. Even, however, were this done there would still remain an element of insecurity in the fact that their official collection was an unremunerated work. Frankly, I do not believe in any unremunerated official work. It means not unseldom badly-done work; and hence, at least, I am glad that the excisemen have induced one or two M.P.'s to interest themselves in the matter. This business does not, of course, directly affect Mr. Hanbury as Minister for Agriculture. It is a question for the Lords of the Treasury. Still, Mr. Hanbury should be able to exercise some influence upon those dignitaries.

I am again making through the MARK LANE EXPRESS an appeal to those teetotal legislators who have already made up their mind to oppose any legislation whose purpose is to give us pure beer. Their argument is that the increased purity of beer would make for the increased consumption of beer. What if it does? Surely they would rather that the beer-bibber imbibed an honest beverage than a concoction in which arsenic prevailed? "Oh," will be the reply, "alcohol is also poison." Let us get away from this clap-trap assertion. In the one case the man who quaffs beer is likely, under certain conditions, to fall down dead—this has been an actual experience during the present poisoned-beer episode. In the other instance, the alcohol is likely to have only the most infinitesimal influence upon the body or the mind. "All the more insidious the danger," will be the retort. Ridiculous. Would they rather men, having an inherited taste, take poison wholesale or take it in such diluted doses that no direct danger arises?

A Liberal M.P. besought this week that I would use what influence I possess to stay any denunciation of Mr. Gladstone's action in repealing the Malt Tax. I am in agreement with the contention that in thus providing the brewer with an open door Mr. Gladstone's action also provided a direct avenue for the introduction of all kinds of chemical rubbish, and directly invited foreign grain. The point, however, of my legislating friend is that such a denunciation would seem to raise a doubt as to the inviolate infallibility of Mr. Gladstone, and would thus invoke the distrust of those Radicals who have made his memory and his work a fetish. His view—an exceedingly wise one, it seems to me—is that we should insist upon beer being treated as is food; that is should insist upon an adequate and real analysis. We should make the introduction of deleterious substances an actual offence, and we should refuse to reward the brewer who introduces false substances into his beer any more sacred a personage than the grocer who sands his sugar. "We have always been, as a party," said the legislator to me, "in favour of pure

food. Such a policy as this would fascinate us." And I really believe this would be so.

Of course, the great Northern towns and organisation will fight this matter to the death. They will, in fact, seek to make it a conflict between town and country; and, of course, if they should succeed there is no doubt as to what the result would be. The battle would be to the strongest; and the towns are infinitely the stronger. The policy of these Northern bodies is made sufficiently evident by the action of the Manchester and Salford Sanitary Association, a society which contends that, under some remarkable combination of circumstances, which they regard as easy of realisation, beer brewed from malt and hops would be deadly. This is to be the line which all will pursue, and they will pursue it in a disciplined fashion, which the agricultural bodies could not emulate, and would not if they could. Hence it is more and more necessary that in this matter we should run upon lines which would conciliate and not alienate. Let us remember that in obedience to the demands of what I may describe as the chemical districts a considerable body of Tories will be against us. Thus to make the issue a mere party one would be the height of foolishness.

May I make a proposal to the leaders of the movement? We are within a few weeks of the reassembling of Parliament. If this question is to be effectively agitated it must be brought to the attention of the House of Commons at once. Delay would mean that the advantage derived from the arsenical poisoning would be lost. Why not summon a meeting of the advocates of pure beer, and decide upon a common line of action? It may be urged that there will be ample time for this when the House meets. Well, if the conference is only held then—and I speak from experience in these matters—there will be a month lost; and that loss may imperil the movement. What think Mr. Chaplin, Sir Cuthbert Quilter, and Mr. F. W. Wilson of the idea?

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended December 22, 1900, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1899.	1900.		1899.	1900
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ..	6,737	6,584	Wheat ..	1,090,100	1,013,800
Sheep ..	7,726	2,003	Flour ..	486,200	358,900
Swine ..	—	—	Barley ..	375,500	452,100
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Oats ..	277,100	327,600
Beef ..	51,840	67,255	Pease ..	35,200	56,400
Mutton	42,246	42,743	Beans ..	27,900	14,100
Pork ..	19,608	23,656	Maize ..	1,314,200	1,424,400
Bacon ..	88,155	112,968	†Bananas	Bunches.	Bunches.
Beef, salt	2,694	3,223		—	29,734
Hams ..	36,351	29,148	Apples ..	Cwt.	Cwt.
Pork, salt	6,159	3,719	†Apricots	83,509‡	86,220
Meat, salt & fresh	7,976	8,636	& Peaches	—	—
Do. pres.	23,073	28,328	Cherries	—	—
Butter ..	55,374	70,857	†Currants	—	—
M'f'g'rine	22,461	19,286	†Goosebr's	—	—
Cheese ..	38,290	41,707	Grapes ..	1,078‡	16
Con. Milk	17,536	18,827	Lemons	38,964‡	13,025
Milk and Cream, fresh or pres. ..	506	802	Oranges	327,330‡	292,888
			Pears ..	1,794‡	2,749
			Plums ..	—	—
			†Stra'b'r's	— ‡	—
			Oth'r Fr't	30,137‡	4,318
	No.	No.		Tons.	Tons.
Eggs ..	251,478*	374,022*	Hay ..	1,548	1,593
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ..	121,625	143,926
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.		Cwt.	Cwt.
	£184,098	£229,406	Hops ..	3,994	19,181
			Potatoes	44,878	138,941
	Cwt.	Cwt.	§Tom'to's	—	9,249
Rabbits	6,458	14,515	Other	Value.	Value.
Lard ..	46,651	44,530	Veg'bles	£16,957	£18,760

* Great Hundreds.
† Included with Other Fruit prior to 1900.
‡ Entered by the Bushel prior to 1900.
§ Included with Other Vegetables prior to 1900.

Mr. J. M. Fraser, of the firm of Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., the well-known Perth auctioneers, was entertained to dinner by his tenantry and friends in the Station Hotel, Perth, on the 21st inst., on the occasion of his entering into possession of the estate of Invermay, which he recently purchased. At first it was intended to confine the function to the tenantry and a few friends, but applications for permission to join in the proceedings were so numerous that many refusals had to be made. Mr. Wm. Whyte, Muirhead, the oldest tenant on Invermay, presided, and the croupiers were Mr. Robert Gardiner, Henhill, and Mr. P. M'Glashan, Easter Clevage. About 120 persons sat down to dinner, among those present being Sir Robert Pullar, Mr. J. A. Dewar, M.P., Col. Williamson, Mr. Lovat Fraser, and Lord Provost Macgregor.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Royal Agricultural Society.

Sir,—There were four statements in the report of the Special Committee on the Society's show system that apparently influenced the Council in their decision to abandon the country shows, and to hold the show in future on a permanent site in London. The statements alluded to are: (1) That the shows from 1859 to 1899 resulted in a net loss of £33,624; (2) that if an unwarrantable drain on the Society's general resources is in future to be avoided the migratory shows must be discontinued; (3) that it is increasingly difficult to find 100 acres of old sward within convenient distance of the centres of large towns; (4) that it cannot reasonably be said that any educational effect has permeated the South of England because a show was held at Plymouth in 1890, and at Maidstone in 1899. As the Council refused to fall in with the very reasonable and considerate suggestion made by Mr. Martin Sutton, of Henley Park, to ascertain the views of the members of the Society with regard to the show questions, perhaps you will kindly permit me to deal shortly with the four statements above mentioned. The impression created by the statement that the sixty shows had resulted in a loss of £33,624 evidently was that the migratory shows are responsible for this loss, and that the country shows have proved to be an unwarrantable drain on the Society's funds. Indeed, the chairman, at the general meeting on the 22nd of May, said that "They all regretted giving up the migratory shows, but they did not wish that the Society should lose its accumulated funds and impair its usefulness by continuing to hold shows under present conditions. (By "country shows" the shows held elsewhere than in London are referred to in this letter; the "London shows" comprised those held at Windsor in 1851 and in 1889, at Battersea in 1862, and at Kilburn in 1879.) The loss by the 60 shows, according to the official statements in the R.A.S.E. Journals, 1864, 1878, and 1900, amounted to £33,284—practically the sum named by the committee. It may be well to apportion this loss in order that it may be clearly understood where the shoe has pinched most severely.

Loss by the 4 London shows	£24,958 – 75 per cent.
Net loss by the 56 country shows..	£8,326 – 25 per cent.
	£33,284
Average loss by the London shows	£6,240
Average loss by the country shows	£148

To some extent the enormous loss by the London shows was recovered by the increased membership that resulted from the shows held at Windsor, Battersea and Kilburn; but after making full allowance for this fact it cannot be denied that the London shows have proved to be an unwarrantable drain on the Society's funds. There are good grounds for believing that every shilling by which the cash expenses of the 56 country shows have exceeded the cash receipts has been fully recovered by the increase in membership that resulted from the shows. But even if this were not the case the loss by the country shows (taking one with the other) has been too trifling to form any grounds for the imputation cast upon them. The great difficulties that weighed like a millstone on the Society during the first 19 years of its existence are indicated by the fact that during that period (1839-57) £35,345 was lost by the shows—every one of the 19 shows resulted in a loss. The lack of railway facilities contributed in no small measure to the loss. It is greatly to the credit of the courageous men who conducted the Society's work in those days that by economy and the judicious administration of the income from subscriptions, life compositions, and dividends the surplus over the expenditure (irrespective of the shows) amounted in the 17 years 1841-57, to £35,215, a sum that practically covered the whole loss by the shows from 1839 to 1857. It is manifest that the present financial troubles can in no way be attributed to the shows held before 1858—the loss having been met at the time by surplus revenue. During the 35 years 1841-75 the revenue from subscriptions, etc., exceeded the ordinary expenditure by £52,000; by the shows held from 1841 to 1875 the Society lost £38,900; £2,100 was lost by the two shows held in 1839 and 1840. It will be seen that the surplus revenue from 1841 to 1875 not only covered the loss of £41,000 by the shows held from 1839 to 1875, but also increased the funds of the Society by £11,000. The remaining 24 years is surely a sufficiently long period for business men to deal with as a guide to future policy. The one prominent fact brought out by the financial history of this period (1876-99) is the highly satisfactory profit that was realised by the country shows.

22 [illegible] shows resulted in a profit of £41,948	
16 resulted in a loss of £1,766	
Net profit by the 22 shows £7,757	
	£41,948

The 22 country shows, notwithstanding the serious loss at Maidstone, left an average net profit of over £1,260. But this important fact was not alluded to by the Show Committee. But what of the London shows held during that period? By the two shows held in 1879 and in 1889 the Society lost over £22,000 [illegible] £10,015. The 24 shows resulted in a net profit of £7,722. By the 38 country shows held from 1858 to 1879 the Society gained £25,125. The loss by the London shows amounted to £25,664, and therefore reduced the net profit by the 41 shows to £2,060. Still the [illegible] 42 years 1858-99, the 41 shows—taking profitable and unprofitable [illegible] paid their way. The loss by the four London shows equalled 92 per cent. of the net profit by the 38 country shows. The last 20 country shows held by the Society resulted in an average net profit of over £1,000; the total net profit by the 20 country shows being £20,044. The bulk of this substantial profit was swept away by the London shows held at Kilburn in 1879 and at Windsor in 1889. In the face of these figures it is impossible to believe that the members of the Council realised the [illegible] the country shows have been a source of financial strength to the Society, whereas the London shows have depleted its funds to the extent of £20,000. If the decision was based on a misapprehension of the facts of the case, the Council may, I think, be reasonably asked to reconsider the decision which is regarded with grave apprehension by many of the members of the Society and by some of the most experienced members of the Council. In 1878 the Society's capital exceeded £30,000. In 1879 over £15,600 was lost by the London shows. On January 1st, 1880, we find the capital reduced to £18,404. On the 1st of January, 1898, the assets of the Society were valued at £48,572, an increase of nearly 164 per cent. in 18 years—the increase being £30,168. The 17 country shows held from 1880 to 1897 contributed £26,327 to the Society's funds, an amount that equals over 87 per cent. of the increased capital, and also equals 143 per cent. of the capital possessed by the Society on the 1st of January, 1880. The every-day expenditure of the Society, including depreciation, exceeded the actual cash income in 1898 by £1,747 and in 1899 by £1,794. Irrespective of the shows the Society's capital was drawn upon in the two years named to the extent of over £2,500. In 1893 house expenses amounted to £502. In 1898 these expenses, including depreciation of furniture and fixtures, painting and new work in connection with Harewood House, reached nearly £3,000. Last year the cost amounted to £2,170. This expenditure is out of all proportion to the income of the Society. With regard to the difficulty of finding 100-acre sites, it could be met by reducing the area and confining the exhibits to such as are purely agricultural. The show-yards have lately been unnecessarily and inconveniently large. If the shows have ceased to have any educational effect, as signified by the committee, the grounds for the assertion were not stated. If it is true that the shows have ceased to have any educational effect, then what object can there be in holding a show anywhere? Wherever the shows have been held they have, in the opinion of many competent observers, done much good, and might have done more had the Council encouraged every branch of farming, as was intended by the charter. The capital is still more than 50 per cent. greater than in 1880. By improved financial administration, and by strict adherence to the charter, prosperity can soon be restored.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

ROBERT E. TURNBULL.

2, Prince of Wales Terrace, Scarborough,
21st December, 1900.

The Smithfield Champion Prize.

Sir,—Having for many years taken a deep interest in the proceedings of the Smithfield Club, well knowing that the nation at large have been greatly benefited by its teaching, I read your annual reports of the doings of the Smithfield Club. Believing the success of the club depends upon the discretion of those who assembled around its council table, I am induced to send you my opinion respecting the champion prize.

My connection with the club dates a long way back, when its council consisted of a self-elected compost of a small body of able men, with a president of high standing and good repute. At that time I, with others, thought the election of the council should be more in accordance with the spirit of the age in which we live; in a word, that the members should have a voice in the election of their council, and brought about the change which has marked its great success.

With that brief explanation, I have to say that I am not surprised at the comments made in the *North British Agriculturist* of this week upon the decision of the very important duty attached to awarding the champion prize [illegible] being placed in the hands of a small [illegible] I do not think that they could have selected a more com- [illegible] competitive. [illegible]

FIRST [illegible] at the Crystal Palace [illegible] for particulars to the "MOLASSINE" CO., LTD., 36, Mark [illegible], E.C.—[ADVT.]

three judges, and a preponderance of these were men holding strong predilection views, which was usually the case, the decisions were open to much comment.

I write after many long years of experience at the council table on the selection of judges. In my early experience there were three judges for each of the different cattle classes. And one eminent Shorthorn breeder was proposed to be one of the three judges for Herefords and Devons. I at once protested, but was told that the man proposed was a good judge, and "knew a good Hereford as well as a Shorthorn," and that by one of the council who was an eminent breeder of Southdown sheep. I then asked him how he would like us to appoint a Cotswold breeder to judge in the Southdown classes. Orthodox as my point was, the majority voted against me, and never was a decision more severely commented upon, and, I may add, more justly so, by the public and the Press.

The decision of the champion prize is now become one of great importance and interest. It is by no means confined to the amount of money it represents (which in this case was considerable), but to the fact that the animal obtaining it is supposed to represent the most profitable breed to the grazier, yielding the best return for the food consumed, and the judge appointed to award it should, as far as possible, be removed from any suspicion of favouritism. With that object in view, I consider that the award should be in the hands of one or more first-class London butchers. I know there are many good men who disdain placing the award in the hands of a butcher, but I fail to see who is so competent as the man who is to be the last to deal with the animal.

It is not the perfection of the animal's breeding characteristics that he has to study, and through life may have studied, but the quality of flesh, and how best it will meet the taste of the consumer.

T. DUCKHAM.

Holmer, Hereford, December 20th. 1900.

The Pure Beer Question.

Sir,—At the meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, a committee of five were appointed to draw up resolutions for meeting, and they drew up excellent ones. The meeting would not allow the numerous members of Parliament present to discuss the question, but though they unanimously supported a motion of mine in favour of proceeding with all despatch, I find they only propose to take a deputation of agriculturist pure samples, and that not till within a few days of the meeting of Parliament, which hardly gives Mr. Hanbury a fair chance. The question is drifting now without any responsible leaders, such as we had in the old anti-malt tax agitation and some means of enlisting the support of working men and of the opposition seems only prudent. The Poor Law Guardians are passing resolutions. Would a Poor Law Conference on the subject be possible? R. JASPER MORE.

Linley, Shropshire, December 27th.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Dec. 22nd, 1900:—

Swine Fever	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	102	175 289 282	17,508	30,396 41,607 30,922
	Outbreaks.	No.	36	31 31 17	1,904	2,993 3,423 2,138
Rabies.	Cases Reported.	Other Animals	No.	:	: : :	5	: : 16
		Dogs.	No.	:	: : 1	6	9 16 153
Pleuro-Pneumonia.	Cattle Slightly ill.	Exposed to Infection.	No.	:	: : :	:	220 741 :
		Diseased.	No.	:	: : :	:	: 46 7
	Outbreaks.		No.	:	: : :	:	: 7 :
Glanders (including farcy).	Animals Attacked.		No.	41	22 13 26	1,887	1,441 1,346 1,555
	Outbreaks.		No.	28	14 10 13	1,169	834 720 885
Foot-and-Mouth Disease.	Animals Attacked.		No.	22	: : :	566	: : :
	Outbreaks.		No.	3	: : :	21	: : :
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.		No.	15	33 14 10	910	958 859 870
	Outbreaks.		No.	13	10 10 7	361	529 511 421

Period.			
Week ended Dec. 22, 1900 ..	..	..	..
Corresponding week in { 1899 .. / 1898 ..	..	..	..
Total for 51 weeks 1900 ..	..	..	..
Corresponding period in { 1899 .. / 1898 ..	..	..	..

NOTE.—The figures for the current Year are approximate only.

Agricultural Holdings (England) Rules of 1900.

Board of Agriculture Rules.

The Board of Agriculture, by virtue and in exercise of the powers in them vested under the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900, have prescribed and published the following rules:—

1. An award in an arbitration under the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900, shall be in the form set forth in the First Schedule hereto, with such modifications of the recitals therein contained as circumstances may require.

2. The several forms for proceedings in arbitrations under the said Act, which are set forth in the Second Schedule hereto, shall, if used, be sufficient.

3. These rules extend to England and Wales only.

4. These rules may be cited as the Agricultural Holdings (England) Rules of 1900.

In witness whereof the Board of Agriculture have hereunto set their official seal this seventh day of December, One thousand nine hundred. T. H. ELLIOTT,

(L.S.) Secretary.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE TO THE ABOVE RULES.

FORM A.

Form of Award.

Agricultural Holdings (England) Acts, 1883 to 1900.

In the matter of a holding known as , lately in the occupation of A.B., of (the quitting tenant).

To all to whom these presents shall come I, F.G., of , [we, F.G., of , and H.K., of ,] send greeting.

Whereas, C.D., the landlord of the above-mentioned holding, and the said A.B., the tenant thereof, have failed to agree as to the amount and time and mode of payment of the compensation to which the said A.B. claims to be entitled in respect of the improvements made on the above-mentioned holding, which are comprised in the First Schedule to this award.

(Here insert recitals of appointments of arbitrator, arbitrators, or umpire. See Forms B., C., and D.)

And whereas the said A.B., by written notice to the said C.D., has required that the arbitration shall extend to the determination of certain further claims by the said A.B. against the said C.D. in respect of the said holding, the short particulars of which claims are set forth in the Second Schedule to this award.

And whereas the said C.D., by written notice to the said A.B., has required that the arbitration shall extend to the determination of certain claims by the said C.D. against the said A.B. in respect of the said holding, the short particulars of which claims are set forth in the Third Schedule to this award.

And whereas the said A.B. or C.D. has applied to me [us] to specify the amount awarded in respect of such of the improvements comprised in the First Schedule to this award as are in such schedule marked with an asterisk.

And whereas the time for making my [our] award has been extended by the Board of Agriculture to the day of , 190 ,

or,

And whereas we have duly enlarged the time for making our award to the day of , 190 .

Now know ye that I, the said F.G. [we, the said F.G. and H.K.], having taken upon myself [ourselves] the burden of the said reference, and having heard, examined, and considered the witnesses and evidence concerning the said matters so referred to me [us] as aforesaid, do make and publish this my [our] award of and concerning the same in manner following, that is to say:—

1. I [We] award and determine that the said A.B. is entitled to receive from the said C.D. the sum of pounds shillings and pence, as compensation in respect of the improvements comprised in the First Schedule to this Award, and I [we] do hereby declare that the amounts awarded by me [us] in respect of such of the said improvements as are marked with an asterisk are the amounts set against such improvements in such schedule.

2. I [We] award and determine that the said A.B. is entitled to receive from the said C.D. the sum of pounds shillings and pence in respect of the claims mentioned in the Second Schedule to this award.

3. I [We] award and determine that the said C.D. is entitled to receive from the said A.B. the sum of pounds shillings and pence in respect of the claims mentioned in the Third Schedule to this award.

4. I [We] award and determine that the said sum[s] of pounds shillings and pence [and pounds shillings and pence] awarded by me [us] shall, subject to the provisions of the Agricultural Holdings (England) Acts, 1883 to 1900, be paid by the said C.D. to the said A.B. on the day after the delivery of this award; and that the said sum of pounds shillings and pence awarded by me [us] shall, subject as aforesaid, be paid by the said A.B. to the said C.D. on the same day.

5. I [We] award and direct that the costs of and incidental to the arbitration and this award shall be paid by the said A.B. or C.D. or by the said A.B. and C.D. in the following proportions, namely, part thereof by the said A.B. and part thereof by the said C.D. [or otherwise as may be directed], or I [We] award and direct that each party shall bear his own costs of and incidental to this arbitration, and shall pay part of my [our] costs of this award, and that any costs payable by the one party to the other party under or by virtue of this award shall be so paid on the day after the delivery of this award. (Note.—The date in paragraphs 4 and 5 must not be earlier than one calendar month, nor later than two calendar months, after the delivery of the award.)

In witness whereof I [we] have hereunto set my [our] hand[s] this day of 190 .

Signed by the said F.G. [and H.K.] in the presence of

F.G.
[H.K.]

The First Schedule referred to in the above-written award:—

(Here insert each of the improvements comprised in the First Schedule to the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900, in respect of which a claim by the tenant has been referred to arbitration. If either party has required that the amount awarded in respect of any particular improvement shall be specified, the person or persons making the award will mark such improvement with an asterisk, and place against the improvement the amount awarded in respect thereof.)

The Second Schedule referred to in the above-written award:—

(Here insert short particulars of any further claim by the tenant to which he has by written notice required that the arbitration shall extend.)

The Third Schedule referred to in the above-written award:—

(Here insert short particulars of any claim by the landlord to which he has by written notice required that the arbitration shall extend.)

Note.—The award may be endorsed as follows:—

This award was delivered to A.B. [or C.D.] on the day of 190 .

F.G.
[H.K.]

FORM B.

(Recital of Appointment of a Single Arbitrator.)

And whereas by an appointment, dated the day of , 19 , signed by the said A.B. and C.D. [or sealed by the Board of Agriculture, as the case may be], I, the said F.G., was duly appointed under the Agricultural Holdings (England) Acts, 1883 to 1900, to act as arbitrator for the purpose of settling the said differences, in accordance with the provisions set out in the Second Schedule to the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900.

FORM C.

(Recital of Appointment of Two Arbitrators.)

And whereas by two appointments, dated respectively the day of , 19 , and the day of , 19 , we, the said F.G. and H.K., were duly appointed under the Agricultural Holdings (England) Acts, 1883 to 1900, to act as arbitrators for the purpose of settling the said differences, in accordance with the provisions set out in the Second Schedule to the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900.

FORM D.

(Recital of Appointment of Umpire.)

(After recital of appointment of two arbitrators, M.N. and P.Q.)

And whereas by an appointment, dated the day of , 19 , signed by the said M.N. and P.Q. [or sealed by the Board of Agriculture, as the case may be], I, the said F.G., was duly appointed under the said Acts to act as umpire in the said arbitration.

[And whereas the said M.N. and P.Q. duly enlarged the time for making their award to the day of , 19 .]

And whereas the said M.N. and P.Q. have allowed their time to expire without making an award [or, as the case may be, have delivered to the said A.B. or C.D. or to me, the said F.G., a notice in writing stating that they cannot agree].

THE SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE ABOVE RULES.

FORM E.

(Application for Appointment by Board of Agriculture of a single Arbitrator.)

Agricultural Holdings (England) Acts, 1883 to 1900.

To the Board of Agriculture.

In the matter of the holding known as , lately in the occupation of A.B., of (the quitting tenant).

Whereas the said A.B. claims to be entitled to compensation in respect of certain improvements made on the above-mentioned holding.

And whereas C.D., of , the landlord of the said holding, and the said A.B., have failed to agree as to the amount and time and mode of payment of such compensation, and as to the person to act as arbitrator for the purpose of settling the differences that have so arisen.

And whereas there is not any provision in any agreement between the said A.B. and C.D. relating to the appointment of such arbitrator, and such arbitrator may accordingly be appointed by the Board

of Agriculture on the application in writing of either of the parties.

Now I, the said A.B. or C.D., do hereby apply to the Board of Agriculture for the appointment by them of an arbitrator for the purpose of settling the said differences.

(Signature of A.B. or C.D., or his duly authorised agent.)

Note.—Delay in making the appointment will be avoided if the application is signed by or on behalf of both parties.

FORM F.

(Application for Appointment by Board of Agriculture of Arbitrator for party failing to appoint.)

Agricultural Holdings (England) Acts, 1883 to 1900.

To the Board of Agriculture.

In the matter of the holding known as , lately in the occupation of A.B., of (the quitting tenant).

Whereas the said A.B. claims to be entitled to compensation in respect of certain improvements made on the above-mentioned holding.

And whereas C.D., of , the landlord of the said holding, and the said A.B. have failed to agree as to the amount and time and mode of payment of such compensation.

And whereas by writing, dated the , the said parties agreed, in effect, that the differences which have so arisen should be settled by two arbitrators or an umpire.

And whereas the said A.B. of C.D. has, for fourteen days after notice by the said C.D. or A.B. to him to appoint an arbitrator, failed to do so.

And whereas there is not any provision in any agreement between the said A.B. and C.D. relating to the appointment of an arbitrator for or on behalf of the said A.B. or C.D., in case of such default as aforesaid, and such arbitrator may accordingly be appointed by the Board of Agriculture.

Now I, the said A.B. or C.D., do hereby apply to the Board of Agriculture for the appointment by them of an arbitrator for or on behalf of the said C.D. or A.B.

(Signature of A.B. or C.D., or his duly authorised agent.)

FORM G.

(Application for appointment by Board of Agriculture of Umpire.)

Agricultural Holdings (England) Acts, 1883 to 1900.

To the Board of Agriculture.

In the matter of the holding known as , lately in the occupation of A.B., of (the quitting tenant).

Whereas the said A.B. claims to be entitled to compensation in respect of certain improvements made on the above-mentioned holding.

And whereas C.D., of , the landlord of the said holding, and the said A.B. have failed to agree as to the amount and time and mode of payment of such compensation.

And whereas by writing, dated the , the said parties agreed in effect that the differences which have so arisen should be settled by two arbitrators or an umpire.

And whereas M.N., of , and P.Q., of , having been duly appointed to be the arbitrators for the purpose of settling the said difference, have for seven days after a request in writing in that behalf by the said A.B. or C.D. failed to appoint an umpire.

And whereas there is not any provision in any agreement between the said A.B. and C.D. relating to the appointment of an umpire in case of such default as aforesaid, and such umpire may accordingly be appointed by the Board of Agriculture.

Now I, the said A.B. or C.D., do hereby apply to the Board of Agriculture for the appointment by them of an umpire for the purpose of such arbitration.

(Signature of A.B. or C.D., or his duly authorised agent.)

NOTE.—Delay in making the appointment will be avoided if the application is signed by or on behalf of both parties.

FORM H.

(Application to Board of Agriculture for extension of time for award.)

Agricultural Holdings (England) Acts, 1883 to 1900.

To the Board of Agriculture.

In the matter of an arbitration under the above-mentioned Acts between A.B., of (the quitting tenant), and C.D., of (the landlord), relating to the holding known as lately in the occupation of the said A.B.

Whereas the time for making the Award in the said arbitration will expire [or expired] on the day of , 19 .

Now I, the undersigned, do hereby apply to the Board of Agriculture to extend the time for making the said Award to the day of , 19 .

[This may be signed by an arbitrator, or by an umpire, where the matter is referred to him, or in any case by either party to the arbitration or his duly authorised agent.]

ALL farm live stock should be given "MOLASSINE." It is an excellent food and condiment combined. See advertisement on back page of this issue.—[ADVT.]

LITERARY NOTICES.

The December issue of the "Agricultural Students' Gazette," which is edited by the students at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, contains a brief sketch of the life of the late Sir John Bennet Lawes, Bart., written by Mr. R. Warrington, F.R.S. A capital portrait of the deceased baronet is given with the number, which is altogether a very interesting one. Mr. P. W. Kimber describes farming in Natal, Mr. Henry Wray, M.R.A.C., "Agriculture in the Isle of Wight," and "E. K." has a paper on "Chlorine in Rain Water."

"The Commonwealth Pictorial" is the title of a new monthly social and commercial review of Australasian matters. It is edited by Mr. Charles S. Rutledge, F.R.G.S., F.R.C.I., and published by the Commonwealth Publishing and Advertising Co., Ltd., Martin's Chambers, Martin's Lane, Cannon Street, E.C. It is of the size of the sixpenny weekly illustrateds, and is of similar style, being printed on fine art paper and abounding with capital illustrations. The principal contents of the first number include an illustrated description of the farewell dinner to Lord Hopetoun, and of a visit to the Royal Colonial Institute; a poem entitled "The Young Queen," by Rudyard Kipling; an interesting account of some royal and viceregal residences, which article is accompanied by eight full page illustrations; and some particulars of Victoria, written by Mr. J. Stirling, the Government Geologist. In this journal will be recorded and fostered the developments in the great industries of Australasia—pastoral, agricultural, and mineral. The journal is essentially Australian in tone, but it is not intended to be for the Australian world alone, the contents including news of all that is latest and best in the social and commercial world. We share the editor's opinion that the pictorial representation of Australian matters will help in some small degree to a fuller appreciation of the beauties and vast possibilities of the Australian Commonwealth. The "Pictorial should make a name for itself.

Messrs. Vinton and Co., Ltd., 9, New Bridge Street, E.C., have lately published another work on horses by Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. It is entitled "Horses Past and Present," and gives a brief history of the horse from a period before the Conquest, the evolution of the race being explained in an interesting style, perfectly intelligible even to those unacquainted with the mysteries of horse flesh, and to whom the work will be as interesting as it will be useful to breeders, agriculturists, etc. There are several excellent illustrations, among them being a likeness of the Norfolk Phenomenon, a famous Hackney stallion of a bygone generation, and of Grey Dromed, winner of the first Derby. The volume is nicely bound and printed in uniformity with others of the series, and it will form a worthy companion to the other many interesting and valuable works on horses which Sir Walter Gilbey has given to the public.

There has come to hand from the West of Scotland Agricultural College a bulletin (No. 5), containing reports on the experiments on the comparative merits of varieties of oats carried out in 1899 by Professors R. Patrick Wright, F.H.A.S., F.R.S.E., and A. N. M'Alpine, B.Sc. (Lond.) and Assoc. R.C.S.

From the Ontario Government Agency, 7, James Street, Liverpool, we have received a pamphlet entitled "An Instance of Industrial Evolution in Northern Ontario, Dominion of Canada." This paper was delivered at a general meeting of the Board of Trade of the City of Toronto by Mr. Francis H. Clergue, president and manager of the Sault Ste. Marie Pulp and Paper Co., Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. It is a very interesting paper, having a direct bearing on the alleged decay of British trade and manufacturing industry, and as this subject is just now being so freely discussed, the publication of the pamphlet is most opportune.

The London agency for the Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works have favoured us with a copy of a nicely got up blotter and diary for 1901. In it is given some interesting views of a Peruvian guano island, and some particulars of the firm's great business, which has been in existence over fifty years, and can now lay claim to being the most important undertaking of its kind in the world.

The 1901 edition of Messrs. Toogood and Sons garden seed catalogue has made its appearance. Like its predecessors, it is a most artistic production, and is something more than a price list, containing, as it does, some interesting and at the same time useful notes for gardeners.

The 1901 edition of "Vinton's (late Morton's) Agricultural Almanac," which is now in the forty-sixth year of publication, is produced on similar lines to its predecessors. A prominent feature consists in the large collection of up-to-date (December 15th) statistics and other official information which it contains. These figures are carefully compiled and comprehensive. The lists of societies embrace all the leading institutions dealing with agriculture and stock breeding, and there is an ample fair list. The special articles cover a wide field, and are contributed by experts in their several departments. Professor Wrightson deals with the subject of "The Cost of Ploughing," an important item in these days of scarcity of labour. Under the heading "Cost of Implements," Mr. Primrose McConnell gives suggestions which should be helpful alike to manufacturers and farmers. Mr. A. T. Matthews handles the subject of "How to Check the Rural Exodus." Mr. Gilbert Murray treats of "The Economical Effects of a Mixed Ration in the Health and Development of the Stock of the Farm." Mr. A. E. Bromehead Soulby deals with "Stray Dogs," and Mr. Eldred G. F. Walker has a very readable paper on "The Production and Popularity of Cider." The almanac contains portraits of Earl Cawdor, President of the Royal Agricultural Society, and Mr. R. W. Hanbury, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture. Several illustrations are given of prize-winning live stock of the year. The price of this almanac is 6d., post free 8d., and it is published by Messrs. Vinton and Co., Ltd., 9, New Bridge Street, London, E.C.

Messrs. Chapman and Hall, Ltd., have lately issued a little book entitled "A Mule Driver at the Front," being the transport experiences in Natal of Roland Cecil Billington, who for nine months served first as a driver, and then as a sub-conductor with the Imperial forces in South Africa. The book was edited by Mr. M. F. Billington, who condensed the voluminous diary written by his brother, and the result is a most interesting description of a branch of the war operations which has received but scant attention. Mr. R. J. MacHugh, the "Daily Telegraph's" special correspondent in Natal and Orange Free State, contributes an introduction, in the course of which he says: "Mr. Billington's references to the defects in the equipment and management of the transport are very pertinent, and his proposals for improvement are of great value. It is not by any means certain that it is anybody's business to try for a better state of things. It may be hoped, however, that the experiences of an expert and intelligent observer will be taken cognisance of, and that the suggested improvements in a most important portion of an army's outfit will not be altogether fruitless."

Land Law Reform.

The annual meeting of the Land Law Reform Association was held in the Conference Room at the National Liberal Club on the 12th inst. Sir Walter Foster, M.P. (president of the Association), occupied the chair. The report of the executive committee stated that the association was in a generally prosperous condition, and recorded an increase in the number of subscribing members. The committee expressed regret that in spite of the revelations made as to the conditions under which tens of thousands of people were compelled to live, both in town and country, no adequate legislation had been enacted by the late Parliament.

In moving the adoption of the report, the Chairman said that since the last meeting the association had had three great questions before them—the housing of the working classes, the taxation of land values, and the compensation of agricultural tenants for improvements. There were a number of articles on the programme of the association which had not received during past years the attention that they all desired. In the future, the whole basis of social reforms must depend upon the carrying of those reforms which were the objects of the association.

Mr. Channing seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Sir J. T. Brunner moved a resolution to the effect that the association awaited the Report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation, in the confident hope that the incidence of rating would be made more just in town and country, and that new sources of revenue would be found in the rating of ground values by local authorities, and that no new legislation would be enacted to relieve a special class at the expense of the community, as was done in the Agricultural Rating Act of 1896.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. J. H. Whiteley, M.P., and carried.

Sale of Horses at Leicester.—Messrs. Warner, Sheppard, and Wade held their usual weekly sale on Saturday, when there was a large company present at the Repository, and some good prices were realised. The highest figure reached was 280gs. for a bay gelding, Majestic, the property of Lord Middleton, whose four horses averaged £276 17s. The following were the chief other prices:—The property of Lord Middleton: Mascot, 240gs.; Majestic, 250gs.; Mendicant, 250gs.; Scuttler, 150gs. Other lots: Brown gelding, 35gs.; Follow Me, 90gs.; His Lordship, 80gs.; Davis, 80gs.; Black Jack, 75gs.; Sportsman, 75gs.; Misty Face, 70gs.; Spaniel, 70gs.; Dancer, 70gs.; Ivy, 65gs.; black gelding, 60gs.; Kippen, 59gs.; grey gelding, 55gs.; Resolute, 57gs.; Duchess, 55gs.; Young Jim, 53gs.; Shamrock, 50gs., etc.

By Lupulin.

General Notes.

There is but little necessity this week for me to discriminate between the hop markets at home and abroad, for all alike have been influenced by the relaxation that marks the Christmas holidays. The season says to every community of workers,—

"Mix with your grave designs a little pleasure,
Each day of business has its hour of leisure."

And, happily, the utilitarian spirit of the age has not yet prevailed sufficiently to banish the festivity and hospitality which all of us claim and indulge in just now as our right. Let us hope that amidst the many changes to be inaugurated in the new century our old-fashioned institution, with its family gatherings, its kindliness and cordiality, and it consequent amelioration of the hard experiences of daily life, may be preserved intact for us and for those who may tread in our footsteps when we busy folk have attained to the "peace which passeth understanding."

With such surroundings there is much difficulty in finding any material for comment upon the condition of the hop trade. Nevertheless there is satisfaction in the general outlook, which affords glimpses of improving business, when operations are once more resumed. The calmness now so evident does not amount to stagnation, for such transactions as are passing through are at prices which show that current values are maintained.

At Nuremberg,

for instance, the sales have exceeded the new supplies, and in Bohemia a slight increase in demand, with reduction of stocks, has created an advance in quotations. The market at Munich, the great centre of the Continental brewing industry, also remains strong, there having been no new arrivals, while sales have been steadily constant. The spot stocks are therefore considerably reduced. Recent reports from Belgium indicate but little alteration, but there is no present sign of reaction from the downward tendency lately noted. A few planters are still holding hops, and these are firmly held in the expectation that better prices will be realisable in the New Year.

The Trade in America

has been active up to the very eve of Christmas, extensive export clearances having been made, and there is still a considerable quantity waiting shipment. This reduction of stocks has aroused the local brewers to further action, with the result that previous quotations are fully upheld, and the tendency of the markets both at New York and San Francisco is distinctly towards advanced figures.

In the Borough

the majority of the offices have been closed from the Saturday before Christmas till the following Friday morning, but by inquiry from some of the factors I find that there are indications of the likelihood of healthy activity as soon as business has emerged from its present holiday lethargy. Although the war and its home consequences may have cast a shade over many families, it appears that the expenditure of the general public has been quite up to the normal standard. Perhaps the consumption of beer may have suffered a little from the recent scare, but judging from personal observation I do not suppose the output of the breweries has been appreciably affected, and as most of the artisan class are in full work at good wages, I should conclude that on the whole the holiday beer consumption has rather exceeded the average than otherwise. Be that as it may, the hop traders in the Borough are quite confident that before we have seen the close of January a good demand for English hops will set in, and advanced values will then be easily established. I trust that these predictions, which I am inclined to support, will be confirmed, so that my friends who have followed my advice may be well rewarded for their patient endurance.

For each and all of the English hop-growers I heartily wish

"A Happy and Prosperous New Year."

**All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers will be printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *which will also contain all current information likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society.*

Employers' Liability: A Hop-Picker's Claim.

At the Maidstone County Court on the 19th inst. a married woman named Childs, of Kennington Road, London, claimed of Messrs. White, hop-growers, of Paddock Wood, compensation under the Employers' Liability Act, for personal injuries received. The plaintiff's case was that on the 15th of September last, while engaged by the defendants as a hop-picker, she, owing to the defective condition of a ladder which enabled her to reach her sleeping hut, was thrown heavily to the ground, sustaining somewhat serious injuries. It was argued that, as the hut was situated on the hop farm, in close proximity to the kiln, it was a factory within the meaning of the Act. For the defence, it was urged that the hut was an ordinary dwelling-house, and that, as plaintiff was not employed in any agricultural pursuit at the time of the accident, she could not recover. His Honour, in deciding in favour of the defendants, said he still hoped they would do something for the plaintiff. The defendants did not ask for costs.

The Lodging and Conveyance of Hop-Pickers.

At the annual meeting of the Society for the Improved Lodging and Conveyance of Hop Pickers, held at Maidstone, it was resolved to dissolve the Society. The chairman, Mr. Charles Whitehead, said that this had been caused by no disagreement among the committee, as its members had always worked harmoniously, nor from want of funds, as subscriptions had always been generously given; but it was felt there was no necessity for the continuance of the Society, as it had accomplished its purpose. It had drawn the attention of the public, when it was founded in 1865, to the fearfully bad arrangements for the lodging of immigrant hop-pickers, to the great overcrowding, and the absence of sanitation, productive of immorality and disease. The Society pointed out to the Local Government Board the necessity for special bye-laws for regulating the accommodation for hop-pickers, and in 1874 bye-laws were framed, with the assistance of the Society, and their enforcement relegated to the local sanitary authorities.

Mr. Whitehead stated that at the present time the rural district councils in hop-growing localities enforced these bye-laws with satisfactory results, and that generally the accommodation provided for immigrant hop-pickers was as good as could be expected, considering the depressed condition of the hop-producing industry, and that the lodgings were only required for three weeks in each year. The Society had also been instrumental in obtaining cheap fares from the railway companies for hop-pickers, to induce them to come down straight to their work, and not to straggle down by road, as so many of them did formerly. It also advocated a system of hiring by agents in London, in order to get a somewhat better class of pickers, and it had strongly impressed upon employers the necessity of notifying to all "binsmen," or gangers, the exact date when the pickers were required, so that they might not swarm about in the villages before work begins, and the important duty of arranging that, when the "hopping" was over, the pickers should find trains ready for them at the stations, to take them home before they could spend their money on drink.

Other useful minor matters to promote the welfare of pickers carried out by this Society had been transferred to the Church of England Missionary Society for Hop-pickers. Votes of thanks were given to Mr. Whitehead and to the Rev. J. Z. Stratton, who organised the Society.

To Hop Growers.—Users of Wire Work should buy the Best English Galvanised Steel Hop Strand, made by Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington, Lancs. For prices, &c. apply to their London office, 86, Leadenhall-street, E.C.; or their Sole Agent for Kent and Sussex, Mr. Edward Ball, 3 Newstead-road, Lee, S.E.—[Advt.]

Hops for Cattle Food.

A profitable outlet for old hops which have become valueless for brewing has long been sought for. Hitherto the only use to which they could be applied has been for litter. Trodden under the feet of animals they are sufficiently absorbent to take up a proportion of the fluid evacuations, and in due course they attain a limited value as manure. But this provides only a poor return to the farmer who has expended so much in the production of the crop, who must deeply regret the "base uses" to which his hops are put, and who would be glad to find that they still contain some properties which may be of further service to him.

Experiments recently made by the Royal Agricultural Society of the East of Belgium appear to demonstrate satisfactorily that old hops may be profitably applied as food for cattle. By analysis it has been ascertained that such hops include constituents which give them value from a feeding point of view, the following being the results arrived at:—Fatty matters, 9.91 per cent.; albuminoids, 14 per cent.; hydrocarbonates, 39.87 per cent.; and in addition there are some valuable combinations of phosphoric acid and potash, which yield as follows: Phosphoric acid, 1.28 per cent.; potash, 2.33 per cent.

The problem of the utilisation of these constituents for the purpose proposed has occupied the attention of the society, and experiments have shown that while goats and sheep may be induced to eat the hops in their normal condition, horses, cows, and pigs resolutely refuse to accept them. The presence of the bitter flavour arising from the lupulin is doubtless the cause of this rejection, and the director of the agricultural laboratory at Louvain, recognising the value of sugar as an addition to the food of animals, finds in molasses an excellent corrective to the objectionable bitterness, and is thus enabled to overcome the difficulty of making old hops palatable to cattle. The professor does not recommend the constant use of hops as the principal food, but states they can be employed with advantage in mixture with watery foods, such as turnips, mangolds, etc. If at first the cattle do not appear to relish the combination, the hops and molasses should be introduced gradually and in small proportions until at last about 10lbs. to 11lbs. per head per day will be consumed. It is stated that the tannin and lupulin contained in the hops are advantageous in exciting the appetite, assisting the digestion and renewing the energy of animals.

In the Antwerp journal *La Metropole* I find it stated that recently a Liege buyer has acquired more than 12,000 bales of old hops for the purpose of preparing from them a tonic food for cattle in conjunction with sugar in accordance with these proposals, for the details of which I am indebted to *Le petit Journal du Brasseur*, Brussels.

It appears as if the matter is worthy of further investigation. The materials are near at hand, as I suppose an old pocket or two of "old olds" are to be found at almost every hop farm. A few pounds of treacle or coarse sugar can easily be purchased, and an experiment may soon be made. I think there is much probability of the success of the venture, and if my anticipations prove to be correct good service will undoubtedly be rendered to the industry. I shall be glad to be informed of the results if any of my friends test the value of these suggestions.

(*For Hop Market Reports, see pages* 859, 861.)

Birds and the Crops.—The County Council of Kent propose making an order prohibiting the killing of birds on Sunday. Some of the district councils, however, whose opinion with respect to the order has been invited, do not agree with it, pointing out that the rapid increase of birds is becoming a matter of very serious moment in view of the immense damage done to growing crops by the birds. They think that an order prohibiting the shooting of such birds as the hawk, which destroy the smaller birds, would be more sensible.

IMPURE BEER.

Twenty-one Inquests in Manchester.

Since the outbreak of the beer-poisoning epidemic in Manchester the City Coroner has held twenty-one inquests on people whose deaths were attributed, wholly or partially, to arsenical poisoning. The epidemic is much milder now than it was, though the city is not yet free. Summonses were issued on Friday against seven more Manchester beer-sellers. Meetings are being held all over the country asking for pure beer.

Information for the Local Government Board.

Dr. Niven, the Manchester medical officer of health, has addressed the following questions to the Manchester brewers with the object of collecting certain information desired by the Local Government Board:—

1. Have you used Bostock's glucoses or inverts, or both, during the last six months? If so, kindly state the period.

2. In what proportion, relative to the total amount of particular beers and stouts, stating the qualities, is the quantity of malt used, given either in bulk or in weight, as may be customary for both?

3. In what proportion, relative to the total amounts of beer and stout, has been the amount of glucose and invert added, and at what stage in brewing? If Bostock's glucose and invert have been used, please state the amounts of each employed relative to the total quantity of beer in what is known as "fourpenny" and "sixpenny" beer and stout.

4. Have you used for this class of beer a mixture of glucose or a mixture of inverts, or do you use only one kind of glucose or invert for each kind of beer or stout?

5. What was the total amount of your production of "fourpenny" beer or stout during the first nine months of the present year? How much of this remained in Manchester and Salford, and how much was exported?

6. On what date did you (if Bostock's materials were employed) issue an instruction to all public-houses supplied by you recalling beers or stouts made with Bostock's glucoses or inverts, and requiring their entire destruction? Has any exceptional illness occurred among your workpeople since these materials were used?

Messrs. Bostock and Co.'s Reply.

"With reference to the report of the experts who have been investigating the question of arsenical beer poisoning on behalf of the Manchester Brewers' Central Association, a correspondent learned from Messrs. Bostock and Co. (Limited) that, pending the conclusion of legal proceedings connected with the supply to them of impure acid, they were not disposed to make any detailed reply on the subject. The representative of the company remarked that whatever experts in Manchester might say, they themselves were told by chemists at Liverpool that arsenic had been found in other sugar than their own. With them it was not a matter of cheapness. They could have bought acid in Liverpool at a lower price than they paid for the contaminated article. Their object was to get the best article, and they contracted for acid manufactured from brimstone, which could not have contained arsenic. As to their contaminated sugar, its sale was stopped immediately the discovery of arsenic was made, and all their customers were advised to discontinue using it. Any further elucidation of the matter so far as they are concerned must, they say, be deferred until the legal proceedings come to an issue.

A Revenue Official's View.

I do not know (says "A Revenue Official" in the *Daily Telegraph*) whether Sir C. Quilter intends to reintroduce his Pure Beer Bill of 1896, in practically the same form; but, if so, I would beg to point out the necessity for one or two important changes in the light of recent disclosures.

Clause 2 allows the use of sugar as an adjunct for colouring or priming purposes to the extent of 3 per cent. by volume of the beer. The existing regulations restrict the quantity to 1½ per cent. by volume, and the original gravity of such solution must not exceed 1,150 degrees—*i.e.*, 38 per cent. of solid matter. Sir C. Quilter does not define the class of sugar which may be used, and herein lies one defect of his Bill of 1896. As a matter of fact, the class of sugar generally used for priming beer is the very class from which nearly all the recent mischief has sprung. Again, the addition of 3 per cent. of priming solution to a beer made exclusively from malt and hops would cause such wide differences in the chemical analysis as to render the beer indistinguishable from that brewed from a mixture of malt and sugar. Mr. R. Bannister, late Deputy Principal of the Government Laboratory, in his evidence before the Pure Beer Commission, stated that "without knowing the history of the beer it would be impossible, by chemical analysis alone, to determine whether the sugar present in excess of that which could be derived from malt used had been used in brewing the beer, or been added as priming." He further stated, "In such circumstances the brewing trade must be at the mercy of the common informer, and such informer must be, or have been, an *employé* at the brewery." These are weighty words, and, coming from a gentleman who spent thirty-three years in the Government Laboratory, are entitled to our respect.

If the law restricted the brewer to malt and hops only, and sugar were prohibited at any subsequent stage, chemical analysis would disclose at once the fraudulent addition of sugar, and the Revenue and the public would alike be protected. As, however, the great bulk of the brewing trade in this country are strongly of opinion that the use of sugar is essential to successful ale brewing, it would be somewhat arbitrary to prohibit its use altogether, especially when we consider that they have been enjoying the privilege for upwards of fifty years. I beg to suggest the following way out of the difficulty. It has, I think, one great merit—that while it places no harsh restrictions on a great existing industry, it offers a fair prospect of infusing new life into our greatest and oldest—viz., farming—and, perhaps, preparing the way for a new industry in our agricultural districts. I refer to the cultivation of white beet, which has never had a fair trial in England. Thousands of acres could be profitably grown in East Anglia, and away further North, among the wolds and fens of Lincolnshire and Yorkshire. And in the West, too, along the banks of the Severn and the Wye tens of thousands of acres could be profitably raised.

The sugar made from this beet possesses one merit in the light of the recent poisoning disclosures. In it there is little or no glucose at all, and the process of conversion does not involve the use of sulphuric acid or anything dangerous to health. The brewer might therefore be allowed to use this class of sugar with safety to the beer consumer and profit to the country. As a cattle food, one ton of English beetroot is equivalent to one and a-half ton of ordinary mangold. Beetroot distilleries in the districts named would, as a natural consequence, spring into existence. The spirit made from this root is quite equal, if not superior, to that made from raw grain, most of which is purchased abroad. Thus a new industry, where it is most wanted, would come into being, and a part at least of the vexed problem of the depopulation of our rural districts would be solved. In France there are 500 beetroot distilleries. A similar number might be profitably worked in our agricultural districts. Napoleon encouraged and subsidised the growth of beet in order, as he thought, to ruin our colonies. Let us now encourage it in the interests of the farmer, the labourer, the brewer, and the beer consumer.

Sulphate of Lime in Beer.

"A. R." writes:—"As the question of pure beer is now before the public, permit me to draw attention to one other ingredient which goes to make up that very mixed beverage called beer, and that is sulphate of lime, which, I am informed by brewers, is added to give a taste of dryness to the beer. And is it not probable that poisonous ingredients may sometimes find their way into the beer through this unnecessary and unwholesome addition? The discovery of arsenic in the beer has proved a blessing in disguise, as it has been the means of drawing the attention of the public to the manner in which the national beverage has been adulterated. No one will say that the substitutes for malt and hops have been used because they are better than the genuine article; only because they are cheaper and the beer can be brewed quicker with them.

"The beer is now made so very weak that it would not keep good many weeks if certain drugs, such as salicylic acid and boric acid, etc., which are known to arrest fermentation, were not added. All medical authorities are agreed that these drugs cannot be taken daily for a long time without producing certain ill-effects. The brewing interest is such a powerful one in this country, and the capital invested in breweries is so enormous—even much more than in railways—that unless in every county throughout the kingdom a Pure Beer League be started, and an agitation got up to influence the Government of this country to legislate on this most important matter, nothing will be done."

The Alleged Kiln Contamination.

Mr. F. L. Berry says that brewers "may be reassured as to the safety of using malt, provided they take reasonable care in their selection. It has already been suggested that the malt is probably contaminated during the kilning process, when it is exposed directly to the smoke of the fuel used; in fact, arsenic could not contaminate the malt at any other stage, unless present in the barley, which is altogether out of the question. Now, where coal is used we may reasonably suppose that a very slight contamination may take place from the smoke evolved, for the pyrites in the coal are known to contain traces of arsenic; but where coke only is used (as is the custom with many maltsters), surely the arsenic, which is easily volatilisable, has been driven off in the manufacture of this fuel, and I think it is reasonable to suppose that there is absolutely no danger of contamination where coke alone is used. Business requires that I should taste a great deal of malt (as flavour constitutes one of the chief points in judging a malt from the brewer's point of view), and I may say that, though I have tasted a great deal in the course of a few hours, I have never experienced the slightest ill effect—in fact, I always consider it a very good food for one, and malt extracts, which are widely known, will be contaminated to a far greater degree than beers brewed from the same malt, should that malt contain traces of arsenic."

Suggested Danger from Artificial Manures.

The *Lancet* says:—"During the past week our laboratory commissioners have undertaken the examination of a number of substances, including certain foods and drugs in common daily use, in the preparation of which sulphuric acid is used. It will be found, after a few months' consideration, that a fairly lengthy list of articles of every-day use may thus be drawn up. The results are not yet ripe for publication, but we feel bound to divulge one important result, since the disturbing announcement has this week been made by the analyst of Manchester that arsenic has been found in malt in a quantity equal to that found in glucose or malt substitutes. Moreover, arsenic was found in beers which were known to be brewed from malt and hops only. Now that this remarkable statement has been made, we may say that we have found, in the course of the inquiry alluded to, artificial manures to be rich in arsenic easily soluble in water. This is hardly surprising, since the basis of artificial manures—namely, superphosphate of lime—is made by acting on ordinary bone ash with common oil of vitriol. The important point is that it has been established that plants to which arsenical manure is applied take up arsenic in their tissues. Cabbages and turnips gathered from fields manured with superphosphate have given unmistakable evidence of the presence of arsenic. It is probable that arsenic accumulates in the soil which is constantly being dressed with superphosphates, so that plants raised on such soil would absorb arsenic and exercise an injurious effect on the health of man and animals. The question arises, therefore, may not the arsenic in malt be traceable to the somewhat large amount of arsenic inevitably present in artificial manures? This aspect of the subject is very serious, and needs further inquiry. We shall return to it in a future issue, when we hope also to be able to record the results obtained in an examination of other more or less familiar articles in which arsenic may be possibly introduced through the employment of impure sulphuric acid in the course of manufacture."

Proposed Meeting at Reading.

The Town Hall, Reading, has been engaged for Saturday, January 19th, for a monster demonstration in favour of a Pure Beer Bill. A thousand agriculturists, maltsters, corn merchants, etc., are expected to attend. More than twenty leading farmers are canvassing villages for signatures to petitions. The agricultural labourers are all signing for pure beer. The speaking campaign commences at Lamborne next week, to be followed on by other meetings in all parts where an audience of at least 200 can be gathered. Agriculturists all over England should, like the Berkshire etc., farmers, circulate petitions in their own villages. Victory would soon crown their efforts. Forms of petitions, leaflets, etc., can be obtained from Mr. George Baylis, Wyfield Manor, Newbury.

A Cattle Dealer and Anthrax.—A cattle dealer named Robert G. Hatley, of Broughton-in-Furness, was summoned at the Ulverston Police Court on Thursday, for cutting the skin of an animal infected with anthrax. The evidence was that the defendant cut the carcase of a heifer which had died from anthrax, and that a considerable quantity of blood went into a stream close by. He had already lost four cows and one horse by anthrax. The defence was that he cut the skin in order to have the spleen examined. He was fined £10 and costs, the Chairman remarking that it was the duty of the Bench to stamp out anthrax in the interest of farmers. The defendant should have called in a veterinary surgeon.

Proposed Agricultural Hall for Ipswich.—In moving the adoption of the accounts presented at the annual meeting of the Ipswich and East of England Horticultural Society, held at Ipswich last week, Mr. T. E. Mayhew said he considered the falling off in the receipts of the November show was mainly due to the lack of an Agricultural Hall, and he was very pleased that the Mayor had publicly advocated the desirability of such a building being erected in the town. The Mayor of the borough (Mr. W. F. Paul) said he felt very strongly that the Society would never gain a firm footing until they had a large building in which the winter show might be held. He had long since given up attending the show for pleasure; he always attended as a matter of duty. He could not commit himself as to anything which might happen in the future in regard to the suggestion for an Agricultural Hall, but he intended to move as far as he could, and according how far his fellow-townsmen were prepared to support him. Their agricultural friends were, he might say, full of the idea, and he hoped that horticulturists would be full of it too.

THE WEATHER.

MONDAY (December 24th).—Fog was prevalent over the central and south-eastern parts of England, but it was less dense than on Sunday. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, at all the northern and western stations, but it was only in a few places that the fall was heavy. Rain again fell in the west during the day. Temperature was generally rather higher than on the preceding day, and the highest readings were chiefly above fifty degrees, although at some places in the east of England the thermometer remained below forty degrees. Fog prevailed throughout the day in London, but it was at no time thick. The air was excessively damp, and the highest temperature in the metropolis was forty-one degrees.

TUESDAY (December 25th).—Mild and rainy weather prevailed over our islands, and the fog had quite disappeared. Rain was measured nearly everywhere as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, and the amounts were large in the north. A cyclonic disturbance had spread over us from the westward, and a moderate to fresh south-west gale was blowing at several places on our north and west coasts, where the sea was rough. A considerable rise of temperature had occurred, and in many parts of the kingdom the thermometer during Monday night touched a higher reading than at any time on the preceding day. Scarcely any rain fell in London, but the air was very damp and mild, the thermometer touching fifty-two degrees, which is ten degrees above the average.

WEDNESDAY (December 26th).—The weather was remarkably fine for the time of year, over England, and the temperature was again high. A considerable fall of temperature had occurred in Scotland and Ireland, and rain again fell at many places in the west. Rain was measured in the morning, as the result of the fall in the preceding twenty-four hours, over the entire kingdom, except at a few stations in the north-east of England, and in Ireland the fall was heavy, the measurement at Valentia exceeding an inch. The winds were south-westerly, and they were strong in places on our west and south-west coasts. The midday temperatures exceeded fifty degrees in many parts of England, and the air was generally very damp. In London the day was very fine, and the shade temperature rose to fifty one degrees.

THURSDAY (December 27th).—A warm south-west wind was still blowing over England, but in other parts of our Islands the air was rather colder. Rain was measured in the morning over nearly the entire kingdom, as the result of the fall since the previous day, and the fall was very large in parts of Ireland. Rain was again experienced during the day, and the weather was extremely unsettled. The midday temperatures again exceeded fifty degrees in the south of England. Rain fell in London during a great part of the day, and the air was very mild, the thermometer registering fifty-two degrees.

FRIDAY (December 28th).—A heavy gale occurred over the British Islands, and both wind and sea were very rough on our coasts. The barometer had fallen very briskly, and the readings were much lower than for a considerable time past, the mercury being below 29in. over the greater part of the country. A strong gale was experienced in many places during Thursday night, and it continued to blow very hard throughout the day. The centre of the storm traversed the north of Ireland, and afterwards passed completely over the extreme north of England. In London the wind was very strong throughout the day, and in the squalls the force of a strong gale was attained.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (December 29th and 30th).—The weather became very much quieter over the whole of our islands on Saturday, and the disturbance which had occasioned the severe gale on Friday had traversed the North Sea, and its centre was situated over Denmark. A brisk fall of temperature had occurred over the whole country, and there was a slight frost during Saturday night in Scotland as well as at places in Central England. A fresh fall of the barometer occurred on Sunday, and the thermometer readings were again high for the time of year. The wind was blowing a moderate gale at several places on our coasts, and rain fell over a large part of the country during the day. In London the weather was very fine on Saturday, but it was raining heavily again on Sunday, and the temperature rose to fifty degrees.

At Northampton, on Saturday, an Artillery-man, named Howard, was charged with stealing two horses. According to the evidence, Howard and another soldier broke into a farmer's stables, took away two horses, and started on a ride to London. After going fourteen miles, one of the animals fell over a heap of stones and the other went lame. The soldiers then turned the horses loose on the road. Howard was caught and charged with stealing the horses. The magistrates thought there was not sufficient evidence to show that Howard intended to steal the horses, and discharged him.

POULTRY.

A Mammoth Incubator.

The rapid expansion of the British demand for Australian poultry, combined with the possible immense future of the Australian poultry export trade, is leading to some remarkable developments in the colonial dairy farming industry. Hitherto China has enjoyed the reputation of utilising the incubator system on the largest scale, but that distinction is now being secured by New South Wales, which has not only the largest duck farm in the Commonwealth, but also probably the largest incubator in the world.

The farm and incubator are situated at Botany, near Sydney, the latter, according to a Sydney paper, having a capacity of 11,440 duck eggs, or 14,080 hen eggs. It is not necessary that it should be filled at any one time. The eggs can be put in at intervals, as they are available. With 50 eggs only it will work just as well as if it were filled. The incubator, which was designed and constructed by its proprietor, with the aid of an ingenious local mechanic, is on the hot-house principle; in fact, it is a hot-house. It stands in the open, and is constructed of ordinary pine weather-boards, with a corrugated iron roof. It is lined with ½in. pine lining, precaution, of course, being taken to prevent the ingress or egress of air except through the ventilation channels provided. The inside measurements are 9ft. by 11ft. by 7ft. in height. The egg trays each hold 130 duck or 160 hen eggs, and there are four of these end to end in eleven tiers, one above the other, on either side of the room, or a total of 88.

Moisture is supplied in pans beneath the bottom tiers of trays. The heat is supplied by means of steam pipes from a boiler, which is kept constantly going to furnish motive power for the various works in connection with the establishment. Two steam pipes run along under the lowest set of trays each side. The floor is composed solely of sods of rich black loam. This being on a bed of moist sand throws off a certain amount of moisture, which is a distinct advantage, as there is some indefinable virtue in the moisture derived by eggs from the soil. The system of ventilation introduced acts admirably. Underneath the eggs on each side of the room two pieces of 3-inch down-pipe, punctured at short intervals, pass right through the walls at each end, and allow a free current of air. Then there are a number of ½-inch ventilation holes along the wall above the top tier of eggs. These, combined with two 3-inch automatic valves in the ceiling, and check valves on the steam pipes, regulate the temperature to a nicety.

One of the strong points about the room, and perhaps the most surprising, is the regularity of the temperature. Since it has been started it has hardly varied a degree, but experience has shown the unwisdom of having various sets of eggs at all stages of incubation in the one temperature. Eggs during the first few days of incubation require an actual temperature of seven to nine degrees higher than during the last few days. That is, the eggs, as the young life grows, generate an increasing amount of heat. To counteract this the temperature of the room is regulated, enabling the eggs in the early stages to be kept as low as 95deg., while those during the last week range about 102deg. The early eggs are also placed nearest the steam pipes.

To perfect the system, it is intended to build a duplicate room, so that the eggs can be transferred from the first to the second room during the latter part of the period of incubation. In some respects the new system has eclipsed the ordinary incubator. For instance, the average of bad eggs when tested has been three to four to the tray. "I have never seen any incubator that could touch it for that," said the proprietor. The first hatchings gave 43 per cent., and the proprietor, with the eye of an expert, considered that those about due would go about 50 per cent. "If I got an average of 50 per cent. from all my eggs," he says, "I would be well satisfied." So far this season, his incubators—he has all makes, colonial and American—have given from 10 to 80 per cent.; and since he began hatching in June (the Australian mid-winter) he has lost over 8,000 eggs in incubation.

One recommendation of the new system is its cheapness. As a matter of fact, it costs virtually nothing, as the excess of steam from an engine boiler furnishes all the heat required. In any case, the boiler only consumes 9s. worth of fuel per month. Contrast this with the fact that the ordinary incubators in use on the farm cost 15s. a week for kerosene, and consider how much of the cream this takes off the profits. Should the hitherto successful results be maintained, the ordinary incubators now in use will be dispensed with, and another mammoth incubator constructed in their place. A few of these latter would speedily enable New South Wales to export immense quantities of ducks and poultry to the British and other markets, thus largely increasing the food resources of the empire.

DRESSED POULTRY AT THE SMITHFIELD SHOW: THE TURKEY CLASSES.

A Valuable Hunter Suffocated.—A fire broke out shortly after four o'clock on Christmas morning, on the Hawkstone Estate of Lord Hill, at Mr. Topham's farm, known as Tremlows, which is some four miles from Whitchurch, Salop, and is one of the largest farms in the county. Both the Whitchurch Brigades attended, but before they could subdue the flames considerable damage was done. Mr. Topham's best hunter, valued at a hundred guineas, was suffocated, the loose box which he was in being near the saddle-room, where the fire originated. Mr. Topham is fully insured.

The Government and Agriculture.—At the annual Conference of the National Union of Conservative and Constitutional Associations, held at the Hotel Metropole on Tuesday, Mr. Charles Meerin (Eccleshall Division, Sheffield) moved: "That this Conference recognises with satisfaction the legislation promoted by Her Majesty's Government, tending to remove the disadvantages under which the agriculturists of Great Britain and Ireland have so long laboured, yet desires to urge the necessity of further relief, so as to enable them to compete more successfully with foreign importations, and thereby obviate the great danger of increased cost of food in the event of war with any maritime power." Mr. Robert Jackson (Sheffield) seconded the resolution. Mr. Terry (Somerset) moved an amendment, with the object of including in the relief asked for the renewal of the Agricultural Rating Act; but, after some discussion, accepted an alteration to the effect that in future legislation the relief should not be less than that given by that Act. On a show of hands the amendment as modified was negatived, and the resolution was carried.

FARM PROSPECTS.

Devon.

The season continues mild and open, no sign of winter having yet appeared. Wheat is looking very well and promising, but not so much has been sown as in some seasons. Winter keep is fairly abundant, and live stock is doing well; sheep in swedes are having a muddy lair, and drier weather would be beneficial for them. Grass lands look green and fresh, and afford a picking for cattle that are daily turned out on them. Fat stock has sold well this past Christmas, as regards beef, but mutton has not sold so well. Prices for corn keep low, and are no doubt influenced by the mild weather.—L. B. G. (December 26th).

East Ulster.

It is certainly quite as well that farmers in Ulster have given up the desire to grow wheat, for in such seasons as this autumn has been there was no opportunity of sowing it. It is questionable if all the potatoes are yet dug out. In many fields farmers were just able to get the crop out of the ground, and put into little bings, as the soil had become so saturated that it was quite impossible to bring a cart on it; these are still so with a light covering of soil, farmers hoping for a few dry days, which have not yet come.

Hay and Turnips

are likely to last out well, as the former has not been yet much required, as pastures continue green owing to the continual rainfall, and for the same reason turnips keep growing. There is a good demand for beef; even unfinished animals have found a ready market, and stores are also marketable, as pastures still supply sufficient keep without much addition of other feeding stuff.

Fruit was Abundant,

and one was often reminded of Mr. Gladstone's advice at the beginning of agricultural depression—"Grow fruits"—and perhaps where fruit is of the best quality and within easy reach of cities this may still be good advice. But damsons at 4s. 6d. per cwt., and apples at 1s. per cwt.—prices at which they were actually sold—would pay no better than wheat-growing. Much might be improved here if the Agricultural Department could or would introduce good fruit trees, and get the farmers a few

Practical Lessons

on their planting and culture. Mention has been made above of the excessive rains. Now, in travelling through Ireland there is perhaps nothing calls forth the regretful observations of the practical agriculturist more than the superabundance of rushes on the pasture land and meadows. This is a rapidly increasing evil, and arises largely from the neglect not only of

New Drainage,

but owing to the dearness and scarcity of farm labourers the mouths of old drains have become choked. Pasture lands and meadows are growing sour. The sweet pasture of former years is fast giving place to coarse grasses, reeds, and rushes, to the loss, not only of individuals, but the increase of poverty among a large class of over-burdened farmers. Here is a point in which the Agricultural Department should make its influence felt. The principal

Watercourses

in many districts are so neglected—from the farming standpoint—that with every heavy rain the water in field drains is held back, and meadows and pastures flooded much longer than they would be if the natural watercourses were kept open as they should be.—E. U. (December 27th).

Glamorganshire.

Christmas Day was mild but dull. Boxing Day was bright and sunny—almost a perfect spring day; in fact, the last six or seven weeks have been very mild for the season, but rain has fallen on most days the last two months, although not heavily: it has made the land rather tenacious, which has delayed the ploughing on strong lands, and the carting of roots has been carried on under difficulties. They are generally a good crop, and swedes have been growing up to the present where not pulled. The mild weather has allowed store stock to remain out and do well, thereby saving the hayricks. The early-sown wheat is looking well and would be none the worse for a little frost. The trade for beef and mutton during the Christmas markets has not come up to the feeders' expectations, but this is partly attributed to the mildness of the season. The prices of all cereals are most discouraging, and, to make the matter worse, the threshings of grain have turned out rather damp, owing to the continued humidity of the atmosphere.—(December 28th.)

North Herefordshire.

The year now drawing very near to a close, with regard to the markets of beef and mutton at the Christmas sales, have not been at all satisfactory, more beef making under 6d. per lb. than over, except a few exceptional lots, and the mutton also. The weather may have had some little weight in this matter, and the markets being overdone. Everyone seems to keep a few fat things for Christmas, though it generally sells better either a month before or after. The weather has been most favourable for stock owners; hundreds of cattle and sheep have not had a handful of dry food yet, therefore must be wintered at much less cost, and seem to do well, too, where they are not too heavily stocked. The root crop is rather above the average in this district, and about one half soiled, therefore safe from frost when it comes.

Corn Growing

seems to have died out in this district. I have not seen a field of wheat planted. The clover roots are left down, and if ploughed at all come up for oats in the spring. They are useful to run some sheep on for a few months in the winter, and much is left down for three or four years. The farm is carried on at much less cost and requires less manure, therefore is found to pay better in the end; keeping the expenses down seems to be the only way to make the two ends meet.

The Apple Crop

seems to be hardly worth gathering, lots being sold at 1s. per bag, and delivered some distance. People prefer doing this to storing a lot of cider, but probably this may be useful, and is generally drunk in this district. No doubt it is the most wholesome drink you can find. People seem to be at liberty to poison you with beer and go scot free.—W. H. (December 27.)

Somerset.

Agricultural work is generally well in hand, the autumn having been dry and favourable for working the arable land. The autumn crops are looking well, and with continual mild weather vegetation continues very green, although I do not look upon a green Christmas as being very beneficial, as land requires rest. Wheat is but very little grown here in consequence of the bad return. The outlay very often exceeds the income. This I very much regret, as I feel it the bounden duty of those in authority to encourage the growth of wheat, although it is a problem yet to be solved; but in some way or other wheat should be grown as much as possible for the safety of our national food supply, and it also provides a good amount of labour. If

Agricultural Work

on the arable land is to be continued some more encouragement must be given to the rising generation—extra wages, etc. At this season of the year there is a good amount of work required to be done on the farm, but in consequence of the cost I fear much is shelved. Fruit trees require attention, as during the past summer a great deal of apple wood has succumbed. Cattle generally are looking well, but in consequence of the very wet weather many more will have to be housed. The prospect generally is about as usual.—A. L. W. (December 27th).

East Somerset.

Whilst I am writing the elements are very much disturbed, and I don't think we have had such a hurricane for several years; tiles and thatch have been going in all directions, and there will be a considerable bill to pay to put all things straight again. We have had more rain during the last two days than has fallen in the same time for years. This is entirely a pasture district, in which dairying and grazing are carried on.

Cheddar Cheese

is the principal product; this has not been making such a good price as was expected, considering the short make owing to the drought. Pastures are looking very green, and cattle are still on them, as they can get a very good picking, and besides, there is not such a demand on the haystacks, although these are very numerous and substantial, but a good brown loaf (as farmers say) is always useful, and after the short makes of hay that we had three and four years ago people are very glad to have their stackyards well filled. Best bullocks sold well at the Christmas markets, but inferior ones were not wanted. Apples for cider-making are largely grown, and have been a fair crop, but prices very low.—W. T. A. (December 28th).

The cereals in the West of England were secured in good condition, but their general yield as shown by the threshings is very disappointing, especially the barleys. There is a full average bulk of hay, which with the exception of the early clovers and sainfoin was easily made (especially where the swath turner was used), and without damage from rain. Mangolds were a good crop where allowed to remain growing to the end of October. Swedes and turnips are even now increasing in size. Cattle have had a bite of grass, and in consequence have eaten much less hay than of late years before Christmas. The continued rains have made the sheepfolds very wet and heavy, probably too much so, and prices of farm produce do not admit of any margin to the good on the year's work.

The Agricultural Rating Act

was an instalment of justice to the tenants, but the positive fact that it still leaves them paying sixteen times more than other classes of ratepayers towards local taxation clearly shows that further legislation is most urgently needed. The above Act will soon come to an end; it has been a great boon to many a hard-working, struggling man, and there is neither reason nor justice in the present terrible over-burden now levied upon farmers for local rates. An immediate

Revision of Assessment

whereby all classes of ratepayers shall contribute to these rates in proportion to their ability to do so is an act of justice to farmers long overdue.—C. C. (December 28th).

Wiltshire.

The yield of all kinds of corn is disappointing, both in quantity and quality, and with the continuous low prices and labour more scarce and expensive, the prospect for arable land is most discouraging. All autumn-sown crops are looking remarkably well (possibly too well), the weather being exceptionally mild. There was a dull, dragging trade for fat stock at the Christmas markets, and prices were lower than anticipated. The long drought during the summer and early autumn added greatly to the expense of producing both beef and milk, and there is no compensating advantage. Owing to the scarcity of grass, young cattle have not made their usual growth, and if sold at present prices would make

A Poor Return for the Summer's Keep.

The recent outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in this county was fortunately arrested by the very stringent, though reasonable, measures taken by the Board of Agriculture, remembering the great losses caused by the disease in former years. With a fair crop of roots and hay plentiful, the outlook for owners of stock is favourable.—(Dec. 28th.)

Foreign Prospects.

FRANCE.—Crop prospects on the whole are considered satisfactory. The commercial situation is upset by the uncertainty respecting the final action of the Senate as to *bons d'importation*. The Finance Commission have rejected the principle of the *bons* by a large majority, and as the matter has still to be considered by the Chamber it is impossible to know when the final vote will be taken.

BELGIUM AND HOLLAND.—Dry weather is desired for farm work. Antwerp ruled quiet, but steady, but the holiday period naturally interferes with trade.

GERMANY.—Weather has been mild and drier, and wheat and rye fields are flourishing. Trade in Berlin and Hamburg was quiet all through the week, and both places noted easier prices and dull tone.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* says the current prices and other conditions favour liberal marketing, and the movement of maize is growing. Wheat is unchanged as regards outlook, but marketings are restricted.

ARGENTINA.—Our Buenos Aires cable states that in some portions of the province of Santa Fe the wheat yield is expected to be a poor one, the crop having been hurt by the rainy weather some time ago.—*Dornbusch.*

Dingwall and Cromarty Light Railway.—The solicitors to the promoters of the above railway have been informed by the Treasury that the Department is prepared to make a free grant of £25,000 and a loan under Section 5 of the Light Railways Act not exceeding £12,500.

Herefordshire Without a Chamber of Agriculture. — Mr. Thomas Preece, of the Old Hall, Ross, writing to the *Hereford Times*, says:—"It seems strange, in such an important agricultural county as Herefordshire undoubtedly is, that it does not possess a Chamber of Agriculture. This county, with its fine breed of cattle, its varied and excellent products—hops, fruit, cider, and in the south its sheep and malting barley—is second in importance to no county of its size. Therefore, is it not a reflection on those engaged or interested in these pursuits that they have no combined organisation through which their interests may be attended to and their wants or grievances made known? True, there are some institutions in the county, such as the Hop Growers', Fruit Growers', and Cider Makers' Associations, which to some extent look after the interests of those particular branches; but I am strongly of opinion that were these interests joined together in a properly constituted Chamber of Agriculture their power for good would be much greater. In these days of combinations, when almost every trade has its association, by which it is enabled to keep up or increase the price of its produce and otherwise look after its interests (generally to the disadvantage of agriculture), it behoves landlords, farmers, and all who are interested in the welfare of agriculture to unite together for common good. I do hope, therefore, now at the commencement of a new century that the blight upon the public spirit of the farmers of Herefordshire will be removed. Such an institution would be exceedingly useful at the present moment, when every man's voice should be heard protesting against the adulteration and impurities in beer.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Friday.—There was nothing whatever of incident concerning to-day's market, which wore a holiday aspect from early hours (notwithstanding the Exchange being closed since last Friday evening) and the attendance continued of small dimensions. Prices were, however, generally steady. Good red, 29s 6d 63lb; not thoroughly conditioned, 29s; fine white, 30s delivered up. Foreign sorts unchanged. The London Millers' Association made no alteration at this afternoon's meeting. Town households, 25s; whites, 28s per sack; Cascadians, 23s 3d ex store; American first patents quoted at 25s to 26s; second, 23s to 24s. First bakers, 20s to 21s; seconds, about 18s to 19s per sack. Grinding barley in fair supply. Fine English malting ranges up to 38s. Oats firm: American mixed clipped, 14s 9d ex ship, 15s ex quay; white clipped, 15s 7½d in the former, and 16s in the latter positions, 40lb. Common Petersburg, 14s 9d to 15s, 38lb, and 16s 3d upwards, 40lb. Vologdas, 14s 6d to 14s 9½, ex quay, 38lb. Maize unchanged, but feeding stuffs were against buyers. American mixed, new, 20s 3d ex ship, and old 20s 6d. Bessarabian, new, 22s 9d ex ship, 23s 9d ex quay. The market for beans and peas remains lifeless.

COUNTRY.

Aylesbury, Saturday.—There was scarcely anything doing. Wheat was practically the same as last week, 26s to 29s per imperial quarter; and barley, oats, and beans underwent no change.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, white (old), 27s to 28s 6d per qr; wheat, red (new), 27s to 28s 6d per qr; beans (new), 28s to 30s per qr; oats (new), 16s to 18s per qr; oats (old), black, 21s to 22s per qr. Very small attendance, figures exactly the same as last week.

Brighton, Thursday.—The market opened as usual, but scarcely any business was done. There was a small attendance. The following are last week's prices:—New white wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; new red ditto, 27s to 28s; barley, 30s to 35s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; feeding ditto, 26s to 27s; English oats, 17s to 22s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There has been little business passing since our last. Owing to the Christmas Holidays our market to-day partook of quite a holiday character, and there was but a very small attendance. We cannot report any change in either wheat or feeding stuffs.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been of a holiday character, and very little business has been transacted. At this market to-day there was a moderate supply of wheat, which met with a good demand at last week's full prices. Red 27s to 29s, and white up to 29s per 504lb. Barley made quite as much money as last week.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat the turn cheaper; barley dull. Ruling prices:—White wheat, 29s to 31s; red ditto, 27s to 29s; malting barley, 25s to 35s; ditto black, 16s to 20s; peas, 30s to 35s; tick beans, 32s to 33s; mazagans, 27s to 29s; flat maize, 23s to 24s; round ditto, 27s to 28s per qr; winter tares, 6s to 6s 6d per bushel.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day, slow sale at unchanged prices. New, 17s to 18s 6d; old, 23s 6d to 26s per 336lbs.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—There was a small attendance, and few samples offering. Wheat was a slow trade at recent values, but oats were in good demand, and for good samples full prices were obtainable. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s to 4s 1d per 75lb; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 3d per 64lb; beans, 4s 8d to 5s 6d per 80lb; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; old, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 46lb; Indian corn, 11s to 11s 3d per 240lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Very small supplies both of wheat and barley here to-day; condition somewhat improved, there was a fair demand and prices favouring sellers. Beans, peas, and oats, few offering, prices firm.—FRANCIS AND CO.

Devizes, Thursday.—We had a small supply and a small attendance to-day, and comparatively little business done Best wheat, 15s 6d to 16s 6d; new wheat, 14s to 15s; malting barley, 26s to 35s; grinding barley, 20s to 24s; oats, 18s to 23s; beans, 16s to 20s; fine flour, 24s 6d to 25s 6d; extra fine, 26s to 30s; best bread, 10d.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Not much business transacted. English wheat showed practically no alteration in price, the demand being decidedly dull. Foreign also showed but little variation. No quotable change in barley. Feeding stuffs unaltered.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Wheat, 317qr were sold, averaging 26s 9d; down 3d. Barley, 693qr sold, averaging 23s 11d; up 3d. Oats, 440qr sold, averaging 19s 4d; up 7d. Flour unchanged; first quality, 28s; second, 26s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour were idle, and Monday's prices were quoted. Maize dull at 11s 9d per 280lb. Oats steady. All feeding stuffs were quiet.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our corn exchange to-day. Our market is of quite a holiday character, and there is very little business passing. Wheat remains dull and unchanged. Flour quiet and the turn lower. Indian corn slow of sale at a reduction of 1½d to 3d per boll on the week. Other articles quiet at late rates.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Leicester, Saturday.—A fair attendance of buyers and dealers, with moderate supply of home-grown wheats in variable condition. Trade sluggish for all, except fine dry samples at 27s to 31s per 36 stones. Fine oats firm.

Lincoln, Friday.—Trade in all kinds of grain to-day very flat; wheat a slow trade at last week's rates. In barleys scarcely anything passing; oats, beans, maize, and peas all quiet.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat market firm with a fair business at full prices of last Friday. Flour is steadily held with only a small inquiry at last Friday's prices for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers'. Maize is quiet with a moderate business passing, old mixed making ½d lower, whilst new is making ¾d under last Friday. European, owing to larger arrivals, tends in favour of buyers. Plate is also easy with a smaller trade. Barley quiet for brewing and feeding, but prices remain steady. Beans are firmly held, but the demand is quieter with only a small trade passing. Peas are slow with hardly anything doing. Canadians a shade lower. Oats: Both English and foreign are extremely dull, with prices the turn in buyers' favour. Oatmeal quiet at quotations. Oilcake steady with a holiday tone. Tuesday, the first of January next, being an Association holiday, the Liverpool market will be closed.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Small attendance at the market, and very little business doing. Wheat firm at former prices, and other articles no change, as trade not sufficient to report upon. We are hoping for the position to improve when the new year is introduced. The weather very wet and boisterous.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Our to-day's market was quiet, not much business passing, quite a holiday nature; where sales were made, late rates were maintained for wheat and maize. Beans in favour of sellers. Peas unaltered, fine quality barley made full prices, common sorts neglected. Oats quiet, unchanged in value. Flour unaltered. Our market will be closed on Tuesday.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—This day's market was of the usual holiday character, and to make a long story short, prices for wheat and feeding stuffs, flour included, were unchanged.

Northampton, Saturday.—Quiet market; supply and demand small. No alteration in price. Flour inactive, nothing doing. White wheat, 29s to 30s; red wheat (old), 23s to 30s; red wheat (new), 26s to 28s; barley, 25s to 32s; barley (grinding), 20s to 24s; oats, 19s to 22s; old, 24s; beans, 28s to 32s; old, 35s; peas, 26s to 36s; flour, 20s to 25s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Our market to-day was of a holiday character. Wheat was in rather better condition but trade slow, millers buying only for present consumption. A fair supply of barley offering, sufficient for all requirements. Wet and stormy weather has prevailed during the past week, with a gale of wind and rain on Thursday and Friday nights, doing much damage. Wheat, red, 27s 6d to 28s 6d per qr, weight 63lbs per bushel imperial. Corn Inspector's return for the week ending 25th December, 1900:—Wheat, 1,697-2, 26s 8¾d; barley, 14,748-3, 25s.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in small supply and values fully supported. Barley, fine samples sought after and made extreme rates. Oats and barley poor show, and prices in sellers' favour.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Small supply of wheat and barley. Quiet demand for wheat. Inquiring for useful secondary barley at full price.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The attendance at market again to-day was under the average and there has been very little corn of any kind showing. Wheat was firm in tone and full prices were paid. Spring corn also made quite as much money as before the holiday.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance here to-day was much larger than usual and a corresponding briskness in trade was experienced. Wheat proved plentiful, and the rates of last week's market were fully upheld, while barley, which was in good supply, met a ready sale at recent quotations. Other descriptions of corn changed hands at unaltered figures.

Ripon, Thursday.—The market presents a holiday appearance. There is nothing being done, and prices are difficult to fix. Wheat, English, new, 27s to 28s; ditto, old, 31s; ditto, foreign, 30s 6d to 34s 6d; barley, malting, 24s to 29s; ditto, grinding, 21s to 23s; oats, old, 25s to 26s; ditto, new, 17s to 19s; maize, round, 24s to 27s; ditto, flat, 23s 6d per qr; beans, old, 1s per stone.

Stamford, Friday.—Very few samples of wheat showing, some of which fetched 27s to 27s 6d per qr. A few samples of barley made 25s to 28s, and beans 28s to 30s. All spring corn about the same.

Stratford-on-Avon.—Market still of a holiday character, a poor attendance, and a very short supply of English wheat. Business barely sufficient to test values, but last week's prices were given for the few samples that changed hands. No change in malting barley, and very little doing owing to the holidays. Foreign wheat trade also quiet, and prices practically unaltered. Grinding barley and round maize as last week, flat maize 3d lower. Oats, foreign beans, and peas without quotable change.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Market is still of a holiday character. Wheat quiet, at about late rates. Barley and oats unaltered. Arrivals coastwise—Wheat, 1,140 qrs. Foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Taunton, Saturday.—Wheat was quiet at last week's prices. Maize and grinding barley an easier tendency. Malting barley firm at full prices.

Wakefield, Friday.—A firm feeling has prevailed in wheat during the holiday week, and in the small business done last week's prices have been obtained. Barley meets with a dull demand, and only the finest qualities sell, at about former price. No alteration in feeding stuffs.—MICHAEL SANDERSON AND SON, LIMITED.

Wakefield, Friday.—We have a thin attendance here to-day, and wheat meets a limited inquiry at last week's prices. Malting barley is in better demand, but factors fail to obtain any advance. Feeding stuffs quiet and unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Winchester, Saturday. — Wheat in extremely short supply, which met a firm trade at fully last week's prices. Barley steady; best qualities in good demand at late rates. Oats and maize unaltered. Flour, 24s to 25s. The market still of a holiday character.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LIMITED.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Holiday market. Very little grain offering. Wheat firmly held at late rates, red 27s 6d. Spring corn unchanged.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Worcester, Saturday.—The trade was only of a retail character. Wheat sold slowly at late rates. Feeding corn dull, without quotable change in value.

York, Saturday.—Wheat in fair supply without change in price. Good samples of malting barley firm at former prices; common sorts difficult to sell. Oats firm. White Tartary, 16s to 17s; black ditto, 17s to 18s; and short oats, 18s to 19s per quarter of 24 stones. Rye, 7½d; and old beans, 10d to 11d per stone. The official averages of the week have been:—Barley, 24s 3d; and oats, 16s 10d per quarter.

FOREIGN.

The Antwerp wheat market has been inactive, in sympathy with the tone of business at Brussels. The intelligence received with respect to the French growing crops continues satisfactory. A spell of colder weather would, however, be acceptable, as it would destroy noxious vegetation and hurtful insects. The French provincial wheat markets have shown little change, but there has been some upward tendency as regards the best qualities. Business in wheat has been inactive at Marseilles, last week's sales amounting to only 3,000 quintals. The attendance of buyers has been somewhat limited at Paris. Wheat prices have shown little change. Flour for consumption has also remained without variation in the French capital. The wheat trade has been quiet at Lille. Flour has been fairly well supported, but business has shown little activity. Ibrail advices state that the damp and cold weather of November has been followed by a dry cold, which has, upon the whole, been favourable for the autumn-sown wheats. The Ibrail wheat trade has exhibited rather a weak tone, the demand having been dull. The favourable reports received with respect to the Argentine and Australian crops have not been without their influence. Rather more activity has been noticed in the central Russian markets, supplies have declined, while the demand has increased, and some advanced prices have resulted; the wheat trade has exhibited, however, a dull tone in the principal Russian ports. The total quantity of wheat and flour now en route for Europe is estimated at 3,120,000 qr.

Hamburg, Saturday.—The weather continues mild and wet. Trade dormant; where sales are forced lower prices have to be taken, but this is the case only with maize, which is offering from secondhand considerably lower than direct. The imports during the week amounted to 9,058 tons wheat, 2,640 tons rye, 8,843 tons barley, 11,922 tons maize. German wheat continues in scanty supply. Fine red Saale, Holstein, and Mecklenburg is held at 27s to 27s 9d, inferior qualities at 24s 9d to 26s 3d per 504lb, f.o.b. Hard Winter No. 2 and fine River Plate 28s 3d to 28s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye quiet; 9 15-20 South Russian prompt is held at 22s 6d 9 10-15. May-June at 22s per 480lb. Stocks of malting barley here are light, but the open water permits supplies being drawn from the interior as required. A few parcels of good to fine Bohemian are offering on the spot at 34s to 38s; Saale to arrive per barge at 32s 6d to 37s. Holstein, Danish and Mecklenburg at 24s 6d to 27s per 448lb. Russian feeding barley maintains its value, 17s 6d to 18s per 480lb. being paid. Mixed maize is offering from second hand at 18s to 18s 3d prompt till May shipment; River Plate on the spot 18s 3d per 480lb, first cost Hamburg.—JOHN TAYLOCK.

CORN STATISTICS.

ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

December 21st to December 28th, 1900, inclusive.

		English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	qrs.	1,305	..	..	19,261	20,566
Barley		2,800	..	..	11,972	14,772
Malt		19,600	29	..	..	19,629
Oats		2,083	..	..	68,007	70,090
Rye		50	..	..	150	200
Beans		540	..	..	2,909	3,449
Peas		332	..	..	800	1,132
Maize		..	..	..	35,350	35,350
Tares		30	..	..	..	30
Lentils		..	..	..	617	617
Linseed		..	..	..	1,474	1,474
Rapeseed		..	..	..	3,685	3,685
Cottonseed		..	..	..	10,742	10,742
Farm Seeds		500	..	..	1,600	2,100
Flour	Barrels	..	..	..	..	..
	Sacks	22,677	..	..	35,431	58,108

LONDON ARRIVALS OF BREADSTUFFS.

	1899		1899	
Jan. 7	71,200 qrs.	July 8	112,761 qrs.
,, 14	108,380 ,,	,, 15	116,850 ,,
,, 21	128,902 ,,	,, 22	89,245 ,,
,, 28	51,234 ,,	,, 29	118,314 ,,
Feb. 4	126,333 ,,	Aug. 5	104,234 ,,
,, 11	82,912 ,,	,, 12	102,160 ,,
,, 18	204,974 ,,	,, 19	103,353 ,,
,, 25	108,273 ,,	,, 26	82,367 ,,
Mar. 4	79,462 ,,	Sept. 2	73,600 ,,
,, 11	63,103 ,,	,, 9	83,791 ,,
,, 18	122,541 ,,	,, 16	107,684 ,,
,, 25	86,309 ,,	,, 23	131,880 ,,
Apr. 1	174,612 ,,	,, 30	61,997 ,,
,, 8	133,261 ,,	Oct. 7	121,032 ,,
,, 15	101,518 ,,	,, 14	97,050 ,,
,, 22	70,984 ,,	,, 21	95,446 ,,
,, 29	68,573 ,,	,, 28	154,895 ,,
May 6	96,343 ,,	Nov. 4	114,634 ,,
,, 13	72,852 ,,	,, 11	110,161 ,,
,, 20	101,429 ,,	,, 18	79,200 ,,
May 27	108,772 ,,	,, 25	130,815 ,,
June 3	73,846 ,,	Dec. 2	74,311 ,,
,, 10	126,781 ,,	,, 9	74,704 ,,
,, 17	160,574 ,,	,, 16	159,130 ,,
,, 24	101,205 ,,	,, 23	86,077 ,,
July 1	52,500 ,,	,, 30	61,000 ,,
	1900.		1900.
Jan. 6	43,157 qrs.	July 6	132,950 qrs.
,, 13	95,084 ,,	,, 13	101,253 ,,
,, 20	114,928 ,,	,, 20	82,294 ,,
,, 27	124,652 ,,	,, 27	55,998 ,,
Feb. 3	70,835 ,,	Aug. 2	86,167 ,,
,, 10	75,000 ,,	,, 11	192,077 ,,
,, 17	66,804 ,,	,, 18	138,510 ,,
,, 24	62,191 ,,	,, 25	182,517 ,,
Mar. 3	79,976 ,,	,, 31	80,149 ,,
,, 10	63,702 ,,	Sept. 7	58,394 ,,
,, 17	162,985 ,,	,, 14	117,066 ,,
,, 24	111,409 ,,	,, 21	105,981 ,,
,, 31	69,356 ,,	,, 28	158,771 ,,
April 7	48,302 ,,	Oct. 5	183,383 ,,
,, 13	131,085 ,,	,, 12	156,815 ,,
,, 20	82,357 ,,	,, 19	73,725 ,,
,, 27	43,783 ,,	,, 26	98,302 ,,
May 4	104,535 ,,	Nov. 2	77,179 ,,
,, 11	52,859 ,,	,, 9	148,972 ,,
,, 18	97,412 ,,	,, 16	105,130 ,,
,, 25	71,390 ,,	,, 23	132,964 ,,
,, 31	177,744 ,,	,, 30	89,387 ,,
June 8	93,147 ,,	Dec. 7	107,582 ,,
,, 15	86,125 ,,	,, 14	75,283 ,,
,, 22	193,116 ,,	,, 21	105,853 ,,
,, 29	142,185 ,,	,, 28	64,216 ,,

LONDON SUPPLIES OF BREADSTUFFS.

Dec. 21 to Dec. 28, 1900, inclusive.

Wheat	20,566 qrs.
Flour	43,650 ,,
Total	64,216 ,,
Requirements	106,000 ,,
Deficiency	41 784 ,,

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1899.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Dec. 9	10,982½	25	7	174,207	25	10	21,421½	16	5
,, 16	78,772½	25	4	135,344⅜	25	7	22,889¼	16	8
,, 23	67,102⅜	25	6	116,757⅜	25	10	16,447⅜	16	0
,, 30	47,685¼	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,463⅜	16	2
1900.									
Jan. 6	40,083	25	9	65,347½	25	7	13,380⅜	16	4
,, 13	57,021⅜	25	11	83,421½	25	5	19,703	16	6
,, 20	68,463¾	26	0	100,925⅜	25	8	23,122⅜	16	5
,, 27	65,381½	25	10	108,357⅜	25	9	17,814⅜	16	8
Feb. 3	73,796⅜	25	8	90,769¼	25	4	22,061¼	16	3
,, 10	71,482⅜	25	10	80,543⅜	25	3	20,822⅜	16	2
,, 17	76,611⅜	26	1	80,414⅜	24	11	20,986⅜	16	1
,, 24	69,534½	26	3	63,931⅜	25	1	21,132½	16	10
Mar. 3	68,153½	26	4	51,727½	24	6	18,499½	16	11
,, 10	58,703⅜	25	11	44,921¼	24	8	16,224	16	11
,, 17	76,435⅜	25	10	46,053	24	6	20,104⅜	16	10
,, 24	69,944½	25	11	38,147	25	0	17,042⅜	17	1
,, 31	72,762	25	10	34,387½	24	11	15,203⅜	17	2
April 7	67,743½	25	10	20,402⅜	24	10	13,757½	17	2
,, 14	66,412⅜	25	11	19,519⅜	24	5	9,672⅜	17	8
,, 21	54,977½	26	0	11,673⅜	24	9	7,400⅜	17	3
,, 28	70,006½	26	0	7,785¼	25	2	11,101½	17	11
May 5	75,410½	25	11	8,159½	25	3	8,658½	18	
,, 12	82,190⅜	25	11	10,417⅜	24	10	12,245¼	17	11
,, 19	83,941½	25	7	5,638⅜	24	5	9,942	18	5
,, 26	95,574⅜	25	5	3,520¼	23	11	7,350⅜	18	2
June 2	68,906⅜	25	5	1,752⅜	24	4	6,702	18	6
,, 9	64,747½	25	3	990⅜	23	8	6,053⅜	18	8
,, 16	55,340⅜	25	6	1,486¾	23	8	7,228¼	18	11
,, 23	54,324½	25	9	1,312½	23	5	5,344¼	18	11
,, 30	44,920⅜	26	11	495¾	23	4	4,706¼	19	3
July 7	34,344⅜	27	10	486⅜	22	10	4,391½	19	5
,, 14	22,009¼	28	7	949¼	23	2	2,911⅜	19	1
,, 21	26,716½	29	0	765⅜	23	8	3,771¼	19	8
,, 28	33,088	29	3	194½	24	4	3,335⅜	19	9
Aug. 4	45,748⅜	28	10	499¼	23	10	3,453⅜	19	8
,, 11	37,644⅜	28	7	311½	23	7	3,391	19	8
,, 18	32,812¼	28	10	698¾	23	3	3,593¼	19	11
,, 25	26,427½	28	10	787¼	24	10	5,349¼	18	8
Sept. 1	30,393½	28	8	1,978¾	25	2	9,606⅜	18	1
,, 8	34,755¼	28	7	6,140⅜	25	5	11,042½	17	10
,, 15	53,334½	28	4	20,879¾	25	4	18,681¼	17	1
,, 22	61,468¾	28	4	41,284½	26	0	21,729⅜	17	1
,, 29	72,604	28	9	68,844½	26	1	25,620½	17	2
Oct. 6	66,690	28	9	94,282	26	2	23,865	16	10
,, 13	70,314⅜	28	9	134,277½	26	2	18,350½	17	1
,, 20	58,790⅜	28	4	159,007⅜	26	5	14,681¼	16	11
,, 27	56,254	27	11	190,979⅜	26	8	16,906¼	16	11

1900.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Nov. 3 ..	54,514⅞	27	5	201,836	26	3	16,602½	16	11
,, 10 ..	41,497⅞	27	3	170,558	25	11	15,566½	16	10
,, 17 ..	44,072⅝	27	1	185,342⅜	25	8	14,400½	17	1
,, 24 ..	48,015½	27	2	182,212½	25	10	17,125½	17	0
Dec. 1 ..	48,700⅝	27	0	161,624	25	9	18,157½	17	2
,, 8 ..	53,450⅝	26	10	169,149½	25	11	20,618⅝	17	4
,, 15 ..	52,876½	26	9	155,556½	25	7	21,502½	17	1
,, 22 ..	50,872½	26	7	145,585½	25	7	19,853½	17	2
,, 29 ..	43,182½	26	4	109,624½	25	10	17,065	17	2

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(195 Market Towns.)

	1899. Wheat.	Barley.	Oats	1900. Wheat.	Barley	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
January	26 11	28 0	17 1	25 10	25 7	6 3
February	26 2	26 11	17 0	26 0	25 2	6 7½
March	25 8	26 7	16 11	25 11	24 10	7 0
April	24 10	25 7	17 1	25 11	24 9	7 6
May	25 3	24 0	17 8	25 9	24 10	8 2
June	25 6	23 10	18 0	25 10	23 8	19 0
July	25 5	22 1	18 0	28 10	23 8	19 5
August	24 9	23 10	17 6	28 9	23 10	19 5
September	25 4	26 10	16 5	28 6	25 7	17 6
October	27 5	27 8	16 7	28 5	24 3	17 0
November	26 5	26 7	16 6	27 3	25 10	17 0
December	25 7	25 9	16 3	..	..	..

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and average prices of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended Dec. 29, 1900, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	43,182½ qrs.	26s. 4d.
Barley	109,624½ qrs.	25s. 10d.
Oats	17,065 qrs.	17s. 2d.

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to Dec. 29, in each of the years from 1893 to 1899.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1896	17,581⅜	20	6	41,588½	24	8	5,776	16	2
1897	33,163½	34	6	74,645⅝	27	3	9,701½	17	1
1898	46,085	26	11	91,300½	28	4	15,191½	17	0
1899	47,635½	25	9	74,637⅜	25	5	10,463½	16	2

LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 25th, 1900.

	Total Quantities Imperial Measure		Total Amount.			Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.		
	Quarters.	Bus.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wheat	509	3	639	14	3	1	7	0
Barley	19	0	19	10	0	1	0	6
Oats	107	5	106	5	0	0	19	8

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT.

PRICE.	Nov. 24.	Dec. 1.	Dec. 8.	Dec. 15.	Dec. 22.	Dec. 29.
27s. 2d.	——	..	..	..	..	..
27s. 1d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
27s. 0d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
26s. 11d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
26s. 10d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
26s. 9d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
26s. 7d.	..	..	..	..	..	..
26s. 4d.	..	..	..	..	..	——

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	21	9	23	9	29	0	25	6	18	9	18	7½	21	6	23	6
Feb.	22	0	23	6	30	0	24	7½	19	4½	17	9	21	6	23	4½
March	21	6	22	3	30	0	23	11	19	3	18	0	21	0	23	3
April	21	6	22	0	31	3	23	6	19	6	18	7½	20	6	23	3½
May	21	3	22	3	39	7	23	7	19	0	20	4½	18	6	23	4½
June	23	6	23	1½	35	0	22	7½	18	10	22	3	18	10½	23	0
July	24	6	21	9	29	6	22	10½	18	6	20	0½	19	3	22	10
August	24	0	21	9	27	6	26	8½	18	8½	19	10½	19	3	22	3
Sept.	25	3	22	0	26	5	30	3	19	6	19	8	19	3	22	4
Oct.	24	9	23	3	26	1	29	0	23	7½	18	7½	18	3½	22	3½
Nov.	24	3	22	3	25	0	29	1	25	8½	18	4½	18	3	21	10½
Dec.	..		21	0	24	3	29	0	25	7½	18	1	18	8½	21	9
Yearly Average	..		22	4	29	6½	25	10½	20	8½	19	2	19	7	22	9

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.	1897. s.	d.	1896. s.	d.	1895. s.	d.	1894. s.	d.	1893. s.	d.
Jan.	25	2	29	0	38	7	30	5½	25	10	27	9½	28	4½	31	7
Feb.	26	3	28	3	39	4	29	10½	26	2	27	10½	27	5½	30	8½
March	27	3	27	6	40	1	28	9	26	0	27	5½	27	1	29	9½
April	26	9	27	6	42	3	28	5	25	6½	26	7	27	8½	29	7
May	26	8	28	0	40	0	28	11½	25	1½	28	0	25	6½	29	11
June	28	6	27	6	35	6	29	3	25	8	28	10	25	7½	29	4½
July	26	9	27	3	32	0	31	5½	24	6	27	1	26	10	28	1½
August	26	4	27	0	31	8	36	11	25	1	26	11	27	6	28	3½
Sept.	26	3	25	9	31	0	38	7	27	0	27	0½	25	5	28	5
Oct.	26	0	24	9	30	6	39	4	27	1½	27	9	25	2	27	6
Nov.	26	4	24	3	30	3	40	3	29	9	26	8½	26	6	26	11½
Dec.	..		24	6	29	0	39	3	29	8	26	3	26	10½	27	11
Yearly Average	..		26	9	35	0	33	5	26	5½	27	4½	26	8	29	0½

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	s.	d.
Sept. 1, 1900 .....(per sack)	30	0

(No official change since last date given).

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing 1st September, 1900.

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 1 ..... (per sack)	28	6	.... (per sack) 25	6
October 1 ..... ,,	29	0	.... ,, 26	0
October 26 ..... ,,	28	6	.... ,, 25	6
November 26..... ,,	28	0	.... ,, 25	0

(No official change since last date given).

FOREIGN CORN TRADE.

The shipments of grain from the chief exporting countries last week were as follows: —

	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Sks.	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
United States ..	235,000	212,000	581,000	10,000	105,000
Russia	126,000	—	20,000	11,000	117,000
France	—	5,000	—	—	—
Austria-Hungary ..	—	10,000	—	—	—
Roumania	71,000	—	50,000	12,000	—
Argentina	67,000	—	73,000	—	—
Chili	—	—	—	—	—
India	—	—	—	—	—
Australasia ..	30,000	—	—	—	5,000
Miscellaneous ..	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	10,000
Total ..	579,000	222,000	744,000	53,000	237,000

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supplies lighter; better demand all round. Closing quotations:—Fowls, Yorkshire, 3s to 3s 6d; Essex, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; Welsh, 2s to 2s 3d; Boston, 2s 6d to 3s; Surrey, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s 6d to 4s 3d; Irish, 1s 10d to 2s 3d; turkey, cock, 9s to 15s; hen, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; geese, 3s 9d to 4s 6d; country ducks, 3s to 3s 6d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 2d; feathered, 9d to 1s; wild rabbits, 9d to 11d; tame, 1s 2d to 1s 4s each; Australian, 7s 9d to 8s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 4s to 5s; young partridges, 3s to 3s 6d; old, 2s per brace; hares, 3s to 3s 6d; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; wild duck, 2s; pintail, 1s 6d; widgeon, 1s; teal, 10d to 1s; snipe, 6d to 10d; woodcock, 2s to 3s; golden plover, 8d to 10d; black, 5d each.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Bacon: The market has been slow, demand being of retail character, and prices show a further decline. We quote to-day: Choice Cumberland cut, 20lb to 22lb, 46s to 50s; 26lb to 30lb, 44s to 47s; 32lb to 38lb, 44s to 46s; long middles, rib-in, 18lb to 22lb, 48s 6d to 52s 6d; clear bellies, 14lb to 16lb, 51s to 53s; 18lb to 20lb, 50s 6d to 52s 6d; Staffordshire cut (lean on), 35lb to 40lb, and Birmingham cut, 33lb to 38lb, 44s 6d to 45s 6d; clear Staffords (lean off), 40lb to 44lb, and Yorkshire cut, 40lb to 45lb, 42s 6d to 44s; singed and Wiltshire Canadian, 45lb to 55lb, 51s to 55s; American, 44lb to 50lb, 42s to 48s; short clear backs, 12lb to 16lb, 41s to 42s; 16lb to 20lb, 41s to 42s; fat backs (export), 38s 6d to 40s 6d; long clear middles, 35lb to 40lb, 43s to 44s; 40lb to 45lb, 42s 6d to 43s 6d; short clear middles, 45lb to 50lb, 42s to 43s; short middles (rib in), 18lb to 23lb, 44s to 46s; shoulders, square cut, 12lb to 14lb, 32s 6d to 37s; 14lb to 16lb, 31s 6d to 36s; New York cut, 11lb to 13lb, 33s to 35s per cwt. Hams quiet, and the turn lower. We quote choice long cut, 8lb to 12lb, 44s to 49s; 14lb to 16lb, 42s to 46s; short cut and A.C., 10lb to 12lb, 44s to 48s; 12lb to 14lb, 43s 6d to 47s; 14lb to 16lb, 40s to 46s per cwt. Lard dull and easier, cables coming lower. We quote pails and kegs, 38s to 38s 9d; prime Western (in tierces), 36s 9d to 37s 3d per cwt. Beef unaltered in value, with moderate demand. We quote extra India mess, 66s 3d to 70s; Plate and Packet, 60s to 65s per 304lb. Pork steady, with fair inquiry. We quote finest prime mess 66s to 70s per 200 lb. Cheese.—The demand shows signs of improvement, and holders are firm at recent quotations for finest quality, but summers are pressed for sale at irregular values. We quote finest Canadian, September-October, coloured, 53s to 53s 6d; white, 52s to 53s; finest States, coloured, 51s 6d to 52s 6d; white, 51s to 52s; summer cheese, ripe flavoured, sell steadily from 44s to 48s 6d; but lower grades are dull and neglected, offered from 20s to 32s per cwt. Butter.—The enquiry has been small this week, the holidays interfering with business prices rule steady. We quote fancy fresh made Canadian creamery, 105s to 110s; second quality, 80s to 92s; finest States (none); finest ladles and imitation creamery, 72s to 80s; finest Danish, 112s to 124s; Australian and New Zealand, 104s to 110s; Irish creamery (none); Cork firsts, 108s; seconds, 91s; thirds, 80s per cwt.—HODGSON BROTHERS.

BUTTER.

Wednesday.—Colne: 1s 3d per lb. Kirbymoorside: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Masham: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per roll of 24oz. Northallerton: 2s per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb. Uttoxeter: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb.

Thursday.—Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per lb. Devizes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Driffield: 1s 1d per lb. Kidderminster: 1s 3d per lb. Penistone: 1s 4d per lb. Ripon: 2s to 2s 2d per roll of 24oz. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 5d per lb.

Friday.—Derby: 1s 4d per lb. Easingwold: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Grimsby: Danish, 125s to 127s per 112lb; Dutch, 112s to 118s; Canadian, 100s to 112s; Colonial, 100s to 112s. Helmsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb. Leeds: Danish, 126s to 130s per 112lb; Irish creameries, 104s to 110s; York lump, 15s to 16s per stone; ditto long rolls, 1s 1d, 2s to 2s 3d; fresh butter in 1lb prints, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per lb. Leyburn: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per roll of 24oz. Lincoln: 1s 2d per lb. Otley: 1s 11d to 2s 2d per roll of 24oz. Scarborough: 10d to 1s 6d per lb. Whitchurch: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per lb.

EGGS.

Wednesday.—Colne: 2s 8d per score. Kirbymoorside: 10 to 11 for 1s. Masham: 10 for 1s. Northallerton: 9 for 1s. Stockton: 6 or 7 for 1s. Uttoxeter: 2s to 2s 3d per score.

Thursday.—Brigg: 11 or 12 for 1s. Devizes: 10 to 12 for 1s. Driffield: 10 for 1s. Kidderminster: 10 to 12 for 1s. Penistone: 8 for 1s. Ripon: 10 for 1s. Wetherby: 8 or 9 for 1s.

Friday.—Derby: 8 or 9 for 1s. Easingwold: 8 or 9 for 1s. Grimsby: Austrian, 7s 3d to 9s 2d; Styrian, 7s 8d to 10s 6d per 120. Helmsley: 10 or 11 for 1s. Leeds: Yorkshire, 17s to 18s per 120; Irish, 13s to 14s 6d; Danish, 10s 6d to 12s 6d; Austrian reds, 6s 6d to 7s; ditto blues, 6s 3d to 9s 3d. Leyburn: 10 or 11 for 1s. Lincoln: 10 for 1s. Otley: 8 or 9 for 1s. Scarborough: 7 for 1s. Whitchurch: 10 and 11 for 1s.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Moderate supplies of greenstuffs were in slow request. Potato trade quiet. Arrivals of fruit were on a good scale, meeting with a good demand. Greenstuffs—Cabbages, 3s to 3s 6d; savoys, 4s; beetroots, 2s. 6d. per tally; cauliflowers, 2s to 3s per dozen; Brussels sprouts, 9d to 1s 6d. per half-sieve; parsnips, 2s 9d per bag; carrots, 2s; turnips, 2s to 2s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d per dozen bunches; celery, 10s to 12s per dozen rolls; horseradish, 1s per bundle: English onions, 4s 6n to 5s per cwt; Valentia, 7s to 7s

per case; potatoes—maincrops, 95s to 100s; British Queens, 75s to 90s; Reading grades, 80s to 85s; Imperators, 80s per ton; German, 2s 9d; Belgian, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; French, 2s 6d; Dutch, 2s to 2s 9d per bag. Fruit: English grapes, 9d to 2s per lb.; Almeria 10s 6d to 29s per barrel; English apples, 2s 6d to 7s 6d per bushel; Nova Scotian, 16s to 20s per barrel; Californian 7s 6d to 10s 6d per box; Messina lemons, 8s to 16s per case; Jaffa oranges 7s 6d to 10s 6d per box; Denia, 14s to 15s; Valencia, 8s to 16s per case; pineapples, 1s 6d to 5s each; bananas, 5s to 10s 6d per bunch; Italian chestnuts, 12s to 15s; Redon, 7s 6d to 10s 6d per sack.

Borough, Saturday.—Supplies of potatoes were in excess of the limited demand, and values were weaker. Good arrivals of greenstuffs experienced a moderate sale. Potatoes: English, Reading Giants, 3s to 3s 6d; Professor Maerkers, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; British Queens, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Up-to-dates, 3s 3d to 4s 6d; Imperators, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Belgian and Dutch, Imperators, 2s 6d to 3s; Magnums, 2s 9d to 3s; French and German Magnums, 3s to 4s per cwt. Cabbages, 2s to 3s per tally; Brussels sprouts, 1s to 1s 6d per half-sieve; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s per bag; parsley, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen bunches; celery, 6s to 12s per dozen bundles; English onions, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per cwt; Valencia, 6s to 6s 6d per case; English apples, 3s 6d to 6s per bushel; Nova Scotian, 12s to 16s per barrel; oranges, 10s to 16s per box; grapes, 8s to 12s per barrel; chestnuts, 6s to 9s per bag.

POTATOES.

Borough and Spitalfields, Saturday.—The arrivals at this market have been in excess of the limited demand, and prices have ruled in buyers' favour. English Reading grades, 3s to 3s 6d; Professor Maerkers, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; British Queens, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Up-to-dates, 3s 3d to 4s 6d. Belgian and Dutch: Imperators, 2s 6d to 3s; Magnums, 2s 9d to 3s; French and German: Magnums, 3s to 4s per cwt.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The market has opened well, and several transactions are reported. Holders decline to accept less than the rates lately current, and believe that the whole of the stocks in hand will speedily find a market.

Worcester, Saturday.—One or two sales have been made since the holidays, but trade is not yet in full swing. Stocks are exceptionally low, and growers are holding back their hops in anticipation of higher prices in the new year. No hops passed the public scales this week.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—A fair demand prevailed for the shorter supplies on offer. Best clover, 85s to 105s; inferior ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; specially picked hay, 92s 6d; good ditto, 80s to 87s 6d; inferior ditto, 50s to 60s; mixtures and sainfoin, 70s to 90s; and straw, 25s to 36s per load.

FOREIGN HAY AND STRAW.

London, Saturday.—Owing to the Christmas holidays there has been practically nothing doing this week, and prices remain about the same. We quote: Canadian timothy and clover mixture, 83s to 85s; Dutch 1st cut clover, 88s 6d to 90s; Dutch and French 2nd cut clover, 90s to 92s 6d; Good Dutch hay, 75s; inferior Dutch hay, 68s. All per ton delivered alongside.—FULLER AND PRENTIS, 9 and 10, Great Tower Street, E.C.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes: The trade continues quiet and inactive, with occasional lower prices being accepted for arrived parcels, while quotations remained unchanged. Russians are in fair supply, and values remain steady. Americans offer on slightly easier terms for shipment, but landed parcels are firmly held. English, in consequence of the small production and the strong position of the seed market, crushers ask full prices. Cotton cakes: There is still a good demand, especially for Egyptian, which find a free sale, while English are unaltered. Decorticated: The recent arrivals of new seed cakes and meal move off quietly and are unchanged. Maize germ meal: American only offers sparingly on spot at £5 5s to £5 6s 3d, but for January arrival £5 3s 9d has been taken; English sells steadily at last week's prices. Rice meal: Parcels of Rangoon in warehouse are held at a slight reduction, and for this month's shipment £4 7s 6d ex ship would be accepted:—

	Per ton. £ s. d.		Per ton. £ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	8 7 6	to	8 10 0
American in bags ..... ex dock	7 10 0	,,	7 12 6
Russian in bags ..... ,,	7 11 3	,,	7 12 6
Russian in mats ..... ,,	7 17 6	,,	8 0 0
Calcutta ..... ex wharf	7 8 8	,,	—
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	4 17 6	,,	5 0 0
Egyptian, in bags ..... ex dock	4 15 0	,,	4 16 3
Decorticated ..... ,,	6 17 6	,,	7 0 0
Meal ..... ,,	6 15 0	,,	—
RAPE CAKES.			
East Indian Seed ..... ex mill	4 15 0	,,	—
Ravison ..... ,,	4 10 0	,,	—
MAIZE.			
Germ meal (American)..... ex dock	5 5 0	,,	5 6 3
,, ,, Jan. arrival	5 3 9	,,	—
,, ,, (English)..... ex mill	5 8 9	,,	5 10 0
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon ..... ex dock	4 8 9	,,	4 10 0
,, Dec. ship. ..... ex ship	—	,,	4 7 6

—PINNOCK BROS., Mark Lane

WATERLOO ROUND FEEDING CAKES, £6 17s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ROUND 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 2s 6d PER TON; WATERLOO ANGLO SHAPE 97 PER CENT. PURE LINSEED CAKES, £9 0s. 0d. PER TON; WATERLOO 97 PER CENT. PURE EGYPTIAN COTTONSEED CAKES, £5 5s 0d PER TON. ALL F.O.R. HULL.

MOLASSINE, packed in bags, of 1¼cwt. each. Price per cwt. 7s. 6d. Price per ton, £6 15s., on rail at works, Silvertown, Essex.

Arrivals and Sailings of Grain.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 1 wheat and 2 barley and wheat (all from San Francisco).

The sailings of grain and seed laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 3 wheat (1 Birkenhead, 1 Sharpness, 1 Tyne Dock).

Since January 1st, 1900, the total arrivals have been 327 wheat, 16 wheat and barley, 1 wheat and pease, 7 flour, 12 maize, 1 maize and oats, 27 barley, 19 beans, 10 locust beans, 2 pease, 1 linseed, 6 canaryseed, 2 fenugreek seed, 5 valonea; total, 436.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 285 wheat, 10 flour, 6 maize, 11 barley, 1 barley and beans, 1 rye, barley, and oats, 12 beans, 5 locust beans, 7 linseed, 6 canaryseed, and 7 valonea; total, 351.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The old century bequeaths to the new an area of perhaps 1,750,000 acres under wheat. This is about the figure to which the last few years have accustomed us, but it is a great change from the five million acres with which the old century commenced. In 1839 Philip Pusey estimated that four million acres yielded twelve million quarters, but this did not include Scotland or Ireland, which before the Free Trade era produced a much larger quantity of wheat than they have done of the last fifty years. Of the wheat now growing little can yet be said. It is healthy in appearance and not very precocious, but the large amount of moisture in the soil is scarcely good for it, and the farmer is wanting a month of cold, drying winds. Such weather would also help the land for the barley in the early spring. There is some talk of the barley acreage being increased, but prices have been very unremunerative of late, and there is little likelihood of any very important rise. The pure beer cause has the enthusiastic support of farmers, but the latter know how politically weak they are in opposition to the congeries of vested interests controlling the House of Commons. Little faith, therefore, is put in an increased demand for barley from English brewers.

America surprised the trade on Friday by the publication of a lengthy crop report which had not been expected till January 11. Why American Government returns always used to appear on the 11th of the month nobody out of Washington probably could say, but the fact remains that the markets have long ceased to look for them on any other day. The report now before us gives the chief crops as follows :—

	Bushels.
Wheat	522,229,505
Maize	2,105,102 516
Oats	809,125,959
Barley	58,925,833
Rye	23,995,927
Buckwheat	9,566,966
Potatoes	210,926 807

The wheat crop may be considered an average, while the yields of oats and maize are large.

The Argentine crop of wheat is now being reaped. It is not reckoned anything like so good a yield per acre as last season, but the area is probably increasing every year, and the more settled state of the country reduces the waste of grain when grown. When access to the coast was barred by political troubles crops could not be marketed even when safely reaped, but Argentina appears to find that peace pays, and the extension of agriculture has been the immediate result of peace.

The British markets have been very quiet, but there is a rather better feeling from the days just before the holidays. There was a large attendance at Mark Lane on Friday ; from two to three p.m. both of the exchanges were thronged. Business was not brisk in any article, but the foundation, doubtless was often laid for future business. The basis of value with which the new century will start will be about 30s. for wheat, 21s. for maize, 18s. per 336lb. oats, 16s. per 320lb. oats, 14s. per 304lb. oats, and 30s. for ordinary beans and peas.

English wheat is now 5d. below the septennial or tithe average, oats 1s. 3d. above it, while barley is exactly level in value with the mean. Maize is cheap, but this is a condition which two big American crops in succession may be said to impose ; in fact,we expect the cereal to go 1s. to 2s. lower before the American surplus is reduced to manageable dimensions.

The Government Blue Book just issued shows that on the average wheat is 5s. 5d. per qr. higher in France than in England, and oats 2s. 7d. higher ; while barley is 2s. 11d. lower. These figures are somewhat remarkable, and in view of the increased beer drinking in France are unexpected. The price of wheat in Germany appears to range from 30s. to 34s., barley from 24s. to 28s., and oats from 17s. to 20s. per qr. The heavy protective duties levied by Germany do not keep up prices as we should have expected. The French home production is so considerable that protection is a minor point, but Germany is second only to Great Britain as an importing country, and a 10s. duty on wheat, leaving the price at 32s., might seem to argue that but for protection 22s. per qr. would be the German wheat average.

There are now on passage to the United Kingdom 1,930,000 qrs. of wheat against 1,325,000 qrs. a year ago, and 1,815,000 qrs. two years since. Present expectations are thus divided :—

Californian	1,140,000 qrs.
American	310 000 ,,
Argentine	200,000 ,,
Australasian	220,000 ,,
Russian	50,000 ,,
German	10,000 ,,
Total	1,930,000 ,,

Of maize the quantity on passage is 880,000 qrs. against 890,000 qrs. in 1899 and 755,000 qrs. in 1898. Present supply afloat is divided as follows :—

Flat maize	580,000 qrs.
Yellow ,,	140.000 ,,
Round ,,	160,000 ,,
Total	880,000 ,,

Of barley there are now 465,000 qrs. on passage against 545,000 qrs. a year ago. Present expectations are thus divided.

	Qrs.
Malting	390,000
Grinding	75,000
Total	465,000

Of beans there are now 9,000 qrs. on passage.

The arrivals of foreign grain at our ports have not been quite up to the average of wheat or flour, but this has been balanced by exceptionally heavy arrivals of maize. Actual quantities have been :—

Wheat	236,000 qrs.
Flour	144,000 sacks
Maize	346,000 qrs.
Barley	126,000 ,,
Oats	121,000 ,,

Sales of English wheat were estimated at 114,000 qrs., and stocks in granary on the 22nd being estimated at 2,906,000 qrs. of foreign wheat and flour, the reserves on 29th inst. may be put at 2,819,000 qrs.

The flour trade has been inert, and, with very few exceptions, prices of the leading marks and brands are in buyers' favour. A better demand, however, is confidently anticipated with the new year. The top price is maintained at a nominal 30s., but it is not supposed to differ by more than 5s. from Town Households, which are offered freely at 24s., with buyers at 23s. 9d. Stone and roller English make 20s. and 22s. respectively, or thereabouts, at most local markets. Good mixtures of English and foreign make 24s., and the fine American patents 25s. per sack.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States is cabled at the following figures :

	Qrs.
Dec. 29, 1900	7,685,000
1899	7,135,000
1898	3,820,000

The present supply being thus liberal has a weakening effect upon trade on both sides of the Atlantic.

The price of red winter wheat at New York thus compares :

	s.	d.	
Dec. 29, 1900	27	0	per qr.
1899	26	8	,, ,,
1898	26	9	,, ,,

This is a remarkably level record, and when we consider present liberal holdings is not unsatisfactory.

The trade on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday in spring corn did not reveal any price changes of special note, but it was possible to obtain 19s. for the best Russian oats, 23s. 6d. for Russian maize, and 27s. for French buckwheat. A fairly good sale of dari at 24s. to 25s. is reported, but muttor and other small sorts of Indian pulse are scarce and difficult to quote. Barley meal has a good steady sale at 6s. per cwt., while rice meal at £4 10s. per ton ex dock has also its purchasers. There are sales of rye flour at 18s. 9d per sack, and the winter is a good time for oatmeal. Special Midlothian makes £14 per ton.

THE BALTIC.

Two newly-arrived cargoes have changed hands, but the trade has been mostly in cargoes for January shipment. Sales of wheat include Californian arrived at 30s. 3d. ; Australian, new crop, February shipment, at 30s. 3d. ; New Zealand, old crop, January shipment, at 29s. 3d. ; No. 1 Northern, January shipment, at 30s. 9d., and February shipment at 30s. 10½d. per qr Maize sales were old American, on passage, at 20s. ; new, for January shipment, at 18s. 9d., and for February at 18s. 6d. ; Galatz, for May shipment, at 20s., and Roumanian at 18s. 9d. per qr. Barley sales included a half cargo of Californian, arrived, at 26s. 6d., and a cargo on passage at 26s. 7½d. Of feeding barley, Persian, on passage, made 16s. 9d. ; Azoff, 18s. 6d. ; Novorossisk, 18s. 6d., and Roumanian, 19s. 3d. per qr. Other sales included pure black 336lb. oats for January shipment from Sweden, at 18s., and white peas for April shipment, from Calcutta, at 28s. 6d. per qr.

With the New Year will readers kindly note that when we use the name of a month it means "shipment guaranteed on or before the last day of that month." Thus the single word "January" will imply "shipment on or before January 31." This short phraseology is the custom of the "Baltic," and by saving space will enable us to record more sales.

THIS DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The last day of the year brings a slight fall in the temperature, but the weather is still open for the time of year. On the Exchange to-day excellent La Plata wheat was offered at 31s., with buyers at 30s. 6d. New Zealand made 29s. 6d. for the long-berried and 28s. 6d. for the short. German, at 29s., sold well. But as compared with these elements of briskness we have to report a very poor inquiry for English and ordinary spring American wheat at barely former quotations. Barley was unchanged for both descriptions. Malt was steady, with 42s. paid for some exceptionally fine English and 34s. for crystalised. Maize was not quite so weak as on Friday. Oats were a fair trade at currencies ; the demand was chiefly for 320lb. sorts. Beans, peas, and lentils were not the subject of a full winter demand, and prices favoured buyers. Tares made 56s. per quarter for good English, 35s. per quarter for good Konigsberg, and 50s. for the best Hamburg. Fenugreek realised £7 per ton whole and £10 ground. Good English canaryseed made up to 40s., the price of Turkish being about 33s. 6d. per quarter. Hempseed was offered at 35s., with buyers at 33s. per quarter.

(*For Close of Market see foot of Column.*)

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

Dec. 31st, 1900.

BRITISH GRAIN

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White (new)	(per 504 lb.)	30	32
(old)	,,	32	33
Red (new)	,,	29	30
(old)	,,	30	31
Chicken or Feed	(per 480 lb.)	27	28
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	32	39
Brewing	,,	27	32
Feeding	(per 400 lb.)	22	24
MALT, English	(per 336 lb.)	34	40
Scotch	,,	36	38
Black	,,	30	32
Brown	,,	29	32
Crystallized	,,	33	35
OATS, English, New Winter	,,	19	20
,, ,, Tartary	,,	18/9	19
,, ,, White	,,	18	18/9
,, Old Winter	,,	21	23
,, ,, Tartary	,,	20	21
Scotch	,,	21	23
Irish	(per 304 lb.)	16	17
RYE, British	(per 480 lb.)	24	26
BEANS, Pigeon	,,	40	44
,, Winter	,,	29	33
PEAS, Best Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	72	84
,, Blue (boiling)	,,	68	76
,, Dun	,,	31	33
,, Maple	,,	38	42

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(*Ex-Granary.*)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb. :		
Duluth	33	34
American Spring	32	33
Manitoba	32	33
Red Winter	31	32
Kausas	30	31
Californian	31	32
Walla Walla	30	31
Australian	30	32
New Zealand	28	30
Argentine	29	32
Danzig	33	34
Saxonka	31	32
Petersburg	30	31
German	29	30
Azima	31	32
Ghirka	30	31
Hard Taganrog	29	30
MAIZE, per 480lb. :		
Cinquantina	27	29
Roumanian	25	26
Russian	25	26
Argentine	22	23
American	21	22
OATS :		
New Zealand (384lb.)	22	26
Canadian (320lb.)	15	16
American (320lb.)	14	16
Revel (320lb.)	16	17
Petersburg (304lb.)	14	15
Liban, white (304lb.)	13	14
,, black ,,	14	15
BEANS, per 480lb. :		
Egyptian	31	32
Smyrna	29	30
Konigsberg	29	31
Barbary	27	28
Mexican	28	30
New Zealand	31	34

	s.	s.
LOCUST BEANS, per ton :		
Italian	100	102
Cyprian	106	112
,, Ground	140	146
Portuguese	104	106
,, Ground	118	120
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Dutch	57	77
Canadian, White	29	30
Indian, White	28	30
Barbary	26	28
Australian, White	40	41
,, Dun	26	27
New Zealand	44	64
LENTILS, per cental.		
Spanish, Split	16	17
Egyptian, Split	14	15
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Syrian	none.	
Smyrna	24	47
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	24	25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb. :		
French	26	28
Russian	26	27
Canadian	27	28
BARLEY :		
Californian (448 lb.)	26	30
Danubian (400 lb.)	22	28
Black Sea (400 lb.)	21	24
Turkish (400lb.)	20	21
Azuf (400 lb.)	21	22
Syrian (400 lb.)	24	27
Persian (400 lb.)	18	18/6
American (400 lb.)	20	21
MALT, per 336 lb. :		
Californian	35	37
Smyrna	35	36

OIL SEEDS.

LINSEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	58	64
Bombay	62	63
Calcutta	58	59
Dutch	61	63
Argentine	50	52
Russian	52	54
SESAME. per 424lb.		
Bombay	49	51
Kurrachee	52	53
COTTON SEED. per ton.		
Egyptian	136	138

RAPESEED. per 416lb.	s.	s.
English	55	59
Dutch	53	55
French	46	47
Roumanian	44	46
Cawnpore	45	46
Calcutta	42	43
Guzerat	50	54
Ferozepore	43	44
Ravison	34	36
POPPYSEED. per 371lb.		
Indian	48	49

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

By Telephone, 2 p.m.

THE MARKET CLOSED A LITTLE BETTER THAN IT OPENED, BUT THE AMOUNT OF BUSINESS PUT THROUGH WAS BELOW THE AVERAGE BOTH FOR WHEAT AND FOR FEEDING STUFFS.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Dec. 31st.

There was a fillip given to the closing market of the month by Government purchases for South Africa. The sorts selected were good American; and, while the holders of English makes blamed the "unpatriotic" character of the choice, it cannot be denied that excellent value for the national money was obtained. Purchases, we hear, amounted to about 20,000 sacks. English sorts were 3d. lower from the markets of Friday, and sold very slowly. "Gilt Edge" makes, 18s. to 18s. 6d.; "Iron Duke," 19s. to 19s. 6d.; Oregon flour, 23s. to 23s. 9d. per sack; maize cones, at 18s. to 19s., have a good sale, and are far cheaper than rice cones, which are at least a guinea per sack, and generally more. The three great mills of the American North West, Pillsbury's, Washburns, and Morrison's are offering to ship their finest make of flour on receipt of order at 24s. 9d. per sack. Spot price is 25s. to 25s. 3d. per sack. Hungarian was 6d. per sack lower on the fortnight.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Top Price	(per sack)	—	30
Town Whites	,,	26/9	–27
,, Households	,,	23/9	–24
No. 2	,,	21/9	–22

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack)	24	— 25
Fine Roller made	,,	23	— 24
Ordinary Roller made	,,	21	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	20	— 21
Ordinary Stone made	,,	19	— 20

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack)	24	— 26
,, Second Patents	,,	23	— 24
,, First Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	18	— 19
Milwaukee Patents	,,	24	— 25
,, Bakers'	,,	21	— 23
Kansas Patent	,,	23	— 24
,, Bakers'	,,	18	— 19
Cascadia	,,	23/6	–24
Canadian	,,	24	— 25
Australian Patents	,,	22	— 23
,, Ordinary	,,	19	— 20
Hungarian	,,	26	— 31
French	,,	20	— 23

MEAL, &c.

Whole Meal	(per ton)	184	–186
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	112	–114
Bran, London Broad	,,	104	–106
,, ,, Fine	,,	95	— 97
,, Country Flake	,,	108	–110
,, ,, Broad	,,	100	–104
Pollard	,,	90	— 92
Fine Middlings	,,	115	–120
Coarse Middlings	,,	100	–102
Barley Meal	,,	120	–126
Oat Meal	,,	220	–280
Oat Flour	,,	340	–360
Maize Flour	,,	130	–136
Maize Meal	,,	110	–120
Maize Cones	,,	146	–152
Maize Germ Meal	,,	110	–112
Pea Meal	,,	130	–150
Bean Meal	,,	140	–160
Rice Meal	,,	90	— 95

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is held twice a day, and is open to elected members only. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 centals.

The name of the month stands for guaranteed delivery (if required) on or before the last day of that month, and the following have been the prices per cental recently made:—

WHEAT.—Calls.		Dec.	March.	June.
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Dec. 24 11 a.m.	.....(no calls.).....	— ..	— ..	—
4 p.m.	.....(no calls.).....	— ..	— ..	—
Dec. 25 11 a.m.	.....(holiday.).....	— ..	— ..	—
4 p.m.	.....(holiday.).....	— ..	— ..	—
Dec. 26 11 a.m.	.....(holiday.).....	— ..	— ..	—
4 p.m.	.....(holiday.).....	— ..	— ..	—
Dec. 27 11 a.m.	.....	6 5 ..	6 7 ..	6 7
4 p.m.	.....	6 5 ..	6 7 ..	6 7
Dec. 28 11 a.m.	.....	— ..	6 7 ..	6 7
4 p.m.	.....	— ..	6 7 ..	6 7
Dec. 29 11 a.m.	.....	— ..	6 7 ..	6 8
To-day, noon.	.....	— ..	6 8 ..	6 8

January delivery at 6s. 6d. was a small business. Maize made 4s. per cental for Feb. delivery of New American, which was a fair price, and helps to sustain trade at Mark Lane.

The Term Market standard wheat is No. 1 Northern Spring American sold on the Duluth certificate. Other sorts of wheat can be bought at the above prices plus or minus agreed difference between the other sort and the standard quality. Quotations are by the "true hundredweight" or cental of 100lb. We do not give fractions of a penny per cental. Delivery is understood as being guaranteed on or before the last day of the month named in the quotation. The maize quoted on the Term market is flat grain from the United States.

The Term Market (while the "Baltic" is rebuilding) is temporarily situated at the Great Eastern Hotel, No. 190, Bishopsgate Street, ground floor.

The deposit required from members of the Term Market has been fixed at £50 *minimum* and 1s. per quarter margin on any purchases above 1,000 quarters.

HOPS.

London (Borough), Monday.—Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, hop factors, 67, Borough High-street, London, S.E., report: The market has opened after the holidays with a good inquiry for copper hops, and offers a shilling or two below current rates are being refused by holders, consequently prices are extremely firm. Stocks are very limited.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORTS.

The last day of the century and the trade on the Corn Exchange is dull and unprofitable, which is the characteristic of the whole trade, including milling offals. The reported short crop in the United States last June did a great deal of harm, putting prices up, and with most disappointing results. The compliments of the season to my readers, hoping for a bright New Year.—RICHARD JOGGETT, Mark Lane.

Small arrivals of wheat and dearer markets in America caused sellers to hold for an advance and prices are 6d. per qr. higher. Flour is held for 3d. to 6d. per sack advance. Maize, barley, and oats are all fully as dear as last week.—COVENTRY, Mark Lane.

There was a small attendance at to-day's market, and, as usual on the last day of the year, no disposition was shown to enter into fresh transactions. We have no change to note in the value of any article, and the general tone is firm. Supplies of English red clover continue scanty and of poor quality. Dry, frosty weather is much wanted to enable farmers to thresh their seeds. Birdseeds are quiet. Owing to the mildness of the weather, the sale for blue peas is slow.—JOHN PICARD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Following the advance advised from the American markets wheat has been much firmer to-day, and an advance of 3d. to 6d. per qr. can be generally obtained. Maize and barley steady at fully last week's prices. Oats are strong, old crop making 3d. advance, new unchanged.—W. P. WOOD AND CO., Mark Lane.

Flour.—A fair trade at 3d. to 6d. advance on the week.—T. S. MEDILL, Mark Lane.

Offals: Bran and pollard not much inquiry. Weather mild. Prices unchanged.—GREENHILL BROTHERS, Belfast, December 29.

The demand for all articles is quite of a holiday character. Supplies are liberal and prices in buyers' favour.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD, Glasgow, December 29.

Wheat—Market firm with a fair business at full prices of last Friday. Flour is steadily held with only a small inquiry at last Friday's prices for foreign. The Liverpool Millers' Association make no change in the minimum price of bakers. Maize is quiet with a moderate business passing, old mixed making ½d. per cental lower, whilst new is making ¾d. under last Friday. European owing to larger arrivals tends in favour of buyers. Plate is also easy with a smaller trade. Barley quiet for brewing and feeding, but prices remain steady. Beans are firmly held, but the demand is quieter with only a small trade passing. Peas are slow with hardly anything doing. Canadians a shade lower. Oats—Both English and foreign are extremely dull, with prices the turn in buyers' favour. Oatmeal quiet at quotations. Oilcake steady with a holiday tone. Tuesday, the 1st of January next, being an Association holiday, the Liverpool market will be closed.—ROSS T. SMYTH, Liverpool, December 29.

THE BALTIC, MONDAY, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are firmly held for January and February shipment, but remoter dates are rather weak. Maize is 6d. lower on the fortnight for February shipment, but for cargoes actually on passage is even firmer than before Christmas. Barley is dull, but oats are a better trade. Oilseeds, on the whole, are decidedly firm.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Californian, 30s, January shipment; Walla Walla, 29s, off coast; Australian, 30s, Feb. shipment: No. 2 Hard Winter, 28s 3d, Feb. shipment: best Duluth, 32s 6d, on passage; Argentine, 28s, March shipment; fine Azima, 30s 6d, on passage; good Ghirka, 29s 3d, on passage.

MAIZE.—American, 19s 9d, on passage; American, 18s 6d, Feb. shipment; Argentine, 20s 9d, on passage; Roumanian, 19s, May shipment.

BARLEY.—Crimean, 18s 9d, on passage; Persian, 17s, on passage.

OATS.—American mixed, 14s 3d, on passage; Petersburg, 13s 9d, arrived.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 57s 6d, arrived; Libau, 54s 6d, on passage; Argentine, 48s, February shipment.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—Messrs. John Shaw and Sons, Seed Merchants, of Great Maze Pond, Borough, London, S.E., write that business in grass and cloverseeds, as is usual at the turn of the year, is just confined to narrow limits. Meantime, stocks generally are moderate, and a good spring business is anticipated by holders. The prices still asked for Koenigsberg tares are regarded as prohibitory. Supplies of English winter vetches are small. As regards canary and hempseed, the tendency of values is distinctly upwards; whilst blue peas, haricot beans, and Spanish lentils command former terms. Other articles, in view of the holiday spirit prevailing, show no quotable alteration.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Dec. 31st, 1900.

	British	Total.	Jan. 1st, 1900.
Beasts	1,100	1,100	1,230
Sheep and lambs	6,570	6,570	5,770
Calves	—	—	9
Pigs	50	50	10
Milch cows	30	30	40

Quotations per 8lbs (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.	Inferior.	Second.	First.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beasts	2 8 —	4 2 —	4 10
Sheep	3 4 —	5 2 —	6 0
Pigs	2 10 ..	3 10 ..	4 6

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, 21; Eastern Counties, 305; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 644; Devon, 60; Ireland, 22.

In the beast market to-day there was a moderate supply of both prime and second quality. Owing to the weather being so unfavourable, trade ruled slow, though for prime quality rates were firmer, there was more demand for butchering cows and bulls by country buyers; prices in consequence were steady, and a clearance expected.

The following are the top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Jan. 1st, 1900.
Scotch	4s 9d to 5s 10d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
Devons	4s 8d to 4s 9d	..
Norfolks	—	4s 8d to 4s 10d
Runts	—	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	4s 2d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Irish	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Fat cows	3s 8d to 3s 10d	3s 10d to 4s 0d

The supply in the sheep market was a fair average, and included 2,920 from Eastern Counties and 230 Scotch. Ewes were short in number, and sold readily at 2d per 8lb more money; for wethers trade was slow, but rates were firm. The heavy rain interfered greatly with business, though a clearance will be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Jan. 1st, 1900.
7½ to 8 stone Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9-stone ditto	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10-stone half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
12-stone Lincolns	5s 0d to 5s 2d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Irish	—	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10-stone Down ewes	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11-stone halfbred ditto	4s 0d to 4s 2d	— to —

The pig trade was extremely dull; best breeds were quoted at 4s 6d per 8lb.

London Central, Monday.—Good supplies, trade slow. Beef: Carcases, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; hindquarters, 4s to 4s 4d; roastings, 5s 2d to 5s 6d. Sheep: ewes, 2s 10d to 3s 2d; wethers, 4s to 4s 2d; hindquarters, ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 8d. Pigs, large, 3s 8d to 4s; small, 4s 2d to 4s 6d.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 164; sheep, 387; pigs, 211. Beef, 7s 6d to 8s; mutton, 7s 7d to 8s 11d; pork, 6s to 7s 3d; sows, 4s 3d to 6s. Fat beasts good demand. Stores slow. Fat and store sheep fair. Fat and store pigs better. Milch cows, prices £13 to £20.

FOREIGN CATTLE.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 334. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 1,632 head, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States. The above number does not include all arrivals, 449 more being held back. Trade was of a firm and steady nature at a slight advance in value; the best on offer to dress about 720lb made 4s 5d, and occasionally 4s 6d per 8lb, offal given in. Heavy beasts about 880lb were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 3d. No sheep on the market. The following were the numbers on offer on the corresponding day last year, with the current top rates:—Beasts, 1,369, 4s 8d per 8lb, to dress from 720lb to 760lb; sheep, 3,823, 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb to dress from 68lb to 72lb.

Liverpool, Monday.—Larger supply of cattle in market. Trade brisk for all classes at prices in favour of sellers, a good clearance being effected. Sheep also larger in numbers; prices better for all descriptions, quotations being: Beef 4½d to 5½d per lb; mutton, 8d to 5½d per lb. At market: 1,227 cattle, and 2,644 sheep.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals from Ireland for the past fortnight were 5,381 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 12,875 bales bacon. The bacon market opened well on Thursday after the holidays, and this, coupled with the very small killings of last week, gave it quite a buoyant tone, and prices were firm at about 2s. better than previous week. Irish, 56s, 62s, to 66s; Danish, 54s, 62s, to 65s; Canadian, 52s., 58s. The demand for butter was steady, but principally for the finest grades. Danish, strong, 124s, 126s, up to 128s. Colonial, 104s, 108s, up to 110s. Lard unchanged.—J. AND W. J. COURTENAY.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed Cake: Trade very dull, prices nominally unchanged. Cotton cake keeps steady and in good demand. Decorticated cotton cake unchanged. Meal very scarce on spot. Linseed as before.

English linseed cake	£8 10 0 to £8 12 6	ex mill
Indian Calcutta linseed cake	.. —	ex quay
American Western linseed cake	7 12 6 to 7 15 0	ex quay
Russian oil cake	7 12 6 to 7 17 6	ex quay
Feeding cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. oil)	6 12 6 —	ex warehouse
Prime compo. cake, Samuelson's S.P.F. (10 to 12 per cent. oil)	6 12 6 —	ex warehouse
Decorticated cotton cake	6 15 0 to 7 0 0	ex quay
Decorticated cotton meal	6 17 6 —	ex quay
London made cotton cake (best)	5 0 0 —	ex mill
Egyptian cotton cake (in bags)	4 15 0 to 4 17 6	ex quay
Burton desiccated ale grains (bags included)	4 12 6 —	on rail, Burton
Rangoon Rice Meal	4 15 0 to 4 12 6	ex warehouse
Russian linseed in bulk, per 416lbs	2 14 0 to 2 17 6	ex warehouse
Calcutta linseed in bags, per 410 lbs	2 18 6	ex warehouse

—ROBT. AND JOHN HEWETSON

Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May, seed factors, of 67, Borough High Street, London, S.E., announce that they have made arrangements with Mr. A. V. Linder Cross, formerly with Messrs. J. Pound & Co., to join the staff of their seed department.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

With regard to the trade for beasts at the Islington Market, there is practically nothing to note. Monday being a *dies non* owing to Tuesday being Christmas Day. On Thursday a few fresh arrivals were noted; these, however, were not placed on the market, being held back in the lairs. Quotations are in consequence not worth noting. At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, there was an increase of 1832 in the number shown compared with the previous week here. Markets were held only on Monday and Saturday, trade on both days was of a firm and steady nature at about the previous week's quotations, the best on offer making 4s. 4d. per 8lbs., sinking the offal, plain descriptions making from 3s. 11d. to 4s. The total number offered for sale on both markets was 3,880, consisting of 260 British, these mostly comprising butchering cows and bulls, and 1,966 from the United States. The few sales of sheep made were confined to the Islington Market, none being on offer at Deptford, and these only took place on Thursday, when there was a short supply of only 620 head. Trade for both wethers and ewes was rather firmer, especially for the latter, these making 2d. per 8lbs. more money. The following were the top quotations paid per 8.lbs. (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 6s.; 9-stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 10-stone ditto, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 12-stone Lincolns, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 11-stone halfbreds, 3s. 10d. to 4s. No calves or pigs were on the market.

Trade in the West.

The Christmas holidays have so completely disorganised everything that we have very little, if anything, to chronicle relating to business, which has been quite of a nominal character—that in respect to fat stock, because very little has been offered, and still less wanted, whilst operations in store stock have been confined almost exclusively to milch beasts and barreners. The restricted demand for both beef and mutton led to a very weak trade at prices decidedly favouring buyers, and the same may be written of almost all other classes of fat stock.

Trade in Ireland.

With a decrease of 329 head of cattle and 2,207 sheep, and a large attendance of buyers, last Thursday's market in Dublin was a very brisk one. Best quality of heifers and bullock were up fully 20s. per head, and other sorts from 10s. to 15s. Choice beef was worth from 54s. to 56s., and some extra good stall-feds made up to 60s. per cwt.; medium quality, 47s. 6d. to 52s. 6d.; and inferior, 44s. to 46s. per cwt. The mutton department also shared in the improvement, and there was an advance of from 1s. to 2s. per head. Prime wether mutton made from 6d. to 6½d.; ewe, 5½d. to 6d.; and coarse and inferior, 4d. to 5d. per lb. Best veal still scarce and worth up to 8d. per lb., but coarse calves sold as low as 4½d. per lb. Milch cows in very limited supply, and anything choice changed hands very quickly at good prices. In the pig market there was only a moderate show of swine. An early clearance was effected at well-sustained prices.

Trade in Scotland.

John Swan and Sons, Ltd., give the following as their report on above for the current week:—The supplies of fat cattle all over this week have been small, but the general quality fairly good. An active trade has been experienced, and prices on an average 10s. a head higher than the previous week. Sheep have also been shown in small numbers, and they have met a good inquiry at slightly higher prices. Fat pigs and calves shown in moderate numbers, and selling excessively dear. First fat lambs of the season have made up to 50s. A small supply of store cattle, anything of a good class and in fair condition gets well sold; inferior neglected. For store sheep of a good class there is plenty of inquiry, and full rates are obtained, with a clearance in this department. Milch cows a fair show, but trade was quieter, and prices under those of last week. Quotations:—Best beef, 7s. 9d. to 8s. 6d. per stone; mutton from 7½d. to quite 8½d. per lb.

LONDON.

London Central, Thursday.—Fairly good supplies on offer, but very slow sale. Arrivals of beef included 60 tons Scotch, 1,040 Liverpool sides, 2,100 hindquarters, and 700 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations:—Beef, Scotch, short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d, long 4s to 4s 4d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 6d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; and Dutch, 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

London Central, Friday.—Supplies good, and with steady demand a fair business was effected. Arrivals of beef included 80 tons Scotch, 280 Liverpool sides, 2,500 hindquarters, and 1,000 forequarters American refrigerated. Quotations:—Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; long, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; English, 4s to 4s 2d; American, Deptford-killed, 3s 10d to 4s; Liverpool, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; Canterbury, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; Wellington, 3s to 3s 2d; Sydney and River Plate, 2s 7d to 2s 9d. Veal: English and Dutch, 4s 8d to 5s 4d. Pork: English, 4s 8d to 5s; Dutch, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; and Irish, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Only a restricted supply of beasts met quiet demand, at about previous values. A small supply of sheep penned; very fair demand, a clearance being effected at firm rates. 7½ to 8-stone Down wethers, 5s 10d to 6s; 9-stone ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10-stone Down ewes 4s 2d to 4s 4d; 11-stone half-breds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8lb, to sink the offal. No calves or pigs were on offer. Total supplies: 20 beasts, 510 sheep.

COUNTRY.

Brigg, Thursday.—With a limited show of horned stock, and poor attendance, very little business was transacted. Milch beasts and in-calvers, £12 to £17; drapes, £8 to £11; two-year-old steers and heifers, £9 to £12; calves, 25s to 35s per head. Small supply of sheep, and business inactive at about late rates.

Bristol, Thursday.—Only a few fat cattle, and they found buyers. Best descriptions, 60s per cwt; others, 56s. A small number of sheep; trade quiet; choice wethers, 7¼d per lb, ewes, 6d; very few wanted. At the holiday market no store cattle offering, and for the few pigs on hand the quotations were for bacon pigs 9s per score, porkers 10s 3d to 10s 6d.

Calne.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than 10, on rail within 100 miles of Calne:—

Prime stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of the back.	Price per sc.
6 sc 10 lbs to 9 sc 10 lbs ..	2½ in. and under.. ..	9s 6d
Under 10 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2½ in. ..	9s 0d
Under 11 sc 10 lbs	Not exceeding 2¾ in. ..	8s 6d
Under 12 sc	Not exceeding 3 in.	—

Any pigs outside these limits at their value. Half truck, 12 pigs. Whole truck, 25.—CHARLES AND THOMAS HARRIS AND CO., Limited, Calne, Wilts.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade was practically at a standstill, owing to the holidays. There is no alteration in values.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Supply of Irish store stock smaller than usual, consisting principally of heifers for wintering and stall-feeding, with a small group of bullocks. Attendance of buyers moderate, but fair trade done at £8 10s to £10 10s for wintering heifers, £14 10s for stall-feeding specimens, and £10 10s for bullocks No pigs offered.

Chester, Thursday.—Market of a holiday character. Milch cows, £14 to £20; calvers, £12 to £18; barrens, £10 to £12; heifers, £10 to £14; bullocks, £12 to £15; and stirks, £6 to £8.

Chichester, Thursday.—In consequence of the usual market day falling on Bank Holiday, the market was put off until to-day, but there was a very scanty supply of stock and a thin attendance of farmers and dealers. Under the circumstances the market was simply a holiday affair, although there was sufficient business doing to clear off the little stock brought in.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Comparatively small deliveries of stock. The limited supply was fully equal to the demand, and showed but little animation, prices being with difficulty maintained. Store beasts met a fair sale; milch beasts were in better demand; barreners difficult to sell. Mutton unchanged.

Dublin, Thursday.—Small supplies in all departments, and there being a good attendance of buyers, keen competition was experienced, and an early clearance effected. Even the rougher descriptions of cattle and sheep shared in the general advance in prices. Cattle (best), 32s to 34s per cwt. Inferior descriptions, 27s to 30s per cwt. Mutton, 5¾d to 7d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Good demand at rather more money, beef realising up to 36s 9d per live cwt, horned bullocks to £19 15s, horned heifers to £14 17s 6d, polled bullocks to £14 12s 6d, polled heifers to £14 5s, ewes to 39s, Cheviots to 33s, black-faced ewes to 27s each.

Gisburn, Wednesday.—Very few beasts were offered, and with a few sales of English calvers, which went at recent rates, trade was extremely stagnant, similar conditions prevailing regarding sheep and lambs, prices for which experienced no material change.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Demand fair, supplies of sheep less than last week. Cattle a moderate show. Top Scotch cattle made 62s per cwt. Top Irish 60s. Top mutton 8½d to 9d per lb, secondary, 7½d to 8d. Dead meat firm, best Scotch 6¼d to 6¾d, states 6d, Canadian 5¾d, cows 5d to 5¼d, wedders 7½d to 8d, ewes 6d to 6¾d.

Leicester, Saturday.—Small supplies of stock in fair condition. Trade steady, milch cows being in fair demand at £18 to £22 per head. Calves a dull trade, at easier prices.

Lincoln, Friday.—Holiday class of market. The few cows offered fetched usual prices, though there was but little demand. Only one lot of sheep, the lambs selling at 35s, and the ewes up to 30s. Moderate show of pigs, but little business; young pigs realised from 10s to 20s, and for others no sale could be effected.

Norwich, Saturday.—The supply of store beasts here today was taken off at about former terms. Business was generally quiet. Fat beasts were dull, at 8s to 8s 6d per 14lb. Store sheep were in moderate supply. Business was quiet at barely former terms. Keeping hoggets were quoted at 34s to 42s per head. Fat sheep made 8s to 8s 6d and 8s 9d per 14lb.

Stockton, Wednesday.—There were 79 cattle and 148 sheep on offer. Best cattle made 7s 6d to 8s per stone, and rougher kinds 6s 6d to 7s per stone. Sheep made 8s per stone, whilst ewes and tups sold at last week's prices.

Taunton, Saturday.—Very short supply. Small attendance. Quiet trade.

Uttoxeter.—Falling so close on Christmas Day there was not a particularly large supply of horned stock in the Smithfield, and not a deal of business was done. Good calving cows sold from £14 to £17, calving stirks £8 to £9, barren stirks £7 to £8, yearlings £4 10s to £5; beef 5d to 6½d per lb, mutton 6d (ewes) to 8½d (wethers); fat calves sold up to 7d per lb, young calves 15s to 18s apiece, pigs 8s 6d to 9s per 20lb.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—The market, which was held in summer-like weather, was of a holiday character, and very little business was done. There were about 200 beasts and the same number of sheep on offer, but intending purchasers seemed in no particular hurry to buy. There was little, if any variation in the prices, and mutton fetched 5½d to 8¼d per lb, whilst beef made 5d to 6½d per lb.

York, Friday.—Calves, 7½d per lb; small sheep, 8d ditto; large sheep, 7½d ditto; ewes, 5d to 6d ditto; small pork pigs, 7s per stone; large pork pigs, 6s 6d ditto; bacon pigs, 5s 6d to 6s ditto.

WOOL.

Bradford, Thursday.—Market is quiet and without change, but the better feeling is maintained, and it is thought that the opening of the New Year will show great readiness to do business on the present basis. Merinos are stationary; but cross-breds and English are the turn against the buyer. Yarns and pieces quiet, but improving.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Rent fleeces are still in demand at prices ranging from 6¾d to 7d per lb. Lamb wool, 4d to 5d per lb; half-breds, 7d to 7½d; Downs, 8d to 10d per lb.

Leicester, Saturday.—Turnover in wool small, but tone improved. Buyers of merinos purchase at an advance, but refuse full concession demanded by holders. A better demand for choice crossbreds, but transactions are at late rates. Trade in medium and strong crossbreds is better, but in pure white lustre long-wools there is little doing. Orders for yarns are encouraging.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—The produce markets are inanimate and will remain so until the opening of the new year: meantime quotations must be considered purely nominal ones in the absence of business, although the tendency of feeding stuffs seems to point in buyers' favour. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £8 7s 6d to £8 10s per ton; East India bone meal, in bags, £4 5s to £4 7s 6d per ton; Kainit, prime, 23 per cent., in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per ton; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d per ton; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 15s to £9 per ton; linseed cake, foreign, round, prime, soft and oily, in bags, £8 10s to £8 13s 9d per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A., decorticated, as in quality, in bags, £9 12s 6d to £7 1s 3d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, decoticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 15s to £5 per ton; cottonseed, crushed, 20 to 25 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £7 5s per ton; maize, germ meal, English, prime, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, nominal; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 11s to 11s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £3 3s to £3 5s per qr 416lb; N.A. cloverseed, new red, fair to good, in bags, nominal; D.N.S. brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteeed 25 to 27 sol, in bags, nominal; D.N.S. brand, superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 30 to 31 sol. in bags, nominal; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 35 to 36 per cent., in bags, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phosphate, in bags, £1 11s to £1 12s 6d, at the producing depots; basic slag, prime quality, 35 to 40 per cent. phosphate, in bags, £1 13s 6d to £1 14s 6d, at the producing depots; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phosphate, in bags, £1 16s to £1 17s 6d, at the producing depots.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Winsford (Cheshire), Saturday.—Current prices for salt at the works: Common white salt, 11s per ton; fine screened rock salt, 8s 6d per ton (for truck loads in bulk).—THE SALT UNION, LIMITED.

SOCIETIES.

Lincolnshire Chamber.

A special meeting of the Lincolnshire Chamber of Agriculture was held at Lincoln on the 30th ult., Lord Heneage presiding, when the working of the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896 and the question of its renewal was considered.

The Secretary (Mr. S. Upton) read resolutions in favour of the renewal of the Act which had been passed by the branch Chambers.

Lord Heneage said he did not suppose anyone acquainted with practical politics expected that the Act would be renewed in its present form, unless it might be for another year while other legislation was going on. The Bill passed through the House of Commons because it was thought it was an equitable Bill, but at the same time it was not altogether satisfactory, and there were other questions connected with agriculture which also wanted looking into. There was also another question which was very likely to arise, and one which was not dealt with when this Act was passed. There was a great deal of discussion at the time with regard to the form the Bill took. The Act was based on the rates; but the worse a man's land was, and the more difficult it was to get a living out of it, the less he was rated; therefore the less relief he got under the Act. On the other hand, the grass land in some counties which required no labour, and was therefore rated on a much higher value, got greater relief, though the farmer did not require it so much. It was also pointed out that, as the Bill was drafted, what they called in towns accommodation lands were included, and it might be that in some cases, where the landlord let his accommodation land to the highest bidder, that the result would be that the relief would practically go into the landlord's pocket and not into that of the tenant. When the Bill went before the House of Lords this last point was very strongly commented upon, and he might say, without any breach of confidence, that a late lord and himself, with the full knowledge of their respective leaders, drafted an amendment to the Bill which would have eliminated all the town holdings from the operation of the Bill, and which would rather have benefited the farm lands by giving them a little more. That, however, was ruled out by the Lord Chancellor because, he said, it was a taxation Bill, and therefore the House of Lords could not interfere with it in committee. They held it was a rating Bill, but the Lord Chancellor's argument was that the amount which would have to be met would come out of Imperial taxation, and in that sense it was a taxation Bill. He mentioned these facts just to let them know that there were many things to consider, and that they should be careful to point out exactly what it was they did want hen the Bill came to be considered again.

Alderman Frankish said the point about grass land was one which they ought particularly to bear in mind.

Lord Heneage said his opinion was that the poorest land did not get as much benefit as it ought to get, whereas there was a good deal of the more valuable land which got relief it did not want. To put it broadly, what relief was necessary for any accommodation land in towns? It was not there a question of rent for the land, but a man considered himself lucky to be able to get it at all.

Mr. Mountain: But is not the rental a fair basis to take of the value generally?

Lord Heneage: Yes; but those who are paying

the highest rental and farming the most valuable land are getting the most relief. My point at the time was that grass lands paying over £2 an acre or something like that should not be included, but that lands paying under 10s. an acre should have the whole of their rates remitted. But all I say is that you must be prepared for some alterations in the Act, and that you must make up your minds what really is the most equitable arrangement for all purposes.

Mr. Mountain: Pressure should be put upon the Government to renew the Act pending further legislation.

Mr. Mawer said agriculturists generally regarded the Act as partially meeting their requirements, and it was accepted on that principle. They should now press strongly for something more than this Act gave.

After further discussion the following resolution was adopted:—"That this Chamber considers the Agricultural Rates Act has been an equitable instalment of relief from the undue proportion of local taxation which real property has so long borne, and strongly urges its renewal pending the issue of the report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation."

Tuberculosis and the working of the model milk clauses in the private Bills of local authorities was the next subject considered. The Secretary said he understood that no boroughs in Lincolnshire had adopted the clauses.

Mr. Evens said that did not say that Lincolnshire was not affected. So far as he understood the clauses, they meant that inspectors from the large towns could, if they thought necessary, over-ride the regulations of the county authorities. He strongly objected to this, and thought that any grievance should be stated to the local authority for the district from which he milk was supplied.

The Chairman: You say the original inquiry should take place by the local authority.

A resolution was passed expressing this view, and agreeing with the recommendations of the Central Chamber on the question of the model milk clauses.

The Chamber adopted a resolution of the Brigg branch that all pig dealers should be registered and their premises and vehicles inspected and disinfected under the officers of the County Council.

The statement of legislation required in the agricultural interest, which had been submitted by the Central Chamber, was considered, and the Chamber placed local taxation as the first requirement, pure beer as the second, and regulations as to the fraudulent sale of foreign meat as the third.

Sussex.

The annual meeting of the Sussex County Agricultural Society was held at Lewes on the 29th ult., Mr. W. F. Ingram presiding. The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said he was sorry to say that the accounts did not come out on the right side, the subscriptions from members being less by about £50 than in 1898. He took 1898 as a comparison, as in 1899 a special effort was made owing to the visit of the Prince of Wales, and therefore they could hardly take that year to compare with this year. The falling off in subscriptions was owing, he thought, to the fact that it had been a very trying year for everyone, and there had been so many calls upon their pockets. Proceeding, he said the subscription fund raised in Brighton was £40 more than in 1898, the entrance fees £15 less, gate money £23 more, and the receipts from the grand stand were within 4s. 6d. of the amount in 1898. The grand stand, he thought, did not pay well, and the cost of constructing it was much greater. As to the expenses, they had given £55 more in prizes, and the shedding cost about £10 more, while the printing and advertising cost about £71 more. The expenditure, under the latter head, he thought, ought to be looked into to see if they could not be reduced, and the committee asked the printing and advertising sub-committees to consider such reduction. The expense of judging amounted to £44 as compared with £85 in 1898. The band cost £27 more than in 1898, and it was questionable whether it was worth while to pay for a good band, for he did not think people attended the show to hear it. (Hear, hear.) Practically there was a loss of £88 on the last show.

Messrs. H. M. Simmons and Frowd thought the provision of a band a waste of money, the former thinking £20 for the two days quite enough.

The chairman continuing, said it was a question for the committee to consider whether it was worth while having the working dairy under the present system, as, notwithstanding the £12 in prizes given by the County Council and other privileges, the dairy cost the Society about £40 a year, and in economising that was a thing to be considered.

Mr. Simmons said he did not see any record of payment for the refreshment stand. The chairman said in previous years they had received a premium, but there had always been complaints, and this year refreshments had been supplied without paying a premium, with general satisfaction.

Mr. Simmons thought it should be put out to tender. He referred also to the cost of shedding, which he thought they should erect themselves. Captain Fraser said hardly any shows had been successful this year. Mr. Lindsay Hogg agreed, but pointed out that there was a good gate.

Mr. Fletcher having seconded the adoption of the accounts, the resolution was carried.

Mr. Lindsay Hogg said there was no doubt the accounts were unsatisfactory, and that the Society could not go on at a loss, and he proposed that a small committee be formed to go into the accounts and make suggestions to the Council as to the future. Captain Fraser seconded, and the resolution was carried.

The chairman and Messrs. H. M. Simmons, P. Chasemore, W. H. B. Fletcher, and J. Woodhams were selected to serve on the committee.

The chairman remarked that there was no more liberal Society than theirs. Mr. Lindsay Hogg questioned whether it was wise to practise liberality when they could not afford it. The chairman referred at length to an interview and correspondence with the Mayor of Arundel as to holding next year's show at that town, and a letter was read from the Town Clerk of Arundel that the Corporation were unable to guarantee the amount required by the Society.

Captain Fraser said the railway accommodation at Arundel was inadequate for the show and the ground would be a long distance from the station. Mr. Chasemore suggested holding the show permanently at Brighton, and Mr. Simmons advocated Eastbourne.

Mr. Lindsay Hogg said they had to consider whether the show should be a roving one or should have a permanent home, and suggested calling a meeting to consider the question. It was ultimately decided that the chairman approach the Mayors of Brighton, Hove, Hastings, and Eastbourne with regard to the venue for next year's show. Mr. Lindsay Hogg remarked that Eastbourne had a Mayor who had shown what he could do for the town. They made the show a success at Eastbourne before, and if they had it there next year he was sure the town would come out handsomely with regard to the guarantee fund.

Mr. Chasemore gave notice that at the annual show he would move that the show be held permanently at Brighton.

The Council were re-elected en bloc with power to add to their number. Mr. F. B. Dyer was unanimously re-elected secretary, Mr. Chasemore, Captain Fraser, and the chairman eulogising Mr. Dyer's work. Mr. R. H. Powell was re-elected treasurer, and Messrs. H. M. Simmons and S. S. Titt were unanimously appointed as auditors, an amendment by Mr. Wadman to reappoint a paid auditor being negatived.

Gloucestershire Chamber.

A meeting of the Gloucester Chamber of Agriculture was held at Gloucester on the 1st inst., the president (Mr. J. H. Jones) in the chair. A communication was received from the Worcestershire Chamber, stating that agricultural implement makers and agents in Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, and Herefordshire had joined themselves into an association for the purpose of abolishing or reducing the discounts hitherto given to purchasers of implements and machinery. The Worcestershire Chamber had passed a resolution to the effect that the aim of the association to limit discount ought to be opposed by all legitimate means, and they wrote the Gloucester Chamber to know what action, if any, the members of that body intended to take.

Mr. R. A. Lister defended the Association of Implement Makers and Agents, and said that since the disastrous season of 1879 the retail agricultural implement trade had been going down, and the formation of an association for combined action had become an absolute necessity.

The Chamber decided to obtain further information from Worcester before expressing an opinion on the subject.

A resolution was passed urging upon Parliament the desirability of renewing the Agricultural Rates Act, and it was agreed to invite the agricultural valuers of the county to express their views on the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900.

Traction Engine Owners and Users.

At the annual meeting of the National Traction Engine Owners and Users' Association, held on the 13th inst. at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Mr. John Allen, who presided, remarked that there were many signs that the prejudices against traction engines were being gradually lived down. They hoped that, after the public had had a few years' more experience of these horseless vehicles, further liberty would be allowed them. About £100,000,000 was spent annually on road conveyance throughout the country, and if all this were done by steam haulage on common roads, a saving of £60,000,000 would be effected.

Lieut.-Colonel Crompton, late South African Field Force, referred to the advantages of traction engines in time of war. He remarked that Colonel Templer, who had charge of the steam sappers in South Africa, was the first who introduced traction engines to the War Office, and had always advocated their use. He had had no opportunity, however, of showing what they could do until the present campaign, but directly war was declared he obtained permission to organise a traction engine brigade. An immense amount had been saved to the nation by their use during the South African War. Colonel Templer received a great blow by the wreck of the "Denton Grange" at Las Palmas, in which 13 engines were lost, but more were sent out as soon as they could be built, and that officer had now a large number of engines in the country. Traction engines would have to play [illegible] a very important part in the defence of the country. The Government found it impossible to get their big guns into the fortresses round the coast except by the aid of traction engines. At the present time the Government were getting very considerable benefit from the use of these engines in the construction of the new lines for troops on Salisbury Plain, for there were about 20 engines working between Ludgershall and the [illegible] camps. His report to the Government on the work of the engines during the war was generally of a satisfactory character.

Mr. A. Griffith-Boscawen, M.P., and Mr. J. Allen were respectively elected president and chairman of the council.

(Other Societies will be found on page [illegible].)

THE GARDEN.

The shortest day is now past, and the New Year close at hand. In the course of another two or three weeks a slight increase in the amount of daylight—and, it is to be hoped, of sunlight too—will be noticeable, and this will quickly be followed by renewed activity in vegetation—at first in the case of plants under glass, and later on of those in the open air.

Any arrears of works that properly belongs to the autumn, such as the trenching and manuring of vacant ground, pruning fruit trees and bushes in the open air, and so forth, had better be made good as quickly as possible, before the usual rush of the spring work begins. Unfortunately the soil is in too many instances even now in a far from proper condition for working, owing to the prolonged and frequent rainfall. I was in hopes that a change would occur at the solstice, but though a slight improvement in the weather took place last week this appears to have been only temporary.

Directly a fairly good seedbed can be obtained, a few rows—more or less, according to requirements—of peas for an early crop, also some broad beans, had better be sown, especially if no seed was got in in November or last month. But except on the lightest and warmest of soils autumn-sown peas will probably not do much good this season, the soil, though not very cold, being too wet to suit the plants, and the growth will probably be weak and sickly in consequence. For the earliest gathering many gardeners sow peas in pots, boxes, or strips of turf under glass, planting out the seedlings later on, and under certain circumstances this is an admirable plan. Which plan should be preferred depends chiefly on the nature and condition of the soil, the weather experienced, etc., of course.

Peas are grown to a considerable extent under glass in these days, and in this way gathering may take place decidedly earlier than from plants outside, while the crop is more independent of the weather, and consequently more certain. The seed may be sown in pots, those from 9in. to 11in. in diameter being probably most suitable, or in beds of any good soil, while I have also secured excellent results from plants grown in good sized boxes. Some of the best kinds for indoor culture are [illegible] Gem, Dwarf Defiance, and English Wonder—this I decidedly prefer to American Wonder. Do not sow too thickly, and admit air freely, while affording cool treatment generally throughout, as a rule, though when the plants are well in bloom and setting the pods the temperature may be increased to some extent, and a system of gentle forcing adopted, if necessary. One advantage of growing peas in pots or boxes is that these can be moved from place to place if required. Where there are plenty of fairly deep frames or pits an early crop of peas may be easily obtained in these.

Lose no time in laying out seed potatoes for early planting to sprout. This should be done in a single layer only, placing the "eye end" uppermost. A temperature of 45 to 50 degs. is sufficient, and the shoots ought not be allowed to attain a greater length than about 1in., at the outside, before planting.

Where tomatoes are required as early as possible a sowing had better be made at once, in a steady warmth of 60 to 65 degs., especially if no plants were raised in the autumn. But those [illegible] and grown on vigorously and freely will be very little behind the others in point of time, while they will also prove stronger, will ripen better, and remain in bearing much longer.

Pine-apples (so called, they are termed plants by gardeners) are now [illegible] to some extent in this country as [illegible] or more years ago under glass, the delicious and unhealthy Waldensian [illegible] handsome, fruit is now imported in such immense numbers from the Azores and elsewhere, and sold at so low a price, that there is no longer the [illegible] of a chance of any profit being made by its culture in England, this being essentially [illegible] to a comparatively few gardens in which [illegible] is no object.

LIVE STOCK.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The Highland steer was exhibited at the Smithfield Club's Show by Lieutenant-Colonel H. E. S. Home Drummond, of Blair Drummond, Perthshire, and was bred by the Duke of Athole, K.T., Blair Castle, Blair Athol. This steer, which is without a name, was shown in the class for Highland steers or oxen above three years old, and was awarded the first prize, and also the £20 silver cup for the best animal of the Highland breed. At the time of the exhibition it was nearly three years and nine months old, and weighed 17cwt. 0qr. 4lb.

In our last issue we gave a view of some of the fowls exhibited at the poultry show held in connection with the Smithfield Show, and this week we give a portrait of the turkey classes.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES

By Herdsman.

Sir George Macpherson Grant has forwarded me a copy of a private catalogue of the bulls now at Ballindalloch. There are about twenty, all of the choicest pedigree and of the highest individual excellence. Some of them are for sale by private treaty, and it is intended to dispose of the others at the spring sales of 1901. Mr. M. Gilchrist, Home Farm, Ballindalloch, N.B., will supply any information required by intending purchasers.

One of the latest additions to the Sandringham herd is the pretty yellow heifer Lady Dee 4815, which took second prize at the Royal Show at York, and a third at the Scottish National. She was purchased for the Earl of Southesk, K.T., by Mr. Duncan M'Diarmid, of Camusericht, on behalf of the Prince of Wales and is to be put into training for the fat stock shows of next year. It may be mentioned that His Royal Highness won the first and third prize in the two-year-old steer class at the Smithfield Show with two animals from the same herd as Lady Dee.

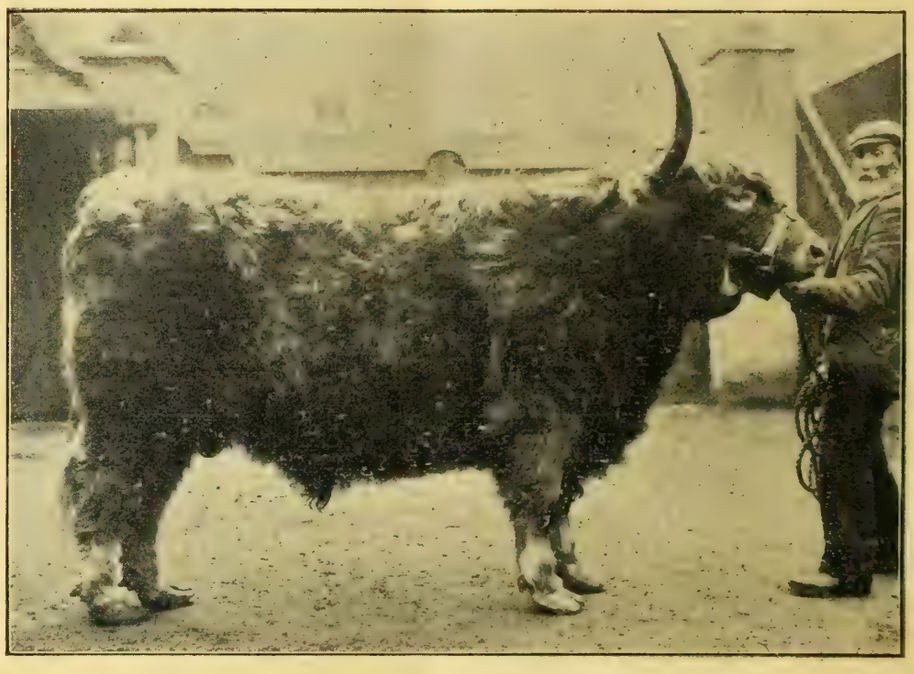
Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., live stock exporters, Shrewsbury, have just despatched from Liverpool, per ss. Bovic, of the White Star Line, consigned to Mr. Duncan, the manager of the Niagara Stock Farm, 32 high-class Shropshire sheep, selected from the old-established and carefully bred flock of Mr. T. G. Juckes, of Tern, comprising twenty choice breeding ewes, sired by Tern Safety 8261, bred by Mr. G. Lewis, by Tern Medallist 8778 Tern Chief 9265, bred by Mr. J. Bowen-Jones by Farmer Chief 8030; Solidity 9694, bred by Mr. T. J. Juckes, by Friendly 7502; Thickhead 9721, bred by Mr. A. E. Mansell, by Fair Star 5177; Tern Coat 9266, bred by Mr. T. G. Juckes, by Tern Medallist 8778, Tern Medal 1015, bred by Messrs. Evans, by Medallist 7605. These ewes were all served by high-class sires from the well-known flocks of Mr. Minton and Messrs. Evans, viz., Montford Wonder, by the Royal winner, Phenomenon 8580, and Sherlowe Star, by Star of the Morning 10145; Royal Member 8715, by the Member 8264; and Tern Solidity 10152. Six beautiful ewe lambs sired by Kruger's Hope 10394, bred by Reps. of the late W. Nevett, by Lord Broughton 6196, and Montford Jorrocks 10012, bred by Mr. T. S. Minton, by Vice-President 9295; the balance comprising five well-grown ram lambs, all sired by Kruger's Hope 10394, and a typical shearling ram, bred by Messrs. Evans, by Star of the Morning 10145, from a Corston Artist ewe.

A Stourbridge correspondent of the *Morning Post* draws attention to the dangers arising from the driving of cattle on country roads and through narrow lanes. He says: "Any of your readers who spend much time in country districts, especially if within easy reach of some centre for despatching fat cattle to our large towns and seaports, can give you instances of terrible injuries or 'hair-breadth 'scapes.' I need not take up your space with details of cases that have come under my own notice, such, for instance, as a lady now sixty years of age who has been a hopeless paralytic since her girlhood through being knocked down by a bull as it was being driven to market; another person who was knocked down in a similar way last summer, and who has been in bed nearly ever since; and a child gored to death by a bullock on a road between two large towns.

"I could easily specify many more cases, including two or three of the very narrowest escapes I have had myself. A farmer who has had a large grazing farm all his life told me a few months ago that he had no patience with women who did not get out of the way of fat bullocks, and that they were always dangerous to women. 'Perhaps,' he said, 'they are irritated by petticoats.' He added that he always had his bullocks roped and led, not driven, to market. Could not some such rule be enforced, at any rate in cases where, as has lately happened to myself, a drover has to shout 'Get out of the way, ma'am, he's a bit wild.' Will none of our new members of Parliament take the matter up?"

The prize schedule has just been issued for the first of the London Spring Horse Shows, namely that of the Shire Horse Society, which will be held on Tuesday, February 26th, and the three following days. The Society has once more increased its prize money, this time to the extent of £215, the total offered being £1,537, as compared with £1,322 for the 1900 show. Few will find fault with the increase in the number of breeders' prizes, as a large portion of these will be sure to go to tenant farmers. Five fourths and two fifths have been added in the stallion section, three fourths in that for mares, and three seconds for geldings, all being of the value of £5. The classes remain as at the last show with but two exceptions, namely, that for mares 16 hands high and over, five years old and upwards, has been divided into two classes, one for animals over 16 and under 16.2 hands, and the other for animals over the last-mentioned height; and in the gelding section the three and four-year-olds will have separate classes instead of only one. As to the number of prizes offered in each class I may mention that they have in nearly every case been increased by one, value £5, that for three-year-old stallions having no fewer than ten prizes, the first of £20, the second £15, third £10, and the remainder £5 each. The special awards will be the same as in 1900. Entries close on January 21st, post entries at double fees being received up to the 28th of that month. Entry forms, etc., can be had of the Secretary, Mr. J. Sloughgrove, 12, Hanover Square, W.

Pedigree Herefords Burnt to Death.—On Tuesday night a fire occurred at Stretford Court, Herefordshire, a whole square of farm buildings being destroyed. Fifteen pedigree Hereford cows and two fat pigs were burned to death. The damage is roughly estimated at £5,000.



Lieut.-Colonel H. E. Home Drummond's Highland Steer, First Prize at the Smithfield Show.

CATTLE.

Disease in Essex and Herts.

By order of the Board of Agriculture a large number of head of cattle and swine have been destroyed on farms in Essex on which outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease and of swine fever have occurred. Owing to the scarcity of labour, a gang of twenty-two navvies was borrowed from the Great Eastern Railway Company for the purpose of burying the carcases. At Canfield twenty-six bullocks and twelve swine were killed by London butchers and buried in a trench. At Stansted and Harlow this number was exceeded. The owners of the slaughtered animals are to be compensated in full, but, none the less, the outbreak has produced consternation among Essex farmers, who in recent years have taken to raising stock on account of the unremunerative price of wheat. Half the county of Essex and part of Hertfordshire have been officially declared an infected area, and there is reason to hope that the vigorous action taken by the Board of Agriculture will confine the outbreak to the declared infected area.

SHEEP.

The Winchester Wool Case.

Our readers will remember that a short time ago a case of much importance to wool growers and wool buyers was tried at the Winchester County Court, and was reported in our columns at the time. In this action the County Court Judge decided in favour of the defendant, whose wool had been purchased by the plaintiff at a local auction sale. The claim was for damages sustained in consequence of a considerable quantity of "clegg" or dirt having been found in some of the fleeces sold. In connection with this matter it is interesting to note that a Winchester contemporary publishes the subjoined letters. The first was written by Messrs. M. Mahony and Brothers, Ltd., of Blarney, Ireland, the well-known dealers in wool, to Messrs. James Harris and Sons, auctioneers, of Winchester.

9th Nov., 1900

Dear Sir,—At your wool sales last July you may remember that I drew the attention of growers to the necessity of greater care in keeping their unwashed wool free from daggings. My remarks did not apply to the washed wool, as I had no complaint to make of it. I am sorry to say that the testing of some of the unwashed lots we bought has shown a very large amount of these daggings in the fleeces. In one case actually eight per cent. of the entire weight was made up of absolutely useless dirt. I may say that every lot was carefully examined by both our manager (Mr. Henry) and myself before the sale, with the special object of avoiding lots with daggings, but we seem, in spite of all our care, not to have succeeded.

It is impossible in the time and space at the disposal of buyers to examine every fleece, and we are therefore compelled, in order to avoid loss, to consider how we can curtail our purchases of Down wool in future, as the bulk of this wool is now shown in grease. With this object we are devoting our attention to Colonial wools, which are now to be had in immense variety, and which are satisfactorily shown to purchasers, and about which we never have to make such a complaint as we now bring before you. We have made some alterations in our machinery to suit this class of wool.

As we think we may claim to be among the principal supporters of the wool sales started by you, we wish to frankly tell you why we are compelled to change our attitude. The Down wool suited us very well, but, as growers choose to show it in so undesirable a style, we are compelled to go to a

market where we shall be able to judge exactly what we are buying.

You may make any use you please of this letter.

Yours, etc.,
(Signed) F. W. MAHONY,
Director to M. Mahony and Bros.

Messrs. James Harris and Sons, Winchester.

Sir,—I understand that Mr. Forder has sent you for publication a copy of a letter which Mr. Mahony (of the firm of Martin Mahony and Bros., Limited, of Cork), well known as the largest buyer at our South of England wool sales, addressed to my firm on the 9th November—Mr. Mahony having sent Mr. Forder copy of same.

I have not the slightest objection to its publication, in fact, I had decided to take steps by which the substance of it should be brought to the notice of all wool auctioneers in the South of England, as well as to all those gentlemen who send me their wool for sale.

I fully endorse every word Mr. Mahony has used, and hope that the farmers generally will take note of it, and see that it is to their interest that in future their wool is sent to the sales in a proper state.

I am, etc., JAMES HARRIS.

Auction and Estate Agency Offices, Winchester,
December 12th, 1900.

HORSES.

Horse Sale at Glasgow.

A sale of carriage, van, and cart horses and a few cobs and ponies was held on Tuesday afternoon by Mr. Vine, within the Horse Bazaar, opposite Buchanan Street Station, Port Dundas Road, Glasgow. There were eighty animals catalogued and the majority showed well, being of good substance and suitable ages. There was a fair attendance of buyers, contractors, and dealers, but country purchasers were scarce. Trade was very slow throughout. The ages of the animals ranged from five to twelve years, and they were from 11 to 16.2 hands high. Carriage and good draught horses secured the best demand and realised satisfactory prices. Vanners and lorry animals, which were of a secondary class, met a bad trade, and were very stiff to cash. Cobs and ponies met a fair sale, and made fairly good prices. Best carriage horses realised 40gs.; secondary, 10gs. to 20gs.; and inferior, down to £5; best draught horses to 36gs.; secondary, 10gs. to 18gs.; and inferior, 4gs. to 8gs.; vanners, to 24gs. and down to £4; best cobs, 23gs.; secondary and inferior, 4½gs. to 10gs.; best ponies, 18gs. and down to £3; and lorry animals to 30gs. and down to 6gs., according to style and substance.

SOCIETIES.

Polo Pony.

Sir Richard D. Green Price, Bart. (President) occupied the chair at a meeting of the Council of this Society held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on December 14th, when fourteen new members were elected.

Mr. Tresham Gilbey (chairman) presented the financial statement of the Finance Committee, showing a balance at the bank of £60 6s. 7d.; receipts since the last meeting, £49 10s. 7d.; arrears of subscription, £7; and accounts for payment, £39 5s. This report was adopted.

Editing Committee.

Sir Richard Green Price stated that the committee had determined to print off 700 copies of Vol. VI., which was now in the press, to be issued to the members early in the new year. They had very carefully considered the conditions of entry for Vol. VII., together with several suggestions made by members of the Council and by Irish members at the meeting at Dublin, and their suggestions were submitted herewith:—

(a) That for all ponies entered under the inspection condition, a veterinary certificate shall be sent in, certifying the height—in the case of yearlings, that it does not exceed 13 hands 2in.; two-year-olds, 14 hands; three-year-olds, 14 hands 1in.; and in the case of four-year-olds, and upwards, that it does not exceed 14 hands 2in.

(b) That in the case of ponies, for which pedigrees are tendered, confirmed by the name and address of the breeder, the Editing Committee shall determine upon their suitability for registration.

(c) That in other cases the pony must be inspected and passed by a member of the Society or Inspector appointed by the Editing Committee.

(d) That all inspection fees be abolished, and that the entry fees for stallions and mares be revised as follows:—

	Members.	Non-Members.	
Stallions	10s. ..	£1	each entry
Mares	5s. ..	10s.	,,

With no charge for produce entered under their dams.
Re-entries to be charged half-fees.

The committee thought that the insertion of entries with any alien blood, other than thoroughbred, would have to be very seriously considered in the early future, while the desirability of giving prizes for yearlings at the Spring Show was also a matter which should occupy the attention of the Council. As regards the Mountain and Moorland breeds, it was determined that two Welsh sections be fused into one, and that one General Committee be appointed for Wales, while the rules relating to these breeds were referred to the next meeting for consideration. The photographing of the champion Polo ponies at the next show was entrusted to Mr. Charles Reid. This report was adopted.

Horse Show Committee.

Sir Richard Green Price stated that the following gentlemen had consented to act as judges:—Young Stock—Mr. E. Mucklow, jun., and Capt. G. S. Phipps Hornby. Riding Classes—Capt. Denis St. George Daly and the Earl of Harrington.

Messrs. Tattersall had kindly agreed to reserve thirty stalls for Polo ponies belonging to members of the Society, for Monday, March 18th, the ponies to be at Albert Gate on the Friday evening of the show. The last date of application for these stalls to be February 18th, addressed to the secretary, and in the event of the applications exceeding accommodation the stalls to be balloted for. The arrangements for the jumping competition on the Friday were left in the hands of Mr. Goodson and the secretary. In passing the prize list for press, it was resolved to make the third prize in Classes 20 and 21 £5 each, instead of £3, and Classes 29 and 30 to be headed "Ponies, five years old and upwards." The revised scheme of medals at country shows in 1901 was presented in print, and it was resolved to add that the brood mares must be in-foal to, or with foal at foot by, a registered pony stallion or thoroughbred stallion. A letter was read from the Royal Agricultural Society of England intimating that they cordially accepted the Society's offer of prizes, amounting to £94, towards the schedule of Polo ponies at Cardiff, and this amount was supplemented by the Cardiff Local Committee to the extent of £35, making a total of £129. The two gold medals offered by the Polo Pony Society would be offered for the best Polo pony stallion and the best Polo pony mare, while the Royal Agricultural Society also accepted the offer of a silver medal for the best pony exhibited in the two classes for Welsh ponies.

Army Remounts.

The Special Committee appointed to confer with the Inspector-General of Remounts had met that morning and preliminarily discussed the question. The President was deputed to convey to him the views of the Council upon the matter.

Election of Council.

The Selection Committee of Candidates for Council was appointed to consider the nominations sent in by members of the Council, and to draw up a list of sixteen names for submission to the members of the Society for their election of ten Councilmen. It was constituted as follows:—The President, Rev. T. F. Dale, Mr. Stuart Forster, Mr. Tresham Gilbey, Mr. G. Norris Midwood, Rev. D. B. Montefiore, and Mr. E. Mucklow, jun.

The Council adjourned till Friday, February 15th—after the close of the entries for the show.

Hunters' Improvement.

Mr. J. C. Straker, M.F.H. (President), occupied the chair at a meeting of the Council of the Hunters' Improvement Society, held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on December 13th. Thirteen new members were elected.

Lieut.-General Fryer submitted the report of the Finance Committee, indicating a balance at the bank of £94 6s.; receipts since the last meeting, £36 8s. 6d.; arrears of subscriptions, £21, as compared with a similar sum in December, 1899; and accounts for payment, £100 0s. 5d. This report was adopted.

Horse Show Committee.

Sir Richard Green Price stated that the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding had accepted the invitation of the Council to hold their 1901 exhibition in conjunction with the Society's next show.

The following gentlemen had intimated their willingness to officiate as judges:—Young Stock—Mr. C. B. Robson and Mr. T. Wickham-Boynton. Riding Classes—Mr. R. A. Barkley and Mr. Owen C. Wallis. Chargers—Viscount Downe and Colonel R. F. Meysey-Thompson.

Upon the suggestion of Lord Downe it was decided to indicate the weights in the Charger classes as follows:—Light weights, under 13st. 7lb.; heavy weights, 13st. 7lb. and over. Professor J. Wortley Axe accepted the Council's invitation to act as the Council's inspector, and from the list of six names submitted the Council had selected Mr. E. H. Leach, F.R.C.V.S., of Newmarket, and Mr F. Danby, M.R.C.V.S., of Driffield, to assist him in the veterinary examination. The prize list as revised by the committee at their last meeting was passed, and ordered to be printed and issued to the members.

This report having been adopted, Lieut.-General Fryer was elected a member of the committee, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. William Wright.

Soundness of Stallions Committee.

Mr. J. P. Cross (Chairman) reported that the committee had met that morning to make the necessary arrangements to carry out the conditions of the scheme, and it was resolved to leave the inspections in the hands of the secretary, with instructions to call a meeting of the committee early in January if necessary. For all the Irish inspections the committee suggested that one English member of the Council, together with one Irish member of the Society, should jointly inspect. Two applications had come before the committee, and had been referred to members of the Council in the districts from which the entries had come.

This report having been adopted,

Sir Richard Green Price questioned whether the scheme was sufficiently well known, and thought that owners of stallions were ignorant of the fact that the Society was prepared to grant certificates of soundness to stallions complying with the conditions of their new scheme. He thought that greater publicity was needed.

Mr. Cooper believed that it would be a good plan if members of the Council were invited to give the names of the owners of stallions in their particular districts to whom the secretary could send application forms. Representing the whole of England as they did, the members of the Council could do a great deal in this way to make the scheme known.

Dr Bond thought it was an excellent plan, and speaking for himself he would do all he could in West Somerset.

Lieut.-General Fryer said that they should supplement this by some public announcement in the agricultural and sporting press in England and Ireland, and it was finally arranged that the secretary should issue certificates and circular letters to the members of the Council for their distribution, and also to advertise the last date of entry.

Selection Committee of Candidates for Council.

The following gentlemen were elected to form this committee: The President, Dr. Bond, Lieut.-General Fryer, Captain Heywood Lonsdale, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, Sir Richard Green Price, and Mr. Romer Williams, and it was arranged that they meet on Thursday, January 17th, at 2.30 p.m.

Council Meetings in 1901.

The dates of the Council meetings next year were then arranged, and it was decided that in future a summary of the proceedings at the previous meeting should be issued with each agenda. The Council then adjourned till February 14th

Norfolk.

The annual meeting of the Norfolk Agricultural Association was held at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, on the 22nd inst., the High Sheriff (Sir E. C. Nugent) presiding over a large attendance of members. The statement of accounts showed that the year was begun with a balance at the bank of £1,438. Subscriptions brought in £755, and special prizes and donations £205, while Downham guaranteed £100. The show at Downham brought in £286 as entrance fees and from stallholders; the gate money was £587, against £988 received in 1899. The total receipts of the summer show amounted to £1,112 12s. 1d., against £1,508 0s. 7d. in 1899. The spring show brought in £68 8s. 6d., against £87 10s. 9d. in the previous year. The total receipts of the year from all sources, including the cash on deposit, amounted to £3,713 11s. 4d., against £3,697 in 1899. The total expenses incurred in connection with the summer show amounted to £935 10s. 6d., while the spring show cost £79 19s. 5d. The total of the year's working expenses was £1,170 11s. 4d., and there was on deposit at the end of the year £1,299 7s. 9d.

Mr. H. Mason moved the adoption of the report, and Mr. Mitchell, one of the auditors, seconded. He stated that the prize money was in excess of the previous year, being £1,242, against £1,160. There had been a loss on the year of £139 5s. 10d., and that was entirely the result of the poor attendance at the Downham Show. The accounts were then passed.

Mr. Garrett Taylor moved that the Association should hold its show next year at North Walsham They had not yet received an invitation to visit the town, but he had every reason to believe one would come. A guarantee of £150 would be required, and a ground and water would have to be provided free. Perhaps the inhabitants were looking round before sending a formal invitation to see if they could meet the requirements of the Association.

Col. B. B. Sapwell seconded, and said it was twenty-two years since they had visited North Walsham. Although it was not such a fashionable place as Norwich, Lynn, or Yarmouth, they must bear in mind that the Association was not established for the purpose of making profit, but for educating the people in agricultural matters, and North Walsham would be a good neighbourhood in which their efforts would be appreciated. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was carried, and on the suggestion of Mr. Garrett Taylor it was decided to invite Sir Fowell Buxton to become the president for 1901.

Mr. T. L. Hare, who was unavoidably absent, was thanked for filling the office of president in 1900 Mr. Caleb Barker was re-elected secretary of the Association.

Irish Industries – The Queen has purchased this Christmas several handsome pieces of Carry Hall work from the depôt in Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, the handiwork of the Irish peasants whom Viscountess Duncannon banded into an "Industry" in 1884, and has successfully carried on ever since. Her Majesty has on several occasions thus encouraged the Irish workers.

OFFICIAL REPORT BY THE JUDGES OF THE MALTING AND SEED BARLEY COMPETITION

AT THE

BREWERS' TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION AND MARKET,

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON, OCTOBER 20TH TO 26TH, 1900.

Judges

*H. STOPES, Esq. (Chairman), 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.
T. R. DEWAR Esq., M.P., Commercial Road, London, S.E.
THOMAS EARP, Esq., Newark.
*J. B. ELLIS, Esq., Walsingham.
FRANK FLINN, Esq., Bishops Stortford.
W. R. LANE, Esq., Richmond, Surrey.
H. MACKESON, Esq., Hythe, Kent.
LEWIS J. MEAKIN, Esq., Burton-on-Trent.
*CLARE SEWELL READ, Esq., 91, Kensington Gardens Square, W.
C. H. STAFFORD, Esq., Hollow Stone, Nottingham.
S. N. THOMPSON, Esq., Smethwick.
C. HOWARD TRIPP, Esq., Burton-on-Trent.

* Seed barley judges.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

To Messrs. Dale and Reynolds, Managing Directors,
The Brewers' Annual Exhibition and Market,
46, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

MALTING-BARLEY COMPETITION.

We have pleasure in presenting our report, as usual, upon the competition held at the Twenty-second Annual Brewers' Exhibition and Market, Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington.

Although the number of British samples has only been exceeded once before, smaller entry in the foreign classes has led to the total entries showing a falling away from the large numbers of the two previous years. One of the chief features of the year is a large addition to the number of classes and extension of the prize lists, and this growth in the value of the prizes now obtainable has not yet reached its limit, for already very valuable additional prizes have been voluntarily offered from several sources for next year.

The most important new departure of the year is a matter which gives us very great satisfaction. Through the courtesy of the Board of Agriculture and at its recommendation we have been brought into direct association with a number of the principal agricultural colleges, technical schools, and experimental farms throughout the country, and we have been enabled to distribute to them for experimental seed purposes a good proportion of the large number of very beautiful samples of barley which were sent to the exhibition this year. We also sent to the Principals of Wye College, at their request, samples of every exhibit, which we understand will be kept by them for record purposes, and will be used in the museum they are forming. This will remain an interesting record of the barleys shown at the last exhibition of the century. We trust that the action thus initiated may lead to very satisfactory results hereafter.

Already we have had intimation that there will be earnest efforts made to take advantage of Class XXII. Exhibitors and visitors to the exhibition will also have exhibits of much interest placed before them by Gartons, Limited, who will show the very remarkable varieties of new breeds of barley which they are now so successfully cultivating. Entries will also be made by Professors Hall and Percival, Wye College, and M. Philippe de Vilmorin from France.

We again direct attention to the fact that our labours are not simply devoted to adjudicating upon a large number of fine samples of barley, but to make the exhibition of the highest practical service to technical education within our power, which is our chief aim. This we do by exposing the defects that should be avoided or remedied, as well as by attempting to indicate the right methods of cultivation so far as our exhibits permit, together with the types and varieties of barleys most suited to maltsters' and brewers' needs.

It is to be regretted that there is so little proper competition in the colonial and foreign sections. To meet the strong objections of would-be exhibitors in these sections to 50 quarters as bulk open to inspection to substantiate the samples, which it was urged was very onerous in certain cases, we advised the same limit of 20 quarters in all classes. We did not see our way to alter our request being complied with for the right naming of the barleys shown. Dealers ought to be able to say if the barley they offer for sale is two or six rowed. In order to give the utmost consideration to these classes we set aside the provision of the numbers requisite to secure awards.

The number of county classes was considerably increased, and we again urge the desirability of growers in several other of the larger and more important barley growing counties having this additional incentive offered to show. Large numbers of important buyers attended the show throughout the week, with satisfactory results in the case of some of the counties which had a good and representative set of samples on view, even in those cases where the county gained no conspicuous notice.

For the first time the honours were divided between East Anglia and the West Country, which indicates the peculiar nature of the weather during the spring and summer. The abnormal heat and amount of sunshine with irregular and erratic rainfall of the season did not conduce to the production of barleys of such weight and quality as we saw in 1896 and the subsequent years.

Our efforts to refute the unjust imputations upon the threshing-machine makers of this country led to the establishment of Class 19, and we are glad to be able to report that no samples were submitted which were sufficiently damaged by threshing, dressing, or through any other cause, to warrant the rejection of the bulk by any practical maltster for the reason of excessive damage. Therefore the stigma which has been placed upon the producer or threshing-machine maker is now removed. It is a difficult matter to determine to what extent the drum of the threshing-machine works defectively through imperfection in manufacture through wear or through carelessness on the part of the user. It is quite obvious that a large number of our best machine makers can and do make machines which, under proper management, thresh without damaging the grain to any serious degree. Probably it will be found (as the result of the methods we have adopted of determining proper working in this particular) that more careful attention on the part of those controlling the working of the threshing machines is nearly all that is required. It is, however, still desirable for all makers of threshing machines to give particular attention to the working of the drums for the purpose of threshing barley.

The system we established of determining the value of the work done by the threshing machines attributed to certain makers by giving awards on a uniform standard or test, irrespective of its position otherwise to each and every exhibit, the result ultimately being worked out by percentages of the total marks gained, divided by the number of machines represented, should give satisfactory results, as it is a fair, practical, and common-sense method.

Some of the following tables may appear complex, and a few of them require considerable attention before their true meaning or value becomes apparent. But we hear from many sides of the care with which many growers throughout the country examine these tables, and conform to the improved practices suggested by them with very material benefit to themselves. It is also obvious that the quality of the barley submitted to us year by year is materially improving. Perhaps the greatest advantage is the experience gained by many growers which prevents them producing barleys totally unfit for malting purposes.

TABLE I.

ENTRIES OF ENGLISH, COLONIAL, AND FOREIGN GRAIN FOR THE TEN YEARS 1891-1900.

	English.	Colonial.	Foreign.	Total.
1891	61	—	16	77
1892	64	—	22	86
1893	63	—	21	84
1894	124	—	80	204
1895	109	—	42	151
1896	169	—	32	201
1897	92	—	27	119
1898	143	—	30	173
1899	196	3	23	222
1900	162	—	10	172

The following table gives the relative positions of British and foreign corn for five years 1896-1900:

TABLE II.

WEIGHTS PER BUSHEL.

	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
English, highest	61·1	60·4	60·0	59·0	59·8
,, lowest	55·5	54·3	54·0	54·0	52·1
Foreign, highest	60·0	58·0	59·5	58·4	57·5
,, lowest	48·7	45·7	42·0	48·3	52·2

The following table shows the relative weights in another form for the five years 1896-1900:—

TABLE III.

WEIGHTS PER IMPERIAL BUSHEL.

Under:	Over:	1896. Number Weighed. Eng.	1896. For.	1897. Number Weighed. Eng.	1897. For.	1898. Number Weighed. Eng.	1898. For.	1899. Number Weighed. Eng.	1899. For.	1900. Number Weighed. Eng.	1900. For.
	61lb.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
61lb.	60lb.	9	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
60lb.	59lb.	46	2	4	—	3	2	1	—	7	—
59lb.	58lb.	59	5	19	1	34	1	18	1	17	—
58lb.	57lb.	32	7	35	2	48	1	77	2	46	—
57lb.	56lb.	13	1	16	3	33	2	40	8	40	3
56lb.	55lb.	2	4	8	4	14	2	29	4	24	—
55lb.	54lb.	—	2	3	4	6	2	8	2	13	—
54lb.	53lb.	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	3	3	1
53lb.	52lb.	—	5	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	—
52lb.	51lb.	—	1	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	2
51lb.	50lb.	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	2
50lb.	49lb.	—	1	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—
49lb.	48lb.	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	—
48lb.	47lb.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46lb.	45lb.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45lb.	44lb.	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
44lb.	43lb.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
43lb.	42lb.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		162	31	87	23	139	28	174	21	151	8

It is significant that for the first time in the history of the exhibition a lower weight is recorded for British grain than the lowest Foreign.

The following is a list of the English, Welsh, and Scotch counties competing during the four years 1897-1900, and for the two years (1899-1900) the true average weight per bushel of all samples in each county:—

TABLE IV.

LIST OF COUNTIES AND NUMBER OF ENTRIES.

	1897. Number of Entries.	1898. Number of Entries.	1899. Number of Entries.	1899. Weight per Bushel.	1900. Number of Entries.	1900. Weight per Bushel.
Bedfordshire	—	17	23	57·3	14	58·4
Berkshire	5	11	12	57·1	8	57·0
Buckinghamshire	5	2	3	57·2	4	58·5
Cambridgeshire	—	—	—	—	1	54·5
Cornwall	—	—	—	—	1	53·9
Devonshire	1	5	7	57·2	12	58·7
Dorsetshire	4	3	6	56·3	5	57·0
Elgin	—	—	—	—	1	57·0
Essex	5	3	3	56·4	14	56·1
Glamorganshire	—	—	1	57·1	—	—
Gloucestershire	—	1	2	56·6	5	56·4
Hampshire	3	4	14	57·0	4	57·4
Hertfordshire	1	5	3	56·1	5	56·3
Herefordshire	1	2	3	58·0	—	—
Huntingdonshire	—	—	3	58·1	2	56·4
Kent	2	5	2	57·1	4	57·2
Leicestershire	—	1	1	55·0	1	56·0
Lincolnshire	1	2	3	56·3	3	55·3
Middlesex	—	—	—	—	2	57·3
Montgomeryshire	1	—	—	—	1	55·6
Norfolk	7	7	2	56·5	5	55·5
Northamptonshire	5	9	11	56·2	4	55·9
Nottinghamshire	—	3	—	—	—	—
Oxfordshire	3	2	5	57·3	3	56·3
Rutlandshire	—	1	2	56·7	5	54·5
Shropshire	12	7	9	56·1	3	57·8
Somersetshire	12	16	9	56·9	6	57·3
Suffolk	12	22	16	56·1	19	56·0
Surrey	5	3	5	57·1	2	55·7
Staffordshire	—	1	—	—	—	—
Sussex	2	1	3	57·3	2	56·2
Warwickshire	1	2	5	56·1	6	56·9
Wiltshire	1	1	2	56·0	3	55·6
Worcestershire	1	2	6	56·2	3	56·6
Yorkshire	1	2	11	56·8	2	56·2
	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	87	139	172	56·9	162	56·7

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TABLE V.

LIST OF COUNTIES AND PRIZES.

The following table shows for the years 1896-1900 the number of prize-winning samples in each and every county which competed. The number and value of the prizes vary much more widely than the numbers in the columns hereunder :—

	1896. Prizes.	1897. Prizes.	1898. Prizes.	1899. Prizes.	1900. Prizes.
Bedford	2	—	—	8	4
Berkshire	3	3	4	5	2
Buckingham	3	2	2	2	2
Cambridge	1	—	—	—	—
Cornwall	—	—	—	—	—
Denbighshire	—	1	—	—	—
Devon	1	—	2	2	2
Dorset	1	2	2	2	2
Elgin	—	—	—	—	1
Essex	3	3	2	2	2
Glamorgan	—	—	—	1	—
Gloucester	1	—	1	1	3
Hampshire	2	2	1	3	2
Hertford	1	1	2	2	2
Hereford	2	1	2	1	—
Huntingdon	1	—	—	1	1
Kent	1	1	2	1	2
Leicester	—	—	—	1	—
Lincoln	1	1	1	2	2
Middlesex	1	—	—	—	2
Monmouth	1	—	—	—	—
Montgomery	—	1	—	—	—
Norfolk	4	2	2	2	4
Northampton	3	2	3	3	2
Nottingham	—	—	1	—	—
Oxford	2	1	1	3	2
Rutland	1	—	1	1	2
Shropshire	6	5	3	3	2
Somerset	4	3	3	4	2
Suffolk	2	3	3	3	7
Stafford	—	—	1	—	—
Surrey	1	2	2	3	1
Sussex	1	1	1	2	1
Warwick	1	—	2	2	2
Wiltshire	1	—	—	1	2
Worcester	2	1	2	3	3
Yorkshire	—	1	—	3	1
	53	39	51	67	60

These sixty samples obtained in all 125 awards, apart from the threshing machine and a few other prizes.

The weights of the various counties are difficult to understand, especially as so many stand so high. No less than ten counties sent no grain below 56lbs. per bushel, whilst the average in twenty-three counties exceeded that weight.

TABLE VI.

List of counties, showing number of entries and prizes awarded, together with the highest, lowest, and average weight per bushel :—

County.	Number of Samples.	Number of Prizes.	Highest weight per bushel.	Lowest weight per bushel.	Average weight per bushel.
Bedford	14	4	58·0	56·1	58·4
Berkshire	8	2	58·0	56·0	57·0
Buckingham	4	2	59·1	57·9	58·5
Cambridge	1	—	—	54·5	54·5
Cornwall	1	—	—	53·9	53·9
Devon	12	2	59·8	57·7	58·7
Dorset	5	2	57·6	55·9	57·0
Elgin	1	1	—	57·0	57·0
Essex	14	2	58·3	52·1	56·1
Gloucester	5	3	57·1	55·7	56·4
Hampshire	4	2	58·3	56·2	57·4
Hertford	5	2	58·5	55·0	56·3
Huntingdon	2	1	57·3	55·5	56·4
Kent	4	2	58·3	55·8	57·2
Leicester	1	—	—	56·0	56·0
Lincoln	3	2	56·0	54·8	55·3
Middlesex	2	2	57·5	57·0	57·3
Montgomery	1	—	—	55·6	55·6
Norfolk	5	4	56·1	55·0	55·5
Northampton	4	2	56·8	54·4	55·9
Oxford	3	2	56·7	55·6	56·3
Rutland	5	2	55·0	53·8	54·5
Shropshire	3	2	58·7	57·1	57·8
Somerset	6	2	59·0	54·7	57·3
Suffolk	19	7	58·0	54·0	56·0
Surrey	2	1	56·6	54·8	55·7
Sussex	2	1	56·8	55·6	55·2
Warwick	6	2	57·5	55·8	56·9
Wiltshire	3	2	57·5	54·8	56·6
Worcester	3	3	58·0	55·1	56·6
Yorkshire	2	1	56·3	56·0	56·2
	151	60	—	—	56·6

The actual weight per imperial bushel of barley is an important and ever-increasing factor in the determination of values, and it would be a great advantage to many if uniformity of sale existed.

The following tables refer to the manures used, and have been worked so as to show the effects of manuring for two years. This is a practical point which has already received attention. For its particular use in barley we trust that this form of showing it may be conducive to good results. The many valuable prizes now offered by manure manufacturers have caused additional classes to be added this year, with the result that a considerable amount of money has been divided amongst successful competitors. These classes are already increased in number and value of prizes very considerably for next year.

TABLE VII.

MANURES USED.

Manure used, or name of Maker.	Number of entries.	Number of prize winners.	Weight lbs. per bushel.
J. Fison & Co., Ltd.	70	27	56·5
None	24	9	57·5
Nitrate of soda	20	8	56·7
Sulphate of ammonia	5	4	56·3
Prentice's	7	3	56·0
E. Webb and Son's	13	8	56·7
Colchester's	5	1	55·1
Superphosphates	2	—	56·5
Sheepfolded	1	1	55·0
Farmyard	7	1	56·6
Packard's	2	—	56·3
Guano	1	1	57·9
	159	63	56.6

Eight entries are placed under more than one heading in consequence of combining manures.

TABLE VIII.

MANURES USED 1900-1899.

In the following list can be seen the order of use of all the manure employed in two successive years. It will be understood that the date covers the use (or absence) in its own columns only :

Name. 1900.	No. of Entries.	No. of Prizes.	Name. 1899.	No. of Entries	No. of Prizes.
Jos. Fison & Co., Ltd.	70	27	None	19	9
			Not stated	21	9
			Fison's	11	3
			Sheepfolded	6	1
			Farmyard	5	2
			Bones	4	2
			Nitrate of soda	2	1
			Superphosphates	2	—
None used	24	9	None and not given	16	5
			Farmyard	6	3
			Nitrate of soda	1	1
			Richards' Rednal	1	—
Nitrate of soda	20	8	None	13	6
			Farmyard	4	—
			Various	3	2
E. Webb & Sons	13	8	None	11	8
			Sheepfolded	1	—
			Farmyard	1	—
"Prentice's"	7	3	Prentice's	7	3
Farmyard	7	1	None	7	1
Sulphate of Ammonia	5	4	None or not stated	5	4
"Colchester's"	5	1	None	4	1
			Colchester's	1	—
"Packards"	2	—	Farmyard	2	—
Superphosphate	2	—	None	2	—
Sheepfolded	1	1	None	1	1
Guano	1	1	Guano and soot	1	1
Totals	159	63		159	63

Three prizes fall to duplicate entries.

The following tables exhibit the earliest and latest dates of sowing for the last five years, together with the numbers planted in the various months indicated. It is now difficult to fill in the weights of former years in the fuller manner shown in Table X.

The Champion was the first sown sample of this year.

TABLE IX.

DATES OF SOWING.

		Latest.
1896 ...	Earliest sowing, Sept., 1895	April 26
	The next earliest, Jan. 22, 1896.	
1897 ...	Earliest sowing, Oct. 10, 1896	April 13
	The next earliest, Feb. 15, 1897.	
1898 ...	Earliest sowing, Dec. 7, 1897	April 21
	The next earliest, Jan. 14, 1898.	
1899 ...	Earliest sowing, Jan. 28, 1899	April 20
	The next earliest, Feb. 1, 1899.	
1900 ...	Earliest sowing, Oct. 18, 1899	April 26
	The next earliest, Feb. 7, 1900.	(Montgomery.

TABLE X.

DATES OF SOWING, 1900.

1899	No. of Entries.	No. of Prizes.	Weight lbs. per Bushel.
Oct. 18	1	1	58·0
1900.			
Feb. 7	1	1	57·7
,, 14	2	1	56·1
,, 21	1	—	56·3
,, 28	2	1	57·2
March 7	27	9	56·9
,, 14	29	6	57·0
,, 21	35	21	57·7
,, 31	57	14	56·5
April 7	12	2	57·9
,, 14	7	3	55·6
,, 21	3	—	54·2
,, 26	2	1	56·3
No Date	2	—	

TABLE XI.

DATE OF HARVESTING.

1895.	Earliest, July 21.	Latest, September 3.
1896.	,, July 11.	,, August 30.
1897.	,, July 17.	,, September 7.
1898.	,, Last week July.	,, September 17.
1899.	,, July 25.	,, August 30.
1900.	,, July 18.	,, September 3.

NUMBER OF SAMPLES SENT.

	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
July, 1st week	—	1	—	—	—	—
,, 2nd ,,	—	12	2	—	—	—
,, 3rd ,,	2	20	2	—	—	1
,, 4th ,,	5	64	12	3	24	6
Aug., 1st ,,	19	46	39	29	53	24
,, 2nd ,,	36	10	24	37	59	60
,, 3rd ,,	24	7	6	34	26	54
,, 4th ,,	9	2	5	18	12	15
Sept. 1st ,,	2	—	1	5	—	1
,, 2nd ,,	2	—	—	—	—	—
,, 3rd ,,	—	—	—	1	—	—
,, 4th ,,	5	—	—	—	—	—
Date not given	5	7	1	7	12	—
Not defined	—	—	—	4	—	—
	109	169	92	138	186	161

NUMBER OF PRIZE WINNERS.

	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
July, 1st week	—	1	—	—	—	—
,, 2nd ,,	—	6	—	—	—	—
,, 3rd ,,	1	5	—	—	—	1
,, 4th ,,	4	21	5	1	10	3
Aug., 1st ,,	2	12	16	15	19	8
,, 2nd ,,	15	2	12	17	19	24
,, 3rd ,,	10	—	—	11	10	19
,, 4th ,,	—	1	3	2	5	4
Sept., 1st ,,	2	—	1	1	—	1
,, 2nd ,,	1	—	—	—	—	—
,, 3rd ,,	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, 4th ,,	2	—	—	—	—	—
Date not given	2	2	—	3	4	—
Not defined	—	—	—	1	—	—

TABLE XII.

Particulars of entries defining sweating, steeping, and dressing in steep prior to sowing :

	No. of Entries.	No. of Prizes.	Weight. lbs. per bush.
Not treated in any way	128	47	56·8
Not stated	22	10	56·3
Dressed with sulphate of copper	4	2	58·9
Steeped with Carbolic	2	—	56·3
Sweated (Kiln dried)	5	1	56·4
	161	60	56·6

The above table summarises the information furnished from exhibitors in cases where the barley prior to sowing had been sweated or dressed. It is significant that in the selected number of exhibits so large a proportion relatively should have been scientifically attended to prior to planting. This is another instance in which failures and defective exhibits might prove of great practical value if entered and shown. It is curious that so simple a question remains unanswered by so many growers.

TABLE XIII.

PRECEDING CROPS.—PERCENTAGE OF PRIZE WINNERS TO TOTAL ENTRIES.

	No. of Entries.	No. of Prizes.	Per cent.
1895	109	104	35·5
1896	169	166	30·1
1897	92	87	41·3
1898	143	137	35·7
1899	186	184	36·4
1900	162	157	39·8

SUMMARY OF CROPS, 1896.

Crops.	No. of Entries.	No. of Prizes.	Per cent.
White straw 1896 and 1895	4	3	4·3
White straw 1896, roots 1895	18	10	16·3
White straw 1896, sundries 1895	11	4	12·0
Roots 1896 and 1895	1	—	1·0
Roots 1896, white straw 1895	36	14	39·1
Roots 1896, sundries 1895	4	—	4·3
Sundries 1896 and 1895	3	2	3·2
Sundries 1896, white straw 1895	12	4	12·9
Sundries 1896, roots 1895	1	—	1·0
Not defined	5	1	5.4
	92	36	

TABLE XIV.

CROP 1896.

	No. of Entries.	No. of Prize Winners.	Percentage of Winners to Entries.
Wheat	13	5	36·4
Barley	14	10	71·4
Oats	2	1	50·0
Other white straw	1	1	100·0
Clover and sundries	15	5	33·3
Roots	42	14	33·3
No description	5	2	40·0
	92	38	41·3

CROP 1895.

Wheat	21	7	33·3
Barley	17	8	47·0
Oats	13	7	33·3
Other white straw	11	5	45·4
Clover and sundries	16	4	25·0
Roots	88	19	21·6
No description	3	—	—
	169	50	29·5

TABLE XV.

SUMMARY OF CROPS, 1896-95.

1896.	1895.	No. of Entries.	No. of Prize Winners.	Percentage of Winners to Entries.
Roots	Wheat	13	5	36·4
Roots	Barley	14	7	50·0
Roots	Oats	9	2	22·2
Roots	Roots	1	—	—
Roots	Tares and Beans	4	—	—
Roots	—	1	—	—
Wheat	Roots	4	2	50·0
Oats	Roots	—	—	—
Oats	Kale	1	—	—
Barley	Roots	12	9	75·0
Clover	Roots	1	—	—
Wheat, barley, etc.	Clover	9	3	33·3
Clover	Clover	2	1	30·0
Not defined		5	2	40·0
Total roots to white straw		39	14	35·9
White straw to white straw		4	3	75·0
Sundries to white straw		12	4	33·3

(See note Table VII.)

TABLE XVI.

Summary of crops, showing the number of entries, 1898, with the arrangement of the preceding crops in 1897 and 1896, together with the average weights of each class, the prizes, and entries, etc.

Date. 1898.	Total No. of Entries.	No. of Prize-winning Samples.	Average Weight per Bushel of Class.
Total	143	57	57·0
White straw crop, 1897 and 1896	7	3	57·0
White straw 1897, roots 1896	27	13	57·1
White straw 1897, sundries 1896	25	10	56·9
Roots 1897 and 1896	2	—	57·2
Roots 1897, white straw 1896	47	14	57·0
Roots 1897, and fallow 1896	1	—	55·2
Sundries 1897 and 1896	2	—	57·5
Sundries 1897, white straw 1896	26	10	57·5
Sundries 1897, roots 1896	—	—	—
Not described	6	1	57·0
	143	51	57·0

TABLE XVII.

CROP 1897, TAKEN SINGLY.

Date 189"	Number of Entries.	Number of Prizes.	Average Weight per Bushel. lbs.
Wheat	32	17	57·0
Barley	19	6	57·1
Oats	9	4	57·5
Rye	1	—	56·3
Clover and Sundries	29	10	57·4
Roots	48	14	57·0
Not described	6	1	57·0
	143	51	57·0
1896.			
Wheat	31	10	57·4
Barley	39	13	57·0
Oats	9	4	57·9
Clover and Sundries	32	13	57·0
Roots	26	10	57·1
Not described	6	1	57·0
	143	51	57·0

These tables show a variety of points of considerable interest. Taking the chief crops of 1897 preceding barley in 1898, and succeeding the other crops defined in 1896, we get the following particulars. Probably the most striking point is the remarkable uniformity of weights.

The weights of every class and sample are given singly or as an average of the class.

The position also of wheat and oats preceding barley is most suggestive. When a white straw crop goes in front of barley it seems to have the effect of levelling up weights curiously.

Rotation of crops has grown to be a part only of right manuring. These figures are best taken in conjunction with the manurial tables. At present we are only just beginning to feel our way, consequently suggestions are of value solely as influenced by the after determinations of large numbers of samples and for a long succession of years.

TABLE XVIII.

SUMMARY OF CROPS—1898—6.

Preceding crops in 1897.	1896.	Number of Entries.	Number of Prizes.	Weights per bushel.
Wheat	Grass, clover fallow, seeds, and lucerne	13	6	57·1
do.	Swedes and mangels	8	4	56·7
do.	Barley	2	2	56·3
do.	Beans, peas, kale and potatoes,	8	4	57·3
Barley	Swedes and mangels	14	5	57·1
do.	Wheat and oats	2	1	57·8
do.	Potatoes peas, and mustard	3	—	56·7
Oats	Clover, tares and fallow	3	1	57·2
Rye	Barley	1	—	56·3
Total white straw (1897)		60	26	57·1
1897 (roots).	1896.			
Mangels	Wheat	14	5	56·7
do.	Barley	10	4	56·8
do.	Oats	5	2	57.7
do	Swedes & grass	2	0	57·2
Swedes	Wheat	7	2	57·3
do.	Barley	8	1	57·2
Carrots	Wheat & swedes	2	0	56.6
Total roots (1897)		48	14	57·0
1897 (Sundries).	1896.			
Clover, fallow Ley, and grass	Wheat	5	3	58·0
do.	Barley	12	3	57·0
do.	Oats	1	—	58·2
do.	Grass	1	—	57·5
Peas	Oats	2	1	57·0
do.	Barley	1	—	57·5
Potatoes	Wheat	1	—	57·4
do.	Barley	1	1	58·1
do.	Peas	1	—	57·5
Seeds and mustard	Barley	3	1	56·1
Kale	do.	1	1	57·7
Total Sundries		29	10	57·3
No description		6	1	—

Total Summary.

1898.	1897.	No of Entries.	No. of Prizes.	Average Weight lbs.
Barley	White Straw	60	29	57·1
do.	Roots	48	14	57·0
do.	Sundries	29	10	57·3
do.	No description	6	1	—
Total		143	54	57·1

Table XIX.

SUMMARY OF CROPS—1899-97.

1899 Barley.

Preceding Crops. 1898.	1897.	No. of Entries.	No of Prize Winners.	Average Weight lbs. per Bushel.
Wheat	Grass, Clover, Fallow, Seeds, Lucerne; etc.,	24	7	56·9
,,	Roots	12	9	56·9
,,	Barley,	1	—	55·7
,,	Peas, Beans, Potatoes,	5	—	56·6
Barley	Roots,	22	6	56·5
,,	Wheat, Oats, Barley,	3	2	57·0
,,	Peas and Potatoes	3	3	57·1
,,	Clover and Tares	3	2	57·3
Oats	Fallow and Clover	10	4	57·2
,,	Roots	8	3	56·4
,,	Wheat	1	1	57·5
Total white straw		94	37	56·9
Roots	Wheat	34	12	56·6
,,	Barley	14	5	56·7
,,	Oats	11	3	56·8
,,	Seeds	2	1	55·3
,,	Roots	1	—	57·2
Total Roots		62	22	56·8
Sundries Barley and Oats		17	4	57·0
,,	Wheat	6	2	56·6
Peas	Wheat	4	—	56·9
Fallow	Peas	1	—	58·3
ndries	Roots	2	1	57·3
		30	7	57.0

TABLE XIX.—(*Continued.*)

Final Summary.

1899-1898.

Preceding Crops.	No. of Entries.	No. of Prize Winners.	Average Weight lbs. per Bushel.
Barley White Straw	94	37	56·9
,, Roots	62	22	56·8
,, Sundries	30	7	57·0
	186	67	56·9

TABLE XX.

SUMMARY OF CROPS 1899-97, 1899 BARLEY.

Preceding Crops. 1897.	1898.	Number of Entries.	Number of Prize-Winners.	Average Weight lbs. per bushel.
Wheat	clover, tares, etc.	2	1	56·4
do.	roots	34	12	57·0
do.	oats	1	1	57·5
do.	potatoes, peas, and beans	6	1	56.7
Barley	clover, grass, etc.	9	4	56·8
do.	roots	14	5	56·6
do.	potatoes, peas, etc.	3	—	57·2
do.	barley	1	—	57·5
Oats	roots	10	2	56·8
do.	peas	3	1	57·9
do.	barley	2	1	56·4
do.	grass	1	—	57·0
do.	cabbage	1	—	57·4
Total white straw		87	29	57·0
Roots	barley	22	7	56·6
do.	wheat	11	8	57·0
do.	oats	9	3	56·4
do.	clover	1	—	56·8
do.	roots	1	—	57·2
Total roots		44	18	56.9
Grass	wheat	18	5	56·8
Clover	oats, barley	7	4	56·7
do.	roots	1	1	56·0
do.	mustard	1	1	57·8
Tares	wheat	5	1	57·3
do.	oats	1	—	58·0
Fallow	barley, wheat	4	2	57·3
Potatoes	oats, wheat, barley	4	2	57·5
Peas	barley	3	2	56·7
do.	wheat	1	—	54·6
do.	fallow	1	—	58·3
Carrots	wheat	1	—	55·8
do.	potatoes	1	—	56·8
Rape	wheat	2	1	57·4
Kale	oats	1	—	54·0
Undefined		4	1	57·5
Total sundries		55	20	57·0

TABLE XXI.

Preceding Crops. 1899.	1898.	Number of Entries.	Number of Prize Winners.	Average Weight per Bushel.
Wheat	grass, clover (cut) fallow ley seeds, lucerne, tares, and trefoil	23	11	56·7
ditto	roots	9	2	56·6
ditto	barley	1	—	53·8
ditto	peas, beans, and potatoes	10	2	57·5
ditto	wheat	1	1	57·0
ditto	rape	1	1	57·4
*ditto	and roots	2	1	56·8
Barley *ditto	and ditto	1	—	55·7
Oats *ditto	Peas and mangolds	1	—	55·0
	Total wheat	50	18	57·0
Barley roots		10	5	56·3
ditto white straw		3	2	58·4

* Careless entries of this type are very vexatious.

Barley	peas, beans & potatoes	1	—	57·7
ditto	clover and roots	2	1	57·1
ditto	turf	1	—	56·4
ditto	and oats roots	4	2	57·2
ditto	allotments	1	1	56·6
	Total, barley	22	11	56·7
Oats	clover fallow	1	—	55·8
ditto	roots	4	2	57·4
ditto	wheat	1	1	56·1
ditto	not given	1	1	55·0
	Total, oats	7	4	56·8
Rye	oats	1	—	57·0
	Total white straw	80	33	56·9

TABLE XXI.—(*Continued*).

Preceding Crops. 1899.	1898.	No. of Entries.	Number of Prize Winners.	Average Weight per Bushel.
Roots	wheat	30	14	56·4
ditto	barley	5	1	54·9
ditto	oats	5	1	55·4
ditto	seed	2	—	58·0
ditto	roots	1	—	57·3
ditto	potatoes	1	1	54·3
	Total roots	44	17	56·6
Sundries (clover, beans, peas, rape, grass, tares, fallow, and potatoes)	Wheat	10	2	56·1
	Barley and roots	15	7	57·6
	Roots	2	1	56·0
	Total Sundries	27	10	57·0

Final Summary.
1900-1899.

1900.	1899.			
Barley	White straw	80	33	56·9
ditto	Roots	44	17	56·6
ditto	Sundries	27	10	57·0
		151	60	56·6

TABLE XXII.

SUMMARY OF CROPS 1900-1898, 1900 BARLEY.

Preceding crops. 1898.	1899			
Wheat	Clover, tares, etc.	5	0	56·4
do.	Roots	30	13	56·5
do.	Oats	2	2	56·5
do.	Potatoes, beans, and peas	2	—	54·2
do.	Barley	2	2	56·6
do.	Wheat	1	1	57·0
do.	Fallow	2	2	56·4
	Total wheat	44	20	56·4
ley	clover and grass	11	5	57·7
o.	roots	5	1	55·0
lo.	potatoes and peas	2	1	56·8
o.	wheat	1	—	53·8
	Total barley	19	8	56·3
ts	roots	4	—	54·2
do.	barley	1	—	58·3
do.	grass	1	1	57·0
do.	kale and roots	1	1	54·8
*do.	rye and roots	1	—	57·0
	Total oats	8	2	56·2
	Total white straw	71	30	56·3
Roots	barley	13	6	56·5
do.	wheat	10	2	56·5
do.	oats	3	1	57·6
do.	clover	1	—	57·0
do.	roots	1	—	57·3
do.	potatoes	1	1	55·1
	Total roots	29	10	56·7
Clover and grass	wheat	13	7	56·7
do.	oats	1	—	55·8
do.	barley	3	1	56·9
do.	mangold	1	—	59·8
Tares	wheat	4	1	56·4
Fallow	do.	1	1	58·0
Potatoes	do.	4	1	57·9
do.	roots	1	1	54·3
Peas and rape	wheat	4	2	56·7
do. and roots	do.	1	—	55·0
Swedes and cabbage	barley and wheat	2	1	56·8
Beans	barley	1	—	57·7
do.	wheat	2	—	58·2
Seeds and clover	do.	6	2	58·6
Allotments	barley	1	1	56·6
Not defined	wheat	2	1	55·8
do.	oats	1	1	55·0
do.	clover	1	0	58·1
		51	20	57·3

FINAL SUMMARY, 1900-1898.

1900.	1898.			
Barley	white straw	71	30	56·3
do.	roots	29	10	56·7
do.	sundries	51	20	57·3
		151	60	56·6

TABLE XXIII.

FINAL SUMMARY OF CROPS FOR 1898-1900.

1898.	1899.	1900.	No. of Entries.	Number of Prizes.	Weight lbs. per Bushel.
White straw	Various.	Barley	71	30	56·3
Roots	do.	do.	32	11	56·7
Sundries	do.	do.	48	19	57·3
Not stated or absent			11	—	—
			162	60	56·6

TABLE XXIII. (*Continued.*)

FINAL SUMMARY OF CROPS FOR 1898-1900.

1899.	1898.	1900.	No. of Entries.	Number of Prizes.	Weight lbs. per Bushel.
White straw	Various.	Barley	—	—	—
Roots	do.	do.	44	17	56·4
Sundries	do.	do.	21	5	57·0
White straw	do.	do.	86	38	56·9
Not stated or absent			11	—	—
			—	—	—
			162	60	56·6

The alteration to the usual rotation of crops suggested in our former reports as if not necessary at least desirable is again confirmed, notwithstanding the peculiar climatic conditions of the abnormal season of 1900.

In the following tables referring to the character of soils we direct especial attention of all who are seriously interested in improving the methods and adding to the knowledge of husbandry to the position taken by the calcareous and non-calcareous heavy and light lands. The tables agree very closely with others formerly published by us, but before coming to any conclusion in the matter we again suggest it may be necessary for us to acquire the experiences furnished by a series of wet and inclement summers.

TABLE XXIV.

CHARACTER OF SOILS, 1894-1900.

	Light. Entries.	Light. Winners.	Heavy. Entries.	Heavy. Winners.	Total. Entries.	Total. Winners.
1894	91	18	28	2	119	20
1895	90	26	16	7	106	33
1896	119	34	47	16	166	50
1898	99	42	39	9	138	51
1899	145	56	39	11	186	67
1900	118	51	33	9	151	60

SUMMARY FOR 1898.

LIGHT.

CALCAREOUS	Entries.	Winners.	Weight.	NON-CALCAREOUS	Entries.	Winners.	Weight.
Gravel	13	6	55·8	Gravel	28	12	57·2
Sand	2	—	56·9	Sand	12	5	57·3
Chalk	15	5	57·1	— —	—	—	—
Loam	10	4	56·4	Loam	19	10	58·0
Totals	50	15	—		59	27	—

HEAVY.

Loam	4	1	56·9	Loam	2	2	56·8
Clay	19	2	57·3	Clay	14	4	56·8
	23	3	57·0		16	6	56·8
Totals	73	18			75	33	

SUMMARY FOR 1899.

LIGHT SOIL.

CALCAREOUS	Entries.	Winners.	Weight.	NON-CALCAREOUS	Entries.	Winners.	Weight.
Gravel	26	10	56·5	Gravel	28	14	56·6
Sand	2	2	56·9	Sand	17	4	56·8
Chalk	23	9	56·7				
Loam	15	9	57·0	Loam	34	8	56·8
Totals	66	30	56·7		79	26	56·8

HEAVY LAND.

Loam	13	1	56·3	Loam	6	2	56·8
Clay	11	2	57·2	Clay	9	6	56·6
	24	3	56·6		15	8	56·7
Totals	90	33	56·8		94	34	56·7

SUMMARY FOR 1900.

LIGHT SOILS.

	Entries.	Numbers exhibited.	Prizes.	Weight
Sand	12	11	5	56·7
Gravel	68	63	26	56·6
Sandy loam	28	26	11	57·1
Chalk	18	19	9	56·9
	127	118	51	56·7

HEAVY SOILS.

Stony clay	13	12	3	55·7
Stiff clay	22	21	6	56·5
	35	33	9	56·2
Total	162	151	60	56·6

TABLE XXIV.—(*Continued.*)

SUMMARY FOR 1900.

LIGHT SOIL.

	CALCAREOUS. Entries.	Winners	Weight.	NON CALCAREOUS. Entries.	Winners	Weight
Gravel	28	11	56·3	35	15	56·8
Land	1	—	55·0	10	5	56·9
Chalk	18	9	56·9	—	—	—
Loam	11	4	56·7	15	7	57·4
	58	24	56·7	60	27	57·0

HEAVY LAND.

Loam	10	2	55·7	2	1	56·2
Clay	5	2	57·2	16	4	56·3
	15	4	56·2	18	5	56·3
Total	73	28	56·4	78	32	56·8

We give in the following table the list of makers and prizes awarded to samples which were treated by the dressing machines entered by growers:

TABLE XXV.

DRESSING MACHINES NAMED.

Name of Maker	No. of Entries.	No. of Prize Winners.
Robert Boby, Limited, Bury	83	32
Not entered	22	9
Baker, Wisbeach	16	8
Gooch, Harleston	12	1
Rainforth, Lincoln	9	1
Coleman, Chelmsford	4	2
Penney and Co., Lincoln	4	2
Ward	3	1
Ordinary	3	1
Gentry	2	1
Brenton	1	
Eaton	1	
Farmer	1	1
Mason	1	
Tetts	1	1
Corbett	1	
Turner	1	1
Phillips	1	
	166	—

Note.—Six machines were attributed to two makers. It is curious that all six won prizes.

The threshing machine prizes are in the appended list.

In the following table we give a list, as entered, of the varieties of seed barley used. It is still matter for regret that the divisions are not more clearly defined, especially as the whole industry owes so much to our seedsmen for their splendid efforts in improving the seed used; and we are in a period of transition when new views concerning the development and propagation of seed are likely to exercise influences in the near future, concerning which we do not venture to give any opinion, but we throw out the suggestion that they may prove of great potency.

TABLE XXVI.

LIST OF SEED BARLEYS ENTERED 1900.

Name.	No. Entries.	No. of Prizes.	Per-centage of Prize-winners.
Webb's Kinver Chevalier	50	21	42·0
Carter's Prolific and Goldthorpe	17	9	53·0
Chevalier	13	7	54·0
Webb's New Burton	10	2	20·0
Hallett's	8	3	37·5
Jarman's	7	2	28·5
Garton's Standwell	7	2	28·5
Webb's Golden Grain	5	3	60·0
King's Improved	5	1	20·0
Unknown	5	2	40·0
Wrinch's Premier	5	2	40·0
Svale	4	1	25·0
Former Prize-winners	4	2	50·0
Archer's	4	1	25·0
Garton's Invincible	3	2	66·5
Bradfield's Chevalier	1	—	—
Gent's Premier	1	—	—
Vosper's Perfection	1	—	—
Scotch	1	—	—
	151	60	39·7

The number of prize winners to prizes gained is as 60 to 125.

In bringing our report to a conclusion in this the commonly accepted last year of the century we cannot refrain from pointing out that in the exceedingly old and long-established industries of barley-growing and malt-making great changes have occurred in the comparatively short period through which we have laboured. We have been trying, we believe with some success, to exercise some influence for good upon the right production of fine barleys fit for brewers' use, which can also give satisfaction to maltsters. We are willing to

admit that our methods may be termed empirical. But we claim that with the practical knowledge (the outcome of considerable experience) which we, as a body collectively, or any of us taken individually, can bring to bear upon this subject, we endeavour to combine practice with science, without exaggerating the value of science so-called.

One of the best influences which will survive the nineteenth century when carried into the twentieth must inevitably prove the broad toleration that has led to practical men recognising the value of their scientific leaders, and still more of scientific men having found that practice cannot be disregarded by scientists without grave disadvantage.

We have laboured assiduously for many years in attempting to show the barley growers of this country the types of barley best suited for brewers' needs, and we have ventured to suggest (always with much deference) modes of cultivation as to times of sowing, seeds used, preparation of the soil, manures added, rotation of crops, and the other points involved in the foregoing Tables, which we feel convinced have tended to attain the end we started out to seek.

The barley now grown by the best of our farmers in this country has improved in character, and is well fitted for brewers' needs, and we believe it to be the experience of our leading maltsters that for some seasons past the finest pale ale malts have been made from barley grown in England. This is a national gain which may be ascribed mainly to climatic conditions most likely, but it is a state of things far different from what existed before the Brewers' Exhibition began its operations, when it was the fashion to give the preference to foreign barleys for pale ale purposes.

We still, however, say emphatically that there is room for further improvement, and this improvement can best be secured by a still better understanding between all the honest and loyal workers who endeavour to secure our common end than even that which happily already exists.

Although little alteration (if any) of the schedule for next year's exhibition will arise through reduction, the number of classes must necessarily be considerably larger than it has been in any former exhibition. The view we have often expressed of the desirability of having district prizes is taking vigorous root, and we shall probably have almost all of the best barley-growing districts open to such encouragement and further incentive for improvement the exhibition offers.

We are glad that the interesting and important barley-growing county of Shropshire will this year derive the advantages conferred by the kind offer of Lord Wenlock to add to the prizes already open to growers in that county. Through the generosity of Messrs. Smith, Dereham, the Norfolk prize list was materially extended, and we note with peculiar satisfaction that the honoured name of our respected colleague Mr. Clare Sewell Read is given to these prizes. Suffolk also has its long list added to by Captain Pretyman, M.P.

We again urge upon all would-be competitors the desirability of their answering *all* the questions that are put in the entry form accurately and adequately.

We again record our warm thanks to the many donors of prizes and friends who help forward our efforts in various ways. More especially would we tender our thanks to many members of the Press who have placed us under much obligation. We have a large audience in the many visitors who attend the Exhibition, but we have continually brought under our notice a much larger number of practical men with whom we are brought into more or less close relationship, and who are influenced by the publications of the very numerous papers that deal so kindly with the subject of proper barley growing.

Signed on behalf of the judges,
H. STOPES,
Chairman

English Entries (162) Grouped in Counties.

Bedford.

No	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qnty. grown.	Clean Machi
										Qrs.	
1	Duncombe, G.	Cople, Bedford	— ; gravel	Barley	Swedes	Beds. 1899 Prize	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 21	Aug. 16, 17	25	Rainfort
2	Duncombe, G.	Cople, Bedford	— ; gravel	Barley	Swedes	Beds. 1899 Prize	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 21	Aug. 16, 17	25	Rainfort
3	Duncombe, G.	Cople, Bedford	— ; gravel	Barley	Swedes	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 14	Aug. 15	30	Rainfort
4	Duncombe, G.	Cople, Bedford	— ; gravel	Barley	Swedes	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 14	Aug. 15	30	Rainfort
5	Harrison, S.	Hill Farm, Renfold	Mixed ; gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Sarle	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 5	Aug. 6	20	Boby's
6	Harrison, S.	Hill Farm, Renfold	Mixed ; gravel	Wheat	Potatoes	Sarle	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 20	Aug. 9	20	Boby's
7	Harrison, S.	Hill Farm, Renfold	Mixed ; gravel	Wheat	Potatoes	Sarle	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 20	Aug. 9	20	Boby's
8	Harrison, S.	Hill Farm, Renfold	Mixed; gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Sarle	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 5	Aug. 6	20	Boby's
9	Matthews, J.	Odell, Sharnbrook	Gravel ; gravel	Barley	Turnips	Unknown	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 14	Aug. 13	60	Ordinar
10	Matthews, J.	Odell, Sharnbrook	Gravel ; gravel	Barley	Turnips	Unknown	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 14	Aug. 13	60	Ordinar
11	Pedly, J.	Gt. Barford	Mixed ; stony	Barley	Roots	Webb's Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 15	Aug. 15	50	— —
12	Pedly, J.	Gt. Barford	Mixed ; stony	Barley	Roots	Webb's Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 15	Aug. 15	50	— —
13	Sanders, J.	Chellington, Sharnbrook	Loam ; clay	Swedes	Wheat	Chevalier	Farmyard	March 6	Aug. 14	30	Gooch's
14	Sanders, J.	Chellington, Sharnbrook	Loam ; clay	Swedes	Wheat	Chevalier	Farmyard	March 6	Aug. 14	30	Gooch's

Berkshire.

15	Bradfield, W. E.	Milton, Steventon	Clayey; gravel	Barley	Beans	Bradfield's Chev.	Farmyard	March 14	Mid. Aug.	25	Penney'
16	Castle, A. S.	Charlton, Wantage	Chalk loam; chalk marl	Wheat	Tares	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Nit. Soda	March 28	Aug. 18	50	Boby's
17	Castle, A. S.	Charlton, Wantage	Loamy sand	Wheat	Rye grass	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Nit. Soda	April 12	Aug. 22	25	Penney
18	Downshire Marquis of (Ent. by J. Brown, Easthampstead Pk.)	Easthampstead Park Farm	Sandy loam ; clay	Oats	Swedes	Carter's P. Prolific	Webb's	April 14	Aug. 25	20	Baker's
19	Frogley, Wm.	Westcot, Wantage	White land ; chalk	Wheat	Trefoil	Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co's	Mid. April	3rd week Aug.	80	Boby's
20	H. M. The Queen (Ent. by W. Tait, Steward)	Shaw Farm, Windsor	Clay ; —	Wheat	Roots	Carter's P. Prolific	None [Amm	3rd wk. Feb.	2nd wk. Aug.	50	— —
21	Kimber, J. E.	Kingston Bagpuize	Loam ; clay	Wheat	Peas	Webb's Gol. Grain	Webb's and Sul.	March 6	Aug. 20	20	Gooch's
22	Shelton, W. S.	Maidenhead	Loam ; chalk	Wheat	Fallow	Carter's	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 26	Aug. 11	25	—

Buckinghamshire.

23	Horwood, J.	Drayton Beauchamp	Chalk loam ; chalk stone	Clover	Barley	Carter's Prolific	Ohlen. and Nit. Soda	March 15	Aug. 14	25	Boby's
24	Horwood, R. E.	Drayton, Beauchamp	Chalk ; clay	Barley	Wheat	Carter's Paris P. Prol.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 1	Aug. 16	40	Boby's
25	Major, A. C.	Ditton, Slough	Loam ; blue clay	Wheat	Clover	Carter's P. Prolific	None	March 1	Aug. 25	40	Boby's
26	Wooster, E. L.	Bledlow	Chalk loam ; chalk	Wheat	Beans	Carter's P. Prolific	—	End March	Mid. Aug.	50	Boby's

Cambridgeshire.

27	Asplen, W. J.	Foxton, Royston	Chalky ; clay	Beans	Wheat	Chevalier	Prentice Bros.	End March	End Aug.	25	Gooch

Cornwall.

28	Roseveare, F. S.	Hepwell, Liskeard	—	Rape	Wheat	Garton's Standwell	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	April 17	Aug. 13	20	Brenton's

Devonshire.

29	Adams, W. C.	Langdon Farm, Dawlish	Red gravel ; sand	Grass	Barley	Jarman's Gol. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 27	Aug. 11	23	Boby's
30	Cann, Wm.	Berry Head Farm, Brixham	Limestone ; loam	Wheat	Potatoes	Jarman's Gol. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 17	Aug. 10	20	Eaton's
31	Carpenter, J.	Alphington, Exeter	Red leam ; red sandstone	Oats	Turnips	Garton's Standwell	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 31	Aug. 11	33	Boby's
32	Carpenter, J.	Alphington, Exeter	Red loam ; red sandstone	Wheat	Clover, etc.	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 15	Aug. 14	25	Boby's
33	Gent, F.	Mosshayne, Pinhoe	Sand ; loam	Wheat	Mangolds	Gent's Premier	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 27	Aug. 7	60	Rainforth's
34	Havell, F.	Pinn Court	Loamy ; sand	Clover	Barley	Jarman's Gol. Chev.	—	March 13, 14	Aug. 15, 16	80	Boby's
35	Lee, W. G.	Penson Burton	Red sandstone	Clover	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 28	Aug. 15	20	Boby's
36	Loram, A. (Ent. by Collis and Potter, Alresford).	Alphington, Exeter	Red loam ; red rock	Wheat	Ley	Garton's R. Standwell	—	March 8	Aug. 8	25	Boby's
37	Paul, P. (Ent. by W. H. Scruby and Co., Harlow).	Spratford	Red loam ; red sandstone	Wheat	Turnips	Carter's Prolific	None	March 6	Aug. 8	45	Boby's
						Jarman's Gol. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's				
38	Pyle, E. S.	Botchell Farm, Dawlish	Rissle	Clover	—			March 27	Aug. 12	45	Boby's
39	Rew, H. W.	Whipton Barton	Red loam ; red sandstone	Clover, etc.	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Nit. soda	March 8	Aug. 11	140	Boby's
40	Vosper, W.	Poltimore, Exeter	Red lime ; red sand rock	Wheat	Clover	Vosper's Perfection	Nit. soda	March 7	Aug. 10	—	Boby's
41	Vosper, W.	Poltimore, Exeter	Red sand ; red sand rock	Mangold	Clover	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 12	Aug. 20	50	Boby's

Dorsetshire.

42	Cooper, R. H.	Wyke, Sherborne	Stone brash ; —	Wheat	Clover ley	Jarman's Gol. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 24	Aug. 13	30	Boby's
43	Cooper, R. H.	Wyke, Sherborne	Stone brash ; —	Mangolds	Wheat	Jarman's Gol. Chev.	Nitrate of soda	March 8	Aug. 15	60	Boby's
44	Gill, J. A.	Fleet Farm, Weymouth	Stone ; limestone	Vetches	Turnips	Webb's New Burton	Nitrate of soda	March 9	Aug. 8	25	Coleman's and Baker's
45	Parsons, J. & M.	Castle Farm, Sherborne	Stone ; rock	Wheat	Mangolds	Webb's Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 12	Aug. 13	—	Baker's
46	Paul, W. W.	Bradford Abbas	Clay loam ; lime-stone	Barley	Swedes	Chevalier	None	March 5	Aug. 13	100	Boby's

Elgin, N.B.

47	Mantach, J., Exors.	Dundurcas, Rothes	Sndy loam; gravel	Green crop	Oats	Webb's Burton Malt	Nit. soda & Webb's	April 25	Sept. 2	25	Farmer's

Essex.

48	Alexander, G.	North Eckendon	Clay ; clay	Beans	Wheat	Burton	Farmyard	April	2nd week Aug.	—	Boby's
49	Arbon, E.	Ardleigh	Mixed ; gravel	Mangolds	Oats	No name	W. Colchester's	2nd wk March	2nd week Aug.	—	Mason's
50	Boughtwood, C. H.	Gt. Burstead	Heavy ; clay	Mangolds	Mangolds	E. W. King and Co's.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 2	Aug. 8	—	Boby's
51	Chillingworth, J. C.	Brailwell-on-Sea	Medium ; loam	Mangolds	Wheat	1895 Champion	None	March 15	Aug. 17	20	Coleman's
52	Chillingworth, J. C.	Brailwell-on-Sea	Medium ; loam	Rye and Swedes	Winter Oats	E. W. King and Co.'s Improved	None	March 10	Aug. 14	30	Coleman's
53	Fairhead, W. A.	Thorp-le-Soken	Heavy ; clay	Mangolds	Wheat	E. W. King and Co.'s Improved	W. Colchester's	March	Aug.	50	Ward's
54	Fitch, J. A.	Frating	Light ; R. gravel	W. Turnips	Oats	Scotch	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	April 7	Aug. 20	40	Ward's
55	Harvey, A.	Chelmsford	Medium ; heavy	Mangolds	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Nit. Soda	March 24	Aug. 18	23	Ward's & Boby's
56	Layton, J.	Shenfield, Brentwood	Mixed ; loam	Wheat	Tares	Cham. Chev. '99	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 27	Aug. 23	20	Gooch's
57	Seabrook, R.	Tolleshunt D'Arcy	Mixed ; —	Wheat	Red Clover	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Sulph. Ammonia	March 18	Aug. 10	20	Boby's
58	Seavell, W. (Ent. by N. H. Scruby and Co., Harlow)	Burnham-on-Crouch	Marsh ; sandy	Wheat	Beans	Hallett's	None	Early Feb.	Aug. 20	50	Boby's
59	Smith, J.	Little Clacton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
60	Smith, J.	Little Clacton	—	—	—	Garton's Standwell	—	—	—	—	—
61	Steele and Hurst	Southminster	Marsh ; sandy loam	Wheat	Tares and Clover	Hallett's	None	Mid March	Mid Aug.	180	Gentry's

English Entries (162) Grouped in Counties—*continued.*

Gloucestershire.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
62	Butler, H.	Pountley Court, Newent	Sandy loam; sandstone	Wheat and Oats	Roots	Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co.	March 15, 16	Aug. 17	35	Boby's & Gooch
63	Day, A.	Stratford-on-Avon	Loam; gravel	Potatoes	Barley	Webb's	Sulph. ammonia	March 27	Aug. [illegible]	16	-
64	Day, A.	Stratford-on-Avon	Loam; gravel	Wheat	Peas	Webb's Chevalier	Webb's	March 15	Aug. 17	10	Boby's
65	Dowdeswell	Frampton-on-Severn	Loam; gravel	Clover	Wheat	Webb's Burton Malt	Farmyard	March 28	Aug. 2	20	-
66	Pope, W. W.	Newtown, Newent	Sandy loam; clay	Wheat	Clover	Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co.	March 6	Aug. 7	14	-

Hampshire.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
67	Lander, G. G.	Christchurch	Loam; gravel	Wheat	Clover	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Webb's	March 26	Aug. 16	-	Coleman
68	Reeks, H.	Winkton	Red loam; gravel	Wheat	Mangolds	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 26	Aug. 18	40	
69	Seward, P. & C.	Sheet, Petersfield	Sand; sand	Swedes	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Salt	March 5	July 30	10	Boby's
70	Seward, P. & C.	Weston, Petersfield	Malm; malm rock	Swedes	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	—	March 8	Aug. 8	120	Boby's
71	Tuck, J. S.	Milford-on-Sea	Heavy; —	Swedes	Wheat	Carter's Goldthorpe	Jos. Fison & Co's	March	August	20	On Lawry

Hertfordshire.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
72	Horwood, R. E.	Drayton, Beauchamp	Chalk; ragg	Wheat	Clover	Carter's P. Winner	Nitrate of Soda	March 8	Aug. 20	45	Boby's
73	Palmer, G. & E.	Benger, Hertford	Loam; clay	Oats	Grass	Archer's	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 17	Aug. 15	25	Boby's
74	Pryor, T.	Botany Bay, Stevenage	Clay; chalk marl	Wheat	Peas	Archer's Stiff Straw	Nit. Soda & Phos.	March 23	Aug. 20	120	Boby's
75	Pryor, T.	Botany Bay, Stevenage	Clay; chalk marl	Turnips	Wheat	Archer's Stiff Straw	Nit. Soda & Phos.	March 31	Aug. 18	30	Boby's
76	Russel, J. R.	Buntingford	Loamy; chalk	Wheat	Fallow	Kin. Chev.	Prentice Bros.	March 30	Aug. 20	10	Boby's

Huntingdonshire.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
77	Chew, A.	Old Hurst, Huntingdon	Clay; clay	Rye	Wheat	Webb's Chevalier	Prentice Bros.	March 31	Aug. 17	-	Coleman
78	Christmas, F.	Great Gransden, Sandy	Clay; clay	Fallow	Wheat	Hallet's	Jos. Fison & Co's	March 28	Aug. 25	150	Baker's

Kent.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
79	Cobb, H. M.	Higham	Sandy loam; chalk	Wheat	Potatoes	Webb's Kin. Chev.	None	March 22	Aug. 6	25	Boby's
80	Pell, J. A.	Horton Kirby	Chalk loam; chalk	Wheat	—	—	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 8	Aug. 15	27	Baker's
81	Plumptre, H. F. (Ent. by E. W. Amos, Steward.)	Goodnestone	Loam; chalk	Barley	Turnips	Hallett's Chev.	None	April 3	Aug. 13	50	Boby's & Tett's
82	Pye, J. H.	Thorne, Gravesend	Loam; chalk	Barley	Oats	Webb's Burton Malt	Superphos.	March 6	July 26	50	Boby's

Leicestershire.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
-	Gilbert, W. H. R.	Aston Flamville,	Heavy; clay	Roots	Wheat	Webb's Burton Malt	Webb's	April 10	Aug. 28, 30	40	Corbett's

Lincolnshire.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
	Briggs, L. J.	Priory Farm, Stamford	Strong; limestone	Oats	—	Chevalier	Nit. Soda	March 17	Aug. 13	20	Rainforth's
	Heywood, F. W. S.	Holbeck Manor	S. loam; sand	Roots	Wheat	Garton's Invincible	Nit. Soda and salt	March 21	Aug. 17	65	Rainforth's
	Heywood, F. W. S.	Holbeck Manor	S. loam; sand	Roots	Wheat	Garton's Standwell	Nit. soda and salt	March 28	Aug. 18	70	Rainforth's

Middlesex.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
	rtis, W. J.	Heathrow	Loam; gravel	Wheat	Potatoes	Carter's Prolific	None	March 23	August 6	20	Boby's
	rrick, W.	Shepperton	Sand; gravel	Peas, etc.	Barley	Standwell	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 9	July 18	70	Boby's

Montgomeryshire.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
	vage, R.	Penyborfa	Dry; -	Wheat	Clover	Webb's Burton Malt	-	April 26	Aug 13	20	-

Norfolk.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
	Brown, G. B. M.	Heacham, Lynn	Heavy; clay	Barley	Mangolds	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison and Co's	March 28	Aug. 13	35	Boby's
	Tallett, J. M.	Stiffkey	Mixed; chalk	Trefoil	Barley	Archer's	Fed off	March 23	Aug. 14	37	Baker's
	Miles, C. G.	Mill Farm, Alburgh	Heavy; clay	Turnips	Wheat	Webb's Kinver	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 26	Aug. 24	-	Baker's
93	Miles, C. G.	Abbey Farm, Alburgh	Heavy; clay	Wheat	Clover	Wrinch's Premier	Prentice Bros.	March 22	Aug. 24	-	Baker's
94	Rushbrooke, A.	Roydon, Diss	Loam; gravel	Oats	Wheat	Chevalier	Prentice Bros.'	Feb. 23	Aug [illegible]	35	Parmeter

Northamptonshire.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
95	Dickens, J. T.	Barnack	Gravel; gravel	Turnips	Barley	Webb's Gol. Grain	Webb's	March 2	Aug. 17	45	Baker's
96	Goodale, J.	Peakirk, Peterboro'	Gravel; gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Standwell	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 30	July 30	45	Gooch's
97	Leonard, J.	Langhill, Thrapston	Stiff; clay	Wheat	Mangolds	Webb's Burton Malt	Nit. Soda, &c.	March 24	Aug. 14	30	Baker's
98	Railton, J. S.	Evenley, Brackley	Limestone	Barley	—	Garton's Invincible	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 27	Aug. 17	20	-

Oxfordshire.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
99	Castleman, F. G.	Kirlington	Lim'stone; l'stone	Barley	Roots	Webb's Gol. Grain	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 19	Aug. 13	40	Boby's
100	Castleman, J. I.	Kirlington	S'brash; l'stone	Wheat	Clover	Carter's Prolific	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 12	Aug. 23	20	Boby's & Gooch's
101	Castleman, J. I.	Kirlington	S'brash; l'stone	Oats	Trefoil	Webb's Gol. Grain	Nit. Soda	Mar. 19	Aug. 21	30	Boby's & Gooch's
102	Partridge, G.	Kidlington	S'loam; gravel	Clover	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Nit. Soda & Webb's	Mar. [illegible]	Aug. 20	40	Boby's

Rutlandshire.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
103	Beadsworth, W. T.	Tinwell	Light; gravel	Wheat	Barley	Hallett's	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 13	Aug. 13	25	Boby's, Penney's
104	Beadsworth, W. T.	Tinwell	Light; gravel	Mangolds	Potatoes	Jarman's	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 17	Aug. 7	20	Boby's, Penney's
105	Briggs, L. J.	Belmesthorpe	Light; limestone	Wheat	Clover	Chevalier	Sul. Amm.	Mar. 15	Aug. 14	20	R. Inforth's
106	Pridmore, W. C.	South Luffenham	Creachy; rocky	Barley	Turnips	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co's	Mar. 16	Aug. 10	10	Gooch's
107	Pridmore, W. C.	South Luffenham	Creachy; rocky	Barley	Turnips	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 30	Aug. 22	10	Gooch's

Shropshire.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
108	Horne, F.	Bank Farm, Claverley	Loam; clay	Swedes	Wheat	Webb's	Webb's and Sul. Amm.	Mar. 1	Aug. 10	—	—
109	Preece, R.	Cressage, Shrewsbury	Light; gravel	Clover	Barley	Webb's Burton Malt	Webb's	Mar. 1	Aug. 10	100	Boby's
110	Shirley, R. W.	Bangott	Loam; clay	Wheat	Clover	Webb's Burton Malt	Farmyard	Apl. 17	Aug. 28	50	—

Somersetshire.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
111	Cock, T.	Prior's Wood, Taunton	Stonebrash; sand	Wheat	Mangolds	Jarman's Gold Chev.	None	March 20	Aug. 10	40	Boby's
112	Hembrow, T. H.	Bradford	Loam; loam	Wheat	Beans	Carter's P. Prolific	Nitrate Soda	—	Aug. 21	20	Boby's
113	Loveiace, T.	Bossington, Taunton	Stonebrash;	Oats	Swedes	E. W. King & Co's Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 28	Aug. 10	20	Boby's
114	Lovelace, T.	Bossington, Taunton	Stonebrash;	Clover	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Webb's	April 6	Aug. 11	20	Boby's
115	Phillips, J. (Ent. by Spillers & Bakers, Ltd., Bristol.)	Minehead	Stonerush; s'rush	Ley	Grass	Chevalier	None	1st wk. Mar.	Aug. 13	30	
116	Rasole, T.	Court Place, Porlock	S'rush; red grav.	Ley	Wheat	Carter's Prol. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 2	1st wk. Aug.	20	Boby's
117	Rasole, W. H.	Ellicombe, Dunster	R. loam; gravel	Wheat	Ley	Carter's P. Prolific	None	1st wk. Mar.	1st wk. Aug.	25	Boby's
118	Ridler, M.	Sparkhayes, Porlock	Sandbrash; —	Grass	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	None	March 9	Aug. 11	20	Boby's
119	Risdon, W.	Escott, Stogumber	R. sand; s'stone	Ley	Barley	Carter's Prol. Chev.	None	4th wk. Mar.	2nd wk. Aug.	30	Boby's
120	Sanders, S. J.	Devonia, Chard	Loam; clay	Turnips	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Sup. Phos. & Soot	March 21	Aug 16		-

Suffolk.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qrs. per Acre Grown.	Cleaning Machinery
121	Baker, H.	Baylham	Light; gravel	Beet	Barley	Hallett's Pedigree	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 3	August 20	40	Baker's
122	Bigg — (Ent. by W. H. Squirrey & Co., Harlow)	Glensford	Mixed; —	Barley	Wheat	Sharpe's Kin. Chev.	None	Oct. 18	July 23	30	Boby's
123	Clark, E.	Ilketshall St. Lawrence	Heavy; clay	Turnips	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	April 4	August 23	25	Boby's
124	Gostling, J. H.	Wissett	Mixed; clay	Mangolds	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Prentice Bros.'	Mar. 9	August 13	30	
125	Gray, A. E.	Wenhaston	Light; mixed	Mangolds	Wheat	One and All Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 9	August 11	20	Baker's
126	Gray, A. E.	Wenhaston	Light; sand	Turnips	Wheat	One and All Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 7	August 17	25	
127	Gray, A. E.	Hinton	Mixed; clay	Mangolds	Oats	Wrench's Premier	Jos. Fison & Co.'s Nit. Soda	Mar. 15	August 20	30	
128	Kemball, A. C.	Boxford	Mixed; sand	Mangolds	Wheat	Webb's Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 10	August 17	25	Ransome's
129	Kemp, J.	Healey, Ipswich	Mixed; clay	Mangolds	Wheat	Webb's Gol. Grain	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 20	August 16	30	Ransome's
130	Lawson, W. M.	Rattlesden	Clay; —	Win. Oats	Wheat	—	Prentice Bros.'	April 3	August 15	25	Ransome's
131	Pepper, W.	Coochithe	Light; gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 31	August 15	25	Boby's
132	Pepper, W.	Coochithe	Light; gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	April 3	August 21	25	
133	Pepper, W.	Coochithe	Light; gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	Prentice Bros.'	April 5	August 21	25	
134	Pepper, W. A. (Ent. by J. Cooper Ipswich.)	Wherstead	Light; sand	Wheat	Mangolds	Webb's Gol. Grain	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 9	August 5	30	
135	Pratt, A.	Sproughton	Light; crag	Root	Wheat	Webb's Gol. Grain	Packard's	Feb. 14	August 10	25	
136	Pratt, A.	Sproughton	Mixed; gravel	Wheat	Roots	Wrench's Premier	Packard's	Mar. 1	August 3	20	
137	Pratt, C. J.	Melton	Mixed; gravel	Mangolds	Wheat	Wrench's Premier	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Feb. 7	August 9	25	
138	Ranson, H. O.	Sproughton	Mixed; —	Fallow	Wheat	Wrench's Premier	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 7	August 11	20	
139	Stanford, C. F.	Campsia Ashe	Mixed; loam	Root	Barley	Webb's Kinver	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mid. Mar.	1st week Aug	30	
140	Stanford, C. F.	Hacheston	Mixed; loam	Root	Barley	Webb's Kinver	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mid. Mar.	Mid.	30	
141	Thurman, R. J.	Semer, Ipswich	Mixed; sand	Beet	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	W. Colchester's	Mar. 14	July 28	30	Ransome's

English Entries (162) Grouped in Counties—*continued.*

Surrey.

No.	Grower.	Where Grown.	Soil and Subsoil.	Two Preceding Crops. 1899.	Two Preceding Crops. 1898.	Seed Sown.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qnty. Grown.	Cleaning Machinery.
142	Brown, E.	Effingham	Light ; chalk	Wheat	Mangolds	Hallett's	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 27	Aug. 17	20	Gooch's
143	Webb, J.	Chertsey	Loam ; gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Carter's Goldthorpe	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 22	Aug. 2	40	Boby's

Sussex.

144	Brand, Hon. T. S.	Glynde, Lewes	Chalk ; chalk	Oats	Mangolds	Norfolk Chev.	None	Mar. 26	Aug. 11	25	Baker's & Le Butt's
145	Brand, Hon. T. S. (Entered by T. W. Pickard, Glynde)	Glynde, Lewes	Loam marl	Wheat	Peas	Webb's Kin. Chev.	None	April 14	Aug. 10	110	Baker's & Le Butt's

Warwickshire.

146	Day, A. E.	Stratford-on-Avon	Light ; gravelly	Peas	Barley	Webb's Chevalier	Nit. Soda	March	1st wk. Aug.	20	Boby's
147	Day, A. E.	Stratford-on-Avon	Light ; gravelly	Barley	Roots	Webb's Chevalier	Webb's	March	1st wk. Aug.	40	Boby's
148	Lea, J. W.	Thelsford, Warwick	Loam ; gravel	Barley	Clover	Webb's Chevalier	Webb's	Mid March	Early Aug.	20	Boby's
149	Lea, J. W.	Thelsford, Warwick	Loam ; gravel	Barley	Clover	Webb's Chevalier	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	Mid March	Early Aug.	20	Boby's
150	Lea, J. W.	Thelsford, Warwick	Sandy ; gravel	Barley	Turf	Webb's Chevalier	Sul. Amm.	2nd wk. Mh.	Early Aug.	30	Boby's
151	Lea, J. W.	Thelsford, Warwick	Sandy ; Loam	Wheat	—	Webb's Chevalier	Nit. Soda	Early]March	Early Aug.	50	Boby's

Wiltshire.

152	Andrews, H.	Little Longford	Light ; chalk	Kale	Win. Oats	Webb's Chevalier	Jos. Fison and Co.'s	April 14	August 24	24	Boby's
153	Ashford, E. J.	Little Bathampton	Light ; chalk	Wheat	Rape	Hallett's Pedigree	Farmyard	March 10	August 13	50	Boby's
154	Long, G.	Ogbourne St. Andrew	Loam ; chalk	Barley	Swedes	E. W. King & Co.'s Chevalier	Jos. Fison and Co.'s	April 7	August 15	20	Boby's
155	Woolcott, H.	Wanborough Plain	Loam ; chalk	Wheat	Fallow	Webb's Chevalier	None	April 4	August 20	—	Task

Worcestershire.

156	Bomford, E. G. C.	Fladbury, Pershore	Loam ; gravel	Potatoes	Roots	Webb's "Chevalier"	Webb's	Feb. 14	July 27	100	Boby
157	Butler, T. A.	Chapel Farm, Redmarley	Sand ; s'stone	Wheat	Vetches	Webb's "Kin Chev."	Jos. Fison & Co.'s	March 15	August 5	43	—
158	Corbishley, G.	Brickehampton	Loam ; gravel	Mangolds	Wheat	Webb's "Chevalier"	None	March 20	August 10	45	—

Yorkshire.

159	Coulson, J. A.	Watton Abbey, Beverley	Loam ; clay	Wheat	Seeds	Garton's Invincible	None	Mid. March	August	300	Stu
160	Smith, T. T.	New Malton	Limestone ; —	Wheat	Turnips	Webb's Chevalier	Jos. Fison and Co.'s	April 4	August 2	25	
161	Staveley, H. H.	North Dalton	Light ; chalk	Turnips	Wheat	Goldthorpe	Jos. Fison and Co.'s	April	August	50	Ba
162	Wagstaff, G.	Conisbro'	Limestone ; —	Turnips	Oats	Webb's	—	—	August 20	20	

CLASS XXII.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION CUP.—(For a collection of samples illustrating growth, origin, and cultivation of new varieties, or of samples unfit for malting.)

163.—Gartons Limited, seedgrowers and merchants, Warrington, Lancashire.

Foreign Entries (10).

Entered by R. Liebmann, 31, *Southwark Street, S.E.*

CLASS IV.

164.—Sample of Bohemian barley, grown by Hauser and Sobotka, Vienna. Quantity grown, 1,000 qrs.; cleaning machinery, own.

CLASS V.

165.—Sample of Smyrna barley, grown by Pierre Aliotti, Smyrna. Quantity grown, 5,000 qrs.; cleaning machinery, own.

166.—Sample of Ouchac barley, grown by Pierre Aliotti, Smyrna. Quantity grown, 5,000 qrs.; cleaning machinery, own.

Entered by G. Paterson & Co., 30, *Great St. Helens, E.C.*

CLASS VIII.

167.—Sample of Asia Minor barley, grown by Ismail Effendi, Kutahieh. Soil, calcareous; subsoil, siliceous; manure, none; sown, February; cut, September; quantity grown, 3,000 qrs.; cleaning machinery, A. Aliotti's.

Entered by Spillers & Bakers, Limited, Cardiff.

CLASS V.

168.—Sample of Ouchac barley. Cleaning machinery, Boby's.

CLASS VI.

169.—Sample of Chilian barley. Seed grown, Chevalier; cleaning machinery, Boby's.

170.—Sample of Chilian barley. Seed sown, Chevalier; cleaning machinery, Boby's.

CLASS VIII.

171.—Sample of Smyrna barley; cleaning machinery, Boby's.

172.—Sample of Gaza barley; cleaning machinery, Boby's.

173.—Sample of Beyrout barley; cleaning machinery, Boby's.

CLASS XXVIII.

For best Sheaf or collection of Sheaves.

174.—King, E. W. & Co., growers, Coggeshall, Essex. Soil, mixed; subsoil, mixed; crops, 1899, peas; 1898, peas; seed sown, E. W. King & Co.'s "Gol. Chevalier"; manure, Odam's and farmyard; sown, March 16; cut, August 13.

175.—Pedley, J., grower, Great Barford, Beds. Soil, mixed; subsoil, chalk; crops, 1899, barley; 1898, roots; seed sown, Webb's "Chevalier"; manure, Joseph Fison & Co.'s; sown middle March; cut, middle August.

176.—Seabrook, R., grower, Tolleshunt D'Arcy, Essex. Soil, mixed; crops, 1899, mangolds; 1898, Lucerne; seed sown, Webb's "Kin. Chevalier"; sown, March 13; cut, August 14

Full List of Awards.

Cat. No.

CHAMPION PRIZE.

(Gold Medal or Plate, Value £10 10s.)

137 (Suffolk barley), Mr. C. I. Pratt, Melton. (Entered by Mr. John Cooper, barley merchant, Ipswich.)

"MARK LANE EXPRESS" CHAMPION CHALLENGE CUP.

137 (Suffolk barley), Mr. C. I. Pratt, Melton. (Entered by Mr. John Cooper, barley merchant, Ipswich.)

THE BURTON CHALLENGE CUP (IND, COOPE AND CO., LTD.), (Burton-on Trent and Romford).

137 (Suffolk barley), Mr. C. I. Pratt, Melton. (Entered by Mr. John Cooper, barley merchant, Ipswich.)

THE JOSEPH FISON CHALLENGE PRIZE (£25 Cash or Cup).

137 (Suffolk barley), Mr. C. I. Pratt, Melton. (Entered by Mr. John Cooper, barley merchant, Ipswich.)

THE ROBERT ROBY, LIMITED, PRIZE (Cash or Plate, Value £10).

137 (Suffolk barley), Mr. C. I. Pratt, Melton. (Entered by Mr. John Cooper, barley merchant, Ipswich.)

Cat. No.

THE MUMFORD CUP (Value £10).

137 (Suffolk barley), Mr. C. I. Pratt, Melton. (Entered by Mr. John Cooper, barley merchant, Ipswich.)

THE JOHN H. WRINCH SPECIAL PRIZE (Value £10).

137 (Suffolk barley), Mr. C. I. Pratt, Melton (Entered by Mr. John Cooper, barley merchant, Ipswich.)

WEBB AND SONS' CHAMPION PRIZE (Value £25).

109 Mr. R. Preece, Cressage House, near Shrewsbury.

CLASS I.—BRITISH MALTING BARLEY.

137 1st prize, silver medal and diploma, (Suffolk barley), Mr. C. I. Pratt, Melton. (Entered by Mr. John Cooper, barley merchant, Ipswich.)

32 2nd prize, bronze medal and diploma (Devonshire barley), Mr. J. Carpenter, Pengelly's Farm, Alphington, near Exeter.

37 3rd prize, diploma (Devonshire barley), Mr. P. Paul, Splatford Farm, Kenn. (Entered by W. H. Scruby and Co., Harlow, Essex.)

126 h.c. diploma (Suffolk barley), Mr. A. E. Gray, Wenhaston, Halesworth.

119 c. diploma (Somerset barley), Mr. W. Risdon, Escott, Stogumber, Taunton.

CLASS II.—COLONIAL MALTING BARLEY. (No entries.)

CLASS III.—DISTILLING BARLEY. (Given by T. R. Dewar, Esq., M.P.)

137 Silver cup, value £5 5s. (Suffolk barley), Mr. C. I. Pratt, Melton. (Entered by Mr. John Cooper, barley merchant, Ipswich.)

32 2nd prize, silver cup, value £2 2s. (Devonshire barley), Mr. J. Carpenter, Pengelly's Farm, Alphington, near Exeter.

37 3rd prize, silver tankard, value £1 1s. (Devonshire barley), Mr. P. Paul, Splatford Farm, Kenn. (Entered by W. H. Scroby and Co., Harlow, Essex.)

CLASSES IV. and V.—FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY. (Insufficient entries.)

CLASS VI.—FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (TWO-ROWED) (FROM AMERICA.

169 1st prize, silver medal and diploma (Chilian barley), Spillers and Bakers, Limited, Cardiff.

170 2nd prize, bronze medal and diploma (Chilian barley), Spillers and Bakers, Limited, Cardiff.

CLASS VII. FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY. (No entries.)

CLASS VIII.—FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (NOT TWO ROWED), LEVANT, &c.

167 1st prize, silver medal, and diploma (Asia Minor barley), C. Paterson and Co., 30, Great St. Helen's, E.C.

173 2nd prize, bronze medal and diploma (Beyrout barley), Spillers and Bakers, Limited, Cardiff.

171 3rd prize, diploma (Smyrna barley), Spillers and Bakers, Limited, Cardiff.

CLASS IX. FOREIGN MALTING BARLEY (No Entries.)

Cat. No.

CLASS X.—THE CLARE SEWELL PRIZES. (Given by F. and G. Smith Dereham).

91 1st prize, £10 10s. (Norfolk barley M. Mallett, Stiffkey.

90 2nd prize, £5 5s. (Norfolk barley B. M. Brown, Manor House, near Lynn.

94 3rd prize, bronze medal (Norfolk ba A. Rushbrooke, Grove Farm, Roy

92 C. (Norfolk barley), Mr. C. G. M Farm, Alburgh.

CLASS XI.—EXTRA SPECIAL BREWING PRIZES.

22 1st prize, £5 5s. (Berkshire barley) S. Shelton, Heywood Farm, Mai

23 2nd prize, £3 3s. (Bucks barley). Horwood, Manor Farm, Drayto champ.

99 3rd prize, £1 1s. (Oxon barley), Castleman, Northbrook, Kintli

17 H.c. (Berkshire barley), Mr. A. Charlton, Wantage.

CLASS XII.—SPECIAL SHROPSHIRE PRIZES (offered by R. Jasper More, Esq., M.P.).—Insufficient entries.

CLASS XIII.—THE COLCHESTER BREWERY CO.'S SPECIAL PRIZES.

57 Silver cup, value £5 5s. (Essex barley), Mr. R. Seabrook, Tolleshunt D'Arcy.

91 Silver cup, value £5 5s. (Norfolk barley), Mr. J. M. Mallett, Stiffkey.

137 Silver cup, value £5 5s. (Suffolk barley), Mr. C. I. Pratt, Melton. (Entered by Mr. John Cooper, Barley Merchant, Ipswich.)

CLASS XIV.—THE EAST SUFFOLK PRIZES. (Given by Captain Pretyman, M.P.)

126 1st prize, £10, Mr. A. E. Gray, Wenhaston, Halesworth.

138 2nd prize, £5, Mr. H. O. Ranson, Chantry Farm, Sproughton.

133 3rd prize, diploma, Mr. W. Pepper, Covehithe, Wrentham.

CLASS XV.—THE JARMAN WEST COUNTRY PRIZES.

32 Silver cup, value £2 2s. (Devonshire barley), Mr. J. Carpenter, Pengelly's Farm, Alphington, near Exeter.

119 Silver cup, value £2 2s. (Somerset barley), Mr. W. Risdon, Escott, Stogumber, Taunton.

68 Silver cup, value £2 2s. (Hants barley), Mr. H. Recks, Beckhampton Farm, Winkton.

CLASS XVI.—THE FLINN SPECIAL PRIZE.

72 Silver cup, value £5 5s. (Herts barley), Mr. R. E. Horwood, Upper Farm, Drayton Beauchamp.

CLASS XVII.—THE EAST RIDING PRIZES. Insufficient entries.

CLASS XVIII.—SPECIAL PRIZES TO BEDFORDSHIRE FARMERS.

1 1st prize, £4 4s., Mr. G. Duncombe, Cople, Bedford.

5 2nd prize, £3 3s., Mr. S. Harrison, Hill Farm, Renhold.

12 3rd prize, £2 2s., Mr. J. Pedly, Great Barford.

10 4th prize, £1 1s., Mr. J. Matthews, Odell, Sharnbrook.

CLASS XIX. is included in CLASS XVIII., owing to insufficient entries.

Cat. No.

CLASS XX.—WEST SUFFOLK SPECIAL PRIZES.

Given by Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart, M.P.

141 1st prize, value £10, Mr. R. J. Thurman, Semer, Ipswich.
128 2nd prize, value £5, Mr. A. C. Kemball, Groton Hall, Boxford.
122 3rd prize, bronze medal, Mr. Bigg, Glemsford (Entered by W. H. Scruby and Co., Harlow, Essex).

CLASS XXI.—"MARK LANE EXPRESS" DIPLOMAS FOR SEED CORN.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

1 Mr. G. Duncombe, Cople, Bedford.
5 Mr. S. Harrison, Hill Farm, Renhold.

BERKSHIRE.

17 Mr. A. S. Castle, Charlton, Wantage.
22 Mr. W. S. Shelton, Heywood Farm, Maidenhead.

BUCKS.

23 Mr. J. Horwood, Manor Farm, Drayton Beauchamp.
24 Mr. R. E. Horwood, Upper Farm, Drayton Beauchamp.

DEVONSHIRE.

32 Mr. J. Carpenter, Pengelly's Farm, Alphington, near Exeter.
37 Mr. P. Paul, Splatford Farm, Kenn.

DORSETSHIRE.

46 Mr. W. W. Paul, The Manor Farm, Bradford Abbas.
42 Mr. R. H. Cooper, Wyke, Sherbourne.

ELGIN.

47 Mr. J. Mantach (Exors. of), Dundurcas, Rothes.

ESSEX.

57 Mr. R. Seabrook, Tolleshunt D'Arcy.
Mr. J. C. Chillingworth, Bradwell-on-Sea, Southminster.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Mr. A. Day, Clifford Bank, Stratford-on-Avon.
Mr. H. Butler, Pauntley Court, Newent.

HAMPSHIRE.

Mr. H. Reeks, Bockhampton Farm, Winkton.
Mr. G. G. Lander, Pinewell, Christchurch.

HERTS.

Mr. R. E. Horwood, Upper Farm, Drayton Beauchamp.
Mr. J. R. Russell, Westmill, Buntingford.

HUNTS.

Mr. F. Christmas, Great Gransden, Sandy.

KENT.

Mr. H. Fitzwalter Plumtre, Goodnestone, near Dover.
Mr. J. A. Pell, Court Lodge Farm, Horton Kirby.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

85 Mr. F. W. Shepherd Heywood, Holbeck Manor, near Horncastle.
84 Mr. L. J. Briggs, Priory Farm, Stamford.

MIDDLESEX.

87 Mr. W. J. Curtis, Heathrow Farm, Heathrow.
88 Mr. W. Merrick, Manor Farm, Shepperton.

Cat No.

NORFOLK.

91 Mr. J. M. Mallett, Stiffkey.
90 Mr. G. B. M. Brown, Manor House, Heacham, near Lynn.

NORTHAMPTON.

98 Mr. J. S. Railton, Evenley, Brackley.
95 Mr. J. T. Dickens, Barnack, Stamford.

OXON.

99 Mr. F. G. Castleman, Northbrook, Kirtlington.
100 Mr. J. I. Castleman, Slade Farm, Kirtlington.

RUTLAND.

105 Mr. L. J. Briggs, Belmesthorpe.
104 Mr. W. T. Beadsworth, Tinwell.

SALOP.

109 Mr. R. Preece, Cressage House, near Shrewsbury.
108 Mr. F. Horne, The Bank Farm, Claverley.

SOMERSET.

119 Mr. W. Risdon, Escott, Stogumber, Taunton.
113 Mr. T. Lovelace, Bossington, Allerford, Taunton.

SUFFOLK.

137 Mr. C. I. Pratt, Melton. (Entered by Mr. John Cooper, Barley Merchant, Ipswich.)
126 Mr. A. E. Gray, Wenhaston, Halesworth.

SURREY.

143 Mr. J. Webb, Great Grove Farm, Chertsey.

SUSSEX.

144 Hon. T. S. Brand, Home Farm, Glynde. (Entered by Mr. T. W. Pickard, Glynde.)

WARWICKSHIRE.

148 Mr. J. W. Lea, Thelsford, Warwick.
146 Mr. A. E. Day, Orchard Hill, Stratford-on-Avon.

WILTSHIRE.

152 Mr. H. Andrews, Little Langford, Salisbury.
153 Mr. E. J. Ashford, Little Bathampton, Wylye, Bath.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

158 Mr. G. Corbishley, Bricklehampton, Pershore.
157 Mr. T. A. Butler, Chapel Farm, Redmarley.

YORKSHIRE.

161 Mr. H. H. Staveley, North Dalton, Driffield.

CLASS XXII. — TECHNICAL EDUCATION PRIZE FOR AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, ETC.

163 Cup, value £5 5s., Messrs. Gartons, Limited, Warrington.

CLASS XXIII.—THE PERMANENT NITRATE COMMITTEE'S PRIZES.

23 1st prize, £25 (Bucks barley), Mr. J. Horwood, Manor Farm, Drayton Beauchamp.
17 2nd prize, £15 (Berks barley), Mr. A. S. Castle, Charlton, Wantage.
72 3rd prize, £10 (Herts barley), Mr. R. E. Horwood, Upper Farm, Drayton Beauchamp.
85 c. (Lincs barley), Mr. F. W. Shepherd Heywood, Holbeck Manor, near Horncastle.

Cat. No.

CLASS XXIV. The SULPHATE OF AMMONIA COMMITTEE'S PRIZES

57 1st prize, £25 (Essex barley), Mr. R. Seabrook, Tolleshunt D'Arcy.
105 2nd prize, £15 (Rutland barley), Mr. L. J. Briggs, Belmesthorpe.
108 3rd prize, £10 (Salop barley), Mr. F. Horne, Bank Farm, Claverley.
63 c. (Gloucestershire barley), Mr. A. Day, Clifford Bank, Stratford-on-Avon.

CLASS XXV.—JOSEPH FISON AND CO.'S (IPSWICH) SPECIAL PRIZES.

137 1st prize, £25 (Suffolk barley), Mr. C. I. Pratt, Melton. (Entered by Mr. John Cooper, barley merchant, Ipswich.)
32 2nd prize, £15 (Devon barley), Mr. J. Carpenter, Pengelly's Farm, Alphington, near Exeter.
126 3rd prize, £10 (Suffolk barley), Mr. A. E. Gray, Wenhaston, Halesworth.
98. v.h.c. (Oxon barley), Mr. F. G. Castleman, Northbrook, Kirtlington.
42 c. (Dorset barley), Mr. R. H. Cooper, Wyke, Sherborne.

CLASS XXVI.—WEBB AND SONS' SPECIAL BARLEY MANURE PRIZES.

148 1st prize, £15 (Warwick barley), Mr. J. W Lea, Thelsford, Warwick.
156 2nd prize, £10 (Worcester barley), Mr. E. G. C. Bomford, Spring Hill, Fladbury.
147 3rd prize, £5 (Warwick barley), Mr. A. E. Day, Orchard Hill, Stratford-on-Avon.
158 c. (Worcester barley), Mr. G. Corbishley, Bricklehampton, Pershore.

CLASS XXVII.—ANGLO-CONTINENTAL (Late Ohlendorff's) GUANO WORKS PRIZES.

(Insufficient entries.)

CLASS XXVIII.—BEST SHEAF OR SHEAVES OF BARLEY.

174 1st prize, £3 3s. (Essex barley), Messrs. E. W. King and Co., Coggeshall.
176 2nd prize, £1 1s. (Essex barley), Mr. R. Seabrook, Tolleshunt D'Arcy.

CLASS XXIX.—THRESHING MACHINE PRIZES.

(Offered to the maker of the machines used for threshing the largest percentage of properly dressed barleys in every class.)

1st prize, silver medal, Messrs. C. Burrell and Sons, Limited, St. Nicholas Works, Thetford.
2nd prize, bronze medal, Messrs. R. Garrett and Sons, Limited, Leiston, R.S.O., Suffolk.
3rd prize, diploma, Messrs. Clayton and Shuttleworth, Lincoln.

In addition to the above awards, there are numerous other very substantial money prizes and articles of plate, etc., given by eminent firms of seed growers, barley factors, brewers' engineers, malting manufacturers, etc.

BARLEY AND MALT.

By Hordeum.

Arsenic in Beer.

A matter deeply affecting the interests of beer-drinkers and barley-growers has been brought to the notice of everyone near the end of the year now dying.

What it will lead to or how it will end it is impossible to foretell. As it is still subject to judicial investigation it is impolitic to criticise it freely.

There is at present much conflict even as to the facts, and it seems probable that many hitherto unsuspected people will be drawn into the meshes by the inquiry.

The suggestion is that arsenic was present in much beer, in some cases in sufficient quantities to cause great suffering and even death.

Glucose treated by impure sulphuric acid containing arsenic was at first thought to be responsible for it all.

Quite recently it has been asserted that the poison has been found on malt in considerable amount, but it is significant that the style of malt is not defined nor are the names of any makers referred to.

It has been suggested that the fuel used in drying is the cause, and it had also been previously asserted that the source of the poison might be the spraying of the growing hops or the fuel used in hop-oasts during drying. The chemical manures used by both hop and barley growers have been accused of causing the mischief.

No one has as yet pointed out the probability of the numerous antiseptics commonly used by brewers and many other classes of traders in nearly every item of food having any responsibility in producing the existing deplorable state of affairs.

Probably the most serious point next to the known suffering and death is the inexplicable attitude of those responsible (whoever they may be) for the attachment of the blame to beer solely. Still, more remarkable is the attempt by brewers to show that malt is as baneful as sugar. The public confidence in beer had already received a rude shock, but if it is intended to try to prove that genuine beer is as deadly as the article sold as beer, but which is known to be largely composed of sugar or other substitutes, the brewing trade will receive a very severe blow.

Brewers and barley growers have common interests, and should have one interest in common. No one will suffer more than the brewers if they, by selfish or unthinking action, make it impossible to grow barley in this country at a profit.

Consumers, as well as barley growers, have awakened to the necessity of the enormous substitution of malt by other substances coming to a stand, and that beer as such will have to be understood to be the product of malt and hops. If other substances be used, then the consumer will insist upon his right to be informed of the fact.

Brewers' apologists contend that this must lead to the larger employment of foreign barley for malt and to a decreased demand for British grain.

The foregoing report is opportune, as upon this matter it gives clear evidence of the good quality of British grain. It is approved by some of the best and largest brewers and maltsters in the country, as well as farmers and others directly interested in barley-growing. British barley has nothing to fear from fair, free, open competition. If it be true that our barley cannot brew satisfactorily, then our farms can be turned into sheepwalks. Nearly a score centuries of successful barley-growing can bid us look confidently forward to the future. In honesty and truth we can still trust.

Uckfield Agricultural College.—The Surveyors' Institution have included the Uckfield Agricultural College among the places of professional instruction providing the necessary training to qualify for the examination for admission to the Institution's membership. Two members of the staff, Mr. Burke and the Principal, have been members of the Institution for many years.

Essex Agricultural Society.

A meeting of the Council of the Essex Agricultural Society was held at the Shire Hall, Chelmsford, on the 21st inst, Mr. James Round, M.P., President, occupying the chair. A letter was read from Mr. Ernest Prentice, secretary of the Large Black Pig Society, suggesting the desirability of including classes at the next show for Large Black pigs. The letter stated that there were twenty owners of this breed in Essex, and the Earl of Onslow (Tendring) was president of the Society. The Earl of Onslow also wrote, offering to give a special prize of five guineas if these classes were included. The letters were referred to the Prize Committee.

The annual report, read by the assistant secretary (Mr. Fred. Taylor), expressed sincere regret at the loss sustained by the Society by the deaths of Mr. J. R. Vaizey and Mr. T. A. Spencer. The year began with a balance at the bank of £170 6s. 7d.; the net receipts were £2.666 19s. 11d., and the payments £2.656 18s. 3d., leaving a surplus of £10 1s. 8d. on the year's working. A sum of £33 1s. 7d. was invested in Consols early in the year, bringing up the reserve fund to £524 7s. 6d. The amount of the gate-money taken at Chelmsford exceeded by £26 the sum taken the previous year. The thanks of the Society were due to the donors of special prizes, to the stewards, to the Local Committee at Chelmsford, and especially to the Secretary, Mr. S. A. Smith, who spared no trouble to make the show a success. (Hear, hear.)

A sub-committee of the Council [illegible] report upon Mr. T. C. Darby's digger or cultivator. "We are of opinion that as an [illegible] digger is worthy of great commendation. The [illegible] principle acts very well, and does not [illegible] on the underside of the soil [illegible] different. We desire to record our appreciation of the [illegible] and ingenuity of Mr. Darby in the matter."

A letter was read from Mr. E. Whitmore, the secretary, stating that the day had arrived when he found he could no longer [illegible] time to carry out the work required [illegible] for the Society. He therefore begged to [illegible] with great regret his resignation [illegible]

could not do this, however, without saying that during the twenty-three years he had acted as secretary he had received from the various presidents, the Council, and the members of the Society, the very greatest kindness and courtesy. He desired to ask all to accept his most grateful acknowledgments, and to assure them of his continued interest in the welfare of the Society.

The Chairman said they would all be sorry to lose Mr. Whitmore. The way in which Mr. Whitmore had performed his duties reflected the greatest credit upon him (hear, hear), and had given the greatest satisfaction to the presidents, Council, and the public at large.

Mr. Whitmore replied that it had been a great pleasure to him to act as secretary, but he now found it was really impossible for him to devote as much time as was required to the Society. With regard to the date on which the resignation took effect, he would leave that in the hands of the Council; but he should be glad to leave as soon as possible.

Mr. T. Usborne, in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Whitmore, said he was not surprised at the resignation, as Mr. Whitmore had been appointed to the post of county architect. Mr. Usborne also promised they should elect Mr. F. W. Taylor, who had acted for some years as assistant secretary, as secretary, for he was sure Mr. Taylor had given universal satisfaction, and he knew the work well. (Hear, hear.) Mr. W. W. Glenny seconded the vote of thanks to Mr. Whitmore, observing that the position the Society now held in the country was due very much to the energy of Mr. Whitmore. (Hear, hear.) The vote of thanks was carried unanimously, and a committee was elected to arrange for the appointment of a new secretary and the terms.

The annual general meeting of the Society was then held. The first business on the agenda was the election of a new president, but this was postponed, as no place has yet been definitely fixed upon for the 1901 show. It was intimated, however, that probably it would be held at Colchester, the chairman stating that, although there had been no official invitation from that borough, there was a strong disposition to welcome the Society. On the proposal of Mr. T. Usborne, seconded by Major Rasch, M.P., a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the retiring president, Mr. Round, who, in reply, expressed his gratification at the success which attended the Clacton Show.

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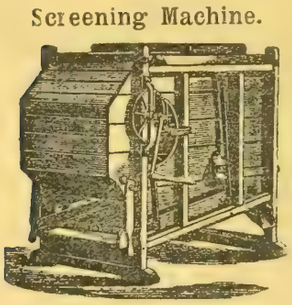

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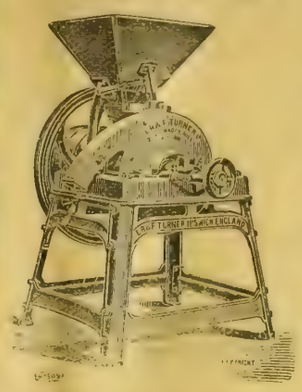

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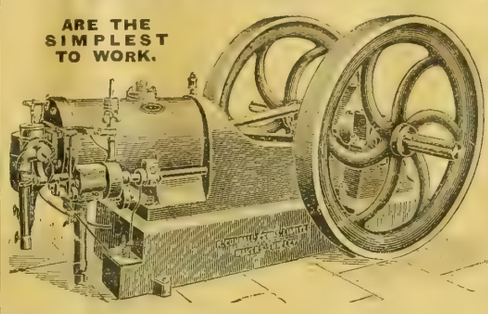

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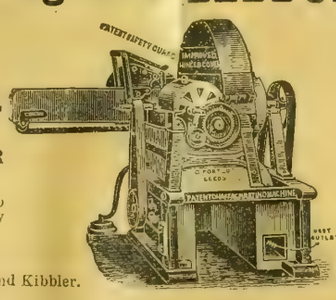

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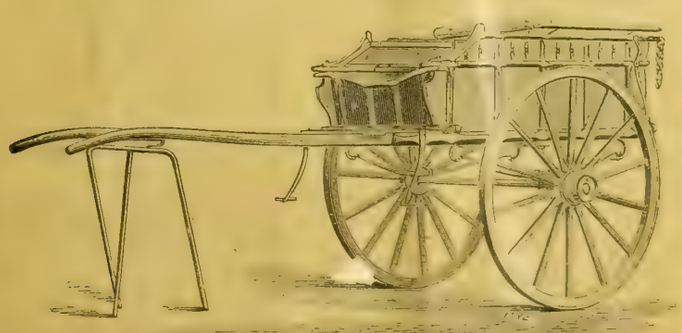

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